

**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**
Wilmington District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Issue Date: September 3, 2008
Comment Deadline: October 3, 2008
Corps Action ID #: 200110737, TIP Project No. R-2582/R-2584

The Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application from the North Carolina Department of Transportation seeking Department of the Army authorization to DISCHARGE DREDGED OR FILL MATERIAL INTO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES TO CONSTRUCT the proposed US 158 widening from the I-95/NC46 Interchange to the Murfreesboro Bypass, Northampton County. WBS No. 34472.1.1, T.I.P. No. R-2582/R-2584

Specific information regarding the project is provided below. Alternative location information is shown on the attached diagram. This Public Notice and all attached plans are also available on the Wilmington District Web Site at www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands

Applicant:

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1548 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1548

Authority

In order to more fully integrate Section 404 permit requirements with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and to give careful consideration to our required public interest review and 404 (b)(1) compliance determination, the Corps is soliciting public comment on the merits of this proposal and on the alternatives evaluated in the State Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). At the close of this comment period, the District Commander will evaluate and consider the comments received as well as the expected adverse and beneficial effects of the proposed road alternatives to select the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative (LEDPA). The District Commander is not authorizing construction of TIP # R-2582/R-2584 at this time. A final Department of the Army permit could be issued, it at all, only after our review process is complete, impacts to the aquatic environment have been minimized to the maximum extent practicable and a compensatory mitigation plan for unavoidable impacts has been approved.

A copy of the State Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and complete application package may be reviewed at the North Carolina Department of Transportation offices, Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, Transportation Building,

1 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina or at the Washington Regulatory Field Office, 107 Union Drive, Suite 202, Washington, NC 27889.

Location

The project study area is situated in NCDWQ Sub-basins 03-02-08 and 03-01-0204, and in Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUC) 03010107 of the Roanoke River drainage basin and 03010203 of the Chowan River drainage basin. There are ten named stream systems and several unnamed tributaries (UTs) within the project study area. These include, Arthurs Creek and four of its unnamed tributaries, two segments of Trouble Field Creek and six of its unnamed tributaries, both segments of Occoneechee Creek and three of its unnamed tributaries, Gumberry Swamp and six of its unnamed tributaries, Ramsey Creek and four of its unnamed tributaries, Wiccacanee Swamp, Wildcat Swamp and five of its unnamed tributaries, Corduroy Swamp and eighteen of its unnamed tributaries, Kirbys Creek and ten of its unnamed tributaries, and Reedy Branch and three of its unnamed tributaries. Alternatives under consideration for the proposed project utilize the existing facility with some segments located along new locations between the I-95/NC 46 interchange near Roanoke Rapids to the Murfreesboro bypass just west of Murfreesboro, Northampton County, North Carolina.

Background

A Draft State Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) describing the proposed project, various alternatives to the proposed action, and its expected impacts were approved in February of 2008. The project is included in the approved 2007-2013 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the draft 2008-2015 STIP.

Applicant's Stated Purpose

The applicants' purpose of the project is to improve traffic flow and level of service (LOS) on this section of US 158, improve safety along this section of US 158, and to improve access to existing and future industry.

Project Description

The NCDOT proposes to widen US 158 in Northampton County from the I-95/NC 46 interchange to the Murfreesboro Bypass. Alternatives under consideration utilize the existing facility with some segments located along new location. The widening will convert the highway from its current configuration as a two-lane facility to a four-lane, median divided facility. The proposed facility will have 12-foot lanes, paved shoulders, and a 46-foot grass median. The total length of the project is approximately 32 miles. The design speed for the proposed project is 70 mph. NCDOT proposes full control of access for any new location segments with interchanges planned at most major intersecting NC and US routes. Partial access control is proposed for all the widening alternatives to allow for existing driveway connection.

Alternatives

There are currently 17 alternatives within the 29 segments (A1-H1) being considered for this project. The alternative locations are shown on the attached Figure 1. Below is a description of each of the alternatives.

Garysburg: The current Garysburg alternatives all begin at the junction of NC 46 and I-95. This is the project's western terminus, and involves re-designating US 158 onto existing NC 46 at its intersection with I-95, one exit north of the existing US 158 exit.

Garysburg Northern Bypass (Segments A1, B1): This bypass begins at the NC 46/ I-95 intersection and extends along existing NC 46 until its intersection with US 301 north of town. The bypass proceeds on new location around Garysburg until it rejoins US 158 east of town. A grade separation is proposed over US 301, and an interchange is proposed at the reconnection of the bypass with existing US 158 east of town. This alternative involves two railroad crossings.

