



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON
SECRETARY

10/23/2025

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Field Office
151 Patton Avenue, Room 208
Asheville, NC 28805

NC Division of Water Resources
Transportation Permitting Branch
1617 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-1617

ATTN: NCDOT Coordinator

NCDOT Coordinator

Subject: **Modification and Reverification of Regional General Permit 50 & 401 Water Quality Certification** for the Replacement of Bridge No. 226 on SR 1310 over the Nantahala River in Macon County, Division 14, TIP No. BR-0031, WBS No. 67031.1.1

Dear NCDOT Coordinators:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) hereby requests modification and reverification of the impacts to potential Waters of the United States for the above referenced project that were previously authorized under an expiring Regional General Permit (RGP) and/or Water Quality Certification (WQC).

Previous Authorization Information

USACE Action ID	SAW-2023-01491	NCDWR Project No.	20231021
RGP No.	50	General Certification No.	4135
Date Issued	March 21, 2024	Date Issued	August 22, 2023

The previous permit application and authorization can be found here:

[BR-0031 Macon 226](#)

Lead Federal Agency:

☒ FHWA ☐ USACE

Project Status:

☒ Pre-Let ☐ Under Construction

Reverifications Requested:

☐ RGP 31 ☒ RGP 50 ☒ Individual 401 WQC ☐ GC 7679 For the Record Only

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS UNIT
1598 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC 27699-1598

Telephone: (919) 707-6000
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968
Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
1000 BIRCH RIDGE DRIVE
RALEIGH NC 27610

Supporting Documentation of Previous Permitting Decision

Topic	Notes / Changes
Permit Drawings	Change (see attached revised drawings)
Impact Summary	Change (see attached revised table)
Mitigation	No Change
Endangered Species Act	No Change (see table below)
Archaeology	No Change
Historic Architecture and Landscapes	No Change
Tribal Coordination	No Tribes Added

Endangered Species Act

Protected Species listed from IPaC¹ as of the date of this request:

Common Name	Habitat Present	Survey Dates	Proposed Biological Conclusion	FWS Concurrence Remarks
Bog turtle	No	n/a	Not Required	n/a
Gray bat	Yes	6/25/24	MA-NLAA ²	MA-NLAA
Indiana bat	Yes	6/25/24	MA-NLAA	MA-NLAA
Northern Long-eared bat	Yes	6/25/24	MA-NLAA	MA-NLAA
Tricolored bat	Yes	6/25/24	MA-NLAA	MA-NLAA
Virginia spiraea	Yes	6/17/25	No Effect	n/a
Small whorled pogonia	Yes	6/17/25	No Effect	n/a
Noonday snail	Yes	4/22/19	No Effect	MA-NLAA
Eastern hellbender (P) ³	n/a	n/a	Not Required	n/a
Monarch butterfly (P) ³	n/a	n/a	Not Required	n/a

1 IPaC – Information for Planning and Consultation (US Fish and Wildlife Service)

2 MA-NLAA = May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect

3 P = Proposed: Monarch butterfly and eastern hellbender were proposed for federal listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in December 2024. However, no regulatory protections will take effect until the listing is finalized. Until that time, proposed species do not receive formal ESA protections.

Modification Request

NCDOT has determined that additional temporary impacts will be necessary to construct Bridge 226: The causeway footprint for project BR-0031 (SAW-2023-01491) needs to be extended to the southwest on both sides of the Nantahala River to drill and install piling casings. Ideally, a causeway should extend 5' beyond a pile casing, and if the causeway does not envelop the casing, spoils potentially coming out of the hole may not be captured and material could be lost into the river. Additionally, smaller rigs and workers would likely not be able to reach the hole without a causeway extension. Finally, the proposed causeway also helps in stabilizing the outer can/casing if it can envelope the entire can. While the causeways may restrict more than 50% of the river (requiring modification of 404 special condition 2), each causeway will be in place for the shortest duration practicable (weeks). Causeway installation timing as with the original permit will accommodate recreational activities occurring in the river, including white-water kayaking from releases upstream at the Nantahala Dam.

This modification will result in no new permanent impacts and an additional **0.05 Acre/31 linear feet** of temporary construction impacts on top of the originally permitted 0.10 Acre/72 linear feet of total temporary construction impacts.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Erin Cheely at ekcheely@ncdot.gov or (919)707-6108.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Erin K. Cheely".

Erin K. Cheely

ECAP Western Team Lead

Project Submittal Interim Form



Updated December 4, 2023

*Please note: fields marked with a red asterisk * below are required. You will not be able to submit the form until all mandatory questions are answered.*

Project Type: *

- ☐ For the Record Only (Courtesy Copy)
- ☐ New Project
- ☒ Modification/New Project with Existing ID
- ☐ More Information Response
- ☐ Other Agency Comments
- ☐ Pre-Application Submittal
- ☐ Re-Issuance/Renewal Request
- ☐ Stream or Buffer Appeal

Is this application for a project associated with emergency response/repairs from Hurricane Helene impacts to your project or property? *

- ☐ Yes ☒ No

Project Contact Information

Name:

Erin Cheely

Who is submitting the information?

Email Address: *

ekcheely@ncdot.gov

Project Information

Existing ID #: *

20231021

20170001 (no dashes)

Existing Version: *

1

1

Project Name: *

BR-0031 - Bridge 226 over the Nantahala River

Is this a public transportation project? *

- ☒ Yes ☐ No

Is this a DOT project? *

- ☒ Yes ☐ No

Is the project located within a NC DCM Area of Environmental Concern (AEC)? *

- ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Unknown

Does this project involve maintenance dredging funded by the Shallow Draft Navigation Channel Dredging and Aquatic Weed Fund, electric generation projects located at an existing or former electric generating facility, or involve the distribution or transmission of energy or fuel, including natural gas, diesel, petroleum, or electricity? *

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is this project connected with ARPA funding? *

☐ Yes ☒ No

TIP#:

BR-0031

WBS#:

67031.1.1

(Applies to DOT projects only)

County (ies) *

Macon

Please upload all files that need to be submitted.

[Click the upload button or drag and drop files here to attach document](#)

BR-0031 2025-10-23 Modification and Renewal Request.pdf

2.97MB

[Only pdf or kmz files are accepted.](#)

Describe the attachments or add comments:

Requesting a modification due to changes in temporary causeway impacts along with a renewal of the current expiring RGP/Certification.

*

☒ By checking the box and signing box below, I certify that:

- I, the project proponent, hereby certifies that all information contained herein is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I, the project proponent, hereby requests that the certifying authority review and take action on this CWA 401 certification request within the applicable reasonable period of time.
- I agree that submission of this online form is a "transaction" subject to Chapter 66, Article 40 of the NC General Statutes (the "Uniform Electronic Transactions Act");
- I agree to conduct this transaction by electronic means pursuant to Chapter 66, Article 40 of the NC General Statutes (the "Uniform Electronic Transactions Act");
- I understand that an electronic signature has the same legal effect and can be enforced in the same way as a written signature; AND
- I intend to electronically sign and submit the online form.

Signature: *

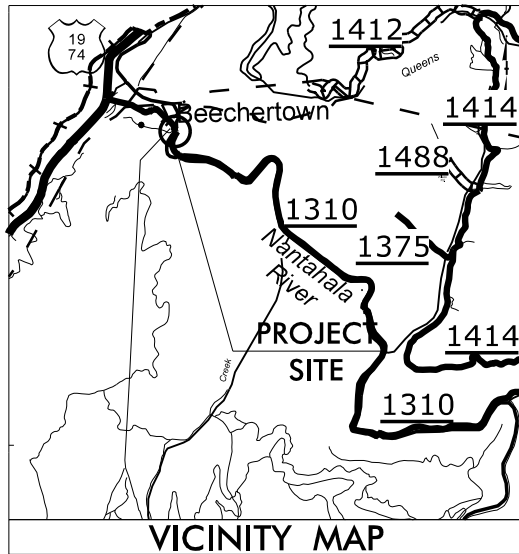


Submittal Date:

10/23/2025

09/08/2022

See Sheet 1A For Index of Sheets
See Sheet 1B For Conventional Symbols



VICINITY MAP



NORTH CAROLINA

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

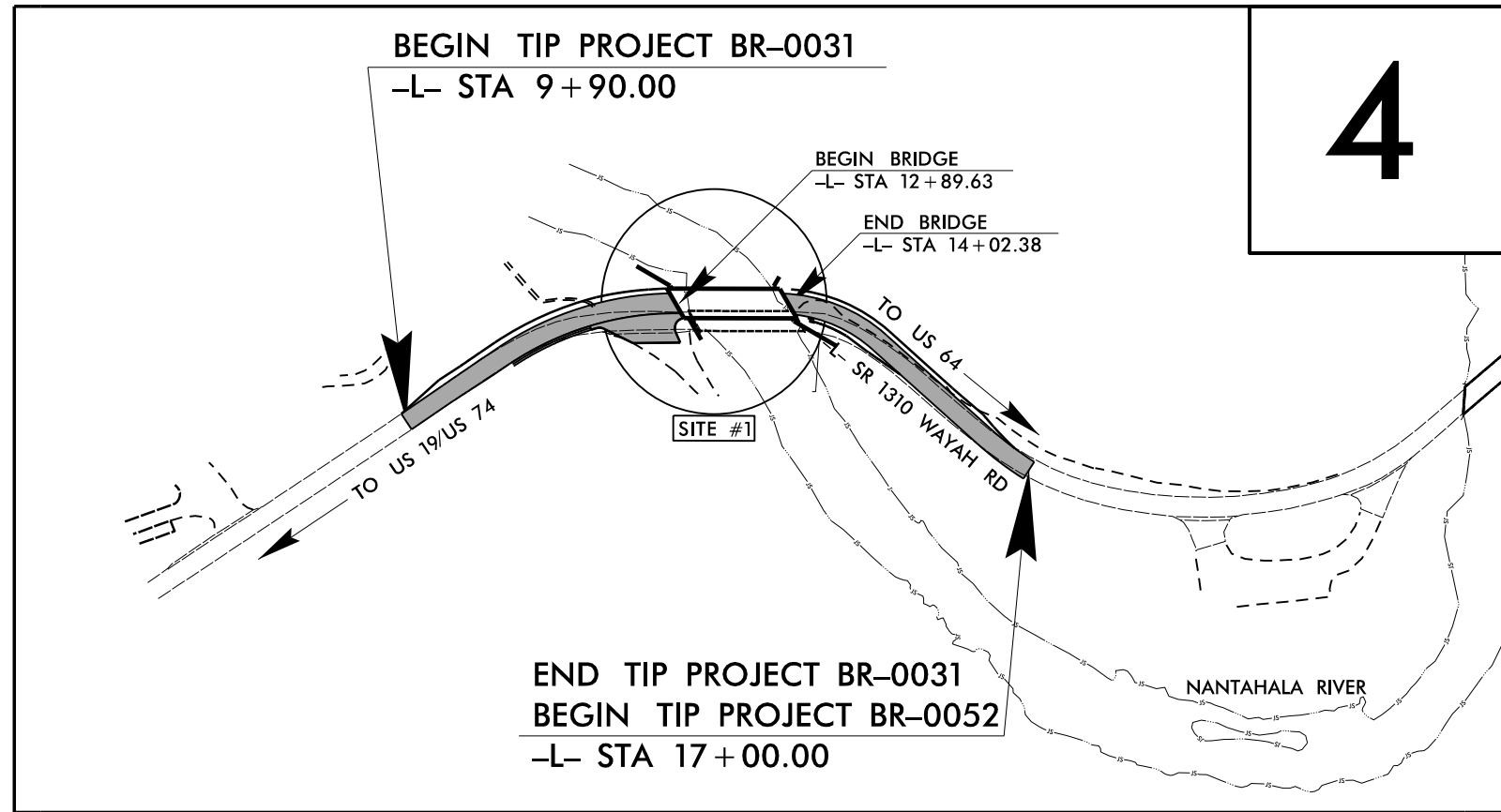
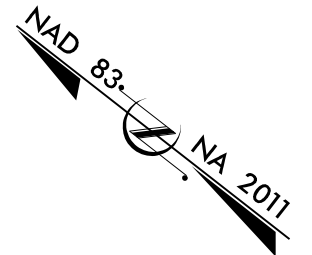
MACON COUNTY

LOCATION: BRIDGE NO. 226 ON SR 1310 OVER
NANTAHALA RIVER

TYPE OF WORK: GRADING, PAVING, DRAINAGE, RETAINING WALLS
AND STRUCTURE

WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER IMPACTS PERMIT

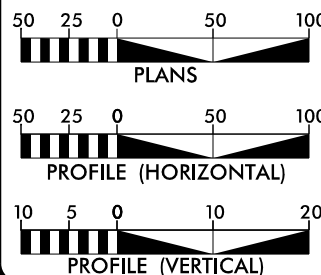
STATE	STATE PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
N.C.	BR-0031	1	
STATE PROJ.NO.	F. A. PROJ.NO.	DESCRIPTION	
67031.1.1	N/A	PE	
67031.2.1	N/A	ROW & UTIL.	
67031.3.1	N/A	CONST.	
PERMIT DRAWING SHEET 1 OF 5			



DESIGN EXCEPTION FOR DESIGN SPEED
THIS PROJECT HAS NO CONTROLLED ACCESS
THIS PROJECT IS NOT WITHIN ANY MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES
CLEARING ON THIS PROJECT SHALL BE PERFORMED TO THE LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY METHOD II.

DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL
UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED

GRAPHIC SCALES



DESIGN DATA

ADT 2023 = 640
ADT 2043 =
K = %
D = %
T = % *
V = 40 MPH
* TTST = DUAL
FUNC CLASS =
MAJOR COLLECTOR
SUB REGIONAL TIER

PROJECT LENGTH

LENGTH ROADWAY TIP PROJECT BR-0031 = 0.113 MI.
LENGTH STRUCTURE TIP PROJECT BR-0031 = 0.021 MI.
TOTAL LENGTH TIP PROJECT BR-0031 = 0.134 MI.

Prepared In the Office of:
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
1000 Birch Ridge Dr., Raleigh NC, 27610

2018 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

RIGHT OF WAY DATE:
MAY 23, 2022

LETTING DATE:
JUNE 20, 2023

ADAM COLE, PE
PROJECT MANAGER

JORDAN A. WOODARD, PE
PROJECT ENGINEER

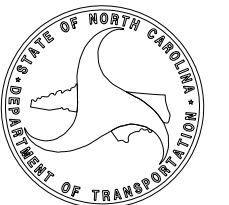
DOUGLAS KRETCHMAN, PE
PROJECT TEAM LEAD

HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

SIGNATURE: P.E.

ROADWAY DESIGN
ENGINEER

SIGNATURE: P.E.



TIP PROJECT: BR-0031

CONTRACT:

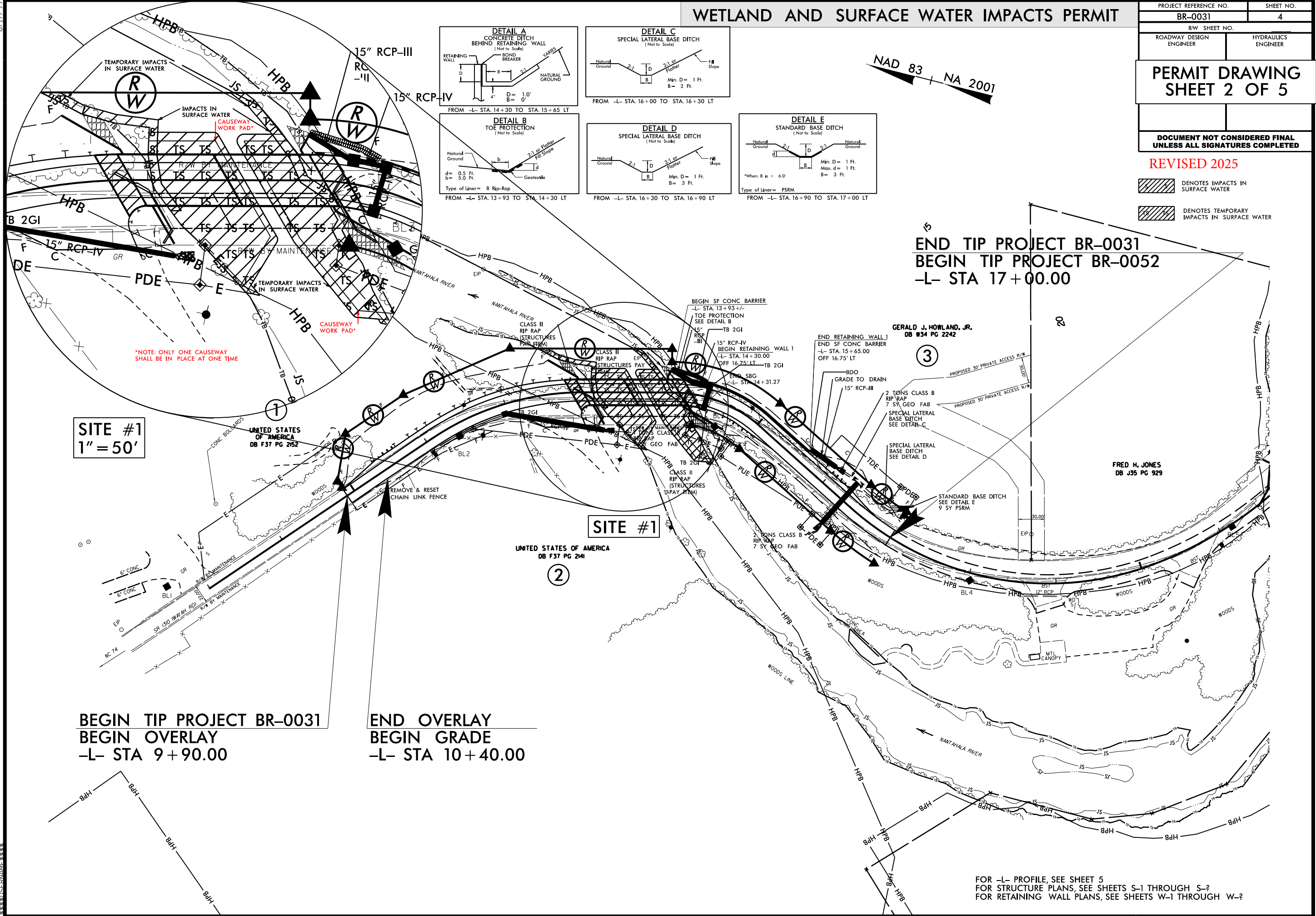
SYTIME\$\$\$\$\$
DGN\$\$\$\$\$
SERNAME\$\$\$\$\$

WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER IMPACTS PERMIT

PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
BR-0031	4
R/W SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
PERMIT DRAWING SHEET 2 OF 5	
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	

