

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

September 11, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: MAURICE SMITH, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: PUBLIC ACCESS PROVISIONS AT BRIDGE PROJECTS

Sporting and other recreational utilization of Arkansas' lakes and waterways is dependent upon easy public access to these facilities. Bridge replacement projects frequently provide opportunities for public access to waterways. The procedures set out herein are intended as a mechanism whereby these opportunities are thoroughly explored, evaluated and capitalized on where appropriate. These procedures shall apply to bridge replacement projects crossing major rivers in the State.

1. When preliminary plans are developed to the initial field inspection stage. Roadway Design will contact the Game and Fish Commission. The purpose of this contact is to:
  - (a.) Have Game and Fish determine the need for public access at the project location, and;
  - (b.) Set up a site inspection with Game & fish if they so desire.
2. If Game & fish determines that no public access is needed, a memorandum documenting this decision will be included in the files and Design will proceed without further Game & fish involvement.
3. If Game & Fish determines public access to be desirable, Design will coordinate the location and size of such access area with Game & Fish.
4. A memorandum will be submitted to the Assistant chief Engineer - Design for concurrence when one or both of the following conditions are involved:
  - (a) Parking area exceeding one (1) acre in size, or;
  - (b) Additional right of way (beyond normal project limits) is needed to accommodate the access area. (additional right of way for public access will be the responsibility of the Game & fish Commission).

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5. Game & Fish will provide drawings and specifications needed for boat launching ramp facilities; construction will be a contract item.
6. Quantities for the access construction shall be separated out in the plans in order to handle various funding schemes.
7. Maintenance of public access area roads outside project right of way will be the responsibility of the County or the Game & Fish Commission. Right of Way Division will assist Game & Fish and the County in resolution of maintenance responsibility.

Charles E. Venable  
Chief Engineer

cc: Assistant Director  
Assistant Chief Engineers  
Right of Way  
State Aid  
Roadway Design  
Bridge Division  
District Engineers  
Steve Wilson, Game & Fish Commission Director