Confidential Business Information

PRE-CONSTRUCTION SITE CHARACTERIZATION AND FIELD SURVEY WORK PLAN

Number Three Wind Energy Project
Lewis County, New York

1. INTRODUCTION

The Number Three Wind Energy Project (Project) is a proposed wind facility in Lewis County, New York. The objectives of the pre-construction site characterization and field surveys are to identify habitats and sensitive species with the potential to occur in the Project Area. The plan includes: 1) state and federal agency coordination; 2) a landscape and Project-level screening of publicly available databases and existing Project information in accordance with Tiers 1 and 2 of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) *Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines* (WEG; USFWS 2012), Stage 1 of the *Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance Module 1 – Land-Based Wind Energy Version 2* (ECPG; USFWS 2013), and Section 2 of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) *Guidelines for Conducting Bird and Bat Studies at Commercial Wind Energy Project* (NYSDEC 2016); and 3) WEG Tier 3 and NYSDEC-recommended pre-construction studies, including vegetation and habitat mapping, breeding bird surveys, large bird use surveys, and raptor nest surveys. A separate work plan was submitted to USFWS and NYSDEC for pre-construction bat mist netting surveys (July 2016).

1.1 Project Information

Number Three Wind LLC (NTW) is an affiliate of Invenergy Wind North America LLC (Invenergy). The Project has the following specifications:

Location	Lewis County, New York, north of the town of Lowville
Project Area	See Figure 1
No. of Turbines	35 – 50 turbines
Max. Generation	106 megawatts (MW)
Turbine Dimensions	Unknown
Expected Ground Disturbance	To be determined
Other Wind Facilities Planned	Access roads, buried and overhead electric collection lines, a substation, meteorological towers, an operation and maintenance building, and electrical interconnection facilities
Interconnection Facilities Planned	A 115-kilovolt (kV) switchyard built adjacent to National Grid's 115-kV transmission line, and an overhead 115-kV interconnection line

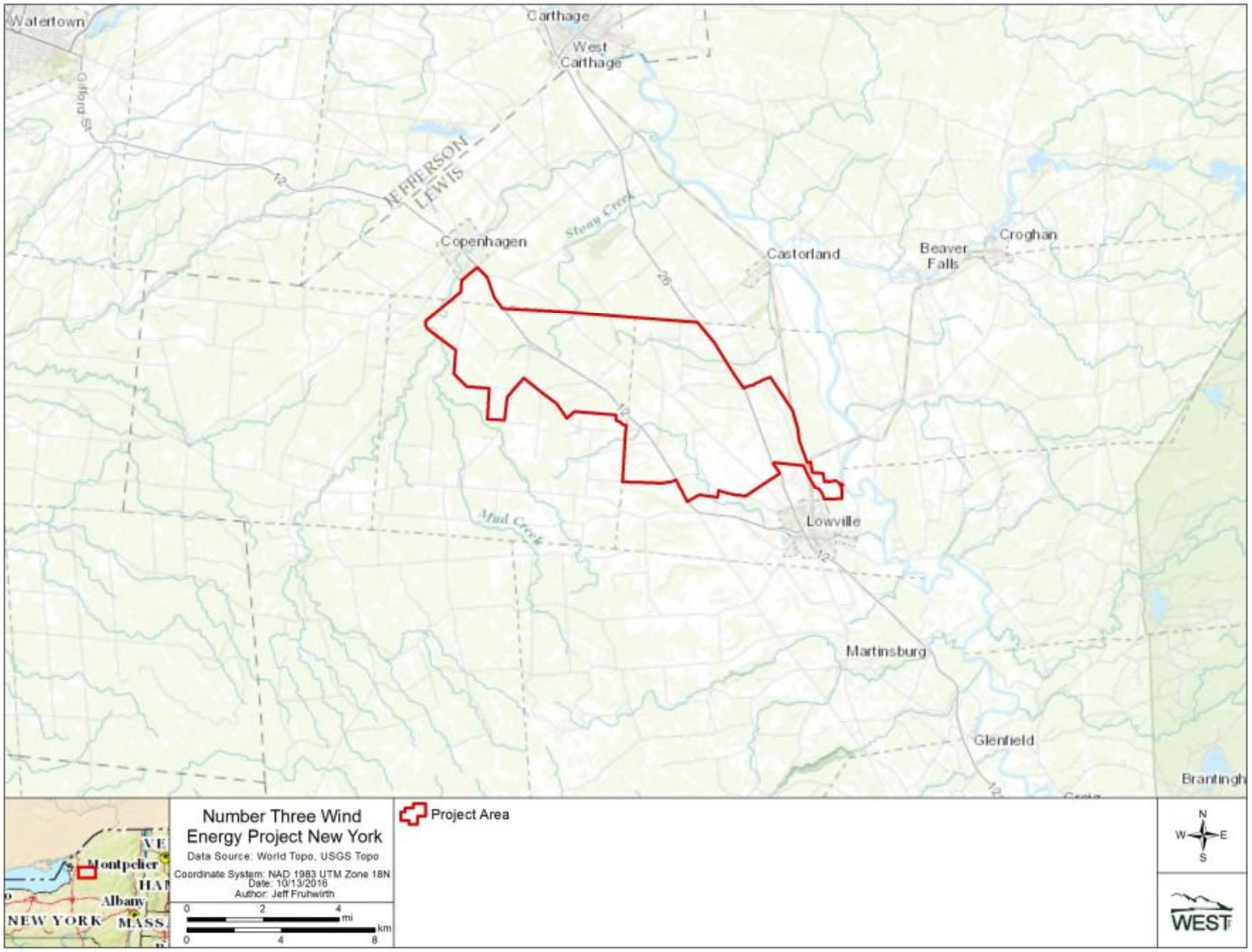

Figure 1. Proposed Number Three Wind Energy Project Area location.

The Project is located in northwestern Lewis County, New York, between the towns of Copenhagen and Lowville. State Highway 12 runs north to south through the Project Area and State Highway 26 runs north to south along the eastern border of the Project Area; a number of county roads also cross through the Project Area. Land within the Project Area is privately owned and the primary land use is agriculture (cropland and livestock). Population density is low and scattered.

Based on the US Geological Survey (USGS) 2011 National Land Cover Database (NLCD; USGS NLCD 2011, Homer et al. 2015), land use within the Project Area is approximately 61.7% hay/pasture or cultivated crops (Table 1, Figure 2). The majority of remainder of the Project Area is a mix of deciduous forest (19.4%), woody wetlands (5.8%), shrub/scrub (5.1%) and herbaceous (3.1%) (Table 1, Figure 2; USGS NLCD 2011, Homer et al. 2015).

Table 1. Land cover types, coverage, and percent composition within the Project Area of the Number Three Wind Farm.

