

**Environmental Report**  
New Montgomery County High School  
Troy, Montgomery County, North Carolina  
**USDA – Rural Development**

August 15, 2016

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADM	average daily membership
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BMP	best management practice
CAMA	Coastal Area Management Act
CRIA	Civil Rights Impact Analysis
DAQ	Division of Air Quality
DEMLR	Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources
DWR	Division of Water Resources
EJ	Environmental Justice
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ER	Environmental Report
ESA	Environmental Site Assessment
FRIS	Flood Risk Information System
LID	Low Impact Development
MCC	Montgomery Community College
MCS	Montgomery County Schools
NC	North Carolina
NCDENR	North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NCDEQ	North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
NCDOT	North Carolina Department of Transportation
NCWRC	North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission
NHP	Natural Heritage Program
NNL	National Natural Landmark
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
REC	recognized environmental condition
SR	State Road
STEM	science technology engineering mathematics
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WSS	Web Soil Survey

# New Montgomery County High School Troy, Montgomery County, North Carolina

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Montgomery County (“the County”), North Carolina (NC) is seeking federal funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Rural Development Utilities Service, which requires an Environmental Review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The County will also be required to undergo a permitting process through various agencies during the planning, design, and construction of the proposed project. This Environmental Report has been prepared for Montgomery County and the USDA – Rural Development Utilities Service by Timmons Group for use as supporting documentation for an environmental decision by the USDA and various permitting agencies.

The County through its consulting engineer, Timmons Group, has submitted the project description and supporting documentation through a scoping review process with various state and federal agencies. The environmental report (ER) and the proposed project design have taken into consideration the various concerns from public and regulatory agencies that were expressed through this scoping process. Potential impacts to important environmental resources will be successfully mitigated as described in Section 4.0 of this document.

The body of this ER is divided into four sections: 1) Purposes and Need for the Proposal; 2) Alternatives to the Proposed Action; (3) Affected Environment/ Environmental Consequences; and (4) Summary of Mitigation. Sections 5.0 through the appendices include the inter-agency correspondence, maps, and contact information of the preparers of the ER.

This proposal has been prepared with the purpose of consolidating two (2) existing high schools in Montgomery County into the proposed new high school. The proposed project (Proposed Action) next to the existing Montgomery Community College (MCC) includes the construction of a jointly utilized career and technical center for high school and community college students, a community performing arts auditorium, and modern gymnasiums and athletic facilities. The details of the Proposed Action are described in Section 1.0 of this report.

This ER has been reviewed by USDA – Rural Development.

## **Environmental Report**

### **New Montgomery County High School Troy, Montgomery County, North Carolina USDA – Rural Development**

#### **1.1 PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSAL**

#### **1.2 Project Description (Proposed Action)**

The Proposed Action is to consolidate two (2) existing high schools within Montgomery County, NC by constructing a new high school next to the existing MCC. The proposed project (Proposed Action) includes the construction of a jointly utilized career and technical center for high school and community college students, a community performing arts auditorium, and modern gymnasiums and athletic facilities. The facilities of the Proposed Action were designed to meet the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's guidelines for facility construction, anticipated average daily membership (ADM), and to accommodate the needs of the community and public school and community college boards.

The discussion within section 3.0 (Affected Environment / Environmental Consequences) will address the impacts of the project. The project site and the vicinity is depicted by Maps 1-2 in Appendix 1.

#### **1.3 Purpose and Need of the Proposal**

This proposal has been prepared with the purpose of improving public education and replacing aging facilities with the construction of the new high school and additional facilities. A description of these needs is defined by the following:

##### **1.3.1 Improving Public Education**

Within Montgomery County, only 75% of the population have high school degrees while only 15% have attained a bachelor's degree or higher. Furthermore, 80% of Montgomery County public school students qualify for free or reduced cost lunch and 21% of the population live below the poverty level (Appendix 2).

Although MCC serves the County, post-secondary education remains mostly unattainable for the majority of new high school graduates. This lacking factor negatively impacts those seeking good paying jobs and the County economy.

Based on the previous, Montgomery County created a Joint Education Committee to deliver a beneficial resolution. The committee, while weighing alternatives, decided that the community would benefit from the replacement of the two (2) existing high schools for a new state-of-the-art facility adjacent to MCC on land owned by Montgomery County Schools (MCS). The reasons cited were: 1) increasing the number of students achieving job focused secondary and post-secondary education and 2) producing a more qualified work force aligned with the needs of current and future job markets (Appendix 2).

### **1.3.2 Replacing Aging Facilities**

The two (2) high schools that serve Montgomery County, East Montgomery & West Montgomery, were constructed in 1961. The projected cost of required renovations and modifications to the two (2) high schools would be approximately \$50 million. Based on repair and replacement costs along with today's minimum educational standards and the schools' functionality, a new and larger state-of-the-art facility that is proposed will provide a technology-based culture for instruction and provide a perfect format to implement a rigorous science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) program. The Proposed Action will prepare graduates for the modern local job market and eliminate the current split in funding between the two (2) existing schools.

Additionally, the Proposed Action will provide a new performing arts center for the high school and the entire community.

## **2.1 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION**

The Joint Education Committee completed an Alternative Analysis that was conducted from the spring of 2014 to February of 2015 to decide between renovating the existing high schools or constructing a new consolidated high school. Based on need, the "No Action" alternative was deemed not a consideration. The Committee evaluated existing facilities, identified educational needs and deficiencies, and analyzed fiscal constraints and funding options. Additionally, the committee inspected the existing facilities, interviewed faculty and staff, evaluated academic, extra-curricular, and athletic programs, visited numerous new high school construction and renovation projects across the state, and evaluated fiscal funding models for both existing high school renovations and the construction of a new consolidated high school (i.e., the "Preferred Alternative").

## 2.2 Evaluation of Alternatives

Three (3) alternatives, including the “No Action” alternative, were evaluated to examine the potential of the Proposed Action (Summaries are presented in Table 1).

Using the information in Table 1, the three (3) alternatives were weighted for their benefit of Technical Plausibility, Cost, Addressing the Need, Operating Cost, and Environmental Impacts. Table 1 presents the summary of the alternative evaluation from which Alternative #2 resulted as the Preferred Alternative and the most beneficial option for Montgomery County.

- For Technical Plausibility, the “No Action” alternative and Alternative #1 were given no benefit since existing high schools cannot realistically continue to serve the County for the long term in their current condition. Alternative #2 is technically achievable and will be designed to be modern and durable.
- For Cost considerations, the “No Action” alternative serves no benefit as improvements are desperately needed for the existing high schools. Alternative #1 has a low benefit score as the up-front cost for the renovations to the existing schools is high; approximately \$50 million. Alternative #2 was projected as most expensive; approximately \$69 million (Appendix 2).
- For addressing the need, the “No Action” alternative clearly has the lowest rating for no fulfillment and Alternative #1 will fix the cosmetic issues but does not expand the resources of the community and gets a “no benefit” score. Alternative #2 most accurately addresses the need of the County and will improve the educational resources of the County.
- For operating costs, the “No Action” Alternative and Alternative #1 would be the most expensive because the operation of the existing schools has become increasingly expensive as a result of the outdated nature of the facilities. Once constructed, Alternative #2 will be cheaper to operate based on the energy efficient and state-of-the-art design.
- For Environmental Impacts, the “No Action” alternative and Alternative #1 develop no additional land and therefore are most beneficial. Alternative #2 requires the improvement of approximately 72 acres of forest which is least beneficial.

Through the comparison of benefits contributed by each alternative, Alternative #2 produced the highest score of eight (8) and is the preferred alternative.

**Table 1. Alternatives Evaluated for High School Project - Summary**

<b>Proposed Action Alternatives</b>	<b>NO ACTION</b>	<b>ALTERNATIVE #1</b>	<b>ALTERNATIVE #2 (Preferred Alternative)</b>
<b>Weighting Criteria</b>		<b>Existing High School's Renovations</b>	<b>Construction of New Consolidated High School</b>
Technically Plausible	0	0	3
Cost	1	1	2
Addressed the Need	0	0	3
Operating Costs	2	3	1
Environmental Impacts	3	3	0
	6	7	8
SCORING 0 = LEAST BENEFIT 3 = MOST BENEFIT			



### **3.1 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES**

Potential impacts of the Preferred Alternative are described in this section. Beneficial and adverse effects are discussed, as are direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts that would be expected to occur as a result of the construction of the proposed New Montgomery County High School project. Measures to mitigate the impacts will be discussed lastly for each category.

### **3.2 Land Use/Important Farmland/Formally Classified Lands**

The Proposed Action will be constructed on land owned by the Montgomery County Board of Education, and therefore, no acquisition is necessary.

#### **3.2.1 General Land Use**

The Town of Troy Zoning Ordinance and Montgomery County will allow the Proposed Action given the required permitting is submitted and approved. The Proposed Action is within the Town of Troy and is zoned R15 – Residential. Rezoning may be necessary prior to development.

The Proposed Action will result in the development of approximately 72 acres of forest.

#### **3.2.2 Important Farmland**

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey and associated data was utilized to identify the underlying soil units for the Subject Property within Montgomery County. The major underlying soils are classified as 34 percent (%) Herndon silt loam (8-15% slopes), 22% Georgeville silt loam (2-8% slopes), 16% Herndon silt loam (8-15% slopes, very stony), and 10% Herndon silt loam (15-25% slopes, very stony).

Of all the underlying soils, approximately 22% are characterized as prime farmland and 41% are characterized as farmland of statewide importance (Appendix 3/Figures 1-2). However, the project site is not utilized as farmland. Additionally, an NRCS Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form, (Form AD-1006), was completed and included in Appendix 3/Figure 3.

#### **3.2.3 Formally Classified Lands**

The following information has been gathered with regard to Formally Classified Lands and their occurrence within the project area.

- National Parks and Monuments

The National Park Service web site was searched to identify parks and monuments within Montgomery County ([www.nps.gov/parks.html](http://www.nps.gov/parks.html)). The results indicate that no national parks or monuments occur within the project area.

- National Natural Landmarks

The National Natural Landmarks Map for North Carolina has been reviewed and no National Natural Landmarks (NNL) are located in proximity to the proposed segments of the project (<https://www.nature.nps.gov/nnl/docs/NNLRegistry.pdf>).

- National Battlefield Park Sites

There are no National Battlefield Park sites that will be impacted by the Proposed Action.

- Federal Wilderness Areas

The National Wilderness Preservation System website (<http://www.wilderness.net/map.cfm>) has been reviewed and there are no Wilderness Areas within the project area.

- Wild / Scenic / Recreational Rivers

The National Park Service Wild and Scenic Rivers system shows five (5) resources listed in North Carolina. They include: the Chattooga River, Horsepasture River, New River, Lumber River, and Wilson Creek. None of the listed river reaches are located within the proposed project area ([www.rivers.gov/north-carolina.php](http://www.rivers.gov/north-carolina.php)).

- National Forests

The U.S. Forest Service National Forest Locator Map was reviewed and the proposed project is not located within the limits of a national forest (<http://www.fs.fed.us/locatormap/>). However, the Uwharrie National Forest borders the Site to the south.

- Wildlife Refuges

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) website was searched to identify wildlife refuges in North Carolina. The results indicate that none of the listed North Carolina refuges are located in Montgomery County (<http://www.fws.gov/refuges/refugeLocatorMaps/NorthCarolina.html>).

- National Trails

The National Trails Map has been reviewed and revealed that there are no National Trails in the Montgomery County area (<http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/trails/natltrails.pdf>).

- State Parks and Game Lands

Review of the North Carolina State Parks website located at <http://www.stateparks.com/nc.html> indicated that no state parks are located in the vicinity to the proposed project. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) website for interactive game lands, located at [http://www.ncwildlife.org/Hunting/H\\_Game\\_Land\\_Maps.htm](http://www.ncwildlife.org/Hunting/H_Game_Land_Maps.htm) was likewise searched. No game lands fall within or are in proximity to the proposed project area.

- Native American Lands Administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

Under the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has published its "Tribal Leaders Directory" which provides an updated listing of recognized Native American

Tribes with their corresponding locations and leaders. This listing has been reviewed and no tribes except the Eastern Band of Cherokee are listed for North Carolina. The Cherokee Indian Reservation is located in Western North Carolina and is not within the proposed project area (<http://www.nps.gov/nagpra/DOCUMENTS/ResMAP.HTM>).

### **3.2.4 Affected Environment - Land Use**

The area of the proposed project is shown in Appendix 1/Maps 1-2.

### **3.2.5 Environmental Consequences - Land Use**

The Proposed Action will result in the development of approximately 72 acres of forest.

- Direct Impacts - Land Use

The direct impacts to land use resulting from the proposed project are the loss of approximately 72 acres of forested land required for the construction of the proposed project. No loss of or impact to farmland or protected national/state forests will result from the direct execution of the project.

- Indirect Impacts - Land Use

No indirect impacts to land use are anticipated by the completion of the proposed project.

- Cumulative Impacts - Land Use

No cumulative impacts to land use are anticipated by the completion of the proposed project.

### **3.2.6 Mitigation – Land Use**

The minimal direct impacts resulting from the construction of the proposed project will be mitigated to the maximum extent through project design as well as through erosion control measures and an approved erosion control plan. Since there are small direct impacts, or no significant indirect or cumulative impacts to land use, farmland, general land cover, soils, topography, or formally classified lands anticipated as a result of the proposed project, then no mitigation measures are required.

## **3.3 Floodplains**

The project site is located on the NC Flood Risk Information System (FRIS) maps that identify areas at risk of flooding.

### **3.3.1 Floodplain Information**

Flood risk maps were obtained from the NC FRIS system. The project site was plotted and can be seen in Appendix 3/Figure 4. Those maps show that none of the project area is at risk of flooding nor do any of the project compromise floodways (<http://fris.nc.gov/fris/Home.aspx?ST=NC>).

Response to the Clearinghouse scoping letter from the Division of Emergency Management – Floodplain Management Program resulted in a “No Comment” finding about the potential of the

project affecting floodways or floodplains.

### **3.3.2 Affected Environment – Floodplains**

Floodways or floodplains will not be affected by the construction of the project. This conclusion is substantiated by response of “No Comment” by the Division of Emergency Management – Floodplain Management Program as shown in Section 5.0.

Further, the NCWRC’s response to the scoping document indicate that impacts to wildlife are not anticipated provided that there are no impacts to streams, wetlands, or priority wildlife habitat associated with the project; however, the NCWRC offers several recommendations to minimize impacts to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife resources. See Section 5.0 for a copy of the response from the NCWRC. The importance to maintaining floodways and floodplains for wildlife is equally important as maintaining a watercourse in the event of heavy rains.

### **3.3.3 Environmental Consequences - Floodplains**

- Direct Impacts – Floodplains

No direct impact to floodplains or floodways will result from the construction of the project.

- Indirect Impacts – Floodplains

No indirect impacts to floodplains or floodways will result from the construction of the project.

- Cumulative Impacts – Floodplains

No cumulative impacts to floodplains or floodways will result from the construction of the project.

### **3.3.4 Mitigation – Floodplains**

The implementation of an approved erosion control plan will prevent impacts if a project is to be constructed in the proximity of a floodplain, which is not the case in any segment of the Proposed Action.

## **3.4 Wetlands**

The USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) was used to document any wetland areas on the proposed project.

### **3.4.1 Wetlands Information**

The NWI wetland map for proposed project is presented in Appendix 1/Map 3 (<http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>). No wetland areas are shown on the project site but a stream is shown along the northwestern boundary. Also, the USDA NRCS WSS Hydric Soil rating map depicted that none of the onsite soils are classified as hydric (Appendix 3/Figure 5).

Per the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR)/NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), Fayetteville Regional Office's preliminary scoping comments (Section 5.0), an erosion and sedimentation control plan and 401 Water Quality Certification will be required before construction of the project may begin.

### **3.4.2 Affected Environment – Wetlands**

Wetlands are not encroached upon or altered in any way by the proposed project.

Further, the NCWRC's response to the scoping document indicated that they do not anticipate impacts to wildlife providing that there are no impacts to streams, wetlands, or priority wildlife habitat by the project (see Section 5.0 for a copy of the response from the NCWRC).

### **3.4.3 Environmental Consequences- Wetlands**

- Direct Impacts - Wetlands

No direct impacts to wetlands will result from the proposed project. No area of the project will be constructed in wetlands nor require encroachment into or the modification of wetlands.

- Indirect Impacts - Wetlands

No indirect impacts to wetlands will result from the proposed project.

- Cumulative Impacts - Wetlands

No cumulative impacts to wetlands will result from the proposed project.

### **3.4.4 Mitigation - Wetlands**

The proposed mitigation of direct impacts to wetlands will be to avoid silt transport from erosion caused by the project implementation. An erosion control plan is to be designed, constructed, and maintained for the duration of the project to avoid loose soils from being carried into offsite wetlands or streambeds.

## **3.5 Historic Properties**

Per the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (NCSHPO) HPOWEB system, there are no historically or culturally significant sites on, or within the vicinity of, the project site (<http://gis.ncdcr.gov/hpoweb/>).

### **3.5.1 Historic Property Information**

- Historic Landmarks

Per the NCSHPO HPOWEB system as shown in Appendix 1/Map 4, there are no historically or culturally significant sites on or within the vicinity of the project site (<http://gis.ncdcr.gov/hpoweb/>).

- Visual Aesthetics

Visual aesthetics of historic sites will not be altered in any way by the proposed project.

### 3.5.2 Affected Environment

The project holds no threat to historic resources.

### 3.5.3 Environmental Consequences

- Direct Impacts

No direct impacts will occur to historic resources.

- Indirect Impacts

No indirect impacts will occur to historic resources.

- Cumulative Impacts

No cumulative impacts will occur to historic resources.

### 3.5.4 Mitigation

Mitigation measures are not required because no impacts are anticipated.

## 3.6 Biological Resources

### 3.6.1 Biological Resources Information

Per the USFWS, a list of the threatened and endangered plants, animals, and natural communities in Montgomery County is provided in Appendix 3/Figure 6. In the scoping comments packet, dated July 29, 2016 from the State Clearinghouse (Section 5.0), the NCWRC detailed the presence of several rare and sensitive species and proposed mitigation measures.

- Threatened and Endangered Species

Table 2 on the succeeding page presents a listing of the Endangered Species, Threatened Species, Federal Species of Concern, and Candidate Species for Vertebrates & Invertebrates that could possibly be found in Montgomery County (Appendix 3/Figure 6). Likewise, Table 3 is a listing of the Endangered Species, Threatened Species, Federal Species of Concern, and Candidate Species for Vascular Plants that could possibly be found in Montgomery County (Appendix 3/Figure 6).

Tables 2 and Table 3 list three (3) endangered species (identified with an “E”) possibly found in Montgomery County. A brief description of each of these species follows.

