

TIER 3 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

**ARDOT JOB NUMBER 070562
FAP NUMBER NHPP-30-1(159)
HWY. 26 – CADDO VALLEY (S)
ROUTE I-30, SECTION 14
CLARK COUNTY**

Submitted Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)

By the

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

And the

Arkansas Department of Transportation

June 2020

06/18/2020

Date of Approval

Randal Looney

Randal Looney
Environmental Coordinator
Federal Highway Administration

The Environmental Division reviewed the referenced project and has determined it falls within the definition of the Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion as defined by the ARDOT/FHWA Programmatic 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 rehabilitate 8.1 miles of Interstate 30 from Highway 26 to Caddo Valley in Clark County. Work will include a 2" mill and inlay of the roadway with a polymer overlay of four bridges. In addition, plans include repaving the Interstate 30 ramps at the Highway 7 interchange. All work will take place within existing right of way. A project location map is attached.

The project will not involve relocations, prime farmlands, wetlands, underground storage tanks, hazardous materials, any environmental justice issues, or cultural resources. This project has been determined to generate minimal air quality impacts for Clean Air Act criteria pollutants and has not been linked with any special mobile source air toxic concerns. The cultural resources clearance is attached.

Based upon the ARDOT noise policy, a noise analyses is not required for this job. Construction will take place on existing location with only minor changes to the existing roadways. Any increases in roadway noise levels would not be attributable to the proposed projects, but instead result from traffic volume increases due to growth. In compliance with federal guidelines, local authorities will not require notification.

The official species list was obtained through the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation website and lists the following species: northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), American burying beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*), Arkansas Fatmucket (*Lampsilis powellii*), Ouachita Rock Pocketbook (*Arcidens wheeleri*), Pink Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), and Spectaclecase (*Margaritifera monodonta*). The USFWS species list is attached.

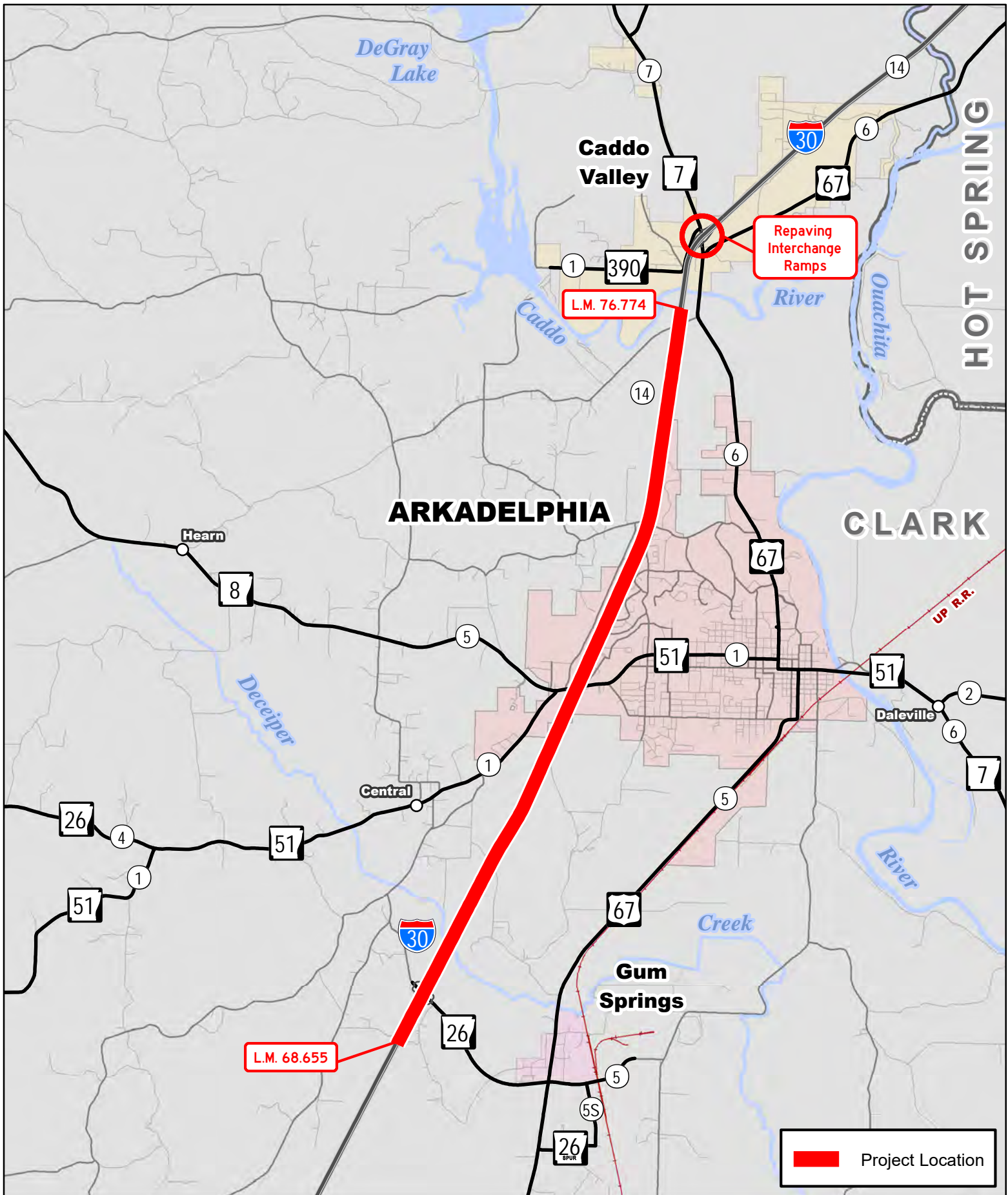
Due to the lack of suitable habitat limited scope of the project, and distance to known populations it has been determined that this project will have "no effect" on the northern long-eared bat, Eastern Black Rail, Red Knot, Piping Plover, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, and American burying beetle.

Due to the project's proximity to tributaries of the Ouachita River, it has been determined that the project "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" the

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Arkansas Fatmucket, Ouachita Rock Pocketbook, Pink Mucket, Rabbitsfoot, and Spectaclecase. The USFWS concurrence letter dated May 26, 2020 is attached.

The project will not have a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States; therefore, a Section 404 permit will not be required for the construction of this project.



Job 070562

Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

I-30, Sec. 14
Clark County





INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

April 20, 2020

TO: Job File

FROM: Shelby Linck, Cultural Resources Section, Environmental Division

SL

SUBJECT: Cultural Resources Clearance
Job Number 070562
Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)
Route 30, Section 14
Clark County

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) proposes to rehabilitate 9.34 miles of Interstate-30 in Clark County. No new right-of-way (ROW) will be acquired. All work will occur within the existing roadway.

A records check of the Arkansas Archeological Survey's (ARAS) database showed four archeological sites (3CL0501, 3CL0502, 3CL0627, and 3CL0730) on or immediately adjacent to the proposed project area. CL0501 and CL0502 are GLO fields prerecorded without a site visit; a cultural resources survey in 1999 found no evidence of the fields. Site 3CL0627 is a historic site on the east side of I-30 that yielded nine pieces of clear glass. It was recommended as not eligible in 1999. Site 3CL730 is a small pre-historic site located on the west side of the wooded portion of the ROW near the utility corridor. No maintenance activities will occur in this location. Based on records check at the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties, no previously recorded historic structures are located on or adjacent to the proposed project area.

In addition to checking ARAS and AHPP records, nineteenth through twentieth century maps were examined. The 1819 and 1834 General Land Office plat maps of Townships 6, 7, and 8 South, Ranges 19 and 20 West show two roads intersecting the project area and two fields. The 1936 Clark County map shows a developed Arkadelphia and scatterings of small communities and structures to the west that would have near the project area. None of these structures, if still extant, will be affected by rehabilitation along the course of Interstate-30. Bridges A6515, B6515,

Cultural Resources Clearance

Job Number 070562

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The proposed project will occur in already disturbed areas inside the current ROW. This project, as designed, does not have the potential to affect any undisturbed land surfaces or potential cultural resources. Therefore, this project is subject to the 1999 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and falls under the exempted work category "Restoration and Rehabilitation." Per the MOA, this project is not considered an "undertaking" and requires no further Section 106 review.



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



May 26, 2020

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

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2020-SLI-0930

Dear Mr. Fleming:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed your request, assessment, and determinations for Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) Job Number 070562 Hwy 26 - Caddo Valley in Clark County, Arkansas. We received your request and the associated determinations on May 19, 2020.

The project was described and assessed as follows (abbreviated):

The project is a 2" mill and inlay of approximately 8 miles of I-30 from Caddo Gap to Gum Springs. I have attached the IPaC list for your convenience. The project should have no effect on the Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), the Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), and the American Burying Beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*) due to limited scope of the project, lack of habitat, and distance to known populations.

ARDOT will be adding the water pollution prevention special provision to the contract to protect water quality. ARDOT has determined the mill and inlay may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the following species: Arkansas Fatmucket (*Lampsilis powellii*), Ouachita Rock Pocketbook (*Arcidens wheeleri*), Pink Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), and Spectaclecase (*Margaritifera monodonta*). ARDOT is seeking concurrence with this determination.

The Service has reviewed your determination that the proposed action, "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect," Arkansas Fatmucket, Ouachita Rock Pocketbook, Pink Mucket, Rabbitsfoot, and Spectaclecase. The Service concurs with your determination due to the limited to no habitat being directly affected along existing roadway and bridge/culvert crossings, the minimal nature of the action and minimal potential for indirect effects, the distance to known species locations, the implementation of hazardous material BMPs, and the standard provisions

Mr. John Fleming

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for stream sediment control and water quality conservation measures. This concurrence concludes your ESA Section 7 responsibilities relative to these species for this action.

For further assistance or if you have any questions, please contact Lindsey Lewis at (501) 513-4489 or lindsey_lewis@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. L. Tobin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Melvin L. Tobin
Field Supervisor

cc: Project File
Read File

Filename: C:\Users\lilewis\Documents\PROJECTS\FY2020\ARDOT\ARDOT 070562 Hw y. 26 – Caddo Valley\AFO Letter -ARDOT 070562 - HWY 26 - Caddo Valley - Comments.docx



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:

May 19, 2020

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2020-SLI-0930

Event Code: 04ER1000-2020-E-02316

Project Name: 070562 - Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (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.**

If you determine that this project will have no effect on listed species and their habitat in any way, then you have completed Section 7 consultation with the Service and may use this letter in your project file or application.

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: 04ER1000-2020-SLI-0930

Event Code: 04ER1000-2020-E-02316

Project Name: 070562 - Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: 2" mill and inlay

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/34.12681314802089N93.08842667328352W>



Counties: Clark, AR

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 11 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.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

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.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

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
Eastern Black Rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477	Proposed Threatened
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened
Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened
Red-cockaded Woodpecker <i>Picoides borealis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614	Endangered

Clams

NAME	STATUS
Arkansas Fatmucket <i>Lampsilis powellii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2213	Threatened
Ouachita Rock Pocketbook <i>Arkansia wheeleri</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4509	Endangered
Pink Mucket (pearlymussel) <i>Lampsilis abrupta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7829	Endangered
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165	Threatened
Spectaclecase (mussel) <i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7867	Endangered

Insects

NAME	STATUS
<p data-bbox="180 300 846 338">American Burying Beetle <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i></p> <p data-bbox="233 338 1052 371">Population: Wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population</p> <p data-bbox="233 371 797 405">No critical habitat has been designated for this species.</p> <p data-bbox="233 405 764 438">Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/66</p>	Endangered

Critical habitats

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

**ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFICATION CHECKLIST
FOR CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS**

ARDOT Job Number 070562 FAP Number NHPP-30-1(159)

Job Title Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments-required for each item
Air Quality	X			No air quality/MSAT impacts
Cultural Resources	X			CR clearance memo attached
Economic	X			No adverse impacts
Endangered Species		X		A “no effect” and NLAA determinations were made
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No impacts anticipated
Fish and Wildlife		X		Temporary during construction
Floodplains	X			None impacted by project
Forest Service Property	X			None in project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			No sites in project area
Land Use	X			Will not be impacted by project
Migratory Birds	X			No impacts anticipated
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			No navigable waterways involved
Noise Levels	X			No increases due to project
Prime Farmland	X			None impacted by project
Protected Waters	X			None in the project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			None in project area
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			WPC SP included
Relocates	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			4f/6f resources not impacted
Social	X			No impacts to the social environment
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No USTs in project area
Visual	X			No changes to visual environment
Streams	X			No impacts anticipated
Water Quality	X			No impacts anticipated
Wetlands	X			None in the project area
Wildlife Refuges	X			None in the project area

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? No

Short-term Activity Authorization Required? No

Section 404 Permit Required? No Type N/A

Remarks: _____

Signature of Evaluator  Date 6/2/2020

The Environmental Division reviewed the referenced project and has determined it falls within the definition of the Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion as defined by the ARDOT/FHWA Programmatic 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.

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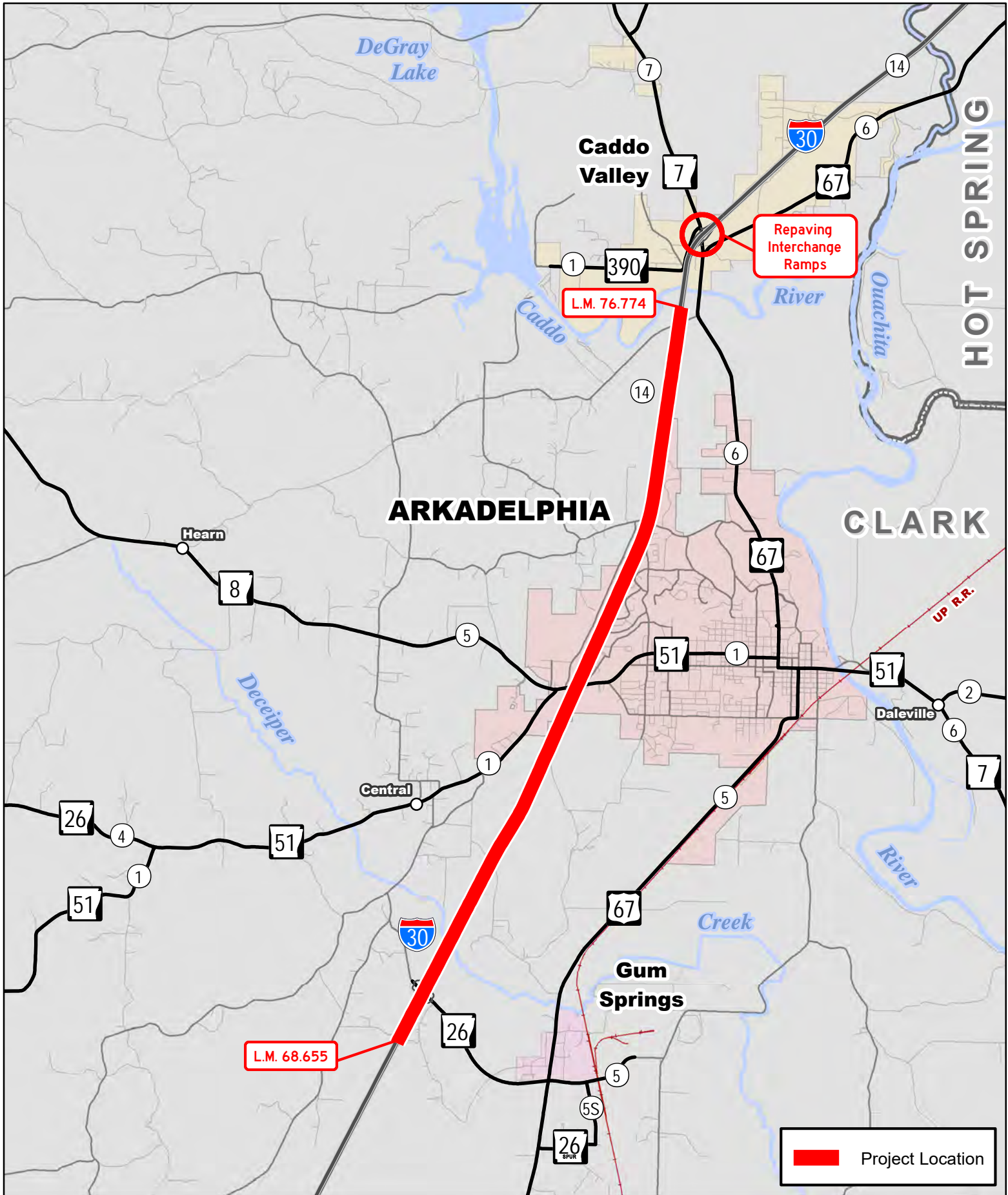
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Job Number 070562
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Job 070562

Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

I-30, Sec. 14
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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

April 20, 2020

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FROM: Shelby Linck, Cultural Resources Section, Environmental Division

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Cultural Resources Clearance

Job Number 070562

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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



May 26, 2020

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

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2020-SLI-0930

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Melvin L. Tobin
Field Supervisor

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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>

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Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2020-SLI-0930

Event Code: 04ER1000-2020-E-02316

Project Name: 070562 - Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (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.**

If you determine that this project will have no effect on listed species and their habitat in any way, then you have completed Section 7 consultation with the Service and may use this letter in your project file or application.

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: 04ER1000-2020-SLI-0930

Event Code: 04ER1000-2020-E-02316

Project Name: 070562 - Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: 2" mill and inlay

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/34.12681314802089N93.08842667328352W>



Counties: Clark, AR

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 11 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.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

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.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

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
Eastern Black Rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477	Proposed Threatened
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened
Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened
Red-cockaded Woodpecker <i>Picoides borealis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614	Endangered

Clams

NAME	STATUS
Arkansas Fatmucket <i>Lampsilis powellii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2213	Threatened
Ouachita Rock Pocketbook <i>Arkansia wheeleri</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4509	Endangered
Pink Mucket (pearlymussel) <i>Lampsilis abrupta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7829	Endangered
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165	Threatened
Spectaclecase (mussel) <i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7867	Endangered

Insects

NAME	STATUS
<p data-bbox="180 300 846 338">American Burying Beetle <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i></p> <p data-bbox="228 338 1052 371">Population: Wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population</p> <p data-bbox="228 371 797 405">No critical habitat has been designated for this species.</p> <p data-bbox="228 405 764 438">Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/66</p>	Endangered

Critical habitats

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

**ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFICATION CHECKLIST
FOR CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS**

ARDOT Job Number 070562 FAP Number NHPP-30-1(159)

Job Title Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments-required for each item
Air Quality	X			No air quality/MSAT impacts
Cultural Resources	X			CR clearance memo attached
Economic	X			No adverse impacts
Endangered Species		X		A “no effect” and NLAA determinations were made
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No impacts anticipated
Fish and Wildlife		X		Temporary during construction
Floodplains	X			None impacted by project
Forest Service Property	X			None in project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			No sites in project area
Land Use	X			Will not be impacted by project
Migratory Birds	X			No impacts anticipated
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			No navigable waterways involved
Noise Levels	X			No increases due to project
Prime Farmland	X			None impacted by project
Protected Waters	X			None in the project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			None in project area
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			WPC SP included
Relocates	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			4f/6f resources not impacted
Social	X			No impacts to the social environment
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No USTs in project area
Visual	X			No changes to visual environment
Streams	X			No impacts anticipated
Water Quality	X			No impacts anticipated
Wetlands	X			None in the project area
Wildlife Refuges	X			None in the project area

