

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

# **INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

December 19, 2017

TO: Master Files

FROM: JAJohn Fleming, Division Head, Environmental Division

SUBJECT: Job Number 110617 FAP Number NHPP-0068(42) Fifteenmile & Cutoff Bayous Strs. & Apprs. (S) Bridge Numbers 02453 & M3290 St. Francis County Tier 2 Categorical Exclusion

The Environmental Division has reviewed the referenced project and it falls within the definition of a Tier 2 Categorical Exclusion under 23 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 771.117, and the ARDOT/FHWA Memorandum of Agreement on the processing of Categorical Exclusions. A public hearing will not be offered for this project.

The purpose of this project is to replace two bridges in St. Francis County: Bridge No. 02453 on Highway 79, and Bridge No. M3290 on Highway 50. The total length of the project is 0.30 mile. A project location map is attached.

Highway 79 currently has two 10-foot paved lanes and 5-foot paved shoulders. The existing right of way width averages 123 feet. Highway 50 currently has two 10-foot paved lanes and no shoulder. The existing right of way width averages 80 feet.

Proposed roadway improvements for Highway 79 will include two 12-foot wide paved travel lanes with 8-foot wide paved shoulders. Improvements to Highway 50 will include two 11-foot wide paved travel lanes with 4-foot paved shoulders. The bridges will be replaced on existing location with detours to maintain traffic. Information about the existing and proposed bridges is provided in Tables 1 and 2. The new right of way width will average 125 feet on Highway 79 and 102 feet on Highway 50. Approximately 0.15 acre of additional right of way will be acquired for this project.

There are no relocatees, environmental justice issues, or prime farmlands associated with this project. No impacts to cultural resources are anticipated; concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Officer is attached.

Table 1						
Route	Bridge Number	Stream	Sufficiency Rating	Existing Structure		
79	02453	Fifteenmile Bayou	49.7, FO	26' x 218', w-beam spans, RC deck		
50	M3290	Cutoff Bayou	37.9, SD	28' x 360', steel spans, timber deck		

Table 2					
Route	Stream	Proposed Structure	Detour		
79	Fifteenmile Bayou	40' x 240' Integral W-Beam Unit, trestle bents on concrete filled steel shell piles	50 ft. south		
50	Cutoff Bayou	30' x 385' Cont. Comp, trestle bents on concrete filled steel shell piles.	50 ft. north		

Design data for this project is as follows:

Route	Design Year	Average Daily Traffic	Percent Trucks	Design Speed
79	2018	2,100	14	60 mph
79	2038	2,700	14	60 mph
50	2018	65	15	55 mph
50	2038	70	15	55 mph

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.

Job Number 110617 Tier 2 Categorical Exclusion Page 3 of 3

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service IPaC website lists pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*), Fat Pocketbook (*Potamilus capax*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), and Scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*) as potentially occurring at or near the project location. A freshwater mussel survey was conducted by ARDOT personnel on 26 July 2017 resulting in no federally protected species being present. The proposed project area is void of all species' specific habitat, and a 'no effect' determination was made. The official species list is attached.

Temporary impacts to forested wetlands, due to construction of the detour at Fifteenmile Bayou, are estimated at 0.7 acre. Stream impacts resulting from the two bridge replacements are estimated to be less than 0.1 acre. The ARDOT proposes the use of 9.1 wetland credits to mitigate the 0.7 acre of wetland impacts. The wetland credits will be mitigated at the Glaise Creek Mitigation Bank located in Woodruff County. Construction of the proposed project should be allowed under the terms of a Nationwide Permit 23 for Approved Categorical Exclusions.

St. Francis County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The project lies within the Zone A, Special Flood Hazard Area. The final project design will be reviewed to confirm that the design is adequate and that the potential risk to life and property are minimized. Adjacent properties should not be impacted nor have a greater flood risk than existed before construction of the project. None of the encroachments will constitute a significant floodplain encroachment or a significant risk to property or life.

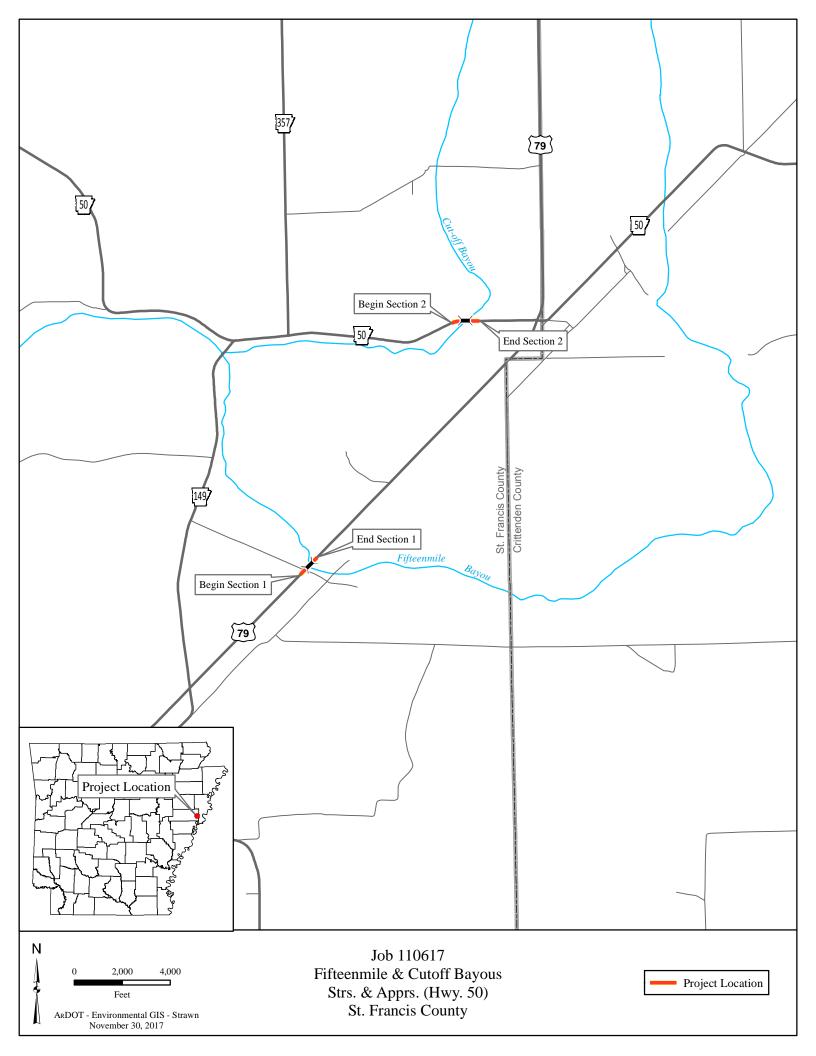
Attachments: Project Location Map SHPO Clearance

SHPO Clearance USFWS Species List Environmental Study Checklist Design Sheets Approved:

Kevin Thornton Assistant Chief Engineer-Planning

JF:SL:fc

c: Bridge Program Management Right of Way Roadway Design District 1 FHWA





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 99732

FHWA

December 8, 2017

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

## AHPP

DEC 08 2017

RECEIVED AHTD DEC 1 3 2017

ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

Re: Job Number 110617 Fifteen Mile & Cut-off Bayous Str. & Apprs. (S) St. Francis County

Dear Ms. Hurst:

Enclosed for your review is a Project Identification Form regarding the above referenced project. Please provide your effect finding as soon as possible. If you have any questions, contact Richard Jenkins of my staff at 569-2357.

Sincerely,

John Fleming

John Fleming Division Head Environmental Division

JF:DW:RJ:ym

18/2017 Date No known historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. This ct determination could change ervation Office

Enclosure PIF



## 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



December 11, 2017

In Reply Refer To: Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2018-SLI-0252 Event Code: 04ER1000-2018-E-00416 Project Name: Job 110617 Fifteenmile & Cutoff Bayous Strs. & Apprs. (S)

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.

<u>Please visit our website at http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/IPaC/home.html for</u> <u>species-specific guidance to avoid and minimize adverse effects to federally endangered,</u> <u>threatened, proposed, and candidate species.</u> 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** <u>http://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/IPaC/Karst.html</u> 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

#### 1

# **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:	04ER1000-2018-SLI-0252
Event Code:	04ER1000-2018-E-00416
Project Name:	Job 110617 Fifteenmile & Cutoff Bayous Strs. & Apprs. (S)
Project Type:	TRANSPORTATION
Project Description:	Replace Hwy 50 Bridge over Cut-Off Bayou and Hwy 79 Bridge over Fifteen Mile Bayou.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/place/35.00701072790872N90.41284561157228W



Counties:

St. Francis, AR

## **Endangered Species Act Species**

There is a total of 4 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this 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 under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

