



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON
SECRETARY

April 29, 2026

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Water Resources Development Act
(WRDA) Transportation Permitting Branch

NC Division of Water Resources
Transportation Permitting Branch

ATTN: Ms. Crystal Amschler,
NCDOT Coordinator

Ms. Amy Annino,
NCDOT Coordinator

Subject: **Section 404 Permit & 401 Water Quality Certification** for permanent repairs to US 74 A (Gerton Highway) from Bearwallow Mountain Road to Grant Mountain Road. Henderson County, Division 14, WBS 18314.1045039.

Dear NCDOT Coordinators:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes the following project as the result of damage caused by Hurricane Helene in late September 2024:

This project will be the permanent repair and re-establishment of 2.17 miles of US 74A from Bearwallow Mountain Road to Grant Mountain Road. The work includes re-establishing US 74A to appropriate design standards which will result in the cleaning, repair or replacement of 17 pipe or culvert structures. This project will also result in the stabilization, re-establishment or relocation of several streams which compromise US 74A. A description of impacts is found in the following tables.

Approvals Requested:

404 Nationwide Permit 14.

401 Individual Water Quality Certification.

FHWA is the lead federal agency for this project.

Streams in the Project Area

Permit Site	Stream Name	Status	Stream Re-Establishment to Pre-Helene Location	Perm Fill (loss)	Bank Stabilization	Temporary Impact	ACOE Mitigation Required	DWR Mitigation Required	Impact Description
1	Hickory Creek & UT	Perennial	--	--	95 lf 0.03 ac	35 lf < 0.01 ac	--	--	Permanent bank stabilization is necessary to stabilize and reduce water velocity at the tributary and Hickory Creek confluence. Temporary impacts upstream and downstream of bridge are shown for construction methods and access.
2	UT Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	--	--	3 lf < 0.01 ac	--	--	The existing 18" CSP requires removal of debris material and a section to be replaced. The temporary impact is due to outlet protection tying to the jurisdictional stream. Jurisdiction of the stream begins beyond the outlet of the 18" CSP.
3	Hickory Creek	Perennial	157 lf 0.05 ac	276 lf 0.07 ac	110 lf 0.04 ac	39 lf < 0.01	276	276	Stream realignment is necessary due to the roadway repair and moving the channel away from the roadway for future hazard mitigation. The stream relocation is 276 linear feet and the portion of the stream that will be reestablished to pre-Helene alignment is 157 linear feet. Permanent bank stabilization is needed downstream of the Konatoga Circle crossing to stabilize the banks and reduce water velocity. Temporary impacts are shown for dewatering upstream and downstream of the channel realignment. NCDOT believes moving the stream away from US 74A will facilitate a "jump start" to stream stability as well as to provide a long-term increased buffer from the roadway. This stretch of stream was scoured and deforested and remains vulnerable to additional destabilization during high flow events. Due to this, NCDOT requests a reduction in mitigation ratios for this system, as stabilization and increased buffer will result in uplift from the current degraded damaged stream condition.
4	UT Hickory Creek	Intermittent	--	--	--	86 lf < 0.01 ac	--	--	Temporary stream impacts are due to being located within the Temporary Construction Easement. The stream will be repaired if there are any impacts during construction.
5	UT Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	9 lf <0.01 ac	--	18 lf < 0.01 ac	0 lf	0 lf	The existing 6'x4' RCBC requires removal of debris material. Temporary impacts to the stream are required for equipment to access the pipe and for temporary dewatering (pump around) as well as tie in of the ditches at the pipe RCBC inlet. Pipe Removal/Stream daylighting. Permanent stream impacts for outlet protection is needed at the downstream end of the RCBC. The existing 36" RCP will be removed and 60 linear feet of this stream will be daylighted in a 4' base ditch. Due to severe erosion at the outlet of the pipe, there will 9 lf of permeant impact to repair this outlet. Although this impact is greater than bank stabilization, NCDOT does not propose mitigation for this activity as stream stability and continuity will be improved.
6	Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	--	--	39 lf 0.01 ac	--	--	Remove Pipe and Replace with Base Ditch/Stream Daylighting. Temporary impacts are illustrated at Hickory Creek due to replacing the existing pipe with a 4' base ditch and tying in the daylighted section of stream to Hickory Creek. This includes impacts to the extent of the construction easement.
7	UT Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	--	52 lf < 0.01 ac	15 lf < 0.01 ac	--	--	Bank Stabilization. Existing banks along the stream channel adjacent to the road require permanent bank stabilization. Temporary impacts shown upstream are for dewatering and access, if necessary, during construction.
8	UT Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	--	7 lf < 0.01 ac	28 lf < 0.01 ac	--	--	Bank Stabilization. Existing banks along the stream channel and adjacent Site 7 require permanent bank stabilization. Temporary impacts shown upstream are for dewatering and access, if necessary, during construction.
9	Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	--	97 lf 0.03 ac	31 lf 0.03 ac	--	--	The existing double barrel culvert requires removal of debris material. Temporary impacts upstream and downstream are for dewatering and access, if necessary, during construction. Bank Stabilization. Existing banks along the stream channel adjacent to the road require permanent bank stabilization upstream and downstream of the double barrel crossing of Hickory Creek.
10	Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	--	--	28 lf <0.01 ac	--	--	24" RCP-IV installation. An energy dissipator pad is being installed at the outlet of the 24" RCP. The 24" RCP is part of the roadway drainage system and is not associated with a jurisdictional stream. The rip rap pad does not tie to Hickory Creek. Temporary impacts are shown at Hickory Creek within the easement for construction access if needed.
11	UT Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	87 lf 0.01 ac	17 lf <0.01 ac	8 lf <0.01 ac	87	0	Replace existing 7'x 8' RCBC with an 8'x 8'RCBC. Permanent stream impacts are included for bank stabilization necessary at the inlet of the RCBC. Permanent impacts downstream of the RCBC are to tie the unnamed tributary back to the relocated Hickory Creek (Site 12). Temporary impacts shown upstream of the RCBC are for dewatering and construction access.
12	Hickory Creek	Perennial	310 lf 0.12 ac	221 lf 0.08 ac	--	14 lf < 0.01 ac	221	221	Stream realignment. Damage to the roadway structure from Hurricane Helene requires permanent realignment of the channel at this location. The stream relocation is 221 linear feet and the portion of the stream that will be reestablished to pre-Helene alignment is 310 linear feet. NCDOT believes moving the stream away from US 74A will facilitate a "jump start" to stream stability as well as to provide a long-term increased buffer from the roadway. This stretch of stream was scoured and deforested and remains vulnerable to additional destabilization during high flow events. Due to this, NCDOT requests a reduction in mitigation ratios for this system, as stabilization and increased buffer will result in uplift from the current degraded damaged stream condition.
13	Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	--	--	320 lf 0.08 ac	--	--	Temporary Construction Access. Access is required to build a wall along the roadway from approximately Sta. 107 to 109.

Streams in the Project Area (continued)

Permit Site	Stream Name	Status/Class	Stream Re-Establishment to Pre-Helene Location	Perm Fill (loss)	Bank Stabilization	Temporary Impact	ACOE Mitigation Required	DWR Mitigation Required	Impact Description/ Avoidance and Minimization
14	Hickory Creek	Perennial	--	--	93 0.01 ac	--	--	--	Slope Repair / Construction Easement. Temporary impacts are illustrated at this location due to the construction easement. Permanent impacts along Hickory Creek are for installation of the rip rap at embankment at the base of the grouted base ditch necessary for the slope repair.
15	UT Hickory Creek	Intermittent	--	99 lf 0.01 ac	--	15 lf 0.01 ac	99	0	The existing 3.5' x 2.5' RCBC requires removal of debris material. Temporary impacts to the stream are required for equipment to access the pipe and for temporary dewatering (pump around). Slope and drainage system repair. Permanent impacts are needed for updates and repair of the drainage system and slope at this location. A section of stream that is currently daylighted will be placed in a 48" CSP when repairing the slope that failed in this location. Permanent impacts for inlet protection are needed at upstream end of the 3.5' x 2.5' RCBC. An energy dissipator pad is needed at the outlet of the drainage system.
16	UT Hickory Creek	Intermittent	--	78 lf < 0.01 ac	--	3 lf < 0.01 ac	78	0	Install New 36" RCP-IV This location requires changes to the drainage system with installation of a new 36" RCP, stabilization of the existing channel with a 3' base ditch at the inlet of the pipe, and backfill of the stream channel which is directly adjacent to the roadway. Temporary impacts to the stream are required for equipment to access the pipe and for temporary dewatering (pump around).
17	UT Hickory Creek	Intermittent	--	40 lf < 0.01 ac	--	42 lf < 0.01 ac	40	0	Remove existing 18" RCP and replace with 48" RCP-IV This location requires changes to the drainage system associated with Site 15. An existing 18" RCP under the road will be replaced with a new 48" RCP with inlet and outlet protection. Temporary impacts to the stream are required for equipment to access the pipe and for temporary dewatering (pump around).
18	UT Hickory Creek	Perennial	17 < 0.01 ac	--	--	18 lf < 0.01 ac	--	--	Channel realignment and 2' x 4' RCBC debris removal. Stream impacts are due to storm debris blocking the existing 2'x4' RCBC at the inlet which caused a secondary channel to form along the roadway. The existing RCBC will be cleaned and retained. The stream will then be reestablished to a single channel and reconnected to the 2'x4' RCBC crossing.
19	UT Hickory Creek	Intermittent	--	99 lf 0.02 ac	--	14 lf < 0.01 ac	99	0	Removal of existing 24" CMP and installation of new 30" RCP-IV/30" CSP/30" RPC-III. Permanent impacts are a result of stabilization of the existing channel with 3' base ditch at the inlet and outlet protection. Temporary impacts to the stream are required for equipment to access the pipe and for temporary dewatering (pump around).
20	Hickory Creek	Perennial	524 lf 0.2 ac	250 lf 0.09 ac	--	59 lf 0.02 ac	250	250	Stream realignment. Damage to the roadway structure from Hurricane Helene requires permanent realignment of the channel at this location. The stream relocation is 250 linear feet and the portion of the stream that will be reestablished to pre-Helene alignment is 524 linear feet. NCDOT believes moving the stream away from US 74A will facilitate a "jump start" to stream stability as well as to provide a long-term increased buffer from the roadway. This stretch of stream was scoured and deforested and remains vulnerable to additional destabilization during high flow events. Due to this, NCDOT requests a reduction in mitigation ratios for this system, as stabilization and increased buffer will result in uplift from the current degraded damaged stream condition.
21	Hickory Creek	Perennial	92 lf 0.03 ac	106 lf 0.04 ac	--	68 lf 0.03 ac	106	106	Stream realignment. Damage to the roadway structure from Hurricane Helene requires permanent realignment of the channel at this location. The stream relocation is 106 linear feet and the portion of the stream that will be reestablished to pre-Helene alignment is 92 linear feet NCDOT believes moving the stream away from US 74A will facilitate a "jump start" to stream stability as well as to provide a long-term increased buffer from the roadway. This stretch of stream was scoured and deforested and remains vulnerable to additional destabilization during high flow events. Due to this, NCDOT requests a reduction in mitigation ratios for this system, as stabilization and increased buffer will result in uplift from the current degraded damaged stream condition.
22	Hickory Creek	Perennial	434 lf 0.15 ac	492 lf 0.16 ac	--	76 lf 0.02 ac	492	492	Stream realignment. Damage to the roadway structure from Hurricane Helene requires permanent realignment of the channel at this location. The stream relocation is 492 linear feet and the portion of the stream that will be reestablished to pre-Helene alignment is 434 linear feet. NCDOT believes moving the stream away from US 74A will facilitate a "jump start" to stream stability as well as to provide a long-term increased buffer from the roadway. This stretch of stream was scoured and deforested and remains vulnerable to additional destabilization during high flow events. Due to this, NCDOT requests a reduction in mitigation ratios for this system, as stabilization and increased buffer will result in uplift from the current degraded damaged stream condition.
23	UT Hickory Creek	Intermittent	--	23 lf < 0.01 ac	--	31 lf < 0.01 ac	0	0	Removal of existing concrete box culvert (size unknown) and installation of new 48" RCP-IV. Stream realignment. Inlet stabilization at the 48" RCP inlet at the special "V" ditch tie-in and stream realignment at the outlet to tie into the relocated Hickory Creek. Temporary impacts to the stream are required for equipment to access the pipe and for temporary dewatering (pump around). Pre-Helene, this stream had a sharp 90-degree bend at the road, and then a second 90-degree bend to enter the pipe under US 74A. The location of the new structure will eliminate these bends, as well as the parallel run beside US 74A. Due to the establishment of a more natural transition, as well as the benefit of removing this parallel to US 74 run, NCDOT does not propose mitigation for this 23 feet.

Streams in the Project Area (continued)

	Stream Re-Establishment to Pre-Helene Location	Permanent Fill (loss)	Permanent Fill (Bank Stabilization)	Temporary Impact	ACOE Mitigation Required	DWR Mitigation Required
Totals:	1,534 0.55 ac	1,780 lf 0.48 ac	471 lf 0.12 ac	990 lf 0.25 ac	1,748	1,345
	3,785 1.15 ac					

Wetlands in the Project Area

Permit Site	Excavation in Wetlands (loss)	Temporary Impacts in Wetlands	ACOE Mitigation Required	Impact Description/ Avoidance and Minimization
4	< 0.01 ac	--	*	<p>Excavation for the channel realignment. A small amount (< 0.01 ac) of permanent excavation in wetlands occurs at this location due to the channel realignment at Site 3.</p> <p>Additional hand clearing (0.06 ac) is illustrated in wetlands within the Temporary Construction Easement.</p> <p>*Due to the small amount of wetland impacts at this location, NCDOT does not propose mitigation for this activity.</p>

Endangered Species Act: Protected Species listed from IPaC¹ as of the date of this application:

Common Name	Habitat Present	Survey Dates	Proposed Biological Conclusion	FWS Concurrence Remarks
Gray bat Northern long-eared bat Tricolored bat (Proposed)	Yes	n/a	May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect (under PBO/PCO)	PBO Use Confirmation Attached
White irisette	Yes	6/9-10/2025	No Effect	n/a
Small whorled pogonia	Yes	6/9-10/2025	No Effect	n/a
Rock gnome lichen	No	n/a	No Effect	n/a
Bog turtle ²	No	n/a	Not Required	n/a
Monarch butterfly (Proposed) ³	Unknown	n/a	n/a	n/a
Eastern Hellbender (Proposed) ³	Unknown	n/a	n/a	n/a

1 IPaC – Information for Planning and Consultation (US Fish and Wildlife Service)
 2 Similarity of Appearance (Threatened); A species that is threatened due to similarity of appearance with another listed species and is listed for its protection.
 3 Due to the recent listings of monarch butterfly within the proposed action area, NCDOT does not have complete information at this time. It is anticipated that construction will be complete by the timeframes proposed for full listing, should the species be formally listed.

Historic Resources Summary (documentation included)

106 Topic	Findings	
Historic Architecture	No Historic Properties Present	
Archaeology	No Surveys Required	
Tribal Coordination	Tribe	Response
Tribal Coordination Letters were sent to the following Tribes on January 6, 2025:	Catawba Indian Nation	<i>No response received</i>
	Cherokee Nation	<i>No response received</i>
	Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians	<i>No response received</i>
	Muscogee (Creek) Nation	<i>No response received</i>
	United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma	<i>No response received</i>

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Michael Turchy, at maturchy@ncdot.gov or (919) 707-6157.

Sincerely,



Digitally signed by Michael Turchy

Michael A. Turchy
 Environmental Coordination and Permitting Group Leader

ePCN

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
NATIONWIDE PERMIT PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION (PCN)

For use of this form, see 33 CFR 330; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R.

Form Approved -
OMB No. 0710-
0003
Expires: 2027-10-31

DATA REQUIRED BY THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974

Authority Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Regulatory Program of the Corps of Engineers (Corps); Final Rule 33 CFR 320-332.

Principal Purpose Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the nationwide permit pre-construction notification.

Routine Uses This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public and may be made available as part of the agency coordination process.

Disclosure Submission of requested information is voluntary, however, if information is not provided the permit application cannot be evaluated nor can

The public reporting burden for this collection of information, 0710-0003, is estimated to average 11 hours per response, including the 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 whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil. 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.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE EMAIL.

One set of original drawings or good reproducible copies which show the location and character of the proposed activity must be attached to this application (see *sample drawings and/or instructions*) and be submitted to the district engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity. An application that is not completed in full will be returned.

(ITEMS 1 THRU 4 TO BE FILLED BY THE CORPS)

1. APPLICATION NO.	2. FIELD OFFICE CODE	3. DATE RECEIVED 04/29/2026	4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETE
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(ITEMS BELOW TO BE FILLED BY APPLICANT)

<p>5. APPLICANT'S NAME</p> <p>First – Michael Middle – Last – Turchy</p> <p>Company – North Carolina Department of Transportation</p> <p>Company Title –</p> <p>E-mail Address – maturchy@ncdot.gov</p>	<p>8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE (<i>agent is not required</i>)</p> <p>First – Middle – Last –</p> <p>Company –</p> <p>E-mail Address –</p>
<p>6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS</p> <p>Address – 1598 Mail Service Center</p> <p>City – Raleigh State – NC ZIP – 27606 Country – US</p>	<p>9. AGENT'S ADDRESS</p> <p>Address –</p> <p>City – State – ZIP – Country –</p>
<p>7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NOs. with AREA CODE</p> <p>a. Business b. c. Fax</p> <p>+19197076157</p>	<p>10. AGENT'S PHONE NOs. with AREA CODE</p> <p>a. b. c. Fax</p>

STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION

11. I hereby authorize, to act in my behalf as my agent in the processing of this nationwide permit pre-construction notification and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this nationwide permit pre-construction notification.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE

NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY

12. PROJECT NAME or TITLE (*see instructions*)

Work Package #3 for permanent repairs to US 74 A (Gerton Highway) from Bearwallow Mountain Road to Grant Mountain Road

NAME, LOCATION, AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY

13. NAME OF WATERBODY, IF KNOWN (*if applicable*)

14. PROPOSED ACTIVITY STREET ADDRESS (*if applicable*)

15. LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY (*see instructions*)

Latitude: 35.4733278 °N Longitude: -82.3342906 °W

Address: 3877 Gerton Hwy

City: Gerton State: NC Zip: 28735

16. OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN (*see instructions*)

Section – Township – Range –
County – Henderson County Project Area – 6.9 Acres State Tax Parcel ID –

17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE

18. IDENTIFY THE SPECIFIC NATIONWIDE PERMIT(S) YOU PROPOSE TO USE

NWP 3 Maintenance

19. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY (*see instructions*)

Repair to US 74A which includes repairs of the roadway and cleaning/repairing/replacement of culverts and pipes destroyed by Hurricane Helene from Bearwallow Mountain Road to Grant Mountain Road in Gerton, Henderson County.

Reconstruction of the roadway, repair/replacement of pipes and culverts, and reestablishing Hickory Creek where necessary.

20. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES (*see instructions*)

Streams and wetlands were avoided to the extent practicable. Impacts to streams were minimized by using bank stabilization where feasible rather than embedding rip rap. Pipe and culvert crossings were assessed and retained if they were still functioning and met capacity requirements. The stream reestablishment for Hickory Creek was only proposed where necessary to rebuild the road and placed in its pre-Helene location where possible.

21. PURPOSE OF NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY (*Describe the reason or purpose of the project, see instructions*)

Repair the roadway destroyed by Hurricane Helene.

22. QUANTITY OF WETLANDS, STREAMS, OR OTHER TYPES OF WATERS DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY PROPOSED NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY

(see instructions)

Acres Linear Feet Cubic Yards Dredged or Discharged

Each PCN must include a delineation of wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site.

25. List any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. (see instructions)

26. If the proposed activity will result in the loss of greater than 1/10-acre of wetlands and/or the loss of greater than 3/100-acre of stream bed and requires pre-construction notification, explain how the compensatory mitigation requirement in paragraph (c) and/or paragraph (d) of general condition 23 will be satisfied, or explain why the adverse environmental effects are no more than minimal and why compensatory mitigation should not be required for the proposed activity.

Please see cover letter impact tables regarding impact descriptions and mitigation proposals.

27. Is any portion of the nationwide permit activity already complete? Yes No

If Yes, describe the completed work:

28. List the name(s) of any species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity. (see instructions)

Tricolored bat, Northern Long-Eared Bat, Gray bat, Monarch butterfly, Small whorled pogonia, White irisette, Rock gnome lichen

ADDITIONAL AFFECTED SPECIES:

The USFWS, Asheville Ecological Services Field Office reviewed this project for coverage under the Western North Carolina (WNC) Bat Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO), issued April 1, 2025. In a letter dated July 7, 2025, they confirmed the project meets the criteria for coverage under this PBO in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 1543) (ESA), thus concluding formal consultation for the project for tricolored bat, northern long-eared bat, and gray bat.

In June of 2025, HDR biologists conducted surveys for small whorled pogonia and white irisette occurrences in the project corridor. While suitable habitat for both small whorled pogonia and white irisette was present along parts of the project corridor, no individuals of the federally listed plants were found during the survey. It is determined that the proposed project would have No Effect on the small whorled pogonia or white irisette. See additional information in the attached Categorical Exclusion.

29. List any historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property or properties. (see instructions)

NCDOT Historic Architecture and Archaeology staff reviewed the project in its entirety. An Effects Required Form was issued in January 2025 for Historic Architecture and Landscapes for four sites, one of which is located in the proposed action area, Robertson Gift Shop (HN0245), just east of Bearwallow Road (see project file). It was determined that the site is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). However, proposed roadway repairs are for resurfacing of US 74A and to reestablish the driveway tie when complete. As such, the proposed action is anticipated to have no effect on the Robertson Gift Shop per e-mail correspondence from NCDOT Historic Architecture on January 7, 2026.

30. For a proposed NWP activity that will occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System, or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the system while the river is in an official study status, identify the Wild and Scenic River or the "study river":

31. If the proposed NWP activity also requires permission from the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or

use a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers federally authorized civil works project, have you submitted a written request for section 408 permission from the Corps district having jurisdiction over that project? Yes No

If "yes", please provide the date your request was submitted to the Corps district:

32. If the terms of the NWP(s) you want to use require additional information to be included in the PCN, please include that information in this space or provide it on an additional sheet of paper marked Block 30. (see instructions)

33. Pre-construction notification is hereby made for one or more nationwide permit(s) to authorize the work described in this notification. I certify that the information in this pre-construction notification is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

Michael Turchy

04/29/2026

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE

SIGNATURE OF AGENT

DATE

The pre-construction notification must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) and, if the statement in Block 11 has been filled out and signed, the authorized agent.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

**Instructions for Preparing a
Department of the Army
Nationwide Permit (NWP) Pre-Construction Notification (PCN)**

Blocks 1 through 4. To be completed by the Corps of Engineers.

Block 5. Applicant's Name. Enter the name and the e-mail address of the responsible party or parties. If the responsible party is an agency, company, corporation, or other organization, indicate the name of the organization and responsible officer and title. If more than one party is associated with the preconstruction notification, please attach a sheet of paper with the necessary information marked Block 5.

Block 6. Address of Applicant. Please provide the full address of the party or parties responsible for the PCN. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 6.

Block 7. Applicant's Telephone Number(s). Please provide the telephone number where you can usually be reached during normal business hours.

Blocks 8 through 11. To be completed, if you choose to have an agent.

Block 8. Authorized Agent's Name and Title. Indicate name of individual or agency, designated by you, to represent you in this process. An agent can be an attorney, builder, contractor, engineer, consultant, or any other person or organization. Note: An agent is not required.

Blocks 9 and 10. Agent's Address and Telephone Number. Please provide the complete mailing address of the agent, along with the telephone number where he / she can be reached during normal business hours.

Block 11. Statement of Authorization. To be completed by the applicant, if an agent is to be employed.

Block 12. Proposed Nationwide Permit Activity Name or Title. Please provide a name identifying the proposed NWP activity, e.g., Windward Marina, Rolling Hills Subdivision, or Smith Commercial Center.

Block 13. Name of Waterbody. Please provide the name (if it has a name) of any stream, lake, marsh, or other waterway to be directly impacted by the NWP activity. If it is a minor (no name) stream, identify the waterbody the minor stream enters.

Block 14. Proposed Activity Street Address. If the proposed NWP activity is located at a site having a street address (not a box number), please enter it in Block 14.

Block 15. Location of Proposed Activity. Enter the latitude and longitude of where the proposed NWP activity is located. Indicate whether the project location provided is the center of the project or whether the project location is provided as the latitude and longitude for each of the "corners" of the project area requiring evaluation. If there are multiple sites, please list the latitude and longitude of each site (center or corners) on a separate sheet of paper and mark as Block 15.

Block 16. Other Location Descriptions. If available, provide the Tax Parcel Identification number of the site, Section, Township, and Range of the site (if known), and / or local Municipality where the site is located.

Block 17. Directions to the Site. Provide directions to the site from a known location or landmark. Include highway and street numbers as well as names. Also provide distances from known locations and any other information that would assist in locating the site. You may also provide a description of the location of the proposed NWP activity, such as lot numbers, tract numbers, or you may choose to locate the proposed NWP activity site from a known point (such as the right descending bank of Smith Creek, one mile downstream from the Highway 14 bridge). If a large river or stream, include the river mile of the proposed NWP activity site if known. If there are multiple locations, please indicate directions to each location on a separate sheet of paper and mark as Block 17.

Block 18. Identify the Specific Nationwide Permit(s) You Propose to Use. List the number(s) of the Nationwide Permit(s) you want to use to authorize the proposed activity (e.g., NWP 29).

Block 19. Description of the Proposed Nationwide Permit Activity. Describe the proposed NWP activity, including the direct and indirect adverse environmental effects the activity would cause. The description of the proposed activity should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse environmental effects of the activity will be no more than minimal. Identify the materials to be used in construction, as well as the methods by which the work is to be done.

Provide sketches when necessary to show that the proposed NWP activity complies with the terms of the applicable NWP(s). Sketches usually clarify the activity and result in a quicker decision. Sketches should contain sufficient detail to provide an illustrative description of the proposed NWP activity (e.g., a conceptual plan), but do not need to be detailed engineering plans.

The written descriptions and illustrations are an important part of the application. Please describe, in detail, what you wish to do. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 19.

Block 20. Description of Proposed Mitigation Measures. Describe any proposed mitigation measures intended to reduce the adverse environmental effects caused by the proposed NWP activity. The description of any proposed mitigation measures should be sufficiently detailed to allow the district engineer to determine that the adverse environmental effects of the activity will be no more than minimal and to determine the need for compensatory mitigation or additional mitigation measures.

Block 21. Purpose of Nationwide Permit Activity. Describe the purpose and need for the proposed NWP activity. What will it be used for and why? Also include a brief description of any related activities associated with the proposed project. Provide the approximate dates you plan to begin and complete all work.

Block 22. Quantity of Wetlands, Streams, or Other Types of Waters Directly Affected by the Proposed Nationwide Permit Activity. For discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, provide the amount of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters filled, flooded, excavated, or drained by the proposed NWP activity. For structures or work in navigable waters of the United States subject to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, provide the amount of navigable waters filled, dredged, or occupied by one or more structures (e.g., aids to navigation, mooring buoys) by the proposed NWP activity.

For multiple NWPs, or for separate and distant crossings of waters of the United States authorized by NWPs 12 or 14, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 21 to provide the quantities of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters filled, flooded, excavated, or drained (or dredged or occupied by structures, if in waters subject to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899) for each NWP. For NWPs 12 and 14, include the amount of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters filled, flooded, excavated, or drained for each separate and distant crossing of waters or wetlands. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 22.

Block 23. Identify Any Other Nationwide Permit(s), Regional General Permit(s), or Individual Permit(s) Used to Authorize Any Part of Proposed Activity or Any Related Activity. List any other NWP(s), regional general permit(s), or individual permit(s) used or intended to be used to authorize any part of the proposed project or any related activity. For linear projects, list other separate and distant crossings of waters and wetlands authorized by NWPs 12 or 14 that do not require PCNs. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 23.

Block 24. Compensatory Mitigation Statement for Losses of Greater Than 1/10-Acre of Wetlands and/or of Greater Than 3/100-Acre of Stream Bed When Pre-Construction Notification is Required. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of NWP general condition 23 require compensatory mitigation at a minimum one-for-one replacement ratio for all wetland losses that exceed 1/10-acre and/or for all losses of stream bed that exceed 3/100-acre, unless the district engineer determines in writing that either some other form of mitigation is more environmentally appropriate or the adverse environmental effects of the proposed NWP activity are no more than minimal without compensatory mitigation, and provides an activity-specific waiver of this requirement. Describe the proposed compensatory mitigation for wetland losses greater than 1/10 acre and/or for losses of stream bed that exceed 3/100-acre, or provide an explanation of why the district engineer should not require wetland and/or stream compensatory mitigation for the proposed NWP activity. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 24.

Block 25. Is Any Portion of the Nationwide Permit Activity Already Complete? Describe any work that has already been completed for the NWP activity.

Block 26. List the Name(s) of Any Species Listed As Endangered or Threatened under the Endangered Species Act that Might be Affected by the Nationwide Permit Activity. If you are not a federal agency, and if any listed species or designated critical habitat might be affected or is in the vicinity of the proposed NWP activity, or if the proposed NWP activity is located in designated critical habitat, list the name(s) of those endangered or threatened species that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity. If you are a Federal agency, and the proposed NWP activity requires a PCN, you must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

Block 27. List Any Historic Properties that Have the Potential to be Affected by the Nationwide Permit Activity. If you are not a Federal agency, and if any historic properties have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity, list the name(s) of those historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity. If you are a Federal agency, and the proposed NWP activity requires a PCN, you must provide documentation demonstrating compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Block 28. List the Wild and Scenic River or Congressionally Designated Study River if the Nationwide Permit Activity Would Occur in such a River.

If the proposed NWP activity will occur in a river in the National Wild and Scenic River System or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, provide the name of the river. For a list of Wild and Scenic Rivers and study rivers, please visit <http://www.rivers.gov/>.

Block 29. Nationwide Permit Activities that also Require Permission from the Corps Under 33 U.S.C. 408. If the proposed NWP activity also requires permission from the Corps under 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will temporarily or permanently alter, occupy, or use a Corps federal authorized civil works project, indicate whether you have submitted a written request for section 408 permission from the Corps district having jurisdiction over that project.

Block 30. Other Information Required For Nationwide Permit Pre Construction Notifications. The terms of some of the Nationwide Permits include additional information requirements for preconstruction notifications:

- * NWP 3, Maintenance –information regarding the original design capacities and configurations of the outfalls, intakes, small impoundments, and canals.
- * NWP 31, Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities –a description of the maintenance baseline and the dredged material disposal site.
- * NWP 33, Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering –a restoration plan showing how all temporary fills and structures will be removed and the area restored to pre project conditions.
- * NWP 44, Mining Activities –if reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the final reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre construction notification.
- * NWP 45, Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events –documentation, such as a recent topographic survey or photographs, to justify the extent of the proposed restoration.
- * NWP 48, Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities –(1) a map showing the boundaries of the project area, with latitude and longitude coordinates for each corner of the project area; (2) the name(s) of the species that will be cultivated during the period this NWP is in effect; (3) whether canopy predator nets will be used; (4) whether suspended cultivation techniques will be used; and (5) general water depths in the project area (a detailed survey is not required).
- * NWP 49, Coal Remining Activities –a document describing how the overall mining plan will result in a net increase in aquatic resource functions must be submitted to the district engineer and receive written authorization prior to commencing the activity.
- * NWP 50, Underground Coal Mining Activities –if reclamation is required by other statutes, then a copy of the reclamation plan must be submitted with the pre construction notification.

If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 30.

Block 31. Signature of Applicant or Agent. The PCN must be signed by the person proposing to undertake the NWP activity, and if applicable, the authorized party (agent) that prepared the PCN. The signature of the person proposing to undertake the NWP activity shall be an affirmation that the party submitting the PCN possesses the requisite property rights to undertake the NWP activity (including compliance with special conditions, mitigation, etc.).

DELINEATION OF WETLANDS, OTHER SPECIAL AQUATIC SITES, AND OTHER WATERS

Each PCN must include a delineation of wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters, such as lakes and ponds, and perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, on the project site. Wetland delineations must be prepared in accordance with the current wetland delineation manual and regional supplement published by the Corps. The permittee may ask the Corps to delineate the special aquatic sites and other waters on the project site, but there may be a delay if the Corps does the delineation, especially if the project site is large or contains many wetlands, other special aquatic sites, and other waters. The 45 day PCN review period will not start until the delineation is submitted or has been completed by the Corps.

