

# ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013



**Packing House Road Mitigation Site  
Beaufort County  
TIP No. R-2510B  
COE Action ID #: 199301143  
DWQ Project #: 20050785  
DCM Permit #: 29-07**



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## **SUMMARY**

The Packing House Road Mitigation Site is located in Beaufort County on Packing House road adjacent to the US 17 Washington Bypass. The site was planted on January 22, 2011, and was designed as mitigation for wetland impacts associated with roadway project R-2510B Washington Bypass.

The mitigation encompasses approximately 0.1 acres of wetland restoration and 3.5 acres of preservation. The restoration effort involved grading the property to an elevation that approximates the adjacent wetlands, and then ripping to promote vegetation re-establishment. The site was then planted and will be monitored to ensure that it meets the vegetation success criteria. No hydrologic monitoring is required for this project; however, vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

After the third year of monitoring, the Packing House Road Mitigation Site shows by visual observation that the planted species are surviving. The area that was disturbed by vehicular trespass was planted in January 2012. Guardrails that were installed at both ends of the project have prevented further site disturbance.

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Packing House Road Mitigation Site.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Project Description

The Packing House Road Mitigation Site is located in Beaufort County on Packing House road adjacent to the US 17 Washington Bypass. The site consists of approximately 0.1 acres of wetland restoration for wetland impacts associated with project R-2510B.

### 1.2 Purpose

In order for a mitigation site to be considered successful, a site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2013 at the Packing House Road Mitigation Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

### 1.3 Project History

January 2011	Site Planted
June 2011	Vegetation Monitoring (1 year)
January 2012	Supplemental Planting
August 2012	Vegetation Monitoring (2 year)
July 2013	Vegetation Monitoring (3 year)

### 1.4 Debit Ledger

The entire Packing House Road Mitigation site was used for the R-2510B project to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts.

## **2.0 VEGETATION: PACKING HOUSE ROAD MITIGATION SITE (YEAR 3 MONITORING)**

### **2.1 Success Criteria**

Success Criteria states that the Packing House Road mitigation site shall be monitored for three years. The NCDOT shall submit an annual summary report at the end of each of the first two years after the completion of the project. The report shall discuss the sites vegetative and hydrologic changes. This report can be qualitative in nature, and is in lieu of the usual quantitative hydrology and success criteria. At the end of the third year after project completion, the NCDOT will coordinate a field visit to the site, at which time the DWQ will determine the success of the mitigation, and the site may be declared successful with written approval from the NC Division of Water Quality. If, at the end of the three year monitoring period, the NC Division of Water Quality feels that the success cannot be determined or has not been achieved, then the NCDOT will coordinate field visits on an annual basis until the NCDWQ is satisfied that the site is successful.

### **2.2 Description of Species**

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

*Taxodium distichum*, Baldcypress

*Nyssa aquatica*, Water Tupelo

*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*, Green Ash

### **2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring**

The wetland restoration area where Packing House Road was removed is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status. Planted species noted surviving included green ash, water tupelo, and baldcypress. The restoration area had approximately 6" to 1' of standing water on the entire site at the time of the monitoring evaluation. Other species noted in the restoration area consisted of cattail, *Sagittaria* sp., baccharis, soft rush, fennel, sedge, black willow, and various grasses. Guardrails that were installed at both ends of the project have prevented further site disturbance.

