

Categorical Exclusion
Appendix C
Early Coordination



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

100 North Senate Avenue
Room N758-ES
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

PHONE: (855) 463-6848
(855) INDOT4U

Eric Holcomb, Governor
Michael Smith, Commissioner

March 29, 2023

Sample Early Coordination Letter

Re: Des. Nos.: 1900291 & 2001057
Slide Correction Project
State Project
State Road (SR) 237, 0.35 Mile South of I-64 Interchange
Crawford County, Indiana

To whom it may concern:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) intend to proceed with a slide correction and small structure project on SR 237 in Crawford County (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057).

This letter is part of the early coordination phase of the environmental review. At this time, we are requesting comments from your area of expertise regarding any possible environmental effects (social and natural) associated with this project. **Please use the above Des. No. and project description in your reply.** Your comments will be incorporated into the formal environmental study. Your cooperation in this endeavor is appreciated.

Project Location and Existing Conditions

The proposed slide correction, Des. No. 1900291, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.35 mile south of the I-64 interchange in Crawford County. The proposed small structure work, Des. No. 2001057, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.57 mile south of the I-64/ SR 237 junction in Crawford County. Specifically, the project is located in Sections 24 and 25, Township 3 S, Range 1 W in Union Township as depicted on the Beechwood U.S. Geological Survey 1:24,000 scale quadrangle. Adjacent land use consists of mature forests, agricultural fields, and scattered residences.

Within the project area, SR 237 is functionally classified as a rural major collector. The typical cross section consists of two 11-foot travel lanes (one lane in each direction). No shoulder or median are present. An existing 15-inch culvert is present near the southern terminus of the project area. Please see attachments for maps and photographs of the proposed project area.

Draft Purpose and Need

The need for this project is due to a shallow downslope slide occurring along the east side of SR 237, causing existing roadway pavement and roadside embankment to deteriorate and fail. The pavement failure is occurring only in the northbound lane of the existing road, and visible scarps are present along roadway. Additionally, the existing 15-inch culvert at the southern end of the project area is in poor condition with deteriorating joints and a leaning outlet headwall.

The purpose of the project is to repair the slide and culvert, improve mobility, and increase safety for the traveling public along this section of SR 237.

Proposed Project

The proposed project includes the construction of a riprap buttress. A section of the riprap buttress will be steepened to a 2.8:1 slope to limit the extent of the riprap away from the roadway. The existing roadway will be patched and resurfaced. A two- to four-foot shoulder will be constructed on the east side of SR 237. The 15-inch culvert at the southern terminus of the project area will be replaced using open cut installation and include headwalls at both ends of the culvert. The pavement will be resurfaced at the culvert location. Riprap will be installed at the outlet of the structure. This project will require 0.66 acre of tree clearing.

The proposed maintenance of traffic (MOT) includes road closure with an official detour.

Construction is anticipated to begin in Spring/Summer 2024.

Right-of-Way (ROW)

This project is anticipated to require approximately 0.76 acre of new permanent right-of-way (ROW) and 0.21 acre of ROW reacquisition.

Environmental Resources

A Red Flag Investigation (RFI) was performed for a 0.5-mile radius of the project area. Several “Red Flags” were identified within the 0.5-mile search radius; however, not all will impact the proposed project. One stream segment, associated with an unnamed tributary to the Little Blue River, is present within the project area. One cave entrance density polygon is located within 0.5 mile of the project area. The project is located in the designated Indiana Karst Region as outlined in the most current *Protection of Karst Features during Project Development and Construction*.

Section 106

It is anticipated that the proposed project will fall within the guidelines of Category B under the Minor Projects Programmatic Agreement (MPPA).

Range-wide Informal Programmatic Consultation

Land use in the vicinity of the project is primarily mature forests, agricultural fields, and scattered residences. Crawford County is within the range of the federally endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Range-wide Programmatic Informal Consultation for the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat (NLEB) will be completed for this project.

Early Coordination

This letter is part of the early coordination review process. You are asked to review this information and provide any comments you may have relative to anticipated impacts of the project on areas in which you have jurisdiction or special expertise. We will incorporate your comments into a study of the project’s environmental impacts. To facilitate the development of this project, you are asked to reply within **30 calendar days** of receipt

of this letter. However, should you find that an extension to the response time is needed, a reasonable amount may be granted upon request.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please feel free to contact me at (317) 334-6828 or at sbeaupre@lochgroup.com. Additionally, should you want to contact the sponsor of this project, the INDOT-Vincennes District, please contact the Project Manager, Emily Sprinkle, at (812) 489-3828 or at esprinkle@indot.in.gov.

Thank you in advance for your input.

Sincerely,



Samantha Beaupre
Environmental Specialist
Lochmueller Group, Inc.

Attachments:

- General Location Map
- USGS Topographic Map
- Red Flag Investigation Maps Removed to avoid duplication; see Appendices B & E
- Photographs
- Preliminary Design Plans

Distribution List:

- FHWA – Indiana Division (electronic submission)
- Indiana Geological and Water Survey (online submission)
- National Park Service (electronic submission)
- IDNR, Division of Fish and Wildlife (electronic submission)
- IDEM Groundwater (online submission)
- U.S. Housing and Urban Development (electronic submission)
- INDOT, Vincennes District (electronic submission)
- Hoosier National Forest, U.S. Forest Service (electronic submission)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service, Indianapolis Office (electronic submission)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District (electronic submission)
- Crawford County Board of Commissioners
- Crawford County Surveyor's Office
- Crawford County Highway Department
- Crawford County Council
- Crawford County Sheriff's Department
- Crawford County Emergency Management Agency
- Crawford County Community Schools

- English Volunteer Fire Department
- Leavenworth Fire Department

March 30, 2023

Samantha Beaupre
3502 Woodview Trace, Suite 150
Indianapolis, Indiana 46268

Dear Ms. Beaupre:

The proposed slide correction and small structure project on SR 237 in Crawford County, Indiana, (Des. No. 1900291 & 2001057) as referred to in your letter received March 29, 2023, will not cause a conversion of prime farmland.

If you need additional information, please contact John Allen at 317-295-5859 or john.allen@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

JOHN ALLEN

Digitally signed by JOHN ALLEN
Date: 2023.03.30 12:26:27 -04'00'

JOHN ALLEN
State Soil Scientist



Organization and Project Information

Project ID:
Des. ID: 1900291 & 2001057
Project Title: Slide Correction Project
Name of Organization: Lochmueller Group
Requested by: Samantha Beaupre

Environmental Assessment Report

1. Geological Hazards:

- Potential Karst

2. Mineral Resources:

- Bedrock Resource: Moderate Potential
- Sand and Gravel Resource: None documented in the area

3. Active or abandoned mineral resources extraction sites:

- None documented in the area

*All map layers from Indiana Map (maps.indiana.edu)

DISCLAIMER:

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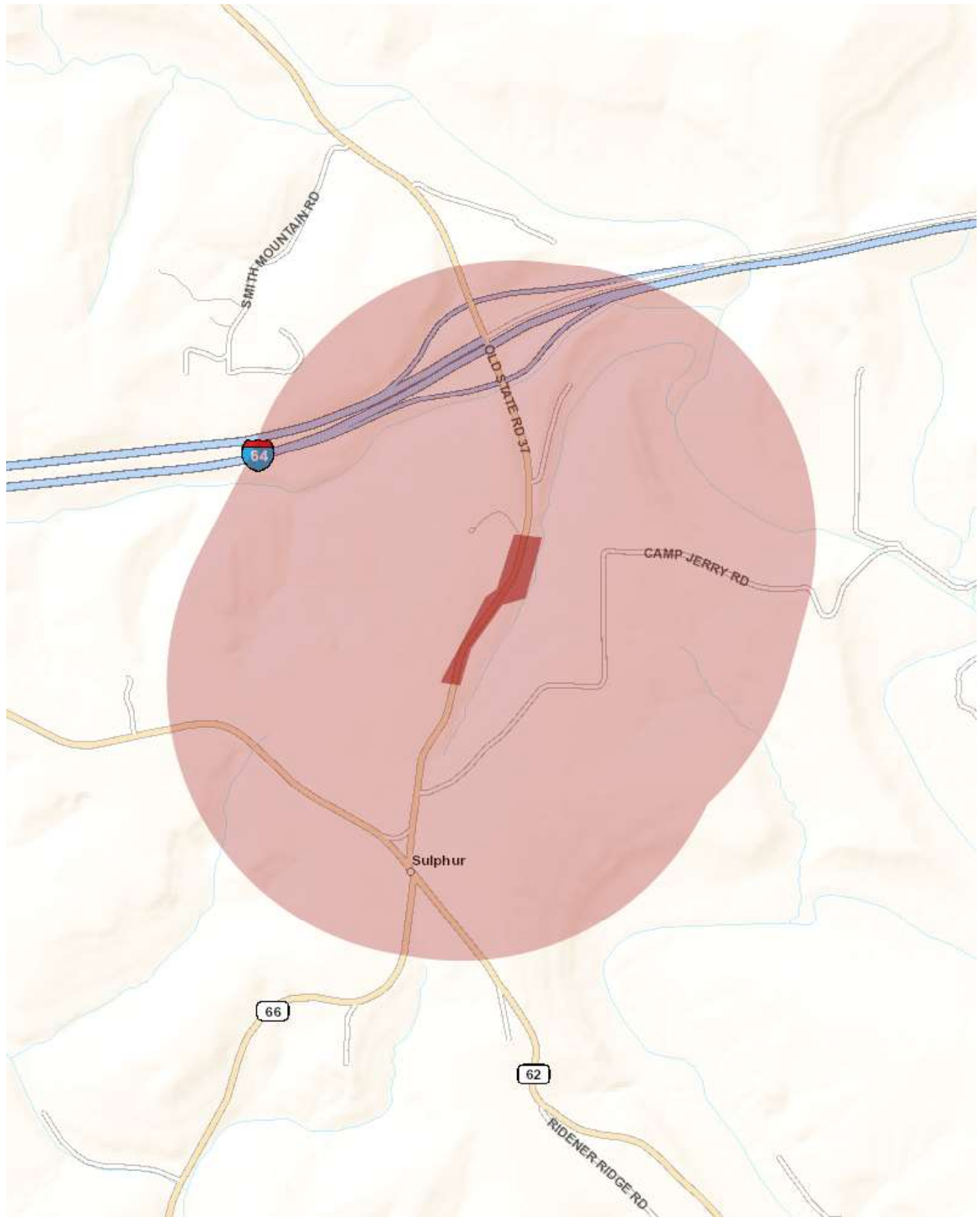
This information was furnished by Indiana Geological Survey

Address: 420 N. Walnut St., Bloomington, IN 47404

Email: IGSEnvir@indiana.edu

Phone: 812 855-7428

Date: April 10, 2023



THIS IS NOT A PERMIT

State of Indiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Fish and Wildlife
Early Coordination/Environmental Assessment

DNR#: ER-25510

Request Received: March 29, 2023

Requestor:

Samantha Beaupre
Lochmueller Group Inc
3502 Woodview Trace, Suite 150
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Project:

SR 237 rehabilitation

- 1) Des #1900291: east-side slide correction, 0.35 miles south of I-64
- 2) Des #2001057: small structure repair, 0.57 miles south of I-64

County/Site Info: Crawford

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above referenced project per your request. Our agency offers the following comments for your information and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

If our agency has regulatory jurisdiction over the project, the recommendations contained in this letter may become requirements of any permit issued. If we do not have permitting authority, all recommendations are voluntary.

Regulatory Assessment:

Formal approval by the Department of Natural Resources under the regulatory programs administered by the Division of Water is not required for this project.

Natural Heritage Database:

The Natural Heritage Program's data have been checked. The State special concern Woodland Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina carolina*) has been documented within 0.5 miles of the project area.

Fish and Wildlife Comments:

To avoid and minimize impacts to the Box Turtle, conduct clearing between November 15 and April 1.

Avoid and minimize impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources to the greatest extent possible, and compensate for impacts. The following are recommendations that address potential impacts identified in the proposed project area:

A) Riparian Habitat:

We recommend a mitigation plan be developed (and submitted with the permit application, if required) for any unavoidable habitat impacts that will occur. The DNR's Habitat Mitigation Guidelines (and plant lists) can be found online at: <https://www.in.gov/nrc/files/IB-17.pdf>.

Impacts to non-wetland forest of one (1) acre or more in a rural or urban area should be mitigated at a minimum 2:1 ratio based on area of impact. Impacts to non-wetland forest under one (1) acre but at least 0.10 acre in a rural or urban area should be mitigated at a minimum 1:1 ratio based on area of impact. Impacts under 0.10 acre in a rural area typically do not require mitigation or additional plantings beyond seeding and

stabilizing disturbed areas, though there are exceptions for high quality habitat sites. Seeding and stabilizing disturbed areas is required regardless of the impact amount and location. If floodway impacts to forested wetland and non-wetland habitat areas combine to be 0.10 acres or more, mitigation should be done and coordinated with the biologist, as needed.

The mitigation site should be located in the floodway, downstream of the one (1) square mile drainage area of that stream (or another stream within the 8-digit HUC, preferably as close to the impact site as possible) and adjacent to existing forested riparian habitat.

