APPENDIX G. RESOURCE AGENCY COORDINATION ROUND II



KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40622 WWW.KENTUCKY.GOV

ERNIE FLETCHER GOVERNOR

MAXWELL C. BAILEY SECRETARY

May 3, 2004

«Mailing_Title» «First_Name» «Last_Name» «Suffix»

«Title»

«Organization»

«Address1»

«Address2»

«City», «State» «Zip»

Dear «Letter_Title» «Last Name»:

SUBJECT:

Planning Study

Jackson County

US 421, Alternatives Study - Reconstruction from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the

Jackson-Rockcastle County line

Item No. 11-113.00

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is requesting your agency's input and comments on alternatives that are being considered for a proposed highway project in Jackson County, Kentucky.

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has assembled a study team to evaluate alternatives for the possible reconstruction of US 421 in Jackson County from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 near Bighill in Rockcastle County. The study is currently in the alternatives evaluation stage.

«Mailing_Title» «First_Name» «Last_Name» «Suffix» Page 2 May 3, 2004

In November 2003, we requested your assistance in the early identification of issues and concerns associated with the US 421 project. Using that information, in addition to information received from public officials, project stakeholders, and the public, we have identified alternatives for the proposed improvement. We believe that the early identification of issues or concerns associated with these alternatives can help us select the best alternative to avoid or minimize impacts before the project begins final design. The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) and Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) encourage early coordination between government agencies in order to streamline environmental reviews during the project development process. The Federal Highway Administration is partnering with us in these efforts. With this cooperation in mind, we are asking for you to notify us of specific issues or concerns of your agency relative to the alternatives being considered to help us more accurately assess the merits of each alternative.

We have enclosed a brochure with the following project information for your review and comment:

- Preliminary Statement of Study Purpose and Project Goals
- · List and Descriptions of Alternatives
- · Alternatives Comparison Matrix
- Project Location Maps showing Alternatives

Please note that this letter does not serve as a notice of intent to prepare an environmental document in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). However, we hope to identify issues now that could affect and streamline future phases of the project. We understand that you may not be able to provide extensive detail at this time within the time requested, but we would like to receive enough information to identify the general nature and relative magnitude of each issue or concern. More detailed information will be gathered in the next phase of project implementation. Currently, no future phases are funded.

Specifically, we wish to know how this project affects your organization and/or its areas of interest. We also would like to know if your organization is aware of any issues or problems that would be associated with any or all of the alternatives. Any input and/or insight you can provide concerning this proposed improvement would be welcomed.

We respectfully ask that you provide us with your comments by May 28, 2004, to ensure timely progress in this planning effort.

«Mailing_Title» «First_Name» «Last_Name» «Suffix» Page 3 May 3, 2004

We appreciate any input you can provide concerning this project. Please direct any comments, questions, or requests for additional information to Steve Ross of the Division of Planning at 502/564-7183 or at steve.ross@ky.gov. Please address all written correspondence to Annette Coffey, P.E., Director, Division of Planning, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, W5-05-01, 200 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY 40622.

Sincerely,

Annette Coffey, P.E.

Runte Coffee

Director

Division of Planning

ACRSR:NH

Enclosures

c: Jose Sepulveda (w/a)
Glenn Jilek (w/a)
David Whitworth (w/a)
Anthony Goodman (w/a)
Clay McKnight - CVADD
Carl Dixon - WSA
Jason Ward (w/a)
Joel Hoelcomb
Dean Croft
Jim Ball
Quentin Smith
Sandy Rudder
Greene Keith
George Best

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DIRECTOR OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY
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KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
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THE HONORABLE KENT CLARK JUDGE EXECUTIVE MADISON COUNTY COURTHOUSE 101 WEST MAIN STREET RICHMOND KY 40475

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MR JIMMY SINGLETON STATE HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR PO BOX 23 GRAY HAWK KY 40434

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MT VERNON KY 40456

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MS DEVONA HISEL NORTHERN JACKSON COUNTY 290 ASBILL ROAD MCKEE KY 40447 MS CLARE KAISER CHRISTIAN APPALACHIAN PROJECT PO BOX 70 MCKEE KY 40447

MS FAY NEELEY PO BOX 421 MCKEE KY 40447 MS MARY PURKEY ADMINISTRATOR JACKSON COUNTY EMPOWERMENT ZONE PO BOX 789 MCKEE KY 40447

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MR JIM HAYS 620 DORMITORY STREET LONDON KY 40741 MS LINDA TRUETT JACKSON COUNTY TRANSIT PO BOX 235 MCKEE KY 40447

SISTER MARY DORMADY ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH PO BOX 189 MCKEE KY 40447 MR MIKE BUCKLES DANIEL BOONE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL 420 RICHMOND ROAD MANCHESTER KY 40962

MR ROB WILLIAMS CHAIRMAN JACKSON COUNTY EMPOWERMENT ZONE PO BOX 789 MCKEE KY 40447 MR BILL GAY DIRECTOR DES PO BOX 682 MCKEE KY 40447 MR MICHAEL HAYES
KENTUCKY HIGHLANDS INVESTMENT CORPORTATION
PO BOX 1738
LONDON KY 40741

JACKSON CO EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SOUTH US 421 MCKEE KY 40447

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MS PEGGY WILSON PHOENIX PRODUCTS INC 359 RICE HILL RD MCKEE KY 40443

JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPT PO BOX 250 MCKEE KY 40447

MS JUDITH SCHMITT GENERAL MANAGER JC TEC INDUSTRIES 232 CARPENTER DRIVE ANNVILLE KY 40402

MR TERRY BREWER BREWER'S TRUSS CO PO BOX 37 SANDGAP KY 40481-0037

MR COLM MCARDLE SPECIALTY DEFENSE SYSTEMS PO BOX 187 MCKEE KY 40447-0187

A&P MACHINE & TOOL INC NORTHERN JACKSON CO INDUSTRIAL PARK 106 BETHFORD ROAD MCKEE KY 40447

MR TED COCHIS MID-SOUTH ELECTRICS INC PO BOX 400 ANNVILLE KY 40402-0400 MR GARY GABBARD GABBARD SIGN CO INC 181 MORRILL KERBY KNOB RD MCKEE KY 40447-9735

FLAT ROCK FURNITURE HIGHWAY 421 PO BOX 732 TYNER KY 40486

Alternatives Study *





From KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421, just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle County line.

Jackson Co. Six-Year Highway Plan, Item No. 11-113.00



The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) is undertaking a planning study to develop and evaluate alternatives for the possible reconstruction of US 421 from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee in Jackson County to the recently improved section of US 421 near Bighill in Rockcastle County, just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle County line.

Comments, concerns, suggestions, and insight from the general public and local officials are being sought, documented and considered throughout the planning process.

To date, this study has included (1) analysis of existing conditions (including transportation, environmental, geotechnical, and socioeconomic issues), (2) estimate of future traffic demand, and (3) identification and evaluation of four potential alternatives for the proposed project. These will be used to develop recommendations concerning the reconstruction of US 421.

No funds are available at this time for the design or construction of this project.















Alternatives Development

Four (4) preliminary improvement alternatives have been identified for the possible reconstruction of US 421, including:

- Alternative 1 The "no-build" option (see block on right)
- Alternative 2 Spot improvements (see map inside)
- ♦ Alternative 3 Reconstruction along the existing alignment (see map inside)
- Alternative 4 Reconstruction on and off the existing alignment (see map on back)

Further information can be found in this brochure. Each alternative has been evaluated based on expected traffic impacts, environmental issues, public and agency input, and cost estimates as shown in the table below. \$ 1 A



Alternative 1 is the No-Build Option. As shown in the Alternatives Comparison table below, with no changes to the route proposed, this alternative would have no adverse impacts on the environment, and no design, right-of-way, utility, or construction costs. As estimated using the Kentucky Statewide Traffic Model (KYSTM), it is expected that an average of 6190 vehicles per day (vpd) would use this portion of US 421 in the year 2030 with no improvements made. This alternative will not improve access, increase capacity, or enhance safety.

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1	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 9	Alternative 4	
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eappic		500 - 500 -			
Year 2030 Estimated Alexage Dally Traffic Volume (vpp)	6190	6190	6250	6250	
OST		70%	58 - 76		
Estmated Total Cost	30	24.7 Million	74.6 Million	752 - 78.7 Million	
Estimated Per Mile Cost	50	4 Million Per Mile	SMillion PerMile	S.2-S# Million Per Mile	
OSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS		00	.co		
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Underground Storage Tanks	e31	i	6	٥	
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Sever Line	-	7,340,000	02 miles	0.2 miles	
Steams	20	2.7 miles	3.2 miles	3.6-38 m fee	
Shelbyee Trace		0.8 miles	1.2 miles	0.4 miles	
Dan el Boone National Forest	40	2.7 acres	53 acres	вЗастев	

Cough, and and passible environmental expects valve with the options proposed for this attenditive in Albrid. Elever Pattern, and Sandoan



- Provide improved regional access along an improved US 421 route that will:
 - Support economic development initiatives in Jackson County by opening up this low-income area.
 - improve access to jobs, hospitals, services, shopping, and schools in Berea, Richmond, and Lexington.
- Melp alleviate public concerns about safety and travel time along the existing US 421 corridor by providing alternatives for improved roadway geometrics.

