



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN  
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON  
SECRETARY

April 15, 2026

MEMORANDUM TO: Ryan Shook  
Division One Bridge Program Manager

FROM: Paul Williams  
Division One Environmental Supervisor

SUBJECT: Environmental Permits for the Bridge 17 Replacement Project on  
SR 1508 Doolittle Mill Road in Northampton County,  
**WBS BP1.R018.1**

Please find enclosed the following permits for this project:

Agency	Permit Type	Permit Expiration
US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit	Regional General Permit 50 Action ID: SAW-2023-01098 dated April 7, 2026	May 30, 2030
NC Division of Water Resources Section 401 Water Quality Certification	Individual Cert. No. WQC008782 Project ID: 20260230 v1	<i>expires with above permit</i>

Work is authorized by the above-mentioned permit provided it is accomplished in strict accordance with the permitted plans.

The Environmental Coordination and Permitting Group or the Division Environmental Office must be consulted if any deviation from the permit(s) is required.

The General Conditions and Certifications for Nationwide and Regional Permits can also be referenced at:

[xfer.services.ncdot.gov/pdea/EnvironmentalPermits/\\_General\\_Conditions\\_and\\_Certifications/](http://xfer.services.ncdot.gov/pdea/EnvironmentalPermits/_General_Conditions_and_Certifications/)

I. Project Commitments (attach as Green Sheet to CE Form):

## NCDOT PROJECT COMMITMENTS

STIP Project No. **N/A**  
Bridge 17 Replacement Project  
Northampton County  
Federal Aid Project No. **N/A**  
WBS Element **BP1.R018.1**

### COMMITMENTS FROM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN

#### **Division 1 Construction, Resident Engineer's Office – Offsite Detour**

In order to have time to adequately reroute school buses, Northampton County Schools will be contacted at least one month prior to road closure.

Northampton County Emergency Services will be contacted at least one month prior to road closure to make the necessary temporary reassignments to primary response units.

#### **Hydraulic Unit – FEMA Coordination**

The Hydraulics Unit will coordinate with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program (FMP), to determine status of project with regard to applicability of NCDOT'S Memorandum of Agreement, or approval of a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and subsequent final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

#### **Threatened & Endangered Species**

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has revised the previous programmatic biological opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and NCDOT for the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*) in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. Although this programmatic covers Divisions 1-8, NLEBs are currently only known in 22 counties, but may potentially occur in 8 additional counties within Divisions 1-8. NCDOT, FHWA, and USACE have agreed to two conservation measures which will avoid/minimize mortality of NLEBs. These conservation measures only apply to the 30 current known/potential counties shown on Figure 2 of the PBO at this time. The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program is May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect. The PBO will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for ten years (effective through December 31, 2030) for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes **Northampton County**, where **BP1.R018.1** is located.

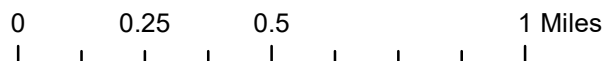
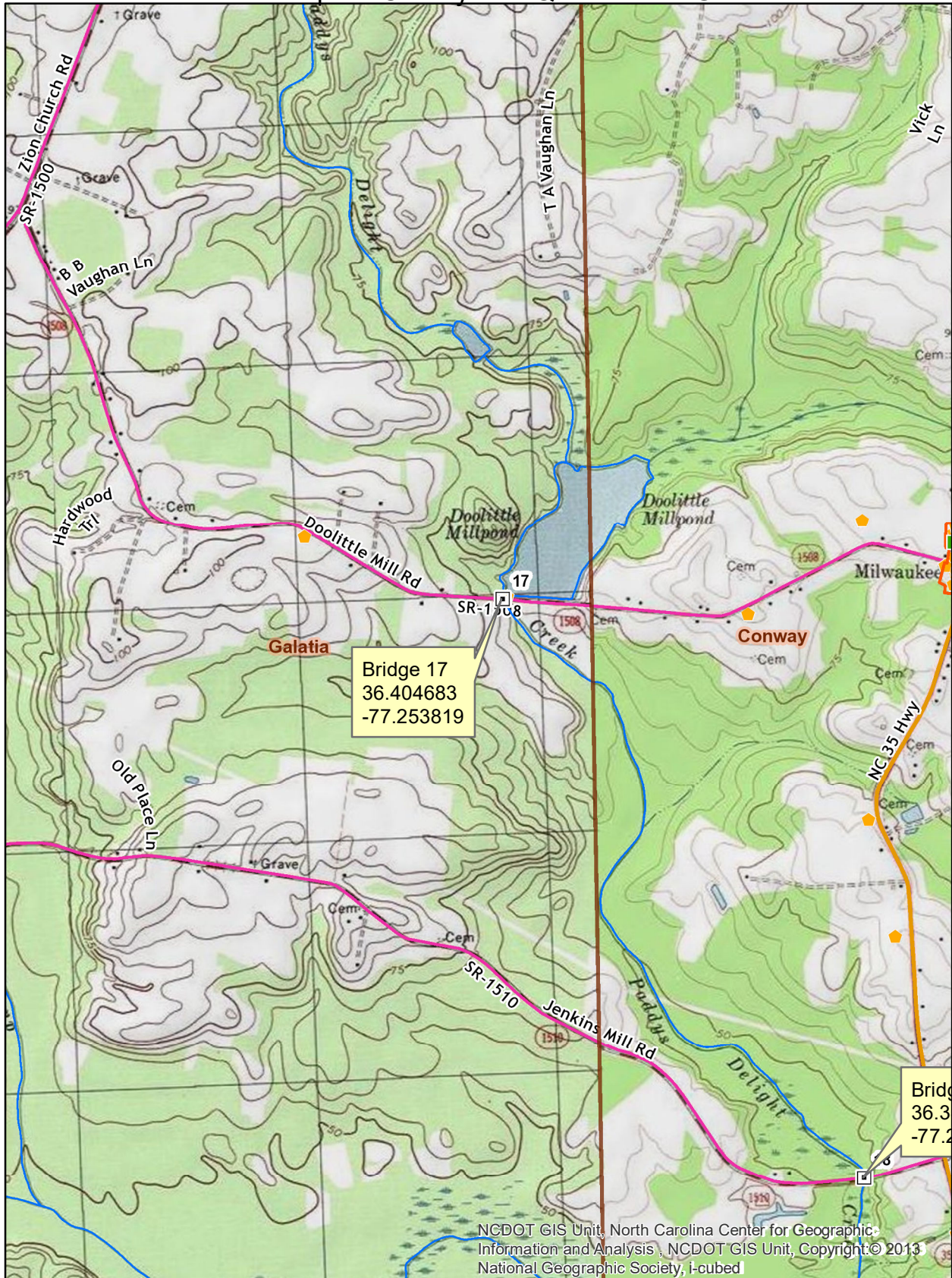
The US Fish and Wildlife Service has issued a programmatic conference opinion (PCO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and NCDOT for the tricolored bat (TCB) (*Perimyotis subflavus*) in eastern North Carolina. The PCO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. NCDOT, FHWA, and USACE have agreed to three conservation measures (listed in the PCO) which will avoid/minimize take to TCBs. These conservation measures apply to all counties in Divisions 1-8. The programmatic determination for TCB for the NCDOT program is May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect. Once the TCB is officially listed, the PCO will become the programmatic biological opinion (PBO) by formal request from FHWA and USACE. The PBO will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for approximately five years (effective through December 31, 2028) for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes **Northampton County**, where **BP1.R018.1** is located.

The Monarch Butterfly was proposed for federal listing in December 2024. However, no restrictions will take effect until the proposal is finalized, which is expected in late 2025 or early 2026. Until then, proposed species do not receive protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), except that federal action agencies must ensure their actions do not jeopardize the species' existence. These agencies may also consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to obtain a conference opinion, which will automatically convert to a biological opinion upon the final listing decision.

In the meantime, if IPaC lists the monarch butterfly in a project area, NCDOT Construction or Division Environmental Offices may develop conservation measures related to monarch butterflies to be implemented when final listing has occurred.

Bridge 17 on SR 1508 Doolittle Mill Road  
WBS # BP1.R018.1

Paddys Delight Creek Index 25-4-8-3-(2) Class: C;NSW  
Northampton County Quad Name Galatia





**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, WILMINGTON DISTRICT**  
**WILMINGTON REGULATORY OFFICE**  
**69 DARLINGTON AVENUE**  
**WILMINGTON NORTH CAROLINA 28403**

April 7, 2026

Regulatory Division  
SAW-2023-01098

Sent Via Email: pcwilliams2@ncdot.gov

Paul Williams  
NCDOT - Division 1  
113 Airport Drive  
Edenton, NC 27932

Dear Mr. Williams:

This letter is in response to the application you submitted to the Wilmington District, WRDA/Transportation Branch on February 24, 2026, for a Department of the Army general permit verification. This project has been assigned the file number SAW-2023-01098 and is known as NCDOT BP1.R018 Bridge 17\_Northampton. This file number should be referenced in all correspondence concerning this project.

A review of the information provided indicates that the proposed work would include the replacement of a 3-span 39' x 20' bridge with a single span 55' x 30' bridge. The project area for this determination is illustrated on the enclosed site plans/maps. The project/review area is on Doolittle Mill Road approximately 1.24 miles west of the intersection of NC 35, at Latitude 36.404630 and Longitude -77.253820; in Conway, Northampton County, North Carolina.

Aquatic Resource	Resource Type	Activity	Duration	Amount
2	Non-Tidal Wetland	Discharge of fill material	Permanent	0.01 acres - fill area drg fill acre
2 and 3	Non-Tidal Wetland	Other (Aquaculture, Work, Aerial or Submarine cable crossings)	Temporary	0.01 acres - removal area drg fill acre
1B and 1C	River/Stream	Discharge of fill material	Permanent	0.01 acres - fill area drg fill acre

1A	Pond	Discharge of fill material	Permanent	0.02 acres - fill area drg fill acre
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We have determined that the proposed work is authorized by RGP 50 pursuant to authorities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C § 1344). The proposed work must be accomplished in strict accordance with the enclosed general permit conditions, any regional conditions, the special conditions listed in this letter, the application materials, and the enclosed plans. If the extent of the project area and/or nature of the authorized impacts to waters are modified, a revised application must be submitted to this office for written approval before work is initiated. Any deviation from the terms and conditions of the permit, or your submitted plans, may subject the permittee to enforcement action.

This verification is valid until May 30, 2030, unless the subject general permit(s) is suspended, revoked, or is modified prior to that date such that the activity no longer complies with the terms and conditions of the general permit.

**Project Specific Special Conditions:**

1. The Wilmington District, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) have conducted programmatic Section 7(a)(2) consultation for the Northern long-eared bat (NLEB) for NCDOT projects located in Divisions 1-8. The result of this programmatic consultation is a Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) issued by the USFWS titled, "Programmatic Biological Opinion – Revised, NCDOT Program Effects on the Northern Long-eared Bat in Divisions 1-8", dated December 15, 2022. This PBO contains agreed upon conservation measures which would minimize take of NLEB. As noted in the PBO, applicability of these conservation measures varies depending on the location of the project. The USFWS has documented that no reasonable and prudent measures, nor terms and conditions, are necessary or appropriate to minimize the amount or extent of incidental take of NLEB caused by the Action; therefore, the incidental take statement does not provide reasonable and prudent measures for this species. Department of the Army (DA) authorization under general permit or standard permit (Individual Permit) is conditional upon the permittee's compliance with applicable, agreed upon conservations measures of the PBO, which is incorporated by reference in this verification letter. Failure to comply with the applicable conservation measures, where a take of the NLEB occurs, would constitute an unauthorized take by the permittee, and would also constitute permittee non-compliance with this verification letter. The USFWS is the appropriate authority to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of its PBO and the ESA. All PBOs can be found on our website at: <https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Permit-Program/Agency-Coordination/ESA/>.

This general permit verification and any associated authorizations does not preclude the necessity to obtain any other Federal, State, or local permits, licenses, and/or certifications, which may be required.

If you have any questions related to this verification or have issues accessing documents referenced in this letter, please contact Kyle Barnes, Project Manager of the WRDA/Transportation Branch at 910-251-4584, by mail at the above address, or by email at [kyle.w.barnes@usace.army.mil](mailto:kyle.w.barnes@usace.army.mil). Please take a moment to complete our customer satisfaction survey located at <https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Scott Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "M" and "J". There are small red marks above the "M" and below the "J".

M. Scott Jones, PWS  
WRDA/Transportation Branch Chief

<p>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)</p> <p><b>CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT</b></p> <p>For use of this form, see Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, and Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act; the proponent agency is CECW-COR.</p>	<p><i>Form Approved -</i></p> <p><b>OMB No. 0710-0003</b></p> <p><b>Expires 2027-10-31</b></p>
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**The Agency Disclosure Notice (ADN)**

The Public reporting burden for this collection of information, 0710-0003, is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or burden reduction suggestions to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, at [whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil](mailto:whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil). Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

**PURPOSE:** This form is used by recipients of U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Regulatory permits to certify compliance with the permit terms and conditions.

Your permitted activity is subject to a compliance inspection by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representative. If you fail to comply with this permit, you are subject to permit suspension, modification, or revocation.

Upon completion of the activity authorized by this permit and any mitigation required by the permit, sign this certification and return it to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, Regulatory Office.

The certification can be submitted by email at kyle.w.barnes @usace.army.mil or by mail at the below address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 Wilmington District Office  
 Street Address: 69 Darlington Avenue  
 City: Wilmington      State: North Carolina      Zip Code: 28403

**COMPLETED BY THE CORPS**

Corps Action Number:	SAW-2023-01098
Permit Type: <u>General Permit</u>	
General Permit Number and Name (if applicable):	
Name of Permittee:	Paul Williams
Project Name:	NCDOT BP1.R018 Bridge 17_Northampton
Project Location (physical address):	Conway, North Carolina

**PERMITTEE'S CERTIFICATION**

Date Work Started: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Work Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose photographs showing the completed project (if available).

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby certify that the work authorized by the above referenced permit has been completed in accordance with all of the permit terms and conditions, and that any required compensatory mitigation has been completed in accordance with the permit conditions.