DRAWINGS AND ILLUSTRATIONS

General Information.

Three types of illustrations are needed to properly depict the work to be undertaken. These illustrations or drawings are identified as a Vicinity Map, a Plan View or a Typical Cross Section Map. Identify each illustration with a figure or attachment number. For linear projects (e.g. roads, subsurface utility lines, etc.) gradient

drawings should also be included. Please submit one original, or good quality copy, of all drawings on 8½x11 inch plain white paper (electronic media may be substituted). Use the fewest number of sheets necessary for your drawings or illustrations. Each illustration should identify the project, the applicant, and the type of illustration (vicinity map, plan view, or cross section). While illustrations need not be professional (many small, private project illustrations are prepared by hand), they should be clear, accurate, and contain all necessary information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

For proposed NWP activities that involve discharges into waters of the United States, water quality certification from the State, Tribe, or EPA must be obtained or waived (see NWP general condition 25). Some States, Tribes, or EPA have issued water quality certification for one or more NWPs. Please check the appropriate Corps district web site to see if water quality certification has already been issued for the NWP(s) you wish to use. For proposed NWP activities in coastal states, state Coastal Zone Management Act consistency concurrence must be obtained, or a presumption of concurrence must occur (see NWP general condition 26). Some States have issued Coastal Zone Management Act consistency concurrences for one or more NWPs. Please check the appropriate Corps district web site to see if Coastal Zone Management Act consistency concurrence has already been issued for the NWP(s) you wish to use.

Project Submittal Interim Form



Updated March 16, 2026

*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: *

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> For the Record Only (Courtesy Copy) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> New Project |
| <input type="radio"/> Modification/New Project with Existing ID | <input type="radio"/> More Information Response |
| <input type="radio"/> Other Agency Comments | <input type="radio"/> Pre-Application Submittal |
| <input type="radio"/> Re-Issuance\Renewal Request | <input type="radio"/> Stream or Buffer Appeal |

*** If this is a GP reissuance/renewal please reference the date of the plans and PCN that were originally verified.**

New Project - Please check the new project type if you are trying to submit a new project that needs an official approval decision.

Pre-Application Submittal – Please check the pre-application submittal if you just want feedback on your submittal and do not have the expectation that your submittal will be considered a complete application requiring a formal decision.

Modification/New Project With An Existing ID - Please check this box if you are submitting for a new phase of an existing project, a modification to an existing project or for any additional impacts to an existing project for an official approval decision.

More Information Response - Please check this type if you are responding to a request for information from staff and you have an ID# and version for this response.

Other Agency Comments - Please check this if you are submitting comments on an existing project.

Re-issuance\Renewal Request – Please check this if you are submitting for a re-issuance\renewal prior to expiration date for the corresponding 401/404. If submitting after the expiration date or if modification needed use Modification\New Project with Existing ID option.

Submittal Type: *

401 Application - Individual Certification (IC/WQC)

Is buffer approval also required? *

- Yes No

Project Contact Information

Name:

Michael Turchy

Who is submitting the information?

Email Address: *

maturchy@ncdot.gov

Project Information

Project Name: *

Work Package #3 for permanent repairs to US 74 A (Gerton Highway) from Bearwallow Mountain Road to Grant Mountain Road

Is this a public transportation project? *

Yes No

Is this a DOT project? *

Yes No

TIP#:

WBS#:

18314.1045039

(Applies to DOT projects only)

Project Status

Pre-let Under Construction Utility Relocation Underway

If you selected "Re-Issuance/Renewal Request" or "Modification/New Project with Existing ID" for your project type at the top of this form, please enter the current status of your project.

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

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 or S.L. 2023-134 (earmark)? *

ARPA S.L. 2023-134 (earmark) No

Is this application being filed jointly with another party involved with this project? *

Yes No

County (ies) *

Henderson

Please upload all files that need to be submitted.

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

Generated_Turchy_38956_44191_0_Appx_B_Aquatic_Resources.pdf	53.78KB
Generated_Turchy_38956_44191_0_Appx_C_Impacts.pdf	79.32KB
Generated_Turchy_38956_44191_0_Appx_D1_MB_ILF.pdf	47.11KB
Generated_Turchy_38956_44191_0_Appx_H_Supporting_Files.pdf	52.69KB
Generated_Turchy_38956_44191_0_ENG_6082_PCN.pdf	555.79KB
Generated_Turchy_38956_44191_0_NCDWR_401_JPA_Report.pdf	94.42KB
Generated_Turchy_38956_44191_0_Permit_Additional_Info.pdf	217.89KB
US 74 A WP3 2025-01-06 Tribal Coordination Letters.pdf	3.19MB
US 74 A WP3 2025-01-12 CE.pdf	10.32MB
US 74 A WP3 2025-07-07 FWS PBO Confirmation.pdf	212.33KB
US 74 A WP3 2025-07-29 No NRHP Archaeological Sites Present.pdf	6.73MB
US 74 A WP3 2026-02-01 HAL.pdf	140.69KB
US 74 A WP3 2026-03-17 Stream Relocation Plans.pdf	13.23MB
US 74 A WP3 2026-04-27 Application Cover Letter.pdf	306.5KB
US 74A Gerton WP3 Permit Set.pdf	15.35MB
US74A_Gerton_WP3_CE_Type1_Final_Signed_1.pdf	10.32MB

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

Describe the attachments or add comments:

*

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:

Appendix B. Aquatic Resource Inventory:

<i>Aquatic Resource Name</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Cowardin System</i>	<i>Cowardin Class</i>	<i>HGM Class</i>	<i>Local Waterway Name</i>	<i>Measurement Type</i>	<i>Measurement Amount</i>	<i>Measurement Units</i>	<i>Waters Type</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>
Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	8000	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.470624	-82.330079
S11 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	150.7	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.478463	-82.346349
S12 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	303.3	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.477363	-82.344065
S13 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	42.4	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.476581	-82.342789
S14 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	124.3	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.475492	-82.339799
S14B - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	45.4	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.475433	-82.339814
S15 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	148.2	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.474731	-82.338257
S16 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	83.5	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.474121	-82.336067
S17 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	82.1	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.473552	-82.333798
S18 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	97.3	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.473645	-82.333665
S19 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	110.4	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.473327	-82.331886
S20 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	61.6	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.473243	-82.331833
S21 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	73.6	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.472687	-82.330735
S23 - UT Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	93.3	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.469205	-82.327244
Wetland	NORTH CAROLINA					Area	3750	SQ_FT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.477461	-82.344049
UT to Hickory Creek	NORTH CAROLINA			RIVERINE		Linear	35	FOOT	DELIN.NOJD-404	35.479352	-82.348249

Appendix C. Impact Inventory:

<i>Water Name</i>	<i>Impact Name</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Type of Material Being Discharged</i>	<i>Resource Type</i>	<i>Permanent Loss (Y/N)</i>	<i>Impact Duration</i>	<i>Amount Type</i>	<i>Proposed Length</i>	<i>Proposed Width</i>	<i>Proposed Amount</i>	<i>Amount Units</i>
Hickory Creek	Site 1 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	61	15	915	Square Feet
UT to Hickory Creek	Site 1 - Bank Stabilization UT to Hickory Creek	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	34	5	170	Square Feet
S11 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 2 - 18" CSP Outlet Protection	Discharge of fill material	Rock tie to existing stream	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	3	3	9	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 3 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	110	15	1650	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 3 - Relocation	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	276	15	4140	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 3 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	157	15	2355	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 1 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	None - Access/Easement	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	35	15	525	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 3 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	None - Dewatering	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	17	15	255	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 3 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Rock - Access/Dewatering	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	22	15	330	Square Feet
Wetland	Site 4 - Stream Relocation	Discharge of fill material	Excavation of soil	Non-Tidal Wetland	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	5	5	25	Square Feet
S13 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 5 - Daylight Stream	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	9	3	27	Square Feet
S13 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 5 - 6x4 Culvert/Ditch tie	Discharge of fill material	Rock for ditch tie to stream	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	18	3	54	Square Feet
S12 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 4 - Temporary Construction Easement	Discharge of fill material	Rock - Access/Easement	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	86	2	172	Square Feet
Wetland	Site 4 - Temporary Construction Easement	Discharge of fill material	None - Hand Clearing	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	100	25	2500	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 6 - Daylight Stream	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	39	15	585	Square Feet

S14 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 7 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	52	2	104	Square Feet
S14 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 7 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock / Access	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	15	2	30	Square Feet
S14B - UT Hickory Creek	Site 8 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	7	6	42	Square Feet
S14B - UT Hickory Creek	Site 8 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock / Access	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	28	6	168	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 9 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	97	15	1455	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 9 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock / Access	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	31	15	465	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 10 - PDE	Discharge of fill material	Access / Easement	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	28	15	420	Square Feet
S15 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 11 - 8x8 RCBC	Discharge of fill material	Replace box culvert / relocation	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	87	7	609	Square Feet
S15 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 11 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	17	7	119	Square Feet
S15 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 11 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock / Access	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	8	7	56	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 12 - Relocation / TCE	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	221	15	3315	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 12 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	310	15	4650	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 12 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Easement / tie in with existing	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	14	15	210	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 13 - Temporary access	Discharge of fill material	Rock / Construction easement	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	320	11	3520	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 14 - Bank Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	93	4	372	Square Feet
S16 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 15 - Inlet/Outlet Pipe Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	28	2	56	Square Feet
S16 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 15 - Inlet/Outlet Pipe Stabilization	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	15	2	30	Square Feet
S16 - UT Hickory	Site 15 - 48" CSP	Discharge of fill	Pipe	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	71	2	142	Square Feet

Creek		material									
S17 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 16 - 36" RCP/Inlet Protection	Discharge of fill material	Rock and pipe	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	78	2	156	Square Feet
S17 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 16 - 36" RCP/Inlet Protection	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	3	2	6	Square Feet
S18 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 17 - 48" RCP/Inlet Protection	Discharge of fill material	Rock and pipe	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	40	2	80	Square Feet
S18 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 17 - 48" RCP/Inlet Protection	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	42	2	84	Square Feet
S19 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 18 - 2x4 RCBC / Realignment	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	17	3	51	Square Feet
S19 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 18 - 2x4 RCBC / Realignment	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	18	3	54	Square Feet
S21 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 19 - 30" RCP	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	99	1	99	Square Feet
S21 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 19 - 30" RCP	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	14	1	14	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 20 - Relocation	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	250	15	3750	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 20 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	59	15	885	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 20 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	524	15	7860	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 21 - Relocation	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	106	15	1590	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 21 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	92	15	1380	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 21 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	68	15	1020	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 22 - Relocation	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	492	15	7380	Square Feet

Hickory Creek	Site 22 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	434	15	6510	Square Feet
Hickory Creek	Site 22 - Reestablishing	Discharge of fill material	Rock and soil	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	76	15	1140	Square Feet
S23 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 23 - 48 RCP	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	Yes	Permanent	Fill Area	23	2	46	Square Feet
S23 - UT Hickory Creek	Site 23 - 48 RCP	Discharge of fill material	Rock	River/Stream	No	Temporary	Fill Area	31	2	62	Square Feet

Provide any additional information you may have about the proposed quantity of wetlands, streams, or other types of waters directly affected by the proposed activity. This level of detail is helpful to better understand the type of impacts that are proposed for your project.

The project entails repairing US 74A by replacing pipes/culverts as needed, adding bank stabilization, both relocating and reestablishing Hickory Creek where necessary, and includes areas where temporary impacts to streams and wetlands are needed for access and construction methods such as dewatering.

Appendix D-1. Compensatory Mitigation Inventory for Mitigation Banks/in Lieu Fee (ILF) Program:

<i>Mitigation Entry Name</i>	<i>Mitigation Type</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Credit Unit</i>	<i>Proposed Credit Amount</i>
All Streams	In-lieu Fee		Acre Based	

Appendix H. Supporting Information:

<i>Document Type</i>	<i>Document Created Date (YYYY-MM-DD)</i>	<i>Document Label</i>	<i>Information Source/Citation</i>	<i>Uploaded file name</i>
Historic Properties Cultural Resources Information	2025-01-06	Tribal Coordination Letters	NCDOT	US 74 A WP3 2025-01-06 Tribal Coordination Letters.pdf
Threatened Endangered Species Report	2025-07-07	FWS PBO Use Confirmation	USFWS	US 74 A WP3 2025-07-07 FWS PBO Confirmation.pdf
Historic Properties Cultural Resources Information	2025-07-29	No Archaeological Sites Present	NCDOT	US 74 A WP3 2025-07-29 No NRHP Archaeological Sites Present.pdf
Historic Properties Cultural Resources Information	2026-02-01	No Historical Sites Present Letter	SHPO	US 74 A WP3 2026-02-01 HAL.pdf
Maps Plans Plots or Plats	2026-03-17	Stream Relocation Plans	NCDOT	US 74 A WP3 2026-03-17 Stream Relocation Plans.pdf
Other Information	2026-04-29	Cover Letter/Detailed Impact Descriptions	NCDOT	US 74 A WP3 2026-04-27 Application Cover Letter.pdf
Project Plans	2026-04-16	SMP and Permit Impact Sheets	NCDOT	US 74A Gerton WP3 Permit Set.pdf
Other	2026-04-16	US 74A WP3 Type 1B CE	NCDOT	US74A_Gerton_WP3 CE_Type1_Final_Signed 1.pdf

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

PERMIT INFORMATION SHEET

PERMIT FORM TYPE

ENG 6082

DATE RECEIVED

04/29/2026

TYPE OF PERMIT YOU'RE REQUESTING

Standard

Letter Of Permission

General Permit

APPLICABLE STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Section 404 Clean Water Act

Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act

Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act

DO YOU PROPOSE COMPENSATORY MITIGATIONS?

Yes

COASTAL DISTRICT

WOULD THE PROJECT OCCUR IN THE TERRITORIAL SEAS OR OCEAN WATERS?

No

DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITY'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE BASELINE FROM WHICH THE TERRITORIAL SEA IS MEASURED

SECTION 408 USACE CIVIL WORKS PROJECTS

WILL THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY REQUIRES PERMISSION FROM THE USACE PURSUANT TO 33 U.S.C. 408 BECAUSE IT WILL ALTER OR TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY OCCUPY OR USE A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FEDERALLY AUTHORIZED CIVIL WORKS PROJECT?

Yes

No

I'm not sure

IF YES, HAVE YOU SUBMITTED A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR SECTION 408 PERMISSION FROM THE USACE DISTRICT HAVING JURISDICTION OVER THAT PROJECT?

Yes

No

GENERAL PERMIT INFORMATION

WILL THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY RESULT IN A LOSS TO WETLANDS OR WATERS THAT EXCEEDS NATIONAL OR DISTRICT THRESHOLDS?

Yes

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT – PARTNER APPENDIX

For use of this form, see 33 CFR 325. The proponent agency is CECW-COR.

AUTHORITIES: The Department of Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and partner entities have established a joint process for activities impacting jurisdictional waterways that require review and/or approval of both the Corps and its partners. Department of Army permits are required by Section 10 of the Rivers & Harbors Act of 1899 for any structure(s) or work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States and by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the discharge of dredged or fill materials into waters of the United States, including adjacent wetlands. This supplemental information is provided to the partner entity along with the standard regulatory forms.

PARTNER INFORMATION

ORGANIZATION: NC Division of Water Resources (DWR)	PARTNER ID:	NAME AND CODE: Form Name: NATIONWIDE/GENERAL/INDIVIDUAL PERMIT - DWR 401 Application Form NC Division of Water Resources Application Information Form Code: NCDWR 401
--	--------------------	---

In North Carolina, many activities covered by Nationwide and Regional General Permits, as well as Individual Permits, also require a 401 Water Quality Certification from the Division of Water Resources. To streamline the application process for both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the North Carolina Division of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) - Division of Water Resources (DWR), we have collaborated on this joint application form.

This joint application form serves to fulfill reporting requirements for both agencies under Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899, for specific activities permitted through Nationwide Permits (NWP), Regional General Permits (RGP), and Individual Permits. The RRS is now the preferred method for submitting application information for these permits.

For questions, please contact the USACE at (910) 251-4633.

The Wilmington District and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) have collaborated to develop a Joint Permit Application (JPA) within the Regulatory Request System (RRS) for use with Nationwide Permits (NWP) and Regional General Permits (RGP), as well as, Individual Permits. This system functions similarly to previous versions of the Pre-Construction Notification form (also known as e-PCN). The RRS is an online platform that enables applicants to electronically upload and submit all required information to the reviewing agencies.

The RRS JPA fulfills the application and reporting requirements for both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and NCDEQ for activities authorized under Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act, as well as Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

Projects that fall within the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (NCDWM) review area, will need to coordinate their application with NCDWM directly. To learn more, visit the [NCDWM website](<https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/division-coastal-management>).

USACE/NCDWR Joint Application Form for Nationwide Permits, Regional General Permits, and Individual Permits (along with corresponding Water Quality Certifications)

****PLEASE NOTE: THE SYSTEM IS STILL UNDER DEVELOPMENT, AND DATA CURRENTLY DOES NOT TRANSMIT ELECTRONICALLY TO NCDEQ'S DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR). UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT COMPLETED RRS JPA DOCUMENTS THROUGH [NCDEQ'S "PROJECT SUBMITTAL INTERIM FORM" WEBSITE](<https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/Supplemental-Information-Form>).****
[Additional Instructions](<https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/WaterResources/Browse.aspx?dbid=0&startid=3890140>)

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION COLLECTED

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION - Property Owner

- Is the owner the same as the applicant?
 - Yes

- Provide Primary Property Owner information
 - Please see the JPA_ContactReport.xlsx to review the provided contact data.
- Provide Additional Property Owner information
 - Please see the JPA_ContactReport.xlsx to review the provided contact data.

PROCESSING INFORMATION -

- Does the project involve maintenance dredging funded by the Shallow Draft Navigation Channel Dredging and Aquatic Weed Fund OR involve the distribution or transmission of energy or fuel (including natural gas, diesel, petroleum, or electricity)?
 - No
- Is this project connected with (American Rescue Plan Act) ARPA funding or S.L. 2023-134 (earmark)?
 - No
- Please select:
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Please provide the DWI ARPA Funding Project Number (ie: SRP-W-ARP-1234 or SRP-W-134-1234):
 *The DWI Funding Project number can be located on the "Letter of Intent to Fund" (LOIF) or "Offer and Acceptance Letter". If you do not know your DWI project #, please contact your DWI project manager or fund recipient (e.g., LGU).
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Is this a NC Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS) Project? Note - Select Yes only if NCDMS is the applicant/co-applicant.
 - No
- Is this project a public transportation project?
 - Yes
- Is this a NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) project?
 - Yes
- (NCDOT only) T.I.P. (Transportation Improvement Program) or state project number:
 - Hurricane Helene Repairs to US 74A Gerton
- (NCDOT only) WBS #
 - 18314.1045999CMGC
- Application for NC Division of Water Resources (DWR) Certification.
 Type(s) of approval sought from the DWR? (Select all that apply)
 - 401 Water Quality Certification
- Is this a modification OR new project with existing ID?
 - Yes
- Please provide the DWR ID number.
 - 20251220

- Is the project located in any of NC's twenty coastal counties?
 - No
- Is the project located within a NC Division of Coastal Management (DCM) Area of Environmental Concern (AEC)?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Is the project located in a designated trout watershed? [Learn more about Trout](https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Permit-Program/Agency-Coordination/Trout.aspx)
 - Yes
- If yes, attach a copy of existing correspondence from the Wildlife Resource Commission Office.
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

WATERS DETAILS -

- Name of nearest waterbody? [Surface Water Lookup](https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/7073e9122ab74588b8c48ded34c3df55/)
 - Hickory Creek
- Does the proposed activity impact perennial or intermittent streams?
 - Yes
- Please ensure that the Aquatic Resource Inventory section includes all perennial and intermittent streams and be sure to identify them with appropriate Cowardin codes.
 (Click the Aquatic Resources Inventory in the menu on the left to navigate to that section.)
 - Use the Cowardin Code "R2 or R3" for perennial. Use Cowardin Code "R4" for intermittent.
 ***IF NO CODE PROVIDED, WATERS WILL BE ASSUMED TO BE PERENNIAL.
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

NON-JD IMPACT DETAILS - NOTE: Questions only appear in this section when 'Non-404 Jurisdictional Waters Permit' has been included among the Type(s) of approval sought from the DWR.

- Will the project result in impacts to Non-404 JD waters?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Please ensure that the associated Non-404 Jurisdictional Waters have been entered in the Aquatic Resource Inventory section of the Permit Application. Use the Aquatic Resource Type of "DELIN.NOJD-404".
 (Click the "Aquatic Resources Inventory" option in the menu on the left to navigate to that section.)
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

BUFFER IMPACTS AND MITIGATION SUMMARY - Additional impacts and mitigation not previously covered in this application: Buffers

- Will project occur in an area subject to state riparian buffer regulations?
 - No
- Will project result in any impacts within a protected riparian buffer?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

- Which protected basin(s) is the project located within?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Other Protected Basin
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Are the buffer regulations implemented by a delegated local government?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Please specify which local government.
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Impact Details
 - Please see the JPA_DynamicTableReport.xlsx to review the provided data.
- Total Temporary Buffer Impacts
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Total Permanent Buffer Impacts
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Total Combined Buffer Impacts
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Will the project result in an impact within a protected riparian buffer that requires buffer mitigation?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- If yes, you must fill out this entire section - please contact DWR for more information.
Identify the square feet of impact to each zone of the riparian buffer that requires mitigation. Calculate the amount of mitigation required in the table below.
 - Please see the JPA_DynamicTableReport.xlsx to review the provided data.
- How is buffer mitigation proposed to be met?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- If payment to mitigation bank or NCDMS, attach a valid statement of availability or DMS acceptance letter. OR Attach mitigation plan for review.
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN -

- Does this project disturb >1 acre of land?
 - Yes
- Is this an NCDOT project subject to compliance with NCDOT's Individual NPDES permit NCS000250?
 - Yes
- Is this project subject to review and approval under a state post-construction stormwater program (DEMLR) or state-approved local government stormwater program?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

- What entity has reviewed/is reviewing the Stormwater Management Plan?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- What is the Stormwater Management Plan status?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Does this project meet the requirements for low density projects as defined in 15A NCAC 02H.1003(2)? For details on how Low Density Projects are characterized, click the help icon.
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- For low density projects, submit documentation including built-upon area (BUA) delineation, percent BUA calculations, stormwater drainage plan, and designs for vegetated conveyances.
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- For all High Density projects submit a Stormwater Management Plan that includes stormwater control measures for water quality treatment.
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN BUFFERED BASINS - All stormwater generated from high ground within regulated buffer basins must be in compliance with the stormwater management requirements of the applicable buffer rules.

NOTE: Questions only appear in this section when 'Will project occur in an area subject to state riparian buffer regulations?' is answered Yes.

- Does the project comply with the stormwater management requirements of the applicable buffer rules?
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Please explain why the project does not comply.
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION -

- Is an environmental document required under NCEPA (01 NCAC 25 .0100)?
 - Yes
- Has the document review been finalized by the State Clearing House?
 - Yes
- Comments
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- Attach a copy of the SEPA final approval document.
 - US 74 A WP3 2025-01-12 CE.pdf File(s) Uploaded

VIOLATIONS -

- Is the site in violation of DWR Water Quality Certification Rules (15A NCAC 2H .0500), Isolated Wetland Rules (15A NCAC 2H .1300), or DWR Surface Water or Wetland Standards or Riparian Buffer Rules (15A NCAC 2B .0200)?
 - No

- Please explain.
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS -

- Will this project (based on past and reasonably anticipated future impacts) result in additional development?
 - No
- Provide a qualitative or quantitative cumulative impact analysis in accordance with the most recent DWR policy. [Learn more about Cumulative Impact Policy](https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/Water%20Quality/Surface%20Water%20Protection/401/Policies_Guides_Manuals/CumulativeImpactPolicy.pdf)
 - Not Applicable (Question not presented)
- If not, provide a short narrative description.
 - The project is to rebuild the existing roadway which was damaged. It does not add capacity or provide new opportunities for development.

****PLEASE NOTE: THE SYSTEM IS STILL UNDER DEVELOPMENT, AND DATA CURRENTLY DOES NOT TRANSMIT ELECTRONICALLY TO NCDEQ'S DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR). UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT COMPLETED RRS JPA DOCUMENTS THROUGH [NCDEQ'S "PROJECT SUBMITTAL INTERIM FORM" WEBSITE](<https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/Supplemental-Information-Form>).****
[Additional Instructions](<https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/WaterResources/Browse.aspx?dbid=0&startid=3890140>)

Permit Drawings



North Carolina Department of Transportation
 Highway Stormwater Program
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
 FOR NCDOT PROJECTS



(Version 3.02; Released April 23, 2024)

WBS Element: **TIP/Proj No:** 18314.1045039 **County(ies):** Henderson **Page** 1 **of** 2

General Project Information

WBS Element:		TIP Number:	18314.1045039	Project Type:	Other	Date:	0710/2025
NCDOT Contact:	Nathan Tanner, PE			Contractor / Designer:	Davin Morrison, PE		
	Address:	NCDOT Highway Division 14 253 Webster Road Sylva, NC 28779			Address:	440 South Church Street Suite 1200 Charlotte, NC 28202-2075	
	Phone:	828 331-5213			Phone:	980 337-5181	
	Email:	nrtanner@ncdot.gov			Email:	davin.morrison@hdrinc.com	
City/Town:	Gerton & Bat Cave			County(ies):	Henderson		
River Basin(s):	Broad			CAMA County?	No		
Wetlands within Project Limits?	No						

Project Description

Project Length (lin. miles or feet):	2.17	Surrounding Land Use:	Forested, Low Density Residential, Commercial, and Transportation					
	Proposed Project			Existing Site				
Project Built-Up Area (ac.)	6.9	ac.	6.5	ac.				
Typical Cross Section Description:	Maintain existing two lane highway with 10' wide travel lanes, shoulders, and roadside ditches where Hurricane Helene storm damage to the roadway was minimal or did not occur. Where damage has occurred, roadway will be reconstructed with two 11' wide travel lanes, 3' wide shoulders (6' wide with guardrail), expressway gutter, and roadside ditches.			Pre-Hurricane Helene, US 74A was a two lane highway with 10' wide travel lanes with narrow shoulders and roadside ditches. Post-Hurricane Helene, the road was heavily damaged at several locations.				
Annual Avg Daily Traffic (veh/hr/day):	Design/Future:	3000	Year:	2040	Existing:	1500	Year:	2017

General Project Narrative:
(Description of Minimization of Water Quality Impacts)

This SMP is for Work Package 3 from Bearwallow Mountain Road to Grant Mountain Road. A separate SMP will be submitted for Work Package 4 from Grant Mountain Road to NC 9. Retaining walls and/or 1.25:1 grouted rip rap embankments will be used to repair severely damaged roadway fill slopes adjacent to Hickory Nut Creek. The stream will be relocated to its pre-storm location where needed to protect the roadway. Stream impacts will be kept to a minimum by only relocating the stream where needed, installing retaining walls to keep fill slopes out of the stream, and armoring the roadway embankment with a 1.25:1 grouted rip rap to reduce the impacts that may be caused by a standard 2:1 fill slope. Rip rap aprons and standard base ditches will be used to capture flow from culverts that pass under the roadway to help reduce outlet velocities and erosion.



North Carolina Department of Transportation

Highway Stormwater Program
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
 FOR NCDOT PROJECTS



(Version 3.02; Released April 23, 2024)

WBS Element: TIP/Proj No.: 18314.1045039 County(ies): Henderson Page 2 of 2

General Project Information

Waterbody Information

Surface Water Body (1):	Hickory Nut Creek		NCDWR Stream Index No.:	9-14	
NCDWR Surface Water Classification for Water Body	Primary Classification:		Class C		
	Supplemental Classification:		Trout Waters (Tr)		
Other Stream Classification:					
Impairments:					
Aquatic T&E Species?	Comments:				
NRTR Stream ID:				Buffer Rules in Effect:	N/A
Project Includes Bridge Spanning Water Body?	Yes	Deck Drains Discharge Over Buffer?	No	Dissipator Pads Provided in Buffer?	
Deck Drains Discharge Over Water Body?	No	(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)		(If yes, describe in the General Project Narrative; if no, justify in the General Project Narrative)	
(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)					

Surface Water Body (2):	UT to Hickory		NCDWR Stream Index No.:	9-14	
NCDWR Surface Water Classification for Water Body	Primary Classification:		Class C		
	Supplemental Classification:		Trout Waters (Tr)		
Other Stream Classification:					
Impairments:					
Aquatic T&E Species?	Comments:				
NRTR Stream ID:				Buffer Rules in Effect:	N/A
Project Includes Bridge Spanning Water Body?	Yes	Deck Drains Discharge Over Buffer?	N/A	Dissipator Pads Provided in Buffer?	
Deck Drains Discharge Over Water Body?	No	(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)		(If yes, describe in the General Project Narrative; if no, justify in the General Project Narrative)	
(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)					

Surface Water Body (3):			NCDWR Stream Index No.:		
NCDWR Surface Water Classification for Water Body	Primary Classification:				
	Supplemental Classification:				
Other Stream Classification:					
Impairments:					
Aquatic T&E Species?	Comments:				
NRTR Stream ID:				Buffer Rules in Effect:	
Project Includes Bridge Spanning Water Body?		Deck Drains Discharge Over Buffer?		Dissipator Pads Provided in Buffer?	
Deck Drains Discharge Over Water Body?		(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)		(If yes, describe in the General Project Narrative; if no, justify in the General Project Narrative)	
(If yes, provide justification in the General Project Narrative)					

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 1 OF 24

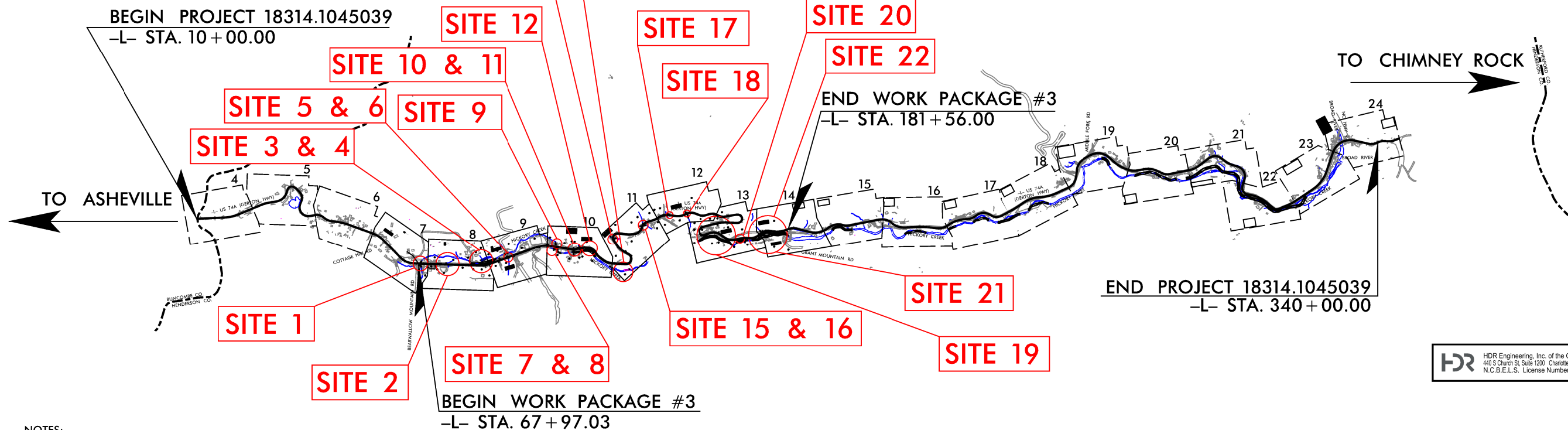
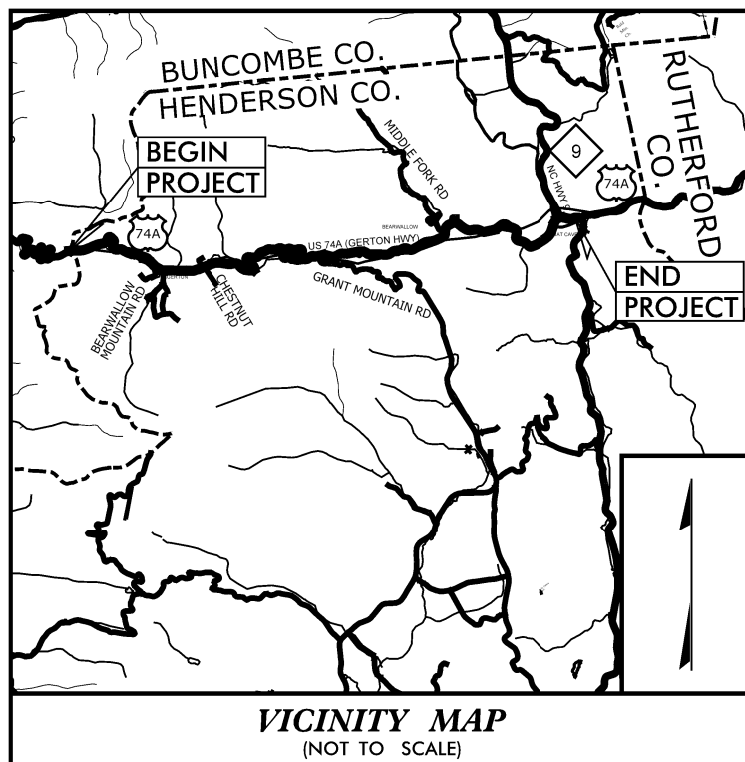
STATE	STATE PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
N.C.	18314.1045039	1	
STATE PROJ. NO.	F.A. PROJ. NO.	DESCRIPTION	
---	N/A	P.E.	
---	N/A	ROW	

HENDERSON COUNTY

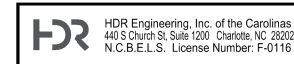
LOCATION: GERTON HWY (U.S. HWY 74A) FROM WEST OF BEARWALLOW MOUNTAIN RD TO CHIMNEY ROCK ROAD (U.S. HWY 64)

TYPE OF WORK: GRADING, PAVING, DRAINAGE, AND STRUCTURES

WORK PACKAGE #3: BEARWALLOW MOUNTAIN ROAD TO GRANT MOUNTAIN ROAD



- NOTES:
1. CLEARING ON THIS PROJECT SHALL BE PERFORMED TO THE LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY METHOD II.
2. THIS IS A NO CONTROL OF ACCESS PROJECT.

