



September 10, 2019

RE: Historic Bridges 05686 and 05687
Job Number 030456
Cossatot River & Baker Creek
Strs. & Apprs. (S)
Howard County
Historic Bridge Marketing Request

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) is planning to replace Bridge Numbers 05686 (Cossatot River Bridge) and 05687 (Baker Creek Bridge) on US 278 in Howard County. These bridges were determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer's staff in 2018. A location map and more information about the bridges is enclosed.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, 23 USC § 144 (g)(5) states: "Any State which proposes to demolish a historic bridge for a replacement project ... shall first make the bridge available for donation to a State, locality, or responsible private entity..." As part of the mitigation process, the ARDOT is offering to donate Bridge Numbers 05686 and/or 05687 to any government or entity that demonstrates a willingness to accept title for, maintain in place, preserve the historic features of, and assume the financial responsibility for the continued maintenance on the structure(s).

The ARDOT, through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), can reimburse costs associated with preservation up to the demolition estimate expense for bridges preserved in place. The demolition estimated reimbursement will be determined by the FHWA, not to exceed 100% of the costs of demolition of the bridge(s), which will be based on the estimate of the ARDOT. The 2019 demolition estimate for Bridge Number 05686 is \$300,000 and for Bridge Number 05687 is \$60,000. The costs associated with preservation could include rehabilitation of the bridge or minor modifications for recreational use.

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If you are interested in acquiring either or both of these bridges, please respond with a letter of interest within 45 days from the date of this letter. For further information, contact Nikki Senn at (501) 569-2979.

Sincerely,



John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division

Enclosures

JF:NS:cb

c: Assistant Chief Engineer - Planning
Bridge Division
District 3 Engineer



Figure 1: Cossatot River Bridge (ARDOT Bridge Number 05686)

ARDOT Bridge Number 05686, on US 278 over the Cossatot River, was determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer's (SHPO) staff in 2018. The bridge is of steel girder design with a pin and hanger connection system resting on hammerhead piers with round concrete columns, and steel posts and railing edge the roadway. It measures 950 feet long and 21 feet wide.

Built as an exceptionally tall bridge, it accommodates a 50-year flood event. Measures for national flood control began in the early twentieth century and became more urgent following the Great Flood of 1927. In the Flood Control Act of 1958, Congress authorized the Gillham Dam and Reservoir project that required relocation of two Howard County roads and two new bridges: the Cossatot River Bridge (05686) and the Baker Creek Bridge (05687).

Bridge Number 05686 holds local significance for its mid-century distinctive engineering practice of using the pin and hanger connection system for suspended and cantilever steel girder spans, as well as its association with Congressional-authorized flood control measures creating the Gillham Dam and Reservoir.

