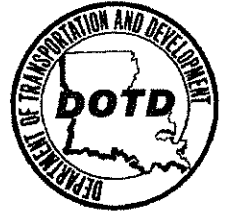


Appendix E. Solicitation of Views (2012, 2014 & 2023)



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245
www.dotd.la.gov
Section 28



SHERRI H. LEBAS, P.E.
SECRETARY

September 27, 2012

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000284
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H000284
NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
ROUTE: US 90
PARISH: ST. TAMMANY

SUBJECT: SOLICITATION OF VIEWS

In the planning stages of a transportation facility, views from federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and individuals are solicited. The special expertise of these groups can assist the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) with the early identification of possible adverse economic, social, or environmental effects or concerns. Your assistance in this regard will be appreciated.

We have attached a map showing the general location of the proposed project, along with a preliminary project description.

It is requested that you review the attached information and furnish us with your views and comments by **October 30, 2012**. Replies should be addressed to LA DOTD; Environmental Engineer Administrator; P.O. Box 94245; Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245. Please reference the State Project Number in your reply.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Ms. Stacie Palmer at (225) 242-4517.

Sincerely,

for Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator

Attachments

56 NA/sp

cc: District Administrator
District Traffic Operations Engineer

PRELIMINARY PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**STATE PROJECT NO. H.000284
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H000284
US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
US 90
ST. TAMMANY PARISH**

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), in order to continue to provide a safe and reliable transportation route, proposes to replace or rehabilitate the following four (4) bridges located on US 90 in St. Tammany Parish (see attached map).

Site 1:

Structure Number: 62520060705291 (West Pearl River Bridge)

Location: 89°40'14.624"W, 30°13'51.095"N

Year Built: 1933

Type: Steel Vertical Lift Span

Site 2:

Structure Number: 62520060706701 (West Middle Pearl River Bridge)

Location: 89°38'50.787"W, 30°14'3.812"N

Year Built: 1933

Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss)

Site 3:

Structure Number: 62520060707111 (Middle Middle Pearl River Bridge)

Location: 89°38'23.94"W, 30°14'7.109"N

Year Built: 1933

Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss)

Site 4:

Structure Number: 62520060707701 (East Middle Pearl River Bridge)

Location: 89°37'51.442"W, 30°14'12.29"N

Year Built: 1933

Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss)

All of these bridges have a sufficiency rating of less than 50 and qualify for federal bridge replacement funds. However, the bridges have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) therefore alternatives, including bridge rehabilitation, will be considered for the proposed action.

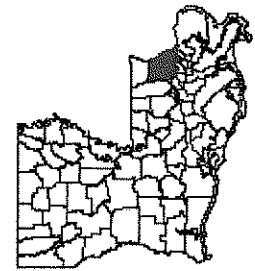
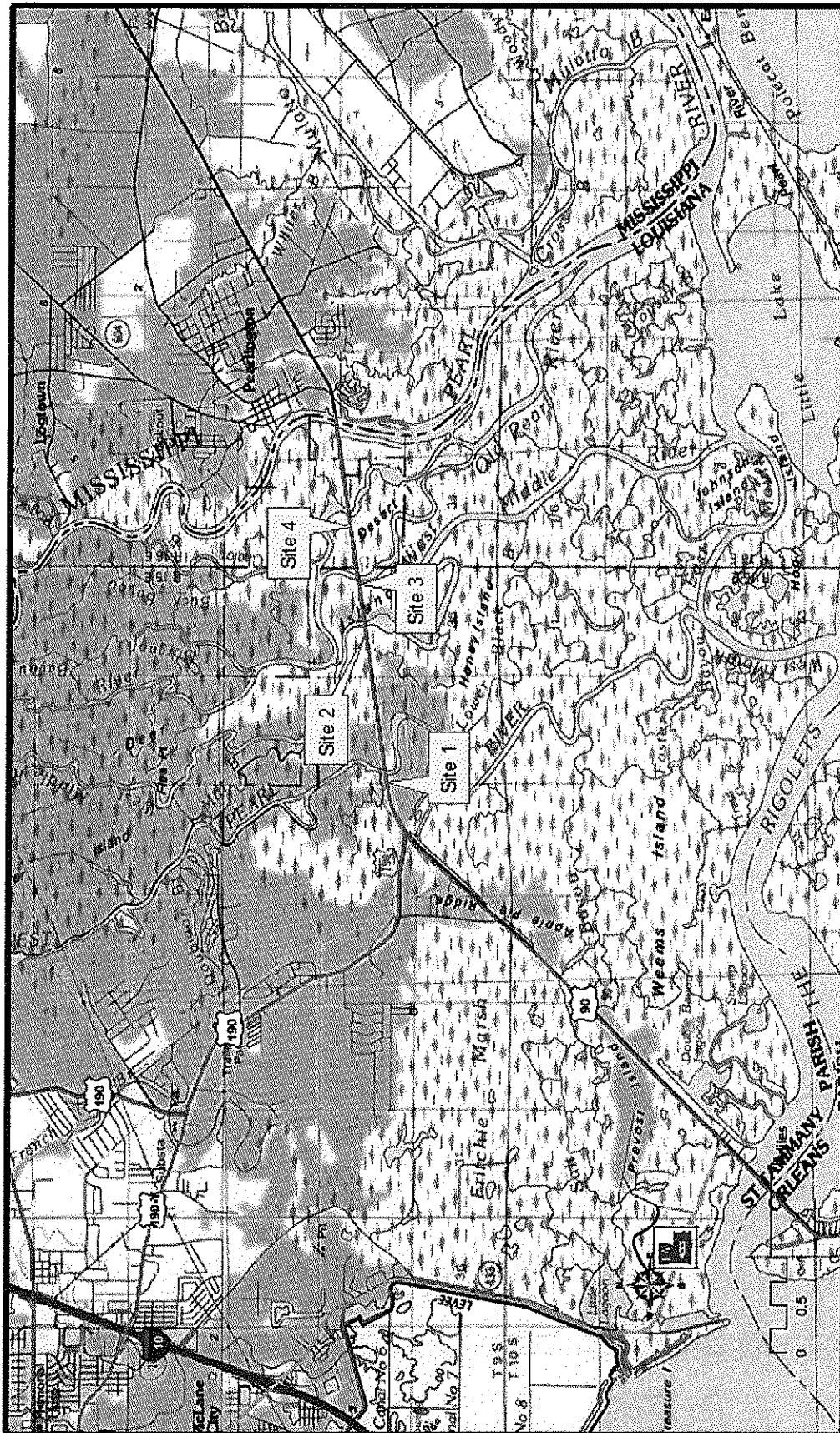
The roadway class design for all four bridges is RA-2 with a design speed limit of 60 mph. The average daily traffic (ADT) values for years 2016 and 2036 are 3,152 and 3,848 respectively. LADOTD will be conducting an Environmental Assessment study for the proposed undertaking. If the bridges would be replaced on existing alignment, it is anticipated that this portion of the

route would be closed during the construction phase. The road closure duration is not determined but could be up to four years. The length of the detour is approximately 30 miles.

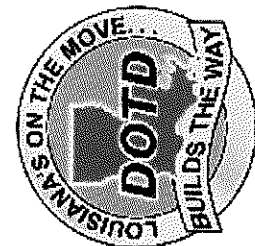
The method for alternative development and screening will utilize various data including but not limited to; aerial photography, existing GIS and LIDAR, survey and site visit. Impacts and benefits will be identified and weighed to focus on a preferred alternative. Analyses will include wetlands, threatened and endangered species, cultural resources, business and residential relocations, community, environmental justice, noise, air, and contamination concerns. If applicable a detailed analysis of the impacts of the proposed project will be performed on the preferred alternative so that impacts associated with construction of the project can be identified and coordination carried out as needed.

During the environmental process for this project, a public meeting may be held. Other public involvement activities may include agency meetings, an additional public meeting and/or a public hearing.

In addition to your comments on the project in general, we respectfully request your comments on the preliminary purpose and need, screening methodology, range of alternatives, and planned coordination efforts. This information will be helpful in the development of the Environmental Assessment for this proposed project.



PROJECT AREA MAP
 State Project No.: H.000284
 Federal Project No.: H000284
 Name: US 90: Pearl River Bridges
 Route: US 90
 Parish: St. Tammany
 Map Reference: Rigolets 7.5' USGS



STATE MAILING LIST
UPDATED July 5, 2012

DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION
ATTN: ASW-472
FT WORTH, TX 76193

HONORABLE CHARLIE MELANCON
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE
(DISTRICT) 3
423 LAFAYETTE STREET, SUITE 107
HOUMA LA 70360

DEPT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 94185
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-9185

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LA FORESTRY ASSOC
PO DRAWER 5067
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71301

HONORABLE WILLIAM PATRICK
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT) 4
1500 N. MARKET ST.
SHREVEPORT LA 71107

DEPT OF AGRI & FORESTRY
OFFICE OF FORESTRY
PO BOX 1628
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

HON. RICHARD BURFORD
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT) 7
671 HWY 171, SUITE E
STONEWALL, LA 71078

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES BR (6E-F)
US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
1445 ROSS AVE, STE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

DEPT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
OFFICE OF SOIL/WATER CONSERV
5825 FLORIDA BLVD
BATONROUGE, LA 70806-4248

HONORABLE WAYNE WADELL
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT) 5
P.O. BOX 6772
SHREVEPORT, LA 71136-6772

HONORABLE JAMES H. MORRIS
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. BOX 217
(DISTRICT) 1
OIL CITY, LA 71061

DEPT OF CULTURE RECREATION &
TOURISM
DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY
P O BOX 44247
CAPITOL ANNEX 3RD
BATON ROUGE LA 70804

DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
PO BOX 66336
BATON ROUGE, LA 70896

HONORABLE THOMAS CARMODY JR
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT) 6
5916 FAIRFIELD AVENUE
SHREVEPORT, LA 71106

MS RUTH JOHNSON
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & FINANCE
P O BOX 3776
BATON ROUGE LA 70821

HONORABLE JOSEPH CAO
US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
4640 S. CARROLLTON AVENUE
(DISTRICT) 2
NEW ORLEANS LA 70119

LA DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION
617 N 3RD STREET
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

LA GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION
ATTN: PRESTON EGGERS
646 NORTH ST
BATON ROUGE, LA 70802

DONALD GOHMERT
NATURAL RESOURCES CONS SERVICE
3737 GOVERNMENT ST
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71302

REGION ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER
SHEILA HOUSTON-PERINE
500 POYDRAS STREET
HALLE BOGGS BLDG. 9TH FLOOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

LA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
LA DEPT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES
P O BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA 70898

MR MICHAEL BECHDOL
SOURCE WATER PROTECTION (6WQ-S)
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGCY
1445 ROSS AVE
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

US DEPT OF INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
100 ALABAMA STREET, SW
NPS/ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
ATLANTA GA 30303

LA STATE MINERAL BOARD
P O BOX 2827
BATON ROUGE LA 70821-2827

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION
STATE LAND OFFICE
P O BOX 44124
BATON ROUGE LA 70804

US DEPT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY & COMPLIANCE
1001 INDIAN SCHHOL NW, SUITE 348
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87104

DEPT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
3535 SOUTH SHERWOOD FOREST, SUITE 120
BATON ROUGE, LA 70806

LA STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL
PO BOX 94005
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-9095

SENATOR MARY LANDRIEU
(CLASS) II
UNITED STATES SENATE
707 FLORIDA BLVD
BATON ROUGE LA 70801

US FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
646 CAJUNDOME BLVD, SUITE 400
LAFAYETTE, LA 70506

MR GREG SOLVEY
FEMA REGION VI
800 NORTH LOOP 288
DENTON, TX 76201

SENATOR DAVID VITTER
UNITED STATES SENATE
2800 VETERANS MEMORIAL BLVD
SUITE 201 **(CLASS) III**
METAIRIE, LA 70002

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
SIERRA CLUB / DELTA CLUB
PO BOX 19469
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70179-0469

OFFICE OF STATE PARKS
DEPT OF CULTURE REC & TOURISM
PO BOX 44426
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

US DEPT OF COMMERCE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMN
504 LAVACA STREET, SUITE 1100
AUSTIN, TX 78701-2858

TENNEY SIBLEY
DHH / OPH/ SANITARIAN
PO BOX 4489
BATON ROUGE LA 70821

DISTRICT COMMANDER
8TH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
HALE BOGGS FEDERAL BUILDING
500 POYDRAS
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

DEPT OF HEALTH & HOSPITALS
DIVISON OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
ATTN: DOUG VINCENT, CHIEF ENGINEER
P O BOX 4489
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

STEVEN PEYRONNIN, EXECUTIVE DIR.
COALITION TO RESTORE COASTAL LA
P O BOX 1827
BATON ROUGE LA 70821

MS JOANNA GARDNER
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
LA DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
P O BOX 4301
BATON ROUGE LA 70821

GREGG GOTHREAU /LAF ECON
211 DEVALCOURT ST
LAFAYETTE, LA 70506-4121

CHARLES ST ROMAIN
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION
STATE LAND OFFICE
PO BOX 44124
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

JAMES G WILKINS
SEA GRANT LEAGAL ADVISORY
SERVICE
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
227B SEA GRANT BUILDING
BATON ROUGE, LA 70803

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PGM
DOTD – SANDRA BATTEN
8900 JIMMY WEDELL
BATON ROUGE, LA 70807

MR MARK S DAVIS. DIRECTOR
TULANE INSTITUTE ON WATER
6329 FRERET ST. SUITE 355 F
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
MARK FORD, DIRECTOR
PO BOX 94004
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-9004

INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF LA, INC
KEVIN BILLIOT, DIRECTOR
8281 GOODWOOD BLVD. SUITE I-2
BATON ROUGE, LA 70808

MR RANDY THIGPEN
3247 EMILY DRIVE
PORT ALLEN LA 70767

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADM
819 TAYLOR STREET
ROOM: 8A36
FORT WORTH, TX 76102

STATE PLANNING OFFICE
CAPITOL ANNEX BLDG. 2ND FLOOR
PO BOX 94095
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

BILL CASSIDY
P.O. BOX 426
LIVINGSTON, LA 70754

CHITIMACHE TRIBE OF LOUISIANA
P.O. BOX 661
CHARENTON, LA 70523

COUSHATTA TRIBE OF LOUISIANA
P.O. BOX 818
ELTON, LA 70532

JENA BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS
P.O. BOX 14
JENA, LA 71342

MS BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS
P.O. BOX 6257
PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350

TUNICA -BILOXI TRIBE OF LOUISIANA
P.O. BOX 1589
MARKSVILLE, LA 71351

CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA
P.O DRAWER 1210
DURANT, OK 74702

JODY COLVIN
TRAFFIC ENGINEERING MGT. ENGINEER
DISTRICT 77
ROOM: 402A

ST. TAMMANY PARISH MAILING LIST
UPDATED September 20, 2012

BOGUE CHITTO PEARL RIVER SOIL
& WATER CONS DISTRICT OF LA
1111 WASHINGTON STREET
FRANKLINTON LA 70438

NATIONAL MARINE FISH SERVICE
HABITAT CONSERVATION DIVISION
LSU CENTER FOR WETLAND RES
BATON ROUGE LA 70803-7535

SLIDELL CITY COUNCIL
MR SHAWN MCMANUS
COUNCIL ADMINISTRATOR
PO BOX 828
SLIDELL LA 70459-0828

MR BRYAN GIDDINGS
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
1300 PERDIDO ST. STE 9E06
NEW ORLEANS LA 70112

ST TAMMANY HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC
P.O. BOX 1001
MANDEVILLE, LA 70470-1001

HONORABLE SCOTT M SIMON
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT 74)
P.O. BOX 1294
ABITA SPRINGS, LA 70420

ST TAMMANY PARISH POLICE JURY
PO BOX 628
COVINGTON LA 70434

HON. GEORGE GREGORY CROMER
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT 90)
PO BOX 2088
SLIDELL, LA 70459

ST TAMMANY PARISH SCHOOL BOARD
PO BOX 940
COVINGTON LA 70434

JEFFERSON PARISH PLANNING DEPT
MR PHILIP BIONDELLO
DIRECTOR
1221 ELMWOOD PARK BLVD
HARAHAN LA 70123

ST TAMMANY PARISH SHERIFF
P.O. BOX 1120, 701 N. COLUMBIA ST.
RM: B1010-2
COVINGTON LA 70433

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
N O & THE RIVER REGION
301 W. AIRLINE HWY, # 201
LAPLACE, LA 70068

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
118 WEST HALL AVENUE
SLIDELL LA 70460-2633

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
10 VETERANS BLVD.
NEW ORLEANS LA 70124

FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR
ST TAMMANY PARISH POLICE JURY
PO BOX 628
COVINGTON LA 70434

MS. KAREN OBERLIES
DEPT OF THE ARMY – TECH SUPPORT
P O BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS LA 70538

DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS
ATTN: MR WILLIAM YEATES
PO BOX 628
COVINGTON LA 70434

MR DOUGLAS J KAMIEN, PE
DEPUTY FOR PROGRAMS AND
PROJECT MANAGEMENT
VICKSBURG DIST COPRS OF ENGRS
4155 CLAY STREET
VICKSBURG MS 39183-3435

HONORABLE JACK DONAHUE
THE SENATE OF LOUISIANA
(DISTRICT 11)
P.O. BOX 896
MANDEVILLE, LA 70470

HONORABLE BEN NEVERS
THE SENATE OF LOUISIANA
(DISTRICT 12)
724 AVENUE F
BOGALUSA LA 70427

HONORABLE J. KEVIN PEARSON
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT 76)
620 OAK HARBOR BLVD., SUITE 203
SLIDELL, LA 70458

HONORABLE JOHN M. SCHRODER SR.
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT 77)
222 N. VERMONT ST., SUITE K&M
COVINGTON, LA 70433

ST TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL
P O BOX 628
COVINGTON LA 70434

LOUISIANA STATE POLICE
TROOP L
2600 NORTH CAUSEWAY
MANDEVILLE LA 70471

HON TIMOTHY G "TIM" BURNS
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT 89)
1 SANCTUARY BLVD., SUITE 306
MANDEVILLE LA 70471

HON HAROLD L RITCKIE
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(DISTRICT 75)
302 LOUISIANA AVENUE
BOGALUSA LA 70427

ALABAMA COUSHATTA TRIBE OF TX
571 STATE PARK ST. 65
LIVINGSTON, TX 77351

CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA
IAN THOMPSON PHD, RPA
P.O. BOX 1210
DURANT, OK 74702-1210

ALAN EMARTHLE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER
SEMINOLE NATION OF OKLAHOMA
P.O. BOX 1498
WEWOKA, OK 74884

PAUL BACKHOUSE, THPO
30290 JOSIE BILLIE HWY
SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA
PMB 1004
CLEWISTON, FL 33440



FEMA

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
REGION VI
MITIGATION DIVISION

PUBLIC NOTICE REVIEW/ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION

☐ We have no comments to offer. ☒ We offer the following comments:

**WE WOULD REQUEST THAT THE PARISH FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR BE
CONTACTED FOR THE REVIEW AND POSSIBLE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR
THIS PROJECT.**

**WE WOULD REQUEST PROJECT TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH EO11988 & EO
11990**

Alan Pelegrin
FPA
St. Tammany Parish
P.O. Box 628
Mandeville, LA 70471
permits@stpgov.org
985-898-2532

REVIEWER:

Mayra G. Diaz
Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch
Mitigation Division
(940) 898-5541

October 9, 2012



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

VICKSBURG DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
4155 CLAY STREET
VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI 39183-3435

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

October 9, 2012

Regional Planning and
Environment Division South
Quality Controls and
Administration

Mr. Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
Louisiana Department of
Transportation and Development
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

Dear Mr. Ardoin:

I refer to your letter of September 27, 2012, regarding replacement or rehabilitation of US 90 Pearl River Bridges in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana (State Project No. H000284 and Federal Aid Project No. H.000284). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, has no ongoing or proposed activities in the project area.

If your proposed work involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into wetlands or any other waters of the United States, you may need a Department of the Army permit prior to construction. For further information, please visit our website at <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf> or contact Mr. David Lofton (telephone (601) 631-5147).

I trust this information meets your needs. If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. Brian LaBarre of this office (telephone (601) 631-5437).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia R. Hemphill", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Patricia R. Hemphill, P.E.
Assistant Chief, Programs and
Project Management Division



Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, LA 71302

PLEASE DIRECT ALL FUTURE
CORRESPONDENCE TO
KEVIN NORTON AT THE ADDRESS
SHOWN ABOVE

(318) 473-7751
Fax: (318) 473-7626

October 10, 2012

Noel Ardoin
LADOTD
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: US90 Pearl River Bridges - State Project H.000284

Dear Noel:

I have reviewed the above referenced project for potential requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) and potential impact to Natural Resource Conservation Service projects in the immediate vicinity.

Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a federal agency or with assistance from a federal agency. For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements can be forest land, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

The project map submitted with your request indicates that the proposed construction areas will not impact prime farmland and therefore is exempt from the rules and regulations of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)—Subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549. Furthermore, we do not predict impacts to NRCS work in the vicinity.

For specific information about the soils found in the project area, please visit our Web Soil Survey at the following location:

<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Please direct all future correspondence to me at the address shown above.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kevin D. Norton".

Kevin D. Norton
State Conservationist

ACTING FOR

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS TX 75202-2733

October 11, 2012

Ms. Noel A. Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
LA DOTD
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

We have received your September 27, 2012, letter requesting our evaluation of the potential environmental impacts which might result from the following project:

**Replace or Rehabilitate
Four Bridges
US 90: Pearl River
STP No. H.000284
FAP No. H000284
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana**

The proposed project is located on the Southern Hills aquifer system which has been designated a sole source aquifer by the EPA. Based on the information provided for the project, we have determined that the project, as proposed, should not have an adverse effect on the quality of the ground water underlying the project site.

This approval of the proposed project does not relieve the applicant from adhering to other State and Federal requirements, which may apply. This approval is based solely upon the potential impact to the quality of ground water as it relates to the EPA's authority pursuant to Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

If you did not include the Parish/County; a legal description; project location and the latitude and longitude if available, please do so in future Sole Source Aquifer correspondence.

If you have any questions on this letter or the sole source aquifer program please contact me at (214) 665-7133.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Bechdol", is written over the typed name and title.

Michael Bechdol, Coordinator
Sole Source Aquifer Program
Ground Water/UIC Section

cc: Jesse Means, LDEQ



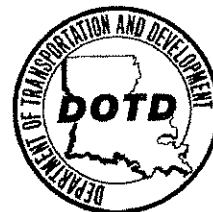
BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT

P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

www.dotd.la.gov
225-379-3005

October 11, 2012



SHERRI H. LEBAS, P.E.
SECRETARY

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000284

F.A.P. NO.: H.000284

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: US 90, PEARL RIVER BRIDGES

ROUTE: US 90

PARISH: ST TAMMANY

Ms. Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
LADOTD
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Subject: Solicitation of Views

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

Enclosed is a copy of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for St. Tammany Parish indicating the proposed project. The proposed project appears to include Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).

During and after the project, consideration must be given for the occurrence of a base flood inundation. At this time, consideration should also be given to the responsibility for clearing debris and keeping the area cleared so as not to interfere with its function.

In order to assure compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and ensure that appropriate permits are obtained, please contact the floodplain administrator for St. Tammany Parish. The contact person is: Mr. Alan Pelegrin, 21490 Koop Drive, Mandeville, LA, 70448 and telephone no. 985-898-2574.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If you need additional information, please contact our office, (225) 379-3005.

Sincerely,

Susan Veillon, CFM
Floodplain Management Program Coordinator

pc: Mr. Alan Pelegrin



2000
0
2000 FEET
APPROXIMATE SCALE

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

**FIRM
FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP**

**ST. TAMMANY PARISH,
LOUISIANA
(UNINCORPORATED AREAS)**

PANEL 575 OF 600

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR PANELS NOT PRINTED)

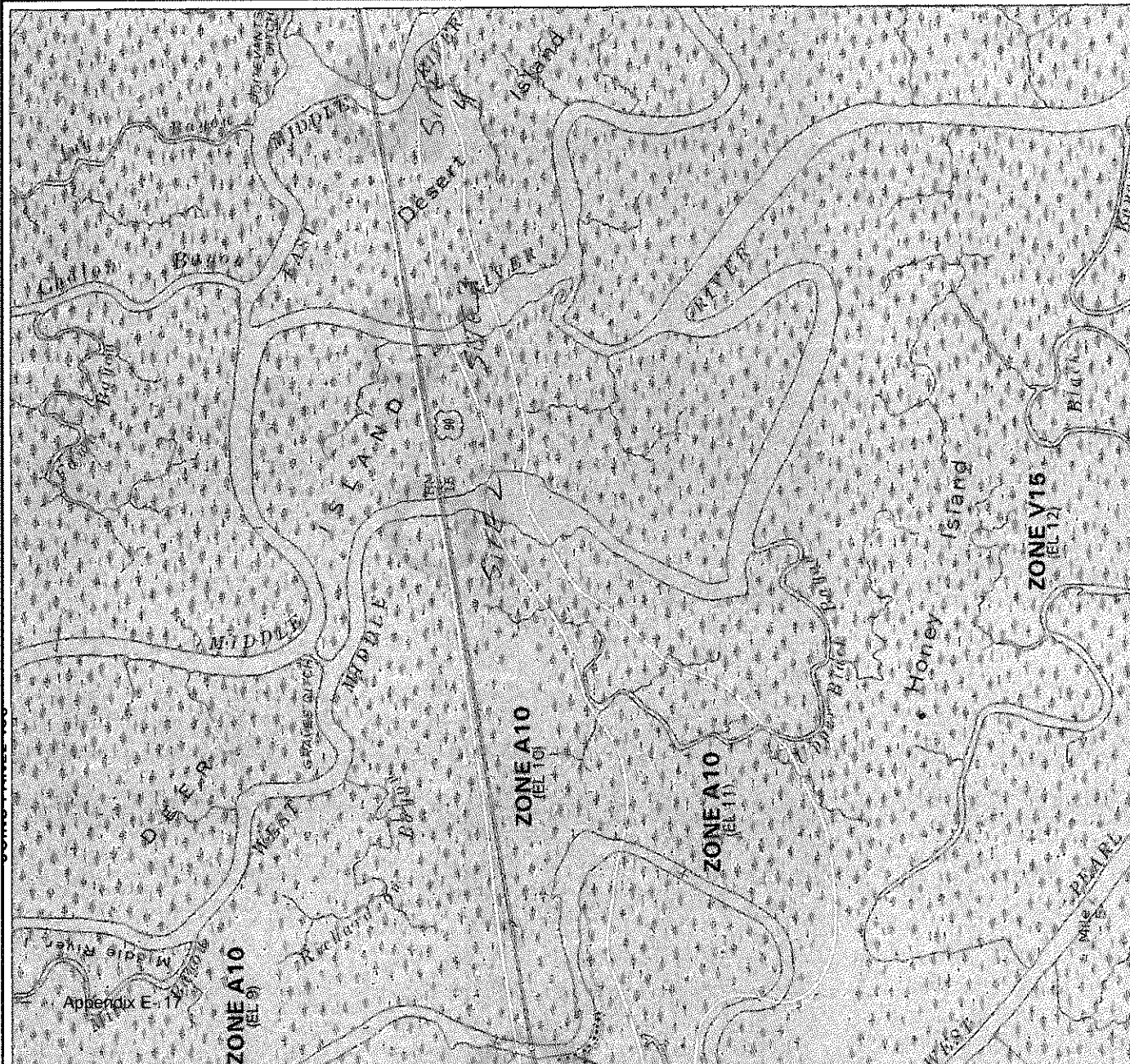
COMMUNITY-PANEL NUMBER
225205 0575 D

MAP REVISED:
APRIL 2, 1991



Federal Emergency Management Agency

This is an official copy of a portion of the above referenced flood map. It was extracted using F-MIT On-Line. This map does not reflect changes or amendments which may have been made subsequent to the date on the title block. For the latest product information about National Flood Insurance Program flood maps check the FEMA Flood Map Store at www.nsc.fema.gov





16591A
October 12, 2012

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
Attn: Ms. Noel Ardoin
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

State Project: H.000284
F.A.P.: H.000284
Pearl River Bridges, US 90
St. Tammany Parish

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

We received your Solicitation of Views dated September 27, 2012, the proposed rehabilitation or replacement of four (4) bridges (West, West Middle, Middle Middle and East Middle) on US 90, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. Construction of any proposed bridges, bridge replacement or bridge modification may necessitate the Coast Guard's involvement in the permitting process. However, prior to the Coast Guard's involvement in these projects, under 23 CFR §650.805, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has the responsibility under the Surface Transportation Assistance (STA) Act of 1978 to determine whether or not a USCG permit is required for these bridge constructions.

