



April 14, 2025

Dear Emily Edwards,

I am writing on behalf of the Arkansas Audubon Society, a statewide organization committed to fostering a greater knowledge of the natural history of Arkansas and promoting conservation of the state's natural resources. **The Arkansas Audubon Society supports the creation of Triangle Park as a restored wetland within the Little Rock Port Authority's property.** The restoration and enhancement of this habitat would benefit many fauna (especially birds) as well as enrich the lives of numerous bird watchers who visit the Little Rock Port area.

The Little Rock Port is one of Pulaski County's major birding hotspots. Approximately 190 bird species have been documented at this hotspot as per eBird, an online platform for submitting bird watching data. In fact, the Little Rock Port has provided stopover habitat for many declining migratory species, such as American Golden-Plovers (*Pluvialis dominica*), Stilt Sandpipers (*Calidris himantopus*), and the federally threatened Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*). Many shorebirds and wading birds (e.g., herons and egrets) rely on shallow mudflats for foraging habitat. Thus, we want to commend the inclusion of mudflat habitats. Such habitat, as well as emergent wetlands that are included in the current plan, are critical, especially as similar habitat on site has been developed or filled. We also want to mention our support of the plan to include native plants in vegetated areas, which will provide food for many other native birds. We believe that the current restoration plan will provide high-quality habitat for many species in decline.

In addition to the evident benefit that this plan will have for birds, we expect that this restoration project will benefit people as well. Numerous local and statewide bird watchers visit the Little Rock Port regularly to enjoy the amazing avian diversity on site. We expect that this project will be popular among those bird watchers and other visitors to the site. We support the plans to include accessible parking and to build an accessible boardwalk so that these habitats can be enjoyed by all nature enthusiasts. We are proud of the plans being hatched to restore this habitat and believe that it can be an example of what might be possible at other sites in Arkansas and beyond.

Thank you for considering this comment. We are hopeful that this project will benefit birds and people for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Krajcir, M.S.  
Conservation Chair  
Arkansas Audubon Society