The additional measures listed below should be implemented to avoid, minimize, or compensate for impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources:

1. Revegetate all bare and disturbed areas that are not currently mowed and maintained with a mixture of grasses, sedges, and wildflowers, as well as hardwood trees and shrubs if any woody plants are disturbed during construction, native to Southern Indiana and specifically for stream bank/floodway stabilization purposes as soon as possible upon completion; turf-type grasses (including low-endophyte, friendly endophyte, and endophyte free tall fescue but excluding all other varieties of tall fescue) may be used in currently mowed areas only. A native herbaceous seed mixture must include at least 5 species of grasses and sedges and 5 species of wildflowers.
2. Minimize and contain within the project limits in-channel disturbance and the clearing of trees and brush.
3. Do not work in the waterway from April 1 through June 30 without the prior written approval of the Division of Fish and Wildlife.
4. Do not cut any trees suitable for Indiana Bat or Northern Long-eared Bat roosting (greater than 5 inches dbh, living or dead, with loose hanging bark, or with cracks, crevices, or cavities) from April 1 through September 30.
5. Do not excavate in the low flow area except for the placement of foundations, riprap, or removal of the old structure.
6. Appropriately designed measures for controlling erosion and sediment must be implemented to prevent sediment from entering the waterbody or leaving the construction site; maintain these measures until construction is complete and all disturbed areas are stabilized.
7. Seed and protect all disturbed streambanks and slopes not protected by other methods that are 3:1 or steeper with erosion control blankets that are heavy-duty, biodegradable, and net free or that use loose-woven / Leno-woven netting to minimize the entrapment and snaring of small-bodied wildlife such as snakes and turtles (follow manufacturer's recommendations for selection and installation). If erosion control blankets are used in other areas, they shall be of the same type to minimize impacts to wildlife. Seed and apply mulch on all other disturbed areas.

Contact Staff:

Our agency appreciates this opportunity to be of service. Please contact me at mbuffington@dnr.in.gov or (317) 233-4666 if we can be of further assistance.

Matt Buffington
Matt Buffington
Environmental Unit Supervisor
Division of Fish and Wildlife

Date: April 28, 2023

From: [Falls, Ryan G](#)
To: [Samantha Beaupre](#)
Cc: [Carpenter, Patrick \(FHWA\)](#); [Mwro_Compliance@nps.gov](#); [DNR Environmental Review](#); [erik.r.sandstedt@hud.gov](#); [Amick, Kevin R -FS](#); [john.allen@usda.gov](#); [RegulatoryApplicationsLRL@usace.army.mil](#); [highwaydepartment1@crawfordcountyin.com](#); [Trevor Wieseke](#); [Daniel Townsend](#); [Sprinkle, Emily R](#); [Bain, Andrew](#); [Nicholas Will](#)
Subject: RE: SR 237 Slide Correction Project (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057) Early Coordination Letter
Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 12:33:34 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)

EXTERNAL

Samantha Beaupre,

At this time, our office has no comment on this project. Thank you for the opportunity to respond to early coordination.

Ryan Falls

Capital Program Management-Senior Environmental Manager Supervisor

Indiana Department of Transportation
3650 South US Highway 41
Vincennes, IN 47591

Email: rfalls@indot.IN.gov

Cell: 812-582-1387



From: Samantha Beaupre <SBeaupre@lochgroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 12:41 PM
To: Falls, Ryan G <RFalls@indot.IN.gov>
Cc: Carpenter, Patrick (FHWA) <patrick.carpenter@dot.gov>; Mwro_Compliance@nps.gov; DNR Environmental Review <environmentalreview@dnr.IN.gov>; erik.r.sandstedt@hud.gov; Amick, Kevin R -FS <kamick@fs.fed.us>; john.allen@usda.gov; RegulatoryApplicationsLRL@usace.army.mil; highwaydepartment1@crawfordcountyin.com; Trevor Wieseke <TWieseke@lochgroup.com>; Daniel Townsend <DTownsend@lochgroup.com>; Sprinkle, Emily R <ESprinkle@indot.IN.gov>; Bain, Andrew <andrew.bain@wsp.com>; Nicholas Will <NWill@lochgroup.com>
Subject: SR 237 Slide Correction Project (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057) Early Coordination Letter

**** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ****

Good Afternoon,

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) intend to proceed with a slide correction and small structure project on SR 237 in Crawford County. Please see the attached early coordination letter and respond with any comments on the proposed project.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Indiana Ecological Services Field Office
620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403-2121
Phone: (812) 334-4261 Fax: (812) 334-4273

In Reply Refer To:

May 02, 2023

Project Code: 2023-0063421

Project Name: SR 237 Slide Correction Project and Small Structure Project (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057)

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

To Whom It May Concern:

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

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

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

Please use the species list provided and visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Region 3 Section 7 Technical Assistance website at - <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/section7/>

[s7process/index.html](#). This website contains step-by-step instructions which will help you determine if your project will have an adverse effect on listed species and will help lead you through the Section 7 process. For all **wind energy projects** and **projects that include installing towers that use guy wires or are over 200 feet in height**, please contact this field office directly for assistance, even if no federally listed plants, animals or critical habitat are present within your proposed project or may be affected by your proposed project.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

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

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

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

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php>.

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

Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/executive-orders/e0-13186.php>.

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

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

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

This species list is provided by:

Indiana Ecological Services Field Office

620 South Walker Street

Bloomington, IN 47403-2121

(812) 334-4261

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2023-0063421
Project Name: SR 237 Slide Correction Project and Small Structure Project (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057)
Project Type: Slide Repair
Project Description: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) intend to proceed with a slide correction and small structure project on SR 237 in Crawford County (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057). The proposed slide correction, Des. No. 1900291, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.35 mile south of the I-64 interchange in Crawford County. Des. No. 1900291 extends 360 feet along SR 237. The proposed small structure work, Des. No. 2001057, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.57 mile south of the I-64/ SR 237 junction in Crawford County. Des. No. 2001057 extends 100 feet along SR 237. The project is located in Sections 24 and 25, Township 3 S, Range 1 W in Union Township as depicted on the Beechwood U.S. Geological Survey 1:24,000 scale quadrangle.

The proposed project includes the construction of a riprap buttress. A section of the riprap buttress will be steepened to a 2.8:1 slope to limit the extent of the riprap away from the roadway. The existing roadway will be patched and resurfaced. A two- to four-foot shoulder will be constructed on the east side of SR 237. The 15-inch culvert at the southern terminus of the project area will be replaced using open cut installation and include headwalls at both ends of the culvert. The pavement will be resurfaced at the culvert location. Riprap will be installed at the outlet of the structure. No permanent lighting will be constructed as a part of the project. Temporary lighting may be needed for night time construction. Construction is anticipated to begin in Spring/Summer 2024.

Suitable summer habitat is located within the project area. This project will require 0.65 acre of tree clearing within 100 feet of the existing roadway. Dominant species include white oak (*Quercus alba*, FACU), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*, FACU), and sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*, FACW). INDOT Vincennes District reviewed the USFWS database on August 2, 2021. A review of the USFWS database did not indicate the presence of endangered bat species in or within 0.5 mile of the project area; however, the project is located within the 10-mile MYSO hibernacula buffer. Tree removal dates for projects located within the hibernacula buffer are from November 15 to March 31 (instead of the standard October 1 to March 31) to allow for the conclusion of fall swarming around the hibernacula. Lochmueller Group inspected the small structure on September 29, 2021 and did not observe any evidence of bats using the structure.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@38.23452295,-86.46802454314026,14z>



Counties: Crawford County, Indiana

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

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

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

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

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

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Gray Bat <i>Myotis grisescens</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6329	Endangered
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

INSECTS

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

CRITICAL HABITATS

There is 1 critical habitat wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction.

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949#crithab	Final

MIGRATORY BIRDS

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

-
1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
 2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Sep 1 to Jul 31
Cerulean Warbler <i>Dendroica cerulea</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2974	Breeds Apr 23 to Jul 20

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Chimney Swift <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Field Sparrow <i>Spizella pusilla</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Mar 1 to Aug 15
Golden Eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds elsewhere
Henslow's Sparrow <i>Ammodramus henslowii</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941	Breeds May 1 to Aug 31
Kentucky Warbler <i>Oporornis formosus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 20
Prairie Warbler <i>Dendroica discolor</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
Prothonotary Warbler <i>Protonotaria citrea</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
Red-headed Woodpecker <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
Wood Thrush <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is $0.25/0.25 = 1$; at week 20 it is $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$.
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

■ probability of presence ■ breeding season | survey effort — no data

SPECIES JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

MIGRATORY BIRDS FAQ

Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of

certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

RIVERINE

- [R4SBC](#)

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Lochmueller Group
Name: Samantha Beaupre
Address: 3502 Woodview Trace
Address Line 2: Suite 150
City: Indianapolis
State: IN
Zip: 46268
Email: sbeaupre@lochgroup.com
Phone: 3172223880

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Highway Administration



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Indiana Ecological Services Field Office
620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403-2121
Phone: (812) 334-4261 Fax: (812) 334-4273

In Reply Refer To:

May 04, 2023

Project code: 2023-0063421

Project Name: SR 237 Slide Correction Project and Small Structure Project (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057)

Subject: Concurrence verification letter for the 'SR 237 Slide Correction Project and Small Structure Project (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057)' project under the amended February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion (dated March 23, 2023) for Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat (NLEB).

To whom it may concern:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your request dated May 04, 2023 to verify that the **SR 237 Slide Correction Project and Small Structure Project (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057)** (Proposed Action) may rely on the concurrence provided in the amended February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion (dated March 23, 2023) for Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat (PBO) to satisfy requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Based on the information you provided (Project Description shown below), you have determined that the Proposed Action is within the scope and adheres to the criteria of the PBO, including the adoption of applicable avoidance and minimization measures, and may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) the endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and/or the endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). Consultation with the Service pursuant to section 7(a)(2) of ESA (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) is required.

The Service has 14 calendar days to notify the lead Federal action agency or designated non-federal representative if we determine that the Proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a NLAA determination under the PBO. If we do not notify the lead Federal action agency or designated non-federal representative within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Proposed Action under the terms of the NLAA concurrence provided in the PBO. This verification period allows Service Field Offices to apply local knowledge to implementation of the PBO, as we may identify a small subset of actions having impacts that were unanticipated. In such instances,

Service Field Offices may request additional information that is necessary to verify inclusion of the proposed action under the PBO.

For Proposed Actions that include bridge/culvert or structure removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities: If your initial bridge/culvert or structure assessment documented signs of bat use or occupancy, or an assessment failed to detect Indiana bats and/or NLEBs, yet are later detected prior to, or during construction, please submit the Post Assessment Discovery of Bats at Bridge/Culvert or Structure Form (User Guide Appendix E) to this Service Office within 2 working days of any potential take. In these instances, potential incidental take of Indiana bats and/or NLEBs is covered under the Incidental Take Statement in the 2018 FHWA, FRA, FTA PBO (provided that the take is reported to the Service).

If the Proposed Action is modified, or new information reveals that it may affect the Indiana bat and/or northern long-eared bat in a manner or to an extent not considered in the PBO, further review to conclude the requirements of ESA Section 7(a)(2) may be required.

For Proposed Actions that include bridge/culvert or structure removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities:

If your initial bridge/culvert or structure assessments failed to detect Indiana bats and/or NLEB use or occupancy, yet bats are later detected prior to, or during construction, please submit the Post Assessment Discovery of Bats at Bridge/Culvert or Structure Form (User Guide Appendix E) to this Service Office within 2 working days of the incident. In these instances, potential incidental take of Indiana bats and/or NLEBs may be exempted provided that the take is reported to the Service.

If the Proposed Action may affect any other federally-listed or proposed species, and/or any designated critical habitat, additional consultation between the lead Federal action agency and this Service Office is required. If the proposed action has the potential to take bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act may also be required. In either of these circumstances, please contact this Service Office.

The following species may occur in your project area and **are not** covered by this determination:

- Gray Bat *Myotis grisescens* Endangered
- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Candidate
- Tricolored Bat *Perimyotis subflavus* Proposed Endangered
- Whooping Crane *Grus americana* Experimental Population, Non-Essential

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The following project name and description was collected in IPaC as part of the endangered species review process.

NAME

SR 237 Slide Correction Project and Small Structure Project (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057)

DESCRIPTION

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) intend to proceed with a slide correction and small structure project on SR 237 in Crawford County (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057). The proposed slide correction, Des. No. 1900291, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.35 mile south of the I-64 interchange in Crawford County. Des. No. 1900291 extends 360 feet along SR 237. The proposed small structure work, Des. No. 2001057, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.57 mile south of the I-64/ SR 237 junction in Crawford County. Des. No. 2001057 extends 100 feet along SR 237. The project is located in Sections 24 and 25, Township 3 S, Range 1 W in Union Township as depicted on the Beechwood U.S. Geological Survey 1:24,000 scale quadrangle.

The proposed project includes the construction of a riprap buttress. A section of the riprap buttress will be steepened to a 2.8:1 slope to limit the extent of the riprap away from the roadway. The existing roadway will be patched and resurfaced. A two- to four-foot shoulder will be constructed on the east side of SR 237. The 15-inch culvert at the southern terminus of the project area will be replaced using open cut installation and include headwalls at both ends of the culvert. The pavement will be resurfaced at the culvert location. Riprap will be installed at the outlet of the structure. No permanent lighting will be constructed as a part of the project. Temporary lighting may be needed for night time construction. Construction is anticipated to begin in Spring/Summer 2024.

Suitable summer habitat is located within the project area. This project will require 0.65 acre of tree clearing within 100 feet of the existing roadway. Dominant species include white oak (*Quercus alba*, FACU), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*, FACU), and sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*, FACW). INDOT Vincennes District reviewed the USFWS database on August 2, 2021. A review of the USFWS database did not indicate the presence of endangered bat species in or within 0.5 mile of the project area; however, the project is located within the 10-mile MYSO hibernacula buffer. Tree removal dates for projects located within the hibernacula buffer are from November 15 to March 31 (instead of the standard October 1 to March 31) to allow for the conclusion of fall swarming around the hibernacula. Lochmueller Group inspected the small structure on September 29, 2021 and did not observe any evidence of bats using the structure.

DETERMINATION KEY RESULT

Based on your answers provided, this project(s) may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the endangered Indiana bat and/or the endangered northern long-eared bat, therefore, consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) is required. However, also based on your answers provided, this project may rely on the concurrence provided in the amended February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion (dated March 23, 2023) for Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat.

QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Is the project within the range of the Indiana bat^[1]?

[1] See [Indiana bat species profile](#)

Automatically answered

Yes

2. Is the project within the range of the northern long-eared bat^[1]?

[1] See [northern long-eared bat species profile](#)

Automatically answered

Yes

3. Which Federal Agency is the lead for the action?

A) *Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)*

4. Are *all* project activities limited to non-construction^[1] activities only? (examples of non-construction activities include: bridge/abandoned structure assessments, surveys, planning and technical studies, property inspections, and property sales)

[1] Construction refers to activities involving ground disturbance, percussive noise, and/or lighting.

