

Richard B. Hamilton, Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: 18 May 2007

To: Chatham County Planning Department

From: Jacquelyn Presley, Urban Wildlife Biologist, NC WRC

Please accept my comments on the: Request by Harrison Pond, LLC on behalf of Kenneth E. Norwood, Mary Ann Norwood, Gail N. Felton and John Felton for subdivision sketch design approval of "Norwood Felton Subdivision", consisting of 51 lots on 106 acres, located off SR-1532, Manns Chapel Road, Baldwin Township. Parcel # 1693

This property is located within a 14-digit HUC (hydrologic unit, or sub-watershed) that supports the federally endangered Cape Fear Shiner (*Notropis mekistocholas*). We commend the applicant for establishing stream buffers on the ephemeral streams on site. To further minimize negative impacts (particularly cumulative and secondary impacts) to this species, we recommend the applicant incorporate the following measures into the plat and construction plans:

- 1. Expand stream buffer along the perennial streams on site to establish a 200-foot native, forested buffer along **each side** of this stream.
- 2. Expand stream buffer along the intermittent streams on site to establish a 100-foot native, forested buffer along **each side** of this stream.
- 3. Prevent insecticides and herbicides from being used within 200 feet of all streams on this property.
- 4. If the development will exceed 6% impervious surface, install stormwater management structures and LID techniques.

Mailing Address: 1751 Varsity Drive, 1722 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-1722

Telephone: (919) 707-0050 • **Fax:** (919) 707-0067

5. Prevent direct discharge of stormwater to streams, and disperse stormwater runoff through a vegetated buffer that is **outside of** the protected riparian buffer zone.

We further recommend providing protections for the wetlands on site. We specifically suggest:

- Establish appropriate forested buffers around the wetlands on site, both to
 protect the water quality and wildlife habitat these wetlands provide. Wide
 wetland buffers are needed to protect habitat for any populations of reptiles and
 amphibians that use these wetlands.
- 2. If the road must cross the identified wetland areas, use a bridge for the roadway crossing instead of a culvert.

cc: Shari Bryant, NCWRC Ryan Heise, NCWRC Sarah McRae, NCNHP Vann Stancil, NCWRC Jeff Marcus, NCWRC David Rabon, USFWS