Land Cover	Hectares	Acres	Percent Composition
Hay/Pasture	2427.9	5999.5	32.5
Cultivated Crops	2181.0	5389.5	29.2
Deciduous Forest	1451.2	3586.0	19.4
Woody Wetlands	435.8	1077.0	5.8
Shrub/Scrub	383.4	947.4	5.1
Herbaceous	228.4	564.3	3.1
Developed, Open Space	149.7	370.0	2.0
Evergreen Forest	126.1	311.6	1.7
Mixed Forest	40.4	99.8	0.5
Developed, Low Intensity	30.4	75.2	0.4
Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	12.7	31.3	0.2
Developed, Medium Intensity	3.0	7.4	<0.1
Developed, High Intensity	1.3	3.1	<0.1
Open Water	1.0	2.5	<0.1
Barren Land	0.6	1.4	<0.1
Total:[1]	**7472.9**	**18465.8**	**100**

[1] =Sums of values may not add to total value shown, due to rounding

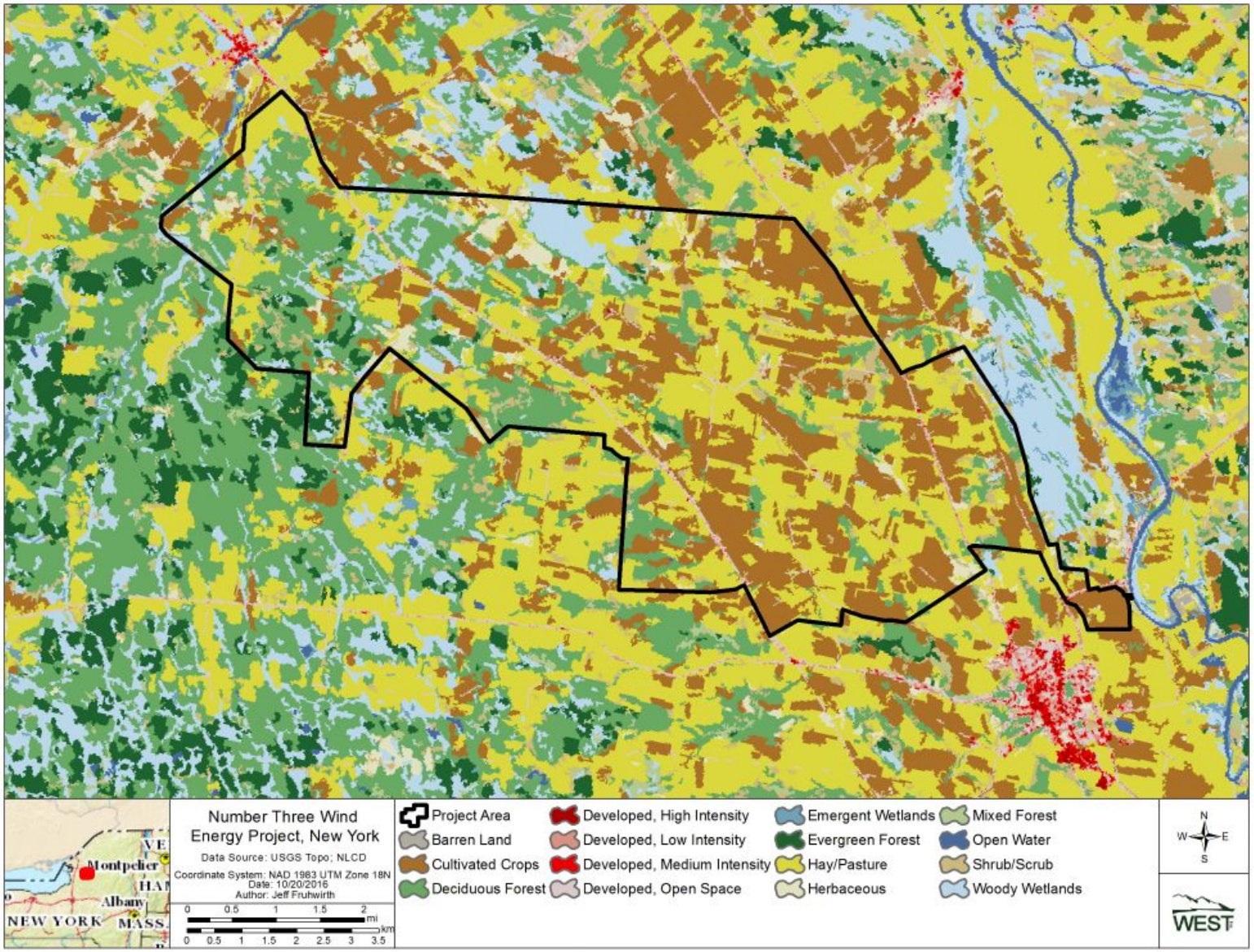

Figure 2. Land cover types within the Number Three Wind Energy Project Area in Lewis County, New York.

2. SITE CHARACTERIZATION

A landscape and Project-level screening of publicly available databases, and a site reconnaissance will be conducted in accordance with Tiers 1 and 2 of the WEG (USFWS 2012), Stage 1 of the ECPG (USFWS 2013), and Section 2 of the 2016 NYSDEC guidelines (NYSDEC 2016).

2.1 Agency Coordination

NTW will coordinate with the following governmental agencies:

USFWS
Region 5 Field Office
3817 Luker Road
Cortland, NY 13045

NYSDEC
Region 6 Field Office
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233

Army Corps of Engineers
Auburn Field Office
7413 County House Road
Auburn, NY 13021

2.2 Desktop Review

A qualified biologist will collect existing information and publicly available data to assess the potential for habitat and sensitive species within the Project Area. To address the landscape-level assessment (Tier 1), a biologist will gather a list of sensitive plant species and communities and animal species for the region and report the habitat requirements for those species and/or communities. A biologist will also assess Project and landscape level features, such as wildlife congregation areas, migratory pathways, wintering areas, communal roosts and staging areas, and potential hibernacula and maternity roosts. For the Tier 2 assessment, a biologist will specifically look at the habitat and ecological features within the Project Area, using both publically available data as well as observations of available habitat during the site reconnaissance visit.

A desktop review of the following data sources will be completed for the Project:

- State natural heritage databases;
- Maps of topography, land use and land cover;

- Threatened or endangered plant distribution available from the USFWS, state wildlife agencies, and natural diversity databases;
- Known bird migration routes available from the USFWS and bird conservation organizations;
- Species of Concern distribution from the USFWS, state wildlife agencies, and eBird.
- Bat distribution and locations of hibernacula from published literature, state wildlife agencies, Bat Conservation International (BCI), and the USFWS;
- Locations of critical habitat protected by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) from the USFWS;
- National Audubon Society (Audubon) Important Bird Area databases;
- State or federally protected nature preserves;
- Lands protected by The Nature Conservancy (TNC);
- TNC and the American Wind Wildlife Institute's (AWWI's) Wind and Wildlife Landscape Assessment Tool;
- Surface water assessment at the Project using information from the National Wetlands Inventory data and the National Hydrography Dataset;
- Determination of floodplains as identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) if floodplains are digitally available as Geographic Information System (GIS) files;
- Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc.'s (WEST's) unpublished data.

2.3 Site Reconnaissance

The Project Area will be visited by a biologist to assess any areas having potential habitat and landscape features or resources for species of concern. The site reconnaissance will be conducted along with the habitat mapping effort (see Section 3.1).

3. FIELD SURVEYS

Following the WEG and ECPG (USFWS 2012, 2013) and the NYSDEC guidelines (NYSDEC 2016), the following WEG Tier 3 surveys will be conducted for the Project in 2016/2017: field-based habitat mapping, breeding bird surveys (BBS), large bird use surveys, raptor nest surveys, and bat mist netting surveys (detailed in a separate work plan submitted to agencies in July 2016).

