



Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: Indian River Pedestrian Bridge Replacement

PEPC Project Number: 47457

PMIS Number: 155937

Description of Action (Project Description):

This project would remove and replace the existing 115' foot arched, glue-laminated wood, two pier pedestrian bridge over Indian River. This bridge is approaching the end of its 50 year design life. The bridge abutments and two piers need repairs for concrete delamination and erosive damage. The 70% preferred alternative is the same, glue-laminated-beam-style bridge with two piers located in the same positions as the existing piers. The bridge will be 7' wide on-tread instead of 5' wide on-tread. The project would include work to make the bridge ADA handicapped accessible. One large, dead Sitka Spruce may be taken down and removed from the river bank as part of the project, if it is determined to be a serious hazard to the newly-installed bridge. Pier and abutment placement will be largely within the existing, disturbed construction area impacted by installation of the existing bridge in the 1960s. Construction access will be along established, compacted gravel trails.

Project Location:

County: Sitka

State: Alaska

Mitigation(s): The park and FHWA will monitor excavation for undiscovered archeological remains during placement of any erosion-control structures (e.g. rip-rap) where soils have not been previously disturbed.

CE Citation: C.8 Replacement in kind of minor structures and facilities with little or no change in location, capacity or appearance.

Decision: I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. The community was invited to attend an alternatives scoping meeting at the 20% design threshold. The preferred design (replacement with a bridge of similar design and size) was largely accepted by those in attendance and those that commented on the design during posting in the park's Visitor Center. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary circumstances apply.

Signature

Superintendent:

Mary Miller

Date:

10/7/15