From: Gates, Natalie <<u>natalie_gates@fws.gov</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, June 6, 2018 3:58 PM
To: Kely Mertz <<u>KMertz@swca.com</u>>
Cc: Drew Carson <<u>DCarson@swca.com</u>>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] South Dakota project area

At this time, the only known NLEB hibernacula in South Dakota are in the Black Hills, and I'm not aware of any maternity roosts in the state (though there almost certainly are some in the Hills and could be others so far undetected).

So while the bat could occur in the area, its more likely to be migrant rather than breeding or hibernating.

Natalie Gates / U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service / Ecological Services South Dakota Field Office 420 South Garfield Avenue, Suite 400 / Pierre, South Dakota 57501 Phone: 605-224-8693, Ext. 227 / Fax: 605-224-1416 http://www.fws.gov/southdakotafieldoffice/

On Wed, Jun 6, 2018 at 12:54 PM, Kely Mertz <<u>KMertz@swca.com</u>> wrote:

Hi Natalie,

Can you share whether or not either of the attached polygons are within 0.25 mile of a known northern long-eared bat hibernacula or within 150 feet of a known maternity roost tree? Please note that these polygons are not final project boundaries.

Thank you,

Kely

Kely Mertz

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