



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Seattle District

Joint Public Notice



Application for a Department of the Army Permit and Department of Ecology Certification

US Army Corps of Engineers
Regulatory Branch
Post Office Box 3755
Seattle, Washington 98124-3755
Telephone (206) 764-6911
Attn: Sandra Manning, Project Manager

Washington Department of Ecology
SEA Program
300 Desmond Drive Southeast
Olympia, WA 98503-7600
Telephone (360) 407-6068
Attn: SEA Program, Federal Permit Coordinator

Public Notice Date: Sept. 18, 2008
Expiration Date: Oct. 17, 2008
Reference: NWS-2001-622-SOD
Name: Clark County Public Works
Ward Road and 172nd Ave.

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) have received an application to perform work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed drawings.

The Corps will review the work in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Ecology will review the work pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, with applicable provisions of State water pollution control laws. If the permit is granted, it will be good for a period of 5 years.

APPLICANT: Clark County Public Works
Post Office Box 9810
Vancouver, Washington 98666-9810
ATTN: Ron Wierenga
Phone: (360) 397-6118x4264, e-mail: Ron.Wierenga@clark.wa.gov

LOCATION – In wetlands, jurisdictional ditches, China Ditch and Lateral Line 6, in Vancouver, Clark County, Washington.

PROJECT HISTORY – The Corps permitted a larger scale version of this project for Clark County Public Works dated April 1, 2005, which expired April 1, 2008, Corps reference #200100622. The original project included widening NE Ward Road for 2.13 miles, with revisions to intersections at Davis Road, NE 99th Street, 119th Street, and NE 172nd and NE 182nd Avenues. The project was permitted to fill 6.64 acres of wetlands. The scope of the current project has been scaled back to a single intersection at NE 172nd Avenue to address priority safety issues, budget constraints, and environmental concerns. The intersection proposed for the current project is the most essential phase of the project due to high accident rates at the intersection. Wetland fill for the revised project will decrease from 6.64 acres to 1.12 acres.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION – WORK: The project proposes to modify the existing intersection of NE Ward Road and NE 172nd Avenue by realigning a portion of NE 172nd Avenue, creating a 90-degree angle with NE Ward Road. A new traffic signal will be added to this intersection. The eastbound approach of NE Ward Road and the southbound approach of NE 172nd Avenue will each have a left turn lane to provide protection for turning vehicles. Turn lanes will also be provided at the intersection of NE 99th Street and NE 172nd Avenue in the project area. Wetland impacts are being avoided by the reduced shoulder width on the east side of NE 172nd Avenue from eight feet, to four feet to avoid realigning or placing fill material into China Ditch. A minor amount of riprap will be placed into China Ditch for structural support at the bridge

footings (200 cubic yards, 0.06 acres). A small amount of riprap will be placed in China Ditch and Lateral Line 6 for protection at the new stormwater outfall locations (approximately 20 cubic yards at each location). Project impacts will result in unavoidable placement of fill into 1.12 acres of Category 3 wetlands. Excavation of approximately 700 cubic yards of material will be needed to construct new road side ditches; this is included in the 1.12 acre impact total for wetlands. The new ditches are not included on the attached drawings, but they will be located within the wetland fill/impact areas indicated on the drawings.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the project is to improve mobility and increase safety for vehicles and pedestrians. The project will also improve water quality problems by treating stormwater runoff where currently no treatment is provided.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – Copies of this public notice which have been mailed or otherwise physically distributed, feature project drawings in black and white. The electronic version features those drawings in color, which we think more accurately communicates the scope of project impacts. To access the electronic version of this public notice, go to the Seattle District's web page at <http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/> and scroll down the alphabetical listing of District elements, and click on "Regulatory" and then "Regulatory – Permits" for the Seattle District's Regulatory homepage. Select the prominently displayed "Public Notices" heading and a list of recently-issued public notices will appear, in chronological order of the date of issuance. Select the listing for this Washington State Dept. of Transportation (WSDOT) project by clicking on the blue file number, NWS-2001-622-SOD.

ENDANGERED SPECIES:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as the lead agency for ESA consultation, will consult with the NMFS and/or the USFWS as required under Section 7 of the ESA.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The FHWA, as the lead agency for a determination regarding EFH, will consult with the National Marine Fisheries Services if necessary.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The FHWA as the lead agency for determining compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, will consult with the State Historic Preservation Office as appropriate. This public notice initiates consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act with any Tribe that has information or concerns with historic properties in the proposed permit area.

MITIGATION: Impacts to wetlands and creeks were avoided and minimized through project alignment and design changes, and minimization efforts. To compensate for the loss of 1.12 acres of unavoidable wetland impacts, Clark County will create one acre of wetlands, enhance two acres of emergent wetlands, and preserve 6.47 acres of high-quality Category I, forested wetland. The creation and enhancement portion of the mitigation is located adjacent to China Ditch and will reconnect China Ditch to the wetlands. The preservation site is between China Ditch and Lateral Line 6, and will preserve one of the last remaining forested areas in the watershed that has not been removed for agricultural purposes. A dense vegetated buffer will be planted around both sites providing a forested riparian area to both creeks, and a buffer between the roads and the mitigation site.

PUBLIC HEARING -Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION – CORPS - The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the

cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for the work. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

The proposed discharge will be evaluated for compliance with guidelines promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b)(1) of the CWA. These guidelines require an alternatives analysis for any proposed discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

EVALUATION – ECOLOGY: Ecology is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, Native American Nations or tribal governments, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by Ecology to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny approval for the work. Ecology will review the project for a Water Quality Certification (WQC), pursuant to the requirement of Section 401 of the CWA, to determine if the project will comply with Sections 301, 302, 303, 306 and 307 of the Act, and complies with applicable provisions of State water pollution control laws.

ADDITIONAL EVALUATION – This project will be reviewed for compliance with the Critical area ordinances, floodplain management and Shoreline Permit requirements from Clark County. A Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) from the State Department of Fish and Wildlife will also be required.

COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD – Conventional mail or e-mail comments on this public notice will be accepted and made part of the record and will be considered in determining whether it would be in the public interest to authorize this proposal. In order to be accepted, e-mail comments must originate from the author's e-mail account and must include on the subject line of the e-mail message the permit applicant's name and reference number as shown at the end of this notice. Both conventional mail or e-mail comments must include the permit applicant's name and reference number and the commenter's name and address (e-mail or street), and should also list a phone number. All comments whether conventional mail or e-mail must reach the appropriate office no later than the expiration date of this public notice to ensure full consideration.

