



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

August 3, 2021

TO: Master Files

FROM: John Fleming, Division Head, Environmental Division 

SUBJECT: Job 040895
FAP HSIP-1772(3)
I-49 & I-540 Cable Median Barrier Impvts. (S)
Route I-49, Sections 27 & 28
Route I-540, Section 2
Crawford & Washington Counties
Tier 1 Categorical Exclusion

The purpose of the project is to install cable median barriers at 15 locations along I-49 and I-540 in Crawford and Washington Counties. A project location map is attached showing and listing the locations where these barriers will be installed.

The project will not involve relocations, endangered species, prime farmlands, wetlands, underground storage tanks, hazardous materials, any environmental justice issues, or cultural resources. This project has been determined to generate minimal air quality impacts for Clean Air Act criteria pollutants and has not been linked with any special mobile source air toxic concerns. A cultural resources clearance is attached.

The official species lists obtained through the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation identified the following species as potentially occurring within the project area: gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Ozark big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii ingens*), Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Neosho Mucket (*Lampsilis rafinesqueana*), Scaleshell Mussel (*Leptodea leptodon*), American burying beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*),

and Missouri bladderpod (*Physaria filiformis*). This project will have “no effect” on the aforementioned federally listed species due to the limited scope of the action, lack of suitable habitat, and distance to known species locations.

This project will not have a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States; therefore, a Section 404 permit will not be required.

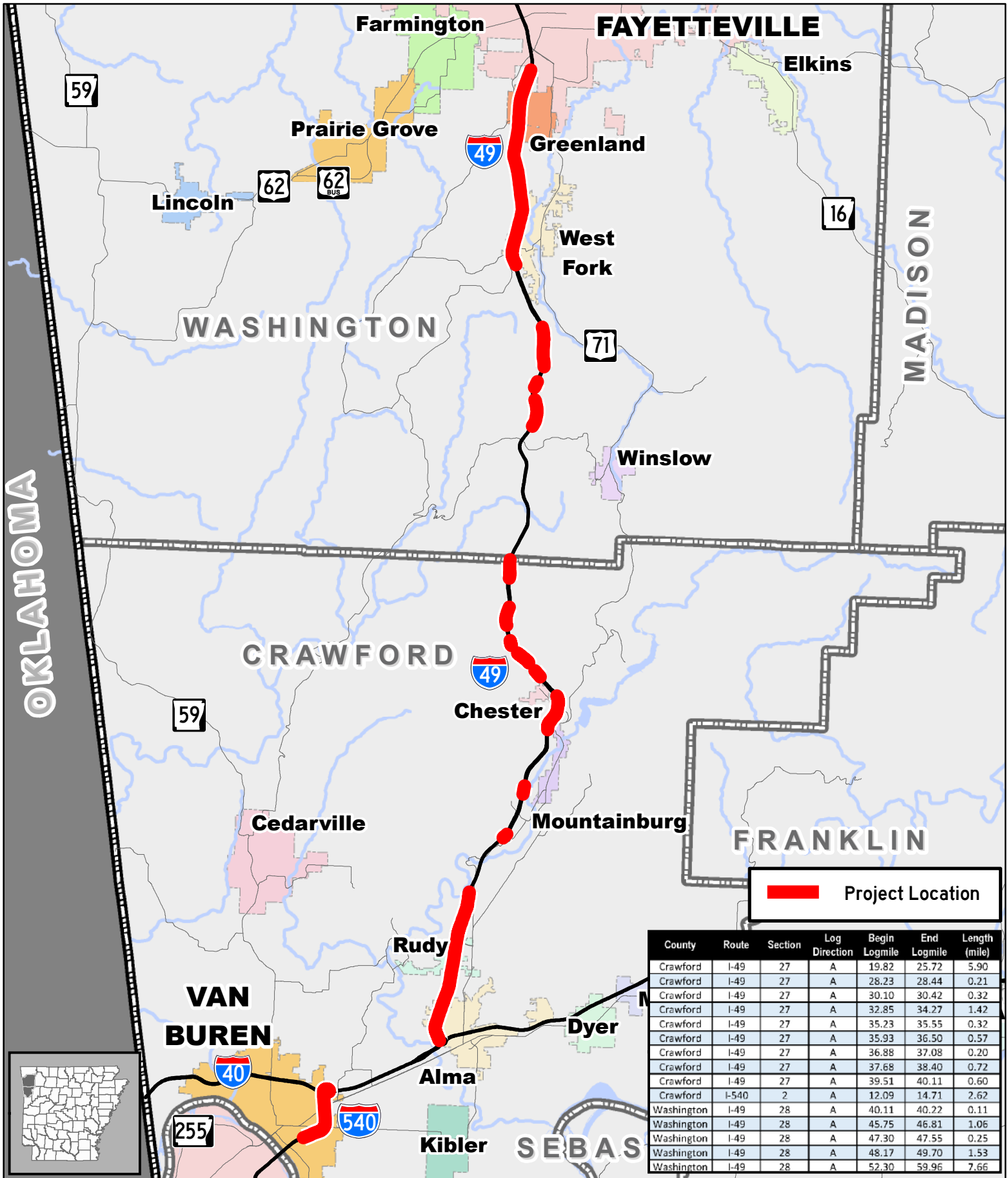
After appropriate environmental review, it has been determined that the subject job is a Tier 1 Categorical Exclusion as described by the ARDOT/FHWA Programmatic Agreement on Categorical Exclusion Documentation and Processing. A public hearing will not be offered for this project.

