



May 29, 2018

Mr. Peter Jilek
Acting Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
700 West Capitol, Room 3130
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3298

Re: Job Number 050321
FAP Number NHPP-0033(22)
Strawberry River Str. & Apprs.
Route 56, Section 2
Bridge Number 03219
Izard County
Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion

Dear Mr. Jilek:

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

The purpose of this project is to replace a structurally deficient bridge and reconstruct its approaches on Highway 56 in Izard County. The project will include replacing the bridge, reconstructing its approaches, and the relocation of one driveway and a portion of a minor farm road. Total length of the project is 0.473 mile. A project location map is enclosed.

The existing Strawberry River Bridge (Bridge Number 03219) is a 28.5 foot wide by 332 foot long structure with three 45 foot I-beam spans and three 65 foot standard composite I-beams supported by a combination of multi-column piers, concrete wall bents, and abutments on spread footings. The structure has a sufficiency rating of 51.3. The existing roadway consists of two 10-foot wide paved travel lanes with 3-foot wide paved shoulders. The existing right of way width is 91.5 feet.

The proposed bridge will consist of a 337 foot long by 37 foot wide continuous composite plate girder bridge having two 100 foot spans and one 135 foot span over the main channel. The supporting substructure will consist of single column intermediate bents on drilled shafts, with abutments on steel H-piles. Reconstructed approaches will provide two 11-foot wide paved travel lanes with 6-foot wide paved shoulders. The average right of way width will be 150 feet. Approximately 3.61 acres of additional right of way will be required for this project.

Design data for this project is as follows:

Design Year	Average Daily Traffic	Percent Trucks	Design Speed
2019	1,200	10	55 mph
2039	1,500	10	55 mph

There are no relocations, Section 4(f)/6(f) properties, environmental justice issues, or wetlands associated with this project. Field inspections found no evidence of existing underground storage tanks or hazardous waste deposits. No impacts to cultural resources are anticipated; concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Officer is enclosed. Approximately 2.84 acres of prime farmland will be converted to highway right of way. Form NRCS-CPA-106 is enclosed. Noise predictions have been made for this project utilizing the Federal Highway Administration's Traffic Noise Model 2.5 procedures. A Noise Analysis is enclosed.

The official species list was obtained through the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation website. The website lists the gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*) and its critical habitat, Scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*), Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*), and Missouri bladderpod (*Physaria filiformis*) as species potentially affected by the proposed project. The project *may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect* these listed species. USFWS concurrence with this determination was received on April 4, 2018. This project will not affect the Missouri bladderpod due to lack of suitable habitat.

The project will have a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States; therefore, a Section 404 permit will be required. Two piers and

two temporary work pads will be placed below the ordinary high-water mark impacting 100 linear feet of the Strawberry River. The project should be authorized by a Nationwide Permit 14 for Linear Transportation Projects as defined in Federal Register 82(4):1860-2008. The Strawberry River has the following special water resource designations: Natural and Scenic Waterbody, Extraordinary Resource Waterbody, and Ecologically Sensitive Waterbody, and is on the National Rivers Inventory. Correspondence to the National Park Service is enclosed. No response was received.

Izard 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.

If you have any questions, please contact the Environmental Division at 501-569-2281.

Sincerely,

APPROVED

Environmental Specialist
Federal Highway Administration
Date: 6/6/2018

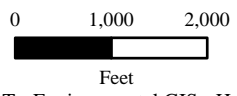
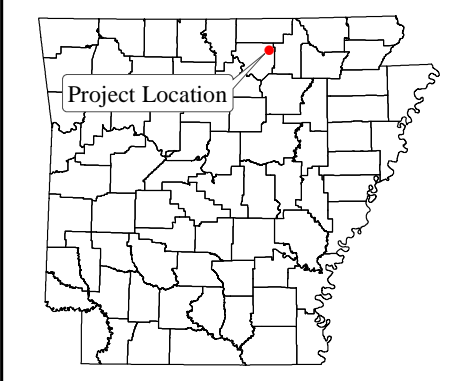
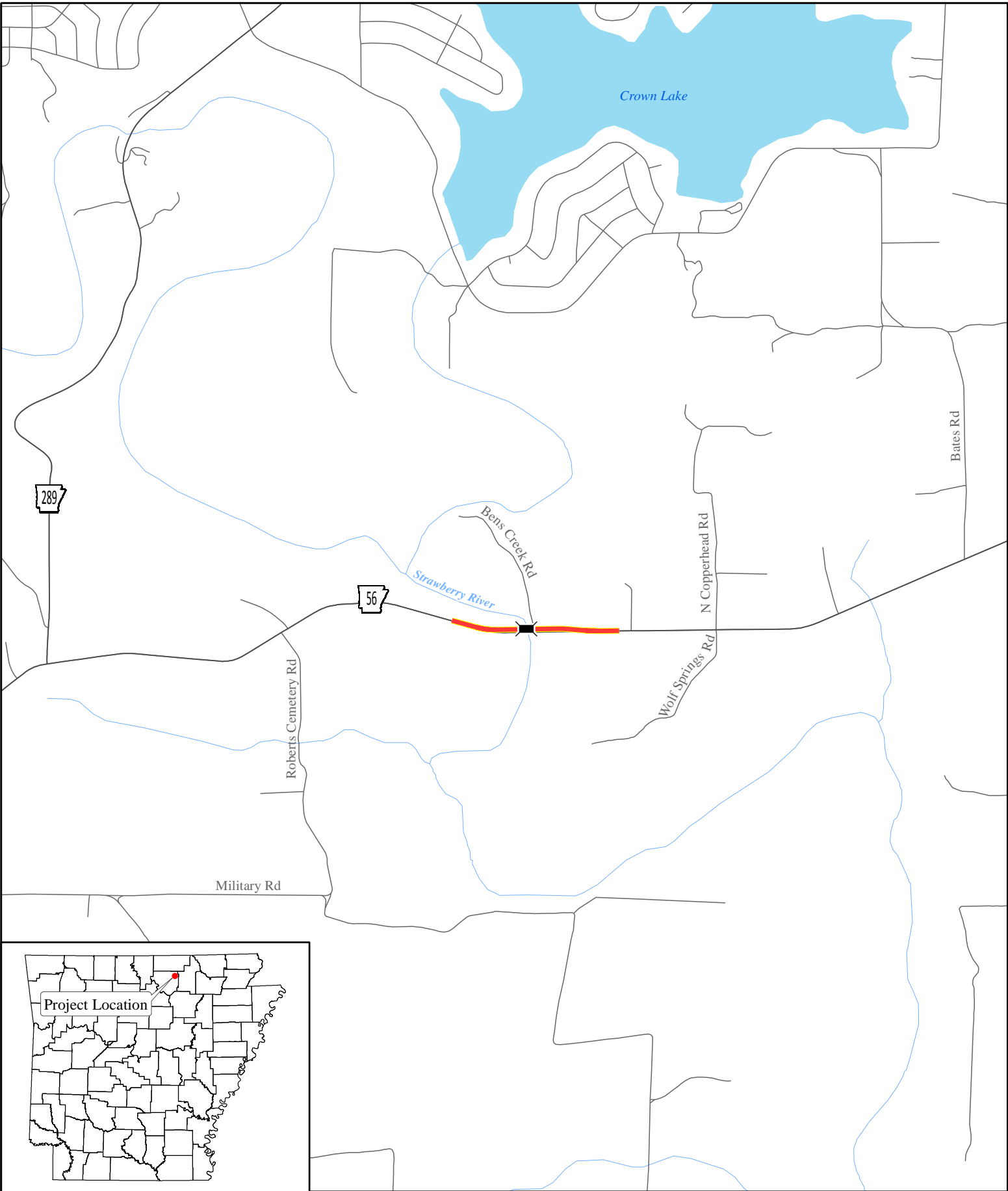


