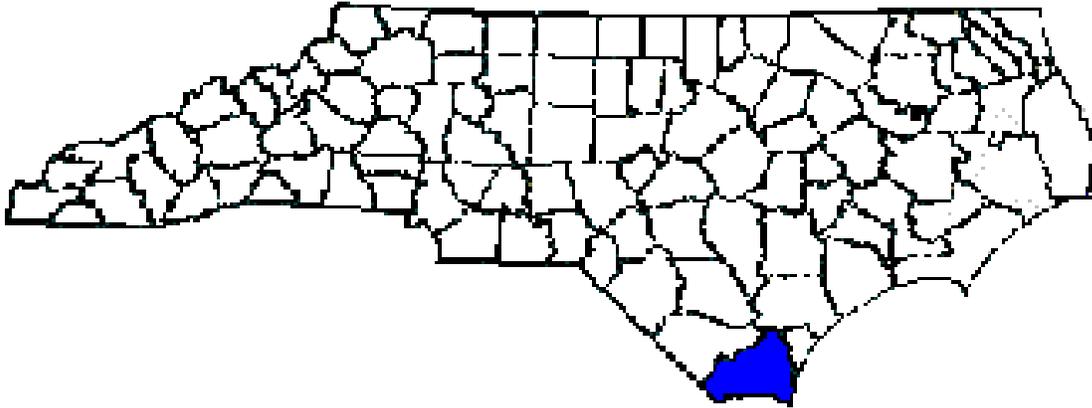


ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2011



**Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site
Brunswick County
TIP No. B-4031**



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July 2011

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:	3
.1 Success Criteria	3
.2 Description of Species	3
.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring	3
.4 Conclusions.	3
3.0 Overall Conclusions and Recommendations	3

FIGURES

Figure 1 – Site Location Map	4
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APPENDICES

Appendix A – Site Photos

SUMMARY

The Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site is located in Brunswick County. The site was planted in May 2009 and was designed as wetland mitigation for impacts associated with bridge project B-4031.

The proposed wetland mitigation will consist of restoring 0.298 acres of coastal salt marsh wetland. Restoration will involve removing causeway fill mainly along the northern approach with a small area along the southern approach to Bridge No. 72. Only the areas adjacent to the proposed bridge will be planted with appropriate species. The areas directly under the bridge will not be planted due to the sunlight restrictions caused by low bridge heights. By removing the causeway, the surface hydrologic functions and connectivity of these areas will be restored. Hydrologic monitoring is not required for this project; however vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

After the third year of monitoring, the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site shows by visual observation that the restoration area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status and the marsh species planted in the wetland restoration area are surviving.

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site is located at Bridge No. 72 over Jinnys Branch in Brunswick County on NC 179 (Figure 1). The site consists of approximately 0.298 acres of mitigation for wetland impacts associated with project B-4031.

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 2011 at the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

1.3 Project History

May 2009	Site planted
July 2009	Vegetation Monitoring (1 year)
August 2010	Vegetation Monitoring (2 year)
July 2011	Vegetation Monitoring (3 year)

1.4 Debit Ledger

The entire Jinnys Branch wetland mitigation site was used for the B-4031 project to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts.

2.0 VEGETATION: JINNYS BRANCH MITIGATION SITE (YEAR 3 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

NCDOT shall monitor the restoration site by visual observation and photo points for survival and aerial cover of vegetation. NCDOT shall monitor the site for a minimum of three years or until the site is deemed successful. Monitoring will be initiated upon completion of the site planting.

2.2 Description of Species

The following wetland grass species were planted in the Wetland Restoration area:

Spartina alterniflora, Smooth Cordgrass

Spartina patens, Saltmeadow Cordgrass

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

The wetland restoration area is re-attaining jurisdictional status and the planted species are surviving in the planted areas. Vegetative coverage has increased since last year comparing 2010 to 2011 site photos. Other species noted within the restoration area include saltgrass, black needle rush, fennel, and marsh-elder.

2.4 Conclusions

There were approximately 0.298 acres total of wetland restoration on site. There were no plots established on site. By visual observation, the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site shows that the planted species are surviving in the planted areas and that the restoration area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site.

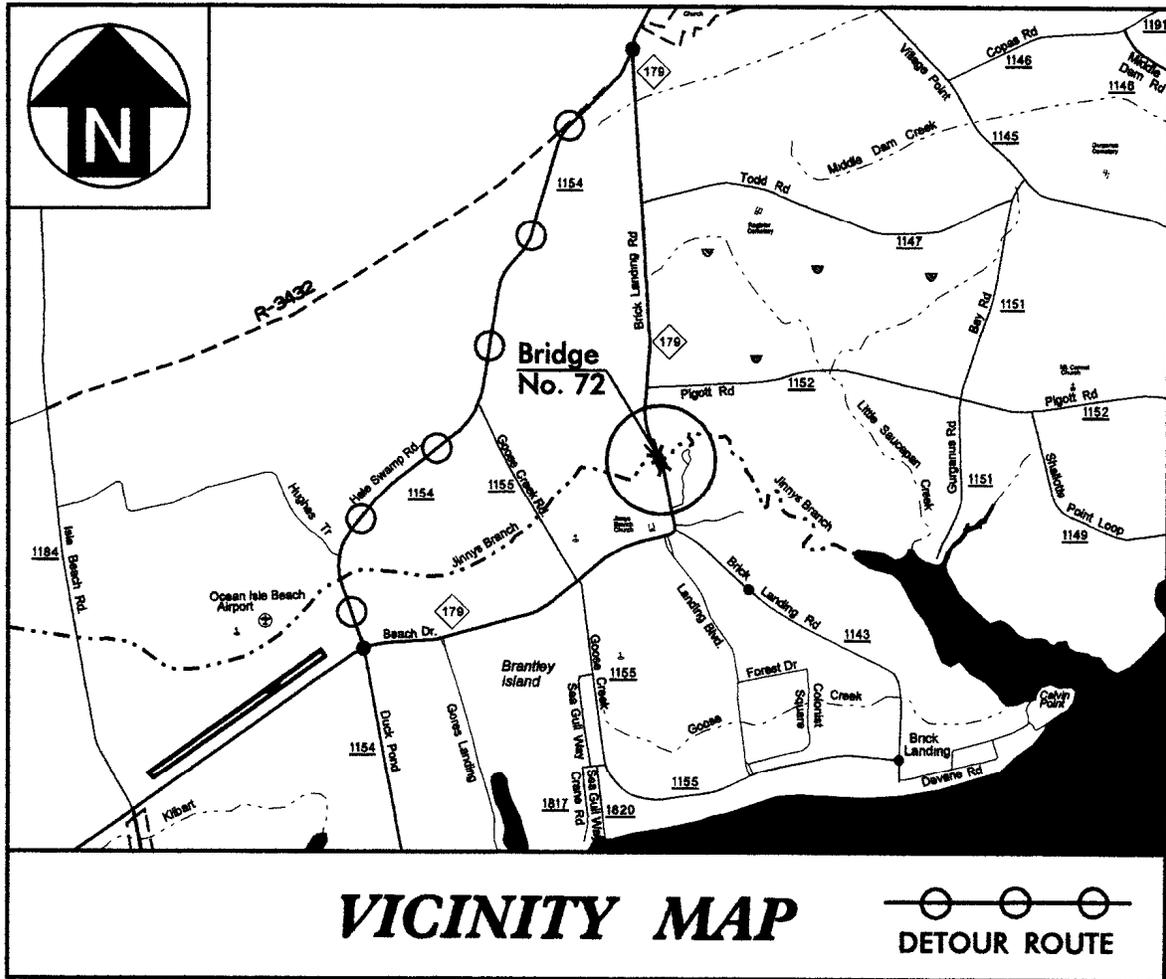


Figure 1. Site Location Map

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

Jinnys Branch



Photo 1 (Northern Approach)



Photo 2 (Northern Approach)

Jinnys Branch



Photo 3 (Southern Approach)

July 2011

