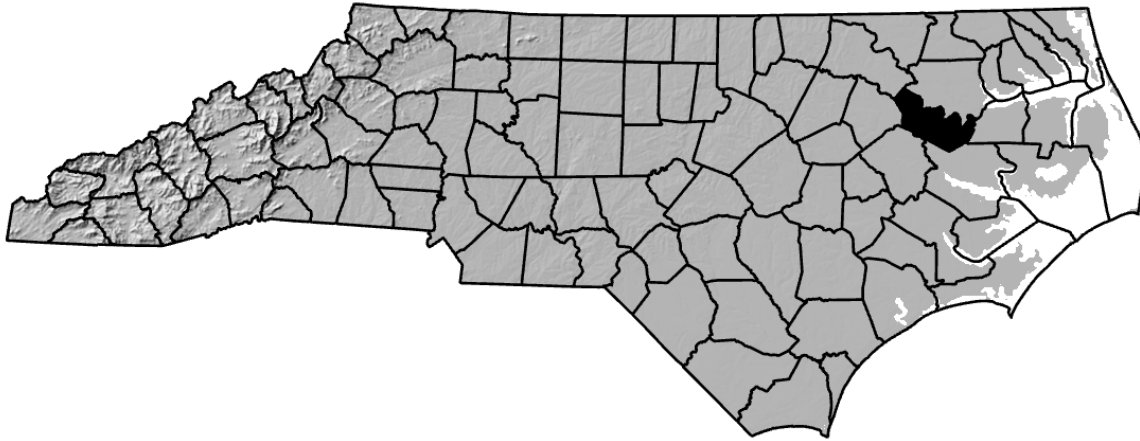


ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023



Collie Swamp Mitigation Site
Martin County
TIP #: B-5503
COE Action ID: SAW-2018-01371
NCDWR Project #: 20180865



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North Carolina Department of Transportation
September 2023

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SUMMARY

The Collie Swamp Mitigation Site is located on NC 125 (Prison Camp Road, SR 1142) in Martin County. The site was planted in December 2020 (Sites 2 and 4) and May 2021 (new area near Site 3 and Sites 2 and 4 supplemental planting). This site was designed as mitigation for wetland impacts associated with TIP No. B-5503 Bridge No. 53 over the Collie Swamp on NC 125.

NCDOT will perform on-site mitigation with the restoration of 0.46 acres of wetland restoration. The restoration was completed via the removal of the old approach fill and roadway associated with Bridge No. 53 replacement and the NC 125 re-alignment to match the adjacent wetland elevation. The wetland restoration was seeded with a wetland seed mix and planted with the appropriate wetland tree species. NCDOT is required to monitor the site for a minimum of three years or until the site is deemed successful.

After the third year of monitoring by visual observation, the Collie Swamp Mitigation Site shows that the planted species are surviving. A supplemental planting took place in March 2023 with Baldcypress and Swamp Blackgum.

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the Collie Swamp Mitigation Site in 2024.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Collie Swamp Mitigation Site is located at Bridge No. 53 over the Collie Swamp on NC 125 (Prison Camp Road, SR 1142. See Figure 1). The site consists of approximately 0.46 acres of wetland restoration for wetland impacts associated with TIP No. B-5503.

1.2 Purpose

In order for a mitigation site to be considered successful, the site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2023 at the Collie Swamp Mitigation Site.

1.3 Project History

December 2020	Wetland Reforestation (Sites 2 and 4)
May 2021	Wetland Reforestation (Site 3 and Sites 2 & 4 Supp.)
August 2021	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 1)
June 2022	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 2)
March 2023	Supplemental Planting
September 2023	Vegetation Monitoring (Year 3)

1.4 Debit Ledger

The entire Collie Swamp Mitigation Site was used for the B-5503 project to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts.

