Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

Docket No. CP26-__-000

Resource Report 3 – Fisheries, Vegetation and Wildlife

October 2025

Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project
Resource Report 3 – Fisheries, Vegetation and Wildlife

Resource Report 3 Filing Requirements per 18 CFR § 380.12	
Information	**Location in Resource Report**
Minimum Filing Requirements	
1. Describe commercial and recreational warmwater, coldwater, and saltwater fisheries in the affected area and associated significant habitats such as spawning or rearing areas and estuaries. (§ 380.12(e)(1))	Section 3.1.2
2. Describe terrestrial habitats, including wetlands, typical wildlife habitats, and rare, unique, or otherwise significant habitats that might be affected by the proposed action. Describe typical species that have commercial, recreational, or aesthetic value. (§ 380.12(e)(2))	Sections 3.2, 3.3.1 and 3.3.2
3. Describe and provide the affected acreage of vegetation cover types that would be affected, including unique ecosystems or communities such as remnant prairie or old-growth forest, or significant individual plants, such as old-growth specimen trees. (§ 380.12(e)(3))	Section 3.2 and Table 3.2-1
4. Describe the impact of construction and operation on aquatic and terrestrial species and their habitats, including the possibility of a major alteration to ecosystems or biodiversity, and any potential impact on state-listed endangered or threatened species. Describe the impact of maintenance, clearing and treatment of the project area on fish, wildlife, and vegetation. Surveys may be required to determine specific areas of significant habitats or communities of species of special concern to state or local agencies. (§ 380.12(e)(4))	Sections 3.1.3, 3.2.3 and 3.3.2, 3.4.3, and 3.4.5
5. Identify all federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species and critical habitat that potentially occur in the vicinity of the project. Discuss the results of the consultations requirements listed in § 380.13(b) at least through § 380.13(b)(5)(i) and include any written correspondence that resulted from the consultation. The initial application must include the results of any required surveys unless seasonal considerations make this impractical. If species surveys are impractical, there must be field surveys to determine the presence of suitable habitat unless the entire project area is suitable habitat. (§ 380.12(e)(5))	Section 3.4
6. Identify all federally listed essential fish habitat (EFH) that potentially occurs in the vicinity of the project. Provide information on all EFH, as identified by the pertinent Federal fishery management plans, that may be adversely affected by the project and the results of abbreviated consultations with NMFS, and any resulting EFH assessments. (§ 380.12(e)(6))	Section 3.1.2
7. Describe site-specific mitigation measures to minimize impacts on fisheries, wildlife, and vegetation. (§ 380.12(e)(7))	Sections 3.1.3, 3.2.3, 3.3.2, 3.4.3, and 3.4.5
8. Include copies of correspondence not provided pursuant to paragraph (e)(5) of this section, containing recommendations from appropriate Federal and state fish and wildlife agencies to avoid or limit impact on wildlife, fisheries, and vegetation, and the applicant's response to the recommendations. (§ 380.12(e)(8))	Appendix 3-A
Minimum Filing Requirements – Appendix A to Part 380 [Note: May overlap with requirements above.]	
1. Classify the fishery type of each surface waterbody that would be crossed, including fisheries of special concern. (§ 380.12(e)(1))	Section 3.1 and Section 3.1.3
2. Describe terrestrial and wetland wildlife and habitats that would be affected by the project. (§380.12(e)(2))	Section 3.3.1

Resource Report 3 Filing Requirements per 18 CFR § 380.12	
Information	**Location in Resource Report**
3. Describe the major vegetative cover types that would be crossed and provide the acreage of each vegetative cover type that would be affected by construction. (§ 380.12(e)(3))	Section 3.2.2 and Table 3.2-1
4. Describe the effects of construction and operation procedures on the fishery resources and proposed mitigation measures. (§ 380.12(e)(4)).	Section 3.1.3
5. Evaluate the potential for short-term, long-term, and permanent impact on the wildlife resources and state-listed endangered or threatened species caused by construction and operation of the project and proposed mitigation measures. (§ 380.12(e)(4)).	Section 3.3.2 and Section 3.4
6. Identify all federally listed or proposed endangered or threatened species that potentially occur in the vicinity of the project and discuss the results of the consultations with other agencies. Include survey reports as specified in § 380.12(e)(5).	Section 3.4 and Table 3.4-1
7. Identify all federally listed essential fish habitat (EFH) that potentially occurs in the vicinity of the project and the results of abbreviated consultations with NMFS, and any resulting EFH assessments. (§380.12(e)(6))	Section 3.1.2
8. Describe any significant biological resources that would be affected. Describe impact and any mitigation proposed to avoid or minimize that impact. (§§ 380.12(e)(4 & 7))	Sections 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.3.1, 3.3.2 and 3.4

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BCR	Bird Conservation Region
BMPs	best management practices
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DNH	Division of Natural Heritage
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EI	Environmental Inspector
E&SCP	Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
ESA	Endangered Species Act of 1973
°F	Fahrenheit
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FERC Plan	FERC's May 2013 version of the Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan
FERC Procedures	FERC's May 2013 version of the Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures
FR	Federal Register
IPaC	Information, Planning, and Conservation
Magnuson-Stevens Act	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
MVP	Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC
MVP Mainline	Mountain Valley Pipeline mainline
NHP	Natural Heritage Program
NLCD	National Land Cover Database
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
Project	Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project
SCS	Stream Conservation Site
SPCC Plan	Spill Prevention, Containment, and Countermeasure Plan
U.S.C.	United States Code
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VAC	Virginia Administrative Code
VDCR	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
VDWR	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
WNS	white-nose syndrome
WVDNR	West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
WVNHP	West Virginia Natural Heritage Program

RESOURCE REPORT 3
FISHERIES, VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE

Introduction

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (MVP) is seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act authorizing MVP to construct and operate the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project (Project) located in Wetzel, Braxton, and Fayette Counties, West Virginia and Montgomery County, Virginia. MVP plans to expand three existing compressor stations and construct one new compressor station to provide timely and cost-effective access to the growing demand for natural gas for use by local distribution companies, industrial users, and power generation in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern markets, as well as potential markets in the Appalachian region.

The Project will include a total addition of approximately 265,750 horsepower of compression at isometric conditions from the proposed modifications and operation at the existing Bradshaw, Harris, and Stallworth Compressor Stations, and the construction of the new Swann Compressor Station, including ancillary facilities required for safe and reliable operations. The Project will create approximately 600,000 dekatherms per day of incremental natural gas capacity on the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline mainline (MVP Mainline).

Resource Report 1 provides a complete summary of the Project facilities (Table 1.2-1) and a general location map of the Project facilities (Figure 1.2-1). For purposes of this Resource Report, the Project area is defined to be the limits of disturbance for construction at the Bradshaw, Harris, Stallworth, and proposed Swann Compressor Station sites, including ancillary facilities and offsite laydown yards.

Environmental Resource Report Organization

Resource Report 3 is prepared and organized according to the FERC *Guidance Manual for Environmental Report Preparation* (FERC 2017). This report is organized into five major sections and a separate section listing the sources used to prepare this report. Section 3.1 describes fisheries; Section 3.2 describes vegetation; Section 3.3 addresses wildlife, and Section 3.4 addresses threatened and endangered species.

3.1 FISHERY RESOURCES

MVP coordinated with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR), Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR), and Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VDCR) Division of Natural Heritage (DNH) to identify fishery resources in the Project area. Consultation with the agencies is ongoing and copies of all correspondence with resource agencies responsible for fisheries, vegetation and wildlife, including consultation letters, electronic mail, phone conversations, and meeting notes, can be found in Appendix 3-A of this report.

3.1.1 Fisheries Habitat Classification

A fishery is generically defined as a system in which the aquatic biota, aquatic habitat, and human users of these renewable resources interact and influence the system's performance (Lackey 2005). Surface water areas provide suitable habitat for fish and are categorized according to water temperature (warmwater or

coldwater), salinity (freshwater, marine, or estuarine), fish harvest (commercial or recreational), upstream areas for spawning marine fishes (anadromous species), and migration routes from freshwater to marine waters for reproduction (catadromous species). FERC defines significant fishery resources as waterbodies that either (1) provide important habitat for foraging, rearing, or spawning; (2) represent important commercial or recreational fishing areas; or (3) support large populations of commercially or recreationally valuable fish species or fish species that are protected at the federal, state, or local level.

Freshwater systems have low salinity and contain fisheries that are typically classified as either warmwater or coldwater. This designation is dependent upon the dominant species of fish (and prey items) occupying the waterbody. Warmwater fisheries are defined as capable of supporting fish able to tolerate water temperatures above 80 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) including gamefish species such as sunfish (*Centrarchidae*) and catfish (*Ictaluridae*). Coldwater fisheries are defined as waters capable of supporting year-round populations of coldwater aquatic life such as trout and their associated foraging communities (e.g., mayflies, caddisflies, and stoneflies) and the maximum monthly temperatures do not exceed 68°F. Coldwater fisheries are a stenothermic environment and, therefore, the restrictive conditions often warrant some level of protection.

West Virginia and Virginia have developed their own guidelines and regulatory systems for evaluating, classifying, and monitoring surface waters in each state. Each system includes the assignment of beneficial use designations that describe the potential or realized capacity of a waterbody to provide defined ecological and human benefits; additional information is provided in Resource Report 2.

3.1.2 Existing Fishery Resources

All surface waters in the vicinity of the Project are designated as freshwater habitats. However, there are no identified perennial or intermittent surface waters within the Project area (see Resource Report 2). Therefore, no existing fisheries resources will be directly affected by construction activities.

The nearest waterbodies to the Project area that have the potential to provide existing fisheries resources include South Fork Fishing Creek, the South Fork Roanoke River, and its tributary, Indian Run. The South Fork Fishing Creek is located adjacent to the western boundary of MVP-LY-001, an existing gravel yard in Wetzel County, West Virginia, that will be used as a laydown yard for the Bradshaw Compressor Station modifications. The South Fork Roanoke River is approximately 500 feet west of the Swann Compressor Station and its tributary, Indian Run, is approximately 400 feet southwest of the compressor station. There will be no direct impacts to these waterbodies. Given the distance of these waterbodies from the Swann Compressor Station, implementation of appropriate erosion control and sedimentation measures will avoid indirect impacts to the waterbodies and fishery resources.

3.1.2.1 Essential Fish Habitat

The 1996 amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) set forth a mandate for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), regional fishery management councils, and other federal agencies to identify and protect important marine and anadromous fish habitats. This mandate is addressed through the establishment of "essential fish habitat" (EFH) for federally managed species. The Magnuson-Stevens Act (Public Law 94-265 as amended through October 11, 1996) defines EFH as "those waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity."

According to the NMFS online EFH Mapper tool (NMFS 2025), accessed July 28, 2025, no EFH occurs within the Project area. Because the Project is located well inland of saltwater and tidal waters and does not cross known anadromous or diadromous fish migration routes, the Project area does not contain, or have the potential to support, species managed by the NMFS.

3.1.2.2 Aquatic Species Occurring Near Project

There are no identified perennial or intermittent surface waters crossed or otherwise directly impacted by the Project. However, approximately 48 species of amphibians (toads, frogs, salamanders) are known to occur in West Virginia and over 80 species in Virginia. In addition, freshwater environments in West Virginia support 65 species of mussels, while Virginia supports over 81 species. Other invertebrates include, but are not limited to, crayfish, snails and worms.

Common or potentially encountered aquatic species in the vicinity of the Project are discussed in Section 3.3.1 and listed in Table 3.3-1. These species have unique physiologies and life histories reflective of the local aquatic environment. Their distribution across the landscape often depends on existing waterbodies, and for amphibians, on the moisture, humidity, and temperature of the local environment. These species' dependency on aquatic systems makes them susceptible to impacts attributed to natural and anthropogenic stressors.

3.1.2.3 Commercial Fisheries

Commercial fishing is allowed in both West Virginia and Virginia. West Virginia is a land-locked state, with no marine surface water environments. There are no perennial or intermittent surface waters that will be crossed or otherwise directly impacted by the Project. In addition, the Project is not expected to have any impact on the take of minnows and other bait that may be taken commercially. Accordingly, the Project is not expected to impact commercial fisheries in West Virginia.

Virginia is bordered by estuarine and marine environments, and the Virginia Marine Resources Commission is a state agency commissioned to manage and regulate marine resources (Code of Virginia Title §28). Commercial fishing activities are primarily restricted to marine, estuarine and diadromous species habitats. The Project is located outside of these areas and, therefore, will have no impact on commercial fisheries in Virginia.

3.1.2.4 Fisheries of Special Concern

Waterbodies with fisheries of special concern include those that have fisheries with important recreational value, support coldwater fisheries, are included in special state fishery management regulations, or provide habitat for federally or state-listed threatened and endangered, or candidate species. Waterbodies that have significant economic value because of fish stocking programs, commercial fisheries, EFH, or tribal harvest, are also considered "fisheries of special concern." There are no perennial or intermittent surface waters directly impacted by the Project. Thus, the Project will have no impact to waterbodies considered fisheries of special concern. Federally or state-protected aquatic species are addressed in Sections 3.4.1 and 3.4.4.

3.1.3 Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Impacts and Mitigation

This section describes potential impacts and measures that will be implemented to avoid and minimize impacts on fisheries and other aquatic resources from the Project. The Project area does not include marine, estuarine, or diadromous fish environments, so fisheries associated with those environments will not be affected.

MVP has minimized potential impacts to waterbodies and riparian vegetation by the use of existing disturbed/cleared areas and laydown yards for the Project to the extent practicable. MVP does not anticipate any removal of trees and other streamside vegetation from the edges of perennial or intermittent waterbodies during construction of proposed Project facilities. All proposed laydown yards are previously disturbed areas that were authorized for use as either laydown or construction workspace for the construction of MVP Mainline (FERC Docket No. CP16-10). As such, laydown yards were sited to avoid streams and wetlands and other sensitive habitats where possible. MVP plans to use existing access roads for temporary and permanent access to the Project, thereby avoiding new waterbody crossings for access.

Construction activities will not result in direct impacts to fisheries resources or involve work in perennial or intermittent waterbodies. However, short-term impacts on fisheries and other aquatic resources associated could occur if construction results in temporary increases in sedimentation and turbidity downstream of the Project area or by the introduction of water pollutants. The nearest fisheries resource to the Project area in West Virginia is the South Fork Fishing Creek, located to the west of MVP-LY-001, an existing gravel yard that will be used as a laydown yard for the Bradshaw Compressor Station modifications. In Virginia, the Swann Compressor Station is located approximately 500 feet from the South Fork Roanoke River and approximately 400 feet from its tributary, Indian Run.

MVP will implement appropriate best management practices (BMPs) to avoid adverse effects to nearby waters. MVP will adopt FERC Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan (FERC Plan) and Wetland and Waterbody Construction and Mitigation Procedures (FERC Procedures) (May 2013 versions) (FERC 2013a, FERC 2013b) and will develop its own Project-specific Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (E&SCP) that will outline BMPs to avoid increasing sedimentation of downstream habitats and to minimize impacts on fishery resources.

Accidental spills of construction-related fluids (e.g., oil, gasoline, or hydraulic fluids) on the landscape have the potential to result in water quality impacts to downstream waterbodies, affecting fish and other organisms. Impacts to fisheries in the event of a spill would depend on the type and quantity of the spill and the dispersal and attenuation characteristics of the waterbody. These impacts can be avoided by proper management and care of hazardous fluids. Management and care of hazardous materials and fluids during construction will be addressed in MVP's Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans (Appendix 2-A1 and Appendix 2-A2 of Resource Report 2). The implementation of the SPCC Plans will avoid or minimize the potential for adverse effects on aquatic species from the accidental or unintended release of contaminants. Individual operational SPCC Plans are implemented at each existing aboveground facility that stores oil in excess of the volumes identified in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 112 to protect surface water resources during operation. An operational SPCC Plan will be developed for Swann Compressor Station.

The spread of aquatic invasive species is typically transferred by means of (but not limited to) water pipelines, boats, contaminated equipment, and interbasin transfer of waters. The direct exchange of water between drainage basins is not anticipated to occur during the Project, thereby minimizing the potential for waters contaminated with aquatic invasive species to be transferred to non-contaminated waters. Some of the potential water uses associated with Project construction include (but are not limited to) hydroseeding and dust control. MVP is proposing to use municipal water sources for dust control and other uses (see Resource Report 2). As a result, impacts from aquatic invasive species from these water uses are not anticipated.

3.2 VEGETATION

This section describes the vegetation resources potentially affected by construction and operation of the proposed Project. Included are the descriptions of various plant communities found in the Project area and methods that will be used to minimize impacts on these vegetation resources.

3.2.1 Ecoregions

Areas similar in ecosystem composition and in the type, quality, and quantity of environmental resources are generally denoted as ecoregions. Boundaries of ecoregions are delineated based on patterns observed in vegetation, animal species, geology, soil, water quality, climate, human land use, and miscellaneous living and non-living ecosystem components. Ecoregions provide a spatial framework for the research, management, and monitoring of ecosystems often employed by many federal and state agencies to develop biological criteria and resource quality standards for a given area (EPA 2025).

In West Virginia, the Western Allegheny Plateau ecoregion consists of an area extending from the northern panhandle down into the center of the state where it follows the Monongahela Transition Zone in a northeasterly direction. This ecoregion is a mostly unglaciated, dissected plateau with crestal elevations of less than 2,000 feet. It is underlain by horizontally bedded sedimentary rock that is frequently mined for coal. The soils developed from residuum and support Appalachian oak and mixed mesophytic forests. The current land uses include a mosaic of forests, urban-suburban-industrial activity, agriculture, pastures, coal mines, and oil-gas fields. The Bradshaw Compressor Station is in this ecoregion.

The Central Appalachians ecoregion consists of a high, dissected, and rugged plateau composed of sandstone, shale, conglomerate, and coal deposits. It is generally considered to be more densely forested, higher, cooler, and steeper than the Western Allegheny Plateau. The soils have developed from residuum and are mostly frigid and mesic. Crestal elevations generally increase when going east and range from approximately 1,200 to 4,600 feet. Higher elevations entail short growing seasons, high amounts of rainfall, and more extensive forest cover as compared to the lower, less rugged areas where more dairy and livestock farms, pastures, and bituminous coal mines occur. The Harris and Stallworth Compressor Stations are in this ecoregion.

The Ridge and Valley ecoregion extends from Wayne County, Pennsylvania into Virginia along a southwesterly axis. It narrows towards the south and is bordered by the higher Blue Ridge Mountains and the less deformed Allegheny and Cumberland plateaus. Sandstone, shale, limestone, and dolomite are the predominant rock types. The forested ridges and agricultural valleys are elongated, folded, and faulted with elevations ranging from approximately 500 to 4,300 feet. Forest composition varies from north to south generally with Appalachian Oak Forest to the north transitioning to the Oak-Hickory-Pine Forest to the south (CEC 2011). Appalachian Oak Forest returns near the James River. Appalachian Oak Forest is dominated by oaks, especially chestnut oak (*Quercus montana*), white oak (*Quercus alba*), northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*), black oak (*Quercus velutina*), and scarlet oak (*Quercus coccinea*), with different mixes of hickory (*Carya* spp.), black tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), and species such as Eastern white pine (*Pinus strobus*) and green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) (NatureServe 2025a). Dominant species of the Oak-Hickory-Pine Forest include hickory, longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris)*, shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata)*, loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), white oak, and post oak (*Quercus stellata*). The Ridge and Valley is significantly lower than the bordering Central Appalachians ecoregion, resulting in less severe winters, considerably warmer summers, and lower annual precipitation due to a rain shadow effect. Forest is the most dominant land use, especially on steep areas, with interspersed farming operations and

pastureland occurring in the valleys and at lower elevations. Scattered shale barrens occur on some south to west facing slopes. The Swann Compressor Station is in this ecoregion.

3.2.2 Existing Vegetation

Vegetation cover types in the vicinity of the Project area are determined by review of aerial photography, existing land use classifications, and field surveys. Descriptions of existing representative vegetation cover types in the Project area are based on the natural community classification system in the 2023 National Land Cover Database[1] (NLCD) developed by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) (USGS 2023).

Developed or managed land classes mapped in the Project area consist of agricultural land, industrial, commercial, and residential areas. Major natural vegetation land classes include forested upland (deciduous and mixed deciduous-evergreen forest), scrub-shrub land, herbaceous upland, and wetlands. There are no evergreen forests within the Project area. The following paragraphs provide a description of NLCD land classes in the Project area.

Table 3.2-1 identifies the vegetation cover types that will be impacted by all facilities during construction and operation of the Project. Where appropriate, cover types provided in the NLCD (USGS 2023) have been modified to reflect recent field experience, aerial mapping, and changes following the construction of the MVP Mainline. As a result, cover types may be different than NLCD cover acreages presented in other Resource Reports.

3.2.2.1 Agricultural Land

Agricultural lands, as identified in the NLCD, include pastureland, hay fields and cultivated crops. Pastureland and hay fields are characterized as areas of grasses, legumes, or grass-legume mixtures planted for livestock grazing or the production of seed or hay crops, typically on a perennial cycle. Cultivated crops are areas used for the production of annual crops, such as corn, soybeans, vegetables, tobacco, and cotton. Cultivated crops also include areas devoted to perennial woody crops such as orchards and vineyards. The area of agricultural land that will be impacted by all facilities during construction and operation of the Project is provided in Table 3.2-1 Within the Project area, all agricultural lands are characterized as pasture/hay.

3.2.2.2 Upland Deciduous Forest

According to the NLCD, upland deciduous forest areas are dominated by trees generally greater than 15 feet tall and contain greater than 20 percent of total vegetation cover. More than 75 percent of the tree species shed foliage simultaneously in response to seasonal change. A variety of upland deciduous forest vegetation communities are present in the Project area. The dominant type macrogroup is central oak-pine forests (TNC 2015). Montane mixed oak forests and dry calcareous forests are the dominant forest types present in the Project area.

Montane mixed oak forest is dominated by canopies consisting of red oak, white oak, chestnut oak, and black oak. Additional trees often present in the canopy to lesser degree include hickory (*Carya spp.*), sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*), and red maple, tulip-tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), magnolias (*Magnolia acuminata, Magnolia fraseri*) and sweet birch (*Betula lenta var. lenta*). White pine may also be present. Common sub-canopy species include witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana var. virginiana*), striped

[1] The annual update of the National Land Cover Database for 2024 was released in September 2024; however, the data product is not currently downloadable.

maple (*Acer pensylvanicum*), maple-leaved viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*), mountain holly (*Ilex montana*), buffalo-nut (*Pyrularia pubera*), and hazelnuts (*Corylus cornuta* var. *cornuta* and *Corylus americana*) (VDCR 2021). The herbaceous layer varies greatly and is dependent on local site conditions. Common species encountered include New York fern (*Parathelypteris noveboracensis*), galax (*Galax urceolata*), Curtis' goldenrod (*Solidago curtisii*), white wood aster (*Eurybia divaricata*), Indian cucumber-root (*Medeola virginiana*), squawroot (*Conopholis americana*), halberd-leaved yellow violet (*Viola hastata*), speckled wood lily (*Clintonia umbellulata*), devil's-bit (*Chamaelirium luteum*), mountain golden-alexanders (*Zizia trifoliata*), and American lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria pseudomajalis*) (VDCR 2021).

Dry calcareous forest is dominated by canopies consisting of chinquapin oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), black maple (*Acer nigrum*), northern red oak, white oak, Shumard oak (*Quercus shumardii*), and white ash (*Fraxinus americana*). Carolina buckthorn (*Frangula caroliniana*), round-leaved ragwort (*Packera obovata*), robin's-plantain (*Erigeron pulchellus var. pulchellus*), American beakgrain (*Diarrhena americana*), slender muhly (*Muhlenbergia tenuiflora*), black-seed ricegrass (*Patis racemosa*), hairy sunflower (*Helianthus hirsutus*), small-headed sunflower (*Helianthus microcephalus*), northern leatherflower (*Clematis viorna*), and white death-camas (*Anticlea glauca*) may be common in the understory (VDCR 2021).

The acreage of upland deciduous forest that will be impacted during construction and operation of the Project is listed in Table 3.2-1.

