




INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

April 25, 2024

TO: Master Files

FROM: Josh Seagraves, Division Head – Environmental 

SUBJECT: 2025 Raised Pavement Markers Projects
Multiple Job and FAP numbers
Various Counties
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 these projects is to continue the installation of raised pavement markers along the state highway system. The attached table lists the project names and FAP numbers.

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 toxics concerns. The cultural resources clearance is attached.

The official species lists obtained through the US Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) 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*), Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Ivory-Billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), Rufa Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*), Ozark Hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis bishopi*), Leopard Darter (*Percina pantherina*), Ozark Cavefish (*Amblyopsis rosae*), Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*), Yellowcheek Darter (*Etheostoma moorei*), Arkansas Fatmucket (*Lampsilis powellii*), Curtis Pearlymussel (*Epioblasma curtisii*), Fat Pocketbook (*Potamilus capax*), Neosho Mucket (*Lampsilis rafinesqueana*), Ouachita Fanshell (*Cyprogenia sp. cf. aberti*), Ouachita Rock Pocketbook (*Arcidens wheelerii*), Pick Mucket (*Lampsilis abrupta*), Rabbitsfoot (*Theliderma cylindrica*), Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonia ambigua*), Scaleshell Mussel (*Potamilus leptodon*), Snuffbox Mussel (*Epioblasma triquetra*), Speckled Pocketbook (*Lampsilis streckeri*), Spectaclecase (*Cumberlandia monodonta*), Western Fanshell (*Cyprogenia aberti*), Winged Mapleleaf (*Quadrula fragosa*), American Burying Beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*), Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*), Benton County Cave Crayfish (*Cambarus aculabrum*),

2025 Raised Pavement Markers Projects

Tier 1 Categorical Exclusion

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Hell Creek Cave Crayfish (*Cambarus zophonastes*), Geocarpon (*Geocarpon minimum*), Harperella (*Ptilimnium nodosum*), Missouri bladderpod (*Physaria filiformis*), and Pondberry (*Lindera melissifolia*). The official species list is attached. 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. In addition, the proposed project will have “no effect” on the seven listed critical habitats within the project area.

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

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.

Attachments

c: Program Management
Right of Way
Roadway Design
Districts 1-10
FHWA

JS:KR:sw

Job Number	Job Name	FAP
012506	Districts 1, 5, & 10 Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)	STPF-0076(355)
012507	Districts 2, 3, & 7 Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)	STPF-0076(356)
012508	Districts 4 & 9 Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)	STPF-0076(357)
012509	Districts 6 & 8 Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)	STPF-0076(358)



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION


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

10324 Interstate 30 | P.O. Box 2261 | Little Rock, AR 72203-2261 | Phone: 501.569.2000

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

February 7, 2024

TO: Environmental Job File

FROM: Richard Jenkins, Cultural Resources 

SUBJECT: Cultural Resources Clearance
Job 012506, Districts 1, 5 & 10 Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)
Job 012507, Districts 2, 3 & 7 Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)
Job 012508, Districts 4 & 9 Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)
Job 012509, Districts 6 & 8 Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)

The Arkansas Department of Transportation proposes the installation of raised pavement safety markers along portions of the Arkansas Primary Highway Network statewide.

The proposed safety markers will be installed on the existing pavement surfaces. This project is subject to the 2021 Programmatic Agreement and falls under Activity A in Appendix B. The project is exempt from further work or Section 106 review.



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:

04/05/2024 12:31:09 UTC

Project Code: 2024-0073260

Project Name: Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (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, intentional or unintentional, 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>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. 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: 2024-0073260
Project Name: Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)
Project Type: Road/Hwy - Maintenance/Modification
Project Description: This project involves the installation of raised pavement markers on the entire state highway system.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@34.75194125,-92.49471250921613,14z>



Counties: Arkansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 39 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.

