



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

DANIEL H. JOHNSON
SECRETARY

August 19, 2026

MEMORANDUM TO: Division Environmental and Construction Units

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

SUBJECT: Environmental Permits for the Replacement of:
Yancey Bridge 194 over North Toe River on SR 1357 (Ross Bridge Road)
Division 13, WBS DF18313.2061341.

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-2026-01137 Dated August 18, 2026	March 14, 2031
NC Division of Water Resources Section 401 Water Quality Certification	Water Quality Certification No. 8562 [3] Project ID: 20260805 <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
ASHEVILLE REGULATORY OFFICE
151 PATTON AVENUE, ROOM 208
ASHEVILLE NORTH CAROLINA 28801

August 18, 2026

Regulatory Division
SAW-2026-01137

Sent Via email: recrowther@ncdot.gov

Robert Crowther
NCDOT - ECAP
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 June 21, 2026, for a Department of the Army Nationwide Permit (NWP) verification. This project has been assigned the file number SAW-2026-01137 and is known as NCDOT / Hurricane Helene / DF18313.2061341.PR / Br 194 / SR 1314 / 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 destroyed 264 foot long, 4-span bridge with a new 270 foot-long, 4-span bridge, in the same location. Impacts are summarized in Table 1 below. Traffic will continue to use an off-site detour during construction. The project area for this determination is illustrated on the enclosed permit drawings.

Table 1: Impacts

<i>Water Name</i>	<i>Impact Name</i>	<i>Impact Duration</i>	<i>Proposed Length (feet)</i>	<i>Proposed Width (feet)</i>	<i>Proposed Amount (acre)</i>
North Toe River	Bank Stabilization	Permanent	65	4	0.005969
North Toe River	Work Pad - West Access	Temporary	49	93	0.104614
North Toe River	Work Pads - Bents	Temporary	31	60	0.0427
North Toe River	Work Pad - East Access	Temporary	39	23	0.020592
North Toe River	Temporary Dewatering	Temporary	80	5	0.009183

The project is located at the site of the destroyed Bridge 194 over the North Toe River, on SR 1314, Ross Branch Road, at Latitude 36.004620 and Longitude - 82.193130; west of Bakersville, Yancey County, North Carolina.

We have determined that the proposed work is authorized by NWP 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. FWS Biological Opinion: This Corps permit does not authorize you to take an endangered species, in particular *Alasmidonta raveneliana* (Appalachian Elktoe). 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 February 11, 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. 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 fluid and cursive, with a small red mark above the "J".

M. Scott Jones, PWS
WRDA / Transportation Branch Chief

Enclosures

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT 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.		Form Approved - OMB No. 0710-0003 Expires 2027-10-31														
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. 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.alsmeyer@usace.army.mil or by mail at the below address: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District Office Street Address: 151 Patton Avenue, City: Asheville State: North Carolina Zip Code: 28801																
COMPLETED BY THE CORPS																
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 35%;">Corps Action Number:</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">SAW-2026-01137</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Permit Type: <u>General Permit</u></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>General Permit Number and Name (if applicable):</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">NWP 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Name of Permittee:</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">NCDOT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project Name:</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">NCDOT / Hurricane Helene / DF18313.2061341.PR / Br 194 / SR 1314 / Yancey / Div 13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project Location (physical address):</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Ross Branch Road</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Green Mountain, North Carolina</td> </tr> </table>			Corps Action Number:	SAW-2026-01137	Permit Type: <u>General Permit</u>		General Permit Number and Name (if applicable):	NWP 3	Name of Permittee:	NCDOT	Project Name:	NCDOT / Hurricane Helene / DF18313.2061341.PR / Br 194 / SR 1314 / Yancey / Div 13	Project Location (physical address):	Ross Branch Road		Green Mountain, North Carolina
Corps Action Number:	SAW-2026-01137															
Permit Type: <u>General Permit</u>																
General Permit Number and Name (if applicable):	NWP 3															
Name of Permittee:	NCDOT															
Project Name:	NCDOT / Hurricane Helene / DF18313.2061341.PR / Br 194 / SR 1314 / Yancey / Div 13															
Project Location (physical address):	Ross Branch Road															
	Green Mountain, North Carolina															
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														

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: DF18313.2061341.F TIP/Proj No: DF18313.2061341.PR County(ies): Yancey Page 1 of 2

