

Instructions for Completing the Biological Evaluation Form for Local Federal Aid Projects

Complete the Biological Evaluation (BE) Form in its entirety and submit it, along with all required attachments listed below, to the appropriate NDOT LPD Project Coordinator for processing.

If you have questions, contact:

- Districts 1, 4, 7, 8 - Zach Cunningham, NDOT Environmental Biologist, (402) 479-4464, Zach.Cunningham@nebraska.gov.
- Districts 2, 3, 5, 6 – Melissa Marinovich, NDOT Environmental Biologist, (402) 479-3546, Melissa.Marinovich@nebraska.gov.

1. State the Project Description

Describe the project details up to date at the Plan-in-Hand stage (*you must use at least 30% plans; more advanced plans are also acceptable*). Please see the guidance in the LPA manual on how to write a project description. This project description must be the same as the project description that will be used on the NEPA Determination Form. If there is a change in the project description, notify the NDOT LPD Project Coordinator of the change, as a new project description may be required to be submitted.

Items to Include in the Project Description:

- Discuss the process of the project construction.
- Where will the project take place?
- What are the limits of work?
- What activities will take place as part of the project?

Example Project Description for a bike trail project:

The hike/bike trail begins at the west end of Hastings and runs approximately 7.14 miles along the abandoned Union Pacific Railroad ROW to the east end of Juniata. The trail will be 10-foot wide limestone rock trail with six preexisting bridges. Three bridges will have handrails added, two bridges will have wooden decks installed, and one bridge will have the existing wood supports above the steel structure beefed up. The existing ballast will be graded flat and limestone placed over the top.

Construction work will take place on the existing railroad ballast and bridges. Activities involve bridge deck repair, bridge rail repair/replacement, clearing and grubbing, guardrail repair with soil disturbance, rock or gravel surfacing, sidewalk and bikeway, signs without soil disturbance and survey and staking. The bridge deck repair will include adding structural members to strengthen existing ties on one bridge and adding wooden decking for two bridges without ballast decks; bridge rail repair/replacement will include new wooden handrails on three bridges; clearing and grubbing will include removing trees and brush for clearance for the trail; guardrail repair with soil disturbance will include installation of the posts and handrail off the ends of the bridge decks; rock or gravel surfacing will include laying crushed limestone and/or asphalt millings for the trail; sidewalk and bikeway includes a 10-foot wide hike/bike trail; signs without soil disturbance will include driving stop signs, hike/bike signs and other signs, as necessary, for the trail project and surveying and staking will include the necessary surveying and staking to design and construct this trail project.

Construction will take place on existing railroad grade and structures. This elevation is above ordinary high watermark. All equipment will stay on the railroad grade. The only soil disturbance will be the post holes for the handrail that extends off the bridge deck. Hazard materials (*petroleum products, other chemicals*) will be stored offsite and equipment will be fueled daily on or offsite as necessary.

2 The Activity Checklist (*this is the table found in the Biological Evaluation*)

Fill out the Activity Checklist completely identifying all activities that are affiliated with the project. For any special activities associated with the project that are not included in the checklist, list them in the table below the checklist. See the "Sources of Impacts Definitions" document for use in completing the Activity Checklist.

3. Habitat Description

Describe the habitat in the vicinity of the project and include any information that would help NDOT complete the review. Begin with the topographic region and ecoregion in which the project can be found and continue with a description of tributaries in the project limits, detailed descriptions of adjacent land use, and key habitat features along the corridor. Include any surveys, known records, sightings, etc. of threatened and endangered species. For example, if you are aware that whooping cranes roost near your project, include the distance from the roost site.

4. Bald and Golden Eagle Habitat Description

Provide a description which includes the following details about the project:

- Is the project located along a riparian corridor with large trees?
- Describe the project site's location and landscape – provide photos to help explain.
- Does the site have appropriate habitat for either species?
- Do not state that there will or will not be impacts to eagles. NDOT will make that determination.

Example:

This project is located within one-half mile of the Platte River, and the project area contains mature woodlands.

5. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

- Is it anticipated that a U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers (*USACE*) 404 Permit will be required for the project?
- **Insert the following statement if there is not a 404 permit necessary, and make no further comments:** This project, as proposed, will not require a Section 404 Permit from the Corps of Engineers.

6. Habitat Impacts

Provide a description of any impacts to habitat or the surrounding environment, including the following details about the project:

What will the project impact?

- Are there any wetland impacts based on at least 30% plans?
- If yes, state the amount and location of wetland impacts.

- Are there any stream channel impacts based on at least 30% plans?
- If yes, state the amount and location of channel impacts.
- Will trees or brush be impacted/removed as part of the project?
- Will grading or soil disturbance be conducted as part of the project?
- How will impacts be avoided or minimized to the extent possible?
- Is mitigation anticipated for the project?

If project impacts change (e.g., increase in wetland/stream/channel impacts, change in location of tree removal or soil disturbance, work outside the original project footprint) notify the NDOT LPD Project Coordinator of the changes.

7. BE Form Attachments

A. Location Map

Attach a location map which **includes all of the following:**

- Start and End points for this project
- County Name
- A Nebraska State map showing the county the project is located in (*see the attached example map*)
- Project Name, Control Number, and Project Number
- One Point of Reference such as intersection (*35th St. and Hill Ave.*), or highway number, or county road number, or Section-Township-Range, or towns/cities nearby

B. A Wetland Determination Checklist or Wetland Delineation Report

A “Qualified Scientist” must complete a wetland determination/delineation for the project based on at least 30% plans (*plans at a more advanced stage are also acceptable*). “Qualified Scientist” qualifications are located in the LPA Manual. The wetland delineation report or a wetland determination must also be attached to the Section 106 template and contain the following details:

Wetland Determination Checklist and Wetland Delineation Report Requirements:

1. Wetland and stream impacts in the wetland delineation report/wetland determination checklist must be calculated using the maximum construction project footprint to overestimate rather than underestimate stream and wetland impacts.
2. The Wetland Delineation Report must state if it is anticipated wetland mitigation will be required.
3. Contact information for the individual that completed the wetland determination checklist or wetland delineation report and contact information of individual(s) that conducted site visits (*include name, title, company, phone, and email*).

C. Site Photos

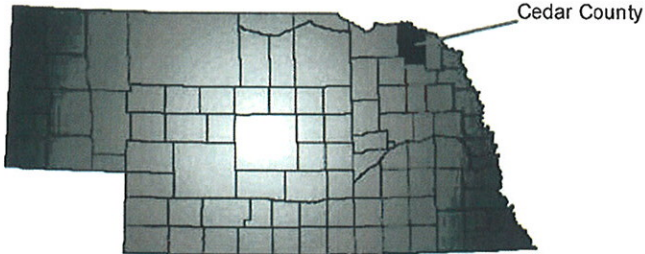
Attach any site photos of the project location and nearby habitat.

