

# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION P. O. Box 25201, Raleigh, NC 27611-5202 PHONE: 919-733-2520

BEVERLY PURDUE GOVERNOR EUGENE CONTI, JR. SECRETARY

December 30, 2010

Mr. Monte Matthews
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Raleigh Regulatory Field Office
3331 Heritage Trade Drive, Suite 105
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Subject:

Nationwide Permit #13

Replace Bridge #37 on SR 1340 Watauga County, North Carolina

TIP # B-5226

Project Number: 42824.1.1 (No DWQ Permit Fee Required)

### Dear Mr. Matthews:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is scheduled to replace Bridge #37 with a new bridge at the same location. The existing 19'x 20' bridge is structurally deficient. Due to on-site limitations, no on-site detour is proposed. As a result, the new single span 50'x 33' bridge will be built using phased construction so that traffic can be maintained during replacement. All impacts associated with this replacement are due to bank armoring. There are wetlands near the bridge on the southern floodplain. We are proposing to armor the existing approach fill on that side to avoid filling into that sensitive area (see attached plan sheets). Stream impacts are tabulated below.

### **Stream Impacts:**

Station Number	Existing Structure	Proposed Pipe Size	Temporary Dewatering	Riprap Impacts (feet)	Total Impacts at this Station (ft.)
Bridge #37	19'x 20' Bridge	50'x 33' Bridge	Bridge 0	120	120
				Total Project I	mpacts = 120 feet

Construction of this project will require impacts to waters of the United States in the New River Basin. The existing bridge crosses Meat Camp Creek (Class: C, Trout +). This project was reviewed for the presence of threatened and endangered species in August of 2010. The subject

P.O. Box 250, N. Wilkesboro, NC 28659 Phone (336) 667-9111 Fax (336) 667-4549 Mr. Monte Matthews Bridge #37 on SR 1340 Page 2 December 30, 2010

project will have no effect on any federally listed endangered plant or animal species. Historic compliance work will be scheduled and concurrence with the State Historic Preservation Office will be obtained if required.

The project impacts are not significant in nature and should not alter the best usage for this stream. All appropriate BMPs will be used during construction. Attached is a Preconstruction Notification Form, plan sheets, photographs, a marked county map and a marked topography map.

By copy of this letter, it is requested that Mr. Ron Linville, Mountain Region Coordinator, with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission comment directly to you concerning the 404 Nationwide Permit application with a copy sent to me.

We would like to begin construction as soon as possible. If further information is required, please let me know. Your early review and consideration will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Reath Slaughter

Heath Slaughter

Division Environmental Officer

### Enclosures

cc: Monte Matthews, US Army Corps of Engineers (1 additional copy)
Ron Linville, Western Piedmont Region Coordinator, NCWRC
Brian Wrenn, Division of Water Quality (2 copies)
Matt Gantt, PE, Land Quality Section
Mike Pettyjohn, PE, Division Engineer
Ivan Dishman, PE, Division Bridge Program Manager
Mike Summers, SBMU
Heath Slaughter, Division Environmental Officer
Neil Trivette, Roadside Environmental Field Operations Engineer





Office Use Only:	
Corps action ID no.	
DWQ project no.	
Form Version 1.3 Dec 10 2008	_

(DCN) Form					
Pre-C	Constru	ction Notification (PCN)	FOLIM		
A.		Applicant Informati	011		
1. Processing					
<ol> <li>Type(s) of approval sought from the Corps:</li> </ol>	e	A Secuoli 1011 of the	n 10 Permit		
1b. Specify Nationwide Permit (NWP) r	number: 13	or General Permit (GP) nun	nber:	<b>5</b> 77 b.k	
1c. Has the NWP or GP number been	verified by	the Corps?	Yes	⊠ No	
1d. Type(s) of approval sought from the	e DWQ (cl	neck all that apply):			
401 Water Quality Certification	Regular	Non-404 Junsdictiona			
401 Water Quality Certification	- Express	Riparian Buffer Autho			
10 le this notification solely for the rec	cord	For the record only for DWQ 401	For the record	only for Corps Permit:	
because written approval is not re	quired?	Certification:  ⊠ Yes □ No	Yes	⊠ No	
1f. Is payment into a mitigation bank of impacts? If so, attach the acce	or in-lieu fe ptance lett	ee program proposed for mitigation er from mitigation bank or in-lieu	Yes	⊠ No	
fee program.	31. A	ecostal counties. If yes, answer th	Yes	⊠ No	
1g. Is the project located in any of No below.			Yes	⊠ No	
1h. Is the project located within a NC	DCM Area	of Environmental Concern (AEC)?	Li res	27.110	
2. Project Information	···				
2a. Name of project:	Bridge #3	37, TIP# B-5226			
2b. County:	Watauga				
2c. Nearest municipality / town:	Boone				
2d. Subdivision name:					
2e. NCDOT only, T.I.P. or state project no:	42824.1	1			
3. Owner Information					
3a. Name(s) on Recorded Deed:	NCDOT				
3b. Deed Book and Page No.					
3c. Responsible Party (for LLC if applicable):					
3d. Street address:	1	tesville Road			
3e. City, state, zip:		Vilkesboro, NC 28659			
3f. Telephone no.:	336-90			<u> </u>	
3g. Fax no.:	336-66		<u></u>		
3h. Email address:	hslaugl	nter@ncdot.gov			

		A Source OLATERAT
4.	Applicant Information (if diffe	rent from owner)
4a.	Applicant is:	Agent Other, specify:
4b.	Name:	
4c.	Business name (if applicable):	
4d.	Street address:	
4e.	City, state, zip:	
4f.	Telephone no.:	
49.	Fax no.:	
4h.	Email address:	
5.	Agent/Consultant information	on (if applicable)
5a	. Name:	
5b	. Business name (if applicable):	
5c	. Street address:	
50	I. City, state, zip:	
56	e. Telephone no.:	
5f	. Fax no.:	
59	g. Email address:	

Property Identification			
Property identification no. (tax PIN or parcel ID):			04 60762
. Site coordinates (in decimal degrees):	Latitude: 36.30		Longitude: -81.68762 (-DD.DDDDDD)
	0.1 acres		
Property size:			
Surface Waters  Name of nearest body of water (stream, river, etc.) to	Meat Camp Cr	eek	
proposed project:			
o. Water Quality Classification of nearest receiving water:	C, Trout +		
c. River basin:	New		
			t at the time of this
Project Description     Describe the existing conditions on the site and the general application:     Substandard bridge to be replaced in a rural area			
b. List the total estimated acreage of all existing wetlands on	nie biobeity.		
~ 0.1 acres  3c. List the total estimated linear feet of all existing streams (interpretation)		nnial) an the n	roperty:
~ 200 linear feet  3d. Explain the purpose of the proposed project:			
3e. Describe the overall project in detail, including the type of See attached cover letter.	equipment to be us	sed:	
4. Jurisdictional Determinations		, <u></u>	
4a. Have jurisdictional wetland or stream determinations by the Corps or State been requested or obtained for this proper project (including all prior phases) in the past? Comments:	ty /	⊠ No	Unknown
4b. If the Corps made the jurisdictional determination, what to of determination was made?		ary 🗌 Final	
4c. If yes, who delineated the jurisdictional areas?	Other:	rsultant Comp	
Name (if known):  4d. If yes, list the dates of the Corps jurisdictional determinat	tions or State deter	minations and	attach documentation.
5. Project History	d for		[ ] I Independent
5a. Have permits or certifications been requested or obtaine this project (including all prior phases) in the past?		⊠ No	Unknown
5b. If yes, explain in detail according to "help file" instruction	s.		
		□No	
6. Future Project Plans	⊠ Yes		

C. Proposed Im	pacts inventory					
1. Impacts Summar						
•	vere completed below	v for your project (checoutaries	k all that apply Juffers	):		
2. Wetland Impacts	mpacts proposed on	the site, then complete	this question t	for each wetland area in	npacted.	
2a.  Wetland impact number – Permanent (P) or Temporary (T)	2b. Type of impact	2c. Type of wetland (if known)	2d. Forested	2e. Type of jurisdiction (Corps - 404, 10 DWQ - non-404, oth	2f. Area	a of impact (acres)
W1 P T			☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Corps ☐ DWQ		
W2 □ P □ T			☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Corps ☐ DWQ		
W3 □ P □ T			☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Corps ☐ DWQ		
W4			☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Corps ☐ DWQ		
W5 □ P □ T			☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Corps ☐ DWQ		
W6 □ P □ T			☐ Yes ☐ No	Corps DWQ		
2g. Total wetland in	npacts					
2h Comments:						
3. Stream Impact If there are perennia question for all strea	al or intermittent strea	nm impacts (including t	emporary impa	cts) proposed on the sit	e, then comp	
3a. Stream impact number - Permanent (P) or Temporary (T)	3b. Type of impact	3c. Stream name	3d. Perennial (PER) or intermittent (INT)?	3e. Type of jurisdiction (Corps - 404, 10 DWQ - non-404, other)	3f. Average stream width (feet)	3g. Impact length (linear feet)
S1 ⊠P□T	Riprap	Meat Camp Creek	☑ PER ☐ INT	Corps     DWQ	~ 10	120
S2 P T			☐ PER ☐ INT	☐ Corps ☐ DWQ		
S3 🗆 P 🗀 T			☐ PER ☐ INT	Corps DWQ		
S4 □P□T			PER	Corps DWQ		
S5 [] P [] T			PER   INT	☐ Corps ☐ DWQ		
S6 □ P□T			☐ PER ☐ INT	Corps DWQ		
1	nd tributary impacts					120
3i. Comments: No	impacts to waters fro	m the new bridge itsel	f, just riprap.			

	ally list all or	Jeli Wate	impaca	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			4d.		4e.	
Open water npact number – ermanent (P) or	b. lame of wat (if applica	erbody	<b>4c.</b>		pe of imp	act	Waterboo	ly type	Area of impa	ct (acres)
Temporary (T) O1										
02   P   T										
03 🗆 P 🗆 T										
04   P   T					<u> </u>					
f. Total open water	impacts								<u> </u>	
g. Comments:										
i. Pond or Lake C										
pond or lake const	ruction prop	osed, the	n compl	ete t	he chart t	elow.	5d.			5e.
5a.   5b. Pond ID   Propos	ed use or p	umnse		/etla:	nd impact	s (acres)		am Impac	ts (feet)	Upland (acres)
number	of pond	u.p	Flood	ed	Filled	Excavated	Flooded	Filled	Excavated	Flooded
P1			<u> </u>							
P2			<u> </u>							
5f. Total			<u> </u>		<u> </u>			<u> </u>		<u>.l</u>
5g. Comments: N/A			- T							
5h. Is a dam high h	azaro permi	( required	f	☐ Y	'es	⊠ No	If yes, permi	t ID no:		
5i. Expected pond	surface are	a (acres)	:							
5j. Size of pond w		res):				<u> </u>				<u></u>
5k. Method of con-	struction:			<del></del>				<u> </u>		
6. Buffer Impacts If project will impact below. If any i		d riparian .ire mitiga	buffer, t	then en yo	complete ou <b>MUST</b>	the chart belo				er impacts
6a. Project is in which	protected b	asin?				☐ Neuse ☐ Catawb		-Pamlico ndleman	Other:	
6b.	6c.	6d.				6e.	6f.		6g.	
Buffer impact number – Permanent (P) or	Reason		Stream	nam	n <del>e</del>	Buffer mitigation		1 impact are feet)		2 impact are feet)
Temporary (T)	impact					required?				
B1 □P□T						☐ Yes ☐ No				
		— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —				☐ Yes ☐ No				
B2 □ P □ T						Yes			i	

