



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN  
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON  
SECRETARY

June 10, 2026

MEMORANDUM TO: Division Environmental and Construction Units

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

SUBJECT: Environmental Permits for the Replacement of:  
Bridge 192 over Pigpen Creek on Upper Pig Pen Road (SR 1333) in Yancey,  
Division 13, WBS DF18313.2011361.PR.

Please find enclosed the following permits for this project:

Agency	Permit Type	Expiration
US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit	Nationwide Permit 3 Action ID: SAW-2026-00862 Dated June 10, 2026	March 14, 2031
NC Division of Water Resources Section 401 Water Quality Certification	Water Quality Certification No. 8562 Project ID: 20260581 Dated May 11, 2026 <i>Written authorization not required.</i>	expires with above Permit

Work is authorized by the above-referenced documents and must be accomplished in strict accordance with the permitted plans.

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

# 404 Permit (USACE)



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, WILMINGTON DISTRICT**  
**WRDA / TRANSPORTATION BRANCH**  
**3331 HERITAGE TRADE DR, SUITE 105**  
**WAKE FOREST NC 27587**

June 10, 2026

Regulatory Division  
SAW-2026-00862

Sent Via email: recrowther@ncdot.gov

Robert Crowther  
NCDOT  
1598 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699

Dear Mr. Crowther:

This letter is in response to the Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) you submitted to the Wilmington District, WRDA / Transportation Branch on May 7, 2026, for a Department of the Army Nationwide Permit (NWP) verification. This project has been assigned the file number SAW-2026-00862 and is known as NCDOT / Hurricane Helene / DF18313.2011361.PR / Br 192 / SR 1333 / Yancey / Div 13. This file number should be referenced in all correspondence concerning this project.

A review of the information provided indicates that the proposed work would include the replacement of a damaged bridge with a new single-span, 20-foot-long bridge, in the same location as the previous bridge, with impacts as shown in Table 1. An onsite detour is required as SR 1333 has no outlet. Two, 48" corrugated steel pipes will be used for the temporary detour. The project area is illustrated on the enclosed permit drawings. The project is located at Bridge No. 192 over Pigpen Creek, on SR 1333, Upper Pigpen Road, at Latitude 35.974670 and Longitude -82.270170; north of Burnsville, Yancey County, North Carolina.

Table 1: Impacts

<b>Aquatic Resource</b>	<b>Resource Type</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Site 1A	Stream	Temporary Detour	Temporary	32 lf(< 0.01 ac)
Site 1B	Stream	Bank Stabilization	Permanent	16 lf (< 0.01 ac)
Site 1C	Stream	Bank Stabilization	Permanent	21 lf (< 0.01 ac)
Site 1D	Stream	Bank Stabilization	Permanent	21 lf (< 0.01 ac)
Site 1E	Stream	Dewatering	Temporary	10 lf (<0.01 ac)

We have determined that the proposed work is authorized by Nationwide General Permit 3 - Maintenance pursuant to authorities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C § 1344). The proposed work must be accomplished in strict accordance with the general permit conditions, any regional conditions, the special conditions listed in this letter, the application materials, and the enclosed plans. If the extent of the

project area and/or nature of the authorized impacts to waters are modified, a revised PCN must be submitted to this office for written approval before work is initiated. Any violation of permit conditions or deviation from your submitted plans may subject the permittee to enforcement action.

This verification is valid until **March 15, 2031**, unless prior to this date the subject NWP(s) is suspended, revoked, or is modified such that the activity no longer complies with the terms and conditions of this NWP. If you commence or are under contract to commence this activity before the date that the relevant NWP is modified or revoked, you will have 12 months from the date of the modification or revocation of the NWP to complete the activity under the present terms and conditions of this NWP.

**Project Specific Special Conditions:**

1. NCWRC: All recommendations in the attached letter from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission dated May 12, 2026, are hereby incorporated as special conditions of this permit.
2. FWS Biological and Conference Opinion: This Corps permit does not authorize you to take an endangered species, in particular *Alasmidonta heterodon* (dwarf wedgemussel). In order to legally take a listed species, you must have separate authorization under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (e.g., a Biological Opinion (BO) under the ESA, Section 7, with “incidental take” provisions with which you must comply). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) BO, dated July 8, 2025, contains mandatory terms and conditions to implement the reasonable and prudent measures that are associated with “incidental take” that is also specified in the BO. Your authorization under this Corps permit is conditional upon your compliance with all the mandatory terms and conditions associated with incidental take of the BO, which terms and conditions are incorporated by reference in this permit. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions associated with incidental take of the BO, where a take of the listed species occurs, would constitute an unauthorized take, and it would also constitute non-compliance with your Corps permit. The USFWS is the appropriate authority to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of its BO, and with the ESA.

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

If you have any questions related to this verification or have issues accessing documents referenced in this letter, please contact Eric Alsmeyer, Project Manager of the WRDA / Transportation Branch at 919-817-1570, by mail at the above address, or by email at [eric.c.alsmeyer@usace.army.mil](mailto:eric.c.alsmeyer@usace.army.mil). Please take a moment to complete our customer satisfaction survey located at <https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Scott Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and "J". There are small red marks above the "S" and below the "J".

