



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

Chris	
Tommy	TL
Melissa	ML
Lindsey	
Jason	
Mitch	8113

August 13, 2015

Alan Brannon  
Ag Heritage Farm Credit Services  
1105 Pace Rd  
Pocahontas, AR 72455

Dear Mr. Brannon:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the information supplied in your letter dated July 1, 2015, regarding the proposed construction of four broiler houses for Ernie and Margaret Loven near the city of Ravenden Springs, 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,

  
FOR Melvin Tobin  
Project Leader



Fleming, Michelle &lt;michelle\_fleming@fws.gov&gt;

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**Ernie and Margaret Loven**

2 messages

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**Fleming, Michelle** <michelle\_fleming@fws.gov>  
To: "alan.brannon@agfcs.com" <alan.brannon@agfcs.com>

Wed, Aug 19, 2015 at 8:16 AM

Alan,

I know I talked to you on the phone about Ernie and Margaret Loven not clearing trees till the winter. Could I get that in writing, an email will suffice.

Thank you,

Michelle

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**Alan Brannon** <Alan.Brannon@agfcs.com>  
To: "Fleming, Michelle" <michelle\_fleming@fws.gov>

Wed, Aug 19, 2015 at 10:56 AM

Michelle,

We are working on a loan for Ernie and Margaret Loven which will require an FSA Guarantee. I understand that in order to clear trees before October 15<sup>th</sup> we will have to have a bat survey. We are going to wait until after October 15<sup>th</sup> to close the loan and there will not be any clearing done on the project until after that date. Can we get a clearance letter from you showing this so that I can proceed with FSA Guarantee paperwork so that everything is completed and ready to close by this date.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

**From:** Fleming, Michelle [mailto:michelle\_fleming@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 19, 2015 7:16 AM  
**To:** Alan Brannon  
**Subject:** Ernie and Margaret Loven

[Quoted text hidden]

An inspection of the property by AFCS personnel indicated that none of the above listed species known to occur in Randolph County will be affected in the proposed area. The Farm Service Agency and AgHeritage Farm Credit Services requests your concurrence with this proposal. A location map is attached for your use.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at (870) 892-4579.

Sincerely,

Alan Brannon  
AgHeritage Farm Credit Services

