

**North Carolina Department of Transportation  
PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION FORM  
T.I.P. No. I-3318BB**

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

- A. Consultation Phase: Right of Way
- B. Project Description: Proposed Replacement and Widening of Bridge Nos. 114 and 116 on Interstate 95 (I-95) Over the Little River, Johnston County
- C. Federal Project: IMS-095-2(119)105  
WBS No.: 34182.1.4
- D. Document Type: CE March 14, 2013

**II. CONCLUSIONS**

The above environmental document has been reevaluated as required by 23 CFR 771. It was determined that the current proposed action is essentially the same as the original proposed action. Proposed changes, if any, are noted below in Section III. 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 Administrative Action remains valid.

**III. CHANGES IN PROPOSED ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES**

Since the Categorical Exclusion (CE) was completed in 2013, the following changes have occurred:

- The proposed replacement will utilize one large structure (166 feet wide) instead of two smaller structures (75.5 feet and 78 feet wide). The length of the proposed structure has also increased from 248 feet to 270 feet. No additional relocations or environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of these design changes.
- Additional right of way will be needed for construction of the proposed replacement bridge and realignment of the service road located on the east side of I-95. The additional right of way needed varies from 30 feet to 65 feet, on each side of the roadway. No additional relocations or environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of these design changes.

- The proposed right of way will also include full control of access along I-95.
- As of December 27, 2012, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) list four federally protected species for Johnston County. These four species are listed in Table 1. The Biological conclusions remain valid for all four species.

**Table 1. Federally Listed Species for Johnston County**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	Biological Conclusion
Red-cockaded woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	E	No Effect
Dwarf-wedgemussel	<i>Alasmidonta heterodon</i>	E	May Affect, but not likely to adversely affect
Tar River spineymussel	<i>Elliptio steinstansana</i>	E	May Affect, but not likely to adversely affect
Michaux's sumac*	<i>Rhus michauxii</i>	E	No Effect

- Since the CE there has been no change with the biological conclusion for the dwarf wedgemussel and Tar River spiny mussel; however, at the request of the USFWS, a second survey for the species was completed in April 2014, and found no species present. Coordination with the USFWS is ongoing to determine if a biological conclusion of May Affect, but not likely to adversely affect or No Effect is appropriate.
- The Bald eagle was removed from the Endangered Species List on August 8, 2007. It is however, protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Surveys found no nests within 660 feet of the project limits, and no nesting and foraging habitat.
- A review of the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NCNHP) database, updated January 2014, indicated no occurrences of protected species within one mile of the project study area.
- Water resource classifications have not changed since the referenced CE was completed.
- Permits have not been received for this project; therefore, no additional special conditions have been developed during the permitting process. A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Nationwide Permit 23 and a corresponding N.C. Division of Water Resources Section 401 Water Quality Certification (GC 3701) are likely to be applicable for this project. Other permits that may apply include a Nationwide Permit 33 and a corresponding Section 401 Water Quality

Certification (GC 3688). The updated wetland and stream totals are listed in Table 2.

**Table 2: I-3318BB Wetland and Stream Impacts (Rev. 03/04/14)**

Site	CE Impacts	Current Estimated Impacts	CE Recommendations	Current Recommendations
WX	0.1 ac.	0.1 ac.	NA	NA
WY	0 ac.	0 ac	NA	NA
WZ	0 ac.	0.03 ac.	NA	NA
WA	0.1 ac.	0.1 ac.	NA	NA
Little River	0 LF	0 LF	248 ft. Bridge	270 ft. Bridge

- Riparian buffer impacts were not previously quantified in the CE. Current anticipated riparian buffer impacts (calculations based on 10 ft. slope stake buffers and bent areas) are shown in Table 3.

**Table 3: I-3318BB Anticipated Riparian Buffer Impacts (acres)**

Riparian Buffer	Current Estimated Impacts
Zone 1	0.14 ac.
Zone 2	0.21 ac.
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.35 ac.</b>

#### **IV. LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS**

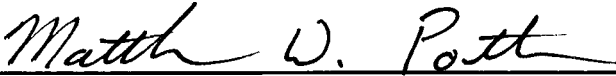
NCDOT will implement all practical measures and procedures to minimize and avoid environmental impacts. See attached list of Project Commitments.

