ATTACHMENT B

**IBCF PROJECT CHECKLIST**

**General Information**

Project Name:

Project Partner:

Project Description:

Project Location:

IBCF Funding Requested:

Amount and Type of Other/Matching Funding:

Does IBCF Cost of Project Exceed Current Mitigation Rate?

**Mandatory Proposal Requirements**

* The project occurs within Kentucky and/or in an adjacent state but within 20 miles of the Kentucky state line.
* The project contains one or more of the following habitat types that will be permanently protected: (check all that apply)

(a) Forest land that is known habitat for the Indiana bat and/or northern long-eared bat, and/or

(b) Forest land that is suitable for the Indiana bat and/or northern long-eared bat, and/or

(c) Non-forest land that will be restored to forest as part of the proposed project and would provide future habitat for the Indiana bat and/or northern long-eared bat.

* The project area is or will be owned by a qualified conservation organization or a qualified conservation organization will hold a permanent conservation easement on the project area that is sufficient to ensure its protection and future management as forested bat habitat.
* The project will meet one or more of the conservation goals outlined in the Conservation Strategy.

**Additional Project Attributes**

*Listed Bat Habitat Attributes* (select all that apply)

1. The project contains suitable habitat and is located in known habitat for the Indiana bat.
2. The project contains suitable habitat and is located in known habitat for the northern long-eared bat.
3. The project contains suitable habitat and is located within one of the forest-dwelling bat Recovery and Mitigation Focus Areas identified in the Conservation Strategy.
4. The project contains a known hibernaculum for either the Indiana bat and/or northern long-eared bat.
5. The project contains a potential bat hibernaculum.
6. The project contains suitable habitat and contributes to a bat, forest, or other habitat conservation effort of state, regional, or local significance.
7. The project contains non-forest land that will be reforested or afforested and would contribute to a bat, forest, or other habitat conservation effort of state, regional, or local significance.
8. The project mitigates bat habitat losses with a habitat of more importance to listed bat species (e.g., mitigates loss of potential summer habitat with known summer and/or swarming habitat.
9. The project contains water sources that provide access to drinking water and increase prey diversity for listed bat species.
10. The project contains unique geological formations (etc. caves, rock shelters, cliffline, talus fields, sink holes) that are likely to provide roosts or hibernation habitat for listed bat species.
11. List or describe others here.

*Partnership Attributes* (check all that apply)

1. The project has unique or high level support from a variety of partners and would contribute to a bat, forest or other habitat conservation effort of state, regional, or local significance.
2. The project partner has demonstrated expertise and the necessary resources to conduct the management required to adequately achieve one or more of the conservation goals in the Conservation Strategy and the provisions outlined in the proposal.
3. The project has a high likelihood of success due to any number of reasons that may be applicable to the proposed project including, but not limited to:
4. The project partner already owns or has control of the project area and can ensure implementation of the proposed project;
5. The project area does not have any complications that would compromise the project partner’s ability to acquire or manage the land.
6. The project partner has successfully completed other projects using funding from the IBCF involving acquisition, management activities, long-term habitat protection, and/or enforcement of property restrictions.
7. List or describe others here.

*Cost Attributes*

1. The per-acre cost of the project to the IBCF is substantially less than the current mitigation rate (i.e., high cost effectiveness).
2. A portion of the cost of the project is borne by the project partner or other funding source(s).
3. The project offers protection of other suitable habitat for one or more listed bats as match.
4. List or describe others here.

*Other Project Attributes*

1. The project will provide benefits to other bat species, especially bat species that are considered at-risk, are state-listed, or are listed as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the state wildlife action plan.
2. The project will provide conservation benefits to other fauna or flora that are listed or considered at-risk.
3. The project will protect rare or declining habitats, communities, or species assemblages.
4. The project will support forest conservation in a priority area for forest conservation identified in a recognized plan or initiative.
5. The project would protect forest habitat in an area that is at high risk of being lost due to forest conversion.
6. The project will reasonably be expected to result in water quality benefits in a downstream or adjacent watershed, especially one listed on the state 303(d) list.
7. The project will result in water quality benefits in a downstream or adjacent watershed that is known to contain federally- or state-listed aquatic species, aquatic Species of Greatest Conservation Need as identified in the state wildlife action plan, or at-risk aquatic species.
8. The project will provide other conservation benefits that support a recognized plan or initiative.
9. List or describe others here.

**Summary and Decision**

Based on the information in the attached Imperiled Bat Conservation Fund (IBCF) funding proposal and the characteristics of the proposal identified previously on this project checklist, we have made the following recommendations on the proposed project:

The project is RECOMMENDED / NOT RECOMMENDED for IBCF funding.

Note: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[Insert electronic signature here that includes date/time]

[Insert Name of IBCF Process Review Team Member]

The project is RECOMMENDED / NOT RECOMMENDED for IBCF Funding.

Note: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[Insert electronic signature here that includes date/time]

[Insert Name of IBCF Process Review Team Member]

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Kentucky Field Office concurs with the recommendation to provide IBCF funding for the proposed project.

[KFO Field Supervisor electronic signature here that includes date/time]

Field Supervisor, USFWS Kentucky Field Office