



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 04
2088 SOUTH ARLINGTON RD. • AKRON, OH 44306 • 330-786-3100

Environmental Document

for

POR CR 253 Silica Sand Br West PID 113470

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 10/11/2022

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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: 113470
Project Sponsor: PORTAGE COUNTY ENGINEER
ODOT District: 4
Funding Source: Federal
Private Funding: No

Project Description:

The Portage County Engineer (PCE) proposes a design-build project to remove the existing bridge that carries Silica Sand Road (CR 253) over Eagle Creek and replace it with a new 77-foot long (minimum), 24-foot wide single span structure in Windham and Nelson Townships, Portage County, Ohio. The existing bridge, Structure File Number (SFN) 6732860, is an approximately 56-foot long, 18.3-foot wide single span Warren welded steel truss bridge, built in 1950 and deemed structurally deficient based on recent inspection. Additional improvements proposed by this project include profile adjustment, new wingwall construction, approach slab replacements, approach roadway pavement replacement, new center line/edge line applications and new traffic sign installation within the project construction limits.

Mapping that depicts the project on United States Geological survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf*.

The bridge replacement work will require closure of Silica Sand Road for a period not to exceed 90 consecutive days. Project work may be performed before and after the closure duration. A detour route will be posted utilizing Newell Ledge Road, Pierce Road and Parkman Road. Construction, lane restriction, roadway closure and detour information will be posted prior to the start of construction. Access shall be maintained to all adjacent properties for the duration of the project. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected with the project.

This design-build project is in preliminary development and the proposed new structure will be designed within the existing roadway right-of-way to avoid impacts to surrounding properties and minimize impacts to Eagle Creek and abutting ecological resources.

Minor relocations of existing utilities within the project study area will be necessary to construct the project. These minor utility relocations will occur within the existing roadway right-of-way. Utilities will not be permanently removed to construct the project. Utility coordination for the project will be performed during the design-build plan development process.

The project will replace the Warren welded steel truss bridge (SFN 6732860). Literature search concluded there are no inventoried buildings (OHI), no known archaeological sites (OAI), and no listed or eligible historic properties found in the project area or in the area of potential effects (APE). The existing bridge (SFN 6732860) is a Type 310N Warren Welded Steel Truss bridge built in 1950. The current structure is not considered eligible for the National Register based on the Ohio DOT Historic Bridge Inventory (accepted April 28, 2010). Non-historic bridge replacements and general roadway modernization activities focused on the operational right-of-way are exempt from further cultural resource consideration by the 11/8/17 Cultural Resource PA (Agreement 19319), if the project is not within the boundaries of any historic property or National Register district. In accordance with Stipulation V(C)(1) and Appendix B of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement executed on November 8, 2017 (Agreement No. 19319), amended on July 11, 2019, ODOT-OES determined the project is a type of undertaking that has 'minimal potential to cause effects' to historic properties and is not a part of a larger undertaking. See the cultural resources documentation for the project in the Project File/Cultural Resources/Project Information subsection and the Cultural Resources Tab.

Based on the information in the Regulated Materials Review (RMR) Screening Form completed for the project, further RMR activities or special materials management are not warranted for the project. See the RMR documentation for the project in the Project File/ESA/Coordination and Reports subsections.

The project proposes to permanently impact approximately 41 linear feet of a perennial stream, Eagle Creek, and 0.01 acre of a Category 3 wetland, Wetland A, within the project study area. Approximately 0.02 acre of suitable wooded habitat (SWH) for the federally-listed Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, and state-listed little brown bat and tricolored bat species will also be removed to construct the project. In addition, the project proposes to permanently impact 0.01 acre of potentially suitable habitat for the state-listed spotted turtle (*i.e.*, Wetland A) and 0.02 acre of potentially suitable habitat for the state-listed mountain brook lamprey (*i.e.*, Eagle Creek). See the ecological and threatened/endangered species documentation for the project in the Project



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File/Ecological/Reports subsection and in the Ecological tab.

Environmental personnel of the project consultant, Clune Consulting Services, reviewed the FEMA FIRM mapping for the project study area and determined the project is located within a special flood hazard area, Zone A floodplain associated with Eagle Creek. The Project Designer shall ensure the project is designed to comply with all applicable Local, State, and Federal floodplain protection standards. Floodplain permitting will be obtained for the project prior to the start of project construction. See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

The PCE conducted various public involvement activities for the project, including mailing property owner right-of-entry notification letters to adjacent property owners, issuing a Press Release with project information, posting project information on the Portage County Engineer website and mailing notification letters that included detour information and mapping to local public officials, emergency/public services and affected property owners. Public comments were requested with all public involvement activities performed for the project. The PCE did not receive any comments as a result of the public involvement activities conducted for the project. See the public involvement documentation for the project in the Project File/Public Involvement/Project Information subsection.

The environmental document and associated studies, as applicable, were approved using the Schematic Plan (bridge layout) and existing right-of-way limit information for the project. A copy of the Schematic Plan for the project is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *Schematic Plan - Bridge Layout.pdf*.

The estimated total project cost specified in Ellis is 0.75% greater than the total project cost specified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2021 - 2024 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). However, fiscal constraint is at the Statewide Line Item (SLI) Group level. Therefore, an individual project utilizing a SLI does not require a STIP/TIP amendment.

STIP Reference #:

113470: 21-24 STIP/SLI Group
Project. Fiscal constraint is at SLI
Group level.

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 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



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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
Will any wetlands be impacted?	Yes
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	06/28/2022
Endangered Species - Critical Habitat Present/Impacted	
Indiana bat	
Northern long-eared bat	
Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted:	No
100-Year Floodplain:	Encroachment Within the SFHA is a Functionally Dependent Use
EO 11988/NFIP Coordination and Documentation Completed:	No
Section 4(f):	Not present
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	05/27/2022

Since no Tribe was interested in this project based on their customized preferences, no further Tribal consultation was conducted.

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:

Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted Yes

Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date: 05/18/2022

Phase I ESA Warranted Based on Coordination with OES: No Further Studies Warranted

Farmland: Non-Urbanized Area; No Impacts in Accordance With the Farmland MOU, 7 CFR 658, and ORC 929.05

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 Present; No UPIAR Required, Does Not Exceed UP Guidance Criteria, and No Issues Raised During Public Involvement

Identified Underserved Populations

Census Block Group #	% Minority	% Low Income	% Older Adults	% Limited English Proficiency (LEP)
157122	0.01	0.44	0.16	0
157152	0.02	0.20	0.19	0

Underserved Populations Remarks

The project will replace the bridge carrying CR 253 over Eagle Creek. No changes in access will occur other than a temporary detour route during construction.

A review of the ODOT Transportation Information Mapping System (TIMS) indicated Underserved Populations (UP) within the proposed project area. UPs identified included Minority, Low Income, and Older Adults. No businesses or residences will be acquired or relocated as part of the project.

The proposed project will have no disproportionately high and adverse effects to minority or low-income populations or disparate impacts to a Title VI population based upon the table above, the attached mapping, and the answers to the questions above. No concerns related to impacts on Environmental Justice or Title VI populations were raised as a result of public involvement activities conducted as part of the proposed project. Therefore, in accordance with the protections of Executive Order 12898, FHWA Order 6640.23A and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, no further analysis is required.

The proposed project will have no substantial impacts to Limited English Proficiency, and Individuals with Disabilities Populations based upon the table above, the attached mapping, and the answers to the questions above. No concerns related to impacts on these Underserved Populations were raised as a result of public involvement activities conducted as part of the proposed project.

Therefore, in accordance with the protections of the Age Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Discrimination Act of 1975, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Executive Order 13166, no further analysis is required.

Census mapping is saved in the Project File/Underserved Populations/Project Information

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



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Environmental Commitments

Yes



Ecological

Wetlands

ESR Name:	Wetland ID:	Hydrologic connection:	Wetland category:	Estimated total size (ac.):	Total estimated impact area by alternative (ac.):
POR-CR 253 Silica Sand Br West	Wetland A	Adjacent	Category 3	200	.01

Has an Approved and/or Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination been made by the USACE? No

Total impact to all wetlands (ac.): 0.01

Total acres of non-isolated wetlands impacted: 0.01

Total acres of isolated wetlands impacted: 0

In accordance with Executive Order 11990 - USDOT Order 5660.1A, this Wetland Finding has been prepared to document that wetlands have been avoided to the extent possible to minimize the long and short term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands, and to document that there are no practicable alternatives to avoid construction in wetlands.

An analysis of the 'Do Nothing' alternative indicates that it is not practicable because (check all that apply):

It Would Not Correct Existing Condition and Maintenance Problems.

