US Army Corps
of Engineers
Seattle District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch
Post Office Box 3755
Seattle, Washington 98124-3755
Telephone (206) 764-3495
ATTN: Ron Wilcox, Project Manager

Public Notice Date: 25 August 2004
Expiration Date: 24 September 2004
Reference: 200400681
Name: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Transportation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ducks Unlimited, US Army Corps of Engineers

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Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit in accordance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899, and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for certain work described below and shown on the enclosed drawings.

APPLICANTS –

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
ATTN: Mr. Greg Schirato
2391 West Deegan
Shelton, Washington 98584-8750
Telephone: 360-490-4398
Email: schirga@dfw.wa.gov

Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
ATTN: Ms. Becky Michaliszyn
11018 Northeast 51st Circle
Vancouver, Washington 98682-6686
Telephone: 360-905-2174
Email: michalb@wsdot.wa.gov

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
ATTN: Mr. Greg Fisher
1835 Black Lake Blvd Southwest, Suite D
Olympia, Washington 98512-5623
Telephone: 360-704-7758
Email: greg.fisher@wa.usda.gov

Ducks Unlimited (DU)
ATTN: Mr. Daniel Golner
1101 Southeast Tech Center Drive, Suite 115
Vancouver, Washington 98683-5510
Telephone: 360-885-2011
Email: dgolner@ducks.org

US Army Corps of Engineer (USACE)
ATTN: Ms. Kathleen Kunz (PM-PL-ER)
Post Office Box 3755
Seattle, Washington 98124-3755
Telephone: 206-764-3708
Email: kathleen.s.kunz@nws02.usace.army.mil

AGENT – Ms. Aimee Kinney (PM-PL-ER)
US Army Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 3755
Seattle, Washington 98124-3755
Telephone: 206-764-3634
Email: aimee.t.kinney@nws02.usace.army.mil

LOCATION - The project area is located on the left bank of the Willapa River approximately one mile downstream of the City of South Bend in Pacific County, Washington (T 14N, R 09W, Sections 17, 18, 19, and 20).

AUTHORITY - In addition to its involvement as a permitting authority, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is a sponsor of the proposed project. Section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-662, as amended) allows the Corps to modify the structure or operation of a Corps project to restore fish and wildlife habitat. The proposed work would replace some of the habitat lost when dredged material was placed in intertidal wetlands as part of the Seattle District's Willapa River and Harbor Project.

WORK - The proposed project will restore tidal inundation to 300 acres of diked lands adjacent to the Willapa River; raise the portion of US 101 running through the project site to prevent flooding once the dike is removed; and enhance over 100 acres of freshwater wetlands for use by migratory birds. Individual project elements are described below. In all, up to 147,000 cubic yards of material will be excavated and up to 216,147 cubic yards of material will be placed as fill.

- Removal of up to 10,000 linear feet of dikes. The 45,800 cubic yards of material generated will be used to backfill the borrow ditches adjacent to the dikes.
- Excavation of remnant tidal channels. Up to 23,000 cubic yards of material would be excavated and used on-site to fill farm drainage ditches and borrow ditches along US 101.
- Raising of up to 1.5 miles of US 101. This will require 104,300 cubic yards of fill (67,500 of which would be imported from off-site). Culverts and tidegates will be placed and replaced under the highway.
- Construction of a cross dike to prevent tidal inundation of neighboring properties. This will require 5,200 cubic yards of fill imported from off-site.
- Freshwater wetland cells/swales and associated levees will be constructed on 100 acres landward of US 101, and 22 acres at the downstream end of the project site. This work will require 68,600 cubic yards of excavation and 44,400 cubic yards of fill.

PURPOSE – To re-establish 300 acres of salt marsh, restore off-channel rearing and refuge habitat for juvenile salmonids, and to provide 120 acres of habitat for migratory birds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – A highway pull-off and parking area will be constructed to allow for improved recreational access to the site. A program to control *Spartina alterniflora* (smooth cordgrass) would be implemented on the property once construction is complete. Most of the imported fill will be obtained from commercial sources, with some coming from a WSDOT borrow site near the US 101 Bone River bridge.

The proposed action would result in the conversion of up to 300 acres of freshwater (palustrine) wetlands to estuarine intertidal wetlands, similar to those present at the site historically. As part of the proposed project, up to 17.5 acres of drainage and borrow ditches will be filled to the surrounding grade. However, they will be within the restored tidal prism and will remain wetlands. Up to 18 acres of wetlands will be filled through enlargement of the US 101 embankment and construction of dikes/levees. Up to 10.5 acres of existing uplands will be restored to wetlands through removal of dikes along the Willapa River. Up to 0.75 acres of undiked salt marsh would be disturbed during excavation of three channel inlets on the riverside of the dike. In total, the proposed work would result in a net loss, through filling, of up to 7 acres of wetlands over the 400-acre parcel. However, the improvement in wetland function and quality associated with restoring natural hydrology through re-connecting most of the site to the Willapa River would compensate for this loss.

