



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: CARMELO MELENDEZ
Director, Office of Asset Management (MA-50)
DOE Senior Real Property Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carmelo Melendez", written over the printed name and title.

SUBJECT: Integrating Bird and Pollinator Protection and Habitat Enhancement into Facility and Property Management

ISSUE: The purpose of this memorandum is to ensure the Department of Energy's (DOE) commitments to protecting birds and pollinators and enhancing their habitats are implemented, as appropriate, in all stages of a real property asset's life cycle – planning, design, construction, operations and management, renovation, and disposition. The recent Secretarial Memorandum, *Presidential Initiative on Pollinator Health*, provides instruction on compliance with the DOE Pollinator Protection Plan.

BACKGROUND: The Secretarial Memorandum was issued in response to the *National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators* (May 2015). The Department's Pollinator Protection Plan was included as Appendix E of the National Strategy, and in it DOE commits to identifying the sites appropriate for the adoption of pollinator best management practices (BMPs), estimating the area of potential habitat being added via BMPs, and adopting the BMPs over a ten-year timeframe.

In addition, the recently renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DOE and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Regarding Implementation of Executive Order 13186, "*Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*," reinforces the Department's commitment to protecting, enhancing, and managing habitats of migratory birds. The MOU identifies management practices that avoid or minimize adverse impacts to migratory bird populations, such as minimizing the risk of bird collisions with structures, shielding night lights that might attract night-flying birds, and controlling non-native plants.

Protection of pollinators, migratory birds, and other natural and cultural resources is an important responsibility of the Federal Government's facility and property management activities. Protection activities are expected to be integrated into the Department's operating policies and practices.

IMPLEMENTATION: Tools and resources are available to assist sites in aligning their activities with the MOU and the Department's Pollinator Protection Plan. Sites are encouraged to consult the documents



and resources cited in this memorandum to pursue opportunities to reduce impacts to birds, protect pollinators, and enhance bird and pollinator habitat in all aspects of facility management.

The Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds (CCMB), of which DOE is a member, prepared *Nationwide Conservation Measures and Low to No Cost Measures for Reducing Bird Impacts at Federal Facilities*. Those documents and several webinars recommended by the CCMB and DOE focus on reducing avian stressors and impacts.

Pollinator-Friendly Best Management Practices for Federal Lands, developed by the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and the Interior, suggests a process and criteria for how DOE sites can assess their lands to determine the appropriateness of BMP implementation. It presents BMPs for improving pollinator habitat and protecting pollinators when taking management actions.

The General Services Administration's Public Building Service has integrated both pollinator and bird protection into the March 2015 version of its *Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service, PBS-P100*. Section 2.5.5 of PBS-P100, Pollinators, describes the design and management requirements of Federal landscapes to create and preserve viable foraging and nesting areas for pollinators. Section 3.5.6 of PBS-P100, Bird Safe Building Design, refers users to resources for selecting building exterior glazing and walls, and interior and exterior lighting.

The Office of Asset Management (MA-50) is coordinating with the Office of Sustainable Environmental Stewardship (AU-21) in protecting pollinators and migratory birds in facilities management. For further information on these efforts, please contact Beverly Whitehead at Beverly.Whitehead@hq.doe.gov or (202) 586-6073, or consult the Pollinator and Migratory Bird Protection pages on Powerpedia.

Attachments:

- A. National Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators
- B. Department of Energy Pollinator Protection Plan – Appendix E
- C. Pollinator-Friendly Best Management Practices for Federal Lands
- D. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DOE and the FWS
- E. CCMB Nationwide Conservation Measures
- F. Low to No Cost Measures for Reducing Bird Impacts at Federal Facilities
- G. Migratory Bird Webinars