



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III  
SECRETARY

February 11, 2020

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
151 Patton Avenue, Room 208  
Asheville, NC 28801-5006

ATTN: Ms. Lori Beckwith  
NCDOT Coordinator

Subject: **Application for Section 404 Nationwide Permit 14, and Section 401 Water Quality Certification** for the Proposed Replacement of Bridge 667 on SR 1749 (Austin Traphill Road) over Sparks Creek in Wilkes County, Division 11, TIP No. BR-0126, Debit \$240 from WBS 48835.1.1.

Dear Madam:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace bridge number 667 on SR 1749 with a new bridge slightly north of the existing alignment. Traffic will be maintained on-site using phased construction.

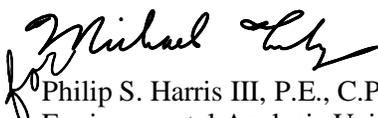
As a result of replacing the existing bridge, there will be 99 linear feet of stream bank stabilization under the bridge and at a new ditch outlet, and 0.02 acre of temporary stream impacts from floating turbidity curtains needed for removal of the existing bridge.

Please see enclosed copies of the Pre-Construction Notification (PCN), bat memo, Catawba Indian Nation response letter, Stormwater Management Plan, and Permit Drawings. A Categorical Exclusion (CE) was completed in September 2019 and distributed shortly thereafter. Additional copies are available upon request.

This project calls for a letting date of July 21, 2020 and a review date of June 2, 2020.

A copy of this permit application and its distribution list will be posted on the NCDOT Website at: <http://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/Environmental>. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Erin Cheely at [ekcheely@ncdot.gov](mailto:ekcheely@ncdot.gov) or (919) 707-6108.

Sincerely,

  
Philip S. Harris III, P.E., C.P.M.  
Environmental Analysis Unit Head

Cc: NCDOT Permit Application Standard Distribution List

*Mailing Address:*  
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT  
1598 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH NC 27699-1598

*Telephone:* (919) 707-6000  
*Fax:* (919) 250-4224  
*Customer Service:* 1-877-368-4968  
*Website:* [www.ncdot.gov](http://www.ncdot.gov)

*Location:*  
1000 BIRCH RIDGE DRIVE  
RALEIGH NC 27610



## Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Form

For Nationwide Permits and Regional General Permits  
(along with corresponding Water Quality Certifications)

September 29, 2018 Ver 3

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.

Also, if at any point you wish to print a copy of the E-PCN, all you need to do is right-click on the document and you can print a copy of the form.

Below is a link to the online help file.

<https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/WaterResources/0/edoc/624704/PCN%20Help%20File%202018-1-30.pdf>

### A. Processing Information

**County (or Counties) where the project is located:\***

Wilkes

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

Yes  No

This is any publicly funded by municipal, state or federal funds road, rail, airport transportation project.

**Is this a NCDOT Project?\***

Yes  No

**(NCDOT only) T.I.P. or state project number:**

BR-0126

**WBS #\***

48835.1.1

(for NCDOT use only)

**1a. Type(s) of approval sought from the Corps:\***

Section 404 Permit (wetlands, streams and waters, Clean Water Act)

Section 10 Permit (navigable waters, tidal waters, Rivers and Harbors Act)

**1b. What type(s) of permit(s) do you wish to seek authorization?\***

Nationwide Permit (NWP)

Regional General Permit (RGP)

Standard (IP)

This form may be used to initiate the standard/individual permit process with the Corps. Please contact your Corps representative concerning submittals for standard permits. All required items that are not provided in the E-PCN can be added to the miscellaneous upload area located at the bottom of this form.

**1c. Has the NWP or GP number been verified by the Corps?\***

Yes  No

**Nationwide Permit (NWP) Number:**

14 - Linear transportation

**NWP Numbers (for multiple NWPS):**

List all NW numbers you are applying for not on the drop down list.

**1d. Type(s) of approval sought from the DWR:\***

check all that apply

401 Water Quality Certification - Regular

Non-404 Jurisdictional General Permit

Individual Permit

401 Water Quality Certification - Express

Riparian Buffer Authorization

**1e. Is this notification solely for the record because written approval is not required?**

\*

**For the record only for DWR 401 Certification:**

Yes  No

**For the record only for Corps Permit:**

Yes  No

**1f. Is this an after-the-fact permit application?\***

Yes

No

**1g. Is payment into a mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program proposed for mitigation of impacts?**

If so, attach the acceptance letter from mitigation bank or in-lieu fee program

Yes  No

**Acceptance Letter Attachment**

Click the upload button or drag and drop files here to attach document

FILETYPE MUST BE PDF

**1h. Is the project located in any of NC's twenty coastal counties? \***

Yes  No

**1j. Is the project located in a designated trout watershed? \***

Yes  No

You must submit a copy of the appropriate Wildlife Resource Commission Office.

Link to trout information: <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Permit-Program/Agency-Coordination/Trout.aspx>

**B. Applicant Information**

**1a. Who is the Primary Contact? \***

NCDOT

**1b. Primary Contact Email: \***

ekcheely@ncdot.gov

**1c. Primary Contact Phone: \***

(xxx)xxx-xxxx  
(919)707-6108

**1d. Who is applying for the permit? \***

Owner  Applicant (other than owner)  
(Check all that apply)

**1e. Is there an Agent/Consultant for this project? \***

Yes  No

**2. Owner Information**

**2a. Name(s) on recorded deed: \***

NC Department of Transportation

**2b. Deed book and page no.:**

**2c. Responsible party:**

(for Corporations)

**2d. Address \***

Street Address

1598 Mail Service Center

Address Line 2

City

Raleigh

Postal / Zip Code

27699

State / Province / Region

NC

Country

USA

**2e. Telephone Number: \***

(xxx)xxx-xxxx

(919)707-6018

**2f. Fax Number:**

(xxx)xxx-xxxx

**2g. Email Address: \***

pharris@ncdot.gov

**C. Project Information and Prior Project History**

**1. Project Information**

**1a. Name of project: \***

BR-0126: Replace Bridge 667 over Sparks Creek on SR 1749 (Austin Traphill Road)

**1b. Subdivision name:**

(if appropriate)

**1c. Nearest municipality / town: \***

Traphill

## 2. Project Identification



### 2a. Property Identification Number:

(tax PIN or parcel ID)

### 2b. Property size:

(in acres)

### 2c. Project Address

Street Address

Address Line 2

City

Postal / Zip Code

State / Province / Region

Country

### 2d. Site coordinates in decimal degrees

Please collect site coordinates in decimal degrees. Use between 4-6 digits (unless you are using a survey-grade GPS device) after the decimal place as appropriate, based on how the location was determined. (For example, most mobile phones with GPS provide locational precision in decimal degrees to map coordinates to 5 or 6 digits after the decimal place.)

