



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

October 6, 2023

Kraig McPeck
Field Office Supervisor
USFWS Illinois & Iowa Ecological Services Field Office
1511 47th Avenue
Moline, IL 61265-7022
kraig_mcpeek@fws.gov

Re: Docket No. FD 36500, Canadian Pacific Railway Limited, et al.—Control of—Kansas City Southern Railway, et al.; **USFWS Informal Section 7 Consultation** – Project Codes: 2022-0010006 (MP 71 IA Railroad Siding); 2022-0010653 (Ottumwa IA Railroad Siding); 2022-0010657 (Moravia Railroad Siding)

Dear Mr. McPeck:

The Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) is re-initiating consultation for the above referenced project to address the reclassification of the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) as endangered. On March 15, 2023, the Board authorized Canadian Pacific Railway Limited's acquisition of control of Kansas City Southern Railway, subject to conditions, resulting in the merged railroad Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC). As explained during OEA's previous informal consultation with the Illinois & Iowa Ecological Services Field Office in 2022, the Board's authorization of CPKC is projected to cause an increase in rail traffic along existing rail lines and result in planned capital improvements along sections of the existing rail lines, including in Iowa. This informal consultation concluded with a concurring letter from your office on July 28, 2022 (Attachment A).

Background

As a result of the acquisition, the average rail traffic is expected to increase on certain rail lines within the combined CPKC network because freight would be diverted from rail lines owned by other railroad companies and from truck transportation to rail transportation. To accommodate the projected increase in rail traffic, CPKC has begun to make certain capital improvements within the existing rail right-of-way (ROW).

In Iowa, the planned capital improvements include adding new passing sidings or extending existing sidings. Construction activities associated with those capital improvements have the potential to affect federally listed threatened or endangered species, if any are present

within the existing rail ROW. The planned capital improvements could also involve replacing or extending existing railroad bridges and culverts to accommodate the new or extended siding.

During OEA's informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in 2022, OEA explained that field work was conducted in January 2022 to characterize the existing habitat at each planned capital improvement location. Prior to conducting field work, OEA used the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool and correspondence from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to determine the species of concern for each planned capital improvement location. Based on habitat-level field work, OEA identified suitable roosting and foraging habitat within the existing ROW for the northern long-eared bat and Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) at several planned capital improvements in Iowa. In its March 2023 decision, the Board imposed multiple mitigation measures recommended by OEA to protect the northern long-eared and Indiana bat during the construction of the planned capital improvements, as detailed in Attachment B to this letter. These measures include requirements to conduct tree clearing and work on structures that provide suitable roosting habitat outside of the active season (April 1 to October 31), as well as measures related to installing lighting. Based on the mitigation developed as part of the NEPA process, OEA had determined that the Proposed Acquisition **may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect** the northern long-eared bat and Indiana bat. As noted above, the Illinois & Iowa Field Office concurred with OEA's determination on July 28, 2022.

MP 71, Ottumwa, and Moravia Capital Improvements

CPKC plans to apply for Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 permits from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) to construct the proposed capital improvements at MP 71,¹ Ottumwa, and Moravia in Iowa. These capital improvements contain habitat for the northern long-eared bat. Per the USFWS final rule published on March 31, 2023, the northern long-eared bat has been reclassified as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Therefore, OEA (as the lead Federal Agency for the Environmental Impact Statement) is re-submitting consultation with USFWS for all currently listed species in the project areas in anticipation of CPKC's application for a Section 404 permit. OEA generated new species lists in USFWS' IPaC website and confirmed the same species (including bat species) consulted on in the 2022 consultation are potentially present in the project area (Attachment C). In addition, a new bat species was Proposed – tricolored bat – since the last consultation and IPaC indicates it could occur or potentially occur at the three capital improvement locations. The tricolored bat is generally found in the same habitats as the northern long-eared bat. Further, a reptile has been Proposed since the last consultation – salamander mussel - and IPaC indicates it could occur or potentially occur at the MP 71 project location. However, the species has been extirpated within Iowa and can be found within the Mississippi River only along the eastern border of the state.² MP 71 does not cross the Mississippi River nor is it directly adjacent to the main channel Mississippi River. OEA does not anticipate the three capital improvement projects would be likely to jeopardize the

¹ This project is also identified as MP 71 (Turkey River) in other documents (e.g., Environmental Impact Statement)

² U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Species Status Assessment Report for the Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*). Available: <https://ecos.fws.gov/ServCat/DownloadFile/235640>. Accessed: September 11, 2023.

continued existence of the tricolored bat or salamander mussel (MP 71 only) and is not requesting a conference with USFWS.³

Table 1 summarizes the planned capital improvement locations in Iowa containing suitable habitats for the northern long-eared bat. The attached maps show suitable forested bat habitat and suitable bat roosting structures within the ROW of those three planned capital improvement locations (Attachment D). With implementation of the measures in Attachment B, OEA concludes that the capital improvement projects would still result in a **may affect, not likely to adversely affect** determination for the northern long-eared bat under the endangered status. OEA requests the USFWS' concurrence on this determination.

Table 1. Planned capital improvement locations in Iowa with suitable northern long-eared bat habitats.

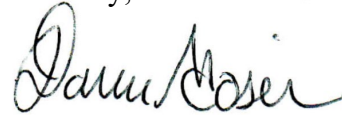
Common and Scientific Name	Capital Improvement Location	Federal Status	Suitable Habitat	Effects Determination
Northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	MP 71 (Turkey River), Clayton County, new siding Ottumwa, Wapello County, siding extension Moravia, Monroe County, new siding	Endangered	<u>MP 71</u> : multiple snags with small cavities and basal hollows (suitable summer roosting habitat). 3 bridges and one concrete box culvert with suitable cracks and crevices (suitable roosting habitat). <u>Ottumwa</u> : roosting habitat in edges of forest bordering railroad ROW. Cracks and crevices in a concrete box culvert (marginal roosting habitat). Forested edges along study area (foraging habitat). <u>Moravia</u> : scattered marginally suitable summer roosting habitat. Most of the habitat adjacent to the railway has scattered trees in scrub/shrub habitat or is forested; habitats are only 50 feet wide and abut cropland and livestock pastures. One wooden bridge provides low-quality roosting habitat. Streams provide foraging corridors.	May affect, not likely to adversely affect

³ Per ESA Section 7(a)(4), a conference is required only when the Federal agency's proposed action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a proposed species or destroy or adversely modify proposed critical habitat.

Common and Scientific Name	Capital Improvement Location	Federal Status	Suitable Habitat	Effects Determination
			<u>Habitat impacts:</u> MP 71 (6.9 acres), Ottumwa (0.01 acre), and Moravia (3.8 acres).	

We appreciate your review and assistance in the consultation process and look forward to hearing from you. For further information or questions, please contact Elizabeth Webster at Elizabeth.Webster@stb.gov or 202-360-0742. For further information about the merger, you may also visit the Board-sponsored project website at www.CP-KCSMergerEIS.com.

Sincerely,



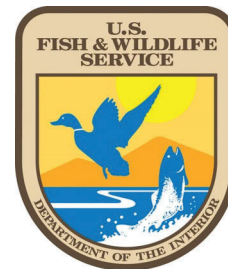
Danielle Gosselin
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

ATTACHMENT A: 2022 CONSULTATION CORRESPONDENCE [Project Codes: 2022-0010006 (MP 71 IA Railroad Siding); 2022-0010653 (Ottumwa IA Railroad Siding); 2022-0010657 (Moravia Railroad Siding)]



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Illinois - Iowa Field Office
1511 47th Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265
Phone: (309) 757-5800 Fax: (309) 757-5807



July 28, 2022
Electronic Mail

Danielle Gosselin
Director
Surface Transportation Board
Office of Environmental Analysis

Dear Ms. Gosselin,

This transmits the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) concurrence for your "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" determinations for the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), as described in your memo received June 6, 2022. The project (Docket No. FD 36500) includes the proposed merging of Canadian Pacific Railway Limited and Kansas City Southern Railway to form the Canadian Pacific Kansas City system (CPKC).

The purpose of the proposed project is to combine America's two smallest but fastest-growing Class I railroads to build a more efficient and more competitive rail network. The proposed project would cause rail traffic to increase on certain rail lines within the CPKC network. To accommodate for the projected increase in rail traffic, capital improvements within the existing rail right-of-way (ROW) in both Illinois and Iowa are proposed. In Illinois, the improvements would be located within a previously disturbed area and would not result in any new impacts to habitats, plants, or wildlife. However, suitable roosting and foraging habitat within the existing ROW for the northern long-eared bat and Indiana bat were identified at seven of the eight proposed capital improvement locations in Iowa within the cities of Guttenberg, Bellevue, Clinton, Letts, Washington, Ottumwa, and Moravia.

These improvements include the addition of five new passing sidings and the extension of four existing sidings. This would involve tree clearing, grading, and filling within the existing rail ROW. Additionally, replacement or extension of the existing railroad bridges and culverts is proposed to accommodate the new or extended sidings. This informal consultation addresses potential effects to the species in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and 50 CFR § 402 of our interagency regulations governing section 7 of the Act.

Threatened and Endangered Species

As described in your memo, nine federally listed species in addition to the northern long-eared bat and Indiana bat have ranges overlapping the project area. These species include the Eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*), eastern prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera leucophaea*), Higgins eye pearlymussel (*Lampsilis higginsii*), Iowa pleistocene snail (*Discus macclintocki*), northern wild monkshood (*Aconitum noveboracense*), prairie bush-clover (*Lespedeza leptostachya*), sheepnose mussel (*Plethobasus cyphus*), spectaclecase (*Cumberlandia monodonta*), and western prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera praeclara*), in addition to one candidate species, the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). You made "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" determinations for the northern long-eared bat and Indiana bat. Due to the lack of suitable habitat within the project area, you made "no effect" determinations for the remaining

species in the above list. The Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office has no regulatory or statutory authority for concurring with "no effect" determinations. However, we recommend you maintain a written record of your "no effect" determination and include it in your decision record.

Bats

The project, as proposed, includes the removal of potential northern long-eared bat and Indiana bat habitat and hibernaculum. As described in your memo dated June 6, 2022, all tree removal will occur outside the maternity roosting season, between October 1 and March 31. In addition, voluntary mitigation measures are proposed that include limiting tree removal where practical, conducting culvert and bridge removal or alterations outside of the roosting period when practical, conducting presence/absence surveys prior to culvert and bridge removal or alterations if required during the active season and coordination with OEA and Service if presence is found, directing temporary lighting away from suitable habitat during the active season, and using downward-facing full cut-off lens lights if permanent lighting is required. As a result of the conditions and conservation measures described above, we concur that the project as proposed "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" the northern long-eared bat and Indiana bat.

Migratory Birds and Eagles

The Service removed bald eagles from protection under the Endangered Species Act on August 8, 2007. However, they remain protected today under the Migratory Birds Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act). The Eagle Act prohibits take, which is defined as, "pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, destroy, molest, or disturb" (50 CFR 22.3). Disturb is defined in regulations as, "to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, 1) injury to an eagle, or 2) decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior." In accordance with the avoidance measures described in the Eagle Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668c), any activities resulting in potential disturbance should be restricted within 660-ft of any identified active eagle nest to dates outside of the nesting season. Please contact the Region 3 Migratory Bird Office (<https://www.fws.gov/midwest/eagle/contactus.html>) should activities that have the potential to result in take or disturbance of eagles or their nests.

Conclusion

The above comments are provided in accordance with the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.). This precludes the need for further action on this project as required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. If project plans change or portions of the proposed project were not evaluated, consultation should be reinitiated. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please feel free to contact me at the email address below.

Thank you,

KRAIG
MCPEEK

Digitally signed by KRAIG
MCPEEK
Date: 2022.07.28 13:18:13
-05'00'

Kraig McPeck
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Illinois - Iowa Field Office
1511 47th Avenue, Moline, IL 61265
kraig.mcpeek@fws.gov

ATTACHMENT B: NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT AND INDIANA BAT MITIGATION MEASURES IMPOSED BY THE BOARD

The Board's decision on March 15, 2023, required CPKC to adhere to environmental conditions, including the following measures:

- The Applicants will not conduct construction-related tree removal for the Capital Improvement Projects during the active season for the Indiana bat and the northern long-eared bat (April 1 to October 31).
- During the construction of the Capital Improvement Projects, the Applicants will take steps to reduce the unnecessary removal of bat habitat outside of active bat season by limiting tree removal to only the areas necessary to safely construct and operate the new siding or second track, marking the limits of tree clearing through the use of flagging or fencing, and ensuring that construction contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field.
- Where practicable, the Applicants will conduct any culvert or bridge removal as part of the Capital Improvement Projects outside of the roosting period of bat species, specific to each planned capital improvement location. Where practicable, if bridge or culvert removal is required during the bat roosting period where the individual planned capital improvement is located, the Applicants will consult with OEA and the local office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on appropriate methods to determine if bats are using the bridge or culvert as a roost.
- If construction of the Capital Improvement Projects would require removal or alteration of bridges, culverts, or other structures that provide suitable habitat for the northern long-eared bat or the Indiana bat during the active season for those species (April 1 to October 31), the Applicants will first conduct an inspection for the presence of or evidence of use by bats. The inspection will be completed by a qualified biologist. If the inspection finds bats or evidence of bats, then the Applicants will not commence work on the structure until coordinating with OEA and USFWS to determine appropriate follow-up or mitigative actions. The inspection must be completed during the same year that the work takes place.
- During construction of the Capital Improvement Projects, the Applicants will direct any temporary lighting away from suitable habitat for the northern long-eared bat or the Indiana bat during the active season for those species (April 1 to October 31). The Applicants will use downward-facing, full cut-off lens lights for any temporary lighting used during the construction of the planned capital improvements.
- If the Capital Improvement Projects would involve installing any new, or replacing any existing, permanent lights, the Applicants will use downward-facing, full cut-off lens lights (with the same intensity or less for replacement lighting).

**ATTACHMENT C: 2023 USFWS SPECIES LISTS FOR MP 71 IA Railroad Siding;
Ottumwa IA Railroad Siding; Moravia Railroad Siding**



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office
Illinois & Iowa Ecological Services Field Office
1511 47th Ave
Moline, IL 61265-7022
Phone: (309) 757-5800 Fax: (309) 757-5807

In Reply Refer To:

September 11, 2023

Project Code: 2023-0127504

Project Name: Canadian Pacific Acquisition of Kansas City Southern

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 attached species list identifies federally threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project. The list also includes designated critical habitat, if present, within your proposed project area or affected by your project. This list is provided to you as the initial step of the consultation process required under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act, also referred to as Section 7 Consultation.

Under 50 CFR 402.12(e) (the regulations that implement Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act) **the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days**. This verification can be completed formally or informally. You may verify the list by visiting the ECOSPHERE Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov> at regular intervals during project planning and implementation and completing the same process you used to receive the attached list.

Section 7 Consultation

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 requires that actions authorized, funded, or carried out by Federal agencies not jeopardize federally threatened or endangered species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. To fulfill this mandate, Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representative) must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) if they determine their project "may affect" listed species or designated critical habitat. Under the ESA, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or its designated representative to determine if a proposed action may affect endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or designated critical habitat, and if so, to consult with the Service further. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or project proponent, not the Service to make "no effect" determinations. If you determine that your proposed action will have no effect on threatened or endangered species or their respective designated critical habitat, you do not need to seek concurrence with the Service.

