



October 19, 2017

Mr. Angel Correa
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
700 West Capitol, Room 3130
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3298

Re: Job Number 080507
FAP Number NHPP-0053(33)
Bridge Number M2086
Ditch at L.M. 4.30 Str. & Apprs. (S)
Perry County
Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion

Dear Mr. Correa:

The Environmental Division has reviewed the referenced project and it falls within the definition of the Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion as defined by the ARDOT/FHWA Memorandum of Agreement on the processing of Categorical Exclusions. The following information is included for your review and, if acceptable, approval as the environmental documentation for this project.

The purpose of this project is to replace a functionally obsolete bridge on Highway 155 over an unnamed tributary to Rose Creek. Total length of the project is 100 feet. The project is located 1.2 miles west of Highway 247 in Perry County. A project location map is enclosed.

The existing roadway consists of two 10-foot wide paved travel lanes with no shoulders. The existing bridge has a 24' x 27.6' concrete deck on steel multi-beam supported by a masonry and steel substructure. Existing right of way width is approximately 80 feet.

Proposed improvements include the addition of 4-foot wide shoulders, two feet of which will be paved. The proposed structure is a triple-barreled 8' x 6' x 48' concrete box culvert that will be replaced on the existing alignment with traffic maintained on a temporary detour constructed immediately south of the existing bridge. The new proposed right of way width will be approximately 150 feet. Approximately 0.2 acre of additional right of way and 1.1 acre of temporary construction easement will be required for this project.

Design data for this project is as follows:

Design Year	Average Daily Traffic (vehicles per day)	Percent Trucks	Design Speed
2018	160	6	55 mph
2038	200	6	55 mph

There are no relocations, environmental justice issues, wetlands, floodplains, public water supplies, or cultural resources associated with this project. Field inspections found no evidence of existing underground storage tanks or hazardous waste deposits. Approximately 0.16 acre of prime farmland will be converted to highway right of way. Form NRCS-CPA-106 is enclosed. Construction in the unnamed tributary of Rose Creek should be allowed under terms of a Section 404 Nationwide 14 Permit for Linear Transportation Projects as defined in the Federal Register 82(4):1860-2008. State Historic Preservation Officer clearance is enclosed.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) identified three threatened or endangered species potentially occurring in the project vicinity: harperella (*Ptilimnium nodosum*), the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), and the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*). No critical habitat for any of the listed species is located within the project area. Due to the limited size of the area being cleared, distance to known species locations, lack of suitable habitat within the project action area, and the incorporation of standard stream conservation measures, it was determined that the project "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" the Piping Plover and harperella. The project is consistent with the terms of the programmatic biological opinion for the northern long-eared bat 4(d) rule and will not result in prohibited incidental take. Clearance from the USFWS is enclosed.

Based upon the ARDOT's Policy on Highway Traffic Noise Abatement, a noise analysis is not required for this project. This project does not involve added capacity, construction of new through lanes or auxiliary lanes, changes in the horizontal or vertical alignment of the roadway or exposure of noise sensitive land uses to a new or existing highway noise source.

If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Division at 569-2281.

Sincerely,

APPROVED

Environmental Specialist
Federal Highway Administration
Date: 10/20/2017

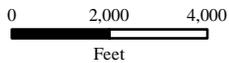
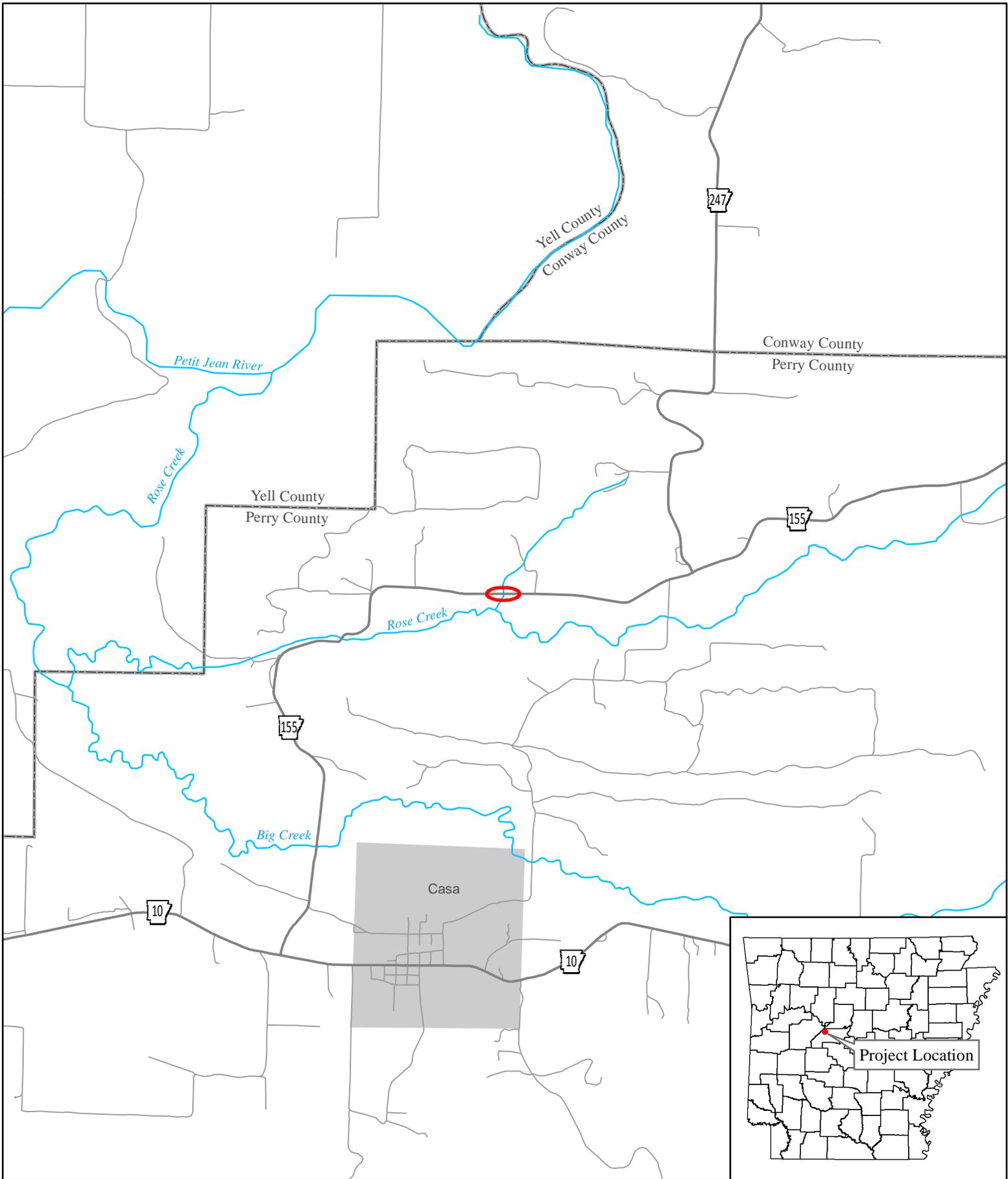


John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division

Enclosures

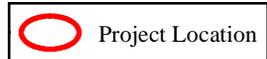
JF:SS:fc

c: Program Management
Right of Way
Roadway Design
District 8
Master File



ARDOT - Environmental GIS - Strawn
October 18, 2017

Job 080507
Ditch at L.M. 4.30 Str. & Apprs.
(Hwy. 155)
Perry County





ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ArDOT.gov | IDriveArkansas.com | Scott E. Bennett, P.E., Director

10324 Interstate 30 | P.O. Box 2261 | Little Rock, AR 72203-2261
Phone: 501.569.2000 | Voice/TTY 711 | Fax: 501.569.2400

99311
FHWA

AHPP

August 14, 2017

AUG 15 2017

RECEIVED
AHTD

AUG 17 2017

ENVIRONMENTAL
DIVISION

Ms. Stacy Hurst
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
1100 North Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

RE: ARDOT Job No. 080507
Ditch at L.M. 4.30 Str. & Apprs. (S)
Perry County

Dear Ms. Hurst:

A Project Identification Form for the referenced project is enclosed. Please review for concurrence with the findings of my staff. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Kristina Boykin at (501) 569-2079.

Sincerely,

Brenda Price
for John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division

Enclosure
PIF

JF:DW:KB:ym

Date 8/16/2017
No known historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. This effect determination could change should new information come to light.
Russell
Arkansas State Historic Preservation Officer

AUG 16 2017

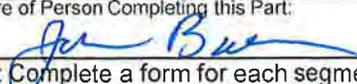
**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS**

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency) Job 080507		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request 10/18/17	4. Sheet 1 of _____
1. Name of Project Ditch At L M. 4.30- Str & Apprs.		5. Federal Agency Involved FHWA	
2. Type of Project Bridge Replacement		6. County and State Perry AR.	
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS	2. Person Completing Form
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form)		YES NO	4. Acres Irrigated Average Farm Size
5. Major Crop(s)	6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction Acres: %	7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %	
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	9. Name of Local Site Assessment System	10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS	

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Alternative Corridor For Segment			
	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services				
C. Total Acres In Corridor	.18			
PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland	.16			
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland				
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted				
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value				
PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)				
PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))	Maximum Points			
1. Area in Nonurban Use	15	15		
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use	10	10		
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	20	5		
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	0		
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	0		
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25	0		
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5	5		
8. On-Farm Investments	20	0		
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25	0		
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	0		
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	35		
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)				
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100	100		
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160	35		
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	260	135		

1. Corridor Selected: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project: .16 acres of Prime Farmland	3. Date Of Selection:	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part:  DATE 10/19/17

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Arkansas Ecological Service Field Office
110 South Amity Road, Suite 300
Conway, Arkansas 72032



October 12, 2017

Mr. John Fleming
c/o Henry Langston
Arkansas Department of Transportation
10324 Interstate 30
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209

Dear Mr. Fleming,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is responding to your request dated October 9, 2017, regarding ArDot Job 80507 in Perry County, AR. The project was described and assessed as follows (abbreviated):

The proposed project is located in Perry County on Hwy. 155 about a mile and half north of the community of Casa (T 5 N; R 19 W; Sec. 29, CASA Quad). The proposed project will replace the existing bridge over an un-named intermittent tributary Rose Creek with a R.C. Box Culvert on existing location. There will a temporary detour to the south side of the existing structure. Construction of the temporary structure will require the clearing of 1.2 acres of woods.

The IPaC search revealed two threatened and one endangered species that may be located within the project area. The two threatened species listed were the Northern Long-eared Bat and Piping Plover. The endangered listed species was for a plant, Harperella.

The project is located in a rural area of Perry County with pasture land to the north of the project area and woods to the south. There is no suitable habitat in the area for the Piping Plover or Harperella. Potential impacts to the Northern Long-eared Bat should fall under the limits of the 4 (d) ruling. It is our opinion that the proposed project is not likely to adversely impact the Northern Long-eared Bat or Piping Plover, as well as the plant Harperella.

Due to the limited size of the area being cleared, distance to known species locations, lack of suitable habitat in the immediate area of the action, and standard stream conservation measures, the Service concurs with the determination of "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" for Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and Harperella (*Ptilimnium nodosum*).

The Service has reviewed your determination that the proposed action will not result in any prohibited incidental take for Northern Long-eared Bat. This project may affect the Northern

Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*); however, there are no effects beyond those previously disclosed in the Service's programmatic biological opinion for the final 4(d) rule dated January 5, 2016. Any take that may occur incidental to this project is not prohibited under the final 4(d) rule (50 CFR §17.40(o)). This project is consistent with the description of the proposed action in the programmatic biological opinion, and the 4(d) rule does not prohibit incidental take of the Northern Long-eared Bat that may occur as a result of this project. Therefore, the programmatic biological opinion satisfies the "action agency" responsibilities under Endangered Species Act section 7(a)(2) relative to the Northern Long-eared Bat for this project.

Please keep in mind that you must report any departures from the plans submitted; results of any surveys conducted; or any dead, injured, or sick Northern Long-eared Bats that are found to this office. If this project is not completed within one year of this letter, you must update your determination and resubmit the required information.

If you have any questions regarding our response or if you need additional information, please contact Lindsey Lewis at (501) 513-4489 or lindsey_lewis@fws.gov.

Sincerely,



Melvin L. Tobin
Field Supervisor



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office
110 South Amity Suite 300
Conway, AR 72032-8975
Phone: (501) 513-4470 Fax: (501) 513-4480
<http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es>

In Reply Refer To:
Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2017-SLI-1021
Event Code: 04ER1000-2017-E-01501
Project Name: Ditch at L.M. 4.30 Str. & Apprs. (S)

July 19, 2017

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies endangered, threatened, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). **This letter only provides an official species list and technical assistance; if you determine that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected in any way by the proposed project, even if the effect is wholly beneficial, consultation with the Service will be necessary.**

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found on our website.

Please visit our website at <http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/IPaC/home.html> for species-specific guidance to avoid and minimize adverse effects to federally endangered, threatened, proposed, and candidate species. Our web site also contains additional information on species life history and habitat requirements that may be useful in project planning.

