#### North Carolina Department of Transportation

#### NEPA/SEPA Consultation Form

| STIP Project No.        | BR-0117   |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| WBS Element             | 48826.1.1 |
| Federal Aid Project No. | 202001    |

#### A. Project Description, Location, and Purpose:

This project is comprised of the replacement of Bridge #650052 on SR 1313 (Hargraves Road) over Gumberry Swamp in Northampton County.

The bridge is 68 feet long. The proposed bridge will be approximately 97 feet long with a minimum clear roadway width of 27.8 feet.

The approach roadway will extend approximately 322 feet and 280 feet on the south and north ends of the bridge, respectively. No paved shoulders will be provided except within the bridge approaches.

The bridge will be replaced on the existing alignment while detouring traffic offsite.

| В. | Consultation Pha | ise: (Check one)                |  |
|----|------------------|---------------------------------|--|
|    |                  | Right-of-Way                    |  |
|    | $\boxtimes$      | Construction                    |  |
|    |                  | Other: Identify the trigger -   | (e.g., design change, change in impacts) |
|    |                  |                                 |  |
| C. | NEPA/SEPA Cla    | ss of Action Initially Approved | as: (Check one)                          |
|    | $\boxtimes$      | FHWA Class II (CE)              | 10/21/19                                 |
|    | Additional Notes | Tvpe I A                        |  |

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

#### **Protected Species**

As of July 17, 2020, there have been no changes to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) list of federally-protected species for Northampton County since completion of the CE for the project. The CE found the project to have No Effect on the two sturgeon species and red-cockaded woodpecker due to the absence of habitat.

The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Habitat for the bald eagle primarily consists of mature forest in proximity to

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Updated 3/17/20

large bodies of open water for foraging. Large dominant trees are utilized for nesting sites, typically within 1.0 mile of open water. Due to the lack of habitat, known occurrences, and minimal impact anticipated for this project, it has been determined that this project will not affect this species.

The Atlantic pigtoe (Fusconaia masoni) has been added to the USFWS list as an At Risk Species. In North Carolina, the Atlantic pigtoe is known from the Chowan, Roanoke, Tar, Neuse, Cape Fear, and Pee Dee, river basins. However, the project study area is outside the known range of the species as documented by the USFWS. While this species is not currently federally protected and a biological conclusion is not necessary at the time of the writing of this memorandum, if this species were to receive federal protection, the appropriate biological conclusion is therefore No Effect.

#### 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:          | Sam Cullum    | 9/17/2020 |
|---------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Environmental Specialist: | Gordon Cashin | 9/17/2020 |
| FHWA (if applicable):     | N/A           | Date      |
| Other:                    | N/A           | Date      |
|                           |               |           |

### G. Consultation Approval for NCDOT Project BR-0117

| Prepared By:                  | DocuSigned by:   |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 9/23/2020                     | Kim L. Millespie, PE   |
| Date                          | Kim L. Gillespie, PE, Project Manager NCDOT – Project Management Unit  |
| Prepared For:                 | Jacquelyn Bowles, PE  Jacquelyn Bowles, PE  NCDOT, Structures Management Unit  |
| <b>Reviewed By:</b> 9/28/2020 | DocuSigned by:   |
| Date                          | Colin Mellor, Team Lead NCDOT – Environmental Policy Unit  |
| Appro                         | In adherence with 23 CFR 771 (NEPA) or NC General Statute Chapter 113A Article 1 (SEPA), NCDOT approves this Consultation        |
| Certif                        | NCDOT staff certifies if FHWA signature was previously required of where changes have resulted in FHWA signature being required. |
| 9/29/2020                     | Dowid State  |
| Date                          | David Stutts, PE, Project Engineer – PEF/Program Management NCDOT – Structures Management Unit                                   |
| FHWA Approved                 | d: 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 September 17, 2020)

Bridge No. 52 on SR 1313 (Hargraves Road)
Over Gumberry Swamp
Northampton County
WBS Element No. 48826.1.1
TIP Project No. BR-0117

NCDOT has agreed to the following special commitments:

#### NCDOT Division 1 – Emergency Services

Northampton County emergency services at (252) 534-6811 at least one month prior to the beginning of construction.

#### NCDOT Division 1 – Northampton County Schools

Contact Northampton County School System at (252) 534-1371 at least one month prior to the beginning of construction.

#### NCDOT Division 1 – Access

Access will be maintained throughout construction for local traffic as well as for farms and active fields that are located near both ends of the bridge. Early coordination efforts will be implemented with farmers to minimize impact on operations and avoid project delays.

