



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 02
317 E. POE RD. • BOWLING GREEN, OH 43402 • 419-353-8131

Environmental Document for **SEN Ella St Bridge Replmt-Tiffin PID 111562** **Environmental Document Level: C2**

Approved: 12/7/2021

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The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by ODOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 14, 2020, and executed by FHWA and ODOT.

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PID:	111562
Project Sponsor:	TIFFIN
ODOT District:	2
Funding Source:	Federal
Private Funding:	No
Project Description:	



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The City of Tiffin in coordination with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes to replace the Ella Street Bridge over the Sandusky River in the City, Seneca County. Work includes removal of the existing structure and constructing a 3-span continuous composite prestressed concrete I-beam with reinforced concrete deck on concrete wall type piers and stub abutments. The roadway will be 28' wide with 6' wide sidewalk on the south side and 8' wide sidewalk on the north side.

Permanent right-of-way from 4 parcels totaling 2.14 acres and temporary right-of-way from 5 parcels totaling 0.95 acres will be required for this project.

The project will require closure of the roadway for up to 180 days during construction. A detour will be provided. One stream (Sandusky River) will have approximately 97 linear feet of impact due to the bridge replacement and construction access and will require USACE permit. Two adjacent wetlands will be impacted. Approximately 0.170 acres of suitable wooded habitat (SWH) for the federally protected Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, and state protected tricolored bat and little brown bat all within 100' EOP will be impacted by the project. The project is not located within a USFWS bat buffer zone. The project *may affect not likely to adversely affect* these species. A plan note will be included in the project plans to limit tree clearing to between October 1 & March 31. The state protected greater redhorse is recorded in the project area of the Sandusky River. The project is likely to impact this species. A plan note will be included to limit in-stream work between April 15 & June 30. There is no suitable habitat for any other federally or state listed species within the project area.

The project is located within a regulated floodplain. Coordination was conducted with the local floodplain administrator on July 6, 2021. The project will be designed to meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program.

According to ODNR, the Sandusky River in the project area is a recognized boating resource for paddlers. This designation does not afford the River Section 4(f) protection; however, plan notes will be included to protect the boaters through the project area.

The Tiffin City Schools owns property/green space adjacent to the Sandusky River in the project area. The Tiffin Community Fitness Trail is located within this green space. The project will require closure of approximately 365 feet of the Trail, resulting in recreational Section 4(f) Temporary No Use impacts. This impact was approved by ODOT-OES on November 8, 2021. All related files may be found in the project file under Section 4(f).

The Sandusky River in the project area is not an officially designated water trail and therefore is not afforded specific Section 4(f) protection. However the river is actively used by paddlers (kayak & canoe). Plan notes have been added to protect these river users.

ODOT determined on November 17, 2020 that the undertaking would not result in the use of any Section 4(f) historic sites.

The project is located within the Ground Water Protection Area of the Aqua-Tiffin Water System. ODOT sent an email to Aqua-Tiffin on April 28, 2021. Aqua-Tiffin responded on April 29, 2021, no issues with project and revised example plan note to include local contacts. Revised plan note will be included.

No other environmental, hazardous materials, cultural resources, Section 6(f), or underserved population impacts will result from this project.

A letter was sent to adjacent property owners and stakeholders in the project area on December 14, 2020 to provide project information and an opportunity to comment on the project. The City also posted project information on their website and Facebook page. The comment period was open for 45 days. One email comment and four comments on their Facebook page were received. The comments related to the roadway closure and timing of construction. Responses were provided as the comments were received including explanation of why the closure is needed to expedite construction and why the construction could not be completed at the same time as another project on Ella Street due to availability of the grant funding.

The environmental document and associated studies are being approved using Stage 2 design. A copy of the plans is included in the project file.

