

**FINAL MONITORING REPORT
YEAR 4 of 5**

**Hockett Dairy Site
Riparian Buffer Restoration
DMS Project ID Number 003993 – DMS Site 95013**

**Randolph County, North Carolina
Cape Fear River Basin
HUC 03030003010070**



Submitted to:

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

**Construction Completed: October 2012
Data Collection Period: December 2016
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Provided by:



**Resource Environmental Solutions, LLC
302 Jefferson Street, Suite 110
Raleigh, NC 27605
919-829-9909**

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / PROJECT ABSTRACT

1.1 Project Goals and Objectives

The Hockett Dairy Buffer Mitigation Project is located in the 03030003 Catalog Unit (CU), in the Cape Fear River Basin. Assets of this CU include the Deep River, the Randleman Reservoir, and major communities including High Point, Asheboro, Siler City, and Sanford. Restoration goals for CU 03030003 as identified in the 2009 Cape Fear River Basin RBRP include protection of several species of mussel and the Cape Fear Shiner (*Notropis mekistocholas*). Additional goals include the improvement in water quality to waters draining to Randleman Reservoir.

The Hockett Dairy Buffer Mitigation Project was identified as an opportunity to improve water quality and habitat within the CU. The project goals address stressors identified in the CU. The following table lists the project goals and the project objectives through which the goals will be addressed:

Goals	Objectives
1. Nutrient removal	• Restore minimum 50-foot riparian buffer by planting appropriate bottomland hardwood species to filter runoff.
2. Sediment removal	• Convert active farm fields to forested buffers.
3. Runoff filtration	• Plant buffer vegetation to shade channel.
4. Increase dissolved oxygen concentration	• Restore riparian buffer habitat to appropriate bottomland hardwood ecosystem.
5. Restore riparian habitats	• Restore canopy tree species in the stream buffer areas to shade channel.
6. Reduce water temperature	• Eliminate and control exotic invasive species.
	• Replace two undersized and failing channel crossings with appropriately sized culverts or ford.
	• Stabilize two small dams on small farm ponds.

1.2 Project Background

The Hockett Dairy Riparian Buffer Mitigation Site is located on Hockett Dairy Road (SR 1938) in Randolph County approximately 12 miles north of Asheboro, NC (**Figure 1**). The site is located in the Cape Fear River Basin within Cataloging Unit 03030003010070 (NCDWQ sub-basin 03-06-08). The site has five unnamed tributaries (UT) that drain into Randleman Lake. The project consists of 11.82 acres of buffer restoration.

The Hockett Dairy Buffer site is located in the Piedmont Physiographic Province and in the Carolina Slate Belt. The region is underlain by felsic metavolcanic rocks, which can be seen in the streambed of UT 2 and UT 3. The topography of the project area is generally rolling with elevations ranging from 670 to 760 feet. The five unnamed tributaries to Randleman Lake comprise the principle drainage features. These tributaries have limited hardwood trees present within the buffer and lack significant ground cover. The mature trees are less than 100 stems per acres. The project's watershed is primarily used for agricultural production. Much of the surrounding land use is currently dairy cows and calves or row crop production for dairy silage. Cattle had direct access to streams channels and ponds and are a source of ongoing erosion along the banks and within the adjacent buffer. Cattle are excluded from some channels with fencing on or near the top of bank, resulting in a degraded riparian buffer. The project area has been in agricultural use for several decades.

The Hockett Dairy mitigation project provides high quality riparian buffer restoration. Stream buffer mitigation for the Hockett Dairy Site involved buffering five streams that flow directly and indirectly into

Randleman Lake. The mitigation design divides the site into five distinct reaches (**Figure 2**). Buffer restoration was performed along five channels. Two undersized and failing channel crossings were replaced with appropriately sized culverts to prevent erosion. Two small dams on small farm ponds have been stabilized.

