



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

October 25, 2007

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Field Office
6508 Falls of the Neuse Road, Suite 120
Raleigh, NC 27615

ATTN: Mr. Monte Matthews
NCDOT Coordinator

Subject: **Clean Water Act Nationwide Permit 23 and Nationwide Permit 33**
application for replacement of Bridge No. 334 on SR 1169 (Conley Cheek Road)
over South Fork New River, Federal Aid No. BRZ-1169(2), State Project No.
8.2712701, Ashe County, Division 11, TIP No. B-3803. WBS Element No.
33259.1.1.

Dear Sir:

Please see the enclosed Pre-Construction Notification (PCN), Ecosystem Enhancement Program mitigation acceptance Letter, Rapanos jurisdictional determination form, permit drawings and design plans for the subject project. A Categorical Exclusion was completed for this project in May 2006 and distributed shortly thereafter. Additional copies are available upon request. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) proposes to replace the 107-foot, one lane low water Bridge No. 334 with a three span replacement bridge of approximately 200-foot in length. Bridge No. 334 will be replaced on a partially new alignment. Improvements to the approach roadways will be required for a distance of approximately 420 feet to the north and 730 feet to the south of the new structure. During construction, traffic will be routed to a temporary offsite detour. There will be a total of 101 feet of permanent stream impacts and 0.13 ac of temporary stream impacts associated with this project.

IMPACTS TO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES

General Description: There are two jurisdictional streams on the project site: South Fork New River and an associated unnamed tributary (UT). These water resources are located in the New River Basin (subbasin 05-07-01, Hydrological Cataloguing Unit 05050001). The North

MAILING ADDRESS:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
1598 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC 27699-1598

TELEPHONE: 919-715-1500
FAX: 919-715-1501

WEBSITE: WWW.DOH.DOT.STATE.NC.US

LOCATION:
2728 CAPITOL BOULEVARD
PARKER LINCOLN BUILDING, SUITE 168
RALEIGH NC 27699

Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) index number for the South Fork New River is 10-1-(20.5). The South Fork New River is classified by the Division of Water Quality as a **Class WS-V HQW** water body. The best usage classification of the associated UT is the same as the water body to which it is a tributary. No waters listed on the 303 (d) list occur within 1.0 mile of the project area. The average baseflow width of the South Fork New River is approximately 100 feet. Average depth is 1-6 feet. The associated UT is approximately 2-3 feet wide, with a depth of 1-2 inches.

Permanent Impacts: There will be 101 feet of permanent stream impacts associated with this project. An additional <0.01 ac of permanent stream impacts will occur due to the placement of bents for the construction of the new bridge over the South Fork New River.

- Site 2: A 42-inch pipe will be installed for a relocated driveway on the UT to the South Fork New River causing 40 feet of permanent impacts. An additional 14 feet of impacts will occur from the placement of Class B rip rap at the pipe outfall for bank stabilization. Therefore, the total impacts from pipe installation is 54 feet.
- Site 3: The placement of Class II rip rap for bank stabilization at the confluence of three ditches entering the South Fork New River accounts for 47 feet of permanent impacts.

Temporary Impacts: There will be 0.13 acres of temporary stream impacts associated with this project.

- Site 1: The use of causeways for the removal of the existing bridge and the construction of the replacement bridge will result in 0.13 acres of temporary impacts to the South Fork New River. Causeways will be phased so that no more than half of the stream is blocked at any time.
- Site 2: The relocation of a driveway and placement of a 42 inch pipe on the UT to the South Fork New River will result in <0.01 acres of temporary impacts due to dewatering.

Bridge Demolition: Bridge No. 334 is a four span structure that consists of a timber deck on steel I-beams. The end bents consist of reinforced concrete. The interior bents consist of reinforced concrete piers. Causeways will be used for the removal of all components of the bridge resulting in no appreciable fill in "Waters of the United States".

Utility Impacts: There are no utilities attached to the existing structure, and there will be no impacts to jurisdictional waters due to utility relocation.

FEMA COMPLIANCE

A Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMAR) was required and received for the project on August 1, 2007.

FEDERALLY PROTECTED SPECIES

Plants and animals with federal classifications of Endangered, Threatened, Proposed Endangered and Proposed Threatened are protected under provisions of Section 7 and Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. As of May 10, 2007 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) list 6 species under federal protection for Ashe County: bog turtle, spreading avens, swamp pink, Roan Mountain bluet, Heller's blazing star and Virginia spiraea. With the exception of Virginia spiraea it determined that there is no suitable habitat for

the listed species. The NC Natural Heritage database of rare species and unique habitats was reviewed in August 2007. There is a documented occurrence of Virginia spiraea approximately 5,000 feet north (downstream) of the proposed bridge project. A survey of the study area on June 7, 2007 resulted in no species being found. A conversation with Marella Buncick (USFWS) on August 27, 2007 resulted in a Biological Conclusion of No Effect. The replacement of Bridge No. 334 will not impact the known population of Virginia spiraea downstream.

Table 1. Species Under Federal Protection in Ashe County

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	Habitat	Biological Conclusion
Bog turtle	<i>Clemmys muhlenburgii</i>	T (S/A)	No	Not required
Spreading avens	<i>Geum radiatum</i>	E	No	No Effect
Swamp pink	<i>Helonias bullata</i>	T	No	No Effect
Roan Mountain bluet	<i>Hedyotis purpurea</i> var. <i>montana</i>	E	No	No Effect
Heller's blazing star	<i>Liatris helleri</i>	T	No	No Effect
Virginia spiraea	<i>Spiraea virginiana</i>	T	Yes	No Effect

AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION AND MITIGATION

Avoidance and Minimization:

Avoidance examines all appropriate and practicable possibilities of averting impacts to “Waters of the United States”. The NCDOT is committed to incorporating all reasonable and practicable design features to avoid and minimize jurisdictional impacts, and to provide full compensatory mitigation of all remaining, unavoidable jurisdictional stages; minimization measures were incorporated as part of the project design.

- Replacement of a four span bridge with a three span bridge (fewer bents in water)
- The existing 21-foot pipe from the current driveway on the UT will be removed and the stream daylighted.
- Use of offsite detour
- Controlled run-off from bridge and a road

Mitigation:

Permanent impacts for this project due to bank stabilization of the South Fork New River and an UT to the South Fork New River total 61 feet. These impacts do not constitute “loss of Waters of the United States”. Therefore we are not proposing mitigation.

There are also 40 feet of permanent impacts associated with the relocation of a driveway on the UT to the South Fork New River. The existing 21-foot pipe from the current driveway on the UT will be removed and the stream daylighted, which will provide mitigation at a 1:1 ratio. Per conversation with Monte Matthews (USACE) on October 25, 2007 additional mitigation is required for the remaining 19 feet of permanent impact. The Ecosystem Enhancement Program will provide mitigation for 19 feet of permanent impact (see EEP mitigation acceptance Letter). Mitigation was originally sought for 33 feet of permanent impact, but on further investigation it was determined that only 19 feet of additional mitigation is required.

SCHEDULE

The project schedule calls for a May 20, 2008 Let date with a date of availability on July 1, 2008. The review date for the project is April 1, 2008.

REGULATORY APPROVALS

Section 404 Permit : It is anticipated that the construction of causeways and the temporary impacts to the UT for installation of a driveway pipe will be authorized under Section 404 Nationwide Permit No. 33 (Temporary Construction Access and Dewatering). We are therefore requesting the issuance of a Nationwide Permit 33. It is anticipated that the use of rip rap for bank stabilization and permanent impacts to the UT for installation of a driveway pipe will be authorized under the Nationwide Permit No. 23. All other aspects of this project are being processed by the Federal Highway Administration as a "Categorical Exclusion" in accordance with 23 CFR § 771.115(b). The NCDOT requests that these activities be authorized by a Nationwide Permit 23 (FR number 10, pages 2020-2095; January 15, 2002).

Section 401 Permit: We anticipate 401 General Certification numbers 3632 and 3634 will apply to this project. All General Conditions of the General Certification will be adhered to, therefore we are not requesting concurrence from the DWQ. We are submitting 2 copies of this permit application for your records.

This project is located in a trout county, therefore comments from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) will be required prior to authorization by the Corps of Engineers. By copy of this letter and attachment, NCDOT hereby requests NCWRC review. NCDOT requests that NCWRC forward their comments to the Corps of Engineers and the NCDOT within 30 calendar days of receipt of this application.

Thank you for your assistance with this project. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Jason Dilday at jldilday@dot.state.nc.us or (919) 715-5535. The application will be posted at <http://207.4.62.65/PDEA/PermApps/>.

Sincerely,

for 

Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D

Environmental Management Director, PDEA

cc:

w/attachment

Mr. John Hennessy, NCDWQ (2 Copies)

Ms. Marla Chambers, NCWRC

Ms. Marella Buncick, USFWS

Dr. David Chang, P.E., Hydraulics

Mr. Victor Barbour, P.E., Project Services Unit

Mr. Mark Staley, Roadside Environmental

Mr. Greg Perfetti, P.E., Structure Design

Mr. Michael A. Pettyjohn, P.E. Division 11 Engineer

Mr. Heath Slaughter, Division 11 Environmental Officer

w/o attachment

Mr. Jay Bennett, P.E., Roadway Design

Mr. Majed Alghandour, P.E., Programming and TIP

Mr. Art McMillan, P.E., Highway Design

Ms. Natalie Lockhart, PDEA Project Planning Eng.

Mr. Scott McLendon, USACE, Wilmington

USACE Action ID No. _____ DWQ No. _____

(If any particular item is not applicable to this project, please enter "Not Applicable" or "N/A".)

I. Processing

1. Check all of the approval(s) requested for this project:

- Section 404 Permit
- Section 10 Permit
- 401 Water Quality Certification
- Riparian or Watershed Buffer Rules
- Isolated Wetland Permit from DWQ
- Express 401 Water Quality Certification

2. Nationwide, Regional or General Permit Number(s) Requested: Nationwide 23 & 33

3. If this notification is solely a courtesy copy because written approval for the 401 Certification is not required, check here:

4. If payment into the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (NCEEP) is proposed for mitigation of impacts, attach the acceptance letter from NCEEP, complete section VIII, and check here:

5. If your project is located in any of North Carolina's twenty coastal counties (listed on page 4), and the project is within a North Carolina Division of Coastal Management Area of Environmental Concern (see the top of page 2 for further details), check here:

II. Applicant Information

1. Owner/Applicant Information

Name: Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D., Environmental Management Director
Mailing Address: 1598 Mail Service Center

Telephone Number: (919) 733-3141 Fax Number: (919) 733-9794
E-mail Address: jldilday@dot.state.nc.us

2. Agent/Consultant Information (A signed and dated copy of the Agent Authorization letter must be attached if the Agent has signatory authority for the owner/applicant.)

Name: _____
Company Affiliation: _____
Mailing Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____
E-mail Address: _____

III. Project Information

Attach a **vicinity map** clearly showing the location of the property with respect to local landmarks such as towns, rivers, and roads. Also provide a detailed **site plan** showing property boundaries and development plans in relation to surrounding properties. Both the vicinity map and site plan must include a scale and north arrow. The specific footprints of all buildings, impervious surfaces, or other facilities must be included. If possible, the maps and plans should include the appropriate USGS Topographic Quad Map and NRCS Soil Survey with the property boundaries outlined. Plan drawings, or other maps may be included at the applicant's discretion, so long as the property is clearly defined. For administrative and distribution purposes, the USACE requires information to be submitted on sheets no larger than 11 by 17-inch format; however, DWQ may accept paperwork of any size. DWQ prefers full-size construction drawings rather than a sequential sheet version of the full-size plans. If full-size plans are reduced to a small scale such that the final version is illegible, the applicant will be informed that the project has been placed on hold until decipherable maps are provided.

1. Name of project: Bridge 334 over South Fork New River
2. T.I.P. Project Number or State Project Number (NCDOT Only): B-3803
3. Property Identification Number (Tax PIN): N/A
4. Location
County: Ashe Nearest Town: Yates
Subdivision name (include phase/lot number): N/A
Directions to site (include road numbers/names, landmarks, etc.): SR 1169, Conley Cheek Road
5. Site coordinates (For linear projects, such as a road or utility line, attach a sheet that separately lists the coordinates for each crossing of a distinct waterbody.)
Decimal Degrees (6 digits minimum): 36'17'38' °N -81'27'41' °W
6. Property size (acres): N/A
7. Name of nearest receiving body of water: South Fork New River
8. River Basin: New River Basin
(Note – this must be one of North Carolina's seventeen designated major river basins. The River Basin map is available at <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/admin/maps/>.)
9. Describe the existing conditions on the site and general land use in the vicinity of the project at the time of this application: Agricultural, minor residential and forest communities

10. Describe the overall project in detail, including the type of equipment to be used: Bridge No. 334 will be replaced with a bridge of approximately 200 feet in length using standard bridge demolition and construction equipment.

11. Explain the purpose of the proposed work: Bridge No. 19 is proposed for replacement due to its structural sufficiency rating of 38.1 out of a possible 100 for a new structure. The bridge is considered functionally obsolete due to deck geometry appraisal of 2 out of 9 according to FHWA standards.

IV. Prior Project History

If jurisdictional determinations and/or permits have been requested and/or obtained for this project (including all prior phases of the same subdivision) in the past, please explain. Include the USACE Action ID Number, DWQ Project Number, application date, and date permits and certifications were issued or withdrawn. Provide photocopies of previously issued permits, certifications or other useful information. Describe previously approved wetland, stream and buffer impacts, along with associated mitigation (where applicable). If this is a NCDOT project, list and describe permits issued for prior segments of the same T.I.P. project, along with construction schedules. N/A

V. Future Project Plans

Are any future permit requests anticipated for this project? If so, describe the anticipated work, and provide justification for the exclusion of this work from the current application.
N/A

VI. Proposed Impacts to Waters of the United States/Waters of the State

It is the applicant's (or agent's) responsibility to determine, delineate and map all impacts to wetlands, open water, and stream channels associated with the project. Each impact must be listed separately in the tables below (e.g., culvert installation should be listed separately from riprap dissipater pads). Be sure to indicate if an impact is temporary. All proposed impacts, permanent and temporary, must be listed, and must be labeled and clearly identifiable on an accompanying site plan. All wetlands and waters, and all streams (intermittent and perennial) should be shown on a delineation map, whether or not impacts are proposed to these systems. Wetland and stream evaluation and delineation forms should be included as appropriate. Photographs may be included at the applicant's discretion. If this proposed impact is strictly for wetland or stream mitigation, list and describe the impact in Section VIII below. If additional space is needed for listing or description, please attach a separate sheet.

1. Provide a written description of the proposed impacts: 54 feet of permanent impacts to a UT will occur from the placement of a 42" pipe on a relocated driveway. The current 21 foot driveway pipe will be removed and the stream daylighted causing a net total of 33 feet of permanent impacts (54'-21'=33'). There will be an additional 35 feet (<0.01Ac) of temporary impacts associated with the placement of the driveway pipe (Site 2). 47 feet of permanent impacts associated with placement of class B rip rap for bank stabilization of ditches (Site 3) entering South Fork New River. 85 feet (0.13 Ac) of temporary impacts associated with the use of causeways for the removal of the existing bridge and construction of the replacement bridge (Site 1).
2. Individually list wetland impacts. Types of impacts include, but are not limited to mechanized clearing, grading, fill, excavation, flooding, ditching/drainage, etc. For dams, separately list impacts due to both structure and flooding.

Wetland Impact Site Number (indicate on map)	Type of Impact	Type of Wetland (e.g., forested, marsh, herbaceous, bog, etc.)	Located within 100-year Floodplain (yes/no)	Distance to Nearest Stream (linear feet)	Area of Impact (acres)
No wetlands					
Total Wetland Impact (acres)					0

3. List the total acreage (estimated) of all existing wetlands on the property: 0
4. Individually list all intermittent and perennial stream impacts. Be sure to identify temporary impacts. Stream impacts include, but are not limited to placement of fill or culverts, dam construction, flooding, relocation, stabilization activities (e.g., cement walls, rip-rap, crib walls, gabions, etc.), excavation, ditching/straightening, etc. If stream relocation is proposed, plans and profiles showing the linear footprint for both the original and relocated streams must be included. To calculate acreage, multiply length X width, then divide by 43,560.

Stream Impact Number (indicate on map)	Stream Name	Type of Impact	Perennial or Intermittent?	Average Stream Width Before Impact	Impact Length (linear feet)	Area of Impact (acres)
1	South Fork New River	Temp	Perennial	100 ft	85	0.13
2	UT to South Fork New River	Temp	Perennial	3 ft	35	<0.01
2	UT to South Fork New River	Perm	Perennial	3 ft	33 54	<0.01
3	South Fork New River	Perm	Perennial	100 ft	47	0.01
Total Permanent Stream Impact (by length and acreage)					80	0.01

101

5. Individually list all open water impacts (including lakes, ponds, estuaries, sounds, Atlantic Ocean and any other water of the U.S.). Open water impacts include, but are not limited to fill, excavation, dredging, flooding, drainage, bulkheads, etc.

Open Water Impact Site Number (indicate on map)	Name of Waterbody (if applicable)	Type of Impact	Type of Waterbody (lake, pond, estuary, sound, bay, ocean, etc.)	Area of Impact (acres)
No Impacts				
Total Open Water Impact (acres)				0

6. List the cumulative impact to all Waters of the U.S. resulting from the project:

Stream Impact (acres):	0.13 (temp) 0.01 (permanent)
Wetland Impact (acres):	0
Open Water Impact (acres):	0
Total Impact to Waters of the U.S. (acres)	0.13 (temp) 0.01 (permanent)
Total Stream Impact (linear feet):	120 (temp) 80 (permanent)

7. Isolated Waters

Do any isolated waters exist on the property? Yes No

Describe all impacts to isolated waters, and include the type of water (wetland or stream) and the size of the proposed impact (acres or linear feet). Please note that this section only applies to waters that have specifically been determined to be isolated by the USACE.

8. Pond Creation

If construction of a pond is proposed, associated wetland and stream impacts should be included above in the wetland and stream impact sections. Also, the proposed pond should be described here and illustrated on any maps included with this application.

