

Loggerhead Sea Turtle Potential Habitat, April 2023 - NC Department of Transportation

File Geodatabase Feature Class



Tags

Loggerhead Sea Turtle, *Caretta caretta*, expert model, Transportation, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, USFWS, National Heritage Program, NHP, NRTR, NCDOT, Environment, Location, North Carolina, ATLAS

Summary

This dataset was originally created in January 2022 as part of the Project ATLAS initiative at NCDOT to support the Environmental Analysis Unit (EAU) Mitigation and Modeling Unit with project delivery in the development phase.

This model identifies year-round potential suitable habitat for the species. Model range output is for "high" potential habitat areas only. Areas not within the "high" range are not considered suitable habitat for loggerhead sea turtle.

The Optimal survey window is April to August.

This dataset supports the production of the Natural Resources Technical Report (NRTR). This dataset also contains information that may assist biologists in preparing background information for field surveys, in order to address protected species for Threatened & Endangered Species Survey Reports, and/or Biological Assessments.

Description

The Loggerhead Sea Turtle Potential Habitat dataset is a polygon layer depicting high potential habitat locations for Loggerhead SeaTurtle in NC counties that have a United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) "current" status listing.

Loggerhead Sea Turtle (*Caretta caretta*) is widely distributed within its range and is found in three distinct habitats during their lives. These turtles may be found hundreds of miles out in the open ocean, in neritic areas, or on coastal beaches. In North Carolina, this species has been observed in every coastal county. Loggerheads occasionally nest on North Carolina beaches and are the most common of all the sea turtles that visit the North Carolina coast. They nest nocturnally, at two to three-year intervals, between May and September, on isolated beaches that are characterized by fine-grained sediments. In near shore areas, loggerheads have been observed in bays, lagoons, salt marshes, creeks, ship channels, and the mouths of large rivers. Coral reefs, rocky places, and shipwrecks are often used as foraging areas.

Natural Heritage Program (NHP) Tier 2 data from 2018 indicate 24 NHP EOs for loggerhead sea turtle. All records are current. NHP records used at the time of the model were from January 2018.

County Information

- NHP listed counties: Brunswick, Carteret, Currituck, Dare, Hyde, New Hanover, Onslow, Pender.
- USFWS current listed counties: Brunswick, Carteret, Currituck, Dare, Hyde, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender

- Additions proposed by reviewers: Add Craven, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Washington – comments provided by Matthew Godfrey (NCWRC)

For more information please click here

<https://xfer.services.ncdot.gov/gisdot/Metadata/Atlas/TechDocs/>

- Datasets developed under Project ATLAS do not replace any NRTR work for future projects and may not be used as a replacement for site visits / field surveys by qualified professionals and hence should be used only as a supporting platform for decision making. Use of this dataset for project scoping or screening is merely pre-decisional.

Credits

The Environmental Analysis Unit (EAU) Mitigation and Modeling Unit within NCDOT was tasked to create this dataset. This dataset supports the production of the Natural Resources Technical Report (NRTR).

Annual maintenance of this dataset is handled by the EAU. Support and maintenance of the enterprise spatial database where this data resides is handled by NCDOT's Transportation GIS Unit.

Use limitations

The North Carolina Department of Transportation shall not be held liable for any errors in this data. This includes errors of omission, commission, errors concerning the content of the data, and relative and positional accuracy of the data. This data cannot be construed to be a legal document. Primary sources from which this data was compiled must be consulted for verification of information contained in this data.