3.1 Habitat Mapping

A survey of the Project Area will be conducted to map and describe the dominant vegetation types and identify potentially suitable habitat and landscape features for New York- and federally listed rare, threatened, and endangered species, and state species of special concern (sensitive species), species of habitat fragmentation concern. A biologist will conduct a visual

assessment of land cover and topographic conditions in the Project Area along publicly accessible roads. The biologist will stop approximately every 0.8 km (0.5 mi) to record any changes in the habitat or note any landscape features. The biologist will travel along state and county highways that go through or border the Project Area, including State Highways 12 and 26, County Highways 1, 14, 20, and 25, and various other paved roads throughout the Project Area.

If determination of the habitat or landscape features of the covered areas are not visible from the public roads, permission to access private lands will be sought through Invenergy to obtain visual confirmation of the habitat or landscape features in the un-viewable areas. A map will be provided of the areas that were not able to be assessed during the initial habitat mapping. The goal of the survey will be to obtain 100% visual coverage of the Project Area. Vegetation types and potential habitat or landscape features for sensitive species will be identified and delineated on field maps that show recent aerial imagery. So that these spatial data may be overlaid on facility plans and other Project information documents, GIS specialists will digitize the mapped vegetation and habitat information.

3.2 Breeding Bird Surveys

Use of the Project by breeding birds will be assessed per the NYSDEC guidelines (NYSDEC 2016). The objectives of these surveys are to investigate breeding bird use and the potential presence of sensitive or state-listed birds.

3.2.1 Survey Plots

Twenty-four 300-meter (m; 984-ft) long transects will be established in the Project Area that correspond with proposed turbine sites and where no turbines are proposed (Figure 3). The 8 non-turbine transects will be located in areas where landowners agree to study participation but when possible at least 500 m (1,640 ft) away from proposed turbine locations. Transects will be located to avoid cultivated (plowed agriculture) fields as much as possible and will be selected to broadly cover the major vegetation types present in the Project.

Each transect will be divided into 50-m (164-ft) segments and the survey will focused on recording birds within 50-m of both sides of the transect, thus creating a 300 by 100 m (984 by 328 ft) rectangular survey plot encompassing approximately 30,000 square m (323,000 square ft) bisected by the transect line. A point count location will be established in the middle of each 50-m segment. The dominant vegetation type for each 50-m segment of transect will be recorded (NYSDEC 2016).

3.2.2 Survey Methods

A qualified biologist will walk the pre-established transects during the period between a half-hour before to four hours after sunrise on days without inclement weather (e.g., rain) or strong winds (greater than 16-24 km-per-hour [kph; 10-15 mi-per-hour [mph])[1]. In the middle of each

[1] Excessively windy, rainy, or cold days will not be surveyed.

50-m segment a 5-min point count will be conducted, during which detections of breeding songbirds that are either seen or heard will be recorded on standard data forms by each 50-m segment of transect in which the observation occurred. Additionally any raptors, waterfowl or other flyovers will also be recorded. The observations between point count locations along the transects will be recorded, but will treated as incidental observations and will not be used in the analysis.

Data recorded for each survey will include start and end time of the observation period; the 5-m (16-ft) segment along the transect of the 5-min point count location that the observations were observed from; weather information, such as temperature, wind speed, wind direction, and cloud cover; and sources of disturbances, such as roads and farms. Species identification, number of individuals of each species, how observed (visual or auditory), and behavior (nesting, flying, perching, singing, etc.) will be recorded for each observation. The approximate distance to each bird from point count location (or the transect line) will be recorded for each observation. Observers will record all birds seen, but will focus on locating and identifying birds within a 50-m radius of the point count locations. Binoculars will be used to assist in locating and identifying birds observed.

3.2.3 Survey Schedule

Each transect will be surveyed four times between early June and early July 2016. A visit will be defined as a survey of all 24 transects and four visits will be made over the survey period. In general, efforts will be made to complete a visit (all 24 transects) in a 1-week period and visits will be separated by a 1-week period.

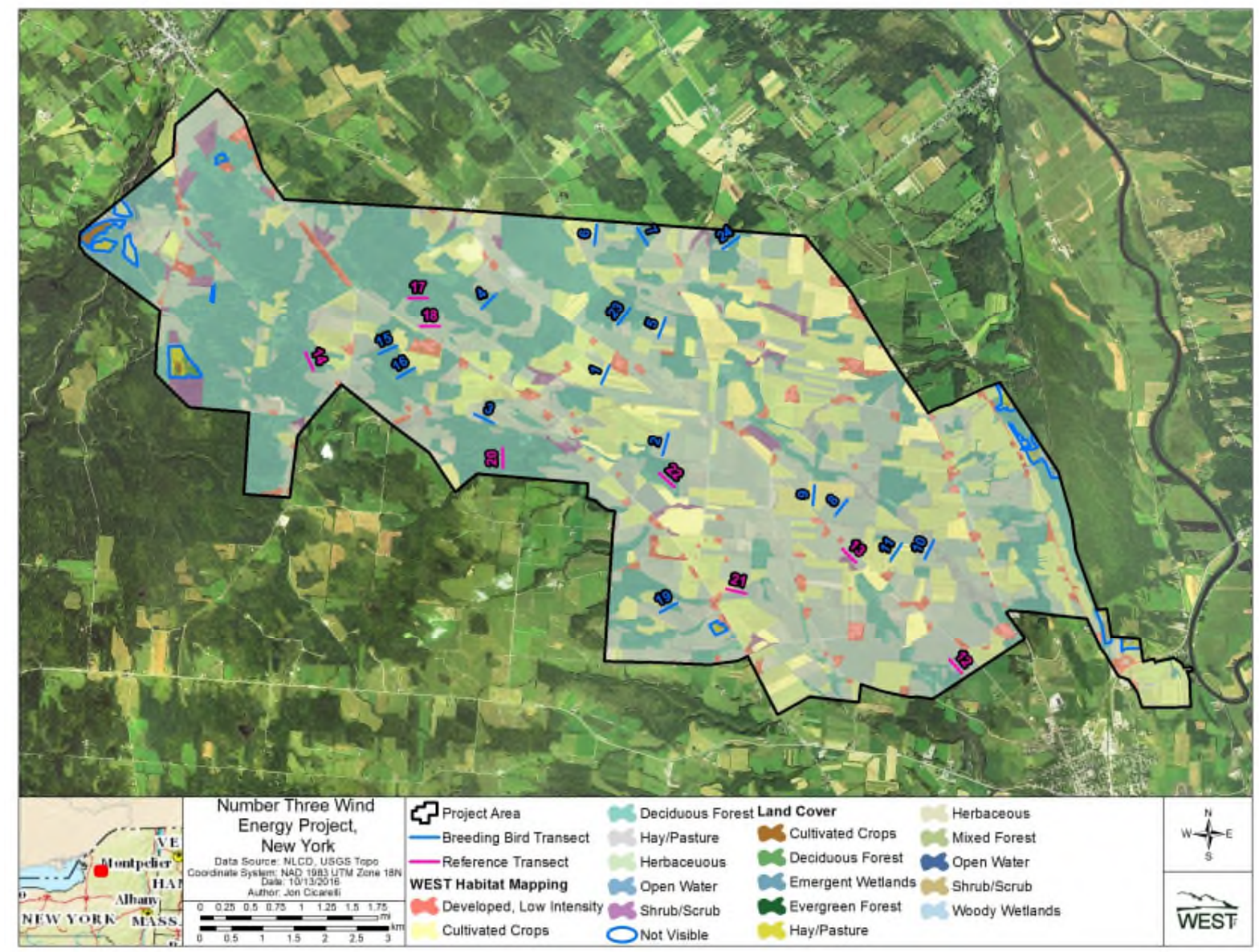

Figure 3. Proposed Number Three Wind Energy Project Area and breeding bird and reference transects.

