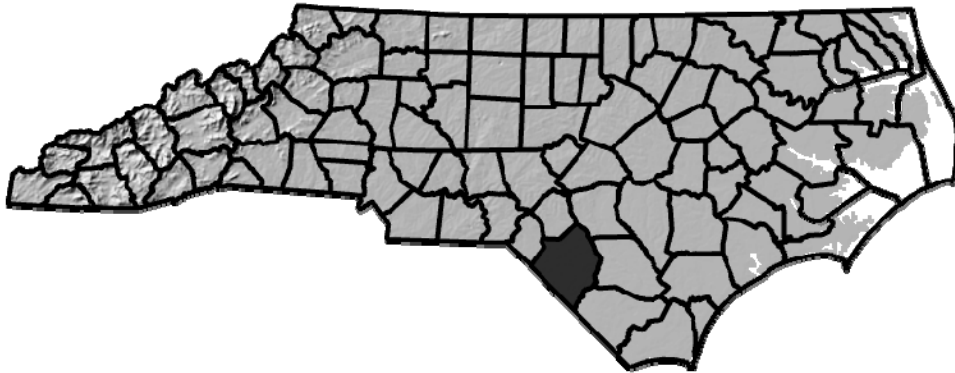
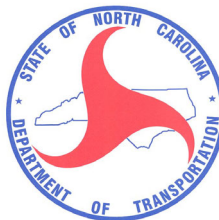


ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2025



R-5751 NOV Wetland Site
Robeson County
TIP No. R-5751
COE Action ID: SAW-2018-00748
DWR Project #: 20220952



Prepared By:
Roadside Environmental Unit and Environmental Analysis Unit
North Carolina Department of Transportation
October 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY	1
1.0 Introduction	2
.1 Project Description	2
.2 Purpose	2
.3 Project History	2
.4 Debit Ledger.....	2
2.0 Vegetation:	4
.1 Success Criteria	4
.2 Description of Species.....	4
.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring	5
.4 Conclusions.	5
3.0 Overall Conclusions and Recommendations	5

FIGURES

Figure 1 – Vicinity Map	3
-------------------------------	---

APPENDICES

Appendix A – Site Photos and Site Map

Appendix B – NOV Correspondence

SUMMARY

The R-5751 NOV Wetland Site is located in Robeson County. The site was inadvertently hand cleared in May 2023. The ACOE and NCDWR issued NOV's in response to the permit violation. A restoration and monitoring plan was submitted to the agencies in response to NOV's being issued. The site was planted in March 2024.

The hand cleared area included 7.88 acres total of blackwater bottomland hardwoods wetland restoration at the R-5751 NOV Wetland Site. The restoration effort included completing wetland reforestation with a mixture of hardwoods planted on 8-foot centers at a density of 680 trees per acre. The area that was restored is being monitored with vegetation plots and photo points for survival of planted seedlings. No hydrologic monitoring is required for this project; however, vegetation monitoring is required for five years.

Due to the decline in tree survival noted during 2024 monitoring (Year 1), NCDOT completed a supplemental planting in February 2025.

There were three vegetation monitoring plots established throughout the 7.88 acre site. After the second year of monitoring, the 2025 vegetation monitoring of the site revealed an average tree density of 617 trees per acre.

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the R-5751 NOV Wetland Site in 2026.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The R-5751 NOV Wetland Site is located at the intersection of US 74 and NC 130/NC 72 in Robeson County. The site consists of approximately 7.88 acres of hand clearing in wetlands associated with TIP project R-5751.

1.2 Purpose

In order for this NOV site to be considered successful, the site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2025 at the R-5751 NOV Wetland Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

1.3 Project History

May 2023	Hand Clearing of Wetland
May 2023	ACOE Issued NOV
June 2023	NCDWR Issued NOV
March 2024	Wetland Reforestation Completed
October 2024	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 1)
February 2025	Supplemental Reforestation Completed
October 2025	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 2)

1.4 Debit Ledger

The restoration of the R-5751 NOV Wetland Site was used entirely to compensate for the notice of violation to permit conditions on the R-5751 project.