REVISED 2025

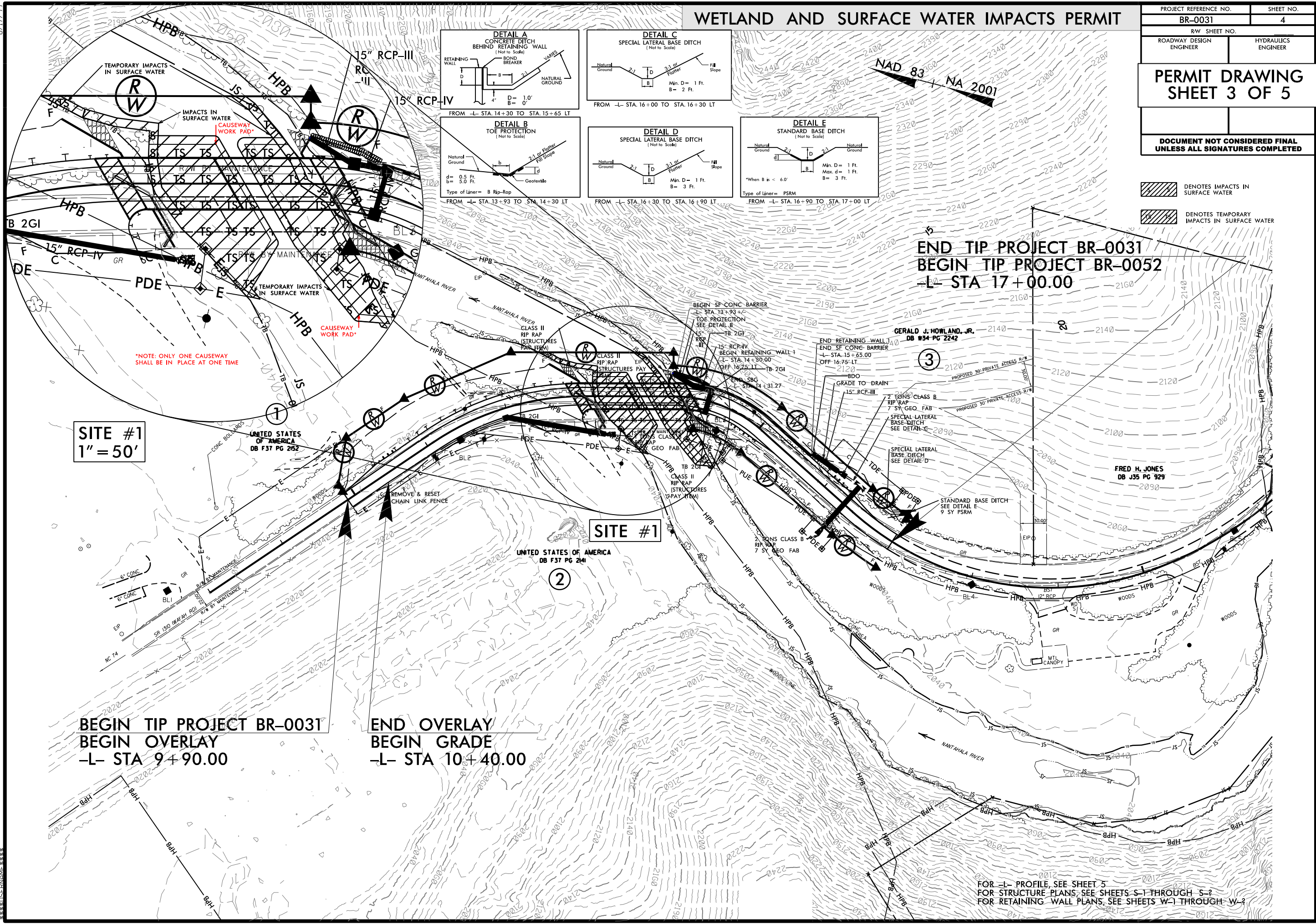
-  DENOTES IMPACTS IN SURFACE WATER
-  DENOTES TEMPORARY IMPACTS IN SURFACE WATER



FOR -L- PROFILE, SEE SHEET 5
FOR STRUCTURE PLANS, SEE SHEETS S-1 THROUGH S-?
FOR RETAINING WALL PLANS, SEE SHEETS W-1 THROUGH W-?

WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER IMPACTS PERMIT

PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
BR-0031	4
RW SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
PERMIT DRAWING SHEET 3 OF 5	
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	



SITE #1
1" = 50'

BEGIN TIP PROJECT BR-0031
BEGIN OVERLAY
-L- STA 9+90.00

END OVERLAY
BEGIN GRADE
-L- STA 10+40.00

END TIP PROJECT BR-0031
BEGIN TIP PROJECT BR-0052
-L- STA 17+00.00

FOR -L- PROFILE, SEE SHEET 5
FOR STRUCTURE PLANS, SEE SHEETS S-1 THROUGH S-2
FOR RETAINING WALL PLANS, SEE SHEETS W-1 THROUGH W-2

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WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER IMPACTS PERMIT

PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
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BR-0031

