



March 19, 2018

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

Re: Job Number 050324  
FAP Number NHPP-0067(28)  
Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)  
Route 354, Section 4  
Sharp 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 with a box culvert on Highway 354 over Hurricane Creek in Sharp County. Total length of the project is 0.28 mile. A project location map is enclosed.

The existing Hurricane Creek Bridge (Bridge Number M2942) is a 60' x 28' two span structure with a concrete deck on steel beams. The abutments consist of steel reinforced concrete walls on spread footings. The intermediate bents consist of reinforced concrete walls on spread footings which were widened with multiple reinforced concrete columns on spread footings. The structure has sufficiency rating of 53.8. The existing roadway approaches consist of two 11-foot wide paved travel lanes with 2-foot wide paved shoulders. Existing right of way width is 100 feet.

Proposed improvements include replacing the bridge with a quintuplet 11' x 8' x 66' box culvert adjacent to the bridge. No detour road will be needed for construction. The new approaches will consist of two 11-foot wide paved travel lanes with 6-foot wide shoulders. The average additional right of way width will be 150 feet. Approximately 1.69 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
2018	220	4	55 mph
2038	260	4	55 mph

There are no relocations, environmental justice issues, prime farmland, wetlands, cultural resources, wellhead protection areas/public water supply, or endangered species associated with this project. Field inspections found no evidence of existing underground storage tanks or hazardous waste deposits.

Noise predictions have been made for this project utilizing the Federal Highway Administration's TNM 2.5 (Traffic Noise Model) procedures. These procedures indicate that noise levels are below the FHWA noise criteria beyond the project's proposed right of way limits. Any increases in roadway noise levels will not be the result of the proposed project, but instead a result of traffic volume increases during the planning period (Year 2038). Therefore, any noise level increases will occur independently of this proposed project, and no project related noise impacts are anticipated. In compliance with Federal guidelines, local authorities will not require notification.

Stream impacts include the replacement of the bridge at Hurricane Creek with a box culvert resulting in 0.09 acre of permanent fill. Construction of the proposed project should be allowed under the terms of a Nationwide Permit 14 for Linear Transportation Projects.

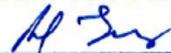
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website lists gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), Scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*), Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*), Turgid Blossom (*Epioblasma turgidula*), and Missouri bladderpod (*Physaria*

*filiformis*) as threatened and endangered species potentially occurring at or near the project location.

With the use of best management practices to limit sedimentation and special provisions to limit clearing, blasting, and construction activities during bat active seasons, the USFWS concurred with a determination of "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" gray bat, Indiana bat, Rabbitsfoot, Scaleshell, Snuffbox, and Missouri bladderpod on February 27, 2018. Further, no prohibited take will occur for northern long-eared bats following the guidance of the final 4(d) rule (50 CFR §17.40(o)). The proposed project will not impact any habitat for Turgid Blossom and a 'no effect' determination was made. The official species list, northern long-eared bat 4(d) rule streamlined consultation form, letter of consistency, and USFWS concurrence letter are enclosed.

Sharp County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. 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.

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

**APPROVED**  
  
Environmental Specialist  
Federal Highway Administration  
Date: 3/20/2018

Sincerely,

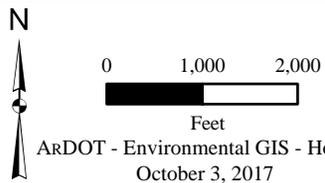
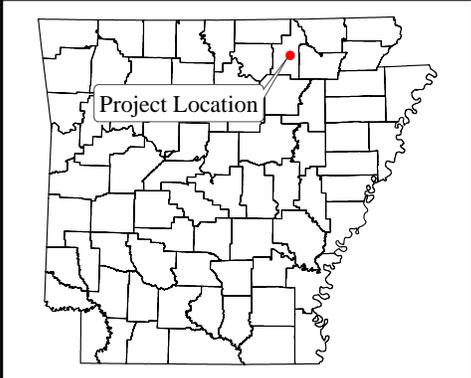
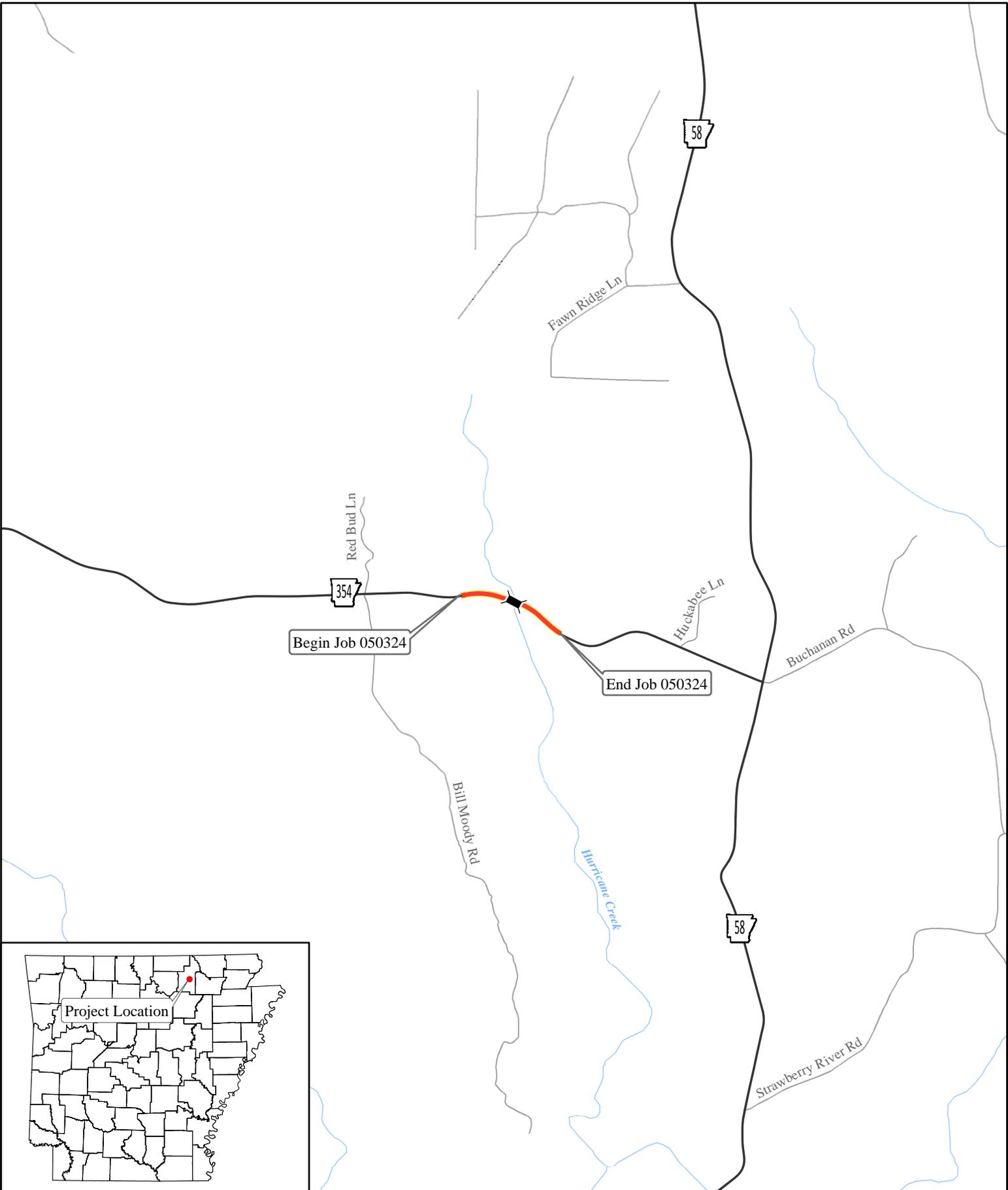