- The **Red-cockaded Woodpecker** (*Picoides borealis*) is on both the federal and state endangered species lists, and is documented as currently present in Montgomery County. [https://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/es\\_red-cockaded\\_woodpecker.html](https://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/es_red-cockaded_woodpecker.html)

- The **Schweinitz's Sunflower** is a federal endangered and state endangered species for North Carolina, and is documented as currently present in Montgomery County. This species is found in the central Piedmont region of North Carolina and South Carolina. [https://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/es\\_schweinitz\\_sunflower.html](https://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/es_schweinitz_sunflower.html)

**Table 2. Endangered Species, Threatened Species, Federal Species of Concern, and Candidate Species, Vertebrates & Invertebrates possibly found in Montgomery County, NC**

Common Name	Scientific name	Federal Status	Record Status
<b>Vertebrate</b>			
American eel	<i>Anguilla rostrate</i>	FSC	Current
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	BGPA	Current
Carolina darter	<i>Etheostoma collis</i>	FSC	Current
Carolina redhorse	<i>Moxostoma sp. 2</i>	FSC	Current
Northern pine snake	<i>Pituophis melanoleucus</i>	FSC	Current
Pinewoods darter	<i>Etheostoma mariae</i>	FSC	Current
Red-cockaded woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	E <sup>(1)</sup>	Current
Sandhills chub	<i>Semotilus lumbee</i>	FSC	Historic
<b>Invertebrate</b>			
Atlantic pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia masoni</i>	FSC	Current
Brook floater	<i>Alasmodonta varicose</i>	FSC	Current
Carolina creekshell	<i>Villosa vaughaniana</i>	FSC	Current
Savannah lilliput	<i>Toxolasma pullus</i>	FSC	Current
Yellow lampmussel	<i>Lampsilis cariosa</i>	FSC	Current

FSC = federal species of concern- a species under consideration for listing, for which there is insufficient information to support listing at this time. E = endangered- a taxon "in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range." BGPA = the bald eagle has been de-listed from the Federal List of Threatened and Endangered Species wildlife but is protected from being disturbed. Source: <http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/cntylist/montgomery.html>

**Table 3. Endangered Species, Threatened Species, Federal Species of Concern, and Candidate Species for Vascular Plants possibly found in Montgomery County, NC**

Common Name	Scientific name	Federal Status	Record Status
Vascular Plant			
Bog oatgrass	<i>Danthonia epilis</i>	FSC	Current
Bog spicebush	<i>Lindera subcoriacea</i>	FSC	Current
Dwarf aster	<i>Eurybia mirabilis</i>	FSC	Current
Georgia aster	<i>Symphyotrichum georgianum</i>	C	Current
Ravine sedge	<i>Carex impressinervia</i>	FSC	Current
Schweinitz's sunflower	<i>Helianthus schweinitzii</i>	E	Current
Smooth coneflower	<i>Echinacea laevigata</i>	E	Historic
Yadkin River goldenrod	<i>Solidago plumose</i>	C	Current

FSC = federal species of concern- a species under consideration for listing, for which there is insufficient information to support listing at this time. E = endangered- a taxon "in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range." C = candidate- a taxon under consideration for official listing for which there is sufficient information to support the listing. Source: <http://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/cntylist/montgomery.html>

- The **Smooth Coneflower** is a federal endangered and state endangered species for North Carolina, and is listed as a historically present species in Montgomery County. [https://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/es\\_smooth\\_coneflower.html](https://www.fws.gov/raleigh/species/es_smooth_coneflower.html)
- Fish, Wildlife, and Vegetation

Table 4 is the Natural Heritage Database Search results of rare plants and animals exemplary or unique natural communities, and important animal assemblages known to the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program to exist within the limits of the Biscoe topographic map in Montgomery County (Appendix 3/Figure 7).

The source of the information is: North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NHP) Online Database Search. 8-8-2016. Available at: [www.ncnhp.org](http://www.ncnhp.org).

**Table 4. Natural Heritage Database Search Results from within the limits of the Biscoe topographic map in Montgomery County, NC**

TAXONOMIC GROUP	COMMON NAME	STATE STATUS	FEDERAL STATUS
Freshwater Bivalve	Triangle Floater	T	
Vascular Plant	Prairie Blue Wild Indigo	E	
Natural Community	Dry Oak – Hickory Forest		
Natural Community	Dry-Mesic Oak – Hickory Forest		
Freshwater Fish	Carolina Darter	SC	FSC
Vascular Plant	Cumberland Spurge	SC-V	
Vascular Plant	Schweinitz's Sunflower	E	E
Freshwater Bivalve	Yellow Lampmussel	E	FSC
Freshwater Bivalve	Eastern Lampmussel	T	
Natural Community	Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest		
Freshwater Fish	Carolina Redhorse	T	FSC
Natural Community	Piedmont Headwater Stream Forest		



Reptile	Northern Pinesnake	SC	FSC
Vascular Plant	Western Rough Goldenrod	E	
Freshwater Bivalve	Creeper	T	
Natural Community	Upland Depression Swamp Forest		
Freshwater Bivalve	Notched Rainbow	SC	
Freshwater Bivalve	Eastern Creekshell	SR	
Freshwater Bivalve	Carolina Creekshell	E	FSC

Additionally, an USFWS Official Species List report was completed for the project area. The report did not identify any additional threatened or endangered species and did not identify any designated critical habitat on the project site (Appendix 3/Figure 8).

### 3.6.2 Affected Environment

The affected environment of the project will be the modification of 72 acres of currently unoccupied, forest land.

### 3.6.3 Environmental Consequences - Biological Resources

The Proposed Action may result in the loss of habitat and space beneficial to biological resources while the proposed project aims to not impact any wetland areas.

- Direct Impacts - Biological Resources

As pointed out by the NCWRC in their response to scoping request, NCWRC details the presence of freshwater mussels downstream from the project site (Section 5.0).

- Indirect Impacts - Biological Resources

Indirect impacts to biological resources should not occur as a result of the project.

- Cumulative Impacts - Biological Resources

Cumulative impacts to biological resources should not occur as a result of the project.

### 3.6.4 Mitigation- Biological Resources

To minimize the potential disturbance to the identified rare and sensitive species, NCWRC recommends the following (Section 5.0):

- Maintaining a 100-foot undisturbed, native, forested buffer along perennial streams, and a minimum 50-foot buffer along intermittent streams and wetlands.
- Reducing stormwater runoff by reducing impervious surfaces and increasing infiltration by using Low Impact Development (LID) techniques like permeable pavement(s) and bio-retention areas that can collect stormwater.

- Re-seed disturbed areas with seed mixtures that are beneficial to wildlife. Using native species should reduce the need for water, fertilizers, and pesticides.
- If pesticides or chemicals will be used for site maintenance, stormwater runoff should be funneled to bio-retention areas prior to discharge to streams or wetlands.
- Sediment and erosion control measures should be installed prior to any land-disturbing activity, and using biodegradable and wildlife-friendly sediment and erosion control devices is strongly recommended.

An approved and permitted erosion and sediment control plan approved by NCDENR/NCDEQ – Division of Energy, Mineral and Land Resources (DEMLR) will be an integral part of the project. The erosion control plan is designed explicitly to stop or limit sediment pollution to streams and wetlands.

The 401 Water Quality Certification review, as specified by the NCDENR/NCDEQ – Department of Water Resources (DWR) Fayetteville Regional Office, will make certain that impacts to streams and wetlands is avoided by the project design.

### **3.7 Water Quality Issues**

#### **3.7.1 Water Quality Issues Information**

The groundwater on the project site is generally expected to flow to the north toward Spencer Branch and to the east toward Densons Creek. Spencer Branch empties into Densons Creek which in turn empties into the Little River which is approximately one (1) mile to the southeast of the proposed project (Appendix 1/Maps 1-3). The topography of the project site is sloping to the north and east with approximate elevations varying from 590 to 450 feet above mean sea level.

The project site, which is located in the Town of Troy in Montgomery County, will receive potable water from the Montgomery County transmission system via the water treatment facility located at 724 Hydro Road in Mt. Gilead, NC. The water source of the Montgomery County transmission system is Lake Tillery which feeds over 5,000 individually metered customers among all five (5) towns in the County (including Troy).

- Ground Water

Depth to groundwater beneath the project site is unknown and wells will not be utilized to gain groundwater data for project use.

- Surface Water

Barring the one (1) stream that extends along the northwestern property boundary of the project

site, no surface waters are present.

### **3.7.2 Affected Environment - Water Quality**

No aspect of the project will alter the quality of the ground waters in the area, nor will the project affect the surface water from which the water supply is drawn.

### **3.7.3 Environmental Consequences - Water Quality**

- Direct Impacts- Water Quality

Land disturbing activities on the project site may lead to sediment travelling into nearby surface waters.

- Indirect Impacts - Water Quality

Indirect negative impacts to water quality are not anticipated to occur as a result of the project.

- Cumulative Impacts - Water Quality

Cumulative negative impacts are not anticipated to occur as a result of the project.

### **3.7.4 Mitigation - Water Quality**

Mitigative measures to benefit water quality are the requirement of having an approved erosion control plan prior to the start of construction. All precautions will be taken to ensure the aquifers or surface waters will not be contaminated during construction.

## **3.8 Coastal Resources**

Montgomery County is not defined as a coastal county by the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act or the North Carolina Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA). As such, there are no coastal issues or impacts to be addressed as a result of this project.

## **3.9 Socio-Economic/Environmental Justice Issues**

As a result of Executive Order 12989, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations”, and USDA RD 5600-2 “Environmental Justice”, projects funded by rural development must include an assessment of the socio-economic and environmental justice impacts.

None of the project segments is intended to benefit one group of individuals more than another. The approach of the Proposed Action is to benefit students in Montgomery County and the Montgomery County community as a whole. To substantiate this finding, an “Environmental Justice and Civil Rights Impact Analysis Certification” (EJ and CRIA) was completed by the USDA-Rural Development Office. This analysis resulted in the conclusion for the proposed project that “no major EJ or civil rights impact is likely to result if the proposal is implemented”. This analysis

and the accompanying certification are included in Section 5.0.

### 3.9.1 Affected Environment - Socio-Economic/Environmental Justice

To explore what impact the proposed project could have on minority and low-income populations, the existence of all minority and low-income populations within or in proximity to the project area must be identified and documented.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) EJSCREEN Census 2010 Summary Report was utilized to find census data for a two (2) mile radius around the project site in Montgomery County. The two (2) mile radius shows the affected area of the project site as a subpopulation of the County. The data was compiled to accompany the EJ and CRIA Certification in Section 5.0 with further details in Table 5.

The population within the two (2) mile radius of the project site is approximately 2,422 of which 35% is classified as minority and approximately 4-9% are living below the poverty income level (Section 5.0).

**Table 5. Population - Demographics for the Two (2) Mile Radius of the Project Site in Montgomery County, NC**

<i>Statistic (2010 Census)</i>	<i>2-mile Search Radius Montgomery County</i>
Population	2,422
Minority Population	854
Percentage of Population that identifies as Minority	35%
White persons (%)	67%
Black or African American persons (%)	27%
American Indian persons (%)	1%
Asian persons (%)	1%
Pacific Islander (%)	0%
Other race (%)	3%
Two or more races (%)	1%
Total Non-Hispanic (%)	95%
Total Hispanic (%)	5%
Households	701
Persons below poverty (%)	4-9%

The Proposed Action is expected to benefit the vast majority of the local community. As a result of the proposed project, benefits to the community include: modern resources and facilities for students, more accessibility to higher education and the job market, and job creation. Also, the modern facilities will provide a center for community engagement, modern learning, and social growth.

### **3.9.2 Environmental Consequences - Socio-Economic/Environmental Justice**

Environmental consequences as they relate to socio-economic and environmental justice issues could impose disproportionately high adverse human health or environmental effects upon minority or low-income populations as a result of the project.

- Direct Impacts - Socio-Economic/Environmental Justice

As shown in the EJ and CRIA Certification in Section 5.0, direct negative impacts are not anticipated to occur as a consequence of the Proposed Action.

- Indirect Impacts - Socio-Economic/Environmental Justice

No indirect negative impacts to Socio-Economic/Environmental Justice features will occur as a result of project implementation.

- Cumulative Impacts - Socio-Economic/Environmental Justice

No cumulative negative impacts to Socio-Economic/Environmental Justice features will occur as a result of project implementation.

### **3.9.3 Mitigation - Socio-Economic/Environmental Justice**

The construction of the proposed project will not have any negative environmental justice or civil rights impacts; therefore, mitigation is not necessary.

## **3.10 Miscellaneous Issues**

### **3.10.1 Air Quality**

Per the scoping document in Section 5.0, the State of North Carolina Division of Air Quality (DAQ) had no comment about the proposed project and makes no recommendations. Also, per the EPA, Montgomery County is not identified as a nonattainment or maintenance area for all criteria pollutants as of June 17, 2016.

### **3.10.2 Transportation**

Transportation issues are not expected to be a concern as the proposed project is not expected to cause disruptions to major transportation avenues within the project area (i.e. disruption of normal traffic flow, increased probability of accidents as a result of construction, or the proximity of project components to transportation facilities).

However, the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has detailed three (3) roadways nearby that could be impacted by the proposed project (Section 5.0). The three (3) roadways are: Glenn Road (State Road [SR] 1324), Page Street (SR 1332), and NC 24/27, which are all included in the Town of Troy Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

### 3.10.3 Noise

Other than the temporary impact from construction activities, the proposed project is not anticipated to adversely impact the surrounding area with increased noise levels. Regardless, site activity will occur during daylight hours.

### 3.10.4 Introduction of Toxic Substances

Per the Clearinghouse Responses in Section 5.0, the Solid Waste Section of the NCDEQ Department of Waste Management sees no adverse impact on the surrounding community nor any situations in the community that would affect the proposed project from a solid waste perspective. The Solid Waste Section does recommend the following:

- Every effort must be taken during construction to minimize the generation of solid waste including the segregation of recyclable materials from the waste stream.
- An approved disposal facility must be used for the offsite disposal of solid wastes from the proposed project. The nearest permitted facility to the Proposed Action is the Uwharrie Environmental Regional MSW lined landfill in Mt. Gilead, NC.
- Any onsite contractor should be able to provide proof of proper disposal for all generated waste(s).

## 4.1 SUMMARY OF MITIGATION

The primary mitigation measures necessitated by the Proposed Action are a product of razing approximately 72 acres of forest. While the project site is not protected national or state forest, the wetland and stream areas near the project site could serve as potential habitat for rare and sensitive aquatic species.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be utilized continuously to ensure protection from sedimentation associated with surface erosion. Erosion and sedimentation controls will be installed, maintained, and repaired when damaged prior to and during construction.

Furthermore, the Montgomery County zoning ordinance provides mitigation measures applicable to development in the area. The ordinance can be obtained from Montgomery County and downloaded from: [http://www.montgomerycountync.com/sites/default/files/planning/documents/2014\\_07/ZoningOrdinance2.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountync.com/sites/default/files/planning/documents/2014_07/ZoningOrdinance2.pdf).

## 4.2 LAND USE

The minimal direct impacts resulting from project implementation will be mitigated as much as possible by project design as well as through erosion control measures and an approved erosion

control plan. Since the proposed project is anticipated to produce small direct and/or no significant indirect or cumulative impacts to land use, farmland, general land cover, soils, topography, or formally classified lands, corresponding mitigation measures will not be required.

#### **4.3 FLOODPLAINS**

The implementation of an approved erosion control plan is designed to minimize or altogether prevent impacts for a project implemented in proximity to a floodplain, which is not the case in any segment of the Proposed Action.

#### **4.4 WETLANDS**

The intent of mitigating direct impacts to wetlands is to avoid siltation resulting from surface erosion. An erosion control plan is to be designed, constructed, and maintained for the duration of the project to avoid loose soils from being carried into offsite wetlands or streambeds.

#### **4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Mitigation measures are not required based on the absence of anticipated impacts.

#### **4.6 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

To minimize the potential disturbance to the identified rare and sensitive species, NCWRC recommends the following (Section 5.0):

- Maintaining a 100-foot undisturbed, native, forested buffer along perennial streams, and a minimum 50-foot buffer along intermittent streams and wetlands.
- Reducing stormwater runoff by reducing impervious surfaces and increasing infiltration by using LID techniques like permeable pavement and bio-retention areas that can collect stormwater.
- Re-seed disturbed areas with seed mixtures that are beneficial to wildlife. Using native species should reduce the need for water, fertilizers, and pesticides.
- If pesticides or chemicals will be used for site maintenance, stormwater runoff should be funneled to bio-retention areas prior to discharge to streams or wetlands.

- Sediment and erosion control measures should be installed prior to any land-disturbing activity, and using biodegradable and wildlife-friendly sediment and erosion control devices is strongly recommended.

An approved and permitted erosion and sediment control plan approved by NCDENR/NCDEQ – DEMLR will be an integral part of the project. The erosion control plan is designed explicitly to stop or limit sediment pollution to streams and wetlands.

## **4.7 WATER QUALITY**

Mitigative measures to benefit water quality are the requirement of having an approved erosion control plan prior to project implementation. Furthermore, the 401 certification required for the project will ensure that measures are taken to not cause any water contamination from sediments or pollutants. All precautions will be taken to ensure the aquifers or surface waters will not be contaminated during construction.

## **4.8 COASTAL ISSUES**

No mitigation is required.

## **4.9 SOCIO ECONOMIC ISSUES / ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES**

The implementation of the proposed project will not have any negative environmental justice or civil rights impacts; therefore, mitigation is not required.

## **4.10 MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES**

### **4.10.1 Air Quality**

Per the scoping document in Section 5.0, the NC DAQ had no comment about the proposed project and makes no recommendations. The onsite Contractor will be required to keep dust to a minimum or offer complete abatement.

### **4.10.2 Transportation**

Transportation issues are not expected to be a concern as the proposed project will not cause disruptions to major transportation avenues within the project area.

### **4.10.3 Noise**

Other than the temporary impact from construction activities, the proposed project is not anticipated to adversely impact noise levels in the area. But project activity will be scheduled for the daylight hours.



## **5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL RISK MANAGEMENT**

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was completed by Timmons Group and was published on May 18, 2016. The assessment was performed to evaluate the presence of recognized environmental conditions (RECs) on the project site and adjoining properties. RECs were not identified for the site and Timmons Group recommended no further action to satisfy due diligence requirements.

## **6.1 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS SECTION**

Cumulative environmental effect resulting from the proposed project, which will occur regardless of mitigation actions, is as follows: the razing of approximately 72 acres of forest.

## **LIST OF PREPARERS**

### Timmons Group – Environmental Services

- **Chase Farnsworth IV – Environmental Scientist I**  
B.S. Environmental Science, 2013, Virginia Commonwealth University  
Years Professional Experience: 3
- **John T. Russell, AIPG CPG – Senior Environmental Project Manager**  
M.S. Geology, 1994, Old Dominion University  
B.S. Geology, 1988, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Years Professional Experience: 24

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Correspondence 1. Clearinghouse Packet Cover Letter
- Correspondence 2. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service
- Correspondence 3. NC Wildlife Resources Commission, page 1
- Correspondence 4. NC Wildlife Resources Commission, page 2
- Correspondence 5. Division of Waste Management
- Correspondence 6. Division of Waste Management, Solid Waste Section
- Correspondence 7. Intergovernmental Review – Fayetteville Regional Office, page 1
- Correspondence 8. Intergovernmental Review – Fayetteville Regional Office, page 2
- Correspondence 9. Intergovernmental Review – NC Department of Transportation
- Correspondence 10. NC Department of Transportation, page 1
- Correspondence 11. NC Department of Transportation, page 2
- Correspondence 12. Intergovernmental Review – Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management
- Correspondence 13. EJ and CRIA Certification Form
- Correspondence 14. EPA EJSCREEN Census 2010 Summary Report
- Correspondence 15. EPA EJSCREEN Households below Poverty Line Map
- Correspondence 16. EPA EJSCREEN Percentage Minority Population Map
- Correspondence 17. Historical Topographic Map
- Correspondence 18. USFWS NWI Map



Kathryn Johnston  
*Secretary*

J. Brian Ratledge  
*General Counsel*

July 29, 2016

Mr. Matthew Woodard  
Montgomery County  
Post Office Box 425  
Troy, North Carolina 27371

**Re: SCH File # 17-E-0000-0019; SCOPING; Proposed project is for the construction of a new high school in Troy to consolidate two existing high schools.**

Dear Mr. Woodard:

The above referenced environmental impact information has been submitted to the State Clearinghouse under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act. According to G.S. 113A-10, when a state agency is required to prepare an environmental document under the provisions of federal law, the environmental document meets the provisions of the State Environmental Policy Act. Attached to this letter for your consideration are comments made by the agencies in the course of this review.

