

Addison County Regional Planning Commission

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Chris Cole, Director of Policy, Planning & Intermodal Development
C/O Eileen Blake-Sayers, Office of the Secretary
Vermont Agency of Transportation
One National Life Drive - 5th Floor
Montpelier, VT 05633-5001

12 Jul 2012

Re: VT Route 116 "High Knob Brook" culvert in Starksboro, Vermont
FY 2013 Transportation Enhancements Program

Dear Mr. Cole:

Please be advised that the project sponsor, Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC) intends to submit an application for funding under the FY2012 round of the Vermont Transportation Enhancements (TE) program.

The project is related to surface transportation, and qualifies for funding under the following TE "Eligible Activities":

Number 11 : Environmental Mitigation of Highway Runoff and Vehicle-caused Wildlife Mortality

Our project is located on VT Route 116, milepost 2.22 within the town of Starksboro, Vermont. The following is a general description of the work to be performed or property to be acquired:

1 : Undertake a Alternatives Analysis & Preliminary Design for the replacement of the "High Knob Brook" box culvert (**Local ID**: #10, VT ANR **Stream Geomorphic Assessment ID**: #200116000001192) according to the recommendations of the 2012 Study: "Vermont Route 116 Culvert AOP Project in Starksboro and Hinesburg, VT ~ MMI# 3928-03 and 3993-05". For further details on the box culvert assessment and the VT 116 study, please visit: <http://www.acrpc.info/transportation/AOP/>

The anticipated public benefits of this project will be: 1. "to improve accommodation of wildlife and aquatic organism movement around and through transportation systems and to minimize habitat fragmentation resulting from the presence of transportation infrastructure", according to a VTTrans & VDFW 2005 Memorandum of Agreement¹. 2. To improve geomorphic compatibility of the roadway. This improvement will enhance habitat conditions and boost flood resiliency for the Route 116 corridor by reducing erosion and associated phosphorus loading due to the currently undersized culvert.

We have been / will be in close contact with: Marty Illick, Executive Director of the Lewis Creek Association, Brian Chipman, Fisheries Biologist for the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, and Madeleine Lyttle, Fishery Biologist for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service: Lake Champlain Fish & Wildlife Resources Office, for resource assistance in refining our project and to ensure regional compatibility.

Good luck in your endeavor. Please call me if I can provide you with further assistance or if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,
Adam Lougee, Executive Director
Addison County RPC

¹ "Guidelines for the Design of Stream/Road Crossings for Passage of Aquatic Organisms in Vermont", March 2009. Kozmo Ken Bates, P.E., Kozmo, Inc. & Rich Kirn, Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife.

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