No

5. Does the project include *any* activities that are **greater than** 300 feet from existing road/rail surfaces^[1]?

[1] Road surface is defined as the actively used [e.g. motorized vehicles] driving surface and shoulders [may be pavement, gravel, etc.] and rail surface is defined as the edge of the actively used rail ballast.

No

6. Does the project include *any* activities **within** 0.5 miles of a known Indiana bat and/or NLEB hibernaculum^[1]?

[1] For the purpose of this consultation, a hibernaculum is a site, most often a cave or mine, where bats hibernate during the winter (see suitable habitat), but could also include bridges and structures if bats are found to be hibernating there during the winter.

No

7. Is the project located **within** a karst area?

Yes

8. Will the project include *any* type of activity that could impact a **known** hibernaculum^[1], or impact a karst feature (e.g., sinkhole, losing stream, or spring) that could result in effects to a **known** hibernaculum?

[1] For the purpose of this consultation, a hibernaculum is a site, most often a cave or mine, where bats hibernate during the winter (see suitable habitat), but could also include bridges and structures if bats are found to be hibernating there during the winter.

No

9. Is there *any* suitable^[1] summer habitat for Indiana Bat or NLEB **within** the project action area^[2]? (includes any trees suitable for maternity, roosting, foraging, or travelling habitat)

[1] See the Service's [summer survey guidance](#) for our current definitions of suitable habitat.

[2] The action area is defined as all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action (50 CFR Section 402.02). Further clarification is provided by the [User's Guide for the Range-wide Programmatic Consultation for Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat](#).

Yes

10. Will the project remove *any* suitable summer habitat^[1] and/or remove/trim any existing trees **within** suitable summer habitat?

[1] See the Service's [summer survey guidance](#) for our current definitions of suitable habitat.

Yes

11. Will the project clear more than 20 acres of suitable habitat per 5-mile section of road/rail?

No

12. Have presence/probable absence (P/A) summer surveys^{[1][2]} been conducted^{[3][4]} **within** the suitable habitat located within your project action area?

[1] See the Service's [summer survey guidance](#) for our current definitions of suitable habitat.

[2] Presence/probable absence summer surveys conducted within the fall swarming/spring emergence home range of a documented Indiana bat hibernaculum (contact local Service Field Office for appropriate distance from hibernacula) that result in a negative finding requires additional consultation with the local Service Field Office to determine if clearing of forested habitat is appropriate and/or if seasonal clearing restrictions are needed to avoid and minimize potential adverse effects on fall swarming and spring emerging Indiana bats.

[3] For projects within the range of either the Indiana bat or NLEB in which suitable habitat is present, and no bat surveys have been conducted, the transportation agency will assume presence of the appropriate species. This assumption of presence should be based upon the presence of suitable habitat and the capability of bats to occupy it because of their mobility.

[4] Negative presence/probable absence survey results obtained using the [summer survey guidance](#) are valid for a minimum of two years from the completion of the survey unless new information (e.g., other nearby surveys) suggest otherwise.

No

13. Does the project include activities **within documented Indiana bat habitat**^{[1][2]}?

[1] Documented roosting or foraging habitat – for the purposes of this consultation, we are considering documented habitat as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked using (1) radio telemetry to roosts; (2) radio telemetry biangulation/triangulation to estimate foraging areas; or (3) foraging areas with repeated use documented using acoustics. Documented roosting habitat is also considered as suitable summer habitat within 0.25 miles of documented roosts.)

[2] For the purposes of this key, we are considering documented corridors as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked to using (1) radio telemetry; or (2) treed corridors located directly between documented roosting and foraging habitat.

No

14. Will the removal or trimming of habitat or trees occur **within** suitable but **undocumented Indiana bat** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors?

Yes

15. What time of year will the removal or trimming of habitat or trees **within** suitable but **undocumented Indiana bat** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors occur^[1]?

[1] Coordinate with the local Service Field Office for appropriate dates.

B) During the inactive season

16. Does the project include activities **within documented NLEB habitat**^{[1][2]}?

[1] Documented roosting or foraging habitat – for the purposes of this consultation, we are considering documented habitat as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked using (1) radio telemetry to roosts; (2) radio telemetry biangulation/triangulation to estimate foraging areas; or (3) foraging areas with repeated use documented using acoustics. Documented roosting habitat is also considered as suitable summer habitat within 0.25 miles of documented roosts.)

[2] For the purposes of this key, we are considering documented corridors as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked to using (1) radio telemetry; or (2) treed corridors located directly between documented roosting and foraging habitat.

No

17. Will the removal or trimming of habitat or trees occur **within** suitable but **undocumented NLEB** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors?

Yes

18. What time of year will the removal or trimming of habitat or trees **within** suitable but **undocumented NLEB** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors occur?

B) During the inactive season

19. Will *any* tree trimming or removal occur **within** 100 feet of existing road/rail surfaces?

Yes

20. Will *any* tree trimming or removal occur **between** 100-300 feet of existing road/rail surfaces?

No

21. Are *all* trees that are being removed clearly demarcated?
Yes
22. Will the removal of habitat or the removal/trimming of trees include installing new or replacing existing **permanent** lighting?
No
23. Does the project include wetland or stream protection activities associated with compensatory wetland mitigation?
No
24. Does the project include slash pile burning?
No
25. Does the project include *any* bridge removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities (e.g., any bridge repair, retrofit, maintenance, and/or rehabilitation work)?
Yes
26. Is there *any* suitable habitat^[1] for Indiana bat or NLEB **within** 1,000 feet of the bridge? (includes any trees suitable for maternity, roosting, foraging, or travelling habitat)

[1] See the Service's current [summer survey guidance](#) for our current definitions of suitable habitat.

Yes

27. Has a bridge assessment^[1] been conducted **within** the last 24 months^[2] to determine if the bridge is being used by bats?

[1] See [User Guide Appendix D](#) for bridge/structure assessment guidance

[2] Assessments must be completed no more than 2 years prior to conducting any work below the deck surface on all bridges that meet the physical characteristics described in the Programmatic Consultation, regardless of whether assessments have been conducted in the past. Due to the transitory nature of bat use, a negative result in one year does not guarantee that bats will not use that bridge/structure in subsequent years.

Yes

SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS

- *Bridge Culvert Bat Assessment Form - fillable_printed.pdf* <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/KRXCOING6FG6ZIRHDJAWUSGPL4/projectDocuments/124485703>

28. Did the bridge assessment detect *any* signs of Indiana bats and/or NLEBs roosting in/under the bridge (bats, guano, etc.)^[1]?

[1] If bridge assessment detects signs of *any* species of bats, coordination with the local FWS office is needed to identify potential threatened or endangered bat species. Additional studies may be undertaken to try to identify which bat species may be utilizing the bridge prior to allowing *any* work to proceed.

Note: There is a small chance bridge assessments for bat occupancy do not detect bats. Should a small number of bats be observed roosting on a bridge just prior to or during construction, such that take is likely to occur or does occur in the form of harassment, injury or death, the PBO requires the action agency to report the take. Report all unanticipated take within 2 working days of the incident to the USFWS. Construction activities may continue without delay provided the take is reported to the USFWS and is limited to 5 bats per project.

No

29. Will the bridge removal, replacement, and/or maintenance activities include installing new or replacing existing **permanent** lighting?

No

30. Does the project include the removal, replacement, and/or maintenance of *any* structure other than a bridge? (e.g., rest areas, offices, sheds, outbuildings, barns, parking garages, etc.)

No

31. Will the project involve the use of **temporary** lighting *during* the active season?

Yes

32. Is there *any* suitable habitat **within** 1,000 feet of the location(s) where **temporary** lighting will be used?

Yes

33. Will the project install new or replace existing **permanent** lighting?

No

34. Does the project include percussives or other activities (**not including tree removal/trimming or bridge/structure work**) that will increase noise levels above existing traffic/background levels?

No

35. Are *all* project activities that are **not associated with** habitat removal, tree removal/trimming, bridge and/or structure activities, temporary or permanent lighting, or use of percussives, limited to actions that DO NOT cause any additional stressors to the bat species?

Examples: lining roadways, unlighted signage, rail road crossing signals, signal lighting, and minor road repair such as asphalt fill of potholes, etc.

Yes

36. Will the project raise the road profile **above the tree canopy**?

No

37. Are the project activities that are not associated with habitat removal, tree removal/trimming, bridge and/or structure activities, temporary or permanent lighting, or use of percussives consistent with a No Effect determination in this key?

Automatically answered

Yes, other project activities are limited to actions that DO NOT cause any additional stressors to the bat species as described in the BA/BO

38. Is the habitat removal portion of this project consistent with a Not Likely to Adversely Affect determination in this key?

Automatically answered

Yes, because the tree removal/trimming that occurs outside of the Indiana bat's active season occurs greater than 0.5 miles from the nearest hibernaculum, is less than 100 feet from the existing road/rail surface, includes clear demarcation of the trees that are to be removed, and does not alter documented roosts and/or surrounding summer habitat within 0.25 miles of a documented roost.

39. Is the habitat removal portion of this project consistent with a Not Likely to Adversely Affect determination in this key?

Automatically answered

Yes, because the tree removal/trimming that occurs outside of the NLEB's active season occurs greater than 0.5 miles from the nearest hibernaculum, is less than 100 feet from the existing road/rail surface, includes clear demarcation of the trees that are to be removed, and does not alter documented roosts and/or surrounding summer habitat within 0.25 miles of a documented roost.

40. Is the bridge removal, replacement, or maintenance activities portion of this project consistent with a No Effect determination in this key?

Automatically answered

Yes, because the bridge has been assessed using the criteria documented in the BA and no signs of bats were detected

41. **General AMM 1**

Will the project ensure *all* operators, employees, and contractors working in areas of known or presumed bat habitat are aware of *all* FHWA/FRA/FTA (Transportation Agencies) environmental commitments, including all applicable Avoidance and Minimization Measures?

Yes

42. **Hibernacula AMM 1**

Will the project ensure that on-site personnel will use best management practices^[1], secondary containment measures, or other standard spill prevention and countermeasures to avoid impacts to possible hibernacula?

[1] Coordinate with the appropriate Service Field Office on recommended best management practices for karst in your state.

Yes

43. **Hibernacula AMM 1**

Will the project ensure that, where practicable, a 300 foot buffer will be employed to separate fueling areas and other major containment risk activities from caves, sinkholes, losing streams, and springs in karst topography?

Yes

44. **Tree Removal AMM 1**

Can *all* phases/aspects of the project (e.g., temporary work areas, alignments) be modified, to the extent practicable, to avoid tree removal^[1] in excess of what is required to implement the project safely?

Note: Tree Removal AMM 1 is a minimization measure, the full implementation of which may not always be practicable. Projects may still be NLAA as long as Tree Removal AMMs 2, 3, and 4 are implemented and LAA as long as Tree Removal AMMs 3, 5, 6, and 7 are implemented.

[1] The word “trees” as used in the AMMs refers to trees that are suitable habitat for each species within their range. See the USFWS’ current summer survey guidance for our latest definitions of suitable habitat.

Yes

45. **Tree Removal AMM 3**

Can tree removal be limited to that specified in project plans and ensure that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field (e.g., install bright colored flagging/fencing prior to any tree clearing to ensure contractors stay within clearing limits)?

Yes

46. **Tree Removal AMM 4**

Can the project avoid cutting down/removal of *all* (1) **documented**^[1] Indiana bat or NLEB roosts^[2] (that are still suitable for roosting), (2) trees **within** 0.25 miles of roosts, and (3) documented foraging habitat any time of year?

[1] The word documented means habitat where bats have actually been captured and/or tracked.

[2] Documented roosting or foraging habitat – for the purposes of this consultation, we are considering documented habitat as that where Indiana bats and/or NLEB have actually been captured and tracked using (1) radio telemetry to roosts; (2) radio telemetry triangulation/triangulation to estimate foraging areas; or (3) foraging areas with repeated use documented using acoustics. Documented roosting habitat is also considered as suitable summer habitat within 0.25 miles of documented roosts.)

Yes

47. **Lighting AMM 1**

Will *all* **temporary** lighting be directed away from suitable habitat during the active season?

Yes

PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Have you made a No Effect determination for *all* other species indicated on the FWS IPaC generated species list?

No

2. Have you made a May Affect determination for *any* other species on the FWS IPaC generated species list?

No

3. How many acres^[1] of trees are proposed for removal between 0-100 feet of the existing road/rail surface?

[1] If described as number of trees, multiply by 0.09 to convert to acreage and enter that number.

0.65

4. Please describe the proposed bridge work:

The 15-inch culvert at the southern terminus of the project area will be replaced using open cut installation and include headwalls at both ends of the culvert. The pavement will be resurfaced at the culvert location. Riprap will be installed at the outlet of the structure.

5. Please state the timing of all proposed bridge work:

Spring/Summer 2024

6. Please enter the date of the bridge assessment:

9/29/2021

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION MEASURES (AMMS)

This determination key result includes the commitment to implement the following Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMMs):

TREE REMOVAL AMM 3

Ensure tree removal is limited to that specified in project plans and ensure that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field (e.g., install bright colored flagging/fencing prior to any tree clearing to ensure contractors stay within clearing limits).

TREE REMOVAL AMM 4

Do not remove **documented** Indiana bat or NLEB roosts that are still suitable for roosting, or trees within 0.25 miles of roosts, or **documented** foraging habitat any time of year.

GENERAL AMM 1

Ensure all operators, employees, and contractors working in areas of known or presumed bat habitat are aware of all FHWA/FRA/FTA (Transportation Agencies) environmental commitments, including all applicable AMMs.

HIBERNACULA AMM 1

For projects located within karst areas, on-site personnel will use best management practices, secondary containment measures, or other standard spill prevention and countermeasures to avoid impacts to possible hibernacula. Where practicable, a 300 foot buffer will be employed to separate fueling areas and other major containment risk activities from caves, sinkholes, losing streams, and springs in karst topography.