If any further environmental review documents are prepared for this project, they should be forwarded to this office for intergovernmental review.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

  
Crystal Best

State Environmental Review Clearinghouse

Attachments  
cc: Region G




PAT MCCRORY  
*Governor*

DONALD R. VAN DER VAART  
*Secretary*

MEMORANDUM

To: Crystal Best  
State Clearinghouse Coordinator  
Department of Administration

From: Lyn Hardison   
Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service  
Environmental Assistance and Project Review Coordinator

RE: 17-0019  
Scoping – Proposed project is for the construction of a new high school in Troy to  
consolidate two existing high schools  
Montgomery County

Date: July 28, 2016

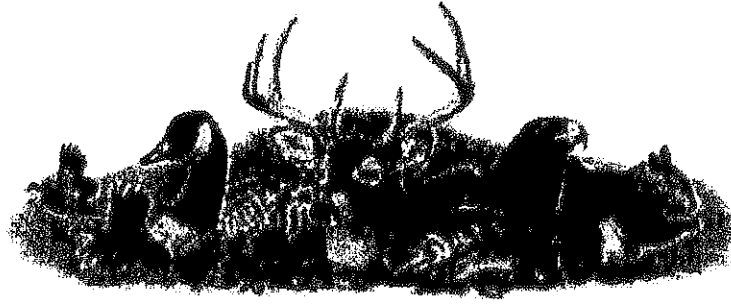
The Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the proposal for the referenced project. Based on the information provided, several of our agencies have identified permits that may be required and offered some guidance to minimize impacts to the natural resources within the project area. The comments are attached for the applicant's review.

The Department agencies will continue to be available to assist the applicant through any environmental review or permitting processes.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Attachments





## ☒ North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission ☒

Gordon Myers, Executive Director

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Lyn Hardison, Environmental Assistance Coordinator  
NCDEQ Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Services

FROM: Gabriela Garrison  
Eastern Piedmont Coordinator  
Habitat Conservation *Gabriela Garrison*

DATE: July 25, 2016

SUBJECT: Request for Environmental Scoping for the Construction of a New High School in Troy, Montgomery County, DEQ Project No. 17-0019.

Biologists with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) have reviewed the subject document. Comments are provided in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661-667e), North Carolina Environmental Policy Act (G.S. 113A-1 through 113A-10; 1 NCAC 25) and North Carolina General Statutes (G.S. 113-131 et seq.).

Montgomery County proposes to construct a centrally located high school and associated infrastructure in a 72-acre area adjacent to the Montgomery Community College. The area is located north of the intersection of Paige Street and Biscoe Road, east of Troy.

Aerial maps and images indicate Densons Creek flows north of the project site. There are records for the following freshwater mussels in the Little River, downstream of the project site: the federal species of concern and state-endangered, Carolina creekshell (*Villosa vaughaniana*) and yellow lampmussel (*Lampsilis cariosa*); the state-threatened, eastern lampmussel (*Lampsilis radiata*), Carolina fatmucket (*Lampsilis radiata conspicua*), creeper (*Strophitus undulatus*) and triangle floater (*Alasmidonta undulata*); the state-special concern, notched rainbow (*Villosa constricta*); and the state-significantly rare, eastern creekshell (*Villosa delumbis*). Due to the presence of these rare and sensitive species, it is important to minimize disturbance, protect water quality and enhance habitat. The NCWRC offers the following general recommendations to minimize impacts to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife resources.

1. Maintain a minimum 100-foot undisturbed, native, forested buffer along perennial streams, and a minimum 50-foot buffer along intermittent streams and wetlands. Maintaining undisturbed, forested buffers along these areas will minimize impacts to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife resources. Wide riparian buffers are helpful in maintaining stream bank stability. In addition, these buffers provide a travel corridor for wildlife species.
2. Stormwater runoff to receiving surface waters can be minimized by reducing impervious surfaces and increasing infiltration on site using Low Impact Development (LID) techniques.

---

**Mailing Address:** Habitat Conservation Division • 1721 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1721  
**Telephone:** (919) 707-0220 • **Fax:** (919) 707-0028

July 25, 2016  
Construct Troy High School  
DEQ Project No. 17-0019

LID techniques appropriate for this project may include permeable pavement and bioretention areas that can collect stormwater from the parking areas. Additional alternatives include narrower roads, swales versus curbs/gutters and permeable surfaces such as turf stone, brick and cobblestone.

3. Re-seed disturbed areas with seed mixtures that are beneficial to wildlife. Avoid fescue-based mixtures as fescue is invasive and provides little benefit to wildlife. A list of wildlife-friendly plants is available upon request. In addition, the use of non-invasive, native species is recommended. Using native species instead of ornamentals should reduce the need for water, fertilizers and pesticides.
4. If pesticides or chemicals will be used for site maintenance, stormwater runoff from the site should be funneled to bio-retention areas prior to discharge to streams or wetlands. Pesticides, fertilizers and other chemicals should not be used near streams.
5. Sediment and erosion control measures should be installed prior to any land-disturbing activity. The use of biodegradable and wildlife-friendly sediment and erosion control devices is strongly recommended. Silt fencing, fiber rolls and/or other products should have loose-weave netting that is made of natural fiber materials with movable joints between the vertical and horizontal twines. Silt fencing that has been reinforced with plastic or metal mesh should be avoided as it impedes the movement of terrestrial wildlife species. Excessive silt and sediment loads can have detrimental effects on aquatic resources including destruction of spawning habitat, suffocation of eggs and clogging of gills.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this project. If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at (910) 409-7350 or [gabriela.garrison@ncwildlife.org](mailto:gabriela.garrison@ncwildlife.org).



Waste Management  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PAT MCCRORY

*Director*

DONALD R. VAN DER VAART

*Secretary*

MICHAEL SCOTT

*Director*

Date: July 21, 2016

To: Michael Scott, Director  
Division of Waste Management

Through: Dave Lown, Head  
Federal Remediation Branch

From: Melanie Bartlett, Federal Remediation Branch

Subject: NEPA Project #17-0019, Construction of a new high school, Montgomery County, North Carolina

A review of the proximity of the construction of a new high school to CERCLIS and other sites under the jurisdiction of the Superfund Section has been completed. Under the proposed project, a new centrally located high school would be built in Troy beside the Montgomery Community College to consolidate and replace two existing high schools.

No sites were identified within a 1-mile radius of the proposed project. Please contact me at 919.707.8373 if you have any questions.





Waste Management  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

PAT MCCRORY

*Secretary*

DONALD R. VAN DER VAART

*Secretary*

MICHAEL SCOTT

*Director*

DATE: July 26, 2016

TO: Michael Scott, Division Director through Sharon Brinkley

FROM: Deb Aja, Western District Supervisor - Solid Waste Section

RE: SEPA Review Project #17-0019 Montgomery County, N.C.  
Montgomery County New High School Project

*Deborah Aja*

Digitally signed by  
Deborah Aja  
DN: cn=Deborah Aja,  
o=Solid Waste Section, ou=  
email=deborah.aj@ncden  
r.gov, c=US  
Date: 2016.07.26 07:30:06  
-0400

The Solid Waste Section has reviewed the Environmental Scoping document for the proposed project to construct a new high school to consolidate two existing high schools in Troy, Montgomery County, North Carolina. The review has been completed and has seen no adverse impact on the surrounding community and likewise knows of no situations in the community, which would affect this project from a solid waste perspective.

During construction, every feasible effort should be made to minimize the generation of waste, to recycle materials for which viable markets exist, and to use recycled products and materials in the development of this project where suitable. Any waste generated by this project that cannot be beneficially reused or recycled must be disposed of at a solid waste management facility approved to manage the respective waste type. The Section strongly recommends that any contractors are required to provide proof of proper disposal for all waste generated as part of the project. The nearest permitted facility to the project is the Uwharrie Environmental Regional MSW lined landfill, Mount Gilead, North Carolina.

Please contact Teresa Bradford, Environmental Senior Specialist, for with any questions regarding solid waste. Ms. Bradford may be reached at (704) 235-2160 or by email at [teresa.bradford@ncdenr.gov](mailto:teresa.bradford@ncdenr.gov).

Cc: Jason Watkins, Field Operations Branch Head  
Teresa Bradford, Environmental Senior Specialist  
Sarah Rice, Compliance Officer

State of North Carolina  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW - PROJECT COMMENTS

Reviewing Office: FRO

Project Number 17-0019 Due Date: 7/25/2016  
County MONTGOMERY

After review of this project it has been determined that the ENR permit(s) and/or approvals indicated may need to be obtained in order for this project to comply with North Carolina Law. Questions regarding these permits should be addressed to the Regional Office indicated on the reverse of the form. All applications, information and guidelines relative to these plans and permits are available from the same Regional Office.

	PERMITS	SPECIAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES or REQUIREMENTS	Normal Process Time (statutory time limit)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Permit to construct & operate wastewater treatment facilities, sewer system extensions & sewer systems not discharging into state surface waters.	Application 90 days before begin construction or award of construction contracts. On-site inspection. Post-application technical conference usual.	30 days (90 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	NPDES - permit to discharge into surface water and/or permit to operate and construct wastewater facilities discharging into state surface waters.	Application 180 days before begin activity. On-site inspection. Pre-application conference usual. Additionally, obtain permit to construct wastewater treatment facility-granted after NPDES. Reply time, 30 days after receipt of plans or issue of NPDES permit-whichever is later.	90-120 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Water Use Permit	Pre-application technical conference usually necessary	30 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Well Construction Permit	Complete application must be received and permit issued prior to the installation of a well.	7 days (15 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dredge and Fill Permit	Application copy must be served on each adjacent riparian property owner. On-site inspection. Pre-application conference usual. Filling may require Easement to Fill from N.C. Department of Administration and Federal Dredge and Fill Permit.	55 days (90 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to construct & operate Air Pollution Abatement facilities and/or Emission Sources as per 15 A NCAC (2Q.0100 thru 2Q.0300)	Application must be submitted and permit received prior to construction and operation of the source. If a permit is required in an area without local zoning, then there are additional requirements and timelines (2Q.0113).	90 days
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to construct & operate Transportation Facility as per 15A NCAC (2D.0800, 2Q.0601)	Application must be submitted at least 90 days prior to construction or modification of the source.	90 days
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any open burning associated with subject proposal must be in compliance with 15 A NCAC 2D.1900	N/A	60 days (90 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Demolition or renovations of structures containing asbestos material must be in compliance with 15 A NCAC 20.1110 (a) (1) which requires notification and removal prior to demolition. Contact Asbestos Control Group 919-707-5950.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complex Source Permit required under 15 A NCAC 2D.0800		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973 must be properly addressed for any land disturbing activity. An erosion & sedimentation control plan will be required if one or more acres to be disturbed. Plan filed with proper Regional Office (Land Quality Section) At least 30 days before beginning activity. A fee of \$65 for the first acre or any part of an acre. An express review option is available with additional fees.		20 days (30 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sedimentation and erosion control must be addressed in accordance with NCDOT's approved program. Particular attention should be given to design and installation of appropriate perimeter sediment trapping devices as well as stable stormwater conveyances and outlets.		(30 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mining Permit	On-site inspection usual. Surety bond filed with ENR Bond amount varies with type mine and number of acres of affected land. Any acre mined greater than one acre must be permitted. The appropriate bond must be received before the permit can be issued.	30 days (60 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	North Carolina Burning permit	On-site inspection by N.C. Division Forest Resources if permit exceeds 4 days	1 day (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Ground Clearance Burning Permit - 22 counties in coastal N.C. with organic soils	On-site inspection by N.C. Division Forest Resources required "if more than five acres of ground clearing activities are involved. Inspections should be requested at least ten days before actual burn is planned."	1 day (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oil Refining Facilities	N/A	90-120 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dam Safety Permit	If permit required, application 60 days before begin construction. Applicant must hire N.C. qualified engineer to: prepare plans, inspect construction, certify construction is according to ENR approved plans. May also require permit under mosquito control program. And a 404 permit from Corps of Engineers. An inspection of site is necessary to verify Hazard Classification. A minimum fee of \$200.00 must accompany the application. An additional processing fee based on a percentage of the total project cost will be required upon completion.	30 days (60 days)

February 11, 2015

County <u>MONTGOMERY</u>		Project Number: <u>17-0019</u>	Due Date: <u>7/25/2016</u>	Normal Process Time (statutory time limit)
PERMITS		SPECIAL APPLICATION PROCEDURES or REQUIREMENTS		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permit to drill exploratory oil or gas well	File surety bond of \$5,000 with ENR running to State of NC conditional that any well opened by drill operator shall, upon abandonment, be plugged according to ENR rules and regulations.		10 days N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geophysical Exploration Permit	Application filed with ENR at least 10 days prior to issue of permit. Application by letter. No standard application form.		10 days N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Lakes Construction Permit	Application fee based on structure size is charged. Must include descriptions & drawings of structure & proof of ownership of riparian property.		15-20 days N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	401 Water Quality Certification	N/A		60 days (130 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	CAMA Permit for MAJOR development	\$250.00 fee must accompany application		55 days (150 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	CAMA Permit for MINOR development	\$50.00 fee must accompany application		22 days (25 days)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Several geodetic monuments are located in or near the project area. If any monument needs to be moved or destroyed, please notify: N.C. Geodetic Survey, Box 27687 Raleigh, NC 27611			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Abandonment of any wells, if required must be in accordance with Title 15A. Subchapter 2C.0100.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Notification of the proper regional office is requested if "orphan" underground storage tanks (USTS) are discovered during any excavation operation.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Compliance with 15A NCAC 2H 1000 (Coastal Stormwater Rules) is required.			45 days (N/A)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catawba, Jordan Lake, Randalman, Tar Pamlico or Neuse Riparian Buffer Rules required.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plans and specifications for the construction, expansion, or alteration of a public water system must be approved by the Division of Water Resources/Public Water Supply Section prior to the award of a contract or the initiation of construction as per 15A NCAC 18C .0300 et. seq. Plans and specifications should be submitted to 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1634. All public water supply systems must comply with state and federal drinking water monitoring requirements. For more information, contact the Public Water Supply Section, (919) 707-9100.			30 days
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If existing water lines will be relocated during the construction, plans for the water line relocation must be submitted to the Division of Water Resources/Public Water Supply Section at 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1634. For more information, contact the Public Water Supply Section, (919) 707-9100.			30 days

Other comments (attach additional pages as necessary, being certain to cite comment authority)

Division	Initials	No comment	Comments	Date Review
DAQ	GWR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		7/19/16
DWR-WQROS (Aquifer & Surface)	BSH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		/ / 7/18/16
DWR-PWS	WC	<input type="checkbox"/>	See boxes checked above.	7/18/16
DEMLR (LQ & SW)	LHB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		7/18/16
DWM - UST	KEC	<input type="checkbox"/>	The UST Section, Fayetteville Regional Office, does not have record of a reported release of petroleum at the parcel identified for this docket number, nor are there any records of registered USTs.	7/18/16

### REGIONAL OFFICES

Questions regarding these permits should be addressed to the Regional Office marked below.

☐ **Asheville Regional Office**  
2090 US Highway 70  
Swannanoa, NC 28778  
(828) 296-4500

☐ **Mooreville Regional Office**  
610 East Center Avenue, Suite 301  
Mooreville, NC 28115  
(704) 663-1699

☐ **Wilmington Regional Office**  
127 Cardinal Drive Extension  
Wilmington, NC 28405  
(910) 796-7215

☐ **Fayetteville Regional Office**  
225 North Green Street, Suite 714  
Fayetteville, NC 28301-5043  
(910) 433-3300

☐ **Raleigh Regional Office**  
3800 Barrett Drive, Suite 101  
Raleigh, NC 27609  
(919) 791-4200

☐ **Winston-Salem Regional Office**  
450 West Hanes Mill Road, Suite 300  
Winston-Salem, NC 27105  
(336) 771-9800

☐ **Washington Regional Office**  
943 Washington Square Mall  
Washington, NC 27889  
(252) 946-6481

MIKE

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Wayne Davis

COUNTY: MONTGOMERY

B03: SCHOOLS (PRIMARY/SECONDARY)

STATE NUMBER: 17-E-4300-0019

DATE RECEIVED: 07/11/2016

AGENCY RESPONSE: 07/25/2016

REVIEW CLOSED: 07/28/2016

MS CARRIE ATKINSON  
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR  
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION  
STATEWIDE PLANNING - MSC #1554  
RALEIGH NC

**REVIEW DISTRIBUTION**

DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
DEPT OF NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCE  
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DNCR - DIV OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
PIEDMONT TRIAD REGIONAL COUNCIL

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

APPLICANT: Montgomery County  
TYPE: National Environmental Policy Act  
Scoping

DESC: Proposed project is for the construction of a new high school in Troy to consolidate two existing high schools.

The attached project has been submitted to the N. C. State Clearinghouse for intergovernmental review. Please review and submit your response by the above indicated date to 1301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1301.

If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.

AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: ☐ NO COMMENT ☒ COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY:

Michael Abney

DATE:

7/19/16






PAT McCrory  
*Governor*

NICHOLAS J. TENNYSON  
*Secretary*

July 19, 2016

## MEMORANDUM

To: Jeanetta Furney  
NC Clearing House  
Administrative Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room #5026

From: Michael Abuya, EIT   
Transportation Engineer  
Transportation Planning Branch

Subject: Review of 17-E-4600-0019  
New High School in Troy, Montgomery County

The proposed project is located in the Town of Troy, Montgomery County. Roadway facilities, which may be impacted by the proposed project and are part of the current Town of Troy Comprehensive Transportation Plan includes:

- Glenn Road (SR 1324) Major Thoroughfare
- Page Street (SR 1332) Major Thoroughfare
- NC 24/27 Major Thoroughfare/Expressway

The Town of Troy CTP can also be viewed at:

[https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/TPBCTP/Troy/Troy\\_HighwayMap.pdf](https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning/TPBCTP/Troy/Troy_HighwayMap.pdf)

Attachment



# Highway Map

## Town of Troy

### Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Plan date: November 9, 2005

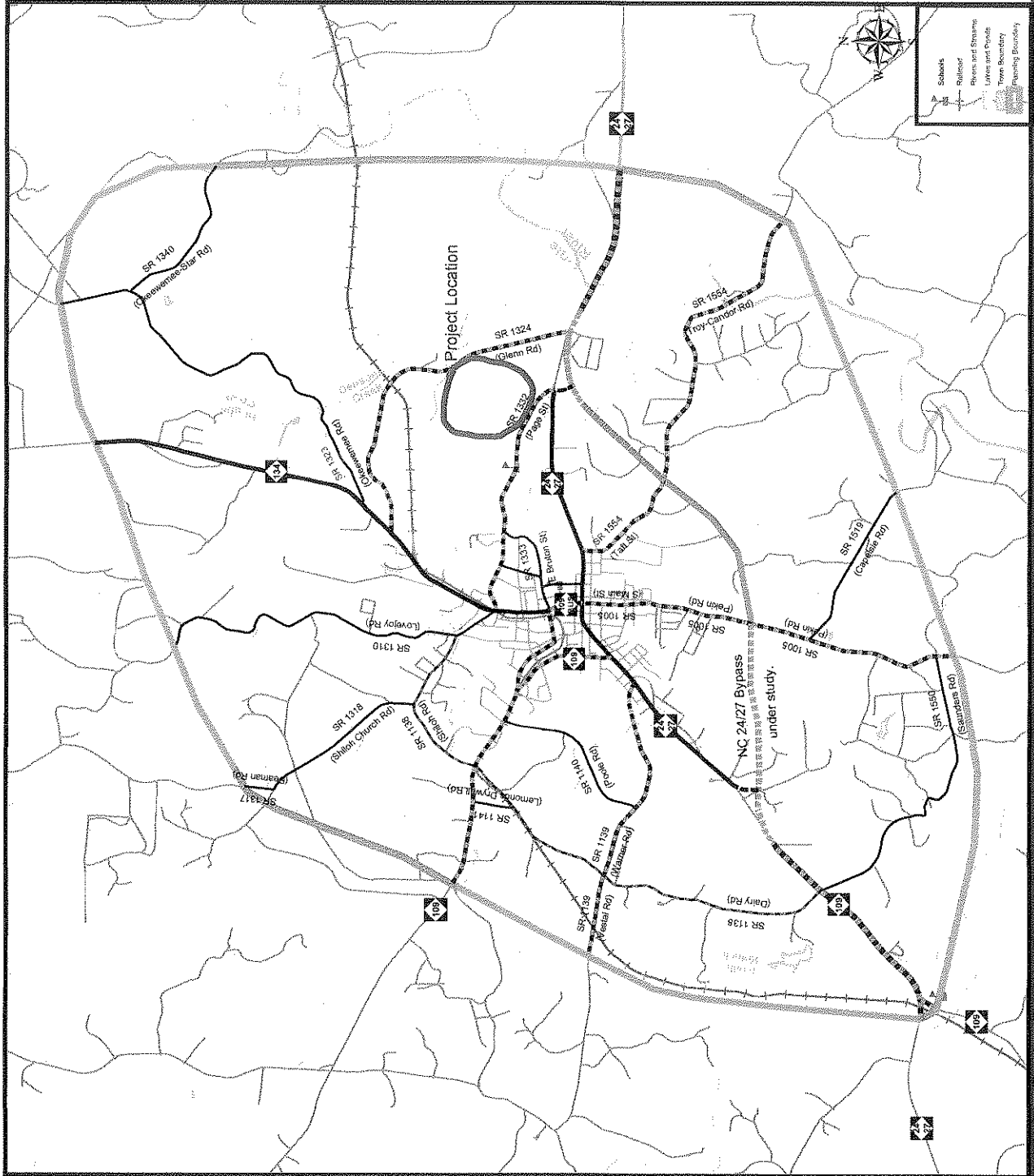
- Freeways**
- Existing
  - Needs Improvement
  - Recommended
- Expressways**
- Existing
  - Needs Improvement
  - Recommended
- Boulevards**
- Existing
  - Needs Improvement
  - Recommended
- Other Major Thoroughfares**
- Existing
  - Needs Improvement
  - Recommended
- Minor Thoroughfares**
- Existing
  - Needs Improvement
  - Recommended

- Existing Interchange
- Proposed Interchange
- Existing Grade Separation
- Proposed Grade Separation

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

Base map date: January, 2005

Refer to CTP document for more details



NORTH CAROLINA STATE CLEARINGHOUSE  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

JUL 14 2016

COUNTY: MONTGOMERY

B03: SCHOOLS (PRIMARY/SECONDARY)

STATE NUMBER: 17-E-4300-0019

DATE RECEIVED: 07/11/2016

AGENCY RESPONSE: 07/25/2016

REVIEW CLOSED: 07/28/2016

MS PAULA CUTTS  
CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR  
DPS - DIV OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
MSC # 4218  
RALEIGH NC

**REVIEW DISTRIBUTION**

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If additional review time is needed, please contact this office at (919)807-2425.



AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED: ☒ NO COMMENT ☐ COMMENTS ATTACHED

SIGNED BY:

Sam Heilong

DATE:

7/14/16

*Not an SFHA*

Rural Development  
Environmental Justice (EJ) and Civil Rights Impact Analysis (CRIA)  
Certification

1. Applicant's name and proposed project description: MONTGOMERY COUNTY-MONTGOMERY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

2. Rural Development's loan/grant program/guarantee or other Agency action: COMMUNITY FACILITIES DIRECT LOAN

3. ☒ Attach a map of the proposal's area of effect identifying location or EJ populations, location of the proposal, area of impact or

☐ Attach results of EJ analysis from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPAs) EnviroMapper with proposed project location and impact footprint delineated.

4. Does the applicant's proposal or Agency action directly, indirectly or cumulatively affect the quality and/or level of services provided to the community?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

5. Is the applicant's proposal or Agency action likely to result in a change in the current land use patterns (types of land use, development densities, etc)?

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

6. Does a demographic analysis indicate the applicant's proposal or Agency's action may disproportionately affect a significant minority and/or low-income populations?

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A

If answer is no, skip to item 12. If answer is yes, continue with items 7 through 12.

7. Identify, describe, and provide location of EJ population \_\_\_\_\_

8. If a disproportionate adverse affect is expected to impact an EJ population, identify type/level of public outreach implemented. \_\_\_\_\_

9. Identify disproportionately high and adverse impacts on EJ populations. \_\_\_\_\_

10. Are adverse impacts appreciably more severe or greater in magnitude than the adverse impacts expected on non-minority/low-income populations?

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A

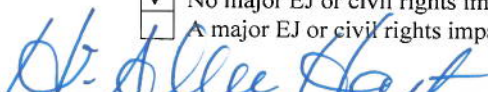

11. Are alternatives and/or mitigation required to avoid impacts to EJ populations?

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A

If yes, describe \_\_\_\_\_

12. I certify that I have reviewed the appropriate documentation and have determined that:

☒ No major EJ or civil rights impact is likely to result if the proposal is implemented.  
☐ A major EJ or civil rights impact is likely to result if the proposal is implemented.

  
Name and Title of Certifying Official  


07-29-2016

Date



Location: User-specified point center at 35.369957, -79.863395  
 Ring (buffer): 2-mile radius  
 Description: Montgomery County

Summary	Census 2010
Population	2,422
Population Density (per sq. mile)	197
Minority Population	854
% Minority	35%
Households	701
Housing Units	788
Land Area (sq. miles)	12.31
% Land Area	100%
Water Area (sq. miles)	0.03
% Water Area	0%

Population by Race	Number	Percent
Total	2,422	-----
Population Reporting One Race	2,399	99%
White	1,624	67%
Black	655	27%
American Indian	26	1%
Asian	20	1%
Pacific Islander	0	0%
Some Other Race	74	3%
Population Reporting Two or More Races	23	1%
Total Hispanic Population	132	5%
Total Non-Hispanic Population	2,290	95%
White Alone	1,568	65%
Black Alone	653	27%
American Indian Alone	26	1%
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone	20	1%
Pacific Islander Alone	0	0%
Other Race Alone	5	0%
Two or More Races Alone	19	1%

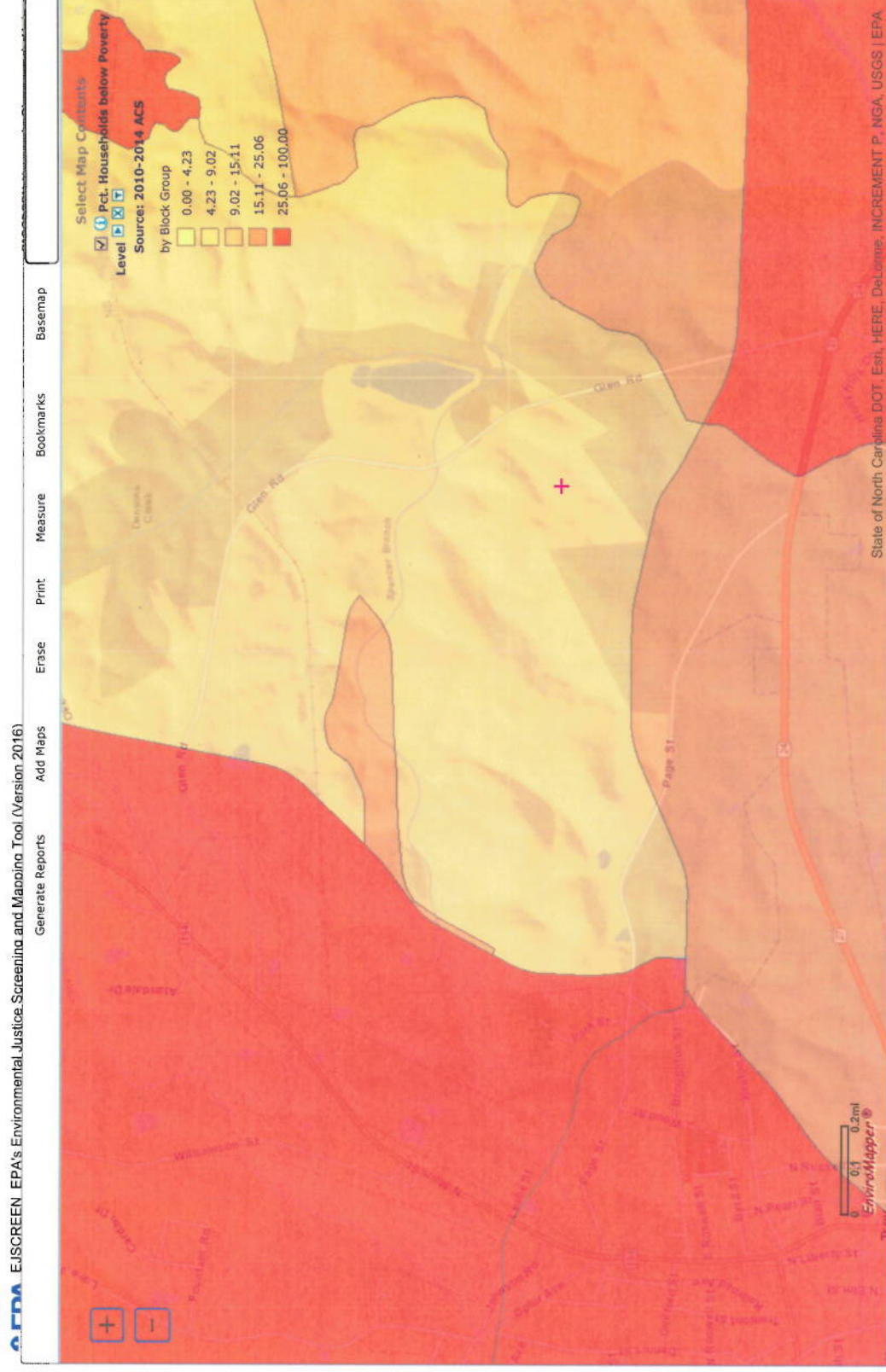
Population by Sex	Number	Percent
Male	1,047	43%
Female	1,375	57%

Population by Age	Number	Percent
Age 0-4	84	3%
Age 0-17	350	14%
Age 18+	2,072	86%
Age 65+	296	12%

Households by Tenure	Number	Percent
Total	701	
Owner Occupied	427	61%
Renter Occupied	273	39%

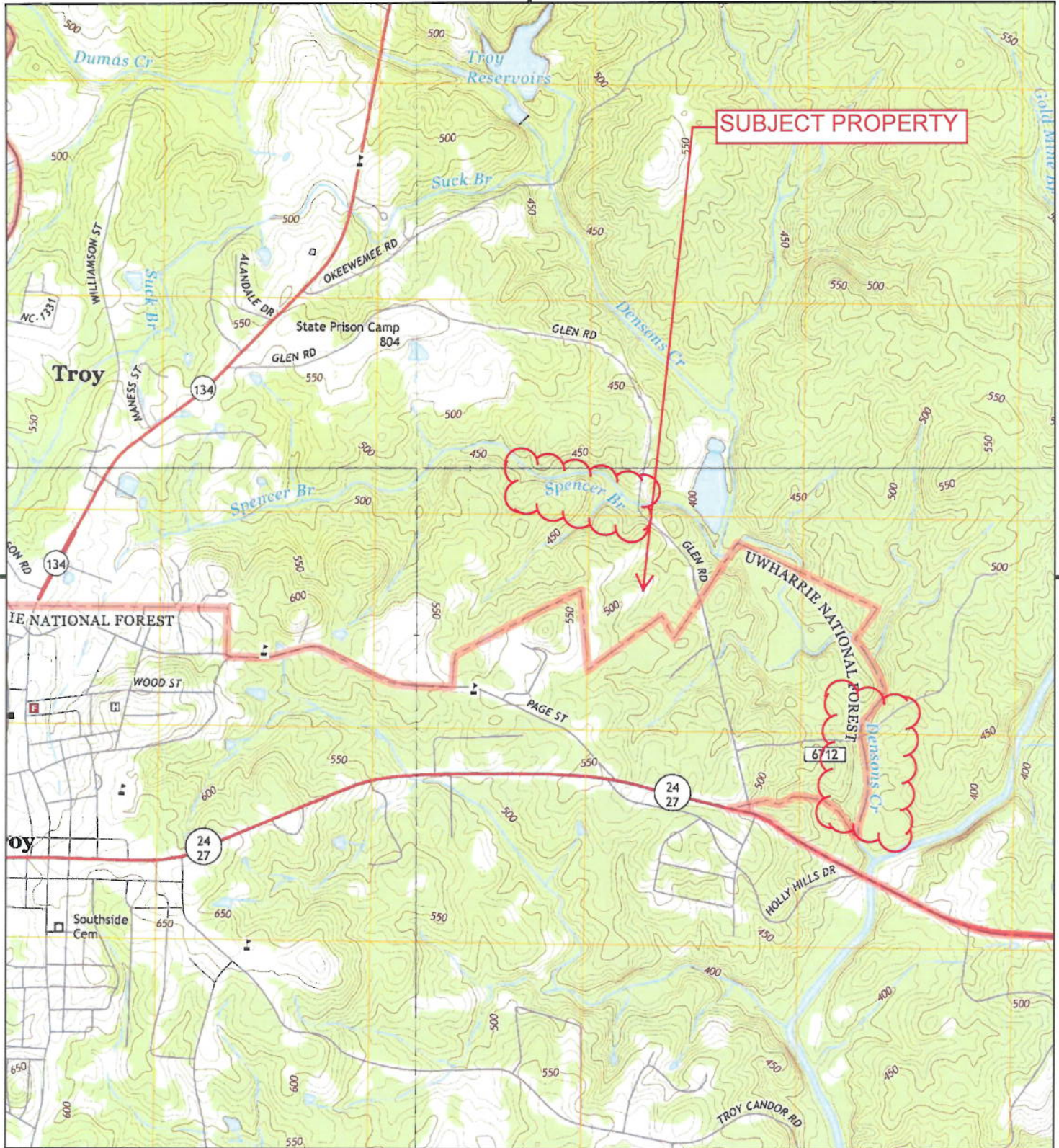
**Data Note:** Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race.

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1.

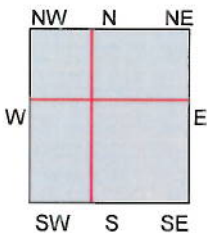








This report includes information from the following map sheet(s).



TP, Biscoe, 2013, 7.5-minute  
 NE, Star, 2013, 7.5-minute  
 SW, Troy, 2013, 7.5-minute  
 NW, Lovejoy, 2013, 7.5-minute

SITE NAME: Montgomery County School  
 ADDRESS: 1011 Page Street  
 Troy, NC 27371  
 CLIENT: Timmons Group







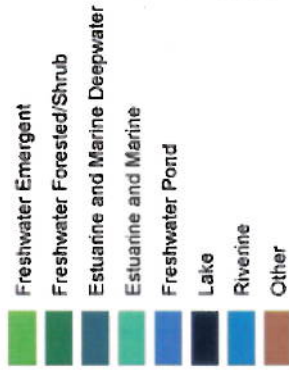
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## National Wetlands Inventory

Montgomery  
County School

Feb 5, 2016

### Wetlands



User Remarks:

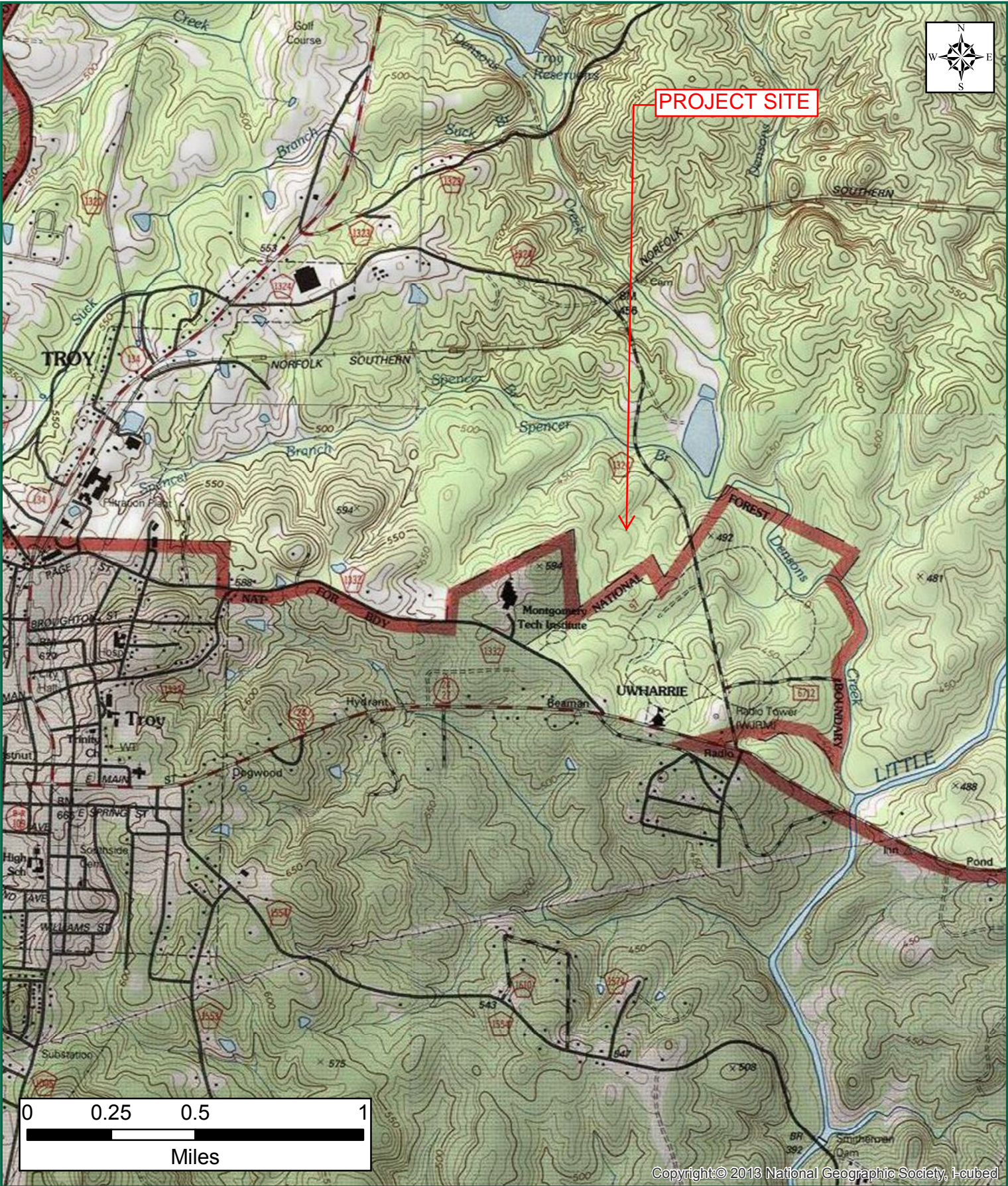
SUBJECT PROPERTY

## **EXHIBITS**

## **Appendix 1. Maps**

- Map 1. Vicinity/Topographic Map
- Map 2. Aerial Map
- Map 3. USFWS NWI Map
- Map 4. NC SHPO HPOWEB Map





**MONTGOMERY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL**  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
VICINITY MAP

**TIMMONS GROUP**  
YOUR VISION ACHIEVED THROUGH OURS.

TIMMONS GROUP JOB NUMBER: 37853  
PROJECT STUDY LIMITS: 72.02 ACRES  
LATITUDE: 35° 22' 07.16" N  
LONGITUDE: 79° 52' 07.82" W

U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE(S): BISCOE  
DATE(S): 1996  
WATERSHED(S): N/A  
HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE(S): N/A



PROJECT SITE



INQUIRY #: 4525334.9

YEAR: 2012

| = 500'