Section 144(h) of Title 23 U.S. Code was enacted in 1978 to reduce paperwork and related costs in the execution of the Coast Guard's bridge permit programs. This section has been amended by the Act of April 2, 1987 (Public Law 100-17), to further reduce paperwork and related costs in the permitting of bridges funded by this Act. By reason of this provision, certain bridges --which are constructed, reconstructed, rehabilitated, or replaced with federal assistance imposed under Title 23 U.S. Code -- are no longer subject to the permitting requirements imposed under 33 U.S.C. 401 and 525(b). The bridges that fall into this excluded category are those that cross waterways:

- (1) which are not used and are not susceptible to use in their natural condition or by reasonable improvement as a means to transport interstate or foreign commerce; and
- (2) which are nontidal, or if tidal, used by vessels less than 21 feet in length.

Since FHWA has the responsibility for the STA Act, the Coast Guard will accept a determination by the FHWA Administrator that these bridge projects receiving federal assistance under Title 23 U.S. Code meets the stated criteria and are exempted for Coast Guard Bridge Administration purposes. This letter does not imply that these projects meet the criteria above and does not constitute concurrence as meeting the criteria. Coordination between FHWA and the Coast Guard is required prior to FHWA reaching a determination that the bridge or bridges are eligible under the applicable statutes.

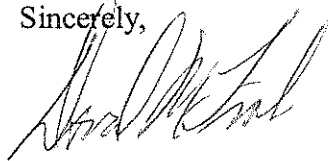
It must be noted that the subject Act which amended Title 23 U.S. Code to include 23 U.S.C. 144(h), did not exclude that category of bridges from the application of 14 U.S.C.85. The later statute requires the establishment, maintenance, and operation of

October 12, 2012

Coast Guard required lights and signals on fixed structures, including bridges. Approval of lights and other signals required under the provisions of 33 CFR 118 should be obtained, prior to the commencement of construction, from this office. Approval of lights and other signals required under the provisions of 33 CFR 118 should be obtained, prior to the commencement of construction, from this office. If it is determined that federal funds will not be utilized, additional information may be required to determine whether a Coast Guard permit will be required.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Frank", written over a horizontal line.

DAVID M. FRANK
Chief Bridge Administration Branch
U.S. Coast Guard
By direction

Copy: Ms. Traci Johnson, LDOTD



St. Tammany Parish Government

Department of Public Works/Engineering

P. O. Box 628

Covington, LA 70434

Phone: (985) 875-2686

Fax: (985) 875-2616

Pat Brister
Parish President

October 17, 2012

LA DOTD
Environmental Engineer Administrator
PO Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: **Solicitation of Views**
State Project No.: H.000284
Federal Aid Project No.: H000284
US 90 Pearl River Bridges
St Tammany Parish

To Whom It May Concern

I have received and reviewed your request for comments on the above caption project. St Tammany Parish has no objections to the proposed projects as described in your correspondence.

If I may be of further assistance in this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eddie Williams", is written over the printed name and title.

Eddie Williams, P.E.
Director of Engineering
Department of Engineering
St Tammany Parish



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

October 22, 2012

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Operations Division
Operations Manager,
Completed Works

Mr. Noel Ardoin
State of Louisiana
Department of Transportation and Development
Post Office Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Ardoin:

We recently received your Solicitation of Views request dated September 27, 2012, concerning the replacement or rehabilitation of four (4) bridges on U.S. Highway 90, in St. Tammany Parish Louisiana.

Since the proposed work will be performed in St. Tammany Parish, which is outside the New Orleans District's regulatory jurisdiction, we are forwarding it to our Vicksburg District for review and comment. Please address any future inquiries in this matter to the following office:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District
Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division
Environmental and Economic Analysis Branch
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3435

Thank you for your patience in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen L. Clement".

Karen L. Clement
Solicitation of Views Manager

Stacie Palmer

From: Noel Ardoin
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 12:36 PM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: FW: DEQ SOV 121009/1895 US 90 Pearl River Bridges

From: Beth Altazan-Dixon
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2012 11:28 AM
To: Noel Ardoin; Robin Spain
Subject: DEQ SOV 121009/1895 US 90 Pearl River Bridges

October 24, 2012

Noel Ardoin, Environmental Engineering Administrator
LA DOTD
PO Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
Noel.Ardoin@la.gov
robin.spain@la.gov

RE: 121009/1895 US 90 Pearl River Bridges
H.000284 LADOTD Funding
St. Tammany Parish

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

The Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Business and Community Outreach Division has received your request for comments on the above referenced project.

After reviewing your request, the Department has no objections based on the information provided in your submittal. However, for your information, the following general comments have been included. Please be advised that if you should encounter a problem during the implementation of this project, you should immediately notify LDEQ's Single-Point-of-contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640.

- Please take any necessary steps to obtain and/or update all necessary approvals and environmental permits regarding this proposed project.
- If your project results in a discharge to waters of the state, submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) application may be necessary.
- If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is recommended that you contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371 to determine if your proposed project requires a permit.
- If your project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit application or Notice of Intent must be submitted no later than January 1, 2013. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 9371.
- If any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps directly regarding permitting issues. If a Corps permit is required, part of the application process may involve a water quality certification from LDEQ.
- All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.

- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if your water system improvements include water softeners, you are advised to contact the LDEQ Water Permits to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.

Currently, St. Tammany Parish is classified as attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and has no general conformity determination obligations.

Please send all future requests to my attention. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (225) 219-3958 or by email at beth.dixon@la.gov.

Sincerely,



Beth Altazan-Dixon, EPS III
Performance Management
LDEQ/Office of the Secretary
Business and Community Outreach and Incentives Division
P.O. Box 4301 (602 N. 5th Street)
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301
Phone: 225-219-3958
Fax: 225-325-8148
Email: beth.dixon@la.gov



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

ROBERT J. BARHAM
SECRETARY
JIMMY L. ANTHONY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Date October 24, 2012

Name Noel Ardoin

Company LA DOTD

Street Address P.O. Box 94245

City, State, Zip Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Project State Project No.: H.000284
US 90 Pearl River Bridges
St. Tammany Parish

Project ID 3552012

Invoice Number 12102403

Personnel of the Habitat Section of the Coastal & Nongame Resources Division have reviewed the preliminary data for the captioned project.

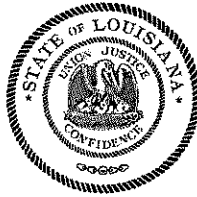
The proposed project may impact the gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*) and its designated critical habitat. The gulf sturgeon is listed as threatened on both the federal and state species list. Major population limiting factors are thought to include barriers to spawning habitats and habitat loss associated with the construction of water control structures, including dams and sills. Other threats identified include modification to habitat associated with dredged material disposal and poor water quality associated with contamination. Please contact the USFWS to coordinate activities within this critical habitat unit.

After careful review of our database, no other impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project. No state or federal parks, wildlife refuges, other scenic streams, or wildlife management areas are known at the specified site within Louisiana's boundaries.

The Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP) has compiled data on rare, endangered, or otherwise significant plant and animal species, plant communities, and other natural features throughout the state of Louisiana. Heritage reports summarize the existing information known at the time of the request regarding the location in question. The quantity and quality of data collected by the LNHP are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals. In most cases, this information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in Louisiana have not been surveyed. This report does not address the occurrence of wetlands at the site in question. Heritage reports should not be considered final statements on the biological elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. LNHP requires that this office be acknowledged in all reports as the source of all data provided here. If at any time Heritage tracked species are encountered within the project area, please contact the LNHP Data Manager at 225-765-2643. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please call 225-765-2357.

Sincerely,


Amity Bass, Coordinator
Natural Heritage Program



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

ROBERT J. BARHAM
SECRETARY
JIMMY L. ANTHONY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

INVOICE

RETAIN THIS COPY FOR YOUR RECORDS

<i>Date</i>	October 24, 2012
<i>Invoice Number</i>	12102403
<i>Project</i>	State Project No.: H.000284 US 90 Pearl River Bridges St. Tammany Parish
<i>Name</i>	Noel Ardoin
<i>Company</i>	LA DOTD
<i>Street Address</i>	P.O. Box 94245
<i>City, State, Zip</i>	Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
<i>Number of Quads Reviewed</i>	1
<i>Total Due</i>	\$0.00

Payment should be made to "Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries" within 30 days of the date of this invoice. Please include the invoice number on your check and return a copy of this invoice with your remittance to the following address:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Attn: Jennifer Riddle
P.O. Box 80399
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-0399

Should you have any questions regarding this invoice, for review of the Louisiana Natural Heritage database for information on known sensitive elements at a charge of \$30.00 per quad reviewed, please contact LNHP at (225) 765-2357.



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

ROBERT J. BARHAM
SECRETARY
JIMMY L. ANTHONY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

INVOICE

RETURN THIS COPY OF INVOICE WITH PAYMENT

Date October 24, 2012
Invoice Number 12102403
Project State Project No.: H.000284
US 90 Pearl River Bridges
St. Tammany Parish
Name Noel Ardoin
Company LA DOTD
Street Address P.O. Box 94245
City, State, Zip Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
Number of Quads Reviewed 1
Total Due \$0.00

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Baton Rouge, LA 70898-0399

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Undersecretary
Division of Management
and Finance
627 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

(O) 225.342.0805
(F) 225.342.8636
www.dcfs.la.gov

Bobby Jindal, Governor
Suzy Sonnier, Secretary

October 25, 2012

Mr. Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
Department of Transportation & Development
Post Office Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

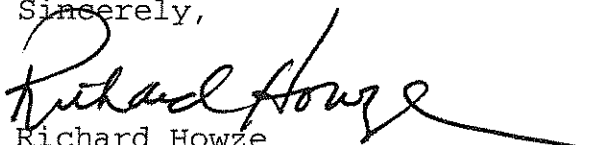
Re: Solicitation of Views
State Project # H000284
US 90: Pearl River Bridges
St. Tammany Parish

Dear Mr. Ardoin:

The Department of Children and Family Services has reviewed the proposed project information supplied in the parish of St. Tammany Solicitation of Views. We have determined that the project will not adversely impact the operations of our agency or the delivery of services to our consumers who reside in the affected area.

We offer no objection to this undertaking and look forward to its successfully completion.

Sincerely,


Richard Howze
Undersecretary

RH: sg





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

October 26, 2012

Region 4

Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development
Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: State Project # H.000284

In accordance with Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 (EPA) has reviewed the solicitation of views for the Pearl River bridges replacement on US Highway 90. Based on the information presented in the solicitation of views, Region 6 has the following comments to offer for the proposed action.

- The project will replace four bridges crossing the Pearl River; which was designated as impaired by fecal coliform in the 2010 Louisiana Integrated Water Quality Report by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ). Please consult with LDEQ to determine if the project will affect water quality in the Pearl River.
- The project is over the Southern Hills Aquifer; which is designated a sole source aquifer (SSA) by EPA. Please contact Mike Bechdol, of the EPA Region 6 SSA program at (214) 665-7133, to determine if the project will affect the Southern Hills Aquifer.
- The project will take place in an area with designated woody and emergent herbaceous wetlands. Please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine if a Section 404 permit will need to be obtained for the project.
- The project is within the 100-year floodplain boundary designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Please consult Alan Pelegrin, the Parish Floodplain Administrator at (985) 898-2574, to determine if the project will affect floodplains.
- The project takes place within the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area (WMA); which is managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF). Please consult the LDWF to determine if the project will affect management and operation of the WMA.
- As stated in the solicitation of views, all four bridges were built in 1933, and are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Please consult with the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer to determine how to proceed with the project.

We appreciate the opportunity to examine the solicitation of views. Thank you for your coordination and don't hesitate to contact Keith Hayden, of my staff, at 214-665-2133 or hayden.keith@epa.gov should you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rhonda Smith", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Rhonda Smith
Chief, Office of Planning
and Coordination



COUSHATTA TRIBE

OF LOUISIANA

HERITAGE DEPARTMENT

October 29, 2012

Noel Ardoin
State of Louisiana
Department of Transportation and Development
PO Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70804-9245

SUBJECT: Section 106 Compliance Review

RE: State Project No.: H.000284, Federal Aid Project No.: H000284, Name: US 90: Pearl River Bridges, Route: US 90, Parish St. Tammany

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

Thank you for allowing us to review this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Tarpley / MT".

Michael Tarpley
Deputy THPO
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana

KOWASAATON NATHIHILKAS—LET US SPEAK KOASATI

LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



P. O. Box 2088
Slidell, LA 70459
Email: gcromer@legis.state.la.us
Phone: 985.645.3592
Fax: 985.645.3594

Civil Law and Procedure
House and Governmental Affairs

GREG CROMER
State Representative ~ District 90

October 29, 2012

Ms. Noel Ardoin
LA DOTD - Section 28
Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Re: State Project No.: H.000284

Dear Ms. Ardoin,

As per your request for solicitation of views regarding State Project No. H.000284, I would like to express my concern for the possible closure of this major traffic artery. I realize the closure time is an estimation, however, US 90 is much traveled from New Orleans to Mississippi, and, while not an official route, is used in the event of any type of evacuation.

Although these four bridges are, no doubt in need of repair/replacement, and I fully support the usage of federal dollars to fund their replacement, I cannot condone the possible closure of this federal highway for up to four years.

While not being a professional engineer trained to make these types of evaluations I cannot comment on the manner of screening, methodology, nor alternatives. As an elected official I can comment on the need to provide safe highways and bridges with as little interruption as possible to the daily lives of our citizens and also to have this project fully and completely vetted by, and with, the general public through all phases of study, design, development and implementation.

I would be happy to discuss this matter with you further at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Greg Cromer', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

G. Greg Cromer
State Representative - District 90

GGC:rmd

Mark C. McConnell
Deputy Executive Director/
Chief Engineer

Charles R. Carr
Director
Office of Intermodal Planning



Lisa M. Hancock
Deputy Executive Director/
Administration

Willie Huff
Director
Office of Enforcement

Melinda L. McGrath
Executive Director

P. O. Box 1850 / Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1850 / Telephone (601) 359-7001 / FAX (601) 359-7110 / www.GoMDOT.com

October 30, 2012

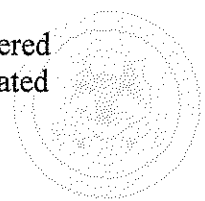
Ms. Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

Subject: Solicitation of Views for US 90 Pearl River Bridges (Project Number H000284),
St. Tammany Parish

Dear Ms. Ardoin,

In accordance with your request, the Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) has reviewed the Solicitation of Views (SOV) Letter, Project Description, and Location Map and provides the following comments:

- MDOT understands that the road closure is imminent for the repair/replacement work proposed and agrees that a detour will be needed. MDOT is not opposed to the road closure as long as information to the public, especially the residents of Pearlinton, MS, is provided with enough lead time for alternative planning.
- MDOT is concerned over the proposed longevity of the project. A possible four (4) year detour would provide undue hardship for the local residents. Many of the residents in each state work in the adjoining state. Many Louisiana residents are employed at the Port Bienville Industrial Park in Mississippi and use US 90 to travel to and from work. We believe an accelerated construction schedule would prove beneficial to both States and their motorists.
- Another justification for an accelerated construction schedule is in the event of a hurricane and Contraflow is initiated; US 90 is used by first-responders, emergency vehicles, motorists, etc., to travel south to New Orleans.
- MDOT respectfully requests a map of the possible detour(s) of the project along with a capacity analysis of each to show roadway deficiencies on any detour route(s) have been adequately addressed.
- MDOT recommends that a Road User Cost be developed for each Alternative considered to help determine the Preferred Alternative and/or provide justification for an accelerated construction schedule.

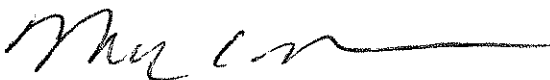


Ms. Noel Ardoin
Page 2
October 30, 2012

- MDOT respectfully requests an opportunity to review the draft and final environmental documents as well as any public involvement notifications that will be advertised for the project.
- MDOT respectfully requests an opportunity to review the Traffic Control Plans once available.

MDOT appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the US 90 Pearl River Bridges Project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Kim Thurman at telephone number 601.359.7920 or me at telephone number 601.359.7004.

Sincerely,



Mark C. McConnell, P.E.
Deputy Executive Director/ Chief Engineer

MCM:kdt:tbs

pc: Mr. Wes Dean, Asst. Chief Engineer – Field Operations
Ms. Amy Mood, Asst. Chief Engineer – Preconstruction
Mr. Kelly Castleberry, District 6 Engineer
Mr. Jeff Ely, State Planning Engineer
Ms. Kim D. Thurman, Environmental Division Administrator
Mr. John Reese, Roadway Design Division Engineer
Mr. Nick Altobelli, State Bridge Engineer/Director of Structures
Mr. James S. Sullivan, State Traffic Engineer
Mr. Richard Chisolm, State Construction Engineer
Mr. Claiborne Barnwell, Project Team Leader, FHWA



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue, South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

October 30, 2012 F/SER46/LA:jk
225/389-0508

Mr. Noel A. Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
Post Office Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

Dear Mr. Ardoin;

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the project information transmitted in the Solicitation of Views (SOV) for State Project number H.000284 dated September 27, 2012. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LDOTD) is proposing to replace four existing bridges located on US 90 in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. In your SOV, you requested the identification of possible adverse environmental effects or concerns.

Wetlands in the project area consist of intermediate marsh vegetated primarily with saltmeadow cordgrass and switchgrass. These wetlands in the project area are categorized as essential fish habitat (EFH) under provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). Aquatic and tidally influenced wetland habitats in the project area are designated as EFH for post larval and juvenile life stages of white shrimp and red drum. Fishery management plans for these species have been developed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC). Detailed information on federally-managed fisheries and their EFH is provided in the 2005 generic amendment of the fishery management plan for the Gulf of Mexico prepared by the GMFMC. The generic amendment was prepared as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

In addition to being designated as EFH for various federally managed species, wetlands in the project area provide nursery and foraging habitats for a variety of economically important marine fishery species such as blue crab, Gulf menhaden, spotted seatrout, sand seatrout, southern flounder and striped mullet. Some of these species serve as prey for other fish species managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act by the GMFMC (e.g., mackerels, snappers, and groupers) and highly migratory species managed by NMFS (e.g., billfishes and sharks). Wetlands in the project area also produce nutrients and detritus, important components of the aquatic food web, which contribute to the overall productivity of the Mississippi Sound estuary.

The project alternatives for the four bridges have yet to be described, but any alternative in which the bridge is relocated could have the potential to adversely impact wetland habitats categorized as EFH. Provisions of the Clean Water Act require sequential efforts to avoid and

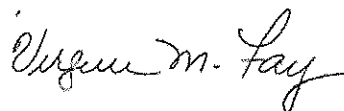


then reduce impacts to wetlands to the maximum extent practicable. LDOTD should evaluate all alternatives in an effort to minimize wetland impacts and, after selecting an alternative, evaluate construction methods and designs that would further reduce adverse impacts. Once all efforts have been completed to avoid or minimize wetland impacts, a compensatory mitigation plan should be developed to completely offset project related impacts to EFH and associated marine fishery resources. The Environmental Assessment to be developed for this project should thoroughly describe all resources potentially impacted by bridge construction activities, detail all efforts to avoid and minimize wetland impacts, and describe the mitigation plan to be used to compensate for all adverse impacts to resources of concern.

Provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act require coordination with NMFS on any federal action, including funding of an action, which has the potential to adversely impact EFH. As identified above, this project has the potential to adversely impact EFH. If more than one federal agency is responsible for an action, one of those agencies can be designated as a lead agency responsible for fulfilling coordination requirements. In this case, it is likely that the Federal Highway Administration would be providing funds to help pay for the bridge and the Corps of Engineers will be responsible for permitting of the bridge under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Therefore, coordination requirements can be fulfilled through our review of the Environmental Assessment for this project, or through the Clean Water Act permitting process and either agency could be responsible for fulfilling EFH coordination requirements. If LDOTD will be responsible for fulfilling EFH coordination requirements, that designation should be provided to NMFS in writing.

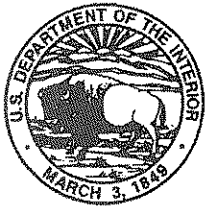
We appreciate the opportunity to provide early input into this project. If you have questions regarding our comments, please contact Lisa Abernathy of my staff at (225) 389-0508, extension 209.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Virginia M. Fay".

Virginia M. Fay
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

c:
FWS, Lafayette, Walther
EPA, Dallas, Mick
FHA, Mahoney
NOD Regulatory, Serio
LDNR Consistency, Lovell
Files



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
646 Cajundome Blvd.
Suite 400
Lafayette, Louisiana 70506



November 2, 2012

Ms. Noel Ardoin
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

Please reference your September 27, 2012, letter, received in our office October 9, 2012, requesting our review of the proposed rehabilitation of four bridges located on US 90 in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. The Service has reviewed the information provided, and offers the following comments in accordance with provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

The Gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*), federally listed as a threatened species, is an anadromous fish that occurs in many rivers, streams, and estuarine waters along the northern Gulf coast between the Mississippi River and the Suwannee River, Florida. In Louisiana, Gulf sturgeon have been reported at Rigolets Pass, rivers and lakes of the Lake Pontchartrain basin, and adjacent estuarine areas. Spawning occurs in coastal rivers between late winter and early spring (i.e., March to May). Adults and sub-adults may be found in those rivers and streams until November, and in estuarine or marine waters during the remainder of the year. Sturgeon less than two years old appear to remain in riverine habitats and estuarine areas throughout the year, rather than migrate to marine waters. Habitat alterations such as those caused by water control structures that limit and prevent spawning, poor water quality, and over-fishing have negatively affected this species. This project proposal includes construction work for the rehabilitation of four bridges in the Pearl River, known to support the gulf sturgeon.

On March 19, 2003, the Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) published a final rule in the Federal Register (Volume 68, No. 53) designating critical habitat for the Gulf sturgeon in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. Portions of the Pearl and Bogue Chitto Rivers, Lake Pontchartrain east of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, all of Little Lake, The Rigolets, Lake St. Catherine, and Lake Borgne within Louisiana were included in that designation. The primary constituent elements essential for the conservation of Gulf sturgeon are those habitat components that support feeding, resting, sheltering, reproduction, migration, and physical features necessary for maintaining the natural processes that support those habitat components; those elements should be considered when determining potential project impacts. The primary constituent elements for Gulf sturgeon critical habitat include:

- abundant prey items within riverine habitats for larval and juvenile life stages, and within estuarine and marine habitats for juvenile, sub-adult, and adult life stages;
- riverine spawning sites with substrates suitable for egg deposition and development, such as limestone outcrops and cut limestone banks, bedrock, large gravel or cobble beds, marl, soapstone, or hard clay;
- riverine aggregation areas, also referred to as resting, holding and staging areas, used by adult, sub-adult, and/or juveniles, generally, but not always, located in holes below normal river bend depths, believed necessary for minimizing energy expenditures during freshwater residency and possibly for osmoregulatory functions;
- a flow regime (i.e., the magnitude, frequency, duration, seasonality, and rate-of-change of freshwater discharge over time) necessary for normal behavior, growth, and survival of all life stages in the riverine environment, including migration, breeding site selection, courtship, egg fertilization, resting, and staging; and necessary for maintaining spawning sites in suitable condition for egg attachment, egg sheltering, resting, and larvae staging;
- water quality, including temperature, salinity, pH, hardness, turbidity, oxygen content, and other chemical characteristics, necessary for normal behavior, growth, and viability of all life stages;
- sediment quality, including texture and other chemical characteristics, necessary for normal behavior, growth, and viability of all life stages; and
- safe and unobstructed migratory pathways necessary for passage within and between riverine, estuarine, and marine habitats (e.g., a river unobstructed by a permanent structure, or a dammed river that still allows for passage).

In that critical habitat designation, responsibility for consultation with specific Federal agencies was also identified for the Service and for the NMFS. For estuarine waters in Louisiana, the NMFS is responsible for consultations regarding impacts to the sturgeon and its critical habitat with all Federal agencies, except the Department of Transportation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which consult with the Service. In riverine waters, the Service is responsible for all consultations regarding Gulf sturgeon and critical habitat, while in marine waters the NMFS is responsible for consultation. Should the proposed project directly or indirectly affect the Gulf sturgeon or its critical habitat in Louisiana, further consultation with this office will be necessary.

The proposed project is also located within threatened ringed-map (=sawback) turtle (*Graptemys oculifera*) occupied habitat. The ringed map turtle is endemic to the Pearl River system. In Louisiana, it occurs in the Bogue Chitto River south of Franklinton, and in the Pearl River north of Louisiana Highway 190 in St. Tammany and Washington Parishes. It is found in riverine habitats with moderate currents, channels wide enough to

permit sunlight penetration for several hours each day, numerous logs for basking, and large, sandy banks that are used for nesting. Habitat loss (i.e., loss of exposed sandbars, basking areas) and water quality degradation (which decreases food supply) have contributed to the decline of this species. Should the proposed project directly or indirectly affect the ringed map turtle or its habitat, further consultation with this office will be necessary.

The endangered West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) is known to regularly occur in Lakes Pontchartrain and Maurepas and their associated coastal waters and streams. It also can be found less regularly in other Louisiana coastal areas, most likely while the average water temperature is warm. Based on data maintained by the Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP), over 80 percent of reported manatee sightings (1999-2011) in Louisiana have occurred from the months of June through December. Manatee occurrences in Louisiana appear to be increasing and they have been regularly reported in the Amite, Blind, Tchefuncte, and Tickfaw Rivers, and in canals within the adjacent coastal marshes of southeastern Louisiana. Manatees may also infrequently be observed in the Mississippi River and coastal areas of southwestern Louisiana. Cold weather and outbreaks of red tide may adversely affect these animals. However, human activity is the primary cause for declines in species number due to collisions with boats and barges, entrapment in flood control structures, poaching, habitat loss, and pollution.

