



Connecticut Department of
Energy & Environmental Protection
Bureau of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division

CPPU USE ONLY

App #: _____

Doc #: _____

Check #: No fee required

Program: Natural Diversity Database
Endangered Species

Hardcopy _____ Electronic _____

Request for Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDDB) State Listed Species Review

Please complete this form in accordance with the [instructions](#) (DEEP-INST-007) to ensure proper handling of your request.

There are no fees associated with NDDB Reviews.

Part I: Preliminary Screening & Request Type

Before submitting this request, you must review the most current Natural Diversity Data Base "State and Federal Listed Species and Significant Natural Communities Maps" found on the [DEEP website](#). These maps are updated twice a year, usually in June and December.

Does your site, including all affected areas, fall in an NDDB Area according to the map instructions:

☒ Yes ☐ No Enter the date of the map reviewed for pre-screening: December 2020 _____

This form is being submitted for a :

- ☒ New NDDB request
- ☐ Renewal/Extension of a NDDB Request, **without** modifications and within **two years** of issued NDDB determination (no attachments required)

[CPPU Use Only - NDDB-Listed Species Determination # 1736]

- ☐ New **Safe Harbor Determination** (optional) must be associated with an application for a GP for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities
- ☐ Renewal/Extension of an existing Safe Harbor Determination
- ☐ With modifications
- ☐ Without modifications (no attachments required)

[CPPU Use Only - NDDB-Safe Harbor Determination # 1736]

Enter NDDB Determination Number for Renewal/Extension:

Enter Safe Harbor Determination Number for Renewal/Extension:

Part II: Requester Information

If the requester is a corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, or a statutory trust, it must be registered with the Secretary of State. If applicable, the name shall be stated **exactly as it is registered with the Secretary of State. Please note, for those entities registered with the Secretary of State, the registered name will be the name used by DEEP. This information can be accessed at the Secretary of the State's database CONCORD. (www.concord-sots.ct.gov/CONCORD/index.jsp)*

If the requester is an individual, provide the legal name (include suffix) in the following format: First Name; Middle Initial; Last Name; Suffix (Jr, Sr., II, III, etc.).

If there are any changes or corrections to your company/facility or individual mailing or billing address or contact information, please complete and submit the [Request to Change company/Individual Information](#) to the address indicated on the form.

1. Requester*

Company Name: SLR International Corporation

Contact Name: Megan B. Raymond

Address: 195 Church Street, 7th Floor

City/Town: New Haven

State: CT

Zip Code: 06511

Business Phone: 203.344.7887

ext.

**E-mail: mraymond@slrconsulting.com

**By providing this email address you are agreeing to receive official correspondence from the department, at this electronic address, concerning this request. Please remember to check your security settings to be sure you can receive emails from "ct.gov" addresses. Also, please notify the department if your e-mail address changes

a) Requester can best be described as:

☐ Individual ☐ Federal Agency ☐ State agency ☐ Municipality ☐ Tribal

☒ *business entity (* if a business entity complete i through iii):

i) Check type ☒ corporation ☐ limited liability company ☐ limited partnership
☐ limited liability partnership ☐ statutory trust ☐ Other:

ii) Provide Secretary of the State Business ID #: 1282419 This information can be accessed at the

Secretary of the State's database (CONCORD). (www.concord-sots.ct.gov/CONCORD/index.jsp)

iii) ☐ Check here if your business is **NOT** registered with the Secretary of State's office.

b) Acting as (Affiliation), pick one:

☐ Property owner ☒ Consultant ☐ Engineer ☐ Facility owner ☐ Applicant

☐ Biologist ☐ Pesticide Applicator ☐ Other representative:

2. List Primary Contact to receive Natural Diversity Data Base correspondence and inquiries, if different from requester.

Company Name:

Contact Person:

Title:

Mailing Address:

City/Town:

State:

Zip Code:

Business Phone:

ext.

**E-mail:

Part III: Site Information

This request can only be completed for one site. A separate request must be filed for each additional site.