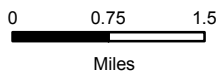
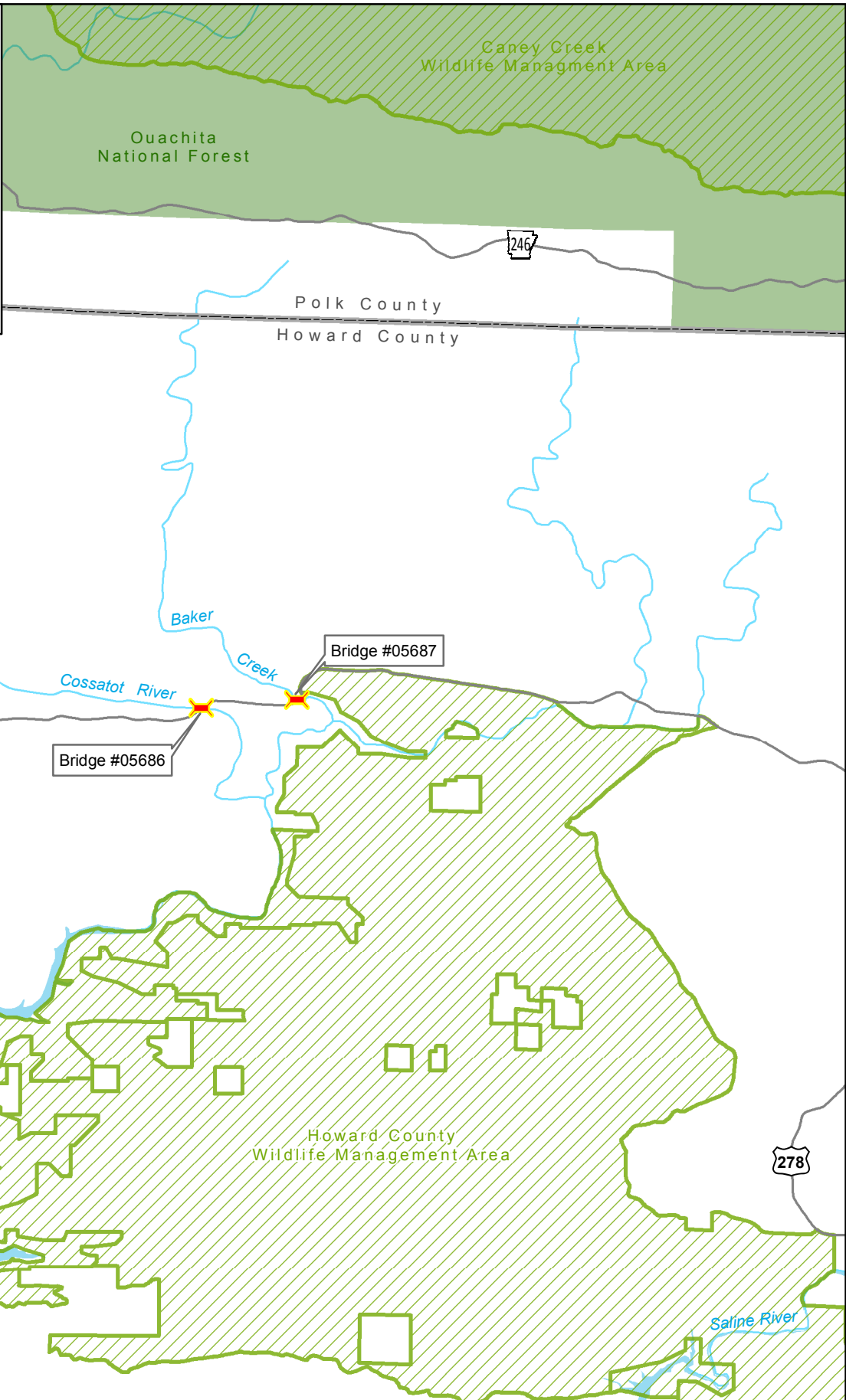
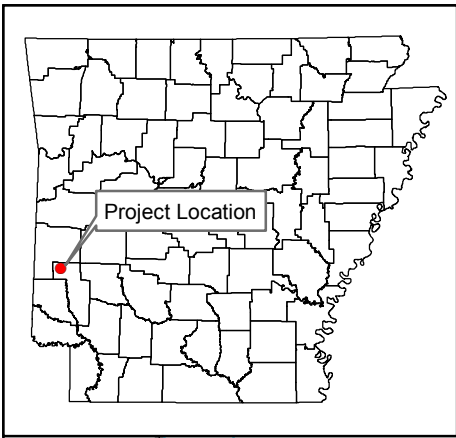


Figure 2: Baker Creek Bridge (ARDOT Bridge Number 05687)

ARDOT Bridge Number 05687, on US 278 over Baker Creek, was also determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP in consultation with the SHPO staff in 2018. It consists of three continuous steel girder spans resting on concrete circular shaft column bents, and includes steel posts and railing edging the roadway. The bridge measures 186 feet long and 21 feet wide.

Measures for national flood control began in the early twentieth century and became more urgent following the Great Flood of 1927. In the Flood Control Act of 1958, Congress authorized the Gillham Dam and Reservoir project that required relocation of two Howard County roads and two new bridges: the Cossatot River Bridge (05686) and the Baker Creek Bridge (05687).

Bridge Number 05687 holds local significance for its association with Congressional-authorized flood control measures creating the Gillham Dam and Reservoir.



Bridges #05686 & #05687