Name	Date	Signature
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers  
69 Darlington Avenue  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403-1343**

**Regional General Permit No. SAW-2019-02350 (RGP 50)**  
**Name of Permittee: North Carolina Department of Transportation**  
**Effective Date: May 26, 2025**  
**Expiration Date: May 25, 2030**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT**

A regional general permit (RGP) to perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States and waters of the United States, upon recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), is hereby issued by authority of the Secretary of the Army by the

District Commander  
U.S. Army Engineer District, Wilmington  
Corps of Engineers  
69 Darlington Avenue  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28403-1343

**TO AUTHORIZE THE DISCHARGE OF DREDGED OR FILL MATERIAL IN WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES (U.S.), INCLUDING WETLANDS, ASSOCIATED WITH CERTAIN MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS CONDUCTED BY THE VARIOUS DIVISIONS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NCDOT), INCLUDING THE NCDOT DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS, RAIL, BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN, ETC.**

Activities authorized by this RGP:

- a. (1) Road widening, and/or (2) construction, maintenance, replacement, and/or repair of bridges. For bridge projects, work can include the approaches.
  
- b. (1) Improvement of interchanges or intersections, or (2) construction of interchanges or intersections over, or on, existing roads.

**Full descriptions/terms of “a.” and “b.”:**

**a. (1) Road widening, and/or (2) construction, maintenance, and/or repair of bridges. For bridge projects, work can include the approaches.**

Permanent impacts that result in a loss of waters of the U.S., excluding stream relocation(s), must be less than or equal to 500 linear feet (lf) of stream and/or one (1) acre of wetland/open water for each single and complete linear project.

Single and complete linear project. As noted in 33 CFR 330.2(i), for linear projects, the “single and complete project” (i.e., single and complete crossing) will apply to each crossing of a separate water of the U.S. (i.e., single waterbody) at that location; except that 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 crossing of such features cannot be considered separately.

This RGP can be used for those projects where a bridge is replaced with a culvert if the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) determines that (1) NCDOT has provided sufficient justification for replacing a bridge with a culvert and (2) NCDOT has adequately demonstrated that the bridge to culvert replacement project would have no more than minimal individual and cumulative adverse effects to the aquatic environment. Note that all comments from commenting and/or other permitting agencies would be considered in the Corps’ evaluation of a bridge to culvert project.

Activities authorized under “a.” may include a small amount of new location roadway provided that the Corps determines that NCDOT has sufficiently demonstrated that (1) the new location roadway is necessary for safety, access, or other compelling reasons and (2) the length of the new location roadway is minimal and would not change the nature of the project from a widening or bridge project under “a.” to a new location roadway project.

For road widening or bridge projects - to ensure that the Corps has the necessary information to evaluate proposed impacts and effects to waters of the U.S. for a specific transportation project prior to making a permit decision, NCDOT’s Preconstruction Notification (PCN) for a specific transportation project must include a description of all impacts to waters of the U.S. that would result from (1) the transportation facility itself AND (2) all other impacts to waters of the U.S. that would be caused by, or result from, construction of the transportation facility; this includes impacts to waters of the U.S. from any associated, non-transportation facilities, such as utility infrastructure, driveway relocations, etc. NCDOT shall also detail in the PCN whether or not another entity (i.e., other than NCDOT) will apply for those non-transportation facility impacts to waters of the

U.S. separately. If NCDOT will apply for both the transportation AND non-transportation facility impacts to waters of the U.S. for a specific project (or some but not all of the non-transportation facilities), NCDOT will provide the required information for both the transportation AND the non-transportation facility impacts in the project summary and the impact table sections of the PCN. In those situations where NCDOT applies for and receives authorization to impact waters of the U.S. for both the transportation facility AND the non-transportation facilities for a specific project (or some but not all of the non-transportation facilities), NCDOT will be the responsible party/permittee for all permit-related matters for those impacts to waters of the U.S. to include the responsibility for permit compliance and obtaining any required compensatory mitigation.

Also authorized under “a”: (1) stream relocation(s) and (2) temporary impacts, such as those from temporary structures, fills, dewatering, and other work necessary to conduct the activities listed under “a”. Stream relocation(s) and temporary impacts will be evaluated independently and are not limited to the permanent loss limits of 500 lf of stream and/or 1 acre of wetland/open water (i.e., stream relocations and/or temporary impacts do not factor into these limits) for each single and complete linear project; however, if the Corps determines that the proposed stream relocation(s) and/or temporary impacts are of such magnitude that they cannot be authorized under this section (“a”) of RGP 50, even if the permanent losses from road widening, and/or construction, maintenance, and repair of bridges do not exceed the impact limits for this section (“a”) of RGP 50, an Individual Permit will be required.

If the Corps determines, on a case-by-case basis, that the concerns for the aquatic environment so indicate, he/she may exercise discretionary authority to override this RGP and require an Individual Permit.

**b. (1) Improvement of interchanges or intersections, or (2) construction of interchanges or intersections, over or, on existing roads.**

For activities authorized under “b”, the limits for permanent impacts that result in a loss of waters of the U.S. depend on the location of the impacts, as described below:

- In the coastal plain of North Carolina (both inner coastal plain and outer coastal plain) - permanent impacts that result in a loss of waters of the U.S., excluding stream relocation(s), must be less than or equal to 1,000 lf of stream and/or 3 acres of wetland/open water for the entire interchange or intersection project.
- All other areas of North Carolina - permanent impacts that result in a loss of waters of the U.S., excluding stream relocation(s), must be less than or equal to 1,000 lf of stream and/or 2 acres of wetland/open water for the entire interchange or intersection project.

Coastal plain – See [http://saw-reg.usace.army.mil/JD/LRRs\\_PandT.pdf](http://saw-reg.usace.army.mil/JD/LRRs_PandT.pdf) for Land Resource Areas LRRP (inner coastal plain) and LRRT (outer coastal plain).

When proposed impacts to waters of the U.S. are located both inside AND outside of the coastal plain, the Corps will determine, based on the location(s) of proposed impacts to waters of the U.S., if a project is a “coastal plain project”.

Single and complete project. For permitting purposes, each interchange or intersection is considered to be one single and complete project. For example, an interchange project cannot result in a permanent loss (excluding stream relocation), of (1) greater than 1,000 lf of stream and/or 3 acres of wetland/open water in the coastal plain OR (2) greater than 1,000 lf of stream and/or 2 acres of wetland/open water in all other areas of North Carolina.

Approach fills may be considered to be part of an interchange or intersection project if the Corps determines that inclusion of these areas meet the terms of this section (“b”) of RGP 50. It is understood that approach fills may be on new location. Early coordination with the Corps is encouraged.

Intersections, regardless of the mode of transportation (e.g., railroad, other roadways, etc.), may be at grade or grade separated if the Corps determines that the project would meet the terms of this section (“b”) of RGP 50. Early coordination with the Corps is encouraged.

For interchange or intersection projects - to ensure that the Corps has the necessary information to evaluate proposed impacts and effects to waters of the U.S. for a specific transportation project prior to making a permit decision, NCDOT’s Preconstruction Notification (PCN) for a specific transportation project must include a description of all impacts to waters of the U.S. that would result from (1) the transportation facility itself AND (2) all other impacts to waters of the U.S. that would be caused by, or result from, construction of the transportation facility; this includes impacts to waters of the U.S. from any associated, non-transportation facilities, such as utility infrastructure, driveway relocations, etc. NCDOT shall also detail in the PCN whether or not another entity (i.e., other than NCDOT) will apply for those non-transportation facility impacts to waters of the U.S. separately. If NCDOT will apply for both the transportation AND non-transportation facility impacts to waters of the U.S. for a specific project (or some but not all of the non-transportation facilities), NCDOT will provide the required information for both the transportation AND the non-transportation facility impacts in the project summary and the impact table sections of the PCN. In those situations where NCDOT applies for and receives authorization to impact waters of the U.S. for both the transportation facility AND the non-transportation facilities for a specific project (or some but not all of the non-transportation facilities), NCDOT will be the responsible party/permittee for all permit-related matters for those impacts to waters of the U.S. to include the responsibility for permit compliance and obtaining any required compensatory mitigation.

Also authorized under “b”: (1) stream relocation(s) and (2) temporary impacts, such as those from temporary structures, fills, dewatering, and other work necessary to conduct the activities listed under “b”. Stream relocation(s) and temporary impacts will be evaluated independently and are not limited to the permanent loss limits of (1) 1,000 lf of

stream and/or 3 acres of wetland/open water in the coastal plain OR (2) 1,000 lf of stream and/or 2 acres of wetland/open water in all other areas of North Carolina (i.e., stream relocations and/or temporary impacts do not factor into these limits) for each interchange or intersection project; however, if the Corps determines that the proposed stream relocation(s) and/or temporary impacts are of such magnitude that they cannot be authorized under this section (“b”) of RGP 50, even if the permanent losses from improvement of interchanges or intersections, or construction of interchanges or intersections over, or on, existing roads do not exceed the impact limits for this section (“b”) of RGP 50, an Individual Permit will be required.

If the Corps determines, on a case-by-case basis, that the concerns for the aquatic environment so indicate, he/she may exercise discretionary authority to override this RGP and require an Individual Permit.

## **1. Special Conditions**

a. The prospective permittee must submit a pre-construction notification (PCN) and applicable supporting information to the District Engineer and receive written verification from the Corps that the proposed work complies with this RGP prior to commencing any activity authorized by this RGP.

b. If the project will not impact a designated “Area of Environmental Concern” (AEC) in the twenty\* (20) counties of North Carolina covered by the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) (“CAMA counties”), a consistency submission is not required. If the project will impact a designated AEC and meets the definition of “development”, the prospective permittee must obtain the required CAMA permit. Development activities shall not commence until a copy of the approved CAMA permit is furnished to the appropriate Corps Regulatory Field Office (Wilmington Field Office – 69 Darlington Avenue, Wilmington, NC 28403 or Washington Field Office – 2407 West 5th Street, Washington, NC 27889).

**\*The 20 CAMA counties in North Carolina include Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington.**

c. No work shall be authorized by this RGP within the 20\* CAMA counties without prior consultation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Habitat Conservation Division. For each activity reviewed by the Corps where it is determined that the activity may affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for federally managed species, an EFH Assessment shall be prepared by the prospective permittee and forwarded to the Corps and NOAA Fisheries for review and comment prior to authorization of work.

d. Culverts and pipes. The following conditions [(1)-(8)] apply to the construction of culverts/pipes, and work on existing culverts/pipes.

Additionally, if the proposed work would affect an existing culvert/pipe (e.g., culvert/pipe extensions), the prospective permittee must include actions (in the PCN) to correct any existing deficiencies that are located:

- At the inlet and/or outlet of the existing culvert/pipe, IF these deficiencies are/were caused by the existing culvert/pipe, or
- Near the inlet or outlet of the existing culvert/pipe, IF these deficiencies are/were caused by the existing culvert/pipe.

These deficiencies may include, but are not limited to, stream over-widening, bank erosion, streambed scour, perched culvert/pipes, and inadequate water depth in culvert(s). Also note if the proposed work would address the existing deficiency or eliminate it – e.g., bank erosion on left bank, but the culvert extension will be placed in this eroded area. If the prospective permittee is unable to correct the deficiencies caused by the existing culvert/pipe, they must document the reasons in the PCN for Corps consideration.

(1) No activity may result in substantial, permanent disruption of the movement of those species of aquatic life indigenous to the waterbody, including those species that normally migrate through the area. Measures will be included that will promote the safe passage of fish and other aquatic organisms.

(2) The dimension, pattern, and profile of the stream above and below a culvert/pipe shall not be modified by widening the stream channel or by reducing the depth of the stream in connection with the construction activity. It is acceptable to use rock vanes at culvert/pipe outlets to ensure, enhance, or maintain aquatic passage. Pre-formed scour holes are acceptable when designed for velocity reduction. The width, height, and gradient of a proposed opening shall be such as to pass the average historical low flow and spring flow without adversely altering flow velocity. Spring flow will be determined from gauge data, if available. In the absence of such data, bankfull flow will be used as a comparable level.

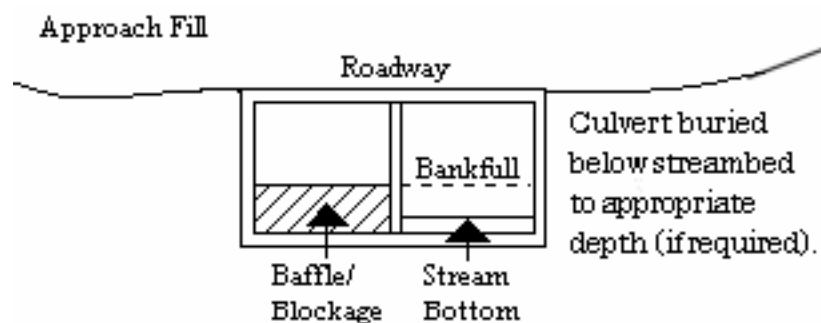
(3) Burial/depth specifications: If the project is located within any of the 20\* CAMA counties, culvert/pipe inverts will be buried at least one foot below normal bed elevation when they are placed within the Public Trust AEC and/or the Estuarine Waters AEC as designated by CAMA. If the project is located outside of the 20\* CAMA counties, culvert/pipe inverts will be buried at least one foot below the bed of the stream for culverts/pipes that are greater than 48 inches in diameter. Culverts/pipes that are 48 inches in diameter or less shall be buried or placed on the stream bed as practicable and appropriate to maintain aquatic passage, to include passage during

drought or low flow conditions. Every effort shall be made to maintain the existing channel slope. A waiver from the burial/depth specifications in this condition may be requested in writing. The prospective permittee is encouraged to request agency input about waiver requests as early as possible, and prior to submitting the PCN for a specific project; this will allow the agencies time to conduct a site visit, if necessary, and will prevent time delays and potential project revisions for the prospective permittee. The waiver will only be issued by the Corps if it can be demonstrated that the impacts of complying with burial requirements would result in more adverse impacts to the aquatic environment.

