Type I and II Ground Disturbing Categorical Exclusion Action Classification Form

STIP Project No.	BR-0118
WBS Element	48827.1.1
Federal Project No.	N/A

A. Project Description:

This project is comprised of the replacement of Bridge No. 650093 over Jacks Swamp on SR 1203 (Jack Swamp Road) in Northampton County, North Carolina. The bridge will be replaced on the existing alignment while detouring traffic onsite, see attached: Figure 1-BR0118 Project Location Map, and Figure 2-BR0118 Project Disturbance Map.

The proposed bridge will be approximately 72 feet long with a minimum clear roadway width of 27.8 feet. The approach roadway will extend 320 feet and 470 on the west and east sides, respectively. The proposed design will provide ten foot paved lanes and no paved shoulders except in the vicinity of the proposed bridge.

B. <u>Description of Need and Purpose:</u>

Built in 1959 the bridge requires replacement due to deterioration of structural elements. The posted weight limits for the bridge are currently 17 Tons and 23 Tons for single vehicles and truck tractor-semi trailers, respectively. The existing bridge is 35 feet long with a clear roadway width of 19 feet. Bridge No. 093 has a sufficiency rating of 50.76 and is categorized as "Not Deficient". However, the steel superstructure and timber substructure elements show signs of deterioration and have had to be shored after previous inspections indicated advanced deterioration. This is a bridge replacement and safety improvement project.

The replacement of Bridge No. 093 is part of the Growing Rural Economy and Agriculture through Transportation and Technology Enhancement or Replacement in North Carolina (GREATTER-NC) Project under the United States Department of Transportation's 2018 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant program. The purpose of the grant and this bridge replacement project is to provide transportation infrastructure to support economic development and improve physical and digital connectivity in rural communities in North Carolina. The posted weight restriction on Bridge No. 093 prohibits large or heavy vehicles, typically used in transporting agricultural and manufactured products, from using the bridge. Replacing the existing bridge will eliminate posted weight limits by providing a safe crossing for all legal loads and will make accommodations for broadband installation in order to support economic competitiveness.

C.	Categorical	Exclusion	Action	Classification:

	TYPE I A
\times	ITPETA

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:

Alternatives Discussion:

No-Build – The no build alternative would result in eventually closing the road, which is unacceptable given the volume traffic served by SR 1203 (Jack Swamp Road).

Rehabilitation – The bridge was constructed in 1959 and the bridge materials are reaching the end of their useful life. Rehabilitation would require replacing the steel superstructure and timber substructure components, which would constitute effectively replacing the bridge.

Offsite Detour – An offsite detour was not evaluated due to SR 1203 being a dead-end road, making an offsite detour not feasible.

Staged Construction – Staged construction was not considered because the temporary structure can be built with minimum project disturbance.

New Alignment – Given that the alignment for SR 1203 is acceptable, a new alignment was not considered as an alternative.

Onsite Detour –The bridge will be replaced utilizing an on-site detour. See Figure 3. A temporary alignment was investigated on both sides of the existing structure. The channel alignment north of the structure turns east and runs parallel to the roadway for approximately 90 feet. If the temporary alignment was located on the north side of the structure, the channel alignment would create a need for the temporary structure to increase in length, thus increasing the cost of the temporary alignment. Therefore, after the investigation, a southern alignment was determined to be the most cost efficient.

Design Issues:

Traffic: Current (2016): 50 ADT

TTST: 3%, Duals: 3%

Local Route – NCDOT Subregional Tier Guidelines

Design Speed – 30 mph

No design exceptions required

Design Commitments to Minimize Impacts:

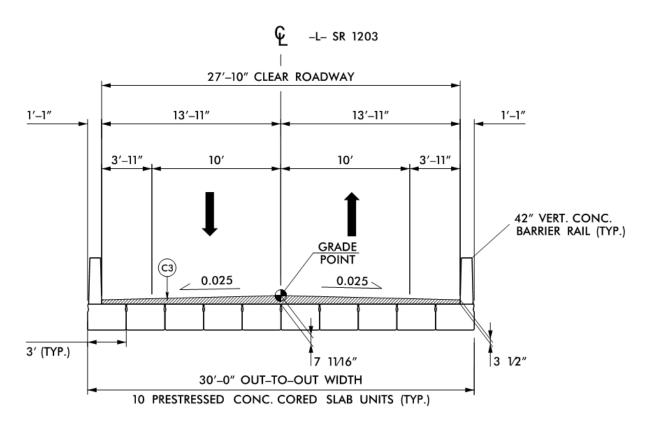
Permanent Impacts – The proposed design will steepen roadway slopes to 1.5:1 (H:V) with rock plating to minimize wetland impacts (see Geotechnical Recommendations for ROW and Hydraulics Design)

Temporary Impacts – The proposed temporary design will steepen roadway slopes to as much as possible. The design will also utilize crane matting with geotextile in all wetland fill areas to minimize wetland impacts.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations:

SR 1203 (Jack Swamp Road) is not part of a NC or US designated bike route. Thus, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations are not required for this project.

Typical Section for Bridge:



Cost Estimate:

The estimated project costs for the Selected Alternative, based on 2019 prices, are as follows:

	Total Cost:	\$540.000
Right of Way Construction		\$40,000 \$500,000

Anticipated Permits or Consultation Requirements:

The proposed project has been designated as a Categorical Exclusion (CE) for the purposes of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation. As a result, a Nationwide Permit will likely be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for impacts to "Waters of the United States" resulting from this project. The USACE holds the final discretion as to what permit will be required to authorize project construction.

