

ePCN

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)  
**NATIONWIDE PERMIT PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)**

For use of this form, see 33 CFR 330; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R.

**Form Approved -**  
**OMB No. 0710-**  
**0003**  
**Expires: 2027-10-31**

**DATA REQUIRED BY THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974**

**Authority** Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Regulatory Program of the Corps of Engineers (Corps); Final Rule 33 CFR 320-332.

**Principal Purpose** Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the nationwide permit pre-construction notification.

**Routine Uses** This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public and may be made available as part of the agency coordination process.

**Disclosure** Submission of requested information is voluntary, however, if information is not provided the permit application cannot be evaluated nor can

The public reporting burden for this collection of information, 0710-0003, is estimated to average 11 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or burden reduction suggestions to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, at [whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil](mailto:whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil). Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE EMAIL.**

One set of original drawings or good reproducible copies which show the location and character of the proposed activity must be attached to this application (see *sample drawings and/or instructions*) and be submitted to the district engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity. An application that is not completed in full will be returned.

**(ITEMS 1 THRU 4 TO BE FILLED BY THE CORPS)**

|                    |                      |                                |                              |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. APPLICATION NO. | 2. FIELD OFFICE CODE | 3. DATE RECEIVED<br>08/27/2026 | 4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETE |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|

**(ITEMS BELOW TO BE FILLED BY APPLICANT)**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5. APPLICANT'S NAME<br>First – Erin                      Middle –                      Last – Cheely<br>Company – North Carolina Department of Transportation<br>Company Title –<br>E-mail Address – ekcheely@ncdot.gov | 8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE ( <i>agent is not required</i> )<br>First –                      Middle –                      Last –<br>Company –<br>E-mail Address – |
| 6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS<br>Address – 1598 Mail Service Center<br>City – Raleigh    State – NC    ZIP – 27699                      Country – US                                                                           | 9. AGENT'S ADDRESS<br>Address –<br>City –    State –    ZIP –                      Country –                                                                                |
| 7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NOS. with AREA CODE<br>a. Business                      b. Mobile                      c. Fax<br>+19197076108                      +19193235192                                                    | 10. AGENT'S PHONE NOS. with AREA CODE<br>a.                      b.                      c. Fax                                                                             |

**STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION**

11. I hereby authorize, to act in my behalf as my agent in the processing of this nationwide permit pre-construction notification and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this nationwide permit pre-construction notification.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE**NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY**12. PROJECT NAME or TITLE (*see instructions*)

NCDOT/B-5953/French Broad River and Southern Railroad/Old Leicester Highway (SR 1002)/Buncombe County/Div 13/WBS 47217.1.1

**NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY**13. NAME OF WATERBODY, IF KNOWN (*if applicable*)14. PROPOSED ACTIVITY STREET ADDRESS (*if applicable*)15. LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY (*see instructions*)

Latitude: 35.6285555 °N

Longitude: -82.60212 °W

Address: Old Leicester Hwy

City:

Asheville

State:

NC

Zip:

28804

16. OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN (*see instructions*)

Section –

Township –

Range –

County – Buncombe County

Project Area – 5 Acres

State Tax Parcel ID –

17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE

18. IDENTIFY THE SPECIFIC NATIONWIDE PERMIT(S) YOU PROPOSE TO USE

NWP 6 Survey Activities

19. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY (*see instructions*)

Geotechnical investigations for the replacement of Bridge 649 over French Broad River and Southern Railroad on Old Leicester Highway (SR 1002). Geotechnical borings are required to assist with design of the replacement structure. A total of 21 borings will be needed with 17 borings located on land and four within the French Broad River (Figure 1). Collection of the four borings within the river will be completed from a barge launched from the west side of the river. No tree clearing is anticipated to complete the borings taken on land.

20. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES (*see instructions*)

The borings in the French Broad River will be conducted from a barge. The barge will be placed in the river from the west river bank to minimize impacts. The water depth at this location is of significant depth to allow the barges to not drag the river bottom. Proposed impacts are temporary and compensatory mitigation is not proposed.

21. PURPOSE OF NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY (*Describe the reason or purpose of the project, see instructions*)

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is beginning project development, environmental and engineering studies for the replacement of Bridge 649.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>22. QUANTITY OF WETLANDS, STREAMS, OR OTHER TYPES OF WATERS DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY PROPOSED NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY<br/>(see instructions)</p> <p>See Appendix B</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p><b>Each PCN must include a delineation of wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site.</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>25. List any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. (see instructions)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p>26. If the proposed activity will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of wetlands and/or the loss of greater than 3/100-acre of stream bed and requires pre-construction notification, explain how the compensatory mitigation requirement in paragraph (c) and/or paragraph (d) of general condition 23 will be satisfied, or explain why the adverse environmental effects are no more than minimal and why compensatory mitigation should not be required for the proposed activity.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p>27. Is any portion of the nationwide permit activity already complete?      Yes                      No</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">If Yes, describe the completed work:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p>28. List the name(s) of any species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity. (see instructions)</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">Appalachian elktoe, Eastern Hellbender, Tricolored bat, Northern Long-Eared Bat, Gray bat, Monarch butterfly</p> <p>ADDITIONAL AFFECTED SPECIES:</p> <p>Bog Turtle (SAT) - N/A.</p> <p>No tree clearing is required for the geotechnical boring, therefore the Biological Conclusion for listed bats for this activity is No Effect at this time. No Biological Conclusion is required for the Proposed monarch and hellbender. Please see attached USFWS Informal Concurrence for Appalachian elktoe/additional information.</p> |
| <p>29. List any historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property or properties. (see instructions)</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">See attached Section 106 documentation.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p>30. For a proposed NWP activity that will occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System, or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the system while the river is in an official study status, identify the Wild and Scenic River or the "study river":</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p>31. If the proposed NWP activity also requires permission from the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or use a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers federally authorized civil works project, have you submitted a written request for section 408 permission from the Corps district having jurisdiction over that project?      Yes                      No</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">If "yes", please provide the date your request was submitted to the Corps district:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>32. If the terms of the NWP(s) you want to use require additional information to be included in the PCN, please include that information in this space or provide it on an additional sheet of paper marked Block 30. (see instructions)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

33. Pre-construction notification is hereby made for one or more nationwide permit(s) to authorize the work described in this notification. I certify that the information in this pre-construction notification is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

Erin Cheely

08/27/2026

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE

SIGNATURE OF AGENT

DATE

The pre-construction notification must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) and, if the statement in Block 11 has been filled out and signed, the authorized agent.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

**Instructions for Preparing a  
Department of the Army  
Nationwide Permit (NWP) Pre-Construction Notification (PCN)**

**Blocks 1 through 4.** To be completed by the Corps of Engineers.

**Block 5. Applicant's Name.** Enter the name and the e-mail address of the responsible party or parties. If the responsible party is an agency, company, corporation, or other organization, indicate the name of the organization and responsible officer and title. If more than one party is associated with the preconstruction notification, please attach a sheet of paper with the necessary information marked Block 5.

**Block 6. Address of Applicant.** Please provide the full address of the party or parties responsible for the PCN. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 6.

**Block 7. Applicant's Telephone Number(s).** Please provide the telephone number where you can usually be reached during normal business hours.

**Blocks 8 through 11.** To be completed, if you choose to have an agent.

**Block 8. Authorized Agent's Name and Title.** Indicate name of individual or agency, designated by you, to represent you in this process. An agent can be an attorney, builder, contractor, engineer, consultant, or any other person or organization. Note: An agent is not required.

**Blocks 9 and 10. Agent's Address and Telephone Number.** Please provide the complete mailing address of the agent, along with the telephone number where he / she can be reached during normal business hours.

**Block 11. Statement of Authorization.** To be completed by the applicant, if an agent is to be employed.

**Block 12. Proposed Nationwide Permit Activity Name or Title.** Please provide a name identifying the proposed NWP activity, e.g., Windward Marina, Rolling Hills Subdivision, or Smith Commercial Center.

**Block 13. Name of Waterbody.** Please provide the name (if it has a name) of any stream, lake, marsh, or other waterway to be directly impacted by the NWP activity. If it is a minor (no name) stream, identify the waterbody the minor stream enters.

**Block 14. Proposed Activity Street Address.** If the proposed NWP activity is located at a site having a street address (not a box number), please enter it in Block 14.

**Block 15. Location of Proposed Activity.** Enter the latitude and longitude of where the proposed NWP activity is located. Indicate whether the project location provided is the center of the project or whether the project location is provided as the latitude and longitude for each of the "corners" of the project area requiring evaluation. If there are multiple sites, please list the latitude and longitude of each site (center or corners) on a separate sheet of paper and mark as Block 15.

**Block 16. Other Location Descriptions.** If available, provide the Tax Parcel Identification number of the site, Section, Township, and Range of the site (if known), and / or local Municipality where the site is located.

**Block 17. Directions to the Site.** Provide directions to the site from a known location or landmark. Include highway and street numbers as well as names. Also provide distances from known locations and any other information that would assist in locating the site. You may also provide a description of the location of the proposed NWP activity, such as lot numbers, tract numbers, or you may choose to locate the proposed NWP activity site from a known point (such as the right descending bank of Smith Creek, one mile downstream from the Highway 14 bridge). If a large river or stream, include the river mile of the proposed NWP activity site if known. If there are multiple locations, please indicate directions to each location on a separate sheet of paper and mark as Block 17.

**Block 18. Identify the Specific Nationwide Permit(s) You Propose to Use.** List the number(s) of the Nationwide Permit(s) you want to use to authorize the proposed activity (e.g., NWP 29).

**Block 19. Description of the Proposed Nationwide Permit Activity.** Describe the proposed NWP activity, including the direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the activity would cause. The description of the proposed activity should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse environmental effects of the activity will be no more than minimal. Identify the materials to be used in construction, as well as the methods by which the work is to be done.

Provide sketches when necessary to show that the proposed NWP activity complies with the terms of the applicable NWP(s). Sketches usually clarify the activity and result in a quicker decision. Sketches should contain sufficient detail to provide an illustrative description of the proposed NWP activity (e.g., a conceptual plan), but do not need to be detailed engineering plans.

The written descriptions and illustrations are an important part of the application. Please describe, in detail, what you wish to do. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 19.

**Block 20. Description of Proposed Mitigation Measures.** Describe any proposed mitigation measures intended to reduce the adverse environmental effects caused by the proposed NWP activity. The description of any proposed mitigation measures should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse environmental effects of the activity will be no more than minimal and to determine the need for compensatory mitigation or additional mitigation measures.