John Fleming  
Division Head  
Environmental Division

Enclosures

JF:TT:fc

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



ARDOT - Environmental GIS - Hopkins  
October 3, 2017

Job 050324  
Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs.  
(Hwy. 354)  
Sharp County



ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY  
AND  
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

96816

FHWA

AHPP

NOV 04 2016

Scott E. Bennett  
Director  
Telephone (501) 569-2000  
Voice/TTY 711



P.O. Box 2261  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261  
Telefax (501) 569-2400  
www.arkansashighways.com

November 4, 2016

RECEIVED  
AHTD

NOV 10 2016

Mr. Robert Scoggin  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
1100 North Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

ENVIRONMENTAL  
DIVISION

RE: AHTD Job Number 050324  
Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs.  
(Hwy. 351)  
Sharp County

Dear Mr. Scoggin:

This project proposes to replace the bridge spanning Hurricane Creek in Scott County. One property may be impacted by the project.

Photographs, descriptions and a location map for the property is included so your staff may evaluate its eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Milton Hughes of my staff at (501) 569-2080.

Sincerely,

*Brenda Price*

*for*

John Fleming  
Division Head  
Environmental Division

JF:DW:MH:ym

Enclosure  
Request for Technical Assistance

Date NOV 08 2016

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

*Frances McSwain*  
Frances McSwain, Deputy State  
Historic Preservation Officer

NOV 08 2016



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



February 27, 2018

Mr. John Fleming  
c/o Ben Thesing  
Arkansas Department of Transportation  
10324 Interstate 30  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2018-I-0569 050324

Dear Mr. Fleming,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is responding to your request dated February 26, 2018, regarding Arkansas Department of Transportation (ArDOT) Job 050324 Hurricane Creek bridge replacement, a project to replace the Hwy 354 Bridge over Hurricane Creek, Sharp County, Arkansas. The project was described and assessed as follows (abbreviated):

ArDOT plans to replace the Hwy 354 Bridge over Hurricane Creek (36.136728°, -91.460562°) with a set of quintuple 12' x 9' x 68' reinforced concrete box culverts directly adjacent to the current bridge (See attached kmz for plans). The project is scheduled to let to contract in February of 2019. IPaC identified gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), Scaleshell (*Leptodea leptodon*), Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*), Turgid Blossom (*Epioblasma turgidula*), and Missouri bladderpod (*Physaria filiformis*) as potentially occurring at or near the project location.

Approximately 0.49 acres of trees will be cleared, within 100 ft of the current road surface, during the project. The Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects for Indiana and northern long-eared bats determination key was used. Inactive season clearing and time of day construction restriction special provisions will be included in the contract. The key resulting in the project being within the scope of a may affect, but not likely to adversely affect determination for Indiana bat. Further, no prohibited take will occur for northern long-eared bats following the guidance of the Programmatic Biological Opinion and Final 4(d) Rule (50 CFR §17.40(o)). A NLEB 4(d) Rule Streamlined Consultation form is attached.

Records search of ANHC databases identified a gray bat roost cave (Blagg Cave aka Center Cave) approximately two miles west of the project location. Special provisions for time of day work restrictions and any needed blasting will be included in the contract. Temporary sedimentation and construction activities

associated with bridge replacement may temporarily 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 not likely adversely affect gray bats.

Hurricane Creek is a tributary to the Strawberry River with the project located approximately 2.0 miles from the confluence. No suitable habitat for mussels is present in Hurricane Creek. A records search of ANHC and AGFC databases indicate Rabbitsfoot, Scaleshell, and Snuffbox are known to occur downstream from the confluence of Hurricane Creek in the main stem of the Strawberry River. Temporary and limited quantities of sedimentation during construction activities could reach 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 not likely adversely affect Rabbitsfoot, Scaleshell, and Snuffbox. Turgid Blossom identified by IPaC is potentially extirpated from Arkansas; therefore, no effect to this species is anticipated.

Lastly, Missouri bladderpod is a glade obligate species. Marginal and disturbed glade habitat is present within the construction limits of the job. ANHC data shows glade associated species were identified within or directly adjacent to the project location in 1996, 1996, 1998, 2009, and 2010, however no Missouri bladderpod was observed. The closest records for Missouri bladderpod are approximately 10 miles west near Evening Shade, AR. While marginal habitat is present and individuals may have been overlooked during the previous surveys, we seek concurrence that the construction of this project may effect, but not likely adversely affect Missouri bladderpod.

Based on the location of this action, the minimal forested and foraging habitat being affected immediately adjacent to existing roadway and right of way, the distance to known species locations, the bedrock habitat type at this location, time of day work restrictions, distance to bat hibernacula, and the application of standard sediment and erosion controls; the Service agrees with your assessment and concurs with your determinations of 'may affect, not likely to adversely affect' for Indiana Bat, Gray Bat, Missouri Bladderpod, Rabbitsfoot, Scaleshell, and Snuffbox. No further consultation for this action regarding these species is necessary at this time.

Furthermore, the Service has reviewed your determination that the proposed action will not result in any prohibited incidental take for Northern Long-eared Bat. This project may affect the Northern Long-eared Bat; however, there are no effects beyond those previously disclosed in the

Service's programmatic biological opinion for the final 4(d) rule dated January 5, 2016. Any taking that may occur incidental to this project is not prohibited under the final 4(d) rule (50 CFR §17.40(o)). This project is consistent with the description of the proposed action in the programmatic biological opinion, and the 4(d) rule does not prohibit incidental take of the Northern Long-eared Bat that may occur as a result of this project. Therefore, the programmatic biological opinion satisfies the "action agency" responsibilities under ESA section 7(a)(2) relative to the Northern Long-eared Bat for this project.

Please keep in mind that you must report any departures from the plans submitted; results of any surveys conducted; or any dead, injured, or sick Northern Long-eared Bats that are found to this office. If this project is not completed within one year of this letter, you must update your determination and resubmit the required information.

If you have any questions regarding our response or if you need additional information, please contact Lindsey Lewis at (501) 513-4489 or [lindsey\\_lewis@fws.gov](mailto:lindsey_lewis@fws.gov).

Sincerely,



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:

February 22, 2018

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2018-SLI-0569

Event Code: 04ER1000-2018-E-00838

Project Name: 050324 - Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)

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/endangered/esa-library/index.html#consultations](http://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

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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: 04ER1000-2018-SLI-0569

Event Code: 04ER1000-2018-E-00838

Project Name: 050324 - Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)

Project Type: TRANSPORTATION

Project Description: Bridge replacement with box culvert

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/36.13658367986396N91.46055936813354W>



Counties: Sharp, AR

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## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 8 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.

### Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Gray Bat <i>Myotis grisescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6329">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6329</a>	Endangered
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</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/5949">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949</a>	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Threatened

### Clams

NAME	STATUS
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
Scaleshell Mussel <i>Leptodea leptodon</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5881">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5881</a>	Endangered
Snuffbox Mussel <i>Epioblasma triquetra</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4135">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4135</a>	Endangered
Turgid Blossom (pearlymussel) <i>Epioblasma turgidula</i> Population: Wherever found; Except where listed as Experimental Populations No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7659">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7659</a>	Endangered

## Flowering Plants

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

## Critical habitats

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

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## 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:

February 23, 2018

Consultation Code: 04ER1000-2018-I-0569

Event Code: 04ER1000-2018-E-00842

Project Name: 050324 - Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)

Subject: Concurrence verification letter for the '050324 - Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)' project under the revised February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat.

To whom it may concern:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your request dated to verify that the **050324 - Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)** (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 (Project Description shown below), 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 has 14 calendar days to notify the lead Federal action agency or designated non-federal representative if we determine that the Proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a NLAA determination under the PBO. If we do not notify the lead Federal action agency or designated non-federal representative within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Proposed Action under the terms of the NLAA concurrence provided in the PBO. This verification period allows Service Field Offices to apply local knowledge to implementation of the PBO, as we may identify a small subset of actions having impacts that were unanticipated. In such instances, Service Field Offices may request additional information that is necessary to verify inclusion of the proposed action under the PBO.

**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 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.

The following species may occur in your project area and **are not** covered by this determination:

- Gray Bat, *Myotis grisescens* (Endangered)
  - Missouri Bladderpod, *Physaria filiformis* (Threatened)
  - Rabbitsfoot, *Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica* (Threatened)
  - Scaleshell Mussel, *Leptodea leptodon* (Endangered)
  - Snuffbox Mussel, *Epioblasma triquetra* (Endangered)
  - Turgid Blossom (pearlymussel), *Epioblasma turgidula* (Endangered)
-

## Project Description

The following project name and description was collected in IPaC as part of the endangered species review process.

### Name

050324 - Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)

### Description

Bridge replacement with box culvert

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## Determination Key Result

Based on your answers provided, this project(s) may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the endangered Indiana bat and/or the threatened Northern long-eared bat. Therefore, consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) is required. However, also based on your answers provided, this project may rely on the concurrence provided in the revised February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat.

## Qualification Interview

1. Is the project within the range of the Indiana bat<sup>[1]</sup>?

[1] See [Indiana bat species profile](#)

**Automatically answered**

*Yes*

2. Is the project within the range of the Northern long-eared bat<sup>[1]</sup>?

[1] See [Northern long-eared bat species profile](#)

**Automatically answered**

*Yes*

3. Which Federal Agency is the lead for the action?

*A) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)*

4. Are *all* project activities limited to non-construction<sup>[1]</sup> activities only? (examples of non-construction activities include: bridge/abandoned structure assessments, surveys, planning and technical studies, property inspections, and property sales)

[1] Construction refers to activities involving ground disturbance, percussive noise, and/or lighting.

*No*

5. Does the project include *any* activities that are **greater than** 300 feet from existing road/rail surfaces<sup>[1]</sup>?

[1] Road surface is defined as the actively used [e.g. motorized vehicles] driving surface and shoulders [may be pavement, gravel, etc.] and rail surface is defined as the edge of the actively used rail ballast.

*No*

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6. Does the project include *any* activities **within** 0.5 miles of an Indiana bat and/or NLEB hibernaculum<sup>[1]</sup>?

[1] For the purpose of this consultation, a hibernaculum is a site, most often a cave or mine, where bats hibernate during the winter (see suitable habitat), but could also include bridges and structures if bats are found to be hibernating there during the winter.

*No*

7. Is the project located **within** a karst area?

*Yes*

8. Will the project include *any* type of activity that could impact a **known** hibernaculum<sup>[1]</sup>, or impact a karst feature (e.g., sinkhole, losing stream, or spring) that could result in effects to a **known** hibernaculum?

[1] For the purpose of this consultation, a hibernaculum is a site, most often a cave or mine, where bats hibernate during the winter (see suitable habitat), but could also include bridges and structures if bats are found to be hibernating there during the winter.

*No*

9. Is there *any* suitable<sup>[1]</sup> summer habitat for Indiana Bat or NLEB **within** the project action area<sup>[2]</sup>? (includes any trees suitable for maternity, roosting, foraging, or travelling habitat)

[1] See the Service's [summer survey guidance](#) for our current definitions of suitable habitat.

[2] The action area is defined as all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action (50 CFR Section 402.02). Further clarification is provided by the [national consultation FAQs](#).

*Yes*

10. Will the project remove *any* suitable summer habitat<sup>[1]</sup> and/or remove/trim any existing trees **within** suitable summer habitat?

[1] See the Service's [summer survey guidance](#) for our current definitions of suitable habitat.

*Yes*

11. Will the project clear more than 20 acres of suitable habitat per 5-mile section of road/rail?

*No*

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12. Have presence/probable absence (P/A) summer surveys<sup>[1][2]</sup> been conducted<sup>[3][4]</sup> **within** the suitable habitat located within your project action area?

[1] See the Service's [summer survey guidance](#) for our current definitions of suitable habitat.

[2] Presence/probable absence summer surveys conducted within the fall swarming/spring emergence home range of a documented Indiana bat hibernaculum (contact local Service Field Office for appropriate distance from hibernacula) that result in a negative finding requires additional consultation with the local Service Field Office to determine if clearing of forested habitat is appropriate and/or if seasonal clearing restrictions are needed to avoid and minimize potential adverse effects on fall swarming and spring emerging Indiana bats.

[3] For projects within the range of either the Indiana bat or NLEB in which suitable habitat is present, and no bat surveys have been conducted, the transportation agency will assume presence of the appropriate species. This assumption of presence should be based upon the presence of suitable habitat and the capability of bats to occupy it because of their mobility.

[4] Negative presence/probable absence survey results obtained using the [summer survey guidance](#) are valid for a minimum of two years from the completion of the survey unless new information (e.g., other nearby surveys) suggest otherwise.

*No*

13. Does the project include activities **within documented Indiana bat habitat**<sup>[1][2]</sup>?

[1] Documented roosting or foraging habitat – for the purposes of this consultation, we are considering documented habitat as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked using (1) radio telemetry to roosts; (2) radio telemetry biangulation/triangulation to estimate foraging areas; or (3) foraging areas with repeated use documented using acoustics. Documented roosting habitat is also considered as suitable summer habitat within 0.25 miles of documented roosts.)

[2] For the purposes of this key, we are considering documented corridors as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked to using (1) radio telemetry; or (2) treed corridors located directly between documented roosting and foraging habitat.

*No*

14. Will the removal or trimming of habitat or trees occur **within** suitable but **undocumented Indiana bat** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors?

*Yes*

---

15. What time of year will the removal or trimming of habitat or trees **within** suitable but **undocumented Indiana bat** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors occur<sup>[1]</sup>?

[1] Coordinate with the local Service Field Office for appropriate dates.

*B) During the inactive season*

16. Does the project include activities **within documented NLEB habitat**<sup>[1][2]</sup>?

[1] Documented roosting or foraging habitat – for the purposes of this consultation, we are considering documented habitat as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked using (1) radio telemetry to roosts; (2) radio telemetry biangulation/triangulation to estimate foraging areas; or (3) foraging areas with repeated use documented using acoustics. Documented roosting habitat is also considered as suitable summer habitat within 0.25 miles of documented roosts.)

[2] For the purposes of this key, we are considering documented corridors as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked to using (1) radio telemetry; or (2) treed corridors located directly between documented roosting and foraging habitat.

*No*

17. Will the removal or trimming of habitat or trees occur **within** suitable but **undocumented NLEB** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors?

*Yes*

18. What time of year will the removal or trimming of habitat or trees **within** suitable but **undocumented NLEB** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors occur?