ENDANGERED SPECIES - The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, requires assessment of potential impacts to listed and proposed species. The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis*), Coastal/Puget Sound bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), Steller sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*), brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) and Oregon silverspot butterfly (*Speyeria zerene hippolyta*) may occur in the proposed project area. For marbled murrelet, northern spotted owl, Steller sea lion, and Oregon silverspot butterfly critical habitat has been designated. For Coastal/Puget Sound bull trout critical habitat has been proposed.

A preliminary determination indicates that the activity will not likely adversely affect endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat, designated under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service may evaluate this project under a USFWS Programmatic Biological Assessment for restoration activities.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT - The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). EFH for Pacific salmon, Groundfish, Coastal Pelagic Species occurs in the project area. The proposed action would impact less than 2 acres of EFH for these species. The Corps has determined that the proposed action will not adversely affect designated EFH for federally managed fisheries in Washington waters. No further EFH consultation is necessary.

CULTURAL RESOURCES - The District Engineer has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible and other sources of information. The following is current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the undertaking upon these properties:

a. Due to the project area's position in the landscape (i.e. adjacent to a river), there is the potential for unknown historic properties to occur in the project area.

Archaeological reconnaissance surveys have occurred, and a report is being prepared for coordination with the Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and affected Tribes. Construction activities will be monitored due to the possible presence of buried cultural resources.

The District Engineer invites responses to this public notice from Federal, Native American Nations or tribal governments, State, and local agencies, historical and archeological societies, and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns with historic properties in the area.

PUBLIC HEARING - There will be a public hearing for the purposes of this application. The hearing will be on September 14, 2004, at the South Bend Community Center located at 1st and Alder Street in South Bend. The hearing and associated information sessions will be from 3:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain public views and opinions on the proposed project. The Corps will accept written comments for inclusion into the public hearing record if post-marked by September 24, 2004.

EVALUATION - The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, 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; 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 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 evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act. This evaluation will include an alternatives analysis.

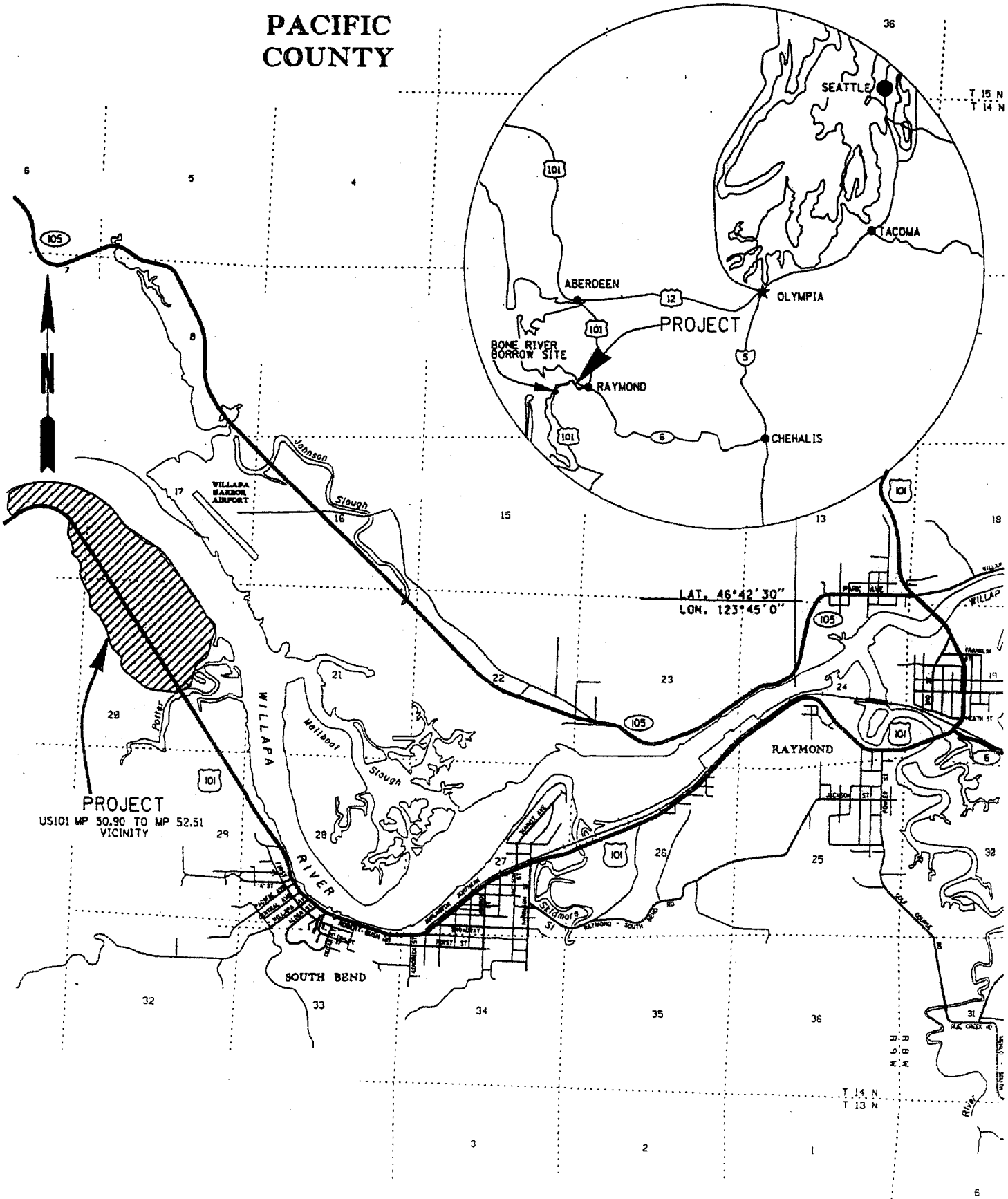
ADDITIONAL EVALUATION – Because the Corps is involved via the Section 1135 program, an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. The EA is available on the Seattle District web site (http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/index.cfm); at the Timberland Regional libraries in South Bend and Raymond; and upon request. Comments on the EA will be accepted until September 24, 2004. A preliminary determination has been made that the proposed maintenance work will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and, therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