3.2.2.3 Scrub-Shrub Land

According to the NLCD, scrub-shrub lands are areas dominated by shrubs less than 15 feet tall with the shrub canopy typically representing greater than 20 percent of total vegetation. This class includes true shrubs, young trees in an early successional stage, or trees stunted from environmental conditions. Common shrub species can include multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), Allegheny blackberry (*Rubus allegheniensis*), black raspberry (*Rubus occidentalis*), dogwoods (*Cornus* spp.), autumn olive *(Elaeagnus umbellata*), spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), black elder (*Sambucus nigra*), mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), azaleas (*Rhododendron* spp.), sumac (*Rhus* spp.), willows (*Salix* spp.), and blueberries (*Vaccinium* spp.). The acreage of scrub-shrub land that will be impacted during construction and operation of the Project is listed in Table 3.2-1.

3.2.2.4 Herbaceous Upland

Herbaceous upland includes natural to semi-natural areas of open grassland. According to the NLCD, grassland is dominated by grammanoid or herbaceous vegetation, generally greater than 80 percent of total vegetation, and is not subject to intensive management such as tilling, but can be utilized for grazing. Common grassland species with potential to occur within the Project area include orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerata*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), common velvet grass (*Holcus lanatus*), Japanese stilt grass (*Microstegium vimineum*), Kentucky blue grass (*Poa pratensis*), meadow false rye grass (*Schedonorus pratensis*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*), giant ironweed (*Veronia gigantea*), and reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*). The acreage of herbaceous upland that will be impacted during construction and operation of the Project is listed in Table 3.2-1.

3.2.2.5 Wetlands

MVP identified wetlands in the Project area using a combination of field wetland delineations and desktop data using the USFWS National Wetland Inventory (NWI) and NLCD mapping. Wetlands in the Project

area are small, isolated features identified as palustrine emergent and palustrine scrub-shrub wetlands (see Resource Report 2). Emergent wetlands are usually dominated by perennial plants, and common plants observed include sedges (e.g. *Carex lurida*, *Carex vulpinoidea*, *Carex frankii, Cyperus esculentus, Cyperus strigosus,)*, jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), dark green bulrush (*Scirpus atrovirens*), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), white avens (*Geum canadense*), Chinese bush clover (*Lespedeza cuneata*), broadleaf cattail (*Typha latifolia*), oriental lady's thumb (*Persicaria longiseta*), curly dock (*rumex crispus*), rice cutgrass (*Leerisia oryzoide*), tall rye grass (*Schendonorus arundinaceus*), redtop (*Agrostis gigantea*), reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), Indian hemp (*Apocynum cannabinum*), velvet panicum (*Dichanthelium scoparium*), cockspur grass (*Echinochioa crus-galli*), frost aster (*Symphyotrichum pilosum*), grass-leaved golden rod (*Euthamia graminifolia*), and Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*). Scrub/shrub wetlands are characterized by woody vegetation that is generally less than 6 meters (approximately 20 feet) tall. Scrub-shrub wetlands within the Project area are typically dominated by black willow (*Salix nigra*), multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*), common pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*), spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), (e.g. *Carex vulpinoidea*), soft rush, Japanese stiltgrass, poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), and whitegrass (*Leersia virginica*).

The acreage of wetland that will be impacted during construction and operation of the Project is listed in Table 3.2-1. Additional detail about wetlands impacted by the Project is included in Resource Report 2.

3.2.2.6 Other Lands

Industrial and commercial land as mapped by the NLCD includes manufacturing or industrial plants, paved areas, landfills, mines, quarries, electric power or natural gas utility facilities, developed areas, roads, railroads and railroad yards, and commercial or retail facilities. Residential areas include existing developed residential areas and planned residential developments. This may include large developments, low, medium, and high-density residential neighborhoods, urban/suburban residential, multi-family residences, ethnic villages, and residentially zoned areas that have been developed.

NLCD data also includes a land use classified as "barren," which is generally undeveloped and unvegetated. Open water, or crossings greater than 100 feet wide and streams visible on aerial photography, but less than 100 feet in width, are also included within this category.

Industrial, commercial, residential, open water, and barren land, as classified by the NLCD, is generally not considered a vegetation type. There is no open water in the Project area. For the purpose of quantifying these types in this Resource Report, they are included as "Other." The acreage of other land use that will be impacted during construction and operation of the Project is listed in Table 3.2-1.

Table 3.2-1

Vegetation Acreage Affected by Construction and Operation of the Proposed Project

Facility, County, State	Agricultural a/		Forested/Woodland						Scrub-Shrub b/		Herbaceous c/		Wetlands d/		Other e/		Total f/	
			Deciduous		Evergreen		Mixed											
	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/
Permanent Aboveground Facilities																		
Bradshaw Compressor Station, Wetzel, WV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.3	0	6.3 h/
Harris Compressor Station, Braxton, WV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<0.1	0	0	0	5.6	0	5.6 h/
Stallworth Compressor Station, Fayette, WV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	<0.1	0	5.9	0	6.4 h/
Swann Compressor Station, Montgomery, VA	0.3	3.6	0	13.8	0	0	0	0	0	1.3	0	0.6	0	<0.1	<0.1	5.6	0.4	25.0
Laydown Yards																		
MVP-LY-001, Wetzel, WV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.7	0	2.7	0
MVP-CY-002 and MVP-CY-002A, Braxton, WV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.9	0	0.6	0	0	0	<0.1	0	1.5	0

Table 3.2-1

Vegetation Acreage Affected by Construction and Operation of the Proposed Project

Facility, County, State	Agricultural a/		Forested/Woodland						Scrub-Shrub b/		Herbaceous c/		Wetlands d/		Other e/		Total f/	
			Deciduous		Evergreen		Mixed											
	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/	Construction g/	Operation g/
Swann Laydown Yard, Montgomery, VA	13.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.2	0	17.4	0
Total	**13.5**	**3.6**	**0**	**13.8**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.9**	**1.3**	**0.6**	**1.2**	**0**	**<0.1**	**7.0**	**23.4**	**22.0**	**43.3**

Notes:

a/ Includes cultivated and pasture lands.

b/ Acreage does not match NLCD data; calculations were adjusted based on aerial imagery and knowledge of the sites.

c/ Includes grassland and herbaceous areas not general under intensive management. Acreage does not match NLCD data; calculations were adjusted based on aerial imagery and knowledge of the sites.

d/ Includes data from field delineation. Does not match NLCD data used for other vegetation/land use categories.

e/ Includes barren, open water, industrial, commercial, and residential land uses as defined in Resource Report 8. Acreage does not match NLCD data; calculations were adjusted based on aerial imagery and knowledge of the sites.

f/ Minor discrepancies in subtotals/totals are due to rounding.

g/ Land required for operation will also be used during construction of the Project. Acreage totals for land required for construction reflect only land that will not be used during operation.

h/ Most of the land within the Bradshaw, Harris, and Stallworth Compressor Stations are within the area of existing operation, as certificated for the MVP Mainline in Docket No. CP16-10-000. No acres at the Bradshaw Compressor Station, less than 0.1 acre at the Harris Compressor Station, 0.5 acre at the Stallworth Compressor Station are outside of the area of existing operation.

3.2.2.7 Unique, Sensitive, or Protected Vegetation

This section summarizes unique, sensitive, and protected vegetation in the Project area. MVP reviewed the USFWS's Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) system and consulted with the USFWS West Virginia and Virginia Field Offices regarding the potential presence of federally listed plant species in the vicinity of the Project. MVP also consulted with the state agencies, including the WVDNR, VDWR, and VDCR DNH regarding potential occurrence of unique, sensitive or protected vegetation in the vicinity of the Project. Consultation with the agencies is ongoing and copies of all correspondence with resource agencies responsible for fisheries, vegetation and wildlife, including consultation letters, electronic mail, phone conversations, and meeting notes, can be found in Appendix 3-A of this report.

West Virginia

Correspondence with the USFWS, West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office, identified two federally listed plants as having the potential to occur in the vicinity of the Project: small whorled pogonia (*Isotra medeoloides*; threatened) and Virginia spiraea (*Spiraea virginiana*; threatened). Both species were identified as having the potential to occur in the vicinity of the Stallworth Compressor Station portion of the Project area. These species are further discussed below in Section 3.4.2.

On August 1, 2025, MVP requested information from WVDNR to identify potential impacts on protected species in the vicinity of the Project. At this time, no records of rare, threatened, and endangered species or sensitive habitats occurring within the Project area have been provided. MVP will continue to consult with WVDNR and provide any copies of relevant correspondence to FERC.

Virginia

Correspondence with the USFWS, Virginia Ecological Services Field Office, identified one federally listed plant, smooth coneflower (*Echinacea laevigata*; threatened), as having the potential to occur in the vicinity of the Project. This species is further discussed below in Section 3.4.2. The USFWS did not identify any known special plant communities as potentially occurring in the vicinity of the Project area in Virginia.

On August 1, 2025, MVP requested information from the VDCR Natural Heritage Program (NHP) to identify potential impacts on protected species in the vicinity of the Project. In a response dated September 5, 2025, the VDCR noted that although smooth coneflower has the potential to occur based on a predictive model identifying potential habitat, it does not recommend surveys as warranted for the Project. The VDCR concluded that Project activities will not affect any documented state-listed plants. The VDCR did not identify any State Natural Area Preserves or other sensitive or rare plant communities in the vicinity of the Project.

3.2.2.8 Non-Native/Invasive Plant Species

An invasive species is typically a species not native to an ecosystem and causes, or is likely to cause, harm to the economy, environment, or human, animal, or plant health (USFWS 2025a). Invasive species alien to a new area often thrive due to their ability to tolerate a wide variety of habitat conditions, grow aggressively and rapidly, produce large seed quantities, and spread easily throughout the environment, in addition to the new environment's lack of natural predators or controls (USFWS 2025a). Invasive species excel in regularly disturbed areas where human activity enables the continual spread of most invasive plant species. Invasive plants can disrupt and degrade the natural vegetative community, reducing the overall habitat quality for native wildlife and vegetation. Based on field observations, the VDCR DNH Virginia Invasive Plant Species List (Heffernan et al. 2024), and WVDNR Natural Heritage Program's Invasive Plant Species

of West Virginia, high to moderately invasive plant species potentially occurring within the Project area are listed in Table 3.2-2.

Disturbances to the existing vegetation and subsequent bare ground increase the likelihood for infestations of non-native, invasive plant species. These species are usually concentrated in areas of prior or recurring disturbance such as roadsides, existing utility rights-of-way, residential use areas, and agricultural areas. MVP will implement measures in the FERC Plan and Procedures, including employing one Environmental Inspector (EI) per state who is adequately trained in field identification of highly noxious invasive plant species and will ensure equipment is free of debris before being transported to a new construction site through use of designated equipment cleaning stations to minimize the spread of non-native vegetation. During construction, the EI will ensure all contractors clean the tracks, tires, and blades of equipment to remove excess soil prior to movement of equipment out of known weed or soil-borne pest infested areas. MVP will replant areas disturbed during construction with native seed mixes (see Section 3.2.3).

Table 3.2-2

Non-Native/Invasive Plant Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area a/

Scientific Name	Common Name
Highly Invasive Plant Species b/	
Acer platanoides d/ e/ g/	Norway Maple
Ailanthus altissima d/ e/	Tree-of-heaven
Alliaria petiolate d/ e/	Garlic Mustard
Arthraxon hispidus d/ e/	Small Carpetgrass
Berberis thunbergii d/ e/ g/	Japanese Barberry
Bromus tectorum e/	Cheatgrass
Arum italicum d/	Italian arum
Celastrus orbiculatus d/ e/	Oriental Bittersweet
Centuaurea stoebe ssp. Micranthos d/ e/	Spotted Knapweed
Cirsium arvense d/	Canada Thistle
Citrus trifoliata d/	Trifoliate Orange
Coronilla varia e/	Purple Crown-Vetch
Dioscorea polystachya d/ e/	Cinnamon Vine
Elaegnus umbellate d/ e/	Autumn Olive
Euonymus alatus d/ e/	Winged Euonymus
Euonymus fortune d/ e/ g/	Winter Creeper
Iris pseudacorus d/ e/	Yellow Flag Iris
Lespedeza cuneata d/ e/	Sericea Lespedeza
Ligustrum sinense d/	Chinese Privet
Ligustrum vulgare e/	European Privet
Lolium arundinaceum e/	Tall Fescue
Lolium pratens e/	Meadow Fescue
Lonicera japonica d/ e/	Japanese Honeysuckle
Lonicera maackii d/ e/	Amur Honeysuckle
Lonicera morrowii d/ e/	Morrow's Honeysuckle

Table 3.2-2

Non-Native/Invasive Plant Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area a/

Scientific Name	Common Name
Lonicera tatarica d/ e/ g/	Tartarian Honeysuckle
Ludwigia hexapetala d/ f/	Large flower primrose willow
Ludwigia peploides var. glabrescens d/ f/	Floating primrose-willow
Lythrum salicaria d/ e/	Purple Loosestrife
Microstegium vimineum d/ e/	Japanese Stiltgrass
Murdannia keisak d/	Marsh dewflower
Myriophyllum aquaticum d/ e/	Parrot Feather
Myriophyllum spicatum d/ e/	Eurasian Water-milfoil
Oplismenus undulatifolius d/	Wavyleaf Grass
Paulownia tomentosa	Princess Tree
Persicaria perfoliata d/ e/	Mile-a-minute
Phalaris arundinacea e/	Reed Canary Grass
Phellodendron japonicum e/	Cork Tree
Phragmites australis ssp. australis d/ e/	Common Reed
Pueraria montana var. lobata d/ e/	Kudzu
Pyrus calleryana e/	Callery Pear
Reynoutria japonica var. japonica d/ e/ h/	Japanese Knotweed
Rosa multiflora d/ e/	Multiflora Rose
Rubus phoenicolasius d/ e/	Wineberry
Sorghum halepense d/ e/	Johnson Grass
Spiraea japonica e/	Japanese Spiraea
Tripidium ravennae d/ f/	Ravenna grass
Urtica dioica d/	European Stinging Nettle
Vinca minor d/ e/ g/	Periwinkle
Moderately Invasive Plant Species c/	
Acetosa acetosella d/	Sheep sorrel
Aegopodium podagraria e/	Goutweed
Agrostis capillaris d/ e/ j/	Colonial Bentgrass
Agrostis stolonifera e/	Creeping Bentgrass
Akebia quinata e/	Five-leaf Akebia
Albizia julibrissin d/ e/ i/	Mimosa/Silktree
Ampelopsis brevipedunculata e/ f/	Procelainberry
Anthoxanthum odoratum e/	Sweet Vernal Grass
Arctium minus e/	Common Burdock
Barbarea vulgaris d/e/	Yellow Rocket
Bromus commutatus e/	Meadow Brome
Bromus inermis e/	Smooth Brome
Bromus japonicus e/	Japanese Brome
Bromus sterilis	Poverty Brome

Table 3.2-2

Non-Native/Invasive Plant Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area a/

Scientific Name	Common Name
Carduus nutans e/	Nodding Thistle
Cenaturea nigrescens e/	Wocheiner Knapweed
Cenchrus purpurascens d/ f/	Fountain grass
Chelidonium majus e/	Greater Celandine
Cirsium arvense e/ f/	Canada Thistle
Cirsium vulgare d/ e/	Bull Thistle
Clematis terniflora d/	Sweet Autumn Clematis
Conium maculatum e/	Poison Hemlock
Corydalis incisa d/ e/ f/	Incised Fumewort
Cynoglossum officinale e/	Hound's-tongue
Dactylis glomerata ssp. glomerata e/	Orchard Grass
Daucus carota	Queen Anne's-Lace
Dipsacus fullonum d/	Wild Teasel
Dipsacus lacinatus	Lacinate Wild Teasel
Echium vulgare e/	Viper's Bugloss
Elaeagnus angustifolia	Russian Olive
Ficaria verna e/	Lesser Celandine
Frangula alnus e/	Glossy Buckthorn
Glechoma hederacea d/ e/	Gill-over-the-ground
Heracleum mantegazzianum d/ f/	Giant Hogweed
Hesperis matronalis e/	Dame's Rocket
Hieracium caespitosum	Meadow Hawkweed
Holcus lanatus d/	Common Velvet Grass
Humulus japonicus d/ e/ i	Japanese Hops
Hypericum perforatum	Common St. John's Wort
Hypochaeris radicata	Hairy Cat's-Ear
Lespedeza bicolor e/	Shrubby Lespedeza
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy
Ligustrum obtusifolium var. obtusifolium d/ e/	Border privet
Linaria vulgaris e/	Butter-And-Eggs
Lolium perenne spp. multiflorum e/	Perennial Ryegrass
Lonicera x bella e/	Bell's Honeysuckle
Lonicera standishii	Standish's Honeysuckle
Lysimachia nummularia d/ e/	Moneywort
Mahonia bealei d/ f/	Leatherleaf Mahonia
Melilotus officinalis e/	Sweetclover
Miscanthus sinensis d/ e/ i/	Chinese Silvergrass
Nasturtium officinale e/	Watercress
Ornithogalum nutans e/	Drooping Star of Bethlehem

Table 3.2-2

Non-Native/Invasive Plant Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area a/

Scientific Name	Common Name
Ornithogalum umbellatum e/	Star of Bethlehem
Pastinaca sativa e/	Parsnip
Paulownia tomentosa d/ e/	Royal Paulowina
Perilla frutescens e/	Beefsteak Plant
Persicaria longiseta d/	Long-bristled Smartweed
Phyllostachys aurea d/ e/ f/ i/	Golden Bamboo
Poa compressa d/ e/	Flat-stemmed Bluegrass
Poa pratensis ssp. Pratensis e/	Kentucky Bluegrass
Poa trivialis ssp. trivialis d/ e/	Rough Bluegrass
Polygonum caespitosum var. longisetum	Oriental Lady's-Thumb
Potentilla indica e/	Mock Strawberry
Pyrus calleryana d/	Callery Pear
Renoutria sachalinensis e/ f/	Giant Knotweed
Rhamnus cathartica e/	Common Buckthorn
Rhodotypos scandens d/	Jetbead
Rumex acetosella	Common Sheep Sorrel
Salvinia molesta d/ f/	Giant Salvinia
Sedum sarmentosum e/	Stonecrop
Spiraea japonica d/ e	Japanese Spiraea
Stellaria media d/ e/	Common Chickweed
Ulmus pumila d/ e/ j/	Siberian Elm
Veronica hederifolia d/	Ivy-leaved Speedwell
Verbascum Thapsus e/	Great Mullein
Wisteria sinensis d/	Chinese Wisteria

Table 3.2-2

Non-Native/Invasive Plant Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area a/

Scientific Name	Common Name

Sources: Virginia Invasive Plant Species List (Heffernan et al. 2024), WVDNR 2025a
Notes:
a/ Aquatic invasive plants occurring in Project counties do not have potential habitat in the Project area; therefore they have been removed from this list.
b/ Highly invasive species exhibit the most invasive tendencies in natural areas and native plant habitats. They pose a significant threat to native species, natural communities or the economy by disrupting ecosystem processes and causing major alterations in plant community composition and structure. They establish readily in natural systems and spread rapidly.
c/ Moderately invasive species may have minor influence on ecosystem processes, alter plant community composition, and affect community structure in at least one layer. They may become dominant in the understory layer without threatening all species found in the community. These species usually require a minor disturbance to become established. d/ Species listed on Virginia's Invasive Species List, and present in the Mountain Region (Heffernan et al. 2024).
e/ Species listed under WVDNR Invasive Species Program.
f/ Early Detection Rapid Response species. Species may not be present but have been reported in surrounding states.
g/ Species is high threat in West Virginia but moderate or low threat in Virginia.
h/ Species is high threat in Virginia but moderate threat in West Virginia.
i/ Species is moderate threat in Virginia but low threat in West Virginia.
j/ Species is moderate threat in West Virginia but low threat in Virginia.

3.2.3 Vegetation Impacts and Mitigation

This section summarizes Project construction and operation impacts on the vegetative cover types. Vegetation clearing for the Project will be predominantly associated with the Swann Compressor Station site. MVP has sited the Project to minimize clearing and disturbance to existing and undisturbed vegetation to the extent practicable. As discussed in Resource Report 1, the Project is sited entirely within the existing right-of-way, construction corridor, and/or additional temporary workspaces that were approved for the construction of the MVP Mainline, except for additional land that is required for the Swann Compressor Station site. The Swann Compressor Station site is located immediately adjacent to the MVP Mainline right-of-way and the suction and discharge facilities associated with the Swann Compressor Station will be located between the Swann Compressor Station and the existing MVP Mainline right-of-way. MVP will utilize existing access roads to each of the compressor station sites to minimize clearing. Therefore, vegetation disturbance has been reduced to the greatest extent possible.

Approximately 13.8 acres of deciduous forested land will be cleared as part of the construction and operation of the Swann Compressor Station. However, this represents a minimal percentage of similar available forested land in the area. The area within the permanent facility site will be fenced and converted to industrial use. Within the fence line, most areas in and around the buildings and associated piping and equipment will be covered with crushed rock (or equivalent) to minimize the amount of maintenance required. Permanent roads and parking areas may be crushed rock, concrete, or asphalt. The remaining area within the permanent compressor station site will typically be maintained as lawn or herbaceous vegetation to maintain access in the event of emergency repairs and allow visibility for security.

The Swann Compressor Station site will be cleared of vegetation prior to construction to provide safe working conditions. It is anticipated that minimal or no clearing will be required at the existing compressor

station sites or the laydown yards, since these sites were previously cleared as part of the construction of the MVP Mainline. The limits of disturbance for the facilities, workspace, and laydown yards will be identified and staked by the civil survey crew prior to the start of any clearing operations. At no time will MVP or its contractor clear or alter any areas outside of the boundaries of the Project area. Where needed for erosion control, the FERC Plan and the Project E&SCP that MVP will develop will be implemented. BMPs will be properly maintained throughout construction and will remain in place until permanent erosion controls are installed or restoration is completed. The compressor station site will be graded as necessary to facilitate compressor station construction and future operation.

Timber will be chipped and taken offsite for disposal, unless otherwise agreed to with the landowner. Non-merchantable brush and slash will be chipped and hauled away. All stumps will be disposed of to the satisfaction of the property owner and/or the EI.

There is no forested vegetation within the temporary workspace for the Swann Compressor Station or at the laydown yards. Removing trees in forests increases the amount of sunlight able to penetrate a forest's canopy as well as its edge. This can release shade-intolerant vegetation (i.e., daylighting), which may result in a transition of the plant community. Consequently, this can exclude some shade-tolerant species and favor shade intolerant species that can better compete with increased light levels. An increase in edge can also increase air movement along and in close proximity to the forest edge. Increased air flow can lead to desiccation along edges that may create conditions unsuitable for certain plant species that require a certain moisture level. The development of edge can also increase the presence of large herbivores (e.g., white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)) (Furedi and McGraw 2004; McGraw and Furedi 2005; Rawinski 2008). However, because of the relatively small area of clearing for the Project, relative to surrounding forested land, the impact of edge effects associated with clearing activities are anticipated to be minimal.

When feasible in areas of temporary disturbance, such as temporary workspace or laydown yards, any vegetation will be cut to ground level only, leaving the root systems intact. Erosion control measures from the FERC Plan will be implemented. Best management Practices will be properly maintained throughout construction and will remain in place until permanent erosion controls are installed, or restoration is completed.

Upon completion of construction, temporarily used areas that were previously vegetated will be seeded and allowed to revert to the pre-construction cover type. Depending on the time of year, a temporary seed mix may be broadcast or drilled until a more permanent cover can be established. Restoration of temporary workspaces and vegetated portions of laydown yards will be considered successful if the surface condition is similar to adjacent undisturbed lands, construction debris is removed, revegetation is successful, and proper drainage has been restored.

3.3 WILDLIFE

This section describes the wildlife resources potentially affected by the construction and operation of the Project. Wildlife and habitat types typically found in the Project area and methods used to avoid and minimize impacts on these resources are described. In the discussion below wildlife habitats are described based on the dominant land cover types.

3.3.1 Existing Resources

Land cover types in the Project area can be generally categorized as deciduous forest, scrub-shrubland, herbaceous upland, wetlands, and agricultural lands. In addition, industrial land is a dominant land use within the Project area, as it comprises the majority of the Project area in West Virginia. Each of these land cover types can support a diversity of wildlife with species potentially found near the Project area listed in Table 3.3-1. Although the industrial land use associated with the existing compressor stations is generally not designed for wildlife, birds, insects and small mammals may opportunistically use the area. Potential wildlife species in each land cover type were determined by accessing information provided by the state agencies (WVDNR, VDWR, VDCR), and knowledge of common wildlife species provided by qualified biologists familiar with the Project area.

Table 3.3-1

Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area

Scientific Name	Common Name
Amphibians	
Ambystoma jeffersonianum	Jefferson salamander
Ambystoma maculatum	Spotted salamander
Ambystoma opacum	Marbled salamander
Anaxyrus americanus americanus	Eastern American toad
Anaxyrus fowleri	Fowler's toad
Aneides aeneus	Green Salamander
Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis	Eastern hellbender
Desmognathus fuscus	Northern dusky salamander
Desmognathus monticola	Seal salamander
Desmognathus ochrophaeus	Alleghany mountain dusky salamander
Desmognathus orestes	Blue Ridge dusky salamander
Desmognathus quadramaculatus	Black-bellied salamander
Eurycea bislineata	Northern two-lined salamander
Eurycea cirrigera	Southern two-lined salamander
Eurycea lucifuga	Cave salamander
Gyrinophilus porphyriticus porphyriticus	Northern spring salamander
Hemidactylium scutatum	Four-toed salamander
Hyla chrysoscelis	Cope's gray treefrog
Hyla versicolor	Gray treefrog
Lithobates catesbeianus	American bullfrog
Lithobates clamitans	Green frog
Lithobates palustris	Pickerel frog
Lithobates pipiens	Northern leopard frog
Lithobates sylvaticus	Wood frog
Notophthalmus viridescens viridescens	Eastern red-spotted newt
Plethodon cinereus	Eastern red-backed salamander
Plethodon cylindraceous	White-spotted slimy salamander
Plethodon glutinosus	Northern slimy salamander

Table 3.3-1 Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area	
Scientific Name	**Common Name**
Plethodon hoffmani	Valley and Ridge salamander
Plethodon wehrlei	Wehrle's salamander
Pseudacris crucifer	Spring peeper
Pseudacris feriarum	Upland chorus frog
Pseudotriton ruber ruber	Northern red salamander
Reptiles	
Agkistrodon contortrix	Eastern copperhead
Aspidoscelis sexlineatus sexlineatus	Eastern six-lined racerunner
Carphophis amoenus amoenus	Eastern wormsnake
Chelydra serpentina	North American snapping turtle
Chrysemys picta picta	Eastern painted turtle
Coluber constrictor constrictor	Northern black racer
Crotalus horridus	Timber rattlesnake
Diadophis punctatus edwardsii	Northern ring-necked snake
Heterodon platirhinos	Eastern hog-nosed snake
Heterodon platirhinos	Eastern milksnake
Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum	Northern watersnake
Opheodrys aestivus	Northern rough greensnake
Pantherophis alleghaniensis	Eastern ratsnake
Plestiodon fasciatus	Common five-lined skink
Sceloporus undulatus	Eastern fence lizard
Terrapene carolina carolina	Eastern box turtle
Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis	Eastern gartersnake
Birds	
Accipiter cooperii	Cooper's hawk
Accipiter gentilis	Northern Goshawk
Accipiter striatus velox	Sharp-shinned hawk
Actitis macularia	Spotted sandpiper
Agelaius phoeniceus	Red-winged blackbird
Aix sponsa	Wood duck
Ammodramus savannarum pratensis	Grasshopper sparrow
Anas clypeata	Northern shoveler
Anas crecca carolinensis	Green-winged teal
Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard
Anas rubripes	American black duck
Antrostomus carolinensis	Chuck-will's-widow
Antrostomus vociferus	Eastern whip-poor-will
Archilochus colubris	Ruby-throated hummingbird
Ardea alba egretta	Great egret

Table 3.3-1 Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area	
Scientific Name	**Common Name**
Ardea herodias herodias	Great blue heron
Asio flammeus	Short-eared owl
Aythya affinis	Lesser scaup
Baeolophus bicolor	Tufted titmouse
Bartramia longicauda	Upland sandpiper
Bombycilla cedrorum	Cedar waxwing
Bombycilla garrulus	Bohemian waxwing
Bonasa umbellus	Ruffed grouse
Botaurus lentiginosus	American bittern
Branta canadensis	Canada goose
Bubo virginianus	Great horned owl
Bucephala albeola	Bufflehead
Bucephala clangula americana	Common goldeneye
Buteo jamaicensis	Red-tailed hawk
Buteo lagopus johannis	Rough-legged hawk
Buteo lineatus lineatus	Red-shouldered hawk
Buteo platypterus	Broad-winged hawk
Butorides virescens	Green heron
Calcarius lapponicus	Lapland longspur
Calcarius ornatus	Chestnut-collared longspur
Calidris bairdii	Baird's sandpiper
Calidris fuscicollis	White-rumped sandpiper
Calidris pusilla	Semipalmated sandpiper
Calidris subruficollis	Buff-breasted sandpiper
Cardellina canadensis	Canada warbler
Cardinalis cardinalis	Northern cardinal
Cathartes aura	Turkey vulture
Catharus fuscescens	Veery
Catharus guttatus	Hermit thrush
Certhia americana	Brown creeper
Chaetura pelagica	Chimney swift
Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer
Chordeiles minor	Common nighthawk
Chroicocephalus philadelphia	Bonaparte's gull
Circus hudsonius	Northern harrier
Coccothraustes vespertinus	Evening grossbeak
Coccyzus americanus	Yellow-billed cuckoo
Coccyzus erythropthalmus	Black-billed cuckoo
Colaptes auratus	Northern flicker

Table 3.3-1 Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area	
Scientific Name	**Common Name**
Columba livia	Rock pigeon
Contopus virens	Eastern wood-pewee
Coragyps atratus	Black vulture
Corvus brachyrhynchos	American crow
Corvus corax	Common raven
Coturnicops noveboracensis	Yellow rail
Cyanocitta cristata	Blue jay
Mammals	
Blarina brevicauda churchi	Northern short-tailed shrew
Blarina brevicauda kirtlandi	Northern short-tailed shrew
Canis latrans	Coyote
Castor canadensis	American beaver
Didelphis virginiana	Virginia opossum
Eptesicus fuscus	Big brown bat
Glaucomys volans volans	Small eastern flying squirrel
Lasionycteris noctivagans	Silver-haired bat
Lasiurus borealis	Eastern red bat
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary bat
Lontra canadensis	River otter
Lynx rufus rufus	Bobcat
Marmota monax	Groundhog
Martes pennanti	Fisher
Mephitis mephitis	Striped skunk
Microtus pennsylvanicus	Meadow vole
Myotis lucifugus	Little brown bat
Myotis lseptentrionalis	Northern long-eared bat
Neogale frenata	Long-tailed weasel
Neogale vison	American mink
Odocoileus virginianus	Virginia white-tailed deer
Ondatra zibethicus	muskrat
Parascalops breweri	Hairy-tailed mole
Perimyotis subflavus	Tricolored bat
Peromyscus leucopus	White-footed mouse
Peromyscus maniculatus	Deer mouse
Procyon lotor	Common racoon
Sciurus carolinensis	Eastern gray squirrel
Sciurus niger	Fox squirrel
Sorex cinereus	Masked shrew
Sciurus vulgaris	Red squirrel

Table 3.3-1 Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur in the Project Area	
Scientific Name	**Common Name**
Urocyon cinereoargenteus	Gray fox
Ursus americanus	American black bear
Vulpes vulpes	Red fox
Sources: VDWR 2025a, WVDNR 2025b	

3.3.1.1 Upland Deciduous Forest

Forested upland is the most abundant land cover type other than industrial land use within the Project area and surrounding the Project area. Forested uplands range from forest edges surrounding the existing compressor stations, previously disturbed, replanted workspaces, and areas near roads and agricultural areas, to more forested land with interior forest characteristics within the Swann Compressor Station site.

Most of the forested upland within the Project area consists of deciduous forests. Mammals that frequently use deciduous forests in this region include white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus virginianus*), little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) and fox squirrel (*Scirurus niger*). A variety of herpetofauna can also be found in these habitats in this region, including the eastern box turtle (*Terrapene carolina*), northern copperhead (*Agkistradon contortix*), spotted salamander (*Ambystoma maculatum*), and wood frog (*Lithobates sylvatica*). Resident and migrating birds also utilize these habitats. The great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), red-bellied woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*), and blue jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) are resident birds commonly found within this land cover. Migratory songbirds that nest in this area include wood thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) and Cerulean warbler (*Setophaga cerulea*).

3.3.1.2 Scrub-Shrubland

The early successional forest-structure found in scrub-shrublands provides habitat for a diverse assemblage of species. This diversity is demonstrated by the many bird species that commonly forage and nest in these areas. Some birds include prairie warbler (*Setophaga discolor*), eastern towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*), song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), indigo bunting (*Passerina cyanea*), white-eyed vireo (*Vireo griseus*), yellow-breasted chat (*Icteria virens*), brown thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*), and blue-winged warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*). Birds of prey, such as Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) and eastern screech owl (*Megascops asio*), will hunt along the forest-edge in shrublands to take advantage of the abundant prey.

White-footed mouse (*Peromyscus leucopus*), eastern cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), and red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) are common mammals that occur in shrub-scrub habitat. The northern rough greensnake (*Opheodrys aestivus*) and northern black racer (*Coluber constrictor constrictor*) are examples of herpetofauna found in this habitat type.

3.3.1.3 Herbaceous Upland

These natural to semi-natural grasslands support species adapted to living in open areas that are dominated by grasses and forbs. Common nesting grassland birds include eastern meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*), vesper sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus*), and grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*). American kestrels (*Falco sparverius*) and eastern bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) prefer these open areas and nest where

suitable cavities (e.g., snags) are available. These open habitats provide an abundance of food and basking locations for reptiles such as the eastern gartersnake (*Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis*), northern brownsnake (Storeria dekayi dekayi), and eastern milksnake (*Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum*).

The groundhog (*Marmota monax*) is an open-area specialist that inhabits grassland areas, while mammals such as the meadow vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*) and coyote (*Canis latrans*) are generalists that occur in this habitat.

3.3.1.4 Wetlands

A variety of resident and migratory birds are found in wetlands, including common yellowthroat (*Geothylpis trichas*), yellow warbler (*Setophaga petechia*), tree swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*), red-winged blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), swamp sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*), and green heron (*Butorides virescens*).

Wetlands support a diversity of herpetofauna, including spring peeper (*Pseudocris crucifer*), upland chorus frog (*Pseudacris feriarum*), green frog (*Lithobates clamitans*), bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*), eastern red-spotted newt (*Notophthalmus viridescens*), four-toed salamander (*Hemidactylium scutatum*), queensnake (*Regina septemvittata*), snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*), and eastern painted turtle (*Chrysemys picta*). Salamanders in the family Ambystomatidae, such as the spotted salamander and Jefferson salamander (*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*), spend most of their lives underground, but come out in spring following rains to migrate to vernal pools and other wetlands to breed.

Muskrat (*Ondatra zibethiucs*) and American beaver (*Castor canadensis*) both inhabit wetlands and play important roles in the maintenance of this habitat. Other mammals found in wetlands include the raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), and white-tailed deer.

3.3.1.5 Agricultural Lands

These lands include pasture, hay fields, and cultivated crops. These areas can serve as a surrogate habitat for species adapted to living in open area habitats (e.g., grasslands). Some species that tend to occur in agricultural lands include the brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*), horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), and barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*). Seasonally flooded fields can serve as stopover sites for migrating waterfowl such as the ring-necked duck (*Aythya collaris*), lesser scaup (*Aythya affinis*), and hooded merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*).

A variety of mammals will utilize agricultural lands for foraging and cover, including white-tailed deer, raccoon, groundhog, and deer mice (*Peromyscus maniculatus*). Eastern ratsnakes can take advantage of the large number of rodents and small mammals attracted to these habitats.

3.3.1.6 Significant or Sensitive Wildlife Habitat

There are no significant or sensitive wildlife habitats in the Project area; therefore, it is anticipated that no significant or sensitive wildlife habitats will be affected by the Project. Further details regarding potential occurrence of state and federally listed threatened and endangered species in the vicinity of the Project are discussed in Section 3.4.

3.3.1.7 Migratory Birds

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (16 United States Code §§ 703-711; [MBTA]) affords protection to all birds listed in 50 CFR § 10.13 (78 Federal Register [FR] 65844, 65864). In addition to MBTA, bald

and golden eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus* and *Aquila chrysaetos*, respectively) are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (16 United States Code §§ 668-688d).

According to the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern 2021 report, the Project is located within Bird Conservation Region (BCR) 28 (Appalachian Mountains). Each BCR maintains a list of Birds of Conservation Concern that include migratory and non-migratory birds that are of conservation concern and are considered species that, without additional conservation measures, may become candidates for listing under the Endangered Species Act (USFWS 2021a). A preliminary list of 16 Birds of Conservation Concern potentially occurring in the Project area was generated using the USFWS's IPaC decision support system (accessed August 4, 2025) (Table 3.3-2). Suitable wintering or breeding habitat exists within the Project area for all of the Birds of Conservation Concern, and 14 of the 16 have breeding ranges overlapping with the Project area.

Table 3.3-2

USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern

Bird Conservation Region 28 (Appalachian Mountains) and Bird Conservation Region 29 (Piedmont)				
Common Name	**Scientific Name**	**Habitat Type**	**Suitable Habitat Present Within Project Area**	**Breeding Range within Project Area**
Bald Eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	Forests adjacent to large water systems	Yes	Yes
Black-billed Cuckoo	*Coccyzus erythropthalmus*	Forest edges, tree groves, and thickets often adjacent to streams or marches	Yes	Yes
Black-capped Chickadee	*Poecile atricarillus practicus*	Mixed and deciduous forests, willow thickets, or groves	Yes	Yes
Bobolink	*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*	Open meadows, fields and prairie	Yes	Yes
Canada Warbler	*Cardellina canadensis*	Mature hardwood forests preferably near streams and swamps	Yes	Yes
Cerulean Warbler	*Setophaga cerulea*	Deciduous forests, especially in river valleys	Yes	Yes
Chimney Swift	*Chaetura pelagica*	Developed and undeveloped areas; forests, fields, rivers, and lakes	Yes	Yes
Eastern Whip-poor-will	*Antrostomus vociferus*	Open, dry deciduous or mixed forests, forest edges or openings	Yes	Yes
Golden Eagle	*Aquila chrysaetos*	Open or partially open shrublands, grasslands, coniferous forests, farmlands, riverine systems	Yes	No
Golden-winged Warbler	*Vermivora chrysoptera*	Open woodlands, brushy clearings, undergrowth	Yes	Yes

Table 3.3-2

USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern

Bird Conservation Region 28 (Appalachian Mountains) and Bird Conservation Region 29 (Piedmont)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat Type	Suitable Habitat Present Within Project Area	Breeding Range within Project Area
Kentucky Warbler	*Geothylpis formosa*	Deep shaded woods with dense, humid thickets, bottomlands near creeks and rivers, ravines in upland deciduous forests, swamp edges	Yes	Yes
Prairie Warbler	*Setophaga discolor*	Brushing slash, bush pastures, low pines	Yes	Yes
Prothonotary Warbler	*Protonotaria citrea*	Wooded swamps, wetlands, river bottom hardwoods	Yes	Yes
Red-headed Woodpecker	*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*	Groves, farm country, orchards, shade trees in towns, large, scattered trees	Yes	Yes
Rusty Blackbird	*Euphagus carolinus*	River groves, wooded swamps, muskeg in summer	Yes	No
Wood Thrush	*Hylocichla mustelina*	Deciduous woodlands	Yes	Yes

Sources: NatureServe 2021; USFWS 2021a

3.3.2 Wildlife Impacts and Mitigation

Temporary wildlife impacts are those associated with disturbance activities during Project construction, whereas permanent impacts are associated with conversion of forested habitats to developed, scrub-shrub or herbaceous habitats within the area of permanent facility operation. Indirect, short-term impacts to wildlife associated with construction noise and increased human activity are expected to be temporary, and could result in abandoned or delayed reproductive efforts, displacement from the Project area, and complete avoidance of active work areas. Direct mortality to less mobile species of small wildlife could occur during clearing and grading operations. Specifically, wildlife could be crushed while on the surface or, in the case of subterranean species, while underground when tunnels or burrows are collapsed due to heavy equipment directly aboveground.

Effects on non-forested habitat impacted outside of the permanent compressor station facilities during construction will be temporary, and these areas are expected to recover quickly once construction is completed and restoration is initiated. The temporary effects on these habitats will have little or no long-term impact on individual wildlife species or wildlife populations. Temporary loss of herbaceous cover during the construction and installation of the facilities will potentially reduce habitat normally utilized by insect pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, or by ground nesting songbirds. By implementing the FERC Plan and Procedures and incorporating native grasses and wildflowers into seed mixtures during the restoration, herbaceous habitat in temporary workspaces and laydown yards is expected to return to pre-construction conditions.

Forested habitats will be impacted to a greater extent due to the long-term conversion of an area of the Swann Compressor Station site to industrial use. Tree removal associated with Project construction will permanently reduce available nesting, roosting, and denning sites for woodland wildlife species. Fragmentation of the forest also has the potential to deprive interior forest wildlife species, such as warblers and salamanders of the necessary shade and humidity that only deep, canopied-forest environments can provide. New corridors traversing forested tracts may inhibit movement of forest interior species which are more reluctant to cross large openings to due to the increased risk of predation (Bennett 2003).

Construction activities occurring during the nesting season for migratory birds (approximately April 1 to August 31) could affect migratory birds. Some potential effects caused by Project construction may include habitat loss, disruption in foraging activities, and impacts to nests and nesting activities. The proposed construction areas represent a small portion of the available nesting habitat within the immediate vicinity. MVP will implement measures during Project development, construction, and operation to avoid and minimize effects to migratory birds. These measures will include:

- Siting Project facilities to avoid sensitive resources where possible;
- Co-locating Project facilities with or adjacent to existing pipeline or utility right-of-ways where feasible;
- Environmental training of MVP personnel and inspection of construction and restoration activities;
- Minimizing habitat fragmentation to the maximum extent possible;
- Adhering to measures outlined in the FERC Plan and Procedures during construction and develop a Project-specific E&SCP; and
- MVP plans to conduct tree clearing between April 1 – November 15 (see Section 3.4.3.3), which avoids potential impacts during the nesting season for most migratory birds (April 1 to August 31).

3.4 ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SPECIAL CONCERN SPECIES

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (16 United States Code [U.S.C.] §§ 1531-1544) provides for the listing, conservation, and recovery of endangered and threatened species of plants and wildlife. Under the ESA, plants and animals provide aesthetic, ecological, educational, historic, and scientific value to the United States. The USFWS is mandated to monitor and protect all federally listed freshwater and terrestrial species, whereas NMFS is responsible for marine species. A federally listed endangered species is any species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. A federally listed threatened species is any species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

The ESA also provides protection for "critical habitat" that, as defined by the USFWS, are (1) specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species, at the time of listing, on which are found those physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the species and which may require special management considerations or protections; and (2) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species at the time it is listed and are determined to be areas essential for the conservation of the species.

Under provisions of the ESA, all states were granted the authority to enact their own species protection policies. State-specific regulations are as follows:

The Virginia Endangered Species Act (29.1-563 to 29.1-570) provides that the VDWR is the state regulatory authority over federally or state listed endangered or threatened fish and wildlife in the Commonwealth. State-listed species are provided protection per VDWR Regulation 4 Virginia Administrative Code (VAC 15-20-130. The law authorizes the Board of the VDWR to adopt the federal list of endangered and threatened species, to declare by regulation that species not listed by the federal government are endangered or threatened in Virginia, and to prohibit by regulation the taking, transportation, processing, sale, or offer for sale of those species. Implementing regulations pursuant to this authority (4 VAC 15-20-130 through 140) define "take" and other terms similarly to the federal ESA.

West Virginia currently does not have state laws pertaining to threatened and endangered species. Rare species are assigned "State Ranks" by the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program (WVNHP) and range in value from S1 (critically imperiled) to S5 (Secure). Species with state ranks of S1, S2 (imperiled), and S3 (vulnerable) are tracked by the WVNHP.

MVP reviewed the USFWS online IPaC system and requested records of any known federally listed, state-listed, or rare species in the vicinity of the Project from the USFWS, VDWR, VDCR, and WVDNR. Qualified biologists familiar with the Project area and sensitive species reviewed in relevant proximity to the Project area. This list is provided as Table 3.4-1.

Agency correspondence including initial consultation letters, electronic mail, telephone conferences, and meeting notes are provided in Appendix 3-A.

3.4.1 Federally Protected Aquatic Species

According to the NMFS online EFH mapper tool (NMFS 2025), no EFH occurs within the Project area. The Project occurs well inland of saltwater or tidal waters and there are no known anadromous or catadromous fish migration routes in the Project area. As such, protected marine species are not discussed further.

Based on coordination with the USFWS, VDCR and WVDNR, three federally listed aquatic species and one aquatic species proposed for federal listing potentially could occur in relevant proximity to the Project (Table 3.4-1).

The Roanoke logperch (*Percina rex)* was also listed in the IPaC review for the Project in Virginia, but the USFWS delisted the species on August 21, 2025, and it, therefore, is not discussed further in this section (see Section 3.4.4). Additional coordination is ongoing with VDWR, and VDCR. MVP will continue to coordinate with the USFWS, WVDNR, VDWR, and VDCR regarding rare, threatened, and endangered aquatic species.

Table 3.4-1

Federally and State-Listed Fish, Plant, and Wildlife Species with the Potential to Occur in Relevant Proximity to the Project

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status		
		Federal a/	WV b/	VA b/
Fish				
Roanoke Logperch	*Percina rex*	-	-	SE
Orangefin Madtom	*Noturus gilberti*	-	-	ST
Mollusks				
Salamander Mussel	*Simpsonaias ambigua*	PE	-	-
Snuffbox	*Epioblasma triquetra*	LE	FE	FE
Longsolid	*Fusconaia subrotunda*	LT	FT	FT
Round Hickorynut	*Obovaria subrotunda*	LT	FT	FT
Insects				
Monarch butterfly	*Danaus plexippus*	PT	-	-
Spatulate Stonefly	*Allocapnia simmonsi*	-	-	ROC
Mammals				
Indiana bat	*Perimyotis subflavus*	LE	FE	FE
Northern long-eared bat	*Myotis septentrionalis*	LE	FE	FE
Tricolored bat	*Perimyotis subflavus*	PE	-	SE
Gray Bat	*Myotis grisescens*	LE	FE	FE
Plants				
Smooth Coneflower	*Echinacea laevigata*	LT	FT	FT, ST
Small Whorled Pogonia	*Pogonia Isotria medeoloides*	LT	FT	FT, SE
Virginia Spiraea	*Spiraea virginiana*	LT	FT	FT, SE

Notes:
a/ LE = Listed Endangered; LT = Listed Threatened; PE = Proposed Endangered; PT= Proposed Threatened; C = Candidate for Listing; FT(S/A) = Federally designated Threatened Due to Similarity of Appearance; SOC = Species of Concern
b/ FE = Federally Endangered; FT = Federally Threatened; SE = State Endangered; ST = State Threatened; ROC = VDCR-DNH natural heritage resource of concern
Sources:
Roble 2025; Townsend 2025; VDWR 2025b; 2VAC5-320-10; 4VAC15-20-130.

The aquatic species identified in Table 3.4-1 are discussed in the following subsections.

3.4.1.1 Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*)

The salamander mussel is a small freshwater mussel in the Unionidae family (pearly mussels) with an elliptical thin shell that reaches approximately 1.5 to 2 inches (USFWS 2025b). The species was historically found in Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, West Virginia, Wisconsin. This species inhabits swift-flowing rivers and streams, favoring areas with abundant flat rocks and stones that provide shelter beneath slab rocks or within crevices (WVDNR 2023). The salamander mussel's distribution in West Virginia is primarily associated with the Ohio River and its tributaries, where these habitat features are prevalent. Its lifecycle is uniquely tied to the mudpuppy

(*Necturus maculosus*), an aquatic salamander that serves as its host. The presence of suitable host populations and clean, well-oxygenated, fast-flowing water with stable rocky substrates is critical for the survival of this species. Due to its specialized habitat requirements and limited distribution, the salamander mussel is considered vulnerable to habitat disturbances such as sedimentation, pollution, and alterations to stream flow (USFWS 2023a).

An IPaC review with USFWS indicated that this species potentially could occur in relevant proximity to the Project in Wetzel and Braxton Counties, West Virgina. Nevertheless, the Project will not affect any waterbodies in Wetzel or Braxton Counties that could support salamander mussel occurence. The South Fork Fishing Creek is located to the west of the existing gravel yard at MVP-LY-001, but the confined nature of the Project, together with MVP's implementation of appropriate erosion and sediment control measures and other conservation measures, will avoid and minimize the potential for adverse effects to freshwater mussels, including salamander mussels.

3.4.1.2 Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*)

The snuffbox is a small to medium-sized (1.8 to 2.8 inches) freshwater mussel typically characterized by a yellow, green, or brown shell interrupted by green rays or blotches (USFWS 2012a). The shell darkens with age. Females typically have a triangular-shaped shell whereas males are more oblong or oval. Adults burrow deep within sand, gravel, or cobble substrates, preferably in small to medium-sized streams with swift currents (USFWS 2012a). Individuals are occasionally found in larger rivers. This species is widely distributed and found in many states including Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin (USFWS 2015). The snuffbox was listed as federally endangered on February 14, 2012 (USFWS 2012b).

An IPaC review with USFWS indicated that this species potentially could occur in relevant proximity to the Project in Braxton and Wetzel Counties, West Virgina. Critical habitat for this species has been designated in numerous waterbodies; however, the closest designated critical habitat is over 30 miles from the Harris Compressor Station (89 FR 240:101100). The Project will not affect any waterbodies in Wetzel or Braxton Counties that could support snuffbox occurrence. The South Fork Fishing Creek is located to the west of the existing gravel yard at MVP-LY-001, but the confined nature of the Project, together with MVP's implementation of appropriate erosion and sediment control measures and other conservation measures, will avoid and minimize the potential for adverse effects to freshwater mussels, including snuffbox.

3.4.1.3 Longsolid (*Fusconaia subrotunda*)

The longsolid is a medium-sized freshwater mussel in the Unionidae family (pearly mussels) with a thick shell up to 5 inches in length (USFWS 2022a). Life history information is limited but studies indicate the species can live up to at least 32 years (USFWS 2022a). The species appears to prefer sandy to gravelly habitat in streams and small rivers but has been observed in coarser sediments as well. The species was listed as threatened under the ESA in 2023 (USFWS 2023b).

An IPaC review with USFWS indicated that this species potentially could occur in relevant proximity to the Project in Braxton County, West Virginia. Critical habitat for this species has been designated in numerous waterbodies in Braxton County, with the closest designated critical habitat over 40 miles from the Harris Compressor Station (88 FR 46:14794). The Project will not affect any waterbodies in Braxton County that could support longsolid occurrence. The confined nature of the Project and its distance from any potential mussel streams, together with MVP's implementation of appropriate erosion and sediment

control measures and other conservation measures, will avoid and minimize the risk of adverse effects to freshwater mussels, including longsolid.

3.4.1.4 Round Hickorynut (*Obovaria subrotunda*)

Round hickorynut is a small to medium thick-shelled freshwater mussel. They average less than 2.4 inches but can grow up to 3 inches in length (USFWS 2022b). The shells are generally round in shape and adults often have a greenish hue. The species is generally found in sand and gravel in riffle, run, and pool habitats in streams and rivers but has also been observed in shallow, low-flow habitats and those with sandy mud substrate (USFWS 2022b). The species was listed as threatened under the ESA in 2023 (USFWS 2023b).

An IPaC review with USFWS indicated that this species potentially could occur in relevant proximity to the Project in Braxton County, West Virginia. Critical habitat for this species has been designated in waterbodies within Braxton County, with the closest designated critical habitat over 40 miles from the Harris Compressor Station (88 FR 46:14794). The Project will not affect any waterbodies in Braxton County that could support round hickorynut occurrence. The confined nature of the Project and its distance from any potential mussel streams, together with MVP's implementation of appropriate erosion and sediment control measures and other conservation measures, will avoid and minimize the risk of adverse effects to freshwater mussels, including round hickorynut.

3.4.2 Protected Plant Species

Based on coordination with the USFWS, VDCR and WVDNR, three federally listed plant species potentially could occur in relevant proximity to the Project (Table 3.4-1). Each is discussed in the following subsections.

3.4.2.1 Smooth Coneflower (*Echincacea laevigata*)

Smooth coneflower is an herbaceous perennial in the aster family (*Asteraceae*) growing up to 3 to 4 feet tall from a vertical root stock (USFWS 1995a). Basal leaves may reach 8 inches in length and 3 inches wide and are smooth to slightly rough in texture (USFWS 1995a). Stems are smooth and contain fewer leaves than the base. Flower heads are usually solitary and contain 13 to 21 rays that are light pink to purplish, usually drooping, and 2 to 3.2 inches long (USFWS 1995a). Flowering occurs from late May through mid-July, with fruits developing from late June to September. Fruiting structures often persist through autumn. Smooth coneflower prefers open, sunny areas where competition from other plants is minimal, and it requires neutral to alkaline soils rich in calcium and magnesium in well drained areas (USFWS 1995a). Scattered populations are found in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia (USFWS 1995a). It was listed as federally endangered on October 8, 1992, and downlisted to threatened July 6, 2022. The USFWS has not designated critical habitat for the species (USFWS 2025c).

An IPaC review with the USFWS indicated that the species potentially could occur in relevant proximity to the Project in Montgomery County, Virginia. MVP has consulted with the VDCR NHP for the Project. In correspondence dated September 5, 2025, VDCR indicated that although a predictive model identifies the potential for suitable habitat for smooth coneflower to occur in the vicinity of the Project area, VDCR did not recommend that MVP perform field surveys for the Project (Appendix 3-A). Nevertheless, smooth coneflower was not detected in surveys conducted in adjacent areas prior to construction along the MVP Mainline. Based on the limited potential for occurrence of smooth coneflower in relevant proximity to the Project, adverse effects are not likely.

3.4.2.2 Small Whorled Pogonia (*Isotria meleoloides*)

Small whorled pogonia, a member of the orchid family, has a single gray-green stem (2 to 10 inches tall) and a whorl of five to six leaves at the top of the stem (USFWS 1995b, 2022c). The leaves are gray-green, oblong, and can reach 1 to 3.5 inches (USFWS 1995b). A single or pair of green-yellow flowers appears in May or June (USFWS 1995b, 2022c). Small whorled pogonia is found in mature, hardwood stands of beech (*Fagus* spp.), birch (*Betula* spp.), maple, oak (*Quercus* spp.), and hickory (*Carya* spp.) with an open understory (USFWS 1992a, 2022c). Small whorled pogonia prefers acidic soils under a thick layer of dead leaves, often on slopes adjacent to small streams (USFWS 1992a, USFWS 2008).

Although widely distributed across 18 eastern states (USFWS 2025c), small whorled pogonia is rare, with populations typically containing less than 30 stems (USFWS 2022c). It was listed as federally endangered in 1982 but was reclassified to threatened in 1994 (USFWS 2025c). The USFWS has not designated critical habitat for small whorled pogonia.

An IPaC review with the USFWS indicated that the species potentially could occur in relevant proximity to the Project in Fayette County, West Virginia. Nevertheless, small whorled pogonia was not detected in surveys conducted in the vicinity of the Stallworth Compressor Station prior to construction of the MVP Mainline. The Project area in Fayette County for the expansion of the Stallworth Compressor Station is entirely located within the previously approved limits of disturbance for the MVP Mainline that were the subject of previous survey and consultation, and mature forest is no longer present within the proposed area of construction for the Project. Therefore, based on the previous surveys and lack of suitable habitat, it is unlikely that small world pogonia occurs in the Project area. As a result, the Project is not likely to adversely affect the species.

3.4.2.3 Virginia Spiraea (*Spiraea virginiana*)

Virginia spiraea is a perennial shrub 3 to 13 feet tall forming dense thickets with erect or arching stems (USFWS 2022d). Leaves (1 to 6 inches) are alternate, lance-shaped, oval, or oblong, and taper to a short leaf stalk. Leaf edges are smooth or toothed only above the middle, and lower surfaces are a powdery white (USFWS 2022d). Small (< 0.25 inch), white flowers (5 petals) form showy clusters approximately 2 to 3 inches wide (USFWS 2022d). Fruit pods occur in clusters from August to October. Virginia spiraea is found along scoured banks of high gradient streams or on meander scrolls, point bars, natural levees, and braided features of lower stream reaches (USFWS 1992b). This species requires occasional scouring floods to reduce competition from other shrubs. Most existing populations of Virginia spiraea consist of only a few plants in scattered locations in Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia (USFWS 1992b, USFWS 2025c). Virginia spiraea was listed as federally threatened on June 15, 1990, but the USFWS has not designated critical habitat for the species (USFWS 2025c). Populations are estimated to be stable in Virginia and stable to decreasing in West Virginia (USFWS 2021b).

An IPaC review with the USFWS indicated that the species potentially could occur in relevant proximity to the Project in Fayette County, West Virginia. However, Virginia spiraea was not detected in surveys conducted in the vicinity of the Stallworth Compressor Station prior to construction of the MVP Mainline. The Project area in Fayette County for the expansion of the Stallworth Compressor Station is entirely located within the previously approved limits of disturbance for the MVP Mainline that were the subject of previous survey and consultation. Moreover, there are no streams or areas subject to flooding within the Stallworth Compressor Station site or in relevant proximity to the Project area in Fayette County. As a

result, Virginia spiraea is not anticipated to occur in relevant proximity to the Project, and the Project is not likely to adversely affect the species.

3.4.3 Federally Protected Wildlife Species

Based on coordination with the USFWS, state agencies, and a review of the USFWS IPaC system, three federally listed wildlife species and two species proposed for federal listing could potentially occur in relevant proximity to the Project (Table 3.4-1; USFWS 2025d). MVP will continue to coordinate with the USFWS and state agencies as warranted and provide FERC with any additional information received from these agencies.

3.4.3.1 Federally Listed and Proposed Bat Species

Any listed or proposed bats that occur in relevant proximity to the Project could experience impacts from exposure to dust, noise, light, or water quality degradation generated by construction, operation, or maintenance activities, absent the implementation of conservation measures.

Dust: Fugitive dust generation may occur during site preparation, project construction, and access road use. Dust can coat natural and anthropogenic surfaces. At high levels, dust deposition can damage plants and affect the diversity of ecosystems, thereby degrading habitat quality for bats. Whether bats may experience direct effects from exposure to dust is unknown, but it is likely that high concentrations or long-term exposure to dust would be needed to result in an adverse effect to bats, and potentially only if the dust is toxic. To avoid and minimize the potential for adverse effects from dust, MVP will implement the dust control and suppression measures discussed in Section 3.4.3.3.

Light: Lighting can affect the behavior and biology of bats during foraging, commuting, emergence, roosting, or hibernation. Artificial lighting could delay emergence of bats from their roost at sundown. Given that insect densities decline rapidly at sundown (Speakman et al. 1991), delayed emergence could cause bats to miss important foraging time and negatively affect the fitness of individuals. Light may also change the composition and abundance of insect prey, which is potentially harmful if bats harvest fewer or less nutritious prey or prey that require a higher metabolic expenditure to catch and consume. Insects may be attracted away from dark areas, negatively affecting bats by reducing prey availability for bats that do not forage in lit areas. Light can potentially prevent or reduce foraging activity, effectively causing a loss of foraging areas.

Light may also change the ways bats move through a landscape by causing commuting bats to take indirect routes among roosting and foraging sites and by making bats avoid some sites. Bats using sub-optimal routes may fly farther, increasing metabolic costs and flight time, which could increase exposure to predators and adverse weather conditions. If alternative routes are not available, colonies may be isolated from their foraging areas, potentially forcing them to abandon their roosts.

To avoid and minimize the potential for adverse effects from light, MVP will implement the light-specific conservation measures discussed in Section 3.4.3.3.

Noise: Exposure to above-ambient noise levels may startle or displace bats, decrease time spent roosting or foraging, increase time in flight to search for and travel to alternative habitat, or interfere with acoustic communication. While increased noise may mask echolocation signals, bats can reduce signal masking through a variety of behavioral and physiological mechanisms (Ulanovsky

et al. 2004, Gillam et al. 2007), allowing them to habituate to noisy environments (Bunkley et al. 2015, California Department of Transportation [Caltrans] 2016).

While noise impacts will depend on the intensity, frequency, and duration of exposure to sound, acute acoustic trauma is not reasonably anticipated from general construction, operation, or maintenance activities due to bats' physiological adaptations to prevent noise overexposure (Caltrans 2016).

The predicted noise levels resulting from operation of the Project range from 43.0 – 52.3 dBA, L_{dn} (MVP 2025, which falls below the FERC compressor station noise limit (55 dBA L_{dn}; MVP 2025, FERC 2007). The potential noise increase at the Project ranges from 0.0 – 3.9 dBA, measured at distances between 0.3 mile and 0.6 mile in various compass directions. The largest potential increase in noise over existing conditions (3.9 dBA; MVP 2025) is considered barely perceptible to humans (National Hearing Conservation Association 2025). While measurements were taken to approximate impacts to a human receptor and exposure to noise by bats may not be fully described by these metrics, the minor increase suggests that the Project will likely not result in an increase in noise from the current operation and that the operation of a new compressor station, if perceived at all, would not meaningfully influence bat behavior. Additionally, bats are known to habituate to repeated and prolonged noise (Luo et al. 2014), further supporting that the minor increase in noise at each compressor station will not have a biological impact on bats.

Blasting activities may produce sudden, temporary, loud noise and seismic vibration. In Resource Report 9, MVP analyzed the construction blasting impact and found that ground vibration and overpressure levels from blasting are predicted to be below the limits established in regulations for Virginia, West Virginia and Montgomery County, Virginia, for ground vibration and overpressure levels due to blasting activities. Blasting in close proximity could impact the structure of any hibernacula occurring in relevant proximity or adversely affect hibernating bats occupying those features. It also could change hydrology or airflow that may impact the suitability of a hibernaculum (USFWS 2024a). One known northern long-eared bat hibernaculum is located approximately 2 miles from the Harris Compressor Station, and one known tricolored bat hibernaculum is located approximately 2 miles from the Swann Compressor Station. Since the hibernacula are more than 0.5 mile (USFWS 2025e) from the compressor stations and impacts from construction, operation, or maintenance activities are unlikely to extend 2 miles from the Project, there will be no impacts to the hibernacula or hibernating bats.

Blasting in close proximity to suitable roosting habitat could disturb or displace roosting bats (USFWS 2024a). MVP has prepared a general Blasting Plan, provided in Appendix 6-A of Resource Report 6, which prescribes site-specific blasting plans be developed based on the conditions of each location prior to any blasting event that is required. If blasting occurs during the bat active season (April 1 – November 15) at the Harris or Swann Compressor Stations, MVP will implement conservation measures to avoid adversely affecting bats.

Water Quality: During land-disturbing activities, stormwater runoff from upland areas may potentially carry sediment and pollutants into aquatic areas, which may result in increased sediment loading and temporarily degrade water quality. Changes in water quality physical, chemical, or biological parameters could lead to changes in primary productivity, which can limit the suitability of streams for aquatic biota, including insects that bats prey upon (Nagorsen and Brigham 1993, Brack and Whitaker 2001, USFWS 2007). The confined nature of the Project and its distance from any potential streams,

together with MVP's implementation of appropriate erosion and sediment control measures and other conservation measures (Section 3.4.3.3), will avoid and minimize the risk of adverse effects to bats. No significant changes in water quality or invertebrate prey are expected to occur as a result of construction, operation and maintenance activities.

Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*)

Indiana bats are federally listed as endangered with designated critical habitat in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee, and Virginia (USFWS 1967). No critical habitat occurs in relevant proximity to the Project (USFWS 2025d). The range-wide Indiana bat population is estimated to have declined by 28% between 2010 and 2019 due to white-nose syndrome (WNS; Cheng et al. 2021). However, since 2019 the population has increased by approximately 17.6% (USFWS 2024b). Indiana bats occur across the eastern and midwestern US (USFWS 1967).

Indiana bats overwinter in caves and anthropogenic structures (e.g., mines, buildings, tunnels), roost in forested areas in the summer, and migrate between the two habitats in the spring and fall (Winhold and Kurta 2006, USFWS 2007). Summer habitat typically consists of riparian, bottomland, and upland forested areas (USFWS 2007). During spring staging and fall swarming, Indiana bats will roost in forested areas near hibernacula (USFWS 2007).

Based on a review of the IPaC system, Indiana bats potentially occur in relevant proximity to the Project (USFWS 2025d). Data from state agencies and previous surveys conducted for the MVP Mainline indicate no known Indiana bat summer occurrence records within 2.5 miles or hibernacula within 5 miles of the Project (Table 3.4-2). Therefore, the Project is not likely to adversely affect Indiana bats.

Table 3.4-2

Federally Listed and Proposed Bat Species Potential Seasonal Occurrence in Relevant Proximity to the Project

Common Name	Scientific Name	Compressor Station Potential Seasonal Occurrence			
		Bradshaw	Harris	Stallworth	Swann
Indiana bat	*Myotis sodalis*	-	-	-	-
Northern long-eared bat	*M. septentrionalis*	-	Staging/Swarming a/, Migration, Summer	Migration, Summer	-
Gray bat	*M. grisescens*	-	-	-	-
Tricolored bat	*Perimyotis subflavus*	Migration, Summer	-	-	Staging/Swarming b/, Migration, Summer

Notes:
a/ One known northern long-eared bat hibernaculum is located approximately 2 miles from the Harris Compressor Station
b/ One known tricolored bat hibernaculum is located approximately 2 miles from the Swann Compressor Station
Sources:
A. Silvis, WVDNR, personal communication (December 9, 2022); MVP 2023; VDWR 2025c

Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)

Northern long-eared bats were federally listed as threatened in 2015; due to population declines heavily attributed to WNS, they were uplisted to endangered in 2023 (USFWS 2023c). Population declines are estimated at 97-100% across 79% of their range (Cheng et al. 2021). No critical habitat has been designated

for northern long-eared bats (USFWS 2025d). Northern long-eared bats occur throughout most of the east and central US and Canada (USFWS 2022e).

Northern long-eared bats overwinter in caves or mines, roost in forested areas in the summer, and migrate between the two habitats in the spring and fall (USFWS 2022e). Summer habitat typically consists of mature-growth oak, maple, and pine forests with potential roosts (i.e., snags and live trees with cavities or exfoliating bark), though some use anthropogenic structures (e.g., buildings, barns, bridges, culverts); non-reproductive females and males may also use caves and mines (USFWS 2022e, 2024b). During spring staging and fall swarming, northern long-eared bats may roost up to 5 miles from hibernacula, although most individuals likely roost closer (USFWS 2024a, 2025e).

Based on a review of the IPaC system, northern long-eared bats potentially occur in relevant proximity to the Project (USFWS 2025d). Data from state agencies and previous surveys conducted for the MVP Mainline indicate no known northern long-eared bat summer occurrence records within 3 miles or hibernacula within 5 miles of the Bradshaw or Swann Compressor Stations (VDWR 2025c; Table 3.4-2). Therefore, northern long-eared bats are not likely to be adversely affected by construction, operation, or maintenance of the Bradshaw or Swann Compressor Stations.

Summer occurrence of northern long-eared bats was documented 0.20 miles from the Stallworth Compressor Station and near the access road to the Harris Compressor Station in 2015. While the surveys were completed more than 5 years ago (USFWS 2024c)[2], the surveys indicate potential northern long-eared bat summer presence in the vicinity of the Harris and Stallworth Compressor Stations. Therefore, there is potential to adversely affect northern long-eared bats and their summer habitat during construction, operation, or maintenance activities at the Harris and Stallworth Compressor Stations.

There is one known northern long-eared bat hibernaculum approximately 2 miles from the Harris Compressor Station in West Virginia. Since the hibernaculum is more than 0.5 miles (USFWS 2025e) from the Harris Compressor Station and impacts from construction, operation, or maintenance activities are unlikely to extend more than 2 miles from the Project, there will be no impacts to the hibernaculum or hibernating northern long-eared bats. However, because the Harris Compressor Station is within the staging/swarming distance for northern long-eared bats, there is potential for Project activities to affect northern long-eared bats during their spring staging, fall swarming, and migration habitat from construction, operation, or maintenance activities.

Northern long-eared bats could be exposed to dust, noise, light, or water quality degradation resulting from construction, operation, or maintenance activities at the Harris and Stallworth Compressor Stations as discussed in Section 3.4.3.1. However, adverse effects are not likely due to MVP's implementation of general conservation measures and species-specific conservation measures discussed in Section 3.4.3.3. Seasonal potential impacts at the Harris and Stallworth Compressor Stations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Summer Habitat**: Construction, operation, or maintenance activities could disturb or displace northern long-eared bats occurring in daytime roosts adjacent to the Project and could displace individuals from foraging habitat and travel corridors during nighttime periods. As a result, any

[2] USFWS's survey guidance indicates that survey results typically are considered valid for a period of five years. Although the mist-net surveys for the 2017 MVP Mainline Biological Assessment were completed in 2015, the results of these surveys are summarized in this document as relevant—though not conclusive—data.

northern long-eared bats subjected to impacts from the Project may search for and travel to alternative roost trees, foraging habitat, and travel corridors. No tree clearing will occur during construction at the Harris and Stallworth Compressor Stations; therefore, there will be no loss of northern long-eared bat summer habitat or potential for effects resulting from tree clearing.

- **Fall Swarming and Spring Staging Habitat**: Potential impacts to spring staging and fall swarming northern long-eared bats resulting from construction, operation, or maintenance activities are similar in scope to potential impacts described for summer habitat above. No tree clearing will occur during construction at the Harris Compressor Station; therefore, there will be no loss of northern long-eared bat spring staging and fall swarming habitat or potential for effects resulting from tree clearing.

- **Migration**[3]: Potential impacts from construction, operation, or maintenance activities to migrating northern long-eared bats are similar in scope to potential impacts described for summer but are likely to be shorter in duration and intensity, as bats only migrate through the area and are likely to move away from a stressor. No tree clearing will occur during construction at the Harris and Stallworth Compressor Stations; therefore, there will be no loss of northern long-eared bat migration habitat or potential for effects resulting from tree clearing.

Additionally, no buildings/structures, bridges, or culverts will be modified or removed at the Project; therefore, there will be no impact to northern long-eared bats roosting in these features. MVP will not conduct prescribed burns and will implement conservation measures when herbicides and insecticides are used to minimize impacts to northern long-eared bats (Section 3.4.3.3). MVP has prepared a general Blasting Plan, provided in Appendix 6-A of Resource Report 6, which prescribes site-specific blasting plans be developed based on the conditions of each location prior to any blasting event that is required. If blasting is necessary within the bat active season (April 1 – November 15) at the Harris Compressor Station, MVP will implement conservation measures to avoid adversely affecting northern long-eared bats (Section 3.4.3.3).

Impacts from construction, operation, or maintenance at the Harris and Stallworth Compressor Stations on northern long-eared bats and their summer, spring staging, fall swarming, and migration habitat would be temporary, limited in scope, and avoided or minimized by the implementation of conservation measures (Section 3.4.3.3).

Gray Bat (*Myotis grisescens*)

Gray bats are federally listed as endangered; no critical habitat has been designated for this species (USFWS 2025d, 2025f). Because they are cave obligates and form large colonies for both breeding and hibernation, gray bats are particularly vulnerable to habitat disturbance and loss. WNS has not been documented as a threat to gray bats (USFWS 2025f; USFWS 2025g). Gray bats occur across the central Midwest and Appalachian region, concentrated where karst topography exists (USFWS 2025g).