John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division

Enclosures

JF:TT:fc

c: Program Management
Right of Way
Roadway Design
Bridge Division
District 5
Master File



ARDOT - Environmental GIS - Hopkins
March 26, 2018

Job 050321
Strawberry River Str. & Apprs.
(Hwy. 56)
IZARD COUNTY





THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Stacy Hurst
Director

April 4, 2018

Mr. John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division
Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
PO Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203-2261

**RECEIVED
ARDOT**

APR 06 2018

**ENVIRONMENTAL
DIVISION**

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural
Heritage Commission

Arkansas State Archives

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

RE: Izard County – General
Section 106 Review – FHWA
ARDOT Job Number 050321
Strawberry River Str. & Apprs (S)
Route 56, Section 2
AHPP Tracking Number 100815

Dear Mr. Fleming:

This letter is written in response to your inquiry regarding properties of architectural or historical significance in the area of the proposed referenced project. The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) has reviewed the documents for the structure included in your letter of March 29, 2018, and has determined that the bridge (ARDOT Bridge Number 3219) is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, this undertaking will have no effect to historic properties.

Tribes that have expressed an interest in the area include the Cherokee Nation (Ms. Elizabeth Toombs), the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma (Ms. Robin Dushane), the Osage Nation (Dr. Andrea Hunter), the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma (Mr. Everett Bandy), and the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma (Ms. Kim Jumper). We recommend that they be consulted in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.2 (c) (2).

Thank you for your interest and concern for the cultural heritage of Arkansas. Please refer to the AHPP Tracking Number listed above in all correspondence. If you have any questions, please call Theresa Russell of my staff at (501)-324-9357.

Sincerely,

Scott Kaufman
Director, AHPP

cc: Mr. Randal Looney, Federal Highway Administration
Dr. Andrea Hunter, Osage Nation
Dr. Ann Early, Arkansas Archeological Survey



ARKANSAS HISTORIC
PRESERVATION PROGRAM



1100 North Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-9880
fax: (501) 324-9184
tdd: 711

e-mail:
info@arkansaspreservation.org
website:
www.arkansaspreservation.com

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

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency) Job 050321		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request 4/18/2018	4. Sheet 1 of _____
1. Name of Project Strawberry River Str. & Apprs. (S)		5. Federal Agency Involved FHWA	
2. Type of Project Bridge Replacement		6. County and State Izard, AR.	
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS	2. Person Completing Form
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form).		YES NO	4. Acres Irrigated Average Farm Size
5. Major Crop(s)	6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction Acres: %		7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	9. Name of Local Site Assessment System	10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS	

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Alternative Corridor For Segment			
	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	2.84			
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services				
C. Total Acres In Corridor	7.80			

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland	0			
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland	2.84			
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)				
	100			

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))	Maximum Points			
1. Area in Nonurban Use	15	15		
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use	10	10		
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	20	5		
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	0		
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	5		
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25	0		
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5	5		
8. On-Farm Investments	20	5		
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25	0		
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	0		
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	45		

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)				
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100	100		
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160	45		
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	260	145		

1. Corridor Selected: A Location Adjacent to existing bridge	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project: 2.84 acres of Statewide Importance	3. Date Of Selection: April 18, 2018	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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5. Reason For Selection:
Best location for the new bridge.

Signature of Person Completing this Part:  DATE 4/18/18

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

ARDOT JOB NUMBER 050321

NOISE ANALYSIS

Fundamentals of Sound and Noise

“Noise” is defined as an unwanted sound. Sounds are described as noise if they interfere with an activity or disturb the person hearing them. Sound is measured in a logarithmic unit called a decibel (dB). The human ear is more sensitive to middle and high frequency sounds than it is to low frequency sounds, so sound levels are weighted to more closely reflect human perceptions. These “A-weighted” sounds are measured using the decibel unit dB(A). Because the dB(A) is based on a logarithmic scale, a 10 dB(A) increase in sound level is generally perceived as twice as loud while a 3 dB(A) increase is just barely perceptible to the human ear.

Sound levels fluctuate with time depending on the sources of the sound audible at a specific location. In addition, the degree of annoyance associated with certain sounds varies by time of day, depending on other ambient sounds affecting the listener and the activities of the listener. The time-varying fluctuations in sound levels at a fixed location can be quite complex, so they are typically reported using statistical or mathematical descriptors that are a function of sound intensity and time. A commonly used descriptor of the equivalent sound level is Leq , which represents the equivalent of a steady, unvarying level over a defined period of time containing the same level of sound energy as the time varying noise environment. $Leq(h)$ is a sound level averaged over one hour. For highway projects, the $Leq(h)$ is commonly used to describe traffic-generated sound levels at locations of outdoor human use and activity (such as residences).

