

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. Consultation Phase: Construction
- b. Project Description: NC 125 Williamston Bypass from SR 1182 (East College Road) southwest of Williamston to NC 125 northwest of Williamston, Martin County.
- c. State Project: 8.1090501  
Federal Project: STP-125(1)
- d. Document Type: Environmental Assessment (EA) 4/30/2009  
Finding of no Significant Impact (FONSI) 1/05/2011  
Reevaluation of FONSI 11/6/2014

II. CONCLUSIONS

The above environmental document has been reevaluated as required by 23 CFR 771.129(c). It was determined 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 Administration Action remains valid.

III. CHANGES IN PROPOSED ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

**Project Design**

No substantive changes have occurred to the project design since completion of the reevaluation of the FONSI.

**Rare and Protected Species**

As of June 29, 2016, one species has been added to the list of federally-protected species for Martin County since completion of the reevaluation of the FONSI. The northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) has been added to the list as threatened.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a programmatic biological opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and NCDOT for the northern long-eared bat in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. The programmatic determination for the northern long-eared bat for the NCDOT program is “May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect”. The PBO provides incidental take coverage for the northern long-eared bat and will ensure

compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for five years for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes Martin County.

IV. LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

NCDOT will implement all practical measures and procedures to minimize and avoid environmental impacts.

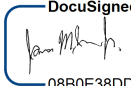
See attached greensheet for list of Project Commitments.

V. COORDINATION

PDEA personnel have discussed current project proposals with others.

FHWA Engineer:	<u>Ron Lucas</u>	<u>11/9/16</u>
Roadway Design Project Engineer	<u>Gary Lovering</u>	<u>11/9/16</u>
NES Environmental Specialist	<u>Chris Rivenbark</u>	<u>11/10/16</u>

VI. NCDOT CONCURRENCE

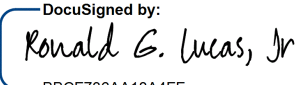
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Project Engineer,  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Unit

11/18/2016 | 1:26 PM EST

Date

VII. FHWA CONCURRENCE

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Division Administrator,  
Federal Highway Administration

11/18/2016 | 1:38 PM EST

Date

## PROJECT COMMITMENTS

NC 125 Williamston Bypass  
From SR 1182 (East College Road) southwest of Williamston  
To NC 125 northwest of Williamston

Martin County

Federal Aid Project STP-125(1)  
WBS Element 34553.1.1  
TIP Project **R-3826**

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

### **NCDOT Rail Division**

Formal approval for the at-grade rail crossing for the proposed bypass will be obtained from CSX Transportation prior to construction of this project. The Slade Street and SR 1410 (Cullipher Road) crossings must be closed prior to CSX Transportation granting formal approval for the proposed at-grade crossing for the bypass.

*An agreement between NCDOT CSX Transportation and the Town of Williamston to close the Slade Street and SR 1410 crossings and allow construction of the at-grade crossing for the proposed bypass was approved on August 2, 2016.*

### **NCDOT Roadway Design/Geotechnical Unit/Division One Construction**

Steeper side slopes (3:1) will be used in jurisdictional areas.

*Project plans show 3:1 side slopes in jurisdictional areas.*

Side slopes steeper than 3:1 will be investigated during project design for the UT 3 stream crossing.

*Side slopes steeper than 3:1 were investigated, but were determined not to be feasible at the UT 3 stream crossing.*

### **NCDOT Division Office/Area Traffic Engineer**

The Area Traffic Engineer will re-evaluate need for a traffic signal at the proposed intersection of the NC 125 Bypass with SR 1420 (McCaskey Road) prior to project construction.

*This commitment will be implemented prior to project construction.*

### **NCDOT Location and Surveys Unit**

Unmarked graves may exist on property along the east side of existing NC 125 near the northern terminus of the project (Whitley Farm). NCDOT will investigate this area and determine whether or not graves are located within the proposed right of way prior to right of way acquisition.

*The presence of unmarked graves along the east side of existing NC 125 near the northern terminus of the project (Whitley Farm) has been investigated. No unmarked graves exist within the existing or proposed right of way.*