Gray bats inhabit caves year-round, migrating between hibernacula and summer roost caves. Gray bats may also occasionally roost in anthropogenic structures (e.g., dams, mines, and bridges; USFWS 2025f); gray

[3] Spring migration of northern long-eared bats generally occurs from April 1 – May 14, and fall migration occurs from August 1 – November 15 (USFWS 2025e).

bats rarely use tree roosts and have not been documented selecting trees for maternity roosts (Samoray et al. 2020). Gray bats primarily forage over open water or in riparian forest along rivers (USFWS 2025f).

Based on a review of the IPaC system, gray bats potentially occur in relevant proximity to the Stallworth Compressor Station in West Virginia. Data from state agencies and previous surveys conducted for the Mainline project indicates no known gray bat summer occurrence records or hibernacula within 5 miles of the Stallworth Compressor Station (Table 3.4-2). Therefore, no effects are expected to gray bats.

Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)

Tricolored bats are proposed for federal listing as endangered due to population declines caused by WNS (USFWS 2021c); no critical habitat has been proposed for tricolored bats (USFWS 2025d). Population declines are estimated at 93% across 59% of their range (Cheng et al. 2021). Tricolored bats are found across much of eastern North America (USFWS 2021c).

Tricolored bats overwinter in caves, mines, tunnels, buildings, and atypical hibernacula (i.e., talus slopes, rock shelters, rock crevices/outcroppings); they roost in forested areas in the summer and migrate between the two habitats in the spring and fall (Lutsch 2019; Samoray et al. 2019). Summer habitat typically consists of mature hardwood forest intermixed with non-forested and open landscapes including wetlands, edges of agricultural fields, old fields, and pastures (USFWS 2021c); tricolored bats may also use anthropogenic structures (e.g., buildings, barns, bridges, culverts; USFWS 2024a, 2025e). During spring staging and fall swarming, tricolored bats may roost up to 3 miles from hibernacula, although most individuals likely roost closer (USFWS 2024a, 2025e).

Based on a review of the IPaC system, tricolored bats potentially occur in relevant proximity to the Bradshaw Compressor Station in West Virginia and the Swann Compressor Station in Virginia. Data received from WVDNR and previous surveys conducted for the MVP Mainline indicate no known tricolored bat hibernacula within 3 miles of the Bradshaw Compressor Station (MVP 2023; Table 3.4-2). Summer occurrence of tricolored bats was documented 0.2 miles from the Bradshaw Compressor Station laydown yard and 1.5 miles from the Bradshaw Compressor Station in 2012 (A. Silvis, WVDNR, personal communication [December 9, 2022]). While the documented occurrences are from more than 5 years ago (USFWS 2024c), the information indicates potential tricolored bat summer presence in relevant proximity to the Bradshaw Compressor Station. Therefore, tricolored bats and their summer and migration habitat could be exposed to dust, noise, light, or water quality degradation resulting from construction, operation, or maintenance activities at the Bradshaw Compressor Station as discussed in Section 3.4.3.1 absent the implementation of conservation measures. However, adverse effects from construction, operations, or maintenance at the Bradshaw Compressor Station on tricolored bats and their summer and migration habitat would be temporary, limited in scope, and avoided or minimized by the implementation of conservation measures (Section 3.4.3.3).

The Swann Compressor Station is within a 1.5-mi buffer of a summer capture record and within a 3-mi buffer of a known tricolored bat hibernaculum (VDWR 2025c; Table 3.4-2). Presence of tricolored bats is therefore assumed during the entire active season (April 1 – November 15) for the Swann Compressor Station. The tricolored bat hibernaculum is approximately 2 miles from the Swann Compressor Station (VDWR 2025c). Since the hibernaculum is more than 0.5 miles (USFWS 2025e) from the Swann Compressor Station, and potentially impactful stressors from construction, operation, and maintenance activities are unlikely to extend 2 miles from the Project, adverse effects to the hibernaculum or hibernating tricolored bats are unlikely. Due to potential active season occurrence, tricolored bats may be affected

activities during construction, operation, or maintenance of the Swann Compressor Station in areas of suitable summer, fall swarming, spring staging, and migration habitat.

Absent the implementation of conservation measures, tricolored bats could be exposed to impactful dust, noise, light, or water quality degradation resulting from construction, operation, or maintenance activities at the Swann Compressor Station as discussed in Section 3.4.3.1. However, any such effects would be temporary, limited in scope, and avoided or minimized by the implementation of conservation measures (Section 3.4.3.3). In addition, tree clearing is anticipated to occur at Swann Compressor Station and could cause potential impacts to tricolored bats including, but not limited to, the following:

Summer Habitat: The felling of occupied roost trees could injure or kill both non-volant pups and adult bats. Any pregnant females that lose preferred roosting/foraging areas would have to search for alternative roosts, which could result in reduced reproductive success for affected females.

According to USFWS guidance, the Swann Compressor Station falls within the 30 to 100 percent forest density category. Per USFWS (2024b, 2025e), clearing up to 100 acres of suitable forest in this category outside the pup season (May 15 – July 31) is not expected to result in adverse impacts to tricolored bats. Tree clearing at the Swann Compressor Station (13.8 acres) will occur outside the pup season and is far less than the 100-acre guideline threshold.

Some trees along the edges of the Swann Compressor Station are likely to be damaged during clearing activities, potentially increasing the number of roost sites. Most damaged trees will survive but will be more prone to insect infestations and diseases that result in senescence, which in turn produces potential roosts and foraging opportunities for tricolored bats. Over time, some damaged trees will die and, with significant solar exposure along the forest edge, provide high-quality roosts.

- **Fall Swarming and Spring Staging Habitat:** the removal of occupied forested areas has the potential to injure, kill, disturb, or displace individuals, which may force tricolored bats to relocate to replacement roosts due to removal of roosting habitat near known hibernacula.

  Similar to summer habitat and per USFWS (2024b, 2025e), clearing up to 100 acres of suitable forest in the 30 to 100 percent forest density category outside the spring staging (April 1 – May 14) and fall swarming (August 16 – November 15) periods is not likely to adversely affect tricolored bats.

- **Migration:** the removal of occupied forested areas has the potential to injure, kill, disturb, or displace migrating tricolored bats. Forested habitat removal would not impact tricolored bat individuals because of their dispersed nature and the species' propensity to roost singly or in small groups that are more easily flushed when disturbed and switch roosts regularly (USFWS 2024a).

  The loss of forests alters the composition of the tricolored bat migration habitat by reducing total forested areas, but it does not alter the functionality of tricolored bat migration habitat. Where the Project removes trees around the Swann Compressor Station within forested land cover, new edge habitat will be created that may be used by migrating bats as foraging habitat during migration (USFWS 2021c). Some trees may be damaged or killed during clearing activities, which in turn may create suitable roosts and foraging opportunities from potential insect infestation.

Additionally, no buildings/structures, bridges, or culverts will be modified or removed; therefore, there will be no impact to tricolored bats roosting in these features. MVP will not conduct prescribed burns and will

implement conservation measures when herbicides and insecticides are used to minimize impacts to tricolored bats (Section 3.4.3.3). MVP has prepared a general Blasting Plan, provided in Appendix 6-A of Resource Report 6, which prescribes site-specific blasting plans be developed based on the conditions of each location prior to any blasting event that is required. If blasting is necessary within the bat active season (April 1 – November 15) at the Swann Compressor Station, MVP will implement conservation measures to avoid adversely affecting tricolored bats (Section 3.4.3.3).

Adverse effects from construction, operation, or maintenance activities at the Swann Compressor Station would be temporary, limited in scope, and minimized or avoided by the implementation of the conservation measures (Section 3.4.3.3). In areas of suitable habitat, MVP will also adhere to time-of-year restrictions (April 1 to November 15) for tree clearing to avoid or minimize potential impacts to tricolored bats and their habitat[4].

3.4.3.2 Insect Species Proposed for Federal Listing

Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus Plexippus*)

Monarchs are proposed for listing as threatened with a 4(d) rule and with proposed critical habitat in California (USFWS 2024d). Habitat loss and degradation from conversion of grasslands to agriculture, logging/thinning of forested overwintering sites, herbicide use, drought, and urban development have contributed to population declines. Monarchs occur throughout central and southern North America, central America, and northern South America (USFWS 2024e).

Monarchs lay eggs on a variety of milkweed plant species (*Asclepias spp.*) found throughout their range, and larvae feed exclusively on milkweeds. Adults consume the nectar from a variety of flowers in many habitats, including fields and grasslands, roadsides, open areas, wet areas, and urban gardens (USFS 2025a, 2025b). Monarchs in the eastern North American population migrate between overwintering sites in Mexico and summering grounds east of the Rocky Mountains in the United States and southern Canada (USFWS 2024e). Monarchs breed along their northward migration routes, undergoing two to three successive generations as they migrate (USFWS 2024e). Monarchs typically arrive in Virginia and West Virginia in April during their spring migration and depart during fall migration between August and October (Journey North 2025, Monarch Joint Venture 2025).

Based on a review of the IPaC system, monarchs potentially occur in relevant proximity to the Project (USFWS 2025d). Since 2020, there have been 273 records of occurrence in Montgomery County, Virginia (the county in which the Swann Compressor Station is located) and 27 records of occurrence in Braxton and Fayette Counties, West Virginia[5] (the counties in which the Harris and Stallworth Compressor Stations are located; iNaturalist 2025). No monarch occurrences have been recorded in Wetzel County, West Virginia (the county in which the Bradshaw Compressor Station is located) since 2020 (iNaturalist 2025). However, due to the monarch's expansive range and characteristics of suitable habitat, monarchs are likely to occur in Wetzel County, West Virginia. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that monarchs that occur in or adjacent to the Project may be impacted by construction, operation, or maintenance activities during spring, summer, and fall.

[4] Time-of-year restrictions apply only to tricolored bats, as they are the only bat species known to occur in relevant proximity to the Swann Compressor Station where tree clearing will take place.
[5] iNaturalist occurrences per county: Braxton (5) and Fayette (22)

If monarchs were to occur at the Project they could be exposed to dust, noise, light, or water quality degradation generated by construction, operation, or maintenance activities in the absence of conservation measure implementation.

Dust: Fugitive dust generation may occur during site preparation, Project construction, and access road use. Dust from construction activities can coat natural and anthropogenic surfaces. At high levels, dust deposition can damage plants and affect the diversity of ecosystems, thereby degrading foraging and reproductive habitat for monarchs. Whether monarch eggs, larvae, pupae, or adults may experience direct effects from exposure to dust is unknown, but it is likely that high concentrations or long-term exposure to dust would be needed to result in an adverse effect to monarchs in any life stage, and potentially only if the dust is toxic (USFWS 2024d). To avoid and minimize the potential for adverse effects from dust, MVP will implement the dust control and suppression measures discussed in Section 3.4.3.3.

Light: Lighting can affect the behavior and biology of monarchs, including initiation and directionality of migration, development rates, and larval feeding behavior. Artificial lighting can induce nighttime activity when monarchs are typically quiescent, which may result in increased energy expenditure or flight during suboptimal conditions (Parlin et al. 2022). Constant light may result in longer development times and decreased survival (Adams et al. 2021). However, despite the frequent exposure to light pollution along fall migration flyways, there are no documented reports of monarchs flying at night (Parlin et al. 2022). Artificial light may also affect foraging behavior of monarch caterpillars. Exposure to artificial light at night may increase larval foraging; however, one study found no difference in development time or body mass compared to larvae not exposed to artificial light (Haynes et al. 2023). To avoid and minimize the potential for adverse effects from light, MVP will implement the conservation measures discussed in Section 3.4.3.3.

Noise: Above-ambient noise levels can occur during construction, operation, or maintenance activities, which may disturb monarchs. Impacts to monarchs from noise are expected to be limited to a startle response or increased heart rate in larvae, with chronic noise exposure leading to habituation (Davis et al. 2018, Taylor and Yack 2019). However, unlike monarch larvae (Taylor and Yack 2019), adult monarchs have no known auditory structures and are unlikely to be stressed by noise disturbance (Davis et al. 2018). If monarchs were disturbed by Project noise, larvae would likely have a brief stress response then habituate to the disturbance. Given the availability of suitable habitat outside of the Project area, any temporary startle response or short-term displacement of individuals is not expected to appreciably impact monarchs. Further, because monarchs use a variety of habitats, including urban areas and roadside areas containing milkweed (Pitman et al. 2018, USFWS 2024e, USFS 2025b), the species is not likely to be sensitive to these types of anthropogenic disturbances. Accordingly, Project-related noise is not likely to adversely affect monarchs.

Water Quality: During land-disturbing activities, stormwater runoff from upland areas may potentially carry sediment and pollutants through the environment. Such inputs may result in increased sediment loading and temporarily degrade water quality. However, the confined nature of the Project and its distance from any potential streams, together with MVP's implementation of appropriate erosion and sediment control measures and other conservation measures (Section 3.4.3.3), will avoid and minimize the risk of adverse effects to monarchs.

Ground disturbance could cause changes to land cover composition and reduce the area's capacity to support individuals in any life stage. For example, construction and maintenance activities could create an opportunity for noxious weeds and invasive plants to become established in an area and potentially out-compete flowering plants and milkweed. Depending on their proximity to the Project, monarchs could also be exposed to the effects of herbicide or insecticide use. As a result, monarchs subjected to impacts from the Project may need to search for and travel to alternative habitat.

To avoid and minimize those potential effects, MVP will implement conservation measures to minimize herbicide and insecticide use, control noxious weeds and invasive plants, and restore vegetative cover with a native herbaceous seed mix that contains flowering plants (including milkweeds) considered beneficial for monarchs (Section 3.4.3.3). Additionally, general conservation measures for bats and other wildlife will also be protective of monarchs and their habitat (Section 3.4.3.3).

3.4.3.3 Federally Protected Bat and Monarch Conservation Measures

MVP will implement the following conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts to federally protected species:

- Clearly mark the Project construction area to help ensure that contractors do not accidentally remove more trees than planned to maintain the maximum practicable amount of suitable roosting habitat.
- Avoid tree clearing during the bat active season between April 1 – November 15, which includes the pup season (May 15 – July 31), barring an unforeseen emergency arising. MVP will coordinate with USFWS and FERC in the event that emergency circumstances arise requiring any tree cutting between April 1 – November 15.
- Minimize the potential for lighting impacts on bats by instituting a standard work schedule of six days per week during daylight hours, except as mandated by safety standards. The directional luminous intensity of lighting structures used during construction will be proportional to work area required to complete the task. Fully shielded, "full cut-off" type lighting fixtures will be used to minimize light impacts from upland facilities. "Full cut-off" means no direct upward lighting is emitted above the horizontal plane and, therefore, provides the maximum possible shielding to prevent unintentional lighting of surrounding areas.
- Adhere to measures specified in the Project-specific Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans (Appendix 2-A1 and Appendix 2-A2 of Resource Report 2) and develop a Project-specific Erosion & Sediment Control Plan to manage the risk of a potential spill or release of oil or hazardous material during construction. The EI(s) will be present onsite during construction and stabilization activities. Any erosion and sedimentation issues would be addressed as quickly as practicable.
- Service and maintain equipment at least 100 feet away from streams, except as otherwise identified in Resource Report 2.
- Use water trucks to dampen the area and control fugitive dust to minimize potential for construction-related dust to affect wooded lands when roosting bats may be present (most frequently in summer, but also in spring and fall).

- Conduct blasting activities, if required, in accordance with the general Blasting Plan (Appendix 6-A of Resource Report 6), which prescribes site-specific blasting plans be developed based on the conditions of each location prior to any blasting event that is required.
- Provide each site-specific blasting plan to the appropriate federal, state, and local authorities for review 5 working days prior to conducting the blasting.
- Implement precautions to minimize noise and vibration if blasting occurs at the Project, according to the general Blasting Plan (Appendix 6-A of Resource Report 6)
- Avoid the broad use of herbicides and insecticides (including systemic neonicotinoid insecticides). Attempt to only apply herbicides when plants are not flowering.
- Apply insecticide and herbicide spot treatments by hand or using equipment approved for precise, localized product application; aerial application will not be used.
- Avoid herbicide or insecticide application during or within 12 hours of measurable rainfall, and, unless a greater setback distance is identified on the product label (EPA-approved conditions), adhere to a minimum of 150-foot horizontal buffer around the following features:
    - Pastures and other livestock grazing areas;
    - Buildings and yards;
    - Streams, wetlands, and ponds;
    - "No Spray" property lines; and
    - Drains, culverts, and storm sewer inlets.
- Allow natural woodland regeneration of temporary and additional workspaces.
- Use locally sourced native plant material. Include milkweed and other herbaceous species preferable to native pollinators in seed mixes intended for permanent restoration.
- Use grains such as oats, wheat or rye for temporary cover to minimize erosion potential of exposed soil.
- Minimize the amount of time bare soil is exposed during construction to reduce opportunity for exotic/invasive plants to become established.
- Conduct vegetation management activities, ground disturbance, and other management activities that remove milkweed and/or nectar plants at times of year when monarchs are not likely present (September 30 – March 31) in Virginia and West Virginia.
- Establish equipment cleaning stations to thoroughly wash all equipment before using on the site to prevent the spread or introduction of non-native/invasive plants.

3.4.4 State Protected Wildlife Species

Based on coordination with the WVDNR, VDWR and VDCR, three state protected species could potentially occur in relevant proximity to the Project (Table 3.4-1). At this time, MVP is awaiting response from WVDNR. VDWR has informed MVP that it is unable to provide comments on the Project at this time

because it is not currently involved in one of the regulatory review processes for which VDWR is a formal consulting agency (H. Schul, VDWR pers. com., August 2025).

3.4.4.1 West Virginia

West Virginia does not have state-threatened or state-endangered species legislation. Under the administration of the WVDNR, WVNHP maintains a database of federal threatened and endangered species or otherwise sensitive species (e.g., species considered rare within the state by the WVNHP and have global rank designations by NatureServe) and ecologically important or unique habitats. MVP has not yet received a response from WVDNR on any potential species of concern relative to the Project.

3.4.4.2 Virginia

Based on initial consultation with VDCR DNH, three state-endangered or state-threatened species were identified as potentially occurring in relevant proximity to the Project area in Virginia, including two aquatic species, and one plant species:

- Smooth coneflower
- Roanoke logperch
- Orangefin madtom (*Noturus gilberti*)

The smooth coneflower is listed as state-threatened in Virginia and is described in Section 3.4.2.

Roanoke logperch and Orangefin madtom are fish species associated with the Roanoke River – North and South Forks Stream Conservation Site (SCS). Additionally, Spatulate snowfly (*Allocapnia simmonsi*) is a natural heritage resource species associated with the SCS, but it does not have a federal or state endangered or threatened species designation. Each of these species is described below.

As discussed above in Section 3.1, the Swann Compressor Station site is located approximately 500 feet from the South Fork Roanoke River and approximately 400 feet from its tributary, Indian Run. Although the South Fork Roanoke River and tributaries are part of the SCS system, the Project will not involve any instream work activities and will not result in direct or indirect impacts to these streams. In correspondence on September 5, 2025, the VDCR recommended implementation of and strict adherence to applicable state and local erosion and sediment control/storm water management laws and regulations to minimize impacts to the aquatic habitat (Appendix 3-A). MVP will implement all appropriate erosion and sediment control measures and will adhere to the FERC Plan and Procedures and develop a Project-specific E&SC Plan to minimize impacts to the SCS. Implementation of these measures is anticipated to avoid impacts to Roanoke logperch, Orangefin madtom and Spatulate snowfly.

Orangefin Madtom (*Noturus gilberti*)

The orangefin madtom inhabits moderate to strong riffles and runs with minimal silt in moderate-gradient streams of the intermontane and upper Piedmont regions, primarily within the Roanoke and James River systems. This species is an interstitial dweller, found in or near cavities formed by rubble and boulders in the streambed, which provide essential shelter and foraging habitat (Jenkins and Burkhead 1993). The orangefin madtom is classified as threatened by the VDWR (NatureServe 2025b; USFWS 2025h). It is also recognized as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Virginia Wildlife Action Plan (VDWR 2025d). Major threats to the orangefin madtom in Virginia include habitat degradation from channelization, siltation, chronic pollution, catastrophic chemical spills, impoundment, dewatering, and bait-seining. These

impacts reduce water quality and degrade the complex riffle and rubble habitats crucial for the species' survival. Its low reproductive rate and short lifespan exacerbate its vulnerability to these threats, limiting population recovery from disturbances (Simonson 1987; Simonson and Neves 1992; Simonson 1997; Burkhead and Jenkins 1991). Conservation efforts in Virginia emphasize protecting high-quality riffle habitats, maintaining water quality, preventing siltation, and mitigating pollution within the species' native range to ensure the persistence of orangefin madtom populations (USFWS 2025h; VDWR 2025d).

Roanoke Logperch (*Percina rex*)

Roanoke logperch is endemic to the Roanoke and Chowan River drainages in Virginia, where it inhabits medium to large, warm, and typically clear rivers with substrates ranging from sandy to boulder-strewn bottoms (Burkhead and Jenkins 1991; NatureServe 2025c). The species depends on these specific riverine habitats, which provide the necessary conditions for feeding and reproduction. Roanoke logperch was previously listed as federally endangered under the ESA but the USFWS recently delisted the species. However, it remains classified as endangered at the state level by the VDWR (VDWR 2025d). Primary threats to the Roanoke logperch include channelization, siltation, impoundment, pollution, and dewatering activities, all of which degrade water quality and alter riverine habitats critical to the species' survival (Burkhead and Jenkins 1991). Continued conservation efforts focus on protecting water quality and natural river flow regimes within its native range to support population stability.

Spatulate Snowfly (*Allocapnia simmonsi*)

As described by VDCR, Spatulate snowfly is a stonefly documented in only two locations in Virginia. Stoneflies are generally medium-sized to small, somewhat flattened, soft-bodied, rather drab-colored insects found near streams or rocky lake shores (Borror et al. 1981). They are poor fliers and are seldom found far from water. Stonefly nymphs are often found under stones in streams but may occasionally be found anywhere in a stream where food is available (Borror et al. 1981). Stoneflies are highly sensitive to any practices that degrade the quality of the aquatic habitat.

3.4.5 Impacts and Conservation Measures

Species-specific impacts and conservation measures for federally and state-protected species are discussed by species in Sections 3.4.3, 3.4.4. MVP is actively engaged with federal and state natural resource agencies to determine the likelihood that threatened and endangered species are present in relevant proximity to the Project area and identify any additional conservation measures that may be warranted for any such species. To date, no federally listed or state protected species have been documented in the Project area during field surveys.

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Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

Docket No. CP26-__-000

Resource Report 3

Appendix 3-A
Agency Correspondence

August 1, 2025

Ms. Rene Hypes, Environmental Review Coordinator
Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation
Natural Heritage Program
600 East Main Street; 24th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov
Via email

Subject: **Project Introduction**
Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

Dear Ms. Hypes,

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture, is hereby providing background information on the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) Boost Project (Project). The Project is planned to consist of the expansion of three existing compressor stations located along the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties in West Virginia (WV), and the construction and operation of one new compressor station in Montgomery County, Virginia (VA).

The Project is proposed to add a total of approximately 265,750 horsepower of compression along the Mountain Valley Pipeline system, to provide timely and cost-effective access to the growing demand for natural gas for use by local distribution companies (LDCs), industrial users, and power generation in the Mid-Atlantic and southeastern markets, as well as potential markets in the Appalachian region. The proposed facilities include: 1) the expansion of the existing Bradshaw Compressor Station in Wetzel County, WV, with the addition of one turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 2) the expansion of the existing Harris Compressor Station in Braxton County, WV, with one additional turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 3) the expansion of the existing Stallworth Compressor Station in Fayette County, WV, with the addition of two turbines and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; and 4) the construction and operation of a new Swann Compressor Station in Montgomery County, VA, containing three turbines, mechanical and electrical equipment. Approximately 0.2 miles of new 42-inch dual lay suction and discharge facilities are proposed to connect the Swann Compressor Station to the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline system. The Project will also require use of temporary and permanent access roads, staging/parking areas and contractor yards in the vicinity of each of the compressor stations, to support construction and operations activities at those locations. A Project map has been included as an attachment to this letter.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will serve as the lead agency for the Project. MVP anticipates filing a formal application with the FERC in the third quarter of 2025. The FERC will then prepare an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement to satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the Project.

