

Type I and II Ground Disturbing Categorical Exclusion Action Classification Form

STIP Project No.	<u>B-6014</u>
WBS Element	<u>48209.1.1</u>
Federal Project No.	<u>BRZ-1781 (001)</u>

A. Project Description: (Include project scope and location, including Municipality and County. Refer to the attached project location map and photos.)

Bridge Replacement for Bridge 580312 over the Second Broad River on SR 1781 (Polly Sprout Road), McDowell County, NC. The existing 2-span timber bridge will be replaced with a 2-span cored slab bridge.

B. Description of Need and Purpose:

The project is needed to replace a structurally deficient bridge.

C. Categorical Exclusion Action Classification: (Check one)

TYPE I

TYPE II

D. Proposed Improvements –

28. Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement or the construction of grade separation to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings, if the actions meet the constraints in 23 CFR 771.117(e)(1-6).

E. Special Project Information: (Provide a description of relevant project information, which may include: vicinity map, costs, alternative analysis (if any), traffic control and staging, and resource agency/public involvement).

The project will use an off-site detour.

F. Project Impact Criteria Checklists:

<u>Type I & II - Ground Disturbing Actions</u>			
<u>FHWA APPROVAL ACTIVITIES THRESHOLD CRITERIA</u>			
If any of questions 1-7 are marked "yes" then the CE will require FHWA approval.		Yes	No
1	Does the project require formal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Does the project result in impacts subject to the conditions of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGPA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Does the project generate substantial controversy or public opposition, for any reason, following appropriate public involvement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Does the project cause disproportionately high and adverse impacts relative to low-income and/or minority populations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Does the project involve a residential or commercial displacement, or a substantial amount of right of way acquisition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Does the project require an Individual Section 4(f) approval?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Does the project include adverse effects that cannot be resolved with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) or have an adverse effect on a National Historic Landmark (NHL)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If any of questions 8 through 31 are marked "yes" then additional information will be required for those questions in Section G.			
<u>Other Considerations</u>		Yes	No
8	Does the project result in a finding of "may affect not likely to adversely affect" for listed species, or designated critical habitat under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Does the project impact anadromous fish?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	Does the project impact waters classified as Outstanding Resource Water (ORW), High Quality Water (HQW), Water Supply Watershed Critical Areas, 303(d) listed impaired water bodies, buffer rules, or Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Does the project impact waters of the United States in any of the designated mountain trout streams?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Does the project require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Individual Section 404 Permit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	Will the project require an easement from a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed facility?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	Does the project include a Section 106 of the NHPA effects determination other than a no effect, including archaeological remains?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<u>Other Considerations (continued)</u>		Yes	No
15	Does the project involve hazardous materials and landfills?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16	Does the project require work encroaching and adversely affecting a regulatory floodway or work affecting the base floodplain (100-year flood) elevations of a water course or lake, pursuant to Executive Order 11988 and 23 CFR 650 subpart A?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
17	Is the project in a Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) county and substantially affects the coastal zone and/or any Area of Environmental Concern (AEC)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Does the project require a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) permit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	Does the project involve construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a designated Wild and Scenic River present within the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20	Does the project involve Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
21	Does the project impact federal lands (e.g. U.S. Forest Service (USFS), USFWS, etc.) or Tribal Lands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22	Does the project involve any changes in access control?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
23	Does the project have a permanent adverse effect on local traffic patterns or community cohesiveness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24	Will maintenance of traffic cause substantial disruption?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
25	Is the project inconsistent with the STIP or the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (where applicable)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
26	Does the project require the acquisition of lands under the protection of Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act, the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), or other unique areas or special lands that were acquired in fee or easement with public-use money and have deed restrictions or covenants on the property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
27	Does the project involve Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) buyout properties under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
28	Does the project include a <i>de minimis</i> or programmatic Section 4(f)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
29	Is the project considered a Type I under the NCDOT's Noise Policy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
30	Is there prime or important farmland soil impacted by this project as defined by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
31	Are there other issues that arose during the project development process that affected the project decision?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

G. Additional Documentation as Required from Section F

8. The Northern Long-eared Bat (NLEB) is listed as a threatened species on the current U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) list of protected species in McDowell County. However, the project study area is not located within a watershed know to contain NLEB hibernation or maternity roost sites. Therefore, the project has met the criteria required for the USFWS 4(d) Rule, and any associated take is exempt. Due to the exemption under the 4(d) ruling, it has

been determined that the proposed project “May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect” the NLEB.

