



MONITORING YEAR 3 ANNUAL BUFFER REPORT FINAL

## **CATFISH POND MITIGATION SITE**

Durham County, NC NCDEQ Contract No. 007424 DMS Project No. 100039 NCDWR Project No. 2018-0196 RFP No. 16-007279

Neuse River Basin HUC 03020201

Data Collection Period: September 2022 Draft Submission Date: November 2022 Final Submission Date: December 2022

#### PREPARED FOR:



NC Department of Environmental Quality Division of Mitigation Services 1652 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1652 **PREPARED BY:** 



Wildlands Engineering, Inc. 312 West Millbrook Road, Suite 225 Raleigh, NC 27609

> Jason Lorch jlorch@wildlandseng.com Phone: (919) 851-9986

## CATFISH POND MITIGATION SITE

Monitoring Year 3 Buffer Report

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# Section 1: PROJECT OVERVIEW

## **1.1 Project Summary**

Wildlands Engineering, Inc. (Wildlands) implemented a full delivery project at the Catfish Pond Mitigation Site (Site) for the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Division of Mitigation Services (DMS). A total of 7,140 linear feet of perennial and intermittent streams were restored and enhanced in Durham County, NC. A conservation easement comprised of 20.73 acres along Catfish Creek and three unnamed tributaries in the Neuse River Basin are included in the project. A total of 18.22 acres (793,207 ft<sup>2</sup>) of riparian buffer have been restored or enhanced and are expected to generate 523,358.865 riparian buffer credits, with potential to convert some buffer credits to nutrient offset credits dependent on the need. The Site is located approximately 12 miles north of the City of Durham and approximately 3 miles east of the Orange County/Durham County border (Figure 1). The project resides within Hydrologic Unit Code 03020201020040 and North Carolina Department of Water Resources (NCDWR) Sub-basin 03-04-01. Two unnamed tributaries (UT1 and UT2) drain to Catfish Creek, which drains to Mountain Creek, and one unnamed tributary (Mountain Tributary) drains directly to Mountain Creek. Mountain Creek flows into Little River, the Eno River, and then Falls Lake. Falls Lake is classified as Water Supply Waters (WS-IV) and Nutrient Sensitive Waters (NSW).

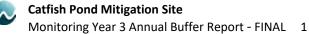
Work at the Site was planned, designed, and constructed per the Catfish Pond Mitigation Site – Riparian Buffer Mitigation Plan (Wildlands, 2019) and the Consolidated Buffer Mitigation Rule 15A NCAC 02B .0295 (effective November 1, 2015). The purpose of the riparian buffer restoration is to provide riparian buffer credits to compensate for buffer impacts within the Hydrologic Unit Code 03020201 and the Falls Lake Watershed. The service area for the riparian buffer credits is depicted in Figure 2. The mitigation credits generated from the Site are included in Table 1 and illustrated in Figure 3 located in Appendix 1. With the addition of Catfish Pond II Mitigation Bank Parcel (Catfish Pond II, DWR Project Number 2018-0196v2), it is not necessary to deduct credits for lack of diffuse flow where Ditch D enters the DMS conservation easement. The Catfish Pond II conservation easement completely encompasses Ditch D allowing for diffuse flow through the riparian buffer. Fencing has been installed around Catfish Pond II (Appendix 1, Figure 4).

## **1.2** Project Goals and Objectives

Prior to construction, the primary degradation of Catfish Creek was the creation of Catfish Pond sometime between 1940 and 1955. Within the same period, extensive logging and farm road construction took place. Aerial photographs from 1972 suggest that UT1 had been straightened for agricultural purposes. Catfish Creek above and below the pond, UT2, and Mountain Tributary showed few signs of channel manipulation.

The major goals of the riparian restoration project are to provide ecological and water quality enhancements to the Neuse River Watershed within the Falls Lake Water Supply Watershed by creating a functional riparian corridor and restoring the riparian area. The project supports specific goals identified in the 2010 Neuse River Basin Restoration Priorities (RBRP) for the Neuse River Targeted Local Watershed, which highlights the importance of riparian buffers for stream restoration projects (Breeding, 2010). Forested riparian areas immobilize and retain nutrients and suspended sediment. The RBRP also supports the Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy (NCDWR, 2011). Falls Lake is the receiving water supply water body downstream of the Site and is classified as WS-IV and NSW. Specific enhancements to water quality and ecological processes are outlined below:

• Exclude cattle from project streams – Fencing has been installed around project areas adjacent to cattle pastures.



- Decrease nutrient levels Filtering runoff from the agricultural fields through restored native riparian zones. The off-site nutrient input is absorbed on-site by filtering flood flows through restored floodplain areas, where flood flows can disperse through native vegetation.
- Decrease water temperature and increase dissolved oxygen concentrations Riparian areas will create additional long-term shading of the channel flow to reduce thermal pollution.
- Restore and enhance native floodplain vegetation Planted native tree species in riparian zone where tree growth was insufficient.
- Permanently protect the project Site from harmful uses Established a conservation easement on the site.

The 20.73-acre Site is protected with a permanent conservation easement. Of the 20.73 acres, Neuse riparian buffer credits were generated by restoring 5.92 acres and enhancing 12.30 acres. No buffer credit will be generated from the remaining 2.51 acres. In general, riparian buffer restoration area widths on streams extend out to 50 feet from top of bank on each side of the stream channel. Figure 3 and Table 1 in Appendix 1 detail the buffer credit generation.

## 1.3 Monitoring Year 3 Data Assessment

The Mitigation Plan (Wildlands, 2019) was submitted and accepted by DMS in July 2019. Construction activities by Main Stream Earthwork, Inc. and tree planting by Bruton Natural Systems, Inc. were both completed in March 2020. The baseline as-built survey was completed by Kee Mapping and Surveying in April 2020. Refer to Appendix 1 for detailed project activity, history, contact information, and watershed/site background information.

Vegetative performance for buffer restoration areas will be in accordance with 15A NCAC 02B .0295(n)(2)(B), and (n)(4) (effective November 1, 2015). To meet success criteria, areas generating buffer mitigation credits shall include a minimum of four native hardwood tree species, where no one species is greater than 50 percent of stems, and shall have a survival of at least 260 stems per acre at the end of the required five-year monitoring period. For monitoring to be completed and buffer credit to be awarded, NCDWR must provide written approval of successful revegetation of buffer restoration areas. Year 3 monitoring (MY3) was conducted to assess the condition of the vegetation in September 2022.

## 1.3.1 Vegetative Assessment

The quantity of monitoring vegetation plots was determined in accordance with the Carolina Vegetative Sampling Protocol (Lee et al., 2008) such that at least 2 percent of the Site is encompassed in monitoring plots. A total of 7 vegetation plots (each 100 square meters) were established within the conservation easement boundaries. The plot corners have been marked and are recoverable either through field identification or with the use of a GPS unit. Reference photographs are taken at the origin looking diagonally across the plot to the opposite corner on an annual basis. Trees will be marked annually with flagging tape. Species composition, vigor, height, density, and survival rates will be evaluated by plot on an annual basis. The extent of invasive species coverage will also be monitored and controlled as necessary.

