## <u>FINAL</u> <u>YEAR 5 (2018) ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT</u> LITTLE LICK CREEK BUFFER RESTORATION

Durham County, North Carolina DMS Project No. 92542, Contract No. 5908

## **Data Collection - October 2018**

NEUSE RIVER BASIN Cataloging Unit **03020201** 



## SUBMITTED TO/PREPARED FOR:

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

October 2018

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October 29, 2018

Mr. Jeff Schaffer North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Division of Mitigation Services 1652 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1652

RE: Little Lick Creek Monitoring (DMS Project # 92542, Contract #D13010S) Final MY5 (2018) Annual Monitoring Report

12-004.19

Axiom Environmental, Inc.

218 Snow Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27603 919-215-1693

Dear Jeff:

Axiom Environmental, Inc. (AXE) is pleased to provide you with two hard copies and a CD of digital files for the Final Little Lick Creek Annual Monitoring Report. We received your comments via email on October 25, 2018 and have addressed them as follows:

1. The digital data and drawings have been reviewed and DMS had the following comments:

a. NutrientOffsetCreditArea shapefile – When reviewing the attribute table, there did not appear to be an area depicted for FIDs 0, 1, 4 and 5, only a line when I clicked on each item. However, the attribute table does show an area. Please explain or correct.

Upon review, it appeared that one of the shapefiles (Drip\_Poy.shp – "Existing Mature Vegetation") had not been clipped properly to the final easement boundary. This resulted in several small, linear areas where Nutrient Offset credit and Riparian Buffer credit was being calculated where it shouldn't have been. The shapefiles have been corrected. This change resulted in a reduction of 0.01 acre (359 square feet) of Riparian Buffer credit area and 0.01 acre (548 square feet) of Nutrient Offset credit area. The Project Components and Mitigation Tables in the document were also updated to reflect the change in credit areas. Footnotes were added to the table in Section 1.0 of the report and Table 1 in Appendix A that read the following: "During the Year 5 (2018) annual monitoring report review, an error in GIS credit area calculation was discovered which resulted in a slight reduction of credit area (-359 ft<sup>2</sup> of Riparian Buffer credit and -548 ft<sup>2</sup> of Nutrient Offset credit). The areas listed in this table have been revised to reflect the existing project assets."

b. Photo Point data source is using the wrong geographic coordinate system (GCS\_NAD\_1983\_2011). Please revise to use NAD 1983 State Plane North Carolina (US Feet) per the digital drawing requirements. *The geographic coordinate system was changed to NAD 1983 State Plane North Carolina (US Feet).* 

2. During the October 16, 2018 site visit, DMS staff was able to locate 13 corners on the property boundary. Some had green fence posts, others had rebar or other types of marking including aluminum caps. DMS will install additional posts and signage to better mark the property boundary.

The sentence regarding easement markings in the first paragraph of Section 1.0 was revised as follows: "The easement boundary is currently marked with a combination of green fence posts, rebar, and aluminum caps; however NCDMS is currently in the process of installing additional posts and signage to better mark the boundary."



NOV 0 6 2018

DIVISION OF MITIGATION SERVICES Division of Mitigation Services Page 2 of 2



Please let me know if you have any questions or comments regarding any component of this submittal. Thank you for the opportunity to continue to assist the Division of Mitigation Services with this important project.

#### Sincerely, AXIOM ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

Kenan Jernigan Project Scientist

Attachments: 2 hardcopies Final Little Lick Creek Annual Monitoring Report 1 CD containing digital support files

## 1.0 PROJECT SUMMARY

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality-Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS, formerly NCEEP) has established the Little Lick Creek Buffer Project (Project) located approximately five miles east of Durham in Durham County, North Carolina. The Project is located within the Upper Neuse River Basin Hydrologic Unit and Targeted Local Watershed 03020201050020. This document details riparian buffer and nutrient offset buffer mitigation activities within an approximately 12.14-acre easement. The easement boundary is currently marked with a combination of green fence posts, rebar, and aluminum caps; however NCDMS is currently in the process of installing additional posts and signage to better mark the boundary. Completed project activities, reporting history, completion dates, project contacts, and project attributes are summarized in Tables 1-4 (Appendix A). This report (compiled based on the NC Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS) *Procedural Guidance and Content Requirements for DMS Monitoring Reports* Version 1.5 dated 6/8/12) summarizes data for Year 5 (2018) monitoring.