During in-water work in areas that potentially support manatees all personnel associated with the project should be instructed about the potential presence of manatees, manatee speed zones, and the need to avoid collisions with and injury to manatees. All personnel should be advised that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing manatees which are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Additionally, personnel should be instructed not to attempt to feed or otherwise interact with the animal, although passively taking pictures or video would be acceptable.

- All on-site personnel are responsible for observing water-related activities for the presence of manatee(s). We recommend the following to minimize potential impacts to manatees in areas of their potential presence:
- All work, equipment, and vessel operation should cease if a manatee is spotted within a 50-foot radius (buffer zone) of the active work area. Once the manatee has left the buffer zone on its own accord (manatees must not be herded or harassed into leaving), or after 30 minutes have passed without additional sightings of manatee(s) in the buffer zone, in-water work can resume under careful observation for manatee(s).
- If a manatee(s) is sighted in or near the project area, all vessels associated with the project should operate at "no wake/idle" speeds within the construction area and at all times while in waters where the draft of the vessel provides less than a four-foot clearance from the bottom. Vessels should follow routes of deep water whenever possible.

- If used, siltation or turbidity barriers should be properly secured, made of material in which manatees cannot become entangled, and be monitored to avoid manatee entrapment or impeding their movement.
- Temporary signs concerning manatees should be posted prior to and during all in-water project activities and removed upon completion. Each vessel involved in construction activities should display at the vessel control station or in a prominent location, visible to all employees operating the vessel, a temporary sign at least 8½ " X 11" reading language similar to the following: "CAUTION BOATERS: MANATEE AREA/ IDLE SPEED IS REQUIRED IN CONSRUCTION AREA AND WHERE THERE IS LESS THAN FOUR FOOT BOTTOM CLEARANCE WHEN MANATEE IS PRESENT". A second temporary sign measuring 8½ " X 11" should be posted at a location prominently visible to all personnel engaged in water-related activities and should read language similar to the following: "CAUTION: MANATEE AREA/ EQUIPMENT MUST BE SHUTDOWN IMMEDIATELY IF A MANATEE COMES WITHIN 50 FEET OF OPERATION".
- Collisions with, injury to, or sightings of manatees should be immediately reported to the Service's Louisiana Ecological Services Office (337/291-3100) and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Natural Heritage Program (225/765-2821). Please provide the nature of the call (i.e., report of an incident, manatee sighting, etc.); time of incident/sighting; and the approximate location, including the latitude and longitude coordinates, if possible.

Should a proposed action directly or indirectly affect the West Indian manatee, further consultation with this office will be necessary.

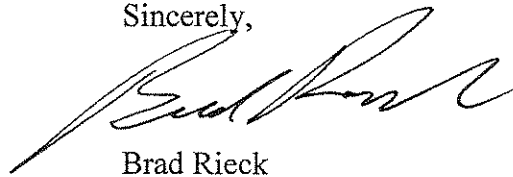
Disconnected The proposed project would be located within the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Please contact the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Region 8 Office (504/568-7685), for further information regarding any additional permits that may be required to perform work on that WMA.

The proposed project is within the Pearl River, designated as a Louisiana Natural and Scenic River. Please contact the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Scenic Rivers Program (225/765-2334) for further information regarding any additional permits that may be required to perform work on the above referenced creek.

The proposed project may impact wetlands. For a complete jurisdictional wetland delineation of the proposed project, please contact Mr. Robert Heffner (504/862-2274) at the New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). If the Corps determines that the proposed project is within their regulatory jurisdiction, official Service comments will be provided in response to the corresponding Public Notice.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding the proposed project. Should you have further questions, please contact Amy Trahan (337/291-3126) of this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Rieck', written in a cursive style.

Brad Rieck
Deputy Field Supervisor
Louisiana Ecological Services Office

cc: USACE, New Orleans, LA
LDWF, Scenic Rivers Program, Baton Rouge, LA
LDWF, Region 8, New Orleans, LA
LDWF, Natural Heritage Program, Baton Rouge, LA



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION

STEPHEN CHUSTZ
INTERIM SECRETARY
JAMES H. WELSH
COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

November 5, 2012

TO: Ms. Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
LADOTD
P. O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

RE: Solicitation of Views
State Project No.: H.000284
Federal Aid Project No.: H000284
Name: US 90: Pearl River Bridges
Route: US 90
Parish: St. Tammany

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

In response to your letter dated September 27, 2012, concerning the referenced matter, please be advised that the Office of Conservation collects and maintains many types of information regarding oil and gas exploration, production, distribution, and other data relative to the petroleum industry as well as related and non-related injection well information, surface mining and ground water information and other natural resource related data. Most information concerning oil, gas and injection wells for any given area of the state, including the subject areas of your letter can be obtained through records search via the SONRIS data access application available at:

<http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov>

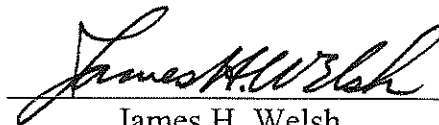
A review of our computer records for the referenced project areas indicates the existence of two dry and plugged wells (Serial Nos. 060741 & 177310) drilled in search of hydrocarbons in the proposed project area. Furthermore, the DNR water well database indicates the possibility that there are registered water wells in the vicinity of the project area. Additionally, unregistered water wells may be located in the area.

The Office of Conservation maintains records of all activities within its jurisdiction in paper, microfilm or electronic format. These records may be accessed during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, except on State holidays or emergencies that require the Office to be closed. Please call 225-342-5540 for specific contact information or for directions to the Office of Conservation, located in the LaSalle Building, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. For pipelines and other underground hazards, please contact Louisiana One Call at 1-800-272-3020 prior to commencing operations. Should you need to direct your inquiry to any of our Divisions, you may use the following contact information:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>	<u>E-mail Address</u>
Engineering	Jeff Wells	225-342-5638	jeff.wells@la.gov
Pipeline	Steven Giambrone	225-342-2989	steven.giambrone@la.gov
Injection & Mining	Laurence Bland	225-342-5515	laurence.bland@la.gov
Geological	Mike Kline	225-342-3335	mike.kline@la.gov
Environmental	Gary Snellgrove	225-342-7222	gary.snellgrove@la.gov

If you have difficulty in accessing the data via the referenced website because of computer related issues, you may obtain assistance from our technical support section by selecting Help on the SONRIS tool bar and submitting an email describing your problems and including a telephone number where you may be reached.

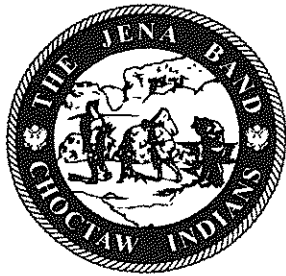
Sincerely,



James H. Welsh

JH Commissioner of Conservation

JHW:MBK



Jena Band of Choctaw Indians

P. O. Box 14 • Jena, Louisiana 71342-0014 • Phone: 318-992-2717 • Fax: 318-992-8244

STATE OF LOUISIANA
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341

December 20, 2012

STATE PROJECT NO: H.000284
F.A.P. NO: H000284
NAME: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
ROUTE: US 90
PARISH: ST. TAMMANY

Mr. Ardoin,

Upon review of the above referenced project, we would like to ask that your office please provide us with more information as it comes available.

We appreciate your efforts on this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Dana Masters, THPO officer, or Candess Chapman, THPO Secretary, at 318-992-1205 or by E-mail: jbc.thpo106@aol.com.

Sincerely,

Dana Masters
THPO
318-992-1205
Fax- 318-992-8244



Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

P.O. Box 1210 • Durant, OK 74702-1210 • (580) 924-8280

Gregory E. Pyle
Chief

Gary Batton
Assistant Chief

December 26, 2012

Noel Ardoin
State of Louisiana
Department of Transportation and Development
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: LA DOT, State Project No. H.000284, US 90, Pearl River Bridges, St Tammany Parish, LA

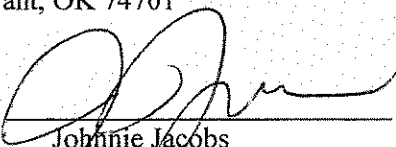
Dear Mr. Ardoin,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the above referenced project. St. Tammany Parish is within the historic area of interest to the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Before we can comment on the likelihood of this project affecting Choctaw historic or sacred sites, we request a copy of the archaeological survey regarding the proposed projects and possible cultural resources within the project areas. Also if SHPO comments are available please forward those to our office as well. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ian Thompson
Director, Historic Preservation Department
Tribal Archaeologist, NAGPRA Specialist
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
PO Drawer 1210
Durant, OK 74701

By:


Johnnie Jacobs
Section 106 Coordinator



Environmental Section
P.O. Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
phone: 225-242-4502 | fax: 225-242-4500

Bobby Jindal, Governor
Sherri H. LeBas, P.E., Secretary

January 15, 2014

STATE PROJECT NOS.: H.000284 / H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NOS.: H000284 / H000286
NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES /EAST PEARL RIVER BRIDGE
ROUTE: US 90
PARISH: ST. TAMMANY
STRUCTURE NOS.: 62520060705291, 62520060706701, 62520060707111, 62520060707701,
62520060800001

SUBJECT: REVISED SOLICITATION OF VIEWS

In the planning stages of a transportation facility, views from federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and individuals are solicited. The special expertise of these groups can assist the Louisiana Department of Transportation (LADOTD) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) with the early identification of possible adverse economic, social, or environmental effects or concerns. Your assistance in this regard will be appreciated.

A Solicitation of Views letter with project description and map for four Pearl River Bridges (project H.000284) was sent on September 27, 2012. However, since that time the LADOTD has revised the scope of the environmental study to include the proposed replacement /rehabilitation of the East Pearl River Bridge (Str. No. 62520060800001), project H.000286.

We have attached a map showing the general location of the proposed project, along with a preliminary project description.

It is requested that you review the attached information and furnish us with your views and comments by **February 17, 2014**. Replies should be addressed to LA DOTD; Environmental Engineer Administrator; P.O. Box 94245; Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245. Please reference the State Project Numbers in your reply.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Stacie Palmer at (225) 242-4517.

Sincerely,

for Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator

56 Attachments

NA/sp

cc: District Administrator
District Traffic Operations Engineer

PRELIMINARY PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**STATE PROJECT NOS. H.000284 & H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NOS. H000284 & H.000286
US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
ROUTE: US 90
ST. TAMMANY PARISH**

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), is proposing to rehabilitate or replace five bridges on US 90 in St. Tammany Parish (see attached map). These bridges have a sufficiency rating of less than 50 and therefore can be replaced or rehabilitated with federal funds. The preliminary purpose and need is to provide a safer and more reliable transportation route along this portion of US 90.

Site 1:

Structure Number: 62520060705291 (West Pearl River Bridge)

Location: 89°40'14.624"W, 30°13'51.095"N

Year Built: 1933

Type: Steel Vertical Lift Span

Site 2:

Structure Number: 62520060706701 (West Middle Pearl River Bridge)

Location: 89°38'50.787"W, 30°14'3.812"N

Year Built: 1933

Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss)

Site 3:

Structure Number: 62520060707111 (Middle Middle Pearl River Bridge)

Location: 89°38'23.94"W, 30°14'7.109"N

Year Built: 1933

Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss)

Site 4:

Structure Number: 62520060707701 (East Middle Pearl River Bridge)

Location: 89°37'51.442"W, 30°14'12.29"N

Year Built: 1933

Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss)

Site 5: Structure Number: 62520060800001 (East Pearl River)

Location: 89°36'53.309"W, 30°14'19.26"N

Year Built: 1933

Type: Steel High Truss Swing Span

All five bridges have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), therefore bridge rehabilitation will be considered as an alternative for the proposed action.

Preliminary proposed alternatives are:

1. No build
2. Rehabilitation of existing bridges, with detour bridges
3. Replace bridges on alignment, with detour bridges
4. Replace bridges off alignment

The roadway class design for all five bridges is RA-2 with a design speed limit of 60 mph. The average daily traffic (ADT) values for years 2016 and 2036 are 3,152 and 3,848 respectively. LADOTD will be conducting an Environmental Assessment study for the proposed undertaking.

The method for alternative development and screening will utilize various data including but not limited to: aerial photography, existing GIS and LIDAR, survey and site visit. Impacts and benefits will be identified and weighed to focus on a preferred alternative. Analyses will include wetlands, threatened and endangered species, cultural resources, business and residential relocations, community, environmental justice, noise, air, and contamination concerns. If applicable a detailed analysis of the impacts of the proposed project will be performed on the preferred alternative so that impacts associated with construction of the project can be identified and coordination carried out as needed.

During the environmental process for this project, a public meeting may be held. Other public involvement activities may include agency meetings, an additional public meeting and/or a public hearing.

In addition to your comments on the project in general, we respectfully request your comments on the preliminary purpose and need, screening methodology, range of alternatives, and planned coordination efforts. This information will be helpful in the development of the Environmental Assessment for this proposed project.

Mr. Mark Thompson
NOAA
Director Habitat Conservation Division
3500 Delwood Beach Road
Panama City, FL 32408

Mr. David Frank
Chief, Bridge Administration Branch
U.S. Coast Guard, 8th District
Male Boggs Bldg., 501 Poydras St.
New Orleans, LA 70130

J.T. Holmes
State Historic Preservation Officer
MS Dept. Archives and History
P. O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205

Florence Watson
Branch Chief - Water Quality Certification
MS Dept. of Environmental Quality
P. O. Box 2249
Jackson, MA 39225

Andy Sanderson
Conservation Resources Biologist
MS Dept. of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks
2148 Riverside Drive
Jackson, MS 2148 Riverside Drive

Mr. David Felder
Hwy Projects Biologist – MDOT Liaison
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Suite A
Jackson, MS 39213

Ms. Ntale Kajumba
EPA NEPA Program – Office of Policy
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth St, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

Greg Williamson
Review and Compliance
MS Dept. Archives and History
P. O. Box 571
Jackson, MS 39205

Willa Brantley
Director, Bureau of Wetlands Permitting
MS Department of Marine Resources
1141 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39564

Elaine Wilkinson
Executive Director
Gulf Regional Planning Commission
1232 Pass Road
Gulf Port, MS 39501

Mr. Anthony Lobred
Project Manager, Permit Compliance
USACE, Vicksburg District
4155 Clay St.
Vicksburg, MS 39183

Mr. Ken Dean
EPA- MDOT Liaison
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Office
6578 Dogwood View Parkway
Jackson, MS 39213

Trudy Fisher
Executive Director
MS Dept. of Environmental Quality
P. O. Box 20305
Jackson, MS 39289

William Walker
Executive Director
MS Department of Marine Resources
1141 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39530

Sam Polles
Executive Director
MS Dept. of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks
1505 Eastover Drive
Jackson, MS 39211

State Mailing List: Last Updated December 17, 2013

US House of Representatives

U.S. House of Representatives (District 1)
Honorable Steve Scalise
110 Veterans Blvd, Ste. 500
Metairie, LA 70005

U.S. House of Representatives (District 2)
Honorable Cedric Richmond
2021 Lakeshore Dr. Suite 309
New Orleans, LA 70122

U.S. House of Representatives (District 3)
Honorable Charles Boustany, Jr., MD
800 Lafayette St., Ste. 1400
Lafayette, LA 70501

U.S. House of Representatives (District 4)
Honorable John Fleming, MD
6423 Youree Dr. Suite 350
Shreveport, LA 71105

U.S. House of Representatives (District 5)
Honorable Vance McAllister
1900 Stubbs Ave, Ste. B
Monroe, LA 71201

U.S. House of Representatives (District 6)
Honorable Bill Cassidy, MD
5555 Hilton Ave Suite 100
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

US Senate

United States Senate
Senator David Vitter
2800 Veterans Memorial Blvd Suite 201
Metairie, LA 70002

United States Senate
Senator Mary Landrieu
Hale Boggs Federal Building
500 Poydras St. Rm. 1005
New Orleans, LA 70130

Dept of Agriculture and Forestry

Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Office of Soil/Water Conservation
P.O. Box 3554
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Office of Forestry
P.O. Box 1628
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Coalition to Restore Coastal LA

Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana
Steven Peyronnin, Executive Director
6160 Perkins Rd, Suite 225
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Coast Guard

8th Coast Guard District
District Commander
Hale Boggs Federal Building
500 Poydras St.
New Orleans, LA 70130

Dept of Culture Recreation and Tourism

Department of Culture Recreation & Tourism
Division of Archaeology
P.O. Box 44247
Capitol Annex 3rd
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Department of Culture Recreation & Tourism
Office of State Parks
P.O. Box 44426
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

State Mailing List: Last Updated December 17, 2013

Division of Administration

Division of Administration
State Land Office
P.O. Box 44124
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Division of Administration
State Planning Office
P.O. Box 94095
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dept of Economic Development

Department of Economic Development
Office of Business Development
P.O. Box 94185
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Environmental Protection Agency

Environmental Protection Agency
Source Water Protection (6WQ-S)
1445 Ross Ave
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Environmental Protection Agency
Federal Activities BR (6E-F)
1445 Ross Ave
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Dept of Environmental Quality

Would like emailed version
LA Department of Environmental Quality
Office of the Secretary
P.O. Box 4301
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Federal Transit Administration

Federal Transit Administration Region 6
819 Taylor St. Rm. 8A36
Fort Worth, TX 76102

FEMA

FEMA Region VI
800 North Loop 288
Denton, TX 76209

LA Forestry

Louisiana Forestry Association
Executive Director
P.O. Box 5067
Alexandria, LA 71301

LA Good Roads

Louisiana Good Roads Association
P.O. Box 3713
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Dept of Health and Hospitals

Department of Health and Hospitals
Tenney Sibley, Chief Sanitarian
628 N. 4th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Department of Health and Hospitals
Division of Environmental Health
ATTN: Steven Davis, P.E.
P.O. Box 4489
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Indian Tribe Offices

Office of Indian Affairs
Director
P.O. Box 94095
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Inter-Tribal Council of Louisiana, INC
Director
991 Grand Cailou Rd
Houma, LA 70363

Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 818
Elton, LA 70532

State Mailing List: Last Updated December 17, 2013

Jena Band of Choctaw Indians
P.O. Box 14
Jena, LA 71342

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
101 Industrial Rd
Choctaw, MS 39350

Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 1589
Marksville, LA 71351

Dept of Interior

U.S. Geological Survey
3535 S. Sherwood Forest Suite 120
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

U.S. National Park Service
Southeast Region
100 Alabama St., SW
1924 Building
Atlanta, GA 30303

LSU

Louisiana State University
Sea Grant Legal Advisory Service
James G Wilkins
227B Sea Grant Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Natural Resources Service

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Kevin D. Norton
3737 Government St.
Alexandria, LA 71302

Dept of Public Safety

Department of Public Safety
Highway Safety Commission
P.O. Box 66336
Baton Rouge, LA 70896

Wildlife & Fisheries

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Louisiana Natural Heritage Program
P.O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898

Intradepartmental

Floodplain Management Program
Susan Veillon → District 64

AARP

AARP
301 Main Street
Suite 1012
Baton Rouge, LA 70825

Bayou Country Cyclists

Bayou Country Cyclists [NA1]
P.O. Box 2643
Houma, LA 70361

Bike Baton Rouge

Bike Baton Rouge
P.O. Box 10403
Baton Rouge, LA 70803 [NA2]

Online SOV's

- **Department of Environmental Quality**
Linda.hardy@la.gov
- **Seminole Nation of OK**
harjo.n@sno-nsn.gov
- US Fish and Wildlife Service---
'Lafayette@fws.gov'

State Mailing List: Last Updated December 17, 2013

Bike Easy

Bike Easy
P.O. Box 19374
New Orleans, LA 70174 [NA3]

Bike Lafayette

Bike Lafayette
14 Cherry Street
Lafayette, LA 70506 [NA4]

Community Foundation of Southwest Louisiana

Community Foundation of
Southwest Louisiana
P.O. Box 1125
Lake Charles, LA 70602 [NA5]

FHWA Recreational Trails

FHWA Recreational Trails
1051 N. 3rd Street
Room 307
Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5239

Garden District Track Club

Garden District Track Club
734 Alice Lane
Lafayette, LA 70506 [NA6]

Mississippi River Trail, Inc.

Mississippi River Trail, Inc.
857 North Jackson Drive
Fayetteville, AR 72701 [NA7]

Pedestrians and Cyclists of Calcasieu

Pedestrians and Cyclists of Calcasieu
E-mail: mjc@pedestriansandcyclists.org
Phone:
Michelle Horak 537-575-7908
www.pedestriansandcyclists.org [NA8]

Ride New Orleans

Ride New Orleans
P.O. Box 17211
New Orleans, LA 70170 [NA9]

Terrebonne Parish Planning and Zoning

Terrebonne Parish Planning and Zoning
2626 Main Street
Suite 401
Houma, LA 70364 [NA10]

Terrebonne Parish Running and Biking Club

Terrebonne Parish Running and Biking Club
213 Kingswood Drive
Bossier, LA 70301 [NA11]

**Transportation Recreation
Alternatives in Louisiana
(TRAIL)**

Transportation Recreation
Alternatives in Louisiana
(TRAIL)
2001 Maple Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70801 [NA12]

**Louisiana Byway Administrator
(CRT)**

Louisiana Byway Administrator
P.O. Box 94291
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

PST. TAMMANY PARISH MAILING LIST

*****Updated June 4, 2013*****

The State Senate (District 1)
Senator A.G. Crowe
646 Carnation St.
Slidell, LA 70460

The State Senate (District 11)
Senator Jack Donahue
3030 E. Causeway Approach
Mandeville, LA 70448

The State Senate (District 12)
Senator Ben Nevers
724 Avenue F
Bogalusa, LA 70427

LA House of Representatives (District 74)
Representative Scott M Simon
PO Box 1297
Abita Springs, LA 70420

LA House of Representatives (District 75)
Representative Harold L Ritchie
302 Louisiana Avenue
Bogalusa La 70427

LA House of Representatives (District 76)
Representative J. Kevin Pearson
1349 Corporate Square, Ste 6
Slidell, LA 70458

LA House of Representatives (District 77)
Representative John M. Schroder Sr.
522 N. New Hampshire St.
Covington, LA 70433

LA House of Representatives (District 89)
Representative Timothy Burns
2090 Woodrow St., Ste A
Mandeville, LA 70448

LA House of Representatives (District 90)
Representative Gregory Cromer
PO Box 2088
Slidell, LA 70459

LA House of Representatives (District 104)
Representative Paul Hollis
2000 Preserve Lake Dr, Ste B
Covington, LA 70433

Bogue Chitto Pearl River Soil & Water
Conservation District of LA
1111 Washington Street
Franklinton, LA 70438

National Marine Fish Service
Habitat Conservation Division
LSU Center for Wetland Restoration
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-7535

Slidell City Council
Council Administrator
PO Box 828
Slidell, LA 70459-0828

Office of Emergency Management
1300 Perdido St. Ste 9e06
New Orleans, LA 70112

St. Tammany Historical Society Inc.
PO Box 362
Madisonville, LA 70447

St Tammany Parish Police Jury
PO Box 628
Covington, LA 70434

St Tammany Parish School Board
PO Box 940
Covington, LA 70434

Jefferson Parish Planning Department
Director
1221 Elmwood Park Blvd
Harahan, LA 70123

St Tammany Parish Sheriff
PO Box 1120
Covington, LA 70433

Chamber of Commerce
New Orleans & The River Region
301 W. Airline Hwy, Ste # 201
LaPlace, LA 70068

Chamber of Commerce
118 West Hall Avenue
Slidell, LA 70460-2633

Regional Planning Commission
10 Veterans Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70124

St Tammany Parish Police Jury
Floodplain Administrator
PO Box 628
Covington, LA 70434

Ms. Karen Oberlies
Department of the Army – Tech Support
PO Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70538

Department of Public Works
Attn: Shannon Davis, Director
620 N. Tyler St.
Covington, LA 70433

Mr. Douglas J Kamien, PE
Deputy for Programs & Project Management
Vicksburg District Corps of Engineers
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435

St Tammany Parish Council
PO Box 628
Covington, LA 70434

Louisiana State Police
Troop L
2600 North Causeway
Mandeville, LA 70471

Alabama Coushatta Tribe of TX
575 State Park Rd 56
Livingston, TX 77351

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Ian Thompson PhD, RPA
PO Box 1210
Durant, OK 74702-1210

NO Bicycle Club
18405 Reeves Drive
Covington, LA 70435

Tammany Trace
21490 Koop Drive
Mandeville, LA 70471

STATE SOURCE LIST

U.S. House of Representatives (District 1) Honorable Steve Scalise 110 Veterans Blvd, Ste. 500 Metairie, LA 70005	Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana Steven Peyronnin, Executive Director 6160 Perkins Rd. Suite 225 Baton Rouge, LA 70808	FEMA Region VI 800 North Loop 288 Denton, TX 76209
U.S. House of Representatives (District 2) Honorable Richmond Cedric 2021 Lakeshore Dr. Suite 309 New Orleans, LA 70122	8 th Coast Guard District District Commander Hale Boggs Federal Building 500 Poydras St. New Orleans, LA 70130	Department of Public Safety Highway Safety Commission P.O. Box 66336 Baton Rouge, LA 70896
U.S. House of Representatives (District 3) Honorable Charles Boustany, Jr., MD 800 Lafayette St., Ste. 1400 Lafayette, LA 70501	Department of Culture Recreation & Tourism Division of Archaeology P.O. Box 44247 Capitol Annex 3 rd Baton Rouge, LA 70804	Louisiana Forestry Association Executive Director P.O. Box 5067 Alexandria, LA 71301
U.S. House of Representatives (District 4) Honorable John Fleming, MD 6425 Youree Dr. Suite 350 Shreveport, LA 71105	Department of Culture Recreation & Tourism Office of State Parks P.O. Box 44426 Baton Rouge, LA 70804	Louisiana Good Roads Association P.O. Box 3713 Baton Rouge, LA 70821
U.S. House of Representatives (District 5) Honorable Vance McAllister 1900 Stubbs Ave, Ste. B Monroe, LA 71201	Division of Administration State Land Office P.O. Box 44124 Baton Rouge, LA 70804	Department of Health and Hospitals Tenney Sibley, Chief Sanitarian 628 N. 4 th St. Baton Rouge, LA 70802
U.S. House of Representatives (District 6) Honorable Bill Cassidy, MD 5555 Hilton Ave Suite 100 Baton Rouge, LA 70808	Division of Administration State Planning Office P.O. Box 94095 Baton Rouge, LA 70804	Department of Health and Hospitals Division of Environmental Health ATTN: Steven Davis, P.E. P.O. Box 4489 Baton Rouge, LA 70821
United States Senate Senator David Vitter 2800 Veterans Memorial Blvd Suite 201 Metairie, LA 70002	Department of Economic Development Office of Business Development P.O. Box 94185 Baton Rouge, LA 70804	Office of Indian Affairs Director P.O. Box 94095 Baton Rouge, LA 70804
United States Senate Senator Mary Landrieu Hale Boggs Federal Building 500 Poydras St. Rm. 1005 New Orleans, LA 70130	Environmental Protection Agency Source Water Protection (6WQ-S) 1445 Ross Ave Dallas, TX 75202-2733	Inter-Tribal Council of Louisiana, INC Director 991 Grand Cailou Rd Houma, LA 70363
Department of Agriculture and Forestry Office of Soil/Water Conservation P.O. Box 3554 Baton Rouge, LA 70821	Environmental Protection Agency Federal Activities BR (6E-F) 1445 Ross Ave Dallas, TX 75202-2733	Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 818 Elton, LA 70532
Department of Agriculture and Forestry Office of Forestry P.O. Box 1628 Baton Rouge, LA 70821	Federal Transit Administration Region 6 819 Taylor St. Rm. 8A36 Fort Worth, TX 76102	Jena Band of Choctaw Indians P.O. Box 14 Jena, LA 71342

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
101 Industrial Rd
Choctaw, MS 39350

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Louisiana Natural Heritage Program
P.O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898

Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 1589
Marksville, LA 71351

Floodplain Management Program
Susan Veillon → District 64

U.S. Geological Survey
3535 S. Sherwood Forest Suite 120
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Kevin D. Norton
3737 Government St.
Alexandria, LA 71302

U.S. National Park Service
Southeast Region
100 Alabama St., SW
1924 Building
Atlanta, GA 30303

Louisiana State University
Sea Grant Legal Advisory Service
James G Wilkins
227B Sea Grant Building
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

- DNR - coastal zone ✓ sent
- Deg - online ✓
- Seismole - online
✓ - US Fish - ? received Resonse sox sent electronically ?

