

Surf City Bridge Temporary Impact Site Pender County TIP No. B-4929 CAMA Permit No. 60-16



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#### SUMMARY

The Surf City Bridge Temporary Impact Site is located in Pender County. This is an annual report for temporary impacts associated with the bridge replacement of Bridge No. 16 on NC 50-210 over the Intracoastal Waterway. The project was accepted as complete on October 4, 2019.

The temporary impacts encompass approximately 0.03 acres for roadway/bridge and 0.10 acres for utility temporary impacts from temporary fill and hand clearing in CAMA wetlands. The area that was impacted is being monitored to ensure that it re-attains jurisdictional wetland status. The areas to the North of the Intracoastal Waterway where the temporary work bridge pilings were removed and the temporary utility impact areas adjacent to NC 50-210 were planted in June 2018. The temporary work bridge pilings to the South of the Intracoastal waterway and the temporary impact area from the NCDOT Geotechnical Unit's boring machine adjacent to the Surf City Park were planted in April 2021. All other temporary impact areas were left to re-vegetate naturally. Hydrologic monitoring is not required for this site; however, vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

In April 2022, NCDOT and Regulatory Agencies held an onsite meeting to review temporary wetland impact sites. The Regulatory Agencies agreed to discontinue monitoring all sites, except for Site 4 (temp. work bridge impact area – beach side) at Photo Point #2.

After the fifth year of monitoring, the Surf City Bridge Temporary Impact Site shows by visual observation that the temporarily impacted areas are re-attaining jurisdictional wetland status but the temporary work bridge area at Site 4 has not fully revegetated at this time. Some revegetation has occurred through supplemental plantings and natural revegetation since 2022.

Div. 3 staff and Regulatory Agencies reviewed Site 4 in April 2023 and CAMA reviewed the site again in September 2023. CAMA suggested NCDOT proceed with additional planting of this area at Site 4.

NCDOT proposes to complete additional marsh grass planting and to continue vegetation monitoring at the Surf City Bridge Temporary Impact Site 4 in 2024.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 **Project Description**

The Surf City Bridge Temporary Impact Site is located in Pender County at Bridge No. 16 on NC 50-210 over the Intracoastal Waterway (Figure 1). The temporary impacts encompass approximately 0.03 acres for roadway/bridge and 0.10 acres for temporary utility impacts from temporary fill and hand clearing in CAMA wetlands. The area that was impacted is being monitored to ensure that it re-attains jurisdictional wetland status. Hydrologic monitoring is not required for this site; however, vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

#### 1.2 Purpose

In order for a temporary impact site to be considered successful, a site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2023 at the Surf City Bridge Temporary Impact Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

#### 1.3 Project History

June 2018	Marsh Grass Planting
September 2019	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 1)
October 2019	Project Acceptance Date
August 2020	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 2)
April 2021	Marsh Grass Planting
August 2021	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 3)
April 2022	Onsite Regulatory Agency Meeting
May 2022	Supplemental Marsh Grass Planting @ Site 4
September 2022	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 4)
March 2023	Div. 3 and Regulatory Agency Onsite Review
August 2023	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 5)
September 2023	CAMA Onsite Review

#### 1.4 Debit Ledger

The restoration of the Surf City Bridge temporary impact site was used entirely to compensate for temporary impacts on the B-4929 project. There were no wetland mitigation credits generated from the restoration of the impacted area.

# 2.0 VEGETATION: SURF CITY BRIDGE TEMPORARY IMPACT SITE (YEAR 5 MONITORING)

#### 2.1 Success Criteria

#### CAMA Condition #25

Due to the possibility that shading, compaction, hand clearing, mechanized clearing, excavation, and/or other site alterations might prevent the temporary Coastal Wetland impacts from re-attaining pre-project wetland functions, the permittee shall provide an annual update on the Coastal Wetland areas temporarily impacted by this project. This annual update shall consist of photographs and a brief written report on the progress of these temporarily impacted areas in re-attaining their pre-project functions. The permittee shall schedule a meeting with DCM to verify the extent and location of the temporary impacts upon project completion. Within three years after project completion, the permittee shall hold another agency field meeting with DCM to determine if the Coastal Wetland areas temporarily impacted by this project have re-attained pre-project wetland functions, DCM will determine whether compensatory mitigation shall be required for these impacts.

#### 2.2 Description of Species

The following wetland species were planted in the temporary impact areas to the North of the Intracoastal Waterway:

Juncus roemerianus, Black Needle Rush

Spartina alterniflora, Smooth Cordgrass

#### 2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

The area where the temporary impacts occurred is re-attaining jurisdictional wetland status. Site 4 (temporary work bridge area – beach side) shows that some of the supplemental plantings survived and some natural revegetation has occurred, but the area has not fully revegetated at this time.

#### 2.4 Conclusions

There were approximately 0.03 acres for roadway/bridge and 0.10 acres for temporary utility impacts from temporary fill and hand clearing in CAMA wetlands. There were no plots established on the site. By visual observation, the Surf City Bridge Temporary Impact Site 4 shows that some of the supplemental plantings survived and some natural revegetation has occurred, but the area has not fully revegetated at this time.

#### 3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to complete additional marsh grass planting and to continue vegetation monitoring at the Surf City Bridge Temporary Impact Site 4 in 2024.



Figure 1. Vicinity Map

## **APPENDIX A**

# SITE PHOTOS, PERMIT DRAWINGS, & PHOTO POINT LOCATIONS

# Surf City Bridge Temporary Impact Site



PP#2 Site 4 (temporary work bridge)



Site 4 (temporary work bridge) additional photo



Site 4 (temporary work bridge) additional photo

August 2023