The Little Lick Creek Buffer Restoration Project is located in the Little Lick Creek Local Watershed planning area, which is nested in the 700-square mile Falls Lake watershed. The Project watershed is located within 14-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 03020201050020, which was identified as a Targeted Local Watershed (TLW) in the North Carolina Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS) 2010 *Neuse River Basin Restoration Priority* (RBRP) plan and is identified in the 2009 *Little Lick Creek Local Watershed Plan* (LWP) Upper Neuse Project Atlas (Butler Road).

NCDMS developed a LWP for the 21-square mile Little Lick Creek watershed area that included land use analysis, water quality monitoring, and stakeholder input to identify problems with water quality, habitat, and hydrology. The Little Lick Creek watershed is relatively undeveloped and in an active state of rural to suburban transition with agriculture, forestry, rural, and undeveloped land comprising over 50 percent of the land uses. Durham laws zone this land for intensive development; therefore, this land is rapidly being converted to residential and commercial properties. Little Lick Creek is on the NC Section 303(d) list of impaired water bodies due to poor aquatic life ratings and low levels of dissolved oxygen as the result of trash dumping, poor maintenance of on-site wastewater treatment systems, small vehicle maintenance and repair operations, outdoor materials storage, grease storage, and wash water disposal.

The Little Lick Creek LWP project atlas includes this Project (Butler Road) with identified stressors resulting from anthropogenic activities related to the conversion of 80 percent of the watershed to disturbed land use/land cover with impervious surfaces covering over 14 percent of the watershed. Water quality is influenced due to the watershed slope (6 percent), the presence of moderately erodible soils, and its location within the Triassic Basin ecoregion. This project was identified for riparian buffer and nutrient offset restoration opportunities to improve hydrology, water quality, and habitat.

The goals of the Little Lick Creek Project (Butler Road) address stressors identified in the Project watershed and include the following.

• Restore riparian buffers associated with Little Lick Creek, a UT to Little Lick Creek, and water conveyances flowing to jurisdictional waters on site.

The project goals will be addressed by the following objectives.

• Reestablish natural vegetation along stream banks and water by planting existing cleared/disturbed land and treating invasive species.

Project restoration activities were completed between November 2013 and December 2013 with invasive species controls ongoing. Activities included 1) removal and treatment of invasive species including rose (*Rosa* sp.), Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), and Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*); 2) mowing and/or clearing of dense areas of loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) seedlings and blackberry (*Rubus argutus*); 3) soil amendments based on recommendations from soil samples analyzed by the NCDA&CS Agronomy Division; and 4) plant community restoration. The implemented mitigation is as follows.

	Mitigation Credits^									
Туре	Riparian	Buffer		Nu	trient Offset					
Totals     105,972 ft² (2.43 acres)     220,882 ft² (5.07 acres) [minimum, see ** below] Nitrogen: 11,525.939 lbs     Phosphorous: 742.358 lbs						low] <b>358 lbs</b>				
	Projects Components									
Project Component/ Reach ID	Restoration/ Restoration Equivalent	Restoration Acreage <sup>+</sup>	Mitigation Ratio	Pounds of Nitrogen Treated Over 30 Years	Pounds of Phosphorus Treated Over 30 Years	Comment				
*Riparian Buffer	Restoration	105,972 ft <sup>2</sup> (2.43 acres)	1:1	**5529.769 lbs	**356.159 lbs	Invasive/nuisance species removal and				
***Nutrient Offset	Restoration	220,882 ft <sup>2</sup> (5.07 acres)	1:1	11,525.939 lbs	742.358 lbs	planting with native hardwood trees.				

### Project Components and Mitigation Units Table

^Calculated in accordance with DWR Memorandum.

\*These areas are between 0-100 feet from top of bank and will either be used for Riparian Buffer Mitigation OR Nutrient pound reduction, not both.

\*\*Additional nutrient removal potential if used in lieu of Riparian Buffer square footage.

\*\*\*This area is between 100-200 feet from top of bank and can ONLY be used for Nutrient Offset pound reduction.

<sup>+</sup> During the Year 5 (2018) annual monitoring report review, an error in GIS credit area calculation was discovered which resulted in a slight reduction of credit area (-359 ft<sup>2</sup> of Riparian Buffer credit and -548 ft<sup>2</sup> of Nutrient Offset credit). The areas listed in this table have been revised to reflect the existing project assets.

### **Vegetation Success Criteria**

An average density of 320 planted hardwood stems per acre must be surviving after five monitoring years in accordance with North Carolina Division of Water Resources Administrative Code 15A NCAC 02B.0242 (*Neuse River Basin, Mitigation Program for Protection and Maintenance of Existing Riparian Buffers*) (NCDWR 2007).

### 2.0 METHODOLOGY

Annual monitoring data will be reported using the NCDMS monitoring template. The monitoring report shall provide a chronology of project data that will facilitate an understanding of project status and trends, population of NCDMS databases for analysis, research purposes, and to assist in decision making regarding project close-out. The following table outlines monitoring requirements for this Project.

Parameter	Quantity	Frequency	Notes
	8 CVS plots (see Figure 3 in	Annually in	Vegetation will be monitored using the
Vegetation	Appendix B for approximate	Monitoring Years	Carolina Vegetation Survey (CVS)
	locations)	1-5	protocols
Exotic and nuisance		Sami annual	Locations of exotic and nuisance
vegetation		Semi-annuar	vegetation will be mapped
			Locations of fence damage, vegetation
Project boundary		Semi-annual	damage, boundary encroachments, etc.
			will be mapped

#### Monitoring Schedule/Requirements Table

### **Vegetation Monitoring**

After planting was completed, an initial evaluation was performed to verify planting methods were successful and to determine initial species composition and density. Eight sample vegetation plots (10-meter by 10-meter) were installed and measured within the Site as per guidelines established in *CVS-DMS Protocol for Recording Vegetation, Version 4.2* (Lee et al. 2008) (Figure 3, Appendix B). Vegetation plots are permanently monumented with 6-foot metal T-posts at each corner, and a ten foot tall pvc at the origin. In each sample plot, vegetation parameters to be monitored include species composition and species density. Visual observations of the percent cover of shrub and herbaceous species will be documented by photograph. Vegetation plot information for MY5 (2018) was collected in October 2018 and can be found in Appendix C. Stem count measurements for MY5 (2018) indicate an average of 338 planted stems per acre (excluding livestakes) across the Project. Five out of eight vegetation plots met success criteria for MY5 (2018) monitoring based on planted stems. Plots 2 and 3 were both 3 stems shy of meeting success

criteria based on planted stems alone, and plot 7 was just one stem shy; however, when including natural recruits of green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) and willow oak (*Quercus phellos*) in Plot 2, winged elm (*Ulmus alata*) in Plot 3, and green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) and red maple (*Acer rubrum*) in plot 7, these plots were well above success criteria.

Planted stem mortality can be attributed to competition from the dense shrub layer consisting of large quantities of naturally recruited woody stems. Several dense patches of Japanese honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica) were observed throughout the Project during years 2 (2015) and 3 (2016). The vines were negatively affecting woody stems for several years before it appeared that the woody vegetation had outcompeted it during years 4 (2017) and 5 (2018). The areas previously affected by Japanese honeysuckle appeared to have recovered well during year 5 (2018) monitoring. Additionally, a small patch of Chinese lespedeza (Lespedeza cuneata) was observed in the vicinity of Plot 3 during previous monitoring years, which had contributed to low planted stem counts in this plot. A few specimens were observed during year 5 (2018) monitoring, however the population has greatly reduced in size since originally observed; therefore, it is no longer considered an area of concern. Furthermore, two patches of dense blackberry were observed during previous monitoring years; one in the northeast portion of the site, near plot 1 and one on the eastern portion of the site along the sewer easement. During year 5 (2018), it appeared that the woody vegetation was out-competing the blackberry, and the blackberry was no longer posing a threat to Site success in these areas. Lastly, a small area of easement encroachment was observed in and around CVS plot 8 during previous monitoring years. An approximately 5 meter wide strip was mowed from Butler Road to the existing maintained sewer easement. It appears no further mowing has occurred in this area since reported during year 4 (2017), and the vegetation has recovered well.

