

**North Carolina Department of Transportation  
PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION FORM  
T.I.P. No. R-3100 A/B**

October 06, 2014

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

- A. Consultation Phase: Right of Way (Second)
- B. Project Description: Proposed Widening of NC 16 from North Tower Road (SR 1895) to Claremont Road (SR 1801), Catawba County
- C. Federal Project: Federal Aid No. STP-16(4)  
WBS No.: 34522.1.1
- D. Document Type:
- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| EA  | January 1998  |
| FONSI   | December 1998 |
| Reevaluation of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact | June 15, 2012 |
| First Right of Way (ROW) Consultation   | April 8, 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 Reevaluation of Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) completed in June 2012, and First Right of Way Consultation April 8, 2013 no significant changes has been proposed.

- The water classification for the streams identified in the June 19, 2012 re-evaluation remains accurate.

- There have been no updates to the list of Federally Protected Species since the completion of the previous Right of Way Consultation. However, a US Fish and Wildlife Service proposal for listing the Northern long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) as an Endangered species was published in the Federal Register in October 2013. The listing will become effective on or before April, 2015. This species is not included in USFWS's current list of protected species for Catawba County. NCDOT is working closely with the USFWS to understand how this proposed listing may impact NCDOT projects. NCDOT will continue to coordinate appropriately with USFWS to determine if this project will incur potential effects to the Northern long-eared bat, and how to address these potential effects, if necessary.
- Habitat for Schweinitz's sunflower and dwarf-flowered heartleaf was re surveyed in 2013. The biological conclusions for those two species remains "No Effect."
- The Project Commitment (greensheet commitment) of "The survey for the Schweinitz's sunflower and any necessary coordination with USFWS will be completed prior to construction authorization" can be removed. A survey was conducted in 2013 and no additional coordination is required.

**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 Branch personnel have discussed current project proposals with others as follows:

Design Engineer:	Brenda L. Moore	<u>09/30/2014</u> Date
Permits Specialist:	Michael A. Turchy	<u>09/10/14</u> Date
Hydraulics Engineer:	William S. Zerman	<u>09-30-2014</u> Date
FHWA Area Engineer:	Michael Batuzich	<u>10/01/2014</u> Date

**VI. NCDOT CONCURRENCE**

*Zahid M. Baloch*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zahid M. Baloch, PE  
Project Development Engineer  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis  
Unit

10-6-2014

Date

*Jennifer Harris*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Harris, PE  
Western Project Development Unit Head  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis  
Unit

10-7-2014

Date

**VII. FHWA CONCURRENCE**

*Michael J. Rodriguez*

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

10-9-14

Date

## PROJECT COMMITMENTS

Proposed widening of NC 16 from North Tower Road (SR 1895) to  
Claremont Road (SR 1801), Catawba County  
Federal Aid Project No. STP – 16 (4)  
State Project No. 8.1792501  
WBS No. 34522.1.1  
T.I.P No. R-3100

Changes or additions to the project commitments as shown in the environmental documents for the project are printed in *italics*.

### **Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit/Division-Construction**

- NCDOT's Design Standards for Sensitive watersheds will be implemented. Provisions to preclude unnecessary contamination by toxic substance during the construction interval will also be strictly enforced to protect the High Quality Waters on Maiden Creek.

### **Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit/Natural Environmental Unit**

- *US Fish and Wildlife Service proposal for listing the Northern long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) as an Endangered species was published in the Federal Register in October 2013. The listing will become effective on or before April, 2015. This species is not included in USFWS's current list of protected species for Catawba County. NCDOT is working closely with the USFWS to understand how this proposed listing may impact NCDOT projects. NCDOT will continue to coordinate appropriately with USFWS to determine if this project will incur potential effects to the Northern long-eared bat, and how to address these potential effects, if necessary.*