



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN  
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON  
SECRETARY

January 30, 2026

MEMORANDUM TO: Division Environmental and Construction Units

FROM: *mat* Michael A. Turchy, ECAP Group Leader  
Environmental Analysis Unit

SUBJECT: Environmental Permits for the Replacement of Bridge 226 on SR 1310  
over the Nantahala River in Macon County, Division 14, **TIP: BR-0031.**

Conveyance Authorization for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission c/o Duke Energy has not been received. Bridgework over the Nantahala River is not authorized until receipt.

Please find enclosed the following permits for this project:

Agency	Permit Type	Permit Expiration
US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit	Regional General Permit 50 <i>Originally issued 3/21/24, Renewed &amp; Modified 12/12/25</i>	May 25, 2030
NC Division of Water Resources Section 401 Water Quality Certification	Individual Certification No. 008420 <i>Originally issued 8/22/23 under GC 4135, Renewed 12/2/25</i>	May 25, 2030

Work is authorized by the above referenced permit provided it is accomplished in strict accordance with the permitted plans.

The Environmental Coordination and Permitting Group or the Division Environmental Office must be consulted if any deviation from the permit(s) or accompanying drawings is required.

The General Conditions and Certifications for Nationwide and Regional Permits can be referenced at:  
[https://xfer.services.ncdot.gov/pdea/PermIssued/\\_General\\_Conditions\\_and\\_Certifications/](https://xfer.services.ncdot.gov/pdea/PermIssued/_General_Conditions_and_Certifications/)



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, WILMINGTON DISTRICT**  
**WRDA TRANSPORTATION BRANCH**  
**69 DARLINGTON AVENUE**  
**WILMINGTON NORTH CAROLINA 28403**

December 12, 2025

Regulatory Division  
SAW-2023-01491

Sent Via email: [ekcheely@ncdot.gov](mailto:ekcheely@ncdot.gov)

North Carolina Department of Transportation  
Attn: Ms. Erin Cheely  
1598 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699

Dear Ms. Cheely:

This letter is in response to the Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) you submitted to the Wilmington District, WRDA/Transportation Branch on October 23, 2025, for a Department of the Army Nationwide permit (NWP) verification. This project has been assigned the file number SAW-2023-01491 and is known as the Bridge 226 replacement project. This file number should be referenced in all correspondence concerning this project.

A review of the information provided indicates that the proposed work would include the replacement of a structurally deficient bridge with a new bridge in the same location. A permit verification was issued for this project on March 21, 2024. By letter dated October 23, 2025, NCDOT requested a new permit verification to authorize additional temporary impacts and modify the permit condition 2) a. that restricts causeways/temporary work pads from blocking more than 50% of the river. NCDOT is requesting modification of this special condition due to constructability issues that require a larger causeway footprint. Specific impacts include the permanent impact to 126 lf of stream channel and the temporary impact to 103 lf of stream channel. The Bridge 226 replacement project is located where Wayah Road crosses the Nantahala River, approximately 0.5 mile east of the intersection of Wayah Road and US 74 in Beechertown, Macon County, North Carolina; Latitude 35.27106 and Longitude -83.67639.

We have determined that the proposed work is authorized by RGP 50 pursuant to authorities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C § 1344). The proposed work must be accomplished in strict accordance with the general permit conditions, any regional conditions, the special conditions listed in this letter, the application materials, and the enclosed plans. If the extent of the project area and/or nature of the authorized impacts to waters are modified, a revised PCN must be submitted to this office for written approval before work is initiated. Any violation of permit conditions or deviation from your submitted plans may subject the permittee to enforcement action.

This verification is valid until May 25, 2030, unless prior to this date the subject NWP(s) is suspended, revoked, or is modified such that the activity no longer complies with the terms and conditions of this NWP. If you commence or are under contract to commence this activity before the date that the relevant NWP is modified or revoked, you will have 12 months from the date of the modification or revocation of the NWP to complete the activity under the present terms and conditions of this NWP.

Project Specific Special Conditions:

- 1) Per the USFWS January 30, 2024 letter, NCDOT will do the following:
  - a. Tree clearing will take place from October 16 to March 31.
  - b. Tree clearing will be minimized to the maximum extent possible and limits will be clearly marked for the contractor.
  - c. The existing bridges will be surveyed within 14 days of construction to ensure absence of roosting bats. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) Asheville Field Office will be contacted immediately if bats are observed.
  - d. Blasting during the bat pup season (May 15 – July 31) will be avoided to the maximum extent r, construction constraints and unforeseen site circumstances may necessitate some blasting during this period.
  - e. Night work will not occur.
  - f. No additional permanent lighting will be added to the roadway.
  - g. Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds will be followed for the project's Sediment and Erosion Control procedures.
  - h. Any construction vehicles or equipment will be power washed prior to entering the bridge project areas to help eliminate introduction/spread of non-native invasive species.
- 2) NCDOT will develop a boater safety plan pursuant to Duke's FERC Permit and will forward to the Corps once it's finalized. Absent the final boater safety plan, NCDOT has committed to the following conditions:
  - a. NCDOT will provide notification to the Corps 90 days prior to the start of construction regarding the expected duration that causeways will be in place.
  - b. There will be a signage component to direct paddlers to the safest passage, when that direction is required, during construction.
  - c. No beams or equipment will be hoisted while boaters [or anyone] is present underneath.
  - d. No components of the bridge will be dropped into the water.
  - e. During the removal process, overhead removal will temporarily pause while boaters are present.
- 3) Per the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, NCDOT is prohibited from doing any in-stream work and land disturbance within the 25-foot trout buffer from January 1 to April 15 to protect trout spawning. Additionally, Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds shall be implemented with this project.