JF:TT:sw

Attachments:

- Location Map
- Cultural Resource Clearance
- Environmental Study Checklist

c: Program Management
Right of Way
Roadway Design
District 4
FHWA



 Project Location

County	Route	Section	Log Direction	Begin Logmile	End Logmile	Length (mile)
Crawford	I-49	27	A	19.82	25.72	5.90
Crawford	I-49	27	A	28.23	28.44	0.21
Crawford	I-49	27	A	30.10	30.42	0.32
Crawford	I-49	27	A	32.85	34.27	1.42
Crawford	I-49	27	A	35.23	35.55	0.32
Crawford	I-49	27	A	35.93	36.50	0.57
Crawford	I-49	27	A	36.88	37.08	0.20
Crawford	I-49	27	A	37.68	38.40	0.72
Crawford	I-49	27	A	39.51	40.11	0.60
Crawford	I-540	2	A	12.09	14.71	2.62
Washington	I-49	28	A	40.11	40.22	0.11
Washington	I-49	28	A	45.75	46.81	1.06
Washington	I-49	28	A	47.30	47.55	0.25
Washington	I-49	28	A	48.17	49.70	1.53
Washington	I-49	28	A	52.30	59.96	7.66

Job 040895

I-49 & I-540 Cable Median Barrier Impvts. (S)

Interstates 49 & 540, Secs. 2, 27, & 28
Crawford & Washington Counties





INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

July 29, 2021

TO: Job File

FROM: Jason Kennedy, Cultural Resources Section

SUBJECT: Cultural Resources Clearance
Job 040895
I-49 & I-540 Cable Median Barrier Impvts. (S)
Routes 49 & 540, Sections 2, 27, & 28
Crawford and Washington Counties

This project proposes to install Cable Median Barriers (CMBs) at 15 locations on Interstate 49 and Interstate 540 in Crawford, and Washington Counties. No new right-of-way (ROW) will be acquired.

A records check of the Arkansas Archeological Survey's database showed 32 archeological sites (3WA761, 3WA763, 3WA764, 3WA744, 3WA751, 3WA752, 3WA753, 3WA754, 3WA758, 3WA872, 3WA877, 3WA928, 3WA931, 3WA932, 3WA933, 3WA936, 3WA938, 3WA941, 3WA946, 3WA947, 3WA957, 3WA958, 3CW307, 3CW656, 3CW658, 3CW660, 3CW664, 3CW672, 3CW678, 3CW681, 3CW685, and 3CW769) on or immediately adjacent to the proposed project area. A records check of Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's database for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties showed one previously recorded historic structure, WA0456, is adjacent to the proposed project area. These sites and structure were destroyed by the construction of I-49. No cemeteries are located near the project area.

Nineteenth through twentieth century maps were examined. The 1834 GLO plat map of Township 15 North Range 30 West shows three field that intersects I-49. The 1936 Crawford and Washington County maps shows development including scatterings of small communities and structures that would have been near or

intersected the project area. None of these structures, if still extant, will be affected by the construction of the CMBs. In addition, the Trail of Tears (ToT) intersects I-49 at Highway 282. The ToT will also not be affected by this project. Bridges A3956, B3956, A3957, B3957, 03452, 03453, 03454, 03455, and 03456 are 45 years of age or older and are within or adjacent to the project area. They were not evaluated for eligibility to the NRHP due to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Section 106 exemption regarding effects to the Interstate Highway System (filed on the Federal Register as 69 FR 77979-77981 and authority of 16 U.S.C. 470v; 36 CFR 800.14(c) on March 7, 2005).

The existing topography, aerial imagery, previous infrastructure and construction practices were examined to assess previous ground disturbance. All work will be within the existing ROW, and the scope of the project occurs within previously disturbed areas. Therefore, this project is exempt from additional Section 106 review under Appendix C, Activity 19, of the 2021 Programmatic Agreement.

**ARDOT ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFICATION CHECKLIST
FOR CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS**

ARDOT Job 040895 FAP HSIP-1772(3)

Job Title I-49 & I-540 Cable Median Barrier Impvts. (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments-required for each item
Air Quality	X			No impacts anticipated
Cultural Resources	X			CR clearance memo attached
Economic	X			No impacts anticipated
Endangered Species	X			"No effect" determination
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No impacts anticipated
Fish and Wildlife	X			No impacts anticipated
Floodplains	X			No floodplain impacts
Forest Service Property	X			None in the project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			No sites in the project area
Land Use	X			Will not be impacted by the project
Migratory Birds	X			No impacts anticipated
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			None in the project area
Noise Levels	X			No increases due to the project
Prime Farmland	X			None impacted by the project
Protected Waters	X			None in the project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			None in the project area
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			No impacts anticipated
Relocatees	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			4(f)/6(f) resources not present
Social	X			No impacts anticipated
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No UST's in the project area
Visual	X			No changes to the visual environment
Streams	X			No impacts anticipated
Water Quality	X			No impacts anticipated
Wetlands	X			None in the project area
Wildlife Refuges	X			None in the project area

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? No

Short-term Activity Authorization Required? No

Section 404 Permit Required? No Type N/A

Remarks: _____

Signature of Evaluator  Date July 30, 2021