




INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

August 26, 2022

TO: Master Files

FROM: John Fleming, Division Head, Environmental Division 

SUBJECT: Job 061741
FAP NHPP-0030(33)
I-30 Str. & Apprs. (Hwy. 283) (S)
Route 283, Section 3
Hot Spring County
Tier 1 Categorical Exclusion

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.

The purpose of this project is to replace Bridge 03896 on Highway 283 over Interstate 30 in Hot Spring County. Total project length is 0.27 mile. A project location map is attached.

The existing Highway 283 roadway consist of two 11' wide paved travel lanes with 4' wide paved shoulders. Proposed improvements include two 11' wide paved travel lanes with 6' (4' paved) wide shoulders. The approximate average right of way width would increase from 126' to 153'. Approximately 0.37 acre of additional right of way will be required for this project. Of this acreage, approximately 0.03 acre of important farmland will be impacted, specifically farmland of statewide importance. Form NRCS-CPA-106 is attached for the farmland impacts.

Design data for this project is as follows:

Design Year	Average Daily Traffic	Percent Trucks	Design Speed
2024	2,800	6	40 mph
2044	3,300		

The project will not involve relocations, underground storage tanks, hazardous materials, floodplains, 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. The State Historic Preservation Officer's clearance is attached.

Based on the ARDOT noise policy, a noise analysis is not required for this project. The bridge replacement will not involve adding capacity, substantially changing the roadway alignment, or exposing noise sensitive land uses to traffic noise sources. In compliance with federal guidelines, local authorities will not require notification.

The official species list obtained from the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation identified the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Arkansas Fatmucket (*Lampsilis powellii*), Ouachita Rock Pocketbook (*Arcidens wheeleri*), Pink Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), Spectaclecase (*Cumberlandia monodonta*), Missouri bladderpod (*Physaria filiformis*), and monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). This project will have "no effect" on the aforementioned species due to the limited scope of the action, lack of suitable habitat, and distance to known species locations.

The monarch butterfly is a candidate species, and as such, is not federally protected under the Endangered Species Act. However, the USFWS recommends agencies implement conservation measures for candidate species in action areas, as these are species by definition that may warrant future protection under the Act. ARDOT will plant native wildflowers after construction as a conservation measure.

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.

Job 061741
Tier 1 Categorical Exclusion
Page 3 of 3

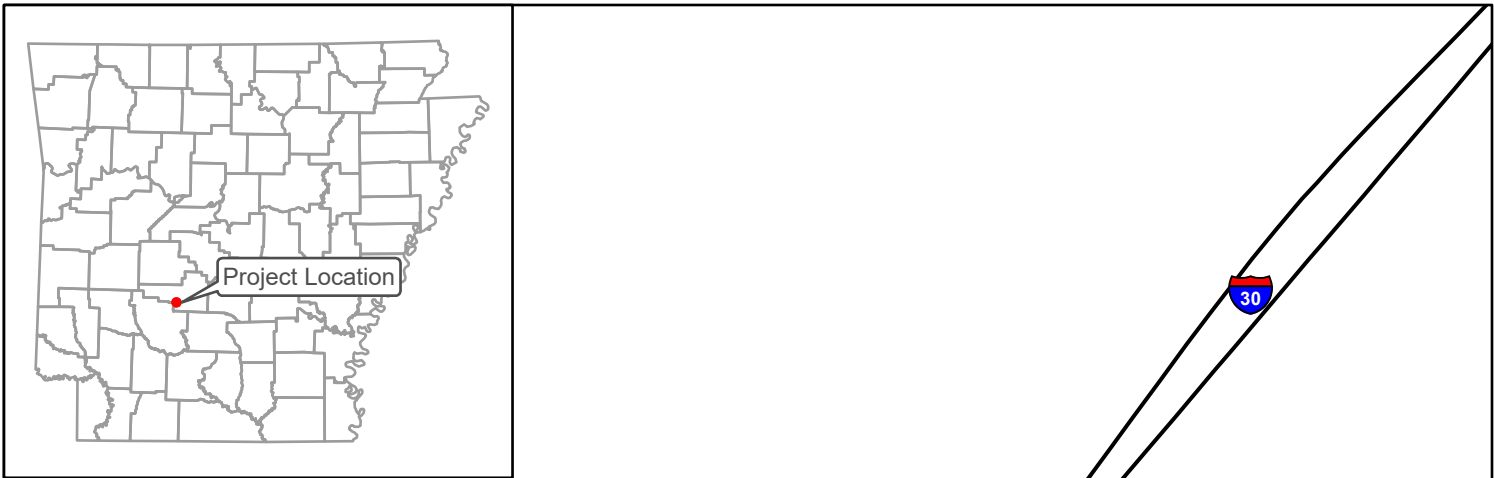
Virtual Public Involvement (VPI) information was made available for the project from Thursday, May 26, 2022 to Friday, June 10, 2022. The VPI Synopsis is attached.

