Apply additional voluntary conservation measures, where appropriate, to reduce the impacts of activities on northern long-eared bats. Conservation measures include:

a. Conduct tree removal activities outside of the northern long-eared bat pup season (June 1 to July 31) and/or the active season (April 15 to September 15 in Virginia). This will minimize impacts to pups at roosts not yet identified.

b. Avoid clearing suitable spring staging and fall swarming habitat within a 5-mile radius of known or assumed northern long-eared bat hibernacula during the staging and swarming seasons (April 1 to May 15 and August 1 to November 14, respectively).

c. Manage forests to ensure a continual supply of snags and other suitable maternity roost trees.

d. Conduct prescribed burns outside of the pup season (June 1 to July 31) and/or the active season (April 15 to September 15 in Virginia). Avoid high-intensity burns (causing tree scorch higher than northern long-eared bat roosting heights) during the summer maternity season to minimize direct impacts to northern long-eared bat.

e. Perform any bridge repair, retrofit, maintenance, and/or rehabilitation work outside of the northern long-eared bat active season (April 15 to September 15 in Virginia) in areas where northern long-eared bats are known to roost on bridges or where such use is likely.

f. Do not use military smoke and obscurants within forested suitable northern long-eared bat habitat during the pup season (June 1 to July 31) and/or the active season (April 15 to September 15 in Virginia).

g. Minimize use of herbicides and pesticides. If necessary, spot treatment is preferred over aerial application.

h. Evaluate the use of outdoor lighting during the active season and seek to minimize light pollution by angling lights downward or via other light minimization measures.

i. Participate in actions to manage and reduce the impacts of white-nose syndrome on northern long-eared bat. Actions needed to investigate and manage white-nose syndrome are described in a national plan the Service developed in coordination with other state and federal.