

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Tennessee ES Office 446 Neal Street Cookeville, Tennessee 38501

July 19, 2017



Mr. Seton Bonney Tennessee Department of Transportation Environmental Tech Group 6601 Centennial Boulevard Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0334

Subject: 17-CPA-0676. State Route 112 construction from State Route 12 to State Route 155;

PIN# 103764.00, P.E. Number: 19046-1214-14, Davidson County, Tennessee.

Dear Mr. Bonney:

Thank you for the letter dated June 30, 2017, transmitting bat survey results for the proposal to construct a portion of State Route (SR) 112 from SR 12 to SR 155 in Davidson County, Tennessee. The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) has determined that the project is "not likely to adversely affect" the federally endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) or threatened northern long-eared bat (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*) based on negative survey results. Personnel of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have reviewed the subject proposal and offer the following comments.

A mist netting survey was performed during the period of June 5 through June 8, 2017, at three sites determined to be suitable netting locations. Efforts resulted in the capture of four individual bats, representing two non-listed species. Due to negative survey results for the Indiana bat and the NLEB, we concur with TDOT's determinations of "not likely to adversely affect" for these species. Unless new information otherwise indicates species use of the area, this survey will be valid until April 1, 2020.

We are unaware of any federally listed or proposed species that would be impacted by the project. Therefore, based on the best information available at this time, we believe that the requirements of section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended, are fulfilled for all species that currently receive protection under the Act. Obligations under section 7 of the Act should be reconsidered if (1) new information reveals impacts of the proposed action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner not previously considered, (2) the proposed action is subsequently modified to include activities which were not considered during this consultation, or (3) new species are listed or critical habitat designated that might be affected by the proposed action.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact John Griffith of my staff at 931/525-4995 or by email at *john_griffith@fws.gov*.

Sincerely,

Mary E. Jennings Field Supervisor

Mary E. Jennings