1.3 Vegetation Condition

The measure of vegetative success for the site is the survival of at least 320 five-year old planted trees per acre at the end of year five of the monitoring period. During early December 2016, CVS Level 2 was performed in Year 4 to document any volunteer generation. A total of 15 volunteers were observed across all 12 vegetation plots. Year 4 monitoring recorded an average of 594 planted stems per acre and 644 total stems per acre (planted and volunteers) across all vegetation plots. All plots achieved success criteria in Year 4 and are on track to meeting the Year 5 success criteria. During MY3 activities, low stem density areas around vegetation plots 2, 6, and 7 were identified. A supplemental replant was performed in these low density areas as well as any sparsely vegetated area across the site during April 2016. Approximately 500 1-gallon containerized trees were planted throughout these areas. Tree species planted during the supplemental replant included River Birch (*Betula nigra*), Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*), Swamp Chestnut Oak (*Quercus michauxii*), and Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*). On June 10th 2016, DMS and North Carolina Division of Water Resources conducted a site inspection to evaluate the supplemental replanting and site conditions. MY4 conditions are shown on the Current Condition Plan View which is provided in **Appendix B, Figure 2**.

1.4 Summary Information / Data

Summary information/data related to the occurrence of items such as beaver or encroachment and statistics related to performance of various project and monitoring elements can be found in the tables and figures in the report appendices. Narrative background and supporting information formerly found in these reports can be found in the Baseline Monitoring Report (formerly Mitigation Plan) and in the Mitigation Plan (formerly the Restoration Plan) documents available on DMS’s website. All raw data supporting the tables and figures in the appendices is available from DMS upon request.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

In order to determine if the success criteria are achieved and the planted areas are developing toward the target community, NCDMS-CVS Protocol for Recording Vegetation Version 4.2 will be utilized. The vegetation monitoring will include Level I and Level II plots distributed across the planted area. An interim vegetation monitoring will occur in spring after leaf-out has occurred. The CVS monitoring will be conducted toward the end of the growing season. Individual plot data will be provided to NCDMS and CVS following NCDMS-CVS guidance. The annual monitoring requirements are summarized in the following table:

Required	Parameter	Quantity	Frequency	Notes
X	Vegetation	12 Plots Located randomly across the project area	Annual	Vegetation will be monitored using the Carolina Vegetation Survey (CVS) protocols
X	Exotic and nuisance vegetation	N/A	Semi-Annual	Exotic vegetation will be evaluated and spot treatment applied as needed
X	Project boundary	N/A	Semi-annual	Locations of fence damage, vegetation damage, boundary encroachments, etc. will be mapped

Photographs will be used to visually document restoration success. Reference photos will be taken once a year and will be used to visually document restoration success. Reference photo stations are marked with wooden stakes. Reference stations will be photographed immediately following planting and continued annually for at least five years following construction. Photographers will make every effort to maintain the same area in each photo over time. Photographs will be used to subjectively evaluate vegetation establishment. A series of photos over time should indicate successional maturation of riparian vegetation.