An analysis of improvements that avoid all wetland impacts indicates that they are not practicable because (check all that apply):

They Will Not Meet the Identified Needs of the Project.

Include justification supporting the decisions noted above:

The No Build alternative does not meet the project's Purpose & Need to improve deteriorated and deficient bridge structure conditions. The project footprint has been reduced to the maximum extent practicable. Implementation of additional measures to further reduce the impact footprint is not feasible or warranted based on: the purpose and need of the project; the location of the aquatic resource relative to the project location; and the overall minor impacts of the project as currently designed.

All practicable measures have been considered and incorporated into the project design to avoid, minimize, wetland impacts. The wetland impact minimization measures that will be followed for the project are documented in the environmental commitments for the project. Wetland mitigation for unavoidable impacts will be provided if required by the Clean Water Act or Ohio isolated wetland law,



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as regulated by the US Army Corps of Engineers and Ohio EPA regulations (33 CFR parts 325 and 332 and 40 CFR part 230, and OAC 3745-01-54), and (ORC 6111.027). No practicable alternatives exist for the proposed construction in wetlands, and the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to the wetlands that may result from such use.

Remarks:

See wetlands and other ecological resource impact information in ecological reports and agency coordination provided in the Project File/Ecological/Reports and Coordination subsections.



Environmental Commitments

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- 1) In-water work restriction dates are applicable to this project. The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT WORK BELOW THE ORDINARY HIGH WATER MARK OF EAGLE CREEK, OR INSTALL, MODIFY, OR REMOVE ANY EXISTING INSTREAM FILLS DURING THE ODNR INSTREAM WORK RESTRICTION PERIOD OF MARCH 15TH - JUNE 30TH, UNLESS A WAIVER IS APPROVED BY ODNR AND VERIFIED BY THE USACE.
- 2) Mussels are present within project area and may be impacted by the project. A relocation of the mussels shall be conducted prior to the start of instream construction activities in Eagle Creek in accordance with the most recent version of ODNR's Ohio Mussel Survey Protocol.
- 3) The project is located within a FEMA flood zone and shall be designed to comply with all applicable Local, State, and Federal floodplain protection standards. Appropriate floodplain permitting shall be obtained prior to the start of construction. The Project Designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: THE PROJECT IS LOCATED WITHIN A FEMA FLOOD ZONE AND THE PROJECT DESIGNER SHALL ENSURE THE PROJECT IS DESIGNED TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION STANDARDS. APPROPRIATE FLOODPLAIN PERMITTING SHALL BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO THE START OF CONSTRUCTION.
- 4) A plan note must be added to the plans stating that tree cutting must be preformed during the winter cutting dates of Oct 1 through March 31. The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans. ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT - INDIANA BAT/NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT: THE PROJECT IS LOCATED WITHIN THE KNOWN HABITAT RANGES OF THE FEDERALLY LISTED AND PROTECTED INDIANA BAT AND NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT AND STATE ENDANGERED LITTLE BROWN BAT AND TRICOLORED BAT. NO TREES SHALL BE REMOVED TO CONSTRUCT THE PROJECT FROM APRIL 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30. ALL NECESSARY TREE REMOVAL SHALL OCCUR FROM OCTOBER 1 THROUGH MARCH 31. THIS REQUIREMENT IS NECESSARY TO AVOID AND MINIMIZE IMPACTS TO THESE SPECIES AS REQUIRED BY THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT. 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.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer:

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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	10/11/2022



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

Air

Determination Documentation - No Air Analysis Required.pdf

Noise

Determination Documentation - No Noise Analysis Required.pdf

ESA

ODOT Recommendations - Screening.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Records Check.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Comments

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Other Resources

Census Bureau Urbanized Area Map.pdf

Water Source Protection Area Map.pdf

Underserved Populations

Census Mapping.pdf

Public Involvement

Local Newspaper Project Notification.pdf

News Article - The Portager 3-23-2022.pdf

PCEO Project Website Snap Shot 5-3-2022.pdf

Press Release.pdf

Project Notification Letter.pdf

Property Notification Letter Mailing List.pdf



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Right-of-Entry Letter Mailing List.pdf

Right-of-Entry Letter.pdf

Right-of-Entry Letter_Mussel Survey.pdf

Permits

Correspondence - Floodplain Impact Coordination Required.pdf

FEMA FIRM.pdf