*B) During the inactive season*

19. Has a visual emergence survey<sup>[1]</sup> been conducted?

[1] Refer to the [summer survey guidance](#)

*No*

20. Do you plan on conducting a visual emergence survey prior to removing trees<sup>[1]</sup>?

[1] If bats are detected during a visual emergence survey conducted in suitable but **undocumented** habitat, this consultation will no longer be valid and a new consultation will be conducted through IPaC with the habitat now considered as **documented** habitat.

*No*

21. Are *any* trees being removed **greater than** 9 inches diameter at breast height (dbh)?

*Yes*

---

22. Will the tree removal alter *any* **documented** Indiana bat or NLEB roosts and/or alter any surrounding summer habitat **within** 0.25 mile of a documented roost?

*No*

23. Will *any* tree trimming or removal occur **within** 100 feet of existing road/rail surfaces?

*Yes*

24. Will *any* tree trimming or removal occur **between** 100-300 feet of existing road/rail surfaces?

*No*

25. Are *all* trees that are being removed clearly demarcated?

*Yes*

26. Will the removal of habitat or the removal/trimming of trees include installing new or replacing existing **permanent** lighting?

*No*

27. Does the project include maintenance of the surrounding landscape at existing facilities (e.g., rest areas, stormwater detention basins)?

*No*

28. Does the project include wetland or stream protection activities associated with compensatory wetland mitigation?

*No*

29. Does the project include slash pile burning?

*Yes*

30. Does the project include *any* bridge removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities (e.g., any bridge repair, retrofit, maintenance, and/or rehabilitation work)?

*Yes*

31. Is there *any* suitable habitat<sup>[1]</sup> for Indiana bat or NLEB **within** 1,000 feet of the bridge? (includes any trees suitable for maternity, roosting, foraging, or travelling habitat)

[1] See the Service's current [summer survey guidance](#) for our current definitions of suitable habitat.

*Yes*

---

32. Has a bridge assessment<sup>[1]</sup> been conducted **within** the last 24 months<sup>[2]</sup> to determine if the bridge is being used by bats?

[1] See [User Guide Appendix D](#) for bridge/structure assessment guidance

[2] Assessments must be completed no more than 2 years prior to conducting any work below the deck surface on all bridges that meet the physical characteristics described in the Programmatic Consultation, regardless of whether assessments have been conducted in the past. Due to the transitory nature of bat use, a negative result in one year does not guarantee that bats will not use that bridge/structure in subsequent years.

*Yes*

#### SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS

- *050324\_BridgeAssessmentAugust2016.pdf* <https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/project/46FANIFUEFBEZID2WTZIORAZLI/projectDocuments/11298663>

33. Did the bridge assessment detect *any* signs of bats roosting in/under the bridge (bats, guano, etc.)?

Note: There is a small chance bridge assessments for bat occupancy do not detect bats. Should a small number of bats be observed roosting on a bridge just prior to or during construction, such that take is likely to occur or does occur in the form of harassment, injury or death, the PBO requires the action agency to report the take. Report all unanticipated take within 2 working days of the incident to the USFWS. Construction activities may continue without delay provided the take is reported to the USFWS and is limited to 5 bats per project.

*No*

34. Will the bridge removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities include installing new or replacing existing **permanent** lighting?

*No*

35. Does the project include the removal, replacement, and/or maintenance of *any* structure other than a bridge? (e.g., rest areas, offices, sheds, outbuildings, barns, parking garages, etc.)

*No*

36. Will the project involve the use of **temporary** lighting *during* the active season?

*No*

37. Will the project install new or replace existing **permanent** lighting?

*No*

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38. Does the project include percussives or other activities (**not including tree removal/trimming or bridge/structure work**) that will increase noise levels above existing traffic/background levels?

*No*

39. Are *all* project activities that are **not associated with** habitat removal, tree removal/trimming, bridge or structure removal, replacement, and/or maintenance, lighting, or use of percussives, limited to actions that DO NOT cause any stressors to the bat species, including as described in the BA/BO (i.e. activities that do not involve ground disturbance, percussive noise, temporary or permanent lighting, tree removal/trimming, nor bridge/structure activities)?

Examples: lining roadways, unlighted signage, rail road crossing signals, signal lighting, and minor road repair such as asphalt fill of potholes, etc.

*Yes*

40. Will the project raise the road profile **above the tree canopy**?

*No*

41. Is the slash pile burning portion of this project consistent with a Not Likely to Adversely Affect determination in this key?

**Automatically answered**

*Yes, because it is near suitable habitat and >0.5 miles from any hibernaculum*

42. Are the project activities that are not associated with habitat removal, tree removal/trimming, bridge removal, replacement, and/or maintenance, structure removal, replacement, and/or maintenance, and lighting, consistent with a No Effect determination in this key?

**Automatically answered**

*Yes, other project activities are limited to actions that DO NOT cause any stressors to the bat species as described in the BA/BO*

43. Is the habitat removal portion of this project consistent with a Not Likely to Adversely Affect determination in this key?

**Automatically answered**

*Yes, because the tree removal/trimming that occurs outside of the active season occurs greater than 0.5 miles from the nearest hibernaculum, is less than 100 feet from the existing road/rail surface, includes clear demarcation of the trees that are to be removed, and does not alter documented roosts and/or surrounding summer habitat within 0.25 miles of a documented roost*

---

44. Is the habitat removal portion of this project consistent with a Not Likely to Adversely Affect determination in this key?

**Automatically answered**

*Yes, because the tree removal/trimming that occurs outside of the active season occurs greater than 0.5 miles from the nearest hibernaculum, is less than 100 feet from the existing road/rail surface, includes clear demarcation of the trees that are to be removed, and does not alter documented roosts and/or surrounding summer habitat within 0.25 miles of a documented roost*

45. Is the bridge removal, replacement, or maintenance activities portion of this project consistent with a No Effect determination in this key?

