

Appendix I
State Listed Species Screening Evaluation

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Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
I.1 INTRODUCTION.....	I-1
I.2 SCREENING EVALUATION TABLES	I-1
REFERENCES	I-11

LIST OF TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
Table I.2-1: State Threatened or Endangered Species and Forest Service Sensitive Species in Area of Proposed Bruinsburg, MS, Site	I-2
Table I.2-2: State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Richton, MS, Site	I-5
Table I.2-3: State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Stratton Ridge, TX, Site	I-7
Table I.2-4: State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Big Hill, TX, Expansion Site	I-9

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Appendix I

State Listed Species Screening Evaluation

I.1 INTRODUCTION

This appendix to the environmental impact statement (EIS) analyzes potential effects of the expansion of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) on endangered and threatened species protected under State laws in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. The potential impacts to species that are afforded protection under both Federal and state laws are described in appendices F, G, and H respectively. The potential expansion would involve developing additional storage capacity at up to three existing sites (West Hackberry and Bayou Choctaw in Louisiana and Big Hill in Texas) or developing one of four new sites (Chacahoula in Louisiana, Richton and Bruinsburg in Mississippi, and Stratton Ridge in Texas). In addition, this appendix includes an analysis of species listed as regional forest service sensitive species in the Homochitto National Forest (USDA 2000). Part of the proposed pipelines associated with the Bruinsburg site would include land in the National forest. No screening table was prepared for Louisiana because species on the State list could be affected by proposed action concerning threatened and endangered species on the Federal list. Appendix F contains an evaluation of those species.

I.2 SCREENING EVALUATION TABLES

The following screening evaluation tables indicate threatened or endangered species on the State list and forest service sensitive species that may have a habitat in a proposed new or expansion SPR site or its associated infrastructure (e.g. terminals, pipeline and power line rights-of-way). To collect information for this screening evaluation, the Department of Energy (DOE) consulted state-based land cover data, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Wetland inventory data, state data from fish and wildlife agencies and natural heritage programs (LNHP 2004; MMNS 2002; TPWD 2005), and literature reviews covering threatened and endangered species in each state to define preferred habitats and life cycles. Results of this screening evaluation of all the state-listed species that may be affected by construction and operation of any of the proposed new or expansion sites and its associated elements appears in corresponding chapter sections of the EIS.

Following is a list of screening evaluation tables that appear in this appendix:

Table I.2-1 State Threatened or Endangered Species and Forest Service Sensitive Species in Area of Proposed Bruinsburg, MS, Site;

Table I.2-2 State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Richton, MS, Site;

Table I.2-3 State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Stratton Ridge, TX, Site; and

Table I.2-4 State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Big Hill, TX, Expansion Site.

Appendix I: State Listed Species Screening Evaluation

Table I.2-1: State Threatened or Endangered Species and Forest Service Sensitive Species in Area of Proposed Bruinsburg, MS, Site

Species Information					Potential Presence of Species Based on Preferred Habitat of the Species and the Existing Habitat					References
Common Name	Latin Name	County or Parish	State Status ^b	Habitat Description	Candidate Site	Bruinsburg to Peetsville ROW and Terminal	Bruinsburg to Anchorage ROW and Terminal	RWI and ROW	Brine Disposal ROW	
Birds										
Arctic Peregrine Falcon ^c	<i>Falco peregrinus tundrius</i>	Louisiana: East and West Feliciana, East and West Baton Rouge	T/E	Occurs in the barrier islands along the Gulf Coast, which are important feeding areas for long-distance migrants.						24
Fish										
Crystal Darter ^d	<i>Crystallaria asprella</i>	Mississippi: Copiah, Claiborne	E	Occurs in small- to medium-sized freshwater rivers, and prefers water more than 2-feet (60-centimeters) deep with a strong current and a clean sand and/or gravel bottom.		X		X		24
Frecklebelly Madtom ^e	<i>Noturus munitus</i>	Mississippi: Copiah	E	Thrives in large- to medium-sized rivers with a high to moderate gradient.		X		X		24
Southern Redbelly Dace ^f	<i>Phoxinus erythrogaster</i>	Mississippi: Wilkinson	E	Occurs in small creeks and prefers headwaters and upland creeks with clear water. Spawning takes place from April to June in the south, most often in shallow water near riffles among gravel, and occasionally in nests of other species.			X			24
Invertebrates										
Pearl Blackwater Crayfish	<i>Procambarus penni</i>	Mississippi: Copiah	NA ^g	Burrows in streambeds, banks, and dry water bodies, including areas in Homochitto National Forest.		X				16. 33