Garysburg Southern Bypass 1 (Segments A1, B2, B3): This bypass begins at the NC 46/ I-95 intersection and extends along existing NC 46 until just west of Garysburg. The bypass then proceeds on new location south of Garysburg, until it rejoins US 158 east of town (at the same location as the proposed Northern Bypass). An interchange is proposed at US 301. An intersection is proposed at the reconnection of the bypass with existing US 158 east of town. This alternative also involves two railroad crossings.

Garysburg Southern Bypass 2 (Segments A1, B2, B4): This bypass follows the same path as Southern Bypass 1 alternative, but extends farther south after it crosses existing US 158/US 301 south of town. This alternative reconnects with US 158 east of town at the intersection of US 158 and Old Jackson Bypass Road (SR 1311). An interchange is proposed at US 301. An intersection is proposed at the reconnection with existing US 158 east of town. This alternative also involves two railroad crossings.

Jackson: The Jackson section of the project extends from east of Garysburg (at the intersection of US 158 and Old Jackson Bypass Road) to east of Jackson; the eastern end of this section corresponds to the split between projects R-2582 and R-2584.

Old Jackson Bypass (Segment D1): This alternative widens the existing Old Jackson Bypass Road (SR 1311) for use as a bypass. Two sections of the existing road would be straightened, thus creating some new location sections. No interchanges are included in this alternative.

Extended Northern Jackson Bypass (Segments C1, E1): This alternative follows US 158 on existing location, then proceeds on new location north of Jackson and reconnects with US 158 east of Mt. Carmel Road (SR 1333). The bypass would intersect NC 305 just south of Pleasant Grove Road (SR 1314). An interchange is proposed at NC 305 while the connections with existing US 158 will be at-grade intersections.

Northern Jackson Bypass (Segments C1, E2, E3): This alternative follows existing US 158 until just west of Jackson and extends north of town on new location. The bypass reconnects with US

158 east of Mt. Carmel Road (SR 1333). An interchange is proposed at NC 305 while the connections with existing US 158 will be at-grade intersections.

Southern Jackson Bypass (Segments C1, E2, E4): This alternative follows existing US 158 until just west of Jackson and extends south of town on new location. The bypass reconnects with US 158 east of NC 305 Mt. Carmel Road (SR 1333). An interchange is proposed at NC 305 while the connections with existing US 158 will be at-grade intersections.

Faison's Old Tavern: The Faison's Old Tavern alternatives extend from east of Jackson through just west of the town of Conway.

Widen on Existing 1 (Segments F2, F5, F7) and 2 (Segments F4, F7): These alternatives widen US 158 on its existing location from east of Jackson to just west of Conway. No interchanges are proposed with this alternative. The connections with existing US 158 will be at-grade intersections. The alternatives differ where they tie to Jackson alternative.

Faison's Old Tavern Northern Bypasses 1 (Segments F2, F6, F9) and 2 (Segments F2, F6, F10): These alternatives proceed on new location from just east of Old Jackson Bypass Road to west of Conway. An interchange is proposed at Galatia Road (SR 1344) while the connections with existing US 158 will be at-grade intersections.

Faison's Old Tavern Southern Bypasses 1 (Segments F1, F8) and 2 (Segments F3, F8): These alternatives extend on new location from west of the Old Jackson Bypass Road intersection to west of Conway. An interchange is proposed at NCHS East Road (SR 1505) while the connections with existing US 158 will be at-grade intersections.

Conway: The Conway alternatives extend from west of town (just east of Zion Church) through to the east end of the project. Included in each of these alternatives is a segment of US 158 at the end of the project that will be widened on its existing location.

Northern Conway Bypasses 1 (Segments G2, G6, G7, H1) and 2 (Segments G1, G6, G7, H1): This alternative begins on new location east of Zion Church Road (SR 1500) and reconnects with existing US 158 east of Gilmer Ricks Road (SR 1543). An interchange is proposed at NC 35 north of town while the connections with existing US 158 will be at-grade intersections. This alternative involves one railroad crossing.

Southern Conway Bypass 1 (Segments G3, G5, G7, H1): This alternative begins on new location east of Zion Church Road (SR 1500) and, after passing south of town, curves north to cross over the existing facility before reconnecting with US 158 east of Gilmer Ricks Road (SR 1543). An interchange is proposed at NC 35 and a grade separation is proposed over one section of existing US 158. The end connections with existing US 158 will be at-grade intersections. There is one railroad crossing associated with this alternative.

Southern Conway Bypass 2 (Segments G3, G4, H1): This bypass follows most of the same alignment as the other southern bypass alternative; however, it proceeds east to reconnect with existing US 158 at Ashley's Grove Road (SR 1536). An interchange is proposed at NC 35 while

the connections with existing US 158 will be at-grade intersections. There is also one railroad crossing associated with this alternative.