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? No

Short-term Activity Authorization Required? No

Section 404 Permit Required? No Type N/A

Remarks: _____

Signature of Evaluator  Date 6/2/2020

**TIER 3 CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
RE-EVALUATION**

**ARDOT JOB NUMBER 070562
FAP NUMBER NHPP-30-1(159)
HWY. 26 – CADDO VALLEY (S)
ROUTE I-30, SECTION 14
CLARK COUNTY**

Submitted Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)

By the

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

And the

Arkansas Department of Transportation

July 2020

July 7, 2020

Date of Approval

Randal Looney

Randal Looney
Environmental Coordinator
Federal Highway Administration

A Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion was completed for the referenced project on June 18, 2020. Since that time, design modifications have resulted in polymer overlay of six additional bridges bringing the total to 10 bridges. In addition, special clearing along the right of way has been included which involves clearing and mulching of vegetation. The Environmental Division has reviewed these changes, and no additional environmental impacts were identified. All work will take place within existing right of way. A project location map is attached.

The project will not involve relocations, prime farmlands, wetlands, underground storage tanks, hazardous materials, any environmental justice issues, or cultural resources. This project has been determined to generate minimal air quality impacts for Clean Air Act criteria pollutants and has not been linked with any special mobile source air toxic concerns. The cultural resources clearance is attached.

The official species list was obtained through the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation website identifies the following species as potentially occurring in the project area: Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), American burying beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Arkansas Fatmucket (*Lampsilis powellii*), Ouachita Rock Pocketbook (*Arcidens wheeleri*), Pink Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), and Spectaclecase (*Margaritifera monodonta*). The USFWS species list is attached.

Due to the lack of suitable habitat, limited scope of the project, and distance to known populations, it has been determined that this project will have "no effect" on the Eastern Black Rail, Red Knot, Piping Plover, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, and the American burying beetle.

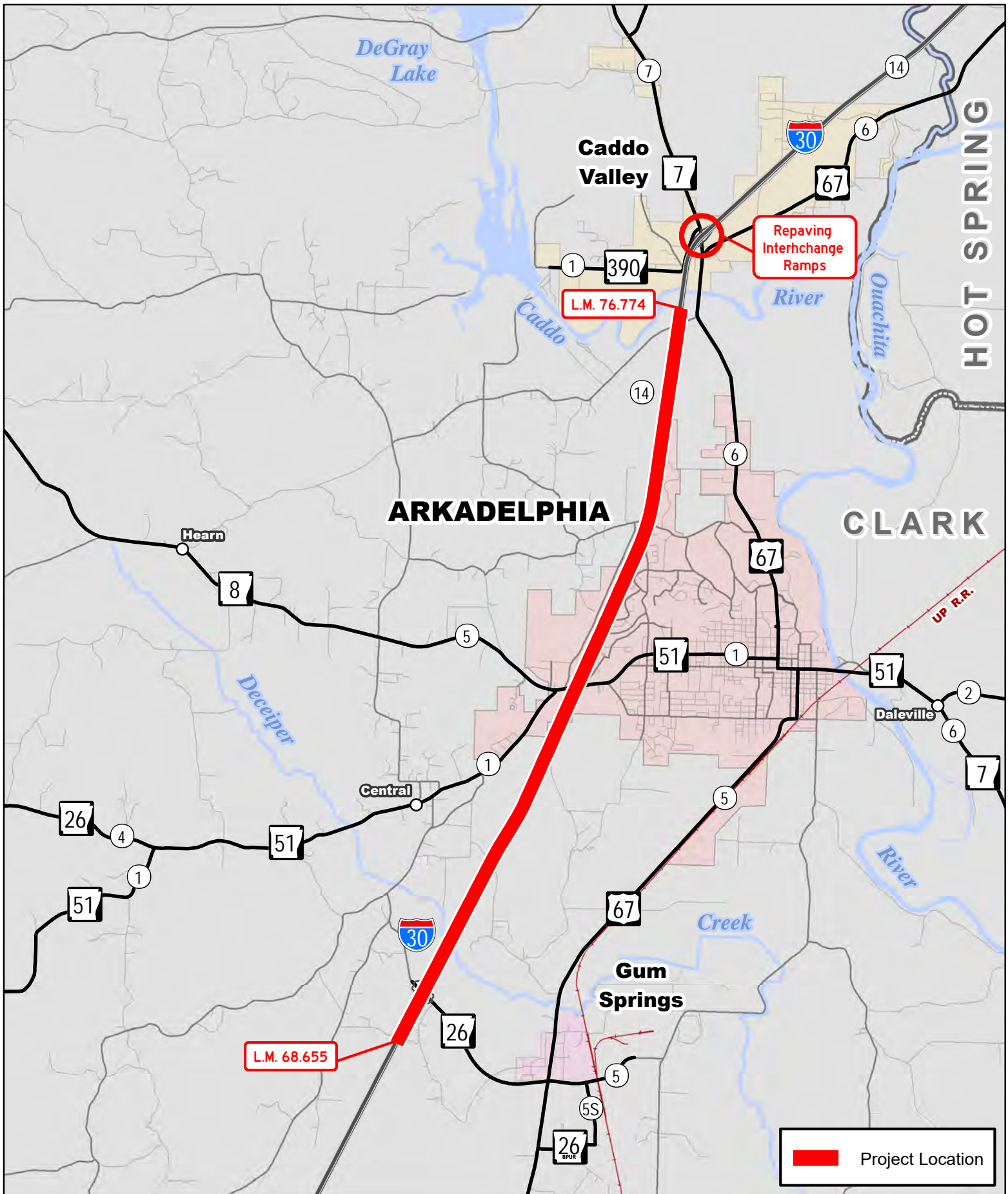
It has been determined that the project "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" the Arkansas Fatmucket, Ouachita Rock Pocketbook, Pink Mucket, Rabbitsfoot, and Spectaclecase. The USFWS concurrence letter dated May 26, 2020 is attached.