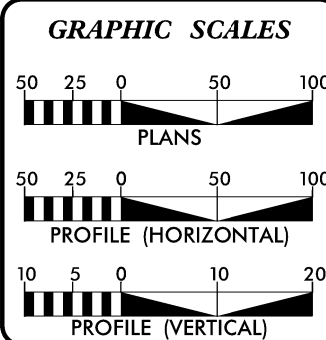


DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL
UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED

TIP PROJECT: 18314.1045039

CONTRACT:

PLOT DRIVER: Hydro_color_pdf_levels_onpifcfig
USER: GJACOBSON
DATE: 2/5/2026
FILE: NCDOT\NCDOT-US-74A-Gerton-CMGC\6.0_CAD_BIM\6.2_WIP\Hydro\ullos\PERMITS_Environmental\Drawings\Work Package #3\GertonCMGC_RDY_TSH.dgn



DESIGN DATA

2017	=	1,500
ADT 2040	=	3,000
T	=	8 %
V	=	40 MPH

FUNC CLASS =
MINOR ARTERIAL

PROJECT LENGTH

LENGTH ROADWAY WORK PACKAGE #3	=	2.167 MILES
TOTAL LENGTH TIP PROJECT US-74A	=	6.250 MILES

HDR Prepared in the Office of:
HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas
440 S Church St, Suite 1200, Charlotte, NC 28202
N.C.B.E.L.S. License Number: F-0116

2024 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

RIGHT OF WAY DATE: _____

LETTING DATE: _____

PHILLIP E. ROGERS, PE
PROJECT ENGINEER

MATTHEW J. WERDER, PE
PROJECT DESIGN ENGINEER

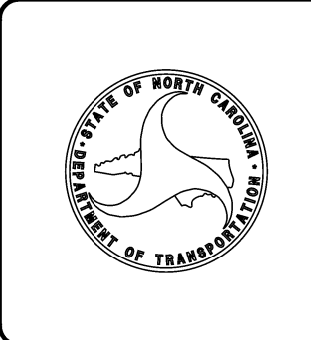
NATHAN R. TANNER, PE
NCDOT CONTACT



HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

SIGNATURE: _____ P.E.


ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER


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PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
18314.1045039 (WP3)	07
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
 HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas 555 Fayetteville St. Suite 900 Raleigh, N.C. 27601 N.C.B.E.L.S. License Number: F-0116	
 GRAPHIC SCALE	

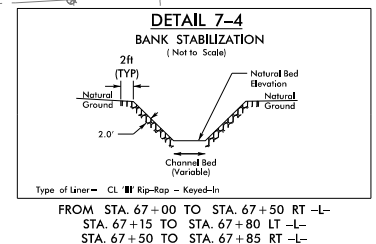
LEGEND

 SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

 TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

REVISIONS
 MATCHLINE L- STA 55+00 SEE SHEET 6
 (SEE WORK PACKAGE #2)
 MATCHLINE L- STA 69+00 SEE SHEET 8

BEGIN WORK PACKAGE #3
END WORK PACKAGE #2
 L- STA. 67 + 02.6234

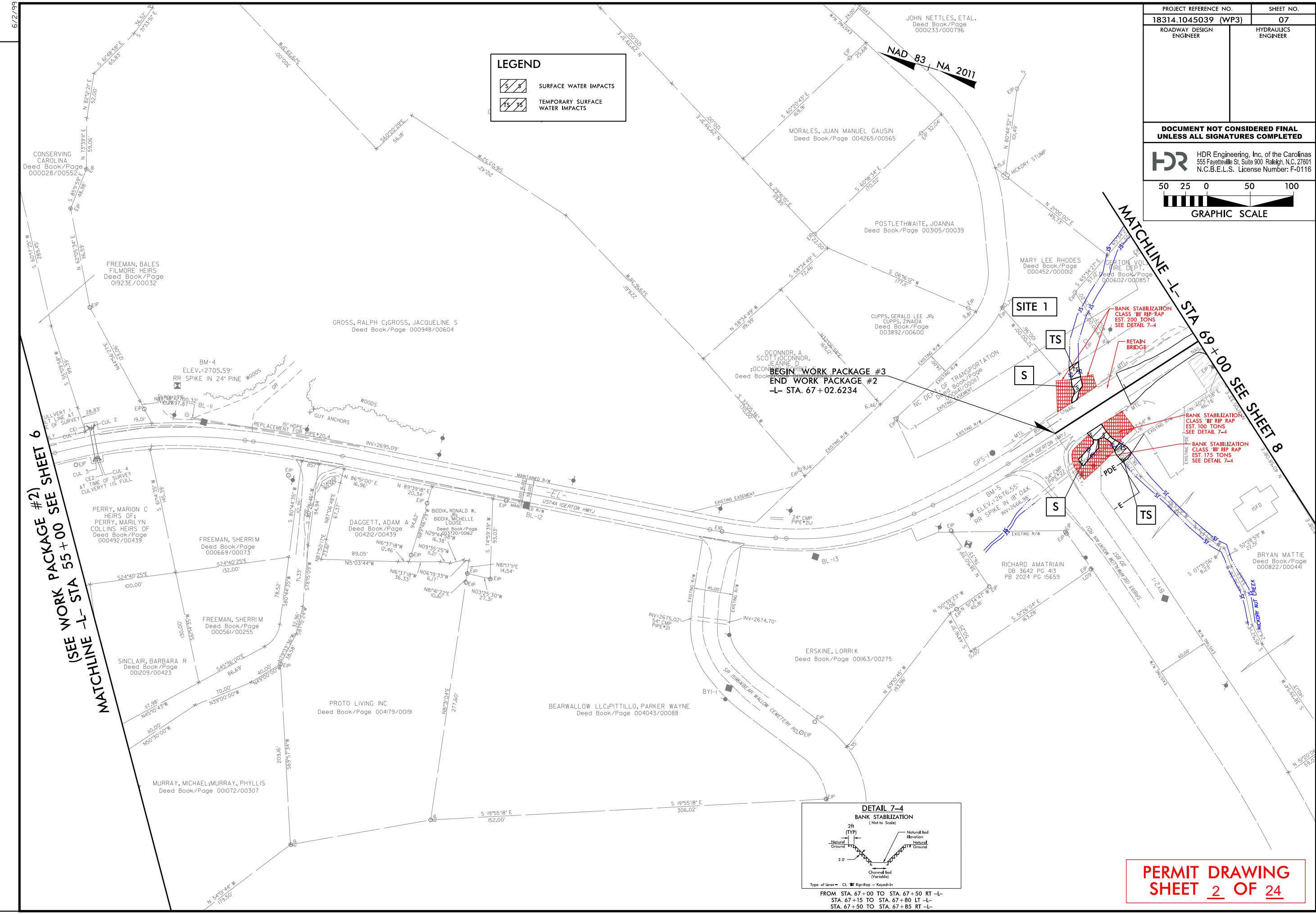




PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 2 OF 24

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 USER: GJACOBSON
 FILE: \


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
DATE: 2/10/2026



PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
18314.1045039 (WP3)	07
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
 HDR Engineering, Inc. of the Carolinas 555 Fayetteville St. Suite 900 Raleigh, N.C. 27601 N.C.B.E.L.S. License Number: F-0116	
 GRAPHIC SCALE	

LEGEND

 SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

 TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

REVISIONS
 MATCHLINE L- STA 55+00 SEE SHEET 6
 (SEE WORK PACKAGE #2)
 MATCHLINE L- STA 69+00 SEE SHEET 8

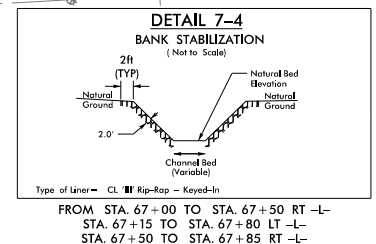
BEGIN WORK PACKAGE #3
 END WORK PACKAGE #2
 L- STA. 67+02.6234

BANK STABILIZATION
 CLASS 'III' RIP-RAP
 EST. 200 TONS
 SEE DETAIL 7-4

RETAIN BRIDGE

BANK STABILIZATION
 CLASS 'III' RIP-RAP
 EST. 100 TONS
 SEE DETAIL 7-4

BANK STABILIZATION
 CLASS 'III' RIP-RAP
 EST. 175 TONS
 SEE DETAIL 7-4



PERMIT DRAWING
 SHEET 3 OF 24

PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_color_eng_100.plt
 USER: GJACOBSON
 FILE: \

PENTABLE: NCDOT_permits.CON.WP#3.tbl
 TIME: 3:01:28 PM

DATE: 2/10/2026

6/2/2019

PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_color_eng_100.plt
 USER: GJACOBSON
 FILE: \

PENTABLE: NCDOT_permits.NCON.WP#3.tbl
 DATE: 2/10/2026
 TIME: 3:01:33 PM





REVISIONS



6/2/99

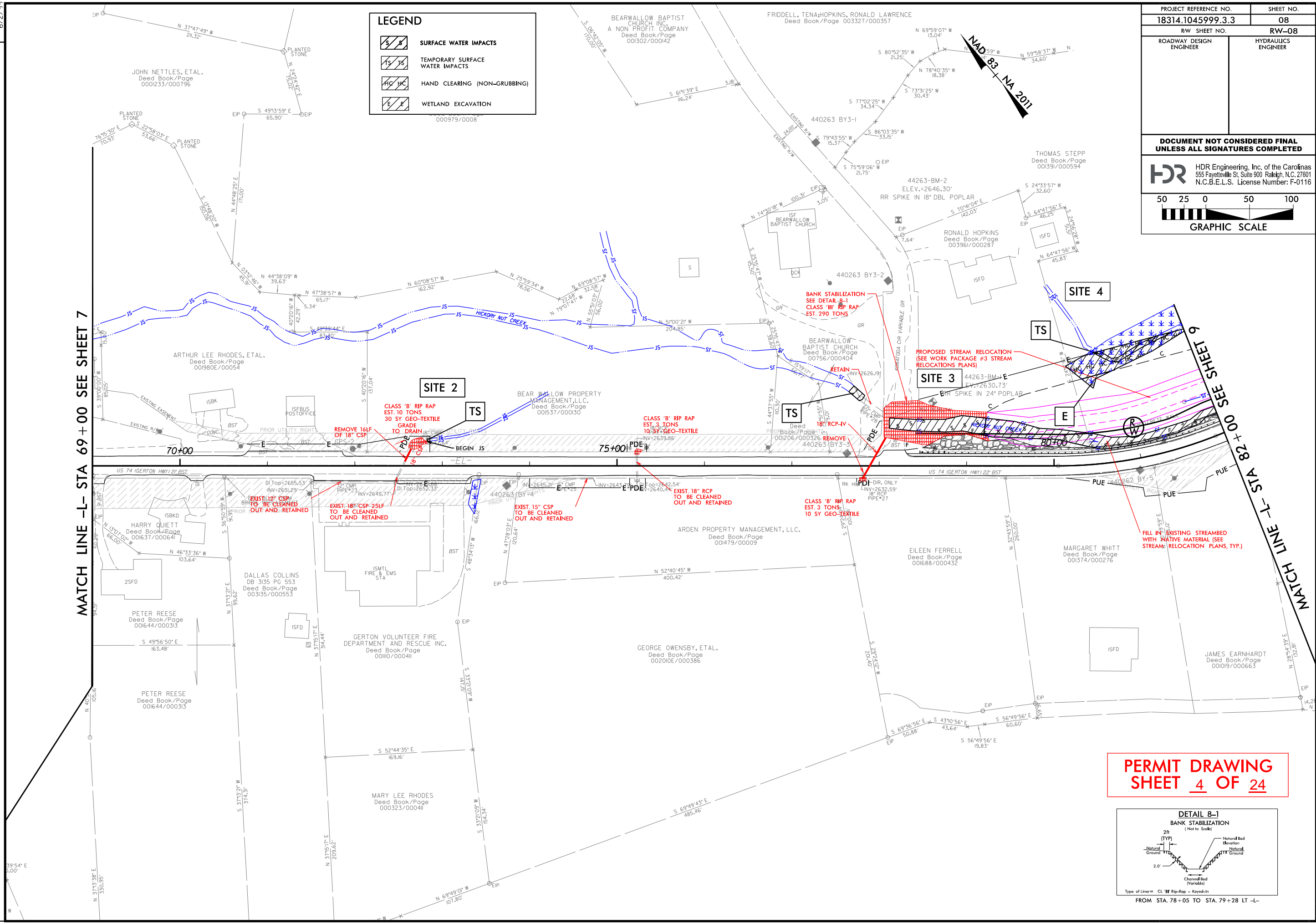
MATCH LINE -L- STA 69+00 SEE SHEET 7

MATCH LINE -L- STA 79+28 SEE SHEET 9

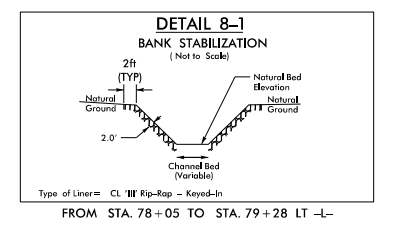
LEGEND

-  SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
-  TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
-  HAND CLEARING (NON-GRUBBING)
-  WETLAND EXCAVATION

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045999.3.3	SHEET NO. 08
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	



**PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 4 OF 24**

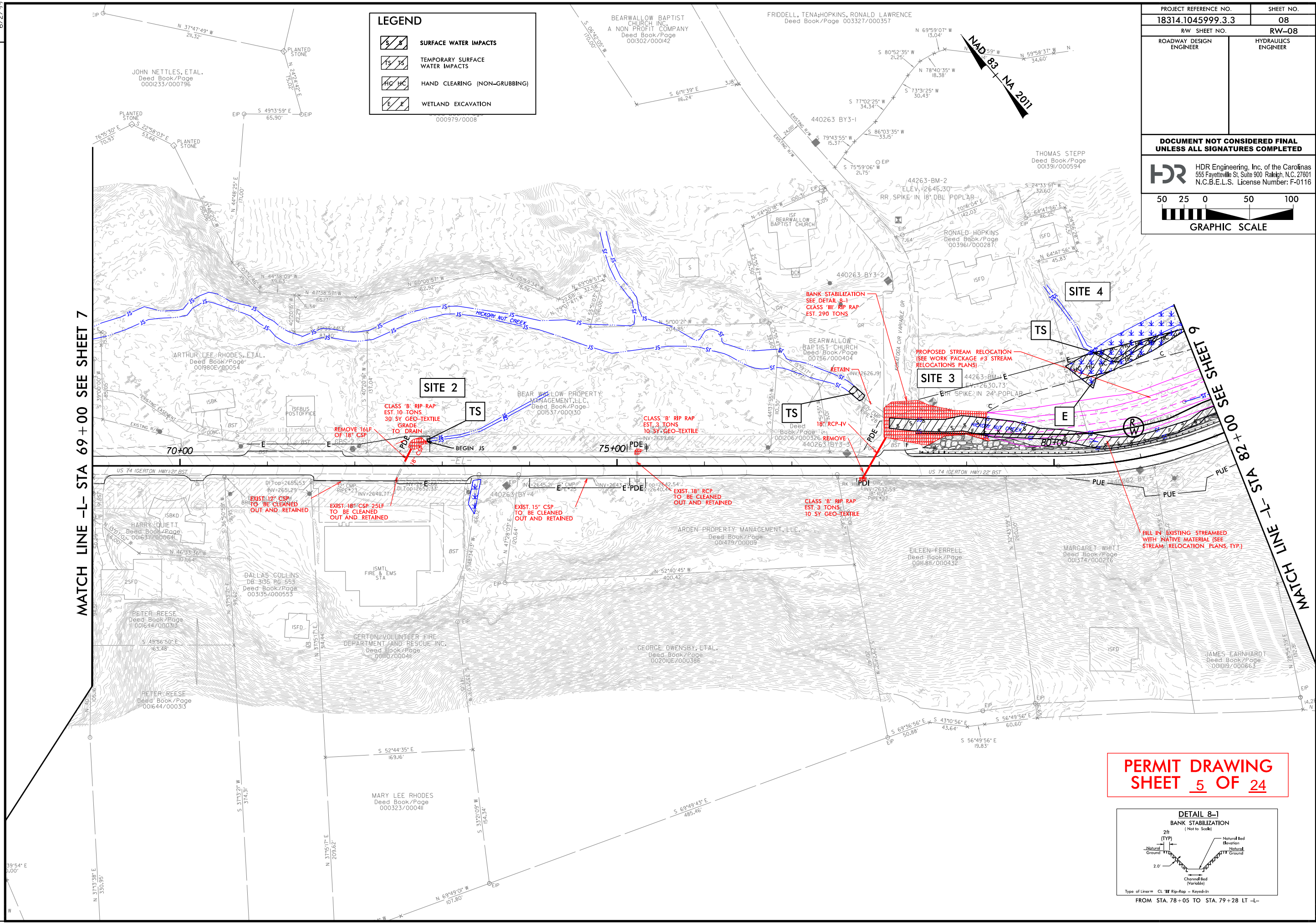


LEGEND	
	SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	HAND CLEARING (NON-GRUBBING)
	WETLAND EXCAVATION

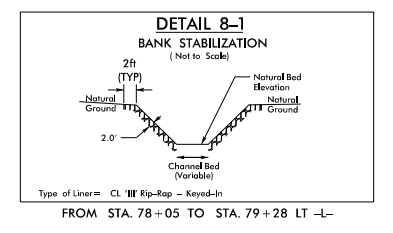
PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045999.3.3	SHEET NO. 08
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	

MATCH LINE -L- STA 69+00 SEE SHEET 7

MATCH LINE -L- STA 128+00 SEE SHEET 9



PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 5 OF 24



PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_color_eng_100.plt
 USER: GJACOBSON
 DATE: 2/10/2026
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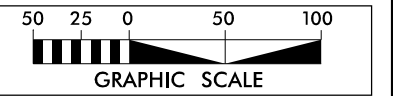
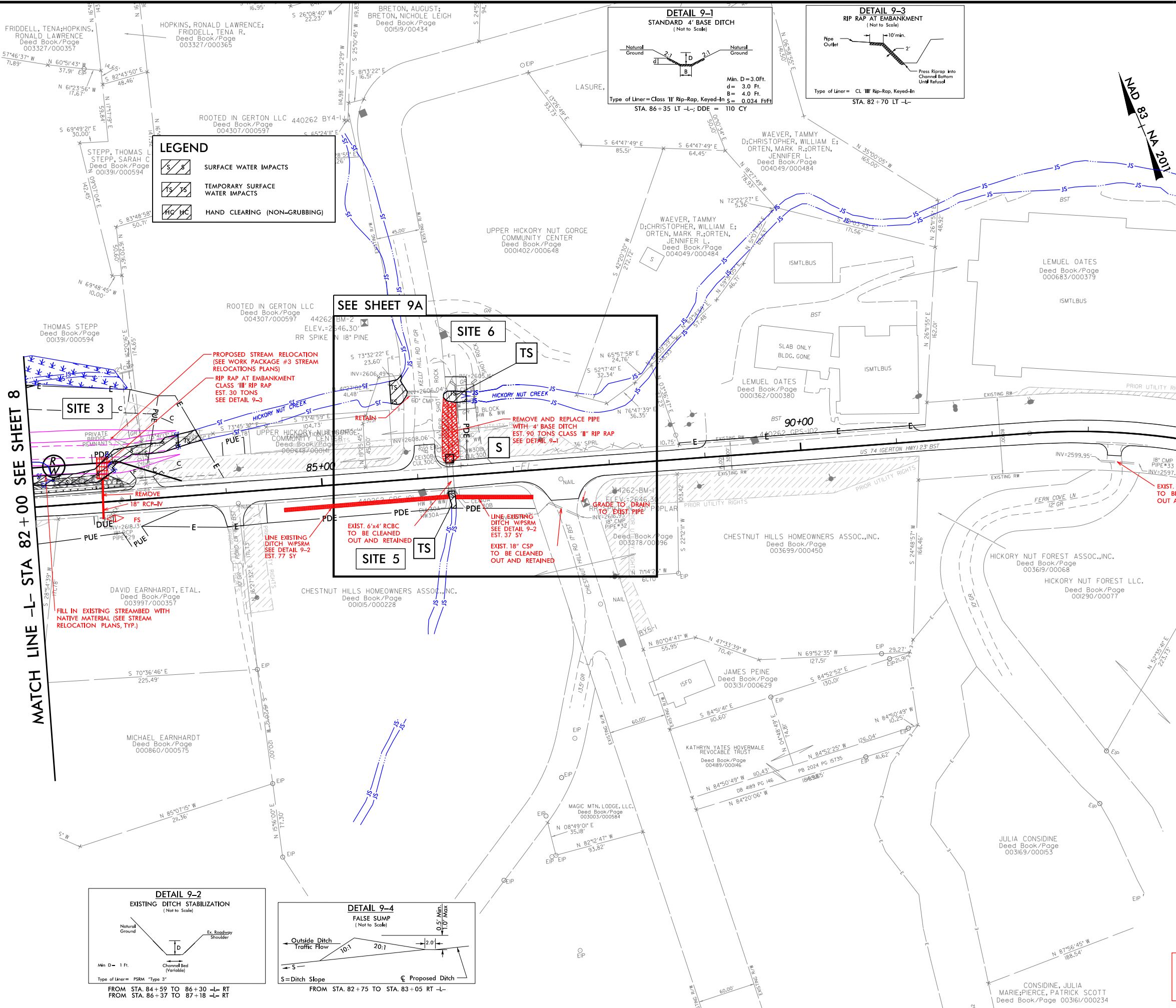
REVISIONS

6/2/99

PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
18314.1045999.3.3	09
RW SHEET NO.	RW-09
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED

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PERMIT DRAWING SHEET 6 OF 24

PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_permits_eng_100.plt
USER: GJACOBSON
DATE: 2/10/2026
TIME: 3:01:44 PM
FILE: PENTABLE: NCDOT_permits.NOCON.WP#3.tbl

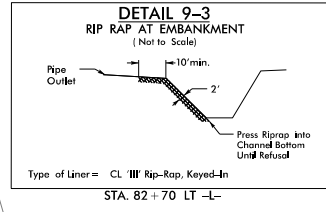
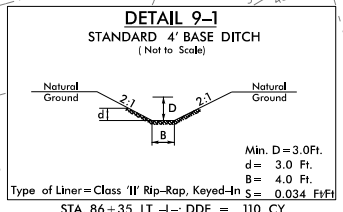
REVISIONS

6/2/2019

PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
18314.1045999.3.3	09
RDW SHEET NO.	RW-09
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

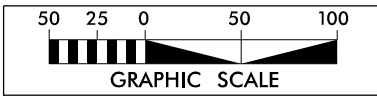
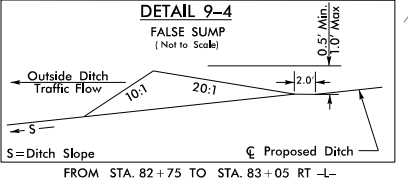
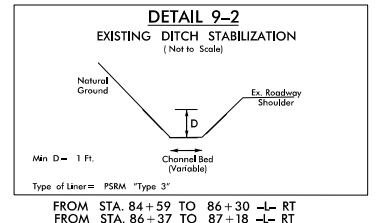
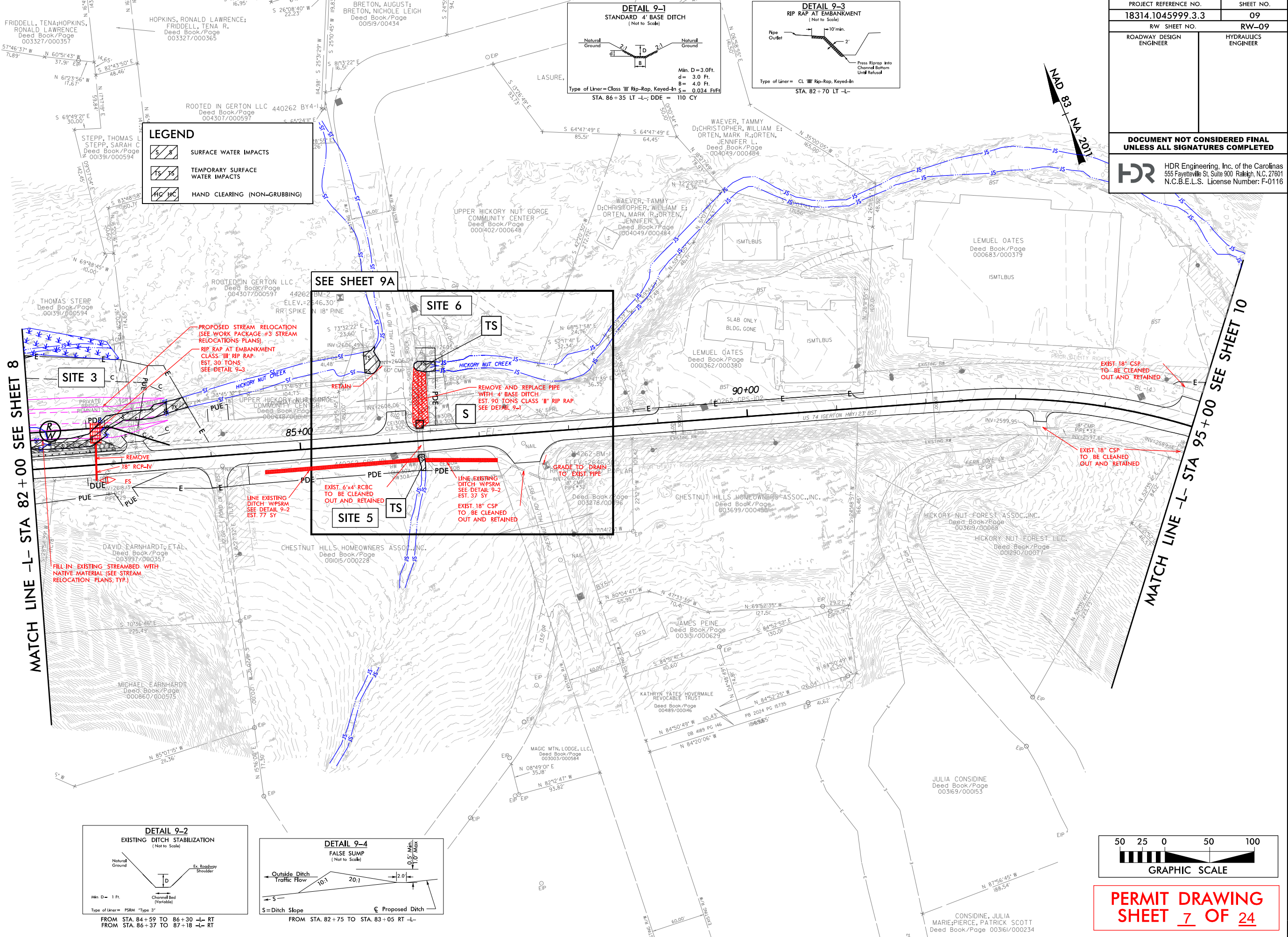
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED

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N.C.B.E.L.S. License Number: F-0116



LEGEND

	SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	HAND CLEARING (NON-GRUBBING)





