



## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

December 17, 2018

**TO:** Master Files

**FROM:** John Fleming, Division Head, Environmental Division 

**SUBJECT:** Job Number 070418  
FAP Number NHPP-0006(38)  
Halfway Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)  
Route 160, Section 9  
Bridge Number M2116  
Bradley County  
Tier 2 Categorical Exclusion

The Environmental Division reviewed the referenced project and has determined 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 the bridge over Halfway Creek on Highway 160 in Bradley County. Total length of the project is 0.3 mile. A project location map is attached.

The existing weight posted bridge (M2116) is 24.5 feet wide and 95 feet long. Highway 160 consists of two 10-foot paved travel lanes with 4-foot paved shoulders. The existing right of way width is 80 feet.

The new bridge will be 33 feet wide and 165 feet long. The proposed approaches will consist of two 11-foot paved travel lanes with 4-foot paved shoulders. The new right of way width will be 135 feet. Approximately 1.77 acres of new right of way will be needed to complete the project. Of this acreage, 0.07 acre is prime farmland. Form NRCS-CPA-106 is attached.

Design data for this project is as follows:

Design Year	Average Daily Traffic	Percent Trucks	Design Speed
2018	470	9	50 mph
2038	540	9	50 mph

There are no relocations, environmental justice issues, hazardous materials, wellhead protection areas/public water supplies, or cultural resources associated with this project. Concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Officer is attached.

The proposed project will replace the bridge over Halfway Creek (perennial stream) with a new bridge approximately 45 feet upstream of the existing bridge. No detour road or structure will be needed. A triple reinforced concrete culvert in an unnamed tributary of Halfway Creek will be retained and extended. Approximately 0.11 acre of forested wetland, located northwest of the existing bridge, will be permanently filled during construction of the new bridge approach. Total impacts to waters of the United States for construction of the bridge and culvert extension are estimated at less than 0.1 acre. Construction should be allowed under the terms of a Section 404 Nationwide Permit 14 for Linear Transportation Crossings as defined in Federal Register 82(4):1860-2008.

The official species list from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for the project is attached and identifies the Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), Pink Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), and Geocarpon (*Geocarpon minimum*) as threatened and endangered species potentially occurring within the project area. Due to a lack of habitat and distance to know locations for the species, it is our determination that the proposed project will not affect the listed species.

Bradley County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The project is located in a Zone A Special Flood Hazard Area as designated by the National Flood Insurance Program and shown on Panel 0200B of the Bradley County FIRM. 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 project construction. None of the encroachments will constitute a substantial floodplain encroachment or a risk to property or life.

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.

Attachments:

Project Location Map  
NRCS-CPA-106 Form  
SHPO Clearance  
USFWS Species List  
Environmental Study Checklist  
Design Sheets

