September 14, 2017

TO: Master Files

FROM: John Fleming, Division Head, Environmental Division

SUBJECT: Job Number 020584
            FAP Number NHPP-0035(50)
            Sandy Bayou Str. & Apprs.
            Bridge Number M1015
            Jefferson County
            Tier 2 Categorical Exclusion

The Environmental Division has reviewed the referenced project and 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 a bridge on Highway 54 in Jefferson County. Total length of the project is 0.028 mile. The attached figure illustrates the project location.

Existing Highway 54 consists of two 10-foot wide travel lanes with no shoulders. The existing bridge (#M1015) has a 27’ x 40’ concrete deck with an asphalt overlay on two span timber girders supported by timber pile bents with timber caps. The bridge has a sufficiency rating of 48.0. There is no recorded existing right of way.

Proposed improvements include a quadruple 10’ x 8’ x 60’ reinforced concrete box culvert with two 11-foot wide paved travel lanes and 4-foot wide shoulders. The proposed average right of way width will be 98 feet. Approximately 0.9 acre of right of way will be required for this project.
Design data for this project is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Year</th>
<th>Average Daily Traffic</th>
<th>Percent Trucks</th>
<th>Design Speed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>55 mph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2038</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>55 mph</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are no relocations, endangered species, or environmental justice issues associated with this project. No impacts to cultural resources are anticipated; concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Officer is attached. Field inspections found no evidence of existing underground storage tanks or hazardous waste deposits. Approximately 0.2 acre of Statewide Important Farmland will be converted to highway right of way. Form NRCS-CPA-106 is attached.

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 noise source.

Jefferson County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. All of the floodplain encroachments within this highway construction project will be designed to comply with the county's local flood damage prevention ordinance. The project lies within 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.

Construction of the proposed project will result in minor impacts to Sandy Bayou, however, construction of the proposed project should be allowed under terms of a Nationwide Permit 14 for Linear Transportation Projects as defined in the Federal Register 82 (4):1860-2008.

The official species list obtained through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service’s (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation webtool identified the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) as the only listed species potentially occurring within the
project area. No critical habitat for this species was located within the project area. On August 31, 2017, the USFWS stated that “The Service does not have any information that there are any listed species in the affected area of this action. We do not anticipate any effects to the Piping Plover will occur from this action.” Based on that assessment it is determined that the project will have no effect on listed species.

Attachments:
- Project Location Map
- SHPO Clearance
- Environmental Study Checklist
- Design Sheet

Approved:  
Kevin Thornton  
Assistant Chief Engineer-Planning

JF:JB:fc

c: Program Management  
Right of Way  
Roadway Design  
District 2  
FHWA  
Master File
Job 020584
Sandy Bayou Str. & Apprs.
(Hwy. 54)
Jefferson County
Mr. Robert Scoggin  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
1100 North Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: AHTD Job Number 020584  
Sandy Bayou Str. & Apprs. (S)  
Jefferson County

Dear Mr. Scoggin:

A Project Identification Form for the referenced project is enclosed. Please review for concurrence with the findings of my staff. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Scott Smallwood of my staff at 501-569-2038.

Sincerely,

John Fleming  
Division Head  
Environmental Division

Enclosure  
PIF
FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)
- Job 020584
- Name of Project: Sandy Bayou Sts. Apprs.
- Type of Project: Bridge Replacement
- County and State: Jefferson AR.

PART II (To be completed by NRCS)
- Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland?
  - YES  NO
- Major Crop(s)
- Name or Land Evaluation System Used

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)
- Total Acres To Be Converted Directly
- Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services
- Total Acres In Corridor

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information
- Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland
- Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland
- Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted
- 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)
- Area in Nonurban Use
- Perimeter in Nonurban Use
- Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed
- Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average
- Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland
- Availability Of Farm Support Services
- On-Farm Investments
- Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services
- Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use
- TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS

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

1. Corridor Selected: New Location Adjacent to existing
2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project: 0.2 acres of Farmland of Statewide Importance
3. Date Of Selection:
4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used?  YES  NO

5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part: [Signature]
DATE: 9/14/07

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor.
In Reply Refer To: Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2017-SLI-1204
Event Code: 04ER1000-2017-E-01758
Project Name: Sandy Bayou Str. & Apprs.

