FINAL ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT UT TO HAW BECKOM RESTORTION SITE ALAMANCE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA (EEP Project No. 92694, Contract No. 004545)

Monitoring Year 2 of 5 (2012)



Submitted to: North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources Ecosystem Enhancement Program Raleigh, North Carolina



August 2012

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> Design Firm: Axiom Environmental, Inc. 218 Snow Ave. Raleigh, North Carolina 27603





August 2012

Table of Contents

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	. 1
2.0 METHODOLOGY	
2.1 Stream Assessment	. 3
2.2 Vegetation Assessment	. 3
3.0 REFERENCES	
3.0 REFERENCES	, 4

List of Figures

Figure 1.	Vicinity Map		Appendix A
Figure 2.	Current Conditions Plan V	/iew	.Appendix B

List of Tables

Table 1.	Project Components and Mitigation Credits	Appendix A
Table 2.	Project Activity and Reporting History	Appendix A
Table 3.	Project Contacts Table	Appendix A
Table 4.	Project Baseline Information and Attributes	Appendix A
Table 5.	Vegetation Condition Assessment Table	Appendix B
Table 6.	Vegetation Plot Criteria Attainment	Appendix C
Table 7.	CVS Vegetation Plot Metadata	Appendix C
Table 8.	Total and Planted Stems by Plot and Species	Appendix C
Table 9.	Verification of Bankfull Events	Appendix E

Appendices

APPENDIX A. PROJECT VICINITY MAP AND BACKGROUND TABLES

Figure 1. Vicinity Map

- Table 1. Project Components and Mitigation Credits
- Table 2. Project Activity and Reporting History
- Table 3. Project Contacts Table
- Table 4. Project Baseline Information and Attributes

APPENDIX B. VISUAL ASSESSMENT DATA

Figure 2. Current Conditions Plan View

 Table 5.
 Vegetation Condition Assessment Table

Vegetation Monitoring Plot Photos

APPENDIX C. VEGETATION PLOT DATA

Table 6. Vegetation Plot Criteria Attainment

 Table 7. CVS Vegetation Plot Metadata

Table 8. Total and Planted Stems by Plot and Species

APPENDIX D. STREAM DATA

Fixed-Station Photos

APPENDIX E. HYDROLOGY DATA

Table 9. Verification of Bankfull Data

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program (NCEEP) has completed stream and wetland enhancement and preservation at the UT to Haw Beckom Restoration Site (hereafter referred to as the "Site") to assist in fulfilling stream and wetland mitigation goals in the area. The Site is located approximately 4 miles north of Burlington, in Alamance County, North Carolina. This portion of Alamance County is located within Cape Fear River Basin Hydrologic Unit and Targeted Local Watershed 03030002030010. This report (compiled based on EEP's *Procedural Guidance and Content Requirements for EEP Monitoring Reports* Version 1.3 dated 1/15/10) summarizes data for year 2 (2012) monitoring.

Site drainage features provide water quality function to an approximately 385-acre (0.6-square mile) watershed. The Site is located within a NCEEP Targeted Local Watershed; in addition, this Site was identified for preservation as part of Site 15 (Travis & Tickle 15.2) in the 2008 NCEEP *Little Alamance and Travis and Tickle Creek Local Watershed Plan* (pages 72-73). Site streams drain to a section of the Haw River, which is currently on North Carolina's 2010 final 303(d) list for impaired ecological/biological integrity of benthic communities.

Prior to construction, Site land use consisted of cleared pasture for livestock grazing and disturbed forest. Site streams were characterized by eroding stream banks and a riparian buffer dominated by active livestock pasture and disturbed forest.

The primary goals of this mitigation project were obtained through removal of livestock from streams, buffers, and wetlands; reforestation of pasture land with native species; and installation of forded crossings to safely move animals and equipment across the Site. The goals of this project focused on improving water quality, enhancing flood attenuation, and restoring aquatic and riparian habitat and include the following.

