



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

NCDOT/ Hampstead Bypass US 17, New Hanover and Pender Counties, NC (Regulatory)

- **Regulatory Action:** Reviewing NCDOT's request for a wetland fill permit under the NEPA/EIS process associated with the extension of Military Cutoff Road, referred to as the Hampstead Bypass.
- **Current Conditions:** The first phase Military Cut Off to I-140 is under construction. Future year modification anticipated for the Hampstead By - Pass portion.



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 07

DATES: 25 March 2019

1. PURPOSE:

To provide the status of the proposed Hampstead Bypass, New Hanover and Pender Counties, North Carolina. (T.I.P. No. U-4751 and R-3300, Action ID SAW-2007-1386).

2. BACKGROUND:

- a. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) was pursuing the permit of a new highway extending Military Cutoff Road in New Hanover County to I-140 and continuing northeast around Hampstead to US Hwy 17 just below Holly Shelter Game Lands, Pender County.
- b. The project was reviewed within the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)/404 Merger Process, a streamline process intended to merge the requirements of NEPA with the 404 b (1) guidelines of the Clean Water Act.
- c. The Corps served as the lead federal agency for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) released in the fall of 2011 and the Final (EIS) released in July of 2014.

3. **CURRENT STATUS:**

- a. The Corps issued a phased permit on July 25, 2017 which allowed the Military Cut-Off extension phase to progress into construction. The phase north of I-140 would be addressed with a future modification once NCDOT has final roadway plans complete.
- b. Construction commenced in 2018 for the Military Cutoff Extension portion of the roadway project.
- c. According to NCDOT, the Military Cut-off extension will require four years to complete. The aforementioned modification is anticipated during this four year construction window.