



6.11 Threatened & Endangered Species Impacts

Federally Listed Species

Coordination with the USFWS concluded that the project has the potential to impact Indiana bat summer maternity roosting habitat. Mist netting for bats occurred in July 2004. Four sites were netted for two nights each. No Indiana bats were captured. Because suitable habitat for this species could exist throughout the project corridor, where removal or modification of habitat cannot be avoided, steps to minimize impacts to potential Indiana bats will be required. The following mitigation measure for the Indiana bat is suggested and will be implemented during design and construction of the project.

Indiana bat

To avoid any direct take of Indiana bats, no trees with a diameter of 3 or more inches will be removed between 15 April and 15 September. Tree clearing and snag removal will be kept to a minimum and limited to within the construction limits. If INDOT proposes to cut trees during the prohibited time, INDOT and FHWA must consult with the USFWS before any tree cutting may proceed.