



Mr. Scott Shelton
Rowan EDC
204 East Innes Street
Suite 220
Salisbury, NC 28144

November 3, 2022

RE: Desktop Review for Federally Threatened and Endangered Species
Brown Property
Parcel: 265-021, 265-050, 265-004, 265-018, 265-023, 265-007, 265-027 (+/- 139.7 ac)
Rowan County, NC

Mr. Shelton,

As requested by ESP Associates, Inc. (ESP), Wetlands & Waters, Inc. (W&W) has conducted a desktop review of the above referenced parcel assemblage (the “review area”) for the purpose of determining known occurrences of Federal threatened and/or endangered species within or in close proximity to the review area. Evaluation of the review area included a report (Attachment A) of known species and critical habitat occurrences within or in close proximity to the review area. Data was sourced from the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NHP) dataset. Table 1 shows species with federal protections under the Endangered Species Act identified by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) as currently or historically occurring in Rowan County, North Carolina.

Table 1 - Federally Endangered and Threatened Species of Rowan County, North Carolina

Species		Federal Status
Common Name	Scientific Name	
Northern Long-Eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Threatened
Schweinitz’s Sunflower	<i>Helianthus schweinitzii</i>	Endangered
Southern Bog Turtle	<i>Glyptemys muhlenbergii</i>	Threatened

Findings and Recommendations

The report provided by NHP indicates that there are no records for rare species, important natural communities, natural areas, and/or conservation/managed areas within the review area, or within a one-mile radius of the project boundary¹.

Based on a cursory evaluation of aerial imagery and NCDOT ATLAS Schweinitz’s Sunflower Model (Attachment B), the review area may contain potentially suitable habitat for Schweinitz’s Sunflower. W&W recommends further evaluation of the review area, including field recognizance, during the Optimal Survey Window (Attachment C) established by U.S. Fish & Wildlife (FWS) for the above referenced species. If there is a federal nexus (such as FEMA, NEPA, etc.) for an Endangered Species Act

¹ Although there may be no NC NHP documentation of Federal listed species within the review area, it does not imply or confirm their absence; the area may not have been surveyed previously.



evaluation, further evaluation during these study windows will assist in determining if proposed site disturbance may result in a “Take” to these species.

Should you require further assistance or studies of the review area, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best Regards,

Drew Lucas

Field Technician
(540) 529-2580

Perry Isner

Senior Project Manager
(704) 773-4239

Enclosures: Site Vicinity
Attachment A. North Carolina Natural Heritage Program Report
Attachment B. NCDOT ATLAS Schweinitz’s Sunflower Model
Attachment C. USFWS Optimal Survey Window for North Carolina



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Site Vicinity

Project Name:	Brown Property	
Owner / Developer:	ESP	
City / County:	Cleveland/Rowan	
Tax PIN(s):	265-021, 265-050, 265-004, 265-018, 265-023, 265-007, 265-027	
Coordinates:	Lat: 35.7284385°N	Long: -80.7012049°W



Date: 11-02-2022

Attachment A

North Carolina Natural Heritage Report



Roy Cooper, Governor

D. Reid Wilson, Secretary

Misty Buchanan
Deputy Director, Natural Heritage Program

NCNHDE-19682

October 18, 2022

Drew Lucas
Wetlands & Waters, Inc.
328 East Broad Street
Statesville, NC 28677
RE: Brown Site

Dear Drew Lucas:

The North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NCNHP) appreciates the opportunity to provide information about natural heritage resources for the project referenced above.

A query of the NCNHP database, based on the project area mapped with your request, indicates that there are no records for rare species, important natural communities, natural areas, and/or conservation/managed areas within the proposed project boundary, or within a one-mile radius of the project boundary.

Please note that although there may be no documentation of natural heritage elements within or near the project boundary, it does not imply or confirm their absence; the area may not have been surveyed. The results of this query should not be substituted for field surveys where suitable habitat exists. In the event that rare species are found within the project area, please contact the NCNHP so that we may update our records.

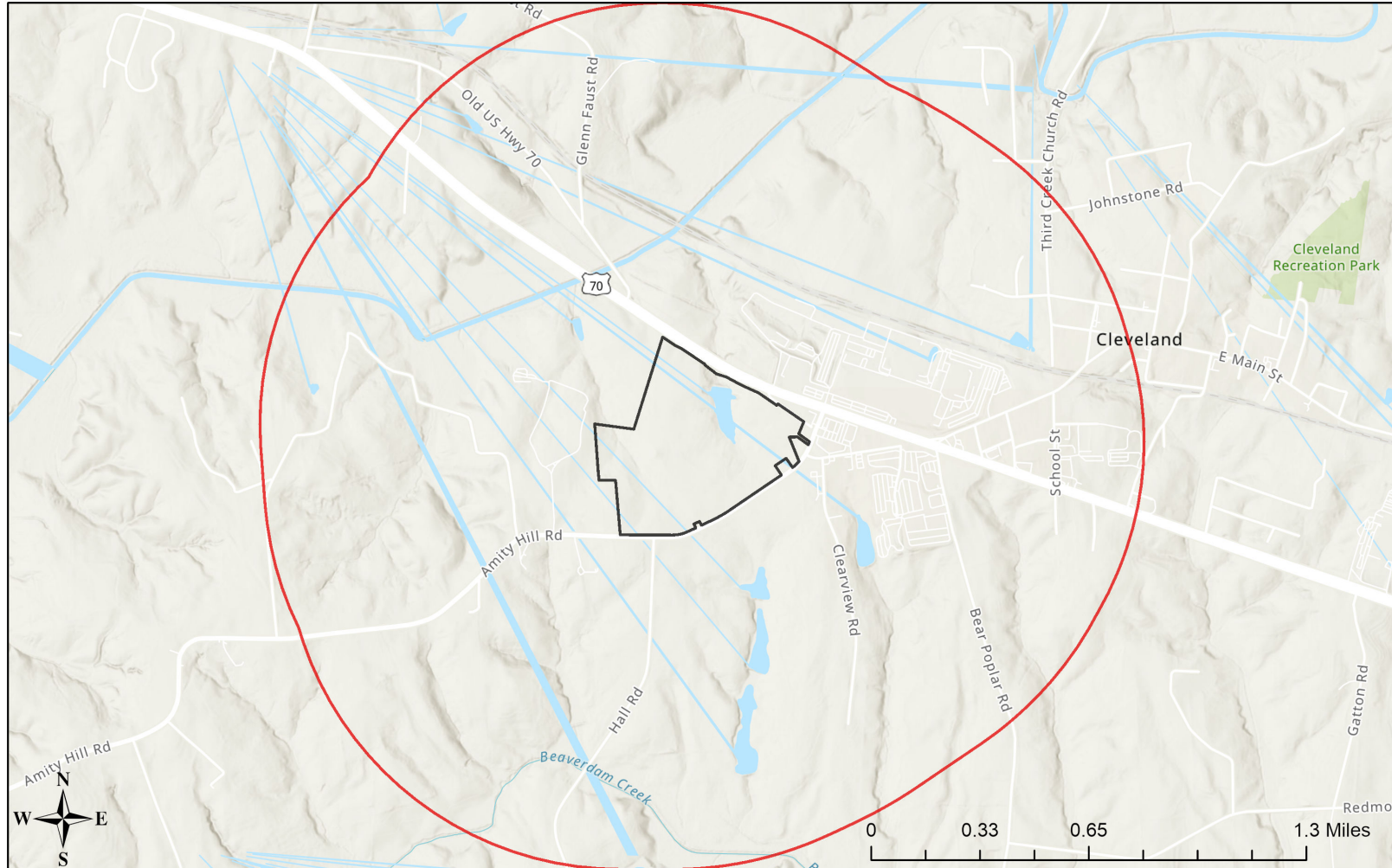
Please also note that natural heritage element data are maintained for the purposes of conservation planning, project review, and scientific research, and are not intended for use as the primary criteria for regulatory decisions. Information provided by the NCNHP database may not be published without prior written notification to the NCNHP, and the NCNHP must be credited as an information source in these publications. Maps of NCNHP data may also not be redistributed without permission.

If you have questions regarding the information provided in this letter or need additional assistance, please contact Rodney A. Butler at rodney.butler@ncdcr.gov or 919.707.8603.



Sincerely,

NC Natural Heritage Program

NCNHDE-19682: Brown Site



October 18, 2022

-  Buffered Project Boundary
-  Project Boundary

Sources: Esri, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodalytseisen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community
Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

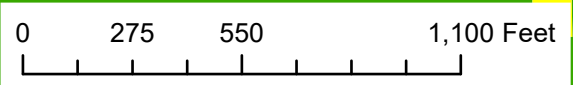
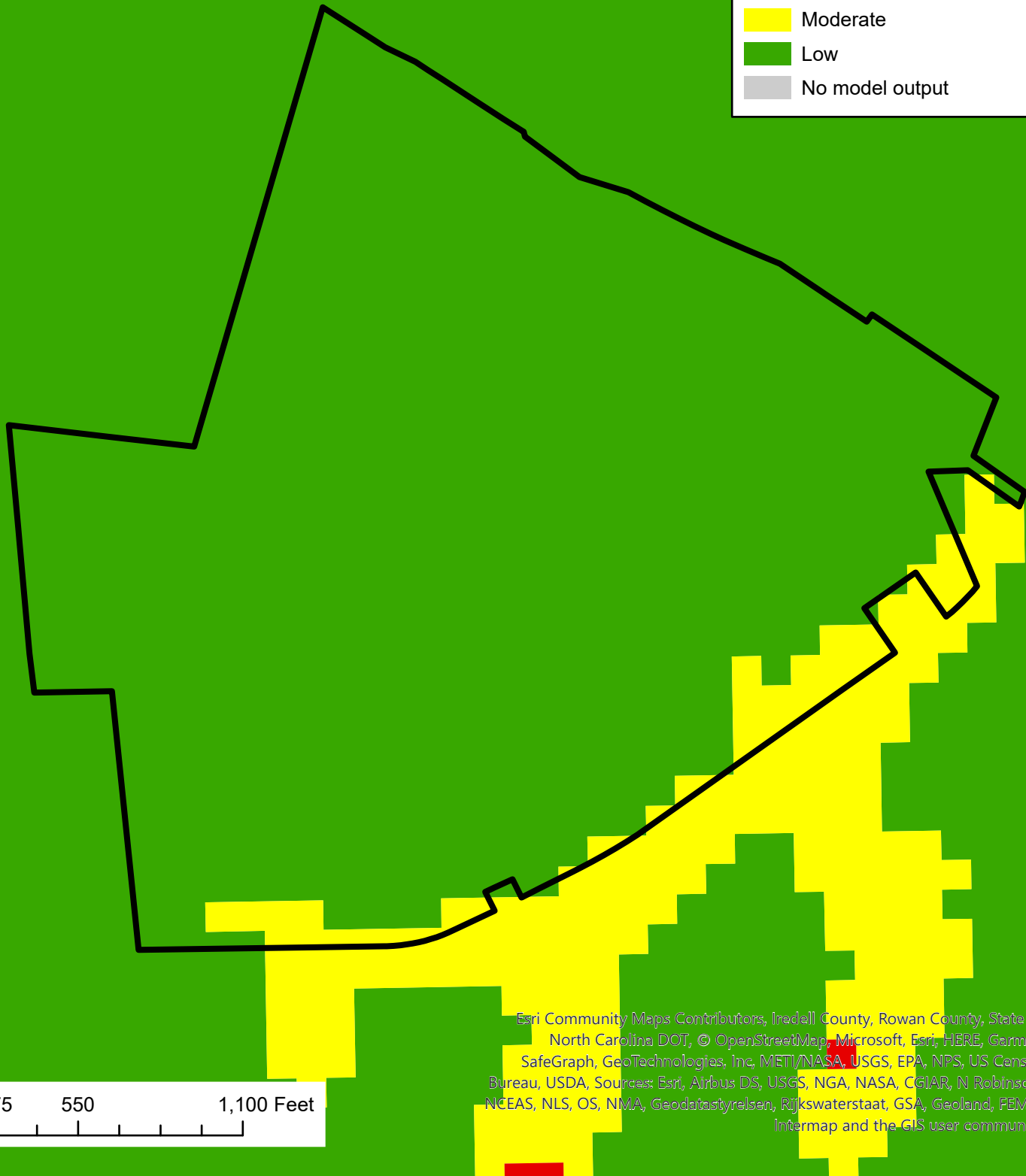
Attachment B

NCDOT Project ATLAS Schweinitz's Sunflower Potential Habitat Model



Legend

**Schweinitz's
Sunflower
Potential Habitat**

- High
- Moderate
- Low
- No model output



Esri Community Maps Contributors, Inceffell County, Rowan County, State of North Carolina DOT, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, Sources: Esri, Airbus DS, USGS, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatasstyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community

 WETLANDS & WATERS, INC.	Project Name:	Brown Property		
	Owner / Developer:	ESP		
	City / County:	Cleveland/Rowan		
	Tax PIN(s):	265-021, 265-050, 265-004, 265-018, 265-023, 265-007, 265-027		
	Coordinates:	Lat: 35.7284385°N	Long: -80.7012049°W	
NCDOT ATLAS Schweinitz's Sunflower Model				

Attachment C

Optimal Survey Window for North Carolina's Federally Threatened, Endangered, and At-Risk Plant Species

OPTIMAL SURVEY WINDOWS AND NUMBER OF YEARS A SURVEY IS VALID FOR
NORTH CAROLINA'S FEDERALLY THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND AT-RISK PLANT SPECIES

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATUS	SURVEY WINDOW	YEARS SURVEY IS VALID
<i>Aeschynomene virginica</i>	sensitive joint-vetch	T	July – October	1
<i>Amaranthus pumilus</i>	seabeach amaranth	T	July - October (or before first tropical storm that causes overwash)	1
<i>Amorpha georgiana</i> var. <i>georgiana</i>	Georgia lead-plant	ARS	late April – October	2
<i>Cardamine micranthera</i>	small-anthered bittercress	E	April - May	1
<i>Carex impressinervia</i>	impressed-nerved sedge	ARS	April - May	2
<i>Carex lutea</i>	golden sedge	E	mid April - mid June	2
<i>Dionaea muscipula</i>	Venus flytrap	ARS	late May – June	2
<i>Echinacea laevigata</i>	smooth coneflower	E	late May – October	2
<i>Fimbristylis perpusilla</i>	Harper's fimbristylis	ARS	July – September	2
<i>Geum radiatum</i>	spreading avens	E	June – September	2
<i>Gymnoderma lineare</i>	rock gnome lichen	E	year round	2
<i>Hedyotis purpurea</i> var. <i>montana</i>	Roan Mountain bluet	E	June – July	2
<i>Helianthus schweinitzii</i>	Schweinitz's sunflower	E	late August – October	2
<i>Helonias bullata</i>	swamp pink	T	April – May	2
<i>Hexastylis naniflora</i>	dwarf-flowered heartleaf	T	March – May	2
<i>Hudsonia montana</i>	mountain golden heather	T	late May - early June	2
<i>Isoetes microvela</i>	thin-wall quillwort	ARS	April – July	1
<i>Isotria medeoloides</i>	small whorled pogonia	T	mid May - early July	1
<i>Liatris helleri</i>	Heller's blazing star	T	July – September	2
<i>Lindera melissifolia</i>	pondberry	E	February – March; September - October	2
<i>Lindera subcoriacea</i>	bog spicebush	ARS	March - August	2
<i>Lobelia boykinii</i>	Boykin's Lobelia	ARS	May – July	2
<i>Ludwigia ravenii</i>	Raven's seedbox	ARS	June - October	2
<i>Lysimachia asperulaefolia</i>	rough-leaved loosestrife	E	mid May – September	2
<i>Macbridea caroliniana</i>	Carolina birds-in-a-nest	ARS	July – November	2
<i>Minuartia godfreyi</i>	Godfrey's stitchwort	ARS	April – June	2