TREE REMOVAL AMM 1

Modify all phases/aspects of the project (e.g., temporary work areas, alignments) to avoid tree removal.

LIGHTING AMM 1

Direct temporary lighting away from suitable habitat during the active season.

TREE REMOVAL AMM 2

Apply time of year restrictions for tree removal when bats are not likely to be present, or limit tree removal to 10 or fewer trees per project at any time of year within 100 feet of existing road/rail surface and **outside of documented** roosting/foraging habitat or travel corridors; visual emergence survey must be conducted with no bats observed.

DETERMINATION KEY DESCRIPTION: FHWA, FRA, FTA PROGRAMMATIC CONSULTATION FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AFFECTING NLEB OR INDIANA BAT

This key was last updated in IPaC on April 13, 2023. Keys are subject to periodic revision.

This decision key is intended for projects/activities funded or authorized by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), and/or Federal Transit Administration (FTA), which may require consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for the endangered **Indiana bat** (*Myotis sodalis*) and the endangered **northern long-eared bat** (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

This decision key should only be used to verify project applicability with the Service's [February 5, 2018, FHWA, FRA, FTA Programmatic Biological Opinion for Transportation Projects](#). The programmatic biological opinion covers limited transportation activities that may affect either bat species, and addresses situations that are both likely and not likely to adversely affect either bat species. This decision key will assist in identifying the effect of a specific project/activity and applicability of the programmatic consultation. The programmatic biological opinion is not intended to cover all types of transportation actions. Activities outside the scope of the programmatic biological opinion, or that may affect ESA-listed species other than the Indiana bat or NLEB, or any designated critical habitat, may require additional ESA Section 7 consultation.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Indiana Department of Transportation
Name: Ryan Falls
Address: 3650 South U.S. Highway 41
City: Vincennes
State: IN
Zip: 47591
Email: rfalls@indot.in.gov
Phone: 8125821387




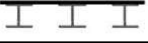



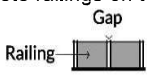
LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Federal Highway Administration

Bridge/Structure Bat Assessment Form

Date & Time of Assessment: 09/29/2021	DOT Project Number: Des 1900294	Route/Facility Carried: SR 237	County: Crawford
Federal Structure ID: N/A	Structure Coordinates: 38.234237 N (latitude and longitude) -86.4683302 W	Structure Height (approximate): 1.5 ft	Structure Length: 30 ft
Structure Type (check one)		Structure Material (check all that apply)	
Bridge Construction Style		Deck Material	Beam Material
<input type="radio"/> Cast-in-place	<input type="radio"/> Pre-stressed Girder	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal	<input type="checkbox"/> None
<input type="radio"/> Flat Slab/Box	<input type="radio"/> Steel I-beam	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete
<input type="radio"/> Truss	<input type="radio"/> Covered	<input type="checkbox"/> Timber	<input type="checkbox"/> Steel
<input type="radio"/> Parallel Box Beam	<input type="radio"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Open grid	<input type="checkbox"/> Timber
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Culvert Type		Culvert Material	End/Back Wall Material
<input type="radio"/> Box	<input type="radio"/> Other Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metal	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Pipe/Round		<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/> Timber
<input type="radio"/> Other:		<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic	<input type="checkbox"/> Stone/Masonry
		<input type="checkbox"/> Stone/Masonry	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Creosote Evidence
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
			<input type="radio"/> Unknown
Crossings Traversed (check all that apply)		Notes:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bare ground	<input type="checkbox"/> Open vegetation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Rip-rap	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed vegetation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Flowing water	<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad		
<input type="checkbox"/> Standing water	<input type="checkbox"/> Road/trail - Type:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal water	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
Surrounding Habitat (check all that apply)		Notes:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Grassland		
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Ranching		
<input type="checkbox"/> Residential-urban	<input type="checkbox"/> Riparian/wetland		
<input type="checkbox"/> Residential-rural	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed use		
<input type="checkbox"/> Woodland/forested	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
Areas Assessed (check all that apply)			
Check all areas that apply. If an area is not present in the structure, check the "not present" box. Document all bat indicators observed during the assessment. Include the species present, if known, and provide photo documentation as indicated.			
Area (check if assessed)	Assessment Notes	Evidence of Bats (include photos if present)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All crevices and cracks: Bridges/culverts: rough surfaces or imperfections in concrete Other structures: soffits, rafters, attic areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present No evidence of bat presence.	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live #	<input type="checkbox"/> dead #
		<input type="checkbox"/> Audible	<input type="checkbox"/> Species
		<input type="checkbox"/> Odor	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	
<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete surfaces (open roosting on concrete)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live #	<input type="checkbox"/> dead #
		<input type="checkbox"/> Audible	<input type="checkbox"/> Species
		<input type="checkbox"/> Odor	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	
<input type="checkbox"/> Spaces between concrete end walls and the bridge deck	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live #	<input type="checkbox"/> dead #
		<input type="checkbox"/> Audible	<input type="checkbox"/> Species
		<input type="checkbox"/> Odor	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	
<input type="checkbox"/> Crack between concrete railings on top of the bridge deck	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live #	<input type="checkbox"/> dead #
		<input type="checkbox"/> Audible	<input type="checkbox"/> Species
		<input type="checkbox"/> Odor	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vertical surfaces on concrete I-beams	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live #	<input type="checkbox"/> dead #
		<input type="checkbox"/> Audible	<input type="checkbox"/> Species
		<input type="checkbox"/> Odor	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	
<input type="checkbox"/> Spaces between walls, ceiling joists	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live #	<input type="checkbox"/> dead #
		<input type="checkbox"/> Audible	<input type="checkbox"/> Species
		<input type="checkbox"/> Odor	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	
<input type="checkbox"/> Weep holes, scupper drains, and inlets/pipes	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live #	<input type="checkbox"/> dead #
		<input type="checkbox"/> Audible	<input type="checkbox"/> Species
		<input type="checkbox"/> Odor	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	
<input type="checkbox"/> All guiderails	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live #	<input type="checkbox"/> dead #
		<input type="checkbox"/> Audible	<input type="checkbox"/> Species
		<input type="checkbox"/> Odor	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	
<input type="checkbox"/> All expansion joints	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live #	<input type="checkbox"/> dead #
		<input type="checkbox"/> Audible	<input type="checkbox"/> Species
		<input type="checkbox"/> Odor	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	
Name: Sean Langley		Signature:	

Bridge/Structure Bat Assessment Form

Date & Time of Assessment: 08/16/2023	DOT Project Number: Des 1900291	Route/Facility Carried: SR 237	County: Crawford
Federal Structure ID: N/A	Structure Coordinates: 38.234237 N (latitude and longitude) -86.4683302 W	Structure Height (approximate): 15 in	Structure Length: 39 ft
Structure Type (check one)		Structure Material (check all that apply)	
Bridge Construction Style		Deck Material	Beam Material End/Back Wall Material
<input type="radio"/> Cast-in-place 	<input type="radio"/> Pre-stressed Girder 	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete
<input type="radio"/> Flat Slab/Box 	<input type="radio"/> Steel I-beam 	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete
<input type="radio"/> Truss 	<input type="radio"/> Covered 	<input type="checkbox"/> Timber	<input type="checkbox"/> Steel
<input type="radio"/> Parallel Box Beam 	<input type="radio"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Open grid	<input type="checkbox"/> Timber
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Culvert Type	Other Structure	Culvert Material	Creosote Evidence
<input type="radio"/> Box	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metal	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Pipe/Round	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input type="radio"/> Unknown
<input type="radio"/> Other:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Plastic	Notes:
		<input type="checkbox"/> Stone/Masonry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
Crossings Traversed (check all that apply)		Surrounding Habitat (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bare ground	<input type="checkbox"/> Open vegetation	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Grassland
<input type="checkbox"/> Rip-rap	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed vegetation	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Ranching
<input type="checkbox"/> Flowing water	<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential-urban	<input type="checkbox"/> Riparian/wetland
<input type="checkbox"/> Standing water	<input type="checkbox"/> Road/trail - Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential-rural	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed use
<input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal water	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Woodland/forested	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Areas Assessed (check all that apply)			
Check all areas that apply. If an area is not present in the structure, check the "not present" box. Document all bat indicators observed during the assessment. Include the species present, if known, and provide photo documentation as indicated.			
Area (check if assessed)	Assessment Notes	Evidence of Bats (include photos if present)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All crevices and cracks: Bridges/culverts: rough surfaces or imperfections in concrete Other structures: soffits, rafters, attic areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present No evidence of bat presence.	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species
<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete surfaces (open roosting on concrete)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Odor
<input type="checkbox"/> Spaces between concrete end walls and the bridge deck	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> Crack between concrete railings on top of the bridge deck 	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species
<input type="checkbox"/> Vertical surfaces on concrete I-beams	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Odor
<input type="checkbox"/> Spaces between walls, ceiling joists	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> Weep holes, scupper drains, and inlets/pipes	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Visual - live # dead #	<input type="checkbox"/> Audible <input type="checkbox"/> Species
<input type="checkbox"/> All guiderails	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Guano	<input type="checkbox"/> Odor
<input type="checkbox"/> All expansion joints	<input type="checkbox"/> Not present	<input type="checkbox"/> Staining	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
Name: Matt Riehle		Signature: <i>Matt Riehle</i>	

From: [McWilliams, Robin](#)
To: [Falls, Ryan G](#)
Cc: [Samantha Beaupre](#); [Trevor Wieseke](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: Gray Bat and Indiana Bat Critical Habitat USFWS NLAA Concurrence Request (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057)
Date: Monday, May 22, 2023 11:19:45 AM
Attachments: [image206087.png](#)
[image659592.png](#)
[image968255.png](#)
[image142899.png](#)
[image641026.png](#)
[image263825.png](#)
[image420365.png](#)
[image850213.png](#)

EXTERNAL

Dear Ryan,

As long as the tree-clearing follows the Nov. 15-March 30 dates used when near P1 hibernacula (including critical habitat for Indiana bat), we concur that the project is not likely to adversely affect the Indiana bat Critical Habitat or the gray bat.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please let me know.

Sincerely,
Robin

Robin McWilliams Munson
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
620 South Walker Street
Bloomington, IN 47403
812-334-4261

Mon-Tues 8-3:30p
Wed-Thurs 8:30-3p Telework

From: Falls, Ryan G <RFalls@indot.IN.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 19, 2023 8:09 AM
To: McWilliams, Robin <robin_mckilliams@fws.gov>
Cc: Samantha Beaupre <SBeaupre@lochgroup.com>; Trevor Wieseke <TWieseke@lochgroup.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Gray Bat and Indiana Bat Critical Habitat USFWS NLAA Concurrence Request (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057)

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Robin McWilliams Munson,

The consultant, on behalf of INDOT, on behalf of FHWA, has determined that Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057 may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect the Gray Bat and Indiana Bat Critical Habitat. Project details and reasonings for the findings can be found in the text below and in the attached IPaC documents.

INDOT is requesting USFWS's concurrence with these findings.

If anything else is needed, please let me or Samantha Beaupre know. Thank you.

Ryan Falls

Capital Program Management-Senior Environmental Manager Supervisor

Indiana Department of Transportation
3650 South US Highway 41
Vincennes, IN 47591

Email: rfalls@indot.IN.gov

Cell: 812-582-1387



From: Samantha Beaupre <SBeaupre@lochgroup.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2023 10:18 AM

To: Falls, Ryan G <RFalls@indot.IN.gov>

Cc: Trevor Wieseke <TWieseke@lochgroup.com>

Subject: Gray Bat and Indiana Bat Critical Habitat Coordination (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057)

****** This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email. ******

Good Morning Ryan,

I am reaching out to coordinate an effects determination for the species that were not covered in IPaC. I've attached the species list. The species list includes the Gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*), and the Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*) critical habitat.

This project will involve a slide correction and small structure project on SR 237 in Crawford County (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057). The proposed slide correction, Des. No. 1900291, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.35 mile south of the I-64 interchange in Crawford County. Des. No. 1900291 extends 360 feet along SR 237. The proposed small structure work, Des. No. 2001057, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.57 mile south of the I-64/ SR 237 junction in Crawford County. Des. No. 2001057 extends 100 feet along SR 237.

The project is not anticipated to qualify for the USFWS Interim Policy due to the 0.65 acre of anticipated tree clearing.

For the Gray Bat, since clearing is in the inactive season, the project is not near any gray bat winter or summer maternity caves, and it is within 100 feet from the existing roadway, I believe it would be a NLAA. The AMMs for the Indiana bats/NLEBs are also beneficial for the gray bat.

For the Indiana Bat critical habitat, since the project is within 100 feet from the existing roadway and clearing will be in the inactive season, I believe it would be a NLAA.

Could you please review and let me know if any more information is needed?

Thank you!



Samantha Beaupre

Environmental Specialist II



Lochmueller Group

3502 Woodview Trace, Suite 150, Indianapolis, IN 46268



Email: SBeaupre@lochgroup.com

Direct: [317.334.6828](tel:317.334.6828)



Mobile: [317.679.5031](tel:317.679.5031)

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Categorical Exclusion

Appendix D

**Section 106 of the National Historic
Preservation Act (NHPA)**



**INDIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SHORT REPORT**

State Form 54566 (R2 / 11-20)

**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHAEOLOGY**

402 West Washington Street, Room W274

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739

Telephone Number: (317) 232-1646

Fax Number: (317) 232-0693

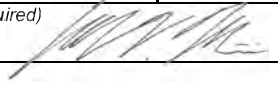
E-mail: dhpa@dnr.IN.gov

Where applicable, the use of this form is recommended but not required by the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA).

