



# SH-28 East of US-69

## STUDIES

### Environmental Studies

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**Waters and Wetlands:** The proposed project will cross several unnamed tributaries to Rock Creek, Neosho River, and Elm Creek. The proposed stream and river crossings will incorporate water quality protection best management practices to prevent erosion and keep sediment and unwanted materials out of streams. As proposed, the project will be permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act with a Nationwide General Permit. No significant, permanent adverse impacts to waterbodies are expected.

**Threatened and Endangered Species:** Habitat surveys were conducted for federally listed threatened and endangered species, as well as for protected bird species. Due to the proximity to the existing highway and development of the area, habitat for threatened and endangered species was observed within the proposed project area. There was potential habitat for several protected species, including bird, bat, fish, insect and clam species. As such, consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was conducted, and avoidance and minimization measures will be implemented. Overall, no significant adverse impacts to protected species are anticipated.

**Cultural Resources:** A cultural resources survey was conducted, which considers the potential to impact significant historic and archaeological resources. There are historic properties along this segment of SH-28, but impacts will be avoided. Initial field results indicate that there are no pre-historic archeological sites within the study area. However, there are significant sites in the general area that need protection. Environmental avoidance notes will be included in the project plans to protect these areas of concern. Consequently, no significant adverse impacts to cultural resources are anticipated.

**Hazardous Materials:** An initial site assessment was conducted to determine the potential impact from hazardous materials or contaminants. Some areas were identified that could pose an environmental risk within the proposed project footprint adjacent to the study area (e.g., gas stations, repair shops, etc.).

ODOT is currently assessing the potential impacts, but these sites are not considered to be a high risk. No adverse impacts are anticipated.

**Floodplains:** A portion of the project is located within a floodplain. During large rain events and wet seasons, the floodplain helps to manage flood waters and prevent impacts to homes and property. ODOT will avoid or minimize any impacts to an acceptable level.



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