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**Date:** July 23, 2021

**To:** Kari Parsons, Planning and Community Development Department

**From:** Nancy Prieve, Environmental Division, Community Services Department

**Subject:** Mesa Top Bridge CDR211

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The El Paso County Environmental Division has completed its review of the Mesa Top Bridge CDR211. Our review consisted of the following items: wetlands, federal and state listed threatened or endangered species, general wildlife resources and noxious weeds.

1. A completed U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE) permit shall be provided to the Planning and Community Development Department prior to project commencement if ground-disturbing activities will occur in wetland areas. The applicant is hereby on notice that the USCOE has regulatory jurisdiction over wetlands. It is the applicant’s responsibility, and not El Paso County’s, to ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Clean Water Act.
2. Documentation from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) shall be provided to the Planning and Community Development Department prior to project commencement where the project will result in ground disturbing activity in habitat occupied or potentially occupied by threatened or endangered species and/or where development will occur within 300 feet of the centerline of a stream or within 300 feet of the 100 year floodplain, whichever is greater. The applicant is hereby on notice that the USFWS has regulatory jurisdiction over threatened and endangered species and migratory birds, respectively. It is the applicant’s responsibility, and not El Paso County’s, to ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to, the Endangered Species Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

It is strongly recommended that the applicant obtain the necessary approvals from all federal, state and county agencies as a part of their planning process.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (719) 520-7845.