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Extent

West -78.574596 **East** -75.057062

North 36.589495 **South** 33.546056

Scale Range

Maximum (zoomed in) 1:5,000

Minimum (zoomed out) 1:625,000

[ArcGIS Metadata](#) ▶

Topics and Keywords

 ▶

THEMES OR CATEGORIES OF THE RESOURCE biota, geoscientificInformation, inlandWaters, location, transportation, environment

* **CONTENT TYPE** Downloadable Data

EXPORT TO FGDC CSDGM XML FORMAT AS RESOURCE DESCRIPTION No

PLACE KEYWORDS North Carolina

THESAURUS ▶

TITLE User

CREATION DATE 2022-08-31 00:00:00

PUBLICATION DATE 2023-04-28 00:00:00

[Hide Thesaurus](#) ▲

THEME KEYWORDS Loggerhead Sea Turtle, Caretta caretta, expert model, Transportation, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, USFWS, National Heritage Program, NHP, NRTR, NCDOT, Environment, Location, North Carolina, ATLAS

THESAURUS ▶

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Hide Thesaurus ▲

Hide Topics and Keywords ▲

Citation ▶

TITLE Loggerhead Sea Turtle Potential Habitat, April 2023 - NC Department of Transportation

CREATION DATE 2022-08-31 00:00:00

PUBLICATION DATE 2023-04-28 00:00:00

PRESENTATION FORMATS digital map

Hide Citation ▲

Citation Contacts ▶

RESPONSIBLE PARTY

ORGANIZATION'S NAME North Carolina Department of Transportation - EAU Mitigation and Modeling Unit

CONTACT'S POSITION Environmental Program Consultant

CONTACT'S ROLE resource provider

CONTACT INFORMATION ▶

PHONE

VOICE 919-707-6146

ADDRESS

TYPE

DELIVERY POINT Century Center Building B, 1020 Birch Ridge Drive

CITY Raleigh

ADMINISTRATIVE AREA NC

POSTAL CODE 27610

COUNTRY US

E-MAIL ADDRESS ATLAS@ncdot.gov

HOURS OF SERVICE

9:00am – 5:00pm Monday - Friday

CONTACT INSTRUCTIONS

Please send an email with any issues, questions or comments regarding the ATLAS Data Search Tool, ATLAS Screening Tool or ATLAS Workbench. If it is an immediate need, please call the contact number or indicate as such in the subject line in an email.

Hide Contact information ▲

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CONTACT'S ROLE point of contact

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Hide Citation Contacts ▲

Resource Details ▶

DATASET LANGUAGES English (UNITED STATES)

DATASET CHARACTER SET utf8 - 8 bit UCS Transfer Format

STATUS completed

SPATIAL REPRESENTATION TYPE vector

* PROCESSING ENVIRONMENT Version 6.2 (Build 9200) ; Esri ArcGIS 10.8.1.14362

CREDITS

The Environmental Analysis Unit (EAU) Mitigation and Modeling Unit within NCDOT was tasked to create this dataset. This dataset supports the production of the Natural Resources Technical Report (NRTR).

Annual maintenance of this dataset is handled by the EAU. Support and maintenance of the enterprise spatial database where this data resides is handled by NCDIT's Transportation GIS Unit.

[Hide Resource Details ▲](#)

Extents ►

EXTENT

DESCRIPTION

Data collection is complete.

GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

BOUNDING RECTANGLE

WEST LONGITUDE -84.422111

EAST LONGITUDE -75.416034

SOUTH LATITUDE 33.730557

NORTH LATITUDE 36.617257

EXTENT CONTAINS THE RESOURCE Yes

TEMPORAL EXTENT

BEGINNING DATE 2022-08-31 00:00:00

ENDING DATE 2022-08-31 00:00:00

EXTENT

GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT

BOUNDING RECTANGLE

EXTENT TYPE Extent used for searching

* WEST LONGITUDE -78.574596

* EAST LONGITUDE -75.057062

* NORTH LATITUDE 36.589495

* SOUTH LATITUDE 33.546056

* EXTENT CONTAINS THE RESOURCE Yes

EXTENT IN THE ITEM'S COORDINATE SYSTEM

* WEST LONGITUDE 2129567.502763

* EAST LONGITUDE 3158392.499899

* SOUTH LATITUDE -52051.558431

* NORTH LATITUDE 1033804.749839

* EXTENT CONTAINS THE RESOURCE Yes

[Hide Extents ▲](#)

Resource Points of Contact ►

POINT OF CONTACT

ORGANIZATION'S NAME North Carolina Department of Transportation - EAU Mitigation and Modeling Unit

CONTACT'S POSITION Environmental Program Consultant

CONTACT'S ROLE originator

CONTACT INFORMATION ►

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Hide Contact information ▲

Hide Resource Points of Contact ▲

Resource Maintenance ►

RESOURCE MAINTENANCE

UPDATE FREQUENCY as needed

SCOPE OF THE UPDATES dataset

OTHER MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

Maintenance of this dataset is handled by the Environmental Analysis Unit (EAU) Mitigation and Modeling Unit. Currently updating this dataset has not been planned. Support and maintenance of the enterprise spatial database where this data resides is handled by NCDIT's Transportation GIS Unit.