### **Fishes**

NAME	STATUS
Pallid Sturgeon Scaphirhynchus albus No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7162</u>	Endangered
Clams	
NAME	STATUS
Fat Pocketbook <i>Potamilus capax</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2780</u>	Endangered
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165</u>	Threatened
Scaleshell Mussel Leptodea leptodon No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <u>https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5881</u>	Endangered

### **Critical habitats**

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

# ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT FORM

None X X X X X X X	X	Significant	Comments Temporary during construction
X X X	X		Temporary during construction
X X X			
X X			
Х			
Х			
	X		Temporary during construction
	X		Permit required
Х			
	x		Migratory Bird SP
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x			1107 25
	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X         X <td< td=""><td>X      </td></td<>	X

## **ROADWAY DESIGN REQUEST**

Job Number	110617	FAP No.			County S	St. Francis
Job Name	Fifteenmile & Cuto	ff Bayous Strs. &	Apprs. (S)			
Design Engir	neer <u>Stephen</u>	Sichmeller	Enviro	onmental Sta	aff	
Brief Project	Description R	eplacement of 2	bridges			
A. Existing	Conditions:					
	way Width: $\frac{^{(1)}20'}{^{(2)}20'}$	n: <sup>(1)</sup> 2-10'		Type/Width:	<sup>(1)</sup> None (2)Paved/8 (1)80'	5'
	er of Lanes and Widt	<sup>(2)</sup> 2-10'	Existing R	ight-of-Way:	<sup>(2)</sup> 123'	
Sidewa	alks? <u>No</u>	Location:		Width:		
Bike La	anes? <u>No</u>	Location:		Width:		
B. Propose	ed Conditions:					
Roadw	vay Width: <sup>(1)</sup> 22'		Shoulder	Type/Width:		
Numbe	er of Lanes and Widt	(0)	Proposed R	light-of-Way:	(0)	<u> </u>
Sidewa	alks? <u>No</u>	<u>2-12'</u> Location:		Width:	<sup>(2)</sup> 125'	
Bike La	anes? <u>No</u>	Location:		Width:		
C. Constru If detor		off Bayou enmile Bayou	Length: Length:	1,179' 1,014'		
Hwy. 5 2018	ADT: <u>65</u> n Speed: <u>55</u>	m.p.h. m.p.h. <u>203</u> m.p.h.	8 ADT:	70 2,700	% Trucks: % Trucks:	<u>15</u>
E. Approxi	mate total length of p	project: 0.3	0 mile(s	S)		
F. Justifica	ition for proposed im	provements: B	ridges are s	tructurally de	ficient	
G. Total Re	elocatees: 0	Residence	es:_0	Bu	sinesses: (	)
H. Have yo	ou coordinated with a	ny outside agend	cies (e.g., FH	IWA, City, C	ounty, etc.)	? <u>No</u>
Age	ency/Official	Persor	Contacted		Da	te

### BRIDGE INFORMATION – PRELIMINARY OR FINAL (Choose One)

Joł	Number: <u>110617</u> FAP Number: <u>9990</u> County: <u>St. Francis</u> Name: <u>Fifteenmile &amp; Cutoff Bayous Strs. &amp; Apprs.</u> sign Engineer: <u>Weston Conard</u> Environmental Staff: <u>Sherry Leblanc</u>
<ol> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</li> <li>6.</li> </ol>	Description of Existing Bridge:         Bridge Number <u>M3290</u> over <u>Cutoff Bayou</u> Location: Rte.: <u>50</u> Section: <u>1</u> Log Mile: <u>20.82</u> Length: <u>360</u> ft Br. Rdwy. Width: <u>28.3</u> ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): <u>29.2</u> ft         Type Construction: <u>(15) – 24' steel beam spans w/ timber and concrete deck; supported by timber cap on timber piles</u> Deficiencies: <u>Delamination and spalls in deck. Decay, Section Loss, and Splits in timber piles &amp; cap HBRRP Eligibility: Qualif. Code: <u>SD</u> Sufficiency Rating: <u>37.9</u>         Are any Condition Component Ratings at 3 or less? <u>No</u> </u>
1. 2. 3.	Proposed Improvements:         Length:385_ft       Br. Rdwy. Width:0 ft       Deck Width (Out-to-Out):33.17ft         Travel Lanes:(2) - 11' Lanes         Shoulder Width:4' Shoulders on the Bridge         Sidewalks?N/A Location: Width: ft
<ol> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</li> <li>6.</li> <li>7.</li> <li>8.</li> </ol>	Construction Information:         Location in relation to existing bridge: Same Location         Superstructure Type: Cont. Comp. W-Beam Unit         Span Lengths: 49' - 49' - 62' - 62' - 62' - 49' - 49'         Substructure Type: Trestle bents on concrete filled steel shell piles.         Ordinary High Water Elev. (OHW): No. of Bents inside OHW Contours:
1. 2.	Work Road Information:         Is Work Road(s) required? Yes_Location: TBD       Top Width:ft         Is Fill below OHW required? TBD       Surface Area:ft <sup>2</sup> Volumeyd <sup>3</sup> Are Pipes required to meet Backwater Criteria? TBD       Waterway Opening:ft <sup>2</sup>
1. 2.	Detour Information:         Is a detour bridge required? Yes       Location in relation to Existing Br.: 47' Upstream         Length: 267       ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 24       ft Deck Elevation: 202.8         Volume of Fill below OHW: TBD       yd <sup>3</sup> Surface Area: ft <sup>2</sup>

