



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

## **Environmental Document**

for

## **ATB Harpersfield Road Bridge PID 101758**

**Environmental Document Level: C2**

**Approved: 5/27/2021**

**Prepared By: Rachel Pohnan**

ms consultants

Phone: 330-258-9920

E-mail: [rpohnan@msconsultants.com](mailto:rpohnan@msconsultants.com)

District Contact: Edward Deley

Phone: 330-786-4930

E-mail: [Edward.Deley@dot.ohio.gov](mailto: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.*

# Table of Contents

C2.....	3
Environmental Commitments.....	7
Preparers and Approvals.....	10
Appendix.....	12



## C2

<b>PID:</b>	101758
<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	ASHTABULA COUNTY ENGINEER
<b>ODOT District:</b>	4
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Federal
<b>Private Funding:</b>	No

### Project Description:

The Ashtabula County Engineer (ACE) proposes to rehabilitate the existing bridges that carry Harpersfield Road over the Grand River in the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark in Harpersfield Township, Ashtabula County. The existing bridges consist of two connected National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listed/eligible bridges, a covered wooden Howe Truss, Structure File Number (SFN) 0432482, built in 1868, and an approach Pratt thru steel truss, SFN #0432466, built in 1913.

In 2016, the ACE initially considered a total replacement of both bridges with a new covered bridge.

However, based upon input from the Friends of the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark and Ashtabula County Metroparks, the ACE currently proposes to rehabilitate both of these bridges.

During 2020, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers completed a project to replace the Harpersfield Dam with a two-stage impoundment structure known as a sea lamprey barrier. The proposed bridge project is located 65 feet downstream of the recently completed sea lamprey barrier and the sea lamprey barrier abutments tie into the existing bridge abutments on both sides of the Grand River.

Improvements to the existing covered wooden truss bridge proposed by the project include:

- Remove the existing wooden floor beams. The existing floor beams are glue laminated and not original.
- Install steel beams (floor girders) below the wooden deck and extend siding to cover new steel. Steel relief beams will allow the Howe Truss to remain in situ with little to no traffic loads.
- Replace or repair deficient wooden truss members in kind. Original bridge components, if removed, will be offered to local historical groups.
- Remove existing siding and replace with new yellow poplar siding.
- Remove existing asphalt shingle roof and install a new galvanized metal roof.
- Rehabilitate the existing walkway on the downstream side of the bridge.
- Add a new similar walkway to the upstream side of the wooden truss. The existing windows on the upstream side will be removed to accommodate the new walkway.
- Rebuild the existing center concrete pier.
- Remove the four existing steel piers.
- Add two new concrete piers.
- Rebuild the south abutment and tie it into the recently constructed new sea lamprey barrier abutment.

Improvements to the existing steel truss bridge proposed by the project entail removing the bridge, rehabilitating it off-site and re-erecting the bridge. It also includes the following proposed activities:

- Repair or replace deficient/deteriorated steel truss members to the exact configuration of the existing steel truss members.
- Replace top and bottom gusset plates, as needed, to the original steel truss configuration.
- Replace rivets, as needed, with new dome head bolts mostly at the gusset plates and interior facing. Most of the original rivets on this structure will remain.



**Environmental Document Level: C2**  
PID 101758 ATB Harpersfield Road Bridge

Approved: 5/27/2021

- Replace floor beams and stringers.
  - Replace the existing walkway on the downstream side of the bridge.
  - Add a new similar walkway to the upstream side of the steel truss,
  - Hot dip galvanize the steel truss elements to reduce long term maintenance.
  - Install new wood deck with chip seal.
  - Rebuild the existing north abutment and tie it into the recently constructed new sea lamprey barrier abutment.
  - Rebuild the existing concrete pier where the existing steel truss and existing covered wooden truss meet.
- Additional improvements proposed by this project include approach roadway reconstruction, guardrail replacement, bridge terminal assembly, light pole removal/re-installation, underdrain installation and temporary construction drives installation/removal.

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

Harpersfield Road will be closed at the project site for two construction seasons. The detour route for this closure will utilize State Route (SR) 307/North River Road and SR 534. Construction and bridge closure/detour information will be posted within the project construction limits prior to the start of project construction. Access shall be maintained to all adjacent properties within the project construction limits for the duration of project construction. Substantial traffic disruptions are not expected during project construction.

New permanent right-of-way is not required to construct the project. However, the project will require 0.5 acre of land from the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark for access to the existing bridge abutments/piers. The ACE intends to utilize a work agreement for the temporary use of Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark land.

Existing utilities within the project study area will not be impacted/relocated to construct the project. See continuation of the project description in the Project File/General/Project Information subsection as Project Description Continued.pdf.

**STIP Reference #:**

101758: 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 -  
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



**Environmental Document Level: C2**  
PID 101758 ATB Harpersfield Road Bridge

Approved: 5/27/2021

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.

<b>Waterways:</b>	Present; No Coast Guard, Individual 404, and/or Section 10 Permit required
<b>Waterways Permit Type:</b>	Permit Determination and/or Permit Application Approval Pending
<b>Isolated Wetland Permit</b>	No
<b>Endangered Species:</b>	Present; No finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect
<b>Endangered Species - Coordination</b>	May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect
<b>Endangered Species - Coordination Date</b>	12/09/2020
<b>Endangered Species - Critical Habitat Present/Impacted</b>	
Snuffbox	
Other	
<b>Endangered Species - Other Critical Habitat Present/Impacted:</b>	No
<b>100-Year Floodplain:</b>	Encroachment Within the SFHA is a Functionally Dependent Use
<b>EO 11988/NFIP Coordination and Documentation Completed:</b>	Yes
<b>NFIP Local Floodplain Coordinator Notification Date:</b>	04/09/2021
<b>Section 4(f):</b>	Present; No Programmatic Evaluation or Individual Evaluation Required
<b>Section 4(f) Determination:</b>	
Historic Site Exception - 774.13(a)	
Temporary No Use Exception - 774.13(d)	
Transportation Enhancement Exception - 774.13(g)	
<b>Section 4(f) Determination Date - 774.13(a)</b>	05/25/2021
<b>Section 4(f) Determination Date - 774.13(d)</b>	03/16/2021
<b>Section 4(f) Determination Date - 774.13(g)</b>	03/16/2021
<b>Section 6(f):</b>	Present; No Impacts and/or Access Restrictions



**Environmental Document Level: C2**  
PID 101758 ATB Harpersfield Road Bridge

Approved: 5/27/2021

<b>Cultural Resources:</b>	Present; No Finding of Adverse Effect
<b>Cultural Resources Coordination:</b>	No Adverse Effect
<b>Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date</b>	05/26/2020
<b>Tribal Consultation Summary/Remarks:</b>	
No comment or objection was received from the Delaware Tribe of Oklahoma concerning this project within 30 days of the project notification date.	
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.	
<b>Air Quality:</b>	Studies Not Required
<b>Air Quality - Coordination with OES:</b>	Yes
<b>Air Quality - OES Approval Date:</b>	03/30/2021
<b>Noise:</b>	Studies Not Required
<b>Noise Coordination - OES Approval Date:</b>	03/30/2021
<b>Hazardous Materials - ESA Screening Conducted</b>	Yes
<b>Hazardous Materials - OES Approval Date:</b>	05/11/2021
<b>Phase I ESA Warranted Based on Coordination with OES:</b>	No Further Studies Warranted
<b>Farmland:</b>	Non-Urbanized Area; No Impacts in Accordance With the Farmland MOU, 7 CFR 658, and ORC 929.05
<b>Scenic Rivers</b>	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.	
<b>Underserved Populations</b>	Does Not Exceed UP Guidance Criteria; No UP Analysis Report Required and No UP Issues Raised During Public Involvement
<b>Public Involvement:</b>	Minimum PI Requirements Met; No Minor Public or Agency Controversy on Environmental Grounds
<b>Environmental Commitments</b>	Yes



## Environmental Commitments

### C2

1) The Project Designer will incorporate the following note into the plans:

While direct impacts are not expected to occur to federally listed mussel species (FLS), storm water best management practices following the applicable ODOT CMS and SS 832 shall be used by the contractor during construction to minimize any siltation and run-off impacts to the stream and any mussel species residing downstream of the project.

2) The Project Designer shall develop a Spill Prevention Countermeasure and Contingency Plan (SPCC) in the event of a spill or break in an equipment hydraulic line, that may discharge into waters of the state. All spills must be reported to the Ohio Spill Line (1-800-282-9378) in accordance with OAC 3750.06.

3) The Project Designer will incorporate the following note into the plans:

Any and all construction debris, earthen debris, excess asphalt or concrete, wood debris from clearing, excess fill material, material excavated from the river bottom and trash shall be disposed of at an approved upland site or land fill above 100-year flood elevations. Disposal of any such materials in wetlands, floodplains or within 1000 feet of the Grand River State Wild & Scenic River is prohibited.

4) The Project Designer will incorporate the following note into the plans:

Any disturbed areas in the stream bottom shall be returned to preconstruction contours. Stream bottom elevations shall be determined before in-stream work commences to ensure that all fill material and debris is completely removed before construction is completed. Rip rap shall be kept to the minimum amount needed to prevent scour and will consist of clean rock only (free of toxic or fine material). All fill material used as rip-rap, work platforms or cofferdams shall be a minimum of three inches in diameter and be washed to remove fine particulate matter (i.e. clay, silt, sand and soil). Work platforms shall be kept to the absolute minimum size needed to facilitate in-stream work. In-stream work shall be conducted through the use of water diversions not requiring the placement of earthen fill (i.e. sheet piling, membrane dams, etc.) wherever possible. Avoid the use of bulk sand bags as part of any barriers used. All fill shall be completely removed from the streambed immediately upon completion of in-stream work.

5) The Project Designer will incorporate the following note into the plans:

No wastewater of any kind shall be directly discharged into the Grand River State Wild & Scenic River or any of its tributary streams, drainage ways or ditches. If dewatering is necessary to facilitate work in the floodplain of the Grand River State Wild & Scenic River, all wastewater shall be pumped onto a vegetated area a sufficient distance from the river to allow for complete infiltration. Excavation work in the floodplain of the Grand River State Wild & Scenic River shall be limited to dry periods of the year (August through October) to avoid possible inundation of the project construction site by a flood event. 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.

6) The Project Designer will incorporate the following note into the plans:

All streambank vegetation shall be left undisturbed to the maximum extent possible. Trees shall not be cut/removed prior to or during project construction. Care shall be taken not to girdle or scuff tree trunks or damage any standing trees.



**Environmental Document Level: C2**  
PID 101758 ATB Harpersfield Road Bridge

Approved: 5/27/2021

7) The Project Designer will incorporate the following note into the plans:

Jeffry Hayes, NE Ohio Assistant Regional Scenic River Manager, ODNR Division of Natural Areas & Preserves, 11027 Hopkins Road, Garrettsville, Ohio 44231, Cell: 614-546-8067, Jeffry.hayes@dnr.ohio.gov, shall be contacted to obtain Scenic River Approval for the project. In addition, the NE Ohio Assistant Regional Scenic River Manager shall be invited to the preconstruction meeting, notified of the project start date and contacted one week prior to completion of the project to conduct a final site inspection.

8) The Project Designer will incorporate the following note into the plans:

The Contractor shall not work below the ordinary high water mark of the Grand River, or install, modify, or remove any existing instream fills during the ODNR instream work restriction period of September 15 through June 30.

9) The Project Designer shall provide a copy of the Stage 3 plan set to the appropriate ODOT District 4 Environmental Section Specialist for coordination with the SHPO and Consulting Parties for a 15-day review period prior to finalization of the plans.

10) The Ashtabula County Engineer shall obtain the floodplain permit required for the project prior to project plan file.

11) The Project Designer shall incorporate the known boundary of the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark within the project area in the plans and label it accordingly.

12) Prior to the start of construction activities, the Contractor shall install signage approved by the Engineer to alert the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark users of construction activities and access restrictions or closures, and to direct users to secondary access points.

13) The Ashtabula County Engineer shall ensure safe public access to the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark is maintained at all times during construction activities via flagging operations, a detour, or both approved by the Project Engineer.

14) The Ashtabula County Engineer shall obtain all appropriate waterway permits for the project prior to any work within the jurisdictional boundary of any waterway, including wetlands, and all applicable waterway permits conditions will be included in the plans as Special Provisions and adhered to during construction. The contractor is not authorized to place any fill or work within any waterway below the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) elevation during construction until the waterway permit(s) are obtained for the project.

15) Access to the existing parking lots and river banks within Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark, on both sides of the Grand River, shall be maintained throughout project construction.

16) The Grand River shall remain open to recreational boating traffic, as feasibly and safely as possible, during construction activities, to reduce impacts upon recreational activities.

17) The existing portage route around the Sea Lamprey barrier and the existing bridge abutments shall be maintained throughout project construction with appropriate signage alerting boaters of construction activities and providing instructions to safely navigate the project area. This signage shall have information about the duration of possible impacts to recreational boaters and portage instructions for paddlers.

18) Construction activities, including temporary causeways and cofferdams, shall be limited to about 50 feet upstream and 100 feet downstream of the existing bridge.

19) The contractor shall install temporary construction fencing along the proposed construction limits prior to the start of project construction activities to protect the Harpersfield Covered Bridge Metropark property and the public.



**Environmental Document Level: C2**  
PID 101758 ATB Harpersfield Road Bridge

Approved: 5/27/2021

20) The contractor shall install temporary construction fencing along each bank 100 feet downstream of the bridge to restrict access to the river in the construction area and signage to alert boaters and waders of construction activities.

21) The land being used temporarily for construction access shall be fully restored to a condition which is at least as good as that which existed prior to the project.