The Companies will be consulting with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VDCR) Natural Heritage Program as necessary during preparation of the required permit applications. However, in order to assist the Companies in preparing the FERC application and identifying possible issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, the purpose of this letter is to notify the Natural Heritage Program of the Companies' upcoming intent to file a FERC application, and to request information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction that could be potentially affected by the Project.

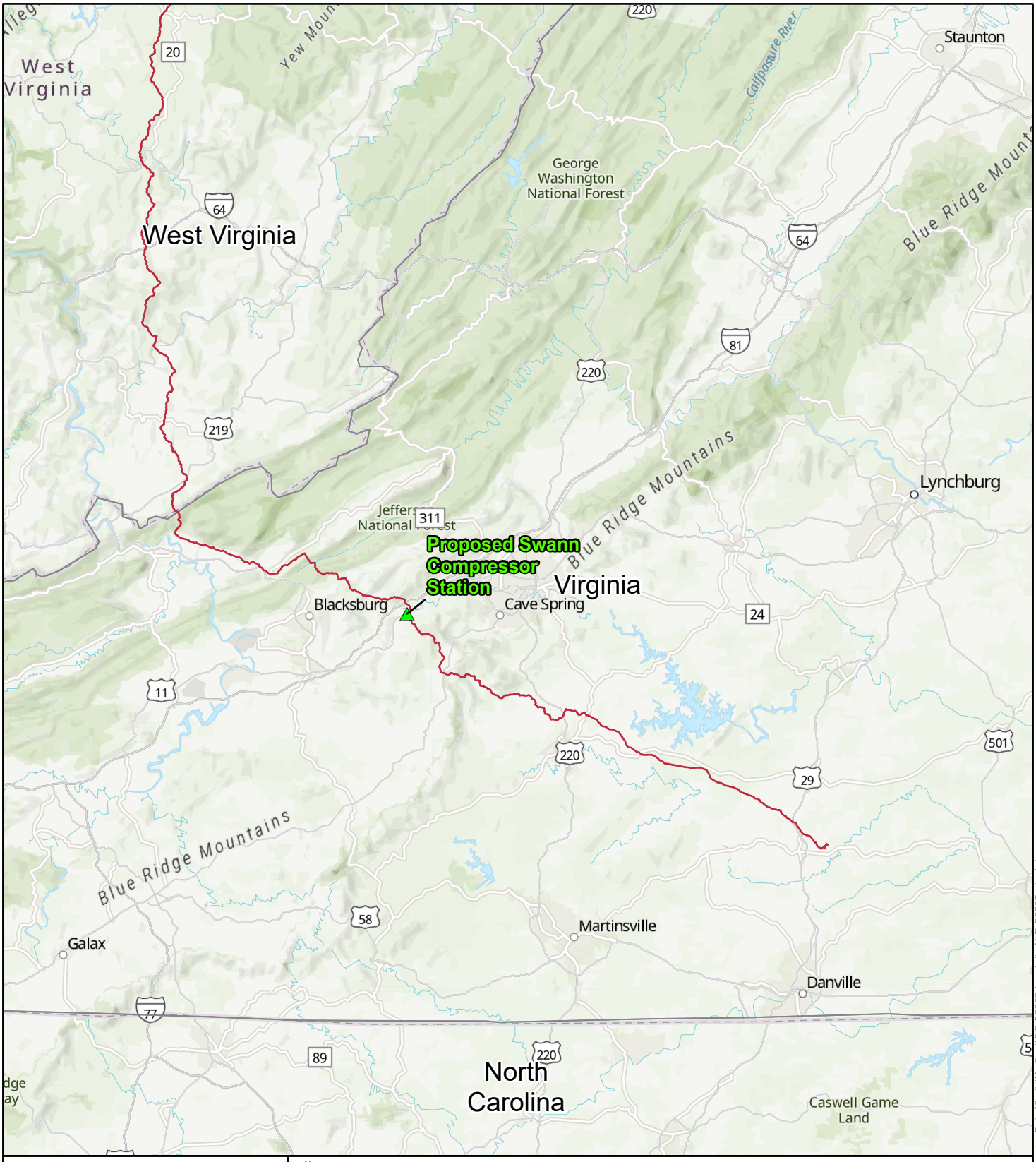
The Companies look forward to working with your agency as they move forward with the development of this Project. We appreciate your assistance and thank you in advance for any help you can provide. A representative of the Companies will be in contact with you soon to discuss the Project in further detail.

If you have questions or would like additional information about the Project, please contact me at (304) 841-2086 or megan.neylon@eqt.com, or Sabrina Hepburn at (303) 980-3605.

Sincerely,

Megan Neylon
Permitting Regional Manager

cc: Jesse Killosky, MVP HoldCo
Ashley Merks, MVP HoldCo
John Scott, Tetra Tech



Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

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NAD 1983 UTM 17N

Scale: 1:987,098

0 2.5 5 10 15 20 Miles

MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE

Figure 1: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project (Virginia)

July 2025

Data Sources: ESRI Topographic, All Issued for Construction data was filed with FERC on 12/20/2017.

Legend

- Compressor Station
- Existing MVP Pipeline
- State Boundary

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NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

August 1, 2025

Hannah Schul, Program Manager
Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Information and Environmental Services
P.O. Box 90778
Henrico, VA 23228-0778
Hannah.Schul@DWR.virginia.gov
Via email

Subject: **Project Introduction**
Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

Dear Ms. Schul,

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture, is hereby providing background information on the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) Boost Project (Project). The Project is planned to consist of the expansion of three existing compressor stations located along the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties in West Virginia (WV), and the construction and operation of one new compressor station in Montgomery County, Virginia (VA).

The Project is proposed to add a total of approximately 265,750 horsepower of compression along the Mountain Valley Pipeline system, to provide timely and cost-effective access to the growing demand for natural gas for use by local distribution companies (LDCs), industrial users, and power generation in the Mid-Atlantic and southeastern markets, as well as potential markets in the Appalachian region. The proposed facilities include: 1) the expansion of the existing Bradshaw Compressor Station in Wetzel County, WV, with the addition of one turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 2) the expansion of the existing Harris Compressor Station in Braxton County, WV, with one additional turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 3) the expansion of the existing Stallworth Compressor Station in Fayette County, WV, with the addition of two turbines and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; and 4) the construction and operation of a new Swann Compressor Station in Montgomery County, VA, containing three turbines, mechanical and electrical equipment. Approximately 0.2 miles of new 42-inch dual lay suction and discharge facilities are proposed to connect the Swann Compressor Station to the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline system. The Project will also require use of temporary and permanent access roads, staging/parking areas and contractor yards in the vicinity of each of the compressor stations, to support construction and operations activities at those locations. A Project map has been included as an attachment to this letter.

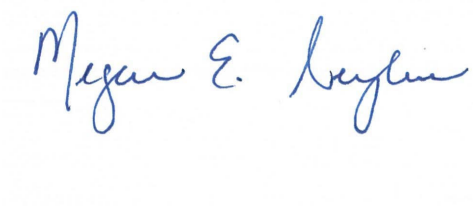
The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will serve as the lead agency for the Project. MVP anticipates filing a formal application with the FERC in the third quarter of 2025. The FERC will then prepare an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement to satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the Project.

The Companies will be consulting with the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR) as necessary during preparation of the required permit applications. However, in order to assist the Companies in preparing the FERC application and identifying possible issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, the purpose of this letter is to notify the VDWR of the Companies' upcoming intent to file a FERC application, and to request information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction that could be potentially affected by the Project.

The Companies look forward to working with your agency as they move forward with the development of this Project. We appreciate your assistance and thank you in advance for any help you can provide. A representative of the Companies will be in contact with you soon to discuss the Project in further detail.

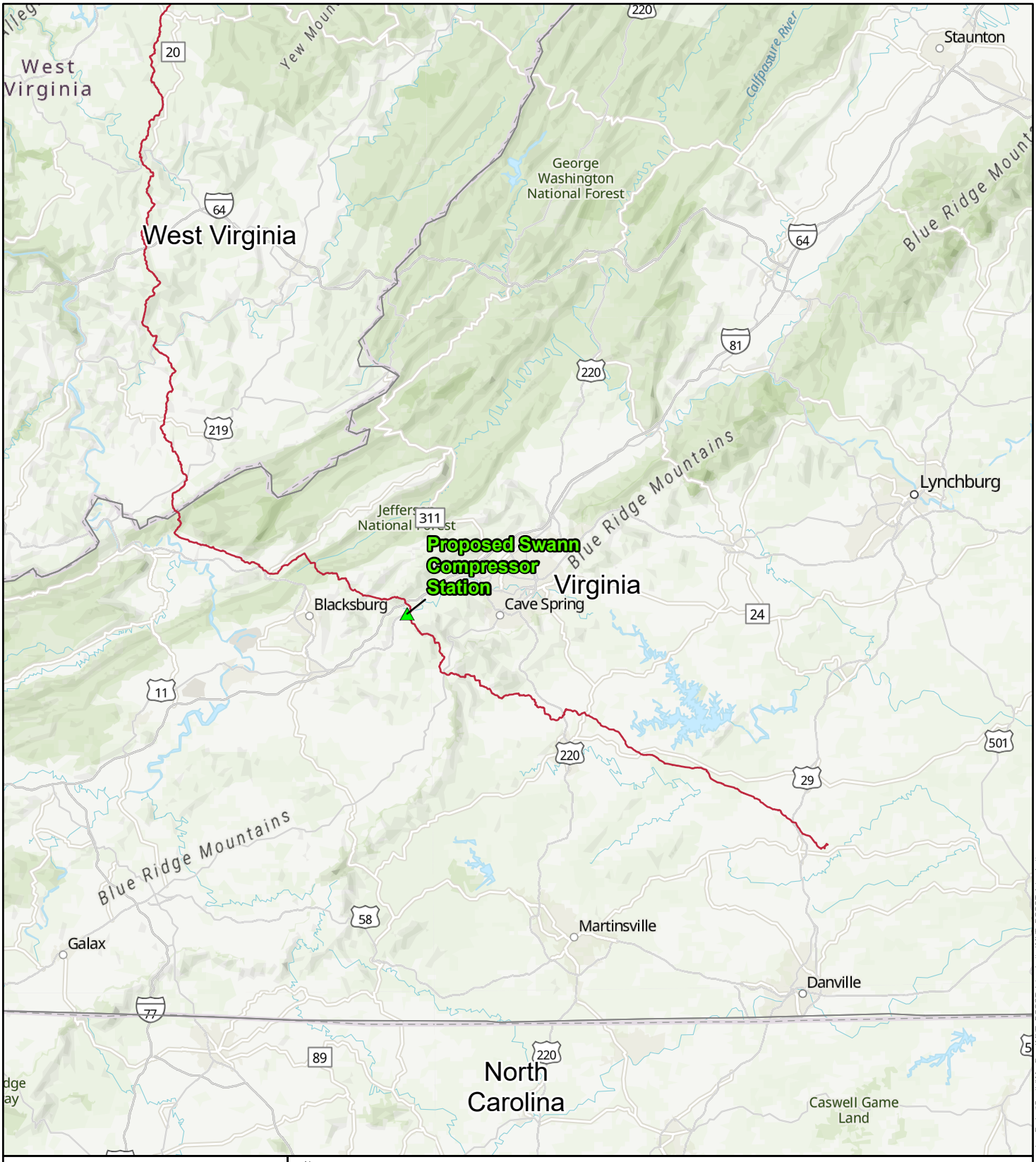
If you have questions or would like additional information about the Project, please contact me at (304) 841-2086 or megan.neylon@eqt.com, or Sabrina Hepburn at (303) 980-3605.

Sincerely,



Megan Neylon
Permitting Regional Manager

cc: Jesse Killosky, MVP HoldCo
Ashley Merks, MVP HoldCo
John Scott, Tetra Tech



Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

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Scale: 1:987,098

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MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE

Figure 1: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project (Virginia)

July 2025

Data Sources: ESRI Topographic, All Issued for Construction data was filed with FERC on 12/20/2017.

Legend

- Compressor Station
- Existing MVP Pipeline
- State Boundary

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NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

August 1, 2025

Mr. Paul R. Johansen
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
Office of Wildlife Resources
324 Fourth Avenue, Building 74, Room 200
South Charleston, WV 25303
DNR.wildlife@wv.gov
Via email

Subject: **Project Introduction**
Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

Dear Mr. Johansen,

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture, is hereby providing background information on the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) Boost Project (Project). The Project is planned to consist of the expansion of three existing compressor stations located along the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties in West Virginia (WV), and the construction and operation of one new compressor station in Montgomery County, Virginia (VA).

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The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will serve as the lead agency for the Project. MVP anticipates filing a formal application with the FERC in the third quarter of 2025. The FERC will then prepare an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement to satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the Project.

The Companies will be consulting with the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) Office of Wildlife Resources as necessary during preparation of the required permit applications. However, in order to assist the Companies in preparing the FERC application and identifying possible issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, the purpose of this letter is to notify the WVDNR Office of Wildlife Resources of the Companies' upcoming intent to file a FERC application, and to request information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction that could be potentially affected by the Project.

The Companies look forward to working with your agency as they move forward with the development of this Project. We appreciate your assistance and thank you in advance for any help you can provide. A representative of the Companies will be in contact with you soon to discuss the Project in further detail.

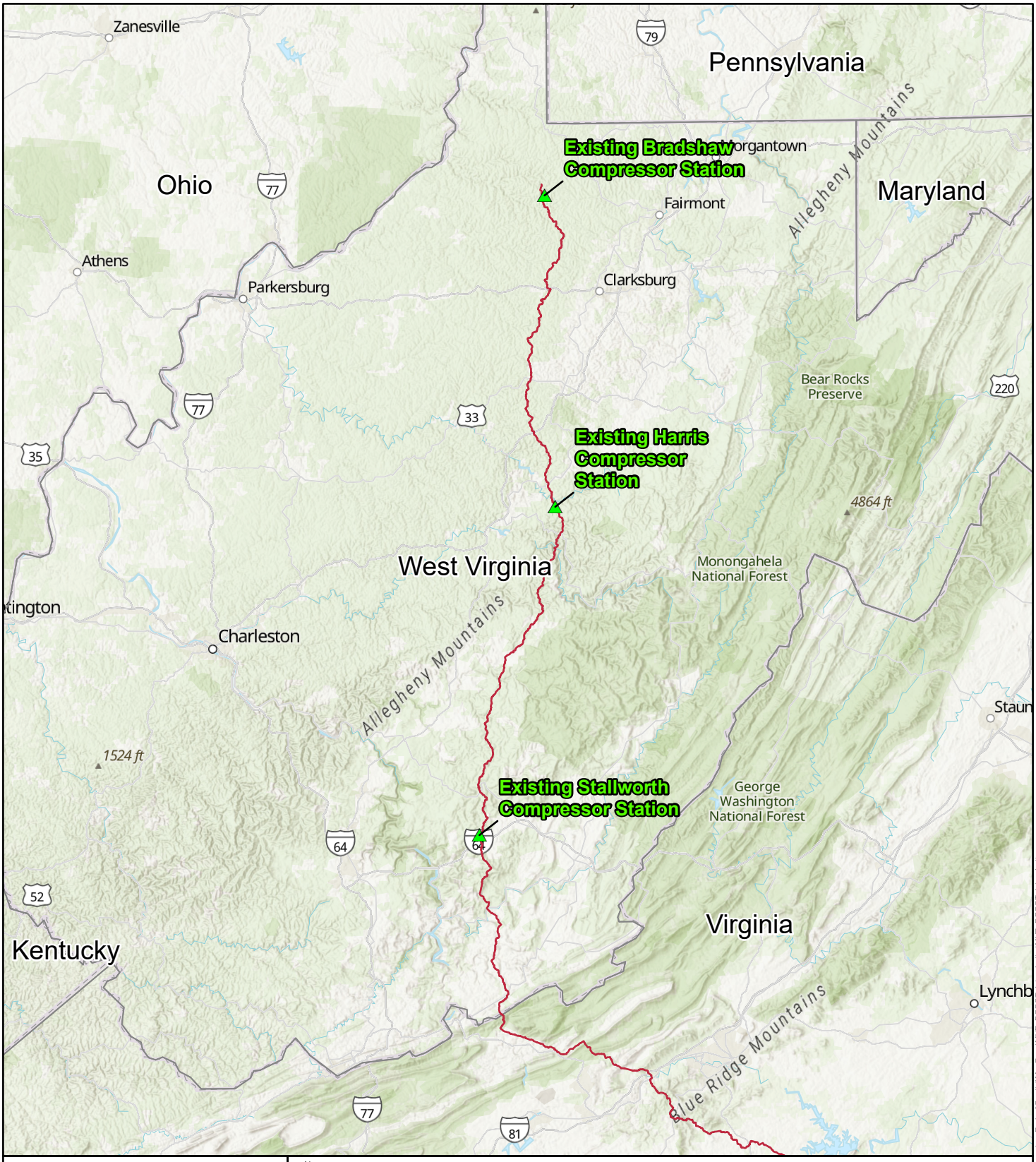
If you have questions or would like additional information about the Project, please contact me at (304) 841-2086 or megan.neylon@eqt.com, or Sabrina Hepburn at (303) 980-3605.

Sincerely,

Megan E. Neylon

Megan Neylon
Permitting Regional Manager

cc: Jesse Killosky, MVP HoldCo
Ashley Merks, MVP HoldCo
John Scott, Tetra Tech



Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

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NAD 1983 UTM 17N

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MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE

Figure 1: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project (West Virginia)

July 2025

Legend

- Compressor Station
- Existing MVP Pipeline
- State Boundary

Data Sources: ESRI Topographic, All Issued for Construction data was filed with FERC on 12/20/2017.

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NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

August 4, 2025

Troy Andersen, Field Office Supervisor
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Virginia Field Office
6669 Short Lane
Gloucester, VA 23061
virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov
Via email

Subject: **Project Introduction**
Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

Dear Mr. Andersen,

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture, is hereby providing background information on the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) Boost Project (Project). The Project is planned to consist of the expansion of three existing compressor stations located along the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties in West Virginia (WV), and the construction and operation of one new compressor station in Montgomery County, Virginia (VA).

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A Project map and Information for Planning and Consultation (IPAC) Species List have been included as attachments to this letter.

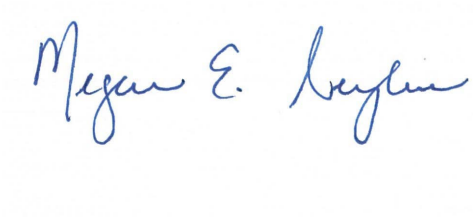
The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will serve as the lead agency for the Project. MVP anticipates filing a formal application with the FERC in the third quarter of 2025. The FERC will then prepare an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement to satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the Project.

The Companies will be consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Virginia Field Office as necessary during preparation of the required permit applications. However, in order to assist the Companies in preparing the FERC application and identifying possible issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, the purpose of this letter is to notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the Companies' upcoming intent to file a FERC application, and to request information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction that could be potentially affected by the Project.

The Companies look forward to working with your agency as they move forward with the development of this Project. We appreciate your assistance and thank you in advance for any help you can provide.

If you have questions or would like additional information about the Project, please contact me at (304) 841-2086 or megan.neylon@eqt.com, or Sabrina Hepburn at (303) 980-3605.

Sincerely,



Megan Neylon
Permitting Regional Manager

cc: Jesse Killosky, MVP HoldCo
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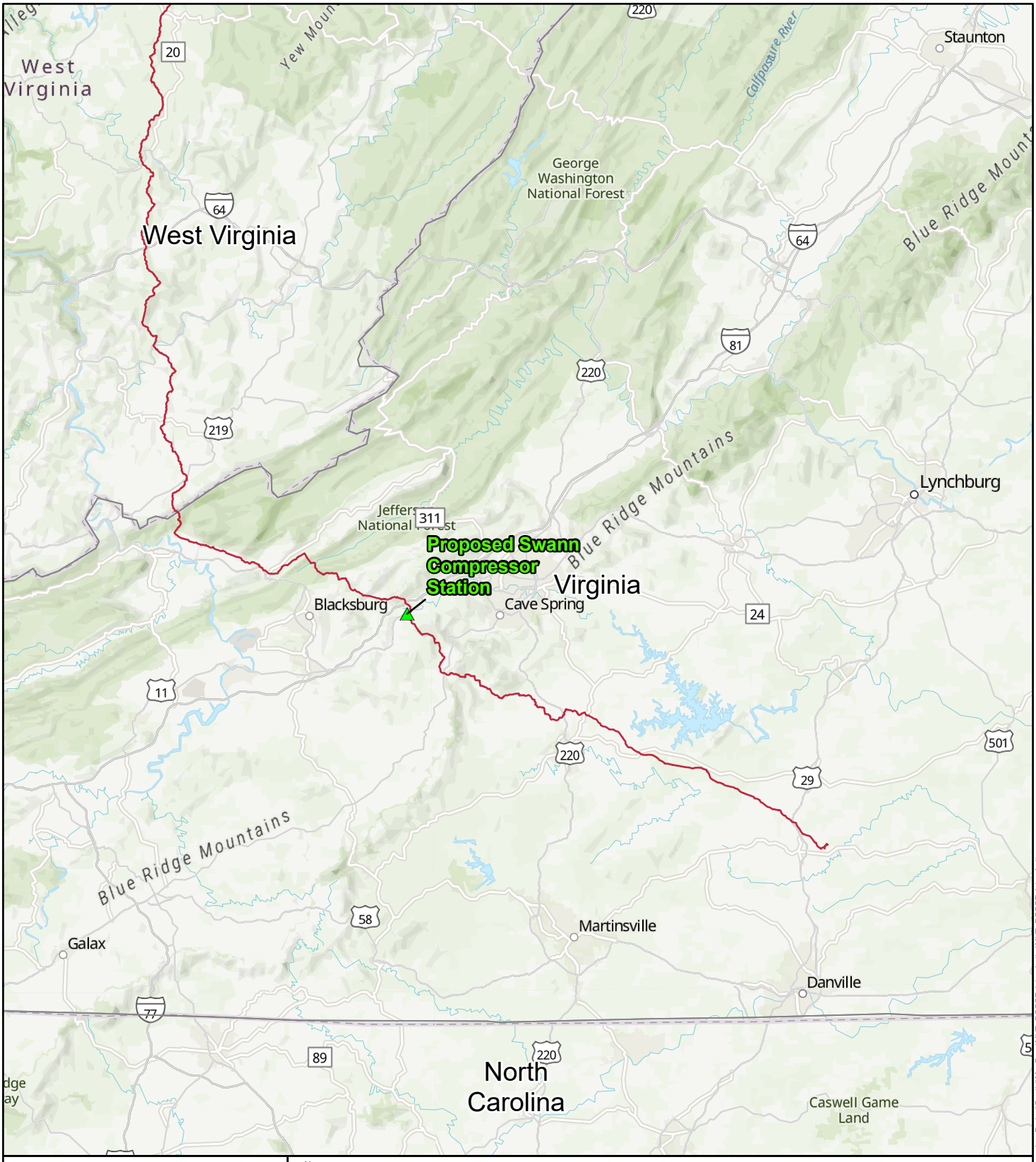
John Scott, Tetra Tech



Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

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MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE

Figure 1: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project (Virginia)

July 2025

Data Sources: ESRI Topographic, All Issued for Construction data was filed with FERC on 12/20/2017.

Legend

- Compressor Station
- Existing MVP Pipeline
- State Boundary

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NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6669 Short Lane
Gloucester, VA 23061-4410
Phone: (804) 693-6694

In Reply Refer To: 08/04/2025 16:44:43 UTC
Project Code: 2025-0130847
Project Name: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

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.*). Any activity proposed on National Wildlife Refuge lands must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

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 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 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:

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds.