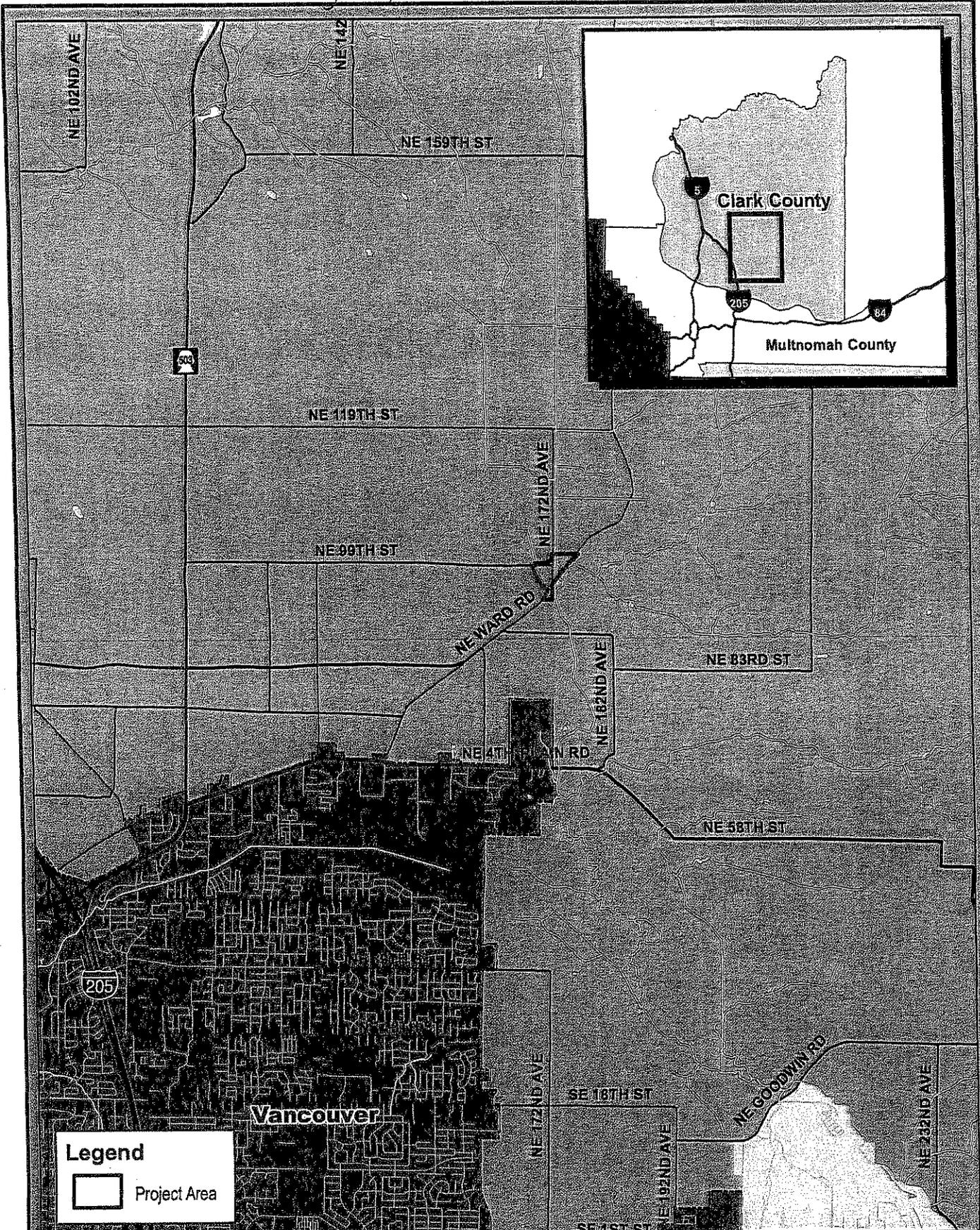
Corps comments: All e-mail comments should be sent to Sandra.L.Manning@usace.army.mil Conventional mail comments should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Attn: Sandra Manning, Post Office Box 3755, Seattle, Washington, 98124-3755.

Ecology Comments: Any person desiring to present views on the project pertaining to a request for water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA, may do so by submitting written comments to the following address: Department of Ecology, Attn: Federal Permit Coordinator, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7600, or e-mail to ecyrefedpermit@ecy.wa.gov

To ensure proper consideration of all comments, responders must include the following name and reference number in the text of their comments: Clark County Public Works, NE Ward Road and

NE 172nd Improvements, #NWS-2001-622-SOD.

Encl: Figures (10)



Legend

Project Area

jd white a division of
 JACOBS CONSULTING ENGINEERS INC.

 Land Use Planning • Natural Resources • Public Involvement

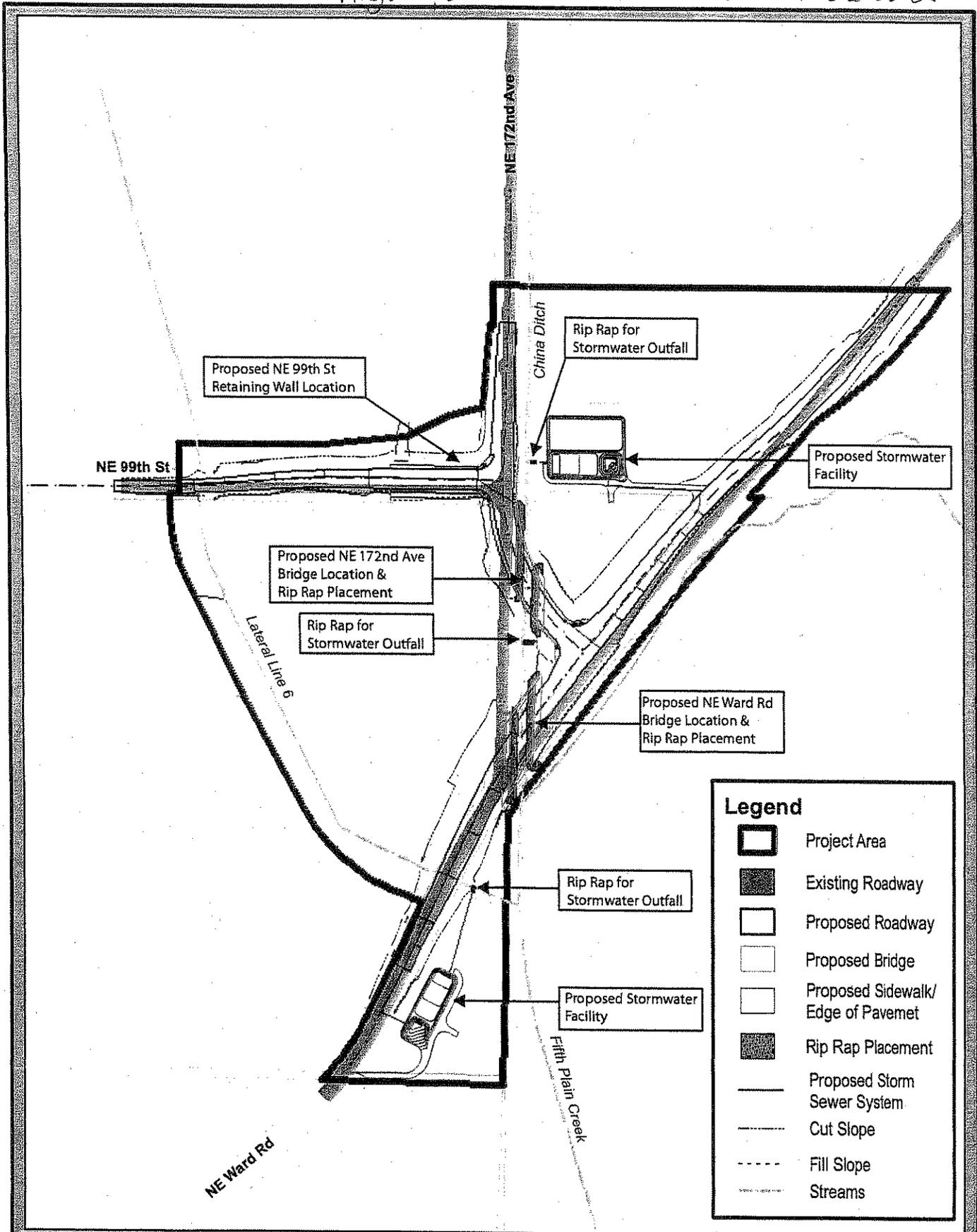
Figure 1: Vicinity Map
 Project Name: NE Ward Road/NE 172 Ave Project
 JARPA Permit
 Location: Clark County, Washington
 Source: Clark County GIS, 2006

