



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Wilmington District

**NCDOT/SCDOT Carolina Bays Parkway
Horry County, SC and Brunswick
County, NC
(Regulatory Permitting)**

Regulatory Office: Washington, WRDA Branch

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CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 7

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1. **PROJECT:**

Construction of a new highway extending SC 31 from SC 9 in Horry County, SC to US 17 in Brunswick County, NC.

2. **CONCERNS/CHALLENGES:**

National Environmental Policy Act: Large EIS level project involving two (2) USACE Districts and multiple state/federal agencies.

The evaluation is following the framework of the One Federal Decision (EO 13807). NCDOT is unable to adequately fund the project which has led the lead agency, FHWA, to slow/stall the evaluation.

Public concerns: The project has the potential to impact smaller communities and/or larger residential areas.

Major USACE concerns: This project includes a complex alternatives analysis, with each alternative containing a substantial number of aquatic impacts. A robust compensatory mitigation plan will be required.

3. **CURRENT STATUS:**

Due to the evaluation delay stated above, all future actions including the Draft and Final EIS, and the Record of Decision has been delayed. An expected timeline has not been released by FHWA.

4. **NEXT STEPS:**

Once NCDOT funding has been secured, project evaluation is expected to resume. The Merger Process will continue to be used for the combined NEPA/Section 404 evaluation.

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