



# North Carolina Department of Transportation Program Model for NPDES Compliance

Presented By:  
Matthew Lauffer

FHWA Midwestern Hydraulic Engineering  
Conference, August 28



“To the man/woman who only has a hammer in the tool kit, every problem looks like a nail.” – Abraham Maslow



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# Objectives of Presentation:

1. Discuss the NCDOT's NPDES Program Model by discussing some of the permit compliance programs.
2. Share some of the highlights and lessons learned through examples.
3. Discuss Strategy for second Permit term.
4. Share some BMP Construction Sequence Examples (If time)



# Essence of NPDES Stormwater Program:

Management, Minimization, and Reduction of stormwater pollution (not complete elimination) through the use of both Non-Structural and Structural Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



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# What is a BMP?

According to EPA:

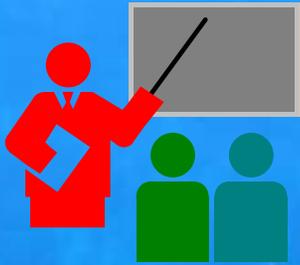
“technique, measure (non-structural) or structural control that is used for a **given set of conditions (context)** to manage quantity and improve the quality of stormwater runoff in the most cost effective manner.”



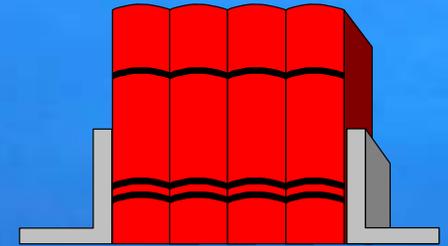
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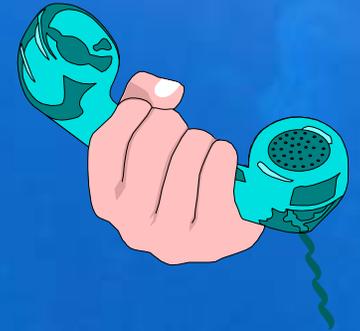
# Non-Structural BMPs



## Programs, Policies, and Practices



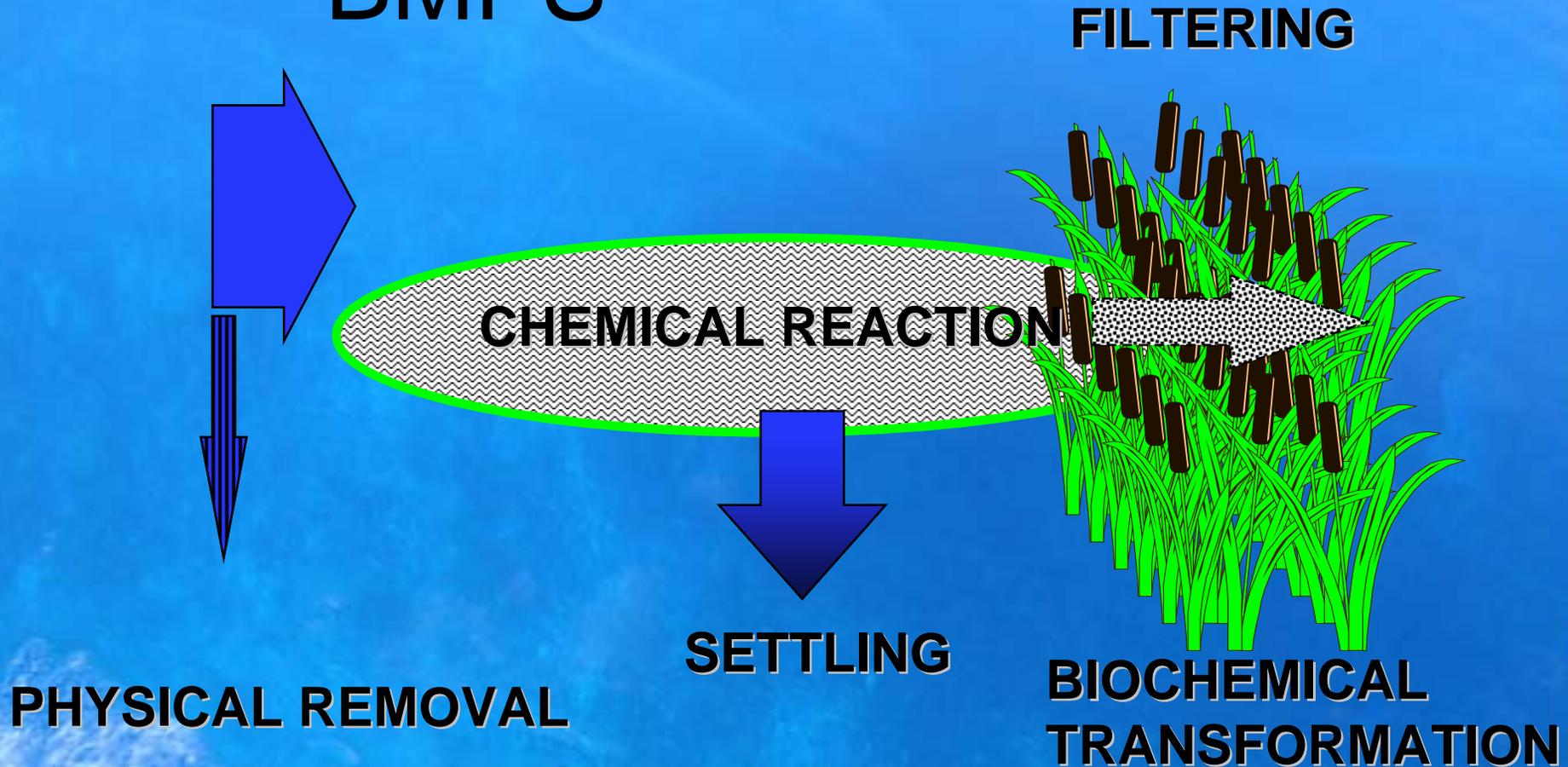
- ☆ Target pollutant
- 🕒 Pollutant delivery vectors
- 🕒 Interception or removal strategies
- 🕒 Measures of success
- 🕒 Implementation steps and responsibilities



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# STRUCTURAL BMPS



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# What are the set of conditions in NC

- 1 Geographic
2. Transportation
3. Organization
4. Other Related Regulations



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# Geographic Characteristics

- Physiographic Regions
- Climate
- Population Distribution
- Water Resources



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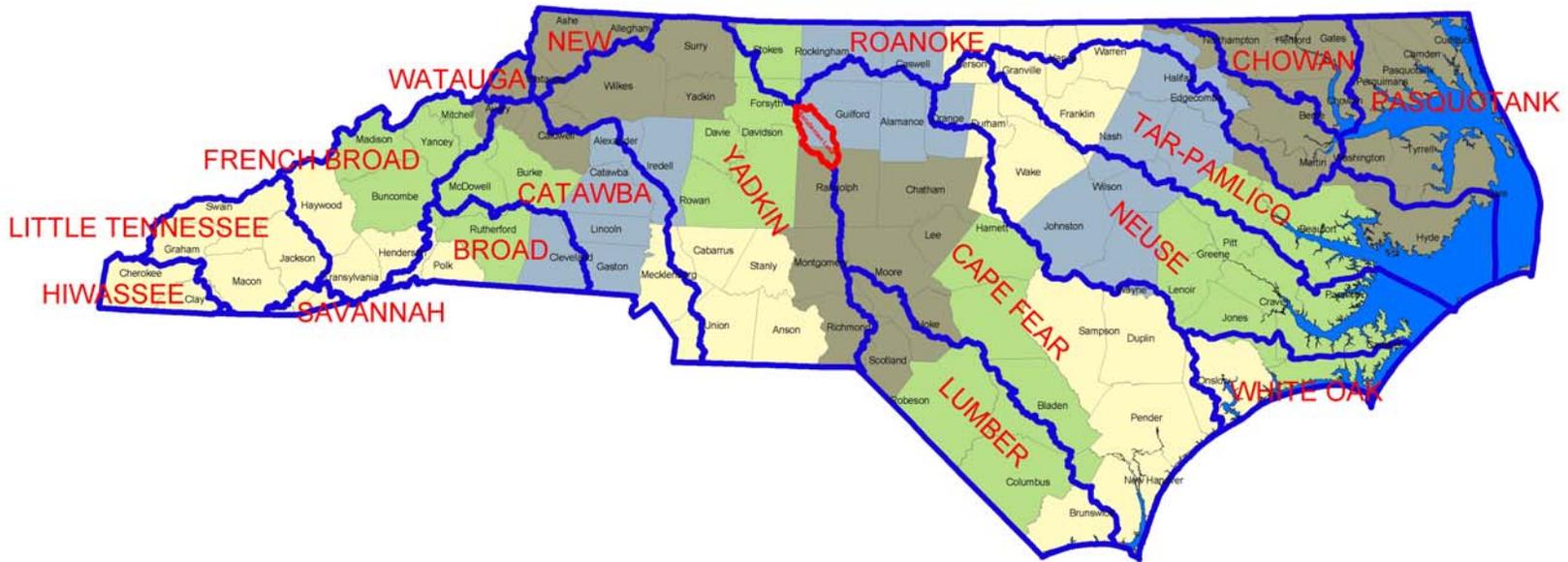


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# North Carolina Riverbasins



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# NCDOT Transportation Characteristics:

Primary Routes (US, NC,  
and Interstate) 14,669

Secondary Routes 63,821  
**NCDOT Total 78,490**

Other (City, State,  
Federal) 23,224  
**NC Total 101,714**



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# Organization

## MISSION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) mission is to provide and support a safe and integrated transportation system that enhances the state. NCDOT fulfills this mission through two major thrusts. First, NCDOT directs, plans, constructs, maintains and operates the second largest state-maintained transportation system in the nation to include aviation, ferry, public transportation, rail and highway systems. Second, NCDOT licenses and regulates the citizens and motor vehicles that utilize these transportation systems.



