



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

December 23, 2015

Clifford
Nandkishor, L.L.C.
1910 West Morton Ave.
Jacksonville, IL 62650

RE: Sleep Inn - South Jacksonville
Project Number(s): 1604741
County: Morgan

Dear Mr. Clifford:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for the project noted above, located in Morgan County, Township 14 & 15 North, Range 10 West, Sections 5 & 32. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act [520 ILCS 10/11], and the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act [525 ILCS 30/17] and Title 17 Illinois Administrative Code Part 1075.

The proposed project involves construction of 65-unit motel with associated site improvements (parking lot, storm sewer, sanitary sewer, water, utilities) and grading.

The Department has completed its review of the project and determined that the state-endangered **Loggerhead Shrike** (*Lanius ludovicianus*) identified by EcoCAT in the vicinity is likely to be affected.

This species is known to occur in the vicinity of the project area. This species returns to Illinois from its wintering range in the southern United States and often returns to the area where it nested the previous year. Loggerhead shrikes are known for their unique habit of impaling small vertebrates on thorns or other sharp objects. However, it appears that these birds are primarily insectivorous. Pairs will build a nest 3' – 12' above the ground in the crotch of tree branches commencing in March or April. Incubation and nestling periods typically last until June; July if late nesting or second broods occur. Their habitat is typically characterized by open, agricultural areas or grasslands with short vegetation and scattered trees, shrubs, or hedgerows for nesting cover and lookout points. They have also been known to inhabit riparian corridors, open woodlands, and row crop fields. Thus, they could be nesting in trees very close to the project's footprint and could be disturbed by activities, and noise, during the construction period. If the disturbances are too much, the adults could abandon their nest.

To avoid impact to this species, the Department recommends the following measures be incorporated into the project:

- Complete all proposed work between the dates of September 1 and April 1.
- If construction time occurs outside of the recommended timeframe, the Department recommends a survey be performed for this species within the project area before work begins. The results of the survey should be forwarded to the Department. Please note, any survey that will actually capture or handle endangered or threatened species requires personnel doing so to hold Scientific Collection Permits under Part 520 and Part 1070 of the Department's Rules. Typical trees and shrubs that this species uses include: Eastern Red Cedar, Hawthorn, Osage Oranges, Multiflora Rose, Honey locust, Pines, Spruces, Firs, Apple, and Willows.
- If nests are discovered, the Department should be notified immediately. Please contact Ray Geroff, District Heritage Biologist at 217-285-2221.

Consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is completed. In accordance with 17 Ill. Adm. Code 1075.40(h), please notify the Department of your decision regarding these recommendations.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Natalia Jones
Division of Ecosystems and Environment
217-785-5500
natalia.jones@illinois.gov