51 T 2N R 2E
 56 T 2N R 3E
 53 T 3N R 3E
 53 T 3N R 2E

LAT 45° 41' 35.3" N
 LONG 122° 29' 44.3" W

0.5 0.25 0 0.5
 MI

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PRJ:	VAJW-07-053	



Legend

- Project Area
- Existing Roadway
- Proposed Roadway
- Proposed Bridge
- Proposed Sidewalk/Edge of Pavement
- Rip Rap Placement
- Proposed Storm Sewer System
- Cut Slope
- Fill Slope
- Streams

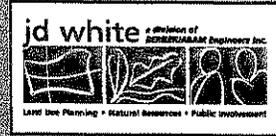
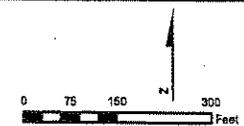


Figure 2: Project Plans
 Project Name: NE Ward Road/NE 172 Ave Project
 JARPA Permit
 Location: Clark County, Washington
 Source: Clark County GIS, 2006



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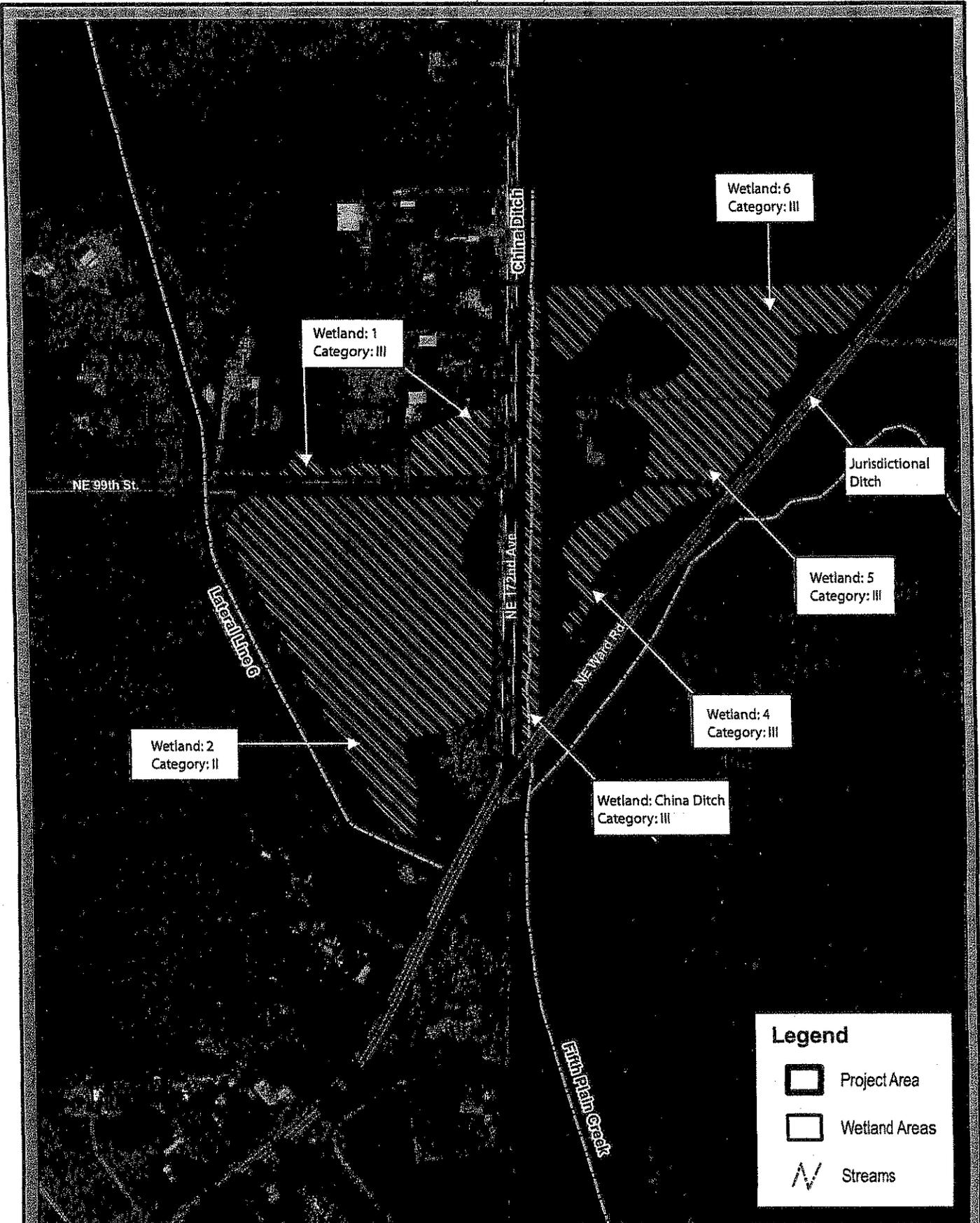
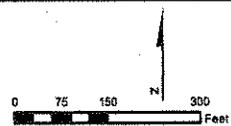
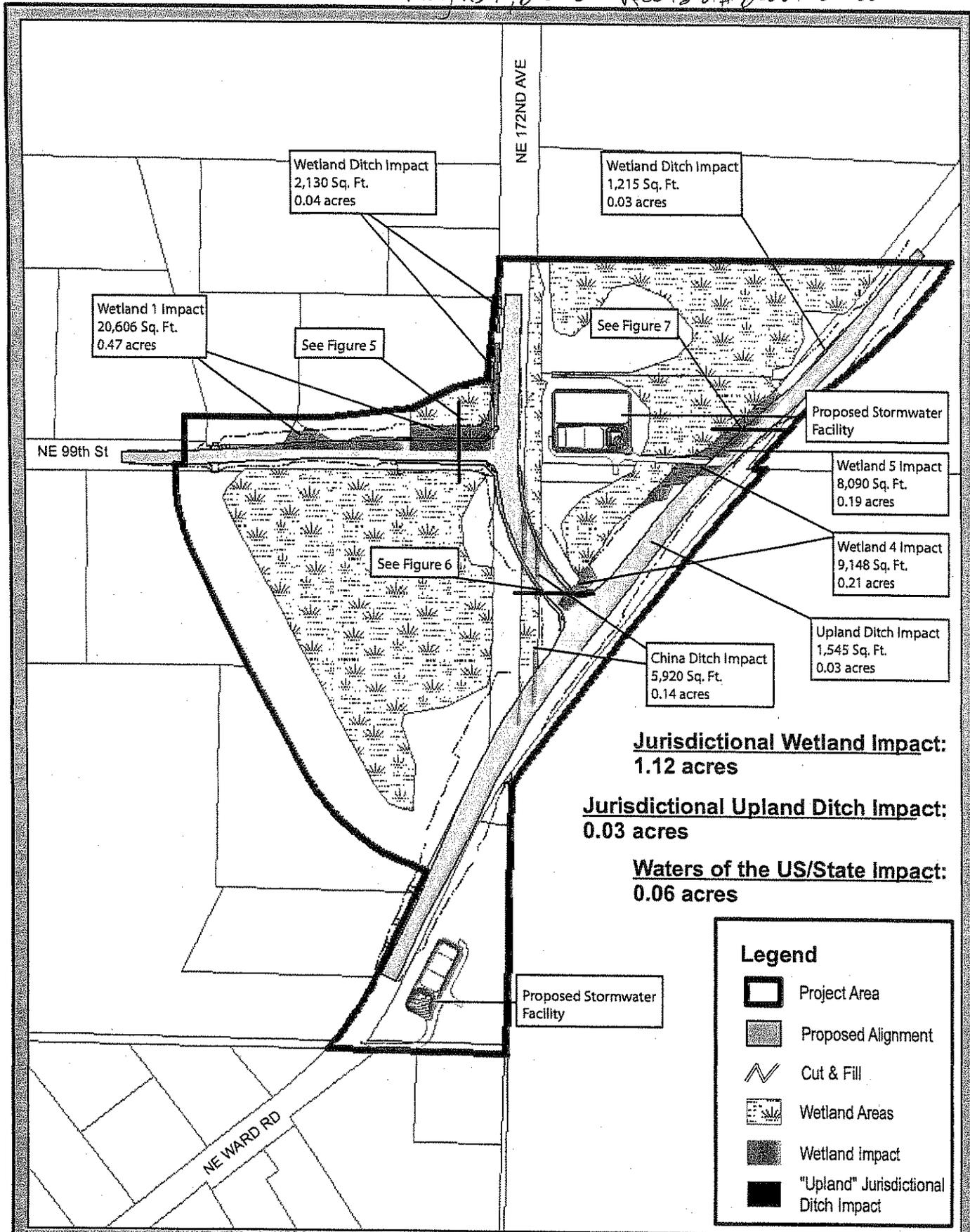