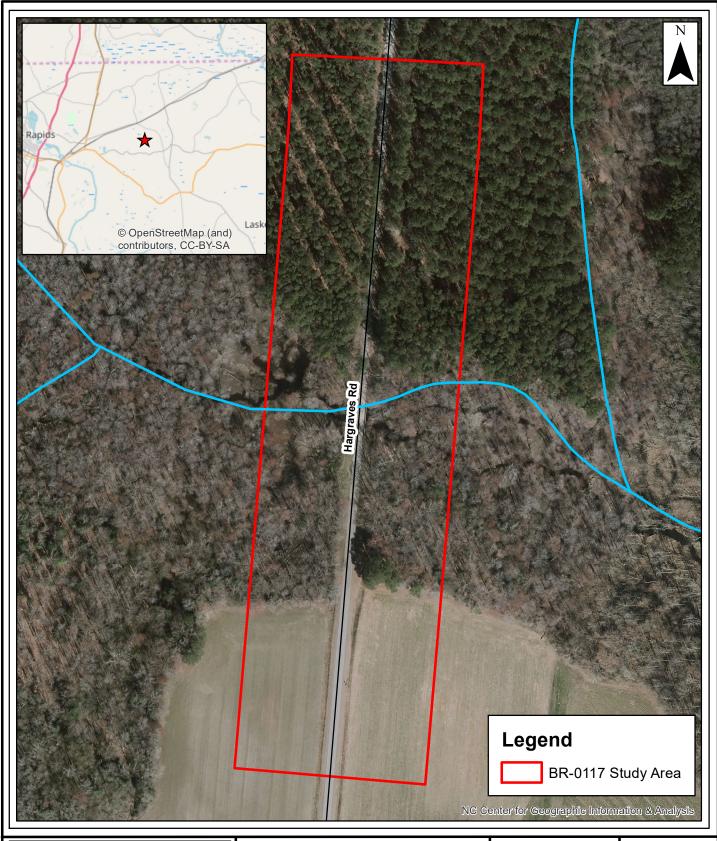
#### **NCDOT Hydraulics Unit – FEMA Coordination**

The Hydraulics Unit will coordinate with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program (FMP), to determine status of project with regard to applicability of NCDOT'S Memorandum of Agreement, or approval of a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and subsequent final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

This project involves construction activities on or adjacent to FEMA-regulated stream(s). Therefore, the Division shall submit sealed as-built construction plans to the Hydraulics Unit upon completion of project construction, certifying that the drainage structure(s) and roadway embankment that are located within the 100-year floodplain were built as shown in the construction plans, both horizontally and vertically.

#### COMMITMENTS FROM PERMITTING

No special commitments were made during permitting.





Replacement of Bridge No. 650052 over Gumberry Swamp on SR 1313 (Hargraves Rd) STIP BR-0117

Project Vicinity Map Northampton County, North Carolina

| Date:           | ate: June 2019       |                    |   |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|---|
| Scale: 0        | 50<br><b>I</b>       | 100 Feet           |   |
| Job No.: 18-025 |                      |                    |   |
| Drawn By        | <sub>′:</sub><br>-ТМ | Checked By:<br>JSN | 1 |

Figure

18-09-0077 Resubmit



#### 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 Group.



#### **PROJECT INFORMATION**

| Project No:      | <b>BR-0117</b> |         | County:    | Northampto   | on |
|------------------|----------------|---------|------------|--------------|----|
| WBS No:          | 48826.1.1      |         | Document:  | Federal CE   |    |
| F.A. No:         | 1313008        |         | Funding:   | ☐ State      |    |
| Federal Permit I | Required?      | ⊠ Yes [ | ☐ No Permi | t Type: USAC | E  |

**Project Description:** The project involves the replacement of Bridge No. 52 on SR 1313 (Hargraves Rd) over Gumberry Swamp in Northampton County, North Carolina. The archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) encompasses all areas of potential ground disturbing activity as depicted on the attached GIS mapping.

#### SUMMARY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

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

Permitting and funding information was reviewed for determining the level of archaeological input required by state and federal laws. Based on the submitted "request for cultural resources review" form, the project is federally-funded with federal permit interaction. As such, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act will apply and the Federal Highway Administration (FHwA) will serve as the lead federal agency. Next, construction design and other data was examined (when applicable) to define the character and extent of potential impacts to the ground surfaces embracing the project locale. For the most part, the APE was primarily designed to capture any federal permit areas or locations of potential ground disturbing activity.