Name(s) of author(s) Michael J. Curran		Date (month, day, year) July 25, 2023
Title of project A Phase Ia Archaeological Field Reconnaissance for the Proposed SR 237 Slide Correction Located 0.35 Miles South of the I-64/SR 237 Interchange, and the Proposed Small Structures and Drains Construction Located 0.57 Miles South of the I-64/SR 237 Interchange, in Crawford County, Indiana (INDOT Des. Nos. 1900291 and 2001057) (CRA Contract Publication Series 22-068)		
This document is being used to report on the results of: <input type="checkbox"/> Records check only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Records check and Phase Ia archaeological reconnaissance <input type="checkbox"/> An addendum to a previous archaeological report. <i>For an addendum, provide the following information.</i>		
Name(s) of author(s) of previous report N/A		
Title of previous report N/A		
Date of previous report (month, day, year) N/A	DHPA number	

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Description of project The Indiana Department of Transportation has proposed a slide correction improvement (DES 1900291) along SR 237 located approximately 0.56 km (0.35 mi) south of the I-64/SR 237 interchange, and a proposed small structure improvements (DES 2001057) located approximately 0.91 km (0.57 mi) south of the I-64/SR 237 interchange, in Crawford County, Indiana (Figure 1). The need for this project is due to a shallow downslope slide occurring along the east side of SR 237, causing existing roadway pavement and roadside embankment to deteriorate and fail. The pavement failure is occurring only in the northbound lane of the existing road, and visible scarps are present along the roadway. Additionally, the existing 15-inch culvert at the southern end of the project area is in poor condition with deteriorating joints and a leaning outlet headwall. The purpose of the project is to repair the slide and culvert, improve mobility, and increase safety for the traveling public along this section of SR 237. The proposed project includes the construction of a riprap buttress, as well as two- to four-foot shoulders along the east side of SR 237. Also, the 15-inch culvert at the southern terminus of the project area will be replaced using open cut installation and include headwalls at both ends of the culvert. Riprap will be installed at the outlet of the culvert. Furthermore, approximately 0.66 acres of tree clearing is currently planned. In all, this project is anticipated to require approximately 0.85 acres of new permanent right-of-way (ROW) and 0.22 acres of ROW reacquisition. A portion of the ROW, 0.05 acres of reacquisition, will be acquired as a part of an adjacent project (Des. No. 1900294). The archaeological survey area encompasses the proposed project construction, ROW, and easement limits, and measures approximately 465 m north-south along SR 237, with widths between 12 and 40 m, and includes approximately 1.1 ha (2.7 acres) (Figures 2 and 3). On the west side of SR 237, the survey area extended no greater than approximately 3 m from the road's edge to include the road shoulder and ditch. The survey area on the east side of SR 237 extended from the road's edge to distances that ranged between 3 and 25 m, including graded shoulders, steep hillsides, and some level areas. This slide correction project is adjacent to another slide correction project (Des. No. 1900294) (see Figures 2 and 3).			
INDOT designation number(s) 1900291 and 2001057	Project number CRA #I220064	DHPA number	DHPA plan number
Prepared for: (Company / Institution / Agency) Lochmueller Group, Inc.			
Name of contact Gary Quigg			
Address (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code) 6200 Vogel Road, Evansville, Indiana 47715			
Telephone number (317) 334-6803		E-mail address GQuigg@lochgroup.com	
Name of principal investigator Andrew V. Martin, RPA 61710			

Name of company / institution Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. (CRA)	
Address (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code) 201 Northwest Fourth Street, Suite 204, Evansville, Indiana 47708	
Telephone number (812) 253-3009	E-mail address amartin@crai-ky.com
Signature of principal investigator (Required) 	Date (month, day, year) July 25, 2023

PROJECT LOCATION		
County Crawford	USGS 7.5' series topographic quadrangle Beechwood, Indiana-Kentucky (United States Geological Survey [USGS] 1993)	Civil township Union

Legal Location

Grid alignment						
1/4	1/4	1/4	1/4	Section	Township	Range
SE	SW	SW	SE	24	3S	1W
	W	NW	NE	25	3S	1W
	SE	NE	NW	25	3S	1W

Comments

Property ownership (Check all that apply.)
 Private
 Local Government
 State Government
 Federal Government
 Other

Name of owner
Public: State Government (SR 237 Right-of-Way [ROW]); Private: Robert and Donna Allinger, John Barkley, Calvin Brace, Samuel and Nancy Lyons, Kenneth and Robin Marshall, Robert and Doris Marshall, James and Darlene Renfrow, Matthew Sanders, Wilma Tomlinson

Address of owner (number and street, city, state, and ZIP code)
Unknown

PROJECT AREA DETAILS

See Short Report instructions for required references to be consulted.

Size of project area (hectares) 1.1	Size of project area (acres) 2.7
--	-------------------------------------

Natural region Southern Hills and Lowlands Region	Topography Hillsides
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Soil(s) information Adyeville silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded (AbqE2); Corydon stony silt loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes (CqyG); Tipsaw-Adyeville complex, 25 to 75 percent slopes (TbIG); Wellston silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded (WhfD3)	Watershed Blue-Sinking
---	---------------------------

Current land usage
The portions of the survey area in the SR 237 ROW included road shoulder and ditches that were vegetated by lawn grasses. Steep hillsides and level benches on the east side of SR 237 were densely forested by matures trees and understory growth (Figures 4–8).

Comments
Four soil map units are mapped within the survey area. These are Adyeville silt loam, 18 to 25 percent slopes, eroded (AbqE2); Corydon stony silt loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes (CqyG); Tipsaw-Adyeville complex, 25 to 75 percent slopes (TbIG); and Wellston silt loam, 12 to 18 percent slopes, severely eroded (WhfD3) (Soil Survey Staff 2022a). The soil series are classified by the amount of time they have taken to form and the landscape position on which they are found (Birkeland 1984; Soil Survey Staff 1999). This information can provide a relative age of the soil and can express the potential for buried archaeological deposits (Stafford 2004). The soil order and group classification for the soil series are used to assist with determining this potential.

The Wellston (Ultic Hapludalfs) series is classified as an Alfisol (Soil Survey Staff 1999, 2022b). Approximately 34 percent of the survey area is mapped as the Wellston soil series (Soil Survey Staff 2022a). This Alfisol is found on landforms formed

during the Late Pleistocene or earlier (Soil Survey Staff 1999:163–165, 208–217). As such, archaeological deposits would only be found on, or very near, the ground surface on undisturbed landforms mapped with this Alfisol.

The Tipsaw (Typic Dystrudepts) soil series is classified as a somewhat excessively drained Inceptisol that is found on scarps and hills that formed during the late Pleistocene or Holocene time periods (Soil Survey Staff 1999:489–493, 518–524; 2022b). This series is mapped as a component of the Tipsaw-Adyeville complex, which is on hillsides within approximately 45 percent of the survey area's northern portion. Since these soils formed on steeply sloped surfaces, they would not have the potential for deeply buried archaeological deposits. Furthermore, shovel testing on this landform indicated the area was extensively disturbed from previous grading and construction of an access road, a modern water monitoring well, and a modern concrete-block structure (see Figures 6–8).

The Corydon (Lithic Argiudolls) soil series is classified as a Mollisol and is found on landforms that formed during the Late Pleistocene or Holocene time periods (Soil Survey Staff 1999:555–557, 2022b). This soil series has been mapped in approximately 16 percent of the survey area, though a majority of these hillsides were disturbed from grading at the nearby SR 237. The Corydon series consists of shallow, well drained soils that formed in loess and in the underlying limestone residuum on hills (Soil Survey Staff 2022b). In general, some Mollisols have the potential to contain deeply buried archaeological deposits. However, these soils are situated on heavily eroded steep hillsides and a small locale with a narrow bench (see Figure 5). Due to observed conditions within the survey area, these landforms would have been unfavorable for human occupation; thus, it is unlikely that these soils would contain deeply buried archaeological deposits.

The Adyeville (Typic Hapludults) series is classified as an Ultisol (Soil Survey Staff 2022b). Ultisols are found on landforms that formed during the Pleistocene or earlier (Soil Survey Staff 1999:721). Archaeological deposits would only be found on, or very near, the ground surface on landforms mapped with this soil.

RECORDS CHECK

<input type="checkbox"/> Records check only; no field investigation conducted.	Date of records check (<i>month, day, year</i>) February 25, 2022
Records consulted (<i>Check all that apply.</i>)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archaeological site forms, reports in SHAARD, and SHAARD Archaeology and Structures Map Web Application <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resource Management reports, other research reports, etc., on file in locations other than SHAARD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historical documents and maps from other institutions / resources <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IHSSI / NRHP structures records in SHAARD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cemetery records in SHAARD	
Within the Project Area	
Previously recorded archaeological sites (<i>Include citations.</i>) None	
Previous archaeological studies within the project area (<i>Include citations.</i>) None	
Name(s) of previously recorded cemetery(ies) None	
Cemetery registry number(s) N/A	
Outside the Project Area	
Distance from boundary (<i>Check one.</i>)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Area researched was a half (½) mile radius from the boundary of the project area. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area researched was a one (1) mile radius from the boundary of the project area. <input type="checkbox"/> Area researched was a two (2) mile radius from the boundary of the project area.	
Previously recorded archaeological sites (<i>Include citations.</i>) The records review showed that 11 previously recorded archaeological sites are located within 1.6 km of the survey area (Table 1). None of the previously recorded archaeological sites are located within, or adjacent to, the current survey area.	
Previous archaeological studies (<i>Include citations.</i>) The DHPA records revealed that 10 previous archaeological studies have been conducted within a 1.6 km radius of the survey area (Table 2) (Adderley 2017; Campbell et al. 2017; Dickerson 2020; Doyle 2018; Hagedorn 1986; Kearney 1992; Shah Lomas and Perkins 2014; Stafford 1989a, 1989b; Wilson 1987).	
Name(s) of previously recorded cemetery(ies) No previously recorded cemeteries were identified within 30.5 m of the current survey area.	
Cemetery registry number(s) N/A	

FIELD INVESTIGATION

Date(s) of field investigation (<i>month, day, year</i>) February 28, 2022 and April 6, 2023	Name of field supervisor Michael J. Curran
Names of field crew N/A	
Field Conditions	

Surface visibility Less than 30 percent	Factors affecting visibility Forest vegetation with understory growth and leaf cover
Slope Greater than 20 percent	Environmental (weather) conditions during the survey Dry and cool
Methods	
Surface survey (Check all that apply.)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual walkover	Interval: <input type="checkbox"/> Thirty (30) meters <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe below.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian survey	Interval: <input type="checkbox"/> Five (5) meters <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ten (10) meters <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe below.)
<i>Describe methods.</i>	
Due to the vegetation growth and leaf cover, there was no ground surface visibility in the survey area. A visual walkover of disturbed areas was conducted at 10 m intervals to confirm disturbances in the road shoulder and ditch areas that exhibited indications of obvious disturbance (see Figures 3 and 4). Additional portions of the survey area that consisted of steep hillsides were subjected to pedestrian survey at 10 m intervals (see Figure 3).	
Shovel probes (Check all that apply.)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shovel probes	Interval: <input type="checkbox"/> Five (5) meters <input type="checkbox"/> Ten (10) meters <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fifteen (15) meters <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe below.)
<i>The standard is screened shovel probes using ¼" size mesh. If shovel probes were not screened, or a different size mesh was utilized, an explanation must be provided in the methods below.</i>	
<i>Describe methods.</i>	
A portion of the survey area on the east side of SR 237 was characterized by level benches that were subjected to shovel testing at 15 m spacing (see Figure 5). Shovel testing on a graded bench confirmed extensive disturbances that were associated with a water monitoring well and access road (see Figures 6–8). All shovel tests measured at least 30 cm in diameter and extended 10 cm into culturally sterile deposits. All fill removed was screened through 0.64 cm (0.25 in) mesh, and the sidewalls and bottoms of shovel tests were examined for cultural materials and features. Soil profiles illustrating pertinent soil horizon characteristics (i.e., color, texture, inclusion) were recorded. The field investigation methods are depicted on Figure 3.	
Cores / auger probes (Check all that apply.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cores / auger probes	Interval: <input type="checkbox"/> Five (5) meters <input type="checkbox"/> Ten (10) meters <input type="checkbox"/> Fifteen (15) meters <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Describe below.)
<i>The standard is screened cores / auger probes using ¼" size mesh. If cores / auger probes were not screened, or a different size mesh was utilized, an explanation must be provided in the methods below.</i>	
<i>Describe methods.</i>	
No bucket auger probes were excavated in the survey area due to the observed shovel test soil profiles and the disturbances.	
Additional field investigation comments	
None	

RESULTS

Summary of relevant regional culture background

Previous research has demonstrated that archaeological sites in this region of Indiana may include components from the entire timeline of North American prehistory and history. Prehistoric periods represented in the Indiana archaeological record include Paleoindian (10,000–7500 BC), Early Archaic (8000–6000 BC), Middle Archaic (6000–3500 BC), Late Archaic (4000–1500 BC), Terminal Late Archaic (1500–700 BC), Early Woodland (1000–200 BC), Middle Woodland (200 BC–AD 600), Late Woodland (AD 500–1200), and Mississippian (AD 1000–1650) (Jones and Johnson 2016).

A review of the archaeological records in Crawford County was conducted using the Indiana DHPA State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD) records (DHPA 2022). Based on the site file information, at least 678 archaeological sites have been recorded in Crawford County. Most of the sites recorded in this county have been documented on the Taswell (n = 188; 27.73 percent), English (n = 144; 21.24 percent), Beechwood (n = 113; 16.67 percent), and Branchville (n = 74; 10.91 percent) topographic quadrangles.

Site components represented are predominately indeterminate prehistoric (n = 332; 48.05 percent) and historic (n = 287; 41.53 percent). Site types within Crawford County predominately consist of prehistoric camps/lithic scatters (n = 147; 21.68 percent), historic farmsteads (n = 133; 19.62 percent), prehistoric rockshelters (n = 130; 19.17 percent), isolated finds (n = 115; 16.96 percent), and other/unspecified (n = 113; 16.67 percent).