**V. COORDINATION**

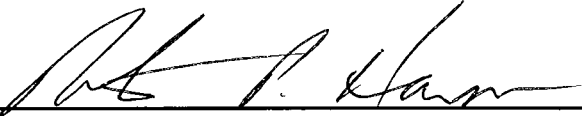
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit personnel have discussed current project proposals with others as follows:

Design Engineer:	Tatia L. White, PE, PLS	<u>2/27/14</u> Date
Permits Specialist:	Chris Manley	<u>2/14/14</u> Date
Hydraulics Engineer:	Paul Atkinson, PE	<u>2/20/14</u> Date
FHWA Area Engineer:	Ron Lucas, PE	<u>4/10/14</u> Date

**VI. NCDOT CONCURRENCE**


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew W. Potter, PE  
Project Development Engineer  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis  
Unit

4/17/14  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert P. Hanson, PE  
Eastern Project Development Section Head  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis  
Unit

4/17/14  
Date

**VII. FHWA CONCURRENCE**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration

4/17/14  
Date

## **PROJECT COMMITMENTS**

### **Proposed Replacement and Widening of Bridge Nos. 114 and 116 On Interstate 95 (I-95) Over the Little River**

Johnston County  
Federal Aid Project IMS-095-2(119)105  
WBS No. 34182.1.4

#### **TIP PROJECT I-3318BB**

Current status, changes, or additions to the project commitments as shown in the environmental document for the project are printed in *italics*.

#### **Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit – Natural Environment Section**

A Section 7 Consultation will be coordinated with the USFWS and the NCWRC in regards to impacts to the Dwarf-Wedge Mussel and the Tar River Spiny mussel. The Section 7 Consultation will be completed prior to final design and construction.

*Coordination with the USFWS and the NCWRC regarding impacts to the Dwarf-Wedge Mussel and the Tar River Spiny mussel is ongoing. Additional surveys completed in April 2014 found no presence of either species. The final survey report will be forwarded to the USFWS (by May 2014) to determine a final biological conclusion of either May Affect, but not likely to adversely affect or No Effect. If needed additional coordination for a Section 7 Consultation will follow.*

#### **Structure Design**

As requested by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the new bridges will completely span the Little River.

*The current design utilizes a 90 ft. center span length to span the natural stream channel.*

#### **Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit, Division 4**

The NCWRC has identified the Little River in the study area as anadromous fish habitat due to the removal of Lowell Dam, 0.36 miles downstream. Therefore, a construction moratorium, for in-water work, will be in effect from February 15 to June 15.

*A construction moratorium between February 15 and June 15 is still in effect. No in-water work will be allowed during this timeframe.*

## **Roadway Design Unit, Division 4**

Little River is in the Neuse River Basin and is subject to the NCDWQ riparian buffer rules. Therefore, Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds will be implemented during project construction.

*Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds will be implemented during project construction.*

## **Hydraulics Unit**

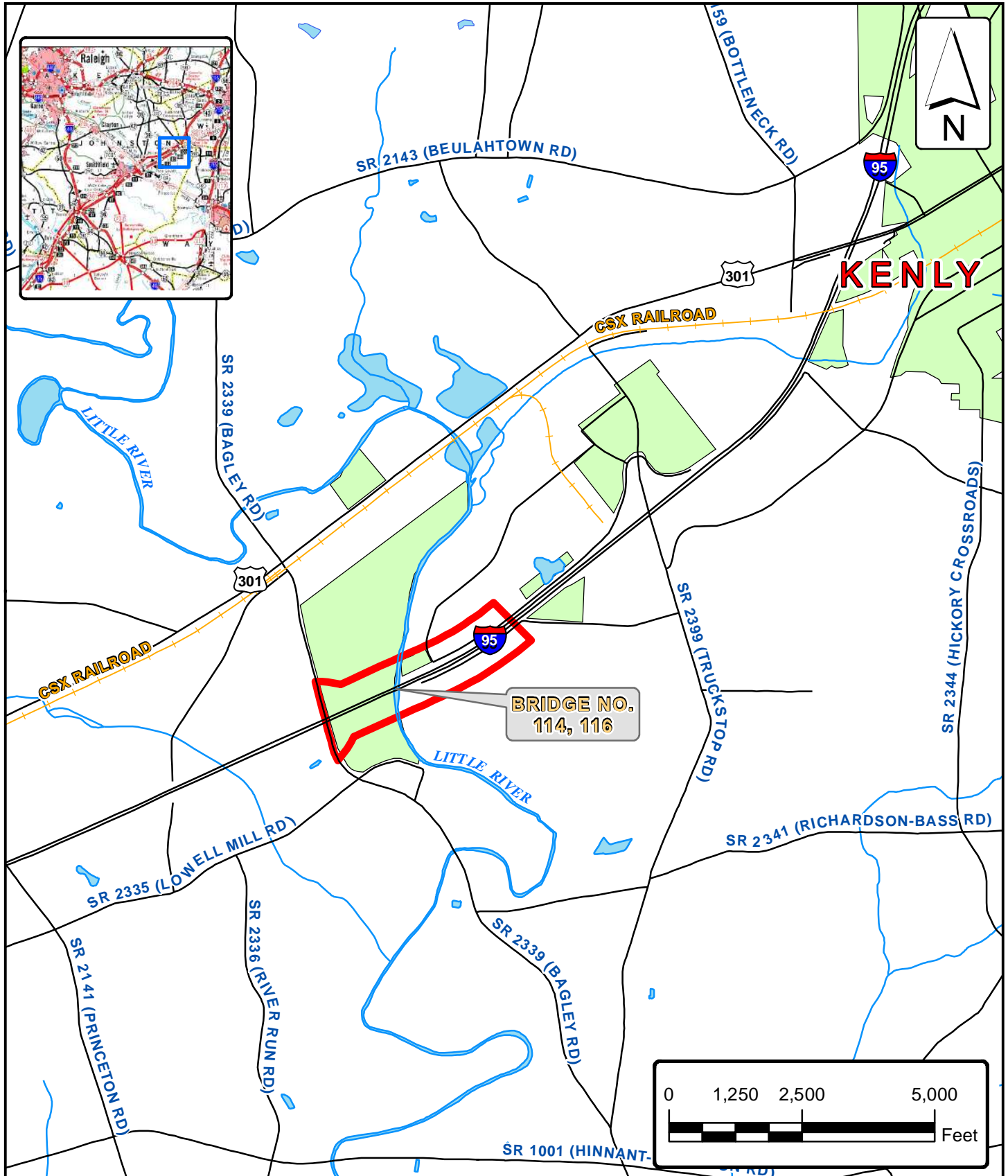
The Hydraulics Unit will coordinate with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program (FMP), to determine status of project with regard to applicability of NCDOT's Memorandum of Agreement, or approval of a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and subsequent final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

*Coordination with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program is ongoing.*

## **Division 4**

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.

*The Hydraulic Units coordination with FEMA is scheduled to begin after the field inspection meeting. The Division shall submit sealed as-built construction plans to the Hydraulic Unit upon completion of the project construction.*



VICINITY MAP  
**REPLACEMENT AND WIDENING  
 OF BRIDGE NOS. 114 AND 116  
 ON I-95 OVER THE LITTLE RIVER**

JOHNSTON COUNTY  
 TIP PROJECT I-3318BB

County:	JOHNSTON
Div:	4
TIP#:	I-3318BB
WBS:	34182.1.4
Date:	APRIL 2014

**Figure  
1**

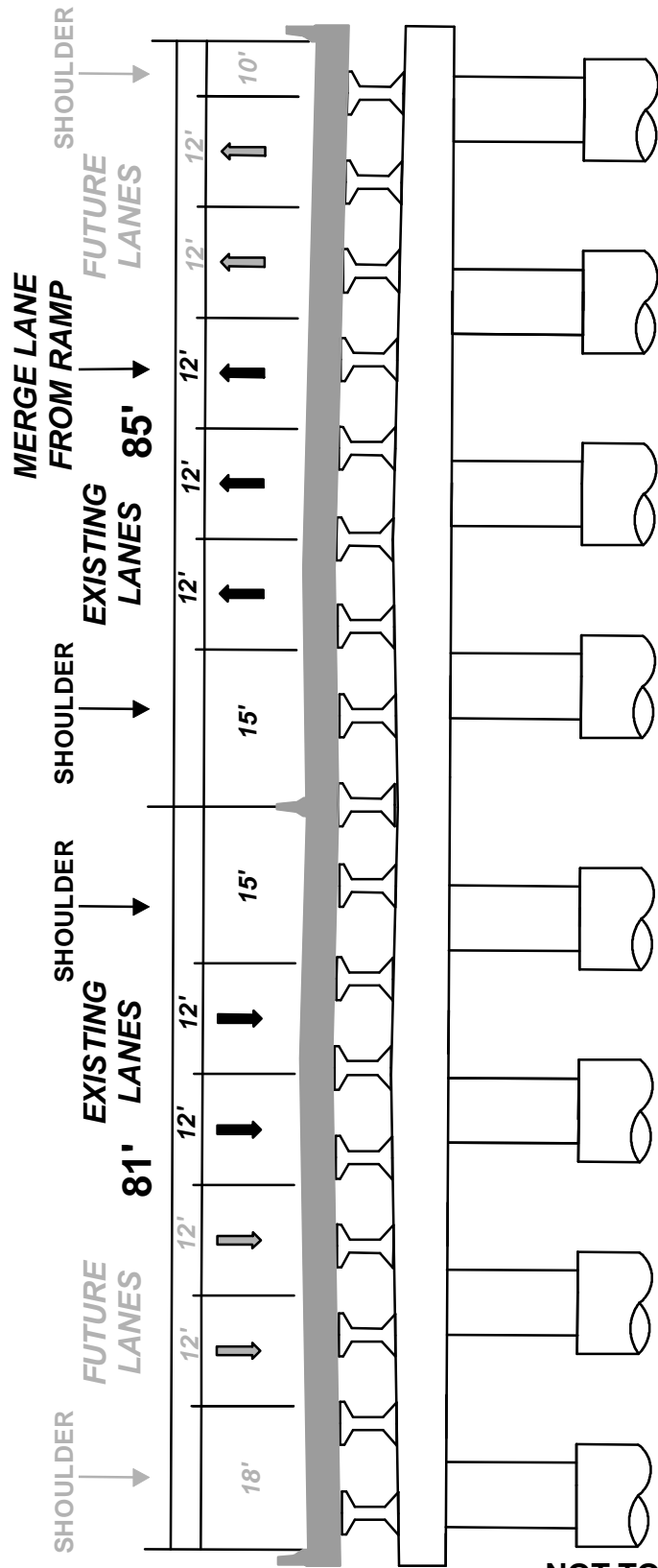


NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT  
 OF TRANSPORTATION  
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND  
 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT

# PROPOSED BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND WIDENING

BRIDGE NO. 116  
I-95 SOUTHBOUND LANES

BRIDGE NO. 114  
I-95 NORTHBOUND LANES



NOT TO SCALE



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT  
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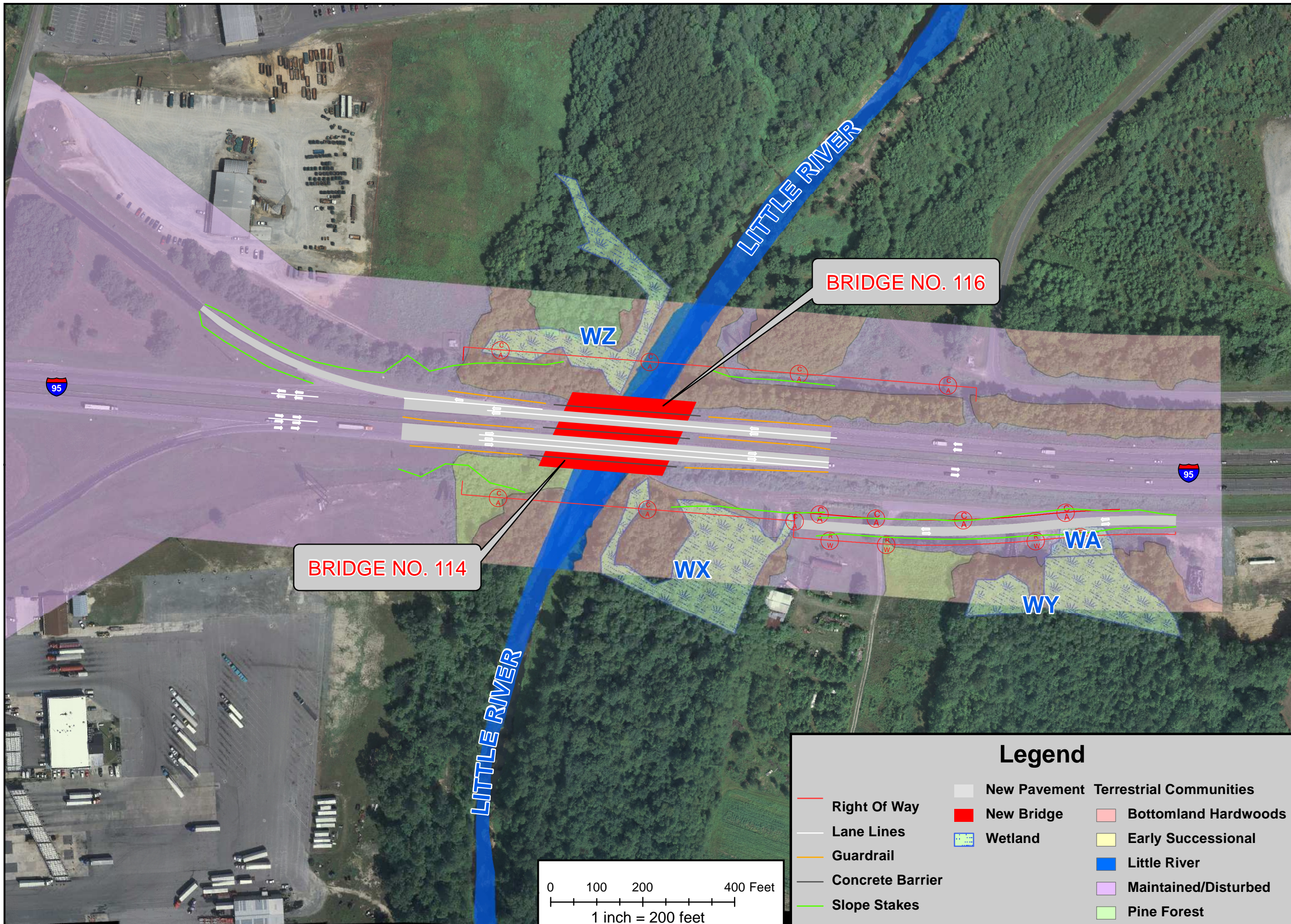
## PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTION REPLACEMENT AND WIDENING OF BRIDGE NOS. 114 & 116 ON I-95 OVER THE LITTLE RIVER

JOHNSTON COUNTY  
TIP PROJECT I-3318BB

County:	JOHNSTON
Div:	4
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**Figure  
2**





NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS  
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS BRANCH

**AERIAL MAP**  
**REPLACEMENT AND WIDENING**  
**OF BRIDGE NOS. 114 AND 116 ON**  
**I-95 OVER THE LITTLE RIVER**  
JOHNSTON COUNTY  
TIP PROJECT I-3318BB



County:  
JOHNSTON

Div: 4 TIP# I-3318BB

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APRIL 2014

**Figure**

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