Cost Estimates and Schedule

This project is included in the approved 2007-2013 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the draft 2008-2015 STIP. The total cost in the STIP is \$170,562,000, which includes \$18,925,000 for right of way and 150,200,000 for construction. The current estimated cost varies depending on the segments selected. Right of way acquisition is scheduled to begin in State Fiscal year (FY) 2012 and construction is currently in an unfunded status.

Impacts to jurisdiction waters and wetlands

Wetland and stream impacts were calculated based on the current alternatives. Wetland impacts are calculated from slope stake to slope stake plus an additional 25 feet outside of each limit as determined from the current functional design plans for each alternative studied. They are rounded to the nearest 0.1 acre for wetlands and to the nearest 10 feet for streams. **Table 1-A** through **Table 1-D** details the resources and impacts of each alternative for the proposed project. **Table 2** summarizes the wetland and stream impacts for each alternative broken down by segment.

Table 1-A: Comparison of Garysburg Alternatives Resources and Impacts

Impacted Resource	Garysburg Northern Bypass	Garysburg Southern Bypass 1	Garysburg Southern Bypass 2
Segments Included	A1 B1	A1 B2 B3	A1 B2 B4
Length	5.0	5.4	5.5
Interchanges	1	2	2
Railroad Crossings	2	2	2
Schools	1	0	0
Recreational Areas and Parks	0	0	0
Churches	1	1	1
Cemeteries	0	0	0
Major Utility Crossings	1	1	1
Historic Properties (Eligible or listed on the National Register)	5	5	4
Archaeological Sites	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Federally Listed Species within Corridors	0	0	0
NRCS-Potential Farmland Conversion	Below Threshold	Below Threshold	Below Threshold
Residential Relocations	32	11	11
Business Relocations	5	2	2
Noise Receptors Impacted	28	8	7
Wetland Impacts (acres)	5	11	10
Stream Impacts (feet)	1520	2040	3410
Water Supply Watershed Protected Areas	0	0	0
Wildlife Refuges and Game Lands	0	0	0
Minority/ Low Income Populations (Adverse & Disproportionate Impacts)	Yes	No	No
Hazardous Material / Landfill Sites	0	0	0
Underground Storage Tank Sites	4	3	3
Construction Cost	\$48,500,000	\$53,100,000	\$57,500,000
Right of Way Cost	\$10,648,250	\$13,548,750	\$13,713,250
Utilities Cost	\$1,188,686	\$1,015,868	\$953,060
Total Cost	\$60,336,936	\$67,664,618	\$72,166,310

Note 1: Archeological sites will be evaluated once a recommended alternative is selected.

Table 1-B: Comparison of Jackson Alternatives Resources and Impacts

Impacted Resource	Old Jackson Bypass	Extended Northern Jackson Bypass	Northern Jackson Bypass	Southern Jackson Bypass
Segments Included	D1	C1 E1	C1 E2 E3	C1 E2 E4
Length	8.8	11.9	13.1	10.5
Interchanges	0	0	1	0
Railroad Crossings	0	0	0	0
Schools	0	1	0	1
Recreational Areas and Parks	0	0	1	1
Churches	1	1	0	0
Cemeteries	0	1	0	0
Major Utility Crossings	1	1	1	1
Historic Properties (Eligible or listed on the National Register)	4	4	10	10
Archaeological Sites	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Federally Listed Species within Corridors	0	0	0	0
NRCS-Potential Farmland Conversion	Moderate Concern	Below Threshold	Below Threshold	Below Threshold
Residential Relocations	6	5	11	25
Business Relocations	0	0	0	0
Noise Receptors Impacted	11	0	52	4
Wetland Impacts (acres)	40	42	15	33
Stream Impacts (feet)	1620	860	1770	2110
Water Supply Watershed Protected Areas	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Refuges and Game Lands	0	0	0	0
Minority/ Low Income Populations (Adverse & Disproportionate Impacts)	No	No	No	No
Hazardous Material / Landfill Sites	0	0	0	0
Underground Storage Tank Sites	0	2	2	2
Construction Cost	\$40,200,000	\$53,900,000	\$71,300,000	\$68,000,000
Right of Way Cost	\$3,900,500	\$4,213,500	\$6,383,500	\$9,444,000
Utilities Cost	\$1,144,221	\$919,947	\$1,054,723	\$1,452,850
Total Cost	\$45,244,721	\$59,033,447	\$78,738,223	\$78,896,850

Note 1: Archeological sites will be evaluated once a recommended alternative is selected.

