



IN REPLY REFER TO.

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

110 S. Amity Road, Suite 300
Conway, Arkansas 72032
Tel.: 501/513-4470 Fax: 501/513-4480



June 18, 2015

Mark Holt
River Bank Savings and Loan
P.O. Box 397
Pocahontas, AR 72455

Dear Mr. Holt:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the information supplied in your letter dated May 8, 2015, regarding the proposed construction of eight poultry houses for JK Poultry near the city of Maynard, Randolph County, Arkansas. Our comments are submitted in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d).

The Service concurs with your determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the Pink Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*), Pondberry (*Lindera melissifolia*), Scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*), Rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*), Ozark Hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis bishopi*), Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*), Curtis Pearlymussel (*Epioblasma florentina curtisi*), and the Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

Please be aware Bald Eagle is not protected under the ESA. Bald Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 et seq.).

We appreciate your interest in the conservation of endangered species. If you have any questions, please contact the Arkansas Ecological Services Staff at (501) 513-4487.

Sincerely,

Melvin Tobin
Acting Project Leader

The following BMP's will be implemented during the construction phase: Silt fences will be installed around the construction site prior to ground disturbance and a sediment basin will be implemented to catch any runoff that might result from the construction process. Exposed soil will be seeded with a warm season grass after the 8 pads are completed sometime this summer once ground is broke. After construction is complete, the construction site will be seeded with a rye grass/legume mix and fertilized to ensure a good stand is maintained throughout the winter months. BMP measures taken during the construction phase will be sufficient to handle at least a 25 year flood event occurring over a 24 hour period. The terrain of this area in Randolph County has both flat land and small rolling hills. The site that was chosen is relatively flat compared to the surrounding area. The best possible site has been chosen for the proposed project to minimize any adverse impacts to the environment and endangered or threatened species. There are no wild or scenic rivers in this area. There are no creeks or streams within 150 yards of the proposed site.

The following threatened and endangered species are known to occur in Randolph County:

Pink Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*)
Ozark Hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis bishopi*)
Rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*)
Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*)
Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*)
Pondberry (*Lindera melissifolia*)
Scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*)
Curtis Pearlymussel (*Epioblasma florentina curtisi*)
Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)

RiverBank is requesting your concurrence that this proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect these species listed above as well as advice on any other BMP's that should be implemented.

Enclosures: Aerial photo of the proposed site

Contact Information: Producer

**J. Cody Edington
(870)378-6565**

**Kelly Edington
(870)378-0371**

Lender

**RiverBank
PO Box 397
Pocahontas, AR 72455**

Sincerely,



**Mark Holt
Business Development Manager
RiverBank
(870)892-2265**



JK Poultry

W 90°50'6.72"
N36°24'50.4"

328

Hwy 328 E

PR/Suppl Rd

Fowler Rd

© 2015 Google

Google earth

1004

Image Date: 5/13/2013 36°24'50.82" N 90°50'04.10" W elev: 278 ft