

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT SECRETARY

January 28, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO:

FROM:

Philip S. Harris, III, P.E., CPM, Manager Office of the Natural Environment Project Development and Environment **Environmental Analysis Branch**

SUBJECT:

Robeson County, Replace Bridge No. 170 on SR 1101 over Shoe Heel Creek; State Work Order Number 8.2462501; T.I.P. Number B-4248

Attached is the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit No. 23 for the above referenced project. All environmental permits have been received for the construction of this project.

PSH/gyb

Attachment

Mr. Art McMillan, P.E. cc: Mr. Jay Bennett, P.E. Mr. David Chang, P.E. Mr. Randy Garris, P.E. Mr. Greg Perfetti, P.E. Mr. Mark Staley Mr. Omar Sultan Mr. John F. Sullivan, FHWA Mr. Jim Rerko, Division 6 DEO

PROJECT COMMITMENTS

Robeson County Bridge No. 170 on SR 1101 over Shoe Heel Creek Federal Aid Project No. BRZ-1101(8) State Project No. 8.2462501 TIP No. B-4248

In addition to the standard Nationwide Permit No. 23 Conditions, the General Nationwide Permit Conditions, Section 404 Only Conditions, Regional Conditions, State Consistency Conditions, NCDOT's Guidelines for Best Management Practices for Bridge Demolition and Removal, General Certification Conditions, and Section 401 Conditions of Certification, the following special commitments have been agreed to by NCDOT:

Commitments Developed Through Project Design

Roadway Design Unit, Division 6 Construction

The existing bridge has an abandoned gear assembly located in the southwest quadrant of the project area. The gear assembly will be moved during the construction of the proposed bridge and will be accounted for under Clearing and Grubbing.

The removal of this assembly will not require clearing and grubbing and it is not located in a jurisdictional area.

Commitments Developed Through Permitting

Project Development and Environmental Analysis

Compensatory mitigation for the unavoidable impacts to 0.30 acres of riverine wetlands associated with the proposed project shall be provided by the restoration of 0.16 acre of riverine wetland on-site as identified in the Restoration Plan dated November 12, 2004. The remaining 0.14 acre of unavoidable riverine wetland impacts shall be provided by the Ecosystem Enhancement Program EEP). Pursuant to the EEP Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the State of North Carolina and the US Army Corps of Engineers signed on July 22, 2003, the EEP will provide 0.28 acres of restoration equivalent riverine wetlands in the Lumber River basin (Hydrologic Cataloging Unit 03040204) by one year from the date of this permit. For wetlands, a minimum of 1:1 (impact to mitigation) must be in the form of wetland restoration. The NCDOT shall, within 30 days of the issue date of this permit, certify that sufficient funds have been provided to EEP to complete the required mitigation, pursuant to Paragraph V. of the MOA.

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Division 6 Construction

No bridge deck drains shall be designed or allowed to discharge directly into Shoe Heel Creek.

Division 6 Construction, Office of Natural Environment – Mitigation Unit

The DOT will restore the old existing road way fill to wetlands (on the north east quarter of the project at approximately station 17+00 station 19+50). The restoration area will be 0.16 acre. The Office of Natural Environment shall be contacted to provide construction oversight to ensure that the wetland mitigation area is constructed appropriately. (See attached *Restoration Plan for Shoe Heel Creek Watershed*.)

Permit Green Sheet B-4248 January 2005

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WILMINGTON DISTRICT

Action ID: 2002-00651 TIP No: B-4248 State Project No: 8.2462501 County: Robeson

GENERAL PERMIT (REGIONAL AND NATIONWIDE) VERIFICATION

Applicant: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Address: Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D. Environmental Management Director Project Development and Environmental Analysis 1548 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1548

Telephone Number: (919) 733-7844, extension 307

Size and Location of project (waterway, road name/number, town, etc.): 125 foot long 3-span, pre-stressed concrete cored slab Bridge No. 170 on SR 1101 over Shoe Heel Creek in Robeson County, North Carolina.

