



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

June 13, 2005

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

ATTENTION: Mr. John T. Thomas, Jr.
NCDOT Coordinator

Subject: **Nationwide 6 Permit Application**, for the proposed replacement of Bridge No. 165 over Big Horse Creek on SR 1362 in Ashe County. State Project No. 8.2712401, WBS Element 33383.1.1, Federal Project No. BRZ-1362 (1); Division 11, TIP No. B-4015.

Dear Mr. Thomas:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is planning to replace Bridge 165 in Ashe County. The bridge crosses Big Horse Creek just north of the town of Tuckerdale on SR 1362. Construction on the replacement of Bridge 165 is scheduled to begin in February of 2007. A completed pre-construction notification form and appropriate permit drawings are attached for your review.

Within the project area, the classification of Big Horse Creek is "C Tr +". The "Tr" denotes trout waters, which is a supplemental classification to protect freshwaters for natural trout propagation and survival of stocked trout. Due to this fact, notification to the appropriate agencies through a Nationwide 6 Permit is required.

The proposed structure is to be constructed in approximately the same location as the existing bridge. After removal of the existing interior bent, a new bent will need to be placed in the stream channel approximately 7 feet east of the existing. Two borings, one at each end of the interior bent are needed to determine foundation potential. These borings will use 4-inch diameter casing and extend to a depth of 25 to 50 feet. If hard rock is encountered, coring will be performed using smaller diameter tools.

The borings will be performed with rubber tired drill rigs or low ground pressure tracked drill rigs depending on the boring location. All disturbances from the borings will be

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.NCDOT.ORG

LOCATION:
2728 CAPITAL BLVD
PLB SUITE 168
RALEIGH NC 27604

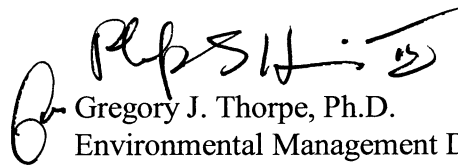
limited to within a 2-foot radius of the boring location. Standard drilling practices provide for the recirculation of drilling fluid to minimize waste. Total temporary impacts to the streambed equal 12.56 cubic feet. The geotechnical work will occur in the study corridor depicted on the attached map.

Because this area is Designated Public Mountain Trout Water, an in stream moratorium and 25 foot buffers will be in place from November 1 – April 15 to avoid impacts on trout reproduction.

The NCDOT anticipates that these activities will be authorized by Nationwide Permit No. 6. NCDOT will follow the conditions set by a Nationwide Permit No. 6 and by NCDWQ Water Quality Certification #3494. In accordance with 15A NCAC 2H.0501 (a), we are providing two copies of this application to the NCDWQ for their records.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Cheryl Knepp at (919) 715-1489. Thank you in advance for your help in this important matter.

Sincerely,



Gregory J. Thorpe, Ph.D.
Environmental Management Director, PDEA

w/attachment

Mr. John Hennessy, NCDWQ
Ms. Marla Chambers, NCWRC
Ms. Marella Buncick, USFWS
Dr. David Chang, P.E., Hydraulics
Mr. Mark Staley, Roadside Environmental
Mr. Njoroge W. Wainaina, State Engineering Geologist, P.E., Geotechnical Unit
Mr. Greg Perfetti, P.E., Structure Design
Mr. Michael A. Pettyjohn, P.E.
Mr. Heath Slaughter, DEO

w/o attachment

Mr. Jay Bennett, P.E., Roadway Design
Mr. Omar Sultan, Programming and TIP
Mr. Art McMillan, P.E., Highway Design
Ms. Missy Dickens, P.E., PDEA Project Planning Engineer
Mr. David Franklin, 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: NWP 6

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: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Mailing Address: Project Development & Environmental Analysis

1598 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-1598

Telephone Number: 919-733-3141 Fax Number: 919-733-9794

E-mail Address: gthorpe@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 165 over Big Horse Creek on SR 1362
2. T.I.P. Project Number or State Project Number (NCDOT Only): B-4015
3. Property Identification Number (Tax PIN): _____
4. Location
County: Ashe Nearest Town: Tuckerdale
Subdivision name (include phase/lot number): _____
Directions to site (include road numbers/names, landmarks, etc.): _____
Please refer to attached maps.

