

MONITORING YEAR 2 ANNUAL REPORT

FINAL

January 2024

CARPENTER BOTTOM MITIGATION SITE

Gaston County, NC Catawba River Basin HUC 03050102 (03050103 Expanded Service Area)

DMS Project No. 100090 NC DEQ Contract No. 7731 DMS RFQ No. 16-007133-CT03 Date of Issue: April 24, 2017

USACE Action ID No. SAW-2018-02062

DWR Project No. 2019-0049

Data Collection Dates: January – November 2023

PREPARED FOR:



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

PREPARED BY:



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January 19, 2024

Mr. Matthew Reid Project Manager NCDEQ – Division of Mitigation Services 5 Ravenscroft Drive, Suite 102 Asheville, NC 28801

RE: Carpenter Bottom Draft MY2 Report Review

Catawba River Basin - HUC 03050102 (03050103 Expanded Service Area)

Gaston County

DMS Project ID No. 100090

Contract #7731

Dear Mr. Reid:

Wildlands Engineering, Inc. (Wildlands) has reviewed the Division of Mitigation Services (DMS) comments from the Draft Year 2 Monitoring Report for the Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site that were received on January 2, 2024. The report has been updated to reflect those comments. The Final MY2 Report is included. DMS' comments are listed below in **bold**. Wildlands' responses to DMS' comments are noted in *italics*.

DMS Comment: WEI has actively treated *Murdannia keisak* on the site. The report indicates that a small population persists. Are the remaining populations site wide or limited to isolated reaches? Can you provide an update of where the species is found on site?

Wildlands' response: Small patches of Murdannia keisak were located in some of the riffles along the main stem of Carpenter Branch Reach 1 between UT1 and the crossing (approx. STA 111+00 to 118+00). The plants were treated and are not a concern to the functioning and performance of the stream.

DMS Comment: Game cameras were installed at the request of the IRT during the 2023 Credit Release Meeting. WEI has indicated that the cameras do not provide a level of detail that is useful due to vegetation. Does WEI plan to continue using the cameras to supplement the gauge data or discontinue use? If pictures are available from the cameras, please include them in the report to show the issue.

Wildlands' response: The text of section 2.5 was expanded to describe the game camera issues in more detail. A photo log was also added to Appendix A that documents stream flow conditions which confirm the data recorded by the stream gages. The photo log also illustrates problems with vegetation obstructing the game cameras' view for much of the year. Wildlands will relocate the game cameras to attempt to document different portions of UT1 and UT2; however, it is expected that by spring, the view may be obstructed by the vegetation.

DMS Comment: The IRT requested the rain data source, distance from the site and month to month rainfall graph be included in the MY2 report. Thank you for including this information, and the additional discussion regarding 2023 rainfall and how it relates to site hydrology.

Wildlands' response: You are welcome.



DMS Comment: Table 11: If possible, please update the rainfall summary table with end of year data for final submittal.

Wildlands' response: The rainfall table (table 11) and the Monthly Rainfall Data plot were updated to include all of 2023. With a 4.7" rain event at the end of December and 7.7" of rain for the month, the annual rainfall totaled about 2" more than the normal annual rainfall. The end of year rainfall was enough to bring Gaston County to an Abnormally Dry D0 status. Any impact on groundwater storage should be visible in the next monitoring year.



National Drought Mitigation Center. 2024. U.S. Drought Monitor – North Carolina. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Accessed 01/04/24 from

https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx? Southeast

DMS Comment: WEI has included Table 12a Existing Conditions Wetland Gauge Summary to provide additional pre-construction information about the site hydrology. Does WEI have a reference gauge onsite or offsite for comparison?

Wildlands' response: As stated in the Mitigation Plan, a reference wetland gage was established approximately 6.7 miles from the Site within the floodplain of Howards Creek in Lincoln County (located at the closed-out Owl's Den Mitigation Site). This reference gage data was added to all the groundwater gage plots and will be included in future monitoring reports.

DMS Comment: Recommend either including Figure 3 from the Mitigation Plan and/or adding the six gauges shown in Table 12a to the CCPV so reviewers can easily see the location of the existing conditions gauges compared to the locations of the current monitoring gauges.

Wildlands' response: "Figure 3. Site Map (Mitigation Plan)" was added to the report after the CCPV figures. In addition, the six groundwater gages from the Mitigation Plan are included in the submitted geodatabase.

DMS Comment: In stream flow: Credits are considered at risk for reaches not meeting the 30 consecutive days of flow success criteria. DMS recommends that WEI document if portions of the reaches do meet the criteria that may not be captured by the instream flow gauge. Additional gauges and/or cameras may be used to track this.

Wildlands' response: As discussed in the previous comments, and in Section 2.5, the game cameras will be relocated in an attempt to capture different portions of UT1 and UT2; however, it is expected that by



spring, the view may be obstructed by the vegetation. An additional stream gage will be installed on the main stem of Carpenter Branch Reach 1, just below the confluence of UT3, to monitor the streamflow at this location in the reach.

DMS Comment: Digital Deliverable Comments - Please include spatial files for the MY2 random plot locations with final submittal.

Wildlands' response: The mobile vegetation plots are included in the digital files. It is the shapefile titled "VP_Mobile" and is located in the geodatabase titled "CB_AsBuilt.gdb". This shapefile includes the current and previous years' mobile plots.

As requested, Wildlands has included two (2) hard copies of the final report and a full final electronic submittal of the support files on USB. A copy of our responses to DMS's comment letter has been included inside the cover of the report, as well. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mimi Caddell

Mini Caddell

Environmental Scientist

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CARPENTER BOTTOM MITIGATION SITE

Monitoring Year 2 Annual Report

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Credit Release (July 26, 2022)

Section 1: PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site (Site) is located in Gaston County, NC approximately 4.1 miles south of the City of Lincolnton and just south of the Gaston County/Lincoln County border. The Site drains to Beaverdam Creek, which drains to the Catawba River. The Site is located within the South Fork Catawba River (High Shoals) WS-IV water supply watershed and is located just outside the Indian Creek Targeted Local Watershed (TLW). Table 3 presents information related to the project attributes.

1.1 Project Quantities and Credits

Mitigation work within the Site included the restoration and enhancement of perennial and intermittent stream channels and the rehabilitation and re-establishment of historically altered wetlands. Table 1 below shows stream and wetland credits by reach and the total amount of credits expected at closeout.

1.2 Project Goals and Objectives

The project is intended to provide numerous ecological benefits. Table 2 below describes expected outcomes to water quality and ecological processes and provides project goals and objectives.

1.3 Project Attributes

The project includes the headwaters of a tributary to Beaverdam Creek and occurs on adjacent properties that have a history of agricultural use. The Site has been ditched and maintained as an active cattle and hay pasture as far back as 1950; however, a small, forested area within the proposed wetland restoration area was allowed to reforest starting around 1973. In 2014, approximately 2.4 acres were deforested to provide additional pasture. Table 3 below and Table 8 in Appendix C present additional information on pre-restoration conditions.

Table 1. Mitigation Assets and Components

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090

Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

					PROJE	CT MITIGATIO	N QUANTITIES	S		
Project Segment	Existing Footage or Acreage	Mitigation Plan Footage or Acreage	Mitigation Category	Restoration Level	Priority Level	Mitigation Ratio (X:1)	Mitigation Plan Credits		As-Built Footage or Acreage	Comments
						Stream	า			
Carpenter Branch - Reach 1		2,249.689	Warm	R	P1, P2	1.0	2,249.689		2,243.000	Full channel restoration, riparian planting, livestock exclusion, invasive species treatment, permanent conservation easement; culvert crossing
Carpenter Branch - Reach 2	2,564	353.080	Warm	EIII		8.0	44.135		353.000	Invasive species treatment, permanent conservation easement
Carpenter Branch - Reach 2 - No Credit		124.000				0.0	0.000		124.000	Invasive species treatment, permanent conservation easement
UT1	123	174.819	Warm	R	P1, P2	1.0	174.819		175.000	Full channel restoration, stormwater BMP implementation, riparian planting, livestock exclusion, permanent conservation easement
UT2	245	178.196	Warm	R	P1	1.0	178.196		178.000	Full channel restoration, riparian planting, invasive species treatment, livestock exclusion, permanent conservation easement
UT3	387	384.661	Warm	R	P1	1.0	384.661		385.000	Full channel restoration, riparian planting, livestock exclusion, invasive species treatment, permanent conservation easement
UT4	50	36.349	Warm	R	P1	1.0	36.349		36.000	Daylighting stream and restoration of natural channel fetaures, riparian planting, permanent conservation easement
						Wetlan	d			
Wetland Re- establishment	0.000	5.714	RR	RE	1	1.0	5.714		5.714	Re-establish hydrology via the plugging/filling of drainage features, wetland planting, invasive species treatment, livestock exclusion, permanent conservation easement
Wetland Rehabilitation	4.130	3.947	RR	RH		1.5	2.631		3.947	Improve hydrology via the plugging/filling of drainage features, wetland planting, invasive species treatment, livestock exclusion, permanent conservation easement

Restoration Level		Stream		Riparian	Coastal	
Restoration Level	Warm	Cool	Cold	Wetland	Wetland	Marsh
Restoration	3,023.714					
Enhancement III	44.135					
Re-esablishment				5.714		
Rehabilitation				2.631		
Totals	3,067.849			8.345		

Table 2: Goals, Performance Criteria, and Functional Improvements

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090

Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

Goal	Objective/ Treatment	Likely Functional Uplift	Performance Criteria	Measurement	Cumulative Monitoring Results
Exclude livestock from stream channels and wetlands.	Decommission pastures on Site and exclude livestock via the removal from stream channels, wetlands, and riparian areas.	Reduce direct fecal coliform and nutrient inputs to the Site streams. Reduce sediment inputs from bank erosion. Reduce shear stress on channel boundary. Eliminate cattle trampling of wetlands.	There is no required performance standard for this metric.	Visual annual assessments.	No cattle within easement
Improve the stability of stream channels.	Reconstruct stream channels with stable dimension, pattern, and profile. Reconnect streams to existing floodplain. Add bank revetments and in-stream structures to protect restored streams.	Reduce sediment inputs from bank erosion. Reduce shear stress on channel boundary. Increase floodplain engagement.	ER stays over 2.2 and BHR below 1.2 with visual assessments showing progression towards stability.	Cross-section monitoring (8 riffles & 6 pools) will be conducted during MY1, MY2, MY3, MY5 & MY7. 12 reference photo points were established throughout the Site. Upstream and downstream photos will be taken at each point on an annual basis during visual site inspections.	Streams and structures are stable. In MY2, ERs are >2.2, and BHRs are between 0.8-1.0. Visual assessments revealed no stream areas of concern.
Improve instream habitat.	Install habitat features such as constructed steps, constructed riffles, and brush toe on restored reaches. Add woody materials to channel beds. Construct pools of varying depth.	and increase in biodiversity over	There is no required performance standard for this metric.	Visual annual assessments.	N/A

Table 2: Goals, Performance Criteria, and Functional Improvements

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090

Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

Goal	Objective/ Treatment	Likely Functional Uplift	Performance Criteria	Measurement	Cumulative Monitoring Results
Reconnect channels with floodplains and to allow a natural flooding regime.	Reconstruct stream channels with designed bankfull dimensions and depth based on reference reach data.	Allow more frequent flood flows to disperse on the floodplain.	Four bankfull events on restored channels in separate years within monitoring period. At least 30 consecutive days of flow for Carpenter Branch R1, UT1, UT2, and UT3.	Five automated transducers were installed throughout the Site. One transducer (SG1) will be recording days of consecutive stream flow. Another (CG5) will be recording bankfull events. The remaining three (SG2, SG3, & SG4) will be recording consecutive days of stream flow and bankfull events.	Bankfull events: MY1 (2 of 4 reaches); MY2 (3 of 4 reaches). No event on UT3 yet. Flow criteria: MY1 (SG1 and 4 met); MY2 (SG3 and 4 met). SG2 on UT1 hasn't met criteria yet.
Restore wetland function and hydrology.	Restore wetlands through re- establishment of hydrology. Remove the drainage effects of agricultural ditching and maintenance.	Raise water table and hydrate riparian wetlands.	Free groundwater surface within 12 inches of the ground surface for a minimum of 12% (30 consecutive days) of the growing season for Gaston County.	11 groundwater gages were installed in wetland re-establishment and rehabilitation areas and will be monitored annually.	Gages meeting criteria: MY1 (8/11); MY2, 2 gages added (10/13).
Restore and enhance native floodplain and wetland vegetation.	Plant native tree, shrub, and understory species in riparian and proposed wetland restoration zones.	Reduce sediment inputs from bank erosion and runoff. Increase nutrient cycling and storage in floodplain. Provide riparian and wetland habitat. Add a source of LWD and organic material to Site streams. Support all stream functions.	Survival rate of 320 stems per acre at MY3, 260 planted stems per acre at MY5, and 210 stems per acre at MY7. 7 feet average height at MY5, and 10 feet at MY7.	9 permanent and 4 mobile 100 square meter vegetation plots were installed within 2% of the open planted areas and will be assessed in MY1, MY2, MY3, MY5 and MY7. Shaded planted areas will be visually assessed.	Vegetation plots meeting MY3 density criteria: MY0-MY2 - 13/13 plots. MY2 stem density of 364- 810 stems/acre.
Permanently protect the project site from harmful uses.	Establish conservation easements on the Site.	Protect Site from encroachment on the riparian corridor and direct impact to streams and wetlands. Support all stream functions.	Prevent easement encroachment.	Visually inspect the perimeter of the Site to ensure no easement encroachment is occurring.	2 mowing encroachments (0.03 ac). Sign added and path blocked in MY2. All encroachments resolved by 11/2023.

Table 3: Project Attributes

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

		PI	ROJECT INFORMATION					
Project Name	Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site	County		Gaston County				
Project Area (acres)	18.0	Project Coordinates		35.410725, -81.2607	717			
		PROJECT WATERSHED SUMMARY INFORMATION						
Physiographic Province	Piedmont	River Basin		Catawba River				
USGS HUC 8-digit ¹	03050102	USGS HUC 14-digit		03050102050020				
DWR Sub-basin	03-08-35	Land Use Classification		43% forest, 43% agr shrubland, 5% urbar	icultural row crops an n, <1% impervious	d hay, 8% grassland/l	nerbaceous, <1%	
Project Drainage Area (acres)	180	Percentage of Impervio		0.65%				
		RESTORATION T	RIBUTARY SUMMARY I	NFORMATION				
Parame	ters	Carpenter Branch - Reach 1	Carpenter Branch - Reach 2	UT1	UT2	UT3	UT4	
Pre-project length (feet)		2,087	477	123	245	387	50	
Post-project (feet)		2,243	353	175	178	385	36	
Valley confinement (Confined, mountained)	oderately confined,	Moderately confined	Confined	Confined	Moderately confined	Moderately confined	Confined	
Drainage area (acres)		48 /	180	20	39	17	23	
Perennial, Intermittent, Ephemer	al	I/P	Р	ı	Р	I	Р	
DWR Water Quality Classification		WS-IV	WS-IV	WS-IV	WS-IV	WS-IV	WS-IV	
Dominant Stream Classification (e	existing) ²	G4		G4/5	G4/5	G4/5		
Dominant Stream Classification (g	proposed) ²	C4		C4	C4	C4b	C4	
Dominant Evolutionary class (Sim	on) if applicable	III / IV	V	III	III	III	I	
		REGU	LATORY CONSIDERATION	ONS				
Parame	ters	Applicable?	Resolved?		Supporting Do	ocumentation		
Water of the United States - Secti	ion 404	Yes	Yes		USACE Action ID No	o. SAW-2018-02062		
Water of the United States - Secti	ion 401	Yes	Yes		DWR # 20	019-0049		
Endangered Species Act		Yes	Yes Yes Categorical Exclusion in Mitigation Plan (Wildlands, 2020)		2020)			
Historic Preservation Act		Yes	Yes	Categorical exclusion in willigation Plan (wildiands, 2020)				
Coastal Zone Management Act (C	ZMA or CAMA)	No	N/A		N,	/A		
FEMA Floodplain Compliance		No	N/A		N,			
Essential Fisheries Habitat	·	No	N/A		N,	/A	·	

^{1 -} Expanded Service Area 03050103

^{2 -} The Rosgen classification system (Rosgen, 1994) and Simon Channel Evolution Model (Simon, 1989) are for natural streams. These channels have been heavily manipulated by man and therefore may not fit the classification category or channel evolution as described by these models. Results of the classification and model are provided for illustrative purposes only.

Table 3: Project Attributes
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site
DMS Project No. 100090
Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

		WETLAN	D SUMMARY INFORMA	TION				
Parameters	Wetland A	Wetland B	Wetland C	Wetland D	Wetland E	Wetland F	Wetland G	
Size of Wetland (acres)	0.07	0.01	0.01	0.01	<0.01	0.07	<0.01	
Wetland Type (non-riparian, riparian riverine, or riparian non-riverine)		Riparian Riverine						
Mapped Soil Series	Pacolet	Worsham	Pacolet	Pacolet	Worsham	Worsham	Worsham	
Drainage Class	Well drained	Poorly drained	Well drained	Well drained	Poorly drained	Poorly drained	Poorly drained	
Soil Hydric Status (field/mapping)	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Souce of Hydrology	Groundwater & overbank flooding	Groundwater & overbank flooding	Groundwater & overbank flooding	Groundwater	Groundwater & overbank flooding	Groundwater & overbank flooding	Groundwater & overbank flooding	
Restoration or enhancement method (hydrologic, vegetative, etc.)	N/A							
Parameters	Wetland H	Wetland I	Wetland J	Wetland K	Wetland L	Wetland M	Wetland N	
Size of Wetland (acres)	0.39	0.36	0.01	<0.01	0.02	1.02	2.35	
Wetland Type (non-riparian, riparian riverine, or riparian non-riverine)			Rip	parian Riverine				
Mapped Soil Series	Worsham	Worsham/ Winnsboro	Worsham/ Winnsboro	Winnsboro	Winnsboro	Worsham	Worsham	
Drainage Class	Poorly drained	Poorly drained/Well drained	Poorly drained/Well drained	Well drained	Well drained	Poorly drained	Poorly drained	
Soil Hydric Status (field/mapping)	Yes	Yes/No	Yes/No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
Souce of Hydrology	Groundwater	Groundwater	Groundwater & overbank flooding	Groundwater & overbank flooding	Groundwater	Groundwater	Groundwater	
Restoration or enhancement method (hydrologic, vegetative, etc.)	Hydrologic, Vegetative	Hydrologic, Vegetative	N/A	N/A	N/A	Hydrologic, Vegetative	Hydrologic, Vegetative	

Section 2: Monitoring Year 2 Data Assessment

Annual monitoring and site visits were conducted during Monitoring Year 2 (MY2) to assess the condition of the project. The vegetation, stream, and hydrologic success criteria for the Site follow the approved success criteria presented in the Mitigation Plan (Wildlands, 2020), the performance criteria are located in Section 1.2 Tables 3a-b: Goals, Performance Criteria, and Functional Improvements. Methodology for annual monitoring is presented in the MYO Annual Report (Wildlands, 2022).

