Type I or II Categorical Exclusion Action Classification Form

STIP Project No.	HB-0014
WBS Element	49873.1.1
Federal Project No.	N/A

A. Project Description:

This project will replace structure number 230033 on SR 1928 (Old Dock Road) over Juniper Creek in Columbus County. The bridge will be replaced with an on-site detour.

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

Bridge inspections have been performed and it has been determined that due to hydraulic issues the bridge needs to be replaced. This bridge was built in 1977.

C. Categorical Exclusion Action Classification:

Type I(A) - Ground Disturbing Action

D. Proposed Improvements:

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

E. Special Project Information:

This project is an Express Design-Build Bridge Replacement that is included in a set of 4 bridges that will be let.

There will be an on-site detour for the bridge due to the length of detour route. This has been approved by Division.

F. Project Impact Criteria Checklists:

F2. Ground Disturbing Actions – Type I (Appendix A) & Type II (Appendix B)					
Proposed improvement(s) that fit Type I Actions (NCDOT-FHWA CE Programmatic Agreement, Appendix A) including 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 12, 18, 21, 22 (ground disturbing), 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, &/or 30; &/or Type II Actions (NCDOT-FHWA CE Programmatic Agreement, Appendix B) answer the project impact threshold questions (below) and questions 8 – 31.					
 If any question 1-7 is checked "Yes" then NCDOT certification for FHWA approval is required. If any question 8-31 is checked "Yes" then additional information will be required for those questions in Section G. 					
PROJECT IMPACT THRESHOLDS (FHWA signature required if any of the questions 1-7 are marked "Yes".)			No		
1	Does the project require formal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)?				
2	Does the project result in impacts subject to the conditions of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA)?		V		
3	Does the project generate substantial controversy or public opposition, for any reason, following appropriate public involvement?		V		
4	Does the project cause disproportionately high and adverse impacts relative to low-income and/or minority populations?				
5	Does the project involve a residential or commercial displacement, or a substantial amount of right of way acquisition?		V		
6	Does the project require an Individual Section 4(f) approval?		$\overline{\checkmark}$		
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)?				
	y question 8-31 is checked "Yes" then additional information will be required for those ion G.	questio	ns in		
Othe	er Considerations	Yes	No		
8	Is an Endangered Species Act (ESA) determination unresolved or is the project covered by a Programmatic Agreement under Section 7?	V			
9	Is the project located in anadromous fish spawning waters?		$\overline{\mathbf{A}}$		
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)?				
11	Does the project impact Waters of the United States in any of the designated mountain trout streams?		$\overline{\mathbf{A}}$		
12	Does the project require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Individual Section 404 Permit?		V		
13	Will the project require an easement from a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed facility?		\checkmark		

Other Considerations for Type I and II Ground Disturbing Actions (continued)			No
14	Does the project include a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) effects determination other than a No Effect, including archaeological remains?		$\overline{\checkmark}$
15	Does the project involve GeoEnvironmental Sites of Concerns such as gas stations, dry cleaners, landfills, etc.?		V
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?		\checkmark
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)?		$\overline{\checkmark}$
18	Does the project require a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) permit?		\checkmark
19	Does the project involve construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a designated Wild and Scenic River present within the project area?		$\overline{\checkmark}$
20	Does the project involve Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) resources?		\checkmark
21	Does the project impact federal lands (e.g. U.S. Forest Service (USFS), USFWS, etc.) or Tribal Lands?		$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$
22	Does the project involve any changes in access control or the modification or construction of an interchange on an interstate?		$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$
23	Does the project have a permanent adverse effect on local traffic patterns or community cohesiveness?		V
24	Will maintenance of traffic cause substantial disruption?		\checkmark
25	Is the project inconsistent with the STIP, and where applicable, the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)?		\checkmark
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), Tribal Lands, 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?		V
27	Does the project involve Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) buyout properties under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)?		$\overline{\checkmark}$
28	Does the project include a <i>de minimis</i> or programmatic Section 4(f)?		V
29	Is the project considered a Type I under the NCDOT Noise Policy?		\checkmark
30	Is there prime or important farmland soil impacted by this project as defined by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)?		$\overline{\checkmark}$
31	Are there other issues that arose during the project development process that affected the project decision?		$\overline{\checkmark}$

G. Additional Documentation as Required from Section F (ONLY for questions marked 'Yes'):

Question 8 - Endangered Species: The US Fish and Wildlife Service has revised the previous 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 (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*) in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. Although this programmatic covers Divisions 1-8, NLEBs are currently only known in 22 counties, but may potentially occur in 8 additional counties within Divisions 1-8. NCDOT, FHWA, and USACE have agreed to two conservation measures which will avoid/minimize mortality of NLEBs. These conservation measures only apply to the 30 current known/potential counties shown on Figure 2 of the PBO at this time. The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program is **May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect**. The PBO will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for ten years (effective through December 31, 2030) for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes Columbus County, where HB-0014 is located.

An informal Section 7 consultation for the Wood Stork is being completed by Division 6 personnel.

NCDOT PROJECT COMMITMENTS

STIP Project No. **HB-0014**Bridge 230033 over Juniper Creek on SR 1928
Columbus County
Federal Aid Project No. N/A
WBS Element 49873.1.1

Division 6 Construction, Resident Engineer's Office

This project involves construction activities on or adjacent to a FEMA-regulated stream. Therefore, the Division shall submit sealed as-built construction plans to the Hydraulics Unit upon completion of the project construction, certifying that the drainage structure and roadway embankment that are located within the 100-year floodplain were built as shown in the construction plans, both horizontally and vertically.

At individual project sites where a total of 1.0 acre or more of tree clearing will occur, no tree clearing will occur during the portion of the day that the air temperature is <40 degrees Fahrenheit in order to protect the NLEBs that may be in torpor.

Project is located within a Black Bear Sanctuary. Coordination will occur with NCWRC for Game lands / Bear Sanctuary and appropriate NCDOT Group.

Hydraulics Unit

The NCDOT Hydraulics Unit will coordinate with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program (FMP), to determine that status of the project with regard to applicability of NCDOT's Memorandum of Agreement, or approval of Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and subsequent final Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

I. Categorical Exclusion Approval:

STIP Project No.	HB-0014			
WBS Element	49873.1.1			
Federal Project No.	N/A			
Prepared By: 01/20/2022 Date	Docusigned by: James Kerko, PWS			
	North Carolina Department of Transportation			
Prepared For:	North Carolina Department of Transportation			
Reviewed By:	— DocuSigned by:			
01/20/2022	John Kauther			
Date	John Gauthier, DDC Engineer			
	North Carolina Department of Transportation			
Approve	If NO grey boxes are checked in Section F (pages 2 and 3), NCDOT approves the Type I or Type II Categorical Exclusion.			
Certified	 If ANY grey boxes are checked in Section F (pages 2 and 3), NCDOT certifies the Type I or Type II Categorical Exclusion for FHWA approval. If classified as Type III Categorical Exclusion. 			
01/21/2022	adam Britt			
	Adam Britt, Division Bridge Program Manager, Division 6 North Carolina Department of Transportation			
FHWA Approved: For Projects Certified by NCDOT (above), FHWA signature required.				
	ohn F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration			

Note: Prior to ROW or Construction authorization, a consultation may be required (please see Section VII of the NCDOT-FHWA CE Programmatic Agreement for more details).