Figure 3: Aerial Photo Wetland Map
 Project Name: NE Ward Road/NE 172 Ave Project
 JARPA Permit
 Location: Clark County, Washington
 Source: Clark County GIS, 2006



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Jurisdictional Wetland Impact:
1.12 acres

Jurisdictional Upland Ditch Impact:
0.03 acres

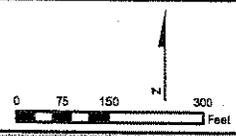
Waters of the US/State Impact:
0.06 acres

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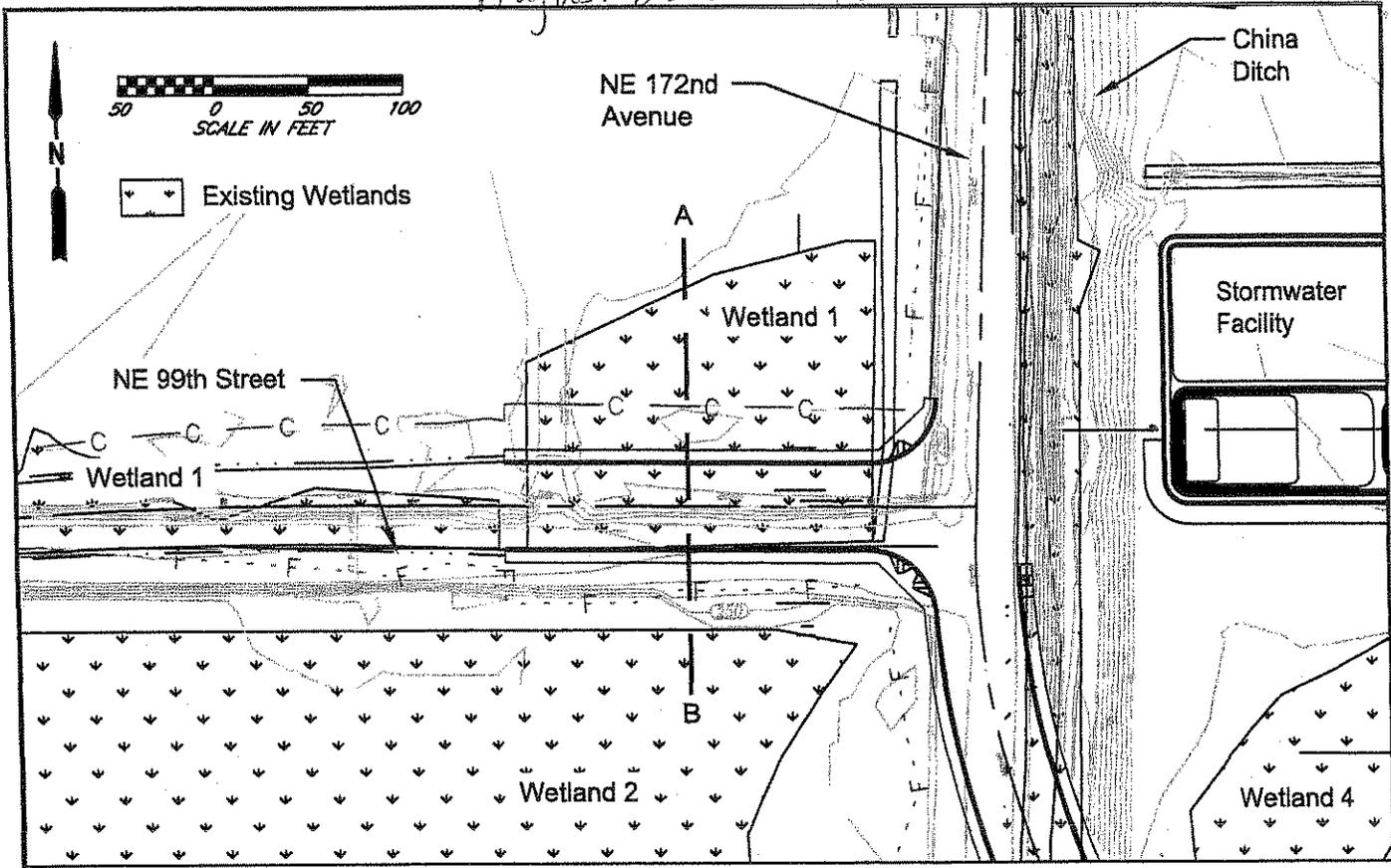
- Project Area
- Proposed Alignment
- Cut & Fill
- Wetland Areas
- Wetland impact
- "Upland" Jurisdictional Ditch Impact



Figure 4: Wetland Impacts Overview Map
 Project Name: NE Ward Road/NE 172 Ave Project
 JARPA Permit
 Location: Clark County, Washington
 Source: Clark County GIS, 2006



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Wetland Number	Wetland Category/Rating	Wetland Size	Permanent Wetland Impact	Temporary Wetland Impact
1	Ecology: III	0.79 acres	0.47 ac 20,606 Sq. Ft.	0.00 ac 0 Sq. Ft.

