

PROJECT COMMITMENTS

**NC 273 (South Main Street)
From Tuckaseege Road (at Beatty Drive) to Highland Street (at A&E Drive),
Widen to Multi-Lanes, Mount Holly
Gaston County
Federal Aid Project STP-273-(1)
WBS Element 37649.1.1
STIP Project No. U-3633**

NCDOT Division 12

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

Roadside Environmental Unit

NCDWQ requests Design Standards for Sensitive Watersheds be adhered to in any area that drains to streams with WS-CA classifications.

NCDOT Hydraulics Unit

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

The Best Usage Classifications for the unnamed tributaries (UT-1 and UT-2) to Catawba River are WS-IV;CA and there is a structure located within one half mile of the this Critical Area, therefore Hazardous Spill Basins will be required.

Roadway Design, Program Development

The construction of a sidewalk, where included in the proposed project, will be dependent upon a cost-sharing and maintenance agreement between NCDOT and the City of Mount Holly as outlined in NCDOT's *Pedestrian Policy Guidelines* dated October 1, 2000.

Project Development and Environmental Analysis –Natural Environment Section

A survey for Schweinitz's sunflower and any necessary coordination with the USFWS will be completed prior to construction.

North Carolina Department of Transportation
PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION FORM
I. D. No. U-3633

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a. Consultation Phase: Right-of-Way Consultation
- b. Project Description: NC 273 (South Main Street), From Tuckaseege Road (at Beatty Drive) to Highland Street (at A&E Drive), Widen to Multi-Lanes, Mount Holly, Gaston County
- c. Federal Project: STP-273-(1) (WBS No. 37649)
- d. Document Type: Categorical Exclusion 8/2012

II. CONCLUSIONS

The above environmental document has been reevaluated as required by 23 CFR 771. It was determined that the current proposed action is essentially the same as the original proposed action. Proposed changes, if any, are noted below in Section III. It has been determined that anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts were accurately described in the above referenced document(s) unless noted otherwise herein. Therefore, the original Administration Action remains valid.

III. CHANGES IN PROPOSED ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

There are no changes in potential environmental effects from those presented in the Categorical Exclusion (CE). The attached memorandum dated May 1, 2013 addresses water resources and the protected species potentially impacted by the project and updates the referenced CE.

The water classifications for all jurisdictional streams within the project area remain as stated in the CE.

As of December 26, 2012, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) lists two federally protected species for Gaston County. Schweinitz's sunflower is the only listed species with habitat within the project area. Surveys for this species were conducted in September 2009 and 2011, no Schweinitz's sunflower specimens were observed. There is a known population within a mile of this project; therefore the biological conclusion for this species is "May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect". NCDOT will

conduct another survey in 2013, after which NCDOT biologists will coordinate with USFWS to determine if a biological conclusion of "No Effect" will be more appropriate.

IV. LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS

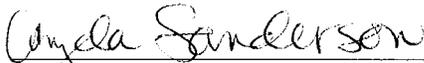
NCDOT will implement all practical measures and procedures to minimize and avoid environmental impacts. See the attached Project Commitments, Green Sheet for the environmental commitments developed during the project.

V. COORDINATION

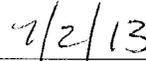
PDEA personnel have discussed current project proposals with others as follows:

Roadway Design Engineer	Jason Moore	Date	5/12/13
Hydraulics Engineer	Stephen Morgan	Date	5/12/13
Environmental Specialist	Erin Cheely	Date	5/01/13
Soil and Water Operations Engineer	Mark Staley	Date	5/11/13
Right of Way	David Angel	Date	6/13/13
FHWA	Mitch Batuzich	Date	7/02/13

VI. NCDOT CONCURRENCE



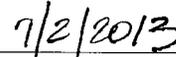
Angela Sanderson
NCDOT-PDEA-Western Region



Date



Stacy Oberhausen, PE
NCDOT-PDEA-Western Region



Date



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PAT L. MCCRORY
GOVERNOR

ANTHONY J. TATA
SECRETARY

May 1, 2013

MEMORANDUM TO: Angela Sanderson, Project Planning Engineer
Project Development Section

FROM: Erin Cheely, Environmental Specialist
Natural Environment Section, Project Management Group

SUBJECT: Water resources and protected species review for a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Right of Way Consultation for the proposed widening of NC 273 (South Main Street) from Tuckasee Road to Highland Street in Gaston County. Federal Aid Project No. STP-273-(1), WBS Element 37649.1.1, Division 12, TIP No. U-3633.

REFERENCE: Categorical Exclusion (CE), signed August 2012

Water classifications within the project area have not changed since the 2012 CE. The North Carolina Final 303(d) list has been updated from 2010 to 2012 since the CE. However, no changes were made to streams within or within 1.0 mile of the project area, therefore the 303(d) information from the CE remains valid.

As of December 26, 2012 the USFWS lists two federally protected species for Gaston County (bog turtle and Schweinitz's sunflower). This has not changed since the completion of the CE. Of the two listed species, only Schweinitz's sunflower has suitable habitat within the project area. Surveys for this species were conducted in September of 2009 and 2011 and no individuals were found. There is a known population within a mile of the project, so the biological conclusion for this species is "May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect". NCDOT will re-survey for sunflower again in 2013, after which NCDOT biologists will coordinate with USFWS to determine if a biological conclusion of "No Effect" will be more appropriate.

GREENSHEET COMMITMENTS

No changes to the greensheet are needed at this time.

MAILING ADDRESS:
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