



## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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July 29, 2021

**TO:** Master Files

**FROM:**  John Fleming, Division Head, Environmental Division 

**SUBJECT:** Job 070561  
FAP NHPP-30-1(60)  
Gurdon Rest Area – Hwy. 26 (F)  
Route I-30, Section 14  
Clark 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 rehabilitate approximately 12.3 miles of Interstate 30 between Gurdon Rest Area and Hwy. 26. This project will include mill and overlay of the roadway and I-30/Hwy. 53 interchange ramps, polymer overlay of six bridges, bridge joint repair of four bridges, and special clearing of vegetation 50' offset from the paved shoulder edge. All work will take place within the existing right of way. A project location map is attached.

The project will not involve relocations, 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. The State Historic Preservation Officer's clearance is attached.

The official species list was obtained through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation website and lists the following threatened and endangered species as possibly occurring within the project area: northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), and Winged Mapleleaf (*Quadrula fragosa*).

It has been determined that the project will have "no effect" on the Eastern Black Rail, Piping Plover, and Red Knot due to lack of habitat and distance to known populations. The Arkansas Determination Key provided a "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" determination for Red-Cockaded Woodpecker and Winged Mapleleaf, and a "may affect" determination for the northern long-eared bat (NLEB).

Although the Arkansas Determination Key provided a "may affect" determination for the NLEB, any incidental take that may occur as a result of the action is not prohibited under the Endangered Species Act Section 4(d) rule adopted for this species at 50 CFR §17.40(o). The USFWS concurred with these determinations on July 21, 2021.

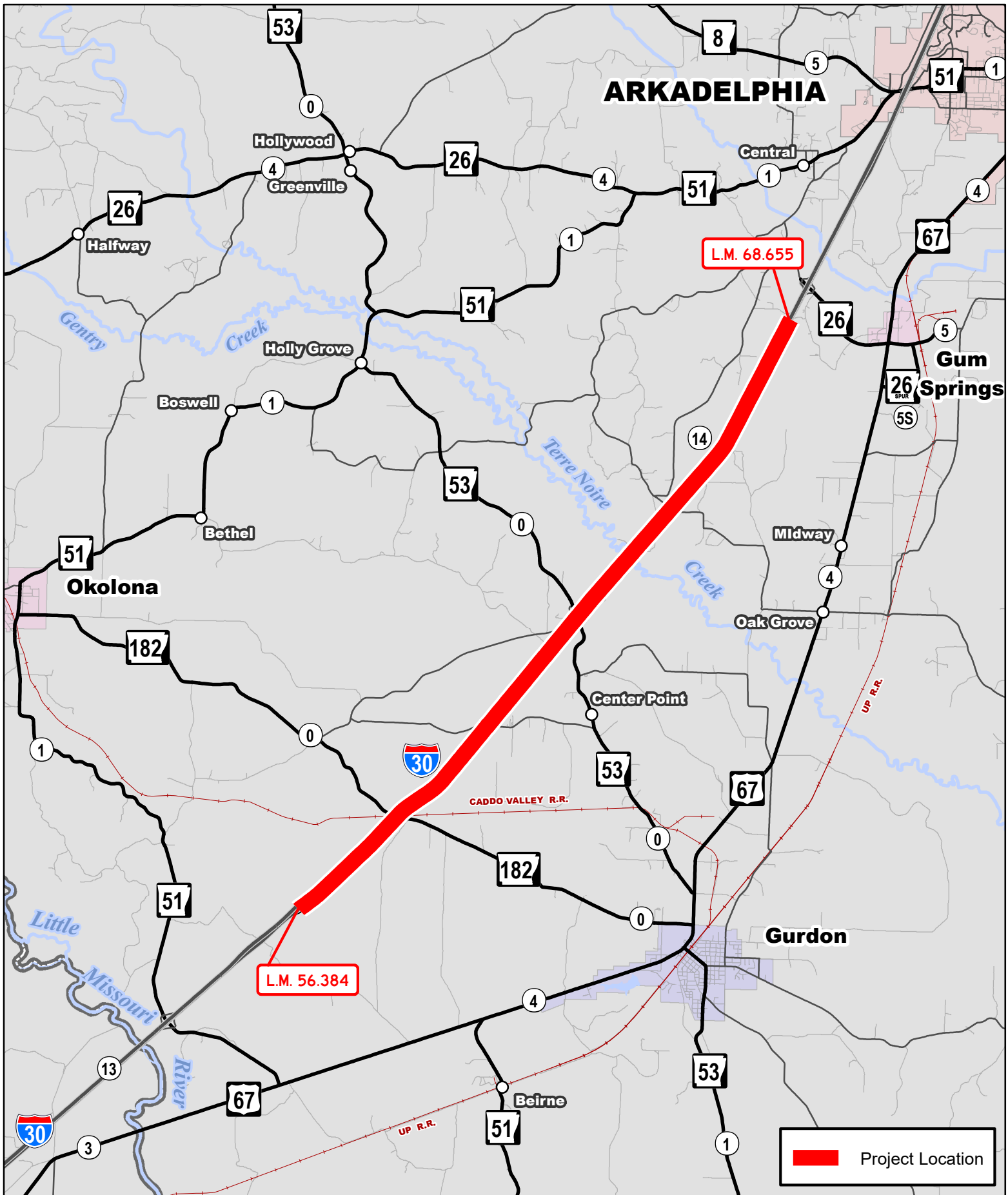
The project will not have a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with the bridge joint repair; therefore, a Section 404 permit will not be required.

