



⊠ North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission ⊠

MEMORANDUM

To: Chatham County Planning Department

From: Jacquelyn Wallace, Urban Wildlife Biologist
NC Wildlife Resources Commission

Date: 14 September 2007

Subject: *Request by Nicolas P. Robinson, on behalf of General Shale Brick, Inc. to rezone approximately 192.5 total acres (3 tracts) located on Moncure Flatwood Road (SR 1924), Cape Fear Township, from RA-40 Residential Agricultural to Conditional Use Heavy Industrial (H-Ind.). Request by Nicolas P. Robinson, on behalf of General Shale Brick, Inc. for a Conditional Use Heavy Industrial (H-Ind.) Permit to allow for mining and brick manufacture, on approximately 407 total acres (4 tracts and a portion of 1 tract) located on Moncure Flatwood Road (SR 1924), Cape Fear Township.*

Biologists with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission have reviewed this project request and we are familiar with the habitat values of the area.

As is shown on the attached map, the expanded mine will be located:

- On property that was previously owned by Progress Energy and managed as Game Land under an agreement with NC WRC (light green parcels)
 - The NC Natural Heritage Program has records for the federal species of concern Bachman's Sparrow (*Aimophila aestivalis*) on this site.
- Adjacent to a parcel that will continue to be managed as Game Land (South of Moncure Flatwood Road)
- Within a region that has been designated as environmentally important by:
 1. The Triangle Greenprint (area shown in green dots on the attached map), a regional conservation plan for which the Chatham County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution of support in May 2002, and

Division of Wildlife Management
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2. The Nature Conservancy's Ecoregional planning effort, which identifies landscapes that have high ecological value and are priorities for land conservation

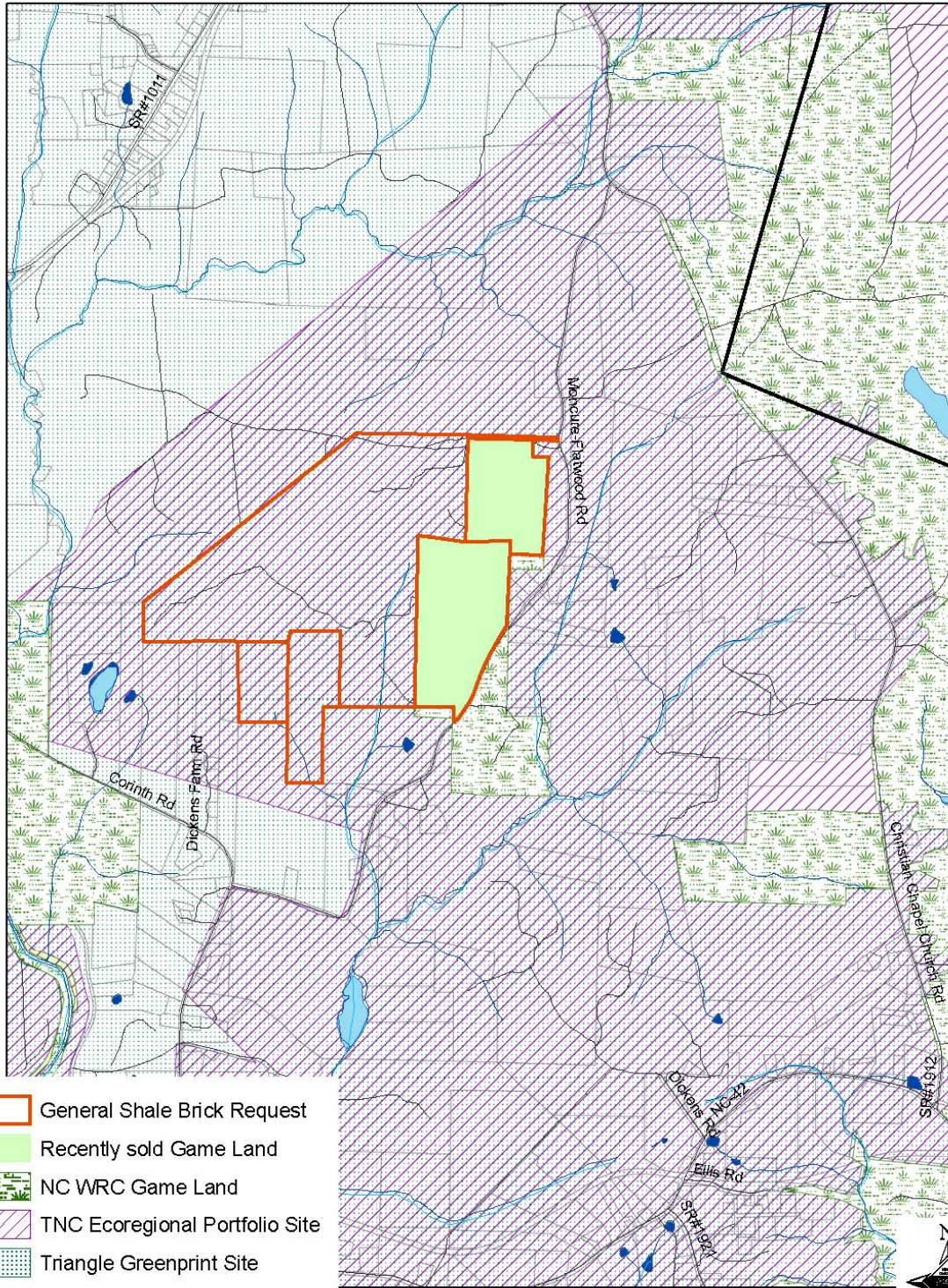
Because this property is located in an environmentally sensitive area, we have the following recommendations to minimize impacts to valuable wildlife resources:

1. If possible, concentrate land disturbance away from 1) the land previously managed as Game Land, and 2) any streams on site.
2. In order to reduce impacts to any streams and wetlands on site, while retaining some measure of wildlife habitat, we recommend a 100-foot undisturbed, native, forested buffer along perennial streams, and a 50-foot buffer along intermittent streams and wetlands for the present operation and any future expansions.
3. Water discharges from the project site should be proportional to the size of the receiving stream, and all discharges should comply with NPDES permit requirements. In particular, turbidity of the discharge should be maintained at or below the permit requirement. High water discharge rates and turbidity can negatively impact aquatic and fisheries resources within and downstream of the project area.
4. We encourage the applicant to consider using seed mixtures that are beneficial to wildlife in their reclamation plan, such as native, warm season grasses. An exact seeding mixture would need to take into account soil types, moisture, pH, and degree of slope of areas to be stabilized. Additionally, for relatively shallow sediment basin reclamation, we recommend these areas be reclaimed as wetlands where practicable.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this permit application. If you need additional information, please contact my office at (919) 360-9680.

cc: Shari Bryant, NC WRC
Jeff Marcus, NC WRC
Vann Stancil, NC WRC
Allison Weakley, Chatham ERB

General Shale Brick Expansion



-  General Shale Brick Request
-  Recently sold Game Land
-  NC WRC Game Land
-  TNC Ecoregional Portfolio Site
-  Triangle Greenprint Site
-  USGS Hydro Line