Once an APE was outlined, a map review and site file search was conducted at the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) on Thursday, September 27, 2018. No National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible archaeological sites or any other documented cultural resources are located within or adjacent to the project APE.

Examination of NRHP, State Study Listed (SL), Locally Designated (LD), Determined Eligible (DE), and Surveyed Site (SS) properties employing resources available on the NCSHPO website is important in establishing the location of noteworthy historic occupations related to a perspective construction impact area. A cross-check of these mapped resources concluded that none of the above properties with potential contributing archaeological components are situated within or proximal to the APE. In addition, historic maps of Northampton County were appraised to identify former structure locations, land use patterns, cemeteries, or other confirmation of historic occupation in the project vicinity. Archaeological/historical reference materials were inspected as well. In general, the cultural background review established that no previously recorded archaeological sites, documented cemeteries or NRHP properties are located within the APE. Based on cultural-historical factors, the APE is considered to have a low potential for the documentation of archaeological resources.

Further, topographic, geologic, flood boundary, and NRCS soil survey maps were referenced to evaluate pedeological, geomorphological, hydrological, and other environmental determinants that may have resulted in past occupation at this location. Aerial and on-ground photographs (NCDOT Spatial Data Viewer) and the Google Street View map application (when amenable) were also examined/utilized for additional assessment of disturbances, both natural and human induced, which compromise the integrity of archaeological sites. Environmental/impact factors do not suggest a heightened potential for archaeological resource recovery.

Project Tracking No.:

18-09-0077 Resubmit

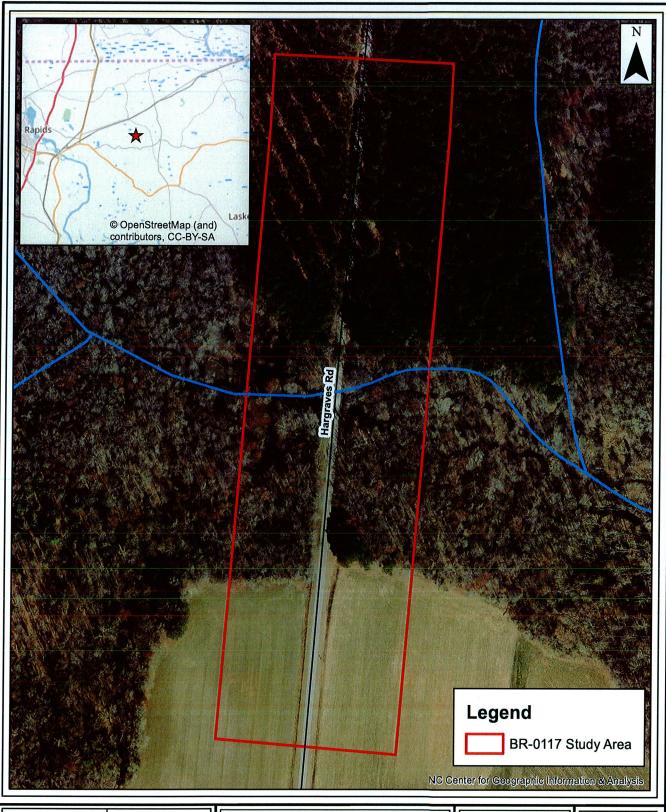
#### Brief Explanation of why the available information provides a reliable basis for reasonably predicting that there are no unidentified historic properties in the APE:

The APE has a low potential for the recovery of archaeological remains based on soil data (wetlands) and agricultural impacts. It is unlikely to contain significant, intact, and preserved archaeological deposits eligible for NRHP inclusion. As currently proposed as a state-funded project with federal permit interaction, no further consultation is advocated. A finding of "no archaeological survey required" is considered appropriate.

