# YEAR 3 (2014) ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT WALL RIPARIAN BUFFER MITIGATION SITE

Randolph County, North Carolina EEP Project id: 95007

DATA COLLECTED AUGUST 2014 Construction Completed March 2012 Monitoring Report Submitted OCTOBER 2014



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#### **SUBMITTED TO:**

NCDENR-EEP 1652 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1652



#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Restoration Systems, LLC has established the Wall Riparian Buffer Mitigation Site (Site), designed specifically to assist in fulfilling the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program riparian buffer mitigation goals. The Site is located approximately 0.5 mile west of Randleman and three miles northwest of Asheboro, in northern Randolph County (Figure 1, Appendix A), and positioned within the 14-digit Cataloging Unit 03030003010070 of the Cape Fear River Basin. The Site is located within the Carolina Slate Belt ecoregion of the Piedmont province of North Carolina. This ecoregion is characterized by dissected irregular plains, some hills, linear ridges, and isolated monadnocks; low to moderate gradient streams with mostly boulder and cobble substrates (Griffith 2002). The Site watershed is characterized primarily by agriculture with forest land in riparian corridors and upper headwater depressions, and low-density residential development scattered along roadways. Unnamed Site streams drain to a reach of the Deep River that was listed on the NCDWQ final 2010 303(d) list for a standard violation due to reduced aquatic life integrity (NCDWQ 2010).

Measuring 12.6 acres and protected in perpetuity by a conservation easement, the Site includes five unnamed tributaries which flow to the Deep River. Site streams were impacted from channel straightening, clearing of native forest vegetation, continual maintenance, and hoof shear through livestock grazing. The primary goal of this riparian buffer restoration project is to provide 9.8 Riparian Buffer Mitigation Units. Success of this goal is based on the following criteria.

- 1. Removing nonpoint sources of pollution associated with agricultural production including a) removing livestock and b) ceasing the broadcast application of fertilizer, pesticides, and other agricultural materials into and adjacent to Site streams through treatment of runoff within the forested buffer.
- 2. Reducing sedimentation within onsite and downstream receiving waters by a) reducing bank erosion, vegetation maintenance, plowing, and hoof shear adjacent to Site streams and b) removing livestock from the Site.
- 3. Restoring and reestablishing natural community structure, habitat diversity, and functional continuity by the creation of a forested riparian buffer adjacent to stream channels.
- 4. Promoting floodwater attenuation by increasing frictional resistance on floodwaters crossing Site floodplains.
- 5. Improving aquatic habitat by enhancing stream bed shading and natural detritus input.
- 6. Providing a terrestrial wildlife corridor and refuge in an area extensively developed for agricultural production.
- 7. Protecting the Site's full potential of stream and riparian buffer functions and values in perpetuity.

Construction activities at the Site included the removal of a small farm pond and farm road, the installation of shallow marsh wetland treatment areas, and the restoration of 9.8 acres of riparian buffer by planting pasture with native forest vegetation. Earthwork associated with the Site Mitigation Plan (dam and road removal) was delayed; therefore, in an effort to meet the seasonal planting window, Site planting occurred prior to the initiation of earthwork. The total area associated with earthwork equaled 0.8 acres. Through agency correspondence it was deemed acceptable to proceed with planting prior to earthwork. Areas disturbed by earthwork were planted with 40 3-gallon Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) and 2100 bare root trees in February of 2013 as follows.

700 American elm (*Ulmus americana*)
500 Ironwood (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
300 Swamp chestnut oak (*Quercus michauxii*)
600 Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*)

During the winter of 2013/2014, 5000 bare root saplings from the original planting list were planted along UT 5, the upper portion of UT 1, and along UT 3 and 4. Additionally, during the spring of 2014, a site-wide fescue treatment occurred. Newly planted stems appear vigorous, though fescue is repopulating throughout much of the Site.

Four vegetation plots (10-meter by 10-meter in size; Plots 1-4) were established and permanently monumented following Site planting. During the comment and review process associated with the Site's *Baseline Monitoring Document & Asbuilt Baseline Report*, the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program requested an additional four monitoring plots be installed. The additional monitoring plots (Plots 5-8) were installed and baseline data was collected on March 8, 2013.