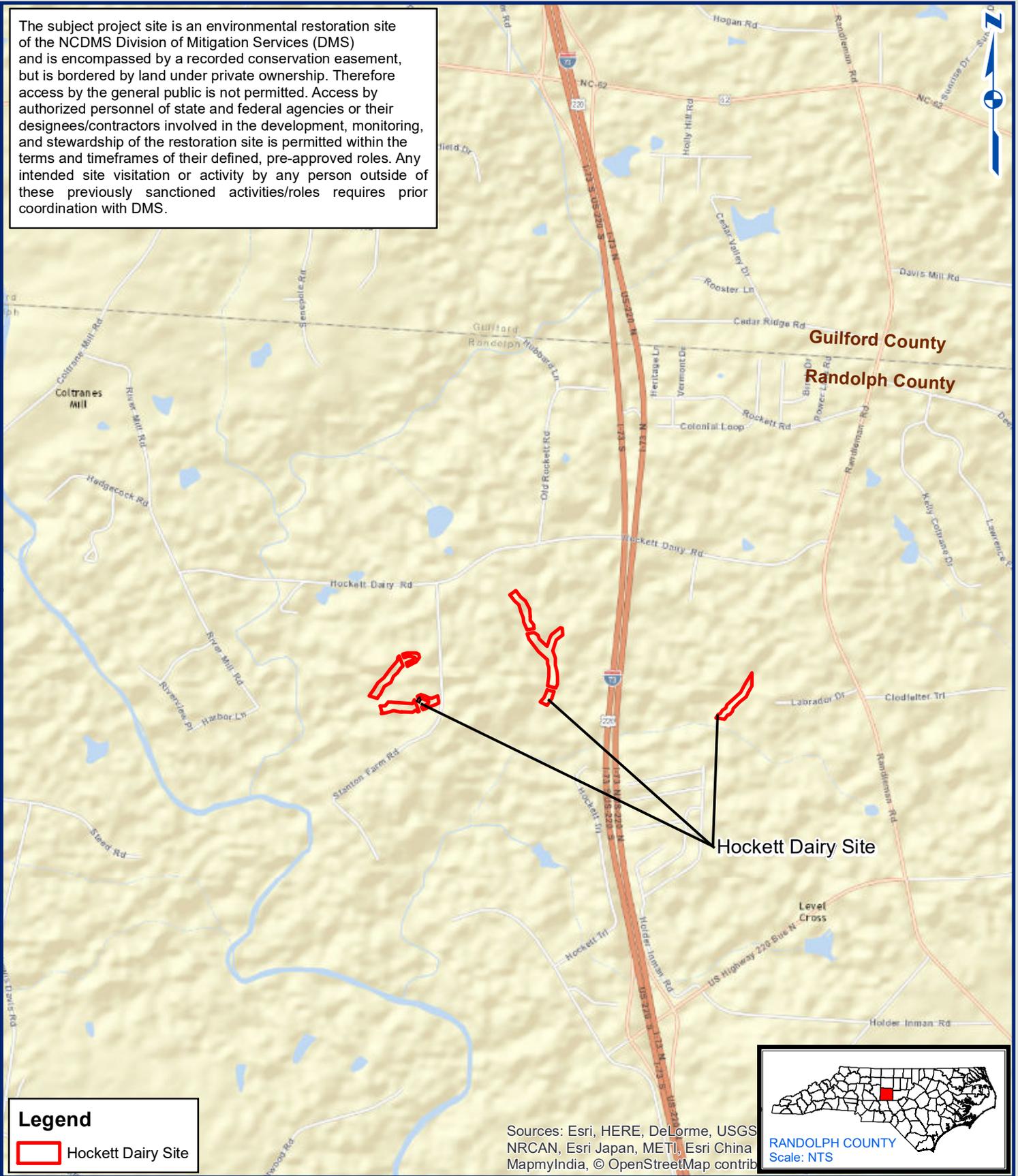
3.0 REFERENCES

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Appendix A

Project Vicinity Map and Background Tables

The subject project site is an environmental restoration site of the NCDMS Division of Mitigation Services (DMS) and is encompassed by a recorded conservation easement, but is bordered by land under private ownership. Therefore access by the general public is not permitted. Access by authorized personnel of state and federal agencies or their designees/contractors involved in the development, monitoring, and stewardship of the restoration site is permitted within the terms and timeframes of their defined, pre-approved roles. Any intended site visitation or activity by any person outside of these previously sanctioned activities/roles requires prior coordination with DMS.



Legend

 Hockett Dairy Site

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contrib

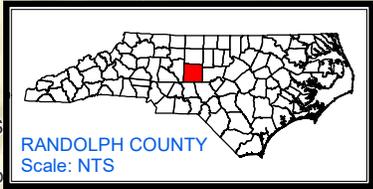


Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map
 Hockett Dairy Riparian Buffer Restoration Site
 Randolph County, North Carolina
 DMS Project ID# 003993

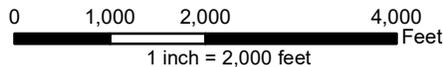


Table 1. Project Components and Mitigation Credits
Hockett Dairy, Randolph County
DMS Project ID Number 003993 DMSS Site 95013

