

North Carolina Department of Transportation

NEPA/SEPA Consultation Form

STIP Project No.	B-4838
WBS Element	38608.1.1
Federal Aid Project No.	BRSTP-070B(7)

A. Project Description, Location, and Purpose:

The project proposes to replace Bridge No. 20 on US 70 Business (Grantham Street) over the CSX railroad tracks in the City of Goldsboro, Wayne County, NCDOT Division 4. The bridge replacement project crosses over the CSX railroad and extends along Grantham Street for approximately 0.59 miles from west of US 70 to North George Street (from 1,670 feet west of the bridge to 1,281 feet east of the bridge). The project will also reduce US 70 from two lanes in each direction to one through lane in each direction from west of Grantham Street to North George Street, plus a two-way center turn lane. Sidewalks are proposed on the bridge and along both sides of the roadway from the bridge to North George Street. Lanes located west of the bridge will be restriped. East of the bridge will consist of three 12-foot lanes with curb and gutter and 5-foot sidewalks. West of the bridge is a variable section consisting of three 12-foot lanes and a 4-foot paved shoulder in most locations.

The primary purpose of the proposed project is to replace a deficient bridge. Bridge No. 20 was built in 1926 and its condition is considered functionally obsolete per latest Structure Inventory and Appraisal with an NBI Grade of 5 for Deck, Superstructure and Substructure. A narrowing of the roadway on the bridge and east of the bridge is being proposed due to a decrease in traffic volumes that followed the opening of the Goldsboro Bypass (US 70 Bypass). Four lanes are no longer needed and narrowing the roadway would allow for the construction of sidewalks.

B. Consultation Phase: (Check one)

- ☒ Right-of-Way
- ☐ Construction
- ☐ Other: Identify the trigger – (e.g., design change, change in impacts)

C. NEPA/SEPA Class of Action Initially Approved as: (Check one)

- ☒ FHWA Class II (CE) 4/27/2020

Additional Notes: **Type 1 (A) CE**

D. Changes in Proposed Action & Environmental Consequences:

There are no changes to the resulting impacts from the proposed project.

The federally protected species for Wayne County have not changed since the completion of the Categorical Exclusion in April of 2020. At that time, it was determined that habitat assessment and/or surveys for Neuse River waterdog, Carolina madtom, Atlantic pigtoe, dwarf wedgemussel, Tar River spiny mussel, and yellow lance would be performed by the NCDOT-EAU Biological Surveys Group prior to construction and appropriate coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) would be conducted at that time. This was included as an Environmental Commitment in the CE. On February 9, 2022 NCDOT-EAU Biological Surveys Group met with USFWS representative Gary Jordan on site to review the aquatic habitat in the study area. Mr. Jordan confirmed that the project will have No Effect on the listed aquatic species.

The USFWS has revised the previous programmatic biological opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and NCDOT for the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*) in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. Although this programmatic agreement covers Divisions 1-8, NLEBs are currently only known in 19 counties, but may potentially occur in 11 additional counties within Divisions 1-8. NCDOT, FHWA, and USACE have agreed to two conservation measures which will avoid/minimize mortality of NLEBs. These conservation measures only apply to the 30-current known/potential counties shown on Figure 2 of the PBO at this time. The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program is **May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect**. The PBO will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for ten years (effective through December 31, 2030) for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes Wayne County, where Project B-4838 is located.

Coordination letters were sent to Catawba Indian Nation and Tuscarora Nation in March of 2022 to notify tribes of our project and request input. If responses are returned, they are expected before the end of April 2022.

E. Conclusion:

The above NEPA/SEPA documentation has been reevaluated (as required by either 23 CFR 771 or by NC General Statute Chapter 113A Article 1). It has been determined that the current proposed action is essentially the same as the original proposed action. Proposed changes, if any, are noted in Section D. It has been determined that anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts were accurately described in the above referenced document(s) unless noted otherwise herein. Therefore, the original Administration Action remains valid.

F. Coordination

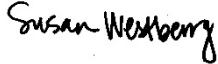
NCDOT personnel have discussed the current project parameters with qualified NCDOT representatives and FHWA (where applicable). The NCDOT Project Manager, Tierre Peterson, hereby verifies the involvement of the following staff and the incorporation of their technical input:

Design Engineer:	Tim Klotz, PE (AECOM)	3/22/2022
Environmental Specialist:	Deanna Riffey (NCDOT)	3/24/2022
FHWA (if applicable):	N/A	N/A
Other:	N/A	N/A

G. Consultation Approval for NCDOT Project B-4838


Prepared By:

3/22/2022
Date


Susan Westberry, AICP, PWS
AECOM

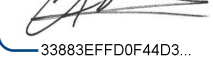
Prepared For:

4/1/2022
Date

DocuSigned by:

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Jacquelyn Bowles, PE
NCDOT, Structures Management Unit

Reviewed By:

4/1/2022
Date

DocuSigned by:

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Colin Mellor, Team Lead
NCDOT Environmental Policy Unit
North Carolina Department of Transportation

- ☒ **Approved** In adherence with 23 CFR 771 (NEPA) or NC General Statute Chapter 113A Article 1 (SEPA), NCDOT approves this Consultation.
- or
- ☐ **Certified** NCDOT staff certifies if FHWA signature was previously required or where changes have resulted in FHWA signature being required.

4/1/2022
Date

DocuSigned by:

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David Stutts, PE – Project Engineer – PEF/Program Management
NCDOT Structures Management Unit

FHWA Approved: FHWA signature required for Type I(B) CE, Type II(B) CE, Type III CE, FONSI or ROD.