Note: For some species or projects, IPaC will present you with *Determination Keys*. You may be able to use one or

more Determination Keys to conclude consultation on your action.

Technical Assistance for Listed Species

1. For assistance in determining if suitable habitat for listed, candidate, or proposed species occurs within your project area or if species may be affected by project activities, you can obtain information on the species life history, species status, current range, and other documents by selecting the species from the thumbnails or list view and visiting the species profile page.
-

No Effect Determinations for Listed Species

1. If there are *no* species or designated critical habitats on the Endangered Species portion of the species list: conclude "no species and no critical habitat present" and document your finding in your project records. No consultation under ESA section 7(a)(2) is required if the action would result in no effects to listed species or critical habitat. Maintain a copy of this letter and IPaC official species list for your records.
2. If any species or designated critical habitat are listed as potentially present in the **action area** of the proposed project the project proponents are responsible for determining if the proposed action will have "no effect" on any federally listed species or critical habitat. No effect, with respect to species, means that no individuals of a species will be exposed to any consequence of a federal action or that they will not respond to such exposure.
3. If the species habitat is not present within the action area or current data (surveys) for the species in the action area are negative: conclude "no species habitat or species present" and document your finding in your project records. For example, if the project area is located entirely within a "developed area" (an area that is already graveled/paved or supports structures and the only vegetation is limited to frequently mowed grass or conventional landscaping, is located within an existing maintained facility yard, or is in cultivated cropland conclude no species habitat present. Be careful when assessing actions that affect: 1) rights-of-ways that contains natural or semi-natural vegetation despite periodic mowing or other management; structures that have been known to support listed species (example: bridges), and 2) surface water or groundwater. Several species inhabit rights-of-ways, and you should carefully consider effects to surface water or groundwater, which often extend outside of a project's immediate footprint.
4. Adequacy of Information & Surveys - Agencies may base their determinations on the best evidence that is available or can be developed during consultation. Agencies must give the benefit of any doubt to the species when there are any inadequacies in the information. Inadequacies may include uncertainty in any step of the analysis. To provide adequate information on which to base a determination, it may be appropriate to conduct surveys to determine whether listed species or their habitats are present in the action area. Please contact our office for more information or see the survey guidelines that the Service has made available in IPaC.

May Effect Determinations for Listed Species

1. If the species habitat is present within the action area and survey data is unavailable or inconclusive: assume the species is present or plan and implement surveys and interpret results in coordination with our office. If assuming species present or surveys for the species are positive continue with the may affect determination process. May affect, with respect to a species, is the appropriate conclusion when a species might be exposed to a consequence of a federal action and could respond to that exposure. For critical habitat, 'may affect' is the appropriate conclusion if the action area overlaps with mapped areas of critical habitat and an essential physical or biological feature may be exposed to a consequence of a federal action and could change in response to that exposure.
 2. Identify stressors or effects to the species and to the essential physical and biological features of critical habitat that overlaps with the action area. Consider all consequences of the action and assess the potential for each life stage of the species that occurs in the action area to be exposed to the stressors. Deconstruct the action into its component parts to be sure that you do not miss any part of the action that could cause effects to the species or physical and biological features of critical habitat. Stressors that affect species' resources may have consequences even if the species is not present when the project is implemented.
 3. If no listed or proposed species will be exposed to stressors caused by the action, a 'no effect' determination may be appropriate – be sure to separately assess effects to critical habitat, if any overlaps with the action
-

area. If you determined that the proposed action or other activities that are caused by the proposed action may affect a species or critical habitat, the next step is to describe the manner in which they will respond or be altered. Specifically, to assess whether the species/critical habitat is "not likely to be adversely affected" or "likely to be adversely affected."

4. Determine how the habitat or the resource will respond to the proposed action (for example, changes in habitat quality, quantity, availability, or distribution), and assess how the species is expected to respond to the effects to its habitat or other resources. Critical habitat analyses focus on how the proposed action will affect the physical and biological features of the critical habitat in the action area. If there will be only beneficial effects or the effects of the action are expected to be insignificant or discountable, conclude "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" and submit your finding and supporting rationale to our office and request concurrence.
5. If you cannot conclude that the effects of the action will be wholly beneficial, insignificant, or discountable, check IPaC for species-specific Section 7 guidance and conservation measures to determine whether there are any measures that may be implemented to avoid or minimize the negative effects. If you modify your proposed action to include conservation measures, assess how inclusion of those measures will likely change the effects of the action. If you cannot conclude that the effects of the action will be wholly beneficial, insignificant, or discountable, contact our office for assistance.
6. Letters with requests for consultation or correspondence about your project should include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header. Electronic submission is preferred.

For additional information on completing Section 7 Consultation including a Glossary of Terms used in the Section 7 Process, information requirements for completing Section 7, and example letters visit the Midwest Region Section 7 Consultations website at: <https://www.fws.gov/office/midwest-region-headquarters/midwest-section-7-technical-assistance>.

You may find more specific information on completing Section 7 on communication towers and transmission lines on the following websites:

- Incidental Take Beneficial Practices: Power Lines - <https://www.fws.gov/story/incidental-take-beneficial-practices-power-lines>
- Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning. - <https://www.fws.gov/media/recommended-best-practices-communication-tower-design-siting-construction-operation>

Tricolored Bat Update

On September 14, 2022, the Service published a proposal in the Federal Register to list the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Service has up to 12-months from the date the proposal published to make a final determination, either to list the tricolored bat under the Act or to withdraw the proposal. The Service determined the bat faces extinction primarily due to the rangewide impacts of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a deadly fungal disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across North America. Because tricolored bat populations have been greatly reduced due to WNS, surviving bat populations are now more vulnerable to other stressors such as human disturbance and habitat loss. Species proposed for listing are not afforded protection under the ESA; however, as soon as a listing becomes effective (typically 30 days after publication of the final rule in the Federal Register), the prohibitions against jeopardizing its continued existence and "take" will apply. Therefore, if your future or existing project has the potential to adversely affect tricolored bats after the potential new listing goes into effect, we recommend that the effects of the project on tricolored bat and their habitat be analyzed to determine whether authorization under ESA section 7 or 10 is necessary. Projects with an existing section 7 biological opinion may require

reinitiation of consultation, and projects with an existing section 10 incidental take permit may require an amendment to provide uninterrupted authorization for covered activities. Contact our office for assistance.

Other Trust Resources and Activities

Bald and Golden Eagles

Although no longer protected under the Endangered Species Act, be aware that bald eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as are golden eagles. Projects affecting these species may require measures to avoid harming eagles or may require a permit. If your project is near an eagle nest or winter roost area, please contact our office for further coordination. For more information on permits and other eagle information visit our website <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/bald-and-golden-eagle-management>. We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Please feel free to contact our office with questions or for additional information.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

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:

Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office

Illinois & Iowa Ecological Services Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

(309) 757-5800

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2023-0127504
Project Name: Canadian Pacific Acquisition of Kansas City Southern
Project Type: Railroad - New Construction
Project Description: Canadian Pacific Railway Limited, et al. (CP) and Kansas City Southern et al. (KCS) (collectively Applicants) applied for authority from the Surface Transportation Board (STB) for CP to acquire KCS. To support the expected increase in rail traffic on the existing rail line due to the acquisition, the Applicants plan to make capital improvements within the existing rail right-of-way, which would include adding/constructing new passing sidings, extending existing sidings, adding a section of double track, and adding facility working track at certain locations along the existing rail line. One of these capital improvements occurs in Clayton County, Iowa. The work includes ground clearing activities and tree clearing. The STB's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement that analyzed the environmental impacts of the proposed acquisition and the STB authorized the acquisition on March 15, 2023. OEA previously consulted with the Missouri USFWS Field Office as part of the NEPA process and completed the ESA Section 7 process in 2022. OEA is requesting a new species list due to the status change of the northern long-eared bat and may need to re-open consultation for the species.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@42.69817375,-91.00763750634916,14z>



Counties: Clayton County, Iowa

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 7 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.

-
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
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Higgins Eye (pearlymussel) <i>Lampsilis higginsii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5428	Endangered
Salamander Mussel <i>Simpsonaias ambigua</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6208	Proposed Endangered
Sheepnose Mussel <i>Plethobasus cyphus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6903	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

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid <i>Platanthera leucophaea</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/601	Threatened

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.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

The following FWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands and Fish Hatcheries lie fully or partially within your project area:

FACILITY NAME	ACRES
UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE AND FISH REFUGE https://www.fws.gov/our-facilities?keywords=%5C%22UPPER+MISSISSIPPI+RIVER+NATIONAL+WILDLIFE+AND+FISH+REFUGE%5C%22	68,496.072

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

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 [below](#).

-
1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
-

3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USEWS 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 [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (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 [below](#).

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
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> 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.	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Black-billed Cuckoo <i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399	Breeds May 15 to Oct 10
Bobolink <i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
Canada Warbler <i>Cardellina canadensis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 20 to Aug 10
Cerulean Warbler <i>Dendroica cerulea</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2974	Breeds Apr 22 to Jul 20
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Eastern Whip-poor-will <i>Antrostomus vociferus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 1 to Aug 20
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> 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/1680	Breeds elsewhere
Golden-winged Warbler <i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8745	Breeds May 1 to Jul 20
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i> 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
Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
Wood Thrush <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 10 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 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.

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 (I)

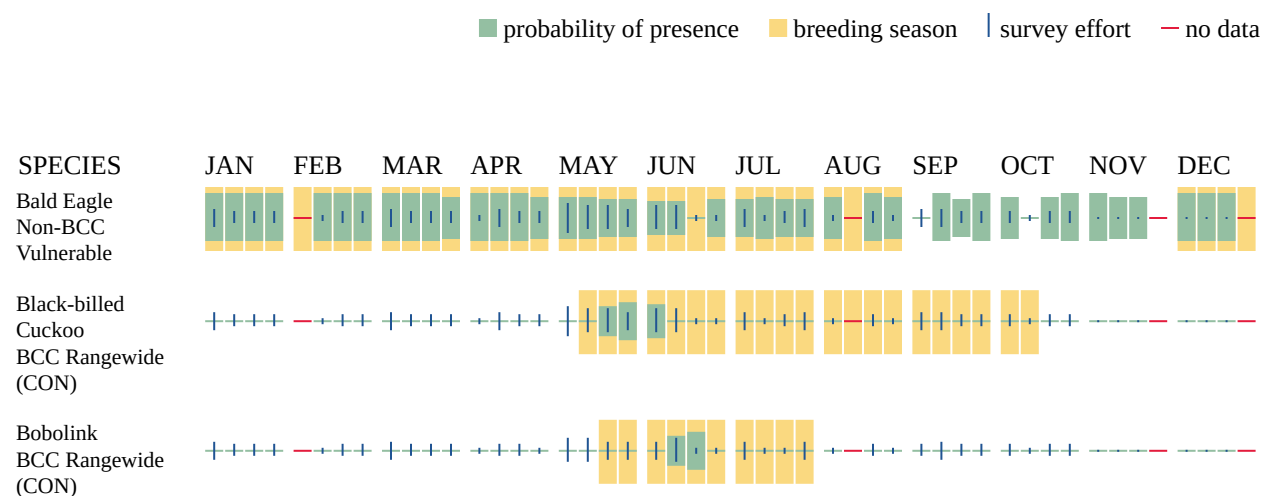
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

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.





Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

MIGRATORY BIRDS FAQ

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 list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) 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 [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) 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 ([Eagle Act](#) 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 [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

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 [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

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 [RAIL Tool](#) 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 [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (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 [Eagle Act](#) 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 [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

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 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.

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) 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.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

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.

RIVERINE

- [R4SBC](#)
- [R5UBH](#)

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

- [PFO1F](#)
- [PFO1C](#)
- [PFO1A](#)

FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND

- [PEM1C](#)
- [PEM1A](#)

LAKE

- [L1UBH](#)
-

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: David Johnson
Address: 1001 G Street NW
Address Line 2: Suite 1125
City: Washington
State: DC
Zip: 20001
Email: dcjohnson@vhb.com
Phone: 2023600742

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Surface Transportation Board
Name: Elizabeth Webster
Email: Elizabeth.Webster@stb.gov



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office
Illinois & Iowa Ecological Services Field Office
1511 47th Ave
Moline, IL 61265-7022
Phone: (309) 757-5800 Fax: (309) 757-5807

In Reply Refer To:

September 12, 2023

Project Code: 2023-0127645

Project Name: Canadian Pacific Acquisition of Kansas City Southern

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 attached species list identifies federally threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project. The list also includes designated critical habitat, if present, within your proposed project area or affected by your project. This list is provided to you as the initial step of the consultation process required under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act, also referred to as Section 7 Consultation.

Under 50 CFR 402.12(e) (the regulations that implement Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act) **the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days**. This verification can be completed formally or informally. You may verify the list by visiting the ECOSPHERE Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov> at regular intervals during project planning and implementation and completing the same process you used to receive the attached list.

Section 7 Consultation

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 requires that actions authorized, funded, or carried out by Federal agencies not jeopardize federally threatened or endangered species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. To fulfill this mandate, Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representative) must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) if they determine their project "may affect" listed species or designated critical habitat. Under the ESA, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or its designated representative to determine if a proposed action may affect endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or designated critical habitat, and if so, to consult with the Service further. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or project proponent, not the Service to make "no effect" determinations. If you determine that your proposed action will have no effect on threatened or endangered species or their respective designated critical habitat, you do not need to seek concurrence with the Service.

Note: For some species or projects, IPaC will present you with *Determination Keys*. You may be able to use one or

more Determination Keys to conclude consultation on your action.

Technical Assistance for Listed Species

1. For assistance in determining if suitable habitat for listed, candidate, or proposed species occurs within your project area or if species may be affected by project activities, you can obtain information on the species life history, species status, current range, and other documents by selecting the species from the thumbnails or list view and visiting the species profile page.
-

No Effect Determinations for Listed Species

1. If there are *no* species or designated critical habitats on the Endangered Species portion of the species list: conclude "no species and no critical habitat present" and document your finding in your project records. No consultation under ESA section 7(a)(2) is required if the action would result in no effects to listed species or critical habitat. Maintain a copy of this letter and IPaC official species list for your records.
2. If any species or designated critical habitat are listed as potentially present in the **action area** of the proposed project the project proponents are responsible for determining if the proposed action will have "no effect" on any federally listed species or critical habitat. No effect, with respect to species, means that no individuals of a species will be exposed to any consequence of a federal action or that they will not respond to such exposure.
3. If the species habitat is not present within the action area or current data (surveys) for the species in the action area are negative: conclude "no species habitat or species present" and document your finding in your project records. For example, if the project area is located entirely within a "developed area" (an area that is already graveled/paved or supports structures and the only vegetation is limited to frequently mowed grass or conventional landscaping, is located within an existing maintained facility yard, or is in cultivated cropland conclude no species habitat present. Be careful when assessing actions that affect: 1) rights-of-ways that contains natural or semi-natural vegetation despite periodic mowing or other management; structures that have been known to support listed species (example: bridges), and 2) surface water or groundwater. Several species inhabit rights-of-ways, and you should carefully consider effects to surface water or groundwater, which often extend outside of a project's immediate footprint.
4. Adequacy of Information & Surveys - Agencies may base their determinations on the best evidence that is available or can be developed during consultation. Agencies must give the benefit of any doubt to the species when there are any inadequacies in the information. Inadequacies may include uncertainty in any step of the analysis. To provide adequate information on which to base a determination, it may be appropriate to conduct surveys to determine whether listed species or their habitats are present in the action area. Please contact our office for more information or see the survey guidelines that the Service has made available in IPaC.