**Automatically answered**

*Yes, because the bridge has been assessed using the criteria documented in the BA and no signs of bats were detected*

46. **General AMM 1**

Will the project ensure *all* operators, employees, and contractors working in areas of known or presumed bat habitat are aware of *all* FHWA/FRA/FTA (Transportation Agencies) environmental commitments, including all applicable Avoidance and Minimization Measures?

*Yes*

47. **Hibernacula AMM 1**

Will the project ensure that on-site personnel will use best management practices<sup>[1]</sup>, secondary containment measures, or other standard spill prevention and countermeasures to avoid impacts to possible hibernacula?

[1] Coordinate with the appropriate Service Field Office on recommended best management practices for karst in your state.

*Yes*

48. **Hibernacula AMM 1**

Will the project ensure that, where practicable, a 300 foot buffer will be employed to separate fueling areas and other major containment risk activities from caves, sinkholes, losing streams, and springs in karst topography?

*Yes*

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**49. Tree Removal AMM 1**

Can *all* phases/aspects of the project (e.g., temporary work areas, alignments) be modified, to the extent practicable, to avoid tree removal<sup>[1]</sup> in excess of what is required to implement the project safely?

Note: Tree Removal AMM 1 is a minimization measure, the full implementation of which may not always be practicable. Projects may still be NLAA as long as Tree Removal AMMs 2, 3, and 4 are implemented and LAA as long as Tree Removal AMMs 3, 5, 6, and 7 are implemented.

[1] The word “trees” as used in the AMMs refers to trees that are suitable habitat for each species within their range. See the USFWS’ current summer survey guidance for our latest definitions of suitable habitat.

*Yes*

**50. Tree Removal AMM 2**

Can *all* tree removal activities be restricted to when Indiana bats are not likely to be present (e.g., the inactive season)<sup>[1]</sup>?

[1] Coordinate with the local Service Field Office for appropriate dates.

**Automatically answered**

*Yes*

**51. Tree Removal AMM 2**

Can *all* tree removal activities be restricted to when Northern long-eared bats are not likely to be present (e.g., the inactive season)<sup>[1]</sup>?

[1] Coordinate with the local Service Field Office for appropriate dates.

**Automatically answered**

*Yes*

**52. Tree Removal AMM 3**

Can tree removal be limited to that specified in project plans and ensure that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field (e.g., install bright colored flagging/fencing prior to any tree clearing to ensure contractors stay within clearing limits)?

*Yes*

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**53. Tree Removal AMM 4**

Can the project avoid cutting down/removal of *all* (1) **documented**<sup>[1]</sup> Indiana bat or NLEB roosts<sup>[2]</sup> (that are still suitable for roosting), (2) trees **within** 0.25 miles of roosts, and (3) documented foraging habitat any time of year?

[1] The word documented means habitat where bats have actually been captured and/or tracked.

[2] Documented roosting or foraging habitat – for the purposes of this consultation, we are considering documented habitat as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked using (1) radio telemetry to roosts; (2) radio telemetry biangulation/triangulation to estimate foraging areas; or (3) foraging areas with repeated use documented using acoustics. Documented roosting habitat is also considered as suitable summer habitat within 0.25 miles of documented roosts.)

*Yes*

**54. Lighting AMM 1**

Will *all* **temporary** lighting used during the removal of suitable habitat and/or the removal/trimming of trees within suitable habitat be directed away from suitable habitat during the active season?

*Yes*

## Project Questionnaire

1. Have you made a No Effect determination for *all* other species indicated on the FWS IPaC generated species list?

*No*

2. Have you made a May Affect determination for *any* other species on the FWS IPaC generated species list?

*Yes*

3. How many acres<sup>[1]</sup> of trees are proposed for removal between 0-100 feet of the existing road/rail surface?

[1] If described as number of trees, multiply by 0.09 to convert to acreage and enter that number.

*0.49*

4. How many acres<sup>[1]</sup> of trees are proposed for removal between 100-300 feet of the existing road/rail surface?

[1] If described as number of trees, multiply by 0.09 to convert to acreage and enter that number.

*0.00*

---

5. Please describe the proposed bridge work:  
*Replaced with quintuple 4-sided reinforced concrete box culverts*
6. Please state the timing of all proposed bridge work:  
*Scheduled to let to contract February 2019*

## Avoidance And Minimization Measures (AMMs)

These measures **were accepted** as part of this determination key result:

### GENERAL AMM 1

Ensure all operators, employees, and contractors working in areas of known or presumed bat habitat are aware of all FHWA/FRA/FTA (Transportation Agencies) environmental commitments, including all applicable AMMs.

### HIBERNACULA AMM 1

For projects located within karst areas, on-site personnel will use best management practices, secondary containment measures, or other standard spill prevention and countermeasures to avoid impacts to possible hibernacula. Where practicable, a 300 foot buffer will be employed to separate fueling areas and other major containment risk activities from caves, sinkholes, losing streams, and springs in karst topography.

### LIGHTING AMM 1

Direct temporary lighting away from suitable habitat during the active season.

### TREE REMOVAL AMM 1

Modify all phases/aspects of the project (e.g., temporary work areas, alignments) to avoid tree removal.

### TREE REMOVAL AMM 2

Apply time of year restrictions for tree removal when bats are not likely to be present, or limit tree removal to 10 or fewer trees per project at any time of year within 100 feet of existing road/rail surface and **outside of documented** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors; visual emergence survey must be conducted with no bats observed.

### TREE REMOVAL AMM 3

Ensure tree removal is limited to that specified in project plans and ensure that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field (e.g., install bright colored flagging/fencing prior to any tree clearing to ensure contractors stay within clearing limits).

