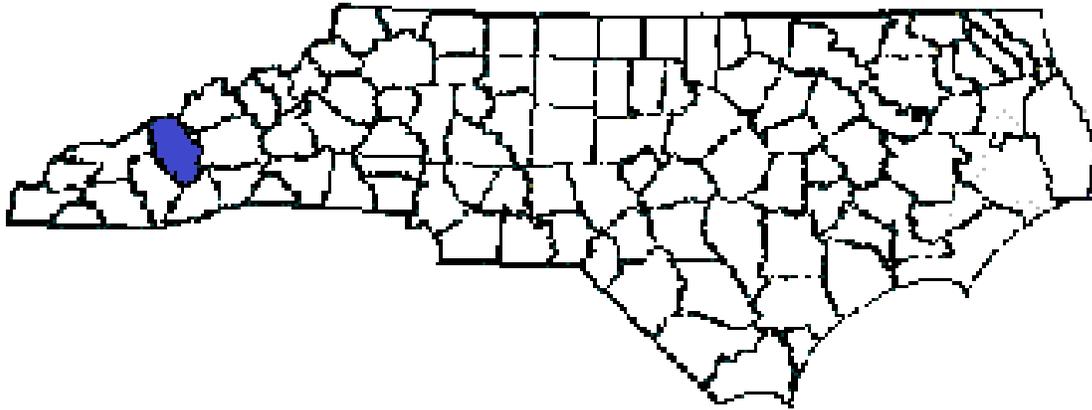


ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013



**West Fork Pigeon River Site
Haywood County
TIP No. B-3187
Biological Opinion**



Prepared By:
Natural Environment Section & Roadside Environmental Unit
North Carolina Department of Transportation
August 2013

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SUMMARY

The West Fork Pigeon River Site is located in Haywood County. The site was planted in January 2013 per the conditions stated within the Biological Opinion.

Areas where riparian areas were disturbed shall be re-vegetated with native woody species. Riparian plantings will be monitored annually for a period of 5 years after planting. If there is less than 75 percent survival the riparian area will be replanted.

After the first year of monitoring, the West Fork Pigeon River Site revealed an average tree density of 595 trees per acre. This average is above the 75 percent survival rate (510 trees per acre) required by the Biological Opinion.

NCDOT proposes to continue monitoring the planted vegetation at the West Fork Pigeon River Site in 2014.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The West Fork Pigeon River Site is located at Bridge No. 79 over West Fork Pigeon River on SR 1112 (Chambers Farm Rd) (Figure 1). The site consists of riparian plantings that will be monitored annually for a period of 5 years after planting to ensure that no less than 75 percent survival is achieved.

1.2 Purpose

In order for this site to be considered successful, the site must meet the success criteria. This report details the monitoring in 2013 at the West Fork Pigeon River Site.

1.3 Project History

January 2013		Site Planted
August 2013		Vegetation Monitoring (Year 1)

2.0 VEGETATION: WEST FORK PIGEON RIVER SITE (YEAR 1 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

Per the Biological Opinion, the riparian plantings will be monitored annually for a period of 5 years after planting. If less than 75 percent survival then, the riparian area will be replanted.

2.2 Description of Species

The following tree species were planted in the Riparian Area:

Platanus occidentalis, American Sycamore

Liriodendron tulipifera, Yellow Poplar

Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Green Ash

Quercus rubra, Northern Red Oak

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

Plot #	American Sycamore	Yellow Poplar	Green Ash	Northern Red Oak	Total (Year 1)	Total (at planting)	Density (Trees/Acre)
1	7	8	15	5	35	40	595
Density							595

2.4 Conclusions

After the first year of monitoring, the 2013 vegetation monitoring of the site revealed an average density of 595 trees per acre. This average is above the minimum success of 510 trees per acre (75% survival).

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the West Fork Pigeon River Site in 2014.