Pond to be created in (check all that apply): uplands stream wetlands

Describe the method of construction (e.g., dam/embankment, excavation, installation of draw-down valve or spillway, etc.): _____

Proposed use or purpose of pond (e.g., livestock watering, irrigation, aesthetic, trout pond, local stormwater requirement, etc.): _____

Current land use in the vicinity of the pond: _____

Size of watershed draining to pond: _____ Expected pond surface area: _____

VII. Impact Justification (Avoidance and Minimization)

Specifically describe measures taken to avoid the proposed impacts. It may be useful to provide information related to site constraints such as topography, building ordinances, accessibility, and

financial viability of the project. The applicant may attach drawings of alternative, lower-impact site layouts, and explain why these design options were not feasible. Also discuss how impacts were minimized once the desired site plan was developed. If applicable, discuss construction techniques to be followed during construction to reduce impacts. Traffic will be placed on a temporary offsite detour utilizing SR1003 and US221. Temporary causeways for removal of the existing bridge and construction of the new bridge will be phased so the river will not be more than half blocked at any time. NCDOT Best Management Practices will be implemented during all phases of construction and demolition.

VIII. Mitigation

DWQ - In accordance with 15A NCAC 2H .0500, mitigation may be required by the NC Division of Water Quality for projects involving greater than or equal to one acre of impacts to freshwater wetlands or greater than or equal to 150 linear feet of total impacts to perennial streams.

USACE – In accordance with the Final Notice of Issuance and Modification of Nationwide Permits, published in the Federal Register on January 15, 2002, mitigation will be required when necessary to ensure that adverse effects to the aquatic environment are minimal. Factors including size and type of proposed impact and function and relative value of the impacted aquatic resource will be considered in determining acceptability of appropriate and practicable mitigation as proposed. Examples of mitigation that may be appropriate and practicable include, but are not limited to: reducing the size of the project; establishing and maintaining wetland and/or upland vegetated buffers to protect open waters such as streams; and replacing losses of aquatic resource functions and values by creating, restoring, enhancing, or preserving similar functions and values, preferable in the same watershed.

If mitigation is required for this project, a copy of the mitigation plan must be attached in order for USACE or DWQ to consider the application complete for processing. Any application lacking a required mitigation plan or NCEEP concurrence shall be placed on hold as incomplete. An applicant may also choose to review the current guidelines for stream restoration in DWQ's Draft Technical Guide for Stream Work in North Carolina, available at <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/ncwetlands/strmgide.html>.

1. Provide a brief description of the proposed mitigation plan. The description should provide as much information as possible, including, but not limited to: site location (attach directions and/or map, if offsite), affected stream and river basin, type and amount (acreage/linear feet) of mitigation proposed (restoration, enhancement, creation, or preservation), a plan view, preservation mechanism (e.g., deed restrictions, conservation easement, etc.), and a description of the current site conditions and proposed method of construction. Please attach a separate sheet if more space is needed.

There is 80 feet of permanent impacts to the South Fork New River. Mitigation is not proposed for this project.

2. Mitigation may also be made by payment into the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (NCEEP). Please note it is the applicant's responsibility to contact the NCEEP at (919) 715-0476 to determine availability, and written approval from the NCEEP indicating that they are will to accept payment for the mitigation must be attached to this form. For additional information regarding the application process for the NCEEP, check the NCEEP website at <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/wrp/index.htm>. If use of the NCEEP is proposed, please check the appropriate box on page five and provide the following information:

Amount of stream mitigation requested (linear feet): 0
Amount of buffer mitigation requested (square feet): 0
Amount of Riparian wetland mitigation requested (acres): 0
Amount of Non-riparian wetland mitigation requested (acres): 0
Amount of Coastal wetland mitigation requested (acres): 0

IX. Environmental Documentation (required by DWQ)

1. Does the project involve an expenditure of public (federal/state/local) funds or the use of public (federal/state) land? Yes No
2. If yes, does the project require preparation of an environmental document pursuant to the requirements of the National or North Carolina Environmental Policy Act (NEPA/SEPA)?
Note: If you are not sure whether a NEPA/SEPA document is required, call the SEPA coordinator at (919) 733-5083 to review current thresholds for environmental documentation.
Yes No
3. If yes, has the document review been finalized by the State Clearinghouse? If so, please attach a copy of the NEPA or SEPA final approval letter. Yes No

X. Proposed Impacts on Riparian and Watershed Buffers (required by DWQ)

It is the applicant's (or agent's) responsibility to determine, delineate and map all impacts to required state and local buffers associated with the project. The applicant must also provide justification for these impacts in Section VII above. All proposed impacts must be listed herein, and must be clearly identifiable on the accompanying site plan. All buffers must be shown on a map, whether or not impacts are proposed to the buffers. Correspondence from the DWQ Regional Office may be included as appropriate. Photographs may also be included at the applicant's discretion.

1. Will the project impact protected riparian buffers identified within 15A NCAC 2B .0233 (Neuse), 15A NCAC 2B .0259 (Tar-Pamlico), 15A NCAC 02B .0243 (Catawba) 15A NCAC

2B .0250 (Randleman Rules and Water Supply Buffer Requirements), or other (please identify _____)? Yes No

2. If “yes”, identify the square feet and acreage of impact to each zone of the riparian buffers. If buffer mitigation is required calculate the required amount of mitigation by applying the buffer multipliers.

Zone*	Impact (square feet)	Multiplier	Required Mitigation
1		3 (2 for Catawba)	
2		1.5	
Total			

* Zone 1 extends out 30 feet perpendicular from the top of the near bank of channel; Zone 2 extends an additional 20 feet from the edge of Zone 1.

3. If buffer mitigation is required, please discuss what type of mitigation is proposed (i.e., Donation of Property, Riparian Buffer Restoration / Enhancement, or Payment into the Riparian Buffer Restoration Fund). Please attach all appropriate information as identified within 15A NCAC 2B .0242 or .0244, or .0260. N/A
-
-

XI. Stormwater (required by DWQ)

Describe impervious acreage (existing and proposed) versus total acreage on the site. Discuss stormwater controls proposed in order to protect surface waters and wetlands downstream from the property. If percent impervious surface exceeds 20%, please provide calculations demonstrating total proposed impervious level. All stormwater from this bridge replacement project shall be directed to buffer areas and shall not be routed directly into the stream.

XII. Sewage Disposal (required by DWQ)

Clearly detail the ultimate treatment methods and disposition (non-discharge or discharge) of wastewater generated from the proposed project, or available capacity of the subject facility.
N/A

XIII. Violations (required by DWQ)

Is this site in violation of DWQ Wetland Rules (15A NCAC 2H .0500) or any Buffer Rules?
 Yes No

Is this an after-the-fact permit application? Yes No

XIV. Cumulative Impacts (required by DWQ)

Will this project (based on past and reasonably anticipated future impacts) result in additional development, which could impact nearby downstream water quality? Yes No

If yes, please submit a qualitative or quantitative cumulative impact analysis in accordance with the most recent North Carolina Division of Water Quality policy posted on our website at <http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/ncwetlands>. If no, please provide a short narrative description: _____

This project is limited to a bridge replacement. No indirect or cumulative impacts are anticipated.

XV. Other Circumstances (Optional):

It is the applicant's responsibility to submit the application sufficiently in advance of desired construction dates to allow processing time for these permits. However, an applicant may choose to list constraints associated with construction or sequencing that may impose limits on work schedules (e.g., draw-down schedules for lakes, dates associated with Endangered and Threatened Species, accessibility problems, or other issues outside of the applicant's control).

N/A

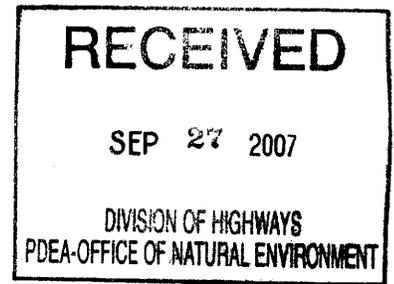
E. J. Lust

10.25.07

Applicant/Agent's Signature

Date

(Agent's signature is valid only if an authorization letter from the applicant is provided.)



September 24, 2007

Mr. Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D.
Environmental Management Director
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch
North Carolina Department of Transportation
1548 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1548

Dear Dr. Thorpe:

Subject: EEP Mitigation Acceptance Letter:

B-3803, Replace Bridge Number 70 on SR 1366 over Horse Creek,
Ashe County

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) will provide the compensatory stream mitigation for the subject project. Based on the information supplied by you on September 19, 2007, the impacts are located in CU 05050001 of the New River Basin in the Northern Mountains (NM) Eco-Region, and are as follows:

Cold Stream: 33 feet

During the review of this request, it was noted that this project did not include any wetland or stream impacts in the 2007 Impact Projection Database; however, EEP will provide the requested stream mitigation. Depending on the availability and projected need of stream mitigation in this cataloging unit, additional stream mitigation may be required that was not included in the biennial budget submitted to NCDOT on September 18, 2007.

EEP commits to implementing sufficient compensatory stream mitigation to offset the impacts associated with this project by the end of the MOA Year in which this project is permitted, in accordance with Section X of the Amendment No. 2 to the Memorandum of Agreement between the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, fully executed on March 8, 2007. If the above referenced impact

Restoring... Enhancing... Protecting Our State

North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program, 1652 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1652 / 919-715-0476 / www.nceep.net



amounts are revised, then this mitigation acceptance letter will no longer be valid and a new mitigation acceptance letter will be required from EEP.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Beth Harmon at 919-715-1929.

Sincerely,



William D. Gilmore, P.E.
EEP Director

cc: Mr. Monte Matthews, USACE – Raleigh
Mr. John Hennessy, Division of Water Quality, Wetlands/401 Unit
File: B-3803

APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

This Form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD):

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: B-3803 (Replacement of Bridge No. 334 on SR 1169 over South Fork New River)

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: NC County/parish/borough: Ashe City: Yates
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 36°17'55" **N**, Long. 81°28'06" **W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: South Fork New River and UT to South Fork New River

Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: South Fork New River

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 05050001

Check if map/diagram of review area and/or potential jurisdictional areas is/are available upon request.

Check if other sites (e.g., offsite mitigation sites, disposal sites, etc...) are associated with this action and are recorded on a different JD form.

D. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

Office (Desk) Determination. Date:

Field Determination. Date(s):

SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There **Are** "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the review area. [Required]

Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

Waters are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce.
Explain: Used extensively by recreational canoers and tourists.

B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There **Are** "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. [Required]

1. Waters of the U.S.

a. Indicate presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply):¹

- TNWs, including territorial seas
- Wetlands adjacent to TNWs
- Relatively permanent waters² (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Wetlands directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Impoundments of jurisdictional waters
- Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands

b. Identify (estimate) size of waters of the U.S. in the review area:

Non-wetland waters: 2000 linear feet: 100 width (ft) and/or acres.

Wetlands: acres.

UT: 1000 linear feet
3 width (ft)

c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: Established by OHWM. ← for UT (RPW)

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³

Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional.

Explain:

¹ Boxes checked below shall be supported by completing the appropriate sections in Section III below.

² For purposes of this form, an RPW is defined as a tributary that is not a TNW and that typically flows year-round or has continuous flow at least "seasonally" (e.g., typically 3 months).

³ Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over TNWs and wetlands adjacent to TNWs. If the aquatic resource is a TNW, complete Section III.A.1 and Section III.D.1. only; if the aquatic resource is a wetland adjacent to a TNW, complete Sections III.A.1 and 2 and Section III.D.1.; otherwise, see Section III.B below.

1. TNW

Identify TNW: South Fork New River.

Summarize rationale supporting determination: Guide services and canoe rentals.

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is "adjacent":

B. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRIBUTARY (THAT IS NOT A TNW) AND ITS ADJACENT WETLANDS (IF ANY):

This section summarizes information regarding characteristics of the tributary and its adjacent wetlands, if any, and it helps determine whether or not the standards for jurisdiction established under *Rapanos* have been met.

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over non-navigable tributaries of TNWs where the tributaries are "relatively permanent waters" (RPWs), i.e. tributaries that typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically 3 months). A wetland that directly abuts an RPW is also jurisdictional. If the aquatic resource is not a TNW, but has year-round (perennial) flow, skip to Section III.D.2. If the aquatic resource is a wetland directly abutting a tributary with perennial flow, skip to Section III.D.4.

A wetland that is adjacent to but that does not directly abut an RPW requires a significant nexus evaluation. Corps districts and EPA regions will include in the record any available information that documents the existence of a significant nexus between a relatively permanent tributary that is not perennial (and its adjacent wetlands if any) and a traditional navigable water, even though a significant nexus finding is not required as a matter of law.

If the waterbody⁴ is not an RPW, or a wetland directly abutting an RPW, a JD will require additional data to determine if the waterbody has a significant nexus with a TNW. If the tributary has adjacent wetlands, the significant nexus evaluation must consider the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands. This significant nexus evaluation that combines, for analytical purposes, the tributary and all of its adjacent wetlands is used whether the review area identified in the JD request is the tributary, or its adjacent wetlands, or both. If the JD covers a tributary with adjacent wetlands, complete Section III.B.1 for the tributary, Section III.B.2 for any onsite wetlands, and Section III.B.3 for all wetlands adjacent to that tributary, both onsite and offsite. The determination whether a significant nexus exists is determined in Section III.C below.

1. Characteristics of non-TNWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: square miles
Drainage area: square miles
Average annual rainfall: inches
Average annual snowfall: inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

- Tributary flows directly into TNW.
- Tributary flows through 10 (or more) tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are 30 (or more) river miles from TNW.
Project waters are 1 (or less) river miles from RPW.
Project waters are 30 (or more) aerial (straight) miles from TNW.
Project waters are 1 (or less) aerial (straight) miles from RPW.
Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

Identify flow route to TNW⁵:
Tributary stream order, if known:

⁴ Note that the Instructional Guidebook contains additional information regarding swales, ditches, washes, and erosional features generally and in the arid West.

⁵ Flow route can be described by identifying, e.g., tributary a, which flows through the review area, to flow into tributary b, which then flows into TNW.

(b) General Tributary Characteristics (check all that apply):

- Tributary is: Natural
 Artificial (man-made). Explain:
 Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

- Average width: feet
Average depth: feet
Average side slopes: **Vertical (1:1 or less)**.

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

- | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silts | <input type="checkbox"/> Sands | <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cobbles | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel | <input type="checkbox"/> Muck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bedrock | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation. Type/% cover: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explain: | | |

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain:

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain:

Tributary geometry: **Relatively straight**

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Intermittent but not seasonal flow**

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: **20 (or greater)**

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume:

Surface flow is: **Discrete and confined**. Characteristics:

Subsurface flow: **Unknown**. Explain findings:

- Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bed and banks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OHWM ⁶ (check all indicators that apply): | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> clear, natural line impressed on the bank | <input type="checkbox"/> the presence of litter and debris |
| <input type="checkbox"/> changes in the character of soil | <input type="checkbox"/> destruction of terrestrial vegetation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shelving | <input type="checkbox"/> the presence of wrack line |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vegetation matted down, bent, or absent | <input type="checkbox"/> sediment sorting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> leaf litter disturbed or washed away | <input type="checkbox"/> scour |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sediment deposition | <input type="checkbox"/> multiple observed or predicted flow events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> water staining | <input type="checkbox"/> abrupt change in plant community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (list): | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinuous OHWM. ⁷ Explain: | |

If factors other than the OHWM were used to determine lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High Tide Line indicated by: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mean High Water Mark indicated by: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> oil or scum line along shore objects | <input type="checkbox"/> survey to available datum; |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore) | <input type="checkbox"/> physical markings; |
| <input type="checkbox"/> physical markings/characteristics | <input type="checkbox"/> vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tidal gauges | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (list): | |

(iii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

Characterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed characteristics, etc.).

Explain:

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

⁶A natural or man-made discontinuity in the OHWM does not necessarily sever jurisdiction (e.g., where the stream temporarily flows underground, or where the OHWM has been removed by development or agricultural practices). Where there is a break in the OHWM that is unrelated to the waterbody's flow regime (e.g., flow over a rock outcrop or through a culvert), the agencies will look for indicators of flow above and below the break.

⁷Ibid.

(iv) **Biological Characteristics. Channel supports (check all that apply):**

- Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width):
- Wetland fringe. Characteristics:
- Habitat for:
 - Federally Listed species. Explain findings:
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:
 - Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings:

2. **Characteristics of wetlands adjacent to non-TNW that flow directly or indirectly into TNW**

(i) **Physical Characteristics:**

(a) General Wetland Characteristics:

Properties:

Wetland size: _____ acres

Wetland type. Explain:

Wetland quality. Explain:

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Intermittent flow**. Explain:

Surface flow is: **Discrete and confined**

Characteristics:

Subsurface flow: **Unknown**. Explain findings:

Dye (or other) test performed:

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain:

Ecological connection. Explain:

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain:

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **30 (or more)** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **30 (or more)** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: **Wetland to/from navigable waters**.

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the **500-year or greater** floodplain.

(ii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

Characterize wetland system (e.g., water color is clear, brown, oil film on surface; water quality; general watershed characteristics; etc.). Explain:

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

(iii) **Biological Characteristics. Wetland supports (check all that apply):**

- Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width):
- Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain:
- Habitat for:
 - Federally Listed species. Explain findings:
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:
 - Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings:

3. **Characteristics of all wetlands adjacent to the tributary (if any)**

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **30 (or more)**

Approximately () acres in total are being considered in the cumulative analysis.

For each wetland, specify the following:

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed:

C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION

A significant nexus analysis will assess the flow characteristics and functions of the tributary itself and the functions performed by any wetlands adjacent to the tributary to determine if they significantly affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of a TNW. For each of the following situations, a significant nexus exists if the tributary, in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, has more than a speculative or insubstantial effect on the chemical, physical and/or biological integrity of a TNW. Considerations when evaluating significant nexus include, but are not limited to the volume, duration, and frequency of the flow of water in the tributary and its proximity to a TNW, and the functions performed by the tributary and all its adjacent wetlands. It is not appropriate to determine significant nexus based solely on any specific threshold of distance (e.g. between a tributary and its adjacent wetland or between a tributary and the TNW). Similarly, the fact an adjacent wetland lies within or outside of a floodplain is not solely determinative of significant nexus.

Draw connections between the features documented and the effects on the TNW, as identified in the *Rapanos* Guidance and discussed in the Instructional Guidebook. Factors to consider include, for example:

- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to carry pollutants or flood waters to TNWs, or to reduce the amount of pollutants or flood waters reaching a TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), provide habitat and lifecycle support functions for fish and other species, such as feeding, nesting, spawning, or rearing young for species that are present in the TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to transfer nutrients and organic carbon that support downstream foodwebs?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have other relationships to the physical, chemical, or biological integrity of the TNW?