All plots (Plots 1-8) were surveyed in August 2014 for the Year 3 (2014) monitoring season following guidelines established in *CVS-EEP Protocol for Recording Vegetation, Version 4.2* (Lee et al. 2008). Vegetation sampling across the Site was above the required average density with 769 planted stems per acre (excluding livestakes) surviving. In addition, each individual plot was above success criteria based on planted stems alone. Additional vegetation data can be found in Appendix B.

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## 1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

#### 1.1 Location and Setting

Located approximately 0.5 mile west of Randleman and three miles northwest of Asheboro, in northern Randolph County (Figure 1, Appendix A), the Site is situated within the Carolina Slate Belt ecoregion of the Piedmont physiographic province of North Carolina, and within the United States Geological Survey (USGS) HUC 03030003 (North Carolina Division of Water Quality [NCDWQ] Subbasin Number 03-06-08) of the Cape Fear River Basin. The Site is positioned near the southwest corner of the 14-digit USGS Cataloging Unit 03030003010070.

The Carolina Slate Belt ecoregion is characterized by dissected irregular plains, some hills, linear ridges, and isolated monadnocks; low to moderate gradient streams with mostly boulder and cobble substrates (Griffith 2002). Onsite elevations range from 750 to 708 feet at the Site outfall (National Geodetic Vertical Datum, [NGVD]) (Randleman, North Carolina USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle). The Site watershed is characterized primarily by agriculture with forest land in riparian corridors and upper headwater depressions, and low-density residential development scattered along roadways. Impervious surfaces account for less than two percent of the watershed land surface. Site streams were historically impacted from channel straightening, clearing of native forest vegetation with continual maintenance, and hoof shear through livestock grazing. Historical land use for the Site was primarily livestock grazing and hay production.

Directions to the Site from the City of Asheboro, NC:

- > Travel north on I-73 for approximately 7.9 miles
- > Exit onto US 311 toward High Point, NC
- > Turn left onto US 311 North/US 311 Extension
- > Travel north on US 311 for approximately 2.5 miles
- > Turn right onto Wall Brothers Road
- > Travel approximately 0.5 mile to Site entrance gate located on the left side of the road.
- Latitude: 35.825437°N, Longitude: 79.850840°W

## 1.2 Project Goals / Objectives

Project goals include the following:

- Improving Water Quality
  - Removing nonpoint sources of pollution associated with agricultural production including a) removing livestock and b) ceasing the broadcast application of fertilizer, pesticides, and other agricultural materials into and adjacent to Site streams through treatment of runoff within the forested buffer.
  - Reducing sedimentation within onsite and downstream receiving waters by a) reducing bank erosion, vegetation maintenance, plowing, and hoof shear adjacent to Site streams and b) removing livestock from the Site.
- Enhancing Flood Attenuation
  - Promoting floodwater attenuation by increasing frictional resistance on floodwaters crossing Site floodplains.

- Restoring Wildlife Habitat
  - Improving aquatic habitat by enhancing stream bed shading and natural detritus input.
  - Providing a terrestrial wildlife corridor and refuge in an area extensively developed for agricultural production.
  - Restoring and reestablishing natural community structure, habitat diversity, and functional continuity.
  - Protecting the Site's full potential of stream and riparian buffer functions and values in perpetuity.

Project goals will be accomplished by providing a minimum of 9.8 Riparian Buffer Mitigation Units, as calculated in accordance with the requirements stipulated in RFP #16-003567. The achievement of the following objectives will insure the success of providing said mitigation units.

Objective	Buffer Restoration Activity
Removing a pond impounding a reach of UT3 and UT4.	Pond removal occurred in April 2012 – see permanent photo point #4 on Figure 2 (Appendix B).
Removing a section of paved road at the upper reach of UT5.	Paved road removal occurred in April 2012 and planting of the area occurred in early 2013.
Removing invasive species along the upper reach of UT2.	Invasive species removal and monitoring will be ongoing throughout the monitoring period, with the first treatment in early 2013.
Installing shallow marsh wetland treatment areas on two ephemeral ditches entering the Site from Wall Brothers Road.	Shallow marsh wetland treatment areas were installed in April 2012 including log outfalls, planting with erosion control seed, and planting native forest vegetation.
Restoring approximately 9.8 acres of riparian buffer by planting with native forest vegetation.	Site revegetation occurred in March 2012, with supplemental planting of disturbed areas occurred in early 2013 (Appendix C).
Protecting the Site in perpetuity with a conservation easement.	The Site is protected by a conservation easement held by the State of North Carolina (SPO # 76-BD).

