U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION WESTERN-PACIFIC REGION

### Adoption and Written Re-Evaluation of the 2021 Categorical Exclusion issued by the Army National Guard

for the Proposed UH-60 Storage Hangar at Reno-Stead Airport

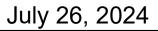
Reno, Washoe County, Nevada



For further information

Matthew H. Bilsbarrow Environmental Protection Specialist

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration Western-Pacific Region, Office of Airports Phoenix Airports District Office 3800 North Central Ave, Suite 1025 Phoenix, AZ 85012 602 792 1066



#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

#### ADOPTION AND WRITTEN RE-EVALUATION OF THE 2021 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ISSUED BY THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD FOR THE

#### PROPOSED UH-60 STORAGE HANGAR AT RENO-STEAD AIRPORT

#### Introduction

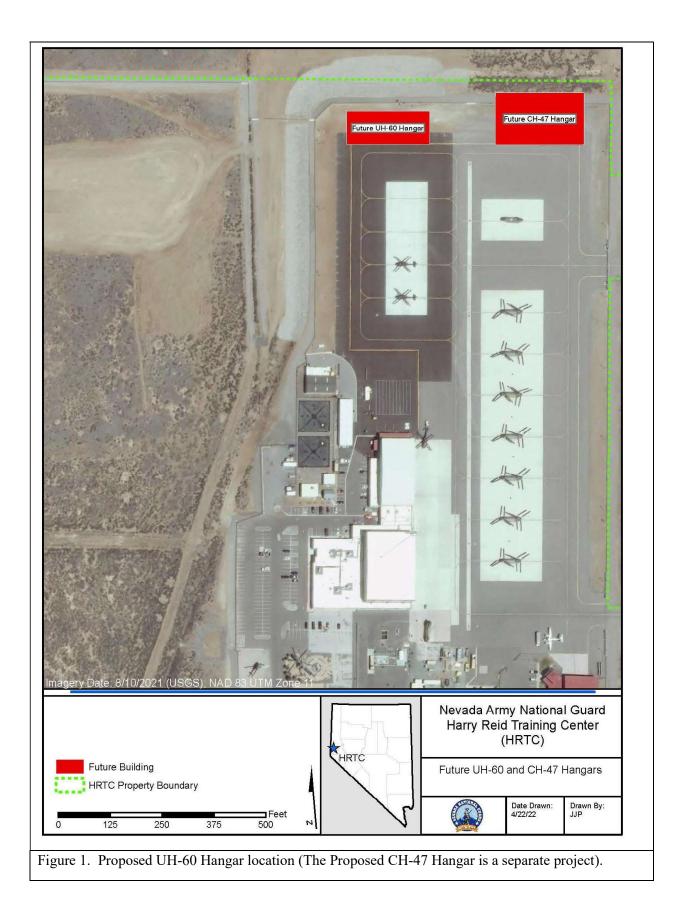
The Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority (RTAA) previously leased land to the Nevada Army National Guard (ANG) for the Harry Reid Training Center located at Reno-Stead Airport. RTAA was notified by ANG about plans to construct new facilities within the existing leasehold. Specifically, ANG's proposed project would entail constructing an unheated storage hangar measuring 80 feet wide by 219 feet long by 35 feet high capable of storing three, UH-60 Blackhawk Aircraft. It would consist of a pre-engineered metal building on concrete floor. ANG operates 12 aircraft at the center of which six currently park outside on an apron where they are exposed to weather. The project's purpose is to reduce maintenance costs and improve readiness for currently unsheltered aircraft.

Reno-Stead Airport is located at 4895 Texas Avenue in Reno, Nevada. The Harry Reid Training Center is situated at 20,000 Army Aviation Drive and occurs within the western portion of the airport. ANG's proposed project is located within Section 19 of Township 21 North, Range 19 East on the Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian. The corresponding topographic map is called Reno NE. The proposed hangar location is shown on Figure 1.

RTAA sought input from the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Phoenix Airports District Office (ADO) about ANG's proposed project and any associated changes to the Airport Layout Plan (ALP). On August 23, 2023, the FAA determined that it had ALP approval authority for ANG's proposed project. On September 11, 2023, RTAA provided the Phoenix ADO with ANG's environmental documents for the proposed project. In June 2024, RTAA advised that ANG planned to start construction soon.