Appendix I: State Listed Species Screening Evaluation

Table I.2-1: State Threatened or Endangered Species and Forest Service Sensitive Species in Area of Proposed Bruinsburg, MS, Site

Species Information					Potential Presence of Species Based on Preferred Habitat of the Species and the Existing Habitat					References
Common Name	Latin Name	County or Parish	State Status ^b	Habitat Description	Candidate Site	Bruinsburg to Peetsville ROW and Terminal	Bruinsburg to Anchorage ROW and Terminal	RWI and ROW	Brine Disposal ROW	
Mammals										
Southeastern Shrew	<i>Sorex longirostris</i>	Mississippi ^a	NA ^g	Occurs in various habitats ranging from bogs to damp woods to uplands shrub and scrub or wooded areas; however, prefers moist to wet areas, often associated with heavy ground cover, including areas in Homochitto National Forest.		X				24, 33
Plants										
Trillium	<i>Trillium foetidissimum</i>	Mississippi: Adams, Claiborne, Copiah, Jefferson, Lincoln, Wilkinson	NA ^g	Occurs in moderately moist deciduous woodlands with rich soil usually including loess (an unstratified loamy deposit chiefly deposited by the wind), on moderate to steep slopes, sides of ravines, and knolls within floodplain forests, including areas in Homochitto National Forest.		X				24, 33
Reptiles										
Rainbow Snake	<i>Farancia erythrogramma</i>	Mississippi: Copiah	E	Usually found in or near streams, marshes, springs, and sandy fields.	X	X	X	X	X	11

RWI = raw water intake; ROW = right-of-way

Notes:

^a Species on State lists that are also on Federal lists as endangered, threatened, or candidate species are not included in this table because they are evaluated in detail in Appendix G Evaluations of Special Status Species in Mississippi. Excluded species are:

- Birds:** Bald eagle, interior least tern, red-cockaded woodpecker;
- Fish:** Bayou darter, Gulf sturgeon, pallid sturgeon;
- Invertebrates:** Alabama heelsplitter mussel, fat pocketbook mussel;

Appendix I: State Listed Species Screening Evaluation

Mammals: Louisiana black bear, West Indian manatee; and

Reptiles: Ringed map turtle.

^b **State Status:** T=threatened; E=endangered.

^c **Arctic peregrine falcon:** Preferred habitat is not present at the proposed Bruinsburg site.

^d **Crystal darter:** DOE is consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, and the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science about specific water bodies in Copeiah and Claiborne Counties where this species is found. Impacts associated with the Peetsville ROW would be possible if the species is found in Clarks Creek (a tributary to Bayou Pierre) or the Homochitto River. Impacts associated with the raw water intake could occur if the species is in the Mississippi River. No impacts would occur if the species is found in Bayou Pierre.

^e **Frecklebelly madtom:** DOE is consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, and the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science about specific water bodies in Copeiah County where this species is found. Impacts associated with the Peetsville ROW would be possible if the species is found in Clarks Creek (a tributary to Bayou Pierre). Impacts associated with the raw water intake could occur if the species is found in the Mississippi River. No impacts would occur if the species is found in Bayou Pierre.

^f **Southern redbelly dace:** DOE is consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, and the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science about specific water bodies in Wilkinson County. The only pipeline proposed to cross this county is at the Buffalo River. Potential impacts would not be expected if the species is not in the Buffalo River. If it is found in the river, directional drilling may be a construction consideration.

^g Pearl blackwater crayfish, southeastern shrew, and trillium do not have a State status of threatened or endangered in Mississippi; however, these species are listed as regional forest service sensitive species in the Homochitto National Forest according to the National Forests in Mississippi Forest Plan (USDA 2000).

^h The southeastern shrew is found throughout Mississippi, but it is not specifically listed in any of the counties associated with the proposed Bruinsburg candidate site. The U.S. Forest Service lists the southeastern shrew as a regional forest service sensitive species in the Homochitto National Forest (USDA 2000); therefore, it is included in this list.