### 3.0 REFERENCES

- Lee, Michael T., R.K. Peet, S.D. Roberts, and T.R. Wentworth. 2008. CVS-DMS Protocol for Recording Vegetation, Version 4.2. (online). Available: <u>http://cvs.bio.unc.edu/methods.htm</u>.
- North Carolina Division of Water Resources (NCDWR). 2007. Redbook, Surface Waters and Wetlands Standards. North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources. Raleigh, North Carolina.
- North Carolina Division of Water Resources (NCDWR). 2012. North Carolina Waterbodies Listed by River Basin (online). Available: <u>http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\_library/get\_file?uuid=</u> <u>b9835c93-f244-4bc3-9282-4a58d98310da&groupId=38364</u> [January 28, 2013]. North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- North Carolina Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS). 2006. Little Lick Creek Local Watershed Plan (online). Available: <u>http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document library/get file?uuid=6607bd28-4af8-458b-8582-cb1acbcac1e6&groupId=60329</u> [January 7, 2013]. North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- North Carolina Division of Mitigation Services (NCDMS). 2010. Neuse River Basin Restoration Priorities (online). Available: <u>http://portal.ncdenr.org/c/document\_library/get\_file?uuid=665be84c-cf93-477b-918c-1993778ef11f&groupId=60329</u> [January 7, 2013]. North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Raleigh, North Carolina.
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- Schafale, M.P. and A.S. Weakley. 1990. Classification of the Natural Communities of North Carolina: Third Approximation. North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Division of Parks and Recreation, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality. Raleigh, North Carolina.
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). 2012. National Hydric Soils List by State, North Carolina (online). Available: <u>ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/NSSC/Hydric Soils/Lists/</u> <u>hydric\_soils.xlsx</u> [January 18, 2013]. United State Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

United States Geological Survey (USGS). 1974. Hydrologic Unit Map - 1974. State of North Carolina.

# Appendix A. Project Vicinity Map and Background Tables

Figure 1. Project Location Map Table 1. Project Components and Mitigation Credits Table 2. Project Activity and Reporting History Table 3. Project Contacts Table Table 4. Project Attributes Table



Axiom Environmental, Inc.

Durham County, North Carolina

Project:

12-004.19

# Table 1. Project Components and Mitigation CreditsLittle Lick Creek Buffer Restoration (DMS #92542)

Mitigation Credits^								
Туре	Riparian	Buffer		Nu	trient Offset			
Totals	105,972 ft <sup>2</sup> (2.43 acres)		220,882 ft <sup>2</sup> (5.07 acres) [minimum, see ** below] Nitrogen: 11,525.939 lbs Phosphorous: 742.358 lbs					
	Projects Components							
Project Component/ Reach ID	Restoration/ Restoration Equivalent	Restoration Acreage <sup>+</sup>	Mitigation Ratio	Pounds of Nitrogen Treated Over 30 Years	Pounds of Phosphorus Treated Over 30 Years	Comment		
*Riparian Buffer	Restoration	105,972 ft <sup>2</sup> (2.43 acres)	1:1	**5529.769 lbs	**356.159 lbs	Invasive/nuisance species removal and		
***Nutrient Offset	Restoration	220,882 ft <sup>2</sup> (5.07 acres)	1:1	11,525.939 lbs	742.358 lbs	planting with native hardwood trees.		

^Calculated in accordance with DWR Memorandum.

\*These areas are between 0-100 feet from top of bank and will either be used for Riparian Buffer Mitigation OR Nutrient pound reduction, not both.

\*\*Additional nutrient removal potential if used in lieu of Riparian Buffer square footage.

\*\*\*This area is between 100-200 feet from top of bank and can ONLY be used for Nutrient Offset pound reduction.

<sup>+</sup> During the Year 5 (2018) annual monitoring report review, an error in GIS credit area calculation was discovered which resulted in a slight reduction of credit area (-359 ft<sup>2</sup> of Riparian Buffer credit and -548 ft<sup>2</sup> of Nutrient Offset credit). The areas listed in this table have been revised to reflect the existing project assets.

# Table 2. Project Activity and Reporting HistoryLittle Lick Creek Buffer Restoration (DMS #92542)

	<b>Data Collection</b>	Completion
Activity or Deliverable	Complete	or Delivery
Mitigation Plan/Planting Plans		April 2013
Pine Removal & Invasive Species Control		August 2013
Bushhogging		November 2013
Invasive Species Controls		November 2013-present
Planting		December 2013
Baseline Monitoring Document (Year 0)	December 2013	February 2014
2014 Annual Monitoring Document (Year 1)	September 2014	October 2014
2015 Annual Monitoring Document (Year 2)	October 2015	November 2015
2016 Annual Monitoring Document (Year 3)	October 2016	November 2016
2017 Annual Monitoring Document (Year 4)	October 2017	December 2017
2018 Annual Monitoring Document (Year 5)	October 2018	October 2018

# Table 3. Project Contacts TableLittle Lick Creek Buffer Restoration (DMS #92542)

#### Axiom Environmental, Inc. Designer 218 Snow Avenue Raleigh, NC 27603 Grant Lewis 919-215-1693 Planting/Vegetation Maintenance/Invasive River Works, Inc. **Species Control Contractor** 6105 Chapel Hill Rd. Raleigh, NC 27607 George Morris 919-818-3984 **Baseline Data Collection & Annual** Axiom Environmental, Inc. Monitoring 218 Snow Avenue Raleigh, NC 27603 Grant Lewis 919-215-1693

	1						
Project Information							
Project Name	Little Lick Creek						
Project County	Durham	Durham					
Project Area	12.1434 acres						
Project Coordinates	35.9852 °N, 78.8208 °W						
Project Wate	ershed Summary Information						
Physiographic Region	Piedmont						
Project River Basin	Neuse						
USGS 8-digit HUC	03020201						
USGS 14-digit HUC	03020201050020						
NCDWR Subbasin 03-04-01							
Project Drainage Area 6.0 square miles							
Project Drainage Area Impervious Surface	>14%						
Reach	Summary Information						
Parameters	Little Lick Creek	UT to Little Lick Creek					
Length of Reach (linear feet)	1254	510					
Drainage Area (square miles)	6.04	0.27					
NCDWR Index Number	27-9-(0.5)	27-9-(0.5)					
NCDWR Classification	WS-IV, NSW	WS-IV, NSW					
Dominant Soil Series	Chewacla and Wehadkee	Chewacla and Wehadkee					
Drainage Class	Somewhat Poorly to Poorly	Somewhat Poorly to Poorly Drained					
Soil Hydric Status	Hydric						
Slope	0-2 percent						
FEMA Classification	100-Year Floodplain						
Native Vegetation Community	Piedmont/Low Mountain A	Alluvial Forest					
Percent Composition of Exotic Invasives	5.6						
Regu	latory Considerations						
Regulation	Applicable						
Waters of the U.SSections 404 and 401	No						
Endangered Species Act	dangered Species Act No						
Historic Preservation Act	rvation Act No						
CZMA/CAMA	No						
FEMA Floodplain Compliance	No						
Essential Fisheries Habitat	No	No					

# Table 4. Project Attribute TableLittle Lick Creek Buffer Restoration (DMS #92542)

# Appendix B. Visual Assessment Data

Figure 2. Project Assets Figure 3. Current Conditions Plan View Table 5. Vegetation Condition Assessment Vegetation Plot Photographs Fixed-Station Photographs



	0	Mitigatio	n Credits^		
Riparian 105,972 ft² (2	Buffer 2.43 acres)	Mitigatio	low] Ibs		
		Projects C	Components		
Restoration/ Restoration Equivalent	Restoration Acreage <sup>+</sup>	Mitigation Ratio	Pounds of Nitrogen Treated Over 30 Years	Pounds of Phosphorus Treated Over 30 Years	Comment
Restoration	105,972 ft <sup>2</sup> (2.43 acres)	1:1	**5523 lbs	**356 lbs	Invasive/nuisance species removal and
Restoration	$220,882 \text{ ft}^2$	1:1	11,524 lbs	742 lbs	planting with native
1	Riparian 105,972 ft² (2 Restoration/ Restoration Equivalent Restoration Restoration	Riparian Buffer   105,972 ft² (2.43 acres)   Restoration/ Restoration Restoration Acreage <sup>+</sup> Restoration 105,972 ft² (2.43 acres)   Restoration 220,882 ft² (2.43 acres)   Restoration 220,882 ft²	Mitigation   Riparian Buffer   105,972 ft² (2.43 acres)   Projects C   Restoration/ Equivalent   Restoration   Restoration   105,972 ft²   (2.43 acres)   1:1   Restoration   (2.43 acres)   1:1   Restoration   (2.0,882 ft²)   1:1	Mitigation Credits^   Riparian Buffer Nut   105,972 ft² (2.43 acres) 220,882 ft² (5.07 acr Nitrogen: 11,524   Projects Components   Restoration/ Restoration Restoration Acreage* Mitigation Ratio Pounds of Nitrogen Treated Over 30 Years   Restoration 105,972 ft² (2.43 acres) 1:1 **5523 lbs   Restoration 220,882 ft² (2.43 acres) 1:1 11,524 lbs	Mitigation Credits^   Riparian Buffer Nutrient Offset   105,972 ft² (2.43 acres) 220,882 ft² (5.07 acres) [minimum, see ** be   Nitrogen: 11,524 lbs   Projects Components   Restoration Acreage*   Acreage* Mitigation   Restoration Acreage*   220,882 ft² Pounds of Nitrogen   Projects Components   Restoration Acreage*   243 acres) 1:1   105,972 ft² 1:1   220,882 ft² 1:1   11,524 lbs 742 lbs