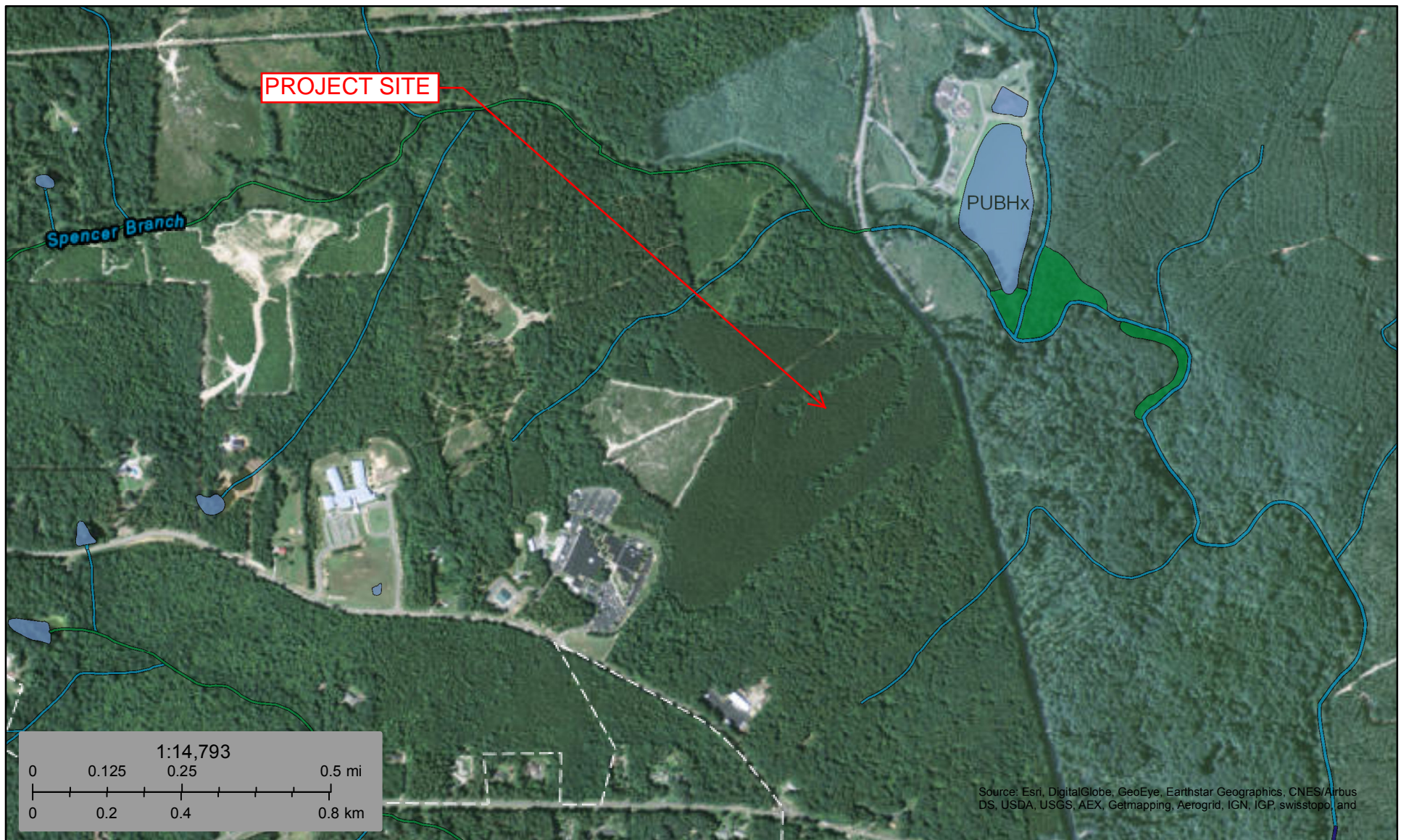




U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

# National Wetlands Inventory

## New MCHS ER



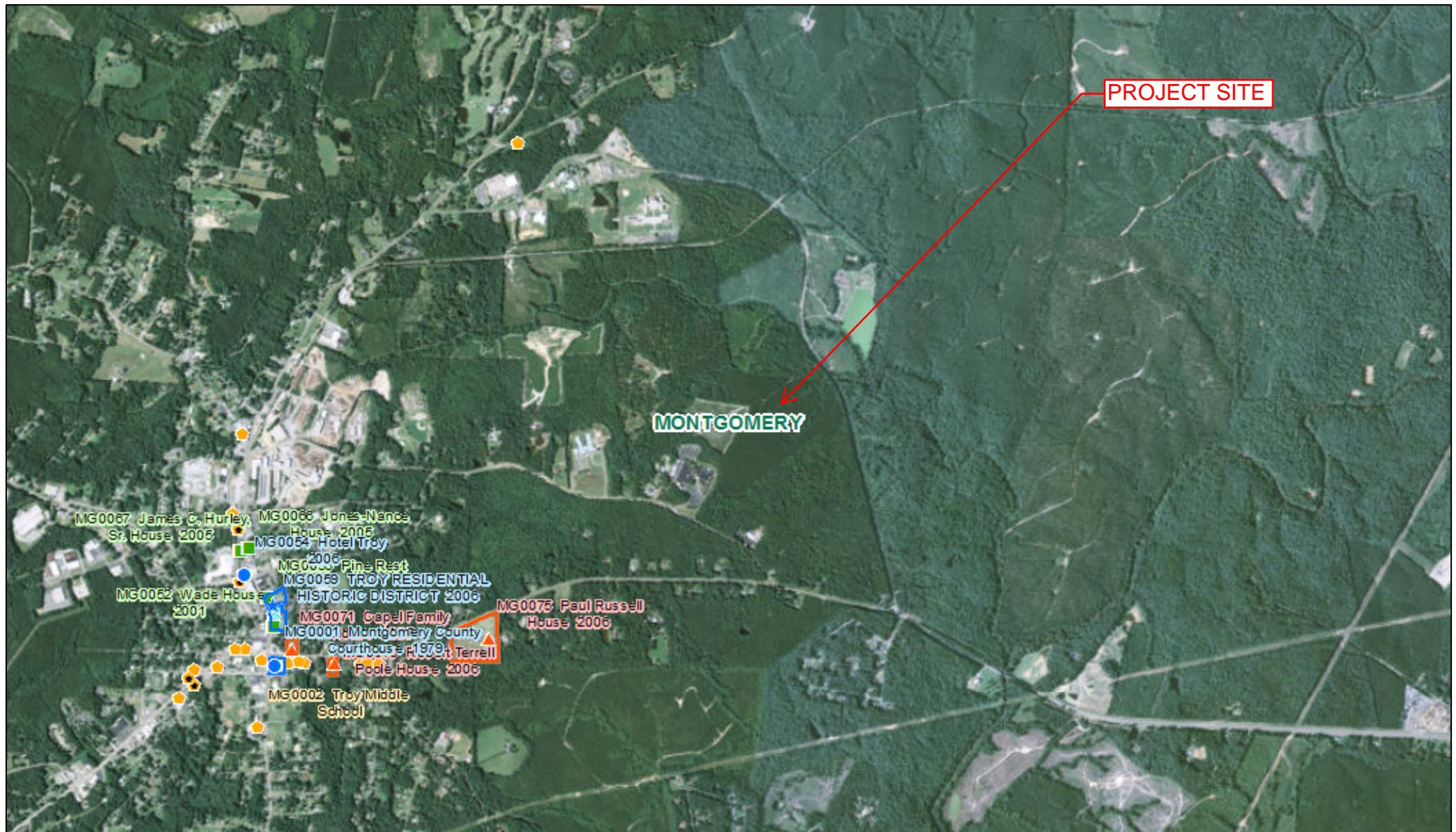
August 9, 2016

- |                                |                                   |          |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Estuarine and Marine Deepwater | Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland | Other    |
| Estuarine and Marine Wetland   | Freshwater Pond                   | Riverine |
| Freshwater Emergent Wetland    | Lake                              |          |

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.



# New Montgomery County HS



August 8, 2016

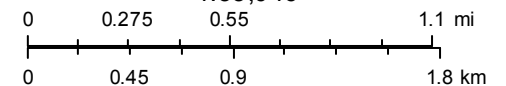
## NR Points

● NR Individual Listing

● NR Listing, Gone

★ NHP Contributing Point

1:33,046



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

## **Appendix 2. Design Plans**

Plan 1. Architectural Feasibility Report for High School Consolidation Montgomery County, NC



# ARCHITECTURAL FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR HIGH SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, NC

Submitted by:



PINNACLE ARCHITECTURE  
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 187, 630 TEAM ROAD, SUITE 200  
MATTHEWS, NORTH CAROLINA 28106  
PH: (704) 847-9851 F: (704) 847-9853



**ARCHITECTURAL FEASIBILITY STUDY  
FOR  
HIGH SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION**

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- I. Executive Summary
- II. Need for the Facility
- III. Existing Facility
- IV. Proposed Facility
- V. Building Site
- VI. Cost Estimate
- VII. Consolidation Savings
- VIII. Exhibits



## **SECTION I: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The enclosed documentation encapsulates the work performed over two years by a joint governing committee. The report details the proposed construction of a new consolidated high school in the center of the County next to the community college, a jointly utilized career & technical education facility for high school and community college students, a community performing arts auditorium, modern gymnasiums and athletic facilities, and the formation of early college programs within the community college for accelerated university transfer and workforce ready vocational programs.

Representatives from Montgomery County Schools, Montgomery Community College, and Montgomery County government formed the joint education committee in the spring of 2014 and tasked it with evaluating existing facilities, identifying educational needs and deficiencies, analyzing fiscal constraints and funding options, and creating a summary document as a recommended course of action. The committee inspected existing facilities, interviewed faculty and staff for programming input, evaluated both academic, extra-curricular, and athletic programs, visited numerous new high school construction and renovation projects across the state, and evaluated various fiscal funding models for both existing high school renovations and the construction of a new consolidated high school.

In February of 2015, the committee concluded that a consolidated high school located next to the college was the most viable option to meet both the long term fiscal and educational goals of the County. The committee presented the findings to all three of governing boards. Based on that recommendation, the Board of County Commissioners unanimously adopted a five cent tax increase in June 2015 to support the educational attainment goals identified, and the public school and community college boards voted in support of the committee recommendations.

The three Boards share the belief and vision that educational excellence is the best investment to prepare a Tier I, economically disadvantaged County for future growth and economic development. The potential impact of the project cannot be overstated. Consolidation of the two exiting high schools and the partnership and proximity to the community college opens almost limitless possibilities to meet and exceed the demands of career and university readiness. MCS and MCC will be able to partner together to share human and technical resources, academic and instructional facilities and equipment, and to efficiently and effectively prepare graduates for post-secondary and viable career skills for 21<sup>st</sup> century jobs.

The following pages comprehensively outline the many facets of the project. The facilities were designed to meet the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's guidelines for facility construction, anticipated average daily membership (ADM), and to accommodate the programming needs stated above. Site plans, schematic drawings, and renderings are included that represent the scope of the project. Environmental and geotechnical investigations were completed to assess the site suitability. Cost estimates include site work, construction, equipment, furniture, construction contingencies, architectural / engineering fees, legal fees, construction financing, and other soft costs. The total projected cost is \$69,490,000.

## **SECTION II: NEED FOR THE FACILITY**

### **Improve Public Education**

Montgomery County is a low wealth county located in central North Carolina. The population of approximately 28,000 is served by one LEA with two high schools. Like much of rural North Carolina, population is declining and economic development is stagnant. Educational attainment is below the state average, with only 75 and 15 percent of the population having high school degrees or a bachelor's degree or higher, respectively. Eighty percent of public school students qualify for free or reduced lunch, with 21% of the population living below the poverty level. The county is served by Montgomery Community College (MCC), however, post-secondary education, particularly at the university level, remains unattainable for the majority of new high school graduates. The lack of a highly qualified (STEM Focused) work force impedes satisfying the needs of local employers and recruiting new industry. Lack of post-secondary education is detrimental to those seeking good paying jobs, either locally or in the surrounding metropolitan areas. Median household income is 70% of the state average.

Recognizing the challenges, Montgomery County created a Joint Education Committee - a consensus of the Board of County Commissioners, the Montgomery County Schools (MCS) Board of Education and the Board of Trustees for Montgomery Community College (MCC). The work completed by this committee ultimately resulted in their position that the community would be better served by the replacement of the two existing high schools with one state of the art new facility located adjacent to the Community College, on land owned by MCS; siting a new high school adjacent to MCC offers a unique opportunity to improve public education, greatly increase the number of students achieving job focused secondary and post-secondary education and produce a more qualified work force aligned with the needs of current and future job markets. See Attachment 1 to this report.

The close proximity between the high school and college will permit several new educational pathways, including the establishment of a Cooperative Innovative High School (Early College) program. MCC and MCS are in the process of obtaining approval to offer four associate degree pathways through five year curricula commencing in ninth grade. The degrees will be in engineering, science, applied systems and the arts. Students completing these pathways will graduate with a high school diploma, and an associate degree. Students will have the option of entering the work force with relevant skills or proceeding to complete a four year degree with two years of transferrable credit behind them. It is anticipated that approximately 20% of students will choose one of these pathways. The remaining students will complete traditional high school, but with expanded opportunities for college courses, AP and historically low enrollment courses and enhanced CTE.

### **Replace Aging Facilities**

The two existing high schools, East & West Montgomery were constructed in 1961, approximately 55 years ago. Both schools have served their life cycle purpose and their respective communities well. However, due to the age of these facilities, all major system, i.e., mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems need to be replaced. The cost of these repairs and replacements are very expensive and if replaced the two high schools would not meet today's minimum educational standards. The functionality of both buildings is subpar in providing the quality teaching spaces needed for today's students.

Additional modifications are required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) code requirements, meet recommended student space requirements, life safety and security requirements, asbestos abatement, energy inefficiencies, and environmental problems. The projected cost of required renovations and modifications is approximately \$50 million.



A new single high school and a CTE/Early College facility would replace these aging assets and their physical challenges. It would provide the opportunity needed to create a culture of technology based instruction, rather than a supplement to instruction. This technology based environment is essential to implementing a rigorous STEM program, and equip graduates with relevant skills needed in the local job market, at the university level, and in a global economy. Eliminating split funding between two facilities would provide an opportunity to expand CTE programs relevant to today's employment opportunities.

Additionally, the proposed high school will provide Montgomery County a state of the art facility which will serve not only the students but the entire community with a new performing arts center located on one wing of the school that can be used after school hours for plays, musicals, etc.

### **SECTION III: EXISTING FACILITIES**

The existing high schools, East and West Montgomery were completed in 1961 and were designed with a life expectancy of 50 years. Both have received additions/renovations that include auditoriums, additional classroom space, and vocational education spaces; However, they have exceeded their useful life. The building systems, infrastructure, laboratories, and classroom space are out of date, increasingly expensive to maintain, are not compliant with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's (NCDPI) guidelines, and are incapable of providing a culture of digital learning required for a 21<sup>st</sup> century education.

#### **Building Systems**

Building systems have been maintained to the point that they remain functional, but have exceeded their useful life and deteriorated to inefficient operations and maintenance. All systems would need to be completely removed and replaced to bring them up to current building and energy conservation codes.

- Mechanical systems do not meet the present North Carolina State Mechanical Code for indoor air quality and compared to current technology and energy conservation codes, are grossly inefficient.
- Electrical systems are aged to the point that all wiring, breakers, disconnects, etc. need to be replaced to provide a safe environment for the students and faculty.
- Plumbing systems, including sewer lines, water lines, and fixtures require frequent repair to maintain functionality and do not meet current plumbing code. A comprehensive replacement represents an opportunity to reduce the schools water use and environmental impact.
- Building envelopes have been modified over the life of the facilities, but still represent inefficiencies and sub-par learning environments for the students and staff.

#### **ADA Compliance**

Accessibility compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act has proven difficult in the 1960's model buildings. The investment required to bring the core facilities and athletic facilities in compliance with current code would be significant and not feasible considering the age of these facilities.

#### **NCDPI Facility Guidelines**

The existing schools fall short of criteria established by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Facility Guidelines. Although not mandated by NC general statute, the recommendations in this guide are considered industry standard for new school design and construction to achieve an efficient learning environment that is capable of meeting educational demands. These guidelines are available at [www.schoolclearinghouse.org](http://www.schoolclearinghouse.org). Classroom space at the existing high schools does not align with these standards. Existing science labs do not meet mandated safety requirements.

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction provides an instrument and instructions for performing a Feasibility & Cost Analysis of existing school building to determine whether or not a school should be renovated or replaced. This analysis was conducted for both existing high schools and did not move past the initial "feasibility" sections for the existing sites and facilities.

The metrics used indicated that both high schools should be replaced and no further “cost” analysis was needed to make that determination. The Feasibility & Cost Analysis forms are included as an attachment to this report as Exhibits 2 & 3.

### **Technology Infrastructure**

The existing schools were not constructed with consideration for network infrastructure, internet access, digital learning, or newer technologies required by current science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) related education. Our students and staff are limited by this lack of technological infrastructure, a must-have if Montgomery County is to keep pace with education in a global environment. In an Academic Subcommittee Program Alignment Report, published by Montgomery County Schools and Montgomery Community College, STEM education was identified as the single most important program change needed in our education system for local workforce development and preparing our students for university learning.

## **SECTION IV: PROPOSED FACILITY**

The proposed project will consolidate the two existing high schools into a new 210,422 sf. single high school facility, and a new 80,391 sf. career and technical educational (CTE) facility that will house the CTE & Early College programs, and a 16,000 sf. Performing Arts Center. A preliminary site layout, and floor plans are included below.

### **Addressing Needs**

As stated in Section II and confirmed in Section III, simply replacing the two aged facilities addresses a critical need. However, Montgomery County wishes to take advantage of this opportunity to address the higher need to improve the educational level and expand opportunities for the students of Montgomery County. The consolidation project, provides an opportunity to:

- Initiate an Early College Program giving access to college level instruction to the County's large number of economically disadvantaged students (74% - see Exhibit 1). Students who may otherwise not have such an opportunity
- Use savings realized by consolidation to help fund:
  - a) STEM education programming identified by the aforementioned Academic Subcommittee Program Alignment Report;
  - b) Newer, more relevant CTE programming;
  - c) Expand high rigor AP programming and;
  - d) Teacher recruitment and retention to support this new programming
- Implement a digital learning culture supportive of the academic programming noted above and required by a 21<sup>st</sup> century high school education.

### **Design Criteria**

The proposed facility in this report was conceptually designed in consideration of the above plus:

- NCDPI average daily membership (ADM) projections (slightly more than 1200) – see Exhibit 4.
- Increased Enrollment due to modest growth over the life expectancy of the facility (approx. 100 ADM).
- Increased Enrollment due to the implementation of an Early College requiring 5<sup>th</sup> year students (approx. 100 ADM).
- The need for convertible CTE space as future programming changes become necessary.
- NCDPI Facility Guidelines for new school construction – Guidelines are available at [www.schoolclearinghouse.org](http://www.schoolclearinghouse.org) under “Publications & Guides”.
- The desire for a Performing Arts Center to serve the students, staff and entire Montgomery County community. Presently, such a facility does not exist in the County.

Other design elements incorporated in the conceptual design and costs estimates include

- Site work.
- Furniture, fixtures and equipment for both the consolidated High School and CTE / EC facilities.
- Athletic & Ancillary Facilities.
- State of the art life safety and security systems.
- Innovative classrooms, media center, and common areas to take advantage of newer technologies to create a culture of digital learning.
- IT and Network infrastructure to support a digital culture.
- Energy Conservation Code compliance – ASHRAE Standard 90.1 (2007).
- The County's desire to realize a minimum of \$100,000 annually in energy savings.
- Other optional additional energy efficiency measures (EEMs) will be evaluated during design development based on life cycle costs:

- a) Geothermal mechanical systems.
- b) Rain water re-use systems.
- c) Daylighting systems with photo cells and dimmers.
- d) LED lighting.
- e) VFDs for select fans and pumps.
- f) Electric meters for mechanical, lighting, and plug loads.
- g) Low flow plumbing fixtures.
- Adequate parking and hardscapes to support school and community activities.

## **SECTION V: BUILDING SITE**

### **Location & Size**

The property for the proposed High School is an approximately 72 acres track located in the center of Montgomery County off Page Street in Troy, NC. The property abuts both Page Street and Glenn Road for two possible entrances / exits. It is easily accessible from major transportation corridors, including I-73/74, US Hwy 24/27, NC Hwy 134, and NC Hwy 109.

The property is adjacent to Montgomery Community College (MCC) on land owned by MCS. Close proximity to MCC solves logistical challenges that most local educational authorities face when implementing academic programs like an Early College – busing will not be required, and human & technical resources between MCC and MCS can be easily shared. Being located in the center of the County, travel time for busing and commuters are optimized.

