Appendix A – Biological Resources

Table A-1: Plant Species with the Potential to Occur in the Action Area and Immediate Vicinity.

Table A-2: Table A-2. Species on the Birds of Conservation Concern for the Great Basin Region 9.

A-3: IPaC Resource List

Table A-1. Plant Species with the Potential to Occur in the Action Area and Immediate Vicinity.

Common Name	Scientific Name		
Plants			
Antelope bitterbrush	Purshia tridentata		
Big sagebrush	Artemisia tridentata		
Bluebunch wheatgrass	Pachnathseudoroegneria spicata		
Blue grama	Bouteloua sp.		
Blue spruce	Picea pungens		
Boxelder	Acer negundo		
Brittle pricklypear	Opuntia fragilis		
Broadleaf cattail	Typha latifolia		
Brome species	Bromus sp.		
Broom snakeweed	Gutierrezia sarothrae		
Bulbous bluegrass	Poa bulbosa		
Bull thistle	Cirsium vulgare		
Cheatgrass	Bromus tectorum		
Chokecherry	Prunus virginiana		
Common mullein	Verbascum thapus		
Common reed	Phragmites australis		
Common sunflower	Helianthus annuus		
Crested wheatgrass	Agropyron cristatum		
Dalmatian Toadflax	Linaria dalmatica		
Engelmann spruce	Picea engelmannii		
Gambel oak	Quercus gambelii		
Indian paintbrush	Castilleja sp		
Indian ricegrass	Achnatherum hymenoides		
James' galleta grass	Pleuraphis jamesii		
Kentucky bluegrass	Poa pratensis		
Leafy spurge	Euphorbia esula		
Little bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium		
Musk thistle	Carduus nutans		
Narrowleaf cottonwood	Populus angustifolia		
Needle and thread grass	Hesperostipa comata		
Orchardgrass	Dactylis glomerata		
Perennial ryegrass	Lolium perenne		
Purple three-awn	Aristida purpurea		
Redstem filaree	Erodium cicutarium		
Rubber rabbitbrush	Ericameria nauseosa		
Russian knapweed	Acroptilon repens		
Russian olive	Elaeagnus angustifolia		
Saltcedar	Tamarix ramosissima		

Common Name	Scientific Name
Sand dropseed	Sporobolus cryptandrus
Scotch thistle	Onopordum acanthium
Serviceberry	Amelanchier sp.
Siberian elm	Ulmus pumila
Silver sage	Artemisia cana
Skunkbush sumac	Rhus trilobata
Stinging nettle	Urtica dioica
Threadleaf snakeweed	Gutierrezia microcephala
Utah juniper	Juniperus osteosperma
Wavy-leaf Indian paintbrush	Castilleja applegatei
Western wheatgrass	Pascopyrum smithii
Winterfat	Krascheninnikovia lanata
Yellow rabbitbush	Chrysothamnus viscidiflorus

(UANG, 2020)

Table A-2. Species on the Birds of Conservation Concern for the Great Basin Region 9.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Identified during Camp Williams BirdSurveys	Scarcity
Greater Sage-Grouse (a)	Centrocerus urophasianus	No	_
Eared Grebe (nb)	Podiceps nigricollis	No	_
Ferruginous Hawk	Buteo regalis	No	_
Yellow Rail	Coturnicops noveboracensis	No	_
Snowy Plover (c)	Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus/tenuirostris	No	_
Long-billed Curlew	Numenius americanus	No	_
Marbled Godwit (nb)	Limosa fedoa	No	-
Flammulated Owl	Otus flammeolus	No	1
Black Swift	Cypseloides niger	No	1
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	Selasphorus platycercus	No	
Calliope Hummingbird	Stellula calliope	No	_
Rufous Hummingbird	Selasphorus rufus	No	
Lewis's Woodpecker	Melanerpes lewis	No	_
Williamson's Sapsucker (Rocky Mountain subspecies only)	Sphyrapicus thyroideus	No	_
White-headed Woodpecker (California subspecies only)	Picoides albolarvatus	No	_
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Contopus cooperi	No	
Willow Flycatcher (c)	Empidonax traillii	Yes	Occasional
Loggerhead Shrike (c)	Lanius Iudovicianus	Yes	Rare
Pinyon Jay	Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus	Yes	Uncommon
Sage Thrasher	Oreoscoptes montanus	Yes	Rare
Virginia's Warbler	Vermivora virginiae	Yes	Common
Green-tailed Towhee	Pipilo chlorurus	Yes	Common
Brewer's Sparrow	Spizella breweri	Yes	Common
Black-chinned Sparrow	Spizella atrogularis	No	
Sage Sparrow	Amphispiza belli	Yes	Occasional
Tricolored Blackbird	Agelaius tricolor	No	
Black Rosy-Finch	Leucosticte atrata	No	_