MISSING AARP ✓
Louisiana Byway Administrator
FHWA Recreational Trails

✓ = sent by Joyce

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR



KRISTY H. NICHOLS
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

State of Louisiana
Division of Administration
STATE LAND OFFICE

January 23, 2014

LA DOTD
Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: Letter of No Objection
State Project No. H.000284 and State Project No. H.000286
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Ardoin,

Thank you for the information and the opportunity to comment on the above referenced project. I have reviewed the proposal to replace US 90 bridges over the West Pearl River, West Middle Pearl River, Middle Middle Pearl River, East Middle Pearl River and East Pearl River.

The Office of State Lands has no objection to the proposed bridge replacement. The Office of State Lands has executed this letter of No Objection with the specific understanding that, in so doing, the Office of State Lands does not, in any way, make any concession or waive any rights with respect to the ownership of any lands or water bottoms within the project area by the State of Louisiana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marty L. Beasley".

Marty L. Beasley

Public Lands Administrator



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
646 Cajundome Blvd.
Suite 400
Lafayette, Louisiana 70506



January 24, 2014

Ms. Noel Ardoin
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

Please reference your January 15, 2014, letter, received in our office via electronic mail on January 21, 2014, requesting our review of the proposed rehabilitation of five bridges located on US 90 in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. The Service has reviewed the information provided, and offers the following comments in accordance with provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

The Gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*), federally listed as a threatened species, is an anadromous fish that occurs in many rivers, streams, and estuarine waters along the northern Gulf coast between the Mississippi River and the Suwannee River, Florida. In Louisiana, Gulf sturgeon have been reported at Rigolets Pass, rivers and lakes of the Lake Pontchartrain basin, and adjacent estuarine areas. Spawning occurs in coastal rivers between late winter and early spring (i.e., March to May). Adults and sub-adults may be found in those rivers and streams until November, and in estuarine or marine waters during the remainder of the year. Sturgeon less than two years old appear to remain in riverine habitats and estuarine areas throughout the year, rather than migrate to marine waters. Habitat alterations such as those caused by water control structures that limit and prevent spawning, poor water quality, and over-fishing have negatively affected this species. This project proposal includes construction work for the rehabilitation of four bridges in the Pearl River, known to support the gulf sturgeon.

On March 19, 2003, the Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) published a final rule in the Federal Register (Volume 68, No. 53) designating critical habitat for the Gulf sturgeon in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. Portions of the Pearl and Bogue Chitto Rivers, Lake Pontchartrain east of the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, all of Little Lake, The Rigolets, Lake St. Catherine, and Lake Borgne within Louisiana were included in that designation. The primary constituent elements essential for the conservation of Gulf sturgeon are those habitat components that support feeding, resting, sheltering, reproduction, migration, and physical features necessary for maintaining the natural processes that support those habitat components; those elements

should be considered when determining potential project impacts. The primary constituent elements for Gulf sturgeon critical habitat include:

- abundant prey items within riverine habitats for larval and juvenile life stages, and within estuarine and marine habitats for juvenile, sub-adult, and adult life stages;
- riverine spawning sites with substrates suitable for egg deposition and development, such as limestone outcrops and cut limestone banks, bedrock, large gravel or cobble beds, marl, soapstone, or hard clay;
- riverine aggregation areas, also referred to as resting, holding and staging areas, used by adult, sub-adult, and/or juveniles, generally, but not always, located in holes below normal river bend depths, believed necessary for minimizing energy expenditures during freshwater residency and possibly for osmoregulatory functions;
- a flow regime (i.e., the magnitude, frequency, duration, seasonality, and rate-of-change of freshwater discharge over time) necessary for normal behavior, growth, and survival of all life stages in the riverine environment, including migration, breeding site selection, courtship, egg fertilization, resting, and staging; and necessary for maintaining spawning sites in suitable condition for egg attachment, egg sheltering, resting, and larvae staging;
- water quality, including temperature, salinity, pH, hardness, turbidity, oxygen content, and other chemical characteristics, necessary for normal behavior, growth, and viability of all life stages;
- sediment quality, including texture and other chemical characteristics, necessary for normal behavior, growth, and viability of all life stages; and
- safe and unobstructed migratory pathways necessary for passage within and between riverine, estuarine, and marine habitats (e.g., a river unobstructed by a permanent structure, or a dammed river that still allows for passage).

In that critical habitat designation, responsibility for consultation with specific Federal agencies was also identified for the Service and for the NMFS. For estuarine waters in Louisiana, the NMFS is responsible for consultations regarding impacts to the sturgeon and its critical habitat with all Federal agencies, except the Department of Transportation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which consult with the Service. In riverine waters, the Service is responsible for all consultations regarding Gulf sturgeon and critical habitat, while in marine waters the NMFS is responsible for consultation. Should the proposed project directly or indirectly affect the Gulf sturgeon or its critical habitat in Louisiana, further consultation with this office will be necessary.

The proposed project is also located within threatened ringed map (=sawback) turtle (*Graptemys oculifera*) occupied habitat. The ringed map turtle is endemic to the Pearl River system. In Louisiana, it occurs in the Bogue Chitto River south of Franklinton, and in the Pearl River north of Louisiana Highway 190 in St. Tammany and Washington Parishes. It is found in riverine habitats with moderate currents, channels wide enough to permit sunlight penetration for several hours each day, numerous logs for basking, and large, sandy banks that are used for nesting. Habitat loss (i.e., loss of exposed sandbars, basking areas) and water quality degradation (which decreases food supply) have contributed to the decline of this species. Should the proposed project directly or indirectly affect the ringed map turtle or its habitat, further consultation with this office will be necessary.

The endangered West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) is known to regularly occur in Lakes Pontchartrain and Maurepas and their associated coastal waters and streams. It also can be found less regularly in other Louisiana coastal areas, most likely while the average water temperature is warm. Based on data maintained by the Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP), over 80 percent of reported manatee sightings (1999-2011) in Louisiana have occurred from the months of June through December. Manatee occurrences in Louisiana appear to be increasing and they have been regularly reported in the Amite, Blind, Tchefuncte, and Tickfaw Rivers, and in canals within the adjacent coastal marshes of southeastern Louisiana. Manatees may also infrequently be observed in the Mississippi River and coastal areas of southwestern Louisiana. Cold weather and outbreaks of red tide may adversely affect these animals. However, human activity is the primary cause for declines in species number due to collisions with boats and barges, entrapment in flood control structures, poaching, habitat loss, and pollution.

During in-water work in areas that potentially support manatees all personnel associated with the project should be instructed about the potential presence of manatees, manatee speed zones, and the need to avoid collisions with and injury to manatees. All personnel should be advised that there are civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing manatees which are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Additionally, personnel should be instructed not to attempt to feed or otherwise interact with the animal, although passively taking pictures or video would be acceptable.

- All on-site personnel are responsible for observing water-related activities for the presence of manatee(s). We recommend the following to minimize potential impacts to manatees in areas of their potential presence:
- All work, equipment, and vessel operation should cease if a manatee is spotted within a 50-foot radius (buffer zone) of the active work area. Once the manatee has left the buffer zone on its own accord (manatees must not be herded or harassed into leaving), or after 30 minutes have passed without additional sightings of manatee(s) in the buffer zone, in-water work can resume under careful observation for manatee(s).

- If a manatee(s) is sighted in or near the project area, all vessels associated with the project should operate at “no wake/idle” speeds within the construction area and at all times while in waters where the draft of the vessel provides less than a four-foot clearance from the bottom. Vessels should follow routes of deep water whenever possible.
- If used, siltation or turbidity barriers should be properly secured, made of material in which manatees cannot become entangled, and be monitored to avoid manatee entrapment or impeding their movement.
- Temporary signs concerning manatees should be posted prior to and during all in-water project activities and removed upon completion. Each vessel involved in construction activities should display at the vessel control station or in a prominent location, visible to all employees operating the vessel, a temporary sign at least 8½" X 11" reading language similar to the following: “CAUTION BOATERS: MANATEE AREA/ IDLE SPEED IS REQUIRED IN CONSRUCTION AREA AND WHERE THERE IS LESS THAN FOUR FOOT BOTTOM CLEARANCE WHEN MANATEE IS PRESENT”. A second temporary sign measuring 8½" X 11" should be posted at a location prominently visible to all personnel engaged in water-related activities and should read language similar to the following: “CAUTION: MANATEE AREA/ EQUIPMENT MUST BE SHUTDOWN IMMEDIATELY IF A MANATEE COMES WITHIN 50 FEET OF OPERATION”.
- Collisions with, injury to, or sightings of manatees should be immediately reported to the Service’s Louisiana Ecological Services Office (337/291-3100) and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Natural Heritage Program (225/765-2821). Please provide the nature of the call (i.e., report of an incident, manatee sighting, etc.); time of incident/sighting; and the approximate location, including the latitude and longitude coordinates, if possible.

Should a proposed action directly or indirectly affect the West Indian manatee, further consultation with this office will be necessary.

The proposed project would be located within the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Please contact the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Region 8 Office (504/568-7685), for further information regarding any additional permits that may be required to perform work on that WMA.

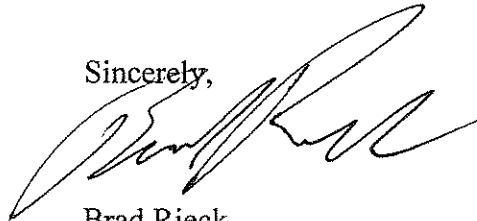
The proposed project is within the Pearl River, designated as a Louisiana Natural and Scenic River. Please contact the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Scenic Rivers Program (225/765-2334) for further information regarding any additional permits that may be required to perform work on the above referenced creek.

The proposed project may impact wetlands. For a complete jurisdictional wetland delineation of the proposed project, please contact Mr. Robert Heffner (504/862-2274) at

the New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). If the Corps determines that the proposed project is within their regulatory jurisdiction, official Service comments will be provided in response to the corresponding Public Notice.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding the proposed project. Should you have further questions, please contact Seth Bordelon (337/291-3138) of this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Rieck', written over a horizontal line.

Brad Rieck
Deputy Field Supervisor
Louisiana Ecological Services Office

cc: USACE, New Orleans, LA
LDWF, Scenic Rivers Program, Baton Rouge, LA
LDWF, Region 8, New Orleans, LA
LDWF, Natural Heritage Program, Baton Rouge, LA



St. Tammany Parish Government

Department of Engineering

P. O. Box 628

Covington, LA 70434

Phone: (985) 875-2686

Fax: (985) 875-2616

Pat Brister
Parish President

January 31, 2014

LA DOTD
Environmental Section
Environmental Engineer Administrator
PO Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: Solicitation of Views
State Project No.: H.000284/H.000286
Federal Aid Project No.: H000284/H000286
US 90 Pearl River Bridges / East Pearl River Bridge
St Tammany Parish

To Whom It May Concern

I have received and reviewed your request for comments on the above caption project. St Tammany Parish has no objections to the proposed projects as described in your correspondence.

If I may be of further assistance in this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eddie Williams", is written over a horizontal line.

Eddie Williams, P.E.
Director of Engineering
Department of Engineering
St Tammany Parish



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

VICKSBURG DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
4155 CLAY STREET
VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI 39183-3435

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

February 4, 2014

Regional Planning and
Environment Division South

Mr. Noel A. Ardoin
Louisiana Department of Transportation
and Development
Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

Dear Mr. Ardoin:

I refer to your letter of January 15, 2014, regarding the Pearl River Bridges on US 90, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana (State Project Nos. H.000284 and H.000286). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, has no ongoing or proposed activities in the project area.

If your proposed work involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into wetlands or any other waters of the United States, you may need a Department of the Army permit prior to construction. For further information, please visit our website at <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf> or contact Ms. Jennifer Mallard (telephone (601) 631-5853).

Please address all future correspondence to Mr. Gary Young, Deputy Chief, Regional Planning and Environment Division South (ATTN: CEMVN-PDN-UDP).

I trust this information meets your needs. If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. Barry Moore of this office (telephone (601) 631-5450).

Sincerely,

Patricia R. Hemphill, P.E.
Chief, Programs and Project
Management Division



Office of the Secretary
PO Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
ph: 225-379-3005 | fx: 225-379-3002

Bobby Jindal, Governor
Sherri H. LeBas, P.E., Secretary

February 4, 2014

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000284/H.000286
F.A.P. NO: H000284/HJ000286
US 90 PEARL RIVER BRIDGES/EAST PEARL RIVER BRIDGE
ROUTE US 90
PARISH: ST. TAMMANY

LA DOTD
Environmental Engineer Administrator
Ms. Noel Ardoin
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Subject: Solicitation of Views

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

Enclosed is a copy of St. Tammany Parish's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) indicating the proposed sites of the five (5) bridge replacement projects.

During the construction, there must be allowance for the adequate flow of water and assurance that there will be no back up of water. There must be no instance of the creation of flooding where there was no flooding prior to construction. At this time, consideration must also be given to the responsibility for clearing debris and keeping the surrounding area clear so as not to interfere with its function.

In order to assure compliance with the Parish's requirements for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and ensure that appropriate permits are obtained, please contact the floodplain administrator for St. Tammany Parish. The contact person is: Mr. Alan Pelegrin, 21490 Koop Drive, Mandeville, LA, 70448, and telephone no. 985-898-2574.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. If you need additional information, please contact our office, (225) 379-3005.

Sincerely,

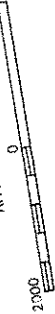
Pam Lightfoot

Pam Lightfoot, CFM
Floodplain Management Program Coordinator

Enclosures
pc: Mr. Alan Pelegrin



APPROXIMATE SCALE 2000 FEET



NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

FIRM FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

ST. TAMMANY PARISH,
LOUISIANA
(UNINCORPORATED AREAS)

PANEL 575 OF 600

USE MAP INDEX FOR PANELS NOT PRINTED

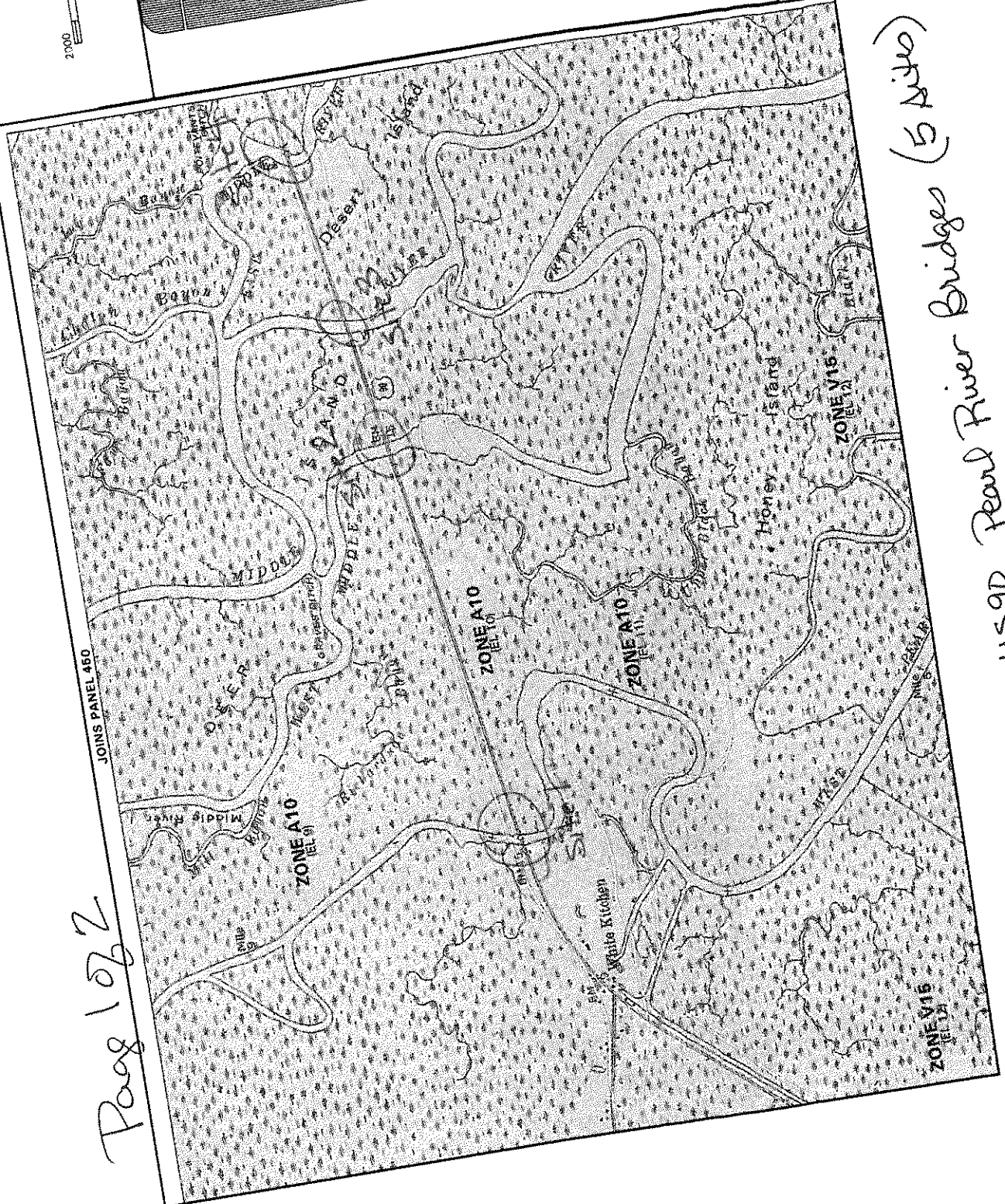
COMMUNITY PANEL NUMBER
225205 0575 D

MAP REVISED:
APRIL 2, 1991



Federal Emergency Management Agency

This is an official copy of a portion of the above referenced flood map. This map does not reflect changes in the flood hazard data on the map. This map was prepared from data on the map which was extracted using F-MIT. This map was prepared from data on the map which was extracted using F-MIT. This map was prepared from data on the map which was extracted using F-MIT. For the latest flood information, contact the FEMA Flood Map Store at www.fema.gov.



Page 1072

S.P.#
H.000284 / H.000284

US9D

Pearl River Bridges (5 sites)



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS TX 75202-2733

February 5, 2014

Ms. Noel A. Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
LA DOTD
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

We have received your January 15, 2014, letter requesting our evaluation of the potential environmental impacts which might result from changes to a previously approved project:

**Rehabilitate or Replace Five Bridges
US 90 over Pearl River and East Pearl River
STP No. H.000284/H.000286
FAP No. H000284/H000286
Livingston Parish, Louisiana**

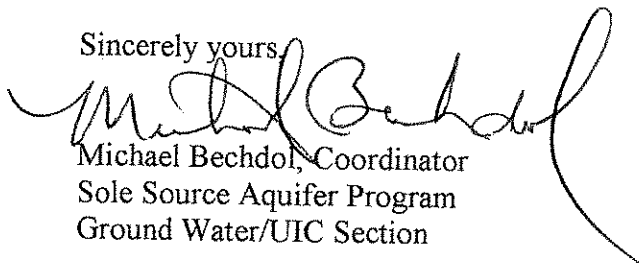
The project, proposed for financial assistance through the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development funds, is located on the Southern Hills aquifer system which has been designated a sole source aquifer by the EPA. Based on the information provided for the project, we have determined that the project, as proposed, should not have an adverse effect on the quality of the ground water underlying the project site.

This approval of the proposed project does not relieve the applicant from adhering to other State and Federal requirements, which may apply. This approval is based solely upon the potential impact to the quality of ground water as it relates to the EPA's authority pursuant to Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

If you did not include the parish, project description, project location or the federal funding agency, please do so in future Sole Source Aquifer correspondence.

If you have any questions on this letter or the sole source aquifer program please contact me at (214) 665-7133.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Bechdol, Coordinator
Sole Source Aquifer Program
Ground Water/UIC Section

cc: Jesse Means, LDEQ



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN DVM
COMMISSIONER



February 5, 2014

LADOTD
Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

**Agricultural &
Environmental
Sciences**
P.O. Box 3596
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 925-3770
Fax: 925-3760

**Agro-Consumer
Services**
P.O. Box 3098
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1341
Fax: 923-4877

**Animal Health
& Food Safety**
P.O. Box 1951
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 925-3962
Fax: 925-4103

Forestry
P.O. Box 1628
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 925-4500
Fax: 922-1356

**Management
& Finance**
P.O. Box 3481
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1255
Fax: 925-6012

**Soil & Water
Conservation**
P.O. Box 3554
Baton Rouge,
LA 70821
(225) 922-1269
Fax: 922-2577

RE: Revised Solicitation of Views
STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000284/ H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H000284/ H000286
NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES/ EAST PEARL RIVER BRIDGE
ROUTE: US 90
PARISH: ST. TAMMANY
STRUCTURE NOS.: 6252006070591, 6250060706701,
62520060707111, 6250060707701, 62520060800001

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

This office has no comment or objection to this project.

Sincerely,

Bradley E. Spicer
Assistant Commissioner
Louisiana Depart of Ag & Forestry
Office of Soil & Water Conservation

BES:ah



JAY DARDENNE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

CHARLES R. DAVIS
DEPUTY SECRETARY

PAM BREAU
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

February 5, 2014

Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
LDOTD
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Re: Section 106 Request for Additional Information
State Project No. H.000284/H.000286
US 90 Pearl River Bridges/East Pearl River Bridge
St. Tammany Parish, LA

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

Thank you for your letter of January 15, 2014, concerning the above-referenced undertaking. We are unable to complete the Section 106 review at this time due to the submittal of insufficient documentation. We will need the following information to complete our review for the aforementioned project:

- ☐ Name of federal agency, agency involvement (Funding, license\permit, etc. and description of the undertaking (Detailed description of project).
- ☐ Applicant contact information (Name, address, phone number and email address).
- ☐ Agency contact information (Name, address, phone number and email address).
- ☒ Description of the Area of Potential Effects (APE). The APE can be direct or indirect. It is defined as "the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist." (Include the latitude\longitude of the undertaking location and APE)
- ☐ Description of all historic properties within and adjacent to the APE. The historic standing structure is any structure fifty years of age and older. Under Section 106, it is the responsibility of the federal agency or its designee to identify all structures listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
- ☒ Detailed project scope of work including design plans.
- ☒ Map and site plan showing APE and exact location of project undertaking.

Noel Ardoin
February 5, 2014
Page 2

☒ Photographs of the entire APE and project location. Photographs of all historic (fifty years of age and older) within the APE. Buildings should be documented showing diagonal views of front and side and rear and opposite side of the building. All photos should be keyed to a site map and project plans if applicable. **Photographs of all targeted bridges.**

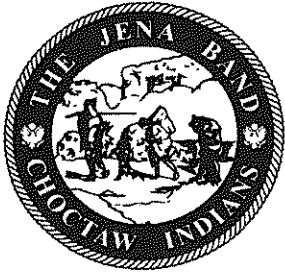
If you have any questions, please contact Mike Varnado in the Division of Historic Preservation at (225) 219-4596 or mvarnado@crt.la.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pam Breaux".

Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer

PB:MV:s



Jena Band of Choctaw Indians

P. O. Box 14 • Jena, Louisiana 71342-0014 • Phone: 318-992-2717 • Fax: 318-992-8244

February 10, 2014

LA DOTD
Attn: Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Re: State Project No. H.000284 and H.000286, St. Tammany Parish

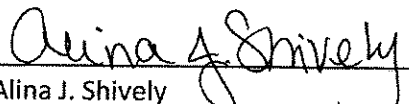
Dear Noel Ardoin:

In order to properly comment, the Jena Band of Choctaw Tribal Historic Preservation Office is requesting a Cultural Resources Survey and all other pertinent information regarding the project area. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dana Masters
JBC THPO
P.O. Box 14
Jena, LA 71342-0014
(318)-992-1205

Prepared by:


Alina J. Shively
Deputy THPO
Jbc.thpo106@aol.com

Stacie Palmer

From: Stacie Palmer
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2014 8:01 AM
To: 'dean.William-kenneth@epa.gov'
Subject: request for SOV H.000284
Attachments: Solicitation of Views US 90 pearl River Bridges H.000284.pdf

Dean,

Per our phone conversation yesterday attached is a copy of the September 27th SOV for project H.000284.

If you have any additional questions please let me know.

Thank you,
Stacie

Stacie Palmer
Environmental Impact Specialist DCL
Department of Transportation and Development
Phone 225-242-4517

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Eighth Coast Guard District
Hale Boggs Federal Building

500 Poydras Street, Room 1313
New Orleans, LA 70130-3310
Staff Symbol: (dpb)
Phone: (504) 671-2128
Fax: (504) 671-2133
D8DPBALL@uscg.mil

16591A
February 13, 2014

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
Attn: Ms. Noel Ardoin
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

State Project: H.000284 / H.000286
F.A.P.: H.000284 / H.000286
US90: Pearl River Bridges / East Pearl River Bridge
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

We received your Revised Solicitation of Views including East Pearl River Bridge (H.000286) dated January 15, 2014 of your previous Solicitation of Views (H.000284) dated September 27, 2012. Our response to the proposed rehabilitation or replacement of four (4) bridges (West, West Middle, Middle Middle and East Middle) on US 90, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana is enclosed. Our review of the proposed East Pearl River Bridge (Str. No. 62520060800001) project H.000286 indicates that this project will require a Coast Guard Bridge Permit.

Since federal funds are involved, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will be the lead agency for this replacement project with respect to National Environmental Policy Act requirements and the Coast Guard will act as a cooperating agency in the preparation of the environmental documentation.

At this time, we have no comments regarding the proposed project and look forward to processing your bridge permit application. To obtain assistance with your application, please refer to the Bridge Permit Application Guide that can be obtained at the following Coast Guard Bridge Administration web site: www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Frank".