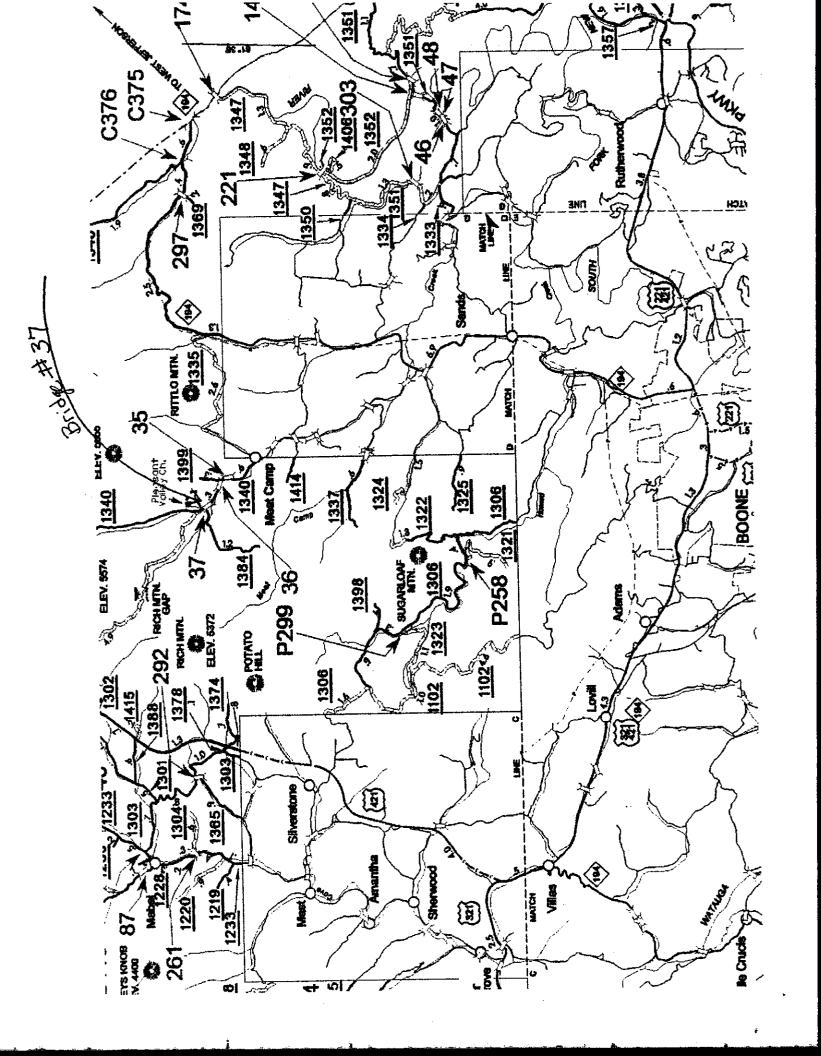
<ul> <li>Avoidance and Minima</li> <li>Specifically describ</li> </ul>	a magazires taken to avoid or min	imize the proposed impac	ets in designing project.				
	. Coro woo takan in design	to avoid Welland III iusi S	DON'T OF THE DITUGE.				
All appropriate BMPs will be	used during construction		cts through construction techniques.				
2. Compensatory Mitiga	Compensatory Mitigation for Impacts to Waters of the U.S. or Waters of the State						
2a. Does the project requir impacts to Waters of the	e Compensatory Mitigation for e U.S. or Waters of the State?	☐ Yes         No					
2b. If yes, mitigation is	required by (check all that apply):	□ DWQ □ Co	rps				
☐ Mitigation bank							
2c. If yes, which mitigation	option will be used for this	☐ Payment to in-lie	u fee program				
project?			nsible Mitigation				
3. Complete if Using a l	Mitigation Bank						
3a. Name of Mitigation Bar	nk:						
3b. Credits Purchased (att	ach receipt and letter)	Туре	Quantity				
3c. Comments:							
4. Complete if Making	Payment to In-lieu Fee Progra	m					
4a. Approval letter from in	lieu fee program is attached.	Yes					
4b. Stream mitigation requ	uested:	linear feet					
4c. If using stream mitigal	ion, stream temperature:	warm c	ool Cold				
4d. Buffer mitigation requ	ested (DWQ only):	square feet					
4e. Riparian wetland mitto	pation requested:	acres					
4f. Non-riparian wetland	mitigation requested:	acres					
4g. Coastal (tidal) wetland	<del></del>	acres					
4h. Comments:							
5. Complete if Using a	Permittee Responsible Mitigati	on Plan					

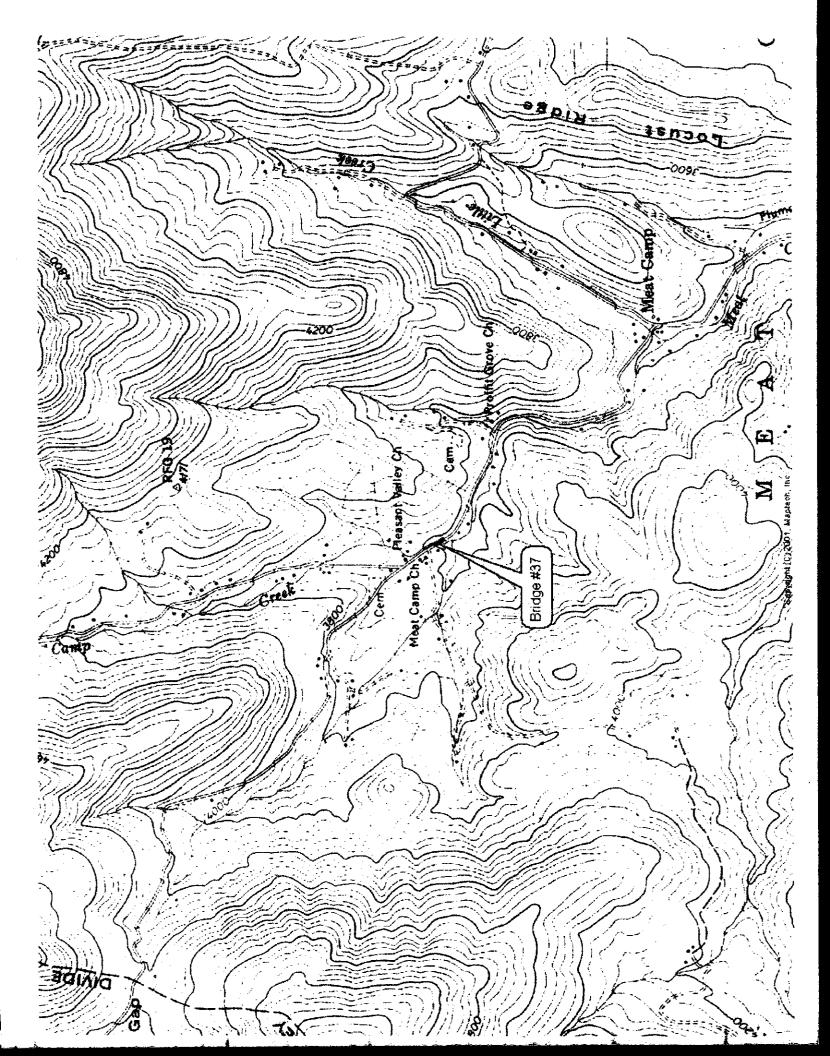
6. Buffer	Buffer Mitigation (State Regulated Riparian Buffer Rules) – required by DWQ						
6a. Will the	project result in an impact wi mitigation?			☐ Yes			
6b. If yes, amoun	then identify the square feet out of mitigation required.	of impact to each zone	of the riparian buffer th	hat requires mitigation. Calculate the			
Zone	6c. Reason for impact	6d. Total impact (square feet)	Multiplier	6e. Required mitigation (square feet)			
Zone 1			3 (2 for Catawba)				
Zone 2			1.5				
20110 2		6f. Total buffer	mitigation required:				
6g. If buff permi	fer mitigation is required, discr titee responsible riparian buffe	uss what type of mitiga er restoration, payment	tion is proposed (e.g., into an approved in-lie	payment to private mitigation bank, eu fee fund).			
6h. Comn	nents:						

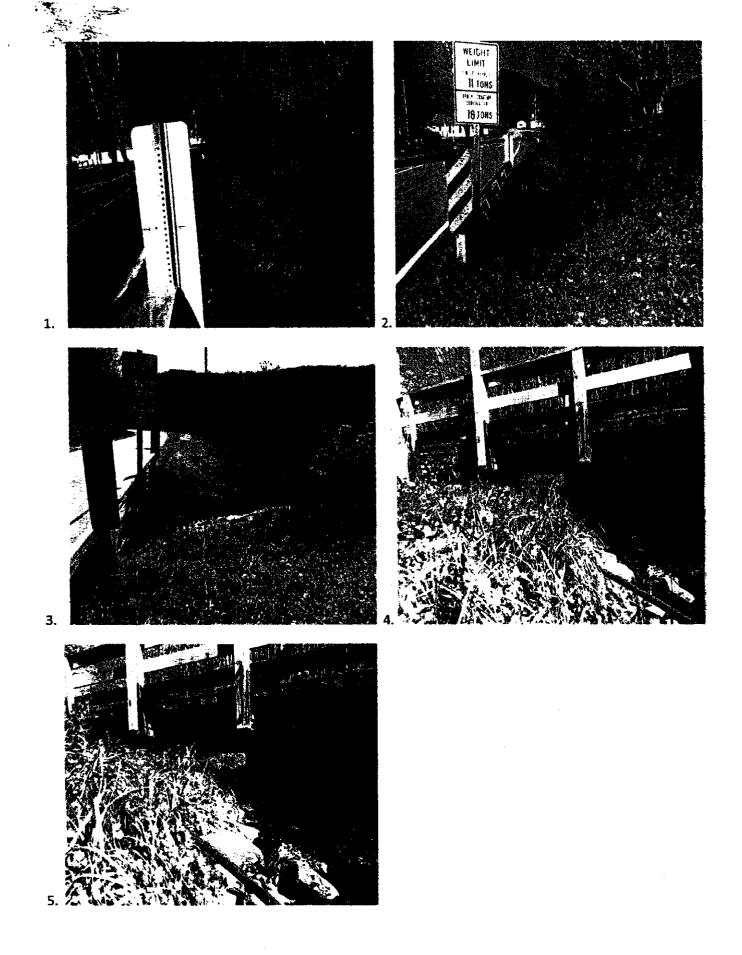
. Stormwater Management and Diffuse Flow Plan (required by DWQ)		
. Diffuse Flow Plan	-	
Does the project include or is it adjacent to protected riparian buffers identified within one of the NC Riparian Buffer Protection Rules?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
b. If yes, then is a diffuse flow plan included? If no, explain why.  Comments:	☐ Yes	□No
2. Stormwater Management Plan		
2a. What is the overall percent imperviousness of this project?	%	
2b. Does this project require a Stormwater Management Plan?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
2c. If this project DOES NOT require a Stormwater Management Plan, explain why:		
2d. If this project DOES require a Stormwater Management Plan, then provide a brief, na	arrative descrip	tion of the plan:
2e. Who will be responsible for the review of the Stormwater Management Plan?		Local Government ormwater Program 1 Unit
3. Certified Local Government Stormwater Review		
3a. In which local government's jurisdiction is this project?		
3b. Which of the following locally-implemented stormwater management programs apply (check all that apply):	Phase II NSW USMP Water Si	upply Watershed
3c. Has the approved Stormwater Management Plan with proof of approval been attached?	☐ Yes	□No
4. DWQ Stormwater Program Review		
4a. Which of the following state-implemented stormwater management programs apply (check all that apply):	HQW ORW	counties n Law 2006-246
4b. Has the approved Stormwater Management Plan with proof of approval been attached?	☐ Yes	□No
5. DWQ 401 Unit Stormwater Review	<del></del>	
5a. Does the Stormwater Management Plan meet the appropriate requirements?	☐ Yes	☐ No
5b. Have all of the 401 Unit submittal requirements been met?	Yes	☐ No