JF:JG:sw

Attachments:

- Project Location Map
- Form NRCS-CPA-106
- SHPO Clearance
- VPI Synopsis
- Environmental Study Checklist
- Design Sheet

c: Program Management
Right of Way
Roadway Design
Bridge Division
District 6
FHWA



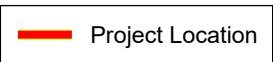
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Feet

ARDOT - Environmental GIS - Dudley
June 14, 2022

Job 061741
I - 30 Str. & Apprs
(Hwy. 283)
Hot Spring County





Asa Hutchinson
Governor
Stacy Hurst
Secretary

August 24, 2022

Mr. John Fleming
Division Head
Environmental Division
Arkansas Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203-2261

RE: Hot Spring County: General
Section 106 Review: FHWA
Proposed Undertaking: I-30 Str. Apprs. (Hwy. 283) (S)
Route 283, Section 3
ARDOT Job Number: 061741
AHPP Tracking Number: 109768.01

Dear Mr. Fleming:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) reviewed the project identification form for the above referenced undertaking in Section 11, Township 6 South, Range 19 West in Hot Spring County, Arkansas. The proposed undertaking entails the replacement of ARDOT Bridge Number 03896, west of Friendship on Highway 283..

An architectural resources survey recorded two properties, both of which are not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (AHPP Tracking Number 109317). No archeological sites are recorded within a half-mile of the APE. A total of six shovel tests were excavated in the APE, all of which were negative for cultural materials.

Based on the provided information, the AHPP concurs with the finding of **no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1)** for the proposed undertaking and that no further archeological work is needed.

Tribes that have expressed an interest in the area include the Caddo Nation, the Chickasaw Nation, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, the Osage Nation, the Quapaw Nation, and the Shawnee Tribe. We recommend consultation in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(2).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this undertaking. Please refer to the AHPP Tracking Number listed above in all correspondence. If you have any questions, call Kathryn Bryles at 501-324-9784 or email kathryn.bryles@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

Kathryn
Bryles

Digitally signed by
Kathryn Bryles
Date: 2022.08.24
09:30:44 -05'00'

for
Scott Kaufman
Director, AHPP

cc: Dr. Melissa Zabecki, Arkansas Archeological Survey

**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS**

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency) Job 061741	3. Date of Land Evaluation Request	4. Sheet 1 of _____
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1. Name of Project	5. Federal Agency Involved
2. Type of Project	6. County and State

PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS	2. Person Completing Form
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form). YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		4. Acres Irrigated Average Farm Size	
5. Major Crop(s)	6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction Acres: _____ %	7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: _____ %	
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	9. Name of Local Site Assessment System	10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS	

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Alternative Corridor For Segment			
	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services				
C. Total Acres In Corridor				

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland				
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland				
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted				
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value				

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))	Maximum Points	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
1. Area in Nonurban Use	15				
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use	10				
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	20				
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20				
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10				
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25				
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5				
8. On-Farm Investments	20				
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25				
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10				
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS	160				

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Maximum Points	Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100				
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160				
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	260				

