




INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

June 26, 2025

TO: Master Files

FROM: Josh Seagraves, Division Head – Environmental 

SUBJECT: Job C22005
Groce Creek Str. & Apprs. (S)
7th Street
Drew County
Environmental Documentation for State Funded Projects

The purpose of the project is to replace a bridge (Str. M3267) over Groce Creek on Highway 133 near the town of Wilmar in Drew County. The need for the replacement is due to inspection revealing the structure to be in poor condition. The total length of the project is approximately 0.06 mile and will be replaced on existing alignment. A project location map is attached.

The existing bridge would be replaced on existing alignment with a triple 11' x 6' x 48' reinforced box culvert requiring a temporary closure to the roadway. The existing roadway consists of two 10' wide travel lanes with no shoulders. The existing right of way (ROW) width of the roadway is approximately 70'. The proposed roadway would consist of two 10' wide travel lanes with 4' wide paved shoulders. The proposed average ROW width will be approximately 86'. The project would require approximately 0.19 acre of new ROW.

Design data for this project is as follows:

Design Year	Average Daily Traffic	Percent Trucks	Design Speed
2025	290	8	45 mph
2045	360		

There are no underground storage tanks, hazardous materials, relocations, noise impacts, or cultural resources associated with this project. 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 toxics concerns. The project would require approximately 0.04 acre of Important Farmland to be converted to proposed ROW. The State Historic Preservation Officer clearance and the NRCS-CPA-106 form are attached.

The official species list obtained from the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation identified the following endangered and threatened species as potentially occurring within the project boundaries: Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Dryobates borealis*), Rufa Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*), Ouachita Fanshell (*Cyprogenia sp. cf. aberti*), Pink Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), Winged Mapleleaf (*Quadrula fragosa*), and Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) as species potentially occurring within the project area.

Utilizing the "Arkansas Multi-Species Determination Key," it has been determined that the project will have "no effect" on the Eastern Black Rail, Piping Plover, Red Knot, and Rufa Red Knot. It has also been determined that the project "may affect but is not likely to adversely affect" the Ouachita Fanshell, Pink Mucket, Rabbitsfoot, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, and Winged Mapleleaf.

The Tricolored Bat is a proposed endangered species, the Alligator Snapping Turtle is a proposed threatened species, and the Monarch Butterfly is a proposed threatened species; however, the proposed project will not jeopardize the continued existence of any of these species.

Utilizing the FHWA Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects within the Range of Indiana Bat, Northern Long-Eared Bat, and Tricolored Bat it has been determined that the project is "likely to adversely affect" the Northern Long-eared Bat. ARDOT will deduct \$2,092 from the previously approved Indiana Bat Spring Migration Research Project as compensatory mitigation. The USFWS concurrence is attached.

