

Roles & Responsibilities

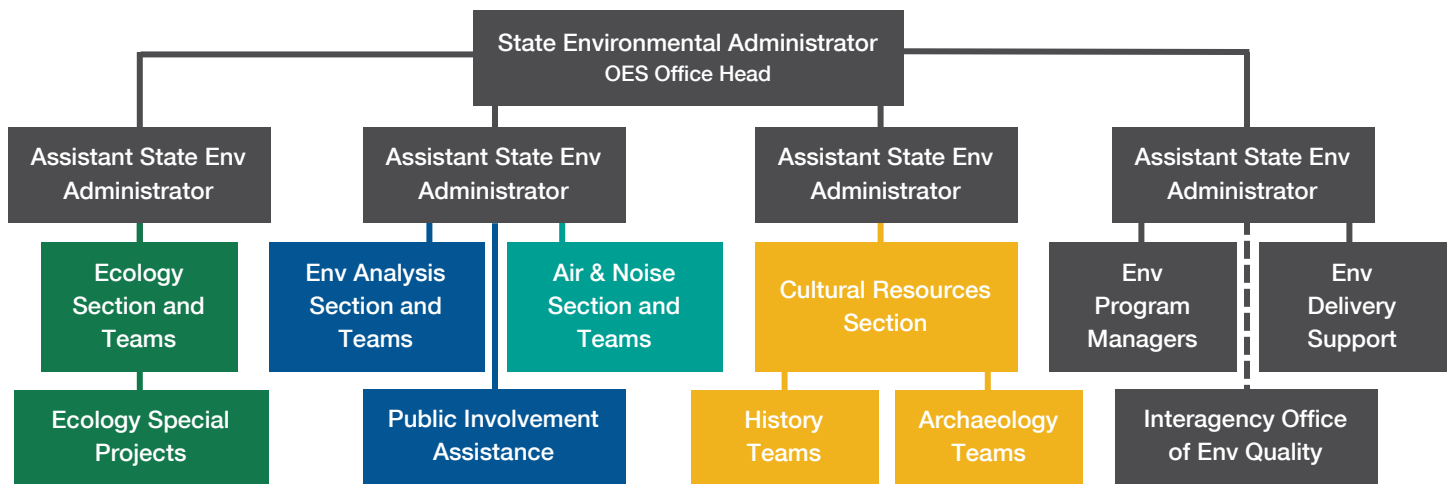
Environmental Roles
 Other Project Delivery Roles
 Outside Agencies

ENVIRONMENTAL ROLES

Office of Environmental Services Organization

GDOT’s Office of Environmental Services (OES) is responsible for obtaining environmental approvals for GDOT projects both per the baseline schedule and in accordance with environmental laws, rules, and regulations. Fulfilling these responsibilities requires expertise in several disciplines: air quality, archaeology, ecology, environmental analysis, history, noise assessment, and public involvement. OES includes staff in four sections that focus on these disciplines, and it includes some staff that support OES’s overall responsibilities.

Figure 1 – OES Organization



OES Section Color Code:

- Ecology
- Environmental Analysis
- Air & Noise
- Cultural Resources
- Supports All of OES

Descriptions summarizing the responsibilities of OES staff and consultant environmental practitioners are provided in the discussions below. Color-coded squares indicate the practitioner’s environmental discipline based on the colors in Figure 1. Consultant

environmental practitioners may be organized differently than OES, and they may serve more than one role. However, personnel with knowledge and skills pertaining to each discipline must be available. Qualifications and guidelines for practitioners in these roles are detailed by area classes on GDOT's prequalification site for consultants, under the Transportation Planning Category.

Area Class Qualifications Georgia Department of Transportation

Air Specialist ■

The Air Specialist is the Environmental Subject Matter Expert (SME) that performs air quality modeling to conduct analyses for transportation projects. These analyses ensure the projects comply with the Clean Air Act.

