

III. STAKEHOLDER INPUT

Stantec personnel have attended multiple meetings and site visits with the NCFS, in order to fully understand the priorities and constraints for potential restoration projects on the Linville River. A formal meeting with the NCFS was held in Morganton, North Carolina on March 26, 2013. Notes from that meeting, as summarized by the NCFS, are included as Appendix B. A summary of goals and limiting factors identified over the course of the master planning process is below.

Goals of potential river restoration include:

- Improve flood protection for NCFS facilities
- Maintain traditional river uses
- Enhance trout fisheries on the Linville River
- Increase utilization of the Mountain Training Facility
- Create opportunities for state agency training events pertaining to hydrology, river ecology and restoration practices
- Increase the visibility of the partnering agencies and their commitment to restoring and enhancing the water resources of the state
- Remove non-functioning low water bridge for increased public safety and river function

Limiting factors to river restoration include:

- Ensuring no disruption of nursery and training center operations
- Maintaining public exclusion from the area surrounding the gun range
- Private property owners upstream of Greene Road and downstream of Sloop Dam
- Recently constructed bridge will remain in current location
- Water intake from river exists on right bank
- Six-inch irrigation line currently under low water bridge
- Existing fields adjoin some portions of the river
- Maintain public access at designated parking area
- Points for public access to the river need to be considered
- Ongoing maintenance and site management should be minimized