The project modification for special clearing of the right of way may affect the northern long-eared bat; however, incidental take of this species is not prohibited. The USFWS verification letter dated July 2, 2020 is attached.

The project will not have a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, therefore no Section 404 permit will be required.

Job Number 070562
Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion Re-Evaluation
Page 2 of 2

This project will remain a Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion as defined by the ARDOT/FHWA Programmatic Agreement on the processing of Categorical Exclusions.



Job 070562

Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

I-30, Sec. 14
Clark County



PM: PS: clde014 5-18-2020





ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ARDOT.gov | IDriveArkansas.com | Lorie H. Tudor, P.E., Director

10324 Interstate 30 | P.O. Box 2261 | Little Rock, AR 72203-2261 | Phone: 501.569.2000

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

June 29, 2020

TO: Job File

FROM: Shelby Linck, Cultural Resources Section, Environmental Division ^{SL}

SUBJECT: Cultural Resources Clearance Addendum
Job Number 070562
Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)
Route 30, Section 14
Clark County

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) proposes to complete bridge rehabilitation work including polymer overlay on Interstate-30 bridges in Clark County. No new right-of-way (ROW) will be acquired. All work will occur within the existing roadway.

An Interoffice Memorandum was previously written in April 2020 that addressed ten bridges: Bridges A6515, B6515, A3706, B3706, M3022, M3021, A3691, B3691, A3689, and B3689 are within the project. Bridge Number M3021 and M3022 are no longer included in the job and have been replaced with Bridge Numbers 03690 and 06962. Bridge Number 06962 was not evaluated for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) due to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Section 106 exemption regarding effects to the Interstate Highway System (filed on the Federal Register as 69 FR 77979-77981 and authority of 16 U.S.C. 470v; 36 CFR 800.14(c) on March 7, 2005). Bridge Number 03690 has been evaluated as not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Record checks through AMASDA and AHPP revealed no cultural resources adjacent or nearby.

The proposed project will occur in already disturbed areas inside the current ROW. This project, as designed, does not have the potential to affect any undisturbed land surfaces or potential cultural resources. Therefore, this project is subject to the 1999 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and falls under the exempted work category "Restoration and Rehabilitation." Per the MOA, this project is not considered an "undertaking" and requires no further Section 106 review.



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



May 26, 2020

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

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2020-SLI-0930

Dear Mr. Fleming:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed your request, assessment, and determinations for Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) Job Number 070562 Hwy 26 - Caddo Valley in Clark County, Arkansas. We received your request and the associated determinations on May 19, 2020.

The project was described and assessed as follows (abbreviated):

The project is a 2" mill and inlay of approximately 8 miles of I-30 from Caddo Gap to Gum Springs. I have attached the IPaC list for your convenience. The project should have no effect on the Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), the Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), and the American Burying Beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*) due to limited scope of the project, lack of habitat, and distance to known populations.

ARDOT will be adding the water pollution prevention special provision to the contract to protect water quality. ARDOT has determined the mill and inlay may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the following species: Arkansas Fatmucket (*Lampsilis powellii*), Ouachita Rock Pocketbook (*Arcidens wheeleri*), Pink Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), and Spectaclecase (*Margaritifera monodonta*). ARDOT is seeking concurrence with this determination.

