### Type I and II Ground Disturbing Categorical Exclusion Action Classification Form

STIP Project No.	R-4705
WBS Element	38932.1.FD1
Federal Project No.	STP -1142(11)

#### A. <u>Project Description</u>:

The proposed project involves improving NC 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road) from NC 903 to SR 1182 (East College Road) in Martin County (see Figure 1 and Figure 2). The proposed project consists of widening Prison Camp Road to an improved two-lane road with 12-foot lanes and eight-foot shoulders (four-foot paved) from NC 903 to just west of SR 1141 (Allen Williams Road). In addition to the widening, the road will be shifted slightly in some locations to improve curvature. From Allen Williams Road to SR 1182 (East College Road), a three-lane curb and gutter cross section is proposed with 12-foot lanes and a ten-foot berm behind the curb. Additional right-of-way will be required to accommodate the proposed improvements.

Project R-4705 (improvements to NC 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road)) is included in the NCDOT 2018-2027 State Transportation Improvement (STIP). Right-of-way and construction are scheduled in federal fiscal years (FY) 2019 and 2021 respectively.

#### B. Description of Need and Purpose:

The purpose of the project is to improve safety and traffic operation on NC 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road).

The proposed project will address the following needs along existing NC 125/SR 1142:

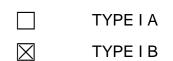
- Inadequate shoulder width
- Lack of paved shoulders
- Substandard ditches and drainage

During the five year period from March 1, 2010 to February 28, 2015, 178 crashes occurred on the subject portion of Prison Camp Road, including one fatal crash and 47 injury accidents. These crashes resulted in a total crash rate of 274.84 C/100MVM (Crashes per 100 Million Vehicle Miles), which is higher than the statewide crash rate of 181.56 C/100MVM for all NC routes over a similar time period. The crash rate for Prison Camp Road is also higher than the critical crash rate (based on the statewide crash rate for NC routes), which is 216.75 C/100MVM.

The predominant crash type involved vehicles running off of the road. This type of accident accounted for 91 of the accidents recorded during the five year period, including 65 vehicles that ran into the ditch with the remaining 26 hitting a roadside object such as a mailbox or sign post.

The proposed improvements to Prison Camp Road will reduce the potential for these types of crashes by providing improved shoulders throughout the length of the project and by realigning three of the sharp curves on the southwestern portion of the project.

#### C. Categorical Exclusion Action Classification: (Check one)



#### D. Proposed Improvements:

- 26. Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (including parking, weaving, turning, and climbing lanes), if the action meets the constraints listed in 23 CFR 771.117(e)(1-6).
- 27. Highway safety or traffic operations improvement projects, including the installation of ramp metering control devices and lighting, if the project meets the constraints in 23 CFR 771.117(e)(1-6).
- E. Special Project Information:

The total cost included in the 2018-2027 STIP for the project is \$25,364,000. Of this total, \$5,465,000 is included for right-of-way acquisition and \$19,899,000 is included for construction.

The current cost estimate for the proposed project is:

Construction	\$19,300,000
Utilities	\$2,800,000
Right-of-Way	<u>\$5,500,000</u>
TOTAL	\$27,600,000

Alternatives Discussion: The project is an improvement of an existing highway. Both existing and future traffic volumes do not warrant adding lanes to the facility. A "best fit" alignment was developed to address the sharp curvature in the southwestern portion of the project and the inadequate shoulders throughout the project while minimizing impacts to adjacent resources. See Figure 4.

The no-build alternative would avoid the anticipated impacts of the project, but would not provide the safety and operational benefits of the project. Therefore, the no-build alternative was not selected for the project.

In order to minimize impacts to historic resources, designs were developed that would not require any additional right-of-way from any of the four National Register-eligible properties. Only temporary easements will be used to conduct work within the historic property boundaries. A copy of the Historic Architecture and Landscapes Assessment of Effects Form is included in Appendix A.

Agency/Public Involvement: Comments regarding the proposed project were requested from various federal, state, and local agencies. Copies of the written comments received are included in Appendix A. In addition to the written comments, input from the resource agencies was received at the April 16, 2015 scoping meeting.

The public was initially notified of the project by a newsletter mailed to local residents in October 2015, which informed them of the proposed project and gave them the opportunity to provide comments. A public meeting was held on March 23, 2017 at the Senator Bob

Martin Eastern Agricultural Center. Preliminary project plans were presented for residents to review and project personnel were available to answer questions about the project. The project was well received and comments on the project were positive.

Anticipated Permit or Consultation Requirements: The proposed project will affect approximately 1.42 acres of wetlands. It is anticipated a Section 404 Individual Permit will be required for this project. A North Carolina Division of Water Resources Section 401 Water Quality Certification will be required prior to issuance of the Section 404 permit. In addition, a Tar-Pamlico River Riparian Buffer Authorization will be required from the NC Division of Water Resources for project effects to the riparian buffer for Collie Swamp, Turkey Swamp, and the unnamed tributaries associated with both.

## F. Project Impact Criteria Checklists:

Type I &	II - Ground Disturbing Actions			
FHWA APPROVAL 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)?		$\times$	
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?		$\times$	
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?		X	
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 requires in Section G.	ed for th	nose	
Other Considerations Yes N			No	
8	8 Does the project result in a finding of "may affect not likely to adversely affect" 8 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?		X	
10	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?		X	
12	Does the project require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Individual Section 404 Permit?	$\boxtimes$		
13	Will the project require an easement from a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed facility?		X	
14	Does the project include a Section 106 of the NHPA effects determination other than a no effect, including archaeological remains?	$\mathbb{X}$		

Other Considerations (continued)			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 <i>de minimis</i> 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?		$\boxtimes$

### G. Additional Documentation as Required from Section F

Response to Question 5: The proposed project will involve the acquisition of approximately 20 feet of additional right-of-way from each side of Prison Camp Road for the majority of the project limits. This additional right-of-way will increase the existing 60-foot wide right-of-way to 100 feet.

It is expected the proposed project will require the relocation of two homes and one business. One of the homes to be relocated is minority-owned or occupied. Refer to Appendix B for the relocation reports.

The relocation program for the proposed action will be conducted in accordance with the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (Public Law 91-646), and/or the North Carolina Relocation Assistance Act (GS-133-5 through 133-18). These programs are designed to provide assistance to displaced persons in relocating to a replacement site-in which to live or do business. At least one relocation officer is assigned to each NCDOT project for this purpose.

Response to Question 8: The USFWS has developed a programmatic biological opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, the US Army Corps of Engineers and NCDOT for the northern long-eared bat 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 northern long-eared bat for the NCDOT program is "May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect". The PBO provides incidental take coverage for northern long-eared bat 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 Martin County.

Response to Question 10: A Tar-Pamlico River Riparian Buffer Authorization will be required from the NC Division of Water Resources for project effects to the riparian buffer for Collie Swamp, Turkey Swamp, and the unnamed tributaries associated with both.

Response to Question 12: The proposed project will affect approximately 1.42 acres of wetlands. It is anticipated a Section 404 Individual Permit will be required for this project. A North Carolina Division of Water Resources Section 401 Water Quality Certification will be required prior to issuance of the Section 404 permit.

Response to Question 14: A historic architectural eligibility evaluation was conducted for properties along Prison Camp Road. As a result of this investigation, it was determined four resources in the project's area of potential effects are eligible for the National Register of Historic Properties (NRHP); Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375), Wynn Home Place (MT0384), Bowen Farm (MT0626), and John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032). Refer to Figure 4.

The Cross Roads Christian Church is located far enough away from Prison Camp Road that the proposed project will have "No Effect" on this historic property. The other three properties are adjacent to Prison Camp Road. In order to minimize impacts to these historic resources, designs were developed that would not require any additional right-of-way from any of the three NRHP eligible properties adjacent to Prison Camp Road. Only temporary easements will be used to conduct work within the historic property boundaries. It was determined the project would have "No Adverse Effect" on these historic properties. A copy of the Historic Architecture and Landscapes Assessment of Effects Form is included in Appendix A.

An archaeological survey was conducted for the proposed right-of-way along Prison Camp Road identifying five archaeological resources. Three of these resources (sites 31MY207\*\*, 31MT208\*\*, and 31MT209\*\*) were identified as small surface collections of historic material. None of these artifact scatters are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The two remaining resources are the Mobley Cemetery (31MT210\*\*) and the Stalls Cemetery (31MT211\*\*). Neither of these cemeteries is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as an archaeological resource. Additional right-of-way at these locations is reduced and it appears unlikely that impacts would occur that would trigger North Carolina General Statue 65.

Response to Question 15: Seven sites which may contain hazardous materials were identified within the project area, six facilities with underground storage tanks and one automotive repair facility. Low monetary and scheduling impacts are anticipated to result from these sites. No additional contaminated properties were found during the field reconnaissance and regulatory agencies' records search. The NCDOT GeoEnvironmental Section will provide soil and groundwater assessments on each of the above properties after identification of the selected alternative and before right-of-way acquisition to make appropriate recommendations to the Right-of-Way Unit regarding the acquisition of contaminated property and to avoid the liability of acquiring properties with known hazardous potential such as USTs.

Response to Question 16: The Hydraulics Unit will coordinate with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program, to determine status of the 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 the drainage structure(s) and roadway embankment located within the 100-year floodplain were built as shown in the construction plans, both horizontally and vertically.

Response to Question 26: In the area of Godwin-Coppage Park, proposed improvements involve the addition of curb and gutter and ten-foot berms to the existing three-lane roadway. A temporary construction easement will be required from the Godwin-Coppage Park property. The temporary easement would be approximately 18 feet wide across the entire frontage of the park property on Prison Camp Road. Prison Camp Road will be widened slightly in this area, but the road will remain a three-lane facility. The ten-foot berm will be within existing right-of-way, but the side slope will extend onto the park property by approximately eight feet. The proposed easement will not affect any recreation facilities in the park. The service entrance to the park off of Prison Camp Road and a storage building is nearby, but the driveway for this entrance will be restored and the proposed work will not affect the building or the fence between the building and Prison Camp Road. Because Land and Water Conservation Funds were used to develop the park, NCDOT will be required to obtain a temporary non-conforming use permit from the National Park Service through the NC Division of Parks and Recreation. The Williamston Board of Commissioners approved providing a temporary construction easement on park property. NCDOT will obtain the temporary nonconforming use permit from the National Park Service prior to requesting a temporary easement from the Town. .

Response to Question 28: The four historic properties in the project area and the Godwin-Coppage Park are all protected by Section 4(f) of the USDOT Act of 1966, as amended. Section 4(f) specifies that publicly owned land from a public park, recreation area, wildlife and waterfowl refuge, and all historic sites of national, state, and local significance may be used for federal projects only if there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of such land and the project includes all possible planning to minimize harm to 4(f) lands resulting from such use.

The proposed project will require temporary construction easements from the National Register-eligible Bowen Farm, John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House and Wynn Home Place. The proposed project will have no adverse effect on these properties. The project will also require temporary construction easements from Godwin-Coppage Park. The easement from the park will not affect the recreational use of the park.

FHWA has determined the proposed temporary easements constitute a temporary occupancy of historic properties and a public park property based on the criteria contained in 23 CFR 774.13(d). NCDOT has coordinated with the Town of Williamston regarding the temporary construction easement required from Godwin-Coppage Park. The Town is in agreement with providing the temporary easement from the park property (see email in Appendix A). A Section 4(f) evaluation is not required for obtaining temporary construction easements for this project.

Response to Question 30: Farmland soils eligible for protection under the Farmland Protection Policy Act are present within the project area. A preliminary screening of farmland conversion impacts in the project area has been completed and a total score of 56 out of 160 points was calculated for the project. Since the total site assessment score does not exceed the 60-point threshold established by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, farmland conversion impacts may be anticipated, but are not considered notable.

#### Martin County IMPROVEMENTS TO NC 125/SR 1142 (PRISON CAMP ROAD) FROM NC 903 TO SR 1182 (EAST COLLEGE ROAD)

#### Federal-Aid Project No. STP-1142(11) WBS No. 38932.1.FD1 TIP No. R-4705

#### **Hydraulics Unit**

The Hydraulics Unit will coordinate with the NC Floodplain Mapping Program, 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).

#### **Division One Construction**

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 the drainage structure(s) and roadway embankment located within the 100-year floodplain were built as shown in the construction plans, both horizontally and vertically.

#### **Division One**

At the historic Bowen Farm, the berm width will be reduced to four feet, there will be no permanent drainage easement, and orange fencing will be placed around trees closest to the slope stake line. No permanent right-of-way or easements will be obtained within the historic boundaries of the Bowen Farm.

At the historic John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House, the ditch width will be reduced to six feet and, if impacted, an electrical substation will be relocated directly across the roadway onto the same tax parcel but different historic property (Bowen Farm). No permanent right-of-way or easements will be obtained within the historic boundaries of the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House.

At the historic Wynn Home Place, large growth trees will not be impacted or trimmed, and fencing will be replaced in-kind or payment will be provided to the property owner. No permanent right-of-way or easements will be obtained from within the historic boundaries of the Wynn Home Place.

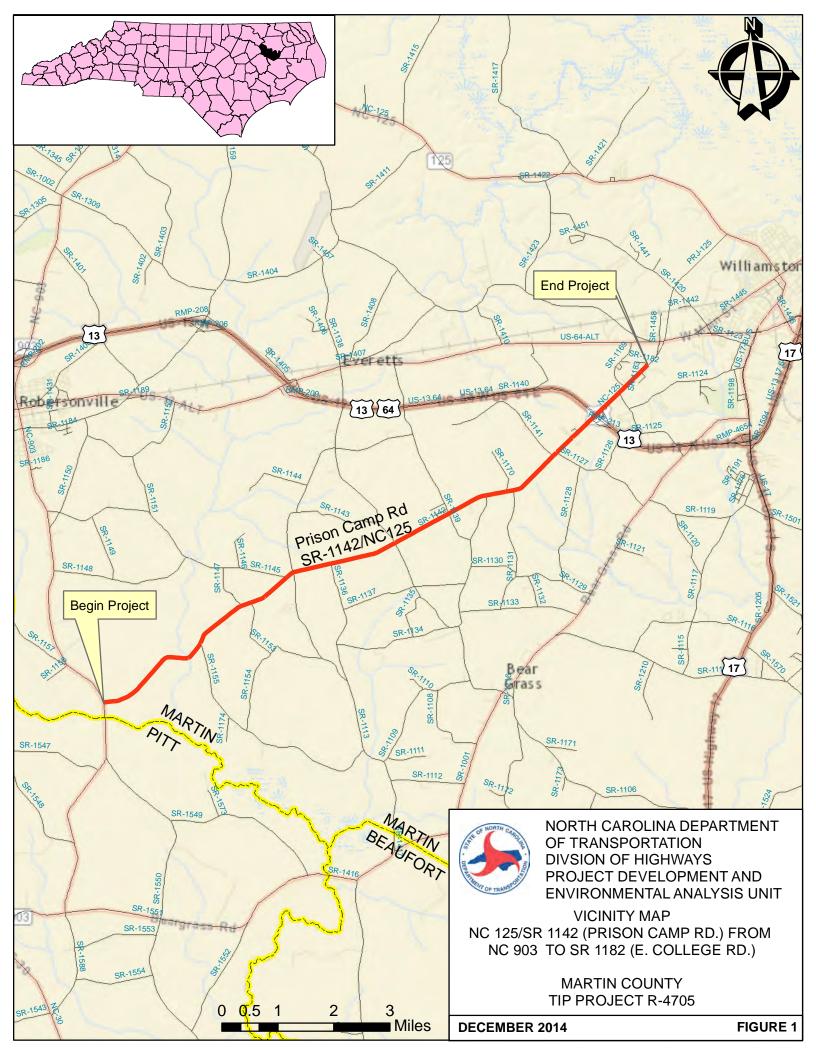
Only temporary easements will be obtained from the Godwin-Coppage Park property, no permanent easements or right-of-way will be obtained.

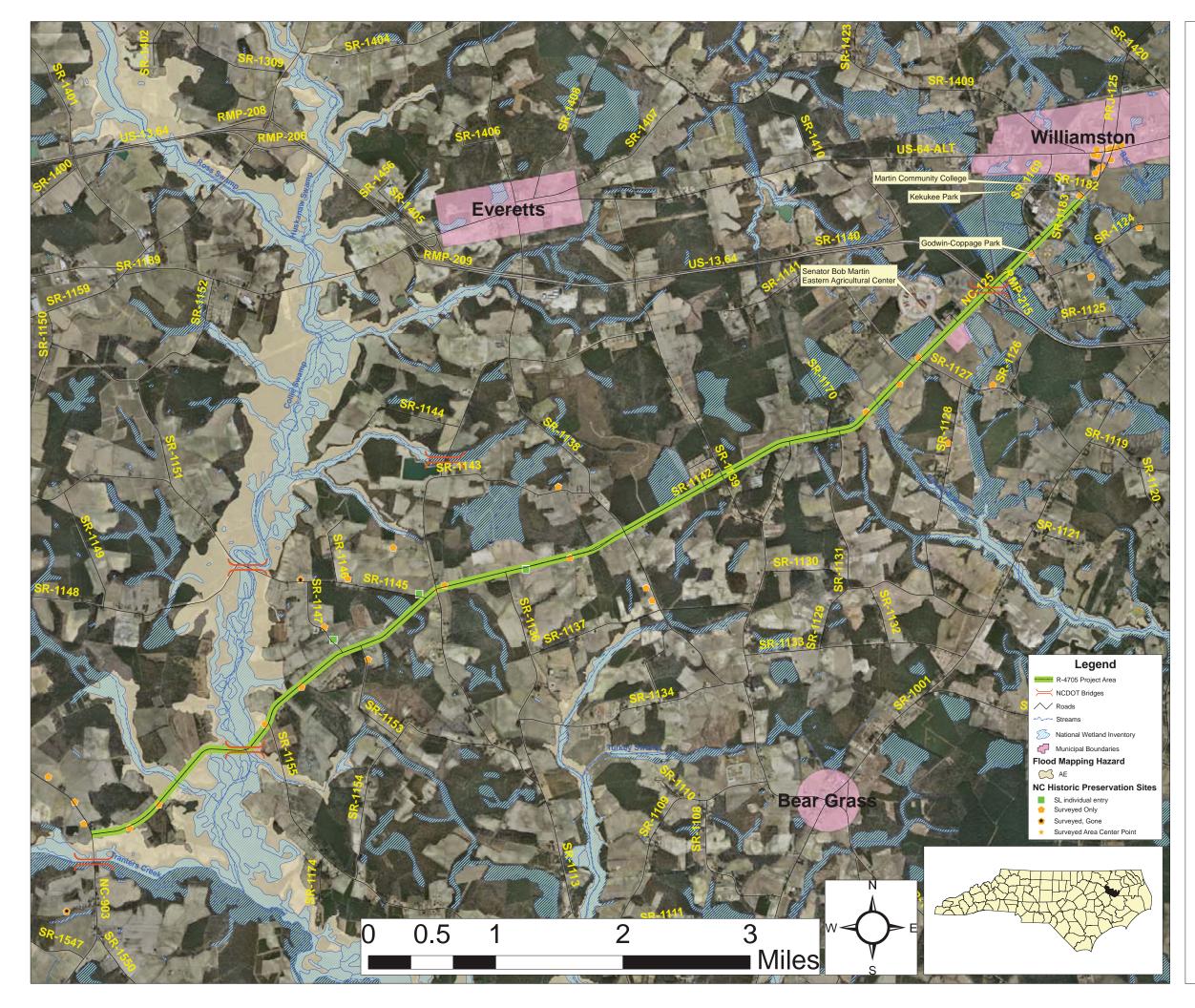
#### **NCDOT Project Development**

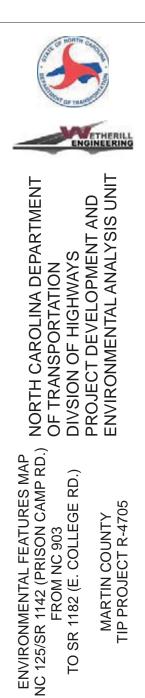
NCDOT will obtain a temporary non-conforming use permit from the National Park Service for the proposed temporary easement on the Godwin-Coppage Park property prior to requesting a temporary easement from the Town.

# I. Categorical Exclusion Approval

STIP Project No.	R-4705
WBS Element	38932.1.FD1
Federal Project No.	STP-1142(11)
Prepared By: 10/26/2017   2:32 PM E	6B0753EEBC0147D
	Richard B. Davis, P.E., Project Manager Vetherill Engineering, Inc.
	sion One Carolina Department of Transportation
<b>Reviewed By:</b> 10/26/2017   10:23 PM	EDT January PE
	Gillespie, P.E., Assistant Project Manager th Carolina Department of Transportation
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.
10/27/2017   6:51 AM E	0880E38DDE8141B
	es McInnis, Jr., P.E., Project Manager h Carolina Department of Transportation
<u>FHWA Approved:</u> For F requi	Projects Certified by NCDOT (above), FHWA signature red.
	F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator
Fede	ral Highway Administration







# County: Martin DIV: 1

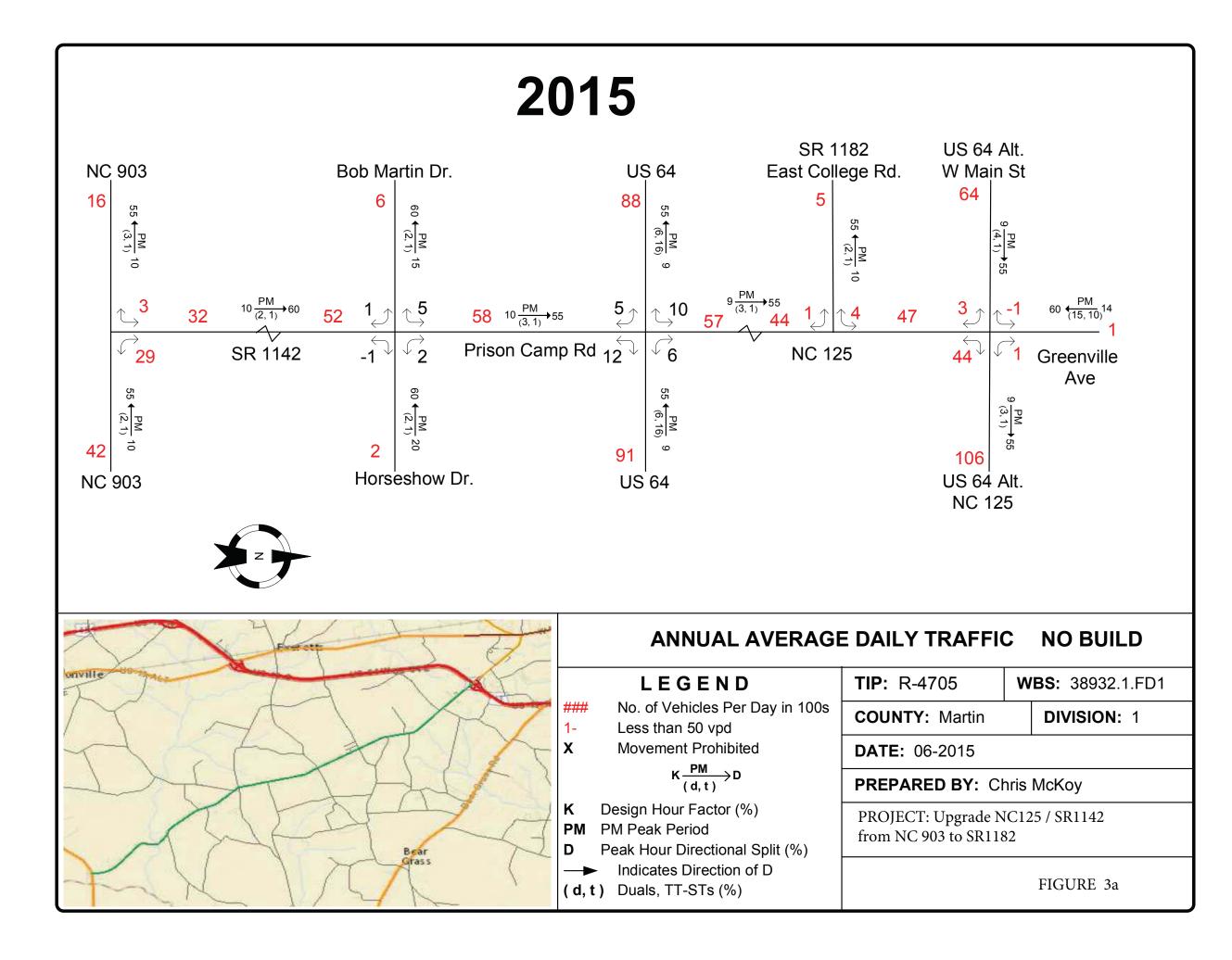
TIP # R-4705

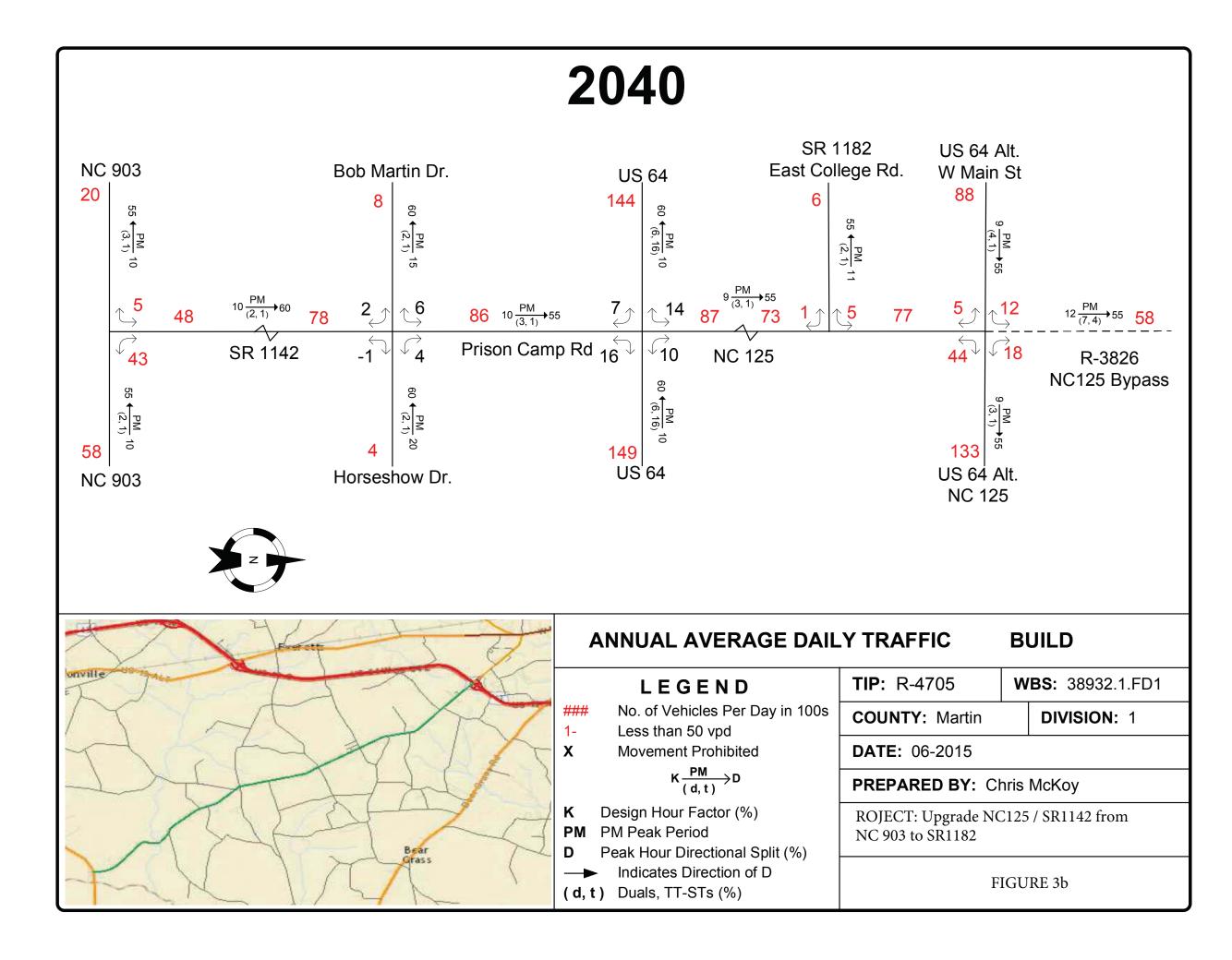
WBS: 38932.1.FD1

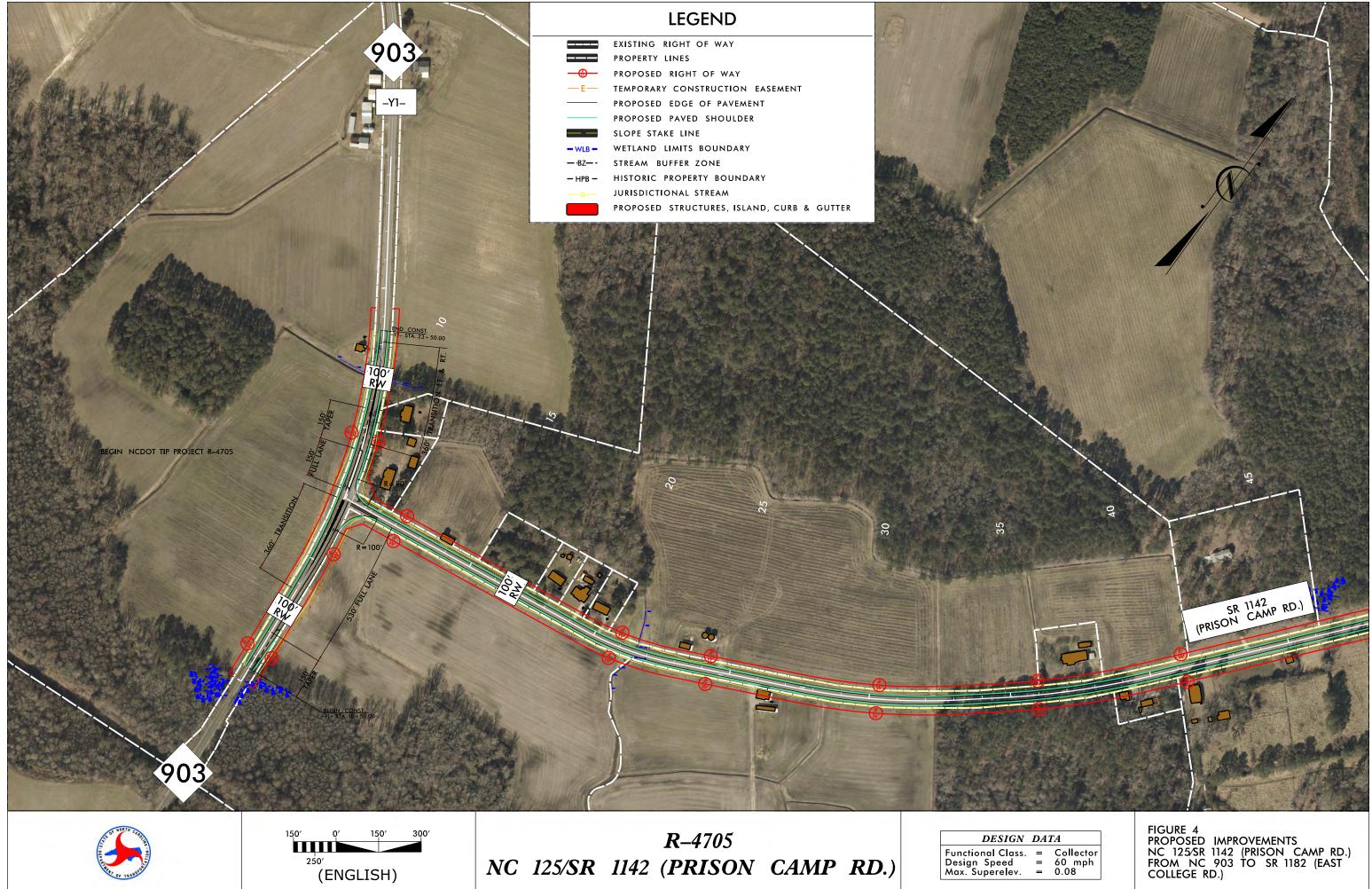
Dec. 2014

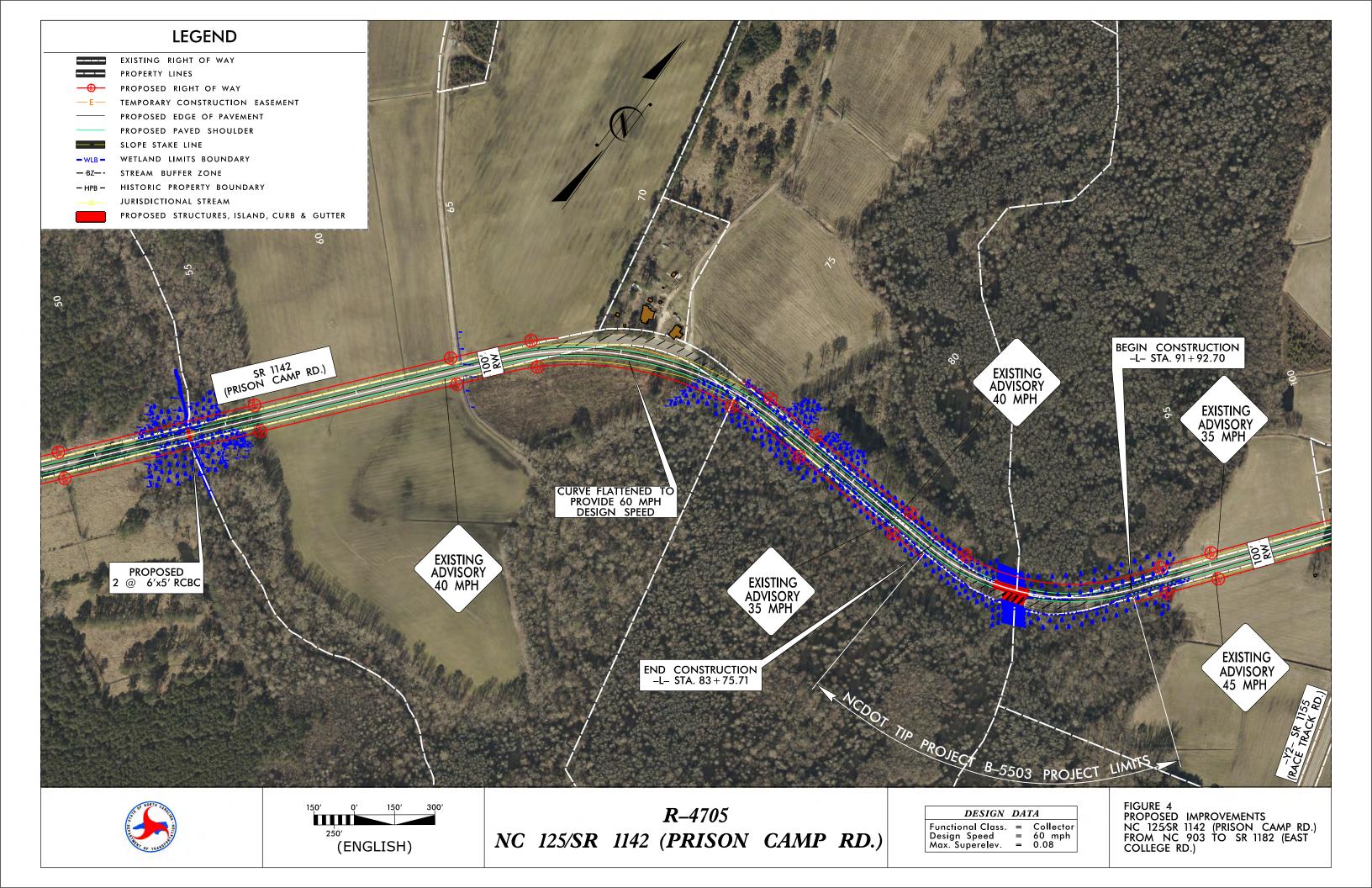
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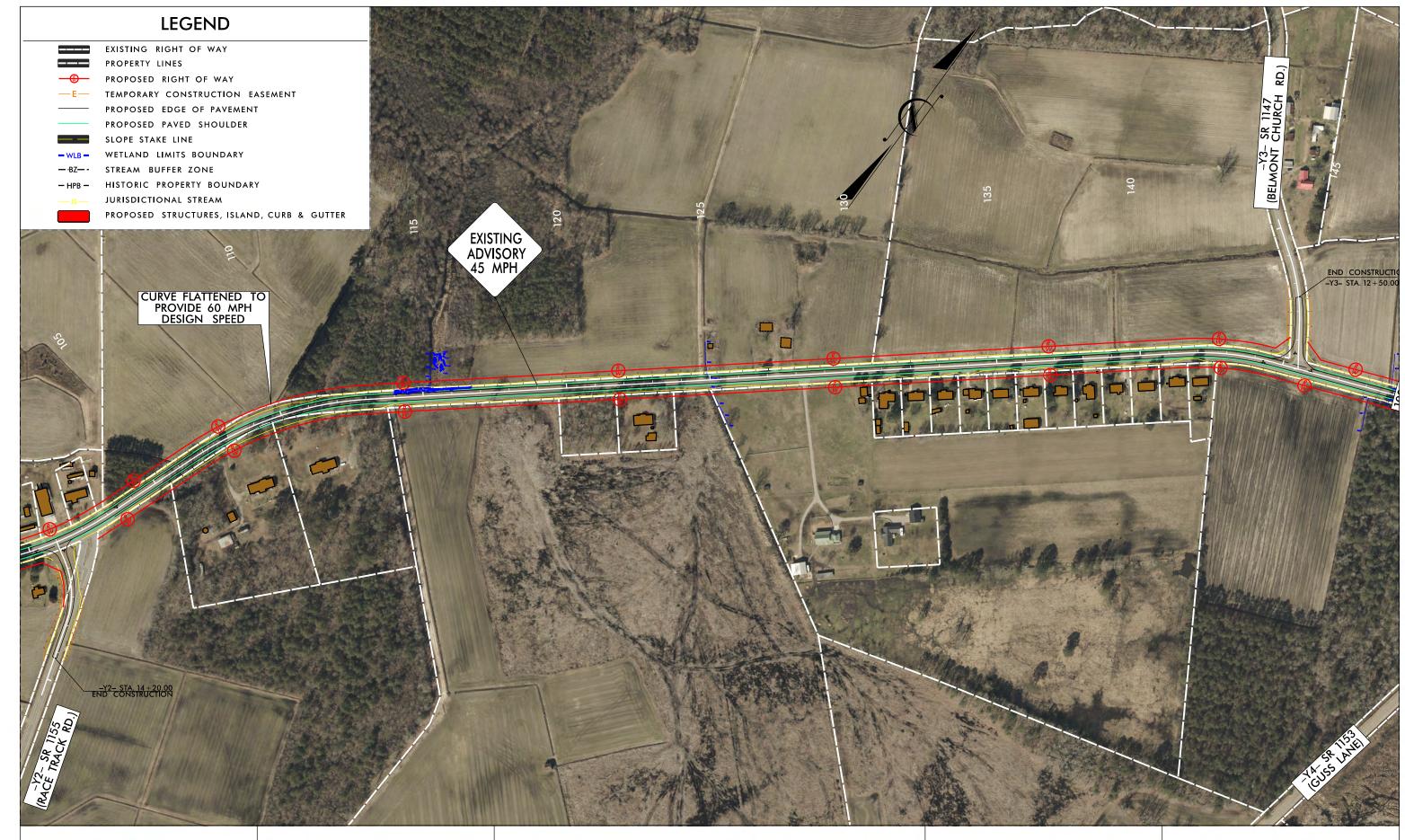
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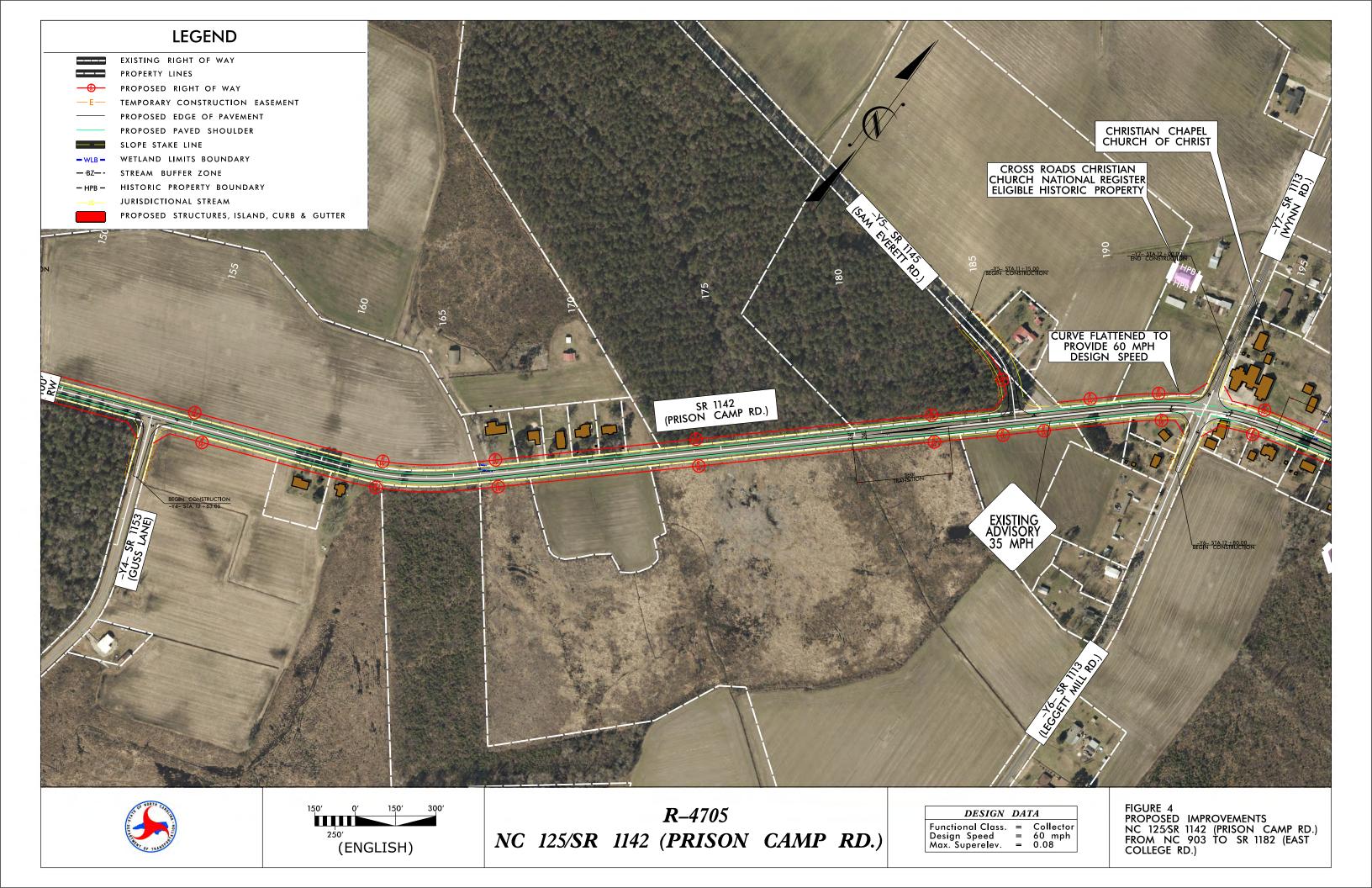


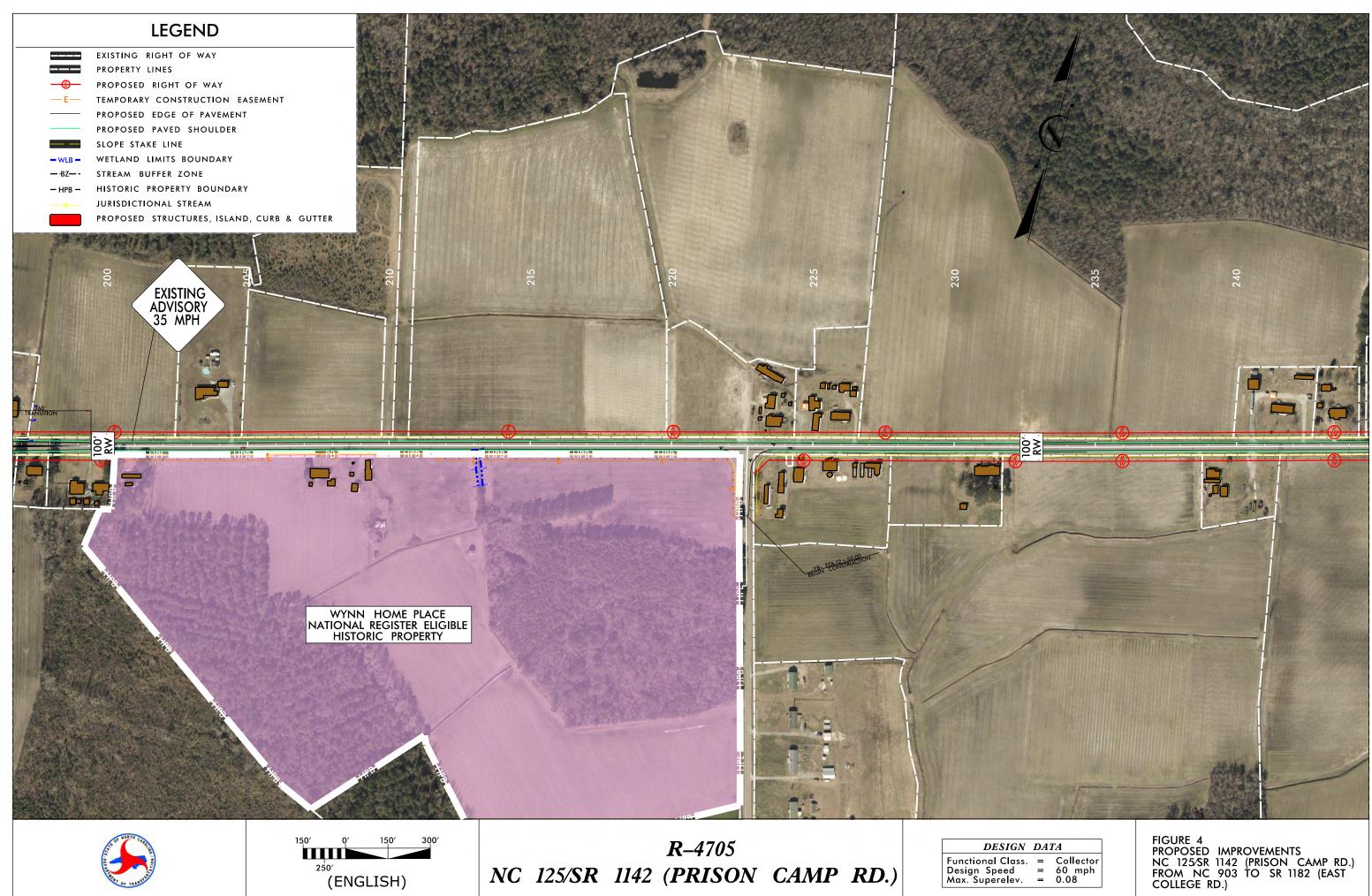


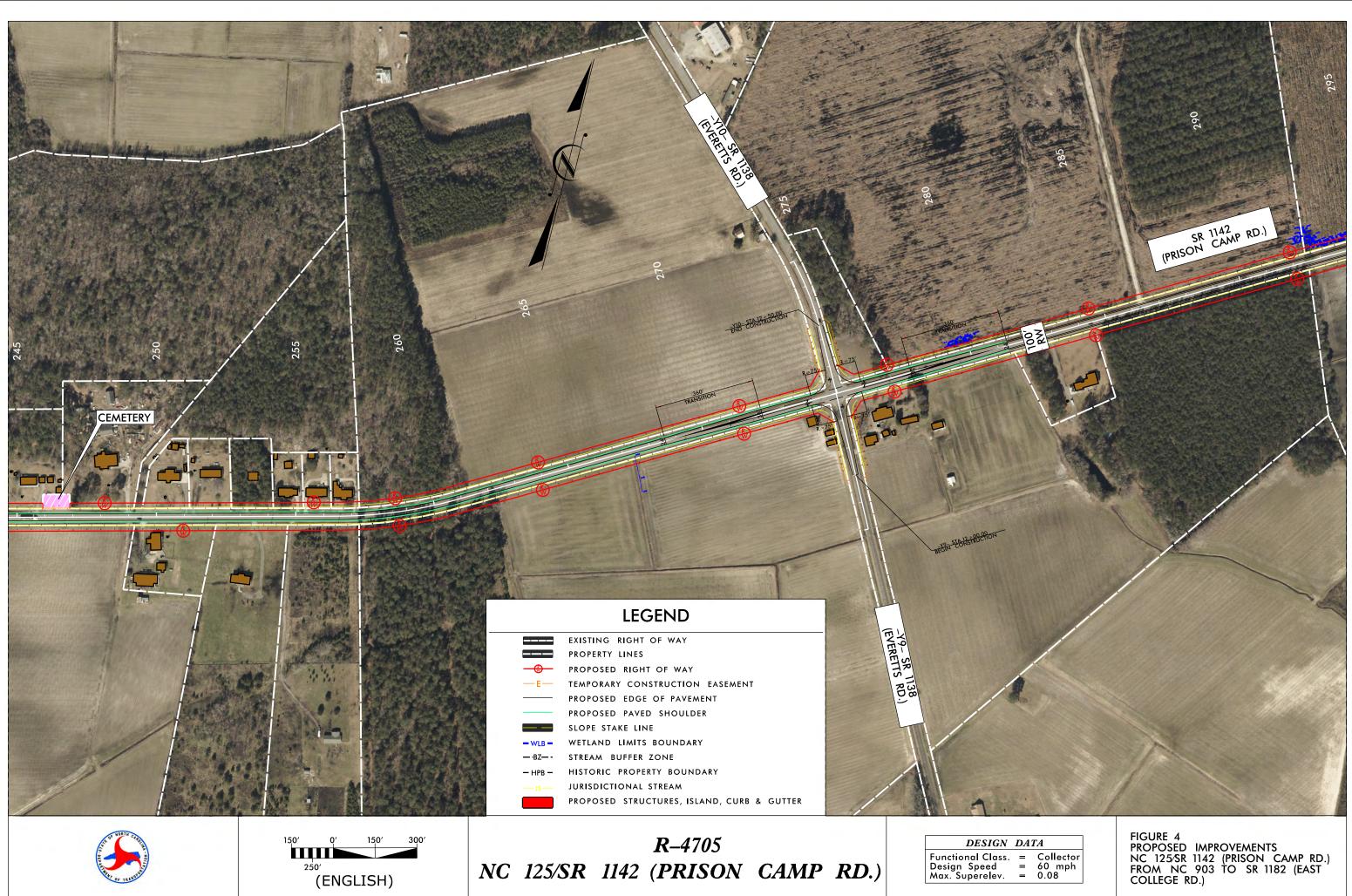
**R**–4705 NC 125/SR 1142 (PRISON CAMP RD.)

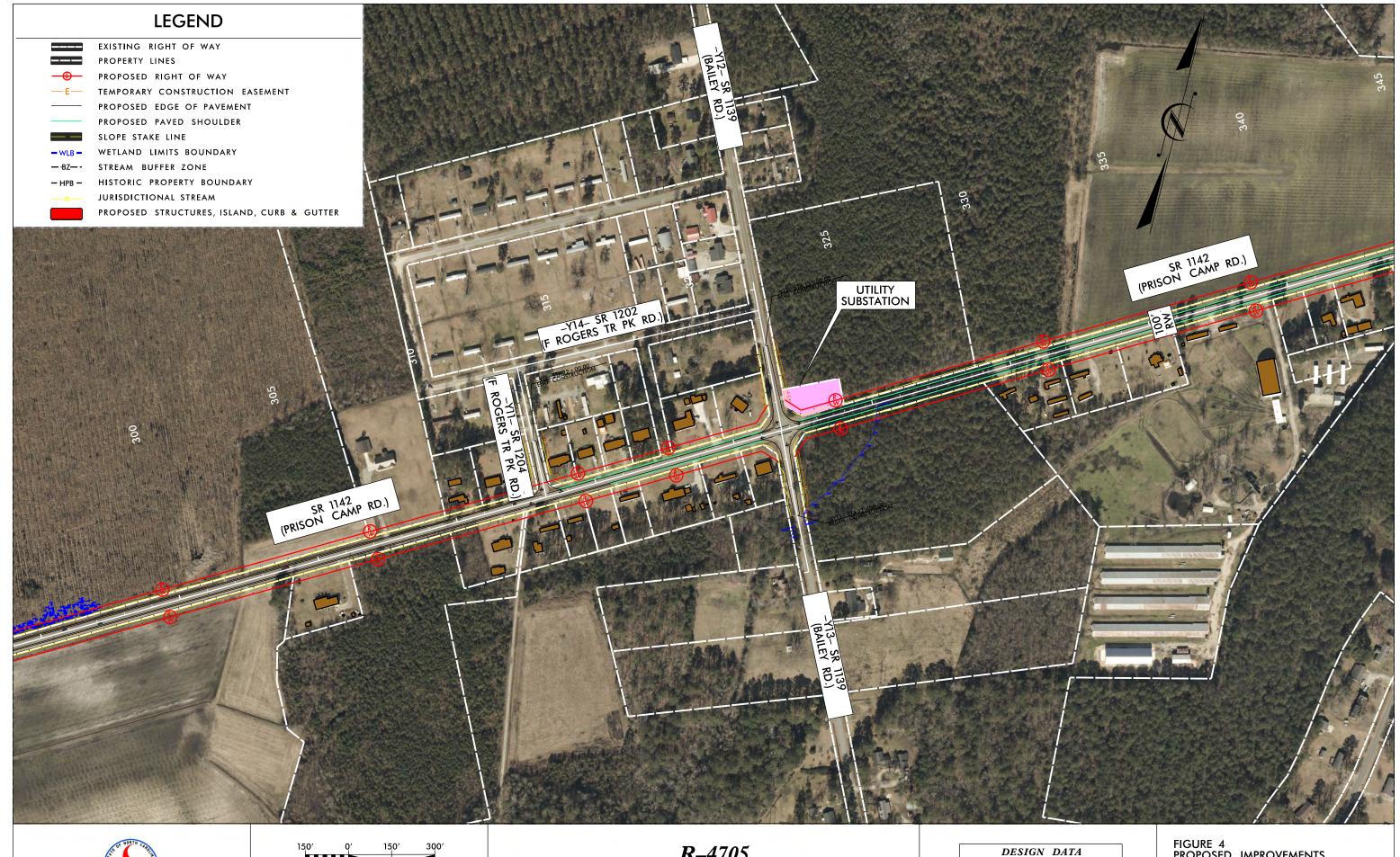
DESIGN DATA Functional Class. = Collector Design Speed = 60 mph Max. Superelev. = 0.08

FIGURE 4 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS NC 125/SR 1142 (PRISON CAMP RD.) FROM NC 903 TO SR 1182 (EAST COLLEGE RD.)









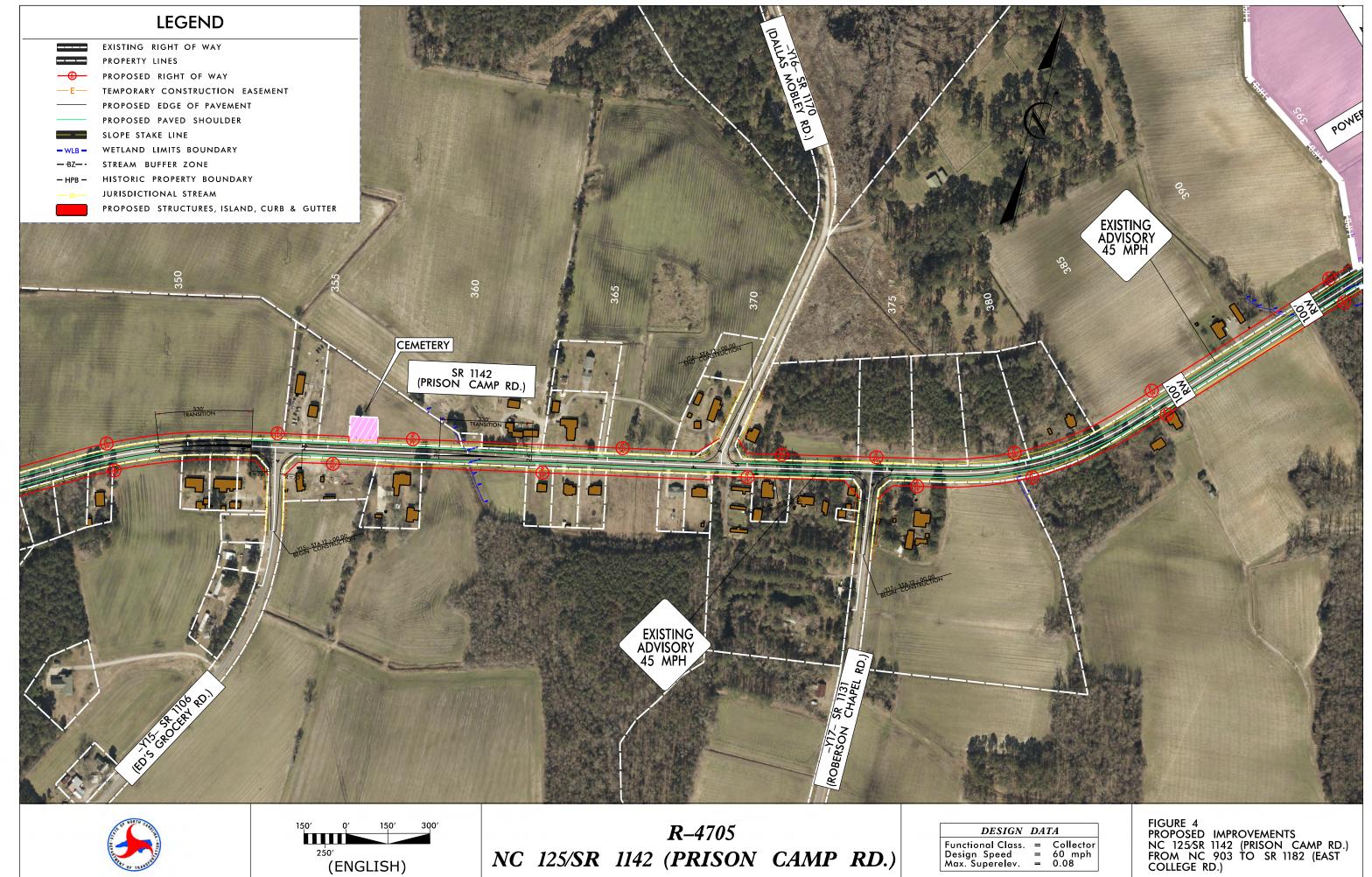


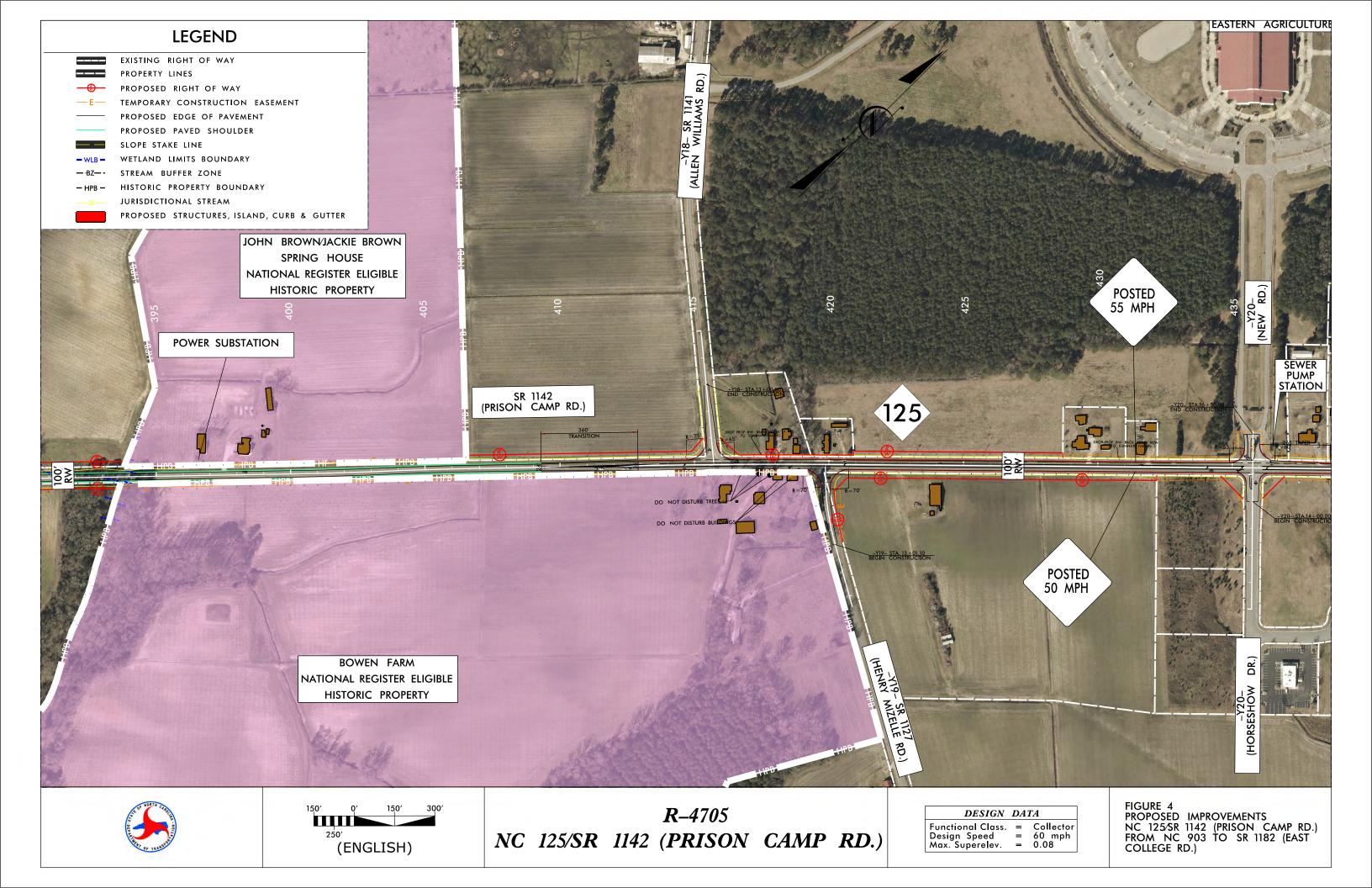


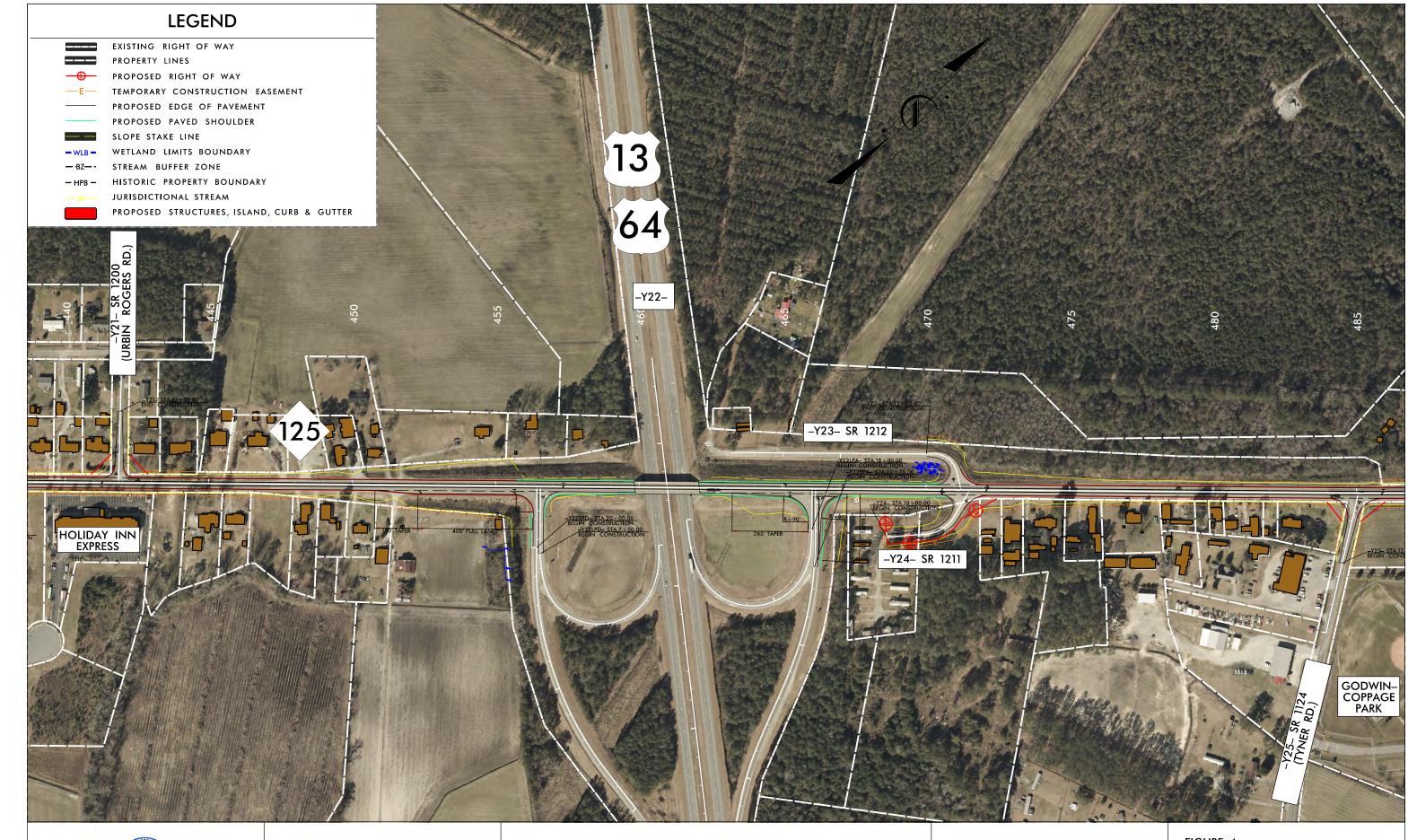
**R**–4705 NC 125/SR 1142 (PRISON CAMP RD.)

Functional Class. = Collector Design Speed = 60 mph Max. Superelev. = 0.08

FIGURE 4 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS NC 125/SR 1142 (PRISON CAMP RD.) FROM NC 903 TO SR 1182 (EAST COLLEGE RD.)







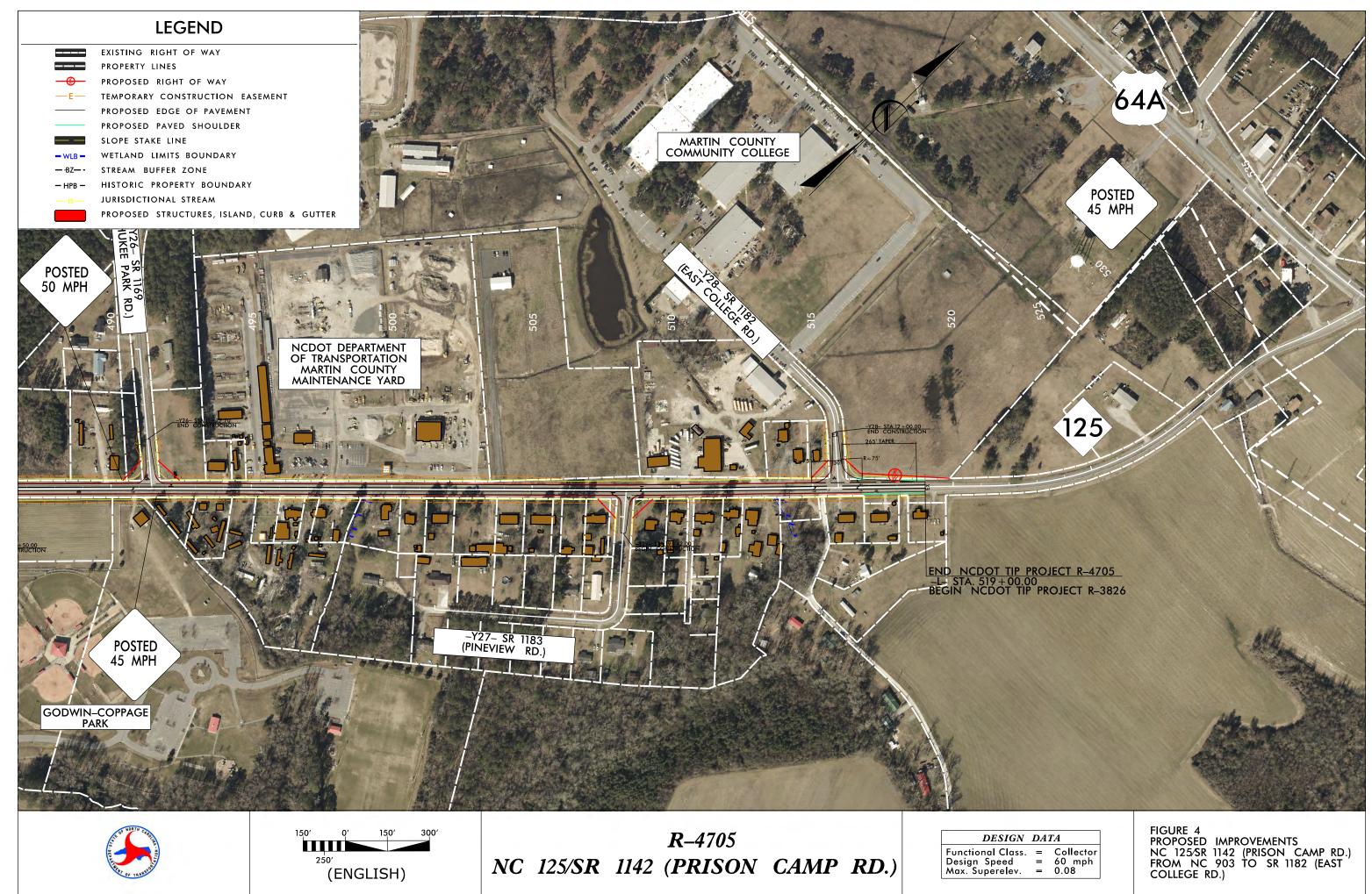


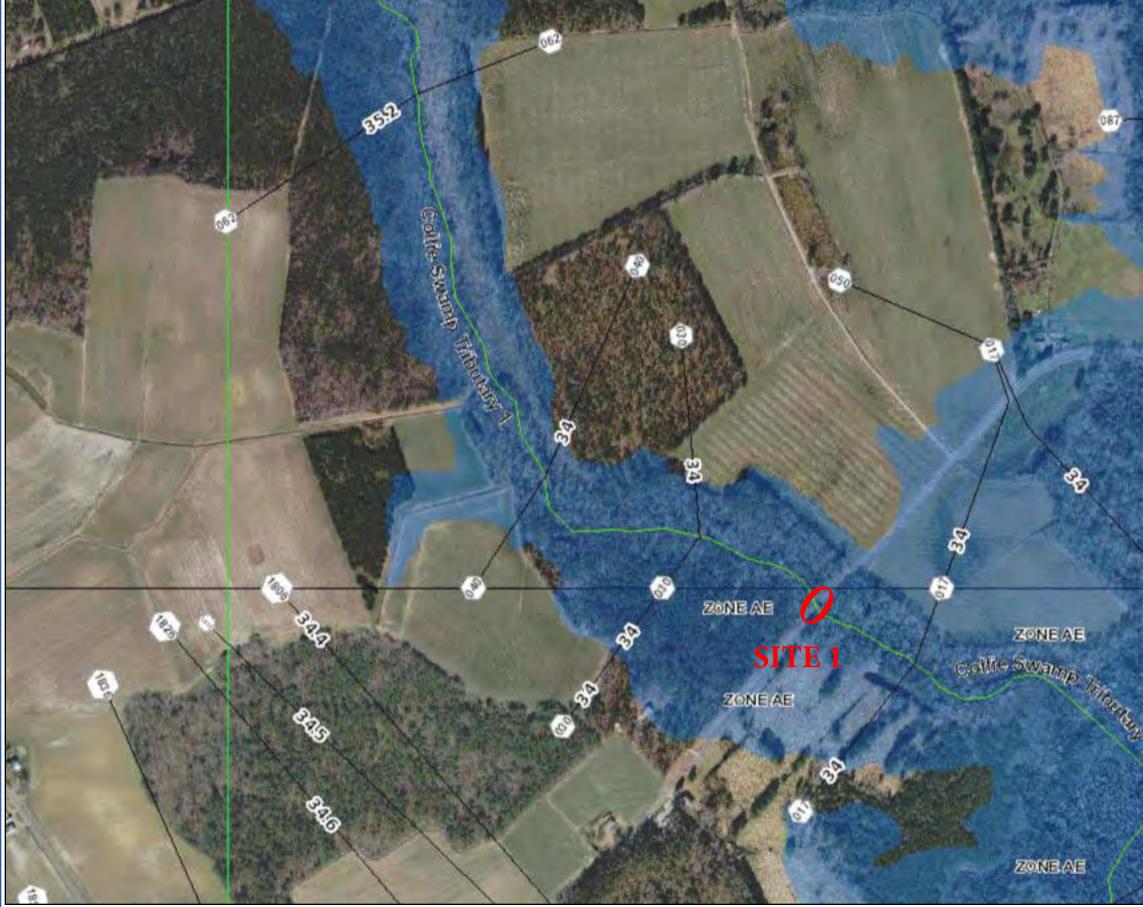


**R**–4705 NC 125/SR 1142 (PRISON CAMP RD.)

DESIGN DATA Functional Class. = Collector Design Speed = 60 mph Max. Superelev. = 0.08

FIGURE 4 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS NC 125/SR 1142 (PRISON CAMP RD.) FROM NC 903 TO SR 1182 (EAST COLLEGE RD.)



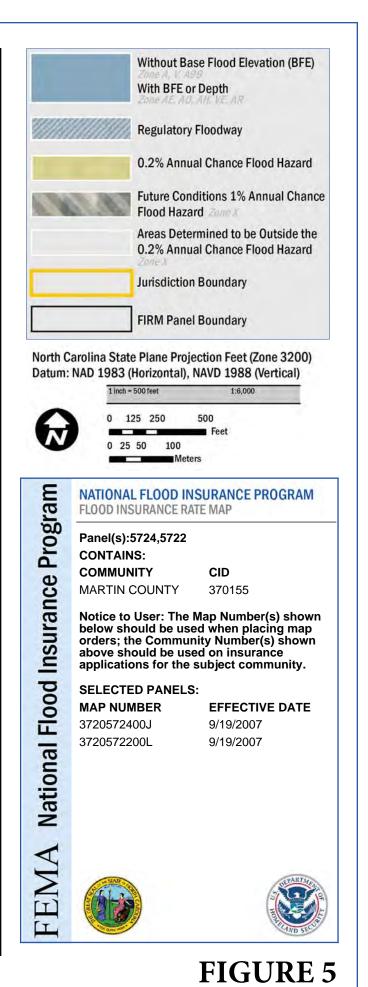


Northing: = 738,355, Easting = 2,523,838

Page 1 of 2

Northing: = 738,355, Easting = 2,529,943

This is an official copy of a portion of the above referenced flood map. This map incorporates changes or amendments which may have been made subsequent to the date on the title block. For the latest product information about National Flood Insurance Program flood maps check the FEMA Flood Map Store at www.msc.fema.gov.



# **APPENDIX A**



#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY WILMINGTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Washington Regulatory Field Office 2407 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street Washington, North Carolina 27889-1000

February 19, 2015

**Regulatory Division** 

Action ID No. SAW-2015-00345

IN REPLY REFER TO

Mr. Richard W. Hancock North Carolina Division of Transportation 1548 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1548

Dear Mr. Hancock:

Please reference your request for information regarding potential environmental impacts associated with the upgrading of North Carolina Highway 125/North Carolina State Road 1142 (Prison Camp Road) from an existing two lane road to a three lane roadway. The project has been assigned TIP Number R-4705. The proposed project is located on a 16.1 mile corridor north of the Martin/Pitt County line near Robersonville and ending southwest of Williamston in Martin County, North Carolina.

From the information provided in your letter and enclosed map, there appears to be jurisdictional waters including wetlands in the project area. We recommend that you have these wetlands delineated and this delineation confirmed. Pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Department of the Army permit authorization will be required for any discharge of excavated or fill material in waters of the United States, including wetlands, in conjunction with this project. Specific permit requirements will depend on design of the project, extent of fill work within waters, wetland areas (dimensions, fill amounts, etc.), construction methods, and other factors. It is likely that widening of the road will impact forested wetlands adjacent to several tributaries to the Roanoke and Tar Rivers. These areas are generally associated with riparian stream corridors and provide a number of benefits to receiving waters including the attenuation and desynchronization of flood events, improvements to water quality in downstream receiving waters, and the uptake and transformation of many biologically active compounds. In addition, these areas provide valuable wildlife habitat for a variety of birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles. You should be aware that we consider these wetlands and tributaries to be of high quality and therefore believe that all efforts should be undertaken to avoid and minimize impacts. These efforts should include lengthening bridges to avoid wetland and/or flood plain impacts, utilizing off-site detours, employing temporary work bridges during project construction, and the removal of any approach fills not necessary for the project. In addition, several of the tributaries may provide suitable spawning and foraging habitat for anadromous fish species and therefore consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service may be required.

Department of the Army (DA) permit authorization, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act of 1977, as amended, will be required for the discharge of excavated or fill material in waters of the United States or any adjacent or isolated wetlands in conjunction with this project, including disposal of construction debris. Under our mitigation policy, impacts to wetlands should first be avoided or minimized. We will then consider compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts. When final plans are completed, including the extent and location of any work in wetlands, our regulatory branch would appreciate the opportunity to review these plans for project-specific determinations of DA permit requirements.

Thank you for your time and cooperation. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at the Washington Regulatory Field Office, telephone (910) 251-4627. The Wilmington District is committed to providing the highest level of support to the public. To help us ensure we continue to do so, please complete the Customer Satisfaction Survey located at our website at <u>http://regulatory.usacesurvey.com/</u>.

Sincerely,

Tracey L. Wheeler Regulatory Project Manager Washington Regulatory Field Office



### **United States Department of the Interio**

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Raleigh Field Office Post Office Box 33726 Raleigh, North Carolina 27636-3726

February 25, 2015

EC

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OFFICE OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

2015

Richard W. Hancock North Carolina Department of Transportation Project Development and Environmental Analysis 1548 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1548

Dear Mr. Hancock:

This letter is in response to your request for comments from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on the potential environmental effects of the proposed improvements to NC 125/SR 1142 from NC 903 to SR 1182 in Martin County, North Carolina (TIP No. R-4705). These comments provide information in accordance with provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)) and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543).

The Service does not have any specific concerns for this project, but we recommend the following general conservation measures to avoid or minimize impacts to fish and wildlife resources:

- 1. Wetland, forest and designated riparian buffer impacts should be avoided and minimized to the maximum extent practical. Areas exhibiting high biodiversity or ecological value important to the watershed or region should be avoided. Highway projects should be aligned along or adjacent to existing roadways, utility corridors or other previously disturbed areas in order to minimize habitat loss and fragmentation. Highway shoulder and median widths should be reduced through wetland areas;
- 2. If unavoidable wetland or stream impacts are proposed, a plan for compensatory mitigation to offset unavoidable impacts should be provided early in the planning process;
- 3. Crossings of streams and associated wetland systems should use existing crossings and/or occur on a bridge structure wherever feasible. Bridges should be long enough to allow for sufficient wildlife passage along stream corridors. Where bridging is not feasible, culvert structures that maintain natural water flow and hydraulic regimes without scouring or impeding fish and wildlife passage should be employed;

- 4. Off-site detours should be used rather than construction of temporary, on-site bridges. For projects requiring an on-site detour in wetlands or open water, such detours should be aligned along the side of the existing structure which has the least and/or least quality of fish and wildlife habitat. At the completion of construction, the detour area should be entirely removed and the impacted areas be replanted with appropriate tree species;
- 5. In streams utilized by anadromous fish, the NCDOT policy entitled "Stream Crossing Guidelines for Anadromous Fish Passage" should be implemented;
- 6. Where possible, avoid the use of riprap on the top of the bank under bridges to allow for wildlife passage under the bridge;
- 7. "Best Management Practices (BMP) for Construction and Maintenance Activities" should be implemented;
- 8. Bridge designs should include provisions for roadbed and deck drainage to flow through a vegetated buffer prior to reaching the affected stream. This buffer should be large enough to alleviate any potential effects from run-off of storm water and pollutants;
- 9. Bridge designs should not alter the natural stream and stream-bank morphology or impede fish passage. To the extent possible, piers and bents should be placed outside the bank-full width of the stream; and
- 10. Bridges and approaches should be designed to avoid any fill that will result in damming or constriction of the channel or flood plain. If spanning the flood plain is not feasible, culverts should be installed in the flood plain portion of the approach to restore some of the hydrological functions of the flood plain and reduce high velocities of flood waters within the affected area.

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act requires that all federal action agencies (or their designated non-federal representatives), in consultation with the Service, insure that any action federally authorized, funded, or carried out by such agencies is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any federally threatened or endangered species. To assist you, a county-by-county list of federally protected species known to occur in North Carolina and information on their life histories and habitats can be found on our web page at http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/cntylist/nc\_counties.html.

Although the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NCNHP) database does not indicate any known occurrences of listed species near the project vicinity, use of the NCNHP data should not be substituted for actual field surveys if suitable habitat occurs near the project site. The NCNHP database only indicates the presence of known occurrences of listed species and does not necessarily mean that such species are not present. It may simply mean that the area has not been surveyed. If suitable habitat occurs within the project vicinity for any listed species, surveys should be conducted to determine presence or absence of the species.

If you determine that the proposed action may affect (i.e. likely to adversely affect or not likely to adversely affect) a listed species, you should notify this office with your determination, the

results of your surveys, survey methodologies and an analysis of the effects of the action on listed species, including consideration of direct, indirect and cumulative effects, before conducting any activities that might affect the species. If you determine that the proposed action will have no effect (i.e. no beneficial or adverse, direct or indirect effect) on listed species, then you are not required to contact our office for concurrence.

The Service appreciates the opportunity to comment on this project. If you have any questions regarding our response, please contact Mr. Gary Jordan at (919) 856-4520, ext. 32.

Sincerely,

Jarry Jordan for Pete Benjamin Field Supervisor



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory Secretary Susan Kluttz Office of Archives and History Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

March 12, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO:	Kim Gillespie, Project Planning Engineer
	NCDOT/PDEA

Renee Gledhill-Earley June Medhill-Earley FROM: Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Improvements to NC 125/SR 1142 from NC 903 to SR 1182, R-4705, Martin County, ER 15-0346

This memorandum is in response to Richard Hancock's February 11, 2015, letter asking that we provide information to assist in the scoping for the above-referenced transportation project.

There are no known archaeological sites within the proposed project area. Based on our knowledge of the area, it is unlikely that any archaeological resources that may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by the project. We, therefore, recommend that no archaeological investigation be conducted in connection with this project.

As there have been no architectural surveys in Martin County since the late 1970s, we recommend that an architectural historian undertake a survey of the Area of Potential Effects for the project as well as review any site that may be found on our GIS for historic structures.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or <u>environmental.review@ncdcr.gov</u>. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT Matt Wilkerson, NCDOT mfurr@ncdot.gov mtwilkerson@ncdot.gov



North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory Secretary Susan Kluttz Office of Archives and History Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

October 20, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Megan Privett Human Environment Unit NC Department of Transportation

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley Aree Medhill-Earley Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Historic Structures Survey Report for widening and upgrade NC 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road) from NC 903 to SR 1172 (East College Road), R-4705, Martin County, ER 15-0346

Thank you for your letter of August 25, 2015, transmitting the above-referenced report, which we have reviewed and provide comments.

We concur that the following properties are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places:

- Bowen Farm (MT0626) under Criteria A and C
- Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375) under Criterion A, Criteria Consideration A and B
- Wynn Home Place (MT0384) under Criteria A and C

The proposed boundaries appear appropriate.

We do not concur that the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032) is not eligible for the National Register, Rather, based on information in our files about the house's interiors, which appeared relatively intact with Greek Revival elements, we believe it is eligible for listing under Criterion C. It appears to be one of a few mid 19<sup>th</sup> century Greek Revival plantation houses left in Martin County. Barring information that the interiors have been altered or removed, we ask that you concur in our finding of eligibility and develop boundaries for the property.

We also concur that the remaining eight (8) properties addressed in the report are not eligible for listing in the National Register.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or <u>environmental.review@ncdcr.gov</u>. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT

mfurr@ncdot.gov





STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PAT MCCRORY GOVERNOR

October 22, 2015

Ms. Renee Gledhill-Earley Historic Preservation Office Department of Cultural Resources 4617 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4617

Dear Ms. Gledhill-Earley:

NICHOLAS J. TENNYSON ACTING SECRETARY

ER 15-0346 to scott

Due 11/19/15

RE: ER 15-0346, TIP No. R-4705, Eligibility Evaluation for widening and upgrading NC 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road) from NC 903 to SR 1172 (East College Road), Martin County

Thank you for your letter of October 20, 2015 with comments pertaining to the Historic Structures Survey Report for the above-referenced project.

We concur with your finding that the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032) is eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion C. We have developed boundaries for the historic property, outlined in red, which follow the tax parcel lines until the parcel is bisected by Prison Camp Road, after which the boundaries follow the right-ofway line for Prison Camp Road along the property's southeast boundary. The historic boundaries encompass approximately 52 acres including the John Brown/Jackie Brown Spring House, agricultural outbuildings, a spring, a family burial, and surrounding agricultural fields that were historically associated with the Brown family farm northwest of Prison Camp Road.

The historic boundaries for the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032) are enclosed for your review and comment per 36CFR.800. Please let us know if you have any additional questions regarding this project. I can be reached at (919) 707-6061 or by email at <u>mnprivett@ncdot.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

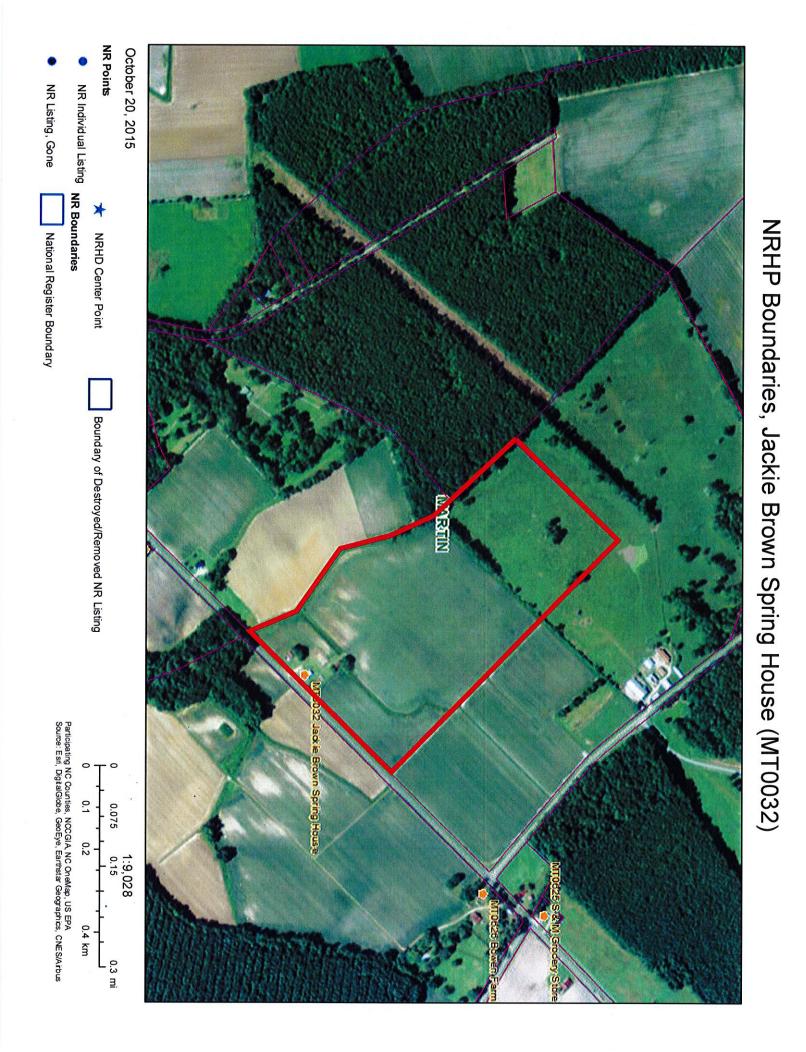
Megan Privett NCDOT Historic Architecture

Cc:

Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT Historic Architecture Kim Gillespie, NCDOT

MAILING ADDRESS: NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS 1548 MAIL SERVICE CENTER RALEIGH NC 27699-1548

TELEPHONE: 919-707-6000 FAX: 919-250-4224 WEBSITE: <u>HTTPS://CONNECT.NCDOT.GOV/RESOURCES/ENVIRON</u> <u>MENTAL/PAGES/DEFAULT.ASPX</u> LOCATION: CENTURY CENTER, BUILDING A 1000 BIRCH RIDGE DRIVE RALEIGH NC 27610





Attached are the proposed National Register boundaries for the "John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House." Since the original agricultural dependencies have been demolished and the resource is eligible under Criterion C, focus should be placed on establishing the boundaries which existed during or near the dwelling's date of construction. In 1845, 50 acres of land was passed from William and Mack Gilbert ("McG") Mobley to John H. Brown (MCDB N:304; MCWB 4:204; U.S. Census 1850). The boundaries then expanded to encompass 460 acres in 1860, after the dwelling was constructed. This expansive amount of land was likely farmed by slaves (Butchko 1998:462; U.S. Census 1860). The current tax parcel contains 193 acres. Approximately 141 acres lie on the south side of the road and were part of the 410 acres purchased by 1860 (Figure 1). These 141 acres were later sold to the Bowen family and currently contains the circa-1910 Bowen Farm (MT0626) (MCDB SSS:463,486). With the subtraction of these 141 acres from the current acreage, 52 acres remain, likely the original land purchased from the Mobleys (Figure 2). The proposed 52-acre NRHP boundary contains the "John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House," a portion of a stream, a pack house, two tobacco barns joined by a hyphen, three mid-twentieth century sheds, and while they were not found during the current survey, a family burial, a spring, and a corn barn.



Figure 1: The Current Tax Parcel containing 193 acres. Noted in yellow are the 141 acres which were not included in the original John H. Brown land acquisition in 1845 (Martin County GIS 2015).



