



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

October 13, 2022

TO: Master Files

FROM:  John Fleming, Division Head, Environmental Division 

SUBJECT: Job 101076
FAP ACNHPP-55-1(151)
Hwy. 181 – Hwy. 158 (S)
Route I-55, Section 12
Mississippi 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 rehabilitation of Interstate 55 between Highway 181 and Highway 158 in Mississippi County. Additionally, polymer overlay of four bridges (A3288, B3288, A3289, B3289) will be completed. Temporary entry and exit ramps and traffic crossover lanes would be built to help maintain traffic during construction. Total length of the project is approximately 7.8 miles.

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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation website identified the

following species as potentially occurring within the project area: Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), alligator snapping turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*), Fat Pocketbook (*Potamilus capax*), pondberry (*Lindera melissifolia*), 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.

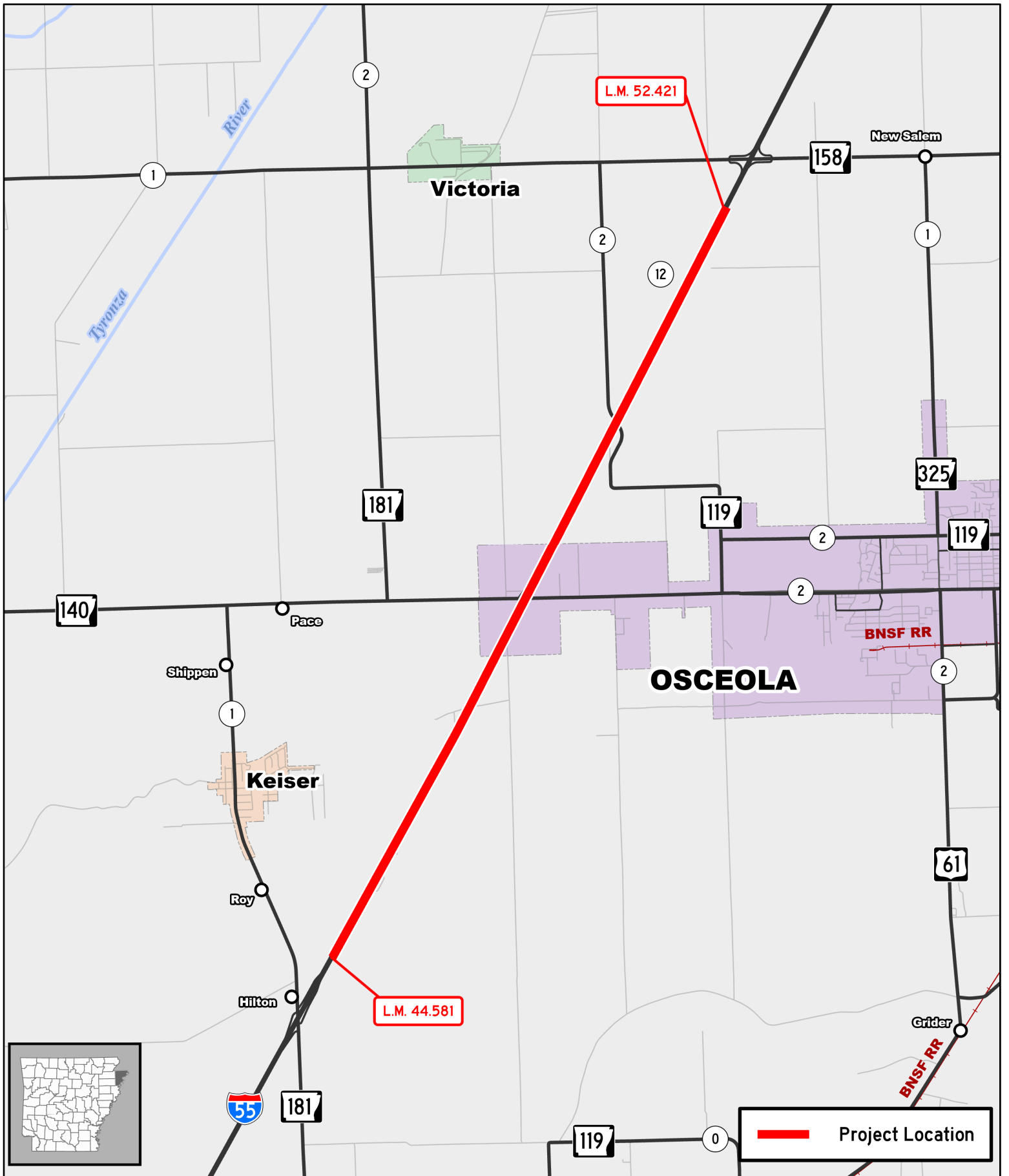
This project will not have a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States; therefore, a Section 404 permit will not be required.