MAINTENANCE CONTACT

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CONTACT'S ROLE originator

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[Hide Resource Maintenance ▲](#)

Resource Constraints ►

LEGAL CONSTRAINTS

LIMITATIONS OF USE

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SECURITY CONSTRAINTS

CLASSIFICATION unclassified

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM None

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[Hide Resource Constraints ▲](#)

Spatial Reference ►

ARCGIS COORDINATE SYSTEM

* TYPE Projected

* GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATE REFERENCE GCS_North_American_1983

* PROJECTION NAD_1983_StatePlane_North_Carolina_FIPS_3200_Feet

* COORDINATE REFERENCE DETAILS

PROJECTED COORDINATE SYSTEM

WELL-KNOWN IDENTIFIER 102719

X ORIGIN -121841900

Y ORIGIN -93659000

XY SCALE 3048.0060960121918

Z ORIGIN -100000

Z SCALE 10000

M ORIGIN -100000
M SCALE 10000
XY TOLERANCE 0.0032808333333333331
Z TOLERANCE 0.001
M TOLERANCE 0.001
HIGH PRECISION true
LATEST WELL-KNOWN IDENTIFIER 2264
WELL-KNOWN TEXT
PROJCS["NAD_1983_StatePlane_North_Carolina_FIPS_3200_Feet",GEOGCS["GCS_North_American_1983",DATUM["D_North_American_1983",SPHEROID["GRS_1980",6378137.0,298.257222101]],PRIMEM["Greenwich",0.0],UNIT["Degree",0.0174532925199433]],PROJECTION["Lambert_Conformal_Conic"],PARAMETER["False_Easting",2000000.002616666],PARAMETER["False_Northing",0.0],PARAMETER["Central_Meridian",-79.0],PARAMETER["Standard_Parallel_1",34.33333333333334],PARAMETER["Standard_Parallel_2",36.16666666666666],PARAMETER["Latitude_Of_Origin",33.75],UNIT["Foot_US",0.3048006096012192],AUTHORITY["EPSG",2264]]

REFERENCE SYSTEM IDENTIFIER

VALUE 2264
* CODESPACE EPSG
* VERSION 6.12(9.0.0)

[Hide Spatial Reference ▲](#)

Spatial Data Properties ►

VECTOR ►

* LEVEL OF TOPOLOGY FOR THIS DATASET geometry only

GEOMETRIC OBJECTS

FEATURE CLASS NAME LoggerheadSeaTurtlePotentialHabitat
* OBJECT TYPE composite
* OBJECT COUNT 35

[Hide Vector ▲](#)

ARCGIS FEATURE CLASS PROPERTIES ►

FEATURE CLASS NAME LoggerheadSeaTurtlePotentialHabitat
* FEATURE TYPE Simple
* GEOMETRY TYPE Polygon
* HAS TOPOLOGY FALSE
* FEATURE COUNT 35
* SPATIAL INDEX TRUE
* LINEAR REFERENCING FALSE

[Hide ArcGIS Feature Class Properties ▲](#)

[Hide Spatial Data Properties ▲](#)

Data Quality ►

SCOPE OF QUALITY INFORMATION ►

RESOURCE LEVEL dataset

[Hide Scope of quality information ▲](#)

DATA QUALITY REPORT - COMPLETENESS OMISSION ▶

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

After processing, the dataset is checked for drawing display and number of records and file sizes compared with source materials.