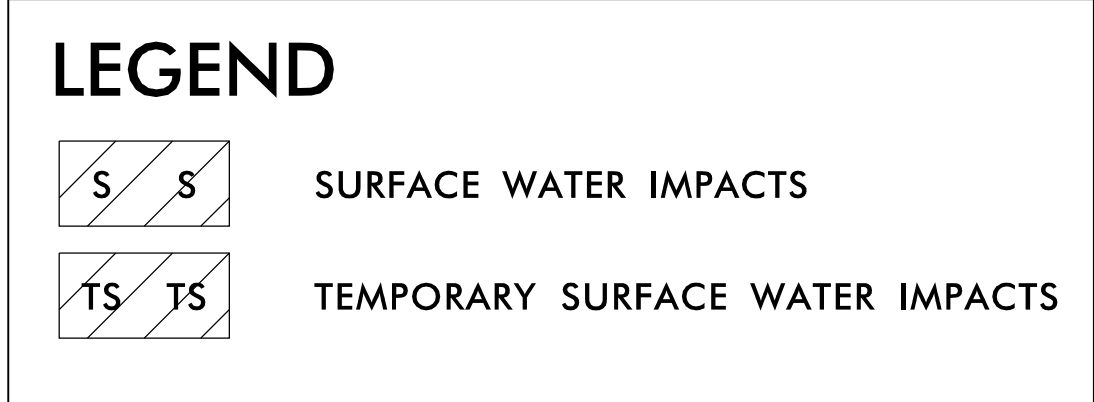
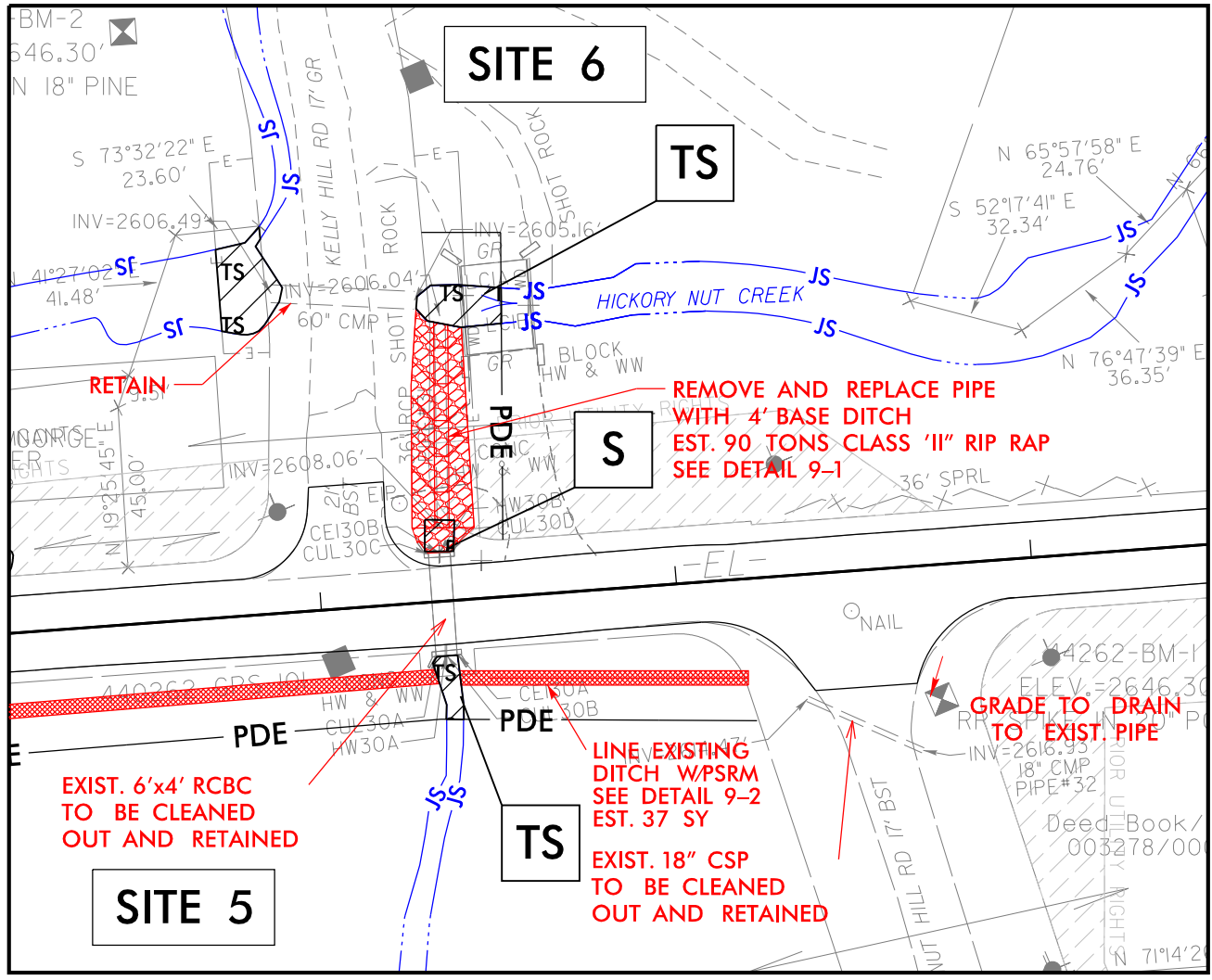
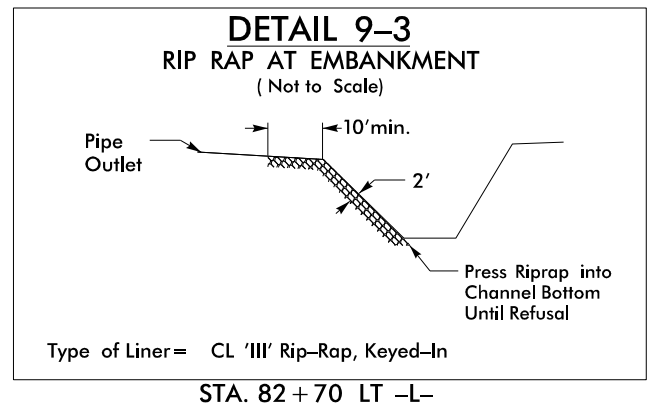
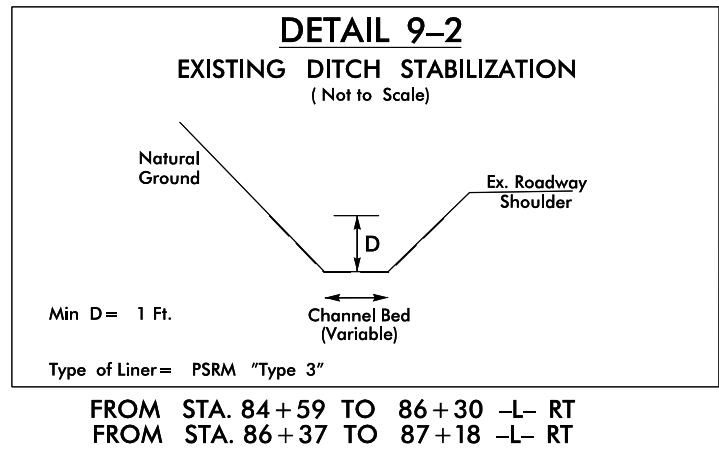
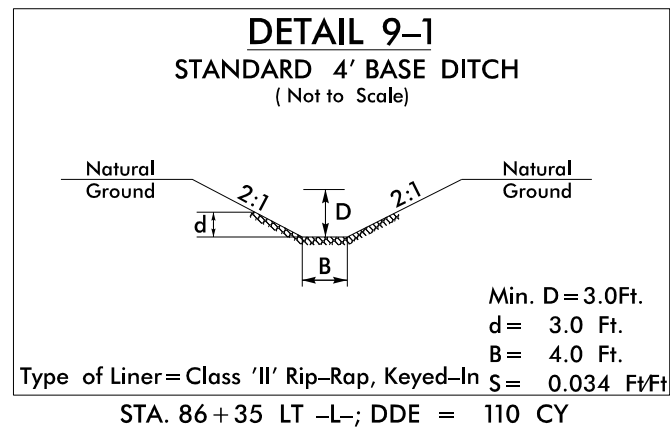
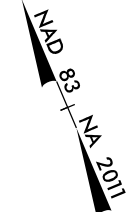
PERMIT DRAWING SHEET 7 OF 24

PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_color_eng_100.plt
USER: GJACOBSON
DATE: 2/10/2026
TIME: 3:01:49 PM
FILE: PENTABLE: NCDOT_permits.CON.WP#3.tbl

REVISIONS

6/2/2019

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045039 (WP3)	SHEET NO. 09A
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	







**PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 8 OF 24**

PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_color_eng_100.plt
 USER: GJACOBSON
 DATE: 2/10/2026
 TIME: 3:01:55 PM
 FILE: \

REVISIONS

6/2/99

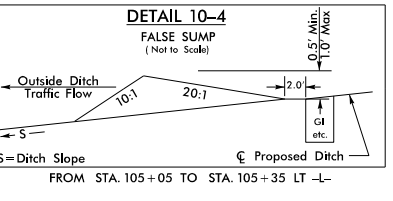
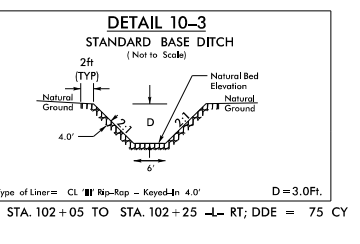
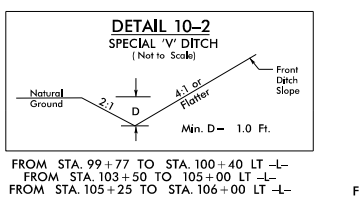
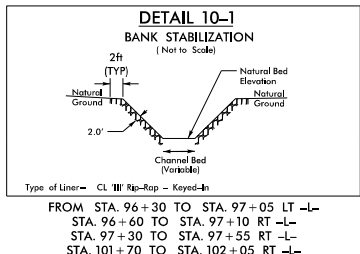
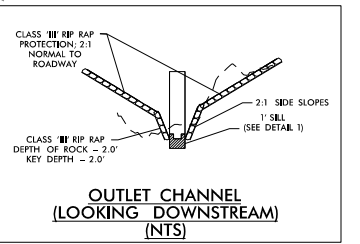
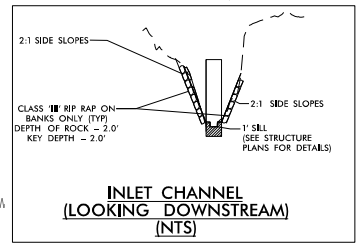
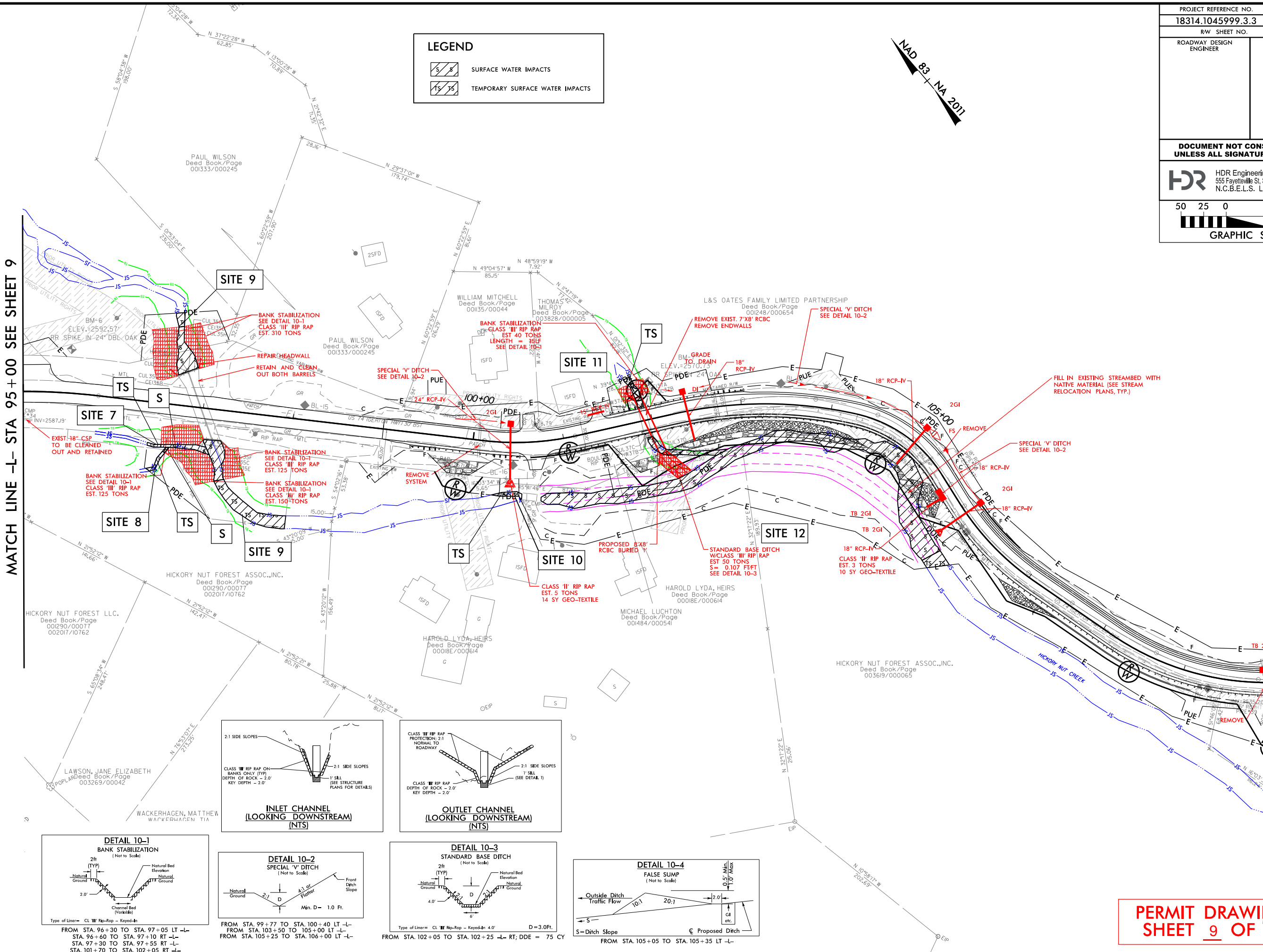
PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
18314.1045999.3.3	10
R/W SHEET NO.	RW-10
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	

LEGEND	
	SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

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MATCH LINE -L- STA 95 + 00 SEE SHEET 9

MATCH LINE -L- STA 110 + 00 SEE SHEET 11







PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 9 OF 24

PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_color_eng_100.plt
 USER: GJACOBSON
 FILE: PENTABLE: NCDOT_permits.NOCON.WP#3.tbl
 DATE: 2/10/2026
 TIME: 3:02:00 PM

REVISIONS

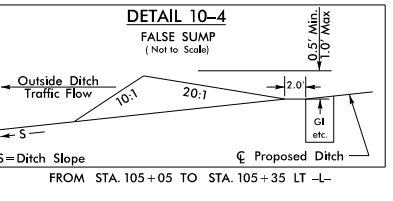
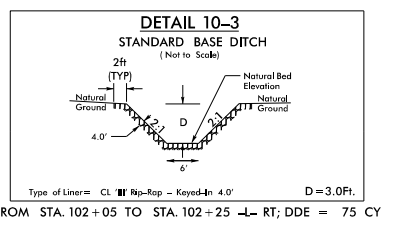
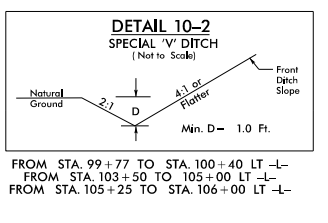
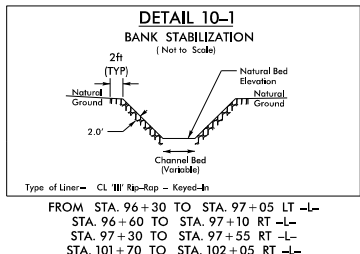
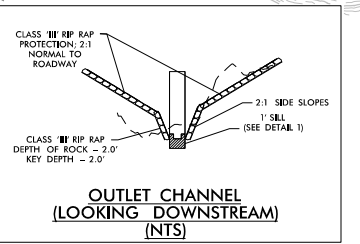
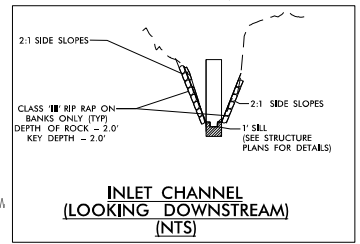
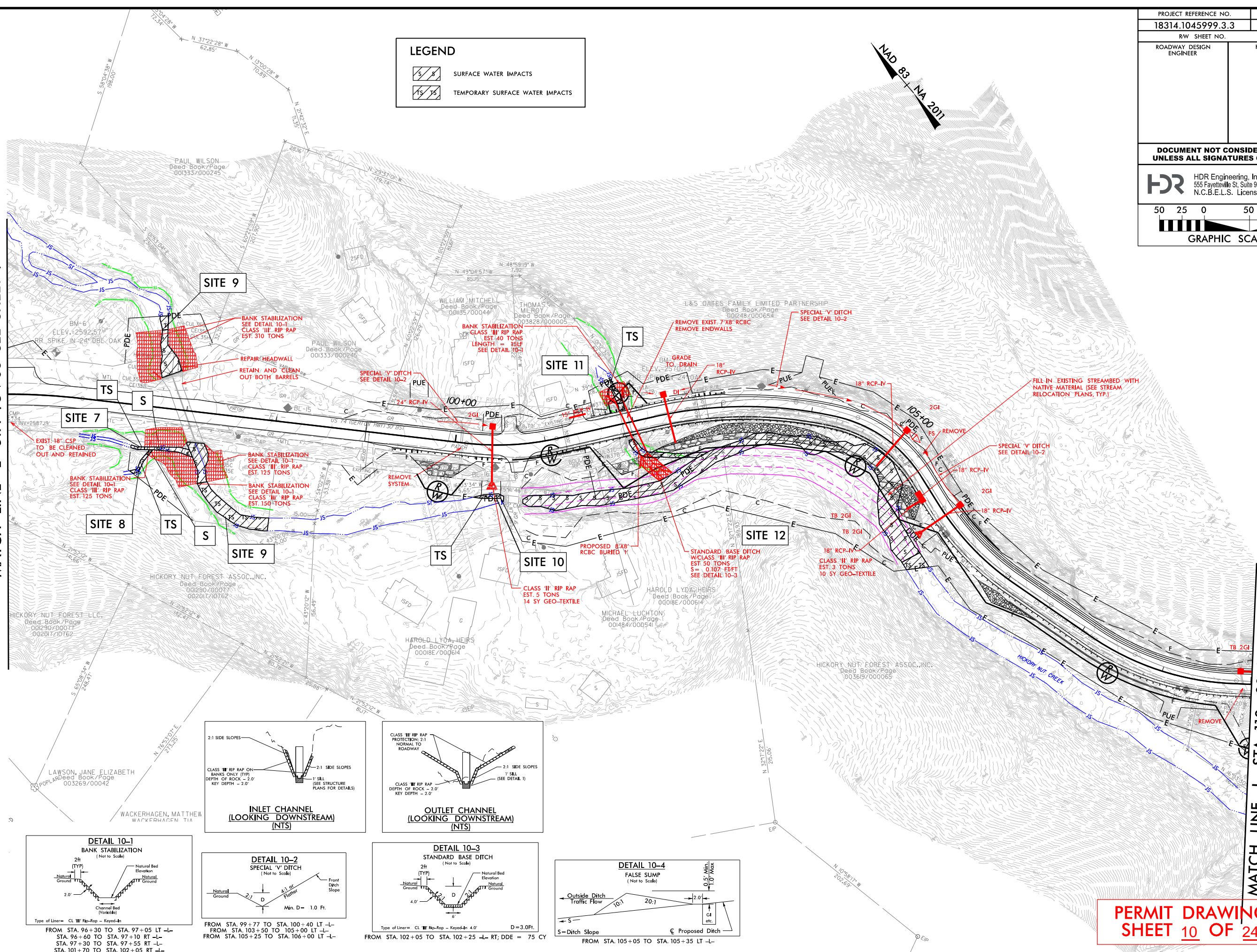
6/2/99

PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
18314.1045999.3.3	10
RW SHEET NO.	RW-10
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	

LEGEND	
	SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

MATCH LINE -L- STA 95+00 SEE SHEET 9

MATCH LINE -L- STA 110+00 SEE SHEET 11



FROM STA. 96+30 TO STA. 97+05 LT -L-
 FROM STA. 96+60 TO STA. 97+10 RT -L-
 FROM STA. 97+30 TO STA. 97+55 RT -L-
 FROM STA. 101+70 TO STA. 102+05 RT -L-
 FROM STA. 99+77 TO STA. 100+40 LT -L-
 FROM STA. 103+50 TO STA. 105+00 LT -L-
 FROM STA. 105+25 TO STA. 106+00 LT -L-
 FROM STA. 102+05 TO STA. 102+25 -L- RT; DDE = 75 CY
 FROM STA. 105+05 TO STA. 105+35 LT -L-

PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 10 OF 24

PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_pdf_color_eng_100.plt
 USER: GJACOBSON
 DATE: 2/10/2026
 TIME: 3:02:05 PM
 PENTABLE: NCDOT_permits.CON.WP#3.tbl
 FILE:

REVISIONS

6/2/99

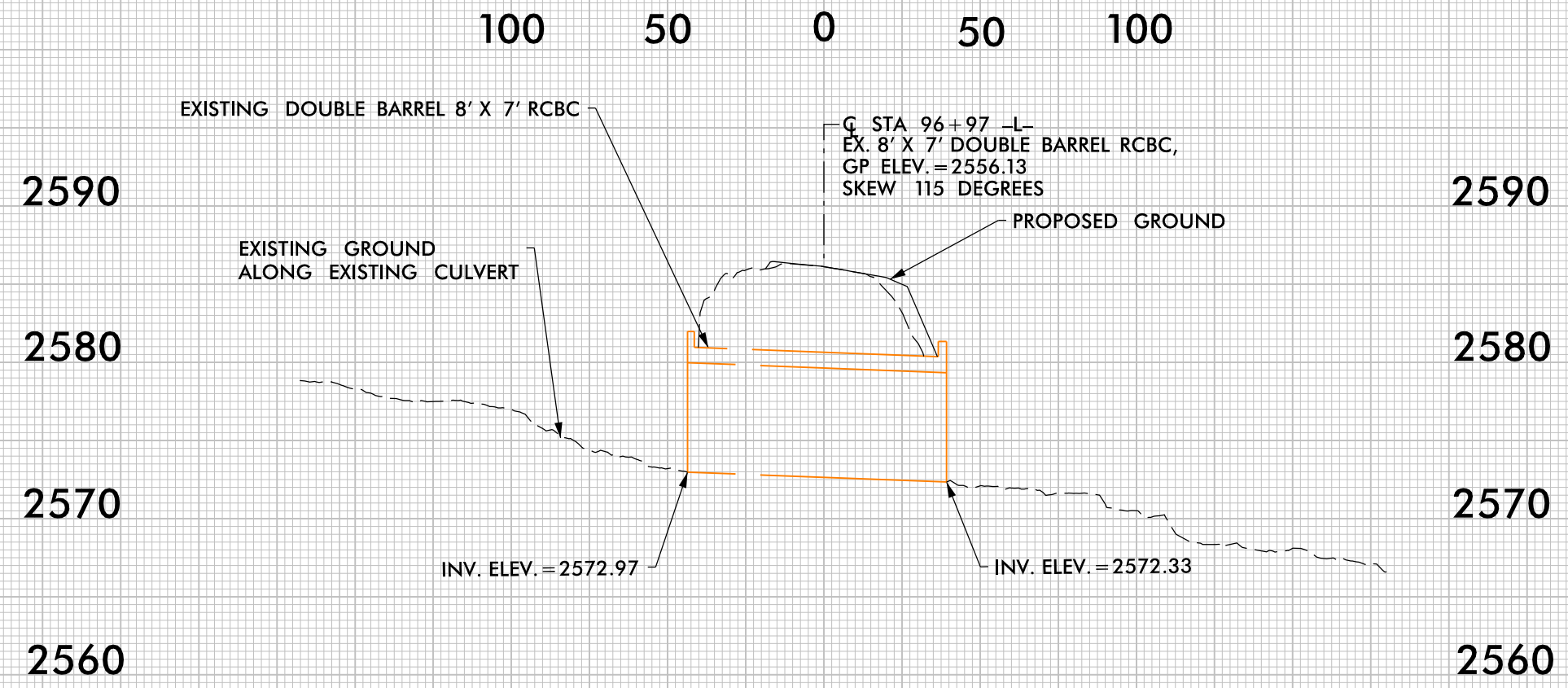
5/14/99

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045039 (WP3)	SHEET NO. _____
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

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

SCALE:
 1" = 25' HORIZONTAL
 1" = 5' VERTICAL

SITE 9



PROFILE ALONG \bar{C} OF CULVERT

**PERMIT DRAWING
 SHEET 11 OF 24**

REVISIONS

PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_color_eng_100.plt
 USER: -USERNAME-
 FILE: G:\TOMC\CC-PRM-CSR-SITES.dgn
 DATE: 2/10/2026
 TIME: 3:02:14 PM

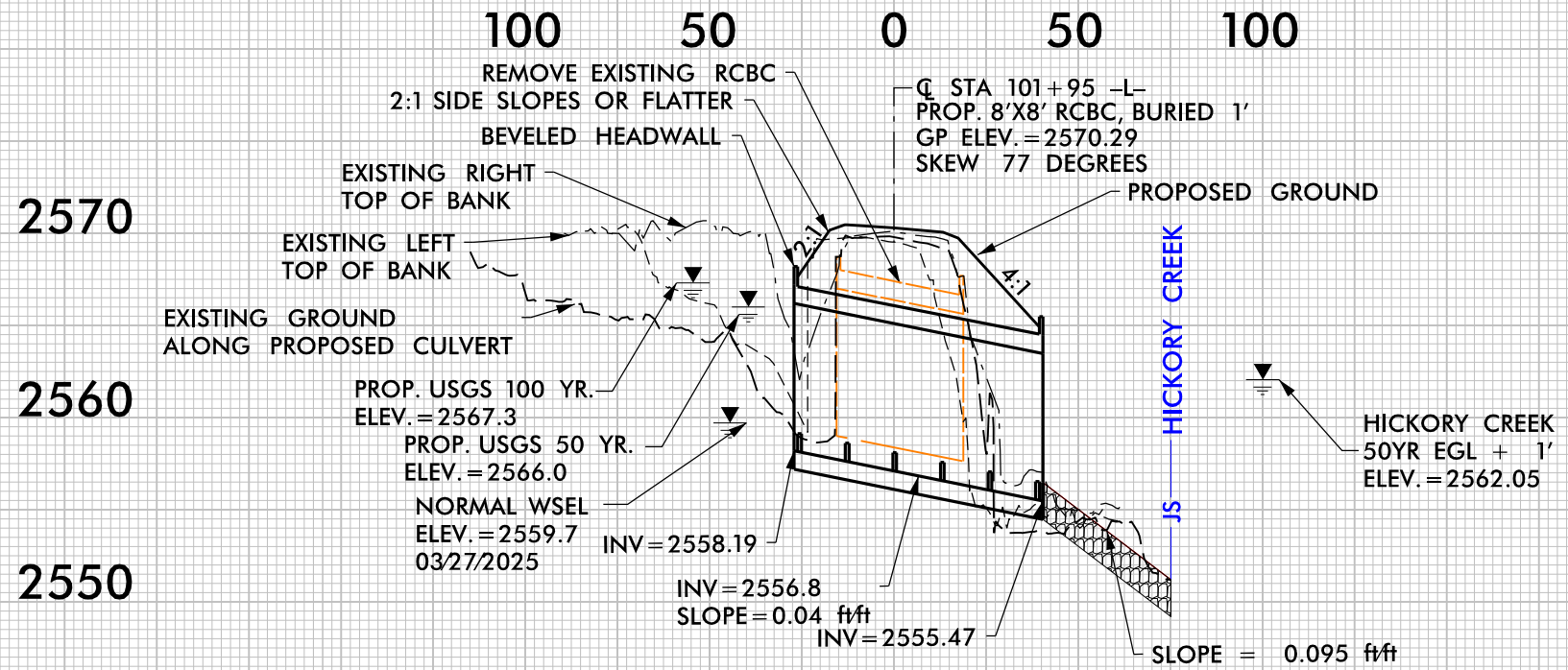
5/14/99

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045039 (WP3)	SHEET NO.
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

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

SCALE:
 1" = 25' HORIZONTAL
 1" = 5' VERTICAL

SITE 11



PROFILE ALONG CL OF CULVERT

**PERMIT DRAWING
 SHEET 12 OF 24**

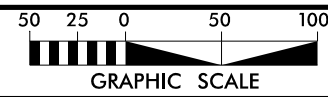
REVISIONS

PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_color_eng_100.plt
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 PENTABLE: NCDOT_PFL_XSC.tbl
 TIME: 3:02:21 PM

6/2/99

LEGEND

- SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
- TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045999.3.3	SHEET NO. 11
RW SHEET NO. RW-11	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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NAD 83
NA 2011

L&S OATES FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
Deed Book/Page
001248/000654

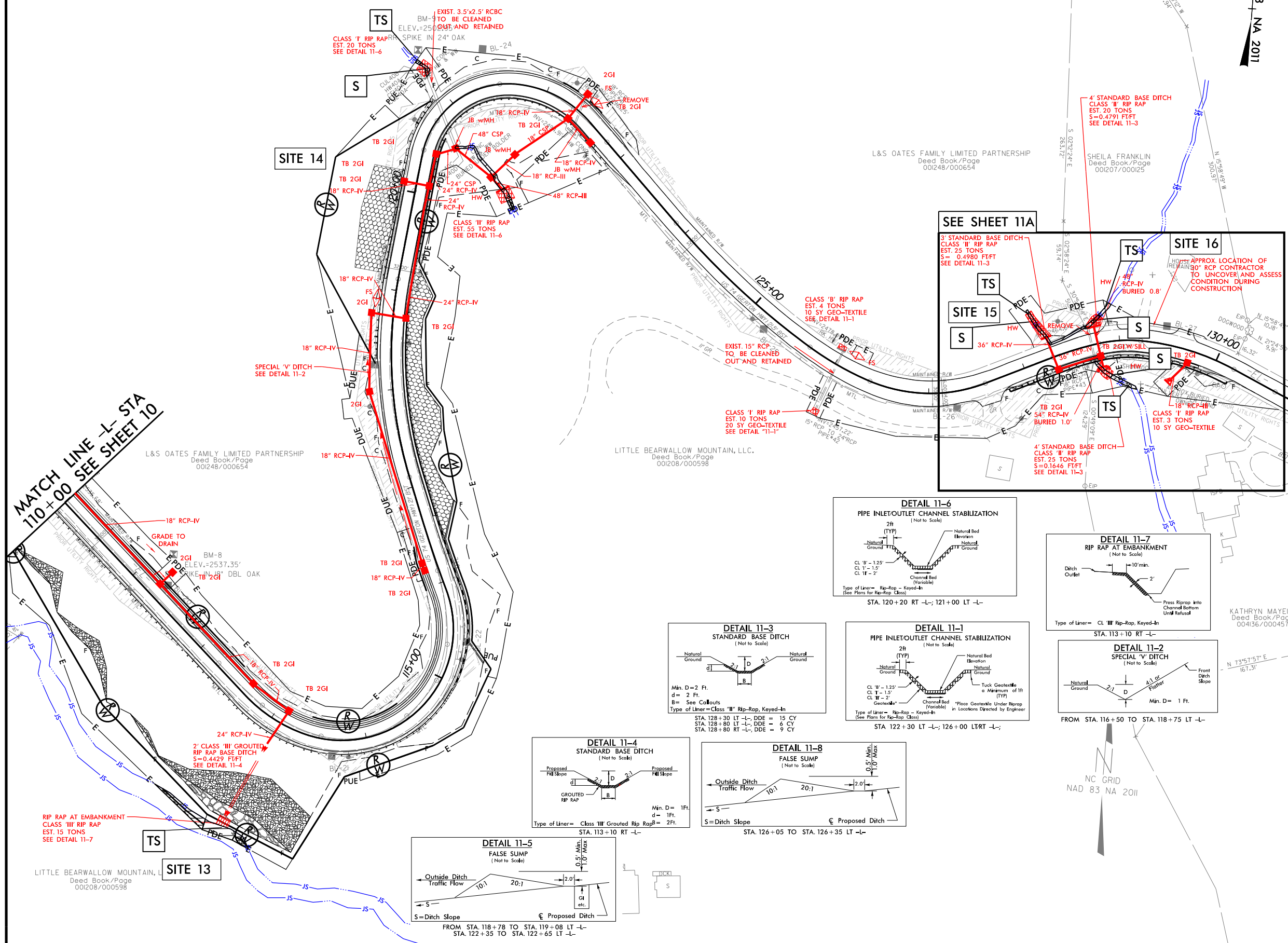
L&S OATES FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
Deed Book/Page
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HENDERSON COUNTY
Deed Book/Page 001530/000528

LITTLE BEARWALLOW MOUNTAIN, L.L.C.
Deed Book/Page
001208/000598

L&S OATES FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
Deed Book/Page
001248/000654

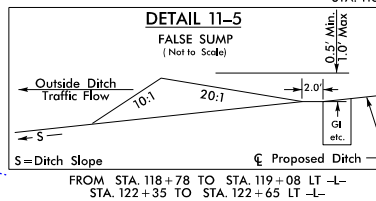
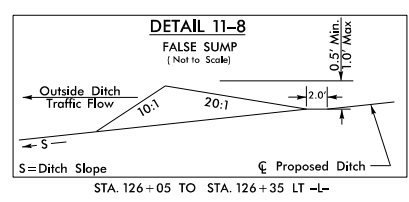
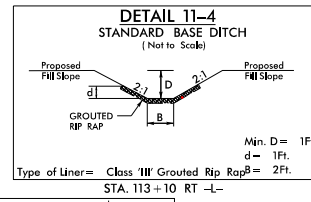
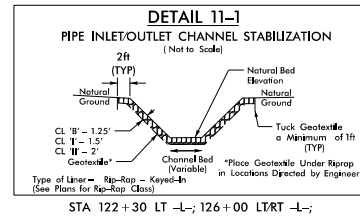
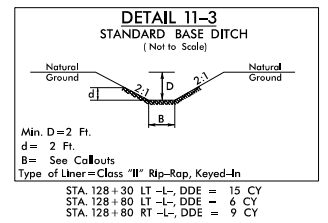
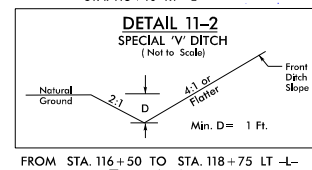
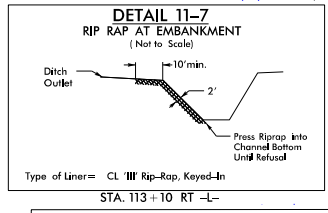
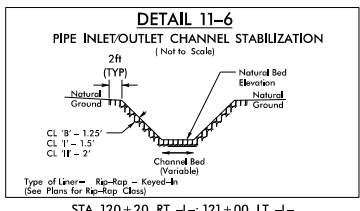
KATHRYN MAYEUX
Deed Book/Page
004136/000457



REVISIONS

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USER: GJACOBSON
DATE: 2/10/2026
TIME: 3:02:32 PM

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DATE: 2/10/2026
TIME: 3:02:32 PM