Archaeologist ■

The Archaeologist is the Environmental SME that performs archaeological fieldwork and documentation for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Georgia Environmental Policy Act (GEPA), and Georgia's Abandoned Cemeteries and Burial Grounds Act. Resource identification for Section 106 compliance includes background documentation, field survey and reporting (Phase I), and—when necessary—formal site testing (Phase II). Other duties include evaluating impacts to National Register eligible sites, conducting mitigation (such as data recovery, Phase III) to resolve adverse effects, and obtaining Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) permits from federal agencies when archaeological fieldwork is required on federal property.

Tribal Liaison ■

The Tribal Liaison is a GDOT Archaeologist that conducts tribal consultation during resource identification and technical studies for all GDOT projects. On projects with a lead federal agency, such as the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or USACE, the Tribal Liaison acts on behalf of the federal agency. The liaison will solicit comments from tribes for projects that may affect historic properties of traditional religious and cultural significance and will consider these tribal governments as consulting parties. However, the federal agency retains the ultimate responsibility for consultation with tribes.

Ecologist ■

The Ecologist is the Environmental SME that performs ecological fieldwork and documentation for various protected species laws (e.g., Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act), Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, and the requirements of the Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act. This includes species surveys, waters delineations, impacts analysis, Section 404 permit applications, buffer variance applications, and mitigation.

Aquatic Resource Specialist ■

Ecologists with an aquatic resource specialty perform surveys for imperiled freshwater fish, mussels, and/or snail species within project areas. These surveys require the Ecologist to have special permits from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) of Georgia's Department of Natural Resources (GADNR).

Bat Specialist ■

Ecologists with a bat specialty perform surveys for bat species within project areas. These surveys require the Ecologist to have special permits from USFWS and GADNR.

Ecology Special Projects Coordinator ■ ■

Ecology Special Project Coordinators are responsible for efforts related to the acquisition of compensatory mitigation credits for Section 404 permitted impacts and buffer variance impacts. These activities include providing cost estimates for mitigation requirements on Concept Reports and Environmental Commitments Tables (at the request of the project Ecologist or Environmental Analyst), procuring compensatory mitigation credits, documenting their purchase, and tracking permit compliance. Other responsibilities include special provisions reviews, bid packages reviews, Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) management plan reviews, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) coordination, and maintenance support.

Environmental Analyst ■

The Environmental Analyst, sometimes known as the NEPA/GEPA analyst or the environmental planner, develops the environmental document, if required, and manages related tasks. These tasks include studies related to Environmental Justice, farmland protection, floodplain involvement, community impacts, and public involvement activities. In addition, the Environmental Analyst acts as the environmental lead that guides project team members through the environmental approvals. To do this effectively, the Environmental Analyst must have a general understanding of environmental requirements and project development issues.

Environmental Delivery Support ■

The Environmental Delivery Support group helps to ensure that projects are certified for right-of-way (ROW) and let per the baseline schedule. This group provides expertise on schedule applications and schedule scorecards. They also manage delivery schedules and provide training on project schedule applications (Primavera P6 and TPRO) and other needs.

Environmental Program Manager ■

Environmental Program Managers (EPMs) are responsible for all elements of the OES environmental delivery process including scope and schedule, where applicable, for the districts they manage. They are tasked with monitoring the efforts during project delivery for the office, from the initial stages of scoping all the way through under construction

revisions. They act as a single point of contact for their districts both within OES and for other GDOT offices, as well as for external customers such as consultants, agencies, and the public. For projects under construction, when issues occur that impact environmental resources, the EPM assigned to the project's district serves as the point of contact to ensure the issues are addressed.

Historian ■

The Historian is the Environmental SME that performs architectural history field surveys and documentation for compliance with Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act and GEPA, including background research, identification of historic properties, and assessment of project impacts on NRHP eligible resources. The Historian also manages mitigation activities for affected resources. These activities may include preparation of historic narratives, photography in the form of a Permanent Archival Record or Historic American Building Survey (HABS)/Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) documentation, or a variety of other mitigation efforts.

