



Arizona Department of Transportation
Categorical Exclusion (CE) Checklist
for Actions Approved Under
23 CFR 771.117(c) & (d)

Project Information:

Project Name: I-10, Bridges over the Gila River
ADOT Project Number: 010 PN 172 F0270 01C
Federal-Aid Number: 010-C(224)S
Estimated Project Construction Cost: \$110,000,000
Planning Requirements:
 STIP/Line Item
 ADOT Sub-program
CE Start Date: 4/28/2020

Construction Project Administration

ADOT CA Agency

Categorical Exclusion Approval for FMIS

2A - (c) Listed

2B - (d) Listed

2C - (d) Unlisted

Re-evaluation:



This project has been re-evaluated pursuant to 23 CFR 771.129 due to a change in the project scope, location, or termini or because of the need to evaluate new impacts not previously considered, or because five years have passed since the date of the CE Approval. The information on this form reflects all updates to the project information.

Location and Limits:

The project would occur on Interstate 10 (I-10) at the Gila River Bridges eastbound (EB) structure #1085 and westbound (WB) structure #1086 located at milepost (MP) 173.12. The project limits would extend between (MP) 172.00 and MP 174.50, approximately 9 miles northwest of Sacaton, Pinal County, Arizona. The project would occur within and adjacent to the existing ADOT easement through the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) lands.

Purpose and Description (scope of work):

The purpose of this project is to maintain the functionality of the bridges, extend their service life, and maintain the I-10 corridor. The scope of work would include:

- Conducting subsurface utility and other minor preconstruction excavation investigations prior to overall construction
- Constructing two new bridges within the median that would allow for three lanes in each direction and widened shoulders
- Constructing sedimentation basins and ancillary drainage improvements to contain first flush run-off from the new bridges
- Installing concrete-lined spillways that extend from each sedimentation basin to the Gila River
- Installing FMS conduit within the bridge median concrete barrier with connections on either side to the right-of-way (ROW) fencing
- Realigning the roadway approaches to connect two new bridges
- Removing the existing bridges and old roadway approaches
- Extending, removing/replacing or improving drainage structures (culverts)
- Installing erosion control measures, as necessary
- Improving guidebanks and embankments in Gila River to match new roadway vertical profile
- Removing and replacing guardrail

Purpose and Description (scope of work):

- Removing and replacing ROW fencing, as necessary
- Removing and replacing traffic signs and restriping the roadway including installing rumble strips
- Regrading, installing ditch and earthen berm, revegetating, and removing existing westbound pullout near MP 172.89
- Constructing temporary access roads into Gila River including installing excavating graded access roads underneath the bridges to allow for passage of construction vehicles
- Using local dirt road east of I-10 from Nelson Rd for access into Gila River – no improvements
- Staging and stockpiling within the project limits within ADOT's easement including median area or within TCEs adjacent to and southwest of the bridges
- Seeding disturbed areas with plant native to the project vicinity

No new permanent easement is anticipated; however, temporary construction easements (TCEs) are necessary for access and construction activities. The TCE requirements will be along the bridge area during construction and within GRIC lands. No allotted lands are included. In addition, a right-of-entry permit will be completed by ADOT to allow for access along existing dirt roads with no improvements.

Type of CE - Choose one from (c) or (d) or Appendix A drop-down lists:

(c) - list:

(d) - list: (d)(13) Actions described in paragraphs (c)(26), (c)(27) and (c)(28) of this section that do not meet the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section

 (c)(1) Non-Construction Project:

If the project qualifies for a (c)(1) CE then no Technical Sections review is required and the CE is complete. Proceed to NEPA Certification and Determination and Categorical Exclusion Approval.

Environmental Review Section

Each category below will be reviewed and a determination from a drop-down menu will be selected for each. The checkbox will indicate review has been completed and the appropriate documentation placed in the Project File as applicable.

Air Quality – Clean Air Act
 Transportation conformity is not applicable
Noise – 23 CFR 772
 This project is not a Type I project as defined in 23 CFR 772.5
Biological Resources – Endangered Species Act
 Project Determination: No Effect under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act
Cultural Resources – Section 106
 Section 106 Determination: Adverse Effect

Section 4(f)
 No Section 4(f) use
Section 404 – Clean Water Act
 Nationwide Permit (Notifying) applied
Section 401 – Clean Water Act
 Tribal Approved Individual Water Quality Certification
Hazardous Materials
 A Preliminary Initial Site Assessment (PISA) has been completed and documented in the project file
Environmental Justice
 This project has no residential or non-residential displacements, no impactful access changes and/or impactful detours and no potential Environmental Justice impacts
Public Involvement
 Public involvement for the project has been conducted consistent with 23 CFR 771.111
Other Considerations
 Other potential environmental impacts such as Prime and Unique Farmlands, Sole Source Aquifers, Wild and Scenic Rivers, visual resources, etc. have been considered if needed. Additional documentation as applicable is contained in the Project File.