If your project involves in-stream construction activities, oil and natural gas infrastructure, road construction, transmission lines, or communication towers, please review our project

specific guidance at <http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/IPaC/ProjSpec.html>.

The karst region of Arkansas is a unique region that covers the **northern third of Arkansas** and we have specific guidance to conserve sensitive cave-obligate and bat species. **Please visit <http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/IPaC/Karst.html> to determine if your project occurs in the karst region and to view karst specific-guidance.** Proper implementation and maintenance of best management practices specified in these guidance documents is necessary to avoid adverse effects to federally protected species and often avoids the more lengthy formal consultation process.

If your species list includes any mussels, Northern Long-eared Bat, Indiana Bat, Yellowcheek Darter, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, or American Burying Beetle, your project may require a presence/absence and/or habitat survey prior to commencing project activities. Please check the appropriate species-specific guidance on our website to determine if your project requires a survey. We strongly recommend that you contact the appropriate staff species lead biologist (see office directory or species page) prior to conducting presence/absence surveys to ensure the appropriate level of effort and methodology.

Under the ESA, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or its designated representative to determine if a proposed action "may affect" endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or designated critical habitat, and if so, to consult with the Service further. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or project proponent, not the Service, to make "no effect" determinations. If you determine that your proposed action will have "no effect" on threatened or endangered species or their respective critical habitat, you do not need to seek concurrence with the Service. Nevertheless, it is a violation of Federal law to harm or harass any federally-listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species without the appropriate permit.

Through the consultation process, we will analyze information contained in a biological assessment that you provide. If your proposed action is associated with Federal funding or permitting, consultation will occur with the Federal agency under section 7(a)(2) of the ESA. Otherwise, an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (also known as a habitat conservation plan) is necessary to harm or harass federally listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species. In either case, there is no mechanism for authorizing incidental take "after-the-fact." For more information regarding formal consultation and HCPs, please see the Service's Consultation Handbook and Habitat Conservation Plans at www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/index.html#consultations.

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, **the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days.** This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and

implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. **Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.**

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office

110 South Amity Suite 300

Conway, AR 72032-8975

(501) 513-4470

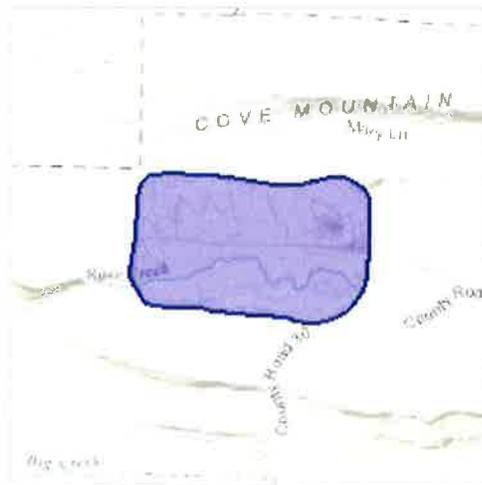
Project Summary

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2017-SLI-1021
Event Code: 04ER1000-2017-E-01501
Project Name: Ditch at L.M. 4.30 Str. & Apprs. (S)
Project Type: TRANSPORTATION
Project Description: Bridge replacement

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/35.05473179465436N93.03865393204316W>



Counties: Perry, AR

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 3 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Threatened

Birds

NAME	STATUS
Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>) Population: except Great Lakes watershed There is a final critical habitat designated for this species. Your location is outside the designated critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Harperella (<i>Ptilimnium nodosum</i>) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3739	Endangered

Critical habitats

There are no critical habitats within your project area.

ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT FORM

ARDOT Job Number 080507 FAP Number NHPP-0053(33)
 Job Title Ditch at L.M. 4.30 Str. & Apprs. (S)

Environmental Impacts	None	Minor	Significant	Comments
Air Quality	X			
Construction Impacts	X			Temporary detour to be constructed
Cultural Resources	X			
Economic	X			
Endangered Species		X		"May affect, not likely to adversely affect"
Energy Resources	X			
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			
Fish and Wildlife		X		Temporary during construction
Floodplains	X			
Forest Service Property	X			
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			
Land Use Impacts		X		0.2 acre proposed ROW, 1.1 acre TCE
Migratory Birds	X			Migratory Bird SP submitted
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			
Noise Levels	X			
Prime Farmland		X		0.2 acre prime farmland
Protected Waters	X			
Public Recreation Lands	X			
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			
Relocatees	X			
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			
Social	X			
Underground Storage Tanks	X			
Visual Impacts	X			
Stream Impacts		X		Temporary during construction
Water Quality		X		Temporary during construction
Wetlands	X			
Wildlife Refuges	X			