2.1 Vegetative Assessment

The vegetative survey was completed in August 2023. Vegetation monitoring resulted in a stem density range of 364 to 810 planted stems per acre. All thirteen vegetation plots are meeting the interim requirement of 320 stems per acre required at MY3. As requested by the NC Interagency Review Team (IRT) as part of their comments from the MY0 Baseline Report (Wildlands, 2022), some of the wetland rehabilitation area was captured by the new location for mobile vegetation plot 1. The wetland rehabilitation areas will continue to be captured by some mobile plots in future monitoring years as well. Herbaceous vegetation is also abundant across the Site and includes native pollinator species indicating a healthy riparian habitat. The riparian habitat is helping to reduce nutrient runoff from the agricultural fields outside the easement and stabilize the stream banks. Refer to Appendix A for Vegetation Plot Photographs and the Vegetation Condition Assessment Table and Appendix B for Vegetation Plot Data.

2.2 Vegetation Areas of Concern and Management Activities

The vegetation assessment indicated that the surviving stems are at a density above the MY3 interim criteria. The visual assessment across the Site found that the herbaceous cover is also well established throughout the floodplain. A Site walk was conducted in November 2023 to assess the easement boundary. No new issues of encroachment were found, and all easement signs/markings were intact. Two areas of encroachment were documented earlier in the year but both areas appear resolved. The northern encroachment is along the boundary just east of VP1; this area was mowed early in the year. An additional sign was installed, and no more mowing was observed in November 2023. The second area is located along the boundary just east of GWG 8. This area showed evidence of ATV encroachment cutting through the corner. The boundary was blocked off with logs and debris and this path is no longer being used by ATV traffic. Both areas are shown as resolved in the Areas of Concern Photographs in Appencix A and in Figure 1.

There are few areas where invasive species are a problem on the Site. The small populations of Asian spiderwort (*Murdannia keisak*) do not appear to be negatively impacting the stream or restricting flow. Small areas of hardy orange (*Citrus trifoliata*), Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*), Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) and multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*) were scattered across the Site. These species were all treated with herbicides throughout the year in an effort to keep their presence to a minimum. There is one area of *C. trifoliata* which continues in the northwest portion of the project that is 0.16 acres in size; at 1% of the Site's acreage, it is only a minor concern. Additional chemical treatments may be needed in the following years to keep resprouts and new populations under control. Ninety-nine percent of the Site is free of invasive species and shows strong vegetative growth. Wildlands will continue to monitor for the reemergence of any invasive populations which threaten the success of the project.

2.3 Stream Assessment

Morphological surveys were conducted in July 2023. All streams within the Site are stable and functioning as designed. All 14 cross-sections at the Site show little to no change in the bankfull areas

and the width-to-depth ratios, the entrenchment ratios (ERs) are above 2.2, and the bank height ratios (BHRs) are less than 1.2 (0.8-1.0). Refer to Appendix A for the Visual Stream Morphology Stability Assessment Table and Stream Photographs and Appendix C for Stream Geomorphology Data.

2.4 Stream Areas of Concern

A site assessment last conducted in November 2023 found that there were no stream areas of concern across the project. The banks all appear stable and are well covered by established vegetation.

2.5 Stream Hydrology Assessment

This year, bankfull events were recorded on UT1, UT2, and Carpenter Branch Reach 1. UT3 did not record a bankfull event for the second year in a row and there were no visual indicators of bankfull events occurring on this reach. Although UT3 hasn't had a bankfull event yet, it is still expected that the hydrologic success criteria for bankfull events will be met for all streams. During a site walk in January 2023, Wildlands staff found evidence of out-of-bank flow over much of the Site.

In addition, the presence of baseflow must be documented on intermittent or low flow reaches (Carpenter Branch Reach 1, UT1, UT2, and UT3) for a minimum of 30 consecutive days during a normal precipitation year. UT2 and UT3 maintained baseflow for 208 and 131 consecutive days, respectively; however, Carpenter Branch Reach 1 and UT1 did not meet the minimum requirement with 8 and 3 days, respectively. Although Carpenter Branch did not meet this year, it is not a concern at this time. The thalweg at the head of riffle is surveyed each year. Slight variations in the thalweg elevations at the head of riffle can cause discrepancies in the recorded number of days of consecutive flow. The head of riffle elevation will be verified again next year.

Game cameras were installed in MY2 to photograph the flow along UT1 and UT2 at the stream gage locations. However, the photos provided by these cameras simply confirmed data collected by the stream gages which was also verified during site visits. Most of the time, the game camera's view is obscured by herbaceous vegetation, causing photos to be unusable for stream flow documentation. Refer to Appendix A for the stream flow photo log containing game camera documentation of flow (photos 1, 2, 6, and 7) and examples of views obstructed by vegetation (photos 3 and 8). Other photos documented during site visits, photo point monitoring, and cross-section surveys also confirm the data recorded by the stream gages (photos 4, 5, 9, and 10). In MY3, Wildlands will relocate the game cameras to document different portions of UT1 and UT2; however, it is expected that by spring, the view may be obstructed by the vegetation. An additional stream gage will be installed on the main stem of Carpenter Branch Reach 1, just below the confluence of UT3, to monitor the streamflow at this location in the reach.

It is expected that baseflow duration will increase as rainfall restores groundwater levels. Rainfall is discussed in more detail in the subsequent section.

Photologs are included Appendix A, and hydrology data is presented in Appendix D.

2.6 Wetland Hydrology Assessment

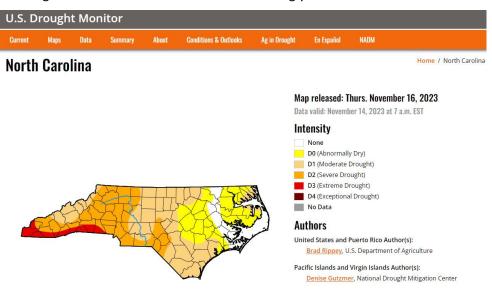
Eleven groundwater gages (GWG) were installed during baseline monitoring to record the groundwater level across the Site. Because gages 9 and 10 did not mee the criteria during MY1, two additional gages (12 and 13) were installed in January 2023 to assess different portions of the wetland area. Out of the thirteen gages, ten met the success criteria this year (GWG1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, and 12) for 35-96 consecutive days of the growing season. Three gages (GWG 8, 9, and 13) did not meet the success criteria this year with 6, 22, and 21 consecutive days of the growing season, respectively. The hydrology of gage 9 improved since MY1, although gage 8 did not improve. Gages 9 and 13 had groundwater levels consistently within 12-inches of the ground surface in the weeks leading up to the start of the Site's

established growing season; both gages would have met if the growing season were extended to March 1. The soil temperature plot would support this adjustment as the soil temperature only drops below 40F briefly in January.

The normal and daily rainfall is determined from the Lincolnton 4 W precipitation gage, which is approximately 5 miles from the Site (NCSU, 2023; NOAA Regional Climate Centers, 2023). The rain data appears to be representative of the conditions on the Site as the larger rainfall events correspond stream level rises recorded by the stream probes.

A reference wetland was identified approximately 6.7 miles NW of the Site. This reference wetland area is a mature Piedmont Bottomland Forest that is located within the floodplain of Howards Creek in Lincoln County. This reference groundwater data is included on all of the groundwater gage plots.

It is expected that all gages will meet the criteria over time as groundwater continues to recharge across the site. However, rainfall has been sporadic. While annual total rainfall in 2022 was normal, few latewinter rains resulted in the 30-day rolling precipitation total being below the 30% of normal threshold at the start of the 2023 growing season, as shown on the groundwater gage plots in Appendix D. Therefore, the groundwater surface was already starting to drop on March 15 across portions of the Site. The effects of the lower groundwater table can be seen in the plot for Gage 8. While the summer rainfall was at or above the normal rainfall each month, 41% of the rainfall occurred during three rain events where more than 2-inches fell (one in each month of April, May, and June). These flashy events do not help recharge the groundwater as most will drain as surface runoff. As a result, and in combination with minimal rainfall in the Fall, the 30-day rainfall amount dropped below the 30% of normal threshold on October 12. Much of the state was in a drought, with Gaston County being in a Severe drought, at the end of the growing season (National Drought Mitigation Center, 2023). Groundwater recharge is expected to occur in the winter, but any winter rain will have to first overcome this water storage deficit. It is likely that the effect of this drought could be observed during 2024 (MY3) in both the stream and groundwater gages. With a 4.7" rain event at the end of December and 7.7" of rain for the month, the annual rainfall ended up being about 2" more than the normal annual rainfall. The rain was enough to bring Gaston County to an Abnormally Dry D0 status. Any impact on groundwater storage should be visible in the next monitoring year.



Annual inspections of the bentonite seals around the groundwater gages are a regular part of Wildlands' protocol and bentonite was added as needed this year. Refer to Appendix D Table 11 for the rainfall

summary table, and Table 12 for the wetland hydrology data. Table 12a shows the hydroperiods for the wetland gages during the existing conditions; the Figure 3 Site Map from the Mitigation Plan is included after the CCPV figures to show the original locations of the groundwater gages.

2.7 Monitoring Year 2 Summary

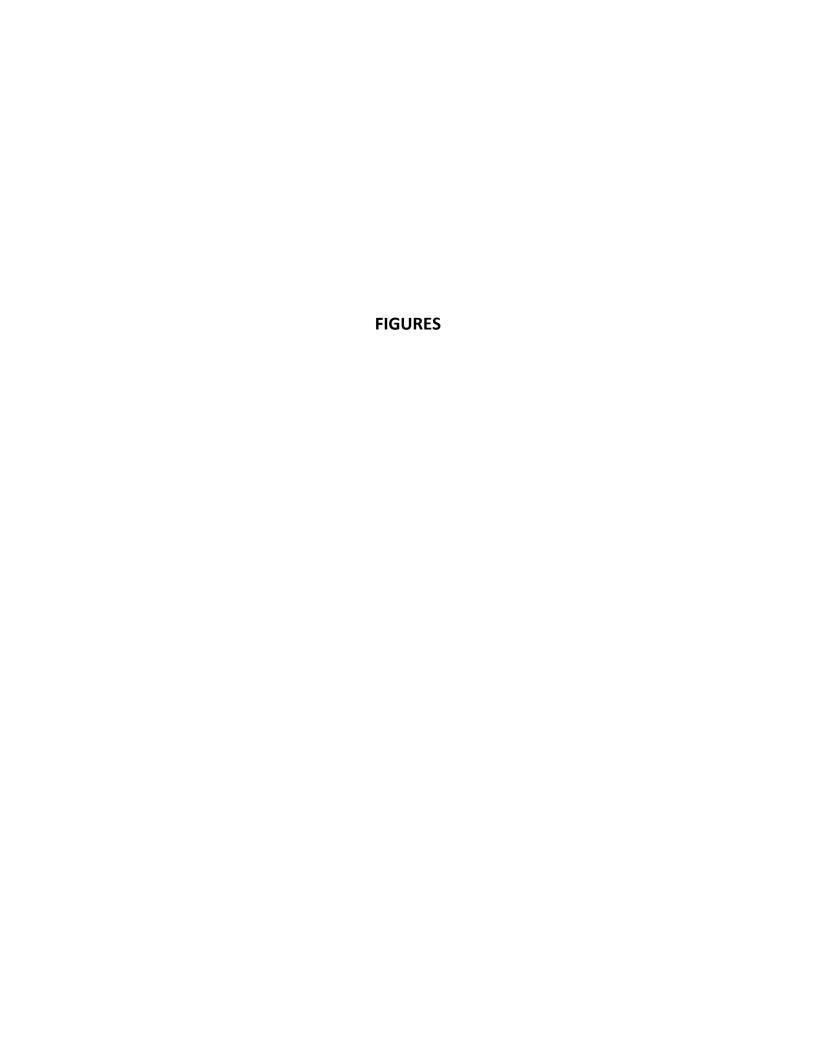
All 13 vegetation plots are exceeding the MY3 interim requirement of 320 planted stems per acre. All streams across the Site are stable and the cross sections show little dimensional change since the asbuilt survey. UT1, UT2, and Carpenter Branch Reach 1 all exhibited at least one bankfull event and are on track to meet the bankfull hydrologic criteria. Only UT3 has yet to record any bankfull events. UT2 and UT3 both met the baseflow criteria; Carpenter Branch Reach 1 met during MY1, and UT1 has yet to meet the criteria. Two new groundwater gages were installed this year. Ten of the thirteen groundwater gages met or exceeded the hydrologic success criteria. Small pockets of invasive species were treated this year and will continue to be monitored and treated as needed. Overall, the Site is on track to meet its goals and is preventing excess nutrients and sediment from entering the Catawba River tributaries.

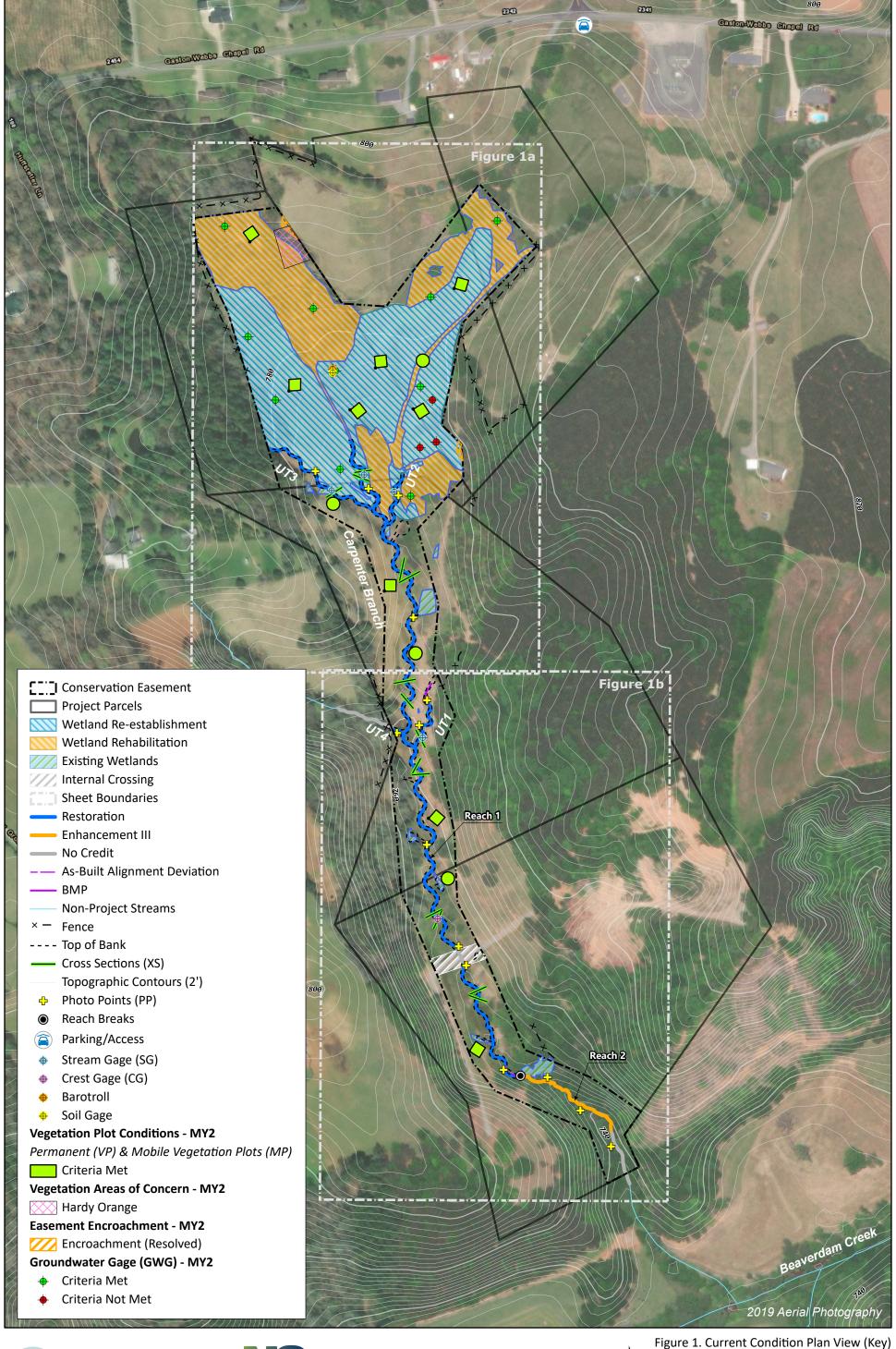
Summary information and data related to the performance of various project and monitoring elements can be found in the tables and figures in the report appendices. All raw data supporting the tables and figures in the appendices are available from DMS upon request.

Section 3: REFERENCES

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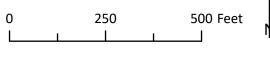
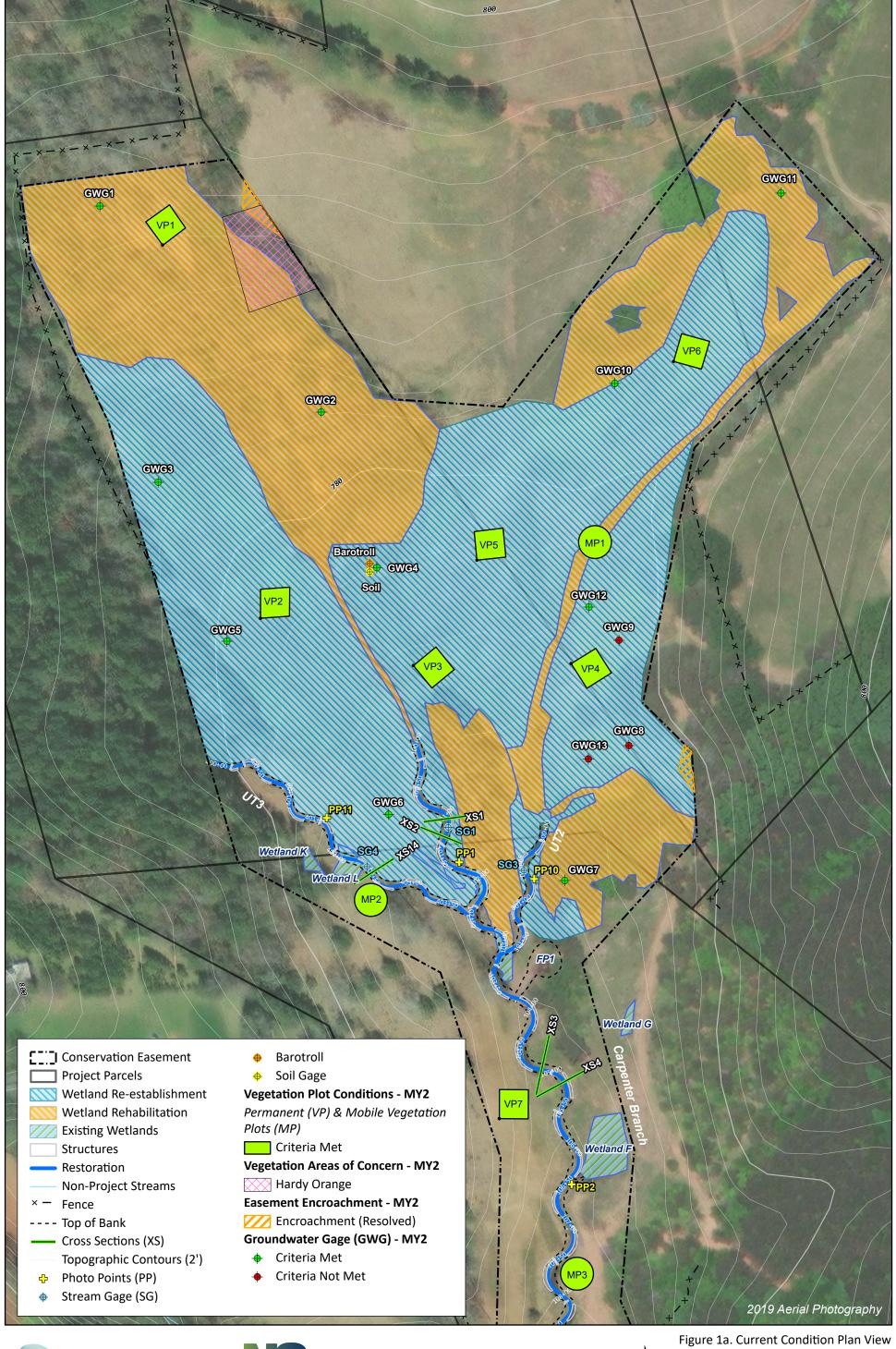
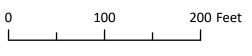