Table 1-C: Comparison of Faison's Old Tavern Alternatives Resources and Impacts

Impacted Resources	Faison's Widen on Existing 1	Faison's Widen on Existing 2	Faison's Northern Bypass 1	Faison's Northern Bypass 2	Faison's Southern Bypass 1	Faison's Southern Bypass 2
Segments Included	F2 F5 F7	F4 F7	F2 F6 F9	F2 F6 F10	F1 F8	F3 F8
Length	8.0	7.5	8.6	8.3	8.0	7.7
Interchanges	0	0	1	1	1	1
Railroad Crossings	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schools	0	0	0	0	1	1
Recreational Areas and Parks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Churches	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cemeteries	5	5	0	0	0	0
Major Utility Crossings	0	0	0	0	0	0
Historic Properties (Eligible or listed on the National Register)	1	1	1	0	0	1
Archaeological Sites	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Federally Listed Species within Corridors	0	0	0	0	0	0
NRCS-Potential Farmland Conversion	Below Threshold	Below Threshold	Below Threshold	Moderate Concern	Higher Concern	Higher Concern
Residential Relocations	36	39	2	2	5	5
Business Relocations	2	2	2	1	1	0
Noise Receptors Impacted	2	2	11	11	0	0
Wetland Impacts (acres)	4	1	23	21	10	9
Stream Impacts (feet)	400	0	3000	2770	490	550
Water Supply Watershed Protected Areas	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Refuges and Game Lands	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minority/ Low Income Populations (Adverse & Disproportionate Impacts)	Potential	Potential	No	No	No	No
Hazardous Material / Landfill Sites	0	0	0	0	0	0
Underground Storage Tank Sites	12	11	1	1	2	1
Construction Cost	\$33,400,000	\$31,200,000	\$51,200,000	\$49,100,000	\$43,300,000	\$44,400,000
Right of Way Cost	\$12,684,000	\$13,688,000	\$6,343,500	\$5,985,500	\$6,069,500	\$5,790,000
Utilities Cost	\$1,290,430	\$1,155,899	\$423,593	\$395,593	\$318,493	\$267,539
Total Cost	\$47,374,430	\$46,043,899	\$57,967,093	\$55,481,093	\$50,687,993	\$50,457,539

Note 1: Archeological sites will be evaluated once a recommended alternative is selected.

Table 1-D: Comparison of Conway Alternatives Resources and Impacts

Impacted Resource	Conway Northern Bypass 1	Conway Northern Bypass 2	Conway Southern Bypass 1	Conway Southern Bypass 2
Segments Included	G2 G6 G7 H1	G1 G6 G7 H1	G3 G5 G7 H1	G3 G4 H1
Length	7.8	7.8	8.8	8.0
Interchanges	1	1	1	1
Railroad Crossings	1	1	1	1
Schools	1	1	0	0
Recreational Areas and Parks	0	0	0	0
Churches	1	0	0	0
Cemeteries	0	1	0	0
Major Utility Crossings	0	0	0	0
Historic Properties (Eligible or listed on the National Register)	5	6	5	5
Archaeological Sites	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Federally Listed Species within Corridors	0	0	0	0
NRCS-Potential Farmland Conversion	Higher Concern	Higher Concern	Higher Concern	Higher Concern
Residential Relocations	19	15	22	15
Business Relocations	1	1	0	1
Noise Receptors Impacted	2	2	0	0
Wetland Impacts (acres)	13	13	35	42
Stream Impacts (feet)	2280	2020	2070	2840
Water Supply Watershed Protected Areas	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Refuges and Game Lands	0	0	0	0
Minority/ Low Income Populations (Adverse & Disproportionate Impacts)	No	No	No	No
Hazardous Material / Landfill Sites	0	0	0	0
Underground Storage Tank Sites	1	0	0	0
Construction Cost	\$72,600,000	\$64,000,000	\$60,600,000	\$66,200,000
Right of Way Cost	\$8,832,500	\$8,570,500	\$8,916,500	\$7,177,500
Utilities Cost	\$1,477,696	\$1,383,772	\$1,296,080	\$638,257
Total Cost	\$82,910,196	\$73,954,272	\$70,812,580	\$74,015,757

Note 1: Archeological sites will be evaluated once a recommended alternative is selected.

Table 2: Wetland and Stream Impacts for Alternatives

Segment	Wetland Type	Wetland/ Stream Identification	Wetland Impact (Acres)	Stream Impact (Feet)
A1		SA 01		129
		SA 02		192
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 01	0.4	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 03	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 04	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 05	0.0	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 06	0.0	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 09	0.2	
		Total Impact*	1 acre	320 feet
B1		SA 04		27
		SB 02		395
		SB 05		270
		SB 07		507
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 07	1.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 11	0.7	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 08	2.5	
		Total Impact*	4 acres	1200 feet
B2		SA 04		156
		SB 02		261
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 07	2.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 02	0.1	
		Total Impact*	2 acres	420 feet
B3		SB 01		1075
		SB 05		228
	Palustrine, Emergent	WB 06	1.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 02	2.3	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 03	1.0	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 04	3.3	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 08	0.7	
	Total Impacts*	8 acres	1300 feet	
B4		SA 05		244
		SA 91		319
		SB 01		1075
		SB 08		520
		SB 09		509
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 02	2.3	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 03	1.0	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 04	3.3	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 10	0.1	
		Total Impacts*	7 acres	2670 feet

Note: * totals for streams are rounded to 10 feet; total for wetlands are rounded to the nearest acre.