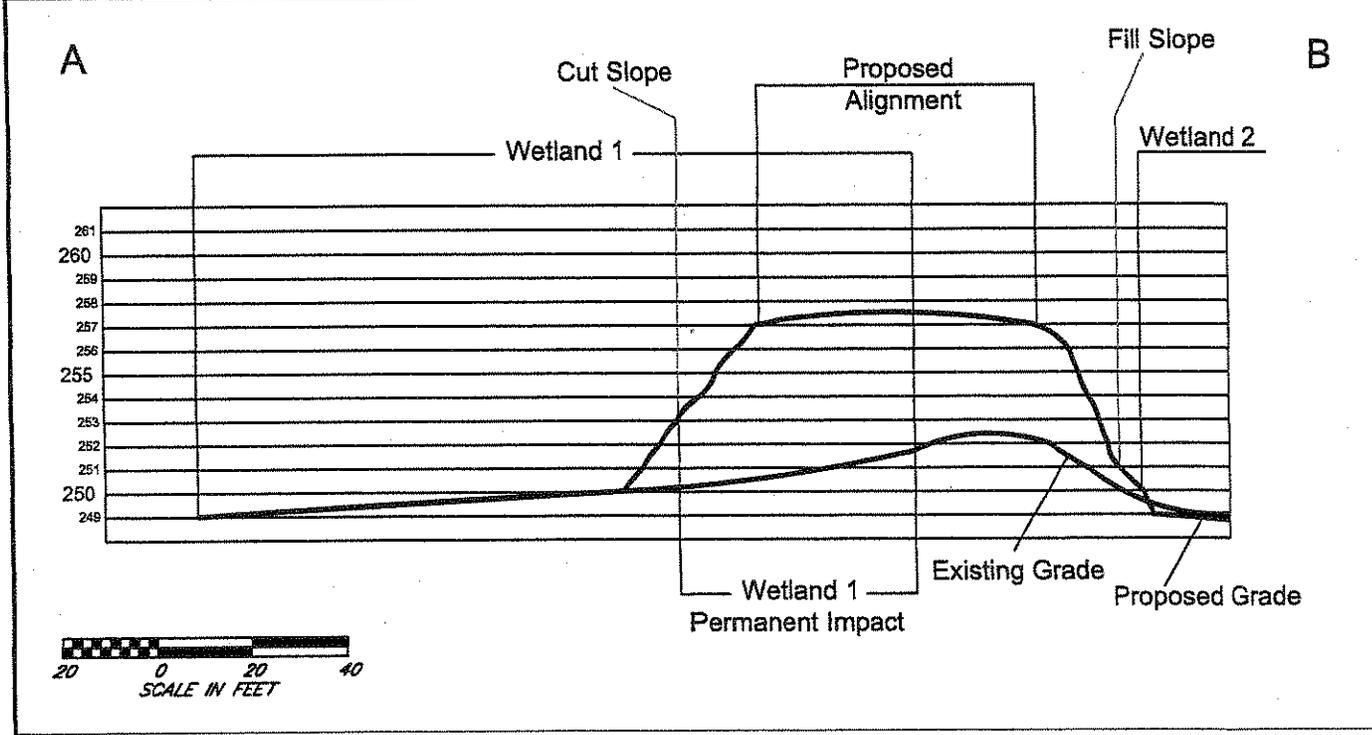
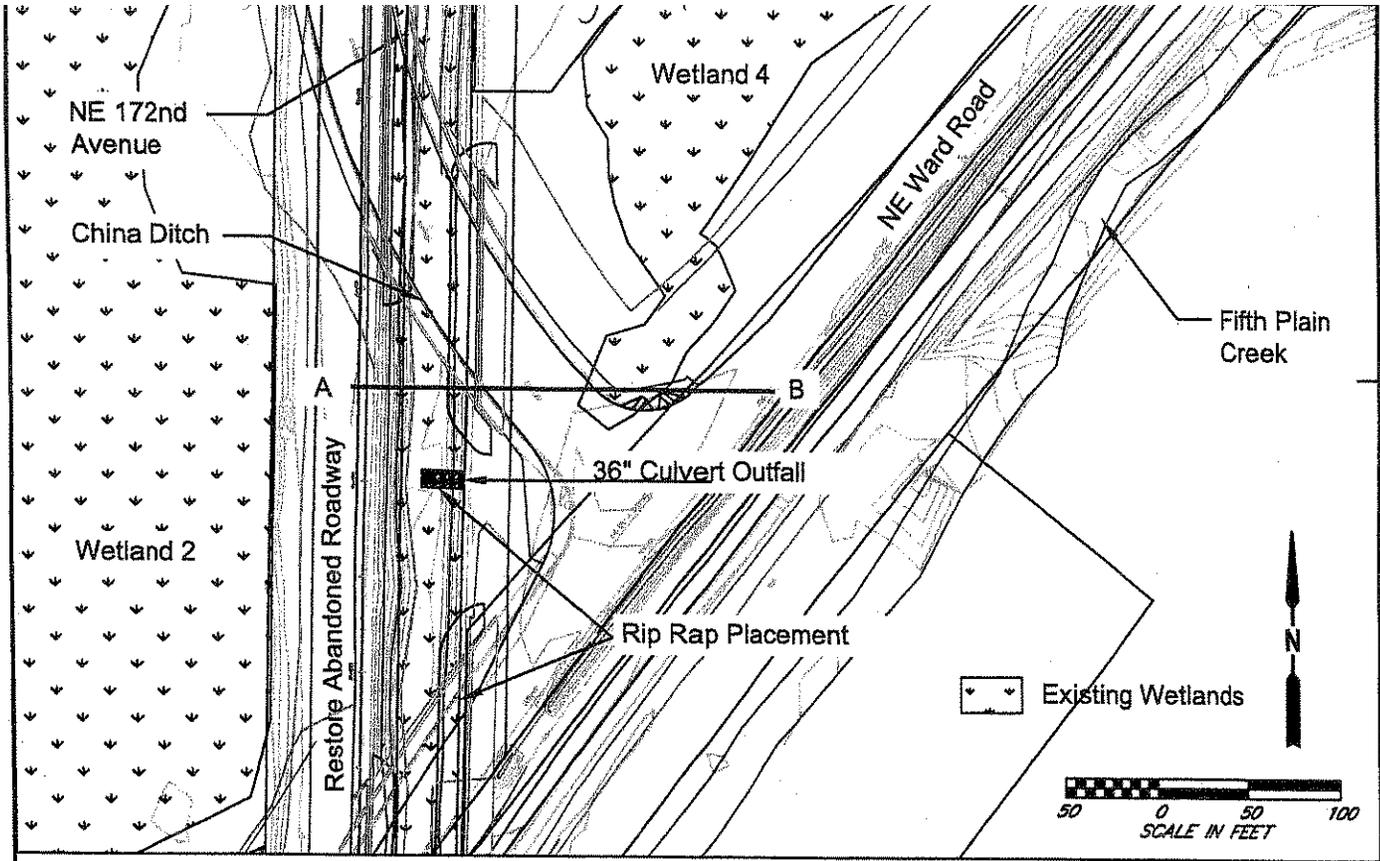


Figure 5: Wetland 1 Project Impacts



Wetland Number	Wetland Category/ Rating	Wetland Size	Permanent Wetland Impact	Temporary Wetland Impact
4	Ecology: III	0.78 acres	0.21 ac 9,340 Sq. Ft.	0.00 ac 0 Sq. Ft.