- Reducing nonpoint sources of pollution by 1) fencing livestock from stream channels, buffers, and wetlands; 2) ceasing the application of agricultural herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers; and 3) providing a vegetative buffer adjacent to streams and wetlands to treat surface runoff prior to entering Site streams and ultimately the Haw River.
- Reducing sedimentation/siltation within onsite and downstream receiving waters by a) reducing bank erosion associated with livestock hoof shear on Site streams, b) filtering surface runoff and reducing particulate matter deposition into tributaries, and c) providing a forested vegetative buffer adjacent to Site streams and wetlands.
- Promoting floodwater attenuation and improving stream stability by revegetating Site floodplains to reduce floodwater velocities through increased frictional resistance on floodwaters crossing Site floodplains.
- Providing increased habitat for aquatic wildlife by 1) increasing organic matter, carbon export, and woody debris in the stream corridor and 2) restoring shade to Site open waters.
- Providing wildlife habitat including a minimum of a 50-foot forested riparian corridor from the top of each stream bank within a region of the state increasingly dissected by residential/agricultural land use.
- Protecting a Site identified in the 2008 Piedmont Triad Council of Government *Little Alamance, Travis, and Tickle Creek Watersheds Restoration Plan* (PTCG 2008) for preservation due to its location within a remote, rural area with increasing development pressure and appeal to developers.

This project was constructed between December 23, 2010 and January 6, 2011. All stream channels have a minimum of a 50-foot wide riparian buffer from the top of each stream bank, which was verified in the field on January 22, 2011. The project consisted of enhancement (level II) of 2200 linear feet of stream and enhancement of 1.75 acres of riparian wetlands by removing livestock and reforesting with native species. The project includes preservation of 1465 linear feet of perennial stream and 0.05 acre of riparian wetlands. Site activities provide 1173 Stream Mitigation Units and 0.89 riparian riverine Wetland Mitigation Units. The Site will be protected by a permanent conservation easement held by the State of North Carolina.

Success criteria for stream enhancement will include 1) success of riparian vegetation, 2) bank stability, and 3) documentation of two bankfull channel events. One bankfull event was documented to date during year 3 monitoring (2012) for a total of three documented bankfull events with at least one event documented to occur in each monitoring year.

Vegetation success criteria dictate that an average density of 320 stems per acre must be surviving in the first three monitoring years. Subsequently, 290 stems per acre must be surviving in year 4 and 260 stems per acre in year 5. Stem counts will be based on an average of the evaluated vegetation plots. Based on the number of stems counted, average densities were measured at 737 stems per acre surviving in year 2 (2012). The dominant species identified at the Site were planted stems of cherrybark oak (*Quercus pagoda*), swamp chestnut oak (*Quercus michauxii*), and American elm (*Ulmus americana*). In addition, each individual vegetation plot met success criteria when counting planted stems alone.

In general herbaceous grasses within the Site, primarily tearthumb (Polygonum sagittatum) in wetter areas and fescue (*Festuca* sp.) in drier areas, is vigorous and overtopping many of the smaller planted trees. As a result some of the smaller trees died due to grasses and some of the larger trees died over the summer of 2011 from dry, hot conditions. Despite these conditions, the majority of living planted trees are doing well. These issues should continue to be monitored closely in subsequent monitoring years. The Site was replanted as part of planting warranty on November 1, 2011 including 369 bare root seedlings were planted in Swamp Forest areas and 28 bare root seedlings were planted in floodplain areas of the Site. Planted species and number of stems of each are as follows.

Swamp Forest (bare root trees)

45 swamp chestnut oak (*Quercus michauxii*)
135 sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)
99 American elm (*Ulmus americana*)
90 willow oak (*Quercus phellos*)
TOTAL 369 trees

Floodplain (bare root trees) 13 sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) 10 American elm (*Ulmus americana*) 5 silky dogwood (*Cornus amomum*) TOTAL 28 trees

Success criteria for wetland enhancement will include success of riparian vegetation. Wetland enhancement areas are jurisdictional; therefore, hydrology is not being monitored.

