



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

April 29, 2021**TO:** Master Files**FROM:**  John Fleming, Division Head, Environmental Division **SUBJECT:** Job Number 050415
FAP Number NHPP-0032(35)
Double Branch Str. & Apprs. (S)
Route 230, Section 0
Bridge No. M4065
Independence County
Tier 1 Categorical Exclusion

The purpose of this project is to replace ARDOT bridge M4065 with a box culvert on Highway 230 over Double Branch in Independence County, Arkansas. A project location map is attached.

The typical section of the highway would be improved from two 10' wide paved travel lanes with 2' (1' paved) wide shoulders to two 11' wide paved travel lanes with 4' (2' paved) wide shoulders. The existing 45'x26.1' concrete channel beam bridge would be replaced with a quintuple 9'x8'x73' reinforced concrete box culvert. The average right of way width would increase from 80' to 150'. Approximately 0.6 acre of new right of way would be required for construction of the project. A detour utilizing existing state highways would be used to maintain traffic during construction. The project length is approximately 0.2 mile.

Design data for this project is as follows:

Design Year	Average Daily Traffic	Percent Trucks	Design Speed
2022	1600 vpd	7	55 mph
2042	1800 vpd	7	55 mph

The project would not involve relocations, environmental justice issues, prime farmlands, wetlands, underground storage tanks, hazardous materials, 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. State Historic Preservation Officer clearance is attached.

Construction of the new box culvert would impact approximately 150 linear feet of Double Branch. Total impacts to Waters of the United States are estimated at 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. Pre-construction notification will not be required.

The official species list obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation website identified the gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Ozark hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis bishop*), Missouri bladderpod (*Physaria filiformis*) and running buffalo clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*) as threatened and endangered species potentially occurring within the project area. Due to the lack of habitat and distance to known species occurrences, it has been determined that the proposed project will have "no effect" on the aforementioned federally listed species.

Independence County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The project lies within a 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 would constitute a substantial floodplain encroachment or a risk to property or life.

Based on the ARDOT noise policy, a noise analysis is not required for this project. Replacing the bridge with a box culvert would not involve adding capacity, substantially changing the roadway alignment, or exposing noise sensitive land uses to traffic noise sources. In compliance with federal guidelines, local authorities will not require notification.

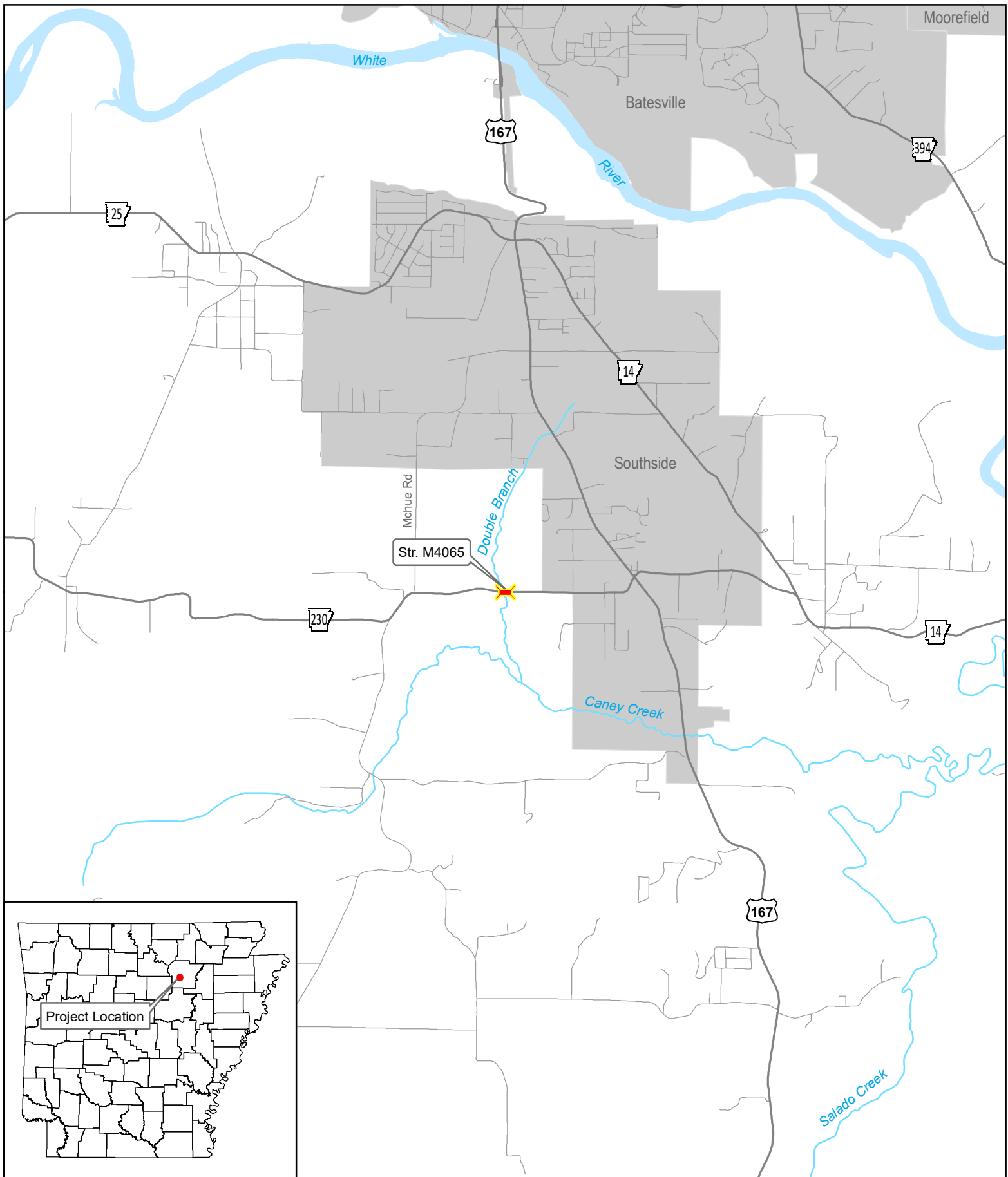
After appropriate environmental review, it has been determined that the subject job is a Tier 1 Categorical Exclusion as described by the ARDOT/FHWA Programmatic Agreement on Categorical Exclusion Documentation and Processing. A public hearing will not be offered for this project.