- 4) The Permittee shall implement commitments as described in the Historic Architecture and Landscapes Assessment of Effects Form (enclosed) to ensure no adverse effect to historic architecture resources.

This NWP verification does not preclude the necessity to obtain any other Federal, State, or local permits, licenses, and/or certifications, which may be required.

If you have any questions related to this verification or have issues accessing documents referenced in this letter, please contact Crystal Amschler, WRDA/ Transportation Branch Project Manager at 828-526-6013, by mail at the above address, or by email at [crystal.c.amschler@usace.army.mil](mailto:crystal.c.amschler@usace.army.mil). Please take a moment to complete our customer satisfaction survey located at <https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Scott Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "J".

M. Scott Jones, PWS  
WRDA / Transportation Branch Chief  
USACE - Wilmington District

Enclosures

cc: (via email)

Patrick Breedlove, NCDOT Division 14  
[pjbreedlove@ncdot.gov](mailto:pjbreedlove@ncdot.gov)



<b>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)</b> <b>CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT</b> For use of this form, see Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, and Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act; the proponent agency is CECW-COR.		<b>Form Approved -</b> <b>OMB No. 0710-0003</b> <b>Expires 2027-10-31</b>
<b>The Agency Disclosure Notice (ADN)</b>		
<p>The Public reporting burden for this collection of information, 0710-0003, is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or burden reduction suggestions to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, at <a href="mailto:whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil">whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil</a>. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.</p>		
<p><b>PURPOSE:</b> This form is used by recipients of U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Regulatory permits to certify compliance with the permit terms and conditions.</p> <p>Your permitted activity is subject to a compliance inspection by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representative. If you fail to comply with this permit, you are subject to permit suspension, modification, or revocation.</p>		
<p>Upon completion of the activity authorized by this permit and any mitigation required by the permit, sign this certification and return it to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, Regulatory Office.</p> <p>The certification can be submitted by email at <a href="mailto:crystal.c.amschler@usace.army.mil">crystal.c.amschler@usace.army.mil</a> or by mail at the below address:</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">       U.S. Army Corps of Engineers        Wilmington District Office        Street Address: 151 Patton Ave Rm 208        City: Asheville      State: NC      Zip Code: 28801     </div>		
<b>COMPLETED BY THE CORPS</b>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;">Corps Action Number:</div> <div style="width: 70%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">SAW-2023-01491</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 30%;">Permit Type:</div> <div style="width: 70%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">General Permit</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 30%;">General Permit Number and Name (if applicable):</div> <div style="width: 70%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 30%;">Name of Permittee:</div> <div style="width: 70%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">NCDOT</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 30%;">Project Name:</div> <div style="width: 70%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">the Bridge 226 replacement project</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="width: 30%;">Project Location (physical address):</div> <div style="width: 70%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">located where Wayah Road crosses the Nantahala River, Beechertown, North Carolina</div> </div>		
<b>PERMITTEE'S CERTIFICATION</b>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <div style="width: 30%;">Date Work Started:</div> <div style="width: 70%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <div style="width: 30%;">Date Work Completed:</div> <div style="width: 70%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></div> </div> <p>Enclose photographs showing the completed project (if available).</p> <p>I _____ hereby certify that the work authorized by the above referenced permit has been completed in accordance with all of the permit terms and conditions, and that any required compensatory mitigation has been completed in accordance with the permit conditions.</p>		
Name	Date	Signature

17-12-0042



## HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE 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 INFORMATION

<b>Project No:</b>	BR-0031, BR-0052	<b>County:</b>	Macon
<b>WBS No.:</b>	67031.3.1	<b>Document Type:</b>	MCC
<b>Fed. Aid No:</b>	N/A	<b>Funding:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal
<b>Federal Permit(s):</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>Permit Type(s):</b>	USACE
<b><u>Project Description:</u></b> Replace Bridge Nos. 226 and 227 on SR 1310 (Wayah Road) over Nantahala River.			

### SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPES REVIEW

<b><u>Description of review activities, results, and conclusions:</u></b> Review of HPO quad maps, HPO GIS information, historic designations roster, and indexes was undertaken on January 8, 2018. Based on this review, the project falls within the Determined Eligible Nantahala Power and Light Complex. An assessment of effects is required.
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS

<b>Property Name:</b>	Nantahala Hydroelectric Power Project	<b>Status:</b>	Determined Eligible
<b>Survey Site No.:</b>		<b>PIN:</b>	
<b><u>Effects</u></b> <input type="checkbox"/> No Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Adverse Effect <input type="checkbox"/> Adverse Effect			
<b><u>Explanation of Effects Determination:</u></b> There will be no adverse effect with the following environmental commitments listed below.			
<b><u>List of Environmental Commitments:</u></b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintain Right of Way</li> <li>2. Oregon Rail to be utilized for bridge rails</li> <li>3. Retaining walls will utilize a natural stone design</li> </ol>			

**FHWA Intends to use the State Historic Preservation Office's concurrence as a basis for a "de minimis" finding for the following properties, pursuant to Section 4(f):**

Nantahala Hydroelectric Power Project

## SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

☐ Map(s)    ☐ Previous Survey Info.    ☐ Photos    ☐ Correspondence    ☐ Design Plans

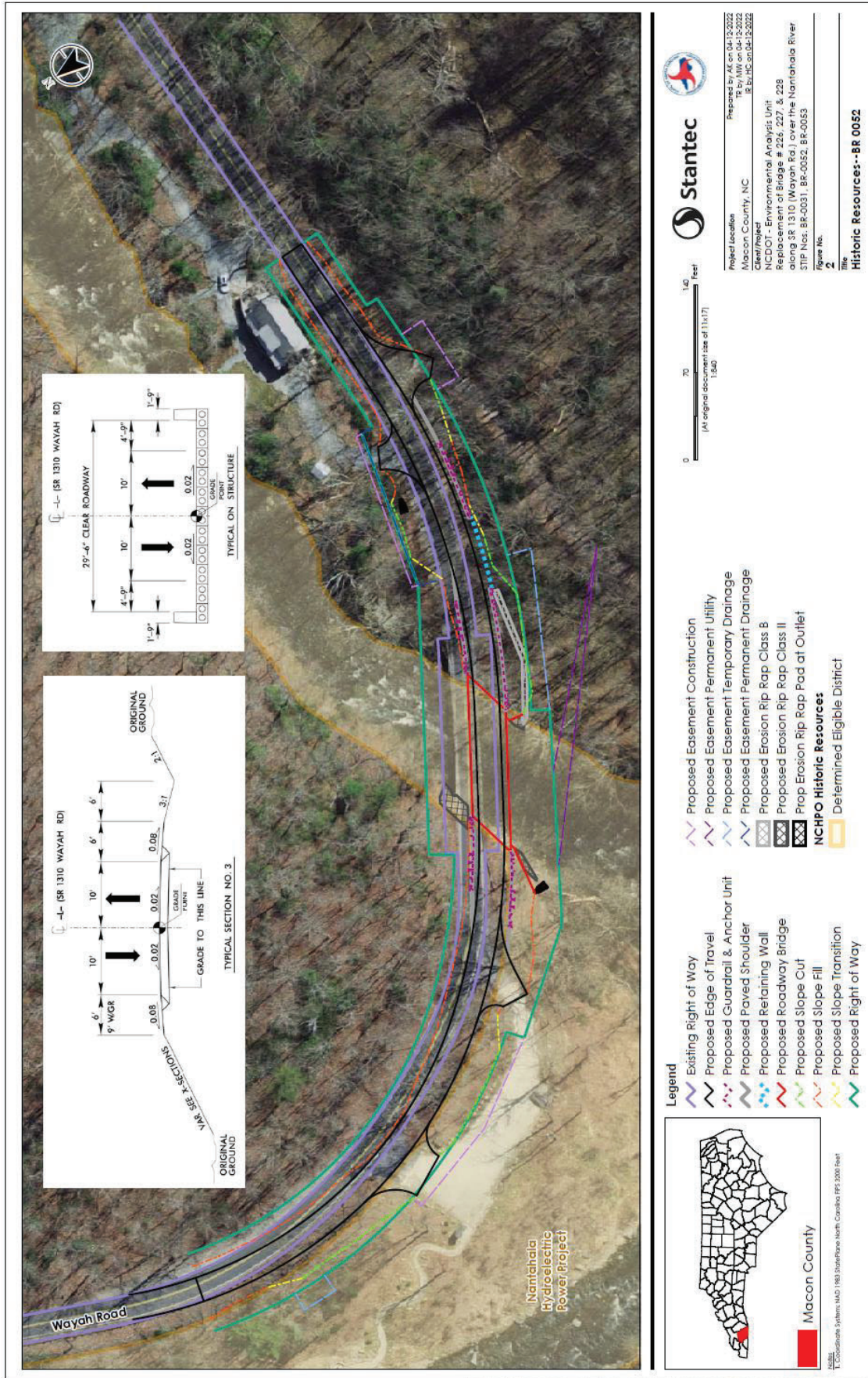
## FINDING BY NCDOT AND STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

