

North Carolina Department of Transportation

NEPA/SEPA Consultation Form

STIP Project No.	BR-0033
WBS Element	67033.1.1
Federal Aid Project No.	N/A

A. Project Description, Location, and Purpose:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace Bridge #580084 on SR 1234 (Parker Padgett Rd) over I-40 in McDowell County, North Carolina. The total project length is approximately 825 feet, with a variable existing right-of-way width at a minimum of 60 feet. Bridge #580084 is currently 233 feet long. The bridge was built in 1958 and is structurally deficient with a sufficiency rating of 53.44 and a substructure and deck rating of 4 out of 9. The replacement bridge will be a steel structure approximately 209 feet long. Additional right-of-way and easement is required. SR 1234 (Parker Padgett Rd) will provide two 12-foot travel lanes. The roadway will be designed as a Local Road using Regional Tier Guidelines with a 25 mph design speed. The bridge will be replaced in a new location using the existing bridge as an on-site detour.

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)

- SEPA MCDC 4/15/2019

D. Changes in Proposed Action & Environmental Consequences:Design Changes

No major design changes have occurred since the signing of the MCDC, and no additional impacts to any resources have occurred due to these design changes.

Water Resources

The water resource classifications for the streams identified in the MCDC remain accurate.

Protected Species

The biological conclusions for the seven federally protected species listed at the time the MCDC was signed for this project remain accurate. This is due to the absence of habitat for these species within the project study area.

When the list of federally protected species for McDowell County was updated on March 1, 2021, one additional species: the White irisette was added to the list. For the White irisette (federal status “Endangered”), the biological conclusion is “No Effect” due to the absence of suitable habitat.

A survey for bats will be conducted this summer (2021) due to the discovery of gray bats roosting on a bridge on I-40 at Exit 90.

Archaeology & Historic Resources

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 MCDC.

NCDOT has confirmed there is no new information that would alter the original Section 106 findings and, therefore, they remain valid.

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:	Tim Hayes, PE	3/24/2021
Environmental Specialist:	Jeff Hemphill	3/18/2021
FHWA (if applicable):	N/A	


G. Consultation Approval for NCDOT Project BR-0033

Prepared By:
3/24/2021
Date




Alexander Nies, Environmental Specialist

Prepared For:

ATGS


Jacquelyn Bowles, PE
NCDOT – Structures Management Unit

Reviewed By:
3/26/2021
Date



John Jamison, Western Regional 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.

3/26/2021

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.