---

## TREE REMOVAL AMM 4

Do not remove **documented** Indiana bat or NLEB roosts that are still suitable for roosting, or trees within 0.25 miles of roosts, or **documented** foraging habitat any time of year.

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## Determination Key Description: FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Consultation For Transportation Projects Affecting NLEB Or Indiana Bat

This key was last updated in IPaC on February 05, 2018. Keys are subject to periodic revision.

This decision key is intended for projects/activities funded or authorized by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and/or Federal Transit Administration (FTA), which require consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for the endangered **Indiana bat** (*Myotis sodalis*) and the threatened **Northern long-eared bat** (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

This decision key should only be used to verify project applicability with the Service's [February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects](#). The programmatic biological opinion covers limited transportation activities that may affect either bat species, and addresses situations that are both likely and not likely to adversely affect either bat species. This decision key will assist in identifying the effect of a specific project/activity and applicability of the programmatic consultation. The programmatic biological opinion is not intended to cover all types of transportation actions. Activities outside the scope of the programmatic biological opinion, or that may affect ESA-listed species other than the Indiana bat or NLEB, or any designated critical habitat, may require additional ESA Section 7 consultation.

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## Northern Long-Eared Bat 4(d) Rule Streamlined Consultation Form

Federal agencies should use this form for the optional streamlined consultation framework for the northern long-eared bat (NLEB). This framework allows federal agencies to rely upon the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) January 5, 2016, intra-Service Programmatic Biological Opinion (BO) on the final 4(d) rule for the NLEB for section 7(a)(2) compliance by: (1) notifying the USFWS that an action agency will use the streamlined framework; (2) describing the project with sufficient detail to support the required determination; and (3) enabling the USFWS to track effects and determine if reinitiation of consultation is required per 50 CFR 402.16.

This form is not necessary if an agency determines that a proposed action will have no effect to the NLEB or if the USFWS has concurred in writing with an agency's determination that a proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the NLEB (i.e., the standard informal consultation process). Actions that may cause prohibited incidental take require separate formal consultation. Providing this information does not address section 7(a)(2) compliance for any other listed species.

### Information to Determine 4(d) Rule Compliance:

	YES	NO
1. Does the project occur wholly outside of the WNS Zone <sup>1</sup> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Have you contacted the appropriate agency <sup>2</sup> to determine if your project is near known hibernacula or maternity roost trees?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Could the project disturb hibernating NLEBs in a known hibernaculum?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Could the project alter the entrance or interior environment of a known hibernaculum?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. Does the project remove any trees within 0.25 miles of a known hibernaculum at any time of year?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Would the project cut or destroy known occupied maternity roost trees, or any other trees within a 150-foot radius from the maternity roost tree from June 1 through July 31.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

You are eligible to use this form if you have answered yes to question # 1 **or** yes to question #2 **and** no to questions 3, 4, 5 and 6. The remainder of the form will be used by the USFWS to track our assumptions in the BO.

**Agency and Applicant<sup>3</sup>** (Name, Email, Phone No.): •

Arkansas Department of Transportation – [ben.thesing@ardot.gov](mailto:ben.thesing@ardot.gov)– 501-569-2520

**Project Name:** ArDOT Job 050324 Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)

**Project Location** (include coordinates if known): Hwy 354 Bridge Hurricane Creek Sharp Co, AR

**Basic Project Description** (provide narrative below or attach additional information):

Bridge replacement

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/pdf/WNSZone.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/nhisites.html>

<sup>3</sup> If applicable - only needed for federal actions with applicants (e.g., for a permit, etc.) who are party to the consultation.

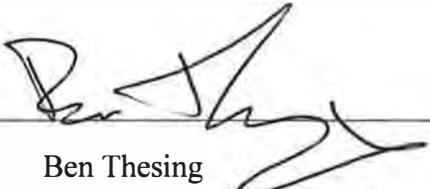
General Project Information	YES	NO
Does the project occur within 0.25 miles of a known hibernaculum?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the project occur within 150 feet of a known maternity roost tree?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the project include forest conversion <sup>4</sup> ? (if yes, report acreage below)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Estimated total acres of forest conversion	0.49 acres	
If known, estimated acres <sup>5</sup> of forest conversion from April 1 to October 31		
If known, estimated acres of forest conversion from June 1 to July 31 <sup>6</sup>		
Does the project include timber harvest? (if yes, report acreage below)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Estimated total acres of timber harvest		
If known, estimated acres of timber harvest from April 1 to October 31		
If known, estimated acres of timber harvest from June 1 to July 31		
Does the project include prescribed fire? (if yes, report acreage below)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Estimated total acres of prescribed fire		
If known, estimated acres of prescribed fire from April 1 to October 31		
If known, estimated acres of prescribed fire from June 1 to July 31		
Does the project install new wind turbines? (if yes, report capacity in MW below)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Estimated wind capacity (MW)		

**Agency Determination:**

By signing this form, the action agency determines that this project may affect the NLEB, but that any resulting incidental take of the NLEB is not prohibited by the final 4(d) rule.

If the USFWS does not respond within 30 days from submittal of this form, the action agency may presume that its determination is informed by the best available information and that its project responsibilities under 7(a)(2) with respect to the NLEB are fulfilled through the USFWS January 5, 2016, Programmatic BO. The action agency will update this determination annually for multi-year activities.

The action agency understands that the USFWS presumes that all activities are implemented as described herein. The action agency will promptly report any departures from the described activities to the appropriate USFWS Field Office. The action agency will provide the appropriate USFWS Field Office with the results of any surveys conducted for the NLEB. Involved parties will promptly notify the appropriate USFWS Field Office upon finding a dead, injured, or sick NLEB.