Address comments to:

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Station W5-05-01 200 Meio Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Steve Ross, P.E. Project Manager (502) 564-7183 Steve Rossiaky, gov

You may also look for project information at www.kytc.state.ky.us/lolanning/index2.aso

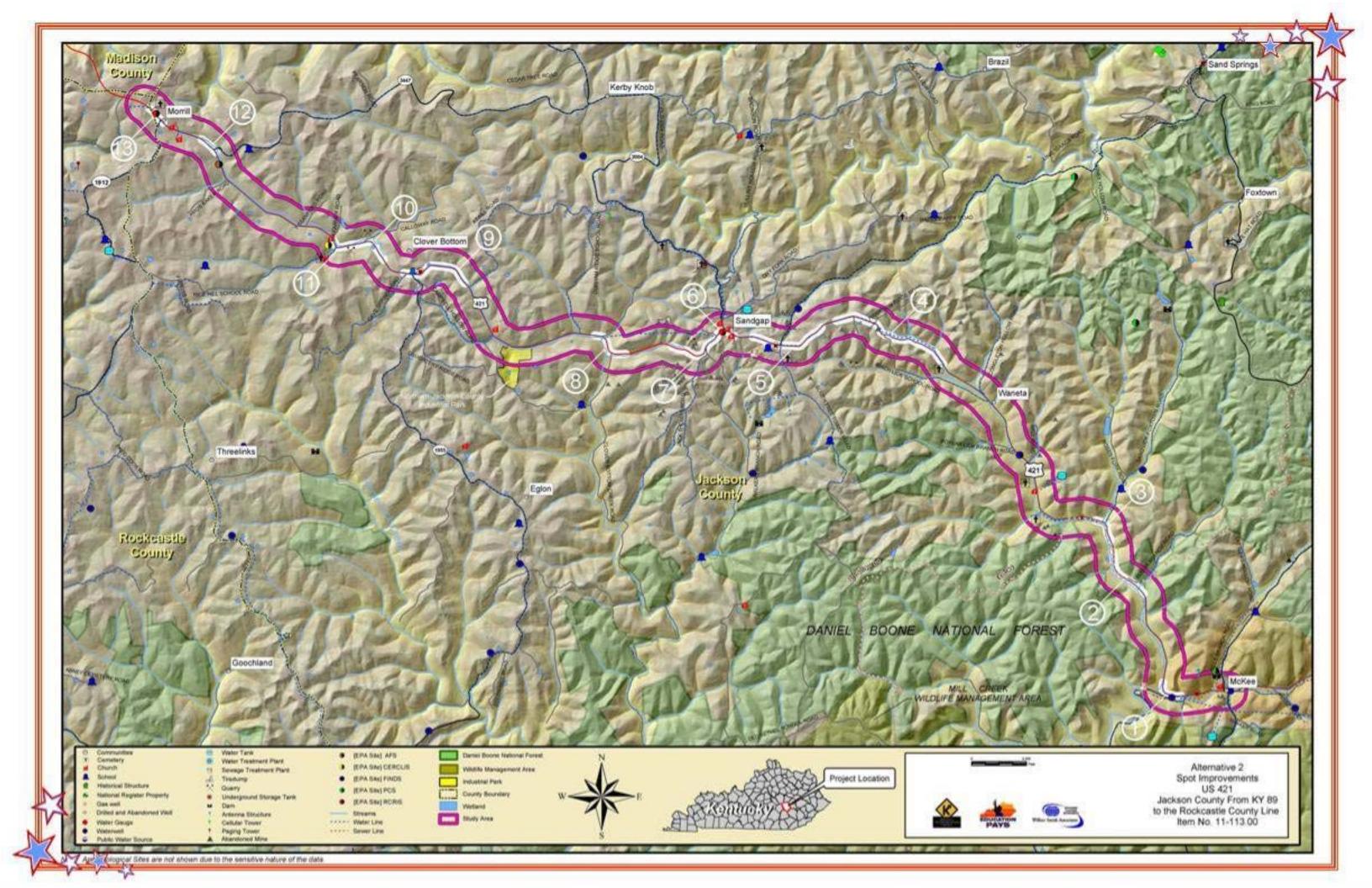


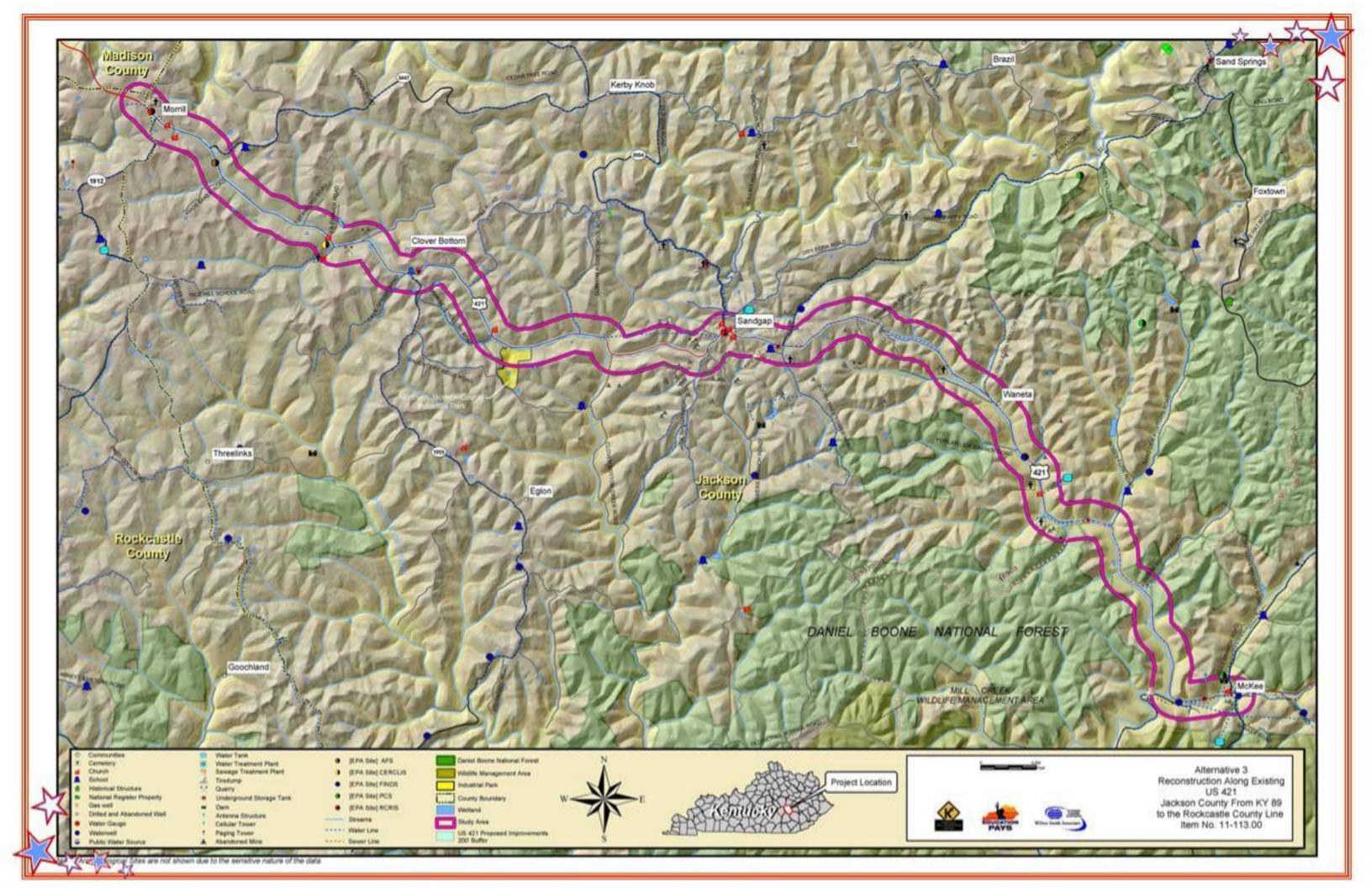


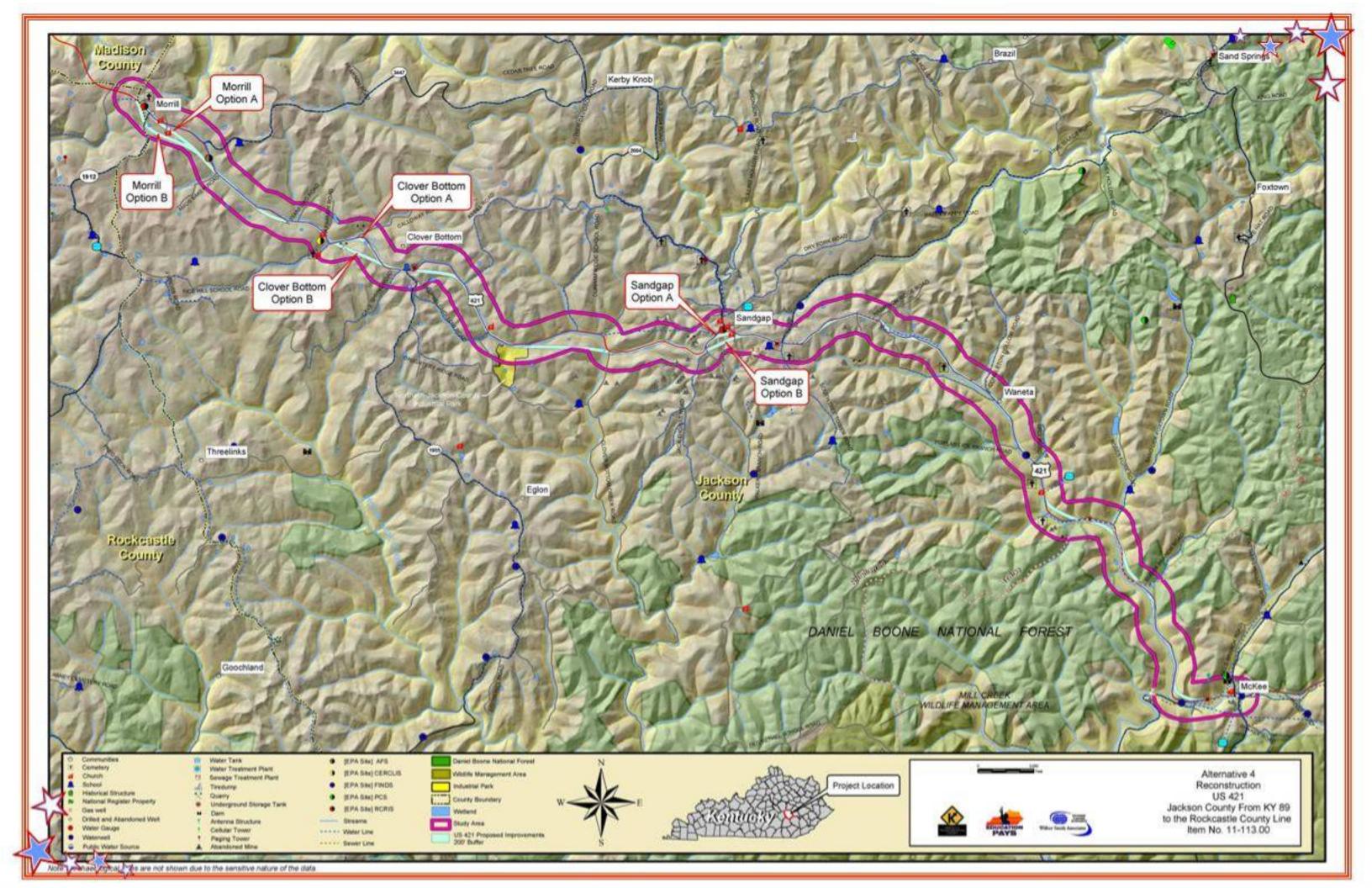
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^{*} A DATE - Australia Engage which and Augusty Information System State - C DATE as a facility, because Vision and August the August Information and through the tracking of events and advices related to facilies which generals, traceport, treat, store or dispose of hazardous visite.







Amanda Ratliff

From: Steve.Ross@ky.gov

Sent: Monday, June 07, 2004 10:35 AM

To: cddixon@wilbursmith.com

Cc: aratliff@wilbursmith.com; Jimmy.Wilson@ky.gov

Subject: FW: Reconstruction of Hwy 421

Carl,

Please include the following with our 2nd round resource agency coordination responses.

R. Steven Ross, P.E. KYTC - Division of Planning (502) 564-7183

-----Original Message-----

From: Gabbard Signs [mailto:mgabbard@prtcnet.org]

Sent: Monday, June 07, 2004 10:22 AM

To: Steve Ross

Subject: Reconstruction of Hwy 421

Mr. Ross, it is my opinion that *Alternative 4, Option B* is the appropriate way to improve Hwy 421. If we are to do anything to this road we should **do it right.**

Thank You, Garry Gabbard, Gabbard Sign Co., 181 Morrill Kerby Knob Rd., McKee, KY. 40447-9735. Phone 606-965-7672.

Tommy Slone

JACKSON COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE P.O. Box 175 McKee, Kentucky 40447 (606) 287-8562 • Fax (606) 287-7190

DIV OF PLANNING 2004 MAY 14 A 10: 02

May 12, 2004

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Div. of Planning, KY Trans. Cabinet W5-05-01 200 Mero Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Re: Planning Study of US 421 in Jackson County

Dear Ms. Coffey:

I am writing in response to your request for input on the US 421 planning study. I am pleased at the interest in this project; US 421 is vital to the health and wellbeing of our citizens and I recognize the importance of this project.

As for my input, I am not aware of any additional concerns or problems that have not already been addressed. After careful study and consideration, I prefer the alternative route # 4.

Again, thank you for your help in this important project. If I may be of further assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely.

Tommy Slone Jackson County Judge Executive

TS/dlh

Deligio of our officers are all differentialized first titry enfance of the project and pleased as the 4th rast in this project. Life 411 is yill 10 the nearly and 25 di-I am writing in response to your recession input on the US 401 planting along the

abore 1000 of sixs wild sub-state of contract and a filter and appreciations.

Cres was cone;

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

From:

Houlihan, John (KYTC)

Sent:

To:

Subject:

Friday, May 07, 2004 9:05 AM Ross, Steve (KYTC) Regarding Proposed Study of US 421

Mr. Ross, I have reviewed the above proposed study and have found no conflict with air navigation. However if the proposed construction requires equipment that exceeds 200 feet, a permit will have to be obtained from this office. If you have any questions let me know. Thank you.



DIV OF PLANNING

2004 JUN 10 A 10: 08
JAMES W. HOLSINGER, JR., M.D.
SECRETARY

CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS
275 EAST MAIN STREET, 5C-B
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40621-0001
(502) 564-6631
FAX (502) 564-2608
WWW.KENTUCKY.GOV

June 7, 2004

Annette Coffey, P. E., Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet W5-05-01, 200 Mero Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Re: Planning Study - Jackson County

US 421 Alternatives Study Item No. 11-113.00

Dear Ms. Coffey:

As requested in your May 3, 2004 letter, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services has reviewed the impact of the reconstruction of US 421 in Jackson County as it relates to the services of this agency. While the Cabinet does have a local office in the area, we do not anticipate a positive nor negative impact to our staff nor clients.

If you require any additional information, do not hesitate to contact me at 564-6631.

Sincerely,

Lisa B. Detherage, Branch Manager Operations Management Branch

usa B. Ketker age

Division for Policy and Financial Management

c: James W. Holsinger, Jr., M.D.



OFFICE TELEPHONE (502) 564-5126 FAX: (502) 564-5016 TTY: (502) 564-2075