1. Corridor Selected:	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:	3. Date Of Selection:	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part: _____ DATE _____

Joshua Graham

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

VIRTUAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SYNOPSIS

Job 061741

I-30 Str. & Apprs. (Hwy. 283) (S)

Hot Spring County

Thursday, May 26, 2022 through Friday, June 10, 2022

A Phase I Virtual Public Involvement (VPI) meeting for the replacement of the Highway 283 overpass bridge structure over Interstate 30 in Hot Spring County was hosted on the ARDOT website between May 26, 2022 and June 10, 2022. Efforts to involve minorities and the public in the meeting included:

- Display advertisement placed in the *Malvern Daily Record* on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 and Saturday, June 4, 2022.
- Letters were mailed to Public Officials on May 18, 2022.
- Flyers mailed to citizens.

The following information and links were available on the ARDOT website:

- Short video presentation about the project
- Public meeting notice
- Project location map
- Project design plans
- Typical section plans
- Online comment form
- Interactive project map
- Frequently asked questions with answers

Copies of the public meeting notice, project location map, and comment form are attached.

Table 1 summarizes the VPI meeting participation.

TABLE 1	
Public Participation	Totals
Online registration of attendance at Phase I VPI	5
Number of website viewers (English/Spanish)	16/1
Online Comments Received	1

A summary of the comment received during the VPI comment is shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2	
Survey Question	Response
Do you feel there is a need for the proposed bridge structure replacement on Hwy. 283 over I-30	Yes
Home or property limitations to the project the Department should consider in the design	No
Knowledge of cultural resources in the project area	No
Knowledge of environmental constraints in the project area	No
Any suggestion to make this project better serve the needs of the community	No
Will the proposed project have beneficial impacts on your property or community	Yes

Attachments:

Public Meeting Notice

Blank Comment Form

VPI Exhibit

DN:JG:sw



ONLINE VIRTUAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING

I-30 Str. & Apprs. (Hwy. 283)

(Hot Spring County)

Job 061741

You're Invited!

What: The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) will conduct an Online Virtual Public Involvement Meeting via a pre-recorded presentation, to gather public input, on the proposed replacement of the Highway 283 bridge over I-30 near Friendship in Hot Spring County.

When: Thursday, May 26, 2022 through Friday, June 10, 2022.

Where: <https://www.ardot.gov/publicmeetings>

Comment form availability until 4:30 p.m.
Friday, June 10, 2022

Link to Project Information:

<https://www.ardot.gov/publicmeetings>

For further assistance, contact Karla Sims:

Phone: (501) 569-2000 or e-mail: karla.sims@ardot.gov

Special Accommodations:

Anyone needing project information or special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is encouraged to write to Ruby Jordan-Johnson, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203-2261, call (501)569-2379, fax (501)569-2009 or email environmentalmeetings@ardot.gov. Hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Arkansas Relay System at (Voice/TTY 711). Requests should be made at least four days prior to the public meeting.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibit discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance.

Therefore, the Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion (not applicable as a protected group under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Title VI Program), disability, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), or low-income status in the admission, access to and treatment in the Department's programs and activities, as well as the Department's hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the Department's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to Joanna P. McFadden EEO/DBE Officer (ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator), P. O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, (501) 569-2298, (Voice/TTY 711), or the following email address: joanna.mcfadden@ardot.gov

Free language assistance for Limited English Proficient individuals is available upon request.. This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audio tape and in Braille.

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ARDOT)
CITIZEN COMMENT FORM**

**ARDOT JOB 061741
I-30 Str. & Apprs. (Hwy. 283) (S)
HOT SPRING COUNTY**

**LOCATION:
ONLINE VIRTUAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 26TH THROUGH FRIDAY, JUNE 10TH, 2022**

Make your comments on this form and mail it by **4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 10, 2022** to: Arkansas Department of Transportation, Environmental Division, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR, 72203-2261. Email: environmentalpimeetings@ardot.gov.

Yes No

Do you feel there is a need for the proposed replacement of the Highway 283 bridge over I-30 near Friendship in Hot Spring County? Comment (optional)

Do you feel that the proposed project will have any impacts?