Public Involvement:

NCDOT will minimize any impact to businesses along SR 1203 during construction and will try to expedite the construction time. The area is primarily rural residential and agricultural regarding land use. A landowner notification was sent February 6, 2019. No comments have been received to date.

F. Project Impact Criteria Checklists:

Type I &	II - Ground Disturbing Actions		
FHWA A	PPROVAL ACTIVITIES THRESHOLD CRITERIA		
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)?		\boxtimes
2	Does the project result in impacts subject to the conditions of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGPA)?		\boxtimes
3	Does the project generate substantial controversy or public opposition, for any reason, following appropriate public involvement?		\boxtimes
4	Does the project cause disproportionately high and adverse impacts relative to low-income and/or minority populations?		\boxtimes
5	Does the project involve a residential or commercial displacement, or a substantial amount of right of way acquisition?		\boxtimes
6	Does the project require an Individual Section 4(f) approval?		\boxtimes
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)?		\boxtimes
	questions 8 through 31 are marked "yes" then additional information will be require in Section G.	ed for th	nose
Other Co	nsiderations en la company de	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)?		\boxtimes
9	Is the project located in anadromous fish spawning waters?		\boxtimes
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)?		\boxtimes
11	Does the project impact waters of the United States in any of the designated mountain trout streams?		\boxtimes

12	Does the project require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Individual Section 404 Permit?		
13	Will the project require an easement from a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed facility?		\boxtimes
14	Does the project include a Section 106 of the NHPA effects determination other than a no effect, including archaeological remains?		\boxtimes
Other Co	nsiderations (continued)	Yes	No
15	Does the project involve hazardous materials and/or landfills?		\boxtimes
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?		\boxtimes
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)?		\boxtimes
18	Does the project require a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) permit?		\boxtimes
19	Does the project involve construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a designated Wild and Scenic River present within the project area?		\boxtimes
20	Does the project involve Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) resources?		\boxtimes
21	Does the project impact federal lands (e.g. U.S. Forest Service (USFS), USFWS, etc.) or Tribal Lands?		\boxtimes
22	Does the project involve any changes in access control?		\boxtimes
23	Does the project have a permanent adverse effect on local traffic patterns or community cohesiveness?		\boxtimes
24	Will maintenance of traffic cause substantial disruption?		\boxtimes
25	Is the project inconsistent with the STIP or the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (where applicable)?		\boxtimes
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?		\boxtimes
27	Does the project involve Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) buyout properties under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)?		\boxtimes
28	Does the project include a de minimis or programmatic Section 4(f)?		\boxtimes
29	Is the project considered a Type I under the NCDOT's Noise Policy?		\boxtimes
30	Is there prime or important farmland soil impacted by this project as defined by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)?	\boxtimes	
31	Are there other issues that arose during the project development process that affected the project decision?	X	

G. Additional Documentation as Required from Section F

Question 1 – Endangered Species:

The USFWS has developed a Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), USACE, and NCDOT for the NLEB (Myotis septentrionalis) 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 NLEB for the NCDOT program is May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect. The PBO provides incidental take coverage for NLEB 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 Beaufort County, where this project is located. This level of incidental take is authorized from the effective date of a final listing determination through April 30, 2020.

Question 30 – Prime or Important Farmland:

A preliminary Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Farmland Conversion Impact Rating was completed for the project, and a total score of 25 out of 160 points was calculated for the BR-0118 project site. Since the total number of points calculated in part VI of the NRCS Farmland Conversion Form AD-1006 for BR-0118 was less than 60, and the total points from the NRCS Farmlands Conversion Form AD-1006 is less than 160, no mitigation for farmland loss is required for the project in accordance with FPPA.

According to the Direct and Indirect screening tool (DIST) document, active farm operations depend on the bridge for sole access; on-site detour was recommended.

Question 31 - Other Issues:

According to the Direct and Indirect Screening Tool (DIST) document, residential and commercial properties depend on the bridge for sole access; on-site detour was recommended.

I. <u>Categorical Exclusion Approval</u>

STIP Project N	o. BR-0118
WBS Element	48827.1.1
Federal Project	No. N/A
Prepared By: 10/14/2019 Date	Samuel Cullum, PE, Project Manager Kisinger Campo & Associates Corp.
Prepared For:	Structures Management Unit North Carolina Department of Transportation
Reviewed By:	
10/15/2019	Phillip Harris
Date	Philip S. Harris, III, PE, CPM Environmental Analysis Unit Head North Carolina Department of Transportation
⊠ Approve	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.
10/14/2019	Docusigned by: Kevin Fischer ED19A18D98EC496
Date	Kevin Fischer, PE Assistant State Structures Engineer PEF Coordination, Program Management & Field Ops.
FHWA Approved:	For Projects Certified by NCDOT (above), FHWA signature required.
N/A Date	N/A John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration

PROJECT COMMITMENTS

Northampton County
Bridge No. 650093 over Jacks Swamp on SR 1203 (Jack Swamp Road)
WBS No. 48827.1.1
TIP No. BR-0118

COMMITMENTS FROM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN

NCDOT Division 1 – Emergency Services:

Northampton County emergency services shall be contacted at (252) 574-0205 at least one month prior to construction to make necessary temporary reassignments to primary response units.

NCDOT Division 1 - Access:

Access will be maintained throughout construction for local traffic and active farms located near both ends of the bridge. Early coordination efforts will be implemented with farmers and property owners to minimize impact on operations and avoid project delays.

NCDOT Division 1 – Minimizing Temporary Detour Impacts:

The proposed temporary design will steepen roadway slopes to as much as possible to reduce the project's footprint. The design will also utilize crane matting with geotextile in all wetland fill areas to minimize wetland impacts.