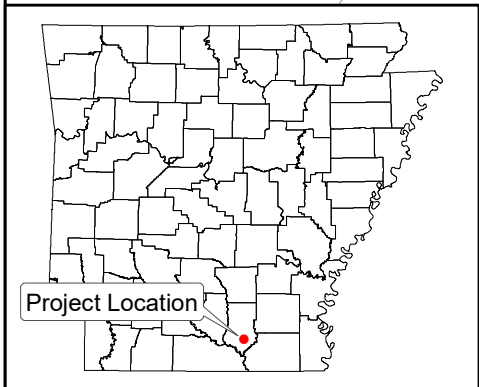
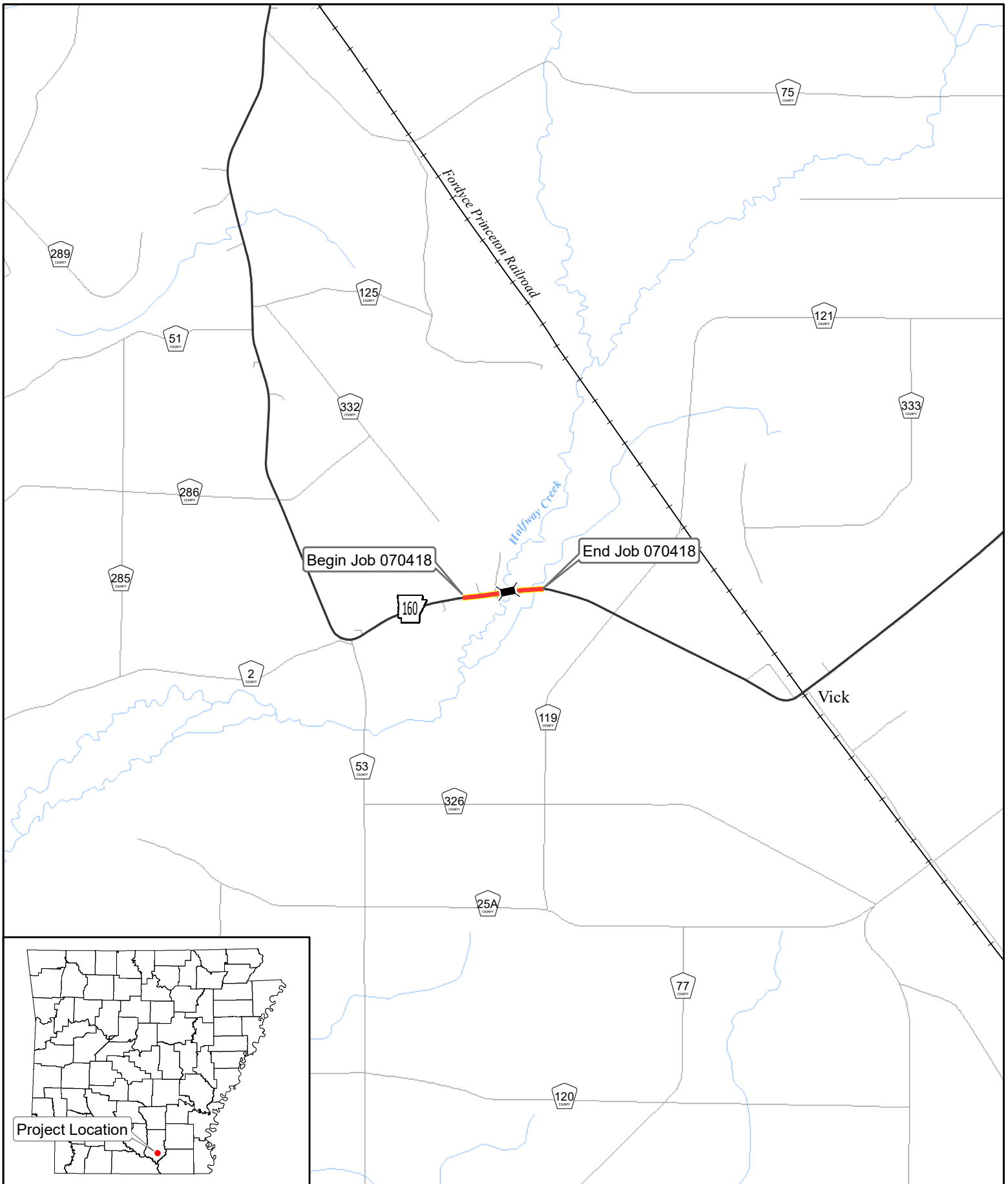
Approved:



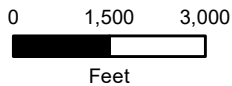
Kevin Thornton  
Assistant Chief Engineer-Planning

JF:TT:fc

c: Program Management  
Right of Way  
Roadway Design  
Bridge Division  
District 7  
FHWA



Project Location



ARDOT - Environmental GIS - Hopkins  
December 6, 2018

Job 070418  
Halfway Creek Str. & Apprs.  
(Hwy. 160)  
Bradley County





ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

AR DOT.gov | I Drive Arkansas.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

AHPP

MAY 18 2018

May 16, 2018

RECEIVED  
AR DOT

101159  
FHWA

MAY 21 2018

ENVIRONMENTAL  
DIVISION

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

RE: Job Number 070418  
Halfway Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)  
Route 160, Section 9  
Bradley County

Dear Ms. Hurst:

Please find enclosed a Project Identification Form for the above referenced project. This project proposes to replace a bridge along State Highway 160 in Bradley County, Arkansas. If you have any questions or require additional information about the project, please contact William McAlexander of my staff at 501-569-2078.

Sincerely,

John Fleming  
Division Head  
Environmental Division

Enclosure:  
PIF

JF:DW:WM:ym

Date 5/18/2018  
No known historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. This effect determination could change should new information come to light.

  
Arkansas State Historic Preservation Officer

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

<b>PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b> Job 070418		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request 12/6/2018	4. Sheet 1 of 1
1. Name of Project Halfway Creek Str. & Apprs.(S)		5. Federal Agency Involved FHWA	
2. Type of Project Bridge replacement		6. County and State Bradley, AR.	
<b>PART II (To be completed by NRCS)</b>		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	

<b>PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>	Alternative Corridor For Segment			
	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	1.77			
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services				
C. Total Acres In Corridor	5.4			

<b>PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information</b>	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland	0.07			
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland	0			
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)**

<b>PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))</b>	Maximum Points	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
1. Area in Nonurban Use	15	10			
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use	10	5			
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	20	10			
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	0			
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	2			
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25	0			
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5	3			
8. On-Farm Investments	20	10			
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25	0			
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	0			
<b>TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>40</b>			

<b>PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)</b>	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100	100		
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160	40		
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>140</b>		

1. Corridor Selected:  Existing Location	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:  0.07 acres of Prime Farmland	3. Date Of Selection:  December 14, 2018	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used?  YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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5. Reason For Selection:  
Best Location

Signature of Person Completing this Part: John Baber *John Baber* DATE 12/6/18

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



## 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: 04ER1000-2019-SLI-0118  
Event Code: 04ER1000-2019-E-00239  
Project Name: 070418 Halfway Creek Str. & Apprs.

November 07, 2018

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/engangered/esa-library/index.html#consultations](http://www.fws.gov/engangered/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

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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

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## Project Summary

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2019-SLI-0118

Event Code: 04ER1000-2019-E-00239

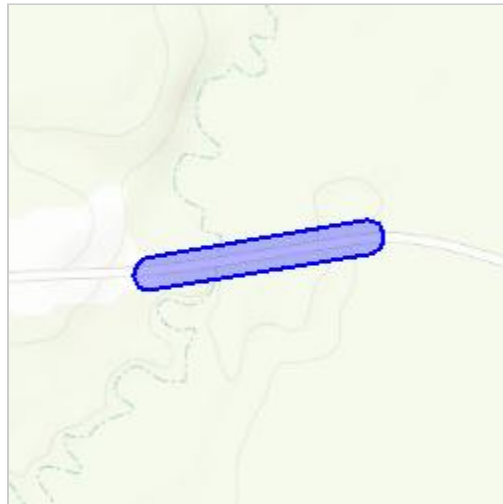
Project Name: 070418 Halfway Creek Str. & Apprs.

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: Bridge replacement on Highway 160

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/33.335413546470406N92.128472328186W>



Counties: Bradley, AR

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## 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.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, 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.

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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.