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# Organization

## NCDOT's Environmental Stewardship Policy

- ... conducting our business in an environmentally responsible manner
- Demonstrating...commitment to the environment.
- ...provide mobility and quality of life that includes protection of ...natural resources, and cultural and social values...

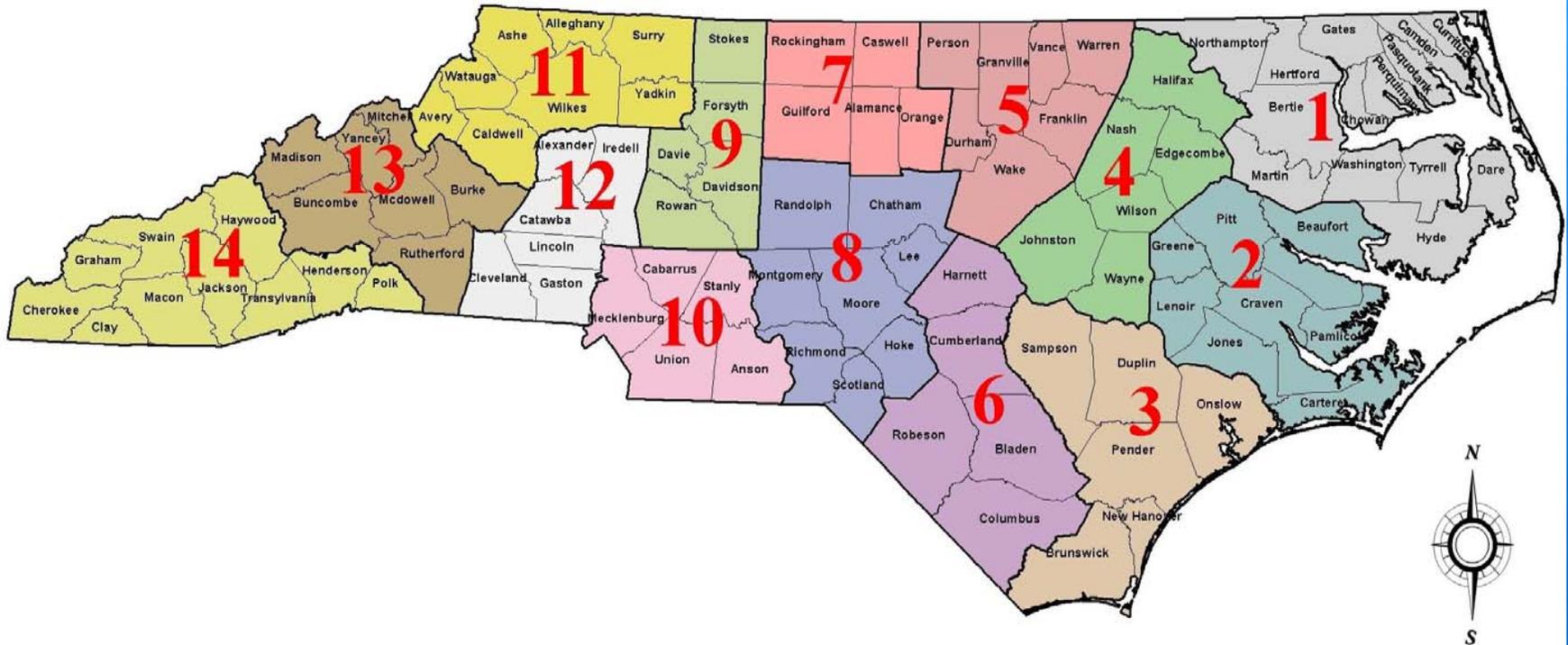


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# Organization

## NCDOT Divisions



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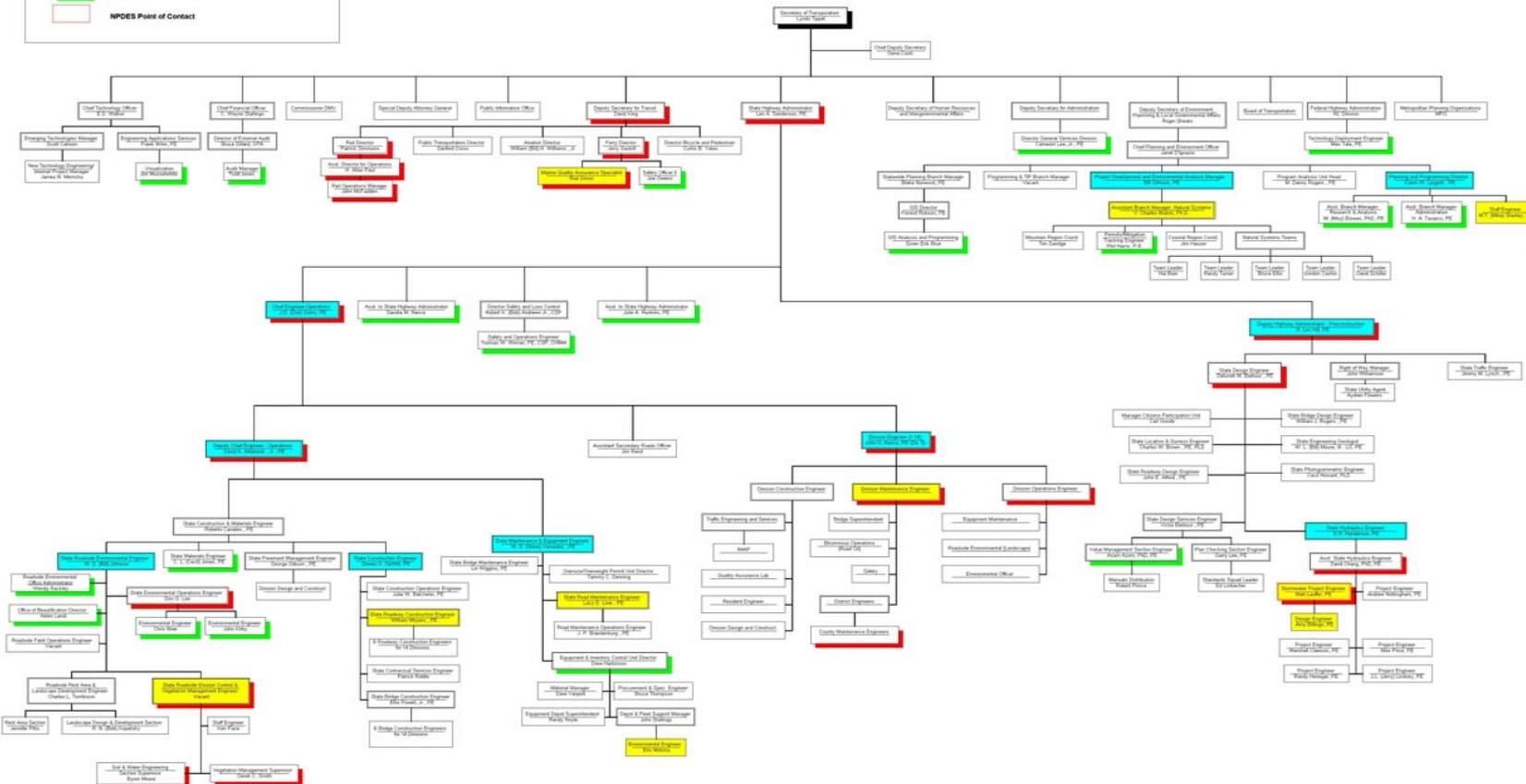