General Project Information

WBS Element:	DF18313.2061341.PR	TIP Number:	DF18313.2061341.PR	Project Type:	Other	Date:	2/15/2026
NCDOT Contact:	Marc Shown			Contractor / Designer:	KCI - CRYSTAL MOORE		
	Address:	1000 Birch Ridge Road Raleigh NC 27610			Address:	4800 FALLS OF NEUSE RD SUITE 200 RALEIGH NC 27609	
	Phone:	919-707-6757			Phone:	919-278-2466	
	Email:	mtshown@ncdot.gov			Email:	CRYSTAL.MOORE@KCI.COM	
City/Town:	BAKERSVILLE			County(ies):	Yancey		
River Basin(s):	French Broad			CAMA County?	No		
Wetlands within Project Limits?	No						

Project Description

Project Length (lin. miles or feet):	0.07	Surrounding Land Use:	RURAL
	Proposed Project		Existing Site
Project Built-Upon Area (ac.)	0.4	ac.	0.4
Typical Cross Section Description:	Bridge - 2 10' Travels lanes with 2'-5" shoulders; cross slope along bridge is 0.02. Mainroad -2 10' travel lanes with 3' paved shoulders 8' grass slopes		Existing bridged washed out based on data the mainline was 2 travel lanes at 9' with varying grass slopes
Annual Avg Daily Traffic (veh/hr/day):	Design/Future:	100	Year: 2022
	Existing:	100	Year: 2022

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

The proposed project consist of replacing bridge 990194 that was washed out during Hurricane Helene. The proposed bridge is 24" Cored Slab with 4 spans 1@65', 2@70', and 1@65' with 4' end bent caps on 1.5:1 sloping abutments. Sloping abutments will be armored with Cl. II Riprap. The proposed roadway drainage consist of 2GI to collect the drainage along roadway with 18" rcp-iv pipes with riprap outlet pads



North Carolina Department of Transportation

Highway Stormwater Program
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR NCDOT PROJECTS

(Version 3.02; Released April 23, 2024)

WBS Element: DF18313.2061341.F TIP/Proj No.: DF18313.2061341.PR County(ies): Yancey Page 2 of 2

General Project Information

Waterbody Information

Surface Water Body (1):	NORTH TOE RIVER		NCDWR Stream Index No.:	7-2-0.5	
NCDWR Surface Water Classification for Water Body	Primary Classification:		Water Supply V (WS-V)		
	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?	Yes	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)					



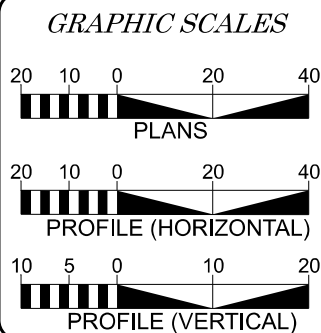
YANCEY / MITCHELL COUNTY

LOCATION: *REPLACE BRIDGE NO.990194 ON SR 1314 / SR 1187
(ROSES BRANCH ROAD / TOE CANE ROAD) OVER NORTH TOE RIVER*

TYPE OF WORK: *GRADING, PAVING, DRAINAGE,
AND STRUCTURE*

[illegible]

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



DESIGN DATA
ADT 2022 = 100

V = 20 MPH

FUNC CLASS =
RURAL LOCAL
SUBREGIONAL TIER

PROJECT LENGTH

LENGTH OF ROADWAY TIP PROJECT 990194 = 0.013 MILES
 LENGTH OF STRUCTURE TIP PROJECT 990194 = 0.052 MILES
 TOTAL LENGTH OF TIP PROJECT 990194 = 0.065 MILES

Prepared in the Office of:

 KCI ASSOCIATES OF N.C., P.A.
4800 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27609
Phone (919) 783-9214
NC Firm License No: C-0764

2024 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

RIGHT OF WAY DATE:
JANUARY 21, 2025

LETTING DATE:
JANUARY 21, 2025

Plans Prepared For:
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
1000 Birch Ridge Dr.
Raleigh NC, 27610

BARRY SMITH, P.E.
PROJECT ENGINEER

TYLER KRAUSS, P.E.
PROJECT DESIGN ENGINEER

ANDY HUSSEY, P.E.
NCDOT CONTACT

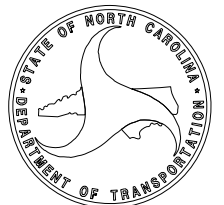
HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

P.E.

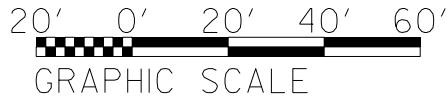
SIGNATURE: _____

ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER

SIGNATURE: _____ P.E.