Notes:

(a) = ESA candidate

Sources: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/NewReportsPublications/SpecialTopics/BCC2008/BCC2008.pdf. http://www.ut.ngb.army.mil/environ/Natural_Resources.htm. (Table from Maneuver Trails EA, 2020

⁽b) = ESA delisted

⁽c) = Non-listed subspecies or population of threatened or endangered

species(nb) = Nonbreeding in the BCR

Scarcity reflects how often out of 11 bird survey years: solitary = either one or single sighting outside of survey; occasional = 1 to 2; rare = 3 to 5; uncommon = 6 to 9; common = 10 to 11

Table A-3. Mammal Species Observed in the Northern Lower Garrison During April 2009 Site Visit and the CEM Site Visits in May and July 2014

Common Name	Scientific Name	Observations
Mammals		
Bobcat	Felis rufus	Scat
Coyote	Canis latrans	Scat and footprints
Least chipmunk	Eutamias minimus	
Mule deer	Odocoileus hemionus	
Northern pocket gopher	Thomomys talpoides	Burrows
Rock squirrel	Spermophilus variegates	

(Table from Maneuver Trails EA, 2020)

Table A-4. Special Status Species Occurring in Utah or Salt Lake Counties

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	State Status	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence on Sites Based on Habitat Availability
Plants					
Ute ladies'-tresses	Spiranthese diluvialis	Т	None	Wet meadows, along streams, abandoned stream meanders, springs, lake shores	None
Deseret milk-vetch	Astragalus desereticus	Т	None	Steep facing slopes in open pinyon-juniper-sagebrush communities	None
Clay phacelia	Phacelia argillacea	E	None	Endemic to Spanish Fork Canyon in Utah County	None
Birds					
American white pelican	Pelecanus erythrorhynchos	None	SPC	Lakes, rivers	Potentially present
Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	None	SPC	Lakes, rivers	Potentially present
Black Swift	Cypseloides niger	None	SPC	Cliffs, waterfalls	None
Bobolink	Dolichonix oryzivorus	None	SPC	Wetlands	None
Ferruginous hawk	Buteo regalis	None	SPC	Dry, open country	Potentially present
Grasshopper sparrow	Ammodramus savannarum	None	SPC	Pastures, grasslands	Potentially present
Greater sage-grouse	Centrocersu urophasuanus	None	SPC	Sagebrush	Potentially present