Table 2: Wetland and Stream Impacts for Alternatives (Cont.)

Segment	Wetland Type	Wetland/ Stream Identification	Wetland Impact (Acres)	Stream Impact (Feet)	
C1		SB 11		222	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 11	1.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 12	0.0		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 13	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 17	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 18	2.2		
		Total Impact*	4 acres	220 feet	
D1		SA 06		129	
		SA 07		298	
		SA 08		207	
		SA 09		207	
		SA 10		225	
		SA 11		56	
		SA 14		260	
		SA 18		44	
		SA 22		194	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 14	6.7		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 15	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 16	0.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 16	1.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 18	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 19	12.4		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 23	0.5		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 24	1.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 25	1.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 26	0.8		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 30	10.0		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 32	0.5		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 33	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 34	2.9		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 35	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 36	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 39	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 40	0.3		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 22	1.0		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 35	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 93	0.2		
			Total Impact*	40 acres	1620 feet

Note: * totals for streams are rounded to 10 feet; total for wetlands are rounded to the nearest acre.

Table 2: Wetland and Stream Impacts for Alternatives (Cont.)

Segment	Wetland Type	Wetland/ Stream Identification	Wetland Impact (Acres)	Stream Impact (Feet)	
E1		SB 20		93	
		SB 21		273	
		SB 23		268	
	Palustrine, Emergent	WA 22	0.1		
	Palustrine, Emergent	WB 32-36	6.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 20	0.5		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 21	0.8		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 85	4.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 94	1.0		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 29-31	6.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 37	3.5		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 38	2.3		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 39	0.1		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 40	0.4		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 41	3.8		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 43	0.0		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 44	3.8		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 46	5.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 94	0.3		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 96	0.2		
		Total Impact*	39 acres	630 feet	
E2		SB 15		196	
		SB 16		1149	
		Palustrine, Forested	WA 20	0.2	
		Palustrine, Forested	WA 21	0.8	
		Palustrine, Forested	WB 19	0.1	
		Palustrine, Forested	WB 20	0.1	
		Palustrine, Forested	WB 21	0.1	
		Palustrine, Forested	WB 92	1.4	
		Palustrine, Forested	WB 95	0.9	
		Total Impact*	4 acres	1350 feet	
E3		SB 19		201	
		Palustrine, Forested	WA 94	1.1	
		Palustrine, Forested	WB 25-27	6.2	
		Palustrine, Forested	WB 92	0.2	
		Palustrine, Forested	WB 94	0.3	
		Total Impact*	8 acres	200 feet	

Note: * totals for streams are rounded to 10 feet; total for wetlands are rounded to the nearest acre.

Table 2: Wetland and Stream Impacts for Alternatives (Cont.)

Segment	Wetland Type	Wetland/ Stream Identification	Wetland Impact (Acres)	Stream Impact (Feet)	
E4		SB 24		238	
		SB 26A		302	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 94	0.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 47-48	2.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 49-50	10.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 52-53	9.7		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 54-55	3.3		
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 86	0.3		
		Total Impact*	26 acres	540 feet	
F1		SA 90		208	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 48-49	1.4		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 52	0.8		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 92	1.8		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 93	0.1		
		Total Impact*	4 acres	210 feet	
F2		SA 25		175	
		SA 90		221	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 47	0.2		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 92	1.8		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 93	0.8		
	Palustrine, Scrub-shrub	WA 46	0.5		
		Total Impact*	3 acres	400 feet	
F3		SA 31		263	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 48-49	1.7		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 52	0.8		
	Palustrine, Scrub-shrub	WA 46	0.50		
		Total Impact*	3 acres	260 feet	
F4		No Impact			
F5		No Impact			
F6		SA 29		238	
		SA 30		236	
		SA 35		222	
		SA 36		345	
		SA 37		238	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 42	1.4		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 43	0.3		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 53	1.4		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 54	6.7		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 55	0.6		
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 56	0.3		
			Total Impact*	11 acres	1280 feet

Note: * totals for streams are rounded to 10 feet; total for wetlands are rounded to the nearest acre.

Table 2: Wetland and Stream Impacts for Alternatives (Cont.)

Segment	Wetland Type	Wetland/ Stream Identification	Wetland Impact (Acres)	Stream Impact (Feet)
F7	Palustrine, Forested	WA 71	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 67	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 90	0.2	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 91	0.4	
		Total Impact*	1 acre	0 feet
F8		SB 40		283
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 56	0.2	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 57	0.2	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 60-61	4.7	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 64-66	0.9	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 67	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 97	0.1	
			Total Impact*	6 acres
F9		SA 39		217
		SA 41		239
		SA 42		20
		SA 43		242
		SA 44		505
		SA 45		106
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 57	2.0	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 58	0.7	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 59	6.4	
			Total Impact*	9 acres
F10		SA 39		217
		SA 41		272
		SA 42		32
		SA 46		283
		SA 59		290
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 57	2.0	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 58	0.7	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 59	4.6	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 60	0.1	
			Total Impact*	7 acres
G1		SA 50		330
		SA 52		279
		SA 53		308
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 61-62	0.5	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 63	0.9	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 65	0.2	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 67	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 68	2.9	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 70-72-73	5.4	
			Total Impact*	10 acres

Note: * totals for streams are rounded to 10 feet; total for wetlands are rounded to the nearest acre.

Table 2: Wetland and Stream Impacts for Alternatives (Cont.)

Segment	Wetland Type	Wetland/ Stream Identification	Wetland Impact (Acres)	Stream Impact (Feet)
G2		SA 49		148
		SA 50		341
		SA 52		349
		SA 53		335
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 65	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 67	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 68	2.9	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 70-72-73	5.8	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 88	1.0	
		Total Impact*	10 acres	1170 feet
G3		SB 32		432
		SB 33		1014
		SB 34		371
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 68	0.0	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 71	7.4	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 73	13.7	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 74	4.8	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 78-79-81	5.4	
		WB 71 Isolated	0.1	
	Total Impact*	31 acres	1820 feet	
G4		SB 36		308
		SB 63		691
		SB 64		24
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 75	1.4	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 77, WA 78-79	2.7	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 78-79-81	3.4	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 80	2.8	
	Palustrine, Scrub-shrub	WB 82	0.1	
		Total Impact*	10 acres	1020 feet
	G5	Palustrine, Forested	WB 78-79-81	3.0
	Total Impact*	3.0 acres	0 feet	
G6		SA 54		321
		SA 56		51
		SA 57		43
		SA 58		281
		SA 60		42
		SA 61		113
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 75-76	0.8	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 77 (1-24)	1.3	
	Palustrine, Forested	WA 77 (25-56)	1.0	
		Total Impact*	3 acres	850 feet

Note: * totals for streams are rounded to 10 feet; total for wetlands are rounded to the nearest acre.

Table 2: Wetland and Stream Impacts for Alternatives (Cont.)

Segment	Wetland Type	Wetland/ Stream Identification	Wetland Impact (Acres)	Stream Impact (Feet)
G7		SB 35		181
		SB 64		74
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 75	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 76	0.1	
	Palustrine, Forested	WB 83	0.1	
	Palustrine, Scrub-shrub	WB 82	0.1	
		Total Impact	1 acre	260 feet
H1	Palustrine, Forested	WB 85	0.0	
	Palustrine, Unconsolidated Bottom	WB 84	0.1	
		Total Impact	1 acre	0 feet

Note: * totals for streams are rounded to 10 feet; total for wetlands are rounded to the nearest acre.

Existing Conditions

Northampton County is on the North Carolina and Virginia border along the divide of the Piedmont and Coastal Plain physiographic provinces in North Carolina. This divide, commonly referred to as the Fall Zone, separates two physiographic regions that contain moderately different physical characteristics. The project study area is located in the Middle Coastal Plain physiographic province (Daniels et al. 1999). The topography of this region is described as smooth, gently sloping, plateau-like uplands with gentle to steep valley slopes near the rivers (Daniels et al. 1999). Elevations in the project study area range from approximately 50 feet above mean sea level (MSL) to 140 feet above MSL. Current land uses within the project vicinity include rural residential, agricultural, timber production, and undeveloped. Six soil associations are present within the project study area. The Turbeville-Caroline association is a well-drained soil located on uplands and has a loamy surface layer with a clayey subsoil. The Gritney-Caroline association is a moderately well-drained to well-drained soil located on ridgetops and side slopes and has a loamy surface layer with a clayey subsoil. The Norfolk-Bonneu-Goldsboro association occurs on ridgetops and side slopes. The Craven-Bethera-Lenior association consists of moderately well-drained to poorly-drained soils that have a loamy surface layer and clayey subsoil and occurs on uplands. The Wickham-Altavista association is characteristic of narrow flood plains along the Roanoke River. The Wehadkee-Chastain association consists of poorly-drained to well-drained soils that have a loamy surface layer and loamy subsoil and occurs on flood plains. The project study area is composed of nine different vegetative communities: Coastal Plain Bottomland Hardwoods (Brownwater Subtype); Coastal Plain Semi-permanent Impoundment; Coastal Plain Small Stream Swamp (Brownwater Subtype); Wet pine Flatwoods; Non-riverine Wet Hardwood Flat; Dry-Mesic Oak-Hickory Forest; Mesic Mixed hardwood Forest (Coastal Plain Subtype); Mesic Pine Flatwoods; and Maintained/Disturbed Lands

