May 3, 2018

Ms. Julia Camp

Wildlife Biologist

Coconino National Forest, Flagstaff Ranger District

5075 North Highway 89

***Example Transmittal Letter for “No Effect” BE to Forest Service***

*\*Always use current ADOT letterhead\**

Flagstaff, AZ 86004-2852

Subject: Biological Evaluation for Parks TI – Riordan Bridge

 NH 040-C(218)T; 040 CN 179 H8795 01C

Dear Ms. Camp:

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), in association with the Federal Highway Administration is planning to perform a pavement preservation project along Interstate 40 (I‐40) between milepost (MP) 179.00 and MP 191.00 approximately 4 miles west of the city of Flagstaff, Coconino County, Arizona. A portion of the project would occur within existing ADOT easement adjacent to lands managed by the Coconino National Forest. All work will be conducted within the existing easement and no new easement will be required.

A Biological Evaluation (BE) was completed for the project, and a copy is enclosed for your file. The BE includes a project description and a determination that the project will have “*no effect*” to any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species. If additional information is needed, please contact me by phone at 602.712.6819, by e-mail at JFife@azdot.gov, or in writing at the address below. In order for the project to remain on schedule, please provide any comments or requests for more information by ***Month xx, 20xx***. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Joshua Fife

Biology Team Lead

ADOT Environmental Planning

Enclosure

ecc: *ADOT Environmental Planner (insert name and organization)*

 *District Ranger*

 *Forest Biologist (if appropriate)*

 *Forest Engineer (if applicable)*

 *Consultant Planner/Biologist*

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by ADOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated January 4, 2021 and executed by FHWA and ADOT.*

May 3, 2018

Mr. Craig Woods

Globe District Wildlife Biologist

Tonto National Forest

7680 S. Six Shooter Canyon Rd.

***Example Transmittal Letter for “May Affect” BE to Forest Service***

*\*Always use current ADOT letterhead\**

Globe, AZ 85501

Subject: Biological Evaluation for Pinto Creek Bridge

 STP EB-060-D(207)S; 060 GI 238 H8243 01C

Dear Mr. Woods:

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is planning to replace the Pinto Creek Bridge (Structure #0351) with a new structure north of, and parallel to, the current structure. The bridge is located along US Highway 60 (US 60), at milepost (MP) 238.25, approximately 12 miles east of the Town of Superior, in Gila County, Arizona. However, the project limits would extend from MP 237.54 to MP 238.63 to accommodate for realignment of US 60 adjacent to the new bridge, staging, stockpiling and waste site locations. The project would occur within and adjacent to existing ADOT easement through Tonto National Forest (TNF) lands. Installation of the new bridge would require approximately 3.57 acres of new ADOT easement and 27.53 acres of temporary construction easements from the TNF.

A Biological Evaluation (BE) was completed for the project, and a copy is enclosed for your files. The BE includes a project description and determination that the project "*may affect, not likely to adversely affect*"the ocelot or its habitat; and *"may affect, likely to adversely affect”* the Arizona hedgehog cactus or its habitat. It was also determined that the project may impact individuals of the Western red bat, Bezy's night lizard, and Mogollon fleabane, but is not likely to result in a trend toward federal listing or loss of viability. Section 7 formal consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service would occur for federally listed species upon your approval of the BE.

If the document is satisfactory, please sign below and return this letter to me electronically or by mail. If additional information is needed, or have any comments, please contact me by phone at 602.622.9622, by e-mail at JFife@azdot.gov, or in writing at the address below. In order for the project to remain on schedule, please provide any comments or requests for more information by ***Month xx, 20xx***. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Joshua Fife

Biology Team Lead

ADOT Environmental Planning

Enclosure

ecc: *ADOT Environmental Planner*

 *District Ranger*

 *Forest Biologist (if appropriate)*

 *Forest Engineer (if applicable)*

 *Consultant Planner/Biologist*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Approval of Biological Evaluation |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  Reviewed by (Name) |  |  Date |
|  |  |  |
|  Signature |  |  |

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by ADOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated January 4, 2021 and executed by FHWA and ADOT.*

May 3, 2018

Ms. Lorraine Christian, Field Manager

Bureau of Land Management

Arizona Strip Field Office

***Example Transmittal Letter for “No Effect” BE to BLM***

*\*Always use current ADOT letterhead\**

345 East Riverside Drive

Saint George, UT 84790-6714

Subject: Biological Evaluation for Interstate 15 Bridges 3, 4 and 5

 NH-015-A(212)T; 015 MO 013 H8812

 BLM Serial Number(s): AZAR-0 301230

Dear Ms. Christian:

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), in association with Federal Highway Administration is planning to perform a pavement preservation project along Interstate 15 (I‐15) between milepost (MP) 0.00 and MP 10.00 in Mohave County, Arizona. The project is located within existing ADOT easement from the Bureau of Land Management. All work will be conducted within the existing easement and no new easement will be required.

A Biological Evaluation (BE) was completed for the project, and a copy is enclosed for your file. The BE includes a project description and a determination that the project will have “*no effect*” to any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species. If additional information is needed, please contact me by phone at 602.712.6819, by e-mail at JFife@azdot.gov, or in writing at the address below. In order for the project to remain on schedule, please provide any comments or requests for more information by ***Month xx, xxxx***. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Joshua Fife

Biology Team Lead

ADOT Environmental Planning

Enclosures: As noted

ecc: *ADOT Environmental Planner*

 *BLM Realty Specialist*

 *BLM Biologist (if applicable)*

 *Consultant Planner/Biologist*

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by ADOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated January 4, 2021 and executed by FHWA and ADOT.*

May 3, 2018

Ms. Lorraine Christian, Field Manager

Bureau of Land Management

Arizona Strip Field Office

***Example Transmittal Letter for “May Affect” BE to BLM***

*\*Always use current ADOT letterhead\**

345 East Riverside Drive

Saint George, UT 84790-6714

Subject: Biological Evaluation for Interstate 15 Bridges 3, 4 and 5

 NH-015-A(212)T; 015 MO 013 H8812 01C

 BLM Serial Number(s): AZAR-0 301230

Dear Ms. Christian:

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), in association with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is planning a bridge rehabilitation spot improvement project on Interstate 15 (I-15) in Mohave County, Arizona. The project area defined for this project is the ADOT easement on I-15 between Milepost (MP) 11.0 to MP 17.5.

A Biological Evaluation (BE) was completed for the project, and a copy is enclosed for your review. The BE includes a project description and a determination that the project "may affect but is not likely to adversely affect" the Virgin River chub and the woundfin, and “may affect but is not likely to adversely affect" critical habitat for the Virgin River chub or the woundfin. The project would have "no effect" to any other federally threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species. The BE also includes a determination that the project may impact individuals of flannelmouth sucker, Virgin spinedace, desert sucker, and speckled dace, but is not likely to result in a trend toward federal listing or loss of viability. Measures are included in the BE to avoid or minimize potential effects to the above mentioned fish species.

Because the project will utilize federal funds, the project is subject to Section 7 consultation. As lead federal agency for the purposes of Section 7 consultation, ADOT will be submitting the BE to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as part of informal consultation to request USFWS concurrence that the project is “not likely to adversely affect” the Virgin River chub or the woundfin.

If the document is satisfactory, please sign below and return this letter to me electronically or by mail. If you would like additional information, or have any comments, please feel free to contact me by phone at 602.622.9622, by e-mail at JFife@azdot.gov, or in writing at the address below.

In order for the project to remain on schedule, please provide any comments or requests for more information by ***Month xx, 20xx***. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Joshua Fife

Biology Team Lead

ADOT Environmental Planning

Enclosure

ecc: *ADOT Environmental Planner*

 *BLM Realty Specialist*

 *BLM Biologist (if applicable)*

 *Consultant Planner/ Biologist*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Approval of Biological Evaluation |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  Reviewed by (Name) |  |  Date |
|  |  |  |
|  Signature |  |  |

*The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried out by ADOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated January 4, 2021 and executed by FHWA and ADOT.*