The 2022 annual vegetation monitoring resulted in an average survival of 508 stems per acre of Mitigation Plan Approved species, which exceeds the final requirement of 260 stems per acre at the end of Monitoring Year 5. Plot stem densities range from 324 to 607 stems per acre and each plot includes at least four planted species. Volunteer stems have begun to establish themselves and include desirable species such as American persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*), eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), and sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*). The Site is on track to surpass the final success criteria. Refer to Appendix 2 for the vegetation condition assessment table, the monitoring plan view map, vegetation

plot and overview photographs. Appendix 3 contains vegetation plot data and the vegetation performance summary table.

## 1.3.2 Vegetation Areas of Concern

While planted trees are growing well, pasture grasses are still thick. To ensure planted trees remain competitive, herbicide ring sprays were applied around the base of trees where necessary in April 2022.

Invasive species at Catfish Pond have been greatly reduced by past treatments throughout the site. However, Wildlands recognizes that multiple treatments are typically needed for effective invasive plant control. Sporadic patches of multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*) and blackberry (*Rubus spp.*) on the upstream portion of UT1 had begun to compete with planted trees and were treated in May 2022 with a foliar spray application of triclopyr herbicide. Intermittent resprouts of multiflora rose, Chinese Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*), and tree-of-heaven (*Alianthus altissima*), were also treated along Catfish Creek with triclopyr and glyphosate using situation and plant appropriate forms of application.

## 1.4 Monitoring Year 3 Summary

Vegetation across the Parcel is exceeding performance standards. Monitoring Year 3 data shows an average density of 508 stems per acre across vegetation plots. The Parcel is on track to achieve the final success criteria of 260 stems per acre at the end of Monitoring Year 5. In addition, desirable volunteer species such as American persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) and eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) are establishing themselves. Sporadic resprouts of invasive vegetation were treated and herbicide ring sprays were applied around trees in Monitoring Year 3. Wildlands will continue to monitor and treat as necessary. Additional herbicide ring sprays will be applied as needed around the base of trees in areas of thick herbaceous competition in spring 2023.

Summary information/data related to the performance of various project and monitoring elements can be found in the tables and figures in the report appendices. Narrative background and supporting information, formerly found in these reports, can be found in the Mitigation Plan (Wildlands, 2019) available on DMS's website. All raw data supporting the tables and figures in the appendices are available from DMS upon request.



# Section 2: REFERENCES

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https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/Mitigation%20Services/Watershed\_Planning/Neuse\_River\_Basin/FINAL%2 0RBRP%20Neuse%202010\_%2020111207%20CORRECTED.pdf

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- North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS). 2017. Riparian Buffer and Nutrient Offset Buffer Baseline and Annual Monitoring Report Template version 2.0 Accessed at:

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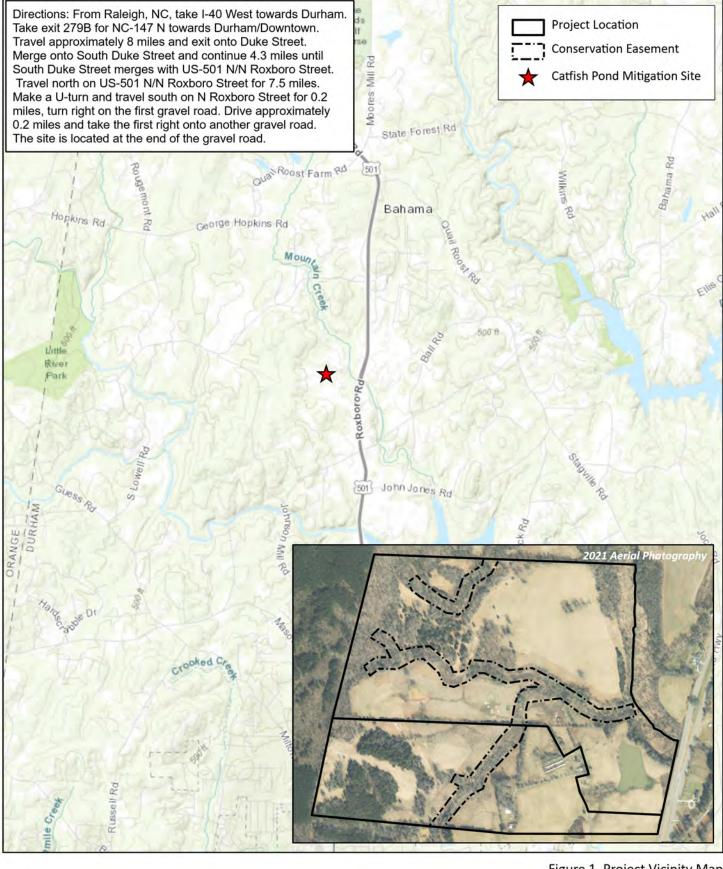
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Wildlands Engineering, Inc. 2019. Catfish Pond Mitigation Site – Riparian Buffer Mitigation Plan. North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS), Raleigh, NC.

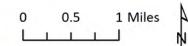


APPENDIX 1. General Figures and Tables



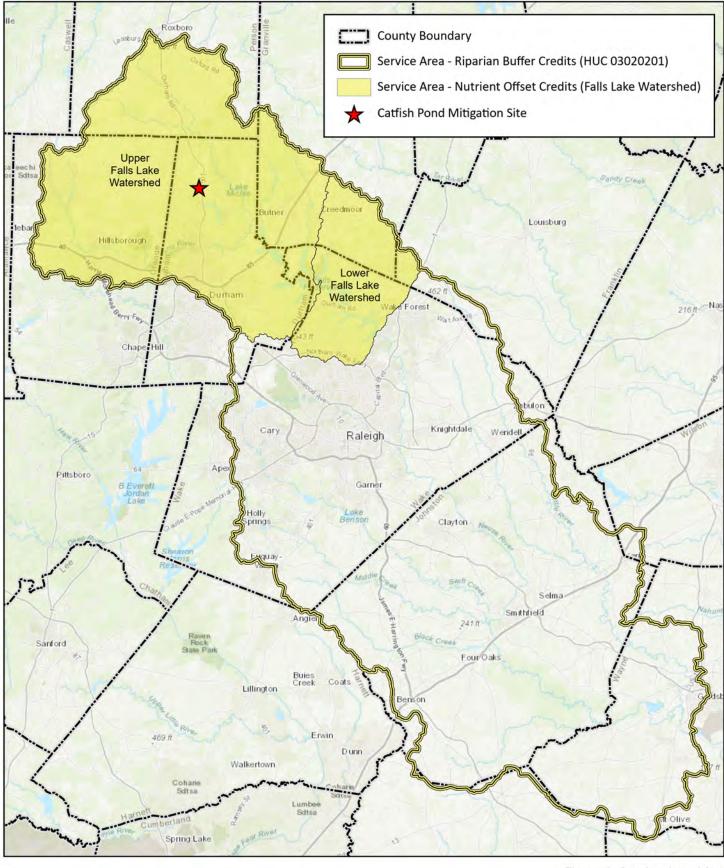






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Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map **Catfish Pond Mitigation Site** Monitoring Year 3 – 2022 Neuse River Basin (03020201)