#### Summary of the Documents to be Adopted

On December 14, 2021, ANG issued a categorical exclusion for the proposed UH-60 Storage Hangar per the U.S. Army's regulations at 32 CFR 651; this document, called a Record of Environmental Consideration, and its supporting Environmental Checklist can be found in Appendix A. They reviewed an U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service species list dated December 10, 2021 and issued a finding of no effect per Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. They consulted with consulting parties in the National Historic Preservation Act's Section 106 process, and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer's concurred with a finding of No Adverse Effect on November 21, 2021 (Appendix B).



#### **Project Description Review**

The FAA finds that its proposed action, which is to unconditionally approve changes to the ALP showing the proposed UH-60 Storage Hangar, is substantially similar to ANG's action, which entails funding, constructing, and maintaining this hangar. Both actions refer to the same proposed facility and the same proposed location.

#### **Extraordinary Circumstances Review**

The FAA finds that the proposed project doesn't entail any extraordinary circumstances per FAA Order 1050.1F Section 5-2. The FAA considered its environmental impact categories that don't have an U.S. Army counterpart. Specifically:

- Department of Transportation Section 4f The proposed project wouldn't impact Section 4f resources, such as public parks, because none are present within or adjacent to the project area.
- Natural Resources and Energy Supply Based on the proposed project's size, its construction and operation would negligibly impact the availability of natural resources and energy. It wouldn't noticeably change aircraft or vehicle patterns.
- Noise and Noise-Compatible Land Use The proposed project's size and purpose wouldn't result in an increase in operations, and its location wouldn't lead to an increase in noise over noise-sensitive areas. The aircraft that would park in the proposed hanger currently park on the adjacent apron. The nearest noise-sensitive resource is a residence located 3,600 feet west of the proposed hangar location.
- Socioeconomics, Environmental Justice and Children's Health Risk and Safety Risks The proposed project wouldn't disrupt a community or entail relocating businesses or residences given its location on an active airfield in an area with a single leaseholder. The proposed project wouldn't have a high or adverse impact to Environmental Justice populations; in Census Block 26.03, which is the one closest to the proposed project, 6.8 percent of the population are minorities and 3.1 percent have an income below the poverty line. The proposed project wouldn't impact children's health since it's separated from nearby residences by at least one security fence.
- Visual Effects The proposed project wouldn't change area's existing character because it is located adjacent to an existing apron, which has two hangars.

The FAA provides the following updates regarding special purpose laws.

• The FAA finds no effect per Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act based on a review of the proposed project description and an U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service species list dated July 13, 2024 (Appendix C). The updated list contains the same listed species as the list obtained by ANG on December 20, 2021.

- The FAA acknowledges that ANG is the lead federal agency for consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The FAA doesn't have any new information, concerning the undertaking or potential historic properties located within the area of potential effects, for ANG's further consideration.
- The FAA finds that this action and its reasonable alternatives wouldn't occur within the base floodplain, which for the FAA's action is the 100-year floodplain, and further floodplains analysis isn't warranted. The National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette currently designates the project location as an area of minimal flood hazard (i.e., Zone X unshaded).

#### Conclusion

The FAA Phoenix Airports District Office adopts and revalidates ANG's categorical exclusion, dated December 14, 2021, for the UH-60 Storage Hangar located at Harry Reid Training Center situated within Reno-Stead Airport.

APPROVED:

MATTHEW H BILSBARROW Digitally signed by MATTHEW H BILSBARROW Date: 2024.07.26 15:20:28 -07'00'

Matthew Bilsbarrow Environmental Planner 07/26/2024

Date

DISAPPROVED:

Matthew Bilsbarrow Environmental Planner Phoenix Airports District Office

Phoenix Airports District Office

Date

#### **APPENDIX A**

Enviro Tracking #:	ARNG ENVIRONM	ENTAL CHECKLIST	State ARNG					
	Enter information in the	Nevada						
	PART A - PF	OJECT INFORMATION						
1. PROJECT NAME:								
UH-60 Storage Ha	ingar 322368 (95801)							
2. PROJECT NUMBER	R: (MILCON if applicable)	3. DATE PREPARED:						
322368 (95801)		December 14, 2021						
	D LOCATION OF THE PROJECT/F detailed map, if applicable):	PROPOSED ACTION:						
		at the UH-60 Storage Hangar ached figures for proposed site						
b. Description:								
Maintenance Hang leased land and in enough covered flo	gar IAW NG PAM 415- 12 req support of the existing Aircra por space to accommodate th	gar IAW NG PAM 415-12 that s uirements for the NVARNG. TI ft Maintenance Hangar. This fa ree UH-60 ACFT IAW UFC 3-2	his facility will be built on acility is designed to provide					
<ul> <li>C. The proposed action will involve (check all that apply):</li> <li>Training activities/areas</li> <li>Construction</li> <li>Natural resource management</li> <li>Maintenance/repair/rehabilitation</li> <li>Real estate action</li> <li>Environmental plans/surveys</li> <li>Innovative readiness training project</li> <li>Other (Explain):</li> </ul>								
d. Project size (acres):	3	Acres of new surface disturbance	(proposed): 4					
(if applicab		(if applicable						
	ROPOSED ACTION (dd-mmm-yy):	1January 2022	Note: This must be a future date.					
6. PROGRAMMED FIS	SCAL YEAR (if applicable): FY22							
		ISION ANALYSIS GUIDE						
circumstances and a q application and docum represent the most cor applicable block check	xclusion, the project must satisfy th qualifying categorical exclusion that nentation of these three screening c mmon screening conditions experie ked for concurrence with REC.	e following three screening criteria: covers the project. The following de riteria. The criteria were extracted f enced in the ARNG. NOTE: Each qu	ecision tree will guide the rom 32 CFR Section 651.29 and lestion in Part B must have an					
actions)?	YES (go to #30)	Include the consideration of connect	ted, cumulative, and similar					
criteria but is assessed	d in an existing EA or EIS, check N YES (go to #30)	tal effects (direct, indirect,and cumu O and proceed to the next question. ■ NO (go to #3)						
criteria but is assessed	3. Is there a reasonable likelihood of significant effects on public health, safety or the environment? If action meets screening criteria but is assessed in an existing EA or EIS, check NO and proceed to the next question.							
existing EA or EIS, che	4. Is there an imposition of uncertain or unique environmental risks? If action meets screening criteria but is assessed in an existing EA or EIS, check NO and proceed to the next question.							
assessed in an existing	g EA or EIS, check NO and procee	NO (go to #6)						
	roduce or employ unproven technol and proceed to the next question. YES (go to #30)	logy? If action meets screening crit NO (go to #7)	eria but is assessed in an existing					

PART B - DECISION ANALYSIS (continued)
<ul> <li>7. Will there be reportable releases of hazardous or toxic substances as specified in 40 CFR Part 302? If action meets screening criteria but is assessed in an existing EA or EIS, check NO and proceed to the next question.</li> <li>         YES (go to #30)     </li> <li>Image: NO (go to #8)     </li> </ul>
8. If proposed action is in a non-attainment or maintenance area, will air emissions exceed de minimus levels or otherwise require a formal Clean Air Act (CAA) conformity determination? If action meets screening criteria but is assessed in an existing EA or EIS, check NO and proceed to the next question.         YES (go to #30)       NO (go to #9)       NA (go to #9)
<ul> <li>9. Will the project have effects on the quality of the environment that are likely to be highly controversial? If action meets screening criteria but is assessed in an existing EA or EIS, check NO and proceed to the next question.</li> <li>         YES (go to #30)     </li> <li>Im NO (go to #10)     </li> </ul>
10. Will the project establish a precedent (or make decisions in principle) for future or subsequent actions that are reasonably likely to have future significant effects? If action meets screening criteria but is assessed in an existing EA or EIS, check NO and proceed to the next question.
11. Has federal funding been secured for the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) project?         Image: N/A (go to #13)         YES (go to #13)         NO (go to #12)
12. NOTE: IRT projects not currently funded can secure approved NEPA documentation. However, once funding is secured State ARNG is required to coordinate with ARNG-ILE-T to complete natural and cultural surveys via proponent funding.
13. Do you have a species list from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that is less than 90 days old?
YES (go to #14) Date of List: December 10, 2021 NO (update species list return to #13)
<ul> <li>14. In reviewing the species list, what determination was made by the State ARNG? <ul> <li>No species present (go to #16)</li> <li>No affect (go to #16)</li> <li>May affect but not likely to adversely affect (go to #</li> <li>Date of USFWS concurrence:</li> </ul> </li> <li>May affect likely to adversely affect (go to #15)</li> </ul>
15. Does an existing Biological Opinion cover the action?         YES (go to #16)         Date of BO:         NO (go to #30)
16. Have the Endangered Species Act, Section 7 requirements completed?
YES (go to #17)       Date of Documentation:       December 10, 2021       NO (complete documentation, return to #16)         17. Does the project involve an undertaking to a building or structure that is 50 years of age or older?
$\square \text{ YES (go to #18)} \qquad \blacksquare \text{ NO (go to #20)}$
18. Has the building or structure been surveyed for the National Register of Historic Places?
19. Is the building or structure eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places?            YES (go to #20)     NO (go to #20)
20. Does the action involve ground disturbing activities? I YES (go to #21) NO (go to #22)
21. Has an archaeological inventory or research been completed to determine if there are any archeological resources present?  I YES (go to #22) NO (complete inventory or conduct research, return to #21)
22. In reviewing the undertaking, under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (for both above and below ground resources), what determination was made by the State ARNG?
<ul> <li>No 106 undertaking; no additional consultation required under NHPA (go to question #27)</li> <li>No properties affected (go to #24)</li> <li>No adverse effect (go to #24)</li> <li>Adverse effect (go to #23)</li> </ul>
23. Has the State ARNG addressed the adverse effect?
23a.