3.3 Large Bird Use Surveys

The primary objective of the large bird use surveys is to understand the spatial and temporal use of the proposed Project Area by large birds. Large birds are defined as waterfowl, waterbirds, diurnal raptors, owls, and vultures. Surveys will be conducted primarily using methods described in the ECPG (USFWS 2013). Collection of the large bird use data will allow for the comparison of large bird use among numerous wind projects throughout the northeast and eastern US, as well as species composition, relative abundance, diversity, frequency, flight height, and behavioral patterns. Large bird use will also be recorded and assessed based on height above, within, or below the expected rotor swept area. In addition, eagle minutes (the number, distance, height, and behavior of eagles each minute the eagle is visible (during the surveys) will be recorded.

3.3.1 Survey Plots

The ECPG (USFWS 2013) recommends that survey plots, defined as a point and the area within 800 m (approximately 0.5 mile [mi] around that point, or 2.1 square km [km^2; 0.8 square [mi^2]), cover approximately 30% of the area that is encompassed by a 1-km (0.6-mi) buffer around the proposed turbine locations (Figure 4). To meet this recommendation, 12 point count locations were established within the Project Area, and in a manner so that buffers around each point do not overlap or have minimal overlap (Figure 4).

Survey locations were located along public roads within the Project Area where visibility is minimally obstructed, and there is a large viewshed (an area up to 800m [0.5 mi] around the point) while providing representative spatial coverage of the proposed turbine locations.

3.3.2 Survey Schedule

Surveys are planned to begin in June 2016 and will continue through May 2017. Surveys will be conducted during daylight hours between sunrise and sunset and varied over the course of the year so that survey plots are not always surveyed at the same time of day. The survey plots will be surveyed for 60 minutes (min) twice per month to meet the recommendation of the ECPG (USFWS 2013). In general, one field biologist will survey the 12 survey plots over two days.

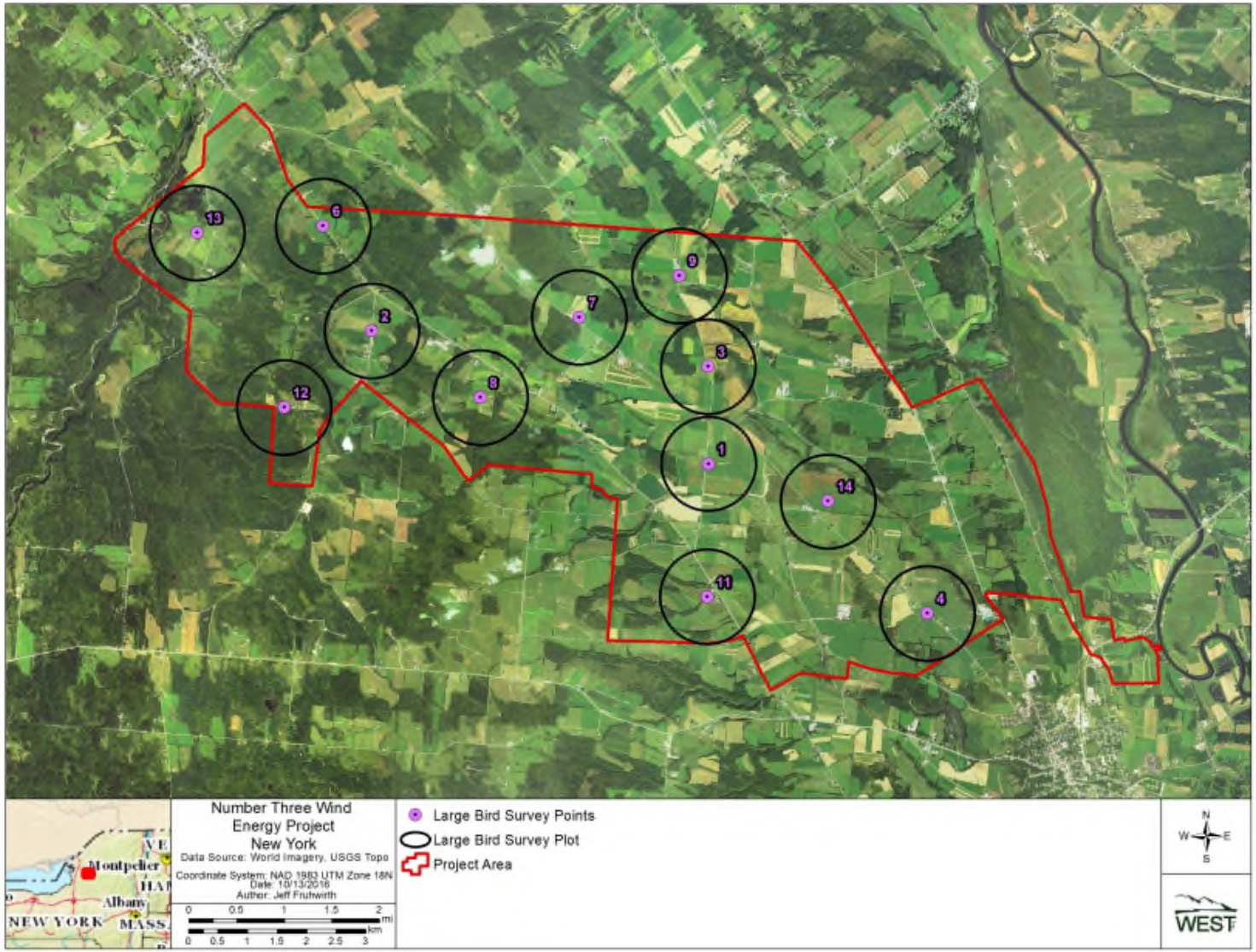

Figure 4. Proposed Number Three Wind Energy Project Area and large bird survey plots.

3.3.3 Survey Methods

The large bird use survey will focus on waterfowl, waterbirds, diurnal raptors, owls, and vultures. Standard field data collection forms will be used. Observers will record the start time of the 60-min survey, then continuously watch and scan the area for large birds. Binoculars will be used to assist in locating and identifying birds observed. Eagle observations will include minute-by-minute data collection for number of individuals, behavior, distance from observer, and flight height (eagle minutes).

Landmarks will be located to aid in identifying the survey boundaries of each plot. The date, start, and end time of observation period, plot number, species or best possible identification, number of individuals, sex and age class, location, minimum and maximum height above ground level, activity, flight path and direction, habitat, and weather will be recorded.

Flight direction and flight path location will be mapped for large birds. Flight paths of large birds that are observed opportunistically outside the survey plot will be recorded for use in identifying high use areas, but will not be included in mean use comparisons and estimates generated from the point count surveys.