In addition to the file search, a review of available maps was undertaken to help identify potential historic structures or historic archaeological site locations within the proposed project area. The following maps were reviewed:

- 1876 Illustrated Historical Atlas of the State of Indiana, Crawford County (Baskin, Forster & Company 1876)
- 1890 Map of Crawford County, Indiana. School Map (Robertson circa 1890)
- 1934 Atlas of Indiana, Crawford County (W.W. Hixson & Company 1934)
- 1936 Map of Crawford County. Cultural (Indiana Highway Survey Commission 1936)
- circa 1950 Plat Book of the State of Indiana, Crawford County (Hixson Map Company circa 1950)
- 1950a Beechwood, Indiana-Kentucky, 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (USGS 1950a)
- 1950b Alton, Indiana-Kentucky, 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (USGS 1950b)
- 1962 General Highway and Transportation Map of Crawford County, Indiana. (Indiana State Highway Commission 1962)
- 1970 Beechwood, Indiana-Kentucky, 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (USGS 1970)

A historic map review indicates one mapped structure (MS) location is adjacent to the survey area. MS 1 is identified on topographic maps dating between 1950 and 1970 (USGS 1950a, 1950b, 1970) (Figure 9). The portion of the survey area near MS 1 was situated in the road shoulder and was completely disturbed (see Figure 4).

Records check (*Check all that apply.*)

- The project area does not have the potential to contain archaeological resources. *Provide explanation / justification.*
- There are previously recorded archaeological resources within the project area, but those resources do not warrant additional archaeological investigation. *Provide explanation / justification.*
- The project area contains previously recorded archaeological resources that warrant additional investigation and/or the project area has the potential to contain archaeological resources. *Provide explanation / justification.*
- A cemetery is located within or adjacent to the project area.

Explanation / justification

While no previously recorded sites are mapped in or near the survey area, there appeared to be a potential for archaeological sites in undisturbed areas. In addition, the historic map review indicated a residence was located adjacent to the survey area.

Phase Ia archaeological reconnaissance (*Check all that apply.*)

- No Phase Ia reconnaissance was conducted.
- Phase Ia reconnaissance located no archaeological resources.
- Previously recorded sites were in the project area.
 - Artifacts and/or features at a previously recorded site(s) within the project area were not discovered. *List the site(s) below.*
- Phase Ia reconnaissance has identified landforms conducive to buried archaeological deposits. *Describe below.*

List sites.

N/A

Describe landforms.

N/A

Number of shovel probes excavated

9

Number of cores / auger probes

0

Describe disturbances. *Attach photographs documenting disturbances.*

Approximately 66 percent of the survey area was disturbed by the construction of SR 237 and its shoulders and ditches (see Figure 4). Shovel testing on a graded bench associated with a water monitoring well indicated that an additional 19 percent of the survey area was disturbed (see Figures 5–8).

Actual area surveyed (*hectares*)

1.1

Actual area surveyed (*acres*)

2.7

Explain results of fieldwork.

Shovel testing on a narrow bench mapped as the Corydon series revealed a very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) gravelly silt loam A horizon to 12 cm below ground surface (bgs), overlying a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) very gravelly silt clay Bt horizon. A graded bench is situated on the hillside that is mapped as the Tipsaw-Adyeville complex (Soil Survey Staff 2022a). Shovel test soil profiles in this area revealed a very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) organic horizon to 10 cm bgs, overlying a yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) fine sandy loam with dense gravel truncated Bw horizon. These soil profiles confirmed the surface disturbances which were observed at this graded area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Records check (*Check all that apply.*)

- No archaeological investigation is recommended before the project is allowed to proceed because the records check has determined that the project area does not have the potential to contain archaeological resources.
- A Phase Ia archaeological reconnaissance is recommended.
- A cemetery development plan may be required under Indiana Code 14-21-1-26.5 because project ground disturbance will be within 100 feet of a cemetery.

Phase Ia archaeological reconnaissance (Check all that apply.)

- It is recommended that the project be allowed to proceed as planned because the Phase Ia archaeological reconnaissance has located no archaeological sites within the project area and/or previously recorded sites that were investigated warrant no additional investigation.
- It is recommended that Phase Ic archaeological subsurface reconnaissance be conducted before the project is allowed to proceed. The Phase Ia archaeological reconnaissance has determined that the project area includes landforms which have the potential to contain buried archaeological deposits.

Other recommendations / commitments

None

Pursuant to IC-14-21-1, if any archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29) requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- Figure showing project location within Indiana
- USGS topographic map showing the project area (1:24,000 scale)
- Aerial photograph showing the project area, land use and survey methods
- Photographs of the project area, including, if applicable, photographs documenting disturbances
- Project plans (if available)

Other attachments

Figures 1–9; Tables 1 and 2; References Cited

References cited (See short report instructions for required references to be consulted.)

See attachment

Comments

None

CURATION

Location of project documentation

Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., Evansville, Indiana

ATTACHMENTS

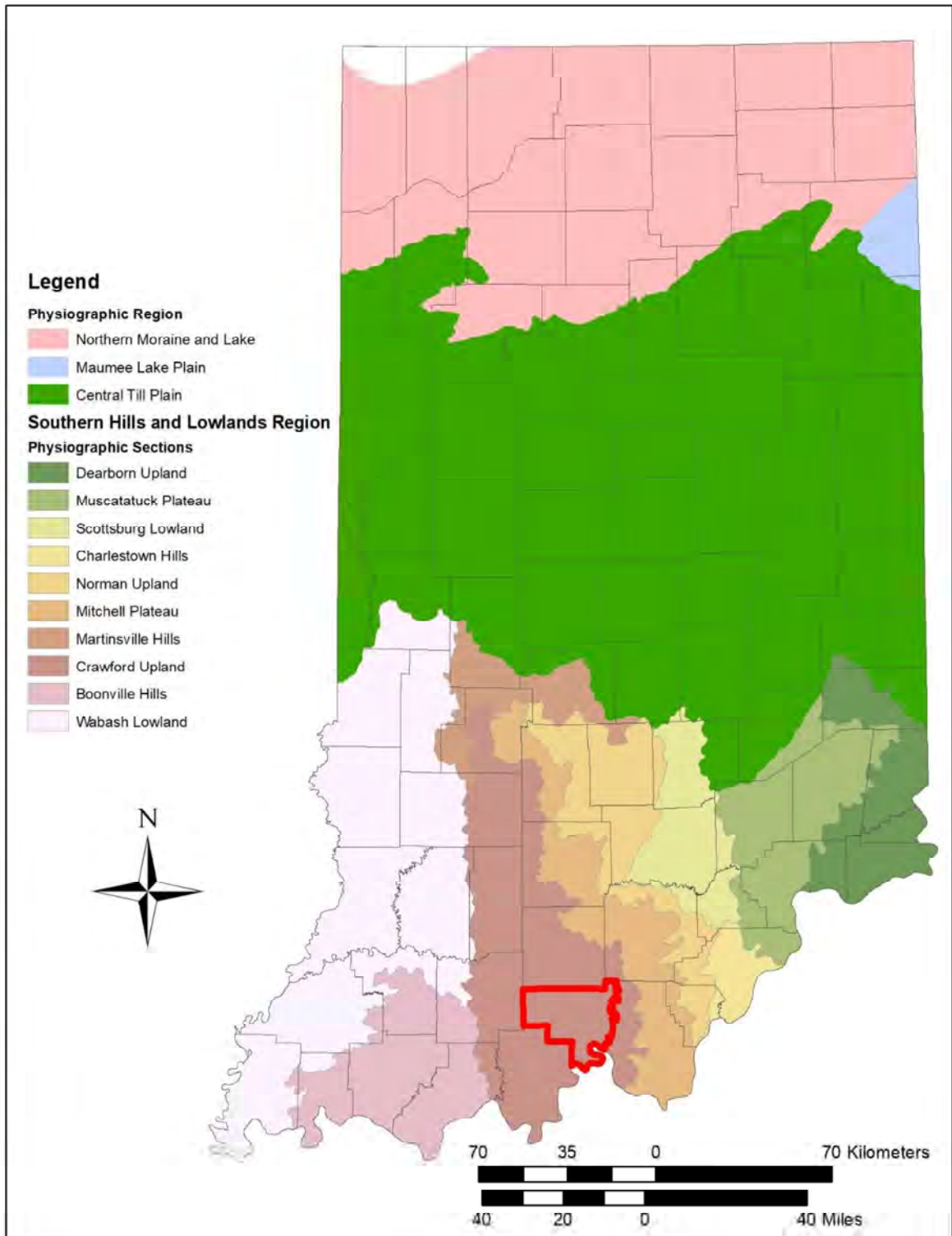


Figure 1. Map of Indiana showing the physiographic regions and location of Crawford County (Indiana Geological Survey 2002).

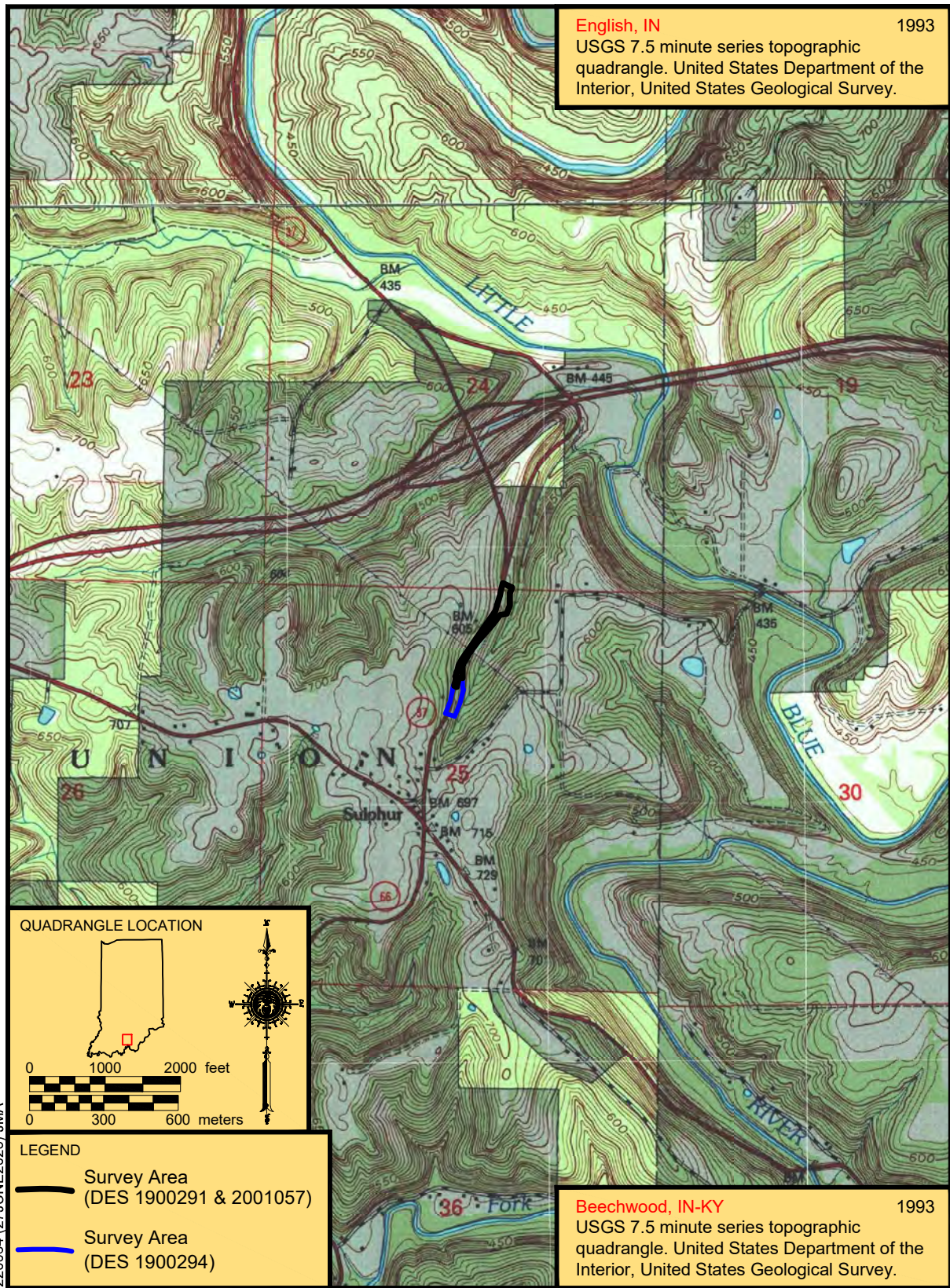


Figure 2. Location of survey area on topographic quadrangle.

ortho_1-1_hn_s_in025_2020_1 2020
FSA/NAIP Color Ortho Imagery.
United States Department of Agriculture,
Aerial Photography Field Office.