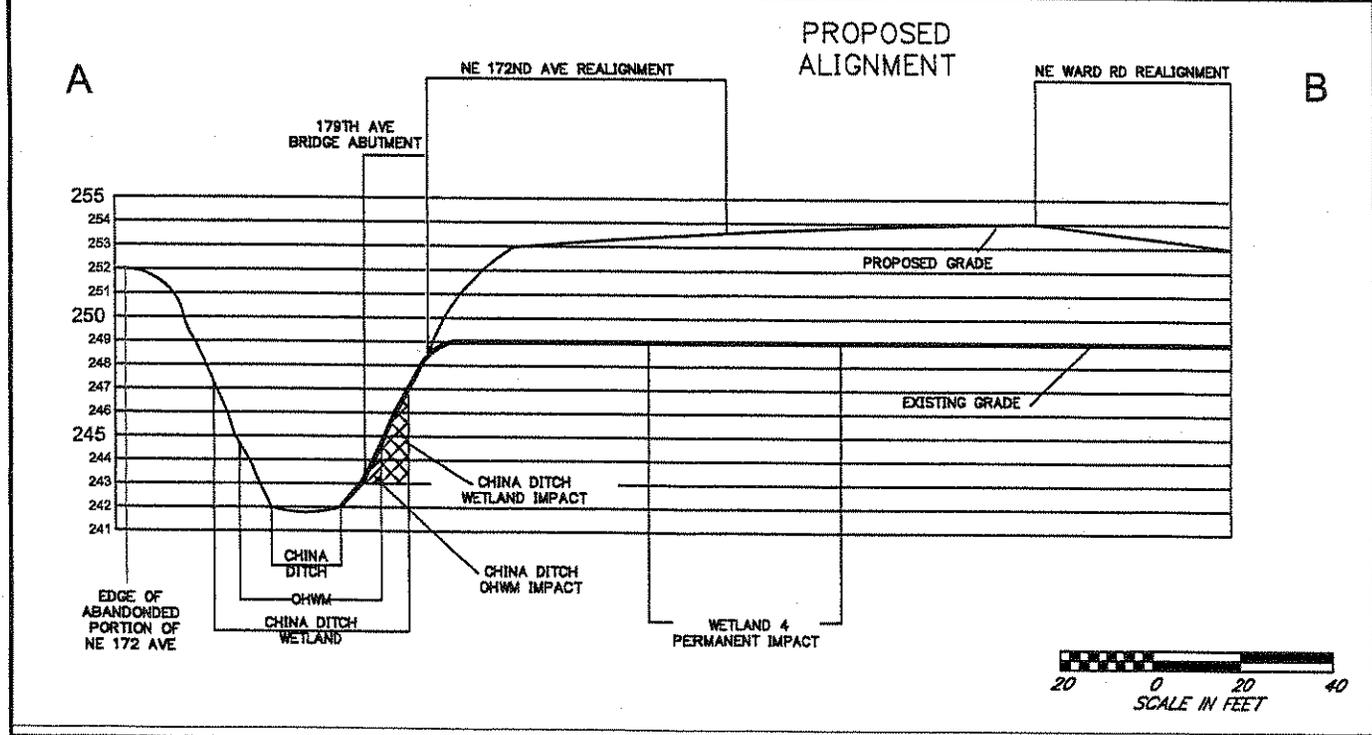
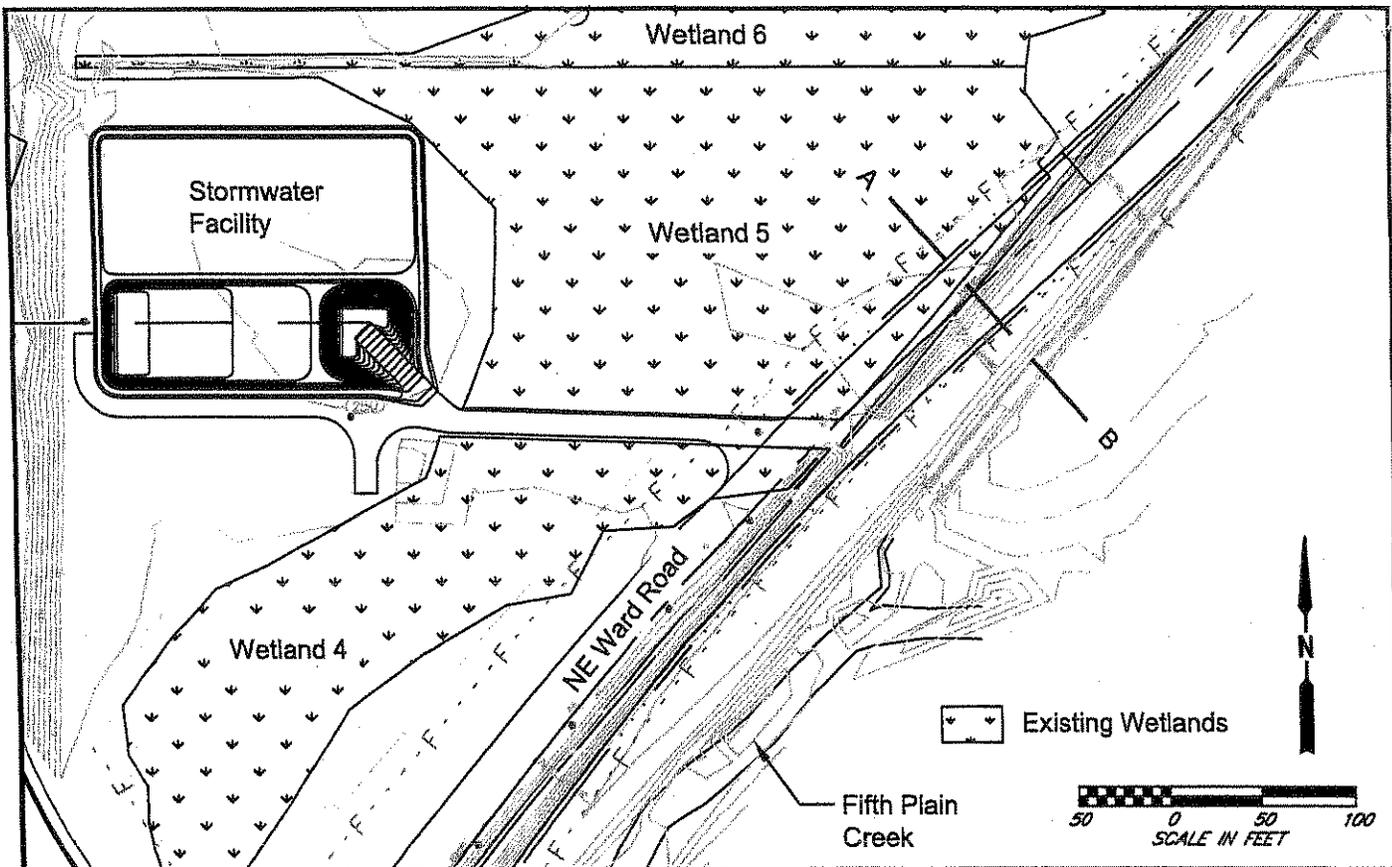


Figure 6: Wetland 4 Project Impacts Map

CLARK COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

WARD RD.
NE Ward Road / NE 172nd
Avenue Project
JARPA

REFERENCE
SHEET NO.
REF #
DATE
BY
SCALE



Wetland Number	Wetland Category/ Rating	Wetland Size	Permanent Wetland Impact	Temporary Wetland Impact
5/6	Ecology: III	4.04 acres	0.19 ac 8,090 Sq. Ft.	0.00 ac 0 Sq. Ft.