Interagency Office of Environmental Quality ■ ■

The Interagency Office of Environmental Quality hosts the GDOT-funded positions at outside environmental resource agencies, such as the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). These resource agency positions are responsible for reviewing OES technical studies, mitigation plans, permit applications, and buffer variance applications.

Noise Specialist ■

The Noise Specialist is the Environmental SME that performs noise modeling to conduct noise assessments for federal-aid transportation projects and determine if abatement is reasonable and feasible per 23 CFR 772. These assessments ensure the projects comply with federal guidance for traffic noise. The Noise Specialist also supports noise barrier design.

Public Involvement Assistance ■

The Public Involvement Assistance group serves OES on efforts related to public involvement outreach and web-based coordination. The Public Involvement Lead coordinates with this group on project specific webpages and virtual public meetings.

Public Involvement Lead ■

The Public Involvement Lead coordinates the public involvement associated with project development. This may include establishing citizens advisory committees, developing material for open houses, conducting open houses, and planning stakeholder meetings. Responsibilities also include interpreting, documenting, and responding to public issues and concerns. These activities may be outlined in the project-specific Public Involvement Plan. The Environmental Analyst often serves as the Public Involvement Lead.

OTHER PROJECT DELIVERY ROLES

Descriptions summarizing the responsibilities of other project delivery roles are provided in the discussions below. Consultant project delivery teams may be organized differently, but most consultant teams have individuals serving in comparable roles. This section summarizes how each role interacts with environmental practitioners.

Project Manager ■■■■

The Project Manager (PM) oversees a project through scope, schedule, and budget decisions. PMs are responsible for steering, coordinating, and managing a project through the Plan Development Process (PDP) and through the construction phase. PMs must possess and maintain excellent communication and organizational skills to ensure projects are ready-to-let on time and constructed on time. Most GDOT PMs are assigned through the Office of Program Delivery, though the Office of Alternative Delivery also assigns GDOT PMs. The environmental project team coordinates with the PM on all environmental issues related to the project's scope, schedule, and budget as well as Special Provisions developed during the environmental process.

Bridge Designer ■■■■

The Bridge Designer is required for projects that include bridges and major support structures. Environmental Analysts and Environmental SMEs coordinate with the Bridge Designer concerning the Project Justification Statement for bridge replacement projects, floodway involvement and coordination, the historic bridge inventory, bridge demolition, and bridge construction in Waters of the US and sensitive habitats.

Design Manager / Engineer of Record ■■■■

The Design Manager is appointed by the PM and charged with the coordination and timely delivery of a particular design phase. The Design Manager assembles the design team, which includes Roadway Designers and may include Bridge Designers and Traffic Engineers. The Design Manager also serves as the Engineer of Record. These duties include confirming environmental resources and impacts noted on the plans. Environmental Analysts and Environmental SMEs coordinate with Design Managers concerning environmental impacts as well as avoidance and minimization of impacts to ESAs, on-site mitigation, and noise wall design.

District Planning and Programming Liaisons ■■

District Planning and Programming Engineers (DPPL) facilitate planning and programming efforts at the local level in their districts. The Environmental Analysts and the Noise Specialists coordinate with the DPPL concerning public involvement needs, particularly identifying venues for open houses and coordinating legal notice advertisements.

Environmental Branch Chief, Office of Materials and Testing ■

The Environmental Branch Chief is responsible for receiving and issuing approvals for Underground Storage Tank and Hazardous Waste Environmental Site Assessments. These are initiated and coordinated by the PM and are typically conducted by a consultant. The Environmental Analyst should receive these assessments and their approvals from the PM and may need to include details about the affected site in the ECT.

Environmental Compliance Officer ■

The Environmental Compliance Officer is responsible for ensuring that construction contractors comply with best management practices and other environmental requirements during construction. If incidents occur, the officer coordinates with the appropriate EPM and the construction PM to document and address compliance violations.

Project Review Engineer ■ ■ ■ ■

The Project Review Engineer facilitates field plan reviews for transportation projects. Environmental Analysts coordinate with the Project Review Engineer concerning the environmental requirements relevant to the review. Depending on project conditions, any environmental member of the project team may need to participate in these reviews.

Roadway Designer ■ ■ ■ ■

The Roadway Designer, or Design Phase Leader, is responsible for the roadway portion of the project and compiles the various activities from other phase leaders. Environmental Analysts and Environmental SMEs coordinate with Roadway Designers for the Environmental Survey Boundary and concerning impacts to ESAs, on-site mitigation, and noise wall design.

Title VI Coordinator / Environmental Justice Specialist ■

The Title VI Coordinator / Environmental Justice Specialist is part of an interdisciplinary team within GDOT that acts as a liaison to OES. They coordinate with the Environmental Analyst for all NEPA and GEPA projects to ensure compliance with Title VI and to review the findings of Environmental Justice Analyses regarding populations affected by a project.

Traffic Engineer ■ ■

The Traffic Engineer develops the Traffic Engineering Report that studies traffic volumes, lane configurations, issues with traffic controls, road geometry, sight distance, and crash data. The Environmental Analyst coordinates with the Traffic Engineer for traffic data to articulate the project's Need & Purpose. Air Specialists and Noise Specialists coordinate with the Traffic Engineer for traffic data to support air quality modeling and noise modeling.

Transportation Planner ■

The Transportation Planner at the Office of Planning initiates the project's scoping phase unless the Project Justification Statement (PJS) was generated by the Office of Bridge Design or the Office of Traffic Operations. If the scoping phase is warranted, the Office of

Planning programs it into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Larger projects may be programmed with two phases of Preliminary Engineering – Scoping (Phase 1) and Preliminary Engineering (Phase 2). The Environmental Analyst coordinates with the Transportation Planner for the PJS and other information needed to articulate the project’s Need & Purpose.

Value Engineering Team

The Value Engineering (VE) team is an independent, multi-disciplined team tasked with reviewing a project’s function and assessing ways to lower its life-cycle costs. The VE team assesses lower-cost alternatives that accomplish the original purpose of the project without sacrificing the safety, necessary quality, and environmental attributes of the project. The team develops a VE study when the estimated project costs are \$50 million or more. The Environmental Analyst and Environmental SMEs provide information to the VE team about environmental resources potentially impacted by the alternatives under consideration.

OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Descriptions summarizing the responsibilities of outside agencies are provided in the discussions below. The summaries briefly describe how they interact.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) is an independent federal agency that provides guidance for federal activities, programs, and policies as they affect historic properties. The ACHP promulgated the regulations governing Section 106 of the NHPA. Historians and Archaeologists coordinate with ACHP when projects adversely affect cultural resources, or when developing Section 106 Programmatic Agreements.

Federal Highway Administration

FHWA is an agency of the US Department of Transportation (USDOT). It is headquartered in Washington, D.C., with division offices across the US. FHWA administers the Federal-aid Highway Program in cooperation with the states. It also administers the Federal Lands Highway Program. For federal-aid projects, all environmental disciplines within OES coordinate with the FHWA Georgia Division, which acts as the lead Federal Agency (LFA), at some stage.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

GADNR is the state agency whose mission is to sustain, enhance, protect, and conserve Georgia’s natural resources for present and future generations. Environmental practitioners interact with several divisions of GADNR.

Coastal Resources Division

The Coastal Resources Division (CRD) of GADNR manages Georgia’s marshes, beaches, coastal waters, and marine fisheries. The Ecologist coordinates with CRD for projects that have potential to significantly impact the coastal zone. For impacts to coastal marshlands

from projects and entities that are exempt from the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act, such as GDOT, the Ecologist coordinates with CRD to issue a Revocable License (RL) and/or Letter of Authorization (LOA).

Environmental Protection Division

The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) of GADNR is charged with protecting public health and the environment. Ecologists coordinate with EPD throughout project development concerning state waters and buffer variance applications in compliance with the Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act, as well as water quality certification in compliance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Environmental Analysts conduct early coordination with EPD's Floodplain unit for projects that may involve encroachments into regulatory floodplains.

Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites Division

The Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites Division (PRHSD) of GADNR manages more than 60 properties that preserve the state's environment and history. These properties are open to the public for recreational activities with more than 11 million visitors annually. Environmental Analysts coordinate with PRHSD through early coordination for projects that may involve impacts to PRHSD properties. Historians and Archaeologists coordinate with PRHSD concerning properties with cultural resources that may be impacted. Archaeologists coordinate with the Office of the State Archaeologist within the PRHSD to obtain archaeological fieldwork permits for any survey required on GADNR-owned or managed lands.

Wildlife Resources Division

WRD of GADNR protects non-game and endangered wildlife and educates the public on the conservation of Georgia's natural resources. Additionally, it regulates hunting, fishing, and the operation of watercraft in Georgia. Ecologists coordinate with WRD's Wildlife Conservation Section concerning threatened and endangered species throughout project development in compliance with the Georgia Wildflower Preservation Act and Georgia Endangered Wildlife Act. Environmental Analysts coordinate with WRD when a WRD-managed facility, such as a boat ramp, is impacted by a proposed project.

Historic Preservation Division and State Historic Preservation Officer

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs is led by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in Georgia. Working in partnership with the US Department of the Interior and local communities, HPD works to preserve the historical, architectural, and archaeological resources of Georgia. Historians and Archaeologists consult with HPD throughout project development in compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA.

Local Governments (City, County, Emergency Services, and School Districts)

City councils, county commission boards, emergency chiefs, and school superintendents can provide important information about project corridors. This may include information

about community resources, local demographics, and government services such as fire, emergency, and school bus routes. For major projects and projects with detours during construction, Environmental Analysts include local governments in early coordination. Local parks and recreation departments should also be included when recreational facilities are in the project vicinity.

Metropolitan Planning Organizations ■ ■

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are the local government agencies charged with planning, including transportation planning, of metropolitan areas in Georgia. MPOs develop Transportation Improvement Plans (TIPs) used to allocate federal transportation funds and ensure conformity with the Clean Air Act (CAA). Air Specialists use the TIP to ensure projects conform to the air quality rules of the CAA. For major projects, the Environmental Analyst includes the relevant MPO in early coordination.

Georgia Regional Transportation Authority ■

In coordination with Atlanta's MPO, the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) is a state-level authority that addresses mobility and air quality. GRTA's jurisdiction includes 13 Georgia counties: Cherokee, Clayton, Coweta, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding, and Rockdale. GRTA approves the allocation of state and federal transportation resources in metro Atlanta via the Atlanta TIP.

National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration Fisheries ■

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (NOAA Fisheries), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service, is a federal agency and part of the US Department of Commerce. NOAA Fisheries has jurisdiction over threatened and endangered species of marine nature such as whales, turtles, and anadromous fish such as sturgeon. It also has jurisdiction over Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Ecologists coordinate with NOAA Fisheries when projects involve federally threatened or endangered marine species in compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), or EFH in compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA).

Tribal Governments ■

Federally recognized tribal nations have personnel dedicated to their tribes' cultural resources, referred to as Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs). Archaeologists, in collaboration with GDOT's Tribal Liaison, coordinate with tribal governments concerning projects throughout the Section 106 and GEPA processes according to a tribe's specific area of interest.

US Army Corps of Engineers ■ ■ ■

USACE is part of the Department of the Army within the US Department of Defense (USDOD). USACE administers permitting activities under Section 404 of the CWA and Section 10 of the River and Harbors Act (RHA). Ecologists coordinate with USACE when

projects involve Waters of the US and when projects require Section 404 or Section 10 permitting. Environmental Analysts, along with the PM and the Office of ROW, coordinate with USACE concerning real estate out grants and Section 408 decision-making when projects involve USACE property. Additionally, USACE may act as the real estate agent or as a design representative for military organizations. For state-funded projects requiring a Section 404 permit, the USACE serves as the LFA. In addition to Section 404 and Section 10 permits, Ecologists coordinate with the USACE to determine the Scope of Analysis that defines federal jurisdiction and consults under various protected species laws. Archaeologists and Historians coordinate with USACE regarding Section 106 compliance for historic properties that fall within their jurisdiction. Archaeologists also coordinate with the USACE for ARPA permits on USACE-owned land.

US Fish and Wildlife Service ■ ■

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), part of the US Department of the Interior, is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. USFWS has jurisdiction over mostly non-marine threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act, certain species under the MMPA (e.g., manatees), and various wildlife under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA), Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA), and Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Ecologists coordinate with USFWS when projects involve these species, or waters impacts that trigger FWCA. Archaeologists coordinate on ARPA permits from the USFWS when archaeological survey is required on USFWS-owned land.

Summary Table for Agency Involvement

The following table identifies agencies that Environmental SMEs may be involved with on a given project. It also identifies, in general terms, the type of involvement these agencies may participate in.

Agency	Lead Federal Agency	Early Coordination	Technical Assistance	Resource Verification / Identification	Consultation	Permitting
ACHP			■		■	
FHWA	■ ■ ■ ■	■	■ ■ ■ ■	■	■ ■ ■ ■	
GADNR-CRD			■	■		■
GADNR-EPD		■	■	■		■
GADNR-PRHSD		■ ■		■	■	■
GADNR-WRD		■ ■	■	■	■	
HPD/SHPO		■		■	■	
MPOs		■			■	
NOAA Fisheries		■	■	■	■	
Tribal Gov'ts		■	■	■	■	
USACE	■ ■ ■	■	■ ■	■ ■	■ ■	■ ■
USFWS			■	■	■	■

Legend: ■ Environmental Analysis ■ Ecology ■ Cultural Resources ■ Air & Noise

Other Agencies

The following summaries briefly describe other outside agencies that OES interacts with concerning specific project circumstances. This interaction does not occur regularly, and this list is not comprehensive. There may be agencies not listed here that may be involved in project development.

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, national organization that advocates transportation-related policies and provides technical services to support the states. AASHTO represents highway and transportation departments in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. AASHTO committees provide an opportunity for GDOT staff to confer with colleagues from around the country.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is tasked with surveys for migratory bird nests and bat roosts on drainage structures for projects under construction or with active maintenance. They remove active migratory bird nests and roosting bats from these structures, allowing construction, demolition, and maintenance activities to take place year-round and reduce the potential for project delays. Additionally, APHIS is tasked with the removal of nuisance beaver dams as part of routine maintenance of GDOT facilities and properties.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is a federal agency that promotes a decent, safe, and sanitary home and suitable living environment for all Americans. For major federal-aid projects, the Environmental Analyst includes HUD in early coordination.

Federal Emergency Management Agency

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is a federal agency charged with reducing the loss of life and property, and the protection of our nation's critical infrastructure. FEMA regulates floodways and enforces Executive Order 11988 for the protection of floodplains. Environmental Analysts use FEMA data sources to determine if projects are involved with regulatory floodways or floodplains. If projects involve floodways, the Environmental Analyst coordinates with the PM and the relevant design office (usually GDOT's Office of Bridge Design) to ensure that the project team completes the necessary FEMA requirements concerning floodways.

Georgia Forestry Commission

The Georgia Forestry Commission is the state agency responsible for providing leadership, service, and education for the protection and conservation of Georgia's forest resources. The Environmental Analyst completes early coordination with the Georgia Forestry Commission on projects with required ROW that includes public or private timberland.

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Additionally, Environmental Analysts, Historians, Archaeologists, and Ecologists coordinate to prepare GEPA documentation for Georgia Forestry Commission timber harvesting actions that take place on GDOT property.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ■

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulates the transmission and sale of electricity and natural gas. Projects involving hydroelectric dams may require coordination and permitting through FERC. The PM will coordinate with the Environmental Analyst concerning any environmental needs required by FERC.