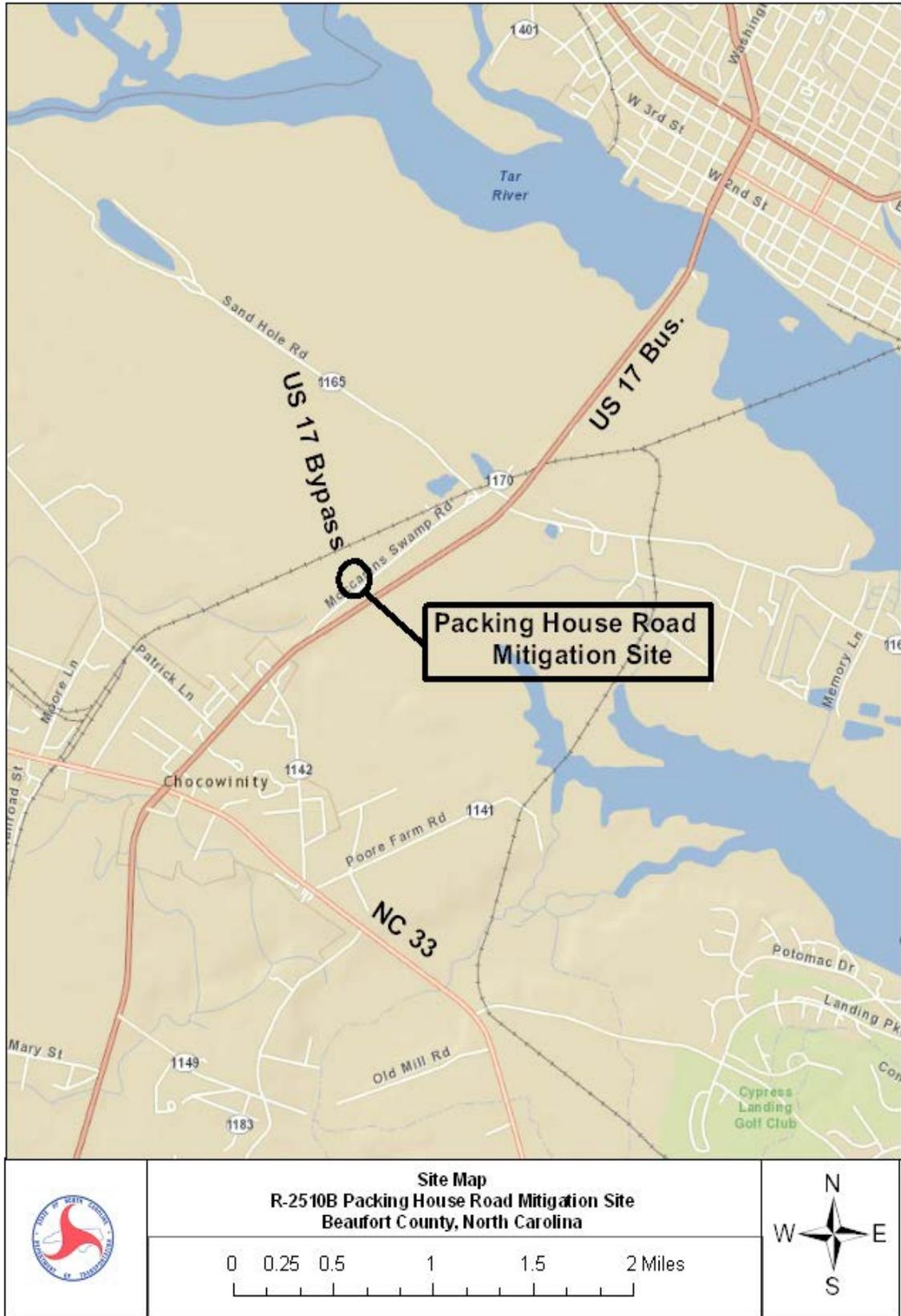
### **2.4 Conclusions**

There were approximately 0.1 acres total of wetland restoration on site. There were no plots established on the site. By visual observation, the Packing House Road Mitigation Site shows that the restoration area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status and the planted species are surviving.

## **3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following report summarizes the monitoring activities that have occurred in the past year for the Packing House Road Mitigation Site. Monitoring activities in 2013 represent the third year of monitoring for the site. The site must demonstrate vegetation success for a minimum of three years or until the site is deemed successful.

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Packing House Road Mitigation Site.