Mitigation Credits									
	Stream		Riparian Wetland		Non-riparian Wetland		Buffer	Nitrogen Nutrient Offset	Phosphorous Nutrient Offset
Type	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Restoration	N/A	N/A
Totals*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.82 Ac.	N/A	N/A
Project Components									
Reach ID	Stationing/ Location		Existing Footage (LF)	Approach (PI, PII, etc.)		Restoration -or- Restoration Equivalent	Restoration Area (acres)	Mitigation Ratio	
Reach UT2	N/A		733	N/A		Buffer Restoration	1.72	1:1	
Reach UT3	N/A		817	N/A		Buffer Restoration	1.85	1:1	
Reach UT4	N/A		1884	N/A		Buffer Restoration	4.62	1:1	
Reach UT5	N/A		466	N/A		Buffer Restoration	0.89	1:1	
Reach UT6	N/A		797	N/A		Buffer Restoration	1.84	1:1	
Pond 2	N/A		378*	N/A		Buffer Restoration	0.52	1:1	
Pond 3	N/A		338*	N/A		Buffer Restoration	0.38	1:1	
							Total	11.82	
Component Summation									
Restoration Level	Stream (linear feet)	Riparian Wetland		Non-Riparian Wetland		Buffer (acres)	Upland (acres)		
		Riverine	Non-Riverine	(acres)					
Restoration	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		11.82	N/A		

Table 2. Project Activity and Reporting History
Hockett Dairy, Randolph County
DMS Project ID Number 003993 DMS Site 95013

Elapsed time since planting complete: 4 year, 6 months		
Number of reporting years: 4		
Activity or Report	Data Collection Complete	Completion or Delivery
Mitigation Plan	January 2012	May 2012
Final Design - Construction Plans	N/A	May 2012
Construction	N/A	October 2012
Temporary S&E mix applied to project area	N/A	June 2012
Permanent seed mix applied to project area	N/A	June 2012
Containerized and B&B plantings planted in project area	N/A	February 2013
Baseline Monitoring Document (Year 0 Monitoring - baseline)	February 2013	March 2013
Year 1 Monitoring	October 2013	October 2013
Year 2 Monitoring	September 2014	September 2014
Year 3 Monitoring	January 2016	February 2016
Year 4 Supplemental Replanting		April 2016
Year 4 Monitoring	December 2016	January 2017
Year 5 Monitoring	Fall 2017*	Fall 2017*

Table 3. Project Contact Table Hockett Dairy, Randolph County DMS Project ID Number 003993 DMS Site 95013	
Designer	WK Dickson & Co., Inc.
Primary project design POC	Frasier Mullen - (919) 782-0495
Construction Contractor	KBS Earthworks
Construction contractor POC	Kory Strader - (336) 362-0289
Planting Contractor	Strader Fencing
Planting contractor POC	Kenneth Strader - (336) 697-7005
Seeding Contractor	Strader Fencing
Planting contractor POC	Kenneth Strader - (336) 697-7005
Seed Mix Sources	Evergreen Seed, Inc
Nursery Stock Suppliers	ArborGen
Monitoring Performers	Resource Environmental Solutions, LLC
Vegetation Monitoring POC	Brian Hockett - (919)-209-1054
Table 4. Project Baseline Information and Attributes Hockett Dairy, Randolph County DMS Project ID Number 003993 DMS Site 95013	
Project Information	
Project Name	Hockett Dairy Buffer Mitigation Site
County	Randolph
Project Area (acres)	12.99
Project Coordinates (latitude and longitude)	35° 53' 55.219" N, 79° 49' 37.381"W
Project Watershed Summary Information	
Physiographic Province	Piedmont Physiographic Province
River Basin	Cape Fear River Basin
USGS Hydrologic Unit 8-digit	03030003
USGS Hydrologic Unit 14-digit	03030003010070
DWQ Sub-basin	03-06-08
Project Drainage Area (acres)	Reach UT2 19.4 acres Reach UT3 31.2 acres Reach UT4 76.3 acres Reach UT5 9.1 acres Reach UT6 34.4 acres
Project Drainage Area Percentage of Impervious Area	0.6%
CGIA Land Use Classification	2.5 Residential 144.3 Cropland and Pasture 12.6 Other Agricultural Land 19.1 Passively Managed Forest Stands