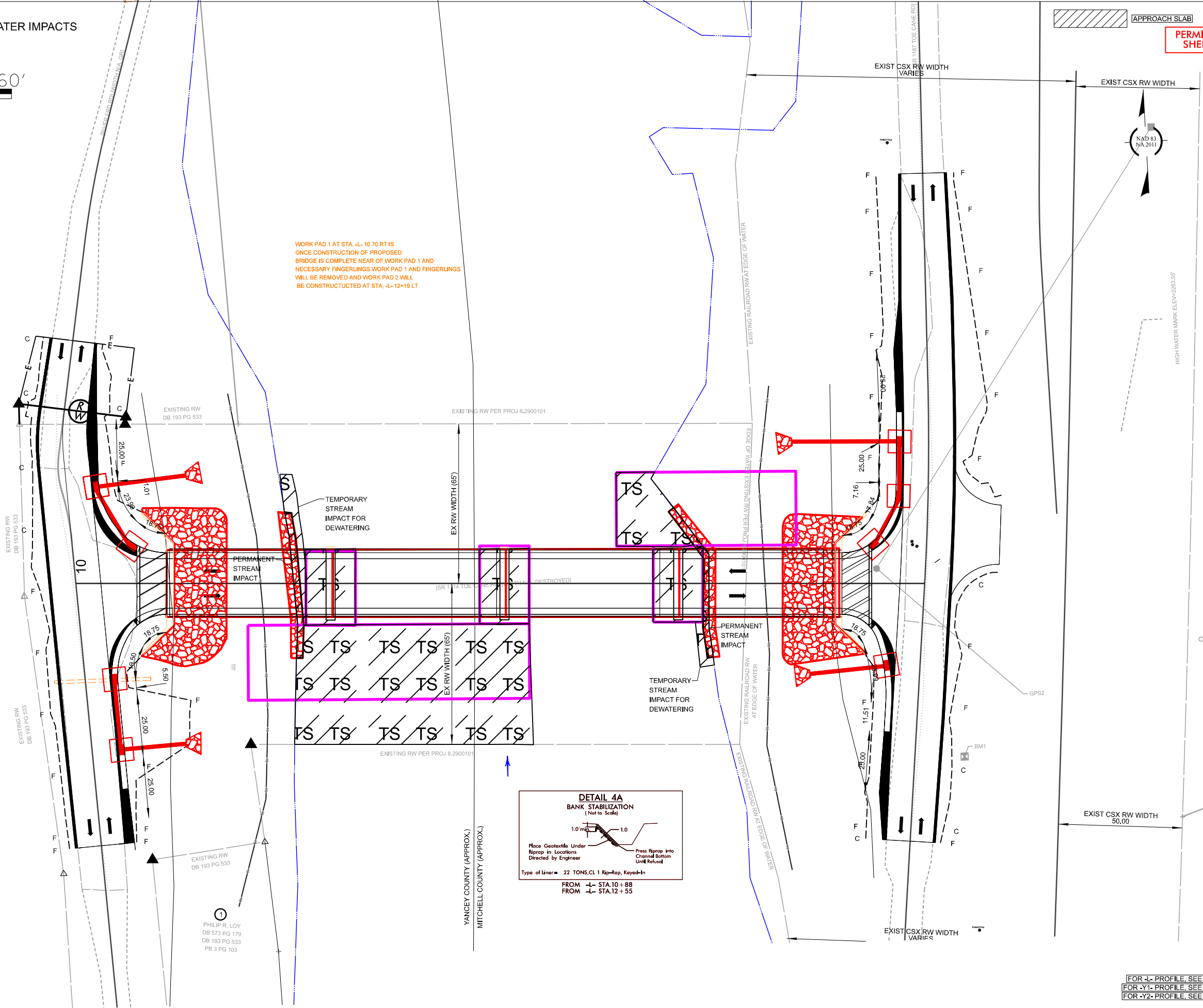


TS TS TEMPORARY SURFACE WATER IMPACTS
S S SURFACE WATER IMPACTS

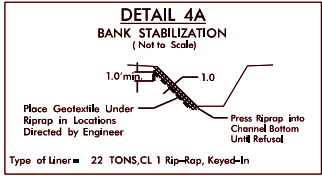


15

1
PHILIP R. LOY
DB 573 PG 179
DB 193 PG 533
PB 3 PG 103



WORK PAD 1 AT STA. -L- 10 70 RT IS
ONCE CONSTRUCTION OF PROPOSED
BRIDGE IS COMPLETE NEAR OF WORK PAD 1 AND
NECESSARY FINGERLINGS WORK PAD 1 AND FINGERLINGS
WILL BE REMOVED AND WORK PAD 2 WILL
BE CONSTRUCTED AT STA. -L- 12+19 LT



FOR -L- PROFILE, SEE SHEET 05
FOR -Y1- PROFILE, SEE SHEET 05
FOR -Y2- PROFILE, SEE SHEET 06

APPROACH SLAB

PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 2 OF 5

990194 DF18313.2061341.PR

FINAL 04

NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
YANCEY / MITCHELL



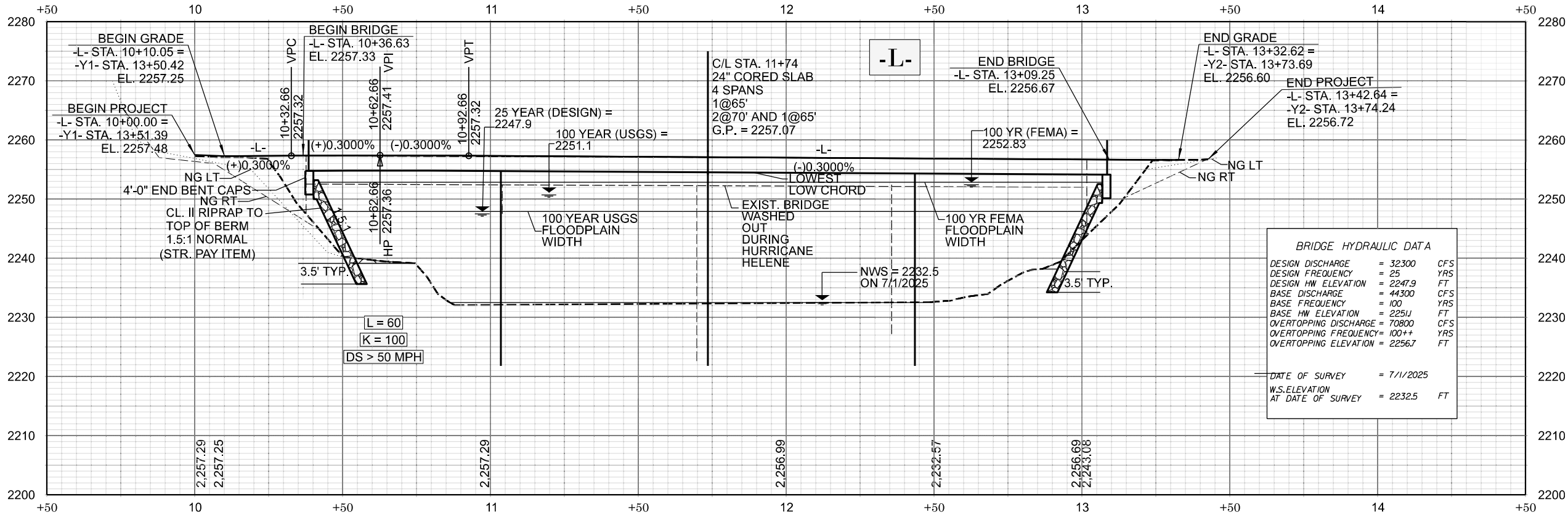
ROADWAY DESIGN
ENGINEER

HYDRAULICS
ENGINEER

PREPARED BY

KCI ASSOCIATES OF N.C., P.A.
4800 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27609
Phone (919) 783-0214
NC Firm License No. C40764

