

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER GOVERNOR J.R. "JOEY: HOPKINS Secretary

March 21, 2024

MEMORAND	UM TO:	Division Environmental and Construction Units
FROM:	mat	Michael A. Turchy, ECAP Group Leader Environmental Analysis Unit
SUBJECT:		Environmental Permits for the Replacement of Bridge 100086 on NC 151 over Stony Fork Creek in Buncombe County, Division 13, TIP: BR-0067.

The following permits for this project have been issued:

Agency	Permit Type	Permit Expiration		
US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit	Nationwide Permit 14	March 14, 2026		
NC Division of Water Resources Section 401 Water Quality Certification	General Certification No. 4246 [NW14] [non-notifying]	March 14, 2026		

Work is authorized by the above referenced permit provided it is accomplished in strict accordance with the permitted plans. The Environmental Coordination and Permitting Group or the Division Environmental Office must be consulted if any deviation from the permit(s) is required.

The General Conditions and Certifications for Nationwide and Regional Permits can be referenced at: https://xfer.services.ncdot.gov/pdea/PermIssued/_General_Conditions_and_Certifications/

The Project Commitments "Greensheet" is located on the Preconstruction SharePoint Dashboard at: https://connect.ncdot.gov/site/preconstruction

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WILMINGTON DISTRICT

Action Id. SAW-2024-00353 County: Buncombe County U.S.G.S. Quad: Dunsmore Mountain

GENERAL PERMIT (REGIONAL AND NATIONWIDE) VERIFICATION

Permittee: William Barrett North Carolina Department of Transportation Address: 1598 Mail Service Center Raleigh NC, 27699-1598 Telephone Number: (919)707-6103

Size (acres)N/ANearest TownCandlerNearest WaterwayStony ForkRiver Basin French Broad-HolstonUSGS HUC06010105Coordinates Latitude: 35.459147; Longitude: -82.736995Location description:Bridge No. 86 over Stony Fork, on NC 151, southwest of Candler, NC.

Description of projects area and activity: <u>TIP BR-0067; Bridge replacement impacting a total of</u> <u>155 linear feet (0.04 acre) of tributary (28 linear feet of bank stabilization; 127 linear feet of</u> <u>temporary impacts).</u>

Applicable Law: Section 404 (Clean Water Act, 33 USC 1344); Section 10 (Rivers and Harbors Act, 33 USC 403)

Authorization: Nationwide Permit Number: <u>NWP 14 Linear Transportation Projects</u> SEE ATTACHED NWP GENERAL, REGIONAL AND/OR SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Your work is authorized by the above referenced permit provided it is accomplished in strict accordance with the attached conditions and your submitted application and attached information dated <u>February 15, 2024</u> Any violation of the attached conditions or deviation from your submitted plans may subject the permittee to a stop work order, a restoration order, a Class I administrative penalty, and/or appropriate legal action.

This verification will remain valid until the expiration date identified below unless the nationwide and/or regional general permit authorization is modified, suspended or revoked. If, prior to the expiration date identified below, the nationwide and/or regional general permit authorization is reissued and/or modified, this verification will remain valid until the expiration date identified below, provided it complies with all requirements of the modified nationwide permit. If the nationwide and/or regional general permit authorization expires or is suspended, revoked, or is modified, such that the activity would no longer comply with the terms and conditions of the nationwide permit, activities which have commenced (i.e., are under construction) or are under contract to commence in reliance upon the nationwide and/or regional general permit, will remain authorized provided the activity is completed within twelve months of the date of the nationwide and/or regional general permit's expiration, modification or revocation, unless discretionary authority has been exercised on a case-by-case basis to modify, suspend or revoke the authorization.

This Department of the Army verification does not relieve the permittee of the responsibility to obtain any other required Federal, State or local approvals/permits.

SAW-2024-00353

If there are any questions regarding this verification, any of the conditions of the Permit, or the Corps of Engineers regulatory program, please contact **Eric Alsmeyer at (919) 817-1570 or Eric.C.Alsmeyer@usace.army.mil**.

Corps Regulatory Official: <u>March 12:42:42 -04'00'</u> Date: <u>March 21, 2024</u> Expiration Date of Verification: <u>March 14, 2026</u>

The Wilmington District is committed to providing the highest level of support to the public. To help us ensure we continue to do so, please complete our Customer Satisfaction Survey, located online at https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. **ESA Bats** To minimize impacts to Federally-protected bats, NCDOT shall implement the following conservation measures for the project:

- a. Tree clearing will take place from October 16 to March 31.
- b. The existing bridge will be demolished between November 16 and March 14.
- c. No blasting will occur.

2. **NCWRC Recommendations** Conditions 1-5 of the attached letter from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission dated February 27, 2024, are hereby incorporated as special conditions of this permit.

Action ID Number: <u>SAW-2024-00353</u>

County: Buncombe County

Permittee: <u>William Barrett</u> <u>North Carolina Department of Transportation</u>

Project Name: NCDOT / BR-0067 / BR100086 / NC151 / Candler / Buncombe / Div 13

Date Verification Issued: March 21, 2024

Project Manager: Eric Alsmeyer

Upon completion of the activity authorized by this permit and any mitigation required by the permit, sign this certification and return it to the following address:

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WILMINGTON DISTRICT Attn: Eric Alsmeyer Raleigh Regulatory Field Office 3331 Heritage Trade Drive, Suite 105 Wake Forest, NC 27587 919.554.4884, Ext. 23

Please note that your permitted activity is subject to a compliance inspection by a U. S. Army Corps of Engineers representative. Failure to comply with any terms or conditions of this authorization may result in the Corps suspending, modifying or revoking the authorization and/or issuing a Class I administrative penalty, or initiating other appropriate legal action.

I hereby certify that the work authorized by the above referenced permit has been completed in accordance with the terms and condition of the said permit, and required mitigation was completed in accordance with the permit conditions.

Signature of Permittee

Date



⊟ North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Cameron Ingram, Executive Director

February 27, 2024

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

SUBJECT:Comments on Replacement of Buncombe Bridge 86 on NC 151 over Stony Fork Creek.**BR-067,** WBS 67067.1.1, DWR 20240277 ver.1

Dear Ms. Beckwith,

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) applied for a permit to replace the subject bridge on its existing alignment. This project will affect trout waters. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's (NCWRC) comments are offered to help conserve the wildlife resources affected by the project and to promote wildlife-based recreation in accordance with applicable provisions of the state and federal Environmental Policy Acts (G.S. 113A-1through 113-10; 1 NCAC 25 and 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c), respectively), the Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 U.S.C. 466 et seq.), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661-667d).

Stony Fork Creek (C Tr) at Buncombe bridge 86 supports populations of Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and Brown Trout (*Salmo Trutta*), while further upstream Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) have been found. There are also records for French Broad River Crayfish (*Cambarus reburrus*) and other sensitive aquatic life in South Hominy Creek downstream of the bridge. Although trout are present in Stony Fork, the trout moratorium was waived during initial project scoping. The proposed road closure, small construction area, and *Design Standards for Sensitive Waters* should help limit potential sedimentation effects on the creek. In accordance with *Design Standards for Sensitive Waters*, polyacrylamide should be used as needed to augment silt fence outlets and ditch-line checks.

As proposed in the application, the NCWRC supports the measure to conduct tree clearing outside of the active bat season.

The NCWRC requests that the following conditions be included in authorizations to help conserve trout habitat that may be affected:

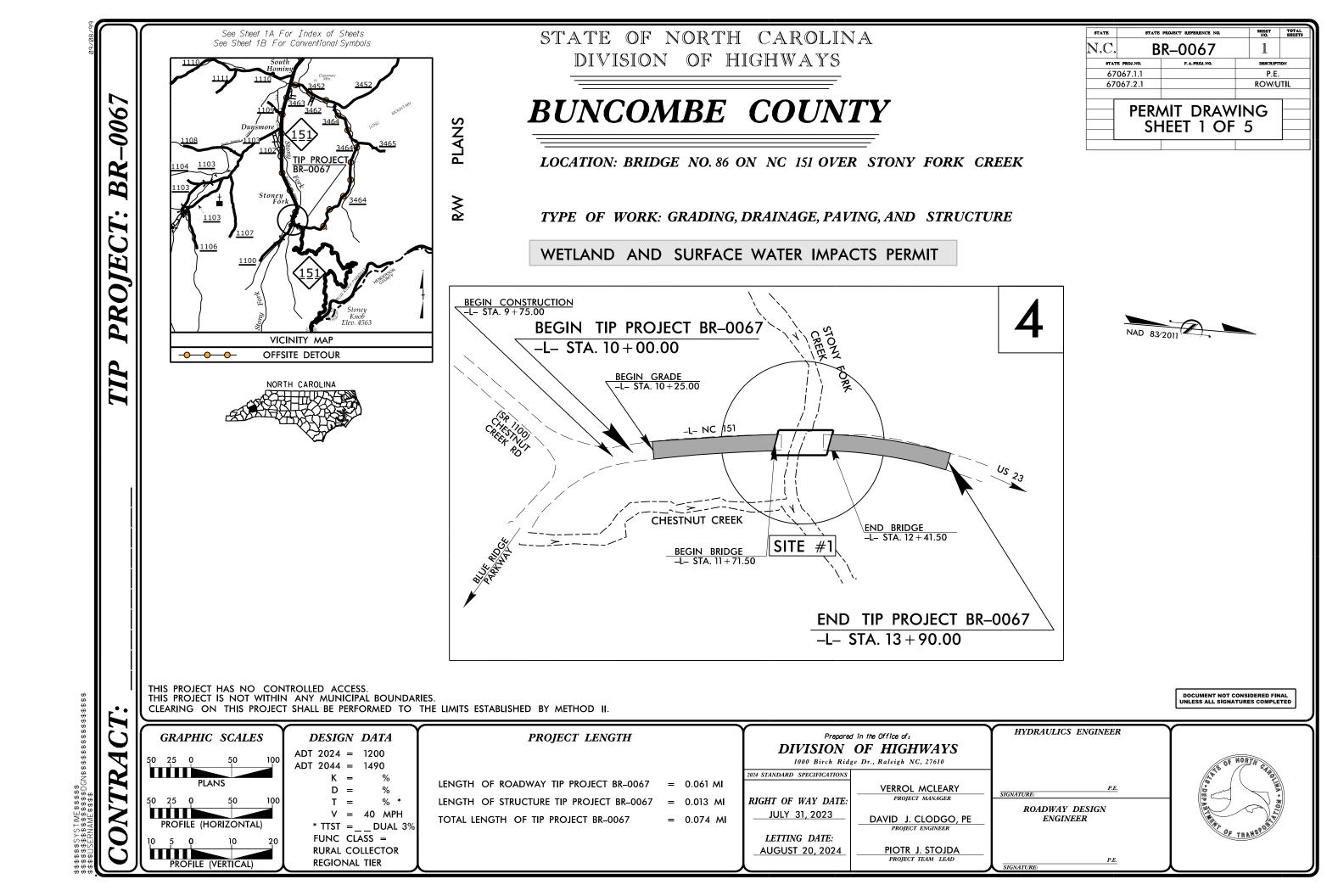
- Applicable measures from the current NCDOT Erosion and Sediment Control Design and Construction Manual should be adhered to. Design Standards for Sensitive Waters (15A NCAC 04B .0124) are recommended where practical because waters with sensitive species will be affected.
- 2. In accordance with standard GC conditions, matting used in riparian areas should not contain nylon mesh because it entangles and kills wildlife. Coir matting should be used on disturbed stream banks that are steep or susceptible to high water. Matting should be anchored with wooden stakes according to NCDOT specifications.
- 3. Heavy equipment needs to be well-maintained and concrete pouring needs to be closely monitored to avoid and quickly mitigate fuel, fluid, or wet concrete losses in or near streams.
- 4. Sandbags, rock berms, cofferdams, or other adequately designed diversion structures should be used where excavation or other periods of extended stream disturbance have the potential for downstream sedimentation.
- 5. The natural dimension, pattern, and profiles of streams and the grades of wetlands should be restored where temporarily impacted.

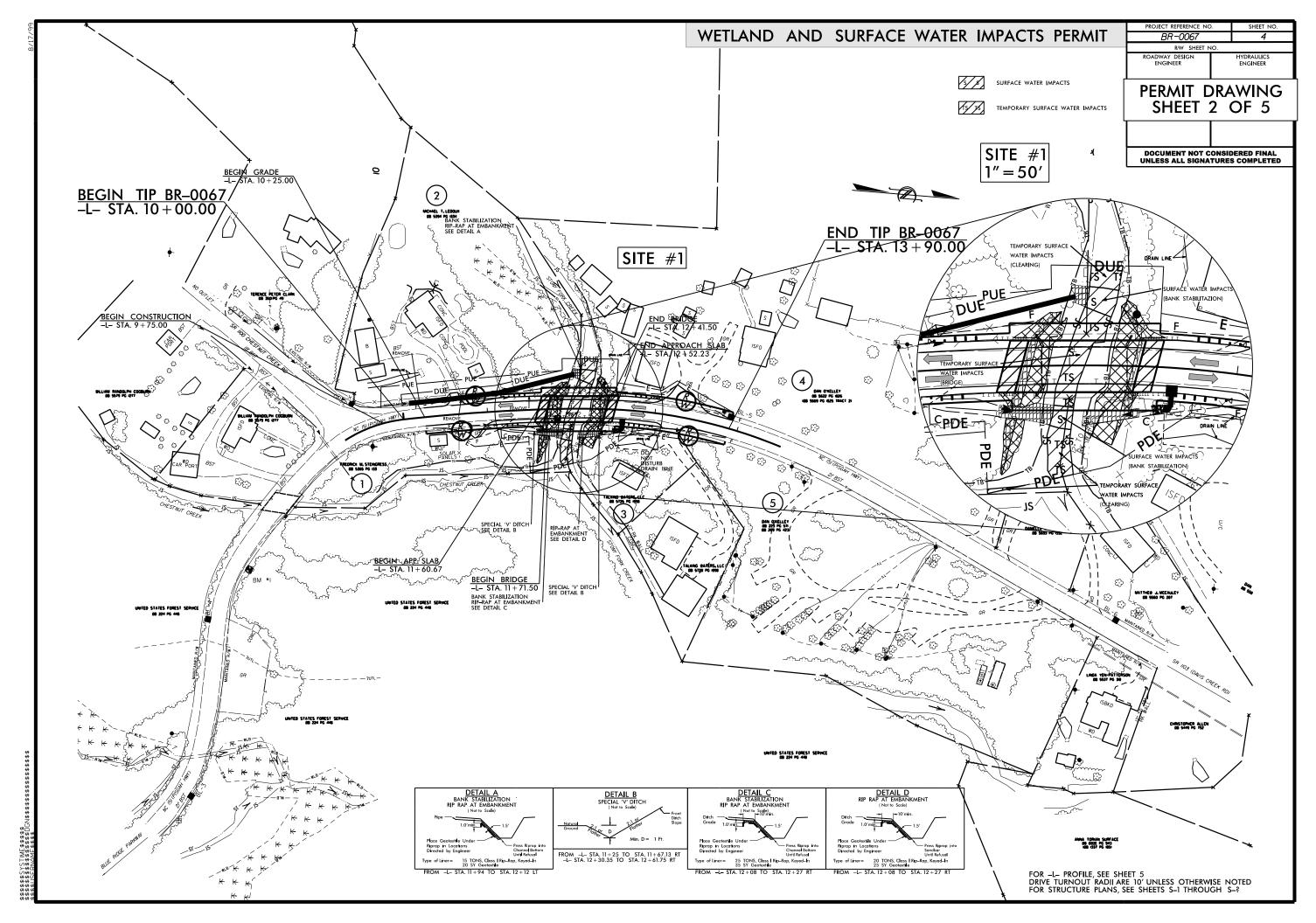
Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide recommendations on this project. Please contact me at <u>david.mchenry@ncwildlife.org</u> or (828) 476-1966 if you have any questions about these comments.

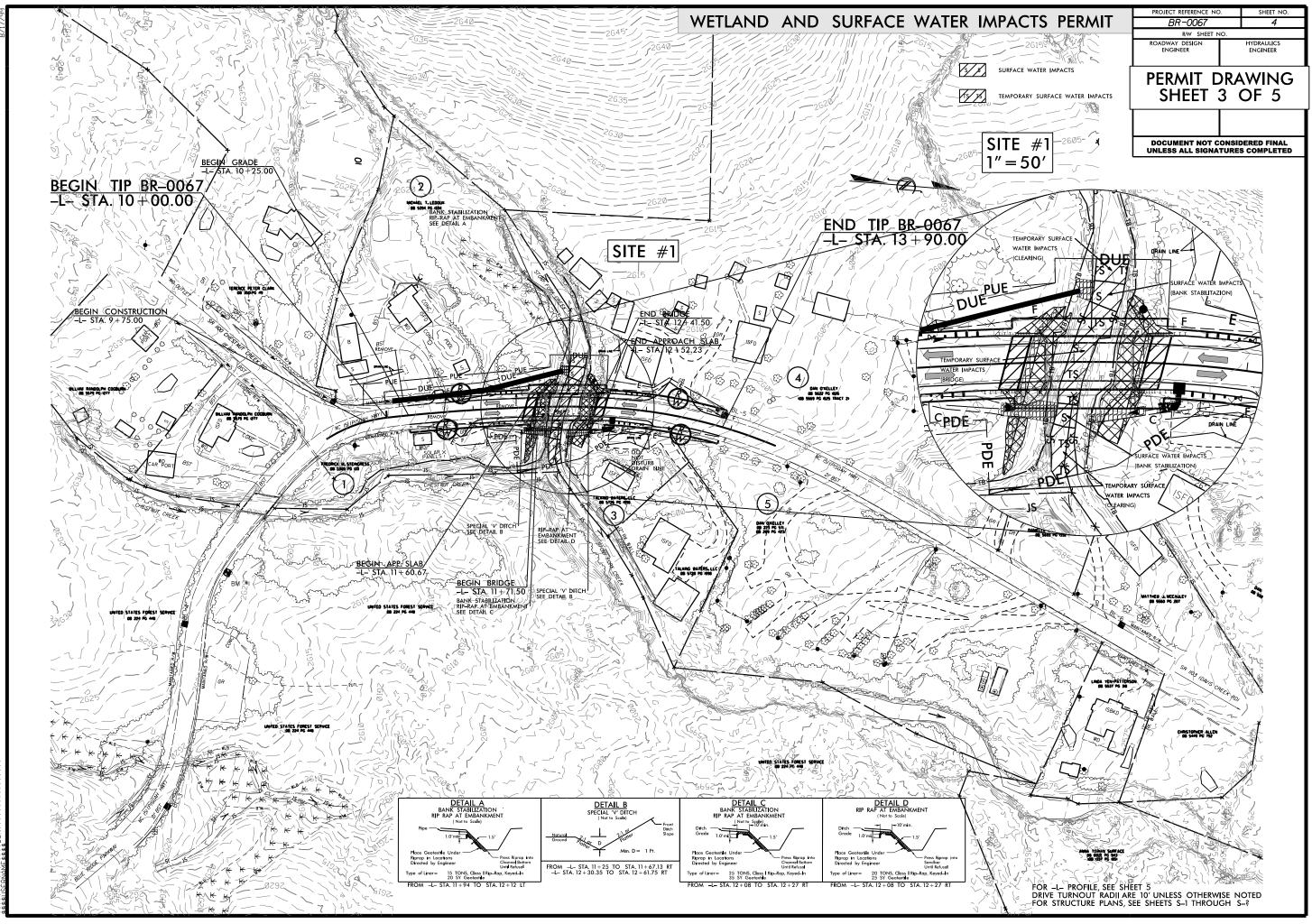
Cordially,

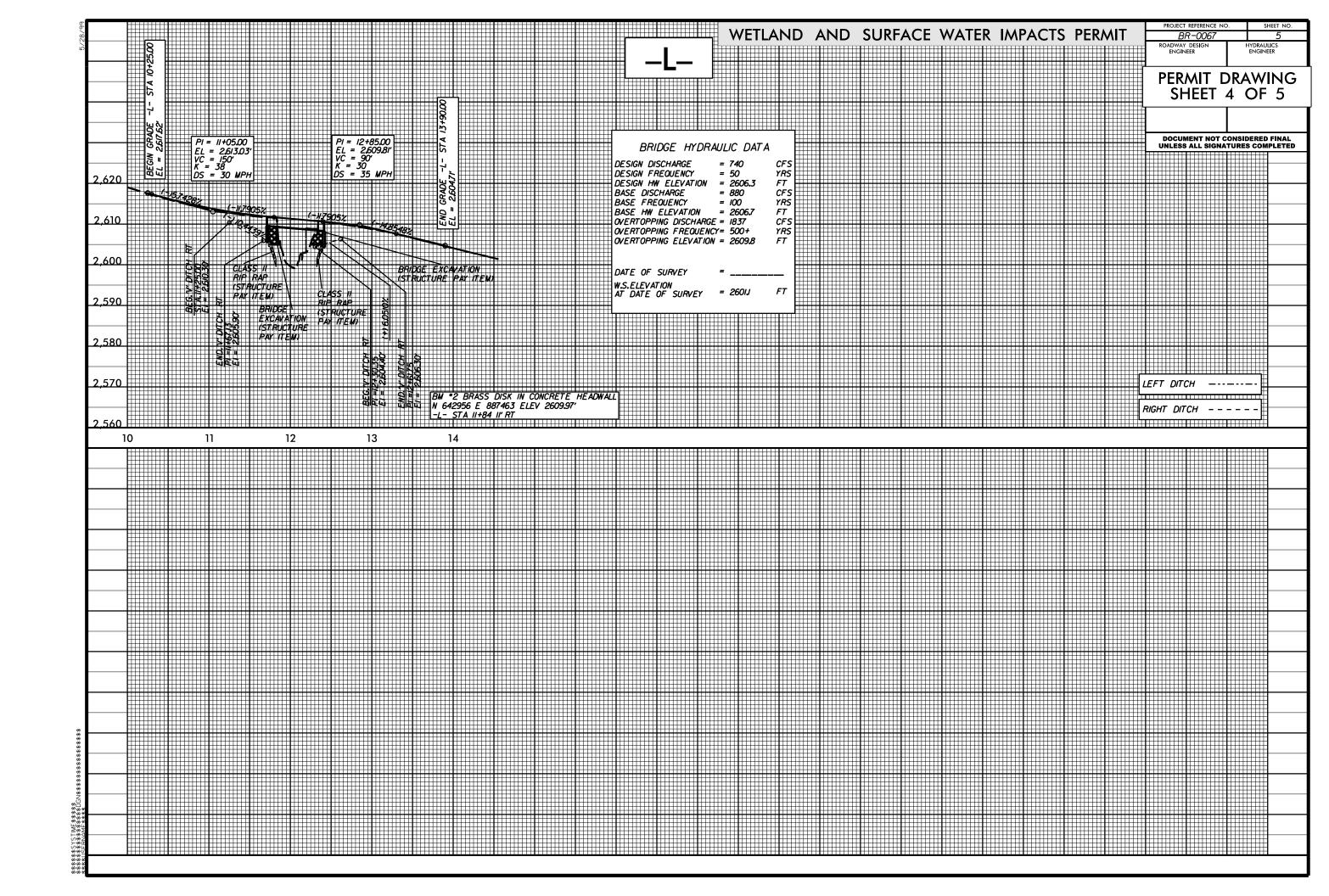
Dave McHenry, NCWRC Western DOT Coordinator

cc: NCDEQ, DWR Laserfiche Karina Clough, NCDOT Division 14 PDEA Engineer









				WE	TLAND IMP	ACTS		SURFACE WATER IMPACTS				
Site No.	Station (From/To)	Structure Size / Type	Permanent Fill In Wetlands (ac)	Temp. Fill In Wetlands (ac)	Excavation in Wetlands (ac)	Mechanized Clearing in Wetlands (ac)	Hand Clearing in Wetlands (ac)	Permanent SW impacts (ac)	Temp. SW impacts (ac)	Existing Channel Impacts Permanent (ft)	Existing Channel Impacts Temp. (ft)	Natura Stream Desigr (ft)
1	-L- 11+90 / 12+24.5	Bridge + Rip Rap Slope Protection							0.02		61	
	-L- 11+87.5 / 12+28.5	Bank Stabilization						< 0.01		28		
	-L- 11+48 / 12+30.5	Clearing							0.02		66	
OTAL	S*:							< 0.01	0.03	28	127	0

*Rounded totals are sum of actual impacts

NOTES:

NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS 10/13/2023 BUNCOMBE BR-0067 67067.1.1 SHEET 5 OF 5

Revised 2018 Feb