

North Carolina Department of Transportation

NEPA/SEPA Consultation Form

STIP Project No.	B-5666
WBS Element	45621.1.2
Federal Aid Project No.	N/A

A. Project Description, Location, and Purpose:

The proposed project involves replacing Bridge No. 47 on US 117 over Seaboard Coast Line (SCL) Railroad in Wilson County. Bridge No. 47 will be replaced on the existing alignment. The replacement structure will have a minimum clear roadway width of 34 feet. The bridge will include two twelve-foot lanes and five-foot shoulders on each side. The proposed bridge length of 190.5 feet is based on the final design. The proposed bridge will consist of three spans. The roadway grade of the new structure will be approximately the same as the existing structure. Coordination with the NCDOT Rail Division will continue during project design to ensure that future rail operations are considered.

Based on the final design, the approach roadway will extend approximately 650 feet from the south end of the proposed bridge and 700 feet from the north end of the bridge. The approach roadway will consist of two 12-foot lanes with 8-foot graded shoulders (11-foot with guardrail) with 2-feet paved. The existing right-of-way is 100 feet, the existing right-of-way is 100 feet, and the proposed right-of-way approximately 240 feet at the bridge and varies south and north of the bridge. Permanent Utility Easement (PUE) and Temporary Construction Easement (TCE) are needed to build the project.

Traffic will be detoured off-site during the construction. The anticipated detour would divert traffic along Frank Price Church Road to Black Creek Road, to US 264, and then back to US 117, approximately 7-miles.

B. Consultation Phase: (Check one)

- ☐ Right-of-Way
- ☒ Construction
- ☐ Other: Identify the trigger – (e.g., design change, change in impacts)

C. NEPA/SEPA Class of Action Initially Approved as: (Check one)

- ☒ FHWA Class II (CE) 9/5/2019

D. Changes in Proposed Action & Environmental Consequences:

Water Resources:

The water resource classifications the Categorical Exclusion remain accurate. No streams or wetlands were identified in the study area.

Protected Species:

Since the completion of the Categorical Exclusion, two species were added, the Tar River spiny mussel and the Yellow lance. Biological conclusions for all six species are **No Effect**.

No other species have been added or deleted to the list of protected species for Wilson County. These species have been screened and determined to be “**No Effect**” for this project due to being outside their range by basin.

Habitat for Michaux’s sumac is present within the study area along the maintained roadside and railroad right-of-way. Original survey for Michaux’s sumac was performed on June 6, 2016 and no Michaux’s sumac was identified. An updated field survey was performed on June 25, 2020 and no Michaux’s sumac was identified. Further, a review of the NCNHP database records, updated January 2021, indicates no known occurrences of Michaux’s sumac within 1.0 mile of the study area. Due to the lack of observed individuals and the lack of known occurrences, the biological conclusion remains **No Effect** for this species.

The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program is **May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect**. The PBO provides incidental take coverage for NLEB and will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for ten years for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes Wilson County, where B-5666 is located. This level of incidental take is authorized from the effective date of a final listing determination through December 31, 2030.

Section 106:

NCDOT has reviewed the Section 106 effects findings for historic properties within the project’s area of potential effects (APE), that were made as part of the NEPA analysis. NCDOT has confirmed there is no new information that would alter the original Section 106 findings and, therefore, they remain valid.

Design Changes:

Based on the final design, the proposed structure will be lengthened by 19.5 feet from the originally estimated length to 190.5 feet. Permanent Utility Easement (PUE) and Temporary Construction Easement (TCE) are needed to build the project; also new ROW will be needed.

E. Conclusion:

The above NEPA/SEPA documentation has been reevaluated (as required by either 23 CFR 771 or by NC General Statute Chapter 113A Article 1). It has been determined that the current proposed action is essentially the same as the original proposed action. Proposed changes, if any, are noted in Section D. It has been determined that anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts were accurately described in the above referenced document(s) unless noted otherwise herein. Therefore, the original Administration Action remains valid.