		PART B - DEC	SISION ANALYSIS (continued)	
24. Per DoDI 4710.02 d	id the state ARNG de	etermine that tribal consi	ultation was necessary for this project?	
YES (go to #25)				
NO (Provide reason in th	his b <b>l</b> ock 24a, go to #27)			
<sup>24a.</sup> No response fro	m the tribes			
No response iro	in the tribes.			
25. Did the Tribes expre	ess an interest or resp	bond with concerns abou		
	🗌 YES (go to	1 #26) 🔳 NO (go t	to #27) Date of Documentation: Septe	mber 27, 2021
26. Has the State ARNO	addressed the Triba	al concerns?		
		ARNG addressed tribal concern	ns in box below, go to #27)	
NO (address concerns, ret			, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Complete only if addition		required in question #26	6	
26a.			5	
				ose listed below? For any yes responses go
to #30 otherwise go to #	28. If any No respon	ise is a result of negotia	ted and/or previously resolved effects pleas	e describe resolution in box 27a below.
ТҮРЕ		Unresolved Effects?	ТҮРЕ	Lingestual Effects?
		Unresolved Enects?		Unresolved Effects?
a. Prime/Unique Farmla	nd	Ino	e. Wild/Scenic River	no
b. Wilderness Area/Nati	onal Park	no	f. Coastal Zones	no
c. Sole-Source Aquifer		no	g. 100-year Floodplains	no
d. Wetlands		no	h. National Wildlife Refuges	no
27a.				
28. Is this project addres	ssed in a separate EA	A or EIS review?		
Г	VES (complete table bel	ow; go to Part C, Determinatio	on) 🔲 NO (go to #29)	
Document Title:				
Lead Agency:				
Date of Decision Docum	nent:			
		categorical exclusions I	listed in 32 CFR 651 App B?	
		w; go to Part C, Determinatior		
List primary CAT EX				_
code (	C-1: Construction	of an addition to an	existing structure or new	
Descibe why CAT EX	Remodel and new	construction on pre-	viously undisturbed site of less than 5	j acres.
applies				
30. At this time your pro	iect has not met all th	ne qualifications for usin	g a categorical exclusion under 32 CFR 651	. Unless the scope of the project is
			Environmental Impact Statement. If you fee	
Regional Manager to dis				
Additional Information (i	f needed):			
1				

PART C - DETERMINATION										
On the basis of this initial evaluation, the following is appropriate:										
	IAW 32 CFR 651 Appendix B, the proposed action qualifies for a Categorical Exclusion (CX) that does not require a Record of Environmental Consideration.									
	A Record of Environmental Consideration (REC).									
	An Environmental Assessment (EA).									
	A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environ	mental Impact Statement (EIS).								
	CHAPPELL.CLAYTON.WAYNE.1158158 511 Digitally signed by CHAPPELL.CLAYTON.WAYNE.1158158511 Date: 2021.12.14 11:03.22 -0800'	STROMBERG.NATHAN.BRYCE.1170298         Digitally signed by Discontence of the structure of th								
	Signature of Proponent (Requester)	Environmental Program Manager								
	COL Chappell Clayton	Mr. NATHAN STROMBERG								
	Printed Name of Proponent (Requester)	Printed Name of Env. Program Manager								
	December 14, 2021	December 14, 2021								
	Date Signed	Date Signed								
011										
Other	concurrence (as needed):									
	Signature	Signature								
	Printed Name	Printed Name								
	Date Signed	Date Signed								
	Signature	Signature								
	Printed Name	Printed Name								
	Date Signed	Date Signed								
	Signature	Signature								
	Printed Name	Printed Name								
	Date Signed	Date Signed								