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	State Status	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence on Sites Based on Habitat Availability
Lewis's Woodpecker	Melenerpes lewis	None	SPC	Open woodland	Unlikely
Long-billed curlew	Numenius mericanus	None	SPC	Wet and dry uplands	Potentially present
Northern goshawk	Accipiter gentilis	None	CS	Mature mountain forest and riparian zone habitats	Unlikely
Short-eared owl	Asio flammeus	None	SPC	Open country	Potentially present
Three-toes woodpecker	Picoides tridactylus	None	SPC	Engelmann spruce, sub-alpine fir, Douglas-fir, grand fir, ponderosa pine, tamarack, aspen, and lodgepole pine	None
Western burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia	None	SPC	Open country	Potentially present
Yellow-billed cuckoo	Coccyzus americanus	Т	None	Riparian, woodlands	Potentially present
Mammals					
Fringed myotis	Myotis thysanodes	None	SPC	Caves, mines, and buildings, most often in desert and woodland areas	Unlikely
Kit fox	Vulpes macrotis	None	SPC	Sandy soils, sagebrush	Potentially present
Pygmy rabbit	Sylvilagus idahoensis	None	SPC	Sandy soils, sagebrush	Potentially present
Townsend's big- eared bat	Corynorhinus townsendii	None	SPC	Forested areas	Unlikely
Spotted bat	Euderma maculatum	None	SPC	Range from deserts to forested mountains; roost and hibernate incaves and rock crevices	Unlikely
Western red bat	Lasiurus blossevillii	None	SPC	Near water, often in wooded areas	Unlikely
White-tailed prairie dog	Cynomys leucurus	None	SPC	Desert grasslands and shrub grasslands	Potentially present
Brown (Grizzly) bear	Ursus arctos horribilis	Т	None	Mountains, forests, coastal areas, streams and rivers	None (Extirpated)
Amphibians					
Columbia spotted frog	Rana luteiventris	С	CS	Perennial aquatic habitats, small pools or ponds	Potentially present
Western (boreal) toad	Bufo boreas	None	SPC	Slow moving streams, wetlands, desert springs, ponds, lakes, meadows, and woodlands	Potentially present
Reptiles					
Smooth greensnake	Opheodrys vernalis	None	SPC	Moist, grassy areas and meadows	Unlikely

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	State Status	Habitat	Potential for Occurrence on Sites Based on Habitat Availability
Fish					
Bonneville cutthroat trout	Oncorhynchus clarkia utah	None	CS	High elevation streams and lakes	None
Bluehead sucker	Catostomus discobolus	None	CS	Streams	None
Colorado River Cutthroat trout	Oncorhynchus clarkia pleuriticus	None	CS	Isolated high-elevation headwater streams	None
June sucker	Chasmistes liorus	Ш	None	Utah Lake and Provo River	None
Least chub	lotichthys phlegethontis	None	CS	Ponds, streams, springs	None
Roundtail chub	Gila robusta	None	CS	Pools in large rivers and streams	None
Southern leatherside chub	Lepidomeda aliciae	None	SPC	Streams and rivers	None
Invertebrates				'	
California floater	Anodonta californiensis	None	SPC	Shallow areas of lakes, ponds, and large rivers	None
Utah physa	Physella utahensi	None	SPC	Spring-fed pools; Utah Lake (extirpated)	None
Southern Bonneville springsnail	Pyrgulopsis transversa	None	SPC	Springs	None
Eureka mountainsnail	Oreohelix eurekensis	None	SPC	Limestone rocks	None
Lyrate mountainsnail	Oreohelix haydeni	None	SPC	Limestone rocks	None
Western pearlshell	Margaritifera falcate	None	SPC	Small streams, possibly extirpated	None

Notes: C = Candidate

CS = Species receiving special management under a Conservation Agreement in order to preclude the need forFederal listing.

E = Endangered

SPC = Species of concern

T = Threatened

Sources: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR), 2009a, 2009b, 2009c, 1999; USFWS, 2009; UTARNG, 2009.

(Table from (EA Assessment for the Maneuver Trail System Improvement Project, 2020 with minor edits)

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.

Location





Local office

Utah Ecological Services Field Office

(801) 975-3330

(801) 975-3331

2369 West Orton Circle, Suite 50 West Valley City, UT 84119-7603

http://www.fws.gov http://www.fws.gov/utahfieldoffice/

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. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
- 2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
- 3. Log in (if directed to do so).
- 4. Provide a name and description for your project.
- 5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ 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 Fisheries²).

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:

Birds

2/4/22, 8:05 AM

NAME STATUS

Yellow-billed Cuckoo Coccyzus americanus

Threatened

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3911

Fishes

NAME STATUS

June Sucker Chasmistes liorus

Threatened

Wherever found

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4133

Insects

NAME

Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus

Candidate

Wherever found

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743

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.

Migratory birds

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

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described <u>below</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:

- Birds of Conservation Concern http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/ birds-of-conservation-concern.php
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds
 http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the <u>USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (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 <u>below</u>. 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, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME

BREEDING SEASON (IF A
BREEDING SEASON IS INDICATED
FOR A BIRD ON YOUR LIST, THE
BIRD MAY BREED IN YOUR
PROJECT AREA SOMETIME WITHIN
THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED,
WHICH IS A VERY LIBERAL
ESTIMATE OF THE DATES INSIDE
WHICH THE BIRD BREEDS
ACROSS ITS ENTIRE RANGE.
"BREEDS ELSEWHERE" INDICATES
THAT THE BIRD DOES NOT LIKELY
BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA.)

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

TFOR

Cassin's Finch Carpodacus cassinii

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462

Breeds May 15 to Jul 15

Clark's Grebe Aechmophorus clarkii

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31

Evening Grosbeak Coccothraustes vespertinus

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds May 15 to Aug 10

Franklin's Gull Leucophaeus pipixcan

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds May 1 to Jul 31

Lesser Yellowlegs Tringa flavipes

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679

Breeds elsewhere

Marbled Godwit Limosa fedoa

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481

Breeds elsewhere

Olive-sided Flycatcher Contopus cooperi

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914

Breeds May 20 to Aug 31

Pinyon Jay Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9420

Breeds Feb 15 to Jul 15

Rufous Hummingbird selasphorus rufus

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8002

Breeds Apr 15 to Jul 15

Sage Thrasher Oreoscoptes montanus

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/9433

Breeds Apr 15 to Aug 10

Virginia's Warbler Vermivora virginiae

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9441

Breeds May 1 to Jul 31

Willet Tringa semipalmata

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5

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 and understand the FAQ "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 (1)

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.

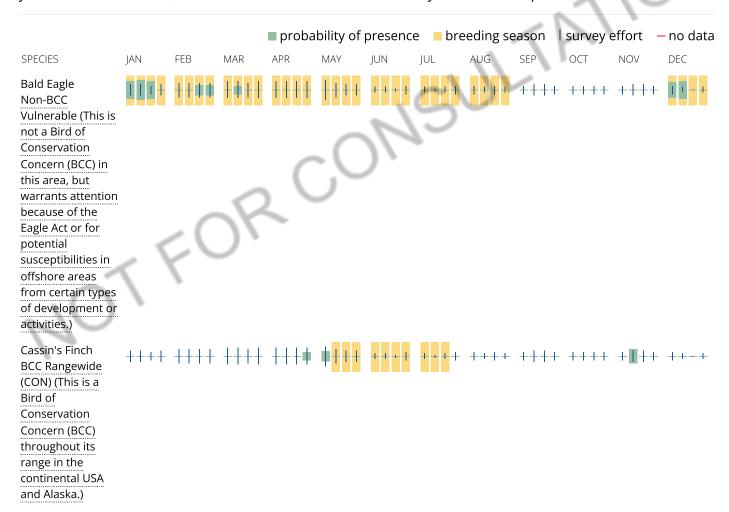
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

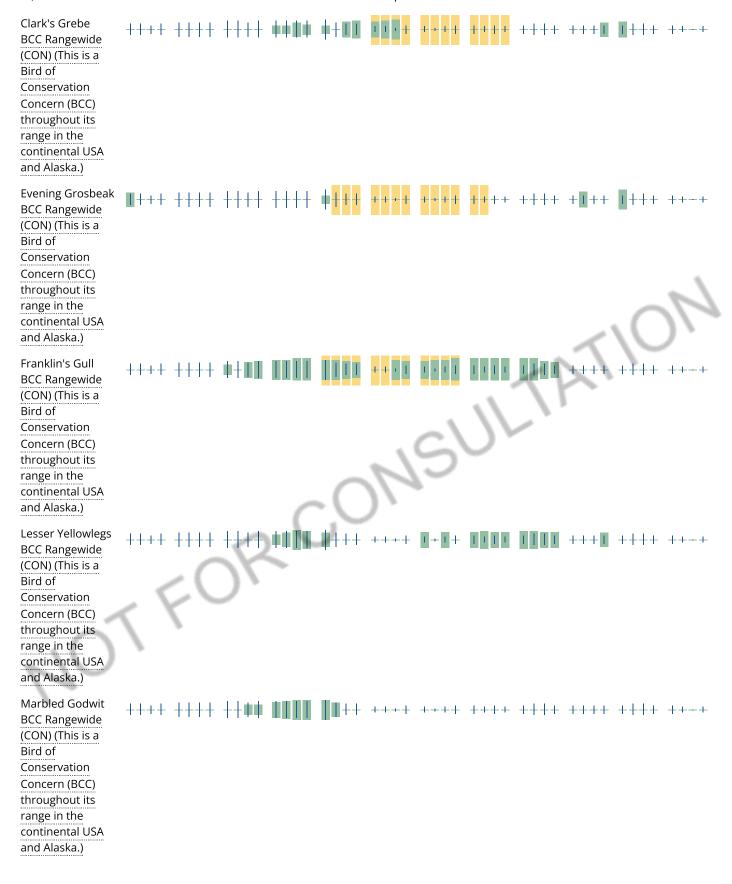
No Data (-)