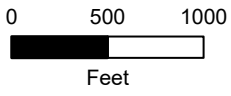
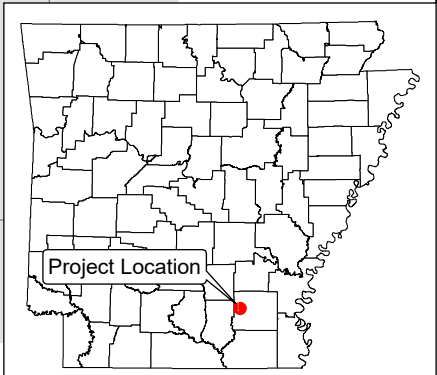
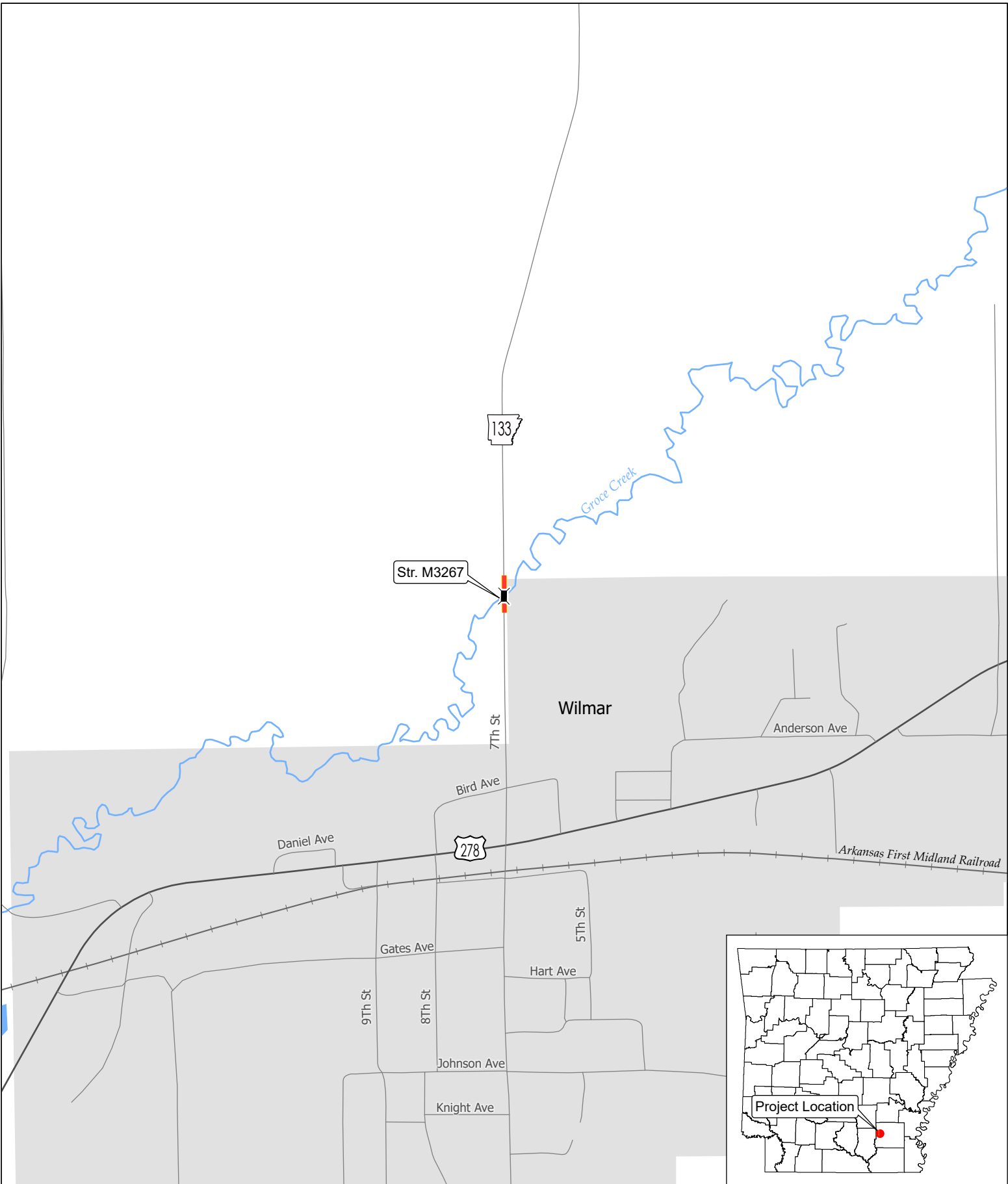
Total permanent impacts to waters of the United States for construction of the new box culvert will be approximately 0.04 acre. Construction should be allowed under the terms of a Section 404 Nationwide Permit 14 for Linear Transportation Projects as defined in Federal Register 86 (245): 73522-73583. Stream impacts are less than 0.1 acre; therefore, pre-construction notification will not be required.

Drew County participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. The project lies within the Zone A, Special Flood Hazard Area. The final project design will be reviewed to confirm that the design is adequate and that the potential risk to life and property are minimized. Adjacent properties should not be impacted nor have a greater flood risk than existed before construction of the project. None of the encroachments will constitute a substantial floodplain encroachment or a risk to property or life.