22) The Ashtabula County Metroparks management shall be notified at least 14 calendar days in advance of construction in order to post notice of the impending construction activities on the Metroparks webpage and on display boards at the project site. Coordination and notifications shall be made through Antoinette Green at [agreen@ashtabulametroparks.com](mailto:agreen@ashtabulametroparks.com) or 440-576-0717.

23) The Contractor shall be required to closely coordinate the construction schedule (including temporary access restrictions) with ODOT, ODNR, and Ashtabula County Metroparks prior to the start of construction activities, including inviting the ODNR Division of Parks and Watercraft Trails Administrator (Tom Arbour) and Ashtabula County Metroparks Manager (Antoinette Green) to the Pre-Construction Meeting for the project.

24) If on-the-water law enforcement is needed during any portion of the construction activities, the Ashtabula County Engineer shall contact the Ashtabula Metroparks Ranger at 440-576-0717.

25) The historic bridge rehabilitation shall follow the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties by preserving the original fabric, material, workmanship, setting, feeling and location of the Harpersfield Covered Bridge, a National Register-listed Howe Truss, and its approach Pratt Truss systems.

26) Original bridge components, if removed, shall be offered to the Ashtabula County Metroparks and the Ashtabula County Historical Society.

27) The Project Designer will incorporate the following note into the plans:

**WETLANDS AVOIDANCE: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL THE CONTRACTOR STORE EQUIPMENT (LIFT, SCAFFOLDING, BACKHOE, EARTH MOVING EQUIPMENT, ETC.) AND/OR MATERIALS IN ANY WETLANDS. ODOT CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIALS SPECIFICATIONS SECTION 107.10 (PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF PROPERTY) PROHIBIT THE CONTRACTOR FROM CREATING STAGING AREAS NEAR STREAMS AND/OR WETLANDS. NO EXCAVATION, GRADING OR FILLING OPERATIONS SHALL BE PERFORMED IN THE WETLANDS AS DELINEATED IN THE PLANS.**

28) The Project Designer will incorporate the following note into the plans:

**Storage of Fuels, Petrochemicals and Equipment: 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 Grand River State Wild & Scenic River or any of its tributaries.**



**Environmental Document Level: C2**  
PID 101758 ATB Harpersfield Road Bridge  
Approved: 5/27/2021

### **Preparers and Approvals**

**Form Preparer:** Rachel Pohnan  
ms consultants  
140 South Main St Suite 140, Akron OH 44308  
330-258-9920  
rpohnan@msconsultants.com

**Supporting Form Preparer(s):** Jeffrey Cutler  
Robert Lang

### **Approvals & Electronic Signatures**

<b>Approved &amp; Electronically Signed By:</b>	<b>Approval Date:</b>
Edward Deley (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	5/27/2021



## **Appendix**

### **General**

Aerial Map.pdf

County Map.pdf

Project Description Continued.pdf

Project Study Area Map.pdf

USGS Quadrangle Topographical Map.pdf

### **Air**

OES Approval - No Air Analysis Required.pdf

### **Noise**

OES Approval - No Analysis Required.pdf

### **ESA**

Regulated Materials Review Form.pdf

### **Cultural Resources**

Consulting Party Invitation - Ashtabula County Metroparks.pdf

Consulting Party Invitation - Friends of Harpersville CB.pdf

Consulting Party Invitation - Hill.pdf

Consulting Party Invitation - Holth.pdf

Consulting Party Invitation - ODNR.pdf

Consulting Party Invitation - Simmons.pdf

SHPO Comments

Transmittal 1 - Effect Determination

Tribal Consultation

### **Ecological**

Coordination with ODNR and USFWS.pdf

ODNR Comments.pdf

Responses to Comments.pdf

USFWS Comments - signed Consultation Form.pdf

### **Section 4(f)**

ATB Harpersfield Road Bridge PID 101758 4f Exception.pdf



OES Recreational 4(f) Determination 2.pdf

OES Recreational 4(f) Determination.pdf

**Section 6(f)**

OES Approval - Maintenance.pdf

**Underserved Populations**

Census Mapping.pdf

Underserved Populations Documentation Form.pdf

**Public Involvement**

Press Release.pdf

Public Comments Received.pdf

Public Meeting Notification - Ashtabula County Gazette.PDF

Public Meeting Notification - Facebook Postings.pdf

Public Meeting Notification - Harpersfield Webpage.pdf

Public Meeting Notification and Mailing List 8-3-2020.pdf

Public Meeting Presentation.pdf

Response to Public Comments.pdf

**Permits**

Correspondence with Local Floodplain Administrator.pdf

FEMA FIRM.pdf

Statement of Findings.pdf