



Texas Department of Transportation Environmental Affairs Division

Standards of Uniformity Template for Biological Evaluation (BE) Reports

The assessment of projects that are not “major construction activities” (defined at 50 CFR 402.02) but that may have the potential to affect federally listed species or critical habitat may be documented using this biological evaluation (BE) technical report. The BE can either be used to document the basis for a “no effect” call or for informal coordination with US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) to obtain concurrence for a “may affect, not likely to adversely affect” call. This BE format is based on the FHWA biological assessment (BA) Template. The technical adequacy standards for both reports are identical, and so this template includes the FHWA internet links to instructions for completing each section of a BA report. FHWA provides guidance on when it is appropriate to develop a BA report as opposed to a BE at:

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/oklahoma/Documents/Enclosures/Biological%20Assessment%20Evaluation%20Development%20Guidelines%201.24.07%20hd%20dbf.pdf>

The BE report shall be prepared with sufficient detail to provide all information necessary to support the effects call and to complete a consultation with USFWS, if required. All field notes, photographs, and other supporting data/documents produced in support of the BE report should be maintained in the project file.



Project Name and CSJ

Date

Texas Department of Transportation
District or Division
Address



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