CONFORMANCE TEST RESULTS

TEST PASSED Yes

RESULT EXPLANATION

Pass

PRODUCT SPECIFICATION ▶

TITLE NCDOT Geospatial Data Specifications

CREATION DATE 2019-10-01 00:00:00

PUBLICATION DATE 2021-06-17 00:00:00

[Hide Product specification ▲](#)

[Hide Data quality report - Completeness omission ▲](#)

DATA QUALITY REPORT - CONCEPTUAL CONSISTENCY ▶

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

The dataset is converted to file geodatabase (FGDB) format using tools in ArcGIS. The geometry is checked, and if needed repaired

CONFORMANCE TEST RESULTS

TEST PASSED Yes

RESULT EXPLANATION

Pass

PRODUCT SPECIFICATION ▶

TITLE NCDOT Geospatial Data Specifications

CREATION DATE 2019-10-01 00:00:00

PUBLICATION DATE 2021-06-17 00:00:00

[Hide Product specification ▲](#)

[Hide Data quality report - Conceptual consistency ▲](#)

DATA QUALITY REPORT - QUANTITATIVE ATTRIBUTE ACCURACY ▶

MEASURE DESCRIPTION

- ArcGIS Online (AGOL) Review

- o A model prediction file was shared with select reviewers on ArcGIS Online. Points were placed within the USFWS potential habitat as well as the model potential habitat in order to solicit feedback. Reviewers could place additional comments for consideration by modeler.
- o AGOL review was completed in May 2019 on draft version of this model.

- Independent Data Review

- o Describe data sources –Phase 1 and 2 open waters, natural heritage element occurrence data, critical habitat data, DCM shorelines (2009 and 2016).
- o Describe methods – Current aerial imagery was used to determine likelihood of habitat. Open water layer used to determine potential habitat.

CONFORMANCE TEST RESULTS

TEST PASSED Yes

RESULT EXPLANATION

Pass

PRODUCT SPECIFICATION ►

TITLE NCDOT Geospatial Data Specifications

CREATION DATE 2020-10-01 00:00:00

PUBLICATION DATE 2021-06-17 00:00:00

[Hide Product specification ▲](#)

[Hide Data quality report - Quantitative attribute accuracy ▲](#)

[Hide Data Quality ▲](#)

Lineage ►

LINEAGE STATEMENT

ArcGIS Model Builder version 10.4.1 was used to build a model

Input Layers:

Layer 1

- Layer name: Phase_I_Open_Water and Phase_II_Open_Water
- Layer description:
 - o Layer obtained from Sweeping Environmental ATLAS team.
 - o Vector layer for all open water areas throughout the state. Two parts but combined in model.
- Layer selection justification:
 - o This data contains open waters for the state that have been merged from two files into one and then selected for any polygons large enough to consist of bays (Pamlico Sound, Core Sound, etc.) and ocean waters.
- "Habitat" versus "Nonhabitat" designations:
 - o Areas of open coastal water are potential habitat for the loggerhead sea turtle.

Layer 2

- Layer name: CountyBoundaryShoreline
- Layer description:
 - o Select Water from County Boundary shapefile
- Layer selection justification:
 - o Species possible within areas designated "Water" in CountyBoundaryShoreline layer.
- "Habitat" versus "Nonhabitat" designations:
 - o Species possible within areas designated "Water" in CountyBoundaryShoreline layer.

Layer 3

- Layer name: dcm_oceanfront_shorelines
- Layer description:
 - o Division of Coastal Management shoreline data from 2009 and 2016.
- Layer selection justification:
 - o Data layer was incorporated into the model with 2009 and 2016 shorelines (to ensure complete coverage of coast) buffered 1400 feet. DCM shorelines were variable in their actual distance from shorelines on aerial photography. 1400 feet was selected to ensure all coastal beaches, including the primary dune line were included in the model.
- "Habitat" versus "Nonhabitat" designations:
 - o Area within buffer is potential habitat.

Layer 4

- Layer name: nheo_tier2
- Layer description:
 - o Tier 2 data acquired from NC Natural Heritage Program
- Layer selection justification:
 - o Data layer was incorporated into model with any loggerhead sea turtle records selected and included in final merged output file.

Layer 5

- Layer name: USFWS and NOAA Critical Habitat Layers
- Layer description:
 - o Data Layers for NOAA and USFWS Critical Habitat for loggerhead sea turtle included in final step of model to be merged into final output file.

PROCESS STEP DESCRIPTION

Geodatabase was forwarded on to the GIS Unit for publishing as part of data for project ATLAS.

PROCESS CONTACT

ORGANIZATION'S NAME North Carolina Department of Transportation - EAU Mitigation and Modeling Unit
CONTACT'S POSITION Environmental Program Consultant
CONTACT'S ROLE originator

CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE

VOICE 919-707-6146

ADDRESS

TYPE

DELIVERY POINT Century Center Building B, 1020 Birch Ridge Drive

CITY Raleigh

ADMINISTRATIVE AREA NC

POSTAL CODE 27610

COUNTRY US

E-MAIL ADDRESS ATLAS@ncdot.gov

HOURS OF SERVICE

9:00am – 5:00pm Monday - Friday

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[Hide Contact information ▲](#)

[Hide Process step ▲](#)

PROCESS STEP ▶

DESCRIPTION

Data was reviewed in ESRI's Data Reviewer tool to verify geometry.

PROCESS CONTACT

ORGANIZATION'S NAME North Carolina Department of Transportation - EAU Mitigation and Modeling Unit

CONTACT'S POSITION Environmental Program Consultant

CONTACT'S ROLE originator

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[Hide Process step ▲](#)

PROCESS STEP ▶

DESCRIPTION

Select all coastal open water areas, NHP element occurrence data, buffered DCM shorelines (2009 and 2016) and selected counties and merge all layers to produce the model.

PROCESS CONTACT

ORGANIZATION'S NAME North Carolina Department of Transportation - EAU Mitigation and Modeling Unit

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[Hide Process step ▲](#)

[Hide Lineage ▲](#)

Distribution ►

DISTRIBUTOR ►

CONTACT INFORMATION

ORGANIZATION'S NAME North Carolina Department of Transportation - EAU Mitigation and Modeling Unit

CONTACT'S POSITION Environmental Program Consultant

CONTACT'S ROLE distributor

CONTACT INFORMATION ►

PHONE

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[Hide Contact information ▲](#)

[Hide Distributor ▲](#)

DISTRIBUTION FORMAT

* NAME File Geodatabase Feature Class
VERSION 10.5

[Hide Distribution ▲](#)

Fields ►

DETAILS FOR OBJECT [LoggerheadSeaTurtlePotentialHabitat ►](#)

* TYPE Feature Class
* ROW COUNT 35

DEFINITION

Model for Loggerhead Sea Turtle habitat areas in NC.

DEFINITION SOURCE

NCDOT

FIELD [Shape ►](#)

* ALIAS Shape
* DATA TYPE Geometry
* WIDTH 0
* PRECISION 0
* SCALE 0
* FIELD DESCRIPTION
Feature geometry.

* DESCRIPTION SOURCE
Esri

* DESCRIPTION OF VALUES
Coordinates defining the features.

[Hide Field Shape ▲](#)

FIELD [OBJECTID ►](#)

* ALIAS FID
* DATA TYPE OID
* WIDTH 4
* PRECISION 0
* SCALE 0
* FIELD DESCRIPTION
Internal feature number.

* DESCRIPTION SOURCE
Esri

* DESCRIPTION OF VALUES
Sequential unique whole numbers that are automatically generated.

