



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

Environmental Document

for

POR Old Forge Bridge (CR82) PID 119531

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 6/4/2024

Prepared By: Michael Naymik

EnviroScience Inc.

Phone: 330-688-0111

E-mail: mnaymik@enviroscienceinc.com

District Contact: 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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C2

Project Information

PID: 119531
Project Sponsor: PORTAGE COUNTY ENGINEER
ODOT District: 4
Funding Source: Federal

C2 Section

Project Description:

The Portage County Engineer (PCE) proposes to replace an existing 45-foot long, 17.75-foot wide single span steel truss bridge (Structure File Number 6734111) located on Old Forge Road (CR 82) over Breakneck Creek in Rootstown Township, Portage County, Ohio. The PCE is pursuing a simplified bridge design for the replacement structure. This is a project being funded through federal and local funds.

The proposed new bridge is a 65-foot long, 28-foot wide single span prestressed concrete box beam bridge with a composite reinforced concrete deck and reinforced concrete capped pile abutments founded on piles. The project also proposes bridge approach slab replacements, abutting approach roadway pavement replacement, rock channel protection placement, guardrail replacement, sealing of exposed concrete surfaces with an epoxy-urethane sealer, new center line/edge line pavement markings applications and traffic sign installation within the project construction limits.

Mapping that depicts the project location on United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-Minute Topographic Quadrangle Mapping is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf*.

The proposed bridge replacement operations will require closure of Old Forge Road at Breakneck Creek for a period not to exceed 90 consecutive calendar days. Traffic will be detoured utilizing Old Forge Road (CR 82), Kline Road (TH 103), Tallmadge Road (CR 18), and Blitz Road (TH 102). Detour information will be posted in advance of the bridge closure. Access shall be maintained to all adjacent properties for the duration of the project. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected with the project.

Minor relocations of existing utilities 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. Coordination with the utility companies affected by the proposed construction activities was conducted for the project during its preliminary engineering phase and will continue during its detailed design phase.

The project will not require new permanent right-of-way or temporary right-of-way to perform construction activities.

The project proposes to impact approximately 42 linear feet of Breakneck Creek within the project construction limits. While wetlands were identified within the project study area, no wetlands are present within the proposed construction limits. The project will not result in impacts to wetlands. See ecological resource information for the project in the Level 1 Ecological Survey Report and agency coordination documentation provided in the Ecological tab and the Project File/Ecological/Reports and Coordination subsections.

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

The environmental document and associated studies, as applicable, were approved using the Stage 1 Design plans for the project. Stage 1 Design plan information for the project is included in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as *Stage 1 Design.pdf*.

The estimated total project cost specified in Ellis is 6.48% greater than the total project cost specified in the ODOT State Fiscal Years 2024 - 2027 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.

The next phase of the proposed project is listed on the STIP:

Yes



Ellis STIP Details

| Phase | Current STIP Reference |
|-------|------------------------|
| ENV | 119531: 24-27 STIP |
| CO | 119531: 24-27 STIP |
| DD | 119531: 24-27 STIP |

The current cost estimate is in line with existing federal procedures for Ohio STIP Amendments and Administration Modifications: Yes

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 ROW (exceeds strip takes)
2. **b.** Residential or non-residential displacements
3. **c.** A U.S. Coast Guard permit or an Individual Section 404 permit under the Clean Water Act
4. **d.** A Section 106 finding of *Adverse Effect*
5. **e.** Section 4(f) impacts greater than de minimis
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.** A full Environmental Justice Analysis Report (EJAR) is required (the project must be processed as a D-level CE or higher-level document). If a memo-to-file/letter/IOC-format EJAR Short Report is determined to be the appropriate level of documentation, contact OES regarding NEPA document level.

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.

Ecological

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?

No

The following Federally Listed Species received an effect determination of May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect:

| Species Common Name | Species Scientific Name | Listing Status | Most Recent Coordination Date |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Indiana Bat | <i>Myotis sodalis</i> | Endangered | 05/22/2024 |
| Northern Long-eared Bat | <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> | Endangered | 05/22/2024 |
| Tricolored Bat | <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> | Proposed Endangered | 05/22/2024 |

The following Federally Listed Species received an effect determination of No Effect:

| Species Common Name | Species Scientific Name | Listing Status | Most Recent Coordination Date |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bald Eagle | <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> | Species of Concern | 05/22/2024 |
| Eastern Massasauga | <i>Sistrurus catenatus</i> | Threatened | 05/22/2024 |
| Mitchell's Satyr | <i>Neonympha m. mitchellii</i> | Endangered | 05/22/2024 |
| Northern Monkshood | <i>Aconitum noveboracense</i> | Threatened | 05/22/2024 |

Endangered Species Remarks:

Ecological survey identified 2.99 acres of suitable wooded habitat (SWH) for the federally listed Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*), Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and Tri-colored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) and state-listed Little Brown Bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) species within the project study area. Approximately 0.09 acre of SWH will be removed within the project construction limits and all tree removal will occur between October 1 and March 31 to protect these species during their summer roosting period.