Briefly cite *if* there are other applicable considerations and reference the appropriate file documentation:

A ROW-only CE was approved for an easement on Gila River Indian Community Tribal lands in advance of the project NEPA approval. These acquisitions were considered minor in nature and involved no significant environmental or environmental justice impacts. The acquisitions were carried out in compliance with 23 CFR 710.501(e). The acquisitions involved no Section 4(f) properties and were acquired in accordance with provisions of the Uniform Act. The acquisitions have not influenced the decision to construct the project or the consideration of any alternatives under applicable law.

The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to carry out the commitments identified in the Section 106 process was approved by the GRIC Tribal Council on 6/21. There is still a consultation period to conclude with consulting parties however no further signatures on the MOA are expected or required to execute the agreement.

Complete this section only for CEs determined under 23 CFR 771.117(c)(26), (c)(27) and (c)(28) for evaluation of the constraints under 23 CFR 771.117(e):

*If the answer to all questions 1 through 11 below is **No** then the project can be approved as a (c)(26), (c)(27) or (c)(28) CE.*

*If the answer to any question 1 through 11 for a project listed under (c)(26), (c)(27) or (c)(28) is **Yes** then the project exceeds the constraints listed under 23 CFR 771.117(e) and must be processed under (d)(13). Additional information regarding any constraint exceeded is included below.*

Constraints:	Yes	No
1. Does the project involve the permanent acquisition of more than a minor amount of right-of-way?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
2. Does the project involve any residential or non-residential displacements?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
3. Does the project require a bridge permit from the U.S. Coast Guard?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
4. Does the project require an Individual Permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
5. Does the project have a finding of "Adverse Effect" on historic properties protected by Section 106 of the NHPA by FHWA?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Does the project involve the use of a resource protected under Section 4(f) except for actions resulting in de minimis impacts?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
7. Does the project have a finding of "may affect, likely to adversely affect" threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
8. Does the project involve construction of temporary access, or the closure of an existing road, bridge, or ramp, that would result in major traffic disruptions?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
9. Does the project involve a change in access control on a controlled access highway?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
10. Does the project involve a floodplain encroachment for other than functionally dependent uses (e.g. bridges, wetlands) or actions that facilitate open space use (e.g. recreational trails, bicycle and pedestrian paths)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
11. Does the project involve construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a river component designated or proposed for inclusion in the National System of Wild and Scenic Rivers?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

23 CFR 771.117(e) – Constraints Exceeded (If any "Yes" on Checklist)

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA): Adverse Effect

Ground disturbance at eleven (11) archaeological sites that overlap with two TCPs are unavoidable. The 11 sites will go through data recovery. ADOT stipulating appropriate mitigation measures be developed in support of the project and provided the consulting parties with a MOA outlining steps necessary to resolve adverse effects to historic properties for review and comment.

Certification and Determination by ADOT

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The State has determined that this project has no significant impact(s) on the environment and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement under NEPA. The action complies with NEPA requirements relating to connected actions and segmentation [23 CFR 771.111(f)]. The State has been assigned, and hereby certifies that it has carried out, the responsibility to make this determination pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 326 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated January 4, 2021, executed between FHWA and the State.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The State has determined that this project has no significant impact(s) on the environment and that there are no unusual circumstances as described in 23 CFR 771.117(b). As such, the project is categorically excluded from the requirements to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement under NEPA. The action complies with NEPA requirements relating to connected actions and segmentation [23 CFR 771.111(f)]. 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. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated April 16, 2019 and executed by FHWA and ADOT.

Environmental Commitments

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Environmental commitments are included with this project and will be incorporated into the project plans, specifications and estimates as required.
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Categorical Exclusion Approval

<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Tatum Wertin</i> B3577ED2C114425...</p> <p>6/23/2023</p> <p>Prepared By: Tatum Wertin Environmental Planner</p>	<p>DocuSigned by: <i>Paul O'Brien</i> 69D3A817999345F...</p> <p>6/23/2023</p> <p>Approved By: Paul O'Brien, PE Administrator, Environmental Planning</p>
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