



**File Code:** 1900; 2700  
**Date:** April 10, 2017

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First St., N.E., Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Ms. Bose:

**Subject:** Forest Service Comments on the Revised Migratory Bird Plan  
OEP/DG2E/Gas 4  
Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC  
Docket Nos. CP15-554-001 and -001

The Forest Service submits comments on the revised Migratory Bird Plan submitted to the Forest Service and filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on January 27, 2017 by Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC (ACP) for the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project (ACP Project). The Forest Service's comments are contained in the attached table. The comments are intended to assist ACP with identifying potential effects of the proposed ACP Project on migratory birds on the Monongahela National Forest and George Washington National Forest.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on ACP Project documents. For questions, please contact Jennifer Adams, Special Project Coordinator, at (540) 265-5114 or by email at [jenniferpadams@fs.fed.us](mailto:jenniferpadams@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,

  
CLYDE THOMPSON  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC



**FOREST SERVICE COMMENTS ON MIGRATORY BIRD PLAN**

**ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE PROJECT**

Page #	Section #	Comment
A-1	Attachment A	The American kestrel occurs in WV and, according to Table 4.5.1-1 of the DEIS (page 4-152), potentially occurs in the ACP/SHP project area.
A-1	Attachment A	Please clarify how this list was developed. The black-throated green warbler, the Henslow’s sparrow, and the whip-poor-will should be added in the vicinity of the ACP in WV.
24	5.2.2	<i>“If additional bald eagle nests or occupied bald or golden eagle Winter roosting habitat are identified ahead of or during construction, Atlantic and DTI will follow the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines for work within 660 feet of bald eagle nests.”</i> To the end of this sentence needs to be added, “except on USFS lands, where the agency-specific buffers listed above (Table 5.2.1-2) will be followed.”
3	3.1	Wintering habitat should be included in this first paragraph. The project area provides important wintering habitat for a number of high priority species, including the golden eagle.
3	3.1.2	<i>“Atlantic and DTI also reviewed the NHI databases of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and West Virginia Division of Natural Resources and the CCB Virginia Mapping Portal for rookeries in the Project area.”</i> Please identify the species to which this statement refers. This information is important for the public as well as the cooperating agencies to know.
15	4.3	Increased predation of birds due to habitat fragmentation is not only caused by cowbird parasitism, but by nest predation from meso-mammals such as coyotes, opossums, raccoons as well as larger mammals such as deer, who all tend to increase in population due to effects of habitat fragmentation. This has been well-documented in the literature.