Appendix D – Early Coordination

## **Christine Meador**

**From:** Christine Meador

**Sent:** Friday, December 20, 2019 2:50 PM

To: robin\_mcwilliams@fws. gov (robin\_mcwilliams@fws.gov); JRANDOLP@idem.IN.gov; Ms. Deborah D.

Snyder (Deborah.D.Snyder@usace.army.mil); Buffington, Matt

**Cc:** Ron Bales (rbales@indot.in.gov); Adin McCann

**Subject:** I-69 Section 6

Robin, Deb Jason, and Matt -

As the design of I-69 Section 6 has progressed, there have been design refinements resulting in changes to natural resource impacts, including forested habitat, wetlands and streams. This email serves to update the agencies on these changes as they are reflected in Reevaluation Statement #3. These changes are due to advanced design detail and corresponding refinements, including the addition of temporary right-of-way for structure removal and driveway reconstruction.

The Refined Preferred Alternative, as approved in the FEIS/ROD, included impacts to 156 acres of forested habitat. The design for Segment 6.1, as documented in Reevaluation Statements #1 and #2, included a 3.1 acre increase in impacts to forested habitat. The anticipated changes assessed in Reevaluation Statement #3, which includes Segments 6.2 through 6.5, will result in an overall reduction of 1.4 acres of forest impacts. Including Design Segment 6.1, the overall I-69 Section 6 project will result in the addition of 1.7 acres of impacts to forested habitat and no additional impacts to Core Forest from the FEIS. The additional tree clearing associated with these impacts will not exceed the threshold for reinitiation of consultation. Habitat resources, including forests and changes to the proposed right-of-way, are depicted on the mapping found in Appendix G of Reevaluation Statement #3. This document is too large to include as an attachment and will be sent via our FTP site separately.

With regards to waters and wetland resources, the I-69 project area was reviewed to identify changes to potential wetland impacts documented in the FEIS. The design refinements incorporated into Design Segments 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, and 6.5 have reduced total wetland impacts from those documented in the FEIS. This includes an increase of 0.09 acre of emergent wetland, a reduction of 0.09 acre of forested wetland, and reduction of 0.89 acre of open water. Stream impacts associated with the Design Segments 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, and 6.5 are 1,137 linear feet greater than the impacts shown in the FEIS. This includes an additional 817 liner feet of ephemeral stream impact, a reduction of 635 linear feet of intermittent stream impact, and an increase of 703 linear feet of perennial stream impact. Water resources, including wetlands and streams, are also depicted on the mapping found in Appendix G of Reevaluation Statement #3 which will be provided via FTP site. Note these impacts are based on a right-of-way to right-of-way impact analysis and may not be exactly as reflected in the Section 404 Permit, Section 401 Water Quality Certification, and Construction in a Floodway Permits. If required, permit modifications will be required based on the final approved design.

This information is provided for your information. If you have any questions or comments on the revision to impacts associated with Reevaluation Statement #3 please let us know by January 6, 2020. Thank you for our assistance with this project.

Chris

## **Christine Meador**

Senior Project Manager Environmental Planning

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