Attachments

c: Program Management
Right of Way
District 2

JS:JG:sw



Job C22005
 Groce Creek Str. & Apprs.
 (Wilmar)
 Drew County





Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Governor
Shea Lewis
Secretary

June 17, 2025

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

RE: Drew County: Wilmar
Section 106 Review: FHWA
Proposed Undertaking: Groce Creek Str. & Apprs. (Wilmar) (S)
ArDOT Job Number: C22005
AHPP Tracking Number: 113827

Dear Mr. Seagraves:


The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) reviewed the Project Identification Form (PIF) for the aforementioned undertaking in Section 28, Township 12 South, Range 8 West north of Wilmar in Drew County, Arkansas. The project proposes to replace ArDOT Bridge M3267, which spans Groce Creek on Highway 133. The area of potential effect (APE) includes new proposed right-of-way totaling 0.19 acres on the east and west sides of the bridge. Bridge M3267 was previously determined to be not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (AHPP Tracking Number 110219.03D).

There are no previously recorded archeological sites in or near the APE. A total of two shovel tests were excavated on the west side of the APE. One shovel test was positive for cultural material and contained artifacts from the late-20th century and included metal beer cans, plastic bottle caps, and a glass sherd. No collections were made due to the modernity of the materials. No shovel tests were excavated on the east side due to a dense thicket and a buried cable that had already caused significant disturbance.

Based on the provided information, the AHPP concurs that no historic properties should be affected by this undertaking and that no further archeological work is needed. In the event of a post-review discovery of historic properties within the area of potential effects, please contact the AHPP and other consulting parties in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.13(b)(3).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this PIF. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Cogburn at jessica.cogburn@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,
**Jessica
Cogburn**

 Digitally signed by Jessica
Cogburn
Date: 2025.06.17
10:15:36 -05'00'

for
Scott Kaufman
State Historic Preservation Officer and 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 C22005	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				
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)					
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



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Arkansas Ecological Service Field Office
110 South Amity Road, Suite 300
Conway, Arkansas 72032



June 23, 2025

Mr. Josh Seagraves
c/o Sarah Hallett
Arkansas Department of Transportation
10324 Interstate 30
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209

Project code: 2025-0042094

RE: ARDOT Job C22005 - Groce Creek Str. & Apprs. (Wilmar) (S)

Dear Mr. Seagraves:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is responding to your initiation of project plans, mitigation calculations, and request to verify the proposed Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) Job C22005 - Groce Creek Str. & Apprs. (Wilmar) (S), Drew County, Arkansas (Project) may rely on the December 13, 2024, Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) for federally funded or approved transportation projects that may affect the endangered Indiana bat (IBAT) (*Myotis sodalis*) and/or endangered northern long-eared bat (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*), and/or the proposed endangered tricolored bat (TCB) (*Perimyotis subflavus*). We received your request and the associated likely to adversely affect (LAA) Consistency Letter on June 19, 2025.

This letter provides the Service's response as to whether the project may rely on the PBO to comply with Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) for its effects to the IBAT and/or NLEB and/or TCB. This letter also responds to your request for Service concurrence that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) ESA listed species and designated critical habitats other than these bats.

ARDOT determined the Project is LAA the IBAT and/or NLEB and/or TCB. The Service concurs with this determination because of the proximity of known species sites, foraging range to the project location, and occurrence of suitable foraging habitat for this species that exists on and adjacent to the site. A determination of LAA for IBAT and/or NLEB and/or TCB is appropriate based on the distance from the existing roadway and amount of suitable habitat being lost. The conservation measures being proposed, site assessment, and proposed implementation of all required avoidance and minimization measures (AMMs) will help to mitigate the effects in accordance with the PBO. This includes prohibiting tree clearing during the bat active season.

As stated in the Consistency Letter, the Service concurs with the "NLAA" determination(s) for the listed species identified. No further consultation for this project is required for these species. The verification letter confirms you may rely on effect determinations provided in the Arkansas

Determination Key for project review and guidance for federally listed species to satisfy agency consultation requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA.

ARDOT determined the Project will not jeopardize the continued existence of tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), alligator snapping turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*), or the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*).