### Birds

NAME	STATUS
Red-cockaded Woodpecker <i>Picoides borealis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614</a>	Endangered

### Clams

NAME	STATUS
Pink Mucket (pearlymussel) <i>Lampsilis abrupta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7829">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7829</a>	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: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165</a>	Threatened

### Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Geocarpon minimum No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7699">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7699</a>	Threatened

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## **Critical habitats**

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

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


ARDOT Job Number 070418 FAP Number NHPP-0006(38)

Job Title Halfway Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments-required for each item
Air Quality	X			No impacts anticipated
Cultural Resources	X			SHPO clearance attached
Economic	X			Will not be impacted by project
Endangered Species	X			No effect on listed species
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No protected populations in project area
Fish and Wildlife		X		Temporary during construction
Floodplains		X		Zone A
Forest Service Property	X			No Forest Service Property in project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			No hazardous materials in project area
Land Use		X		1.77 additional acres needed
Migratory Birds	X			No migratory birds in area
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			No navigable waterways involved
Noise Levels	X			No Noise Analysis required
Prime Farmland		X		0.07 acre impacted
Protected Waters	X			None occur in project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			None in project area
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			No Wellhead Protection SP required
Relocatees	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			No 4(f)/6(f) resources present
Social	X			No impacts to the social environment
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No UST's impacted
Visual	X			No changes to visual environment
Streams		X		Less than 0.1 acre of stream impacts
Water Quality		X		During construction
Wetlands	X	X		0.11 acre of wetlands impacted
Wildlife Refuges	X			None in the area

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

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Evaluator  Date December 6, 2018

**BRIDGE INFORMATION – PRELIMINARY**

Job Number: 070418 FAP Number: NHPP-0006(38) County: Bradley

Job Name: Halfway Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)

Design Engineer: Thomas Gerard Environmental Staff: Clint Hutcheson

**A. Description of Existing Bridge:**

1. Bridge Number M2116 over Halfway Creek
2. Location: Rte.: 160 Section: 9 Log Mile: 9.68
3. Length: 95 ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 24 ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): 24.5 ft
4. Type Construction: Precast concrete units on reinforced concrete pier caps supported by timber piles
5. Deficiencies: None
6. HBRRP Eligibility: Qualif. Code: N/A Sufficiency Rating: 62.1
7. Are any Condition Component Ratings at 3 or less? N

**B. Proposed Improvements:**

1. Length: 165 ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 30 ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): 33.167 ft
2. Travel Lanes: 2 11' lanes
3. Shoulder Width: 4 ft Shoulders on both sides
4. Sidewalks? No Location: N/A Width: N/A ft

**C. Construction Information:**

1. Location in relation to existing bridge: Approximately 45 ft downstream
2. Superstructure Type: Continuous Composite Prestressed Concrete Girder
3. Span Lengths: 55'-55'-55'
4. Substructure Type: Trestle Pile Bent with Prestressed Concrete Piles
5. Ordinary High Water Elev. (OHW): 110 ft No. of Bents inside OHW Contours: 2
6. Concrete Vol. below OHW: 0 yd<sup>3</sup> Vol. Bent Excavation: 0 yd<sup>3</sup> Vol. Backfill 0 yd<sup>3</sup>
7. Is Channel Excavation below OHW Required? No Surface Area: 0 ft<sup>2</sup> Volume: 0 yd
8. Is Fill below OHW Req'd.? Yes Surface Area: 304 ft<sup>2</sup> Volume: 6 yd<sup>3</sup>
9. Is Riprap below OHW Required? Yes Volume: 19.7 yd<sup>3</sup>

**D. Work Road Information:**

1. Is Work Road(s) required? TBD Location: TBD Top Width: TBD ft
2. Is Fill below OHW required? TBD Surface Area: TBD ft<sup>2</sup> Volume TBD yd<sup>3</sup>
3. Are Pipes required to meet Backwater Criteria? TBD Waterway Opening: TBD ft<sup>2</sup>

**E. Detour Information:**

1. Is a detour bridge required? TBD Location in relation to Existing Br.: N/A
2. Length: N/A ft Br. Rdwy. Width: N/A ft Deck Elevation: N/A
3. Volume of Fill below OHW: N/A yd<sup>3</sup> Surface Area: N/A 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? \_\_\_\_\_

Agency	Person Contacted	Date