Description of Activity: To replace the existing 81-foot long, single span bridge with a 125-foot long, 3-span, prestressed concrete cored slab bridge located approximately 20 feet to the south of the existing bridge alignment. This authorization also includes the mechanized clearing of a two-foot strip adjacent to the fill slopes in the northwest, southwest and southeast quadrants, two 50' by 60' PDEs located in the southwest quadrant, a 50-foot long special grassed lined cut ditch adjacent to the fill slope in the southeast quadrant, and the wetland restoration activity located in the northeast quadrant. Traffic will be detoured offsite onto existing roadways during construction. Three-tenths of an acre of riverine wetlands will be permanently impacted as a result of the authorized activities.

Applicable Law:	X_Section 404 (Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1344)
	Section 10 (River and Harbor Act of 1899)
Authorization:	23 Nationwide Permit Number
	Regional General Permit Number

Your work is authorized by this Regional General (RGP) or Nationwide (NWP) Permit provided it is accomplished in strict accordance with the attached conditions and your submitted plans. If your activity is subject to Section 404 (if Section 404 block above is checked), before beginning work you must also receive a Section 401 water quality certification from the N.C. Division of Environmental Management, telephone (919) 733-1786

Please read and carefully comply with the attached conditions of the RGP or NWP. Any violation of the conditions of the RGP or NWP referenced above may subject the permittee to a stop work order, a restoration order, and/or appropriate legal action.

This Department of the Army RGP or NWP verification does not relieve the permittee of the responsibility to obtain any other required Federal, State, or local approvals/permits. The permittee may need to contact appropriate State and local agencies before beginning work.

This verification will remain valid until <u>26 January 2007</u> unless the nationwide authorization is modified, reissued or revoked. If, prior to <u>26 January 2007</u> the nationwide permit authorization is reissued and/or modified, this verification will remain valid until <u>26 January 2007</u>, provided it complies with all modifications. If the nationwide permit authorization expires or is suspended, revoked, or is modified, such that the activity would no longer comply with the terms and conditions of the nationwide permit, activities which have commenced (i.e., are under construction) or are under contract to commence in reliance upon the nationwide permit, will remain authorized provided the activity is completed within twelve months of the date of the nationwide permit's expiration, modification or revocation, unless discretionary authority has been exercised on a case-by-case basis to modify, suspend or revoke the authorization.

Action ID: 2002-00651 TIP No: B-4248

County: Robeson

GENERAL PERMIT (REGIONAL AND NATIONWIDE) VERIFICATION

If there are any questions regarding this authorization or any of the conditions of the RGP or NWP, please contact the Corps Regulatory Official specified below.

Date 26 January 2005

K. A.

Corps Regulatory Official Richard K. Spencer

Telephone No. (910) 251-4172

CF: Jim Rerko, NCDOT Div 6 Beth Barnes, NCDWQ Beth Harmon, EEP

Action ID: 2002-00651 TIP No: B-4248 State Project No: 8.2462501 County: Robeson

GENERAL PERMIT (REGIONAL AND NATIONWIDE) VERIFICATION

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- Bridge demolition and removal will be accomplished in accordance with "North Carolina Department of Transportation Policy: Bridge Demolition and Removal in Waters of the United States" dated September 20, 1999 and a copy will be provided to the contractor prior to the pre-construction conference.
- 2. Bridge construction shall be accomplished by utilizing top down construction.
- Every effort shall be taken to control and detain all demolition debris before it can enter the waterway or wetlands. No bridge demolition debris should be intentionally allowed to enter the waterway or wetlands. However, incidental demolition debris that does enter the waterway and/or wetlands shall be kept to a minimum. All incidental bridge demolition debris shall be removed from the waterway and/or wetlands in its entirety upon completion of that day's demolition.
- 4. No bridge deck drains shall be designed or allowed to discharge directly into Shoe Heel Creek.
- 5. All work must be performed in strict compliance with the attached plans, which are a part of this authorization. Any modification to the permit plans must be approved by the USACE prior to implementation.
- 6. Compensatory mitigation for the unavoidable impacts to 0.30 acres of riverine wetlands associated with the proposed project shall be provided by the restoration of 0.16 acre of riverine wetland on-site as identified in the Restoration Plan dated November 12, 2004. The remaining 0.14 acre of unavoidable riverine wetland impacts shall be provided by the Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP). Pursuant to the EEP Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the State of North Carolina and the US Army Corps of Engineers signed on July 22, 2003, the EEP will provide 0.28 acres of restoration equivalent riverine wetlands in the Lumber River basin (Hydrologic Cataloging Unit 03040204) by one year from the date of this permit. For wetlands, a minimum of 1:1 (impact to mitigation) must be in the form of wetland restoration. The NCDOT shall, within 30 days of the issue date of this permit, certify that sufficient funds have been provided to EEP to complete the required mitigation, pursuant to Paragraph V, of the MOA.
- 7. Traffic will be detoured onto existing roadways during construction.