1. SITE NAME AND LOCATION

Site Name or Project Name: Goshen PV Solar Facility

Town(s): Goshen

Street Address or Location Description:
129 Bartholomew Hill Road Goshen, CT

Size in acres, or site dimensions: 69.1 acres

Latitude and longitude of the center of the site in decimal degrees (e.g., 41.23456 -71.68574):

Latitude: 41.852043309

Longitude: -73.27828177

Method of coordinate determination (check one):

☒ GPS ☐ Photo interpolation using [CTECO map viewer](#) ☐ Other (specify):

2a. Describe the current land use and land cover of the site.

Mostly undeveloped, 69.1-acre residential property with 20 acres of agricultural fields, 45 acres of upland forest, and three forested wetlands totaling 7.32 acres, along with associated intermittent watercourses. A residential property consisting of a house, barn, and shed are located in the southeast portion of the site.

b. Check all that apply and enter the size in acres or % of area in the space after each checked category.

<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial/Commercial _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential 3%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest 60%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetland 9%	<input type="checkbox"/> Field/grassland _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural 30%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water 1%	<input type="checkbox"/> Utility Right-of-way _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Right-of-way _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____	

Part IV: Project Information

1. PROJECT TYPE:

Choose Project Type: Commercial/Industrial development , If other describe: _____

2. Is the subject activity limited to the maintenance, repair, or improvement of an existing structure within the existing footprint? ☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, explain.

Part IV: Project Information (continued)

3. Give a detailed description of the activity which is the subject of this request and describe the methods and equipment that will be used. Include a description of steps that will be taken to minimize impacts to any known listed species.

A photovoltaic solar facility is proposed within the north and east portions of the subject property. The proposed solar array will cover approximately 12 acres and is to be constructed within the footprint of existing agricultural fields on site. The facility will consist of 11,410 panels with a distance of ten feet spacing between rows, for a total system size of 5.42/4.0 MW (DC/AC). The panel array will be enclosed by a single fence around the perimeter. A 15-foot gravel access road lined by an interconnection path is proposed to extend approximately 0.44-mile from the existing entranceway off of Bartholomew Hill Road, to the northern portion of the facility.

Current conditions on site include approximately 20 acres of agricultural fields along the northern and eastern extent of the property, and 45 acres of upland forest to the south and west. Three narrow wetland corridors associated with south-flowing intermittent watercourses exist on site, totaling approximately 7.32 acres.

An NDDDB polygon from December 2020 is located approximately 430 feet to the south of the southern limit of the proposed PV solar array layout, and at the southernmost point of the gravel access road.

A stormwater management plan proposes all stormwater generated from the project to be directed to the eastern portion of the site, away from the mapped NDDDB polygon. Additionally, conservation measures for state-listed turtles have been included in the planning for the proposed work. Species protections, listed below, are proposed to minimize impacts to wildlife during construction.

PROPOSED PROTECTION STRATEGIES

- HIRE A BIOLOGIST TO ENSURE PROTECTION GUIDELINES REMAIN IN EFFECT THROUGH CONSTRUCTION
- WORK SHOULD NORMALLY OCCUR WHEN SPECIES ARE ACTIVE (APRIL 1ST TO OCTOBER 30TH);
- WORKERS WILL BE APPRISED OF THE POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS AND WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A DESCRIPTION OF SAID SPECIES.
- UTILIZE EXCLUSIONARY FENCING TO PREVENT WILDLIFE ACCESS INTO CONSTRUCTION AREAS;
- EXCLUSIONARY FENCING MUST BE AT LEAST 20 INCHES TALL AND BE SECURED TO AND REMAIN IN CONTACT WITH THE GROUND AND BE REGULARLY MAINTAINED (A MINIMUM OF BI-WEEKLY OR AFTER MAJOR WEATHER EVENTS). NO PLASTIC OR NETTED FENCING ARE TO BE USED;
- AFTER EXCLUSIONARY FENCING IS INSTALLED AND PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION, THE BIOLOGIST WILL INSPECT THE ENCLOSED WORK AREA FOR TURTLES AND OTHER WILDLIFE.
- ONCE CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY, THE CONTRACTOR WILL SEARCH THE WORK AREA EACH MORNING PRIOR TO BEGINNING WORK.
- ANY ANIMALS DISCOVERED DURING SWEEPS OR DURING CONSTRUCTION WILL BE MOVED, UNHARMED, TO AN AREA IMMEDIATELY OUTSIDE OF THE FENCED AREA, AND POSITIONED IN THE SAME DIRECTION THAT IT WAS TRAVELING.