Beaver continue to be active within the upstream portion of the Site. APHIS personnel are providing beaver management and continue to trap at the Site. Beaver dam locations are depicted on the attached figure. Proactive measures to control beaver should continue, as necessary.

Summary information and 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 tables and figures within this report's appendices. Narrative background and supporting information formerly found in these reports can be found in the mitigation and restoration plan documents available on EEPs website. All raw data supporting the tables and figures in the appendices is available from EEP upon request.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Stream Assessment

Annual stream monitoring will include vegetation survival (Section 2.2 Vegetation Assessment) and a photographic record of post-construction conditions. Photographs of the enhancement (level II) reach will be taken for each year of the monitoring period. In addition, visual assessments of the stream will be conducted by walking the length of stream and bankfull flow events will be documented during the monitoring period.

2.2 Vegetation Assessment

Five vegetation plots were established and marked after construction with four foot metal U-bar post demarking the corners with a ten foot, three-quarter inch PVC at the origin. The plots are 10 meters square and are located randomly within the Site. These plots were surveyed in June 2012 for the year 2 (2012) monitoring season using the *CVS-EEP Protocol for Recording Vegetation, Version 4.2* (Lee et al. 2008) (http://cvs.bio.unc.edu/methods.htm); results are included in Appendix C. The taxonomic standard for vegetation used for this document was *Flora of the Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia, and Surrounding Areas* (Weakley 2008).

3.0 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A

PROJECT VICINITY MAP AND BACKGROUND TABLES

Figure 1. Vicinity Map

- Table 1. Project Components and Mitigation Credits
- Table 2. Project Activity and Reporting History
- Table 3. Project Contacts Table
- Table 4. Project Baseline Information and Attributes



Mitigation Credits	_					on-Riparian							
		Stream	Ripar	Riparian Wetland		Riparian Wetland			Buffer	Nitrogen Offset	Phosp	horus Nutrient Offset	
Туре	R	RE	R	R RE									
Totals		1173 SMU	Js	0.89 WMUs									
Project Components						1		1					
Project Component/ Reach ID	ent/ Reach		Existing Foot	age Ap	oroach	or Re	oration storation ivalent	Restora Foota Acrea	ge/	Mitigation Ratio			
	-	-	1550			Enhancem	ent (Level II)/	1550)	2.5:1			
Main Channel	-	-	635			Prese	ervation	635		5:1			
	-	-	15			Enhancem	ent (Level II)	15		2.5:1			
UT1	-	-	665			Prese	ervation	665		5:1			
UT2	-	-	635			Enhancem	ent (Level II)	635		2.5:1			
UT3	-	-	165			Prese	165		5:1				
Wetland 1	-	-	1.15			Enha	ncement	1.15	;	2:1			
Wetland 2	-	-	0.25			Enha	ncement	0.25	;	2:1			
Wetland 3	-	-	0.05			Enha	ncement	0.05	;	2:1			
Wetland 4	-	-	0.15			Enhancement		0.15		2:1			
Wetland 5	-	-	0.05			Enhancement		0.05	;	2:1			
Wetland 6	-	-	0.10			Enhancement		0.10)	2:1			
Wetland 7	-	-	0.01			Prese	ervation	0.01		5:1			
Wetland 8	-	-	0.04			Prese	ervation	0.04	Ļ	5:1			
Component Summatio	on												
Restorat	ion Level		Stream (lin	ear footage)	Ri	verine Ripari (acrea)		Planted R	Planted Riparian Buffer (acreage)				
Enhanceme	nt (Level II)	22	.00									
Enhan	cement		-	-		1.75							
Preser	vation		14	65		0.05							
То	tals		36	65		1.8			5.1				
Mitigati	on Units		1173	SMUs		0.89 WN	AUs						