Other Required Authorizations

This notice and all applicable application materials are being forwarded to the appropriate State agencies for review. The Corps will generally not make a final permit decision until the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) issues, denies, or waives State certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (PL 92-500). The application for A Section 401 certification will be submitted to the NCDWQ after the LEDPA has been chosen and the final design plans are available. Additional information regarding the Clean Water Act certification process may be obtained from the NCDWQ Central Office, Transportation Permitting Unit, 2321 Crabtree Boulevard, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-2260, Attn: Mr. Brian Wrenn

Essential Fish Habitat

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Corps' initial determination is that the proposed project will not adversely impact EFH or associated fisheries managed by the South Atlantic or Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Councils or the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Cultural Resources

The Corps has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and has determined that registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are located within the project area and/or will be affected by the proposed work. NCDOT, in consultation with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) determined in November, 2007, that out of the thirty-five properties listed, only seven have been identified as having potential adverse effects and three no adverse effects, based on current designs. No archeological surveys have been completed so far. The applicant has stated that a detailed archeological survey/study will be completed once the recommended alternative is selected.

Endangered Species

The Corps has reviewed the project area, examined all information provided by the applicant and consulted the latest North Carolina Natural Heritage Database. Based on available information, the Corps is not aware of the presence of species listed as threatened or endangered or their critical habitat formally designated pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) within the project area. A final determination on the effects of the proposed project will be made upon additional review of the project and completion of any necessary biological assessment and/or consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or National Marine Fisheries Service.

Evaluation

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will

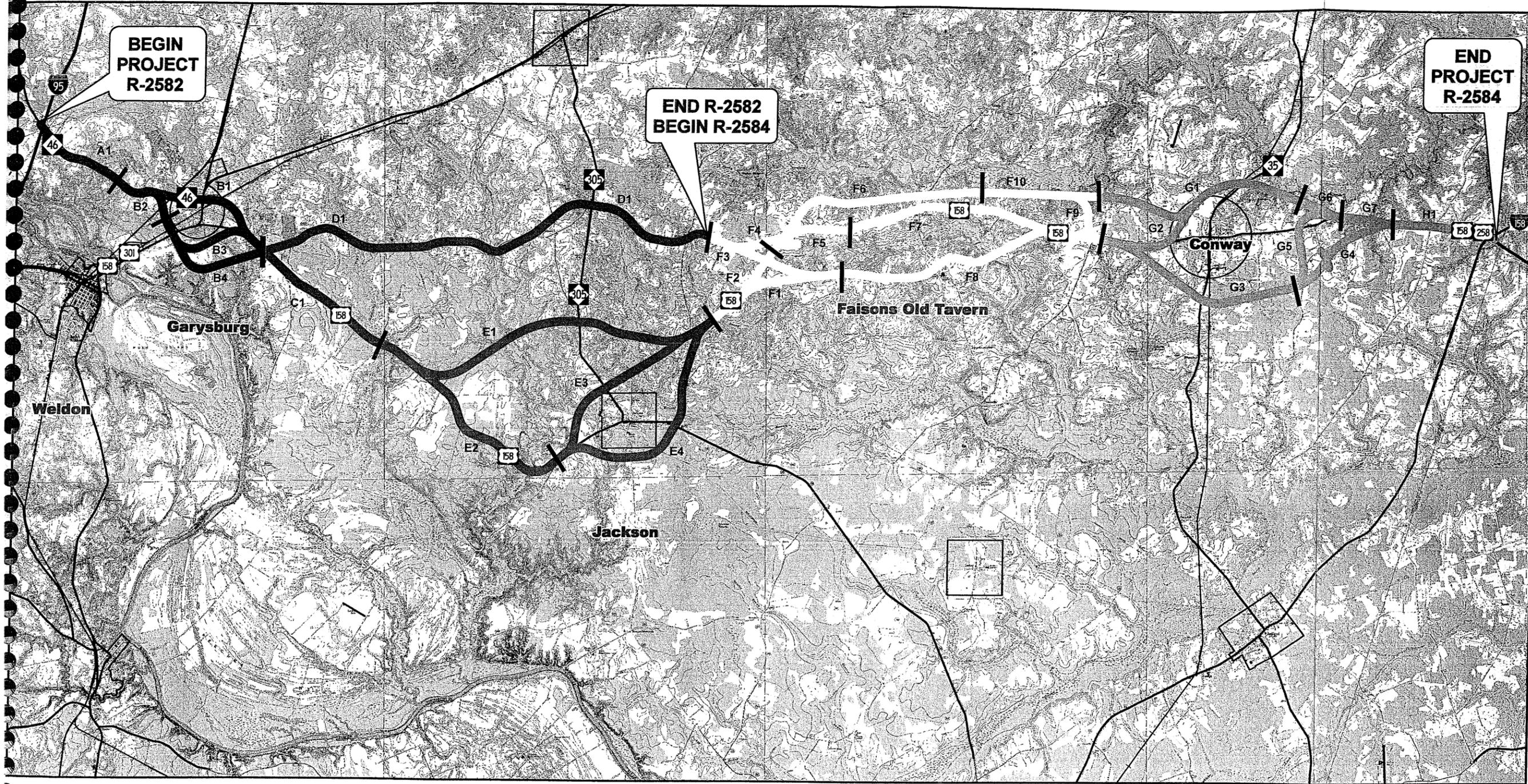
reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values (in accordance with Executive Order 11988), land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill materials in waters of the United States, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines.