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

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: 04ER1000-2017-SLI-1204
Event Code: 04ER1000-2017-E-01758
Project Name: Sandy Bayou Str. & Apprs.
Project Type: TRANSPORTATION
Project Description: Bridge replacement

Project Location:
Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps:
https://www.google.com/maps/place/34.100465171661085N92.00148937117456W

Counties: Jefferson, AR
Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 1 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. 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.

Birds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Piping Plover Charadrius melodus</td>
<td>Threatened</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Population: except Great Lakes watershed
There is a final critical habitat designated for this species. Your location is outside the designated critical habitat.
Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039

Critical habitats

There are no critical habitats within your project area under this office's jurisdiction.
# ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT FORM

**ARDOT Job Number:** 020584  **FAP Number:** NHPP-0035(50)

**Job Title:** Sandy Bayou Str. Apprs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Impacts</th>
<th>None</th>
<th>Minor</th>
<th>Significant</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tr>
<td>Air Quality</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Impacts</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Temporary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Resources</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endangered Species</td>
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<tr>
<td>Energy Resources</td>
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<td>Environmental Justice/Title VI</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fish and Wildlife</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Very minor during construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floodplains</td>
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<td>Floodplain permit required</td>
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<td>Forest Service Property</td>
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<td>Hazardous Materials/Landfills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land Use Impacts</td>
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<td>Migratory Birds</td>
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<td>Migratory Bird SP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Navigation/Coast Guard</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Noise Levels</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime Farmland</td>
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<td>.02 acres of Statewide Importance</td>
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<td>Protected Waters</td>
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<td>Public Recreation Lands</td>
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<td>Public Water Supply/WHPA</td>
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<td>Relocates</td>
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<td>Section 4(f)/6(f)</td>
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<td>Social</td>
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<td>Underground Storage Tanks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visual Impacts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stream Impacts</td>
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<td>Temporary during construction</td>
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<td>Water Quality</td>
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<td>Wetlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wildlife Refuges</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required?**  No

**Short-term Activity Authorization Required?**  Yes

**Section 404 Permit Required?**  Yes  Type NWP 14

**Remarks:**

________________________
Signature of Evaluator  Date September 13, 2017

5/17/2011
ROADWAY DESIGN REQUEST

Job Number 020584  FAP No. NHPP-0035(50)  County Jefferson

Job Name Sandy Bayou Str. & Apprs. (S)

Design Engineer Primary  Environmental Staff 

Brief Project Description Bridge Replacement

A. Existing Conditions:
   Roadway Width: 20’  Shoulder Type/Width: 0’
   Number of Lanes and Width: 2  Existing Right-of-Way: N/A
   Sidewalks? N/A  Location:  Width: 
   Bike Lanes? N/A  Location:  Width: 

B. Proposed Conditions:
   Roadway Width: 22’  Shoulder Type/Width: 4’ w/ 2’ Paved
   Number of Lanes and Width: 2- 11’  Proposed Right-of-Way: 98’
   Sidewalks? N/A  Location:  Width: 
   Bike Lanes? N/A  Location:  Width: 

C. Construction Information:
   If detour: Where:  Length: 

D. Design Traffic Data:
   2018 ADT: 530  2038 ADT: 620  % Trucks: 4
   Design Speed: 55 m.p.h.

E. Approximate total length of project: 0.028 mile(s)

F. Justification for proposed improvements: Replace weight restricted bridge

G. Total Relocatees: 0  Residences:  Businesses:

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency/Official</th>
<th>Person Contacted</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jefferson Co. Director of Roads</td>
<td>Rickey Bullard</td>
<td>8-17-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OEM</td>
<td>Salinda Hayden</td>
<td>8-17-17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date Sent: 8-21-17