#### Latitude: \*

36.334797  
ex: 34.208504

#### Longitude: \*

-81.013987  
-77.796371

## 3. Surface Waters

### 3a. Name of the nearest body of water to proposed project: \*

Sparks Creek

### 3b. Water Resources Classification of nearest receiving water: \*

C

[Surface Water Lookup](#)

### 3c. What river basin(s) is your project located in? \*

Yadkin-PeeDee

### 3d. Please provide the 12-digit HUC in which the project is located. \*

030401010405

[River Basin Lookup](#)

## 4. Project Description and History

### 4a. Describe the existing conditions on the site and the general land use in the vicinity of the project at the time of this application: \*

Surrounding land use is agricultural and residential interspersed with small to large patches of forested areas.

### 4b. Have Corps permits or DWR certifications been obtained for this project (including all prior phases) in the past? \*

Yes  No  Unknown

### 4d. Attach an 8 1/2 X 11 excerpt from the most recent version of the USGS topographic map indicating the location of the project site. (for DWR)

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

File type must be pdf

### 4e. Attach an 8 1/2 X 11 excerpt from the most recent version of the published County NRCS Soil Survey map depicting the project site. (for DWR)

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

File type must be pdf

### 4f. List the total estimated acreage of all existing wetlands on the property:

<0.01

### 4g. List the total estimated linear feet of all existing streams on the property:

(intermittent and perennial)

1,859

### 4h. Explain the purpose of the proposed project: \*

The replacement of bridge 667 is part of the Growing Rural Economy and Agriculture through Transportation and Technology Enhancement or Replacement in North Carolina (GREATTER-NC) Project under the United States Department of Transportation's 2018 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program. The purpose of the grant and this bridge replacement is to provide transportation infrastructure to support economic development and improve physical and digital connectivity in rural communities in North Carolina. The current posted weight restriction on Bridge 667 prohibits large or heavy vehicles, typically used in transporting agricultural and manufactured products, from using the bridge. Vehicles above the posted limit must detour 7 miles to avoid the bridge. Replacing this bridge will eliminate posted weight limits by providing a safe crossing for all legal loads and will make accommodations for broadband installation in order to support economic competitiveness.

### 4i. Describe the overall project in detail, including indirect impacts and the type of equipment to be used: \*

The proposed project will replace the existing 90 foot-long, two-lane bridge with a new 102 foot-long, two-lane bridge slightly to the north of the current location. Traffic will be detoured onsite during construction using phased construction. Traffic will remain on the existing bridge and shift to the new alignment upon completion. Standard road building equipment such as trucks, dozers, and cranes will be used.

### 4j. Please upload project drawings for the proposed project.

Click the upload button or drag and drop files here to attach document

BR-0126 Permit Drawings.pdf

3.86MB

File type must be pdf

## 5. Jurisdictional Determinations

5a. Have the wetlands or streams been delineated on the property or proposed impact areas? \*

Yes  No  Unknown

### Comments:

Of the delineated areas, only one perennial stream (Sparks Creek) is impacted by this project.

5b. If the Corps made a jurisdictional determination, what type of determination was made? \*

Preliminary  Approved  Not Verified  Unknown  N/A

### Corps AID Number:

Example: SAW-2017-99999

5c. If 5a is yes, who delineated the jurisdictional areas?

Name (if known): Evan Morgan, Lizzy Stokes-Cawley

Agency/Consultant Company: Three Oaks Engineering

Other:

### 5d1. Jurisdictional determination upload

Click the upload button or drag and drop files here to attach document

File type must be PDF

## 6. Future Project Plans

6a. Is this a phased project? \*

Yes  No

Are any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permits(s) used, or intended to be used, to authorize any part of the proposed project or related activity? This includes other separate and distant crossing for linear projects that require Department of the Army authorization but don't require pre-construction notification.

No.

## D. Proposed Impacts Inventory

### 1. Impacts Summary

1a. Where are the impacts associated with your project? (check all that apply):

Wetlands  Streams-tributaries  Buffers  
 Open Waters  Pond Construction

### 3. Stream Impacts

If there are perennial or intermittent stream impacts (including temporary impacts) proposed on the site, then complete this question for all stream sites impacted.

"S." will be used in the table below to represent the word "stream".

	3a. Reason for impact * (?)	3b. Impact type *	3c. Type of impact *	3d. S. name *	3e. Stream Type * (?)	3f. Type of Jurisdiction *	3g. S. width * Average (feet)	3h. Impact length * (linear feet)
S1	Site 1 - Temporary turbidity curtains for bridge replacement	Temporary	Other	Sparks Creek	Perennial	Both	27 Average (feet)	4 (linear feet)
S2	Site 1 - Bank stabilization under bridge	Permanent	Stabilization	Sparks Creek	Perennial	Both	27 Average (feet)	78 (linear feet)
S3	Site 1 - Bank stabilization at ditch outlet	Permanent	Stabilization	Sparks Creek	Perennial	Both	27 Average (feet)	21 (linear feet)

\*\* All Perennial or Intermittent streams must be verified by DWR or delegated local government.

3i. Total jurisdictional ditch impact in square feet:

0

3i. Total permanent stream impacts:

99

3i. Total temporary stream impacts:

4

3i. Total stream and ditch impacts:

103

### 3j. Comments:

Temporary impacts total 0.02 acre (also, there are an additional 81' of temporary impacts, but they overlap with bank stabilization impacts).

## E. Impact Justification and Mitigation

### 1. Avoidance and Minimization

#### 1a. Specifically describe measures taken to avoid or minimize the proposed impacts in designing the project: \*

The proposed replacement bridge will be on a similar alignment as the existing bridge, will be longer, and will span the stream. Overall drainage patterns will be maintained. On the end side of the bridge, a traffic bearing grated drop inlet with double frame and grates (2GI) will be placed on the left side of the roadway in the shoulder berm gutter to pick up runoff from the bridge. Deck drains are not required. Class II rip rap abutment protection on both banks of the stream will also be used to prevent future erosion and stream migration.

#### 1b. Specifically describe measures taken to avoid or minimize the proposed impacts through construction techniques: \*

NCDOT will adhere to Best Management Practices for Construction and Maintenance Activities.

### 2. Compensatory Mitigation for Impacts to Waters of the U.S. or Waters of the State

#### 2a. Does the project require Compensatory Mitigation for impacts to Waters of the U.S. or Waters of the State?

Yes  No

#### 2b. If this project DOES NOT require Compensatory Mitigation, explain why:

The NCDOT does not propose mitigation for the temporary and bank stabilization impacts related to this project. These impacts do not require permanent fill in the stream bed, therefore, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, do not constitute Loss of Waters of the U.S., and are not subject to compensatory mitigation.

NC Stream Temperature Classification Maps can be found under the Mitigation Concepts tab on the Wilmington District's RIBITS website.

## F. Stormwater Management and Diffuse Flow Plan (required by DWR)

\*\*\* Recent changes to the stormwater rules have required updates to this section .\*\*\*

### 1. Diffuse Flow Plan

#### 1a. Does the project include or is it adjacent to protected riparian buffers identified within one of the NC Riparian Buffer Protection Rules?

Yes  No

For a list of options to meet the diffuse flow requirements, click [here](#).

#### If no, explain why:

No buffered resources within project area.

### 2. Stormwater Management Plan

#### 2a. Is this a NCDOT project subject to compliance with NCDOT's Individual NPDES permit NCS000250? \*

Yes  No

#### Comments:

## G. Supplementary Information

### 1. Environmental Documentation

#### 1a. Does the project involve an expenditure of public (federal/state/local) funds or the use of public (federal/state) land? \*

Yes  No

#### 1b. If you answered "yes" to the above, does the project require preparation of an environmental document pursuant to the requirements of the National or State (North Carolina) Environmental Policy Act (NEPA/SEPA)? \*

Yes  No

#### 1c. If you answered "yes" to the above, has the document review been finalized by the State Clearing House? (If so, attach a copy of the NEPA or SEPA final approval letter.) \*

Yes  No

#### NEPA or SEPA Final Approval Letter

Click the upload button or drag and drop files here to attach document

BR-0126 Final CE.pdf

15.26MB

FILE TYPE MUST BE PDF

### 2. Violations (DWR Requirement)

#### 2a. 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)? \*

Yes  No

### 3. Cumulative Impacts (DWR Requirement)

3a. Will this project (based on past and reasonably anticipated future impacts) result in additional development, which could impact nearby downstream water quality? \*

Yes  No

3b. If you answered "no," provide a short narrative description.

Due to the minimal transportation impact resulting from this bridge replacement, this project will neither influence nearby land uses nor stimulate growth. Therefore, a detailed indirect or cumulative effects study will not be necessary.

### 4. Sewage Disposal (DWR Requirement)

4a. Is sewage disposal required by DWR for this project? \*

Yes  No  N/A

### 5. Endangered Species and Designated Critical Habitat (Corps Requirement)

5a. Will this project occur in or near an area with federally protected species or habitat? \*

Yes  No

5b. Have you checked with the USFWS concerning Endangered Species Act impacts? \*

Yes  No

5c. If yes, indicate the USFWS Field Office you have contacted.

Asheville

5d. Is another Federal agency involved? \*

Yes  No  Unknown

5e. Is this a DOT project located within Division's 1-8? \*

Yes  No

5f. Will you cut any trees in order to conduct the work in waters of the U.S.? \*

Yes  No

5g. Does this project involve bridge maintenance or removal? \*

Yes  No

5g(1). If yes, have you inspected the bridge for signs of bat use such as staining, guano, bats, etc.? Representative photos of signs of bat use can be found in the NLEB SLOPES, Appendix F, pages 3-7.

Yes  No

Link to the NLEB SLOPES document: [http://saw-reg.usace.army.mil/NLEB/1-30-17-signed\\_NLEB-SLOPES&apps.pdf](http://saw-reg.usace.army.mil/NLEB/1-30-17-signed_NLEB-SLOPES&apps.pdf)

If you answered "Yes" to 5g(1), did you discover any signs of bat use? \*

Yes  No  Unknown

\*\*\* If yes, please show the location of the bridge on the permit drawings/project plans.

5h. Does this project involve the construction/installation of a wind turbine(s)? \*

Yes  No

5i. Does this project involve (1) blasting, and/or (2) other percussive activities that will be conducted by machines, such as jackhammers, mechanized pile drivers, etc.? \*

Yes  No

If yes, please provide details to include type of percussive activity, purpose, duration, and specific location of this activity on the property.

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

File must be PDF

5j. What data sources did you use to determine whether your site would impact Endangered Species or Designated Critical Habitat? \*

As of November 13, 2019, the USFWS lists four protected species for Wilkes County. A biological conclusion for bog turtle is not required, though no suitable habitat is present within the project footprint. USFWS assumes the state is unoccupied by the rusty-patched bumble bee. A memo stating that NCDOT is in compliance with 4(d) with regard to northern long-eared bat was sent to USFWS (Claire Ellwanger) on 1/6/2020. The bridge was assessed for gray bat habitat on 1/9/2020, and there was no evidence of bats (see attached NLEB/MYGR memo).

#### Consultation Documentation Upload

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

BR-0126 NLEB 4(d) MYGR Wilkes.pdf

233.63KB

File type must be PDF

### 6. Essential Fish Habitat (Corps Requirement)

6a. Will this project occur in or near an area designated as an Essential Fish Habitat? \*

Yes  No

6b. What data sources did you use to determine whether your site would impact an Essential Fish Habitat? \*

NMFS County Index

## 7. Historic or Prehistoric Cultural Resources (Corps Requirement)

Link to the State Historic Preservation Office Historic Properties Map (does not include archaeological data: <http://gis.ncdcr.gov/hpoweb/>)

**7a. Will this project occur in or near an area that the state, federal or tribal governments have designated as having historic or cultural preservation status (e.g., National Historic Trust designation or properties significant in North Carolina history and archaeology)? \***

Yes  No

**7b. What data sources did you use to determine whether your site would impact historic or archeological resources? \***

NEPA documentation

### 7c. Historic or Prehistoric Information Upload

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

BR-0126 Catawba Indian Nation Response.pdf

458.66KB

File must be PDF

## 8. Flood Zone Designation (Corps Requirement)

Link to the FEMA Floodplain Maps: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/search>

**8a. Will this project occur in a FEMA-designated 100-year floodplain? \***

Yes  No

**8c. What source(s) did you use to make the floodplain determination? \***

FEMA Maps

## Miscellaneous

### Comments

### Miscellaneous attachments not previously requested.

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

BR-0126 2020-02-11 Cover Letter.pdf

368.49KB

File must be PDF or KMZ

## Signature

\*

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

- I have given true, accurate, and complete information on this form;
- I agree that submission of this PCN 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 PCN form.

