

## Umbrella Stream and Wetland Mitigation Bank Project Selection and Sale of Credits

## **Project Selection**

Traditionally, stream restoration and enhancement projects in the City have been selected for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services (CMSWS) Umbrella Stream and Wetland Mitigation Bank (the Bank) using a Stream Restoration Ranking Protocol. This protocol evaluated streams based on the degree of degradation and project feasibility. Recently, Charlotte transitioned to selecting stream restoration projects, whether for the Bank or not, based on a combination of strategic planning and watershed planning approaches.

## Sale of Credits

The Bank credits can only be sold to and used by departments of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. Credits are sold in linear foot (streams) or acre (wetlands) increments for each USGS 8-digit hydrologic unit (HU).

All credit requests to CMSWS must be submitted in writing and must include the name of the permit applicant, the US Army Corps of Engineers and the NC Department of Water Resources project numbers, and the number of stream and wetland credits being requested for each HU.

Credits are sold on a first come, first serve basis as credit availability allows. If the Bank has credits available, a Credit Reservation Letter (CRL) will be sent to the permit applicant, reserving those credits for the subject project. All CRLs expire after 180 calendar days. If payment and supporting documentation is not provided within 180 calendar days, the credits will be released back into the bank for sale to other projects. If the permitting process takes longer than 180 days, a second Credit Request must be submitted in order for the Bank to continue reserving those credits. To request a CRL, please use this request form.

Credits are sold at cost, based on planning, design, construction, monitoring, and maintenance costs for projects in each HU. Payment may be made through a departmental transfer of funds. Once payment is made, the Compensatory Mitigation Responsibility Transfer Form will be completed and sent to the Corps of Engineers, completing the mitigation requirements for the subject project.



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Credits are currently available in the following HUs at the following costs:

| Watershed     | ни       | Streams*              | Wetland            |
|---------------|----------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Upper Catawba | 03050101 | \$550 per linear foot |                    |
| Lower Catawba | 03050103 | \$800 per linear foot | \$126,110 per acre |
| Rocky         | 03040105 | \$435 per linear foot |                    |

<sup>\*</sup>NC DMS statewide standard stream credit rate is \$783.84 per linear foot.

For questions related to the mitigation bank, contact Erin Shanaberger, Mitigation Bank Administrator:

Erin Shanaberger, PWS Watershed Planning & Project Implementation Supervisor Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services <u>erin.shanaberger@charlottenc.gov</u> (704) 562-2691