Enviro Tracking #:	ARNG Record of Env	/ironmental Consi	deration	State ARNG					
	Enter information in the yellow shaded areas.								
1. PROJECT NAME:									
UH-60 Storage Ha	ngar 322368 (95801)								
	R: (MILCON if applicable)	3. DATE PREPARED: December 14, 202							
322368 (95801)	1								
	OPOSED ACTION (dd-mmm-yy):	01 Janaury 2022	Note: This	must be a future date					
5. PROGRAMMED FIS 6. END DATE (if applic									
	LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED								
a. Location (Include a	a. Location (Include a detailed map, if applicable):								
	All project is to be conducted a e, Reno NV, 898506. See atta			y located at 19880					
b. Description:									
Maintenance Hang	heated Aircraft Storage Hang ar IAW NG PAM 415- 12 requ support of the existing Aircraft	irements for the NVAR	NG. This facilit	y will be built on					
	THE FOLLOWING: environmental assessment* adequa by another federal agency (non-ARN		is project. Attach	FNSI if EA was					
,	ld-mmm-yy):	Lead Agency:							
-	environmental impact statement* a		of this project.						
	dd-mmm-yy):	Lead Agency:							
	wing the screening criteria and comp	leting the ARNG environme	ental checklist, this	project qualifies for a					
See 32 CFR	с 651 Арр. В	struction of an addition	to an existing s	structure or new					
-	I Exclusion Code:								
	t 651 App. B								
J. J	I Exclusion Code: t 651 App. B			•					
This project	t is exempt from NEPA requirement	s under the provisions of:							
	erseding law:	antel Office within each state							
9. REMARKS:	A of EIS can be found in the ARING Environme	ental Office within each state.							
CHAPPELL.CL E.1158158511	AYTON.WAYN CHAPPELL.CLAYTON.WAYNE.1158158511 Date: 2021.12.14 11:03:56 -08'00'	STRC 29877	MBERG.NATHAN.BRYCE.1170 79	Digitally signed by STROMBERG.NATHAN.BRYCE.1170298779 Date: 2021.12.14 08:08:20 -08'00'					
Signa	ature of Proponent (Requester)		Environmental F	rogram Manager					
COL Chappell Clayton Mr. NATHAN STROMBE									
	Name of Proponent (Requester)			v. Program Manager					
Decembe	er 14, 2021	D	ecember 14, 20	)21					
	Date Signed		Date Signed						
Proponent Information 10. Proponent:									
11. Address:									
12. POC:									
13. Comm. Voice:									
14. Proponent POC e-	mail:								



### NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Steve Sisolak, Governor Bradley Crowell, Director Rebecca L. Palmer, Administrator, SHPO

November 12, 2021

Nathan Stromberg Environmental Program Manager Nevada Army National Guard Office of the Adjutant General 2460 Fairview Drive Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Section 106 consultation with Nevada Army National Guard, Harry Reid Training Center Expansion Project, Washoe County, Nevada (SHPO UT 2021-6797; 28710)

Dear Mr. Stromberg:

The Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the subject documents received October 15, 2021 in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NRHA) of 1966, as amended.

#### **Project Description**

The Nevada Army National Guard (NVANG) proposes to conduct a phased expansion at the Harry Reid Training Center (HRTC) between Federal years 2022 and 2030 as part of the National Guard Readiness Center Project. Additional information regarding the proposed project was provided in response to SHPO correspondence dated July 30, 2021. Proposed actions would involve construction and/or expansion of the following buildings/structures:

- Pre-engineered 105 ft. long, 66-ft. wide, and 34-ft.,10-inch-tall Metal Chinook Unheated Storage Hangar (26,987 sq. ft. with concrete floor)
- Pre-engineered 70-ft. long, 60-inch wide, and 34-ft, 10-inch-tall Metal Blackhawk Unheated Storage Hangar (16,355 sq. ft. with concrete floor)
- North Hangar Addition that is constructed with concrete and metal that will be 150-ft. long, 100-ft. wide, and will not exceed current height of existing facility (15000 sq. ft. with mixed finish flooring)
- Fuel Farm Shade and Expansion-B constructed of pre-engineered metal canopy, concrete, gravel, and metal fencing (dimensions to be determined)
- Pre-engineered 30-ft. long, 10-ft. wide, 12-ft tall AASF GSE Building
- Washoe County Training Center Addition constructed with concrete and metal that will be 500-ft. long, 110-ft. wide, and 18-ft., 8-inch-tall (55,000 sq. ft.)
- Pre-engineered Army Combat Fitness Test Site that will not exceed current height of existing facility and include rubberized track, grass, and concrete flooring (dimensions to be determined)

- Tool Room constructed of metal, aluminum windows, and concrete flooring and will be 33-ft., 4-inches long, 16-ft., 8-inches wide, and 15-ft, 2-inches tall
- Organizational and Non-organizational Parking (13,200 sq. ft. asphalt and gravel)
- Airfield Ramp Expansion constructed of concrete (dimensions to be determined)

#### Area of Potential Effect (APE)

The SHPO acknowledges receipt of the additional maps and photographs keyed to the map as requested.

The NVANG has defined the physical APE to include 108.6-acres that comprises leased Washoe County parcel (APN: 086-850-03), leased from the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority. NVANG has defined the visual, auditory, atmospheric, and cumulative APE to include 0.25-miles beyond the physical APE.

The SHPO does **agrees** with the APE as defined.

#### **Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties**

Prior to survey efforts, an archival records review was conducted that identified the 108.6-acre APE has been previously partially and adequately surveyed. Therefore, only 45.6-acres were inventoried. Inventory efforts identified one previously recorded resource (26WA9887) that has received SHPO concurrence as not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (October 19, 2015).

Additionally, S2784, 26WA12791, 26WA12792, and 26WA12786 were identified as NVCRIS "in process" resources that are within the visual, auditory, atmospheric, and cumulative APE. The NVANG states that these resources are **unevaluated** for listing in the NRHP and are treated as National Register **eligible** for the purpose of this undertaking.

Inventory efforts also identified two new architectural resources (S2785 and S2787). The NVANG states that these resources are **unevaluated** for listing in the NRHP and are treated as National Register **eligible** for the purpose of this undertaking.

#### Native American and Interested Party Consultation

The SHPO acknowledges receipt that consultation with Native American tribes, the public, and representatives of organizations that have demonstrated interest in historic properties has been concluded. For future submission, please provide information related to any comments received during consultation efforts. If historic properties are identified during consultation efforts, the National Register evaluation of properties must also be included in consultation with this office in keeping with 36 CFR §800.4(a)(4) and §800.2(c)(5).

#### **Finding of Effect**

The SHPO concurs with NVANG's finding of No Adverse Effect for this undertaking.

Nathan Stromberg November 12, 2021 Page **3** of **3** 

#### **Unanticipated Discovery**

If any buried and/or previously unidentified resources are located during the project activities, the SHPO recommends that all work in the vicinity of the find cease and this office be contacted for additional consultation per 36 CFR §800.13(b)(3).

Should you have questions concerning this correspondence, please contact SHPO archaeologist Ashley Wiley at (775) 684-3450 or email <u>awiley@shpo.nv.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Robin Reed Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

### IPaC

# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

## **Project information**

NAME

Nevada Army National Guard - UH-60 Storage Hangar - Reno Stead Airport (RTS)

LOCATION

Washoe County, Nevada



DESCRIPTION None NOTFORCONSULTATIO

## Local office

Reno Fish And Wildlife Office

▶ (775) 861-6300▶ (775) 861-6301

1340 Financial Boulevard, Suite 234 Reno, NV 89502-7147

https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/GXJYAEIJKZGZROEI6O6O4J2DNA/resources#migratory-birds

## Endangered species

# This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

- 1. Log in to IPaC.
- 2. Go to your My Projects list.
- 3. Click PROJECT HOME for this project.
- 4. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact <u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for <u>species under their jurisdiction</u>.

- 1. Species listed under the <u>Endangered Species Act</u> are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the <u>listing status page</u> for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
- 2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of

Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Insects

NAME	STATUS
Carson Wandering Skipper Pseudocopaeodes eunus obscurus Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/674</u>	Endangered
Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</u>	Candidate
Flowering Plants	STATUS
Webber's Ivesia Ivesia webberi Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4682	Threatened

## **Critical habitats**

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

## Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>1</sup> and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats<sup>3</sup>, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the <u>"Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"</u>.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <u>https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds</u>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <u>https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf</u>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <u>https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action</u>

There are likely bald eagles present in your project area. For additional information on bald eagles, refer to <u>Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity</u>

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON				
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626</u>	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31				
Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680</u>	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31				

## Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read <u>"Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"</u>, specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