[Hide Field OBJECTID ▲](#)

FIELD [CommonName](#) ▶

- * ALIAS CommonName
- * DATA TYPE String
- * WIDTH 40
- * PRECISION 0
- * SCALE 0

FIELD DESCRIPTION

Common Name of Species

DESCRIPTION SOURCE

NCDOT

[Hide Field CommonName](#) ▲

FIELD [SciName](#) ▶

- ALIAS ScientificName
- * DATA TYPE String
- * WIDTH 40
- * PRECISION 0
- * SCALE 0

FIELD DESCRIPTION

Scientific Name of Species

DESCRIPTION SOURCE

NCDOT

[Hide Field SciName](#) ▲

FIELD [PotHabitat](#) ▶

- * ALIAS PotHabitat
- * DATA TYPE String
- * WIDTH 8
- * PRECISION 0
- * SCALE 0

FIELD DESCRIPTION

Model Output - Low or High potential habitat

DESCRIPTION SOURCE

NCDOT

[Hide Field PotHabitat](#) ▲

FIELD [Shape_Length](#) ▶

- * ALIAS Shape_Length
- * DATA TYPE Double
- * WIDTH 8
- * PRECISION 0
- * SCALE 0

* FIELD DESCRIPTION

Length of feature in internal units.

* DESCRIPTION SOURCE

Esri

* DESCRIPTION OF VALUES

Positive real numbers that are automatically generated.

[Hide Field Shape_Length ▲](#)

FIELD Shape_Area ►

* ALIAS Shape_Area

* DATA TYPE Double

* WIDTH 8

* PRECISION 0

* SCALE 0

* FIELD DESCRIPTION

Area of feature in internal units squared.

* DESCRIPTION SOURCE

Esri

* DESCRIPTION OF VALUES

Positive real numbers that are automatically generated.

[Hide Field Shape_Area ▲](#)

[Hide Details for object LoggerheadSeaTurtlePotentialHabitat ▲](#)

[Hide Fields ▲](#)

Metadata Details ►

METADATA LANGUAGE English (UNITED STATES)

METADATA CHARACTER SET utf8 - 8 bit UCS Transfer Format

SCOPE OF THE DATA DESCRIBED BY THE METADATA dataset

SCOPE NAME * dataset

* LAST UPDATE 2024-01-30

ARCGIS METADATA PROPERTIES

METADATA FORMAT ArcGIS 1.0

METADATA STYLE ISO 19139 Metadata Implementation Specification

STANDARD OR PROFILE USED TO EDIT METADATA ISO19139

CREATED IN ARCGIS FOR THE ITEM 2024-02-01 14:12:00

LAST MODIFIED IN ARCGIS FOR THE ITEM 2024-01-30 11:34:31

AUTOMATIC UPDATES

HAVE BEEN PERFORMED Yes

LAST UPDATE 2024-01-30 11:34:31

[Hide Metadata Details ▲](#)

Metadata Contacts ►

METADATA CONTACT

ORGANIZATION'S NAME North Carolina Department of Transportation - EAU Mitigation and Modeling Unit
CONTACT'S POSITION Environmental Program Consultant
CONTACT'S ROLE point of contact

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MAINTENANCE

UPDATE FREQUENCY as needed

OTHER MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

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ADDRESS

TYPE

DELIVERY POINT Century Center Building B, 1020 Birch Ridge Drive

CITY Raleigh

ADMINISTRATIVE AREA NC

POSTAL CODE 27610

COUNTRY US

E-MAIL ADDRESS ATLAS@ncdot.gov

HOURS OF SERVICE

9:00am – 5:00pm Monday - Friday

CONTACT INSTRUCTIONS

Please send an email with any issues, questions or comments regarding the ATLAS Data Search Tool, ATLAS Screening Tool or ATLAS Workbench. If it is an immediate need, please call the contact number or indicate as such in the subject line in an email.

[Hide Contact information ▲](#)

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Metadata Constraints ►

SECURITY CONSTRAINTS

CLASSIFICATION unclassified

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM None

LIMITATIONS OF USE

The North Carolina Department of Transportation shall not be held liable for any errors in this metadata. This includes errors of omission, commission, errors concerning the content of the data, and relative and positional accuracy of the data. This data cannot be construed to be a legal document. Primary sources from which this data was compiled must be consulted for verification of information contained in this data. Datasets developed under Project ATLAS do not replace any NRTR work for future projects and may not be used as a replacement for site visits / field surveys by qualified professionals and hence should be used only as a supporting platform for decision making. Use of this dataset for project scoping or screening is merely pre-decisional.

CONSTRAINTS

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