

University of North Carolina Charlotte Master Plan

Charlotte, North Carolina



top: Simulation of vegetated wetland
bottom left: Existing drypond
bottom right: Map of proposed natural areas

North Carolina was the sixth fastest growing state from 2000-2007. It is the tenth most populous state. In 2007, enrollment at UNC Charlotte was 22,300 students. The enrollment projection for 2020 is 35,000 students, a 57% increase.

Population growth projections indicate that the demand for higher education at UNC Charlotte will increase dramatically over the next decade, and the current campus infrastructure must be aggressively retooled to meet the demand. A light rail route through campus and a new football stadium are also proposed during that period.

Working on a team led by Ayers Saint Gross, Biohabitats was charged with finding sustainable ecological and stormwater solutions to these upcoming demands and incorporating them into the master planning process. Using existing electronic data, coupled with an extensive

on-the-ground field review of the campus, Biohabitats' engineers and ecologists worked as a team to document existing conditions of the stormwater and green infrastructure systems on campus. The stepwise assessment process included an analysis of the data, identification of specific items of concern regarding stormwater and environmental resources, prioritization of those items, and generation of recommendations for implementation of sustainable environmental and stormwater practices for future development scenarios.

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