Table I.2-2: State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Richton, MS, Site^a

Species Information					Potential Presence of Species Based on Preferred Habitat of the Species and the Existing Habitat					References
Common Name	Latin Name	County	State Status ^b	Habitat Description	Candidate Site	Richton to Pascagoula ROW and Terminal	Richton to Liberty Station ROW and Terminal	RWI and ROW	Brine Diffuser and ROW	
Amphibians										
Dark Gopher Frog	<i>Rana sevosa</i>	Mississippi: Forrest, Jackson	E	Occurs in upland evergreen forested areas and prefers upland sandy areas historically forested with longleaf pine with isolated temporary wetland breeding sites nearby.		X	X			1
One-Toed Amphiuma	<i>Amphiuma pholeter</i>	Mississippi: Jackson	E	Occurs in swamps and slow-moving streams and prefers deep, organic, liquid muck in swamps, spring runs, and occasionally floodplain swampy streams.		X			X	24
Birds										
Bewick's Wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Mississippi: Jackson	E	Occurs in old fields, chaparral, coniferous and hardwood forests, and suburban areas and orchards.		X				24
Fish										
Crystal Darter ^c	<i>Crystallaria asparella</i>	Mississippi: Marion	E	Occurs in small- to medium-sized freshwater rivers, and prefers water more than 2-feet (60-centimeters) deep with a strong current on a clean sand and/or gravel bottom.			X			24
Frecklebelly Madtom ^d	<i>Noturus munitus</i>	Mississippi: Marion, Pike, Walthall	E	Thrives in large- to medium-sized rivers with a high to moderate gradient.			X			24
Ironcolor Shiner ^e	<i>Notropis chalybaeus</i>	Mississippi: Marion	E	Occurs in pools and slow runs of streams with a low gradient, small acidic creeks, and rivers with a sandy substrate and clear, well-vegetated water.			X			24
Invertebrates										
Delicate Spike ^f	<i>Elliptio arctata</i>	Mississippi: George	E	Found in rivers along the shoreline and among rocks, sand, and gravel.						5, 17

Table I.2-2: State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Richton, MS, Site^a

Species Information					Potential Presence of Species Based on Preferred Habitat of the Species and the Existing Habitat					References
Common Name	Latin Name	County	State Status ^b	Habitat Description	Candidate Site	Richton to Pascagoula ROW and Terminal	Richton to Liberty Station ROW and Terminal	RWI and ROW	Brine Diffuser and ROW	
Reptiles										
Rainbow Snake	<i>Farancia erytrogramma</i>	Mississippi: Forrest, Jackson, Lamar	E	Usually found in or near streams, marshes, springs, and sandy fields.		X	X			11
Southern Hognose Snake	<i>Heterodon simus</i>	Mississippi: Forrest	E	Thrives in open, well-drained, sandy soil habitats in the southeastern United States.			X			7

RWI = raw water intake; ROW = right-of-way.

Notes:

^a Species on State lists that are also on Federal lists as endangered, threatened, or candidate species are not included in this table because they are evaluated in detail in Appendix G Evaluations of Special Status Species in Mississippi. Excluded species are:

Birds: Bald eagle, brown pelican, Mississippi sandhill crane, piping plover, red-cockaded woodpecker;

Fish: Gulf sturgeon, pearl darter;

Invertebrates: Camp Shelby burrowing crayfish;

Mammals: Gray myotis, Louisiana black bear;

Plants: Louisiana quillwort; and

Reptiles: Alabama red-belly turtle, black pine snake, eastern indigo snake, gopher tortoise, Kemps Ridley sea turtle, loggerhead sea turtle, ringed map turtle, yellow-blotched map turtle.

^b State Status T=threatened; E=endangered.

^c Crystal darter: Species is in the Pearl River. No impact is expected because directional drilling would be used for the crossing.

^d Frecklebelly madtom: Species is in the Pearl River and the Bogue Chitto River. No impact is expected at the Pearl River and Bogue Chitto River, because directional drilling would be used for the crossing.

^e Ironcolor shiner: Species is in the Pearl River. No impact is expected because directional drilling would be used for the crossing.

^f Delicate spike: Pascagoula ROW does not cross Pascagoula River where this species is found in George County.