JF:KR:sw

Attachments:

- Location Map
- Cultural Resources Clearance
- Environmental Study Checklist

c: Program Management
Right of Way
Roadway Design
District 10
FHWA



Job 101076
Hwy. 181 – Hwy. 158 (S)
 I-55, Sec. 12
 Mississippi County

AR DOT
 ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION


0 0.38 0.75 1.5
 Miles



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

October 5, 2022

TO: Environmental Job File

FROM: Jason Kennedy, Cultural Resources Section


SUBJECT: Cultural Resources Clearance
Job 101076
Hwy. 181 – Hwy. 158 (S)
Route I-55, Section 12
Mississippi County

This job proposes 7.84 miles of reconstruction and polymer overlay on four bridges along Interstate 55 between the Highway 181 interchange and the Highway 158 interchange in Mississippi County. No new right-of-way (ROW) will be acquired. All work will occur on the existing roadway.

A records check of the Arkansas Archeological Survey's database showed one archeological site (3MS0460) near to the proposed project area. Site 3MS0460 is a 20th century historic site. The site is adjacent to the ROW but is recorded as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). A records check of Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's database showed no historic properties near the project area. No cemeteries are located near the project area.

Nineteenth through twentieth century maps were examined. The 1845 and 1847 General Land Office plat maps of Townships 12 North, Range 9 East, Townships 12 North, Range 10 East, and Township 13 North, Range 10 East showed no cultural resources in the vicinity of the project area. The 1936 Mississippi County map shows development including several structures that would have been near the project area. None of these structures, if still extant, will be affected by the rehabilitation along the course of Interstate 55. Bridges A3288–A3289, B3288–B3289, M3053 and M3054 are 45 years of age or older

Cultural Resources Clearance

Job 101076

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and are within the project area. They were not evaluated for eligibility to the NRHP due to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Section 106 exemption regarding effects to the Interstate Highway System (filed on the Federal Register as 69 FR 77979-77981 and authority of 16 U.S.C. 470v; 36 CFR 800.14(c) on March 7, 2005).

The existing topography, aerial imagery, previous infrastructure and construction practices were examined to assess previous ground disturbance. This type of undertaking has no potential to cause effects to historic properties. All work will be within the existing ROW, and the scope of the project occurs within previously disturbed areas. Therefore, this project requires no Section 106 review under Appendix C, Activity 1, of the 2021 Programmatic Agreement.

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

ARDOT Job 101076 FAP ACNHPP-55-1(151)

Job Title Hwy. 181 – Hwy. 158 (S)

Environmental Resource	None	Minimal	Major	Comments
Air Quality	X			No MSAT analysis required
Cultural Resources	X			CR clearance attached
Economic	X			No impacts anticipated
Endangered Species	X			No Effect determination
Environmental Justice/Title VI	X			No affected populations
Fish and Wildlife	X			None in project area
Floodplains	X			No impacts anticipated
Forest Service Property	X			None in project area
Hazardous Materials/Landfills	X			None in project area
Land Use	X			No new ROW or TCE
Migratory Birds	X			No impacts anticipated
Navigation/Coast Guard	X			None in project area
Noise Levels	X			No impacts anticipated
Prime Farmland	X			No impacts anticipated
Protected Waters	X			None in project area
Public Recreation Lands	X			No impacts anticipated
Public Water Supply/WHPA	X			No impacts anticipated
Relocatees	X			No relocations
Section 4(f)/6(f)	X			No impacts anticipated
Social	X			No impacts anticipated
Underground Storage Tanks	X			No impacts anticipated
Visual	X			No impacts anticipated
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 N/A

Remarks: _____

Signature of Evaluator *Kathryn Rose* Date 10/12/2022