

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PAT MCCRORY
GOVERNOR

NICHOLAS J. TENNYSON
SECRETARY

September 3, 2015

Mr. Tom Steffens
Washington Regulatory Office ACOE
2407 West 5th Street
Washington, NC 27899-1000

Re: UT to Howell Branch Mitigation Site, Wayne County, WBS # 34461.1.1, TIP No. R-2554BA, Action ID No. SAW 2008-00252; DWR Project No. 20080570

Mr. Steffens:

As you are aware, the Department has monitored the UT to Howell Branch stream relocation site since its construction in January of 2010. The UT to Howell Branch site is located in Wayne County, adjacent to SR 1571 Tommy's road. This site provides 561 linear feet of stream relocation for impacts associated with the R-2554BA project. The stream relocation was constructed and planted with the appropriate hardwood species. Per the permit requirements, NCDOT was required to monitor the stream mitigation site for physical channel stability and survival of the planted species on an annual basis for five years or until success criteria were met.

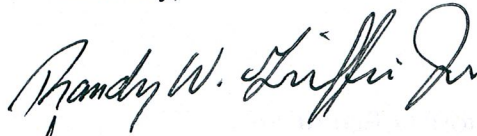
During the monitoring period, annual monitoring reports were submitted to the appropriate regulatory agencies via the PDEA Natural Environment Section (NES) website:

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/Environmental/Pages/Permits-and-Mitigation.aspx>

After five years of vegetation monitoring and physical channel stability monitoring, the UT to Howell Branch stream relocation indicates that the planted vegetation is surviving and all four cross sections remain stable at this time. Individual annual monitoring reports are available on NES's website for 2010-2014.

A site visit was conducted on August 26th, 2015 with the regulatory agencies and NCDOT personnel present. It was determined at that meeting that the site success criteria had been met and that no further monitoring would be required. NCDOT requests that the appropriate resource agencies provide documentation stating that no further monitoring is required and that the site is closed. If you have any questions about this project, please contact Mr. Randy Griffin at (919) 707-6121.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip S. Harris, III".

Philip S. Harris, III, P.E., Section Head
PDEA- Natural Environment Section

cc: Ms. Virginia Baker, NCDWR
Mr. Rob Ridings, NCDWR
Mr. Travis Wilson, NCWRC
Mr. Todd Bowers, USEPA
Mr. Gary Jordan, USFWS
Mr. Monte Matthews, USACOE
Ms. Amy Chapman, NCDWR
Mr. Tyler Crumbley, USACOE
Mr. David Harris, P.E., NCDOT-REU
Mr. Chad Coggins, NCDOT-DEO4
Mr. Randy Griffin, NCDOT-NES