JF:KR:sw


Attachments:

- Location Map
- SHPO Clearance
- Environmental Study Checklist
- Design Request Form

c: Program Management
Right of Way
Roadway Design
District 5
FHWA



Job 050415
Double Branch Str. & Apprs.
(Hwy. 230)
Independence County

 Project Location



Asa Hutchinson
Governor
Stacy Hurst
Secretary

April 22, 2021

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

Re: Independence County – General
Section 106 Review – FHWA
Double Branch Str. & Apprs. (S)
Route 220, Section 0
Addendum to ARDOT Job Number 050415
AHPP Tracking Number 103965.02

Dear Mr. Fleming:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) reviewed the addendum to the Project Identification Form (PIF) for the above-referenced job in Section 4 of Township 12 North, Range 6 West in Independence County. Thank you for the information regarding additional fieldwork conducted proximal to Site 3IN0417. As described, the results of the additional fieldwork were negative. The site lies outside the proposed right-of-way.

Based on the provided information, the AHPP reasserts our concurrence with the finding of **no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1).**

Tribes that have expressed an interest in the area include the Caddo Nation, the Cherokee Nation, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Osage Nation, the Quapaw Nation, and the Shawnee Tribe. We recommend consultation in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(2).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this undertaking and addendum to the PIF. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Mills of my staff at (501) 324-9784 or eric.mills@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

for
Scott Kaufman
Director, AHPP

cc: Mr. Randal Looney, Federal Highway Administration
Dr. Melissa Zabecki, Arkansas Archeological Survey

ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFICATION CHECKLIST FOR CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

ARDOT Job Number 050415 FAP Number NHPP-0032(35)

Job Title Double Branch Str. & Apprs. (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments
Air Quality	X			No impacts anticipated
Cultural Resources	X			"No historic properties affected"
Economic	X			No impacts anticipated
Endangered Species	X			"No effect" on all federally-listed species
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No affected populations
Fish and Wildlife	X			No impacts anticipated
Floodplains		X		Project lies in Zone A SFHA
Forest Service Property	X			None in the project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			None in the project area
Land Use		X		0.6 acre proposed right of way
Migratory Birds	X			Migratory Bird SP included
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			None in the project area
Noise Levels	X			No noise analysis required
Prime Farmland	X			None in the project area
Protected Waters	X			None in the project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			None in the project area
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			None in the project area
Relocatees	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			No 4(f)/6(f) resources
Social	X			No social impacts
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No USTs in project area
Visual	X			No impacts to the visual environment
Streams		X		150 linear feet / 0.1 acre impacts
Water Quality		X		Temporary decline during construction
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? Yes

Section 404 Permit Required? Yes Type Nationwide 14

Remarks:

Signature of Evaluator Kathryn Rose Date 4/7/2021

Date Sent: March 23, 2021

ROADWAY DESIGN REQUEST

Job Number 050415 FAP No. _____ County Independence

Job Name Double Branch Str. & Apprs. (S)

Design Engineer Austin Hales Environmental Staff _____

Detailed Project Description Replace existing bridge with R.C. Box Culvert.

A. Existing Conditions:

Roadway Width: 24' Shoulder Type/Width: 2' (1' Paved)

Number of Lanes and Width: 2 @ 10' Existing Right-of-Way: 80'

Sidewalks? N/A Location: N/A Width: N/A

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

B. Proposed Conditions:

Roadway Width: 30' Shoulder Type/Width: 4' (2' Paved)

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

Sidewalks? N/A Location: N/A Width: N/A

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

C. Construction Information:

If detour: Where: N/A Length: N/A

D. Design Traffic Data:

2022 ADT: 1600 2042 ADT: 1800 % Trucks: 7

Design Speed: 55 m.p.h.

E. Approximate total length of project: 0.19 mile(s)

F. Justification for proposed improvements: Bridge is structurally deficient

G. Total Relocates: 0 Residences: 0 Businesses: 0

H. Have you coordinated with any outside agencies (e.g., FHWA, City, County, etc.)? No

Agency/Official	Person Contacted	Date