D. Aerial Photos

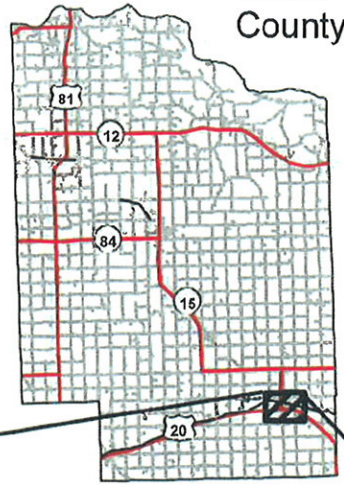
If aerial photos of the project location/corridor are available, please attach them.

Example of the Location Map Attachment

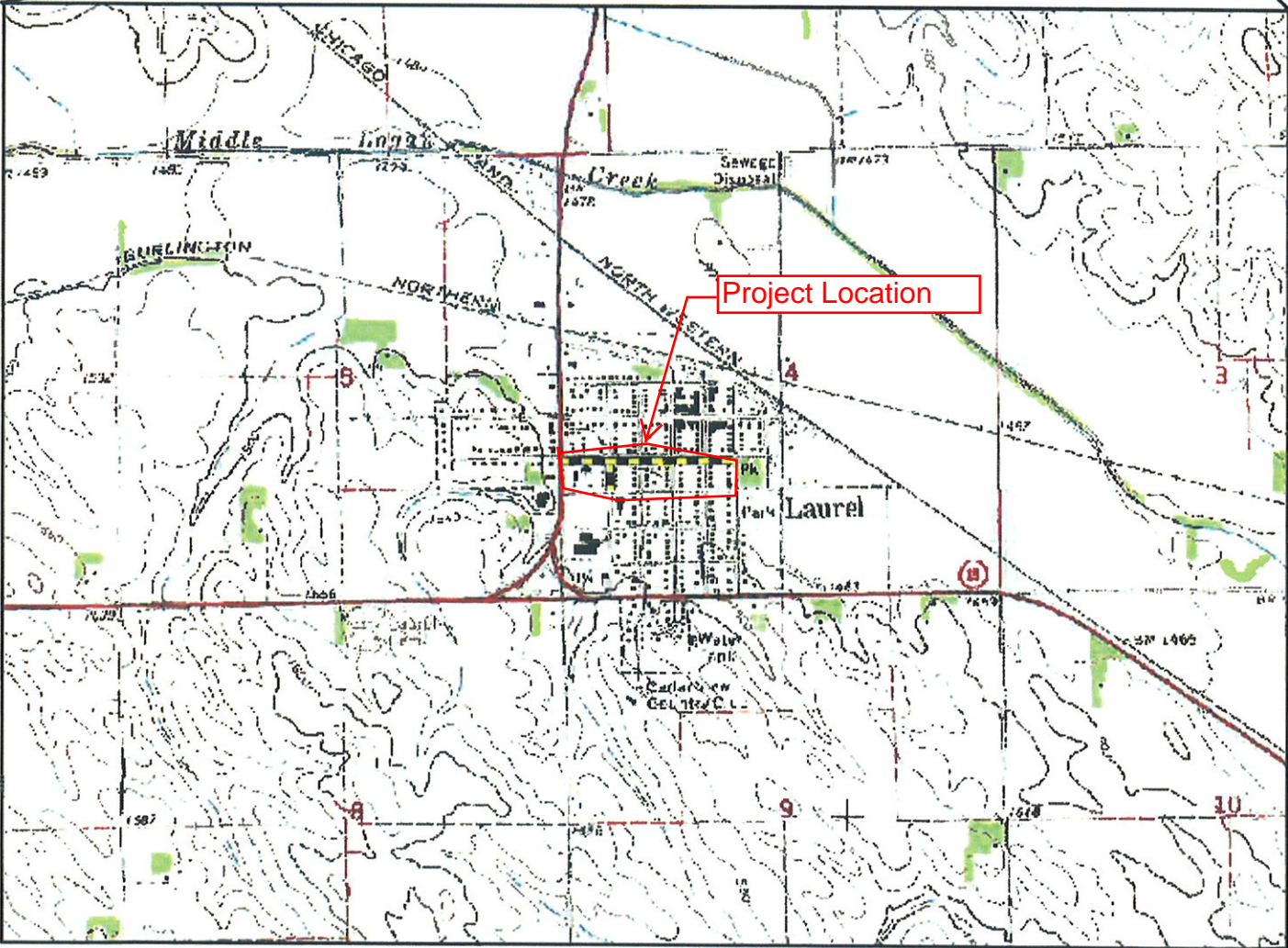
NEBRASKA



Cedar County



1 inch = approximately 10 miles



File:Project008-18121 ENVA\GIS\Laurel.mxd

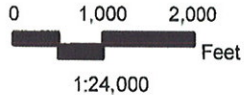
Data Source: USGS Topographic Map, Cedar County Mosaic

Laurel Safe Routes to School

SRTS-14(3)
CN 31977

Laurel Sidewalk Improvements

City of Laurel, Nebraska
Cedar County, Nebraska



Site Location Map

Figure 1

Sources of Impacts Definitions

These definitions have been developed by the agencies involved in this agreement and may not coincide with established language in the Standard Specifications for Highway Construction. They were developed to give the project reviewer a better understanding of the activity and its potential effect on endangered species.

Access roads, staging, stockpiling, and borrow sources that are within the Limits of Construction (LOC) and are outside of the Platte River depletion areas are covered under General Conservation Measures found in the Federal and State Listed Species Conservation Conditions document.

Related Activities: Related Activities are those that are often done in conjunction with the listed construction activity, but are not always associated with the listed activity and should not automatically be checked in the Activity Checklist. The intent of the Related Activities is to help the preparer of the Activity Checklist to think about all the activities that may be associated with the project.