Figure 1. Current Condition Plan View (Key)
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site
DMS Project No. 100090
Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

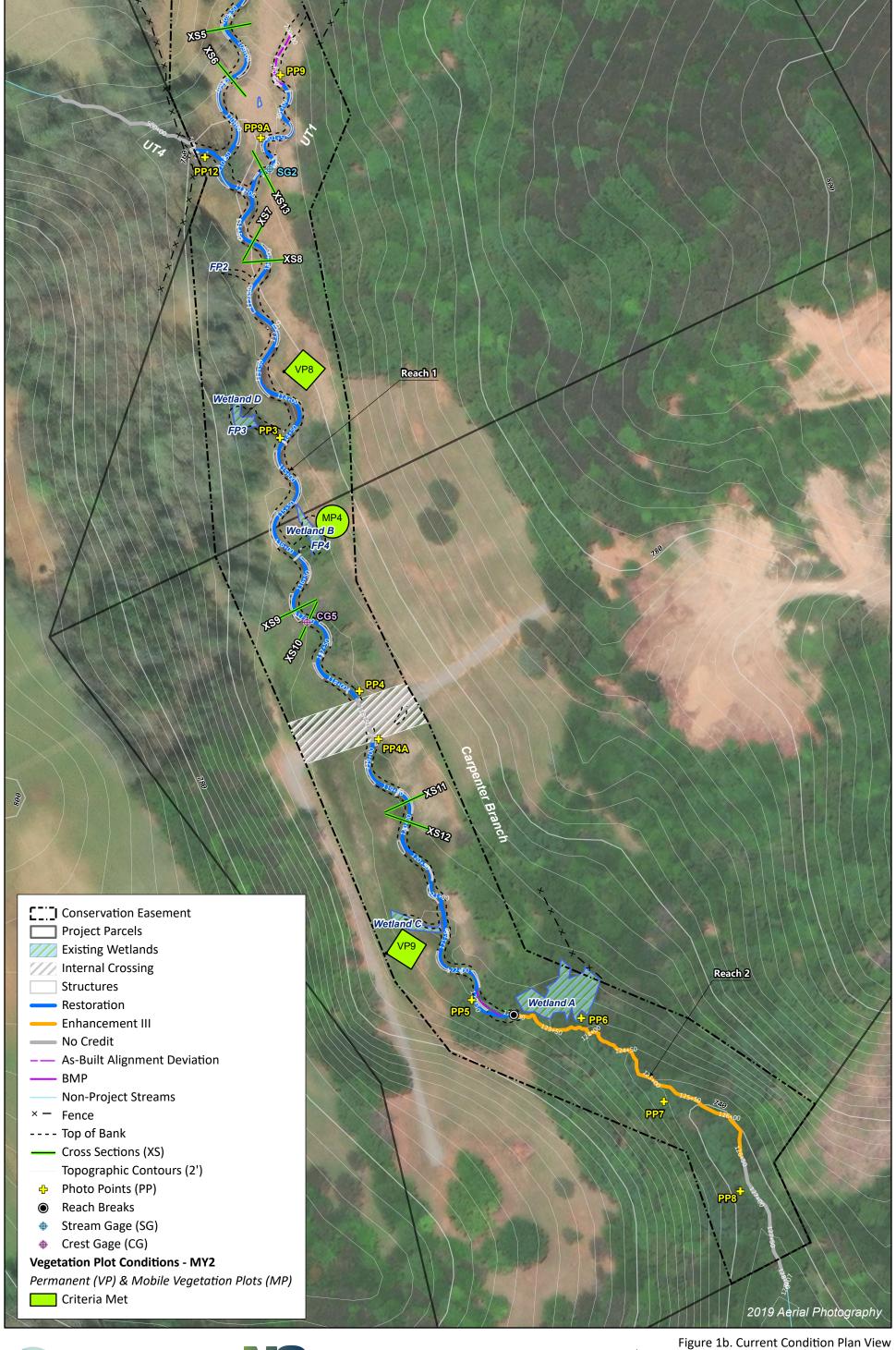






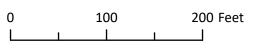


gure 1a. Current Condition Plan View Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090 Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

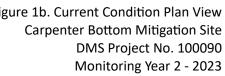








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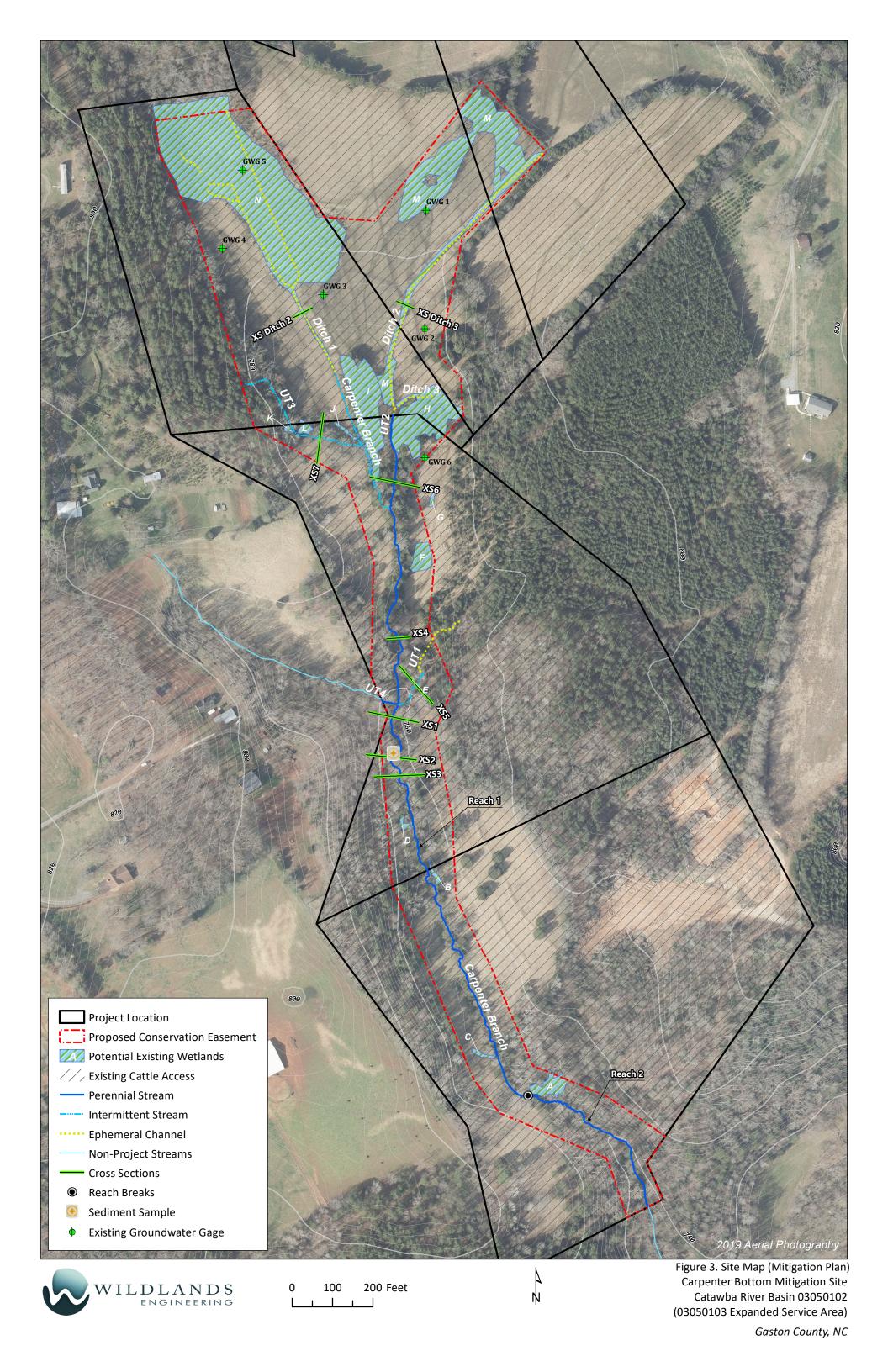




Table 4a. Visual Stream Morphology Stability Assessment Table

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090 Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

Carpenter Branch Reach 1 Date Last Assessed: 11/14/2023

carpenter bi	i alicii Neacii 1	Date Last Assessed: 11/14/2025				
Major Channel Category		Metric	Number Stable, Performing as Intended	Total Number in As-built	Amount of Unstable Footage	% Stable, Performing as Intended
				Assesse	ed Stream Length	2,243
				Asse	ssed Bank Length	4,486
	Surface Scour/ Bare Bank	Bank lacking vegetative cover resulting simply from poor growth and/or surface scour.			0	100%
Bank	Toe Erosion	Bank toe eroding to the extent that bank failure appears likely. Does <u>NOT</u> include undercuts that are modest, appear sustainable and are providing habitat.			0	100%
	Bank Failure	Fluvial and geotechnical - rotational, slumping, calving, or collapse.			0	100%
				Totals:	0	100%
Structure	Grade Control	Grade control structures exhibiting maintenance of grade across the sill.	31	31		100%
Structure	Bank Protection	Bank erosion within the structures extent of influence does <u>not</u> exceed 15%.	45	45		100%

UT1 Date Last Assessed: 11/14/2023

011		Date East Assessed: 11/14/2025				
Major Channel Category		Metric	Number Stable, Performing as Intended	Total Number in As-built	Amount of Unstable Footage	% Stable, Performing as Intended
				Assess	ed Stream Length	175
		ssed Bank Length	350			
	Surface Scour/ Bare Bank	Bank lacking vegetative cover resulting simply from poor growth and/or surface scour.			0	100%
Bank	Toe Erosion	Bank toe eroding to the extent that bank failure appears likely. Does <u>NOT</u> include undercuts that are modest, appear sustainable and are providing habitat.			0	100%
	Bank Failure	Fluvial and geotechnical - rotational, slumping, calving, or collapse.			0	100%
				Totals:	0	100%
Structuro	Grade Control	Grade control structures exhibiting maintenance of grade across the sill.	6	6		100%
Structure	Bank Protection	Bank erosion within the structures extent of influence does <u>not</u> exceed 15%.	6	6		100%

Table 4b. Visual Stream Morphology Stability Assessment Table

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090 Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

UT2 Date Last Assessed: 11/14/2023

Major Channel Category		Metric	Number Stable, Performing as Intended	Total Number in As-built	Amount of Unstable Footage	% Stable, Performing as Intended		
				Assesse	ed Stream Length	178		
	Assessed Bank Length							
	Surface Scour/ Bare Bank	Bank lacking vegetative cover resulting simply from poor growth and/or surface scour.			0	100%		
Bank	Toe Erosion	Bank toe eroding to the extent that bank failure appears likely. Does <u>NOT</u> include undercuts that are modest, appear sustainable and are providing habitat.			0	100%		
	Bank Failure	Fluvial and geotechnical - rotational, slumping, calving, or collapse.			0	100%		
				Totals:	0	100%		
Structure	Grade Control	Grade control structures exhibiting maintenance of grade across the sill.	4	4		100%		
Structure	Bank Protection	Bank erosion within the structures extent of influence does <u>not</u> exceed 15%.	5	5		100%		

UT3 Date Last Assessed: 11/14/2023

013		Date East Assessed: 11/14/2025				
Major Channel Category		Metric	Number Stable, Performing as Intended	Total Number in As-built	Amount of Unstable Footage	% Stable, Performing as Intended
	Assessed Stream Leng					
				Asse	ssed Bank Length	770
Bank	Surface Scour/ Bare Bank	Bank lacking vegetative cover resulting simply from poor growth and/or surface scour.			0	100%
	Toe Erosion	Bank toe eroding to the extent that bank failure appears likely. Does <u>NOT</u> include undercuts that are modest, appear sustainable and are providing habitat.			0	100%
	Bank Failure	Fluvial and geotechnical - rotational, slumping, calving, or collapse.			0	100%
Totals:						100%
Structure	Grade Control	Grade control structures exhibiting maintenance of grade across the sill.	9	9		100%
	Bank Protection	Bank erosion within the structures extent of influence does <u>not</u> exceed 15%.	12	12		100%

Table 4c. Visual Stream Morphology Stability Assessment Table

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090 Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

UT4 Date Last Assessed: 11/14/2023

014		Date Last Assesseu. 11/14/2025				
Major Channel Category		Metric	Number Stable, Performing as Intended	Total Number in As-built	Amount of Unstable Footage	% Stable, Performing as Intended
	Assessed Stream Length					
				Asse	ssed Bank Length	72
Bank	Surface Scour/ Bare Bank	Bank lacking vegetative cover resulting simply from poor growth and/or surface scour.			0	100%
	Toe Erosion	Bank toe eroding to the extent that bank failure appears likely. Does <u>NOT</u> include undercuts that are modest, appear sustainable and are providing habitat.			0	100%
	Bank Failure	Fluvial and geotechnical - rotational, slumping, calving, or collapse.			0	100%
Totals:				0	100%	
Structure	Grade Control	Grade control structures exhibiting maintenance of grade across the sill.	1	1		100%
	Bank Protection	Bank erosion within the structures extent of influence does <u>not</u> exceed 15%.	0	0		N/A

Table 5. Vegetation Condition Assessment Table

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090 Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

Date Last Assessed: 11/14/2023 **Planted Acreage** 15.94

Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold (ac)	Combined Acreage	% of Planted Acreage
Bare Areas	Very limited cover of both woody and herbaceous material.	0.10	0	0%
Low Stem Density Areas	Woody stem densities clearly below target levels based on current MY stem count criteria.	0.10	0	0%
		Total	0	0%
Areas of Poor Growth Rates	Planted areas where average height is not meeting current MY Performance Standard.	0.10	0	0%
	0.0	0%		

Easement Acreage 18.00

Mapping % of Combined **Vegetation Category** Threshold **Definitions** Easement Acreage (ac) Acreage Invasives may occur outside of planted areas and within the easement and will therefore be calculated against the total easement acreage. Include species with Invasive Areas of the potential to directly outcompete native, young, woody stems in the short-term 0.10 0.16 1% Concern or community structure for existing communities. Invasive species included in summation above should be identified in report summary. Encroachment may be point, line, or polygon. Encroachment to be mapped consists 0 Encroachments Noted Easement of any violation of restrictions specified in the conservation easement. Common none / 0 ac **Encroachment Areas** encroachments are mowing, cattle access, vehicular access. Encroachment has no threshold value as will need to be addressed regardless of impact area.

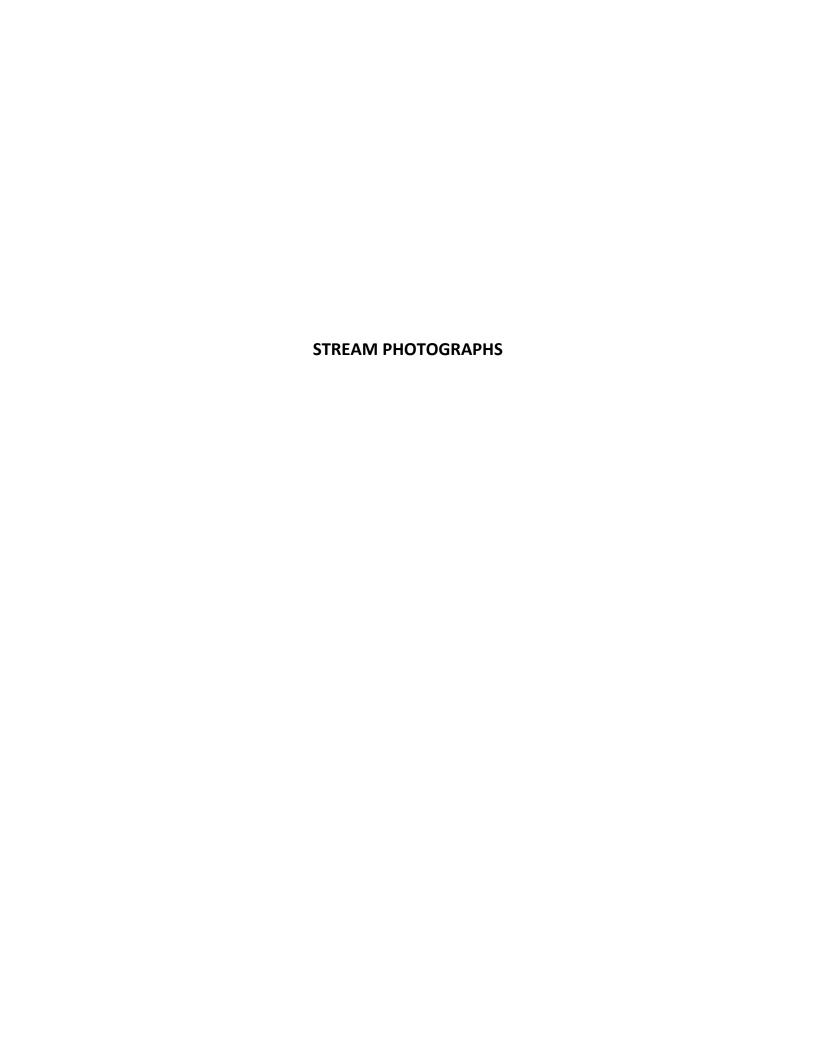




PHOTO POINT 1 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 1 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 2 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 2 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 3 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 3 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 3 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - Floodplain Pool (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 4 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 4 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 4A - Carpenter Bottom R1 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 4A - Carpenter Bottom R1 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 5 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 5 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 6 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 6 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 7 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 7 - Carpenter Bottom R1 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 9A - UT1 - downstream (03/06/2023)

PHOTO POINT 9A - UT1 - upstream (03/06/2023)





PHOTO POINT 10 - UT2 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 11 - UT3 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 11 - UT3 - downstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 12 - UT4 - upstream (03/06/2023)



PHOTO POINT 12 - UT4 - downstream - (03/06/2023)







PERMANENT VEG PLOT 7 (8/17/2023)



PERMANENT VEG PLOT 8 (8/17/2023)



PERMANENT VEG PLOT 9 (8/17/2023)



MOBILE VEG PLOT 1 (8/17/2023)



MOBILE VEG PLOT 2 (8/17/2023)