Noise Impact Criteria

Traffic noise impacts take place when the predicted traffic noise levels approach or exceed the noise abatement standard, or when the predicted traffic noise levels exceed the existing noise level by ten dB(A) (decibels on the A-scale). The noise abatement standard of 67 dB(A) is used for sensitive noise receptors such as residences, schools, churches, and parks. The term “approach” is considered to be one dB(A) less than the noise abatement standard.

The number of noise receptors was estimated for this project utilizing the Federal Highway Administration’s Traffic Noise Model 2.5, existing and proposed roadway information, existing traffic information, and projected traffic levels for 2039.

Traffic noise analyses

Traffic noise analyses were performed for the project utilizing a roadway cross-section for Highway 56 consisting of two 11-foot paved travel lanes and 6-foot wide paved shoulders.

Effects of Project

The traffic noise estimates for the project resulted in a noise abatement distance of 55 feet from the centerline of Highway 56. Even though noise levels are above the noise abatement standard outside of the proposed right of way, no sensitive receptors located along the proposed project location are predicted to experience noise impacts resulting from noise levels that approach or exceed 67 dB(A) during the design year.

To avoid noise levels in excess of design levels, any future receptors should be located a minimum of 10 feet beyond the distance that the noise abatement standard is projected to occur. This distance should be used as a general guide and not a specific rule since the noise will vary depending upon the roadway grades and other noise contributions.

Any excessive project noise, due to construction operations, should be of short duration and have a minimum adverse effect on land uses or activities associated with this project area.

In compliance with Federal guidelines, a copy of this analysis will be transmitted to the White River Planning and Development District for possible use in present and future land use planning.



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



April 4, 2018

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

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2018-I-0777

Dear Mr. Fleming,

The Service has reviewed your assessment and determinations for Arkansas Department of Transportation (ArDOT) Job Number 050321, Izard County, Arkansas. The project was described and assessed as follows (abbreviated):

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ArDOT) is proposing plans to replace the Hwy 56 Bridge over the Strawberry River with a new bridge adjacent upstream. IPaC identified gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*) and its critical habitat, Scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*), Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*), and Missouri bladderpod (*Physaria filiformis*) as potentially occurring at or near the project location.

Technical assistance from the service identified this project as one within an area of insufficient data and indicated a bat presence/absence survey would be beneficial. The department will be surveying this project are later this summer. No prohibited take will occur for northern long-eared bats or Indian Bats following the guidance of the Programmatic Biological Opinion. A Concurrence Verification Letter is attached. Inactive season clearing and time of day construction restriction special provisions will be included in the contract.

This project is within the known gray bat range and a records search of ANHC databases identified a gray bat cave (Blagg Cave) approximately 14 miles east/southeast of the project location. Special provisions for time of day work restrictions will be included in the contract. Temporary sedimentation and construction activities associated with bridge replacement may temporary decrease forage availability for gray bats. Sedimentation will be limited with the use of best management practices. With the use of best management practices and special provisions outlined above we seek concurrence that this project may effect, but will not likely adversely affect gray bats.

A freshwater mussel survey was conducted on 8 August 2017 by ARDOT personnel (See attached data sheet). Temporary and limited quantities of

sedimentation during construction activities will be present in the Strawberry River. Sedimentation will be limited with the use of best management practices. As a result, we seek concurrence that the construction of this project may effect, but will not likely adversely affect Rabbitsfoot, Scaleshell, and Snuffbox. The existing bridge is the upstream extent of Rabbitsfoot Critical Habitat Unit 11, the new bridge will be upstream of the existing bridge and the temporary work pads will be upstream of the new bridge (see attached conceptual work plan). The construction activities will result in temporary sedimentation to a minimal portion of Critical Habitat. As a result, we seek concurrence that this project will not result in an adverse modification of Critical Habitat.

The project area doesn't contain suitable habitat and will have no effect on Missouri Bladderpod.

The Service has received your concurrence verification letter and request to verify that the Proposed Action may rely on the concurrence provided in the February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat (PBO) to satisfy requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C 1531 et seq.).

Based on the information you provided, you have determined that the Proposed Action is within the scope and adheres to the criteria of the PBO, including the adoption of applicable avoidance and minimization measures, may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the endangered Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and/or the threatened Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

The Service concurs that this action may rely on the PBO. Furthermore, due to the limited size of the area being cleared off existing roadway and adjacent to existing right-of-way, mussel survey results, habitat types, distance to known species locations, proposed bat survey, and the special provisions for winter clearing bat avoidance and stream sediment control and water quality conservation measures, the Service agrees with your assessment and determinations for all species identified. No further consultation is necessary at this time.

For Proposed Actions that include bridge/structure removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities: If your initial bridge/structure assessments failed to detect Indiana bats, but you later detect bats during construction, please submit the Post Assessment Discovery of Bats at Bridge/Structure Form (User Guide Appendix E) to this Service Office. In these instances, potential incidental take of Indiana Bats may be exempted provided that the take is reported to the Service.

If the Proposed Action is modified, or new information reveals that it may affect the Indiana Bat and/or Northern Long-eared Bat in a manner or to an extent not considered in the PBO, further review to conclude the requirements of ESA Section 7(a)(2) may be required. If the Proposed

Mr. John Fleming

3

Action may affect any other federally-listed or proposed species, and/or any designated critical habitat, additional consultation is required. If the Proposed Action has the potential to take Bald or Golden Eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act may also be required. In either of these circumstances, please contact this Service Office.

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 "Melvin L. Tobin". The signature is stylized with a large initial "M" and a long horizontal stroke.

Melvin L. Tobin
Field Supervisor



United States Department of the Interior



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

In Reply Refer To:

March 28, 2018

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2018-SLI-0777

Event Code: 04ER1000-2018-E-01109

Project Name: 050321

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.