**Block 21. Purpose of Nationwide Permit Activity.** Describe the purpose and need for the proposed NWP activity. What will it be used for and why? Also include a brief description of any related activities associated with the proposed project. Provide the approximate dates you plan to begin and complete all work.

**Block 22. Quantity of Wetlands, Streams, or Other Types of Waters Directly Affected by the Proposed Nationwide Permit Activity.** For discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, provide the amount of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters filled, flooded, excavated, or drained by the proposed NWP activity. For structures or work in navigable waters of the United States subject to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, provide the amount of navigable waters filled, dredged, or occupied by one or more structures (e.g., aids to navigation, mooring buoys) by the proposed NWP activity.

For multiple NWPs, or for separate and distant crossings of waters of the United States authorized by NWPs 12 or 14, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 21 to provide the quantities of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters filled, flooded, excavated, or drained (or dredged or occupied by structures, if in waters subject to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899) for each NWP. For NWPs 12 and 14, include the amount of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters filled, flooded, excavated, or drained for each separate and distant crossing of waters or wetlands. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 22.

**Block 23. Identify Any Other Nationwide Permit(s), Regional General Permit(s), or Individual Permit(s) Used to Authorize Any Part of Proposed Activity or Any Related Activity.** List any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. For linear projects, list other separate and distant crossings of waters and wetlands authorized by NWPs 12 or 14 that do not require PCNs. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 23.

**Block 24. Compensatory Mitigation Statement for Losses of Greater Than 1/10-Acre of Wetlands and/or of Greater Than 3/100-Acre of Stream Bed When Pre-Construction Notification is Required.** Paragraphs (c) and (d) of NWP general condition 23 require compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one replacement ratio for all wetland losses that exceed 1/10-acre and/or for all losses of stream bed that exceed 3/100-acre, unless the district engineer determines in writing that either some other form of mitigation is more environmentally appropriate or the adverse environmental effects of the proposed NWP activity are no more than minimal without compensatory mitigation, and provides an activity-specific waiver of this requirement. Describe the proposed compensatory mitigation for wetland losses greater than 1/10 acre and/or for losses of stream bed that exceed 3/100-acre, or provide an explanation of why the district engineer should not require wetland and/or stream compensatory mitigation for the proposed NWP activity. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 24.

**Block 25. Is Any Portion of the Nationwide Permit Activity Already Complete?** Describe any work that has already been completed for the NWP activity.

**Block 26. List the Name(s) of Any Species Listed As Endangered or Threatened under the Endangered Species Act that Might be Affected by the Nationwide Permit Activity.** If you are not a federal agency, and if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the proposed NWP activity, or if the proposed NWP activity is located in designated critical habitat, list the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity. If you are a Federal agency, and the proposed NWP activity requires a PCN, you must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

**Block 27. List Any Historic Properties that Have the Potential to be Affected by the Nationwide Permit Activity.** If you are not a Federal agency, and if any historic properties have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity, list the name(s) of those historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity. If you are a Federal agency, and the proposed NWP activity requires a PCN, you must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

**Block 28. List the Wild and Scenic River or Congressionally Designated Study River if the Nationwide Permit Activity Would Occur in such a River.** If the proposed NWP activity will occur in a river in the National Wild and Scenic River System or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, provide the name of the river. For a list of Wild and Scenic Rivers and study rivers, please visit <http://www.rivers.gov/>.

**Block 29. Nationwide Permit Activities that also Require Permission from the Corps Under 33 U.S.C. 408.** If the proposed NWP activity also requires permission from the Corps under 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will temporarily or permanently alter, occupy, or use a Corps federal authorized civil works project, indicate whether you have submitted a written request for section 408 permission from the Corps district having jurisdiction over that project.

**Block 30. Other Information Required For Nationwide Permit Pre Construction Notifications.** The terms of some of the Nationwide Permits include additional information requirements for preconstruction notifications:

- \* NWP 3, Maintenance –information regarding the original design capacities and configurations of the outfalls, intakes, small impoundments, and canals.
- \* NWP 31, Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities –a description of the maintenance baseline and the dredged material disposal site.
- \* NWP 33, Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering –a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre project conditions.
- \* NWP 44, Mining Activities –if reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the final reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre construction notification.
- \* NWP 45, Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events –documentation, such as a recent topographic survey or photographs, to justify the extent of the proposed restoration.
- \* NWP 48, Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities –(1) a map showing the boundaries of the project area, with latitude and longitude coordinates for each corner of the project area; (2) the name(s) of the species that will be cultivated during the period this NWP is in effect; (3) whether canopy predator nets will be used; (4) whether suspended cultivation techniques will be used; and (5) general water depths in the project area (a detailed survey is not required).
- \* NWP 49, Coal Remining Activities –a document describing how the overall mining plan will result in a net increase in aquatic resource functions must be submitted to the district engineer and receive written authorization prior to commencing the activity.
- \* NWP 50, Underground Coal Mining Activities –if reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre construction notification.

If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 30.

**Block 31. Signature of Applicant or Agent.** The PCN must be signed by the person proposing to undertake the NWP activity, and if applicable, the authorized party (agent) that prepared the PCN. The signature of the person proposing to undertake the NWP activity shall be an affirmation that the party submitting the PCN possesses the requisite property rights to undertake the NWP activity (including compliance with special conditions, mitigation, etc.).

#### **DELINEATION OF WETLANDS, OTHER SPECIAL AQUATIC SITES, AND OTHER WATERS**

Each PCN must include a delineation of wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site. Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current wetland delineation manual and regional supplement published by the Corps. The permittee may ask the Corps to delineate the special aquatic sites and other waters on the project site, but there may be a delay if the Corps does the delineation, especially if the project site is large or contains many wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters. The 45 day PCN review period will not start until the delineation is submitted or has been completed by the Corps.

#### **DRAWINGS AND ILLUSTRATIONS**

##### **General Information.**

Three types of illustrations are needed to properly depict the work to be undertaken. These illustrations or drawings are identified as a Vicinity Map, a Plan View or a Typical Cross Section Map. Identify each illustration with a figure or attachment number. For linear projects (e.g. roads, subsurface utility lines, etc.) gradient

drawings should also be included. Please submit one original, or good quality copy, of all drawings on 8½x11 inch plain white paper (electronic media may be substituted). Use the fewest number of sheets necessary for your drawings or illustrations. Each illustration should identify the project, the applicant, and the type of illustration (vicinity map, plan view, or cross section). While illustrations need not be professional (many small, private project illustrations are prepared by hand), they should be clear, accurate, and contain all necessary information.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS**

For proposed NWP activities that involve discharges into waters of the United States, water quality certification from the State, Tribe, or EPA must be obtained or waived (see NWP general condition 25). Some States, Tribes, or EPA have issued water quality certification for one or more NWPs. Please check the appropriate Corps district web site to see if water quality certification has already been issued for the NWP(s) you wish to use. For proposed NWP activities in coastal states, state Coastal Zone Management Act consistency concurrence must be obtained, or a presumption of concurrence must occur (see NWP general condition 26). Some States have issued Coastal Zone Management Act consistency concurrences for one or more NWPs. Please check the appropriate Corps district web site to see if Coastal Zone Management Act consistency concurrence has already been issued for the NWP(s) you wish to use.

**Appendix B.** Aquatic Resource Inventory:

| <i>Aquatic Resource Name</i> | <i>State</i>   | <i>Cowardin System</i> | <i>Cowardin Class</i>                                    | <i>HGM Class</i> | <i>Local Waterway Name</i> | <i>Measurement Type</i> | <i>Measurement Amount</i> | <i>Measurement Units</i> | <i>Waters Type</i> | <i>Latitude</i> | <i>Longitude</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| French Broad River           | North Carolina | RIVERIN<br>E           | R3UB-<br>RIVERINE,<br>UPPER<br>PEREN,<br>UNCONSOL<br>BOT | RIVERINE         | French<br>Broad River      | Area                    | 3.33625                   | ACRE                     | DELIN.CONC         | 35.628535<br>2  | -82.602055       |

Appendix C. Impact Inventory:

| <i>Water Name</i>  | <i>Impact Name</i>          | <i>Activity</i>               | <i>Type of<br/>Material Being<br/>Discharged</i> | <i>Resource Type</i> | <i>Permanent<br/>Loss (Y/N)</i> | <i>Impact<br/>Duration</i> | <i>Amount<br/>Type</i> | <i>Proposed<br/>Length</i> | <i>Proposed<br/>Width</i> | <i>Proposed<br/>Amount</i> | <i>Amount<br/>Units</i> |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| French Broad River | Proposed Borings<br>(Total) | Discharge of fill<br>material | Borings                                          | River/Stream         | No                              | Temporary                  | Fill Area              | 2                          | 2                         | 4                          | Square Feet             |

**Provide any additional information you may have about the proposed quantity of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters directly affected by the proposed activity. This level of detail is helpful to better understand the type of impacts that are proposed for your project.**

Borings will be conducted at four locations in the French Broad River. The auger is 4" in diameter. Up to a 0.5 sq ft temporary impact is possible at each location.

## **Definitions and help text**

**Water Name:** The name of the wetland, stream, or other type of water that would be impacted.

**Impact Name:** Useful if entering more than one impact for the same or multiple waters (e.g., linear projects) and name accordingly. This may be different than the Water Name; keep it short and simple. For example, if Stream-1 is the water, the impact name could be “Crossing-1,” “Crossing-2,” “Crossing-3.” A short name helps describe the impact and is useful when looking at a list of impacts.

**Activity:** Options are:

- Conversion of waters type (forested wetland to emergent wetland, stream to lake)
- Discharge of dredged material
- Discharge of fill material
- Dredging (Section 10)
- Ecological restoration
- Other (Aquaculture, Work, Aerial or Submarine cable crossings)
- Removal (Sec 10 structures)
- Structure (Sec 10 only)
- Transport of dredged material (Sec 103)

**Type of Material Being Discharged:** Describe the material to be discharged within USACE jurisdiction. Make sure this description is consistent with your illustrations. Discharge material includes: rock, sand, clay, concrete, etc.

**Resource Type:** Options are Harbor/Ocean, Lake, Non-Tidal wetland, Other, Pond, River/Stream, and Tidal wetland.

**Permanent Loss (Y/N):** Only enter “YES” when the ‘discharge of dredged or fill material’ activity types are chosen. A permanent loss means the conversion of an aquatic resource to dry land.

**Impact Duration:** Options are Permanent or Temporary. An example of a temporary impact is the discharge of fill for temporary access roads that are later removed and returned to pre-construction contours.