Table 1. Project Components and Mitigation CreditsUT to Haw (Beckom) Site, EEP Project No. 92964

Table 2. Project Activity and Reporting HistoryUT to Haw (Beckom) Site, EEP Project No. 92964

Activity or Report	Data Collection Complete	Completion or Delivery
Mitigation Plan	March 2010	March 2010
Soil Amendments, Site Planting, & Baseline Monitoring Document	January 2011	January 2011
Year 1 (2011) Annual Monitoring	September 2011	October 2011
Year 2 (2012) Annual Monitoring	June 2012	August 2012

Table 3. Project Contacts TableUT to Haw (Beckom) Site, EEP Project No. 92964

	Axiom Environmental
	218 Snow Ave
	Raleigh,NC 27603
Designer	Grant Lewis (919-215-1693)
	Riverworks Inc.
	PO Box 31768
	Raleigh NC 27622
Planting and Soil Amendment Contractor	George Morris (919-459-9043)

Axiom Environmental, Inc.

Table 4. Project Baseline Information and AttributesUT to Haw (Beckom) Site, EEP Project No. 92964

UT to Haw (Beckom) Site, EE	r rro	ject I	NO. 92904 Project l	nform	nation										
Project name	UT to Haw Beckom														
County				Alamance											
Project Area				10 acres											
Project Coordinates	10 acres 36.1503°N, -79.4644°W														
		Proje	ct Watershed												
Physiographic Province		Troje	et watersneu												
River Basin				Southern Outer Piedmont											
USGS Hydrologic Unit 8-digit 03030002	,			Cape Fear USGS Hydrologic Unit 14-digit 03030002030010											
DWQ Sub-Basin	,			USGS Hydrologic Unit 14-digit 03030002030010 03-06-02 03-06-02											
Project Drainage Area					5 acres										
Project Drainage Area Project Drainage Area Percentage Impervious Surfa	200			<5											
CGIA Land Use Classification	ice					erbaceous Co	uar Uarduvaa	d Swom	200						
COTA Land Use Classification			Reach Summ		Ũ		ver, naruwoo	u Swain	ips						
Parameters		N	Main Channel		oi mati	UT 1		UT 2		I	Т 3				
Length of reach (linear feet)			2185			680		635			65				
Valley classification			VIII			VIII		VIII							
Drainage area (acres)			150			75		50			30				
NCDWQ stream identification score			42			51		60			58				
NCDWQ Water Quality Classification							WS-V								
Morphological Description (stream type)			_			-		-		_					
Evolutionary trend			-			-		-			_				
Underlying mapped soils						Local	Alluvial Land	1							
Drainage class						Poo	orly drained								
Soil Hydric status							Hydric								
Slope			.009 feet	.005 feet .025 feet .024 feet											
FEMA classification			-			-		-							
Percent composition of exotic invasive vegetation			<5			<5		<5		<5					
		,	Wetland Sumi	nary	Informa	tion									
Parameters	Wetla	and 1	Wetland 2	Wet	land 3	Wetland 4	Wetland 5	Wetla	ind 6	Wetland 7	Wetland 8				
Size of Wetland (acres)	1.15 a	acres	0.25 acres	0.05	acres	0.15 acres	0.05 acres	0.10 a	acres	0.01 acres	0.04 acres				
Wetland Type						Ripa	arian								
Drainage class						Poorly	Drained								
Soil Hydric Status						Hy	dric								
Source of Hydrology					(Overbank and	over-land flo	W			-				
Native Vegetation Community			Pie	dmon	t/Mounta	uin Swamp For	rest	-		P/M BHF*	P/M BHF*				
Percent composition of exotic invasive vegetation	(0	0		0	0	0	()	0	0				
			Regulatory	Consi	ideration	18									
Regulation					App	olicable	Resolv	ed?	S	upporting Do	cument				
Waters of the United States - Section 404						No									
Waters of the United States - Section 401				_		No									
Endangered Species Act						No									
Historic Preservation Act						No									
Coastal Management Zone Act (CZMA)/ Coastal Area Ma	nagemen	nt Act (C	CAMA)			No									
FEMA Floodplain Compliance						No									
Essential Fisheries Habitat						No									