Behavior and habitat will be recorded for each large bird observation. Behavior categories include perched, circling/soaring, flapping, active hunting, gliding, hovering, vocalizing, aggression, and other (noted in comments). Habitat over which each observation is made will be recorded: shrub, grassland, riparian, open water, cropland, forest/woodlot, developed, and other (noted in comments). Weather information recorded for each survey point will include temperature, wind speed, wind direction, and cloud cover. Flight paths and locations of perched birds will be recorded in the field on the data sheet maps and will be digitized using ArcGIS 10.2 for use in spatial analyses and mapping.

3.4 Raptor Nest Survey

The primary objective of the raptor nest surveys is to identify the location and distribution of nests and to determine the number and density of active nests/nesting pairs in the Project Area and 16-km (10-mi) buffer. NYSDEC conducts semi-annual nest surveys that frequently cover areas of known possible future developments. For this task, a biologist will request data from the agencies. Any areas that were not recently surveyed by NYSDEC will be surveyed out to 10 mi for bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*).

3.4.1 Survey Methods

If needed, a helicopter survey will be conducted for all raptor nests within 2 mi and eagle nests within 10 mi of the proposed turbines. Prior to the nest survey being conducted, topographic and aerial maps will be evaluated to determine where raptor nesting habitat is likely to occur (e.g., at open lakes and rivers with large trees nearby) so that these areas can be targeted during the aerial surveys. The raptor nest survey will be conducted prior to leaf out from a helicopter operated by a pilot experienced in conducting low-altitude wildlife surveys, with one biologist to observe and record nests.

For all raptor nest structures detected, the biologist will record nest location coordinates with a hand-held global positioning system (GPS) device, species present (if any), condition of the nest, presence of eggs or young (if present and visible), substrate of the nest (e.g., tree, power pole, rock outcrop), and aspect of the nest. To the extent possible, follow-up visits of nest sites from the ground may be made to examine nests located in areas where use of the helicopter near houses or farms would cause disturbance to residents or livestock. The status of each nest will be determined as either: 1) Unoccupied - a nest with no evidence of recent use, or attendance by adult raptors; or 2) Occupied - a nest site exhibiting recent refurbishing (greenery, recent egg cup), or the nest site is represented by one or more adults, or adults immediately adjacent to nest structure(s).

3.4.2 Survey Schedule

One aerial survey will be conducted prior to leaf out in early spring 2017.

4. REFERENCES

ArcGIS. ESRI GIS Software. ESRI ArcGIS 10.2, Redlands, California.

Endangered Species Act (ESA). 1973. 16 United States Code (USC) §§ 1531-1544, Public Law (PL) 93-205, December 28, 1973, as amended, PL 100-478 [16 USC 1531 et seq.]; 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 402.

ESRI. 2016. World Imagery and Aerial Photos. ArcGIS Resource Center. ESRI, producers of ArcGIS software. Redlands, California.

Homer, C. G., J. A. Dewitz, L. Yang, S. Jin, P. Danielson, G. Xian, J. Coulston, N. D. Herold, J. D. Wickham, and K. Megown. 2015. Completion of the 2011 National Land Cover Database for the Conterminous United States-Representing a Decade of Land Cover Change Information. Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing 81(5): 345-354. Available online from: http://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd2011.php

Morrison, M. L., W. L. Kendall., M. D. Strickland, and W. M. Block. 2001. Wildlife Study Design. Springer-Verlag, New York. 210 pp.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). 2016. Guidelines for Conducting Bird and Bat Studies at Commercial Wind Energy Projects. Prepared by NYSDEC Division of Fish and Wildlife. June 2016.

North American Datum (NAD). 1983. NAD83 Geodetic Datum.

US Department of Agriculture (USDA). 2016. Imagery Programs - National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP). USDA - Farm Service Agency (FSA). Aerial Photography Field Office (APFO), Salt Lake City, Utah. Data accessed June and July 2016. Information available online at: http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/aerial-photography/imagery-programs/index

US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2012. Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines. March 23, 2012. 82 pp. Available online at: http://www.fws.gov/cno/pdf/Energy/2012_Wind_Energy_Guidelines_final.pdf

US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2013. Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance: Module 1 - Land-Based Wind Energy, Version 2. US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Migratory Bird Management. April 2013. Executive Summary and frontmatter + 103 pp. https://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/eagleconservationplanguidance.pdf

US Geological Survey (USGS). 2011. National Land Cover Database 2011 (NLCD 2011). Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium (MRLC), National Land Cover Database (NLCD). USGS Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS) Center, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Information available online at: http://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd2011.php; Legend information available at: http://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd11_leg.php

US Geological Survey (USGS). 2016. The National Map/US Topo. Last updated June 2016. Homepage available at: http://nationalmap.gov/ustopo/index.html

Confidential Business Information

BAT MIST-NETTING WORK PLAN

Number Three Wind Farm

Lewis County, New York

July 2016

1 INTRODUCTION

The following document describes the bat mist-netting plan for the Number Three Wind Farm (Project), located in Lewis County, New York. The plan includes northern long-eared bat (NLEB*; Myotis septentrionalis*) and Indiana bat (INBA; *Myotis sodalis*) presence/probable absence surveys.

1.1 Project Information

Number Three Wind LLC (NTW), an affiliate of Invenergy Wind North America LLC (Invenergy), is developing with the following specifications:

Location	Lewis County, NY North of the town of Lowville.
Project Area	See Figure 1.
No. of Turbines	35 – 50 turbines
Max Generation	106 MW
Turbine Dimensions	Unknown
Expected ground disturbance	TBD
Other Wind Facilities Planned	Access roads, buried and overhead electric collection lines, a substation, meteorological towers, an operation and maintenance building, and electrical interconnection facilities
Interconnection Facilities Planned	A 115-kV switchyard built adjacent to National Grid's 115-kV transmission line, and an overhead 115-kV interconnection line.