M. Scott Jones, PWS  
WRDA / Transportation Branch Chief

Enclosures

<p>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)</p> <p><b>CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT</b></p> <p>For use of this form, see Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, and Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act; the proponent agency is CECW-COR.</p>	<p><i>Form Approved -</i></p> <p><i>OMB No. 0710-0003</i></p> <p><i>Expires 2027-10-31</i></p>
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**The Agency Disclosure Notice (ADN)**

The Public reporting burden for this collection of information, 0710-0003, is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or burden reduction suggestions to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, at [whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil](mailto: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.

**PURPOSE:** This form is used by recipients of U.S. Army Corps of Engineer Regulatory permits to certify compliance with the permit terms and conditions.

Your permitted activity is subject to a compliance inspection by a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers representative. If you fail to comply with this permit, you are subject to permit suspension, modification, or revocation.

Upon completion of the activity authorized by this permit and any mitigation required by the permit, sign this certification and return it to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, Regulatory Office.

The certification can be submitted by email at [Eric.C.Alsmeayer@usace.army.mil](mailto:Eric.C.Alsmeayer@usace.army.mil) or by mail at the below address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 Wilmington District Office  
 Street Address: 3331 Heritage Trade Dr, Suite 105  
 City: Wake Forest      State: NC      Zip Code: 27587

**COMPLETED BY THE CORPS**

Corps Action Number:	SAW-2026-00862
Permit Type: <u>General Permit</u>	
General Permit Number and Name ( <i>if applicable</i> ):	<u>NWP 3 – Maintenance</u>
Name of Permittee:	<u>NCDOT</u>
Project Name:	<u>NCDOT / Hurricane Helene / DF18313.2011361.PR / Br 192 / SR 1333 / Yancey / Div 13</u>
Project Location ( <i>physical address</i> ):	<u>Upper Pigpen Rd</u> <u>Green Mountain, North Carolina</u>

**PERMITTEE'S CERTIFICATION**

Date Work Started: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Work Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose photographs showing the completed project (*if available*).

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby certify that the work authorized by the above referenced permit has been completed in accordance with all of the permit terms and conditions, and that any required compensatory mitigation has been completed in accordance with the permit conditions.

Name	Date	Signature
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## ◊ North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission ◊

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M. Kyle Briggs, Executive Director

May 12, 2026

Loretta Beckwith

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Asheville Regulatory Field Office  
151 Patton Avenue, Room 208  
Asheville, NC 28801

Amy Annino

401 and Buffer Transportation Permitting Branch  
North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality  
2090 U.S. 70 Highway, Swannanoa, NC 28778-8211

**SUBJECT:** Comments on Application for Replacement of Bridge 192 over Pigpen Creek on SR 1333  
(Upper Pig Pen Road), Yancey County (**DF18313.2100413**), DWR 20260581 ver.1

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) applied for a 404 Permit and 401 Certification for the subject project. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's (NCWRC) comments are offered to help conserve the wildlife resources affected by the project and to promote wildlife-based recreation in accordance with applicable provisions of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 U.S.C. 466 et seq.) and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661-667d).

The project will replace a timber bridge over Pigpen Creek (C Tr) that was damaged by flooding from Hurricane Helene. Dual pipes will be installed upstream of the bridge for a temporary detour.

Based on older surveys and more recent observations in other streams, Pigpen Creek near the bridge likely still supports wild Rainbow Trout (*Onchorynchus mykiss*). Therefore, as noted in scoping comments for this bridge project, the upcoming moratoria for Rainbow Trout (January 1, 2027 to April 15, 2027, and subsequent moratorium periods), should be adhered to for instream disturbance from the bridge work. Examples of instream work proposed with this project include installation and removal of the temporary detour and diversion structures.

Note that temporary flow diversion pipes can block trout movements and thereby impede spawning. Therefore, their use should typically be avoided during trout moratorium periods. However, the use of temporary flow pipes for this project during the specified moratorium(s) is acceptable to NCWRC in order to expedite the work in this Helene impacted stream. However, we do ask that the temporary pipes be set as flat as possible and embedded to promote backwatering, hopefully at least partially.

The NCWRC requests that the following conditions be included in authorizations to help conserve trout and other aquatic resources affected by the project:

1. The upcoming moratoria for Rainbow Trout (January 1, 2027 to April 15, 2027, and subsequent moratorium periods), should be adhered to for instream disturbance from the bridge work.
2. Applicable measures from the current *NCDOT Erosion and Sediment Control Design and Construction Manual* should be adhered to.
3. In accordance with standard GC conditions, matting used in riparian areas should not contain nylon mesh because it entangles and kills wildlife. Coir matting should be used on disturbed stream banks that are steep or susceptible to high water. Matting should be anchored with wooden stakes according to NCDOT specifications.
4. Sandbags, rock berms, cofferdams, or other diversion structures should be used whenever possible to isolate flowing water from in-channel construction.
5. Areas of temporary disturbance of the stream channel (e.g on-site detours or diversion channels) should be restored to stable and reference conditions (width, depth, and pattern). Reference conditions can be approximated by observing conditions upstream or downstream that appear stable, or by consulting available regional curve information. Live stakes of native trees should be planted on stream banks where temporary detours are removed.
6. Additional rip rap on streambanks should only extend to the ordinary high water elevation and matting and vegetation should be used above the ordinary high water elevation.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide recommendations on this project. Please contact me at [david.mchenry@ncwildlife.gov](mailto:david.mchenry@ncwildlife.gov) or (828) 476-1966 if you have any questions about these comments.