Table 4 (cont.). Project Baseline Information and Attributes Hockett Dairy, Randolph County DMS Project ID Number 003993 DMS Site 95013					
Parameters	Reach UT2	Reach UT3	Reach UT4	Reach UT5	Reach UT6
Length of reach (linear feet)	733	817	1884	466	797
Valley Classification	X	X	X	X	X
Drainage area (acres)	19.4	31.2	76.3	9.1	34.4
NCDWQ stream identification score	29	27.5	19-25.5	21	13
NCDWQ Water Quality Classification	WS-IV;CA	WS-IV;CA	WS-IV;CA	WS-IV;CA	WS-IV;CA
Morphological Description (stream type)	E	E	G	G	G
Evolutionary trend	Stable	Stable	Stable	Stable	Stable
Underlying mapped soils	Wynott-Enon complex WvC2	Mecklenburg CL MeC2,	Mecklenburg CL MeC2, Wynott-Enon complex WvC2	Mecklenburg CL MeC2	Wynott-Enon complex WvC2
Drainage class	well	well	well	well	well
Soil Hydric status	Non-hydric	Non-hydric	Non-hydric	Non-hydric	Non-hydric
Slope (ft/ft)	0.0004	0.03%	0.02%	0.04%	0.02%
FEMA classification	Zone AE	Zone AE	Zone AE	Zone AE	Zone AE
Native vegetation community	Pasture	Pasture	Pasture	Pasture	Pasture
Percent composition of exotic invasive vegetation	0.1	10%	15%	5%	20%
Regulatory Considerations					
Regulation	Applicable	Resolved	Supporting Documentation		
Waters of the United States - Section 404	Yes	Yes	see Mitigation Plan		
Waters of the United States - Section 401	Yes	Yes	see Mitigation Plan		
Endangered Species Act	Yes	Yes	see Mitigation Plan		
Historic Preservation Act	Yes	Yes	see Mitigation Plan		
Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)/Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA)	No	N/A	N/A		
FEMA Floodplain Compliance	No	N/A	N/A		
Essential Fisheries Habitat	No	N/A	N/A		

