**Section 404/NEPA Merger Project Team Meeting Agreement**

**Concurrence Point No. 1**

**Project Purpose and Need and Study Area Defined**

Project Name/Description: [Insert project name and description]. **STIP Project: [Insert STIP No.]**

**Project Purpose and Need Statement**:

Include a brief summary of the concurred upon needs for the project. Note if there are primary and secondary needs. Then include a brief summary of the concurred upon purpose for the project. Note if there are primary and secondary purposes. Conclude with a purpose and need statement.

The need to be addressed by the proposed project is to improve network mobility and connectivity between Gum Branch Road and US 258 in the project area.

The primary purpose of the proposed project is to improve the transportation network in the project study area to benefit mobility and connectivity. The project will achieve improved mobility by reducing overall vehicle hours traveled (VHT) in the transportation network. The project will achieve improved connectivity in central Onslow County by reducing travel times in the project vicinity and providing a roadway connection closer to activity centers in Jacksonville.

**Project Study Area**

Include a brief description of the concurred upon study area. Include rough dimensions. Include the date on which the agreed upon study area map was finalized. This may become important if the project has delays.

The project study area boundaries are shown on **Figure 2**, dated August 2018. The study area encompasses approximately 1,725 acres between NC 111/US 258 and SR 1308 (Gum Branch Road). The resultant study area includes sufficient extent to pursue a comprehensive number of subsequent alternatives and apply avoidance and minimization measures during design development.

The Merger Team has concurred on this date of [Insert date], on the above project purpose and need and the study area as shown in **Figure 2** for STIP Project [Insert STIP No].

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USEPA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

USFWS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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