REVISIONS



PERMIT DRAWING
SHEET 4 OF 5

FINAL 05

NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MITCHELL



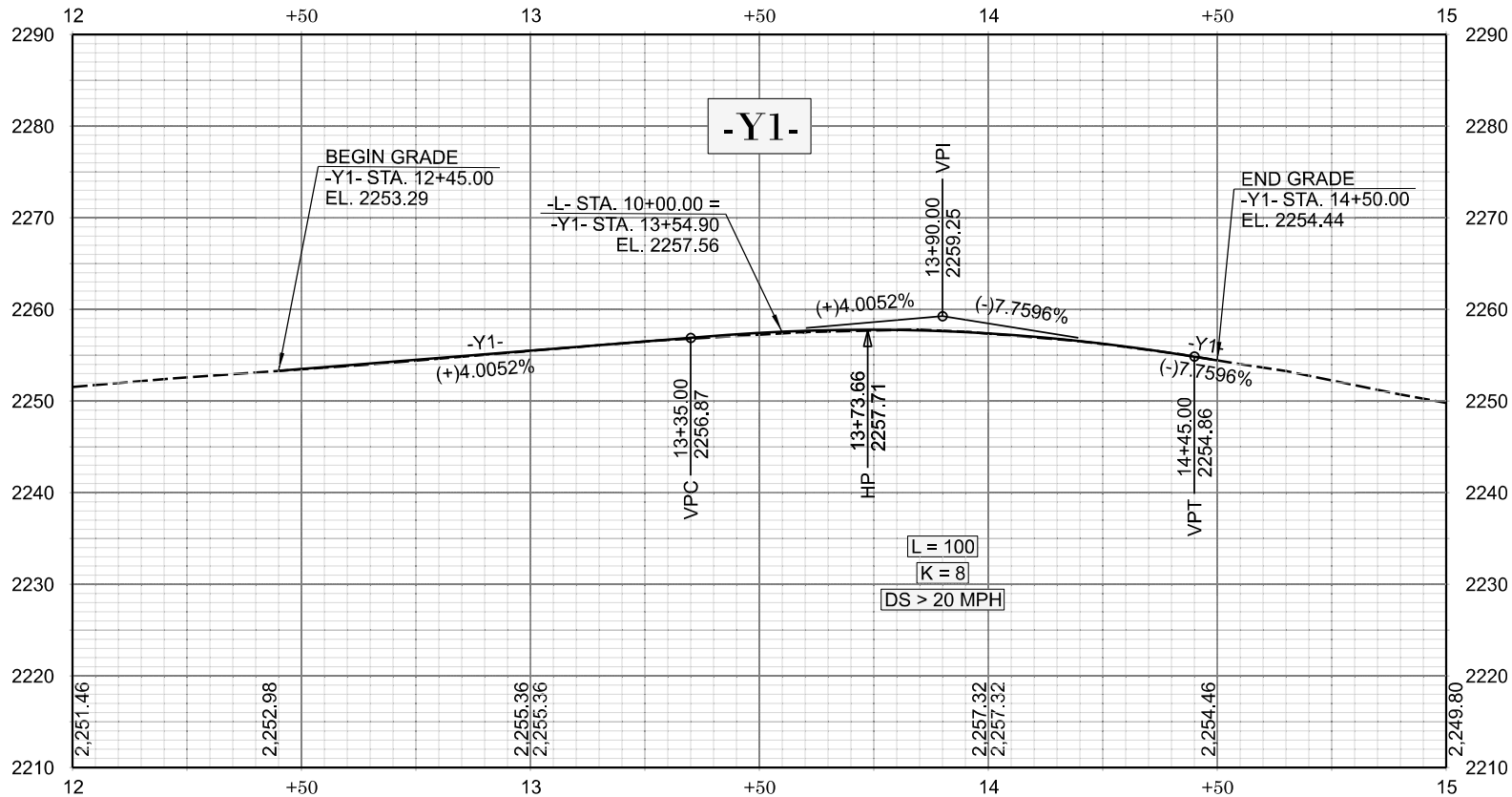
ROADWAY DESIGN
ENGINEER

HYDRAULICS
ENGINEER

PREPARED BY

KCI ASSOCIATES OF N.C., P.A.
4800 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27609
Phone (919) 834-0214
NC Firm License No. C47064

FOR J-PLAN, SEE SHEET 04



FOR Y1-PLAN, SEE SHEET 04

REVISIONS

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)	SW impacts (ac)	Temp. SW impacts (ac)	Existing Channel Impacts Permanent (ft)	Existing Channel Impacts Temp. (ft)	Natural Stream Design (ft)
1	-L- STA. 12+00 TO 12+52 LT	CONSTRUCTION WORK PADS							0.02		39	
1	-L- STA. 10+88 TO 12+64 RT	INTERIOR BENTS FINGERLING PADS							0.04		31	
1	-L- STA. 10+88	BANK STABILIZATION						< 0.01		59		
1	-L- STA. 12+55	BANK STABILIZATION						< 0.01		65		
1	-L- STA. 10+71 TO 11+83 RT	CONSTRUCTION WORK PADS							0.11		49	
1	-L- STA 10+82 LT TO 10+93 RT	DEWATERING							< 0.01		62	
1	-L- STA. 12+50 TO 12+58 RT	DEWATERING							< 0.01		18	
TOTALS*:								< 0.01	0.16	124	199	0

*Rounded totals are sum of actual impacts

NOTES:

Bank stabilization impacts are coincidental to the the temporary impacts.

NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
 5/22/2026
 YANCEY/MITCHELL
 DF.18313.2061341.PR
 BRIDGE 990194