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

CAPITOL ANNEX, SUITE 188

FRANKFORT, KY 40601

May 12, 2004

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E.
Director
Division of Planning
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
W5-05-01
200 Mero Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

RE:

Planning Study Jackson County

US 421, Alternatives Study - Reconstruction from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle County line. Item No. 11-113.00

Dear Ms. Coffey:

Please be advised that this agency has no specific concerns or issues about the above-noted project.

Yours truly,

Mark Farrow Chief of Staff



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

DEPARTMENT FOR NATURAL RESOURCES FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601 SUSAN C. BUSH COMMISSIONER

May 14, 2004

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, W5-05-01 200 Mero Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

RE: Planning Study, Jackson County

US 421, Alternatives Study – Reconstruction from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle

County line

Item No. 11-113.00

Dear Ms.Coffey:

Reference is made to your correspondence of May 3, 2004 regarding a pending Kentucky Transportation Cabinet study to evaluate several proposed alternatives for the projected reconstruction of US 421 in Jackson County from KY 89 at the northern limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 near Bighill in Rockcastle County. Department of Natural Resources personnel have reviewed the above referenced document and could not identify any specific issues or agency concerns with any of the proposed alternatives.

We thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comment on this matter. Please let us know if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Susan C. Bush, P.G.

Sum & Buk

Commissioner

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May 17, 2004

DIV OF PLANNING

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

COMMERCE CABINET
CAPITAL PLAZA TOWER

500 MERO STREET, 11TH FLOOR FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601-1974 PHONE (502) 564-2172 Fax (502) 564-9015 parks.ky.gov

W. JAMES HOST 2004 MAY 25 A IO: 24 SECRETARY COMMERCE CABINET

> GEORGE WARD COMMISSIONER DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E., Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet W5-05-01 200 Mero Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Re:

Planning Study Jackson County

US 421 Alternatives Study

Item No. 11-113.00

Dear Ms. Coffey:

The Department of Parks has reviewed your correspondence to me regarding the subject. The study will not directly impact any of our facilities. I would like to state in general that our Agency's mission is protecting the environment associated with our facilities and we are certainly concerned about environmental impacts for the entire Commonwealth.

I appreciate you seeking our Agency's comments on this project.

Sincerely:

Mr. George Ward, Commissioner

Kentucky Department of Parks

C: John Drake

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

From:

Greer, Daryl (KYTC)

Sent:

Thursday, May 13, 2004 3:44 PM

To:

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

Subject:

FW: Jackson County US 421 - 11-113.00

-----Original Message-----

From:

Broyles, Bill (KYTC-WSC)

Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2004 3:27 PM

Coffey, Annette (KYTC)

To: Cc:

Greer, Daryl (KYTC)

Subject:

FW: Jackson County US 421 - 11-113.00

-----Original Message-----

From:

Blevins, Mike L (KYTC-WSC)

Sent:

Thursday, May 13, 2004 3:14 PM

To:

Bill Broyles

Subject:

Jackson County US 421 - 11-113.00

Bill,

Please review and forward to Annette Coffey.

Thanks,

Michael Blevins

Listed below are some additional comments on the project:

 The Geotechnical Overview completed by QORE Property Sciences has outlined the critical issues on the project such as mining, quarries etc.

2. However, during the last week or so an embankment failure has occurred on a portion of the existing US 421 in the vicinity of Clover Bottom and Cave Spring Church. The failure at this time seems to be do to sinkholes. Personnel from the Branch visited the site this week and they stated that the area contained numerous sinkholes in the area, some big enough to fit a car in. The sinkholes are found in the Newman Limestone which outcrop along the South Fork of Station Camp Creek between Morrill and Clover Bottom. (Refer to Geologic Quad. map provided in QORE's Geotechnical Overview Report for location of Newman Limestone in this area).