F. \$	Supplementary Information		
1.	Environmental Documentation (DWQ Requirement)		
1a.	Does the project involve an expenditure of public (federal/state/local) funds or the use of public (federal/state) land?	⊠ Yes	□ No
1b.	If you answered "yes" to the above, does the project require preparation of an environmental document pursuant to the requirements of the National or State (North Carolina) Environmental Policy Act (NEPA/SEPA)?	Yes	⊠ No
1c.	If you answered "yes" to the above, has the document review been finalized by the State Clearing House? (If so, attach a copy of the NEPA or SEPA final approval letter.)	☐Yes	□No
	Comments:		
2.	Violations (DWQ Requirement)		<u></u>
2a.	Is the site in violation of DWQ Wetland Rules (15A NCAC 2H .0500), Isolated Wetland Rules (15A NCAC 2H .1300), DWQ Surface Water or Wetland Standards, or Riparian Buffer Rules (15A NCAC 2B .0200)?	☐Yes	⊠ No
<b>2</b> b.	Is this an after-the-fact permit application?	Yes	⊠ No
2c.	If you answered "yes" to one or both of the above questions, provide an explanation	of the violation	n(s):
3.	Cumulative Impacts (DWQ Requirement)		
3a.	Will this project (based on past and reasonably anticipated future impacts) result in additional development, which could impact nearby downstream water quality?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
3b.	If you answered "yes" to the above, submit a qualitative or quantitative cumulative immost recent DWQ policy. If you answered "no," provide a short narrative description.	pact analysis	in accordance with the
4.	Sewage Disposal (DWQ Requirement)		
4a	. Clearly detail the ultimate treatment methods and disposition (non-discharge or discharge the proposed project, or available capacity of the subject facility.  N/A	arge) of waste	ewater generated from

	Endangered Species and Designated C	ritical Habitat (Corps Requirement		
a.	Will this project occur in or near an area v habitat?	rith federally protected species or	☐ Yes	⊠ No
b.	Have you checked with the USFWS concimpacts?	erning Endangered Species Act	☐ Yes	⊠ No
c.	If yes, indicate the USFWS Field Office y	ou have contacted.	☐ Raleigh ☐ Asheville	
id.	What data sources did you use to determ Habitat?	nine whether your site would impact E	ndangered Species	or Designated Critica
	visual observation			
6.	Essential Fish Habitat (Corps Require	ment)		
— 6а	. Will this project occur in or near an area	designated as essential fish habitat?	☐ Yes	⊠ No
<b>6</b> b	. What data sources did you use to determ WRC will comment		Essential Fish Habita	τ?
7.	Historic or Prehistoric Cultural Resou	irces (Corps Requirement)		
78	Will this project occur in or near an area governments have designated as havin status (e.g., National Historic Trust desi North Carolina history and archaeology	gnation or properties significant in	☐ Yes	⊠ No
7	o. What data sources did you use to deter		historic or archeolog	ical resources?
8	. Flood Zone Designation (Corps Requi	rement)		
8	8a. Will this project occur in a FEMA-designated 100-year floodplain?			
	b. If yes, explain how project meets FEMA			
•	ic. What source(s) did you use to make the		ps	
	J. Heath Slaughter	// Applicant/Agent's	aughter Signature	12/30/1 Date
	Applicant/Agent's Printed Name	(Agent's signature is valid only if an authorise provided.	ization letter from the a	oplicant



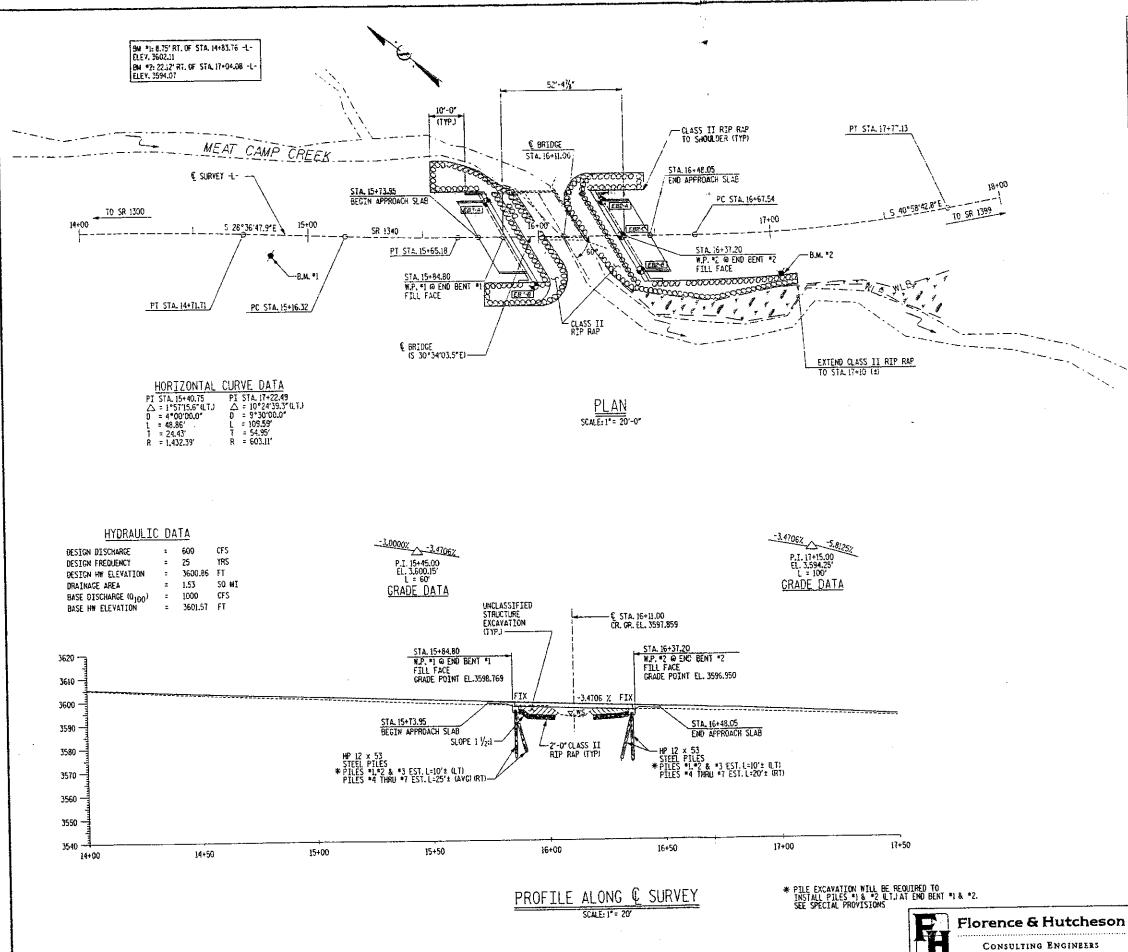




Bridge #37 on SR 1340, Watauga.

DRAWN BY: CL SMITH DATE: NOV 2010 CHECKED BY: J.E. MONDOLFT DATE: NOV 2816

Florence & mutcheson, Incf3LE NAME: PINDMANDIVILINGTOUGO,37NMANDDIBNSTructures\+37Lenti\_v&.ogr



- . ALL PILES SHALL BE TRIVEN TO A MINIMUM BEARING CAPACITY OF 50 TONS EACH
- E. THE QUANTITY OF RIP RAP TO BE PAID FOR WILL BE THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF TOWN OF EACH CLASS OF RIP RAP WHICH HAS BEEN INCORPORATED INTO THE COMPLETED AND ACCEPTED WORK THE RIP RAP WILL BE WEASURED BY BEING MEIGHED IN TRUCKS ON CERTIFIED PLATFORM SCALES OR OTHER CEPTIFIED WEIGHIND DEVICES. THE PLATFORM SCALES OF WILL BE PAID FOR AT THE CONTRACT UNIT PRICE PER TON:

PLAIN RIP RAP CLASS II (2'-0"THICK) FILTER FABRIC

120 SOUARE YARDS 120 TONS END BENT NO. 2 240 SOLIARE YARDS TOTAL 250 TONS

- THIS STRUCTURE HAS BEEN DESIGNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH FWHA'S TECHNICAL ADVISORY T5140.20 (SCOUR AT BRIDGES).
- I. ROCK EXCAVATION IS ANTICIPATED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PILE CAP AT END BENT NO. 2. COST SHALL BE INCLUDED UNDER ITEM EXCAVATION AND EMBANKMENT."
- 5. STEEL PILE POINTS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL PILES AT EMD MO.1 AND NO.2 SEE SPECIAL PROVISIONS
- 6. THE STEEL PILES SHALL BE GALVANIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1076 OF THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS. FOR GALVANIZING STEEL PILES. SEE SPECIAL PROVISIONS.
- . WHEN DRIVING PILES, THE MAXIMUM BLOW COUNT SHALL NOT BE EXCEEDED.
- . PILES AT END BENT NO.1 SHALL BE DRIVEN TO AN ELEVATION NO HIGHER THAN EL. 3584.50 (LT) AND EL. 3567.00 (RT).
- 9. PILES AT END BENT NO. 2 SHALL BE ORIVEN TO AN ELEVATION NO HIGHER THAN EL. 3582.50 (LT) AND EL. 3574.00 (RT)
- 10. DELINEATORS ON BARRIER RAIL AND ON STEEL BEAM GUARDRAIL SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE PRICE BID FOR THESE ITEMS.
- 11. CURRENT ADT = 740 VPD.
- 12. FOR CRAME SAFETY, SEE SPECIAL PROVISIONS.
- 13. FOR FALSEWORK AND FORMWORK, SEE SPECIAL PROVISIONS.
- 14. FOR SUBMITTAL OF WORKING DRAWINGS, SEE SPECIAL PROVISIONS.
- SECTECH BORE HOLES LOCATION

#### DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING BRIDGE

1 SPAN @ 18'-9'.4' x 8"TIMBER FLOOR / 3"ASPHALT MEARING SURFACE ON TIMBER JOISTS ON TIMBER END BENT CAPS AND TIMBER POSTS AND SILLS:19'-3"CLEAR ROADWAY WIDTH SHALL BE REMOVED.

PRELIMINARY PLANS
DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT NO. 42824 COUNTY:

WATAUGA STATION: 16 + 11.00

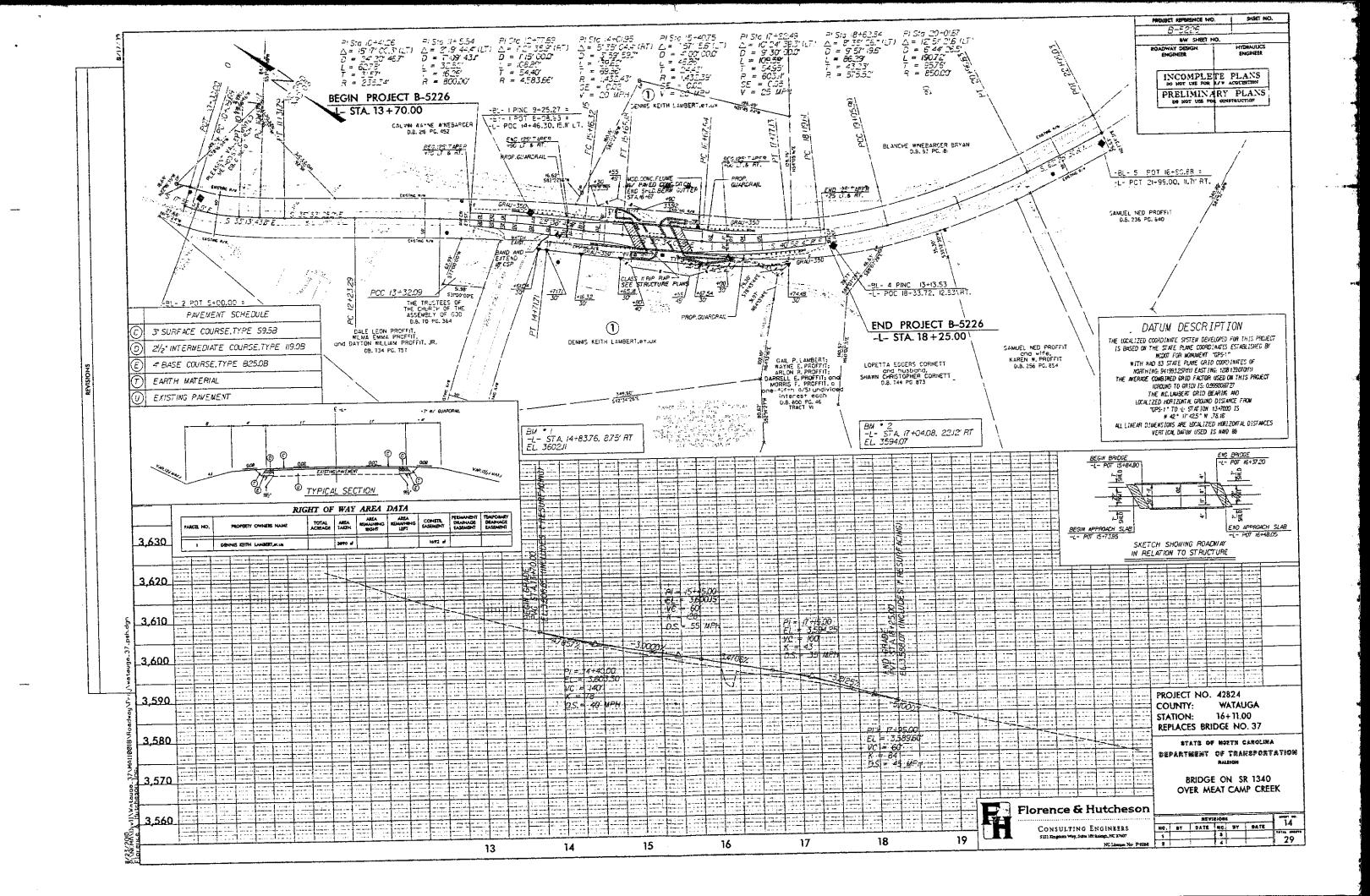
REPLACES BRIDGE NO. 37

STATE OF HORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RALEIGH

BRIDGE NO. 37 ON SR 1340 OVER MEAT CAMP CREEK

REVISIONS DATE NO. BY DATE 9 29

**NOT TO SCALE** 



110 120 - 100 140 | 150 .. 130 20 30 40 50 20 4 1200 100 120 130 140 150 110 90 100 30 50 40 20 10 0 7**p** 60 50 60 80 70 20 3Q\_\_\_\_ 130 120 10

SHEET NO.