The Gray bat is listed as endangered (probable/potential) on the USFWS list of proposed species for McDowell County. The bridge was surveyed for signs of bat presence/usage on April 2, 2019 and no evidence of either was found. Due to the stream size, structure type (steel beams), no evidence of bat usage, and distance from a large river, the project will have “No Effect” on the gray bat.

H. Project Commitments

**McDowell County
Bridge 580312
Federal Project No. BRZ-1781(001)
WBS No. 48209.1.1
TIP No. B-6014**

The project is not likely to affect any properties or archaeological sites listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. NCDOT will complete Section 106 Tribal consultation following completion of the design.

All activities will follow NCDOT best management practices for erosion control.

Categorical Exclusion Approval

STIP Project No. B-6014
WBS Element 48209.1.1
Federal Project No. BRZ-1781 (001)

Prepared By:

4/10/2019

Date

DocuSigned by:

Roger D. Bryan

Roger D. Bryan
Division Environmental Officer

Prepared For:

Division 13
North Carolina Department of Transportation

Reviewed By:

4/11/2019

Date

DocuSigned by:

M.K. Calloway

M.K. Calloway
Division Bridge Program Manager



Approved

If all of the threshold questions (1 through 7) of Section F are answered "no," NCDOT approves this Categorical Exclusion.



Certified

If any of the threshold questions (1 through 7) of Section F are answered "yes," NCDOT certifies this Categorical Exclusion.

4/11/2019

Date

DocuSigned by:

Steve Cannon

Steve Cannon, P.E.
Project Development Engineer

FHWA Approved: For Projects Certified by NCDOT (above), FHWA signature required.

Date

John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

18-12-0018



HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES NO SURVEY REQUIRED FORM

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.:	B-6014	County:	McDowell
WBS No.:	48209.1.1	Document Type:	CE
Fed. Aid No.:	BRZ-1781(001)	Funding:	<input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal
Federal Permit(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Permit Type(s):	USACE
Project Description: Replace Bridge No. 312 on SR 1781 (Polly Sprout Road) over Second Broad River.			

SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES REVIEW

<p><u>Description of review activities, results, and conclusions:</u> Review of HPO quad maps, HPO GIS information, historic designations roster, and indexes was undertaken on December 12, 2018. Based on this review, there are no existing NR, SL, LD, DE, or SS properties in the Area of Potential Effects, which is defined on the following maps. There are no structures within the APE. There are no National Register listed or eligible properties and no survey is required. If design plans change, additional review will be required.</p> <p><u>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:</u> HPO quad maps and GIS information recording NR, SL, LD, DE, and SS properties for the McDowell County survey, McDowell County GIS/Tax information, and Google Maps are considered valid for the purposes of determining the likelihood of historic resources being present. There are no National Register listed or eligible properties within the APE and no survey is required.</p>
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SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