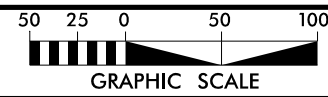


**PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 13 OF 24**

6/2/99

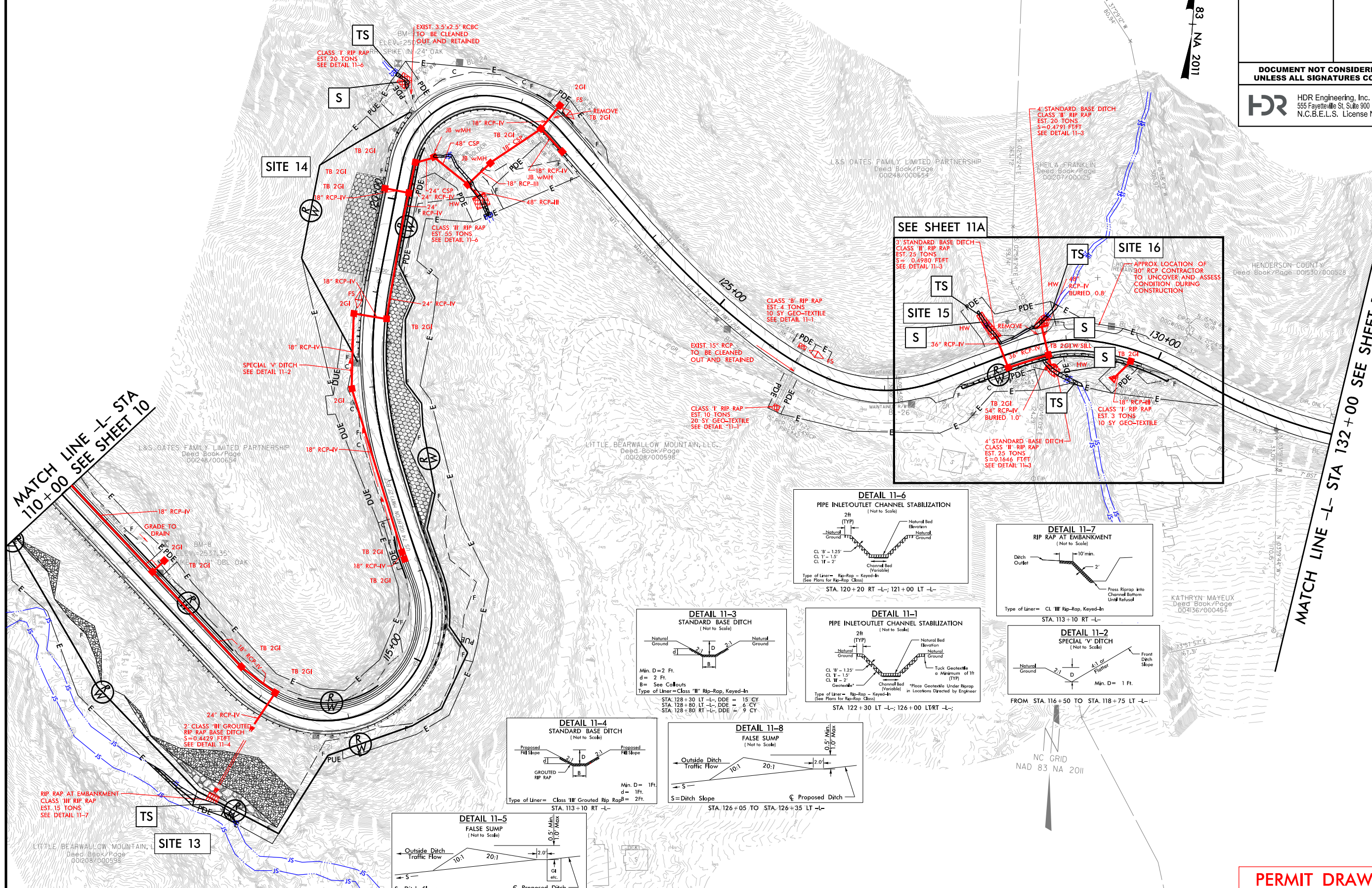
LEGEND

- SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
- TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045999.3.3	SHEET NO. 11
RW SHEET NO. RW-11	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
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NAD 83 NA 2011

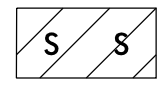


PLOT DRIVER: NCDOT_permits_color_eng_100.plt
 USER: GJACOBSON
 DATE: 2/10/2026
 TIME: 3:02:37 PM

**PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 14 OF 24**

6/2/99

LEGEND

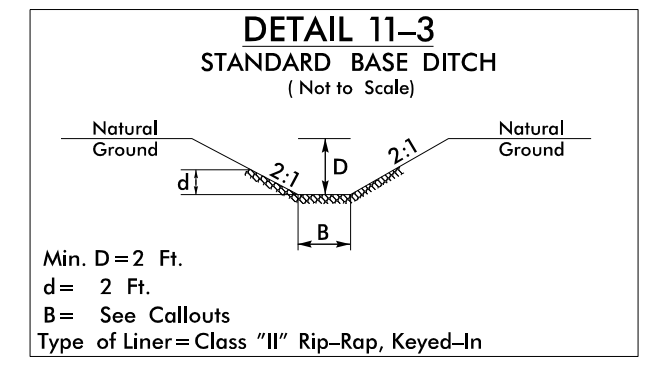
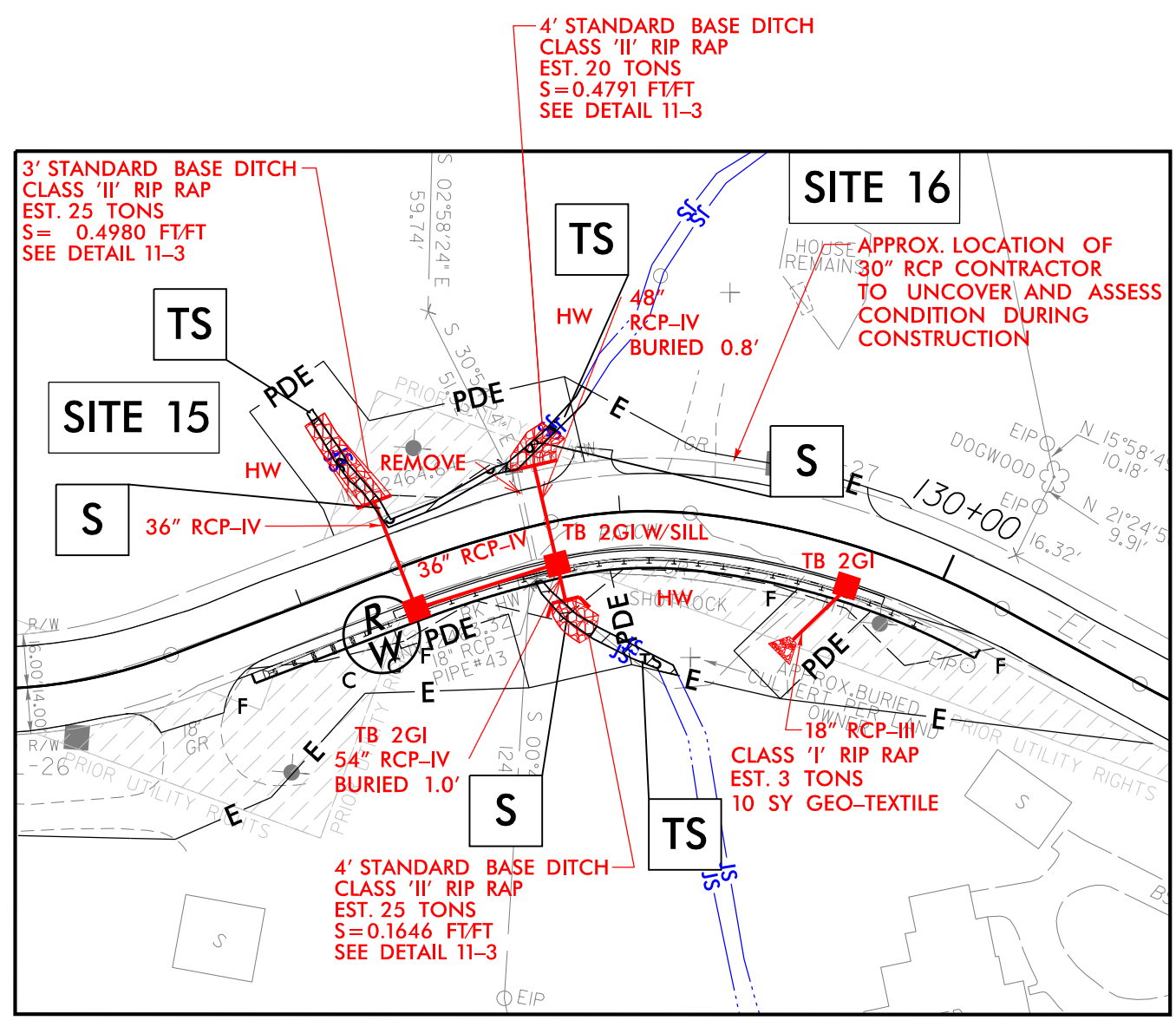


SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045039 (WP3)	SHEET NO. 11A
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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GRAPHIC SCALE	



REVISIONS

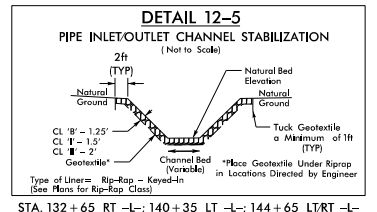
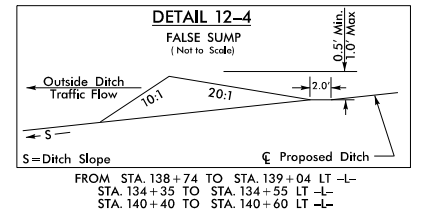
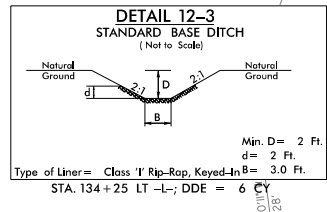
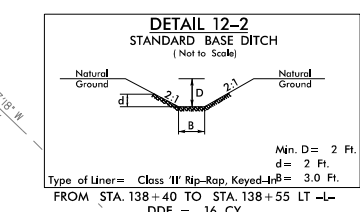
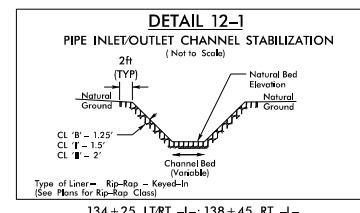
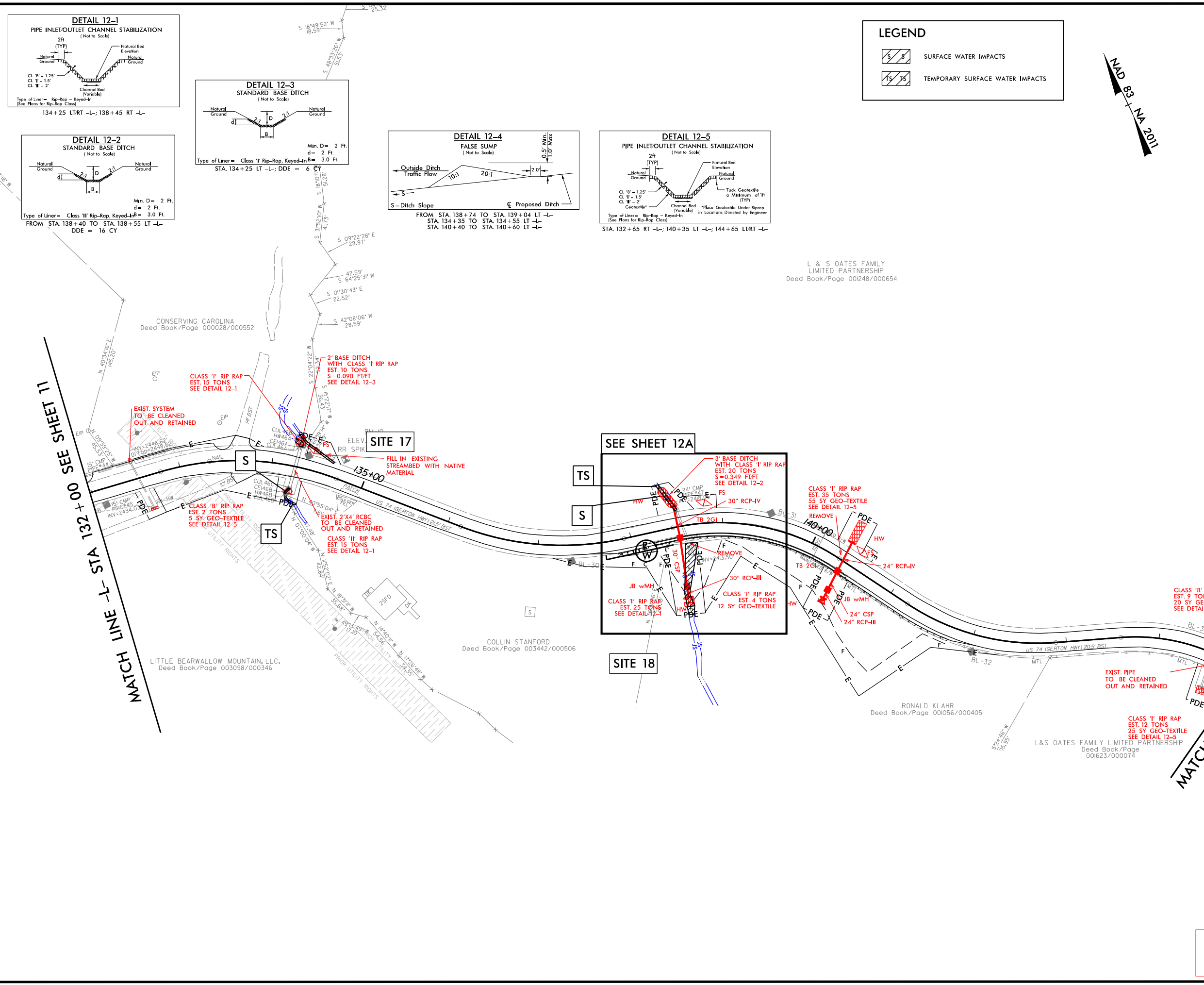
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DATE: 2/10/2026
TIME: 3:02:43 PM

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DATE: 2/10/2026
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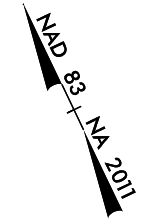
**PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 15 OF 24**

REVISIONS

6/2/99



LEGEND	
	SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045999.3.3	SHEET NO. 12
RW SHEET NO. RW-12	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
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GRAPHIC SCALE	

L & S OATES FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
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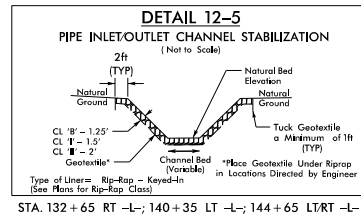
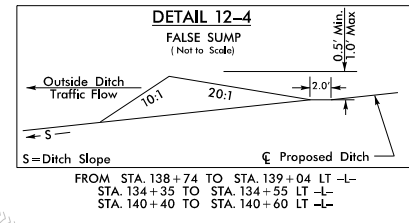
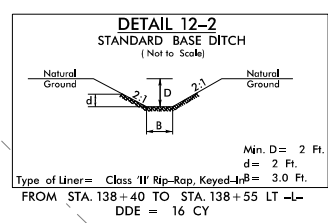
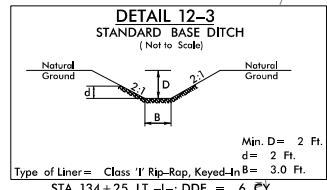
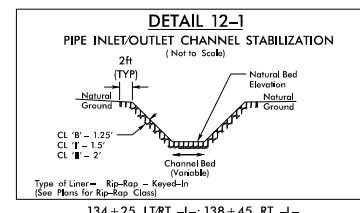
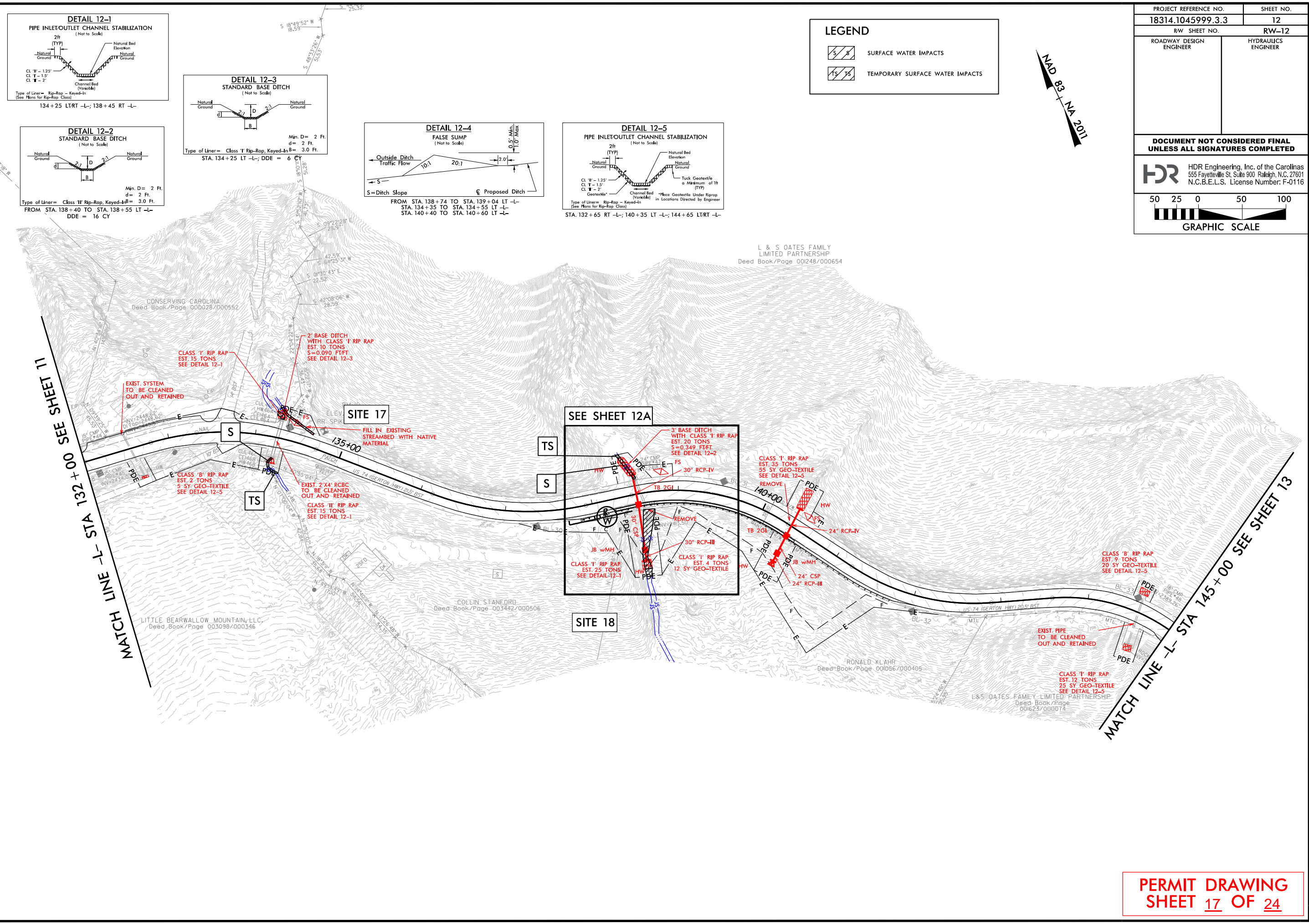
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MATCH LINE -L- STA 145 + 00 SEE SHEET 13

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 FILE: \

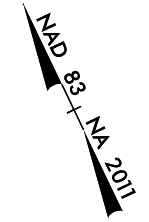
REVISIONS

6/2/99



LEGEND



	SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



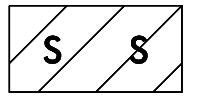
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ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	

PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 17 OF 24

6/2/99

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045039 (WP3)	SHEET NO. 12A
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	

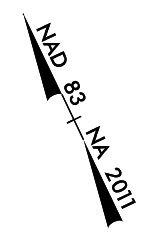
LEGEND



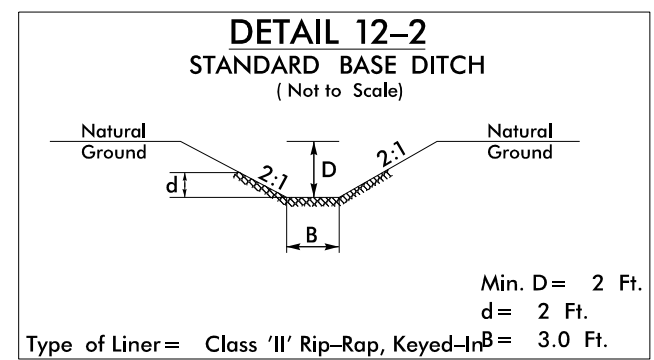
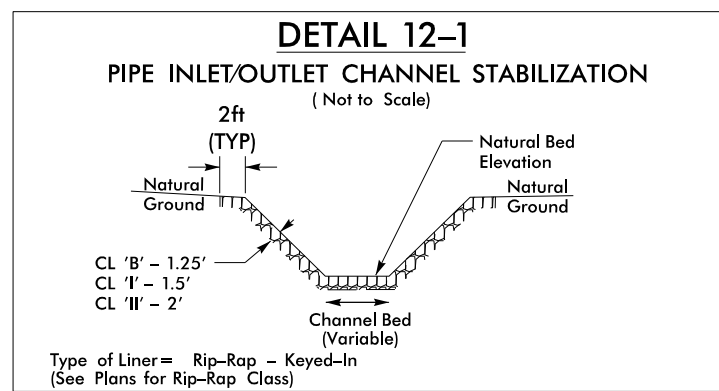
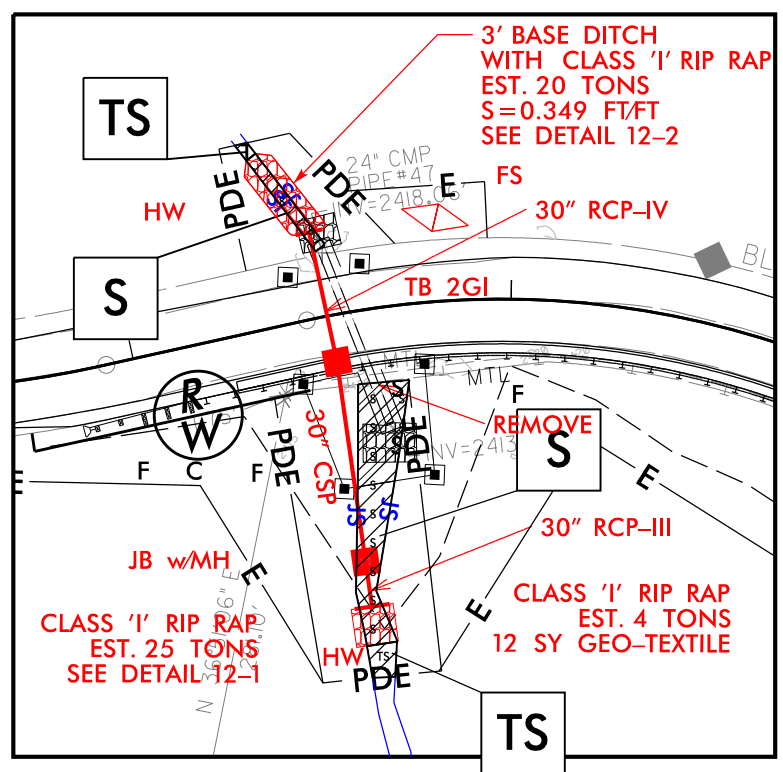
SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



SITE 18

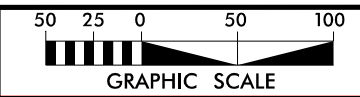


**PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 18 OF 24**

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USER: CJACOBSON
DATE: 2/10/2026
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FILE: \

REVISIONS

6/2/2026



PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
18314.1045999.3.3	13
RW SHEET NO.	RW-13
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

PERMIT DRAWING SHEET 19 OF 24

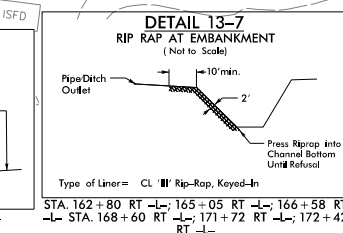
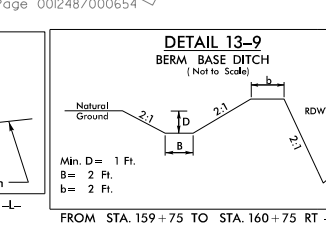
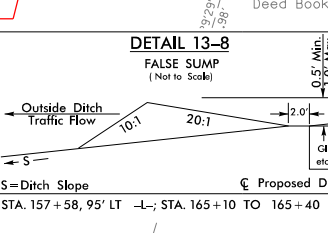
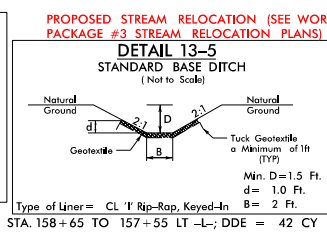
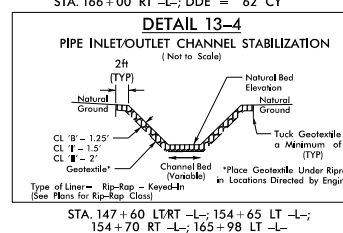
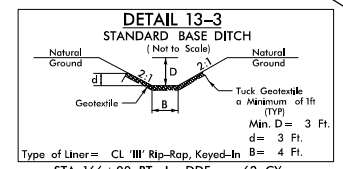
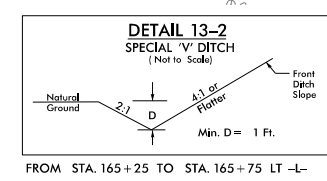
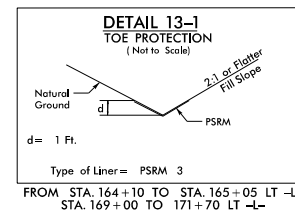
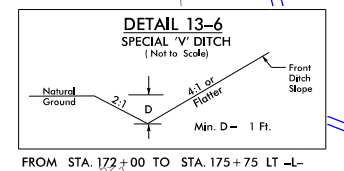
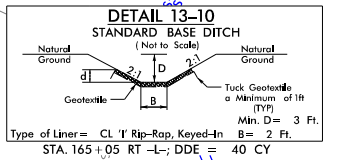
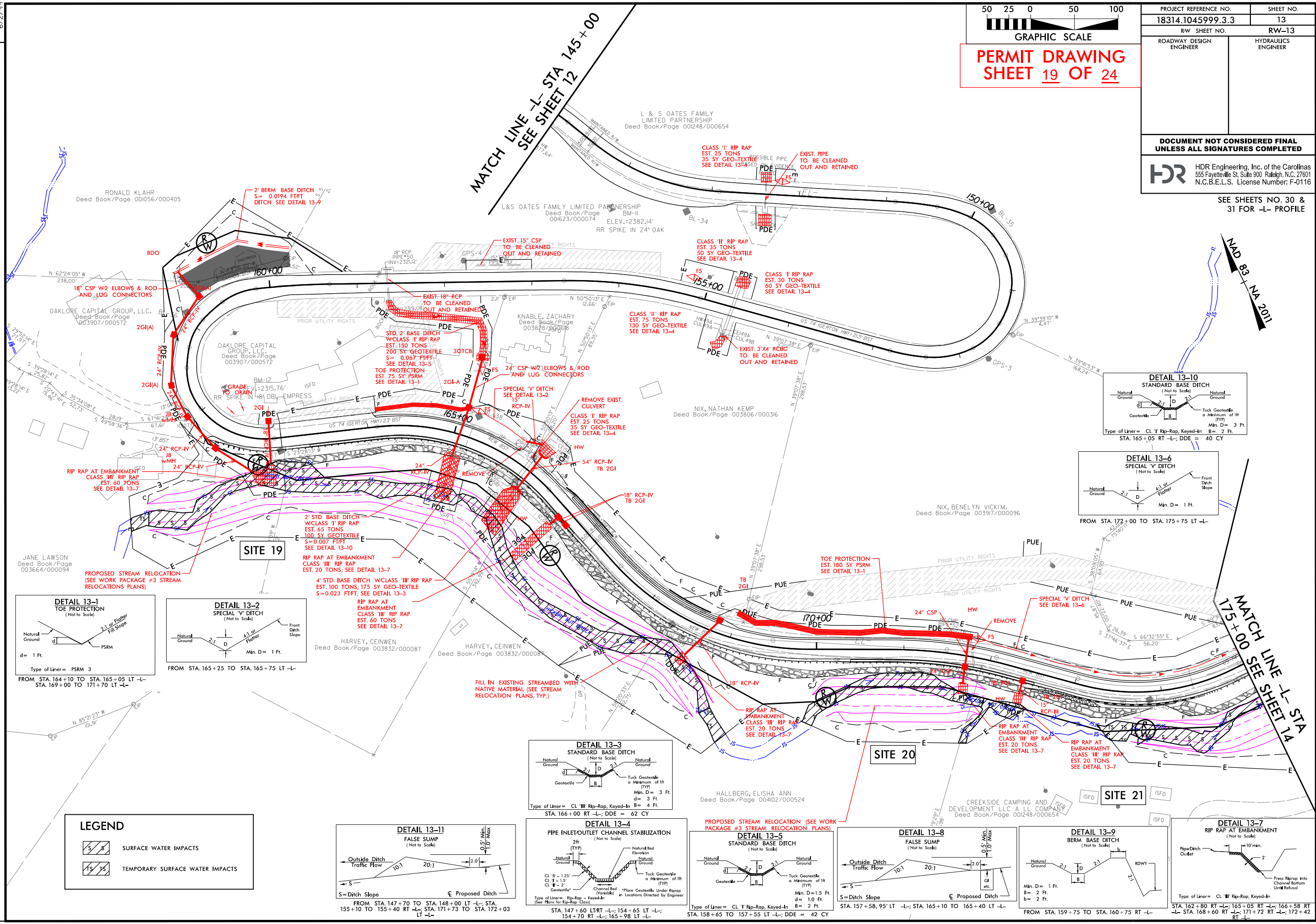
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED

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N.C.B.E.L.S. License Number: F-0116

SEE SHEETS NO. 30 & 31 FOR -L- PROFILE

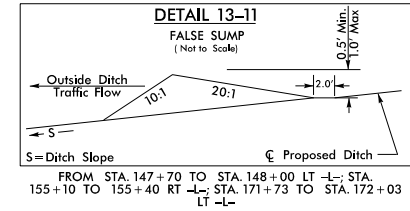
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SEE SHEET 12

MATCH LINE -L- STA 175+00
SEE SHEET 14



LEGEND

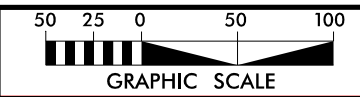
	SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



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REVISIONS

6/2/99



PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045999.3.3	SHEET NO. 13
RW SHEET NO. RW-13	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 20 OF 24