The State of Washington is reviewing the non-Section 1135 portions of the work for consistency with the approved Washington Coastal Zone Management Program. The Corps will ensure the Section 1135 portions of the work comply with the Coastal Zone Management Act to the maximum extent possible. The entire project is being reviewed for compliance with the applicable State and Federal water quality standards pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. This proposal is also being reviewed by Pacific County as Shorelines Substantial Development Permit Case No. 04-0035SB.

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 below. All e-mail comments should be sent to Ronald.J.Wilcox@nws02.usace.army.mil. Conventional mail comments should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Post Office Box 3755, Seattle, Washington, 98124-3755. Both conventional mail or e-mail comments must include the permit applicant's name and reference number, as shown below, and the commentor's name, address, and phone number. All comments whether conventional mail or e-mail must reach this office, no later than the expiration date of this public notice to ensure consideration. Please include the following names and reference number:

WDFW, WSDOT, NRCS, DU, USACE, 200400681

Encl
Drawings (10)

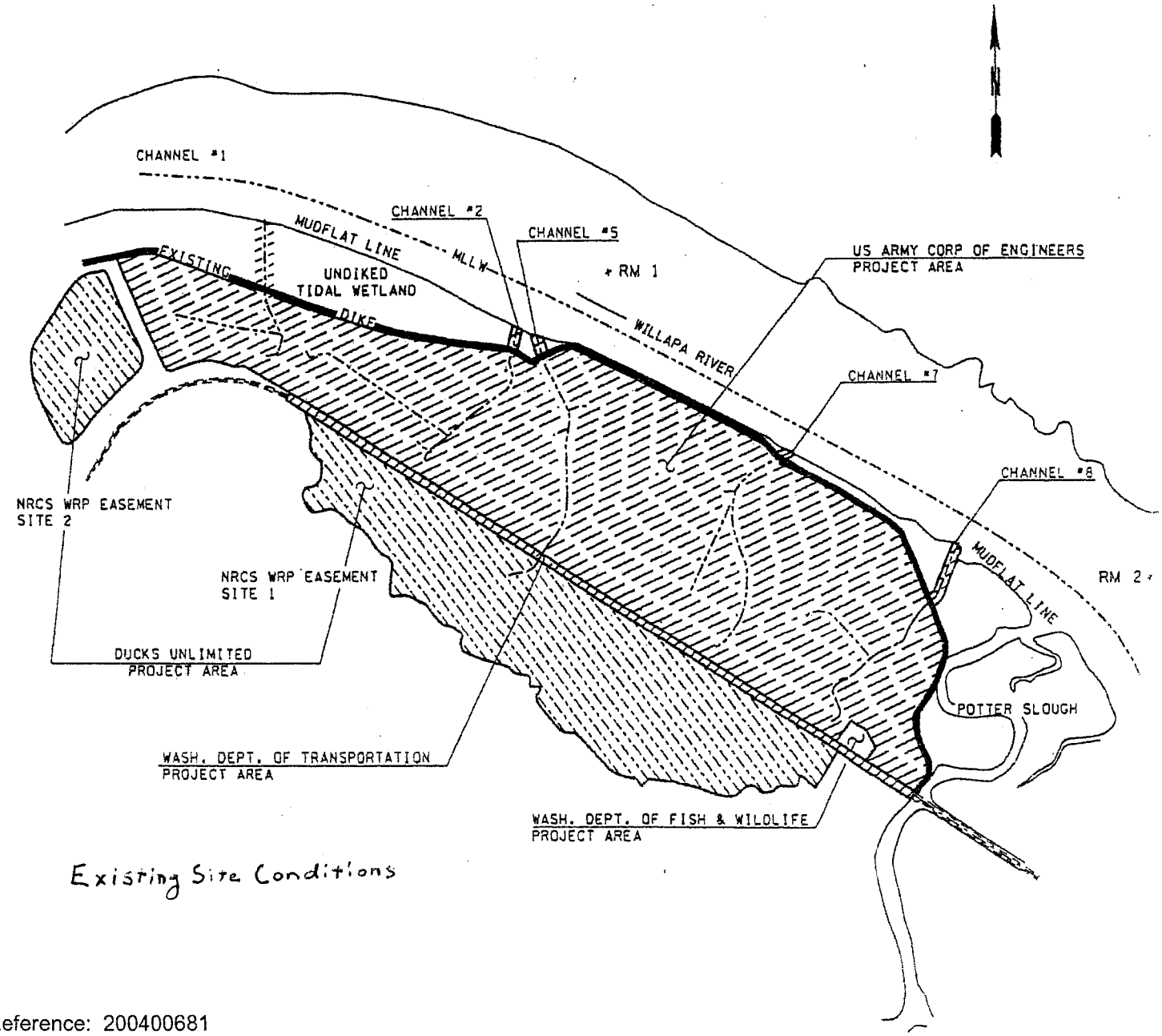


VICINITY MAP

Reference: 200400681
Applicant: WDFW, WSDOT, USACE, NRCS, DU
Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoration
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 1 of 10

INDIVIDUAL AREAS OF ACTIVITY BY PROJECT PARTICIPANT

NOTE:- Eight historic primary channels were on site. However only 5 will be deepend as part of the proposed project.



Existing Site Conditions

Reference: 200400681
Applicant: WDFW, WSDOT, USACE, NRCS, DU
Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoration
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 2 of 10

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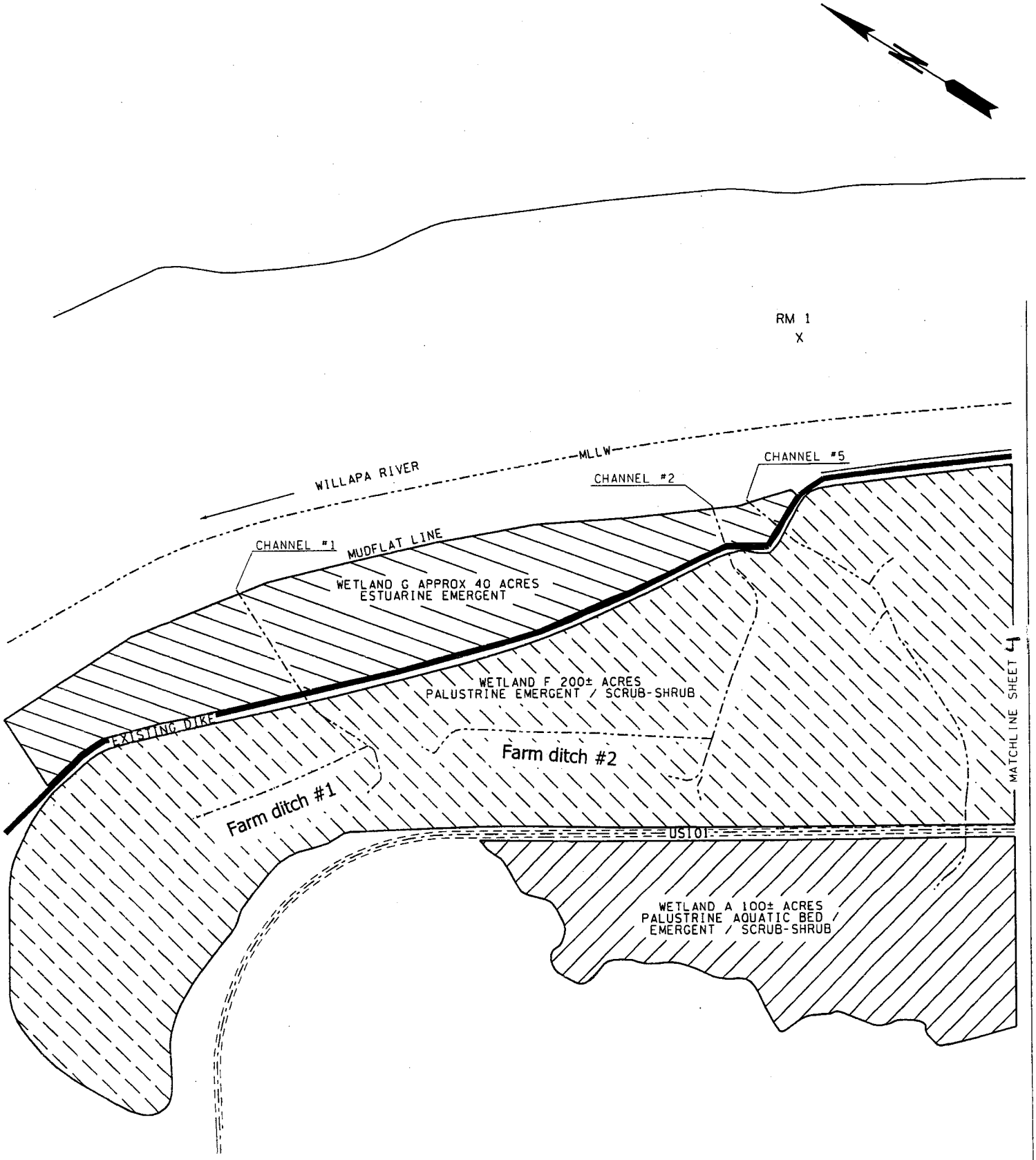
SCALE IN FEET