NCDOT Division 1 - Prime or Important Farmland:

The bridge will be replaced using an on-site detour to maintain access to residential and commercial properties, as well as for active farms located near both ends of the bridge. Early coordination efforts will be implemented with farmers and property owners to minimize impact on operations and avoid project delays.

NCDOT Hydraulics 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 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.

Attachments

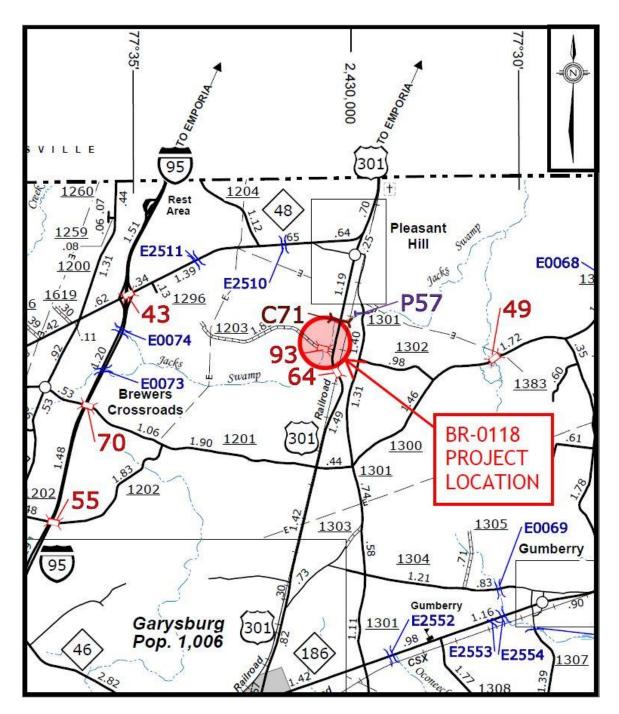


Figure 1: BR-0118 Project Location Map

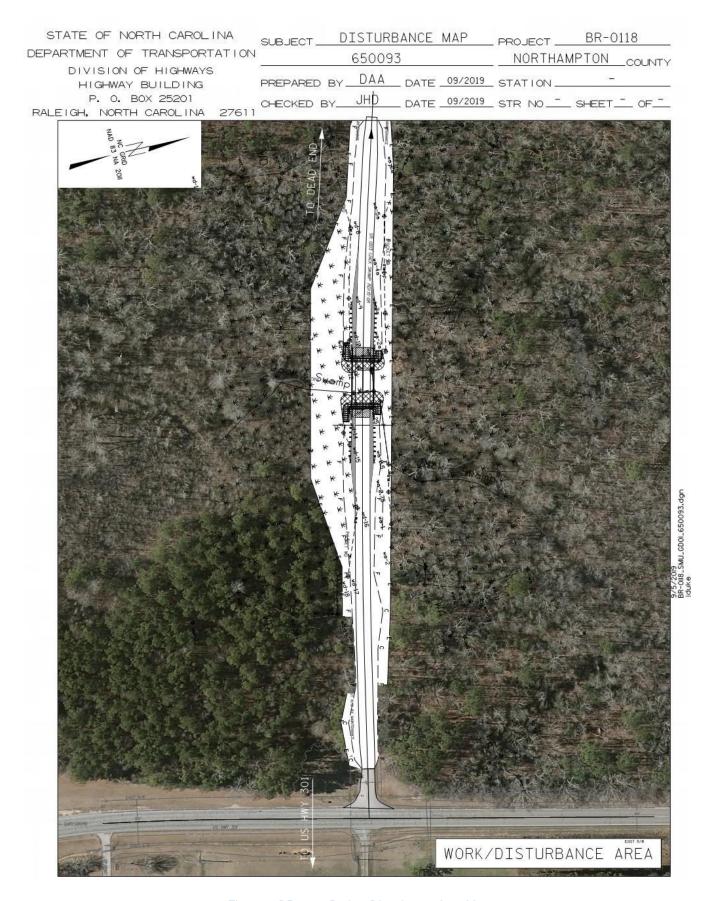


Figure 2: BR-0118 Project Disturbance Area Map

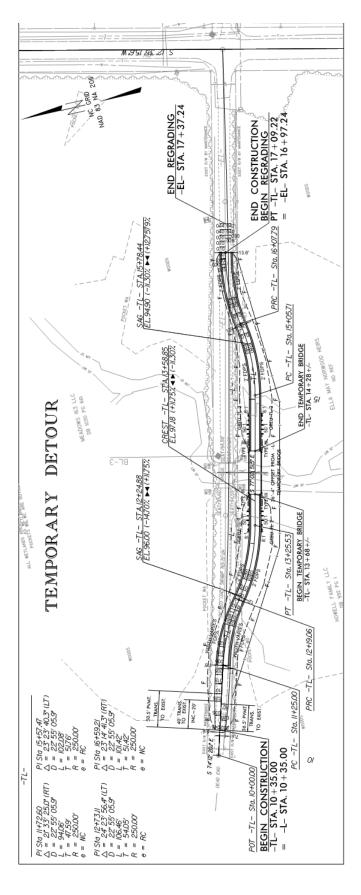


Figure 3: BR-0118 Onsite Detour Map

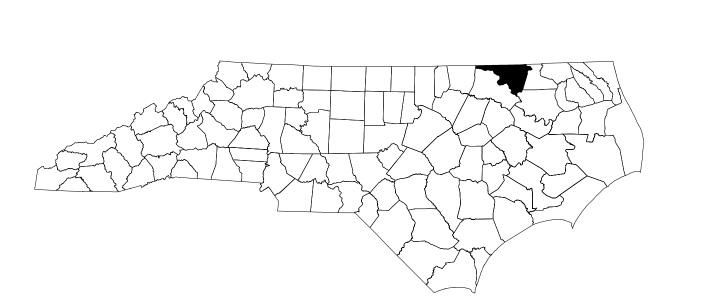
See Sheet 1A For Index of Sheets 00 TREE RD VICINITY MAP