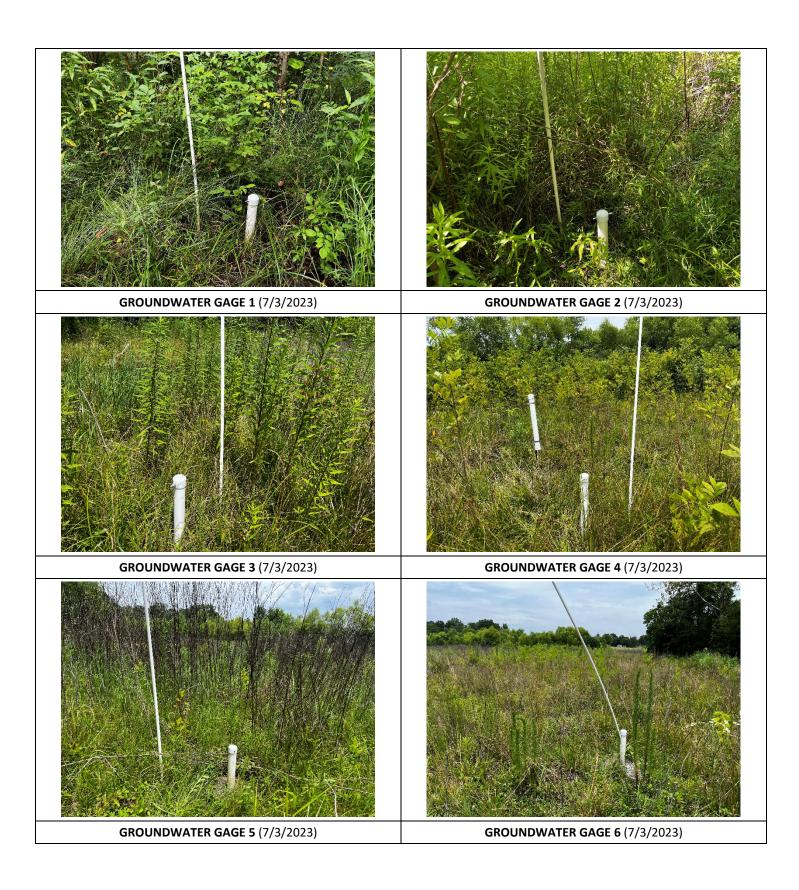


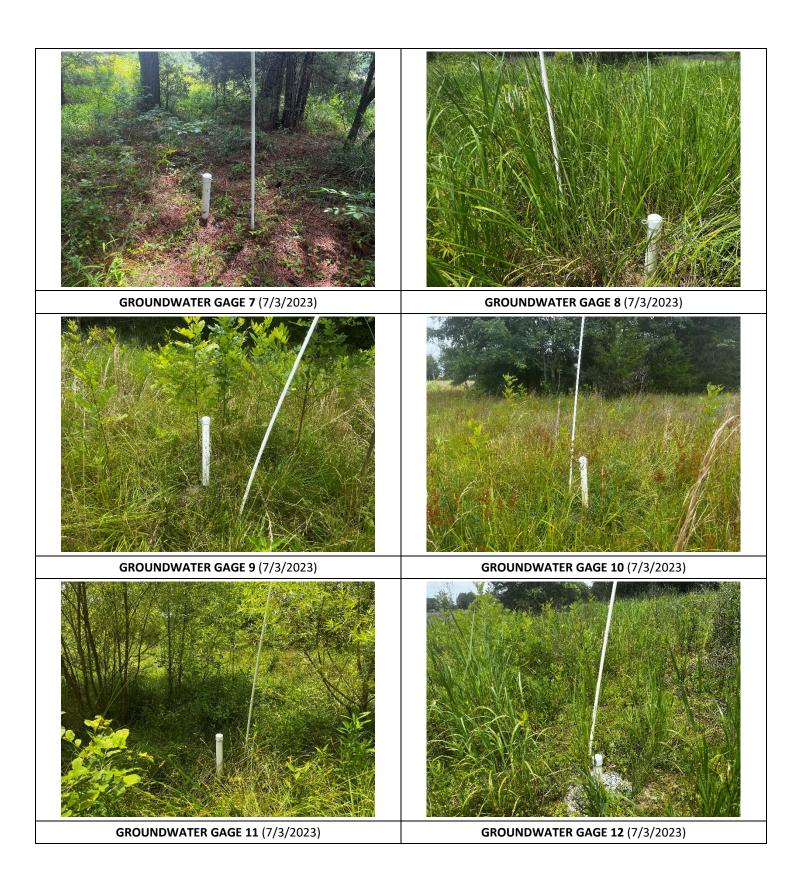


MOBILE VEG PLOT 3 (8/17/2023)

MOBILE VEG PLOT 4 (8/17/2023)

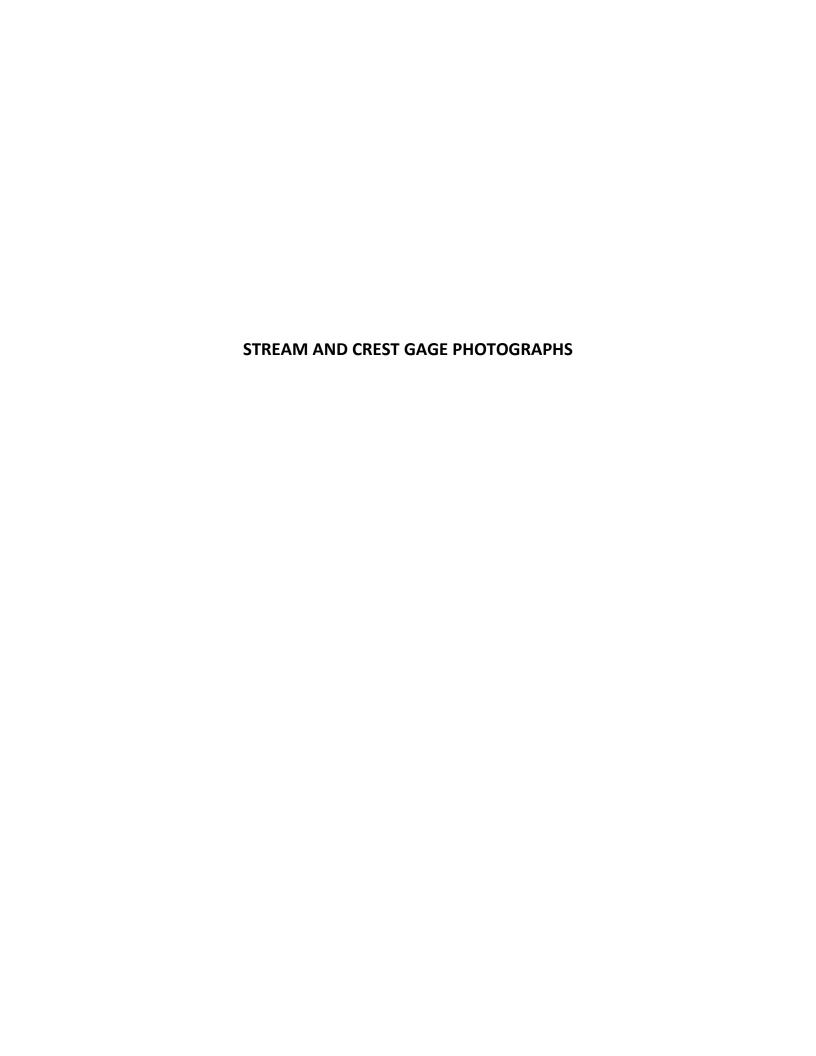








GROUNDWATER GAGE 13 (7/3/2023)





STREAM GAGE 1 (7/3/2023)



STREAM GAGE 2 (11/14/2023)



STREAM GAGE 3 (7/3/2023)



STREAM GAGE 4 (7/3/2023)



CREST GAGE 5 (11/14/2023)





Encroachment 1 – Resolved mowing encroachment in upstream floodplain (11/14/2023)



Encroachment 2 – resolved encroachment near GWG8 (03/06/2023)

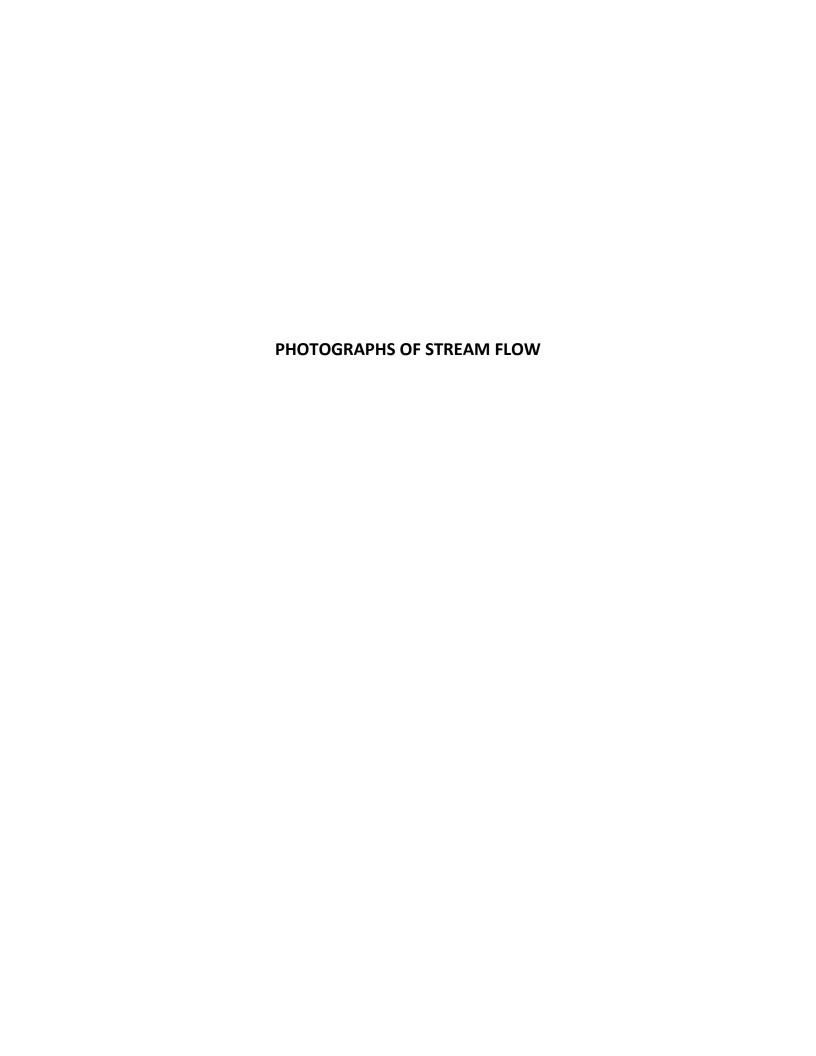




Photo 1 – UT1 – High flow, above thalweg but below bankfull (7PM) (03/03/2023)



Photo 2 – UT1 – High flow (6PM) just prior to the bankfull event (3AM the following morning) (04/27/2023)



Photo 3 – UT1 – Typical blocked view (10PM) (07/02/2023)



Photo 4 – UT1 – No flow. This photo was taken during a site visit and confirms the water level data shown in the Recorded In-Stream Flow Events Plot (11/14/2023)



Photo 5 – UT1 – Cross-section photo confirming no flow over the riffle (07/03/2023)



Photo 6 – UT2 – High flow, above thalweg but below bankfull (3PM) (06/20/2023)



Photo 7 – UT2 – Bankfull event (3AM) (04/28/2023)



Photo 8 – UT2 – Typical blocked view (12AM) (08/23/2023)



Photo 9 – UT2 – No flow. This photo was taken during a site visit and confirms the water level data shown in the Recorded In-Stream Flow Events Plot (11/14/2023)



Photo 10 - UT2 - Photo point 10 confirming flow (03/06/2023)



Table 6. Vegetation Plot Data

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

Planted Acreage	15.938
Date of Initial Plant	2022-02-01
Date(s) of Supplemental Plant(s)	NA
Date(s) Mowing	NA
Date of Current Survey	2023-08-15
Plot size (ACRES)	0.0247

	Scientific Name	Common Nama	Tree/	Indicator	Veg Pl	-0 -		lot 2 F	Veg Pl	lot 3 F	Veg P	lot 4 F	Veg Pl	ot 5 F	Veg Pl	lot 6 F	Veg Plot 7 F		Veg Plot 8 F		Veg Plot 9 F	
	Scientific Name	Common Name	Shrub	Status	Planted	Total	Planted	Total	Planted	Total	Planted	Total	Planted	Total	Planted	Total	Planted	Total	Planted	Total	Planted	Total
	Acer negundo	boxelder	Tree	FAC	2	2							1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1
	Alnus serrulata	hazel alder	Tree	OBL	2	2											2	2				
	Amelanchier arborea	common serviceberry	Tree	FAC													2	2				
	Betula nigra	river birch	Tree	FACW			2	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	2	2	1	1				
	Celtis laevigata	sugarberry	Tree	FACW					1	1												
	Cephalanthus occidentalis	common buttonbush	Shrub	OBL	2	2									1	1						
	Cornus amomum	silky dogwood	Shrub	FACW													1	1				
	Diospyros virginiana	common persimmon	Tree	FAC						2										1	1	1
Consiss Instituted in	Fagus grandifolia	American beech	Tree	FACU																	1	1
Species Included in Approved Mitigation –	Lindera benzoin	northern spicebush	Tree	FAC											1	1	1	1				
Plan	Liriodendron tulipifera	tuliptree	Tree	FACU													2	2				
T Idii	Nyssa sylvatica	blackgum	Tree	FAC	1	1	1	1							1	1						
	Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Tree	FACW	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	5	5
	Populus deltoides	eastern cottonwood	Tree	FAC													1	1	2	2	3	3
	Quercus michauxii	swamp chestnut oak	Tree	FACW	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1						
	Quercus pagoda	cherrybark oak	Tree	FACW			4	4	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	1				1		
	Quercus phellos	willow oak	Tree	FAC					1	1			1	1			1	1	1	1		
	Sambucus canadensis	American black elderberry	Tree	FAC									1	1								
	Ulmus americana	American elm	Tree	FACW	1	1	1	1	2	2					6	6				1		
	Ulmus rubra	slippery elm	Tree	FAC				1														
Sum	Performance Standard				13	13	11	12	11	13	9	9	10	10	14	14	13	13	7	10	11	11
Post Mitigation Plan Species	Fraxinus pennsylvanica	green ash	Tree	FACW								1										
Sum	Proposed Standard				13	13	11	12	11	13	9	9	10	10	14	14	13	13	7	10	11	11
	Current Year Ste	m Count				13		12		13		9		10		14		13		10		11
Adding the or Disco	Stems/Ac	re				526		486		526		364		405		567		526		405		445
Mitigation Plan Performance	Species Cou	unt				7		7		8		4		7		8		10		7		5
Standard	Dominant Species Cor	mposition (%)				23		33		31		40		30		43		15		30		45
Standard	Average Plot He	ight (ft.)				3		2		2		3		2		2		2		2		4
	% Invasive	es				0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0
	Current Year Ste	m Count				13		12		13		9		10		14		13		10		11
l †	Stems/Ac					526		486		526		364		405		567		526		405		445
Post Mitigation Plan	Species Cou	unt				7		7		8		4		7		8		10		7		5
Performance	Dominant Species Cor	mposition (%)				23		33		31		40		30		43		15		30		45
Standard	Average Plot He					3		2		2		3		2		2		2		2		4
	% Invasive					0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0
1) Poldod species are r	proposed for the current monitoring year		rod and	rogular font	indicator th	at the case	ios has hoo	n annroyo	1								-		•			

^{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" section is derived only from stems included in the original mitigation plan, whereas the "Post Mitigation Plan Performance Standard" includes data from mitigation plan approved, post mitigation plan approved, and proposed stems.

^{4).} Species identifications were corrected from the previous monitoring year.

Table 6. Vegetation Plot Data

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

Planted Acreage	15.938
Date of Initial Plant	2022-02-01
Date(s) of Supplemental Plant(s)	NA
Date(s) Mowing	NA
Date of Current Survey	2023-08-15
Plot size (ACRES)	0.0247

	Scientific Name	Common Name	Tree/	Indicator	Veg Plot 1 R	Veg Plot 2 R	Veg Plot 3 R	Veg Plot 4 R
			Shrub	Status	Total	Total	Total	Total
	Acer negundo	boxelder	Tree	FAC	2	2	4	
	Alnus serrulata	hazel alder	Tree	OBL			1	1
	Amelanchier arborea	common serviceberry	Tree	FAC				
	Betula nigra	river birch	Tree	FACW	1			2
	Celtis laevigata	sugarberry	Tree	FACW				1
	Cephalanthus occidentalis	common buttonbush	Shrub	OBL				
	Cornus amomum	silky dogwood	Shrub	FACW	1			
	Diospyros virginiana	common persimmon	Tree	FAC		4		4
	Fagus grandifolia	American beech	Tree	FACU		1		
Species Included in	Lindera benzoin	northern spicebush	Tree	FAC				
Approved Mitigation —— Plan	Liriodendron tulipifera	tuliptree	Tree	FACU		3	2	2
Fidii	Nyssa sylvatica	blackgum	Tree	FAC	1			
	Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Tree	FACW	2	1	2	1
	Populus deltoides	eastern cottonwood	Tree	FAC	1	3		2
	Quercus michauxii	swamp chestnut oak	Tree	FACW				
	Quercus pagoda	cherrybark oak	Tree	FACW	3			
	Quercus phellos	willow oak	Tree	FAC		3	2	
	Sambucus canadensis	American black elderberry	Tree	FAC				
	Ulmus americana	American elm	Tree	FACW	1	3		1
	Ulmus rubra	slippery elm	Tree	FAC			1	
Sum	Performance Standard				12	20	12	14
Post Mitigation Plan Species	Fraxinus pennsylvanica	green ash	Tree	FACW				
Sum	Proposed Standard				12	20	12	14
	Current Year Stem	Count			12	20	12	14
	Stems/Acre				486	810	486	567
Mitigation Plan	Species Coun	t			8	8	6	8
Performance	Dominant Species Com	position (%)			25	20	33	29
Standard	Average Plot Heig	ht (ft.)			3	2	3	2
	% Invasives				0	0	0	0
	Current Year Stem	Count			12	20	12	14
	Stems/Acre				486	810	486	567
Post Mitigation Plan	<u>.</u>				8	8	6	8
•	Species Coun	IT						
Performance	Species Coun Dominant Species Com				25	20	33	29
•		position (%)			25 3	20 2	33 3	29 2

^{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" sec 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

^{3).} The "Mitigation Plan Performance Standard" section is derived only from stems included in the original mitigation plan, whereas the "Post Mitigation Plan Performance Standard" includes

^{4).} Species identifications were corrected from the previous monitoring year.

