

Botanical, Mammal, Avian Review of the East Side Highway

No Threatened and Endangered species were found during surveys of the project area.

Botanical

Four natural communities in the area have noteworthy levels of natural quality:



Three Prairies along rail lines, two of which are high quality



One high quality Floodplain Forest along US 150 near Downs

Mammal

There are no previous records of Indiana bat occurrences, and one record of a Franklin's ground squirrel occurrence in McLean County. Neither Indiana bats nor Franklin's ground squirrels were encountered during mammal surveys for the East Side Highway:



Franklin's Ground Squirrel
Habitat includes mid, tallgrass prairie



Indiana Bat
Roosts under shaggy bark on trees

Avian

Two T&E species have been previously identified in the study area but were not identified during avian surveys. Some habitat is present for these species in the study area.



Loggerhead Shrike
Breeds in open fields with scattered trees and shrubland



Upland Sandpiper
Breeds in shortgrass fields and pastur