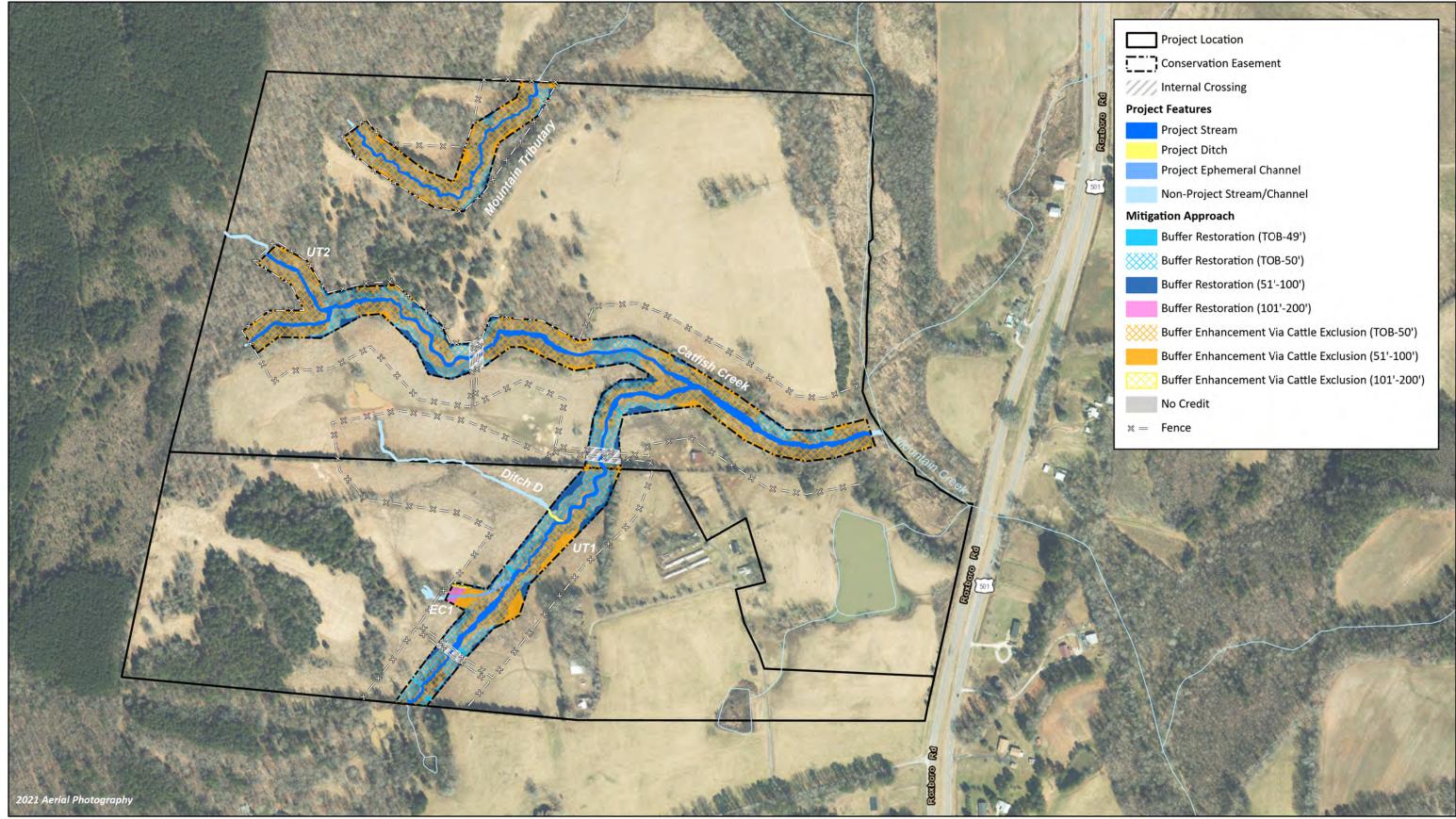


0 5 10 Miles

A

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Figure 2. Service Area Map Catfish Pond Mitigation Site Monitoring Year 3 – 2022 Neuse River Basin (03020201)







| 0 |   | 400 |   | 800 Feet |  |
|---|---|-----|---|----------|--|
|   | 1 |     | 1 |          |  |

| 1 38 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10         | 10-        |
|---|------------|
| Project Location                                    |            |
| Conservation Easement                               |            |
| //// Internal Crossing                              |            |
| Project Features                                    |            |
| Project Stream                                      |            |
| Project Ditch                                       |            |
| Project Ephemeral Channel                           |            |
| Non-Project Stream/Channel                          |            |
| Mitigation Approach                                 |            |
| Buffer Restoration (TOB-49')                        |            |
| Buffer Restoration (TOB-50')                        |            |
| Buffer Restoration (51'-100')                       | N          |
| Buffer Restoration (101'-200')                      |            |
| Buffer Enhancement Via Cattle Exclusion (TOB-50')   |            |
| Buffer Enhancement Via Cattle Exclusion (51'-100')  | 5          |
| Buffer Enhancement Via Cattle Exclusion (101'-200') | Control of |
| No Credit   |            |
| × = Fence   |            |
|   |            |

Figure 3. Project Component/Asset Map Catfish Pond Mitigation Site Monitoring Year 3 – 2022 Neuse River Basin (03020201)

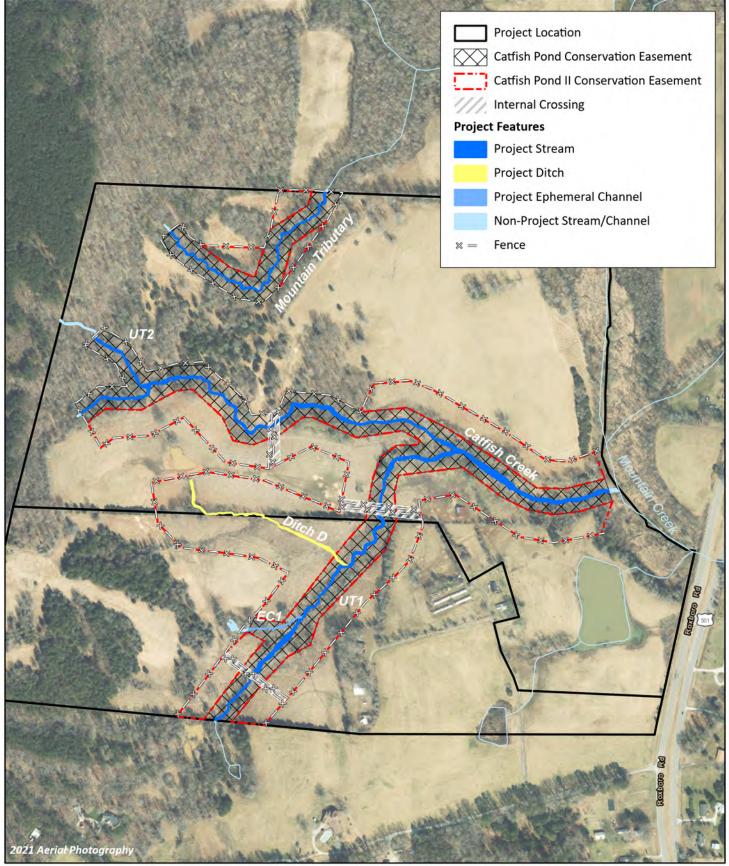


Figure 4. Catfish Pond II Mitigation Bank Parcel Site Map Catfish Pond Mitigation Site Monitoring Year 3 – 2022 500 Feet Neuse River Basin (03020201)



