



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
New York Ecological Services Field Office
3817 Luker Road
Cortland, NY 13045-9385
Phone: (607) 753-9334 Fax: (607) 753-9699
Email Address: fw5es_nyfo@fws.gov



In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2023-0089413
Project Name: Almond Lake Master Plan

February 12, 2024

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)).

(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. **Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.**

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

New York Ecological Services Field Office

3817 Luker Road

Cortland, NY 13045-9385

(607) 753-9334

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2023-0089413

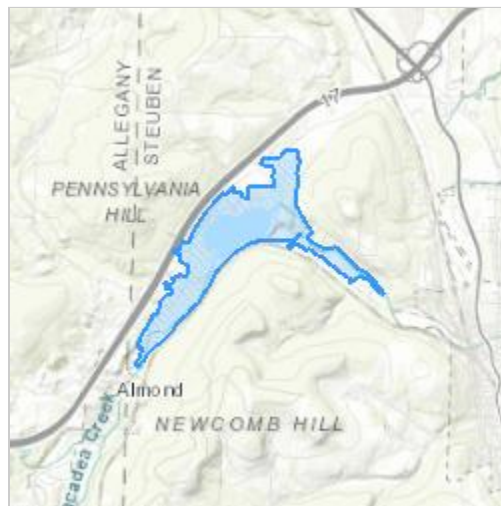
Project Name: Almond Lake Master Plan

Project Type: Management Plans Land Management/Restoration

Project Description: The purpose of this project is to update the Master Plan and Environmental Assessment for Almond Dam and Reservoir in Steuben County, New York. The Almond Dam and Reservoir Master Plan is the strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all recreational, natural, and cultural resources throughout the life of the project. It is the basic document guiding the United States Army Corps of Engineers responsibilities pursuant to Federal Laws to preserve, conserve, restore, maintain, manage, and develop the project lands, waters, and associated resources.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@42.34210955,-77.71936795911274,14z>



Counties: Steuben County, New York

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers
Name: Lauren McDonald
Address: 2 Hopkins Plaza
City: Baltimore
State: MD
Zip: 21201
Email: lauren.n.mcdonald@usace.army.mil
Phone: 4109625646



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, BALTIMORE DISTRICT
2 HOPKINS PLAZA
BALTIMORE, MD 21201

R. Daniel Mackay
Deputy SHPO
New York Division of Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 189
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

March 5, 2024

Dear Mr. Mackay:

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation with your office in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800, regarding an update to the Almond Lake Master Plan. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (USACE) is updating the Master Plan for the Almond Lake Dam located in Steuben County, New York (Enclosure 1). The Almond Lake Dam is a multipurpose water resources project constructed and operated by USACE.

The 2024 Master Plan is intended to serve as a comprehensive land and recreation management plan for the next 15 to 25 years and is needed to update the 1977 Almond Lake Master Plan. The 2024 Master Plan will provide updated guidance for stewardship of natural resources and management for long-term public access to, and use of, the natural resources at Almond Lake, including the land classification of the USACE-managed lands. To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, an Environmental Assessment is also being prepared as part of this update.

The Master Plan update does not include any specifically proposed actions or projects; therefore, effects to historic properties are not anticipated as part of this effort. Any future actions or projects will have their own environmental and cultural review and coordination, as appropriate. Should we become aware of any specific undertakings with the potential to affect historic properties, we will consult further with your office regarding identification and/or assessment of those resources.

Thank you for assistance with this project. We ask that your office review the enclosed information and assist us in identifying and assessing the project's effect on historic properties. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Ethan A. Bean at (410) 962-2173 or ethan.a.bean@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Bierly", is positioned below the "Sincerely," text.

Daniel M. Bierly, P.E.
Chief, Civil Project Development Branch
Planning Division

Enclosure



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, BALTIMORE DISTRICT
2 HOPKINS PLAZA
BALTIMORE, MD 21201

Joe Stahlman, THPO
Seneca Nation of Indians
90 Ohi yo' Way
Salamanca, NY 14779

March 5, 2024

Dear Mr. Stahlman:

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation with your office in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800, regarding an update to the Almond Dam Master Plan. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (USACE) is updating the Master Plan for the Almond Dam in Steuben County, New York (Enclosure 1). The Almond Lake Dam is a multipurpose water resources project constructed and operated by USACE.

The 2024 Master Plan is intended to serve as a comprehensive land and recreation management plan for the next 15 to 25 years and is needed to update the 1977 Almond Lake Master Plan. The 2024 Master Plan will provide updated guidance for stewardship of natural resources and management for long-term public access to, and use of, the natural resources at Almond Lake, including the land classification of the USACE-managed lands. To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, an Environmental Assessment is also being prepared as part of this update.

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Please let us know if you are interested in consulting on this project on a Government-to-Government basis, and the extent to which you wish to participate. We will provide a USACE representative at consultation meetings, and we will fully consider any information you wish to provide.