**Amount Type:** Options are Area or Volume.

**Amount Units:** Options are Acre or Square Feet if Amount Type=Area, Cubic Yards if Amount Type=Volume.

**Proposed Length and Proposed Width:** Unit is linear feet.

**Proposed Amount:** Unit is square feet.

**Appendix H.** Supporting Information:

| <i>Document Type</i>                                  | <i>Document Created Date<br/>(YYYY-MM-DD)</i> | <i>Document Label</i>                         | <i>Information Source/Citation</i> | <i>Uploaded file name</i>                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Historic Properties Cultural Resources<br>Information | 2026-08-27                                    | B-5953 Historic Properties                    | NCDOT                              | 18-09-0030 Effects - Historic Properties.pdf         |
| Project Plans                                         | 2026-07-30                                    | Boring Locations                              | NCDOT                              | B-5953 Geotechnical Boring Locations.pdf             |
| Threatened Endangered Species Report                  | 2026-08-27                                    | B-5953 USFWS Informal Concurrence             | NCDOT                              | B-5953 USFWS Informal Concurrence.pdf                |
| Other Information                                     | 2026-08-27                                    | B-5953 WRC Comments                           | NCDOT                              | NCWRC Comments 2021.pdf                              |
| Historic Properties Cultural Resources<br>Information | 2026-08-27                                    | B-5953 Archaeology and Tribal<br>Coordination | NCDOT                              | No Archaeological Survey Required 18-09-<br>0030.pdf |

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

**APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT – PARTNER APPENDIX**

For use of this form, see 33 CFR 325. The proponent agency is CECW-COR.

**AUTHORITIES:** The Department of Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and partner entities have established a joint process for activities impacting jurisdictional waterways that require review and/or approval of both the Corps and its partners. Department of Army permits are required by Section 10 of the Rivers & Harbors Act of 1899 for any structure(s) or work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States and by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the discharge of dredged or fill materials into waters of the United States, including adjacent wetlands. This supplemental information is provided to the partner entity along with the standard regulatory forms.

**PARTNER INFORMATION**

|                                                                 |                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ORGANIZATION:</b><br>NC Division of Water<br>Resources (DWR) | <b>PARTNER ID:</b> | <b>NAME AND CODE:</b><br><br><b>Form Name:</b> NATIONWIDE/GENERAL/INDIVIDUAL PERMIT - DWR 401 Application Form<br>NC Division of Water Resources Application Information<br><br><b>Form Code:</b> NCDWR 401 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

In North Carolina, many activities covered by Nationwide and Regional General Permits, as well as Individual Permits, also require a 401 Water Quality Certification from the Division of Water Resources. To streamline the application process for both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the North Carolina Division of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) - Division of Water Resources (DWR), we have collaborated on this joint application form.

This joint application form serves to fulfill reporting requirements for both agencies under Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899, for specific activities permitted through Nationwide Permits (NWP), Regional General Permits (RGPs), and Individual Permits. The RRS is now the preferred method for submitting application information for these permits.

For questions, please contact the USACE at (910) 251-4633.

The Wilmington District and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) have collaborated to develop a Joint Permit Application (JPA) within the Regulatory Request System (RRS) for use with Nationwide Permits (NWP) and Regional General Permits (RGP), as well as, Individual Permits. This system functions similarly to previous versions of the Pre-Construction Notification form (also known as e-PCN). The RRS is an online platform that enables applicants to electronically upload and submit all required information to the reviewing agencies.

The RRS JPA fulfills the application and reporting requirements for both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and NCDEQ for activities authorized under Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, as well as Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

Projects that fall within the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (NCDWM) review area, will need to coordinate their application with NCDWM directly. To learn more, visit the [NCDWM website](<https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/division-coastal-management>).

USACE/NCDWR Joint Application Form for Nationwide Permits, Regional General Permits, and Individual Permits (along with corresponding Water Quality Certifications)

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: THE SYSTEM IS STILL UNDER DEVELOPMENT, AND DATA CURRENTLY DOES NOT TRANSMIT ELECTRONICALLY TO NCDEQ'S DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR). UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT COMPLETED RRS JPA DOCUMENTS THROUGH [NCDEQ'S "PROJECT SUBMITTAL INTERIM FORM" WEBSITE](<https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/Supplemental-Information-Form>).\*\***  
[Additional Instructions](<https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/WaterResources/Browse.aspx?dbid=0&startid=3890140>)

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION COLLECTED**

**ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION - Property Owner**

- Is the owner the same as the applicant?
  - Yes

- Provide Primary Property Owner information
  - Please see the JPA\_ContactReport.xlsx to review the provided contact data.
- Provide Additional Property Owner information
  - Please see the JPA\_ContactReport.xlsx to review the provided contact data.

**PROCESSING INFORMATION -**

- Does the project involve maintenance dredging funded by the Shallow Draft Navigation Channel Dredging and Aquatic Weed Fund OR involve the distribution or transmission of energy or fuel (including natural gas, diesel, petroleum, or electricity)?
  - No
- Is this project connected with (American Rescue Plan Act) ARPA funding or S.L. 2023-134 (earmark)?
  - No
- Please select:
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Please provide the DWI ARPA Funding Project Number (ie: SRP-W-ARP-1234 or SRP-W-134-1234):  
 \*The DWI Funding Project number can be located on the "Letter of Intent to Fund" (LOIF) or "Offer and Acceptance Letter". If you do not know your DWI project #, please contact your DWI project manager or fund recipient (e.g., LGU).
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Is this a NC Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS) Project? Note - Select Yes only if NCDMS is the applicant/co-applicant.
  - No
- Is this project a public transportation project?
  - Yes
- Is this a NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) project?
  - Yes
- (NCDOT only) T.I.P. (Transportation Improvement Program) or state project number:
  - B-5953
- (NCDOT only) WBS #
  - 47217.1.1
- Application for NC Division of Water Resources (DWR) Certification.  
 Type(s) of approval sought from the DWR? (Select all that apply)
  - 401 Water Quality Certification - Courtesy Copy Only
- Is this a modification OR new project with existing ID?
  - No
- Please provide the DWR ID number.
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

- Is the project located in any of NC's twenty coastal counties?
  - No
- Is the project located within a NC Division of Coastal Management (DCM) Area of Environmental Concern (AEC)?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Is the project located in a designated trout watershed? [Learn more about Trout](https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Permit-Program/Agency-Coordination/Trout.aspx)
  - No
- If yes, attach a copy of existing correspondence from the Wildlife Resource Commission Office.
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

#### **WATERS DETAILS -**

- Name of nearest waterbody? [Surface Water Lookup](https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/7073e9122ab74588b8c48ded34c3df55/)
  - French Broad River
- Does the proposed activity impact perennial or intermittent streams?
  - Yes
- Please ensure that the Aquatic Resource Inventory section includes all perennial and intermittent streams and be sure to identify them with appropriate Cowardin codes.  
(Click the Aquatic Resources Inventory in the menu on the left to navigate to that section.)  
  
Note: Use the Cowardin Code "R2 or R3" for perennial. Use Cowardin Code "R4" for intermittent.  
\*\*If no code provided, waters will be assumed to be perennial.\*\*
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

#### **NON-JD IMPACT DETAILS - NOTE: Questions only appear in this section when 'Non-404 Jurisdictional Waters Permit' has been included among the Type(s) of approval sought from the DWR.**

- Will the project result in impacts to Non-404 JD waters?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Please ensure that the associated Non-404 Jurisdictional Waters have been entered in the Aquatic Resource Inventory section of the Permit Application. Use the Aquatic Resource Type of "DELIN.NOJD-404".  
(Click the "Aquatic Resources Inventory" option in the menu on the left to navigate to that section.)
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

#### **BUFFER IMPACTS AND MITIGATION SUMMARY - Additional impacts and mitigation not previously covered in this application: Buffers**

- Will project occur in an area subject to state riparian buffer regulations?
  - No
- Will project result in any impacts within a protected riparian buffer?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

- Which protected basin(s) is the project located within?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Other Protected Basin
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Are the buffer regulations implemented by a delegated local government?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Please specify which local government.
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Impact Details
  - Please see the JPA\_DynamicTableReport.xlsx to review the provided data.
- Total Temporary Buffer Impacts
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Total Permanent Buffer Impacts
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Total Combined Buffer Impacts
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Will the project result in an impact within a protected riparian buffer that requires buffer mitigation?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- If yes, you must fill out this entire section - please contact DWR for more information.  
 Identify the square feet of impact to each zone of the riparian buffer that requires mitigation. Calculate the amount of mitigation required in the table below.
  - Please see the JPA\_DynamicTableReport.xlsx to review the provided data.
- How is buffer mitigation proposed to be met?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- If payment to mitigation bank or NCDMS, attach a valid statement of availability or DMS acceptance letter. OR Attach mitigation plan for review.
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN -**

- Does this project disturb >1 acre of land?
  - No
- Is this an NCDOT project subject to compliance with NCDOT's Individual NPDES permit NCS000250?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Is this project subject to review and approval under a state post-construction stormwater program (DEMLR) or state-approved local government stormwater program?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

- What entity has reviewed/is reviewing the Stormwater Management Plan?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- What is the Stormwater Management Plan status?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Does this project meet the requirements for low density projects as defined in 15A NCAC 02H.1003(2)? For details on how Low Density Projects are characterized, click the help icon.
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- For low density projects, submit documentation including built-upon area (BUA) delineation, percent BUA calculations, stormwater drainage plan, and designs for vegetated conveyances.
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- For all High Density projects submit a Stormwater Management Plan that includes stormwater control measures for water quality treatment.
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN BUFFERED BASINS - All stormwater generated from high ground within regulated buffer basins must be in compliance with the stormwater management requirements of the applicable buffer rules.**

**NOTE: Questions only appear in this section when 'Will project occur in an area subject to state riparian buffer regulations?' is answered Yes.**

- Does the project comply with the stormwater management requirements of the applicable buffer rules?
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Please explain why the project does not comply.
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION -**

- Is an environmental document required under NCEPA (01 NCAC 25 .0100)?
  - Yes
- Has the document review been finalized by the State Clearing House?
  - No
- Comments
  - An environmental document (CE or MCDC) will be prepared for the actual replacement.
- Attach a copy of the SEPA final approval document.
  - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

#### **VIOLATIONS -**

- Is the site in violation of DWR Water Quality Certification Rules (15A NCAC 2H .0500), Isolated Wetland Rules (15A NCAC 2H .1300), or DWR Surface Water or Wetland Standards or Riparian Buffer Rules (15A NCAC 2B .0200)?

- No

- Please explain.

- Not Applicable (Question not presented)

**CUMULATIVE IMPACTS -**

- Will this project (based on past and reasonably anticipated future impacts) result in additional development?