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: 04ER1000-2018-SLI-0777

Event Code: 04ER1000-2018-E-01109

Project Name: 050321

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: Bridge replacement on new alignment adjacent on the north side of existing.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/36.178030491528546N91.7387645497351W>



Counties: Izard, AR

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 7 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
Gray Bat <i>Myotis grisescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6329	Endangered
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
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

Clams

NAME	STATUS
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165	Threatened
Scaleshell Mussel <i>Leptodea leptodon</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5881	Endangered
Snuffbox Mussel <i>Epioblasma triquetra</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4135	Endangered

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Missouri Bladderpod <i>Physaria filiformis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5361	Threatened

Critical habitats

There is 1 critical habitat wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction.

NAME	STATUS
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165#crithab	Final



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

April 25, 2018

Mr. Hector Santiago, AR NRI Coordinator
National Park Service
Midwest Regional Office
601 Riverside Dr.
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Re: Job Number 050321
Strawberry River Str. & Apprs. (S)
Izard County

Dear Mr. Santiago:

The Federal Highway Administration requires coordination with the National Park Service on all Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) projects involving waterbodies on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI). Enclosed is a project location map for the referenced project.

The ARDOT is proposing to replace a bridge on the Strawberry River on Highway 56, Section 2 in Izard County, Arkansas. The new bridge would be built at the current bridge location.

We believe this project will not affect the river or foreclose it from wild, scenic, or recreational status. If you require further information, you may contact Sarah DeVries of my staff at (501) 569-2553.

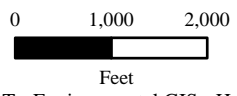
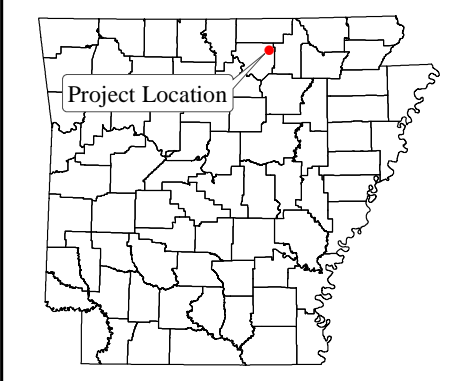
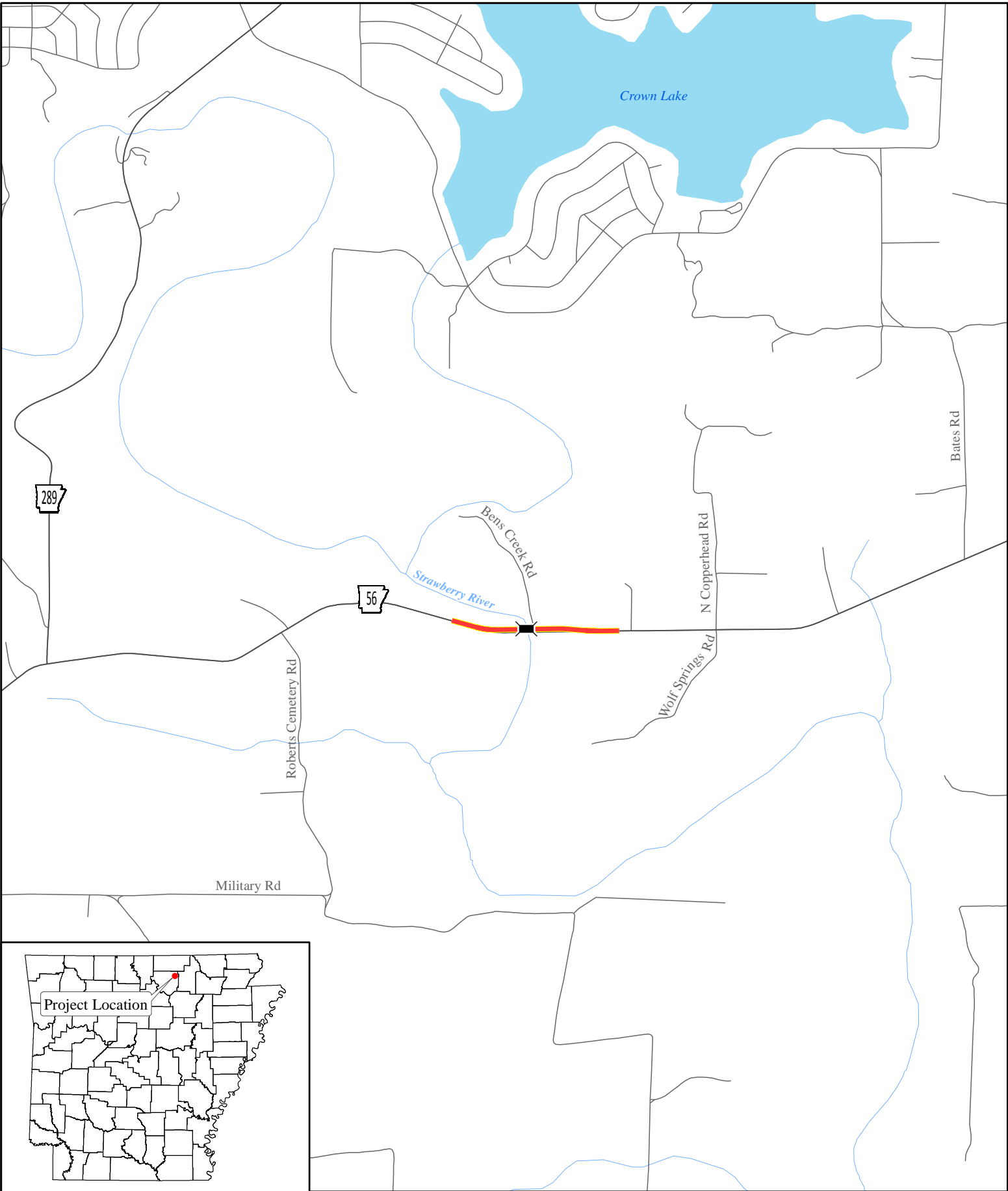
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'John Fleming'.

