Project Tracking No.

21-09-0009

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:	**HB-0011**	*County:*	**Columbus**
WBS No:	**49870.1.1**	*Document:*	**Federal CE**
Federal Aid No:	**N/A**	*Funding:*	☒ State ☐ Federal

Federal Permit Required? ☒ Yes ☐ No *Permit Type:* **USACE (not specified)**

Project Description: NCDOT's Division 6 proposes to replace Bridge No. 26 on Dock Road (SR 1928) over Gum Swamp Run in Columbus County. Bridge No. 26 was built in 1958 and may be functionally obsolete and/or structurally deficient; therefore, it has been selected for replacement. Although Preliminary Design Plans have not been developed yet, a Study Area was submitted in order to facilitate the environmental review process at this stage. The Study Area measures about 100 feet to either side of the centerline and about 500 feet from either end of the bridge. Overall, the Study Area encompasses about 4.98 acres, inclusive of the existing roadway, the structure itself, and any modern development.

SUMMARY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

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

This project was accepted for review on Tuesday, September 28, 2021. A review of the databases maintained by the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) was also performed that same day. An archaeological survey has not been conducted within the vicinity of the Study Area, and no archaeological sites have been recorded within one (1) mile of the project area. Digital copies of HPO's maps (Old Dock Quadrangle) as well as the HPOWEB GIS Service (http://gis.ncdcr.gov/hpoweb/) were last reviewed on Friday, October 1, 2021. There are no known historic architectural resources located within or adjacent to the Study Area for which intact and significant archaeological deposits would be anticipated within the footprint of the proposed project. In addition, topographic maps, historic maps (NCMaps website), USDA soil survey maps, and aerial photographs were utilized and inspected to gauge environmental factors that may have contributed to historic or prehistoric settlement within the project limits, and to assess the level of modern, slope, agricultural, hydrological, and other erosive-type disturbances within and surrounding the Study Area.

(This project falls within a North Carolina County in which the following federally recognized tribes have expressed an interest: 1) Catawba Indian Nation. *We recommend that you ensure that this documentation is forwarded to these tribes using the process described in the current NCDOT Tribal Protocol and PA Procedures Manual. Please know that the State-recognized Waccamaw Siouan Tribe has also expressed interest in this county.)*

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

This is a State-funded project for which a Federal permit is anticipated. As part of the project's submittal, permanent/temporary drainage and/or utility easements will be necessary. Additional ROW will also be

required. The size and shape of the Study Area, however, have been drawn in a way to capture any potential ground-disturbing activities that may occur beyond the NCDOT's existing ROW. If there were no Federal nexus for this project, please know that we would be in compliance with NC GS 121-12a, since there are no eligible (i.e. National Register-listed) archaeological resources located within the Study Area that would require our attention.

From an environmental perspective, the Study Area falls within a rather rural area in the Southern Coastal Plain and Atlantic Coast Flatwoods physiographic regions of North Carolina. The Study Area consists of only one (1) soil type, Muckalee sandy loam, frequently flooded (Mk), a poorly drained soil located on floodplains of shallow meandering streams. In fact, the Study Area completely falls within the swampy and marshy flood zone of the Waccamaw River. The preservation of intact archaeological resources would not be anticipated under such environmental conditions. In comparison, archaeological sites within the region are typically situated just beyond the margins of such perennially flooded areas.

The Office of State Archaeology (OSA) has reviewed only three (3) projects within the vicinity of the Study Area for environmental compliance, that being what looks to have been a FEMA-related debris pile (ER 88-8203) as well as what may have been flood-related clearance issues at two crossings of the Waccamaw River (ERs 84-7963 and 88-7721). Farther from the Study Area are mining and solar farm operations (ERs 15-1224, 15-1226, and 20-0652). OSA did not require an archaeological survey for any of these projects, citing a low probability for significant archaeological sites to be present. Within five (5) miles of the Study Area, NCDOT's Archaeology Team has reviewed only two (2) transportation-related projects for environmental compliance under the Programmatic Agreement (PA) with the State Historic Preservation Office (NC-HPO), neither of which falls within a mile of the proposed project. Although an archaeological survey was recommended for one of these projects (PA 11-05-0006), no archaeological sites were recorded as a result of those investigations. A review of various historic maps and aerials revealed that this particular road and crossing was in existence going back to at least the early 1880s, at which point, there was no indication of any structures in proximity to the Study Area.