(4) Appropriate actions to prevent destabilization of the channel and head cutting upstream shall be incorporated in the design and placement of culverts/pipes.

(5) Culverts/pipes placed within riparian and/or riverine wetlands must be installed in a manner that does not restrict the flow and circulation patterns of waters of the U.S. Culverts/pipes placed across wetland fills purely for the purposes of equalizing surface water do not have to be buried but must be of adequate size and/or number to ensure unrestricted transmission of water.

(6) Bankfull flows (or less) shall be accommodated through maintenance of the existing bankfull channel cross sectional area in no more than one culvert/pipe or culvert/pipe barrel. Additional culverts/pipes or barrels at such crossings shall be allowed only to receive flows exceeding the bankfull flow. A waiver from this condition may be requested in writing; this request must be specific as to the reason(s) for the request. The waiver will be issued if it can be demonstrated that it is not practicable to comply with this condition.



(7) Where adjacent floodplain is available, flows exceeding bankfull will be accommodated by installing culverts/pipes at the floodplain elevation. When multiple culverts/pipes are used, baseflow must be maintained at the appropriate width and depth by the construction of floodplain benches, sills, and/or construction methods to ensure that the overflow culvert(s)/pipe(s) is elevated above the baseflow culvert(s)/pipe(s).

(8) The width of the baseflow culvert/pipe shall be comparable to the width of the bankfull width of the stream channel. If the width of the baseflow culvert/pipe is wider than the stream channel, the culvert/pipe shall include baffles, benches and/or sills to maintain the width of the stream channel. A waiver from this condition may be requested in writing; this request must be specific as to the reason(s) for the request. The waiver will be issued if it can be demonstrated that it is not practicable or necessary to include baffles, benches or sills.

See the remaining special conditions for additional information about culverts/pipes in specific areas.

e. Discharges into waters of the U.S. designated by either the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (NCDMF) or the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) as anadromous fish spawning areas are prohibited during the period between February 15th and June 30th, without prior written approval from the Corps and the appropriate wildlife agencies (NCDMF, NCWRC, and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)). Discharges into waters of the U.S. designated by NCWRC as primary nursery areas in inland waters are prohibited during the period between February 15th and September 30th, without prior written approval from the Corps and the appropriate wildlife agencies. Discharges into waters of the U.S. designated by NCDMF as primary nursery areas shall be coordinated with NCDMF prior to being authorized by this RGP. Coordination with NCDMF may result in a required construction moratorium during periods of significant biological productivity or critical life stages.

The prospective permittee should contact:

<b>NC Division of Marine Fisheries</b>		<b>North Carolina Wildlife Resources</b>	
<b>Commission</b>			
<b>3441 Arendell Street</b>		<b>Habitat Conservation Division</b>	
<b>Morehead City, NC 28557</b>		<b>1721 Mail Service</b>	
<b>Center Telephone 252-726-7021</b>		<b>Raleigh, NC</b>	
<b>27699-1721 or 800-682-2632</b>		<b>Telephone (919) 707-</b>	
<b>0220</b>			

f. This permit does not authorize the use of culverts in areas designated as anadromous fish spawning areas by the NCDMF or the NCWRC.

g. No in-water work shall be conducted in Waters of the U.S. designated as Atlantic sturgeon critical habitat during the periods between February 1st and June 30th. No in-water work shall be conducted in Waters of the U.S. in the Roanoke River designated as Atlantic sturgeon critical habitat during the periods between February 1st and June 30th, and between August 1st to October 31st, without prior written approval from NMFS.

h. Before discharging dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. in designated trout watersheds in North Carolina, the PCN will be sent to the NCWRC and the Corps concurrently. See <https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Permit-Program/Agency-Coordination/Trout.aspx> for the designated trout watersheds. The PCN shall summarize alternatives to conducting work in waters of the U.S. in trout watersheds that were considered during the planning process and detail why alternatives were or were not selected. For proposals where (1) a bridge in a trout stream will be replaced with a culvert, or (2) a culvert will be placed in a trout stream, the PCN must also include a compensatory mitigation plan for all loss of stream bed, and details of any on-site evaluations that were conducted to determine that installation of a culvert will not adversely affect passage of fish or other aquatic biota at the project site. The evaluation information must include factors such as the proposed slope of the culvert and determinations of how the slope will be expected to allow or impede passage, the necessity of baffles and/or sills to ensure passage, design considerations to ensure that expected baseflow will be maintained for passage and that post-construction velocities will not prevent passage, site conditions that will or will not allow proper burial of the culvert, existing structures (e.g., perched culverts, waterfalls, etc.) and/or stream patterns up and downstream of the culvert site that could affect passage and bank stability, and any other considerations regarding passage. The level of detail for this information shall be based on site conditions (i.e., culverts on a slope over 3% will most likely require more information than culverts on a slope that is less than 1%, etc.). Also, in order to evaluate potential impacts, the prospective permittee will describe bedforms that will be impacted by the proposed culvert – e.g., pools, glides, riffles, etc. The NCWRC will respond to both the prospective permittee and the Corps.

i. For all activities authorized by this RGP that involve the use of riprap material for bank stabilization, the following measures shall be applied:

(1) Filter cloth must be placed underneath the riprap as an additional requirement of its use in North Carolina waters; however, the prospective permittee may request a waiver from this requirement. The waiver request must be in writing. The Corps will only issue a waiver if the prospective permittee demonstrates that the impacts of complying with this requirement would result in greater adverse impacts to the aquatic environment. Note that filter fabric is not required if the riprap will be pushed or “keyed” into the bank of the waterbody.

(2) Rip rap shall be placed only on the stream banks, or, if it is necessary to be placed in the stream bed, the finished top elevation of the rip rap shall not exceed that of the original stream bed.

(3) The placement of riprap shall be limited to the areas depicted on submitted work plan drawings.

(4) Riprap shall not be placed in a manner that prevents or impedes fish

passage.

(5) Riprap shall be clean and free from loose dirt or any pollutant except in trace quantities that will not have an adverse environmental effect.

(6) Riprap shall be of a size sufficient to prevent its movement from the authorized alignment by natural forces under normal conditions.

(7) Riprap material shall consist of clean rock or masonry material such as, but not limited to, granite, marl, or broken concrete.

j. Discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, must be minimized or avoided to the maximum extent practicable.

k. Generally, off-site detours are preferred to avoid and minimize impacts to the human and natural environment; however, if an off-site detour is considered impracticable, then an on-site detour may be considered as a necessary component of the actions authorized by this RGP. Impacts from the detour may be considered temporary and may not require compensatory mitigation if the impacted area is restored to pre-construction elevations and contours after construction is complete. The permittee shall also restore natural hydrology and stream corridors (if applicable), and reestablish native vegetation/riparian corridors. If the construction of a detour (on-site or off-site) includes standard undercutting methods, removal of all material and backfilling with suitable material is required. See special condition "s" for additional information.

l. All activities authorized by this RGP shall, to the maximum extent practicable, be conducted "in the dry", with barriers installed between work areas and aquatic habitat to protect that habitat from sediment, concrete, and other pollutants. Where concrete is utilized, measures will be taken to prevent live or fresh concrete, including bags of uncured concrete, from coming into contact with waters of the U.S. until the concrete has set and cured. All water in the work area that has been in contact with concrete shall only be returned to waters of the U.S. when it no longer poses a threat to aquatic organisms (concrete is set and cured).

m. In cases where new alignment approaches are to be constructed and the existing approach fill in waters of the U.S. is to be abandoned and no longer maintained as a roadway, the abandoned fill shall be removed and the area will be restored to pre-construction elevations and contours. The permittee shall also restore natural hydrology and stream corridors (if applicable), and reestablish native vegetation/riparian corridors, to the extent practicable. This activity may qualify as compensatory mitigation credit for the project and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis in accordance with Special Conditions "q" and "r" in this document. Any proposed on-site wetland restoration area must be void of utility conflicts and/or utility maintenance areas. A restoration plan detailing this activity will be required with the submittal of the PCN.

n. 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).

o. The project must be implemented and/or conducted so that all reasonable and practicable measures to ensure that equipment, structures, fill pads, and work associated with the project do not adversely affect upstream and/or downstream reaches. Adverse effects include, but are not limited to, channel instability, scour, flooding, and/or shoreline/streambank erosion. During construction, the permittee shall routinely monitor for these effects, cease all work if/when detected, take initial corrective measures to correct actively eroding areas, and notify the Corps immediately. Permanent corrective measures may require additional authorization from the Corps.

p. All PCNs will describe sedimentation and erosion control structures and measures proposed for placement in waters of the U.S. To the maximum extent practicable, structures and measures will be depicted on maps, surveys or drawings showing location and impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and streams. In addition, appropriate soil and erosion control measures must be established and maintained during construction. All fills, temporary and permanent, must be adequately stabilized at the earliest practicable date to prevent erosion of fill material into adjacent waters or wetlands.

q. Compensatory mitigation will be required for permanent impacts resulting in a loss of waters of the U.S. due to culvert/pipe installation and other similar activities. Mitigation may be required for stream relocation projects (see Special Condition "r" below). When compensatory mitigation is required, the prospective permittee will attach a proposed mitigation plan to the PCN. Compensatory mitigation proposals will be written in accordance with currently approved Wilmington District guidance and Corps mitigation regulations, unless the purchase of mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank or the North Carolina Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS) is proposed to address all compensatory mitigation requirements. The Corps Project Manager will make the final determination concerning the appropriate amount and type of mitigation.

r. Stream Relocations (non-tidal only). Stream relocation is when a stream is moved laterally to a new location to allow a project, or part of a project, to be constructed in the stream's former location. For permitting purposes, stream relocations are considered a loss of waters of the U.S. The new/relocated stream itself may reduce the

amount of compensatory mitigation that is required for a specific stream relocation activity. Depending on the condition and location of (1) the existing stream, and (2) the relocated stream, the relocated stream may provide a functional uplift of overall stream function. The Corps will determine if an uplift is possible based on the information submitted with the PCN. If the anticipated uplift(s) occurs, it may offset, either partially or fully, the loss associated with a stream relocation(s) - i.e., due to the uplift, either no compensatory mitigation would be required for the stream relocation itself, or compensatory mitigation would be required at a reduced ratio.

Because the amount of potential uplift is, in part, dependent upon the condition (or quality) of the channel to be relocated, there is no pre-determined amount of uplift needed to satisfy the requirements for a successful relocation project. After performing the evaluation(s) noted in this document, the prospective permittee will propose a certain amount of uplift potential and the Corps project manager will make the final determination. Baseline conditions and subsequent monitoring must show that the relocated channel is providing/will provide aquatic function at, or above, the level provided by the baseline (pre-project) condition. If the required uplift is not achieved, the work will not be in compliance with this special condition of RGP 50 and remediation will be required through repair (and continued monitoring), or by the permittee providing compensatory mitigation (e.g., mitigation credit through an approved bank, mitigation credit through NCDMS, etc.).

Compensatory mitigation, in addition to the stream relocation activity, may be required if the Corps determines that (a) no uplift in stream function is achievable, (b) the proposed uplift in stream function is not sufficient, by itself, (c) the risks associated with achieving potential uplifts in stream function are excessive, and/or (d) the time period for achieving the potential uplifts/functional success is too great.

On-site compensatory mitigation is not the same as stream relocation. While stream relocation simply moves a stream to a nearby, geographically similar area, it does not generate mitigation credits. If NCDOT proposes to generate compensatory mitigation on a project site, NCDOT must submit a mitigation plan that complies with 33 CFR 332.4.

**The prospective permittee is required to submit the following information for any proposed project that involves stream relocation, regardless of the size/length of the stream relocation** (note that 1-5 below only apply to stream relocations and not to compensatory mitigation):

- (1) A statement detailing why relocating the stream is unavoidable. In order to ensure that this action is separate from a compensatory mitigation project, the need for the fill must be related to road/interchange/intersection construction or improvement, and the project must meet the requirements set forth in the full descriptions/terms of “a” and “b” on pages 2 and 3 of this permit.

- (2) An evaluation of effects on the relocated stream and buffer from utilities, or potential for impact from utility placement in the future.
- (3) An evaluation of the baseline condition of the stream to be relocated. In order to demonstrate a potential uplift, the prospective permittee must provide the baseline (pre-impact) condition of the stream that is proposed for relocation. The prospective permittee will document the baseline condition of the stream by using the Corps' (Wilmington District's) current functional assessment method - e.g., the North Carolina Stream Assessment Method (NCSAM). The functional assessment must be used to identify specific areas where an uplift would reasonably be expected to occur, and also show important baseline functions that will remain after the relocation.
- (4) An evaluation of the potential uplifts to stream function for the relocated channel. The amount of detail required in the plan will be commensurate with the functional capacity of the original stream and proposed uplift(s). Low functional capacity will warrant less monitoring and less detail in the plan in order to ensure that the relocated channel provides the same, or better/increased, suite of aquatic functions as the existing channel.

Note that to either reduce or eliminate the need to provide compensatory mitigation for stream relocation impacts, the bed of the relocated stream should not be hardened or stabilized, to include embedded rip rap; note that grade control structures are acceptable. Additionally, the relocated channel should have similar or better pattern, profile, and dimension than the existing channel. Finally, the banks of the relocated channel should not be hardened, although limited stabilization may be acceptable if NCDOT adequately demonstrates why this is necessary.

- (5) A proposed monitoring plan for the relocated channel (and buffer, if applicable), will be prepared in accordance with current District guidance. The level of detail needed in the plan will be directly related to the quality of baseline functions and the anticipated uplift, therefore it is recommended that a pre-application discussion occur with the Corps Project Manager as early as possible. For example, if the risk for achieving the anticipated functional uplift is moderate or low, or if there is a low amount of proposed uplift, less information and monitoring will be required in the proposed relocation plan; similar to the requirements found in the "2003 Stream Mitigation Guidelines". If the risk for uplift is higher, or if there is a high amount of proposed uplift, additional monitoring and information will be required, trending toward the prescriptions found in the most recent Wilmington District Compensatory Mitigation Guidance – e.g., the 2016 Wilmington District Stream and Wetland Compensatory Mitigation Update. All monitoring will be for at least 5 years unless the Corps project manager determines that (a) a specific project requires less than 5 years

due to site conditions or limited risk/uplift potential, and/or complexity (or simplicity) of the existing channel and/or the relocation work, or (b) the Corps project manager determines (during the monitoring period) that the 5 years of monitoring may be reduced (or that no further monitoring is required) based on monitoring information received once the stream relocation has been completed.

s. Upon completion of any work authorized by this RGP, all temporary fills (to include culverts, pipes, causeways, etc.) will be completely removed from waters of the U.S. and the areas will be restored to pre-construction elevations and contours. The permittee shall also restore natural hydrology and stream corridors (if applicable) and reestablish native vegetation/riparian corridors. This work will be completed within 60 days of completion of project construction. If this timeframe occurs while a required moratorium of this permit is in effect, the temporary fill shall be removed in its entirety within 60 days of the moratorium end date. If vegetation cannot be planted due to the time of the year, all disturbed areas will be seeded with a native mix appropriate for the impacted area, and vegetation will be planted during the next appropriate time frame. A native seed mix may contain non-invasive small grain annuals (e.g. millet and rye grain) to ensure adequate cover while native vegetation becomes established. The PCN must include a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and how the area will be restored to pre-project elevations and contours.

t. Borrow and Waste Activities. For those projects that involve borrow and/or waste activities (note that if the borrow or waste area is also used for purposes/clients other than NCDOT, this condition will not apply to an NCDOT project) - To ensure that all borrow and waste activities occur on high ground and do not result in the degradation of adjacent waters and wetlands, except as authorized by the RGP verification letter issued for a specific project, the permittee shall require its contractors and/or agents to identify all areas to be used as borrow and/or waste sites associated with an authorized project. The permittee shall provide the Corps with appropriate maps indicating the locations of proposed borrow and/or waste sites as soon as such information is available. The permittee shall submit to the Corps site-specific information needed to ensure that borrow and/or waste sites comply with all applicable Federal requirements, to include compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act, such as surveys or correspondence with agencies (e.g., the USFWS, the NC HPO, etc.). The required information shall also include the location of all aquatic features, if any, out to a distance of 400 feet beyond the nearest boundary of the site. The permittee shall not approve any borrow and/or waste sites before receiving written confirmation from the Corps that the proposed site meets all Federal requirements, whether or not waters of the U.S., including wetlands, are located in the proposed borrow and/or waste site. All delineations of aquatic sites on borrow and/or waste sites shall be verified by the Corps and shown on the approved reclamation plans. The permittee shall ensure that all borrow and/or waste sites comply with the following: Except as authorized by this permit or any

Corps approved modification to this permit, no excavation, fill, or mechanized land-clearing activities shall take place at any time in the construction or maintenance of this project, within waters or wetlands, or shall any activities take place that cause the degradation of waters or wetlands. There shall be no excavation from, waste disposal into, or degradation of, jurisdictional wetlands or waters associated with this permit without appropriate modification of this permit, including appropriate compensatory mitigation. This prohibition applies to all borrow and waste activities connected with this project. Additionally, the permittee shall produce and maintain documentation of all borrow and waste sites associated with this project. This documentation will include data regarding soils, vegetation, hydrology, any delineation(s) of aquatic sites, and any jurisdictional determinations made by the Corps. All information will be available to the Corps upon request. The permittee shall require its contractors to complete and execute reclamation plans for each borrow and/or waste site and provide written documentation that the reclamation plans have been implemented and all work is completed. This documentation will be provided to the Corps within 30 days of the completion of the reclamation work.

u. Once the authorized work in waters of the U.S. is complete, the permittee shall sign and return the compliance certificate that is attached to the RGP verification letter.

v. The District Engineer will consider any comments from Federal and/or State agencies concerning the proposed activity's compliance with the terms and conditions of this RGP.

w. The Corps may place additional special conditions, limitations, or restrictions on any verification of the use of RGP 50 on a project-by-project basis.

## **2. General Conditions**

a. The permittee shall ensure that the construction design plans do not deviate from the permit plans referenced in the RGP verification letter issued for a specific project. Any modification to the permit plans referenced in the RGP verification letter for a specific project must be approved by the Corps prior to any active construction in waters or wetlands.

b. Except as authorized by an RGP verification letter issued for a specific project and the supporting plans referenced in that verification letter, or any Corps approved modification to an RGP verification letter for a specific project, no excavation, fill or mechanized land-clearing activities shall take place within waters or wetlands, at any time during construction or maintenance of the project. This permit does not authorize temporary placement or double handling of excavated or fill material within waters or wetlands outside the permitted area. This prohibition applies to all borrow and fill activities connected with the project.

c. The permittee shall require its contractors and/or agents to comply with (1) the terms and conditions of this permit and (2) all conditions in the RGP verification letter for that project. The permittee shall provide each of its contractors and/or agents associated with the construction or maintenance of a specific project with a copy of this permit and the RGP verification letter. A copy of this permit and the RGP verification letter, including all conditions, drawings/plans and attachments shall be available at the project site during the construction and maintenance of any project authorized by an RGP verification letter.

d. During the clearing phase of the project, heavy equipment shall not be operated in surface waters or stream channels. Temporary stream crossings will be used to access the opposite sides of stream channels. All temporary diversion channels and stream crossings will be constructed of non-erodible materials. Grubbing of riparian vegetation will not occur until immediately before construction begins on a given segment of stream channel.

e. All mechanized equipment shall be regularly inspected and maintained to prevent contamination of waters and wetlands from fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or other toxic materials. In the event of a spill of petroleum products or any other hazardous waste, the permittee shall immediately report it to the N.C. Division of Water Resources at (919) 733-3300 or (800) 858-0368 and provisions of the North Carolina Oil Pollution and Hazardous Substances Control Act shall be followed.

f. Authorization under this RGP does not obviate the need to obtain other federal, state, or local authorizations.

g. All work authorized by this RGP must comply with the terms and conditions of the applicable CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification for this RGP issued by the North Carolina Division of Water Resources (NCDWR).

h. The permittee shall employ all sedimentation and erosion control measures necessary to prevent an increase in sedimentation or turbidity within waters and wetlands outside of the permit area. This shall include, but is not limited to, the immediate installation of silt fencing or similar appropriate devices around all areas subject to soil disturbance or the movement of earthen fill, and the immediate stabilization of all disturbed areas. Additionally, the project must remain in full compliance with all aspects of the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973 (North Carolina General Statutes Chapter 113A Article 4).

i. The permittee shall remove all sediment and erosion control measures placed in waters and/or wetlands, and shall restore natural grades on those areas, prior to project completion.

j. The activities authorized by this RGP must not interfere with the public's right to free navigation on all navigable waters of the U.S. No attempt will be made by the

permittee to prevent the full and free use by the public of all navigable waters at, or adjacent to, the authorized work for a reason other than safety.

k. The permittee understands and agrees that if future operations by the U.S. 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, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the U.S. No claim shall be made against the U.S. on account of any such removal or alteration.

l. The permittee, upon receipt of a notice of revocation of this RGP for the verified individual activity, may apply for an individual permit, or will, without expense to the U.S. and in such time and manner as the Secretary of the Army or his/her authorized representative may direct, restore the affected water of the U.S. to its former conditions.

m. This RGP does not authorize any activity that would conflict with a federal project's congressionally authorized purposes, established limitations or restrictions, or limit an agency's ability to conduct necessary operation and maintenance functions. Per Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, as amended (33 U.S.C. 408), no project that has the potential to take possession of or make use of for any purpose, or build upon, alter, deface, destroy, move, injure, or obstruct a federally constructed work or project, including, but not limited to, levees, dams, jetties, navigation channels, borrow areas, dredged material disposal sites, flood control projects, etc., shall be permitted unless the project has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate Corps approval authority. Permittees shall not begin the activity authorized by this RGP until notified by the Corps that the activity may proceed.

n. The permittee shall obtain a Consent to Cross Government Easement from the appropriate Corps District's Land Use Coordinator prior to any crossing of a Corps easement and/or prior to commencing construction of any structures, authorized dredging, or other work within the right-of-way of, or in proximity to, a federally designated disposal area.

o. Federal Navigation Channel Setbacks. Authorized structures and fills located in or adjacent to Federally authorized waterways must be constructed in accordance with the latest setback criteria established by the Wilmington District Engineer. You may review the setback policy at <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Setbacks.aspx>. This RGP permit does not authorize the construction of hardened or permanently fixed structures within the Federally Authorized Channel Setback, unless the activity is approved by the Corps.

p. The permittee will allow the Wilmington District Engineer or his/her representative to inspect the authorized activity at any time deemed necessary to ensure that the activity is being performed or maintained in strict accordance with the Special and General Conditions of this permit.

q. This RGP does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.

r. This RGP does not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

s. This RGP does not authorize the interference with any existing or proposed federal project.

t. In issuing this permit, the Federal Government does not assume any liability for the following:

(1) Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of other permitted or unpermitted activities or from natural causes.

(2) Damages to the permitted project or uses thereof as a result of current or future activities undertaken by or on behalf of the U.S. in the public interest.

(3) Damages to persons, property, or to other permitted or unpermitted activities or structures caused by the activity authorized by this permit.

(4) Design or construction deficiencies associated with the permitted work.

(5) Damage claims associated with any future modification, suspension, or revocation of this permit.

u. Authorization provided by this RGP may be modified, suspended or revoked in whole, or in part, if the Wilmington District Engineer, acting for the Secretary of the Army, determines that such action would be in the best public interest. The term of this RGP shall be five (5) years unless subject to modification, suspension, or revocation. Any modification, suspension, or revocation of this authorization will not be the basis for any claim for damages against the U.S. Government.

v. No activity may occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers 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 designation

or study status. Information on Wild and Scenic Rivers may be obtained from the appropriate Federal land management agency responsible for the designated Wild and Scenic River or “study river” (e.g., National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, etc.).

w. Endangered Species

(1) No activity is authorized under this RGP which is likely to directly or indirectly 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 directly or indirectly destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species. No activity is authorized under this RGP which “may affect” a listed species or critical habitat, unless Section 7 consultation addressing the effects of the proposed activity has been completed.

(2) Federal agencies should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of the ESA. Federal prospective permittees (and when FHWA is the lead federal agency) must provide the District Engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements. The District Engineer will review the documentation and determine whether it is sufficient to address ESA compliance for the RGP activity, or whether additional ESA consultation is necessary.

(3) Non-federal prospective permittees - for activities that might affect federally listed endangered or threatened species or designated critical habitat, the PCN must include the name(s) of the endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed work or that utilize the designated critical habitat that might 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. In cases where the non-federal prospective permittee 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 prospective permittee shall not begin work until the Corps has provided notification that the proposed activities will have “no effect” on listed species or critical habitat, or until Section 7 consultation has been completed.

(4) As a result of formal or informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or NMFS, the District Engineer may add species-specific endangered species conditions to the RGP verification letter for a project.

(5) Authorization of an activity by a RGP 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 USFWS or the NMFS, the ESA prohibits any person subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. to take a listed species, where “take” means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any

such conduct. The word “harm” in the definition of “take” means an act which actually kills or injures wildlife. Such an act may include significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding or sheltering.

(6) Information on the location of threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat can be obtained directly from the offices of the USFWS in North Carolina at the addresses provided below, or from the USFWS and NMFS via their world wide web pages at <http://www.fws.gov/> or <http://www.fws.gov/ipac> and <http://www.noaa.gov/fisheries.html> respectively.

USFWS offices in North Carolina:

The Asheville USFWS Office covers all NC counties west of, and including, Anson, Stanly, Davidson, Forsyth and Stokes Counties.

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

The Raleigh USFWS Office covers all NC counties east of, and including, Richmond, Montgomery, Randolph, Guilford, and Rockingham Counties.

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

x. The Wilmington District, USFWS, NCDOT, and the FHWA have conducted programmatic Section 7(a)(2) consultation for a number of federally listed species and habitat, and programmatic consultation concerning other federally listed species and/or habitat may occur in the future. The result of completed programmatic consultation is a Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) issued by the USFWS. These PBOs contain mandatory terms and conditions to implement the reasonable and prudent measures that are associated with “incidental take” of whichever species or critical habitat is covered by a specific PBO. Authorization under RGP 50 is conditional upon the permittee’s compliance with all the mandatory terms and conditions associated with incidental take of the applicable PBO (or PBOs), which are incorporated by reference in RGP 50. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions associated with incidental take of an applicable PBO, where a take of the federally listed species occurs, would constitute an unauthorized take by the permittee, and would also constitute permittee non-compliance with the authorization under RGP 50. If the terms and conditions of a specific PBO (or PBOs)

apply to a project, the Corps will include this/these requirements in any RGP 50 verification that may be issued for a project. The USFWS is the appropriate authority to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of its PBO, and with the ESA.

y. For proposed activities the sixteen (16) counties listed below, prospective permittees must provide a copy of the PCN to the USFWS, 160 Zillicoa Street, Asheville, North Carolina 28801. This PCN must be sent concurrently to the USFWS and the Corps Project Manager for that specific county.

The 16 counties with tributaries that drain to designated critical habitat that require notification to the Asheville USFWS are: Avery, Cherokee, Forsyth, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Stokes, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Union and Yancey.

z. If the permittee discovers or observes any live, damaged, injured or dead individual of an endangered or threatened species during construction, the permittee shall immediately notify the Wilmington District Engineer so that required coordination can be initiated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or National Marine Fisheries Service.

aa. Historic Properties.

(1) In cases where the District Engineer determines that the activity may have the potential to cause effects to properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the activity is not authorized, until the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) have been satisfied.

(2) Federal prospective permittees (or when FHWA is the lead federal agency) should follow their own procedures for complying with the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA. Federal prospective permittees must provide the District Engineer with the appropriate documentation to demonstrate compliance with those requirements; this includes copies of correspondence sent to all interested, federally recognized tribes and a summary statement about tribal consultation efforts or, if the Corps enters into a Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the FHWA/NCDOT, documentation that the FHWA/NCDOT has complied with PA requirements. The District Engineer will review the documentation and determine whether it is sufficient to address Section 106 compliance for this RGP activity, or whether additional Section 106 consultation is necessary.

(3) Non-federal prospective permittees - the PCN 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 (SHPO) and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), as appropriate, and the NRHP (see 33 CFR 330.4(g)). When reviewing PCNs, the District Engineer will comply with the current procedures for addressing the requirements of Section 106 of the NHPA. 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.

(4) 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)).

(5) Section 110k of the NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470h-2(k)) prevents the Corps from granting a permit or other assistance to a prospective permittee 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 will 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 prospective permittee. If circumstances justify granting the assistance, the Corps is required to notify the ACHP and provide documentation specifying the circumstances, the degree of damage to the integrity of any historic properties affected, and proposed mitigation. This documentation must include any views obtained from the prospective permittee, 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.

bb. If you discover any previously unknown historic, cultural, or archeological remains and/or artifacts while accomplishing the activity authorized by this general permit, you must immediately notify the District Engineer of what you have found, and to the maximum extent practicable, avoid construction activities that may affect the remains and/or artifacts until the required coordination has been completed. The District Engineer will initiate the Federal, Tribal, and state coordination required to determine if the remains warrant a recovery effort or if the site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

cc. Permittees are advised that development activities in or near a floodway may be subject to the National Flood Insurance Program that prohibits any development, including fill, within a floodway that results in any increase in base flood elevations. This general permit does not authorize any activity prohibited by the National Flood Insurance Program.

dd. The permittee must install and maintain, at his/her expense, any signal lights and signals prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard, through regulations or otherwise, on authorized facilities. For further information, the permittee should contact Coast Guard Sector North Carolina at (910) 772-2191 or email Coast Guard Fifth District at [cgd5waterways@uscg.mil](mailto:cgd5waterways@uscg.mil).

ee. The permittee must maintain any structure or work authorized by this general permit in good condition and in conformance with the terms and conditions of this general permit. The permittee is not relieved of this requirement if the permittee abandons the structure or work. Transfer in fee simple of the work authorized by this general permit will automatically transfer this general permit to the property's new owner, with all of the rights and responsibilities enumerated herein. The permittee must inform any subsequent owner of all activities undertaken under the authority of this general permit and provide the subsequent owner with a copy of the terms and conditions of this general permit.

ff. At his or her sole discretion, any time during the processing cycle, the Wilmington District Engineer may determine that this general permit will not be applicable to a specific proposal. In such case, the procedures for processing an individual permit in accordance with 33 CFR 325 will be available.

gg. Except as authorized by this general permit or any Corps approved modification to this general permit, all fill material placed in waters or wetlands shall be generated from an upland source and will be clean and free of any pollutants except in trace quantities. Metal products, organic materials (including debris from land clearing activities), or unsightly debris will not be used.

hh. Except as authorized by this general permit or any Corps approved modification to this general permit, all excavated material will be disposed of in approved upland disposal areas.

ii. Activities which have commenced (i.e., are under construction) or are under contract to commence in reliance upon this general permit will remain authorized provided the activity is completed within twelve months of the date of the general permit's expiration, modification, or revocation. Activities completed under the authorization of this general permit that were in effect at the time the activity was completed continue to be authorized by the general permit.

jj. The permittee is responsible for obtaining any "take" permits required under the USFWS's regulations governing compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act or the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. The permittee should contact the appropriate local office of the USFWS to determine if such "take" permits are required for a particular activity.

kk. The activity must comply with applicable FEMA approved state or local floodplain management requirements.

ll. There will be no unreasonable interference with navigation or the right of the public to riparian access by the existence or use of activities authorized by this RGP.

mm. Unless authorization to fill those specific wetlands or mudflats has been issued by the Corps, heavy equipment working in wetlands or mudflats must be placed on mats, or other measures must be taken to minimize soil disturbance.

nn. This RGP will not be applicable to proposed construction when the Wilmington District Engineer determines that the proposed activity will significantly affect the quality of the human environment and determines that an EIS must be prepared.

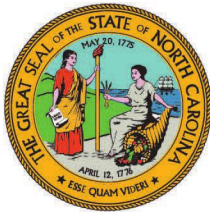
oo. Violation of these permit conditions or violation of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act shall be reported to the Corps in writing and by telephone within 24 hours of the permittee's discovery of the violation. Corps contact information for a specific project can be found at the bottom of the RGP verification letter for that project.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

FOR THE DISTRICT COMMANDER:



KENNETH M. PORTER  
LTC, EN  
Acting Commander



NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

March 30, 2026

JOSH STEIN  
Governor

D. REID WILSON  
Secretary

RICHARD E. ROGERS, JR.  
Director

DWR #20260230 v1  
Northampton County

NCDOT Division 1  
Paul Willaims  
113 Airport Dr  
Edenton, NC 27932

Delivered via email to: [pcwilliams2@ncdot.gov](mailto:pcwilliams2@ncdot.gov)

**Subject: Approval of Individual 401 Water Quality Certification**

Replace Northampton Bridge 17 on SR- 1508  
USACE Action ID. No. SAW-2023-01098

**Location:** 36.404634 -77.2538821

Dear Mr. Williams:

Attached hereto is a copy of Certification No. WQC008782 issued to North Carolina Division of Transportation (NCDOT) dated March 30, 2026. This approval is for the purpose and design described in your application.

This Water Quality Certification does not relieve the Permittee of the responsibility to obtain all other required Federal, State, or Local approvals before proceeding with the project, including those required by, but not limited to, Sediment and Erosion Control, Non-Discharge, Water Supply Watershed, and Trout Buffer regulations.

Upon the presentation of proper credentials, the Division of Water Resources (Division or DWR) may inspect the property.

This Water Quality Certification shall expire on the same day as the expiration date of the corresponding Section 404 Permit that is current at the time this Certification is issued. The conditions shall remain in effect for the life of the project, regardless of the expiration date of this Water Quality Certification.



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality | Division of Water Resources  
512 North Salisbury Street | 1617 Mail Service Center | Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1617  
919.707.9000

Non-compliance with or violation of the conditions herein set forth may result in revocation of this Water Quality Certification for the project and may also result in criminal and/or civil penalties.

This approval and its conditions are final and binding unless contested [G.S. 143-215.5].

Notice regarding the right to contest this 401 Water Quality Certification decision is attached to this letter.

This letter completes the DWR's review under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and 15A NCAC 02H .0500. Please contact Paul Nyarko at 252-948-3917 or [paul.nyarko@deq.nc.gov](mailto:paul.nyarko@deq.nc.gov) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

*Faith Hardin*

3185423002EA45E...

Faith Hardin, Supervisor

401 & Buffer Permitting Branch

Electronic cc:

Kyle Barnes, USACE Washington Regulatory Field Office

Paul Nyarko, DWR

DWR 401 & Buffer Permitting Branch Electronic file



**NOTICE REGARDING THE RIGHT TO CONTEST A DWR 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION DECISION****Right of Persons Aggrieved to File a Contested Case for the issuance of a 401-water quality certification:**

Pursuant to 15A NCAC 02H .0507(f), the Division's decision on a 401-water quality certification application is subject to review under NCGS 150B-23.

**Rights of Persons Aggrieved to File a Contested Case:** Pursuant to NCGS 150B, Article 3, a party or person aggrieved may commence a contested case by filing a petition under NCGS 150B-23 in the Office of Administrative Hearings within 60 days after the Division provides notice of its decision on a permit application, as provided in NCGS 150B-23(f). If no contested case is commenced within the required time, the Division's decision is final and is not subject to review.

**General Filing Instructions:** A petition for contested case hearing must be in the form of a written petition, conforming to NCGS 150B-23, and filed with the Office of Administrative Hearings, 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh NC, 27609, along with a fee in an amount provided in NCGS 150B-23.2. A petition for contested case hearing form may be obtained upon request from the Office of Administrative Hearings or on its website at <https://www.oah.nc.gov/hearings-division/filing/hearing-forms>. Additional specific instructions for filing a petition are set forth at 26 NCAC Chapter 03.

**Service Instructions:** A party filing a contested case is required to serve a copy of the petition, by any means authorized under 26 NCAC 03 .0102, on the process agent for the Department of Environmental Quality:

Daniel Hirschman, General Counsel  
North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality  
1601 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1601

If the party filing the petition is a person aggrieved other than the permittee or permit applicant, the party **must also** serve the permittee in accordance with NCGS 150B-23(a).

Be aware that other rules or laws may apply to the filing of a petition for a contested case. Additional information is available at <https://www.oah.nc.gov/hearings-division/hearing-process/filing-contested-case>. Please contact the Office of Administrative Hearings at (984) 236-1850 with all questions regarding the filing fee and/or the details of the filing process.



**NORTH CAROLINA 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION**

**CERTIFICATION #WQC008782** is issued in conformity with the requirements of Section 401, Public Laws 92-500 and 95-217 of the United States and subject to North Carolina’s Regulations in 15 NCAC 02H .0500 and 15A NCAC 02B .0200, to NCDOT, who have authorization for the impacts listed below, as described within your application received by the N.C. Division of Water Resources (DWR) on February 24, 2026 and within the *Reasonable Period of Time* pursuant to 40 CFR Part 121.6.

The State of North Carolina certifies that this activity will comply with water quality requirements and the applicable portions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, 307 of the Public Laws 92-500 and PL 95-217 if conducted in accordance with the application, the supporting documentation, and conditions hereinafter set forth.

The following impacts are hereby approved. No other impacts are approved, including incidental impacts. [15A NCAC 02H .0506(b)]

<b>Type of Impact</b>	<b>Amount Approved Permanent</b>
Perennial Streams	
Site 1 / Doolittle Millpond / Roadway Fill and Bank stabilization	30 linear feet
<i>Totals:</i>	<i>30 linear feet</i>
Riparian Wetlands	
Site 2 / Paddy’s Delight Creek/ Purpose	0.010 acres
Site 2 & 3/ Paddy’s Delight Creek/ Purpose	0.010 acres
<i>Totals:</i>	<i>0.020 acres</i>
Open Waters	
Site 1A / Doolittle Millpond / Roadway Fill and Bank stabilization	0.02 acres
Site 1B and 1C / Paddy’s Delight Creek (Tributary) / Bank stabilization	0.01 acres
<i>Totals:</i>	<i>0.03 acres</i>



This approval requires you to follow the conditions listed in the Certification below.

CONDITIONS OF CERTIFICATION [15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)]:

1. The plans and specifications for this project are incorporated by reference as part of this Water Quality Certification. If you change your project, you must notify the Division, and you may be required to submit a new application package with the appropriate fee.

If the property is sold, the Permittee shall provide the new owner must with a copy of this Water Quality Certification and all plans and specifications incorporated by reference. The Permittee may transfer this Water Quality Certification to the new owner by submitting a letter to the Division with the following statement: *“At the time the property is transferred, the terms and conditions of this 401 Individual Water Quality Certification, including the responsibility to ensure compliance, are binding on the new owner(s) of the property.”* The letter shall be signed and dated by both the transferee and the new owner.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0507(d)(2)*

2. If the Permittee becomes aware of any inability to comply with any of the conditions of this Water Quality Certification, they must notify the Washington Regional Office within 24 hours (or the next business day if it is a weekend or holiday) from the time the Permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The Permittee may be required to submit a new application package with appropriate fee to initiate modification of this authorization, and/or to conduct corrective actions as determined by the Division.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

3. The Permittee shall report to the Division Washington Regional Office any noncompliance with, and/or any violation of, stream or wetland standards [15A NCAC 02B .0200], including but not limited to sediment impacts to streams or wetlands. Information shall be provided orally within 24 hours (or the next business day if it is a weekend or holiday) from the time the Permittee became aware of the non-compliance circumstances.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

4. No waste, spoil, solids, or fill of any kind shall occur in wetlands or waters beyond the footprint of the approved impacts (including temporary impacts).

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506; 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

5. All activities shall be in compliance with any applicable State Regulated Riparian Buffer Rules in Chapter 2B of Title 15A in the North Carolina Administrative Code.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*



6. When applicable, all construction activities shall be performed and maintained in full compliance with G.S. Chapter 113A Article 4 (Sediment and Pollution Control Act of 1973). Regardless of applicability of the Sediment and Pollution Control Act, all projects shall incorporate appropriate Best Management Practices for the control of sediment and erosion so that no violations of state water quality standards, statutes, or rules occur.

Design, installation, operation, and maintenance of all sediment and erosion control measures shall be equal to or exceed the requirements specified in the most recent version of the *North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Manual*, or for linear transportation projects, the *North Carolina Department of Transportation Sediment and Erosion Control Manual*.

All devices shall be maintained on all construction sites, borrow sites, and waste pile (spoil) sites, including contractor-owned or leased borrow pits associated with the project. Sufficient materials required for stabilization and/or repair of erosion control measures and stormwater routing and treatment shall be on site at all times.

For borrow pit sites, the erosion and sediment control measures shall be designed, installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the most recent version of the *North Carolina Surface Mining Manual*. Reclamation measures and implementation shall comply with the reclamation in accordance with the requirements of the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act and the Mining Act of 1971.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); 15A NCAC02B .0200; 15A NCAC 02B .0231*

7. Sediment and erosion control measures shall not be installed in wetland or waters except within the footprint of temporary or permanent impacts otherwise authorized by this Certification. If placed within authorized impact areas, then placement of such measures shall not be conducted in a manner that results in dis-equilibrium of any wetlands, streambeds, or stream banks. Any silt fence installed within wetlands shall be removed from wetlands and the natural grade restored within two (2) months of the date that DEMLR or the locally delegated program has released the specific area within the project to ensure wetland standards are maintained upon completion of the project.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); 15A NCAC 02B .0200; 15A NCAC 02B .0231*

8. Erosion control matting that incorporates plastic mesh and/or plastic twine shall not be used along stream banks or within wetlands.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

9. If the project is covered by NPDES Construction Stormwater Permit Number NCG010000 or NPDES Construction Permit Number NCG250000, full compliance with permit conditions including the erosion & sedimentation control plan, inspections and maintenance, self-monitoring, record keeping, and reporting requirements are required.



