



Fairfield to Congress Street Substation Transmission Line 115-kV Rebuild Project - Ash Creek to Congress Street Substation and Sasco Creek to Ash Creek CTDEEP NDDDB Species Protection Best Management Practices (BMPs)

The best management practices (BMPs) and recommendations for the Ash Creek to Congress Street Substation and the Sasco Creek to Ash Creek Railroad Transmission Line 115-kV Rebuild Projects are based on The United Illuminating Company's Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) Natural Diversity Database (NDDDB) Determination No. 20240837332 and No. 202408909, received August 22, 2024, and September 13, 2024, respectively. This plan includes species identified by the CT DEEP NDDDB and US Fish and Wildlife Services that could potentially be found in each project corridor and those applicable BMPs United Illuminating and its contractors will follow during construction.

The CT DEEP NDDDB review is intended for the identification and protection of potential state- listed species. The United Illuminating Company recognizes the importance and prioritizes the protection of the existing environment, utilizing the following listed BMPs. It is important to note that this is not a comprehensive list of all BMPs, and additional measures will be implemented, as applicable, by the project contractors during construction.

Please note that the information included in the Determinations and this BMP Summary are derived from CTDEEP NDDDB maps that represent approximate locations of endangered, threatened, and special concern species and significant natural communities in Connecticut. Exact locations have been masked to protect sensitive species from collection and disturbance and to protect landowner's rights whenever species occur on private property. The locations of species and natural communities depicted on the NDDDB maps are based on data collected over the years by DEEP staff, scientists, conservation groups, and landowners. In some cases, an occurrence represents a location derived from literature, museum records, and specimens.

In addition to NDDDB identified species, The United Illuminating Company performed a Raptor Nest Survey and conducted additional consultation with the CTDEEP Bureau of Natural Resources Wildlife Division regarding a Bald Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon nest, both located outside the line of sight and impact protection buffer from the current proposed activities. Consultations with CTDEEP also includes Osprey nest best management practices. UI will be taking all necessary measures to protect and not adversely affect any of these species and will continue to consult with CT DEEP.



State Listed Fish Protection

Species	Listing Status	Time Restriction
Fish		
Blueback Herring (<i>Alosa aestivalis</i>)	Federal: Unlisted State: Special Concern	None - no work proposed within Mill River. Continue to follow BMP's.

Blueback Herring

Species	Habitat	Approximate Location within Project Area
Blueback Herring (<i>Alosa aestivalis</i>) Federal: Unlisted State: Special Concern	Coastal waters and will migrate into freshwater rivers and streams to spawn	Records in Mill River





State Listed Bird Protection

Species	Listing Status	Time Restriction
Birds		
Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	Federal: Unlisted * † State: Threatened	No time of year restrictions based on DEEP correspondence unless Project activities change.
Great egret (<i>Ardea alba</i>)	Federal: Unlisted* State: Threatened	No tree clearing within 300-feet of upland buffer of Mill River between April 15 and August 15 and no excessive/unpredictable new noise April - August
Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)	Federal: Unlisted* State: Unlisted	May – July if within 300-feet of active osprey nests without a CTDEEP
Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)	Federal: Unlisted* State: Threatened	No work between April-July within 330-feet of the nest for areas out of line of sight, or within 660-feet within line of sight of nest
Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)	Federal: Threatened State: Unlisted	None – follow BMP's if red knot is identified
Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii dougalli</i>)	Federal: Endangered State: Endangered	None – follow BMP's if roseate tern is identified
Snowy egret (<i>Egretta thula</i>)	Federal: Unlisted* State: Threatened	No tree clearing within 300-feet of upland buffer of Mill River between April 15 and August 15 and no excessive/unpredictable new noise April - August

* note: while unlisted by USFWS, these species are federally protected under the MBTA.

† note: this species is federally protected by the Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act.



Peregrine Falcon

Species	Habitat	Project Area
Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)	Nest on rocky cliffs or manmade structures such as towers or bridges	Known active nest within 660 feet from Project corridor in Bridgeport. This nest is also 330 feet away from Project activities and outside the line of sight.
Federal: Unlisted State: Threatened		



Bald Eagle

Species	Habitat	Project Area
Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	Nest and forage near lakes, reservoirs, rivers, marshes, and coasts	Approximately 660 feet from Project corridor in Fairfield, CT
Federal: Unlisted (protected) State: Threatened		



Great Egret

Species	Habitat	Approximate Location within Project Area
Great Egret (<i>Ardea alba</i>)	Freshwater and saltwater marshes, streams, ponds, lakes, and mud flats	Mill River (rookery/nesting and foraging habitat)
Federal: Unlisted State: Threatened		



Red Knot

Species	Habitat	Approximate Location within Project Area
Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)	Coastal/barrier beaches	No records or habitat within Project Area, though known to occur along coastal habitats which are found near the Project Area
Federal: Threatened State: Unlisted		





Osprey

Species	Habitat	Project Area
<p>Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>)</p> <p>Federal: Unlisted State: Unlisted</p>	<p>Tall trees and snags near shallow water (rivers, lakes, coastal areas), will nest on manmade structures</p>	<p>Multiple locations within 660 feet of the Project corridor</p>



Roseate Tern

Species	Habitat	Approximate Location within Project Area
<p>Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii dougallii</i>)</p> <p>Federal: Endangered State: Endangered</p>	<p>Sandy or gravel beaches and rocky offshore islands near shallow water for fishing</p>	<p>No records or habitat within Project Area, though known to occur nearby along coastal habitats</p>



Snowy Egret

Species	Habitat	Approximate Location within Project Area
<p>Snowy Egret (<i>Egretta thula</i>)</p> <p>Federal: Unlisted State: Threatened</p>	<p>Freshwater and saltwater marshes, streams, ponds, lakes, and mud flats</p>	<p>Mill River (rookery/nesting and foraging habitat)</p>





State Listed Mammal Protection

Species	Listing Status	Time Restriction
Mammals		
Northern Long-Eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	Federal: Endangered State: Endangered	Limit clearing of trees 3-inches diameter at breast height (dbh) or greater from June - July (Pup Season)

Northern Long-Eared Bat

Species	Habitat	Approximate Location within Project Area
Northern Long-Eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>) Federal: Endangered State: Endangered	Summer habitat (active season) is within forested and riparian areas. Bats will roost in trees with exfoliating bark, dead trees, or trees with dead/dying segments	Possible within Project Area: forested areas, trees with suitable roosting habitat (no known hibernacula or summer roosts in area)