EXCLUSIONARY FENCING WILL BE INSPECTED TO DETERMINE HOW THE INDIVIDUAL MAY HAVE ENTERED THE WORK AREA.

- ALL STAGING AND STORAGE AREAS, OUTSIDE OF PREVIOUSLY PAVED AREAS, MUST BE ROUTINELY INSPECTED TO REMOVE INDIVIDUALS AND EXCLUDE THEM FROM RE-ENTRY;
- STOCKPILES OF SOIL WILL BE CORDONED OFF WITH EXCLUSIONARY FENCING SO TURTLES DO NOT ATTEMPT TO USE FOR NESTING.
- ANY CONFIRMED SITINGS OF BOX, WOOD OR SPOTTED TURTLES WILL BE REPORTED AND DOCUMENTED WITH NDDb.
- ALL EXCLUSIONARY FENCING WILL BE REMOVED AFTER WORK IS COMPLETED AND SOILS ARE STABLE SO THAT REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN MOVEMENT BETWEEN UPLANDS AND WETLANDS IS NOT RESTRICTED.
- ENCROACHMENTS BEYOND PERMITTED LIMIT OF DISTURBANCE ARE PROSCRIBED.

4. If this is a renewal or extension of an existing Safe Harbor request *with* modifications, explain what about the project has changed.

N/A

5. Provide a contact for questions about the project details if different from Part II primary contact.

Name:

Phone:

E-mail:

Part V: Request Requirements and Associated Application Types

Check *one* box from either Group 1, Group 2 *or* Group 3, indicating the appropriate category for this request.

Group 1. If you check one of these boxes, complete Parts I – VII of this form and submit the required attachments A and B.

- ☐ Preliminary screening was negative but an NDDB review is still requested
- ☐ Request regards a municipally regulated or unregulated activity (no state permit/certificate needed)
- ☐ Request regards a preliminary site assessment or project feasibility study
- ☐ Request relates to land acquisition or protection
- ☐ Request is associated with a *renewal* of an existing permit or authorization, with no modifications

Group 2. If you check one of these boxes, complete Parts I – VII of this form and submit required attachments A, B, *and* C.

- ☒ Request is associated with a *new* state or federal permit or authorization application or registration
- ☐ Request is associated with modification of an existing permit or other authorization
- ☐ Request is associated with a permit enforcement action
- ☐ Request regards site management or planning, requiring detailed species recommendations
- ☐ Request regards a state funded project, state agency activity, or CEPA request

☐ **Group 3.** If you are requesting a **Safe Harbor Determination**, complete Parts I-VII and submit required attachments A, B, and D. Safe Harbor determinations can only be requested if you are applying for a GP for the Discharge of Stormwater and Dewatering Wastewaters from Construction Activities

If you are filing this request as part of a state or federal permit application(s) enter the application information below.

Permitting Agency and Application Name(s):

CT DEEP, GP for the Discharge of Stormwater from Construction Activities _____

Related State DEEP Permit Number(s), if applicable: _____

State DEEP Enforcement Action Number, if applicable: _____

State DEEP Permit Analyst(s)/Engineer(s), if known: _____

Is this request related to a previously submitted NDDB request? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, provide the previous NDDB Determination Number(s), if known: _____