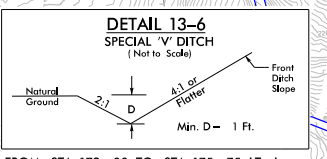
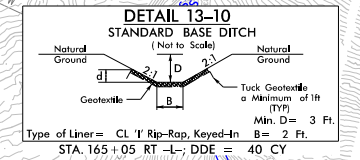
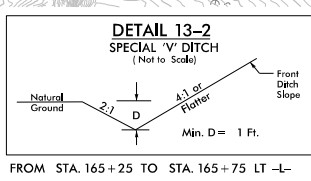
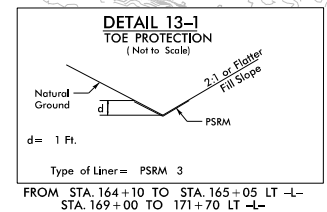
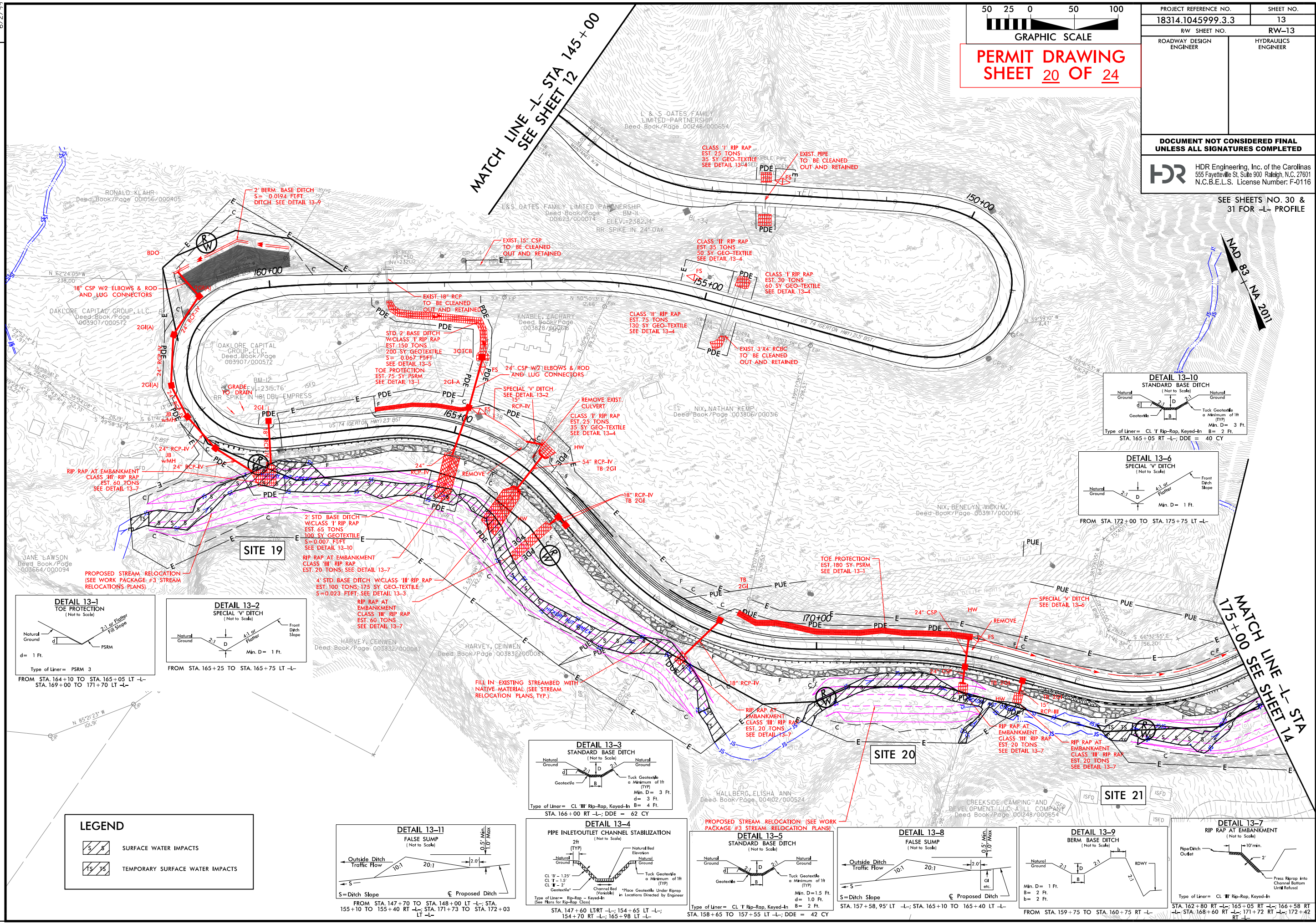
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL
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N.C.B.E.L.S. License Number: F-0116

SEE SHEETS NO. 30 &
31 FOR -L- PROFILE

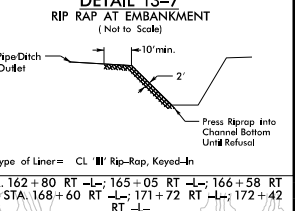
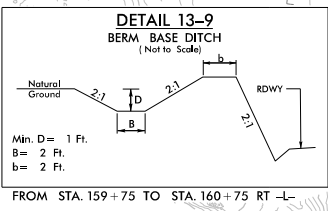
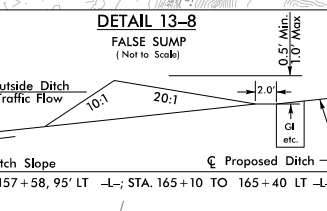
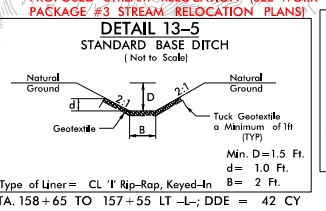
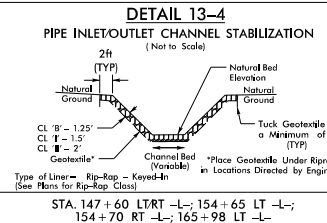
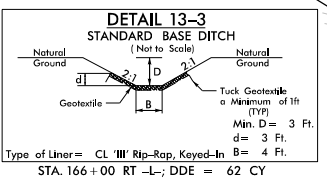
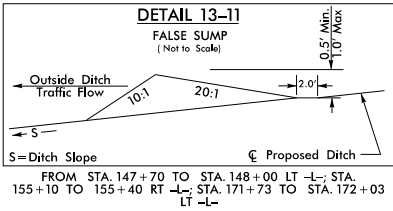
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SEE SHEET 12

NAD 83 - NA 2011




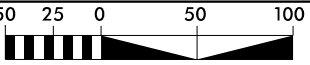
LEGEND

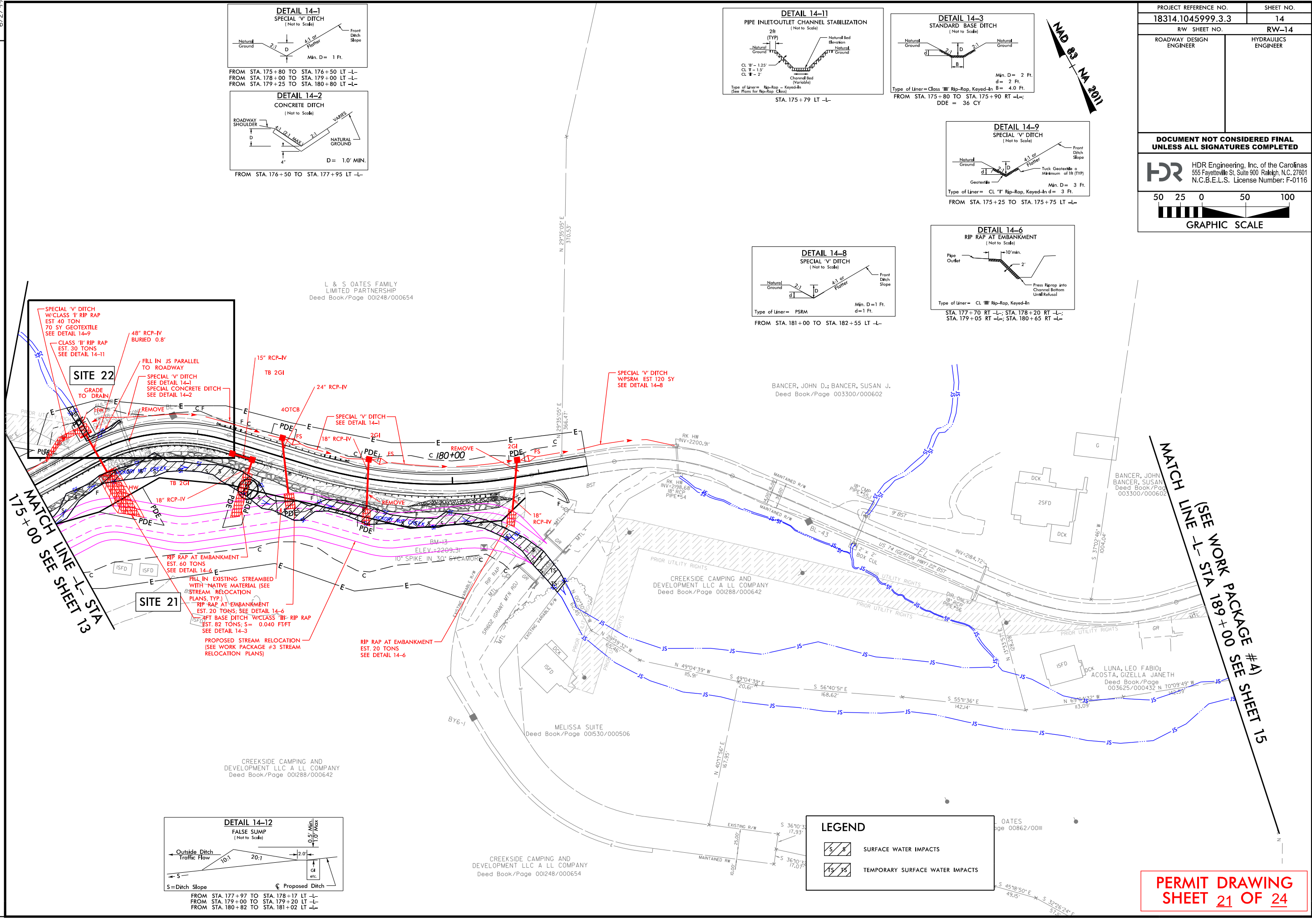
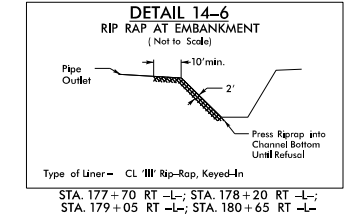
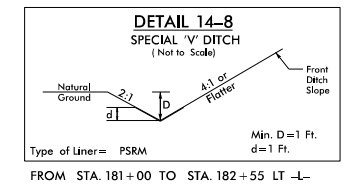
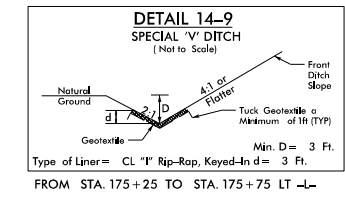
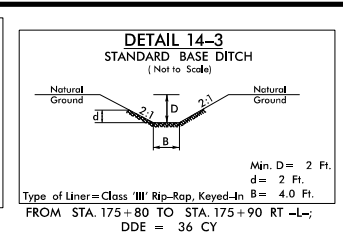
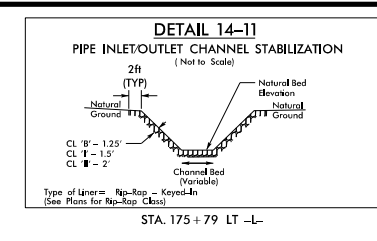
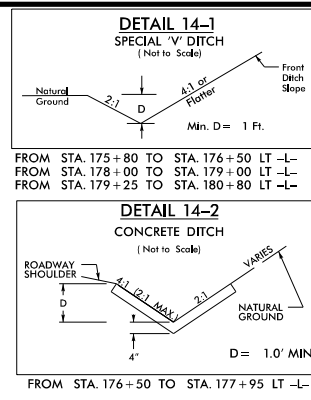
	SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS





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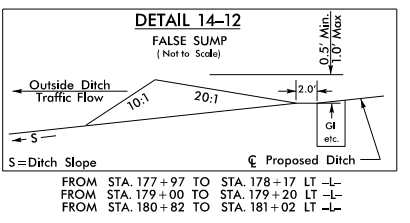
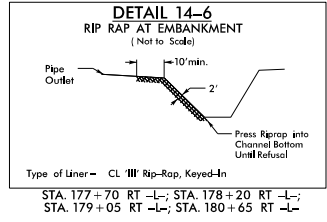
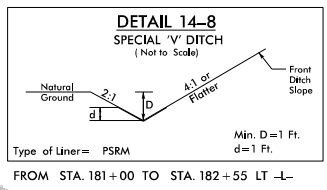
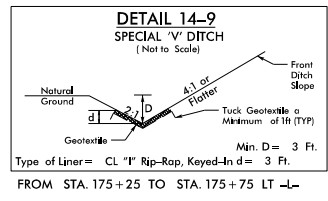
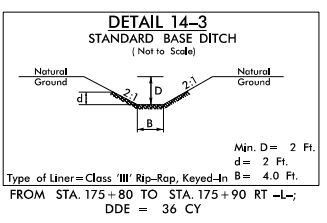
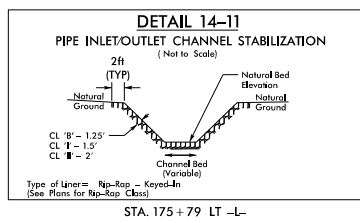
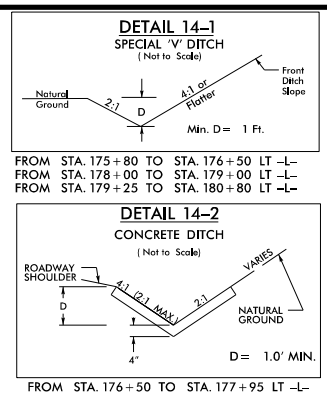
REVISIONS

PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.
18314.1045999.3.3	14
RW SHEET NO.	RW-14
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	





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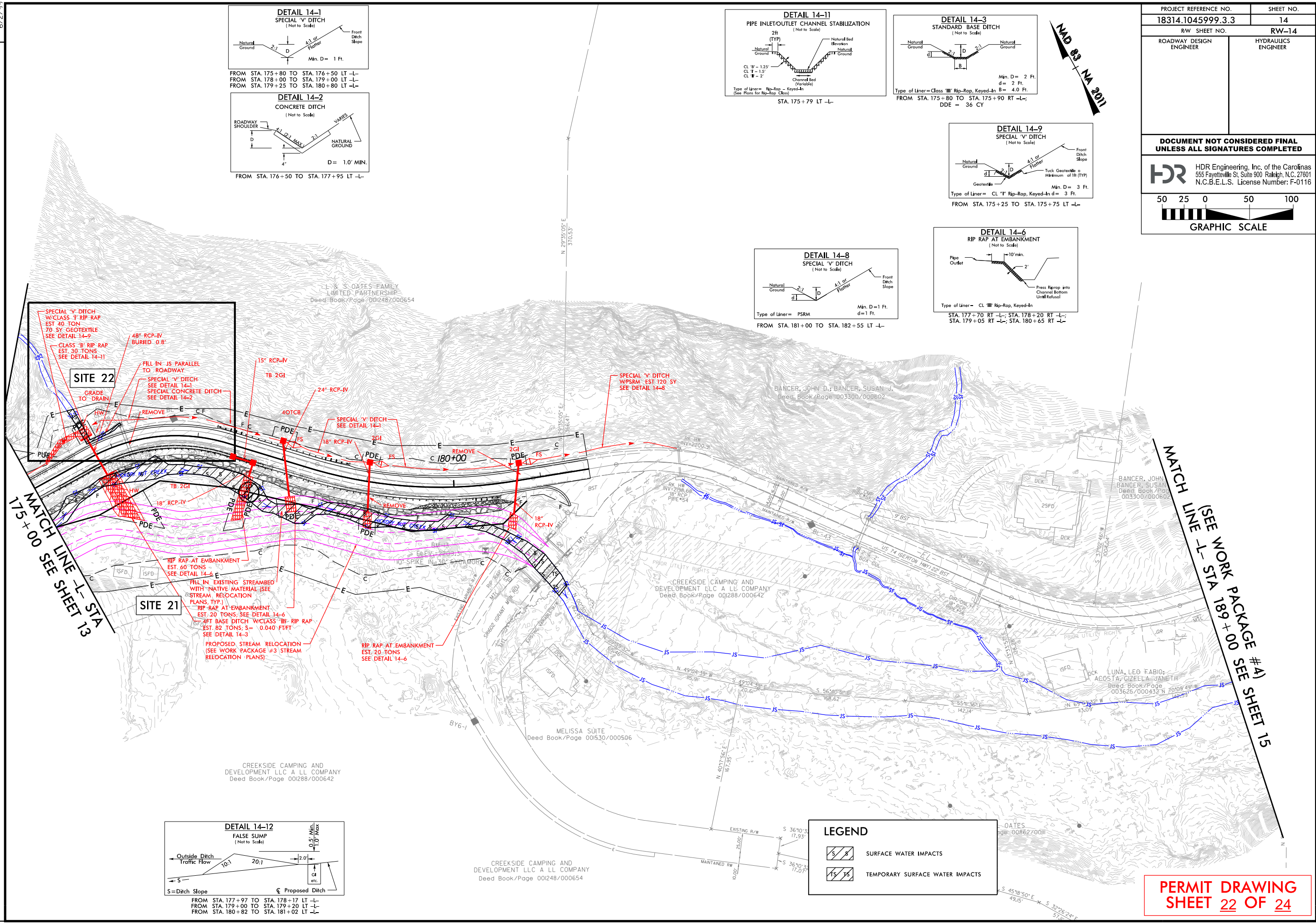
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18314.1045999.3.3	14
RW SHEET NO.	RW-14
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	



LEGEND

	SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
	TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 22 OF 24



6/2/99



LEGEND

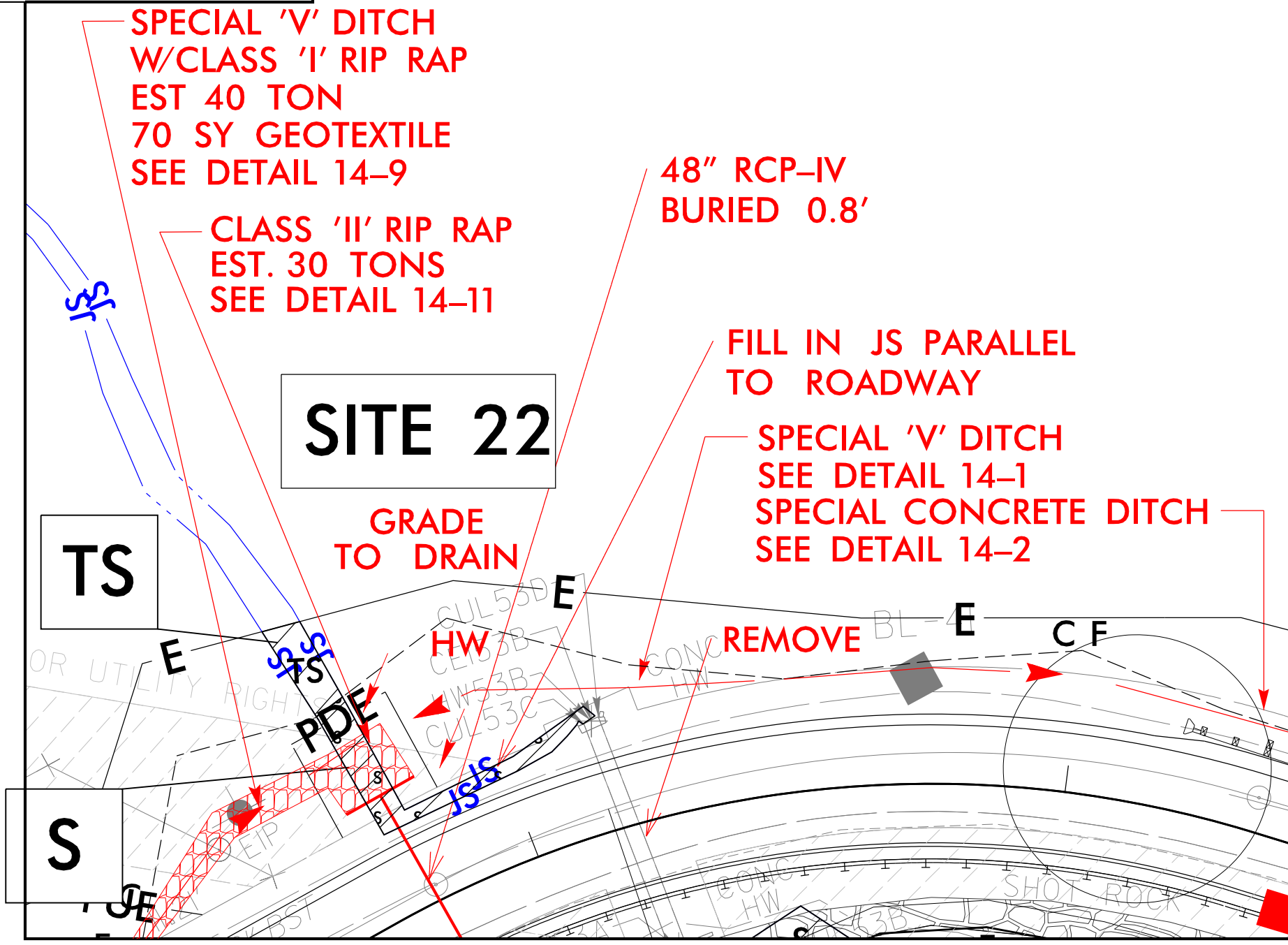
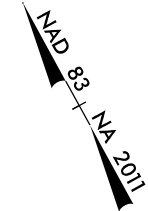


SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 18314.1045039 (WP3)	SHEET NO. 14A
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED	
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 GRAPHIC SCALE	



SITE 22

TS

S

GRADE TO DRAIN

48" RCP-IV BURIED 0.8'

FILL IN JS PARALLEL TO ROADWAY

SPECIAL 'V' DITCH SEE DETAIL 14-1
SPECIAL CONCRETE DITCH SEE DETAIL 14-2

REMOVE

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DATE: 2/10/2026
TIME: 3:03:28 PM
FILE: \

REVISIONS

PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 23 OF 24

WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER IMPACTS SUMMARY

Site No.	Station (From/To)	Structure Size / Type	WETLAND IMPACTS					SURFACE WATER IMPACTS				
			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- 67+33 - 67+65	Bank Stabilization Hickory Nut Creek						0.02	< 0.01	61	35	
1	-L- 67+09 - 67+39	Bank Stabilization UT to Hickory Creek						< 0.01		34		
2	-L- 72+82	18" CSP							< 0.01		3	
3	-L- 77+69	Bank Stabilization						0.04	< 0.01	110	17	
3	-L- 79+21- 83+75	Hickory Nut Creek Relocation						0.12	< 0.01	433	22	
4	-L- 80+15 - 81+98	Temp Construction Easement/ Stream Relocation			< 0.01		0.06		< 0.01		86	
5	-L- 86+35 RT	6' X4' Culvert/Daylight Stream						< 0.01	< 0.01	9	18	
6	-L- 86+35 LT	Hickory Nut Creek/Daylight Stream							0.01		39	
7	-L- 96+42 - 97+10 RT	Bank Stabilization						< 0.01	< 0.01	52	15	
8	-L- 96+47 - 96+65 RT	Bank Stabilization						< 0.01	< 0.01	7	28	
9	-L- 96+96	Bank Stabilization						0.03	0.03	97	31	
10	-L- 100+40	Hickory Nut Creek/PDE							< 0.01		28	
11	-L- 101+78 - 102+77	8'X8' RCBC						0.01		87		
11	-L- 101+78 - 102+77	Bank Stabilization						< 0.01	< 0.01	17	8	
12	-L- 100+70 -106+22	Hickory Nut Creek Relocation/Temp Construction Easement						0.20	< 0.01	531	14	
13	-L- 113+05 - 113+24	Rip Rap at Embankment/ Temp Construction Easement						< 0.01	0.01	33	72	
14	-L- 120+98 - 120+12	Pipe Inlet/Outlet Channel Stabilization						< 0.01	0.01	28	15	
14	-L- 120+85	48" CSP						< 0.01		71		
15	-L- 126+81 - 128+71	36" RCP						< 0.01	< 0.01	78	3	
16	-L- 128+69 - 128+90	48" RCP-IV						< 0.01	< 0.01	40	42	
17	-L- 134+25	Ex. 2'X4' RCBC/ Channel Realignment						< 0.01	< 0.01	105	18	
18	-L- 138+52	36" RCP/30" CSP						0.02	< 0.01	99	14	
19	-L- 162+17 - 169+14	Hickory Nut Creek Relocation						0.29	0.02	774	59	
20	-L- 169+92 - 172+46	Hickory Nut Creek Relocation						0.07	0.03	198	68	
21	-L- 173+40 - 180+79	Hickory Nut Creek Relocation						0.25	0.03	765	76	
22	-L- 175+80	48" RCP-IV						< 0.01	< 0.01	23	17	
TOTALS*:					< 0.01		0.06	1.09	0.20	3652	729	0

*Rounded totals are sum of actual impacts

NOTES:

728

NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
 JULY 2025
 HENDERSON COUNTY
 18314.1045039
 GERTON HWY - US 74

ESA Consultation



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Asheville Field Office
160 Zillicoa Street Suite B
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

July 7, 2025

Subject: Review Response for Transportation Project(s) Covered by the Western North Carolina Bat Programmatic Biological Opinion

Greetings:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Asheville Ecological Services Field Office, has reviewed the project(s) submitted on May 15, 2025 for coverage under the Western North Carolina (WNC) Bat Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO), issued April 1, 2025. Based on the submitted materials and any supplemental information provided, we confirm the project(s) meet the criteria for coverage under this PBO in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531–1543) (ESA), thus concluding formal consultation for the project(s).

This correspondence conveys our review for listed/proposed bats covered by the WNC Bat PBO only. The lead federal agency (Federal Highway Administration or North Carolina Department of Transportation as their designee, or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) remains responsible for ensuring that any other listed or proposed species and/or designated critical habitat that occurs within the project action area are addressed in accordance with section 7 of the ESA. For other listed species potentially occurring in the action area, if suitable habitat is absent from the action area, “No Effect” determinations are appropriate. For plants, in instances where suitable habitat is present and botanical surveys conducted during the optimal survey window and within the past one or two years (depending on the species) have negative results, we would concur with a biological determination of “may affect, not likely to adversely affect”.

Review and concurrence under the WNC Bat PBO are considered complete for the following project(s):

Project Title	NCDOT STIP/ID #	USFWS Log #
Widen US 321 from US 70 to SR 1933	U-4700	25-179
Widen US 21 from SR 2136 to Holly Point Drive, and from Northcross Center Ct. to SR 2147	U-5771/U-5767	25-180
Bearwallow Mountain Rd./US74A in-kind repairs	DF18314.2045120 W03290	25-181
US74A Gerton from Bearwallow Mtn Rd to US64/74A/NC9	18314.1045999CMGC	25-182
US74A/Middle Fork Rd./ Tom Falls Rd. repairs	DF18314.2045207 W03292	25-183
Bald Rock Rd. – Gilliam Mtn Rd./Sugarloaf Mtn Rd. repairs	DF18314.2045060 W03289	25-184

NC9 from 74A to Buncombe Co. line repairs	18314.1045035 W0920	25-185
NC88 landslide repair	28DE NC88 landslide	25-186

We appreciate the opportunity for review and comment.

Sincerely,

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Asheville Field Office

Archaeology



**NO NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
ELIGIBLE OR LISTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES
PRESENT 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 Team.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No: **US 74A Helene** *County:* **Henderson**
WBS No: **Helene 44 US74A[ET]6570** *Document:* **CE**
F.A. No: **tbd** *Funding:* State Federal
Federal Permit Required? Yes No *Permit Type:* (pending) USACE

NCDOT proposes to repair and reestablish portions of the US 74A highway damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Helene parallel Hickory Creek from near Gerton to near Bat Cave in Henderson County. For this emergency restoration and repair for segments of the highway removed from the landscape following devastating flooding, there is potential for federal funding and USACE coordination is expected. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act applies for this federal undertaking.

The project's western limit is west of the intersection of US 74A and Little Pisgah Road (SR 1693). The highway continues eastward near Red Anderson Road (SR 1611). Overall, the project length covers about 6.1 miles of highway including travel lanes which have been removed, destroyed, damaged, or compromised by flooding (see Figure 1). Repair, temporary roadway, or road rebuilding is required throughout the project. Note, PA 24-11-0012 is a related, separate archaeological review of US 64 (Lake Lure Highway) beginning east of the current project, extending from Bat Cave to Chimney Rock.

For the Archaeological Area of Potential Effects (APE), this investigation considers all areas of potential earth disturbing activities, including all the current and any proposed new ROW. The high volume, scouring floods deposited new terrain and reformed or replaced much of the landforms associated with US 74A. This unique circumstance requires earthmoving, fill, and cuts to grade and drain the recently modified terrain. The APE length end to end is about 5.0 miles (26,400 feet). No formal design was available at the time of this review; therefore, the APE width is buffered to allow flexibility to study a range of potential, successful roadway solutions. The width is 200 feet to either side of US 74. Additional investigations were recommended on April 22, 2025, to better map, document, and evaluate site 31Hn432 (the Conner Cemetery) located on an elevated and sloping landform between Possom Hollow Road and US 74A.

SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Archaeology Team has reviewed the subject project and determined:

- There are no National Register listed ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES within the project's area of potential effects. (Attach any notes or documents as needed.)
- No subsurface archaeological investigations were required for this project.
- Subsurface investigations did not reveal the presence of any archaeological resources.
- Subsurface investigations did not reveal the presence of any archaeological resources considered eligible for the National Register.
- All identified archaeological sites located within the APE have been considered and all compliance for archaeological resources with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and GS 121-12(a) has been completed for this project.

(continued)

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATIONSee attached: Map(s) Previous Survey Info Photos Correspondence

Other:

Signed:



JULY 28, 2025

NCDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST

Date

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

The undertaking involves repairs, restoration, and replacement for sections of US 74A, also known as the Gerton Highway, that were badly damaged or destroyed during catastrophic flooding because of Helene's flooding in late September 2024. Damage to the highway and surrounding terrain include landslides, erosion of hillsides and stream channels, and several locations of destroyed roadway. Archaeological site 31Hn432, the Conner Cemetery, is partially or completely within the buffered project APE, outside of assumed ROW (see Figure 2). The cemetery is perched on a ridge spur overlooking the US 74A and Hickory Creek to the south and west. The west, south, and east side of this landform are very steep, nearly vertical side slopes. The landform is flatter at its peak, sloping upward to the northeast where it is flanked by Possom Hollow Road and the larger mountainside beyond.

A landslide covered the northern end of the cemetery in several feet of colluvium. Sheet wash of soils have accumulated at the south, lower end of the cemetery where three horizontal markers were relocated under a cumulative 3-7 inches of repositioned soil from uphill. Small erosional gulleys have formed in the cemetery which are shifting a few of the markers that are undercut. The edges of the ridge further eroded during the floods, the greatest on the east side where bedrock is now exposed in the deepened erosional cut. LiDAR-based ground surfaces were created for this study which use very detailed, post-Helene elevation data which has been compared to available earlier elevation data before the recent damage (see Figure 3). Initial visual inspections following Helene suggested the cemetery was threatened by further erosion or undercut slopes. Recent engineering evaluations conclude that the landform is stable, however measures to avoid or reduce further damage are being pursued.

In recent months, actions to stop and help prevent new changes to the cemetery's landform have occurred as part of the storm recovery. Possom Hollow Road, damaged by a collapsed mountain side, has been repaired and restored north and above the cemetery. The deepest of the colluvium which buried the north side of the cemetery close to Possom Hollow Road has been regraded and cut back to approximately the same elevation that existed prior to Helene (see Figure 4). Caretakers have installed a small ditch and berm to redirect runoff away from the cemetery. It is unknown if the mountainside north of Possom Hollow Road is now less stable or, perhaps, more stable after the partial collapse.

The Conner Cemetery is not surrounded by a wall or fence that defines its boundaries. However, the limited, flat topography and very steep side slopes create a terrain feature on which the cemetery is enclosed. The cemetery is active and has regular burials through at least 2018. Maintained by volunteers and family members, photographs from the past fifteen years show a well-groomed lawn and undamaged markers. Evergreen vegetation common at small, southeastern cemeteries is present,

including the low groundcover, periwinkle, and two or more cedar trees (see Figure 5). A small number of ornamentals and flowering bulbs were seen but the blooming period had passed at the time of the survey. A low number of bushes/shrubbery and other trees are inside the cemetery, and older, larger trees are present on the south and western slopes. A utility pole with guy-lines is positioned on the top of the southern slope just south of the cemetery. The placement of memorial, artificial flowers indicate it is regularly visited. The recent redeposit of soil, erosion, bare soil, and nearby grading contradict the established age and setting of the cemetery (see Figure 6).

The primary objective of this investigation was to collect detailed data and condition information for the Conner Cemetery, update the site form (31Hn432) with the NC Office of State Archaeology (OSA), and evaluate its eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Place. The cemetery investigation was conducted May 15-16, 2025, by NCDOT archaeologists Brian Overton and Paul J. Mohler. The work included a complete visual inspection of the setting and condition of the landform and cemetery, general and burial specific photography, updating a sketch map provided by the caretaker who is also a family member, recording information and locations using a GPS data collector, and cross referencing known cemetery inventories with observations in the field. Additionally, the Hill Cemetery, located 0.25 miles to the northeast, was briefly visited. The Hill Cemetery name had been incorrectly applied to the Conner Cemetery inventory listed in *Henderson County, North Carolina Cemeteries* compiled by the Henderson County Genealogical and Historical Society (1995). No entry was identified for the Conner Cemetery in the Henderson County Cemetery Survey Records data collected c. 1937-1938 by the Works Projects Administration for the Tombstone Transcription Project (176.1 MARS ID, Series). Find-A-Grave has an entry for the cemetery which includes an inventory, photos of individual graves, and GPS locations.

