

December 21, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO: Scott Gottfried
THROUGH: Dennis Pipkin
FROM: Robin Little *RLL*
RE: Mitigation Search for Wilson Bypass (R-1023)

As requested, I have attempted to compile the mitigation sites identified during my search from March, 1994, through the present. Based on our discussion, I have prepared a rough timeline for the sites discussed, and the reasons the sites were not implemented at the time.

March 2, 1994 Initial meeting in Goldsboro on Nahunta Swamp Proposal by Division of Soil and Water Conservation and NRCS. MOA to be coordinated between NCDOT and DEHNR/DSWC.

April-May, 1994 Investigated Wilson County, by discussion and investigation of NRCS/ASCS mapping. Eagles, Crocker, Woodard and Edmundson tracts identified as having some restoration potential but as having high percentages of upland or wetland preservation areas. None of these sites provided riverine Bottomland hardwoods, only wet flats on Raines/ Tomotley soils. Eagles had pipeline across property which would pose problems with access, drainage and vegetative re-establishment

May 10, 1994 Initial site visit to Exum Property with Sim Wooten. Exum is a 55 acre tract with two large borrow pits adjacent to the Contentnea Creek floodplain, with potential for the creation/enhancement of riverine bottomland hardwood.

June 10, 1994 Initial site visit to Flowers Property. Flowers is an on-site old borrow pit, about ten acres in size, adjacent to Shepherds Branch with potential for the creation/enhancement of bottomland hardwoods.

June 14, 1994 Initial site visit to Eubanks Property. Eubanks is a 1700 acre PC restoration site with the potential for restoration of non-riverine wet flats which straddles the divide between the Neuse and White Oak River Basins. This site is a potential bank site for the Upper and Middle Coastal Plain of the Neuse River Basin.

June 15, 1994 Site review of Eagles, Crocker, Woodard and Edmundson tracts with COE Rep. Jean Manuele. Crocker, Woodard and Edmundson dropped from consideration due to hydrological limitations, limited acreage and lack of riverine potential.

July 1, 1994 Visited Wilson Landfill, Exum and Flowers with Location and Surveys GPS Unit, Randy Jones.

July 8, 1994 Requested Location and Surveys to run elevation transects on Exum and Flowers for preliminary feasibility, no response as of August 24, 1994.

August 24, 1994 Wrote draft memo to ROW from Frank Vick recommending acquisition of several properties; Exum Farm (55 ac., borrow pit in sub-basin, enhancement/creation), Flowers Property (10 ac. on-site borrow pit, enhancement/creation), areas adjacent to the Wilson Landfill, (in sub-basin, potential easement of 15 ac., creation), R.B. Lancaster Property (in sub-basin, approx. 10 ac. restoration/enhancement) and Speight Property (approx. 20 ac., in sub-basin, restoration/enhancement). Review by Barney O'Quinn resulted in the decision that the sites were too small and to continue looking for a property which would accommodate all the impacts (115 ac.) of the entire Wilson Bypass (approx. 300 ac.).

September 15, 1994 The debate on whether the R-1023AA segment was a useable section capable of independent utility began, with the COE arguing that one EIS for the entire project meant that one Individual Permit would be issued, and therefore, one up-front mitigation site was required for the entire project impacts. I was instructed to continue to search for approximately 300 acre site as mitigation for entire project.

October 14, 1994 Preliminary site visit to Aycock Farm, approx. 175 ac. of restoration and enhancement with no riverine potential.

October 19, 1994 Further discussion in COE meeting about independent utility of R-1023 AA, at this point I had adequate mitigation acreage for the AA section.

October 28, 1995 Potential sites listed for mitigation for Wilson Bypass;

SITE	AC.	RATIO	CREDITS	HAB	PROS	CONS
Exum	55 ac.	4:1	13	BLH	riv,lg,sub	cost
Speight	20 ac.	2:1	10	BLH	riv	sm,rec. by
COE						
Lancaster	15 ac.	2:1	7.5	BLH	sub	sm,non-riv
Flowers	10 ac.	4:1	1	BLH	on-site	sm,cost
Aycock	60 ac.	2:1	30	WF	lg, sub	non-riv
Aycock	115 ac.	3:1	38	WF	lg,sub	non-riv
Nahunta	500 ac.	2:1	250	SPH	lg,sub,riv	avail.date
Seven Spgs.	25 ac.	2:1	12.5	SPH	upfrontsm,non-sub,non-riv	

November 10, 1994 Meet TWC for on-site review of feasibility of Aycock and Exum.

December 5, 1994. Recommendation to David Robinson and Dennis Pipkin to proceed with Exum and Aycock pending preliminary feasibility studies and contract with TWC to prepare mitigation plan

February 13, 1995 Site visit with COE representative, Jean Manuele, to Exum, resulted in calling the borrow pits on Exum "waters of the U.S." due to the extent of naturalization on vegetative fringe.

March 9, 1995 Search via NRCS/ASCS maps in Wayne and Greene counties.

March 17, 1995 Memo to Dennis Pipkin re: the distribution of hydric soils limits the availability and size of mitigation sites. Request feasibility study by ESI on sites in Wayne County. Discussed the meeting with SEDD and proposed the use of Eubanks Farm for impacts associated with R-1023 and R-1030.

March 22, 1995 Site visit with landowner, Sam Casey, to look at potential site. Limited acreage, restricted hydrological control, bottomland hardwood enhancement at best.

March 24, 1995 Site visit to Pitt and Lenoir Counties

March 28, 1995 Memo to Cindy Sharer from Dennis Pipkin re: RKK sub-contract with ESI to search for on-site mitigation for R-1030.

April 3, 1995 Memo to David Robinson re: limited availability of large sites on-site or in sub-basin, recommend Eubanks, Oates, Aycock, Exum or Nahunta, and requested consultant support for justification.

April 25, 1995 Initial site visit to Gurley property. (170 acre site with riverine BLH potential)

June 19, 1995 Memo to ROW recommending option on Gurley immediately.

July 12, 1995 Memo to DCR/DP re: Discussion with Jean Manuele that if a Conceptual Mitigation Plan including maps of the extent of hydric soils, existing wetlands, drained wetlands and restorable acreage was submitted by August 4, 1995, permits could be issued by the COE before the let date for R-1023AA.

July 25, 1995 ESI scoped for Mitigation Search in the Upper Coastal Plain of the Neuse River Basin for impacts associated with R-1023, R-1030 and R-2554.

July 28, 1995 ESI scoped for Gurley Conceptual Mitigation Plan.

August, 1995 Gurley proposed for R-1023AA.

September 12, 1995 Seven Springs approved by COE?

Approximate Locations

- A = Eagles Farm
- B = Crocker Tract
- C = Woodard Farm
- D = Edmundson Farm
- E = Exum Borrow Pit
- F = Flowers Pond
- G = Eubanks Farm
- H = Wilson landfill sites
- I = Lancaster Farm
- J = Speight Tract
- K = Aycock Farm
- L = Nahunta Watershed Project
- M = Seven Springs
- N = Gurlby Tract