

SPECIES ANALYSIS SUMMARY (ADDENDUM)

Project Name: US 87

CSJ(s): 0425-01-021

County	Taxon	Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Suitable Habitat Present?	Explanation for determination regarding suitable habitat	Federal Status	Effect/Take Determination for Federally Listed Species	State Status	Impact Determination for State-Listed Species	Explanation for Effect/Take and/or Impact Determination	Presence/Absence survey conducted?
Hartley, Moore	Birds	Interior Least Tern	<i>Sternula (=Sterna) antillarum</i>	The interior population (subspecies <i>athalassos</i> ) of the Least Tern nests on bare or sparsely vegetated sand, shell, and gravel beaches, sandbars, islands, and salt flats associated with inland rivers and reservoirs. It occasionally nests on man-made structures such as sand and gravel pits or gravel rooftops. Preferred habitat includes sand and gravel bars within a wide unobstructed river channel, or open flats along shorelines of lakes and reservoirs. Colony sites can move annually, depending on landscape disturbance and vegetation growth at established colonies. It is known to nest at three reservoirs along the Rio Grande River, on the Canadian river in the northern Panhandle, and along the Red River.	N	The project area is outside the breeding and wintering range of this species. Although suitable stopover habitat may be present, Least Tern is not expected to regularly occur and any use of this habitat would be incidental.	—	No effect	E	No impact	The project is not a wind energy project within the migratory route and does not contain suitable breeding and wintering habitat for the Least Tern.	N

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Hartley, Moore	Birds	Least Tern - Migratory	<i>Sternula (=Sterna) antillarum</i>	The interior population (subspecies <i>athalassos</i> ) of the Least Tern nests on bare or sparsely vegetated sand, shell, and gravel beaches, sandbars, islands, and salt flats associated with inland rivers and reservoirs. It occasionally nests on man-made structures such as sand and gravel pits or gravel rooftops. Preferred habitat includes sand and gravel bars within a wide unobstructed river channel, or open flats along shorelines of lakes and reservoirs. Colony sites can move annually, depending on landscape disturbance and vegetation growth at established colonies. It is known to nest at three reservoirs along the Rio Grande River, on the Canadian River in the northern Panhandle, and along the Red River.	N/A	The list of federally threatened and endangered species indicates that based on the project location within the migratory route, effects to Least Tern only need be considered for wind energy projects. The project area is outside the breeding and wintering range of this species. Although suitable stopover habitat may be present, Least Tern is not expected to regularly occur and any use of this habitat would be incidental.	E	No effect	E	No impact	The project is not a wind energy project within the migratory route and does not contain suitable breeding and wintering habitat for the Least Tern.	N
Hartley, Moore	Birds	Piping Plover - Migratory	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	This migratory species overwinters in Texas, where it occurs on beaches, ephemeral sand flats, barrier islands, sand, mud, algal flats, washover passes, salt marshes, lagoons, and dunes along the Gulf Coast and adjacent offshore islands, including spoil islands in the Intracoastal Waterway. Algal flats appear to be the highest quality habitat because of their relative inaccessibility and their continuous availability throughout all tidal conditions. Sand flats often appear to be preferred over algal flats when both are available, but large portions of sand flats along the Texas coast are available only during low or very low tides and are often completely unavailable during extreme high tides or strong north winds. Beaches appear to serve as a secondary habitat to the flats associated with the primary bays, lagoons, and inter-island passes. Beaches are rarely used on the southern Texas coast, where bayside habitat is always available, and are abandoned as bayside habitats become available on the central and northern coast.	N/A	The list of federally threatened and endangered species indicates that based on the project location within the migratory route, effects to Piping Plover only need be considered for wind energy projects. The project area is outside the breeding and wintering range of this species. Although suitable stopover habitat may be present, Piping Plover is not expected to regularly occur and any use of this habitat would be incidental.	T	No effect	T	No impact	The project is not a wind energy project within the migratory route and does not contain suitable breeding and wintering habitat for the Piping Plover.	N