JF:KR:sw

Attachments:

- Location Map
- SHPO Clearance
- Environmental Study Checklist

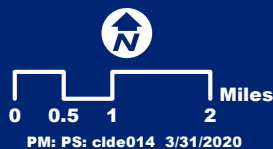
c: Program Management  
Right of Way  
Roadway Design  
District 7  
FHWA



# Job 070561

## Gurdon Rest Area - Hwy. 26 (F)

I-30, Sec. 14  
Clark County





ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ArDOT.gov | IDriveArkansas.com | Lorie H. Tudor, P.E., Director

ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

10324 Interstate 30 | P.O. Box 2261 | Little Rock, AR 72203-2261 | Phone: 501.569.2281 | Fax: 501.569.2009

I 85733  
FHWA

April 21, 2020

AHPP

APR 21 2020

Secretary Stacy Hurst  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
1100 North Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

RE: Job Number 070561  
Gurdon Rest Area – Hwy. 26 (F)  
Route I-30, Section 14  
Clark County

Dear Secretary Hurst:

Please find enclosed a Project Identification Form (PIF) for the referenced project. Please review for concurrence with the findings of my staff. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Milton Hughes of my staff at (501) 569-2080.

Date 4.23.20  
No known historic properties will be affected by this undertaking. This effect determination could change should new information come to light.  
2012 Mills  
For 2012 Mills  
Arkansas State Historic Preservation Officer

Sincerely,

John Fleming  
Division Head  
Environmental Division

JF:KB:MH:cb

Enclosure  
PIF

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

ARDOT Job 070561 FAP NHPP-30-1(160)

Job Title Gurdon Rest Area – Hwy. 26 (F)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments
Air Quality	X			No impacts anticipated
Cultural Resources	X			"No known historic properties affected"
Economic	X			Will not be impacted by project
Endangered Species	X			"No effect", "NLAA" and "May Affect" 4(d)
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No protected populations in project area
Fish and Wildlife		X		Tree clearing in ROW may impact wildlife
Floodplains	X			Zone A SFHA in project area, no impacts
Forest Service Property	X			None in project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			No sites in project area
Land Use	X			No new ROW
Migratory Birds		X		Tree clearing in ROW may impact birds
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			No navigable waterways involved
Noise Levels	X			Noise analysis not required
Prime Farmland	X			None in project area
Protected Waters	X			None occur in project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			None in project area
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			No impacts anticipated
Relocates	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			4f resources not present
Social	X			No impacts to the social environment
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No USTs in project area
Visual	X			No changes to visual environment
Streams	X			No impacts anticipated
Water Quality	X			No impacts anticipated
Wetlands	X			None in project area
Wildlife Refuges	X			None in project area

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? N

Short-term Activity Authorization Required? N

Section 404 Permit Required? N Type \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks:

Signature of Evaluator Kathryn Rose Date 7/29/2021