Conclusion

The Service reviewed the effects of the proposed Project, which includes ARDOT's commitment to implement any applicable mitigation measures, as indicated on the Project Submittal Form. We confirm that the proposed project's effects are consistent with those analyzed in the PBO. The Service determined that projects consistent with the conservation measures and scope of the program analyzed in the PBO are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of IBAT and/or NLEB and/or TCB. In coordination with your agency and the other sponsoring Federal transportation agencies, the Service will re-evaluate this conclusion annually in-light-of any new pertinent information under the adaptive management provisions of the PBO.

Federal agencies must consult with the Service under section 7(a)(2) of the ESA when an action *may affect* a listed species. The TCB is proposed for listing as endangered under the ESA, but not yet listed. For actions that may affect a proposed species, agencies cannot consult, but they can *confer* under the authority of section 7(a)(4) of the ESA. Such conferences can follow the procedures for a consultation and be adopted as such if and when, the proposed species is listed.

Incidental Take

Bridge, Culvert, and/or Structure Activities

The Service anticipates that certain types of bridge, culvert, or structure work will cause incidental take when evidence of bats is observed at the bridge, culvert, or structure. This take may be covered under the Incidental Take Statement (ITS) in this PBO if ≤ 5 of the covered bat species are adversely affected per bridge, culvert, or structure. As described in the Incidental Take Statement (ITS) of the PBO, quantifying the specific number of individuals affected is not practicable. Therefore, the Service uses a surrogate (number of bridge, culvert, and structures affected) to provide a means of expressing and monitoring take of the Indiana bat, and/or NLEB, and/or TCB. Accordingly, the Project is anticipated to result in adverse effects to bats at 1 bridge.

Post Assessment Bat Discovery

Some take may occur when an initial bridge, culvert, or structure bat assessment fails to detect Indiana bat, NLEB, or TCB use or occupancy, yet bats are later detected prior to or during construction. If bats are detected post-assessment on the Project, promptly notify the local Service Field Office within 2 working days of the discovery.

Through coordination with the Service, if it is determined that these roosting bats have not or will not be disturbed, or ≤ 5 covered bats have been or may be adversely affected, take may be covered under the ITS in this PBO. If not, separate consultation is required. Submit the Post Assessment Discovery of Bats at Bridge/Culvert or Structure Form (User Guide Appendix E) to this Service Office within 5 working days from the completion of the bridge, culvert, or structure construction activities.

Tree Removal/trimming

The Service anticipates that tree removal associated with the proposed project will cause incidental take of IBAT and/or NLEB and/or TCB. Based on the PBO, 0.22 acre of tree removal/trimming are anticipated to result in adverse effects. ARDOT used the mitigation ratio(s) of 1.25 from Table 3 of the PBO¹ to calculate the compensatory mitigation required to offset these adverse impacts. As a result, the project requires a total of 0.28² of tree mitigation for the IBAT and/or NLEB.

In order to comply with the mitigation requirements of the PBO, the ARDOT will deduct \$2,092.00 from the Indiana Bat Tracking Project as compensatory mitigation, to compensate for clearing approximately 0.22 acre of trees in suitable habitat within 1 year of this letter or prior to the start of construction, whichever is earliest. These calculations are based on the mitigation identified above² and the 2025 Land Use Values in Table 2 of Exhibit E in TCF's ILF Instrument³. The deduction of species conservation credits and/or in-lieu fee contributions shall occur prior to construction of a transportation project covered under this programmatic consultation.

The purchase of species conservation credits and/or in-lieu fee contributions shall occur prior to construction of a transportation project covered under this PBO. Exceptions to this program stipulation include emergency projects that do not require a letting prior to construction. In these cases, purchase of credits and/or in-lieu fee contributions shall occur within three months of completion of the project. This timeframe allows for measuring the acres of habitat affected by the emergency project and for financial processing.

Reasonable and Prudent Measures

The Service will add 1 bridge and 0.22 acre to the annual total attributed to the PBO as a surrogate measure of IBAT and/or NLEB and/or TCB incidental take and exempted from the prohibitions of section 9 of the ESA. Such exemption is effective as long as your agency implements the reasonable and prudent measure (RPM) and accompanying terms and conditions of the PBO's ITS.

