

Underwood  
 Michael F. Easley, Governor  
 William G. Ross Jr., Secretary  
 North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 Alan W. Klimek, P.E. Director  
 Division of Water Quality

September 29, 2006  
 Hyde County  
 DWQ Project No. 20040314 v.2  
 TIP B-3348

**MODIFICATION of APPROVAL of 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION and TAR-PAMLICO BUFFER RULES with ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS**

Dr. Gregory J. Thorpe, PhD., Manager  
 Planning & Environmental Branch  
 N.C. Department of Transportation  
 1548 Mail Service Center  
 Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-1548

Dear Dr. Thorpe:

You have our approval, in accordance with the attached conditions and those listed below, for the following impacts:

Site Number	Wetlands (acres)	Buffer Zone 1 (square ft)	Buffer Zone 2 (square ft)	Open Water (acres)
TIP B-3348	0.26	1675	1000	0.48
<b>Net Total Impacts</b>	0.26 acres	2,675 ft <sup>2</sup>		0.48 acres

The project shall be constructed in accordance with your application dated August 29, 2006 for the purpose of replacing Bridge Number 52 over Wallace Canal and Bridge Number 54 over Kitty Creek on US 264 in Hyde County. All the authorized activities and conditions associated with the original Water Quality Certification dated April 23, 2004 and all subsequent modifications still apply except where superseded by this certification. After reviewing your application, we have decided that these impacts are covered by General Water Quality Certification Number 3403. This certification corresponds to the Nationwide Permit 23 issued by the Corps of Engineers. This approval is also valid for the Tar-Pamlico Buffer Rules (15A NCAC 2B .0259). In addition, you should acquire any other federal, state or local permits before you proceed with your project including (but not limited to) Sediment and Erosion Control, Non-Discharge and Water Supply Watershed regulations. This approval will expire with the accompanying 404 permit issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers (this condition supersedes Condition 10 of General Certification 3403 issued March, 2003).

This approval is valid solely for the purpose and design described in your application (unless modified below). Should your project change, you must notify the DWQ and submit a new application. If the property is sold, the new owner must be given a copy of this Certification and approval letter, and is thereby responsible for complying with all the conditions. If total wetland fills for this project (now or in the future) exceed one acre, or total impacts to streams or buffers (now or in the future) exceed 150 linear feet, compensatory mitigation may be required as described in 15A NCAC 2H .0506 (h) (6) and (7). For this approval to remain valid, you must adhere to the conditions listed in the attached certification.

- 1.) Upon completion of the project, the NCDOT Division Engineer shall complete and return the enclosed "Certification of Completion Form" to notify DWQ when all work included in the 401 Certification has been completed.
- 2.) The permittee and its authorized agents shall conduct its activities in a manner consistent with State water quality standards (including any requirements resulting from compliance with §303(d) of the Clean Water Act) and any other appropriate requirements of State and Federal law. If DWQ determines that such standards or laws are not being met (including the failure to sustain a designated or achieved use) or that State or federal law is being violated, or that further conditions are necessary to assure compliance, DWQ may reevaluate and modify this certification