Restoration Plan for Shoe Heel Creek Wetland At Bridge No. 170 In Robeson County TIP B-4248 November 12, 2004

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will perform on-site mitigation for riverine swamp impacts at the SR 1101 overpass of Shoe Heel Creek in Robeson County. This mitigation site occurs within Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) B-4248. The project begins approximately 600 feet west of Bridge No. 170 and continues to approximately 500 feet to the east of the bridge. NCDOT will restore 0.16 acres of riverine swamp wetland by removing existing causeway fill in the northeast quadrant of the project.

EXISTING CONDITIONS:

The project is located in western Robeson County about 1.5 miles (2.4 km) northeast of the South Carolina border, and six miles (9.7 km) northwest from the town of Rowland. Development in the area is comprised of scattered residential homes and farms.

The existing causeway for the SR 1101 overpass at Bridge No. 170 is located in the floodplain of Shoe Heel Creek. The floodplain harbors a mature riverine swamp forest dominated by canopy species including bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), and sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*). In the northeast quadrant of the project, the swamp wetland is at the toe of slope near the bridge. A transition zone from the toe of slope to the swamp wetland gradually widens from the bridge towards the end of the project. The transition zone is dominated by mature red maple and saplings of other hardwood species.

PROPOSED CONDITIONS:

The proposed wetland mitigation will consist of restoring approximately 0.16 acres of riverine swamp wetland. Restoration will involve removing causeway fill and transition area from the toe of slope to the easement boundary to match the swamp wetland elevation. The restored area will be planted with species commonly found in riverine swamp communities.

The Categorical Exclusion (CE) for TIP B-4248, dated April 2003, provides further details concerning existing and proposed roadway conditions.

DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION:

WETLAND MITIGATION GRADING

The design of the wetland mitigation area shall consist of removing fill associated with the existing causeway. Fill will be excavated down to the alluvium soil layer. If the alluvium soil layer is encountered at an elevation above the adjacent existing wetland, excavation shall continue until the elevation matches the existing, adjacent wetland elevation. If the alluvium soil layer is encountered below the adjacent existing wetland elevation, sandy loam shall be used to backfill these areas to match the existing wetland elevation. All excavated areas shall be ripped and disked prior to placement of any backfill material and before planting of the site.

The Office of Natural Environment shall be contacted to provide construction oversight to ensure that the wetland mitigation area is constructed appropriately.

VEGETATION PLANTING

The restoration site will be planted following the completion of the site grading. The following riverine swamp tree species will be planted: bald cypress and swamp blackgum (*Nyssa sylvatica* var. *biflora*).

The hardwood tree species utilized shall be 18"-30" in size and shall be bare root seedlings that are at least one growing season in age. Planting density shall be 680 seedlings per acre, which equates to a plant spacing of 8 feet on-center.

MONITORING:

Upon successful completion of construction, the following monitoring strategy is proposed for the mitigation site. NCDOT will document monitoring activities on the site in an annual report distributed to the regulatory agencies.

HYDROLOGIC MONITORING

No specific hydrological monitoring is proposed for this restoration site. The target elevation will be based on the adjacent wetland and verified during construction. Constructing the site at the adjacent wetland elevation will ensure the hydrology in the restored area is similar to the hydrology in the reference area.

VEGETATION SUCCESS CRITERIA

NCDOT shall monitor the restoration site by visual observation and photo points for survival of planted seedlings. NCDOT shall monitor the site for a minimum of

three years or until the site is deemed successful. Monitoring will be initiated upon completion of the site planting.













































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