John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division

Enclosure

JF:SD:CB



ARDOT - Environmental GIS - Hopkins
March 26, 2018

Job 050321
Strawberry River Str. & Apprs.
(Hwy. 56)
IZARD COUNTY



ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT FORM

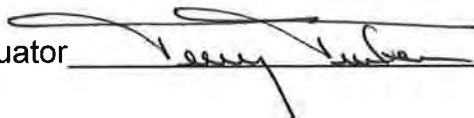
ARDOT Job Number 050321 FAP Number NHPP-0033(22)

Job Title Strawberry River Str. & Apprs. (S)

Environmental Impacts	None	Minor	Significant	Comments
Air Quality	X			
Construction Impacts		X		Temporary
Cultural Resources	X			SHPO clearance attached
Economic	X			
Endangered Species	X			NLAA on some species NA on one.
Energy Resources	X			
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			
Fish and Wildlife	X			
Floodplains		X		Zone A
Forest Service Property	X			
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			
Land Use Impacts	X			
Migratory Birds	X			
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			
Noise Levels		X		Noise Analysis attached
Prime Farmland		X		2.84 acres impacted, NRCS-CPA 106 attached
Protected Waters		X		ESW, ERW, AR natural and scenic, NRI
Public Recreation Lands	X			
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			
Relocatees	X			
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			
Social	X			
Underground Storage Tanks	X			
Visual Impacts	X			
Stream Impacts		X		NWP 14
Water Quality		X		Temporary during construction
Wetlands	X			
Wildlife Refuges	X			

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? Y
 Short-term Activity Authorization Required? Y
 Section 404 Permit Required? Y Type NWP 14

Remarks: _____

Signature of Evaluator  Date April 18, 2018

ROADWAY DESIGN REQUEST

Job Number 050321 FAP No. _____ County Izard

Job Name Strawberry River Str. & Apprs. (S)

Design Engineer David W. Baker Environmental Staff _____

Brief Project Description Replacing existing bridge.

A. Existing Conditions:

Roadway Width: 26'-0" Shoulder Type/Width: 3' Paved

Number of Lanes and Width: 2-10' Existing Right-of-Way: 91.5' Avg.

Sidewalks? N/A Location: _____ Width: _____

Bike Lanes? N/A Location: _____ Width: _____

B. Proposed Conditions:

Roadway Width: 34'-0" Shoulder Type/Width: 6' Paved

Number of Lanes and Width: 2-11' Proposed Right-of-Way: 150' Avg.

Sidewalks? N/A Location: _____ Width: _____

Bike Lanes? N/A Location: _____ Width: _____

C. Construction Information:

If detour: Where: N/A Length: _____

D. Design Traffic Data:

2020 ADT: 1,200 2040 ADT: 1,500 % Trucks: 10
Design Speed: 55 m.p.h.

E. Approximate total length of project: 0.473 mile(s)

F. Justification for proposed improvements: Bridge Replacement Required

G. Total Relocates: N/A Residences: N/A Businesses: N/A

H. Have you coordinated with any outside agencies (e.g., FHWA, City, County, etc.)? _____

Agency/Official	Person Contacted	Date

BRIDGE INFORMATION - PRELIMINARY

Job Number: 050321 FAP Number: NHPP-0033(22) County: Izard

Job Name: Strawberry River Str. & Apprs. (S)

Design Engineer: Chris Williams Environmental Staff: Terry Tucker/ R. Jenkins/M. Matthews

A. Description of Existing Bridge:

1. Bridge Number: 03219 over Strawberry River
2. Location: Rte.: 56 Section: 2 Log Mile: 11.91
3. Length: 332.0 ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 24.0 ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): 28.5 ft
4. Type Construction: Three 45'-0" standard I-beam spans and three 65'-0" standard composite I-beam spans supported by piles, concrete wall bents and abutment on spread footings.
5. Deficiencies: None.
6. HBRRP Eligibility: Qualif. Code: NQ Sufficiency Rating: 51.3
7. Are any Condition Component Ratings at 3 or less? No

B. Proposed Improvements:

1. Length: 337.2 ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 34.0 ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): 37.2 ft
2. Travel Lanes: Two 11' lanes.
3. Shoulder Width: 6' shoulders on both sides of roadway.
4. Sidewalks? No. Location: N/A Width: N/A ft

C. Construction Information:

1. Location in relation to existing bridge: Along existing CL.
2. Superstructure Type: Continuous Composite Plate Girder Unit.
3. Span Lengths: 100'-135'-100'
4. Substructure Type: Single column intermediate bents on drilled shafts, abutments on steel h-piles.
5. Ordinary High Water Elev. (OHW): 519 No. of Bents inside OHW Contours: 2
6. Concrete Volume below OHW: TBD yd³ Vol. Bent Excavation: TBD yd³ Vol. Backfill: TBD yd³
7. Is Channel Excavation below OHW Required? No. Surface Area: N/A ft² Volume: N/A yd³
8. Is Fill below OHW Req'd.? No. Surface Area: N/A ft² Volume: N/A yd³
9. Is Riprap below OHW required? No. Volume: N/A yd³

D. Work Road Information:

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

E. Detour Information:

1. Is a detour bridge required? No. 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 yd³ Surface Area: N/A ft²

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

Has Bridge Division coordinated with any outside agencies? No.

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

July 3, 2019

Regulatory Division

NATIONWIDE PERMIT NO. **SWL 2019-00029**

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 upgrading the approaches and replacing the bridge over the Strawberry River south of Horseshoe Bend. The existing roadway consists of two 10-foot-wide lanes with 3-foot-wide shoulders. The new bridge will be constructed approximately 40 feet upstream from the existing bridge and the approaches will be upgraded to two 11-foot-wide lanes with 6-foot-wide shoulders. Permanent impacts to the Strawberry River will be less than 300 linear feet and 0.1 acres. Temporary work pads will be constructed on both sides of the bridge during construction and will require the discharge of approximately 1,530 cubic yards of rock fill. The Strawberry River is designated as an Extraordinary Resource Water and Ecologically Sensitive Waterbody; therefore, you must obtain an individual Section 401 water quality certification (WQC) from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred that the project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the Gray Bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*), Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Rabbitsfoot Mussel (*Theliderma cylindrical*), Scaleshell Mussel (*Leptodea leptodon*) and Snuffbox Mussel (*Epioblasma triquetra*). There are no wetlands or cultural resources impacts. The project was approved as a Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion by the Federal Highway Administration on June 6, 2018. The project is located on State Highway 56, approximately one mile south of the Community of Horseshoe Bend in sections 33 and 34, T. 18 N., R. 7 W., Izaard County, Arkansas. A vicinity map, project location map and conceptual drawing for the work pads are enclosed.