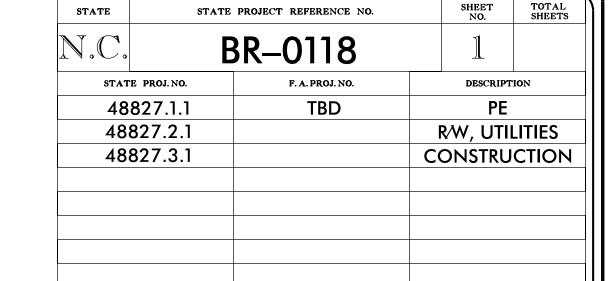
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

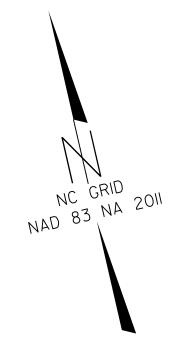
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

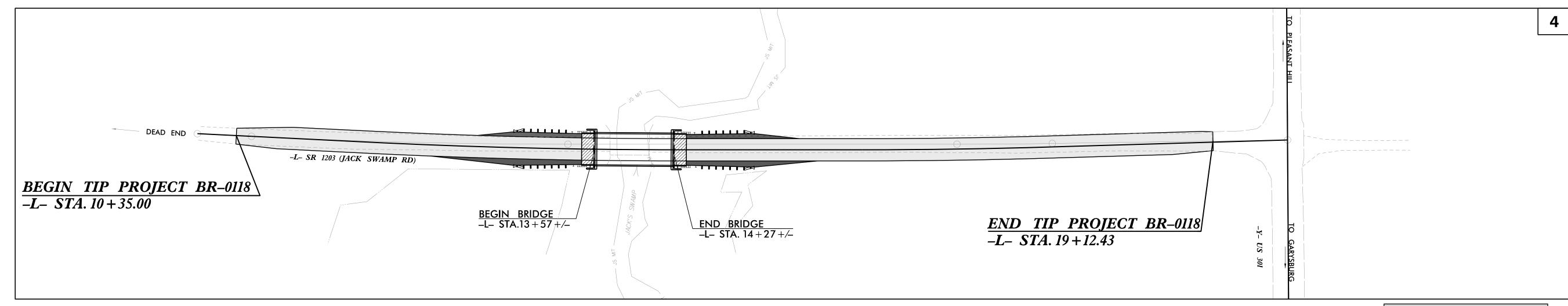
LOCATION: BRIDGE 650093 ON SR 1203 (JACK SWAMP RD) OVER JACK'S SWAMP

TYPE OF WORK: GRADING, DRAINAGE, PAVING AND STRUCTURE



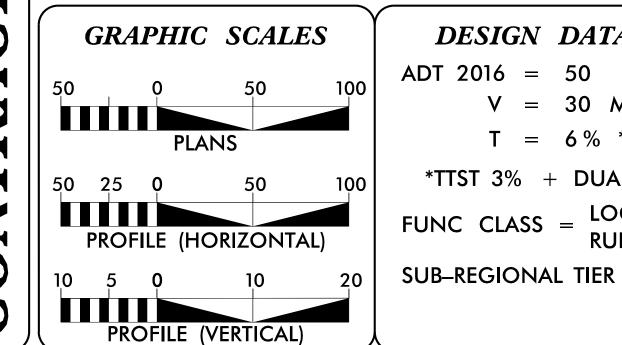






CLEARING ON THIS PROJECT SHALL BE PERFORMED TO THE LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY METHOD ____ THIS PROJECT IS NOT LOCATED WITHIN MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES. THIS IS NOT A CONTROL OF ACCESS PROJECT.

PRELIMINARY PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION INCOMPLETE PLANS DO NOT USE FOR R/W ACQUISITION DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED



DESIGN DATA

ADT 2016 = 50V = 30 MPH

T = 6%

*TTST 3% + DUAL 3% FUNC CLASS = LOCAL

PROJECT LENGTH

DAVID STUTTS, PE

SMU PROJECT MANAGER

LENGTH ROADWAY TIP PROJECT BR-0118 = 0.152 MILES LENGTH STRUCTURES TIP PROJECT BR-0118 = 0.014 MILES

TOTAL LENGTH TIP PROJECT BR-0118

NCDOT CONTACT:

= 0.166 MILES

RIGHT OF WAY DATE: OCTOBER 14, 2019 LETTING DATE:

MAY 19, 2020

& ASSOCIATES

2018 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

JOHN P. MAZERES, PE PROJECT ENGINEER

NC FIRM LICENSE No: C-1506 301 Fayettville St., Suite 1500 Raleigh, NC 27601 (919)882-7839

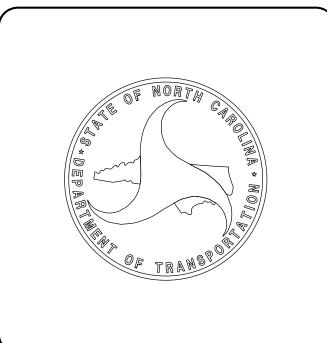
ANDREA B. JENSEN, EI PROJECT DESIGN ENGINEER

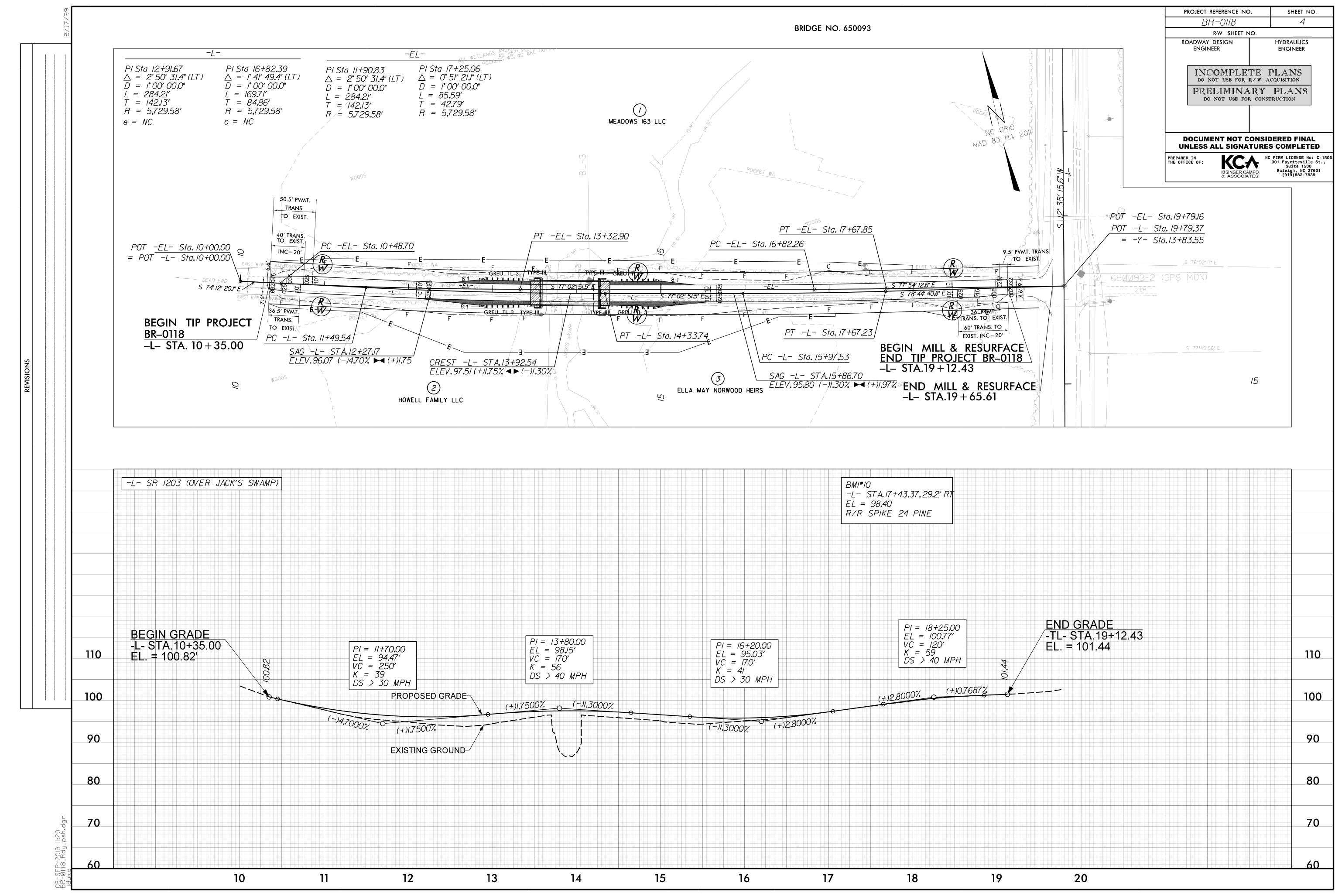
HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