- No

- Provide a qualitative or quantitative cumulative impact analysis in accordance with the most recent DWR policy. [Learn more about Cumulative Impact Policy]([https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/Water%20Quality/Surface%20Water%20Protection/401/Policies\\_Guides\\_Manuals/CumulativeImpactPolicy.pdf](https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/Water%20Quality/Surface%20Water%20Protection/401/Policies_Guides_Manuals/CumulativeImpactPolicy.pdf))

- Not Applicable (Question not presented)

- If not, provide a short narrative description.

- The proposed borings will assist with design of the replacement structure.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: THE SYSTEM IS STILL UNDER DEVELOPMENT, AND DATA CURRENTLY DOES NOT TRANSMIT ELECTRONICALLY TO NCDEQ'S DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR). UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT COMPLETED RRS JPA DOCUMENTS THROUGH [NCDEQ'S "PROJECT SUBMITTAL INTERIM FORM" WEBSITE](<https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/Supplemental-Information-Form>).\*\***  
**[Additional Instructions](<https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/WaterResources/Browse.aspx?dbid=0&startid=3890140>)**

## U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

## PERMIT INFORMATION SHEET

PERMIT FORM TYPE

ENG 6082

DATE RECEIVED

08/27/2026

TYPE OF PERMIT YOU'RE REQUESTING

Standard

Letter Of Permission

General Permit

APPLICABLE STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Section 404 Clean Water Act

Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act

Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act

DO YOU PROPOSE COMPENSATORY MITIGATIONS?

No

## COASTAL DISTRICT

WOULD THE PROJECT OCCUR IN THE TERRITORIAL SEAS OR OCEAN WATERS?

No

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE BASELINE FROM WHICH THE TERRITORIAL SEA IS MEASURED

## SECTION 408 USACE CIVIL WORKS PROJECTS

WILL THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY REQUIRES PERMISSION FROM THE USACE PURSUANT TO 33 U.S.C. 408 BECAUSE IT WILL ALTER OR TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY OCCUPY OR USE A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FEDERALLY AUTHORIZED CIVIL WORKS PROJECT?

Yes

No

I'm not sure

IF YES, HAVE YOU SUBMITTED A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR SECTION 408 PERMISSION FROM THE USACE DISTRICT HAVING JURISDICTION OVER THAT PROJECT?

Yes

No

## GENERAL PERMIT INFORMATION

WILL THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY RESULT IN A LOSS TO WETLANDS OR WATERS THAT EXCEEDS NATIONAL OR DISTRICT THRESHOLDS?

No

# Project Submittal Interim Form



Updated March 16, 2026

*Please note: fields marked with a red asterisk \* below are required. You will not be able to submit the form until all mandatory questions are answered.*

## Project Type: \*

- |                                                                      |                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> For the Record Only (Courtesy Copy) | <input type="radio"/> New Project               |
| <input type="radio"/> Modification/New Project with Existing ID      | <input type="radio"/> More Information Response |
| <input type="radio"/> Other Agency Comments                          | <input type="radio"/> Pre-Application Submittal |
| <input type="radio"/> Re-Issuance/Renewal Request                    | <input type="radio"/> Stream or Buffer Appeal   |

**\* If this is a GP reissuance/renewal please reference the date of the plans and PCN that were originally verified.**

**New Project** - Please check the new project type if you are trying to submit a new project that needs an official approval decision.

**Pre-Application Submittal** – Please check the pre-application submittal if you just want feedback on your submittal and do not have the expectation that your submittal will be considered a complete application requiring a formal decision.

**Modification/New Project With An Existing ID** - Please check this box if you are submitting for a new phase of an existing project, a modification to an existing project or for any additional impacts to an existing project for an official approval decision.

**More Information Response** - Please check this type if you are responding to a request for information from staff and you have an ID# and version for this response.

**Other Agency Comments** - Please check this if you are submitting comments on an existing project.

**Re-issuance/Renewal Request** – Please check this if you are submitting for a re-issuance/renewal prior to expiration date for the corresponding 401/404. If submitting after the expiration date or if modification needed use Modification/New Project with Existing ID option.

## Submittal Type: \*

Application Attachments

## Project Contact Information

### Name:

Erin Cheely

*Who is submitting the information?*

### Email Address: \*

ekcheely@ncdot.gov

## Project Information

**Project Name: \***

NCDOT/B-5953/French Broad River and Southern Railroad/Old Leicester Highway (SR 1002)/Buncombe  
County/Div 13/WBS 47217.1.1

**Is this a public transportation project? \***

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Is this a DOT project? \***

☒ Yes ☐ No

**TIP#:**

B-5953

**WBS#:**

47217.1.1

(Applies to DOT projects only)

**Project Status**

If you selected "Re-Issuance/Renewal Request" or "Modification/New Project with Existing ID" for your project type at the top of this form, please enter the current status of your project.

☒ Pre-let ☐ Under Construction  
☐ Utility Relocation Underway ☐ In-Field Adjustment

**\*\*Only choose "In-Field Adjustment" if directed to do so by 401 staff\*\***

**Is this application for a project associated with emergency response/repairs from Hurricane Helene impacts to your project or property? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Is the project located within a NC DCM Area of Environmental Concern (AEC)? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown

**Does this project involve maintenance dredging funded by the Shallow Draft Navigation Channel Dredging and Aquatic Weed Fund, electric generation projects located at an existing or former electric generating facility, or involve the distribution or transmission of energy or fuel, including natural gas, diesel, petroleum, or electricity? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

**Is this project connected with ARPA funding or S.L. 2023-134 (earmark)? \***

☐ ARPA ☐ S.L. 2023-134 (earmark) ☒ No

**Is this application being filed jointly with another party involved with this project? \***

☐ Yes ☒ No

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**County (ies) \***

Buncombe

**Please upload all files that need to be submitted.**

[Click the upload button or drag and drop files here to attach document](#)

|                                                             |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Generated_Cheely_50847_59463_0_Appx_B_Aquatic_Resources.pdf | 49.56KB  |
| Generated_Cheely_50847_59463_0_Appx_C_Impacts.pdf           | 68.22KB  |
| Generated_Cheely_50847_59463_0_Appx_H_Supporting_Files.pdf  | 50.65KB  |
| Generated_Cheely_50847_59463_0_ENG_6082_PCN.pdf             | 546.89KB |
| Generated_Cheely_50847_59463_0_NCDWR 401_JPA_Report.pdf     | 91.46KB  |
| Generated_Cheely_50847_59463_0_Permit_Additional_Info.pdf   | 215.79KB |
| NCWRC Comments 2021.pdf                                     | 554.53KB |
| No Archaeological Survey Required 18-09-0030.pdf            | 2.82MB   |
| 18-09-0030 Effects - Historic Properties.pdf                | 1.15MB   |
| B-5953 Geotechnical Boring Locations.pdf                    | 244.25KB |
| B-5953 USFWS Informal Concurrence.pdf                       | 455.47KB |

[Only pdf or kmz files are accepted.](#)

**Describe the attachments or add comments:**

Application for a NW 6 for geotech borings sent to USACE via RRS. Courtesy copy to DWR.

\*

☒ By checking the box and signing box below, I certify that:

- I, the project proponent, hereby certifies that all information contained herein is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I, the project proponent, hereby requests that the certifying authority review and take action on this CWA 401 certification request within the applicable reasonable period of time.
- I agree that submission of this online form is a "transaction" subject to Chapter 66, Article 40 of the NC General Statutes (the "Uniform Electronic Transactions Act");
- I agree to conduct this transaction by electronic means pursuant to Chapter 66, Article 40 of the NC General Statutes (the "Uniform Electronic Transactions Act");
- I understand that an electronic signature has the same legal effect and can be enforced in the same way as a written signature; AND
- I intend to electronically sign and submit the online form.

**Signature: \***



**Submittal Date:**

8/27/2026

# Geotechnical Boring Locations

**B-5953 Geotechnical Borings**  
**Figure 1.**



# Protected Species/ Section 7



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**FW: [EXTERNAL] B-5953 | Buncombe | Informal Concurrence Request Distribution for Geotech Borings FWS Log # 26-192**

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**From** Cheely, Erin K <ekcheely@ncdot.gov>

**Date** Thu 8/20/2026 10:54 AM

**To** Crowther V., Robert E <recrowther@ncdot.gov>

---

**From:** Endries, Mark <mark\_endries@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2026 10:54 AM

**To:** NCDOT\_Service\_Account\_ECAP <ECAP@ncdot.gov>; Youngman, Holland J <holland\_youngman@fws.gov>; Cheely, Erin K <ekcheely@ncdot.gov>

**Cc:** Loretta Beckwith (Lori) (loretta.a.beckwith@usace.army.mil) <loretta.a.beckwith@usace.army.mil>; Stanton, Tyler P <tpstanton@ncdot.gov>; Gray, Jared S <jsgrey2@ncdot.gov>; Sanderson, Mike <jmsanderson@ncdot.gov>; Chris Rivenbark <crivenbark@rkk.com>

**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] B-5953 | Buncombe | Informal Concurrence Request Distribution for Geotech Borings FWS Log # 26-192

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Hello Everyone,

Thank you for providing the action area through IPaC. Below is the informal concurrence. Please reach out with any questions.

Informal Consultation for Appalachian elktoe (Alasmidonta raveneliana) Relating to the Subject Project - FWS Log # 26-192

We have reviewed the information you submitted and the following is provided in accordance with the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.); the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 661 - 667e); and section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 - 1543) (ESA).

*According to information provided in the consultation request, federally designated bat species are being considered under the WNC Bat Programmatic Biological Opinion for this project and are therefore not addressed in this consultation correspondence.*

NCDOT proposes to conduct geotechnical borings associated with the future replacement of Bridge Number 100649 on SR 1002 over the French Broad River in Buncombe County. A total of 21 borings will be needed to inform the design for replacing Bridge 100649 with 17 borings

located on land and four within the French Broad River. Collection of the four borings within the river will be completed from a barge launched from the east side of the river. No tree clearing is anticipated. Freshwater mussel surveys were conducted in association with the future bridge replacement project on September 20, 2022, and on August 29, 2025. No evidence of any species of freshwater mussel was detected during either mussel survey. In the 2025 survey report, the substrate within the survey reach was described as having been largely re-deposited as a result of Hurricane Helene flooding along with accumulations of PVC piping, as well as other anthropogenic debris.

Based on the information provided and the analysis above, impacts on Appalachian elktoe are not expected to rise to a level where take occurs. Therefore, we concur with the NCDOT determination that the project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect (NLAA) Appalachian elktoe.