### Probability of Presence (

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

- 1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
- 2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
- 3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

### Breeding Season (=)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

### Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

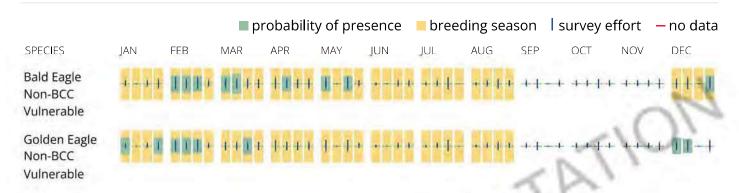
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

#### No Data (–)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

#### Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



#### What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN</u>). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (<u>Eagle Act</u> requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the <u>Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool</u>.

## What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge</u> <u>Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science</u> <u>datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (<u>Eagle Act</u> requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the <u>Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool</u>.

#### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the <u>Eagle Act</u> should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions.

# Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats<sup>3</sup> should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described in the links below. Specifically, please review the <u>"Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"</u>.

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- 2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <u>https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management</u>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <u>https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds</u>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <u>https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/</u> <u>documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf</u>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <u>https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action</u>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ below. This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the <u>E-bird data mapping tool</u> (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found <u>below</u>.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
American Avocet Recurvirostra americana This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Apr 21 to Aug 10
American White Pelican pelecanus erythrorhynchos This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6886	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 31
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Black Swift Cypseloides niger This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8878</u>	Breeds Jun 15 to Sep 10
Black Tern Chlidonias niger surinamenisis This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3093	Breeds May 15 to Aug 20
Bobolink Dolichonyx oryzivorus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
<b>California Gull</b> Larus californicus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 31

3/24, 1:32 PM	IPaC: Explore Location resources
<b>Calliope Hummingbird</b> Selasphorus ca This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (I range in the continental USA and Alaska <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9526</u>	BCC) throughout its
Clark's Grebe Aechmophorus clarkii This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (I range in the continental USA and Alaska	<b>C</b>
Forster's Tern Sterna forsteri This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (I Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the	
Franklin's Gull Leucophaeus pipixcan This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (I range in the continental USA and Alaska	
Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos This is not a Bird of Conservation Conce warrants attention because of the Eagle susceptibilities in offshore areas from co development or activities. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680</u>	Act or for potential
Lesser Yellowlegs Tringa flavipes This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (I range in the continental USA and Alaska https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	
Long-eared Owl asio otus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (I range in the continental USA and Alaska https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3631	
Marbled Godwit Limosa fedoa This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (I range in the continental USA and Alaska <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481</u>	<b>C</b>

13/24, 1:32 PM	IPaC: Explore Location resources						
Northern Harrier Circus hudsonius This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) o Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the contir <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8350</u>							
Olive-sided Flycatcher Contopus cooperi This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) th range in the continental USA and Alaska. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914</u>	Breeds May 20 to Aug 31 proughout its						
Pectoral Sandpiper Calidris melanotos This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) th range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds elsewhere proughout its						
Pinyon Jay Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) th range in the continental USA and Alaska. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9420</u>	Breeds Feb 15 to Jul 15 nroughout its						
Rufous Hummingbird Selasphorus rufus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) th range in the continental USA and Alaska. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8002</u>	Breeds Apr 15 to Jul 15 proughout its						
Sage Thrasher Oreoscoptes montanus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) of Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the contin https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9433							
Western Grebe aechmophorus occidentalis This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) th range in the continental USA and Alaska. <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6743</u>	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31 nroughout its						
Willet Tringa semipalmata This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) th range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5 proughout its						
Probability of Presence Su	ummary						

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read <u>"Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles"</u>, specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

### Probability of Presence (

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

- The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
- 2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
- 3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