# Organization

## NC Department of Transportation NPDES Contact Chart



### LEGEND



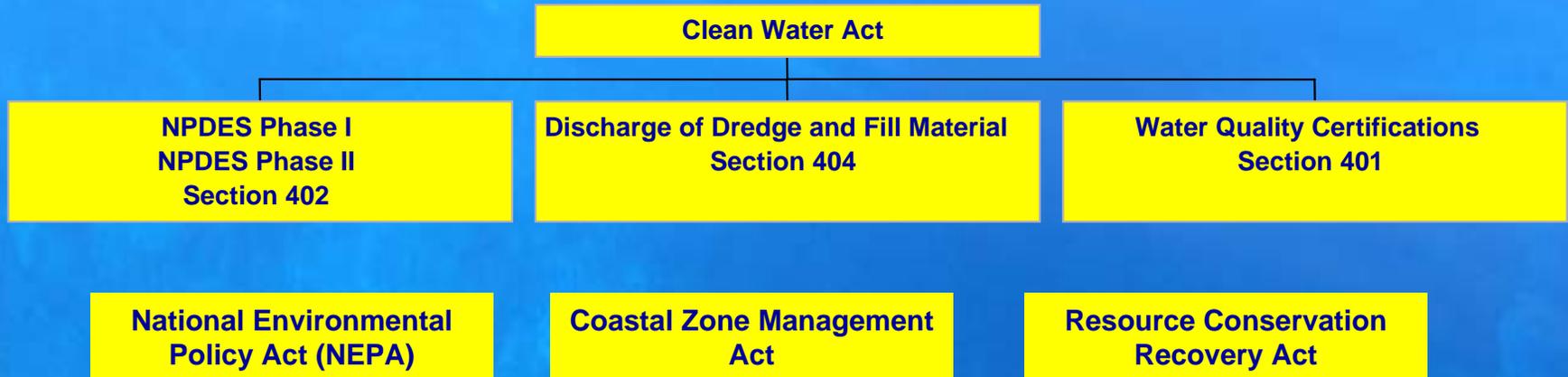
Lead Updated 08/2023, NPDES Contact Chart v14  
Hydraulic Unit  
HY17020

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# Regulations

## *Federal Requirements*



## *State Requirements*



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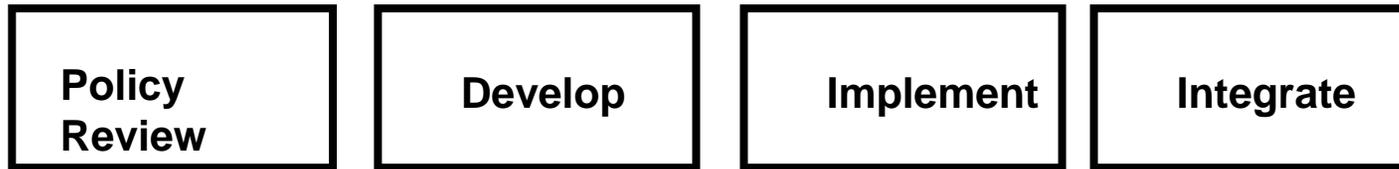
# Program Model and Guiding Principles

- (1) Comply with permit requirements in order to manage, minimize, and reduce pollutant loading from roadways and industrial areas.
- (2) Develop programs that can be effectively managed, implemented and integrated into NCDOT operations.
- (3) Develop solutions that are proactive, form partnerships, have technical merit and are fiscally responsible.

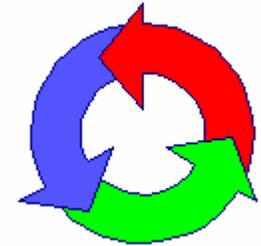


# Program Process Model

## Program Compliance

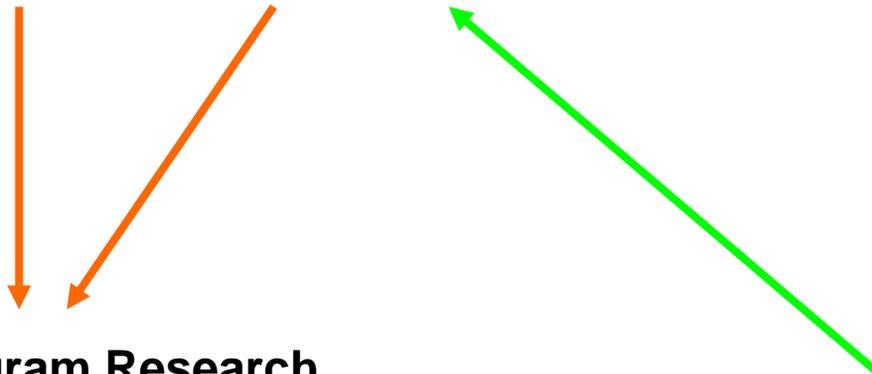


## Process Improvement



**Monitor  
Evaluate  
Maintain**

## Program Research



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# Partnerships:

Internal NCDOT

External:

Federal Agencies

State Agencies

Other State DOTs

Communities

Universities

Legislative

Consultants

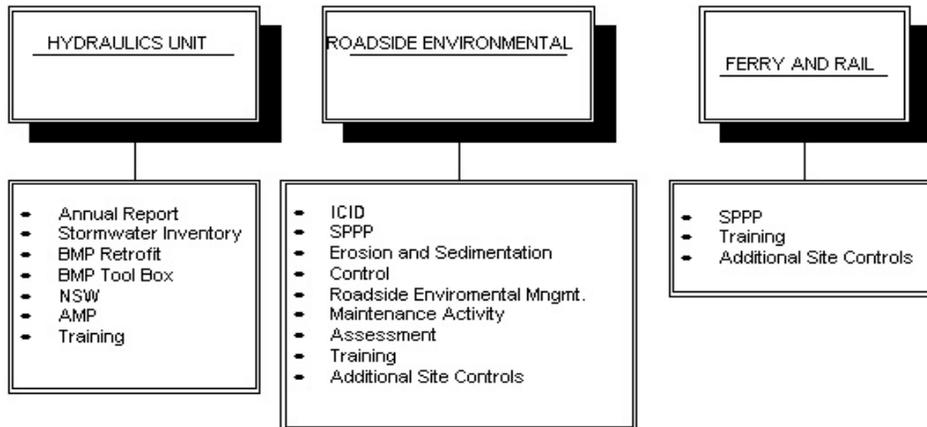


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# NPDES ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

## PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT /MANAGEMENT



## PROGRAM OVERSIGHT

- Chief Engineer-Operations
- Deputy Highway Admin - Preconstruction
- PDEA-Manager
- Planning and Programming Director
- Deputy Chief Engineer - Operations
- State Design Engineer
- State Maintenance and Equipment Engineer
- State Environmental Engineer
- State Construction Engineer
- Division Engineer
- State Hydraulics Engineer
- Stormwater Project Engineer

## PROGRAM INTEGRATION/ MAINTENANCE

Divisions  
 State Construction  
 State RoadsideEnvironmental  
 State Maintenance and Equipment  
 Hydraulics  
 Ferry  
**Rail**

## PROGRAM ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT

- Consultant
- Researchers
- FHWA
- Attorney General
- ITS
- GIS Analysis and Programming
- Planning and Programming
- Research and Analysis
- PDEA
- 



**NC Division of Water Quality issued  
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System  
(NPDES)**

**Permit No. NCS000250 to NCDOT  
(June 8, 1998 through May 31, 2003)**



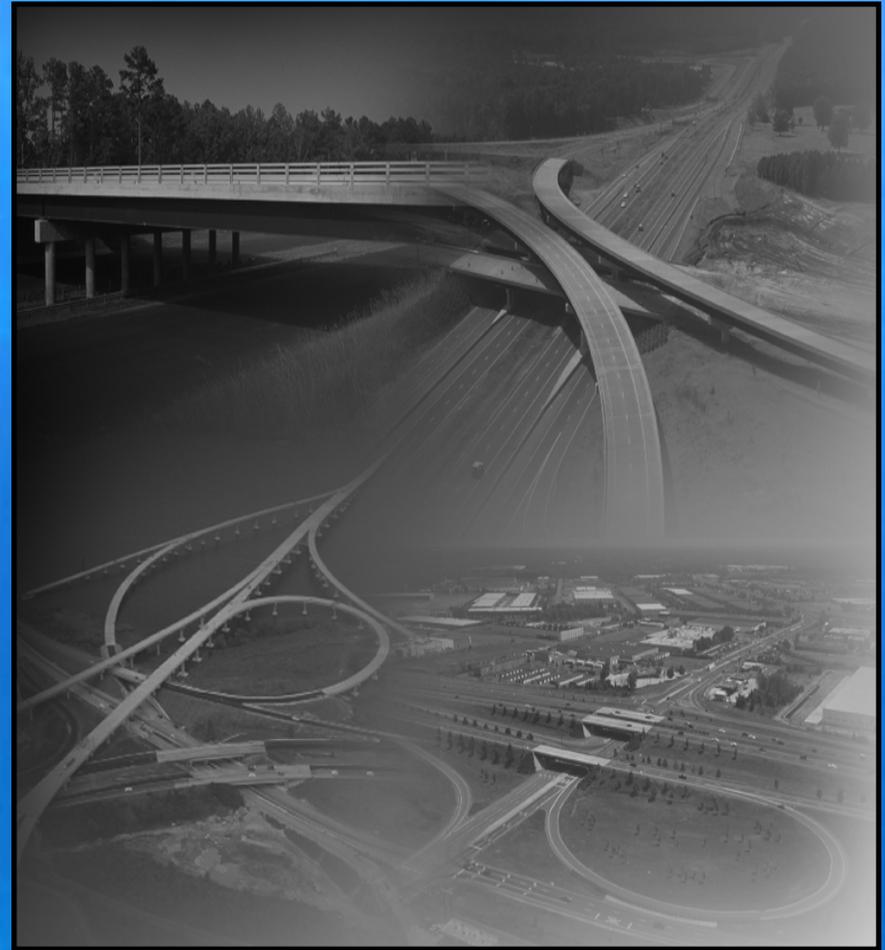
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# First Term Requirements:

## Roadway Drainage and Construction Activities

- 1) **Stormwater System Inventory and Prioritization**
- 2) **BMP Retrofits**
- 3) **BMP Toolbox**
- 4) **Illicit Connection and Illegal Dumping Program**
- 5) **New Private Sector Development**
- 6) **Nutrient Sensitive Waters Strategy**
- 7) **Education and Public Participation Program**
- 8) **Sediment and Erosion Control Program**
- 9) **Analytical Monitoring Program**
- 10) **Roadside Environmental Management Program**
- 11) **Maintenance Activity Assessment**
- 12) **Training**
- 13) **Additional Site Controls**

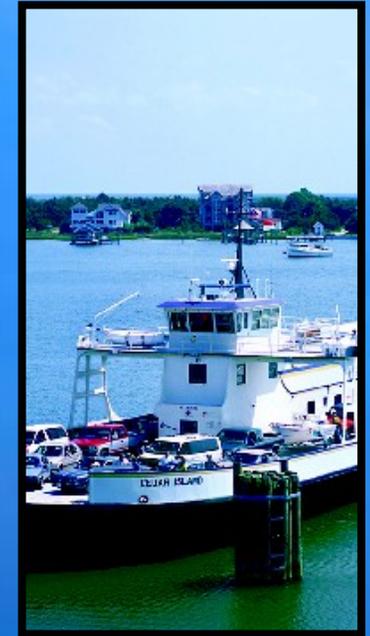


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# Industrial Activities

- Asphalt Plants
- Ferry Terminals
- Maintenance Yards



## 1) Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans

2) Qualitative Monitoring

3) Quantitative Monitoring



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# Borrow Pits / Waste Piles

- 1) Sediment and Erosion Control Measures
- 2) Reclamation Plans
- 3) Borrow Pit Wastewater Discharges



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# Industrial Facilities

## Program Compliance: Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans

Combination of Non-structural and Structural Practices to minimize impact to stormwater runoff.

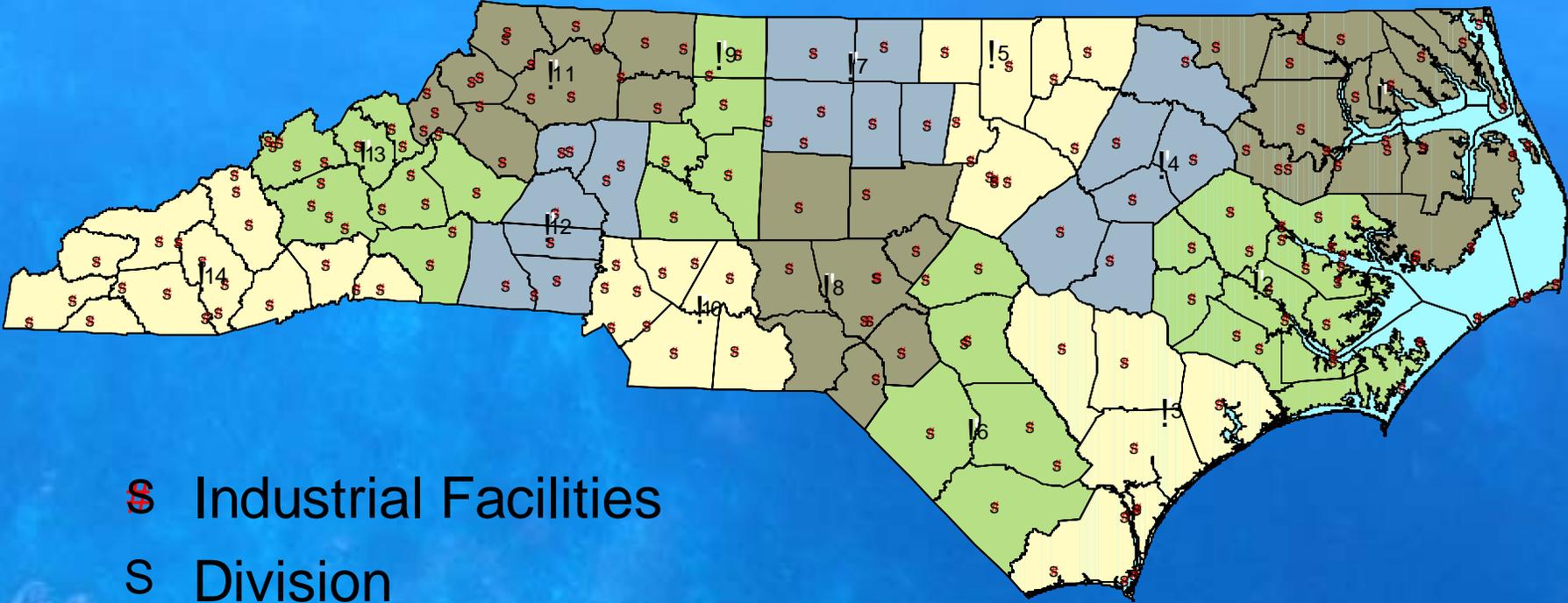
## Program Research: Structural BMP Implementation



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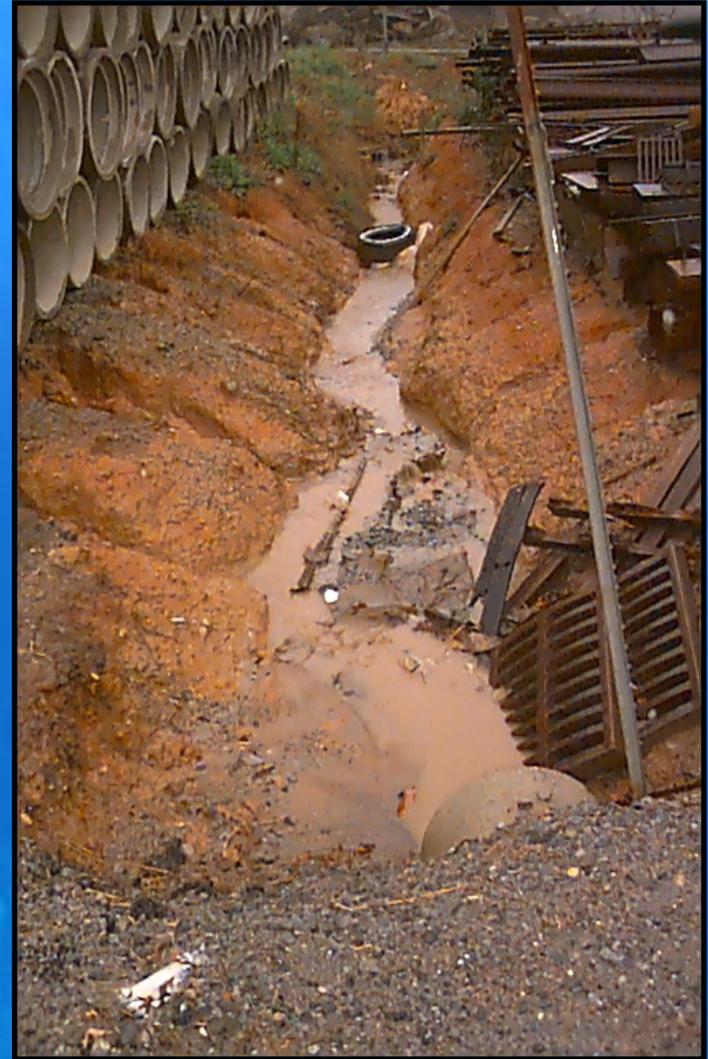


# NCDOT Industrial Facilities



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# Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SPPP)

- Responsibilities
- Education
- BMPs
  - Programmatic
  - Operational
  - Structural
- Monitoring Requirements
- Reporting