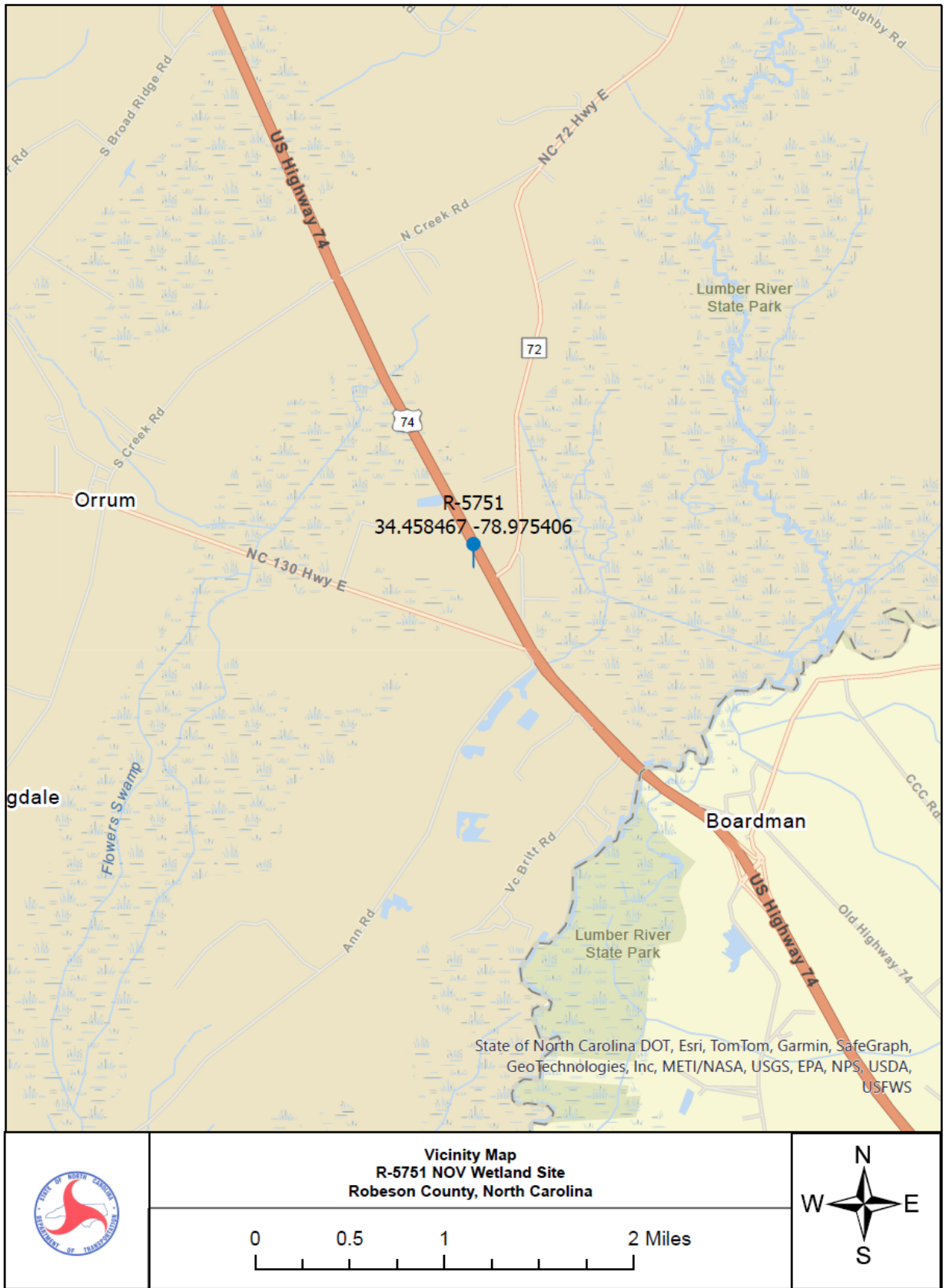


Figure 1. Vicinity Map

2.0 VEGETATION: R-5751 NOV WETLAND SITE (YEAR 2 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

Success for vegetation monitoring within the restoration area is based on the survival of the planted woody vegetation. NCDOT shall monitor the site for a minimum of five years or until the site is deemed successful. Survivability will be based on 320 stems per acre for planted seedlings for the first three years. The required survival criterion will decrease by 10% each year after the third year of vegetation monitoring (i.e. for an expected 290 stems per acre for year 4 and 260 stems per acre for year 5). Hydrologic monitoring is not required for this site.

2.2 Description of Species

The following tree species were planted in the Wetland Restoration area:

Taxodium distichum, Baldcypress

Nyssa sylvatica, Black Gum

Quercus michauxii, Swamp Chestnut Oak

Quercus nigra, Water Oak

Nyssa biflora, Swamp Black Gum

Nyssa aquatica, Water Tupelo

Quercus bicolor, Swamp White Oak

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

Plot #	Baldcypress	Black Gum	Swamp Chestnut Oak	Water Oak	Swamp Black Gum	Water Tupelo	Swamp White Oak	Total (Year 2)	Total (at planting)	Density (Trees/Acre)
1	8	6	3	9	8	3	5	42	42	680
2	8	3		4	4	11	2	32	39	558
3	8	5	6	3	1	9	4	36	40	612
Year 2 Average Density (Trees/Acre)										617
Year 1 Average Density (Trees/Acre)										400

Site Notes: Other species noted onsite included sweetgum, bay, wax myrtle, pine, holly, red maple, and various grasses.

2.4 Conclusions

There were 3 vegetation monitoring plots established throughout the 7.88-acre site. The 2025 vegetation monitoring of the site revealed an average density of 617 trees per acre for the second year of monitoring.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2025 year represents the second year of monitoring activities that have occurred at the R-5751 NOV Wetland Site. The site must demonstrate vegetation success for a minimum of five years or until the site is deemed successful.

There were three vegetation monitoring plots established throughout the 7.88-acre site. The 2025 vegetation monitoring of the site revealed an average density of 617 trees per acre.

NCDOT will continue vegetation monitoring at the R-5751 NOV Wetland Site in 2026.

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS and SITE MAP

R-5751 NOV WETLAND SITE



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



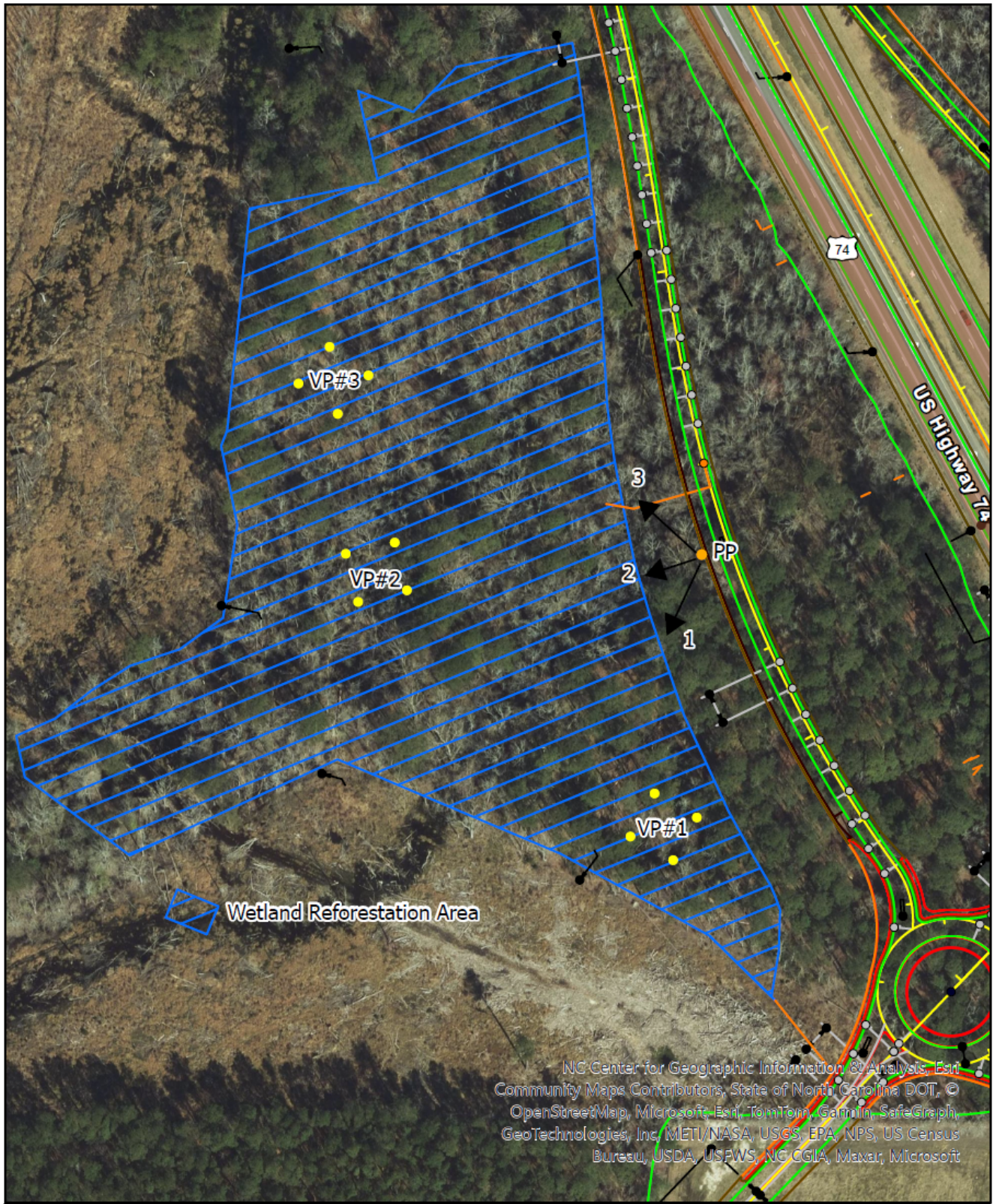
Vegetation Plot 1



Vegetation Plot 2
October 2025



Vegetation Plot 3



NC Center for Geographic Information & Analysis, Esri
 Community Maps Contributors, State of North Carolina DOT, ©
 OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph,
 GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census
 Bureau, USDA, USFWS, NC CGIA, Maxar, Microsoft



Site Map - Photo Point and Vegetation Plot Locations
R-5751 NOV Wetland Site
Robeson County, North Carolina

0 145 290 580 Feet



APPENDIX B
NOV CORRESPONDENCE



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

June 16, 2023

Monte Matthews, Chief
WRDA/Transportation Branch
Wilmington District Commander
Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers
69 Darlington Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403-1343

SUBJECT: Action ID No. SAW-2018-00748 NOV Response Letter
Individual Permit issued on October 26, 2022
STIP R-5751, US 74 & NC 130/NC 72 Intersection Improvements
Robeson County

Dear Mr. Matthews:

This letter is in response to the Subject NOV issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in letter dated May 19, 2023. It was determined that the additional hand-clearing of 7.88 acres to wetlands violated Special Condition No. 1 of the Individual Permit issued by the USACE on October 26, 2022). In an effort to resolve the non-compliance aspect of the permit, NCDOT proposes a complete restoration plan for the site (See attached Reforestation Plan).

As requested by NCDWR in the NOV letter dated June 2, 2023, NCDOT will submit a restoration plan with a 5-year monitoring period (see Reforestation Plan attached). In preparation of developing the restoration (reforestation) plan, NCDOT Division 6 staff performed a site visit on May 23, 2023, to determine what type of natural community was impacted. It was determined that the natural community impacted best matches the **Blackwater Bottomland Hardwoods (High Subtype)** community as described in the *Guide to the Natural Communities of North Carolina Fourth Approximation* (Schafale, 2012). A memorandum of this finding was prepared on May 24, 2023, and is attached to this response letter. Afterwards, collaboration took place with the NCDOT Environmental Analysis Unit – Monitoring and Stewardship Group for the preparation of the Reforestation Plan (see attached). NCDOT, instead of the Contractor, will be performing the planting and 5-year monitoring due to NCDOT's well-established relationships with NCDWR and USACE on past restoration projects.

To avoid violations such as this in the future, the NCDOT has enacted the following procedures:

- The lead inspector on the project at the date of the over clearing has been removed from the project.
- Standdown meeting was held with the Contractor to go over the events of the over clearing.

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION 6 ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE
558 GILLESPIE STREET
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28302

Telephone: (910) 364-0683
Fax: (910) 486-1959
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
431 TRANSPORTATION DRIVE
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28302

- All staking will be required to be in accordance with the Manual for Construction Stakeout.
- All staking in permit areas will require 100% survey verification by the Department, to include inspectors walking the limits with the survey party to understand the limits of the clearing. This is to be conducted prior to the resumption of operations.
- The Contractor will have a dedicated superintendent on site, per Article 105-6, to oversee all subcontractor operations.
- NCDOT Division 6 Environmental Group staff will make more frequent site visits to ensure compliance.

Thank you for your time, assistance, and consideration on this project. If you have any questions or need anymore information regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact me at gwprice2@ncdot.gov or 910-364-0683.

Sincerely,



Gregory W. Price, PWS
NCDOT Division 6 Environmental Program Supervisor

Electronic copies furnished:

Eric Alsmeyer, USACE
Amy Chapman, NCDWR
Hannah Sprinkle, NCDWR
James Rerko, PWS, NCDOT



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

June 16, 2023

Amy Chapman, Supervisor
Transportation Permitting Branch
NCDEQ, Division of Water Resources
1617 MSC
Raleigh, NC 27699-1617

SUBJECT: NOV – 2023-WP-0003 Response Letter
NCDWR Project No. 20220952; WQC 001546
TIP R-5751 US 74 & NC 130/NC 72 Intersection Improvements
Robeson County

Dear Ms. Chapman:

This letter is in response to the Subject NOV issued by NCDWR in letter dated June 2, 2023. It was determined that the additional hand-clearing of 7.88 acres to wetlands violated Condition No. 6 of the Individual Water Quality Certification (WQC 001546 issued by NCDWR on September 9, 2022). The NCDWR requested that this response include the following: 1) what led to the observed wetland violations and 2) list any actions necessary to remediate the violation and prevent it from happening again, which are described below.

Events Leading to the Observed Wetland Violation

On the morning of May 17, 2023, at approximately 8:30am, C.M. Lindsay Jr. (Co-owner C.M. Lindsay and Son's, the Prime Contractor) called Michael Parker, Resident Engineer and advised that he thought the clearing had gone past the Method III Limits on the right side of Ramp C.