May Effect Determinations for Listed Species

1. If the species habitat is present within the action area and survey data is unavailable or inconclusive: assume the species is present or plan and implement surveys and interpret results in coordination with our office. If assuming species present or surveys for the species are positive continue with the may affect determination process. May affect, with respect to a species, is the appropriate conclusion when a species might be exposed to a consequence of a federal action and could respond to that exposure. For critical habitat, 'may affect' is the appropriate conclusion if the action area overlaps with mapped areas of critical habitat and an essential physical or biological feature may be exposed to a consequence of a federal action and could change in response to that exposure.
 2. Identify stressors or effects to the species and to the essential physical and biological features of critical habitat that overlaps with the action area. Consider all consequences of the action and assess the potential for each life stage of the species that occurs in the action area to be exposed to the stressors. Deconstruct the action into its component parts to be sure that you do not miss any part of the action that could cause effects to the species or physical and biological features of critical habitat. Stressors that affect species' resources may have consequences even if the species is not present when the project is implemented.
 3. If no listed or proposed species will be exposed to stressors caused by the action, a 'no effect' determination may be appropriate – be sure to separately assess effects to critical habitat, if any overlaps with the action
-

area. If you determined that the proposed action or other activities that are caused by the proposed action may affect a species or critical habitat, the next step is to describe the manner in which they will respond or be altered. Specifically, to assess whether the species/critical habitat is "not likely to be adversely affected" or "likely to be adversely affected."

4. Determine how the habitat or the resource will respond to the proposed action (for example, changes in habitat quality, quantity, availability, or distribution), and assess how the species is expected to respond to the effects to its habitat or other resources. Critical habitat analyses focus on how the proposed action will affect the physical and biological features of the critical habitat in the action area. If there will be only beneficial effects or the effects of the action are expected to be insignificant or discountable, conclude "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" and submit your finding and supporting rationale to our office and request concurrence.
5. If you cannot conclude that the effects of the action will be wholly beneficial, insignificant, or discountable, check IPaC for species-specific Section 7 guidance and conservation measures to determine whether there are any measures that may be implemented to avoid or minimize the negative effects. If you modify your proposed action to include conservation measures, assess how inclusion of those measures will likely change the effects of the action. If you cannot conclude that the effects of the action will be wholly beneficial, insignificant, or discountable, contact our office for assistance.
6. Letters with requests for consultation or correspondence about your project should include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header. Electronic submission is preferred.

For additional information on completing Section 7 Consultation including a Glossary of Terms used in the Section 7 Process, information requirements for completing Section 7, and example letters visit the Midwest Region Section 7 Consultations website at: <https://www.fws.gov/office/midwest-region-headquarters/midwest-section-7-technical-assistance>.

You may find more specific information on completing Section 7 on communication towers and transmission lines on the following websites:

- Incidental Take Beneficial Practices: Power Lines - <https://www.fws.gov/story/incidental-take-beneficial-practices-power-lines>
- Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning. - <https://www.fws.gov/media/recommended-best-practices-communication-tower-design-siting-construction-operation>

Tricolored Bat Update

On September 14, 2022, the Service published a proposal in the Federal Register to list the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Service has up to 12-months from the date the proposal published to make a final determination, either to list the tricolored bat under the Act or to withdraw the proposal. The Service determined the bat faces extinction primarily due to the rangewide impacts of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a deadly fungal disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across North America. Because tricolored bat populations have been greatly reduced due to WNS, surviving bat populations are now more vulnerable to other stressors such as human disturbance and habitat loss. Species proposed for listing are not afforded protection under the ESA; however, as soon as a listing becomes effective (typically 30 days after publication of the final rule in the Federal Register), the prohibitions against jeopardizing its continued existence and "take" will apply. Therefore, if your future or existing project has the potential to adversely affect tricolored bats after the potential new listing goes into effect, we recommend that the effects of the project on tricolored bat and their habitat be analyzed to determine whether authorization under ESA section 7 or 10 is necessary. Projects with an existing section 7 biological opinion may require

reinitiation of consultation, and projects with an existing section 10 incidental take permit may require an amendment to provide uninterrupted authorization for covered activities. Contact our office for assistance.

Other Trust Resources and Activities

Bald and Golden Eagles

Although no longer protected under the Endangered Species Act, be aware that bald eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as are golden eagles. Projects affecting these species may require measures to avoid harming eagles or may require a permit. If your project is near an eagle nest or winter roost area, please contact our office for further coordination. For more information on permits and other eagle information visit our website <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/bald-and-golden-eagle-management>. We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Please feel free to contact our office with questions or for additional information.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

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:

Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office

Illinois & Iowa Ecological Services Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

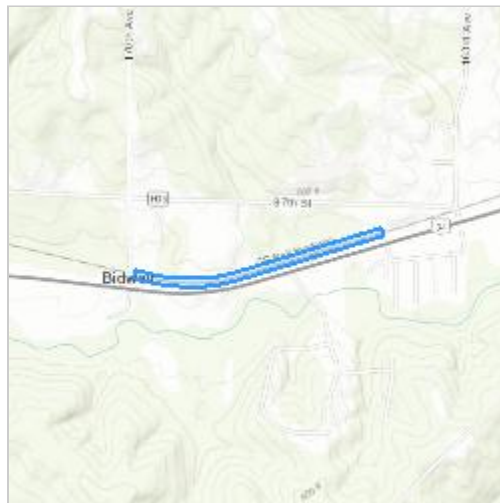
(309) 757-5800

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2023-0127645
Project Name: Canadian Pacific Acquisition of Kansas City Southern
Project Type: Railroad - New Construction
Project Description: Canadian Pacific Railway Limited, et al. (CP) and Kansas City Southern et al. (KCS) (collectively Applicants) applied for authority from the Surface Transportation Board (STB) for CP to acquire KCS. To support the expected increase in rail traffic on the existing rail line due to the acquisition, the Applicants plan to make capital improvements within the existing rail right-of-way, which would include adding/constructing new passing sidings, extending existing sidings, adding a section of double track, and adding facility working track at certain locations along the existing rail line. One of these capital improvements occurs in Wapello County, Iowa. The work includes ground clearing activities and tree clearing. The STB's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement that analyzed the environmental impacts of the proposed acquisition and the STB authorized the acquisition on March 15, 2023. OEA previously consulted with the Iowa & Illinois USFWS Field Office as part of the NEPA process and completed the ESA Section 7 process in 2022. OEA is requesting a new species list due to the status change of the northern long-eared bat and may need to re-open consultation for the species.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@41.01135175,-92.47844032652516,14z>



Counties: Wapello County, Iowa

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 5 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.

-
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
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
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
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed 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

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid <i>Platanthera leucophaea</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/601	Threatened

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.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) 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 OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

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 [below](#).

-
1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

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 [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (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 [below](#).

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
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> 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.	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25

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.

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 (|)

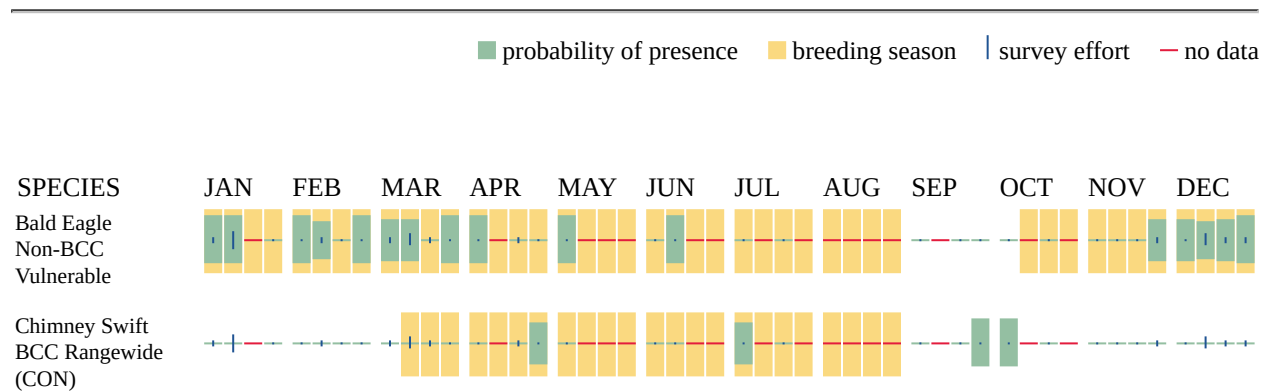
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

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.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

MIGRATORY BIRDS FAQ

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 list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) 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 [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) 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 ([Eagle Act](#) 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 [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

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 [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

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 [RAIL Tool](#) 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 [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (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 [Eagle Act](#) 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 [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

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 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.

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) 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.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

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.

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: David Johnson
Address: 1001 G Street NW
Address Line 2: Suite 1125
City: Washington
State: DC
Zip: 20001
Email: dcjohnson@vhb.com
Phone: 2023600742

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Surface Transportation Board
Name: Elizabeth Webster
Email: Elizabeth.Webster@stb.gov



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office
Illinois & Iowa Ecological Services Field Office
1511 47th Ave
Moline, IL 61265-7022
Phone: (309) 757-5800 Fax: (309) 757-5807

In Reply Refer To:

September 12, 2023

Project Code: 2023-0127650

Project Name: Canadian Pacific Acquisition of Kansas City Southern

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 attached species list identifies federally threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project. The list also includes designated critical habitat, if present, within your proposed project area or affected by your project. This list is provided to you as the initial step of the consultation process required under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act, also referred to as Section 7 Consultation.

Under 50 CFR 402.12(e) (the regulations that implement Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act) **the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days**. This verification can be completed formally or informally. You may verify the list by visiting the ECOSPHERE Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov> at regular intervals during project planning and implementation and completing the same process you used to receive the attached list.

Section 7 Consultation

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 requires that actions authorized, funded, or carried out by Federal agencies not jeopardize federally threatened or endangered species or adversely modify designated critical habitat. To fulfill this mandate, Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representative) must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) if they determine their project "may affect" listed species or designated critical habitat. Under the ESA, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or its designated representative to determine if a proposed action may affect endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or designated critical habitat, and if so, to consult with the Service further. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or project proponent, not the Service to make "no effect" determinations. If you determine that your proposed action will have no effect on threatened or endangered species or their respective designated critical habitat, you do not need to seek concurrence with the Service.

Note: For some species or projects, IPaC will present you with *Determination Keys*. You may be able to use one or

more Determination Keys to conclude consultation on your action.

Technical Assistance for Listed Species

1. For assistance in determining if suitable habitat for listed, candidate, or proposed species occurs within your project area or if species may be affected by project activities, you can obtain information on the species life history, species status, current range, and other documents by selecting the species from the thumbnails or list view and visiting the species profile page.
-

No Effect Determinations for Listed Species

1. If there are *no* species or designated critical habitats on the Endangered Species portion of the species list: conclude "no species and no critical habitat present" and document your finding in your project records. No consultation under ESA section 7(a)(2) is required if the action would result in no effects to listed species or critical habitat. Maintain a copy of this letter and IPaC official species list for your records.
2. If any species or designated critical habitat are listed as potentially present in the **action area** of the proposed project the project proponents are responsible for determining if the proposed action will have "no effect" on any federally listed species or critical habitat. No effect, with respect to species, means that no individuals of a species will be exposed to any consequence of a federal action or that they will not respond to such exposure.
3. If the species habitat is not present within the action area or current data (surveys) for the species in the action area are negative: conclude "no species habitat or species present" and document your finding in your project records. For example, if the project area is located entirely within a "developed area" (an area that is already graveled/paved or supports structures and the only vegetation is limited to frequently mowed grass or conventional landscaping, is located within an existing maintained facility yard, or is in cultivated cropland conclude no species habitat present. Be careful when assessing actions that affect: 1) rights-of-ways that contains natural or semi-natural vegetation despite periodic mowing or other management; structures that have been known to support listed species (example: bridges), and 2) surface water or groundwater. Several species inhabit rights-of-ways, and you should carefully consider effects to surface water or groundwater, which often extend outside of a project's immediate footprint.
4. Adequacy of Information & Surveys - Agencies may base their determinations on the best evidence that is available or can be developed during consultation. Agencies must give the benefit of any doubt to the species when there are any inadequacies in the information. Inadequacies may include uncertainty in any step of the analysis. To provide adequate information on which to base a determination, it may be appropriate to conduct surveys to determine whether listed species or their habitats are present in the action area. Please contact our office for more information or see the survey guidelines that the Service has made available in IPaC.

May Effect Determinations for Listed Species

1. If the species habitat is present within the action area and survey data is unavailable or inconclusive: assume the species is present or plan and implement surveys and interpret results in coordination with our office. If assuming species present or surveys for the species are positive continue with the may affect determination process. May affect, with respect to a species, is the appropriate conclusion when a species might be exposed to a consequence of a federal action and could respond to that exposure. For critical habitat, 'may affect' is the appropriate conclusion if the action area overlaps with mapped areas of critical habitat and an essential physical or biological feature may be exposed to a consequence of a federal action and could change in response to that exposure.
 2. Identify stressors or effects to the species and to the essential physical and biological features of critical habitat that overlaps with the action area. Consider all consequences of the action and assess the potential for each life stage of the species that occurs in the action area to be exposed to the stressors. Deconstruct the action into its component parts to be sure that you do not miss any part of the action that could cause effects to the species or physical and biological features of critical habitat. Stressors that affect species' resources may have consequences even if the species is not present when the project is implemented.
 3. If no listed or proposed species will be exposed to stressors caused by the action, a 'no effect' determination may be appropriate – be sure to separately assess effects to critical habitat, if any overlaps with the action
-

area. If you determined that the proposed action or other activities that are caused by the proposed action may affect a species or critical habitat, the next step is to describe the manner in which they will respond or be altered. Specifically, to assess whether the species/critical habitat is "not likely to be adversely affected" or "likely to be adversely affected."

4. Determine how the habitat or the resource will respond to the proposed action (for example, changes in habitat quality, quantity, availability, or distribution), and assess how the species is expected to respond to the effects to its habitat or other resources. Critical habitat analyses focus on how the proposed action will affect the physical and biological features of the critical habitat in the action area. If there will be only beneficial effects or the effects of the action are expected to be insignificant or discountable, conclude "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" and submit your finding and supporting rationale to our office and request concurrence.
5. If you cannot conclude that the effects of the action will be wholly beneficial, insignificant, or discountable, check IPaC for species-specific Section 7 guidance and conservation measures to determine whether there are any measures that may be implemented to avoid or minimize the negative effects. If you modify your proposed action to include conservation measures, assess how inclusion of those measures will likely change the effects of the action. If you cannot conclude that the effects of the action will be wholly beneficial, insignificant, or discountable, contact our office for assistance.
6. Letters with requests for consultation or correspondence about your project should include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header. Electronic submission is preferred.

For additional information on completing Section 7 Consultation including a Glossary of Terms used in the Section 7 Process, information requirements for completing Section 7, and example letters visit the Midwest Region Section 7 Consultations website at: <https://www.fws.gov/office/midwest-region-headquarters/midwest-section-7-technical-assistance>.