Thank you for assistance with this project. We ask that your office review the enclosed information and assist us in identifying and assessing the project's effect on historic properties. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Ethan A. Bean at (410) 962-2173 or ethan.a.bean@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Bierly", is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Daniel M. Bierly, P.E.
Chief, Civil Project Development Branch
Planning Division

Enclosure



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, BALTIMORE DISTRICT
2 HOPKINS PLAZA
BALTIMORE, MD 21201

William Tarrant, THPO
Seneca-Cayuga Nation of Indians
P.O. Box 453220
Grove, OK 74345-3220

March 5, 2024

Dear Mr. Tarrant:

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation with your office in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and its implementing regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800, regarding an update to the Almond Dam Master Plan. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District (USACE) is updating the Master Plan for the Almond Dam in Steuben County, New York (Enclosure 1). The Almond Lake Dam is a multipurpose water resources project constructed and operated by USACE.

The 2024 Master Plan is intended to serve as a comprehensive land and recreation management plan for the next 15 to 25 years and is needed to update the 1977 Almond Lake Master Plan. The 2024 Master Plan will provide updated guidance for stewardship of natural resources and management for long-term public access to, and use of, the natural resources at Almond Lake, including the land classification of the USACE-managed lands. To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act, an Environmental Assessment is also being prepared as part of this update.

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Thank you for assistance with this project. We ask that your office review the enclosed information and assist us in identifying and assessing the project's effect on historic properties. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Ethan A. Bean at (410) 962-2173 or ethan.a.bean@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel M. Bierly", is positioned above the printed name.

Daniel M. Bierly, P.E.
Chief, Civil Project Development Branch
Planning Division

Enclosure

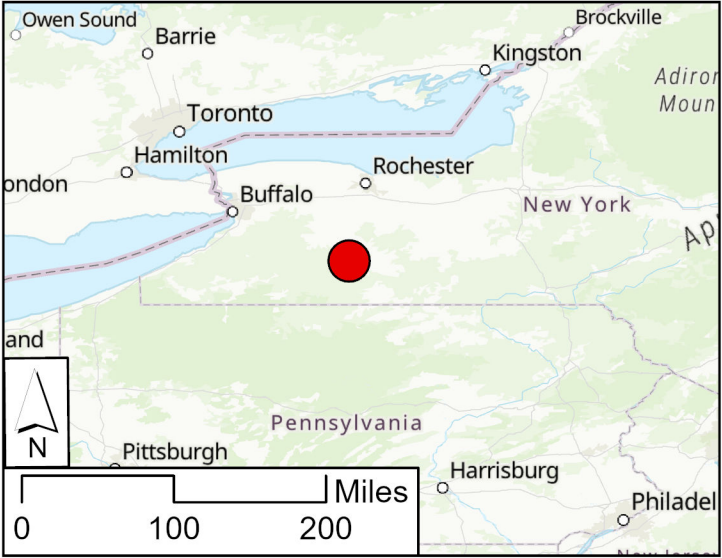


Almond Lake
Master Plan

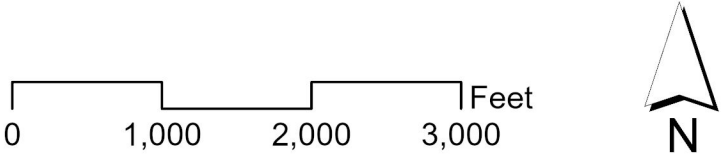
Site Vicinity

Legend

 Almond Study Area



Source: New York State, Maxar, data.pa.gov, Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA



Mcdonald, Lauren N CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

From: Joe Stahlman <joe.stahlman@sni.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2024 7:49 AM
To: Bean, Ethan A CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)
Cc: Mcdonald, Lauren N CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Jacquie Crouse
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Section 106 Review - Almond Lake Master Plan 2024 Update

Mr. Bean,

Thank you for your email. However, I can't answer your request until goes through other channels. I think it is important for you to begin this conversation with Seneca Nation leadership. I suggest an introduction letter sent to President Rickey Armstrong (rick.armstrong@sni.org) and Executive Asst. Ms. Jacquie Crouse (j.crouse@sni.org). Currently, we have over 74 departments and I believe some of those departments may have an interest in Almond Res. along with the THPO office. Next, I want to suggest you reach out to the other Federally recognized Seneca communities, if you haven't already.

Again, thank you for your time.

Joe

Dr. Joe Stahlman
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Seneca Nation
82 W. Hetzel Street
Salamanca, NY 14779
Phone (716) 945-1760
Joe.Stahlman@sni.org



From: Bean, Ethan A CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <ETHAN.A.BEAN@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 1:33 PM
To: Joe Stahlman <joe.stahlman@sni.org>
Cc: Mcdonald, Lauren N CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Lauren.N.Mcdonald@usace.army.mil>
Subject: Section 106 Review - Almond Lake Master Plan 2024 Update

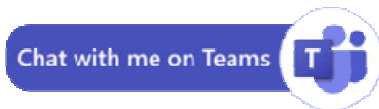
Good afternoon,

Please find attached for your review information regarding the proposed 2024 update to the Almond Lake Master Plan in Steuben County, New York. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

Respectfully,
Ethan Bean

Ethan A. Bean, M.S.
Cultural Resources Specialist
History Program Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District

Work - Desk: (410) 962-2173
Work - Cell: (443) 742-8048
Personal: (765) 716-5828 (*text preferred*)



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