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

Has Bridge Division coordinated with any outside agencies? <u>No</u>

Agency	Person Contacted	Date

### BRIDGE INFORMATION – PRELIMINARY OR FINAL (Choose One)

Job Number: <u>110617</u> FAP Number: <u>9990</u> County: <u>St. Francis</u> Job Name: <u>Fifteenmile &amp; Cutoff Bayous Strs. &amp; Apprs.</u>	
Design Engineer: <u>Weston Conard</u> Environmental Staff: <u>Sherry Leblanc</u>	
B. Description of Existing Bridge:	
1. Bridge Number 02453 over Fifteenmile Bayou	
2. Location: Rte.: 79 Section: 17 Log Mile: 7.47	
3. Length: <u>218</u> ft Br. Rdwy. Width: <u>25.9</u> ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): <u>32</u> ft	
5. Type Construction: (6) - 36' w-beam spans with RC deck, supported by concrete caps on concrete p	oiles
5. Deficiencies: Delamination and spalls in deck. Corrosion and section loss in beams. Cracking	
exposed rebar in substructure. Narrow roadway.	
6. HBRRP Eligibility: Qualif. Code: <u>FO</u> Sufficiency Rating: <u>49.7</u>	
7. Are any Condition Component Ratings at 3 or less? <u>No</u>	
B. Proposed Improvements:	
1. Length: <u>240</u> ft Br. Rdwy. Width: <u>40</u> ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): <u>43.17</u> ft	t
2. Travel Lanes: (2) – 12' Lanes	
3. Shoulder Width: <u>8' Shoulders</u>	
4. Sidewalks? <u>N/A</u> Location: Width: ft	
C. Construction Information:	
1. Location in relation to existing bridge: <u>Same Location</u>	
5. Superstructure Type: <u>Integral W-Beam Unit</u>	
6. Span Lengths: <u>75'-90'-75'</u>	
7. Substructure Type: Trestle bents on concrete filled steel shell piles.	
5. Ordinary High Water Elev. (OHW): No. of Bents inside OHW Contours:	
6. Concrete Vol. below OHW: TBD $vd^3$ Vol. Bent Excavation: $vd^3$ Vol. Backfill v	$d^3$
7. Is Channel Excavation below OHW Required? <u>No</u> Surface Area: <u>ft</u> <sup>2</sup> Volume: <u>ft</u> <sup>2</sup> Volume: <u>Surface Area</u>	yd <sup>3</sup>
7. Is Channel Excavation below OHW Required? No       Surface Area:ft <sup>2</sup> Volume:y         8. Is Fill below OHW Req'd.? No       Surface Area:ft <sup>2</sup> 9. Volume:y       Volume:y	$1^3$
10. Is Riprap below OHW Required? <u>No</u> Volume: <u>yd</u> <sup>3</sup>	
D. Work Road Information:	
1. Is Work Road(s) required? Yes Location: TBD Top Width:ft	
1. Is Work Road(s) required? Yes Location: TBD Top Width:ft         2. Is Fill below OHW required? TBD Surface Area:ft <sup>2</sup> Volumeyd	$l^3$
3. Are Pipes required to meet Backwater Criteria? <u>TBD</u> Waterway Opening:	ft <sup>2</sup>
E. Detour Information:	
1. Is a detour bridge required? <u>Pipes</u> Location in relation to Existing Br.:	
2. Length: ft Br. Rdwy. Width: ft Deck Elevation:	
3. Volume of Fill below OHW: <u>TBD</u> $yd^3$ Surface Area: <u>ft^2</u>	

