

Module 1 - Locally Administered and Division Managed Project Overview

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Sheila Gibbs, Program Consultant, NCDOT Local Programs Management Office
Sheila has worked in the LPMO office for 11 years and has a total of 18 years with NCDOT. Sheila serves as the point of contact for locally managed projects for Divisions 1-7.
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Topic Summary: An explanation and highlights of the differences and similarities between locally-administered projects (non-DOT let) and Division managed projects (DOT let).

Module 2- Environmental Document Overview

Eric Midkiff, PE, NCDOT Project Development Section Head. Eric holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering and is a registered Professional Engineer in NC. He has over 25 years of experience in the field of environmental compliance and transportation engineering. His job responsibilities include overseeing the development of complex transportation and environmental studies and compliance with the National and State Environmental Policy Acts (NEPA and SEPA).
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Topic Summary: This presentation will address compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). Topics will include the various types of documents that are prepared and some of the major laws and regulations that could be encountered. Emphasis will be on the preparation of Programmatic Categorical Exclusions and State Minimum Criteria Checklists and potential issues that could be encountered when conducting these types of studies.

Module 3 – Natural Environment Overview

Colin Mellor, NCDOT Environmental Coordination & Permitting Group Leader. NC Licensed Geologist. Over 20 years of environmental work experience, 15 of which have been with NCDOT. Areas of expertise include geology, geophysics, stream and wetland mitigation, NEPA/SEPA, and permitting.
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Rachelle Beauregard, NCDOT Environmental Senior Specialist. Rachelle has been working for the NCDOT's Environmental Coordination and Permitting Group for 14 years, with 9 of those years as an Environmental Supervisor. She conducts wetland and stream delineations, threatened and endangered species surveys, Section 7 consultations, biological assessments and environmental permitting. She

previously worked for Dr. J.H. Carter III and Associates, Inc. conducting threatened and endangered species surveys, including red-cockaded woodpecker surveys and demographic monitoring.

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Neil Medlin, NCDOT NES Biological Surveys Group (BSG) Leader. BSG is responsible for dealing with federally listed threatened and endangered species issues including Endangered Species Act-Section 7 consultations. Neil has a total of 29 years of environmental work experience, including 12 years at NCDWQ/DWR, and nearly 14 at NCDOT. In addition to federally listed species and Section 7 consultations, his main area of expertise is aquatic ecology, including freshwater fish and mussels.

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Topic Summary: The Natural Environment session will give a broad overview of the types and levels of environmental documentation required for LAP and NCDOT Division projects falling under Categorical and Programmatic Categorical Exclusions. Guidance on how to gather the appropriate level of information, relevant online resources, and who is qualified to report the information will also be explained. Environmental topics to be covered include: Jurisdictional Resources – including streams, wetlands, and buffers; protected waters; anadromous fish; trout waters; and the Endangered Species Act – including plants, animals, Section 7, and Section 9.

Module 4 - Human Environment Overview

Drew Joyner, PE, NCDOT Human Environment Section Head. Drew Joyner, PE, NCDOT Human Environment Section Head. Drew manages groups that perform and manage private firms that perform public involvement, community impact, archaeological, historic architecture, traffic noise and air quality studies for the department. Drew has over twenty years of experience with NCDOT, primarily in project development. Drew is a graduate of N.C. State University with a degree in Civil Engineering.

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Harrison Marshall, NCDOT Community Studies Group Leader. Prior to reaching this position, Harrison has worked as a planner for local and state governments as well as private firms and the US Air Force, from Florida to Virginia, plus Iraq. It has yet to be determined whether Harrison has a broad and diverse range of experience or simply has difficulty holding a steady job.