*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); 15A NCAC 02B .0200; 15A NCAC 02B .0231*

10. All work in or adjacent to streams shall be conducted so that the flowing stream does not come in contact with the disturbed area. Approved best management practices from the most current version of the NC Sediment and Erosion Control Manual, or the NC Department of Transportation Construction and Maintenance Activities Manual, such as sandbags, rock berms, cofferdams, and other diversion structures shall be used to minimize excavation in flowing water.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); 15A NCAC 02B .0200*

11. Culverts shall be designed and installed in such a manner that the original stream profiles are not altered and allow for aquatic life movement during low flows. The dimension, pattern, and profile of the stream above and below a pipe or culvert shall 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 culvert shall be such as passing the average historical low flow and spring flow without adversely altering flow velocity. If the width of the culvert is wider than the stream channel, the culvert shall include multiple boxes/pipes, baffles, benches and/or sills to maintain the natural width of the stream channel. If multiple culverts/pipes/barrels are used, low flows shall be accommodated in one culvert/pipe, and additional culverts/pipes shall be installed such that they receive only flows above bankfull.

Placement of culverts and other structures in streams shall be below the elevation of the streambed by one foot for all culverts with a diameter greater than 48 inches, and 20% of the culvert diameter for culverts having a diameter less than or equal to 48 inches, to allow low flow passage of water and aquatic life. If the culvert outlet is submerged within a pool or scour hole and designed to provide for aquatic passage, then culvert burial into the streambed is not required.

For structures less than 72" in diameter/width, and topographic constraints indicate culvert slopes of greater than 2.5% culvert burial is not required, provided that all alternative options for flattening the slope have been investigated and aquatic life movement/connectivity has been provided when possible (e.g., rock ladders, cross-vanes, sills, baffles etc.). Notification, including supporting documentation to include a location map of the culvert, culvert profile drawings, and slope calculations, shall be provided to the Division thirty (30) calendar days prior to the installation of the culvert.

When bedrock is present in culvert locations, culvert burial is not required, provided that there is sufficient documentation of the presence of bedrock. Notification, including supporting documentation such as a location map of the culvert, geotechnical reports, photographs, etc. shall be provided to the Division with a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days prior to the installation of the culvert. If bedrock is discovered during construction, then the Division shall be notified by phone or email within 24 hours of discovery.



Installation of culverts in wetlands shall ensure continuity of water movement and be designed to adequately accommodate high water or flood conditions. When roadways, causeways, or other fill projects are constructed across FEMA-designated floodways or wetlands, openings such as culverts or bridges shall be provided to maintain the natural hydrology of the system as well as prevent constriction of the floodway that may result in destabilization of streams or wetlands.

The establishment of native woody vegetation and other soft stream bank stabilization techniques shall be used where practicable instead of riprap or other bank hardening methods.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

12. Application of fertilizer to establish planted/seeded vegetation within disturbed riparian areas and/or wetlands shall be conducted at agronomic rates and shall comply with all other Federal, State, and Local regulations. Fertilizer application shall be accomplished in a manner that minimizes the risk of contact between the fertilizer and surface waters.

*Citation: 15A 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); 15A NCAC 02B .0200; 15A NCAC 02B .0231*

13. If concrete is used during construction, then all necessary measures shall be taken to prevent direct contact between uncured or curing concrete and waters of the state. Water that inadvertently contacts uncured concrete shall not be discharged to waters of the state.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); 15A NCAC 02B .0200; 15A NCAC 02B .0231*

14. All proposed and approved temporary fill and culverts shall be removed, and the impacted area shall be returned to natural conditions within sixty (60) calendar days after the temporary impact is no longer necessary. The impacted areas shall be restored to original grade, including each stream's original cross-sectional dimensions, planform pattern, and longitudinal bed profile. All temporarily impacted sites shall be restored and stabilized with native vegetation.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H.0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

15. All proposed and approved temporary pipes/culverts/rip-rap pads etc. in streams or wetlands shall be installed as outlined in the most recent edition of the *North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual* or the *North Carolina Surface Mining Manual* or the *North Carolina Department of Transportation Best Management Practices for Construction and Maintenance Activities* so as not to restrict stream flow or cause dis-equilibrium during use of this Certification.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

16. Any riprap required for proper culvert placement, stream stabilization, or restoration of temporarily disturbed areas shall be restricted to the area directly impacted by the approved construction activity. All rip-rap shall be placed such that the original streambed elevation and streambank contours are restored and maintained and shall consist of clean rock or masonry



material free of debris or toxic pollutants. Placement of riprap or other approved materials shall not result in de-stabilization of the stream bed or banks upstream or downstream of the area or be installed in a manner that precludes aquatic life passage.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

17. Any riprap used for stream or shoreline stabilization shall be of a size and density to prevent movement by wave, current action, or stream flows, and shall consist of clean rock or masonry material free of debris or toxic pollutants. Rip-rap shall not be installed in the streambed except in specific areas required for velocity control and to ensure structural integrity of bank stabilization measures.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); 15A NCAC 02B .0201*

18. All mechanized equipment operated near surface waters shall be inspected and maintained regularly to prevent contamination of surface waters from fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or other toxic materials. Construction shall be staged in order to minimize the exposure of equipment to surface waters to the maximum extent practicable. Fueling, lubrication, and general equipment maintenance shall be performed in a manner to prevent, to the maximum extent practicable, contamination of surface waters by fuels and oils.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); 15A NCAC 02B .0200; 15A NCAC 02B .0231*

19. Heavy equipment working in wetlands shall be placed on mats or other measures shall be taken to minimize soil disturbance and compaction.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); 15A NCAC 02B .0231*

20. In accordance with 143-215.85(b), the Permittee shall report any petroleum spill of 25 gallons or more; any spill regardless of amount that causes a sheen on surface waters; any petroleum spill regardless of amount occurring within 100 feet of surface waters; and any petroleum spill less than 25 gallons that cannot be cleaned up within 24 hours.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c); N.C.G.S 143-215.85(b)*

21. The Permittee and their authorized agents shall conduct all activities in a manner consistent with State water quality standards (including any requirements resulting from compliance with §303(d) of the Clean Water Act), and any other appropriate requirements of State and Federal Law.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

22. The Permittee shall require its contractors and/or agents to comply with the terms and conditions of this Certification in the construction and maintenance of this project and shall provide each of its contractors and/or agents associated with the construction or maintenance of this project with a copy of this Water Quality Certification. A copy of this Water Quality



Certification shall be available at the project site during the construction and maintenance of this project.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

23. This Water Quality Certification neither grants nor affirms any property right, license, or privilege in any lands or waters, or any right of use in any waters. This Water Quality Certification does not authorize any person to interfere with the riparian rights, littoral rights, or water use rights of any other person and does not create any prescriptive right or any right of priority regarding any usage of water. This Water Quality Certification shall not be interposed as a defense in any action respecting the determination of riparian or littoral rights or other rights to water use. No consumptive user is deemed by virtue of this Water Quality Certification to possess any prescriptive or other right of priority with respect to any other consumptive user.

*Citation: 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b); 15A NCAC 02H .0507(c)*

This Water Quality Certification shall expire on the same day as the expiration date of the corresponding Section 404 Permit that is current at the time this Certification is issued. The conditions shall remain in effect for the life of the project, regardless of the expiration date of this Water Quality Certification.

Upon completion of the proposed project, the applicant shall submit a Certificate of Completion and/or shall provide as-built documentation. Certificates of Completion and/or as-built documentation can be submitted via the DWR website: <https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/Certificate-of-Completion>.

This, the 30 day of March 2026

Signed by:

*Faith Hardin*

3185423002EA45E...

Faith Hardin, Supervisor  
401 & Buffer Permitting Branch





North Carolina Department of Transportation  
 Highway Stormwater Program  
 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
 FOR NCDOT PROJECTS



(Version 3.02; Released April 23, 2024)

WBS Element: BP1.R018.01      TIP/Proj No: BP1.R018.01      County(ies): Northampton      Page 1 of 2

**General Project Information**

<b>WBS Element:</b>	BP1.R018.01	<b>TIP Number:</b>	BP1.R018.01	<b>Project Type:</b>	Bridge Replacement	<b>Date:</b>	11/7/2025
<b>NCDOT Contact:</b>	Ryan L. Shook			<b>Contractor / Designer:</b>	Shams Al-Amin, PE- VHB		
<b>Address:</b>	Highway Division 1 113 Airport Drive Suite, 100 Edenton, NC 27932			<b>Address:</b>	VHB 940 Main Campus Drive, Suite 500 Raleigh, NC, 27606		
<b>Phone:</b>	(252) 482-1871			<b>Phone:</b>	919.741.5534		
<b>Email:</b>	rlshook@ncdot.gov			<b>Email:</b>	sal-amin@vhb.com		
<b>City/Town:</b>	Jackson			<b>County(ies):</b>	Northampton		
<b>River Basin(s):</b>	Chowan			<b>CAMA County?</b>	No		
<b>Wetlands within Project Limits?</b>	Yes						

**Project Description**

<b>Project Length (lin. miles or feet):</b>	0.16	<b>Surrounding Land Use:</b>	Rural
	<b>Proposed Project</b>		<b>Existing Site</b>
<b>Project Built-Upon Area (ac.)</b>	0.4	ac.	0.4 ac.
<b>Typical Cross Section Description:</b>	2@10' lanes with 3' shoulder outside without GR and 7' shoulder outside with GR		2@10' lanes
<b>Annual Avg Daily Traffic (veh/hr/day):</b>	<b>Design/Future:</b>	500	<b>Year:</b> 2022
	<b>Existing:</b>	N/A	<b>Year:</b> 2022

**General Project Narrative:**  
**(Description of Minimization of Water Quality Impacts)**

This project involves the replacement of bridge 650017 on SR 1508 (Doolittle Mill Rd) over Paddys Delight Creek in Northampton County. The existing structure is a 3@13'-0" timber deck on timber joists with vertical abutments. The proposed structure is 1@55'-21" cored slab with vertical abutment and 2.5 end caps over the existing spillway. From the North Carolina Flood Risk Information System (NCFRIS), the proposed bridge is located within flood zone AE on the FIRM map 3720590600J and was studied by the "limited detailed" method.



North Carolina Department of Transportation

Highway Stormwater Program  
**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
 FOR NCDOT PROJECTS



(Version 3.02; Released April 23, 2024)

WBS Element: BP1.R018.01    TIP/Proj No.: BP1.R018.01    County(ies): Northampton    Page 2 of 2

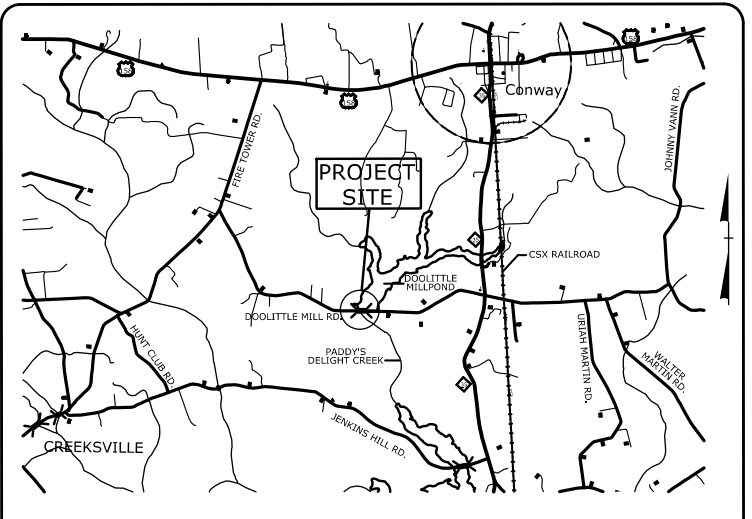
**General Project Information**

**Waterbody Information**

Surface Water Body (1):	Paddys Delight Creek (Doolittle Millpond)		NCDWR Stream Index No.:	25-4-8-3-(1)	
NCDWR Surface Water Classification for Water Body	Primary Classification:		Class B		
	Supplemental Classification:		Nutrient Sensitive Waters (NSW)		
Other Stream Classification:					
Impairments:					
Aquatic T&E Species?	No	Comments:			
NRTR Stream ID:	25-4-8-3-(1)		Buffer Rules in Effect:	N/A	
Project Includes Bridge Spanning Water Body?	Yes	Deck Drains Discharge Over Buffer?	N/A	Dissipator Pads Provided in Buffer?	N/A
Deck Drains Discharge Over Water Body?	No	(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)		(If yes, describe in the General Project Narrative; if no, justify in the General Project Narrative)	
	(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)				
Surface Water Body (2):	Paddys Delight Creek		NCDWR Stream Index No.:	25-4-8-3-(2)	
NCDWR Surface Water Classification for Water Body	Primary Classification:		Class C		
	Supplemental Classification:		Nutrient Sensitive Waters (NSW)		
Other Stream Classification:					
Impairments:					
Aquatic T&E Species?	No	Comments:			
NRTR Stream ID:	25-4-8-3-(2)		Buffer Rules in Effect:	N/A	
Project Includes Bridge Spanning Water Body?	Yes	Deck Drains Discharge Over Buffer?	N/A	Dissipator Pads Provided in Buffer?	N/A
Deck Drains Discharge Over Water Body?	No	(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)		(If yes, describe in the General Project Narrative; if no, justify in the General Project Narrative)	
	(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)				