You may find more specific information on completing Section 7 on communication towers and transmission lines on the following websites:

- Incidental Take Beneficial Practices: Power Lines - <https://www.fws.gov/story/incidental-take-beneficial-practices-power-lines>
- Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning. - <https://www.fws.gov/media/recommended-best-practices-communication-tower-design-siting-construction-operation>

Tricolored Bat Update

On September 14, 2022, the Service published a proposal in the Federal Register to list the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Service has up to 12-months from the date the proposal published to make a final determination, either to list the tricolored bat under the Act or to withdraw the proposal. The Service determined the bat faces extinction primarily due to the rangewide impacts of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a deadly fungal disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across North America. Because tricolored bat populations have been greatly reduced due to WNS, surviving bat populations are now more vulnerable to other stressors such as human disturbance and habitat loss. Species proposed for listing are not afforded protection under the ESA; however, as soon as a listing becomes effective (typically 30 days after publication of the final rule in the Federal Register), the prohibitions against jeopardizing its continued existence and "take" will apply. Therefore, if your future or existing project has the potential to adversely affect tricolored bats after the potential new listing goes into effect, we recommend that the effects of the project on tricolored bat and their habitat be analyzed to determine whether authorization under ESA section 7 or 10 is necessary. Projects with an existing section 7 biological opinion may require

reinitiation of consultation, and projects with an existing section 10 incidental take permit may require an amendment to provide uninterrupted authorization for covered activities. Contact our office for assistance.

Other Trust Resources and Activities

Bald and Golden Eagles

Although no longer protected under the Endangered Species Act, be aware that bald eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as are golden eagles. Projects affecting these species may require measures to avoid harming eagles or may require a permit. If your project is near an eagle nest or winter roost area, please contact our office for further coordination. For more information on permits and other eagle information visit our website <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/bald-and-golden-eagle-management>. We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Please feel free to contact our office with questions or for additional information.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

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:

Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office

Illinois & Iowa Ecological Services Field Office

1511 47th Ave

Moline, IL 61265-7022

(309) 757-5800

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2023-0127650
Project Name: Canadian Pacific Acquisition of Kansas City Southern
Project Type: Railroad - New Construction
Project Description: Canadian Pacific Railway Limited, et al. (CP) and Kansas City Southern et al. (KCS) (collectively Applicants) applied for authority from the Surface Transportation Board (STB) for CP to acquire KCS. To support the expected increase in rail traffic on the existing rail line due to the acquisition, the Applicants plan to make capital improvements within the existing rail right-of-way, which would include adding/constructing new passing sidings, extending existing sidings, adding a section of double track, and adding facility working track at certain locations along the existing rail line. One of these capital improvements occurs in Monroe County, Iowa. The work includes ground clearing activities and tree clearing. The STB's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement that analyzed the environmental impacts of the proposed acquisition and the STB authorized the acquisition on March 15, 2023. OEA previously consulted with the Iowa & Illinois USFWS Field Office as part of the NEPA process and completed the ESA Section 7 process in 2022. OEA is requesting a new species list due to the status change of the northern long-eared bat and may need to re-open consultation for the species.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@40.9175901,-92.79222723998578,14z>



Counties: Monroe County, Iowa

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 5 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.

-
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
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
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
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed 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

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid <i>Platanthera leucophaea</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/601	Threatened

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.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) 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 OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

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 [below](#).

-
1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

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 [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (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 [below](#).

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
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25

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.

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 (|)

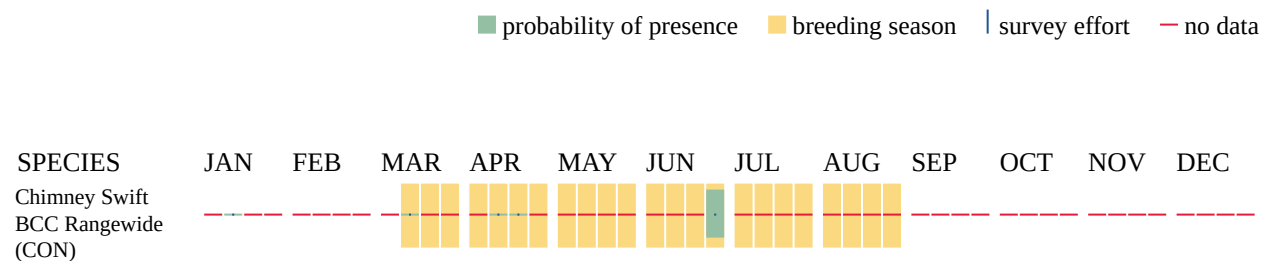
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

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.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

MIGRATORY BIRDS FAQ

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 list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) 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 [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) 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 ([Eagle Act](#) 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 [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

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 [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

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 to 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 [RAIL Tool](#) 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 [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (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 [Eagle Act](#) 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 [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

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 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.

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) 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.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

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.

RIVERINE

- [R4SBC](#)
-

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

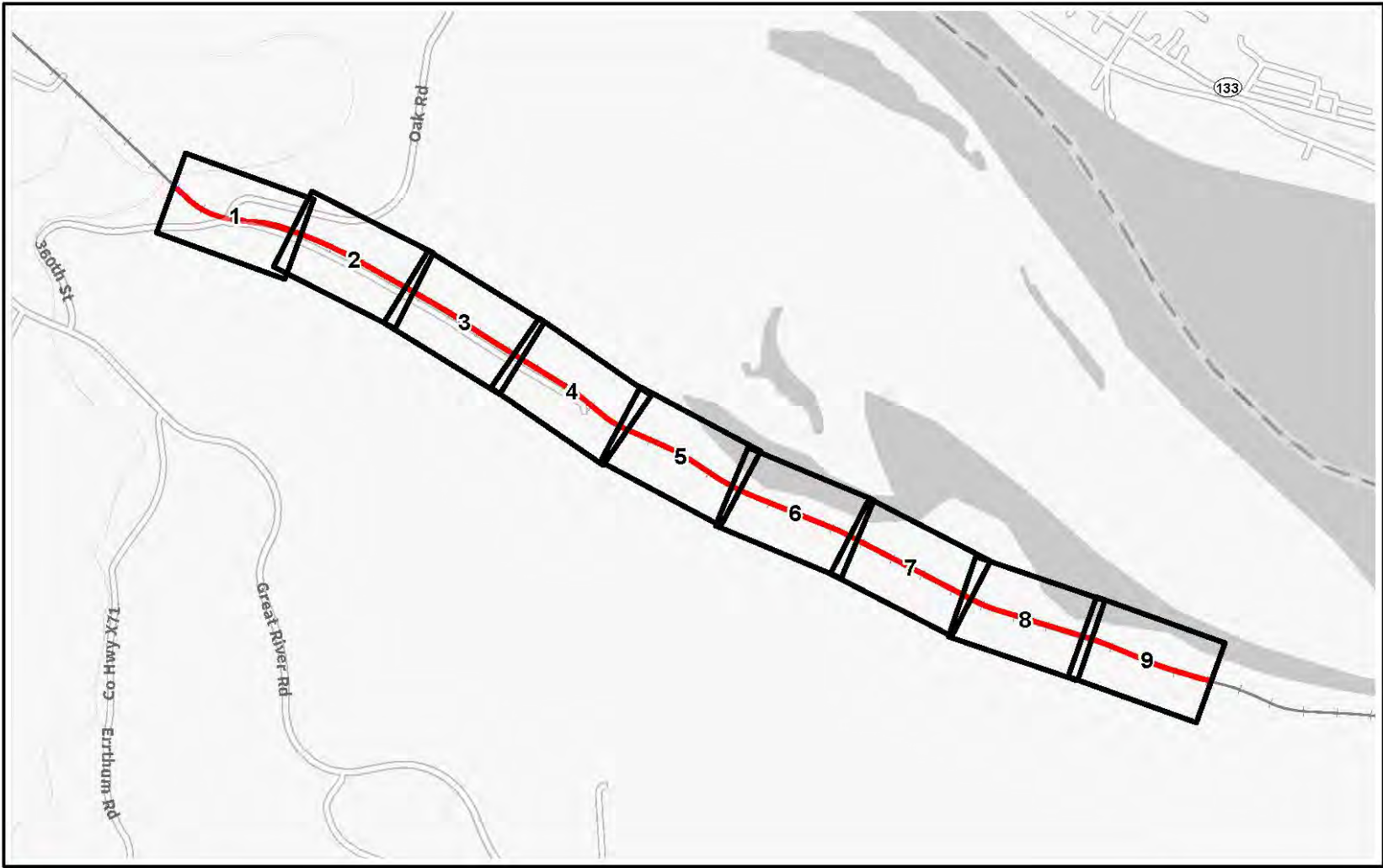
Agency: Private Entity
Name: David Johnson
Address: 1001 G Street NW
Address Line 2: Suite 1125
City: Washington
State: DC
Zip: 20001
Email: dcjohnson@vhb.com
Phone: 2023600742

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Surface Transportation Board
Name: Elizabeth Webster
Email: Elizabeth.Webster@stb.gov

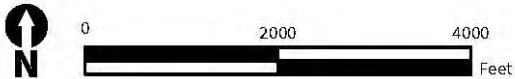
**ATTACHMENT D: MAPS FOR MP 71 IA Railroad Siding; Ottumwa IA Railroad Siding;
Moravia Railroad Siding**

Figure O.1-2. Suitable Bat Habitat



Capital Improvement Location

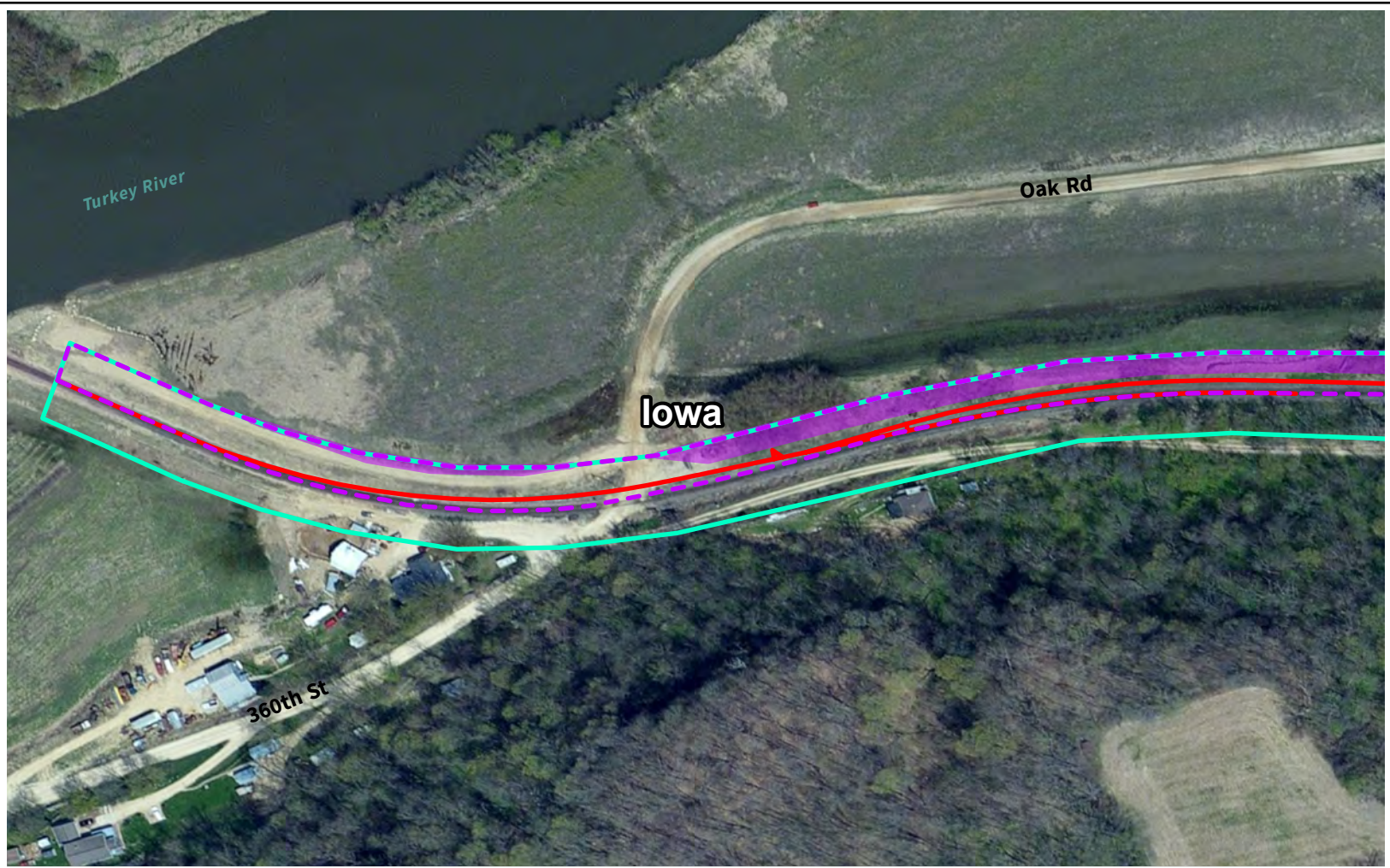
Page Index



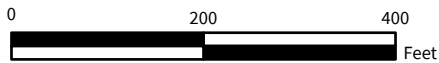
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online O-166



Capital Improvement MP 71 (Turkey River)
Clayton, Iowa | Page Index

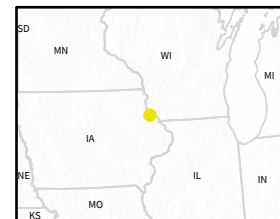


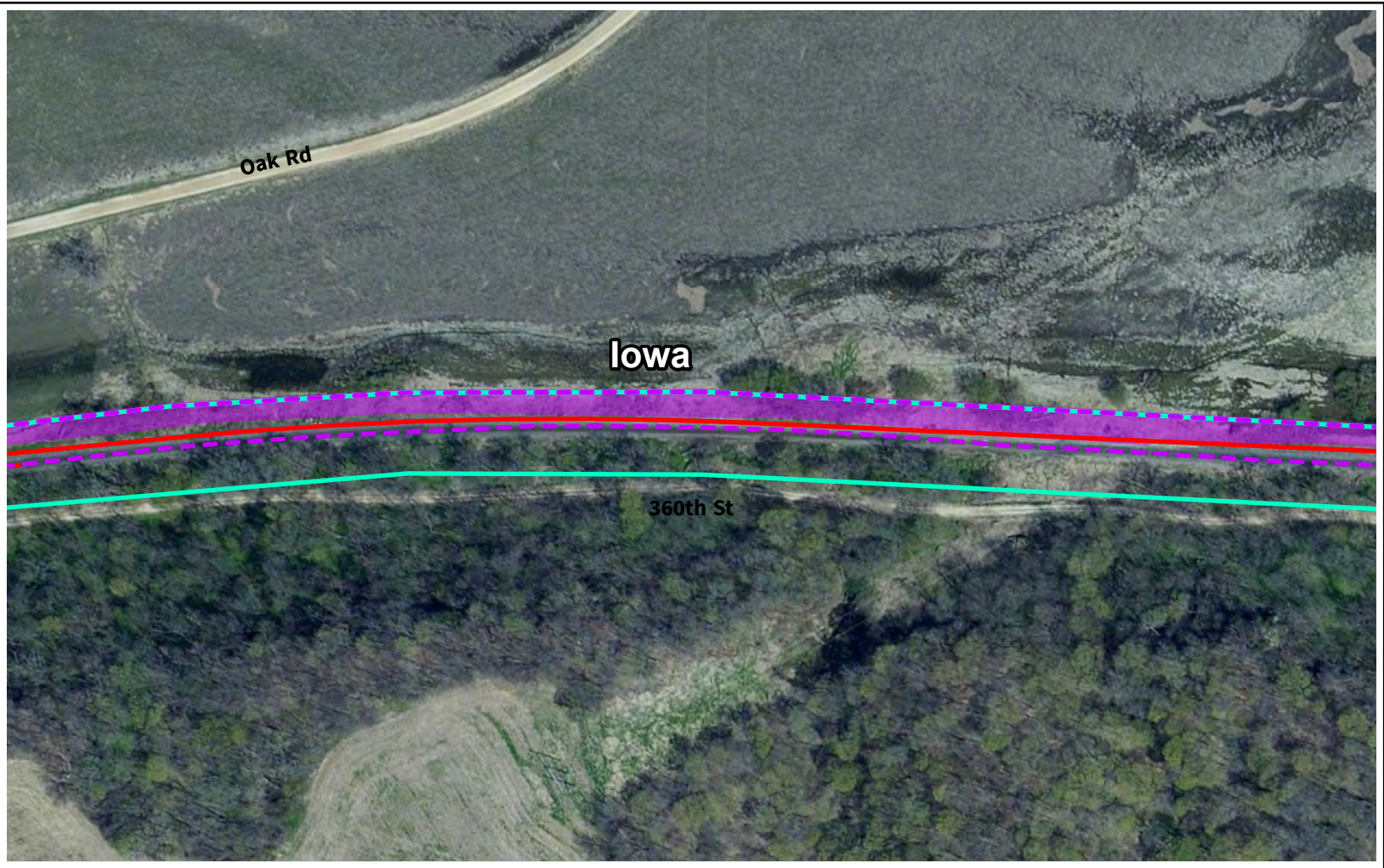
-  Study Area
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