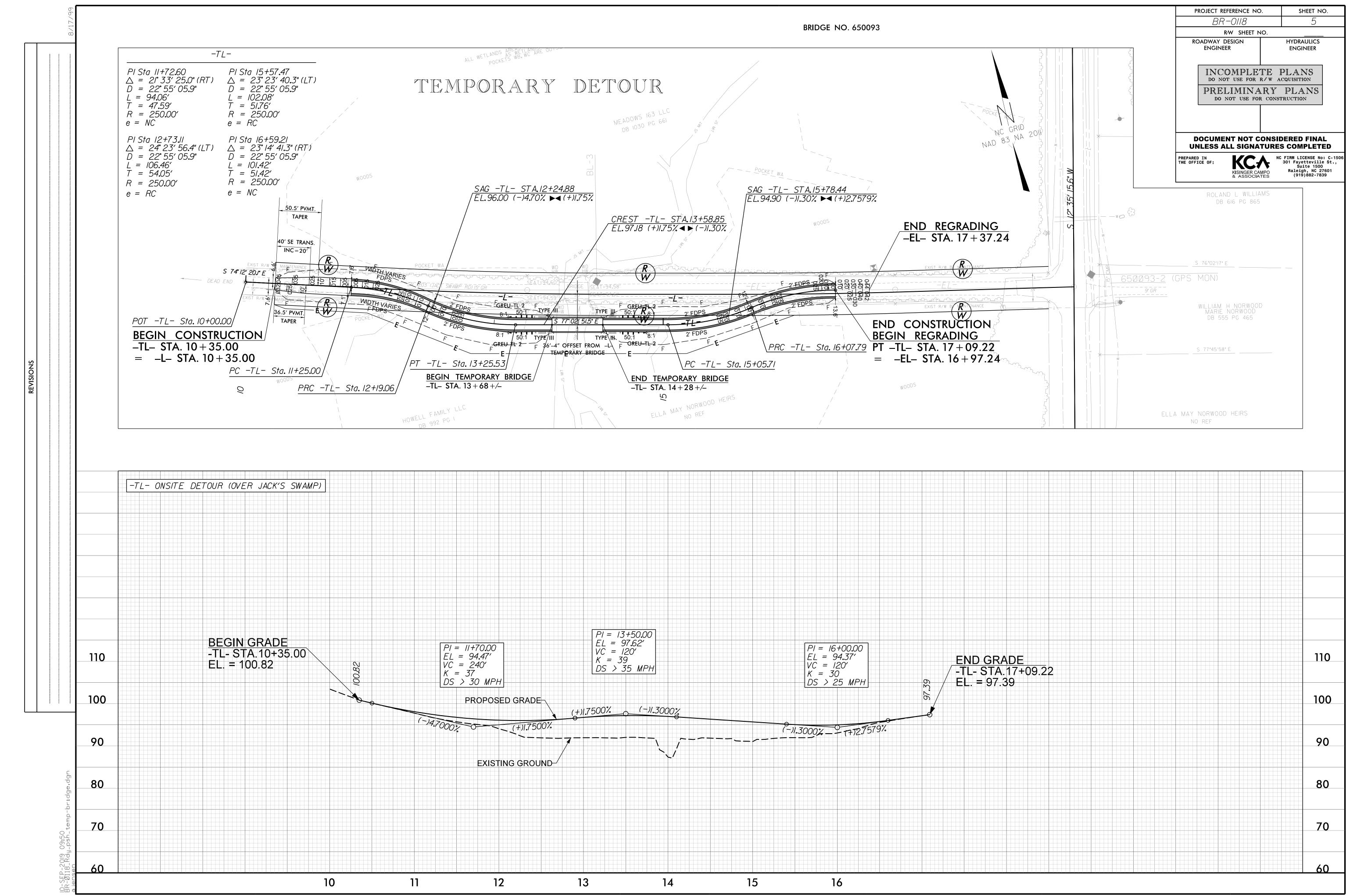
SIGNATURE: ROADWAY DESIGN

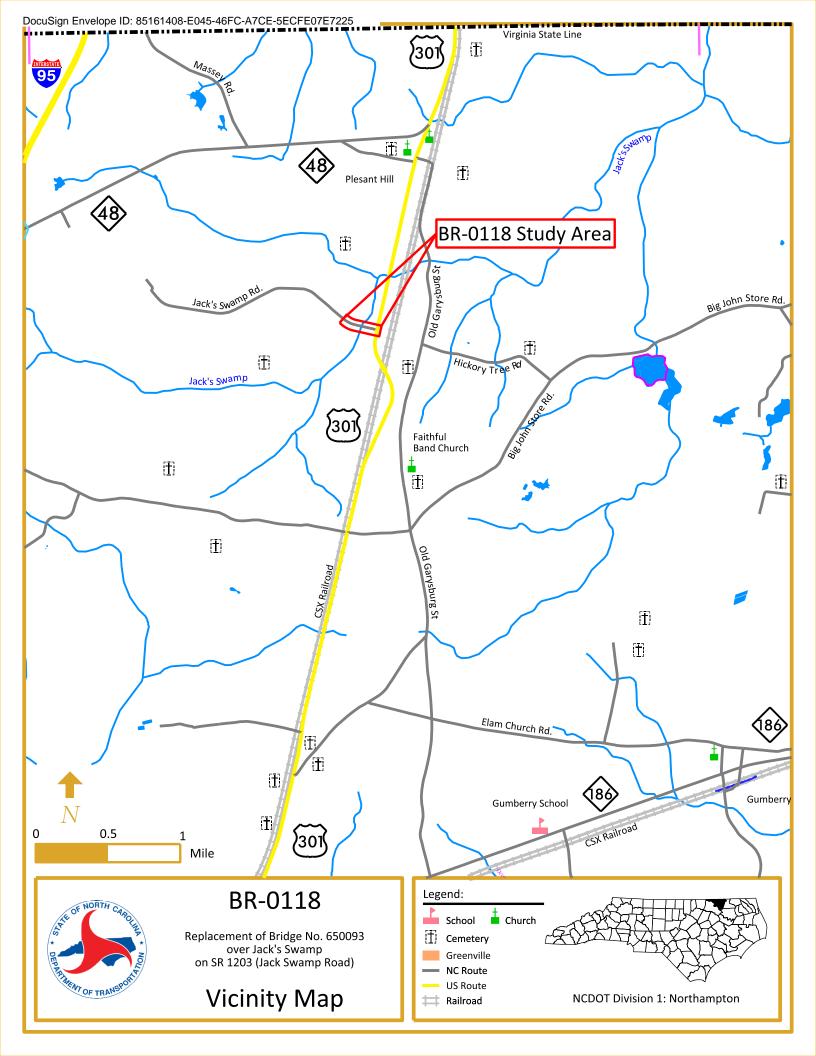
ENGINEER

SIGNATURE:









18-09-0078

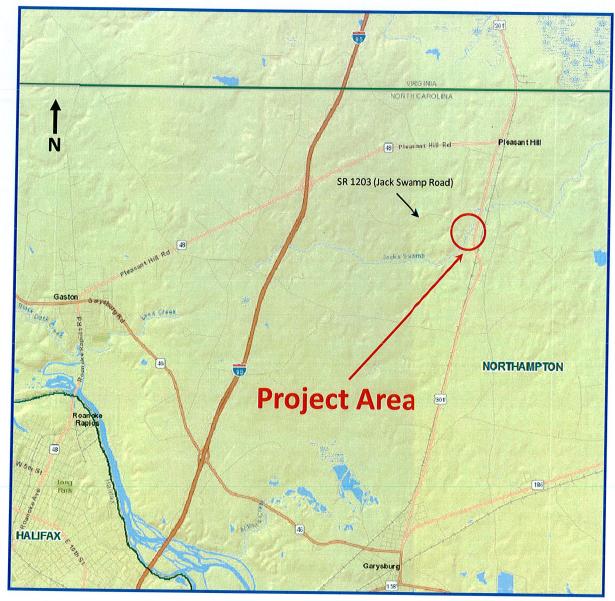


HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES NO SURVEY REQUIRED FORM

This form only pertains to Historic Architecture and Landscapes for this project. It

		gical Resources. haeology Group.	You must consult separately with	the
		CT INFORMAT	ION	
Project No:	BR-0118	County:	Northampton	
WBS No.:	67118.1.1	Document Type:		
Fed. Aid No:		Funding:	X State Federal	
Federal Permit(s):	X Yes No	Permit Type(s):	USACE	
Project Description	n: Replace Bridge No.	93 on SR 1203	(Jack Swamp Road) over Jack	(S
Swamp (no off-s	ite detour specified in re	eview request).		
SUMMAR	RY OF HISTORIC ARC	HITECTURE A	ND LANDSCAPES REVIEW	
DESCRIPTION OF RE	EVIEW ACTIVITIES, RESULTS	, AND CONCLUSION	vs: HPOWeb reviewed on 22 October	er
	NR, SL, DE, SS, or LD prop			
			nd tax information indicated a mostly	y
wooded and undeve	eloped APE with two resident	ial resources datin	g to the 1980s (22 October 2018).	
			National Register according to the	
			technologically significant. Google	
			and landscape resources in the APE	
(viewed 22 October				
	tectural survey is require	d for the project	as currently defined.	
			FOR REASONABLY PREDICTING THA	4 T
			TURAL OR LANDSCAPE RESOURCES I	
				<u> </u>
			the review request (see attached).	
			2008-10), as well as later studies	
recorded no resources in the APE. County GIS and other visuals illustrate the absence of significant				
	ndscape resources in the APE	E. No National Reg	gister-listed properties are located	
within the APE.				
	Should any aspect of			
please notif	y NCDOT Historic Archite	cture as addition	nal review may be necessary.	
	SUPPORT	DOCUMENTA	ATION	
X Map(s)	Previous Survey Info.	Photos	Correspondence Design I	Plans
	FINDING BY NCDOT	ARCHITECTU	RAL HISTORIAN	
Historic Architect	ure and Landscapes NO			
\/\au_1,010.4			206) 1 1 2 10	
Vanessa	- Tahuar	Õ	2018 Ver 2018	-

Historic Architecture and Landscapes NO SURVEY REQUIRED form for Minor Transportation Projects as Qualified in the 2007 Programmatic Agreement.



Bridge No. 93 Replacement WBS No. 67118.1.1

Northampton County Base map: HPOWeb, nts

NCDOT – Historic Architecture October 2018 Tracking No. 18-09-0078

Tracking No. 18-09-0078

18-09-0078



NO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REQUIRED FORM

This form only pertains to ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES for this project. It is not valid for Historic Architecture and Landscapes. You must consult separately with the Historic Architecture and Landscapes Group.



PROJECT INF	FORMATION			
Project No:	BR-0118	County:	Northampton	
WBS No:	67118.1.1	Document:	MCC	
F.A. No:		Funding:	State	
Federal Permit	Required?	Yes No Permi	t Type: USACE	

Project Description: The project involves the replacement of Bridge No. 93 on SR 1203 (Jacks Swamp Rd) over Jacks Swamp in Northampton County, North Carolina. The archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) encompasses all areas of potential ground disturbing activity as depicted on the attached GIS mapping.

SUMMARY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

Brief description of review activities, results of review, and conclusions:

Permitting and funding information was reviewed for determining the level of archaeological input required by state and federal laws. Based on the submitted "request for cultural resources review" form, the project is state-funded with federal permit interaction. As such, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act will apply and the United States Corps of Engineers (USACE) will serve as the lead federal agency. Next, construction design and other data was examined (when applicable) to define the character and extent of potential impacts to the ground surfaces embracing the project locale. For the most part, the APE was primarily designed to capture any federal permit areas or locations of potential ground disturbing activity.

Once an APE was outlined, a map review and site file search was conducted at the Office of State Archaeology (OSA) on Thursday, September 27, 2018. No National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligible archaeological sites or any other documented cultural resources are located within or adjacent to the project APE.

Examination of NRHP, State Study Listed (SL), Locally Designated (LD), Determined Eligible (DE), and Surveyed Site (SS) properties employing resources available on the NCSHPO website is important in establishing the location of noteworthy historic occupations related to a perspective construction impact area. A cross-check of these mapped resources concluded that none of the above properties with potential contributing archaeological components are situated within or proximal to the APE. In addition, historic maps of Northampton County were appraised to identify former structure locations, land use patterns, cemeteries, or other confirmation of historic occupation in the project vicinity. Archaeological/historical reference materials were inspected as well. In general, the cultural background review established that no previously recorded archaeological sites, documented cemeteries or NRHP properties are located within the APE. Based on cultural-historical factors, the APE is considered to have a low potential for the documentation of archaeological resources.

