MINUTES NORTH CAROLINA SEDIMENTATION CONTROL COMMISSION COMMISSION'S TECHINCAL COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 17, 2022 ONLINE WEBEX MEETING

The North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission's Commission Technical Committee met on February 17, 2022, at 3:30 p.m. online via WebEx. The following persons were in attendance for all or part of the meeting:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Mark Taylor (Chair) Ms. Karyn Pageau (Vice-Chair) Mr. AJ Lang Mr. Donald Pearson Ms. Robin Smith Ms. Toni Norton

OTHERS

Ms. Julie Coco, State Sediment Specialist, DEMLR, DEQ Ms. Rebecca Coppa, Sediment Education Specialist, DEMLR, DEQ

Minutes:

The meeting began at 3:30 pm.

Draft meeting minutes from 1/19/22 were approved by consensus.

Mr. Lang began by going over his and Ms. Pageau's workgroup updates. Mr. Lang began by discussing the <u>proposed changes to Temporary Stream Crossing Standards</u>. Their key impressions included that the current standard can be expanded to encompass more stream crossing situations that are typically encountered; that information about approach ways to crossing could be included, and that information within the planning section can be expanded upon to increase awareness. They include references to the PA, VA, and NCDOT manuals in their recommendations. Mr. Lang went over some of the notable items they found in these manuals regarding temporary stream crossings. They did not identify research specific to temporary stream crossings for construction purposes, but there is a lot of research out there about forestry stream crossings. Mr. Lang then went over the highlights of their workgroup's current recommendations for updating the Temporary Stream Crossing Standard.

Ms. Pageau added that when they first started to look at Temporary Stream Crossings they did a couple of meetings with DEMLR regional staff from different parts of the state and that's

where a lot of the discussion and feedback originated from addressed in their recommendations. Along with those discussions and feedback, they also pulled ideas from different places and agencies. They also considered that more information about the pump around process should be added, either as a new standard or to the Temporary Stream Crossing section. They felt that it would be worthwhile to provide additional schematics in the manual, especially for stream divergence and how you keep that live flowing water clean as you bypass the construction area. One thing that came out of the meetings with DEMLR regional staff was the consensus to remove fords from the Temporary Stream Crossing Standard.

Mr. Lang then moved on to their proposed changes to Temporary Construction Entrances. Mr. Lang also added that they have put their full recommended edits to their sections in their workgroup folder and then opened it up to questions/discussion. Mr. Pearson asked if anyone knew how the original guidance for construction entrances was developed/where it came from and theorized that it was mostly to help construction equipment gain traction to get onto roads. He also asked how often everyone sees wheel wash stations in the field/on plans. Ms. Pageau said that she only sees it maybe once every couple of years. Some discussion was held on construction entrances options and their respective pitfalls.

Mr. Taylor presented on his part of his and Ms. Norton's workgroup updates, Temporary Seeding and Mulching. As part of the review, he looked at AL, GA, and NCSU. He went through his recommendations, comments, and edits within the standard. Mr. Taylor also noted that IL's manual had had plans and specifications sections that inform the designer what the project plans and specs should include and commented that is something DEMLR may want to consider adding to their sections. Another question Mr. Taylor posed for consideration is if the fertilizer ratio should be revisited and altered from 10-10-10 to for example what AL has, 8-24-24, which has less nitrogen, more potash and potassium, encouraging better root development. Another question he raised for consideration is the spec that says if hydraulic seeder is used to not mix fertilizer and seed more than 30 minutes before application, but that it doesn't say why. In the AL manual, they say that fertilizer should not be mixed with seed inoculant mixture because fertilizer salts may damage the seed and reduce germination and seeding vigor and that fertilizer may be applied with hydraulic seeder as a separate operation after seedlings are established. This is also supported by NCSU's soil facts publication. Mr. Taylor next went to the tables and asked if the species should be revisited for all seasons and expand the options listed. Ms. Smith asked if anyone remembered the name of the gentleman who did a lot of native seed research a few years back. Mr. Taylor said he didn't but that there is a slew of native species in the permanent seeding standard. Mr. Lang added that the NCF Forestry BMP Manual does recommend some temporary options of native grass seed on page 116 that could be considered. Mr. Taylor added that one reason to look at adding more species is to give contractors a wider range of options, but would of course want to have evidence that they would germinate successfully in NC and prevent erosion. In the mulching table, he asked if they wanted to update the mulching materials and application rates. Question of if they should keep or update the chemical stabilizer names list. Proposing looking at different tip options to make

the manual more user friendly, like adding "Fun Fact" and "Pro Tip" tags, similar to NCDOT's manual. Mr. Taylor raised the question if emulsified asphalt should be removed or kept in the manual and noted that NCDOT doesn't promote it but does allow it except in HQW areas. It was also asked if asphalt could be removed from the manual but still be approved on a case-by-case basis by the plan reviewers. Ms. Coco said that that not having it in the manual doesn't prohibit the use of it, it just doesn't recommend it. Mr. Taylor asked Ms. Coco to discuss it with other DEMLR staff to see how this should be handled, leave as is, remove completely, or somewhere in-between.

Ms. Norton presented on her part of her and Mr. Taylor's workgroup updates, Compost Socks and Compost Blankets. As part of the review, she looked at AL, GA, IL, TN, and NCDOT. Ms. Norton summarized what the different manuals contained in reference to compost socks and blankets. Ms. Norton added that she would work on an edited PDF of the respective manual sections now that her literature review is done and get that added to the CTC SharePoint.

Mr. Taylor opened the floor for questions for their workgroup. Mr. Pearson addressed the fiberglass question that Mr. Taylor had earlier. Ms. Smith had a follow-up question for Mr. Lang about if there was also sourcing information of the native species listed in the forestry manual. Mr. Lang said they were recommended by the forestry TAC (Technical Advisory Committee) and that they said they were readily available. Mr. Pearson added that NCDOT has a native/riparian mix that they use around flood plains that they've gotten from working with the NCSU Turf Grass folks. Mr. Pearson and Ms. Pageau noted that the PA manual had rankings for sediment removal efficiencies and that the CTC/DEMLR could consider something similar. Mr. Pearson also noted that the PA manual had a section in their manual that had a protocol for how to handle/propose new products/procedures/or a new/creative combination of BMPS. Mr. Taylor asked Ms. Pageau if he and Mr. Lang had discussed a tiered approach to stream crossings depending on the size of the stream. Ms. Pageau confirmed that they were thinking about that and other situations like wetlands and ponds.

The general question was broached if an in-person meeting was desired with mixed feedback.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for 3:30 – 5:00pm on March 17, 2022.

Mr. Taylor adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm