

**Appendix D United States Fish and Wildlife Correspondence**



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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April 10, 2007

Ms. Laura Morland  
Mead & Hunt, Inc.  
6501 Watts Road  
Madison, Wisconsin 53719-2700

re: Environmental Assessment Scoping  
General Mitchell International Airport  
City of Milwaukee  
Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

Dear Ms. Morland:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your letter dated February 27, 2007, with a request for participation in scoping of alternatives and environmental issues associated with the proposed Runway Safety Area (RSA) improvements at General Mitchell International Airport in the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. We have reviewed the information provided in your letter, as well as information provided in an agency scoping meeting dated March 27, 2007, and our comments follow.

### **Federally-Listed Species, Candidate Species, and Critical Habitat**

Currently, we have no records that federally-listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat are present at the project site.

As this project involves a Federal action (i.e., authorization, funding, or is carried out in whole or in part by a Federal agency), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) or its designated agent is responsible for making a determination under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA), as to whether the selected project alternative may affect federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat. If there are no federally listed species present in the project area, or if the FAA or its agent determines that the project would have no effect on listed species, concurrence from the Service is not required. In such instances, we recommend that the FAA or its agent document the rationale for their determination in the project file for the Record of Decision.

If the proposed project may affect, but is unlikely to adversely affect federally-listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, FHWA or its agent must obtain written concurrence from our office. If the project may affect, and is likely to adversely affect federally-

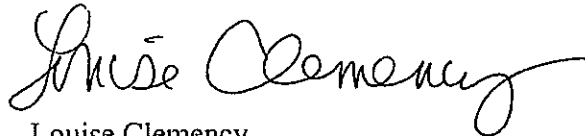
listed species or adversely modify designated critical habitat, FHWA must initiate formal consultation with the Service in accordance with section 7 of the ESA. Further information on the section 7 consultation process can be obtained by contacting the staff person identified at the end of this letter.

Fish and Wildlife Habitat

Based upon the information provided, the Service does not have concerns regarding impacts to fish and wildlife habitat associated with any of the alternatives presented at the March 27 meeting. However, during the analysis of cumulative impacts, the environmental assessment should review any potential impacts to woodlands and or wetlands that may be associated with the expansion of East College Avenue or any future anticipated projects in or adjacent to the airport property.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond. Questions pertaining to these comments can be directed to Ms. Leakhena Au at 920-866-1734.

Sincerely,



Louise Clemency  
Field Supervisor

cc: Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Waukesha, WI Attn: Rebecca Gruber  
U.S. EPA, Region 5, Chicago, IL Attn: Kathleen Kowal