



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION  
ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICAL STUDIES OFFICE  
SUITE 900, JAMES K. POLK BUILDING  
505 DEADERICK STREET  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1402  
(615) 741-3655**

**BUTCH ELEY**  
DEPUTY GOVERNOR &  
COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION

**BILL LEE**  
GOVERNOR

**MEMORANDUM**

To: *Stacy Weaver*  
*TDOT Manager*

From: *Matt Beeler*  
*Region One Ecology*

Date: *12/2/24*

Subject: **Environmental Boundaries Report For:**  
**SR-353 Bridge over Nolichucky River**  
**PIN: 135866.08**

An ecological evaluation of the subject project has been conducted in response to Hurricane Helene

**STREAMS:** *There is one stream within project limits*

**WETLANDS:** None.

**OTHER FEATURES:** *None*

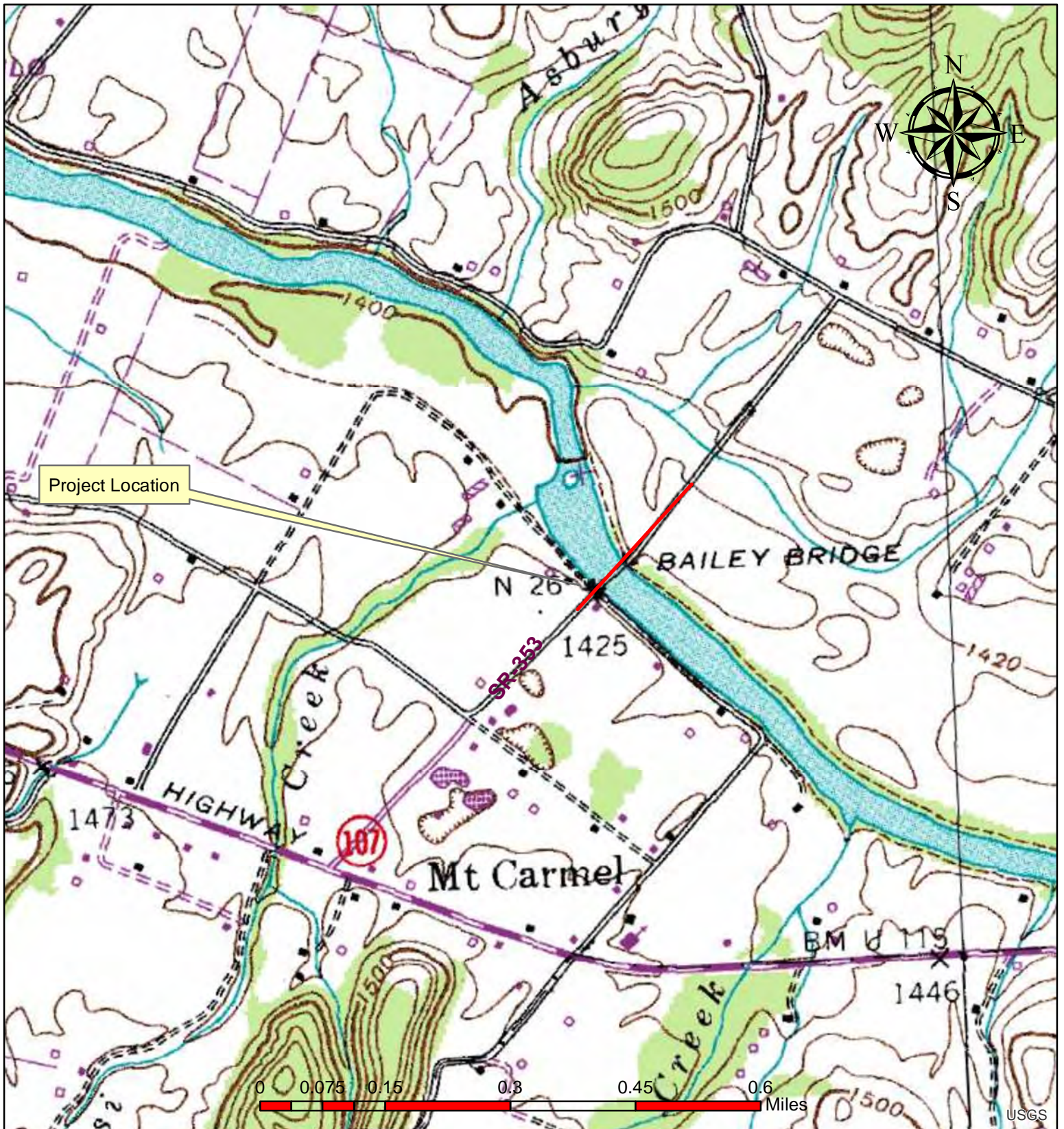
**SPECIES:**

- *USFWS: USFWS coordination was completed November 1, 2024, with species concern of bat habitat.*
- *TWRA: TWRA coordination was completed November 7, 2024, with no species concern.*
- *TDEC DNA: TDEC DNA 2023 MOA applies for this project under Condition 1.*

**COMMITMENTS:** USFWS has concerns for potential impacts due to tree clearing across the entire project. Given that this is a summer record only, tree clearing preference would be between October 1 and March 31 as a protective BMP. It should be communicated to the repair team that tree clearing should be minimized as much as possible, in addition to following the standard BMPs already provided by USFWS.

Your assistance is appreciated. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at 865-216-2448 or e-mail [matthew.beeler@tn.gov](mailto:matthew.beeler@tn.gov).

xc:     *Region 1 Project Development:* Dexter Justis, John Barrett, Mark Doty  
          *Design Lead:* Stacy Weaver  
          *HQ Ecology:* Shawn Wurst, Dennis Crumby  
          *HQ Permits:* Claire Sichko  
          *Region 1 Permits:* Chad Weaver  
          [TDOT.Env.Ecology@tn.gov](mailto:TDOT.Env.Ecology@tn.gov)  
          [TDOT.Env.Permits@tn.gov](mailto:TDOT.Env.Permits@tn.gov)  
          [TDOT.Env.Mitigation@tn.gov](mailto:TDOT.Env.Mitigation@tn.gov)  
          [TDOT.Env.NEPA@tn.gov](mailto:TDOT.Env.NEPA@tn.gov)