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 Project Code 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
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries

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:

Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6669 Short Lane
Gloucester, VA 23061-4410
(804) 693-6694

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0130847
Project Name: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project
Project Type: Pipeline - Onshore - New Constr - Above Ground
Project Description: Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture, is hereby providing background information on the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) Boost Project (Project). The Project is planned to consist of the expansion of three existing compressor stations located along the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties in West Virginia (WV), and the construction and operation of one new compressor station in Montgomery County, Virginia (VA).
The Project is proposed to add a total of approximately 265,750 horsepower of compression along the Mountain Valley Pipeline system, to provide timely and cost-effective access to the growing demand for natural gas for use by local distribution companies (LDCs), industrial users, and power generation in the Mid-Atlantic and southeastern markets, as well as potential markets in the Appalachian region. The proposed facilities include: 1) the expansion of the existing Bradshaw Compressor Station in Wetzel County, WV, with the addition of one turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 2) the expansion of the existing Harris Compressor Station in Braxton County, WV, with one additional turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 3) the expansion of the existing Stallworth Compressor Station in Fayette County, WV, with the addition of two turbines and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; and 4) the construction and operation of a new Swann Compressor Station in Montgomery County, VA, containing three turbines, mechanical and electrical equipment. Approximately 0.2 miles of new 42-inch dual lay suction and discharge facilities are proposed to connect the Swann Compressor Station to the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline system. The Project will also require use of temporary and permanent access roads, staging/parking areas and contractor yards in the vicinity of each of the compressor stations, to support construction and operations activities at those locations.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@37.228362000000004,-80.20438287955778,14z

Counties: Montgomery County, Virginia

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 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 Fisheries[1], 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.

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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
Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

FISHES

NAME	STATUS
Roanoke Logperch *Percina rex* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1134	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Smooth Coneflower *Echinacea laevigata* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3473	Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the National Wildlife Refuge system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Sabrina Hepburn
Address: 390 Union Blvd. Suite 400
City: Lakewood
State: CO
Zip: 80228
Email sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com
Phone: 3039803605

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

August 4, 2025

Ms. Jennifer Norris, Field Office Supervisor
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
West Virginia Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway,
Davis, WV 26260
FW5_WVFO@fws.gov
Via email

Subject: **Project Introduction**
Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

Dear Ms. Norris,

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture, is hereby providing background information on the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) Boost Project (Project). The Project is planned to consist of the expansion of three existing compressor stations located along the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties in West Virginia (WV), and the construction and operation of one new compressor station in Montgomery County, Virginia (VA).

The Project is proposed to add a total of approximately 265,750 horsepower of compression along the Mountain Valley Pipeline system, to provide timely and cost-effective access to the growing demand for natural gas for use by local distribution companies (LDCs), industrial users, and power generation in the Mid-Atlantic and southeastern markets, as well as potential markets in the Appalachian region. The proposed facilities include: 1) the expansion of the existing Bradshaw Compressor Station in Wetzel County, WV, with the addition of one turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 2) the expansion of the existing Harris Compressor Station in Braxton County, WV, with one additional turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 3) the expansion of the existing Stallworth Compressor Station in Fayette County, WV, with the addition of two turbines and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; and 4) the construction and operation of a new Swann Compressor Station in Montgomery County, VA, containing three turbines, mechanical and electrical equipment. Approximately 0.2 miles of new 42-inch dual lay suction and discharge facilities are proposed to connect the Swann Compressor Station to the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline system. The Project will also require use of temporary and permanent access roads, staging/parking areas and contractor yards in the vicinity of each of the compressor stations, to support construction and operations activities at those locations.

A Project map and Information for Planning and Consultation (IPAC) Species Lists have been included as attachments to this letter.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will serve as the lead agency for the Project. MVP anticipates filing a formal application with the FERC in the third quarter of 2025. The FERC will then prepare an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement to satisfy the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the Project.

The Companies will be consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service West Virginia Field Office as necessary during preparation of the required permit applications. However, in order to assist the Companies in preparing the FERC application and identifying possible issues to be addressed during the NEPA process, the purpose of this letter is to notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the Companies' upcoming intent to file a FERC application, and to request information on resources under your agency's jurisdiction that could be potentially affected by the Project.

The Companies look forward to working with your agency as they move forward with the development of this Project. We appreciate your assistance and thank you in advance for any help you can provide.

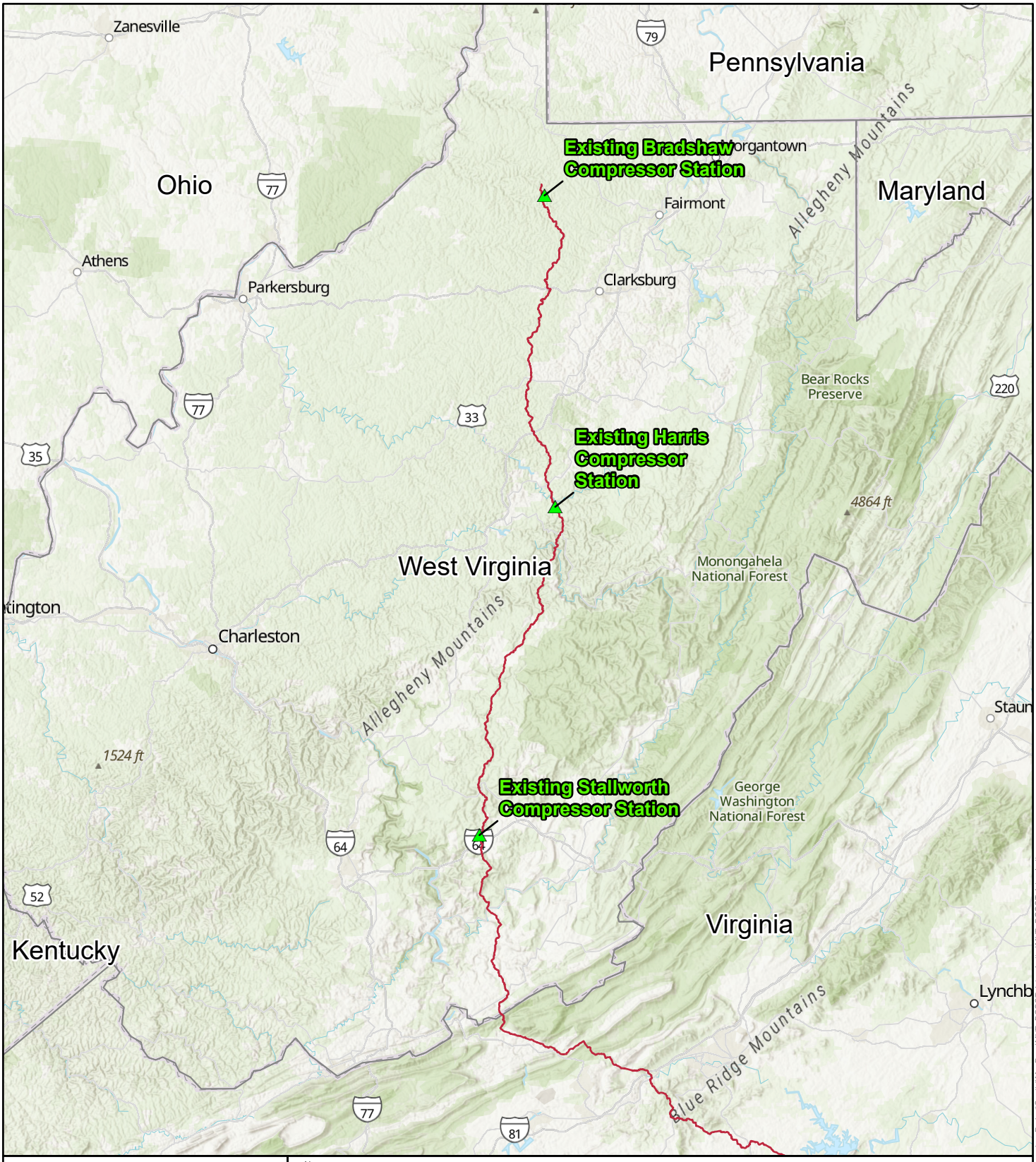
If you have questions or would like additional information about the Project, please contact me at (304) 841-2086 or megan.neylon@eqt.com, or Sabrina Hepburn at (303) 980-3605.

Sincerely,

Megan E. Neylon

Megan Neylon
Permitting Regional Manager

cc: Jesse Killosky, MVP HoldCo
Ashley Merks, MVP HoldCo
John Scott, Tetra Tech



Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project

N

NAD 1983 UTM 17N

Scale: 1:1,542,341

0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles

MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE

Figure 1: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project (West Virginia)

July 2025

Legend

- Compressor Station
- Existing MVP Pipeline
- State Boundary

Data Sources: ESRI Topographic, All Issued for Construction data was filed with FERC on 12/20/2017.

Document Path: \\Ces706gis1\CES\Projects\BOS\EOT_Equitrans\MVP_Expansion_Project\Spatial\MapDocs\MVP_BOOST_Intro_Letter\MVP_BOOST_Intro_Letter.aprx

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
Phone: (304) 866-3858 Fax: (304) 866-3852

In Reply Refer To: 08/04/2025 17:51:28 UTC
Project Code: 2025-0130916
Project Name: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project - Bradshaw CS

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.*). If you determine that other federally protected species not listed in this Official Species List are present in your action area, you are still responsible to analyze your potential effects to those species and consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if consultation is required.

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 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 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:

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds.

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 Code 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:

West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
(304) 866-3858

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0130916

Project Name: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project - Bradshaw CS

Project Type: Pipeline - Onshore - Maintenance / Modification - Above Ground

Project Description: Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture, is hereby providing background information on the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) Boost Project (Project). The Project is planned to consist of the expansion of three existing compressor stations located along the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties in West Virginia (WV), and the construction and operation of one new compressor station in Montgomery County, Virginia (VA).

The Project is proposed to add a total of approximately 265,750 horsepower of compression along the Mountain Valley Pipeline system, to provide timely and cost-effective access to the growing demand for natural gas for use by local distribution companies (LDCs), industrial users, and power generation in the Mid-Atlantic and southeastern markets, as well as potential markets in the Appalachian region. The proposed facilities include: 1) the expansion of the existing Bradshaw Compressor Station in Wetzel County, WV, with the addition of one turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 2) the expansion of the existing Harris Compressor Station in Braxton County, WV, with one additional turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 3) the expansion of the existing Stallworth Compressor Station in Fayette County, WV, with the addition of two turbines and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; and 4) the construction and operation of a new Swann Compressor Station in Montgomery County, VA, containing three turbines, mechanical and electrical equipment. Approximately 0.2 miles of new 42-inch dual lay suction and discharge facilities are proposed to connect the Swann Compressor Station to the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline system. The Project will also require use of temporary and permanent access roads, staging/parking areas and contractor yards in the vicinity of each of the compressor stations, to support construction and operations activities at those locations.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@39.522437100000005,-80.62613414176795,14z

Counties: Wetzel County, West Virginia

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 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. Note that 2 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], 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
Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: ▪ All activities in this location should consider potential effects to this species. This project is within known Indiana bat habitat, which may include spring staging, fall swarming, winter hibernacula, and summer roosting. Please contact the WVFO. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Salamander Mussel *Simpsonaias ambigua* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6208	Proposed Endangered
Snuffbox Mussel *Epioblasma triquetra* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: ▪ This project is in close proximity of a stream known to support this species; all activities in this location should consider potential effects to the species. Review the project design guidelines for information about next steps and contacting the WVFO. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4135 General project design guidelines: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/CRVMXEEPLVH5VCLSDBUENIPYTA/documents/generated/6466.pdf	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Sabrina Hepburn
Address: 390 Union Blvd. Suite 400
City: Lakewood
State: CO
Zip: 80228
Email sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com
Phone: 3039803605

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
Phone: (304) 866-3858 Fax: (304) 866-3852

In Reply Refer To: 08/04/2025 17:59:42 UTC
Project Code: 2025-0130928
Project Name: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project - Harris CS

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.*). If you determine that other federally protected species not listed in this Official Species List are present in your action area, you are still responsible to analyze your potential effects to those species and consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if consultation is required.

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 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 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.

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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 Code in the header of

this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

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OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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This species list is provided by:

West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
(304) 866-3858

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0130928

Project Name: Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project - Harris CS

Project Type: Pipeline - Onshore - Maintenance / Modification - Above Ground

Project Description: Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture, is hereby providing background information on the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) Boost Project (Project). The Project is planned to consist of the expansion of three existing compressor stations located along the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties in West Virginia (WV), and the construction and operation of one new compressor station in Montgomery County, Virginia (VA).

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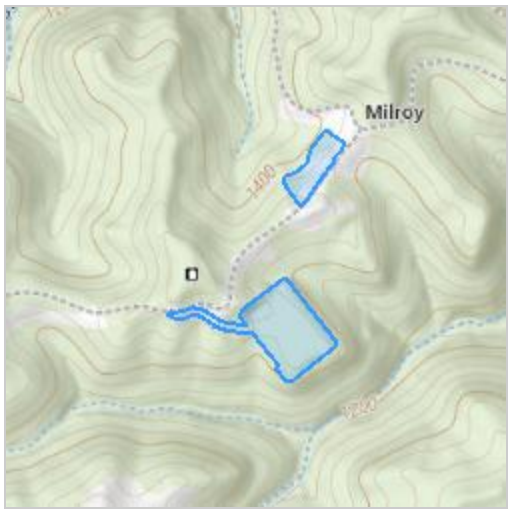
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@38.7223405,-80.50308951094318,14z



Counties: Braxton County, West Virginia

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 7 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. Note that 2 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], 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
Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis*	Endangered

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions:

- All activities in this location should consider potential effects to this species. This project is not within a known-use area, but potentially occupied habitat may exist. Please contact the WVFO for further coordination.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949

Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis*	Endangered

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.
Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Longsolid *Fusconaia subrotunda*	Threatened

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9880

Round Hickorynut *Obovaria subrotunda*	Threatened

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9879

Salamander Mussel *Simpsonaias ambigua*	Proposed Endangered

There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6208

Snuffbox Mussel *Epioblasma triquetra*	Endangered

There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions:

- This project is in close proximity of a stream known to support this species; all activities in this location should consider potential effects to the species. Review the project design guidelines for information about next steps and contacting the WVFO.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4135
General project design guidelines:
https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/S442D4UPJJEHDL7AETVWPDPCNM/documents/generated/6466.pdf

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*	Proposed Threatened

There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat.
Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Sabrina Hepburn
Address: 390 Union Blvd. Suite 400
City: Lakewood
State: CO
Zip: 80228
Email sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com
Phone: 3039803605

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
Phone: (304) 866-3858 Fax: (304) 866-3852

In Reply Refer To: 08/04/2025 18:30:37 UTC
Project Code: 2025-0130971
Project Name: Mountain Vally Pipeline Boost Project - Stallworth CS

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.*). If you determine that other federally protected species not listed in this Official Species List are present in your action area, you are still responsible to analyze your potential effects to those species and consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if consultation is required.

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 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 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:

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds.

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 Code 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:

West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office
6263 Appalachian Highway
Davis, WV 26260-8061
(304) 866-3858

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0130971

Project Name: Mountain Vally Pipeline Boost Project - Stallworth CS

Project Type: Pipeline - Onshore - Maintenance / Modification - Above Ground

Project Description: Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, a joint venture, is hereby providing background information on the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) Boost Project (Project). The Project is planned to consist of the expansion of three existing compressor stations located along the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline in Wetzel, Braxton and Fayette Counties in West Virginia (WV), and the construction and operation of one new compressor station in Montgomery County, Virginia (VA).

The Project is proposed to add a total of approximately 265,750 horsepower of compression along the Mountain Valley Pipeline system, to provide timely and cost-effective access to the growing demand for natural gas for use by local distribution companies (LDCs), industrial users, and power generation in the Mid-Atlantic and southeastern markets, as well as potential markets in the Appalachian region. The proposed facilities include: 1) the expansion of the existing Bradshaw Compressor Station in Wetzel County, WV, with the addition of one turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 2) the expansion of the existing Harris Compressor Station in Braxton County, WV, with one additional turbine and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; 3) the expansion of the existing Stallworth Compressor Station in Fayette County, WV, with the addition of two turbines and related mechanical and electrical upgrades; and 4) the construction and operation of a new Swann Compressor Station in Montgomery County, VA, containing three turbines, mechanical and electrical equipment. Approximately 0.2 miles of new 42-inch dual lay suction and discharge facilities are proposed to connect the Swann Compressor Station to the existing Mountain Valley Pipeline system. The Project will also require use of temporary and permanent access roads, staging/parking areas and contractor yards in the vicinity of each of the compressor stations, to support construction and operations activities at those locations.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@37.8675628,-80.7575887431731,14z

Counties: Fayette and Greenbrier counties, West Virginia

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 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. Note that 1 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], 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.

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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
Gray Bat *Myotis grisescens*	Endangered
No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6329	
Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis*	Endangered
There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: ▪ All activities in this location should consider potential effects to this species. This project is not within a known-use area, but potentially occupied habitat may exist. Please contact the WVFO for further coordination. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	
Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis*	Endangered
No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus*	Proposed Threatened
There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Small Whorled Pogonia *Isotria medeoloides*	Threatened
Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1890	
Virginia Spiraea *Spiraea virginiana*	Threatened
No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1728	

CRITICAL HABITATS

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

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Private Entity
Name: Sabrina Hepburn
Address: 390 Union Blvd. Suite 400
City: Lakewood
State: CO
Zip: 80228
Email sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com
Phone: 3039803605

From: Hypes, Rene (DCR)
To: Hepburn, Sabrina
Cc: Neylon, Megan; Killosky, Jesse; Merks, Ashley; Scott, John
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project
Date: Saturday, August 2, 2025 4:08:54 AM
Attachments: image007.png
image008.png
image009.png
image010.png
image011.png

Thank you, Sabrina, for your request for the review of the MVP Boost Project for impacts to natural heritage resources. In order for the DCR Division of Natural Heritage to initiate a project review for the project, along with the attached map we also need a completed information services order form. Upon receipt of this information, we will provide comments within 30 calendar days.

Please let me know if have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rene' Hypes
Environmental Review Coordinator
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804-371-2708 I rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 12:01 PM
To: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: MVP Boost Project

Good afternoon Ms. Hypes,

On behalf of Mountain Valley Pipeline, I am reaching out to you to provide information on the proposed MVP Boost Project. Please find attached an initial consultation letter with a description of the proposed project. We are requesting information and coordination on resources under your agency's jurisdiction and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

Climate positive and carbon negative by 2030. Read more

From:	Hepburn, Sabrina
To:	Hypes, Rene (DCR)
Cc:	Neylon, Megan; Killosky, Jesse; Merks, Ashley; Scott, John
Subject:	RE: MVP Boost Project
Date:	Wednesday, August 6, 2025 2:41:00 PM
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png

---

Hi Rene,

Thank you for your reply. I just wanted to confirm that it looks like the request was assigned Project reference ID is 25080615345626 upon submittal.

Please let us know if you have any questions, thanks!

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

Climate positive and carbon negative by 2030. Read more

From: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Sent: Saturday, August 2, 2025 4:09 AM
To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project

Thank you, Sabrina, for your request for the review of the MVP Boost Project for impacts to natural heritage resources. In order for the DCR Division of Natural Heritage to initiate a project review for the project, along with the attached map we also need a completed information services order form. Upon receipt of this information, we will provide comments within 30 calendar days.

Please let me know if have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rene' Hypes
Environmental Review Coordinator
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804-371-2708 I rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 12:01 PM
To: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: MVP Boost Project

Good afternoon Ms. Hypes,

On behalf of Mountain Valley Pipeline, I am reaching out to you to provide information on the proposed MVP Boost Project. Please find attached an initial consultation letter with a description of the proposed project. We are requesting information and coordination on resources under your agency's jurisdiction and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

From: Virginia Field Office, FW5
To: Hepburn, Sabrina
Cc: Neylon, Megan; Killosky, Jesse; Merks, Ashley; Scott, John
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request
Date: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 6:35:23 AM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png

Good morning, Sabrina,

Thank you for notifying our office about this project. Can you provide an ESA Section 7 Determination Table? A template of this document can be found in step 3a of our online review process. Are you also coordinating with the West Virginia field office for this project?

Best,
Jackie

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 4:56 PM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Good afternoon,

On behalf of Mountain Valley Pipeline, I am reaching out to you to provide information on the proposed MVP Boost Project. Please find attached an initial consultation letter for with a description of the proposed project. We are requesting information and coordination on resources under your agency's jurisdiction and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

Climate positive and carbon negative by 2030. Read more

TETRA TECH

From:	Neylon, Megan
To:	"Virginia Field Office, FW5"; Hepburn, Sabrina
Cc:	Killosky, Jesse; Merks, Ashley; Scott, John; Elizabeth Matseur
Subject:	RE: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request
Date:	Friday, September 12, 2025 2:14:56 PM
Attachments:	image007.png image008.png image009.png image010.png image011.png image012.png ESA_Determination_Table_VA_v3_20250912_ListedSp.pdf ESA_Determination_Table_VA_v3_20250912_ProposedSp.pdf

Jackie,

Per your request, please find attached a draft ESA Section 7 Determination Table. This was prepared following the online guidance for VAFO ESA Project Review and Consultation. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or if you need additional information. We look forward to further consultation guidance.

Thank you,

Megan Neylon
Permitting Manager
304-841-2086
Megan.Neylon@eqt.com

From: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>
Sent: Friday, September 5, 2025 3:38 PM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>; Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Killosky, Jesse <Jesse.Killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <Ashley.Merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Jackie,

Thank you for checking in. We are finalizing the determination table and hope to have it back to you next week.

Thank you,

Megan Neylon
Permitting Manager
304-841-2086
Megan.Neylon@eqt.com

From: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 5, 2025 2:21 PM
To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Sabrina,

Happy Friday! I just wanted to follow-up to see if you had any questions about completing the ESA Section 7 Determination Table.

Best,
Jackie

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 11:05 AM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Jackie,

Thank you for your reply. We will take a look at the ESA Section 7 Determination Table in the link you provided. I also wanted to confirm that we have reached out to coordinate with the West Virginia field office as well.

Thanks!

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

Climate positive and carbon negative by 2030. Read more

From: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 6:35 AM
To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Good morning, Sabrina,

Thank you for notifying our office about this project. Can you provide an ESA Section 7 Determination Table? A template of this document can be found in step 3a of our online review process. Are you also coordinating with the West Virginia field office for this project?

Best,
Jackie

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 4:56 PM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Good afternoon,

On behalf of Mountain Valley Pipeline, I am reaching out to you to provide information on the proposed MVP Boost Project. Please find attached an initial consultation letter for with a description of the proposed project. We are requesting information and coordination on resources under your agency's jurisdiction and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 Determination Table

Project Name: MVP Boost – Swann Compressor Station

Date: 09-12-2025

Consultation Code: 2025-0130847

Species / Resource Name *Insert name of species or resource as listed on Official Species List.*	**Habitat/Species Presence in Action Area** *Indicate if suitable habitat and species are present in the Action Area (see examples in Step 5).*	**Sources of Info** *Explain what info suitable habitat/species presence is based on.*	**ESA Section 7 Determination** *Using reasoning and decision tables in Step 5, select determination for each species (e.g. no effect, not likely to adversely affect, or likely to adversely affect).*	**Project Elements that Support Determination** *Explain which project elements may impact the habitat or individuals of each species and any Avoidance and Minimization Measures being implemented.*
Indiana Bat *(Myotis sodalis)*	Suitable habitat (forested area) present in Action Area.[1] Species indicated as potential to occur in IPaC review.	Action Area is within species range reported by IPaC and USFWS species mapping. [2]	NLAA	Tree clearing – Proponent proposes winter clearing to avoid impacting active season rearing/roosting/foraging bats
Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis)*	Suitable habitat (forested area) present in Action Area. Species indicated as potential to occur in IPaC review.	Action Area is within species range reported by IPaC and USFWS species mapping.[2] The VDWR bat consultation tool[3] indicates Action Area is within Consultation Range for the species.	NLAA	Tree clearing – Proponent proposes winter clearing to avoid impacting active season rearing/roosting/foraging bats
Smooth Coneflower (*Echinacea laevigata)*	Suitable habitat (open/disturbed areas) present within the Action Area. Species indicated as potential to occur in IPaC review.	Action Area is within range reported by IPaC and USFWS species mapping.[2] USFWS website for distribution of species shows high potential area overlapping with Action Area. Previous surveys did not identify species along the MVP pipeline	NLAA	Presence of smooth coneflower in the Project could result in adverse impacts from land clearing. However, based on VDCR biologist's review of the Project a survey is not recommended for smooth coneflower.[5]

Species / Resource Name *Insert name of species or resource as listed on Official Species List.*	**Habitat/Species Presence in Action Area** *Indicate if suitable habitat and species are present in the Action Area (see examples in Step 5).*	**Sources of Info** *Explain what info suitable habitat/species presence is based on.*	**ESA Section 7 Determination** *Using reasoning and decision tables in Step 5, select determination for each species (e.g. no effect, not likely to adversely affect, or likely to adversely affect).*	**Project Elements that Support Determination** *Explain which project elements may impact the habitat or individuals of each species and any Avoidance and Minimization Measures being implemented.*
		route. NatureServe[4] database indicates presence in general area of the project. VDCR Biotics System predictive model identified potential habitat intersects the Project boundary.[5]		

IPaC = Information for Planning and Consultation; MVP = Mountain Valley Pipeline; USFWS = US Fish and Wildlife; VDCR = Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation; VDWR = Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

[1] For purpose of this preliminary effects determination, the Action Area was defined as the area encompassed by a 1.7-mile buffer around the Project boundary, which was the maximum extent to which effects of noise from project construction and operation would extend based on a noise analysis for pipeline construction. The project proponent will conduct a similar analysis for the Swann Compressor Station to develop a final Action Area.