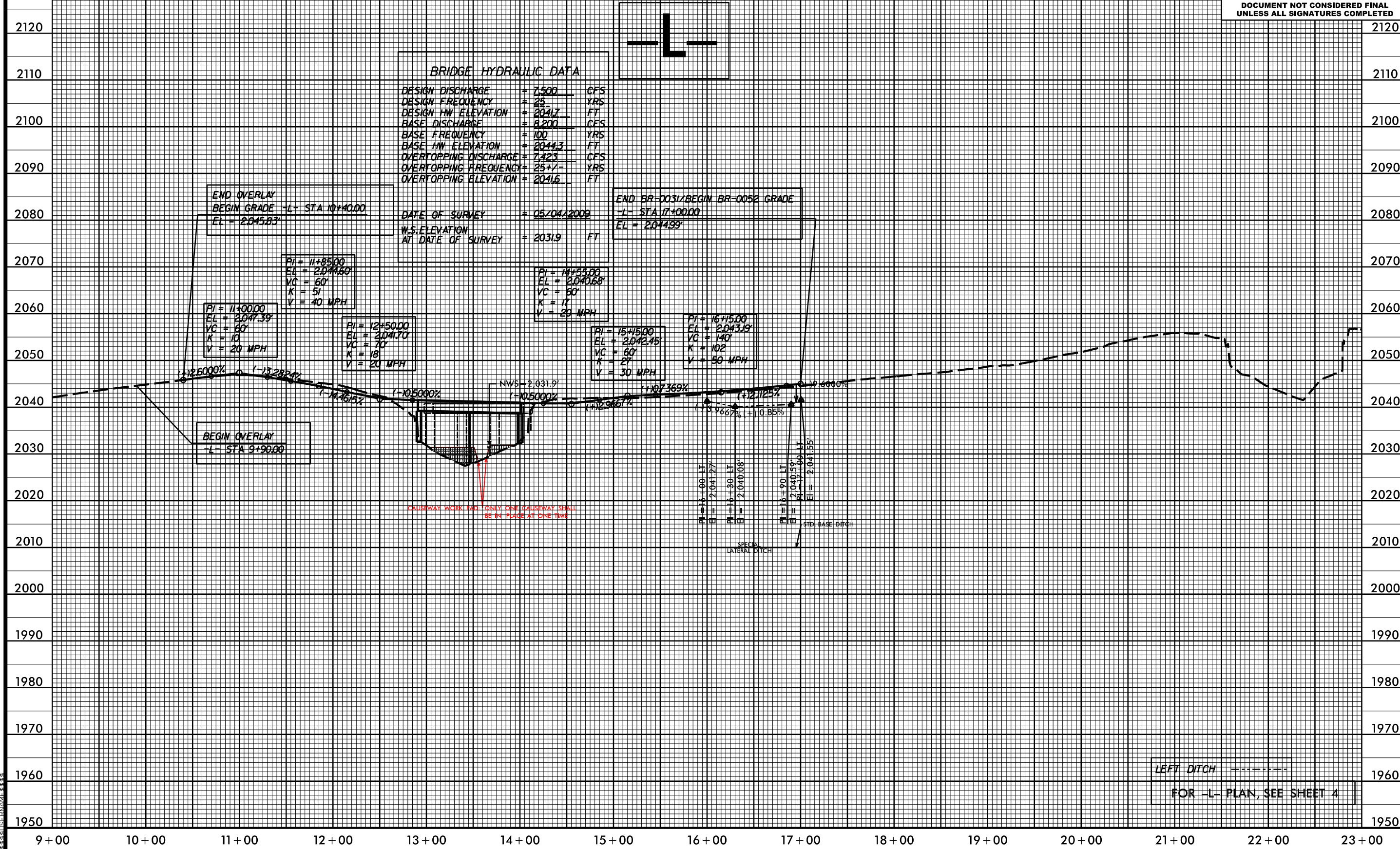
5

ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER

**HYDRAULICS
ENGINEER**

PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 4 OF 5

**DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL
UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED**



WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER IMPACTS SUMMARY												
			WETLAND IMPACTS					SURFACE WATER IMPACTS				
Site No.	Station (From/To)	Structure Size / Type	Permanent Fill In Wetlands (ac)	Temp. Fill In Wetlands (ac)	Excavation in Wetlands (ac)	Mechanized Clearing in Wetlands (ac)	Hand Clearing in Wetlands (ac)	Permanent SW impacts (ac)	Temp. SW impacts (ac)	Existing Channel Impacts Permanent (ft)	Existing Channel Impacts Temp. (ft)	Natural Stream Design (ft)
1	-L- 12+46 / 14+80	Bridge + Rip Rap Wingwall						0.02	< 0.01	126	22	
		/ Abutment Protection										
		Causeway Work Pad							0.14		81	
TOTALS*								0.02	0.15	126	103	0

NOTES:

NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
4/4/2025
Macon
BR-0031
67031.1.1