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Hartley, Moore	Birds	Red Knot - Migratory	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	The species is a winter resident and migrant in Texas. It is primarily found in marine habitats such as sandy beaches, salt marshes, lagoons, mudflats of estuaries and bays, and mangrove swamps during winter months. It primarily occurs along the Gulf coast on tidal flats and beaches and less frequently in marshes and flooded fields. It has occasionally been observed along shorelines of large lakes and freshwater marshes.	N/A	The list of federally threatened and endangered species indicates that based on the project location within the migratory route, effects to Red Knot only need be considered for wind energy projects. The project area is outside the breeding and wintering range of this species. Although suitable stopover habitat may be present, Red Knot is not expected to regularly occur and any use of this habitat would be incidental.	T	No effect	T	No impact	The project is not a wind energy project within the migratory route and does not contain suitable breeding and wintering habitat for the Red Knot.	N
Hartley, Moore	Birds	White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	The species is found in the Western Gulf Coastal Plains ecoregion of Texas. Preferred habitat includes freshwater wetlands, marshes, ponds, rivers, irrigated land, and sloughs, but it occasionally forages in brackish or saltwater marshes. It nests in marshes in low trees, on the ground in bulrushes ( <i>Scirpus</i> sp.) or reeds, or on floating mats.	N	No freshwater marshes, ponds, rivers, or slough. Irrigated land is within the project area but is only wet for certain periods. A site visit conducted September 24, 2020 confirmed no suitable habitat.	—	N/A	T	No impact	The project does not contain suitable habitat including freshwater wetlands and marshes for the species.	N
Hartley, Moore	Fishes	Arkansas River Shiner	<i>Notropis girardi</i>	The species is a relatively small minnow that inhabits large sandy rivers in the Arkansas River basin. Preferred habitat includes turbid waters of broad, shallow, unshaded channels of creeks and small to large rivers, over mostly silt and shifting sand bottoms. This shiner tends to congregate on the downstream side of large transverse sand ridges.	N	No turbid waters of creeks and channels. Only one ephemeral stream is within the project area. A site visit conducted September 24, 2020 confirmed no suitable habitat.	T	No effect	T	No impact	The project does not contain suitable habitat including rivers and creeks.	N

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Hartley	Mammals	Black Bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	Once widespread throughout the state, both subspecies of American black bear ( <i>Ursus americanus eremicus</i> and <i>U. a. amblyceps</i> ) have been restricted to west Texas, primarily in or near the larger mountain ranges such as the Chisos and Guadalupe Mountains, but occasionally in the Edwards Plateau region. Preferred habitat consists of desert scrub, chaparral, and juniper-oak or pinyon-oak woodlands. Optimal brushy and forest habitats consist of moderate to high density and canopy cover, high species diversity, rugged topography, and low human population.	N	No desert scrub, chaparral, or juniper oak present within the project area. There is also no canopy cover or rugged topography located in the project area. A site visit conducted September 24, 2020 confirmed no suitable habitat.	—	N/A	T	No impact	The project does not contain suitable habitat including desert scrub, chaparral, or juniper oak or pinyon-oak woodlands. There is no canopy cover and the project is not near large mountain ranges.	N
Hartley, Moore	Reptiles	Texas Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>	The species is found in semi-arid open areas with scattered vegetation comprised of bunchgrass, cacti, yucca, mesquite, acacia, juniper, or other woody shrubs and small trees commonly found in loose sandy or loamy soils.	Y	Some small woody shrubs and sandy/loamy soils located within the project area. A site visit conducted September 24, 2020 confirmed suitable habitat.	—	N/A	T	May impact	Contractors will be advised of potential occurrence in the project area and to avoid harming the species if encountered. Harvester ant beds will be avoided in the selection of Project Specific Locations (PSLs).	N

SPECIES ANALYSIS SUMMARY (SGCN)  
Project Name: US 87  
CSI(s): 0425-01-021

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Hartley, Moore	Amphibians	Woodhouse's toad	Anaxyrus woodhousii	Terrestrial and aquatic: A wide variety of terrestrial habitats are used by this species, including forests, grasslands, and barrier island sand dunes. Aquatic habitats are equally varied.	Y	No aquatic habitat present. Limited grassland available within project area. A site visit was conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	Limited grassland available within the project area that could provide habitat. BMPs will be implemented during construction to avoid impacts.	N
Hartley, Moore	Birds	mountain plover	Charadrius montanus	Breeding: nests on high plains or shortgrass prairie, on ground in shallow depression; nonbreeding: shortgrass plains and bare, dirt (plowed) fields; primarily insectivorous	Y	Very little shortgrass prairie located within the project area near shallow depressions. A site visit was conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	There is some short grass prairie located within the project area that could provide habitat. BMPs will be implemented during construction to avoid impacts.	N
Hartley, Moore	Birds	western burrowing owl	Athene cunicularia hypugaea	Open grasslands, especially prairie, plains, and savanna, sometimes in open areas such as vacant lots near human habitation or airports; nests and roosts in abandoned burrows	Y	Open grassland and prairie areas located within the project area. A site visit conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	Some open grassland within and adjacent to the project area that could provide habitat. BMPs will be implemented during construction to avoid impacts.	N
Hartley, Moore	Mammals	thirteen-lined ground squirrel	Ictidomys tridecemlineatus	Prefers short grass prairies with deep soils for burrowing. Frequently found in grazed rangeland, mowed pastures, and golf courses.	Y	Short grass prairies and grazed rangeland are within the project area. A site visit conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	The project area contains some short grass that could provide habitat. BMPs will be implemented during construction to avoid impacts.	N
Hartley, Moore	Mammals	black-tailed prairie dog	Cynomys ludovicianus	Dry, flat, short grasslands with low, relatively sparse vegetation, including areas overgrazed by cattle; live in large family groups	Y	Short grassland with sparse vegetation and grazed by cattle is located within the project area. A site visit was conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	The project area contains sparse vegetation, grazed by cattle that could provide habitat. BMPs will be implemented during construction to avoid impacts.	N
Moore	Mammals	prairie vole	Microtus ochrogaster taylori	Extreme northern Panhandle; colonial; upland herbaceous fields; grasslands, old agricultural lands and thickets; places where there is suitable cover for runways; floodplains of rivers serve as dispersal routes; railroad and highway right-of-ways may serve as corridors for dispersal; nests in burrows, under boards or logs, and above ground in grassy clumps; breeds year-round, esp. spring/fall; peaks depend on availability of moisture	Y	Limited grassland and agricultural land located within the project area. A site visit was conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	The project area contains limited grassland that could provide habitat.	N
Hartley	Mammals	American badger	Taxidea taxus	Generalist. Prefers areas with soft soils that sustain ground squirrels for food. When inactive, occupies underground burrow. Young are born in underground burrows.	Y	Soft soils located within the project area. A site visit was conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	The project area contains some soft soils that could provide habitat.	N
Hartley, Moore	Mammals	eastern spotted skunk	Spilogale putorius	Generalist; open fields prairies, croplands, fence rows, farmyards, forest edges; woodlands. Prefer wooded, brushy areas; tallgrass prairies. S.p. ssp. interrupta found in wooded areas and tallgrass prairies, preferring rocky canyons and outcrops when such sites are available.	Y	Open fields, croplands, and farmyards located in the project area. A site visit was conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	The project area contains open fields, croplands, and farmyards that could provide habitat. Eastern spotted skunk BMPs will be implemented during construction to avoid impacts.	N
Hartley, Moore	Reptiles	western box turtle	Terrapene ornata	Terrestrial: Ornate or western box turtles inhabit prairie grassland, pasture, fields, sandhills, and open woodland. They are essentially terrestrial but sometimes enter slow, shallow streams and creek pools. For shelter, they burrow into soil (e.g., under plants such as yucca) (Converse et al. 2002) or enter burrows made by other species.	Y	Pasture, fields, and limited grassland located within the project area. A site visit conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	The project area contains pasture, fields, and limited grassland that could provide habitat. Terrestrial reptile BMPs will be implemented during construction to avoid impacts.	N
Hartley	Reptiles	western hognose snake	Heterodon nasicus	Terrestrial: Shortgrass or mixed grass prairie, with gravel or sandy soils. Often found associated with draws, floodplains, and more mesic habitats within the arid landscape. Frequently occurs in shrub encroached grasslands.	Y	Some short grass prairie located within the project area. A site visit conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	Limited grassland located within the project area that could provide habitat. Terrestrial reptile BMPs will be implemented during construction to avoid impacts.	N

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Hartley, Moore	Reptiles	western rattlesnake	Crotalus viridis	Terrestrial: Dry desert and prairie grasslands, shrub desert rocky hillsides; edges of arid and semi-arid river breaks.	Y	Limited prairie grassland located within the project area. A site visit was conducted September 24, 2020 to confirm habitat.	May impact	Limited grassland located within the project area that could provide habitat. Terrestrial reptile BMPs will be implemented during construction to avoid impacts.	N