

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Wetland

Harkins Avenue Subdivision Development Haywood County, North Carolina

To: All interested Federal, State, and Local Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the North Carolina Department of Commerce (NCDOC), Division of Community Revitalization (DCR) under 24 CFR Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action is located in wetlands, and DCR will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the wetland, and the potential impacts on the wetland from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988 and Executive Order 11990 and in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C, Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The proposed project is located in Haywood County between Harkins Avenue and Keith Street in Canton, North Carolina 28721 (Parcel 8647-83-7739; Coordinates: -82.870754, 35.540037).

The project proposes constructing approximately 18 detached single-family homes based on current design plans. The development will be situated on 5.97-acres of undeveloped, cleared land previously used for agriculture. Project activities will include all necessary site work, utilities, and infrastructure necessary to support the development of the property. Areas of disturbance associated with the proposed development will extend along Keith Street through the intersection of Keith Street and James Street. This work will facilitate the installation of a new stormwater conveyance pipe along the centerline of Keith Street, replacement of the culvert running beneath James Street just south of Keith Street, and new public infrastructure and utilities within Keith Street right-of-way.

The proposed project area contains an area of NWI-mapped Riverine wetland, classified as R4SBC, defined as a seasonally or intermittently flooded channel which contains flowing water only part of the year. This wetland is located on the southern edge of the property which drains into the partially culverted channel running parallel along the south side of Keith Street. Riverine systems are critical for nutrient cycling and providing passage for migratory aquatic species, while also maintaining water flow and quality in watersheds. They act as natural water filters, slowing surface runoff, storing floodwater, and trapping sediment and nutrients, which improves water quality. This channelized wetland system extends beyond Keith Street and connects to a much larger wetland area surrounding Patton Branch and eventually drains into the Pigeon River to the northwest. The proposed project has the potential to directly impact approximately 0.27 acres of wetlands located along the southern edge of the property being developed. While proposed work along Keith St. has potential to directly impact another 0.50 acres of wetlands along the southern edge of Keith St. Indirect construction impacts to these wetland areas directly adjacent to planned work may also occur. Additionally, the project has the potential to indirectly impact offsite wetlands west of James Street along the Patton Branch as stormwater from the project area is conveyed towards the Pigeon River.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in the wetland and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the wetland, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate project impacts on the wetland. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comments about the wetland can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special

areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in a wetland, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the North Carolina Department of Commerce (NCDOC), Division of Community Revitalization (DCR) at the following address on or before July 1, 2026 [a minimum 15 calendar day comment period will begin the day after the publication and end on the 16th day after the publication]:

North Carolina Department of Commerce (NCDOC)
Division of Community Revitalization (DCR)
4301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-4346
Attention: Daniel Herrera, Environmental Program Manager

A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8:00am to 4:00pm at the same address as above and on the [DCR website](#). Comments may also be submitted via email to dcr.environmental@commerce.nc.gov.

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