Based on the current environmental/topographical conditions (i.e., extremely poor soil conditions), it is believed that the current Study Area, as depicted, is unlikely to contain intact and significant archaeological resources. No archaeological survey is required for this project. If design plans change or are made available prior to construction, then additional consultation regarding archaeology may be required. At this time, no further archaeological work is recommended. If archaeological materials are uncovered during project activities, then such resources will be dealt with according to the procedures set forth for "unanticipated discoveries," to include notification of NCDOT's Archaeology Team.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

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

FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST: *NO ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY REQUIRED*

Paul J Mohler

October 4, 2021

NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST II — Date

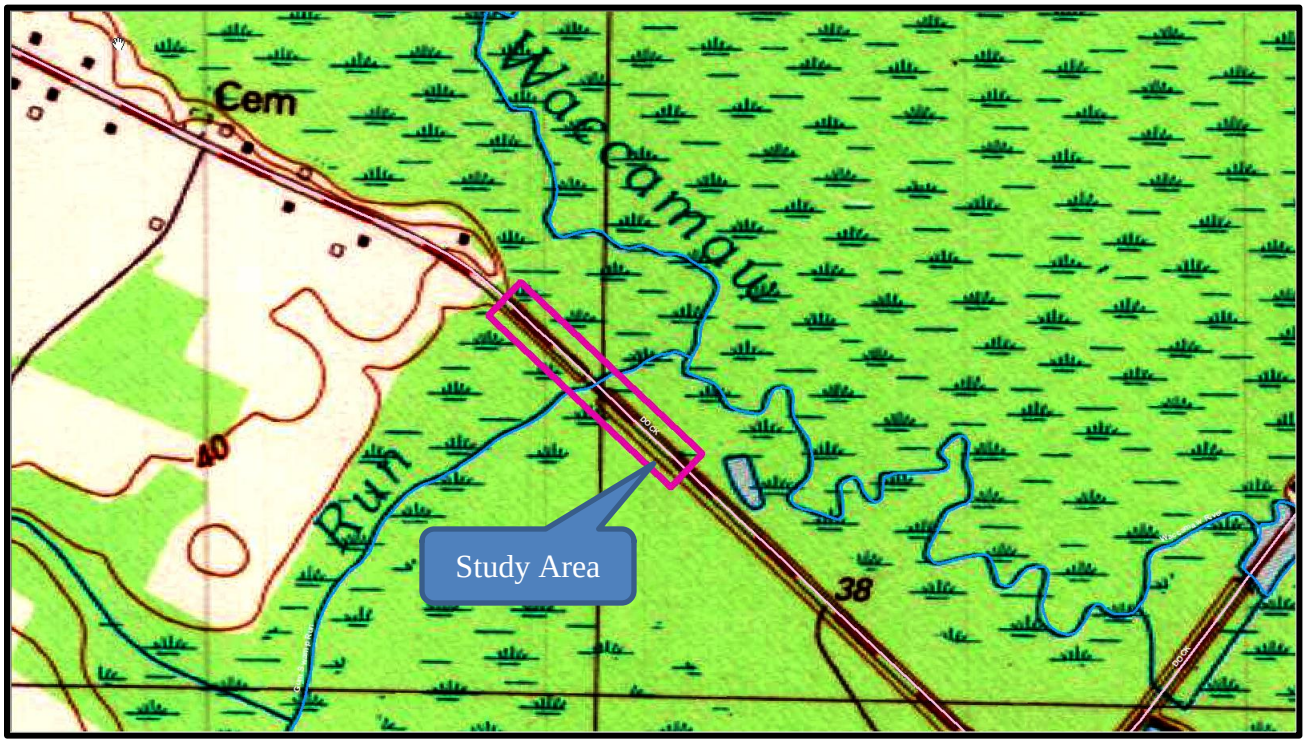
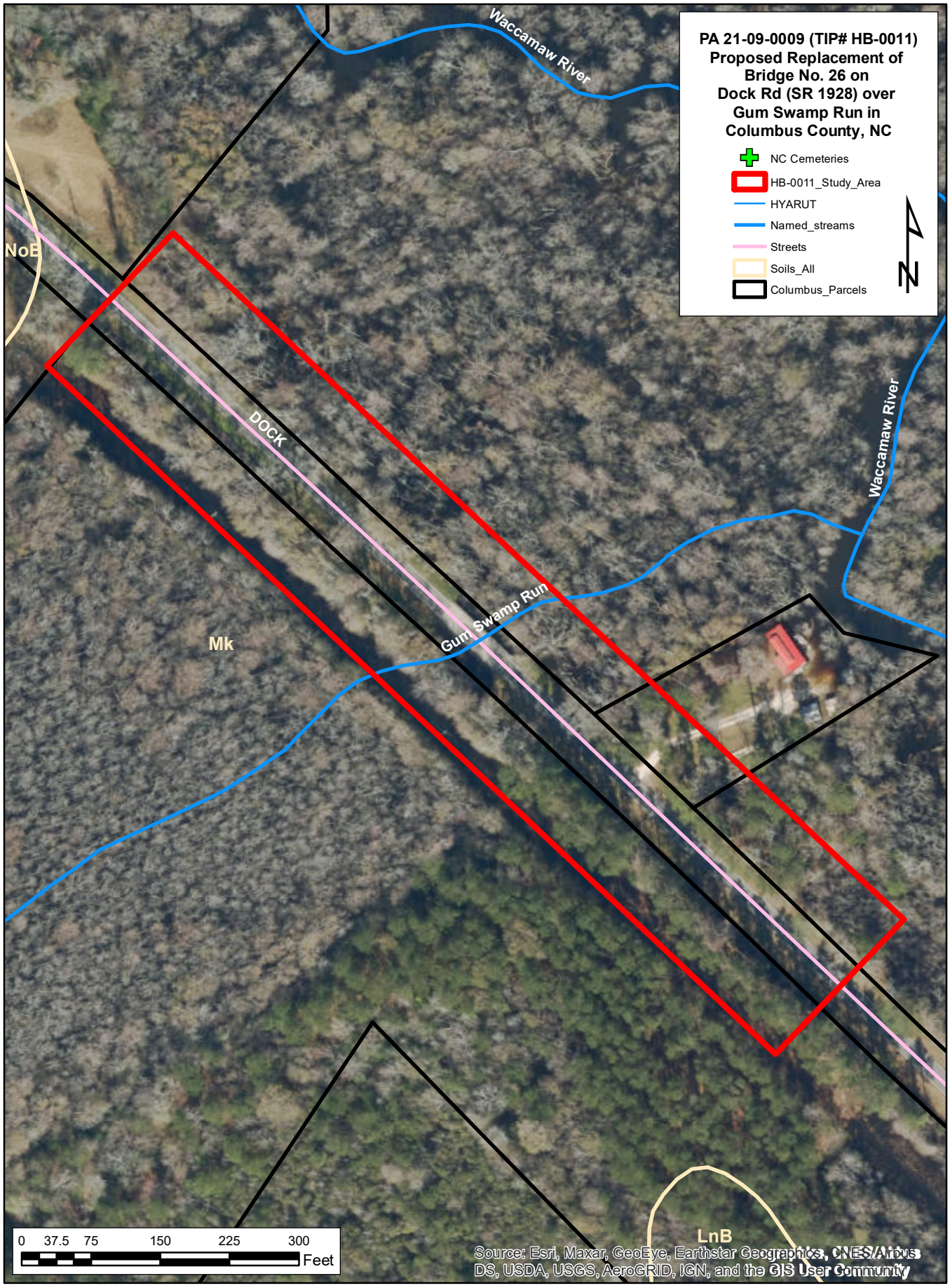
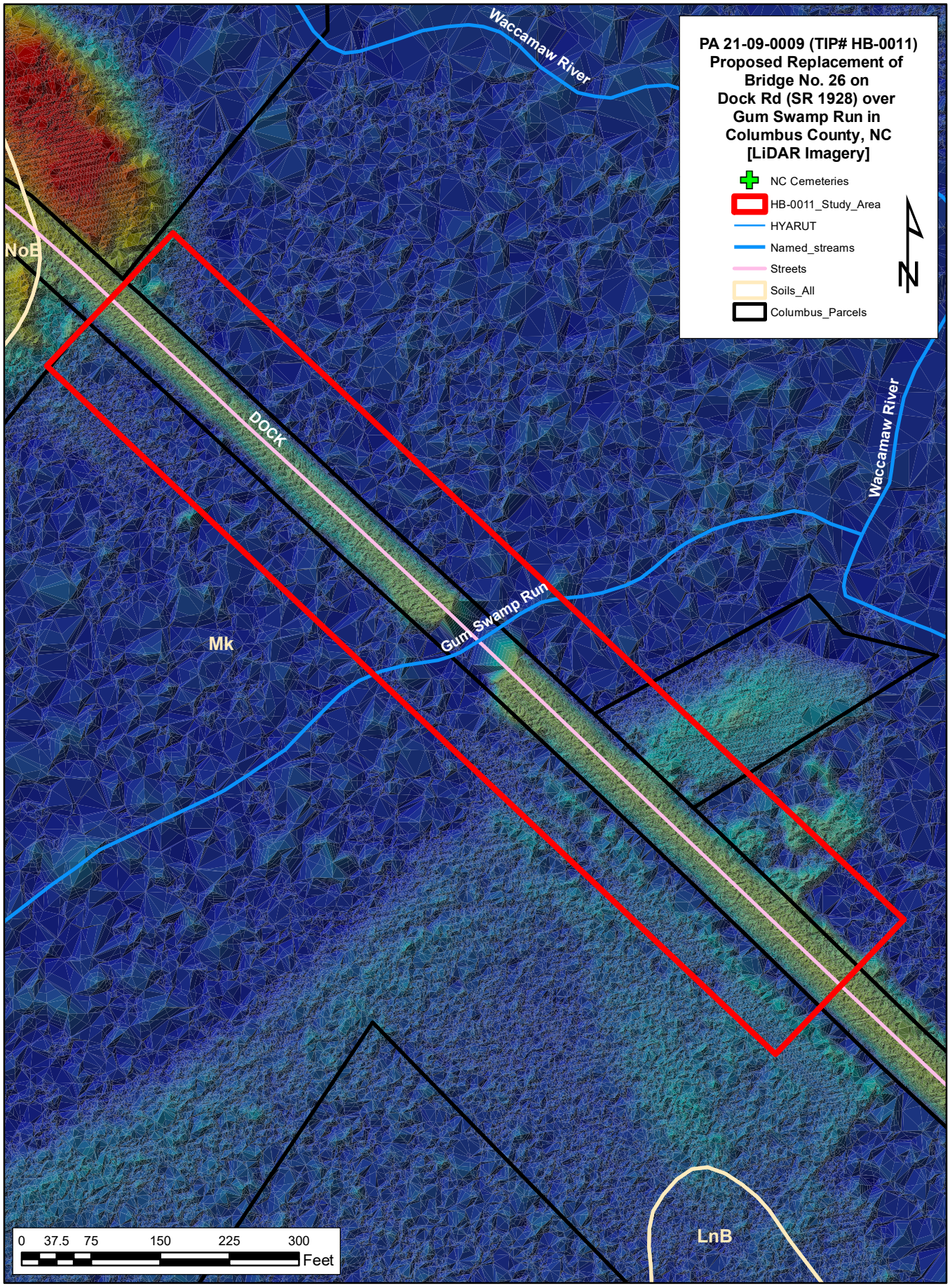


Figure 1: Old Dock, NC (USGS 1990).



Figure 2: Map of Short & Beers' Lands (1914 [date depicted-1887]) (Online resource: https://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/ncmaps/id/896/rec/2, last accessed 1 Oct 2021).


PA 21-09-0009 (TIP# HB-0011)
Proposed Replacement of
Bridge No. 26 on
Dock Rd (SR 1928) over
Gum Swamp Run in
Columbus County, NC
NC Cemeteries
HB-0011_Study_Area
HYARUT
Named_streams
Streets
Soils_All
Columbus_Parcels
N
Waccamaw River
Waccamaw River
DOCK
Gum Swamp Run
NoB
Mk
LnB
0 37.5 75 150 225 300
Feet
Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community


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[LiDAR Imagery]
NC Cemeteries
HB-0011_Study_Area
HYARUT
Named_streams
Streets
Soils_All
Columbus_Parcels
N
Waccamaw River
Waccamaw River
NoB
DOCK
Gum Swamp Run
Mk
LnB
0 37.5 75 150 225 300
Feet