STIP Reference #:

111562: 21-24 STIP

Select the appropriate project type:

(28) Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement or the construction of grade separation to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings, if the actions meet the constraints in 23 CFR 771.117(e). ***Examples include: Railroad projects that close or relocate at-grade crossings***

In accordance with 23 CFR 771.117(e), the proposed project cannot be processed as a C2 CE, if it



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involves -

1. a. Acquisition of more than a minor amount of right-of-way
2. b. Residential or non-residential displacements
3. c. A Coast Guard, Individual Section 404 and/or a Section 10 permit
4. d. A Section 106 finding of *Adverse Effect*
5. e. A Section 4(f) Programmatic or Individual Evaluation
6. f. A finding of *May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect* to Threatened and Endangered Species
7. g. Construction of temporary access, or the closure of existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions
8. h. Changes in access control
9. i. Floodplain encroachment other than functionally dependent uses (e.g., bridges, wetlands) or actions that facilitate open space use (e.g., recreational trails, bicycle and pedestrian paths)
10. j. Construction activities in, across or adjacent to a river component designated or proposed for inclusion in the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers
11. k. No minor public or agency controversy on environmental grounds (no opposition from any organized groups or agencies and no unresolved environmental coordination)
12. l. If an EJ Analysis Report is required, the project must be processed as a D-level CE or higher level document

For certification purposes, documentation is required to illustrate no significant impacts will occur to the following environmental resources and that no unusual circumstances exist that would warrant a higher level of NEPA document. Upload all supporting documentation to the project file.

Waterways: Present; No Coast Guard, Individual 404, and/or Section 10 Permit required

Waterways Permit Type: Permit Determination and/or Permit Application Approval Pending

Isolated Wetland Permit No

Endangered Species: Present; No finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect

Endangered Species - Coordination May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect

Endangered Species - Coordination Date 11/30/2020

Endangered Species - Critical Habitat Present/Impacted

Indiana bat

Northern long-eared bat

Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted: Yes

Endangered Species - Other Description:

greater redhorse



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100-Year Floodplain:	Encroachment Within the SFHA is a Functionally Dependent Use
EO 11988/NFIP Coordination and Documentation Completed:	Yes
NFIP Local Floodplain Coordinator Notification Date:	07/06/2021
Section 4(f):	Present; No Programmatic Evaluation or Individual Evaluation Required
Section 4(f) Determination:	
No Use	
Temporary No Use Exception - 774.13(d)	
Section 4(f) Determination Date - No Use	11/17/2020
Section 4(f) Determination Date - 774.13(d)	11/08/2021
Section 6(f):	Not present
Cultural Resources:	Present; No Finding of Adverse Effect
Cultural Resources Coordination:	Minimum Potential to Cause Effect Appendix B
Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date	11/16/2020
Tribal Consultation Summary/Remarks:	
The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma was notified of the project on November 16, 2020. The Tribe did not provide any response within the 30 day comment period.	
Projects that meet C2 criteria are not anticipated to have impacts to the following environmental resources. If resources are present, documentation is only required if there is a potential for impacts.	
Air Quality:	Studies Not Required
Air Quality - Coordination with OES:	No
Noise:	Studies Not Required
Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date:	11/08/2021
Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted	Yes
Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date:	01/26/2021
Phase I ESA Warranted Based on Coordination with OES:	No Further Studies Warranted
Farmland:	Urbanized Area; No Impacts in Accordance With the Farmland MOU and 7 CFR 658



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Scenic Rivers

No National Wild and Scenic River
Within 1000 Feet of the Proposed
Project Area

Projects that meet C2 criteria must be in accordance with ODOT's UP Guidance and activities conducted for Public Involvement are commensurate to the project's type and scope of work.

Underserved Populations

Does Not Exceed UP Guidance
Criteria; No UP Analysis Report
Required and No UP Issues Raised
During Public Involvement

Public Involvement:

Minimum PI Requirements Met; No
Minor Public or Agency Controversy
on Environmental Grounds