Reference: 200400681
Applicant: WDFW, WSDOT, USACE, NRCS, DU
Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoration
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 3 of 10

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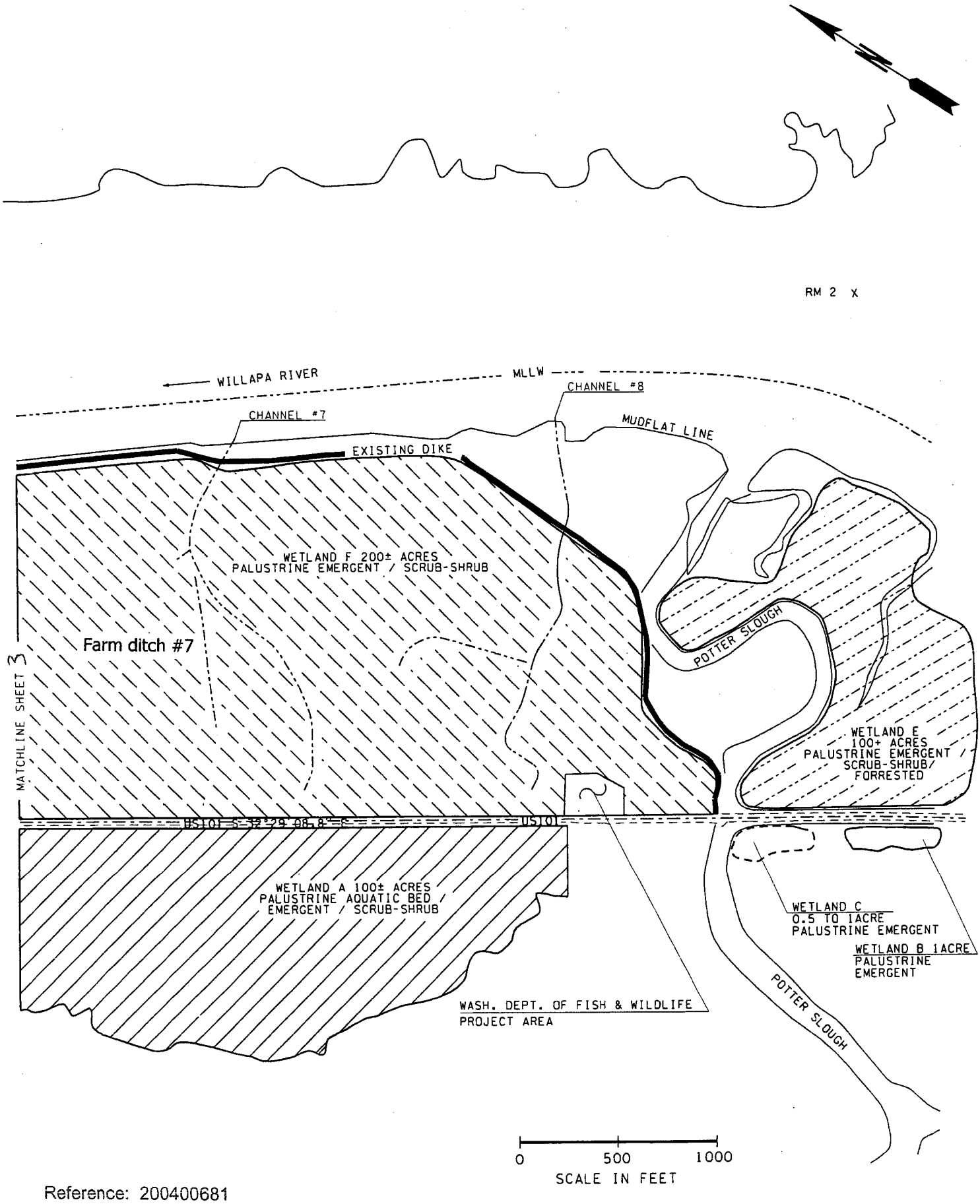

