



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 04
2088 SOUTH ARLINGTON RD. • AKRON, OH 44306 • 614-995-7904

Environmental Document

for

ATB Graham Rd (CR 343) Bridge PID 101733

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 1/31/2018

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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 11, 2015, and executed by FHWA and ODOT.

Table of Contents

C2.....	3
Environmental Commitments.....	7
Preparers and Approvals.....	9
Appendix.....	10



C2

PID:	101733
Project Sponsor:	ASHTABULA COUNTY ENGINEER
ODOT District:	4
Funding Source:	Federal
Private Funding:	No

Project Description:

The Ashtabula County Engineer proposes to replace the Graham Road steel pony truss bridge over the East Branch of the Ashtabula River in Pierpont Township, Ashtabula County. The existing 51-foot long, 20-foot wide steel pony truss bridge, built in 1955, will be replaced with a new 69-foot long, 28-foot wide galvanized steel beam bridge with laminated timber deck. Also proposed as part of the project is minor approach roadway work, rock channel protection placement, drive pipe with catch basin installation and guardrail installation. The project location is on Graham Road between Ford Road (CR 344) and State Route (SR) 7. The bridge replacement is currently scheduled for construction during the summer of 2018.

The project will require a three month closure of Graham Road between Ford Road and SR 7. At that time, through traffic will be detoured to Stanhope-Kelloggsville Road, SR 167 and SR 7. Access to local residences, farms and the Graham Road Covered Bridge - Benson Family Park will be maintained at all times during project construction.

The East Branch of the Ashtabula River is a State Scenic River. Impacts to the East Branch of the Ashtabula River will be avoided during project construction. On January 5, 2018, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Watercraft, upon completing a review of the final construction plans for the project, granted approval for the project in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 1547.82 for work to commence on this project provided all special conditions outlined in the final plan set are adhered to throughout the duration of project construction. See the ODNR Scenic River approval correspondence in the Project File/Ecological/Coordination subsection as ODNR Scenic River Approval.pdf. Approximately 0.02 acre of suitable wooded habitat for the endangered Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and the endangered Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) will be impacted to construct the project. See the Level 1 Ecological Survey and associated ecological documentation in the Project File/Ecological section.

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

Public involvement activities conducted for the project included a public involvement notification letter mailing to the property owners/residents, local public officials, schools and emergency/public service providers potentially affected by the project. No comments were received by the Ashtabula County Engineer's office. See the public involvement documentation for the project in the Project File/Public Involvement section.

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.

Final plans were utilized to evaluate environmental impacts by and obtain NEPA approval for the project.

STIP Reference #

Statewide Line Item (SLI) Number 16
and is fiscally constrained.

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 -
 a. Acquisition of more than a minor amount of right-of-way b. Residential or non-residential displacements c. A Coast Guard, Individual Section 404 and/or a Section 10 permit d. A Section 106 finding of Adverse Effect e. A Section 4(f) Programmatic or Individual Evaluation f. A finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect to Threatened and Endangered Species g. Construction of temporary access, or the closure of existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions h. Changes in access control 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) 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 k. No minor public or agency controversy on environmental grounds (no opposition from any organized groups or agencies and no unresolved environmental coordination) 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	10/31/2017
Endangered Species - Critical Habitat Present/Impacted	
Indiana bat	
Northern long-eared bat	
Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted:	No



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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:	12/08/2017
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 Date:	12/13/2016
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:	Yes
Air Quality - OES Approval Date:	12/11/2017
Noise:	Studies Not Required
Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date:	12/11/2017
Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted	Yes
Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date:	09/22/2017
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	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 Document Level: C2
PID 101733 ATB Graham Rd (CR 343) Bridge
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Environmental Commitments