Axiom Environmental 218 Snow Avenue Raleigh, NC 27603	PROJECT ASSETS	Dwn. by. KRJ/CLF/PHP	FIGURE
Axiom Environmental 218 Snow Avenue Raleigh, NC 27603 (919) 215-1693	LITTLE LICK CREEK SITE DMS PROJECT NUMBER 92542 Durham County, North Carolina	Date: October 2018 Project: 12-004.19	2

Α



Axic	om Environmental	CURRENT CONDITIONS PLAN VIEW	Dwn. by. KRJ	FIGURE	
218 Rale	3 Snow Avenue leigh, NC 27603 9) 215-1693	DMS PROJECT NUMBER 92542	Date: October 2018	3	
Axiom Environmental, Inc.	9/213-1093	Durham County, North Carolina	Project:	Ŭ	
			12-004.19		

#### Table 5 Vegetation Condition Assessment

Little Lick Creek Buffer Restoration

Planted Acreage <sup>1</sup>	8.02					
Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Planted Acreage
1. Bare Areas	None	0.1 acres	none	0	0.00	0.0%
2. Low Stem Density Areas	None	0.1 acres	none	0	0.00	0.0%
			Total	0	0.00	0.0%
3. Areas of Poor Growth Rates or Vigor	None	0.25 acres	N/A	0	0.00	0.0%
			Cumulative Total	0	0.00	0.0%

Easement Acreage <sup>4</sup>	12.14					
Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Easement Acreage
4. Invasive Areas of Concern <sup>4</sup>	None	1000 SF	N/A	0	0.00	0.0%
5. Easement Encroachment Areas <sup>3</sup>	None	none	N/A	0	0.00	0.0%

1 = Enter the planted acreage within the easement. This number is calculated as the easement acreage minus any existing mature tree stands that were not subject to supplemental planting of the understory, the channel acreage, crossings or any other elements not directly planted as part of the project effort.

2 = The acreage within the easement boundaries.

3 = Encroachment may occur within or outside of planted areas and will therefore be calculated against the overall easement acreage. In the event a polygon is cataloged into items 1, 2 or 3 in the table and is the result of encroachment, the associated acreage should be tallied in the relevant item (i.e., item 1,2 or 3) as well as a parallel tally in item 5.

4 = Invasives may occur in or out of planted areas, but still within the easement and will therefore be calculated against the overall easement acreage. Invasives of concern/interest are listed below. The list of high concern spcies are those with the potential to directly outcompete native, young, woody stems in the short-term (e.g. monitoring period or shortly thereafter) or affect the community structure for existing, more established tree/shrub stands over timeframes that are slightly longer (e.g. 1-2 decades). The low/moderate concern group are those species that generally do not have this capacity over the timeframes discussed and therefore are not expected to be mapped with regularity, but can be mapped if in the judgement of the observer their coverage, density or distribution is suppressing the viability, density, or growth of planted woody stems. Decisions as to whether remediation will be needed are based on the integration of risk factors by DMS such as species present, their coverage, distribution relative to native biomass, and the practicality of treatment. For example, even modest amounts of Kudzu or Japanese Knotweed early in the projects history will warrant control, but potentially large coverages of Microstegium in the herb layer will not likley trigger control because of the limited capacities to impact tree/shrub layers within the timeframes discussed and the potential impacts of treating extensive amounts of ground cover. Those species with the "watch list" designator in gray shade are of interest as well, but have yet to be observed across the state with any frequency. Those in *red italics* are of particular interest given their extreme risk/threat level for mapping as points where <u>isolated</u> specimens are found, particularly early in a projects monitoring history. However, areas of discretet, dense patches will of course be mapped as polygons, particularly ease the condition for an area is somewhere between isolated specimens and dense, discreet patches. In any case, the point or polyg