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

Has Bridge Division coordinated with any outside agencies? <u>No</u>

Agency	Person Contacted	Date



#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS POST OFFICE BOX 867 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203-0867 www.swl.usace.army.mil/

April 29, 2019

**Regulatory Division** 

#### NATIONWIDE PERMIT NO. MVM 2018-00421

Mr. John Fleming Division Head, Environmental Division Arkansas Department of Transportation PO Box 2261 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261

Dear Mr. Fleming:

Please refer to your recent request concerning Department of the Army permit requirements pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. You requested authorization for the placement of dredged and fill material in waters of the United States associated with replacing the bridges over Fifteen Mile Bayou and Cutoff Bayou and upgrading the approaches. The bridges will be replaced on existing locations with detour roads to accommodate traffic. The Fifteen Mile Bayou approaches consist of two 10-foot-wide lanes with 5-foot-wide paved shoulders. Upgrades include two 12-foot-wide lanes with 8-foot-wide shoulders. The Cutoff Bayou approaches consists of two 10-foot-wide lanes with no shoulders. Upgrades include two 11-foot-wide lanes with 4-foot-wide shoulders. The temporary detour road at Fifteen Mile Bayou will be constructed immediately upstream from the existing bridge and will adversely impact approximately 0.7 acres of wetlands. Impacts to each stream will be less than 300 linear feet and 0.1 acres. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services listed the Fat Pocketbook (Potamilus capax), Rabbitsfoot (Theliderma cylindrica) and Scaleshell (Leptodea leptodon) mussels as Federally threatened or endangered species that potentiall occur at or near the site. ArDOT conducted a freshwater mussel survey on July 26, 2017, and no individuals were found. There are no cultural resources impacts. ArDOT determined that the project meets the definition of a Tier 2 Categorical Exclusion on December 19, 2017. The Fifteen Mile Bayou bridge is located on U.S. Highway 79, approximately two miles north of the City of Hughes, in section 2, T. 4 N., R. 6 E., and the Cutoff Bayou bridge is located approximately four miles north of Hughes, in section 36, T. 5 N., R. 6 E., St. Francis County, Arkansas. A vicinity map, project location maps and wetland impact map are enclosed.

The proposed activities are authorized by Department of the Army Nationwide Permit (NWP) **No. 23** (copy enclosed), provided that the following **Special Condition** and General Conditions therein are met. For your convenience, we have highlighted the General Conditions of the NWP that are the most pertinent to your project. You should become familiar with the conditions and maintain a copy of the permit at the worksite for ready reference. If changes are proposed in the design or location of the project, you should submit revised plans to this office for approval before construction of the change begins.

#### **Special Condition:**

ArDOT agrees to mitigate for the adverse impacts to 0.7 acres of wetlands with 9.1 wetland credits at the Glaise Creek Wetland Mitigation Bank located near Worden, Arkansas. ArDOT will provide documentation of the mitigation bank transaction to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Little Rock District Transportation Program Manager.

Please pay particular attention to General Condition No. 12 which stipulates that appropriate erosion and siltation controls be used during construction and all exposed soil be permanently stabilized. Erosion control measures must be implemented before, during and after construction.

Also, in order to fully comply with the conditions of the NWP, you must submit the enclosed compliance certification within 30 days of completion of the project. This is required pursuant to General Condition No. 30 of the permit.

For your information, we have enclosed a copy of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Section 401 Water Quality Certification conditions, which are conditions of your permit. If you have any questions concerning compliance with the conditions of the 401 certification, you should contact Ms. Melanie Treat or Mr. Jim Wise at the ADEQ, Water Division, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118, telephone (501) 682-0040.

The NWP determination will be valid until March 18, 2022. If NWP No. 23 is modified, suspended, or revoked during this period, your project may not be authorized unless you have begun or are under contract to begin the project. If work has started or the work is under contract, you would then have twelve (12) months to complete the work.

Your cooperation in the Regulatory Program is appreciated. If you have any additional questions about this permit or any of its provisions, please contact Mr. Johnny McLean at (501)

324-5295 and refer to Permit No. MVM 2018-00421, Fifteen Mile Bayou and Cutoff Bayou Structures and Approaches north of Hughes, St. Francis County (ArDOT Project No. 110617).

Sincerely,

Sarah Chitwood Chief, Regulatory Evaluation Branch

Copy Furnished: Mr. Roger Allan, w/cy dwgs Ms. Melanie Treat, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, w/cy dwgs Mr. Lindsey Lewis, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, w/cy dwgs