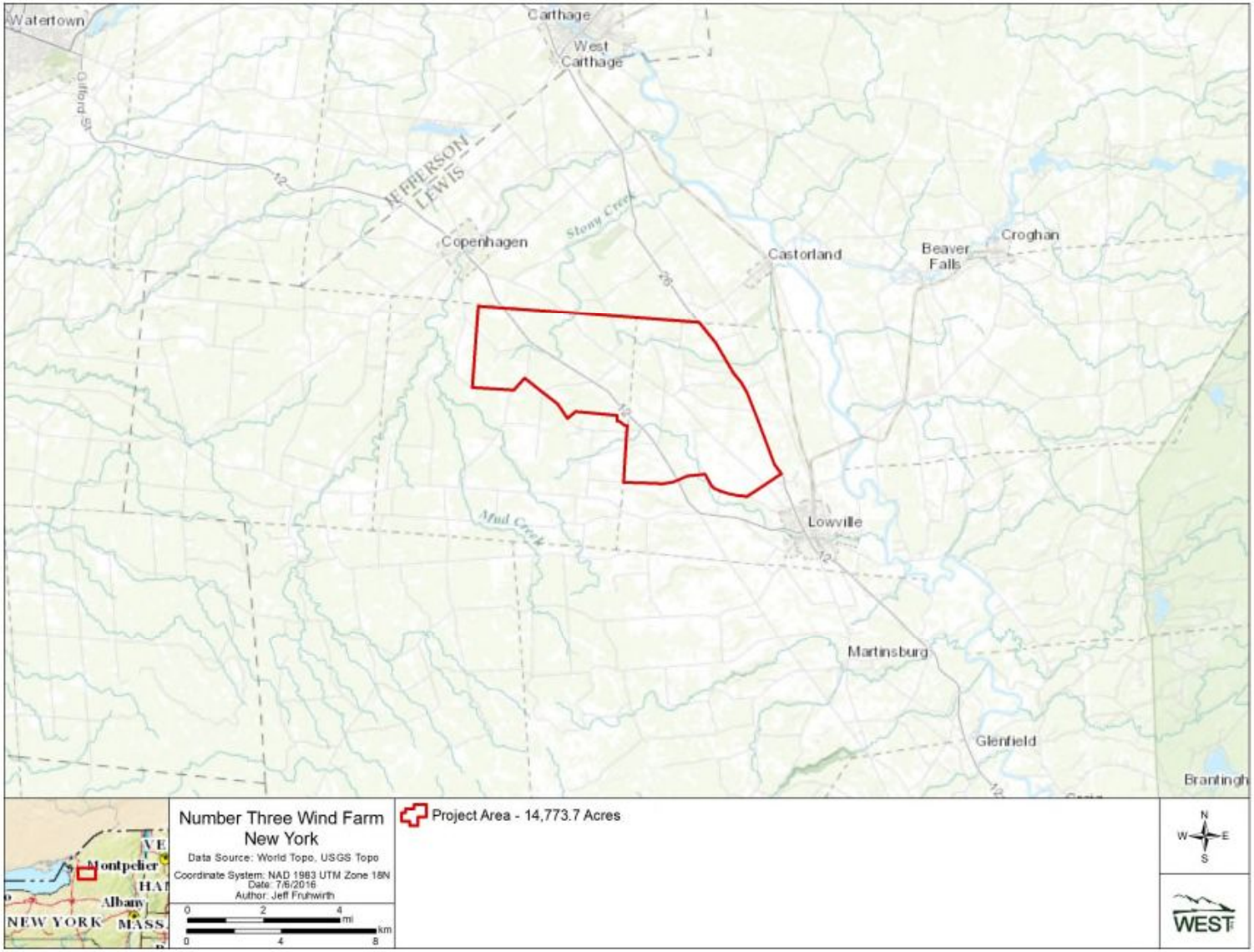

Figure 1. Proposed Number Three Wind Farm Location.

The Project is located in northwestern Lewis County, New York, between the towns of Copenhagen and Lowville. U.S. Highway 12 runs north to south through the Project Area and U.S. Highway 26 runs north to south along the eastern border of the Project Area; a number of county roads cross through the Project Area. Land within the Project Area is privately owned and the primary land uses are agriculture (cropland, livestock). Population density is low and scattered.

Based on the 2011 National Land Cover Database (Homer et al. 2015), land use within the Project Area is approximately 62.6% cultivated crops or pasture/hay (Table 1; Figure 2). The remainder of the Project Area is a mix of deciduous forest (19.2%), woody wetlands (6.0%), shrub/scrub (4.9%) and herbaceous (3.1%) (Table 1; Figure 2; USGS NLCD 2011).

Table 1. Land cover types, coverage, and percent composition within the Project Area of the Number Three Wind Farm.

Land Cover	Acres	Hectares	Percent Composition
Hay/Pasture	4847.7	1961.8	32.8%
Cultivated Crops	4401.7	1781.3	29.8%
Deciduous Forest	2837.8	1148.4	19.2%
Woody Wetlands	879.5	355.9	6.0%
Shrub/Scrub	720.5	291.6	4.9%
Herbaceous	459.1	185.8	3.1%
Developed, Open Space	277.8	112.4	1.9%
Evergreen Forest	223.7	90.5	1.5%
Mixed Forest	56.8	23.0	0.4%
Developed, Low Intensity	45.3	18.3	0.3%
Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	16.1	6.5	0.1%
Developed, Medium Intensity	3.3	1.3	0.0%
Developed, High Intensity	1.7	0.7	0.0%
Barren Land	1.4	0.6	0.0%
Open Water	1.2	0.5	0.0%
Total:	**14773.7**	**5978.7**	**100.0%**

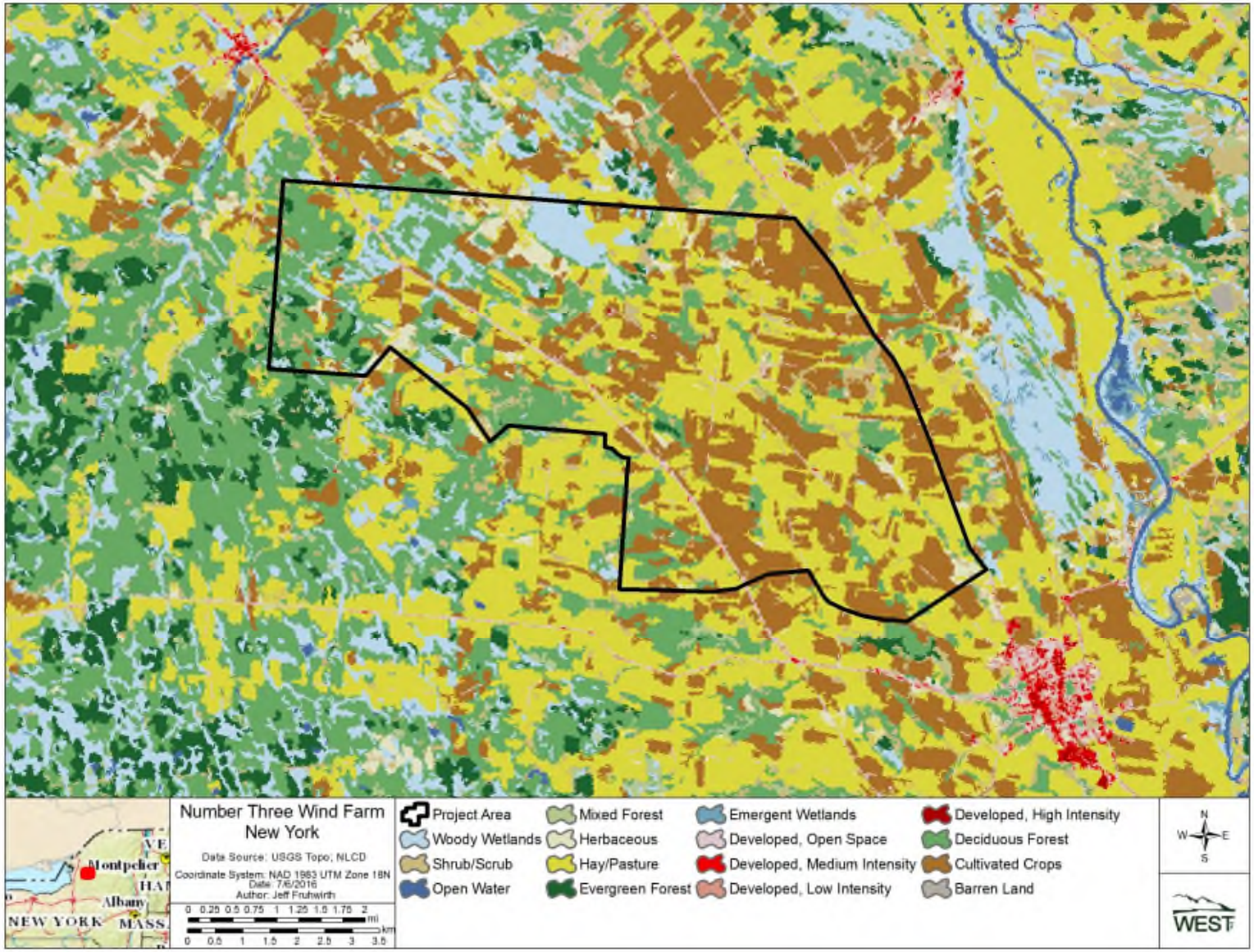

Figure 2. Land cover within the Number Three Wind Farm Project Area.