09/05/99

See Sheet 1A For Index of Sheets  
See Sheet 1B For Conventional Symbols



**VICINITY MAP**  
NOT TO SCALE

FINAL PLANS

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

**NORTHAMPTON**

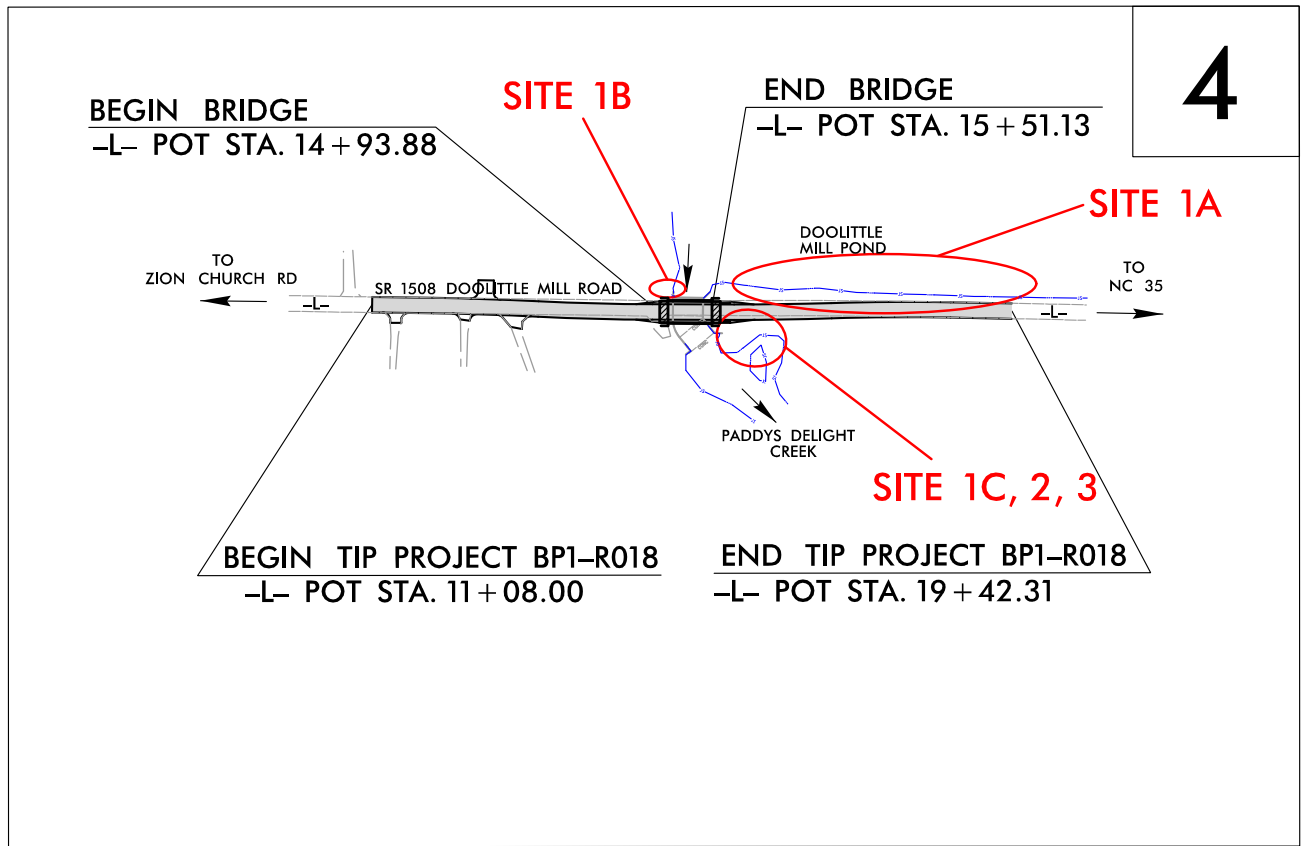
**LOCATION: BRIDGE NO. 650017 OVER PADDYS DELIGHT CREEK  
ON DOOLITTLE MILL ROAD (SR 1508)**

**TYPE OF WORK: GRADING, DRAINAGE, PAVING AND STRUCTURE**

**WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER IMPACTS PERMIT**

STATE	STATE PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
N.C.	<b>BP1-R018</b>	<b>1</b>	
STATE PROJ. NO.	F.A. PROJ. NO.	DESCRIPTION	
BP1.R018.1	STATE FUNDED	PE	
BP1.R018.2	STATE FUNDED	R/W	
BP1.R018.3	STATE FUNDED	CONSTRUCTION	

**PERMIT DRAWING  
SHEET 1 OF 6**

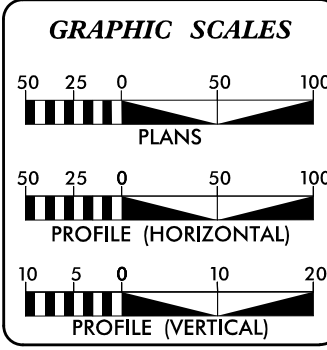


DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL  
UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED

**TIP PROJECT: BP1-R018**

**CONTRACT: DA00680**

2:51:42 PM R:\Hydraulics\PERMITS\_Environmental\Drawings\BP1R018\_HYD\_PRM\_TSH.dgn bbarham



**DESIGN DATA**

AADT 2022 =	500
ADT 2022 =	N/A
K =	N/A %
D =	N/A %
T =	N/A % *
V =	50 MPH
FUNC CLASS = LOCAL	
SUBREGIONAL TIER	
DESIGN GUIDELINES	

**PROJECT LENGTH**

LENGTH ROADWAY TIP PROJECT BP1-R018 =	0.147 MI.
LENGTH STRUCTURE TIP PROJECT BP1-R018 =	0.011 MI.
TOTAL LENGTH OF TIP PROJECT BP1-R018 =	0.158 MI.

Prepared for the North Carolina Department of Transportation  
In the Office of:

940 Main Campus Drive, Suite 500  
Raleigh, NC 27605  
NC License No. C-2105

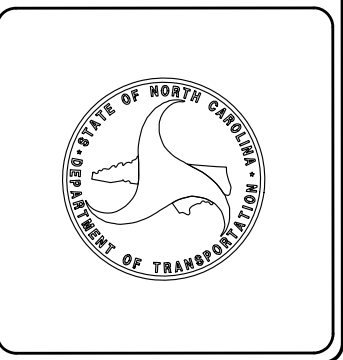
2024 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS	
RIGHT OF WAY DATE:	<b>TIM GOINS, PE</b> PROJECT ENGINEER
<b>AUGUST 28, 2025</b>	
LETTING DATE:	<b>MARK HUSSEY</b> PROJECT DESIGN ENGINEER
<b>APRIL 17, 2026</b>	
NCDOT CONTACT	<b>RYAN L. SHOOK</b> PROJECT ENGINEER-ROADWAY DESIGN

**HYDRAULICS ENGINEER**

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ P.E.

**ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER**

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ P.E.



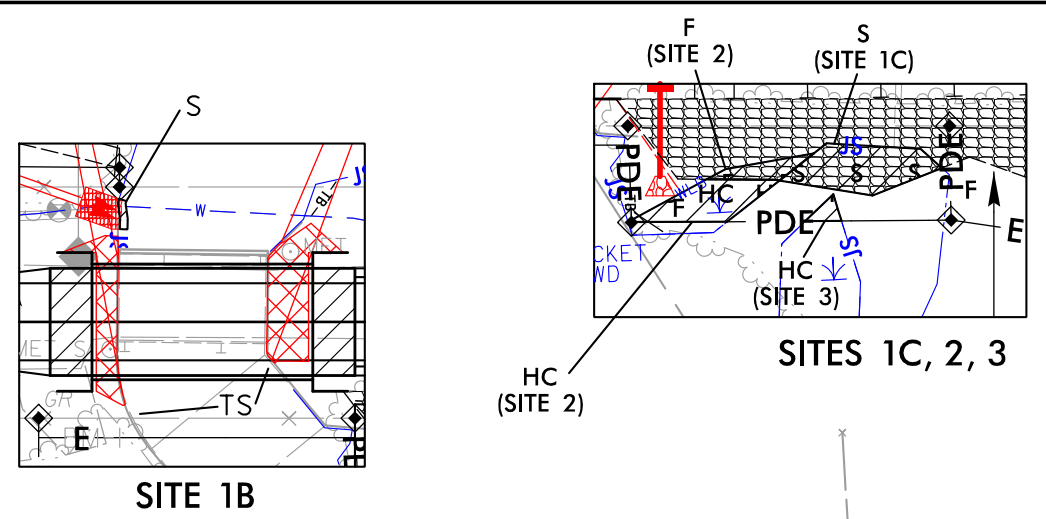
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BPI-R018	04
RW SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
<b>INCOMPLETE PLANS</b> DO NOT USE FOR R/W ACQUISITION	
<b>DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL</b> UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	



**PERMIT DRAWING  
SHEET 2 OF 6**

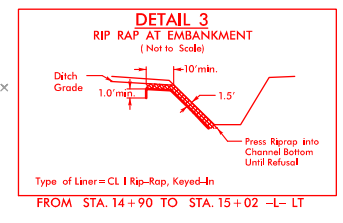
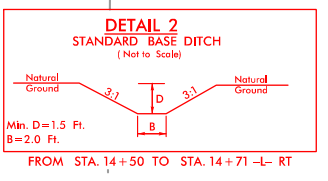
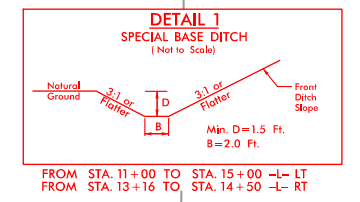
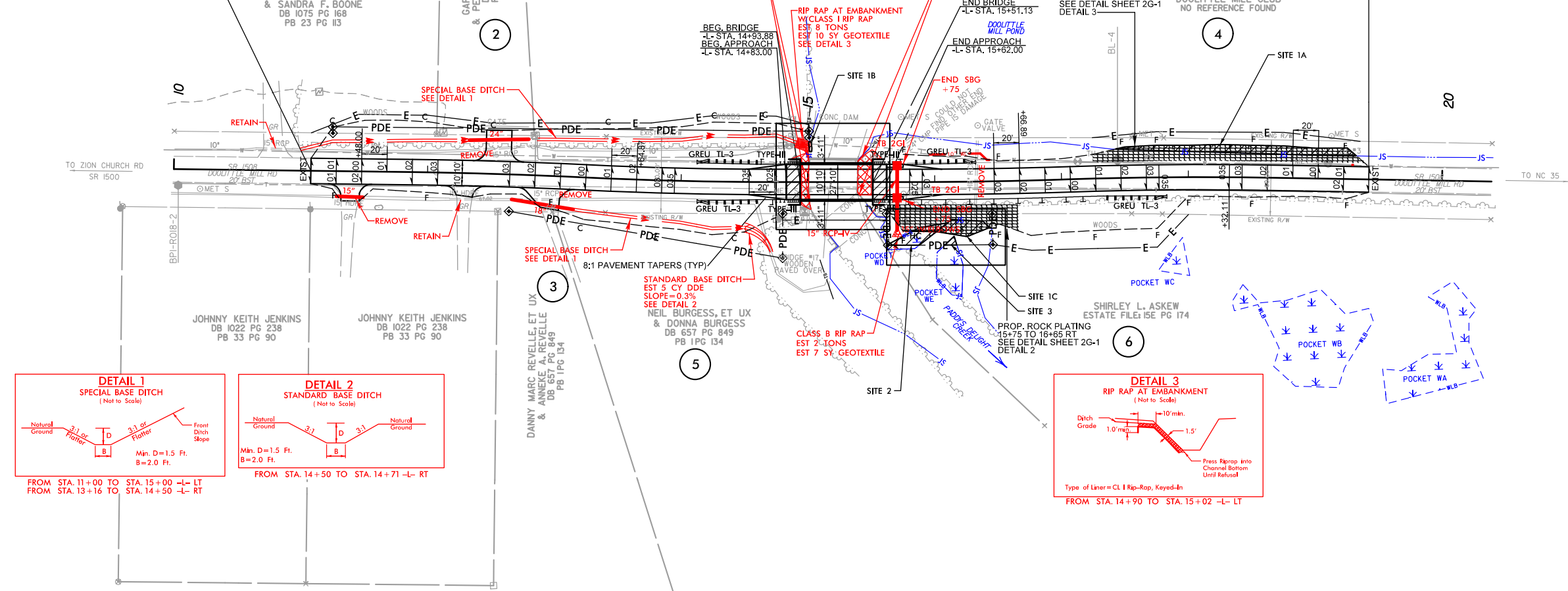
NAD 83/  
NA 2011

- FILL IN WETLAND
- SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
- HAND CLEARING (NON-GRUBBING)
- SURFACE WATER IMPACTS POND

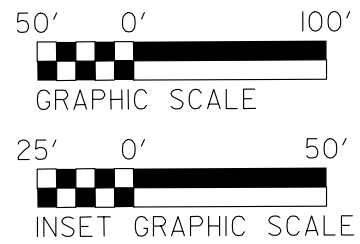


BEGIN TIP PROJECT BPI-R018 -L- STATION 11+08.00

END TIP PROJECT BPI-R018 -L- STATION 19+42.31



REVISIONS



NO DECK DRAINS OVER OPEN WATER

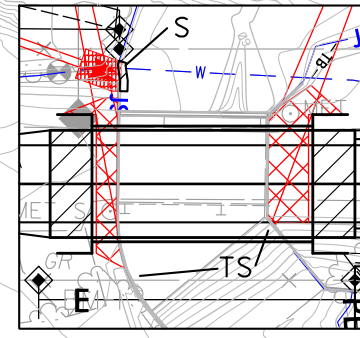
PROJECT REFERENCE NO. BPI-R018	SHEET NO. 04
RW SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
<b>INCOMPLETE PLANS</b> DO NOT USE FOR R/W ACQUISITION	
<b>DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL</b> UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	



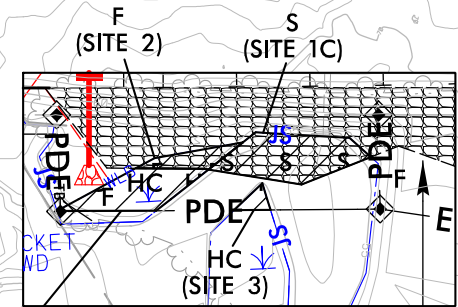
**PERMIT DRAWING  
SHEET 3 OF 6**

- F F FILL IN WETLAND
- S S SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
- HC HC HAND CLEARING (NON-GRUBBING)
- P P SURFACE WATER IMPACTS POND