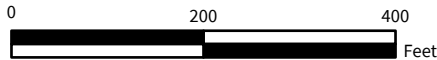
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-167



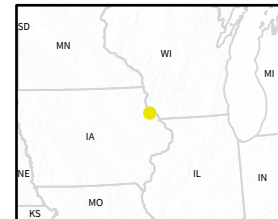


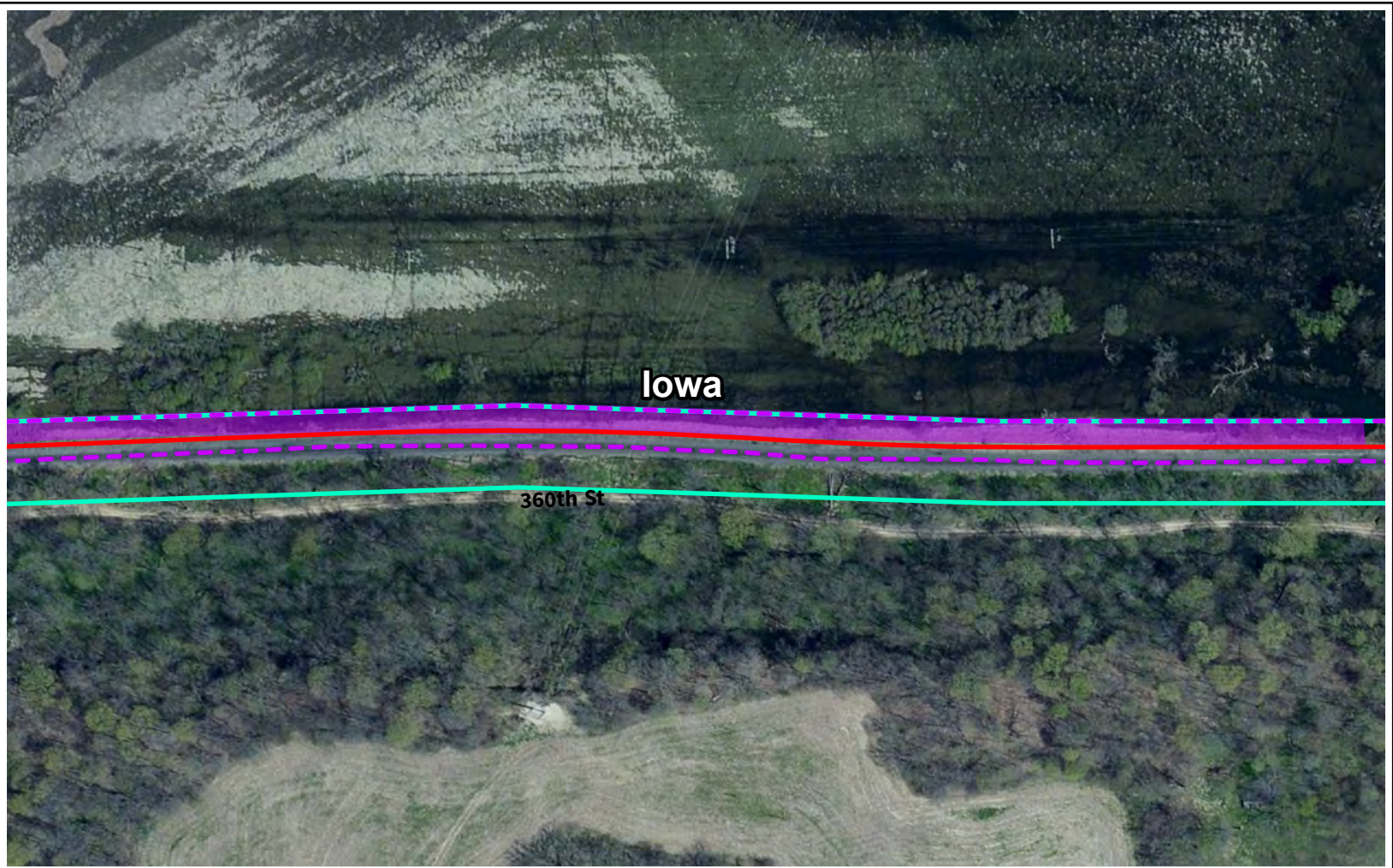
-  Study Area
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



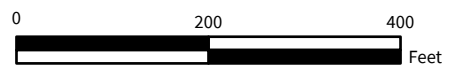
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-168



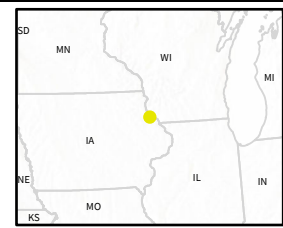


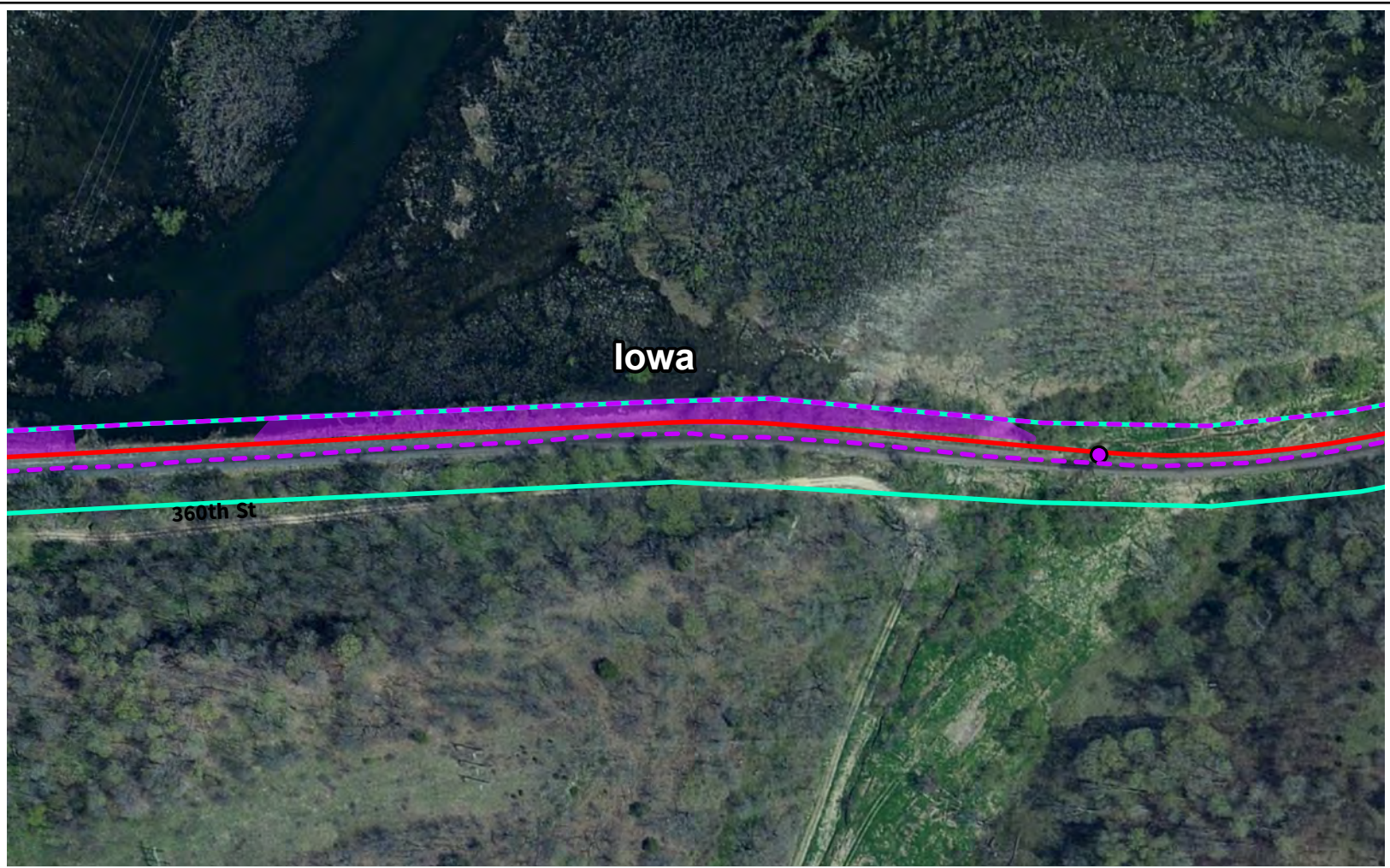
-  Study Area
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



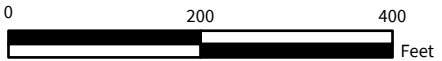
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-169



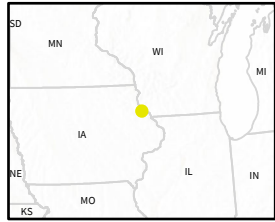


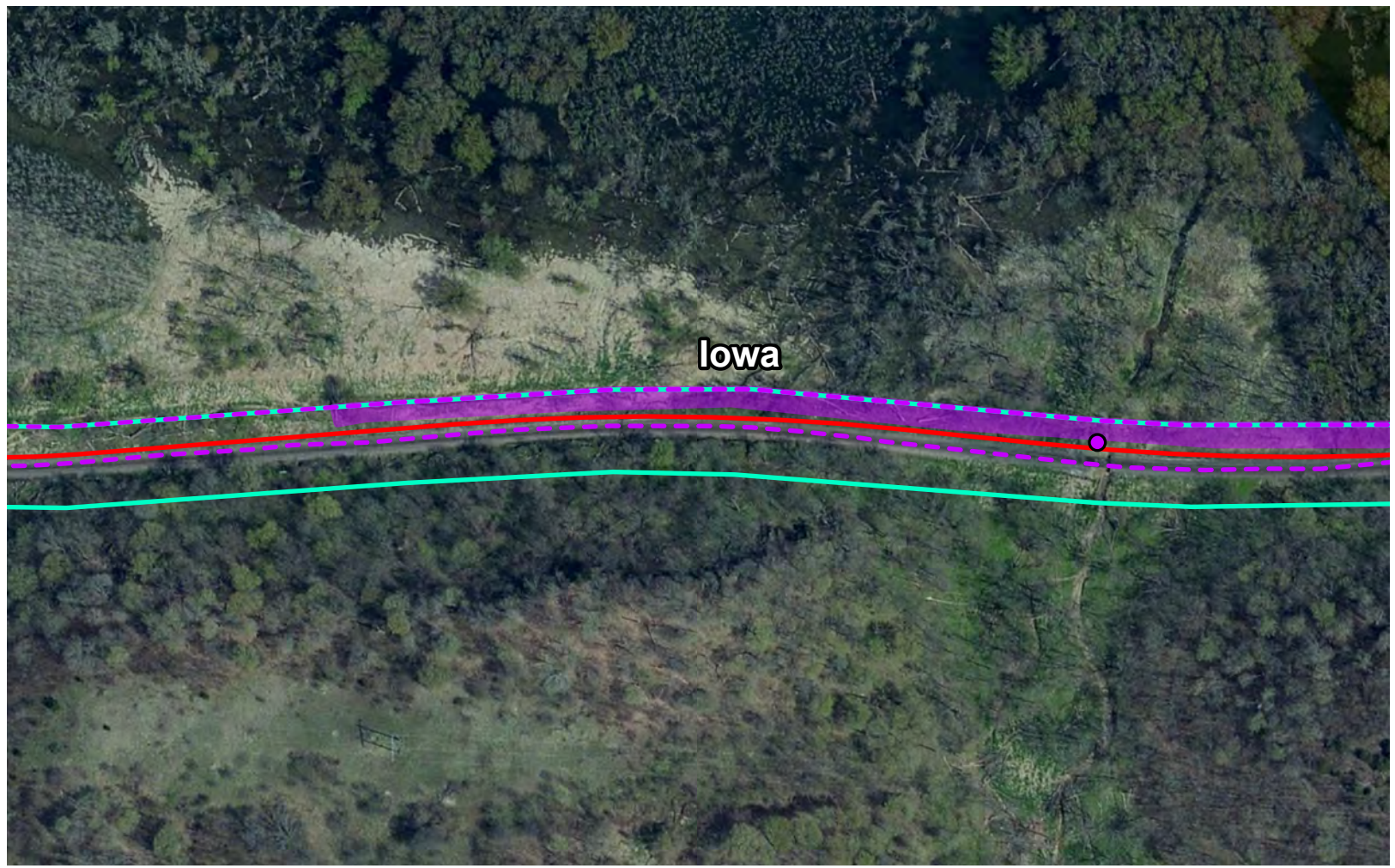
-  Study Area
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way
-  Suitable Bat Roosting Structure
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat



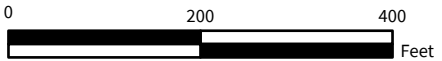
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-170



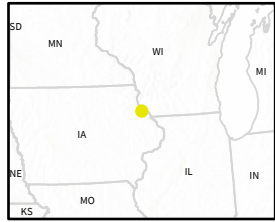


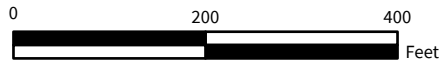
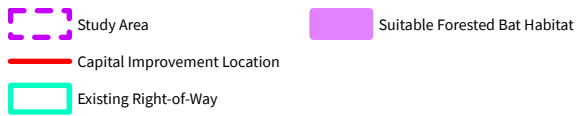
-  Study Area
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way
-  Suitable Bat Roosting Structure
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat



Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

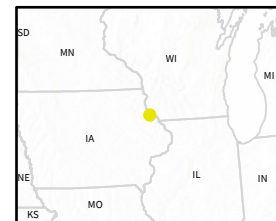
O-171

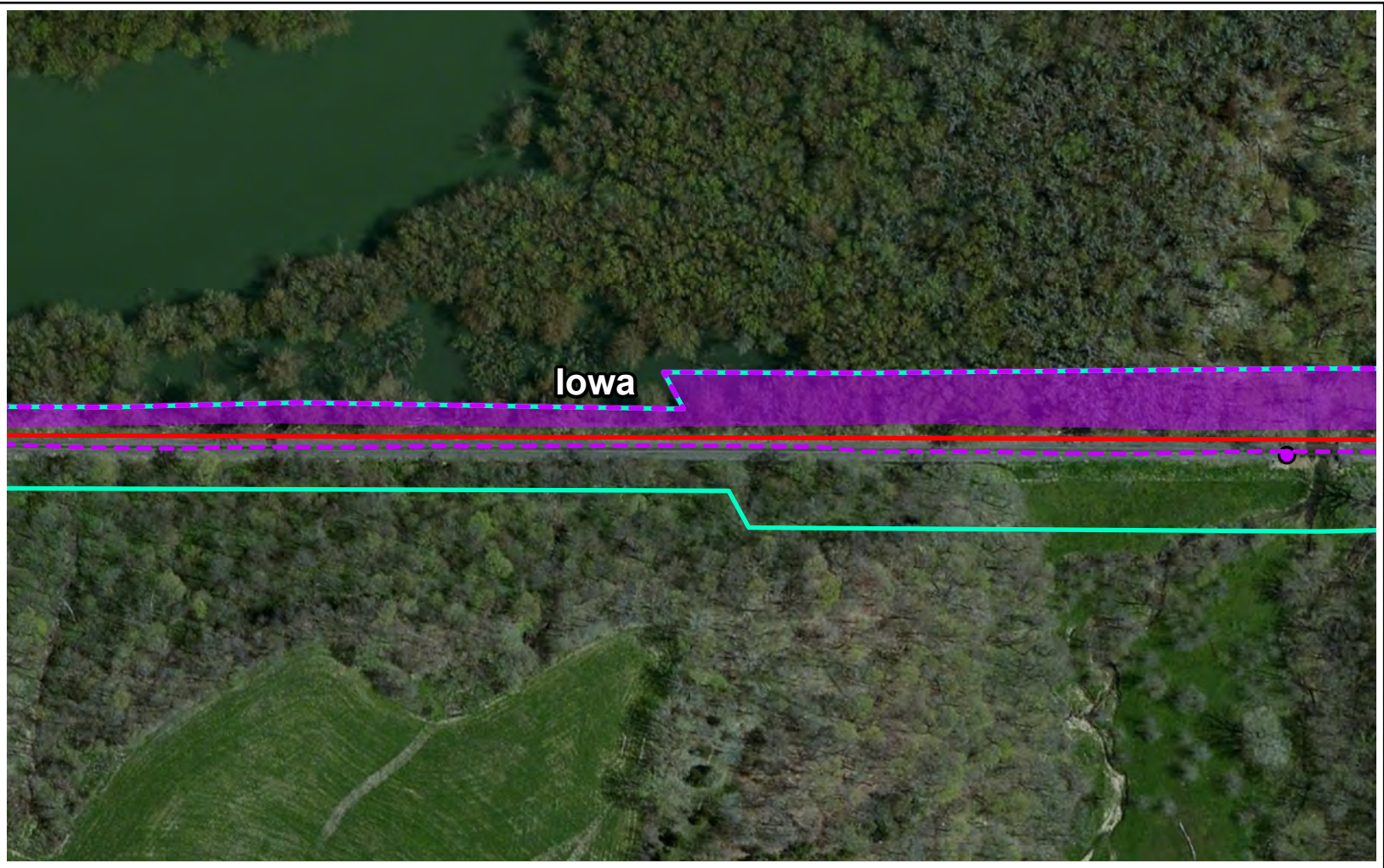




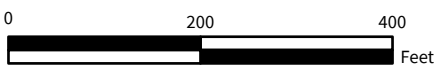
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-172



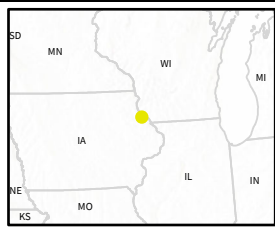


-  Study Area
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way
-  Suitable Bat Roosting Structure
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat



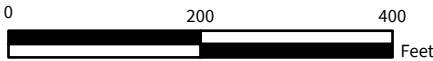
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-173



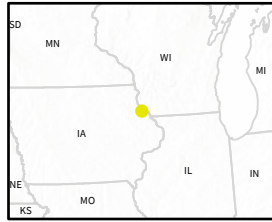


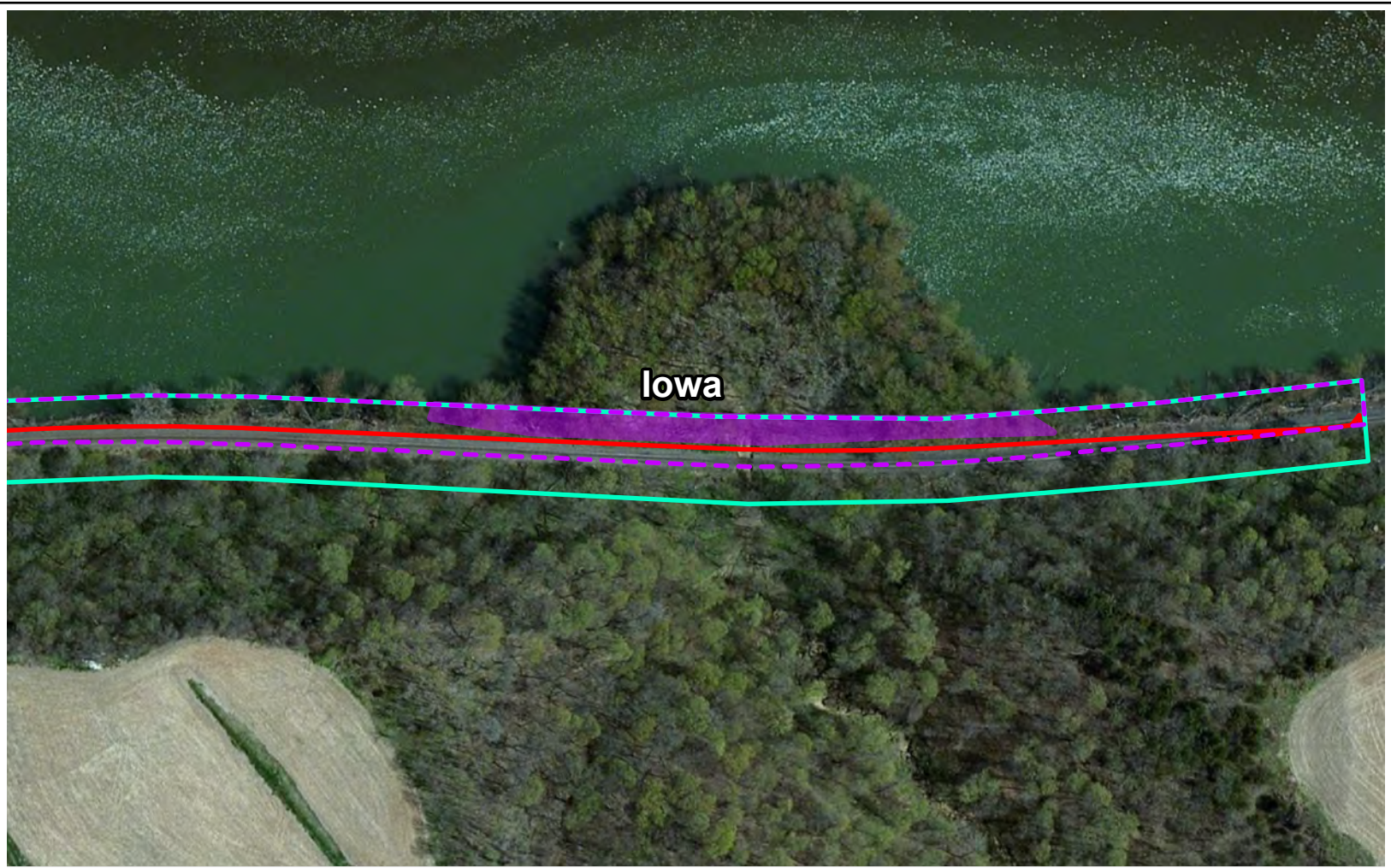
-  Study Area
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way
-  Suitable Bat Roosting Structure
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat



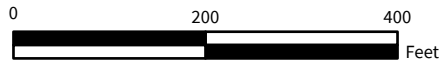
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-174



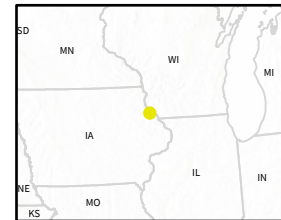


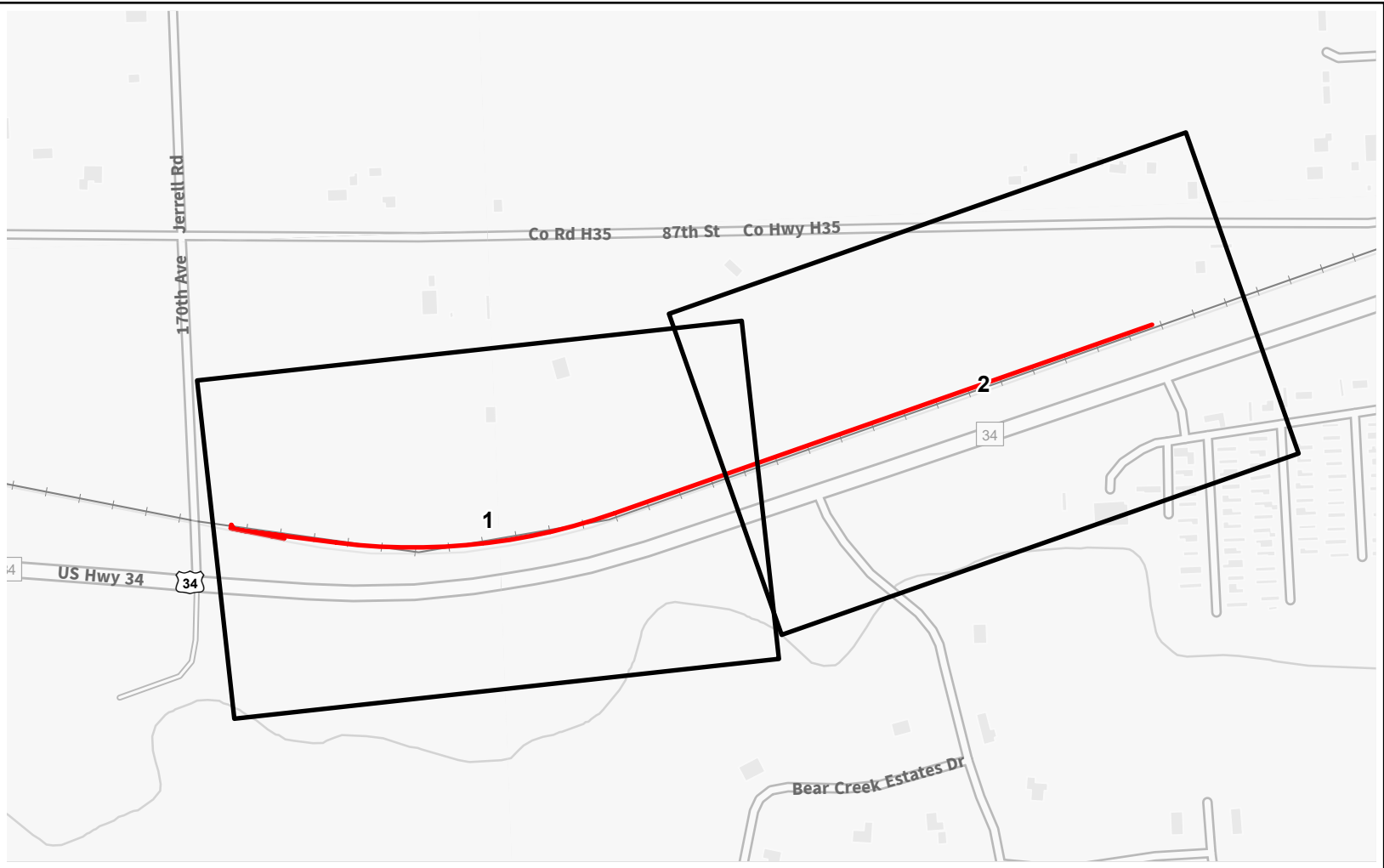
-  Study Area
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

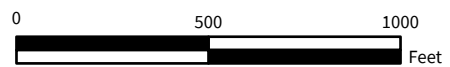
O-175





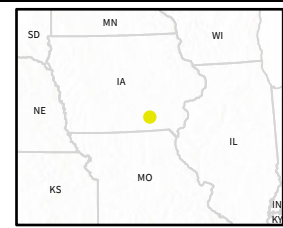
Capital Improvement Location

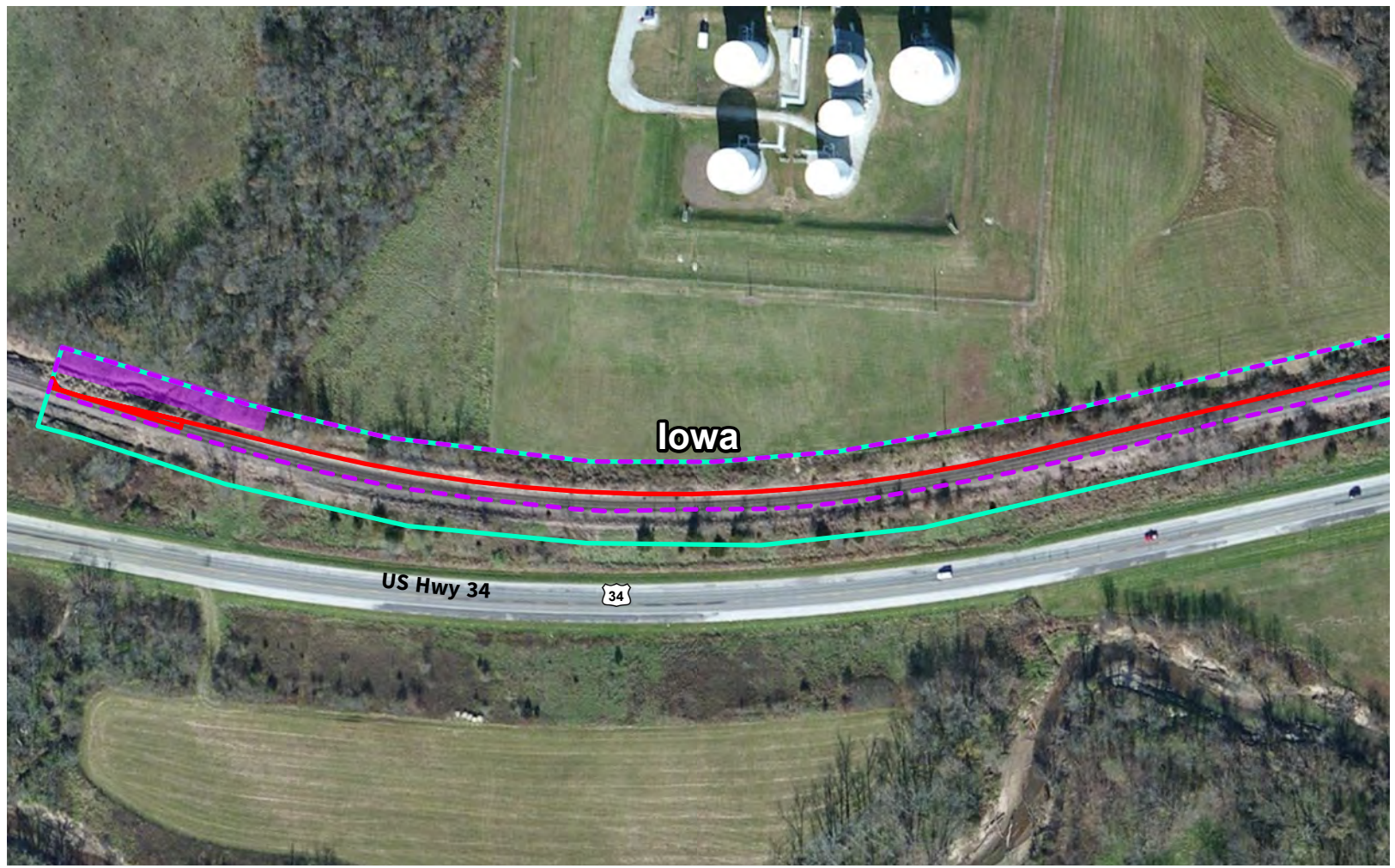
Page Index



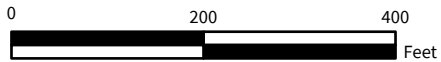
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-201