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Environmental Commitments

C2

- 1) The City of Tiffin will hire a State permitted malacologist to complete a mussel salvage and relocation in accordance with the most recent version of the Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol prior to initiation of construction activities below the ordinary high water mark of the Sandusky River. The mussel survey must occur after May 1 and before October 1 either within the same season as the instream work or the season prior to the instream work. Submit the results of the mussel survey, salvage work, or both to the ODOT District 2 Environmental Coordinator Phoenix Neal at 419-373-4329. Obtain approval from the Department prior to performing work below the ordinary high water mark of the Sandusky River.
- 2) Ensure impacts to the federally listed and protected Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat and the State listed and protected little brown bat and tricolored bat are avoided and minimized. Do not remove trees from April 1 through September 30. Perform all necessary tree removal from October 1 through March 31. Demarcate clearing limits in the field to avoid any unauthorized tree clearing. For the purposes of this note, a tree is defined as a live, dying, or dead woody plant, with a trunk three inches or greater in diameter at a height of 4.5 feet above the ground surface, and with a minimum height of 13 feet.
- 3) The project is located within a public drinking water area of protection. If refueling of immobile equipment and/or maintenance activities associated with any viscous material is necessary, provide secondary containment with enough capacity to completely contain and collect all potential liquid wastes in the event of a spill. All equipment or liquid containers shall be regularly checked for leaks prior to entering the restricted areas. Identify all areas of fuel storage, equipment maintenance and spill kits on the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan. All areas utilized by the Contractor not in the project limits shall be assessed for potential groundwater contamination and be indicated on the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan or Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan. The Contractor shall immediately take steps to mitigate any event, such as a spill of fuels, oils, or chemicals. Any such spill or event shall be reported immediately to the emergency contact listed below for each drinking water source. If the spill is a reportable amount, the Contractor shall contact Aqua Ohio-Tiffin (419 448-5086), Seneca County Emergency Management (419 447-0266) and Ohio EPA Environmental Response and Revitalization (800 282-9378) for cleanup of the spill.
- 4) The Sandusky River shall be kept open to boaters as much as feasibly and safely as possible during the project to keep impacts to the recreation to a minimum.
- 5) When/if the Sandusky River becomes unsafe for recreational traffic, the construction crew should, through the use of flaggers, hold recreational boating traffic until the project area becomes safe again.
- 6) The Contractor shall place appropriate signage/buoys/markers 300 feet upstream and 300 feet downstream of the project area to alert paddlers/boaters of construction activity, access restrictions, and to direct users to secondary access points, if needed.
- 7) The Project Engineer shall notify the ODNR Trails Administrator 14 days prior to the start of construction activities to allow ODNR to post notice of the impending project construction on the appropriate ODNR webpages and associated online boating maps. As part of notification efforts, the Project Engineer shall also provide plans that indicate signage location along the waterway and any additional planned notification efforts with ODNR that will take place during or after construction.
- 8) If on-the-water law enforcement is needed during any portion of the construction activities, the Project Engineer shall contact the ODNR Division of Parks and Watercraft law enforcement supervisor, Chad German at Chad.German@dnr.ohio.gov or 419-350-7360.
- 9) Access to the Tiffin Community Fitness Trail shall be maintained at all times via access at Union Street, except for the time needed to temporarily occupy the property, which shall be less than the time needed for construction of the project.



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- 10) Temporary construction fencing shall be installed along proposed construction limits prior to the start of construction activities to protect the Section 4(f) property and the public.
- 11) Appropriate signage shall be installed to alert users of the Tiffin Community Fitness Trail of construction activities, access restrictions or closures, and to direct users to secondary access points.
- 12) The contractor shall be required to closely coordinate the construction schedule with ODOT, City of Tiffin and Tiffin City Schools prior to the start of construction activities.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer:

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Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Libby Rushley

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Phoenix Neal (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	12/7/2021



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

STIP Listing.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

ESA

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Ecological

Coordination with ODNR and USFWS.pdf

Coordination with ODNR in-stream work restrict waiv request.pdf

ODNR Comments.pdf

ODOT Disposition of Agency Comments.pdf

USFWS Comments Consult Form SEN-Ella St PID 111562.pdf

Other Resources

Community Water System Coordination.pdf

Urban Cluster Map.pdf

Water Source Protection Area Map.pdf

Well Log Data.pdf

Section 4(f)

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination.pdf

Section 6(f)

LWCF Grant Listing.pdf

Underserved Populations

Census Mapping.pdf

Underserved Populations Documentation Form.pdf

Public Involvement

News Article- City Website Post.pdf



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News Article- Facebook Post.pdf

Press Release.pdf

Property Owner Notification Letter.pdf

Public Comments and Responses.pdf

Public Notification Mailing List.pdf

Stakeholder Contact List.pdf

Stakeholder Notification.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf

Local Floodplain Administrator Approval.pdf

Statement of Findings.pdf