**Figure 1. Site Location Map**

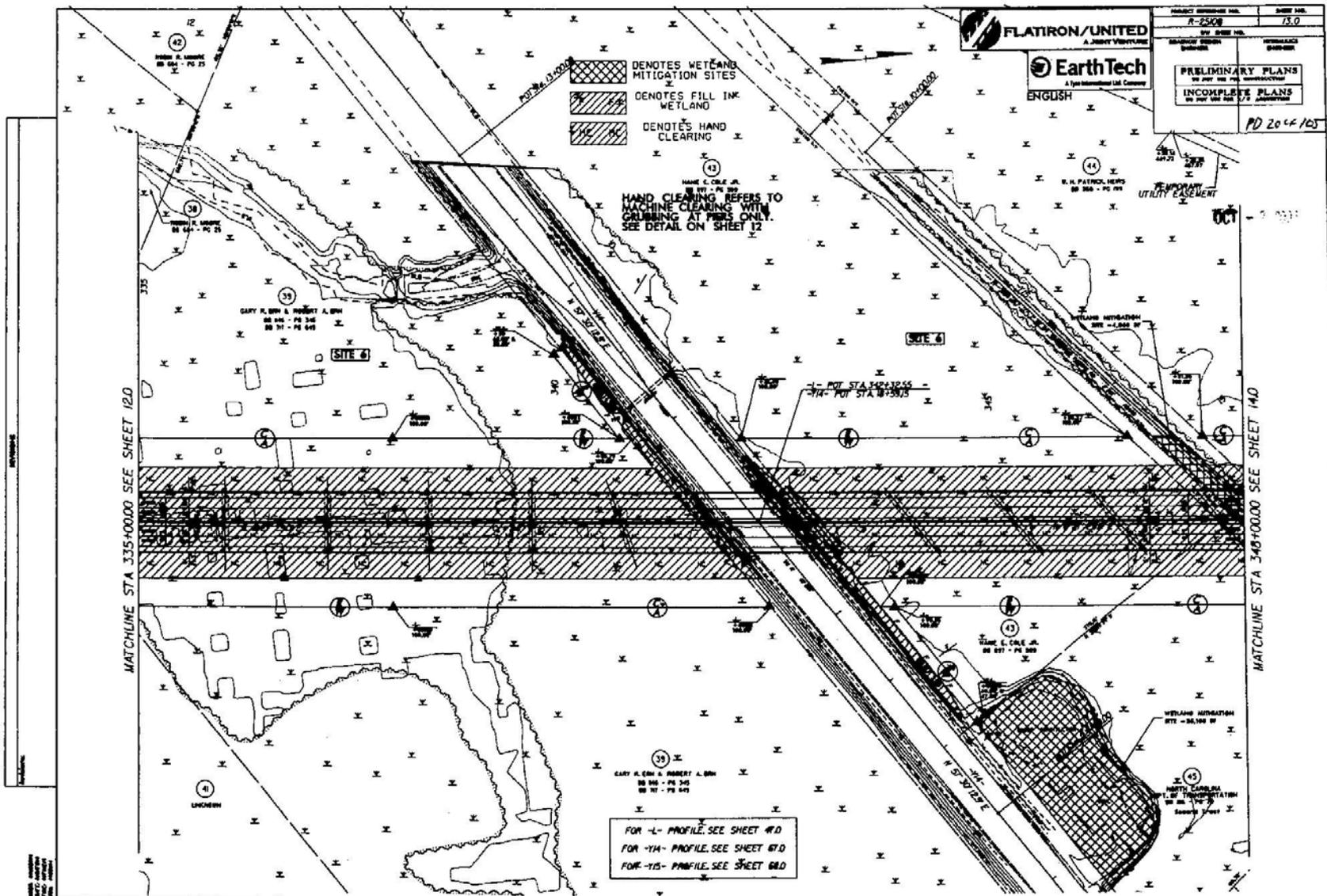


Figure 2. Permit Drawing

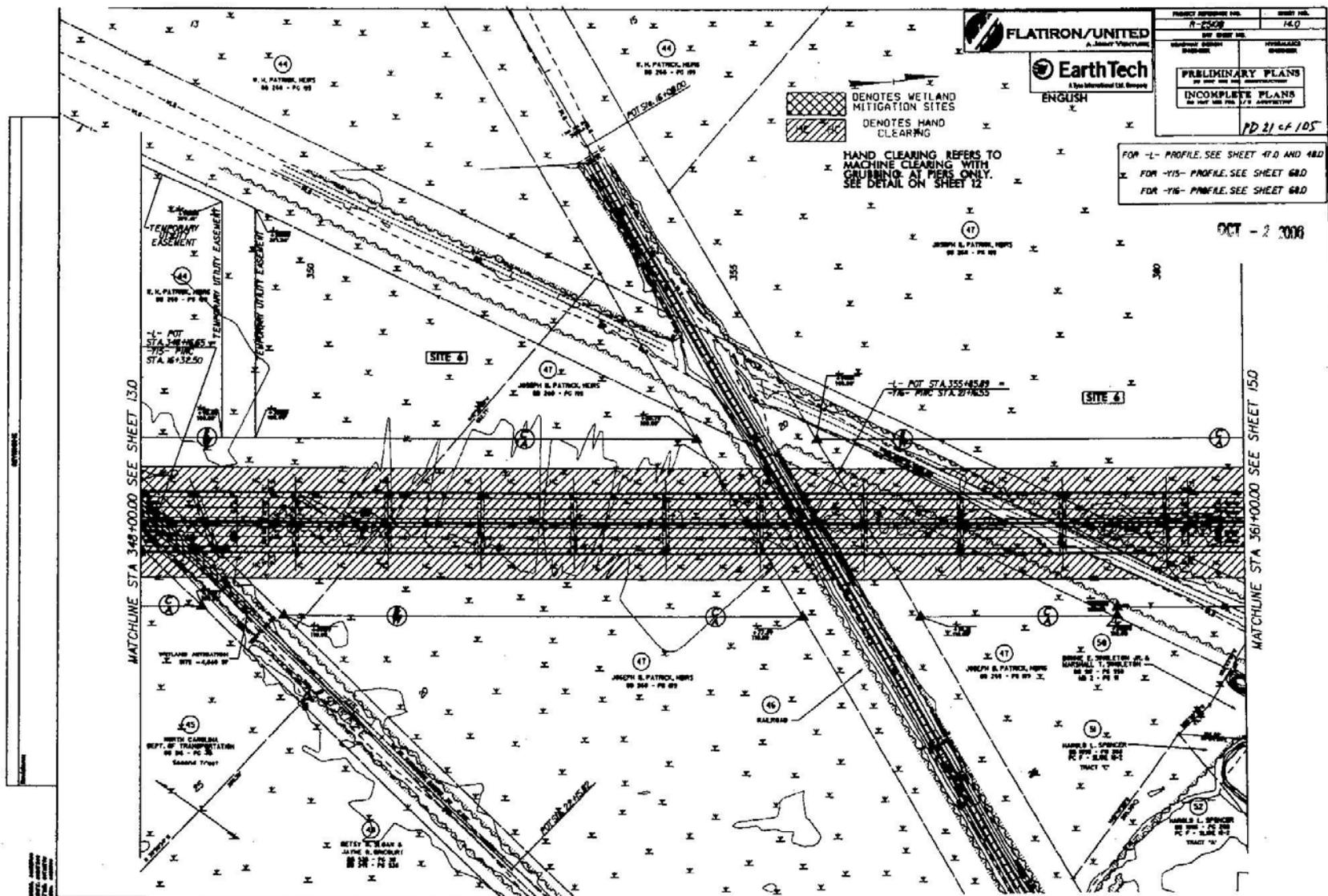


Figure 3. Permit Drawing

**APPENDIX A**

**SITE PHOTOS**

# Packing House Road Mitigation Site



Photo 1 looking south @ US 17 Bypass



Photo 2 looking north @ US 17 Bypass

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