The proposed activities are authorized by Department of the Army Nationwide Permit (NWP) **No. 14** (copy enclosed), provided that the General Conditions therein are met and you obtain the individual WQC. 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.

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.

If you have any questions concerning compliance with the conditions of the Section 401 WQC, 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.

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.

The NWP determination will be valid until March 18, 2022. If NWP **No. 14** 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. **SWL 2019-00029, Strawberry River Structure and Approaches on State Highway 56 near Horseshoe Bend (ArDOT Project No. 050321).**

Sincerely,



Sarah Chitwood

Chief, Regulatory Evaluation Branch

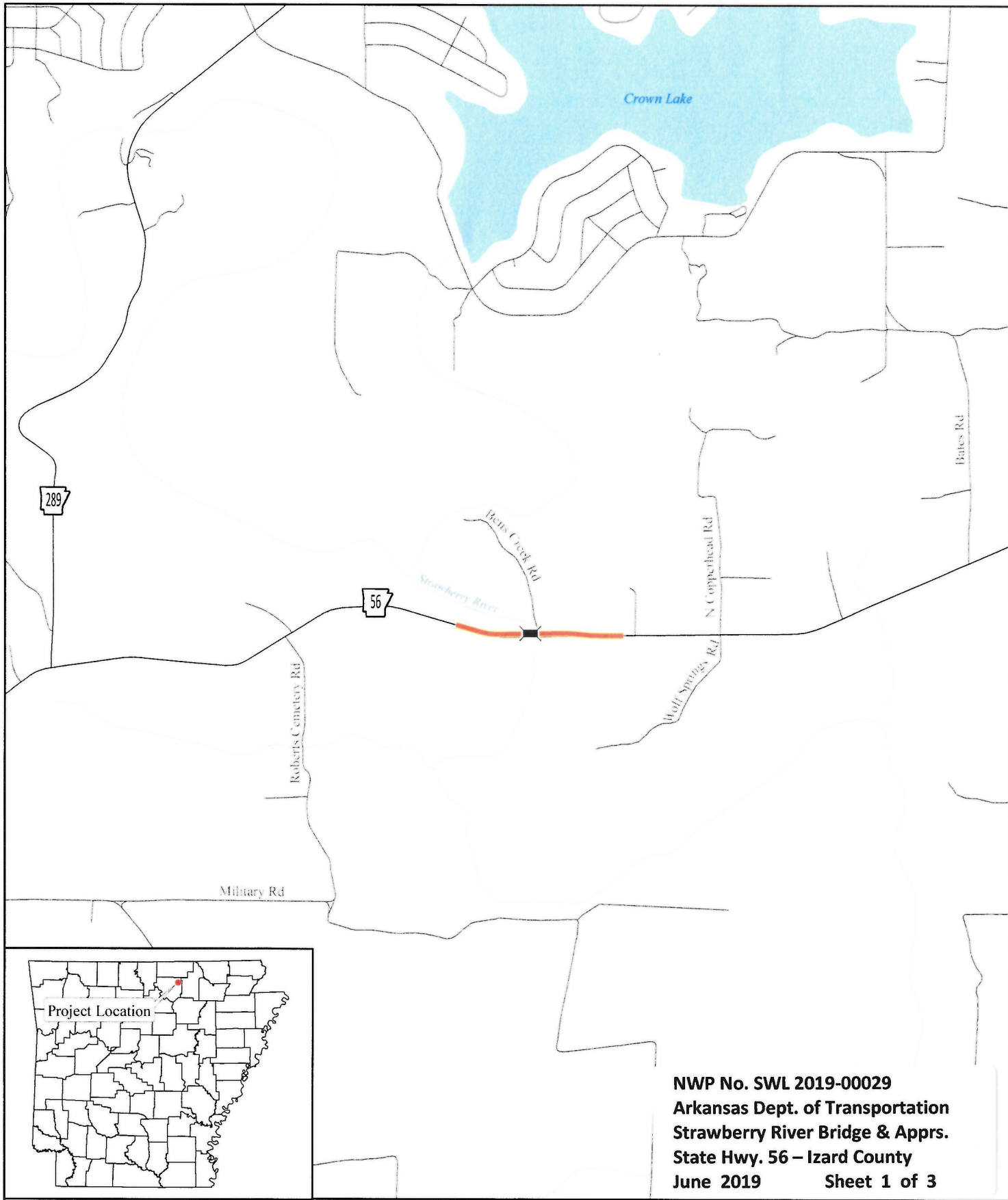
Enclosures

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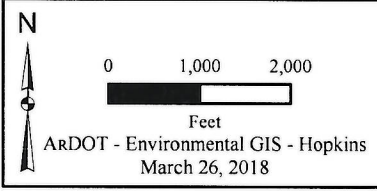
Ms. Melanie Treat, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, w/cy encls.

Mr. Lindsey Lewis, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, w/cy encls.

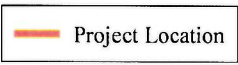
Chief, Regulatory Enforcement, w/cy encls.