250 0

Table 1. Buffer Project Areas and Assets

Catfish Pond Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100039 Monitoring Year 3 - 2022

| Ne          | euse 0302020 | 01 - Upper Falls La  | ake          | Project Area                        |   |   |                               |  |                               |               |                             |                                       |                            |                                       |  |  |
|-------------|--------------|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
|             | 19           | 9.16394  |              | N Credit Conversion                 | Ratio (ft²/pound                            | 4)  |                               |  |                               |               |                             |                                       |                            |                                       |  |  |
|             | 29           | 7.54099  |              | P Credit Conversion                 | t Conversion Ratio (ft <sup>2</sup> /pound) |   |                               |  |                               |               |                             |                                       |                            |                                       |  |  |
| Credit Type | Location     | Subject? (enter<br>NO if<br>ephemeral or<br>ditch <sup>1</sup> ) | Feature Type | Mitigation Activity                 | Min-Max Buffer<br>Width (ft)                | Feature Name                              | Total Area (ft <sup>2</sup> ) | Total<br>(Creditable)<br>Area of Buffer<br>Mitigation (ft <sup>2</sup> ) | Initial Credit<br>Ratio (x:1) | % Full Credit | Final Credit<br>Ratio (x:1) | Convertible<br>to Riparian<br>Buffer? | Riparian Buffer<br>Credits | Convertible to<br>Nutrient<br>Offset? | Delivered<br>Nutrient Offset:<br>N (lbs) | Delivered<br>Nutrient<br>Offset: P (lbs) |
| Buffer      | Rural        | Yes  | I / P        | Restoration                         | 0-50  | Catfish Creek, UT1                        | 4,369                         | 4,369  | 1                             | 100%          | 1.00000                     | Yes                                   | 4,369.000                  | No                                    | -  | -  |
| Buffer      | Rural        | Yes  | I / P        | Restoration                         | 0-100                                       | Catfish Creek, UT1, UT2,<br>Mountain Trib | 252,086                       | 252,086  | 1                             | 100%          | 1.00000                     | Yes                                   | 252,086.000                | Yes                                   | 13,154.184                               | 847.231                                  |
| Buffer      | Rural        | Yes  | I / P        | Restoration                         | 101-200                                     | UT1                                       | 1,063                         | 1,063  | 1                             | 33%           | 3.03030                     | Yes                                   | 350.790                    | Yes                                   | 55.469                                   | 3.573                                    |
| Buffer      | Rural        | Yes  | I / P        | Enhancement via<br>Cattle Exclusion | 0-100                                       | Catfish Creek, UT1, UT2,<br>Mountain Trib | 531,834                       | 531,834  | 2                             | 100%          | 2.00000                     | Yes                                   | 265,917.000                | No                                    | -  | -  |
| Buffer      | Rural        | Yes  | I / P        | Enhancement via<br>Cattle Exclusion | 101-200                                     | UT1                                       | 3,855                         | 3,855  | 2                             | 33%           | 6.06061                     | Yes                                   | 636.075                    | No                                    | -  | -  |
|             | Totals:      |  |              |                                     |   |   | 793,207                       | 793,207  |                               |               |                             |                                       |                            |                                       |  |  |

| Enter Preserva | tion Credits | s Below  |              |                     |                              | Eligible fo  | r Preservation (ft <sup>2</sup> ): | 264,402   |                               |               |                             |                            |
|----------------|--------------|----------|--------------|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Credit Type    | Location     | Subject? | Feature Type | Mitigation Activity | Min-Max Buffer<br>Width (ft) | Feature Name |                                    | Total<br>(Creditable)<br>Area for Buffer<br>Mitigation (ft <sup>2</sup> ) | Initial Credit<br>Ratio (x:1) | % Full Credit | Final Credit<br>Ratio (x:1) | Riparian<br>Buffer Credits |
| Buffer         |              |          |              | Preservation        |                              |              |                                    |   |                               |               |                             | -                          |
|                |              |          |              |                     |                              | Burnatian    | Area Cubtatal (ft <sup>2</sup> ).  | 0   |                               |               |                             |                            |

| TOTAL AREA OF BUFFER MITIGATION (TABM) |             |              |             |  |  |  |  |
|--|-------------|--------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| Mitigatio                              | on Totals   | Square Feet  | Credits     |  |  |  |  |
| Restor                                 | ration:     | 257,518      | 256,805.790 |  |  |  |  |
| Enhanc                                 | ement:      | 535,689      | 266,553.075 |  |  |  |  |
| Preser                                 | vation:     | 0            | 0.000       |  |  |  |  |
| Total Ripar                            | ian Buffer: | 793,207      | 523,358.865 |  |  |  |  |
| TOT                                    | AL NUTRIENT | OFFSET MITIG | ATION       |  |  |  |  |
| Mitigatio                              | on Totals   | Square Feet  | Credits     |  |  |  |  |
| Nutrient                               | Nitrogen:   | 0            | 0.000       |  |  |  |  |
| Offset:                                | Phosphorus: | 5            | 0.000       |  |  |  |  |

Preservation Area Subtotal (ft<sup>2</sup>): 0

0.0% Preservation as % Total Area of Buffer Mitigation: Ephemeral Reaches as % Total Area of Buffer Mitigation: 0.0%

last updated 01/17/2020

#### Table 2. Project Activity and Reporting History Catfish Pond Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100039 Monitoring Year 3 - 2022

| Activity or Report  | Data Collection Complete | Completion or Scheduled Delivery |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mitigation Plan   | July 2019                | July 2019                        |
| Final Design - Construction Plans                             | August 2019              | August 2019                      |
| Construction  | February-March 2020      | March 2020                       |
| Temporary S&E mix applied to entire project area <sup>1</sup> | March 2020               | March 2020                       |
| Permanent seed mix applied to reach/segments <sup>1</sup>     | April 2020               | April 2020                       |
| Bare root and live stake plantings for reach/segments         | March 2020               | March 2020                       |
| Baseline Monitoring Document (Year 0)                         | March 2020               | June 2020                        |
| Competitive Vegetation Treatment <sup>2</sup>                 | •                        | April-May 2020                   |
| Invasive Vegetation Treatment                                 |                          | May & September 2020             |
| Year 1 Monitoring   | October 2020             | December 2020                    |
| Invasive Vegetation Treatment                                 |                          | September 2021                   |
| Year 2 Monitoring   | September 2021           | December 2021                    |
| Competitive Vegetation Treatment <sup>2</sup>                 |                          | April 2022                       |
| Invasive Vegetation Treatment                                 |                          | May 2022                         |
| Year 3 Monitoring   | September 2022           | December 2022                    |
| Year 4 Monitoring   | 2023                     | December 2023                    |
| Year 5 Monitoring   | 2024                     | December 2024                    |

<sup>1</sup>Seed and mulch is added as each section of construction is completed.
<sup>2</sup>Herbicide ring sprays around the base of planted stems.