Mr. Parker advised Mr. Lindsay to immediately suspend all clearing on the project until the Department could verify and investigate the issue. Mr. Parker immediately went to the project. Enroute to the project, Mr. Parker called Mr. Jim Rerko and reported the situation.

Upon arriving at the project, Mr. Parker observed an extensive amount of clearing that appeared to be outside the approved clearing limits. Mr. Parker utilized a GPS system to map and determine the area outside of the approved clearing limits.

During the process of the mapping, Mr. Parker called Mr. Rerko and advised him that preliminary information reveals that more than 400' had been cleared and not grubbed. However, the exact limits would be determined once the area was mapped. Mr. Parker advised Mr. Rerko that considering the severity of the violation, all work on the project was immediately suspended on the project until Mr. Rerko had time to determine a path forward with the Agencies.

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION 6 ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE
558 GILLESPIE STREET
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28302

Telephone: (910) 364-0683
Fax: (901) 486-1959
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
431 TRANSPORTATION DRIVE
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28302

Mr. Parker suspended all work on the project, by letter dated May 17, 2023, until a path forward could be determined.

The following were contributing factors to the violation:

- The clearing subcontractor assumed all clearing was to be made to the existing right of way fence along Ramp C.
- There was confusion about what flagging in the field meant.
- Inspection staff were also not actively engaged in inspection.
- A dedicated site superintendent was not on site at the time of the incident.

Necessary Actions to Remediate the Violation and Prevent Further Violations

As requested by NCDWR in the NOV letter dated June 2, 2023, NCDOT will submit a restoration plan with a 5-year monitoring period (see Reforestation Plan attached). In preparation of developing the restoration (reforestation) plan, NCDOT Division 6 staff performed a site visit on May 23, 2023, to determine what type of natural community was impacted. It was determined that the natural community impacted best matches the **Blackwater Bottomland Hardwoods (High Subtype)** community as described in the *Guide to the Natural Communities of North Carolina Fourth Approximation* (Schafale, 2012). A memorandum of this finding was prepared on May 24, 2023, and is attached to this response letter. Afterwards, collaboration took place with the NCDOT Environmental Analysis Unit – Monitoring and Stewardship Group for the preparation of the Reforestation Plan (see attached). NCDOT, instead of the Contractor, will be performing the planting and 5-year monitoring due to NCDOT's well-established relationships with NCDWR and USACE on past restoration projects.

To avoid violations such as this in the future, the NCDOT has enacted the following procedures:

- The lead inspector on the project at the date of the over clearing has been removed from the project.
- Standdown meeting was held with the Contractor to go over the events of the over clearing.
- All staking will be required to be in accordance with the Manual for Construction Stakeout.
- All staking in permit areas will require 100% survey verification by the Department, to include inspectors walking the limits with the survey party to understand the limits of the clearing. This is to be conducted prior to the resumption of operations.
- The Contractor will have a dedicated superintendent on site, per Article 105-6, to oversee all subcontractor operations.
- NCDOT Division 6 Environmental Group staff will make more frequent site visits to ensure compliance.

Thank you for your time, assistance, and consideration on this project. If you have any questions or need anymore information regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact me at gwprice2@ncdot.gov or 910-364-0683.

Sincerely,



Gregory W. Price, PWS
NCDOT Division 6 Environmental Program Supervisor

R-5751 WETLAND REFORESTATION:

Description

Wetland Reforestation will be planted in areas designated on the plans and as directed. See the Wetland Reforestation Detail Sheet.

The entire *Wetland Reforestation* operation shall comply with the requirements of Section 1670 of the *Standard Specifications*.

Materials

Wetland Reforestation shall be bare root seedlings 12"-18" tall.

Construction Methods

Wetland Reforestation shall be planted as soon as practical following permanent seeding and mulching. The seedlings shall be planted in a minimum of two rows of trees between the slope stake line and the clearing limits.

Root dip: the roots of reforestation seedlings shall be coated with a slurry of water, and either a fine clay ("kaolin") or a superabsorbent that is made to be used as a bare root dip. The type, mixture ratio, method of application, and the time of application shall be submitted to the Engineer for approval.

With the approval of the Engineer, seedlings may be coated before delivery to the job or at the time of planting, but at no time shall the roots of the seedlings be allowed to dry out. The roots shall be moistened immediately prior to planting.

Seasonal limitations: *Wetland Reforestation* shall be planted from November 15 through March 15.

Measurement and Payment

Wetland Reforestation will be measured and paid for in accordance with Article 1670-17 of the *Standard Specifications*.

Five Year Vegetation Plot Monitoring Criteria

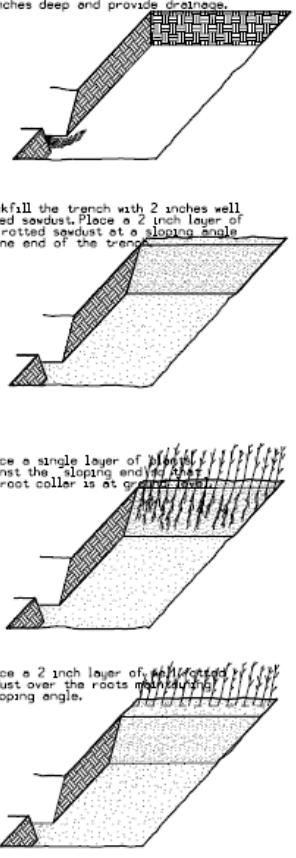
Success for vegetation monitoring within the restoration area is based on the survival of the planted woody vegetation. NCDOT shall monitor the site for a minimum of five years or until the site is deemed successful. Survivability will be based on 320 stems per acre for planted seedlings for the first three years. The required survival criterion will decrease by 10% each year after the third year of vegetation monitoring (i.e. for an expected 290 stems per acre for year 4 and 260 stems per acre for year 5). Hydrologic monitoring is not required for this site.

PLANTING DETAILS

SEEDLING / LINER BAREROOT PLANTING DETAIL

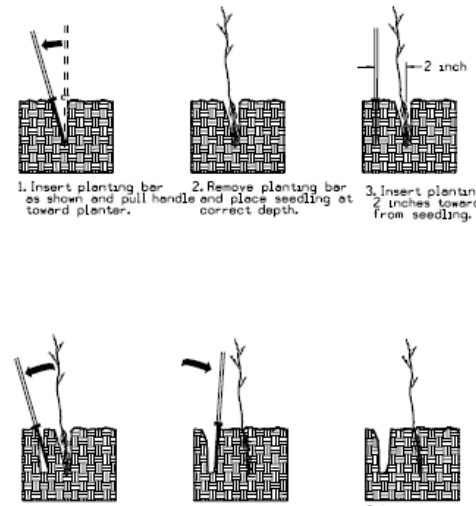
HEALING IN

1. Locate a healing-in site in a shady, well protected area.
2. Excavate a flat bottom trench 12 inches deep and provide drainage.
3. Backfill the trench with 2 inches well rotted sawdust. Place a 2 inch layer of well rotted sawdust at a sloping angle at one end of the trench.
4. Place a single layer of plastic against the sloping end of the trench where the root collar is at or near the surface.
5. Place a 2 inch layer of well rotted sawdust over the roots maintaining a sloping angle.
6. Repeat layers of plants and sawdust as necessary and water thoroughly.




DIBBLE PLANTING METHOD USING THE KBC PLANTING BAR

1. Insert planting bar as shown and pull handle and place seedling at correct depth.
2. Remove planting bar and place seedling at correct depth.
3. Insert planting bar 2 inches toward planter from seedling.
4. Pull handle of bar toward planter, firming soil at bottom.
5. Push handle forward firming soil at top.
6. Leave compactor hole open. Water thoroughly.




PLANTING NOTES:

PLANTING BAG
During planting, seedlings shall be kept in a moist canvas bag or similar container to prevent the root systems from drying.



KBC PLANTING BAR
Planting bar shall have a blade with a triangular cross section and shall be 12 inches long, 4 inches wide and 1 inch thick at center.



ROOT PRUNING
All seedlings shall be root pruned, if necessary, so that no roots extend more than 10 inches below the root collar.

WETLAND REFORESTATION

WETLAND REFORESTATION SHALL BE PLANTED 6 FT. TO 10 FT. ON CENTER, RANDOM SPACING, AVERAGING 8 FT. ON CENTER, APPROXIMATELY 680 PLANTS PER ACRE.

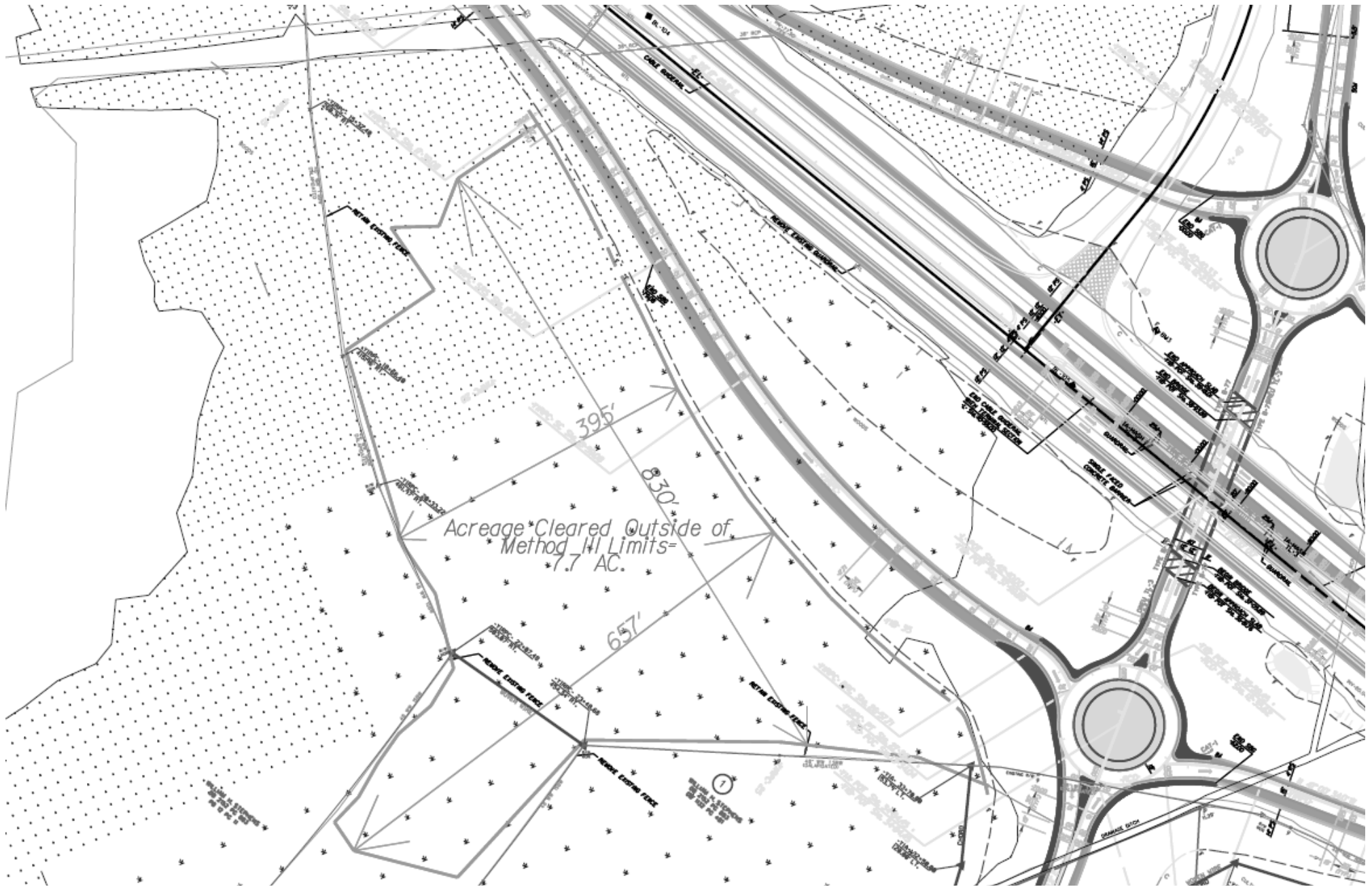
WETLAND REFORESTATION

MIXTURE, TYPE, SIZE, AND FURNISH SHALL CONFORM TO THE FOLLOWING:

20% NYSSA SYLVATICA	BLACK GUM	12 in - 18 in BR
20% QUERCUS MICHAXHII	SWAMP CHESTNUT OAK	12 in - 18 in BR
20% QUERCUS NIGRA	WATER OAK	12 in - 18 in BR
20% QUERCUS LAURIFOLIA	LAUREL OAK	12 in - 18 in BR
20% TAXODIUM DISTICHUM	BALD CYPRESS	12 in - 18 in BR

SEE PLAN SHEETS FOR AREAS TO BE PLANTED

WETLAND REFORESTATION DETAIL SHEET



Acreage Cleared Outside of
Method 41 Limits =
7.7 AC.

395'

830'

657'

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT

CULVERT

METHOD 41 LIMITS

CROWN

DRAINAGE DITCH

CONCRETE PAVEMENT



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

May 24, 2023

MEMORANDUM TO: James J. Rerko, PWS
Division 6 PDEA Engineer

FROM: Gregory W. Price, PWS
Division 6 Environmental Program Supervisor

SUBJECT: R-5751 Notice of Violation Natural Resources Memorandum
US 74 & NC 130/NC 72 Intersection Improvements,
Robeson County

The following memorandum addresses the natural community impacted from the unauthorized clearing of 7.88 acres of riparian wetlands performed on the R-5751 project specifically at Ramp C during the week of May 15, 2023. A notice of violation (NOV) by the United States Army Corps of Engineers was received on May 19, 2023. A NOV by the NC Division of Water Resources is forthcoming.

