

April 18, 2019

NY Natural Heritage Program-Information Services  
Attn: Andrea Chaloux, Environmental Review Specialist  
NYSDEC  
625 Broadway, 5th Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-4757  
*Sent online via [NaturalHeritage@dec.ny.gov](mailto:NaturalHeritage@dec.ny.gov)*

**Re:     Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC  
        Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center Project  
        Town of Dix, Schuyler County, New York  
        Project Review Request**

Dear Ms. Chaloux:

Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC proposes to construct a solar energy center in the Town of Dix, Schuyler County, New York (See Figure 1). Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC will be submitting an application to the NYS Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment in pursuit of a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to construct the Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center (the Project) under Article 10 of the Public Service Law (PSL). This request is being made in order to help prepare the Article 10 Application.

The proposed Project will consist of a 50 megawatt (MW) solar energy center located on land leased or purchased from owners of private property. Proposed components include commercial-scale solar arrays, access roads, buried (and possibly overhead) electric collection lines, and electrical interconnection facilities. The final solar array specification, as well as locations of arrays, will be finalized as part of micro-siting efforts.

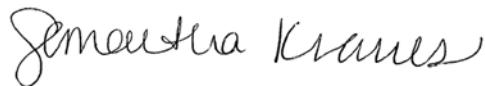
Land cover in the Project Area consists primarily of agricultural land, with portions of forestland, successional old-field, and aquatic habitat. Wetland and stream delineations were performed during the summer of 2017 and the summer of 2018 on a majority of the parcels included in the Project Area. Additional delineations will occur during the 2019 growing season.

The location of the Project Area is identified on the enclosed map, Figure 1. Currently, the project is planning to start construction late in 2021 or the start of 2022.

Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center has consulted the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Environmental Resource Mapper as a first step in determining the presence of rare or state-listed animals or plants, significant natural communities, or other significant habitats in the immediate vicinity of the Project. The results of the search revealed there was no presence of "Rare Plants and Rare Animals" in the vicinity of the Project. No significant natural communities were identified as occurring within the vicinity of the Project.

TRC is requesting herein a review and confirmation of the latest NY Natural Heritage Program-Information Service records for the presence of rare or state-listed plants or animals, significant natural communities, or other significant habitats in the vicinity of the Project. If you have any questions regarding the Project or the request herein, please contact me at TRC by calling (315) 362-2415 or via email at [SKranes@trccompanies.com](mailto:SKranes@trccompanies.com).

Sincerely,

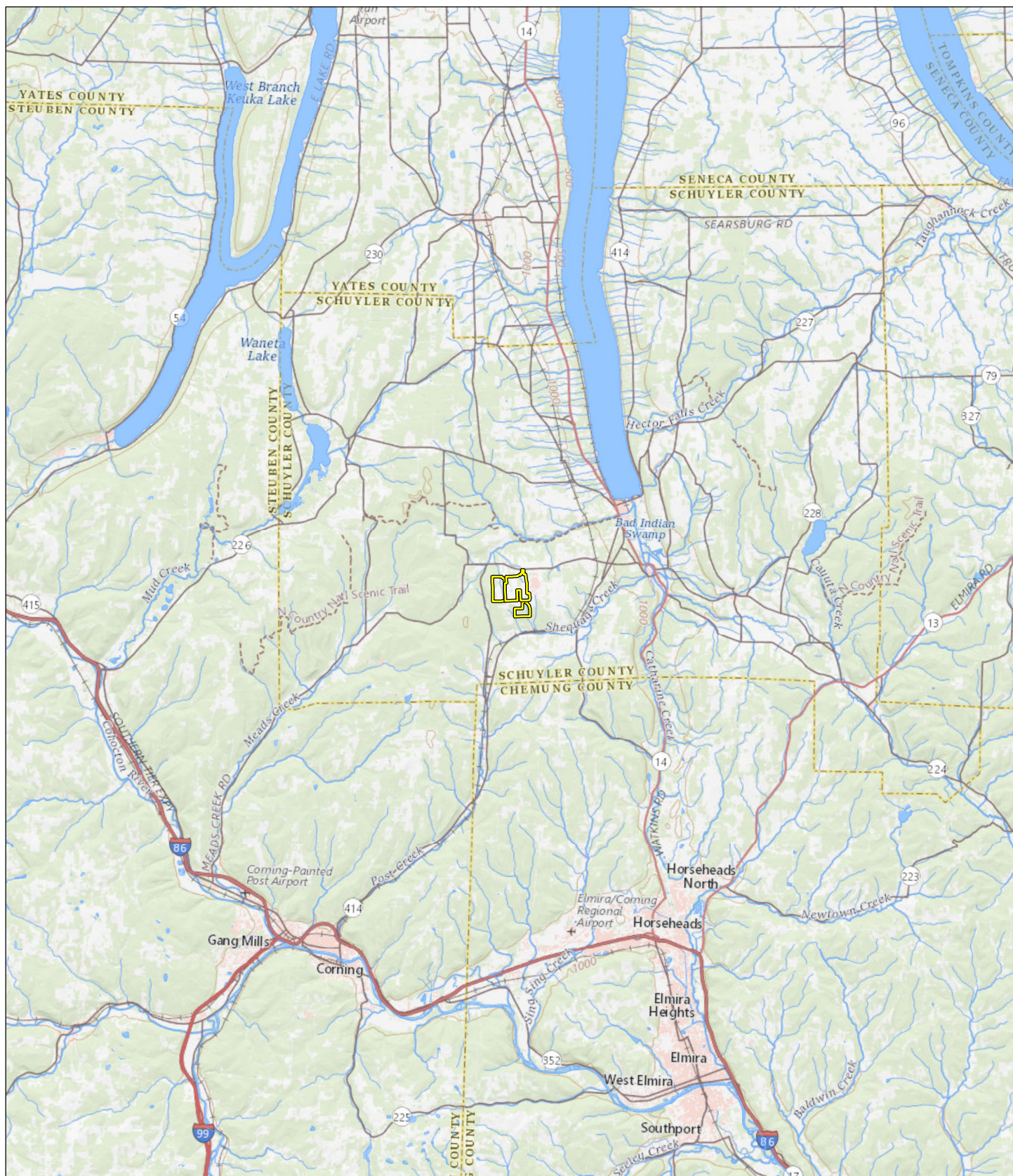


Samantha Kranes  
Senior Project Manager, TRC

cc: Michael Dowling, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC  
William Boer, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC

Enclosures: Figure 1. Regional Location Map  
Figure 2. Cover Types in the Project Area





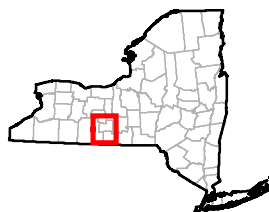
Project Area



0 1 2 3 4 5  
Miles

Base Map: USGS National Map, 2018

#### MAP LOCATION



#### REGIONAL PROJECT LOCATION

**WATKINS GLEN  
SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC  
TOWN OF DIX, NY**

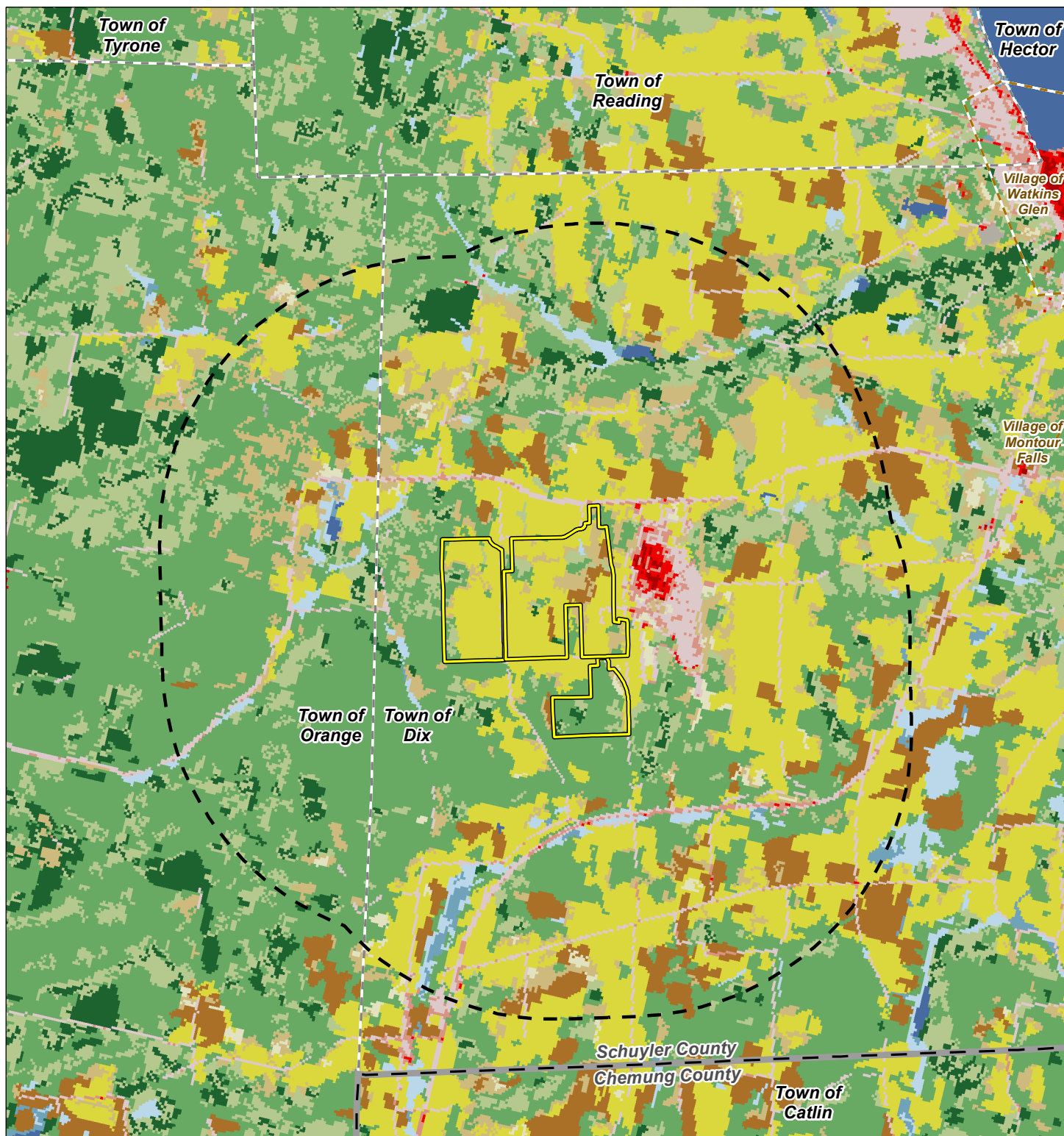
FIGURE 1

APRIL 2019

Map Produced by







Land Cover			
Open Water	Developed, Medium Intensity	Evergreen Forest	Pasture/Hay
Developed, Open Space	Developed High Intensity	Mixed Forest	Cultivated Crops
Developed, Low Intensity	Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	Shrub/Scrub	Woody Wetlands
	Deciduous Forest	Grassland/Herbaceous	Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands

- Project Area
- 2-Mile Study Area
- Village Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- County Boundary

Data: National Land Cover Dataset, 2011  
Base Map: NYS GIS Program Office, 2017

0 1  
Mile

#### COVER TYPES IN THE PROJECT AREA

**WATKINS GLEN  
SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC  
TOWN OF DIX, NY**

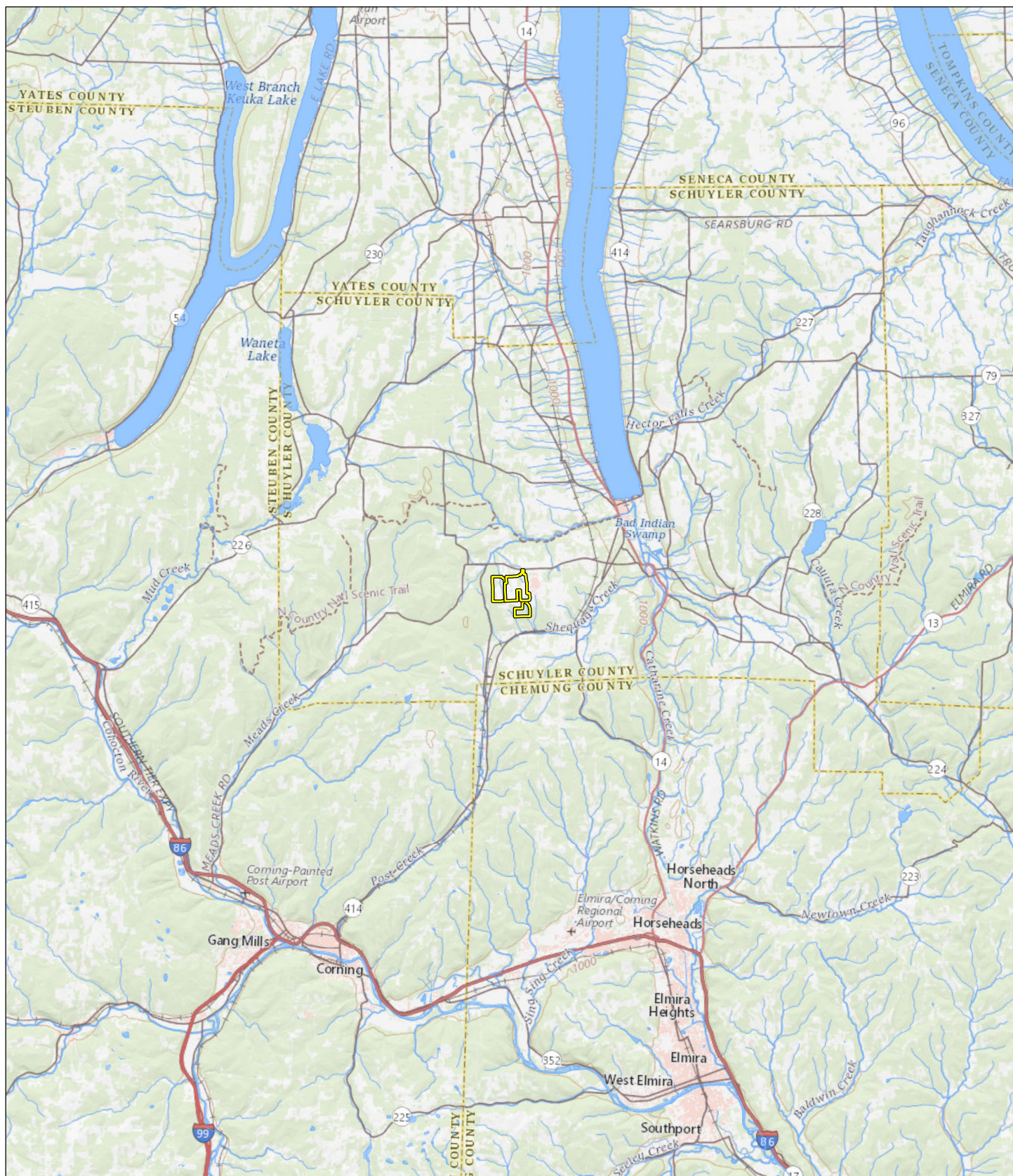
FIGURE 2

APRIL 2019

Map Produced by







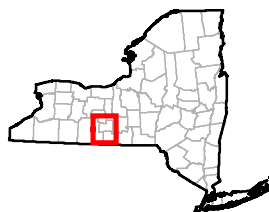
Project Area



0 1 2 3 4 5  
Miles

Base Map: USGS National Map, 2018

#### MAP LOCATION



#### REGIONAL PROJECT LOCATION

**WATKINS GLEN  
SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC  
TOWN OF DIX, NY**

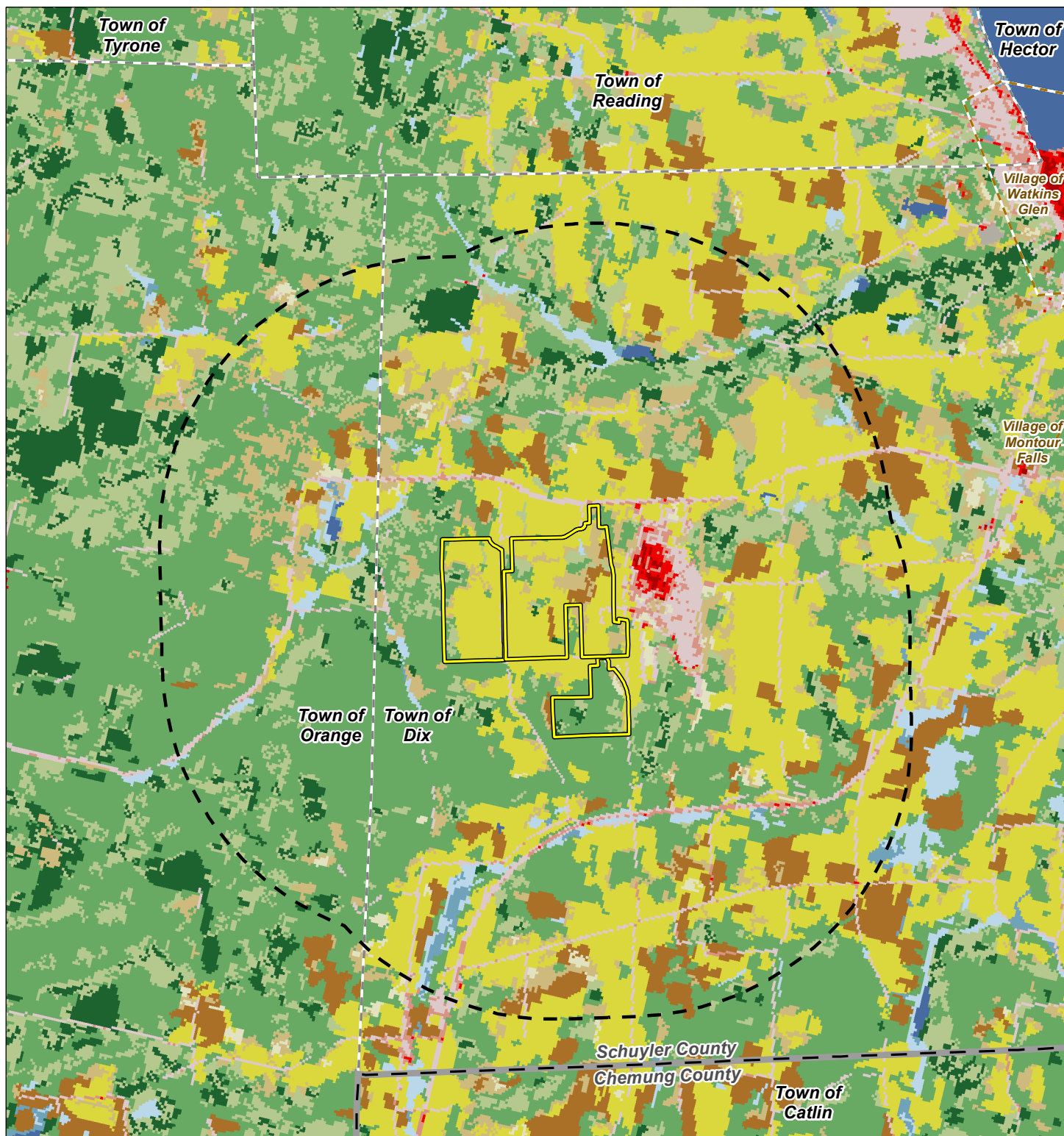
FIGURE 1

APRIL 2019

Map Produced by







Land Cover			
Open Water	Developed, Medium Intensity	Evergreen Forest	Pasture/Hay
Developed, Open Space	Developed High Intensity	Mixed Forest	Cultivated Crops
Developed, Low Intensity	Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	Shrub/Scrub	Woody Wetlands
	Deciduous Forest	Grassland/Herbaceous	Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands

- Project Area
- 2-Mile Study Area
- Village Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- County Boundary

Data: National Land Cover Dataset, 2011  
Base Map: NYS GIS Program Office, 2017

0 1  
Mile

#### COVER TYPES IN THE PROJECT AREA

**WATKINS GLEN  
SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC  
TOWN OF DIX, NY**

FIGURE 2

APRIL 2019

Map Produced by



# NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Fish and Wildlife, New York Natural Heritage Program  
625 Broadway, Fifth Floor, Albany, NY 12233-4757  
P: (518) 402-8935 | F: (518) 402-8925  
[www.dec.ny.gov](http://www.dec.ny.gov)

May 15, 2019

Samantha Kranes  
TRC  
225 Greenfield Parkway, Suite 102  
Liverpool, NY 13088

Re: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center Project  
County: Schuyler Town/City: Dix

Dear Ms. Kranes:

In response to your recent request, we have reviewed the New York Natural Heritage Program database with respect to the above project.

We have no records of rare or state-listed animals or plants, or significant natural communities at the project site or in its immediate vicinity.

The absence of data does not necessarily mean that rare or state-listed species, significant natural communities, or other significant habitats do not exist on or adjacent to the proposed site. Rather, our files currently do not contain information that indicates their presence. For most sites, comprehensive field surveys have not been conducted. We cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of all rare or state-listed species or significant natural communities. Depending on the nature of the project and the conditions at the project site, further information from on-site surveys or other resources may be required to fully assess impacts on biological resources.

This response applies only to known occurrences of rare or state-listed animals and plants, significant natural communities, and other significant habitats maintained in the Natural Heritage database. Your project may require additional review or permits; for information regarding other permits that may be required under state law for regulated areas or activities (e.g., regulated wetlands), please contact the NYS DEC Region 8 Office, Division of Environmental Permits at [dep.r8@dec.ny.gov](mailto:dep.r8@dec.ny.gov), (585) 226-5400.

Sincerely,



Heidi Krahling  
Environmental Review Specialist  
New York Natural Heritage Program



April 18, 2019

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
New York Field Office  
3817 Luker Road  
Cortland, NY 13045

**Re: Online Project Review Request, Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC, Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center Project, Town of Dix, Schuyler County, New York. Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-0799**

We have reviewed the above referenced project using the New York Field Office's online project review process and have followed all guidance and instructions in completing the review. We completed our review on February 1, 2019 and are submitting our project review package in accordance with the instructions for further review.

Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC proposes to construct a solar energy center in the Town of Dix, Schuyler County, New York (See Figure 1). Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC plans to submit an application to the NYS Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment in pursuit of a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to construct the Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center (the Project) under Article 10 of the Public Service Law (PSL). This request is being made in order to help prepare the Article 10 Application.

The proposed Project will consist of a 50 megawatt (MW) solar energy center located on land leased or purchased from owners of private property. Proposed components include commercial-scale solar arrays, access roads, buried (and possibly overhead) electric collection lines, and electrical interconnection facilities. The final solar array specification, as well as locations of arrays, will be finalized as part of micro-siting efforts.

Land cover in the Project Area consists primarily of agricultural land, with portions of forestland, successional old-field, aquatic habitat. Wetland and stream delineations were performed during the summer of 2017 and the summer of 2018 on a majority of the parcels included in the Project Area. Additional delineations will occur during the 2019 growing season.

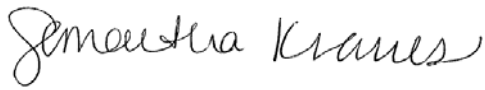


The location of the Project Area is identified on the enclosed map, Figure 1. Currently, the project is planning to start construction late in 2021 or the start of 2022.

The enclosed project review package provides the information about the species, critical habitat, and bald eagles considered in our review, and the species conclusions table included in the package identifies our determinations for the resources that may be affected by the Project.

For additional information, please contact me at (315) 362-2415 or via email at [skranes@trccompanies.com](mailto:skranes@trccompanies.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samantha Kranes".

Samantha Kranes  
Senior Project Manager, TRC

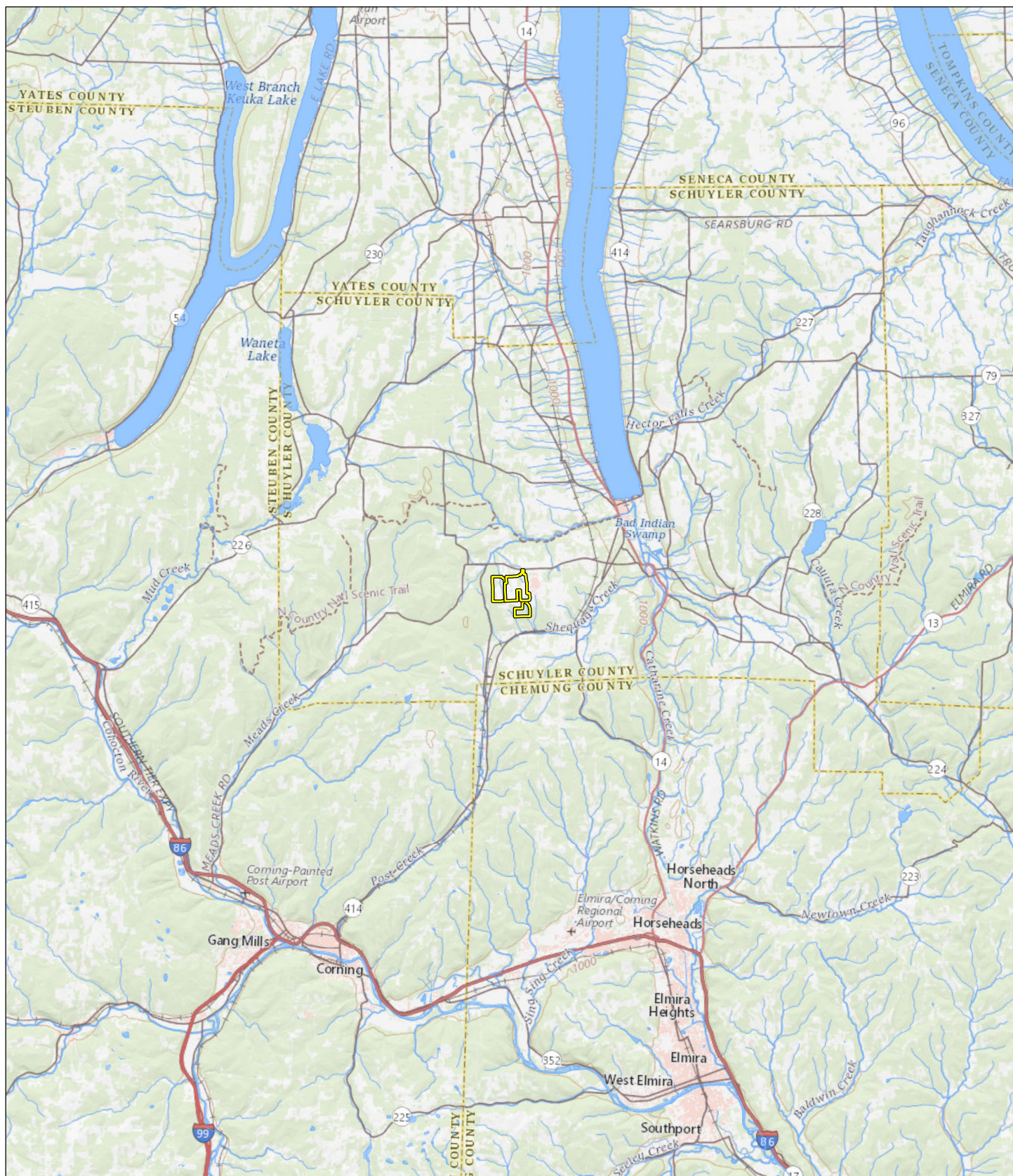
cc: Michael Dowling, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC  
William Boer, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC

Attachments:

- 1) Figure 1. Regional Location Map
- 2) Figure 2. Cover Types in the Project Area
- 3) Photograph Log
- 4) IPaC Official Species List
- 5) Species Conclusions Table
- 6) NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper Results

## **Attachment 1. Regional Location Map**





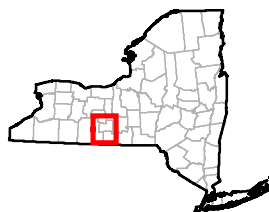
Project Area



0 1 2 3 4 5  
Miles

Base Map: USGS National Map, 2018

#### MAP LOCATION



#### REGIONAL PROJECT LOCATION

**WATKINS GLEN  
SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC  
TOWN OF DIX, NY**

FIGURE 1

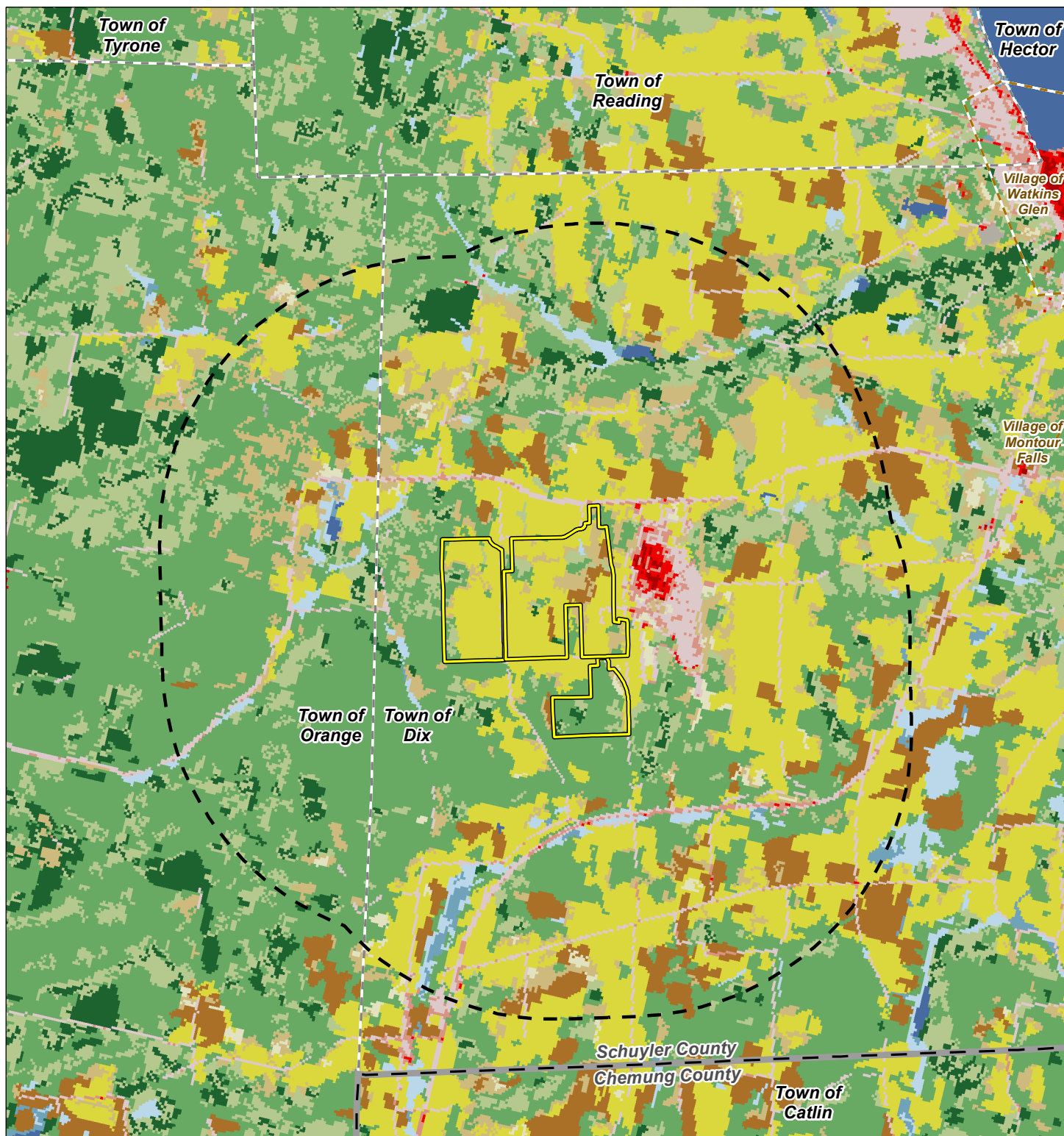
APRIL 2019

Map Produced by



## **Attachment 2. Land Cover in the Project Area**





Land Cover			
Open Water	Developed, Medium Intensity	Evergreen Forest	Pasture/Hay
Developed, Open Space	Developed High Intensity	Mixed Forest	Cultivated Crops
Developed, Low Intensity	Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	Shrub/Scrub	Woody Wetlands
	Deciduous Forest	Grassland/Herbaceous	Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands

- Project Area
- 2-Mile Study Area
- Village Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- County Boundary

Data: National Land Cover Dataset, 2011  
Base Map: NYS GIS Program Office, 2017

0 1  
Mile

#### COVER TYPES IN THE PROJECT AREA

**WATKINS GLEN  
SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC  
TOWN OF DIX, NY**

FIGURE 2

APRIL 2019

Map Produced by



### **Attachment 3. Photograph Log**



**Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC**  
**Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center Project**



Photograph 1. Looking west toward Baker Hill Road across Project Area.



Photograph 2. Eastern side of Project Area looking north toward Old Joe Road.



Photograph 3. Southwest corner of Project Area looking northeast.



Photograph 4. Southern side of Project Area looking west.





Photograph 5. Eastern side of site looking west across Project Area.



Photograph 6. Southeast corner of Project Area.



#### **Attachment 4. IPaC Official Species List**



## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
New York Ecological Services Field Office  
3817 Luker Road

Cortland, NY 13045-9385

Phone: (607) 753-9334 Fax: (607) 753-9699

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>

In Reply Refer To:

February 01, 2019

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-0799

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2019-E-02537

Project Name: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/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 (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). This list can also be used to determine whether listed species may be present for projects without federal agency involvement. 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 ESA, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC site at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list. If listed, proposed, or candidate species were identified as potentially occurring in the project area, coordination with our office is encouraged. Information on the steps involved with assessing potential impacts from projects can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>)

[eagle\\_guidance.html](#)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the Services wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List



## Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**New York Ecological Services Field Office**

3817 Luker Road

Cortland, NY 13045-9385

(607) 753-9334

---

## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-0799

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2019-E-02537

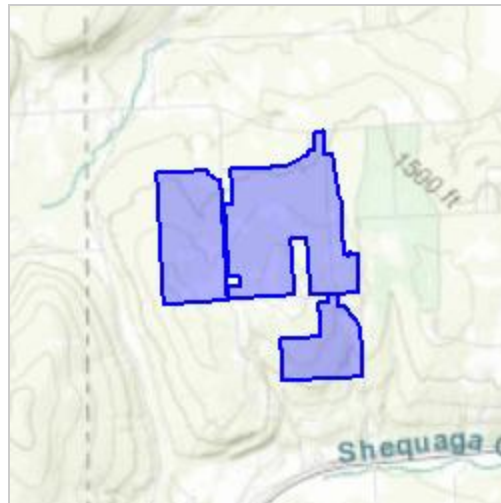
Project Name: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center

Project Type: POWER GENERATION

Project Description: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC is proposing to build and operate the Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center in the Town of Dix, Schuyler County, New York. The facility will consist of a 50 Megawatt (MW) solar power facility. The solar power facility will be located on approximately 646 acres of land.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/42.33851737969397N76.93998214522927W>



Counties: Schuyler, NY

---

## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 1 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

- 
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Threatened

## Critical habitats

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

---



**Attachment 5. Species Conclusions Table**

## Species Conclusions Table

Project Name: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC

Date: April 18, 2019

Species Name	Potential Habitat Present?	Species Present?	Piping Plover Critical Habitat Present?	ESA / Eagle Act Determination (REQUIRED) (e.g. no effect, may affect but not likely to adversely affect, likely to adversely affect, no take, may affect but 4(d) rule).	Notes / Documentation Summary (include full rationale in your report)
Northern long-eared bat ( <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> )	Yes	Potentially	No	<i>Not likely to adversely affect</i>	<p>The northern long-eared bat is a federally-listed threatened species. The northern long-eared bat winters in hibernacula with high humidity and constant temperatures. In their summer range, the bats are opportunistic in selecting roosts, and often roost underneath bark, in cavities, or in crevices of both live and dead trees, and, rarely, in structures like barns and sheds (USFWS, 2013).</p> <p>Based upon an initial review, the Project is not located within 0.25 miles of a known occupied hibernacula or within 150 feet of a known, occupied maternity roost tree (see NYSDEC ERM Results); therefore, the Project is unlikely to affect the northern long-eared bat. Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC will continue coordination with the NYNHP throughout the planning and permitting phases of the Project.</p> <p>The Project Area consists primarily of agricultural land, with portions of forestland, successional shrubland, and successional old-field. There is potential roosting habitat found in the vicinity of the Project Area. Tree species observed included hemlock (<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>), sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>), white ash (<i>Fraxinus americana</i>), American basswood (<i>Tilia americana</i>), Norway maple (<i>Picea abies</i>), and quaking aspen (<i>Populus tremuloides</i>). The average diameter at breast height (DBH) of the trees was 5 to 15 inches.</p>