F. Coordination

NCDOT personnel have discussed the current project parameters with qualified NCDOT representatives and FHWA (where applicable). The NCDOT Project Manager, Jacquelyn Bowles, PE, hereby verifies the involvement of the following staff and the incorporation of their technical input:

Design Engineer:	Dewayne Sykes	3/2/2021
Environmental Specialist	Deanna Riffey	2/26/2021
FHWA (if applicable):	N/A	
Other	N/A	

G. Consultation Approval for NCDOT Project B

Prepared By:

3/17/2021


Date

DocuSigned by:

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Ahmad Al-Sharawneh
NCDOT, Project Management Unit

Prepared For:


DocuSigned by:

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Jacquelyn Bowles, PE
NCDOT, Structures Management Unit

Reviewed By:

3/17/2021

Date

DocuSigned by:

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Colin Mellor, Team Lead
NCDOT, Environmental Policy Unit

☒ **Approved** In adherence with 23 CFR 771 (NEPA) or NC General Statute Chapter 113A Article 1 (SEPA), NCDOT approves this Consultation.

or

☐ **Certified** NCDOT staff certifies if FHWA signature was previously required or where changes have resulted in FHWA signature being required.

3/17/2021

Date

DocuSigned by:



David Stutts, PE - Project Engineer – PEF/Program Management
NCDOT – Structures Management Unit

FHWA Approved: FHWA signature required for Type I(B) CE, Type II(B) CE, Type III CE, FONSI or ROD.

Date

N/A
John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

H. Project Commitments (as of 2021)

**Wilson County
Bridge No. 47 on US 117 over SCL Railroad
Federal Project No. N/A
WBS No. 45621.1.2
TIP No. B-5666**

Current status and new commitments are printed in italics:

NCDOT-Highway Division 4:

There are agricultural operations in the project study area, both north, and south of the Bridge No. 47. Farmland impacts may include temporary disruption in access during construction. NCDOT will work to minimize impacts to agricultural operations during the construction period.

Due to the possible disruption of access for school buses and EMS response delays for the Black Creek Community and adjacent areas, NCDOT will notify Wilson County Emergency Services ((252) 237-0789) and the County Schools ((252) 399-7700) prior to construction.

Action: This is standard commitment; the division will contact them prior to construction.

Structures Management Unit:

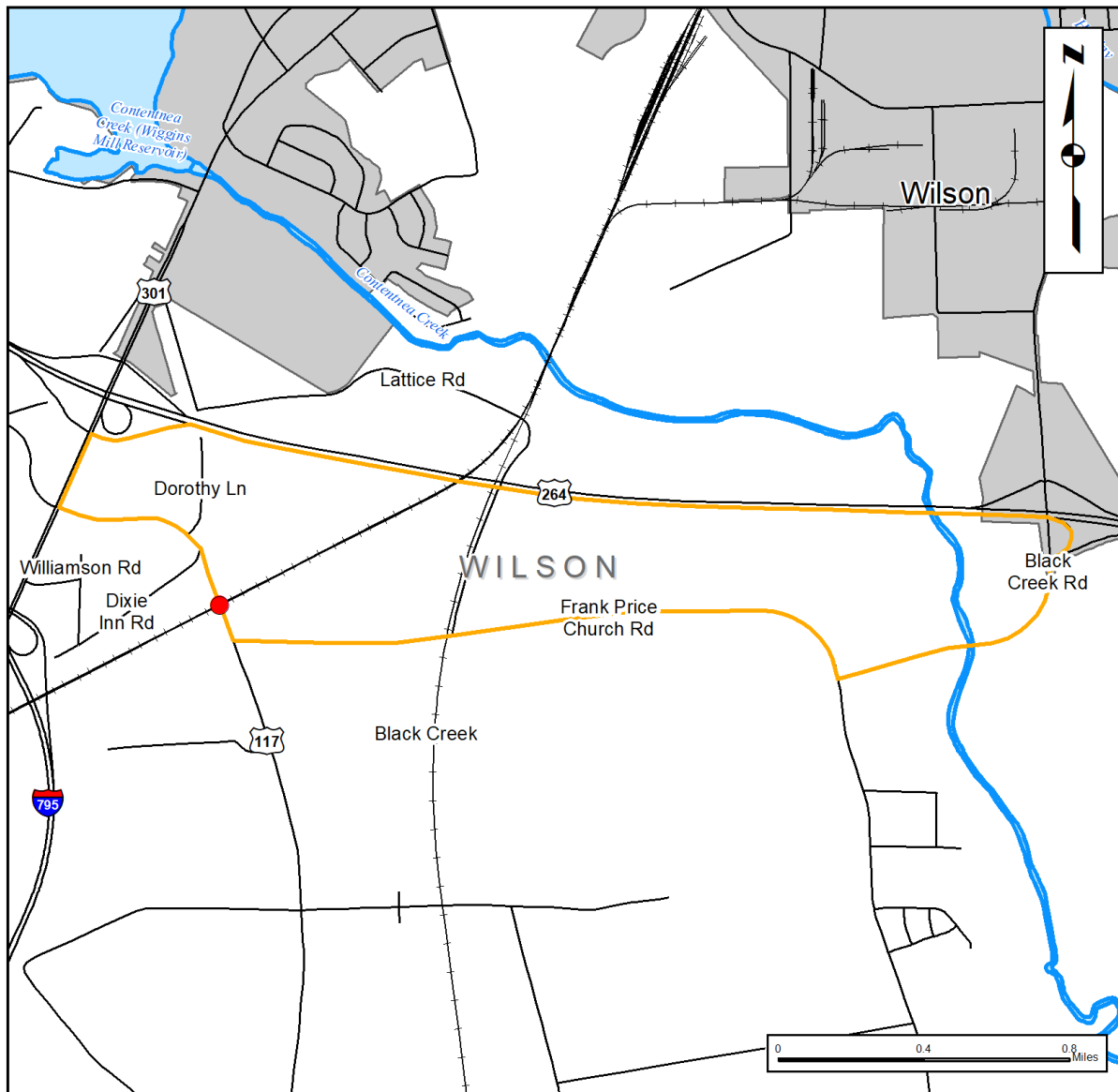
NCDOT will also coordinate with Seaboard Coast Line (SCL) to minimize potential impacts on railroad operations before and during the construction phase.

Action: Structures Management Unit have been coordinating and in are the process of completing the construction agreement with CSX who owns the (SCL).


COMMITMENTS FROM PERMITTING:

No special commitments were made during permitting.

Figure 1: Vicinity Map



— Detour Route

	NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT
	WILSON COUNTY REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 47 ON US 117 OVER SCL RAILROAD
	DETOUR MAP