The Branch recommendations performing a Geophysical investigation during the Design Phase (as part of the Geotechnical Investigation) along any NEW

Route chosen through this area. An additional \$50,000.00 should be added in Design money to include the Geophysical Investigation.

If there are any questions, please advise.



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF TRAVEL

COMMERCE CABINET
CAPITAL PLAZA TOWER
500 MERO STREET, 22ND FLOOR
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601-1968
PHONE (502) 564-4930 FAX (502) 564-5695
www.kentuckytourism.com

W. JAMES HOST SECRETARY COMMERCE CABINET

RANDALL L. FIVEASH
COMMISSIONER
DEPARTMENT OF TRAVEL

June 22, 2004

Annette Coffee, P.E.
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Division of Planning
W5-05-01
200 Mero Street
Frankfort, Kentucky

Subject: Jackson County

Restructuring Alternatives for US 421

Dear Ms. Coffee,

Thank you for providing the opportunity to review and comment upon the alternatives being considered for the restructuring of US 421 in Jackson County

I have reviewed the material provided by your office relating to this project. The mapping of the alternative routes provided does not appear to adversely affect tourism related activities in the area.

I do ask that the Kentucky Historical Society, Kentucky Heritage Council and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife be contacted, if this has not already occurred, to insure properties of interest to these agencies are not impacted in a negative manner. As I am sure you understand, this department works closely with these agencies in that properties of interest to them also impact the travel industry.

Your efforts to improve the Kentucky roadways are greatly appreciated. Providing safe and pleasant diving experiences will assist in our efforts to grow the tourism industry within the Commonwealth.

If I may be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact my office. I can be reached at 564-4930.

Sincerely,

Randall L. Fiveash Commissioner



KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40622 WWW.KENTUCKY.GOV

MAXWELL C. BAILEY SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Annette Coffey

Director

Division of Planning

FROM:

Greg Howard 6# 5-18-04

Director/Commissioner

Division/Department of Vehicle Enforcement

DATE:

May 18, 2004

SUBJECT:

Planning Study for Jackson County/US 421

I am in receipt of your request for our agency's comments in regards to a planning in Jackson County, US 421, Alternative Study – reconstruction from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle County line.

From the perspective of commercial vehicles, the only concern would be when this roadway is upgraded there will be an increase in commercial traffic especially traveling to the Jackson County Industrial Park. It needs to be a designated highway that will accommodate 53' trailers that are 102" wide. Please keep in mind and allow for increased truck traffic.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

c: Lieutenant Barry Coleman Officer Tristan Truesdell



2004 MAY 26 A 10-COMMERCE CABINET
DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE RESOURCES

#1 GAME FARM ROAD FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601 PHONE (502) 564-3400 FAX (502) 564-0506 (800) 858-1549 www.kentucky.gov

May 24, 2004

W. JAMES HOST SECRETARY, COMMERCE CABINET

> C. TOM BENNETT COMMISSIONER

Annette Coffey, P.E. Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Frankfort, KY 40622

RE: Threatened/endangered species, critical habitat review, and potential environmental impacts for the US 421 Alternative Study Plan, Jackson and Rockcastle Counties, Kentucky (Item No. 11-113.00)

Dear Ms. Coffey:

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) has received your request for the above-referenced information. The Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Information System indicates that federally endangered or threatened species are known to occur within a 10 mile radius of the project area (see attached list). Please be aware that our database system is a dynamic one that only represents our current knowledge of the various species distributions.

There are state listed species are known to occur within a 1 mile radius of the project area (see attached list). Please use necessary precautions to minimize any impact this project may have on these species.

Based on this information, KDFWR makes the following recommendations.

In areas where gray bats and Virginia big-eared bats are known to occur, any cave entrances that exist within the project area (i.e. the right-of-way and regeneration sites) should be surveyed for potential use by the bats. Because these bats are cave residents year-round and maternity colonies are generally found in close proximity to rivers, streams and lakes, any caves within the project area could offer potentially valuable habitat to resident bats.

In areas where Indiana bats are known to occur, any wooded areas that may be impacted by the proposed project should be examined for potential Indiana bat habitat. Indiana bats form maternity colonies and roost under the bark of trees in both riparian and upland areas. Therefore, disturbance of trees with exfoliating bark, dead limbs or cavities should be avoided when bat activity may occur.

The federally endangered mussels are known to occur within the project area. If any project involves disturbance to streams or rivers in the area, a mussel survey may be needed.

If a bat or mussel survey is necessary, please contact this office at (502) 564-7109 or the US Fish and Wildlife Service office at (502) 695-0468 for information on how to proceed.

Additionally, KDFWR recommends the following for the portions of the project that cross intermittent or perennial streams:

- 1. Development/excavation during a low flow period to minimize disturbance;
- Proper placement of erosion control structures below highly disturbed areas to minimize entry of silt to the stream;
- Replanting of disturbed areas after construction, including stream banks and right-of- ways, with native vegetation for soil stabilization and enhancement of fish and wildlife populations;
- Return all disturbed instream habitat to its original condition upon completion of construction in the area;
- 5. Preservation of any tree canopy overhanging the stream;
- 6. Return all right-of-ways to original elevation.

It appears the extension may include wetland areas. KDFWR recommends that you look at the appropriate US Department of the Interior National Wetlands Inventory Map to determine where the proposed project may impact these wetlands. The appropriate US Army Corps of Engineers office and the Kentucky Division of Water should be contacted before any construction takes place in jurisdictional wetlands. Additionally, KDFWR will recommend at least 2:1 mitigation for any permanent loss or degradation of wetland acreage. Any planning should include measures designed to reduce or eliminate impacts to these areas. If impacts cannot be avoided, mitigation should be properly designed and proposed to offset these losses.

I hope this information proves useful to you. If you have any questions or require additional comment, please call me at the above listed number, extension 366.

Sincerely,

Brad Pendley

Wildlife Biologist II

Brad.Pendley@ky.gov

cc: Environmental Section File

Federally listed species wihin a 10 mile radius of project area.

Scientific Name	Common Name	QuadName	County Name	Federal Status
Phoxinus cumberlandensis	BLACKSIDE DACE	Quadivanie	LAUREL	LT
Villosa trabalis	CUMBERLAND BEAN		JACKSON	LE,XN
Villosa trabalis Villosa trabalis	CUMBERLAND BEAN		ROCKCASTLE	
	CUMBERLAND BEAN		LAUREL	LE,XN
Villosa trabalis		Livingston	ROCKCASTLE	
Villosa trabalis	CUMBERLAND BEAN	Livingston	JACKSON	
Villosa trabalis	CUMBERLAND BEAN	Livingston		LE,XN
Villosa trabalis	CUMBERLAND BEAN	Parrot	JACKSON	LE,XN
Villosa trabalis	CUMBERLAND BEAN	Parrot	LAUREL	LE,XN
Alasmidonta atropurpurea	CUMBERLAND ELKTOE	Livingston	ROCKCASTLE	
Epioblasma brevidens	CUMBERLANDIAN COMBSHELL		LAUREL	LE,XN
Epioblasma brevidens	CUMBERLANDIAN COMBSHELL		ROCKCASTLE	200000000000000000000000000000000000000
Ptychobranchus subtentum	FLUTED KIDNEYSHELL		ROCKCASTLE	
Ptychobranchus subtentum	FLUTED KIDNEYSHELL	0919	LAUREL	С
Ptychobranchus subtentum	FLUTED KIDNEYSHELL	Livingston	ROCKCASTLE	
Ptychobranchus subtentum	FLUTED KIDNEYSHELL	Livingston	JACKSON	С
Ptychobranchus subtentum	FLUTED KIDNEYSHELL	Parrot	JACKSON	С
Myotis grisescens	GRAY MYOTIS		GARRARD	LE
Myotis grisescens	GRAY MYOTIS		LEE	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT		LEE	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT		JACKSON	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT		ROCKCASTLE	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT		ESTILL	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Alcom	ESTILL	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Alcom	JACKSON	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Bighill	JACKSON	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Johnetta	JACKSON	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Johnetta	ROCKCASTLE	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Leighton	JACKSON	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Livingston	ROCKCASTLE	LE
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	McKee	JACKSON	LE
Pegias fabula	LITTLEWING PEARLYMUSSEL		ROCKCASTLE	LE
Pegias fabula	LITTLEWING PEARLYMUSSEL		JACKSON	LE
Pegias fabula	LITTLEWING PEARLYMUSSEL	Livingston	JACKSON	LE
Pegias fabula	LITTLEWING PEARLYMUSSEL	Parrot	JACKSON	LE
Pegias fabula	LITTLEWING PEARLYMUSSEL	Sandgap	JACKSON	LE
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus		3-1	LEE	LE
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus		Alcom	JACKSON	LE
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus		Bighill	JACKSON	LE
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus		Cobhill	LEE	LE
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus		Johnetta	JACKSON	LE
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus		Johnetta	ROCKCASTLE	
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus		Leighton	JACKSON	LE
	VIRGINIA BIG-EARED BAT	Livingston	ROCKCASTLE	
LODVOORDIDUS TOWNSANOII VIRNINIANIIS				

State listed species within a 1 mile radius of the project area.