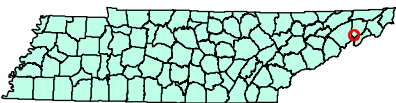


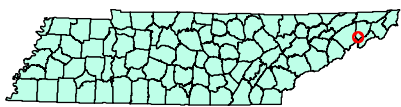
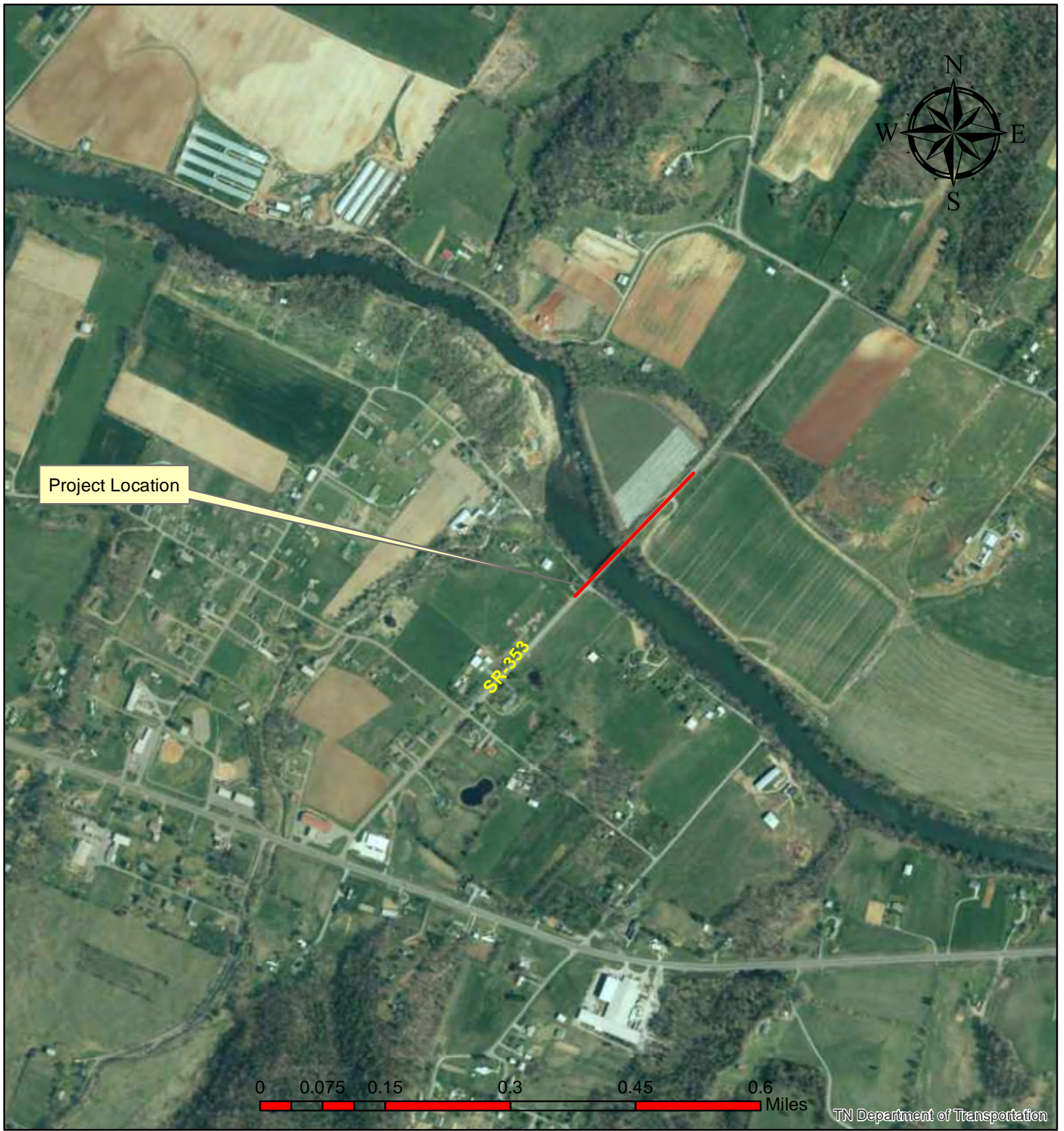
**Project Location Map - topo**  
**SR-353 Bridge over Nolichucky River**  
**Washington County**