Sincerely,



Dave McHenry, NCWRC Western DOT Coordinator

cc: Yates Allen, NCDOT Division 14 Environmental Specialist II  
Mike Sanderson, NCDOT Division 14 Environmental Supervisor  
Rob Crowther, PWS, NCDOT ECAP

401  
Certification  
(NCDWR)

*Written  
Authorization  
Not Required*

# Permitted Drawings



North Carolina Department of Transportation

Highway Stormwater Program  
**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
 FOR NCDOT PROJECTS



(Version 3.02; Released April 23, 2024)

WBS Element: N/A      TIP/Proj No: EEDB 00226.004      County(ies): Yancey      Page 1 of 2

**General Project Information**

WBS Element:	N/A	TIP Number:	EEDB 00226.004	Project Type:	Bridge Replacement	Date:	10/14/2025
NCDOT Contact:	Joel M. Davis		Contractor / Designer:		DRMP / Ryan P. Mitchell		
Address:	Assistant Division Bridge Program Manager		Address:	5808 Faringdon Place			
	20 Old 74			Suite 100			
	Asheville, NC 28803			Raleigh, NC 27609			
Phone:	(828) 488-0902		Phone:	(919) 650-1038			
Email:	jmdavis4@ncdot.gov		Email:	rmitchell@drmp.com			
City/Town:	Unincorporated		County(ies):	Yancey			
River Basin(s):	French Broad		CAMA County?	No			
Wetlands within Project Limits?	No						

**Project Description**

Project Length (lin. miles or feet):	0.06	Surrounding Land Use:	Rural with forested land and a few residential parcels					
<b>Proposed Project</b>			<b>Existing Site</b>					
Project Built-Upon Area (ac.)	1.3	ac.	0.1	ac.				
Typical Cross Section Description:	Two-lane crowned roadway with 9' lanes with variable slopes and 2' shoulders. 19' out-to-out bridge width, including 6" shoulder widths on bridge.			17' overall length, with a 15.9' clear roadway, grass shoulders, and a superstructure depth of about 1.5'. It carries a slightly sloped two-lane roadway post-Helene.				
Annual Avg Daily Traffic (veh/hr/day):	Design/Future:	N/A	Year:	N/A	Existing:	270	Year:	2025

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

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace bridge #990192 on SR-1333 (Pig Pen Rd) across Pig Pen Creek. The project is located in Yancey County, northeast of the town of Burnsville, NC. The project is an in-line replacement of the existing bridge with an on-site detour route. Additional drainage improvements are proposed upstation/downstation of the proposed bridge. Rip rap / bank stabilization at pipe outlets and the proposed bridge embankment has been incorporated to minimize erosion on slopes where vegetation will not be adequate. NCDOT standards for ground cover, vegetation, and slope stabilization will be adhered to during the life of this project, and will be specified in the NCDOT Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for the project.



North Carolina Department of Transportation

Highway Stormwater Program  
**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
 FOR NCDOT PROJECTS



(Version 3.02; Released April 23, 2024)

WBS Element: N/A      TIP/Proj No.: EEDB 00226.004      County(ies): Yancey      Page 2 of 2

**General Project Information**

**Waterbody Information**

Surface Water Body (1):	Pig Pen Creek		NCDWR Stream Index No.:	7-2-62		
NCDWR Surface Water Classification for Water Body	Primary Classification:		Class C			
	Supplemental Classification:		Trout Waters (Tr)			
Other Stream Classification:	None					
Impairments:	None					
Aquatic T&E Species?	No	Comments:				
NRTR Stream ID:	N/A				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)						

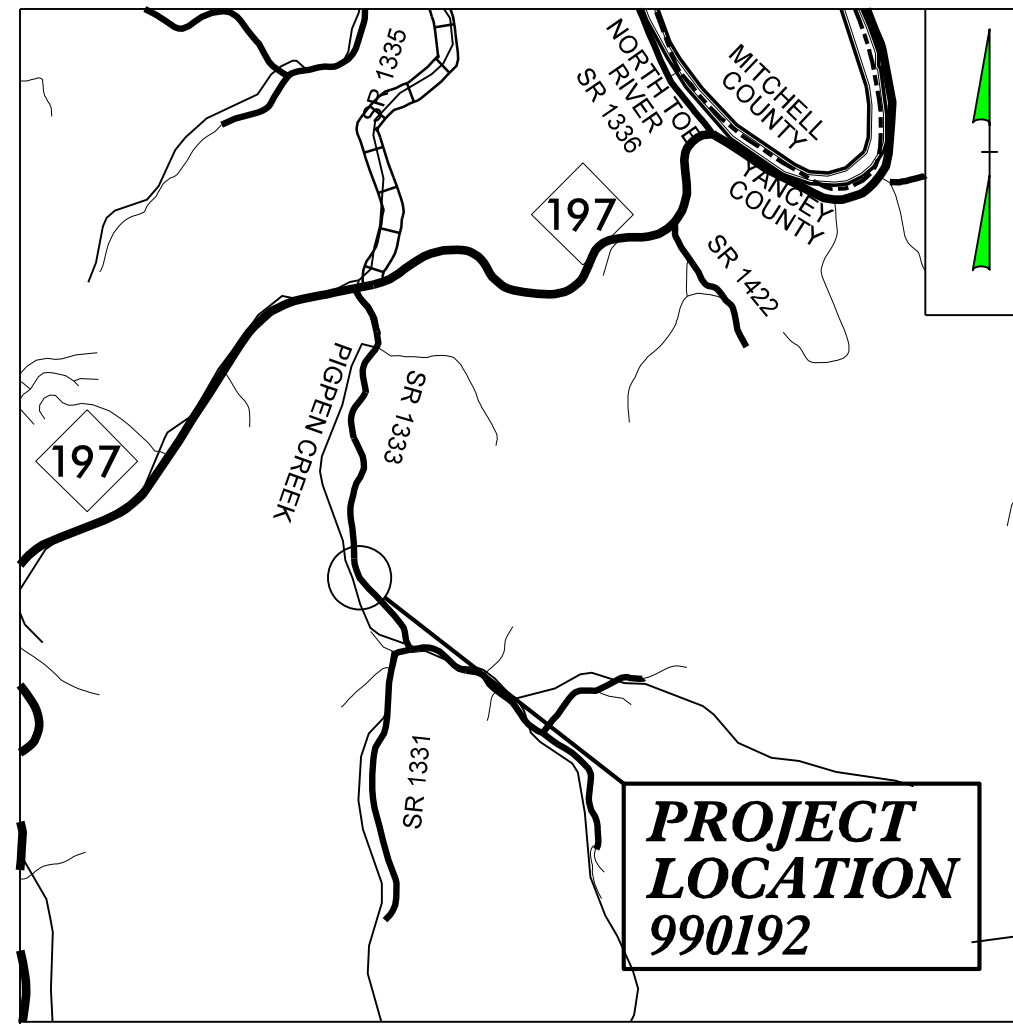
Surface Water Body (2):			NCDWR Stream Index No.:			
NCDWR Surface Water Classification for Water Body	Primary Classification:					
	Supplemental Classification:					
Other Stream Classification:						
Impairments:						
Aquatic T&E Species?		Comments:				
NRTR Stream ID:					Buffer Rules in Effect:	
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)						

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)						

PROJECT: 990192

CONTRACT: C205065

See Sheet 1A For Index of Sheets



VICINITY MAP (NTS)

PRELIMINARY ROADWAY PLANS  
JULY 14, 2025

# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

## YANCEY COUNTY

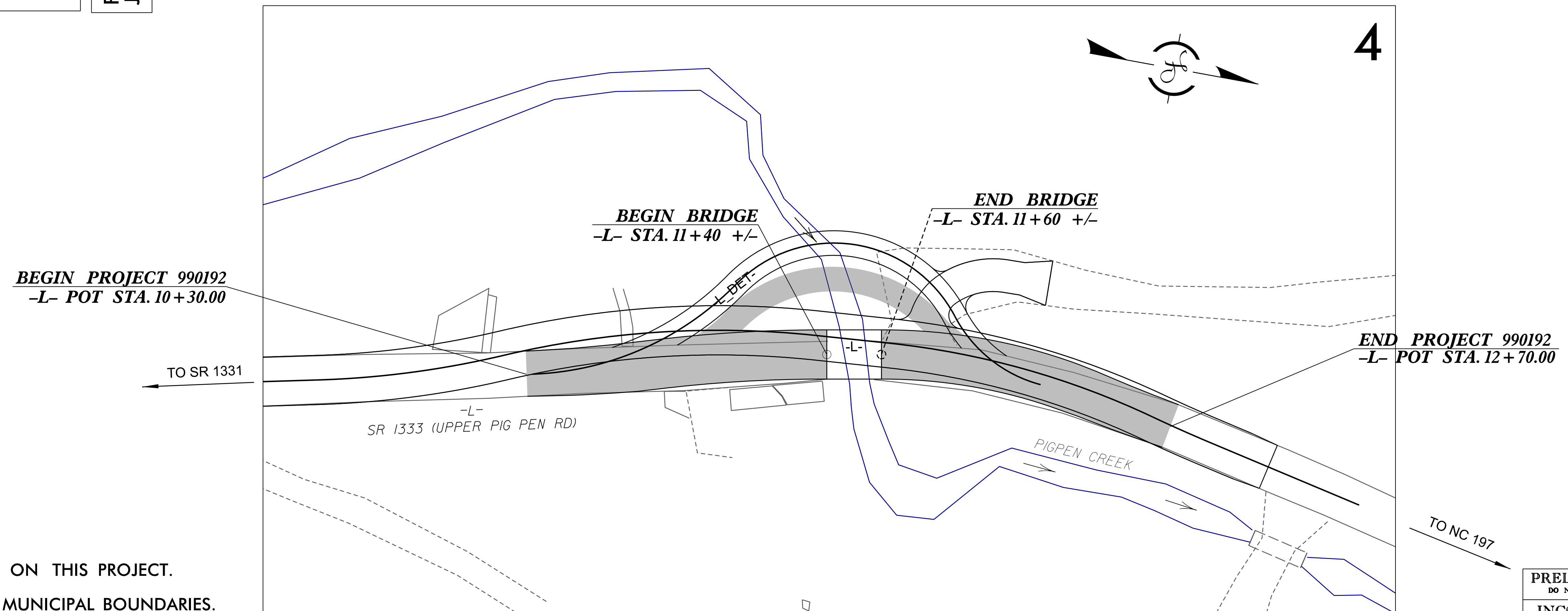
LOCATION: *REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 990192 ON  
SR 1333 (UPPER PIG PEN RD)  
OVER PIGPEN CREEK*

TYPE OF WORK: *GRADING, DRAINAGE, PAVING, STRUCTURE*  
**APRIL 2026**

**WETLAND AND SURFACE WATER IMPACTS PERMIT**

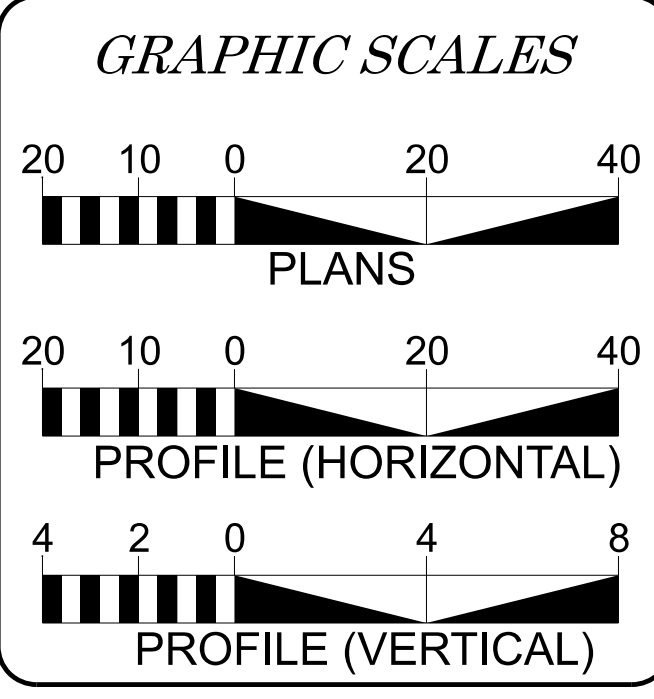
STATE	STATE PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
N.C.	990192	11	
STATE PROJ. NO.	F. A. PROJ. NO.	DESCRIPTION	
DF18313.2100413.PR	HELENE	P.E.	

**PERMIT DRAWING  
SHEET 1 OF 5**



THERE IS NO CONTROL OF ACCESS ON THIS PROJECT.  
THIS PROJECT IS NOT WITHIN ANY MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES.  
CLEARING ON THIS PROJECT SHALL BE PERFORMED TO THE LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY METHOD II.

**PRELIMINARY PLANS**  
DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION  
**INCOMPLETE PLANS**  
DO NOT USE FOR R/W ACQUISITION  
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL  
UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED



**DESIGN DATA**

ADT 2025 =	270
ADT =	N/A
K =	N/A %
D =	N/A %
T =	N/A % *
V =	20 MPH
* TTST =	DUAL
FUNC CLASS =	LOCAL
SUB-REGIONAL	

**PROJECT LENGTH**

LENGTH OF ROADWAY TIP PROJECT 990192 =	0.054 MILES
LENGTH OF STRUCTURE TIP PROJECT 990192 =	0.004 MILES
TOTAL LENGTH OF TIP PROJECT 990192 =	0.058 MILES

**PLANS PREPARED BY:**

DRMP, INC.  
5808 FARINGDON PLACE, SUITE 100  
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27609  
(919) 872-5115  
NC LICENSE NO. F-1524

**FOR NCDOT ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY UNIT**

2024 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

**RIGHT OF WAY DATE:**

**LETTING DATE:**

**TIMOTHY A. KLOTZ, PE**  
PROJECT ENGINEER

**COOPER A. BOLZ, EI**  
PROJECT DESIGN ENGINEER

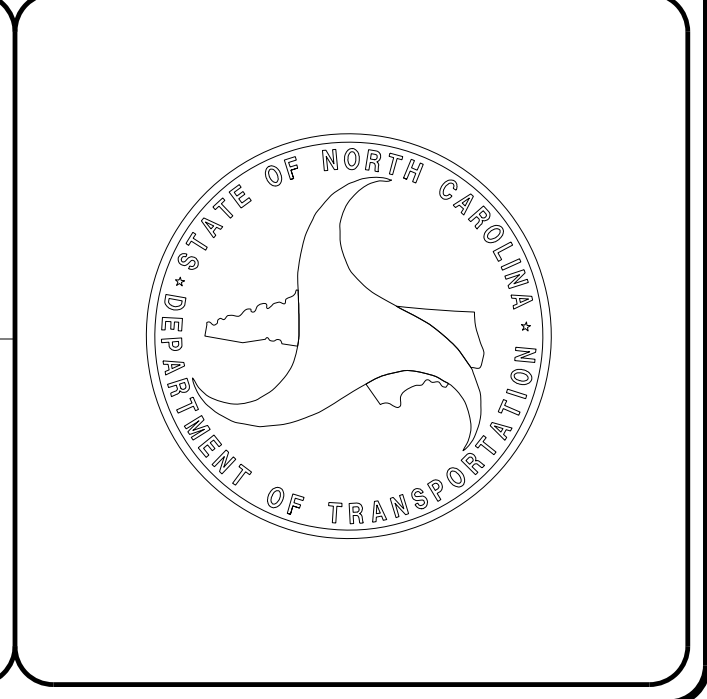
**ROB COUSINS, PE**  
NCDOT PROJECT MANAGER

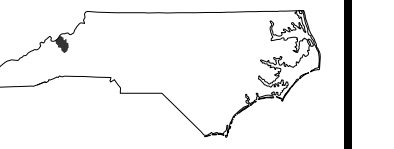
**HYDRAULICS ENGINEER**

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ P.E.

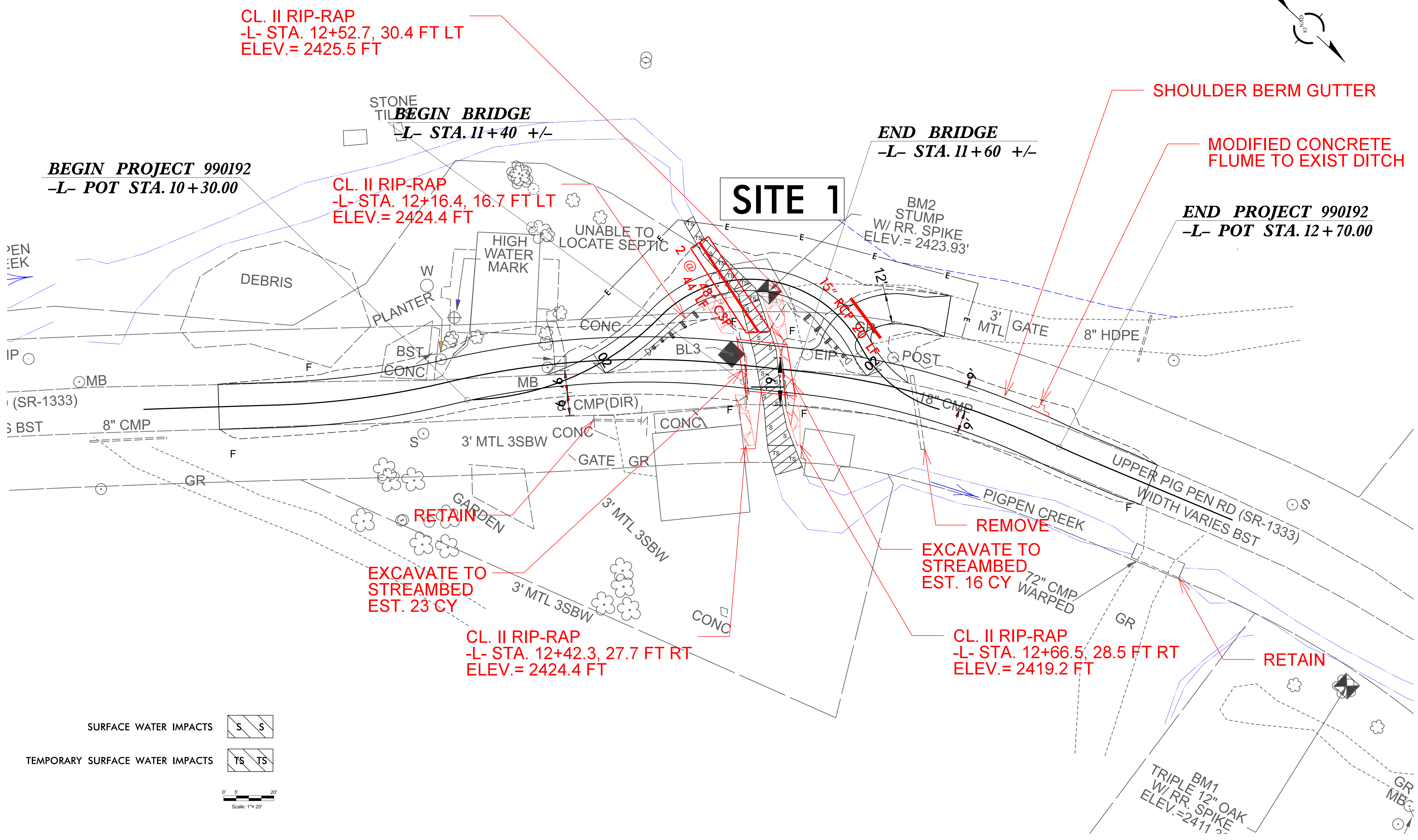
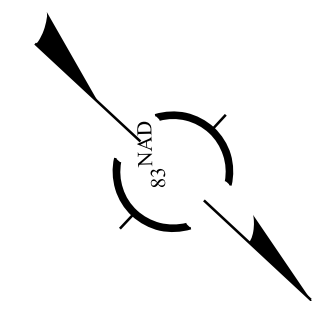
**ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER**

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ P.E.





PERMIT DRAWING  
SHEET 2 OF 5



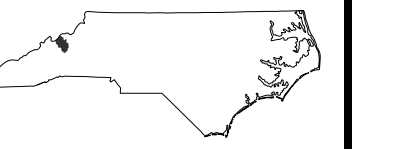
SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

Scale: 1" = 20'

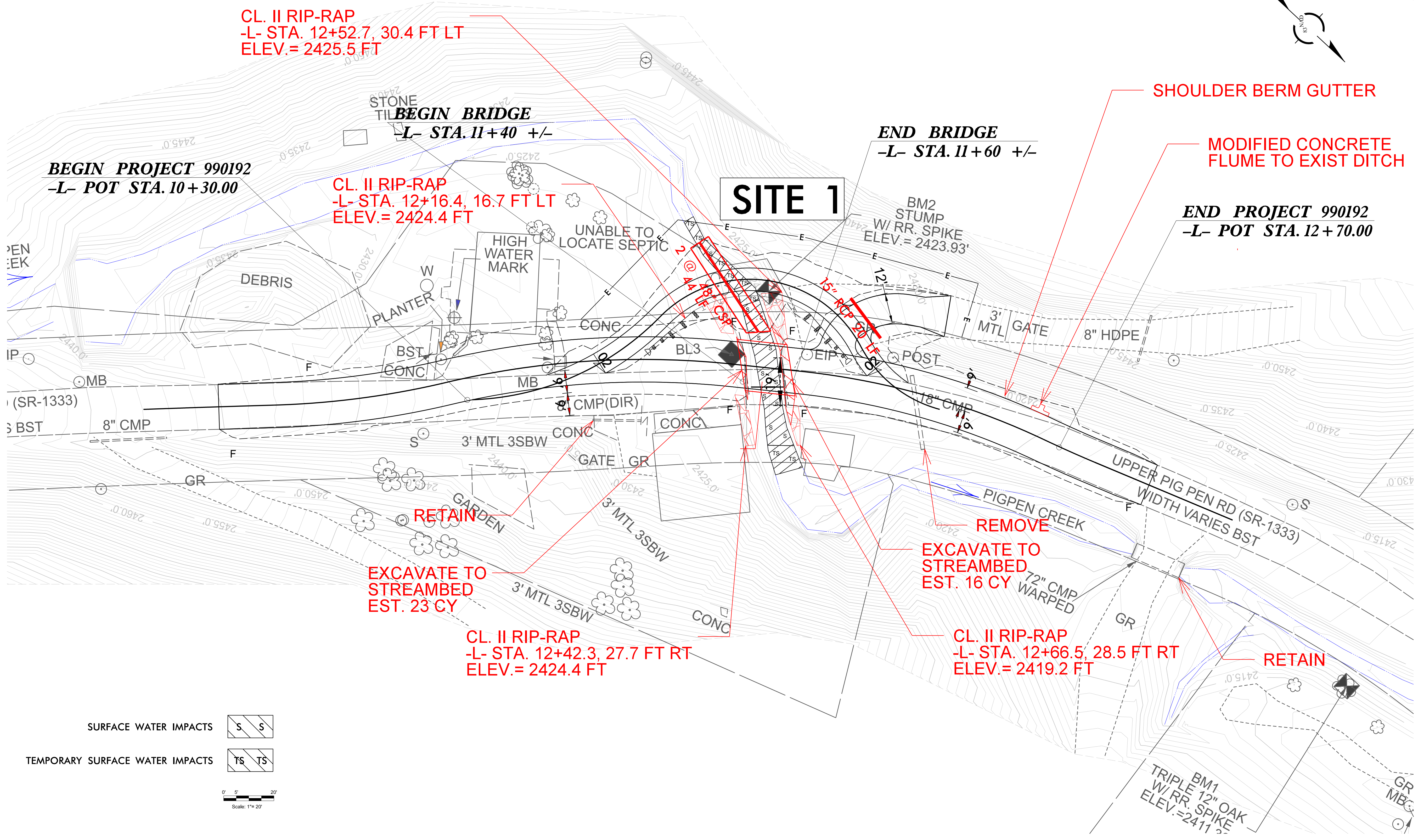
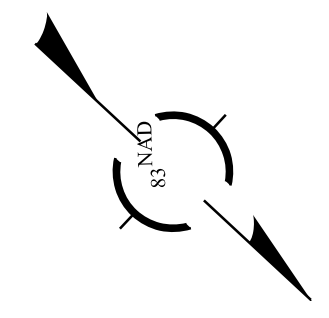
FOR -L- PROFILE, SEE SHEET 5

REVISIONS



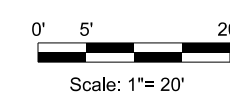
**DRMP**  
 DRMP, INC.  
 5808 FARINGDON PLACE  
 RALEIGH, NC 27609  
 (919) 872-5115  
 NC LICENSE NO. F-1524  
 www.drmp.com

PERMIT DRAWING  
SHEET 3 OF 5



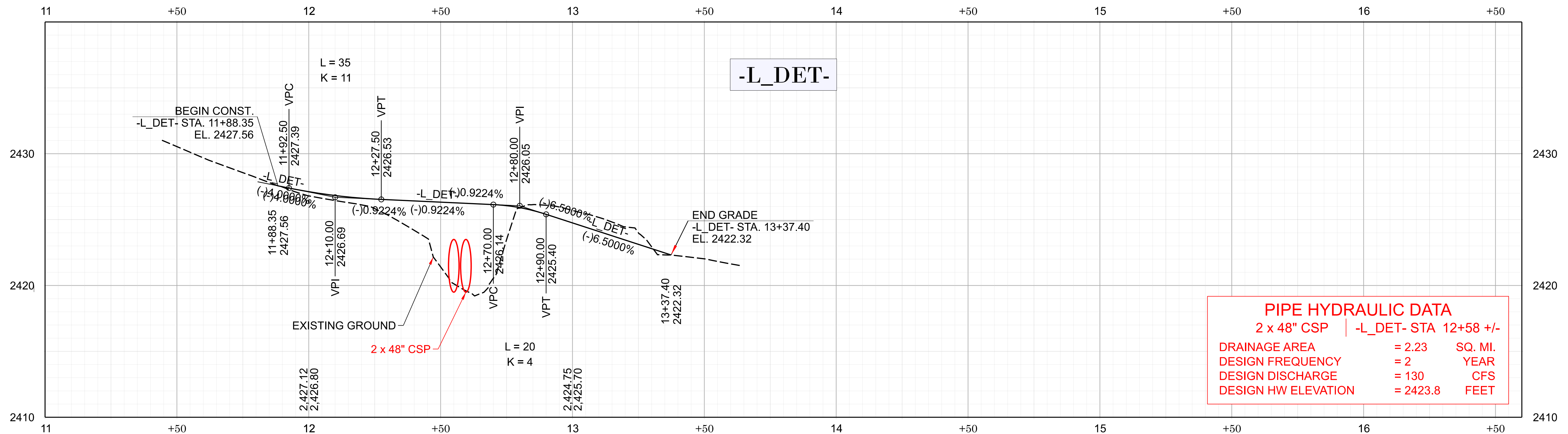
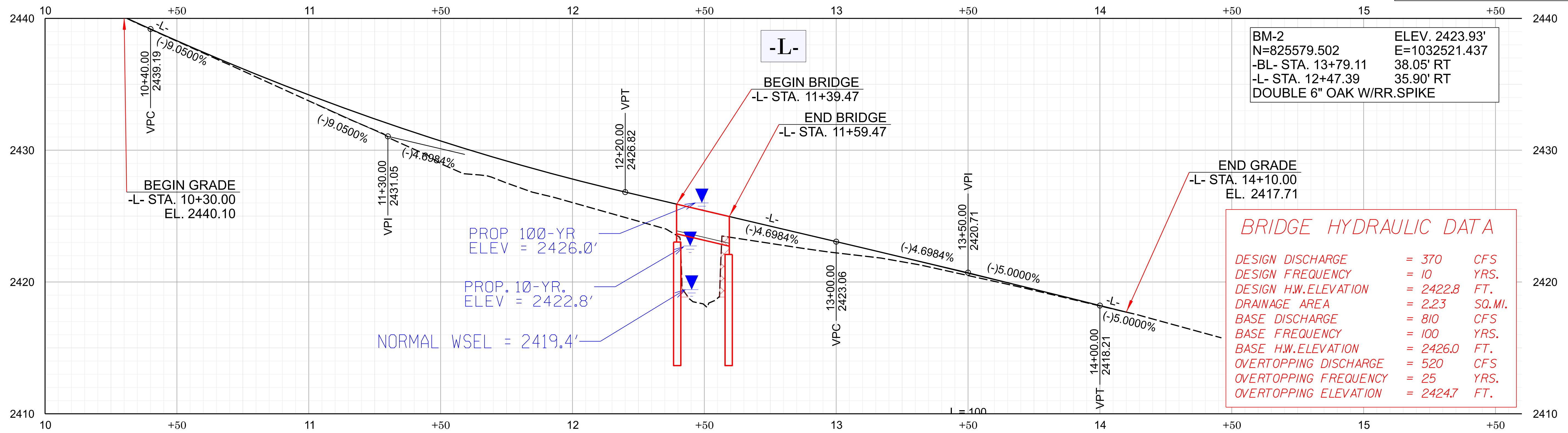
SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS



FOR -L- PROFILE, SEE SHEET 5

REVISIONS



990192  
28-1

NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
YANCEY COUNTY

ROADWAY DESIGN UNIT  
ROADWAY DESIGN  
ENGINEER

INCOMPLETE PLANS  
DO NOT USE FOR BIDDING  
DOCUMENT NOT CONSIDERED FINAL  
UNLESS ALL SIGNATURES COMPLETED

HYDRAULICS  
ENGINEER

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REVISIONS

