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Subject: I-395/Route 9 Transportation Study Update

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services still has some additional work to complete the Biological Opinion (BO) for the study. In an effort to be able to advertise 2014 construction season projects in a timely manner, MaineDOT requested that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services prioritize their efforts to complete the environmental processing for those other projects due to be constructed this year before completing the BO for the I-395/Route 9 Transportation Study. That effort has been completed and the next priority for the USFWS staff is to complete the BO for the I-395/Route 9 study so that the Final Environmental Impact statement on the project can be completed. Once we receive the Biological Opinion we can finalize the FEIS and submit it to FHWA for review and approval. Once we receive the Biological Opinion I will send out an update on the project.

In other information, you may have heard that the MaineDOT Work Plan for 2014-2015-2016 has been completed. The Work Plan lists work that MaineDOT will perform in the next three years. The Work Plan is located on our website at the following link where you can either download the whole Work Plan, interactively look at the projects in a specific Town, or view the projects on an interactive map. <http://maine.gov/mdot/projects/workplan/> You will note that the I-395/Route 9 Study is not in the Work Plan for the next three years and cannot be scheduled for any future design work until a Record of Decision is received.

Please let me know if anyone has any questions.

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