[2] US FWS species mapping refers to resources available in species reports on the USFWS Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS). https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species-reports; Accessed 8/27/2025.

[3] VDWR bat consultation tool https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/12e379514c034d3cb8a7e5c361aec533; Accessed 8/27/2025

[4] https://explorer.natureserve.org/ Accessed 8/27/2025

[5] Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VDCR). 2025. Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project. Letter from S. Rene Hypes, Natural Heritage Project Review Coordinator, VDCR, Richmond, Virginia, to Anna Ritchie, Tetra Tech, Inc. Portland, Maine. September 2025.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 Determination Table Proposed Species

Project Name: MVP Boost – Swann Compressor Station

Date: 09-12-2025

Consultation Code: 2025-0130847

Species / Resource Name *Insert name of species or resource as listed on Official Species List.*	**Habitat/Species Presence in Action Area** *Indicate if suitable habitat and species are present in the Action Area (see examples in Step 5).*	**Sources of Info** *Explain what info suitable habitat/species presence is based on.*	**ESA Section 7 Determination** *Using reasoning and decision tables in Step 5, select determination for each proposed species (e.g. no jeopardy or jeopardy).*	**Project Elements that Support Determination** *Explain which project elements may impact the habitat or individuals of each species and any Avoidance and Minimization Measures being implemented.*
Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus)*	Suitable habitat (forested area) present in Action Area.[1] Species indicated as potential to occur in IPaC review.	Action Area is within species range reported by IPaC and USFWS species mapping[2]. VDWR bat consultation tool[3] indicates Action Area is within 3 miles of known hibernacula and within 1.5 miles of a previous confirmed record of the species.	No jeopardy	Tree clearing – Proponent proposes winter clearing to avoid impacting active season rearing/roosting/foraging bats.
Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus)*	Suitable habitat (open/disturbed/agricultural areas suitable for milkweed) is present within the Action Area. Species indicated as potential to occur in IPaC review.	Action Area is within species range reported by IPaC and USFWS species mapping[2]. Wide distribution of species and potential for milkweed and fall roosting areas/habitat in or near the Action Area creates potential for suitable habitat to be present.	No jeopardy	Removal of milkweed in the Project could result in adverse effects to monarch caterpillars/chrysalis if present. Surveys of areas to be cleared of milkweed prior to clearing can be used to determine measures to avoid adverse impacts (e.g., transplant milkweed plants to non-cleared areas, keep topsoil

Species / Resource Name *Insert name of species or resource as listed on Official Species List.*	**Habitat/Species Presence in Action Area** *Indicate if suitable habitat and species are present in the Action Area (see examples in Step 5).*	**Sources of Info** *Explain what info suitable habitat/species presence is based on.*	**ESA Section 7 Determination** *Using reasoning and decision tables in Step 5, select determination for each proposed species (e.g. no jeopardy or jeopardy).*	**Project Elements that Support Determination** *Explain which project elements may impact the habitat or individuals of each species and any Avoidance and Minimization Measures being implemented.*
				separate to maintain seedbank, implementing responsible weed management and avoiding herbicide treatments where milkweed is present).

IPaC = Information for Planning and Consultation; MVP = Mountain Valley Pipeline; USFWS = US Fish and Wildlife

[1] For purpose of this preliminary effects determination, the Action Area was defined as the area encompassed by a 1.7-mile buffer around the Project boundary, which was the maximum extent to which effects of noise from project construction and operation would extend based on a noise analysis for pipeline construction. The project proponent will conduct a similar analysis for the Swann Compressor Station to develop a final Action Area.

[2] USFWS species mapping refers to resources available in species reports on the USFWS Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS). https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species-reports Accessed 8/27/2025.

[3] Virginia DWR bat consultation tool https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/12e379514c034d3cb8a7e5c361aec533 Accessed 8/27/2025

From: Virginia Field Office, FW5
To: Neylon, Megan; Hepburn, Sabrina
Cc: Killosky, Jesse; Merks, Ashley; Scott, John; Elizabeth Matseur
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request
Date: Monday, September 15, 2025 11:43:43 AM
Attachments: image007.png
image008.png
image009.png
image010.png
image011.png
image012.png

Hi Megan,

Thank you for providing the species determination tables. Could you share the letter from VDCR regarding not recommending a survey for smooth coneflower?

I'm going to share this project with Rachel to evaluate the bats. Could you provide more information about the project, including:

1. how many acres of tree clearing?
2. Will the proposed project involve blasting where bats may be present?
3. Will blasting activity occur during the active season for Indiana bats?
4. Are there any caves, mines, or mine features that are suitable for hibernating Indiana bats within the area expected to be impacted by the project?
5. Does the project involve removal or modification of a human-made structure (barn, house, or other building) known or suspected to contain roosting bats?
6. Does the project include removal/modification of an existing culvert?
7. Does the project include removal/modification of an existing bridge?
8. Does the project include temporary or permanent lighting of roadway(s), facility(ies), and/ or parking lot(s)?
9. When installing new or replacing existing permanent lights, will downward-facing, full cut-off lens lights (with same intensity or less for replacement lighting) be used?
10. Will temporary lighting be directed away from suitable Indiana bat habitat during the active season?

We also have recently added the Northeast Determination Key for Virginia in IPaC, which includes Indiana bat, which will ask the same questions and provide a determination at the end of the questions, if you want to use it (optional, not required). Unfortunately, it does not include smooth coneflower at this time but we hopefully will be adding it. There is also the Northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat range-wide determination key for

those two species (unfortunately, all the bat species could not be combined in the same dkey).

Thanks,
Jen

From: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>
Sent: Friday, September 12, 2025 4:14 PM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>; 'Hepburn, Sabrina' <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Killosky, Jesse <Jesse.Killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <Ashley.Merks@eqt.com>; 'Scott, John' <John.Scott@tetratech.com>; Elizabeth Matseur <ematseur@west-inc.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Jackie,

Per your request, please find attached a draft ESA Section 7 Determination Table. This was prepared following the online guidance for VAFO ESA Project Review and Consultation. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or if you need additional information. We look forward to further consultation guidance.

Thank you,

Megan Neylon
Permitting Manager
304-841-2086
Megan.Neylon@eqt.com

From: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>
Sent: Friday, September 5, 2025 3:38 PM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>; Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Killosky, Jesse <Jesse.Killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <Ashley.Merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Jackie,

Thank you for checking in. We are finalizing the determination table and hope to have it back to you next week.

Thank you,

Megan Neylon
Permitting Manager
304-841-2086
Megan.Neylon@eqt.com

From: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 5, 2025 2:21 PM
To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Sabrina,

Happy Friday! I just wanted to follow-up to see if you had any questions about completing the ESA Section 7 Determination Table.

Best,
Jackie

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 11:05 AM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Jackie,

Thank you for your reply. We will take a look at the ESA Section 7 Determination Table in the

link you provided. I also wanted to confirm that we have reached out to coordinate with the West Virginia field office as well.

Thanks!

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

Climate positive and carbon negative by 2030. Read more

From: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 6:35 AM
To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Good morning, Sabrina,

Thank you for notifying our office about this project. Can you provide an ESA Section 7 Determination Table? A template of this document can be found in step 3a of our online review process. Are you also coordinating with the West Virginia field office for this project?

Best,
Jackie

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 4:56 PM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks,

Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Good afternoon,

On behalf of Mountain Valley Pipeline, I am reaching out to you to provide information on the proposed MVP Boost Project. Please find attached an initial consultation letter for with a description of the proposed project. We are requesting information and coordination on resources under your agency's jurisdiction and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

From: Elizabeth Matseur
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5; Neylon, Megan; Hepburn, Sabrina
Cc: Killosky, Jesse; Merks, Ashley; Scott, John
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request
Date: Wednesday, September 17, 2025 8:37:10 AM
Attachments: image007.png
image008.png
image009.png
image010.png
image011.png
image012.png
C2_signature_west_finalupdatedgreen_7907b6f8-1817-487e-a86a-bbeaa461a443.png
C2_signature_news_green-01_d9a4d0ef-44c7-4456-a2bf-737a4355860f.png
C2_signature_linkedin_westgreen-01_839a39bf-ccc8-4e2c-b31e-1ae5c79d2aae.png
93101, TTE, Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project .pdf

Hello Jen,

On behalf of MVP, please find attached the letter from VDCR which includes information on not recommending a survey for smooth coneflower.

Thanks!
Liz

WEST
Innovative Solutions Through Applied Science

Elizabeth Matseur
ESA Compliance Specialist
(she/her)

Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc.
w: 307-757-8780 **e:** ematseur@west-inc.com
a: 150 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 106, Camp Hill, PA 17011

From: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 15, 2025 1:43 PM
To: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; 'Hepburn, Sabrina' <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Killosky, Jesse <Jesse.Killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <Ashley.Merks@eqt.com>; 'Scott, John' <John.Scott@tetratech.com>; Elizabeth Matseur <ematseur@west-inc.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Megan,

Thank you for providing the species determination tables. Could you share the letter from VDCR regarding not recommending a survey for smooth coneflower?

I'm going to share this project with Rachel to evaluate the bats. Could you provide more

information about the project, including:

1. how many acres of tree clearing?
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3. Will blasting activity occur during the active season for Indiana bats?
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Thanks,
Jen

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Sent: Friday, September 12, 2025 4:14 PM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>; 'Hepburn, Sabrina' <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Killosky, Jesse <Jesse.Killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <Ashley.Merks@eqt.com>; 'Scott, John' <John.Scott@tetratech.com>; Elizabeth Matseur <ematseur@west-inc.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Jackie,

Per your request, please find attached a draft ESA Section 7 Determination Table. This was prepared following the online guidance for VAFO ESA Project Review and Consultation. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or if you need

additional information. We look forward to further consultation guidance.

Thank you,

Megan Neylon
Permitting Manager
304-841-2086
Megan.Neylon@eqt.com

From: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>
Sent: Friday, September 5, 2025 3:38 PM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>; Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Killosky, Jesse <Jesse.Killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <Ashley.Merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Jackie,

Thank you for checking in. We are finalizing the determination table and hope to have it back to you next week.

Thank you,

Megan Neylon
Permitting Manager
304-841-2086
Megan.Neylon@eqt.com

From: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 5, 2025 2:21 PM

To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Sabrina,

Happy Friday! I just wanted to follow-up to see if you had any questions about completing the ESA Section 7 Determination Table.

Best,
Jackie

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 11:05 AM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Hi Jackie,

Thank you for your reply. We will take a look at the ESA Section 7 Determination Table in the link you provided. I also wanted to confirm that we have reached out to coordinate with the West Virginia field office as well.

Thanks!

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

From: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 6:35 AM

To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Good morning, Sabrina,

Thank you for notifying our office about this project. Can you provide an ESA Section 7 Determination Table? A template of this document can be found in step 3a of our online review process. Are you also coordinating with the West Virginia field office for this project?

Best,
Jackie

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 4:56 PM
To: Virginia Field Office, FW5 <virginiafieldoffice@fws.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MVP Boost Project Review Request

Good afternoon,

On behalf of Mountain Valley Pipeline, I am reaching out to you to provide information on the proposed MVP Boost Project. Please find attached an initial consultation letter for with a description of the proposed project. We are requesting information and coordination on resources under your agency's jurisdiction and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

From: Schul, Hannah (DWR)
To: Hepburn, Sabrina
Cc: Neylon, Megan; Killosky, Jesse; Merks, Ashley; Scott, John; Strawderman, Nicole (DWR)
Subject: Re: MVP Boost Project
Date: Monday, August 25, 2025 6:32:29 AM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
Outlook-4p0z0idh.png
MVP Boost VDWR Intro Letter 20250801.pdf

Good morning Sabrina,

Thank you for your coordination and patience as we are short staffed at this time.

We will not be providing comments on projects that are not currently involved in one of the regulatory review processes for which we are a formal consulting agency (see https://www.DWR.virginia.gov/environmental-programs/).- If your project becomes involved in one of these review processes, we will review the project at that time and provide our comments to the requesting agency. We encourage you to review the DWR information, guidance, and protocols available on our website at the bottom of this page in the “Additional Resources” section and implement, as appropriate.

If there are widlife resources you have specific concerns about and would like to set up a preapplication meeting, we are happy to accomodate. Otherwise, we will review the project once we receive the permit application from regulatory agency(ies).

Please let me know if you have any further questions. Have a great week!

CONSERVE. CONNECT. PROTECT.

Hannah Schul
Environmental Services Program Manager
(804) 968-8546

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
7870 Villa Park Drive
P.O. Box 90778
Henrico, VA 23228

https://dwr.virginia.gov/wies/environmental-services/

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 10:29 AM
To: Schul, Hannah (DWR) <Hannah.Schul@DWR.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: MVP Boost Project

Good morning Ms. Schul,

On behalf of Mountain Valley Pipeline, I am reaching out to you to provide information on the proposed MVP Boost Project. Please find attached an initial consultation letter with a description of the proposed project. We are requesting information and coordination on resources under your agency's jurisdiction and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

Climate positive and carbon negative by 2030. Read more

From: Neylon, Megan
To: Hepburn, Sabrina
Subject: FW: Mountain Valley Boost Information Request
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 6:16:46 PM
Attachments: image003.png
image005.png

From: Richard Caywood <RCAYWOOD@roanokecountyva.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 7:51 PM
To: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Mountain Valley Boost Information Request

Megan,

Thank you I have forwarded this to the appropriate staff for response.

Richard

Richard L. Caywood, P.E. | County Administrator
County Administration
5204 Bernard Drive | Roanoke, VA 24018
(O) 540-776-7190
www.roanokecountyva.gov

From: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 4:03 PM
To: Richard Caywood <RCAYWOOD@roanokecountyva.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] - Mountain Valley Boost Information Request

Hi Mr. Caywood,

As Maurice has mentioned to you, MVP is planning to add a new compressor station in Montgomery County in order to boost capacity on the pipeline system. In preparation for our FERC filing, we are required to analyze any potential cumulative impacts that may occur due to other projects either ongoing or proposed in the area. Due to the sites proximity to Roanoke County, we wanted to reach out to you for information on project in the area. Any help that you could provide in identifying those projects would be greatly appreciated. I have attached a copy of an information spreadsheet for your use should you choose to use it. Please let me know if

you have any questions.

Thank you,

Megan Neylon
Permitting Manager
304-841-2086
Megan.Neylon@eqt.com

To learn about EQT's environmental, social and governance efforts visit:
https://esg.eqt.com

From: Hypes, Rene (DCR)
To: Hepburn, Sabrina
Cc: Neylon, Megan; Killosky, Jesse; Merks, Ashley; Scott, John; Ritchie, Anna
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project Reference ID 25080615345626
Date: Thursday, October 9, 2025 2:42:44 PM
Attachments: image007.png
image008.png
image009.png
image010.png
image011.png
93101, TTE, Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project .pdf
TetraTech-DCR MVP Boost Project Tier I Data License Agreement 2025.pdf

Hi Sabrina,

You are correct that the Roanoke logperch was delisted federally on effective August 21, 2025. I apologize for the oversight on my part in including a "LE" listing for this species in the comment letter. I have attached a revised letter to this email.

Regarding the state listing, you will need to contact the regulatory authority, the Department of Wildlife Resources, to determine if the Roanoke logperch was also delisted on the state level. I would suggest contacting, Hannah Schul, Environmental Services Program Manager at the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources at Hannah.Schul@DWR.virginia.gov.

Please note, I did not receive a signed data agreement for the request for a shapefile of the natural heritage resources intersecting the project area. Upon receipt of the signed agreement, I will provide the shapefile.

Thank you.

Rene'

Rene' Hypes
Environmental Review Coordinator
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804-371-2708 I rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 1:51 PM
To: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>; Ritchie, Anna <Anna.Ritchie@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project Reference ID 25080615345626

Good afternoon Rene,

We received your September 5, 2025, response to our request for information on rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species records in the vicinity of the MVP Boost Project. In the letter, it appears to show Roanoke logperch as endangered at both the federal and state level (G1G2/S1S2/LE/LE). However, a question has come up relative to the listing status. As I'm sure you are aware, the Roanoke logperch was delisted under the Endangered Species Act at the federal level on July 22, effective August 21, 2025. I was hoping to clarify with you if that also results in any change to its state listing status. Under 4VAC15-20-130A, I understand that the Virginia code adopts by default any federally listed species as an endangered or threatened species in the Commonwealth, but I am unclear on whether Roanoke logperch is independently listed, or if the delisting at the federal level would also remove the species listing at the state level.

I appreciate any information or clarification you can provide. Thanks very much!

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 2:42 PM
To: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project

Hi Rene,

Thank you for your reply. I just wanted to confirm that it looks like the request was assigned Project reference ID is 25080615345626 upon submittal.

Please let us know if you have any questions, thanks!

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

From: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Sent: Saturday, August 2, 2025 4:09 AM
To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project

Thank you, Sabrina, for your request for the review of the MVP Boost Project for impacts to natural heritage resources. In order for the DCR Division of Natural Heritage to initiate a project review for the project, along with the attached map we also need a completed information services order form. Upon receipt of this information, we will provide comments within 30 calendar days.

Please let me know if have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rene' Hypes
Environmental Review Coordinator
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804-371-2708 I rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 12:01 PM
To: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: MVP Boost Project

Good afternoon Ms. Hypes,

On behalf of Mountain Valley Pipeline, I am reaching out to you to provide information on the proposed MVP Boost Project. Please find attached an initial consultation letter with a description of the proposed project. We are requesting information and coordination on resources under your agency's jurisdiction and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

From:	Schul, Hannah (DWR)
To:	Hepburn, Sabrina
Cc:	Neylon, Megan; Killosky, Jesse; Merks, Ashley; Scott, John; Strawderman, Nicole (DWR); Ritchie, Anna
Subject:	Re: Status of Roanoke Logperch
Date:	Friday, October 10, 2025 1:24:04 PM
Attachments:	image007.png image008.png image009.png image010.png image011.png Outlook-1phffmhu.png

Hi Sabrina,

The federal designation will go away. It will remain state endangered until one of two things happens: 1) DWR's Board adopts the federal list – removing the state listing which was originally applied with adoption of the federal list, or 2) the Board lists the species state endangered. So as far as environmental goes, nothing changes other than removal of the federal status.

Thanks!

Hannah Schul
Environmental Services Program Manager
(804) 968-8546

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
7870 Villa Park Drive
P.O. Box 90778
Henrico, VA 23228

https://dwr.virginia.gov/wies/environmental-services/

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2025 1:29 PM
To: Schul, Hannah (DWR) <Hannah.Schul@dwr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>; Strawderman, Nicole (DWR) <Nicole.Strawderman@dwr.virginia.gov>; Ritchie, Anna <Anna.Ritchie@tetratech.com>
Subject: Status of Roanoke Logperch

Good afternoon,

I've been in communication with Rene Hypes at the DCR Division of Natural Heritage regarding a request we submitted for information on rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species records in the vicinity of the MVP Boost Project. Below she recommended reaching out to you with a general question we have regarding the listing status of Roanoke logperch in Virginia. Since the species was delisted at the federal level, effective August 21, 2025, can you advise whether that also results in its delisting at the state level as well? I understand that the species was adopted as an endangered species of the Commonwealth under 4VAC15-20-130A, which adopts all federally listed species, but I am looking for clarification on what that means for Roanoke logperch now that it is no longer federally listed.

Thanks very much! I appreciate any information or clarification you can provide.

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

From: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 2:43 PM
To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>; Ritchie, Anna <Anna.Ritchie@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project Reference ID 25080615345626

Hi Sabrina,

You are correct that the Roanoke logperch was delisted federally on effective August 21, 2025. I apologize for the oversight on my part in including a “LE” listing for this species in the comment letter. I have attached a revised letter to this email.

Regarding the state listing, you will need to contact the regulatory authority, the Department of Wildlife Resources, to determine if the Roanoke logperch was also delisted on the state level. I would suggest contacting, Hannah Schul, Environmental Services Program Manager at the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources at Hannah.Schul@DWR.virginia.gov.

Please note, I did not receive a signed data agreement for the request for a shapefile of the natural heritage resources intersecting the project area. Upon receipt of the signed agreement, I will provide the shapefile.

Thank you.

Rene’

Rene' Hypes
Environmental Review Coordinator
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804-371-2708 I rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 1:51 PM
To: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>; Ritchie, Anna <Anna.Ritchie@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project Reference ID 25080615345626

Good afternoon Rene,

We received your September 5, 2025, response to our request for information on rare, threatened, or endangered plant and animal species records in the vicinity of the MVP Boost Project. In the letter, it appears to show Roanoke logperch as endangered at both the federal and state level (G1G2/S1S2/LE/LE). However, a question has come up relative to the listing status. As I'm sure you are aware, the Roanoke logperch was delisted under the Endangered Species Act at the federal level on July 22, effective August 21, 2025. I was hoping to clarify with you if that also results in any change to its state listing status. Under 4VAC15-20-130A, I understand that the Virginia code adopts by default any federally listed species as an endangered or threatened species in the Commonwealth, but I am unclear on whether Roanoke logperch is independently listed, or if the delisting at the federal level would also remove the species listing at the state level.

I appreciate any information or clarification you can provide. Thanks very much!

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 2:42 PM
To: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project

Hi Rene,

Thank you for your reply. I just wanted to confirm that it looks like the request was assigned Project reference ID is 25080615345626 upon submittal.

Please let us know if you have any questions, thanks!

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her

Climate positive and carbon negative by 2030. Read more

From: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Sent: Saturday, August 2, 2025 4:09 AM
To: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: RE: MVP Boost Project

Thank you, Sabrina, for your request for the review of the MVP Boost Project for impacts to natural heritage resources. In order for the DCR Division of Natural Heritage to initiate a project review for the project, along with the attached map we also need a completed information services order form. Upon receipt of this information, we will provide comments within 30 calendar days.

Please let me know if have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rene' Hypes
Environmental Review Coordinator
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Natural Heritage

600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
804-371-2708 I rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov

From: Hepburn, Sabrina <Sabrina.Hepburn@tetratech.com>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 12:01 PM
To: Hypes, Rene (DCR) <Rene.hypes@dcr.virginia.gov>
Cc: Neylon, Megan <megan.neylon@eqt.com>; Killosky, Jesse <jesse.killosky@eqt.com>; Merks, Ashley <ashley.merks@eqt.com>; Scott, John <John.Scott@tetratech.com>
Subject: MVP Boost Project

Good afternoon Ms. Hypes,

On behalf of Mountain Valley Pipeline, I am reaching out to you to provide information on the proposed MVP Boost Project. Please find attached an initial consultation letter with a description of the proposed project. We are requesting information and coordination on resources under your agency's jurisdiction and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Hepburn | Senior Project Manager
Mobile **+1 (781) 296-2493**
sabrina.hepburn@tetratech.com

Pronouns: she/her