North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

**State Historic Preservation Office** 

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory Secretary Susan Kluttz

November 9, 2015

# MEMORANDUM

- TO: Megan Privett Human Environment Unit NC Department of Transportation
- FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley aree Medhill-Earley Environmental Review Coordinator
- SUBJECT: Widen and upgrade SN 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road), R-4705, Martin County, ER 15-0346

Thank you for your October 22, 2015, letter providing us with proposed boundaries for the National Register-eligible John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032). We have reviewed the justification provided in your letter and concur that the 52-acre parcel proposed is an appropriate boundary.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or <u>environmental.review@ncdcr.gov</u>. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

cc: Mary Pope Furr, NCDOT

Office of Archives and History Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

Project Tracking No. (Internal Use)

15-02-0014



## HISTORIC ARCHICTECTURE AND LANDSCAPES ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS 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 INFORMATIC
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Project No:	R-4705	County:	Martin
WBS No.:	38932.1.FD1	Document Type:	CE
Fed. Aid No:	STP-1142(11)	Funding:	State Federal
Federal Permit(s):	Yes No	Permit Type(s):	USACE nationwide

# **Project Description**:

Upgrade and Widen NC 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road) from NC 903 to SR 1182 (East College Road) to an improved two-lane/three-lane roadway with 12 foot lanes and 2 foot shoulders. It is proposed to keep the existing ditch line wherever possible. There are several curves on the southwestern end of the project that may require flattening. Project length is 16.1 miles. Proposed right-of-way is 60-80 feet. Permanent and Temporary easements will be required.

#### SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHICTECTURE AND LANDSCAPES REVIEW Description of review activities, results, and conclusions:

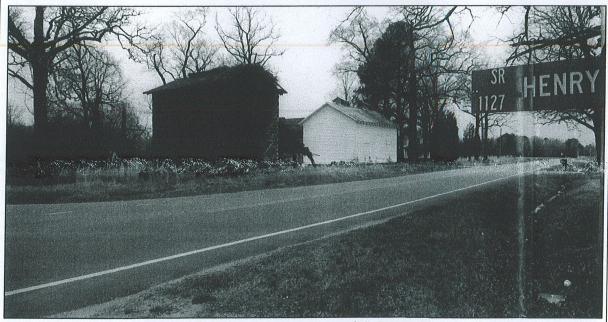
Review of HPO quad maps, HPOweb GIS mapping, historic designations roster, and indexes was conducted on 2/9/15. Based on this review, there are no existing NR, DE, or LD properties in the Area of Potential Effects (APE). However, there are ten surveyed sites (SS), and two study-listed (SL) properties within the APE, including several houses, farmsteads, a church, a former school house, and some stores. Additionally, there may be other properties over the age of fifty years old that fall into the APE in need of documentation. The most recent architectural survey of Martin County was conducted in 1992-93. A survey was required to assess potential historic sites within the APE for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as well as for potential effects from project construction activities. Furthermore, according to aerial GIS imagery, some of the surveyed sites appear to have been demolished and a survey will help to confirm whether they are extant or perhaps if the location on the NC HPOweb mapping is incorrect.

A field reconnaissance survey was conducted on March 23, 2015 during which several surveyed sites and previously unrecorded properties were documented and photographed. It was determined that further study was needed for multiple properties in order to determine NRHP-eligibility.

NCDOT contracted with Dovetail Cultural Resources Group to conduct an intensive level Historic Architecture and Landscapes EFFECTS ASSESSMENT form for Minor Transportation Projects as Qualified in the 2007 Programmatic Agreement. historic architectural NRHP-eligibility evaluation for twelve resources within the project APE. The report concluded that three of the twelve resources were eligible for the NRHP, the Bowen Farm (MT0626), the Wynn Home Place (MT0383) and the Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375). After further evaluation and consultation with the NC Historic Preservation Office (HPO), an additional fourth resource was also determined NRHP-eligible, the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032). For further information on the properties listed above please see the NRHP-Eligibility Evaluation report located in the project file.

NCDOT project engineers proposed design plans that widen and improve Prison Camp Road without acquiring any additional new right-of-way at each of the four NRHP-Eligible properties. Only easements will be used to conduct work within the historic property boundaries of the historic resources.

Moving from east to west, the first historic property within the APE is the Bowen Farm (MT0626). Two contributing outbuildings that help make up the complex sit fairly close to the roadway as seen in the photo below. Several trees also sit close, a few of which may be affected or removed, however, NCDOT seeks to protect the trees with orange construction fencing. The main house of the Bowen Farm complex shown in the first photo on page 3 sits farther back from the roadway and will not be affected by project activities. Curb and gutter is planned at the intersection with Henry Mizelle Road down to the intersection with Allen Williams Road due to the heavy amount of large vehicles and semi-trucks traveling this road with trailer attachments. The curb and gutter will minimize the impacts to contributing outbuildings that are part of the Bowen Farm. NCDOT does not anticipate a permanent drainage easement for this property. NCDOT will plan to widen away from the Bowen Farm to the east in order to avoid and minimize impacts to the property, resulting in a "No Adverse Effect."



Bowen Farm (MT0626), NRHP-Eligible under Criteria A and C, Prison Camp Road, Martin County, NC.

Historic Architecture and Landscapes EFFECTS ASSESSMENT form for Minor Transportation Projects as Qualified in the 2007 Programmatic Agreement. Page 2 of 7



Bowen Farm (MT0626), main house, Prison Camp Road, Martin County, NC.

The John Brown/Jackie Brown Spring House is located just southwest of the Bowen Farm on the opposite side of Prison Camp Road. It shares a tax parcel with the Bowen Farm as well.

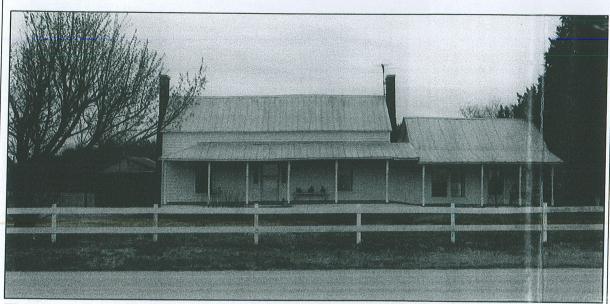


John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House (MT0032), NRHP-Eligible under Criterion C, Prison Camp Road, Martin County, NC.

The Wynn Home Place (MT0384) is the next property that falls within the project APE. Its historic property boundary also follows its tax parcel and follows the existing right-of-way. One contributing grouping of outbuildings, the Packhouse, Machine Shed, and Corn Barn, sits fairly close to the roadway. The fencing (shown in the photo below) may be affected. The most concerning impact associated with this historic property is the possible removal of the utility pole.....



Wynn Home Place (MT0384), NRHP-Eligible under Criteria A and C, Prison Camp Road, Martin County, NC.



Wynn Home Place (MT0384) main house, Prison Camp Road, Martin County, NC.

Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375) is located far enough outside of construction activities that it will not be affected by the project. Its historic property boundary does not follow the tax parcel; they encircle the building itself and are set back (west) off of Wynn Road.



Cross Roads Christian Church (MT0375), NRHP-Eligible under Criteria A with Criteria Considerations A and B, Wynn Road, Martin County, NC.

			IL VI LILI						
	Bowen Farm		Status:	NRHP-Eligible					
Survey Site No.:	MT0626		PIN:	5755-8	35-5712				
Effects		No Adver	rse Effect		Adverse Effect				

## **ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS**

#### **Explanation of Effects Determination:**

The Bowen Farm will have temporary construction easements as shown on the design plan sheets. The use of curb and gutter from the intersection with Henry Mizelle Road to the intersection with Allen Williams Road will allow for impacts to the Bowen Farm outbuildings to be avoided. Because the standard 10 foot berm will be reduced to 4 feet and NCDOT will provide protective measures for the trees on the historic property, a "No Adverse Effect" has been determined. There will be no change of access to the property. There will be some right-ofway acquired from the tax parcel and historic property boundary for a power substation at the far southwest portion that currently consists of cleared agricultural fields, but it does not adversely affect the historic property.

#### List of Environmental Commitments:

-Reduce berm to 4 feet from standard 10 feet

-orange construction fencing placed around trees closest to the fill line/slope-stake line -no permanent drainage easement

Property Name:	John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House	Status:	NRHP-Eligible		
Survey Site No.:	MT0032 PIN:		5755-85-5712		
Effects	🛛 No Adve	erse Effect	Adverse Effect		

# **Explanation of Effects Determination:**

Temporary easements will be utilized at the John Brown House/Jackie Brown Spring House and no right-of-way will be acquired, with the ditch being reduced to 6 feet. One small tree sitting closest to the roadway at the cut/fill line may be impacted. The power substation that currently sits in front of one of the contributing outbuildings will be relocated to across the road onto the same tax parcel (but different historic property boundary). None of these actions described above will result in an Adverse Effect.

# List of Environmental Commitments:

-The slope-stake line will be reduced to 6 feet

-substation will be relocated directly across the roadway onto the same tax parcel but different historic property (Bowen Farm).

Property Name:	Wynn Home Place	Status:	NRHP-Eligible
Survey Site No.:	MT0384	PIN:	5744-07-7772
Effects	No A	dverse Effect	Adverse Effect

# **Explanation of Effects Determination**:

The Wynn Home Place will have temporary construction easements (likely around 10 feet) and no right-of-way will be acquired from the historic property (unless there is a permanent utility easement). If the wooden fencing is affected, it will either be replaced in-kind or payment made from NCDOT to the property owner for replacement.

### 3 options:

- 1. Move the pole to across the street
- 2. Leave the pole in its current place and shift the roadway away from the Wynn Home Place
- 3. Move the pole a couple of feet and use a permanent offset arm where the utility lines will not move

### List of Environmental Commitments:

-Large growth trees will not be impacted or trimmed -Replace fencing in-kind or provide payment to property owner

Historic Architecture and Landscapes EFFECTS ASSESSMENT form for Minor Transportation Projects as Qualified in the 2007 Programmatic Agreement. Page 6 of 7

Property Name:	Cross Roads Christian Church	Status:	NRHP-Eligibl	le
Survey Site No.:	MT0375	PIN:	5734-78-8636	i
Effects	🗌 No Adv	verse Effect	A	dverse Effect
There will be no co	<i>fects Determination</i> : onstruction work or widenir hurch. It will not be affected			acent to the Cross
List of Environme	ntal Commitments:			
minimis" finding	use the State Historic Pro for the following propertion m (MT0626) and Wynn H	es, pursuan	t to Section 4(f):	as a basis for a "o
	SUPPORT D	OCUMEN	ΓΑΤΙΟΝ	
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Historic Architecture and Landscapes EFFECTS ASSESSMENT form for Minor Transportation Projects as Qualified in the 2007 Programmatic Agreement. Page 7 of 7

15-02-0014



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 INFORMATION**

Project No:	<b>R-4705</b>		County:	Martin	
WBS No:	38932.1.FD1		Document:	CE	
F.A. No:	STP-1142(11)		Funding:	State	🛛 Federal
Federal Permit Required	?	Xes [	] No Permit Ty	pe: <b>?</b>	

**Project Description:** NCDOT intends to upgrade NC 125/SR 1142, Prison Camp Roadto an improved two-lane/three-lane facility with 12-foot lanes and 2-foot shoulders from NC 903 to SR 1182, East College Road. The project length is estimated at 16.1 miles (slightly more than 25.91 kilometers). Existing right-of-way (ROW) is 60 feet (nearly 18.29 meters) wide; proposed ROW will vary between 60 and 80 feet (between 18.29 and 24.39 meters) wide. The Request for Cultural Resources Review form states that existing ditchlines will be kept wherever possible, but that "there are several curves on the southernmost end of the project that may require flattening). For the purposes of the current archaeological review the area of potential effects (APE) is estimated to encompass 156.12 acres (63.18 hectares).

# SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES REVIEW: SURVEY REQUIRED

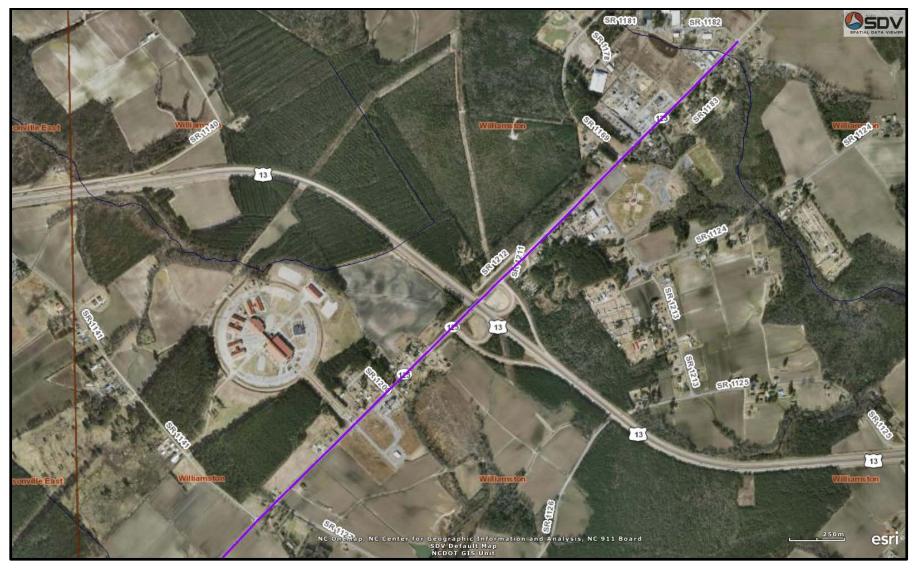
### Brief description of review activities, results of review, and conclusions:

A review of the site maps and files archived at the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology was conducted on March 5, 2015. While no previously identified archaeological sites are recorded within the proposed APE, there are a handful of archaeological sites in the area that are located in settings similar to those crossed by Prison Camp Road. No National Register-listed historic properties border the current APE, but there are several recorded historic properties that are either on the current Study List or have yet to be assessed. These properties may also be associated with archaeological deposits. An archaeological reconnaissance survey will be required to further establish the potential for significant archaeological resources to be impacted by the project as proposed.

#### SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

See attached:	Map(s) Other:	Previous	s Survey Info [	Photos	Correspondence
FINDING B	Y NCDOT A	ARCHAEOL	OGIST – <i>SL</i>	VRVEYREQ	UIRED
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Alm (	. Fhis				March 9, 2015
NCDOT ARC	CHAEOLOG	GIST			Date

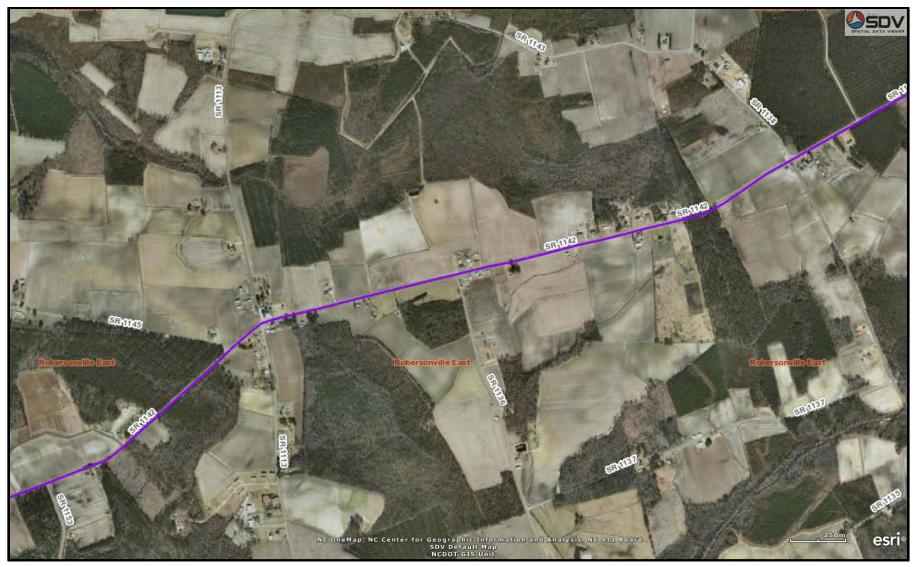
Proposed fieldwork completion date



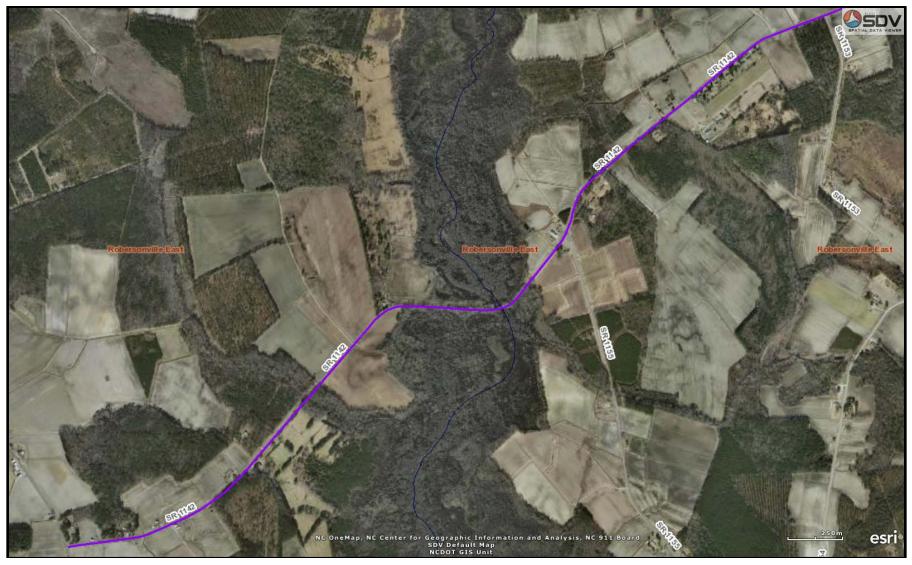
Aerial photograph of the NC 125 section of Prison Camp Road, between SR 1182 and SR 1141.



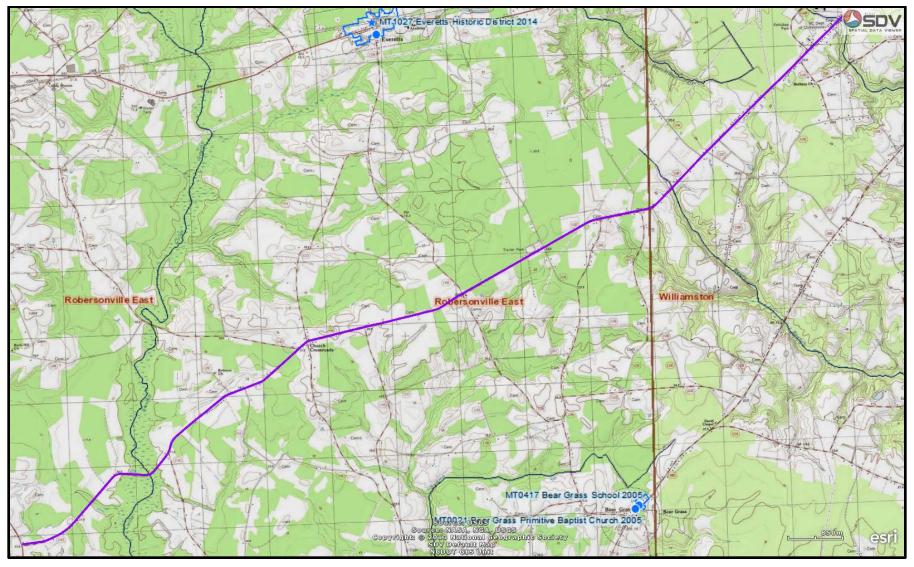
Aerial photograph of the section of SR 1142, Prison Camp Road, between SR 1141 and SR 1138.



Aerial photograph of the section of SR 1142, Prison Camp Road, between SR 1138 and SR 1153.



Aerial photograph of the section of SR 1142, Prison Camp Road, between SR 1153 and NC 903.



Detail of the USGS Robersonville East, NC (1981) and Williamston, NC (1982) quadrangles, 7.5-minute series topographic maps illustrating the location of the relevant sections of NC 125 and SR 1142.



Pat McCrory Governor Donald van der Vaart Secretary

March 3, 2015

#### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Kim Gillespie, NCDOT

From: David Wainwright, NC Division of Water Resources, Central Office

Subject: Scoping comments on proposed improvements to NC 125/SR 1142 (Prison Camp Road) from NC 903 to SR 1182 (East College Road) in Martin County, Federal Aid Project No. STP-1142(11), TIP R-4705

Reference your correspondence dated February 11, 2015 in which you requested comments for the referenced project. Preliminary analysis of the project reveals the potential for multiple impacts to streams and jurisdictional wetlands in the project area. More specifically, impacts to:

Stream Name	River Basin	Stream Classification	Stream Index Number	2014 303(d) Listing
UTs to Collie Swamp	Pamlico	C;Sw,NSW	28-103-4	None
Collie Swamp	Pamlico	C;Sw,NSW	28-103-4	None
UTs to Turkey Swamp	Pamlico	C;Sw,NSW	28-103-5	None
Ready Branch	Roanoke	С	23-50-1	None
Uts to Ready Branch	Roanoke	С	23-50-1	None
Dog Branch	Roanoke	С	23-50-1-1	None

Further investigations at a higher resolution should be undertaken to verify the presence of other streams and/or jurisdictional wetlands in the area. In the event that any jurisdictional areas are identified, the Division of Water Resources requests that NCDOT consider the following environmental issues for the proposed project:

#### **Project Specific Comments:**

1. Collie Swamp, Turkey Swamp, and UTs associated with both are class C;Sw, NSW waters of the State. The NCDWR is very concerned with sediment and erosion impacts that could result from this project. The NCDWR recommends that highly protective sediment and erosion control BMPs be implemented to reduce the risk of nutrient runoff to these surface waters. Additionally, to meet the requirements of NCDOT's NPDES permit NCS0000250, the NCDWR requests that road design plans provide treatment of the storm water runoff through best management practices as detailed in the most recent version of the *North Carolina Department of Transportation Stormwater Best Management Practices Toolbox* manual.

This project is partially within the Tar-Pamlico River Basin. Riparian buffer impacts should be avoided and minimized to the greatest extent possible pursuant to 15A NCAC 2B .0259. New development activities located in the protected 50-foot wide riparian areas within the basin should be limited to "uses" identified within and constructed in accordance with 15A NCAC .02B .0259. Buffer mitigation may be required for buffer impacts resulting from activities classified as "allowable with mitigation" within the "Table of Uses" section of the Buffer Rules or require a variance under the Buffer Rules. A buffer mitigation plan, including use of the NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program, must be provided to the NCDWR prior to approval of the Water

1617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1617 Phone: 919-807-6300 \ Internet: www.ncdenr.gov Quality Certification. Buffer mitigation may be required for buffer impacts resulting from activities classified as "allowable with mitigation" within the "Table of Uses" section of the Buffer Rules or require a variance under the Buffer Rules. A buffer mitigation plan, including use of the NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program, must be provided to the NCDWR prior to approval of the Water Quality Certification.

#### **General Project Comments:**

- The environmental document should provide a detailed and itemized presentation of the proposed impacts to wetlands and streams with corresponding mapping. If mitigation is necessary as required by 15A NCAC 2H.0506(h), it is preferable to present a conceptual (if not finalized) mitigation plan with the environmental documentation. Appropriate mitigation plans will be required prior to issuance of a 401 Water Quality Certification.
- 2. Environmental document alternatives should consider design criteria that reduce the impacts to streams and wetlands from storm water runoff. These alternatives should include road designs that allow for treatment of the storm water runoff through best management practices as detailed in the most recent version of NCDWR's *Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual*, July 2007, such as grassed swales, buffer areas, preformed scour holes, retention basins, etc.
- 3. After the selection of the preferred alternative and prior to an issuance of the 401 Water Quality Certification, the NCDOT is respectfully reminded that they will need to demonstrate the avoidance and minimization of impacts to wetlands (and streams) to the maximum extent practical. In accordance with the Environmental Management Commission's Rules (15A NCAC 2H.0506[h]), mitigation will be required for impacts of greater than 1 acre to wetlands. In the event that mitigation is required, the mitigation plan shall be designed to replace appropriate lost functions and values. The NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program may be available for use as wetland mitigation.
- 4. In accordance with the Environmental Management Commission's Rules (15A NCAC 2H.0506[h]), mitigation will be required for impacts of greater than 150 linear feet to any single stream. In the event that mitigation is required, the mitigation plan shall be designed to replace appropriate lost functions and values. The NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program may be available for use as stream mitigation.
- 5. Future documentation, including the 401 Water Quality Certification Application, should include an itemized listing of the proposed wetland and stream impacts with corresponding mapping.
- 6. The NCDWR is very concerned with sediment and erosion impacts that could result from this project. The NCDOT should address these concerns by describing the potential impacts that may occur to the aquatic environments and any mitigating factors that would reduce the impacts.
- 7. The NCDOT is respectfully reminded that all impacts, including but not limited to, bridging, fill, excavation and clearing, and rip rap to jurisdictional wetlands, streams, and riparian buffers need to be included in the final impact calculations. These impacts, in addition to any construction impacts, temporary or otherwise, also need to be included as part of the 401 Water Quality Certification Application.
- 8. Where streams must be crossed, the NCDWR prefers bridges be used in lieu of culverts. However, we realize that economic considerations often require the use of culverts. Please be advised that culverts should be countersunk to allow unimpeded passage by fish and other aquatic organisms. Moreover, in areas where high quality wetlands or streams are impacted, a bridge may prove preferable. When applicable, the NCDOT should not install the bridge bents in the creek, to the maximum extent practicable.
- 9. Whenever possible, the NCDWR prefers spanning structures. Spanning structures usually do not require work within the stream or grubbing of the streambanks and do not require stream channel realignment. The horizontal and vertical clearances provided by bridges should allow for human and wildlife passage beneath the structure. Fish passage and navigation by canoeists and boaters should not be blocked. Bridge supports (bents) should not be placed in the stream when possible.

- 10. Bridge deck drains should not discharge directly into the stream. Stormwater should be directed across the bridge and pre-treated through site-appropriate means (grassed swales, pre-formed scour holes, vegetated buffers, etc.) before entering the stream. Please refer to the most current version of NCDWR's *Stormwater Best Management Practices*.
- 11. Sediment and erosion control measures should not be placed in wetlands or streams.
- 12. Borrow/waste areas should avoid wetlands to the maximum extent practical. Impacts to wetlands in borrow/waste areas will need to be presented in the 401 Water Quality Certification and could precipitate compensatory mitigation.
- 13. The 401 Water Quality Certification application will need to specifically address the proposed methods for stormwater management. More specifically, stormwater should not be permitted to discharge directly into streams or surface waters.
- 14. If concrete is used during construction, a dry work area should be maintained to prevent direct contact between curing concrete and stream water. Water that inadvertently contacts uncured concrete should not be discharged to surface waters due to the potential for elevated pH and possible aquatic life and fish kills.
- 15. If temporary access roads or detours are constructed, the site should be graded to its preconstruction contours and elevations. Disturbed areas should be seeded or mulched to stabilize the soil and appropriate native woody species should be planted. When using temporary structures the area should be cleared but not grubbed. Clearing the area with chain saws, mowers, bush-hogs, or other mechanized equipment and leaving the stumps and root mat intact allows the area to re-vegetate naturally and minimizes soil disturbance.
- 16. Unless otherwise authorized, placement of culverts and other structures in waters and streams should be placed below the elevation of the streambed by one foot for all culverts with a diameter greater than 48 inches, and 20 percent of the culvert diameter for culverts having a diameter less than 48 inches, to allow low flow passage of water and aquatic life. Design and placement of culverts and other structures including temporary erosion control measures should not be conducted in a manner that may result in dis-equilibrium of wetlands or streambeds or banks, adjacent to or upstream and downstream of the above structures. The applicant is required to provide evidence that the equilibrium is being maintained if requested in writing by the NCDWR. If this condition is unable to be met due to bedrock or other limiting features encountered during construction, please contact the NCDWR for guidance on how to proceed and to determine whether or not a permit modification will be required.
- 17. If multiple pipes or barrels are required, they should be designed to mimic natural stream cross section as closely as possible including pipes or barrels at flood plain elevation, floodplain benches, and/or sills may be required where appropriate. Widening the stream channel should be avoided. Stream channel widening at the inlet or outlet end of structures typically decreases water velocity causing sediment deposition that requires increased maintenance and disrupts aquatic life passage.
- 18. Sediment and erosion control measures sufficient to protect water resources must be implemented and maintained in accordance with the most recent version of North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual and the most recent version of NCS000250.
- 19. All work in or adjacent to stream waters should be conducted in a dry work area. Approved BMP measures from the most current version of the NCDOT Construction and Maintenance Activities manual such as sandbags, rock berms, cofferdams and other diversion structures should be used to prevent excavation in flowing water.
- 20. While the use of National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps, NC Coastal Region Evaluation of Wetland Significance (NC-CREWS) maps and soil survey maps are useful tools, their inherent inaccuracies require that qualified personnel perform onsite wetland delineations prior to permit approval.

- 21. Heavy equipment should be operated from the bank rather than in stream channels in order to minimize sedimentation and reduce the likelihood of introducing other pollutants into streams. This equipment should be inspected daily and maintained to prevent contamination of surface waters from leaking fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or other toxic materials.
- 22. Riprap should not be placed in the active thalweg channel or placed in the streambed in a manner that precludes aquatic life passage. Bioengineering boulders or structures should be properly designed, sized and installed.
- 23. Riparian vegetation (native trees and shrubs) should be preserved to the maximum extent possible. Riparian vegetation must be reestablished within the construction limits of the project by the end of the growing season following completion of construction.

Thank you for requesting our input at this time. The NCDOT is reminded that issuance of a 401 Water Quality Certification requires that appropriate measures be instituted to ensure that water quality standards are met and designated uses are not degraded or lost. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact David Wainwright at (919) 707-8787 or David.Wainwright@ncdenr.gov.

Electronic copy only distribution:

Tracey Wheeler, US Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Field Office Dr. Cynthia Van Der Wiele, US Environmental Protection Agency Garcy Ward, NC Division of Water Resources Washington Regional Office File Copy

# **McInnis**, Jay

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Brent Kanipe <rbkanipe@yahoo.com> Wednesday, June 21, 2017 4:08 PM McInnis, Jay Christina Craft Williamston Temporary Easement

Jay,

Just to follow up on our conversation regarding the temporary easement at Godwin-Coppage Park along Prison Camp Rd/NC125. The Town Board was fine with providing an easement and voted to allow the Mayor to sign any documents needed to provide the temporary easement for construction improvements to NC 125 at that location. If you will send that documentation to me I will be glad to get it processed and back to you.

thanks,

Brent Kanipe, AICP Town of Williamston P.O. Box 506 102 East Main Street Williamston, NC 27892 APPENDIX B

# EIS RELOCATION REPORT

#### North Carolina Department of Transportation RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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