¹ <https://www.fws.gov/media/compensatory-mitigation-ratios-indiana-bat-table-3-biological-opinion>

² XX acres * XX ratio

³ <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024-12/2025-ibat-nleb-ilf-exhibit-e-fee-schedule.pdf>

The sole RPM of the PBO's ITS requires the Federal Transportation Agencies to ensure that state/local transportation agencies, who choose to include eligible projects under the programmatic action, incorporate all applicable conservation measures in the project proposals submitted to the Service for ESA Section 7 compliance using the PBO. The implementing terms and conditions for this RPM require the Federal Transportation Agencies to offer training to appropriate personnel about using the PBO, and promptly report sick, injured, or dead bats (regardless of species) or any other federally listed species located at the project site.

Reporting Dead or Injured Bats

ARDOT and any contractors must take care when handling dead or injured IBAT and/or NLEB and/or TCB, or any other federally listed species that are found at the project site to preserve biological material in the best possible condition and to protect the handler from exposure to diseases, such as rabies. Project personnel are responsible for ensuring that any evidence about determining the cause of death or injury is not unnecessarily disturbed. Reporting the discovery of dead or injured listed species is required in all cases to enable the Service to determine whether the level of incidental take exempted by this PBO has been exceeded, and to ensure that the terms and conditions are appropriate and effective. Parties finding a dead, injured, or sick specimen of any endangered or threatened species must promptly notify this Service Office.

Re-initiation Notice

If the TCB is subsequently listed prior to completion of the action, the Transportation Agencies shall send a request to the Service to convert the Programmatic Conference Opinion (PCO) for TCB to a PBO, and request individual projects, such as this, that are completed as Conference Opinions under the PCO be converted to Biological Opinions under the PBO for the TCB. If the Service reviews the proposed action and finds that there have been no significant changes in the action as planned or in the information used during this programmatic conference, the Service will confirm the PCO as a PBO and no further ESA section 7 consultation will be necessary. Following an adoption of the PCO as a PBO, the Transportation Agencies shall request reinitiation of consultation as defined in the reinitiation notice below.

This letter concludes consultation for the Project, which qualifies for inclusion in the PBO issued to the Federal Transportation Agencies. To maintain this inclusion, a reinitiation of this Project-level consultation is required where the Federal Highway Administration's discretionary involvement or control over the project has been retained (or is authorized by law) and if:

1. The amount or extent of incidental take of IBAT and/or NLEB and/or TCB is exceeded;
2. new information reveals that the project may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not considered in the PBO or in the project information that supported Service concurrence with NLAA determinations;
3. the Project is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to listed species or designated critical habitat not considered in the PBO or in

- the project information that supported Service concurrence with NLAA determinations; or
4. a new species is listed, or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the project.

Per condition #1 above, the anticipated incidental take is exceeded when:

- the individual Project takes more than 5 Indiana bats, and/or 5 NLEBs, and/or 5 TCBs resulting from a bridge, culvert, or structure activity;
- the Project removes trees from more than 0.22 acre of habitat suitable for the IBAT and/or NLEB and/or TCB.

In instances where the amount or extent of incidental take is exceeded, the ARDOT is required to immediately request a re-initiation of formal consultation.

We appreciate your continued efforts to ensure that this Project is fully consistent with all applicable provisions of the PBO. If you have any questions regarding our response or if you need additional information, please contact Lindsey Lewis at lindsey_lewis@fws.gov or (501) 513-4489.

Sincerely,

**CHRISTOPHE
R DAVIDSON** Digitally signed by
CHRISTOPHER DAVIDSON
Date: 2025.06.24 08:15:03
-05'00'

For Jason Hight
Field Supervisor



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office
110 South Amity Suite 300
Conway, AR 72032-8975
Phone: (501) 513-4470 Fax: (501) 513-4480

In Reply Refer To:

06/19/2025 18:16:06 UTC

Project Code: 2025-0042094

Project Name: C22005 - Groce Creek Str. & Apprs. (Wilmar) (S)

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do>.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office

110 South Amity Suite 300

Conway, AR 72032-8975

(501) 513-4470

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0042094

Project Name: C22005 - Groce Creek Str. & Apprs. (Wilmar) (S)