**Full Name: \***

Michael Anthony Turchy

**Signature**



**Date**

2/11/2020



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

JAMES H. TROGDON, III  
SECRETARY

January 15, 2020

TO: Erin Cheely, Environmental Program Consultant  
Environmental Coordination & Permitting Group, EAU

FROM: Melissa Miller, Environmental Program Consultant  
Biological Surveys Group, EAU

SUBJECT: Section 7 survey results for the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) and gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*) associated with the replacement of Bridge No. 667 over Sparks Creek on SR 1749 in Wilkes County, **TIP No. BR-0126.**

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT, Division 11) proposes to replace Bridge No. 667 over Sparks Creek on SR 1749 in Wilkes County, TIP No. BR-0126. The existing bridge is a three span structure with concrete deck, beams, end walls and guard rails. The overall length of the structure is 90 feet.

Northern long-eared bat

The project to replace Bridge No. 667 has been reviewed for effects on the northern long-eared bat (NLEB). As of May 4, 2015, NLEB is listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as "Threatened" under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. As of January 15, 2020, NLEB is listed by USFWS ([http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/cntylist/nc\\_counties.html](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/cntylist/nc_counties.html)) as "current" in Wilkes County. USFWS also established a final rule under the authority of section 4(d) of the Endangered Species Act that provides measures for the conservation of NLEB. The USFWS has tailored the final 4(d) rule to prohibit the take of NLEB from certain activities within areas where they are in decline. This incidental take protection applies only to known NLEB occupied maternity roost trees and known NLEB hibernacula. Effective February 16, 2016, incidental take resulting from tree removal is prohibited if it 1) occurs within a ¼ mile radius of known NLEB hibernacula; or 2) cuts or destroys known occupied maternity roost trees or any other trees within a 150-foot radius from the known maternity tree during the pup season (June 1-July 31).

According to the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NHP) Biotics Database, most recently updated October 2019, **the nearest NLEB hibernacula record is 47 miles west of the project and no known NLEB roost trees occur within 150 feet of the project area.**

Mailing Address:  
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT &  
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT  
1598 MAIL SERVICE CENTER  
RALEIGH NC 27699-1598

TELEPHONE: 919-707-6000  
FAX: 919-212-5785  
WEBSITE: NCDOT.GOV

Location:  
CENTURY CENTER, BUILDING A  
1020 BIRCH RIDGE DRIVE  
RALEIGH NC 27610

NCDOT has also reviewed the USFWS Asheville Field office website ([http://www.fws.gov/asheville/htmls/project\\_review/NLEB\\_in\\_WNC.html](http://www.fws.gov/asheville/htmls/project_review/NLEB_in_WNC.html)) for consistency with NHP records. This project is located entirely outside of the red highlighted areas (12-digit HUC) that the USFWS Asheville Field Office has determined to be representative of an area that may require consultation.

For the proposed action, NCDOT has committed to the conservation measures listed below:

- 1) No alterations of a known hibernacula entrance or interior environment if it impairs an essential behavioral pattern, including sheltering northern long-eared bats (January 1 through December 31);
- 2) No tree removal within a 0.25-mile radius of a known hibernacula (January 1 through December 31); and
- 3) No cutting or destroying a known, occupied maternity roost tree, or any other trees within a 150-foot radius from the known, occupied maternity tree during the period from June 1 through and including July 31.

**NCDOT has determined that the proposed action does not require separate consultation on the grounds that the proposed action is consistent with the final Section 4(d) rule**, codified at 50 C.F.R. § 17.40(o) and effective February 16, 2016. NCDOT may presume its determination is informed by best available information and consider Section 7 responsibilities fulfilled for NLEB.

#### Gray Bat

The project to replace Bridge No. 667 has also been reviewed for effects on the gray bat (MYGR). As of April 28, 1976, the gray bat was listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as “Endangered” under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. According to the USFWS Wilkes County webpage (accessed January 15, 2020), ([http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/cntylist/nc\\_counties.html](http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/cntylist/nc_counties.html)), the gray bat is listed by USFWS as “probable/potential” in Wilkes County.

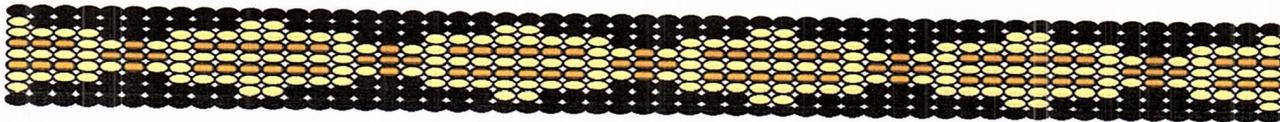
According to the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NHP) Biotics Database, most recently updated in October 2019, MYGR have not been documented in Wilkes County. NHP data indicate that **the closest known occurrence of MYGR is approximately 80 miles west of the project site**. In September 2019, a gray bat was found roosting in a bridge in Surry County 18 miles east of the project (*personal correspondence*). As of this writing, the Surry County occurrence is not yet reflected in the NHP Biotics Database.

On November 13, 2019 the gray bat was added as a listed species potentially occurring in Wilkes County. This listing occurred after the survey window for bats (May 15-August 15) had closed. On January 9, 2020, NCDOT biologists assessed the bridge project footprint for potential MYGR habitat. No evidence of bats (bats, staining or guano) was observed. Suitable roosting habitat is present in the cross braces over the bent caps; however, no staining or accumulated guano was observed during this field visit. No caves or mines are located within the project footprint or within line of sight of the bridge. Based on the lack of evidence of bats during the bridge inspection, and lack of caves or mines in the project vicinity, the proposed project will have a biological conclusion of **No Effect** for gray bats.