### Historic Architecture and Landscapes – ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS

<div>DocuSigned by: <i>Katherine Husband</i> C47FECA930B040B...</div>	04/28/2022
NCDOT Architectural Historian	Date
<div>DocuSigned by: <i>Renee Gledhill-Earley</i> C26A1556A275464...</div>	04/29/2022
State Historic Preservation Office Representative	Date
<div>DocuSigned by: <i>Seth Wilcher</i> 9967A500F8714F0...</div>	05/02/2022
Federal Agency Representative	Date







**JOSH STEIN**  
Governor

**D. REID WILSON**  
Secretary

**RICHARD E. ROGERS, JR.**  
Director



December 2, 2025

Mr. Michael Turchy  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
1598 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1598


Subject: 401 Water Quality Certification Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act with  
ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS for Proposed improvements to Replace Bridge 226 on SR 1310 over the  
Nantahala River (BR-0031) in Macon County  
Nantahala River [Little Tennessee River Basin, 06010202, B; Trout]  
NCDWR Project No. 20231021 V2

Dear Mr. Turchy:

Attached hereto is a copy of Certification No. 008420 issued to The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) dated December 2, 2025.

If we can be of further assistance, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Signed by:  
  
2185423002EA46E  
Faith Hardin, Supervisor  
401 & Buffer Transportation Permitting Branch

cc: Crystal Amschler, US Army Corps of Engineers Asheville Regulatory Field Office (via email)  
Kevin Mitchell, NC Department of Transportation (via email)  
Chad Plemmons, NC Department of Transportation (via email)  
Dave McHenry, NC Wildlife Resources Commission (via email)  
Holland Youngman, US Fish and Wildlife Service (via email)  
Erin Cheely, NC Department of Transportation (via email)  
Jeff Hemphill, NC Department of Transportation (via email)

File Copy



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality | Division of Water Resources  
512 North Salisbury Street | 1617 Mail Service Center | Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1617  
919.707.9000



#### 401 Water Quality Certification Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act with ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

**THIS CERTIFICATION** is issued in conformity with the requirements of Section 401 Public Laws 92-500 and 95-217 of the United States and subject to the North Carolina Division of Water Resources (NCDWR) Regulations in 15 NCAC 2H .0500. This certification authorizes the NCDOT to impact 229 linear feet of jurisdictional streams in Macon County. The project shall be constructed pursuant to the application dated received October 23, 2025. The authorized impacts are as described below:

##### Stream Impacts in the Little Tennessee River Basin

Site	Permanent Fill in Intermittent Stream (linear ft)	Temporary Fill in Intermittent Stream (linear ft)	Permanent Fill in Perennial Stream (linear ft)	Temporary Fill in Perennial Stream (linear ft)	Total Stream Impact (linear ft)	Stream Impacts Requiring Mitigation (linear ft)
S1	-	-	126	22	148	-
S2	-	-	-	81	81	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	<b>126</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>229</b>	-

**Total Stream Impact for Project: 126 linear feet of permanent and 103 linear feet of temporary.**

The application provides adequate assurance that the discharge of fill material into the waters of the Little Tennessee River Basin in conjunction with the proposed development will not result in a violation of applicable Water Quality Standards and discharge guidelines. Therefore, the State of North Carolina certifies that this activity will not violate the applicable portions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, 307 of PL 92-500 and PL 95-217 if conducted in accordance with the application and conditions hereinafter set forth.

This approval is only valid for the purpose and design that you submitted in your application dated received October 23, 2025. Should your project change, you are required to notify the NCDWR and submit a new application. If the property is sold, the new owner must be given a copy of this Certification and approval letter, and is thereby responsible for complying with all the conditions. If any additional wetland impacts, or stream impacts, for this project (now or in the future) exceed 0.1 acre or 300 linear feet, respectively, additional compensatory mitigation may be required as described in 15A NCAC 2H .0506 (c) (2) and (4).

For this approval to remain valid, you are required to comply with all the conditions listed below. In addition, you should obtain all other federal, state or local permits before proceeding with your project including (but not limited to) Sediment and Erosion control, Coastal Stormwater, Non-discharge and Water Supply watershed regulations. This Certification shall expire on the same day as the expiration date of the corresponding Corps of Engineers Permit.

#### Conditions of Certification:

##### Project Specific Conditions

1. The NCDOT Division Environmental Officer or Environmental Assistant will conduct a pre-construction meeting with all appropriate staff to ensure that the project supervisor and essential staff understand potential issues at the permitted site. NCDWR staff shall be invited to the pre-construction meeting. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(2) and (b)(3)]





2. For projects impacting waters classified by the NC Environmental Management Commission as Trout (Tr), stormwater shall be directed to vegetated buffer areas, grass-lined ditches or other means appropriate to the site for the purpose of pre-treating storm water runoff prior to discharging directly into streams. Mowing of existing vegetated buffers is strongly discouraged. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(2)]
3. The permittee will need to adhere to all appropriate in-water work moratoria (including the use of pile driving or vibration techniques) prescribed by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. No in-water work is permitted between October 15 and April 15 of any year, without prior approval from the NC Division of Water Resources and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission.