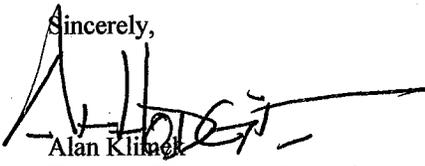


- 3.) Placement of culverts and other structures in waters, streams, and wetlands shall be placed below the elevation of the streambed by one foot for all culverts with a diameter greater than 48 inches, and 20 percent of the culvert diameter for culverts having a diameter less than 48 inches, to allow low flow passage of water and aquatic life. Design and placement of culverts and other structures including temporary erosion control measures shall not be conducted in a manner that may result in dis-equilibrium of wetlands or streambeds or banks, adjacent to or upstream and down stream of the above structures. The applicant is required to provide evidence that the equilibrium is being maintained if requested in writing by DWQ. If this condition is unable to be met due to bedrock or other limiting features encountered during construction, please contact the NC DWQ for guidance on how to proceed and to determine whether or not a permit modification will be required.
- 4.) Erosion and sediment control practices must be in full compliance with all specifications governing the proper design, installation and operation and maintenance of such Best Management Practices in order to protect surface waters standards:
  - a. The erosion and sediment control measures for the project must be designed, installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the most recent version of the *North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual*.
  - b. The design, installation, operation, and maintenance of the sediment and erosion control measures must be such that they equal, or exceed, the requirements specified in the most recent version of the *North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Manual*. The devices shall be maintained on all construction sites, borrow sites, and waste pile (spoil) projects, including contractor-owned or leased borrow pits associated with the project.
  - c. For borrow pit sites, the erosion and sediment control measures must be designed, installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the most recent version of the *North Carolina Surface Mining Manual*.
  - d. The reclamation measures and implementation must comply with the reclamation in accordance with the requirements of the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act.
- 5.) If concrete is used during construction, a dry work area should be maintained to prevent direct contact between curing concrete and stream water. Water that inadvertently contacts uncured concrete should not be discharged to surface waters due to the potential for elevated pH and possible aquatic life and fish kills.
- 6.) During the construction of the project, no staging of equipment of any kind is permitted in waters of the U.S., or protected riparian buffers.
- 7.) The dimension, pattern, and profile of the stream above and below the crossing should not be modified. Disturbed floodplains and streams should be restored to natural geomorphic conditions.
- 8.) The use of rip-rap above the Normal High Water Mark shall be minimized. Any rip-rap placed for stream stabilization shall be placed in stream channels in such a manner that it does not impede aquatic life passage.
- 9.) All work in or adjacent to stream waters shall be conducted in a dry work area. Approved BMP measures from the most current version of NCDOT Construction and Maintenance Activities manual such as sandbags, rock berms, cofferdams and other diversion structures shall be used to prevent excavation in flowing water.
- 10.) Heavy equipment may be operated within the stream channels however, its usage shall be minimized.
- 11.) All mechanized equipment operated near surface waters must be regularly inspected and maintained to prevent contamination of stream waters from fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or other toxic materials.
- 12.) No rock, sand or other materials shall be dredged from the stream channel except where authorized by this certification.
- 13.) Discharging hydroseed mixtures and washing out hydroseeders and other equipment in or adjacent to surface waters is prohibited.
- 14.) All fill slopes located in jurisdictional wetlands shall be placed at slopes no flatter than 3:1, unless otherwise authorized by this certification..

- 15.) The outside buffer, wetland or water boundary located within the construction corridor approved by this authorization shall be clearly marked by highly visible fencing prior to any land disturbing activities. Impacts to areas within the fencing are prohibited unless otherwise authorized by this certification.
- 16.) Native riparian vegetation must be reestablished within the construction limits of the project by the end of the growing season following completion of construction.
- 17.) There shall be no excavation from, or waste disposal into, jurisdictional wetlands or waters associated with this permit without appropriate modification. Should waste or borrow sites be located in wetlands or streams, compensatory mitigation will be required since that is a direct impact from road construction activities.
- 18.) All stormwater runoff shall be directed as sheetflow through stream buffers at nonerosive velocities, unless otherwise approved by this certification.
- 19.) All riparian buffers impacted by the placement of temporary fill or clearing activities shall be restored to the preconstruction contours and revegetated. Maintained buffers shall be permanently revegetated with non-woody species by the end of the growing season following completion of construction. For the purpose of this condition, maintained buffer areas are defined as areas within the transportation corridor that will be subject to regular DOT maintenance activities including mowing. The area with non-maintained buffers shall be permanently revegetated, with native woody species before the next growing season following completion of construction.
- 20.) Strict adherence to the most recent version of NCDOT's Best Management Practices For Bridge Demolition and Removal approved by the US Army Corps of Engineers is a condition of the 401 Water Quality Certification.
- 21.) Bridge deck drains should not discharge directly into the stream. Stormwater should be directed across the bridge and pre-treated through site-appropriate means (grassed swales, pre-formed scour holes, vegetated buffers, etc.) before entering the stream. Please refer to the most current version of *Stormwater Best Management Practices*.
- 22.) The post-construction removal of any temporary bridge structures must return the project site to its preconstruction contours and elevations. The impacted areas shall be revegetated with appropriate native species.
- 23.) The permittee will need to adhere to all appropriate in-water work moratoriums (including the use of pile driving or vibration techniques) prescribed by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service. In addition, the permittee shall conform with the NCDOT policy entitled "Stream Crossing Guidelines for Anadromous Fish Passage (May 12, 1997) at all times.
- 24.) A copy of this Water Quality Certification shall be posted on the construction site at all times. In addition, the Water Quality Certification and all subsequent modifications, if any, shall be maintained with the Division Engineer and the on-site project manager.

If you do not accept any of the conditions of this certification, you may ask for an adjudicatory hearing. You must act within 60 days of the date that you receive this letter. To ask for a hearing, send a written petition that conforms to Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes to the Office of Administrative Hearings, P.O. Box 27447, Raleigh, N.C. 27611-7447. This certification and its conditions are final and binding unless you ask for a hearing.

This letter completes the review of the Division of Water Quality under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. If you have any questions, please contact Garcy Ward at (252) 948-3922.