This project falls within a North Carolina County in which the Catawba Indian Nation and the Tuscarora Nation has expressed an interest: Northampton County. It is recommended that you contact each federal agency involved with your project to determine their Section 106 Tribal consultation requirements.

| SUPPORT D | OCUMENTA                                 | ΓΙΟΝ   |               |                  |   |
|-----------|--|--|---------------|------------------|---|
|           |  | ☐ Previous Survey Info<br>y of County Survey Notes | Photos Other: | ☐ Correspondence |   |
|           | evel you have produced the second of the | CHAEOLOGIST<br>E <u>Y REQUIRED</u>                 |               |                  |   |
| Arcith C  | in Hal                                   | 1<br>17are   |               | 9.24.202         | 0 |

NCDOT



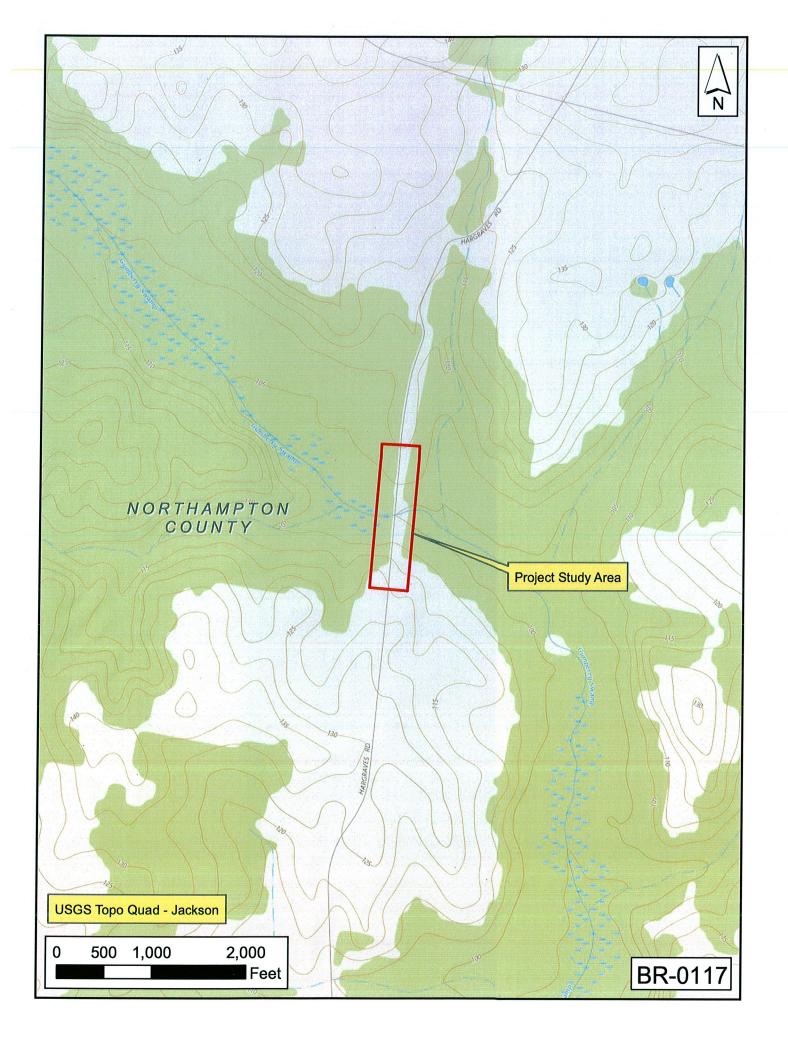




Replacement of Bridge No. 650052 over Gumberry Swamp on SR 1313 (Hargraves Rd) STIP BR-0117 Project Vicinity Map Northampton County, North Carolina

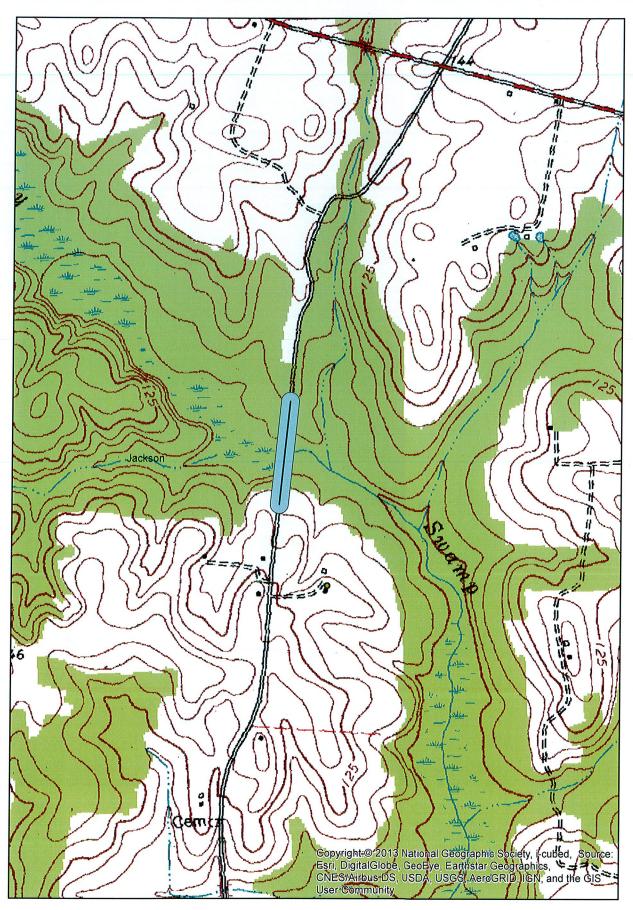
| Date:     | June 2019 |                    |  |
|-----------|-----------|--------------------|--|
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| Job No.:  | 18-       | 025                |  |
| Drawn By: | тм        | Checked By:<br>JSM |  |

**Figure** 





ARC-GIS aerial shape file map illustrating the location and boundaries of the archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) in Northampton County, North Carolina.



Portion of the Jackson topographic map illustrating the location and boundaries of the archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) in Northampton County, North Carolina.

18-09-0077 **Revised** 



## HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES -- NO SURVEY REQUIRED FORM This form supercedes that dated 22 October 2018

This form only pertains to Historic Architecture and Landscapes for this project. It is not valid for Archaeological Resources. You must consult separately with the Archaeology Group.

#### PROJECT INFORMATION

| Project No:  | BR-0117   | County:  | Northampton     |
|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|
| WBS No.:     | 48826.1.1 | Document |                 |
|              |           | Type:    |                 |
| Fed. Aid No: | 1313008   | Funding: | State X Federal |
| Federal      | X Yes No  | Permit   | USACE           |
| Permit(s):   |           | Type(s): |                 |

<u>Project Description</u>: Replace Bridge No. 52 on SR 1313 (Hargraves Road) over Gumberry Swamp (off-site detour, no improvements specified in review request). Resubmitted 14 September 2020 – new WBS number and funding change, final design.

#### SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES REVIEW

**DESCRIPTION OF REVIEW ACTIVITIES, RESULTS, AND CONCLUSIONS:** HPOWeb reviewed on 22 October 2018 and 15 September and yielded no NR, SL, DE, SS, or LD properties in the Area of Potential Effects (APE). Northampton County current GIS mapping, aerial photography, and tax information indicated an APE of cultivated fields and woodland and wetland with several residential and agricultural resources dating from the 1920s to the 1970s, all unexceptional examples of their types (22 October 2018 and 15 September). A previously recorded, midnineteenth-century House (NP0429) stands on a parcel located outside the APE to the southeast, approximately 630 feet east of SR 1313 (Hargrayes Road) and beyond likely project impact. Constructed in 1957, Bridge No. 52 is not eligible for listing in the National Register according to the NCDOT Historic Bridge Inventory as it is neither aesthetically, nor technologically significant. Google Maps "Street View" confirmed the absence of critical architectural and landscape resources in the APE (viewed 22 October 2018 and 15 September 2020). The resubmitted request allocated four instead of the usual thirty days for review, apparently in anticipation of a November 2020 let. Moreover, had additional resources appeared, this failure to consult with NCDOT Historic Architecture in a timely manner likely would have affected the project schedule. Fortunately, no additional investigation is required.

No architectural survey is required for the project as currently defined.

WHY THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION PROVIDES A RELIABLE BASIS FOR REASONABLY PREDICTING THAT THERE ARE NO UNIDENTIFIED SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL OR LANDSCAPE RESOURCES IN THE PROJECT AREA: APE equates with the study area provided in the original review request (see attached) and remains unchanged. The current design plan (see attached) confirms the validity of the APE. The comprehensive architectural survey of Northampton County (2008-10), as well as later studies recorded no resources in the APE. County GIS and other visuals illustrate the absence of significant architectural and landscape resources in the APE. No National Register-listed properties are located within the APE.

Should any aspect of the project design change, please notify NCDOT Historic Architecture as additional review may be necessary.

# SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION X Map(s) Previous Survey Info. Photos Correspondence X Design Plans FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN Historic Architecture and Landscapes -- NO SURVEY REQUIRED 18 September 2020 NCDOT Architectural Historian Date

Historic Architecture and Landscapes NO SURVEY REQUIRED form for Minor Transportation Projects as Qualified in the 2007 Pr0grammatic Agreement.

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Bridge No. 52 Replacement WBS No. 67117.1.1

Northampton County Base map: HPOWeb, nts