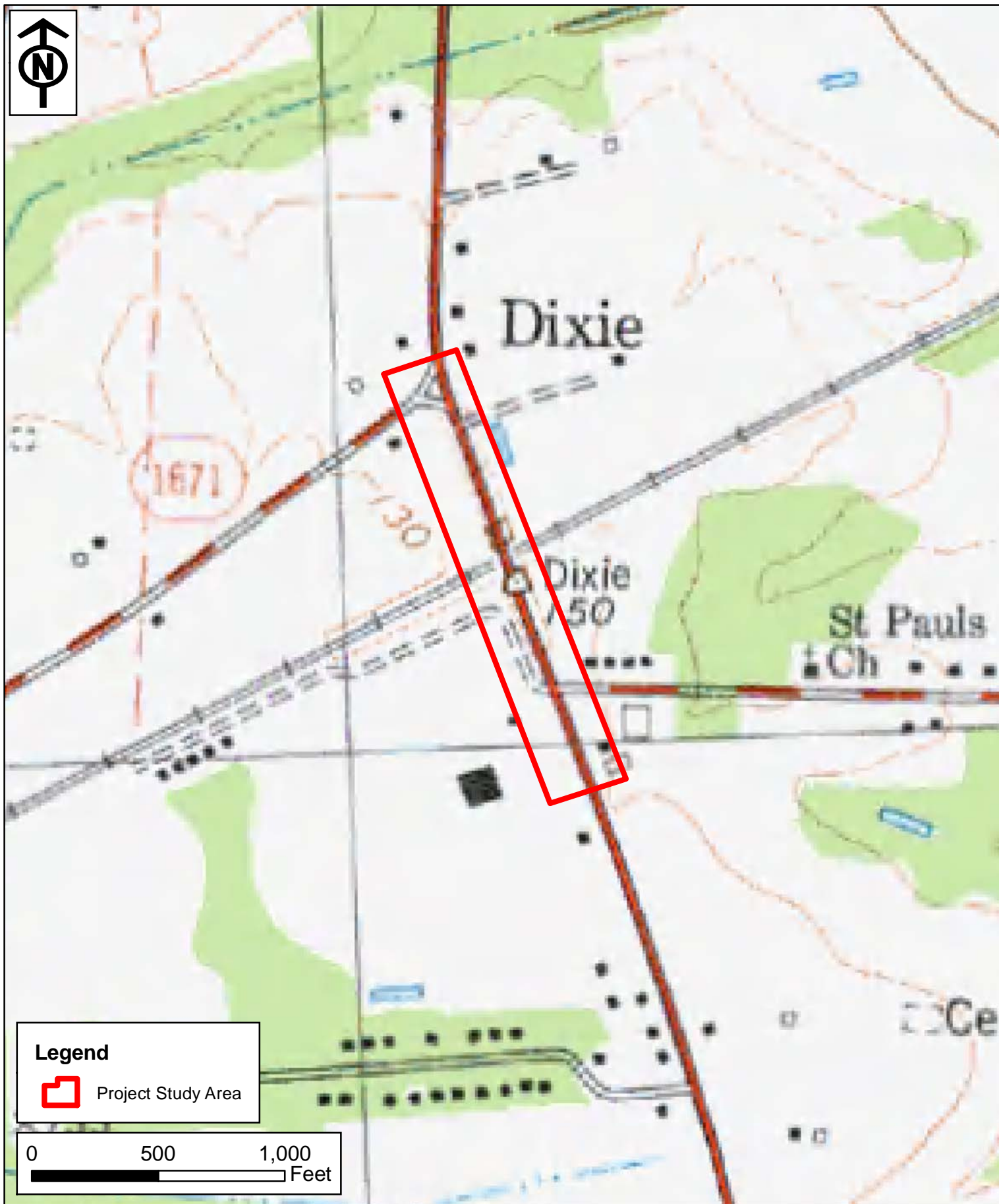


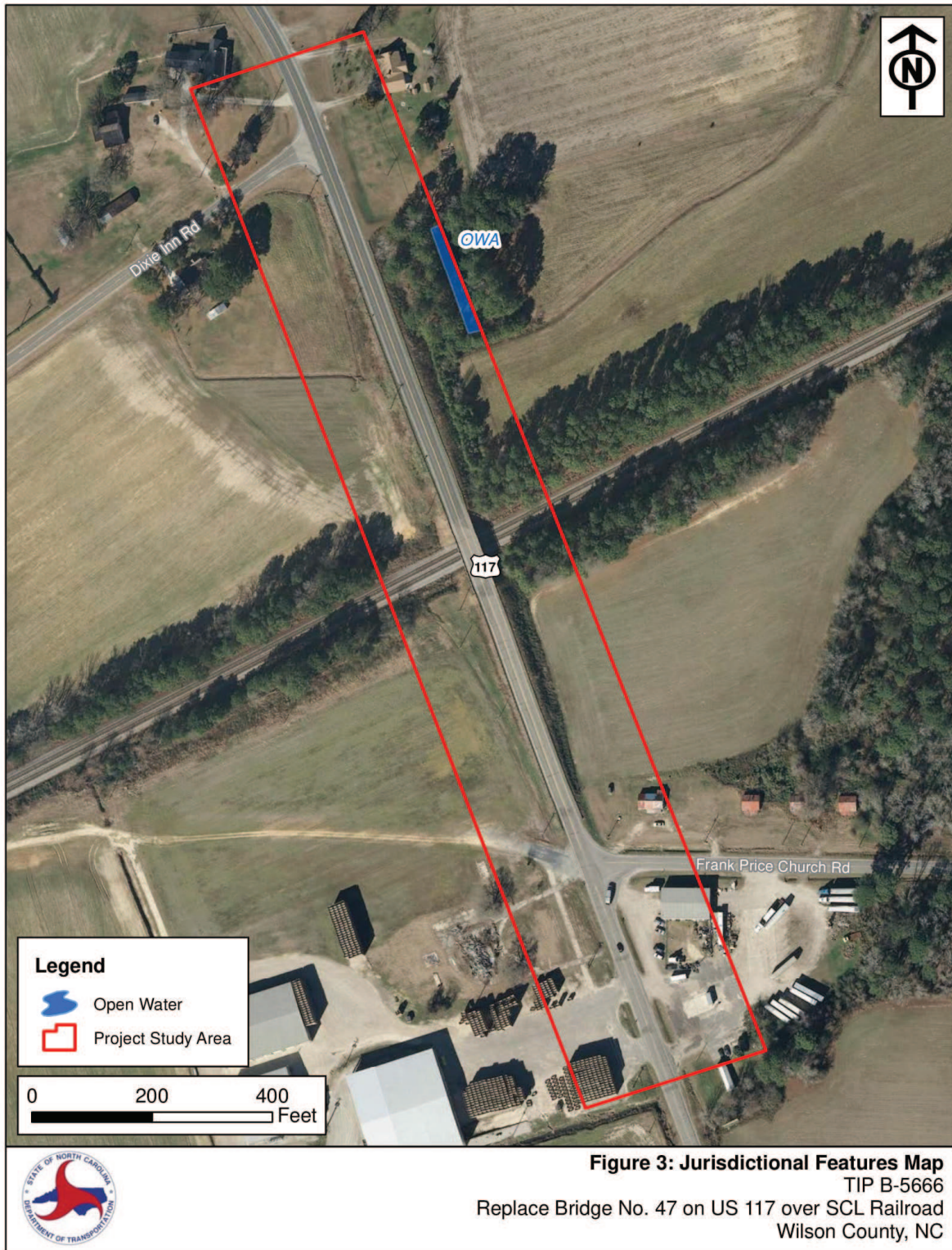
Figure 2: Project Study Area Map

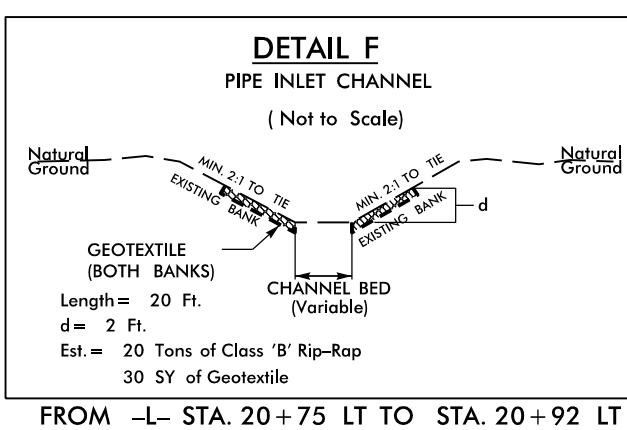