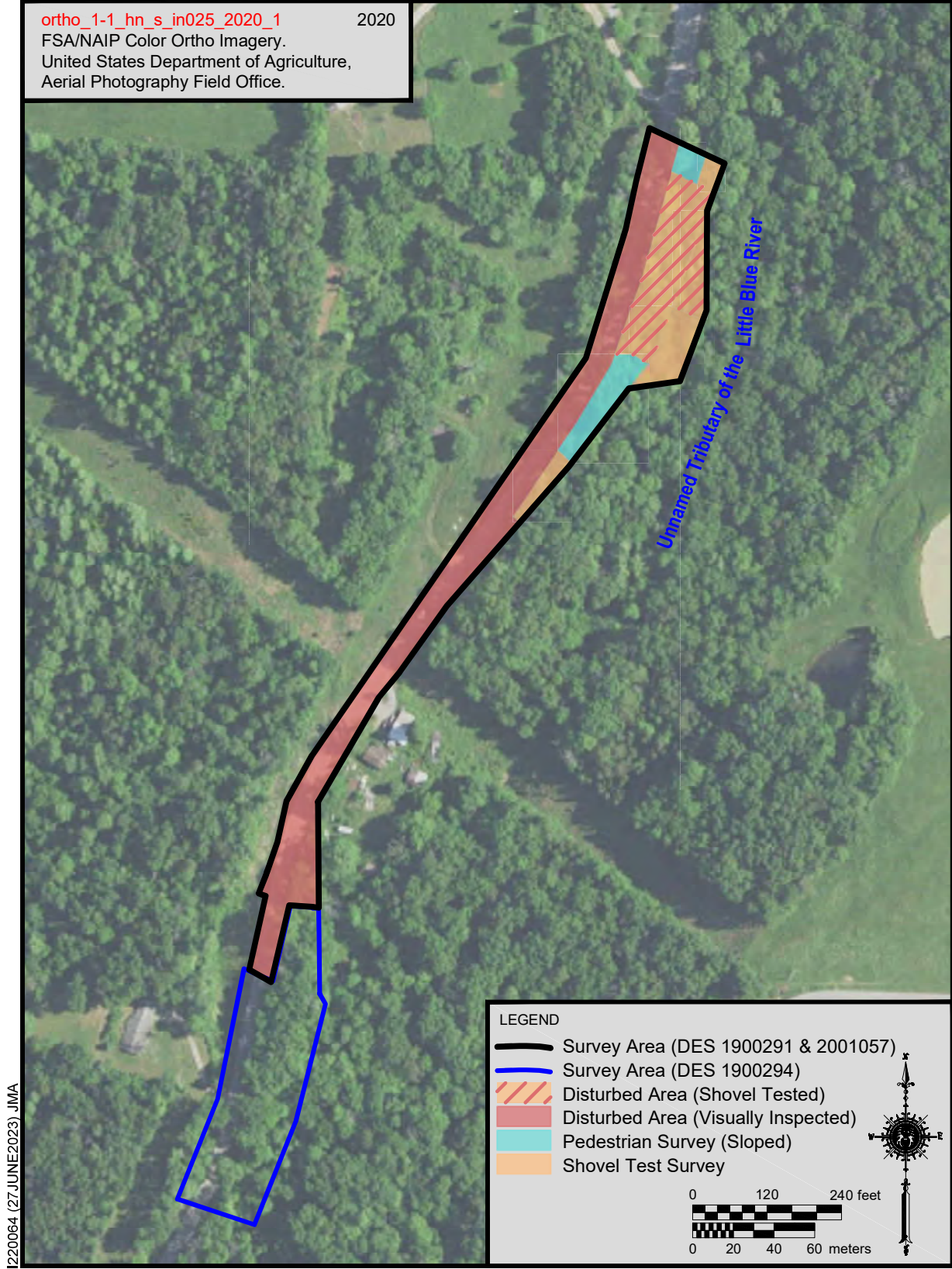


Figure 3. Survey area plan map.



Figure 4. Overview of the survey area and a standing home (MS 1) situated adjacent to the investigation limits, facing northeast.



Figure 5. Overview of a narrow bench within the survey area, facing northeast.



Figure 6. Overview of a graded bench with a modern water monitoring well and a modern concrete-block structure situated within the survey area, facing southwest.



Figure 7. Overview of an access road with a modern water monitoring well and a modern concrete-block structure situated within the survey area, facing southwest.



Figure 8. Modern concrete-block structure associated with a monitoring well situated within the survey area, facing west.

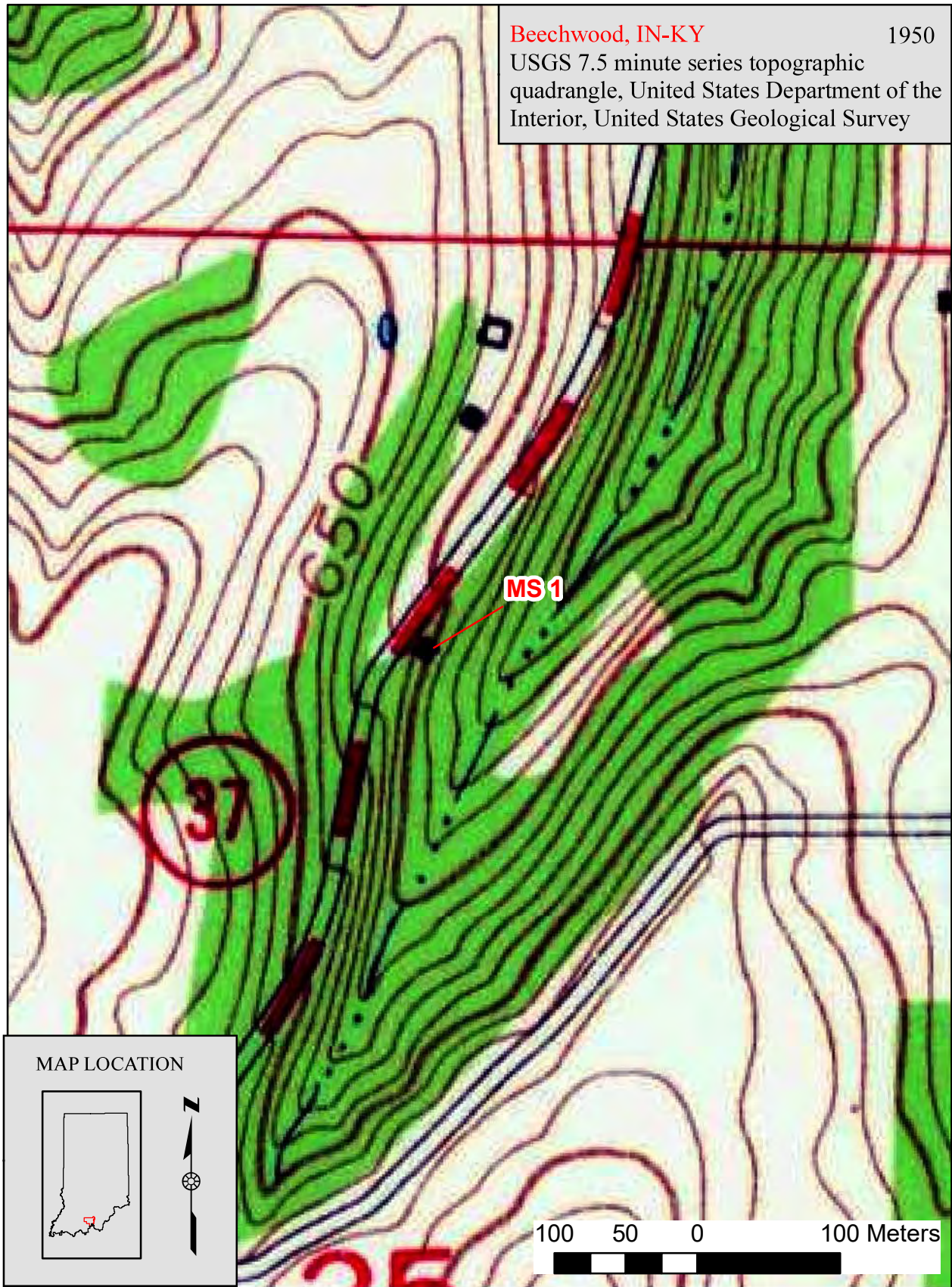


Figure 9. Location of MS 1 shown on a 1950 topographic map (USGS 1950a).

Table 1. Previously Reported Sites within 1.6 km of the Survey Area.

Site Number	Site Type	Component(s)	NRHP Status	Reference
12Cr408	Isolated Find	Unidentified Prehistoric	Not Eligible	Kearney 1992
12Cr409	Dump, Historic Scatter, Lithic Scatter	Unidentified Prehistoric; Historic	Not Eligible	Kearney 1992
12Cr410	Isolated Find	Unidentified Prehistoric	Not Eligible	Kearney 1992
12Cr411	Dump, Historic Scatter	Historic	Not Eligible	Kearney 1992
12Cr412	Dump, Historic Scatter	Historic	Not Eligible	Kearney 1992
12Cr413	Isolated Find	Unidentified Prehistoric	Not Eligible	Kearney 1992
12Cr414	Isolated Find	Unidentified Prehistoric	Not Eligible	Kearney 1992
12Cr415	Cabin, House, Well	Historic	Not Assessed	Kearney 1992
12Cr753	Farmstead	Nineteenth through twentieth centuries	Not Eligible	Campbell et al. 2017
12Cr755	Farmstead	Nineteenth through twentieth centuries	Not Eligible	Campbell et al. 2017
12Cr756	Farmstead	Nineteenth through twentieth centuries	Potentially Eligible	Campbell et al. 2017

Table 2. Previously Conducted Archaeological Investigations within 1.6 km of the Survey Area.

Reference	Purpose of Investigation	Investigation Type	Size of Survey Area	Investigation Results
Hagedorn 1986	Proposed food plots in Crawford County	Phase Ia	4.0 acres	No new archaeological sites were located during the investigation. No further work was recommended.
Wilson 1987	Proposed reconstruction of Road #550 in Crawford County	Phase Ia	3.6 acres	One previously recorded archaeological site (12Cr84), a rockshelter, was documented. Site 12Cr84 is situated outside of the current project's records search radius. Recommendations included gating the reconstructed road in order to limit unauthorized access to Site 12Cr84, and further monitoring of the rockshelter. Project clearance recommended.
Stafford 1989a	Proposed borrow pit near Sulphur in Crawford County	Phase Ia	1.0 acre	No new archaeological sites were located during the investigation. No further work was recommended.
Stafford 1989b	Proposed bridge replacement along SR 37 in Crawford County	Phase Ia	8.2 acres	No new archaeological sites were located during the investigation. No further work was recommended.
Kearney 1992	Proposed borrow pit in Crawford County	Phase Ia	5.2 acres	A total of eight previously unrecorded archaeological sites (12Cr408–12Cr415) were located during the investigation. Sites 12Cr408–12Cr415 are situated within the current project's records search radius. No further work was recommended with exception of 12Cr415.
Shah Lomas and Perkins 2014	Proposed wildlife openings and access roads on HNF properties in Crawford, Orange, and Perry Counties	Phase Ia	213.8 acres	A total of 10 previously unrecorded archaeological sites (12Cr674, and 12Pe1569–12Pe1577) were located during the investigation. None of the documented sites are situated within the current project's records search radius. With the exception of the need for additional work at one tract that was not fully surveyed, no further work was recommended.
Adderley 2017	Proposed electrical transmission line improvements in Crawford and Orange Counties	Phase Ia	67.1 acres	No new archaeological sites were located during the investigation. No further work was recommended.
Campbell et al. 2017	Proposed wildlife openings on HNF properties in Crawford, Orange, and Perry Counties	Phase Ia	311.0 acres	A total of 25 previously unrecorded archaeological sites were located during the investigation. Three of the documented archaeological sites (12Cr753, 12Cr755, and 12Cr756) are situated within the current project's records search radius. Site 12Cr756, a farmstead, was considered potentially eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, and additional work or avoidance was recommended.
Doyle 2018	Slide repair corrections along SR 62 in Crawford County	Phase Ia	1.2 acres	No new archaeological sites were located during the investigation. No further work was recommended.
Dickerson 2020	Proposed slide correction in Crawford County	Phase Ia	1.3 acres	No new archaeological sites were located during the investigation. No further work was recommended.

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37 over a Branch of the Little Blue River, North of Sulphur, Crawford County, Indiana. Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

Robertson, C.A.

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Shah Lomas, Monica, and Chip Perkins

2014 *Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of 32 Tell City Wildlife Openings Tracts and Five Access Roads in the Hoosier National Forest, Perry, Crawford, and Orange Counties, Indiana*. American Resources Group, Ltd., Carbondale, Illinois.

Soil Survey Staff

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Stafford, C. Russell

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1970 Beechwood, Indiana-Kentucky, 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangle. United States Department of the Interior, Washington DC.

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Minor Projects PA Project Submittal and Assessment Form

SECTION 1

Submittal of this form is only required for projects where Category B applies. Projects qualifying under Category A do not require submittal of this form. SECTION 2 (for Conditions of Category B.1 for curb/sidewalk) or SECTION 3 (for Conditions of Category B.9 for drainage structures) may be required as determined by INDOT-Cultural Resources Office (INDOT-CRO) review. INDOT-CRO will notify applicant if the Minor Projects PA does not apply.

Part I: Project Information-Completed by Applicant (Consultant/PM/Project Sponsor/INDOT District Staff)*

**A qualified professional historian (QP) is not required to complete Part I INDOT-Cultural Resources Office (INDOT-CRO) staff will be responsible for completion of Part II.*

Original Submission Date: June 16, 2023 **Amended Submission Date*:**

**Consult with INDOT-CRO to determine whether an amendment is required. For revisions/updates to original form, please detail in applicable sections below. Please use red font to distinguish the revisions/updates.*

Submitted By (Provide Name and Firm/Organization): Hannah Blad, Lochmueller Group

Project Designation Number: 1900291 & 2001057

Route Number: State Road (SR) 237

Feature crossed (if applicable):

City/Township: Union Township **County:** Crawford

Project Description:*

**Provide a full project description—include the same level of specificity and detail as expected in the NEPA document—in order to ensure a timely review by INDOT-CRO staff. For bridge and culvert projects, include specific details on the rehab or replacement including potential changes to width, height and materials. Be sure to include the specific elements listed below as applicable.*

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with funding from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), proposes to proceed with a slide correction and small structure project on SR 237 in Crawford County (Des. Nos. 1900291 & 2001057).

The proposed slide correction, Des. No. 1900291, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.35 mile south of the I-64 interchange in Crawford County. The proposed small structure work, Des. No. 2001057, is located on SR 237, approximately 0.57 mile south of the I-64/ SR 237 junction in Crawford County. Specifically, the project is located in Sections 24 and 25, Township 3 S, Range 1 W in Union Township as depicted on the Beechwood U.S. Geological Survey 1:24,000 scale quadrangle. Adjacent land use consists of mature forests, agricultural fields, and scattered residences.

Within the project area, SR 237 is functionally classified as a rural major collector. The typical cross section consists of two 11-foot travel lanes (one lane in each direction). No shoulder or median are present. An existing 15-inch culvert is present near the southern terminus of the project area.

The need for this project is due to a shallow downslope slide occurring along the east side of SR 237, causing existing roadway pavement and roadside embankment to deteriorate and fail. The pavement failure is occurring only in the northbound lane of the existing road, and visible scarps are present along

Minor Projects PA Project Submittal and Assessment Form

the roadway. Additionally, the existing 15-inch culvert at the southern end of the project area is in poor condition with deteriorating joints and a leaning outlet headwall.