**Telford 190 NE**

**10-2-24**

**PIN:135866.08**





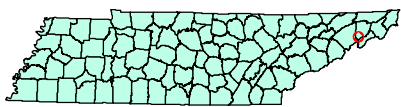
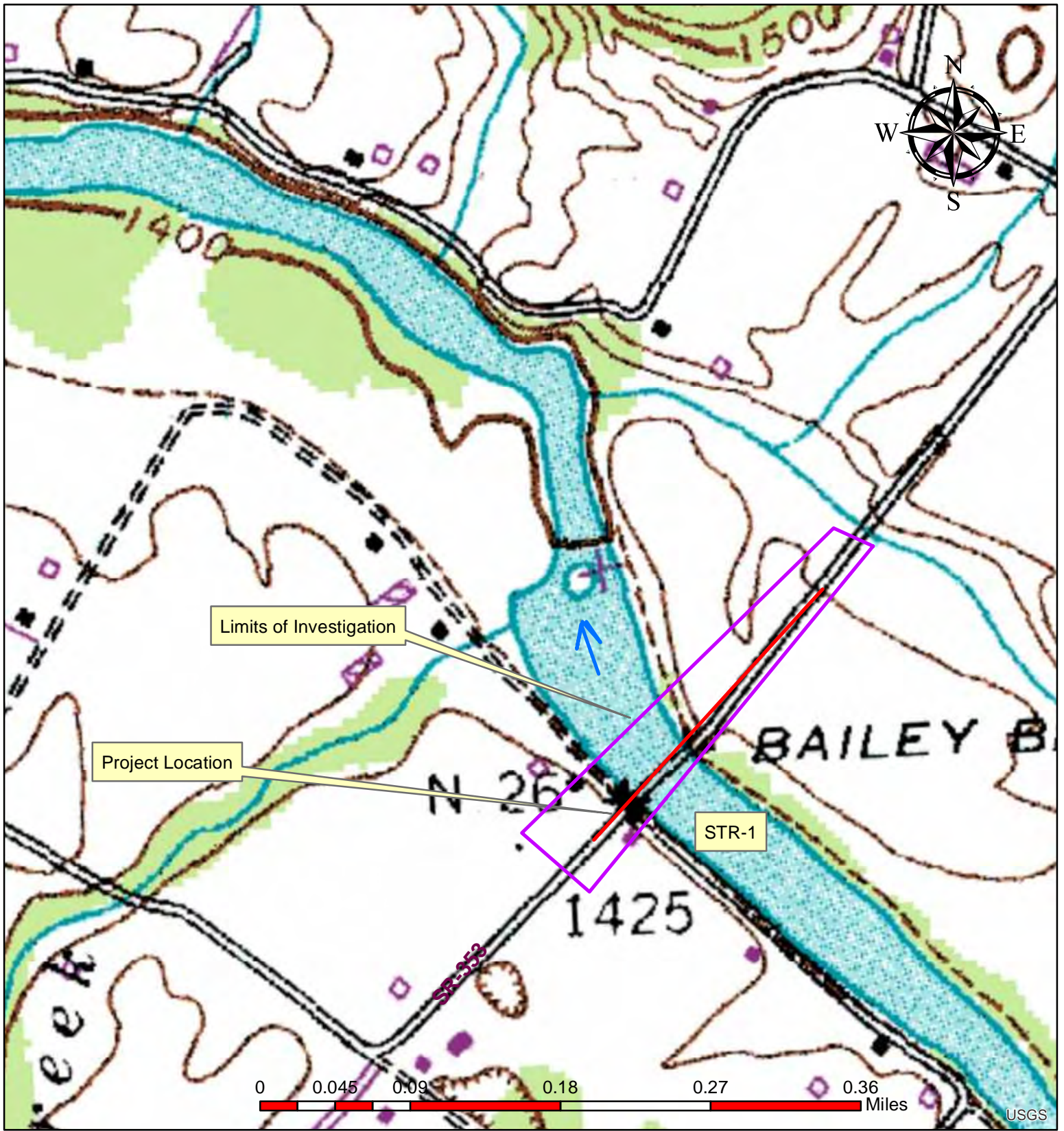
**Project Location Map - aerial  
SR-353 Bridge over Nolichucky River  
Washington County**

**Telford 190 NE**

**10-2-24**

**PIN:135866.08**





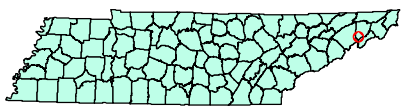
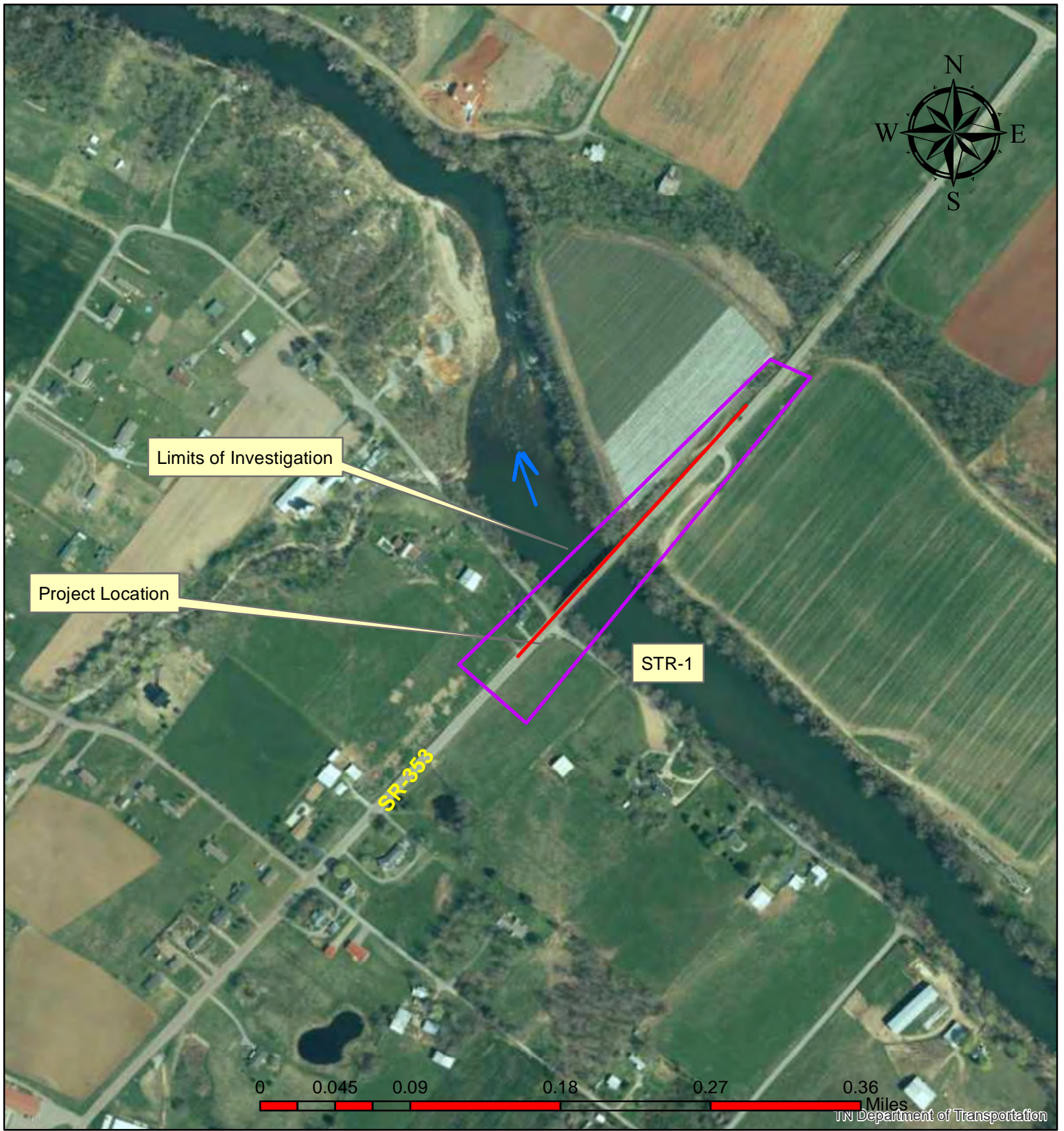
**Topo Water Resources Map**  
**SR-353 Bridge over Nolichucky River**  
**Washington County**

**Telford 190 NE**

**10-2-24**

**PIN:135866.08**





**Aerial Water Resources Map  
SR-353 Bridge over Nolichucky River  
Washington County**

**Telford 190 NE**

**10-2-24**

**PIN:135866.08**



**Project Name:** SR-353 Bridge over Nolichucky River

**PIN:** 135866.08

**Water Resource Table for EBR**

Based on: Planning Report

Date:

Water Resources (Non-Wetland)					
Label	Type	Latitude	Longitude	Receiving Waters	Quality
STR-1	Perennial Stream	36.15598	-82.590556	Douglas Lake	Not Supporting/Impaired (303(d))

Water Resources (Wetland)*					
Label	Type	Latitude	Longitude	Receiving Waters	Quality
None					
*Unless described otherwise in the NEPA document; all wetlands are presumed to serve the following functions to varying degrees, based on location: wildlife habitat, flood storage, groundwater recharge, nutrient processing, contaminant filtering, and recreation.					

Note- Features referenced in this table are based on information available and may change as the project is further refined throughout project development.