				KSNPC
<u>ScientificName</u>	CommonName	QuadName	CountyName	Status
Alasmidonta marginata	ELKTOE		JACKSON	Т
Alasmidonta marginata	ELKTOE		ROCKCASTLE	Т
Alosa alabamae	ALABAMA SHAD		MADISON	E
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus	VIRGINIA BIG-EARED BAT	Alcom	JACKSON	E
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus	VIRGINIA BIG-EARED BAT	Johnetta	JACKSON	E
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus	VIRGINIA BIG-EARED BAT	Johnetta	JACKSON	E
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus		Leighton	JACKSON	E
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus	VIRGINIA BIG-EARED BAT	Johnetta	ROCKCASTLE	
Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus	VIRGINIA BIG-EARED BAT	Livingston	ROCKCASTLE	E
Epioblasma brevidens	CUMBERLANDIAN COMBSHELL		ROCKCASTLE	
Etheostoma cinereum	ASHY DARTER		ROCKCASTLE	S
Lampsilis ovata	POCKETBOOK		JACKSON	E
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT		JACKSON	E
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Alcorn	JACKSON	E
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Johnetta	JACKSON	E
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Leighton	JACKSON	E
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT		ROCKCASTLE	
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Johnetta	ROCKCASTLE	
Myotis sodalis	INDIANA BAT	Livingston	ROCKCASTLE	
Nycticeius humeralis	EVENING BAT		JACKSON	T
Pegias fabula	LITTLEWING PEARLYMUSSEL		JACKSON	E
Pegias fabula	LITTLEWING PEARLYMUSSEL		ROCKCASTLE	E
Percina squamata	OLIVE DARTER		JACKSON	E
Percina squamata	OLIVE DARTER		ROCKCASTLE	
Phenacobius uranops	STARGAZING MINNOW		ROCKCASTLE	
Pleurobema oviforme	TENNESSEE CLUBSHELL		JACKSON	E
Pleurobema oviforme	TENNESSEE CLUBSHELL		ROCKCASTLE	
Ptychobranchus subtentum	FLUTED KIDNEYSHELL		ROCKCASTLE	
Toxolasma lividus	PURPLE LILLIPUT		JACKSON	E
Toxolasma lividus	PURPLE LILLIPUT		ROCKCASTLE	
Villosa lienosa	LITTLE SPECTACLECASE		JACKSON	S
Villosa lienosa	LITTLE SPECTACLECASE		ROCKCASTLE	
Villosa trabalis	CUMBERLAND BEAN		JACKSON	E
Villosa trabalis	CUMBERLAND BEAN		ROCKCASTLE	E



ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

Division of Conservation 663 Teton Thail Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 Phone (502) 564-3080 Fax (502) 564-9195 www.kentucky.gov LAJUANA S. WILCHER SECRETARY

STEPHEN A. COLEMAN DIRECTOR

June 1, 2004

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet W5-05-01 200 Mero Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Subject: Planning Study for Alternatives (Reconstruction of US 421 from McKee to north of Jackson-Rockcastle County Boundary)

Dear Ms. Coffey:

As requested, the Division of Conservation has reviewed the possible alternatives for the reconstruction of US 421 in Jackson County and would like to provide the following comments and express concerns that may be helpful in this evaluation stage.

There are no agricultural districts established in the project area, therefore land enrolled in the Agricultural District Program will not have to be mitigated by the Department of Transportation.

We would like to see the issue of the loss of farmland addressed. Both prime farmland and farmland of statewide importance could be impacted by this project. Every year pressure imposed by utility right-of-ways, urban expansion, and new roads reduce the land available for agricultural use in the Commonwealth. There are two documents that could be utilized to identify these farmland designations: the Soil Survey of Jackson and Owsley Counties (NRCS 1989), and Important Farmland Soils of Kentucky (NRCS 1981). Both documents are available through this office. The soil survey information can also be downloaded at the following web site: http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/.

One other concern we would like to comment on is the control of erosion and sedimentation during and after earth-disturbing activities once this project begins. We recommend best management practices (BMPs) be utilized to prevent nonpoint source water pollution. This would protect the water quality and aquatic habitat of several perennial and intermittent streams that this project could impact.

Ms. Annette Coffey June 1, 2004 Page Two

The manual, Best Management Practices for Construction Activities, contains information on the kinds of BMPs most appropriate for this project and is available through the Jackson County Conservation District, the Kentucky Division of Water, or this office.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have any questions, please contact this office any time.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Coleman, Director

Kentucky Division of Conservation

SAC/MD/aeh



DIV OF PLANNING

2004 MAY 14 A 9: 59

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET DEPARTMENT FOR NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY
LEAH W. MACSWORDS, DIRECTOR
627 COMANCHE TRAIL
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

May 11, 2004

Annette Coffey, P.E., Director Division of Planning Transportation Cabinet W5-05-01 200 Mero Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

Re: Planning Study, Jackson County

U.S. 421, Alternatives Study, Item No. 11-113.00

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into this study. Of the four alternatives that have been identified for the development of U.S. 421 between McKee and Bighill, near the Jackson-Rockcastle County line, Alternative 4 is the most attractive option concerning the needs of the Southeastern District of the Kentucky Division of Forestry. We use this route frequently every spring and fall to reach many wildland fires in the northern end of the district. We often drive the route in a heavy transport vehicle carrying a 400 series dozer to be used for fire suppression. This option would help reduce the severity of many of the curves in the proposed route, thereby making this section safer for travel and speeding up the time to respond to these forest fires. This alternative (Option B) would also make getting through Sand Gap easier. It is frequently congested and a source of delay on this route. It is also a safer intersection between Highway 2004 and U.S. 421 when traveling south on U.S. 421. Currently the road is a semi-blind curve for drivers on Highway 2004 turning south on U.S. 421. Option B would also make turning onto the Morill-Kerby Knob Road and Highway 1912 safer.

An additional consideration is that these improvements will make the transportation of forest products easier and safer as well. This is a main travel route for these materials in Madison, Rockcastle, and Jackson Counties.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Leah W. MacSwords

Director



KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40622

WWW.KENTUCKY.GOV

ERNIE FLETCHER GOVERNOR

MAXWELL C. BAILEY SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Annette Coffey, P.E.

Director

Division of Planning

FROM:

M. Chad LaRue Pranch Manager

Permits

DATE:

May 11, 2004

RE:

Planning Study - Jackson County

Item No. 11-113.00

The Permits Branch has reviewed the data provided for subject study site and wish to offer the following.

- 1. We urge the Cabinet to classify this project and all new projects as partially controlled access facilities.
- 2. Assuming the project is partial control access, we encourage all possible access points be set on the plans in accordance with 603 KAR 5:120, even if they are not to be constructed at that
- When buying R/W for this and all reconstruction routes, assuming the access control is partial 3. control, new deed for all adjoining property owners need to be executed to identify the access control even if no new R/W is acquired.
- In addition, we would like to make every effort possible to have the design speed to be the 4. same as anticipated posted speed when the project is complete.
- 5. We would like to see access control fence installed with the project.
- 6. If the proposed roadway is to be on the N. H. S., early notification of the final line and grade is needed. This enables us to monitor outdoor advertising devices prior to road construction being completed.
- Please notify this office if the proposed roadway is to be placed on the National Highway 7. System. This information is needed to assist this office in regulating the installation of any outdoor advertising device.

Thank you for the opportunity to verbalize our concerns.

MCL/jr



LAJUANA S. WILCHER
SECRETARY

DIV OF PLANNING

7004 MAY 26 P 2: 18

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION FOR AIR QUALITY 803 SCHENKEL LN FRANKFORT, KY 40601-1403

May 24, 2004

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 200 Mero Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey,

The Division has reviewed the Planning Study for evaluating alternatives from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson County-Rockcastle County line, Item Number 11-113.00. The following Kentucky Administrative Regulations apply to this proposed project:

Kentucky Division for Air Quality Regulation 401 KAR 63:010 Fugitive Emissions states that no person shall cause, suffer, or allow any material to be handled, processed, transported, or stored without taking reasonable precaution to prevent particulate matter from becoming airborne. Additional requirements include the covering of open bodied trucks, operating outside the work area transporting materials likely to become airborne, and that no one shall allow earth or other material being transported by truck or earth moving equipment to be deposited onto a paved street or roadway. Please note the Fugitive Emissions Fact Sheet located at http://www.air.ky.gov/e_clearinghouse.html.

Kentucky Division for Air Quality Regulation 401 KAR 63:005 states that open burning is prohibited. Open Burning is defined as the burning of any matter in such a manner that the products of combustion resulting from the burning are emitted directly into the outdoor atmosphere without passing through a stack or chimney. However, open burning may be utilized for the expressed purposes listed on the Open Burning Fact Sheet incorporated by reference in 401 KAR 63:005 Section 3, Prohibition of Open Burning. The Fact Sheet is located at http://www.air.ky.gov/e_clearinghouse.html.

Finally, the projects listed in this document must meet the conformity requirements of the Clean Air Act as amended and the transportation planning provisions of Title 23 and Title 49 of United States Code.

Ms. Annette Coffey Letter May 24, 2004 Page 2

Every effort should be made to maintain compliance with the preceding regulations and requirements. The Division also suggests an investigation into compliance with applicable regulations in the local governments. If there are any questions relating to this matter, please contact me at (502) 573-3382 extension 347.

Sincerely

John E. Gowins

Supervisor, Evaluation Section

Program Planning & Administration Branch

JEG/jmf



DIV OF PLANNING

ERNIE FLETCHER GOVERNOR

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET 2004 MAY 1

2004 MAY 25 A D 23

DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF WATER
14 REILLY ROAD
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601-1190
www.kentucky.gov

May 24, 2004

Annette Coffey, Director Div. of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 200 Mero St. Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

RE:

US 421 Planning Study

Jackson Co.