The purpose of the project is to repair the slide and culvert, improve mobility, and increase safety for the traveling public along this section of SR 237.

The proposed project includes the construction of a riprap buttress. A section of the riprap buttress will be steepened to a 2.8:1 slope to limit the extent of the riprap away from the roadway. The existing roadway will be patched and resurfaced. A two- to four-foot shoulder will be constructed on the east side of SR 237. The 15-inch culvert at the southern terminus of the project area will be replaced using open cut installation and include headwalls at both ends of the culvert. The pavement will be resurfaced at the culvert location. Riprap will be installed at the outlet of the structure. This project will require 0.66 acre of tree clearing. This project is anticipated to require approximately 0.85 acre of new permanent right-of-way (ROW) and 0.22 acre of ROW reacquisition. A portion of the ROW, 0.05 acre of reacquisition, will be acquired as a part of an adjacent project (Des. No. 1900294).

The proposed maintenance of traffic (MOT) includes road closure with an official detour.

Construction is anticipated to begin in Spring/Summer 2024.

If the project includes any curb, curb ramp, or sidewalk work, please specify the location(s) of such work:

For bridge or small structure projects, please list feature crossed, structure number, NBI number, and structure type:

Feature Crossed: SR 237

Structure Number: CLV 237-013-028.92

Structure Type: reinforced concrete pipe 15"

For bridge projects, is the bridge included in INDOT's Historic Bridge Inventory (<https://www.in.gov/indot/2531.htm>)?

Yes No

If yes, did the inventory determine the bridge eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places? Please provide page # of entry in Historic Bridge Inventory.

Yes No

Inventory Page # _____

Will there be right-of-way acquisition as part of this project?

Yes No

If yes was checked above, please check all that apply:

Permanent Temporary Reacquisition

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If applicable, identify right-of-way acquisition locations in text below and in attached mapping. Please specify how much (both temporary and permanent) and indicate what activities are included in the proposed right-of-way:

0.85 acre of new permanent right-of-way on the east side of the road

- Within the permanent right-of-way these activities will occur: construction of a riprap buttress.

0.22 acre of right-of-way reacquisition

- 0.17 acre on the north side of the project area, on the east side of the road
- 0.01 acre on the south side of the project area, on the west side of the road
- 0.04 acre on the south side of the project area, on the east side of the road
- Within the reacquisition right-of-way these activities will occur: shoulder reconstruction, and riprap placement.

Is there *any* potential for additional temporary right-of-way to be needed later for purposes such as access, staging, etc.?

Yes No

Archaeology (check one):

All proposed activities are presumed to occur in previously disturbed soils*

**INDOT-CRO will notify you if project area includes undisturbed soils and requires an archaeological reconnaissance.*

Project takes place in undisturbed soils and the archaeology report is included in submission or will be forthcoming*

** If an archaeology report is required, the Minor Projects PA Form will not be finalized until the report is reviewed and approved by INDOT-CRO. For INDOT-sponsored projects, INDOT-CRO may be able to complete the archaeological investigation. If you would like to request that INDOT-CRO complete an archaeological investigation, please contact the INDOT-CRO archaeology team lead. See CRM Pt. 1 Ch. 3 for current contact information.*

Please specify all applicable categories and condition(s) (highlight applicable conditions in yellow)*:

**Include full category text, including any conditions. INDOT-CRO will finalize categories upon their review.*

B-3. Construction of added travel, turning, or auxiliary lanes (e.g., bicycle, truck climbing, acceleration and deceleration lanes) and shoulder widening under the following conditions [BOTH Condition A, which pertains to Archaeological Resources, and Condition B, which pertains to Above-Ground Resources, must be satisfied]:

Condition A (Archaeological Resources)

One of the two conditions listed below must be met (EITHER Condition i or Condition ii must be satisfied):

i. Work occurs in previously disturbed soils; OR

ii. Work occurs in undisturbed soils and an archaeological investigation conducted by the applicant and reviewed by INDOT Cultural Resources Office determines that no National Register-listed or potentially National Register-eligible archaeological resources are present within the project area. If the archaeological investigation locates National Register-listed or potentially National Register-eligible archaeological resources, then full Section 106 review will be required. Copies of any archaeological reports prepared

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for the project will be provided to the DHPA and any archaeological site form information will be entered directly into the SHAARD by the applicant. The archaeological reports will also be available for viewing (by Tribes only) on INSCOPE.

Condition B (Above-Ground Resources)

Work does not occur adjacent to or within a National Register-listed or National Register-eligible district or individual above-ground resource.

- B-9. Installation, replacement, repair, lining, or extension of culverts and other drainage structures under the conditions listed below [*BOTH Condition A, which pertains to Archaeological Resources, and Condition B, which pertains to Above-Ground Resources, must be satisfied*]:

Condition A (Archaeological Resources)

One of the two conditions listed below must be met (*EITHER Condition i or Condition ii must be satisfied*):

- i. Work occurs in previously disturbed soils; *OR*
- ii. Work occurs in undisturbed soils and an archaeological investigation conducted by the applicant and reviewed by INDOT Cultural Resources Office determines that no National Register-listed or potentially National Register-eligible archaeological resources are present within the project area. If the archaeological investigation locates National Register-listed or potentially National Register-eligible archaeological resources, then full Section 106 review will be required. Copies of any archaeological reports prepared for the project will be provided to the DHPA and any archaeological site form information will be entered directly into the SHAARD by the applicant. The archaeological reports will also be available for viewing (by Tribes only) on INSCOPE.

Condition B (Above-Ground Resources)

One of the conditions below must be met (*EITHER Condition i or Condition ii must be satisfied*):

- i. Work does not involve installation of a new culvert and other drainage structure, and there are no impacts to unusual features, including but not limited to historic brick or stone sidewalks, curbs or curb ramps, stepped or elevated sidewalks and retaining walls, under one of the following conditions (*Condition a, Condition b, or Condition c must be satisfied*):
 - a. The structure exhibits no wood, stone, or brick structures or parts therein; *OR*
 - b. The structure exhibits only modern wood, stone, or brick structures or parts therein; *OR*
 - c. The structure exhibits non-modern wood, stone, or brick structures or parts therein and the following conditions are met (*BOTH Condition 1 AND Condition 2 must be met*):
 1. Work does not occur adjacent to or within a National Register-listed or National Register-eligible district or individual above-ground resource; *AND*
 2. The structure lacks sufficient integrity and/or a context that suggests it might have engineering or historical significance. Under this condition, a qualified professional (meeting the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualification standards [48 Federal Register (FR) 44716]) must prepare an analysis and justification that the structure lacks sufficient integrity and/or

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a context that suggests it might have engineering or historical significance. This documentation must be reviewed and approved by INDOT Cultural Resources Office.

- ii. Work involves the installation of a new culvert and other drainage structures *AND/OR* there may be impacts to unusual features, including historic brick or stone sidewalks, curbs or curb ramps, stepped or elevated sidewalks and retaining walls, under the following conditions (*BOTH Condition a and Condition b must be satisfied*):
 - a. Work does not occur adjacent to or within a National Register-listed or National Register-eligible district or individual above-ground resource; *AND*
 - b. The subject structure exhibits one of the characteristics described below (Condition 1, Condition 2 or Condition 3 must be satisfied).
 - 1. The structure exhibits no wood, stone, or brick structures or parts therein; *OR*
 - 2. The structure exhibits only modern wood, stone, or brick structures or parts therein; *OR*
 - 3. The structure exhibits non-modern wood, stone, or brick structures or parts therein but lacks sufficient integrity and/or a context that suggests it might have engineering or historical significance. Under this condition, a qualified professional (meeting the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualification standards [48 Federal Register (FR) 44716]) must prepare an analysis and justification that the structure lacks sufficient integrity and/or a context that suggests it might have engineering or historical significance. This documentation must be reviewed and approved by INDOT Cultural Resources Office.

- B-10. Slide corrections, slope repairs, and other erosion control measures, in undisturbed soils under the conditions listed below [*BOTH Condition A, which pertains to Archaeological Resources, and Condition B, which pertains to Above-Ground Resources, must be satisfied*]:

Condition A (Archaeological Resources)

An archaeological investigation conducted by the applicant and reviewed by INDOT Cultural Resources Office determines that no National Register-listed or potentially National Register-eligible archaeological resources are present within the project area. If the archaeological investigation locates National Register listed or potentially National Register eligible archaeological resources, then full Section 106 review will be required. Copies of any reports will be provided to the DHPA and any archaeological site form information will be entered directly into the SHAARD by the applicant. The archaeological reports will also be available for viewing (by Tribes only) on INSCOPE.

Condition B (Above-Ground Resources)

Work does not occur adjacent to or within a National Register-listed or National Register-eligible district or individual above-ground resource.

Check if SECTION 2: Minor Projects PA Category B-1, Condition B-ii Submission is included

Check if SECTION 3: Minor Projects PA Category B-9, Condition B-i-c-2 or B-ii-b-3 Submission is included

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Part II: Completed by INDOT-CRO

Amendments will be shown in red font.

Information reviewed (please check all that apply):

General project location map USGS map Aerial photograph Soil survey data

General project area photos Archaeology Reports Historic Property Reports

Indiana Historic Buildings, Bridges, and Cemeteries Map/Interim Report

Bridge inspection information/BIAS Historic Bridge Inventory Database

SHAARD SHAARD GIS Streetview Imagery County GIS Data/Property Cards

Other (please specify): *SR 37 Field Visit Meeting Notes, 3-12-31 (Des. No. 1900291; 1900294; 2001057)”; “Des. No. 1900291 & 2001057, Updated Waters Report, 4-21-23,” (Putzier, Lochmueller Group); Bridge and Drainage Assets Viewer database; Project information, photos, and maps provided by Lochmueller Group, dated April 14, 2023, and June 16, 2023, on file at INDOT- CRO.*

Curran, Michael J. and Andrew V. Martin
2023 A Phase Ia Archaeological Field Reconnaissance for the Proposed SR 237 Slide Correction Located 0.35 Miles South of the I-64/SR 237 Interchange, and the Proposed Small Structures and Drains Construction Located 0.57 Miles South of the I-64/SR 237 Interchange, in Crawford County, Indiana (INDOT Des. Nos. 1900291 and 2001057). Document on file at INDOT-CRO.

Are there any commitments associated with this project? If yes, please explain and include in the Additional Comments Section below. yes no

Does the project result in a de minimis impact to a Section 4(f) protected historic resource? If yes, please explain in the Additional Comments Section below. yes no

Additional Comments:

Above-ground Resources

An INDOT-CRO historian who meets the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualification Standards as per 36 CFR Part 61 first performed a desktop review, checking the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures (State Register) and National Register of Historic Places (National Register) lists for Crawford County. No listed resources are present within 0.10 mile of the project area, a distance that would serve as an adequate area of potential effects (APE) given the scope of the project and the surrounding terrain.

The Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory (IHSSI) and National Register information for Crawford County are available in the Indiana State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD) and the Indiana Historic Buildings, Bridges, and Cemeteries Map (IHBBCM). All sites were reviewed through the IHBBCM, which contains the most recently updated SHAARD information. No IHSSI-surveyed resources are recorded within 0.10 mile of the project.

According to the IHSSI rating system, generally properties rated "contributing" do not possess the level of historical or architectural significance necessary to be considered individually National Register eligible, although they would contribute to a historic district. If they retain material integrity, properties rated “notable” might possess the necessary level of significance after further research. Properties rated “outstanding” usually possess the necessary level of significance to be considered National Register eligible if they retain material integrity. Historic districts identified in the IHSSI are usually considered eligible for the National Register.

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Land surrounding the project area is rural with dense woods lining the SR 237 roadway as it curves through the surrounding hilly terrain. The wooded hills serve to limit views of the project area. Agricultural fields and scattered residences are also present, with most residences set back at some distance from the SR 237 roadway. Views of the project location from these resources are obscured by the area's heavy woods.

One (1) highly altered c.-1946 bungalow (part of a former farm that included several outbuildings now in various states of deterioration) is the only above-ground resource within 0.10 mile of the project area that is--or that will be--50 years old or older by the time of the project's proposed 2024 letting. Due to a combined lack of material integrity and historic significance, the house/property are not considered individually eligible to the National Register.

The subject structure (CV 237-013-028.920) was not included in BIAS/ITAMS due to its small diameter (those with diameters of less than 4 feet are not included in those database records). The structure is a 15-inch diameter concrete culvert; its year of construction is not known. The above-referenced waters report for the project recorded that the pipe was full of debris; no references were made in the report to any wood, stone, or brick structures or parts therein.

The report does include a photo showing that stones have been piled on top of CV 237-013-028.920's west-facing outlet. These stones are not physically part of the structure, having likely been placed there at some point by an adjacent landowner as an erosion-prevention measure. The stones are modern. In addition to its lack of non-modern wood, stone or brick components, there is no evidence to suggest that the subject structure possesses historical or engineering significance.

Based on the available information, as summarized above, no above-ground concerns exist as long as the project scope does not change.

Archaeological Resources

An INDOT-CRO archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards as per 36 CFR Part 61 reviewed the Phase Ia field reconnaissance survey report completed for the project by Cultural Resources Analysts (Curran and Martin 2023). No archaeological sites were previously recorded within or adjacent to the project area.

A 1.1-hectare (2.7-acre) survey area was investigated via a combination of shovel probing ($n=9$) and visual inspection of obviously disturbed areas. No archaeological resources were documented as a result of the survey and no additional investigation is recommended (Curran and Martin 2023). Therefore, there are no archaeological concerns provided that the project scope does not change.

Accidental Discovery: If any archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earth moving activities, construction within 100 feet of the discovery will be stopped, and INDOT-CRO and the Division of Natural Resources-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DNR-DHPA) will be notified immediately.

INDOT-CRO staff reviewer(s): Susan Branigin and Dawn Alexander

INDOT Approval Date: 7/25/2023

Amendment Approval Date (if applicable):

****Be sure to attach this form to the National Environmental Policy Act documentation for this project. Also, the NEPA documentation shall reference and include the description of the specific stipulation in the PA that qualifies the project as exempt from further Section 106 review.*