<i>Oxypolis canbyi</i>	Canby's dropwort	E	mid July – September	2
<i>Platanthera integrilabia</i>	white fringeless orchid	T	mid July - late August	2
<i>Ptilimnium nodosum</i>	harperella	E	July – early September (during low water)	1
<i>Rhus michauxii</i>	Michaux's sumac	E	May – October	2
<i>Rhynchospora crinipes</i>	hairy-peduncled beakrush	ARS	July – September	2
<i>Rudbeckia heliopsisidis</i>	sun-facing coneflower	ARS	July – September	2
<i>Sagittaria fasciculata</i>	bunched arrowhead	E	mid May – July	2
<i>Sarracenia oreophila</i>	green pitcher-plant	E	late April – October	2
<i>Sarracenia purpurea</i> var. <i>montana</i>	mountain purple pitcher-plant	ARS	April – October	2
<i>Sarracenia rubra</i> ssp. <i>jonesii</i>	mountain sweet pitcher-plant	E	April – October	2

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATUS	SURVEY WINDOW	YEARS SURVEY IS VALID
<i>Schwalbea americana</i>	American chaffseed	E	May - August (1-2 months after a fire)	2
<i>Sisyrinchium dichotomum</i>	white irisette	E	late May – July	2
<i>Solidago plumosa</i>	Yadkin River goldenrod	CCA	September – October	2
<i>Solidago spithamea</i>	Blue Ridge goldenrod	T	July – September	2
<i>Symphotrichum georgianum</i>	Georgia aster	CCA	October - mid November	2
<i>Spiraea virginiana</i>	Virginia spiraea	T	May - early July	2
<i>Sporobolus teretifolius</i>	wire-leaved dropseed	ARS	July – September (following fire)	2
<i>Thalictrum cooleyi</i>	Cooley's meadowrue	E	mid June - early July	2
<i>Tsuga caroliniana</i>	Carolina hemlock	ARS	year round	2

STATUS KEY:

E - Federally endangered

T - Federally threatened

ARS - Proposed for listing as threatened or endangered under the ESA, candidate species for listing, or petitioned by a third party for listing. ARS species listed above have "substantial" 90-day findings and are undergoing status reviews (awaiting 12-month findings).

CCA - Species subject to a candidate conservation agreement.

OTHER NOTES:

These survey windows were determined from species recovery plans, field observations, herbaria specimens, and NC Natural Heritage Program information. For additional information about these species, please visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Asheville Field Office webpage at <https://www.fws.gov/asheville/> or the Raleigh Field Office webpage at <https://www.fws.gov/raleigh/>.

If suitable habitat for species is present in the proposed impact area, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will likely request species surveys, conducted by a qualified biologist, during the optimal survey window. Projects are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and you are encouraged to contact a Section 7 coordinator early in the project planning process. To discuss your project and survey requirements with a Section 7 coordinator, please contact the Asheville Field Office at 828-258-3939 or the Raleigh Field Office at 919-856-4520

Version date: March 10, 2020