DAVID M. FRANK
Chief Bridge Administration Branch
U.S. Coast Guard
By direction

Enclosure: Federal Aid Project (H.000284) letter dated October 12, 2012

Copy: LDOTD, Ms. Traci Johnson
LDOTD, Ms. Noel Ardoin
FHWA, Mr. Carl M. Highsmith



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue, South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

February 13, 2014 F/SER46/LA:jk
225/389-0508

Mr. Noel A. Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
Post Office Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

Dear Mr. Ardoin;

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has reviewed the project information transmitted in the Solicitation of Views (SOV) for State Project number H.000284/H.000286 dated January 15, 2014. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LDOTD) is proposing to replace five existing bridges located on US Highway 90 in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. In your SOV, you requested the identification of possible adverse environmental effects or concerns.

Wetlands in the project area consist of intermediate marsh vegetated primarily with saltmeadow cordgrass and switchgrass. These wetlands are categorized as essential fish habitat (EFH) under provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). Aquatic and tidally influenced wetland habitats in the project area are designated as EFH for post larval and juvenile life stages of white shrimp and red drum. Fishery management plans for these species have been developed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC). Detailed information on federally-managed fisheries and their EFH is provided in the 2005 generic amendment of the fishery management plan for the Gulf of Mexico prepared by the GMFMC. The generic amendment was prepared as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

In addition to being designated as EFH for various federally managed species, wetlands in the project area provide nursery and foraging habitats for a variety of economically important marine fishery species such as blue crab, Gulf menhaden, spotted seatrout, sand seatrout, southern flounder and striped mullet. Some of these species serve as prey for other fish species managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act by the GMFMC (e.g., mackerels, snappers, and groupers) and highly migratory species managed by NMFS (e.g., billfishes and sharks). Wetlands in the project area also produce nutrients and detritus, important components of the aquatic food web, which contribute to the overall productivity of the Mississippi Sound estuary.

The project alternatives for the five bridges have yet to be described, but any alternative in which the bridge is relocated could have the potential to adversely impact wetland habitats categorized as EFH. Provisions of the Clean Water Act require sequential efforts to avoid and then reduce

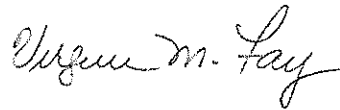


impacts to wetlands to the maximum extent practicable. LDOTD should evaluate all alternatives in an effort to minimize wetland impacts and, after selecting an alternative, evaluate construction methods and designs which would further reduce adverse impacts. Once all efforts have been completed to avoid or minimize wetland impacts, a compensatory mitigation plan should be developed to completely offset project related impacts to EFH and associated marine fishery resources. The Environmental Assessment to be developed for this project should thoroughly describe all resources potentially impacted by bridge construction activities, detail all efforts to avoid and minimize wetland impacts, and describe the mitigation plan to be used to compensate for all unavoidable adverse impacts to resources of concern.

Provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act require coordination with NMFS on any federal action, including funding of an action, which has the potential to adversely impact EFH. As identified above, this project has the potential to adversely impact EFH. If more than one federal agency is responsible for an action, one of those agencies can be designated as a lead agency responsible for fulfilling coordination requirements. In this case, it is likely the Federal Highway Administration would be providing funds to help pay for the bridge and the US Army Corps of Engineers will be responsible for permitting of the bridge under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Therefore, coordination requirements can be fulfilled through our review of the Environmental Assessment for this project, or through the Clean Water Act permitting process and either agency could be responsible for fulfilling EFH coordination requirements. If LDOTD will be responsible for fulfilling EFH coordination requirements, that designation should be provided to NMFS in writing.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide early input into this project. If you have questions regarding our comments, please contact Lisa Abernathy of my staff at (225) 389-0508, extension 209.

Sincerely,



Virginia M. Fay
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

c:
FWS, Lafayette, Walther
EPA, Dallas, Keeler
FHA, Mahoney
NOD Regulatory, Mayer
LDNR Consistency, Haydel
Files

Stacie Palmer

From: Stacie Palmer
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 4:25 PM
To: 'kajumba.ntale@epa.gov'
Subject: US 90 bridges H.000284 September 27, 2012 SOV response from EPA Region 6
Attachments: Sept 27 2012 SOV response EPA Region 6.pdf; Solicitation of Views US 90 pearl River Bridges H.000284.pdf

Ntale,

Per our phone conversation I am attaching a copy of the EPA region 6 response to our September 27, 2012 Solicitation of Views (SOV) letter. I have also attached the original SOV for the H.000284. Please call if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Stacie

Stacie Palmer
Environmental Impact Specialist DCL
Department of Transportation and Development
Phone 225-242-4517



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

October 26, 2012

Region 4

Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development
Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

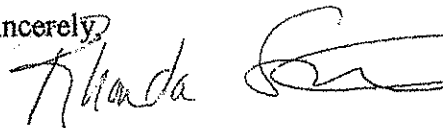
RE: State Project # H.000284

In accordance with Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 (EPA) has reviewed the solicitation of views for the Pearl River bridges replacement on US Highway 90. Based on the information presented in the solicitation of views, Region 6 has the following comments to offer for the proposed action.

- The project will replace four bridges crossing the Pearl River; which was designated as impaired by fecal coliform in the 2010 Louisiana Integrated Water Quality Report by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ). Please consult with LDEQ to determine if the project will affect water quality in the Pearl River.
- The project is over the Southern Hills Aquifer; which is designated a sole source aquifer (SSA) by EPA. Please contact Mike Bechdol, of the EPA Region 6 SSA program at (214) 665-7133, to determine if the project will affect the Southern Hills Aquifer.
- The project will take place in an area with designated woody and emergent herbaceous wetlands. Please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine if a Section 404 permit will need to be obtained for the project.
- The project is within the 100-year floodplain boundary designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Please consult Alan Pelegrin, the Parish Floodplain Administrator at (985) 898-2574, to determine if the project will affect floodplains.
- The project takes place within the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area (WMA); which is managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF). Please consult the LDWF to determine if the project will affect management and operation of the WMA.
- As stated in the solicitation of views, all four bridges were built in 1933, and are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Please consult with the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer to determine how to proceed with the project.

We appreciate the opportunity to examine the solicitation of views. Thank you for your coordination and don't hesitate to contact Keith Hayden, of my staff, at 214-665-2133 or hayden.keith@epa.gov should you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rhonda Smith", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Rhonda Smith
Chief, Office of Planning
and Coordination



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

ROBERT J. BARHAM
SECRETARY
JIMMY L. ANTHONY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Date February 21, 2014

Name Noel Ardoin

Company LA DOTD

Street Address P.O. Box 94245

City, State, Zip Baton Rouge, La 70804

Project State Project No. : H000284/H.000286
US 90: Pearl River Bridges/East Pearl River Bridge

Project ID

Invoice Number 14022101

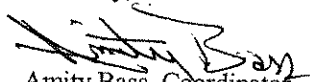
Personnel of the Habitat Section of the Coastal & Nongame Resources Division have reviewed the preliminary data for the captioned project.

The proposed project may impact the gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*) and its designated critical habitat. The gulf sturgeon is listed as threatened on both the federal and state species list. Major population limiting factors are thought to include barriers to spawning habitats and habitat loss associated with the construction of water control structures, including dams and sills. Other threats identified include modification to habitat associated with dredged material disposal and poor water quality associated with contamination. Please contact the USFWS to coordinate activities within this critical habitat unit.

After careful review of our database, no other impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project. No state or federal parks, wildlife refuges, other scenic streams, or wildlife management areas are known at the specified site within Louisiana's boundaries.

The Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP) has compiled data on rare, endangered, or otherwise significant plant and animal species, plant communities, and other natural features throughout the state of Louisiana. Heritage reports summarize the existing information known at the time of the request regarding the location in question. The quantity and quality of data collected by the LNHP are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals. In most cases, this information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in Louisiana have not been surveyed. This report does not address the occurrence of wetlands at the site in question. Heritage reports should not be considered final statements on the biological elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. LNHP requires that this office be acknowledged in all reports as the source of all data provided here. If at any time Heritage tracked species are encountered within the project area, please contact the LNHP Data Manager at 225-765-2643. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please call 225-765-2357.

Sincerely,


Amity Bass, Coordinator
Natural Heritage Program



BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

ROBERT J. BARHAM
SECRETARY
JIMMY L. ANTHONY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

INVOICE

RETURN THIS COPY OF INVOICE WITH PAYMENT

Date February 21, 2014

Invoice Number 14022101

Project State Project No. : H000284/H.000286
US 90: Pearl River Bridges/East Pearl River Bridge

Name Noel Ardoin

Company LA DOTD

Street Address P.O. Box 94245

City, State, Zip Baton Rouge, La 70804

Number of Quads Reviewed 1

Total Due \$0.00

Payment should be made to "Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries" within 30 days of the date of this invoice. Please include the invoice number on your check and return a copy of this invoice with your remittance to the following address:

Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Attn: Jennifer Riddle
P.O. Box 80399
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-0399

Should you have any questions regarding this invoice, for review of the Louisiana Natural Heritage database for information on known sensitive elements at a charge of \$30.00 per quad reviewed, please contact LNHP at (225) 765-2357.

Stacie Palmer

From: Griffith, Donald R. (SSC-RA50) <dona1d.r.griffith@nasa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 10:08 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: RE: Bridge project - H.000284/H.000286 SOV

Stacie:

In reference to comments from NASA Stennis Space Center on the "Bridge Project" we provide the following comments:

For a replacement Bridge for East Pearl River Highway 90

Two Choices

Fixed Bridge minimum requirements: Horizontal clearance 90' Vertical clearance 73' (
Vertical - same as Interstate 10)

Swing or Bascule Bridge minimum requirements: Horizontal clearance 90' Vertical clearance 10'

Thank you.

Don

Donald R. Griffith
Supply, Equipment, Disposal and Transportation Management Officer
Ph: (228) 688-2144
Fax (228) 688-1481
E-mail dona1d.r.griffith@nasa.gov

From: Stacie Palmer [<mailto:Stacie.Palmer@LA.GOV>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 2:44 PM
To: Griffith, Donald R. (SSC-RA50)
Subject: RE: Bridge project - H.000284/H.000286 SOV

From: Griffith, Donald R. (SSC-RA50) [<mailto:dona1d.r.griffith@nasa.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 2:41 PM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Bridge project -

Test



**MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**

February 24, 2014

Noel Ardoin
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: DMR-140215; US 90 Pearl River Bridges; State Project Nos.: H.000284/H.000286

Dear Mr. Ardoin:

The Department of Marine Resources in cooperation with other state agencies is responsible under the Mississippi Coastal Program (MCP) for managing the coastal resources of Mississippi. Proposed activities in the coastal area are reviewed to insure that the activities are in compliance with the MCP.

The Department has received a request from Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to review the proposed rehabilitation or replacement of five bridges in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. It appears that Site #5 may require impacts that constitute regulated activities within Coastal Wetlands of Mississippi. If the proposed activities will impact coastal wetlands, then a permit will be required by this office. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your project.

For more information or questions concerning this correspondence, contact Jennifer Wilder with the Bureau of Wetlands Permitting at (228) 523-4121 or jennifer.wilder@dmr.ms.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Willa J. Brantley", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Willa J. Brantley
Bureau Director, Wetlands Permitting

WJB/jjw



PO Box 571, Jackson, MS 39205-0571
601-576-6850 • Fax 601-576-6975
mdah.state.ms.us
H.T. Holmes, Director

February 25, 2014

Environmental Engineer Administrator
Louisiana Dept. of Transportation and Development
Environmental Section
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge LA 70804-9245

RE: Proposed State Project #H.000284/H.000286, replacement of US 90 Pearl River
Bridges, MDAH Project Log #02-053-14, Hancock County

Dear Sir or Madam:

We have reviewed your request for a cultural resources assessment, received on February 10, 2014, for the above referenced project, in accordance with our responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR Part 800. After review, the only bridge that may affect cultural resources within our jurisdiction is Site 5, Structure #62520060800001 (East Pearl River). Based on the information provided, we concur that the bridge at Site 5 is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As such, demolition of the bridge would be an adverse effect that should be avoided or mitigated. Should rehabilitation of the bridge be attempted, we would like the opportunity to review the plans and specifications for rehabilitation. In addition, due to the likelihood of archaeological sites in the potential APE of a Site 5 project, we recommend that a cultural resources survey should be performed by a qualified cultural resources professional in any Mississippi portion of the proposed project area that is more than 30 feet outside of existing right-of-way, whether it be for rerouting traffic, temporary bridges, or widening. If a survey is necessary, the resulting report should reference the project log number above on the title page.

A list of individuals who have represented themselves as being willing and qualified to do archaeological survey work in Mississippi will be furnished upon request. A copy of this letter should be made available to the contracting archaeologist(s).

If you have any questions, please call me at 601-576-6940.

Sincerely,

Greg Williamson
Review and Compliance Officer

FOR: H.T. Holmes
State Historic Preservation Officer

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, LA 71302

(318) 473-7751
Fax: (318) 473-7626

February 26, 2014

LA DOTD
Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

RE: State Project #s: H.000284/H.000286
Federal Aid Project #s: H000284/H000286
Name: US 90: Pearl River Bridges/East Pearl River Bridge
Route: US 90
Parish: St. Tammany
Structure #s: 62520060705291, 62520060706701, 62520060707111, 62520060707701,
62520060800001

Dear Mr. Ardoin:

I have reviewed the above referenced project for potential requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) and potential impact to Natural Resources Conservation Service projects in the immediate vicinity.

Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a federal agency or with assistance from a federal agency. For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements can be forest land, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

The project map submitted with your request indicates that the proposed project will not impact prime farmland and therefore is exempt from the rules and regulations of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) - Subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549. Furthermore, we do not predict impacts to NRCS work in the vicinity.

For specific information about the soils found in the project area, please visit our Web Soil Survey at the following location: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Please direct all future correspondence to me at the address shown above.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. D. Norton", is written over a horizontal line.

Kevin D. Norton
State Conservationist

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer





Louisiana Department of Natural
Resources
Office of Coastal Management
(OCM)

Joint Permit Application For Work Within the Louisiana Coastal Zone



U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers
(COE)
New Orleans District

Print Application

Permit Number: P20140370

Date Received: 03/10/2014

Step 1 of 15 - Applicant Information

**Applicant/Company
Name:**

LADOTD

Applicant Type: GOVERNMENT AGENCY

Mailing Address:

Po Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-924

Contact Information:

Stacie Palmer

Daytime:

225 242 4517 **Fax:** 225 242 4500

Contact Email: stacie.palmer@la.gov

Step 2 of 15 - Agent Information

**Company
Name:**

Mailing Address:

Contact Information:

Daytime:

Fax:

Contact Email:

Step 3 of 15 - Permit Type

☐ Coastal Use Permit (CUP) ☒ Solicitation of Views (SOV) ☐ Request for Determination (RFD)

Step 4 of 15 - Pre-Application Activity

a. Have you participated in a Pre-Application or Geological Review Meeting for the proposed project?

☐ No

☒ Yes

Date meeting was held:

Attendees:

(Individual or Company Rep)

(OCM Representative)

(COE Representative)

b. Have you obtained an official wetland determination from the COE for the project site?☒ No☐ Yes

JD Number:

c. Is this application a mitigation plan for another CUP?☒ No☐ Yes

OCM Permit Number:

Step 5 of 15 - Project Information**a. Describe the project:**

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), is proposing to rehabilitate or replace five bridges on US 90 in St. Tammany Parish (see attached map). These bridges have a sufficiency rating of less than 50 and therefore can be replaced or rehabilitated with federal funds. The preliminary purpose and need is to provide a safer and more reliable transportation route along this portion of US 90. Site 1: Structure Number: 62520060705291 (West Pearl River Bridge) Location: 89°40'14.624"W, 30°13'51.095"N Year Built: 1933 Type: Steel Vertical Lift Span Site 2: Structure Number: 62520060706701 (West Middle Pearl River Bridge) Location: 89°38'50.787"W, 30°14'3.812"N Year Built: 1933 Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss) Site 3: Structure Number: 62520060707111 (Middle Middle Pearl River Bridge) Location: 89°38'23.94"W, 30°14'7.109"N Year Built: 1933 Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss) Site 4: Structure Number: 62520060707701 (East Middle Pearl River Bridge) Location: 89°37'51.442"W, 30°14'12.29"N Year Built: 1933 Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss) Site 5: Structure Number: 62520060800001 (East Pearl River) Location: 89°36'53.309"W, 30°14'19.26"N Year Built: 1933 Type: Steel High Truss Swing Span All five bridges have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), therefore bridge rehabilitation will be considered as an alternative for the proposed action. Preliminary proposed alternatives are: 1. No build 2. Rehabilitation of existing bridges, with detour bridges 3. Replace bridges on alignment, with detour bridges 4. Replace bridges off alignment The roadway class design for all five bridges is RA-2 with a design speed limit of 60 mph. The average daily traffic (ADT) values for years 2016 and 2036 are 3,152 and 3,848 respectively. LADOTD will be conducting an Environmental Assessment study for the proposed undertaking.

b. Is this application a change to an existing permit?☒ No☐ Yes

OCM Permit Number:

c. Have you previously applied for a permit or emergency authorization for all or any part of the proposed project?☒ No☐ YesAgency NamePermit NumberDecision StatusDecision Date

OCM

COE

Other

Step 6 of 15 - Project Location

a. Physical Location

Street:

City:

Parish:

SAINT TAMMANY Zip:

Water Body: Pearl Rivers

b. Latitude and Longitude

Latitude: 30 14 7.09

Longitude: -89 38 23.94

c. Section, Township, and Range

Section #:

Township #:

Range #:

Section #:

Township #:

Range #:

d. Lot, Tract, Parcel, or Subdivision Name

Lot #:

Parcel #:

Tract #:

Subdivision
Name:

e. Site Direction:

Start: approximately intersection of US 190 and US 90. Continue on US 90. The 5 bridge sites are located on US 90 crossing the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area. End: Mississippi border.

Step 7 of 15 - Adjacent Landowners

Step 8 of 15 - Project Specifics

a. **Project Name and/or Title:** US 90 Pearl River Bridges /East Pearl River Bridge H.000284/H.000286

b. **Project Type:** Non-Residential

c. **Source of Funding:** Federal

d. **What will be done for the proposed project?**

☒ Bridge/Road

☐ Home
Site/Driveway

☐ Pipeline/Flow Line

☐ Rip Rap/Erosion Control

☐ Bulkhead/Backfill

☐ Levee Construction

☐ Plug/Abandon

☐ Site Clearance

☐ Drainage

☐

☐ Production

☐

Improvements	Dredging	Barge/Structure	Subdivision
☐ Drill Barge/Structure	☐ Prop Washing	☐ Vegetative Plantings	☐ Wharf/Pier/Boathouse
☐ Drill Site	☐ Pilings	☐ Remove Structures	
☒ Fill	☐ Marina	☐ Major Industrial/Commercial	
☐ Other:			

e. *Why is the proposed project needed?*

To provide a safer and more reliable transportation route along this portion of US 90.

Step 9 of 15 - Project Status

a. *Proposed project start date:*

Proposed project completion date:

b. *Is any of the project work in progress?*

☒ No ☐ Yes

c. *Is any of the project work complete?*

☒ No ☐ Yes

Step 10 of 15 - Structures, Materials, and Methods for the Proposed Project

a. *Excavations*

yd³

Acres

b. *Fill Areas*

yd³

Acres

c. *Fill Materials*

☐ Concrete:	yd ³	☐ Rock:	yd ³
☐ Crushed Stone or Gravel:	yd ³	☐ Sand:	yd ³
☐ Excavated and placed onsite:	yd ³	☐ Hauled in topsoil/Dirt:	yd ³
☐ Excavated and hauled offsite:	yd ³		
☐ Other:	yd ³		

d. *What equipment will be used for the proposed project?*

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| ☐ Airboat | ☒ Bulldozer/Grader | ☐ Marsh Buggy |
| ☒ Backhoe | ☐ Dragline/Excavator | ☐ Other Tracked or Wheeled Vehicles |
| ☐ Barge Mounted Bucket Dredge | ☐ Handjet | ☐ Self Propelled Pipe Laying Barge |
| ☐ Barge Mounted Drilling Rig | ☐ Land Based Drilling Rig | ☐ Tugboat |
| ☐ Other: | | |

Step 11 of 15 - Project Alternatives

a. *Total acres of wetlands and/or waterbottoms filled and/or excavated.*

acres

b. *What alternative locations, methods, and access routes were considered to avoid impact to wetlands and/or waterbottoms?*

c. *What efforts were made to minimize impact to wetlands and/or waterbottoms?*

d. *How are unavoidable impacts to vegetated wetlands to be mitigated?*

Step 12 of 15 - Permit Type and Owners

a. *Are you applying for a Coastal Use Permit?*

- ☒ No ☐ Yes

b. *Are you the sole landowner/oyster lease holder?*

- ☒ No ☐ Yes

- ☐ The applicant is an owner of the property on which the proposed described activity is to occur.
- ☐ The applicant has made reasonable effort to determine the identity and current address of the owner(s) of the land on which the proposed described activity is to occur, which included, a search of the public records of the parish in which the proposed activity is to occur.
- ☐ The applicant hereby attests that a copy of the application has been distributed to the following landowners/oyster lease holders:

c. *Does the project involve drilling, production, and/or storage of oil and gas?*

- ☒ ☐

No

Yes

Step 13 of 15 - Maps and Drawing Instructions

[dnrsovmap.pdf](#)

03/10/2014 01:55:53 PM

Step 14 of 15 - Payment

The fee for this permit is: \$0.00

Step 15 of 15 - Payment Processed

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: LADOTD
Address: Po Box 94245
City/State/Zip: Baton Rouge, LA 70804-924

Application Information

Permit Type: SOV

To the best of my knowledge the proposed activity described in this permit application complies with, and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. If applicable, I also certify that the declarations in Step 12c, oil spill response, are complete and accurate.

[View Comments related to this project](#)



Louisiana Department of Natural
Resources
Office of Coastal Management

Joint Permit Application For Work Within the Louisiana Coastal Zone



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(COE)
New Orleans District

Application Number: 16712 Permit Number: Date Received: 02/20/2014

Step 1 of 15 - Applicant Information

Applicant Name: LADOTD Applicant Type: GOVERNMENT AGENCY
Mailing Addr: Po Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804--924
Stacie Palmer
Contact Info: Phone: (225) 242-4517 Fax: (225) 242-4500 Email: stacie.palmer@la.gov

Step 2 of 15 - Agent Information

Agent Name:
Mailing Addr:

Contact Info: Phone: Fax: Email:

Step 3 of 15 - Permit Type

☐ Coastal Use Permit (CUP) ☒ Solicitation of Views (SOV) ☐ Request for Determination (RFD)

Step 4 of 15 - Pre- Application Activity

a. Have you participated in a Pre- Application or Geological Review Meeting for the proposed project?

☐ No ☐ Yes Date meeting was held:

Attendees:

(Individual or Company Rep) (OCM Representative) (COE Representative)

b. Have you obtained an official wetland determination from the COE for the project site?

☐ No ☐ Yes If Yes, Please upload a copy with your application.

JD Number:

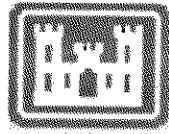
c. Is this application a mitigation plan for another CUP?

☐ No ☐ Yes OCM Permit Number:



Louisiana Department of Natural
Resources
Office of Coastal Management

Joint Permit Application For Work Within the Louisiana Coastal Zone



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(COE)
New Orleans District

Step 5 of 15 - Project Information

a. Describe the project.

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), is proposing to rehabilitate or replace five bridges on US 90 in St. Tammany Parish (see attached map). These bridges have a sufficiency rating of less than 50 and therefore can be replaced or rehabilitated with federal funds. The preliminary purpose and need is to provide a safer and more reliable transportation route along this portion of US 90.

Site 1:

Structure Number: 62520060705291 (West Pearl River Bridge)
Location: 89°40'14.624"W, 30°13'51.095"N
Year Built: 1933
Type: Steel Vertical Lift Span

Site 2:

Structure Number: 62520060706701 (West Middle Pearl River Bridge)
Location: 89°38'50.787"W, 30°14'3.812"N
Year Built: 1933
Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss)

Site 3:

Structure Number: 62520060707111 (Middle Middle Pearl River Bridge)
Location: 89°38'23.94"W, 30°14'7.109"N
Year Built: 1933
Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss)

Site 4:

Structure Number: 62520060707701 (East Middle Pearl River Bridge)
Location: 89°37'51.442"W, 30°14'12.29"N
Year Built: 1933
Type: Steel Low Truss Bridge (Pony Truss)

Site 5: Structure Number: 62520060800001 (East Pearl River)

Location: 89°36'53.309"W, 30°14'19.26"N
Year Built: 1933
Type: Steel High Truss Swing Span

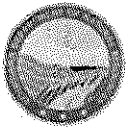
All five bridges have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), therefore bridge rehabilitation will be considered as an alternative for the proposed action.

Preliminary proposed alternatives are:

1. No build
2. Rehabilitation of existing bridges, with detour bridges
3. Replace bridges on alignment, with detour bridges
4. Replace bridges off alignment

The roadway class design for all five bridges is RA-2 with a design speed limit of 60 mph. The average daily traffic (ADT) values for years 2016 and 2036 are 3,152 and 3,848 respectively. LADOTD will be conducting an Environmental Assessment study for the proposed undertaking.

b. Is this application a change to an existing permit?



Louisiana Department of Natural
Resources
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Joint Permit Application For Work Within the Louisiana Coastal Zone



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(COE)
New Orleans District

☒ No

☐ Yes

OCM Permit Number:

c. Have you previously applied for a permit or emergency authorization for all or any part of the proposed project?

☒ No

☐ Yes

Agency	Contact	Permit Number	Decision Status	Decision Date
OCM				
COE				
Other				

Step 6 of 15 - Project Location

a. Physical Location

Street:

City:

Parish: Saint Tammany

Zip:

Water Body: Pearl Rivers

b. Latitude and Longitude

Latitude: 30 14 7.09

Longitude: -89 38 23.94

c. Section, Township, and Range

Section #:

Township #:

Range #:

Section #:

Township #:

Range #:

d. Lot, Track, Parcel, or Subdivision Name

Lot #:

Parcel #:

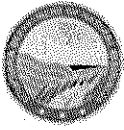
Tract #:

Subdivision Name:

e. Site Direction

Start: approximately intersection of US 190 and US 90. Continue on US 90. The 5 bridge sites are located on US 90 crossing the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area. End: Mississippi border.

Step 7 of 15 - Adjacent Landowners - See attached list



Louisiana Department of Natural
Resources
Office of Coastal Management

Joint Permit Application For Work Within the Louisiana Coastal Zone



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(COE)
New Orleans District

Step 8 of 15 - Project Specifics

a. Project Name and/or Title: US 90 Pearl River Bridges /East Pearl River Bridge H.000284/H.000286

b. Project Type: Non-Residential

c. Source of Funding **FEDERAL**

d. What will be done for the proposed project?

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| ☒ Bridge/Road | ☐ Home Site/Driveway | ☐ Pipeline/Flow Line | ☐ Rip Rap/Erosion Control |
| ☐ Bulkhead/Fill | ☐ Levee Construction | ☐ Plug/Abandon | ☐ Site Clearance |
| ☐ Drainage Improvements | ☐ Maintenance Dredging | ☐ Production Barge/Structure | ☐ Subdivision |
| ☐ Drill Barge/Structure | ☐ Prop Washing | ☐ Vegetative Plantings | ☐ Wharf/Pier/Boathouse |
| ☐ Drill Site | ☐ Pilings | ☐ Remove Structures | |
| ☒ Fill | ☐ Marina | ☐ Major Industrial/Commercial | |
| ☐ Other: | | | |

e. Why is the proposed project needed?

To provide a safer and more reliable transportation route along this portion of US 90.

Step 9 of 15 - Project Status

a. Proposed start date:

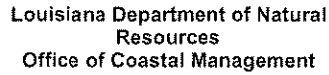
Proposed completion date:

b. Is any of the project work in progress?

☐ No ☐ Yes

c. Is any of the project work completed?

☐ No ☐ Yes



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(COE)
New Orleans District

a. Excavations

Acres

Acres

☐	Concrete:	Cubic Yards
☐	Crushed Stone or Gravel:	Cubic Yards
☐	Excavated and Placed onsite :	Cubic Yards
☐	Excavated and hauled offsite:	Cubic Yards
☐	Other:	

☐	Rock:	Cubic Yards
☐	Sand:	Cubic Yards
☐	Hauled in Topsoil/Dirt:	Cubic Yards

☐ Airboat	☒ Bulldozer/Grader	☐ Marsh Buggy
☒ Backhoe	☐ Dragline/Excavator	☐ Other Tracked or Wheeled Vehicles
☐ Barge Mounted Bucket Dredge	☐ Handjet	☐ Self Propelled Pipe Laying Barge
☐ Barge Mounted Drilling Rig	☐ Land Based Drilling Rig	☐ Tugboat
☐ Other:		

a. Total acres of wetlands and/or waterbottoms filled and/or excavated.

acres



Louisiana Department of Natural
Resources
Office of Coastal Management

Joint Permit Application For Work Within the Louisiana Coastal Zone



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(COE)
New Orleans District

b. What alternative locations, methods, and access routes were considered to avoid impact to wetlands and/or waterbottoms?

c. What efforts were made to minimize impact to wetlands and/or waterbottoms?

d. How are unavoidable impacts to vegetated wetlands to be mitigated?

Step 12 of 15 - Permit Type and Owners

a. Are you applying for a Coastal Use Permit?

☒ No ☐ Yes

b. Are you the sole landowner / oyster lease holder?

☐ No ☐ Yes

☐ The applicant is an owner of the property on which the proposed described activity is to occur.

☐ The applicant has made reasonable effort to determine the identity and current address of the owner(s) of the land on which the proposed described activity is to occur, which included, a search of the public records of the parish in which the proposed activity is to occur.

☐ The applicant hereby attests that a copy of the application has been distributed to the following landowners / oyster lease holders. See attached list.

c. Does the project involve drilling, production, and/or storage of oil and gas?

☒ No ☐ Yes If yes, you must attach a list of all state and federal laws and rules and regulations

Step 13 of 15 - Maps and Drawing Instructions

Note: OCM Compiled Plats consist of a complete and current set of plats that have been pieced together by OCM using only the most current portions of the plat files provided by the applicant/agent. All out-of-date plats have been excluded.

Step 14 of 15 - Payment



Louisiana Department of Natural
Resources
Office of Coastal Management

Joint Permit Application For Work Within the Louisiana Coastal Zone



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(COE)
New Orleans District

The fee for this permit is: \$ 0.00

Step 15 of 15 - Payment Processed

Applicant Information

Applicant Name: LADOTD
Address: Po Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-924

To the best of my knowledge the proposed activity described in this permit application complies with, and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. If applicable, I also certify that the declarations in Step 12c, oil spill response, are complete and accurate.

Landowners List

Stacie Palmer

From: Dean, Kenneth <Dean.William-Kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 11:44 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Cc: Hayden, Keith; Mueller, Heinz; Kajumba, Ntale; Kim Thurman (kthurman@mdot.ms.gov)
Subject: US 90 Pearl River Bridges/East Pearl River Bridge - EPA Region 4 Views and Comments

Ms. Palmer,

On February 11, 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 received a Revised Solicitation of Views (dated January 15, 2014) from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD), regarding the LA DOTD's proposal to rehabilitate or replace five bridges on U.S. Hwy 90 in St. Tammany Parish, LA. Provided below are EPA Region 4's views and comments on the proposed rehabilitation/replacement of the East River Pearl River Bridge (Structure No. 62520060800001), Project H.000286 (Site 5), which crosses the East Pearl River at the border of Louisiana and Mississippi, near Pearlington, MS.

EPA Region 4 Views and Comments on the Proposed U.S. Highway 90 East Pearl River Bridge Project (Site 5)

1. The East Pearl River is impaired due to pH, pathogens, nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), sediment, and organic enrichment/low DO. Over the years, the waterbody segment(s) traversed by the East Pearl River Bridge has been identified on Mississippi's Section 303(d) List using multiple waterbody names and descriptions. A summary of the 303(d) listing and TMDL history of the segment(s) is provided below.

Summary of Actions for Pearl River Segments MSLPRLRM1 and MSLPRLRE

Year	Waterbody Name	Waterbody ID*	County	Pollutant(s)	Action
1996, 1998	East Pearl River	MSLPRLRM1	Hancock	pH, Pathogens	Waterbody
1996, 1998	Lower Pearl River	MSLPRLRE	Marion, Pearl River, Hancock	Nutrients, Siltation, OE/Low DO	Waterbody
2002	Pearl River (formerly East Pearl River)	MSLPRLRM1	Hancock	N/A	Waterbody "East Pearl River"
2002	Pearl River (formerly Lower Pearl River)	MSLPRLRE	Marion, Pearl River, Hancock	N/A	Waterbody "Lower Pearl River"
2000	Pearl River	MSLPRLRM1	Hancock	pH	TMDL appr
2001	Pearl River	MSLPRLRM1	Hancock	Pathogens	TMDL appr
2009	Pearl River	MSLPRLRE	Marion, Pearl River, Hancock	Sediment	TMDL appr
2009	Pearl River	MSLPRLRE	Marion, Pearl River, Hancock	Nutrients (Nitrogen, Phosphorus)	TMDL appr

*MSLPRLRM1 is a shorter segment contained within MSLPRLRE. MSLPRLRM1 is located at Pearlington, from 1-10 to mouth of Mississippi Sound. MSLPRLRE is located near Morgantown, from confluence of Holiday Creek to mouth at Mississippi Sound.

2. The State is in the process of revising the nutrients TMDL for Pearl River segment MSLPRLRE to address the impacts of the City of Jackson and downstream of the Georgia Pacific facility. The East Pearl River Bridge Project (Site 5) should have minimal impact on the Pearl River, if proper BMPs are put in place to control the siltation due to construction activities.

3. EPA Region 4 is satisfied with the suite of preliminary proposed alternatives listed in attachment to the revised Solicitation of Views. The Region will consider the proposed alternatives for further possible comment after the draft NEPA document is received for review.
4. EPA recognizes that the bridge has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and that significant issues may exist regarding potential adverse effects to cultural resources from the proposed project. Therefore, EPA Region 4 defers to the appropriate parties involved in the Section 106 consultation to consider and to address those potential adverse effects associated with the proposed project. Information identifying the cultural and historic resources that could potentially be impacted by the project and the results of the Section 106 consultation process should be provided in the draft NEPA document. This will insure that any adverse effects to cultural/historic resources, and possible mitigation measures for adverse effects, are identified and taken into consideration when selecting the preferred alternative.
5. The Pearl River provides habitat for the Ringed Map Turtle (*Graptemys oculifera*), a federally listed threatened species. The LA DOTD is advised to contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife to verify the application of this listing at the project site.

EPA Region 4 appreciates the opportunity to provide views and comments on the proposed bridge project. If you have any questions regarding our views and comments, please contact Ms. Ntale Kajumba at 404-562-9620 or me at 404-562-9378 (or 678-628-2079). Thank you.

Ken

Wm. Kenneth Dean
EPA-MDOT Liaison
U.S. EPA, Region 4
NEPA Program Office
601-321-1135 (Jackson, MS Office)
404-562-9378 (Atlanta, GA Office)
678-628-2079 (BlackBerry)
dean.william-kenneth@epa.gov

Stacie Palmer

From: Hayden, Keith <Hayden.Keith@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 3:26 PM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: RE: H.000284 H.000286 SOV

Thanks Stacie. EPA Region 6 has no further comments to offer for the SOV concerning site 5 (H.000286). Please refer to our comments submitted October 26, 2012 for the SOV on project H.000284.

Our correct mailing address is:

USEPA
Region 6
6 EN-XP
1445 Ross Ave., Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

Sincerely,

Keith Hayden
Environmental Scientist/NEPA Specialist
Mail Code: 6EN-XP
USEPA - Region 6
1445 Ross Ave.
Dallas, TX 75202
e: hayden.Keith@epa.gov
p: 214.665.2133

From: Stacie Palmer [<mailto:Stacie.Palmer@LA.GOV>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 3:15 PM
To: Hayden, Keith
Subject: H.000284 H.000286 SOV

Hello Keith,

I just left you a phone message regarding this Solicitation of View letter. William Dean of Region 4 has informed me that you never receive a copy of this SOV. Please send me the correct address for your Section.

Thank you,
Stacie

Stacie Palmer
Environmental Impact Specialist DCL
Department of Transportation and Development
Phone 225-242-4517



Bobby Jindal
Governor

State of Louisiana
Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

Robert J. Barham
Secretary

March 17, 2014

Karl Morgan, Administrator
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
Office of Coastal Management
P.O. Box 44487
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487

RE: *Application Number: P20140370*
Applicant: Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
Notice Date: March 13, 2014

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The professional staff of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) has reviewed the notice referenced above. The following recommendations have been provided by the appropriate biologist(s):

Ecological Studies:

This project is located in the vicinity of the West Pearl River, a Louisiana designated Natural and Scenic River. The applicant must obtain authorization from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Scenic Rivers Program prior to initiating any of the proposed activities within or adjacent to the banks of the West Pearl River. Scenic Rivers Coordinator Keith Cascio can be contacted at 318-343-4045. For information on the Scenic Rivers Program, you can visit our website at: <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/scenic-rivers>

Louisiana Natural Heritage Program:

The proposed project may impact the gulf sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*) and its designated critical habitat. The gulf sturgeon is listed as threatened on both the federal and state species list. Major population limiting factors are thought to include barriers to spawning habitats and habitat loss associated with the construction of water control structures, including dams and sills. Other threats identified include modification to habitat associated with dredged material disposal and poor water quality associated with contamination.

The Paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*) occurs in water bodies near the project area and is considered rare in Louisiana. The paddlefish is threatened by siltation of spawning habitat, pollution, back-to-back impoundments, and in some areas, exploitation by the caviar industry. Habitat destruction and river modification are the most obvious changes affecting abundance and distribution. We advise you to take the necessary measures in order to avoid any degradation of water quality of streams/canals. If you have any questions, please contact Beau Gregory at 337-491-2576.

No other impacts to rare, threatened or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated from the proposed project. No federal parks or wildlife refuges are known at the specified site or within ¼ mile of the proposed project.

The Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP) reports summarize the existing information known at the time of the request regarding the location in question. LNHP reports should not be considered final statements on the biological elements or areas being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys required for environmental assessments. If at any time LNHP tracked species are encountered within the project area, please contact our biologist at 225-765-2643.

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries appreciates the opportunity to review and provide recommendations to you regarding this proposed activity. Please do not hesitate to contact LDWF Permits Coordinator Dave Butler at 225-763-3595 should you need further assistance.

Sincerely,

Kyle F. Balkum
Biologist Program Manager

cd/cm



State of Louisiana
Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of Public Health

March 31, 2014

LA DOTD
Environmental Engineer Administrator
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Re: Revised Solicitation of Views;
State Project Number H.000284/H.000286; F.A.P. No. H000284/H000286;
US 90: Pearl River Bridges / East Pearl River Bridge; Route: US 90
St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana;
Structure Nos. 62520060705291, 62520060706701, 62520060707111, 62520060707701,
62520060800001

This office is in receipt of a Solicitation of Views regarding the above referenced project(s).

Based upon the information received from your office we have no objection to the referenced project(s) at this time. The applicant shall be aware of and comply with any and all applicable Louisiana State Sanitary Code regulations (LAC 51, as applicable). Furthermore, should additional project data become available to this office that in any way amend the information upon which this office's response has been based, we reserve the right of additional comments on the referenced project(s).

In the event of any future discovery of evidence of non-compliance with the Louisiana Administrative Code Title 51 (Public Health-Sanitary Code) and the Title 48 (Public Health-General) regulations or any applicable public health laws or statutes which may have escaped our awareness during the course of this cursory review, please be advised that this office's preliminary determination on this Solicitation of View of the project(s) shall not be construed as absolving the applicant of responsibility, if any, with respect to compliance with the Louisiana Administrative Code Title 51 (Public Health-Sanitary Code) and the Title 48 (Public Health-General) regulations or any other applicable public health laws or statutes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yuanda Zhu".

Yuanda Zhu
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of Public Health Engineering Services
Telephone: (225) 342-7432
Electronic mail: yuanda.zhu@la.gov



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

APR 07 2014

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Operations Division
Operations Manager,
Completed Works

Ms. Noel Ardoin
LA DOTD
Post Office Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

This is in response to your Solicitation of Views request dated January 15, 2014, concerning the US 90 Pearl River Bridges/East Pearl River Bridge, in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana.

We have reviewed your request for potential Department of the Army regulatory requirements and impacts on any Department of the Army projects.

We do not anticipate any adverse impacts to any Corps of Engineers projects.

The proposed Pearl River Bridge rehab project in St. Tammany Parish would fall under both 10/404 Jurisdiction. The applicant should be aware that Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley New Orleans (CEMVN) can only permit the least damaging practical alternative; therefore, CEMVN recommends determining which alternatives are practicable prior to removal of an alternative from consideration. 40 CFR 230.10 (2) defines practicable alternatives as those which are available and capable of being done after taking into consideration cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of the overall project purposes. CEMVN recommends that the applicant confirm its definition of the overall project purpose and confirm that its criteria for determining practicable alternatives are defensible. As practicable alternatives are determined, CEMVN recommends that the applicant take all necessary steps to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands. 40 CFR Section 230.10(a)(3) sets forth rebuttable presumptions that 1) alternatives for non-water dependent activities that do not involve special aquatic sites are available unless clearly demonstrated otherwise and 2) where a discharge is proposed for a special aquatic site, all practicable alternatives for that proposed discharge that do not involve special aquatic sites are presumed to have less adverse impact on the aquatic environment, unless clearly demonstrated otherwise.

This preliminary determination is advisory in nature. If an approved delineation is needed, please furnish us with the detailed field data concerning vegetation, soils, and hydrology that we require for all jurisdictional decisions. The fact that a field wetland delineation/determination has not been completed does not alleviate your responsibility to obtain the proper Department of the Army permits prior to working in jurisdictional wetlands or waters occurring on this property.

Off-site locations of activities such as borrow, disposals, haul-and detour-roads and work mobilization site developments may be subject to Department of the Army regulatory requirements and may have an impact on a Department of the Army project.

You should apply for said permit well in advance of the work to be performed. The application should include sufficiently detailed maps, drawings, photographs, and descriptive text for accurate evaluation of the proposal.

Please contact Mr. Robert Heffner, of our Regulatory Branch by telephone at (504) 862-1288, or by e-mail at Robert.A.Heffner@usace.army.mil for questions concerning wetlands determinations or need for on-site evaluations. Questions concerning regulatory permit requirements may be addressed to Mr. Michael Farabee by telephone at (504) 862-2292 or by email at Michael.V.Farabee@usace.army.mil.

Future correspondence concerning this matter should reference our account number MVN-2014-00332-MS. This will allow us to more easily locate records of previous correspondence, and thus provide a quicker response.

We apologize for missing the target date of February 17, 2014, listed in your request. Thank you for your patience in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen L. Clement". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Karen L. Clement
Solicitation of Views Manager

Stacie Palmer

From: Noel Ardoin
Sent: Monday, April 07, 2014 7:01 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: FW: DEQ SOV 140115/0270 Pearl River and East Pearl River Bridges

From: Linda (Brown) Hardy
Sent: Friday, April 04, 2014 4:12 PM
To: Noel Ardoin
Cc: Yasoob Zia
Subject: DEQ SOV 140115/0270 Pearl River and East Pearl River Bridges

April 4, 2014

Noel Ardoin, Environmental
Engineering Administrator
LA DOTD
PO Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
Noel.Ardoin@la.gov

RE: 140115/0270 Pearl River and East Pearl River Bridges
H.000284 DOTD Funding
H.000286 St. Tammany Parish

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

The Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Business and Community Outreach Division has received your request for comments on the above referenced project.

After reviewing your request, the Department has no objections based on the information provided in your submittal. However, for your information, the following general comments have been included. Please be advised that if you should encounter a problem during the implementation of this project, you should immediately notify LDEQ's Single-Point-of-contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640.

- Please take any necessary steps to obtain and/or update all necessary approvals and environmental permits regarding this proposed project.
- If your project results in a discharge to waters of the state, submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) application may be necessary.
- If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is recommended that you contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371 to determine if your proposed project requires a permit.
- If your project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit application or Notice of Intent must be submitted no later than January 1, 2014. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 9371.
- If any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps directly regarding permitting issues. If a Corps permit is required, part of the application process may involve a water quality certification from LDEQ.

- All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.
- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if your water system improvements include water softeners, you are advised to contact the LDEQ Water Permits to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.

Currently, St. Tammany Parish is classified as attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and has no general conformity determination obligations.

Please send all future requests to my attention. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (225) 219-3954 or by email at linda.hardy@la.gov.

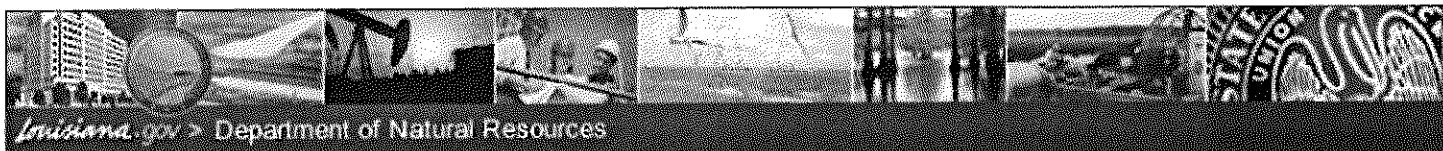
Sincerely,

Linda M. Hardy

Technical Assistant to the Deputy Secretary
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Office of the Secretary
P.O. Box 4301
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301
Ph: (225) 219-3954
Fax: (225) 219-3971
Email: linda.hardy@la.gov

Stacie Palmer

From: Office of Coastal Management <bpel.mail@la.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 07, 2014 4:39 PM
To: Lea Ann Baker; Craig LeBlanc; DBOND@STPGOV.ORG; Dave Butler; Mark Hogan; Stacie Palmer; ucm_mail
Subject: P20140370 - Processing Complete



PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL. THIS ACCOUNT IS NOT MONITORED FOR INCOMING MAIL. If you would like to talk to someone about this application please call 225-342-7591 or 1-800-267-4019.

Coastal Use Permit Application Information

Applicant: LADOTD
Project: US 90 Pearl River Bridges /East Pearl River Bridge
H.000284/H.000286
Project Parish(es): SAINT TAMMANY

OCM Analyst: Mark Hogan
Final Determination: SOV Application Required
Application N/A
Modification:

Processing of the above application has been completed. Click the link below to view the final determination:

[Authorization](#)

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR



STEPHEN CHUSTZ
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT

04/07/2014

LADOTD
PO BOX 94245
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-924

**RE: P20140370, Solicitation of Views
LADOTD**

Description: Proposed rehabilitation or replacement of five bridge sites on US 90 in St. Tammany Parish.

Location: Approximately 6 miles east south-east of Slidell, LA; Site 1 - Lat 30° 13' 51.09"N / Long -89° 40' 14.62"W; Site 5 - Lat 30° 14' 19.26"N / Long -89° 36' 53.30"W.

Saint Tammany Parish, LA

Dear Stacie Palmer:

We have received your Solicitation of Views for the above referenced project, which has been found to be inside the Louisiana Coastal Zone. In order for us to properly review and evaluate this project, we require that a complete Coastal Use Permit Application packet (Joint Application Form, locality maps, project illustration plats with plan and cross section views, etc.) along with the appropriate application fee be submitted to our office. Using your complete application, we can provide you with an official determination, and begin the processing of any Coastal Use Permit that may be required for your project. You may obtain a free application packet by calling our office at (225) 342-7591 or (800)-267-4019, or by visiting our website at <http://www.dnr.state.la.us/crm/coastmgt/cup/cup.asp>.

We recommend that, during your planning process, you make every effort to minimize impacts to vegetated wetlands. As our legislative mandate puts great emphasis on avoiding damages to these habitats, in many cases the negotiations involved in reducing such disturbances and developing the required mitigation to offset the lost habitat values delay permit approval longer than any other factor. Additionally, the following sensitive features may require additional processing time by the appropriate resource agencies: Scenic Rivers Program, please contact Coordinator Keith Cascio at 318-343-4045; The Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP), and the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area (WMA), please contact LDWF Permits Coordinator Dave Butler at 225-763-3595;

Should you desire additional consultation with our office prior to submitting a formal application, we recommend that you call and schedule a pre-application meeting with our Permit Section staff. Such a preliminary meeting may be helpful, especially if a permit application that is as complete as possible

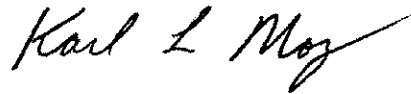
Post Office Box 44487 • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4487
617 North Third Street • 10th Floor • Suite 1078 • Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802
(225) 342-7591 • Fax (225) 342-9439 • <http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov>

An Equal Opportunity Employer

is presented for evaluation at the pre-application meeting.

If you have any questions, would like to request an application packet or would like to schedule a pre-application meeting, please contact Mark Hogan at (225) 219-9530 or Mark.Hogan@LA.GOV.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karl L. Morgan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Karl L. Morgan
Administrator

Karl L. Morgan/mh

Attachments

P20140370, Solicitation of Views

LADOTD

04/07/2014

Page 3

Final Plats:

1) P20140370 Final Plats 03/10/2014

cc: Jessica Diez, OCM w/plats
Craig Leblanc, CMD/FI w/plats
Saint Tammany Parish w/plats



Office of the Secretary
PO Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
ph: 225-379-1200 | fx: 225-379-1851

John Bel Edwards, Governor
Eric Kalivoda, Secretary

November 21, 2023

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000284 / H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H000284 / H.000286
PROJECT NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
STRUCTURE (RECALL NOS): 62520060705291 (058710), 62520060706701 (058720),
62520060707111 (058730), 62520060707701 (05840), 62520060800001 (058750)
ROUTE: US 90
JOINT STATE LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI

SUBJECT: REVISED SOLICITATION OF VIEWS

In the planning stages of a transportation facility, views from federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and individuals are solicited. The special expertise of these groups can assist the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) with identification of possible adverse economic, social, or environmental effects or concerns. Your assistance in this regard will be appreciated.

Early in the project planning stage on September 27, 2012 and January 15, 2014 solicitation of view letters were sent requesting comment on the proposed bridge replacement / rehabilitation project.

Four of the project bridges (Recall Nos. 058710, 058720, 058730, 058740) were closed to vehicular traffic after a May 2022 inspection. Subsequently, the US 90 corridor from the West Pearl River Bridge to the East Pearl River Bridge (approximately 3.6 miles) has remained closed. An Environmental Assessment, in-progress at the time of route closure, evaluating replacement /rehabilitation options of the five bridges is being re-evaluated. The attached project description addresses current conditions of the road and bridges.

Funding has not yet been identified for the proposed project. However, LADOTD is requesting that you review the attached information and furnish us with your views and comments by **January 1, 2024**. Replies should be addressed to LA DOTD; Environmental Engineer Administrator; Section 28; P.O. Box 94245; Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245. Comments can also be sent to US90PearlRiverBridges@la.gov. Please reference the State Project Number H.000284/H.000286.

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000284 / H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H000284 / H.000286
PROJECT NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
Page 2

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact at
US90PearlRiverBridges@la.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Noel Ardoin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator

Attachments

NA/sp

cc: District Administrator
District Traffic Operations Engineer
Project Manager

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**STATE PROJECT NOS. H.000284 & H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NOS. H000284 & H.000286
US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
ROUTE: US 90
ST. TAMMANY PARISH LA & HANCOCK COUNTY MS**

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), is proposing to re-establish system linkage on US 90 between St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana and Hancock County, Mississippi (see attached map). The five bridges (below) included in this study are in various states of structural deterioration causing closure of the corridor. The length of the corridor is 3.6 miles.

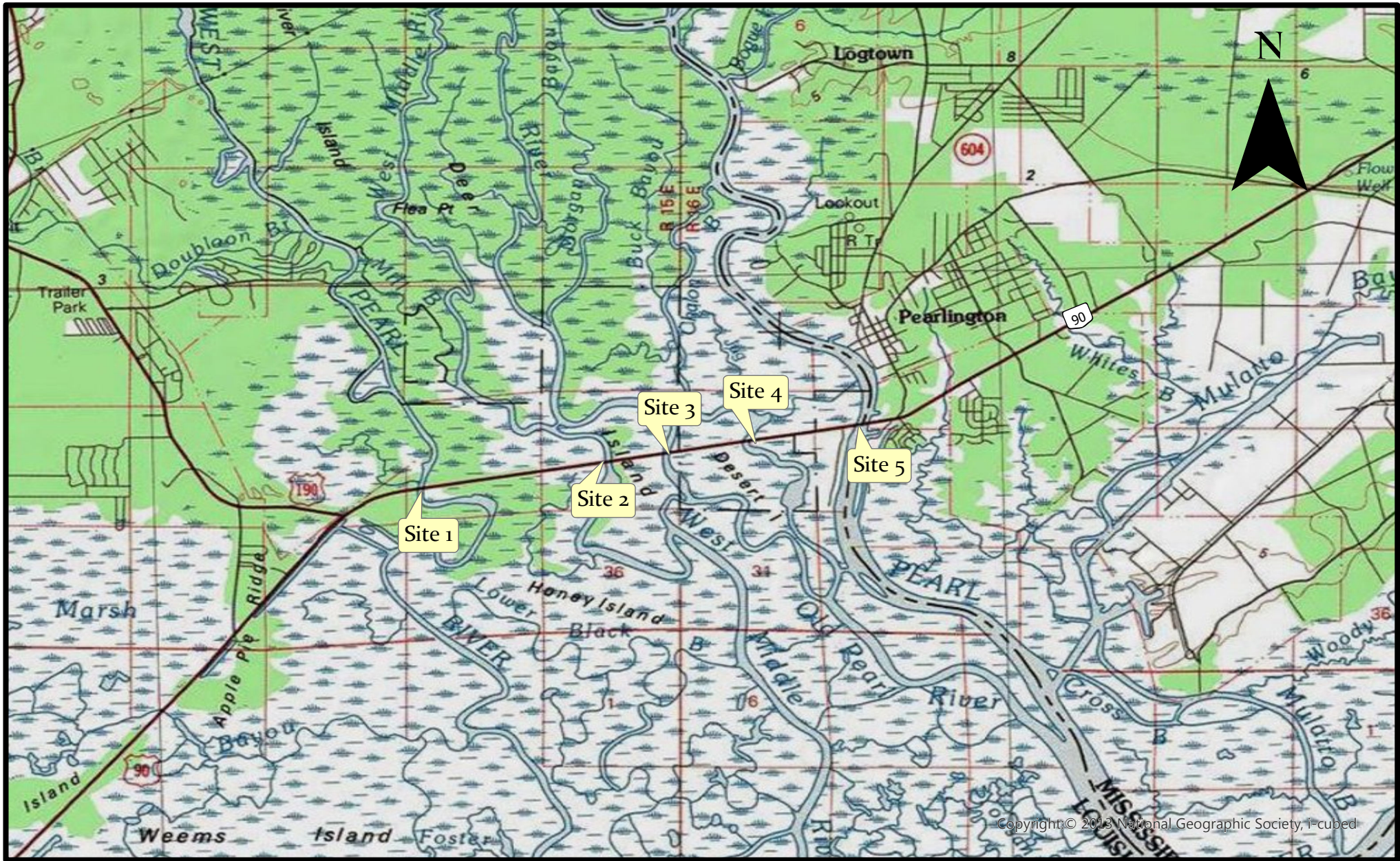
- Site 1: West Pearl River Bridge, Movable Lift Span
Structure No. 62520060705291, Recall No. 058710 (Project No. H.000284)
- Site 2: West Middle Pearl River Bridge
Structure No. 62520060706701, Recall No. 058720 (Project No. H.000284)
- Site 3: Middle Middle Pearl River Bridge
Structure No. 62520060707111, Recall No. 058730 (Project No. H.000284)
- Site 4: East Middle Pearl River Bridge
Structure No. 62520060707701, Recall No. 058740 (Project No. H.000284)
- Site 5: East Pearl River Bridge, Movable Swing Span
Structure No. 62520060800001, Recall No. 058750 (Project No. H.000286)

The roadway is classified as a rural minor arterial with a design speed of 55 mph. The average daily traffic (ADT) values for years 2024 and 2044 are 2,825 and 3,450 respectively.