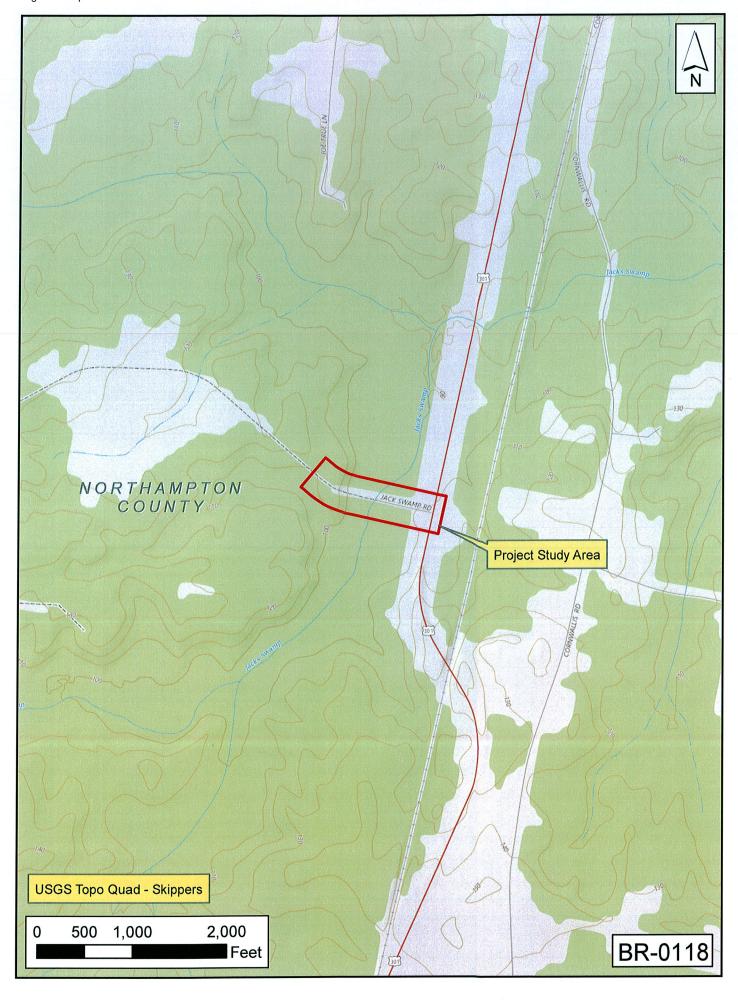
Further, topographic, geologic, flood boundary, and NRCS soil survey maps were referenced to evaluate pedeological, geomorphological, hydrological, and other environmental determinants that may have resulted in past occupation at this location. Aerial and on-ground photographs (NCDOT Spatial Data Viewer) and the Google Street View map application (when amenable) were also examined/utilized for additional assessment of disturbances, both natural and human induced, which compromise the integrity of archaeological sites. Environmental/impact factors do not suggest a heightened potential for archaeological resource recovery.

18-09-0078

Brief Explanation of why the available information provides a reliable basis for reasonably predicting that there are no unidentified historic properties in the APE:

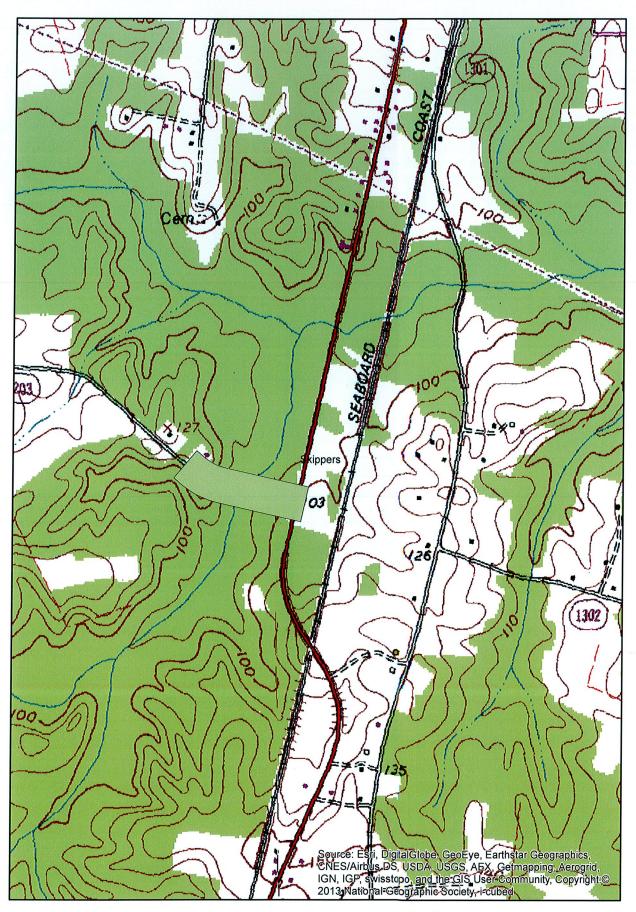
The APE has a low potential for the recovery of archaeological remains based on soil data (wetlands). The majority of the project area is underlain by poorly drained soils. It is unlikely to contain significant, intact, and preserved archaeological deposits eligible for NRHP inclusion. As currently proposed as a state-funded project with federal permit interaction, no further consultation is advocated. A finding of "no archaeological survey required" is considered appropriate.

SUPPORT D	OCUMENTA	ΓΙΟΝ		
See attached:	Map(s) □ Photocopy	☐ Previous Survey Info y of County Survey Notes	Photos Other:	Correspondence
FINDING BY	NCDOT ARC	CHAEOLOGIST		
NO ARCHAEC	OLOGY SURVE	V REQUIRED		





ARC-GIS aerial shape file map illustrating the location and boundaries of the archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) in Northampton County, North Carolina.



Portion of the Skipper topographic map illustrating the location and boundaries of the archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE) in Northampton County, North Carolina.