United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Division of Ecological Services
9014 East 21st Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74129
918/581-7458 / (FAX) 918/581-7467

Insert Date of Correspondence

Online Project Review Concurrence Letter

To: Insert applicant's mailing address, e-mail address, and phone number

Project Name: Project Name

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Oklahoma Ecological Services Field Office online project review process. By providing this letter in conjunction with your project review package, you are certifying that you have accurately completed the online project review process for the referenced project in accordance with all instructions provided, using the best available information to reach your conclusions. Concurrence with "not likely to adversely affect" determinations does not provide any exemption for violations of section 9 of the ESA or "take" of federally-listed species. The Federal action agency is ultimately responsible for ensuring compliance with the ESA and any take that occurs due to your proposed action would be considered a violation under section 9 of the ESA.

This letter and the enclosed project review package complete the review of your project in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544, 87 Stat. 884), as amended (ESA). This letter also provides information for your project review under the National Environmental Policy Act (National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190, 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347, 83 Stat. 852), as amended. A copy of this letter and the project review package must be emailed to **okprojectreview@fws.gov** for this certification to be valid. This letter and the project review package will be maintained in Service records. **Please allow the OKESFO 35 days to review your information. If the OKESFO determines that the package is not complete, or that additional coordination is necessary, we will contact your office. If after 35 days from the time you emailed your project review package the OKESFO has not contacted your office, consider your section 7 consultation complete.**

The proposed action consists of

Insert a brief description of the proposed project, including all associated activities such as utilities, stormwater management, access roads, etc. Other documents that describe the project, if available, can be referenced and enclosed. Attach additional pages as necessary.

The project is expected to be completed:

Insert start date and planned project duration.

This project review is needed for:

Insert description of the need for review (e.g., grant application, required review by county, etc.). Provide the name of any federal agency or federal program providing a permit, funding, grant, authorization, loan, etc. associated with the proposed project. If the project has no federal nexus, state that there is no federal nexus. Attach additional pages as necessary.

The species conclusions table in the enclosed project review package summarizes your ESA conclusions. These conclusions resulted in "not likely to adversely affect/modify" determinations for listed species and critical habitat in relation to potential effects of your proposed project. We certify that the use of the online project review process in strict accordance with the instructions provided as documented in the enclosed project review package results in reaching the appropriate determinations. Therefore, we concur with determinations of "not likely to adversely affect" for listed species and critical habitat reached by proper use of this process. For projects where this particular determination is reached, additional coordination with this office is not needed.

Candidate species are not legally protected pursuant to the ESA. However, the Service encourages efforts to avoid or minimize adverse impacts to them from project effects. Some federal agencies have standing policies that grant limited protections to candidate species. Conservation of candidate species now may preclude future needs to federally list them as endangered or threatened, at which point their legal protection would become required. Please contact this office for additional coordination if your project action area contains candidate species.

Should project plans change or if additional information on the distribution of listed species or critical habitat becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. You should re-visit the Service's Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) website at http://ecos/fws.gov/ipac/ within 90 days of project inititaion to ensure species information is correct. If new species or critical habitat is identified, this letter is no longer valid and a new project package should be submitted to the OKESFO.

Information about the online project review process including instructions and use, species information, and other information regarding project reviews within Oklahoma is available at our website: <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/oklahoma/ >. If you have any questions, please call 918-581-7458 or send an email message to OKProjectReview@fws.gov.

Sincerely,
/s/ Jontie Aldrich
Acting Field Supervisor
Oklahoma Ecological Services Field Office

Enclosures:

1) ENTIRE PROJECT REVIEW PACKAGE:
   - ☐ Species Conclusion Table
   - ☐ IPaC Species List and Action Area map
   - ☐ This letter (Online Concurrence Letter)
   - ☐ (Optional) Additional maps
2) Other relevant project data/documents

Briefly describe the other relevant project data/documents you are providing.