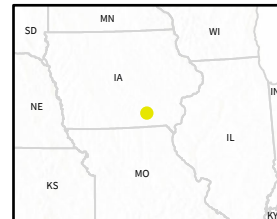


-  Study Area
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



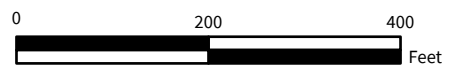
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-202



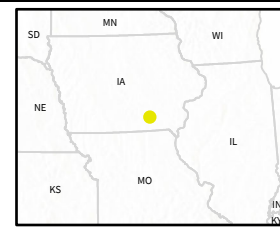


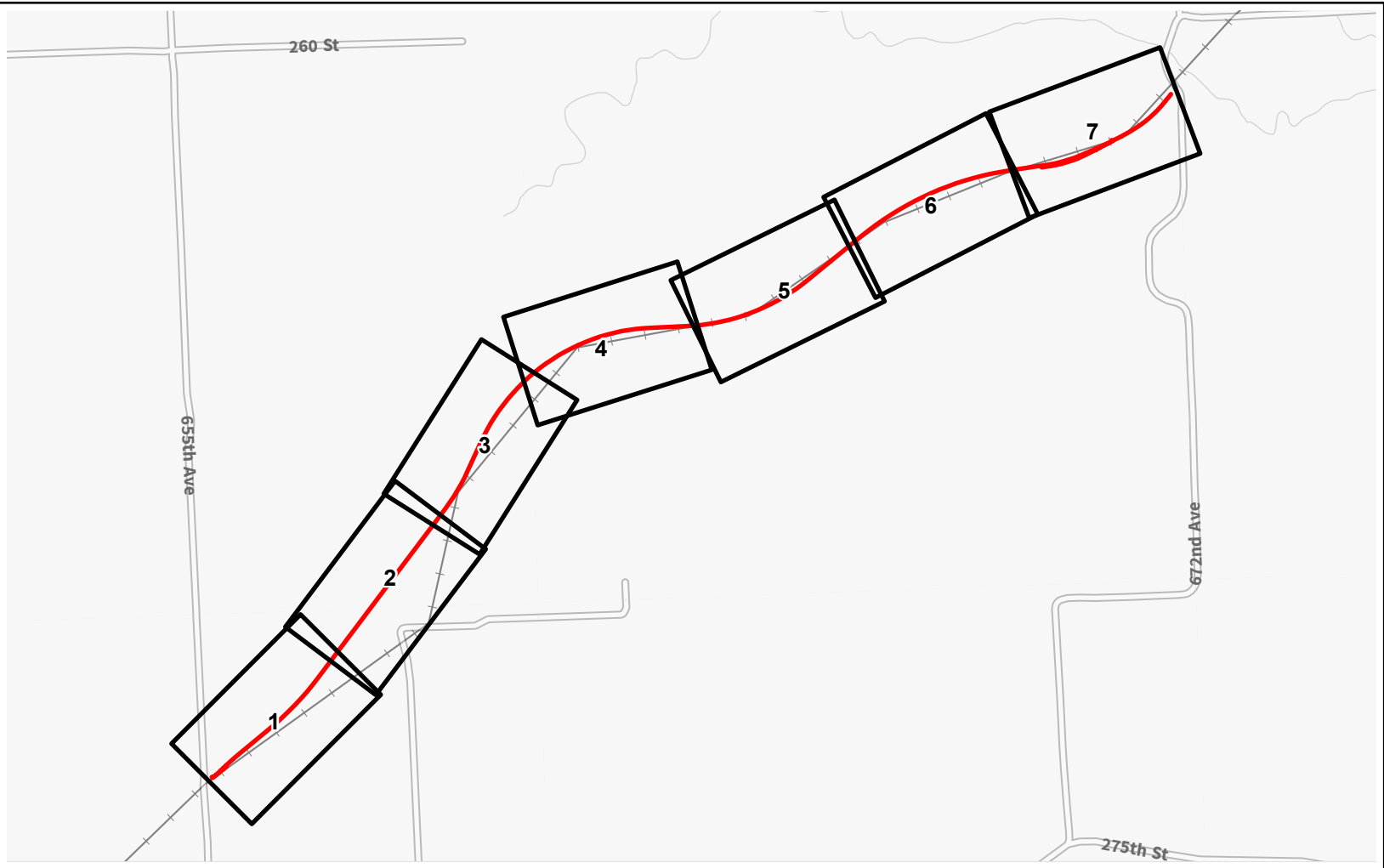
-  Study Area
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way
-  Suitable Bat Roosting Structure



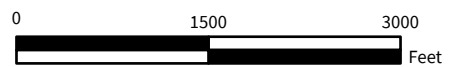
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-203





 Capital Improvement Location
 Page Index

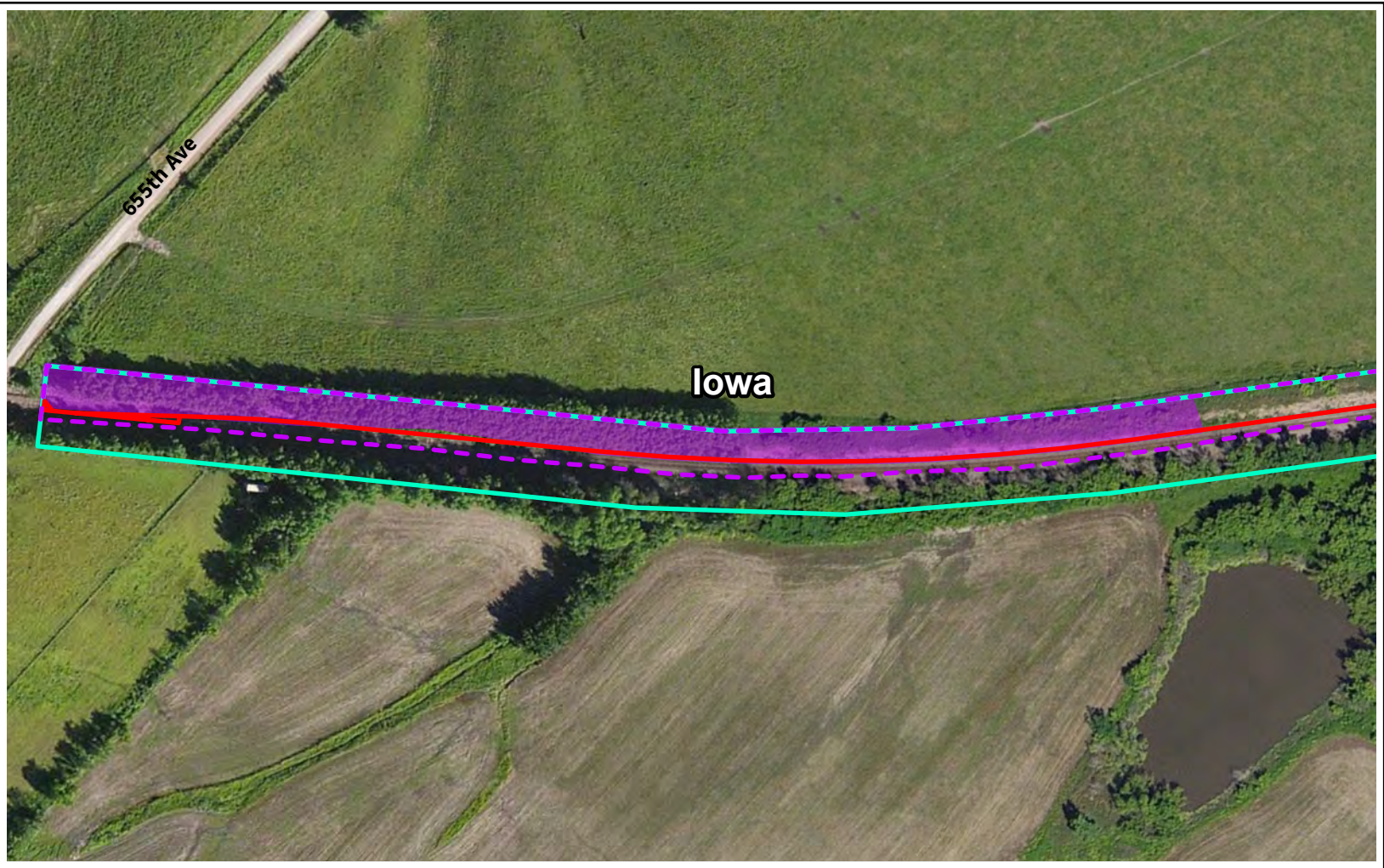


Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

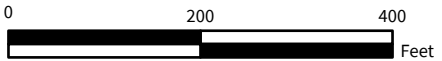
O-204



Capital Improvement Moravia
Monroe, Iowa | Page Index



-  Study Area
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



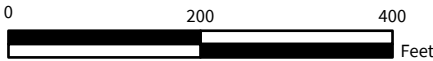
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-205





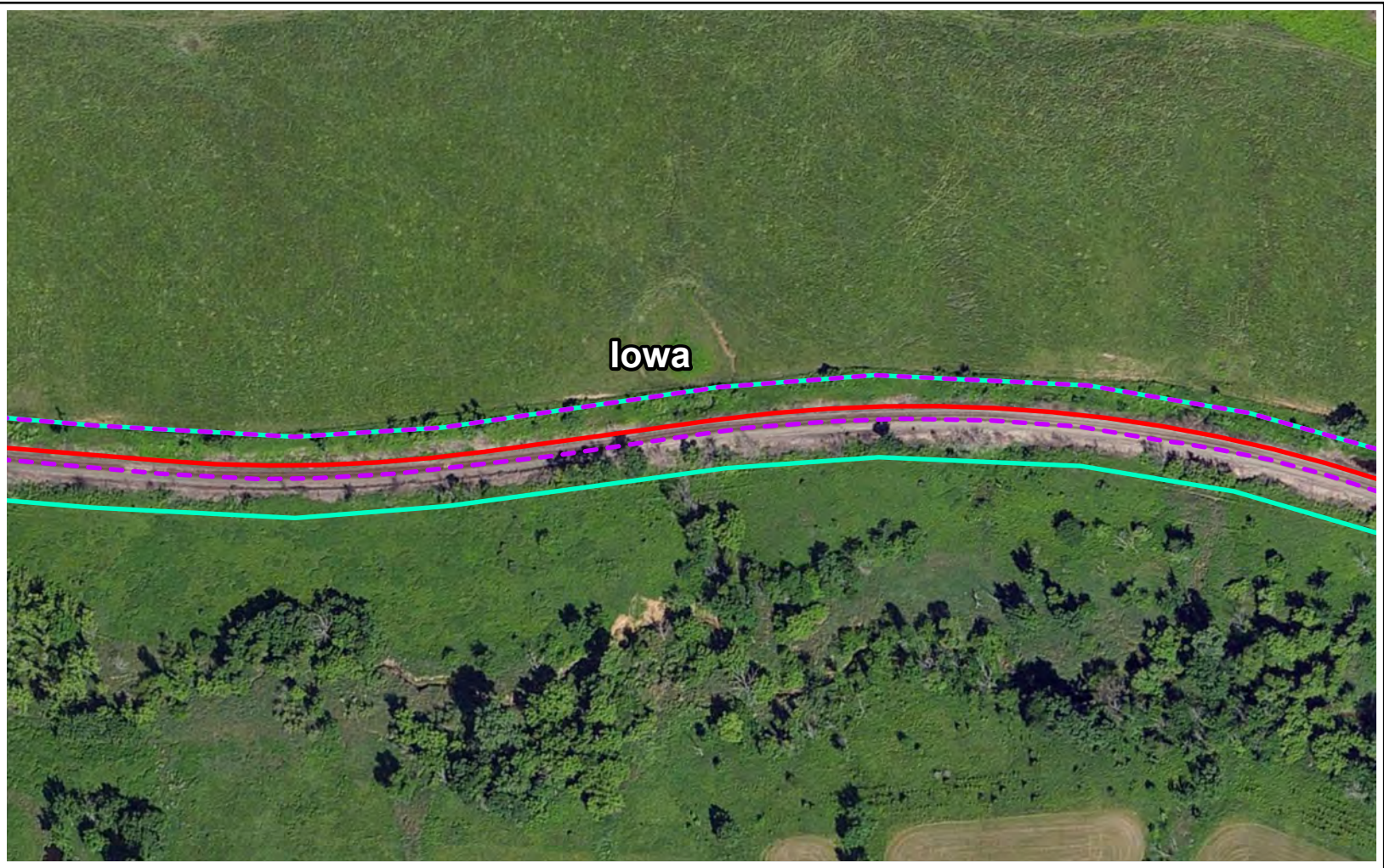
-  Study Area
-  Suitable Bat Roosting Structure
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



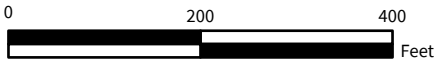
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-206