Table I.2-3: State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Stratton Ridge, TX, Site^a

Species Information					Potential Presence of Species Based on Preferred Habitat of the Species and the Existing Habitat					References
Common Name	Latin Name	County	State Status ^b	Habitat Description	Candidate Site	Stratton Ridge to Texas City ROW and Terminal	RWI and ROW to Intracoastal Waterway	ROW to Gulf of Mexico	Offshore Brine Diffuser	
Birds										
Arctic Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus tundrus</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Occurs in the barrier islands along the Gulf coast, which are important feeding areas for long-distance migrants.				X		24
Eastern Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	E	Nests on small, isolated coastal islands where it is safe from predators.			X	X		32
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Found in estuarine habitats where it forages in shallow water. Nests typically are located on natural or manmade dredge spoil islands, or occasionally on the mainland in mangrove swamps and terrestrial vegetation.			X	X		24, 28
Sooty Tern	<i>Sterna fuscata</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Typically nests on remote outlying islets and rocks, sandy beaches, bare ground, or coral, most often with scattered grasses present or among bushes, occasionally on rocky ledges. Nonbreeding habitat is primarily pelagic.			X	X		24
Swallow-Tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Found in diverse vegetation types, including pine forests, savannas, cypress and cypress-hardwood swamps, mangrove swamps, hardwood hammocks, riparian forests, prairies, and freshwater and brackish marshes.	X	X	X			21, 31
White-Faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Occurs in freshwater habitats, including marshes, swamps, ponds, and rivers in tropical to temperate zones.	X	X	X			2
White-Tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Thrives in prairies near the coastline, cordgrass flats, scrub-live oak, mesquite and oak savannas, and mixed savanna-chaparral.			X	X		18
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria Americana</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Found in freshwater marshes, swamps, lagoons, and ponds; forages in shallow freshwater wetlands, and has also been reported in brackish wetlands.	X	X	X	X		25

Table I.2-3: State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Stratton Ridge, TX, Site^a

Species Information					Potential Presence of Species Based on Preferred Habitat of the Species and the Existing Habitat					References
Common Name	Latin Name	County	State Status ^b	Habitat Description	Candidate Site	Stratton Ridge to Texas City ROW and Terminal	RWI and ROW to Intracoastal Waterway	ROW to Gulf of Mexico	Offshore Brine Diffuser	
Fish										
Paddlefish ^c	<i>Polyodon spathula</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Occurs in medium- and large-sized rivers and seeks slow-flowing segments with depths greater than 5 feet (1.5 meters). During winter, moves to deeper water, and in the summer is often found in areas downstream from submerged sandbars.						6, 29
Mammals										
Black Bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Occurs in mixed deciduous-coniferous forests and prefers areas with a thick understory.	X					15
Reptiles										
Alligator Snapping Turtle	<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	Galveston	T	Occurs in deep rivers, canals, and lakes associated with rivers, swamps, bayous, ponds near rivers, shallow tributaries to rivers, and sometimes the brackish waters near river mouths. Seeks segments with slow-moving currents.			X			24
Smooth Green Snake	<i>Liochlorophis vernalis</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Occurs in grassland and forest and often can be found in burrows, fallen logs, and debris.	X	X	X			24
Texas Horned Lizard ^c	<i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Thrives in arid and semi-arid regions of sparse vegetation, including deserts, prairies, bajadas, dunes, and foothills.						4, 9, 13, 30
Timber Rattlesnake ^c	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>	Brazoria, Galveston	T	Seeks high, dry ridges with oak-hickory forest interspersed with open areas and deciduous forests with rock outcrops.						10, 22

RWI = raw water intake; ROW = right-of-way

NOTES:

^a Species on State lists that are also on Federal lists as endangered, threatened, or candidate species are not included in this table because they are evaluated in detail in Appendix H Evaluations of Special Status Species in Texas. Excluded species are:

Birds: Attwater's greater prairie chicken, bald eagle, brown pelican, Eskimo curlew, least tern, piping plover, whooping crane;

Mammals: Jaguarundi, red wolf, West Indian manatee; and

Reptiles: Atlantic hawksbill sea turtle, green sea turtle, Kemp's Ridley sea turtle, leatherback sea turtle, loggerhead sea turtle.

^b **State Status** T=threatened; E=endangered.

^c **Paddlefish, Texas horned lizard, and timber rattlesnake:** Habitats for these species are not found on the proposed Stratton Ridge site.

