

North Carolina Department of Transportation
PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION FORM
I. D. No. B-5396

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. Consultation Phase: Construction Consultation
- b. Project Description: Bridge No. 416 over Stony Fork Creek on SR 1103 in Buncombe County
- c. State Project: 46111.1.1
Federal Project: BRZ-1103(24)
- d. Document Type: CE 7-29-14
Date

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 Administration Action remains valid.

III. CHANGES IN PROPOSED ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The CE states that the sufficiency rating of the bridge was 20.91 out of a possible 100. Temporary repairs to the substructure have been reclassified as permanent and the sufficiency rating has increased to 77.88. The bridge still has timber elements that are deteriorating. At the time of the document the structural evaluation was 3 out of 9 and since repairs the structural evaluation is 6 out of 9.

The document states that the bridge will be replaced with a 50 foot long bridge that will provide for two 10-foot lanes with 4-foot paved shoulders to accommodate bicycles on each side. Improvements to the approach roadways will be approximately 413 feet to the west and 155 feet to the east of the new structure. Sub-regional tier guidelines will be used in the design. Revised design plans show the New Alignment alternate to have a replacement structure to be 80 feet long with two 10-foot lanes and 4-foot offsets for bicycle accommodation. The improvements to the roadway approaches

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include approximately 433 feet to the west and 85 feet to the east of the new structure.

The document states that SR 1103 has a 20-foot pavement width with a 2-foot grass shoulders. It also states the roadway is situated approximately 15 feet above the creek bed. The correct width of the existing pavement is 18 feet and the roadway height is 16 feet above the creek bed.

The CE states that the existing bridge is 40 feet. The actual length of the existing bridge is 41 feet.

For Alternate 1, replace in place alternate, the document states that the improvements to the approach roadways will be required for a distance of approximately 413 feet to the west and 155 feet to the east of the new structure. According to the design plans the improvements will be 150 feet to the west and 85 feet to the east of the new structure.

Figure 2B title should read Alternate 2 New Location to the South instead of Alternate 1.

There have been no changes to the water classifications since the completion if the Categorical Exclusion.

Since the completion of the document the Blue Ridge goldenrod and Mountain sweet pitcherplant have been removed from the list of protected species for Buncombe County.

The Northern long-eared bat has been added to the list of protected species for Buncombe County. Surveys for the northern long-eared bat were conducted and a biological conclusion of May Effect Not Likely to Adversely Affect was rendered. This biological conclusion received concurrence from the USFWS on October 1, 2015, so long as tree clearing is restricted to August 15 to April 15 of any year.

The Virginia spiraea is the only remaining federally protected species with habitat present. Surveys were conducted in July 2015 by NCDOT biologists and no specimens were located. Therefore, the biological conclusion remains No Effect.

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IV. LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

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

V. COORDINATION

PDEA personnel have discussed current project proposals with others. Please note who was coordinated with and the date. This section is to be filled out by the project manager and does not require signatures.

Design Engineer:	<u>Douglas Kretchman</u>	<u>10-30-15</u> Date
FHWA Engineer:	<u>N/A</u>	<u> </u> Date
NEU-PM:	<u>Michael Turchy</u> (Construction Consultations only)	<u>10-5-15</u> Date

VI. NCDOT CONCURRENCE

<u>Natalie Lockhart</u>	<u>11/18/15</u>
Project-Planning Engineer	Date

<i>for</i> <u>Beverly G. Robinson</u>	<u>11/18/15</u>
Manager, Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch	Date

VII. FHWA CONCURRENCE

<i>for</i> <u>Michael J. Farnsworth</u>	<u>11-23-15</u>
Federal Highway Administration Division Administrator	Date

PROJECT COMMITMENTS:

**Buncombe County
Bridge No. 416 on SR 1103 (Davis Creek Rd.)
over Stony Fork Creek
Federal Aid Project No. BRZ-1103(24)
W.B.S. No. 46111.1.1
T.I.P. No. B-5396**

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

All Design Groups/Division Resident Construction Engineer – Trout Issues

NCWRC has identified Stony Fork creek as supporting a trout population. Therefore a moratorium on all in water work will be in place from October 15 to April 15 of any given year. *(This will be implemented during construction.)*

NES, Roadside Environmental, Division – Trout Designation – DSSW

DWQ has designated this stream as trout and therefore Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds will be incorporated. *(This is incorporated into the design).*

Structure Design – TVA Permit

The proposed project is located in the Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) Land Management District. The project will require approval under Section 26a of the TVA Act. *(The TVA application was sent in February 2015, structures is waiting for response.)*

Hydraulic 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 will be done prior to construction).*

Division Construction-FEMA

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. *(This will be done upon completion of construction.)*

**Division 13 Construction, Structures Management Unit, Roadway Design Unit-
Bicycle Accommodations**

Bridge No. 416 is not located along a designated bicycle route; however, the NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation indicated there are a high number of bicyclists crossing the bridge. As a result, 4-foot paved shoulder and 4-foot bridge

offsets will be provided to accommodate bicyclists. *(This has been incorporated into the design).*

NCDOT Division Construction Unit- Northern long-eared bat

The Northern long-eared bat has been added to the list of protected species for Buncombe County. Surveys for the northern long-eared bat were conducted and a biological conclusion of May Effect Not Likely to Adversely Affect was rendered. This biological conclusion received concurrence from the USFWS on October 1, 2015, so long as tree clearing is restricted to August 15 to April 15 of any year.