Project Type: Bridge - Replacement

Project Description: The project is to replace a structurally deficient bridge with a box culvert.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@33.634905950000004,-91.9296111,14z>



Counties: Drew County, Arkansas

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 12 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Black Rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477	Threatened
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened
Red-cockaded Woodpecker <i>Dryobates borealis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614	Threatened
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Alligator Snapping Turtle <i>Macrochelys temminckii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4658	Proposed Threatened

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Ouachita Fanshell <i>Cyprogenia sp. cf. aberti</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10889	Threatened
Pink Mucket (pearlymussel) <i>Lampsilis abrupta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7829	Endangered

NAME	STATUS
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165	Threatened
Winged Mapleleaf <i>Quadrula fragosa</i> Population: Wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4127	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Arkansas Department of Transportation

Name: Sarah Hallett

Address: 10324 I-30

City: Little Rock

State: AR

Zip: 72209

Email sarah.hallett@ardot.gov

Phone: 5015692078

You have indicated that your project falls under or receives funding through the following special project authorities:

- **BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) (OTHER)**

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

ARDOT Job C22005 FAP N/A

Job Title Groce Creek Str. & Apprs. (Wilmar) (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments
Air Quality	X			No air quality/MSAT impacts
Cultural Resources	X			SHPO clearance attached
Economic	X			No adverse impacts
Endangered Species		X		"No effect"; NLAA & LAA effects with compensation mitigation
Civil Rights/Title VI	X			No protected populations in project area
Fish and Wildlife		X		Temporary impacts during construction
Floodplains		X		Within Zone A SFHA
Forest Service Property	X			None in the project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			No impacts anticipated
Land Use		X		Approximately 0.19 acre of ROW
Migratory Birds		X		Migratory Bird SP included
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			No navigable waterways involved
Noise Levels	X			No impacts anticipated
Important Farmland		X		0.04 acre of Important Farmland
Protected Waters	X			None within the project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			None within the project area
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			None within the project area
Relocates	X			None impacted by the project
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 in project area
Visual	X			No changes to visual environment
Streams		X		0.04 acre of impacts from project
Water Quality		X		Temporary decrease during construction
Wetlands	X			None impacted by the project
Wildlife Refuges	X			None in the project area

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Required? No

Short-term Activity Authorization Required? Yes

Section 404 Permit Required? Yes Type: NWP 14

Remarks:
No Pre-Construction Notification needed

Signature of Evaluator  Date 6/25/2025



Date Submitted 12-20-2024

Date Returned _____

STATE AID DESIGN REQUEST

Job Number: C22005 FAP Number: 9971C22005 County: Drew

Job Name: Groce Creek Str. & Apprs. (Wilmar) (S)

Design Engineer: Tim Yu Environmental Staff _____

Brief Project Description: Replace obsolete bridge with box culvert

A. Existing Conditions:

- 1. Roadway Width: Metric _____ English 20'-0"
- 2. Shoulder Width: Metric _____ English N/A
- 3. Number of Lanes and Width: Metric _____ English 2 @ 10'-0"
- 4. Existing Right-of-Way: Metric _____ English 70'

B. Proposed Improvements:

- 1. Roadway Width: Metric _____ English 20'-0"
- 2. Shoulder Width: Metric _____ English 4'-0"
- 3. Number of Lanes and Width: Metric _____ English 2 @ 10'-0"
- 4. Average Right-of-Way: Metric _____ English 85.75'

If bridge(s) will be replaced by culverts give dimensions: N/A

C. Construction Information:

Detour: (if applicable)

Where: N/A

Approximate total length of detour: _____ kilometer(s) N/A mile(s)

D. Design Data:

2025 ADT: 290 2045 ADT: 360 Trucks: 8%

Design Speed: 45 mph

E. Approximate total length of project: _____ kilometer(s) 0.057 mile(s)

F. Justification for proposed improvements: To replace structurally deficient bridge.

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

H. Have you coordinated with any of the following: (Provide name and date.)

County Officials: No

State Agency: No

Federal Agency: No