## 1.3 Project Structure, Restoration Type, and Approach

#### Project Structure

The Site includes 5 unnamed tributaries that drain to Randleman Lake and the Deep River (Figure 1, Appendix A). The lower reach of UT1 is depicted as a perennial stream on the USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle while the upper reach of UT1 and the entirety of UT2 are depicted as intermittent streams [USGS Randleman, NC 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (1981, 2010)]. UTs 3, 4, and 5 are not depicted on the USGS topographic quadrangle, but exhibited characteristics of ditched intermittent streams during field investigations. Geomorphology scores for these streams are generally low due to historical manipulation and disturbance.

Stream	USGS	<sup>1</sup> USCS Stream Classification	Field Stream	NCDWQ Stream
Reach	Stream Order	USGS Stream Classification	Classification	<b>Identification Form Score</b>
UT1	1-2	intermittent/perennial	Perennial	30.5
UT2	1	intermittent	Perennial	36.25
UT3	0-1	not shown/intermittent	Ephemeral / Intermittent	11/22
UT4	0	not shown	Ephemeral	11
UT5	0	not shown	Intermittent	22

#### **Existing Stream Characteristics**

<sup>1</sup> USGS Stream Classification<sup>-</sup> UT3 is depicted only downstream of the pond on the USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle.

#### Restoration Type and Approach

Site restoration activities include the cessation of agricultural practices; removal of an agricultural pond and abandoned road crossing; installation of marsh treatment areas; and revegetation with native, forest communities. These activities will ultimately result in the generation of 9.8 Riparian Buffer Mitigation Units.

Completed project activities, reporting history, completion dates, and project contacts are summarized in Tables 1-3 (Appendix A).

#### 2.0 ANNUAL MONITORING

Monitoring of restoration efforts will be performed for a minimum of 5 years or until success criteria are fulfilled. Monitoring activities for the Site, including relevant structures, project features, specific project structures, and monitoring features are detailed in the monitoring plan view in Figure 2 (Appendix A).

#### 2.1 Vegetation

Monitoring of planted vegetation will follow the *Carolina Vegetation Survey (CVS)-North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) Protocol for Recording Vegetation, Version 4.2* (Lee et al. 2008). The Site will be measured between June 1 and September 30 until the vegetation success criteria are achieved. A total of eight 10-meter by 10-meter vegetation plots have been installed within the 9.8 acres of restored riparian buffer (Figure 2, Appendix A). Vegetation will receive a visual evaluation on a periodic basis to ascertain the degree of overtopping of planted elements by nuisance species.

Invasive exotic species will be located and treated on a yearly basis, dependent upon species, by a NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services licensed pesticide applicator.

## 2.1.1 Vegetation Success Criteria

Success criteria have been established to verify that the vegetation component supports community elements necessary for forest development. Success criteria are dependent upon the density and growth of characteristic forest species. Additional success criteria are dependent upon the density and growth of "Characteristic Tree Species." Characteristic Tree Species include planted species, species identified through visual inventory of an approved, relatively undisturbed, reference forest community, and species outlined in Schafale and Weakley (1990) for a Piedmont/Low Mountain Alluvial Forest. An average density of 320 stems per acre of Character Tree Species must be surviving after five monitoring years.

## 2.1.2 Vegetative Contingency Plan

If vegetation success criteria are not achieved based on average density calculations from combined plots over the entire restoration area, supplemental planting may be performed with tree species approved by regulatory agencies. Supplemental planting may be performed as needed until achievement of vegetation success criteria.