Note: the above list of considerations is not inclusive and other functions observed or known to occur should be documented below:

1. Significant nexus findings for non-RPW that has no adjacent wetlands and flows directly or indirectly into TNWs. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary itself, then go to Section III.D:
2. Significant nexus findings for non-RPW and its adjacent wetlands, where the non-RPW flows directly or indirectly into TNWs. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:
3. Significant nexus findings for wetlands adjacent to an RPW but that do not directly abut the RPW. Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:

D. DETERMINATIONS OF JURISDICTIONAL FINDINGS. THE SUBJECT WATERS/WETLANDS ARE (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

1. TNWs and Adjacent Wetlands. Check all that apply and provide size estimates in review area:

TNWs: 2000 linear feet 100 width (ft), Or, acres.

Wetlands adjacent to TNWs: acres.

2. RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

Tributaries of TNWs where tributaries typically flow year-round are jurisdictional. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial: NCDWQ stream form score of 34.5.

Tributaries of TNW where tributaries have continuous flow "seasonally" (e.g., typically three months each year) are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.B. Provide rationale indicating that tributary flows seasonally:

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

- Tributary waters: 1000 linear feet 3 width (ft).
 Other non-wetland waters: acres.
Identify type(s) of waters: .

3. **Non-RPWs⁸ that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- Waterbody that is not a TNW or an RPW, but flows directly or indirectly into a TNW, and it has a significant nexus with a TNW is jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters within the review area (check all that apply):

- Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
 Other non-wetland waters: acres.
Identify type(s) of waters: .

4. **Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands.
 Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow year-round. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: .
 Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow "seasonally." Provide data indicating that tributary is seasonal in Section III.B and rationale in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: .

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.

5. **Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- Wetlands that do not directly abut an RPW, but when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.

6. **Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- Wetlands adjacent to such waters, and have when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.

7. **Impoundments of jurisdictional waters.⁹**

As a general rule, the impoundment of a jurisdictional tributary remains jurisdictional.

- Demonstrate that impoundment was created from "waters of the U.S.," or
 Demonstrate that water meets the criteria for one of the categories presented above (1-6), or
 Demonstrate that water is isolated with a nexus to commerce (see E below).

E. **ISOLATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, DEGRADATION OR DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY SUCH WATERS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):¹⁰**

- which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes.
 from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce.
 which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce.
 Interstate isolated waters. Explain:
 Other factors. Explain:

Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:

⁸See Footnote # 3.

⁹To complete the analysis refer to the key in Section III.D.6 of the Instructional Guidebook.

¹⁰ Prior to asserting or declining CWA jurisdiction based solely on this category, Corps Districts will elevate the action to Corps and EPA HQ for review consistent with the process described in the Corps/EPA Memorandum Regarding CWA Act Jurisdiction Following Rapanos.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).

Other non-wetland waters: acres.

Identify type(s) of waters: .

Wetlands: acres.

F. NON-JURISDICTIONAL WATERS, INCLUDING WETLANDS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.

Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.

Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in "SWANCC," the review area would have been regulated based solely on the "Migratory Bird Rule" (MBR).

Waters do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain: .

Other: (explain, if not covered above): .

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the sole potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply):

Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet width (ft).

Lakes/ponds: acres.

Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .

Wetlands: acres.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply):

Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet, width (ft).

Lakes/ponds: acres.

Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .

Wetlands: acres.

SECTION IV: DATA SOURCES.

A. SUPPORTING DATA. Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked and requested, appropriately reference sources below):

Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant: .

Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.

Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.

Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.

Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .

Corps navigable waters' study: .

U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .

USGS NHD data.

USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.

U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: .

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: .

National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: .

State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .

FEMA/FIRM maps: .

100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)

Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): .

or Other (Name & Date): .

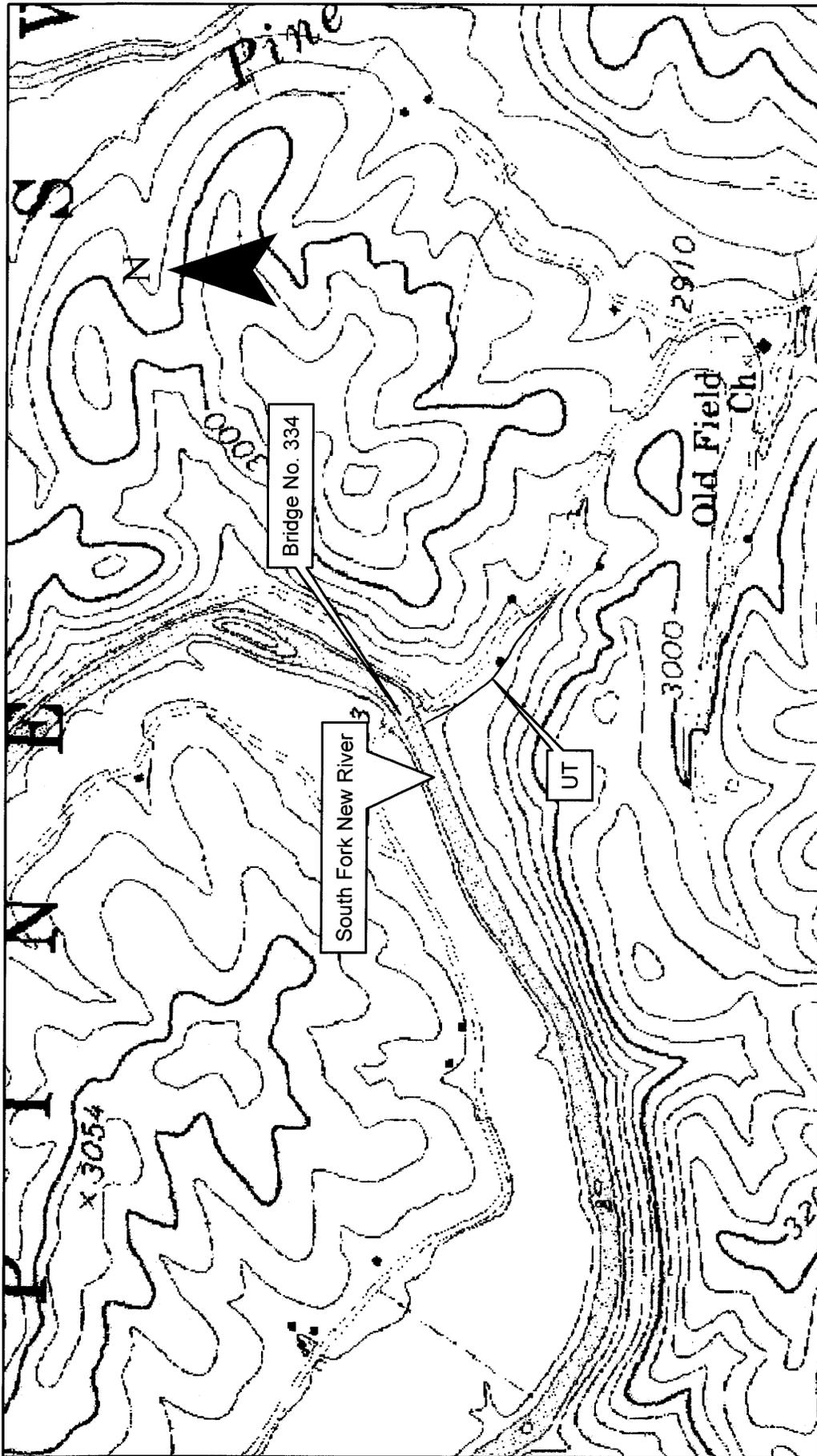
Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: .

Applicable/supporting case law: .

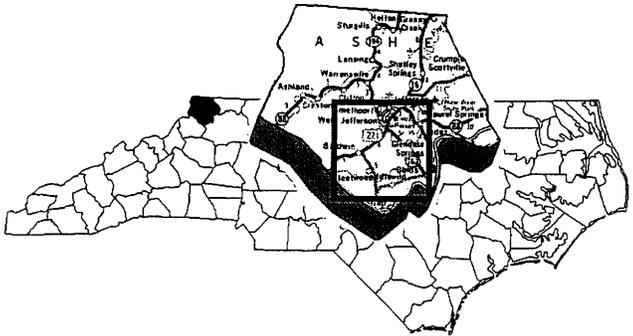
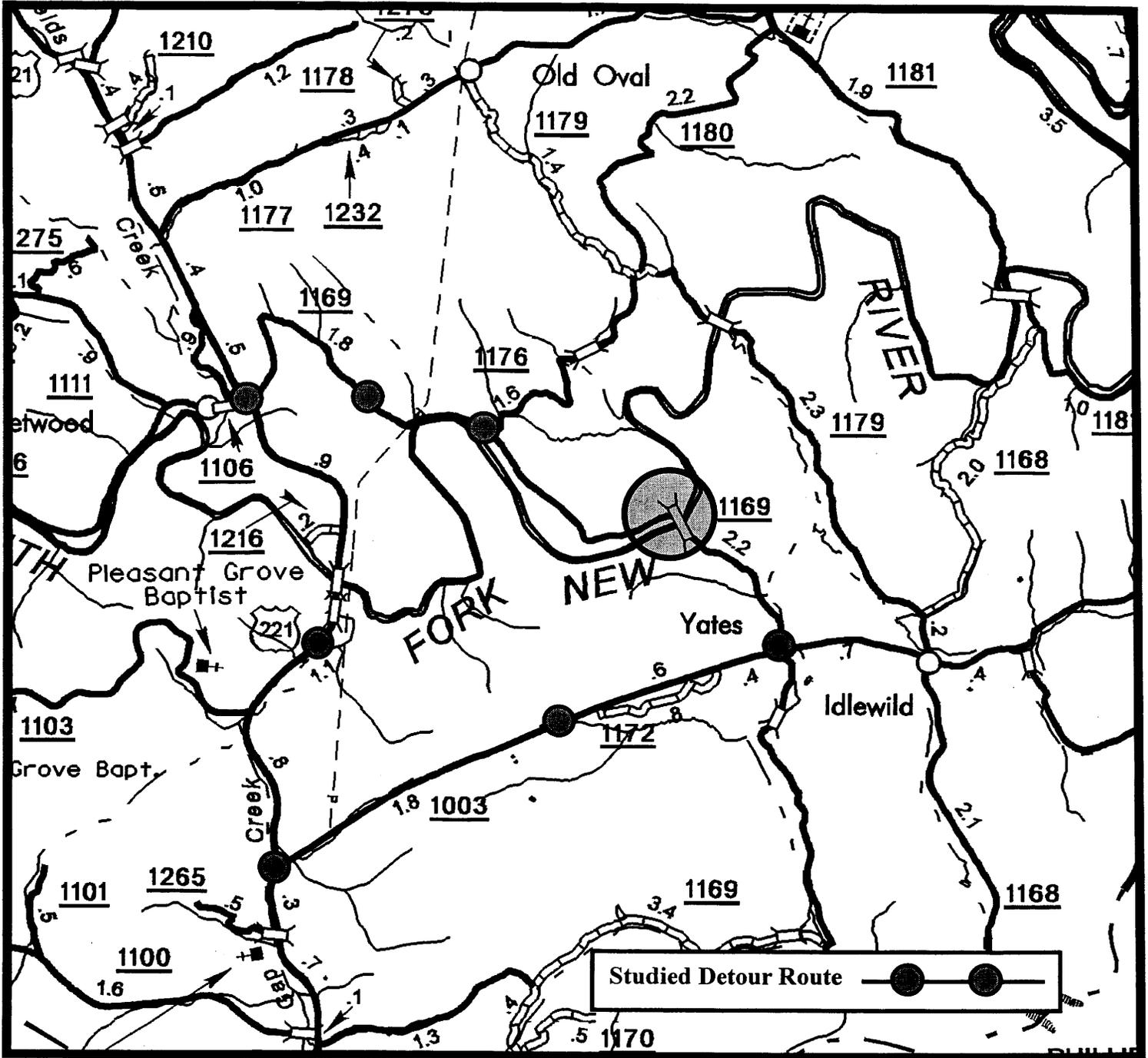
Applicable/supporting scientific literature: .

Other information (please specify): .

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD:



Jurisdictional features for B-3803.



Permit Drawing
Sheet of 10

	<p>NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS BRANCH</p>
<p>ASHE COUNTY REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 334 ON SR 1169 OVER SOUTH FORK NEW RIVER B-3803</p>	

PROPERTY OWNERS

NAMES AND ADDRESSES

PARCEL NO.	NAMES	ADDRESSES	SITE NO.
(1)	ANN M.ELLIOTT	360 GOLF COURSE RD. WEST JEFFERSON, NC 28694	1
(2)	ANN M.ELLIOTT	360 GOLF COURSE RD. WEST JEFFERSON, NC 28694	1
(3)	W.CLAY AND MELONIE CHURCH	300 CANOE GAP RD. WEST JEFFERSON, NC 28694	1
(4)	W.CLAY AND MELONIE CHURCH	300 CANOE GAP RD. WEST JEFFERSON, NC 28694	1,2

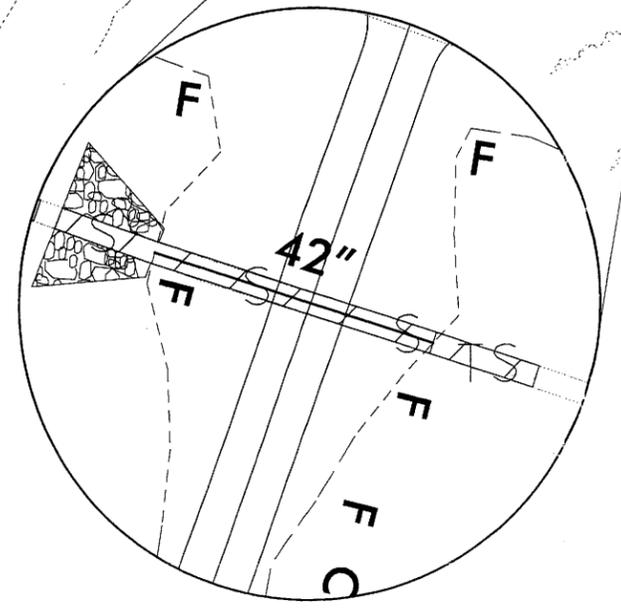
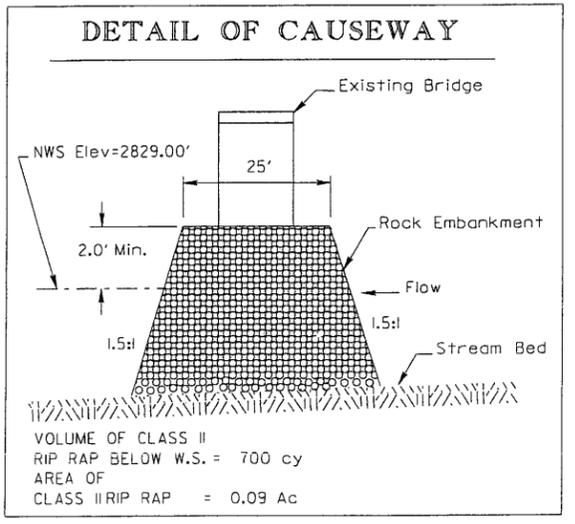
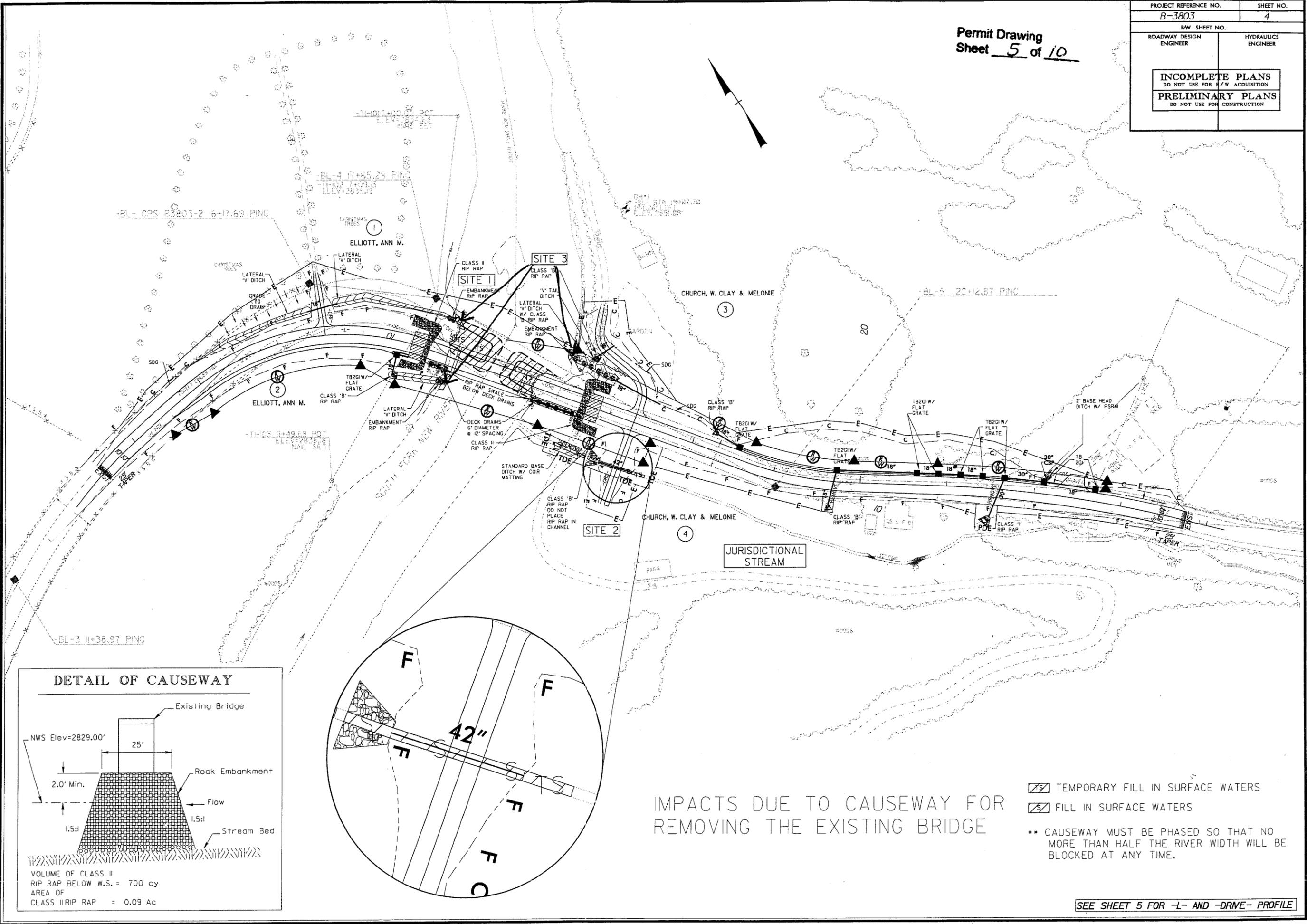
NORTH CAROLINA
 DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
 ASHE COUNTY
 PROJECT: 33259.11 (B-2805)
 REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE
 #334 OVER SOUTH FORK
 NEW RIVER ON SR 1169