If you need any additional information, please contact Melissa Miller at 919-707-6127.

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

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



January 16, 2020

Attention: David Stutts  
NC Department of Transportation  
1581 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699

Re. THPO #	Project #	Project Description
2020-193-81	BR-0126	Replacement of Bridge No. 667 on SR 1749 over Sparks Creek in Wilkes County

Dear Mr. Stutts,

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 [caitlinh@ccppcrafts.com](mailto:caitlinh@ccppcrafts.com).

Sincerely,

Wenonah G. Haire  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer



**North Carolina Department of Transportation  
Highway Stormwater Program  
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN  
FOR NCDOT PROJECTS**



(Version 2.08; Released April 2018)

**WBS Element:** 48835.1.1      **TIP No.:** BR-0126      **County(ies):** Wilkes      **Page** 1 **of** 1

**General Project Information**

<b>WBS Element:</b>	48835.1.1	<b>TIP Number:</b>	BR-0126	<b>Project Type:</b>	Bridge Replacement	<b>Date:</b>	12/6/2019
<b>NCDOT Contact:</b>	David Stutts			<b>Contractor / Designer:</b>	STV Engineers, Inc. / Shirshant Sharma		
<b>Address:</b>	1020 Birch Ridge Drive Raleigh, NC 27610			<b>Address:</b>	900 West Trade Street, Ste. 715 Charlotte, NC 28202		
<b>Phone:</b>	(919) 707-6442			<b>Phone:</b>	(704) 816-2556		
<b>Email:</b>	dstutts@ncdot.gov			<b>Email:</b>	Shirshant.Sharma@stvinc.com		
<b>City/Town:</b>	Traphill, NC			<b>County(ies):</b>	Wilkes		
<b>River Basin(s):</b>	Yadkin-Pee Dee			<b>CAMA County?</b>	No		
<b>Wetlands within Project Limits?</b>	No						

**Project Description**

<b>Project Length (lin. miles or feet):</b>	0.18	<b>Surrounding Land Use:</b>	wooded
	<b>Proposed Project</b>		<b>Existing Site</b>
<b>Project Built-Upon Area (ac.)</b>	0.7	ac.	0.5
<b>Typical Cross Section Description:</b>	Bridge : Two 11' lanes, 3' to the right and 11' to the left paved shoulders. Approach: Two 11' lanes, variable paved shoulders.		Bridge: Two 13' lanes, 1' to the right and 1' to the left shoulders. Approach: Two 10' lanes, variable shoulders.
<b>Annual Avg Daily Traffic (veh/hr/day):</b>	<b>Design/Future:</b> 1100	<b>Year:</b> 2040	<b>Existing:</b> 710
			<b>Year:</b> 2016

**General Project Narrative:  
(Description of Minimization of Water Quality Impacts)**

The existing 90', 3 span bridge over Sparks Creek on SR 1749 (Austin Traphill Road) is being replaced with a 2 span bridge with a span arrangement of 1@70' (24" Cored Slab) and 1@40' (21" Cored Slab). The bridge will have 1.5:1 sloping abutments. The bridge will be super elevated left at 4% with 11' travel lanes with 3' to the right and 11' to the left shoulders, 36'-10" clear width and 39' OTO width. The existing bridge structure will be removed. Overall drainage patterns will be maintained. There are roadside ditches that flow towards the bridge on the left begin side of the structure which will be maintained in the proposed condition. There is a proposed lateral 'V' ditch on the left begin side of the bridge and proposed toe protection on the left end side of the bridge. On the end side of the bridge, a traffic bearing grated drop inlet with double frame and grates (2GI) was placed on the left side of the roadway in the shoulder berm gutter to pick up runoff from the bridge. Class-II rip rap abutment protection on both banks of the stream is also proposed to prevent future erosion and stream migration. Deck drains are not required.

**Waterbody Information**

<b>Surface Water Body (1):</b>	Sparks Creek		<b>NCDWR Stream Index No.:</b>	12-46-4-10-1	
<b>NCDWR Surface Water Classification for Water Body</b>	<b>Primary Classification:</b>	Class C			
	<b>Supplemental Classification:</b>	None			
<b>Other Stream Classification:</b>	None				
<b>Impairments:</b>	None				
<b>Aquatic T&amp;E Species?</b>	No	<b>Comments:</b>			
<b>NRTR Stream ID:</b>					<b>Buffer Rules in Effect:</b>
					N/A
<b>Project Includes Bridge Spanning Water Body?</b>	Yes	<b>Deck Drains Discharge Over Buffer?</b>	N/A		<b>Dissipator Pads Provided in Buffer?</b>
	No	(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)		(If yes, describe in the General Project Narrative; if no, justify in the General Project Narrative)	
	(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)				

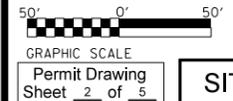
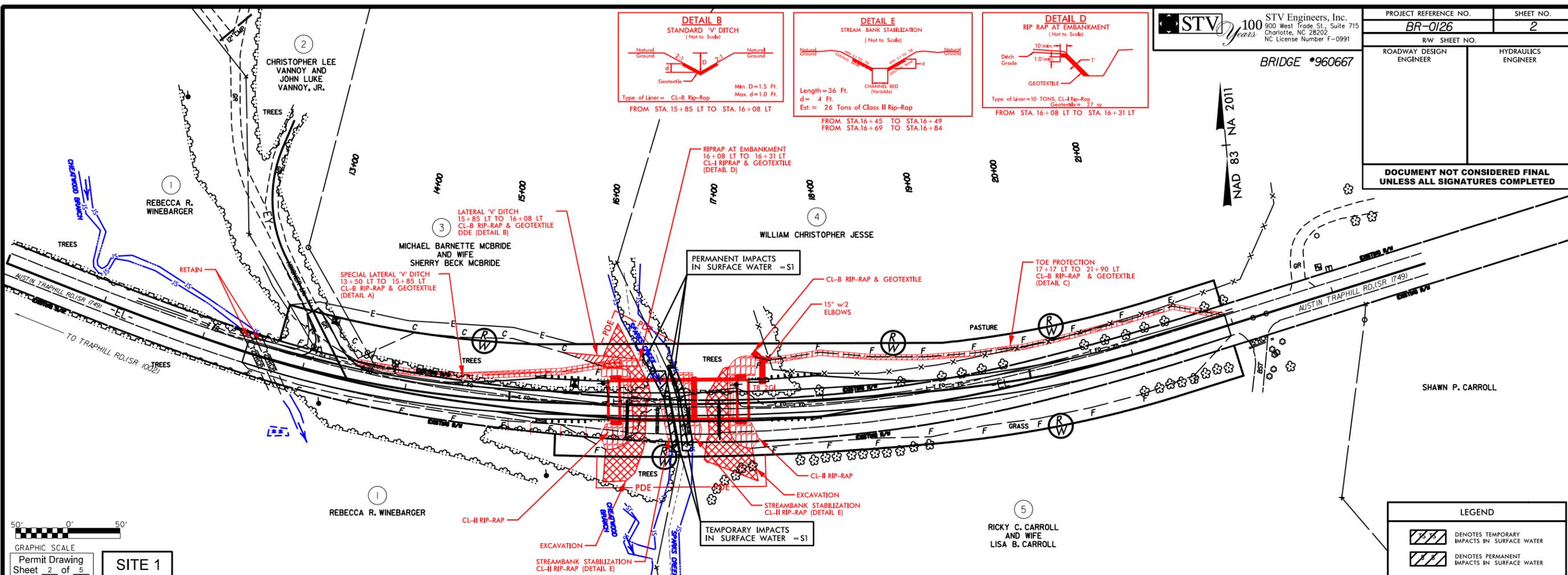


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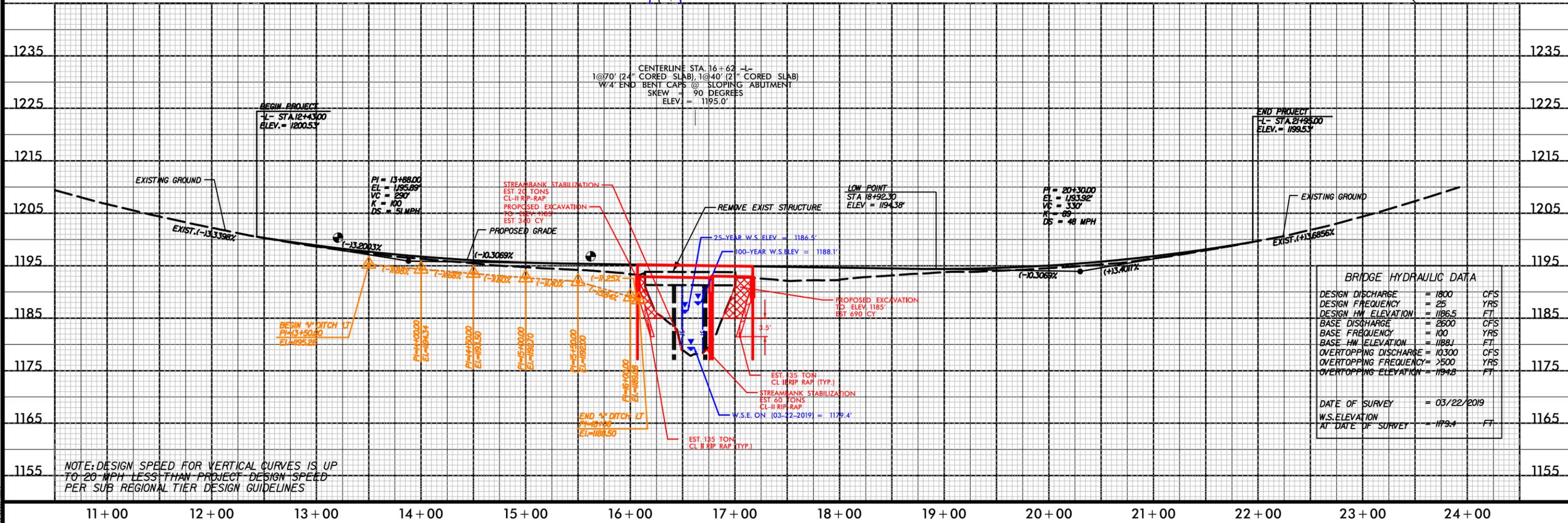
STV 100 Years STV Engineers, Inc. 900 West Trade St., Suite 715 Charlotte, NC 28202 NC License Number F-0991

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. <b>BR-0126</b>	SHEET NO. <b>2</b>
R/W SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
<b>BRIDGE #960667</b>	

DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED



LEGEND	
	Denotes Temporary Impacts in Surface Water
	Denotes Permanent Impacts in Surface Water



BRIDGE HYDRAULIC DATA		
DESIGN DISCHARGE	= 1800	CFS
DESIGN FREQUENCY	= 25	YRS
DESIGN HW ELEVATION	= 1186.5	FT
BASE DISCHARGE	= 2600	CFS
BASE FREQUENCY	= 100	YRS
BASE HW ELEVATION	= 1188.1	FT
OVERTOPPING DISCHARGE	= 10300	CFS
OVERTOPPING FREQUENCY	= >500	YRS
OVERTOPPING ELEVATION	= 1194.8	FT

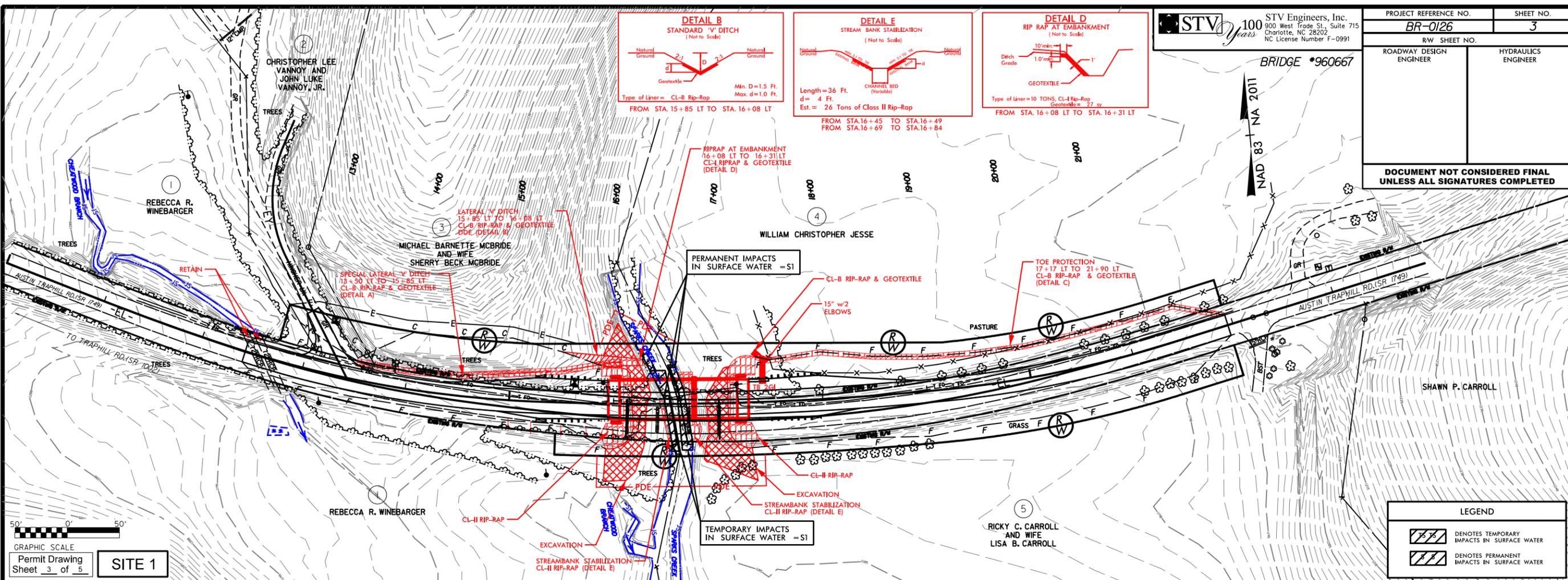
DATE OF SURVEY	= 03/22/2019	
W.S. ELEVATION AT DATE OF SURVEY	= 1179.4	FT

NOTE: DESIGN SPEED FOR VERTICAL CURVES IS UP TO 20 MPH LESS THAN PROJECT DESIGN SPEED PER SUB REGIONAL TIER DESIGN GUIDELINES

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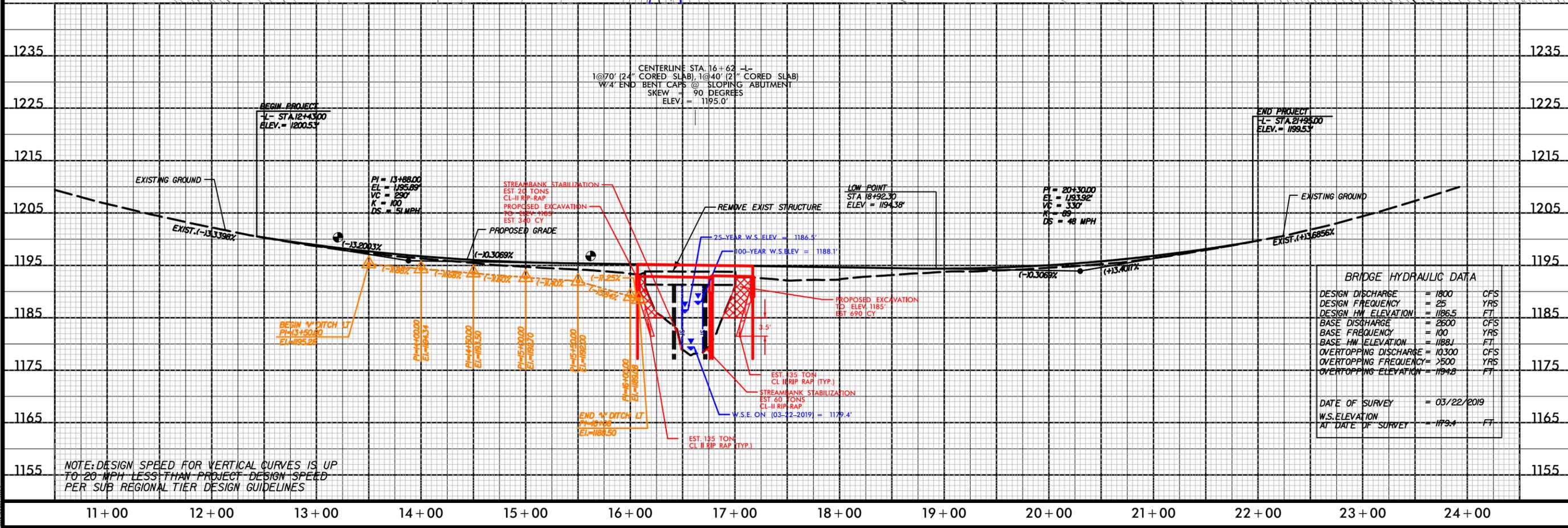
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R/W SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
<b>BRIDGE #960667</b>	
<b>DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED</b>	