C2

- 1) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: A sediment and erosion control plan has been developed for this site and the Contractor shall implement this before earth work commences. All controls shall be properly installed and maintained until final site stabilization is achieved. All sediment and erosion controls shall be removed upon stabilization of the project area with vegetation. Straw bales will not be permitted as a form of erosion control. All denuded areas, including ditches, culverts, and river banks, shall be permanently seeded and mulched immediately upon completion of earthwork or temporarily seeded and mulched within seven days if the area is to remain idle for more than thirty days. Access roads constructed on slopes shall be graveled to prevent erosion from surface runoff.
- 2) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: Idle equipment, petrochemicals and toxic/hazardous materials shall not be stored in the floodplain or near any drainage ways, ditches or streams that could convey such materials to the East Branch Ashtabula River. Petrochemicals and toxic/hazardous materials shall not be discharged into the East Branch Ashtabula River, its floodplain or any drainage ways, ditches or streams. Refueling of equipment shall not occur in the floodplain or near any drainage ways, ditches or streams. A spill containment and cleanup plan shall be generated prior to the start of the project.
- 3) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: All components of the existing structure (trusses, abutments, etc.) shall be completely removed as directed in item 202 structure removed, as per plan. Abutments shall be removed to the elevation called for, special sawing equipment may be needed for the concrete portions. All rebar in the concrete abutment portions to remain shall be cut flush to the surface. Every effort shall be made to keep deck material and other debris out of the river during removal. Asphalt deck material shall be removed before any portion of the bridge is removed. If any material falls into the water, it shall be removed immediately. All debris, excess fill material and material excavated shall be disposed of at an approved upland site (above 100 year flood elevations). Disposal in wetlands, flood plains or within 1000 feet of the Ashtabula Scenic River is prohibited.
- 4) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: Under no circumstances shall the contractor impact the East Branch Ashtabula River. No excavation, grading or filling operations shall be performed below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) elevation. The contractor shall not store construction equipment and/or materials in the river.
- 5) Ashtabula County forces will provide and install two signs prior to completion of the project. One at each approach to the bridge that shall read 'EAST BRANCH ASHTABULA RIVER STATE SCENIC RIVER'.
- 6) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: If dewatering is necessary to facilitate in-stream work or abutment construction, all wastewater shall be pumped onto a vegetated area a sufficient distance from the East Branch Ashtabula River to allow for complete infiltration. No wastewater of any kind shall be discharged directly into the East Branch Ashtabula River or any other drainage ways, ditches or streams. All storm water drainage shall be directed onto a vegetated area to allow for complete infiltration. If discharge to a vegetated area is not feasible, then wastewater shall be discharged into a sediment filter bag or into a temporary detention/retention pond with sufficient retention time to permit for the settling of all suspended solids
- 7) The bridge is designed with no scuppers that discharge directly into the scenic river. Stormwater that makes its way to the east end of the bridge is designed to flow over the vegetated slopes for filtration.



Environmental Document Level: C2
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- 8) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: All streambank vegetation shall be left undisturbed to the maximum extent possible. Any disturbed streambanks shall be returned to previously existing contours and elevations. Cutting or clearing of any riparian vegetation within 1000 feet of the East Branch Ashtabula River beyond the existing right-of-way shall be prohibited, however, vertical trimming is permitted where necessary. Care shall be taken not to girdle or scuff tree trunks or damage any standing trees.
- 9) The Northeast Ohio Scenic River Manager shall be invited to a pre-construction meeting with the contractor present. He shall be notified of the start date, completion date, be allowed to conduct a final inspection before the project closes and receive a final plan set for review. Periodic inspections of the project shall take place to ensure scenic river requirements are being met.
- 10) The project designer shall incorporate the following note into the plans: The project is located within the known habitat ranges of the federally listed and protected Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat. The Contractor shall not remove trees under this 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. Additionally, the underside of the Graham Road Bridge over the East Branch Ashtabula River shall be carefully examined by the contractor for the presence of bats, especially from April 1 to September 30. If any bats are found roosting on the underside of the bridge, the USFWS, Ecological Services Division (614-416-8993), ODOT Office of Environmental Services (614-466-7880) and ODOT District 4 Environmental Section (330-786-4930) shall be contacted and provided this information.



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Preparers and Approvals

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Supporting Form Preparer(s): Jeffrey Cutler
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Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	1/31/2018



Appendix

Noise

OES Approval - No Analysis Required.pdf

Air

OES Approval - No Air Analysis Required.pdf

General

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

Aerial Map.pdf

Project Study Area Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

ESA

District RMR Form Approval.pdf

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effects - A or B.pdf

Ecological

Coordination with ODNR and USFWS.pdf

Consult Form ATB Graham Rd (CR 343) Bridge.pdf

ODNR Scenic River Approval.pdf

Underserved Populations

Underserved Populations Documentation Form.pdf

Census Mapping.pdf

Public Involvement

Public Notification Mailing List.pdf

Property Owner Notification Letter.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf

Coordination with Local Floodplain Administrator.pdf