Commenting Information

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing shall be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

Written comments pertinent to the proposed work, as outlined above, will be received by the Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, until 5pm, October 3, 2008. Comments should be submitted to Mr. Bill Biddlecome, US Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Regulatory Field Office, Post Office Box 1000, Wilmington 27889-1000.



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

VICINITY MAP
WIDENING OF US 158
FROM THE I-95/NC 46 INTERCHANGE
WEST OF GARYSBURG TO THE
MURFREESBORO BYPASS
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
TIP PROJECT R-2582 & R-2584



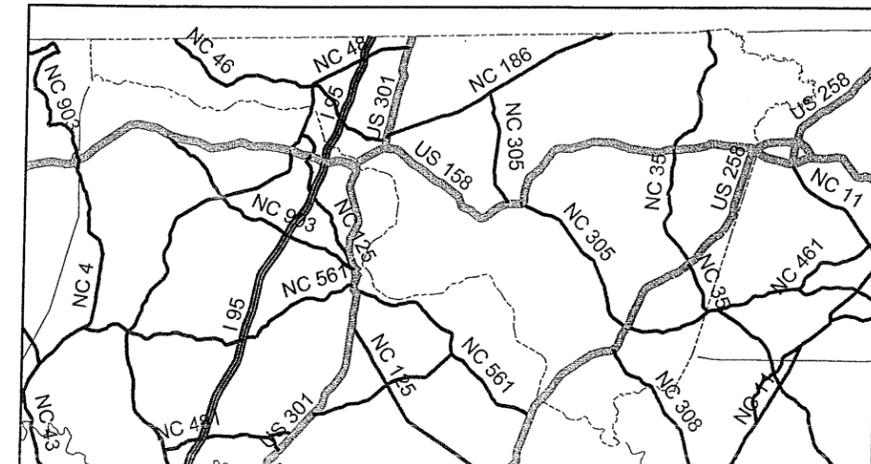
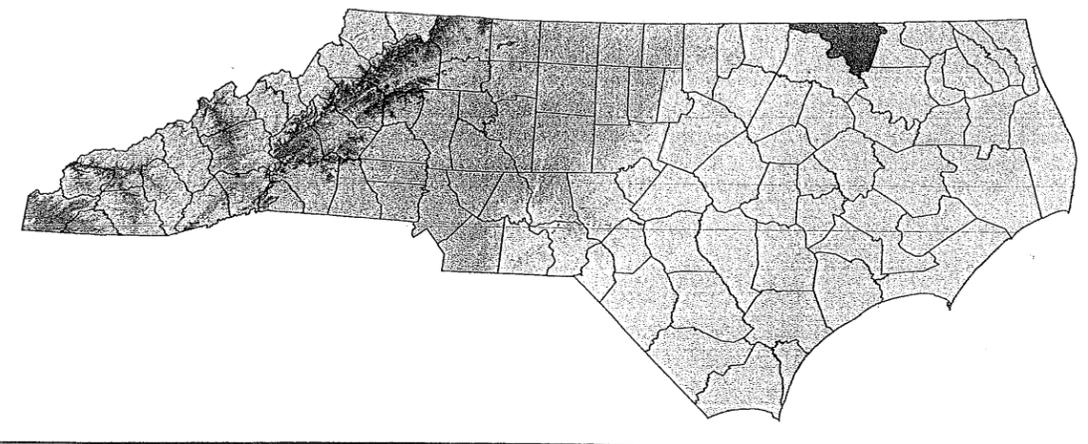
County: Northampton

Div: 1	TIP# R-2582 & R-2584
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WBS: 34472.1.1

Date: FEBRUARY 2008

FIGURES
1



LEGEND	
Garysburg Alternatives	
Jackson Alternatives	
Faisons Alternatives	
Conway Alternatives	
Alternative Segment	E1, G4