### **Site Plan**

The proposed site plan included below shows the overall master plan including the new High School, CTE / Early College facility, Performing Arts Center, and athletic facilities. Also included is a portion of a civil engineering SiteOps report showing the proposed topography of the site. This SiteOps report was commissioned to gain an understanding of any site development challenges that exists and help identify the probable cost of site work that is included in Section VI of this report. The full SiteOps report is attached as Exhibit 5.

### **Site Suitability**

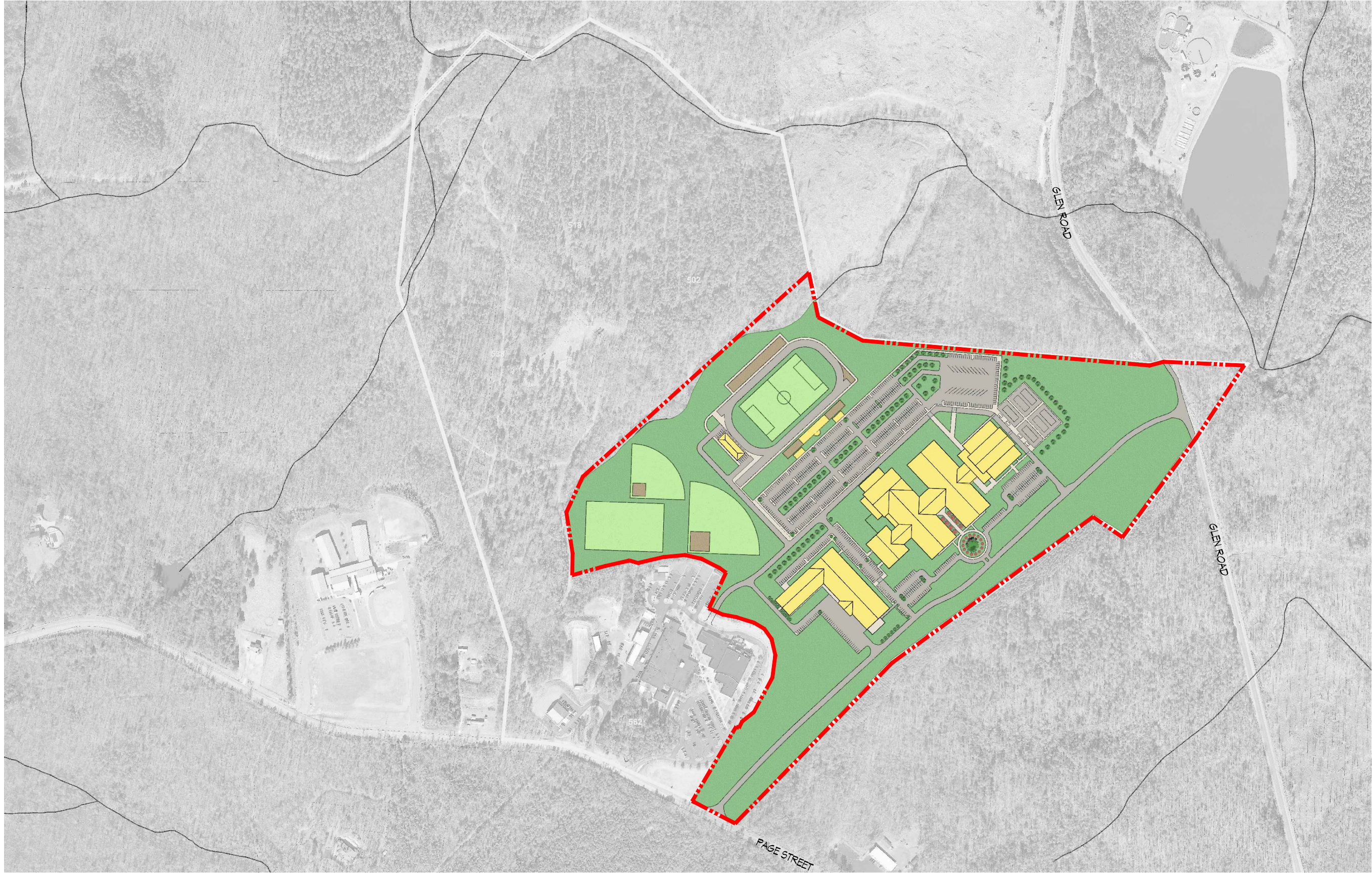
A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment has been completed and no recognized environmental conditions are present that would hinder the development of the proposed property. A copy of the Phase 1 ESA is included with this report as Exhibit 6.

A Preliminary Subsurface Investigation was also completed to gather information about the subsurface conditions that could affect the constructability of improvements on the proposed site. The report found no significant rock outcroppings to the depths needed to balance the site grading. A copy of the report compiled from this investigation is included as Exhibit 7.

Together, these reports indicate that site development for the proposed project is feasible – no significant challenges exist that would cause this site to be cost prohibitive.







CONCEPTUAL SITE LAYOUT FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL & CTE EARLY COLLEGE  
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE

THIS DRAWING IS THE PROPERTY OF THE ARCHITECTS AND CAN NOT BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES OR REPRODUCED WITHOUT WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE ARCHITECT

REVISION		SCHEDULE
A	DATE	REFERENCE

MONTGOMERY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
& CTE EARLY COLLEGE BUILDING  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS  
CONCEPTUAL SITE LAYOUT  
FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL & CTE EARLY COLLEGE

ISSUE DATE: 00.00.00  
DRAWN BY: JE  
CHECKED BY: JMW  
PROJECT: 000



PINNACLE ARCHITECTURE  
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 187, 630 TEAM ROAD, SUITE 200  
MATTHEWS, NORTH CAROLINA 28066  
PH: (704) 847-9851 F: (704) 847-9853

CONTRACTER TO VERTICAL CONSTRUCTION

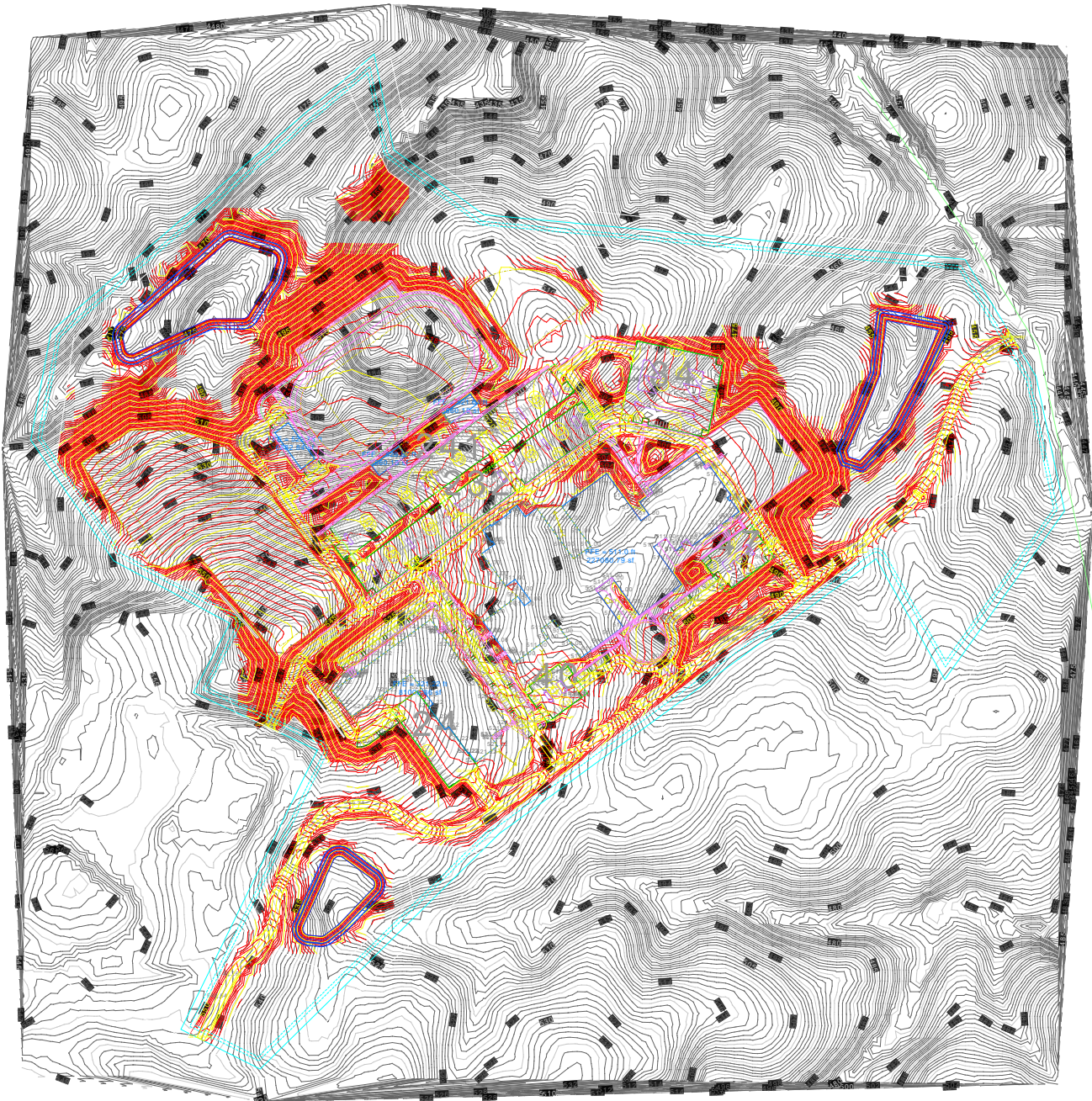


## SITEOPS SOLUTION REPORT

Project: Montgomery County HS / Revision #5: Revised Boundary\_Final Plan

Created: Jun 02, 2016 09:22 PM UTC

Data Assumptions: None Specified





## **SECTION VI: COST ESTIMATE**

A detailed estimate of probable cost is included in the table below. The desired programming and design elements reported in Section IV have been captured in the facility construction numbers; preliminary investigations and evaluations regarding the site have been considered; detailed estimates for machinery and equipment required by the CTE programs were compiled; and soft costs have been vetted.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATE	NOTES
<i>Hard Costs</i>			
1	Land Acquisition	N/A	site is owned by MCS
2	Site Work	\$ 9,850,000.00	blasting; grading; drainage; hardscapes; athletic fields; & landscaping
3	Construction - High School (226,422 s.f.)	\$ 36,000,000.00	includes a 16,000 s.f. Performing Arts Center
4	Construction - CTE / Early College (80,391 s.f.)	\$ 9,000,000.00	
5	Equipment, Furniture & Fixtures - H.S.	\$ 1,250,000.00	standard ffe for school facilities
6	Equipment, Furniture & Fixtures - CTE/E.C.	\$ 2,000,000.00	additional equipment & machinery for CTE facility
7	Contingencies (10% required)	\$ 5,810,000.00	usda required percentage of construction costs
<i>Soft Costs</i>			
8	Administrative & Legal	\$ 710,000.00	USDA loan issuance cost; feasibility reports; title insurance; appraisal; phase 1 ESA
9	Architectural/Engineering Fees	\$ 3,608,000.00	includes \$158,000 for geotechnical investigation & report
10	Misc. - Construction Financing	\$ 1,512,000.00	construction financing
11	Misc. - Duke Energy rebates	\$ (250,000.00)	minimal prescriptive EEM rebates
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 69,490,000.00</b>	

The SiteOps Civil Engineering Report (Exhibit 6), using the information in the Preliminary Subsurface Investigation Report (Exhibit 8), indicates that site work cost should be approximately 8.6 million dollars.

Information submitted in the Preliminary Subsurface Investigation Report was used to populate engineered site development software to develop probable costs of the necessary site work. The SiteOps report establishes an estimate of 8.6 million dollars for this line item. Considering the limitations of the subsurface report (i.e. only minimal, yet strategic, borings were performed), the final line item cost was increased to allow for any unknowns that may exist.

Facility construction costs are based on historical records of our firm and the NCDPI recent school construction costs – see Exhibit 9. Equipment, furniture & fixtures for the High School facility were also based on historical records of our firm. The equipment, furniture, & fixtures for the CTE/EC facility were vetted a little further and separated from the previous, as specific programming requirements can manipulate this number significantly.

Construction contingencies are at the required 10% for USDA funding.

As stated above, project soft costs have been vetted, knowing USDA funding is being sought.

Considering the amount of effort put into collecting as much information as feasible regarding programming, design considerations, site information and construction costs data, we are confident that the above estimate is conservative enough for budget and funding purposes.

## **SECTION VII: CONSOLIDATION SAVINGS**

### **Programmatic Savings**

Programmatic savings represent the largest opportunity for realized savings through this consolidation project. As shown on the chart below, reductions in staffing will lead to more than \$600,000 in annual savings. When considering the LEA's desire to use a portion of the savings to implement new and expanded programming as detailed in Section IV, a net annual savings of \$200,000 in this area is anticipated.

CONSOLIDATION SAVINGS - PROGRAMMATIC										
Department	East Montgomery HS Staffing		West Montgomery HS Staffing		Consolidated Facilities				Anticipated Reduction in Force	Annual Salary & Benefit Savings
	Students Served (annual ave.)	Staffing	Students Served (annual ave.)	Staffing	High School		CTE/EC Facility			
					Students Served (annual ave.)	High School Staffing	Students Served (annual ave.)	CTE Facility Staffing		
English	640	4.5	560	4.5	1200	8			1	\$ 55,000.00
Math	640	5	560	5	1200	9			1	\$ 55,000.00
Social Studies	640	5	560	4	1200	8			1	\$ 55,000.00
Science	500	4	415	3	665	6	250	1	0	\$ -
CTE	640	7	560	7			1180	13	1	\$ 55,000.00
Arts	300	2.5	250	1.5	550	4			0	\$ -
Foreign Languages	300	1.5	250	1.5	400	2	250	1	0	\$ -
Healthful Living/Physical Education	400	3	400	3	750	4.5	50	0.5	1	\$ 55,000.00
Exceptional/ESL/Related Service	50	5	50	4	75	5	25	2	2	\$ 110,000.00
Teacher Assistants	640	2	560	2	950	2	250	0	2	\$ 70,000.00
Administration	640	2	560	2	950	2	250	1	1	\$ 70,000.00
Administrative Assistants	640	5	560	4	950	6	250	2	1	\$ 35,000.00
Instructional Facilitation	640	1	560	1	950	1	250	0	1	\$ 55,000.00
Counseling	640	2	560	2	950	3	250	1	0	\$ -
Media	640	0.5	560	0.5	950	1	250	0	0	\$ -
Child Nutrition	640	4	560	4	950	7	250	0	1	\$ 30,000.00
Custodial	640	3	560	3	950	4	250	2	0	\$ -
TOTALS:	640	57	560	52	950	72.5	250	23.5	13	\$ 645,000.00

### **Energy Savings**

Currently MCS spends approximately \$290,000 on energy (electric, propane, & fuel oil) for the two existing high schools. These expenses are detailed in the chart below. The chart is populated based on historical data provided by MCS – see Exhibit 10 attached to this report. Based on a Duke Energy study and historical data for recently constructed, energy conservation code compliant high schools of similar design, it is our professional opinion that a newly constructed high school and CTE/EC facility based on the proposed designs reflected in this report would have an average energy cost of \$0.75 per square foot. This translates into an annual energy costs of \$170,000 year. It is reasonable to assume that \$100,000 in annual energy cost savings can be applied to the debt service required to fund the construction of the proposed facilities. Note that realized savings could increase should additional energy efficiency measures (EEM) be implemented during design development based on life cycle costs analysis.

<b>CONSOLIDATION SAVINGS - ENERGY</b>								
	S.F.	Yr. Built	2013	2014	2015	2016	Average	\$/S.F.
East Montgomery High School	98,174	1961	\$ 137,072	\$ 139,962	\$ 117,920	\$ 116,944	\$ 127,975	\$1.30
West Montgomery High School	133,464	1961	\$ 145,049	\$ 168,103	\$ 155,950	\$ 175,794	\$ 161,224	\$1.21
<b>Existing H.S. Totals:</b>	231,638						\$ 289,199	\$1.25
<b>New Consolidated High School:</b>	226,422	2019					\$ 169,817	\$0.75
<b>Differential:</b>	(5,216)						<b>\$ 119,382</b>	<b>\$0.50</b>

**Maintenance Savings**

The proposed project would consolidate two 55 year old high schools with aged building systems. Although this will reduce the amount of reactionary maintenance required by the older facilities, the highly efficient technologies associated with the proposed building systems require a level of technical expertise and attention greater than currently required. Considering the cost of placing the new building systems on preventative maintenance service contracts, we believe that any difference in maintenance expenses will be negligible.

**Conclusion**

It is our recommendation Montgomery County, plan for \$300,000/yr. in consolidation savings; \$200,000 from reduced staffing and \$100,000 in energy use reduction. This amount would be available to supplement the debt service for these proposed facilities.

### **Appendix 3. Figures**

- Figure 1. USDA NRCS WSS Map
- Figure 2. USDA NRCS WSS Farmland Map
- Figure 3. NRCS Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form
- Figure 4. FEMA FRIS results
- Figure 5. USDA NRCS WSS Hydric Soils Rating Map
- Figure 6. USFWS Threatened and Endangered Species search results
- Figure 7. NC NHP Biscoe Topographic Map Limits search results
- Figure 8. USFWS Official Species List report



# Soil Map—Montgomery County, North Carolina



Map Scale: 1:6,560 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.

0 50 100 200 300 Meters

0 300 600 1200 1800 Feet

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 17N WGS84



**Natural Resources  
Conservation Service**

Web Soil Survey  
National Cooperative Soil Survey

5/17/2016  
Page 1 of 3

## MAP LEGEND

### Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

### Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons

 Soil Map Unit Lines

 Soil Map Unit Points

### Special Point Features



Blowout



Borrow Pit



Clay Spot



Closed Depression



Gravel Pit



Gravelly Spot



Landfill



Lava Flow



Marsh or swamp



Mine or Quarry



Miscellaneous Water



Perennial Water



Rock Outcrop



Saline Spot



Sandy Spot



Severely Eroded Spot



Sinkhole



Slide or Slip



Sodic Spot



Spoil Area



Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot



Other



Special Line Features

### Water Features



Streams and Canals

### Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways



US Routes



Major Roads



Local Roads

### Background



Aerial Photography

## MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Web Soil Survey URL: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>  
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Montgomery County, North Carolina  
Survey Area Data: Version 15, Sep 24, 2015

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Feb 11, 2011—Apr 2, 2011

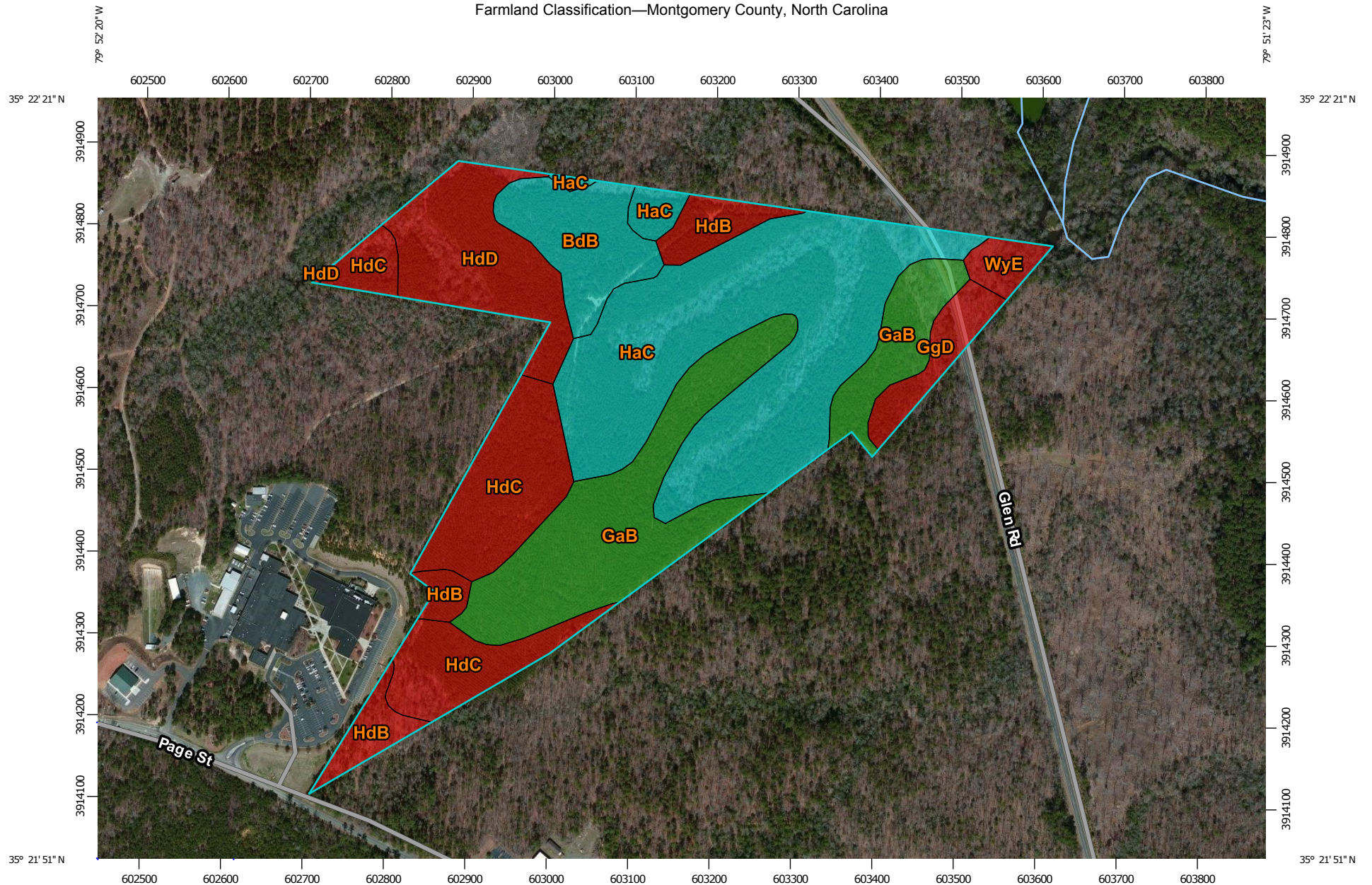
The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.



## Map Unit Legend

Montgomery County, North Carolina (NC123)			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
BdB	Badin-Tarrus complex, 2 to 8 percent slopes	5.3	7.3%
GaB	Georgeville silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	15.6	21.6%
GgD	Georgeville silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	2.3	3.2%
HaC	Herndon silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	24.7	34.3%
HdB	Herndon silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	4.1	5.7%
HdC	Herndon silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	11.5	15.9%
HdD	Herndon silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	7.5	10.4%
WyE	Wynott-Enon complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes, extremely bouldery	1.2	1.7%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>		<b>72.2</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

# Farmland Classification—Montgomery County, North Carolina



Map Scale: 1:6,560 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.

0 50 100 200 300 Meters

0 300 600 1200 1800 Feet

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 17N WGS84



**Natural Resources  
Conservation Service**


Web Soil Survey  
National Cooperative Soil Survey

5/17/2016  
Page 1 of 4











## MAP LEGEND








### Area of Interest (AOI)

-  Area of Interest (AOI)




### Soils








#### Soil Rating Polygons






-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

-  Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Farmland of local importance
-  Farmland of unique importance
-  Not rated or not available







#### Soil Rating Lines










-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained

-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60

-  Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Farmland of local importance
-  Farmland of unique importance
-  Not rated or not available


#### Soil Rating Points

-  Not prime farmland
-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

-  Prime farmland if irrigated and drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season
-  Prime farmland if subsoiled, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer
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-  Farmland of local importance
-  Farmland of unique importance
-  Not rated or not available


#### Water Features

## MAP INFORMATION

 Streams and Canals

### Transportation

 Rails


 Interstate Highways

 US Routes

 Major Roads

 Local Roads

### Background

 Aerial Photography

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

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## Farmland Classification

Farmland Classification— Summary by Map Unit — Montgomery County, North Carolina (NC123)				
Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
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HdC	Herndon silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland	11.5	15.9%
HdD	Herndon silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	Not prime farmland	7.5	10.4%
WyE	Wynott-Enon complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes, extremely bouldery	Not prime farmland	1.2	1.7%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>			<b>72.2</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Description

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

## Rating Options

*Aggregation Method:* No Aggregation Necessary

*Tie-break Rule:* Lower

**FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING**

<b>PART I</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Date Of Land Evaluation Request <b>8/19/2016</b>				
Name of Project <b>New Montgomery County High School</b>		Federal Agency Involved <b>USDA, RD - Community Programs</b>				
Proposed Land Use <b>Educational</b>		County and State <b>Montgomery County, North Carolina</b>				
<b>PART II</b> (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Request Received By NRCS <b>08/21/2016</b>		Person Completing Form: <b>Milton Cortes, NRCS NC</b>		
Does the site contain Prime, Unique, Statewide or Local Important Farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not complete additional parts of this form)		YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	Acres Irrigated <b>none</b>	Average Farm Size <b>140 acres</b>	
Major Crop(s) <b>CORN</b>	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: <b>46 %</b> % <b>108,921 acres</b>		Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: <b>39 %</b> % <b>92,266 acres</b>			
Name of Land Evaluation System Used <b>Montgomery Co., NC LESA</b>	Name of State or Local Site Assessment System <b>N/A</b>		Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS <b>August 22, 2016 by email</b>			
<b>PART III</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Alternative Site Rating				
		Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D	
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly		<b>45.6</b>				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly		<b>0</b>				
C. Total Acres In Site		<b>72</b>				
<b>PART IV</b> (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information						
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland		<b>15.60</b>				
B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local Important Farmland		<b>30</b>				
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted		<b>0.0494</b>				
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value		<b>39</b>				
<b>PART V</b> (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)		<b>58</b>				
<b>PART VI</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria (Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5 b. For Corridor project use form NRCS-CPA-106)		Maximum Points	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
1. Area In Non-urban Use	(15)	<b>0</b>				
2. Perimeter In Non-urban Use	(10)	<b>0</b>				
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed	(20)	<b>0</b>				
4. Protection Provided By State and Local Government	(20)	<b>20</b>				
5. Distance From Urban Built-up Area	(15)	<b>10</b>				
6. Distance To Urban Support Services	(15)	<b>0</b>				
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	(10)	<b>0</b>				
8. Creation Of Non-farmable Farmland	(10)	<b>10</b>				
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services	(5)	<b>0</b>				
10. On-Farm Investments	(20)	<b>0</b>				
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	(10)	<b>0</b>				
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	(10)	<b>0</b>				
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS		<b>160</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>PART VII</b> (To be completed by Federal Agency)						
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)		<b>100</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or local site assessment)		<b>160</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)</b>		<b>260</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Reason For Selection:  <b>The site scored a total of 98 points and therefore according to the FPPA it can be concluded that this area is already committed to urban development, therefore alternative analyses are not required.</b>						
Name of Federal agency representative completing this form: <b>Anthony W. High, SEC - USDA RD</b>					Date: <b>8/22/2016</b>	

## **STEPS IN THE PROCESSING THE FARMLAND AND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING FORM**

- Step 1 - Federal agencies (or Federally funded projects) involved in proposed projects that may convert farmland, as defined in the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) to nonagricultural uses, will initially complete Parts I and III of the form. For Corridor type projects, the Federal agency shall use form NRCS-CPA-106 in place of form AD-1006. The Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) process may also be accessed by visiting the FPPA website, <http://fppa.nrcs.usda.gov/lesa/>.
- Step 2 - Originator (Federal Agency) will send one original copy of the form together with appropriate scaled maps indicating location(s) of project site(s), to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) local Field Office or USDA Service Center and retain a copy for their files. (NRCS has offices in most counties in the U.S. The USDA Office Information Locator may be found at [http://offices.usda.gov/scripts/ndISAPI.dll/oip\\_public/USA\\_map](http://offices.usda.gov/scripts/ndISAPI.dll/oip_public/USA_map), or the offices can usually be found in the Phone Book under U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture. A list of field offices is available from the NRCS State Conservationist and State Office in each State.)
- Step 3 - NRCS will, within 10 working days after receipt of the completed form, make a determination as to whether the site(s) of the proposed project contains prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland. (When a site visit or land evaluation system design is needed, NRCS will respond within 30 working days.
- Step 4 - For sites where farmland covered by the FPPA will be converted by the proposed project, NRCS will complete Parts II, IV and V of the form.
- Step 5 - NRCS will return the original copy of the form to the Federal agency involved in the project, and retain a file copy for NRCS records.
- Step 6 - The Federal agency involved in the proposed project will complete Parts VI and VII of the form and return the form with the final selected site to the servicing NRCS office.
- Step 7 - The Federal agency providing financial or technical assistance to the proposed project will make a determination as to whether the proposed conversion is consistent with the FPPA.

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING FORM**

*(For Federal Agency)*

**Part I:** When completing the "County and State" questions, list all the local governments that are responsible for local land use controls where site(s) are to be evaluated.

**Part III:** When completing item B (Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly), include the following:

1. Acres not being directly converted but that would no longer be capable of being farmed after the conversion, because the conversion would restrict access to them or other major change in the ability to use the land for agriculture.
2. Acres planned to receive services from an infrastructure project as indicated in the project justification (e.g. highways, utilities planned build out capacity) that will cause a direct conversion.

**Part VI:** Do not complete Part VI using the standard format if a State or Local site assessment is used. With local and NRCS assistance, use the local Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA).

1. Assign the maximum points for each site assessment criterion as shown in § 658.5(b) of CFR. In cases of corridor-type project such as transportation, power line and flood control, criteria #5 and #6 will not apply and will, be weighted zero, however, criterion #8 will be weighed a maximum of 25 points and criterion #11 a maximum of 25 points.
2. Federal agencies may assign relative weights among the 12 site assessment criteria other than those shown on the FPPA rule after submitting individual agency FPPA policy for review and comment to NRCS. In all cases where other weights are assigned, relative adjustments must be made to maintain the maximum total points at 160. For project sites where the total points equal or exceed 160, consider alternative actions, as appropriate, that could reduce adverse impacts (e.g. Alternative Sites, Modifications or Mitigation).

**Part VII:** In computing the "Total Site Assessment Points" where a State or local site assessment is used and the total maximum number of points is other than 160, convert the site assessment points to a base of 160.

Example: if the Site Assessment maximum is 200 points, and the alternative Site "A" is rated 180 points:

$\frac{\text{Total points assigned Site A}}{\text{Maximum points possible}} = \frac{180}{200} \times 160 = 144 \text{ points for Site A}$
---

For assistance in completing this form or FPPA process, contact the local NRCS Field Office or USDA Service Center.

NRCS employees, consult the FPPA Manual and/or policy for additional instructions to complete the AD-1006 form.









This digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) was produced through a unique cooperative partnership between the State of North Carolina and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The State of North Carolina has implemented a long term approach to floodplain management to decrease the costs associated with flooding. This is demonstrated by the State's commitment to map flood hazard areas at the local level. As a part of this effort, the State of North Carolina has joined in a Cooperating Technical State agreement with FEMA to produce and maintain this digital FIRM.

FLOOD HAZARD INFORMATION

SEE FIS REPORT FOR ZONE DESCRIPTIONS AND INDEX MAP  
THE INFORMATION DEPICTED ON THIS MAP AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN DIGITAL FORMAT AT [HTTP://FRIS.NC.GOV/FRIS](http://FRIS.NC.GOV/FRIS)

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE)  
Zone A, V, A99

With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR

Regulatory Floodway

OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD

0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% Annual Chance Flood with Average Depth Less Than One Foot or With Drainage Areas of Less Than One Square Mile Zone X

Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X

Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee See Notes Zone X

Areas Determined to be Outside the 0.2% Annual Chance Floodplain Zone X

OTHER AREAS

Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer Accredited or Provisionally Accredited Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

Non-accredited Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

GENERAL STRUCTURES

North Carolina Geodetic Survey bench mark

National Geodetic Survey bench mark

Contractor Est. NCFMP Survey bench mark

Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation (BFE)

Coastal Transect

Coastal Transect Baseline

Profile Baseline

Hydrographic Feature

Limit of Study

Jurisdiction Boundary

OTHER FEATURES

BM5510

BM5510

BM5510

12-18-2

8

Coastal Transect Baseline

Profile Baseline

Hydrographic Feature

Limit of Study

Jurisdiction Boundary

NOTES TO USERS

For information and questions about this map, available products associated with this FIRM including historic versions of this FIRM, how to order products or the National Flood Insurance Program in general, please call the FEMA Map Information eXchange at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or visit the FEMA Map Service Center website at <http://msc.fema.gov>. An accompanying Flood Insurance Study report, Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) or Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) revising portions of this panel, and digital versions of this FIRM may be available. Visit the North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program website at <http://www.ncfloodmaps.com>, or contact the FEMA Map Service Center.

Communities annexing land on adjacent FIRM panels must obtain a current copy of the adjacent panel as well as the current FIRM Index. These may be ordered directly from the Map Service Center at the number listed above.

For community and countywide map dates refer to the Flood Insurance Study report for this jurisdiction.

To determine if flood insurance is available in the community, contact your Insurance agent or call the National Flood Insurance Program at 1-800-638-6620.

Base map information shown on this FIRM was provided in digital format by the North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program (NCFMP). The source of this information can be determined from the metadata available in the digital FLOOD database and in the Technical Support Data Notebook (TSDN).

ACCREDITED LEVEE NOTES TO USERS: If an accredited levee note appears on this panel check with your local community to obtain more information, such as the estimated level of protection provided (which may exceed the 1-percent-annual-chance level) and Emergency Action Plan, on the levee system(s) shown as providing protection. To mitigate flood risk in residual risk areas, property owners and residents are encouraged to consider flood insurance and floodproofing or other protective measures. For more information on flood insurance, interested parties should visit the FEMA Website at <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/index.shtm>.

PROVISIONALLY ACCREDITED LEVEE NOTES TO USERS: If a Provisionally Accredited Levee (PAL) note appears on this panel, check with your local community to obtain more information, such as the estimated level of protection provided (which may exceed the 1-percent-annual-chance level) and Emergency Action Plan, on the levee system(s) shown as providing protection. To maintain accreditation, the levee owner or community is required to submit the data and documentation necessary to comply with Section 65.10 of the NFIP regulations. If the community or owner does not provide the necessary data and documentation or if the data and documentation provided indicates the levee system does not comply with Section 65.10 requirements, FEMA will revise the flood hazard and risk information for this area to reflect de-accreditation of the levee system. To mitigate flood risk in residual risk areas, property owners and residents are encouraged to consider flood insurance and floodproofing or other protective measures. For more information on flood insurance, interested parties should visit the FEMA Website at <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/index.shtm>.

LIMIT OF MODERATE WAVE ACTION NOTES TO USERS: For some coastal flooding zones the AE Zone category has been divided by a Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LMWA). The LMWA represents the approximate landward limit of the 1.5-foot breaking wave. The effects of wave hazards between the VE Zone and the LMWA (or between the shoreline and the LMWA for areas where VE Zones are not identified) will be similar to, but less severe than those in the VE Zone.

Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LMWA)

COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM (CBRS) NOTE

This map may include approximate boundaries of the CBRS for informational purposes only. Flood insurance is not available within CBRS areas for structures that are newly built or substantially improved on or after the date(s) indicated on the map. For more information see [http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/coastal\\_barrier.html](http://www.fws.gov/habitatconservation/coastal_barrier.html), the FIS Report, or call the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Customer Service Center at 1-800-344-WILD.

CBRS Area

Otherwise Protected Area

SCALE

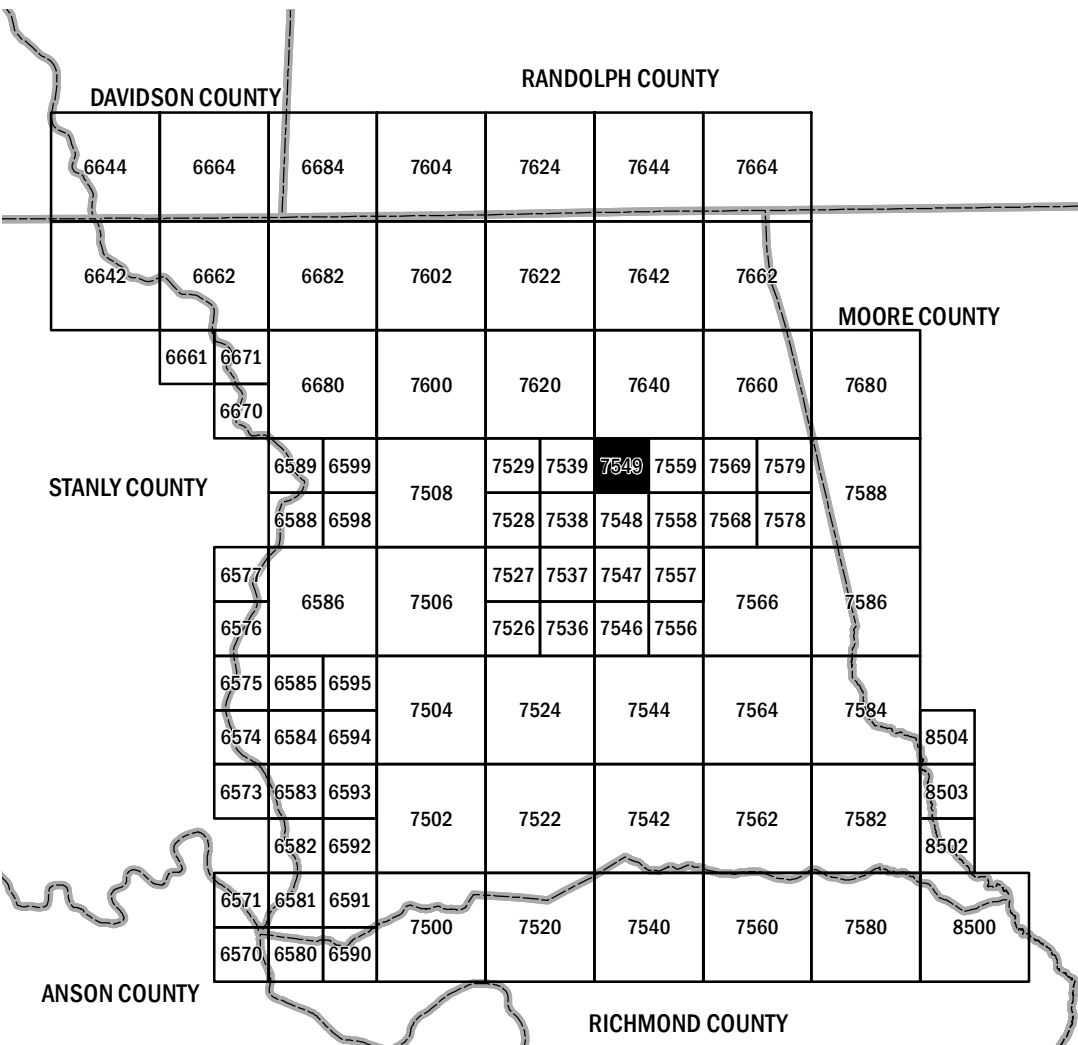
Map Projection:  
North Carolina State Plane Projection Feet (Zone 3200)  
Datum: NAD 1983 (Horizontal), NAVD 1986 (Vertical)

1 inch = 500 feet 1:6,000

0 250 500 1,000 Feet

0 75 150 300 Meters

PANEL LOCATOR



FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

National Flood Insurance Program

NORTH CAROLINA FLOODPLAIN MAPPING PROGRAM

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

NORTH CAROLINA

PANEL 7549

Panel Contains:

COMMUNITY

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

TROY, TOWN OF

CID

370336

7549

J

PANEL SUFFIX

370627

7549

J

MAP NUMBER

3710754900J

MAP REVISED

01/02/08



# Hydric Rating by Map Unit—Montgomery County, North Carolina (MCHS )



Map Scale: 1:6,540 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.