# Ecology Field Data Sheet: **Water Resources**

<b>Project:</b> SR 353 Bridge over Nolichucky River PIN:135866.08												
<b>Biologist:</b>	Matt Beeler		<b>Affiliation:</b>	TDOT		<b>Date:</b>	8/5/22					
<b>1-Station:</b> from plans												
<b>2-Map label and name</b>	STR-1, Nolichucky River											
<b>3-Latitude/Longitude</b>	36.155980 N, -82.590556 W											
<b>4-Feature description:</b>												
<b>-channel identification</b>	perennial stream	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	intermittent stream	<input type="checkbox"/>	ephemeral stream	<input type="checkbox"/>	wwc	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<b>-HD score (if applicable)</b>												
<b>-OHWM indicators</b>	bed & banks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	deposition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	presence of litter debris	<input type="checkbox"/>	scour	<input type="checkbox"/>	veg absent, bent, matted	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	change in plant community	<input type="checkbox"/>	destruction of terrestrial veg	<input type="checkbox"/>	multiple observe flow events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sediment sorting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	water staining	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	change in soil character	<input type="checkbox"/>	leaf litter disturb or absent	<input type="checkbox"/>	natural line impressed on bank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	shelving	<input type="checkbox"/>	wracking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>-channel bottom width</b>	250'			-top of bank width			260'					
<b>-width and max depth at ordinary high water mark</b>	255', NA											
<b>-width at bankfull</b>	260'											
<b>-bank height</b>	LDB - 4-5'				RDB - 4-5'							
<b>-riffle/pool complex or other specialized habitat present?</b>	No											
<b>-dominant riparian species:</b> ------(LDB /RDB)-----	LDB: Sycamore, Black Walnut, Box Elder											
	RDB: Sycamore, Black Walnut, Box Elder											
<b>-particle size distribution %</b>	Silt/Sand:	NA	Gravel:	NA	Cobble:	NA	Boulder:	NA	Bedrock:	NA		
<b>5-photo numbers</b>	7,9											
<b>6-HUC -8 Code &amp; Name</b>	06010108, Tennessee Region											
<b>7-Assessed</b>	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
<b>8-ETW</b>	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
<b>9-303 (d) List</b>	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	siltation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	habitat:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	no	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>									
<b>10-Notes</b>	This assessment is before the hurricane.											

# Ecology Field Data Sheet: **Water Resources**

<b>Project:</b> SR 353 Bridge over Nolichucky River PIN:135866.08										
<b>Biologist:</b>	Matt Beeler		<b>Affiliation:</b>	TDOT		<b>Date:</b>	10/1/24			
<b>1-Station:</b> from plans										
<b>2-Map label and name</b>	STR-1, Nolichucky River									
<b>3-Latitude/Longitude</b>	36.155980 N, -82.590556 W									
<b>4-Feature description:</b>										
<b>-channel identification</b>	perennial stream	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	intermittent stream	<input type="checkbox"/>	ephemeral stream	<input type="checkbox"/>	wwc	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>-HD score (if applicable)</b>										
<b>-OHWM indicators</b>	bed & banks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	deposition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	presence of litter debris	<input type="checkbox"/>	scour	<input type="checkbox"/>	veg absent, bent, matted	<input type="checkbox"/>
	change in plant community	<input type="checkbox"/>	destruction of terrestrial veg	<input type="checkbox"/>	multiple observe flow events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sediment sorting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	water staining	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	change in soil character	<input type="checkbox"/>	leaf litter disturb or absent	<input type="checkbox"/>	natural line impressed on bank	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	shelving	<input type="checkbox"/>	wracking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>-channel bottom width</b>	270'			-top of bank width			380'			
<b>-width and max depth at ordinary high water mark</b>	300', NA									
<b>-width at bankfull</b>	380'									
<b>-bank height</b>	LDB - 10'				RDB - 10'					
<b>-riffle/pool complex or other specialized habitat present?</b>	No									
<b>-dominant riparian species:</b> ------(LDB /RDB)-----	LDB: None									
	RDB: None									
<b>-particle size distribution %</b>	Silt/Sand:	NA	Gravel:	NA	Cobble:	NA	Boulder:	NA	Bedrock:	NA
<b>5-photo numbers</b>	2,8,10									
<b>6-HUC -8 Code &amp; Name</b>	06010108, Tennessee Region									
<b>7-Assessed</b>	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<b>8-ETW</b>	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
<b>9-303 (d) List</b>	yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	siltation	<input type="checkbox"/>	habitat:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	no	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>							
<b>10-Notes</b>	Channel widths based from google earth									



Photo #1: Looking north on SR 353 at the beginning of project.



Photo #2: Looking south on SR 353 where SR-353 Bridge over the Nolichucky stood.



Photo #3: Looking towards the Intersection of SR-353 and Bill Mauk Road.



Photo #4: The house foundation that was at the intersection of SR-353 and Bill Mauk Road.