Species Name	Potential Habitat Present?	Species Present?	Piping Plover Critical Habitat Present?	ESA / Eagle Act Determination (REQUIRED) (e.g. no effect, may affect but not likely to adversely affect, likely to adversely affect, no take, may affect but 4(d) rule).	Notes / Documentation Summary (include full rationale in your report)
					Preliminary design indicates some tree clearing will be required as part of the Project. Watkins Glen Energy Center is working to minimize tree clearing to the maximum extent practicable. According to Section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act final ruling for the northern long-eared bat, incidental take that results from permanent conversion of forested lands to other uses is allowed (USFWS, 2016). Therefore, it is not likely to adversely affect the northern long-eared bat.
Bald eagle ( <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> )	Yes	Unknown	No	<i>Unlikely to disturb</i>	<p>The bald eagle is federally protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and is listed as threatened in New York State. They breed throughout New York State and prefer areas with large bodies of water that support high fish populations (NYNHP, 2013). Bald eagles generally avoid areas with human activities and perch in either deciduous or coniferous trees (NYNHP, 2013). They are long-lived in the wild, often with a life span of over 30 years, and return to within 250 miles of the nesting area where they were fledged each year (NYSDEC, 2015).</p> <p>Based upon an initial review, the Project is not located within the vicinity of known occurrences of bald eagles and/or their nests. Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC will continue coordination with the NYNHP throughout the planning and permitting phases of the Project to confirm.</p>



**Attachment 6. NYSDEC Environmental Resource Mapper Results**

[Services](#)[News](#)[Government](#)[Local](#)[Location](#)[Translate](#)

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



# Environmental Resource Mapper

Base Map: Topographical [Using this map](#)[Search](#)[Tools](#)

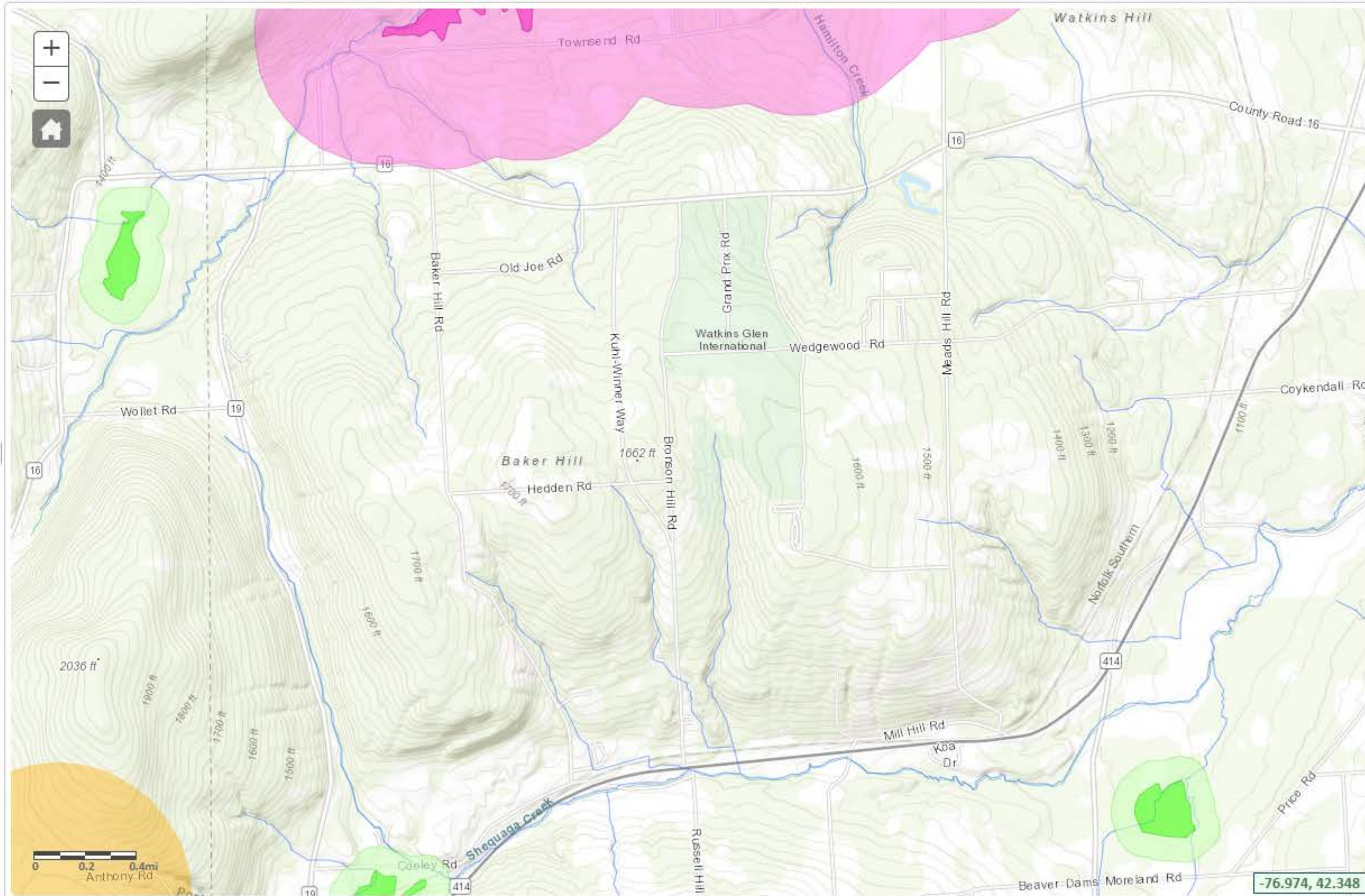
## Layers and Legend

☒ All Layers☒ Unique Geological Features☒ Waterbody Classifications for Rivers/Streams ☒ Waterbody Classifications for Lakes☒ State Regulated Freshwater Wetlands

State Regulated Wetland Checkzone

☒ Significant Natural Communities

Natural Communities Near This Location

☒ Rare Plants or Animals[Other Wetland Layers](#)[Reference Layers](#)[Tell Me More...](#)[Need A Permit?](#)[Contacts](#)



## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
New York Ecological Services Field Office  
3817 Luker Road

Cortland, NY 13045-9385

Phone: (607) 753-9334 Fax: (607) 753-9699

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>

In Reply Refer To:

March 12, 2020

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-0799

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2020-E-06122

Project Name: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/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 (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). This list can also be used to determine whether listed species may be present for projects without federal agency involvement. 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 ESA, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC site at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list. If listed, proposed, or candidate species were identified as potentially occurring in the project area, coordination with our office is encouraged. Information on the steps involved with assessing potential impacts from projects can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>



[eagle\\_guidance.html](#)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the Services wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

# Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**New York Ecological Services Field Office**

3817 Luker Road

Cortland, NY 13045-9385

(607) 753-9334

---

## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-0799

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2020-E-06122

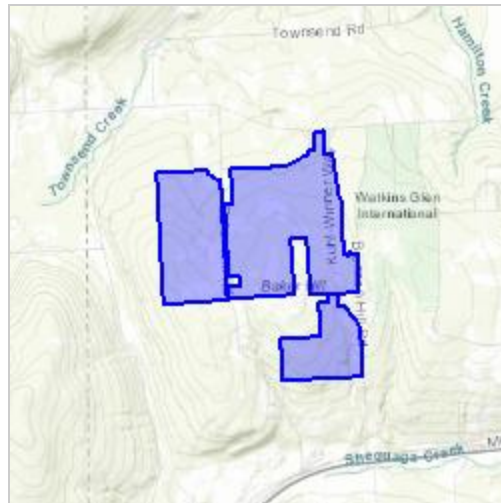
Project Name: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center

Project Type: POWER GENERATION

Project Description: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC is proposing to build and operate the Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center in the Town of Dix, Schuyler County, New York. The facility will consist of a 50 Megawatt (MW) solar power facility. The solar power facility will be located on approximately 646 acres of land.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/42.33851737969397N76.93998214522927W>



Counties: Schuyler, NY

---





## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
New York Ecological Services Field Office

3817 Luker Road  
Cortland, NY 13045-9385

Phone: (607) 753-9334 Fax: (607) 753-9699

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>



In Reply Refer To:

July 23, 2019

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-0799

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2019-E-08497

Project Name: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/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 (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). This list can also be used to determine whether listed species may be present for projects without federal agency involvement. 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 ESA, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC site at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list. If listed, proposed, or candidate species were identified as potentially occurring in the project area, coordination with our office is encouraged. Information on the steps involved with assessing potential impacts from projects can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>)

[eagle\\_guidance.html](#)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the Services wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

## Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**New York Ecological Services Field Office**

3817 Luker Road

Cortland, NY 13045-9385

(607) 753-9334

---

## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-0799

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2019-E-08497

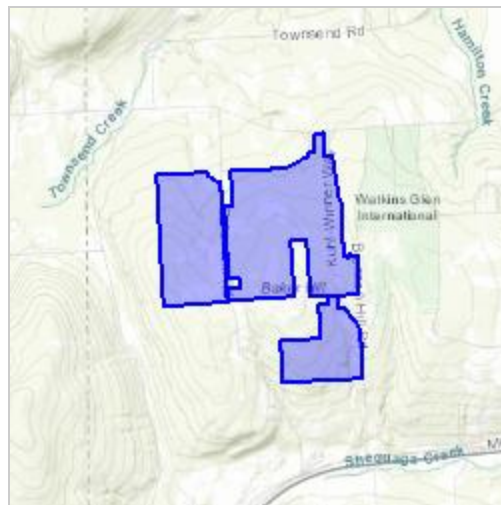
Project Name: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center

Project Type: POWER GENERATION

Project Description: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC is proposing to build and operate the Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center in the Town of Dix, Schuyler County, New York. The facility will consist of a 50 Megawatt (MW) solar power facility. The solar power facility will be located on approximately 646 acres of land.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/42.33851737969397N76.93998214522927W>



Counties: Schuyler, NY

---





## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
New York Ecological Services Field Office

3817 Luker Road  
Cortland, NY 13045-9385

Phone: (607) 753-9334 Fax: (607) 753-9699

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>



In Reply Refer To:

July 23, 2020

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-0799

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2020-E-11371

Project Name: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center

Subject: Updated list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/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 (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). This list can also be used to determine whether listed species may be present for projects without federal agency involvement. 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 ESA, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC site at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list. If listed, proposed, or candidate species were identified as potentially occurring in the project area, coordination with our office is encouraged. Information on the steps involved with assessing potential impacts from projects can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/nyfo/es/section7.htm>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>

[eagle\\_guidance.html](#)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the Services wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

# Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**New York Ecological Services Field Office**

3817 Luker Road

Cortland, NY 13045-9385

(607) 753-9334

---

## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 05E1NY00-2019-SLI-0799

Event Code: 05E1NY00-2020-E-11371

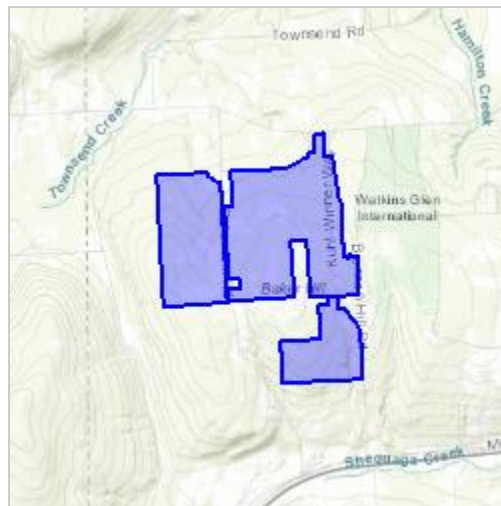
Project Name: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center

Project Type: POWER GENERATION

Project Description: Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center, LLC is proposing to build and operate the Watkins Glen Solar Energy Center in the Town of Dix, Schuyler County, New York.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/42.33851737969397N76.93998214522927W>



Counties: Schuyler, NY

---



## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 0 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<sup>1</sup>, 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.

## Critical habitats

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

---

## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 1 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

- 
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Threatened

## Critical habitats

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

---

## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 0 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<sup>1</sup>, 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.

## Critical habitats

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

---