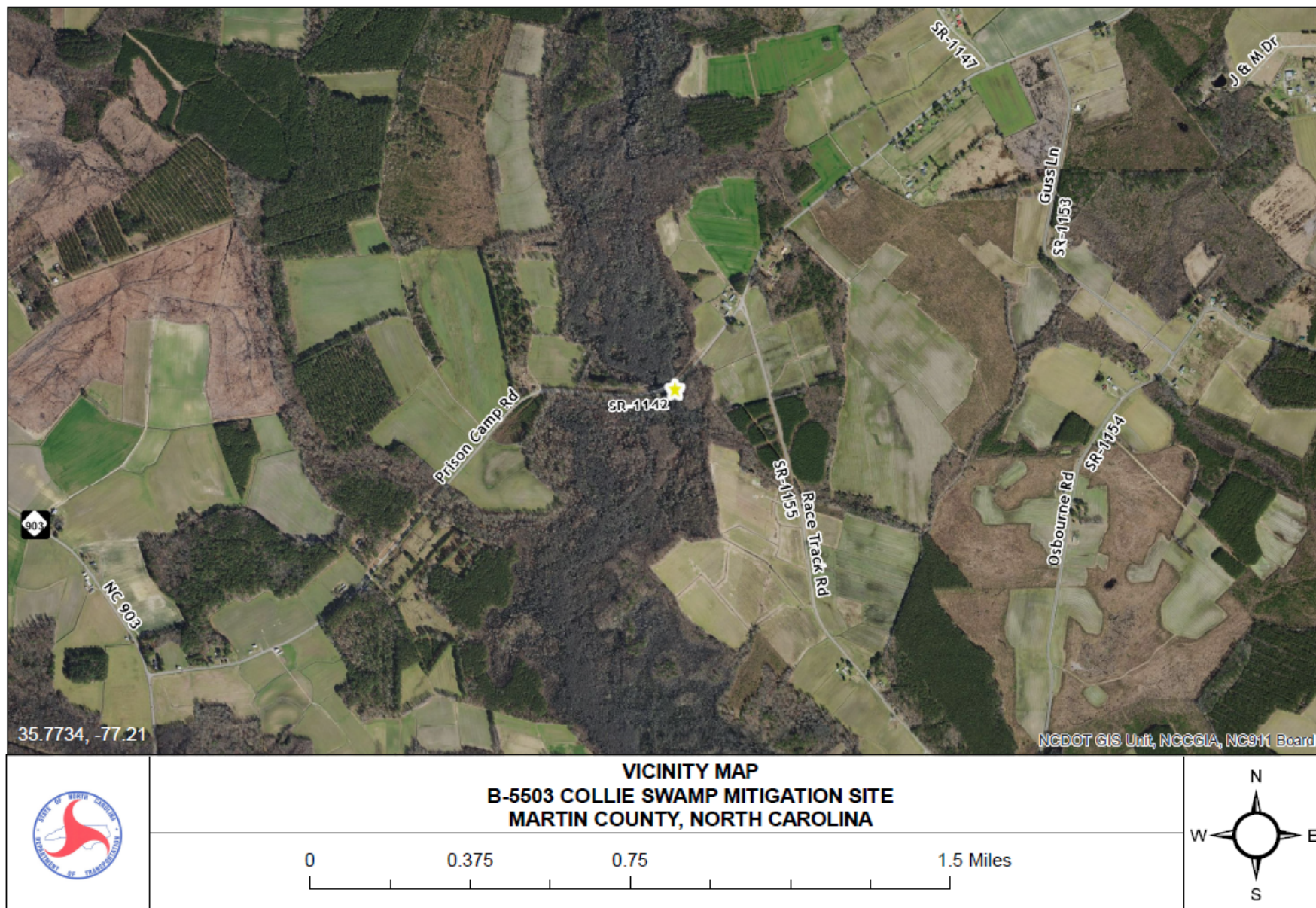


Figure 1. Vicinity Map

2.0 VEGETATION: COLLIE SWAMP MITIGATION SITE (YEAR 3 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

USACE Permit states:

Monitoring of the restored 0.46-acre area indicating the successful re-establishment of hydrophytic vegetation, hydrology, and hydric soils shall be provided to the USACE every year for 3 years post installation.

2.2 Description of Species

The following wetland species were planted in the Wetland Restoration Area:

Taxodium distichum, Baldcypress
Liriodendron tulipifera, Tulip Poplar
Betula nigra, River Birch
Platanus occidentalis, Sycamore
Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Green Ash
Nyssa biflora, Swamp Blackgum

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

The restoration area is re-attaining jurisdictional wetland status and the planted species are surviving. Planted species noted surviving included Sycamore, Green Ash, River Birch, Baldcypress, and Swamp Blackgum. Other species noted within the planted area included soft rush, sweetgum, pine, red maple, cattail, woolgrass, jewelweed, black willow, swamp chestnut oak, wax myrtle, water oak, willow oak, tear-thumb, cottonwood, baccharis, goldenrod, smartweed and various grasses. Multi-flora rose noted within Site 3 during the June 2022 monitoring was sprayed in September 2022. Majority of the site was inundated at the time of monitoring.