-110

SHEET NO.

### U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

WILMINGTON DISTRICT

RECEIVED NODOR DIVISION ENGINEERS OFFICE N WILKESBORO. NO

Action ID. 2011-00111

County: Watauga

USGS Quad: Meat Camp

### FFR 28 7011

GENERAL PERMIT (REGIONAL AND NATIONWIDE) VERIFICATION
Property Owner / Authorized Agent: NCDOT, Division 11  Address: Attn: Mike Pettyjohn PO Box 250 North Wilkesboro, NC 28659
Telephone No.: 336-667-9111 Size and location of property (water body, road name/number, town, etc.): The project site is located on SR 1340 at Bridge #37 crossing Meat Camp Creek near Boone in Watauga County, North Carolina. Meat Camp Creek is connected via surface water connection to the South Fork New River.
Description of projects area and activity: This permit verifies 120 linear feet of impact associated with stream bank stabilization during the replacement of this bridge. Bank stabilization is not considered a loss of waters; therefore mitigation is not warranted.
Applicable Law: Section 404 (Clean Water Act, 33 USC 1344)  Section 10 (Rivers and Harbors Act, 33 USC 403)  Authorization: Regional General Permit Number:  Nationwide Permit Number: 13
Your work is authorized by the above referenced permit provided it is accomplished in strict accordance with the attached conditions and your submitted plans. Any violation of the attached conditions or deviation from your submitted plans may subject the permittee to a stop work order, a restoration order and/or appropriate legal action.
This verification is valid until the NWP is modified, reissued, or revoked. All of the existing NWPs are scheduled to be modified, reissued, or revoked prior to March 18, 2012. It is incumbent upon you to remain informed of changes to the NWPs. We will issue a public notice when the NWPs are reissued. Furthermore, if you commence or are under contract to commence this activity before the date that the relevant nationwide permit is modified or revoked, you will have twelve (12) months from the date of the modification or revocation of the NWP to complete the activity under the present terms and conditions of this nationwide permit.
Activities subject to Section 404 (as indicated above) may also require an individual Section 401 Water Quality Certification. You should contact the NC Division of Water Quality (telephone (919) 733-1786) to determine Section 401 requirements.
For activities occurring within the twenty coastal counties subject to regulation under the Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA), prior to beginning work you must contact the N.C. Division of Coastal Management.
This Department of the Army verification does not relieve the permittee of the responsibility to obtain any other required Federal, State or local approvals/permits.
If there are any questions regarding this verification, any of the conditions of the Permit, or the Corps of Engineers regulatory program, please contact Monte Matthews.
Special Conditions: 1) As confirmed within an email dated February 10, 2011, from the Wildlife Resources Commission a trout moratorium is in effect from October 15 until April 15 for this project. In addition, other standard requirements for trout wates (i.e. design standards for sensitive waters, etc.) are also in effect for this project.
Corps Regulatory Official Monte Matthews Mode Matthews Date: February 25, 2011

Page 1 of 2

Expiration Date of Verification: March 18, 2012

### **Determination of Jurisdiction:**

	Based on preliminary information, there appear to be waters of the US including wetlands within the above described project area. This preliminary determination is not an appealable action under the Regulatory Program Administrative Appeal Process (Reference 33 CFR Part 331).		
	There are Navigable Waters of the United States within the above described project area subject to the permit requirements of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Unless there is a change in the law or our published regulations, this determination may be relied upon for a period not to exceed five years from the date of this notification.		
$\boxtimes$	There are waters of the US and/or wetlands within the above described project area subject to the permit requirements of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA)(33 USC § 1344). Unless there is a change in the law or our published regulations, this determination may be relied upon for a period not to exceed five years from the date of this notification.		
	The jurisdictional areas within the above described project area have been identified under a previous action. Please reference jurisdictional determination issued Action ID		
Basis of Jurisdictional Determination: evidence of an ordinary high water mark and surface water flow to the South Fork New River, a TNW			
Ap	peals Information (This information applies only to approved jurisdictional determinations.)		
Attached to this verification is an approved jurisdictional determination. If you are not in agreement with that approved jurisdictional determination, you can make an administrative appeal under 33 CFR 331. Enclosed you will find a Notification of Appeal Process (NAP) fact sheet and request for appeal (RFA) form. If you request to appeal this determination you must submit a completed RFA form to the following address:			
	District Engineer, Wilmington Regulatory Division Attn: Jean Gibby, Project Manager, Raleigh Regulatory Field Office 3331 Heritage Trade Drive, Suite 105 Wake Forest, North Carolina 27587		
In order for an RFA to be accepted by the Corps, the Corps must determine that it is complete, that it meets the criteria for appeal under 33 CFR part 331.5, and that it has been received by the District Office within 60 days of the date of the NAP. Should you decide to submit an RFA form, it must be received at the above address by <b>April 25, 2011</b> .			
	t is not necessary to submit an RFA form to the District Office if you do not object to the determination in this correspondence.**		
Co	rps Regulatory Official: Monte Matthews Monde M. Hlew		
	te <u>February 25, 2011</u> Expiration Date <u>February 25, 2016</u>		
SURVEY PLATS, FIELD SKETCH, WETLAND DELINEATION FORMS, PROJECT PLANS, ETC., MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE FILE COPY OF THIS FORM, IF REQUIRED OR AVAILABLE.			
	py Furnished: ny Euliss, DWQ Winston-Salem		

### Matthews, Monte K SAW

Subject:

FW: TIP B\_5226 Bridge 37 on SR 1340 in Watauga (UNCLASSIFIED)

----Original Message----

From: Chambers, Marla J [mailto:marla.chambers@ncwildlife.org]

Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2011 2:29 PM

To: Matthews, Monte K SAW

Subject: RE: TIP B\_5226 Bridge 37 on SR 1340 in Watauga (UNCLASSIFIED)

I have confirmation that a trout moratorium from October 15 to April 15 should be in place for the project, as well as other standard requirements for trout waters (design standards for sensitive waters, etc.).

Let me know if you need anything further, Marla

Marla J. Chambers
Western NCDOT Permit Coordinator
North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
12275 Swift Road
Oakboro, NC 28129
Office & Fax: 704-485-8291
Work cell: 704-984-1070
marla.chambers@ncwildlife.org

ncwildlife.org

Get NC Wildlife Update -- news including season dates, bag limits, legislative updates and more -- delivered to your Inbox from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission.

Email correspondence to and from this sender is subject to the N.C. Public Records Law and may be disclosed to third parties.

• •	
Action ID Number: <u>2011 00111</u>	County: Watauga
Permittee: NCDOT	
Date Verification Issued: February 25, 2011	
Project Manager: Monte Matthews	
Upon completion of the activity authorized by this per sign this certification and return it to the following ad	
US ARMY CORPS	OF ENGINEERS
WILMINGTO	
RALEIGH REGULAT	ORY FIELD OFFICE
3331 HERITAGE TRAI	
WAKE FOREST, NOR	TH CAROLINA 27587
Please note that your permitted activity is subject to Engineers representative. If you fail to comply with modification, o	h this permit you are subject to permit suspension,
I hereby certify that the work authorized by the above accordance with the terms and condition of the said p accordance with the permit conditions.	e referenced permit has been completed in ermit, and required mitigation was completed in
Signature of Permittee	Date

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## S COMPACON RECORDO DE LA POSTEMICA PARA DE PARA DE LA COMPANSIA DE LA COMPANSIÓN DE LA COMP

Company of the Compan	cant: NCDOT	File Number: 2011 00111	Date: Feb 25, 2011
	hed is:		See Section below
	INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Sta	A	
	PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)		В
	PERMIT DENIAL		C
Х	APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DE	TERMINATION	D
	PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL	DETERMINATION	E

SECTION I - The following identifies your rights and options regarding an administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at http://www.usace.army.mil/CECW/Pages/reg\_materials.aspx or Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.

- A: INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or object to the permit.
- ACCEPT: If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final
  authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your
  signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights
  to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- OBJECT: If you object to the permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may request that the permit be modified accordingly. You must complete Section II of this form and return the form to the district engineer. Your objections must be received by the district engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice, or you will forfeit your right to appeal the permit in the future. Upon receipt of your letter, the district engineer will evaluate your objections and may: (a) modify the permit to address all of your concerns, (b) modify the permit to address some of your objections, or (c) not modify the permit having determined that the permit should be issued as previously written. After evaluating your objections, the district engineer will send you a proffered permit for your reconsideration, as indicated in Section B below.
- B: PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or appeal the permit
- ACCEPT: If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final
  authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your
  signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights
  to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- APPEAL: If you choose to decline the proffered permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you
  may appeal the declined permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this
  form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the
  date of this notice.
- C: PERMIT DENIAL: You may appeal the denial of a permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.
- D: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept or appeal the approved JD or provide new information.
- ACCEPT: You do not need to notify the Corps to accept an approved JD. Failure to notify the Corps within 60 days of the
  date of this notice, means that you accept the approved JD in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the approved JD.
- APPEAL: If you disagree with the approved JD, you may appeal the approved JD under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

E: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You do not need to respond to the Corps regarding the preliminary JD. The Preliminary JD is not appealable. If you wish, you may request an approved JD (which may be appealed), by contacting the Corps district for further instruction. Also you may provide new information for further consideration by the Corps to reevaluate the JD.					
SECTION II DECLIEST FOR APPEAL OF ORIECTIO	NS TO AN INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT				
SECTION II - REQUEST FOR APPEAL or OBJECTIONS TO AN INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT  REASONS FOR APPEAL OR OBJECTIONS: (Describe your reasons for appealing the decision or your objections to an initial proffered permit in clear concise statements. You may attach additional information to this form to clarify where your reasons or objections are addressed in the administrative record.)					
	· <b>i</b>				
	·				
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The appeal is limited to a review of the administrative record, the Corps memorandum for the record of the appeal conference or meeting, and any supplemental information that the review officer has determined is needed to clarify the administrative record. Neither the appellant nor the Corps may add new information or analyses to the record. However, you may provide additional information to clarify the location of information that is already in the administrative record.					
POINT OF CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS OR INFOR	MATION  If you only have questions regarding the appeal process you may				
If you have questions regarding this decision and/or the appeal process you may contact:	also contact:				
Monte Matthews	Jason Steele				
3331 Heritage Trade Drive, Suite 105 Wake Forest, NC 27587	Administrative Appeals Review Officer 60 Forsyth Street, SW (Room 9M10)				
COME A CLOUD IN MICE!	Atlanta, GA 30303-8801				
	404-562-5137				

RIGHT OF ENTRY: Your signature below grants the right of entry to Corps of Engineers personnel, and any government consultants, to conduct investigations of the project site during the course of the appeal process. You will be provided a 15 day					
notice of any site investigation, and will have the opportunity to participate in all site investigations.					
	Date:	Telephone number:			
		1 -			
Signature of appellant or agent.					