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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
Gray Bat <i>Myotis grisescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6329	Endangered
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</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/5949	Endangered
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
Ozark Big-eared Bat <i>Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii ingens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7245	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
Ivory-billed Woodpecker <i>Campephilus principalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8230	Endangered
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>Picoides borealis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7614	Endangered
Rufa Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. 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

AMPHIBIANS

NAME	STATUS
Ozark Hellbender <i>Cryptobranchus alleganiensis bishopi</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/647	Endangered

FISHES

NAME	STATUS
Leopard Darter <i>Percina pantherina</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8470	Threatened
Ozark Cavefish <i>Amblyopsis rosae</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6490	Threatened
Pallid Sturgeon <i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7162	Endangered
Yellowcheek Darter <i>Etheostoma moorei</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7871	Endangered

CLAMS

NAME	STATUS
Arkansas Fatmucket <i>Lampsilis powellii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2213	Threatened
Curtis Pearlymussel <i>Epioblasma florentina curtisii</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5628	Endangered
Fat Pocketbook <i>Potamilus capax</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2780	Endangered
Neosho Mucket <i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3788	Endangered
Ouachita Fanshell <i>Cyprogenia sp. cf. aberti</i>	Threatened

NAME	STATUS
There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10889	
Ouachita Rock Pocketbook <i>Arcidens wheeleri</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4509	Endangered
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
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165	Threatened
Salamander Mussel <i>Simpsonaias ambigua</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/6208	Proposed Endangered
Scaleshell Mussel <i>Leptodea leptodon</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5881	Endangered
Snuffbox Mussel <i>Epioblasma triquetra</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4135	Endangered
Speckled Pocketbook <i>Lampsilis streckeri</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7869	Endangered
Spectaclecase (mussel) <i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7867	Endangered
Western Fanshell <i>Cyprogenia aberti</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6895	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
American Burying Beetle <i>Nicrophorus americanus</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/66	Threatened

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRUSTACEANS

NAME	STATUS
Benton County Cave Crayfish <i>Cambarus aculabrum</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5011	Endangered
Hell Creek Cave Crayfish <i>Cambarus zophonastes</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1552	Endangered

FLOWERING PLANTS

NAME	STATUS
Geocarpon minimum No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7699	Threatened
Harperella <i>Ptilimnium nodosum</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3739	Endangered
Missouri Bladderpod <i>Physaria filiformis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5361	Threatened
Pondberry <i>Lindera melissifolia</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1279	Endangered

CRITICAL HABITATS

There are 7 critical habitats wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction.

NAME	STATUS
Leopard Darter <i>Percina pantherina</i> https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8470#crithab	Final
Louisiana Pigtoe <i>Pleurobema riddellii</i> For information on why this critical habitat appears for your project, even though Louisiana Pigtoe is not on the list of potentially affected species at this location, contact the local field office. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10233#crithab	Proposed
Neosho Mucket <i>Lampsilis rafinesqueana</i> https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3788#crithab	Final

NAME	STATUS
Ouachita Fanshell <i>Cyprogenia sp. cf. aberti</i> https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10889#crithab	Final
Rabbitsfoot <i>Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica</i> https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5165#crithab	Final
Western Fanshell <i>Cyprogenia aberti</i> https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6895#crithab	Final
Yellowcheek Darter <i>Etheostoma moorei</i> https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7871#crithab	Final

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 Jobs See Table FAPs See Table

Job Title Raised Pavement Markers (2025) (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments
Air Quality	X			No MSAT analysis required
Cultural Resources	X			CR clearances attached
Economic	X			No impacts
Endangered Species	X			No impacts
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No impacted populations
Fish and Wildlife	X			No impacts
Floodplains	X			No impacts
Forest Service Property	X			None in project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			No impacts
Land Use	X			No impacts
Migratory Birds	X			No bridge or large culvert work
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			No navigable waters
Noise Levels	X			No impacts
Prime Farmland	X			No impacts
Protected Waters	X			No impacts
Public Recreation Lands	X			No impacts
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			No impacts
Relocates	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			No 4(f)/6(f) properties impacted
Social	X			No impacts
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No impacts
Visual		X		Improves lane visibility
Streams	X			No impacts
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? No
 Short-term Activity Authorization Required? No
 Section 404 Permit Required? No Type N/A

Remarks: _____

Signature of Evaluator Kathryn Rose Date 4/23/2024