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): _____°N _____°W
6. Property size (acres): please refer to attached drawings
7. Name of nearest receiving body of water: Big Horse Creek
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: The area is largely rural in nature with scattered residents.

10. Describe the overall project in detail, including the type of equipment to be used:
Subsurface geotechnical investigations to be conducted by rubber tired drill rigs or low
ground pressure tracked drill rigs

11. Explain the purpose of the proposed work: To determine foundation potential.

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.

A NWP 23/33 and associated approvals from the NCDWQ will be requested for the replacement of Bridge No. 165 over Big Horse Creek on SR 1362.

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: No wetland or stream impacts will occur with this action. Please see cover letter for more details.

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)
N/A					
Total Wetland Impact (acres)					

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)
N/A						
Total Stream Impact (by length and acreage)					0	0

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)
N/A				
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):	
Wetland Impact (acres):	
Open Water Impact (acres):	
Total Impact to Waters of the U.S. (acres)	
Total Stream Impact (linear feet):	0

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. _____

The future bridge structure is to be constructed in approximately the same location as the existing bridge. After future removal of the existing interior bent, a new bent will need to be placed in the stream channel approximately 7 feet east of the existing. Two borings, one at each end of the interior bent are needed to determine foundation potential.

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/newetlands/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.

No mitigation is proposed.

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. _____

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. _____

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.

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

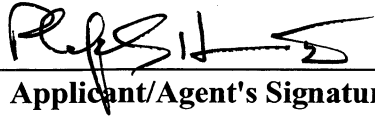
XIV. Cumulative Impacts (required by DWQ)

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: _____

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).



Applicant/Agent's Signature



Date

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

BRIDGE SURVEY & HYDRAULIC DESIGN REPORT

MC

N. C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAY
HYDRAULICS UNIT
RALEIGH, N. C.

Stream BIG HORSE CREEK Bridge Inv. No. 165 I.D. No. B-4015 Project No. 33383.1.1

I.D. No. B-4015 Project No. 33383.1.1 Proj. Station 13+17.50 -1-

County ASHE Bridge Over BIG HORSE CREEK Bridge Inv. No. 165

On Highway SR 1362 Between SR 1367 and SR 1366

Recommended Structure 1@50' 1@35' CORED SLAB (21") VERTICAL ABUTMENTS

Recommended Width of Roadway 30' SP-SP Skew 45° 0' 0'

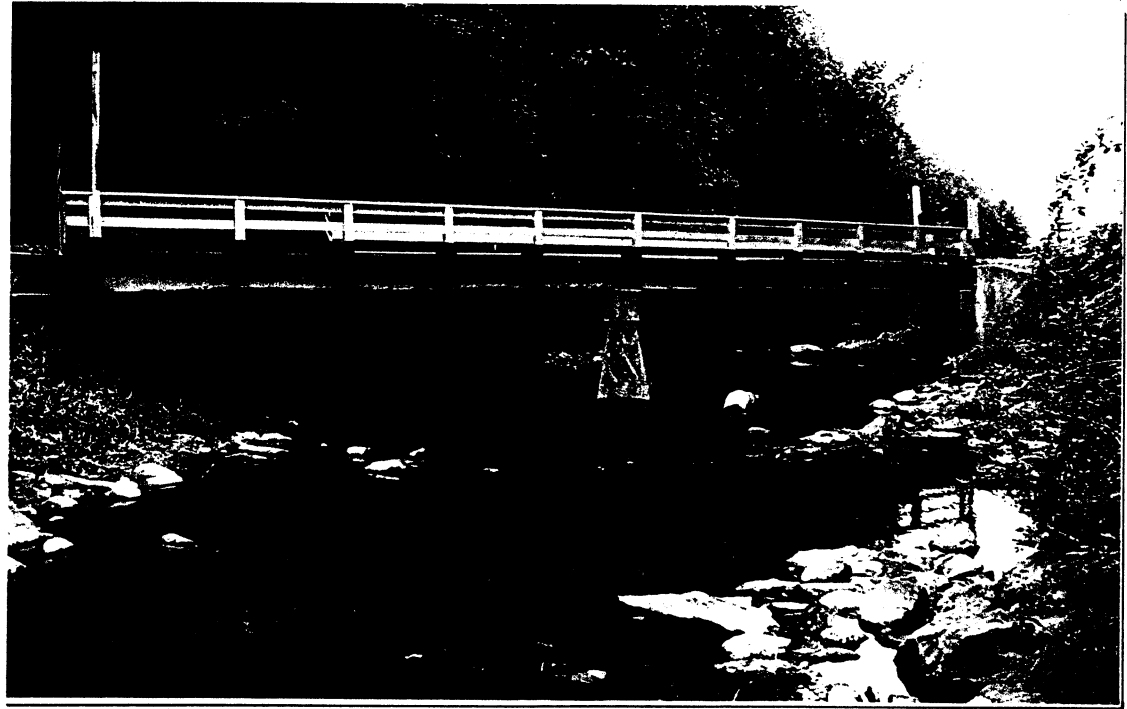
Location is (Up, At, Down Stream from Existing Crossing)

Nearest Shipping Point LANSING on NORFOLK & SOUTHERN R.R., 3.4 Miles From Bridge

Bench Mark is BM 1-RR SPIKE IN 8" MAPLE -BL- STA 12+48 89' RT

Elev. 2726.45 ft Datum: NGVD 29

Temporary Crossing UPSTREAM



Designed by: SUNGATE DESIGN GROUP, P.A.

Assisted by: FFE, JGD, WHW

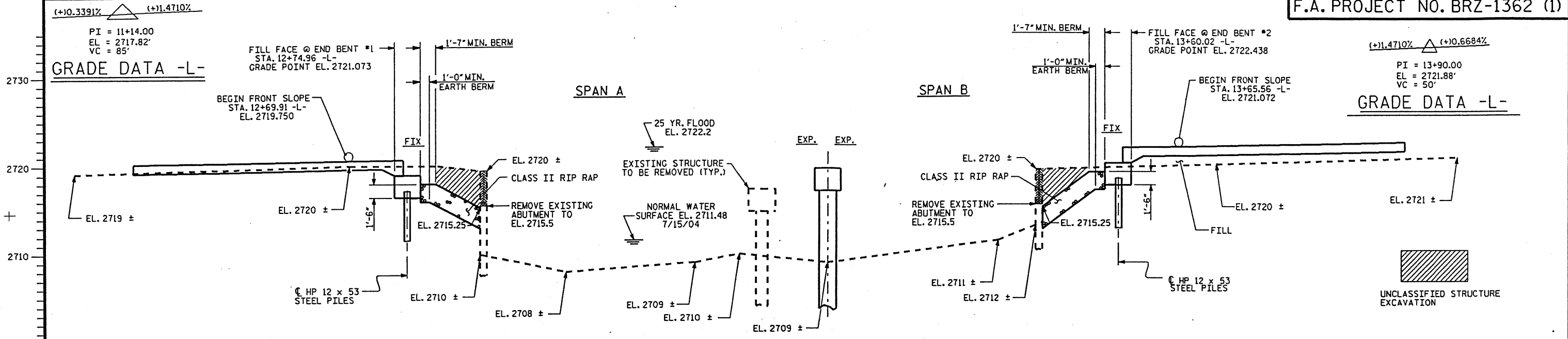
Project Engineer: W. HENRY WELLS, JR

Reviewed & Approved by: John Cail

Date 3/21/05

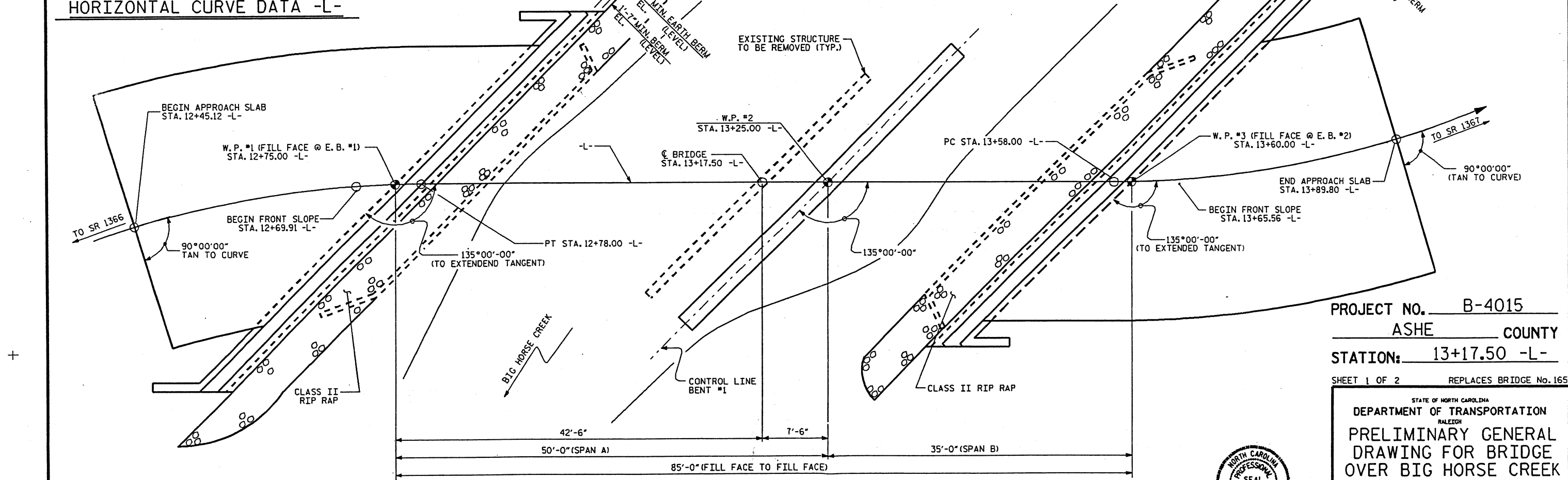


2/28/05



HORIZONTAL CURVE DATA -L-

PI Sta 12+46.46	PI Sta 13+88.32
D = 32° 18' 10.0" (RT)	D = 29° 32' 41.0" (LT)
L = 64.84'	L = 59.30'
T = 33.30'	T = 30.32'
R = 115.00'	R = 115.00'
SE = RC	SE = RC
RO = 36'	RO = 36'
DES = 20MPH	DES = 20MPH



PROJECT NO. B-4015
ASHE COUNTY
STATION: 13+17.50 -L-

SHEET 1 OF 2 REPLACES BRIDGE No. 165

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
RALEIGH
PRELIMINARY GENERAL
DRAWING FOR BRIDGE
OVER BIG HORSE CREEK
ON SR 1362 BETWEEN
SR 1366 AND SR 1367

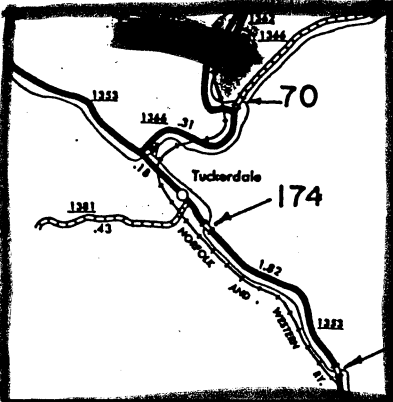
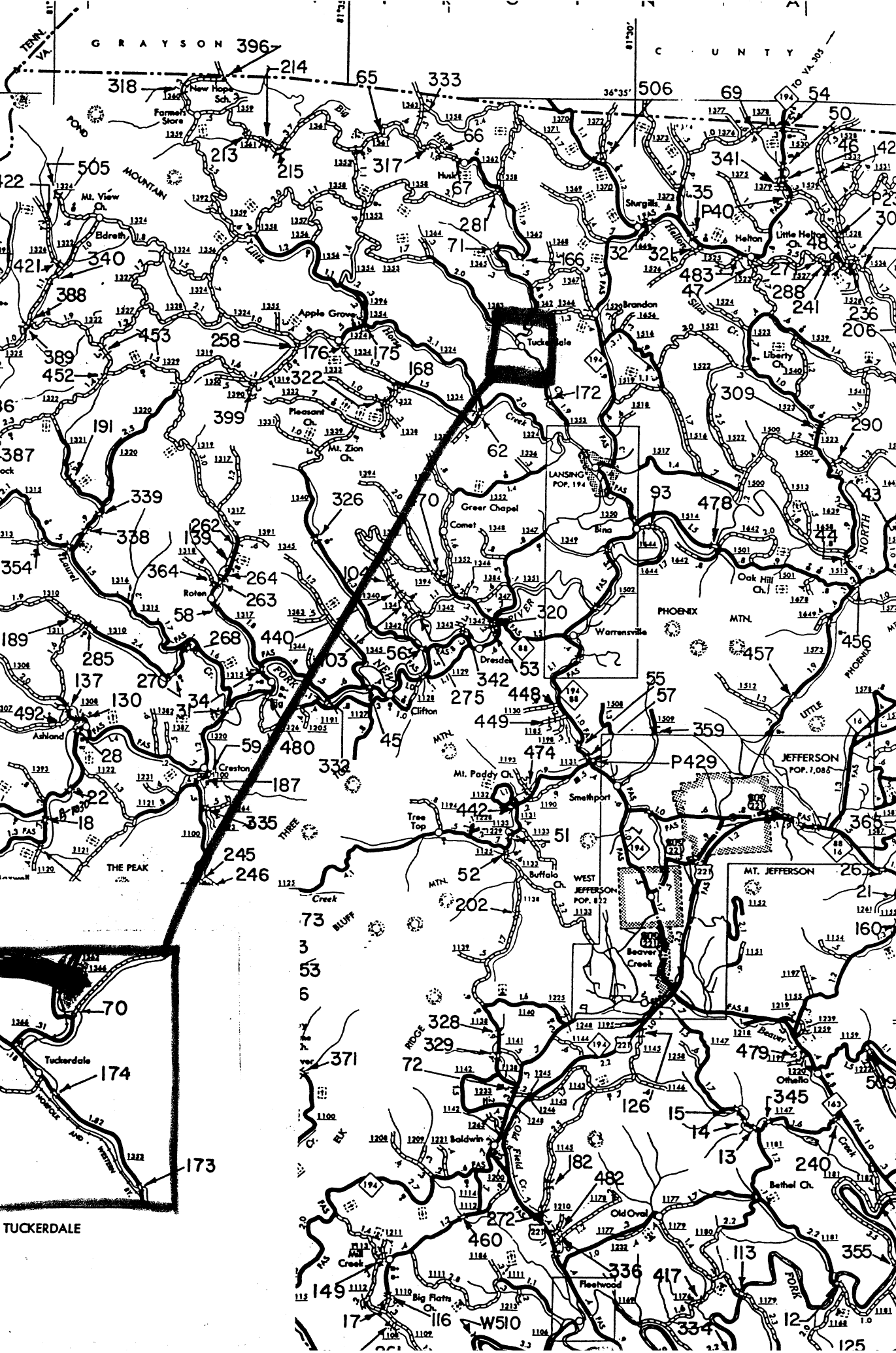
REVISIONS						SHEET NO.
NO.	BY	DATE	NO.	BY	DATE	
1			3			TOTAL SHEETS
2			4			