SHEET 2 OF 10

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. B-3803	SHEET NO. 4
RW SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
INCOMPLETE PLANS DO NOT USE FOR E/W ACQUISITION PRELIMINARY PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION	

Permit Drawing
Sheet 5 of 10

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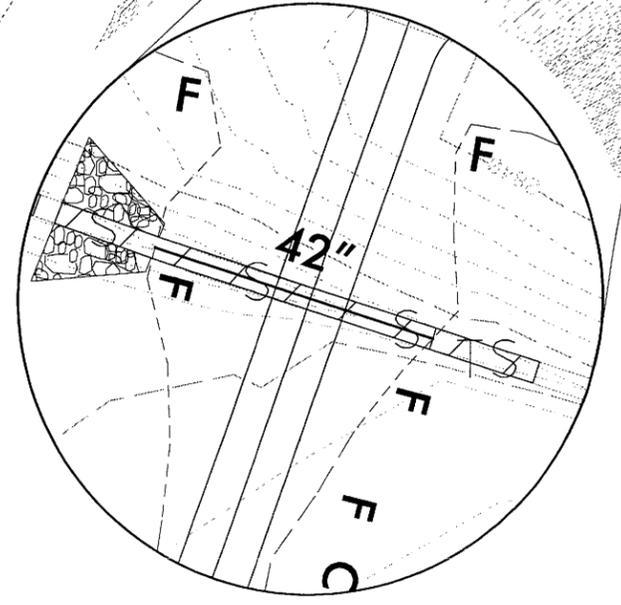
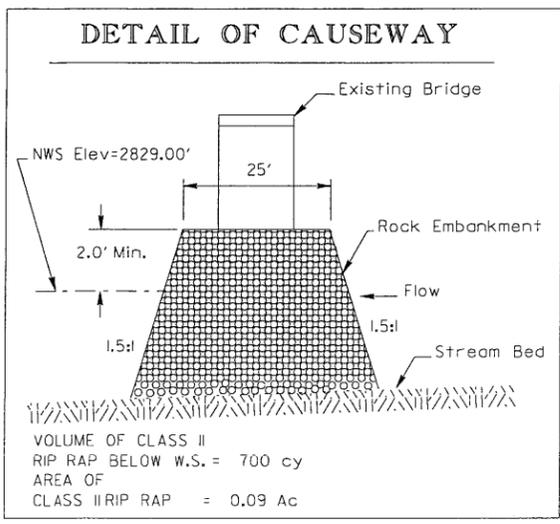
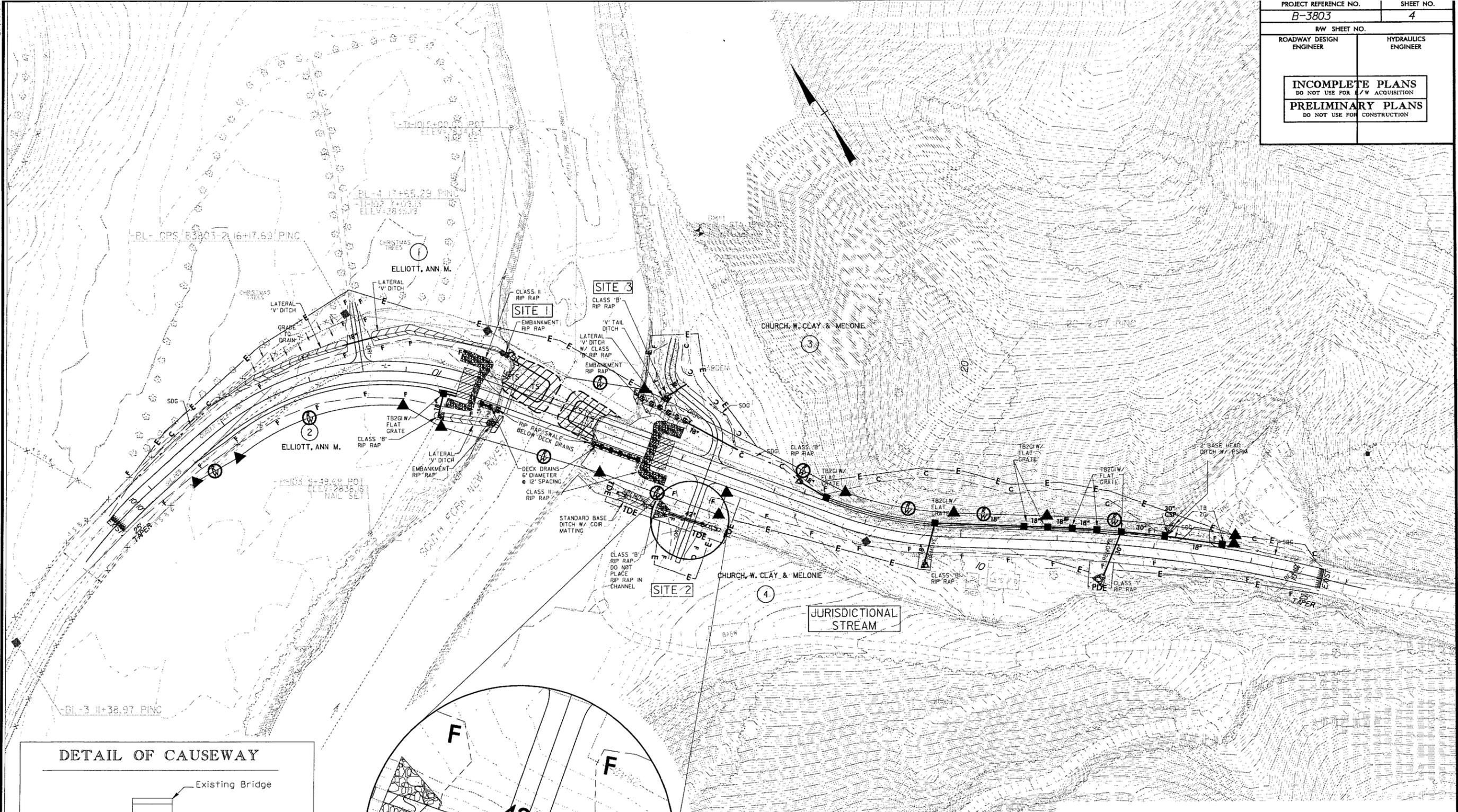
IMPACTS DUE TO CAUSEWAY FOR REMOVING THE EXISTING BRIDGE

- TEMPORARY FILL IN SURFACE WATERS
- FILL IN SURFACE WATERS
- ** CAUSEWAY MUST BE PHASED SO THAT NO MORE THAN HALF THE RIVER WIDTH WILL BE BLOCKED AT ANY TIME.

SEE SHEET 5 FOR -L- AND -DRIVE- PROFILE

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. B-3803	SHEET NO. 4
RAW SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
INCOMPLETE PLANS DO NOT USE FOR ACQUISITION PRELIMINARY PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION	

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 *****CONSTRUCTION*****



IMPACTS DUE TO CAUSEWAY FOR REMOVING THE EXISTING BRIDGE

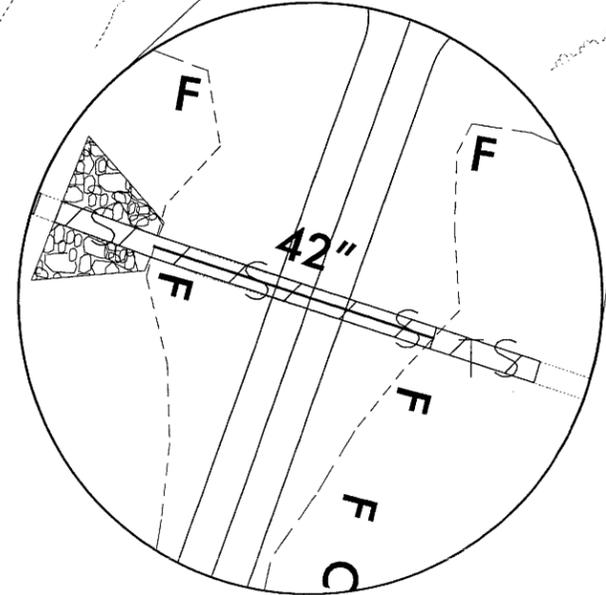
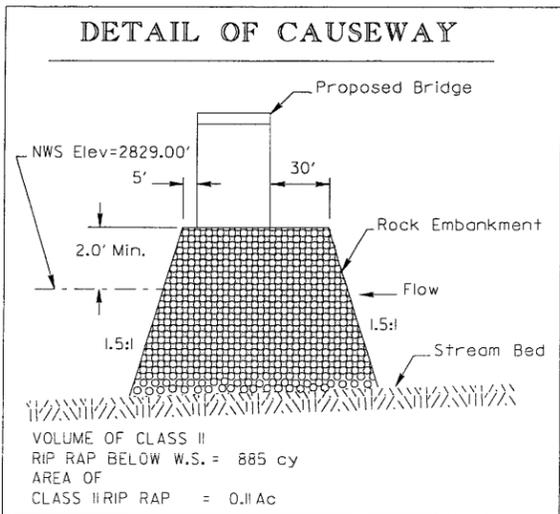
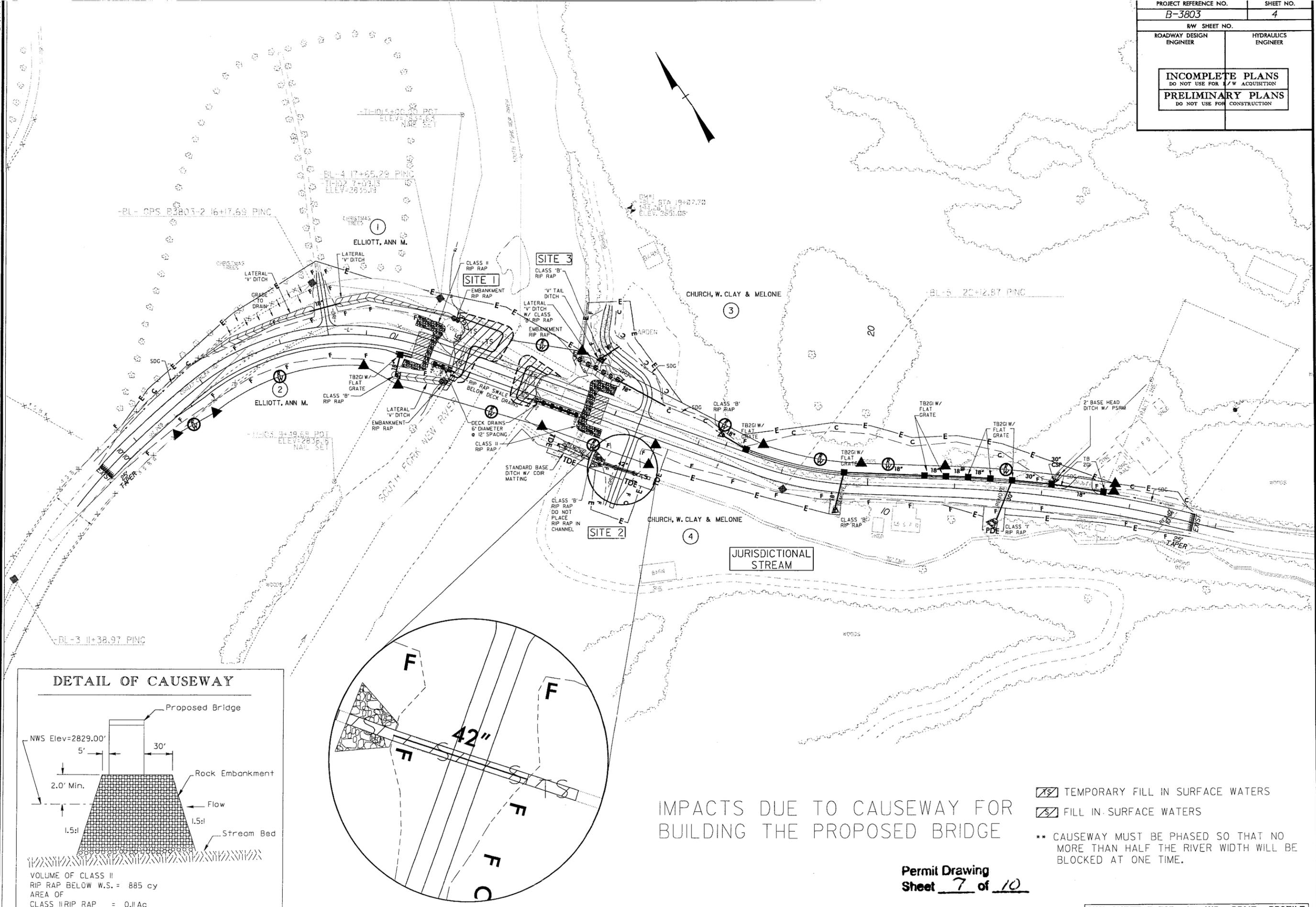
- TEMPORARY FILL IN SURFACE WATERS
- FILL IN SURFACE WATERS
- ** CAUSEWAY MUST BE PHASED SO THAT NO MORE THAN HALF THE RIVER WIDTH WILL BE BLOCKED AT ANY TIME.

Permit Drawing
 Sheet 6 of 10

SEE SHEET 5 FOR -L- AND -DRIVE- PROFILE

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. B-3803	SHEET NO. 4
RW SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
INCOMPLETE PLANS DO NOT USE FOR ACQUISITION PRELIMINARY PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION	

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IMPACTS DUE TO CAUSEWAY FOR BUILDING THE PROPOSED BRIDGE

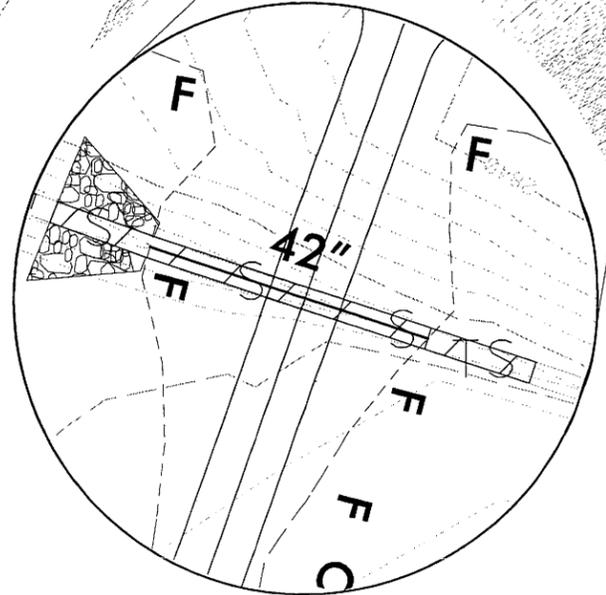
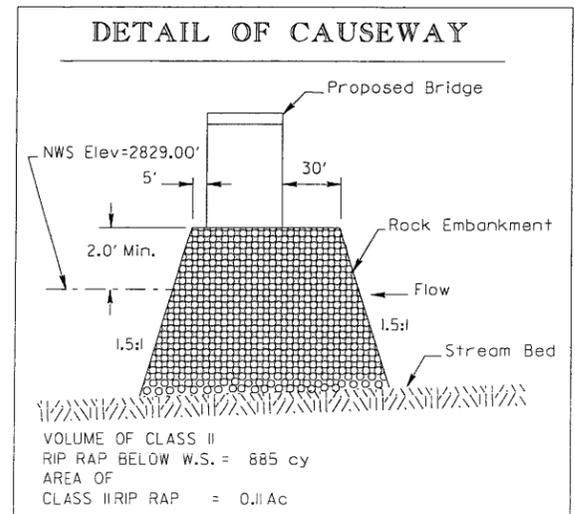
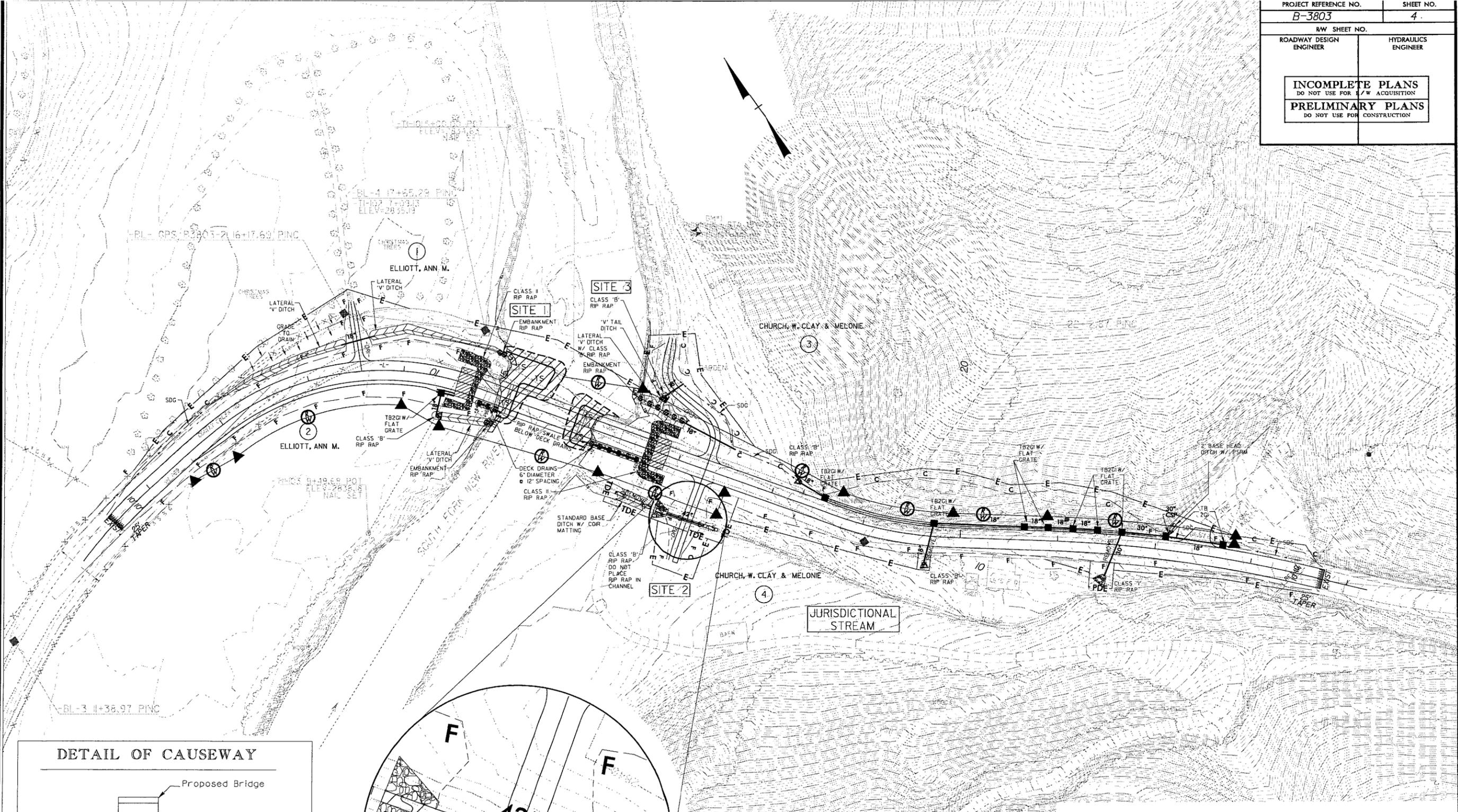
- TEMPORARY FILL IN SURFACE WATERS
- FILL IN SURFACE WATERS
- ** CAUSEWAY MUST BE PHASED SO THAT NO MORE THAN HALF THE RIVER WIDTH WILL BE BLOCKED AT ONE TIME.