Little Lick Creek (Butler Road) Vegetation Monitoring Photographs Taken October 2018



Little Lick Creek (Butler Road) Fixed-Station Photographs Taken October 2018









# Appendix C. Vegetation Plot Data

Table 6. Planted Woody VegetationTable 7. Vegetation Plot Success by Project Access TypeTable 8. Total and Planted Stems by Plot and Species

Species	Quantity
American sycamore (Platanus occidentalis)	504
Green ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica)	466
Hackberry (Celtis laevigata)	56
Red maple (Acer rubrum)	277
River birch (Betula nigra)	458
Swamp chestnut oak (Quercus michauxii)	310
Tulip Poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera)	429
Water oak (Quercus nigra)	300
Willow oak (Quercus phellos)	254
TOTAL	3054

Table 6. Planted Bare Root Woody Vegetation

# Table 7. 2018 Vegetation Plot Success by Plot TypeLittle Lick Creek (#92542)

Plot #	Riparian Buffer Stems <sup>1</sup>	Stream/ Wetland Stems <sup>2</sup>	Live Stakes	Invasives	Volunteers <sup>3</sup>	Total <sup>4</sup>	Unknown Growth Form
1	16	n/a	0	0	13	29	0
2	5	n/a	0	0	11	16	0
3	5	n/a	0	0	10	15	0
4	9	n/a	0	0	40	49	0
5	9	n/a	0	0	31	40	0
6	8	n/a	0	0	36	44	0
7	7	n/a	0	0	56	63	0
8	8	n/a	0	0	8	16	0
Stem Class	C	characteristics					
Stem Class	0	characteristics	1 1, 1		·	NT .	

<sup>1</sup>Buffer Stems <sup>2</sup>Stream/ Wetland Stems <sup>3</sup>Volunteers <sup>4</sup>Total

Native planted hardwood trees. Does NOT include shrubs. No pines. No vines. Native planted woody stems. Includes shrubs, does NOT include live stakes. No vines Native woody stems. Not planted. No vines. Planted + volunteer native woody stems. Includes live stakes. Excl. exotics. Excl. vines.