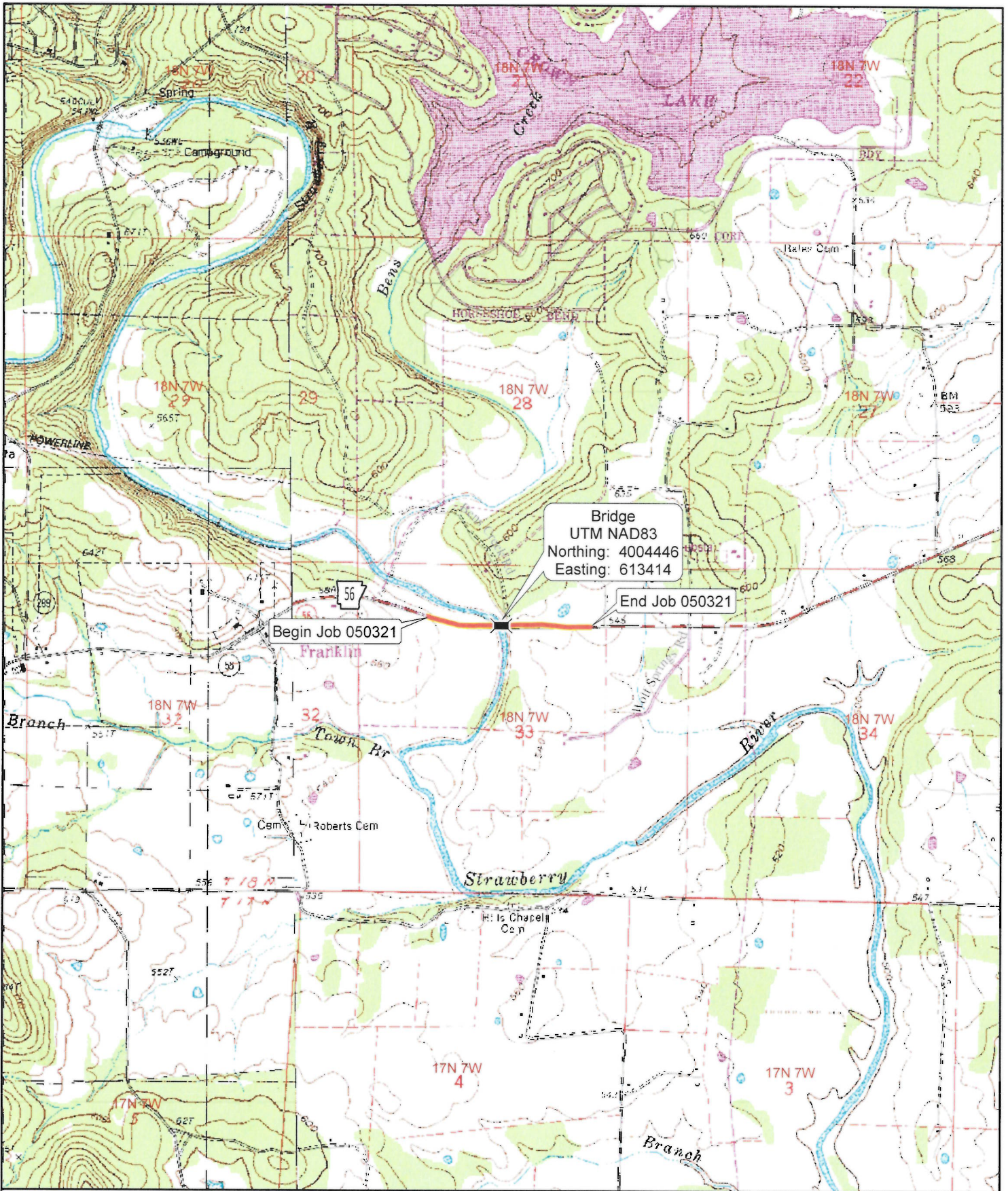


NWP No. SWL 2019-00029
Arkansas Dept. of Transportation
Strawberry River Bridge & Apprs.
State Hwy. 56 – IZard County
June 2019 Sheet 1 of 3



Job 050321
Strawberry River Str. & Apprs.
(Hwy. 56)
IZard County



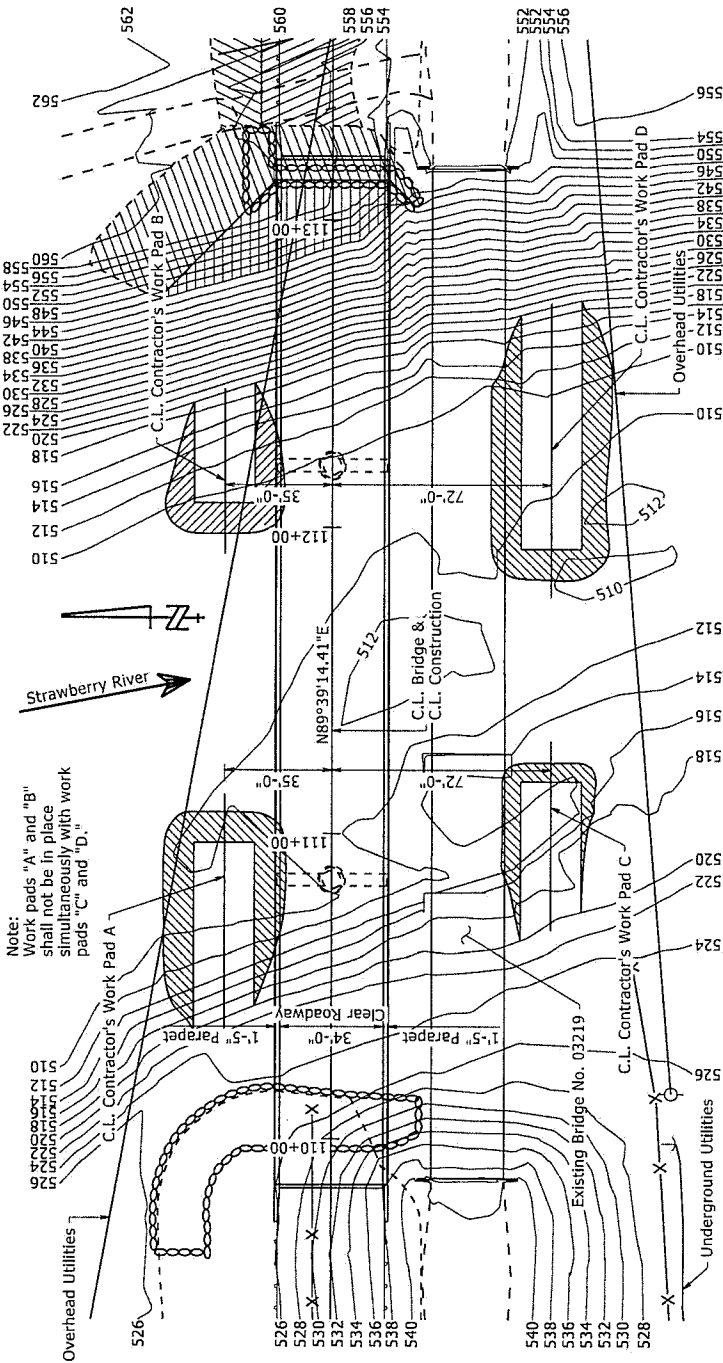


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 ARDOT - Environmental GIS - Hopkins
 December 17, 2018

Job 050321
 Strawberry River Str. & Apprs.
 (Hwy. 56)
 Izard County

Sheet 2 of 3
 Project Location
 USGS Topographic Map:
 Myron 1981

Note:
Work pads "A" and "B" shall not be in place simultaneously with work pads "C" and "D."