#### 2.1.3 Vegetative Problem Areas

Earthwork associated with the Site Mitigation Plan (dam and road removal) was delayed; therefore, in an effort to meet the seasonal planting window Site planting occurred prior to the initiation of earthwork. The total area associated with earthwork equals 0.8 acre and it was deemed acceptable to proceed with planting prior to earthwork. Areas disturbed by earthwork were planted with 40 3-gallon Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) and 2100 bare root trees in February of 2013. In addition, portions of the Site with low stem densities were replanted with 5000 bare root plants in late 2013/early 2014, and Site-wide fescue

treatments occurred in the spring of 2014 (Figure 2, Appendix A). Additional vegetation data can be found in Appendix B.

# 3.0 CONCLUSIONS

Vegetation sampling across the Site was above the required average density with 769 planted stems per acre surviving. In addition, each individual plot was above success criteria based on planted stems alone.

	Р	Planted Stems/Acre	<b>Counting Toward</b>	ls Success Criteria	l
Plot	Year 1 (2012)	Year 2 (2013)	Year 3 (2014)	Year 4 (2015)	Year 5 (2016)
1	648	324	728		
2	567	567	1174		
3	648	445	971		
4	486	243	648		
5*		202	648		
6*		526	486		
7*		1093	1093		
8*		486	405		
Average of All Plots	587	486	769		

**Summary of Planted Vegetation Plot Results** 

\*Plots 5-8 were installed in March 2013 prior to Year 2 (2013) monitoring in response to agency comments during the review of baseline documentation/data.

## 4.0 **REFERENCES**

- Griffith, G.E., J.M. Omernik, J.A. Comstock, M.P. Schafale, W.H. McNab, D.R. Lenat, T.F. MacPherson, J.B. Glover, and V.B. Shelbourne. 2002. Ecoregions of North Carolina and South Carolina. U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, Virginia.
- Lee, Michael T., R.K. Peet, S.D. Roberts, and T.R. Wentworth. 2008. CVS-EEP Protocol for Recording Vegetation, Version 4.2. (online). Available: http://cvs.bio.unc.edu/methods.htm.
- North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ). 2010. Final North Carolina Water Quality Assessment and Impaired Waters List (2010 Integrated 305(b) and 303(d) Report) (online). Available:
  http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/tmdl/documents/draft\_2010\_Cat\_5.pdf [February 1, 2011]. North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- Schafale, M.P. and A.S. Weakley. 1990. Classification of the Natural Communities of North Carolina: Third Approximation. North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Division of Parks and Recreation, North Carolina Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources. Raleigh, North Carolina.

#### **Appendix A: General Tables and Figures**

- Table 1. Site Restoration Structures and Objectives
- Table 2. Project Activity and Reporting History
- Table 3. Project Contacts
- Table 4. Project Baseline Information & Attributes
- Figure 1. Site Location
- Figure 2. Monitoring Plan

# Table 1. Site Restoration Structure and Objectives

		Mitiga	ation Credits							
	Riparian Buffer									
	Restoration Restoration Equivalent									
	9.8									
		Project	s Components							
Existing Acreage	Restoration/ Restoration Equivalent	Restoration Acreage	Mitigation Ratio	Comment						
9.8	Restoration	9.8	1:1	Cessation of current land use practices, removing an agricultural pond and road crossing, removing invasive species, and planting with native forest vegetation.						
		Compon	ent Summation							
Resto	ration Level		Ripa	rian Buffer (acreage)						
Re	estoration		9.8							
	Totals		9.8							
Mitiş	gation Units		9.	8 Riparian BMUs						

Wall Riparian Buffer Restoration Site, Randolph County, EEP Contract #: 003985

# **Table 2: Project Activity and Reporting History**

Wall Riparian Buffer Restoration Site, Randolph County, EEP Contract #: 003985

Activity or Report	Data Collection Complete	<b>Completion or Delivery</b>
CE Document	NA	February - 2012
Conservation Easement	NA	April - 2012
Mitigation Plan	NA	February - 2012
Construction	NA	March - 2012
Bare Root Planting	NA	March - 2012
Baseline Monitoring Document	April-2012	October 2012
Annual Monitoring Year 1 (2012)	September 2012	November 2012
Planting Disturbed Areas	NA	January/February 2013
Annual Monitoring Year 2 (2013)	July 2013	October 2013
Annual Monitoring Year 3 (2014)	August 2014	October 2014
Annual Monitoring Year 4 (2015)		
Annual Monitoring Year 5 (2016)		