In-stream work and land disturbance within the 25-foot buffer zone are prohibited during the trout-spawning season of October 15 through April 15 to protect the egg and fry stages of trout. [15A NCAC 02H .0506(b)(2)]

**\*WRC approved modified moratorium from Jan 1-April 15**

4. The permittee shall use Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds in areas draining to Trout Waters. [15A NCAC 4B.0124 (a)-(e)]
5. As a condition of this 401 Water Quality Certification, the bridge demolition and construction must be accomplished in strict compliance with the most recent version of NCDOT's Best Management Practices for Construction and Maintenance Activities. [15A NCAC 02H .0506(b)(2)]
6. No drill slurry or water that has been in contact with uncured concrete shall be allowed to enter surface waters. This water shall be captured, treated, and disposed of properly. [15A NCAC 02H .0506(b)(3)]
7. Bridge deck drains shall not discharge directly into the stream. Stormwater shall 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. To meet the requirements of NCDOT's NPDES permit NCS000250, please refer to the most recent version of the *North Carolina Department of Transportation Stormwater Best Management Practices Toolbox* manual for approved measures. [15A NCAC 02H .0507(d)(2) and 15A NCAC 02H .0506(b)(2)]
8. Provide advanced notice of construction to Dave McHenry with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission so that he may advise the site contractor about ways to minimize possible impacts to the Eastern Hellbender (NC Special Concern). [15A NCAC 02H .0506(b)(1) and (2)]

#### General Conditions

1. Unless otherwise approved in this certification, placement of culverts and other structures in open waters and streams shall 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 shall 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 NCDWR. If this condition is unable to be met due to bedrock or other limiting features encountered during construction, please contact NCDWR for guidance on how to proceed and to determine whether or not a permit modification will be required. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(2)]
2. If concrete is used during construction, a dry work area shall be maintained to prevent direct contact between curing concrete and stream water. Water that inadvertently contacts uncured concrete shall not be discharged to surface waters due to the potential for elevated pH and possible aquatic life and fish kills. [15A NCAC 02B.0200]



3. During the construction of the project, no staging of equipment of any kind is permitted in waters of the U.S. or protected riparian buffers. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(2)]
4. The dimension, pattern, and profile of the stream above and below the crossing shall not be modified. Disturbed floodplains and streams shall be restored to natural geomorphic conditions. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(2)]
5. The use of rip-rap above the Normal High Water Mark shall be minimized. Any rip-rap placed for stream stabilization shall be placed in stream channels in such a manner that it does not impede aquatic life passage. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(2)]
6. The Permittee shall ensure that the final design drawings adhere to the permit and to the permit drawings submitted for approval. [15A NCAC 02H .0507(c) and 15A NCAC 02H .0506 (b)(2)]
7. All work in or adjacent to stream waters shall be conducted in a dry work area. Approved BMP measures from the most current version of NCDOT Construction and Maintenance Activities manual such as sandbags, rock berms, cofferdams and other diversion structures shall be used to prevent excavation in flowing water. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(3)]
8. Heavy equipment shall be operated from the banks rather than in the stream channel in order to minimize sedimentation and reduce the introduction of other pollutants into the stream. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(3)]
9. All mechanized equipment operated near surface waters must be regularly inspected and maintained to prevent contamination of stream waters from fuels, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, or other toxic materials. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(3)]
10. No rock, sand or other materials shall be dredged from the stream channel except where authorized by this certification. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(3)]
11. Discharging hydroseed mixtures and washing out hydro seeders and other equipment in or adjacent to surface waters is prohibited. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(3)]
12. The permittee and its authorized agents shall conduct its activities in a manner consistent with State water quality standards (including any requirements resulting from compliance with §303(d) of the Clean Water Act) and any other appropriate requirements of State and Federal law. If the NCDWR determines that such standards or laws are not being met (including the failure to sustain a designated or achieved use) or that State or federal law is being violated, or that further conditions are necessary to assure compliance, the NCDWR may reevaluate and modify this certification. [15A NCAC 02B.0200]
13. All fill slopes located in jurisdictional wetlands shall be placed at slopes no flatter than 3:1, unless otherwise authorized by this certification. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(2)]
14. A copy of this Water Quality Certification shall be maintained on the construction site at all times. In addition, the Water Quality Certification and all subsequent modifications, if any, shall be maintained with the Division Engineer and the on-site project manager. [15A NCAC 02H .0507(c) and 15A NCAC 02H .0506 (b)(2)]
15. The outside buffer, wetland or water boundary located within the construction corridor approved by this authorization shall be clearly marked by highly visible fencing prior to any land disturbing activities. Impacts to areas within the fencing are prohibited unless otherwise authorized by this certification. [15A NCAC 02H.0501 and .0502]
16. The issuance of this certification does not exempt the Permittee from complying with any and all statutes, rules, regulations, or ordinances that may be imposed by other government agencies (i.e. local, state, and





federal) having jurisdiction, including but not limited to applicable buffer rules, stormwater management rules, soil erosion and sedimentation control requirements, etc.