Item No. 11-113.00

Dear Ms. Coffey:

The Water Quality Branch has reviewed your request for information about the referenced area. There are no Wild Rivers in the proposed corridor. However, some of the streams in the area are designated as Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW's), Reference Reach (RR), or Exceptional Waters (EW). This designation provides extra protection under Kentucky Surface Water Standards. These streams, including their headwaters should be avoided. Placement of fill in headwater tributaries of Station Camp Creek or Horse Lick Creek is not advisable. In addition, some headwater tributaries not designated as special use waters could be of exceptional quality and require enhanced mitigation for loss of those streams.

For future reference, information on Special Use Waters can be found on the Division of Water web site (http://www.water.ky.gov/sw/specialwaters/). This list is frequently updated as new streams are added.

If you have any questions or need further information on biological communities, Exceptional Waters or wetlands, please contact me by phone (502/564-3410) or e-mail (greg.pond@ky.gov).

Sincerely

Greg Pond, Supervisor

Ecological Support Section

C: file

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

From:

Harman, Charles L (WFD-FK)

Sent:

Thursday, May 06, 2004 10:58 AM

To:

Coffey, Annette (KYTC)

Cc:

Callihan, John (KYTC-D05); Ross, Steve (KYTC)

Subject:

Planning Studies

Annette,

In the state reorganization the former Workforce Cabinet and the former Education, Arts and Humanities Cabinet were merged to create the new Education Cabinet. Our Secretary is Virginia G. Fox. This info may be helpful to update your database.

Regarding Planning studies 5-150.00 and 11-113.00, the Education Cabinet does not have any comments at this time.

Thanks.

Charlie

Charlie Harman
Office of Budget and Administrative Services
Education Cabinet
502.564.6606

This message contains information which is confidential. It is for the exclusive use of the intended recipient(s). If you are not the intended recipient(s) please note that any form of distribution, copying, forwarding or use of this communication or the information in it or attached to it is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error please return it to me, delete the email, and destroy any copies of it. Thank you.

Amanda Ratliff

From:
Sent:
To:
Cc:
Subject:

Carl,

Respons
R. Stev
KYTC (502) 5

> ---> From:
> Sent:
> To: R
> Subje
>
To: P
> To: P
> FROM:
> DATE:
> RE:
> line

Steve.Ross@ky.gov

Thursday, June 03, 2004 8:33 AM

cddixon@wilbursmith.com

aratliff@wilbursmith.com; Jimmy.Wilson@ky.gov

Subject: FW: KSNPC response to US 421 Planning Study in Jackson County

Response from KSNPC, second round agency coordination.

R. Steven Ross, P.E. KYTC - Division of Planning (502) 564-7183

> ----Original Message---> From: Palmer-Ball, Brainard (EPPC, KSNPC)
> Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2004 10:15 AM
> To: Ross, Steve (KYTC)
> Subject: KSNPC response to US 421 Planning Study in Jackson County
> TO: Steve Ross/Annette Coffey, KTC/Division of Planning
> FROM: Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., KSNPC
> DATE: June 2, 2004

> RE: Planning Study for US 421 from McKee to Jackson/Rockcastle County

> KSNPC has reviewed the Planning Study summary. We will at this point > resubmit comments sent during preliminary scoping as follows:

> A review of our natural heritage database revealed the presence of no > KSNPC-listed species or unique natural areas that we believe would be > DIRECTLY impacted by implementation of the project. However, there > are several concerns that should be addressed during planning stages: > 1) minimizing impact to the Horse Lick Creek drainage (including > provisions for precluding hazardous spills into tributary drainages of > Horse Lick Creek, including underground passageways), 2) assuring that > no caves are impacted by the project, 3) minimizing stream impacts > including runoff of sediment from soils disturbed and exposed during > construction, and 4) minimizing forest fragmentation.

> We believe that most of the concerns are addressed by carefully > reconstructing US 421 within the current corridor, assuming that > contractors adhere to the strictest of erosion and sediment control > measures.

>



DIV OF PLANNING

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY KENTUCKY STATE POLICE

919 VERSAILLES ROAD FRANKFORT KY. 40601

ERNIE FLETCHER GOVERNOR

MARK L. MILLER COMMISSIONER

May 10, 2004

Ms. Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Transportation Cabinet, W5-05-01 200 Mero Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

I am in receipt of your correspondence concerning a planning study of US 421 in Jackson County from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 near Bighill in Rockcastle County.

I have forwarded your remarks to Captain James Vanhook, Commander of the Richmond Post. He can be reached at (859) 623-2404. Thank you for including our input during the planning stages of this development.

Sincerely,

Shelby Lawson, Jr., Major East Troop Commander

SL:cjh

cc: Mark L. Miller, Commissioner Captain James Vanhook, Post 7



AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F/D

Amanda Ratliff

> Phone: (859) 623-2404

<<...OLE Obj...>>

> www.kentuckystatepolice.org

> Fax:

(502) 564-3538

Steve.Ross@ky.gov Thursday, June 10, 2004 8:40 AM From: Sent: To: cddixon@wilbursmith.com aratliff@wilbursmith.com; Jimmy.Wilson@ky.gov FW: Jackson-Rockcastle Co. Line Item # 11-113.00 Cc: Subject: Carl, Here is another response to 2nd round agency coordination to include in the record. R. Steven Ross, P.E. KYTC - Division of Planning (502) 564-7183 > ----Original Message----Harrison, Merrell > From: Tuesday, June 08, 2004 10:13 PM > Sent: > To: Ross, Steve (KYTC) > Cc: Vanhook, James (KSP) > Subject: Jackson-Rockcastle Co. Line Item # 11-113.00 > Mr. Ross, we have no specific input on this project. Our only > concern, as in most road construction projects, is the ability for > emergency vehicles to have unobstructed travel during emergency > situations during the construction area. Let me know if you have any > questions from us at Post 7. > Thank you, > Lieutenant M. J. Harrison > Assistant Commander > Kentucky State Police Post 7 > 699 Eastern By-Pass > Richmond, Kentucky 40475

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

From:

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

Sent:

Monday, May 17, 2004 12:00 PM

To:

Ross, Steve (KYTC)

Subject:

11-113.00 - US 421 Jackson, Agency Coordination Rnd 2 - KSP comments

I received call from Lt. Mike Smith, Kentucky State Police Post 11, London, Kentucky, at approximately 11:45 AM. Lt. Smith said that there were no adverse affects associated with the US 421 project. He indicated that the Rockcastle portion of this project within his jurisdiction is minimal and that we contact the Richmond Post. I told Lt. Smith that they had already been contacted and thanked him for his comments.

R. Steven Ross, P.E. Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Division of Planning 200 Mero Street Frankfort, KY 40622 Phone: 502-564-7183 Fax: 502-564-2865 E-Mail: Steve.Ross@ky.gov

Visit our web page at http://www.kytc.state.ky.us/planning/index2.asp

Commonwealth of Kentucky House of Representatives

P.O. Box 323 McKee, KY 40447 Home: (606) 287-7303 FAX: (606) 287-3300



COMMITTEES: Transportation, Vice Chair Natural Resources & Environment Local Government

June 28, 2004

Annette Coffey, P.E., Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet W5-05-01, 200 Mero Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Director Coffey:

As you know, I remain extremely interested in the proposed highway Jackson County project of improvements to US 421 from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of 421 near Bighill in Rockcastle County. I very much look forward to having the funds to move the project forward and will continue every effort to assist in locating funding.

The Alternatives Comparison that you have developed will be most useful to us all. To help alleviate safety concerns and travel time; to accomplish our objectives of supporting economic development initiatives; and, providing access to needed services of surrounding cities, it appears that careful consideration must include more review of the 3rd and 4th Alternatives. While we need to have as little environmental impact as possible, reconstruction does seem a potential necessity to reach the stated goals.

Enclosed is a Jackson County Sun article of US 421 news forty years ago that I thought you might enjoy. It tells of the resurfacing of a 14 plus mile section of the highway from McKee to Manchester.

Thank you for keeping me informed of action on this very important project of which I am certainly in support.

Sincerely,

Rep. Marie Rader

V UF PLANNING

OUT OF THE PAST-

40 years ago 1964

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Gets Scholarship Clay County Sheriff In Patti Moore cal Students Awarded Degrees

At Northwestern

At Berea College

BEREA, Ky.-James Charles Har-

rison, son of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Harrison, Sand Gap, was: awarded cises at Berea College (Kyr) Sunday,

of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin P. Lakes,

Miss Sha on Kay Lakes, daughter McKee, was awarded the bachelor of science degree in business ad-

the bachelor of science degree in in-

dustrial arts at commencement exer-

Shot, Dies

Iows, and has been awarded at arm. He was pronounced dead on the 1969-70 term. These scholarship by Clay County Coroner Cecil Ledare awarded to freshmen on the ford. Funeral director Calvin Britton Patti Moore, daughter of Mr. an Sizemore.

Mrs. Carson Moore, R.R. I, Annville Sheriff Sizemore was shot by an Ky., has been accepted for admission unknown assailant and sustained to the 1969-70 Freshman Class a three wounds in the abdomen area. Northwestern College, Orange City one to the head and one in the left Academic Scholarship of \$200 forarrival at the Britton Funeral Home pre-college test scores and are re bleeding. of high class standings

regular comprehensive financial ait Ky. 80 near the Ephram Crevk are:

ville Institute High School

Jackson Road

Commitments" was the topic of his

Berea College is a

versity. "A Challenge to Extend Our address. An honorary doctorate was conferred on him by Berea College during the commencement program. accredited four-year liberal arts college located in the foothills of the Cumberlands 40 miles south of Lexington. Berea charges no tuition, accepts 80% of its students from 230 Appalachian counties, and has a distinctive student labor program where

Downtown Campus of Indiana Uni-

pachelor of arts degree in biology.