50' 0' 50'  
 GRAPHIC SCALE  
 Permit Drawing  
 Sheet 3 of 5  
**SITE 1**

**LEGEND**

	DENOTES TEMPORARY IMPACTS IN SURFACE WATER
	DENOTES PERMANENT IMPACTS IN SURFACE WATER



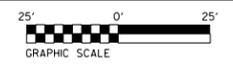
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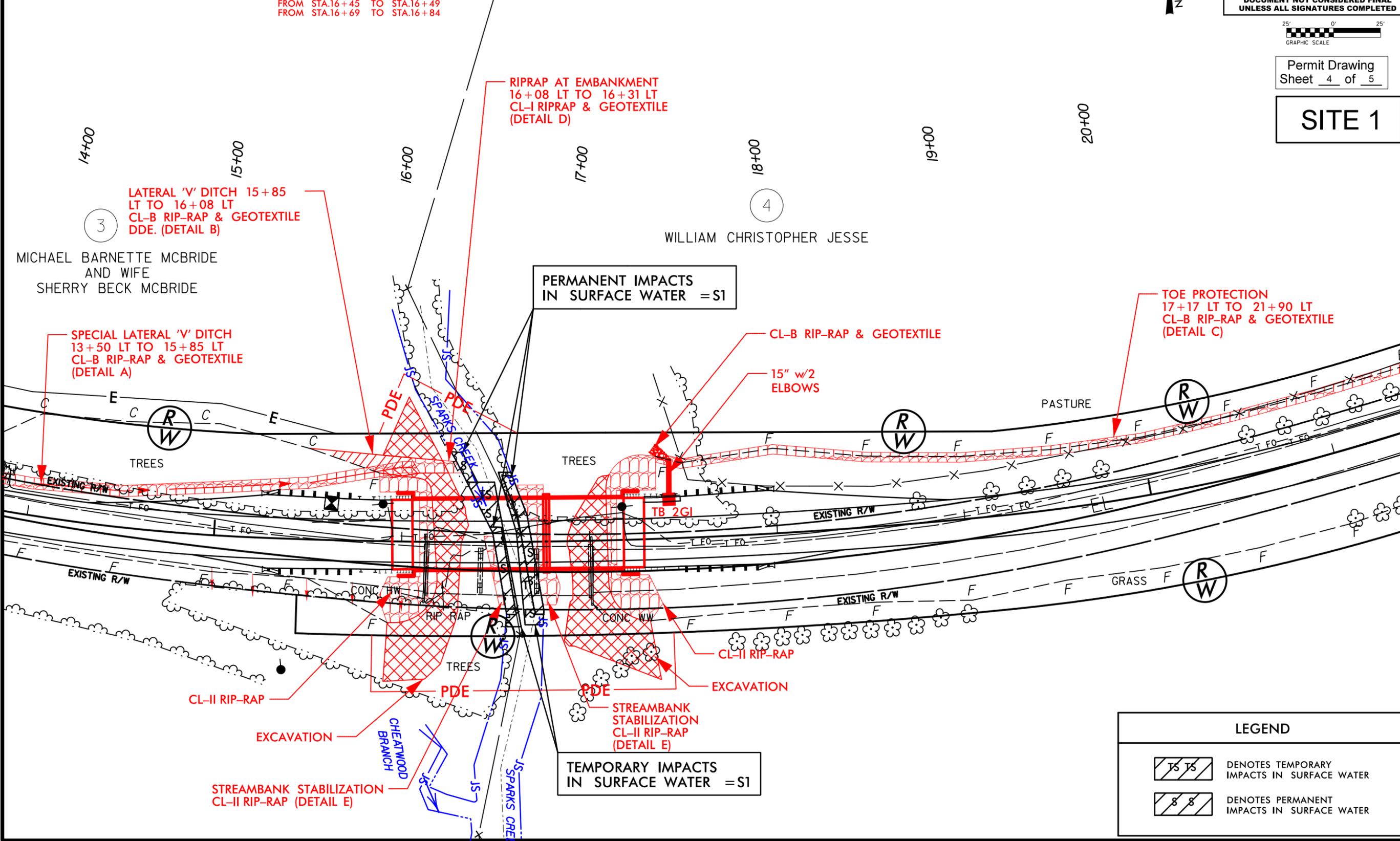
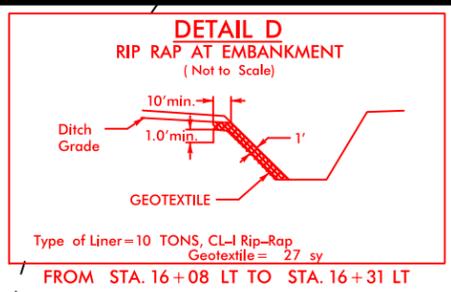
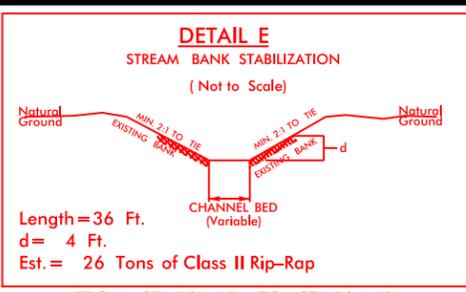
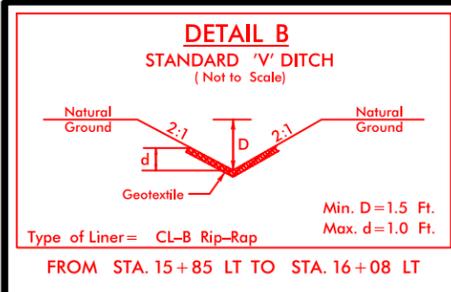
NOTE: DESIGN SPEED FOR VERTICAL CURVES IS UP TO 20 MPH LESS THAN PROJECT DESIGN SPEED PER SUB REGIONAL TIER DESIGN GUIDELINES

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Permit Drawing  
 Sheet 4 of 5

**SITE 1**



**LEGEND**

	DENOTES TEMPORARY IMPACTS IN SURFACE WATER
	DENOTES PERMANENT IMPACTS IN SURFACE WATER

**WETLAND PERMIT IMPACT SUMMARY**

Site No.	Station (From/To)	Structure Size / Type	WETLAND IMPACTS					SURFACE WATER IMPACTS				
			Permanent Fill In Wetlands (ac)	Temp. Fill In Wetlands (ac)	Excavation in Wetlands (ac)	Mechanized Clearing in Wetlands (ac)	Hand Clearing in Wetlands (ac)	Permanent SW impacts (ac)	Temp. SW impacts (ac)	Existing Channel Impacts Permanent (ft)	Existing Channel Impacts Temp. (ft)	Natural Stream Design (ft)
1	16+05.81 / 17+18.19	1 @ 70' (24" CORED SLAB), 1@ 40' (21" CORED SLAB) - OAL = 112.5'. TEMPORARY IMPACT FROM FLOATING TURBIDITY CURTAIN.						0.02			4*	
1	16+05.81 / 17+18.19	1 @ 70' (24" CORED SLAB), 1@ 40' (21" CORED SLAB) - OAL = 112.5'. PERMANENT IMPACT FROM STREAMBANK STABILIZATION.						0.01		78		
1	16+05.81 / 17+18.19	1 @ 70' (24" CORED SLAB), 1@ 40' (21" CORED SLAB) - OAL = 112.5'. PERMANENT IMPACT FROM STREAMBANK STABILIZATION AT DITCH OUTLET.						<0.01		21		
<b>TOTALS:</b>								0.02	0.02	99	4	

\*TEMPORARY IMPACT LENGTH TOTAL = 85' (81' TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN PERMANENT STREAMBANK STABILIZATION IMPACTS)

NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
 BRIDGE #667 OVER SPARKS CREEK  
 ON SR 1749 (AUSTIN TRAPHILL RD)  
 WILKES COUNTY  
 BR-0126