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Topic summary: Topic summary: This module will be an overview of the various aspects of human environment studies that are required for locally-administered projects and division-managed projects and how the various groups in the Human Environment Section can provide assistance. Processes covering Archaeology and Historic Architectural resources, Community Impact Assessments, Indirect and Cumulative effects, and Noise and Air impacts will be discussed will be presented. Public involvement will be covered, with an emphasis on Environmental Justice, Limited English Proficiency, Title VI, and Americans with Disabilities Act.

Module 5 - Human/Natural Environment Topic or FHWA Perspective

Donnie Brew, Environmental Program Coordinator, Federal Highway Administration. Donnie holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering with his M.S. in Environmental Engineering. He has 14 years of experience in the transportation industry. His job responsibilities include environmental regulation compliance (NEPA, Section 4(f), Endangered Species Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, etc.), project development (Complete 540 project), and transportation planning (Capital Area MPO, & Durham, Chapel Hill, Carrboro MPO).

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Topic summary: This module is going to focus on coordination and communication protocols associated with the project development phase of a federal-aid project. There will be an emphasis on the differences between an NCDOT managed project versus a locally administered project. The discussion will also touch on common mistakes as well as lessons learned.

Module 6 – Project Bid Package Preparation and Troubleshooting

There are many components of a project bid package that need to be pulled together to advertise a project for construction. This session will review these components and will also identify some of the common errors to avoid when pulling the project bid package together.

Brett Abernathy, PE, NCDOT, Division 9. Brett has served as the Division Project Manager for NCDOT in Division 9, located in Winston-Salem, for 12 years and has a total of 27 years of experience with NCDOT. Brett serves as the central point of contact for all locally administered projects and division managed projects in the five county area covered by Division 9. Brett also manages the Division Design Unit producing plans for various projects in the division. Prior to his current role, Brett worked in various roles within the Division, primarily in design and preliminary engineering positions. Brett holds Professional Engineering and Professional Land Surveyor licenses in North Carolina.

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Q&A Panel Discussion

This will be an opportunity for attendees to ask a panel of experts any questions they have regarding project delivery from project development through project let.

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Alison W. Kluttz, PE, NCDOT, Division 8. Alison has served as the Division Project Manager for NCDOT in Division 8, located in Aberdeen, for almost 12 years and has a total of 23 years of experience with NCDOT. Alison serves as the central point of contact for all locally managed projects in the eight county area stretching from central North Carolina to the South Carolina state line. Alison has a BS in Civil Engineering from NC State, and she is a registered Professional Engineer and a Certified Public Manager.
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Brett Abernathy, PE, NCDOT, Division 9. Brett has served as the Division Project Manager for NCDOT in Division 9, located in Winston-Salem, for 12 years and has a total of 27 years of experience with NCDOT. Brett serves as the central point of contact for all locally administered projects and division managed projects in the five county area covered by Division 9. Brett also manages the Division Design Unit producing plans for various projects in the division. Prior to his current role, Brett worked in various roles within the Division, primarily in design and preliminary engineering positions. Brett holds Professional Engineering and Professional Land Surveyor licenses in North Carolina.
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Jimmy Travis, PE, Director of the Transportation Program Management Unit. Jimmy is the Director of the Transportation Program Management Unit for the N.C. Department of Transportation and has been with the Department for more than 28 years. During that time, Jimmy served in multiple field and administration roles in construction and preconstruction operations. Today, he is responsible for various aspects of Transportation Program Management including Schedule Management, Value Management, Research & Development and Programs Management including the oversight of the Local Programs Management Office and the NC Funded Positions Program. Jimmy holds a BS from N. C. State University in Civil Engineering and is a registered professional engineer.
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Donnie Huffines, NC DOT, Division 7. Donnie has served as the Division Program Manager for NCDOT in Division 7, located in Greensboro, for three years and has a total of 25 years of experience with NCDOT. Donnie serves as the central point of contact for all locally administered projects and division managed projects in the five county area covered by Division 7. Donnie also manages the Division Design Unit producing plans for various projects in the division. Prior to his current role, Donnie worked in various roles within the Division, primarily in construction.
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