NCDOT Division 6 staff, Greg Price, Chris Underwood, and Chris McGinness performed a site visit on May 23, 2023, to determine the type of natural community impacted from the unauthorized clearing. The canopy, sapling/understory, herbaceous, and vine species were recorded by traversing the impacted as well as unimpacted contiguous areas of the same plant community. The plant community impacted best matches the **Blackwater Bottomland Hardwoods (High Subtype)** community described in the *Guide to the Natural Communities of North Carolina Fourth Approximation* (Schafale, 2012). This is also confirmed by the Natural Resources Technical Report completed in December 2018. Species found are tabulated below. Dominant species are denoted with an *. Species from this list will help determine which species will be included in the restoration plan that must be submitted within 30 days of the NOV.

Canopy Species

*Swamp chestnut oak – *Quercus michauxii*
*Laurel oak – *Quercus laurifolia*
*Loblolly pine – *Pinus taeda*
*Sweetgum – *Liquidambar styraciflua*
Red maple – *Acer rubrum*
Bald cypress – *Taxodium distichum*
Water oak – *Quercus nigra*

Understory/Shrub Species

*Red bay – *Persea palustris*
*Sweet bay – *Magnolia virginiana*
Wax myrtle – *Morella cerifera*
American holly – *Ilex opaca*
Black gum – *Nyssa sylvatica*
Elliot's blueberry – *Vaccinium elliotii*
Coastal sweet pepperbush – *Clethra alnifolia*

Herbaceous Species

Switchcane – *Arundinaria tecta*
Virginia chainfern – *Woodwardia virginica*
Royal fern – *Osmunda regalis*

Vine Species

Green briar – *Smilax* spp.
Poison ivy – *Toxicodendron radicans*

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION 6 ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE
558 GILLESPIE STREET
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28302

Telephone: (910) 364-0683
Fax: (910) 486-1959
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
431 TRANSPORTATION DRIVE
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28302

From: Matthews, Monte K CIV USARMY CESAW (USA) <Monte.K.Matthews@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 12:53 PM
To: Price, Gregory W <gwprice2@ncdot.gov>; Alsmeyer, Eric C CIV USARMY CESAW (USA) <Eric.C.Alsmeyer@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Chapman, Amy <amy.chapman@deq.nc.gov>; Sprinkle, Hannah H <hannah.sprinkle@deq.nc.gov>; Rerko, James J <jjrerko@ncdot.gov>; Underwood, Chris <csunderwood@ncdot.gov>; McGinness, Christopher H <chmcginness@ncdot.gov>
Subject: [External] RE: R-5751 NOV Response Letter to USACE
CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Greg: Thank you for your June 16, 2023, letter and wetland restoration plan submitted in response to the Corps' May 19, 2023 non-compliance notification for project R-5751 in Robeson County, NC. Included in your June 16th submittal was the *R-5751 Notice of Violation Natural Resources Memorandum* dated May 24, 2023. I have attached a copy of your letter, plan, and Memorandum for convenience.

We have reviewed your response and restoration plan, and have determined that the proper implementation of the restoration plan will satisfy the noncompliance issue for this permit action. Please keep us informed on the progress of the plan implementation and provide us with copies of the required monitoring reports.

Thank you again for your initiative, cooperation, and efforts to bring this noncompliance to a successful conclusion.

Monte
Monte Matthews
Chief, WRDA / NCDOT BRANCH
US Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District
3331 Heritage Trade Drive, Suite 105, Wake Forest, NC 27587

From: Sprinkle, Hannah H <hannah.sprinkle@deq.nc.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 8:55 AM
To: Price, Gregory W <gwprice2@ncdot.gov>
Cc: Monte Matthews (Monte.K.Matthews@usace.army.mil) (Monte.K.Matthews@usace.army.mil) <Monte.K.Matthews@usace.army.mil>; Chapman, Amy <amy.chapman@deq.nc.gov>; Alsmeyer, Eric C CIV USARMY CESAW (USA) <Eric.C.Alsmeier@usace.army.mil>; Rerko, James J <jjrerko@ncdot.gov>; Underwood, Chris <csunderwood@ncdot.gov>; McGinness, Christopher H <chmcginness@ncdot.gov>
Subject: RE: R-5751 NOV Response Letter to NCDWR

Greg,

Thank you for your response to the NOV issued by NCDWR on June 2, 2023. The letter adequately addressed the events which lead to the excess hand-clearing of 7.88 acres of wetland at the improvements to US 74/NC 72 and US 74/NC 130, TIP R-5751, in Robeson County. We have determined that the response and the proposed restoration plan will satisfy the non-compliance requirements for this permit action. Please keep us up to date on any developments, issues/concerns with the site's progression.

We look forward to the continued cooperation and coordination with NCDOT.

Thank you,

Hannah

Hannah Sprinkle

Environmental Specialist II
401 and Buffer Transportation Permitting Branch
Department of Environmental Quality

(910) 308-4021 (mobile)

910) 796-7379 (office)

hannah.sprinkle@deq.nc.gov ***please note my email address has changed ***