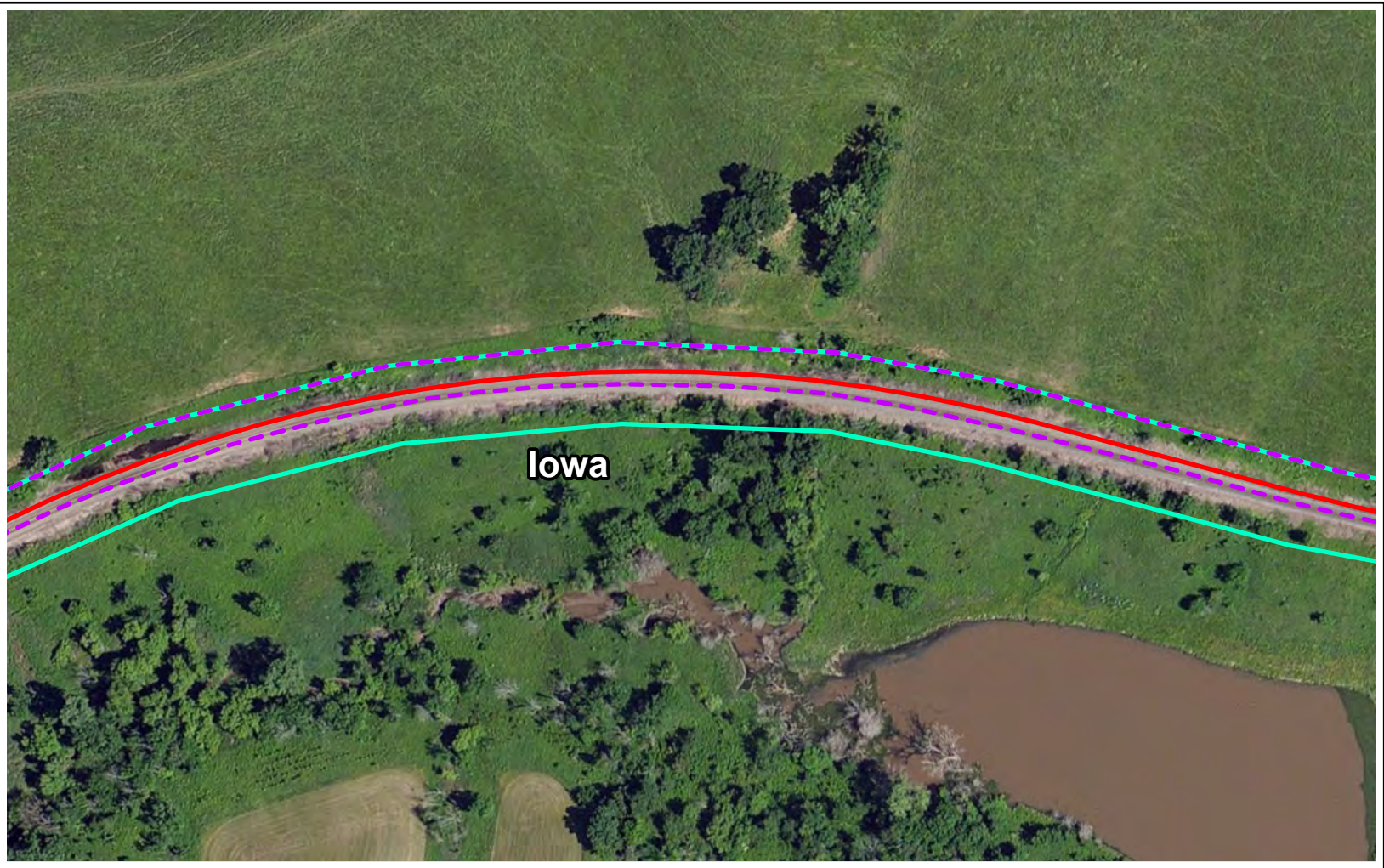
-  Study Area
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



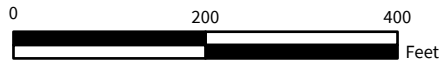
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-207



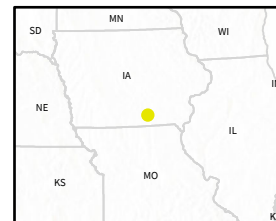


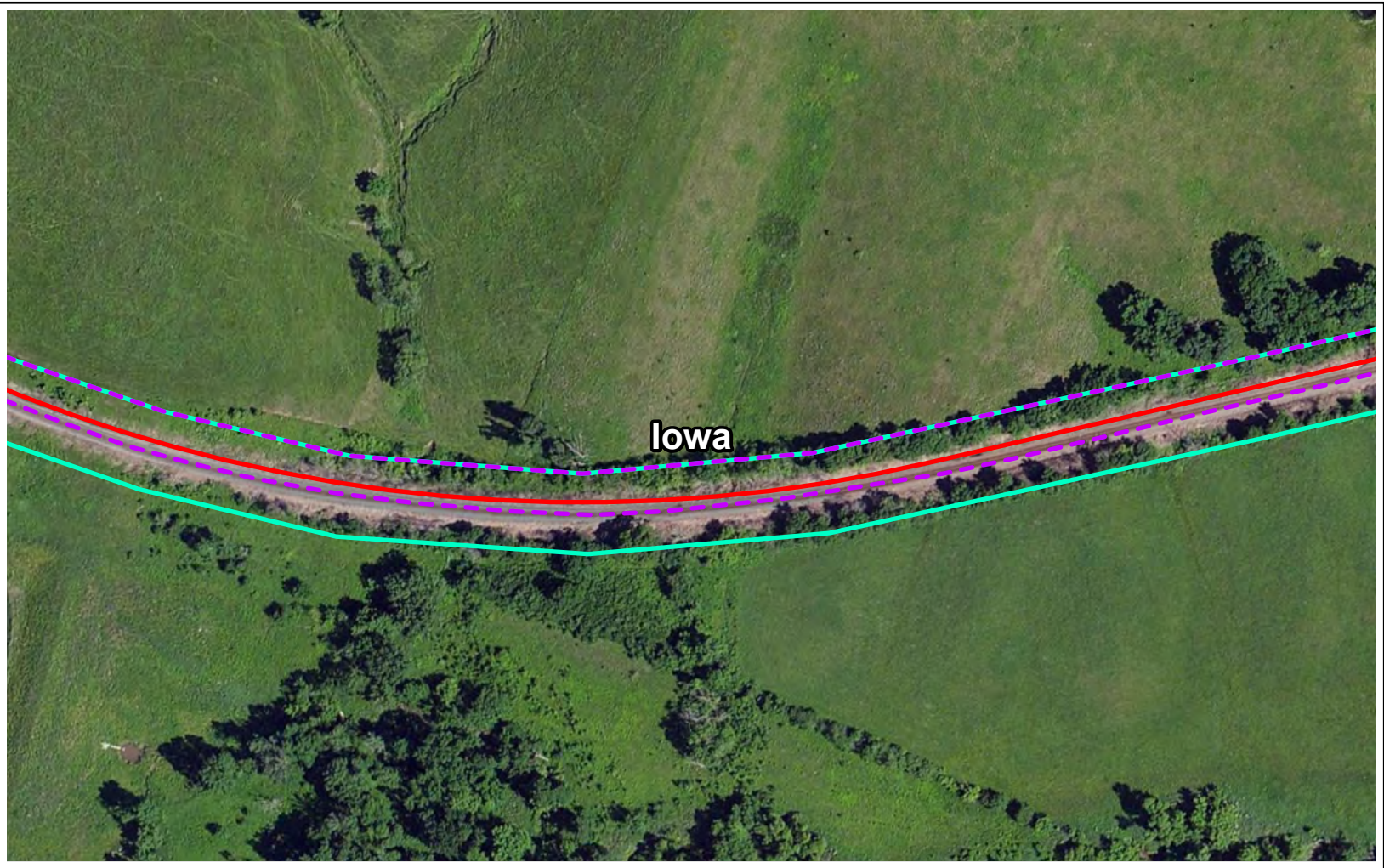
-  Study Area
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



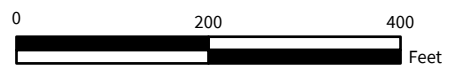
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-208





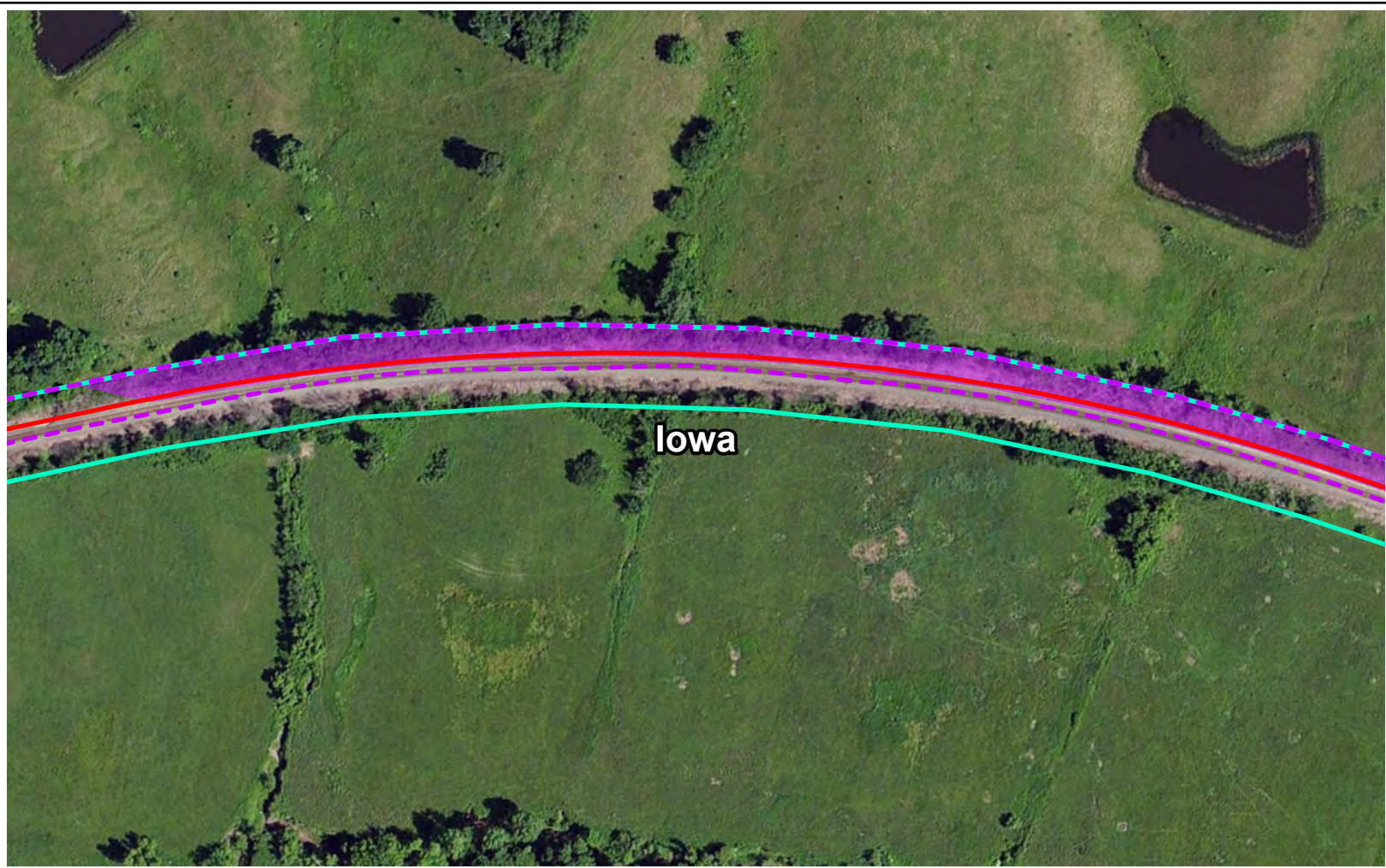
-  Study Area
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



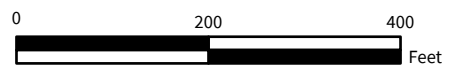
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-209





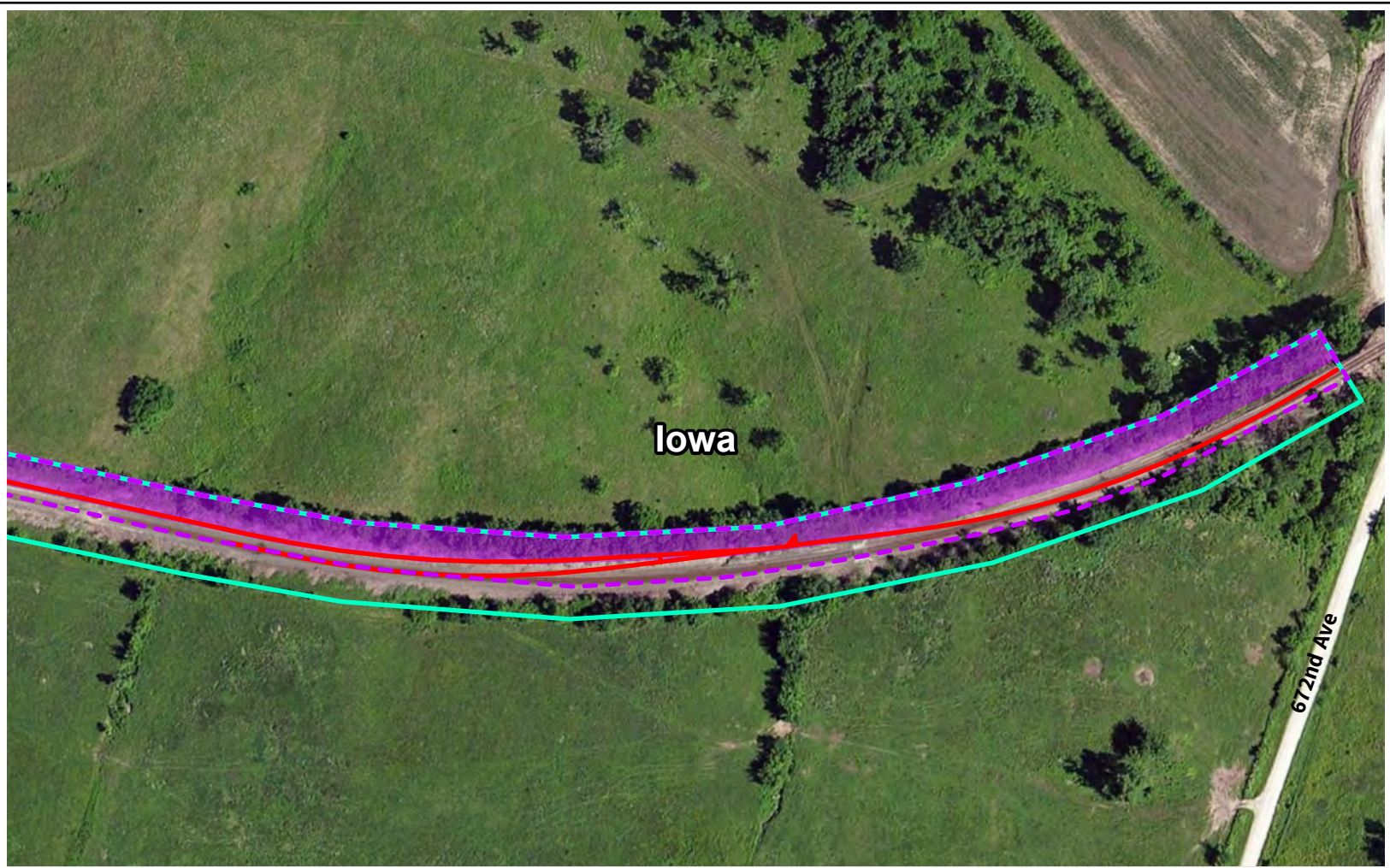
-  Study Area
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way



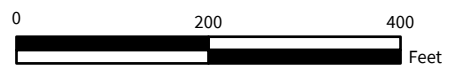
Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-210





-  Study Area
-  Capital Improvement Location
-  Existing Right-of-Way
-  Suitable Forested Bat Habitat



Source: FRA, CP, ArcGIS Online

O-211

