

**OREGON INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
SECTION 106: LEVEL OF EFFECT**

Agency/Project: <b>ODOT/Irish Bend Covered Bridge Rehabilitation Key #16283</b>	
Resource Name: <b>Irish Bend Covered Bridge</b>	City, County: <b>Corvallis, Benton County</b>
Street Address: <b>Oak Creek (SW Campus Way)</b>	

**Preliminary Finding of Effect:**  
 No Historic Properties Affected   
 No Historic Properties Adversely Affected   
 Historic Properties Adversely Affected

**State Historic Preservation Office Comments:**  
 Concur  
 Do Not Concur:  
 No Historic Properties Affected   
 No Historic Properties Adversely Affected   
 Historic Properties Adversely Affected

Signed: *Ian P. Johnson* Date: 10/19/2011  
Comments: *See letter dated 10/19/2011*

**IAN JOHNSON**  
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**ian.johnson@state.or.us**

Provide written description of the project, and its potential effects on the subject property per 36 CFR 800. Include maps, drawings, and photographs as necessary to effectively describe and discuss the project. Use continuation sheets as needed.

**INTRODUCTION**

This statement of finding discusses the effect of a proposed bridge repair and rehabilitation project on the Irish Bend Covered Bridge, located on the SW Campus Way Bike Path, on the Oregon State University campus, in Corvallis, Benton County, Oregon. The Irish Bend Covered Bridge is considered historically significant under National Register Criterion C and has been nominated to the Register under the Oregon Covered Bridges Thematic Study.

It is the finding of the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), in concurrence with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) that the project as proposed will have an effect on a historic property, the Irish Bend Covered Bridge, but that such effect will be Not Adverse.

This statement of finding is made pursuant to the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR 800), Executive Order 11593, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Benton County proposes to rehabilitate and repair the Irish Bend Covered Bridge, which carries the SW Campus Way Bike Path over Oak Creek, on the Oregon State University campus. The project includes cleaning and fumigating the bridge to preserve its structural members and extend its use, as well as repainting the exterior siding to return the building to historic appearance. All work will be undertaken using gentle means, resulting in little or no visual impacts. Cleaning will remove dirt, debris and vegetative matter from the bridge interior. Fumigation, a common practice to extend the life of wooden structural members, requires drilling small diameter holes (<1" +/-) at multiple locations to allow the insertion of a fumigant capsule. Holes are then plugged, with little noticeable impact. All exterior paint (siding, portals) will be "in-kind" white, compatible with both the existing and historic treatment.

In order to protect the isolated wooden bridge, the County proposes to install a fire suppression system with sprinklers mounted within the roof structure, fed by a new water supply line that will be run from the closest available supply point. As shown in the supplied plan (Figures 2 and 3), a water supply line will be run to an underground vault to be located near the NW corner of the bridge from where it will enter the house and follow the bottom chord of the western truss approximately to a point approximately 15' from the NW corner. Following a diagonal, the line rises to the top chord. At three points pipe turns to the center-point of house to supply three sprinkler heads. All piping will be of black iron, with black or dark brown hanger hardware to minimize visual impact. All work is mounted on the outside face of the bottom chord, the back of one diagonal, or above the top chord and roof sway bars to minimize any impact to the existing character of the interior. Given the somewhat isolated location of the Irish Bend Covered Bridge and the potential fire danger, the installation of an automatic fire suppression system is seen as a major benefit in assuring the bridge's long-term survival.



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Benton Co, [REDACTED]

## Parks and Recreation Department

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October 19, 2011

Mr. James Norman  
ODOT Environmental  
3930 Fairview Industrial Dr SE  
Salem, OR 97302-1166



RE: SHPO Case No. 11-1487

ODOT Proj 16283 Oak Creek, SW Campus Wy (Irish Bend) Covered Bridge Bike Path

Dear Mr. Norman:

We have reviewed the materials submitted on the project referenced above, and we concur with the determination that the Irish Bend Covered Bridge is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This preliminary determination was confirmed in a previous conversation by email with Lisa Deline of the National Register of Historic Places on July 8, 2011. At that time, Ms. Deline stated that the building is apparently eligible under Criterion C. A copy of this correspondence is attached. We also concur with the finding of no adverse effect for the proposed project. The installation of the sprinkler system and other work is minor and will ensure the longevity of the structure.

This letter refers to above-ground historic resources only. Comments pursuant to a review for archaeological resources, if applicable, will be sent separately.

Unless there are changes to the project, this concludes the requirement for consultation with our office under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (per 36 CFR Part 800) for above-ground historic resources. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments or need additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Ian P. Johnson

Historian

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