Proposed alternatives, thus far, include rehabilitation/replacement of all structures on alignment with proposed fixed span bridges for the existing movable West and East Pearl River Bridges (Recall Nos. 058710, 058750). The original intent of the project was to maintain traffic throughout construction. In light of the current bridge and road closure, maintaining traffic during construction will not be factored into project alternatives.

In addition, a reduction in the vertical and horizontal navigational clearance for the proposed West Pearl River Bridge (Recall No. 058710) fixed span alternative has been reduced from a 35' to 12' vertical clearance and a 90' to 60' horizontal clearance.

An Environmental Assessment is on-going for the proposed project. We respectfully request your comments. This information will be helpful in the development of the Environmental Assessment for this proposed project.



0 0.6 1.2 2.4 Miles



PROJECT AREA

STATE PROJECT NOS.: H.000284/H.000286
 FEDERAL AID PROJECT NOS.: H000284/H000286
 NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
 ROUTE: US 90
 JOINT STATE LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1201 ELM STREET, SUITE 500
DALLAS, TEXAS 75270

November 30, 2023

Ms. Noel A. Ardoin, Environmental Engineer Administrator
LADOTD
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

We have received your November 21, 2023, letter requesting our evaluation of the potential environmental impacts which might result from the following project (Revised SOV):

US-90: Sites 1-4 (Proj No. H.000284) & Site 5 (Proj No. H.000286) Site 1: W. Pearl River Bridge, Str No. 62520060705291/RC#058710, Site 2: W. Middle Pearl River Bridge, Str No. 62520060706701/RC#058720, Site 3: Middle Middle Pearl River Bridge, Str No. 62520060707111/RC#058730, Site 4: E. Middle Pearl River Bridge, Str No. 62520060707701/RC#058740, Site 5: E. Pearl River Bridge, Str No. 62520060800001 /RC#058750 /// US-90 (Chef Menteur Hwy): Site 1: (30.231195, -89.668747), Site 2: (30.234538, -89.645909), Site 3: (30.235583, -89.638662), Site 4: (30.237002, -89.628961), Site 5: (30.239056, -89.614846), White Kitchen, St. Tammany Parish, LA 70615 & Pearlington, Hancock County, MS 39572

The project funded by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD)/ Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is located on the Southern Hills aquifer system which has been designated a sole source aquifer (SSA) by the EPA. Based on the information provided for the project, we have determined that the project, as proposed, should not have an adverse effect on the quality of the ground water underlying the project site.

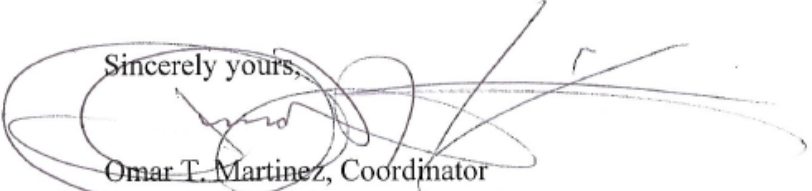
This approval of the proposed project does not relieve the applicant from adhering to other State and Federal requirements, which may apply. This approval is based solely upon the potential impact to the quality of ground water as it relates to the EPA's authority pursuant to Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

EPA intends to evaluate and respond to all projects submitted for formal review or evaluation purposes within forty-five (45) calendar days, from the Stamped Date the project is received by the EPA. However, if EPA is unable to complete its review within that timeframe, no assumption of a determination of a lack of impacts can be made. EPA acknowledges our approval is not required by law for the project to proceed with funding.

If you did not include the parish, project description, project location, area map, plat or the federal funding agency, please do so in future SSA correspondence.

If you have any questions on this letter or the SSA program please contact me at (214) 665-8485.

Sincerely yours,


Omar T. Martinez, Coordinator
Sole Source Aquifer Program
Ground Water/UIC Section

cc: Stacie Palmer, Environmental Impact Specialist, DCL, LA DOTD
Jesse Means, LDEQ

Date: November 30, 2023

FYI: We have moved and have a New Address & Mail Code, please see below.

Omar T. Martinez, Environmental Scientist
Sole Source Aquifer Program Coordinator
Ground Water/UIC Section (Mail Code: WDDG)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75270



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Tate Reeves
Governor

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

Joe Spraggins, Executive Director

December 18, 2023

Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development
Attn: Noel Ardoin
PO Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: DMR23-000755; US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES; State Project Number H.000284/H.000286

The Department of Marine Resources in cooperation with other state agencies is responsible under the Mississippi Coastal Program (MCP) for managing the coastal resources of Mississippi. Proposed activities in the coastal area are reviewed to ensure that the activities are in compliance with the MCP.

The Department has reviewed the above-referenced proposed project and has the following comments:

Based on the information provided, it appears that authorization from this office will be necessary for the portion of the bridge(s) that cross waters or wetlands within the state of Mississippi and an application should be submitted to this office for review. MDMR Wetlands Permitting staff will be happy to participate in any pre-application discussions and assist with the permitting process in any way we can.

For more information, questions concerning this correspondence, or to set up a meeting/discussion contact:

Thomas Butera
MDMR Bureau of Wetlands Permitting
228-523-4065
thomas.butera@dmr.ms.gov

Sincerely,

Willa J. Brantley
Director, Bureau of Wetlands Permitting
MS Department of Marine Resources

WJB / tb

STATE PROJECT H.000284/H.000286

COMMENTS ON PEARL RIVER PROJECT

SITE 1

WEST PEARL RIVER BRIDGE
12 FT HIGH SOUNDS GOOD

SITE 2,3,4

MIDDLE PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
HEIGHT AT THEIR CURRENT LEVEL
IS FINE, THERE IS NO LARGE BOAT TRAFFIC.

SITES

EAST PEARL RIVER BRIDGE
HAVING A HIGHRISE OVER EAST
PEARL RIVER WILL RUIN QUALITY
OF LIFE IN PEARLINGTON, ESPECIALLY
FOR THOSE OF US LIVING IN BELLE ISLE
SUBDIVISION, RIVERSIDE DR, AND SEVERAL
HOMES AND BUSINESSES. I KNOW
N.A.S.A. NEEDS ACCESS. EAST PEARL
RIVER BRIDGE SHOULD BE NO HIGHER
THAN 12 FT, WITH A DRAW BRIDGE
THAT WOULD ONLY NEED TO BE OPENED
FOR NASA, WOULD NOT NEED A FULL
TIME BRIDGE TENDER, OR REFURBISH
CURRENT BRIDGE. IT COULD BE CONSIDER
TO BE HISTORICAL. WOULD SAVE MONEY
AND MAKE A LOT OF PEARLINGTONS HAPPY

TRAFFIC

WHEN I-10 IS CLOSED, TRAFFIC
COMES FROM HWY 604, HOW HARD
WOULD IT BE TO GET OUT MY NEIGHBORHOOD?
TRAFFIC COMING DOWN A HIGHRISE, SPEEDS
WOULD BE HIGH AT BOTTOM GOING
THROUGH PEARLINGTON, 65-75 MPH?
IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS TO MERGE,
WALK ACROSS STREET.

HIGHRISE ON EAST PEARL
RIVER VERY BAD IDEA!

YOURS TRULY
DONALD MONJURE
BELLE ISLE RESIDENT
(UNDER THE BRIDGE)
PEARLINGTON, MS
985-285-7805

Donald Monjure

David Dorn
1027 Amar Street
Waveland, MS 39576
Davadorn80@gmail.com
12/12/2023

Eric Kalivoda: Secretary
John Bel Edwards: Governor
Office of the Secretary
PO Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Subject: Adverse Effects of West Pearl Bridge Closure on U.S. 90

Reference: Letter dated November 21, 2023 "SUBJECT: REVISED SOLICITATION OF VIEWS"

To Mr. Kalivoda,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is David Dorn, and I am writing to express my concerns regarding the closure of the West Pearl Bridge on U.S. 90, a vital route for my daily commute for over 42 years. I am a resident of Waveland, Mississippi, and I work at the NASA Michoud Facility in New Orleans East. The closure of the West Pearl Bridge on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, has significantly impacted my daily commute and raised several concerns that I believe warrant attention from both the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Firstly, the closure of the West Pearl Bridge has resulted in a longer and more arduous commute for me and many others who rely on this route. With U.S. 90 being a major artery for travel between Waveland and New Orleans East, the increased travel time has not only affected our personal lives but has also led to adverse economic effects due to decreased productivity and increased transportation costs.

Furthermore, the rerouting of traffic to Interstate 10 as the alternative route poses additional dangers to commuters. The increased congestion, especially during peak hours, raises concerns about safety and the potential for accidents. The heightened risk of accidents on Interstate 10 not only threatens the well-being of commuters but also places an additional burden on emergency response services and infrastructure maintenance.

In addition to these immediate concerns, I wish to highlight the adverse impact on the elderly residents of Mississippi who previously enjoyed driving on U.S. 90 for shopping trips as well as medical visits to Slidell and New Orleans. The closure of the West Pearl Bridge has forced them onto the less desirable route of Interstate 10, adding stress and inconvenience to their lives. With the addition of the Fremaux Town Center in Slidell, I believe the average daily traffic (ADT) values stated in the referenced letter are well outdated.

Additionally, the immediate economic and safety concerns, the closure of the West Pearl Bridge raises environmental issues. The increased traffic on Interstate 10 contributes to higher levels of air pollution and traffic-related emissions. As a resident who values environmental sustainability, I am deeply concerned about the long-term ecological impact of this increased traffic on our region.

Moreover, the closure of the West Pearl Bridge raises serious questions about the preparedness and resilience of transportation infrastructure in the event of an emergency, particularly during hurricane evacuations. Given New Orleans' history of hurricanes over the past two decades, it is crucial to ensure that alternative routes are efficient and capable of handling increased traffic flow during evacuation scenarios.

I understand that cost and funding is an issue that needs to be addressed prior to moving forward. Since the bridges are currently closed and elevation clearances have changed construction cost should be less than previously thought, however lack of traffic along the roadway could cause the natural environment to degrade the roadway causing possible additional cost to reconstruct the road itself.

I urge the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Federal Highway Administration to prioritize the prompt repair and reopening of the West Pearl Bridge on U.S. 90. Additionally, I request a thorough evaluation of the potential economic, safety, and environmental impacts caused by the bridge closure and an examination of contingency plans for hurricane evacuations.

I appreciate your attention to these matters and trust that your agencies will take the necessary steps to address the concerns raised by the closure of the West Pearl Bridge. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of the residents and commuters in our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Dorn", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

David Dorn

December 13, 2023

Janyne M Crapeau
Owner/Operator of Turtle Landing Bar & Grill
16463 Hwy 90
Pearlington, Ms. 39572
228-324-1360

LA DOTD
Environmental Engineer Administrator Section 28
PO Box 94245 Baton Rouge, La 70804-9245

Re: State Project number: H.000284/H.000286 Fed Aid Project NO: H.000284/H.000286
Project Name: US90: Pearl River Bridges

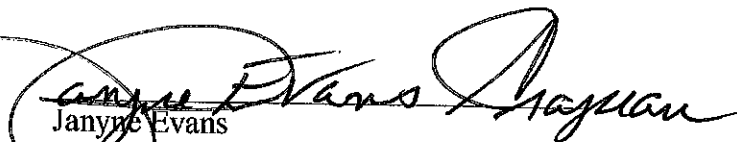
To Whom It May Concern:

My place of business is half of a mile on the Mississippi side of the closed bridges that have been closed since May 24, 2022. My business is down a minimum of 60% due to the closures. For the last 2 years we have not been able to participate in Poker Runs and or Cruisin The Coast or actually anything from Slidell, La. to New Orleans, La. Our emergency services from La. have been shut down and it take 2-3 hours for assistance from Gulfport, Ms or Biloxi, Ms. Our older generation is reluctant to drive the interstate for Dr. appointments, shopping, etc... There have been many vehicular accidents on that span of interstate between Slidell, La and Pearlington MS. When this happens it is hours of just sitting. There is no where to turn around or exit off.

In 2016, which was 8 years ago, the Pearlington community and I met at our community center with you all. There were big plans to fix/replace bridges. Still no action.

For the time up till before closure of the bridges, we watched truck loads after truck loads, day after day, of dirt being hauled for the levee's for New Orleans, La. across these bridges. My guess is that they were overloaded and didn't want to risk the scales off the interstate. No one stopped this from happening and we know that this had to have caused much damage.

~~We were~~ fortunate this year because we didn't have a major hurricane. If this were to happen we would be sitting for hours on the interstate with no way out. These bridges are needed not only for day to day travel but for emergencies response for our loved ones or anyone.


Janyne Evans
Owner/Operator Turtle Landing Bar & Grill

December 13, 2023

Elizabeth M Warren
5025 Pine St
Pearlington, Ms. 39572
228-342-3915

LA DOTD
Environmental Engineer Administrator Section 28
PO Box 94245 Baton Rouge, La 70804-9245

Re: State Project number: H.000284/H.000286 Fed Aid Project NO: H.000284/H.000286
Project Name: US90: Pearl River Bridges

To Whom It May Concern:

My residence is half of a mile on the Mississippi side of the closed bridges that have been closed since May 24, 2022. Even though I am in Mississippi, La is closer than the next town. My employment, doctors, church, shopping, family, etc... Our emergency services from La. have been shut down and it take 2-3 hours for assistance from Gulfport, Ms or Biloxi, Ms. Our older generation is reluctant to drive the interstate, as am I, for Dr. appointments, shopping, etc... There have been many vehicular accidents on that span of interstate between Slidell, La and Pearlinton MS. When this happens it is hours of just sitting. There is no where to turn around, exit or use any facilities. I have missed scheduled appointments just sitting, then had to reschedule and miss more time at work. I have not attended my church in Slidell in several months due to the fear of sitting to long. I am now care taker of my Mother because she can no longer stay by herself with her medical issues. Everytime I go to Slidell and or return it is on a wish and a prayer. I am one of thousands that have the same anxiety.

In 2016, which was 8 years ago, the Pearlinton community and I met at our community center with you all. There were big plans to fix/replace bridges. Still no action.

For the time up till before closure of the bridges, we watched truck loads after truck loads, day after day, of dirt being hauled for the levee's for New Orleans, La. across these bridges. My guess is that they were overloaded and didn't want to risk the scales off the interstate. No one stopped this from happening and we know that this had to have caused much damage.

We were fortunate this year because we didn't have a major hurricane. If this were to happen we would be sitting for hours on the interstate with no way out. These bridges are needed not only for day to day travel but for emergency response for ourselves, our loved ones or anyone.


Elizabeth Warren
Resident of Pearlinton, MS



State of Mississippi

TATE REEVES
Governor

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

CHRIS WELLS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 20, 2023

Mr. Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
Louisiana Dept. of Transportation & Development
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: Air Quality Impact Review
US 90: Pearl River Bridges
<City, County, MS>

Dear Mr. Ardoin,

We have reviewed the information submitted to us and wish to acknowledge that we do not expect the referenced project to adversely affect ambient air quality. Our determination is contingent upon the project manager ensuring the owner or operator secures any required air emissions permits from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Permit Board prior to commencing construction of a covered activity and complies with all applicable asbestos and lead-based paint control regulations. Guidance concerning when and what type of permit may be required can be found by visiting the MDEQ's website at www.mdeq.ms.gov. The guidance document titled "*Air Quality Impact Review Guidance*" can be accessed by selecting "*Air*" from the upper menu and then "*Other Air Information*" from the menu on the right.

If you wish to submit another project for comment regarding impacts to ambient air quality, please address correspondence as indicated below so incoming mail is properly directed.

Air Quality Impact Review
c/o Air Program Support Branch
P.O. Box 2261
Jackson, MS 39225

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact me by calling (601) 961-5799.

Sincerely,

Bryan Williams
Chief, Air Program Support Branch



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
7400 LEAKE AVE
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118-3651

January 30, 2024

Regulatory Division
Special Projects and Policy

Ms. Noel Ardoin
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
Post Office Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-94245

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

Reference is made to your solicitation of views request for the work associated with the removal and replacement of five bridge structures, **State Project Nos. H.000284 & H.000286**, located in St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana (enclosed map). More specifically, the project proposes to remove and replace five bridge structures which cross over West Pearl River, West Middle Pearl River, Middle Middle Pearl River, East Middle Pearl River and East Pearl River along US 90 east of Slidell.

Information and signatures obtained from recent maps, aerial photography, information provided with your request, and local soil surveys concerning this site are indicative of the occurrence of waters of the United States, including wetlands. Department of the Army (DA) permits are required prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into jurisdictional wetlands or waters. If an approved delineation is needed, please furnish us with the detailed field data concerning vegetation, soils, and hydrology that we require for all jurisdictional decisions. The fact that a field wetland delineation/determination has not been completed does not alleviate your responsibility to obtain the proper DA permits prior to working in jurisdictional wetlands or waters occurring on this property.

Please be advised that this property is in the Louisiana Coastal Zone and a Coastal Use Permit may be required prior to initiation of any activities on this site. For additional information, contact Ms. Christine Charrier, Office of Coastal Management, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources at (225) 342-7953.

Should there be any questions concerning these matters or questions specific to the regulatory permit process, please contact Mr. Stephen Pfeffer at (504) 862-2099 and reference our Account No. MVN 2014-00334-MS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen Pfeffer".

Stephen Pfeffer
Environmental Resources Specialist

Enclosure



Office of the Secretary
PO Box 94245 | Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
ph: 225-379-1200 | fx: 225-379-1851

John Bel Edwards, Governor
Eric Kalivoda, Secretary

November 21, 2023

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000284 / H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H000284 / H.000286
PROJECT NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
STRUCTURE (RECALL NOS): 62520060705291 (058710), 62520060706701 (058720),
62520060707111 (058730), 62520060707701 (05840), 62520060800001 (058750)
ROUTE: US 90
JOINT STATE LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI

SUBJECT: REVISED SOLICITATION OF VIEWS

In the planning stages of a transportation facility, views from federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and individuals are solicited. The special expertise of these groups can assist the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) with identification of possible adverse economic, social, or environmental effects or concerns. Your assistance in this regard will be appreciated.

Early in the project planning stage on September 27, 2012 and January 15, 2014 solicitation of view letters were sent requesting comment on the proposed bridge replacement / rehabilitation project.

Four of the project bridges (Recall Nos. 058710, 058720, 058730, 058740) were closed to vehicular traffic after a May 2022 inspection. Subsequently, the US 90 corridor from the West Pearl River Bridge to the East Pearl River Bridge (approximately 3.6 miles) has remained closed. An Environmental Assessment, in-progress at the time of route closure, evaluating replacement /rehabilitation options of the five bridges is being re-evaluated. The attached project description addresses current conditions of the road and bridges.

Funding has not yet been identified for the proposed project. However, LADOTD is requesting that you review the attached information and furnish us with your views and comments by **January 1, 2024**. Replies should be addressed to LA DOTD; Environmental Engineer Administrator; Section 28; P.O. Box 94245; Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245. Comments can also be sent to US90PearlRiverBridges@la.gov. Please reference the State Project Number H.000284/H.000286.

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000284 / H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H000284 / H.000286
PROJECT NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
Page 2

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact at
US90PearlRiverBridges@la.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Noel Ardoin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator

Attachments

NA/sp

cc: District Administrator
District Traffic Operations Engineer
Project Manager

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**STATE PROJECT NOS. H.000284 & H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NOS. H000284 & H.000286
US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
ROUTE: US 90
ST. TAMMANY PARISH LA & HANCOCK COUNTY MS**

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), is proposing to re-establish system linkage on US 90 between St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana and Hancock County, Mississippi (see attached map). The five bridges (below) included in this study are in various states of structural deterioration causing closure of the corridor. The length of the corridor is 3.6 miles.

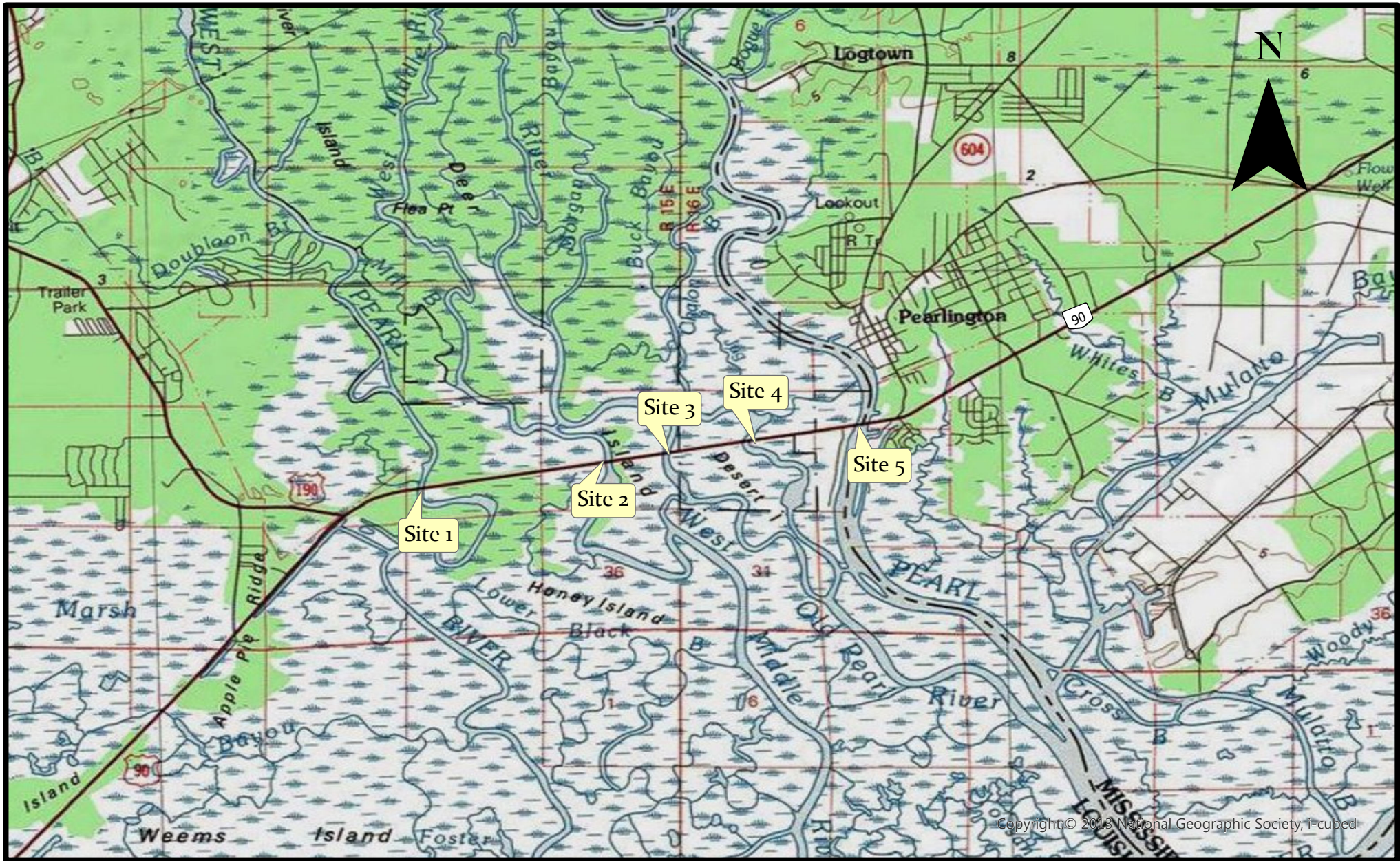
- Site 1: West Pearl River Bridge, Movable Lift Span
Structure No. 62520060705291, Recall No. 058710 (Project No. H.000284)
- Site 2: West Middle Pearl River Bridge
Structure No. 62520060706701, Recall No. 058720 (Project No. H.000284)
- Site 3: Middle Middle Pearl River Bridge
Structure No. 62520060707111, Recall No. 058730 (Project No. H.000284)
- Site 4: East Middle Pearl River Bridge
Structure No. 62520060707701, Recall No. 058740 (Project No. H.000284)
- Site 5: East Pearl River Bridge, Movable Swing Span
Structure No. 62520060800001, Recall No. 058750 (Project No. H.000286)

The roadway is classified as a rural minor arterial with a design speed of 55 mph. The average daily traffic (ADT) values for years 2024 and 2044 are 2,825 and 3,450 respectively.

Proposed alternatives, thus far, include rehabilitation/replacement of all structures on alignment with proposed fixed span bridges for the existing movable West and East Pearl River Bridges (Recall Nos. 058710, 058750). The original intent of the project was to maintain traffic throughout construction. In light of the current bridge and road closure, maintaining traffic during construction will not be factored into project alternatives.

In addition, a reduction in the vertical and horizontal navigational clearance for the proposed West Pearl River Bridge (Recall No. 058710) fixed span alternative has been reduced from a 35' to 12' vertical clearance and a 90' to 60' horizontal clearance.

An Environmental Assessment is on-going for the proposed project. We respectfully request your comments. This information will be helpful in the development of the Environmental Assessment for this proposed project.



0 0.6 1.2 2.4 Miles



PROJECT AREA

STATE PROJECT NOS.: H.000284/H.000286
 FEDERAL AID PROJECT NOS.: H000284/H000286
 NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
 ROUTE: US 90
 JOINT STATE LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI



December 12, 2023

Noel Ardoin, Environmental Engineer Administrator
LA Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

RE: Revised Solicitation of Views
State Project No.: H.000284/H.000286
Federal Aid Project No.: H000284/H000286
Project Name: US 90: Pearl River Bridges
Structure (Recall Nos): 62520060705291 (058710), 62520060706701 (058720),
62520060707111 (058730), 62520060707701 (05840), 62520060800001 (058750)
Route: US 90
Joint State Louisiana and Mississippi

Noel:

I have reviewed the above referenced project for potential requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) and potential impact to Natural Resources Conservation Service projects in the immediate vicinity.

Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a federal agency or with assistance from a federal agency. For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements can be forest land, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

The project map and narrative submitted with your request indicates that the proposed construction areas associated with these bridge replacements along US 90 will not impact prime farmland and therefore are exempt from the rules and regulations of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)—Subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549. Furthermore, we do not predict impacts to NRCS work in the vicinity.

For specific information about the soils found in the project area, please visit our Web Soil Survey at the following location: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Please direct all future correspondence to me at the address shown below.



Natural Resources Conservation Service
State Office
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302
Voice: (337) 290-4720 Fax: (844) 325-6947

Helping People Help the Land

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Waltman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'B' and a stylized 'W'.

Brandon Waltman

Assistant State Soil Scientist

Attachment

**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS**

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		3. Date of Land Evaluation Request 11/21/23		4. Sheet 1 of _____	
1. Name of Project US 90: Pearl River Bridges - SPN H.000284/H.O.		5. Federal Agency Involved FHWA			
2. Type of Project Multiple bridge replacements		6. County and State St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana			
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		1. Date Request Received by NRCS 11/29/23		2. Person Completing Form Brandon Waltman	
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 ☐ NO ☒		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 11/29/23		
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			
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	0	0	0
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)					
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)		100	0	0	0
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)		160	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)		260	0	0	0
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 ☐ NO ☐	
5. Reason For Selection:					

Signature of Person Completing this Part:

DATE

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

Clear Form



BILLY NUNGESSER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

KRISTIN P. SANDERS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

December 18, 2023

Noel Ardoin
Environmental Engineer Administrator
LA Department of Transportation & Development
1201 Capital Access Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Re: STATE PROJECT NO.: H.000284 / H.000286
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H.000284 / H.000286
PROJECT NAME: US 90: PEARL RIVER BRIDGES
STRUCTURE (RECALL NOS): 6250060705291 (058710), 6250060706701 (058720),
62520060707111 (058730), 6250060707701 (05840), 62520060800001 (058750)
ROUTE: US 90 JOINT STATE LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI
REVISED SOLICITATION OF VIEWS

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

Thank you for your updated letter received on December 1, 2023, regarding the revised solicitation of views (SOV) for the proposed bridge replacement/rehabilitation project for the four bridges (Recall Nos. 058710, 058720, 058730, and 058740) found along the U.S. 90 corridor from the West Pearl River Bridge to the East Pearl River Bridge. Our office has reviewed the SOV and have the following comments to offer.

The Division of Historic Preservation offers the following comments. Two bridges (Recall Nos. 058710 and 058740) are preservation candidate bridges. Two bridges (Recall Nos. 058720 and 058730) are non-priority bridges. If federal funds will be used for the proposed replacement/rehabilitation for these four bridges the *Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Highway Administration, The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer Regarding Management of Historic Bridges in Louisiana* dated August 18, 2015 should be followed.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Jennie Garcia in our Division of Historic Preservation at jgarcia@crt.la.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristin P. Sanders".

Kristin Sanders
State Historic Preservation Officer

December 4, 2023

Mr. Noel Ardoin
Louisiana Dept. of Transportation and Development
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9245

RE: Proposed replacement of US 90 Pearl River Bridge, Hancock County

Dear Mr. Ardoin:

We have reviewed your solicitation of views for the above referenced project. The purpose of this letter is to summarize MDAH's position thus far in the consultation, for your convenience. As you know, only Site 5 is in our jurisdiction, so we defer to LA SHPO on all other issues.

On February 25, 2014, we issued a letter regarding the proposed work. We concurred with LA DOTD that the bridge was eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As such, any demolition is an adverse effect and must be avoided, minimized, or mitigated. If rehabilitation is chosen as an alternative, we would like to review the plans and specifications.

We also recommended an archaeological survey of any work taking more than thirty feet outside established rights-of-way on the Mississippi side, to include temporary bridges or road widening. Please let us know if any such survey was undertaken in the interim.

The preservation of Mississippi's bridges is hugely important, given the rapidly dwindling number of historic transportation structures. We also recognize that the safety of the public, both in Louisiana and in Mississippi, is always a concern, especially when it comes to our bridges and highways. As such, MS SHPO requests to be included on any consultation on this issue, in accordance with our responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR § 800.

If you have any questions, please call me at 601-576-6941.

Sincerely,



Hayley E. Smith
Chief of Preservation Planning

FOR: Katie Blount
State Historic Preservation Officer

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:36 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: LDWF comments H.000284/H.000286

From: Dave Butler
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2023 11:37 AM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: LDWF comments H.000284/H.000286

To Whom It May Concern:

For the Portions on the WMA:

A portion of this project is located on the Pearl River Wildlife Management Area; therefore, the applicant must obtain authorization from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Please contact Jill Day at 225-765-2819 or jday@wlf.la.gov to coordinate activities.

For Portions off the WMA:

No objections or comments at this time. In later proposals of the scope of construction, a Scenic Rivers Permit will be required for the crossing over West Pearl River (Site 1: West Pearl River Bridge, Movable Lift Span).

Wildlife Diversity Program:

The Wildlife Diversity Program database indicates that the following at-risk species occur within the project outside of the WMA:

Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*). This very large freshwater turtle is vulnerable (S3) in Louisiana and is PROPOSED THREATENED by the USFWS. Minimize disturbance and alteration of nesting habitat, particularly during nesting season (April – June). Nesting typically occurs close to river banks and lake shores. Minimize removal of log jams in streams, as woody debris provides cover and hunting areas used by this species. Stream alteration should be avoided to protect turtle habitat. If dredging is needed, material should be dumped away from potential turtle nesting sites or dumped prior to egg laying (May – early June). Please contact Keri Lejeune at 337-735-8676 for more information.

Gulf Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrhynchus desotoi*). The Gulf Sturgeon is listed as federally THREATENED under the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544) and as state THREATENED under L.A.C. 76: I.317. Major population limiting factors are thought to include barriers to spawning habitats and habitat loss associated with the construction of water control structures, including dams and sills. Other threats identified include modification to habitat associated with dredged material disposal and poor water quality associated with contamination. Water intakes should be screened with $\leq \frac{1}{4}$ -inch mesh; intake velocity should be $< \frac{1}{2}$ foot/second; and intakes should be placed at water depths > 15 feet.

Sincerely,

Dave Butler
Permits Coordinator
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

2000 Quail Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
(504) 286-4173 New Orleans Office
(225) 763-3595 Baton Rouge Office



Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:31 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

From: Hall, Jaeson M CIV USARMY CEMVK (USA) <Jaeson.M.Hall@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 11:25 AM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: RE: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

A 408 Review from our office would be required for the proposed project. We would route this project through Regulatory, Navigation, and the US Coast Guard for their input/approval.

Thanks,
Jaeson Hall
USACE, Vicksburg District, ODM-F
Office: (601) 631-7015

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges <US90PearlRiverBridges@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 7:39 AM
To: Hall, Jaeson M CIV USARMY CEMVK (USA) <Jaeson.M.Hall@usace.army.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Please find attached for your review and comment a solicitation of views letter for US 90 Pearl River Bridges.

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:30 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Importance: High

From: Carolyn Michon
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 10:44 AM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: RE: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

The Wildlife Diversity Program database indicates that the following at-risk species occur within the project outside of the WMA:

Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*). This very large freshwater turtle is vulnerable (S3) in Louisiana and is PROPOSED THREATENED by the USFWS. Minimize disturbance and alteration of nesting habitat, particularly during nesting season (April – June). Nesting typically occurs close to river banks and lake shores. Minimize removal of log jams in streams, as woody debris provides cover and hunting areas used by this species. Stream alteration should be avoided to protect turtle habitat. If dredging is needed, material should be dumped away from potential turtle nesting sites or dumped prior to egg laying (May – early June). Please contact Keri Lejeune at 337-735-8676 for more information.

Gulf Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*). The Gulf Sturgeon is listed as federally THREATENED under the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531-1544) and as state THREATENED under L.A.C. 76: I.317. Major population limiting factors are thought to include barriers to spawning habitats and habitat loss associated with the construction of water control structures, including dams and sills. Other threats identified include modification to habitat associated with dredged material disposal and poor water quality associated with contamination. Water intakes should be screened with $\leq \frac{1}{4}$ -inch mesh; intake velocity should be $< \frac{1}{2}$ foot/second; and intakes should be placed at water depths > 15 feet.



Carolyn Michon, Biologist
LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
cmichon@wlf.la.gov
www.wlf.louisiana.gov
200 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, La 70506

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges <US90PearlRiverBridges@LA.GOV>

Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2023 1:32 PM

To: Carolyn Michon <cmichon@wlf.la.gov>

Subject: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Please find attached for your review and comment a solicitation of views letter for US 90 Pearl River Bridges.

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:30 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

From: Warren Gravois <wfg37@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 8:57 AM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: RE: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Received, thank you. Please speed up the project! This has been lingering too long.

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges <US90PearlRiverBridges@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 8:50 AM
To: wfg37@outlook.com
Subject: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Please find attached for your review and comment a solicitation of views letter for US 90 Pearl River Bridges.

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:29 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

From: ara23@earthlink.net <ara23@earthlink.net>
Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 7:15 AM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: RE: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

I personally do not see an issue with reducing the clearance for the West Pearl River bridge. To fix the current bridge instead of replacing it doesn't make sense, too old, probably can't get parts if needed. I would be ok if it didn't open at all. I feel the same way for the east pearl bridge, replace with something more modern and up to date, fewer moving parts, less maintenance, a fixed span would be ok with me. These bridges have been closed too long with no end in sight. It might be designated a low use road, but it is a major inconvenience for the local residents and if an accident on I-10 can had a much longer commute time for a lot of people.

Alvin Attenhofer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges <US90PearlRiverBridges@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 3:28 PM
To: ara23@earthlink.net
Subject: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

On September 22, 2016 you attended a public meeting for the above reference project. Please find attached for your review and comment a solicitation of views letter for US 90 Pearl River Bridges.

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:36 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: Hwy 90 west pearl Bridge

From: jason jaworski <jasontyme@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 31, 2023 7:45 PM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: Hwy 90 west pearl Bridge

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

In regards to the replacement of a fixed bridge in place of an opening bridge for the west pearl. Us residents of slidell and pearl River are very concerned about the height and width of the proposed replacement. In the previous letter the term "mean water" was noted that the existing bridge was at 11 ft height clearance which is incorrect. With the west pearl river at a very low average river stage which was a few weeks ago documented at the interstate 59 gauge at 6ft river stage we only had 10' ft of clearance down at the hwy 90 west pearl bridge.....secondly 12' clearance with a fixed bridge at "mean water" is not going to be enough clearance for boat traffic. If the bridge replacement is only possible to be a fixed bridge we ask for more clearance then 12'. 16' clearance of a fixed bridge may be doable for most but not all traffic ...I've been a resident of pearl River since 1991 and have had the bridge opened countless times and currently have a vessel which would need the current bridge opened to be able to travel through....there is more then 30 other house boats that also would be blocked in from traveling a "navigational waterway"... many recreational boats shrimp boats etc come up the west pearl river as a safe harbor from hurricanes which will no longer be possible. We ask as citizens of st tammany parish and residents of the surrounding pearl river watershed that our river is left as usable or close to what it has always been. [Outlook for Android](#)

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:36 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: Project Number H.000284/H.000286

From: bobby.jordan@yahoo.com <bobby.jordan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, December 29, 2023 9:50 PM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: Project Number H.000284/H.000286

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Mr. Noel,

Please help get this project going. We are in Pearlinton, MS and this is very depressing.

Property values are going down and it is like we live in a deserted area of the world for years now. Very expensive having to drive much further.

Can you get someone to open this up to motorcycle traffic? Are the bridges really going to snap in half due to a 500 pound motorcycle?

Bob Jordan

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:31 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw:

From: Nolan Pansano <bayouno27@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2023 2:05 PM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject:

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

To: Environmental Engineer Administrator

As per your request for issues concerning the Pearl River bridges, I Nolan Pansano residing at 16136 Bali Rd Pearlinton for the past 23 years list items as follows:

1. evacuation route : Hwy 90 is the only evacuation other than interstates.
2. Easy access to emergency facilities: due to the closings it adds at least 18 miles around one way to Slidell and beyond. (excluding traffic accidents)
3. Truck Route: Heavy duty 18 wheelers coming from Port Bienville is a major part of wear and tear on bridges and roads. Not counting Hwy 604 which is greatly used now which will need repairs in the future.
4. Businesses: Family owned businesses have lost revenue since the closings.

Respectfully submitted
Nolan

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:29 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: DEQ SOV# 231122/0985 US 90: Pearl River Bridges

From: Marissa Jimenez
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 12:44 PM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Cc: DEQ SOV; Vivian (Aucoin) Johnson (DEQ); Chris Means; Keith Horn; Kori Blitch
Subject: DEQ SOV# 231122/0985 US 90: Pearl River Bridges

December 4, 2023

Noel Ardoin, Environmental Engineer Administrator

LA DOTD, Section 28
P.O. Box 94245
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245
US90PearlRiverBridges@la.gov

US 90: Pea

RE: 231122/0985
H.000284 / H.000286

DOTD Fun
St. Tamma

Dear Mr. Ardoin:

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) has received your request for comments on the above referenced project.

After reviewing your request, the Department has no objections based on the information provided in your submittal. However, for your information, the following general comments have been included. Please be advised that if you should encounter a problem during the implementation of this project, you should immediately notify LDEQ's Single-Point-of-contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640.

Please review all items below that may affect your project/s success:

1. Please take any necessary steps to obtain and/or update all necessary approvals and environmental permits regarding this proposed project.
2. **If the project concerns flood control in residential and business areas that modify infrastructure and/or drainage:**

- a. **Modeling for areas of interest, as well as both upstream and downstream connecting waterways, is preferred to evaluate potential impacts of increased flow on up/downstream flooding, hydrology, and water quality**
 - b. **Receiving channels should be designed and sized with consideration of natural channel design methodologies and principles, as improper design can result in increased velocities and channel degradation (scouring), erosion, bank instability, and water quality degradation**
- i. **Increased stream velocities can jeopardize residential properties, pipelines, bridges, and other infrastructure, and may cause increased pollutant loads (e.g., sediment, metals, low oxygen levels) to waterways through channel(s) realignment and reestablishment of naturally vegetated banks, meanders, and original lengths and slopes for stabilization**
 - ii. **Nature-based solutions should be considered to address these, and storm water issues, before entry to downstream waters**
- 1. <https://watershed.la.gov/nature-based-solutions>
 - 2. <https://www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure/green-infrastructure-design-and-implementation>
- c. **Detention pond design and operating practices, including but not limited to high flow releases, can affect channels as described above**
 - d. **Flood control projects should be evaluated in combination with other flood mitigation projects proposed or ongoing in the watershed**
- 3. **If the project involves bridge and/or lateral/inline structures (e.g., culverts, weirs, sluice/lift gates)**
 - e. **Design to allow water to flow freely at the structure without restrictions during all flow regimes to preserve the natural functions of the stream channels, maintain appropriate channel dimensions, and flow regimes**
- iii. **Consequences of improper design and maintenance can lead to debris build-up against structures restricting flow, leading to decreases in velocity, reaeration, and dissolved oxygen levels**
- 4. **If your project results in a discharge to waters of the state, submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) application may be necessary.**
 - f. **The applicant must follow regional/local permitting requirements for sewage and storm water management**
- 5. **If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.**
 - 6. **All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is recommended that you contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-3590 to determine if your proposed project requires a permit.**
 - 7. **If your project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit is required. An application form or Notice of Intent will need to be submitted if the sludge management practice includes preparing biosolids for land application or preparing sewage sludge to be hauled to a landfill. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <https://deq.louisiana.gov/page/sewage-biosolids> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 3590.**
 - 8. **If any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps directly regarding permitting issues. If a Corps permit is required, part of the application process may involve a water quality certification from LDEQ.**
 - 9. **All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.**
 - 10. **Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if your water system improvements include water softeners, you are advised to contact the LDEQ Water Permits to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.**
 - 11. **Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.**
 - 12. **If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.**

13. The proposed projects are located within 3 LDEQ defined water units (LA090202_00 [Site 1], LA090207_00 [Sites 2-4], and LA090103_00 [Site 5]), all of which contain water quality impairments according to the LDEQ 2022 Integrated Report. Additionally, unit LA090202_00 is a designated scenic waterway. Impairments include: mercury in fish tissue and oxygen for all units, and an additional bacterial impairment for unit LA090103_00. According to LDEQ's Water Quality Management Plan, total maximum daily load pollution control allocations are in effect for all units for mercury in fish tissue, and an additional control is in effect for oxygen in unit LA090207_00. Control of nonpoint source pollution from construction activities should follow (6) above, as disturbance and sedimentation can worsen water quality.
14. If any changes to the bridges, guardrails, or other structures involves any treated wood elements, the treated timber must be reused, recycled, or properly disposed of at permitted facilities.
- If the project will involve the removal or disturbance of any soils which may have contaminant concentrations that exceed the Limiting Screening Option Standards established by the LDEQ Risk Evaluation/Corrective Action Program (RECAP) Regulation, these materials may be considered a waste and disposed of at a permitted facility, or might be managed as part of a Solid Waste Beneficial Use or Soil Reuse Plan in accordance with LAC 33:VII.Chapter 11. Alternately, a site-specific RECAP Evaluation might be conducted and submitted to the LDEQ.
15. *If any underground storage tanks are encountered during the project, they must be in compliance with the regulations found in LAC 33:XI of the Environmental Regulatory Code. If any contaminated soil or groundwater is encountered, the findings should be reported to LDEQ.*

Currently, St. Tammany Parish is classified as attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and has no general conformity determination obligations.

Please send all Solicitation of Views (SOVs) requests and questions to SOVs@la.gov.

Sincerely,

Marissa Jimenez

Environmental Scientist Manager

LDEQ Office of the Secretary

Outreach and Small Business Assistance

225-219-3963

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:29 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: State Project Number H.000284/H.000286.

From: Lisa Lanata <usdepos@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 12:21 PM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: State Project Number H.000284/H.000286.

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

To whom it May Concern

I reside in Pearlinton and have been for the past five years on a permanent basis and 28 years on a semi-permanent basis. the closure of the Highway 90 route has impacted me severely as I work as a court reporter in Louisiana New Orleans area. The alternative commute route has cost me so much extra time and loss of work due to road closures on I-10 due to accidents and fires and it has impacted my life immensely. My parents were also living next door to me and dad's cancer progressed where he had to change doctors to St. Charles Parish where he also resides part time and is our family home to where he could be closer to doctors. He passed away two months ago and my mom is now moving back to Pearlinton and is 81 and her doctor appointments now take 10-15 minutes longer to get to. It is a huge inconvenience.

This is an evacuation route and with all the I-10 issues over the past few years, it has caused major traffic issues with no alternative route to use. There is only one way in and out of Louisiana east and west with no viable alternative routes.

You all need to get your stuff together and get this fixed. I can't imagine the roads were so bad that you couldn't do something to fix or maintain. This is a black eye on Louisiana's ability to maintain their roads and bridges, especially on such a valuable hurricane evacuation route.

Please get this project some funding and get this fixed. This is crazy bad looking for the State of Louisiana

Lisa Lanata, CCR
4195 Riverside Drive
Pearlington, MS 39572
504-458-0184 Cell (Lisa Lanata)

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:29 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: H.000286 - US 90 At Pearlington

From: Stacie Palmer
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 10:06 AM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: FW: H.000286 - US 90 At Pearlington

Stacie Palmer

Environmental Impact Specialist, DCL

Phone: 225-242-4517

Email: stacie.palmer@la.gov

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
Section 28

1201 Capitol Access Rd
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

www.dotd.la.gov
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From: Dowell, Mack <mdowell@mdot.ms.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2022 10:25 AM
To: Ryan Morvant <Ryan.Morvant@LA.GOV>
Cc: Kimmel, Colby Willis <ckimmel@mdot.ms.gov>; Johnson, Adam <ajohnson@mdot.ms.gov>; Stacie Palmer <Stacie.Palmer@LA.GOV>; Westerfield, Scott W <swesterfield@mdot.ms.gov>; Coleman, Tom <tcoleman@mdot.ms.gov>
Subject: RE: H.000286 - US 90 At Pearlington

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Good morning Ryan,

Thank you for giving MDOT some time to review all the information.
MDOT does not have any issues with LADOTD proceeding in a similar manner, currently, for this project.

Also, thank you for starting the revision of supplemental agreement #5.

As you work on this document, please if you have any questions or need any information from MDOT please let us know.

Once you have a draft of the supplemental agreement #5 ready for MDOT's review, please let us know and we will be glad to start the review process.

Thanks again and have a great weekend!

Mack Dowell
Mississippi Department of Transportation
Programming Division (65-03)
Office: 601-359-9805
Fax: 601-359-7050

From: Ryan Morvant <Ryan.Morvant@LA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2022 2:34 PM
To: Dowell, Mack <mdowell@mdot.ms.gov>
Cc: Kimmel, Colby Willis <ckimmel@mdot.ms.gov>; Johnson, Adam <ajohnson@mdot.ms.gov>; Stacie Palmer <Stacie.Palmer@LA.GOV>
Subject: H.000286 - US 90 At Pearlinton

Good Afternoon Mack,

My notes from our previous meeting about the US 90 Bridge at Pearlinton indicate that your area of responsibility is programming so I'm addressing this you but let me know if it should be addressed elsewhere.

One of the items delaying the approval of the Environmental Assessment for the replacement of the US 90 Bridge at Pearlinton is our ability to demonstrate fiscal constraint to our FHWA partners. When I've run into this issue in the past, I've developed a funding commitment letter similar to the attached and LA FHWA accepted this as "fiscal constraint". I'm proposing to do something similar here but because MDOT is funding a portion of this project, I'd like to see that you are agreeable to this methodology before I begin development. Please confirm this is acceptable to you and MDOT and I will begin work on a fiscal constraint letter.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Thanks,

Ryan Morvant, P.E.
Critical Projects Manager
LA DOTD Critical Projects Division
(225) 379-1067

Stacie Palmer

From: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2024 10:28 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Subject: Fw: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

From: Dennis Riecke <Dennis.Riecke@wfp.ms.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 8:03 AM
To: US90 Pearl River Bridges
Subject: Automatic reply: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

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I will be out of the office dealing with family COVID matters from November 27-29 2023. I will respond to calls and Emails when when I can. If you need immediate assistance, please call the Fisheries Bureau at 601-432-2200.

Confidentiality Notice: The information contained in this email and/or document(s) attached is for the exclusive use of the individual named above and may contain confidential, privileged and non-disclosable information. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you are strictly prohibited from reading, photocopying, distributing or otherwise using this e-mail or its contents in any way. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify me immediately.

Stacie Palmer

From: Billy Douglas
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 11:06 AM
To: Stacie Palmer
Cc: Dalton Williams; Seth Dearmas; Cristine Gowland; Lacey McCaskill; Caleb Harper
Subject: RE: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV
Attachments: H.000284_286 SOV 11_21_2023.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Stacie,

It is my understanding that the alternate & evacuation route is I-10. However, I've copied District 62 for their confirmation.

Also, according to 511 with more details:

Bridge Closure on US-90 Both Directions
near West Pearl River . All Lanes Closed.
Starting 5/24/2022 11:30 AM

Comment

7/20/2022 3:00:01 PM Route Name: US 90
Eastbound,US 90 Westbound Start Date:
Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 11:30 AM
Estimated End: Until Further Notice
Closure Type: Roadwork Closure Reason:
Bridge Closure Closure Category: Full
Closure Detour: Eastbound motorists may
use US 190 West to US 190 Business
(Fremaux Ave.) to I-10 Eastbound. Proceed
on I-10 East to MS 607 to US 90 East.
Westbound motorist may use MS 607 to I-
10 Westbound. Proceed on I-10 West to US
190 Business (Fremaux Ave.) to US 190
East. Restrictions: No traffic will be allowed
on the West Pearl River Bridge. Comments:
This is an emergency closure to perform
necessary repairs/replacement. Safety
Reminder DOTD appreciates your patience
and reminds you to please drive with
caution through the work zone and be on
the lookout for work crews and their
equipment.

Thanks,

Billy N. Douglas
ESF-3 Lead Coordinator
LA DOTD HQ Annex Bldg.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS
1212 E. Hwy Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70802-4477
Office: (225) 379-1165
Cell: (225) 933-1218



From: Stacie Palmer <Stacie.Palmer@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 9:58 AM
To: Michael Miller (DOTD) <Michael.Miller3@LA.GOV>
Cc: Billy Douglas <Billy.Douglas@la.gov>
Subject: RE: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Thank you!

Stacie Palmer

Environmental Impact Specialist, DCL

Phone: 225-242-4517

Email: stacie.palmer@la.gov

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

Section 28

1201 Capitol Access Rd

Baton Rouge, LA 70804

www.dotd.la.gov

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From: Michael Miller (DOTD) <Michael.Miller3@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 9:57 AM
To: Stacie Palmer <Stacie.Palmer@LA.GOV>
Cc: Billy Douglas <Billy.Douglas@la.gov>
Subject: RE: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Stacia,

Ok, I will forward to our ESF-3 Lead, Billy Douglas, and ask him to get with the district about the secondary evacuation route.

Billy, original email coming your way.

Thanks,

Mike

Michael S. Miller

Director of Emergency Operations

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

Office: 225-379-1898

Mobile: 225-773-3727

Email: michael.miller3@la.gov



From: Stacie Palmer <Stacie.Palmer@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 9:47 AM
To: Michael Miller (DOTD) <Michael.Miller3@LA.GOV>
Subject: RE: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Good morning, It's for you since the project involves what was, I think, previously a secondary evacuation route.

Stacie Palmer

Environmental Impact Specialist, DCL

Phone: 225-242-4517

Email: stacie.palmer@la.gov

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

Section 28

1201 Capitol Access Rd

Baton Rouge, LA 70804

www.dotd.la.gov

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From: Michael Miller (DOTD) <Michael.Miller3@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 9:01 AM
To: Stacie Palmer <Stacie.Palmer@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Stacia,

I received this email this morning and wanted to find out if this was intended for another Michael Miller?

Thanks,

Mike

Michael S. Miller

Director of Emergency Operations

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

Office: 225-379-1898

Mobile: 225-773-3727

Email: michael.miller3@la.gov



From: US90 Pearl River Bridges <US90PearlRiverBridges@LA.GOV>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 8:51 AM
To: Michael Miller (DOTD) <Michael.Miller3@LA.GOV>
Subject: FW: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Stacie Palmer

Environmental Impact Specialist, DCL

Phone: 225-242-4517

Email: stacie.palmer@la.gov

Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

Section 28

1201 Capitol Access Rd

Baton Rouge, LA 70804

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From: Stacie Palmer **On Behalf Of** US90Pearl
Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 3:25 PM
To: Michael Miller (DOTD) <Michael.Miller3@LA.GOV>
Subject: US 90 Pearl River Bridges (H.000284 / H.000286) SOV

Please find attached for your review and comment a solicitation of views letter for US 90 Pearl River Bridges.