*Piedmont/Mountain Bottomland Hardwood Forest (Schafale and Weakley)

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APPENDIX B

VISUAL ASSESSMENT DATA

Figure 2. Current Conditions Plan View Table 5. Vegetation Condition Assessment Table Vegetation Monitoring Plot Photos



Table 5 Vegetation Condition Assessment

UT Haw Beckom/EEP Project Number 92694

Planted Acreage ¹	5.1					
Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Planted Acreage
1. Bare Areas	ΝΑ	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2. Low Stem Density Areas	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
			Total	0	0.00	0.0%
3. Areas of Poor Growth Rates or Vigor	Herbaceous vegetation within the Site is vigorous most noteably in the northern portion of the Site. This has resulted in overtopping of smaller trees.	NA	NA	NA	2.00	39.2%
	•	Cu	mulative Total	0	2.00	39.2%

Easement Acreage ²	10					
Vegetation Category	Definitions	Mapping Threshold	CCPV Depiction	Number of Polygons	Combined Acreage	% of Easement Acreage
4. Invasive Areas of Concern ⁴	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
5. Easement Encroachment Areas ³	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

UT Haw (Beckom) 2012 Year 2 Vegetation Monitoring Photographs Taken June 2012



Axiom Environmental, Inc.

APPENDIX C

VEGETATION PLOT DATA

Table 6. Vegetation Plot Criteria Attainment

 Table 7. CVS Vegetation Plot Metadata

Table 8. Total Planted and Natural Recruit Stems by Plot and Species

UI to Haw (Beckom) Site	e, EEP Project No. 92964	
Vegetation Plot ID	Vegetation Survival Threshold Met?	Tract Mean
1	Yes	
2	Yes	
3	Yes	100%
4	Yes	
5	Yes	

Table 6. Vegetation Plot Criteria AttainmentUT to Haw (Beckom) Site, EEP Project No. 92964

Table 7. CVS Vegetation Plot MetadataUT to Haw (Beckom) Site, EEP Project No. 92964

Corri Faquin
7/18/2012 9:58
Axiom-EEP-2012-A.mdb
C:\Axiom\Business\CVS
CORRI-PC
49704960
TS IN THIS DOCUMENT
Description of database file, the report worksheets, and a summary of project(s) and project data.
Each project is listed with its PLANTED stems per acre, for each year. This excludes live stakes.
Each project is listed with its TOTAL stems per acre, for each year. This includes live stakes, all planted stems,
and all natural/volunteer stems.
List of plots surveyed with location and summary data (live stems, dead stems, missing, etc.).
Frequency distribution of vigor classes for stems for all plots.
Frequency distribution of vigor classes listed by species.
List of most frequent damage classes with number of occurrences and percent of total stems impacted by each.
Damage values tallied by type for each species.
Damage values tallied by type for each plot.
A matrix of the count of PLANTED living stems of each species for each plot; dead and missing stems are
excluded.
92694
UT Haw (Beckom)
buffer and wetland mitigation
5