(Beneficial or Adverse) on your property and/or community (economic, environmental, social, etc.)? Please explain. _____

Do you have a suggestion that would make this proposed project better serve the needs of the community? _____

Does your home or property offer any limitations to the project, such as septic systems, that the Department needs to consider in its design?

(Continue on Back)

Yes No

 Do you know of any historical sites, family cemeteries, or archaeological sites in the project area? Please note and discuss with staff. _____

 Do you know of any environmental constraints, such as endangered species, hazardous waste sites, existing or former landfills, or parks and public lands in the vicinity of the project? Please note and discuss with ARDOT staff. _____

It is often necessary for the ARDOT to contact property owners along potential routes. If you are a property owner along or adjacent to the route under consideration, please provide information below. Thank you.

Name: _____ (Please Print)

Address: _____ Phone: (____) _____ -- _____

E-mail: _____

Please make additional comments here. _____

For additional information, please visit our website at

<https://www.ardot.gov/publicmeetings>




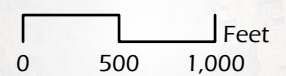
Job 061741
Interstate 30 Structures & Approaches
Highway 283
Hot Spring County



Preliminary Subject to Revision



 Project Location



ARDOT - Environmental GIS - Dudley
Map: May 2, 2022
Phase I Virtual Public Involvement Exhibit


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

ARDOT Job 061741 FAP NHPP-0030(33)
Job Title I-30 Str. & Apprs. (Hwy. 283) (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments-required for each item
Air Quality	X			No air quality/MSAT impacts
Cultural Resources	X			SHPO clearance attached
Economic	X			No adverse impacts
Endangered Species	X			A "No effect" determination made
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No impacts; VPI Synopsis included
Fish and Wildlife	X			None in the project area
Floodplains	X			No floodplains within the project area
Forest Service Property	X			None in project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			No impacts anticipated
Land Use		X		0.37 acre of additional ROW
Migratory Birds	X			No impacts anticipated
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			No navigable waterways involved
Noise Levels	X			No increases due to project
Prime Farmland		X		0.03 acre of Farmland of Statewide Importance
Protected Waters	X			None in the project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			None in project area
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			None impacts anticipated
Relocates	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			No 4f/6f resources present
Social	X			No impacts to the social environment
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No USTs impacted by project area
Visual	X			No changes to visual environment
Streams	X			None impacts anticipated
Water Quality	X			None 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 8/4/2022

ROADWAY DESIGN REQUEST

Job Number 061741 FAP No. _____ County Hot Spring

Job Name I-30 Str. & Apprs. (Hwy. 283) (S)

Design Engineer Austin Hales Environmental Staff _____

Detailed Project Description Replacement of one overpass bridge structure. The new bridge will be constructed on new location, adjacent to the existing structure.

A. Existing Conditions:

Roadway Width: 30' Shoulder Type/Width: 4'/Paved

Number of Lanes and Width: 2 @ 11' Existing Right-of-Way: Var.

Sidewalks? No Location: N/A Width: N/A

Bike Lanes? No Location: N/A Width: N/A

B. Proposed Conditions:

Roadway Width: 34' Shoulder Type/Width: 6'/(4' Paved)

Number of Lanes and Width: 2 @ 11' Proposed Right-of-Way: Var.

Sidewalks? No Location: N/A Width: N/A

Bike Lanes? No Location: N/A Width: N/A

C. Construction Information:

If detour: Where: N/A Length: N/A

D. Design Traffic Data:

2024 ADT: 2,800 2044 ADT: 3,300 % Trucks: 6%
Design Speed: 40 m.p.h.

E. Approximate total length of project: 0.273 mile(s)

F. Justification for proposed improvements: Bridge Replacement

G. Total Relocates: 0 Residences: 0 Businesses: 0

H. Have you coordinated with any outside agencies (e.g., FHWA, City, County, etc.)? No

Agency/Official	Person Contacted	Date