2.4 Conclusions

By visual observation, the Collie Swamp Mitigation Site shows that the planted species are surviving. The restoration area is re-attaining jurisdictional wetland status.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the Collie Swamp Mitigation Site in 2024.

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS & SITE MAPS

Collie Swamp Mitigation Site



Photo Point #1 looking southwest



Photo Point #1 looking east



Photo Point #2 looking southwest



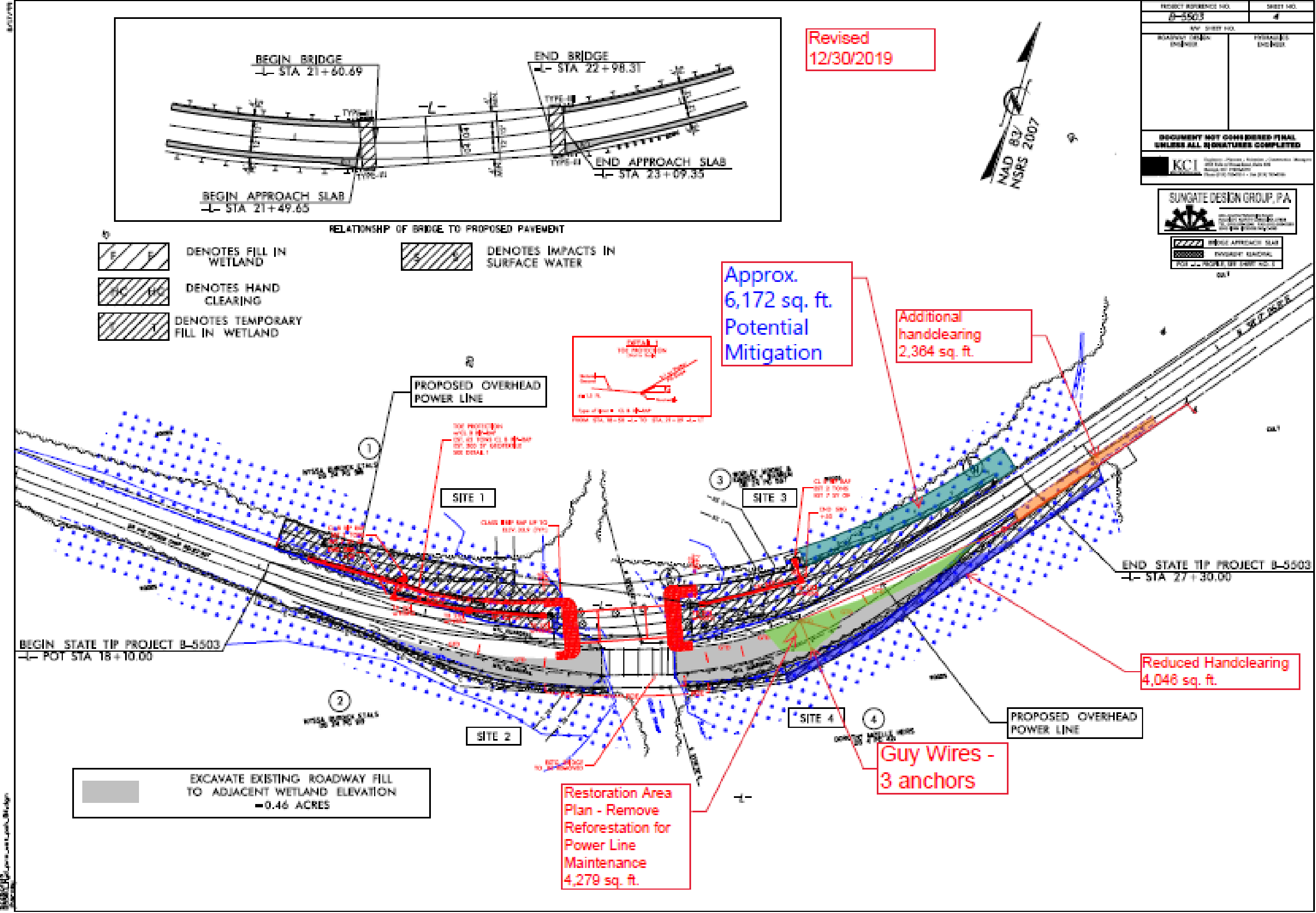
Photo Point #2 looking northeast



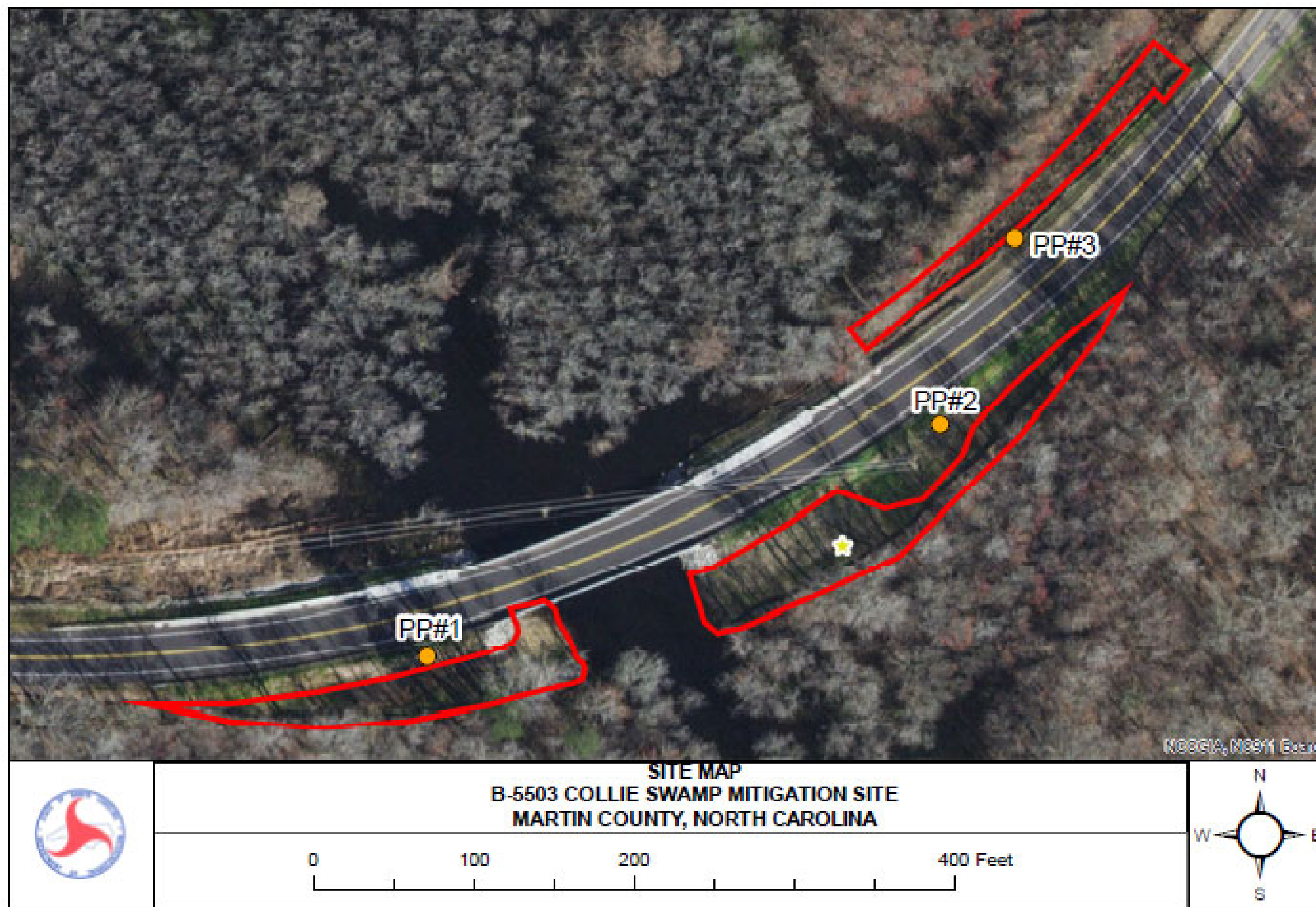
Photo Point #3 looking southwest
September 2023



Photo Point #3 looking northeast



Site Map: Permit Drawing



Site Map: Photo Point Locations