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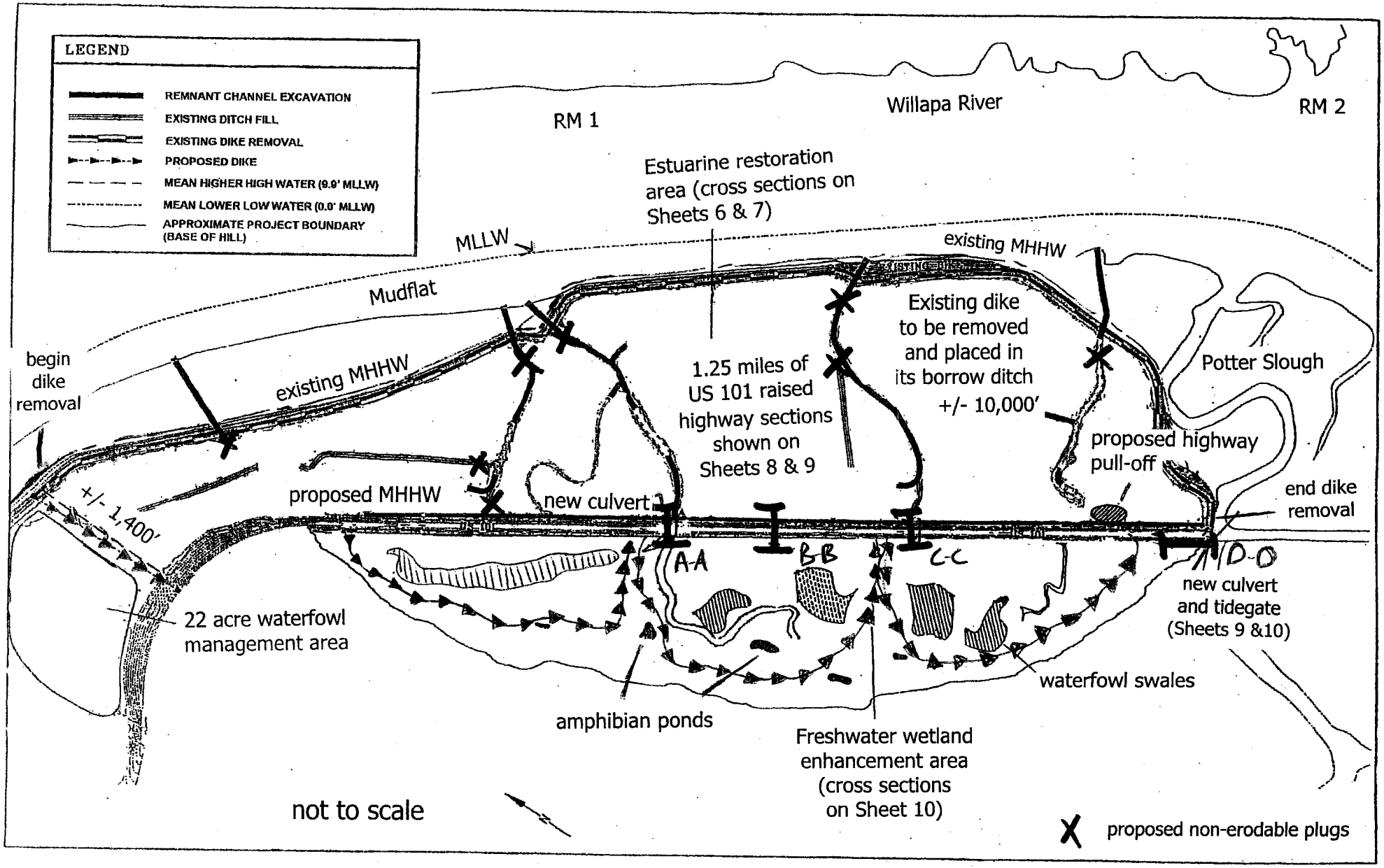
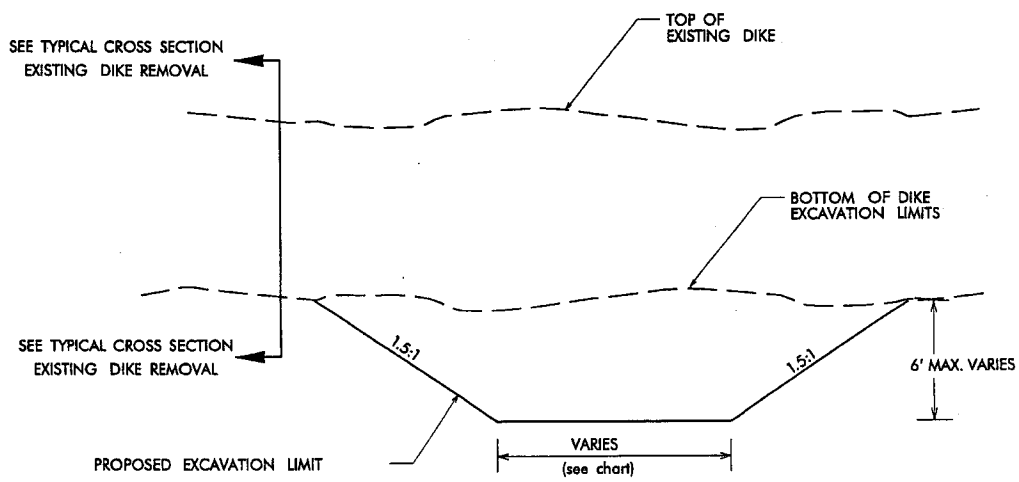
Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoratior
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 4 of 10