Part VI: Supporting Documents

Check each attachment submitted as verification that *all* applicable attachments have been supplied with this request form. Label each attachment as indicated in this part (e.g., Attachment A, etc.) and be sure to include the requester's name, site name and the date. **Please note that Attachments A and B are required for all new requests and Safe Harbor renewals/extensions with modifications.** Renewals/Extensions with no modifications do not need to submit any attachments. Attachments C and D are supplied at the end of this form.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attachment A:	Overview Map: an 8 1/2" X 11" print/copy of the relevant portion of a USGS Topographic Quadrangle Map clearly indicating the exact location of the site.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attachment B:	Detailed Site Map: fine scaled map showing site boundary and area of work details on aerial imagery with relevant landmarks labeled. (Site and work boundaries in GIS [ESRI ArcView shapefile, in NAD83, State Plane, feet] format can be substituted for detailed maps, see instruction document)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attachment C:	Supplemental Information, Group 2 requirement (attached, DEEP-APP-007C) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section i: Supplemental Site Information and supporting documents <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section ii: Supplemental Project Information and supporting documents
<input type="checkbox"/> Attachment D:	Safe Harbor Report Requirements, Group 3 (attached, DEEP-APP-007D)

Part VII: Requester Certification

The requester *and* the individual(s) responsible for actually preparing the request must sign this part. A request will be considered incomplete unless all required signatures are provided.

"I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of the individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief."	
<u>Megan Raymond</u> Signature of Requester (a typed name will substitute for a handwritten signature)	<u>1-28-2021</u> Date
<u>Megan B. Raymond</u> Name of Requester (print or type)	<u>Senior Environmental Scientist</u> Title (if applicable)
<u>Signature of Preparer (if different than above)</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>Name of Preparer (print or type)</u>	<u>Title (if applicable)</u>

Note: Please submit the completed Request Form and all Supporting Documents to:

CENTRAL PERMIT PROCESSING UNIT
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
79 ELM STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06106-5127

Or email request to: deep.nddbrequest@ct.gov

Attachment C: Supplemental Information, Group 2 requirement

Section i: Supplemental Site Information

1. Existing Conditions

Describe all natural and man-made features including wetlands, watercourses, fish and wildlife habitat, floodplains and any existing structures potentially affected by the subject activity. Such features should be depicted and labeled on the site plan that must be submitted. Photographs of current site conditions may be helpful to reviewers.

The project area is comprised of a 69.1-acre residential property north of Bartholomew Hill Road (Figure 1). The surrounding area is comprised of low-density residential homes and agricultural fields. Just east of the project area is the Wings Ago Airstrip Airport.

Approximately one third of the project property (20 acres) is comprised of agricultural fields that located primarily along the northern extent of the property. A large field, 9.5-acre, exists in the northwest portion of property and a long, narrow 8-acre field exists along the western portion of the property. Upland forest comprises 45-acres of the project area located in the southwestern portion of the property and along the parcel boundaries. Wetland soils, comprising 0.5-acres, are mapped in the northern portion of the property according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil mapping and are connected to an offsite wetland north of the property.

The property is located at the top of its 5.8-acre local watershed that drains into Tyler Lake located 0.9 miles to the southeast. The watershed is a long and narrow feature extending approximately from the project area south of Woodridge Lake. The highest elevation on the project property is located in the northern portion of the property. The topography in the study area generally slopes southward.

Three forested wetlands and several intermittent watercourses were delineated on the property. The wetland delineation study area focused on the eastern, northern, and western extent of the property adjacent to the agricultural fields. Details regarding each wetland are listed below:

Wetland 1

Wetland 1 (3.30 acres) extends from the northeastern portion of the property to a drainage pipe along the southeastern portion of the property. In the center of the wetland is an intermittent watercourse with a consolidated bottom and approximately 3-foot-wide bank. From wetland flags 100b and 101b, the watercourse drains southwards. Vegetation in this portion of the wetland is comprised largely of red maple (*Acer rubrum*) and pin oak (*Quercus palustris*) and the understory consists of red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), silky dogwood (*Cornus amomum*), multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*), sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), and skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus foetidus*). North of wetland flags 100b and 101b, the intermittent course flows northwards off-site. The vegetation in this portion of the forested wetland is dominated by shrubs such as red-osier dogwood, multiflora rose, and red maple saplings.