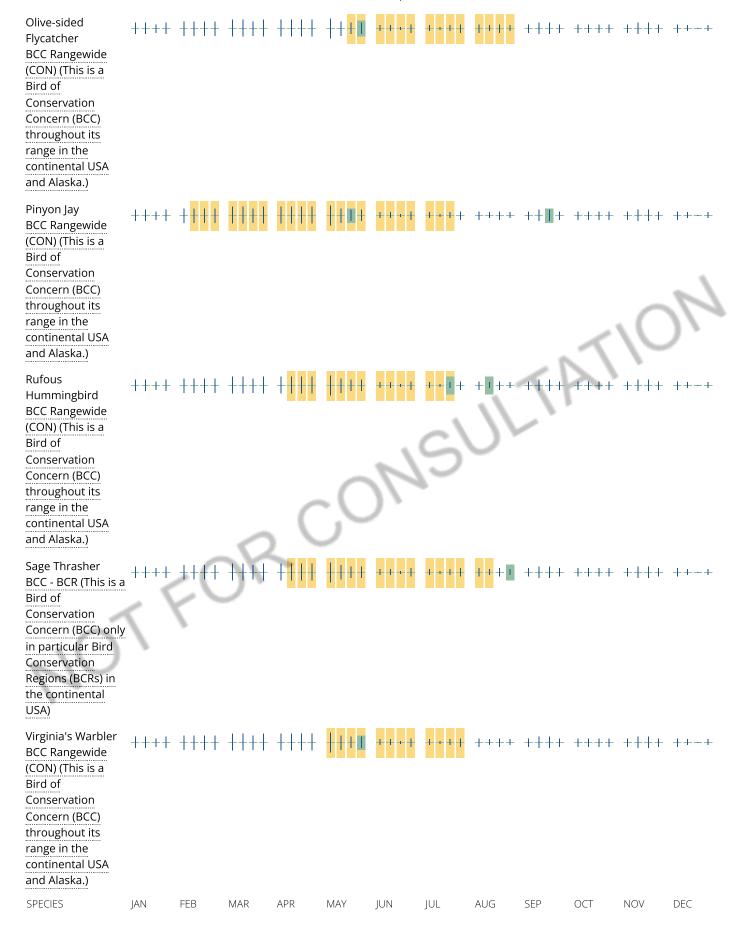
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

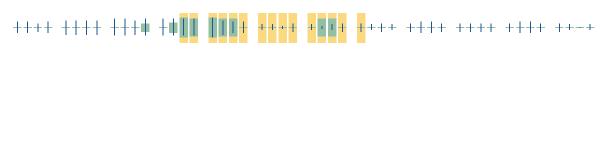
Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.







Willet
BCC Rangewide
(CON) (This is a
Bird of
Conservation
Concern (BCC)
throughout its
range in the
continental USA
and Alaska.)



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

Nationwide Conservation Measures 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. Additional measures or permits 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 migratory birds potentially occurring 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 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), 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>AKN Phenology 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 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, migrating or present year-round in my project 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 refer to the following resources: The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide, or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds

<u>guide</u>. 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).

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 Northeast Ocean Data Portal. 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 NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf 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

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 Engineers District</u>.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

RIVERINE

R4SBCx

R4SBC

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the National Wetlands Inventory website

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.

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.