Reference: 200400681
Applicant: WDFW, WSDOT, USACE, NRCS, DU
Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoration
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 5 of 10

PROPOSED PROJECT

TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS
(DITCH, CHANNEL,& DIKE)

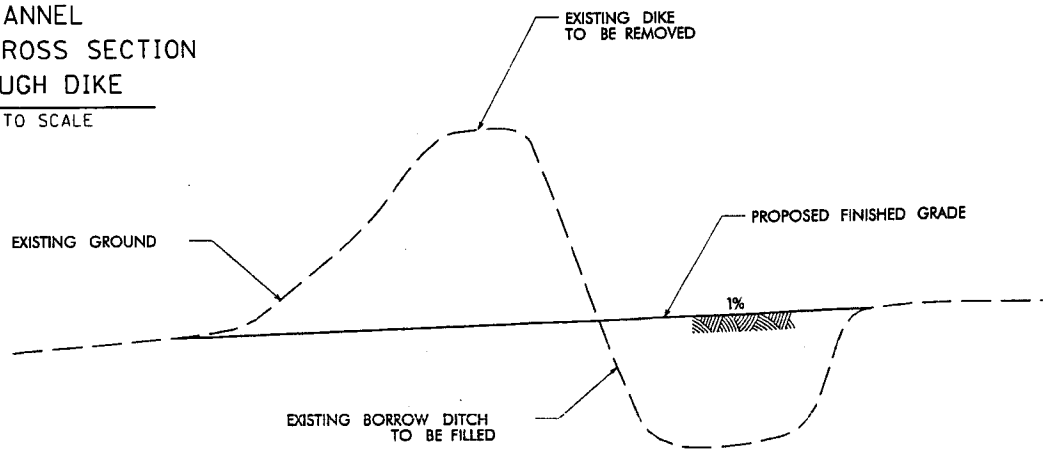


CHANNEL •	WIDTH (FT) MIN.	MAX.
1	40	40
2	10	40
5	20	60
7	2	20
8	20	30
SECONDARY 5	10	30
SECONDARY 5A	25	25
SECONDARY 7	2	2
SECONDARY 8	2	2

• NOTE:- WIDTH DIMENSION APPLIES TO FULL LENGTH OF CHANNEL

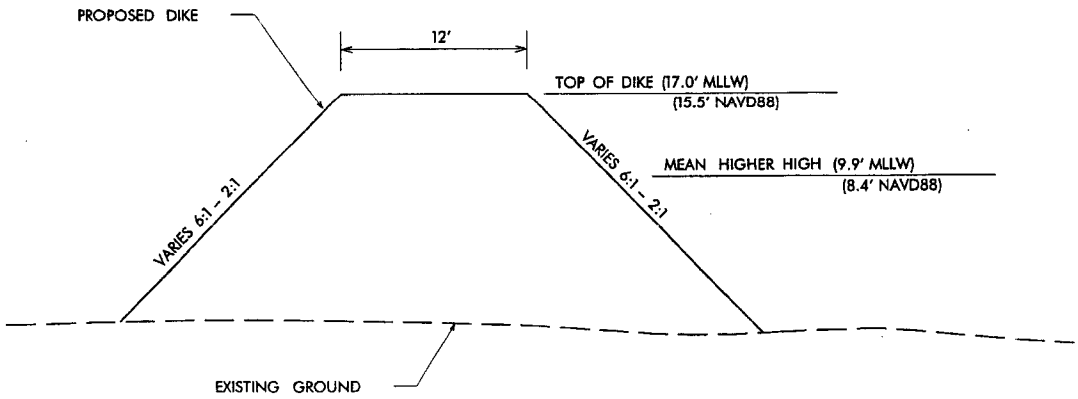
CHANNEL
TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
THROUGH DIKE