N/A

Date

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

H. Project Commitments (as of 3/24/2021)

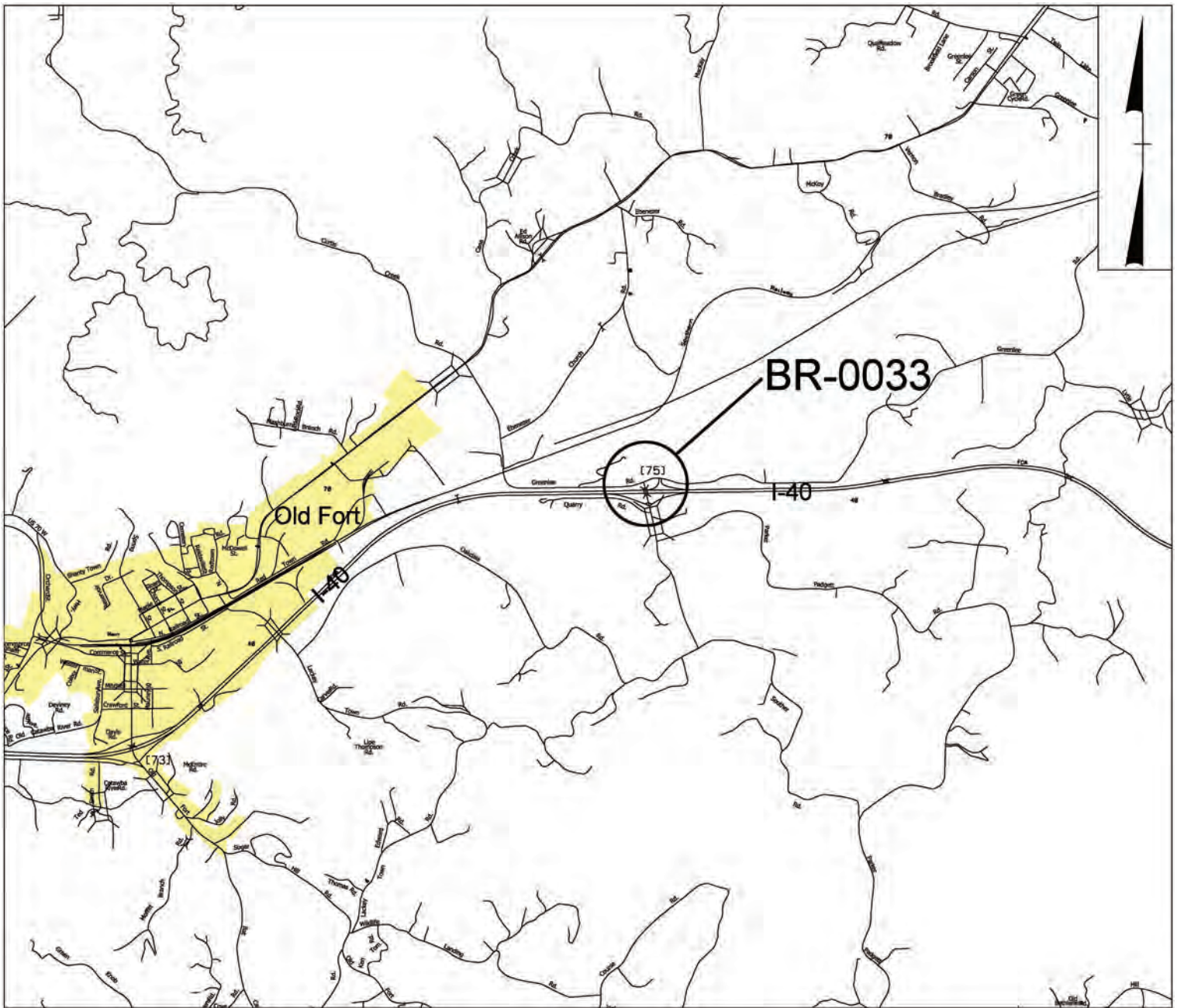
**McDowell County
Replacement of Bridge # 580084 on SR 1234 (Parker Padgett Road) over I-40
WBS # 67033.1.1
STIP # BR-0033**

NCDOT Environmental Analysis Unit

A survey for bats will be conducted this summer (2021) due to the discovery of gray bats roosting on a bridge on I-40 at Exit 90.

~~**Catawba River Basin Riparian Buffer Protection Program.** The project study area is adjacent to a portion of the Catawba River with streamside riparian zones protected under provisions of the Catawba River Basin Riparian Buffer Protection Program, administered by NCDWR. Construction activities for this project will not take place until a final alignment and design have been determined and potential impacts to protected stream buffers have been identified.~~

This project commitment is no longer valid due to the location of the project being upstream of Lake James. The Catawba River buffer rules only apply "Within 50 feet of all shorelines along the Catawba River mainstem below Lake James to the NC/SC border and all shorelines of the Catawba mainstem lakes including, Lake James, Lake Rhodhiss, Lake Hickory, Lookout Shoals Lake, Lake Norman, Mountain Island Lake and the North Carolina portion of Lake Wylie."



ATCS[®] 100 REGENCY FOREST DR., SUITE 130
CARY, NORTH CAROLINA 27518
919-341-9418 <http://www.atcspc.com/>
NC LICENSE NO. P-0192
ENGINEERING | PLANNING | SURVEYING | ENVIRONMENTAL

MCDOWELL COUNTY REPLACE
BRIDGE NO. 580084 ON
SR 1234 (PARKER PADGETT RD)
OVER I-40
STIP # BR-0033
WBS Element No. 67033.1.1