Table 7. Vegetation Performance Standards Summary Table

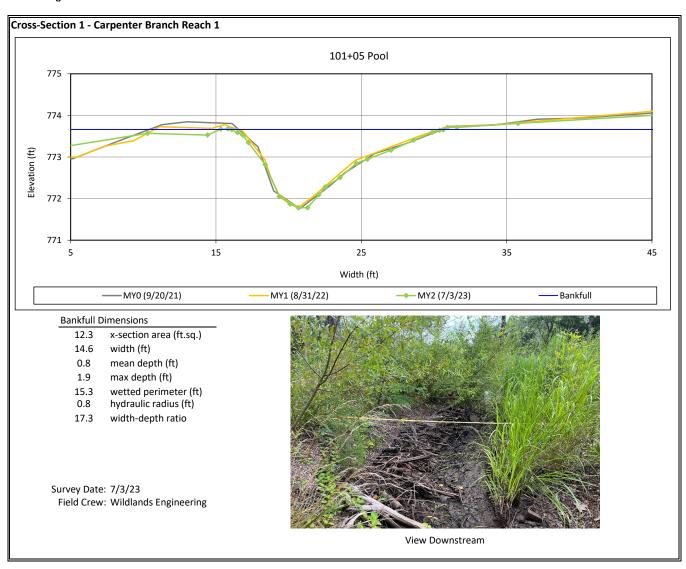
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

				Vegetation I	Performance	Standards Sun									
		Veg P	ot 1 F			Veg P	lot 2 F			Veg P	lot 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															
Monitoring Year 2	526	3	7	0	486	2	7	0	526	2	8	0			
Monitoring Year 1	526	2	7	0	445	2	6	0	486	2	7	0			
Monitoring Year 0	688	2	7	0	607	2	8	0	648	2	8	0			
		Veg P	ot 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															
Monitoring Year 2	364	3	4	0	405	2	7	0	567	2	8	0			
Monitoring Year 1	364	2	4	0	405	2	7	0	567	2	8	0			
Monitoring Year 0	607	2	7	0	607	2	9	0	567	2	8	0			
		Veg P	ot 7 F			Veg P	lot 8 F	•		Veg Plot 9 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															
Monitoring Year 2	526	2	10	0	405	2	7	0	445	4	5	0			
Monitoring Year 1	526	2	10	0	445	2	7	0	486	3	5	0			
Monitoring Year 0	648	2	10	0	607	2	7	0	567	3	7	0			
<u> </u>		Veg Plot (Group 1 R			Veg Plot (Group 2 R		Veg Plot Group 3 R						
	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															
Monitoring Year 2	486	3	8	0	810	2	8	0	486	3	6	0			
Monitoring Year 1	486	2	8	0	405	2	8	0	445	2	6	0			
Monitoring Year 0	526	2	8	0	648	2	7	0	526	2	8	0			
<u> </u>		Veg Plot (
	Stems/Ac.	Av. Ht. (ft)	# Species	% Invasives											
Monitoring Year 7															
Monitoring Year 5															
Monitoring Year 3															
Monitoring Year 2	567	2	8	0											
Monitoring Year 1	445	2	6	0											
		_													

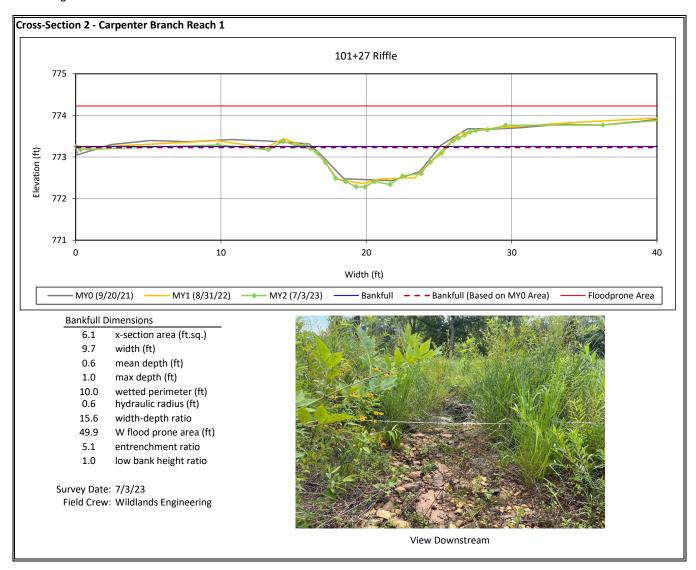
^{*}Each monitoring year represents a different plot for the random vegetation plot "groups". Random plots are denoted with an R, and fixed plots with an F.



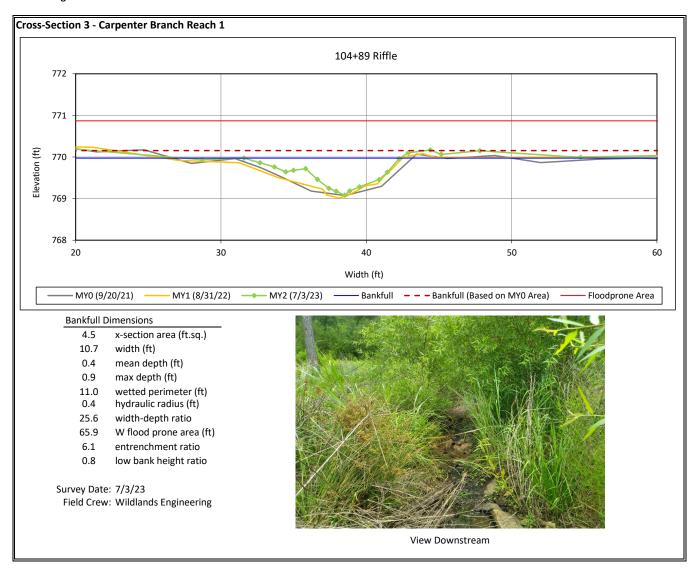
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



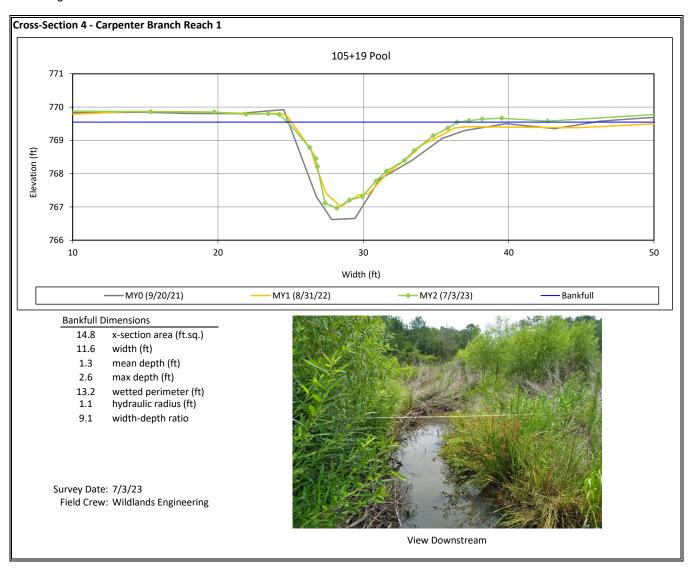
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



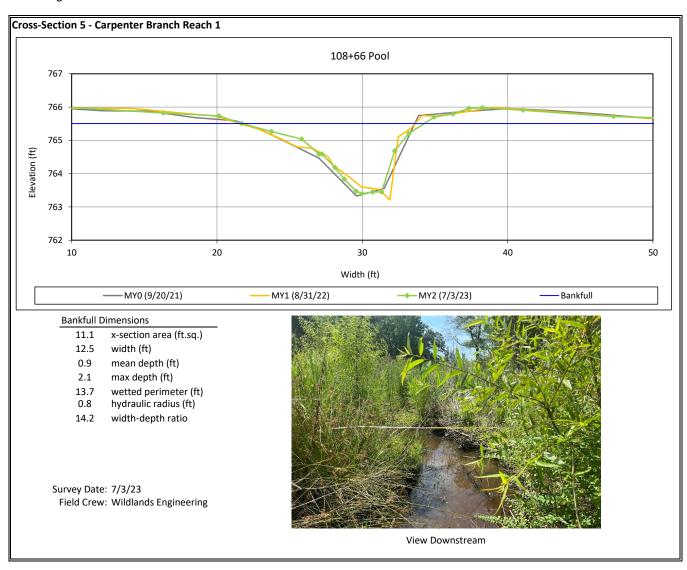
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



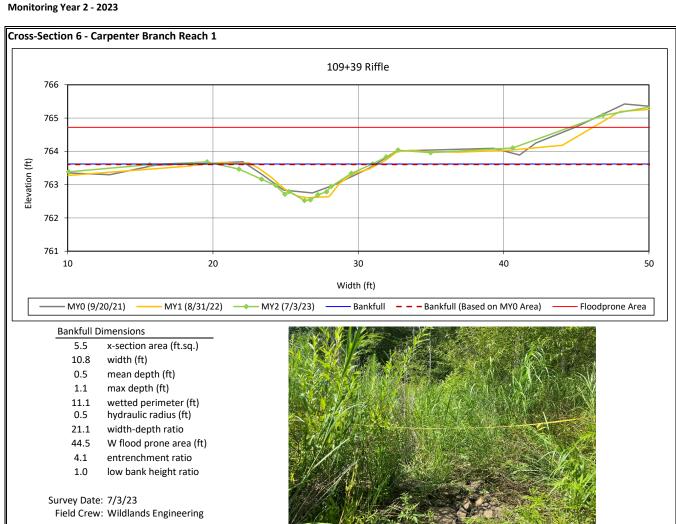
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

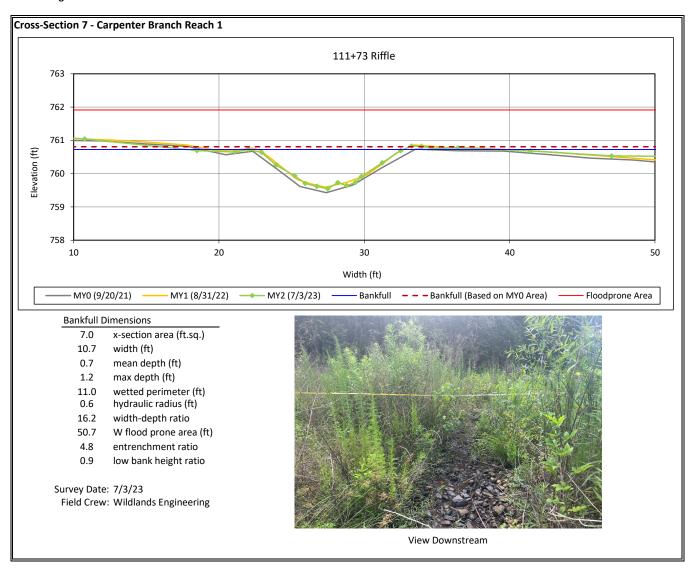


Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

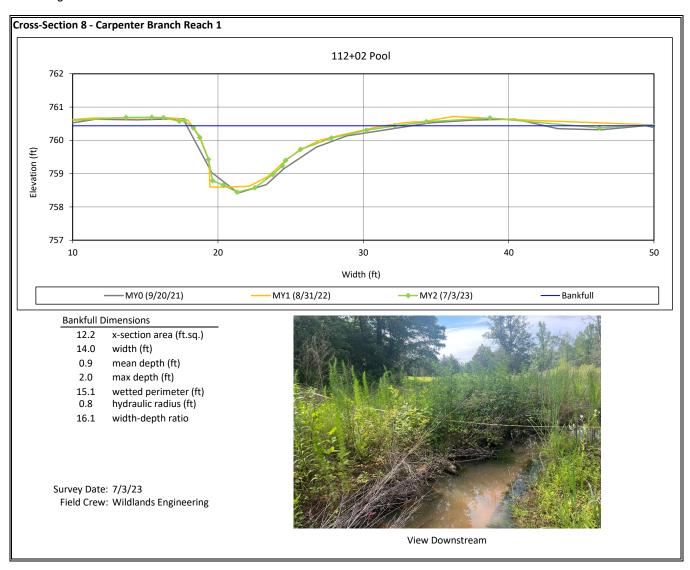


View Downstream

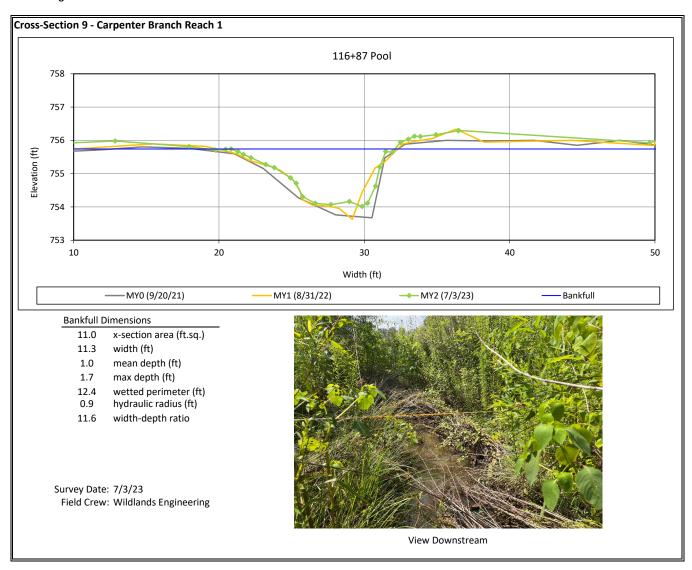
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



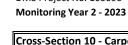
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

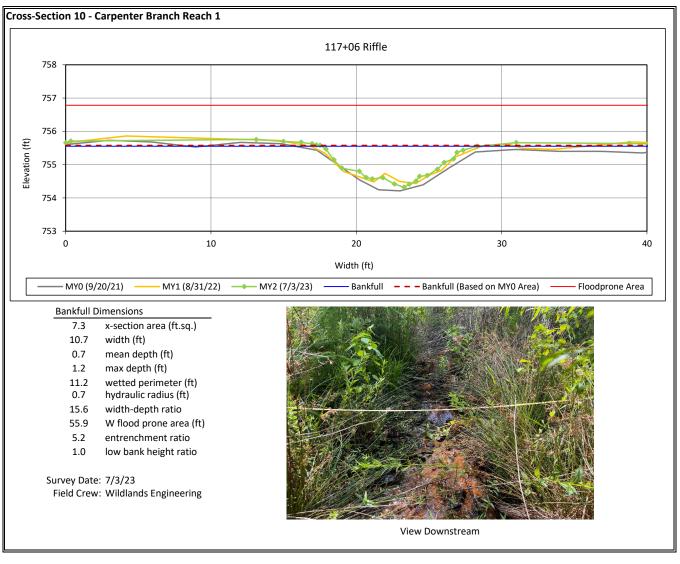


Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

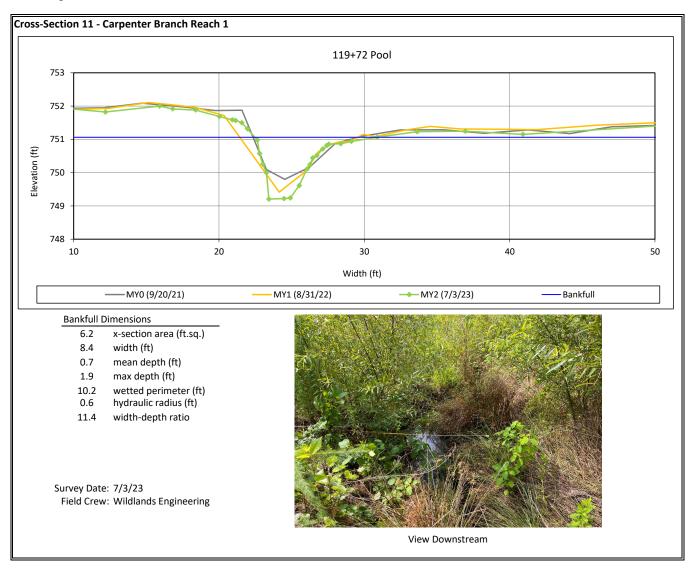


Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

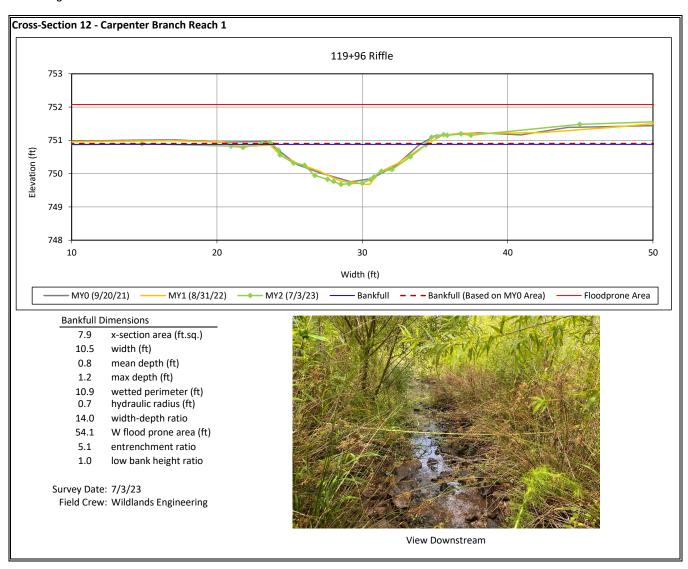




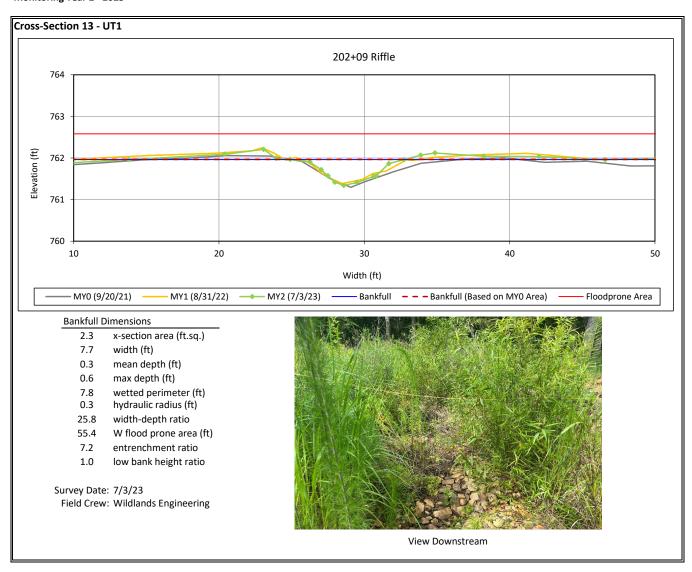
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

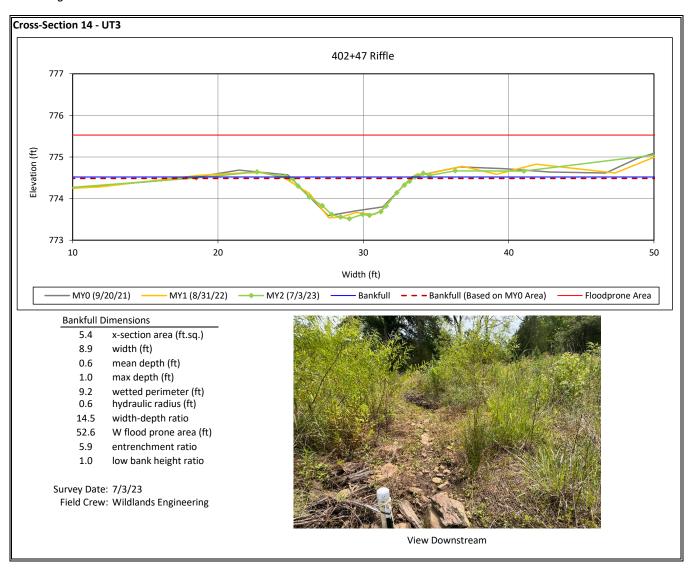


Table 8a. Baseline Stream Data Summary

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090
Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

		E-EXISTII ONDITIOI	VS		SIGN		MONITORING BASELINE (MY0)						
Parameter				Carpenter	Branch R								
Riffle Only	Min	Max	n	Min	Max	Min	Max	n					
Bankfull Width (ft)).2	1	7	.5	9.2	12.2	6 6					
Floodprone Width (ft)	14		1	17.0	26.0	44.4	44.4 68.1						
Bankfull Mean Depth	0		1	0	.6	0.5	0.8	6					
Bankfull Max Depth	1	.2	1	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.2	6					
Bankfull Cross Sectional Area (ft ²)	7	.0	1	4	.4	5.3	8.2	6					
Width/Depth Ratio	14	1.9	1	12	2.5	14.4	22.7	6					
Entrenchment Ratio	1	.4	1	2.2	3.5	4.6	5.6	6					
Bank Height Ratio	3	.4	1	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	6					
Max part size (mm) mobilized at bankfull		37 / 90		32	/ 81	46	61	6					
Rosgen Classification		G4		(24		C4						
Bankfull Discharge (cfs)		14.0		14	1.0	14.0							
Sinuosity		1.1		1	.2		1.2						
Water Surface Slope (ft/ft) ²		0.0130		0.0	120		0.0109						
Other					-								
Parameter				UT1									
Riffle Only	Min	Max	n	Min	Max	Min	Max	n					
Bankfull Width (ft)	3	.1	1	5	.0	8	.0	1					
Floodprone Width (ft)	4	.2	1	11.0	18.0	55	5.5	1					
Bankfull Mean Depth	0	.6	1	0	0.4		.3	1					
Bankfull Max Depth	0	.8	1	0.5	0.6	0	.6	1					
Bankfull Cross Sectional Area (ft ²)	1	.8	1	1	.9	2	.3	1					
Width/Depth Ratio	5	.2	1	12	2.5	27	'.6	1					
Entrenchment Ratio	1	.4	1	2.2	3.5	6	.9	1					
Bank Height Ratio	6	.1	1	1.0	1.1	1	.0	1					
Max part size (mm) mobilized at bankfull			•		-	4	1	1					
Rosgen Classification		G4/5		(24	C4							
Bankfull Discharge (cfs)		6.8		6	.0	6.0							
Sinuosity		1.1		1	.3	1.2							
Water Surface Slope (ft/ft) ²		0.0258		0.0	200	0.0153							
Other					-								
1 FR for the haceline/monitoring narameters are		م ما المانيين			f	nina tha wi		l					

^{1.} ER for the baseline/monitoring parameters are based on the width of the cross-section, in lieu of assuming the width across the floodplain.