Table I.2-4: State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Big Hill, TX, Expansion Site^a

Species Information					Potential Presence of Species Based on Preferred Habitat of the Species and the Existing Habitat				References
Common Name	Latin Name	County	State Status ^b	Preferred Habitat Description	Expansion Site	Big Hill to Shell ROW	Brine Disposal ROW Upgrade Near Site	Brine Diffuser	
Birds									
Arctic peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus tundrus</i>	Jefferson	T	Occurs in the barrier islands along the Gulf Coast, which are important feeding areas for long-distance migrants.					24
Bachman's Sparrow	<i>Aimophila aestivalis</i>	Jefferson	T	Occurs in mature or old-growth southern pine woodlands subject to growing-season fires; breeds wherever fires have created ideal conditions, including dry, open pine in southern states and oak woods with an undercover of grasses and shrubs.	X	X			24
Eastern Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Jefferson	E	Nests on small, isolated coastal islands where it is safe from predators.					32
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>	Jefferson	T	Found in estuarine habitats, where it forages in shallow water. Nests typically are located on natural or manmade dredge spoil islands, or occasionally on the mainland in mangrove swamps and terrestrial vegetation.		X	X		24, 28
Sooty Tern	<i>Sterna fuscata</i>	Jefferson	T	Typically nests on remote outlying islets and rocks, sandy beaches, bare ground, or coral, most often with scattered grasses present or among bushes, occasionally on rocky ledges. Nonbreeding habitat is primarily pelagic.					24
Swallow-Tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Jefferson	T	Found in diverse vegetation types, including pine forests, savannas, cypress and cypress-hardwood swamps, mangrove swamps, hardwood hammocks, riparian forests, prairies, and freshwater and brackish marshes.	X	X	X		21, 31
White-Faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	Jefferson	T	Occurs in freshwater habitats, including marshes, swamps, ponds, and rivers in tropical to temperate zones.	X	X	X		2
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria Americana</i>	Jefferson	T	Found in freshwater marshes, swamps, lagoons, and ponds; forages in shallow freshwater wetlands, and has also been reported in brackish wetlands.	X	X	X		25
Fish									
Paddlefish	<i>Polyodon spathula</i>	Jefferson	T	Occurs in medium- and large-sized rivers and seeks slow-flowing segments with depths greater than 5 feet (1.5 meters). During winter, moves to deeper water, and in the summer is often found in areas downstream from submerged sandbars.					6, 29
Mammals									
Black Bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	Jefferson	T	Occurs in mixed deciduous-coniferous forests and prefers areas with a thick understory.	X				15

Table I.2-4: State Threatened or Endangered Species in Area of Proposed Big Hill, TX, Expansion Site^a

Species Information					Potential Presence of Species Based on Preferred Habitat of the Species and the Existing Habitat				References
Common Name	Latin Name	County	State Status ^b	Preferred Habitat Description	Expansion Site	Big Hill to Shell ROW	Brine Disposal ROW Upgrade Near Site	Brine Diffuser	
Rafinesque's Big-Eared Bat	<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	Jefferson	T	Inhabits forested regions; summer roosts often are in hollow trees, occasionally under loose bark, or in abandoned buildings in or near wooded areas. Bridges, especially girder bridges, are important day-roost sites. Hibernates in caves in northern and mountainous regions.	X	X			3, 14, 19, 24
Reptiles									
Alligator Snapping Turtle	<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	Jefferson	T	Occurs in deep rivers, canals, and lakes associated with rivers, swamps, bayous, ponds near rivers, shallow tributaries to rivers and sometimes the brackish waters near river mouths. Seeks segments with slow-moving currents.					24
Scarlet Snake	<i>Cemophora coccinea copei</i>	Jefferson	T	Occurs in hardwood, pine, or mixed forest and woodland habitats and burrows, fallen logs, and debris.	X	X			24
Texas Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>	Jefferson	T	Thrives in arid and semi-arid regions of sparse vegetation, including deserts, prairies, bajadas, dunes, and foothills.					4, 9, 13, 30
Timber rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>	Jefferson	T	Seeks high, dry ridges with oak-hickory forest interspersed with open areas and deciduous forests with rock outcrops.					10. 22

ROW = right-of-way

NOTES:

^a Species on State lists that are also on Federal lists as endangered, threatened, or candidate species are not included in this table because they are evaluated in detail in Appendix H Evaluations of Special Status Species in Texas. Excluded species are:

Birds: Attwater's greater prairie chicken, brown pelican, least tern, piping plover;

Mammals: Red wolf, West Indian manatee; and

Reptiles: Atlantic hawksbill sea turtle, green sea turtle, Kemp's Ridley sea turtle, leatherback sea turtle, loggerhead sea turtle.

^b **State Status** T=threatened; E=endangered.

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