On December 13, 2024, eastern hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*) was proposed for listing as endangered under the ESA. Species proposed for listing are not afforded protection under the ESA; however, as soon as a listing becomes effective, the prohibitions against jeopardizing its continued existence and "take" will apply. Discussion between NCDOT Central and the USFWS AFO in early 2025 lead to the decision for NCDOT not to conference on eastern hellbender at this time. Conferencing procedures can be initiated later in the timeline of this project should the need arise.

On December 12, 2024, monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) was proposed for listing as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Species proposed for listing are not afforded protection under the ESA; however, as soon as a listing becomes effective, the prohibitions against jeopardizing its continued existence and "take" will apply. Discussion between NCDOT Central and the USFWS AFO in early 2025 lead to the decision for NCDOT not to conference on monarch butterfly at this time. Conferencing procedures can be initiated later in the timeline of this project should the need arise.

The southern population of bog turtle (*Glyptemys muhlenbergii*) is considered an at-risk species and is designated as threatened due to similarity of appearance (to the northern population). The species was found warranted for listing on October 19, 2022, and is undergoing status review. While not subject to section 7 consultation, we would appreciate the project proponent's consideration of bog turtle when evaluating the action area for impacts to listed species and their habitats. If bog turtle or its suitable habitat is identified within the proposed action area or proposed activities will impact the hydrology of suitable habitat, we recommend coordinating the project with the Service and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC).

Conservation Recommendations: Conservation recommendations are discretionary agency activities to minimize or avoid adverse effects of a proposed action on listed species or critical habitat, to help implement recovery plans, or to develop information.

-Noise Considerations for Bats: If suitable roost trees are present near high-decibel activity (81 – 162 dBA) and would experience noise above background levels (41 – 70 dBA), avoid conducting those high-decibel activities during the bat summer occupancy season (April 1

– September 30). Alternatively, activity could avoid the pup season (May 15 - July 31). To minimize noise levels, incorporate sound-dampening devices such as noise shrouds for pile driving.

-Riparian Replanting: Because the removal of forested riparian habitat can affect the quality and suitability of foraging and commuting habitat for bats, we recommend replanting the riparian zone with native, fast-growing trees and shrubs that would serve to block light pollution and improve the quality of the habitat not only for bats but for aquatic species.

We believe the requirements under section 7 of the ESA are fulfilled for the federally listed species discussed above. However, obligations under section 7 must be reconsidered if: (1) new information reveals impacts of this proposed action may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner not previously considered, (2) this proposed action is subsequently modified in a manner that was not considered in this review, or (3) a new species is listed, or critical habitat is determined that may be affected by the proposed action.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. In any future correspondence on this project, please reference FWS Log # 26-192.

Sincerely,

Mark

**Mark Endries**

USFWS

160 Zillicoa St

Asheville, NC 28801

Office & Mobile: 828.373.4504

Mobile Only: 828.215.1740

[Chat](#)

---

**From:** NCDOT\_Service\_Account\_ECAP <[ECAP@ncdot.gov](mailto:ECAP@ncdot.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2026 4:46 PM

**To:** Youngman, Holland J <[holland\\_youngman@fws.gov](mailto:holland_youngman@fws.gov)>; Endries, Mark <[mark\\_endries@fws.gov](mailto:mark_endries@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** Loretta Beckwith (Lori) ([loretta.a.beckwith@usace.army.mil](mailto:loretta.a.beckwith@usace.army.mil)) <[loretta.a.beckwith@usace.army.mil](mailto:loretta.a.beckwith@usace.army.mil)>; Cheely,

Erin K <[ekcheely@ncdot.gov](mailto:ekcheely@ncdot.gov)>; Stanton, Tyler P <[tpstanton@ncdot.gov](mailto:tpstanton@ncdot.gov)>; Gray, Jared S <[jsgrey2@ncdot.gov](mailto:jsgrey2@ncdot.gov)>;

Sanderson, Mike <[jmsanderson@ncdot.gov](mailto:jmsanderson@ncdot.gov)>; Chris Rivenbark <[crivenbark@rkk.com](mailto:crivenbark@rkk.com)>;

NCDOT\_Service\_Account\_ECAP <[ECAP@ncdot.gov](mailto:ECAP@ncdot.gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] B-5953 | Buncombe | Informal Concurrence Request Distribution for Geotech Borings

**This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.**

Please see the attached informal concurrence request letter and survey information for geotechnical boring activity on project B-5953, the replacement of Bridge 100649 on SR 1005 (Old Leicester Highway) over the French Broad River and Southern Railroad in Buncombe County.

Thanks!  
erin

**Erin Cheely**

Western Team Lead  
Environmental Coordination & Permitting  
Environmental Analysis Unit  
N.C. Department of Transportation

919 707 6108 office  
919 323 5192 mobile  
[ekcheely@ncdot.gov](mailto:ekcheely@ncdot.gov)

1598 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1598



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# Archaeology and Tribal Coordination



## NO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REQUIRED FORM

This form only pertains to ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES for this project. It is not valid for Historic Architecture and Landscapes. You must consult separately with the Historic Architecture and Landscapes Team.



### PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No: **B-5953** County: **Buncombe**  
 WBS No: **47217.1.1** Document: **State Minimum Criteria**  
 Federal Aid No: **Na** Funding: ☒ State ☐ Federal  
 Federal Permit Required? ☒ Yes ☐ No Permit Type: **USACE**

#### Project Description:

The project calls for the replacement of Bridge No. 649 on SR 1002 (Old Leicester Highway) over the French Broad River in Buncombe County. *This project was originally reviewed in 2018 with a **No Archaeological Survey Required** form submitted on October 8, 2018. Subsequently, the project's APE has expanded and the former PA for is no longer valid. It is replaced by the current form.*

The newly expanded archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the project is defined as an approximately 1,250-foot (381.00 m) long corridor running 450 feet (137.16 m) east and 800 feet (243.84 m) west from the center of the bridge. The APE also runs 1,000 feet (304.80 m) along NC 251 (Riverside Drive) extending 500 feet (152.40 m) north and south from its intersection with Old Leicester Highway. The width of the APE corridor varies. To the east along NC 251, it is approximately 400 feet (121.92 m) wide extending 200 feet (60.96 m) from either side of the centerline. Along the bridge, it is between 470 and 500 feet (143.26 to 152.40 m) wide extending 270 to 300 feet (82.30 to 91.44 m) north and 200 feet (60.96 m) south from either side of the centerline. Finally at the western end along Old Leicester Highway, it is 575 to 750 feet (175.26 to 228.60 m) extending 375 to 550 feet (114.30 to 167.64 m) north and 200 feet (60.96 m) south from either side of the centerline. In all, the project area encompasses approximately 29 acres.

A federal permit is anticipated. As a result, this archaeological review was conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance (36 CFR Part 800).

### SUMMARY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

#### Brief description of review activities, results of review, and conclusions:

The proposed Bridge 649 replacement project is located north of Asheville in Buncombe County, North Carolina. The project area is plotted in the southwest corner of the Weaverville USGS 7.5' topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

An updated site file search was conducted using data from the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) on June 13, 2023. The former results remain the same. No previously recorded archaeological sites are within the APE, and only one site 31BN1049 is within a mile of bridge. According to the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) online database (HPOWEB 2023), the National Register listed Craggy Historic District (BN6404) is located just southwest of the bridge. This resource is eligible under Criteria A and C. The district includes the Determined Eligible listed Craggy Milling Company (BN345) (under A and C as well) and the Survey Only listed Redmen's Hall (BN611), George Mayo House (BN6405), Jackson's Store (BN6406), Craggy Depot Platform (BN6495), and Southern Railway Right-of-way (BN6496). Outside of the National Register District is the Survey Only listed Craggy Milling Company Warehouse (BN6494) and

the J.R. Cauble House (BN306). Contributing archaeological resources to the district are not expected to be encountered. Topographic maps, USDA soil survey maps, aerial photographs (NC One Map), and historic maps (North Carolina maps website) were further examined for information on environmental and cultural variables that may have contributed to prehistoric or historic settlement within the project limits and to assess the level of ground disturbance.

Bridge 649 and Old Leicester Highway run east to west over the French Broad River (Figure 2). The project area is situated mostly along steep hillside slopes with a narrow floodplain adjacent to the river and a graded ridgetop to the northwest. The area is heavily disturbed from development activities including a railway along the western bank of the river. Many of the hillsides including the ridgetop have been graded/cut to allow for structures, parking, or development activities, while the floodplain appears to consist of fill in order to alleviate flooding episodes. Impervious material including pavement and gravel also encompasses much of the project area especially east of the river. Finally, buried utilities run adjacent to the numerous roads. The minimal disturbed areas are located on the steep slopes, which will not yield any significant archaeological results.

The USDA soil survey map for the county identifies five soil types (USDA NRCS 2018) (see Figure 2). The Biltmore loam (BeA) occupies the floodplain. This is a well-drained soil with a slope of less than 3 percent. It is subject to occasional flooding. Although it is described as mostly intact, this was reported prior to modern development along this section of the river. Also, Urban land (Ux) is found along the floodplain. These are sections of the floodplain that have been identified as affected by development activities such as buried utilities, impervious surfaces, and fill. The hillslopes are made up of the Evard-Cowee complex (EvD2; EvE2), Tate loam (TaC; TaD), and Udorthents loam (Ud). All are well-drained, and the slope is between 8 and 50 percent. Soil erosion is moderate. Most of the area has over 15 percent slope. Those hillsides with a lesser slope have been disturbed by grading or urban development. The Udorthents series runs along Riverside Drive, where the hillside has been cut back. Udorthents soils have been altered by earth moving activities and retain none of their original characteristics. It is not expected that any of these soils will contain intact archaeological resources.

The absence of known archaeological sites along this section of the French Broad River is due to a lack of archaeological investigations. The one known site (31BN1049) is a recently recorded prehistoric fish weir found by OSA. Although more work is needed in the regions to better understand settlement distribution, the current project setting will not provide any useful information due to unfavorable conditions relating to previous ground disturbance and steep slope.

A revised map review also failed to provide any significant historical information. Most early maps prior to the 20th century show few details concerning the project area. The earliest maps to depict the area with any accuracy are the 1901 Asheville USGS topographic map (Figures 3). This map illustrates roads similar to Old Leicester Highway and Riverside Drive with a crossing near the current bridge. Structures are also plotted but only on the east side of the French Broad River. These are likely early 20th century household that would provide no new or important information. The subsequent 1920 *Soil Map for Buncombe County* has a similar picture of the project area (Perkin et al. 1920) (Figure 4). As a result, no significant historic archaeological deposits are likely to be encountered.

***Brief Explanation of why the available information provides a reliable basis for reasonably predicting that there are no unidentified historic properties in the APE:***

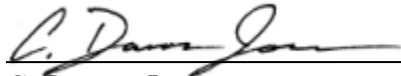
The proposed Bridge 649 replacement project in Buncombe County is not likely to impact any significant archaeological resources. This is due steep hillside slopes and heavy ground disturbance from urban development, which contribute to a low probability for archaeological sites. No further archaeological work is recommended for this project. But if design plans change to affect subsurface areas beyond the defined APE, further archaeological consultation might be necessary.

This project falls within a North Carolina County in which the Catawba Indian Nation, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Cherokee Nation, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, and Muscogee (Creek) Nation have expressed an interest. We recommend that you ensure that this documentation is forwarded to the tribe using the process described in the current NCDOT Tribal Protocol and PA Procedures Manual.

**SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION**

See attached: ☒ Map(s)    ☐ Previous Survey Info    ☐ Photos    ☐ Correspondence  
Other:

**FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST:** NO ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY REQUIRED



C. Damon Jones

NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST II

June 15, 2023

Date

**REFERENCES CITED**

Perkins, Samuel, Robert Devereux, Samuel Davidson, and William Davis

1920        *Soil Map for Buncombe County, North Carolina*. U.S. Department of Agriculture,  
Government Printing Office, Washington D.C. On file at North Carolina Collections, University  
of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

HPOWEB

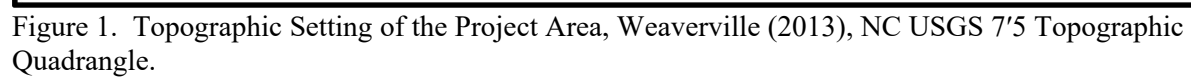
2023    North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office GIS Web Service.  
<http://gisNCDCR.gov/hpoweb/>. Accessed June 13, 2023.

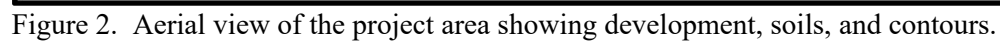
United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Services (USDA NRCS)

2023    Buncombe County Soil Survey. Available online at <http://webosilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>.  
Accessed June 13, 2023.

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

1901        Asheville, North Carolina-Tennessee 30 minute quadrangle map. Reprinted in 1907.  
2013        Weaverville, North Carolina 7.5 minute quadrangle map.





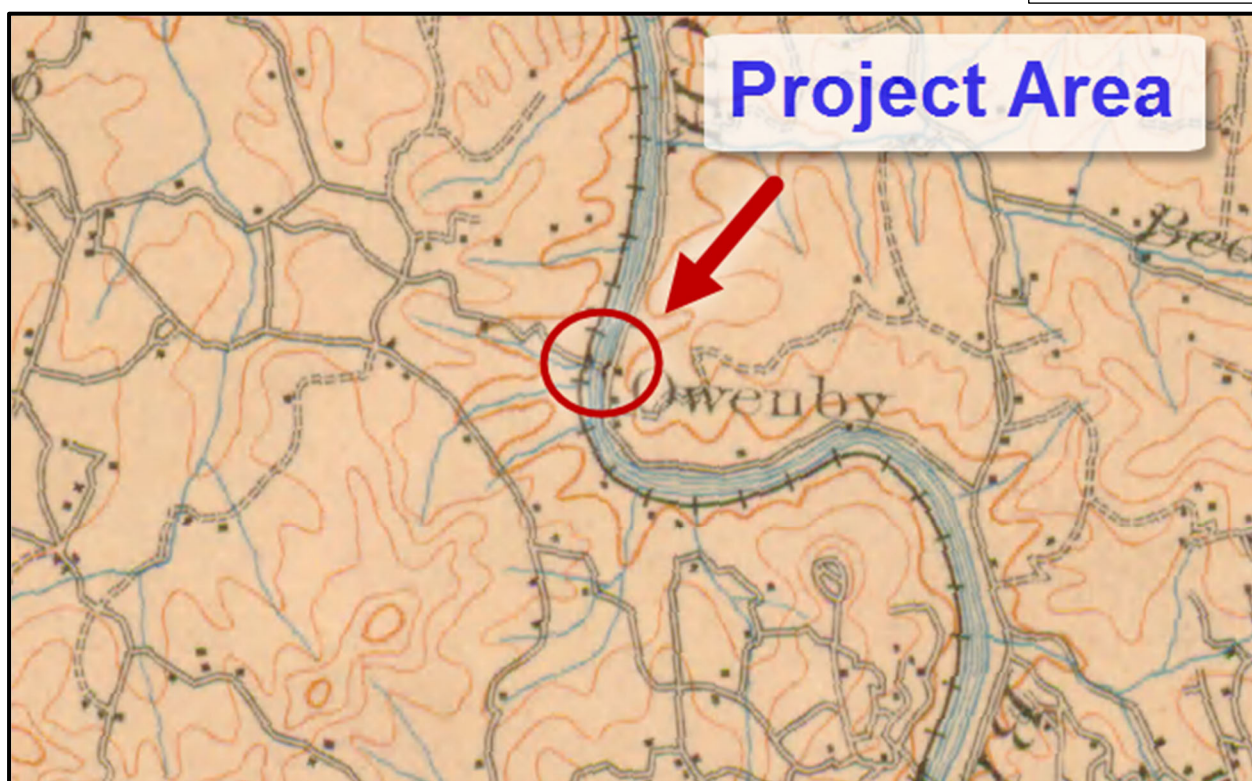


Figure 3. The 1901 USGS Asheville topographic map showing the location of the project area.

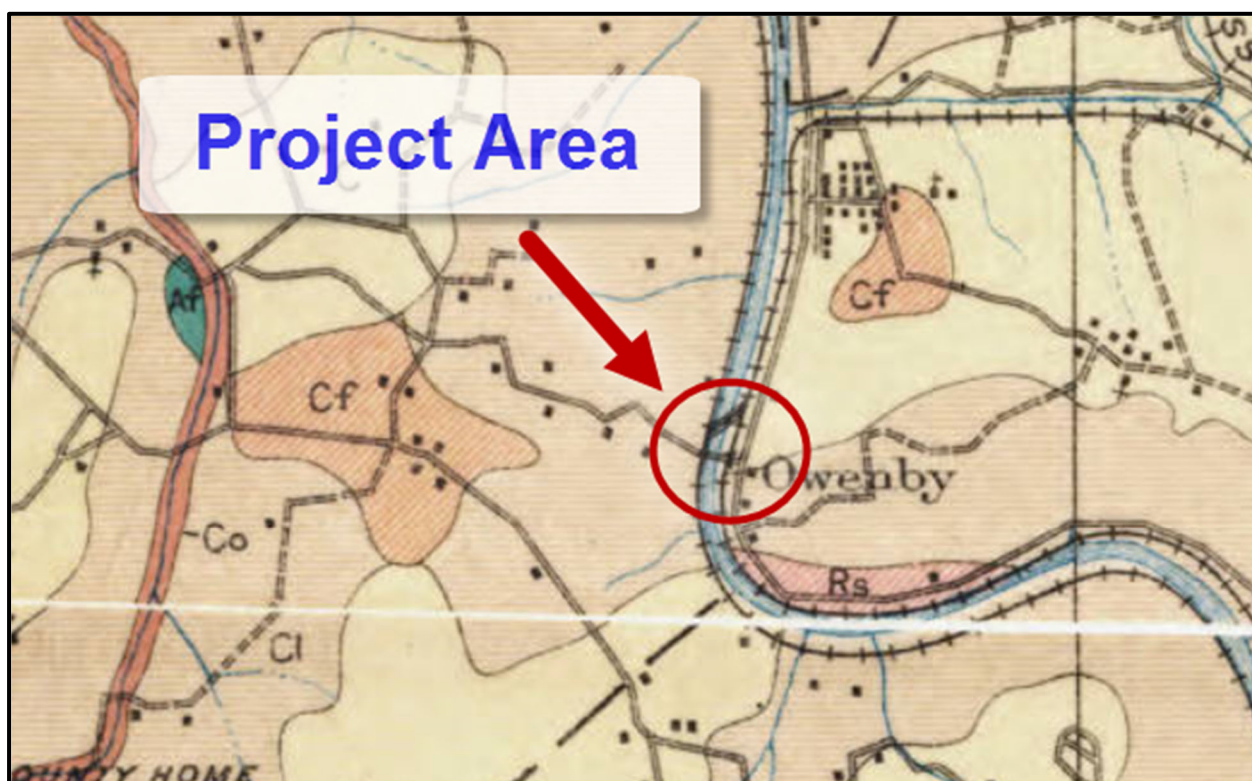
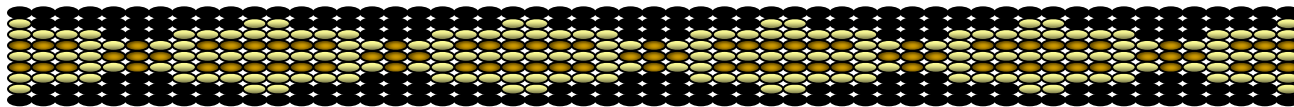


Figure 4. The 1920 Soil Map for Buncombe County showing the location of the project area.

Catawba Indian Nation  
Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
1536 Tom Steven Road  
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730

Office 803-328-2427  
Fax 803-328-5791



May 17, 2023

Attention: Mike Clark  
NC Department of Transportation  
55 Orange Street  
Asheville, NC 28801

|              |        |                                                                                |
|--------------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Re. THPO #   | TCNS # | Project Description                                                            |
| 2023-193-148 |        | Bridge No. 649 on State Route 1002 over the French Broad River in Buncombe Co. |

Dear Mr. Clark,

The Catawba have no immediate concerns with regard to traditional cultural properties, sacred sites or Native American archaeological sites within the boundaries of the proposed project areas. **However, the Catawba are to be notified if Native American artifacts and / or human remains are located during the ground disturbance phase of this project.**

If you have questions please contact Caitlin Rogers at 803-328-2427 ext. 226, or e-mail [Caitlin.Rogers@catawba.com](mailto:Caitlin.Rogers@catawba.com).

Sincerely,

Wenonah G. Haire  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer



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**Chuck Hoskin Jr.**  
*Principal Chief*  
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**Bryan Warner**  
*Deputy Principal Chief*  
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May 11, 2023

Kevin Hining  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
Highway Division 11  
801 Statesville Road  
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

Re: Bridge Replacement: No. 649  
Buncombe County, NC

Mr. Kevin Hining:

The Cherokee Nation (Nation) is in receipt of your correspondence about **Bridge Replacement: No. 649**, and appreciates the opportunity to provide comment upon this project. Please allow this letter to serve as the Nation's interest in acting as a consulting party to this proposed project.