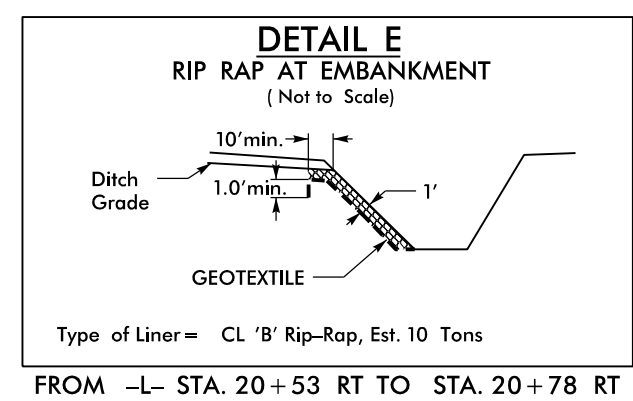
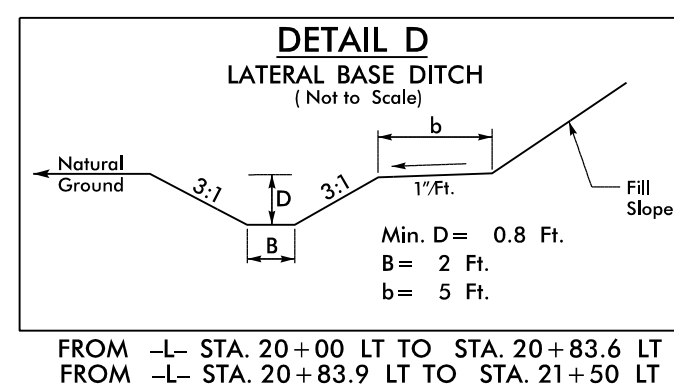
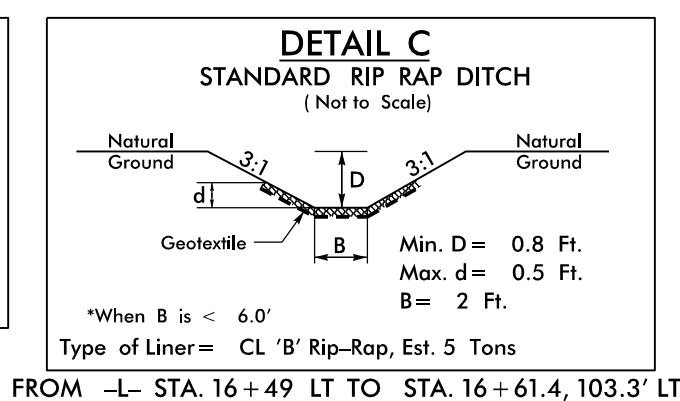
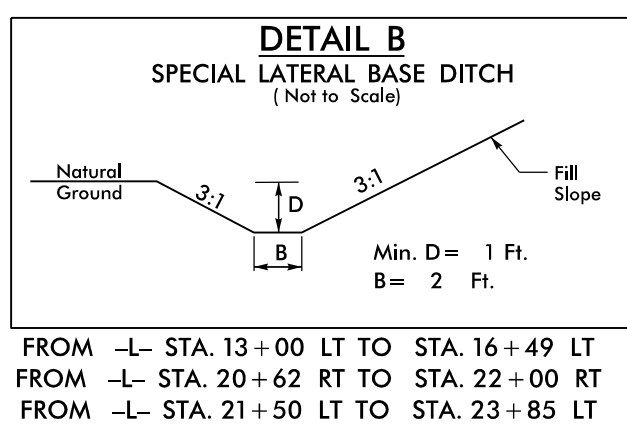
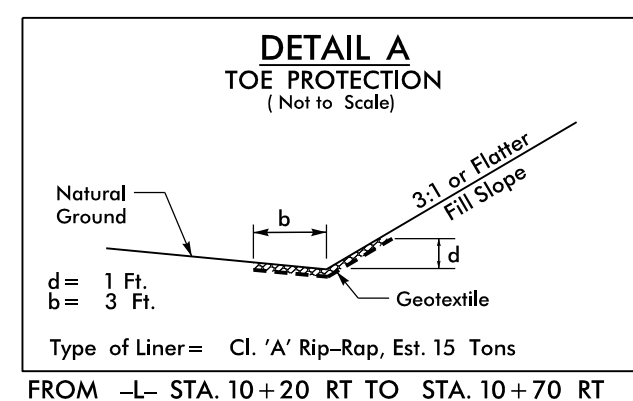
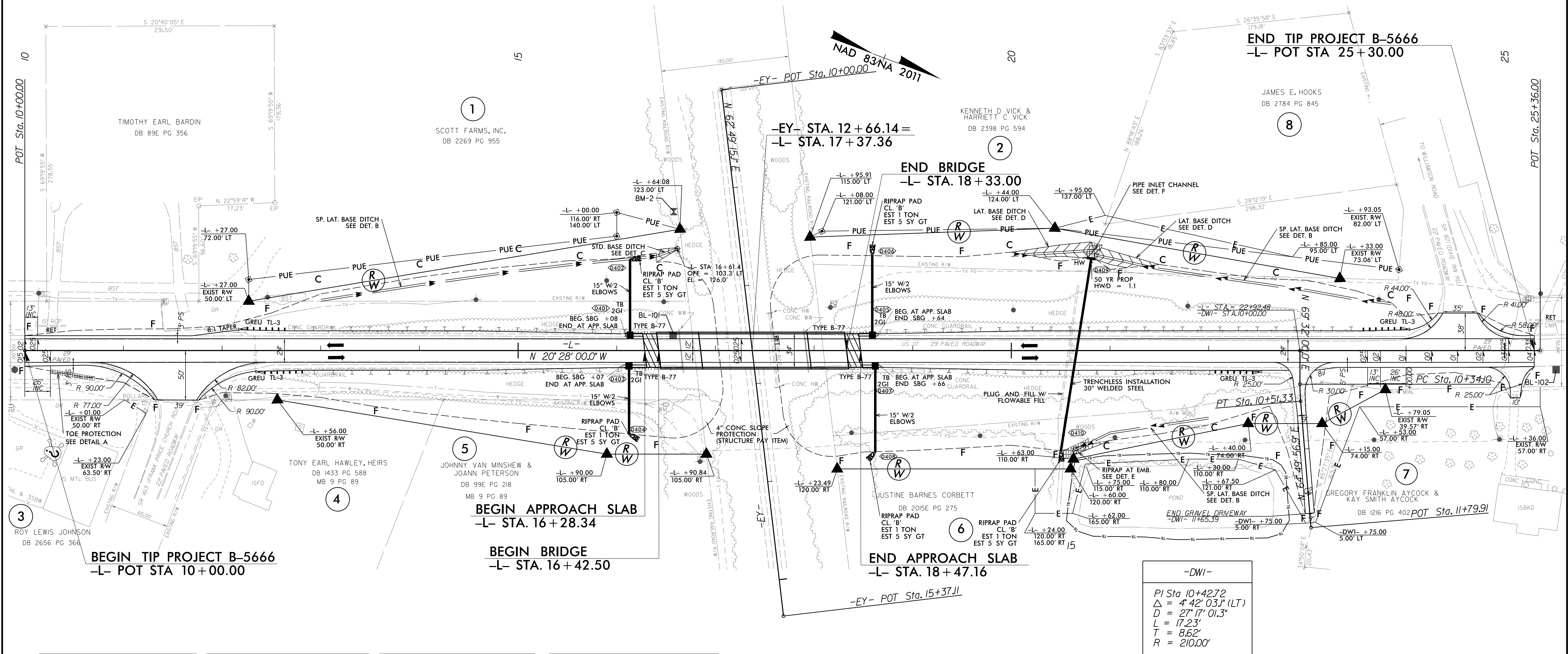
TIP B-5666

Replace Bridge No. 47 on US 117 over SCL Railroad

Wilson County, NC

Figure 2: Jurisdictional Features Map





LEGEND



 BRIDGE APPROACH SLAB

FOR BRIDGE SEE SHEETS, S-1 TO S-30
FOR -L- PROFILE SEE SHEET 5
FOR -DWI- PROFILE SEE SHEET 5