Suitable habitat for two state-listed plants, Howe's Sedge (*Carex atlantica ssp. capillacea*) and Small Bur-reed (*Sparganium emersum*) was identified within the work area. Species level surveys for these plants could not be completed due to the timing of the Level 1 Ecological Survey field investigation. Therefore, completion of a species level survey of the impacted area and coordination of the results with ODNR prior to construction is an environmental commitment established for this project. Moreover, ODNR will be given time to comment on the completed species level surveys prior to the start of project construction.

See the ecological resource and threatened and endangered species information for the project in the Level 1 Ecological Survey Report and agency coordination documentation provided in the Ecological tab and the Project File/Ecological/Reports and Coordination subsections.

Scenic Rivers

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

Scenic Rivers Remarks

National-listed or state-listed wild and scenic rivers are not present within 1,000 feet of the project limits.

Floodplains

100-Year Floodplain:

Encroachment Within the SFHA is a
 Functionally Dependent Use



EO 11988 Compliance Met No

NFIP Coordination and Documentation Completed No

Floodplain Remarks

The project is located within a special flood hazard area; Zone A floodplain associated with Breakneck Creek. The Project Designer shall ensure the project is designed to comply with all applicable Local, State, and Federal floodplain protection standards. The PCE shall obtain any required flood plain permit(s)/approval(s) prior to project construction. See the floodplains documentation for the project in the Project File/Permits/Floodplains subsection.

Section 4(f)

Section 4(f): Not present

Section 4(f) Remarks

A review of maps and property ownership did not identify any Section 4(f) properties within proximity to the project construction limits. The project will not impact any Section 4(f) resources.

Section 6(f)

Section 6(f): Not present

Cultural Resources

Cultural Resources: Present; No Finding of Adverse Effect

Cultural Resources Coordination: Minimum Potential to Cause Effect
Appendix A

**Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO
Concurrence Date** 02/06/2024

Cultural Resources Remarks

The undertaking is limited to bridge replacement and pavement upgrades at a single span steel truss bridge (SFN 6734111) located on Old Forge Road over Breakneck Creek in Rootstown Township, Portage County. The work activities will focus on the existing operational right-of-way. Literature search did not identify any known archaeological sites (OAIs) or any inventoried buildings (OHI). No listed or eligible historic properties are found in the project area or in the area of potential effects (APE).

The involved structure is a relatively modern Type 310N steel pony truss bridge. This bridge has been previously evaluated, is not considered to be historic, and is not described as historic on available TIMS mapping. Non-historic bridge replacement and bridge repair work projects are exempt from further cultural resource consideration by the June 29, 2023, Cultural Resource PA (Agreement 38503), when the work locations are not within the boundaries of any historic property or N.R. (National Register) district. See the cultural resources coordination and documentation for the project in the Project File/Cultural Resources/Coordination subsection and the Cultural Resources tab.

Environmental Resources Considered

The following environmental resources are present and have been studied for potential impacts:



Regulated Materials

Air Remarks

The project will not impact air quality. Air quality studies or coordination are not required for this project.

Noise Remarks

The project does not qualify as a Type I project for noise (*i.e.*, not adding capacity, not moving thru travel lanes equal to or greater than 50% closer to noise sensitive areas) and a noise analysis is not required for the project under 23 CFR 772.

**The project involves ROW acquisition, Deep Excavation, or OEPA
513 Landfill Authorization:**

Yes - Screening

Regulated Materials Review Screening:

No Further Regulated Materials Review

Regulated Materials Review Screening - DEC/OES Approval Date:

02/07/2024

Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

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/Project Information and Reports subsections.

Environmental Justice

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

Environmental Justice Populations

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

Identified Environmental Justice Populations

| Census Block Group # | % Minority | % Low Income |
|----------------------|------------|--------------|
| 391336018021 | 10 | 35 |

Environmental Justice Remarks



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The project will replace the existing bridge structure that carries Old Forge Road over Breakneck Creek located in Rootstown Township, Portage County. 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 Environmental Justice (EJ) populations within the proposed project area, including Minority and Low Income populations. 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 based upon the project scope of work, the table above and the attached mapping. No concerns related to impacts on Environmental Justice 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 and FHWA Order 6640.23A, no further analysis is required.

Based on the above findings an Environmental Justice Analysis Report is not required for the project.

See the Census Mapping for the project in the Project File/Environmental Justice/Project Information subsection.

Public Involvement

Public Involvement:

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

Public Involvement Remarks

The Portage County Engineer conducted various public involvement activities for the project, including mailing project notifications to adjacent property owners and a press release that contained roadway closure and detour information that was also posted on the Portage County Engineer's website. Additionally, the Portage County Engineer emailed the press release to local public officials and emergency/public services that contained roadway closure and detour information. Public comments were requested with all public involvement activities performed for the project. No comments related to this public outreach were received for the project. See the public involvement documentation for the project in the Project File/Public Involvement/Project Information subsection.