Permit Drawing
 Sheet 7 of 10

SEE SHEET 5 FOR -L- AND -DRIVE- PROFILE

PROJECT REFERENCE NO. B-3803	SHEET NO. 4
RW SHEET NO.	
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER	HYDRAULICS ENGINEER
INCOMPLETE PLANS DO NOT USE FOR A/W ACQUISITION PRELIMINARY PLANS DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION	

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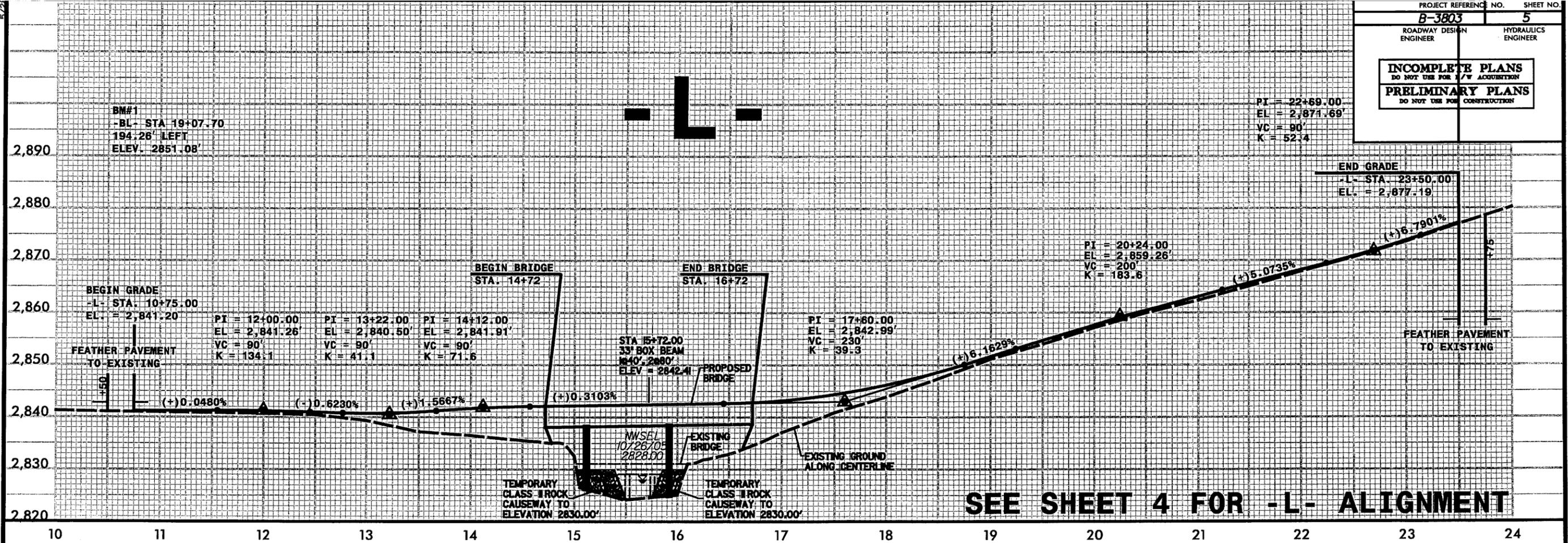
IMPACTS DUE TO CAUSEWAY FOR BUILDING THE PROPOSED BRIDGE

- TEMPORARY FILL IN SURFACE WATERS
- FILL IN SURFACE WATERS
- ** CAUSEWAY MUST BE PHASED SO THAT NO MORE THAN HALF THE RIVER WIDTH WILL BE BLOCKED AT ONE TIME.

Permit Drawing
Sheet 8 of 10

SEE SHEET 5 FOR -L- AND -DRIVE- PROFILE

INCOMPLETE PLANS
 DO NOT USE FOR I/V ACQUISITION
PRELIMINARY PLANS
 DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION



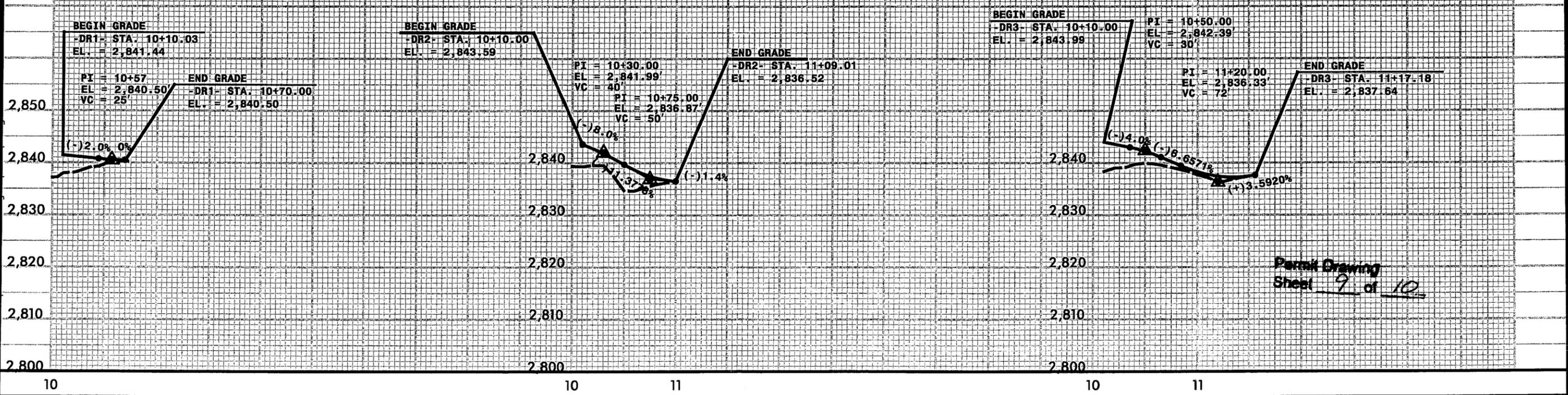
SEE SHEET 4 FOR -L- ALIGNMENT

SEE SHEET 4 FOR -DRIVEWAY- ALIGNMENTS

- DR1 -

- DR2 -

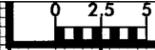
- DR3 -



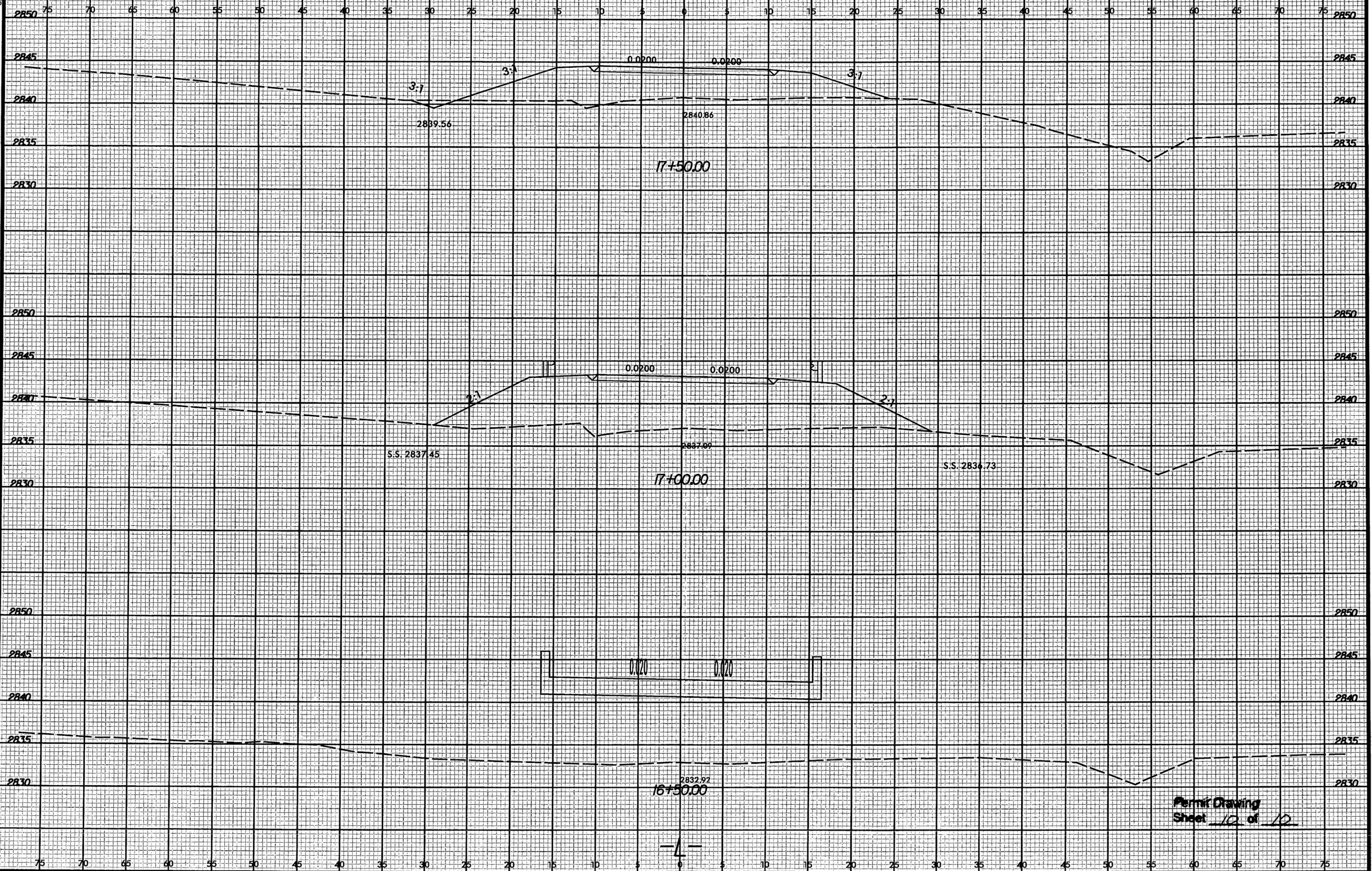
Permit Drawing
 Sheet 9 of 10

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PROJ. REFERENCE NO. B-3803 SHEET NO. 5



Permit Drawing
Sheet 12 of 12

-4-

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STATE	STATE PROJECT REFERENCE NO.	SHEET NO.	TOTAL SHEETS
N.C.	B-3803	1	
STATE PROJ. NO.	P.A. PROJ. NO.	DESCRIPTION	
33259.1.1	BRZ-1169(2)	PE	
33259.2.1	BRZ-1169(2)	R/W, UTIL.	



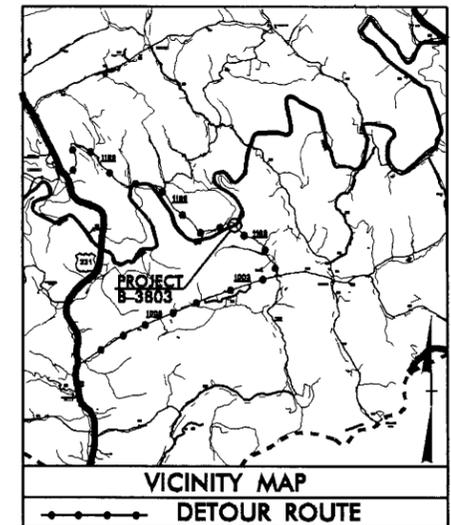
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

ASHE COUNTY

LOCATION: BRIDGE NO. 334 OVER THE SOUTH FORK NEW RIVER ON SR 1169 (CONLEY CHEEK RD)

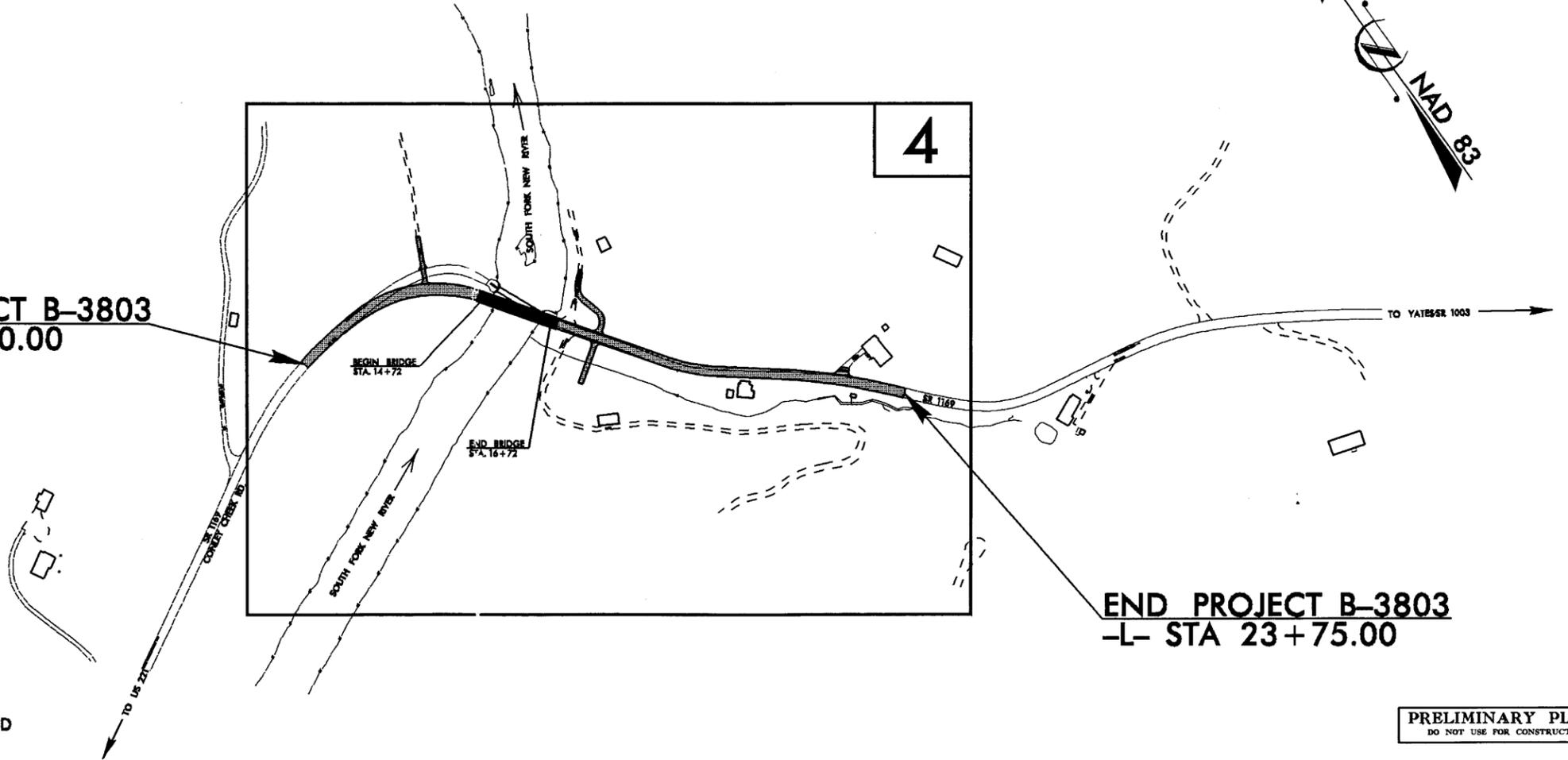
TYPE OF WORK: GRADING, DRAINAGE, PAVING, & STRUCTURE

See Sheet 1-A For Index of Sheets



TIP PROJECT: B-3803

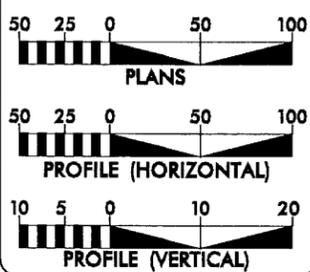
BEGIN PROJECT B-3803
-L- STA 10+50.00



CLEARING FOR THIS PROJECT SHALL BE PERFORMED TO THE LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY METHOD III

PRELIMINARY PLANS
DO NOT USE FOR CONSTRUCTION

GRAPHIC SCALES



DESIGN DATA

ADT 2004 = 300
ADT 2030 = 900
DHV = 12 %
D = 60 %
T = 3 % *
V = 30 MPH
* TTST 1 * DUAL 2
FUNC. CLASS = LOCAL

PROJECT LENGTH

LENGTH ROADWAY TIP PROJECT B-3803 = 0.213 Mi.
LENGTH STRUCTURE TIP PROJECT B-3803 = 0.038 Mi.
TOTAL LENGTH TIP PROJECT B-3803 = 0.251 Mi.

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

2006 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

RIGHT OF WAY DATE:
SEPTEMBER 15, 2006

LETTING DATE:
FEBRUARY 19, 2008

JIMMY GOODNIGHT
PROJECT ENGINEER

MARK HUSSEY
PROJECT DESIGN ENGINEER

HYDRAULICS ENGINEER

SIGNATURE: _____ P.E.
ROADWAY DESIGN ENGINEER

SIGNATURE: _____ P.E.

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA



STATE HIGHWAY DESIGN ENGINEER P.E.

15-AUG-2007 07:26
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\$\$\$\$\$USERNAME\$\$\$\$\$

CONTRACT:

Note: Not to Scale

*S.U.E. = Subsurface Utility Engineering

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

CONVENTIONAL PLAN SHEET SYMBOLS

BOUNDARIES AND PROPERTY:

State Line	-----
County Line	-----
Township Line	-----
City Line	-----
Reservation Line	-----
Property Line	-----
Existing Iron Pin	○ EP
Property Corner	----- X
Property Monument	□ EGM
Parcel/Sequence Number	⑫③
Existing Fence Line	-x-x-x-
Proposed Woven Wire Fence	○
Proposed Chain Link Fence	□
Proposed Barbed Wire Fence	◇
Existing Wetland Boundary	----- W.B.
Proposed Wetland Boundary	----- W.B.
Existing Endangered Animal Boundary	----- E.A.B.
Existing Endangered Plant Boundary	----- E.P.B.

BUILDINGS AND OTHER CULTURE:

Gas Pump Vent or U/G Tank Cap	○
Sign	○ S
Well	○ W
Small Mine	✕
Foundation	□
Area Outline	□
Cemetery	□
Building	□
School	□
Church	□
Dam	-----

HYDROLOGY:

Stream or Body of Water	-----
Hydro, Pool or Reservoir	□
Jurisdictional Stream	----- JS
Buffer Zone 1	----- BZ 1
Buffer Zone 2	----- BZ 2
Flow Arrow	←
Disappearing Stream	-----
Spring	○
Swamp Marsh	-----
Proposed Lateral, Tail, Head Ditch	-----
False Sump	-----

RAILROADS:

Standard Gauge	-----
RR Signal Milepost	○ MILEPOST 35
Switch	□ SWITCH
RR Abandoned	-----
RR Dismantled	-----

RIGHT OF WAY:

Baseline Control Point	◆
Existing Right of Way Marker	△
Existing Right of Way Line	-----
Proposed Right of Way Line	-----
Proposed Right of Way Line with Iron Pin and Cap Marker	-----
Proposed Right of Way Line with Concrete or Granite Marker	-----
Existing Control of Access	○
Proposed Control of Access	○
Existing Easement Line	----- E
Proposed Temporary Construction Easement	----- E
Proposed Temporary Drainage Easement	----- TDE
Proposed Permanent Drainage Easement	----- PDE
Proposed Permanent Utility Easement	----- PUE

ROADS AND RELATED FEATURES:

Existing Edge of Pavement	-----
Existing Curb	-----
Proposed Slope Stakes Cut	----- C
Proposed Slope Stakes Fill	----- F
Proposed Wheel Chair Ramp	○ WCR
Proposed Wheel Chair Ramp Curb Cut	○ WCC
Curb Cut for Future Wheel Chair Ramp	○ WCFR
Existing Metal Guardrail	-----
Proposed Guardrail	-----
Existing Cable Guiderail	-----
Proposed Cable Guiderail	-----
Equality Symbol	⊕
Pavement Removal	-----

VEGETATION:

Single Tree	○
Single Shrub	○
Hedge	-----
Woods Line	-----
Orchard	-----
Vineyard	-----

EXISTING STRUCTURES:

MAJOR:	
Bridge, Tunnel or Box Culvert	----- CONC
Bridge Wing Wall, Head Wall and End Wall	----- CONC WW
MINOR:	
Head and End Wall	----- CONC HW
Pipe Culvert	-----
Footbridge	-----
Drainage Box: Catch Basin, DI or JB	□ CB
Paved Ditch Gutter	-----
Storm Sewer Manhole	○ S
Storm Sewer	----- S

UTILITIES:

POWER:	
Existing Power Pole	●
Proposed Power Pole	○
Existing Joint Use Pole	●
Proposed Joint Use Pole	○
Power Manhole	○ P
Power Line Tower	⊗
Power Transformer	⊠
U/G Power Cable Hand Hole	□ PH
H-Frame Pole	●
Recorded U/G Power Line	----- P
Designated U/G Power Line (S.U.E.*)	----- P

TELEPHONE:

Existing Telephone Pole	●
Proposed Telephone Pole	○
Telephone Manhole	○ T
Telephone Booth	□
Telephone Pedestal	⊠
Telephone Cell Tower	⊠
U/G Telephone Cable Hand Hole	□ TH
Recorded U/G Telephone Cable	----- T
Designated U/G Telephone Cable (S.U.E.*)	----- T
Recorded U/G Telephone Conduit	----- TC
Designated U/G Telephone Conduit (S.U.E.*)	----- TC
Recorded U/G Fiber Optics Cable	----- T FO
Designated U/G Fiber Optics Cable (S.U.E.*)	----- T FO

WATER:

Water Manhole	○
Water Meter	○
Water Valve	⊗
Water Hydrant	⊕
Recorded U/G Water Line	----- W
Designated U/G Water Line (S.U.E.*)	----- W
Above Ground Water Line	----- A/G Water

TV:

TV Satellite Dish	⊠
TV Pedestal	⊠
TV Tower	⊗
U/G TV Cable Hand Hole	□ TH
Recorded U/G TV Cable	----- TV
Designated U/G TV Cable (S.U.E.*)	----- TV
Recorded U/G Fiber Optic Cable	----- TV FO
Designated U/G Fiber Optic Cable (S.U.E.*)	----- TV FO

GAS:

Gas Valve	◇
Gas Meter	⊕
Recorded U/G Gas Line	----- G
Designated U/G Gas Line (S.U.E.*)	----- G
Above Ground Gas Line	----- A/G Gas

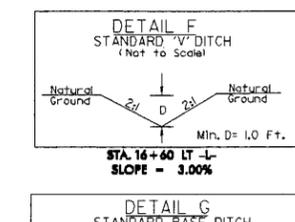
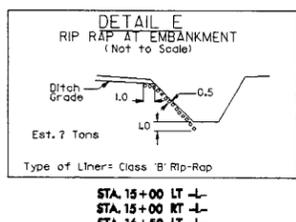
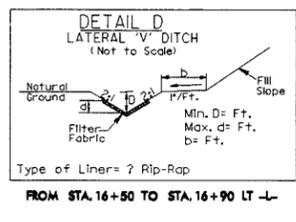
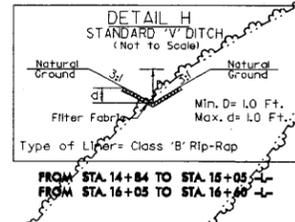
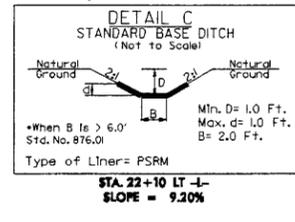
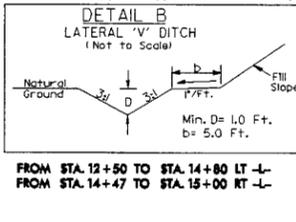
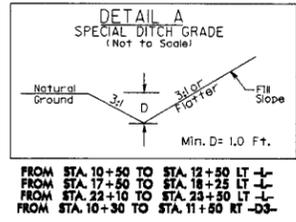
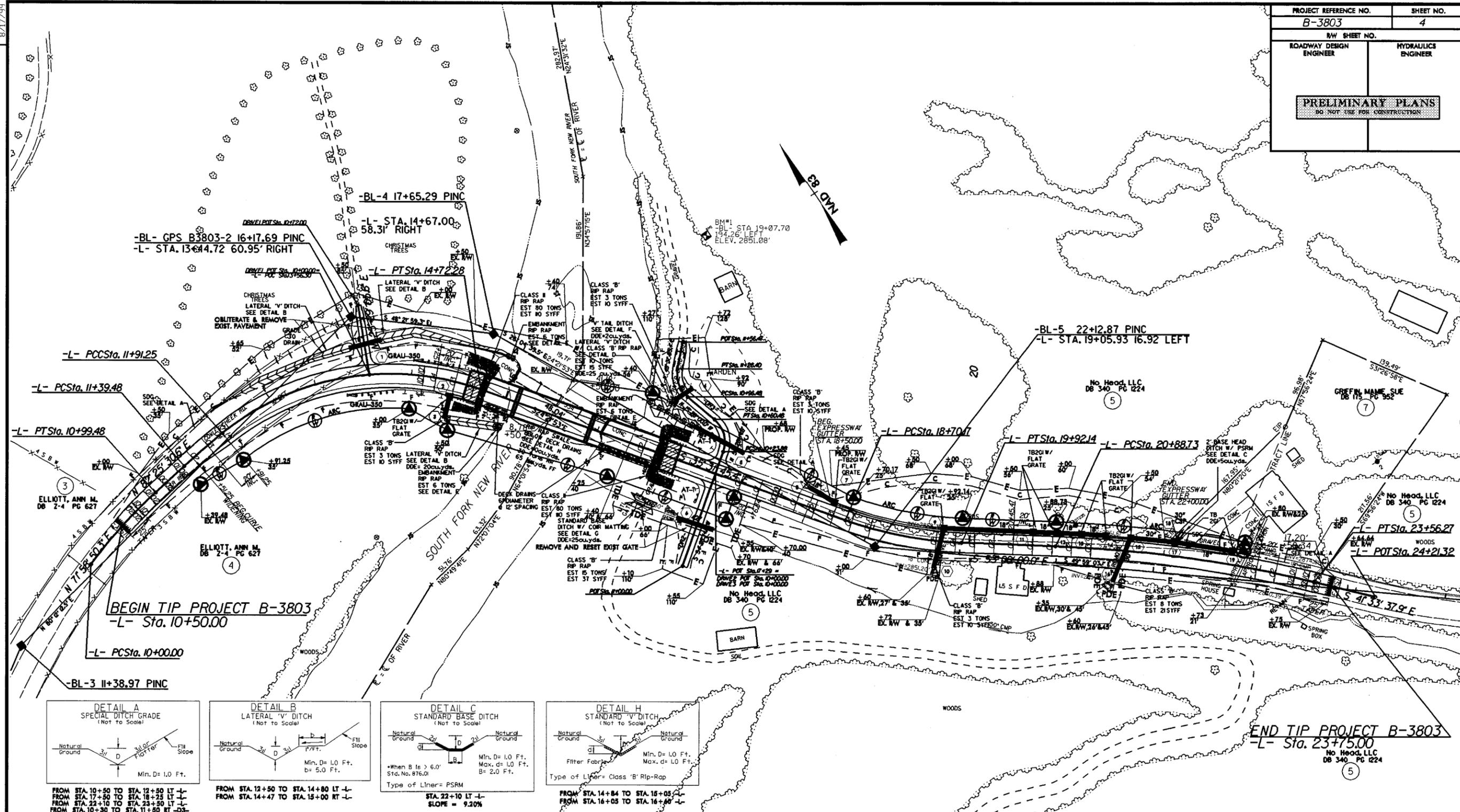
SANITARY SEWER:

Sanitary Sewer Manhole	⊕
Sanitary Sewer Cleanout	⊕
U/G Sanitary Sewer Line	----- SS
Above Ground Sanitary Sewer	----- A/G Sanitary Sewer
Recorded SS Forced Main Line	----- FSS
Designated SS Forced Main Line (S.U.E.*)	----- FSS

MISCELLANEOUS:

Utility Pole	●
Utility Pole with Base	□
Utility Located Object	○
Utility Traffic Signal Box	⊠
Utility Unknown U/G Line	----- TUL
U/G Tank; Water, Gas, Oil	□
A/G Tank; Water, Gas, Oil	□
U/G Test Hole (S.U.E.*)	⊕
Abandoned According to Utility Records	AATUR
End of Information	E.O.I.

8/17/99
 R/W Revision - Per Submittal of November 17, 2006 - Name Change and Deed Book change on Parcel 5, No Head, LLC
 Location of Water and Power Lines from Spring House to Home on Parcel 7
 By MRH on December 8, 2006



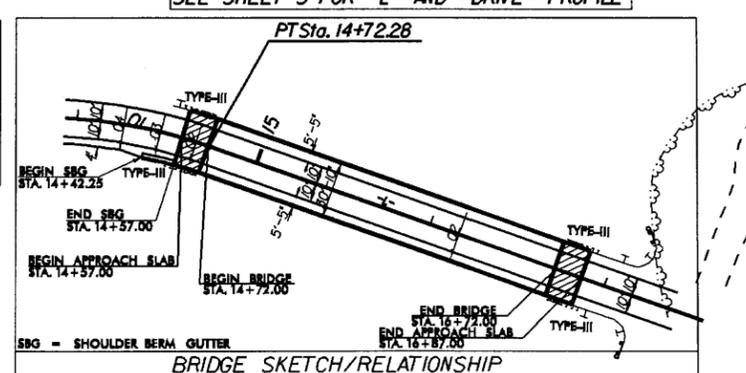
-L- CURVE DATA

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4 CURVE WID. REQ'D

DRIVE 3

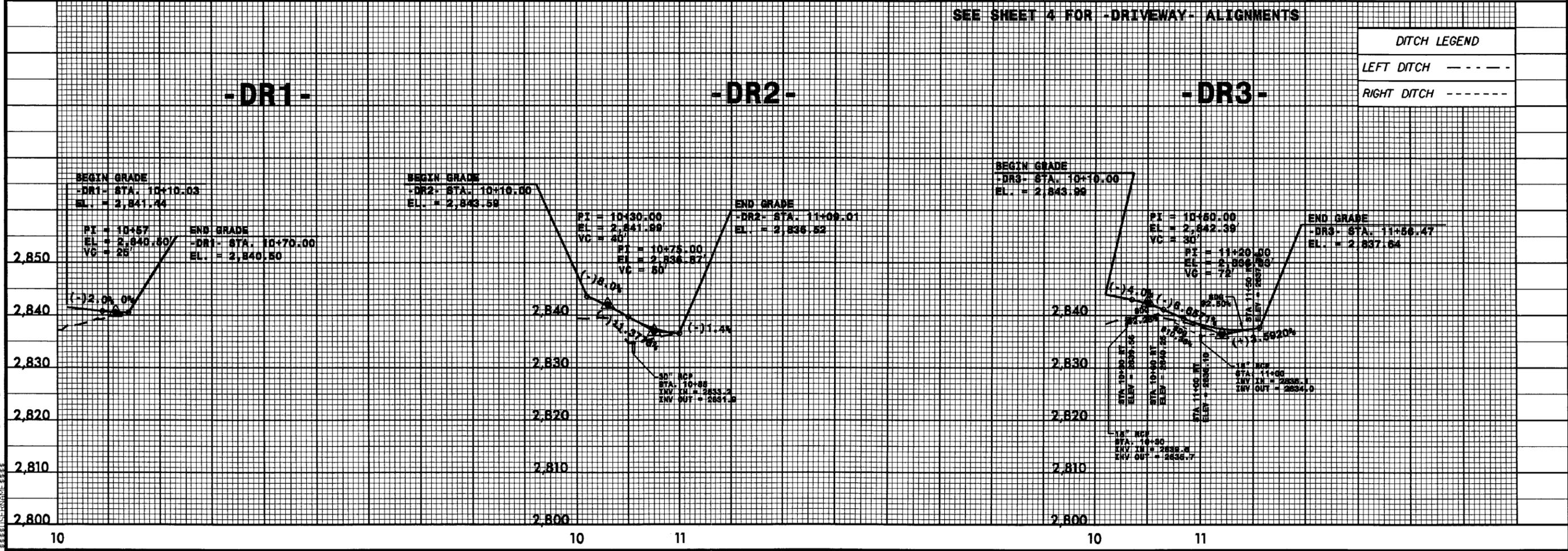
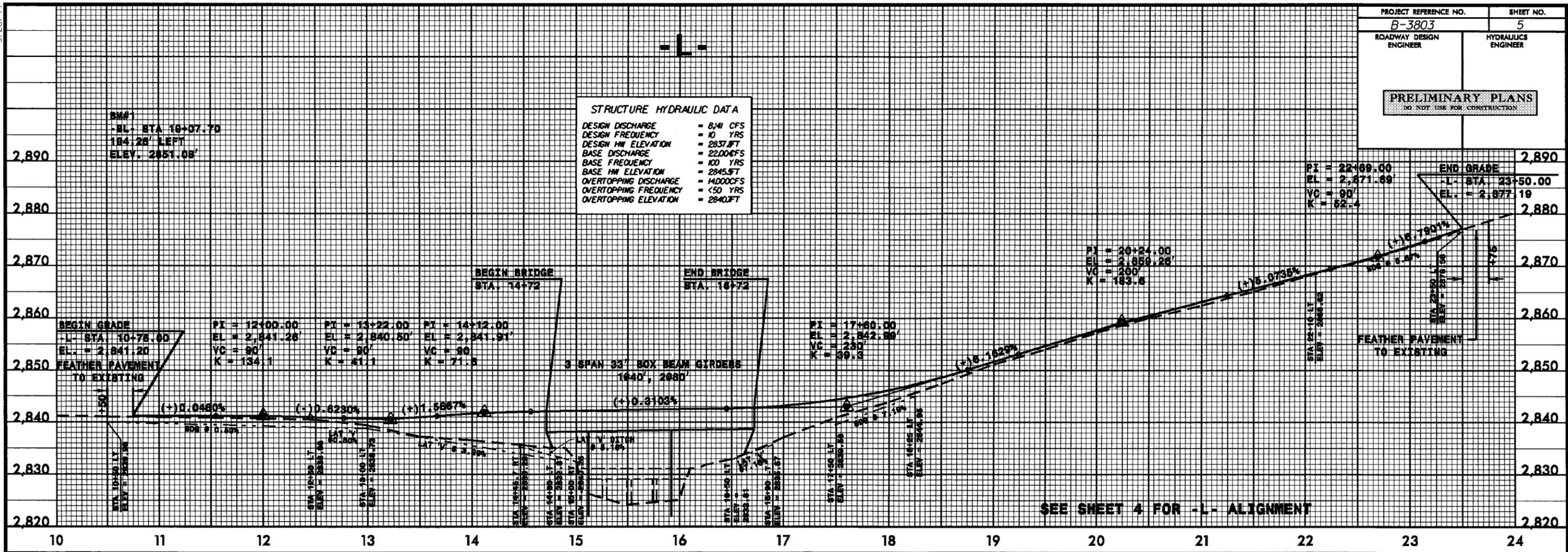
PI Sta 11+14.14 Δ = 60° 57' 55.4" (RT) D = 190° 59' 09.4" L = 31.92' T = 17.66' R = 30.00'	PI Sta 10+44.85 Δ = 69° 54' 14.5" (LT) D = 190° 59' 09.4" L = 36.60' T = 20.97' R = 30.00'
---	---