#### Table 3. Project Contact Table

Catfish Pond Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100039 Monitoring Year 3 - 2022

|                         | Wildlands Engineering, Inc.           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Designer                | 497 Bramson Ct, Suite 104             |
| Daniel Johnson, PE      | Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464                |
|                         | 843.277.6221                          |
|                         | Main Stream Earthwork, Inc.           |
| Construction Crew       | 631 Camp Dan Valley Rd                |
|                         | Reidsville, NC 27320                  |
|                         | Bruton Natural Systems, Inc           |
| Planting Contractor     | P.O. Box 1197                         |
|                         | Fremont, NC 27830                     |
|                         | Canady's Landscaping & Erosion        |
| Seeding Contractor      | 256 Fairview Acres Rd                 |
|                         | Lexington, NC 27295                   |
| Seed Mix Sources        | Garrett Wildflower Seed Farm          |
|                         | 1591 Cleveland Rd                     |
|                         | Smithfield, NC 27577                  |
|                         | Ernst Conservation Seeds, Inc.        |
|                         | 8884 Mercer Pike                      |
|                         | Meadville, PA 16335                   |
| Nursery Stock Suppliers | Dykes and Sons Nursery and Greenhouse |
| Bare Roots              | 825 Maude Etter Rd                    |
|                         | McMinnville, TN 37110                 |
| Live Stakes             | Bruton Natural Systems, Inc           |
|                         | Foggy Mountain Nursery                |
|                         | 797 Helton Creek Rd                   |
|                         | Lansing, NC 28643                     |
| Monitoring Performers   | Wildlands Engineering, Inc.           |
| Monitoring, POC         | Jason Lorch                           |
|                         | 919.851.9986                          |

### Table 4. Project Information and Attributes

Catfish Pond Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100039 **Monitoring Year 3 - 2022** 

| PROJECT INFORMATION                                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Project Name  | Catfish Pond Mitigation Site                               |  |  |  |  |  |
| County  | Durham County  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project Coordinates (latitude and longitude)        | 36° 9′ 48.03″ N, 78° 54′ 37.66″ W                          |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project Area (acres)                                | 20.73  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Planted Acreage (acres of woody stems planted)      | 8.00   |  |  |  |  |  |
| PROJECT WATERSHED SUMMARY INFORMATION               |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Physiographic Province                              | Carolina Slate Belt of the Piedmont Physiographic Province |  |  |  |  |  |
| River Basin   | Neuse River  |  |  |  |  |  |
| USGS Hydrologic Unit 8-digit                        | 03020201   |  |  |  |  |  |
| USGS Hydrologic Unit 14-digit                       | 03020201020040   |  |  |  |  |  |
| DWR Sub-basin                                       | 03-04-01   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project Drainiage Area (acres)                      | 227 (Catfish Creek - 197, Mountain Tributary - 30)         |  |  |  |  |  |
| Project Drainage Area Percentage of Impervious Area | 0.0%   |  |  |  |  |  |
| CGIA Land Use Classification                        | 45.6% forested, 54.2% cultivated, 0.2% wetland             |  |  |  |  |  |

## Table 5. Adjacent Forested Areas Existing Tree and Shrub Species

Catfish Pond Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100039

## Monitoring Year 3 - 2022

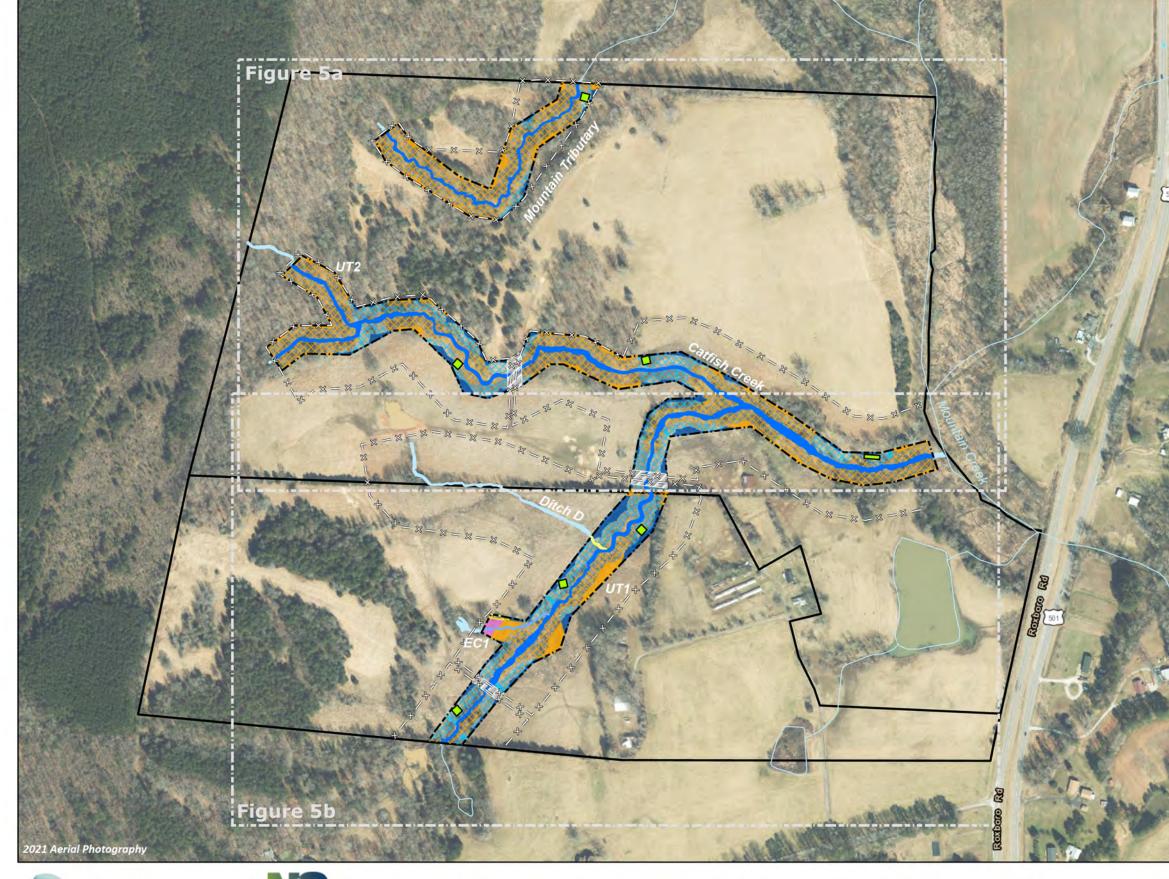
| Common Name       | Scientific Name         | Wetland Indicator<br>Status |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Black Willow      | Salix nigra             | OBL                         |
| Eastern Red Cedar | Juniperus virginiana    | FACU                        |
| Green Ash         | Fraxinus pennsylvanica  | FACW                        |
| Hazel Alder       | Alnus serrulata         | OBL                         |
| Paw Paw           | Asimina triloba         | FAC                         |
| Red Maple         | Acer rubrum             | FAC                         |
| Sweet Gum         | Liquidambar styraciflua | FAC                         |
| Sycamore          | Platanus occidentalis   | FACW                        |
| White Oak         | Quercus alba            | FACU                        |
| Yellow Poplar     | Liriodendron tulipifera | FACU                        |

## Table 6. Planted Tree Species

Catfish Pond Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100039 Monitoring Year 3 - 2022

| Common Name         | Scientific Name        | Number<br>Planted | % of Total |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Arrowwood Viburnum  | Viburnum dentatum      | 55                | 1.0%       |
| Green Ash           | Fraxinus pennsylvanica | 646               | 11.5%      |
| Overcup Oak         | Quercus lyrata         | 365               | 6.5%       |
| River Birch         | Betula nigra           | 927               | 16.5%      |
| Shumard Oak         | Quercus shumardii      | 646               | 11.5%      |
| Smooth Serviceberry | Amelanchier laevis     | 55                | 1.0%       |
| Swamp Chestnut Oak  | Quercus michauxii      | 646               | 11.5%      |
| Sycamore            | Platanus occidentalis  | 1,207             | 21.5%      |
| White Oak           | Quercus alba           | 365               | 6.5%       |
| Willow Oak          | Quercus phellos        | 646               | 11.5%      |
| Yellow Buckeye      | Aesculus flava         | 55                | 1.0%       |

**APPENDIX 2.** Visual Assessment Data



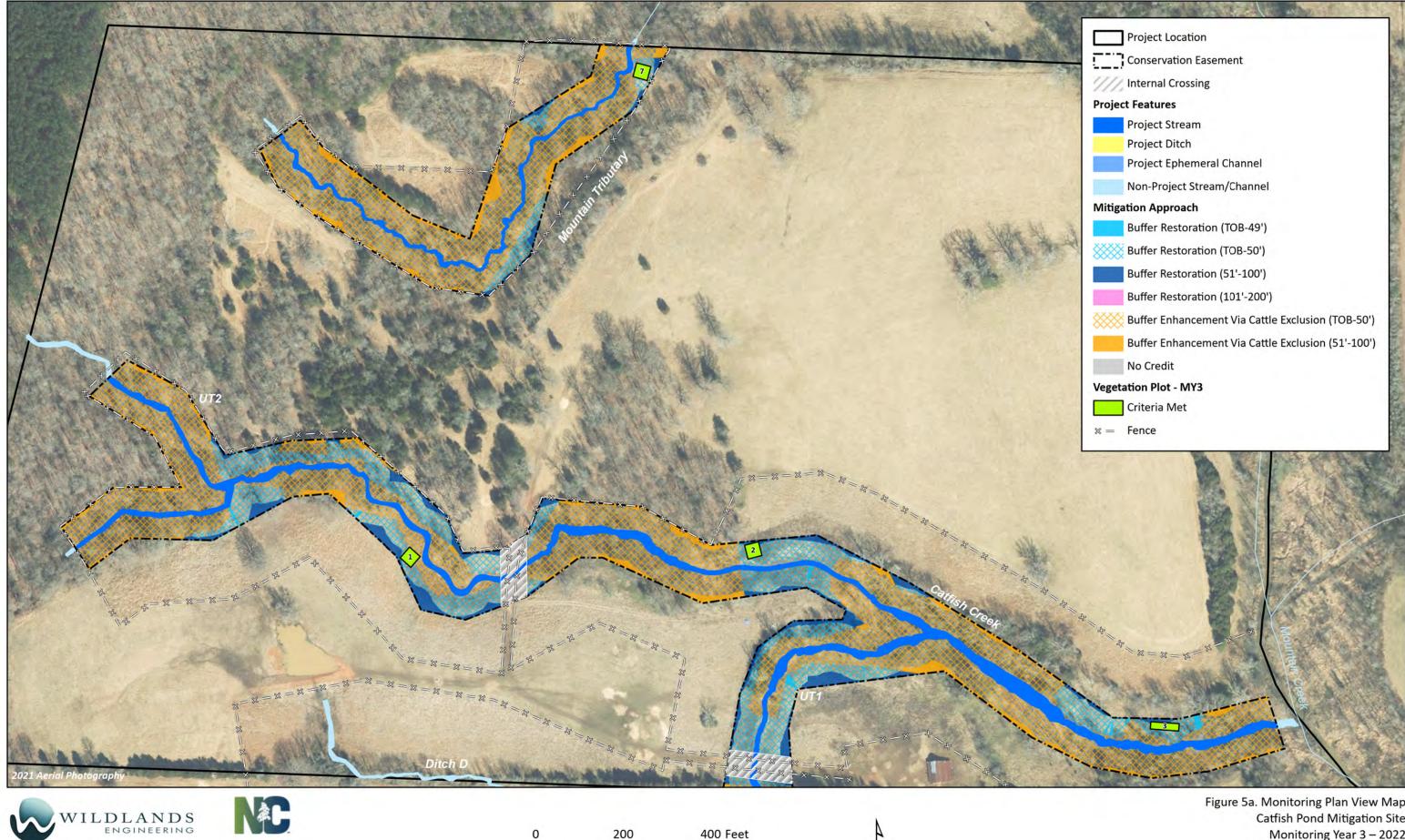




| 0 |   | 400 |   | 800 Feet |  |
|---|---|-----|---|----------|--|
| 1 | 1 | 1   | 1 |          |  |

| 1 381 10 200  |
|---|
| Project Location                                    |
| Conservation Easement                               |
| //// Internal Crossing                              |
| Project Features                                    |
| Project Stream                                      |
| Project Ditch                                       |
| Project Ephemeral Channel                           |
| Non-Project Stream/Channel                          |
| Mitigation Approach                                 |
| Buffer Restoration (TOB-49')                        |
| Buffer Restoration (TOB-50')                        |
| Buffer Restoration (51'-100')                       |
| Buffer Restoration (101'-200')                      |
| Buffer Enhancement Via Cattle Exclusion (TOB-50')   |
| Buffer Enhancement Via Cattle Exclusion (51'-100')  |
| Buffer Enhancement Via Cattle Exclusion (101'-200') |
| No Credit   |
| Vegetation Plot - MY3                               |
| Criteria Met  |
| x = Fence   |

Figure 5. Monitoring Plan View Map Catfish Pond Mitigation Site Monitoring Year 3 – 2022 Neuse River Basin (03020201)

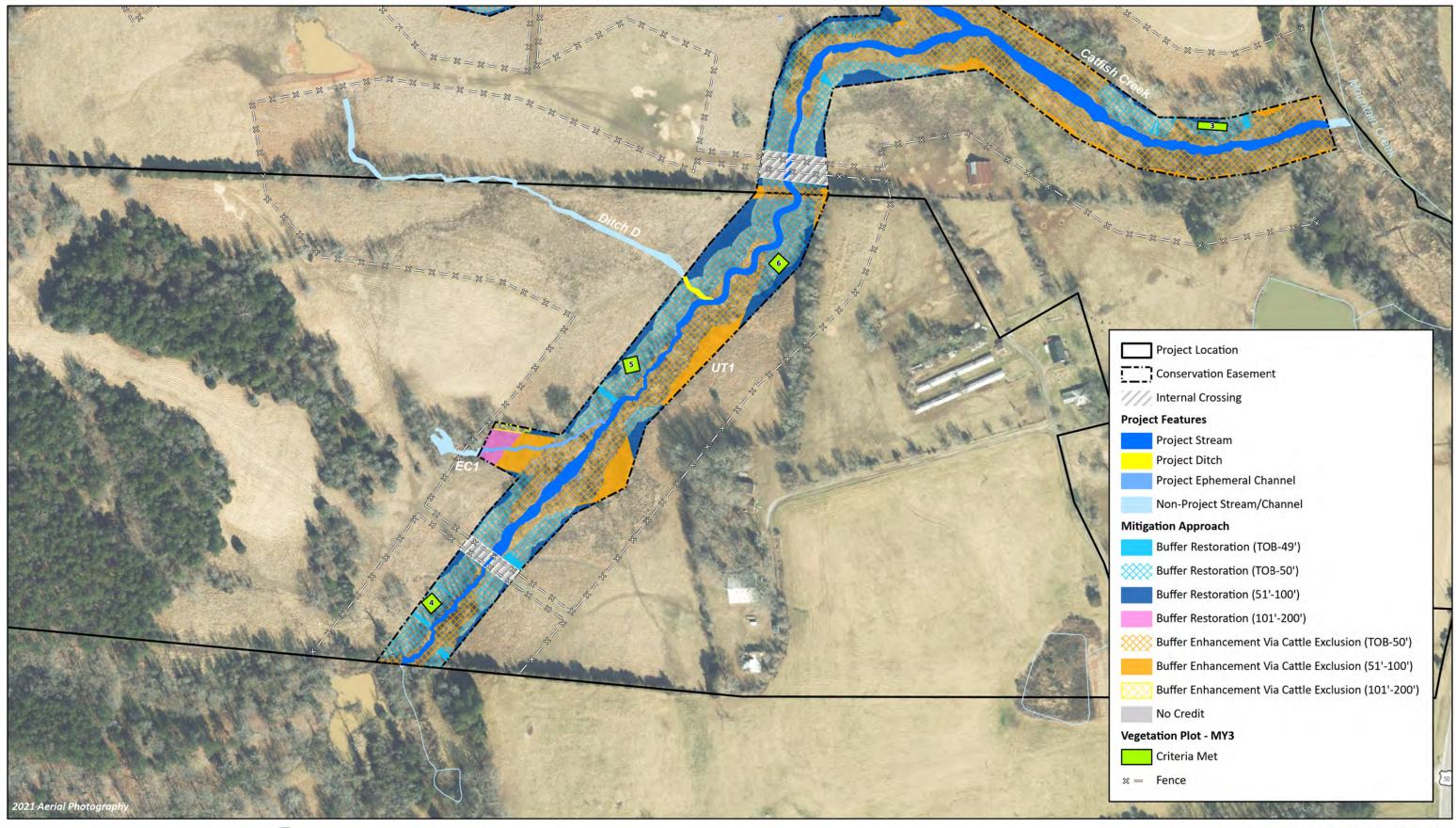




| 0 |   | 200 | 400 Feet |
|---|---|-----|----------|
|   | 1 | 1   |          |

| Project Location                                   |
|--|
| Conservation Easement                              |
| Internal Crossing                                  |
| Project Features                                   |
| Project Stream                                     |
| Project Ditch                                      |
| Project Ephemeral Channel                          |
| Non-Project Stream/Channel                         |
| Mitigation Approach                                |
| Buffer Restoration (TOB-49')                       |
| Buffer Restoration (TOB-50')                       |
| Buffer Restoration (51'-100')                      |
| Buffer Restoration (101'-200')                     |
| Buffer Enhancement Via Cattle Exclusion (TOB-50')  |
| Buffer Enhancement Via Cattle Exclusion (51'-100') |
| No Credit  |
| Vegetation Plot - MY3                              |
| Criteria Met                                       |
| × = Fence  |

Figure 5a. Monitoring Plan View Map Catfish Pond Mitigation Site Monitoring Year 3 – 2022 Neuse River Basin (03020201)







| 0 |   | 200 |   | 400 Feet |  |
|---|---|-----|---|----------|--|
| L | 1 | 1   | 1 |          |  |

Figure 5b. Monitoring Plan View Map Catfish Pond Mitigation Site Monitoring Year 3 – 2022 Neuse River Basin (03020201)

## Table 7. Vegetation Condition Assessment Table

Catfish Pond Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100039 Monitoring Year 3 - 2022

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| Planted Acreage               | 8.00  |                              |                     |                         |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Vegetation Category           | Definitions   | Mapping<br>Threshold<br>(ac) | Combined<br>Acreage | % of Planted<br>Acreage |
| Bare Areas                    | Very limited cover of both woody and herbaceous material.                                   | 0.10                         | 0                   | 0%                      |
| Low Stem Density<br>Areas     | Woody stem densities clearly below target levels based on MY3, 4, or 5 stem count criteria. | 0.10                         | 0                   | 0%                      |
|                               |   | Total                        | 0.00                | 0%                      |
| Areas of Poor Growth<br>Rates | Areas with woody stems of a size class that are obviously small given the monitoring year.  | 0.25                         | 0                   | 0%                      |
|                               | Cun   | nulative Total               | 0.00                | 0%                      |

Visual assessment was completed October 18, 2022.

#### Easement Acreage 20.73 Mapping % of Combined Vegetation Category Definitions Threshold Easement Acreage (ac) Acreage Invasive Areas of Areas of points (if too small to render as polygons at map scale). 0.10 0 0% Concern 0 Encroachments Noted Easement Areas of points (if too small to render as polygons at map scale). none Encroachment Areas / 0 ac

Visual assessment was completed October 18, 2022.

## **VEGETATION PLOT PHOTOGRAPHS**





**Catfish Pond Mitigation Site** Appendix 2: Visual Assessment Data – Vegetation Plot Photographs



VEG PLOT 7 (09/01/2022)



**OVERVIEW PHOTOGRAPHS** 

















**APPENDIX 3. Vegetation Plot Data** 

## Table 8. Vegetation Plot Criteria Attainment Table

Catfish Pond Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100039 Monitoring Year 3 - 2022

| Plot | Success Criteria Met* | Tract Mean |
|------|-----------------------|------------|
| 1    | Yes                   |            |
| 2    | Yes                   |            |
| 3    | Yes                   |            |
| 4    | Yes                   | 100%       |
| 5    | Yes                   |            |
| 6    | Yes                   |            |
| 7    | Yes                   |            |

\*Based on the target stem density for MY5 of 260 stems per acre.

#### Table 9. Vegetation Plot Data

Catfish Pond Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100039

Monitoring Year 3 - 2022

| Planted Acreage        | 8.00       |
|------------------------|------------|
| Date of Initial Plant  | 2020-03-25 |
| Date of Current Survey | 2022-09-22 |
| Plot size (ACRES)      | 0.0247     |