Speaker for the occasion was Dr. oseph T. Taylor, Dean, Indianapolis

535

McWhorter, Egypt, was awarded the

Kee, was awarded the bachelor of arts degree in biology.

Miss Sonja Nadibe McWhorter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James W.

Miss Rita Murray, Route 2, Mo-

The contract for \$198,565.05 was Contract Awarded FRANKFORT, Ky.-G overnor Louis B. Nunn today amounced that surfacing a 14.136 mile section of a contract has been awarded for re-(McKee-Manchester Road) in Jackson County.

McKee to the Clay County line, will, be completed this summer. Company, Inc., Annville, Kentucky. awarded to Carpenter Construction Coss said the project, running from each student works at least 10 hours

MANCHESTER, Ky .- A full-scale Sunday in the shooting death of investigation was underway here Clay County Sheriff James Madison

College

The shooting occurred about three also eligible to be included in the and one-half miles north of facte of

thittime of the shooting. He said a man saw Sizemore run about 100 yard-before collapsing in a clitch along program of the college. State Detective Robert Can say. Pats was graduated from the Ann Sizemore was apparently altern to the reported that he heard five shits are side a gravel road from where the State Detective Robert Can sai

Atty. Lester H. Burns Jr. are partici-State Police, state detectives, the pating in the investigation. Sheriff's car was parked. sheriff's office

Sizemore's body was taken to the Oneida Mountain Hospital near her-Surviving members of Starmore for x-rays.

Funeral services have been set to 1 p.m. Wednesday in the Taber Burial will be in the Collins Cem

File Code: 1950

Date: May 19, 2004

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet W5-05-01 200 Mero Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

Thank you for this additional opportunity to comment on the US Hwy 421 Reconstruction Project. I believe that my previous letter dated December 9, 2003 still accurately represents the concerns and issues identified by this agency related to this project (copy with previous enclosures enclosed).

At a meeting conducted by your Cabinet in Mckee, Kentucky several months ago there was some discussion on item 5 of the 12-09-2003 letter concerning the possible solutions to the OHV trail issue crossing and running with Hwy 421. The possible problems associated with designing a safe, maintainable traffic surface for ATVs adjacent to the existing or reconstructed highway indicated that the better solution might be to acquire an easement or ROW across private land south of the US 421 - FS 370 (Elisha Branch Road) intersection, to allow reconstruction of the Sheltowee Trace trail on a new, National Forest location away from the highway. A safely engineered crossing for OHV trail traffic would still be required.

Please feel free to contact me if you require further input on these or any other issues.

Sincerely,

OHN T. STROJ

District Ranger

Forest Service London Ranger District 761 South Laurel Road Recenstruct London, KY 40744 606-864-4163

File Code: 1950

Date: December 9, 2003

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

Thank you for your invitation to comment on the US Hwy 421 Planning Study. My staff has prepared a list of issues that we feel should be addressed in the planning of this project. The London District Biologist, John Omer, has recently responded to a request by Palmer Engineering for biological issues associated with the study area. A copy of that letter is attached.

Issues associated with the US 421 Reconstruction Project:

- Biological: Federally listed endangered and sensitive bat species habitat areas are near the study corridor, and T & E mussel habitat downstream from Birch Lick Creek in the Rockcastle River may be subject to sedimentation (see above referenced letter to Palmer Engineering).
- 2. National Forest boundary marking: Twenty-three monumented USA property corners are within the study corridor. The corner monumentation should be protected from disturbance, or picked up on preliminary engineering surveys to facilitate replacement after disturbance. A licensed surveyor should supervise this work to preserve the integrity of the evidence and associated documentation.
- 3. Signage: There is a stone-based "Entering National Forest" portal sign located on a trail Right of Way (ROW) near the western intersection of US 421 with the Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail. The sign should be protected from disturbance, or, if removal is required, replaced at a location selected for appropriate sight distance and aesthetics. Other signs to be addressed are associated with the Sheltowee Trace route marking and property boundary marking.

- 4. Sheltowee Trace: About 1.6 miles of this National Recreation Trail passes through the study area, mostly located along US 421 and other road shoulders. Consideration should be given to the continued use of this route by pedestrians, equestrians, mountain bikers, and properly licensed motorized (motorcycle) users who currently enjoy the trail segments north and south of US 421. The Forest Service has retained an easement (about .23 acres); at the western trail intersection with US 421, located between Elisha Branch and the highway ROW line, 30' from centerline. If relocation of this trail intersection area is required, an appropriate replacement easement would be required to ensure that the existing use could continue: parking for several vehicles, space for trail signage, portal sign location unless otherwise accommodated, and an adequately hardened stream ford approach.
- 5. There is an issue with unlicensed motor vehicles (ATVs, off road motorcycles) using this segment of trail either on or along the shoulder of the highway, in violation of state law, to access the legal motorized trail segments to the north and south. The road segment shared by the trail is too long to be considered legal for ATV use under state law. We have discussed the possibility of trail relocation in this area to remedy that concern. Such relocation would require a tract or easement acquisition by the Forest Service in the area southwest of the FS 370 US 421 intersection. While admittedly beyond the scope of the project, we would be glad to entertain a discussion of possible alternatives that might address this concern. There may be an opportunity to use TEA 21 grant funding to plan a multi-use trail lane alongside the highway to accommodate the current mix of motorized and other trail users.

I have also attached a map of our immediate area of concern. The trail, boundary, road locations, and 1000-foot (each side) study corridor are shown. If you have any questions or comments about these or any other issues, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely

JOHN T. STROJA

District Ranger

File Code: 2670

Date: November 20, 2003

Devetta Hill Biologist Palmer Engineering 400 Shoppers Drive Winchester, KY 40392-0747

Dear Devetta Hill:

The land managed by the Daniel Boone National Forest within the area described in the project description is not known to contain any federally listed threatened or endangered species. It is also not known to contain any species listed on the Regional Forester's list of sensitive species. However, most of the route is within five miles of several (up to six) significant bat hibernacula caves. These caves are used as hibernacula by the Indiana bat (Myotis sodalist), Virginia bigeared bat (Plecotus townsendii virginianus) and/or Rafinesque's big-eared bat (Corynorhinus rafinesquii). The first two are federally endangered species and the last is on the Regional Forester's sensitive species list.

On land managed by the Forest Service, currently suitable Indiana bat roost trees may be felled only between October 15 and March 31 for areas more than five mile from a significant Indiana bat cave. If tree removal occurs at other times, the tree must be evaluated for current Indiana bat use, according to U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service protocol. Areas within five miles of a significant Indiana bat cave, tree cutting is further limited to exclude between September 1 and December 1.

The only other concern is that Birch Lick Creek, which US 421 follows for much of that section, is a tributary to the Rockcastle River. The Rockcastle River is known to be inhabited by several federally listed threatened and endangered mussels. Potential sedimentation from this project may need to be monitored.

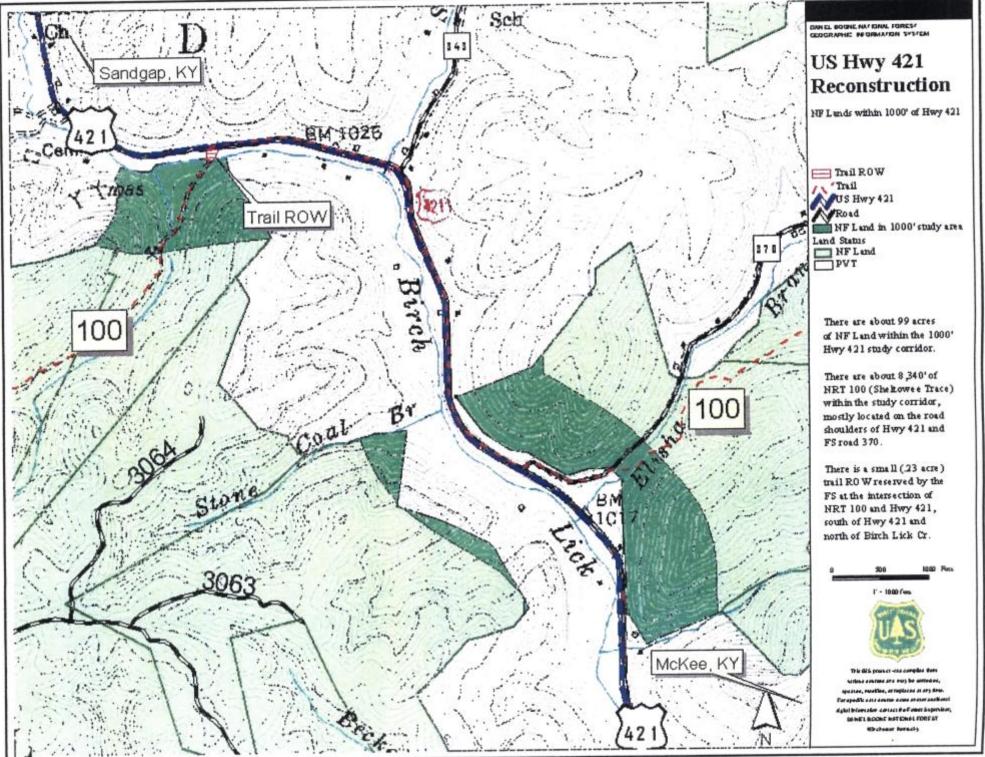
If you need further assistance or if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact our District Wildlife Biologist, John Omer, at (606) 864-4163.

Sincerely,

JOHN T. STROJAN

District Ranger





United States Department of Agriculture



P. O. Box 172 U. S. 421 South McKee, Kentucky 40447-01770F PLANNING

2004 MAY 27 A IO: 38

May 26, 2004

Annette Coffey, P.E., Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, W5-05-01 200 Mero Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

SUBJECT: Planning Study - Jackson County

US 421, Alternatives Study – Reconstruction from KY 89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson-

Rockcastle County line. Item No. 11-113.00

Ms. Coffey,

Your letter dated May 3, 2004 concerning the project referenced above was addressed to John Overring at the Kentucky Heritage Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council in Harrodsburg. Mr. Overring is the coordinator for the Kentucky Heritage RC&D Area. He does not have any jurisdiction, authority, or responsibility for Jackson County. Future correspondence should be addressed to Chuck Gibson, District Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, P.O. Box 172, McKee, Kentucky 40447-0172.

Reconstruction of US 421 would impact my agency's areas of interest in regard to soil erosion, water quality, sedimentation, and conversion of prime farmland to nonagricultural uses. Soil erosion, water quality and sedimentation are activities that are going to occur during construction. Any soil disturbance will have some impact. The goal would be to minimize the degree of erosion, sedimentation and any degradation of water quality. Re-vegetating the right-of-way, spoil areas and borrow pits immediately after construction will be of utmost importance to minimize the rate of erosion and sedimentation. The existing right-of-way passes through some prime farmland soils. Therefore, those areas would be considered as having previously been converted. However, if the route is altered, it may have a negative impact on adjoining prime farmland soils. Part of the existing right-of-way passes through a karst area. Therefore, sinkholes and caves would be an issue to be considered, not only for the stability of a new road, but for protecting ground water quality. Sinkholes and caves provide surface openings to the subsurface. Ground water quality could be negatively impacted by silt and other contaminants entering through the surface openings.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at the McKee Field Office for the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Respectfully,

Chuck Gibson,

District Conservationist

Chuck Gilson

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service 771 Corporate Drive; Suite 210 Lexington, KY 40503-5479 DIV OF PLANNING

2004 MAY 26 A 10: 23

May 25, 2004

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, W5-05-01 200 Mero Street

Frankfort, KY 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

In regards to the Planning Study for US 421, Alternatives Study – Reconstruction from KY89 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improved section of US 421 just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle County line, the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is concerned with potential impacts that the proposed highway project might have upon prime farmland soils and additional farmlands of statewide importance. If federal dollars are to be used to convert important farmlands from agricultural uses to non-agricultural uses a Form AD-1006 (or Form NRCS-CPA-106 if the project is a corridor type project) must be submitted to the local NRCS office. These forms may be obtained from the local NRCS office and are also available as electronic forms on the web at

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/fppa/pdf_files/AD1006.PDF and http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/fppa/pdf_files/CPA106.pdf.

The contact person is:

Charles Gibson, District Conservationist USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service Dunsil Building, US 421, PO Box 172 McKee, KY 40447-0172

phone: (606) 287-8314

Mr. Gibson can help in identifying important farmlands in the proposed project area.

To further assist with the planning efforts, I am enclosing a CD containing ArcView GIS shapefiles of basic soils information for the project study area. The soil database table includes a column for "farmland classification-all components" (farmclac) that identifies prime farmlands and soils of statewide importance.

Sincerely,

DAVID G. SAWYER State Conservationist

Enclosure

cc: Charles Gibson, District Conservationist, McKee, KY Robert Bradley, Area Conservationist, Mount Sterling, KY



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY NASHVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS Regulatory Branch 3701 Bell RD

Nashville, TN 37214 May 26, 2004 DIV OF PLANNING

7004 JUN - 1 A 10: 10

Regulatory Branch

SUBJECT: File No. 200301934; Proposed Alternatives Development Study, Reconstruction of US-421 From KY-89 (McKee Northern City Limits) to Just North of the Jackson-Rockcastle County Line, in Jackson County, Kentucky

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

This concerns your request for comments on the alternatives development study described in the March 2004 brochure you have furnished. Please reference File No. 200301934 in future communications with us about this work.

You have identified four preliminary improvement alternatives for the reconstruction of US-421: (1) No Build; (2) Spot Improvements; (3) Reconstruction along the existing alignment; and (4) Reconstruction on and off the existing alignment. You provided an alternatives comparison table on the brochure. Based on the information provided, it appears that Alternative 2 would result in lesser impacts on the aquatic environment (streams, wetlands, etc.). Therefore, Preliminary Improvement Alternative 2 is our preferred alternative.

As we indicated on our February 2, 2004, letter, the Corps of Engineers (Corps) regulates discharges of dredged and/or fill material in waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). The preliminary alternative route maps provided indicate that some wetlands may be present and could be impacted. In addition, reaches of Clover Bottom Creek, classified as a coldwater aquatic habitat (CAH) water in the commonwealth of Kentucky, could also be affected. We suggest detailed surveys to identify the extent of impacts to federally regulated waters and wetlands.

A segment of highway near the Morrill community is under the Corps' Louisville District (CLD) regulatory jurisdiction. We are asking permission from CLD to review the entire project in Nashville.

When the final alternative is selected, we recommend a project design that incorporates avoidance, minimization, and mitigation of impacts to waters of the U.S. to the extent practicable.

Thank you for allowing us to provide input into your alternatives development study. If you have any questions, please contact me at the above address, or telephone (615) 369-7519.

Sincerely,

J. Ruben Hernandez Project Manager

Operations Division





DIV OF PLANNING

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Atlanta GA 30333

2004 MAY 28 A 10: 27

May 26, 2004

Annette Coffey, P.E. Director, Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 125 Holmes Street Frankfort, Kentucky 40622

Dear Ms. Coffey:

This is in response to your letter of May 3, 2004 requesting our agency's input and comments on a planning study to determine the need for, and the potential impacts from possible improvements to US 421 from KY 8 at the northern city limits of McKee to the recently improves section of US421 just north of the Jackson-Rockcastle Line. We are responding on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), U.S. Public Health Service.

While we have no project specific comments to offer at this time, we do recommend that the topics listed below be considered during the NEPA process along with other necessary topics, and addressed if appropriate. Mitigation plans which are protective of the environment and public health should be described in the DEIS wherever warranted.

AREAS OF POTENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN:

I. Air Quality

- dust control measures during project construction, and potential releases of air toxins potential process air emissions after project completion
- · compliance with air quality standards

II. Water Quality/Quantity

- special consideration to private and public potable water supply, including ground and surface water resources
- · compliance with water quality and waste water treatment standards
- ground and surface water contamination (e.g. runoff and erosion control)
- body contact recreation

III. Wetlands and Flood Plains

- · potential contamination of underlying aquifers
- · construction within flood plains which may endanger human health
- · contamination of the food chain

Page 2 - Annette Coffey, P.E.

IV. Hazardous Materials/Wastes

- · identification and characterization of hazardous/contaminated sites
- · safety plans/procedures, including use of pesticides/herbicides; worker training
- spill prevention, containment, and countermeasures plan

V. Non-Hazardous Solid Waste/Other Materials

· any unusual effects associated with solid waste disposal should be considered

VI. Noise

 identify projected elevated noise levels and sensitive receptors (i.e. residential, schools, hospitals) and appropriate mitigation plans during and after construction

VII. Occupational Health and Safety

· compliance with appropriate criteria and guidelines to ensure worker safety and health

VIII. Land Use and Housing

- special consideration and appropriate mitigation for necessary relocation and other potential adverse impacts to residential areas, community cohesion, community services
- · demographic special considerations (e.g. hospitals, nursing homes, day care centers, schools
- consideration of beneficial and adverse long-term land use impacts, including the potential influx of people into the area as a result of a project and associated impacts
- potential impacts upon vector control should be considered

IX. Environmental Justice

federal requirements emphasize the issue of environmental justice to ensure equitable
environmental protection regardless of race, ethnicity, economic status or community, so that
no segment of the population bears a disproportionate share of the consequences of
environmental pollution attributable to a proposed project. (Executive Order 12898)

While this is not intended to be an exhaustive list of possible impact topics, it provides a guide for typical areas of potential public health concern which may be applicable to this project. Any health related topic which may be associated with the proposed project should receive consideration when developing the draft and final EISs. Please furnish us with one copy of the draft document when it becomes available for review.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Joe, DO, MPH

Paul Joe

Medical Officer

National Center for Environmental Health (F16)

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention



Airports District Office, FAA
3385 Airways Blvd., Suite 302
Memphis, Tennessee 38116-3841
(901) 544-3495
FAX: (901) 544-4243
Email: 9.aso-mem-ado@faa.gov

June 15, 2004

Ms. Annette Coffey, P. E., Director Division of Planning Kentucky Transportation Cabinet 200 Mero Street Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Ms. Coffey:

This is in response to your letter to Ms. LaVerne Reid dated May 3, 2004 requesting information on any impacts concerning the alternatives study for the reconstruction of US 421 from KY 89 to just north of the Jackson – Rockcastle county line.

The Madison County Airport in Berea is in the vicinity but does not appear to be affected by the proposed project. As long as construction activities do not exceed 200 feet in height above ground level, there will be no impacts on Federal Aviation Administration programs and no Notice of Proposed Construction will be required.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposal.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Thompson

Program Manager