Wetland 2

Downslope of Wetland 1 & 3, Wetland 2 (3.19 acres) extends from the center of the property to Bartholomew Hill Road. Within the wetland are two intermittent watercourses flowing southwards toward the road. The watercourse is approximately 2-feet wide. The tree canopy is composed of red maple, pin oak, hickory, and white pine (*Pinus strobus*). The understory scrub/shrub layer consists of winterberry, silky dogwood, multiflora rose, and sensitive fern.

Wetland 3

Wetland 3 (0.83 acres) is located along the western portion of the property, southeast of an agricultural field. Several intermittent watercourses originate from the wetland and flow westward off-site. The forested wetland is comprised of red maple, pin oak, and white pine. The understory consists of shrubs such as winterberry, multiflora rose, silky dogwood, and red maple saplings.

- ☐ **Site Photographs (optional) attached**
☒ **Site Plan/sketch of existing conditions attached**

2. Biological Surveys

Has a biologist visited the site and conducted a biological survey to determine the presence of any endangered, threatened or special concern species ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, complete the following questions and submit any reports of biological surveys, documentation of the biologist's qualifications, and any NDDB survey forms.

Biologist(s) name: Megan B. Raymond, wetland delineation, ecological classification__

Habitat and/or species targeted by survey: _____

Dates when surveys were conducted: December 14, 2020_____

- ☐ **Reports of biological surveys attached**
☐ **Documentation of biologist's qualifications attached**
☐ **[NDDB Survey forms](#) for any listed species observations attached**

Section ii: Supplemental Project Information

1. Provide a schedule for all phases of the project including the year, the month and/or season that the proposed activity will be initiated and the duration of the activity.

Proposed construction schedule dependent on land-use approvals. Total construction time less than one year. Preliminary earthwork and vegetation clearing will be scheduled between April and October to minimize wildlife mortality.

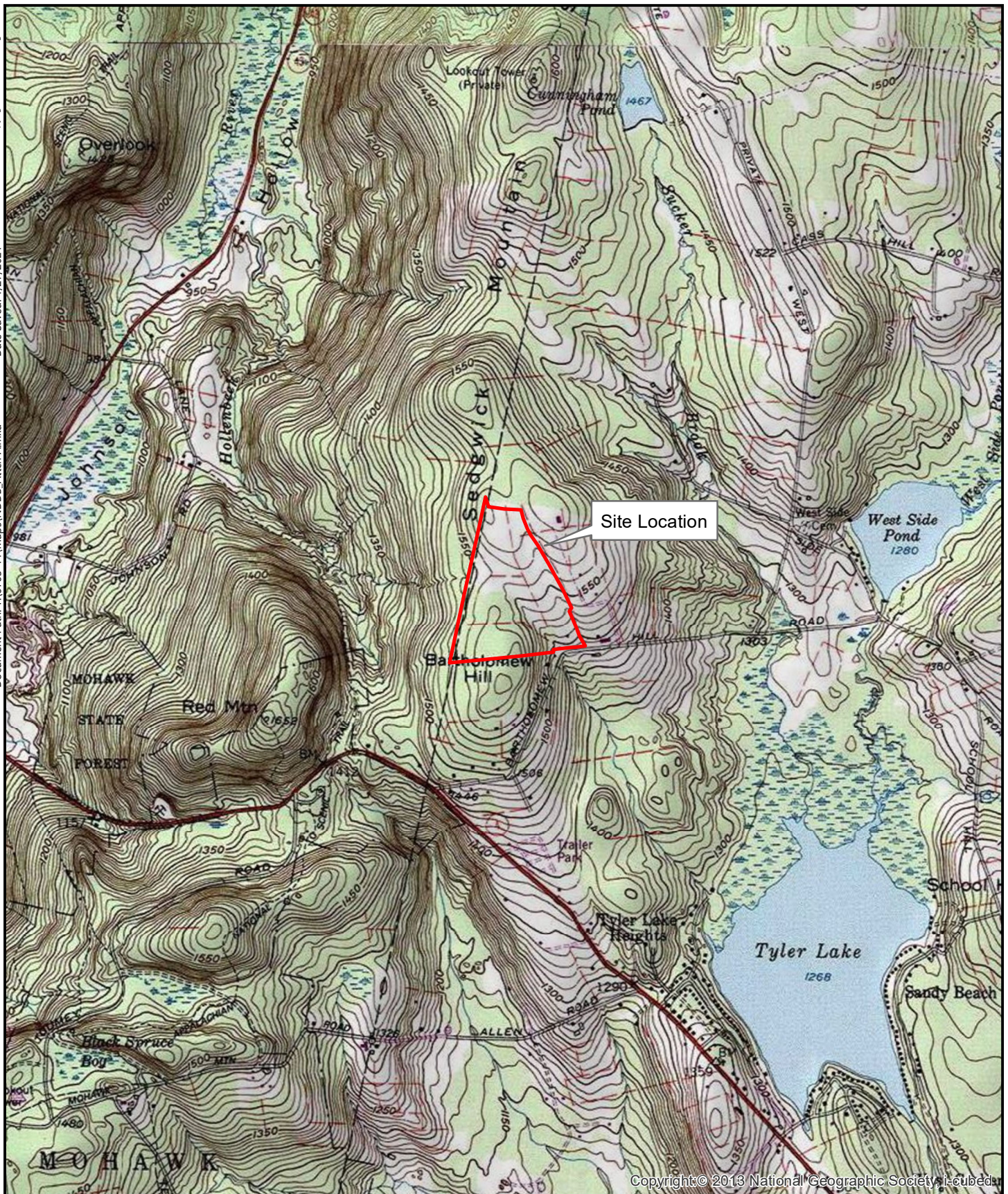
2. Describe and quantify the proposed changes to existing conditions and describe any on-site or off-site impacts. In addition, provide an annotated site plan detailing the areas of impact and proposed changes to existing conditions.

