

Introduction

- ▶ The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposes to widen State Highway 78 beginning north of U.S. Highway 69 junction north to State Highway 48.
  - project area measures approximately 2.7 miles

Proposed Improvements

- ▶ Increase road from 2-lane to 4-lane
  - Including a 16-foot wide paved center median
- ▶ Replacement of bridge boxes over tributary of the Blue River
- ▶ Open to traffic during construction
  - One half of road updated at a time
- ▶ Minimal Right of Way

Specialist Studies

- ▶ Biological Assessment
  - Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species Habitat Assessment
    - ▶ 4 T&E species potentially occur in Bryan County
    - ▶ Interior Least Tern, Piping Plover, Whooping Crane, American Burying Beetle
    - ▶ No designated critical habitat for any of the four species in Bryan Co.
  - Waters of the U.S. including Wetlands Assessment
    - ▶ There are approximately 1,702 linear feet of ephemeral stream in the project area
    - ▶ There are approximately 766 linear feet of perennial stream in the project area
    - ▶ There are approximately 0.20 acres of forested wetland within the project study area
- ▶ Cultural Resources Assessment
  - A review of Oklahoma Archaeological Survey files failed to identify a site within one mile of the study area.
  - No National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or Determinations of Eligibility sites are listed within or near the study area by the Oklahoma State Office of Historic Preservation.
  - No NRHP eligible resources were identified during field surveys.
- ▶ Noise Assessment
  - No receivers will experience a 15 decibel increase in noise levels over current conditions, which are considered to be a substantial increase for noise impact determination.
  - No substantial noise impacts were identified.
- ▶ Hazardous Materials Assessment
  - Assessment revealed no known hazardous waste contamination within the project study area.
  - Two facilities were identified as potential concerns.
  - Abandoned railroad could be a potential environmental concern.
  - The presence and generation of hazardous waste and/or petroleum products does not necessarily represent a hazard to the project area.
- ▶ NRCS Prime Farmland Assessment
  - There are no state or local government policies or programs or private programs to protect farmland that this site is subject to.