



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

ATB SR 0531 13.78 PID 118426

Environmental Document Level: C1

Approved: 12/7/2022

Prepared By: District 4

Edward Deley
Phone: 330-786-4930
E-mail: Edward.Deley@dot.ohio.gov

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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C1

PID:	118426
Project Sponsor:	DISTRICT 4-PLANNING
ODOT District:	4
Funding Source:	Federal
Private Funding:	No
Project Description:	



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Severe Lake Erie coastal erosion is threatening State Route (SR) 531 in Ashtabula Township and the Village of North Kingsville in rural Ashtabula County. SR 531 between LaBounty Road and SR 193 was closed to traffic on November 30, 2022, due to the erosion and potential roadway failure. ODOT District 4 proposes a short-term emergency solution to stabilize SR 531 between Straight Line Mile (SLM) 13.78 and SLM 13.88 and between SLM 13.98 and SLM 14.14 by installing a new sheet pile wall along the roadway with tie backs and adding tie backs to an adjacent, existing sheet pile wall built in 2019 under ATB-531-13.20, PID 82819. Other construction activities include drainage improvements and roadway and guardrail repairs/installation where needed. This is an Emergency Type A project. Project plans are not available.

Mapping that depicts the project location is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection.

The project will be constructed within the existing roadway right-of-way.

Existing utilities within the project study area will not be impacted/relocated to construct the project.

A Cultural Resources Records Check was performed by district environmental staff using the SHPO GIS online database. No Cultural Resources listed on or determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places were identified within and/or immediately adjacent to the proposed project area. The undertaking is a type that has minimal potential to cause effects to historic properties. No further coordination is required in accordance with the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. In accordance with Stipulation V(C)(1) and Appendix A of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement executed on November 8, 2017 (Agreement No. 19319), amended on July 11, 2019, ODOT 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) 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/Reports subsection.

ODOT and EnviroScience Inc. are currently preparing a Level 1 Ecological Survey Report for a separate project, ATB-531-13.20 PID 114680, that includes the study area for ATB-531-13.78, PID 118426, so ecological data and information from PID 114680 was used for assessing the ecological requirements for PID 118426. USFWS confirmed that the project is not located in a bat buffer or in an eastern massasauga polygon. ODNR noted nearby records for four stated listed plants:

1. Golden-fruited Sedge (*Carex aurea*), Potentially Threatened
2. Small Fringed Gentian (*Gentianopsis procera*), Threatened
3. Balsam Poplar (*Populus balsamifera*), Endangered
4. Northern Poison-ivy (*Toxicodendron rydbergii*), Endangered

See Project File>Ecological>Project Information for ecological data and information from PID 114680.

ODOT-OES and District 4 staff conducted a survey for state listed plant species in 2018 and did not find the plants in this area. The plants are not expected to be found in the project study area due to the disturbance occurring within the existing right of way and adjacent area and that much of the area where the gentian was previous found has not been eroded away into Lake Erie. Therefore, there is "no impact" to the state listed species.

The proposed project is considered Ecologically Exempt per the Ecological MOA, as there will be no impacts to Lake Erie below the OHWM or other regulated waters (no 404 permit/ USACE authorization will be needed) and no impacts to state or federally listed species. See the Ecologically Exempt ESR.pdf for the project in the Project File/Ecological/Reports subsection.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) confirmed that the proposed construction activities at this location are consistent per the Coastal MOU and that the activity did not require an individual consistency review/concurrence. See Project File>Ecological>Coordination>ODNR Concurrence - Coastal Consistency.pdf.

ODOT District 4 Environmental Section personnel reviewed the FEMA FIRM for the project study area and determined the project is located within an Area of Minimal Flood Hazard/Zone X. The project will not impact a special flood hazard area. See the floodplain mapping for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

The project will not impact any environmentally sensitive resources within the project study area.

The environmental document and associated studies, as applicable, were approved using preliminary project plan information.

The project was added to the STIP as STIP Reference ID: 118426: 21-24 STIP.

STIP Reference #:

STIP Reference ID: 118426: 21-24
STIP

Cultural Resources Coordination:

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect
Appendix A

Cultural Resources Coordination Date:

12/02/2022

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



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Supporting documentation has been uploaded to Project File:

Yes

Select the appropriate project type (more than one can be selected):

(22) Projects, as defined in 23 U.S.C. 101 that would take place entirely within the existing operational right-of-way. Existing operational right-of-way refers to right-of-way that has been disturbed for an existing transportation facility or is maintained for a transportation purpose. This area includes the features associated with the physical footprint of the transportation facility (including the roadway, bridges, interchanges, culverts, drainage, fixed guideways, mitigation areas, etc.) and other areas maintained for transportation purposes such as clear zone, traffic control signage, landscaping, any rest areas with direct access to a controlled access highway, areas maintained for safety and security of a transportation facility, parking facilities with direct access to an existing transportation facility, transit power substations, transit venting structures, and transit maintenance facilities. Portions of the right-of-way that have not been disturbed or that are not maintained for transportation purposes are not in the existing operational right-of-way. ***Examples include: Tower lighting within the existing operational right-of-way; Guardrail installation and replacement (including median cable barriers) where roadway ditches and backslopes will not be relocated; Improvements to existing ODOT/County maintenance facilities; Construction of new ODOT/County maintenance facilities within existing operational right-of-way; Environmental mitigation activities within existing operational right-of-way; Work on pedestrian and vehicle transfer structures and associated utilities, buildings, and terminals within existing operational right-of-way; Construction of alternative energy facilities (fuel tank farms, wind turbines, etc.)***

Environmental Commitments:

No



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer

District 4
Contact: Edward Deley
330-786-4930
Edward.Deley@dot.ohio.gov

Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Robert Lang
Thomas Powell

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	12/7/2022



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

ESA

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Concurrence - Coastal Consistency.pdf

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

Public Involvement

District 4 Facebook Post.pdf

News Article Star Beacon.pdf

News Article WKYC.pdf

Press Release on ODOT District 4 Website.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf