



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

Concord Streams Restoration,
Concord, NC
Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration
(CAP Section 206)

- **Sponsor: City of Concord, NC**
 - **Degraded aquatic habitat**
 - **Degraded water quality**
 - **Frequent flash flooding**
 - **Increased surface runoff**
- **Feasibility phase completed FY 2009**
- **Project partnership agreement executed in December 2009**
- **95% plans and specs completed Aug 2011.**



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 8

DATE: 8 April 2013

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, as amended.
2. **STUDY AREA:** The proposed project is located in the city of Concord, North Carolina, in Cabarrus County, in the Piedmont region of NC, approximately 20 miles northeast of Charlotte, NC. The study area is experiencing rapid residential and commercial development resulting from urban sprawl generated by the nearby booming economy of Charlotte. The streams originally considered for restoration in the feasibility study were Three Mile Branch, Afton Run, Stricker Branch, and Academy Center Branch. Afton Run was removed from further consideration due to restoration work being conducted by the NC Ecosystem Enhancement Program. Three Mile Branch is of sufficient scope and cost that it has been proposed for authorization under the Investigations program. Stricker Branch and Academy Center Branch are the remaining streams being considered for restoration as part of the proposed project.
3. **IMPROVEMENTS DESIRED:** The feasibility report and report recommendations were approved on February 18, 2009. Two stream reaches have been selected for restoration. The Stricker Branch project reach has one instream and three upland (wet pond) features proposed for construction. The Academy Branch project reach has three instream and three upland (2 constructed wetlands and 1 wet pond) features proposed for construction.

PROJECT INFORMATION – Concord Streams Restoration, Concord, NC (Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration - CAP Section 206) - Continued

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|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 4. <u>COST ESTIMATE:</u> | \$ 551,000
1,706,000
<u>6,223,000</u>
\$8,480,000 | (Feasibility study)
(Lands, easements, rights of way)
(Design and implementation phase)
Total implementation cost (65% Federal/35% non-Federal) |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
5. **FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION THRU FY 2012:** \$1,218,000. (Includes \$668,866 in Design and Implementation funds)
6. **FY 2013 ALLOCATION:** \$50,000. Perform real estate support activities.
7. **FY 2014 OPTIMUM AMOUNT:** \$3,750,000. Funds could be used to award a construction contract to complete Academy Branch and Stricker Branch.
- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 8. <u>KEY DATES:</u> | August 2011
September 2013
To be determined
To be determined | 95% plans and specifications
Sponsor acquires real estate
Construction contract award
Project close out, complete |
|-----------------------------|---|--|

Note: Completion dates subject to availability of funds.

9. **STATUS:** The project partnership agreement between the Corps of Engineers and the city of Concord was executed in December 2009. Design was initiated with award and full funding in FY 2010 of the architect/engineer design contract. Design 95% plans were completed in August 2011. The NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources has funded a portion of the non-Federal cost share of the project.

10. **OTHER INFORMATION:** The city of Concord is committed to developing and implementing a comprehensive solution to restoring, protecting and maintaining the Stricker Branch, and Academy Center Branch subwatersheds. The city of Concord's dedication to pursue the stream restoration initiatives is evident in the very proactive approach it has already taken to prepare the city's first land use plan although not mandated by the state of North Carolina. The city council has recognized the connection between planning for population and growth and land development regulations and, therefore, is pursuing restoration of Concord Streams to complement their ongoing efforts.

The Corps of Engineers and the sponsor are seeking a strategy that is affordable to the sponsor, while continuing to refine the preliminary cost estimate to construct this project. Cost sharing is 65% Federal and 35% non-Federal. However, for the preliminary estimated cost of \$8,480,000, 65% Federal share would exceed the \$5 million per project limit for Federal funding for a CAP 206 project. The sponsor has the option to pay project costs that exceed the limit. Other options are being identified and considered.