The Nation maintains databases and records of cultural, historic, and pre-historic resources in this area. Our Historic Preservation Office (Office) reviewed this project, cross referenced the project's legal description against our information, and found no instances where this project intersects or adjoins such resources. Thus, the Nation does not foresee this project imparting impacts to Cherokee cultural resources at this time.

However, the Nation requests that the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) halt all project activities immediately and re-contact our Offices for further consultation if items of cultural significance are discovered during the course of this project. Additionally, the Nation requests that the NCDOT conduct appropriate inquiries with other pertinent Tribal and Historic Preservation Office regarding historic and prehistoric resources not included in the Nation's databases or records.

If you require additional information or have any questions, please contact me at your convenience. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Wado,

Elizabeth Toombs, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Cherokee Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
elizabeth-toombs@cherokee.org  
918.453.5389

# Historic Architecture and Landscapes

18-09-0030

**HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES****\*\*EFFECTS REQUIRED FORM\*\***

This form only pertains to Historic Architecture and Landscapes for this project. It is not valid for Archaeological Resources. You must consult separately with the Archaeology Group.

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

|                           |                                                                     |                        |                                                                            |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project No:</b>        | B-5953                                                              | <b>County:</b>         | Buncombe                                                                   |
| <b>WBS No.:</b>           | 47217.1.1                                                           | <b>Document Type:</b>  | MCC                                                                        |
| <b>Fed. Aid No:</b>       | N/A                                                                 | <b>Funding:</b>        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal |
| <b>Federal Permit(s):</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <b>Permit Type(s):</b> | USACE                                                                      |

**Project Description:**  
 Replace Bridge No. 649 on SR 1002 (Old Leicester Hwy) over French Broad River and Southern RR.

**SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES REVIEW****Description of review activities, results, and conclusions:**

Review of HPO quad maps, HPO GIS information, historic designations roster, and indexes was undertaken on September 13, 2018. Based on this review, there are documented and undocumented properties over fifty years of age within the Area of Potential Effects, which follows the Study Area Boundary. An Historic Architecture Survey was required and performed April of 2019. Three individual properties and one potential historic district were evaluated for National Register eligibility. After consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office, it was determined that the Craggy Milling Company (BN0345) and the Craggy Historic District (BN6404) are determined eligible for National Register listing, and Redman's Hall (BN0611) is not eligible for National Register listing. An assessment of effects is required for the two National Register determined eligible properties.

Effects Required:

**Craggy Milling Company (BN0345)**

**Craggy Historic District (BN6404)**

**SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION**

☒ Map(s) ☐ Previous Survey Info. ☐ Photos ☐ Correspondence ☐ Design Plans

**FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

Historic Architecture and Landscapes -- **\*\*EFFECTS REQUIRED\*\***

*Kate Hubbard*

*7/8/2019*

NCDOT Architectural Historian

Date

18-09-0030

Updated Study  
Area

## HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES NO SURVEY REQUIRED FORM

This form only pertains to Historic Architecture and Landscapes for this project. It is not valid for Archaeological Resources. You must consult separately with the Archaeology Group.

### PROJECT INFORMATION

|                           |                                                                     |                        |                                                                            |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project No:</b>        | B-5953                                                              | <b>County:</b>         | Buncombe                                                                   |
| <b>WBS No.:</b>           | 47217.1.1                                                           | <b>Document Type:</b>  | MCC                                                                        |
| <b>Fed. Aid No:</b>       | N/A                                                                 | <b>Funding:</b>        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal |
| <b>Federal Permit(s):</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <b>Permit Type(s):</b> | USACE                                                                      |

#### **Project Description:**

Replace Bridge No. 649 on SR 1002 (Old Leicester Hwy) over French Broad River and Southern RR.

### SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES REVIEW

#### **Description of review activities, results, and conclusions:**

Review of HPO quad maps, HPO GIS information, historic designations roster, and indexes was undertaken on May 23, 2023 for the **Updated portions of the Study Area as of May 2023.** Based on this review, there are no existing NR, SL, LD, DE, or SS properties in the updated portion of the Area of Potential Effects, which is defined on the following maps and follows the boundary of the Study Area. Properties over fifty years of age were identified within the APE and visually surveyed through Google Maps Street View, and from this survey it was determined that all are unremarkable and do not warrant further evaluation. There are no National Register listed or eligible properties and no survey is required for the updated portion of the Study Area. **An assessment of effects is still required for the National Register listed/Determined Eligible resources previously identified in July of 2019.**

#### **Why the available information provides a reliable basis for reasonably predicting that there are no unidentified significant historic architectural or landscape resources in the project area:**

HPO quad maps and GIS information recording NR, SL, LD, DE, and SS properties for the Buncombe County survey, Buncombe County GIS/Tax information, and Google Maps are considered valid for the purposes of determining the likelihood of historic resources being present. There are no National Register listed or eligible properties within the APE and no survey is required.

### SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

☐ Map(s)   ☐ Previous Survey Info.   ☐ Photos   ☐ Correspondence   ☐ Design Plans

### FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Historic Architecture and Landscapes -- NO SURVEY REQUIRED

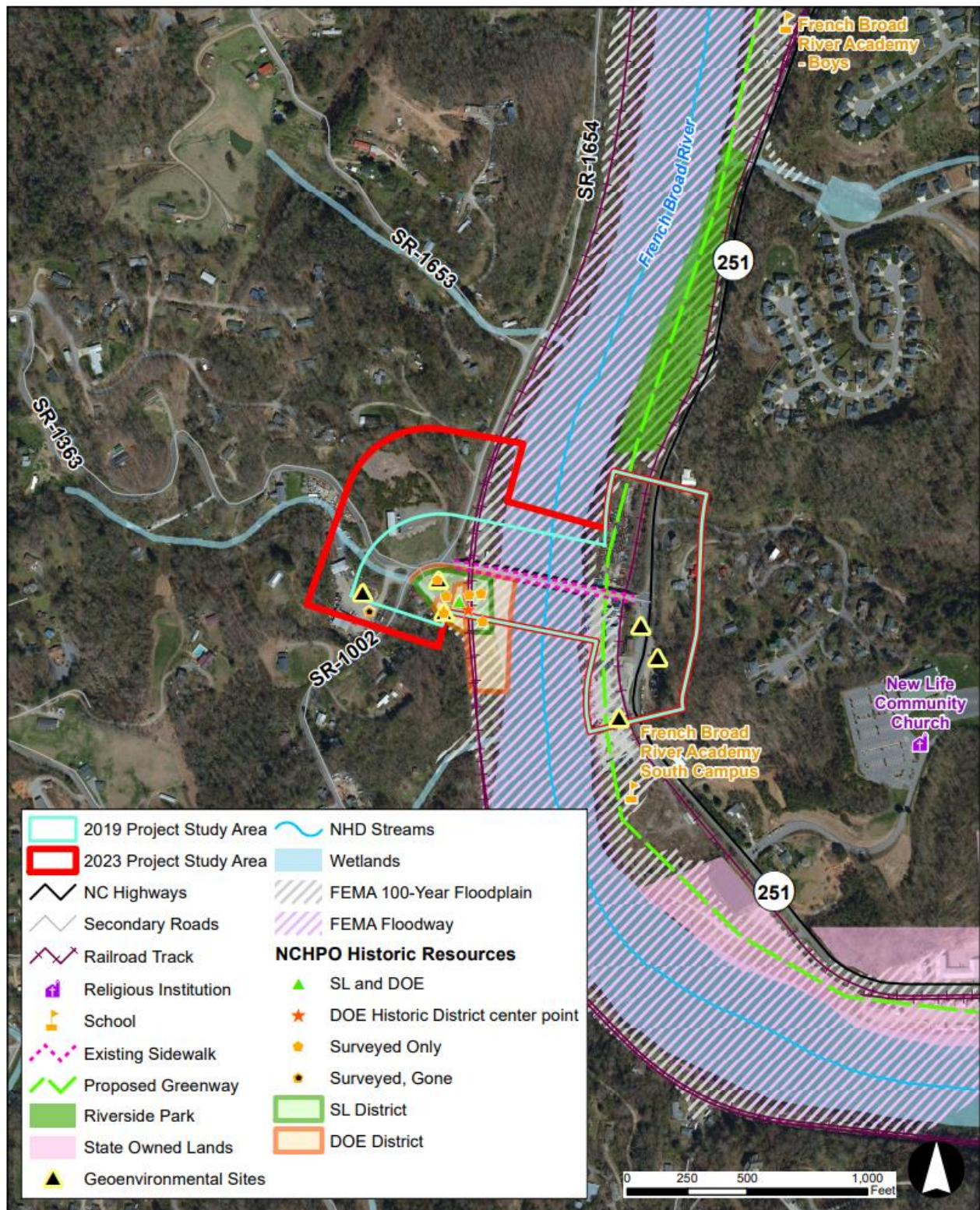
*Kate Husband*

*May 23, 2023*

NCDOT Architectural Historian

Date

Historic Architecture and Landscapes NO SURVEY REQUIRED form for Minor Transportation Projects as Qualified in the 2007 Programmatic Agreement.



B-5953

Figure 2. Environmental Features

# NCWRC Comments



## North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael Turchy  
NCDOT, Environmental Coordination and Permitting

FROM: Andrea Leslie, NC Wildlife Resources Commission *Andrea Leslie*  
Habitat Conservation Program

DATE: December 17, 2021

SUBJECT: Scoping review of 10 bridge replacement projects

NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has requested comments from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) regarding impacts to fish and wildlife resources resulting from the subject projects. Staff biologists have reviewed the information provided. The following preliminary comments are provided in accordance with the provisions of the state and federal Environmental Policy Acts (G.S. 113A-1 through 113-10; 1 NCAC 25 and 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c), respectively), the Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 U.S.C. 466 et seq.) and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661-667d), as applicable.

NCDOT intends to replace 10 bridges, as described in the following table:

| TIP     | County   | Description                                                    | Lat/Long              |
|---------|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| BR-0103 | Wilkes   | Replacement of Bridge 12 on US 421 Business over Reddies River | 36.159267, -81.153830 |
| BR-0067 | Buncombe | Replacement of Bridge 86 on NC 151 over Stony Fork Creek       | 35.459031, -82.736990 |
| BR-0068 | Burke    | Replacement of Bridge 103 on NC 126 over Canoe Creek           | 35.752704, -81.750907 |
| BR-0089 | Madison  | Replacement of Bridge 15 on NC 212 over Shelton Laurel Creek   | 35.952419, -82.712050 |

|         |            |                                                                                   |                       |
|---------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| BR-0100 | Rutherford | Replacement of Bridge 40 on NC 226 over North Fork First Broad Creek              | 35.525862, -81.776827 |
| BR-0101 | McDowell   | Replacement of Bridge 104 on US 64 over Cove Creek                                | 35.423613, -82.111824 |
| B-6047  | Rutherford | Replacement of Bridge 145 on SR 2125 over Floyd's Creek                           | 35.242972, -81.868806 |
| B-5953  | Buncombe   | Replacement of Bridge 649 on SR 1002 over French Broad River and Southern Railway | 35.628552, -82.602056 |
| BR-0083 | Henderson  | Replacement of Bridges 57 and 115 on US 64 over French Broad River Overflow       | 35.328044, -82.575323 |
| BR-0088 | Macon      | Replacement of Bridge 104 on US 64 over Cullasaja River                           | 35.166043, -83.323530 |

Our standard recommendations for bridge replacement projects of this scope are as follows:

1. We generally prefer spanning structures. Spanning structures usually do not require work within the stream and do not require stream channel realignment. The horizontal and vertical clearances provided by bridges allows for human and wildlife passage beneath the structure, does not block fish passage, and does not block navigation by canoeists and boaters.
2. Bridge deck drains should not discharge directly into the stream.
3. Live concrete should not be allowed to contact the water in or entering into the stream.
4. If possible, bridge supports (bents) should not be placed in the stream.
5. If temporary access roads or detours are constructed, they should be removed back to original ground elevations immediately upon the completion of the project. Disturbed areas should be seeded or mulched to stabilize the soil and native tree species should be planted with a spacing of not more than 10'x10'. If possible, when using temporary structures, the area should be cleared but not grubbed. Clearing the area with chain saws, mowers, Bush Hogs, or other mechanized equipment and leaving the stumps and root mat intact, allows the area to revegetate naturally and minimizes disturbed soil.
6. A clear bank (riprap free) area of at least 10 feet should remain on each side of the stream underneath the bridge.
7. In trout waters, the Commission reviews all U.S. Army Corps of Engineers nationwide and general '404' permits. We have the option of requesting additional measures to protect trout and trout habitat and we can recommend that the project require an individual '404' permit.
8. In streams that contain threatened or endangered species, Mr. Logan Williams with the NCDOT - ONE should be notified. Special measures to protect these sensitive species

may be required. NCDOT should also contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for information on requirements of the Endangered Species Act as it relates to the project.

9. In streams that are used by anadromous fish, the NCDOT official policy entitled “Stream Crossing Guidelines for Anadromous Fish Passage” (May 12, 1997) should be followed.
10. In areas with significant fisheries for sunfish, seasonal exclusions may also be recommended.
11. Sedimentation and erosion control measures sufficient to protect aquatic resources must be implemented prior to any ground disturbing activities. Structures should be maintained regularly, especially following rainfall events.
12. Temporary or permanent herbaceous vegetation should be planted on all bare soil within 15 days of ground disturbing activities to provide long-term erosion control.
13. All work in or adjacent to stream waters should be conducted in a dry work area. Sandbags, rock berms, cofferdams, or other diversion structures should be used where possible to prevent excavation in flowing water.
14. Heavy equipment should be operated from the bank rather than in stream channels in order to minimize sedimentation and reduce the likelihood of introducing other pollutants into streams.
15. Only clean, sediment-free rock should be used as temporary fill (causeways), and should be removed without excessive disturbance of the natural stream bottom when construction is completed.
16. During subsurface investigations, equipment should be inspected daily and maintained to prevent contamination of surface waters from leaking fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or other toxic materials.
17. If culvert installation is being considered, conduct subsurface investigations prior to structure design to determine design options and constraints and to ensure that wildlife passage issues are addressed.

If corrugated metal pipe arches, reinforced concrete pipes, or concrete box culverts are used:

1. The culvert must be designed to allow for aquatic life and fish passage. Generally, the culvert or pipe invert should be buried at least 1 foot below the natural streambed (measured from the natural thalweg depth). If multiple barrels are required, barrels other than the base flow barrel should be placed on or near stream bankfull or flood plain bench elevation (similar to Lyonsfield design). These should be reconnected to flood plain benches as appropriate. This may be accomplished by utilizing sills on the upstream end to restrict or divert flow to the base flow barrel. Silled barrels should be filled with sediment so as not to cause noxious or mosquito breeding conditions. Sufficient water

depth should be provided in the base flow barrel during low flows to accommodate fish movement. If culverts are longer than 40-50 linear feet, alternating or notched baffles should be installed in a manner that mimics existing stream pattern. This should enhance aquatic life passage: 1) by depositing sediments in the barrel, 2) by maintaining channel depth and flow regimes and 3) by providing resting places for fish and other aquatic organisms. In essence, the base flow barrel should provide a continuum of water depth and channel width without substantial modifications of velocity.

2. If multiple pipes or cells are used, at least one pipe or box should be designed to remain dry during normal flows to allow for wildlife passage.
3. Culverts or pipes should be situated along the existing channel alignment whenever possible to avoid channel realignment. Widening the stream channel must be avoided. Stream channel widening at the inlet or outlet end of structures typically decreases water velocity causing sediment deposition that requires increased maintenance and disrupts aquatic life passage.
4. Riprap should not be placed in the active thalweg channel or placed in the streambed in a manner that precludes aquatic life passage. Bioengineering boulders or structures should be professionally designed, sized, and installed.

In most cases, we prefer the replacement of the existing structure at the same location with road closure. If road closure is not feasible, a temporary detour should be designed and located to avoid wetland impacts, minimize the need for clearing and to avoid destabilizing stream banks. If the structure will be on a new alignment, the old structure should be removed and the approach fills removed from the 100-year floodplain. Approach fills should be removed down to the natural ground elevation. The area should be stabilized with grass and planted with native tree species. Tall fescue should not be used in riparian areas. If the area that is reclaimed was previously wetlands, NCDOT should restore the area to wetlands. If successful, the site may be used as wetland mitigation for the subject project or other projects in the watershed.

Project specific comments:

1. Wilkes County, Bridge No. 12 over Reddies River on US 421. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. Stringent sedimentation and erosion control measures and standard recommendations should apply.
2. Buncombe County, Bridge No. 86 over Stony Fork on NC 151. Rainbow Trout and Brown Trout are expected in the project area. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. Stringent sedimentation and erosion control measures and standard recommendations should apply.
3. Burke County, Bridge No. 103 over Canoe Creek on NC 126. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. Stringent sedimentation and erosion control measures and standard recommendations should apply.

4. Madison County, Bridge No. 15 over Shelton Laurel Creek on NC 212. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. This portion of the river is part of the Lower French Broad River Aquatic Habitat, a NC Natural Heritage Program natural area rated Exceptional due to the richness and importance of aquatic species it supports. Eastern Hellbender [*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*, NC Special Concern (SC)] is found in the vicinity of the project. We recommend the most protective sediment and erosion control measures that meet the Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds be used. Please keep NCWRC informed of construction dates so that we may have the opportunity to survey and possibly relocate rare species in harm's way; inform Lori Williams ([lori.williams@ncwildlife.org](mailto:lori.williams@ncwildlife.org)) and myself at least 3 weeks in advance of construction.
5. Rutherford County, Bridge No. 40 over North Fork First Broad River on NC 226. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. This portion of the river is part of the First Broad River Headwaters Aquatic Habitat, a NC Natural Heritage Program natural area rated Exceptional due to the richness and importance of aquatic species it supports. Broad River Spiny Crayfish (*Cambarus spicatus*, NC SC), Broad River Stream Crayfish [*Cambarus lenati*, NC Significantly Rare (SR)], and Seagreen Darter (*Etheostoma thalassinum*, NC SR) are found in the vicinity of the project. We recommend the most protective sediment and erosion control measures that meet the Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds be used.
6. McDowell County, Bridge No. 104 over Cove Creek on US 64. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. However, Broad River Stream Crayfish and Seagreen Darter are found in the vicinity of the project. Stringent sedimentation and erosion control measures and standard recommendations should apply.
7. Rutherford County, Bridge No. 145 over Floyds Creek on SR 2125. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. Stringent sedimentation and erosion control measures and standard recommendations should apply.
8. Buncombe County, Bridge No. 649 over the French Broad River on SR 1002. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. Stringent sedimentation and erosion control measures and standard recommendations should apply.
9. Henderson County, Bridges No. 57 and 115 over the French Broad River on US 64. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. However, Appalachian Elktoe (*Alasmodonta raveneliana*, US and NC Endangered) are found in the vicinity. The most protective sediment and erosion control measures that meet the Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds should be used.
10. Macon County, Bridge No. 104 over the Cullasaja River on US 64. Wild trout reproduction should not be impacted, and we are not requesting a trout moratorium for this project. This portion of the river is part of the Cullasaja River/Ellijay Creek Aquatic Habitat, a NC Natural Heritage Program natural area rated Very High due to the richness and importance of aquatic species it supports. Eastern Hellbender, Olive Darter (*Percina squamata*, NC SC), Wounded Darter (*Etheostoma vulneratum*, NC SC), Smoky Dace (*Clinostomus* sp., NC SC), Little

Tennessee Crayfish (*Cambarus georgiae*, NC SC), and Common Mudpuppy (*Necturus maculosus*, NC SC) are found in the vicinity of the project. We recommend the most protective sediment and erosion control measures that meet the Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds be used. Please keep NCWRC informed of construction dates so that we may have the opportunity to survey and possibly relocate rare species in harm's way; inform Lori Williams ([lori.williams@ncwildlife.org](mailto:lori.williams@ncwildlife.org)) and myself at least 3 weeks in advance of construction.

We request that NCDOT routinely minimize adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources in the vicinity of bridge replacements. The NCDOT should install and maintain sedimentation control measures throughout the life of the project and prevent wet concrete from contacting water in or entering into these streams. Replacement of bridges with spanning structures of some type, as opposed to pipe or box culverts, is recommended in most cases. Spanning structures allow wildlife passage along streambanks, reducing habitat fragmentation and vehicle related mortality at highway crossings.

If you need further assistance or information on NCWRC concerns regarding bridge replacements, please contact me at [andrea.leslie@ncwildlife.org](mailto:andrea.leslie@ncwildlife.org) or (828) 400-4223. Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this project.

ec: Lori Williams, NCWRC  
Holland Youngman, US Fish and Wildlife Service