Environmental Commitments

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Environmental Commitments

C2

- 1) The project is located within a FEMA flood zone and will 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 project construction.
- 2) 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. 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.
- 3) Species level surveys shall be performed for state-listed Howe's Sedge (*Carex atlantica* ssp. *capillacea*) and Small Bur-reed (*Sparganium emersum*) plant species within the work/construction limits and the survey results shall be coordinated to ODNR Division of Wildlife prior to project construction. ODNR will be given time to comment on the complete survey prior to the start of project construction. If these species are identified during the botanical survey, ODOT and the Portage County Engineer shall re-initiate consultation with ODNR for the identified plant species. No project earth disturbance activities shall be performed prior to final ODNR acceptance/approval.
- 4) In-water work restriction dates are applicable to this project at Breakneck Creek. The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans.

IN-WATER WORK RESTRICTION DATES - BREAKNECK CREEK: NO IN-STREAM WORK SHALL BE PERFORMED WITHIN BREAKNECK CREEK FROM APRIL 15 THROUGH JUNE 30. IN-STREAM WORK IS DEFINED AS THE PLACEMENT AND/OR REMOVAL OF FILL MATERIALS (TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT) BELOW THE ORDINARY HIGH WATER OF THE CREEK. EXAMPLES OF "FILL" INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO: BRIDGE PIERS, ABUTMENTS, CULVERTS, ROCK CHANNEL PROTECTION, SCOUR PROTECTION, AND TEMPORARY ACCESS FILLS. FILLS PLACED WITHIN BREAKNECK CREEK CAN CONTINUE TO BE WORKED FROM/DURING THE WORK RESTRICTION DATES, BUT CANNOT BE EXPANDED, REMOVED, OR OTHERWISE MODIFIED (BELOW ORDINARY HIGH WATER) UNTIL ONCE AGAIN OUTSIDE OF THE WORK RESTRICTION DATES.
- 5) The project designer shall incorporate the following wetlands avoidance note into the plans.
WETLANDS AVOIDANCE - WETLANDS ARE PRESENT IN PROXIMITY OF THE OLD FORGE ROAD BRIDGE (SRUCTURE FILE NUMBER 6734111) OUTSIDE OF THE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION LIMITS. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES SHALL BE EMPLOYED TO AVOID IMPACT TO WETLANDS LOCATED IN PROXIMITY OF THE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION LIMITS. A QUANTITY OF ITEM 832 CONSTRUCTION FENCE AND A QUANTITY OF ITEM 832 PERIMETER FILTER FABRIC FENCE HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE GENERAL SUMMARY. THE CONSTRUCTION FENCE AND PERIMETER FILTER FABRIC FENCE SHALL BE INSTALLED ALONG THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION LIMITS AT THE BRIDGE LOCATION BY THE CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO THE START OF ANY CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE LIMITS AND ADJACENT AREA, INCLUDING ANY NECESSARY CLEARING AND GRUBBING ACTIVITIES. THE CONSTRUCTION FENCE AND PERIMETER FILTER FABRIC FENCE SHALL BE MAINTAINED BY THE CONTRACTOR THROUGHOUT PROJECT CONSTRUCTION AND SHALL BE REMOVED BY THE CONTRACTOR UPON PROJECT COMPLETION. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL THE CONTRACTOR IMPACT ANY WETLANDS. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL THE CONTRACTOR STORE EQUIPMENT AND/OR MATERIALS WITHIN OR IN PROXIMITY TO WETLANDS.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer:

Michael Naymik
EnviroScience Inc.
5070 Stow Road, Stow OH 44224
330-688-0111
mnaymik@enviroscienceinc.com

Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Brian Peck
Christine Surma
Charles Kessler

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Approved & Electronically Signed By: | Approval Date: |
| Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3) | 6/4/2024 |



Appendix

General

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

Detour Mapping.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

RMR

OES Review - Screening.pdf

Cultural Resources

Project Related OES Decision - Cultural Resources.pdf

Records Check.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Approved Out of Season Mussel Reconnaissance Survey .pdf

ODNR Comments

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Other Resources

Site Specific Resource Mapping - Non-Urbanized Area Map.pdf

Environmental Justice

Census Mapping.pdf

Public Involvement

Detour Map Exhibit.pdf

Local Public and Emergency Services Contact List.pdf

Local Public and Emergency Services Notification.pdf

Press Release.pdf

Project Related Email - No Comments Recieved.pdf

Project Website Snapshot.pdf

Property Owner Notification Address List.pdf

Property Owner Notification Letter - Right of Entry.pdf

Property Owner Notification.pdf



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Permits

District Determination - Floodplain Impacts.pdf

FEMA FIRM.pdf