NAD 83/  
NA 2011



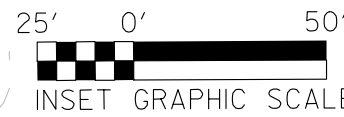
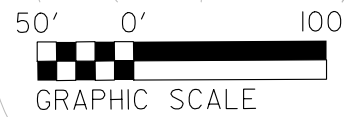
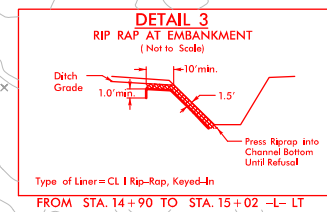
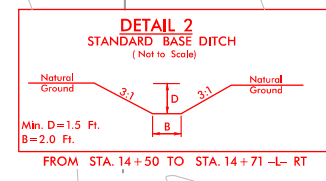
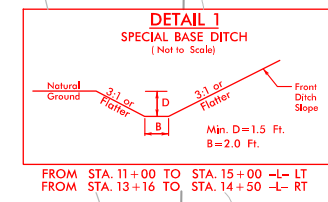
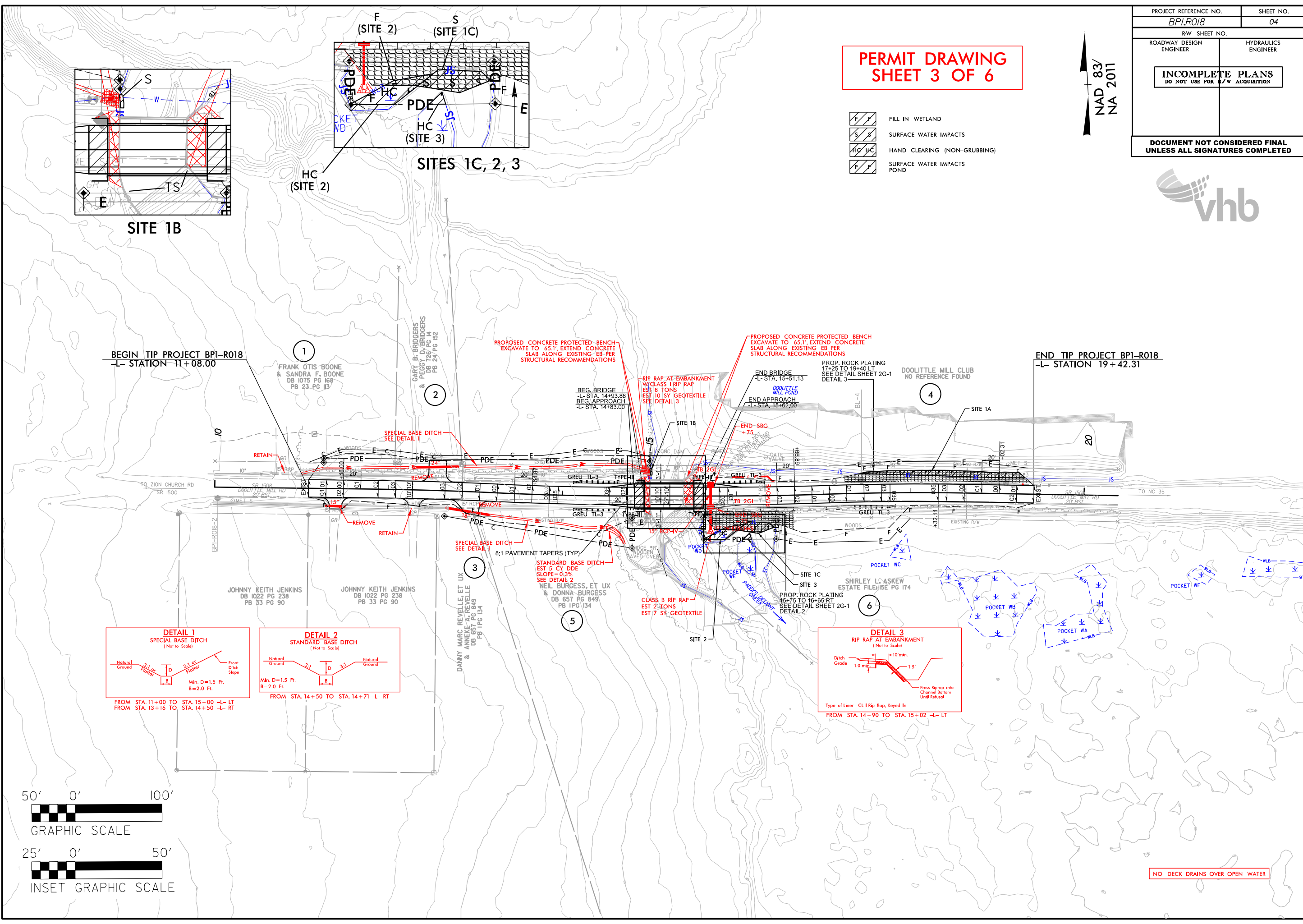
**SITE 1B**



**SITES 1C, 2, 3**

**BEGIN TIP PROJECT BPI-R018**  
-L- STATION 11+08.00

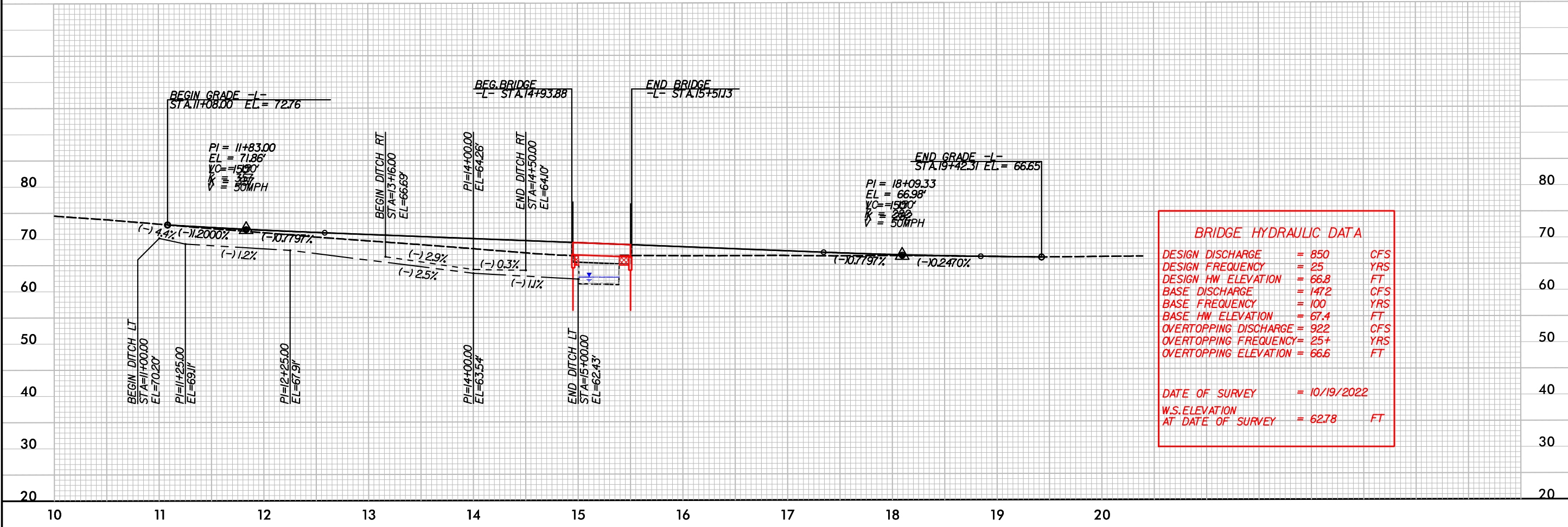
**END TIP PROJECT BPI-R018**  
-L- STATION 19+42.31



REVISIONS

NO DECK DRAINS OVER OPEN WATER

**PERMIT DRAWING  
SHEET 4 OF 6**

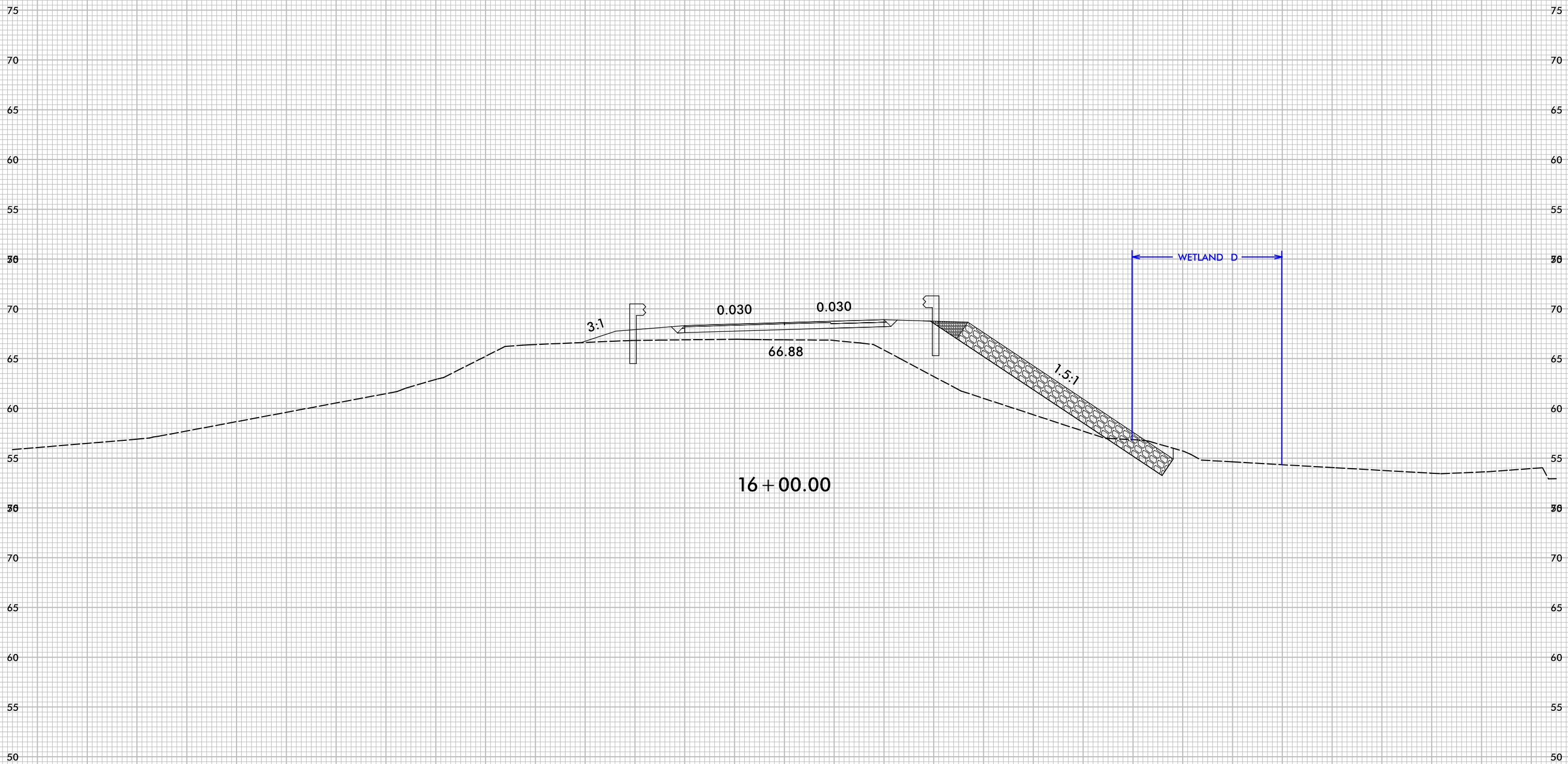


BRIDGE HYDRAULIC DATA		
DESIGN DISCHARGE	= 850	CFS
DESIGN FREQUENCY	= 25	YRS
DESIGN HW ELEVATION	= 66.8	FT
BASE DISCHARGE	= 147.2	CFS
BASE FREQUENCY	= 100	YRS
BASE HW ELEVATION	= 67.4	FT
OVERTOPPING DISCHARGE	= 92.2	CFS
OVERTOPPING FREQUENCY	= 25+	YRS
OVERTOPPING ELEVATION	= 66.6	FT
DATE OF SURVEY	= 10/19/2022	
W.S. ELEVATION AT DATE OF SURVEY	= 62.78	FT

6/23/16

75 70 65 60 55 50 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75

**PERMIT DRAWING  
SHEET 5 OF 6**



16 + 00.00



2:52:17 PM  
G:\Hydro\Projects\PERMITS\_Environmental\Drawings\BP1\_R018\_HYD\_PRM\_XSC.dgn  
bbm

75 70 65 60 55 50 45 40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75

## WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER IMPACTS SUMMARY

Site No.	Station (From/To)	Structure Size / Type	WETLAND IMPACTS					SURFACE WATER IMPACTS					
			Permanent Fill In Wetlands (ac)	Temp. Fill In Wetlands (ac)	Excavation in Wetlands (ac)	Mechanized Clearing in Wetlands (ac)	Hand Clearing in Wetlands (ac)	Permanent SW impacts (ac)	Temp. SW impacts (ac)	Existing Channel Impacts Permanent (ft)	Existing Channel Impacts Temp. (ft)	Natural Stream Design (ft)	
1A	17+43-19+32 -L- LT	Roadway Fill **						0.02					
1B	15+00-15+03 -L- LT	Bank Stabilization						< 0.01		8			
1C	16+01-16+43 -L- RT	18" CSP						< 0.01		22			
2	15+62/16+10 -L- RT	18" CSP	< 0.01					< 0.01					
3	16+08/16+17 -L- RT	18" CSP						< 0.01					
<b>TOTALS*:</b>			< 0.01					< 0.01	0.03		30	0	0

\*Rounded totals are sum of actual impacts

**NOTES:**

\*\* Impacts in Doolittle Millpond (Surface Water Impacts Pond): Linear FT along pond is 192 FT

NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
 2/17/2026  
 NORTHAMPTON COUNTY  
 BP1.R018

SHEET            6            OF            6