



Michael F. Easley, Governor

William G. Ross Jr., Secretary
North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Coleen H. Sullins, Director
Division of Water Quality

MEMO

TO: Linda Pearsall
FROM: John Dorney
RE: Initial review of newly proposed OLF sites
DATE: October 3, 2007

I have looked over the seven newly proposed OLF sites (aerial photos as well as the summary table) and have the following initial comments on these sites as well as other potential sites. Chuck Wakild and I will be glad to discuss these thoughts in our meeting tomorrow.

1. Moyock site – This site has the lowest amount of wetlands and a very low amount of human impact as well as very few T & E impacts. We see no “show stopper” issues with this site and believe that it should be pursued thru the planning process.
2. Sandbank site – This site also has a low number of human impact (core and > 75 DNL contour) but a very large amount of wetland impact (1,269 acres from the NC CREWS database). In addition, it is in the Chowan River watershed which is Nutrient Sensitive Waters and any runoff from the site would have to be designed to control nutrients (for instance with constructed wetlands rather than wet detention ponds). It may be very difficult to permit this amount of wetland fill depending on the type of wetlands (riparian vs non-riparian). Certainly this site is less preferable than the Moyock site and therefore we believe that this site should not be pursued thru the planning process.
3. Northwest River – This site has a very large amount of wetland fill (1,758 acres by NC CREWS data) and the highest amount of human impact (core and > 75 DNL contour). We believe that these may be “show stopper issues” and therefore we believe that this site should not be pursued thru the planning process.
4. Old Railroad Grade – This site has the second lowest number of wetlands (977 acres – which is still a lot of wetland fill) and a very low amount of human impact (core and > 75 DNL contour). We see no “show stopper” issues with this site and believe that it should be pursued thru the planning process.
5. Hofmann Forest (1) – This site has a very high amount of wetland impact (1,834 acres) and a large number of human impacts as well as a high number of T& E species. We believe that all of these issues could be “show stoppers” and therefore, we believe that this site should not be pursued thru the planning process.
6. Hofman Forest (2) - This site has the highest amount of wetland impact (1,965 acres) as well as a high number of T& E species. We believe that all of these issues could be “show stoppers” and therefore, we believe that this site should not be pursued thru the planning process.
7. Angola Bay – This site has a very high amount of wetland impact (1,957 acres) and a large number of human impacts as well as a high number of T& E species. We believe that all of these issues could be “show stoppers” and therefore, we believe that this site should not be pursued thru the planning process.

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Other possible sites – As reiterated in our earlier comments dated March 30, 2007 on the OLF Draft EIS, we believe that additional sites need to be examined in detail including 1) Open Grounds Farms, 2) renovation of the existing OLF at Oak Grove field, and 3) construction to two smaller OLF sites (including maybe renovation of Oak Grove Field or utilization of fields at Cherry Point Air Station. We believe that any of these alternatives would have less environmental impact than several of the proposed sites and should be thoroughly and carefully considered in this process.

Thank you for the opportunity to relay our initial thoughts. I will be prepared to discuss these ideas at our meeting tomorrow. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 733-9646.

Cc: Chuck Wakild
Kyle Barnes, WaRO
Cyndi Karoly

Wetlands

These figures were provided by the Navy via Mark Anthony (CIV USFF, N44) on March 7, 2008.

NWI Wetlands

Core	23 acres
>60 DNL Contour	6,076 acres

DCM Wetlands

Core	1,269 acres
>60 DNL Contour	9,945 acres

Wetlands

Core	49 acres
>60 DNL Contour	5,739 acres