The Service has reviewed your determination that the proposed action, "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect," Arkansas Fatmucket, Ouachita Rock Pocketbook, Pink Mucket, Rabbitsfoot, and Spectaclecase. The Service concurs with your determination due to the limited to no habitat being directly affected along existing roadway and bridge/culvert crossings, the minimal nature of the action and minimal potential for indirect effects, the distance to known species locations, the implementation of hazardous material BMPs, and the standard provisions

Mr. John Fleming

2

for stream sediment control and water quality conservation measures. This concurrence concludes your ESA Section 7 responsibilities relative to these species for this action.

For further assistance or if you have any questions, please contact Lindsey Lewis at (501) 513-4489 or lindsey_lewis@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. L. Tobin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Melvin L. Tobin
Field Supervisor

cc: Project File
Read File

Filename: C:\Users\lilewis\Documents\PROJECTS\FY2020\ARDOT\ARDOT 070562 Hw y. 26 – Caddo Valley\AFO Letter -ARDOT 070562 - HWY 26 - Caddo Valley - Comments.docx



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:

May 19, 2020

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2020-SLI-0930

Event Code: 04ER1000-2020-E-02316

Project Name: 070562 - Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

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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: 04ER1000-2020-SLI-0930

Event Code: 04ER1000-2020-E-02316

Project Name: 070562 - Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: 2" mill and inlay

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/34.12681314802089N93.08842667328352W>



Counties: Clark, AR

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 11 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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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.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

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
Eastern Black Rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477	Proposed Threatened
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened
Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened
Red-cockaded Woodpecker <i>Picoides borealis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614	Endangered

Clams

NAME	STATUS
Arkansas Fatmucket <i>Lampsilis powellii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2213	Threatened
Ouachita Rock Pocketbook <i>Arkansia wheeleri</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4509	Endangered
Pink Mucket (pearlymussel) <i>Lampsilis abrupta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7829	Endangered
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165	Threatened
Spectaclecase (mussel) <i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7867	Endangered

Insects

NAME	STATUS
<p data-bbox="180 300 846 336">American Burying Beetle <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i></p> <p data-bbox="228 338 1052 371">Population: Wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population</p> <p data-bbox="228 373 797 407">No critical habitat has been designated for this species.</p> <p data-bbox="228 409 764 438">Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/66</p>	Endangered

Critical habitats

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



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office
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In Reply Refer To:

July 02, 2020

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2020-TA-0930

Event Code: 04ER1000-2020-E-02826

Project Name: 070562 - Hw y. 26 – Caddo V alley (S)

Subject: Verification letter for the '070562 - Hw y. 26 – Caddo V alley (S)' project under the January 5, 2016, Programmatic Biological Opinion on Final 4(d) Rule for the Northern Long-eared Bat and Activities Excepted from Take Prohibitions.

Dear Mickey Matthews:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received on July 02, 2020 your effects determination for the '070562 - Hw y. 26 – Caddo V alley (S)' (the Action) using the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) key within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system. This IPaC key assists users in determining whether a Federal action is consistent with the activities analyzed in the Service's January 5, 2016, Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO). The PBO addresses activities excepted from "take"^[1] prohibitions applicable to the northern long-eared bat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Based upon your IPaC submission, the Action is consistent with activities analyzed in the PBO. The Action may affect the northern long-eared bat; however, any take that may occur as a result of the Action is not prohibited under the ESA Section 4(d) rule adopted for this species at 50 CFR §17.40(o). Unless the Service advises you within 30 days of the date of this letter that your IPaC-assisted determination was incorrect, this letter verifies that the PBO satisfies and concludes your responsibilities for this Action under ESA Section 7(a)(2) with respect to the northern long-eared bat.

Please report to our office any changes to the information about the Action that you submitted in IPaC, the results of any bat surveys conducted in the Action area, and any dead, injured, or sick northern long-eared bats that are found during Action implementation. If the Action is not completed within one year of the date of this letter, you must update and resubmit the information required in the IPaC key.

This IPaC-assisted determination allows you to rely on the PBO for compliance with ESA Section 7(a)(2) only for the northern long-eared bat. It **does not** apply to the following ESA-protected species that also may occur in the Action area:

- American Burying Beetle, *Nicrophorus americanus* (Endangered)
- Arkansas Fatmucket, *Lampsilis powellii* (Threatened)
- Eastern Black Rail, *Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis* (Proposed Threatened)
- Ouachita Rock Pocketbook, *Arkansia wheeleri* (Endangered)
- Pink Mucket (pearlymussel), *Lampsilis abrupta* (Endangered)
- Piping Plover, *Charadrius melodus* (Threatened)
- Rabbitsfoot, *Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica* (Threatened)
- Red Knot, *Calidris canutus rufa* (Threatened)
- Red-cockaded Woodpecker, *Picoides borealis* (Endangered)
- Spectaclecase (mussel), *Cumberlandia monodonta* (Endangered)

If the Action may affect other federally listed species besides the northern long-eared bat, a proposed species, and/or designated critical habitat, additional consultation between you and this Service office is required. If the Action may disturb bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act is recommended.