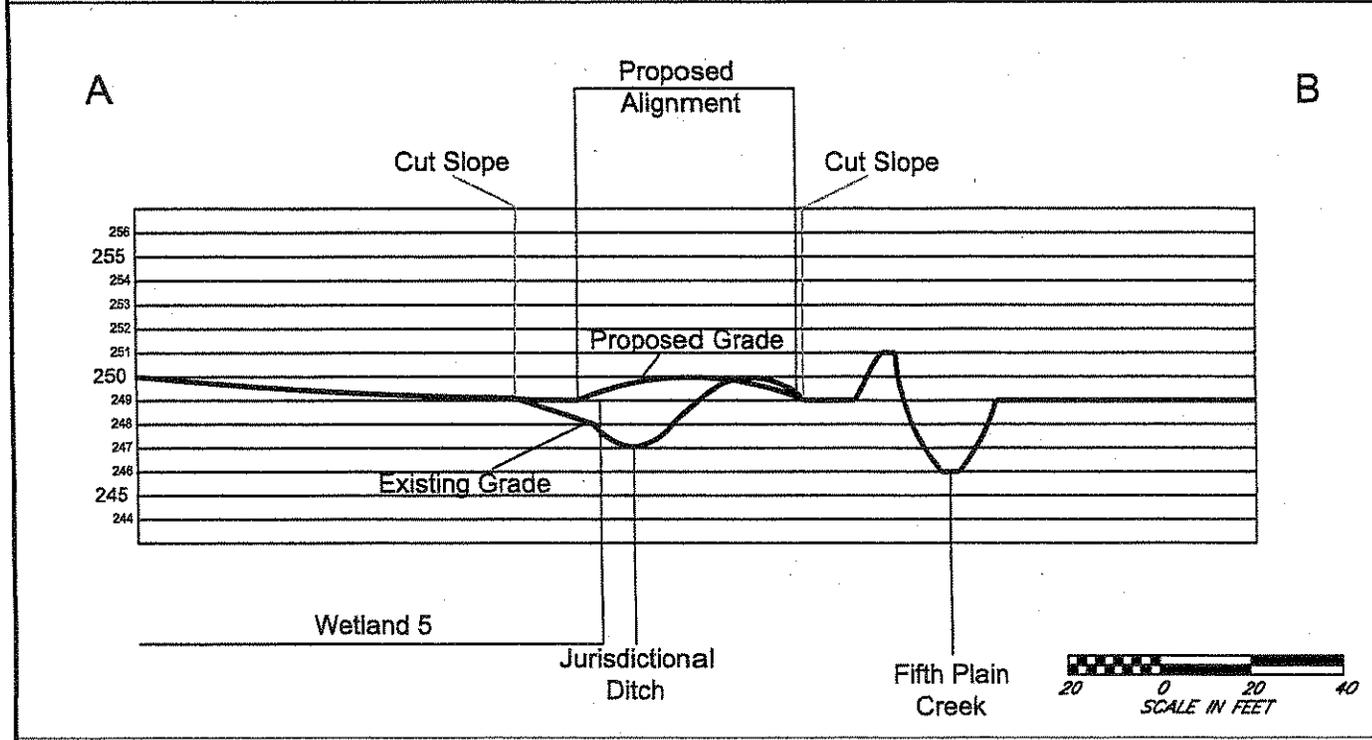
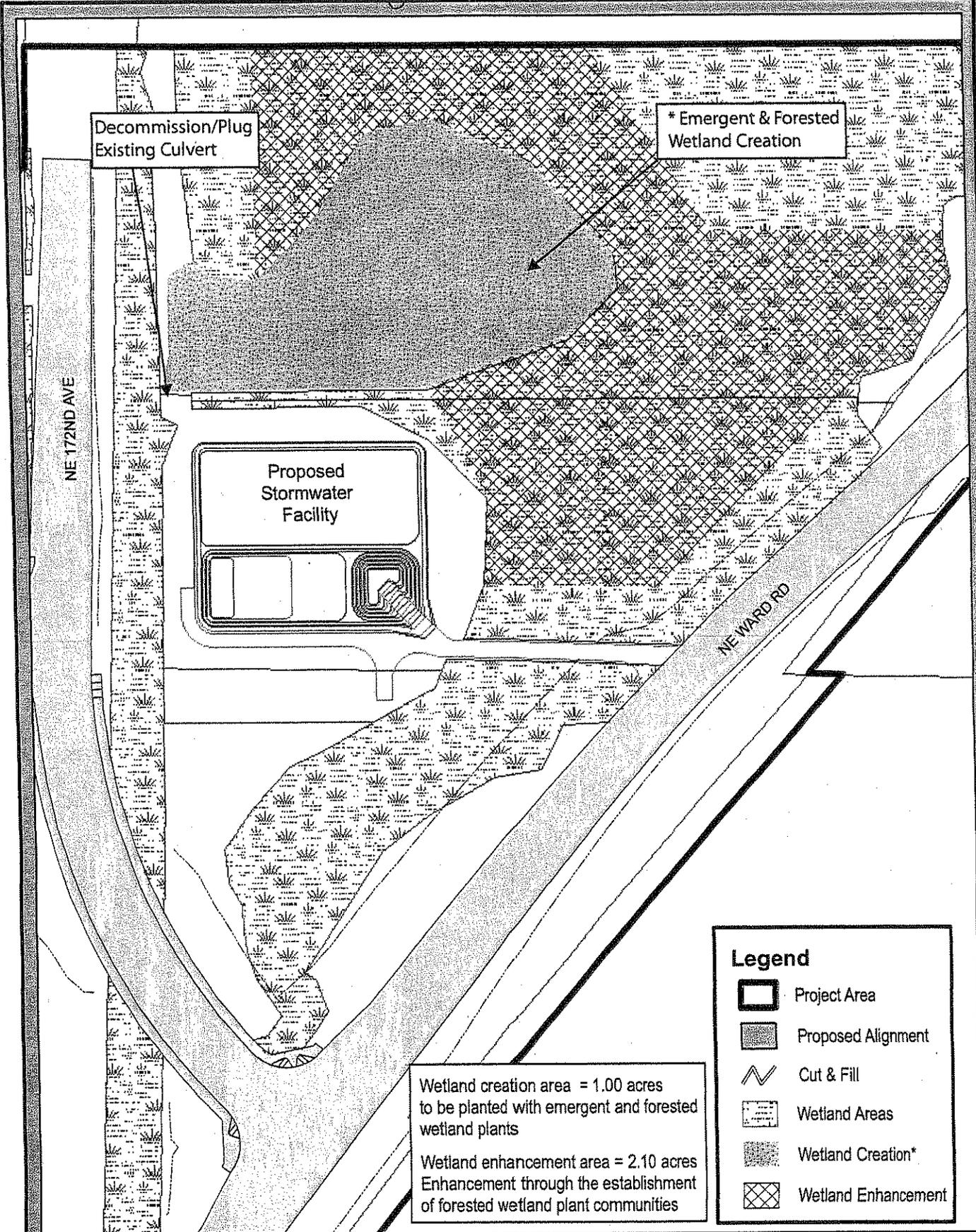