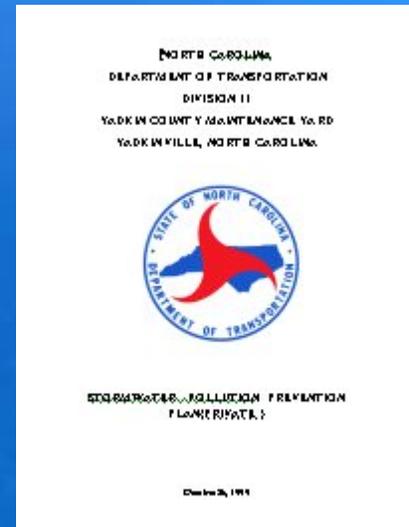
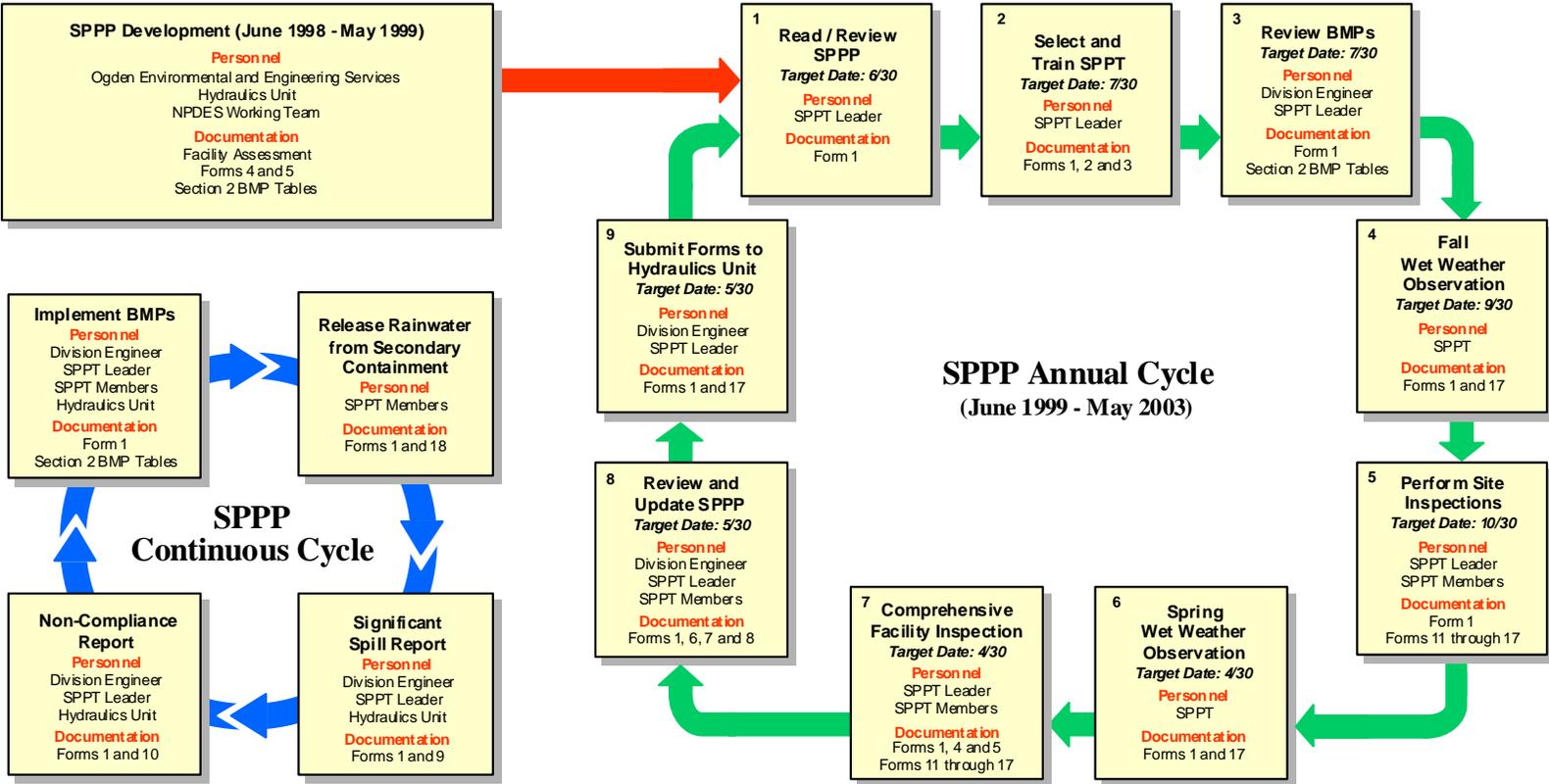


Figure 2

# NCDOT Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SPPP) Process Diagram



# SPPP Information Management System

Stormwater  
Pollution  
Prevention  
Plan

Help

## Authorized User Login

User Name:

Email Password:

Login Clear

**New Updates:**

1. New SPPP Web Site design layout with new header information and new buttons.
2. New Best Management Practice (BMP) sections to track completion and funding of SPPP BMPs.
3. New Update User capabilities for POCs and Directors.
4. Users are able to view and edit Form 5 and Form 6 as part of Form 1.



**Director:** Matthew Lauffer

**Year:** Year 5 (7/1/2002 to 6/30/2003) **Form:** Main Page

Please select one of the items below.

SPPP Annual Cycle Status

Track and report SPPP progress.

BMP Funding Summary

Track and report BMP progress.

User Administration

Update and modify user information.

Log Off

Exit the SPPP application and return to the Login Page.

Director: Matthew Lauffer

Year: Year 5 (7/1/2002 to 6/30/2003)    Form: Task Summary by Division

Task Summary by Division

Division	Tasks Complete	View Details	Division Engineer	POC
1	 11%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Don R. Corner</a>	<a href="#">Anthony W. Roper</a>
2	 17%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Neil Lassiter</a>	<a href="#">Dwayne Alligood</a>
3	 19%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Allen Pope</a>	<a href="#">Jackson W. Provost</a>
4	 11%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Jim Trogdon</a>	<a href="#">Jimmy Eatmon</a>
5	 16%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Jon Nance</a>	<a href="#">Ricky E. Greene</a>
6	 08%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Terry R. Gibson PE</a>	<a href="#">Ken Murphy</a>
7	 28%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Mike Mills</a>	<a href="#">Tommy Dyer</a>
8	 23%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Bill Rosser, PE</a>	<a href="#">Richard W Hancock</a>
9	 28%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Pat Ivey, P.E.</a>	<a href="#">Mike Patton, P.E.</a>
10	 02%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Benton G. Payne</a>	<a href="#">Larry Gordon</a>
11	 08%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">R. Carl McCann, PE</a>	<a href="#">Michael A. Pettyjohn PE</a>
12	 00%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Mike Holder</a>	<a href="#">Joe C. Lamb</a>
13	 20%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Dan Martin, PE</a>	<a href="#">Ken Putnam, PE</a>
14	 11%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Ron G. Watson</a>	<a href="#">Reuben Moore</a>
Equipment Depot	 00%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Drew Harbinson</a>	<a href="#">Eric Motzko</a>
Ferry	 21%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Jerry Gaskill</a>	<a href="#">Joe Owens</a>
Rail	 00%	<a href="#">Detail</a>	<a href="#">Patrick B. Simmons</a>	<a href="#">Allan Paul</a>
Totals	 14%			



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# Industrial Facilities Research/ Monitoring

Borrow/Waste Material Storage Areas

Equipment Rinsing

Facility

Alternative wastewater treatment for equipment  
washing not connected to sanitary



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# Stormwater Outfall Inventory

NCDOT shall inventory and characterize existing stormwater outfalls to sensitive waters. During the first two years of the permit term, the inventory shall focus on characterizing outfalls on roadways which cross and/or run parallel to sensitive waters and outfalls at all NCDOT industrial facilities which discharge directly to sensitive waters.