|                        | Scientific Name         | Common Name               | Tree/       | Indicator        | Veg P   | lot 1 F | Veg P   | lot 2 F | Veg Pl  | lot 3 F | Veg P   | lot 4 F | Veg P   | lot 5 F | Veg P   | lot 6 F | Veg F   | Plot 7 F |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
|                        | Scientific Name         | Common Name               | Shrub       | Status           | Planted | Total    |
|                        | Aesculus flava          | yellow buckeye            | Tree        | FACU             | 1       | 1       |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |
|                        | Betula nigra            | river birch               | Tree        | FACW             |         |         |         |         | 1       | 1       |         |         |         |         |         |         | 4       | 4        |
|                        | Fraxinus pennsylvanica  | green ash                 | Tree        | FACW             |         |         | 2       | 2       |         |         |         | 2       | 3       | 3       | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1        |
| Constant               | Platanus occidentalis   | American sycamore         | Tree        | FACW             | 4       | 7       | 6       | 6       | 3       | 3       | 8       | 8       | 2       | 2       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 6        |
| Species<br>Included in | Quercus alba            | white oak                 | Tree        | FACU             |         |         | 2       | 2       |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| Approved               | Quercus michauxii       | swamp chestnut oak        | Tree        | FACW             |         |         | 1       | 1       | 2       | 2       | 1       | 1       | 3       | 3       | 2       | 2       |         |          |
| Mitigation Plan        | Quercus pagoda          | cherrybark oak            | Tree        | FACW             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |
|                        | Quercus phellos         | willow oak                | Tree        | FAC              | 4       | 5       |         |         | 2       | 2       | 1       | 1       | 3       | 3       | 2       | 2       |         |          |
|                        | Quercus shumardii       | Shumard's oak             | Tree        | FAC              | 1       | 1       | 1       | 1       |         |         | 2       | 2       | 2       | 3       | 1       | 1       |         |          |
|                        | Salix nigra             | black willow              | Tree        | OBL              |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         | 3       |         |          |
|                        | Sambucus canadensis     | American black elderberry | Tree        |                  |         | 1       |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| Sum                    |                         |                           | Performa    | ance Standard    | 10      | 15      | 12      | 12      | 8       | 8       | 12      | 14      | 13      | 14      | 12      | 15      | 11      | 11       |
|                        | Alnus serrulata         | hazel alder               | Tree        | OBL              |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         | 2       |         |          |
|                        | Cercis canadensis       | eastern redbud            | Tree        | FACU             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         | 2        |
| Post Mitigation        | Diospyros virginiana    | common persimmon          | Tree        | FAC              |         |         |         |         |         | 5       |         | 1       |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| Plan Species           | Juglans nigra           | black walnut              | Tree        | FACU             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         | 1        |
|                        | Liquidambar styraciflua | sweetgum                  | Tree        | FAC              |         |         |         |         |         |         |         | 1       |         | 1       |         |         |         | 2        |
|                        | Nyssa biflora           | swamp tupelo              | Tree        | FACW             |         | 1       |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |
| Sum                    |                         |                           | Prop        | osed Standard    | 10      | 16      | 12      | 12      | 8       | 13      | 12      | 15      | 13      | 14      | 12      | 17      | 11      | 14       |
|                        |                         | C                         | urrent Yea  | ar Stem Count    |         | 15      |         | 12      |         | 8       |         | 14      |         | 14      |         | 15      |         | 11       |
| Mitigation Plan        |                         |                           |             | Stems/Acre       |         | 607     |         | 486     |         | 324     |         | 526     |         | 567     |         | 607     |         | 445      |
| Performance            |                         |                           |             | Species Count    |         | 5       |         | 5       |         | 4       |         | 5       |         | 5       |         | 6       |         | 3        |
| Standard               |                         | Dominant S                | Species Co  | omposition (%)   |         | 47      |         | 50      |         | 38      |         | 53      |         | 20      |         | 40      |         | 46       |
| Standard               |                         | 1                         | Average P   | lot Height (ft.) |         | 4       |         | 10      |         | 6       |         | 9       |         | 5       |         | 8       |         | 5        |
|                        |                         |                           |             | % Invasives      |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0        |
|                        |                         | C                         | Current Yea | ar Stem Count    |         | 16      |         | 12      |         | 13      |         | 15      |         | 14      |         | 17      |         | 14       |
| Post Mitigation        |                         |                           |             | Stems/Acre       |         | 648     |         | 486     |         | 526     |         | 567     |         | 567     |         | 688     |         | 567      |
| Plan                   |                         |                           |             | Species Count    |         | 6       |         | 5       |         | 5       |         | 6       |         | 5       |         | 7       |         | 5        |
| Performance            |                         | Dominant S                | Species Co  | mposition (%)    |         | 47      |         | 50      |         | 38      |         | 53      |         | 20      |         | 40      |         | 46       |
| Standard               |                         |                           | Average P   | lot Height (ft.) |         | 4       |         | 10      |         | 5       |         | 9       |         | 5       |         | 8       |         | 4        |
|                        |                         |                           |             | % Invasives      |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0       |         | 0        |

1). Bolded species are proposed for the current monitoring year, italicized species are not approved, and a regular font indicates that the species has been approved.

2). The "Species Included in Approved Mitigation Plan" section contains only those species that were included in the original approved mitigation plan. The "Post Mitigation Plan Species" section includes species that are being proposed through a mitigation plan addendum for the current monitoring year (bolded), species that have been approved in prior monitoring years through a mitigation plan addendum (regular font), and species that are not approved (italicized).

3). The "Mitigation Plan Performance Standard" includes data from mitigation plan approved, post mitigation plan approved, nost mitigation plan approved, and proposed stems.

# Table 10. Vegetation Performance Standards Summary TableCatfish Pond Mitigation SiteDMS Project No. 100039Monitoring Year 3 - 2022

|                   | Veg Plot 1 F |              |           |             |           | Veg P        | lot 2 F   |             | Veg Plot 3 F |              |           |             |  |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--|
|                   | Stems/Ac.    | Av. Ht. (ft) | # Species | % Invasives | Stems/Ac. | Av. Ht. (ft) | # Species | % Invasives | Stems/Ac.    | Av. Ht. (ft) | # Species | % Invasives |  |
| Monitoring Year 7 |              |              |           |             |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 5 |              |              |           |             |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 3 | 607          | 4            | 5         | 0           | 486       | 10           | 5         | 0           | 324          | 6            | 4         | 0           |  |
| Monitoring Year 2 | 405          | 3            | 4         | 0           | 526       | 6            | 5         | 0           | 405          | 4            | 5         | 0           |  |
| Monitoring Year 1 | 567          | 3            | 5         | 0           | 607       | 4            | 6         | 0           | 486          | 3            | 6         | 0           |  |
| Monitoring Year 0 | 567          | 3            | 5         | 0           | 607       | 3            | 6         | 0           | 486          | 3            | 6         | 0           |  |
|                   |              | Veg P        | lot 4 F   |             |           | Veg P        | lot 5 F   |             |              | Veg P        | lot 6 F   |             |  |
|                   | Stems/Ac.    | Av. Ht. (ft) | # Species | % Invasives | Stems/Ac. | Av. Ht. (ft) | # Species | % Invasives | Stems/Ac.    | Av. Ht. (ft) | # Species | % Invasives |  |
| Monitoring Year 7 |              |              |           |             |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 5 |              |              |           |             |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 3 | 526          | 9            | 5         | 0           | 567       | 5            | 5         | 0           | 607          | 8            | 6         | 0           |  |
| Monitoring Year 2 | 405          | 7            | 4         | 0           | 526       | 4            | 5         | 0           | 567          | 4            | 5         | 0           |  |
| Monitoring Year 1 | 405          | 4            | 4         | 0           | 526       | 3            | 5         | 0           | 567          | 3            | 5         | 0           |  |
| Monitoring Year 0 | 405          | 4            | 4         | 0           | 526       | 2            | 5         | 0           | 607          | 2            | 6         | 0           |  |
|                   |              | Veg P        | lot 7 F   |             |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
|                   | Stems/Ac.    | Av. Ht. (ft) | # Species | % Invasives |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 7 |              |              |           |             |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 5 |              |              |           |             |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 3 | 445          | 5            | 3         | 0           |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 2 | 526          | 4            | 5         | 0           |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 1 | 648          | 3            | 5         | 0           |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |
| Monitoring Year 0 | 648          | 3            | 5         | 0           |           |              |           |             |              |              |           |             |  |