National Center for Environmental Health ■

The National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) plans, directs, and coordinates a program to protect the American people from environmental hazards. For major federal-aid projects, the Environmental Analyst includes NCEH in early coordination.

National Park Service ■ ■ ■

The National Park Service (NPS) manages and preserves the natural and cultural resources within national parks, historic sites, and monuments. For projects that involve NPS property, the Environmental Analyst, Historians, Archaeologists, and Ecologists coordinate with NPS throughout project development. Archaeologists also coordinate with the NPS for ARPA permits on NPS-owned land. Historians consult with the NPS Southeast Regional Office when projects involve a National Historic Landmark or require HABS/HAER documentation.

Natural Resource Conservation Service ■

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) is the lead conservation agency of the US Department of Agriculture. NRCS is responsible for enforcing the requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act. For federal-aid projects that may convert farmland through linear or corridor site configurations, the Environmental Analyst coordinates with NRCS through the Farmland Conversion Rating Forms.

Neighboring State Agencies ■ ■ ■ ■

For projects that extend into neighboring states, the Environmental Analyst and the Environmental SMEs may need to coordinate with the relevant agencies for that state.

Regional Commissions ■

Georgia's 12 regional commissions serve city and county governments by functioning as multicounty planning and development agencies. For major projects, the Environmental Analyst includes the relevant regional commission in early coordination.

State Road and Tollway Authority ■

The State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) is an independent authority created to operate tolled transportation facilities and express lanes within Georgia. It also acts as the transportation financing arm for the state. On projects involving tolling, the Environmental Analyst may coordinate with SRTA through the PM.

Tennessee Valley Authority

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) provides navigation, flood control, electricity generation, fertilizer manufacturing, and economic development to the Tennessee Valley. In Georgia, TVA-managed resources are in seven north Georgia Counties: Catoosa, Dade, Fannin, Rabun, Towns, Union, and Walker. For major projects in these counties, the Environmental Analyst includes TVA in early coordination. Projects that involve TVA-managed resources may require a TVA permit. The Ecologist is tasked with obtaining TVA permits. Archaeologists also coordinate with TVA for ARPA permits when an archaeological survey is required on TVA-owned land.

US Coast Guard

The US Coast Guard (USCG) ensures safe transportation within America's waterways and the protection of the marine environment. For projects that will replace a bridge over USCG-designated navigable waters, the Environmental Analyst coordinates with GDOT's Office of Bridge Design to prepare and submit the USCG Bridge Project Questionnaire to FHWA in compliance with Section 9 of the RHA.

US Department of Defense

USDOD operates military bases throughout the state. For projects that involve USDOD properties, the Environmental Analyst coordinates with USDOD throughout project development. Archaeologists coordinate with the USDOD for ARPA permits when archaeological survey is required on USDOD-owned land.

US Environmental Protection Agency

The US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is a federal agency charged with protecting public health and the environment through clean air, land, and water. Air specialists use the USEPA regulations for National Ambient Air Quality Standards to ensure transportation projects meet air pollution reduction goals for Criteria Pollutants. For major federal-aid projects, the Environmental Analyst includes the USEPA in early coordination. For projects requiring an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), USEPA serves as the repository for EISs prepared by federal agencies. The Environmental Analyst coordinates with FHWA to ensure the EIS is available through USEPA in the Federal Register. The Ecologist copies USEPA on documentation related to CWA and RHA.

US Forest Service

The US Forest Service (USFS) manages national forests and grasslands. For projects that involve USFS property, the Environmental Analyst coordinates with USFS throughout project development. USFS may request that the Ecologist study the wildlife within the areas affected by the project. Archaeologists coordinate with the USFS for ARPA permits when archaeological survey is required on USFS-owned land.

US Geological Survey ■

The US Geological Survey (USGS) is a federal scientific agency that produces a national series of topographic maps. For major federal-aid projects, the Environmental Analyst includes USGS in early coordination.

Guidebook Revision History

Revision Description	Relevant Sections	Revision Date
Initial Publication	All	2/9/2024