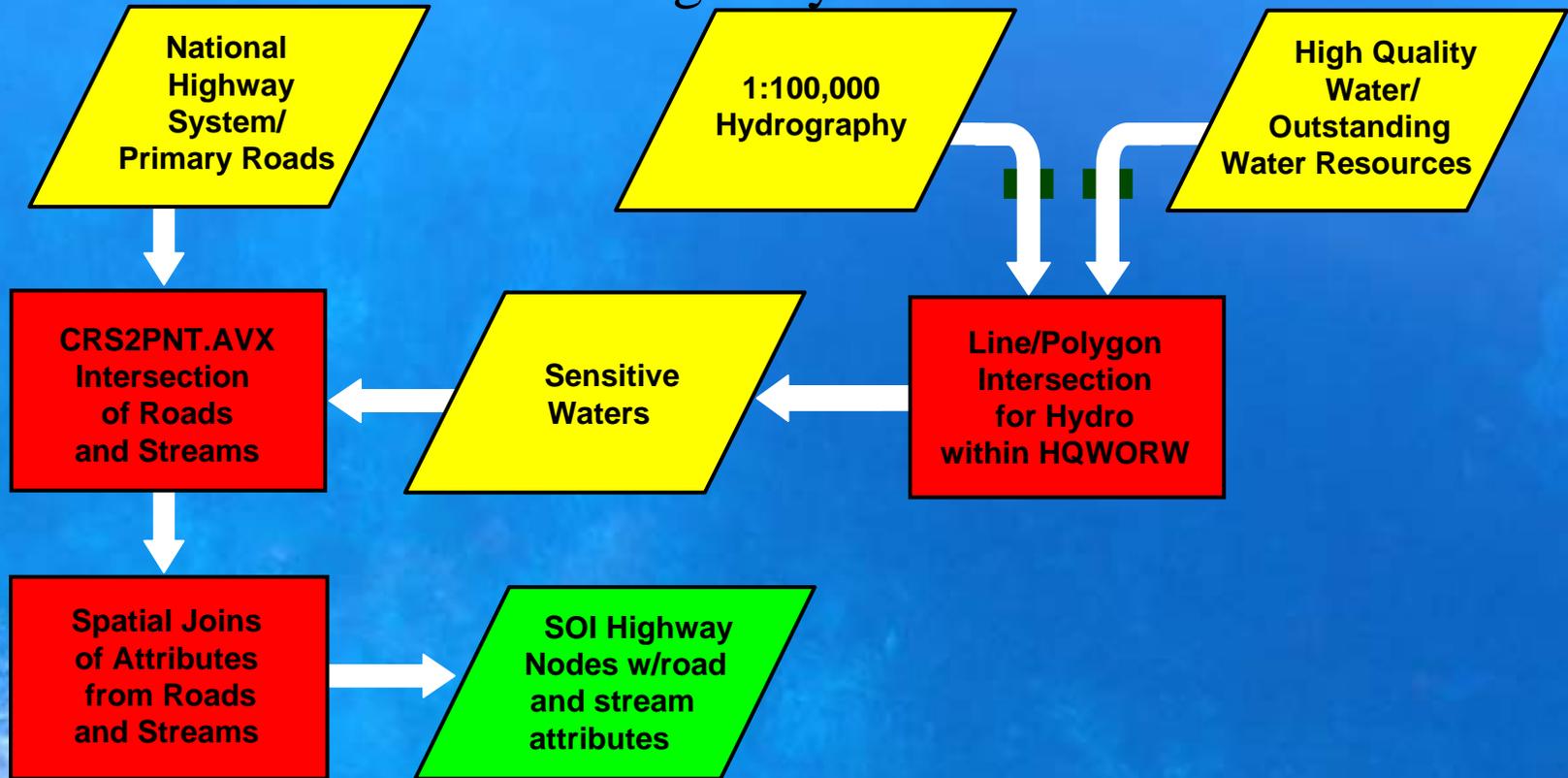


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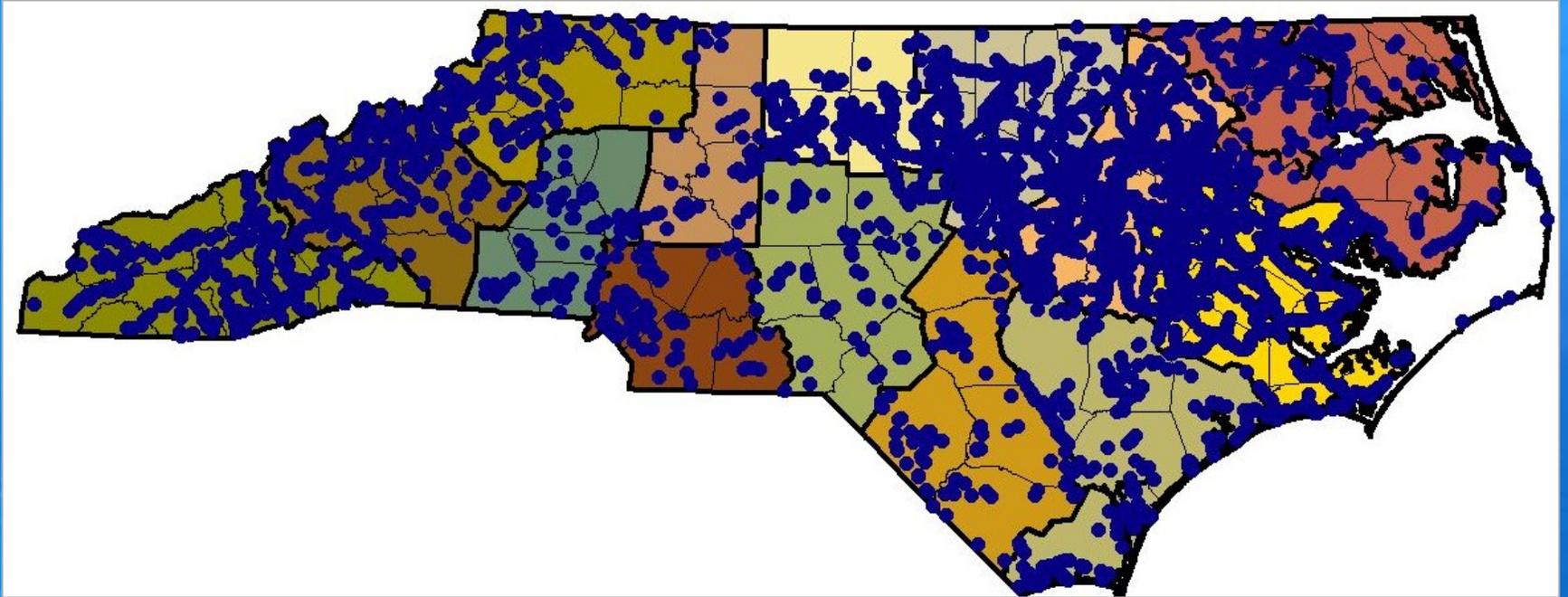


# Stormwater Outfall Inventory Methodology

## Highway Outfalls



# Sensitive Water Crossings for Primary Routes



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# BMP Retrofit/Demonstration Program

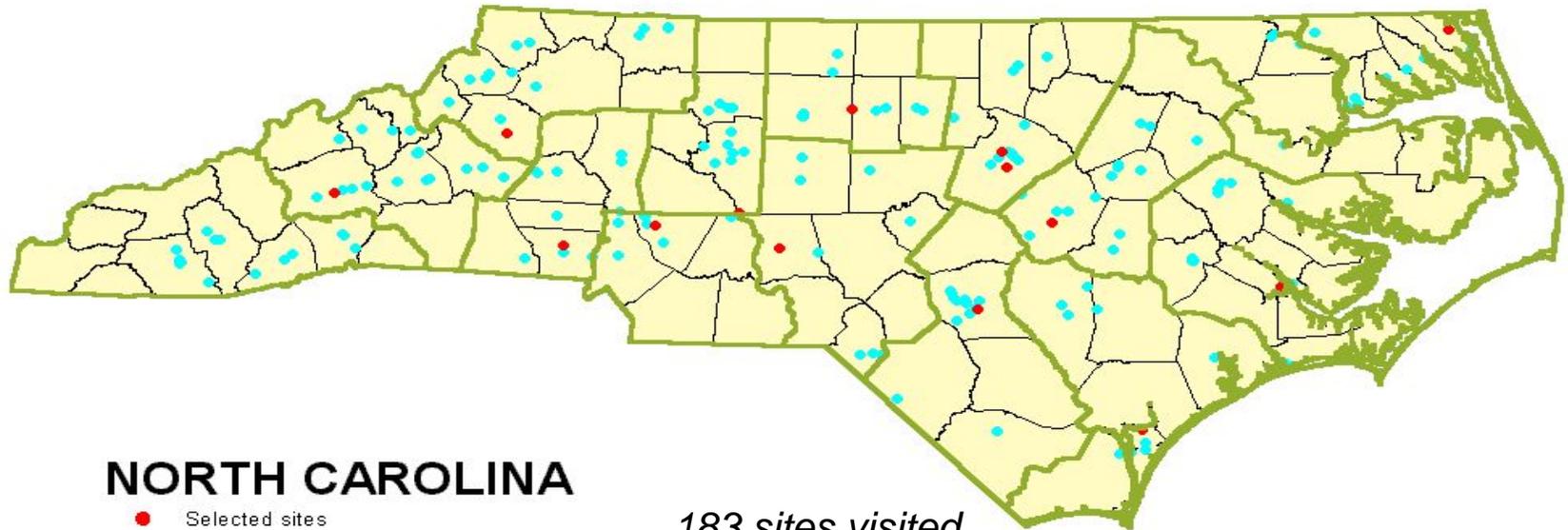
During the last three years of the permit term, a minimum of one BMP retrofit per year shall be implemented in each of the fourteen NCDOT Divisions. The retrofits shall address the highest priority sites identified through the stormwater system inventory.



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# SITES VISITED/ SITES SELECTED BMP RETROFIT PROJECT



## NORTH CAROLINA

- Selected sites
- Visited sites
- Counties
- Division Boundary

*183 sites visited*  
•41 high potential  
•56 medium potential  
•86 low potential

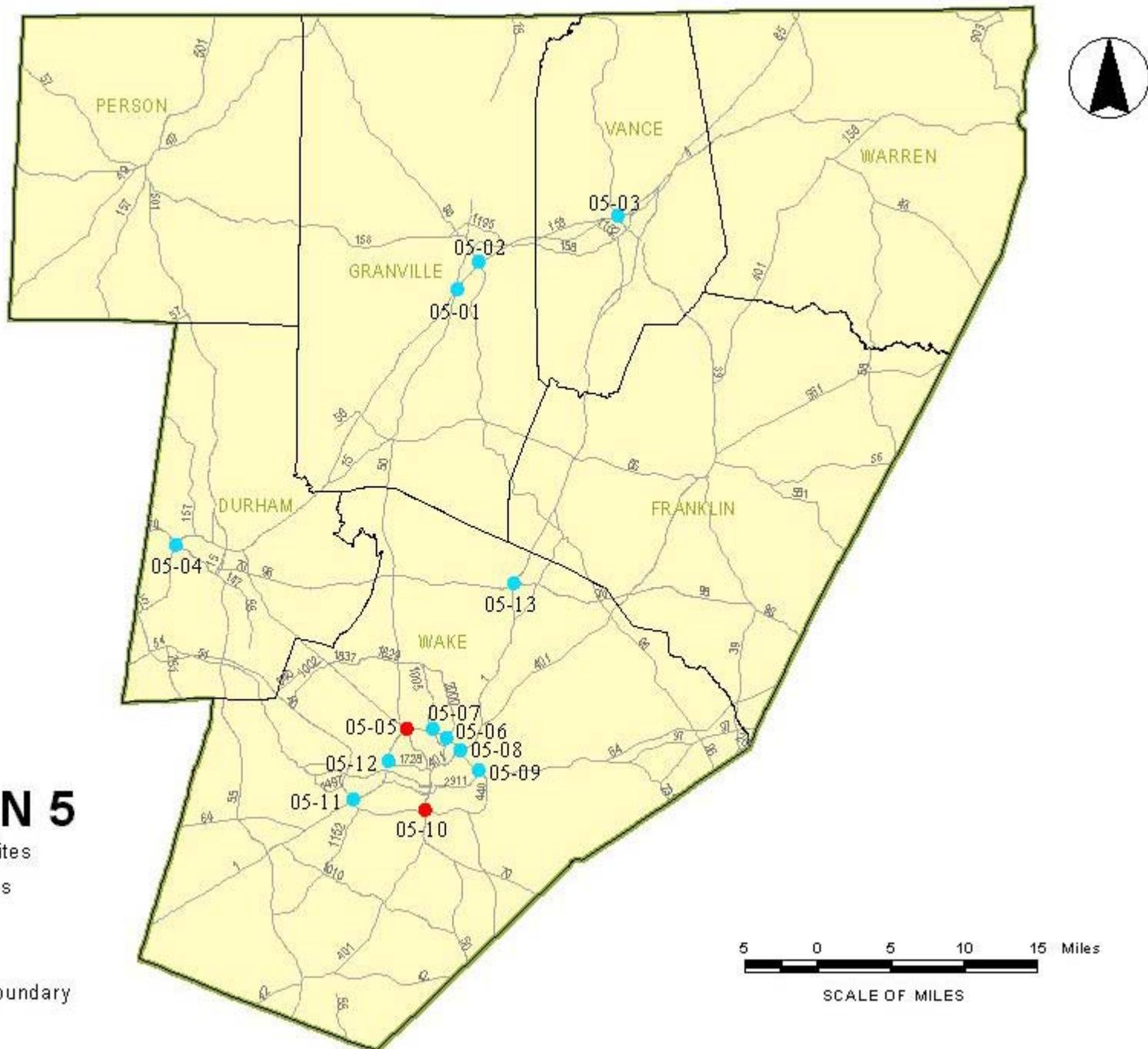


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FIGURE 1  
**DIVISION 5**

- Selected sites
- Visited sites
- Roads
- Counties
- Division Boundary



# Types of BMPs Considered:

- Wet Pond
- Extended Dry Detention Basin
- Stormwater Wetland
- Pocket Wetland
- Bioretention
- Infiltration Basin
- Grassed Swale
- Water Quality Channel
- Level Spreader
- Vegetated Filter Strip



# Structural BMP Design

## Water Quality Volume

- The water that runs off the land during a 1-inch rainfall event

$$WQ_v = ((1.0) * (R_v) * (A)) / 12$$

Where:

1.0 = Depth of rainfall required to capture and treat approximately 80% of storm events

$R_v$  = Volumetric Runoff Coefficient that is a function of impervious area



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## Division 4, Year 1: Level Spreader



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## Division 3, Year 2: Bio-Retention



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# Division 2: Dry Water Quality Swale



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# Bridge Drainage



Previous Outfall

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# Division 2, Year 2: Dry Water Quality Swale, Prior to Construction



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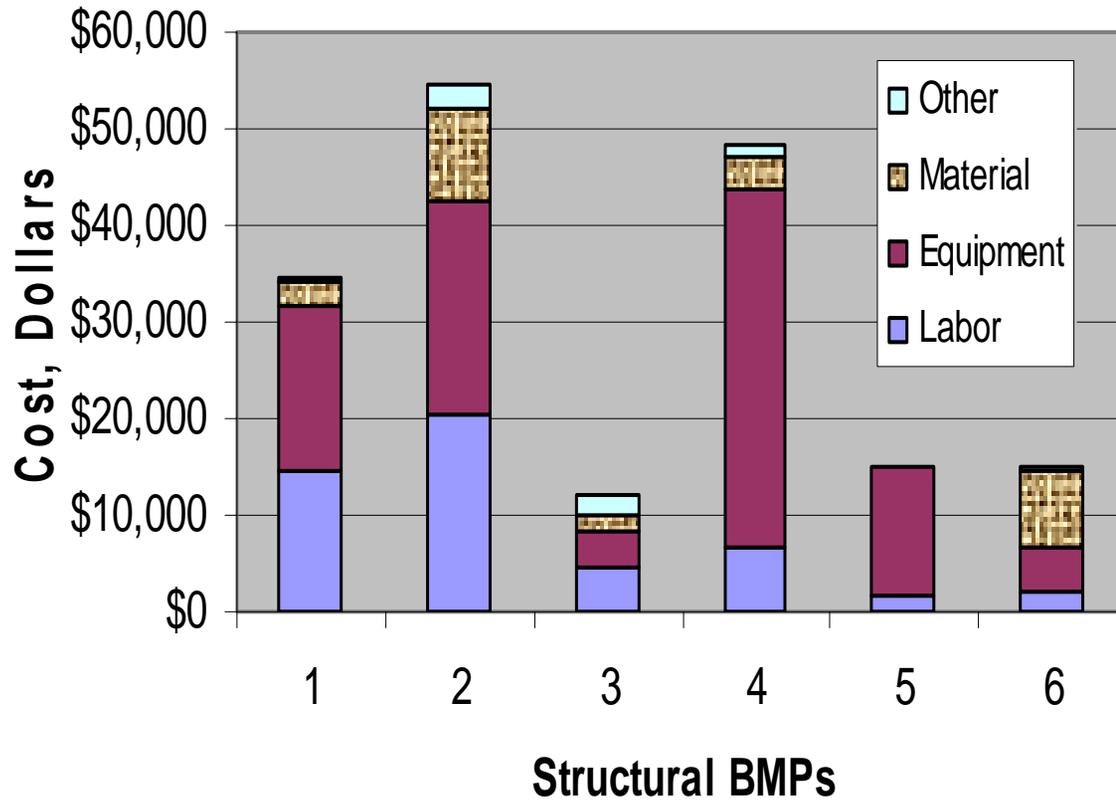
# Division 2, Year 2: Dry Water Quality Swale, After Construction



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## Average Costs for BMP Retrofits