[1]Take means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct [ESA Section 3(19)].

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

070562 - Hwy y. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project '070562 - Hwy y. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)':

2" mill and inlay, overlay of bridges, and ROW mulching

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/34.12681314802089N93.08842667328352W>

**Determination Key Result**

This Federal Action may affect the northern long-eared bat in a manner consistent with the description of activities addressed by the Service's PBO dated January 5, 2016. Any taking that may occur incidental to this Action is not prohibited under the final 4(d) rule at 50 CFR §17.40(o). Therefore, the PBO satisfies your responsibilities for this Action under ESA Section 7(a)(2) relative to the northern long-eared bat.

Determination Key Description: Northern Long-eared Bat 4(d) Rule

This key was last updated in IPaC on May 15, 2017. Keys are subject to periodic revision.

This key is intended for actions that may affect the threatened northern long-eared bat.

The purpose of the key for Federal actions is to assist determinations as to whether proposed actions are consistent with those analyzed in the Service's PBO dated January 5, 2016.

Federal actions that may cause prohibited take of northern long-eared bats, affect ESA-listed species other than the northern long-eared bat, or affect any designated critical habitat, require ESA Section 7(a)(2) consultation in addition to the use of this key. Federal actions that may affect species proposed for listing or critical habitat proposed for designation may require a conference under ESA Section 7(a)(4).

Determination Key Result

This project may affect the threatened Northern long-eared bat; therefore, consultation with the Service pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) is required. However, based on the information you provided, this project may rely on the Service's January 5, 2016, *Programmatic Biological Opinion on Final 4(d) Rule for the Northern Long-Eared Bat and Activities Excepted from Take Prohibitions* to fulfill its Section 7(a)(2) consultation obligation.

Qualification Interview

1. Is the action authorized, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency?

Yes

2. Have you determined that the proposed action will have "no effect" on the northern long-eared bat? (If you are unsure select "No")

No

3. Will your activity purposefully **Take** northern long-eared bats?

No

4. [Semantic] Is the project action area located wholly outside the White-nose Syndrome Zone?

Automatically answered

No

5. [Semantic] Is the project action area located within 0.25 miles of a known northern long-eared bat hibernaculum?

Note: The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your State wildlife agency

Automatically answered

No

6. [Semantic] Is the project action area located within 150 feet of a known occupied northern long-eared bat maternity roost tree?

Note: The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your State wildlife agency

Automatically answered

No

Project Questionnaire

If the project includes forest conversion, report the appropriate acreages below. Otherwise, type '0' in questions 1-3.

1. Estimated total acres of forest conversion:

144

2. If known, estimated acres of forest conversion from April 1 to October 31

144

3. If known, estimated acres of forest conversion from June 1 to July 31

0

If the project includes timber harvest, report the appropriate acreages below. Otherwise, type '0' in questions 4-6.

4. Estimated total acres of timber harvest

0

5. If known, estimated acres of timber harvest from April 1 to October 31

0

6. If known, estimated acres of timber harvest from June 1 to July 31

0

If the project includes prescribed fire, report the appropriate acreages below. Otherwise, type '0' in questions 7-9.

7. Estimated total acres of prescribed fire

0

8. If known, estimated acres of prescribed fire from April 1 to October 31

0

9. If known, estimated acres of prescribed fire from June 1 to July 31

0

If the project includes new wind turbines, report the megawatts of wind capacity below. Otherwise, type '0' in question 10.

10. What is the estimated wind capacity (in megawatts) of the new turbine(s)?
0

**ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFICATION CHECKLIST
FOR CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS**

ARDOT Job Number 070562 FAP Number NHPP-30-1(159)

Job Title Hwy. 26 – Caddo Valley (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments-required for each item
Air Quality	X			No air quality/MSAT impacts
Cultural Resources	X			CR clearance memo attached
Economic	X			No adverse impacts
Endangered Species		X		A “no effect” and NLAA determinations were made
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No impacts anticipated
Fish and Wildlife		X		Temporary during construction
Floodplains	X			None impacted by project
Forest Service Property	X			None in project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			No sites in project area
Land Use	X			Will not be impacted by project
Migratory Birds	X			No impacts anticipated
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			No navigable waterways involved
Noise Levels	X			No increases due to project
Prime Farmland	X			None impacted by project
Protected Waters	X			None in the project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			None in project area
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			WPC SP included
Relocates	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			4f/6f resources not impacted
Social	X			No impacts to the social environment
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No USTs in project area
Visual	X			No changes to visual environment
Streams	X			No impacts anticipated
Water Quality	X			WPC SP included
Wetlands	X			None in the project area
Wildlife Refuges	X			None in the project area

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? No

Short-term Activity Authorization Required? No

Section 404 Permit Required? No Type N/A

Remarks: _____

Signature of Evaluator  Date 7/2/2020