



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 12
5500 TRANSPORTATION BLVD. • GARFIELD HGTS., OH 44125 • 216-581-2100

Environmental Document

for

CUY SR 021 06.98 PID 23449

Environmental Document Level: C2

Approved: 4/11/2025

Prepared By: District 12

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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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C2

Project Information

PID:	23449
Project Sponsor:	ODOT SPONSORING AGENCY
ODOT District:	12
Funding Source:	Federal

C2 Section

Project Description:



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Line the 20' concrete culvert along Brecksville Rd (SR-21) over Hemlock Creek located just north of Selig Dr in Independence. No right-of-way is required for this project. Utility impacts are unlikely.

Construction will not require Maintenance of Traffic Plan (MOT).

Ecological impacts. Hemlock Creek, perennial, WWH; 651 feet located in the Study Area, 345 feet of impacts. Unnamed Tributary (UNT) to Hemlock Creek, perennial, WWH; 225 feet located in the Study Area, 41 feet of impacts. Hemlock Creek and Unnamed Tributary to Hemlock Creek will be impacted from the relining of the culvert. No bat habitat tree removal for this entire project, bat coordination not required. There is no suitable habitat for any other federally or state listed species within the project areas. ODOT has made the determination to proceed with the project as currently designed. All practicable measures have been considered and incorporated into the project design to minimize the impacts to Hemlock Creek and Unnamed Tributary to Hemlock Creek as best as possible. Permit Determination Request (PDR) is pending.

Cultural Resources. The undertaking will replace a small four-sided concrete box culvert carrying Brecksville Road (SR 21) over Hemlock Creek near the community of Independence, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. The structure is located just north of Selig Drive intersection. The new structure will be placed on the existing line and grade. The replacement and approach work will focus on the existing operational right-of-way. However, new right-of-way may be acquired. The land will only be taken from an area of open stream channel west of the road and an area of landscaped commercial property found on the east side of the highway. The once open creek-line is enclosed east of the existing highway. The surrounding area can be characterized as a modern commercial setting. No buildings will be involved in construction and no relocations will be required. 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 1802887) is a Type 119N cast in place concrete box culvert built in 1928 and repaired in 1973. This minor bridge-size culvert is not considered eligible for the National Register based on the 2009 Ohio DOT Historic Bridge Inventory (accepted April 28, 2010). Non-historic bridge replacements and general highway maintenance activities 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 N. R. District. The tribals offered no comment or objection to the project at this time.

The project is located in a regulated floodplain, Zone A, therefore coordination was required. FEMA map and floodplain coordination can be found in the Project File under Permits/Floodplain.

Regulated Materials Review Screening was prepared by Ray Kenedy, Senior Project Manager with Hull & Associates. Based on findings, no further Regulated Materials Review is required. Mark Carpenter, District Environmental Coordinator, approved Regulated Materials Review on 10/30/20.

No other environmental, hazardous materials, or Section 4(f)/6(f) impacts will result from this project.

Property Owner Notification Letters were sent out on February 11, 2025. No responses were received. Property Owner Notification letter can be found in the Project File under Public Involvement/Project Information. ODOT has determined to proceed with the project as currently designed.

Construction: \$990,000.00: 80% federal and 20% state.

The project has been designed by Hull & Associates, Inc.

The environmental documentation and associated studies are being approved using Stage 1 design. A copy of the plans is included in the project file.

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

Yes

Ellis STIP Details

Phase	Current STIP Reference
ENV	23449: 24-27 STIP
RW	
CO	23449: 24-27 STIP
DD	



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

Table with 2 columns: Question and Answer. Rows include 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), and Will any wetlands be impacted? (No).



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Endangered Species:	Present; No finding of May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect
Endangered Species - Coordination	No Effect
Scenic Rivers	No National Wild and Scenic River Within 1000 Feet of the Proposed Project Area
Scenic Rivers Remarks	No scenic rivers within 1000-feet of the project.
Floodplains	
100-Year Floodplain:	No Encroachment Within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
Floodplain Remarks	
The project is located in a regulated floodplain, Zone A, therefore coordination was required. FEMA map and floodplain coordination can be found in the Project File under Permits/Floodplain.	
Section 4(f)	
Section 4(f):	Not present
Section 4(f) Remarks	
No Section 4(f) resources are present within the project area.	
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 B
Cultural Resources Coordination - ODOT Approval/SHPO Concurrence Date	11/09/2020
Cultural Resources Remarks	



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Tribal Consultation Summary/Remarks:

The tribals offered no comment or objection to the project at this time.

Environmental Resources Considered

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

Noise

Regulated Materials

Air Remarks

The project type of 'relining a culvert in Independence in Cuyahoga County' is considered insignificant from an air quality conformity perspective, as per 40 CFR 93.126. Therefore, the project is exempt from air quality coordination.

Noise: Studies Not Required

Noise - Coordination with OES No

Noise Remarks

The project is a relining a culvert in Independence in Cuyahoga County project. The project will not increase the traffic or traffic noise. Therefore, no noise analysis is required. The No Noise Analysis Required District Determination can be found in the Project File Under Noise/Project Information. District approval date 04/11/25.

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: 10/30/2020

Regulated Materials Review Remarks:

Regulated Materials Review Screening was prepared by Ray Kenedy, Senior Project Manager with Hull & Associates. Based on findings, no further Regulated Materials Review is required. Mark Carpenter, District Environmental Coordinator, approved Regulated Materials Review on 10/30/20.

Environmental Justice



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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
N/A	N/A	N/A

Environmental Justice Remarks

As of January 21, 2025, EO 12898 was revoked. Therefore, no discussion and/or analysis specific to Environmental Justice Populations (Minority & Low-Income) will be provided in the Environmental Analysis. Instead, any potential impacts will be addressed through the Public Involvement Process.

Public Involvement

Public Involvement:

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

Public Involvement Remarks

Property Owner Notification Letters were sent out on February 11, 2025. No responses were received. Property Owner Notification letter can be found in the Project File under Public Involvement/Project Information. ODOT has determined to proceed with the project as currently designed.

Environmental Commitments

Environmental Commitments

Yes



Environmental Commitments

C2

1) NO TREES SHALL BE REMOVED 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 FEDERALLY AND STATE LISTED BAT SPECIES AS REQUIRED BY THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT. FOR THE PURPOSE 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.

2) Tree Removal AMM 1: Modify all phases/aspects of the project (e.g., temporary work areas, alignments) to avoid tree removal in excess of what is required to implement the project safely.

3) Tree Removal AMM 3. Ensure tree removal is limited to that specified in project plans by clearly marking clearing limits. Ensure that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field.



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Preparers and Approvals

Form Preparer

District 12

Contact: Corey Czinger

Corey.Czinger@dot.ohio.gov

Supporting Form Preparer(s):

Corey Czinger

Approvals & Electronic Signatures

Approved & Electronically Signed By:	Approval Date:
Thomas Sorge (PROGRAM ADMIN 3)	4/11/2025



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Appendix

Cultural Resources

Minimal Potential to Cause Effect - Appendix B

Records Check.pdf

Ecological

ODNR Scenic River MOA Conditions

USFWS Comments Consult Form CUY-21-6.98 PID 23449.pdf

USFWS/ODNR Ecological MOA Conditions

Section 6(f)

LWCF Grant Listing.pdf

Public Involvement

Property Owner Notification Letters.pdf

Permits

FEMA FIRM.pdf