Photo #5: Looking north on the SR-353 Bridge over Nolichucky River.



Photo #6: Looking south on SR-353 towards where photo 3 was taken in the past.



Photo #7: Looking downstream on STR-1 from SR-353 Bridge over Nolichucky River.



Photo #8: Looking downstream on the Nolichucky River.



Photo #9: Looking on the upstream side of SR-353 Bridge over Nolichucky River.



Photo #10: Looking upstream on the Nolichucky River.



Photo #11: Looking south off of SR-353 .



Photo #12: Looking north on SR-353



## TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY

ELLINGTON AGRICULTURAL CENTER  
5107 EDMONDSON PIKE  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37211

11/7/2024

RE: TDOT R1 Emergency - The SR-353 (Bailey Bridge Road) Bridge over Nolichucky River at LM 0.45 in Washington County (PIN 135866.08)

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency has reviewed the information provided for the proposed Emergency Repairs of the SR-353 (Bailey Bridge Road) Bridge over Nolichucky River at LM 0.45 in Washington County, Tn. You have requested that we provide your office with a list of threatened or endangered species that may be present in the vicinity of the proposed project.

The SR-353 (Bailey Bridge Road) Bridge over Nolichucky River at LM 0.45 in Washington County (PIN 135866.08) was damaged by flood waters associated with Hurricane Helene. The proposed bridge replacement project will be in-kind replacement like the previous structure with minor changes to meet current safety and design standards. The project will likely require haul road(s) to be installed in stream below the OHWM for the removal of debris and remnants of the previous structures as well as construction of the new bridge. TDOT is currently working on bridge plans for this location.

Our records indicate presence of the following state listed species within 4.0 miles of the proposed project:

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LAST OBSERVED	STATE PROTECTION	FEDERAL PROTECTION
<b>Highfin Carpsucker</b>	Carpiodes velifer	1998-08-11	D	--
<b>Sharphead Darter</b>	Etheostoma acuticeps	1991-07-09	Rare, Not State Listed	--
<b>Carolina Mountain Dusky Salamander</b>	Desmognathus carolinensis	2005-09-20	Rare, Not State Listed	--

The State of Tennessee

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, EQUAL ACCESS, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

To avoid impacts to the state listed species listed previously, we recommend instream construction be conducted during periods of low flow to the extent possible, that any necessary instream operation of heavy equipment are minimized, that bank or channel modifications are contained to the minimum extent necessary for project completion, and that best management practices to address erosion and sediment be implemented and maintained during all construction activities.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposed project. If I may be of further assistance, please contact me at [Andy.Barlow@tn.gov](mailto:Andy.Barlow@tn.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Barlow". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andy Barlow  
Wildlife Biologist/Liaison to TDOT and the Federal Highway Administration

## Matthew Beeler

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**From:** Keven Brown  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 5, 2024 9:07 AM  
**To:** Rita M. Thompson  
**Cc:** Mark Doty; K.Brandon Chance; Shawn Wurst; Matthew Beeler  
**Subject:** Re: IPaC delivered Official Species List for project: TDOT R1 Emergency - SR-353 (Bailey Bridge Rd.) bridge over Nolichucky River, LM 0.45, PIN 135866.08

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Thanks Rita. There probably aren't any trees left to clear at that location but we'll pass on the request.  
Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 4, 2024, at 3:39 PM, Rita M. Thompson <Rita.M.Thompson@tn.gov> wrote:

Region 1,

Please see the response below from the USFWS regarding the SR-353 Emergency Repairs PIN 135886.08. USFWS has concerns for potential impacts due to tree clearing across the entire project. Given that this is a summer record only, tree clearing preference would be between October 1 and March 31 as a protective BMP. It should be communicated to the repair team that tree clearing should be minimized as much as possible, in addition to following the standard BMPs already provided by USFWS. Should tree clearing need to occur outside this window it will need to be documented (when, where, how, why). Since we are already within the window for clearing on this one, we are probably not going to have any issues, but if there is please let me know.