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ben Thesing

Date Submitted: 2/23/18

<sup>4</sup> Any activity that temporarily or permanently removes suitable forested habitat, including, but not limited to, tree removal from development, energy production and transmission, mining, agriculture, etc. (see page 48 of the BO).

<sup>5</sup> If the project removes less than 10 trees and the acreage is unknown, report the acreage as less than 0.1 acre.

<sup>6</sup> If the activity includes tree clearing in June and July, also include those acreage in April to October.

## ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT FORM

ARDOT Job Number 050324 FAP Number NHPP-0067(28)

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

Environmental Impacts	None	Minor	Significant	Comments
Air Quality	X			
Construction Impacts		X		Temporary during construction
Cultural Resources	X			SHPO Clearance attached
Economic	X			
Endangered Species		X		USFWS correspondence enclosed
Energy Resources	X			
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			
Fish and Wildlife		X		Temporary during construction
Floodplains		X		Zone A, Special Flood Hazard Area
Forest Service Property	X			
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			
Land Use Impacts	X			
Migratory Birds		X		Migratory Bird SP
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			
Noise Levels	X			
Prime Farmland	X			
Protected Waters	X			
Public Recreation Lands	X			
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			
Relocates	X			
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			
Social	X			
Underground Storage Tanks	X			
Visual Impacts	X			
Stream Impacts		X		
Water Quality		X		Temporary during construction
Wetlands	X			Nationwide 14
Wildlife Refuges	X			

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? no  
 Short-term Activity Authorization Required? yes  
 Section 404 Permit Required? yes Type NW14

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

Signature of Evaluator  Date March 14, 2018

## ROADWAY DESIGN REQUEST

Job Number 050324 FAP No. \_\_\_\_\_ County Independence

Job Name Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)

Design Engineer David Baker Environmental Staff \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Project Description Replace existing bridge on new location.

**A. Existing Conditions:**

Roadway Width: 26 Shoulder Type/Width: 2' paved

Number of Lanes and Width: 2 @ 11' Existing Right-of-Way: 100'

Sidewalks? No Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Width: \_\_\_\_\_

Bike Lanes? No Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Width: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Proposed Conditions:**

Roadway Width: 34' Shoulder Type/Width: 6'/4' paved

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

Sidewalks? No Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Width: \_\_\_\_\_

Bike Lanes? No Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Width: \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Construction Information:**

If detour: Where: \_\_\_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_

**D. Design Traffic Data:**

2018 ADT: 220 2038 ADT: 260 % Trucks: 4%  
Design Speed: 55 m.p.h.

E. Approximate total length of project: 0.279 mile(s)

F. Justification for proposed improvements: Bridge replacement required.

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

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

Agency/Official	Person Contacted	Date

## BRIDGE INFORMATION - FINAL

Job Number: 050324 FAP Number: NHPP-0067(28) County: Sharp

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

Design Engineer: David Baker (Roadway) Environmental Staff: Terry Tucker

### **A. Description of Existing Bridge:**

1. Bridge Number: M2942 over Hurricane Creek
2. Location: Rte.: 354 Section: 4 Log Mile: 11.78
3. Length: 60.3 ft Br. Rdwy. Width: 26.6 ft Deck Width (Out-to-Out): 28.1 ft
4. Type Construction: The bridge is a two span structure consisting of a reinforced concrete deck on steel beams. The abutments consist of reinforced concrete walls on a spread footing. The intermediate bent consists of a reinforced concrete wall on a spread footing which was widened with multiple reinforced concrete columns on a spread footing.
5. Deficiencies: Inadequate load capacity.
6. HBRRP Eligibility: Qualif. Code: SD Sufficiency Rating: 53.8
7. Are any Condition Component Ratings at 3 or less? No.

### **B. Proposed Improvements:**

To be replaced with box culvert, contact Roadway Division for more information.



# INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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May 9, 2018

**TO:** Master Files

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

**SUBJECT:** Job Number 050324  
FAP Number NHPP-0067(28)  
Hurricane Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)  
Route 354, Section 4  
Sharp County  
Environmental Reassessment

A Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion was completed for the referenced project on March 20, 2018. Since that time, design modifications have resulted in the need for a reassessment. The design now calls for 2-foot wide paved shoulders instead of the original 6-foot wide paved shoulders. The Environmental Division has reviewed these changes, and no additional environmental impacts were identified.

This project will remain a Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion as defined by the ARDOT/FHWA Memorandum of Agreement on the processing of Categorical Exclusions.

JF:TT:fc

**Attachments:**

Project Location Map  
Environmental Study Checklist

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

# ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSESSMENT FORM

ARDOT Job Number 050324 FAP Number NHPP-0067(28)

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

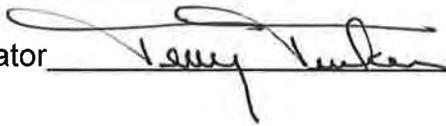
Environmental Impacts	None	Minor	Significant	Comments
Air Quality	X			
Construction Impacts		X		Temporary during construction
Cultural Resources	X			SHPO Clearance attached
Economic	X			
Endangered Species		X		Temporary during construction
Energy Resources	X			
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			
Fish and Wildlife		X		Temporary during construction
Floodplains		X		Zone A, Special Flood Hazard Area
Forest Service Property	X			
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			
Land Use Impacts	X			
Migratory Birds		X		Migratory Bird SP
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			
Noise Levels	X			
Prime Farmland	X			
Protected Waters	X			
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		
Water Quality		X		Temporary during construction
Wetlands	X			Nationwide 14
Wildlife Refuges	X			

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? no

Short-term Activity Authorization Required? yes

Section 404 Permit Required? yes Type NW14

Remarks: No environmental impacts changed in the reassessment.

Signature of Evaluator  Date May 9, 2018