^{2.} Channel slope is calculated from the surface of the channel bed rather than water surface.

^{(---):} Data was not provided, N/A: Not Applicable

Table 8b. Baseline Stream Data Summary

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090

Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

		E-EXISTII ONDITIOI		DES	IGN	MONITO	ASELINE									
Parameter				U'	Т3											
Riffle Only	Min	Max	n	Min	Max	Min	Max	n								
Bankfull Width (ft)	9	.5	1	6	.0	8.	4	1								
Floodprone Width (ft)	N,	/A	1	13.0	21.0	52	.6	1								
Bankfull Mean Depth	0	.3	1	0	.5	0.	6	1								
Bankfull Max Depth	0	.7	1	0.6	0.8	0.	0.9									
Bankfull Cross Sectional Area (ft ²)	2	8	1	2	.9	5.	1	1								
Width/Depth Ratio	31	9	1	12	2.0	14	.0	1								
Entrenchment Ratio	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		1	2.2	3.5	6.	2	1
Bank Height Ratio	1	.3	1	1.0	1.1	1.	0	1								
Max part size (mm) mobilized at bankfull				-	-	4	8	1								
Rosgen Classification		G4/5		C.	4b											
Bankfull Discharge (cfs)		6.2		8	.0		8.0									
Sinuosity		1.0		1	.2		·									
Water Surface Slope (ft/ft) ²		0.0260		0.0	230											
Other			•	-												

^{1.} ER for the baseline/monitoring parameters are based on the width of the cross-section, in lieu of assuming the width across the floodplain.

^{2.} Channel slope is calculated from the surface of the channel bed rather than water surface.

^{(---):} Data was not provided, N/A: Not Applicable

Table 9. Cross-Section Morphology Monitoring Summary

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090

											Carpe	nter Br	anch Re	ach 1										
	Cross-Section 1 (Pool) Cross-Section 2 (Riffle)													Cros	s-Sectio	n 3 (Ri	ffle)			Cro	ss-Secti	ion 4 (P	ool)	
	MY0	MY1	MY2	MY3	MY5	MY7	MY0	MY1	MY2	MY3	MY5	MY7	MY0	MY1	MY2	MY3	MY5	MY7	MY0	MY1	MY2	MY3	MY5	MY7
Bankfull Elevation (ft) - Based on AB-Bankfull ¹ Area							773.32	773.26	773.23				769.96	770.00	770.16									
Bank Height Ratio - Based on AB Bankfull ¹ Area	-						1.0	1.0	1.0				1.0	0.9	0.8									
Thalweg Elevation	771.76	771.79	771.78				772.43	772.36	772.28				769.07	769.02	769.08				766.62	767.01	766.97			
LTOB ² Elevation	773.74	773.72	773.66				773.32	773.30	773.25				769.96	769.86	769.97				769.29	769.38	769.55			
LTOB ² Max Depth (ft)	2.0	1.9	1.9				0.9	0.9	1.0				0.9	0.8	0.9				2.7	2.4	2.6			
LTOB ² Cross Sectional Area (ft ²)	13.1	12.2	12.3				5.8	6.2	6.1				6.5	5.0	4.5				15.8	13.0	14.8			
											<u> </u>	nter Br	anch Re											
			ss-Secti						ss-Secti	•					s-Sectio						ss-Secti	•		
	MY0		MY2	MY3	MY5	MY7	MY0	MY1		MY3	MY5	MY7	MY0	MY1	MY2	MY3	MY5	MY7	MY0	MY1	MY2	MY3	MY5	MY7
Bankfull Elevation (ft) - Based on AB-Bankfull Area							763.69		763.60				760.67	760.82										
Bank Height Ratio - Based on AB Bankfull ¹ Area	-						1.0	1.0	1.0				1.0	1.0	0.9									
Thalweg Elevation			763.40				762.75		762.52					759.59						758.60				
LTOB ² Elevation							763.69						760.67		760.73					760.42	760.43			
LTOB ² Max Depth (ft)		2.3	2.1				0.9	1.1	1.1				1.2	1.2	1.2				1.9	1.8	2.0			
LTOB ² Cross Sectional Area (ft ²)	13.7	11.2	11.1				5.3	5.4	5.5				7.9	7.3	7.0				12.1	11.7	12.2			
		Carpenter Cross-Section 9 (Pool) Cross-Section 10 (Riffle)													- C4'-	- 44 /D	\ I\			Cu a a		42 /5	.:cci - /	
	MY0		MY2	MY3		MY7	Cross-Section 10 (Riffle) MY0 MY1 MY2 MY3 MY5 MY7						Cross-Section 11 (Pool) MY0 MY1 MY2 MY3 MY5 MY7 MY0						Cross-Section 12 (Riffle) MY0 MY1 MY2 MY3 MY5 MY7					
Bankfull Elevation (ft) - Based on AB-Bankfull ¹ Area				IVITS	IVITO	IVITA			755.58	IVITS	CTIVI	IVI 1 /				IVITS	IVITO	IVI I /	750.97		750.91	IVITS	IVITO	IVI 1 /
Bank Height Ratio - Based on AB Bankfull Area							1.0	1.0	1.0										1.0	0.9	1.0			
Thalweg Elevation	-	753.63	754.01				754.21		754.32				749.80	749.41	749.21						749.68			
_			755.74				755.38								751.06				750.97		750.88			
LTOB ² Max Depth (ft)	1.9	2.0	1.7				1.2	1.1	1.2				1.5	1.8	1.9				1.2	1.1	1.2			
LTOB ² Cross Sectional Area (ft ²)	12.2	10.4	11.0				7.6	7.8	7.3				6.7	7.2	6.2				8.2	7.1	7.9			
. ,			U	Т1					U ⁻	Т3						<u> </u>								
		Cros	s-Sectio	n 13 (R	iffle)			Cros	s-Sectio	n 14 (R	iffle)													
	MY0	MY1	MY2	MY3	MY5	MY7	MY0	MY1	MY2	MY3	MY5	MY7												
Bankfull Elevation (ft) - Based on AB-Bankfull Area	761.87	761.96	761.96				774.53	774.49	774.48															
Bank Height Ratio - Based on AB Bankfull ¹ Area	1.0	1.0	1.0				1.0	1.0	1.0															
Thalweg Elevation			761.34				773.59		773.51															
LTOB ² Elevation	761.87	761.96	761.96				774.53	774.49	774.52															
LTOB ² Max Depth (ft)	0.6	0.6	0.6				0.9	1.0	1.0															
LTOB ² Cross Sectional Area (ft ²)	2.3	2.3	2.3				5.1	5.2	5.4															

¹Bank Height Ratio (BHR) takes the As-built bankful area as the basis for adjusting each subsequent years bankfull elevation.

²LTOB Area and Max depth - These are based on the LTOB elevation for each years survey (The same elevation used for the LTOB in the BHR calculation). Area below the LTOB elevation will be used and tracked for each year as above. The difference between the LTOB elevation and the thalweg elevation (same as in the BHR calculation) will be recroded and tracked above as LTOB max depth.

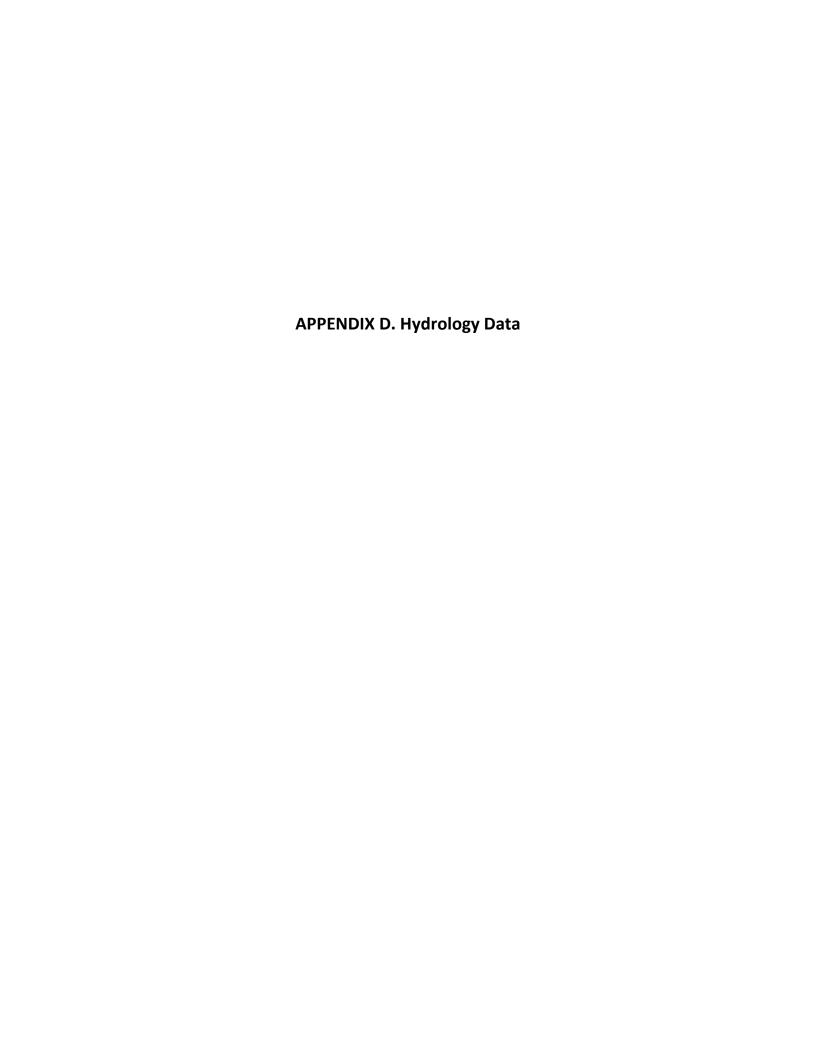


Table 10. Bankfull Events

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090 Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

Reach	MY1 (2022)	MY2 (2023)	MY3 (2024)	MY4 (2025)	MY5 (2026)	MY6 (2027)	MY7 (2028)
UT1 (SG2)	03/12/2022	04/28/2023					
UT2 (SG3)	01/03/2022	01/04/2023					
012 (303)	03/12/2022	04/28/2023					
UT3 (SG4)	None	None					
Corporator Bronch Booch 1 (CCT)	None	01/04/2023					
Carpenter Branch Reach 1 (CG5)	Branch Reach 1 (CG5) None	04/28/2023					

Table 11. Rainfall Summary

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

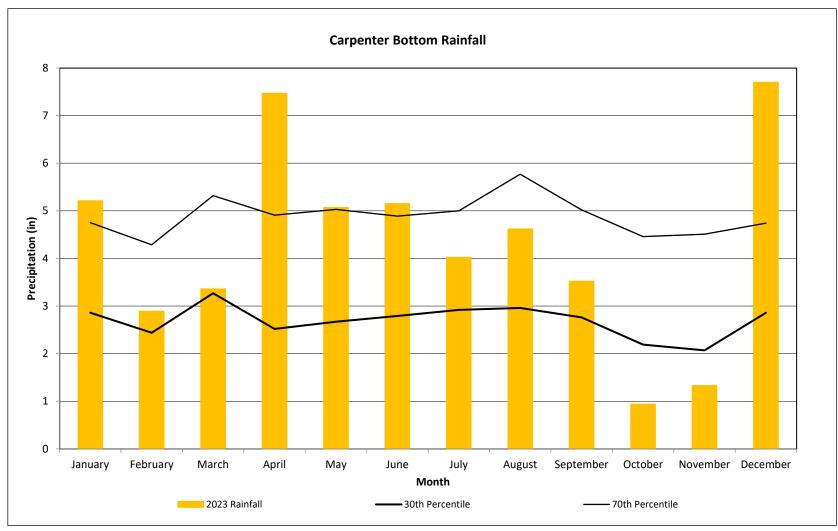
	MY1 (2022)	MY2 (2023)	MY3 (2024)	MY4 (2025)	MY5 (2026)	MY6 (2027)	MY7 (2028)
Annual Precip Total	53.50	51.28					
WETS 30th Percentile	42.98	42.86					
WETS 70th Percentile	54.38	54.06					
Normal	49.27	49.03					

WETS & Annual Precipitation Station: LINCOLNTON 4W (37109) http://agacis.rcc-acis.org/?fips=37109. Located approximately 5 mi. from the Site.

WETS Percentiles are recalculated each year based on the most recent 30-yr time period.

Monthly Rainfall Data

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090 Monitoring Year 2 - 2023



WETS & Annual Precipitation Station: LINCOLNTON 4W (37109) http://agacis.rcc-acis.org/?fips=37109>. Located approximately 5 mi. from the Site. 30th and 70th percentile rainfall data based on 30-yr climate normal (1993-2022)

Last Updated: 01/03/2024

Table 12a. Existing Conditions Wetland Gage Summary

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090

Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

C1	Max. Consecutive Hydroperiod (Percentage)	
Gage ¹	Existing Conditions (2019)	
1	48 Days (19.6%)	
2	22 Days (9.0%)	
3	48 Days (19.6%)	
4	22 Days (9.0%)	
5	73 Days (29.8%)	
6	13 Days (5.3%)	

¹ Gage numbers refer to the numbers and locations identified in the Mitigation Plan, which do not correspond to the gage number and locations used for post-construction monitoring. Refer to Figure 3 Site Map (Mitigation Plan) for gage locations.

Performance Standard: 30 Days (12%)

WETS Station: LINCOLNTON 4W (37109) http://agacis.rcc-acis.org/?fips=37109

Growing Season: 03/15 to 11/14 (245 Days)

Table 12b. Wetland Gage Summary

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090
Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

Come			Max. Consecu	tive Hydroperio	d (Percentage)		
Gage	MY1 (2022)	MY2 (2023)	MY3 (2024)	MY5 (2025)	MY5 (2026)	MY6 (2027)	MY7 (2028)
n (1	107 Days	245 Days					
Reference ¹	(43.7%)	(100.0%)					
1	59 Days	96 Days					
1	(24.1%)	(39.2%)					
2	45 Days	53 Days					
2	(18.4%)	(21.6%)					
3	34 Days	38 Days					
3	(13.9%)	(15.5%)					
4	48 Days	59 Days					
4	(19.6%)	(24.1%)					
5	45 Days	54 Days					
3	(18.4%)	(22.0%)					
6	14 Days	35 Days					
U	(5.7%)	(14.3%)					
7	48 Days	71 Days					
,	(19.6%)	(29.0%)					
8	8 Days	6 Days					
	(3.3%)	(2.4%)					
9	15 Days	22 Days					
9	(6.1%)	(9.0%)					
10	42 Days	55 Days					
10	(17.1%)	(22.4%)					
11	51 Days	71 Days					
11	(20.8%)	(29.0%)					
12	N/A ²	35 Days					
14	IN/A	(14.3%)					
13	N/A ²	21 Days					
15	19/75	(8.6%)					

Performance Standard: 30 Days (12%)

WETS Station: LINCOLNTON 4W (37109) http://agacis.rcc-acis.org/?fips=37109

Growing Season: 03/15 to 11/14 (245 Days)

¹ Reference well is located approximately 6.7 miles NW of the Site

² Wells 12 and 13 installed during MY2 (01/2023)

Table 13. Recorded In-Stream Flow Events Summary

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

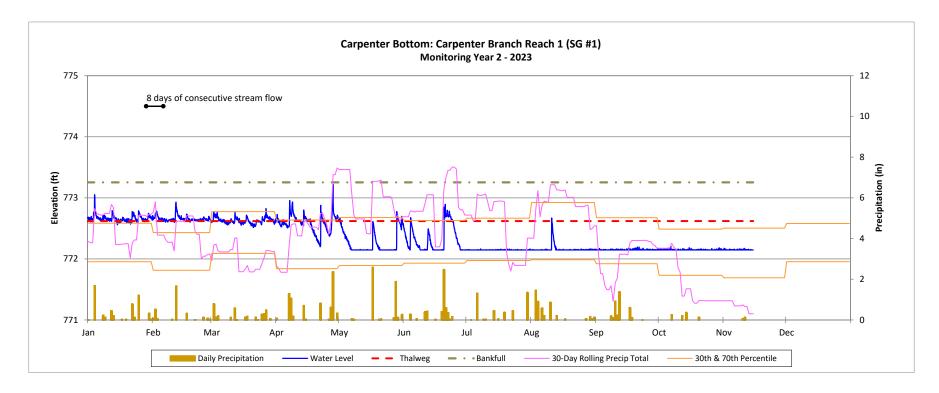
DMS Project No. 100090 Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

Reach	Max Consecutive Days/Total Days Meeting Success Criteria ¹						
Reacii	MY1 (2022)	MY2 (2023) ²	MY3 (2024)	MY5 (2025)	MY5 (2026)	MY6 (2027)	MY7 (2028)
Carpenter Branch	103 Days/	8 Days/					
Reach 1 (SG1)	112 Days	88 Days					
UT1 (SG2)	3 Days/	3 Days/					
011 (362)	24 Days	37 Days					
LIT2 (SC2)	21 Days/	208 Days/					
UT2 (SG3)	131 Days	252 Days					
LIT2 (SCA)	100 Days/	131 Days/					
UT3 (SG4)	111 Days	162 Days					

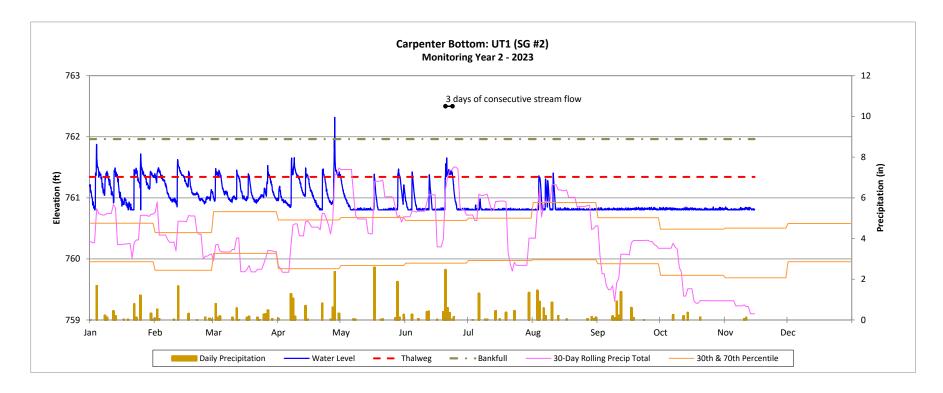
¹ Success criteria is 30 consecutive days of flow.