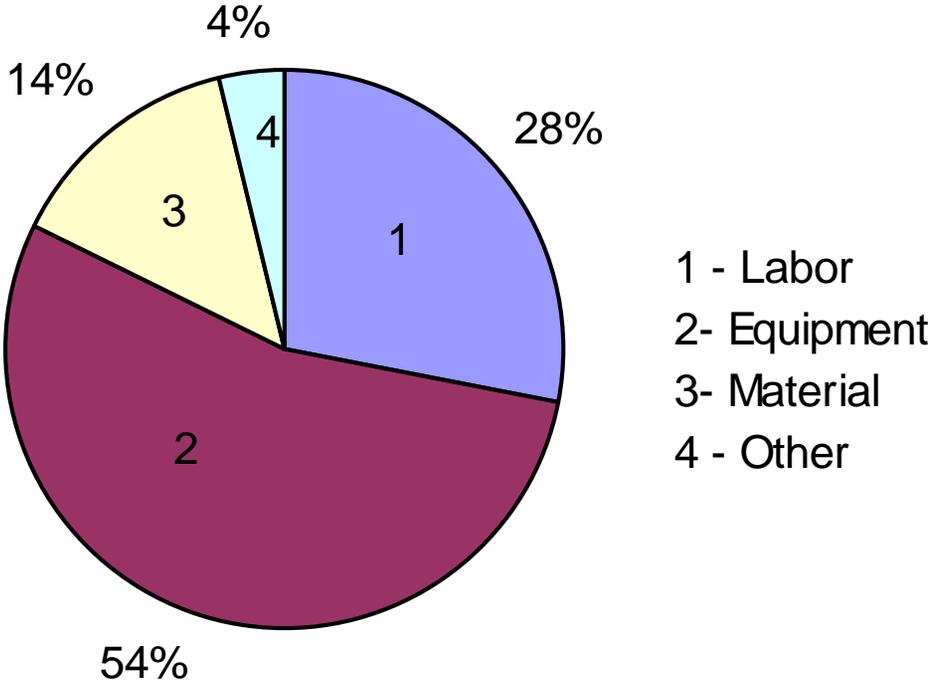
- 1 Water Quality Swale
2. Bioretention
3. Dry Detention
4. Level Spreader w/  
Filter Strip
5. Curb Cuts in  
Interchange
6. Manhole Inserts



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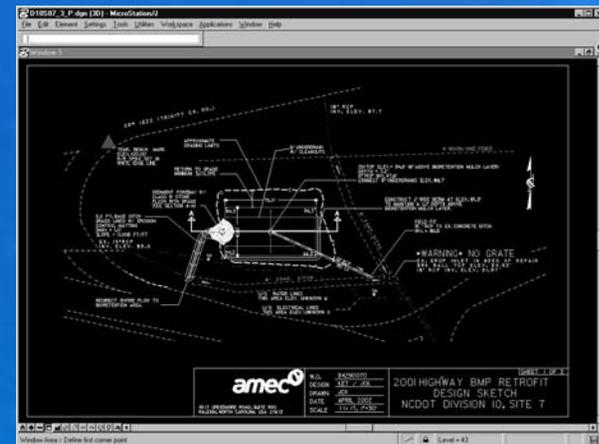
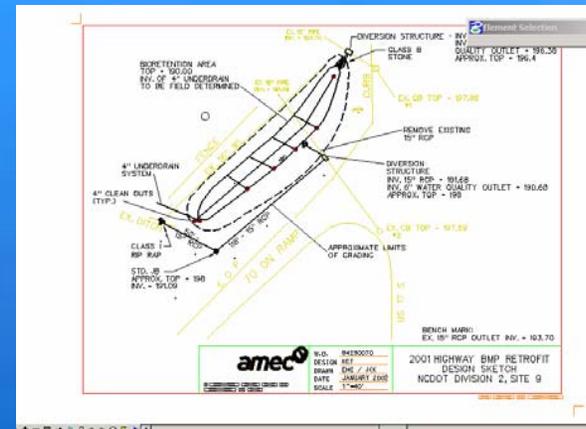


# BMP Construction Cost Breakdown



# Lessons Learned and Challenges of BMP Program

- Detailed Construction Drawings and Specifications.
- Meet with Construction Staff about Design and Function.
- Materials Should be on site Prior to Construction.
- Pre-Construction Meeting where responsibilities are outlined.
- Oversight during construction.
- Correct Materials and Processes



# NPDES Phase II Negotiations:

## Example of effective Non-Structural BMP



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# Second Permit Term Objectives:

1. Follow same guiding principles and policies.
2. Maintain and enhance programs from first permit term and implement new programs that are a result of Phase II requirements (Post Construction Runoff Controls).
3. Retain a toolbox of consultants with different specialties.
4. Integrate Structural BMPs into TIP Projects.
5. Build partnership demonstration projects that meet multifunctional needs.
6. Increase staffing and areas of expertise.
7. Develop NCDOT's impact on Priority Watersheds through modeling.



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## Closing Thoughts:

- 1) Have more than a hammer in your tool kit.
- 2) Build Partnerships
- 3) Be Proactive
- 4) Think Context Sensitive Solutions
- 5) Think Win-Win
- 6) Better Than Before



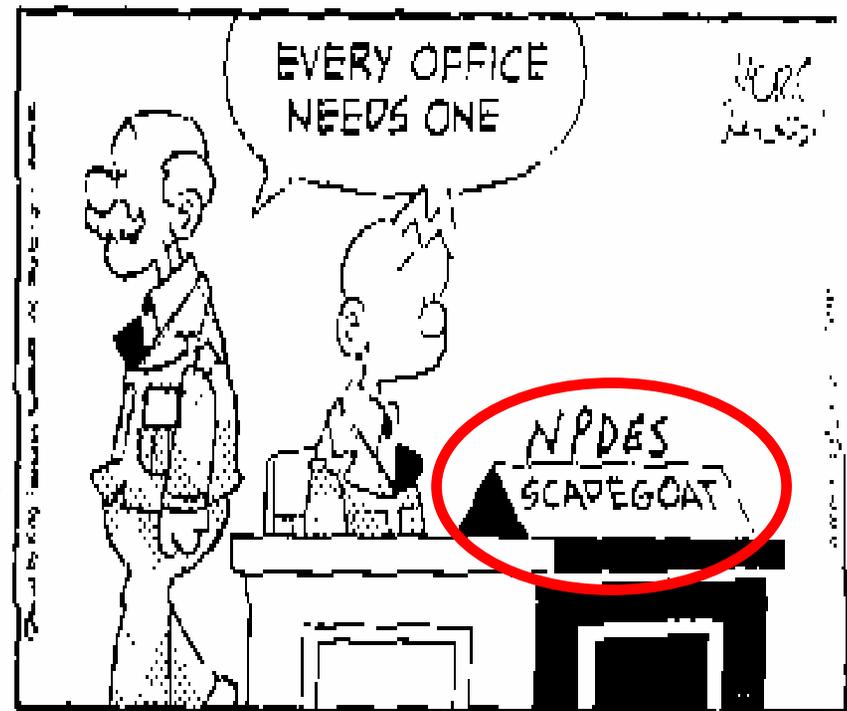
Courtesy Richard Biggins - USFWS



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# Beetle Bailey



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# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.





# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Drainage Area**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Original Outlet**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Cleared Site**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Initial Grading**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Placing of Fabric Layer 1**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Placing of Soil Over Fabric Layer 1**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Placing of Outlet and Overflow Boxes**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**View of Outlet and Overflow Boxes in Place**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Construction of Berm**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

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**View of Permeable Pipe placed over Fabric Layer 2**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

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**Placing of Stone Over Permeable Pipe and Fabric Layer 2**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

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**Placing of Engineered Soil Over Fabric Layer 3**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

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**Fine Grading of Engineered Soil**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

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**Placing of Matting**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

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**View of Swale After Fine Grading and Placement of Matting**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Formation of Sediment Forebay**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Placement of Inlet Boxes**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

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**View of Berm and Paving Around Inlets**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**View of Drainage Area with Berm and Inlets**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**Roadside Environmental Placing Sodding**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

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**View of Swale with Sodding**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM DRY WATER QUALITY SWALE

Div. 2, Craven Co.



**View of Finished Swale**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**View of Undisturbed Site Looking Towards Car Parking Area**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**View of Undisturbed Site Looking Towards Truck Parking Area and Exit**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**Beginning of Earth Excavation**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**Installation of Diversion into Bio-Retention Basin**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**Construction of Berm at Outflow of Bio-Retention Basin**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**Placement of Outflow Box**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**Fine Grading of Bio-Retention Basin Subgrade**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**Placement of Subgrade Fabric Layer 1**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**Floor of Bio-Retention Basin Covered with Fabric Layer 1**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**Placement of Perforated Pipe on Subgrade of Bio-Retention Basin**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**View of Bio-Retention Basin Floor with Fabric Layer 1 and Drainage Pipe**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

Div. 12, Catawba Co.



**Placement of Stone around Drainage Pipe**



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**View of Graded Stone Covering Drainage Pipe**



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**View of Fabric Layer 2 Covering Graded Stone**



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**Mixing of Engineered Soil**



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**Placing of Engineered Soil on Fabric Layer 2**



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**Sediment Forebay**



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**View of Bio-Retention Basin Prior to Mulching and Seeding**



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**View of Bio-Retention Basin after Mulching and Seeding**



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**Placement of Plants by Roadside Environmental Before Planting**



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**Careful Attention to Detail to Insure Plant Growth**



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**Our Finished Product, Bio-Retention Basin**



# BMP RETROFIT PROGRAM BIO-RETENTION BASIN

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**Bio-Retention Basin with Flowers in Bloom**



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**A Happy and Clean Outcome**