17. The Permittee shall report any violations of this certification to the Division of Water Resources within 24 hours of discovery. [15A NCAC 02B.0506(b)(2)]
18. Upon completion of the project (including any impacts at associated borrow or waste sites), the NCDOT Division Engineer shall complete and return the enclosed "Certification of Completion Form" to notify the NCDWR when all work included in the 401 Certification has been completed. [15A NCAC 02H.0502]
19. Native riparian vegetation must be reestablished in the riparian areas within the construction limits of the project by the end of the growing season following completion of construction. [15A NCAC 02B.0506(b)(2)]
20. There shall be no excavation from, or waste disposal into, jurisdictional wetlands or waters associated with this permit without appropriate modification. Should waste or borrow sites, or access roads to waste or borrow sites, be located in wetlands or streams, compensatory mitigation will be required since that is a direct impact from road construction activities. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(3)]
21. Erosion and sediment control practices must be in full compliance with all specifications governing the proper design, installation and operation and maintenance of such Best Management Practices in order to protect surface waters standards [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(3)]:
  - a. The erosion and sediment control measures for the project must be designed, installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the most recent version of the *North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Planning and Design Manual*.
  - b. The design, installation, operation, and maintenance of the sediment and erosion control measures must be such that they equal, or exceed, the requirements specified in the most recent version of the *North Carolina Sediment and Erosion Control Manual*. The devices shall be maintained on all construction sites, borrow sites, and waste pile (spoil) projects, including contractor-owned or leased borrow pits associated with the project.
  - c. For borrow pit sites, the erosion and sediment control measures must be designed, installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the most recent version of the *North Carolina Surface Mining Manual*.
  - d. The reclamation measures and implementation must comply with the reclamation in accordance with the requirements of the Sedimentation Pollution Control Act.
22. Sediment and erosion control measures shall not be placed in wetlands or waters unless otherwise approved by this Certification. [15A NCAC 02H.0506(b)(3)]

Violations of any condition herein set forth may result in revocation of this Certification and may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. This Certification shall become null and void unless the above conditions are made conditions of the Federal 404. This Certification shall expire upon the expiration of the 404.

This approval and its conditions are final and binding unless contested [G.S. 143-215.5]. Please be aware that impacting waters without first applying for and securing the issuance of a 401 Water Quality Certification violates Title 15A of the North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC) 2H .0500. Title 15A NCAC 2H .0500 requires certifications pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act whenever construction or operation of facilities will result in a discharge into navigable waters, including wetlands, as described in 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 323. It also states any person desiring issuance of the State certification or coverage under a general certification required by Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act shall file with the Director of the North Carolina Division of Water Quality. Pursuant to G.S. 143-215.6A, these violations and any future violations are subject to a civil penalty assessment of up to a maximum of \$25,000.00 per day for each violation.



This Certification can be contested as provided in Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes by filing a Petition for a Contested Case Hearing (Petition) with the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) within sixty (60) calendar days. Requirements for filing a Petition are set forth in Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 26 of the North Carolina Administrative Code. Additional information regarding requirements for filing a Petition and Petition forms may be accessed at <http://www.ncoah.com/> or by calling the OAH Clerk's Office at (919) 431-3000.

A party filing a Petition must serve a copy of the Petition on:

William F. Lane, General Counsel  
Department of Environmental Quality  
1601 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1601

If the party filing the Petition is not the permittee, then the party must also serve the recipient of the Certification in accordance with N.C.G.S 150B-23(a).

This the 2nd day of December 2025

Signed by:

*Faith Hardin*

3185423002EA45E...

Faith Hardin, Supervisor  
401 & Buffer Transportation Permitting Branch

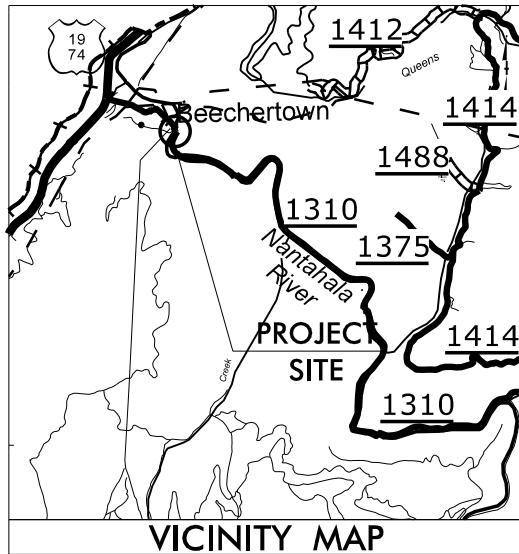
WQC No. 8420



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality | Division of Water Resources  
512 North Salisbury Street | 1617 Mail Service Center | Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1617  
919.707.9000