Appendix B

Visual Assessment Data

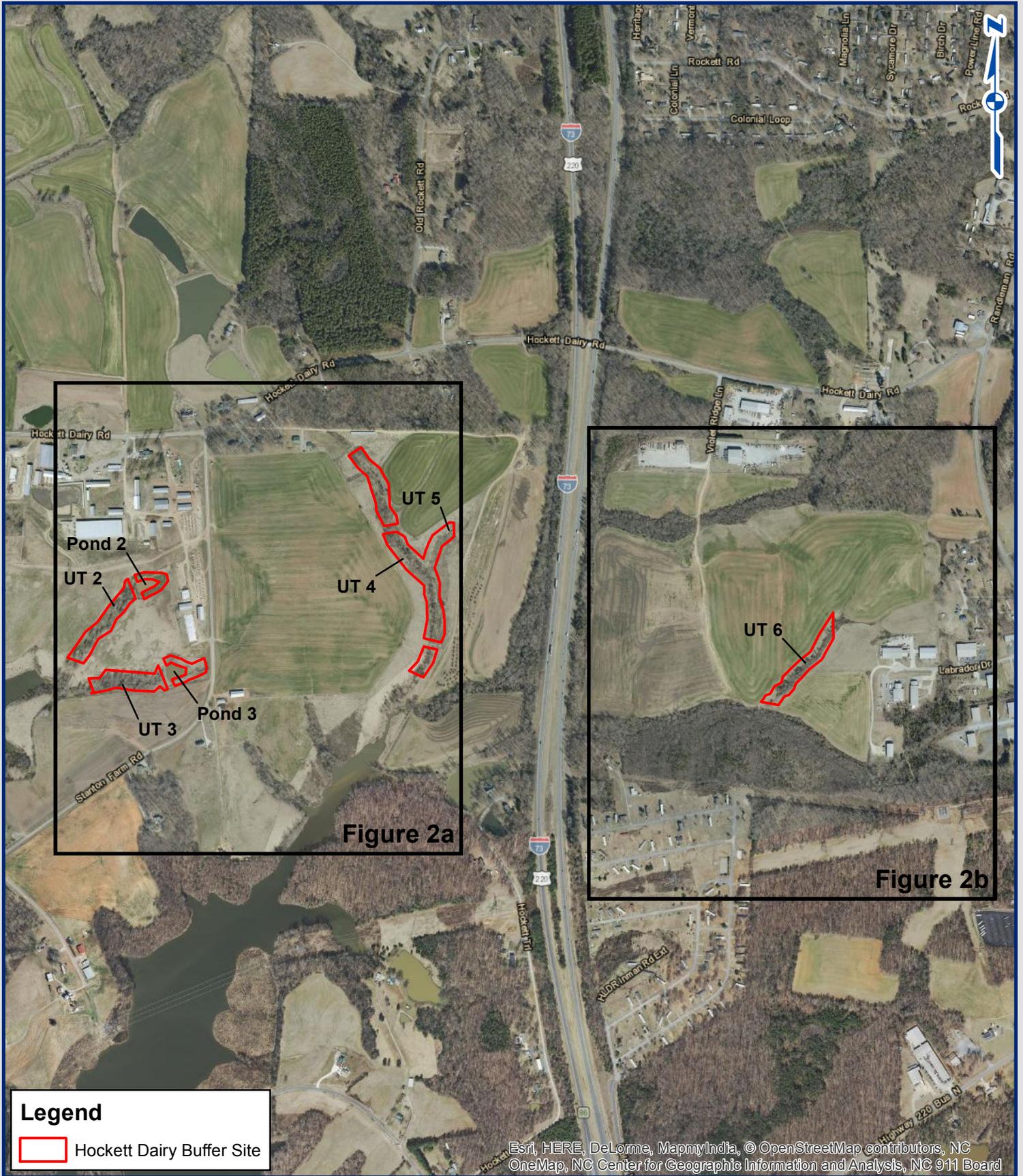


Figure 2-KEY. Current Condition Plan View
 Hockett Dairy Riparian Buffer Restoration Site
 Randolph County, North Carolina
 DMS Project ID# 003993



0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet
 1 inch = 1,000 feet

Date: January 2017

Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, NC OneMap, NC Center for Geographic Information and Analysis, NC 911 Board

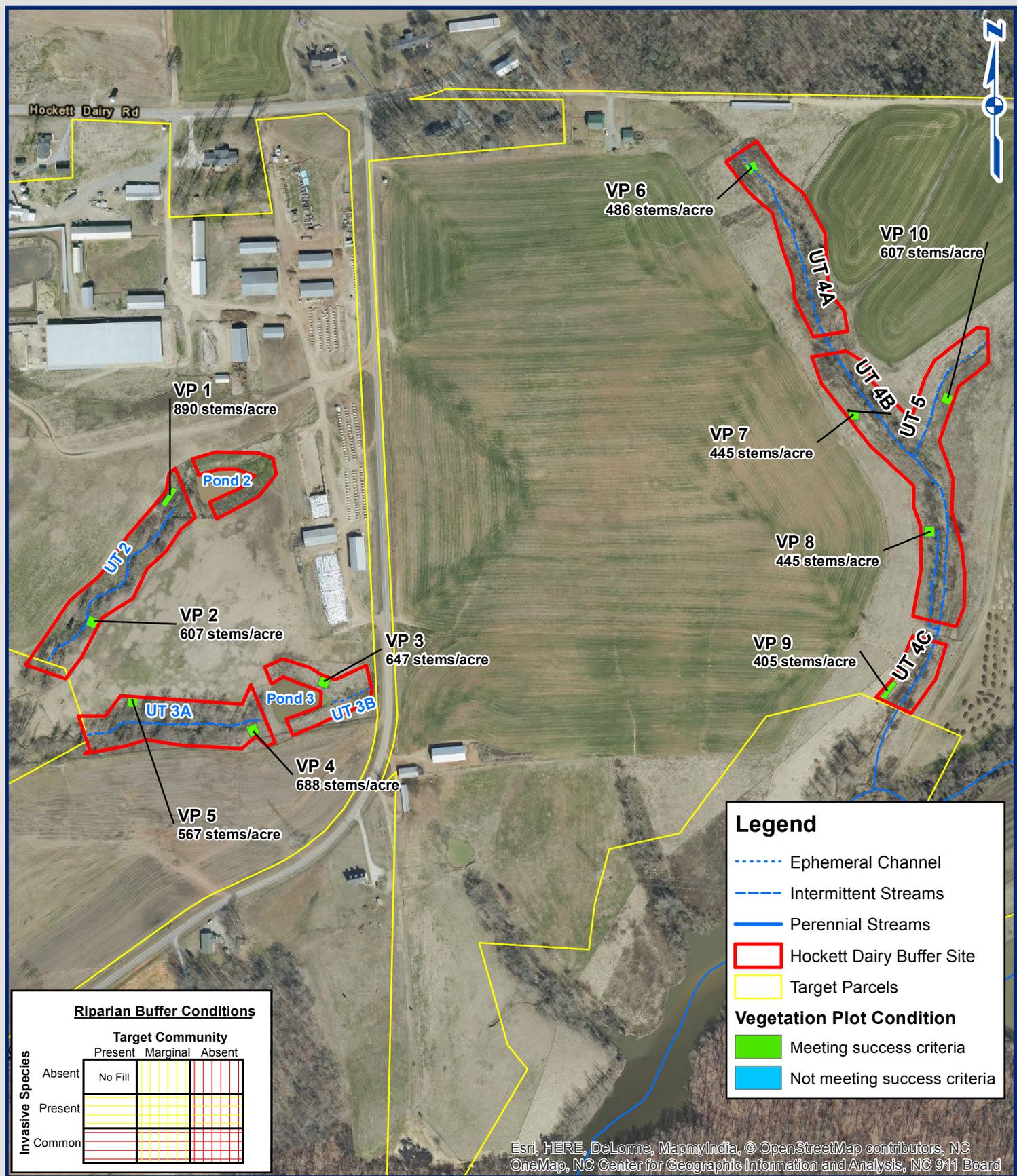
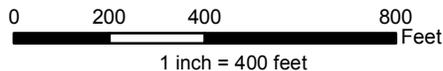


Figure 2a. Current Condition Plan View
 Hockett Dairy Riparian Buffer Restoration Site

Randolph County, North Carolina
 DMS Project ID# 003993



Date: January 2017

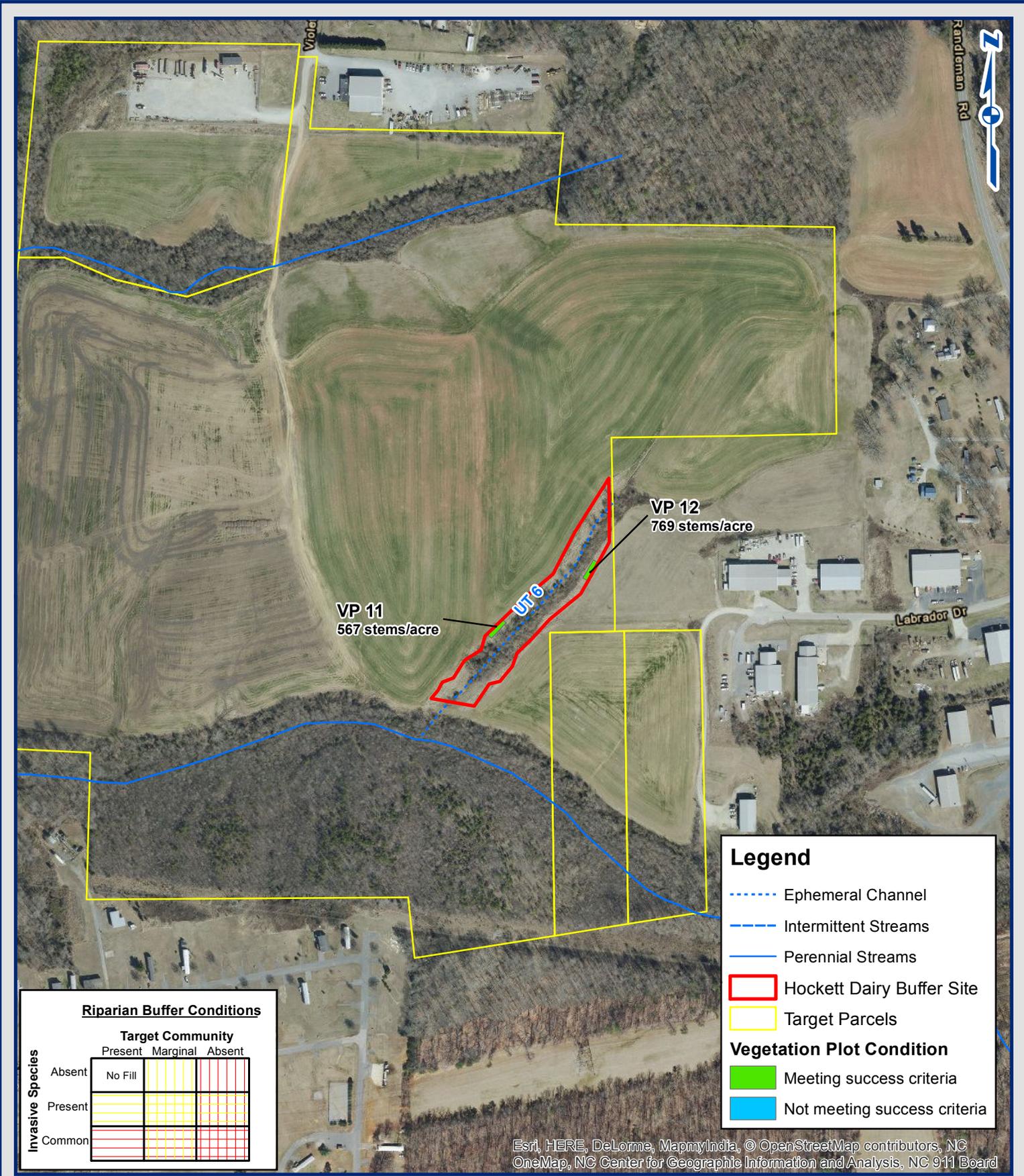
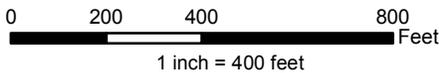