Thanks,



**Rita Thompson** | Statewide Technical Specialist  
Environmental Division / Tech Studies Office – Ecology Unit  
James K. Polk, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
505 Deaderick Street  
Nashville, TN 37243  
p. 615-253-2459  
[rita.m.thompson@tn.gov](mailto:rita.m.thompson@tn.gov)

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**From:** Griffith, John <john\_griffith@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 1, 2024 10:32 AM  
**To:** Shawn Wurst <Shawn.Wurst@tn.gov>  
**Cc:** Rita M. Thompson <Rita.M.Thompson@tn.gov>; Sykes, Robbie <robbie\_sykes@fws.gov>; Sikula, Nicole R <nicole\_sikula@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: IPaC delivered Official Species List for project: TDOT R1 Emergency - SR-353 (Bailey Bridge Rd.) bridge over Nolichucky River, LM 0.45, PIN 135866.08

**This Message Is From an External Sender**

This message came from outside your organization.

Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security

Shawn,

Thank you for requesting a species list for the SR-353 (Bailey Bridge Rd) emergency bridge replacement over the Nolichucky River at LM 0.45 in Washington County, Tennessee. The proposed bridge replacement will be an in-kind replacement like the previous structures, with minor changes to meet current safety and design standards. The project will likely require haul roads to be installed instream below the OHWM for the removal of debris and remnants of the previous structures as well as construction of the new bridge. TDOT is currently working on plans for the bridge at this location. You are providing notification of this emergency bridge replacement and requesting measures to minimize effects as required by the Endangered Species Act.

Our database indicates that the the project lies within a summer buffer for the federally endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*). If tree clearing would be required for the project, this potential impact should be documented for future consultation with our office. Siltation from agricultural runoff and water quality impacts from mining in North Carolina have affected the upper Nolichucky River. The nearest record for listed species in the Nolichucky River is a population of Appalachian elktoe (*Alasmidonta raveneliana*), documented roughly 20 river miles upriver of the SR-353 crossing on the Cherokee National Forest (CNF) in Unicoi County, Tennessee. Because we have no evidence of listed mussels occurring downriver of the CNF until Johnson Island (RM 42) below the Nolichucky Dam, we would not anticipate impacts to any federally listed or proposed mussel species as a result of this bridge replacement.

This email will serve as our official project response and acknowledgement of notification. Please document potential impacts to Indiana bat from tree removal and implement any standard emergency repair BMPs where practicable. Thanks,

John Griffith

Transportation Biologist

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Tennessee Field Office

931-444-1393 (office)

931-261-3755 (cell)

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**From:** Administrator Email <[ecosphere\\_support@ecosphere.fws.gov](mailto:ecosphere_support@ecosphere.fws.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 2:00 PM

**To:** Griffith, John <[john\\_griffith@fws.gov](mailto:john_griffith@fws.gov)>; Tennessee ES, FWS <[tennesseeES@fws.gov](mailto:tennesseeES@fws.gov)>; Sykes, Robbie <[robbie\\_sykes@fws.gov](mailto:robbie_sykes@fws.gov)>; Alexander, Steven <[steven\\_alexander@fws.gov](mailto:steven_alexander@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** IPaC delivered Official Species List for project: TDOT R1 Emergency - SR-353 (Bailey Bridge Rd.) bridge over Nolichucky River, LM 0.45, PIN 135866.08

**To:** IPaC point(s) of contact for Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office

**Project Location:** Washington County, Tennessee

IPaC has delivered an official Section 7 species list on behalf of your office. For your convenience, IPaC has created an ETK project ([2025-0013251](#)) with a new associated 'Species List Provided' event. A PDF file of the species list document is attached to the event and contact information for the project can be found on the last page of the PDF.

**IPaC has automatically set the consultation status to "Closed". If you need to do any additional work in this project (e.g., add staff, add events, change lead office, etc.), you must first change the status to "active" so that you can edit the project. You can access the project via the link, above.**

**Lead FWS Office:**

The Tennessee Ecological Services Field Office is currently designated as the lead office for Section 7 on this project. The following additional offices have jurisdiction and have been notified: None. If another office is the lead office on this project, please access the project (via the link above) and update it. IPaC will not reset the Lead Office once it has been updated by a biologist.

\*Projects created in ETK by IPaC have not been assigned to an FWS staff member. To identify the staff assigned to this project, please access the project (via the link above) and add their name(s).