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

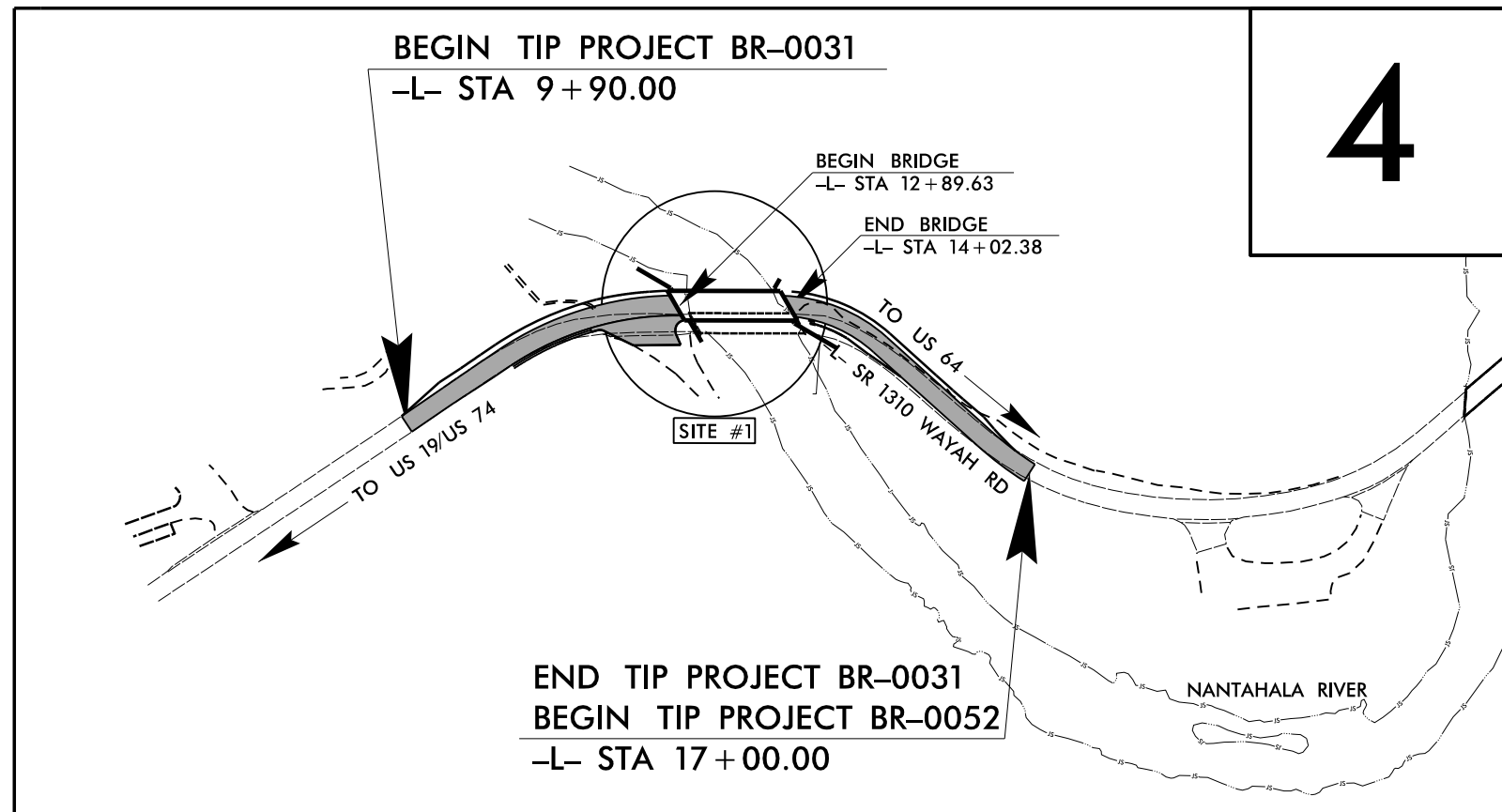
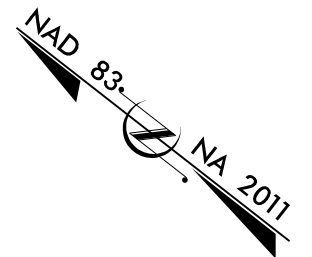
**MACON COUNTY**

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			



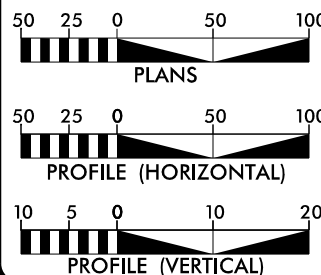
DESIGN EXCEPTION FOR DESIGN SPEED  
THIS PROJECT HAS NO CONTROLLED ACCESS  
THIS PROJECT IS NOT WITHIN ANY MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES  
CLEARING ON THIS PROJECT SHALL BE PERFORMED TO THE LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY METHOD II.

DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL  
UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED

CONTRACT: TIP PROJECT: BR-0031

CONTRACT: TIP PROJECT: BR-0031

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

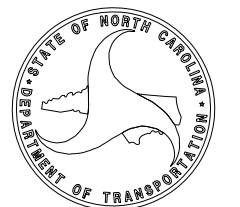
DOUGLAS KRETCHMAN, PE  
PROJECT TEAM LEAD

HYDRAULICS ENGINEER


SIGNATURE: P.E.


ROADWAY DESIGN  
ENGINEER

SIGNATURE: P.E.



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	

 DENOTES IMPACTS IN SURFACE WATER

 DENOTES TEMPORARY IMPACTS IN SURFACE WATER

**SITE #1**  
**1" = 50'**

**SITE #1**

END OVERLAY  
BEGIN GRADE  
-L- STA 10+40.00

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-?



PROJECT REFERENCE NO.		SHEET NO.	
BR-0031		4	
R/W SHEET NO.			
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER		HYDRAULICS ENGINEER	
<h1 style="text-align: center;">PERMIT DRAWING</h1> <h1 style="text-align: center;">SHEET 3 OF 5</h1>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED</b></p>			

DENOTES TEMPORARY  
IMPACTS IN SURFACE WATER

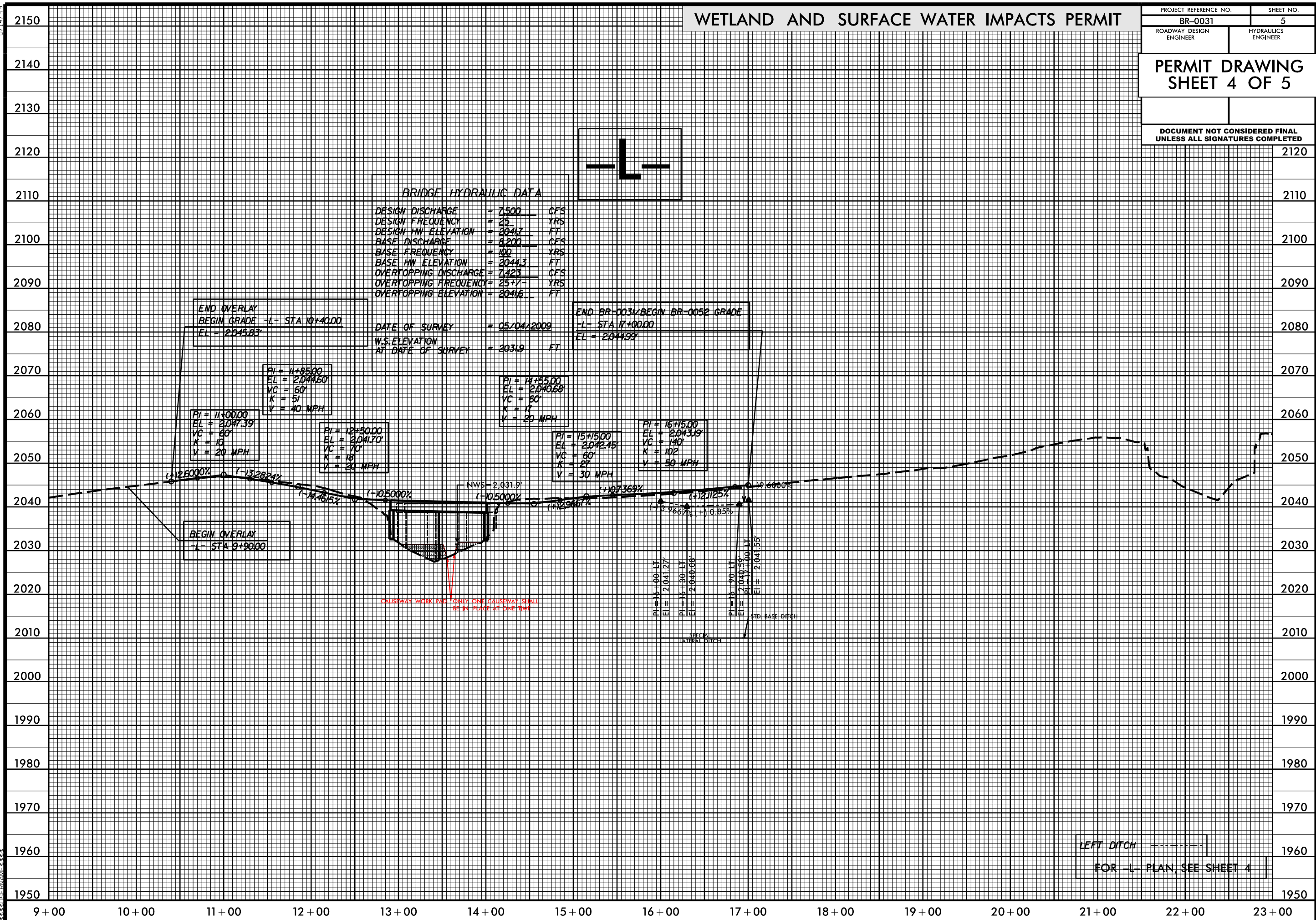
**SITE #1**  
**1" = 50'**

END OVERLAY  
BEGIN GRADE  
-L- STA 10+40.00

SITE #1

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





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