Asphalt Patching- Patching of small areas of the roadway with hot or cold premix bituminous material using hand tools to correct abrupt depressions, potholes, edge failures, upheavals and other surface hazards. This activity is performed with pick-ups and dump trucks on the existing roadway and is different from resurfacing in that it does not involve rollers or other heavy equipment. Related Activities: Armor Coating

Bank Stabilization- Methods of securing the structural integrity of earthen stream channel banks with structural supports to prevent bank slumping and undercutting and overall erosion prevention. Bank stabilization helps maintain existing or newly constructed earthen banks by using techniques including but not limited to articulated block, riprap, gabions, or brush bundles to keep material in place. This is performed using some type of heavy equipment and may involve surface soil disturbance. Any upland bank/bluff or back slope stabilization work would be considered grading outside the hinge point. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Erosion Control, Bridge Substructure Repair, Culvert Replacement, Extension, Repair

Barge Staging- Movement and anchoring of barges into the channel bottom, channel banks, and connecting to other barges. This may also include activities such as launching, docking, and loading. Related Activities: Piers, Bridge Superstructure/Substructure New and Replacement

Bridge Deck Repair- Repairing decks, expansion joints, patching spalled areas, overlaying and repairing with other material as appropriate to restore the deck from the roadway. Related activities may include but is not limited to timber plank replacement, milling and resurfacing the roadway, as well as silica fume overlays that do not penetrate the full depth of the deck. This may involve the use of heavy equipment on the bridge deck or roadway as well as methods to capture construction debris from falling into the channel. Related Activities: Concrete Pavement Repair, Resurfacing, Milling

Bridge Deck Replacement- Replacement of the entire deck. This may involve the use of heavy equipment as well as methods to capture construction debris from falling into the channel. Related Activities: Concrete Repair, Bridge Superstructure New and Replacement, Night-time work with lights

Bridge Painting- Sandblasting, cleaning, priming and painting of structure elements to prevent deterioration. Any lead based paints are stripped and collected for proper disposal. Related Activities: None identified.

Bridge Rail Repair/Replacement- The process of fixing or updating the railing on a bridge. This may include a transition from steel rails to concrete on the existing railing on the bridge. Related Activities: None identified.

Bridge Substructure New, Replacement, or Repair- Ephemeral- Replacement or construction of portions of a bridge below the superstructure including all or part of the following foundation elements: abutments, columns, wall piers, footings, pile caps, precast or auger-cast concrete piles, drilled shafts, etc over a channel that holds water only during and immediately after rain events. Related Events: Cofferdams, Piers, Pile Driving Vibratory, Pile Driving Impact, Temporary Work Platform, Bridge Superstructure New & Replacement, Dewatering, Bank Stabilization, Clearing and Grubbing, De-watering, Drilled Shafts, Guardrail Repair, Lighting, Traffic and Pedestrian Signals, Dynamic Message Signs, Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Nighttime work with lights, Paving, Pile/Pier Encasement, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Stream Channel Impact, Wetland Mitigation, Barge Staging

Bridge Substructure New, Replacement, or Repair- Intermittent- Replacement or construction of portions of a bridge below the superstructure including all or part of the following foundation elements: abutments, columns, wall piers, footings, pile caps, precast or auger-cast concrete piles, drilled shafts, etc over a channel that holds water during wet portions of the year. Related Events: Cofferdams, Piers, Pile Driving Vibratory, Pile Driving Impact, Temporary Work Platform, Bridge Superstructure New & Replacement, Dewatering, Bank Stabilization, Clearing and Grubbing, De-watering, Drilled Shafts, Guardrail Repair, Lighting, Traffic and Pedestrian Signals, Dynamic Message Signs, Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Nighttime work with lights, Paving, Pile/Pier Encasement, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Stream Channel Impact, Wetland Mitigation, Barge Staging

Bridge Substructure New, Replacement, or Repair- Perennial- Replacement or construction of portions of a bridge below the superstructure including all or part of the following foundation elements: abutments, columns, wall piers, footings, pile caps, precast or auger-cast concrete piles, drilled shafts, etc over a stream or river that holds water throughout the year. This activity will involve the use of heavy equipment and/or barges in river systems. Related Activities: Cofferdams, Piers, Pile Driving Vibratory, Pile Driving Impact, Temporary Work Platform, Bridge Superstructure New & Replacement, Dewatering, Bank Stabilization, Clearing and Grubbing, De-watering, Drilled Shafts, Guardrail Repair, Lighting, Traffic and Pedestrian Signals, Dynamic Message Signs, Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Nighttime work with lights, Paving, Pile/Pier Encasement, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Stream Channel Impact, Wetland Mitigation, Barge Staging

Bridge Superstructure New, Replacement, or Repair- Ephemeral- Replacement or construction of the structure above the substructure. The superstructure includes but is not limited to the deck and roadway for carrying traffic over a channel that holds water, only during and immediately after rain events. This may include silica fume overlays which penetrates the entire thickness of the bridge deck. Related Activities: Paving, Bridge Substructure New, Replacement, or Repair, Temporary Work Platform, Guardrail Repair Lighting, Traffic and Pedestrian Signals, Dynamic Message Signs, Nighttime work with lights, Barge Staging

Bridge Superstructure New, Replacement, or Repair - Intermittent- Replacement or construction of the structure above the substructure. The superstructure includes but is not limited to the deck and

roadway for carrying traffic over a channel that holds water during wet portions of the year. Related Activities: Paving, Bridge Substructure New, Replacement, or Repair, Temporary Work Platform, Guardrail Repair Lighting, Traffic and Pedestrian Signals, Dynamic Message Signs, Nighttime work with lights, Barge Staging

Bridge Superstructure New, Replacement, or Repair - Perennial- Replacement or construction of the structure above the substructure. The superstructure includes but is not limited to the deck and roadway for carrying traffic over a stream or river that holds water throughout the year. This activity may include the use of heavy equipment or barges in river systems. Related Activities: Paving, Bridge Substructure New, Replacement, or Repair, Temporary Work Platform, Guardrail Repair Lighting, Traffic and Pedestrian Signals, Dynamic Message Signs, Nighttime work with lights, Barge Staging

Channel Grade Stabilization Structures- Energy dissipation, head-cut control within the stream channel. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Pile Driving Vibratory, Pile Driving Impact, Bank Stabilization, Stream Channel Impact

Channelization, Ephemeral- Modification of stream channel length and/or capacity in a channel that holds water only during and immediately after rain events. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Culvert Replacement, Enhancement, Repair, Bank Stabilization, Stream Channel Impact, Temporary Work Platform

Channelization, Intermittent- Modification of stream channel length and/or capacity in a channel that holds water during wet portions of the year. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Culvert Replacement, Enhancement, Repair, Bank Stabilization, Stream Channel Impact, Temporary Work Platform

Channelization, Perennial- Modification of stream channel length and/or capacity in a channel that holds water throughout the year. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Culvert Replacement, Enhancement, Repair, Bank Stabilization, Stream Channel Impact, Temporary Work Platform

Clearing and Grubbing - Tree and Shrub – This refers to the removal and disposition of all unwanted trees and shrubs and associated roots and stumps. This may be performed manually or using heavy equipment and may involve soil disturbance with root and stump removal. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Bridge Substructure New and Replacement, Channel Grade Stabilization Structures, Channelization, Culvert Extension, Repair, Replacement, Detention Basin, Guardrail Repair, Overpass, Piers, Pier/Pile Encasement, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Replacing a Bridge with a Culvert, Sidewalks and Bikeways, Signs with soil disturbance, Stream Channel Impact