DRAWN BY: J. G. KHARVA DATE: 04-11-05
CHECKED BY: W. A. DAVIS DATE: 04-29-05

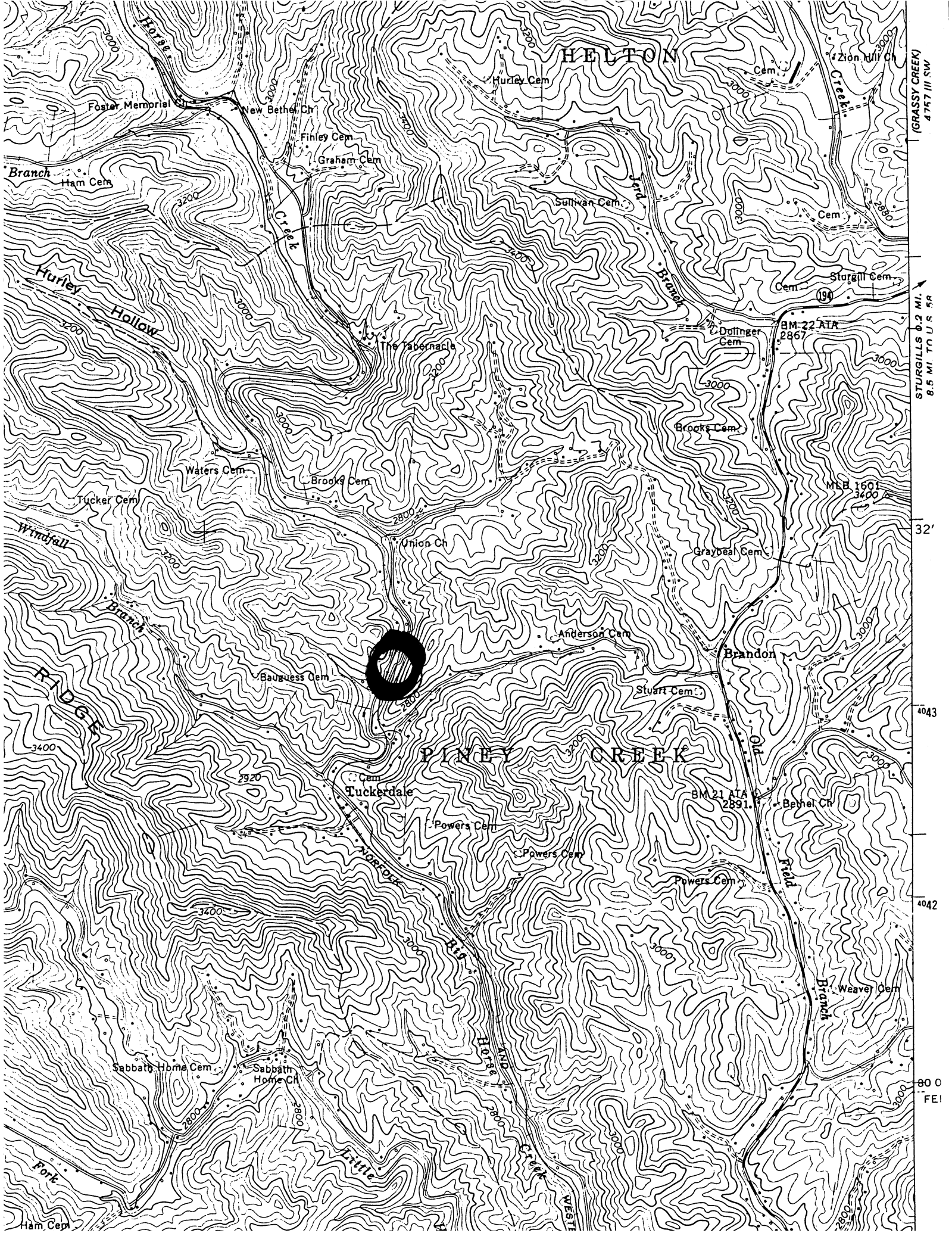
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jharva

GRAYSON 396

COUNTY



TUCKERDALE



HELTON

PINEY CREEK

(GRASSY CREEK) 4757 III SW
STURGILLS 6.2 MI.
8.5 MI TO U.S. 58

32'

4043

4042

800
FEI