² Data collected through 11/14/2023.

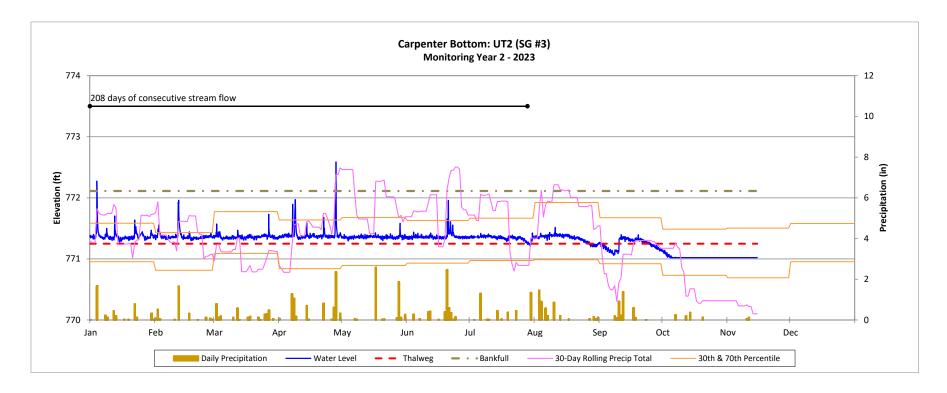
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



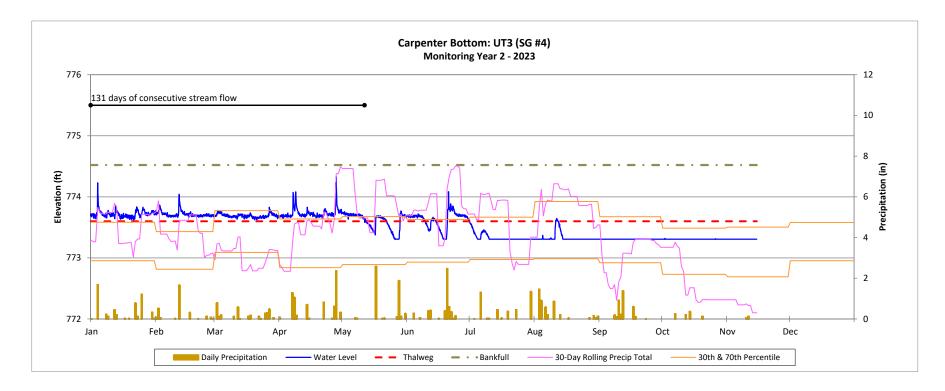
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090



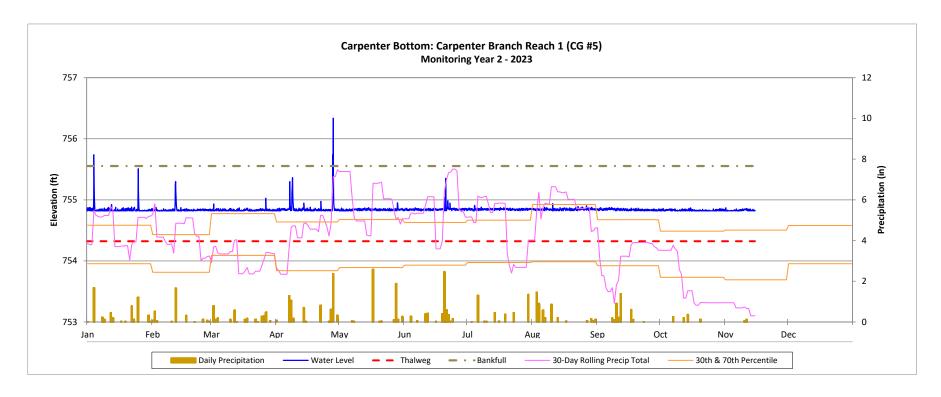
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

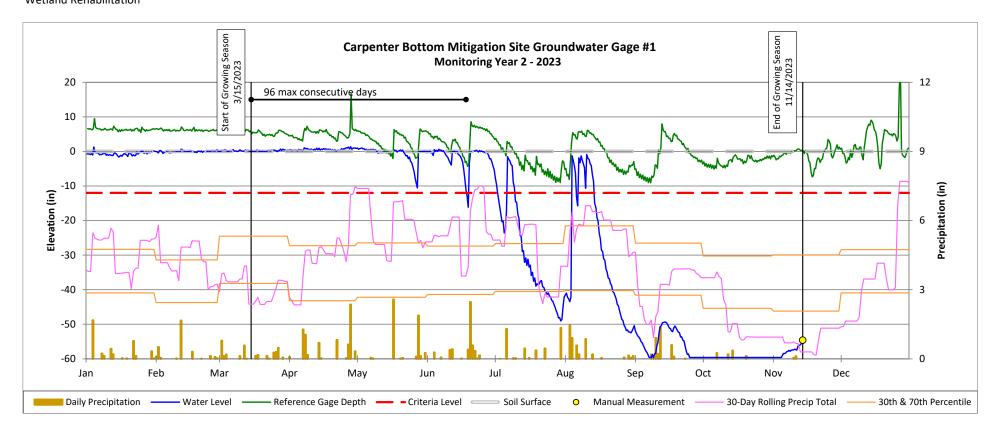


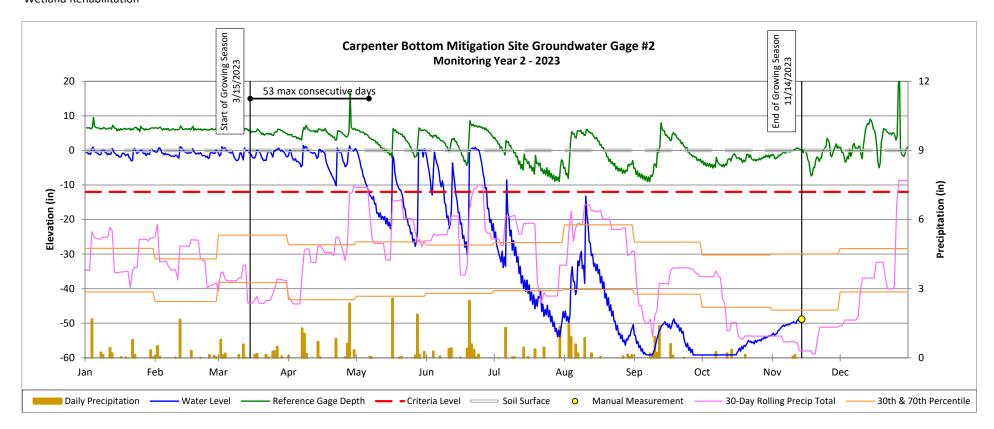
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

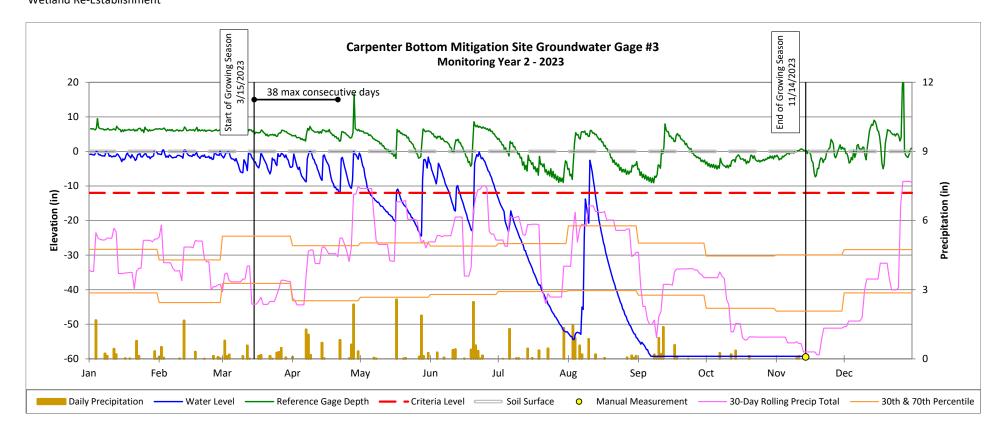


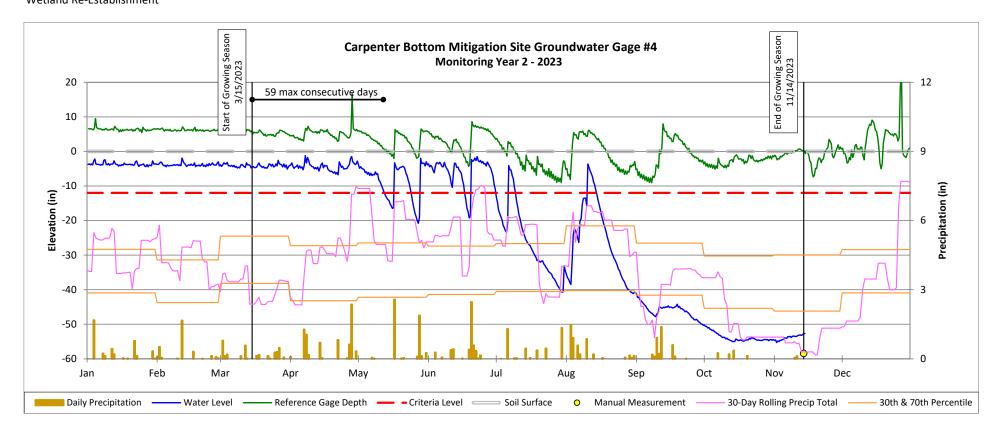
Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