Table 8. Total Planted and Natural Recruits Stems by Plot and Species

UT to Haw (Beckom)	T to Haw (Beckom)					Current Plot Data (MY2 2012)													Annual Means								
			E926	94-AXE	-0001	E926	94-AXE	-0002	E926	94-AXE-	-0003	E926	94-AXE	-0004	E926	94-AXE	-0005	Μ	Y2 (201	L 2)	N	IY1 (201	.1)	Μ	YO (201	1)	
Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Type	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	PnoLS	P-all	Т	
Acer rubrum	red maple	Tree												1	L		1			2							
Carya	hickory	Tree															1			1							
Cephalanthus occidentalis	common buttonbush	Shrub	5	5	5			41	-									5	5	46	6	6	31	. 2	2		
Cornus amomum	silky dogwood	Shrub							1	1	1	. 2	2	2 2	2 1	1	1	4	4	4	1	1	1	. 3	3		
Diospyros virginiana	common persimmon	Tree												(1)	3		35			38			21				
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	green ash	Tree	5	5	5				1	1	1	. 3	(11)	4	1			9	9	10	9	9	9	11	11	1	
Liquidambar styraciflua	sweetgum	Tree									5	5		(1)	3					8			2				
Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Tree	2	2	2	1	. 1	1	. 6	6	8	3 1	1	. 1	L 5	5	5	15	15	17	7	7	7	' 12	12	1	
Quercus	oak	Tree																			2	2	2	20	20	2	
Quercus alba	white oak	Tree										1	1	. 1	L			1	1	1							
Quercus michauxii	swamp chestnut oak	Tree	2	2	2	5	5	5 5	6 4	4	4	4 3	(1)	3	3 5	5	5	19	19	19	18	18	18	11	11	1	
Quercus minima	dwarf live oak	Shrub																			1	1	1	-			
Quercus pagoda	cherrybark oak	Tree	3	3	3	4	. 4	4 4	3	3	3	3 3	(1)	3 3	3 1	1	1	14	14	14	17	17	17	23	23	2	
Quercus phellos	willow oak	Tree	2	2	2	1	. 1	1	. 2	2	2	2						5	5	5	8	8	8	10	10	1	
Ulmus	elm	Tree						3	5		2	2		1	L		17			23			2	2			
Ulmus alata	winged elm	Tree				1	. 1	1	-									1	1	1	1	1	1	-			
Ulmus americana	American elm	Tree	1	1	1				3	3	3	6	E	6	5 8	8	8	18	18	18	15	15	15	16	16	1	
		Stem count	20	20	20	12	. 12	2 56	20	20	29	19	19	28	3 20	20	74	91	91	207	85	85	135	108	108	10	
		size (ares)		1			1			1			1			1			5			5			5		
		size (ACRES)		0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.02			0.12			0.12			0.12		
		Species count	7	7	7	5	5	5 7	7	7	9	7	7	' 11	L 5	5	9	10	10	15	11	11	14	9	9		
		Stems per ACRE	809.4	809.4	809.4	485.6	485.6	2266	809.4	809.4	1174	768.9	768.9	1133	809.4	809.4	2995	736.5	736.5	1675	688	688	1093	874.1	874.1	874.	

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 stems excluding livestakes

P-all= Planted stems including livestakes

T = Planted stems and natural recruits

Total includes stems of natural recruits

APPENDIX D STREAM DATA Fixed-Station Photos

UT Haw (Beckom) 2012 Year 2 Fixed-Station Photos Taken June 7, 2012











UT Haw Beckom (final) EEP Project Number 92694 Alamance County, North Carolina Axiom Environmental, Inc.

Monitoring Year 2 of 5 (2012) August 2012 Appendices APPENDIX E HYDROLOGY DATA Table 9. Verification of Bankfull Events

Table 9. Verification of Bankfull Events

Date of Data Collection	Date of Occurrence	Method	Photo (if available)
September 30, 2011	June 28, 2011	Total of 2.83 inches* of rain reported to fall over 2 days (June 27-28, 2011)	
September 30, 2011	September 24, 2011	Total of 3.61 inches* of rain reported to fall over 4 days (September 21-24, 2011) with an additional 0.85 inches* of rain the following 3 days (Septe 25-27, 2011)	
July 18, 2012	July 11, 2012	Total of 4.84 inches* of rain reported to fall over 3 days (July 9-11, 2012)	

UT to Haw (Beckom) Site, EEP Project No. 92964

* Reported at KBUY Weather Station in Burlington.