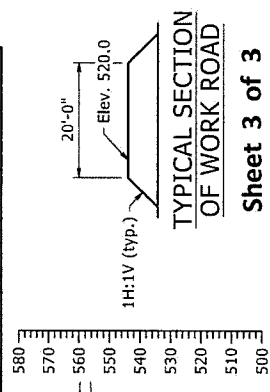
PLAN

NOTES:
The temporary fill to construct the work road(s) shown has been permitted to facilitate construction of the project. The Contractor shall determine and provide temporary culverts of a size and number that will be sufficient to maintain low stream flows and assist passage of aquatic wildlife.

The Contractor may submit an alternate work road plan for approval by the Engineer showing details of and describing the proposed modifications. A primary objective of any proposed modifications should be to minimize the reduction of waterway opening in the floodplain. The top of the alternate work road(s) shall not exceed the elevation shown. A determination will be made by the Engineer within ten (10) business days concerning the necessity or practicability of the request. A modification of the Section 404 Permit and additional review time by the Corps of Engineers may be required if the alternate work road(s) increases the volume of temporary fill that has been permitted for the project. The contract time will not be extended for the time required to consider or approve any alternate work road(s) submittals.

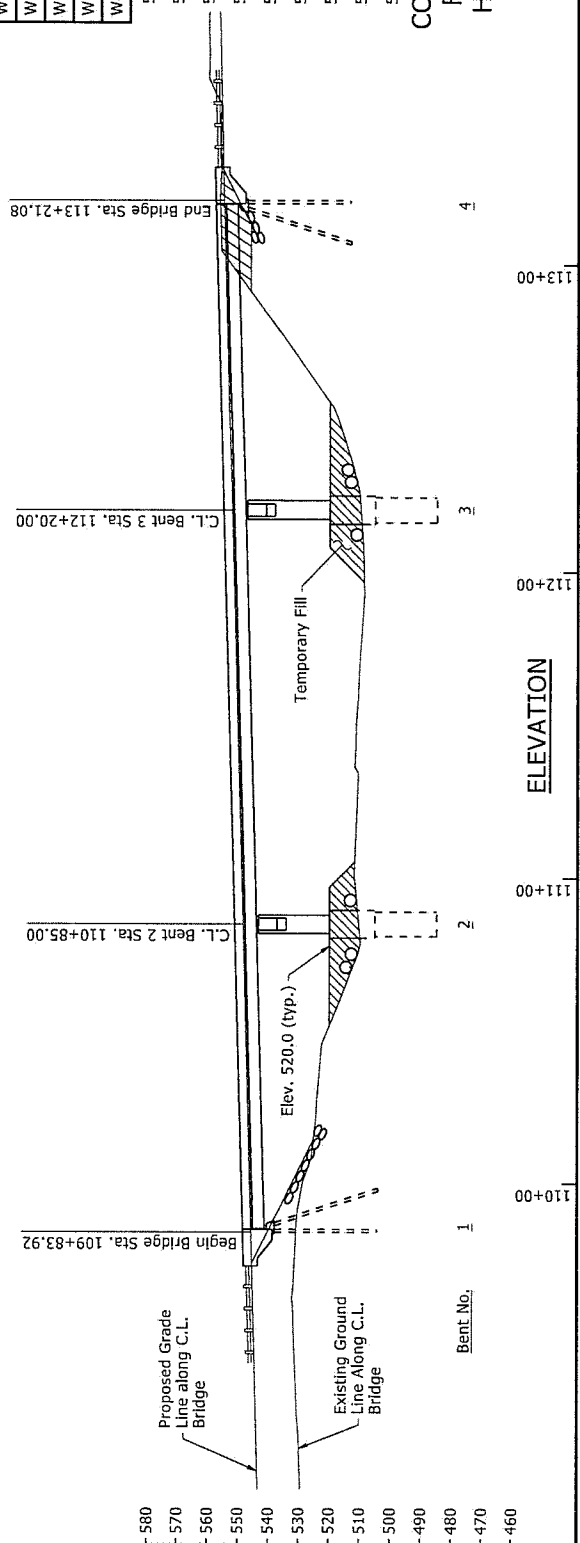
Any additional work or expenses incurred preparing, submitting, or completing the alternate work road plan shall be at no additional cost to the Department. See SP Job 050321 "Construction in Special Flood Hazard Areas" and Section 110.05(C) in the Standard Specifications for additional information. The Contractor is responsible for maintenance of the work road(s) during the contract period.

APPROXIMATE QUANTITIES (BELOW ELEVATION 519.0)	
Work Pad "A" Fill Area	2,429 Sq. Ft.
Work Pad "A" Fill Volume	490 Cu. Yds.
Work Pad "B" Fill Area	1494 Sq. Ft.
Work Pad "B" Fill Volume	220 Cu. Yds.
Work Pad "C" Fill Area	1423 Sq. Ft.
Work Pad "C" Fill Volume	120 Cu. Yds.
Work Pad "D" Fill Area	3211 Sq. Ft.
Work Pad "D" Fill Volume	700 Cu. Yds.



Sheet 3 of 3

**CONCEPTUAL WORK PLAN
FOR TEMPORARY FILL
HWY. 56 BRIDGE OVER
STRAWBERRY RIVER
JOB NO. 050321**



ELEVATION