Clearing and Grubbing - Non-woody Vegetation- This refers to the removal and disposition of all unwanted material from the surface, such as non-woody vegetation (ex: grasses), boulders, and trash, as well as unwanted material from underground, such as sod, boulders, roots, buried logs, or other debris. This is performed using heavy equipment and can involve soil disturbance in the immediate area. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Bridge Substructure New and Replacement, Channel Grade Stabilization Structures, Channelization, Culvert Extension, Repair, Replacement, Detention Basin, Guardrail Repair, Overpass, Piers, Pier/Pile Encasement, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Replacing a Bridge with a Culvert, Sidewalks and Bikeways, Signs with soil disturbance, Stream Channel Impact

Cofferdams— A temporary generally watertight enclosure that is pumped dry to expose the bottom of a body of water so that construction, as of piers, may be undertaken. This activity is performed using heavy equipment and will involve surface soil disturbance. Related Activities: Pile Driving Impact, Pile Driving Vibratory, Piers, Dewatering, Drilled Shafts, Bridge Substructure New, Replacement, and Repair, Pile/Pier Encasement, Stream Channel Impact, Temporary Work Platforms, Barge Staging

Concrete Pavement Repair- Patching concrete roadway surfaces by removing faulty surface sections (by jackhammering and sawing), including base or sub-grade material as required, and replacing with concrete and required base material to eliminate potential surface hazards. Sawing, jackhammering, cleaning and replacing expansion joints with special material to allow expansion and contraction of pavement. This is performed using some type of heavy equipment operated on the roadway and will not involve soil disturbance. This activity may include dowel bar/tie bar retrofit and/or replacement. Related Activities: Resurfacing, Milling, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Crack Sealing/Joint Sealing, Pavement Removal, Paving, Pavement Marking

Crack Sealing / Joint Sealing- This is a preventative maintenance measure which consists of routing and sealing the joints and cracks in the pavement with a sealant or asphaltic sealing product to prevent the moisture from penetrating into the base and subgrade material. Joint sealing may consist of sealing joints between asphaltic concrete surfacing and portland cement concrete pavement. Cracks and joints are commonly routed and cleaned with compressed air before being sealed. No earthwork is performed with this operation. This is performed using compressors and equipment operated on the roadway and will not involve soil disturbance. Related Activities: Milling, Resurfacing, Pavement Repair

Culvert New, Replacement, Extension, Repair- Ephemeral- Installation or repair of any structure, not classified as a bridge, which provides an opening under the roadway in a channel that holds water only during and immediately after rain events. This activity may be performed by heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance outside the hinge point (*do not check Grading Within or Outside the Hinge Point in conjunction with this activity*) May include headwall removal, replacement with flared end sections, and rural storm sewer work. Related Activities: Pipe Jacking and Casing, Erosion Control

- Culvert New-This activity is the installation of a culvert in a location where there was none previously. The activity requires excavation of material, placement of culvert pipe, backfilling around the new culvert, and finish grading. For box culverts, forms are set and concrete is poured to form the culvert.
- Culvert Replacement- This activity is the installation of a new culvert of the same or different type and size in place of an existing culvert. The activity requires the excavation of material covering the existing culvert and backfilling around the new culvert.
- Culvert Extension- This is an activity where a culvert is lengthened because of an increase in roadway width. For metal culverts, a piece of culvert is attached, often requiring either a concrete collar or metal band for the joint, to the existing culvert and the area around the culvert is backfilled and finish graded. For box culverts, forms are set and new concrete is poured that extends the culvert to the plan specifications.
- Culvert Repair- This includes but is not limited to sliplining, wingwalls, and box culvert floor repair.

Culvert New, Replacement, Extension, Repair- Intermittent- Repairs of any structure, not classified as a bridge, which provides an opening under the roadway in a channel that holds water during wet portions of the year. This activity may be performed by heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance outside the hinge point. (*do not check Grading Within or Outside the Hinge Point in conjunction with this*

activity) May include headwall removal and replacement with flared end sections. Related Activities: Pipe Jacking and Casing, Erosion Control

Culvert New, Replacement, Extension, Repair- Perennial- Repairs of any structure, not classified as a bridge, which provides an opening under the roadway on a stream that holds water throughout the year. This activity may be performed by heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance outside the hinge point. *(do not check Grading Within or Outside the Hinge Point in conjunction with this activity)* May include headwall removal and replacement with flared end sections. Related Activities: Pipe Jacking and Casing, Erosion Control

Curb and Flume- A curb is a raised edge of asphalt built along the road to carry water along the side of the road to a flume which is an artificial water channel that carries water off the roadway and onto the shoulder. This activity is performed using heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance outside the hinge point. *(do not check Grading Within or Outside the Hinge Point in conjunction with this activity)* Related Activities: Grading Within the Hinge Point, Paving, Erosion Control

Curb and Gutter- Curb and gutter areas are constructed in urban areas where storm drains exist (urban areas). This activity is performed using heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance outside the hinge point. This could include ADA ramp installation or upgrades. *(do not check Grading Within or Outside the Hinge Point in conjunction with this activity)* Related Activities: Grading Within the Hinge Point, Paving, Erosion Control

Detention Basin- A constructed pond or reservoir incorporated into the watershed for temporary storage, less than 72 hours, of stormwater. Its purpose is to reduce the peak flow into the downstream waterway. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Erosion Control

De-watering-- Removing or draining water from an enclosure or a structure (such as a caisson or cofferdam) placed within a riverbed. Usually involves the use of "dewatering" pumps. Temporary diversions of streams or channels to bypass a bridge, culvert, or other work location are also considered de-watering. Related Activities: Barge Staging, Cofferdams, Piers, Pile Driving (Impact or Vibratory)

Drilled Shafts- A Drilled Shaft is a deep foundation that is constructed by placing fluid concrete in a drilled hole (in channels or upland areas). Typically they are used for bridges and large structures, where large loads and lateral resistance are major factors. Drill cuttings generally must be discharged per conservation condition. Related Activities: Barge Staging, Cofferdams, Bridge Substructure New and Replacement, Overpass

Earth Shoulder Construction- Procedure where material is hauled, compacted, bladed, and shaped to conform to the plan's typical cross sections and compaction requirements. This activity may include shoulder shaping and tapering for mailbox turnouts and superelevation correction. This procedure may occur during the construction of new roadways or existing roadways where design standards require it either within or outside the hinge-point. This is performed using some type of heavy equipment and will involve soil disturbance. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Erosion Control

Erosion Control- Barriers- Installing stormwater barriers is a practice used to slow down runoff and allow sediment to settle out. Specific types of barriers include: topsoil, mulch, and silt fence. This activity can be performed using some type of heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance. Related Activities: Any activity that requires soil stabilization.