### Breeding Season (--)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

### Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

### No Data (–)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

### Survey Timeframe

#### IPaC: Explore Location resources

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

			■ pi	robabilit	y of pre	esence	<b>b</b> reed	ding sea	son Is	survey e	ffort –	- no data
SPECIES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
American Avocet BCC <del>-</del> BCR	+-++	111	1111	111	1+1)	( <del>-</del> 1 1	010	• • • •	1   1	+++	++++	++-+
American White Pelican BCC - BCR	· +++	++++	++++	1+11	+-1+	+ + <mark>1</mark> +	•++•	•+++	++-+	++++	++++	+ -+
Bald Eagle Non-BCC Vulnerable	+-++	III+	11++	+ 1 + +	<b>∐ ∐</b> 4		•+ <b>†</b> +	* * † +	+++++	++++	++++	+4-1
Black Swift BCC Rangewide (CON)	+-++	++++	++++	++++	+++	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	• • • • •	• + + +	++-+	+++++	++++	++
Black Tern BCC Rangewide (CON)	+-++	++++	++++	++++	<b>I</b> -++	-+ <b>1</b> +	**	<u>}</u>	+++-+	++++	++++	++-+
Bobolink BCC Rangewide (CON)	++++	++++	++++	++++	+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++	AL PA	i fi i	++++	#++1	++++	++++	++++
California Gull BCC Rangewide (CON)	-++	1+11	INT	Ange	<b>I</b> - <b>I</b> +		-	++[]	1]-1	+++1	1+1+	11-1
Calliope Hummingbird BCC Rangewide (CON)	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	<del>  </del> +	++++	++++	++++	++++
Clark's Grebe BCC Rangewide (CON)	+-++	++++	++++	++	++++		• • • • •	• + † +	++-+	++++		++-+
Forster's Tern BCC <b>-</b> BCR	+-++	++++	++++	++++	<b>I</b> -+•	1 - 1 +	+ <mark>1</mark> +-	• • • • •	++-+	++++	++++	++-+
Franklin's Gull BCC Rangewide (CON)	++++	++++	++++	+++#	++++	+++	1111	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++
Golden Eagle Non-BCC Vulnerable	1 + + ]	111+	++1+	++++	++++	•••	•++•	• • • • •	++-+	++++	. + + + +	<b>II</b> ++
SPECIES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC

Lesser Yellowlegs BCC Rangewide (CON)	+-++	++++	++++	++++	+-++	+++	+++-	++  +	1++	++++	++++	++-+
Long-eared Owl BCC Rangewide (CON)	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++		++++	++++
Marbled Godwit BCC Rangewide (CON)	+-++	++++	++++	++++	+-++	+-++	+11-	++++	+ -+	++++	++++	++-+
Northern Harrier BCC - BCR	1 • 1 ]	111)	1111	1111	1-1)	0 + 1 1	+ <u>   </u> -	++11	11-1	111	111	1-1
Olive-sided Flycatcher BCC Rangewide (CON)	++++	++++	++++	++++	<u>+</u> +∎+	++++	++++	++•+	++++	++++		++++
Pectoral Sandpiper BCC Rangewide (CON)	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++++	++#+	+++=	++++	0 <del>(</del> ]}	++++	++++
Pinyon Jay BCC Rangewide (CON)	-++	++++	++++	++++	1-++	• - + + + +		*+++	+++++	++++	++++	+++
Rufous Hummingbird BCC Rangewide (CON)	++-	++++	++++	++(+	1-44	4-++	++ <b>  </b> +	++++	++++	++++	++++	++-+
Sage Thrasher BCC - BCR	+-++	++++	+111	11++	1-11	·· · · • •	• • •	+ 1 ++	1+++	++++	++++	++-+
Western Grebe BCC Rangewide (CON)	+-++	++++	+++1	++++	<u>∎</u> -++	+ + +	**+	• + + +	++-+	++++	+ 1 1 +	++-+
Willet BCC Rangewide (CON)	+-++	++++	++++	<b>I</b> + <mark>  </mark>	] • [] +	I I	•	* <del>* * *</del> *	++-+	+++++	++++	++-+

Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

<u>Nationwide Conservation Measures</u> describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. <u>Additional measures</u> or <u>permits</u> may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site. What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge</u> <u>Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science</u> <u>datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (<u>Eagle Act</u> requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the <u>Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool</u>.

## What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and</u> <u>citizen science datasets</u>.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

#### How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the <u>RAIL Tool</u> and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

#### What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

- 1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
- 2. "BCC BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
- 3. "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the <u>Eagle Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

#### IPaC: Explore Location resources

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

#### Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the <u>Northeast Ocean Data</u> <u>Portal</u>. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the <u>NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird</u> <u>Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf</u> project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the <u>Diving Bird Study</u> and the <u>nanotag studies</u> or contact <u>Caleb Spiegel</u> or <u>Pam Loring</u>.

#### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to <u>obtain a permit</u> to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

#### Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

# Facilities

## National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

## Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

# Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local <u>U.S. Army Corps of</u> Engineers District.

This location did not intersect any wetlands mapped by NWI.

**NOTE:** This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

#### Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

#### IPaC: Explore Location resources

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

#### Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

#### **Data precautions**

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

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