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? No
 Short-term Activity Authorization Required? Yes
 Section 404 Permit Required? Yes Type Nationwide Permit 14

Remarks: _____

Signature of Evaluator Susan Stapfeld Date October 18, 2016
 5/17/2011

ROADWAY DESIGN REQUESTJob Number 080507 FAP No. _____ County PerryJob Name Ditch at L.M. 4.30 Strs. & Apprs. (S)Design Engineer General Environmental Staff _____Brief Project Description Replace a functionally obsolete bridge with box culvert

A. Existing Conditions:

Roadway Width: 20' Shoulder Type/Width: N/ANumber of Lanes and Width: 2-10' Existing Right-of-Way: 80'Sidewalks? No Location: _____ Width: _____Bike Lanes? No Location: _____ Width: _____

B. Proposed Conditions:

Roadway Width: 20' Shoulder Type/Width: 4', 2' pavedNumber of Lanes and Width: 2-10' Proposed Right-of-Way: 150'Sidewalks? No Location: _____ Width: _____Bike Lanes? No Location: _____ Width: _____

C. Construction Information:

If detour: Where: 107+35 to 116+57 Length: 922'

D. Design Traffic Data:

2018 ADT: 160 2038 ADT: 200 % Trucks: 6%
Design Speed: 55 m.p.h.E. Approximate total length of project: 0.019 mile(s)F. Justification for proposed improvements: Functionally obsolete bridgeG. Total Relocates: 0 Residences: _____ Businesses: _____H. Have you coordinated with any outside agencies (e.g., FHWA, City, County, etc.)? No

Agency/Official	Person Contacted	Date

BRIDGE INFORMATION – PRELIMINARY

Job Number: 080507 FAP Number NHPP-0053(33) County: Perry

Job Name: Ditch at L.M. 4.30 Str. & Apprs. (S)

Design Engineer: Brooke Perkins, Rdwy

Environmental Staff: _____

A. Description of Existing Bridge:

1. Bridge Number M2086 over Unnamed Creek
 2. Location: Rte.: 155 Section: 04 Log Mile: 4.309
 3. Length: 24.0 ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 25.9 ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): 27.6 ft
 4. Type Construction: Steel multi-beam w/ concrete deck & masonry & steel substructure
 5. Deficiencies: Corrosion & section loss on ends of beams w/ holes rusted through the webs of beams
-
6. HBRRP Eligibility: Qualif. Code: FO Sufficiency Rating: 41.5
 7. Are any Condition Component Ratings at 3 or less? No

B. Proposed Improvements:

1. Length: 0.00 ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 00.0 ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): 0.00 ft
2. Travel Lanes: _____
3. Shoulder Width: _____
4. Sidewalks? N/A Location: _____ Width: _____ ft

C. Construction Information:

1. Location in relation to existing bridge: same location
2. Superstructure Type: RC Box Culvert
3. Span Lengths: _____
4. Substructure Type: _____
5. Ordinary High Water Elev. (OHW): _____ No. of Bents inside OHW Contours: _____
6. Concrete Vol. below OHW: _____ yd³ Vol. Bent Excavation: _____ yd³ Vol. Backfill _____ yd³
7. Is Channel Excavation below OHW Required? __ Surface Area: _____ ft² Volume: _____ yd³
8. Is Fill below OHW Req'd.? __ Surface Area: _____ ft² Volume: _____ yd³
9. Is Riprap below OHW Required? _____ Volume: _____ yd³

D. Work Road Information:

1. Is Work Road(s) required? __ Location: _____ Top Width: _____ ft
2. Is Fill below OHW required? __ Surface Area: _____ ft² Volume _____ yd³
3. Are Pipes required to meet Backwater Criteria? __ Waterway Opening: _____ ft²

E. Detour Information:

1. Is a detour bridge required? __ Location in relation to Existing Br.: _____
2. Length: _____ ft Br. Rdwy. Width: _____ ft Deck Elevation: _____
3. Volume of Fill below OHW: _____ yd³ Surface Area: _____ ft²

F. Coordination with Outside Agencies (e.g., FHWA, City, County, C of E, USCG):

Has Bridge Division coordinated with any outside agencies? _____

Agency	Person Contacted	Date