Erosion Control- Erosion Checks- Erosion checks are relatively small, temporary structures constructed across a ditch to slow water velocity and capture sediment. Specific types of erosion checks include: wattles, earth checks, rock checks and synthetic checks. This activity can be performed using heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance. Related Activities: Any activity that requires soil stabilization.

Erosion Control- Inlet/Outlet Protection- Storm drain inlets, curb inlets, and culvert outlets are designed to carry stormwater, but they can also carry sediment to streams, rivers, wetlands, lakes, and sensitive areas if they are not properly protected. These areas can be protected by the installation of wattles, synthetic barriers, and or rip rap in the case of culvert outlets. This activity can be performed using some type of heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance. Related Activities: Any activity that requires soil stabilization.

Erosion Control- Mulching- Mulching is an erosion control practice that uses prairie hay or straw to stabilize slopes and exposed soils although rushes and similar materials may also be considered. This temporary practice can also be used when seeding is not practical due to seasonal constraints and for erosion control prior to a rain event. Mulches assist with establishing vegetation in areas that have been temporarily seeded with a cover crop and for areas seeded with permanent vegetation. Hay is preferred to straw and may contain viable seed. This activity is performed using some type of heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance. Related Activities: Any activity that requires soil stabilization.

Erosion Control- Rolled Erosion Control- Erosion control blankets and turf reinforcement mats are typically used on steep slopes (3:1 or steeper) where the erosion hazard is high and vegetation growth is likely to be too slow to provide adequate stabilization. This activity can be performed using some type of heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance. Related Activities: Any activity that requires soil stabilization.

Erosion Control- Slope Interruption- This is a technique that provides a barrier, diversion, or bypass for storm water to infiltrate or flow down a slope in a less erosive manner. Specific techniques include- soil roughening, slope tracking, berms and diversions, benching, temporary slope drains, and wattles/ compost logs. This activity is performed using some type of heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance. Related Activities: Any activity that requires soil stabilization.

Erosion Control- Traps and Basins- Silt traps, sediment traps, and sediment basins are depressions or embankments created in the storm water flow path that causes sediment-laden water to slow and pool, and allows soil particles to drop out before the water exits the BMP. This activity can be performed using some type of heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance. Related Activities: Any activity that requires soil stabilization.

Erosion Control- Vegetation- Seeding and sodding are the primary methods of establishing vegetation and stabilizing soils disturbed by construction activity. Specific techniques include: cover crop seeding, temporary seeding, permanent seeding, and sodding. This activity is performed using some type of heavy equipment and may include soil disturbance. Related Activities: Any activity that requires soil stabilization.

Fencing- Building a barrier or boundary to prevent or direct movement from one area to another. Fencing operations may include clearing vegetation from the fenceline and material removal for installation of fence posts. It also includes the erection of wire and posts or other material and may

include soil disturbance. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Clearing and Grubbing, Erosion Control, Grading Within the Hinge Point

Grading Within the Hinge Point - Grading associated with resurfacing projects that result in a grade rise of the roadway. Material is placed on the earthen shoulder and graded out to blend the new roadway height with the existing earthen shoulder. This activity will not occur outside the existing hinge point of the shoulder. This activity may include shoulder shaping and tapering for mailbox turnouts and superelevation correction. Hinge point is defined as the shoulder point, where the earth shoulder meets the foreslope, whenever the foreslope is steeper than 6:1. Whenever the safety section grading is 6:1 or flatter, the hinge point is where the safety section grading meets the foreslope. This distance is not to exceed 30 feet from the outside edge of the through driving lane. *See illustrations at the end of the Sources of Impacts document.* This is performed using some type of heavy equipment and will involve surface soil disturbance. Related Activities: Paving, Milling and/or In-place Recycling, Guardrail repair w/ soil disturbance, Erosion Control, Resurfacing-Fog/Slurry Seal, Armor Coat/Chip Seal

Grading Outside the Hinge Point - Soil disturbance that takes place outside the existing hinge point of the shoulder i.e. the foreslope and backslope. Hinge point is defined as the shoulder point, where the earth shoulder meets the foreslope, whenever the foreslope is steeper than 6:1. Whenever the safety section grading is 6:1 or flatter, the hinge point is where the safety section grading meets the foreslope. This distance is not to exceed 30 feet from the outside edge of the through driving lane. *See illustrations at the end of the Sources of Impacts document.* This is normally associated with projects that include roadway widening, slope shaping, slope stabilization, excavation, work on structures, drainage issues and realignments. This is performed using some type of heavy equipment and will involve soil disturbance. Related Activities: Resurfacing, Erosion Control, Clearing and Grubbing, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Detention Basin, Pre-watering, Trenched Widening, Earth Shoulder Construction, Paving, Curb and Gutter, Curb and Flume, Sidewalks and Bikeways, Channelization, Stream Channel Impacts, Bank Stabilization, Retaining Walls, Noise Walls, Culvert Replacement, Bridge Substructure New and Replacement, Overpass, Guardrail, Lighting w/soil disturbance, Dynamic Message Sign, Underground Conduit, Fencing, Borrow, Plant Sites, Equipment Sites, Staging Sites, Wetland Mitigation

Guardrail repair w/ soil disturbance- Repairing or replacing all types of guardrail, steel beams, steel band or cable, end-treatments including the supporting posts to restore safe driving conditions. Associated work may include placement of new posts, placement of fill and grading to accommodate updated design standards. May occur beyond the hinge-point. Related Activities: Grading Within the Hinge Point, Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Erosion Control

Guardrail repair w/out soil disturbance- Repairing or replacing all types of guardrail, steel beams, steel band or cable, or end-treatments to accommodate updated design standards. Does not include any activity that requires soil disturbance such as digging post holes or grading. Related Activities: None identified.

Habitat Fragmentation, Modification of Connectivity- A change to the habitat of a listed species and/or critical habitat to a threshold that it adversely impacts that species. The following factors could result in habitat fragmentation and/or modification of connectivity: reduction in the total area of the habitat, decrease in the amount or usability of interior habitat, isolation of one habitat fragment from other areas of habitat, disturbing or modifying migration/movement patterns, breaking up of one patch of habitat into several small patches, and decrease in the average size of each patch of habitat. Related Activities: Erosion Control, Clearing and Grubbing, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Detention Basin, Pre-

watering, Trenched Widening, Earth Shoulder Construction, Paving, Curb and Gutter, Curb and Flume, Sidewalks and Bikeways, Channelization, Stream Channel Impacts, Bank Stabilization, Retaining Walls, Noise Walls, Culvert Replacement, Bridge Substructure New and Replacement, Overpass, Guardrail, Lighting w/soil disturbance, Dynamic Message Sign, Underground Conduit, Fencing, Borrow, Plant Sites, Equipment Sites, Staging Sites, Wetland Mitigation

Landscaping- A term referring to any activity that modifies or enhances the visible features of the project site by shaping the terrain and planting a variety of grasses, trees, or shrubs. This activity may include the use of heavy equipment and will involve soil disturbance. Related Activities: Erosion Control

Lighting, Traffic and Pedestrian Signals, Dynamic Message Signs w/ soil disturbance- A term referring to work that provides roadway illumination, traffic signals, and/or dynamic message boards. The scope may include trenching or boring in electrical service, constructing concrete foundations for light poles, and above ground utility relocation/extension. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Erosion Control, Underground Conduit

Lighting, Traffic and Pedestrian Signals, Dynamic Message Signs w/out soil disturbance- Maintenance of existing lighting structures (replacing poles or mast arms), traffic signals, and/or dynamic message boards that does not include disturbance of the area surrounding the lighting structure. Related Activities: None identified.