# **Table 3: Project Contacts Table**

Wall Riparian Buffer Restoration Site, Randolph County, EEP Contract #: 003985

	Firm	POC & Address
Full Delivery Provider	Restoration Systems, LLC	1101 Haynes Street, Suite 211 Raleigh, North Carolina 27604 George Howard and John Preyer 919-755-9490
Designer:	Axiom Environmental, Inc.	Grant Lewis; 919.215.1693 218 Snow Ave. Raleigh, NC 27603
Construction Contractor:	Axiom Green Build.	Grant Lewis; 919.215.1693 218 Snow Ave. Raleigh, NC 27603
Planting Contractor:	Carolina Silvics	Dwight McKinney 252.482.8491 908 Indian Trail Road Edenton, NC 27932
Seeding Contractor:	Axiom Green Build	Grant Lewis; 919.215.1693 218 Snow Ave. Raleigh, NC 27603
Nursery Stock Suppliers:	ArborGen	1.888.888.7158
Baseline Data Collection	Restoration Systems, LLC	Ray Holz; 919.604.9314 1101 Haynes St. Raleigh, NC 27604
Annual Monitoring:	Axiom Environmental, Inc	Grant Lewis; 919.215.1693 218 Snow Ave. Raleigh, NC 27603

# **Table 4: Project Baseline Information & Attributes Table**Wall Riparian Buffer Restoration Site, Randolph County, EEP Contract #: 003985

		Project Info	ormation								
Project Name		Wall									
County		Randolph	andolph								
Project Area (acres)		12.6	12.6								
Project Coordinates (latitude and	longitude)	35.492731958	4927319589, -79.5056974787 (NAD 83/WGS 84)								
	Project W	atershed Sur	nmary Infor	mation							
Physiographic Province			Northern Inner Piedmont section of Carolina Slate Belt								
River Basin				Cape	Fear						
USGS Hydrologic Unit 8-digit	030	030003	USGS Hydrolo	gic Unit 14-digit	03030003010070						
DWQ Sub-basin				03-06	-08						
Project Drainage Area, Total Outfal	(acres)			+/- 4	48						
Project Drainage Area Percentage of	f Impervious A	rea		< 59	2⁄0						
CGIA Land Use Classification				Cropland ar	nd Pasture						
	Rea	ich Summary	<sup>7</sup> Information	l							
Parameters	UT 1 d	& UT 2	UT 3	& UT 4	UT 5						
Length of reach (linear feet)	2,0	030	8	350	400						
Valley classification	V	III	١	/III	VIII						
Drainage area (acres)			+/	/- 448							
NCDWQ stream identification	UT 1	- 30.5	UT 3 & UT 4	4 (above pond)	UT 5 – 22						
score UT 2 – 35.25 – 11 01 5 – 22											
NCDWQ Water Quality Classification	Q Water Quality ication Portion of Deep River where unnamed tributaries enter ( (Randleman Lake): WS-IV										
Morphological description (stream type)	Pere	ennial	Intermitten	t / Ephemeral	Intermittent						
Drainage class	Rı	ıral	R	ural	Rural						
303d listed?	Ν	lo	]	No	No						
Upstream of a 303d listed	Y	ſes	Y	Yes	Yes						
Dominant Soil Series	Georgeville s	silty clay loam	Badin-Tar	rus complex	Georgeville silty clay loam						
Soil Hydric status	Non-J	Hydric	Non-	Hydric	Non-Hydric						
Slope	8-1	5 %	2-	-8 %	8-15 %						
Native vegetation community	Pie	dmont/Low Mo	ountain Alluvial	Forest (Schafale	and Weakley 1990)						
Percent exotic invasive vegetation			<	< 5%							
	R	egulatory Co	nsiderations								
Regulation	Applic	able?	<b>Resolved?</b>	Suppor	ting Documentation						
Waters of the United States – Section 404	No	o									
Waters of the United States – Section 401	No	0									
Endangered Species Act	No	0									
Historic Preservation Act	No	0									
Coastal Zone Management Act [CZMA/Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA)]	No	0									
FEMA Floodplain Compliance	No	0									
Essential Fisheries Habitat	No	0									
Sediment & Erosion Control Plan (S&EC)	No	0									