Approximately 12 acres of existing agricultural fields within the north and east portions of the site will be converted to a photovoltaic solar facility. The facility will consist of 11,410 panels with a distance of ten feet spacing between rows, for a total system size of 5.42/4.0 MW (DC/AC). The panel array will be enclosed by a single fence around the perimeter. A 15-foot gravel access road lined by an interconnection path will extend 0.44-mile northwest from the existing entranceway off of Bartholomew Hill Road to the northern portion of the facility.

No impacts to wetlands or watercourses are proposed. Sediment and erosion controls will prevent short-term impacts to onsite resources during construction, while stormwater management will prevent long-term impacts to wetlands and watercourses on and off-site.



Annotated Site Plan attached



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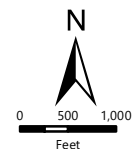


195 CHURCH STREET
7TH FLOOR
NEW HAVEN, CT 06511
203.344.7887
slrconsulting.com

OVERVIEW MAP

GOSHEN PV SOLAR FACILITY
GREENSKIES RENEWABLE ENERGY
129 BARTHOLOMEW HILL ROAD
GOSHEN, CONNECTICUT

SOURCE: 2004 AERIAL PHOTO, CTDEEP, 2006

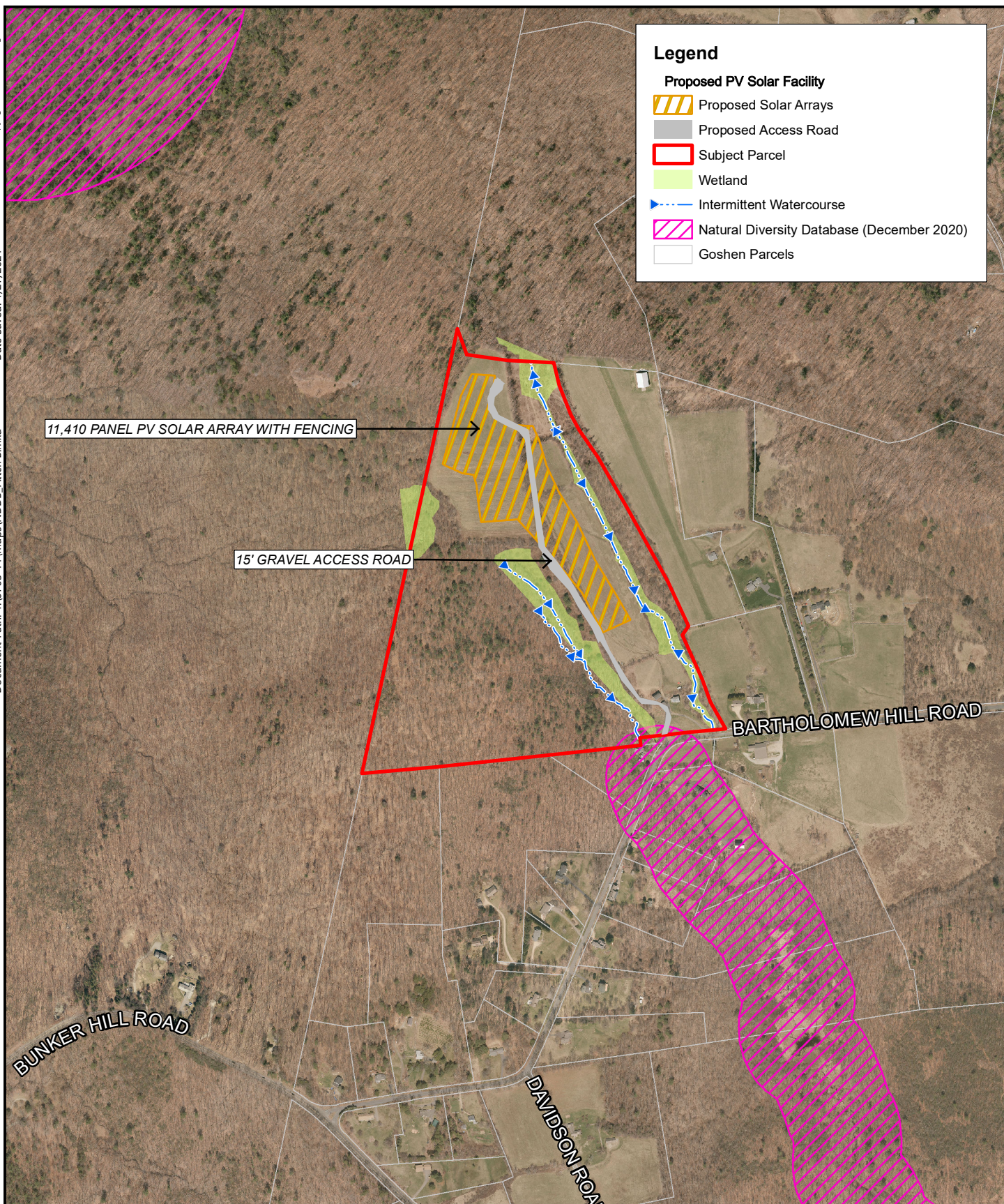


SCALE 1:24,000

DATE 1/27/2021

PROJ. NO. 16763-00011

FIG. 1

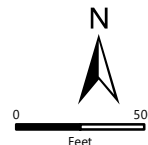


195 CHURCH STREET
7TH FLOOR
NEW HAVEN, CT 06511
203.344.7887
slrconsulting.com

DETAILED SITE MAP

GOSHEN PV SOLAR FACILITY
GREENSKIES RENEWABLE ENERGY
129 BARTHOLOMEW HILL ROAD
GOSHEN, CONNECTICUT

SOURCE: 2004 AERIAL PHOTO, CTDEEP, 2006



SCALE 1:9,000

DATE 1/28/2021

PROJ. NO. 16763-00011

FIG. 2

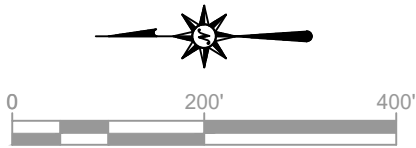


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S.01

PROPOSED PV SOLAR ARRAY LAYOUT

SYSTEM INFORMATION	
SYSTEM SIZE (DC)	5.42 MW
SYSTEM SIZE (AC)	4.0 MW
PANEL SIZE	475w*
PANEL QUANTITY	11,410
PANEL TILT	20°
PANEL AZIMUTH	180°
ROW SPACING	10'
INVERTER SIZE	125kW*

*Preliminary equipment selection, equivalent alternative may be used in actual installation



PROGRESS SET
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Greenskies

127 Washington Ave

North Haven, CT 06473

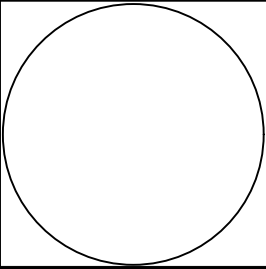
PH - 860.398.5408

FAX - 860.398.5423

REVISIONS:		
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION

PROPOSED SITE PLAN

GOSHEN SOLAR FARM
129 BARTHOLOMEW HILL RD
GOSHEN, CT 06756



BATCH NO.:	PROPOSAL
DRAWN BY:	CR
SCALE:	AS NOTED
DATE:	12/18/2020

PV.01



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
New England Ecological Services Field Office
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300
Concord, NH 03301-5094
Phone: (603) 223-2541 Fax: (603) 223-0104
<http://www.fws.gov/newengland>



In Reply Refer To:

April 13, 2021

Consultation Code: 05E1NE00-2021-SLI-2403

Event Code: 05E1NE00-2021-E-07526

Project Name: 129 Bartholomew Hill Road, Goshen, Connecticut

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 enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at:

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>;

<http://www.towerkill.com>; and

[http://](http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html)

www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
-

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:

New England Ecological Services Field Office

70 Commercial Street, Suite 300

Concord, NH 03301-5094

(603) 223-2541

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 05E1NE00-2021-SLI-2403

Event Code: 05E1NE00-2021-E-07526

Project Name: 129 Bartholomew Hill Road, Goshen, Connecticut

Project Type: Guidance

Project Description: Wetland delineation for Goshen PV Solar Facility

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@41.853196350000005,-73.27786558852993,14z>



Counties: Litchfield County, Connecticut

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 1 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	Threatened

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

February 26, 2021

Megan Raymond
SLR International Corporation
195 Church St
New Haven, CT 06510
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NDDDB DETERMINATION NUMBER: 202101269

Project: Goshen PV Solar Facility on a 69-acre Property located at 129 Bartholomew Hill Road in Goshen, CT

Expiration: February 26, 2022

I have reviewed Natural Diversity Data Base (NDDDB) maps and files regarding this project. I do not anticipate impacts to State-listed species (RCSA Sec. 26-306) by your project activities.

Site Design Recommendations:

If planned properly, you can increase the value of the habitat for wildlife and state listed species with your development.

- **Create a site management plan to promote native vegetation growth in the area under the solar panels.** Restoring native vegetation that will attract pollinators and avoid the need for constant mowing.
- Provide habitat for wildlife and allow for connectivity for wildlife movement. Some specific actions are included below.
 - American Kestrel (State Listed Special Concern) nest nearby to this development. Habitat for this bird consists of open grassy or shrubby areas with short vegetation and natural tree cavities or nest boxes for nesting. This bird returns to breed in March - July. This bird is limited by habitat in Connecticut. **This species can benefit from *active nest box monitoring and management to decrease competition by starlings*.** Availability of early successional habitat benefits this species during the post fledgeling period and during migration.
 - Use wildlife-friendly fencing to allow movement through the solar development.

This is determination is valid for two years.

Natural Diversity Data Base information includes all information regarding critical biological resources available to us at the time of the request. This information is a compilation of data collected over the years by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Bureau of Natural Resources and cooperating units of DEEP, independent conservation groups, and the scientific community. This information is not necessarily the result of comprehensive or site-specific field investigations. Consultations with the NDDDB should not be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. Current research projects and new contributors continue to identify additional populations of species and locations of habitats of concern, as well as, enhance existing data. Such new information is incorporated in the NDDDB as it becomes available.

Please contact me if you have any questions (shannon.kearney@ct.gov). Thank you for consulting with the Natural Diversity Data Base and continuing to work with us to protect State-listed species.

Sincerely,

/s/ Shannon B. Kearney
Wildlife Biologist