The graves are arranged by general family groupings and informal rows. Burials appear to have been marked though not always with identifying information, or not until commercial granites replacement stones were installed. Depressions over burials, present at some cemeteries, were absent. Markers are oriented traditionally with headstones on the west side and accompanying footstones to the east, in this case more southeast which reflects the topography of the landform. Markers within the rows are closely spaced, with infrequent gaps within groupings. The length between headstones and footstones varies and several unidentified burials have short grave lengths, likely children.

Many of the headstone markers are crafted and shaped from tabular stone, some finely hewn from natural, local rocks to create a thin cross section with rounded edges. Footstones, mostly shaped fieldstone, are present for most of the observed burials. Visible markings are lacking on most of this category of headstones, with one exception. The name and date of death have been etched onto Ambrose Owensby's original headstone. However, several graves have new, formal, and polished granite markers which add identifying information and dates of birth and death. When present, these replacements are immediately adjacent to the corresponding stone markers. A smaller number of marble gravestone markers are present, most being issued by the US Department of Veterans Affairs in the commonly known forms. The size of the markers varies for both the natural and later polished headstones, except for the well-defined V.A. markers. The natural headstones are all upright in form. There is a combination of upright and horizontal formal granite and marble markers. A small number of temporary funeral home markers were observed during the investigation, though those have permanent headstone now. There are no other observed physical or encountered documentation that suggest there are burials beyond the visual limits of the cemetery or outlying the top of the landform.

A 1986 inspection of the cemetery incorrectly names this the "Hill Family Cemetery," which is the proper name for another graveyard a quarter mile towards the north, on page 277 of *Henderson County, North Carolina Cemeteries*. The data presented, however, does represent the combination of graves marked with names and those without names in other recent inventories and observations

made in the field. The information from the cemetery survey suggests some 59 burials were observed at that time. Since the mid-1980s, an additional seven burials were added during the period of 1990 to 2018. This increases the number of burials present to near 66.

A total of 36 burials were observed and recorded which have identifying information, including names, and dates of birth and death. This represents 36 of 39 named burials according to Find-a-Grave data for the Conner Cemetery, three of which had been concealed towards the southern limits, buried by washes of accumulated soils, but were relocated. Of the three listed but not observed, one has a photograph of the formal, horizontal, granite marker on Find-a-Grave, and is likely also buried near the others found under the layer of accumulated soil in the southwestern corner of the cemetery. The two others are infants believed to have been buried at the cemetery based on death certificate information and, if present, they do not have markers with inscriptions. About 26 of the graves have unadorned markers, or at least no easily seen inscriptions or symbols, usually a shaped headstone with a footstone. The total number of visually confirmed graves is 62.

Mapping included updating an earlier sketch map of the cemetery which included placement, spacing and order of graves and noted some names and death dates. Digital mapping and recording of marker information was conducted using a GPS receiver capable of sub-meter accuracy. The GPS data was postprocessed using Trimble software, however, only 60% of the data points were accurate to less than one meter, 30% within 1 to 2 meters, and 10% between 2 to 5 meters. Errors in the order and row of graves, and two outliers of twenty feet, were identified. With corrections, the resulting map depicts the concentration of graves, extent of the cemetery, and head and foot stone locations (see Figure 7). A very detailed, 3D terrain model was created from available cloud point data extracted from post-Helene LiDAR. This high-resolution mapping shows the exact nature of the terrain, including changes to side slopes, erosional gulleys around and through the cemetery, and details inside the cemetery such as curbing.

Data collected in the field and Find-A-Grave for the 39 individuals were analyzed by NCDOT archaeologist, Paul J. Mohler, which will be summarized and presented here. The time of burial shows that six are 19th century (15.4%), 27 are 20th century (69.2%), and 6 are 21st century (15.4%). Two died as soldiers during the Civil War and are believed to have been the earliest two burials which were placed at “the end of the garden plot.” Two decades have five or more burials from that period, the 1910s (9) when both the flu and deaths from a landslide occurred, and the 1940s (5). Several of the unknown markers may have also died of the flu in the 1910s.

Eight (8) are documented as under 15 years of age, though the length of several graves suggests there are more than eight infants and children present. Fifteen (15) are of working age, from 15 to 64 years old. The remaining 16 known individuals are 65 years old and older. All ages are represented from newborn through 96, with a median of 51, and average age of 46. However, since many of the unknown graves are likely children, the median and average age for the entire cemetery would be younger.

Nine unique surnames are present in this local, family cemetery. These include Conner/Connor, Freeman, Hill, Anderson, Dalton, Myers, Owensby, Williams, and Winters. A third (13) have the Conner last name, and about a quarter have Freeman (9). The Hills (7) and Andersons (4) make up less than a fifth of the count, and Dalton (2), Myers (1), Owensby (1), Williams (1), and Winters (1) having only one or two named individuals.

While cemeteries are category that is not ordinarily considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), criteria a-d was reviewed. The Conner Cemetery is not known to be associated with a) significant events, b) person, c) style or quality, or d) likely to yield significant, new historic information. Therefore, site 31Hn432 is not recommended as eligible for

listing in the NRHP. A revised North Carolina Archaeological Site Form will be submitted to the OSA.

Areas of the US 74A highway directly damaged by the Helene's floods suffered significant scouring of soils and these locations are unlikely to have contained and protected archaeological sites, especially significant, intact resources. No intensive field survey was required for the damaged highway corridor except for data collection at 31Hn432. Emergency repair for US 74A has been ongoing as portions of washed-out roadway are temporarily restored for motor vehicle traffic. Some locations within the APE may require new designs, especially near bridges or other areas that have a high risk of future flooding, failure, or hillside slides. Design work is still underway therefore it is unknown if the Conner Cemetery falls within potential construction areas, including required cuts of mountainsides or protection of more vertical slopes. Avoidance of the cemetery is recommended and likely for the road design, however, slope stabilization is being studied for the overall landform. If complete avoidance is not possible, then relocation of burials under North Carolina General Statutes No. 65 or action under NC General Statutes No. 70 would be required.

(This project falls within North Carolina Counties in which the following federally recognized tribes have expressed an interest: the Catawba Indian Nation, the Cherokee Nation, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. We recommend that you ensure that this documentation is forwarded to these tribes using the process described in the current NCDOT Tribal Protocol and PA Procedures Manual.)

Table 1. Conner Cemetery (1862-2018 [ACTIVE - 156 years between 1st & most recent burial], [n=39]
SEE - <https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/47153/conner-cemetery>

Surname	Given Names	DOB	DOD	Age
Anderson	Isaiah Michael	March 2, 1992	November 13, 2010	18
Anderson	Margaret Estelle Freeman	November 11, 1930	December 16, 2015	85
Anderson	Mark Freeman	December 28, 1954	August 13, 2007	52
Anderson	William Boyce	March 2, 1992	January 24, 2018	25
Conner	Alexander Lafayette	1838	March 22, 1862	24
Conner	Bertha	December 10, 1914	December 14, 1914	4d
Conner	Bushrod "Bush"	1815	1886	71
Conner	Dove Charlotte "Dovie"	May 12, 1852	February 16, 1940	87
Conner	Gladys P.	April 23, 1918	September 27, 1918	5m
Conner	Ina M. Hill	October 17, 1886	April 11, 1976	89
Conner	John Dort	December 8, 1876	March 15, 1942	65
Conner	Jonathan "John"	February 14, 1834	March 28, 1906	72
Conner	Masey "Massa" Conner	1810	1882	72
Conner	Nancy Adaline Griggs	July 10, 1838	February 26, 1935	96
Conner	Robert J.	1844	April 16, 1862	18
Connor	Gordon	November 16, 1908	February 27, 1960	51
Connor	Wilburn Doc	January 1, 1912	February 19, 1990	78
Dalton	John Jay	May 21, 1943	November 22, 2001	58
Dalton	Robert Tuft	July 14, 1948	August 20, 2008	60
Freeman	Carol	March 7, 1907	April 11, 1924	17
Freeman	Charlie Lee	August 12, 1882	January 11, 1918	35
Freeman	Hollis Horace	February 26, 1908	May 7, 1911	3
Freeman	Maude Naomi Conner	January 6, 1891	October 14, 1978	87
Freeman	Minnie Etta Bailey	May 7, 1915	March 19, 1986	70
Freeman	Plenny Jay, Sr.	January 18, 1887	December 1, 1930	43
Freeman	Robert J.	May 27, 1942	June 3, 1942	1wk
Freeman	Thomas Hendrick	March 17, 1885	May 3, 1910	25
Freeman	Woodrow Ned	July 22, 1913	April 11, 1985	71
Hill	Bonnie	1908	July 16, 1916	8
Hill	Fannie Louise Fowler	July 11, 1878	February 8, 1953	74
Hill	Fred	1905	July 16, 1916	11
Hill	Henry Washington	January 2, 1866	February 18, 1941	75
Hill	Lolie	1898	1899	1
Hill	Rebecca Sawyer	1881	1911	30
Hill	Samuel Hector	August 29, 1911	May 13, 1940	28
Myers	Rufus Cleodus, Sr.	September 25, 1906	July 4, 1938	31
Owensby	Ambrose	1806	January 8, 1891	85
Williams	Tabitha "Bitha" Conner	October 2, 1849	October 28, 1918	69
Winters	Linda Caroline	August 24, 1950	August 26, 1950	2d

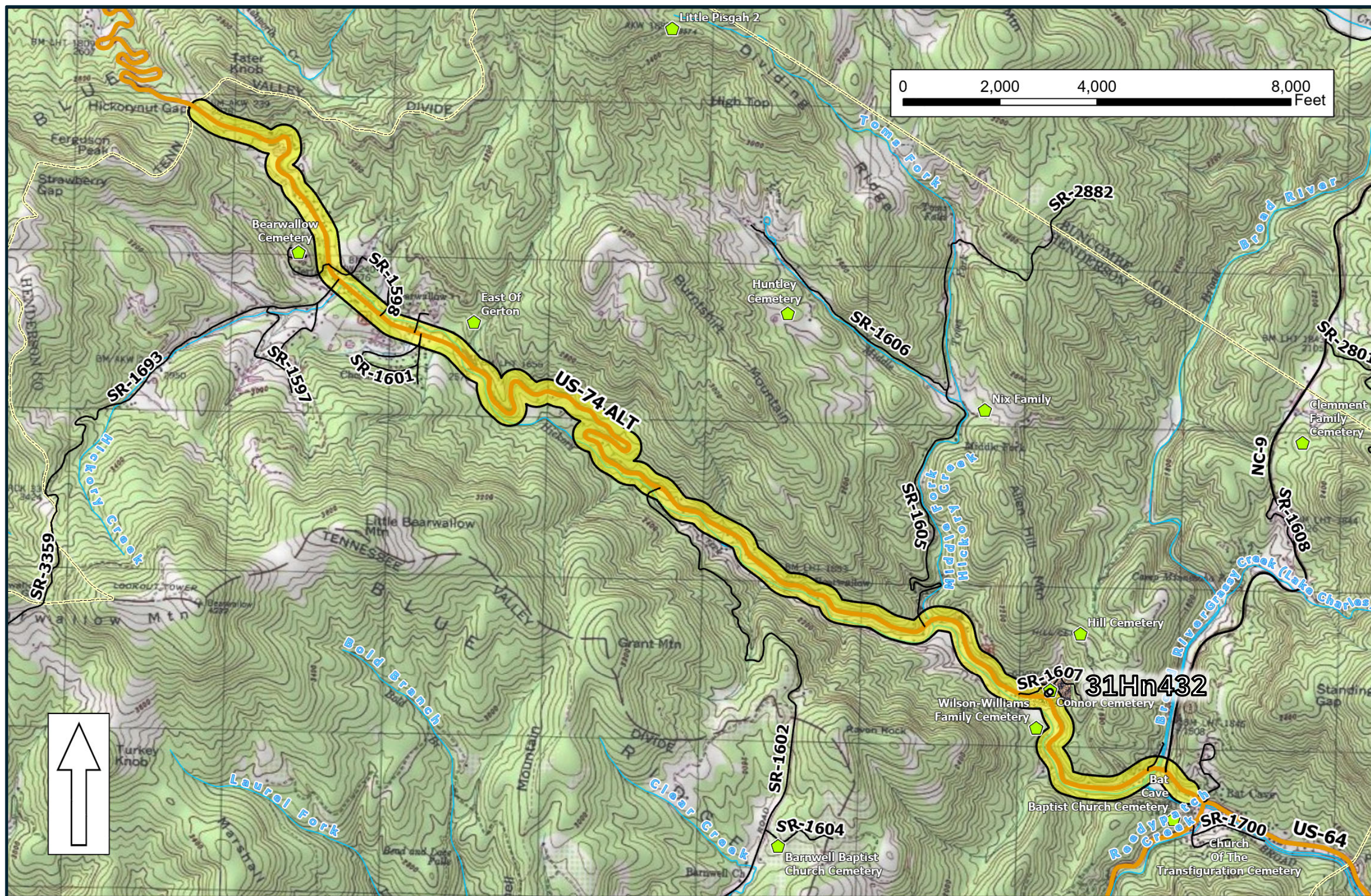


Figure 1. Vicinity for the repair of destroyed, damaged, and compromised portions of US 74A between Gerton and Bat Cave shown on USGS mapping (Bat Cave). The approximate APE is shaded yellow with a black outline. Known cemeteries are labeled.

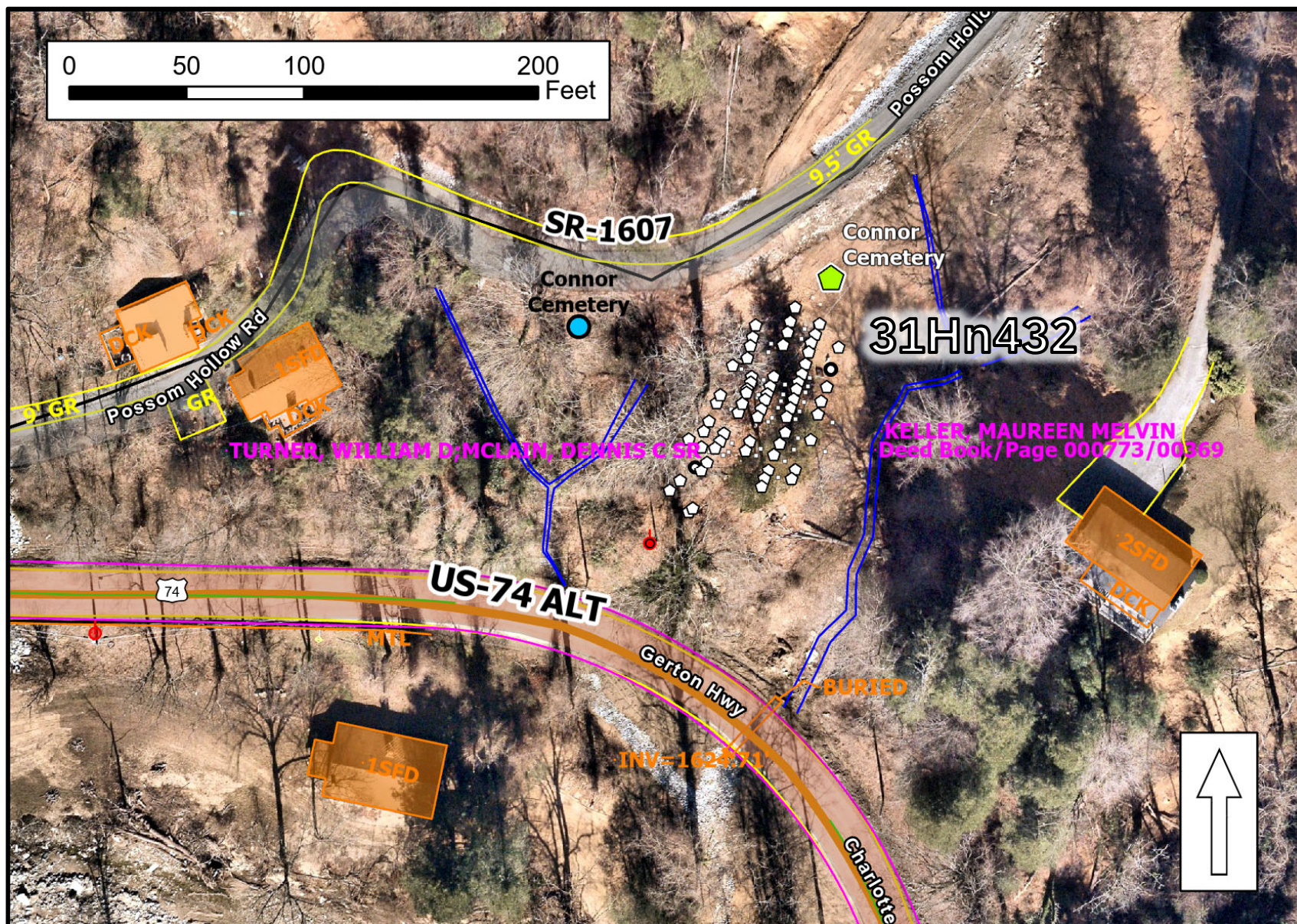


Figure 2. Aerial dated January 2025 showing pattern of headstones at Conner Cemetery (white pentagons). Storm damage, mountain slides, and debris are visible. Note previous, incorrectly mapped cemetery location, a blue dot west of the cemetery.

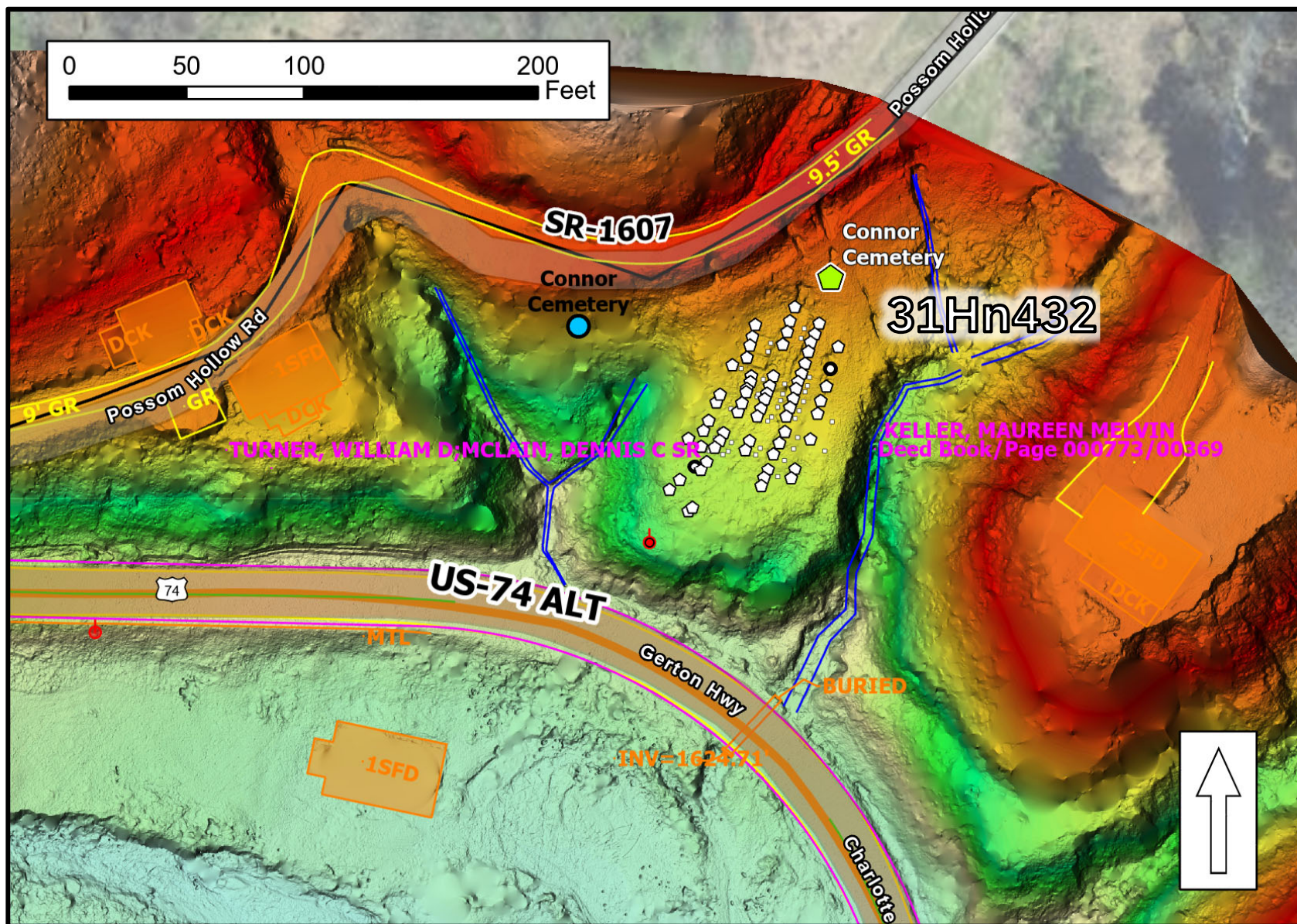


Figure 3. Post-Helene LIDAR-based 3D imaging highlights the extreme topographic setting of the cemetery perched above US 74. The cemetery is flanked by deep drainages, a very steep southern slope, and the mountain slide to the north.



Figure 4. View of Conner Cemetery, facing west on the northern section adjacent to Possom Hollow Road, which has been temporarily repaired following a mountain slide cause by Helene's rains. The photograph highlights that a significant amount of this slide's overburden has been removed from around these northern gravestones.



Figure 5. Conner Cemetery, facing northeast from near the top of the slope over US 74A. Periwinkle, cedars, and other ornamentals survived in this section. Years of sheetwash buried three horizontal markers, though they were relocated and mapped. Note the riprap used for terrain repair in the background at the road and side slope.



Figure 6. Aftermath of Helene-induced mountain slides above Conner Cemetery, facing southeast. The cemetery is seen in the upper right corner. Possum Hollow Rd. is just beyond the picture frame. Note grading and slope stabilization.

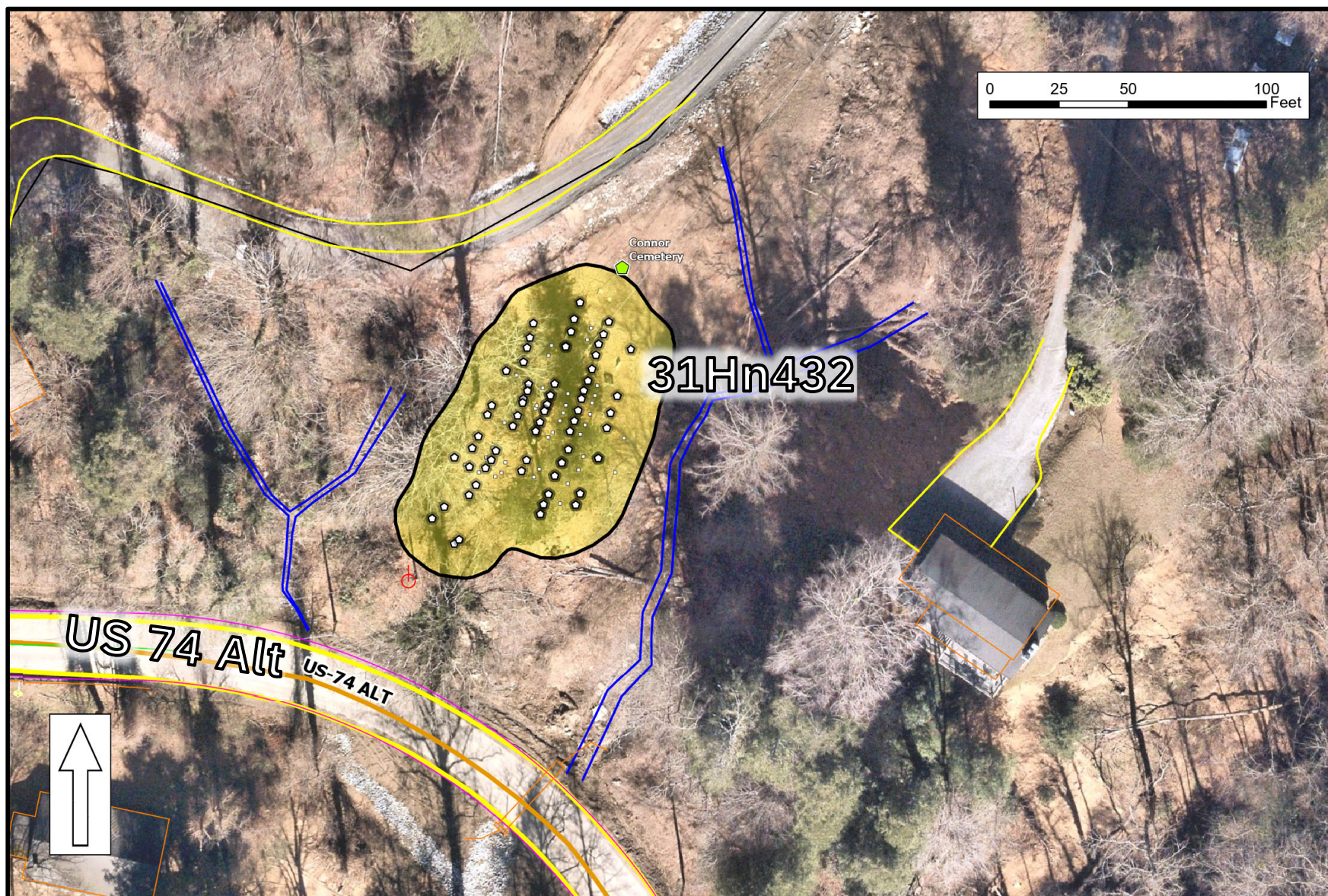
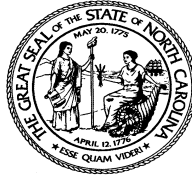


Figure 7. Detailed aerial at Conner Cemetery showing the boundary of archaeological site 31Hn432 (shaded yellow) and immediate surroundings. Emergency repairs from Helene’s damage are visible, including grading and placed riprap.

Historic
Architecture
&
Landscapes



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Josh Stein
Secretary Pamela B. Cashwell

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Darin J. Waters, Ph.D.

February 1, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Pope Furr mpfurr@ncdot.gov
Historic Architecture Group
NC Department of Transportation

FROM: Renee Gledhill-Earley *Renee Gledhill-Earley*
Environmental Review Coordinator

SUBJECT: Helene Permanent Repairs on US74 A from Bearwallow Mountain Road to Red Anderson Road, Henderson County, TIP# none, WBS# 49082.2.14, PA# 25-01-0001, ER 26-0013

Thank you for your December 22, 2025, memorandum transmitting the Historic Structures Survey Report (HSSR) for the above-referenced undertaking. We have reviewed the report, accepted it as final, and offer the following comments.

We concur that Ceif Huntley House (HN1178), Connor Cemetery (HN1118), and Hardison Summer House (HN1156) are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under any Criteria.

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.

If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or environmental.review@dncr.nc.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

Tribal Coordination



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

January 6, 2025

Dr. Wenonah Haire
Catawba Indian Nation
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
1536 Tom Steven Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730

Dear Dr. Haire,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is currently working on environmental and engineering studies for the permanent repair to US 74A due to the damage caused by Hurricane Helene. The repair area extends approximately 4.8 miles on US 74A from Bearwallow Mountain Road in Gerton to the US 64 / US 74A / NC 9 intersection in Henderson County.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead federal agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and a Permit is anticipated under the Section 404 Process with the USACE. A project vicinity map is attached. The coordinates for this project are approximately: Western terminus: 35.479, -82.348, Eastern terminus: 35.453, -82.289.

We would appreciate any information you might have that would be helpful in evaluating potential environmental impacts of the project including recommendation of alternates to be studied. Your comments may be used in the preparation of a NEPA Environmental Document. In accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA, we also request that you inform us of any historic properties of traditional religious or cultural importance that you are aware of that may be affected by the proposed project. Be assured that, in accordance with confidentiality and disclosure stipulations in Section 304 of the NHPA, we will maintain strict confidentiality about certain types of information regarding historic properties. Additionally, our ongoing studies will be provided to you if any applicable resources are identified.

Please respond by January 31 so that your comments can be used in the scoping of this project. Due to the emergency nature of this project, comments received before January 31 are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions concerning this project, or would like any additional information, please contact me at johnjamison@ncdot.gov or (919) 707-6140.

Thank you,


John Jamison, NCDOT Environmental Policy Unit Head

Cc: Matt Wilkerson, NCDOT Archaeology Team Leader
Crystal Amschler, USACE Project Manager
Clarence Coleman, FHWA NC Division

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



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

January 6, 2025

Elizabeth Toombs
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
PO Box 948
Tahlequah, OK 744465

Dear Ms. Toombs,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is currently working on environmental and engineering studies for the permanent repair to US 74A due to the damage caused by Hurricane Helene. The repair area extends approximately 4.8 miles on US 74A from Bearwallow Mountain Road in Gerton to the US 64 / US 74A / NC 9 intersection in Henderson County.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead federal agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and a Permit is anticipated under the Section 404 Process with the USACE. A project vicinity map is attached. The coordinates for this project are approximately: Western terminus: 35.479, -82.348, Eastern terminus: 35.453, -82.289.

We would appreciate any information you might have that would be helpful in evaluating potential environmental impacts of the project including recommendation of alternates to be studied. Your comments may be used in the preparation of a NEPA Environmental Document. In accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA, we also request that you inform us of any historic properties of traditional religious or cultural importance that you are aware of that may be affected by the proposed project. Be assured that, in accordance with confidentiality and disclosure stipulations in Section 304 of the NHPA, we will maintain strict confidentiality about certain types of information regarding historic properties. Additionally, our ongoing studies will be provided to you if any applicable resources are identified.

Please respond by January 31 so that your comments can be used in the scoping of this project. Due to the emergency nature of this project, comments received before January 31 are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions concerning this project, or would like any additional information, please contact me at johnjamison@ncdot.gov or (919) 707-6140.

Thank you,

DocuSigned by:

CA0848A4A6412432

John Jamison, NCDOT Environmental Policy Unit Head

Cc: Matt Wilkerson, NCDOT Archaeology Team Leader
Crystal Amschler, USACE Project Manager
Clarence Coleman, FHWA NC Division

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JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

January 6, 2025

Russell Townsend
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
2077 Governors Island Road
Bryson City, NC 28713

Dear Mr. Townsend,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is currently working on environmental and engineering studies for the permanent repair to US 74A due to the damage caused by Hurricane Helene. The repair area extends approximately 4.8 miles on US 74A from Bearwallow Mountain Road in Gerton to the US 64 / US 74A / NC 9 intersection in Henderson County.

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Thank you,

A digital signature block showing a blue scribble and the text "DocuSigned by: John Jamison".

John Jamison, NCDOT Environmental Policy Unit Head

Cc: Matt Wilkerson, NCDOT Archaeology Team Leader
Crystal Amschler, USACE Project Manager
Clarence Coleman, FHWA NC Division

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

January 6, 2025

PO Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

To Whom it May Concern,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is currently working on environmental and engineering studies for the permanent repair to US 74A due to the damage caused by Hurricane Helene. The repair area extends approximately 4.8 miles on US 74A from Bearwallow Mountain Road in Gerton to the US 64 / US 74A / NC 9 intersection in Henderson County.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead federal agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and a Permit is anticipated under the Section 404 Process with the USACE. A project vicinity map is attached. The coordinates for this project are approximately: Western terminus: 35.479, -82.348, Eastern terminus: 35.453, -82.289.

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Thank you,

DocuSigned by:
CA064846412432

John Jamison, NCDOT Environmental Policy Unit Head

Cc: Matt Wilkerson, NCDOT Archaeology Team Leader
Crystal Amschler, USACE Project Manager
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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

January 6, 2025

Roger Cain
Section 106 Coordinator
PO Box 746
Tahlequah, OK 74465

Dear Mr. Cain,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is currently working on environmental and engineering studies for the permanent repair to US 74A due to the damage caused by Hurricane Helene. The repair area extends approximately 4.8 miles on US 74A from Bearwallow Mountain Road in Gerton to the US 64 / US 74A / NC 9 intersection in Henderson County.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the lead federal agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and a Permit is anticipated under the Section 404 Process with the USACE. A project vicinity map is attached. The coordinates for this project are approximately: Western terminus: 35.479, -82.348, Eastern terminus: 35.453, -82.289.