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Aerial Imagery USGS Topographical Map COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 NC FEET



# **APPENDIX B: VEGETATION DATA**

Table 5 - 2014 (Year 3) Planted Stem and Natural Recruit Totals by Plot 2014 (Year 3) Vegetation Monitoring Photographs 2014 (Year 3) Photo Point Photographs

# Table 5. 2014 (Year 3) Planted Stem and Natural Recruit Totals by Plot CVS Project Code Wall. Project Name: Wall Riparian Buffer Mitigation Site

													Current	t Plot D	ata (MY	3 2014	)									
			W	all-RS-0	001	Wa	all-RS-0	002	Wa	III-RS-0	003	Wa	all-RS-0	004	Wa	all-01-0	005	W	all-01-0	006	W	all-01-0	007	W	all-01-0	008
Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Type	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	т	PnoLS	P-all	т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	т	PnoLS	P-all	Т
Acer floridanum	Southern Sugar Maple,	Tree																						1	1	1
Acer rubrum	red maple	Tree																					6			
Asimina triloba	pawpaw	Tree																								
Carpinus caroliniana	American hornbeam	Tree							1	1	1				1	1	1									
Carya ovata	shagbark hickory	Tree									2													6	6	12
Cephalanthus occidentalis	common buttonbush	Shrub				7	7	7	1	1	1										8	8	8			
Cornus amomum	silky dogwood	Shrub													1	1	1									
Cornus florida	flowering dogwood	Tree																								
Diospyros virginiana	common persimmon	Tree	1	1	1							3	3	3	5											
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	green ash	Tree	8	8	8	11	11	11	5	5	5	3	3	3	8 10	10	10	5	5	5	13	13	13	1	1	1
Liquidambar styraciflua	sweetgum	Tree																					7			28
Liriodendron tulipifera	tuliptree	Tree	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	6	12	3	3	3	6									1	1	15
Morus rubra	red mulberry	Tree																						1	1	1
Quercus	oak	Tree				2	2	2	1	1	1															
Quercus michauxii	swamp chestnut oak	Tree	1	1	1	5	5	5	8	8	8	7	7	7	' 1	1	1	. 6	6	6	3	3	3			
Quercus pagoda	cherrybark oak	Tree	6	6	6	3	3	3	2	2	2				3	3	3				2	2	2			
Salix nigra	black willow	Tree																		29						
Ulmus alata	winged elm	Tree																								
Ulmus americana	American elm	Tree	1	1	1			1										1	1	2	1	1	1			
Unknown		Shrub or Tree																								
		Stem count	18	18	18	29	29	35	24	24	32	16	16	16	5 16	16	16	12	12	42	. 27	27	40	10	10	58
	size (ares) 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1										1															
		size (ACRES)		0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02	
		Species count	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	8	4	4	4	5	5	5	3	3	4	5	5	7	5	5	6
	9	Stems per ACRE	728.4	728.4	728.4	1174	1174	1416	971.2	971.2	1295	647.5	647.5	647.5	647.5	647.5	647.5	485.6	485.6	1700	1093	1093	1619	404.7	404.7	2347

Color for Density

Exceeds requirements by 10%

Exceeds requirements, but by less than 10%

Fails to meet requirements, by less than 10%

Fails to meet requirements by more than 10%

PnoLS = Planted excluding livestakes

P-all = Planting including livestakes

T = All planted and natural recruits including livestakes

T includes natural recruits

# Vegetation Condition Assessment

Table 6

# Wall I Riparain Buffer Mitigation Site - EEP Contract #: 003997; EEP Project ID: 95007; RFP # 16-003567

Planted Acreage	10.6					
Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Planted Acreage
1. Bare Areas	ΝΑ	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2. Low Stem Density Areas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
			Total	0	0.00	0.0%
3. Areas of Poor Growth Rates or Vigor	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
		C	umulative Total	0	0.00	0.0%
Easement Acreage	12.6					
		Mapping	CCPV	Number of	Combined	% of Easement

Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Easement Acreage
4. Invasive Areas of Concern	There is some Johnson Grass and Chinese privet scattered within the easement that is not affecting planted stems at this time.	NA	NA	NA	1.30	10.3%
5. Easement Encroachment Areas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

# Wall Buffer 2014 (Year 3) Vegetation Monitoring Photographs Taken August 2014



Year 3 (2014) Annual Monitoring Report Wall Riparian Buffer Mitigation Site









Appendix

Wall Buffer 2014 (Year 3) Photo Point Photographs Taken August 2014





# **APPENDIX C: AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE**

May 15, 2012

Ms. Kristie Corson DENR-Ecosystem Enhancement Program 1652 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1652

Subject: Task IV Construction, Contact #: 003997

Dear Ms. Corson:

I wanted to provide you with an update regarding the status of construction and planting at the Wall Riparian Buffer Mitigation Project in Randolph County. Due to the late closing date on the property (April 11<sup>th</sup>), we opted to plant the site in March and then due the construction following closing. On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, Carolina Silvics planted the entire site except for two small areas totaling 0.8 acres. During the week of April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Axiom Green Build worked in these two areas to remove a) short section of gravel road along with a concrete culvert and b) a small earthen dam. Attached is a figure showing both the area planted and the area of construction.

As a result of doing the construction after the planting season had passed, the two areas totaling 0.8 acres still need to be planted. I had hoped to do this immediately following construction but due to the unseasonably warm weather it simply would not be successful. If agreeable to you, I would like to use this year's growing season for the first year of monitoring with the stipulation that during the winter of 2012/2013 we will plant the 0.8 acre area with 1-gallon containerized trees (as opposed to bare root seedlings).

Removal of the road and dam were successful and we are waiting for the bottom of the impoundment to dry out a bit more before Please feel free to contact at me 919.334.9112 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Travis Hamrick, Project Manager

Attachments (3): Invoice Task IV Figure- Planting Needs Project History



## **Raymond Holz**

From:	Raymond Holz
Sent:	Monday, October 22, 2012 6:13 PM
То:	Kristie.Corson@ncdenr.gov
Cc:	Travis Hamrick (travis@restorationsystems.com)
Subject:	Wall Riparian Buffer Mitigation Site: Additional Vegetation Monitoring Plots
Attachments:	Additional Monitoring Plots at Wall.pdf

#### Afternoon Kristie,

After receiving and reviewing the comments you provided regarding the Wall Riparian Buffer Mitigation Site's Draft Baseline Monitoring Document and As Built Baseline Report dated October 16, 2012 Restoration Systems (RS) is prepared to install an additional four (4) vegetation monitoring plots as requested. CVS protocol stipulates that baseline vegetation data be collected within 30 days of the project being planted. Additionally, 60 day must pass between vegetation baseline data collection and EEP as-built review. With this in mind and with an EEP on-site as built review already conducted (September 20, 2012), RS recommends the additional four monitoring plots be installed no later than April 1<sup>st</sup> of 2013.

Restoration Systems is recommending this timeline because an additional .80 acres of the Site must be planted during the 2012 – 2013 dormant season. It is planned that one of the four additional monitoring plots will be located in the soon to be planted area. Baseline vegetation data will be conducted simultaneously with the installation of the additional plots and will be included within the 2013, year 2, annual monitoring report. RS understands the addition of these monitoring plots will not prolong the vegetation monitoring of the Site, so long as all current and additional monitoring plots achieve the success criteria outlined in the Mitigation Plan. Installation of the additional monitoring plots will follow CVS protocol and will measure 10 by 10 meters. Please see the attached figure depicting the approximate location of these additional monitoring plots, as well as the areas to be planted during the 2012 – 2013 dormant season.

Thank you for your time, please contact me at 919.604.9314 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Raymond Holz** 



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Figure indicates where the physical location of all monitoring devices.

Aerial Imagery USGS Topographical Map COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 NC FEET