Memorandum

FEMA Environmental / Historic Preservation Section (EHP)
U.S. Department of Homeland Security ~ FEMA Region 8
Denver Federal Center, Building 710, Box 25267, Denver, Colorado 80225-0267

To: Jason Bauder, SD-OEM
From: Charles A. Bello

Date: July 7, 2022
Re: FEMA EHP - South Dakota DR-4656
Project Worksheet EHP Work in Water Guidance

If there is work in water (which usually means culvert replacement) an applicant is to reach out to the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and they will determine if the work requires a permit. FEMA does not have authority to determine whether a project needs a permit from the Corps or what is considered “Waters of the U.S.”.

Applicants should call or email the USACE point of contact: Cathy Juhas (605-224-8531; Catherine.d.juhas@usace.army.mil) and she will inform the applicant if a permit is needed for that site. Either way, the applicant should save the email or record in memo format if they spoke to her on the phone. Cathy knows that Applicants will be reaching out to her, and she will respond in a timely matter. Applicants should contact the USACE even if work is completed.

FEMA can assist Applicants in coordinating with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for culvert repairs. Unless it is an emergency, applicants in a Topeka shiner Area of Influence (map attached) should contact EHP before any work in water. If possible, emergency culvert replacement should follow Best Management Practices (BMPs) for erosion/sediment control, avoidance of instream habitat modification, and countersinking of culverts to allow fish passage.

Charles A. Bello
Environmental / Historic Preservation Section (EHP) Advisor
U.S. Department of Homeland Security ~ FEMA Region VIII
Denver Federal Center, Building 710, Box 25267, Denver, Colorado 80225-0267

Current Deployment: DR-4656-South Dakota

cell: 720-245-1400;
charles.bello@fema.dhs.gov