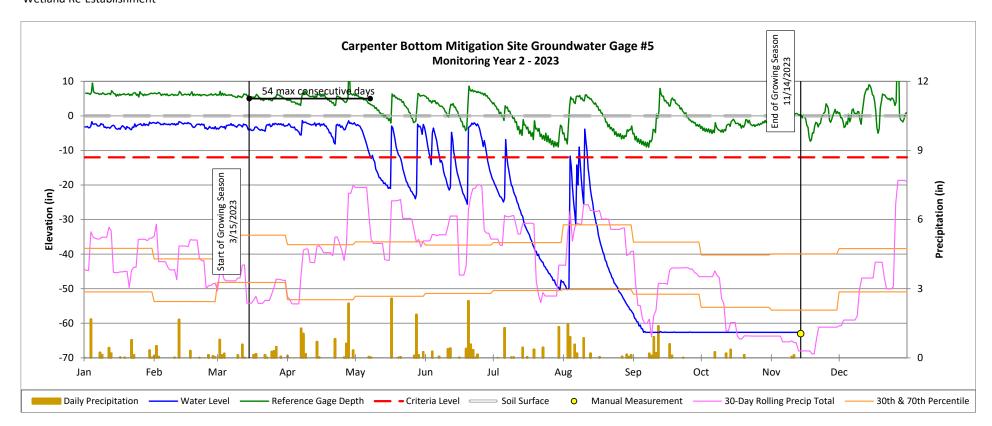


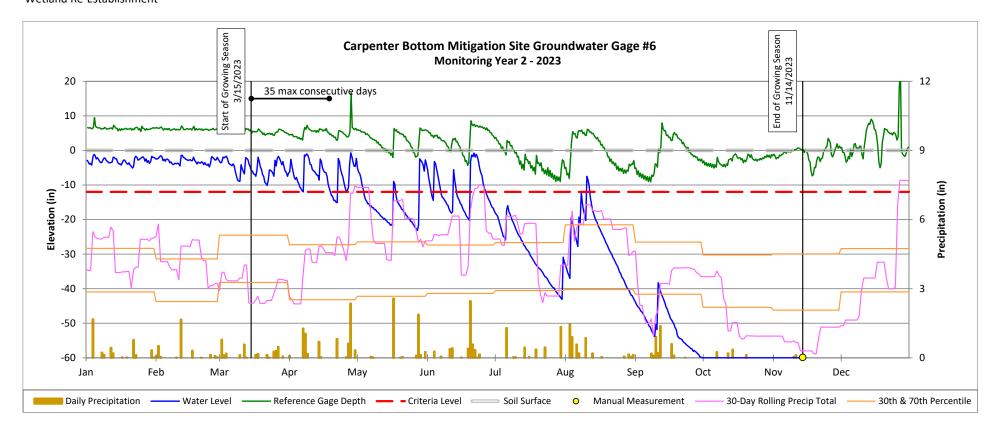


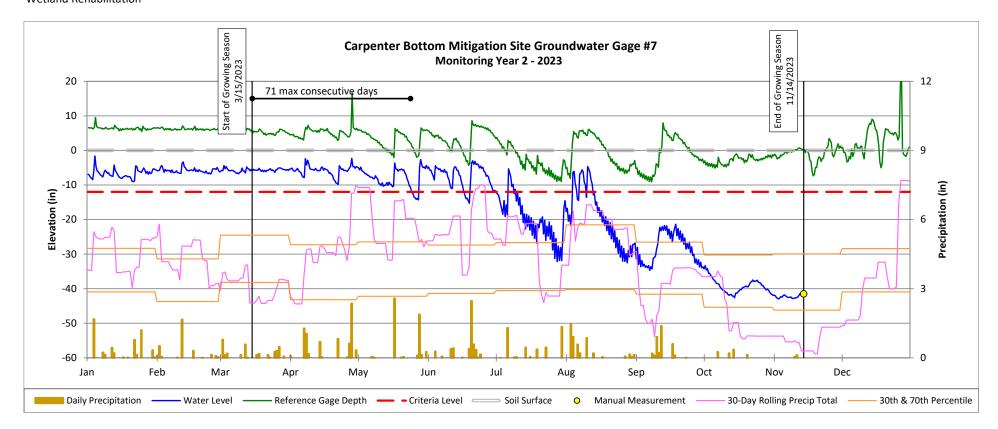


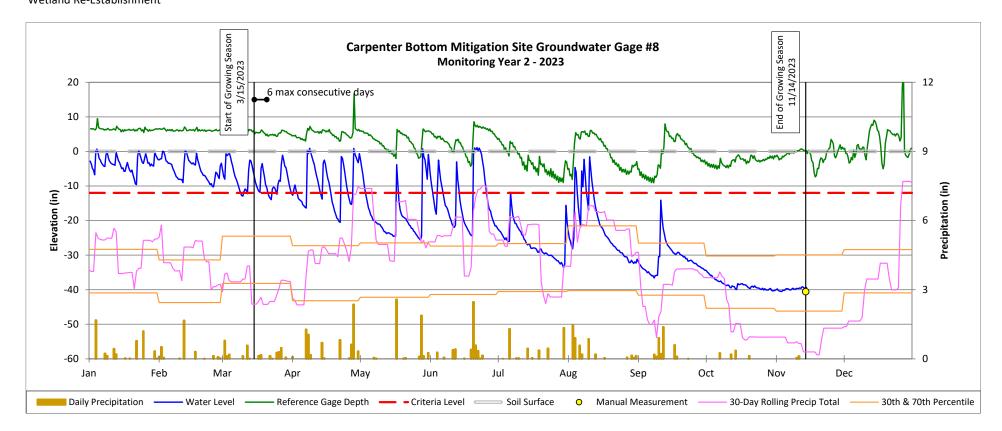


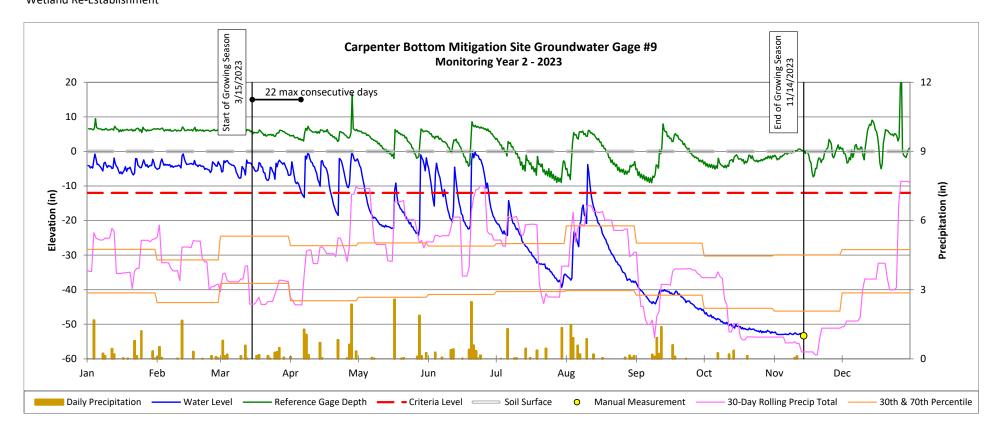


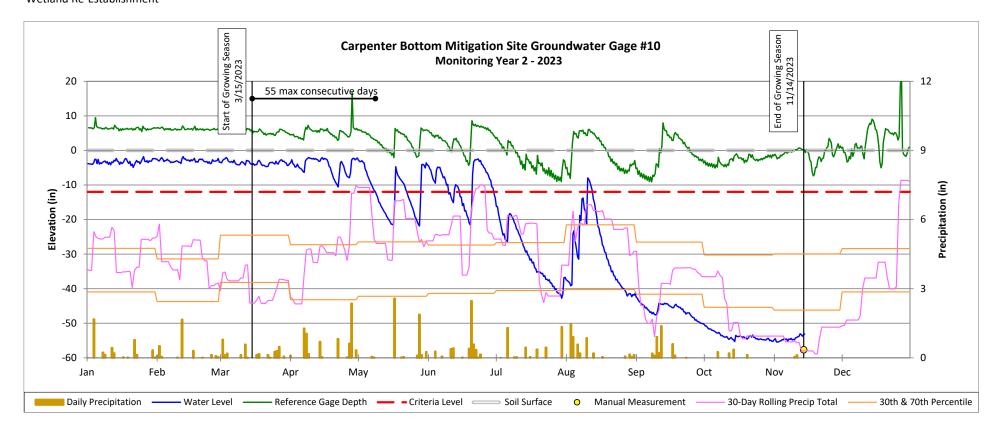


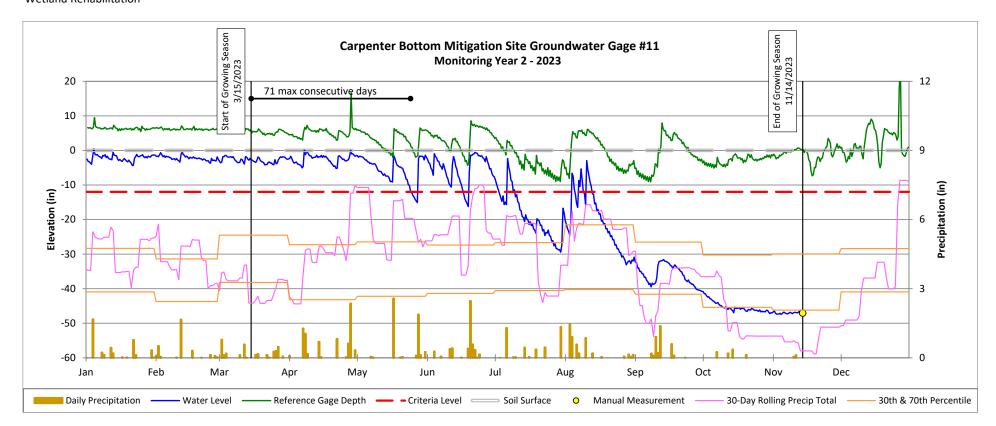


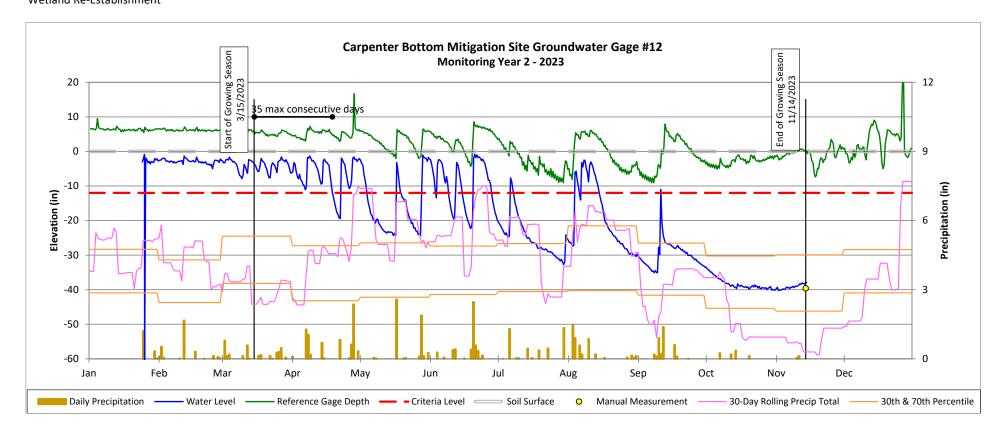


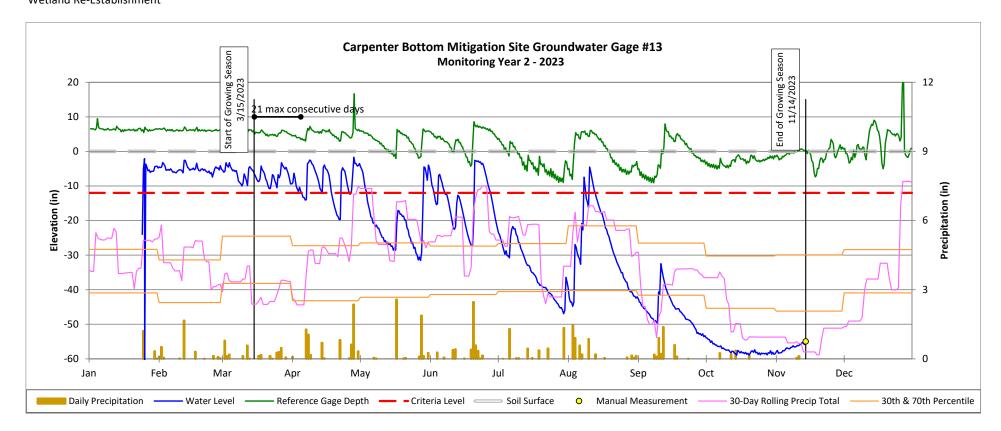










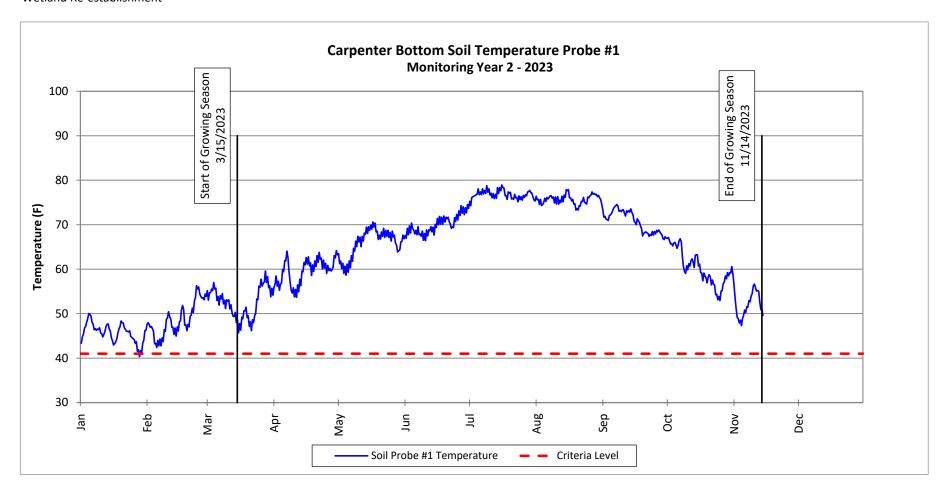


Soil Temperature Probe Plot

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site DMS Project No. 100090

Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

Wetland Re-establishment



MONITORING GAUGE INSTALLATION DATA SHEET

Project Name: Project Location: Purpose of Gauge: Carpenter Tsostom

Lincoln County

Water Table Monitoring

Gauge Description:

Gauge ID:					
Serial Number:					
Total Well Casing Length (A):					
Well Casing Height Above Ground (B):					
Distance From Eye Bolt To Probe Sensor					
Material:					
Type of Measurement:					
Type of Logger					

Gauge Location:

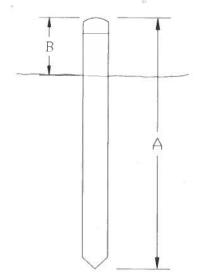
	GINGGA> GWG13
· March	932 848
1000	5.96
7.1	0.82'
	5.96
	2" PVC Well Screen
	Pressure, Temperature, & Depth
	In-Situ Level Troll 100

FO/BR

Mard Packed Clay From 0.45-3.71.

Soil Profile Description at Location of Well:

Depth Range (in.)	Color	Redox	<u>Texture</u>	Notes	
0-0.45	1048 4/2		Loam	Topsoil	
0.45 - 2,10	5 y 3/1	(5%)10V5/6	Clay		
2,10-3,8	5/44/1	135%)104R5/8	Clay	Concentrations of MN	7
3.8-5.2	5/4/1	750%)10VR9	Cloho	Clay Starting to setupt / Small ame	MN/Small Roc
	7.7	C - 7 / 1.	/	7 00	7 /
					7
					7
	1				1



MONITORING GAUGE INSTALLATION DATA SHEET

Project Name: Project Location: Purpose of Gauge: Carpenter Bottom
Liwella
Water Table Monitoring

Gauge Description:

Gauge ID:
Serial Number:
Total Well Casing Length (A):
Well Casing Height Above Ground (B):
Distance From Eye Bolt To Probe Sensor
Material:

Material.

Type of Measurement.

Type of Logger.

Gauge Location.

2" PVC Well Screen
Pressure, Temperature, & Depth
In-Situ Level Troll 100

FO/BR

Notes:

Soil Profile Description at Location of Well:

Depth Range (in.)	Color	Redox	Texture	Notes
0 - 15	10YR 5/1	(5%) 7.5/R 5/8	Claye loan	Top5011
, 85 - 2.45	2,5/2.5/1	(15%) 7. 54R5/8	Sandy Clay	
a.45 - 3.45	Glay 1 3/11	(30%) 7.5 y8%	Sandy Clay	
345-4.9	Gla4 1 14/N	(5%)7.5VR%	Clay	
4-4-5.2	(Jaly 14/56)	-	Cldy	Very Small Trace amount of-
	1 / / / /	***	/	Redox & Borks
1			1 5-55-55	

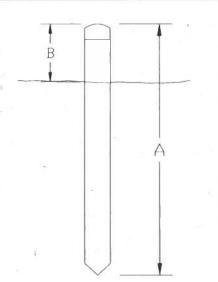




Table 14. Project Activity and Reporting History

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090 Monitoring Year 2 - 2023

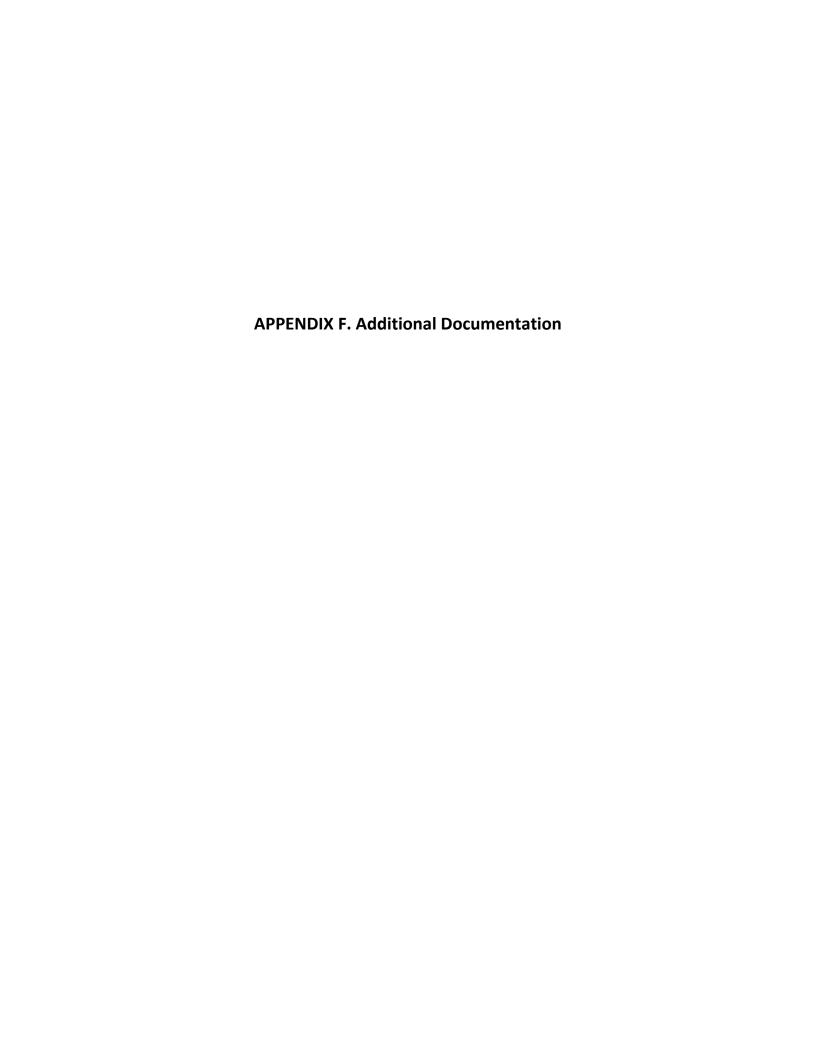
Activity or Deliverable		Data Collection Complete	Task Completion or Deliverable Submission	
Project Instituted		N/A	October 9, 2018	
Mitigation Plan Approve	d	December 2020	December 2020	
Construction (Grading) C	Completed	N/A	July 2021	
As-Built Survey Complete	ed	August-September 2021	September 2021	
Planting Completed		N/A	February 2022	
Baseline Monitoring	Stream Survey	August-September 2021	Amril 2022	
Document (Year 0)	Vegetation Survey	February 2022	- April 2022	
Invasive Treatment		July, Nove	mber 2022	
Year 1 Monitoring	Stream Survey	August 2022	November 2022	
	Vegetation Survey	- August 2022	November 2022	
Invasive Treatment		January - August 2023		
Year 2 Monitoring	Stream Survey	July 2023	November 2023	
	Vegetation Survey	August 2023	November 2025	
Year 3 Monitoring	Stream Survey			
	Vegetation Survey			
Year 4 Monitoring				
Year 5 Monitoring Stream Survey				
Vegetation Survey				
Year 6 Monitoring				
Year 7 Monitoring	Stream Survey			
	Vegetation Survey]	

Table 15. Project Contact Table

Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site

DMS Project No. 100090 **Monitoring Year 2 - 2023**

Designer	Wildlands Engineering, Inc.			
Eric Neuhaus, PE	167-B Haywood Rd			
	Asheville, NC 28806			
	828.774.5547			
Construction Contractor	Wildlands Construction, Inc.			
	1430 S. Mint St., Suite 104			
	Charlotte, NC 28203			
Planting Contractor	Bruton Natural Systems, Inc.			
	PO Box 1197			
	Fremont, NC 27830			
Seeding Contractor	Canady's Landscape & Erosion Control, LLC.			
Nursery Stock Supplies	Bruton Natural Systems, Inc.			
Herbaceous Plugs	Wetland Plants, Inc.			
Monitoring Performers	Wildlands Engineering, Inc.			
Monitoring, POC	Mimi Caddell			
	828.774.5547 x107			





July 26, 2022

ATTN: Ms. Kim Isenhour Mitigation Project Manager, Regulatory Division U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 69 Darlington Avenue Wilmington, NC 28403-1343

RE: Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site - MYO Report Comments

Catawba River Basin - CU# 03040101, Gaston County

USACE Action ID No. SAW-2018-02062

NCDWR Project No. 20190049

DMS Project ID No. 100090, Contract # 7731

Dear Ms. Kim Isenhour,

Thank you for your comments in the email dated July 7, 2022 referencing the Carpenter Bottom Mitigation Site Monitoring Year 0 (MY0) Report. Wildlands Engineering, Inc. (Wildlands) has reviewed these comments and our responses are noted below.

Kim Isenhour, USACE:

1. How deep are the floodplain pools where the relic channel meander features were located? On recent site visits, we've noted several instances of floodplain pools being left as open water in areas where the mitigation plans calls for planted buffers. The majority of these pools have been deep enough that they will not dry seasonally and allow for herbaceous or woody vegetation establishment.

Wildlands Response: At the location of the relic channel meander features, the floodplain pool is around 1.5' deep. The floodplain pools were designed with a max depth of 2.0' and were intended to draw down seasonally. Vegetation growth will be monitored in floodplain pools and reported on in the MY1 report.

Kim Isenhour, USACE response (July 28, 2022): These features should be no more than 18-inches deep and should dry seasonally (ideally toward the end of spring), not draw down. The idea is that the pools will have dry periods that prevent predator species from surviving. The size of constructed ephemeral pools should be limited to prevent the formation of gaps within the tree canopy and minimize the risk of invasive plant colonization. You should also take into account the target vegetation community for the project. For example, ephemeral pools may develop herbaceous vegetative growth that may persist for a long period rather than the targeted forested community.

Wildlands Response: The condition of the floodplain pools is discussed in more detail in section 2.6 – Wetland Hydrology Assessment of the MY1 report. Two of the four floodplain pools were existing wetland areas protected during construction, so their hydrologic functionality and their vegetation communities are assumed to be comparable to the existing conditions. When the Site was assessed on September 1,

2022, three of the pools had dried up completely and only the most upstream pool had a small area of standing water approximately 0.5 feet deep. The targeted forested community can still develop an enclosed canopy over and around these floodplain pools as they are only 27-feet wide. Consequently, these four pools are not a concern for the success and functionality of the completed project. See the MY1 report for photo documentation of the floodplain pools.

2. In future monitoring years, please capture some of the wetland rehabilitation areas with mobile veg plots.

Wildlands Response: Mobile veg plots will be positioned to capture wetland rehabilitation areas starting in MY2 as mobile vegetation plots are typically stationary between MY0 and MY1.

3. Thank you for including the soil profile descriptions at each groundwater gauge. It would have been helpful to include a table with the pre-construction gauge data.

Wildlands Response: A summary table of pre-construction gage data will be included in future as-built monitoring reports.

4. Pebble counts were included in the data. Do you plan to keep this as a performance standard through monitoring?

Wildlands Response: Pebble counts were included in the MY0 report as part of the baseline data collection as described in the Mitigation Plan. However, pebble counts will not be collected for the MY1-MY7 reports, unless requested by the IRT or deemed necessary based on best professional judgement. This is documented in Section 3.3 (Stream Assessment) of the MY0 report.

5. Photo Point 12, outside the easement, appears to be a source of offsite sediment/nutrients.

Wildlands Response: Sediment in photo point 12 is from recent fencing work at the Site. Upstream of UT4 is wooded and stable.

Erin Davis, NCDWR:

1. DWR would like to reiterate DMS' comments/questions on the high riffles and gauge bentonite seals. WEI's responses were fine, but please closely observe these areas during MY1 and address as needed.

Wildlands Response: These items/concerns will be noted in future monitoring reports.

2. What are the max. depths of the floodplain pools? (may include response in MY1 report)

Wildlands Response: The floodplain pools were designed with a max depth of 2.0' and were intended to draw down seasonally. Vegetation growth will be monitored in floodplain pools and reported on in the MY1 report.

3. DWR appreciated that invasives were inventoried and treated pre-construction. And we were glad to see woody debris was added to the floodplain pools. DWR is ok with the proposed credit release. No site visit requested.

Wildlands Response: Thank you for your comments.

Todd Bowers, USEPA:

1. All 13 vegetation plots met the interim success criteria and are on track to meet the final success criteria required for MY7, and no species dominance per plot was greater than 50%. Morphological



surveys conducted throughout the Site show all streams as stable and functioning as designed. Eleven groundwater wells were established at baseline conditions to monitor wetland hydrology within both wetland re-establishment and rehabilitation areas. Wetland hydrologic data will be collected and reported during MY1. No adaptive management plan needed at this time. No issues of conservation easement encroachment.

Wildlands Response: Thank you, we acknowledge the comments.

 Table 2a: I recommend adding a visual confirmation that the objective of excluding livestock from the conservation easement is being met. Visual confirmation can include no sign of hoof shear or cattle excrement within the project boundaries. Trampled streams and vegetation, broken fence, destroyed banks from hooves and excrement would be positive indications of that objective not meeting standards.

Wildlands Response: A visual confirmation of cattle exclusion will be added to Table 2A in the MY1 report.

3. Overall, I am very satisfied with the report and the work that Wildlands has completed at the site. Having not been able to visit this location, I really appreciated the detailed ground-level stream and veg plot photos to illustrate the amount of work implemented. I recommend the appropriate credit release (Milestone 2) for warm stream and riparian wetland mitigation units for this monitoring milestone. I have no other substantial comments at this time.

Wildlands Response: Thank you, we acknowledge the comments.

As requested, Wildlands has addressed these comments and the updates are included in the MY1 Report. A copy of this comment/response letter will be included in the Appendix of the MY1 Report. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Eric Neuhaus

Senior Environmental Scientist ksuggs@wildlandseng.com

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