2 Presence/Absence Surveys for Federally Listed Bats

The primary objective of the summer mist-net surveys for NLEB and INBA is to make a presence/probable absence determination. Surveys will be conducted using methods described in the *Northern Long-eared Bat Interim Conference and Planning Guidance* (USFWS 2014) and the *2016 Range-Wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines* (USFWS 2016a). There are two methods of survey effort outlined in these guidance documents; both methods were reviewed and resulted in a similar number of sites to adequately assessing the likelihood of potential suitable NLEB and INBA habitat. The linear approach will be used to assess presence/probable absence.

2.1 Survey Plots

The USFWS 2016 Summer Survey Guidelines specify that surveys to determine presence/probable absence for NLEB and INBA follow the guidelines published by USFWS for presence/probable absence surveys for Indiana bats (USFWS 2016a). Following the Indiana Bat summer survey guidance, the level of effort for a linear project is a minimum of 6 net nights per 0.6 mile (mi; 1 kilometer [km]) or less of segment of the linear disturbance containing suitable forest vegetation blocks. The minimum level of effort of 37 sites was determined based on the GIS data for the proposed turbine and infrastructure locations by NTW (USFWS 2016a; Figure 3). Each location will be surveyed for at least six net nights. Figure 4 shows the preliminary survey site locations based on the potential suitable habitat for NLEB and INBA. A final survey layout will be developed based on input from USFWS and NYDEC prior to the initiation of the field surveys.

2.2 Survey Schedule

Surveys will be conducted between July 15 and August 15, 2016.

2.3 Survey Methods

Mist-net surveys will be conducted at sites determined by WEST's permitted bat experts to contain the best suitable summer habitat within the Project Area and shown on Figure 3. The final locations will be micro-sited and surveys will be conducted by a sub-contractor, Sanders Environmental Inc.

Mist-net surveys will have three nets per site for two calendar nights for a total of six net nights per mist-net site. Standard two-ply, 75 denier, nylon mist-nets with a mesh size of 1.30 inches (38 millimeters [mm]) will be used at all mist-net sites. Mist-netting will begin at sunset and continue for at least five hours. Mist-nets will be placed in suitable bat habitat and positioned perpendicularly across flight corridors filling the corridor from side to side and extending from ground-level up to overhanging canopy. Nets will be checked approximately every 10 minutes (mins). Disturbance in the form of noise, light, or movement will be minimized at all net locations. If weather conditions such as persistent rain (>30 mins), strong, sustained winds (>9 miles-per-hour [mph; 14.5 kmph]), or cold temperature (below 50°F [10°C]) impair netting, then

those net sites will be sampled for an additional night. All mist-net surveys will be performed by staff and sub-contractors holding the proper state and federal permits and approved by the USFWS.

For each mist-net night, the date, start and end time, site description, site coordinates, mist-net specifics, and weather data (temperature, cloud cover, wind speed, precipitation, and moon phase) will be recorded. All captured bats will be identified to species. In addition, sex, age, reproductive condition, body mass (grams), forearm length (mm), and capture status (recapture/new) will be recorded for each bat.

To assess exposure to White-Nose Syndrome ("WNS") in individual bats, a Reichard Index score (0-3) will be recorded for all captured bats (Reichard 2009). To prevent cross contamination of captured bats with *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*, the fungus that causes WNS, the USFWS WNS decontamination protocol will be followed for all mist-netting efforts (USFWS 2016b). Captured bats of species other than NLEB and INBA will be measured and processed immediately and usually released within 15 mins. NLEB and INBA may be held for up to 30 mins in order to attach radio-transmitters. Species of bats captured will be photo-documented with voucher photographs. Forearm bands will be attached to captured little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), NLEB and INBA species.

If female or juvenile NLEB and INBA are captured, telemetry surveys will be conducted to determine if NLEB and INBA are utilizing areas in or near the Project Area as roost sites or maternity colonies. Up to two telemetry units will be used as part of this study. Although female or juvenile NLEB and INBA will be the primary focus of this survey, adult males may also be tracked if females or juveniles are not being captured during the first quarter of the net nights. If either NLEB or INBAT are captured the appropriate agency personnel will be notified within 24 hours. No other species will be tracked. If land access is granted, bats will be tracked to the roost trees. If land access is denied, the day roost location will be triangulated from public roads or accessible lands. If bats are located outside the proposed Project Area and not on leased lands, land access will be requested.

Bats will be outfitted with a radio-transmitter (model no. LB-2X; Holohil Systems Ltd., Ontario, Canada or similar) until the transmitter signal is lost. Transmitter signals will be followed during daylight hours to find roosts and maternity sites. Following the guidance, if land access is permitted, roost emergence surveys will be conducted at roost trees identified during the radio-telemetry surveys. Two exit counts will be performed on documented roost trees on accessible land to determine the number of bats in the roost and to confirm the specific roost type and location.

2.4 Reporting

A report will be submitted in compliance with the USFWS Native Endangered and Threatened Species Recovery Permit.

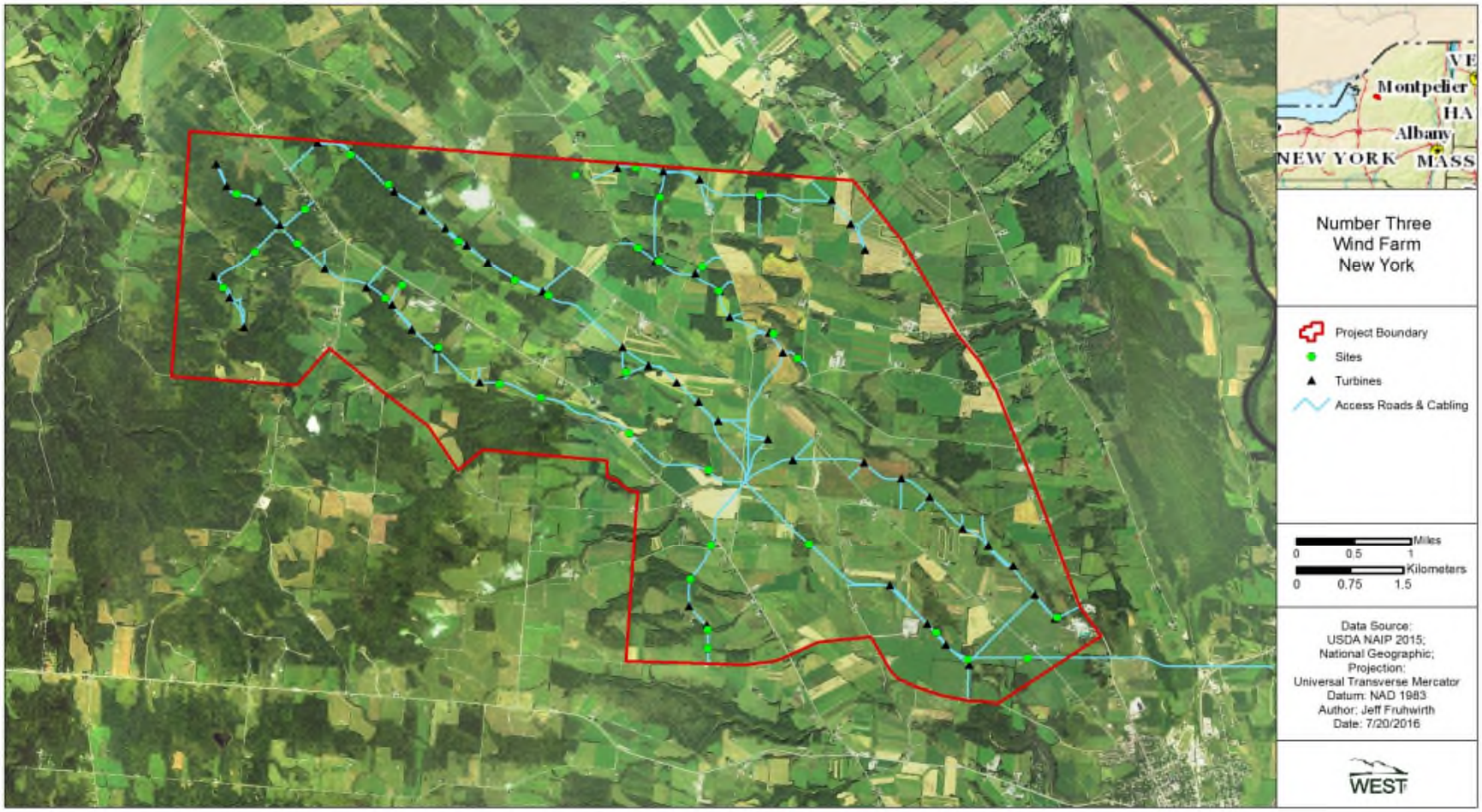

Figure 3. Number Three Wind Farm linear determination.

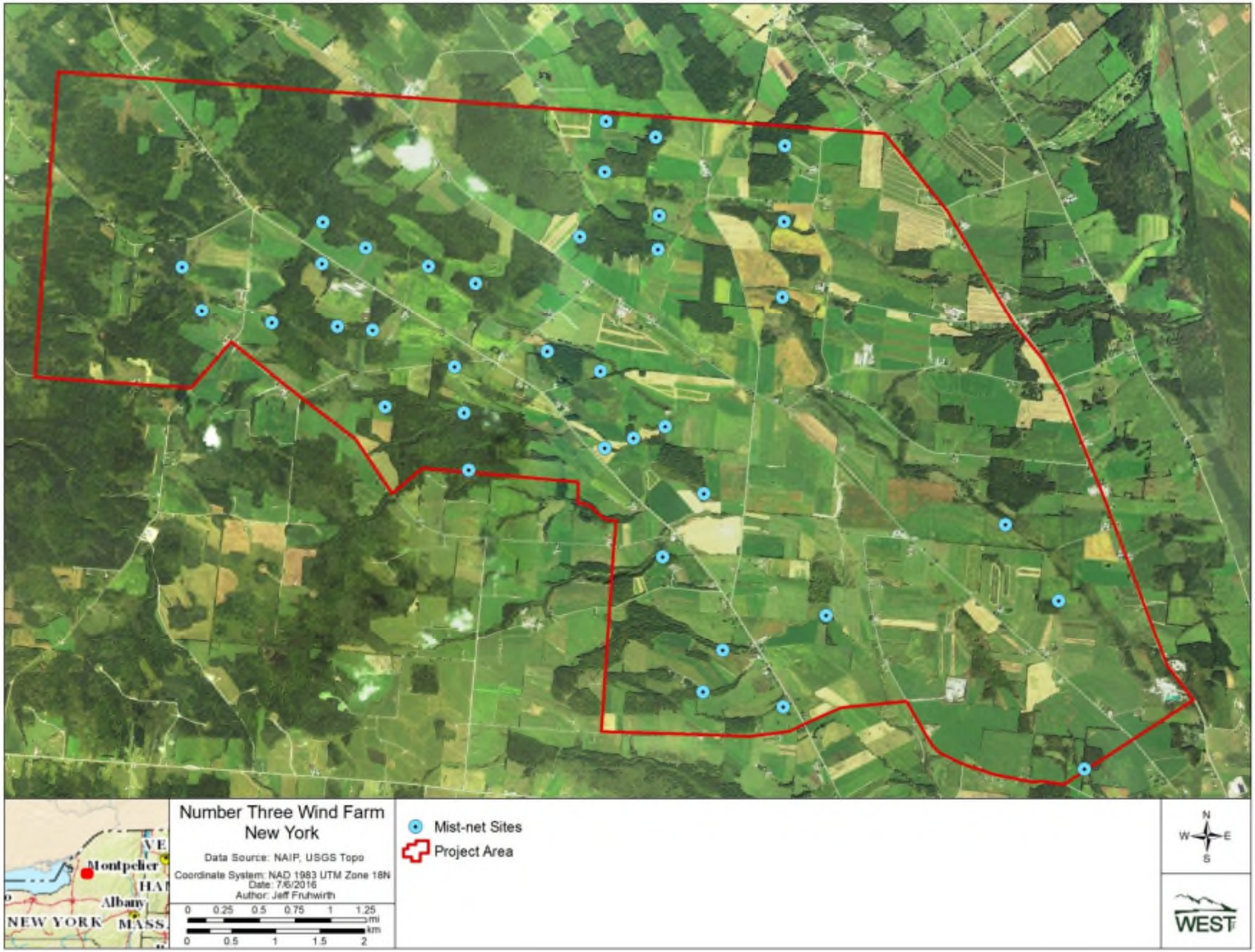

Figure 4. Number Three Wind Farm proposed mist-net sites.

3 REFERENCES

Homer, C. G., J. A. Dewitz, L. Yang, S. Jin, P. Danielson, G. Xian, J. Coulston, N. D. Herold, J. D. Wickham, and K. Megown. 2015. Completion of the 2011 National Land Cover Database for the Conterminous United States-Representing a Decade of Land Cover Change Information. Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing 81(5): 345-354. Available online from: http://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd2011.php

US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2014. Northern Long-Eared Bat Interim Conference and Planning Guidance. USFWS Regions 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. January 6, 2014. Available online at: http://www.fws.gov/northeast/virginiafield/pdf/NLEBinterimGuidance6Jan2014.pdf

US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2016a. Range-Wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines. US Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3. USFWS. Fort Snelling, Minnesota. 48 pp. http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/inba/inbasummersurveyguidance.html

US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2016b. National White-Nose Decontamination Protocol-Version 04.12.2016. Updated April 12, 2016. Available online at: https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/resource/national-white-nose-syndrome-decontamination-protocol-april-2016

US Geological Survey (USGS) National Land Cover Data (NLCD). 2011. National Land Cover Database NLCD, Muti-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium (MRLC). USGS Earth Resources Observation and Science (Eros) Center, Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Information available online at: http://www.mrlc.gov/nlcd11_leg.php