### NATIONWIDE PERMIT 13 DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

## FINAL NOTICE OF ISSUANCE AND MODIFICATION OF NATIONWIDE PERMITS FEDERAL REGISTER AUTHORIZED MARCH 19, 2007

Bank Stabilization. Bank stabilization activities necessary for erosion prevention, provided the activity meets all of the following criteria:

(a) No material is placed in excess of the minimum needed for erosion protection;

(b) The activity is no more than 500 feet in length along the bank, unless this criterion is waived in writing by the district engineer;

(c) The activity will not exceed an average of one cubic yard per running foot placed along the bank below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line, unless this criterion is waived in writing by the district engineer;

(d) The activity does not involve discharges of dredged or fill material into special aquatic sites, unless this criterion is waived in writing by the district engineer;

(e) No material is of the type, or is placed in any location, or in any manner, to impair surface water flow into or out of any water of the United States;

(f) No material is placed in a manner that will be eroded by normal or expected high flows (properly anchored trees and treetops may be used in low energy areas); and,

(g) The activity is not a stream channelization activity.

Notification: The permittee must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer prior to commencing the activity if the bank stabilization activity: (1) involves discharges into special aquatic sites; (2) is in excess of 500 feet in length; or (3) will involve the discharge of greater than an average of one cubic yard per running foot along the bank below the plane of the ordinary high water mark or the high tide line. (See general condition 27.) (Sections 10 and 404)

### NATIONWIDE PERMIT CONDITIONS

The following General Conditions must be followed in order for any authorization by a NWP to be valid:

- 1. <u>Navigation</u>. (a) No activity may cause more than a minimal adverse effect on navigation.
- (b) Any safety lights and signals prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard, through regulations or otherwise, must be installed and maintained at the permittee's expense on authorized facilities in navigable waters of the United States.
- (c) The permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration, of the structure or work herein authorized, or if, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or his authorized representative, said structure or work shall cause unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the navigable waters, the permittee will be required, upon due notice from the Corps of Engineers, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the United States. No claim shall be made against the United States on account of any such removal or alteration.
- 2. <u>Aquatic Life Movements</u>. No activity may substantially disrupt the necessary life cycle movements of those species of aquatic life indigenous to the waterbody, including those species that normally migrate through the area, unless the activity's primary purpose is to impound water. Culverts placed in streams must be installed to maintain low flow conditions.
- 3. <u>Spawning Areas</u>. Activities in spawning areas during spawning seasons must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. Activities that result in the physical destruction (e.g., through excavation, fill, or downstream smothering by substantial turbidity) of an important spawning area are not authorized.
- 4. <u>Migratory Bird Breeding Areas</u>. Activities in waters of the United States that serve as breeding areas for migratory birds must be avoided to the maximum extent practicable.
- 5. Shellfish Beds. No activity may occur in areas of concentrated shellfish populations, unless the activity is directly related to a shellfish harvesting activity authorized by NWPs 4 and 48.
- 6. <u>Suitable Material</u>. No activity may use unsuitable material (e.g., trash, debris, car bodies, asphalt, etc.). Material used for construction or discharged must be free from toxic pollutants in toxic amounts (see Section 307 of the Clean Water Act).
- 7. <u>Water Supply Intakes</u>. No activity may occur in the proximity of a public water supply intake, except where the activity is for the repair or improvement of public water supply intake structures or adjacent bank stabilization.
- 8. Adverse Effects From Impoundments. If the activity creates an impoundment of water, adverse effects to the aquatic system due to accelerating the passage of water, and/or restricting its flow must be minimized to the maximum extent practicable.

- 9. Management of Water Flows. To the maximum extent practicable, the pre-construction course, condition, capacity, and location of open waters must be maintained for each activity, including stream channelization and storm water management activities, except as provided below. The activity must be constructed to withstand expected high flows. The activity must not restrict or impede the passage of normal or high flows, unless the primary purpose of the activity is to impound water or manage high flows. The activity may alter the pre-construction course, condition, capacity, and location of open waters if it benefits the aquatic environment (e.g., stream restoration or relocation activities).
- 10. <u>Fills Within 100-Year Floodplains</u>. The activity must comply with applicable FEMA-approved state or local floodplain management requirements.
- 11. <u>Equipment</u>. Heavy equipment working in wetlands or mudflats must be placed on mats, or other measures must be taken to minimize soil disturbance.
- 12. <u>Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls</u>. Appropriate soil erosion and sediment controls must be used and maintained in effective operating condition during construction, and all exposed soil and other fills, as well as any work below the ordinary high water mark or high tide line, must be permanently stabilized at the earliest practicable date. Permittees are encouraged to perform work within waters of the United States during periods of low-flow or no-flow.
- 13. <u>Removal of Temporary Fills</u>. Temporary fills must be removed in their entirety and the affected areas returned to pre-construction elevations. The affected areas must be revegetated, as appropriate.
- 14. <u>Proper Maintenance</u>. Any authorized structure or fill shall be properly maintained, including maintenance to ensure public safety.
- 15. Wild and Scenic Rivers. No activity may occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System, or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the system while the river is in an official study status, unless the appropriate Federal agency with direct management responsibility for such river, has determined in writing that the proposed activity will not adversely affect the Wild and Scenic River designation or study status. Information on Wild and Scenic Rivers may be obtained from the appropriate Federal land management agency in the area (e.g., National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).
- 16. <u>Tribal Rights</u>. No activity or its operation may impair reserved tribal rights, including, but not limited to, reserved water rights and treaty fishing and hunting rights.
- 17. Endangered Species. (a) No activity is authorized under any NWP which is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a threatened or endangered species or a species proposed for such designation, as identified under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), or which will destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species. No activity is authorized

under any NWP which "may affect" a listed species or critical habitat, unless Section 7 consultation addressing the effects of the proposed activity has been completed.

- (b) Federal agencies should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of the ESA. Federal permittees must provide the district engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements.
- (c) Non-federal permittees shall notify the district engineer if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, or if the project is located in designated critical habitat, and shall not begin work on the activity until notified by the district engineer that the requirements of the ESA have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized. For activities that might affect Federally-listed endangered or threatened species or designated critical habitat, the pre-construction notification must include the name(s) of the endangered or threatened species that may be affected by the proposed work or that utilize the designated critical habitat that may be affected by the proposed work. The district engineer will determine whether the proposed activity "may affect" or will have "no effect" to listed species and designated critical habitat and will notify the non-Federal applicant of the Corps' determination within 45 days of receipt of a complete pre-construction notification. In cases where the non-Federal applicant has identified listed species or critical habitat that might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, and has so notified the Corps, the applicant shall not begin work until the Corps has provided notification the proposed activities will have "no effect" on listed species or critical habitat, or until Section 7 consultation has been completed.
- (d) As a result of formal or informal consultation with the FWS or NMFS the district engineer may add species-specific regional endangered species conditions to the NWPs.
- (e) Authorization of an activity by a NWP does not authorize the "take" of a threatened or endangered species as defined under the ESA. In the absence of separate authorization (e.g., an ESA Section 10 Permit, a Biological Opinion with "incidental take" provisions, etc.) from the U.S. FWS or the NMFS, both lethal and non-lethal "takes" of protected species are in violation of the ESA. Information on the location of threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the U.S. FWS and NMFS or their world wide Web pages at http://www.fws.gov/ and http://www.noaa.gov/fisheries.html respectively.
- 18. <u>Historic Properties</u>. (a) In cases where the district engineer determines that the activity may affect properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places, the activity is not authorized, until the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) have been satisfied.
- (b) Federal permittees should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Federal permittees must provide the district engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements.
- (c) Non-federal permittees must submit a pre-construction notification to the district engineer if the authorized activity may have the potential to cause effects to any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, including previously unidentified properties. For such activities, the pre-construction notification must state which historic properties may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic properties or the potential for the presence of historic properties. Assistance regarding information on the location of or potential for the presence of historic resources can be sought from the State

Historic Preservation Officer or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, as appropriate, and the National Register of Historic Places (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)). The district engineer shall make a reasonable and good faith effort to carry out appropriate identification efforts, which may include background research, consultation, oral history interviews, sample field investigation, and field survey. Based on the information submitted and these efforts, the district engineer shall determine whether the proposed activity has the potential to cause an effect on the historic properties. Where the non-Federal applicant has identified historic properties which the activity may have the potential to cause effects and so notified the Corps, the non-Federal applicant shall not begin the activity until notified by the district engineer either that the activity has no potential to cause effects or that consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA has been completed.

- (d) The district engineer will notify the prospective permittee within 45 days of receipt of a complete pre-construction notification whether NHPA Section 106 consultation is required. Section 106 consultation is not required when the Corps determines that the activity does not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties (see 36 CFR 800.3(a)). If NHPA section 106 consultation is required and will occur, the district engineer will notify the non-Federal applicant that he or she cannot begin work until Section 106 consultation is completed.
- (e) Prospective permittees should be aware that section 110k of the NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470h-2(k)) prevents the Corps from granting a permit or other assistance to an applicant who, with intent to avoid the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA, has intentionally significantly adversely affected a historic property to which the permit would relate, or having legal power to prevent it, allowed such significant adverse effect to occur, unless the Corps, after consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), determines that circumstances justify granting such assistance despite the adverse effect created or permitted by the applicant. If circumstances justify granting the assistance, the Corps is required to notify the ACHP and provide documentation specifying the circumstances, explaining the degree of damage to the integrity of any historic properties affected, and proposed mitigation. This documentation must include any views obtained from the applicant, SHPO/THPO, appropriate Indian tribes if the undertaking occurs on or affects historic properties on tribal lands or affects properties of interest to those tribes, and other parties known to have a legitimate interest in the impacts to the permitted activity on historic properties.
- 19. <u>Designated Critical Resource Waters</u>. Critical resource waters include, NOAA-designated marine sanctuaries, National Estuarine Research Reserves, state natural heritage sites, and outstanding national resource waters or other waters officially designated by a state as having particular environmental or ecological significance and identified by the district engineer after notice and opportunity for public comment. The district engineer may also designate additional critical resource waters after notice and opportunity for comment.
- (a) Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States are not authorized by NWPs 7, 12, 14, 16, 17, 21, 29, 31, 35, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 49, and 50 for any activity within, or directly affecting, critical resource waters, including wetlands adjacent to such waters.
- (b) For NWPs 3, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 36, 37, and 38, notification is required in accordance with general condition 27, for any activity proposed in the designated critical resource waters including wetlands adjacent to those waters. The district engineer may authorize activities under these NWPs only after it is determined that the impacts to the critical resource waters will be no more than minimal.

- 20. <u>Mitigation</u>. The district engineer will consider the following factors when determining appropriate and practicable mitigation necessary to ensure that adverse effects on the aquatic environment are minimal:
- (a) The activity must be designed and constructed to avoid and minimize adverse effects, both temporary and permanent, to waters of the United States to the maximum extent practicable at the project site (i.e., on site).
- (b) Mitigation in all its forms (avoiding, minimizing, rectifying, reducing, or compensating) will be required to the extent necessary to ensure that the adverse effects to the aquatic environment are minimal.
- (c) Compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one ratio will be required for all wetland losses that exceed 1/10 acre and require pre-construction notification, unless the district engineer determines in writing that some other form of mitigation would be more environmentally appropriate and provides a project-specific waiver of this requirement. For wetland losses of 1/10 acre or less that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer may determine on a case-by-case basis that compensatory mitigation is required to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. Since the likelihood of success is greater and the impacts to potentially valuable uplands are reduced, wetland restoration should be the first compensatory mitigation option considered.
- (d) For losses of streams or other open waters that require pre-construction notification, the district engineer may require compensatory mitigation, such as stream restoration, to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment.
- (e) Compensatory mitigation will not be used to increase the acreage losses allowed by the acreage limits of the NWPs. For example, if an NWP has an acreage limit of 1/2 acre, it cannot be used to authorize any project resulting in the loss of greater than 1/2 acre of waters of the United States, even if compensatory mitigation is provided that replaces or restores some of the lost waters. However, compensatory mitigation can and should be used, as necessary, to ensure that a project already meeting the established acreage limits also satisfies the minimal impact requirement associated with the NWPs.
- (f) Compensatory mitigation plans for projects in or near streams or other open waters will normally include a requirement for the establishment, maintenance, and legal protection (e.g., conservation easements) of riparian areas next to open waters. In some cases, riparian areas may be the only compensatory mitigation required. Riparian areas should consist of native species. The width of the required riparian area will address documented water quality or aquatic habitat loss concerns. Normally, the riparian area will be 25 to 50 feet wide on each side of the stream, but the district engineer may require slightly wider riparian areas to address documented water quality or habitat loss concerns. Where both wetlands and open waters exist on the project site, the district engineer will determine the appropriate compensatory mitigation (e.g., riparian areas and/or wetlands compensation) based on what is best for the aquatic environment on a watershed basis. In cases where riparian areas are determined to be the most appropriate form of compensatory mitigation, the district engineer may waive or reduce the requirement to provide wetland compensatory mitigation for wetland losses.
- (g) Permittees may propose the use of mitigation banks, in-lieu fee arrangements or separate activity-specific compensatory mitigation. In all cases, the mitigation provisions will specify the party responsible for accomplishing and/or complying with the mitigation plan.

- (h) Where certain functions and services of waters of the United States are permanently adversely affected, such as the conversion of a forested or scrub-shrub wetland to a herbaceous wetland in a permanently maintained utility line right-of-way, mitigation may be required to reduce the adverse effects of the project to the minimal level.
- 21. Water Quality. Where States and authorized Tribes, or EPA where applicable, have not previously certified compliance of an NWP with CWA Section 401, individual 401 Water Quality Certification must be obtained or waived (see 33 CFR 330.4(c)). The district engineer or State or Tribe may require additional water quality management measures to ensure that the authorized activity does not result in more than minimal degradation of water quality.
- 22. Coastal Zone Management. In coastal states where an NWP has not previously received a state coastal zone management consistency concurrence, an individual state coastal zone management consistency concurrence must be obtained, or a presumption of concurrence must occur (see 33 CFR 330.4(d)). The district engineer or a State may require additional measures to ensure that the authorized activity is consistent with state coastal zone management requirements.
- 23. <u>Regional and Case-By-Case Conditions</u>. The activity must comply with any regional conditions that may have been added by the Division Engineer (see 33 CFR 330.4(e)) and with any case specific conditions added by the Corps or by the state, Indian Tribe, or U.S. EPA in its section 401 Water Quality Certification, or by the state in its Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determination.
- 24. <u>Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits</u>. The use of more than one NWP for a single and complete project is prohibited, except when the acreage loss of waters of the United States authorized by the NWPs does not exceed the acreage limit of the NWP with the highest specified acreage limit. For example, if a road crossing over tidal waters is constructed under NWP 14, with associated bank stabilization authorized by NWP 13, the maximum acreage loss of waters of the United States for the total project cannot exceed 1/3-acre.
- 25. <u>Transfer of Nationwide Permit Verifications</u>. If the permittee sells the property associated with a nationwide permit verification, the permittee may transfer the nationwide permit verification to the new owner by submitting a letter to the appropriate Corps district office to validate the transfer. A copy of the nationwide permit verification must be attached to the letter, and the letter must contain the following statement and signature: "When the structures or work authorized by this nationwide permit are still in existence at the time the property is transferred, the terms and conditions of this nationwide permit, including any special conditions, will continue to be binding on the new owner(s) of the property. To validate

the transfer of this nationwide permit and the associated liabilities associated with compliance with its terms and conditions, have the transferee sign and date below."

(Transferee)				
,		<del></del>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
(Date)				

- 26. <u>Compliance Certification</u>. Each permittee who received an NWP verification from the Corps must submit a signed certification regarding the completed work and any required mitigation. The certification form must be forwarded by the Corps with the NWP verification letter and will include:
- (a) A statement that the authorized work was done in accordance with the NWP authorization, including any general or specific conditions;
- (b) A statement that any required mitigation was completed in accordance with the permit conditions; and
  - (c) The signature of the permittee certifying the completion of the work and mitigation.
- 27. Pre-Construction Notification. (a) Timing. Where required by the terms of the NWP, the prospective permittee must notify the district engineer by submitting a pre-construction notification (PCN) as early as possible. The district engineer must determine if the PCN is complete within 30 calendar days of the date of receipt and, as a general rule, will request additional information necessary to make the PCN complete only once. However, if the prospective permittee does not provide all of the requested information, then the district engineer will notify the prospective permittee that the PCN is still incomplete and the PCN review process will not commence until all of the requested information has been received by the district engineer. The prospective permittee shall not begin the activity until either:
- (1) He or she is notified in writing by the district engineer that the activity may proceed under the NWP with any special conditions imposed by the district or division engineer; or
- (2) Forty-five calendar days have passed from the district engineer's receipt of the complete PCN and the prospective permittee has not received written notice from the district or division engineer. However, if the permittee was required to notify the Corps pursuant to general condition 17 that listed species or critical habitat might affected or in the vicinity of the project, or to notify the Corps pursuant to general condition 18 that the activity may have the potential to cause effects to historic properties, the permittee cannot begin the activity until receiving written notification from the Corps that is "no effect" on listed species or "no potential to cause effects" on historic properties, or that any consultation required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (see 33 CFR 330.4(f)) and/or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)) is completed. Also, work cannot begin under NWPs 21, 49, or 50 until the permittee has received written approval from the Corps. If the proposed activity requires a written waiver to exceed specified limits of an NWP, the permittee cannot begin the activity until the district engineer issues the waiver. If the district or division engineer notifies the permittee in writing that an individual permit is required within 45 calendar days of receipt of a complete PCN, the permittee cannot begin the activity until an individual permit has been obtained.

Subsequently, the permittee's right to proceed under the NWP may be modified, suspended, or revoked only in accordance with the procedure set forth in 33 CFR 330.5(d)(2).

(b) Contents of Pre-Construction Notification: The PCN must be in writing and include

the following information:

(1) Name, address and telephone numbers of the prospective permittee;

(2) Location of the proposed project;

(3) A description of the proposed project; the project's purpose; direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the project would cause; any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. The description should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse effects of the project will be minimal and to determine the need for compensatory mitigation. Sketches should be provided when necessary to show that the activity complies with the terms of the NWP. (Sketches usually clarify the project and when provided result in a quicker decision.);

(4) The PCN must include a delineation of special aquatic sites and other waters of the United States on the project site. Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current method required by the Corps. The permittee may ask the Corps to delineate the special aquatic sites and other waters of the United States, but there may be a delay if the Corps does the delineation, especially if the project site is large or contains many waters of the United States. Furthermore, the 45 day period will not start until the delineation has been submitted to or

completed by the Corps, where appropriate;

(5) If the proposed activity will result in the loss of greater than 1/10 acre of wetlands and a PCN is required, the prospective permittee must submit a statement describing how the mitigation requirement will be satisfied. As an alternative, the prospective permittee may submit

a conceptual or detailed mitigation plan.

(6) If any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the project, or if the project is located in designated critical habitat, for non-Federal applicants the PCN must include the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed work or utilize the designated critical habitat that may be affected by the proposed work. Federal applicants must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with the Endangered Species Act; and

(7) For an activity that may affect a historic property listed on, determined to be eligible for listing on, or potentially eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places, for non-Federal applicants the PCN must state which historic property may be affected by the proposed work or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property. Federal applicants must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with Section 106 of the

National Historic Preservation Act.

(c) Form of Pre-Construction Notification: The standard individual permit application form (Form ENG 4345) may be used, but the completed application form must clearly indicate that it is a PCN and must include all of the information required in paragraphs (b)(1) through (7) of this general condition. A letter containing the required information may also be used.

(d) Agency Coordination: (1) The district engineer will consider any comments from Federal and state agencies concerning the proposed activity's compliance with the terms and conditions of the NWPs and the need for mitigation to reduce the project's adverse

environmental effects to a minimal level.

- (2) For all NWP 48 activities requiring pre-construction notification and for other NWP activities requiring pre-construction notification to the district engineer that result in the loss of greater than 1/2-acre of waters of the United States, the district engineer will immediately provide (e.g., via facsimile transmission, overnight mail, or other expeditious manner) a copy of the PCN to the appropriate Federal or state offices (U.S. FWS, state natural resource or water quality agency, EPA, State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) or Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO), and, if appropriate, the NMFS). With the exception of NWP 37, these agencies will then have 10 calendar days from the date the material is transmitted to telephone or fax the district engineer notice that they intend to provide substantive, site-specific comments. If so contacted by an agency, the district engineer will wait an additional 15 calendar days before making a decision on the pre-construction notification. The district engineer will fully consider agency comments received within the specified time frame, but will provide no response to the resource agency, except as provided below. The district engineer will indicate in the administrative record associated with each pre-construction notification that the resource agencies' concerns were considered. For NWP 37, the emergency watershed protection and rehabilitation activity may proceed immediately in cases where there is an unacceptable hazard to life or a significant loss of property or economic hardship will occur. The district engineer will consider any comments received to decide whether the NWP 37 authorization should be modified, suspended, or revoked in accordance with the procedures at 33 CFR 330.5.
- (3) In cases of where the prospective permittee is not a Federal agency, the district engineer will provide a response to NMFS within 30 calendar days of receipt of any Essential Fish Habitat conservation recommendations, as required by Section 305(b)(4)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.
- (4) Applicants are encouraged to provide the Corps multiple copies of pre-construction notifications to expedite agency coordination.
- (5) For NWP 48 activities that require reporting, the district engineer will provide a copy of each report within 10 calendar days of receipt to the appropriate regional office of the NMFS.
- (e) District Engineer's Decision: In reviewing the PCN for the proposed activity, the district engineer will determine whether the activity authorized by the NWP will result in more than minimal individual or cumulative adverse environmental effects or may be contrary to the public interest. If the proposed activity requires a PCN and will result in a loss of greater than 1/10 acre of wetlands, the prospective permittee should submit a mitigation proposal with the PCN. Applicants may also propose compensatory mitigation for projects with smaller impacts. The district engineer will consider any proposed compensatory mitigation the applicant has included in the proposal in determining whether the net adverse environmental effects to the aquatic environment of the proposed work are minimal. The compensatory mitigation proposal may be either conceptual or detailed. If the district engineer determines that the activity complies with the terms and conditions of the NWP and that the adverse effects on the aquatic environment are minimal, after considering mitigation, the district engineer will notify the permittee and include any conditions the district engineer deems necessary. The district engineer must approve any compensatory mitigation proposal before the permittee commences work. If the prospective permittee elects to submit a compensatory mitigation plan with the PCN, the district engineer will expeditiously review the proposed compensatory mitigation plan. The district engineer must review the plan within 45 calendar days of receiving a complete PCN and determine whether the proposed mitigation would ensure no more than minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. If the net adverse effects of the project on the aquatic environment

(after consideration of the compensatory mitigation proposal) are determined by the district engineer to be minimal, the district engineer will provide a timely written response to the applicant. The response will state that the project can proceed under the terms and conditions of the NWP.

If the district engineer determines that the adverse effects of the proposed work are more than minimal, then the district engineer will notify the applicant either: (1) That the project does not qualify for authorization under the NWP and instruct the applicant on the procedures to seek authorization under an individual permit; (2) that the project is authorized under the NWP subject to the applicant's submission of a mitigation plan that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level; or (3) that the project is authorized under the NWP with specific modifications or conditions. Where the district engineer determines that mitigation is required to ensure no more than minimal adverse effects occur to the aquatic environment, the activity will be authorized within the 45-day PCN period. The authorization will include the necessary conceptual or specific mitigation or a requirement that the applicant submit a mitigation plan that would reduce the adverse effects on the aquatic environment to the minimal level. When mitigation is required, no work in waters of the United States may occur until the district engineer has approved a specific mitigation plan.

28. <u>Single and Complete Project</u>. The activity must be a single and complete project. The same NWP cannot be used more than once for the same single and complete project.

# **FURTHER INFORMATION**

- 1. District Engineers have authority to determine if an activity complies with the terms and conditions of an NWP.
- 2. NWPs do not obviate the need to obtain other federal, state, or local permits, approvals, or authorizations required by law.
  - 3. NWPs do not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.
  - 4. NWPs do not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.
  - 5. NWPs do not authorize interference with any existing or proposed Federal project.

## **DEFINITIONS**

<u>Best management practices (BMPs)</u>: Policies, practices, procedures, or structures implemented to mitigate the adverse environmental effects on surface water quality resulting from development. BMPs are categorized as structural or non-structural.

<u>Compensatory mitigation</u>: The restoration, establishment (creation), enhancement, or preservation of aquatic resources for the purpose of compensating for unavoidable adverse impacts which remain after all appropriate and practicable avoidance and minimization has been achieved.

<u>Currently serviceable</u>: Useable as is or with some maintenance, but not so degraded as to essentially require reconstruction.

<u>Discharge</u>: The term "discharge" means any discharge of dredged or fill material.

<u>Enhancement</u>: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of an aquatic resource to heighten, intensify, or improve a specific aquatic resource function(s).

Enhancement results in the gain of selected aquatic resource function(s), but may also lead to a

decline in other aquatic resource function(s). Enhancement does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area.

<u>Ephemeral stream</u>. An ephemeral stream has flowing water only during, and for a short duration after, precipitation events in a typical year. Ephemeral stream beds are located above the water table year-round. Groundwater is not a source of water for the stream. Runoff from rainfall is the primary source of water for stream flow.

<u>Establishment (creation)</u>: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics present to develop an aquatic resource that did not previously exist at an upland site. Establishment results in a gain in aquatic resource area.

<u>Historic Property</u>: Any prehistoric or historic district, site (including archaeological site), building, structure, or other object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meet the National Register criteria (36 CFR part 60).

<u>Independent utility</u>: A test to determine what constitutes a single and complete project in the Corps regulatory program. A project is considered to have independent utility if it would be constructed absent the construction of other projects in the project area. Portions of a multi-phase project that depend upon other phases of the project do not have independent utility. Phases of a project that would be constructed even if the other phases were not built can be considered as separate single and complete projects with independent utility.

<u>Intermittent stream</u>: An intermittent stream has flowing water during certain times of the year, when groundwater provides water for stream flow. During dry periods, intermittent streams may not have flowing water. Runoff from rainfall is a supplemental source of water for stream flow.

Loss of waters of the United States. Waters of the United States that are permanently adversely affected by filling, flooding, excavation, or drainage because of the regulated activity. Permanent adverse effects include permanent discharges of dredged or fill material that change an aquatic area to dry land, increase the bottom elevation of a waterbody, or change the use of a waterbody. The acreage of loss of waters of the United States is a threshold measurement of the impact to jurisdictional waters for determining whether a project may qualify for an NWP; it is not a net threshold that is calculated after considering compensatory mitigation that may be used to offset losses of aquatic functions and services. The loss of stream bed includes the linear feet of stream bed that is filled or excavated. Waters of the United States temporarily filled, flooded, excavated, or drained, but restored to pre-construction contours and elevations after construction, are not included in the measurement of loss of waters of the United States. Impacts resulting from activities eligible for exemptions under Section 404(f) of the Clean Water Act are not considered when calculating the loss of waters of the United States.

<u>Non-tidal wetland</u>: A non-tidal wetland is a wetland that is not subject to the ebb and flow of tidal waters. The definition of a wetland can be found at 33 CFR 328.3(b). Non-tidal wetlands contiguous to tidal waters are located landward of the high tide line (i.e., spring high tide line).

<u>Open water</u>: For purposes of the NWPs, an open water is any area that in a year with normal patterns of precipitation has water flowing or standing above ground to the extent that an ordinary high water mark can be determined. Aquatic vegetation within the area of standing or

flowing water is either non-emergent, sparse, or absent. Vegetated shallows are considered to be open waters. Examples of "open waters" include rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds.

Ordinary High Water Mark: An ordinary high water mark is a line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics, or by other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas (see 33 CFR 328.3(e)).

<u>Perennial stream</u>: A perennial stream has flowing water year-round during a typical year. The water table is located above the stream bed for most of the year. Groundwater is the primary source of water for stream flow. Runoff from rainfall is a supplemental source of water for stream flow.

<u>Practicable</u>: Available and capable of being done after taking into consideration cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of overall project purposes.

<u>Pre-construction notification</u>: A request submitted by the project proponent to the Corps for confirmation that a particular activity is authorized by nationwide permit. The request may be a permit application, letter, or similar document that includes information about the proposed work and its anticipated environmental effects. Pre-construction notification may be required by the terms and conditions of a nationwide permit, or by regional conditions. A pre-construction notification may be voluntarily submitted in cases where pre-construction notification is not required and the project proponent wants confirmation that the activity is authorized by nationwide permit.

<u>Preservation</u>: The removal of a threat to, or preventing the decline of, aquatic resources by an action in or near those aquatic resources. This term includes activities commonly associated with the protection and maintenance of aquatic resources through the implementation of appropriate legal and physical mechanisms. Preservation does not result in a gain of aquatic resource area or functions.

<u>Re-establishment</u>: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former aquatic resource. Re-establishment results in rebuilding a former aquatic resource and results in a gain in aquatic resource area.

<u>Rehabilitation</u>: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of repairing natural/historic functions to a degraded aquatic resource. Rehabilitation results in a gain in aquatic resource function, but does not result in a gain in aquatic resource area.

<u>Restoration</u>: The manipulation of the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of a site with the goal of returning natural/historic functions to a former or degraded aquatic resource. For the purpose of tracking net gains in aquatic resource area, restoration is divided into two categories: re-establishment and rehabilitation.

<u>Riffle and pool complex</u>: Riffle and pool complexes are special aquatic sites under the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. Riffle and pool complexes sometimes characterize steep gradient sections of streams. Such stream sections are recognizable by their hydraulic characteristics. The rapid movement of water over a course substrate in riffles results in a rough flow, a turbulent surface, and high dissolved oxygen levels in the water. Pools are deeper areas associated with riffles. A slower stream velocity, a streaming flow, a smooth surface, and a finer substrate characterize pools.

<u>Riparian areas</u>: Riparian areas are lands adjacent to streams, lakes, and estuarine-marine shorelines. Riparian areas are transitional between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, through

which surface and subsurface hydrology connects waterbodies with their adjacent uplands. Riparian areas provide a variety of ecological functions and services and help improve or maintain local water quality. (See general condition 20.)

<u>Shellfish seeding</u>: The placement of shellfish seed and/or suitable substrate to increase shellfish production. Shellfish seed consists of immature individual shellfish or individual shellfish attached to shells or shell fragments (i.e., spat on shell). Suitable substrate may consist of shellfish shells, shell fragments, or other appropriate materials placed into waters for shellfish habitat.

Single and complete project: The term "single and complete project" is defined at 33 CFR 330.2(i) as the total project proposed or accomplished by one owner/developer or partnership or other association of owners/developers. A single and complete project must have independent utility (see definition). For linear projects, a "single and complete project" is all crossings of a single water of the United States (i.e., a single waterbody) at a specific location. For linear projects crossing a single waterbody several times at separate and distant locations, each crossing is considered a single and complete project. However, individual channels in a braided stream or river, or individual arms of a large, irregularly shaped wetland or lake, etc., are not separate waterbodies, and crossings of such features cannot be considered separately.

<u>Stormwater management</u>: Stormwater management is the mechanism for controlling stormwater runoff for the purposes of reducing downstream erosion, water quality degradation, and flooding and mitigating the adverse effects of changes in land use on the aquatic environment.

<u>Stormwater management facilities</u>: Stormwater management facilities are those facilities, including but not limited to, stormwater retention and detention ponds and best management practices, which retain water for a period of time to control runoff and/or improve the quality (i.e., by reducing the concentration of nutrients, sediments, hazardous substances and other pollutants) of stormwater runoff.

Stream bed: The substrate of the stream channel between the ordinary high water marks. The substrate may be bedrock or inorganic particles that range in size from clay to boulders. Wetlands contiguous to the stream bed, but outside of the ordinary high water marks, are not considered part of the stream bed.

<u>Stream channelization</u>: The manipulation of a stream's course, condition, capacity, or location that causes more than minimal interruption of normal stream processes. A channelized stream remains a water of the United States.

<u>Structure</u>: An object that is arranged in a definite pattern of organization. Examples of structures include, without limitation, any pier, boat dock, boat ramp, wharf, dolphin, weir, boom, breakwater, bulkhead, revetment, riprap, jetty, artificial island, artificial reef, permanent mooring structure, power transmission line, permanently moored floating vessel, piling, aid to navigation, or any other manmade obstacle or obstruction.

<u>Tidal wetland</u>: A tidal wetland is a wetland (i.e., water of the United States) that is inundated by tidal waters. The definitions of a wetland and tidal waters can be found at 33 CFR 328.3(b) and 33 CFR 328.3(f), respectively. Tidal waters rise and fall in a predictable and measurable rhythm or cycle due to the gravitational pulls of the moon and sun. Tidal waters end where the rise and fall of the water surface can no longer be practically measured in a predictable rhythm due to masking by other waters, wind, or other effects. Tidal wetlands are located channelward of the high tide line, which is defined at 33 CFR 328.3(d).

<u>Vegetated shallows</u>: Vegetated shallows are special aquatic sites under the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. They are areas that are permanently inundated and under normal circumstances have rooted aquatic vegetation, such as seagrasses in marine and estuarine systems and a variety of vascular rooted plants in freshwater systems.

Waterbody: For purposes of the NWPs, a waterbody is a jurisdictional water of the United States that, during a year with normal patterns of precipitation, has water flowing or standing above ground to the extent that an ordinary high water mark (OHWM) or other indicators of jurisdiction can be determined, as well as any wetland area (see 33 CFR 328.3(b)). If a jurisdictional wetland is adjacent--meaning bordering, contiguous, or neighboring--to a jurisdictional waterbody displaying an OHWM or other indicators of jurisdiction, that waterbody and its adjacent wetlands are considered together as a single aquatic unit (see 33 CFR 328.4(c)(2)). Examples of "waterbodies" include streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

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# REGIONAL CONDITIONS FOR NATIONWIDE PERMITS IN THE WILMINGTON DISTRICT

## 1.0 Excluded Waters

The Corps has identified waters that will be excluded from the use of all NWP's during certain timeframes. These waters are:

# 1.1. Anadromous Fish Spawning Areas

Waters of the United States identified by either the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (NCDMF) or the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) as anadromous fish spawning areas are excluded during the period between February 15 and June 30, without prior written approval from NCDMF or NCWRC and the Corps.

#### 1.2. Trout Waters Moratorium

Waters of the United States in the twenty-five designated trout counties of North Carolina are excluded during the period between October 15 and April 15 without prior written approval from the NCWRC. (see Section I. b. 7. for a list of the twenty-five trout counties).

# 1.3. Sturgeon Spawning Areas

Waters of the United States designated as sturgeon spawning areas are excluded during the period between February 1 and June 30, without prior written approval from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

## 2.0 Waters Requiring Additional Notification

The Corps has identified waters that will be subject to additional notification requirements for activities authorized by all NWP's. These waters are:

#### 2.1. Western NC Counties that Drain to Designated Critical Habitat

Waters of the U.S. that requires a Pre-Construction Notification pursuant to General Condition 27 (PCN) and located in the sixteen counties listed below, applicants must provide a copy of the PCN to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, 160 Zillicoa Street, Asheville, North Carolina 28805. This PCN must be sent concurrently to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Corps Asheville Regulatory Field Office. Please see General Condition 17 for specific notification requirements related to Federally Endangered Species and the following website for information on the location of designated critical habitat.

Counties with tributaries that drain to designated critical habitat that require notification to the Asheville US Fish and Wildlife Service: Avery, Cherokee, Forsyth, Graham, Haywood,

Henderson, Jackson, Macon Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Stokes, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Union and Yancey.

# Website and office addresses for Endangered Species Act Information:

The Wilmington District has developed the following website for applicants which provide guidelines on how to review linked websites and maps in order to fulfill NWP general condition 17 requirements.

## http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands/ESA

Applicants who do not have internet access may contact the appropriate US Fish and Wildlife Service offices or the US Army Corps of Engineers office listed below.

US Fish and Wildlife Service Asheville Field Office 160 Zillicoa Street Asheville, NC 28801 Telephone: (828) 258-3939

Asheville US Fish and Wildlife Service Office counties: All counties west of and including Anson, Stanly, Davidson, Forsyth and Stokes Counties

US Fish and Wildlife Service Raleigh Field Office Post Office Box 33726 Raleigh, NC 27636-3726 Telephone: (919) 856-4520

Raleigh US Fish and Wildlife Service Office counties: all counties east of and including Richmond, Montgomery, Randolph, Guilford, and Rockingham Counties.

## 2.2. Special Designation Waters

Prior to the use of any NWP in any of the following North Carolina identified waters and contiguous wetlands, applicants must comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 27 (PCN). The North Carolina waters and contiguous wetlands that require additional notification requirements are:

"Outstanding Resource Waters" (ORW) and "High Quality Waters" (HQW) (as designated by the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission), or "Inland Primary Nursery Areas" (IPNA) (as designated by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission), or "Contiguous Wetlands" (as defined by the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission), or "Primary Nursery Areas" (PNA) (as designated by the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission).

# 2.3. Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) Areas of Environmental Concern

Non-Federal applicants for any NWP in a designated "Area of Environmental Concern" (AEC) in the twenty (20) counties of Eastern North Carolina covered by the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA), must also obtain the required CAMA permit. Construction activities for non-Federal projects may not commence until a copy of the approved CAMA permit is furnished to the appropriate Wilmington District Regulatory Field Office (Wilmington Field Office – P.O. Box 1890, Wilmington, NC 28402 or Washington Field Office – P.O. Box 1000, Washington, NC 27889).

#### 2. 4. Barrier Islands

Prior to the use of any NWP on a barrier island of North Carolina, applicants must comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 27 (PCN).

# 2.5. Mountain or Piedmont Bogs

Prior to the use of any NWP in a "Mountain or Piedmont Bog" of North Carolina, applicants shall comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 27 (PCN).

Note: The following wetland community types identified in the N.C. Natural Heritage Program document, "Classification of Natural communities of North Carolina (Michael P. Schafale and Alan S. Weakley, 1990), are subject to this regional condition.

Mountain Bogs	Piedmont Bogs Upland depression Swamp Forest		
Swamp Forest-Bog Complex			
Swamp Forest-Bog Complex (Spruce Subtype)			
Southern Appalachian Bog (Northern Subtype)			
Southern Appalachian Bog (Southern Subtype)			
Southern Appalachian Fen			

#### 2.6. Animal Waste Facilities

Prior to use of any NWP for construction of animal waste facilities in waters of the US, including wetlands, applicants shall comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 27 (PCN).

## 2.7. Trout Waters

Prior to any discharge of dredge or fill material into streams or waterbodies within the twenty-five (25) designated trout counties of North Carolina, the applicant shall comply with

Nationwide Permit General Condition 27 (PCN). The applicant shall also provide a copy of the notification to the appropriate NCWRC office to facilitate the determination of any potential impacts to designated Trout Waters. Notification to the Corps of Engineers will include a statement with the name of the NCWRC biologist contacted, the date of the notification, the location of work, a delineation of wetlands, a discussion of alternatives to working in the mountain trout waters, why alternatives were not selected, and a plan to provide compensatory mitigation for all unavoidable adverse impacts to mountain trout waters.

## NCWRC and NC Trout Counties

Mr. Ron Linville			
Western Piedmont Region	Alleghany	Caldwell	Watauga
Coordinator			
3855 Idlewild Road	Ashe	Mitchell	Wilkes
Kernersville, NC 27284-9180	Avery	Stokes	
Telephone: (336) 769-9453	Burke	Surry	

Mr. Dave McHenry			
Mountain Region Coordinator	Buncombe	Henderson	Polk
20830 Great Smoky Mtn.	Cherokee	Jackson	Rutherford
Expressway	ŀ		•
Waynesville, NC 28786	Clay	Macon	Swain
Telephone: (828) 452-2546	Graham	Madison	Transylvania
Fax: (828) 452-7772	Haywood	McDowell	Yancey

# 3.0 List of Corps Regional Conditions for All Nationwide Permits

The following conditions apply to all Nationwide Permits in the Wilmington District:

#### 3.1. Limitation of Loss of Perennial Stream Bed

NWPs may not be used for activities that may result in the loss or degradation of greater than 300 total linear feet of perennial streams. The NWPs may not be used for activities that may result in the loss or degradation of greater than 300 total linear feet of ephemeral and intermittent streams that exhibit important aquatic function(s)\* Loss of stream includes the linear feet of stream bed that is filled, excavated, or flooded by the proposed activity. The District Commander can waive the 300 linear foot limit for ephemeral and intermittent streams on a case-by-case basis if he determines that the proposed activity will result in minimal individual and cumulative adverse impacts to the aquatic environment. Waivers for the loss of ephemeral and intermittent streams must be in writing. This waiver only applies to the 300 linear feet threshold for NWPs. Mitigation may still be required for impacts to ephemeral and intermittent streams, on a case-by-case basis, depending on the impacts to the aquatic environment of the proposed project. [\*Note: The Corps uses the Stream Quality Assessment Worksheet, located with Permit Information on the Regulatory Program Web Site, to aid in the determination of aquatic function within the intermittent stream channel.]

# 3.2. Mitigation for Loss of Stream Bed Exceeding 150 Feet.

For any NWP that results in a loss of more than 150 linear feet of perennial and/or ephemeral/intermittent stream, the applicant shall provide a mitigation proposal to compensate for the loss of aquatic function associated with the proposed activity. For stream losses less than 150 linear feet, that require a PCN, the District Commander may determine, on a case-by-case basis that compensatory mitigation is required to ensure that the activity results in minimal adverse effect on the aquatic environment.

# 3.3. Pre-construction Notification for Loss of Streambed Exceeding 150 Feet.

Prior to use of any NWP for any activity which impacts more than 150 total linear feet of perennial stream or ephemeral/intermittent stream, the applicant must comply with Nationwide Permit General Condition 27 (PCN). This applies to NWPs that do not have specific notification requirements. If a NWP has specific notification requirements, the requirements of the NWP should be followed.

## 3.4. Restriction on Use of Live Concrete

For all NWPs which allow the use of concrete as a building material, measures will be taken to prevent live or fresh concrete, including bags of uncured concrete, from coming into contact with waters of the state until the concrete has hardened.

# 3.5. Requirements for Using Riprap for Bank Stabilization

For all NWPs that allow for the use of riprap material for bank stabilization, the following measures shall be applied:

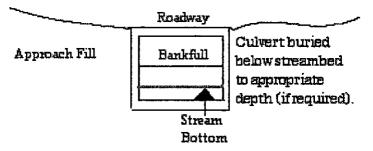
- **3.5.1.** Filter cloth must be placed underneath the riprap as an additional requirement of its use in North Carolina waters.
- **3.5.2.** The placement of riprap shall be limited to the areas depicted on submitted work plan drawings.
- **3.5.3.** The riprap material shall be clean and free from loose dirt or any pollutant except in trace quantities that would not have an adverse environmental effect.
- **3.5.4.** It shall be of a size sufficient to prevent its movement from the authorized alignment by natural forces under normal conditions.
- **3.5.5.** The riprap material shall consist of clean rock or masonry material such as, but not limited to, granite, marl, or broken concrete.

**3.5.6.** A waiver from the specifications in this Regional Condition may be requested in writing. The waiver will only be issued if it can be demonstrated that the impacts of complying with this Regional condition would result in greater adverse impacts to the aquatic environment.

# 3.6. Safe Passage Requirements for Culvert Placement

For all NWPs that involve the construction/installation of culverts, measures will be included in the construction/installation that will promote the safe passage of fish and other aquatic organisms. The dimension, pattern, and profile of the stream above and below a pipe or culvert should not be modified by widening the stream channel or by reducing the depth of the stream in connection with the construction activity. The width, height, and gradient of a proposed opening should be such as to pass the average historical low flow and spring flow without adversely altering flow velocity. Spring flow should be determined from gage data, if available. In the absence of such data, bankfull flow can be used as a comparable level.

In the twenty (20) counties of North Carolina designated as coastal counties by the Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA): All pipe and culvert bottoms shall be buried at least one foot below normal bed elevation when they are placed within the Public Trust Area of Environmental Concern (AEC) and/or the Estuarine Waters AEC as designated by CAMA, and/or all streams appearing as blue lines on United States Geological Survey (USGS) quad sheets.



In all other counties: Culverts greater than 48 inches in diameter will be buried at least one foot below the bed of the stream. Culverts 48 inches in diameter or less shall be buried or placed on the stream bed as practicable and appropriate to maintain aquatic passage, and every effort shall be made to maintain the existing channel slope. The bottom of the culvert must be placed at a depth below the natural stream bottom to provide for passage during drought or low flow conditions.

Destabilizing the channel and head cutting upstream should be considered in the placement of the culvert.

A waiver from the depth specifications in this condition may be requested in writing. The waiver will be issued if it can be demonstrated that the proposal would result in the least impacts to the aquatic environment.

All counties: Cuiverts placed in wetlands do not have to be buried.

## 3.7. Notification to NCDENR Shellfish Sanitation Section

Applicants shall notify the NCDENR Shellfish Sanitation Section prior to dredging in or removing sediment from an area closed to shell fishing where the effluent may be released to an area open for shell fishing or swimming in order to avoid contamination from the disposal area and cause a temporary shellfish closure to be made. Such notification shall also be provided to the appropriate Corps of Engineers Regulatory Field Office. Any disposal of sand to the ocean beach should occur between November 1 and April 30 when recreational usage is low. Only clean sand should be used and no dredged sand from closed shell fishing areas may be used. If beach disposal were to occur at times other than stated above or if sand from a closed shell fishing area is to be used, a swimming advisory shall be posted, and a press release shall be issued.

# 3.8. Preservation of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

Adverse impacts to Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) are not authorized by any NWP within any of the twenty coastal counties defined by North Carolina's Coastal Area Management Act of 1974 (CAMA).

# 4.0 Additional Regional Conditions Applicable to Specific Nationwide Permits

The following regional conditions are required for NWP # 13 – Bank Stabilization:

#### 4.1. Prohibited Materials

Unanchored trees, treetops, or debris may not be used as stream bank stabilization material.

## 4.2. Suitable Materials

Properly anchored and cabled structural stabilization techniques, such as timber crib structures, revetments, and root wads, are acceptable materials to stabilize stream banks.

# NC DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY - GENERAL CERTIFICATION CONDITIONS

For the most recent General Certification conditions, call the NC Division of Water Quality, Wetlands/401 Certification Unit at (919) 733-1786 or access the following website: http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/ncwetlands/certs.html

# NC DIVISION OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT - STATE CONSISTENCY

In a letter dated May 7, 2007, the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management found this NWP consistent with the North Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program. Updates on CAMA Consistency for NC can be found on the NC DCM web site at: <a href="http://dcm2.enr.state.nc.us/Permits/consist.htm">http://dcm2.enr.state.nc.us/Permits/consist.htm</a>

# EASTERN BAND OF THE CHEROKEE INDIANS TRIBAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS

In a letter dated May 8, 2007, US EPA, on behalf of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, provided Tribal General Conditions for Nationwide Permits on Cherokee Indian Reservation. These Tribal General Conditions are located on the Corps website at: <a href="http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/WETLANDS/NWP2007/EBCI-certs.html">http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/WETLANDS/NWP2007/EBCI-certs.html</a>

## **Citations:**

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2007 SAW Regional Conditions - Authorized June 1, 2007

This and other information can be found on the Corps web site at: <a href="http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/WETLANDS/NWP2007/nationwide-permits.html">http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/WETLANDS/NWP2007/nationwide-permits.html</a>