Figure 2b. Current Condition Plan View
 Hockett Dairy Riparian Buffer Restoration Site
 Randolph County, North Carolina
 DMS Project ID# 003993



Date: January 2017

Table 5. Vegetation Condition Assessment Hockett Dairy, Randolph County DMS Project ID Number 003993 DMS Site 95013						
Planted Acreage:	12.99					
Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Planted Acreage
1. Bare Areas	Very limited cover of both woody and herbacious material.	0.1 acres	N/A	0	0.00	0%
2. Low Stem Density Areas	Woody stem densities clearly below target levels based on MY3, 4, or 5 stem count criteria.*	0.1 acres	vertical yellow line fill	0	0	0%
Total:				0	0	0%
3. Areas of Poor Growth Rates or Vigor	Areas with woody stems of a size that are obviously small given the monitoring year.	0.25 acres	N/A	0	0.00	0%
*Cumulative Total:				0	0	0%
Easement Acreage:	12.99					
Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Planted Acreage
4. Invasive Areas of Concern	Areas or points (if too small to render as polygons at map scale)	1000 SF	horizontal yellow line fill	0	0.00	0%
5. Easement Encroachment Areas	Areas or points (if too small to render as polygons at map scale)	none	N/A	0	0	0%

Vegetation Plot Photos



Vegetation Plot 1



Vegetation Plot 1



Vegetation Plot 2



Vegetation Plot 2



Vegetation Plot 3



Vegetation Plot 3



Vegetation Plot 4



Vegetation Plot 4



Vegetation Plot 5



Vegetation Plot 5



Vegetation Plot 6



Vegetation Plot 6



Vegetation Plot 7



Vegetation Plot 7



Vegetation Plot 8



Vegetation Plot 8



Vegetation Plot 9



Vegetation Plot 9



Vegetation Plot 10



Vegetation Plot 10



Vegetation Plot 11



Vegetation Plot 11



Vegetation Plot 12



Vegetation Plot 12

Appendix C

Vegetation Plot Data

**Table 6. Riparian Buffer Vegetation Totals
Hockett Dairy, Randolph County DMS Project ID
Number 003993 DMS Site 95013**

Plot #	Riparian Buffer Stems¹ (per acre)	Success Criteria Met?
1	890	Yes
2	607	Yes
3	647	Yes
4	688	Yes
5	567	Yes
6	486	Yes
7	445	Yes
8	445	Yes
9	405	Yes
10	607	Yes
11	567	Yes
12	769	Yes
Project Avg	594	Yes