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STRUCTURE HYDRAULIC DATA

DESIGN DISCHARGE	= 8.41 CFS
DESIGN FREQUENCY	= 10 YRS
DESIGN HW ELEVATION	= 2837.87
BASE DISCHARGE	= 22.00 CFS
BASE FREQUENCY	= 100 YRS
BASE HW ELEVATION	= 2845.57
OVERTOPPING DISCHARGE	= 14.00 CFS
OVERTOPPING FREQUENCY	= 50 YRS
OVERTOPPING ELEVATION	= 2840.17



DITCH LEGEND

LEFT DITCH	-----
RIGHT DITCH	-----

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**Ashe County
Bridge No. 334 on SR 1169 (Conley Cheek Road)
over South Fork New River
Federal Aid Project No. BRZ-1169 (2)
W.B.S. No. 33259.1.1
State Project No. 8.2712701
T.I.P. No. B-3803**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

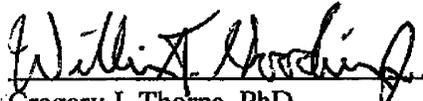
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

AND

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

5/2/06
DATE

for 
Gregory J. Thorpe, PhD,
Environmental Management Director, PDEA

5/2/06
DATE

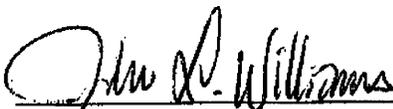
for 
John F. Sullivan, III, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

Ashe County
Bridge No. 334 on SR 1169 (Conley Cheek Road)
over South Fork New River
Federal Aid Project No. BRZ-11169 (2)
W.B.S. No. 33259.1.1
State Project No. 8.2712701
T.I.P. No. B-3803

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Documentation Prepared in
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch By:

5-02-06
DATE



John L. Williams, PE, Project Engineer
Bridge Project Development Unit

PROJECT COMMITMENTS:

**Ashe County
Bridge No. 334 on SR 1169 (Conley Cheek Road)
Over South Fork New River
Federal Aid Project No. BRZ-1169 (2)
State Project No. 8.2712701
W.B.S. No. 33259.1.1
T.I.P. No. B-3803**

Office of Natural Environment – Bridge Demolition

NCDOT will adhere to the Best Management Practices (BMPs) for “Bridge Demolition and Removal” during the removal of Bridge No. 334. The maximum potential resulting temporary fill associated with Bridge No. 334 is 20 yd³.

Roadside Environmental Unit, Division Resident Engineer – Sensitive Watersheds

Water resources classified as High Quality Waters are located within one mile of the project study area. The project lies in a High Quality Water Zone. Therefore, Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds should be adhered to during construction of this project.

Division Resident Engineer – Coordination

NCDOT will notify Ashe County Schools and Emergency Management Services prior to bridge closure.

Ashe County Schools will need a place to turn around at each end of the bridge.

Division Resident Engineer – Trout issues

This is not a designated trout stream nor is there any indication that it supports trout.

Ashe County
Bridge No. 334 on SR 1169 (Conley Cheek Road)
over South Fork New River
Federal Aid Project No. BRZ-1169 (2)
W.B.S. No. 33259.1.1
State Project No. 8.2712701
T.I.P. No. B-3803

INTRODUCTION: Bridge No. 334 is included in the latest approved North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Transportation Improvement Program and is eligible for the Federal-Aid Bridge Program. The location is shown in Figure 1. No substantial environmental impacts are anticipated. The project is classified as a Federal “Categorical Exclusion”.

I. PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

NCDOT Bridge Maintenance Unit records indicate Bridge No. 334 has a sufficiency rating of 38.1 out of a possible 100 for a new structure. The bridge is considered functionally obsolete due to a deck geometry appraisal of 2 out of 9 according to Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) standards and therefore eligible for FHWA’s Highway Bridge Program.

Bridge No. 334 is a one lane low water bridge that currently carries 300 vehicles per day with 900 vehicles per day projected for the future. The substandard deck width is becoming increasingly unacceptable and replacement of the bridge will result in safer traffic operations.

While the bridge is not classified as structurally deficient, components of the concrete substructure have experienced an increasing degree of deterioration. These deficiencies are as follows: bent #1 in the north-east corner has spalls at the waterline, bent # 2 facing west on the upstream side has a 6 inch surface loss throughout, the upstream wing wall has backfill being washed out, there are minor spalls along the south-west wing wall and breast wall juncture, and an island downstream is restricting flow which is causing the north-east bank to erode. The bridge is approaching the end of its useful life. Replacement of the bridge will result in safer traffic operations.

II. EXISTING CONDITIONS

The project is located on SR 1169 over South Fork New River in Ashe County just north of Yates Crossroads, near the intersection of SR 1003 and SR 1169 (see Figure 1). The area surrounding the bridge consists of low-density residential land uses.

SR 1169 is classified as a rural local route in the Statewide Functional Classification System and it is not a National Highway System Route. This route is not a designated bicycle route and there is no indication that an unusual number of bicyclists use this roadway.

In the vicinity of the bridge, SR 1169 varies from 14 to 18-foot pavement width with no shoulders (See Figures 3). The roadway grade is in a sag vertical curve through the project area. The existing bridge is on a tangent. The roadway is situated approximately 9 feet above the river bed.

Bridge No. 334 is a four-span structure that consists of a timber deck on steel I-beams. The end bents consist of reinforced concrete. The interior bents consist of reinforced concrete piers. The existing bridge (see Figure 3) was constructed in 1966. The overall length of the structure is 107 feet. The clear roadway width is 11.0 feet. The posted weight limit on this bridge is 17 tons for single vehicles and 22 tons for TTST's.

There are no utilities located within the project study area. Utility impacts are anticipated to be low.

The current traffic volume of 300 vehicles per day (VPD) is expected to increase to 900 VPD by the year 2030. The projected volume includes one- percent truck-tractor semi-trailer (TTST) and two- percent dual-tired vehicles (DT). There is no posted speed limit, statutory 55 miles per hour would have been used but 3-R guidelines were used for this project, therefore a design speed of 30 miles per hour was used for this project. Two school buses cross the bridge daily on their morning and afternoon routes.

There were no accidents reported in the vicinity of Bridge No. 334 during a recent three-year period.

III. ALTERNATIVES

A. Project Description

The replacement structure will consist of a bridge approximately 200 feet in length. The bridge length is based on preliminary design information and is set by hydraulic requirements. The bridge will be of sufficient width to provide for two 10-foot lanes with 5-foot offsets on each side. The roadway grade of the new structure will be approximately 7 feet higher than the existing grade.

The existing roadway will be widened from eighteen feet to twenty feet. Five-foot shoulders will be provided on each side (eight-foot shoulders where guardrail is included). This roadway will be designed as a Rural Local Route with a 30 mile per hour design speed.

B. Reasonable and Feasible Alternatives

One alternative for replacing Bridge No. 334 that was studied in detail is described below.

Alternate 1 (Preferred)

Alternate 1 involves replacement of the existing low-water structure on partially new roadway alignment with a spill-through type bridge approximately 200 feet in length raised approximately 9 feet above that of the existing bridge. The design storm would be reduced from the desired 25-year event to the 10-year event. The new bridge would likely raise water surface elevations during flooding events. If that were the case, a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) would be required. Improvements to the approach roadways will be required for a distance of approximately 420 feet to the north and 730 feet to the south of the new structure. Traffic will be detoured offsite (see Figure 1) during the construction period.

NCDOT Guidelines for Evaluation of Offsite Detours for Bridge Replacement Projects considers multiple project variables beginning with the additional time traveled by the average road user resulting from the offsite detour. The offsite detour for this project would include SR 1003, and US 221. The detour for the average road user would result in 9.0 minutes additional travel time (5.2 miles additional travel). Up to a ten-month duration of construction is expected on this project. Based on the guidelines, the criteria above require evaluation of alternatives including onsite and offsite detours to determine what is appropriate.

In this case, Ashe County Emergency Services has indicated that an offsite detour is acceptable. The condition of all roads and bridges on the offsite detour are acceptable without improvement. Ashe County School Transportation has indicated that rerouting buses around this project will not be a problem. In view of the lower impacts to environment and property, project cost savings and no major opposition, an offsite detour is recommended. NCDOT Division 11 concurs in these recommendations.

C. Alternatives Eliminated From Further Consideration

The “do-nothing” alternative will eventually necessitate closure of the bridge. This is not acceptable due to the traffic service provided by SR 1169.

“Rehabilitation” of the old bridge is not practical due to its age and deteriorated condition. These deficiencies are as follows: bent #1 in the north-east corner has spalls at the waterline, bent # 2 facing west on the upstream side has a 6 inch surface loss throughout, the upstream wing wall has backfill being washed out, there are minor spalls along south-west wing wall and breast wall juncture, and an island downstream is restricting flow which is causing the northeast bank to erode.

D. Preferred Alternative

Bridge No. 334 will be replaced on a partially new alignment as shown in Figure 2. NCDOT Division 11 concurs with the preferred alternative.

IV. ESTIMATED COSTS

The estimated costs for the alternative is as follows:

	Alternative 1 Preferred
Structure	\$ 429,000
Roadway Approaches	\$ 351,000
Structure Removal	\$ 19,000
Misc. & Mob.	\$ 226,000
Eng. & Contingencies	\$ 176,000
Total Construction Cost	\$ 1,201,000
Right-of-way Costs	\$ 73,000
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,274,000

V. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Physical Characteristics

Water Resources

Water resources located within the project study area lie in Hydrologic Unit 05050001, Sub-basin 05-07-01 of the New River Drainage Basin. Two streams were identified in the project study area. South Fork New River and an unnamed tributary (UT) to South Fork New River are perennial streams.

The best usage classification of South Fork New River (Index Number 10-1-(20.5)) is **Class WS-V HQW** (NCDENR-DWQ, 2004). The best usage classification of an unnamed tributary is the same as the water body to which it is a tributary. Water resources classified as High Quality Waters are located within one mile of the project study area. The project lies in a High Quality Water Zone, therefore Design Standards in Sensitive Watersheds should be adhered to during construction of this project.

Biotic Resources

Three terrestrial communities were identified in the project study area: conifer/hardwood forest, maintained/disturbed land, and riparian fringe. The following table shows the coverage area of the project on these communities.

Community	Coverage within project study area (acres)
Conifer/Hardwood Forest	32.8
Riparian Fringe	3.9
Maintained/Disturbed Land	37.7

Jurisdictional Topics

Surface Waters and Wetlands

South Fork New River and the UT to South Fork New River are considered jurisdictional surface waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The field investigation revealed no jurisdictional wetlands within the project area. Coverage area estimates are based on the proposed “bubble study” area. Approximately 2,000 feet of South Fork New River is located in the project study area.

Permits

In accordance with the Federal Register of January 15, 2002, Part II, Volume 67, Number 10, the project will likely require authorization under a Section 404 Nationwide Permit (NWP) 23 (Approved Categorical Exclusions). However, a CWA Section 404 Individual Permit (IP) may be required, rather than a NWP 23 if impacts from the proposed project exceed the threshold of 300 feet of stream impacts or one half of an acre of fill in Waters of the U.S. The USACE determines final permit requirements, including IP requirements, under the statutory provisions of CWA Section 404. If a temporary causeway is needed and is not specified in the Categorical Exclusion, a Nationwide 33 Permit (Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering) will be necessary for this project. A CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) No. 3403 corresponds to NWP 23. Written concurrence from the DWQ will not be required if all General Conditions are met. If the project is authorized under a CWA Section 404 IP, then a CWA Section 401 Major Water Quality Certification from the DWQ will be required.

Federally Protected Species

Plants and animals with federal classifications of Endangered, Threatened, Proposed Endangered and Proposed Threatened are protected under provisions of Section 7 and Section 9 of the ESA. As of March 8, 2006 there are six federally protected species listed for Ashe County.

Bog Turtle

Biological Conclusion: N/A

The bog turtle is listed as Threatened due to Similarity of Appearance [T(S/A)]. T(S/A) species are not subject to Section 7 consultation and a biological conclusion is not required.

Spreading avens

Biological Conclusion: No Effect

Habitat for this species is at elevations at or above 5,060 ft. The project site is located at an elevation of approximately 3,000 ft. Therefore, habitat for spreading avens does not exist in the project area. It can be concluded that the construction of this project will have no effect on this species.

Swamp pink

Biological Conclusion: No Effect

There are no wetlands associated with the project area that could provide suitable habitat for swamp pink. It can be concluded that the construction of this project will have no effect on this species.

Roan Mountain bluet

Biological Conclusion: No Effect

Habitat for this species is at elevations at or above 4,600 ft. The project site is located at an elevation of approximately 3,000 ft. Therefore, habitat for Roan Mountain bluet does not exist in the project area. It can be concluded that the construction of this project will have no effect on this species.

Heller's blazing star

Biological Conclusion: No Effect

Heller's blazing star is found at elevations at or above 3,500 ft on ledges of rock outcrops. The project area is located in a valley along a stream crossing at an elevation around 3,000 ft. Habitat does not exist for Heller's blazing star within the project area. It can be concluded that the construction of this project will have no effect on this species.

Virginia spiraea

Biological Conclusion: No Effect

Habitat does exist within the project area for Virginia spiraea. Within the project area, some of the riparian area around South Fork New River is open on both sides of the creek. These riparian communities are maintained/disturbed and have no canopy closure. A systematic survey for this species was conducted on June 16, 2005. No specimens of Virginia spiraea were observed during this survey. The project area will be resurveyed prior to construction. Therefore, this project will have no affect on Virginia spiraea.

VI. HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

Section 106 Compliance Guidelines

This project is subject to compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and implemented by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106, codified at Title 36 CFR Part 800. Section 106 requires Federal agencies to take into account the effect of their undertakings (federally funded, licensed, or permitted) on properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places and afford the Advisory Council a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings.

Historic Architecture

The Historic Preservation Office (HPO) reviewed the subject project and determined that a survey is required (see letter dated August 12, 2004). A survey was conducted by a NCDOT architectural historian in September 2004 (see Concurrence Form dated September 27, 2004). Nine properties over fifty years of age were evaluated according to National Register Criteria. In a meeting with HPO and NCDOT both parties concurred that there are no eligible historic properties in the project area and therefore no historic properties affected by the project.

Archaeology

The Historic Preservation Office (HPO) reviewed the subject project. There are no known archaeological sites within the proposed project area, and no archaeological investigation needed to be conducted (see letter dated August 12, 2004).

Community Impacts

No adverse impact on families or communities is anticipated. The right-of-way acquisition will be limited. No relocatees are expected with implementation of the proposed alternative.

No adverse effect on public facilities or services is expected. The project is not expected to adversely affect social, economic, or religious opportunities in the area.

The project is not in conflict with any plan, existing land use, or zoning regulation. No change in land use is expected to result from the construction of the project.

The Farmland Protection Policy Act requires all federal agencies or their representatives to consider the potential impact to prime farmland of all land acquisition and construction projects. Most of construction will take place along existing alignment. There are no soils classified as prime, unique, or having state or local importance in the vicinity of the project. Therefore, the project will not involve the direct conversion of farmland acreage within these classifications.

The project will not have a disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effect on any minority or low-income population.

Noise & Air Quality

This project is an air quality "neutral" project, so it is not required to be included in the regional emissions analysis and a project level CO analysis is not required. If vegetation is disposed of by burning, all burning shall be done in accordance with applicable local laws and regulations of the North Carolina State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality in compliance with 15 NCAC 2D.0520. Noise levels could increase during construction but will be temporary. This evaluation completes the assessment requirements for highway traffic

noise of Title 23, Code of Federal Regulation (CFR), Part 772 and for air quality (1990 Clean Air Act Amendments and the National Environmental Policy Act) and no additional reports are required.

VII. GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The project is expected to have an overall positive impact. Replacement of an inadequate bridge will result in safer traffic operations.

The bridge replacement will not have an adverse effect on the quality of the human or natural environment with the use of the current North Carolina Department of Transportation standards and specifications.

The proposed project will not require right-of-way acquisition or easement from any land protected under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966.

An examination of records at the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Environmental Management, Groundwater Section and the North Carolina Department of Human Resources, Solid Waste Management Section revealed no underground storage tanks or hazardous waste sites in the project area.

Ashe County is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program. There are no practical alternatives to crossing the floodplain area. Any shift in alignment will result in an impact area of about the same magnitude. The proposed project is not anticipated to increase the level or extent of upstream flood potential.

VIII. COORDINATION & AGENCY COMMENTS

NCDOT has sought input from the following agencies as a part of the project development: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the N.C. Division of Water Quality, NC Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, N.C Wildlife Resource Commission, and Ashe County Planning Department.

The N.C. Wildlife Resource Commission in standardized letters provided a request that they prefer any replacement structure to be a spanning structure.

Response: NCDOT will be replacing the bridge with a bridge.

The N.C. Division of Water Quality, the Army Corps of Engineers, NC Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and Ashe County Planning Department had no special concerns for this project.