Microsurfacing-- A mixture of polymer modified asphalt emulsion, mineral aggregate, mineral filler, water, and other additives, properly proportioned, mixed, and spread on a paved surface. Microsurfacing differs from slurry seal in that it can be used on high volume roadways to correct wheel path rutting and provide a skid resistant pavement surface. This is performed using heavy equipment operated on the roadway and will not involve soil disturbance. Adding a High Friction Surface Course to an already established roadway segment is covered under this activity. Related Activities: Crack Sealing/Joint Sealing

Milling and/or In-place Recycling- This is a process by which existing surface material is removed and salvaged from the roadway. Milling is generally done with a large machine capable of grinding the surface material. The millings are loaded directly into trucks and removed from the project, unless in-place recycling is utilized (where millings are reused for the new surfacing). The surface is generally milled (cut to a certain depth) to remove surface irregularities, including longitudinal wheel ruts; but may be milled to a depth sufficient to provide a base for placement of a new pavement structure. The spoil is collected in the milling operation and hauled off the roadway and recycled into other work whenever practical. Residue may be broomed to the shoulder of the road. This activity may require soil disturbance up to a foot from the edge of pavement to prevent contamination from milling material. This soil disturbance consists of minimal grading up to 6 inches in depth. This activity may include the installation of rumble safety features (ex: strips, stripes, bars) or diamond grinding and superelevation correction. Related Activities: Grading Within the Hinge Point, Bridge Deck Repair, Paving, Concrete Pavement Repair, Resurfacing-Fog/Slurry Seal, Armor Coat/Chip Seal

Night-time Work with Lights- This applies to any construction activity that takes place at night where temporary construction lighting is required. Activities needing night work includes but is not limited to bridge deck pours, joint cutting, girder placement, etc. Related Activities: Paving, Bridge Deck Replacement, Bridge Superstructure New and Replacement

Noise Walls— Noise walls are solid obstructions built between a roadway and an area where traffic noise is unwanted or needs to be reduced. The construction of noise walls is performed using heavy equipment to perform sub-grade preparation (soil disturbance) and construction of the walls. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Erosion Control, Clearing and Grubbing

Overpass- A grade separation where the highway passes over a highway or railroad. This activity will include the construction or repair of substructure and/or superstructure and involve heavy equipment and soil disturbance. Installation of lighting, traffic, and pedestrian signals and cameras may be included in work on overpasses. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Paving, Erosion Control, Drilled Shafts, Pile Driving-Vibratory, Pile Driving-Impact

Pavement Marking- The process by which paint or other material is placed on the roadway surface to communicate instructions to motorists. This activity includes a truck traveling down the roadway spraying paint onto roadway, but may also include personnel using wheeled sprayers to mark turn arrows etc. Related Activities: None identified

Pavement Removal- The process of removing the roadway (asphalt and concrete, not soil) using equipment such as jackhammers, backhoes, and excavators. Usually done when removing the full depth of roadway material, or patching individual panels in a roadway. Related Activities: Grading Within the Hinge Point, Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Paving

Paving- Placing of a new full depth roadway of asphaltic concrete or concrete pavement on new or existing alignment. This activity may include existing or construction of new mailbox turnouts in conjunction with the paving project. May include night work requiring lights. May include construction of bridge approach slabs. Will typically include the installation of sub-grade drains or under-drains. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Earthen Shoulder Construction, Night-time work with lights, Pavement Removal

Piers- An intermediate support for the adjacent ends of two bridge/overpass spans. This activity is performed using heavy equipment or barges in rivers and will involve soil disturbance. Related Activities: Cofferdams, Pile Driving Impact, Pile Driving Vibratory, Bridge Substructure New and Replacement, Barge Staging, Overpass, Drilled Shafts, De-watering

Pile Driving, Impact Method- Delivering repeated blows to the top of a pile for driving it into the ground. This method often uses a diesel pile hammer attached to heavy equipment to impact the pile. Related Activities: Cofferdams, Channel Grade Stabilization Structures, Temporary Work Platforms

Pile Driving, Vibratory Method- A machine is lifted and positioned over the pile by means of an excavator or crane, and is fastened to the pile by a clamp and/or bolts. Vibratory hammers can either drive in or extract a pile; extraction is commonly used to recover steel "H" piles used in temporary foundation shoring. Related Activities: Cofferdams, Channel Grade Stabilization Structures, Temporary Work Platforms

Pile/Pier Encasement- This process includes excavating around an exposed pile (in channels or upland areas) and encasing it in concrete to improve the structural integrity of the pier. This activity may include the use of heavy equipment and will involve soil disturbance. Related Activities: Cofferdams, De-watering, Bridge Substructure New, Replacement, or Repair

Pipe Jacking and Casing- This is a method of tunnel construction where hydraulic jacks are used to push specially made pipes through the ground behind a tunnel boring machine or shield. This technique is commonly used to create tunnels under existing structures, such as roads or railways. This activity is performed using heavy equipment and will involve soil disturbance. Related Activities: Culvert Replacement, Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Clearing and Grubbing, Underground Conduit

Pre-watering- Contractor may apply water by sprinkler irrigation or ponding methods to achieve optimal moisture content. The soil may be tilled to facilitate the penetration of the water and to minimize run-off. Related activities: Grading Within the Hinge Point, Grading Outside the Hinge Point

Removal of Structures and Obstructions- This activity refers to the removal of buildings, old piling/piers, abutments, fences, old roadbeds, and other man-made obstacles in both upland and aquatic environments. This activity is performed using heavy equipment and will involve soil disturbance. Related Activities: Clearing and Grubbing, Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Bridge Substructure New and Replacement

Replacing a Bridge with a Culvert- The act of replacing an existing bridge with a culvert. This activity will involve the use of heavy equipment and soil disturbance. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Erosion Control, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Bank Stabilization

Resurfacing-Fog/Slurry Seal, Armor Coat/Chip Seal, Overlay- Additional layer of surfacing material placed on top of the existing hard surfaced road. Fog/Slurry Seal includes the preservation of old asphalt surface, sealing small cracks and surface voids by spraying emulsions diluted with clear water. In the case of Armor Coat/Chip Seal, a thin covering of gravel/crushed stone is placed after the roadway has been sprayed with asphalt. This is performed using heavy equipment operated on the roadway and will not involve surface soil disturbance beyond 12-inches off the surface area. These activities may include the surfacing of mailbox turnouts, the incorporation of beveled edges on the surfacing for safety, and superelevation correction. Related Activities: Milling and/or In-place Recycling, Bridge Deck Repair, Material Storage

Retaining Walls (Not in Water/Wetlands)-- A retaining wall is a structure that holds back soil or rock from a building, structure or area. Retaining walls prevent downslope movement or erosion and provide support for vertical or near-vertical grade changes. This is performed using some type of heavy equipment and will involve surface soil disturbance to shape and backfill the area. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Erosion Control

Rock or Gravel Surfacing- The placement of rock or gravel material on unpaved roads, intersections, mailbox turnouts, or drives after final grading in construction situations or as a maintenance practice on existing unpaved roadways. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point

Shoo-fly- A shoo-fly is considered a structure for conveyance of traffic detoured around a bridge/culvert construction project (for full crossing of the stream channel from bank to bank). Culverts are covered by earthen fill and seeded or otherwise stabilized. Shoo-flies are part of the project engineering design, are shown on the plans, and are generally paved for traffic use. Shoo-flies are similar to temporary crossings with the addition of traffic safety features and are designed to convey a 2-year storm event, at a minimum. These are removed at the completion of construction. Related Activities: Resurfacing, Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Erosion Control, Clearing and Grubbing, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Detention Basin, Paving, Channelization, Stream Channel Impacts, Bank Stabilization,

Retaining Walls, Culvert Replacement, Bridge Substructure New and Replacement, Overpass, Wetland Mitigation

Sidewalks and Bikeways- Surfacing of sidewalks, bikeways, or non-motorized trails. This activity pertains only to the placement of surfacing material and does not involve ground disturbance. This could include ADA ramp installation or upgrades. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Paving, Clearing and Grubbing, Curb and Gutter, Culverts, Bridges

Signs with soil disturbance- The placement or maintenance of sign posts along with the new signage that requires the excavation of soil for installation of footings or sign bases for their installation. Related Activities: Erosion Control, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Grading Outside the Hinge Point

Signs without soil disturbance- The placement or maintenance of sign posts along with new signage without disturbing soil or minimal soil disturbance, to include manual installation of sign posts. This may include items such as replacing missing or damaged signs. Related Activities: None identified.

Stream Channel Impact, Ephemeral- Design and/or construction activities that will change the area below the high water mark by activities not included in Channelization or Culvert Extension, Replacement, Repair in a channel that holds water only during and immediately after rain events. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Culvert Replacement, Enhancement, Repair, Bridge Substructure Repair, Replacement, Channel Grade Stabilization Structure, Replacing a Bridge with a Culvert

Stream Channel Impact, Intermittent- Design and/or construction activities that will change the area below the high water mark by activities not included in Channelization or Culvert Extension, Replacement, Repair in a channel that holds water during wet portions of the year. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Culvert Replacement, Enhancement, Repair, Bridge Substructure Repair, Replacement, Channel Grade Stabilization Structure, Replacing a Bridge with a Culvert

Stream Channel Impact, Perennial- Design and/or construction activities that will change the area below the high water mark by activities not included in Channelization or Culvert Extension, Replacement, Repair in a channel that holds water throughout the year. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Culvert Replacement, Enhancement, Repair, Bridge Substructure Repair, Replacement, Channel Grade Stabilization Structure, Replacing a Bridge with a Culvert

Survey and Staking- The action of determining the boundaries, area, or elevations of (land or structures on the earth's surface) by means of measuring angles and distances. Staking refers to slope stakes and/or lath for delineation of right of way and limits of construction. Typically this would include some vehicle and foot traffic in the survey area. Related Activities: None identified.

Temporary Crossing, Causeway, Work Platforms-

- Temporary Crossing- A temporary crossing consists of a culvert(s) or temporary bridge for full crossing of the stream channel from bank to bank. Culverts are covered by earthen fill, clean granular fill or rock for the purpose of providing a temporary crossing for workers, equipment, and efficiency of phasing. The sides of the crossing may be armored with rock rip-rap, sheetpile, or other equivalent. The culverts used in the temporary crossing will allow for normal Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) stream flows with minimal backwater and shall not be placed to

dewater the downstream channel area within the OHWM. These are removed at the completion of construction.

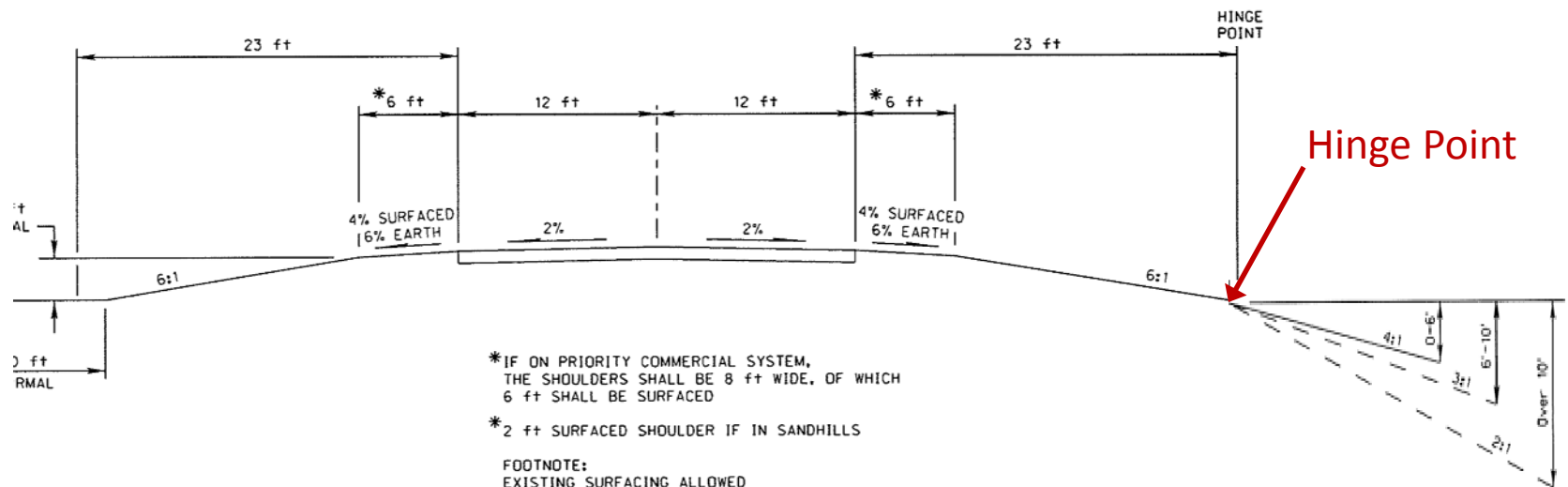
- Causeway- A causeway is considered a construction activity using fill and culverts or temporary bridges for partial waterway crossing, not exceeding 50% of normal/ordinary high-water channel width. These are removed at the completion of construction.
- Work Platform- A work platform is a structure used to conduct activities in or adjacent to a stream channel and may include a temporary bridge, causeway, bank platform, and/or work pads. These are removed at the completion of construction.
- Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Cofferdams, Piers, Pile Driving-Vibratory and Impact, Erosion Control, Pile/Pier Encasement, Clearing and Grubbing, De-watering, Drilled Shafts, Removal of Structures and Obstructions, Detention Basin, Channelization, Stream Channel Impacts, Bank Stabilization, Retaining Walls, Culvert Replacement, Bridge Substructure New and Replacement, Overpass, Wetland Mitigation