Figure 7: Wetland 5/6 Project Impacts Map



* Emergent & Forested Wetland Creation

Proposed Stormwater Facility

Decommission/Plug Existing Culvert

Legend

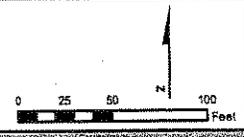
- Project Area
- Proposed Alignment
- Cut & Fill
- Wetland Areas
- Wetland Creation*
- Wetland Enhancement

Wetland creation area = 1.00 acres to be planted with emergent and forested wetland plants

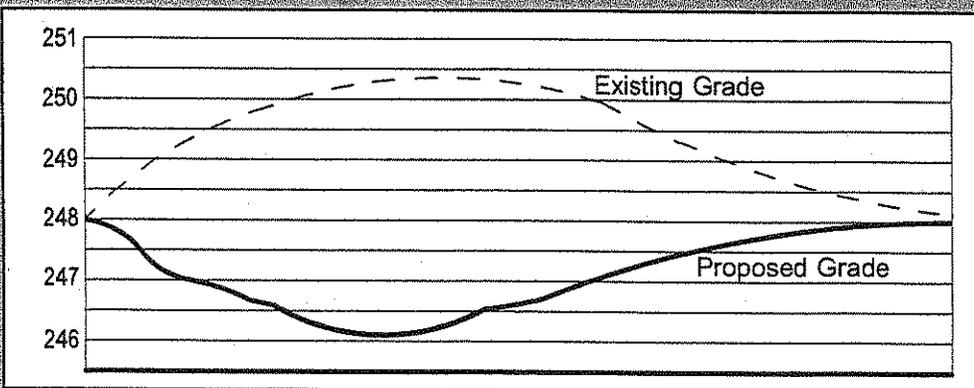
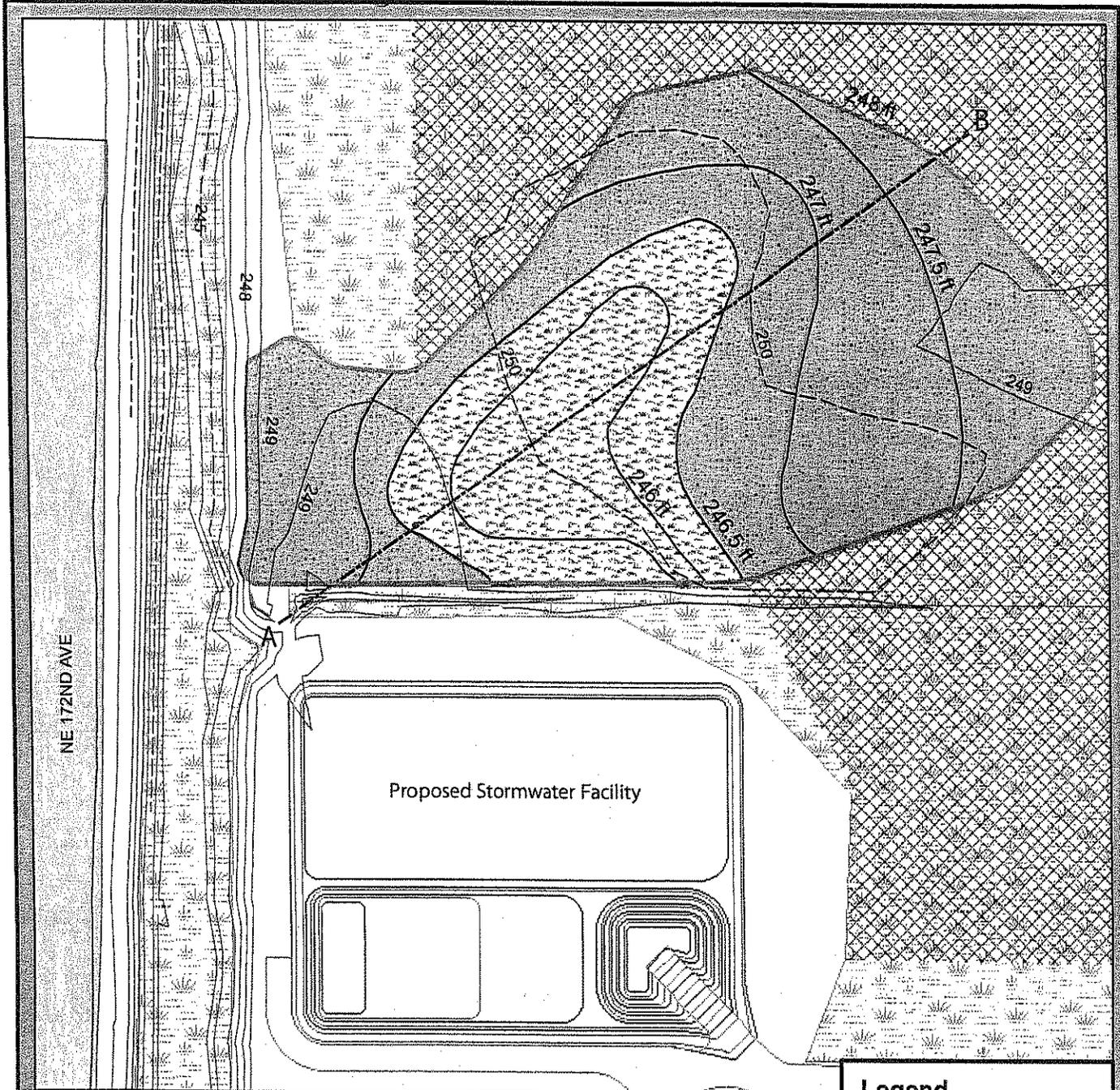
Wetland enhancement area = 2.10 acres Enhancement through the establishment of forested wetland plant communities



Figure 9: Wetland Mitigation Plan Overview Map
 Project Name: NE Ward Road/NE 172 Ave Project
 JARPA Permit
 Location: Clark County, Washington
 Source: Clark County GIS, 2006



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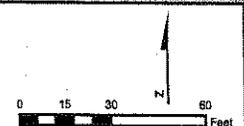


Legend

- Project Area
- Proposed Alignment
- Wetland Areas
- Wetland Enhancement
- Wetland Plant Communities**
- Emergent Wetland (Seasonally Flooded)
- Forested Wetland (Seasonally Saturated)



Figure 10: Wetland Mitigation Plan Detail Map
 Project Name: NE Ward Road/NE 172 Ave Project
 JARPA Permit
 Location: Clark County, Washington
 Source: Clark County GIS, 2006



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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SEATTLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CENWS-OD-RG (C)
P.O. BOX 3755
SEATTLE, WA 98124-3755

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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