Map(s)
 Previous Survey Info.
 Photos
 Correspondence
 Design Plans

FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

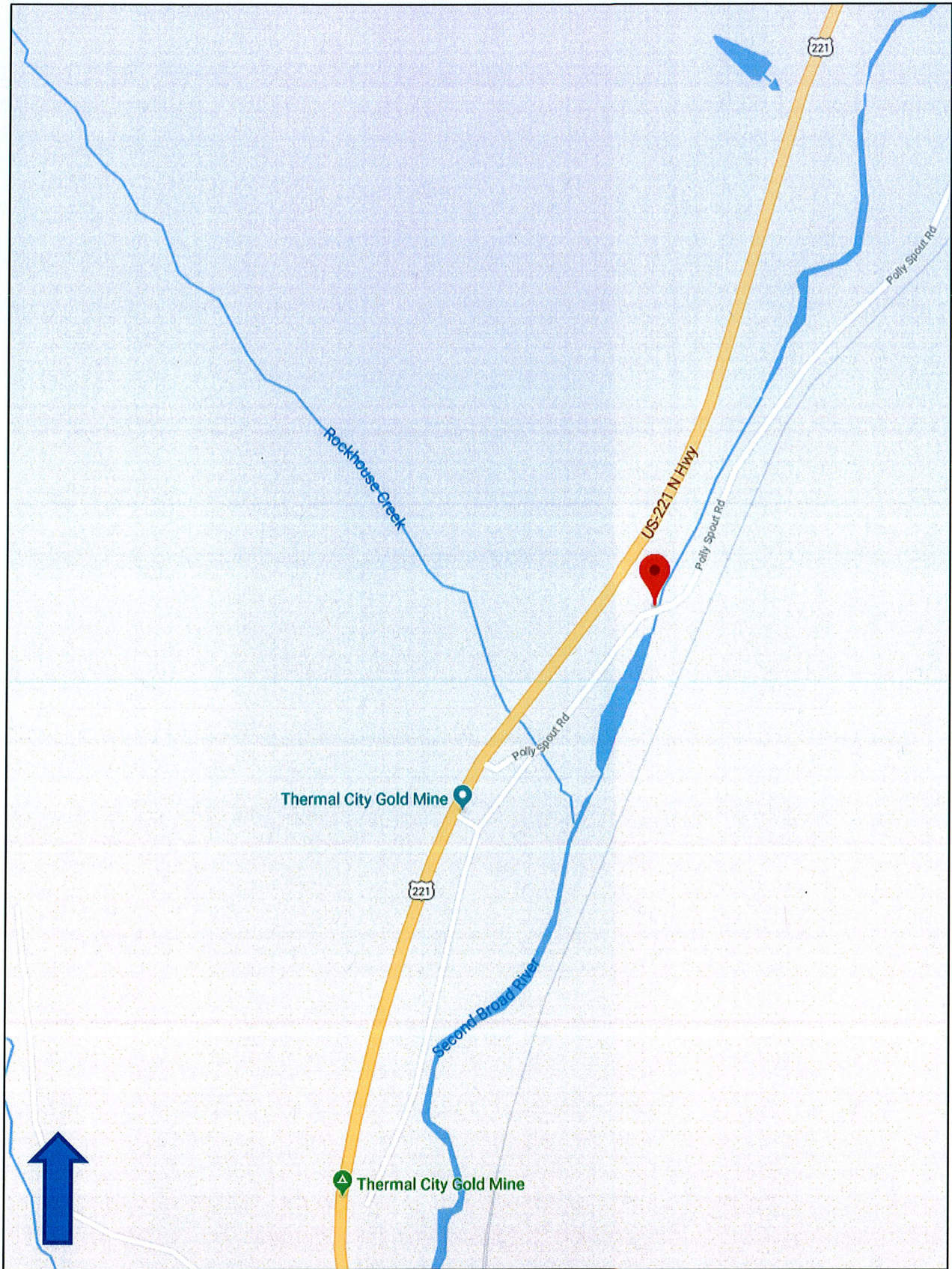
Historic Architecture and Landscapes -- NO SURVEY REQUIRED

Kate Hubbard

12/12/2018

NCDOT Architectural Historian

Date



Project Location.



State Historic Preservation Office GIS.

A review of information at the O.S.A. shows there are no previously recorded archaeological sites near the A.P.E. The A.P.E. is not within any areas that have been surveyed for archaeological sites. There is a project along the railroad line on the west side of the river that has been reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office (HPO).

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 landform within the A.P.E. has a low to moderate potential for archaeological sites. The A.P.E. is located in a narrow river valley that is occupied by two roads, a river, and two railroad lines.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

See attached: Map(s) Previous Survey Info Photos Correspondence
 Photocopy of County Survey Notes Other:

FINDING BY NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST

NO ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY REQUIRED

Caleb Smith

3/6/2019

NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST II

Date