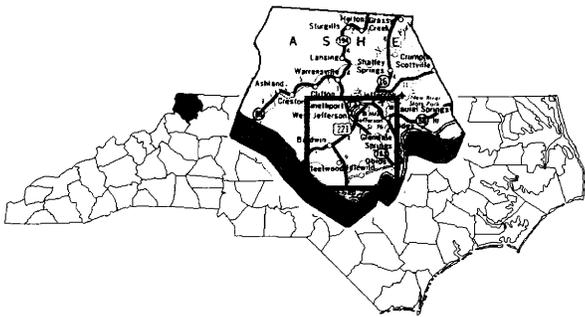
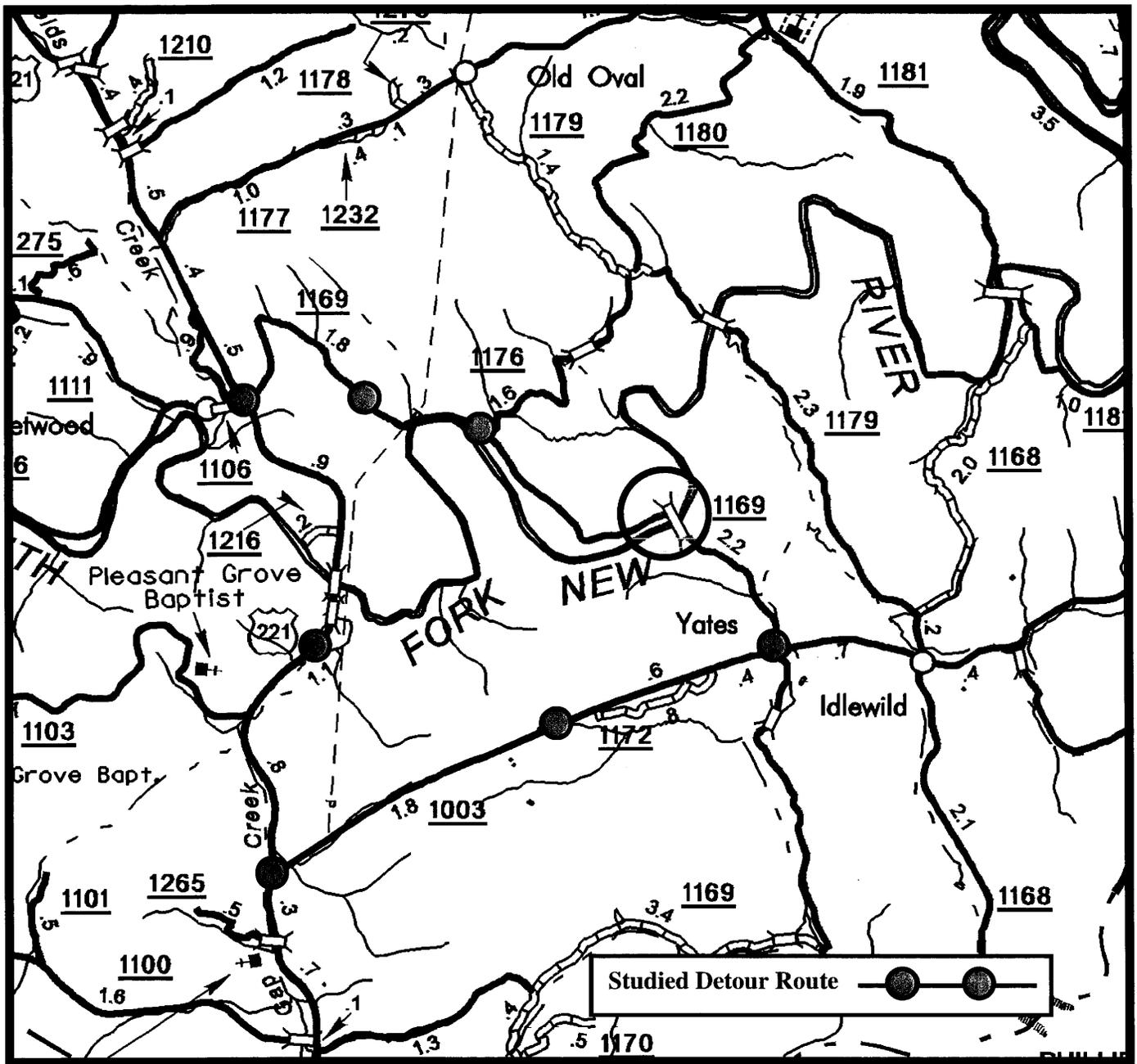
IX. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

A letter was sent by the Location & Surveys Unit to all property owners affected directly by this project. Property owners were invited to comment. No comments have been received to date.

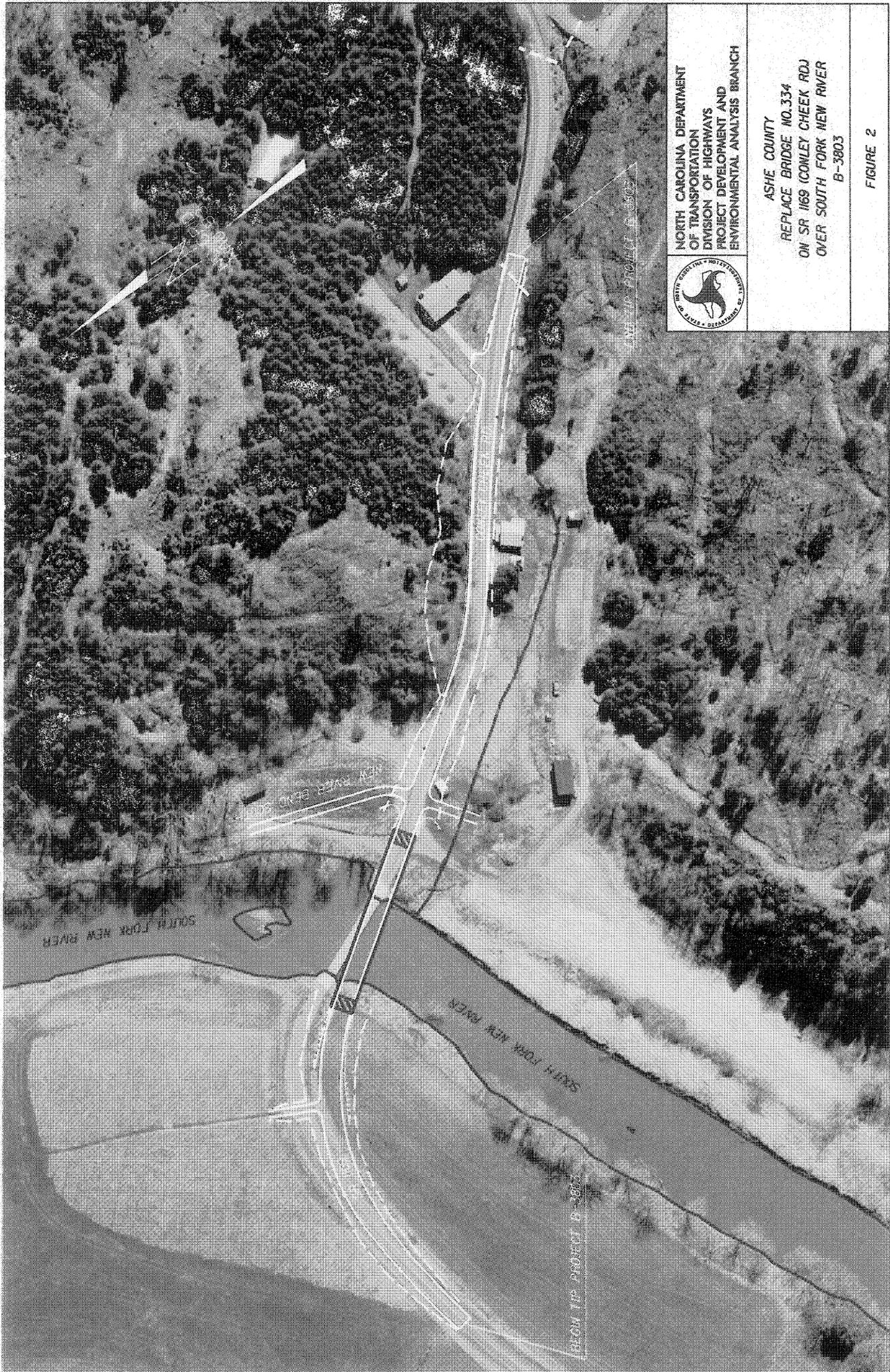
There is not a substantial controversy on social, economic, or environmental grounds concerning the project.

X. CONCLUSION

On the basis of the above discussion, it is concluded that no substantial adverse environmental impacts will result from implementation of the project. The project is therefore considered to be a federal "Categorical Exclusion" due to its limited scope and lack of substantial environmental consequences.



	<p>NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS BRANCH</p>
<p>ASHE COUNTY REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 334 ON SR 1169 OVER SOUTH FORK NEW RIVER B-3803</p>	
<p>Figure 1</p>	



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS BRANCH

ASHE COUNTY
REPLACE BRIDGE NO. 334
ON SR 1169 (COMLEY CHEEK RD)
OVER SOUTH FORK NEW RIVER
B-3803

FIGURE 2

CONCURRENCE FORM FOR PROPERTIES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Project Description: Replace Bridge No. 334 on SR 1169 over South Fork New River

On September 27, 2004, representatives of the

- North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT)
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO)
- Other

Reviewed the subject project at

- Scoping meeting
- Historic architectural resources photograph review session/consultation
- Other

All parties present agreed

- There are no properties over fifty years old within the project's area of potential effects.
- There are no properties less than fifty years old which are considered to meet Criteria Consideration G within the project's area of potential effects.
- There are properties over fifty years old within the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE), but based on the historical information available and the photographs of each property, the properties identified as (List below) are considered not eligible for the National Register and no further evaluation of them are necessary.
- There are no National Register-listed or Study Listed properties within the project's area of potential effects.
- All properties greater than 50 years of age located in the APE have been considered at this consultation, and based upon the above concurrence, all compliance for historic architecture with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and GS 121-12(a) has been completed for this project.
structures # 1 - 9
- There are no historic properties affected by this project. (Attach any notes or documents as needed)

Signed:

Jennife-Catley 9/27/04
 Representative, NCDOT Date

R. HA 9/27/04
 FHWA, for the Division Administrator, or other Federal Agency Date

E. Kane 9/27/04
 Representative, HPO Date

Renee Bledhill-Ealey 9/27/04
 State Historic Preservation Officer Date

	TIP	BRIDGE	COUNTY	DIVISION	BUILT	PDE	Architecture	Archaeology
1314	B-3492	580056	McDOWELL	13	1962	Hancock	Yes	No
1315	B-4408	030265	ANSON	10	1961	Hancock	No	No
1316	B-4409	030308	ANSON	10	1922	Hancock	No	No
1317	B-4410	030307	ANSON	10	1931	Hancock	Yes	No
1301	B-4446	100227	BUNCOMBE	13	1956	Hancock	No	No
1302	B-4466	210004	CLAY	14	1952	Hancock	No	No
1303	B-4469	220219	CLEVELAND	12	1952	Hancock	No	No
1304	B-4518	350110	GASTON	12	1962	Hancock	No	No
1305	B-4545	440072	HENDERSON	14	1963	Hancock	No	No
1306	B-4573	540183	LINCOLN	12	1965	Hancock	No	No
1307	B-4631	800526	RUTHERFORD	13	1970	Hancock	No	No
1308	B-4423	060067	BEAUFORT	2	1965	Capps	No	No
1309	B-4424	060068	BEAUFORT	2	1966	Capps	No	No
1310	B-4454	150043	CARTERET	2	1963	Capps	No	No
1311	B-4520	360032	GATES	1	1952	Capps	Yes	No
1312	B-4538	410025	HALIFAX	4	1965	Capps	No	No
1313	B-4540	410142	HALIFAX	4	1962	Capps	Yes	Yes
1314	B-4548	450002	HERTFORD	1	1960	Capps	No	Yes
1315	B-4549	450042	HERTFORD	1	1960	Capps	Yes	Yes
1316	B-4567	530069	LENOIR	2	1971	Capps	Yes	Yes
1317	B-4578	570008	MARTIN	1	1974	Capps	No	No
1318	B-4648	880017	TYRRELL	1	1977	Capps	No	No
1319	B-4664	920025	WARREN	5	1957	Capps	Yes	Yes
1320	B-4665	920036	WARREN	5	1955	Capps	No	Yes
1321	B-4504	320052	EDGEcombe	4	1964	Johnson	No	Yes
1322	B-4560	500102	JOHNSTON	4	1956	Johnson	Yes	Yes
1323	B-4587	630082	NASH	4	1961	Johnson	No	Yes
1324	B-4618	770445	ROBESON	6	1955	Johnson	Yes	No
1325	B-4644	830057	STANLY	10	1961	Johnson	No	No
1326	B-4649	890377	UNION	10	1962	Johnson	No	No
1327	B-4651	890251	UNION	10	1957	Johnson	No	No
1328	B-4658	910345	WAKE	5	1960	Johnson	No	No
1329	B-4671	950035	WAYNE	4	1961	Johnson	No	Yes
1330	B-3624	130190	CALDWELL	11	1981	Pipkin	No	No
1331	B-3819	130184	CALDWELL	11	1962	Pipkin	No	No
1332	B-3911	850038	SURRY	11	1923	Pipkin	Yes	No
1333	B-4404	000102	ALAMANCE	7	1968	Pipkin	Yes	No
1334	B-4552	480100	IREDELL	12	1963	Pipkin	Yes	No
1335	B-4613	750415	RANDOLPH	8	1959	Pipkin	No	Yes
1336	B-4646	850132	SURRY	11	1962	Pipkin	Yes	No
1337	B-4675	980034	WILKES	11	1960	Pipkin	No	No
1338	B-3169	310158	DURHAM	5	1960	Williams	Yes	No
1339	B-3606	040070	ASHE	11	1963	Williams	Yes	No
1340	B-3802	040229	ASHE	11	1960	Williams	No	No
1341	B-3803	040334	ASHE	11	1966	Williams	Yes	No
1342	B-3804	040296	ASHE	11	1964	Williams	Yes	No
1343	B-4523	380164	GRANVILLE	5	1955	Williams	No	Yes
1344	B-4524	380193	GRANVILLE	5	1956	Williams	No	Yes
1345	B-4525	380133	GRANVILLE	5	1960	Williams	No	Yes
1346	B-4526	380200	GRANVILLE	5	1957	Williams	No	Yes

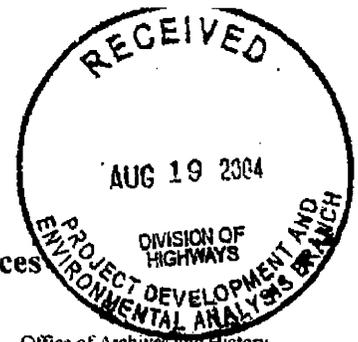
Thank you for your cooperation and considerations. If you have any questions concerning the above comment, please contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919/733-4763. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

PBS:w

Attachments

1 Spreadsheet
16 Memos

cc: Matt Wilkerson, NCDOT
Mary Pope Furr



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office
 Peter B. Sandbeck, Administrator

Michael F. Easley, Governor
 Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary
 Jeffrey J. Crow, Deputy Secretary

Office of Archives and History
 Division of Historical Resources
 David Brook, Director

August 12, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Gregory Thorpe, Ph.D., Director
 Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch
 NCDOT Division of Highways

FROM: Peter B. Sandbeck *PBS for Peter Sandbeck*

SUBJECT: 2004 Bridge Projects, including B-3492, B-4408, B-4409, B-4410, B-4446, B-4466, B-4469, B-4518, B-4545, B-4573, B-4631, B-4423, B-4424, B-4454, B-4520, B-4538, B-4540, B-4548, B-4549, B-4567, B-4578, B-4648, B-4664, B-4665, B-4504, B-4560, B-4587, B-4618, B-4644, B-4649, B-4651, B-4658, B-4671, B-3624, B-3819, B-3911, B-4404, B-4552, B-4613, B-4646, B-4675, B-3169, B-3606, B-3802, B-3803, B-3804, B-4523, B-4524, B-4525, B-4526, Multi-county, ER 04-1280-ER 04-1330

On July 28, 2004, Sarah McBride, our preservation specialist for transportation projects, met with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) staff for a meeting of the minds concerning the above projects. We reported on our available information on historic architectural and archaeological surveys and resources along with our recommendations. NCDOT provided project descriptions, area photographs, and aerial photographs at the meeting.

Based on our review of the photographs and the information discussed at the meeting, we have included our comments for each bridge project on a spreadsheet attached to this letter. These comments are provided for each project as proposed.

If an archaeological survey is requested on the spreadsheet, a separate memorandum from the Office of State Archaeology, explaining whether a general survey is required or if the survey is predicated upon an off-site detour or new location, is attached.

Having provided this information, we look forward to receipt of either a Categorical Exclusion or Environmental Assessment which indicates how NCDOT addressed our comments.

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.

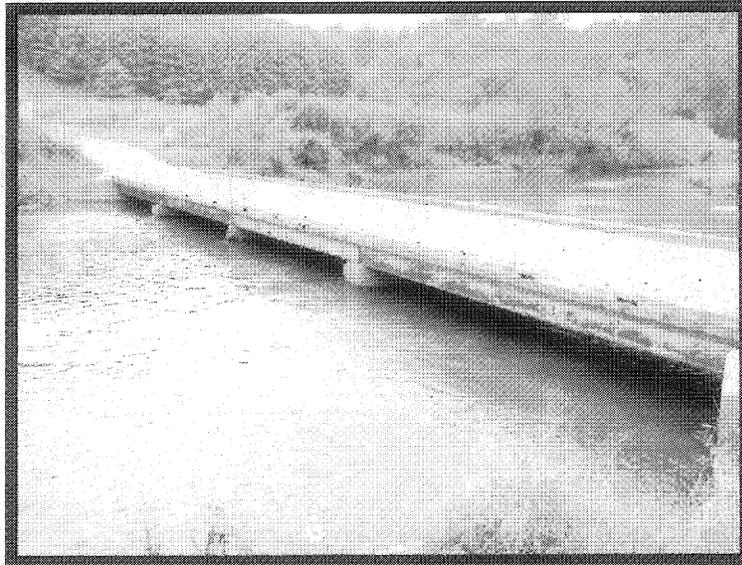
	Location	Mailing Address	Telephone/Fax
ADMINISTRATION	507 N. Blount Street, Raleigh NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617	(919)733-4763/733-8653
RESTORATION	515 N. Blount Street, Raleigh NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617	(919)733-6547/715-4801
SURVEY & PLANNING	515 N. Blount Street, Raleigh, NC	4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617	(919)733-6545/715-4801



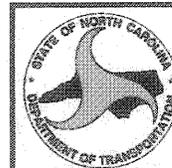
**Looking Southbound of
Bridge No. 334**



**Looking Northbound of
Bridge No. 334**



**Looking at West Face
of Bridge No. 334**



**North Carolina Department of
Transportation
Division of Highways
Planning & Environmental Branch**

**Ashe County
Replace Bridge No. 334 on SR 1169
Over South Fork New River
B-3803**

Figure 3