Little Lick Creek Restoration Project DMS Project No. 92542 Durham County, NC

#### Table 8. Total and Planted Stems by Plot and Species DMS Project Code 92542. Project Name: Little Lick Creek

				Current Plot Data (MY5 2018)														Annual Means																						
			92542-01-0001 92542-01-0002		92542-01-0002			92542-01-000		9254	2-01-0004	9254	2-01-00	05	925	42-01-00	006	925	42-01-0	0007	925	92542-01-0008		MY5 (2018)		MY4 (2	MY3 (20		016)	1	MY2 (2015)			Y1 (2014	•)	MY0 (2013)				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Type	PnoLS	6 P-all	т	PnoLS	P-all	т	PnoLS	PnoLS P-all T		PnoLS	PnoLS P-all T		PnoLS P-all T		PnoLS	P-all 1	т	PnoLS	P-all	т	PnoLS	oLS P-all T		PnoLS P-all T		PnoLS P-all T		PnoLS	P-all	т	PnoLS	6 P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all 1	1 1	PnoLS P-all	т
Acer rubrum	red maple	Tree							1	1	1	1	1 1	L 3	3	3			3			2				5	5 10	) 7	7 1	0 6	5 6	6 50	) (	6 6	25	7	7	19	7 7	7 7
Baccharis halimifolia	eastern baccharis	Shrub						1																			1					1	1							
Betula nigra	river birch	Tree							1	1	1			1	1	1				2	2	2	1	1	1	5	5 5	5 5	5	5 5	5 5	5 5	5	7 7	7	8	8	8	12 12	2 12
Carya	hickory	Tree																																				2		
Carya alba	mockernut hickory	Tree																																	1					
Carya glabra	pignut hickory	Tree																														1	1							
Cephalanthus occidentalis	common buttonbush	Shrub																														(1) (1)	3							
Cornus amomum	silky dogwood	Shrub														1											1		1	2		9	Э		22			14		
Diospyros virginiana	common persimmon	Tree			9								4	1											1		14		3	5		34	1		24			55		
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	green ash	Tree	8	8 8	8 11	2	2	5	1	1	1		10	) 1	1	10	4	4	15			28	2	2	8	18	18 88	18	18 12	8 18	3 18	8 91	1 22	2 22	89	22	22	111	23 23	3 23
Liquidambar styraciflua	sweetgum	Tree						2					16	5		15			22			26					81		16	8		197	7		171			139		
Liriodendron tulipifera	tuliptree	Tree																					2	2	3	2	2 3	5	5	5 5	5 5	5 5	5 5	5 5	5	7	7	7	8 8	3 8
Pinus taeda	loblolly pine	Tree						1								3											4			5		2	2							
Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Tree	1	1 1	1 1				1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	1	1	9	9 9	9	9	9 9	9 9	9 9	9 10	0 10	10	10	10	10	11 11	1 11
Prunus serotina	black cherry	Tree																												1										
Quercus michauxii	swamp chestnut oak	Tree	5	5 5	5 5	1	1	. 1				2	2 2	2 2	2	2	1	1	1				2	2	2	13	13 13	14	14 1	4 14	4 14	4 14	1 19	9 19	19	20	20	20	20 20	ງ 20
Quercus nigra	water oak	Tree	2	2 2	2 2	1	1	. 1	1	1	1	4	4 4	1			1	1	1							9	9 9	9	9	9 9	9 9	9 9	9 9	9 9	9	9	9	9	11 11	1 11
Quercus pagoda	cherrybark oak	Tree																																				1		
Quercus phellos	willow oak	Tree			1	1	1	4				2	2 9	9 1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1				6	6 17	6	6 1	4 6	5 6	6 13	3 6	6 6	13	6	6	8	6 6	<b>3</b> 7
Quercus rubra	northern red oak	Tree																																	1					
Rhus copallinum	flameleaf sumac	shrub									7																7	7		6		4	1					1		
Salix nigra	black willow	Tree						1																			1													
Ulmus alata	winged elm	Tree									3		3	3		3											9	)	1	1		22	2		4			11		1
Ulmus americana	American elm	Tree																												7		3	3		19					
		Stem count	16	5 16	5 29	5	5	16	5	5	15	9	9 49	9 9	9	40	8	8	44	7	7	63	8	8	16	67	67 272	73	73 43	9 72	2 72	2 472	2 84	4 84	419	89	89	415	98 98	3 100
		size (ares)		1	-		1	-		1			1		1		-	1			1	-		1		-	8	8	-		8	-		8		-	8		8	
		size (ACRES)	0.02 0.		0.02		0.02			0.02		0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.20		0.20		0.20			0.20			0.20			0.20			
		Species count	4	4 4	6	4	4	8	5	5	7	4	4 8	6 6	6	10	5	5	7	3	3	6	5	5	6	8	8 16	6 8	8 1	6 8	8 8	8 18	3 8	8 8	15	8	8	15	8 8	3 9
		Stems per ACRE	647.5	647.5	5 1174	202.3	202.3	647.5	202.3	202.3	607	364.2	364.2 1983	364.2	364.2	1619	323.7	323.7	1781	283.3	283.3	2550	323.7	323.7 6	647.5	338.9 3	38.9 1376	<b>369.3</b> 369	9.3 222	1 364.2	364.2	2 2388	424.9	9 424.9	2120	450.2	450.2	2099	495.7 495.7	7 505.9

Color for Density Color for Density Exceeds requirements by 10% Exceeds requirements, but by less than 10% Fails to meet requirements, by less than 10% Fails to meet requirements by more than 10% PnoLS = Planted excluding livestakes

P-all = Planting including livestakes T = All planted and natural recruits including livestakes

T includes natural recruits

# Appendix D. Additional Data

Figure 4. Project Watershed Map (USGS Topography) Figure 5. Project NRCS Soil Survey Map Preconstruction Photographs



Axiom Environmental, Inc.

Durham County, North Carolina

92542



Axiom Environmental, Inc.

Axiom Environmental 218 Snow Avenue Raleigh, NC 27603 (919) 215-1693 PROJECT NRCS SOIL SURVEY MAP LITTLE LICK CREEK PROJECT Durham County, North Carolina

5

January 2013

92542

EEP Project:

Little Lick Creek (Butler Road) Preconstruction Photographs Taken January and February 2013



Little Lick Creek Restoration Project DMS Project No. 92542 Durham County, NC

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