



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

West Virginia Field Office  
694 Beverly Pike  
Elkins, West Virginia 26241

August 11, 2005



EI-1653  
9/9/05  
DCN

Mr. David Geraci, Manager  
Network Rationalization  
CSX Transportation, Inc.  
500 Water Street - J200  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Re: Marion County Rail Line Abandonment

Dear Mr. Geraci:

This responds to your information request of July 27, 2005 regarding the potential impacts of a proposed project on wetlands and federally listed endangered and threatened species and species of concern. CSX Transportation, Inc. proposes abandonment of a portion of its rail line from Milepost BS 306.32 at Barrackville to Milepost 319.48 at Mannington, in Marion County, West Virginia. These comments are provided pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

No federally listed endangered and threatened species are expected to be impacted by the project. Therefore, no biological assessment or further section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act is required with the Fish and Wildlife Service. Should project plans change, or if additional information on listed and proposed species becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered. A compilation of federally listed endangered and threatened species in West Virginia is enclosed for your information.

Definitive determinations of the presence of waters of the United States, including wetlands, in the project area and the need for permits, if any, are made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. They may be contacted at: Pittsburgh District, Regulatory Branch, William S. Moorhead Federal Building, 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222-4188, telephone (412)395-7152.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Barbara Douglas of my staff at (304) 636-6586, or at the letterhead address.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Chapman  
Field Supervisor