

## NCDOT MINIMUM CRITERIA DETERMINATION CHECKLIST

The following questions provide direction in determining when the Department is required to prepare [SEPA](#) environmental documents for state-funded construction and maintenance activities. Answer questions for Parts A through C by checking either “Yes” or “No”. Complete Part D of the checklist when NCDOT’s [Minimum Criteria Rule](#) categories #8, 12(i) or #15 are used.

**TIP Project No.: M-0540A**

**State Project No.: M-0540A**

**Project Location:** NC 24, East Corbett Ave./Cedar Point Blvd., southeast of Swansboro, in Onslow and Carteret Counties.

**Project Description:** The NCDOT proposes to repair and stabilize the roadway embankment/causeway and adjacent sidewalk along NC 24, immediately southeast of the White Oak River bridge, between Swansboro and Cedar Point, NC. These areas remain prone to future erosion and are anticipated to require ongoing maintenance.

**Anticipated Permit or Consultation Requirements:** Work will likely be permitted by the USACE using NWP 54 and an accompanying CAMA General Permit at Sites 1, 2A, and 2B. An Individual Permit and CAMA Major Permit may be required for Site 3.

**Special Project Information:** As part of the project, NCDOT would like to replace, enhance, and/or create adjacent shallow water marsh areas as a more resilient repair and stabilization solution. NCDOT has partnered with the NC Coastal Federation and SWCA Environmental Consultants. The team has been awarded a National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) grant to advance the state’s resiliency goals by using living shoreline techniques to stabilize the shoreline to give added protection to the roadway embankment and restore/enhance marsh habitat at the affected sites.

## **PART A: MINIMUM CRITERIA**

### ***Item 1 to be completed by the Project Manager.***

1. Is the proposed project listed as a type and class of activity allowed under the Minimum Criteria Rule in which environmental documentation is not required?

**YES**

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**NO**

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If the answer to number 1 is “no”, then the project does not qualify as a minimum criteria project. A state Environmental Assessment is required.

If yes, under which category? **29**

*If either category #8, #12(i) or #15 is used complete Part D of this checklist.*

## **PART B: MINIMUM CRITERIA EXCEPTIONS**

### ***Items 2 – 4 to be completed by the Project Manager.***

2. Could the proposed activity cause significant changes in land use concentrations that would be expected to create adverse air quality impacts?
3. Will the proposed activity have secondary impacts or cumulative impacts that may result in a significant adverse impact to human health or the environment?
4. Is the proposed activity of such an unusual nature or does the proposed activity have such widespread implications, that an uncommon concern for its environmental effects has been expressed to the Department?

**YES**

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**NO**

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### ***Item 5-8 to be completed by Division Environmental Officer.***

5. Does the proposed activity have a significant adverse effect on wetlands; surface waters such as rivers, streams, and estuaries; parklands; prime or unique agricultural lands; or areas of recognized scenic, recreational, archaeological, or historical value?
6. Will the proposed activity endanger the existence of a species on the Department of Interior's threatened and endangered species list?
7. Could the proposed activity cause significant changes in land use concentrations that would be expected to create adverse water quality or ground water impacts?
8. Is the proposed activity expected to have a significant adverse effect on long-term recreational benefits or shellfish, finfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats?

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*If any questions 2 through 8 are answered “yes”, the proposed project may not qualify as a Minimum Criteria project. A state Environmental Assessment (EA) may be required. For assistance, contact the Environmental Policy Unit at (919) 707-6253 or [EPU@ncdot.gov](mailto:EPU@ncdot.gov).*

## **PART C: COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS**

### ***Items 9- 12 to be completed by Division Environmental Officer.***

- |  | <b>YES</b>                          | <b>NO</b>                           |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 9. Is a federally protected threatened or endangered species, or its habitat, likely to be impacted by the proposed action?  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Does the action require the placement of temporary or permanent fill in waters of the United States?   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 11. Does the project require the placement of a significant amount of fill in high quality or relatively rare wetland ecosystems, such as mountain bogs or pine savannahs? | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Is the proposed action located in an Area of Environmental Concern, as defined in the coastal Area Management Act?   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

### ***Items 13 – 15 to be completed by the Project Manager.***

- |  |                                     |                          |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 13. Does the project require stream relocation or channel changes? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|

### **Cultural Resources**


- |   |                          |                                     |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 14. Will the project have an “effect” on a property or site listed on the National Register of Historic Places?                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. Will the proposed action require acquisition of additional right of way from publicly owned parkland or recreational areas? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |


*Questions in Part “C” are designed to assist the Project Manager and the Division Environmental Officer in determining whether a permit or consultation with a state or federal resource agency may be required. If any questions in Part “C” are answered “yes”, follow the appropriate permitting procedures prior to beginning project construction.*

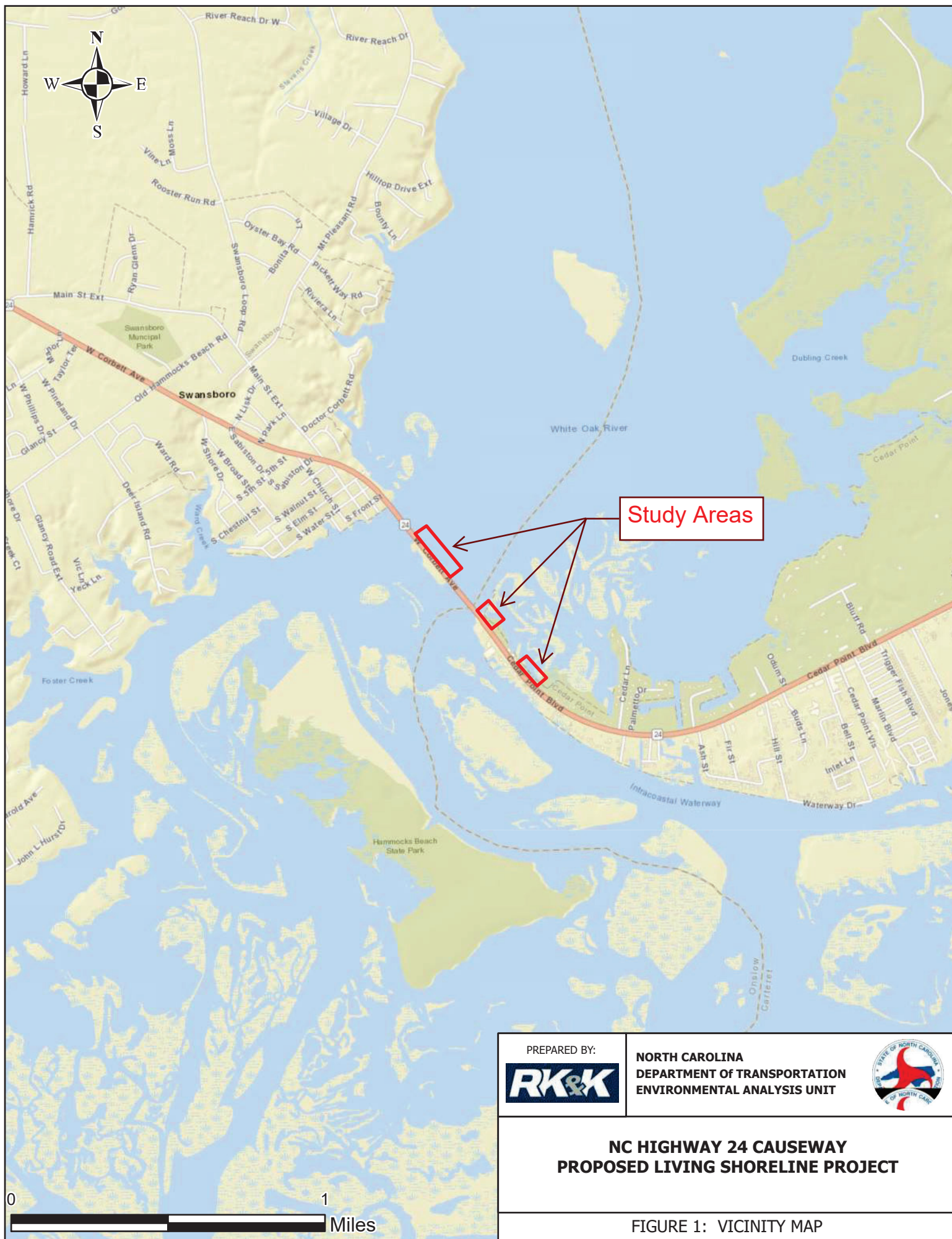
**PART D:( To be completed when either category #8, 12(i) or #15 of the rules are used.)**

***Items 16- 22 to be completed by Division Environmental Officer.***

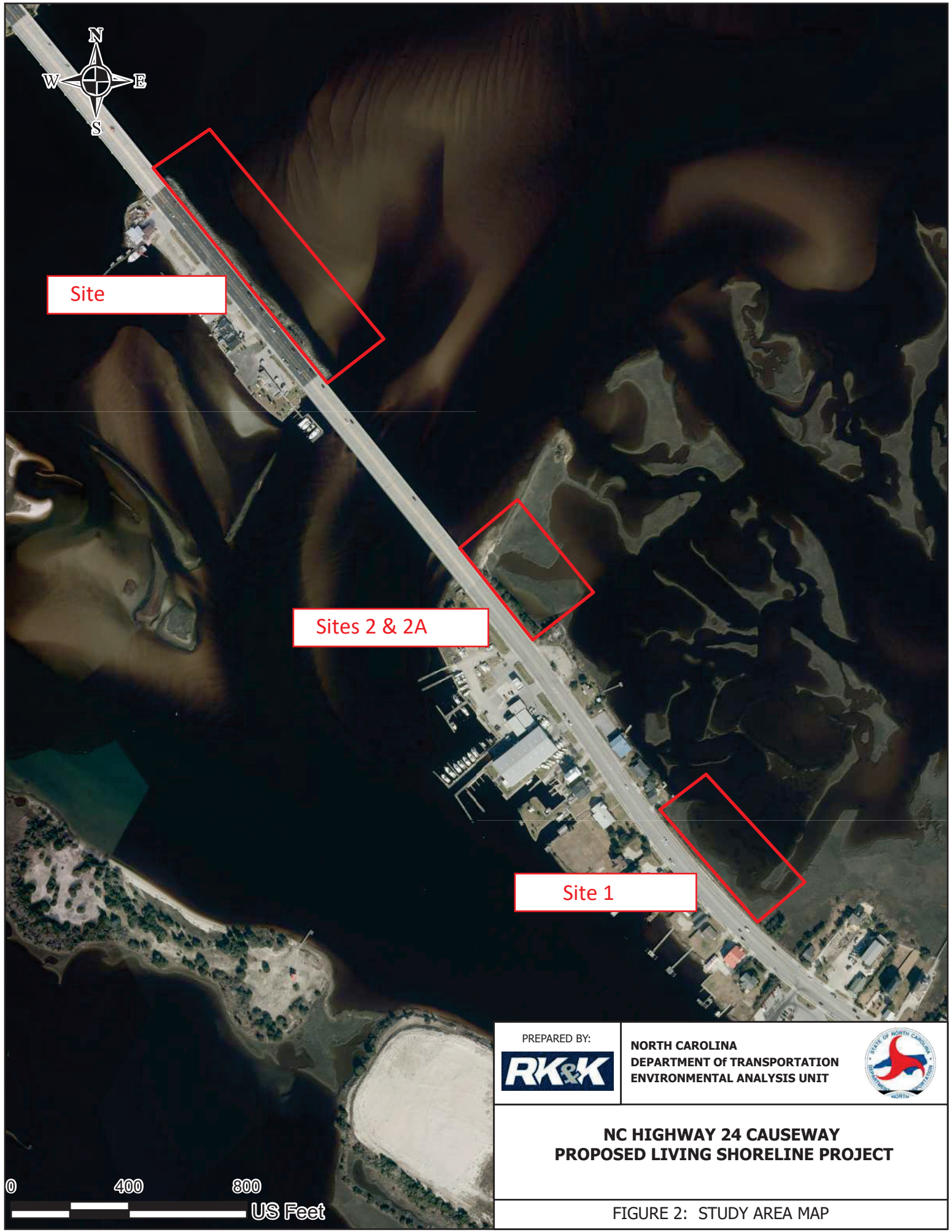
16. Project length: \_\_\_\_\_
17. Right of Way width: \_\_\_\_\_
18. Project completion date: \_\_\_\_\_
19. Total acres of newly disturbed ground surface: \_\_\_\_\_
20. Total acres of wetland impacts: \_\_\_\_\_
21. Total linear feet of stream impacts: \_\_\_\_\_
22. Project purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by:  DocuSigned by:  
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Project Manager  
Brian Lipscomb, PE, Hydraulics Unit  
Date: 6/8/2021

 DocuSigned by:  
B-33883EEED0E44D3...  
Environmental Review  
Colin Mellor, Environmental Policy Unit  
Date: 6/8/2021







Site

Sites 2 & 2A

Site 1

PREPARED BY:



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT**



**NC HIGHWAY 24 CAUSEWAY  
PROPOSED LIVING SHORELINE PROJECT**

FIGURE 2: STUDY AREA MAP