Figure 1. Site Location Map

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

West Fork Pigeon River Site



Photo Point #1



Photo Point #2

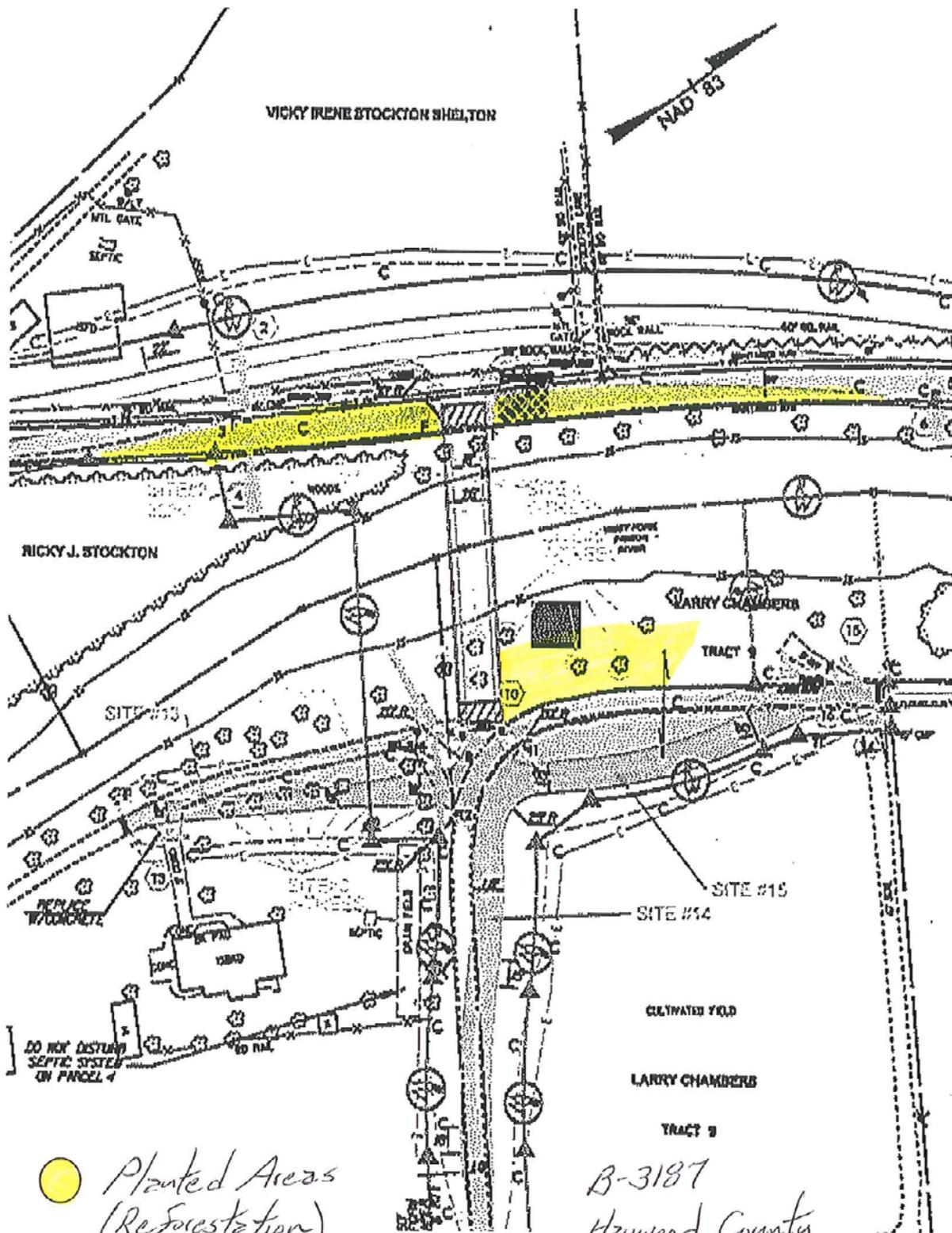


Photo Point #3

August 2013

APPENDIX B

PLAN SHEETS



VICKY IRENE STOCKTON SHELTON



RICKY J. STOCKTON

LARRY CHAMBERS

TRACT 9

SITE #13

SITE #15

SITE #14

CULTIVATED FIELD

LARRY CHAMBERS

TRACT 9

DO NOT DISTURB SEPTIC SYSTEMS ON PARCEL 4



Planted Areas (Reforestation)

B-3187
Haywood County