Sincerely,  
  
for Alan Klimek  
Director, Division of Water Quality

Attachment

cc: Wilmington District Corps of Engineers  
Mr. Bill Biddlecome, US Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Field Office  
Mr. Clay Willis, Division 1 Environmental Officer, NCDOT  
Wanda Gooden, DCM, 1367 US 17 S. Elizabeth City, NC 27909  
Sonia Gregory, NCDWQ, Wetlands/401 Unit  
Central Files  
File copy

## WQC #3403

### **GENERAL CERTIFICATION FOR PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR CORPS OF ENGINEERS NATIONWIDE PERMIT NUMBER 23 (APPROVED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS) AND RIPARIAN AREA PROTECTION RULES (BUFFER RULES)**

This General Certification is issued in conformity with the requirements of Section 401, Public Laws 92-500 and 95-217 of the United States and subject to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality Regulations in 15A NCAC 2H, Section .0500 and 15A NCAC 2B .0200 for the discharge of fill material to waters and wetland areas as described in 33 CFR 330 Appendix A (B) (23) and for the Riparian Area Protection Rules (Buffer Rules) in 15A NCAC 2B .0200. This Certification replaces Water Quality Certification Number 2670 issued on January 21, 1992, Certification Number 2734 issued on May 1, 1993, Certification Number 3107 issued on February 11, 1997 and Water Quality Certification Number 3361 issued March 18, 2002. This WQC is rescinded when the Corps of Engineers re-authorizes Nationwide Permit 23 or when deemed appropriate by the Director of the DWQ.

The State of North Carolina certifies that the specified category of activity will not violate applicable portions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the Public Laws 92-500 and 95-217 if conducted in accordance with the conditions hereinafter set forth.

#### Conditions of Certification:

1. Proposed fill or substantial modification of wetlands or waters (including streams) under this General Certification requires notification to the Division of Water Quality. Two copies shall be submitted to DWQ at the time of notification in accordance with 15A NCAC 2H .0501(a). Written concurrence from DWQ is not required unless any standard conditions of this Certification cannot be met;
2. Appropriate sediment and erosion control practices which equal or exceed those outlined in the most recent version of the "North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual" or the "North Carolina Surface Mining Manual" whichever is more appropriate (available from the Division of Land Resources (DLR) in the DENR Regional or Central Offices) shall be in full compliance with all specifications governing the proper design, installation and operation and maintenance of such Best Management Practices in order to assure compliance with the appropriate turbidity water quality standard;
3. In accordance with 15A NCAC 2H .0506 (h) compensatory mitigation may be required for impacts to 150 linear feet or more of streams and/or one acre or more of wetlands. In addition, buffer mitigation may be required for any project with Buffer Rules in effect at the time of application for buffer impacts resulting from activities classified as "allowable with mitigation" within the "Table of Uses" section of the Buffer Rules or require a variance under the Buffer Rules. A determination of buffer, wetland and stream mitigation requirements shall be made for any Certification for this Nationwide Permit. The most current design and monitoring protocols from DWQ shall be followed and written plans submitted for DWQ approval as required in those protocols. When compensatory mitigation is required for a project, the mitigation plans must be approved by DWQ in writing before the impacts approved by the Certification occur. The mitigation plan must be implemented and/or constructed before any permanent building or structure on

WQC #3403

The Director of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality may require submission of a formal application for individual certification for any project in this category of activity that requires written concurrence under this certification, if it is determined that the project is likely to have a significant adverse effect upon water quality or degrade the waters so that existing uses of the wetland, stream or downstream waters are precluded.

Public hearings may be held for specific applications or group of applications prior to a Certification decision if deemed in the public's best interest by the Director of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality.

Effective date: 23 March 2003

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

By

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Klimek".

Alan W. Klimek, P.E.

Director

WQC # 3403



DWQ Project No.: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_  
Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Issuance of 401 Water Quality Certification: \_\_\_\_\_

**Certificate of Completion**

Upon completion of all work approved within the 401 Water Quality Certification or applicable Buffer Rules, and any subsequent modifications, the applicant is required to return this certificate to the 401/Wetlands Unit, North Carolina Division of Water Quality, 1621 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC, 27699-1621. This form may be returned to DWQ by the applicant, the applicant's authorized agent, or the project engineer. It is not necessary to send certificates from all of these.

**Applicant's Certification**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that, to the best of my abilities, due care and diligence was used in the observation of the construction such that the construction was observed to be built within substantial compliance and intent of the 401 Water Quality Certification and Buffer Rules, the approved plans and specifications, and other supporting materials.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Agent's Certification**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that, to the best of my abilities, due care and diligence was used in the observation of the construction such that the construction was observed to be built within substantial compliance and intent of the 401 Water Quality Certification and Buffer Rules, the approved plans and specifications, and other supporting materials.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Engineer's Certification**

\_\_\_\_\_ Partial \_\_\_\_\_ Final

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a duly registered Professional Engineer in the State of North Carolina, having been authorized to observe (periodically, weekly, full time) the construction of the project, for the Permittee hereby state that, to the best of my abilities, due care and diligence was used in the observation of the construction such that the construction was observed to be built within substantial compliance and intent of the 401 Water Quality Certification and Buffer Rules, the approved plans and specifications, and other supporting materials.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_