Trenched Widening- Procedure used to widen existing roadways that do not meet current design standards. It involves removing soil adjacent to the roadway to a width of 2-feet. The removed material is placed in a wind-row on the shoulder. Asphalt or concrete pavement is then placed in the trench, widening the roadway 2-feet. The stockpiled material on the shoulder is used to construct the earthen shoulder at the proper elevation to meet the new roadway elevation. This is performed using some type of heavy equipment and will involve surface soil disturbance within the hinge-point. These activities may include the incorporation of beveled edges on the surfacing for safety. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Erosion Control, Earth Shoulder Construction, Milling and/or in-place Recycling

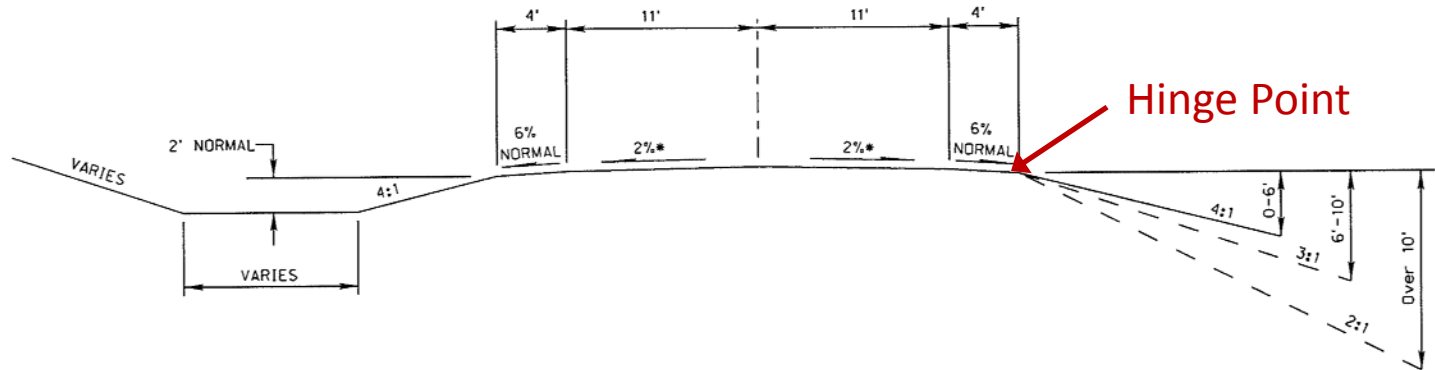
Underground Utility Conduit Installation/Relocation: *If this work will be done by the project contractor or with federal funds, check this box in the activity checklist.* Conduit installation that includes excavating, backfilling and compacting soil or installation by horizontal boring equipment. Urban storm sewer replacement, relocation, extension, or repair would be included in this activity. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Grading Within the Hinge Point, Erosion Control, Signs with soil disturbance, Lighting, Traffic and Pedestrian Signals, Dynamic Message Signs w/ soil disturbance, Pipe Jacking and Casing

Wetland Mitigation- The creation, restoration, or enhancement of wetlands, to compensate for wetlands that were or will be lost due to regulated activities. This activity only applies to wetland construction for mitigation and does not include the mitigation of wetland impacts at a pre-existing mitigation site (banking). This activity may include the use of heavy equipment and soil disturbance. Related Activities: Grading Outside the Hinge Point, Erosion Control, Stream Channel Impacts, Bridge Substructure Repair and Replacement, Channelization, Culvert Replacement, Extension, or Repair, Paving

Hinge Point Example



Hinge Point Example

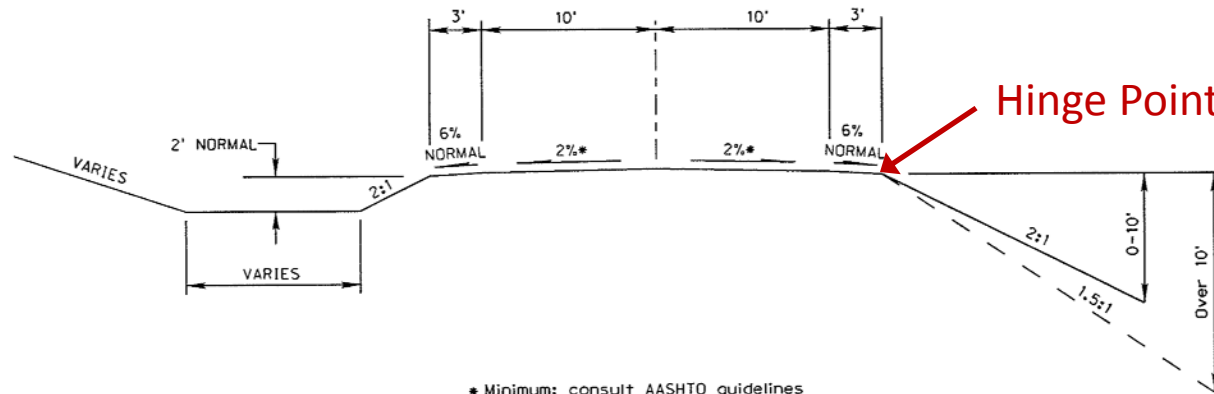


* Unpaved roads: 2% minimum; consult AASHTO guidelines for appropriate cross slope.

ROA2	RC1	RL1
OTHER ARTERIAL	COLLECTOR	LOCAL
251 - 400 ADT	251 - 400 ADT	251 - 400 ADT

(401 - 750 ADT FOR SCENIC-RECREATION)

Hinge Point Example



* Minimum; consult AASHTO guidelines for appropriate cross slope.

RL3
LOCAL
0 - 50 ADT

FOR SCENIC-RECREATION: 0 - 250 ADT