N/A
Date

John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

H. Project Commitments (as of March 22, 2022)

**Wayne County
Bridge No. 20 on US 70 Business (Grantham Street) over CSX Railroad
Federal Project No. BRSTP-070B(7)
WBS No. 38608.1.1
TIP No. B-4838**

NCDOT EAU – Threatened and Endangered Species

NCDOT EAU will complete studies and resolve biological conclusions for Neuse River waterdog, Carolina madtom, Atlantic pigtoe, dwarf wedgemussel, Tar River spinymussel, and yellow lance prior to construction.

*On February 9, 2022 NCDOT-EAU Biological Surveys Group met with USFWS representative Gary Jordan on site to review the aquatic habitat in the study area. Mr. Jordan confirmed that the project will have **No Effect** on the listed aquatic species.*

NCDOT GeoEnvironmental Unit – Phase II GeoEnvironmental Investigation

Five (5) sites of concern were identified within the project study area as documented in the May 6, 2019 GeoEnvironmental Phase I Report. NCDOT's GeoEnvironmental Unit will conduct a Phase II GeoEnvironmental investigation for the sites of concern anticipated to be impacted by the project.

Continued Coordination and Outreach (NCDOT Division 4, NCDOT Structures Management Unit [SMU])

- In order to have time to adequately reroute school buses, Wayne County Public Schools will be contacted at (919) 731-5900 at least one month prior to road closure. The following private schools will also be contact at least one month prior to road closure: Faith Christian Academy (919) 734-8701; Wayne Country Day School (919) 736-1045; Protestant Preschool & Kindergarten (919) 735-9056; Wayne School of Engineering (919) 734-0070; St. Mary Catholic School (919) 734-1931
- Wayne County Fire and EMS departments will be contacted at (919) 731-1416 at least one month prior to road closure to make the necessary temporary reassignments to primary response units.
- SMU should coordinate with Franklin Baking Company management at (919) 735-0344 to discuss detour planning and construction schedule.

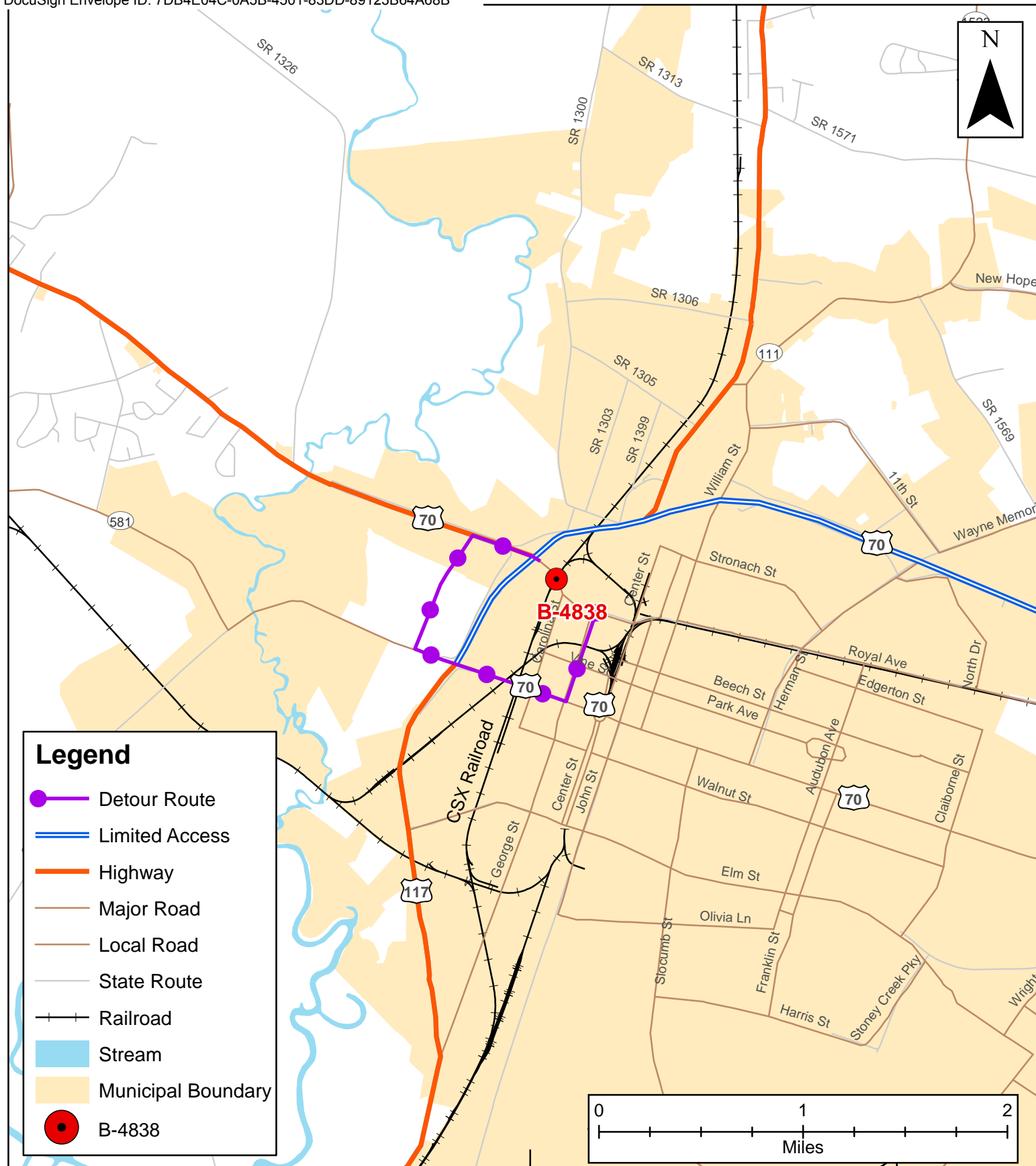


Figure
Location of GeoEnvironmental Sites of Concern