0 50 100 200 300 Meters

0 300 600 1200 1800 Feet

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 17N WGS84



**Natural Resources  
Conservation Service**


Web Soil Survey  
National Cooperative Soil Survey

9/19/2016  
Page 1 of 5

Hydric Rating by Map Unit—Montgomery County, North Carolina  
(MCHS )







## MAP LEGEND

### Area of Interest (AOI)







 Area of Interest (AOI)

### Soils







#### Soil Rating Polygons

 Hydric (100%)  
 Hydric (66 to 99%)  
 Hydric (33 to 65%)  
 Hydric (1 to 32%)  
 Not Hydric (0%)  
 Not rated or not available


#### Soil Rating Lines

 Hydric (100%)  
 Hydric (66 to 99%)  
 Hydric (33 to 65%)  
 Hydric (1 to 32%)  
 Not Hydric (0%)  
 Not rated or not available






#### Soil Rating Points

 Hydric (100%)  
 Hydric (66 to 99%)  
 Hydric (33 to 65%)  
 Hydric (1 to 32%)  
 Not Hydric (0%)  
 Not rated or not available

### Water Features

 Streams and Canals

### Transportation

 Rails  
 Interstate Highways  
 US Routes  
 Major Roads  
 Local Roads

### Background

 Aerial Photography

## MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 Web Soil Survey URL: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>  
 Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Montgomery County, North Carolina  
 Survey Area Data: Version 15, Sep 24, 2015

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Feb 11, 2011—Apr 2, 2011

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.



## Hydric Rating by Map Unit

Hydric Rating by Map Unit— Summary by Map Unit — Montgomery County, North Carolina (NC123)				
Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
BdB	Badin-Tarrus complex, 2 to 8 percent slopes	0	5.3	7.2%
GaB	Georgeville silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes	0	15.5	21.2%
GgD	Georgeville silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	0	2.1	2.8%
HaC	Herndon silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	0	25.4	34.6%
HdB	Herndon silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes, very stony	0	4.7	6.4%
HdC	Herndon silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes, very stony	0	12.1	16.4%
HdD	Herndon silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, very stony	0	7.5	10.2%
WyE	Wynott-Enon complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes, extremely bouldery	0	0.9	1.3%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>			<b>73.4</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Description

This rating indicates the percentage of map units that meets the criteria for hydric soils. Map units are composed of one or more map unit components or soil types, each of which is rated as hydric soil or not hydric. Map units that are made up dominantly of hydric soils may have small areas of minor nonhydric components in the higher positions on the landform, and map units that are made up dominantly of nonhydric soils may have small areas of minor hydric components in the lower positions on the landform. Each map unit is rated based on its respective components and the percentage of each component within the map unit.

The thematic map is color coded based on the composition of hydric components. The five color classes are separated as 100 percent hydric components, 66 to 99 percent hydric components, 33 to 65 percent hydric components, 1 to 32 percent hydric components, and less than one percent hydric components.

In Web Soil Survey, the Summary by Map Unit table that is displayed below the map pane contains a column named 'Rating'. In this column the percentage of each map unit that is classified as hydric is displayed.

Hydric soils are defined by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils (NTCHS) as soils that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (Federal Register, 1994). Under natural conditions, these soils are either saturated or inundated long enough during the growing season to support the growth and reproduction of hydrophytic vegetation.

The NTCHS definition identifies general soil properties that are associated with wetness. In order to determine whether a specific soil is a hydric soil or nonhydric soil, however, more specific information, such as information about the depth and duration of the water table, is needed. Thus, criteria that identify those estimated soil properties unique to hydric soils have been established (Federal Register, 2002). These criteria are used to identify map unit components that normally are associated with wetlands. The criteria used are selected estimated soil properties that are described in "Soil Taxonomy" (Soil Survey Staff, 1999) and "Keys to Soil Taxonomy" (Soil Survey Staff, 2006) and in the "Soil Survey Manual" (Soil Survey Division Staff, 1993).

If soils are wet enough for a long enough period of time to be considered hydric, they should exhibit certain properties that can be easily observed in the field. These visible properties are indicators of hydric soils. The indicators used to make onsite determinations of hydric soils are specified in "Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States" (Hurt and Vasilas, 2006).

### References:

Federal Register. July 13, 1994. Changes in hydric soils of the United States.

Federal Register. September 18, 2002. Hydric soils of the United States.

Hurt, G.W., and L.M. Vasilas, editors. Version 6.0, 2006. Field indicators of hydric soils in the United States.

Soil Survey Division Staff. 1993. Soil survey manual. Soil Conservation Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 18.

Soil Survey Staff. 1999. Soil taxonomy: A basic system of soil classification for making and interpreting soil surveys. 2nd edition. Natural Resources Conservation Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 436.

Soil Survey Staff. 2006. Keys to soil taxonomy. 10th edition. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

## Rating Options

*Aggregation Method:* Percent Present

*Component Percent Cutoff:* None Specified

*Tie-break Rule:* Lower

## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Endangered Species, Threatened Species, Federal Species of Concern, and Candidate Species, Montgomery County, North Carolina



Updated: 12-26-2012

Common Name	Scientific name	Federal Status	Record Status
<b>Vertebrate:</b>			
American eel	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	FSC	Current
<a href="#">Bald eagle</a>	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	BGPA	Current
Carolina darter	<i>Etheostoma collis collis</i>	FSC	Current
Carolina redhorse	<i>Moxostoma</i> sp. 2	FSC	Current
Northern pine snake	<i>Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus</i>	FSC	Current
Pinewoods darter	<i>Etheostoma mariae</i>	FSC	Current
<a href="#">Red-cockaded woodpecker</a>	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	E	Current
Sandhills chub	<i>Semotilus lumbee</i>	FSC	Historic
<b>Invertebrate:</b>			
Atlantic pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia masoni</i>	FSC	Current
Brook floater	<i>Alasmidonta varicosa</i>	FSC	Current
Carolina creekshell	<i>Villosa vaughaniana</i>	FSC	Current
Savannah lilliput	<i>Toxolasma pullus</i>	FSC	Current
Yellow lampmussel	<i>Lampsilis cariosa</i>	FSC	Current
<b>Vascular Plant:</b>			



Bog oatgrass	<i>Danthonia epilis</i>	FSC	Current
Bog spicebush	<i>Lindera subcoriacea</i>	FSC	Current
Dwarf aster	<i>Eurybia mirabilis</i>	FSC	Current
Georgia aster	<i>Symphotrichum georgianum</i>	C	Current
Ravine sedge	<i>Carex impressinervia</i>	FSC	Current
<a href="#">Schweinitz's sunflower</a>	<i>Helianthus schweinitzii</i>	E	Current
<a href="#">Smooth coneflower</a>	<i>Echinacea laevigata</i>	E	Historic
Yadkin River goldenrod	<i>Solidago plumosa</i>	C	Current

**Nonvascular Plant:****Lichen:****Definitions of Federal Status Codes:**

E = endangered. A taxon "in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range."

T = threatened. A taxon "likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range."

C = candidate. A taxon under consideration for official listing for which there is sufficient information to support listing. (Formerly "C1" candidate species.)

BGPA = Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. See below.

FSC = Federal Species of Concern. FSC is an informal term. It is not defined in the federal Endangered Species Act. In North Carolina, the Asheville and Raleigh Field Offices of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) define Federal Species of Concern as those species that appear to be in decline or otherwise in need of conservation and are under consideration for listing or for which there is insufficient information to support listing at this time. Subsumed under the term "FSC" are all species petitioned by outside parties and other selected focal species identified in Service strategic plans, State Wildlife Action Plans, or Natural Heritage Program Lists.

T(S/A) = threatened due to similarity of appearance. A taxon that is threatened due to similarity of appearance with another listed species and is listed for its protection. Taxa listed as T(S/A) are not biologically endangered or threatened and are not subject to Section 7 consultation. See below.

EXP = experimental population. A taxon listed as experimental (either essential or nonessential). Experimental, nonessential populations of endangered species (e.g., red wolf) are treated as threatened species on public land, for consultation purposes, and as species proposed for listing on private land.

P = proposed. Taxa proposed for official listing as endangered or threatened will be noted as "PE" or "PT", respectively.

**Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGPA):**

In the July 9, 2007 Federal Register( 72:37346-37372), the bald eagle was declared recovered, and removed (de-listed) from the Federal List of Threatened and Endangered wildlife. This delisting took effect August 8, 2007. After delisting, the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act) (16 U.S.C. 668-668d) becomes the primary law protecting bald eagles. The Eagle Act prohibits take of bald and golden eagles and provides a statutory definition of "take" that includes "disturb". The USFWS has developed National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines to provide guidance to land managers, landowners, and others as to how to avoid disturbing bald eagles. For mor information, visit

<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/baldeagle.htm>

**Threatened due to similarity of appearance(T(S/A)):**

In the November 4, 1997 Federal Register (55822-55825), the northern population of the bog turtle (from New York south to Maryland) was listed as T (threatened), and the southern population (from Virginia south to Georgia) was listed as T(S/A) (threatened due to similarity of appearance). The T(S/A) designation bans the collection and interstate and international commercial trade of bog turtles from the southern population. The T(S/A) designation has no effect on land management activities by private landowners in North Carolina, part of the southern population of the species. In addition to its official status as T(S/A), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service considers the southern population of the bog turtle as a Federal species of concern due to habitat loss.

**Definitions of Record Status:**

Current - the species has been observed in the county within the last 50 years.

Historic - the species was last observed in the county more than 50 years ago.

Obscure - the date and/or location of observation is uncertain.

Incidental/migrant - the species was observed outside of its normal range or habitat.

Probable/potential - the species is considered likely to occur in this county based on the proximity of known records (in adjacent counties), the presence of potentially suitable habitat, or both.

## Species/Community Search

(Data updated on June 15, 2016)

**Search Parameters:** Topo Map like 'Biscoe'

(Searched on Mon Aug 08 2016)

Do another search

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Filter search results:

Taxonomic Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	NC Status	Federal Status	State Rank	Global Rank	Topo Map	Topo Map Status
Freshwater Bivalve	Alasmidonta undulata	Triangle Floater	T		S3	G4	Biscoe	Current
Vascular Plant	Baptisia australis var. aberrans	Prairie Blue Wild Indigo	E		S2	G5T2	Biscoe	Current
Natural Community	Dry Oak--Hickory Forest (Piedmont Subtype)				S4	G4G5	Biscoe	Current
Natural	Dry-Mesic Oak--Hickory							

Community	Forest (Piedmont Subtype)				S4	G4G5	Biscoe	Current
Freshwater Fish	Etheostoma collis	Carolina Darter	SC	FSC	S3	G3	Biscoe	Current
Vascular Plant	Euphorbia mercurialina	Cumberland Spurge	SC-V		S2	G4	Biscoe	Current
Vascular Plant	Helianthus schweinitzii	Schweinitz's Sunflower	E	E	S3	G3	Biscoe	Current
Freshwater Bivalve	Lampsilis cariosa	Yellow Lampmussel	E	FSC	S3	G3G4	Biscoe	Current
Freshwater Bivalve	Lampsilis radiata	Eastern Lampmussel	T		S3	G5	Biscoe	Current
Natural Community	Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest (Piedmont Subtype)				S4	G3G4	Biscoe	Current
Freshwater Fish	Moxostoma sp. 3 (syn. Moxostoma sp. cf. erythrurum)	Carolina Redhorse	T	FSC	S2	G1G2Q	Biscoe	Current
Natural Community	Piedmont Headwater Stream Forest (Typic Subtype)				S3S4	G3G4	Biscoe	Current
Reptile	Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus	Northern Pinesnake	SC	FSC	S2	G4T4	Biscoe	Current
Vascular Plant	Solidago radula	Western Rough Goldenrod	E		S1	G5?	Biscoe	Current
Freshwater Bivalve	Strophitus undulatus	Creeper	T		S3	G5	Biscoe	Current
Natural Community	Upland Depression Swamp Forest				S2S3	G2G3	Biscoe	Current
Freshwater Bivalve	Villosa constricta	Notched Rainbow	SC		S3	G3	Biscoe	Current



Freshwater Bivalve	Villosa delumbis	Eastern Creekshell	SR		S4	G4	Biscoe	Current
Freshwater Bivalve	Villosa vaughaniana	Carolina Creekshell	E	FSC	S3	G2	Biscoe	Current



Help



Definitions



County Reference Map



## Topo Reference Map

A species/community search provides lists of rare plants and animals, natural communities, and important animal assemblages (e.g., heronries and colonial waterbird nesting sites) known to the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program. By default, records are summarized by county, but you also have the option to summarize the records by USGS topographic maps or simple statewide summaries. For more information or for an explanation of the results of the search, see the "Help" and "Definitions" links above.

- Partial search terms are acceptable. If you are unsure of the correct spelling, you could enter the beginning letters of either the genus or species in the Scientific Name field.
- To see distribution maps, click on the scientific or common name of an element in the table of results from a county or topo database search. Note that there are no maps for the statewide summary.
- The results can be further refined by entering a text string in the "Filter search results" field.
- Clicking the "Download Results" button will give you the option of saving the results table to a comma-separated-values file. This type of file can be opened with most spreadsheet programs, including Microsoft Excel.
- If you have any questions or technical issues, contact a Conservation Information Manager.

Use of North Carolina Natural Heritage Program data should not be substituted for actual field surveys, particularly if the project area contains suitable habitat for rare species. If a database search lists no records for a project area, it does not necessarily mean that they are not present. The area may not have been surveyed by biologists, or the data may not have been reported to the Natural Heritage Program.

Information obtained from the heritage data search should be cited as follows: North Carolina Natural Heritage Program Online Data Search. [search date]. Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Office of Land and Water Stewardship, Raleigh, NC. Available at: [www.ncnhp.org](http://www.ncnhp.org) (<http://www.ncnhp.org>).



## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Raleigh Ecological Services Field Office  
551 PYLON DRIVE, SUITE F  
RALEIGH, NC 27606  
PHONE: (919)856-4520 FAX: (919)856-4556



Consultation Code: 04EN2000-2016-SLI-0742

September 19, 2016

Event Code: 04EN2000-2016-E-01849

Project Name: Proposed Montgomery County High School

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

### To Whom It May Concern:

The species list generated pursuant to the information you provided identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

Section 7 of the Act requires that all federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representative), in consultation with the Service, insure that any action federally authorized, funded, or carried out by such agencies is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any federally-listed endangered or threatened species. A biological assessment or evaluation may be prepared to fulfill that requirement and in determining whether additional consultation with the Service is necessary. In addition to the federally-protected species list, information on the species' life histories and habitats and information on completing a biological assessment or

evaluation and can be found on our web page at <http://www.fws.gov/raleigh>. Please check the web site often for updated information or changes

If your project contains suitable habitat for any of the federally-listed species known to be present within the county where your project occurs, the proposed action has the potential to adversely affect those species. As such, we recommend that surveys be conducted to determine the species' presence or absence within the project area. The use of North Carolina Natural Heritage program data should not be substituted for actual field surveys.

If you determine that the proposed action may affect (i.e., likely to adversely affect or not likely to adversely affect) a federally-protected species, you should notify this office with your determination, the results of your surveys, survey methodologies, and an analysis of the effects of the action on listed species, including consideration of direct, indirect, and cumulative effects, before conducting any activities that might affect the species. If you determine that the proposed action will have no effect (i.e., no beneficial or adverse, direct or indirect effect) on federally listed species, then you are not required to contact our office for concurrence (unless an Environmental Impact Statement is prepared). However, you should maintain a complete record of the assessment, including steps leading to your determination of effect, the qualified personnel conducting the assessment, habitat conditions, site photographs, and any other related articles.

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan ([http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\\_guidance.html](http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

Not all Threatened and Endangered Species that occur in North Carolina are subject to section 7 consultation with the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service. Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon, sea turtles, when in the water, and certain marine mammals are under purview of the National Marine Fisheries Service. If your project occurs in marine, estuarine, or coastal river systems you should also contact the National Marine Fisheries Service, <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/>

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office. If you have any questions or comments, please contact John Ellis of this office at [john\\_ellis@fws.gov](mailto:john_ellis@fws.gov).

Attachment





United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Proposed Montgomery County High School

## Official Species List

**Provided by:**

Raleigh Ecological Services Field Office  
POST OFFICE BOX 33726  
RALEIGH, NC 27636  
(919) 856-4520

**Consultation Code:** 04EN2000-2016-SLI-0742

**Event Code:** 04EN2000-2016-E-01849

**Project Type:** \*\* OTHER \*\*

**Project Name:** Proposed Montgomery County High School

**Project Description:** For the proposed site of the Montgomery County High School in Troy, Montgomery County, North Carolina.

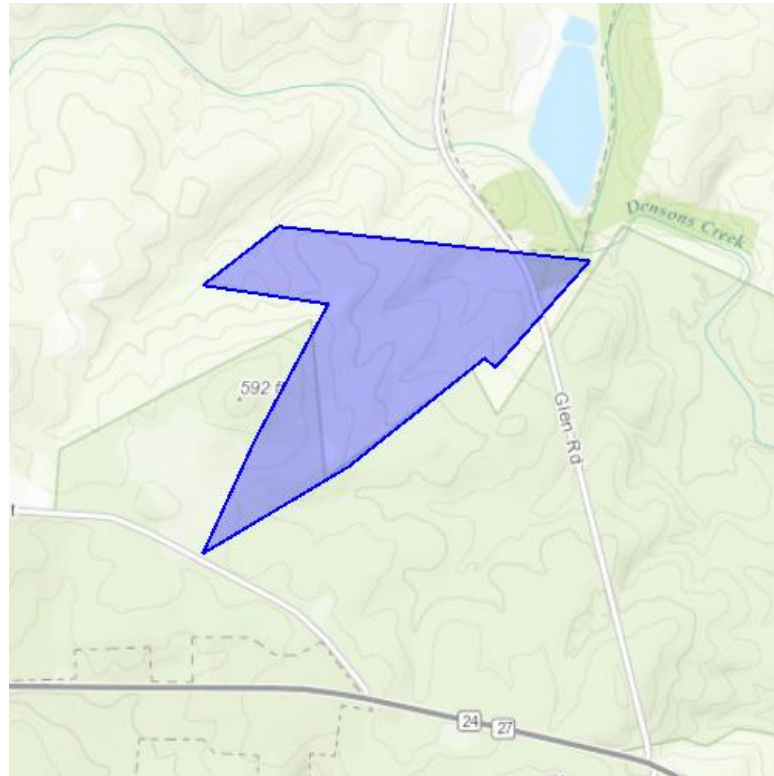
**Please Note:** The FWS office may have modified the Project Name and/or Project Description, so it may be different from what was submitted in your previous request. If the Consultation Code matches, the FWS considers this to be the same project. Contact the office in the 'Provided by' section of your previous Official Species list if you have any questions or concerns.



United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Proposed Montgomery County High School

### Project Location Map:



**Project Coordinates:** MULTIPOLYGON (((-79.86929655075073 35.364940845410906, -79.86796617507935 35.367355581263936, -79.86607789993286 35.37019017900785, -79.86931800842285 35.370610110948135, -79.86734390258789 35.37183489996104, -79.85931873321533 35.37111752579424, -79.8617434501648 35.36887787761246, -79.86202239990233 35.36905285236462, -79.86554145812988 35.36677815100085, -79.86929655075073 35.364940845410906)))

**Project Counties:** Montgomery, NC



United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Proposed Montgomery County High School

## Endangered Species Act Species List

There are a total of 3 threatened or endangered species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section further below for critical habitat that lies within your project. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Birds	Status	Has Critical Habitat	Condition(s)
Red-Cockaded woodpecker ( <i>Picoides borealis</i> ) Population: Wherever found	Endangered		
<b>Flowering Plants</b>			
Schweinitz's sunflower ( <i>Helianthus schweinitzii</i> ) Population: Wherever found	Endangered		
Smooth coneflower ( <i>Echinacea laevigata</i> ) Population: Wherever found	Endangered		



United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Proposed Montgomery County High School

## **Critical habitats that lie within your project area**

There are no critical habitats within your project area.