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Thank you,

A digital signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Jamison", with a DocuSign logo to its left.

CA008404012432
John Jamison, NCDOT Environmental Policy Unit Head

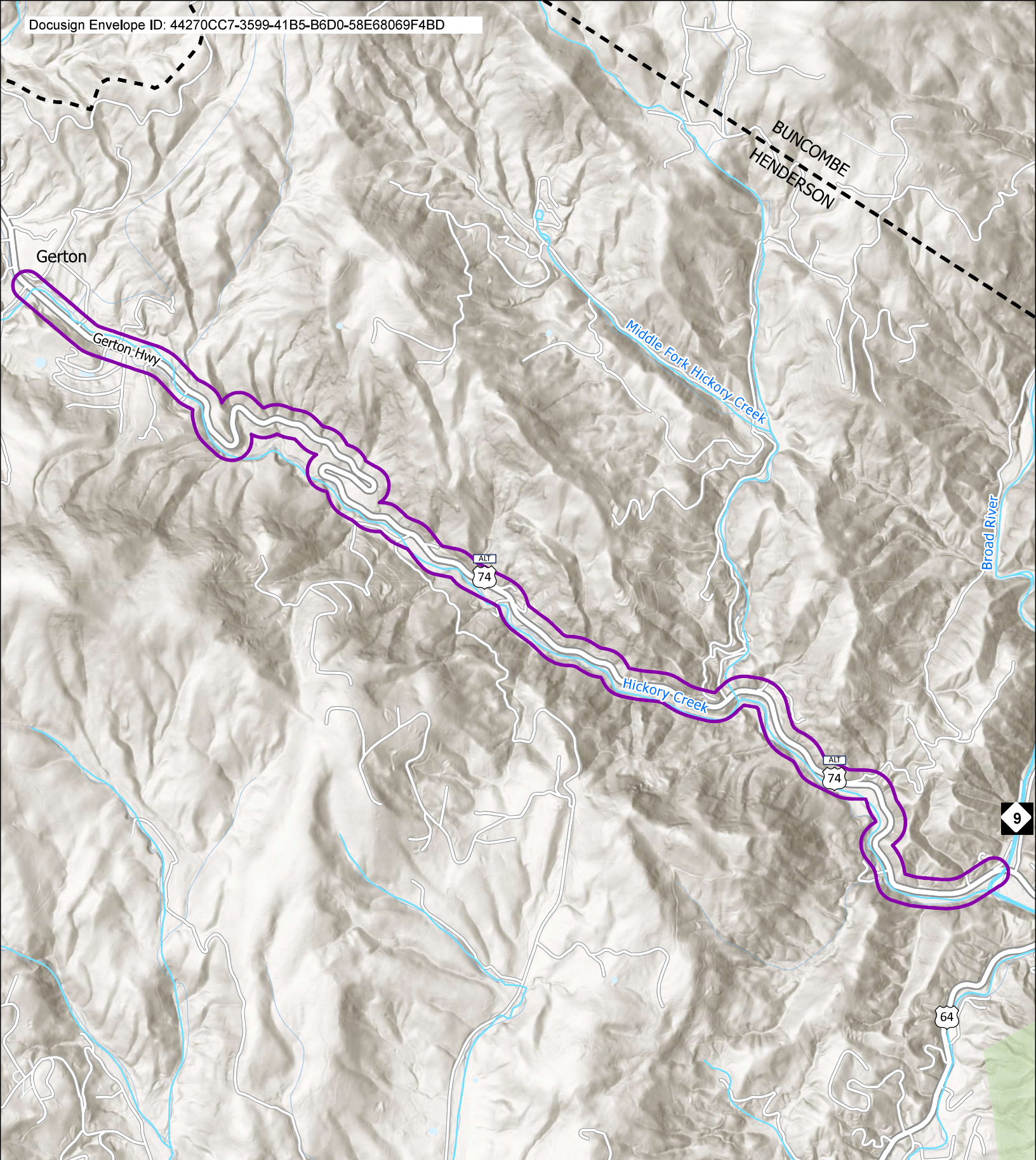
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Legend

- US74A Gerton Study Area
- County Boundary
- Stream

N

0 0.25 0.5 Mile

Figure 1.
Study Area Map
US 74A Gerton Highway
Hurricane Helene Emergency Repair Project
in Henderson County

Sources: NCDOT, ESRI ArcGIS Basemap, HNTB, 2024.

NEPA Document

Type I or II Categorical Exclusion Action Classification Form

STIP Project No.	Hurricane Helene Repairs to US 74A Gerton
WBS Element	18314.1045999CMGC
Federal Project No.	Federal Aid Number

A. Project Description:

The proposed action includes emergency repairs to US 74A (Gerton Highway) from Bearwallow Mountain Road to Grant Mountain Road near Gerton, North Carolina. The project includes approximately 6 miles of roadway reconstruction or resurfacing. The typical section for resurfacing is two 10-foot travel lanes, matching pre-storm conditions. Additionally, the project includes stream modification work associated with the roadway reconstruction to re-establish natural channel geomorphology that reflects appropriate channel geometry, alignment, and profile to protect the adjacent roadway embankment from further erosion and instability at four sites.

B. Description of Need and Purpose:

The increased velocity and flooding caused by Hurricane Helene within the Hickory Nut Gorge relocated Hickory Creek and scoured out large swaths of the embankment on which US 74A is located. This created two sections of roadway failures in addition to damaging pavement and other infrastructure. Further, high winds downed trees and, coupled with the volume of rain, created landslides on the slopes north of US 74A. The purpose of the proposed action is to permanently rebuild the roadway, including shoring slopes, relocating Hickory Creek back to its pre-Helene location, and repairing pavement and other infrastructure associated with US 74A from Bearwallow Mountain Road to Grant Mountain Road, which were damaged during Hurricane Helene.

C. Categorical Exclusion Action Classification:

Type I(B) - Ground Disturbing Action

D. Proposed Improvements:

9. The following actions for transportation facilities damaged by an incident resulting in an emergency declared by the Governor of the State and concurred in by the Secretary, or a disaster or emergency declared by the President pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. 5121):

- a) Emergency repairs under 23 U.S.C. 125; and
- b) The repair, reconstruction, restoration, retrofitting, or replacement of any road, highway, bridge, tunnel, or transit facility (such as a ferry dock or bus transfer station), including ancillary transportation facilities (such as pedestrian/bicycle paths and bike lanes), that is in operation or under construction when damaged and the action:
 - i) Occurs within the existing right-of-way and in a manner, that substantially conforms to the preexisting design, function, and location as the original (which may include upgrades to meet existing codes and standards as well as upgrades warranted to address conditions that have changed since the original construction); and
 - ii) Is commenced within a 2-year period beginning on the date of the declaration.

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\(e\)\(1-6\)](#).

E. Special Project Information:

Natural Environment

Hickory Creek, which runs adjacent to US 74A, is listed as a Class C water and trout waters by North Carolina Division of Water Resources (DWR) (see Figure 1). Class C waters are waters protected for uses such as aquatic life propagation, survival and maintenance of biological integrity (including fishing and fish), wildlife, secondary contact recreation, and agriculture. Trout waters indicate supplemental classification intended to protect freshwaters that have conditions that sustain and allow for natural trout propagation and survival and for year-round maintenance of stocked trout. The proposed action will result in 0.06 acre of wetland impacts, 1.05 acres of permanent surface water impacts, 0.21 acre of temporary surface water impacts, 3,531 linear feet of permanent stream impacts, and 903 linear feet of temporary stream impacts. It is anticipated that the project will require a Nationwide Permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and a Section 401 Individual Water Quality Certification from DWR. The regulatory permitting agencies hold the final discretion as to what permits will be required to authorize project construction.

Threatened & Endangered Species

As of December 2025, there are eight listed or proposed species under the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) jurisdiction within the proposed action study area according to USFWS Information and Planning Consultation (IPaC) database.

Table 1. Federally Protected Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	Biological Conclusion
<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>	Tricolored bat	PE	MA-LAA
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern Long-eared bat	E	MA-LAA
<i>Myotis grisescens</i>	Gray bat	E	MA-LAA
<i>Glyptemys muhlenbergii</i>	Bog turtle	SAT	Not required
<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch butterfly	PT	Not required
<i>Isotria medeoloides</i>	Small whorled pogonia	T	No Effect
<i>Sisyrinchium dichotomum</i>	White irisette	E	No Effect
<i>Gymnoderma lineare</i>	Rock gnome lichen	E	No Effect

PE – Proposed Endangered, E- Endangered, SAT - Threatened based on Similarity of Appearance, PT – Proposed Threatened, T – Threatened, MA-LAA- May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect

The USFWS, Asheville Ecological Services Field Office reviewed this project for coverage under the Western North Carolina (WNC) Bat Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO), issued April 1, 2025. In a letter dated July 7, 2025, they confirmed the project meets the criteria for coverage under this PBO in accordance with section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531–1543) (ESA), thus concluding formal consultation for the project for tricolored bat, northern long-eared bat, and gray bat.

In June of 2025, HDR biologists conducted surveys for small whorled pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*) and white irisette (*Sisyrinchium dichotomum*) occurrences in the project corridor. While suitable habitat for both small whorled pogonia and white irisette was present along parts of the project corridor, no individuals of the federally listed plants were found during the survey. It is determined that the proposed project would have No Effect on the small whorled pogonia or white irisette.

The monarch butterfly was 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, which is anticipated in late 2025 or early 2026. Until that time, proposed species do not receive formal ESA protections. However, federal action agencies are still required to ensure that their actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of the species. Federal action agencies may initiate consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to obtain a conference opinion. If and when the listing is finalized, and at the agency’s request, the Service may adopt the conference opinion as a biological

opinion—provided no relevant new information has emerged and no substantial changes to the proposed action have occurred.

Historic and Cultural Resources

NCDOT Historic Architecture and Archaeology staff reviewed the project in its entirety. An Effects Required Form was issued in January 2025 for Historic Architecture and Landscapes for four sites, one of which is located in the proposed action area, Robertson Gift Shop (HN0245), just east of Bearwallow Road (see project file). It was determined that the site is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). However, proposed roadway repairs are for resurfacing of US 74A and to reestablish the driveway tie when complete. As such, the proposed action is anticipated to have no effect on the Robertson Gift Shop per e-mail correspondence from NCDOT Historic Architecture on January 7, 2026.

NCDOT Archaeology issued a No Archaeological Survey Required form in March 2025 (see project file).

Human Environment

A Direct and Indirect Screening Tool (DIST) was completed in March 2025 for the project (see project file). The DIST notes the only notable impacts anticipated with the project are right-of-way impacts. However, the proposed action area includes primarily temporary construction and drainage easement impacts, and approximately 3.6 acres of right-of-way impacts.

The Florence Nature Preserve is a publicly accessible, privately-owned nature preserve located on the east side of US 74A (see Figure 2). The preserve contains five hiking trails, notable viewsheds of nearby mountains, waterfalls, creeks, and various wildlife. Trails within the Florence Nature Preserve are part of the Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail, which is planned to connect the preserve to Chimney Rock State Park.¹ Additionally, the Florence Nature Preserve is identified as a managed area by the NC Natural Heritage Program (NCNHP). Approximately 0.02 acre of temporary construction easement and less than 0.01 acre of permanent drainage easement are anticipated to impact the Florence Nature Preserve.

Conserving Carolina is a non-profit conservation organization which purchases land and works with private landowners through easements to preserve property.² According to NCNHP, there are four Conserving Carolina managed areas associated with Florence Nature Preserve, Hickory Nut Gorge Trailhead, and Wildcat Rock, and one easement that are privately owned and are present along US 74A within the proposed action area (see Figure 2). A portion of the easement is identified as a NC Land and Water Fund (NCLWF) project (#2021-005, Parcel #57). No impacts are anticipated to the NCLWF project. Approximately 0.42 acre of right-of-way, 0.01 acre of drainage utility easement, 0.02 acre of permanent utility easement, less than 0.01 acre of permanent drainage easement, and 0.60 acre of temporary construction easement are anticipated to be needed from the Conserving Carolina easement outside of the NCLWF project. Additionally, less than 0.01 acre of permanent drainage easement is anticipated to be needed from the Conserving Carolina – Hickory Nut Gorge Trailhead managed area.

A trail network is located within the proposed action area that includes the Florence Nature Preserve Trail system, Wildcat Rock Trail, Bearwallow Connector Trail, and planned Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail (see Figure 2). The Hickory Nut Gorge Trailhead is located within the Florence Nature Preserve, and connects the nature preserve trail network on the north side of US74A to the Wildcat Rock Trail and Bearwallow Connector Trail on the south side of US 74A via the planned Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail. As of December 2025, all trails on Florence Nature Preserve property are closed to the public according to the Conserving Carolina Website.¹ The Wildcat Rock Trail is also temporarily closed to the public.³ Impacts from the proposed action to trails or the trailhead are not anticipated.

¹ Conserving Carolina. Florence Nature Preserve. Web. <https://conservingcarolina.org/florence-nature-preserve/>

² Conserving Carolina. Who We Are. Web. <https://conservingcarolina.org/who-we-are/>

³ Conserving Carolina. Wildcat Rock Trail. Web. <https://conservingcarolina.org/wildcat-rock-trail/>

Public and Stakeholder Involvement

NCDOT held a public meeting on February 25, 2025 from 5 to 7 PM at Bat Cave Baptist Church. There were 135 attendees present at this public meeting. The public comment period ended March 11, 2025. Initial comments received are focused on regaining access to private property, expedient repair of the roadway, and potential detour routes, and questions regarding personal property.

NCDOT circulated Start of Study letters to agency representatives on January 15, 2025. Responses were received from NC Division of Water Resources (NCDWR), French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO), NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Responses are included in the project file.

NCDOT/FHWA initiated tribal coordination with the Catawba Indian Nation, the Cherokee Nation, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Muscogee Creek Nation, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in January 2025 (see project file). No responses have been received at the time of this document.

F. Project Impact Criteria Checklists:

F2. Ground Disturbing Actions – Type I (Appendix A) & Type II (Appendix B)			
<p>For proposed improvement(s) that fit Type I Actions (NCDOT-FHWA CE Programmatic Agreement, Appendix A) including 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 12, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, &/or 30; &/or Type II Actions (NCDOT-FHWA CE Programmatic Agreement, Appendix B), answer the project impact threshold questions (below) and questions 8–31.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If any question 1-7 is checked “Yes” then NCDOT certification for FHWA approval is required. • If any question 1-30 is checked “Yes” then additional information will be required for those questions in Section G. <p><i>Source documents should be cited for each question as appropriate. If no source is needed or available, denote as “n/a”. Please note that some “no” answers should have a corresponding email/memo/report cited for that NCDOT discipline. Project reports or memos/emails should be linked to their location on the project’s Precon site; other publications (e.g. the STIP) can be linked directly. Example: (Source: NCDOT HE-0001 NRTR [HE-0001_NRTR.pdf, 2022])</i></p>			
PROJECT IMPACT THRESHOLDS (FHWA signature required if any of the questions 1-7 are marked “Yes.”)		Yes	No
1	Does the project require formal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in which a “likely to adversely affect determination” has been made? (Source: IPaC review, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Does the project result in effects subject to the conditions of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA)? (Source: IPaC review, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Does the project generate substantial controversy or public opposition, regarding human and/or natural environment concerns, following appropriate public involvement? (Public Involvement Meeting, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4			
5	Does the project involve a residential or commercial displacement, or a substantial amount of right of way acquisition? (Source: Draft 100% Roadway Plans)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Does the project require an Individual Section 4(f) approval? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025; Draft 100% Roadway Plans)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Does the project result in adverse effects that cannot be resolved with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) or result in an adverse effect on a National Historic Landmark (NHL)? (Source: Archaeology No Survey Required form, March 2025 ; Historic Architecture Effects Required Form, January 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other Considerations		Yes	No
8	Is an Endangered Species Act (ESA) determination unresolved or resolved utilizing a Section 7 programmatic agreement? Include in Section G any utilization of a Section 7 Programmatic Agreement. (Source: IPaC review, 2025; Gerton Plant Survey Memo, 2025 , USFWS PBO Letter, 2025)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Is the project located in anadromous fish spawning waters? (Source: NC Marine Fisheries Commission, 2025; NC DEQ Interactive Map for Current Rules, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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)? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Does the project impact waters of the United States in any of the designated mountain trout streams? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025; NC DEQ, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

12	Does the project require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Individual Section 404 Permit? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	Will the project require an easement from a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed facility? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025; USACE Regulatory Program Workshop, 2015)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
14	Does the project include a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) effects findings other than a No Effect, including archaeological remains? No matter the effect finding, list any commitments (conditions) in Section I made in association with the effect finding detailed in Section G. (Source: Archaeology No Survey Required form, March 2025 ; E-mail from NCDOT Historic Architecture, January 2026)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15	Does the project involve GeoEnvironmental Sites of Concerns such as gas stations, dry cleaners, landfills, etc.? (Source: Gerton GeoEnvironmental Phase I Report, 2025).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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)? (Source: Not located in a CAMA County; NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Does the project require a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) permit? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025; NCDOT NES Procedures Manual)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	Does the project involve Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) resources? (Source: Not located in a coastal county; NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20	Does the project involve construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a designated Wild and Scenic River? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025; NC Wild and Scenic Rivers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
21	Does the project impact federal lands (e.g., U.S. Forest Service (USFS), USFWS, etc.) or Tribal Lands? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22	Does the project involve any changes in access control to the interstate (modification or construction of an interchange)? (Source: Draft 100% Roadway Plans)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
23	Does the project have a permanent adverse effect on local traffic patterns or community cohesiveness? (Source: N/A)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24	Will maintenance of traffic or detours cause substantial disruption? (Source: N/A)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
25	Is the project inconsistent with the NCDOT's federally approved 4-year STIP or NCDOT's BMIP, and where applicable, the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)? (Source: Not a programmed STIP, BMIP, or MPO TIP Project)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
26	Does the project require the acquisition of lands under the protection of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Tribal Lands, Dedicated Nature Preserves, 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? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025, Draft 100% Roadway Plans)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	Does the project involve Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) buyout properties under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)? (Source: Draft 100% Roadway Plans)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28	Does the project "use" Section 4(f) property, and/or result in a <i>de minimis</i> determination? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025; FHWA Environmental Review Toolkit).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
29	Is the project considered a Type I under the NCDOT Noise Policy? (Source: NCDOT Traffic Noise Policy, 2021)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
30	Does the project impact VAD-enrolled property, or prime or important farmland soil, as defined by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)? (Source: NCDOT ATLAS Screening, 2025)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

G. Additional documentation as required from Section F; documentation should address the context and intensity (or severity) of the impact. (Required for all questions marked 'Yes.')

Question 8. Threatened and Endangered Species

As noted above, a Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) was issued by USFWS on July 7, 2025 for western North Carolina bats (see project file).

Question 15. GeoEnvironmental Sites of Concern

According to the Phase I GeoEnvironmental Report for the project, two Underground Storage Tank (UST) sites are within the proposed action area. The Rhodes Property is located at 5004 Gerton Highway; the Upper Hickory Nut Gorge Community Center is located at 4720 Gerton Highway (see Figure 2). Both sites are anticipated to have temporary construction easement impacts on the frontage of the properties. Low monetary and schedule impacts are anticipated with these sites.

Question 16. FEMA Floodplain

The project location falls within the North Carolina Effective Flood Zone. This includes the 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard (Zone AE), according to the State of North Carolina Emergency Management Flood Zone map.

Question 26. NC Land and Water Fund

As noted above, the proposed action area includes one NCLWF project (#2021-005), a portion of a Conserving Carolina easement. No impacts are anticipated to the NCLWF project.

Question 27. FEMA Buyout Properties

There are three properties which have submitted applications for FEMA HMGP within the proposed action area, the Upper Hickory Nut Gorge Community Center, Creekside Mountain Camping, and one privately owned parcel. Right-of-way, permanent construction easements, and permanent utility easements are anticipated to be needed from these properties.

H. Categorical Exclusion Approval:

STIP Project No.	Hurricane Helene Repairs to US 74A Gerton
WBS Element	18314.1045999CMGC
Federal Project No.	Federal Aid Number

Prepared By:

1/12/2026	<i>Emily Poole</i>
Date	Emily Poole, AICP, Planning Lead HDR

Prepared For: Josh Deyton, PE, Division 14 Construction Engineer

Reviewed By:

1/12/2026	<i>Marissa Cox</i>
Date	Marissa Cox, Western Regional Team Lead North Carolina Department of Transportation

- Approved**
 - If NO grey boxes are checked in Section F, NCDOT approves the Type I or Type II Categorical Exclusion.
- Certified**
 - If ANY grey boxes are checked in Section F, NCDOT certifies the Type I or Type II Categorical Exclusion for FHWA approval.

1/12/2026	<i>John Jamison</i>
Date	John Jamison, PWS Environmental Policy Unit Head North Carolina Department of Transportation

FHWA Approved: For Projects Certified by NCDOT (above), FHWA signature required.

Date	for <i>N/A</i>
	Yolonda K. Jordan, Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration

Note: Prior to ROW or Construction authorization, a [consultation](#) may be required (please see Section VIII of the NCDOT-FHWA CE Programmatic Agreement for more details). Upload final documentation to ATLAS workbench and add commitments to the green sheet and Commitments dashboard.

PROJECT COMMITMENTS

CMGC Project to design and rebuild US 74A
County: Henderson
WBS: 18314.1045999CMGC

COMMITMENTS FROM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN

Roadside Environmental Unit - Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds

Hickory Creek is designated as Trout Waters by the NC Division of Water Resources. NCDOT will implement Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds.

Division Office - NC Land and Water Fund Coordination

NCDOT will coordinate with the NC Natural Heritage Program, the land owner(s), and Conserving Carolina for potential impacts to the Conserving Carolina NC Land and Water Fund easement (NCLWF project #2021-005, Parcel #57). Additionally, the following commitments apply:

- All equipment must be cleaned/washed before entry to the conservation easement area or Hickory Creek and prior to any reentry after leaving the site. This is intended to help prevent the introduction of non-native invasive species to the easement area.
- Areas of disturbance must be revegetated using plants native to western North Carolina. Use of seed mixes must contain only native plants with the exception that native seed mixes may be combined with non-invasive temporary cover species such as rye grain, or winter wheat. Intentional use of invasive species such as lespedeza or fescue will be considered a violation of the conservation easement.
- All soil, rock, or other materials must be removed from the conservation easement area upon successful completion of the project. This includes all materials used in constructing a causeway within or adjacent to Hickory Creek. Streambanks must be returned to a condition that closely mimics natural conditions to the extent practicable.
- All silt fencing or similar construction materials must be removed from the conservation easement area promptly upon successful completion of the project.

Project Management (PMU/SMU/Division) - Shoulder Parking Barrier

NCDOT will provide guardrail or other barrier to prevent shoulder parking at designated locations (near station 290+00).

Division Office - Western bat PBO

To the maximum extent possible, if suitable roost trees or structures are present near high-decibel percussive activities (81-162 dBA as measured from 50 feet from source), those percussive activities will be avoided from May 1 – July 31, when non-volant pups may be present.

Design permanent lighting systems for an average illumination level of 0.6 footcandle, reducing overall brightness, a 25% minimization from a standard 0.8 fc illumination.

Limit tree clearing within 100 meters (328 ft) of blue line streams on USGS topographic maps. The following exceptions apply within 10 meters of a stream: (1) the NCDOT must clear easements (utility, drainage, and construction), (2) at bridge sites, the NCDOT must clear the entire width of the right of way beginning at a station three feet beyond the beginning and ending extremity of the structure, per NCDOT Standard Specifications.

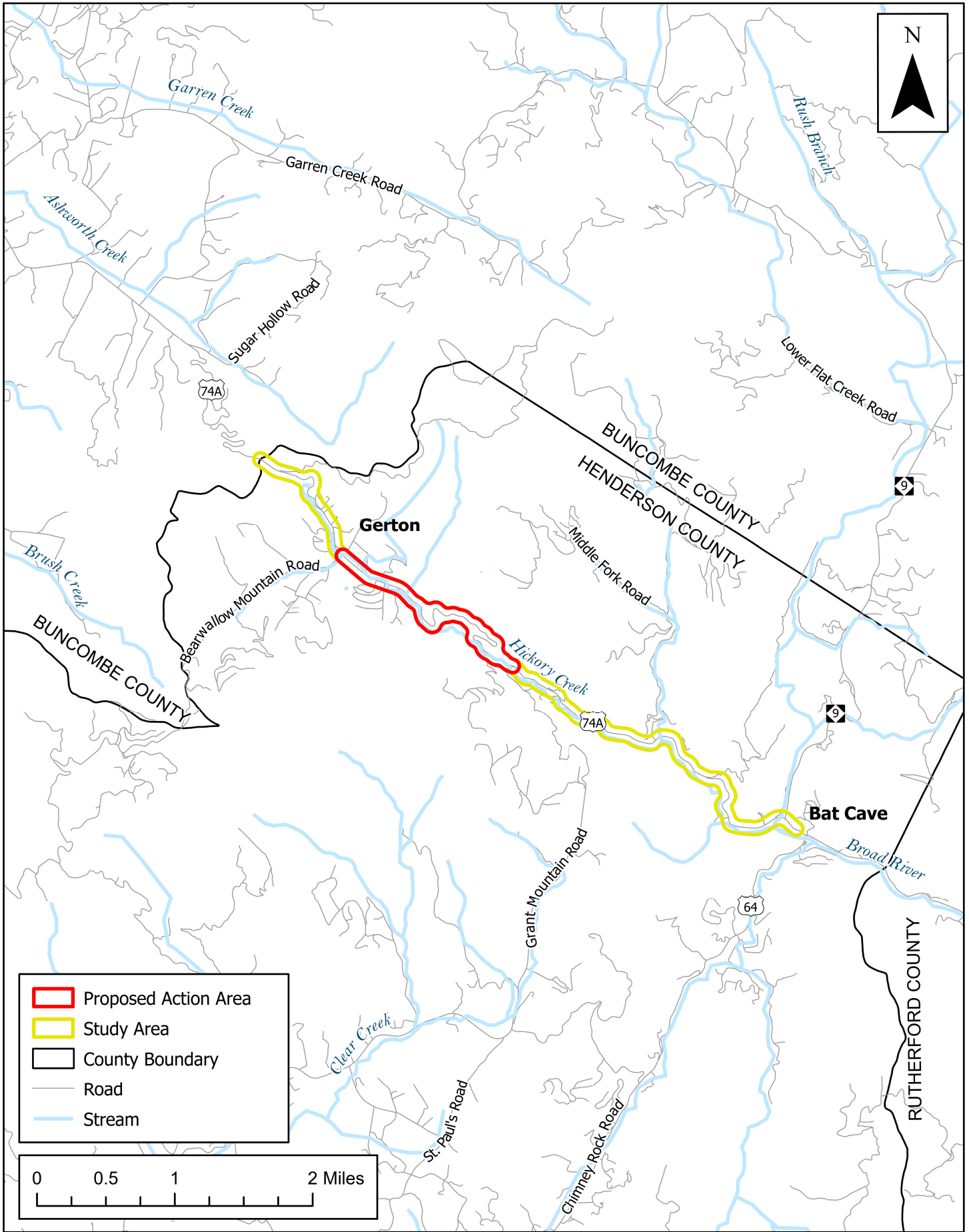
Reporting: For each project involving tree clearing or structure removal, submit final numbers of tree clearing and/or number of structures demolished and the date(s) that these activities actually occurred. This will ensure accurate payments and submittal to USFWS in the required annual report. Numbers must be reported using the link to the PBO Reporting Requirement Form on the Biological Surveys Group (BSG) Connect site here <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/iiEeEtHFU4>.

COMMITMENTS FROM PERMITTING

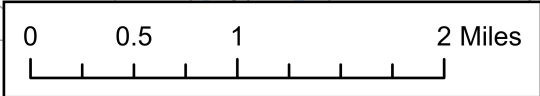
No permitting commitments developed to date.

*****END OF PROJECT COMMITMENTS*****

18314.1045999CMGC
CMGC Project to design and rebuild US 74A
Last Modified Date: 01/08/2026



- Proposed Action Area
- Study Area
- County Boundary
- Road
- Stream



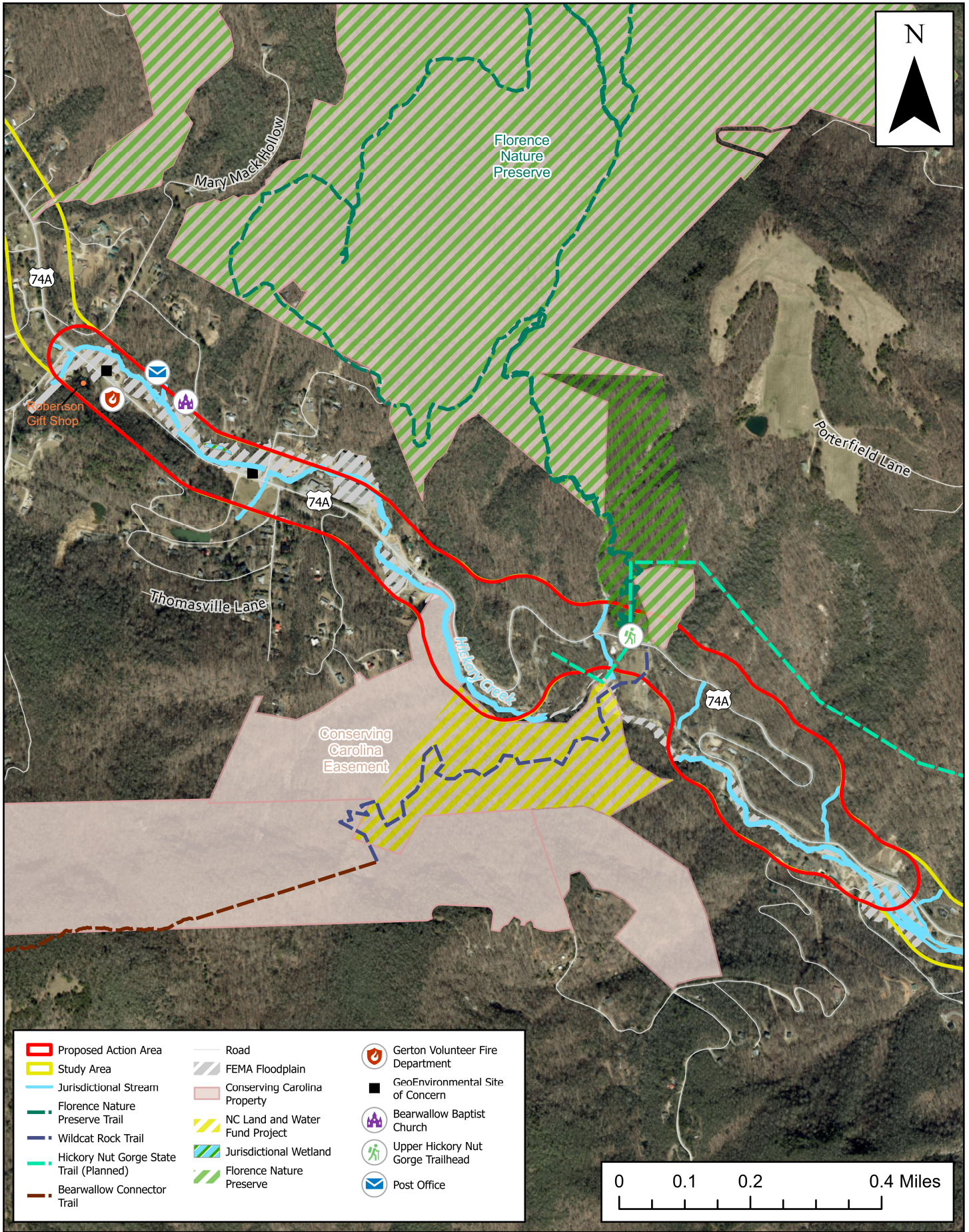
US 74A - GERTON EMERGENCY REPAIRS

VICINITY MAP

HENDERSON COUNTY

FIGURE 1





Proposed Action Area	Road	Gerton Volunteer Fire Department
Study Area	FEMA Floodplain	GeoEnvironmental Site of Concern
Jurisdictional Stream	Conserving Carolina Property	Bearwallow Baptist Church
Florence Nature Preserve Trail	NC Land and Water Fund Project	Upper Hickory Nut Gorge Trailhead
Wildcat Rock Trail	Jurisdictional Wetland	Post Office
Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail (Planned)	Florence Nature Preserve	
Bearwallow Connector Trail		

US 74A - GERTON EMERGENCY REPAIRS
ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES MAP
 HENDERSON COUNTY