NOT TO SCALE



TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
EXISTING DIKE REMOVAL

NOT TO SCALE

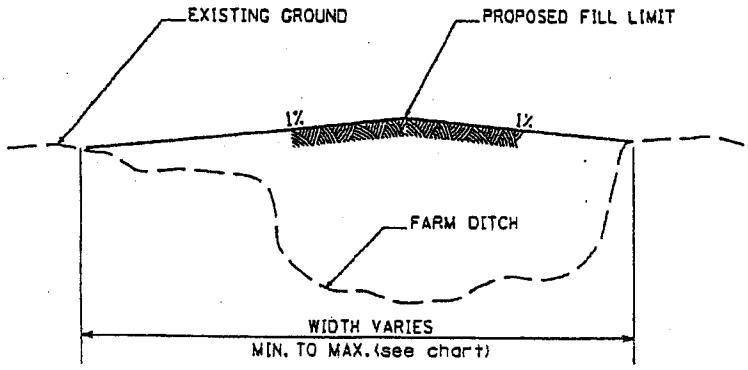


TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
PROPOSED CROSS DIKE

NOT TO SCALE

Reference: 200400681
Applicant: WDFW, WSDOT, USACE, NRCS, DU
Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoration
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 6 of 10

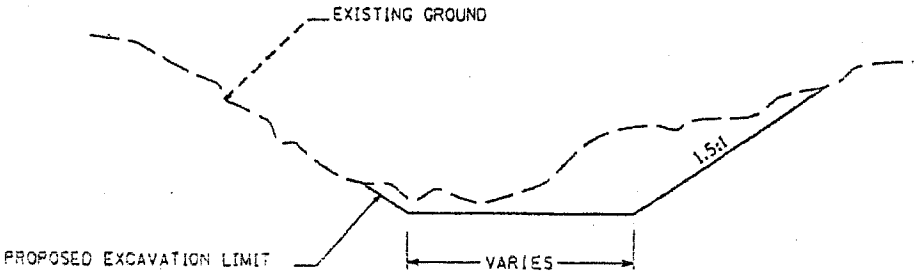
TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS FOR DITCH, CHANNEL AND DIKE



FARM DITCH #	WIDTH MIN.	MAX.
1	30'	150'
2	20'	125'
7	15'	120'

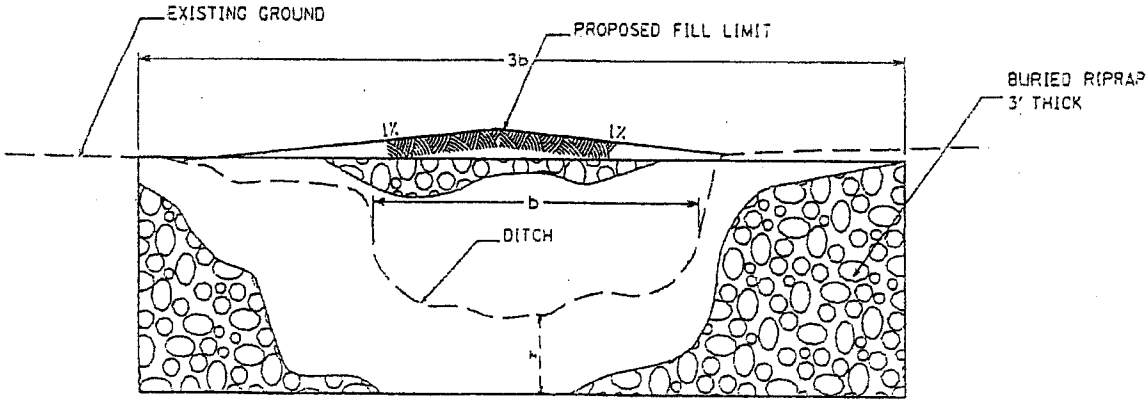
TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
THROUGH FARM DITCH

NOT TO SCALE



TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
THROUGH CHANNELS

NOT TO SCALE



TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
NON-ERODABLE PLUG

NOT TO SCALE

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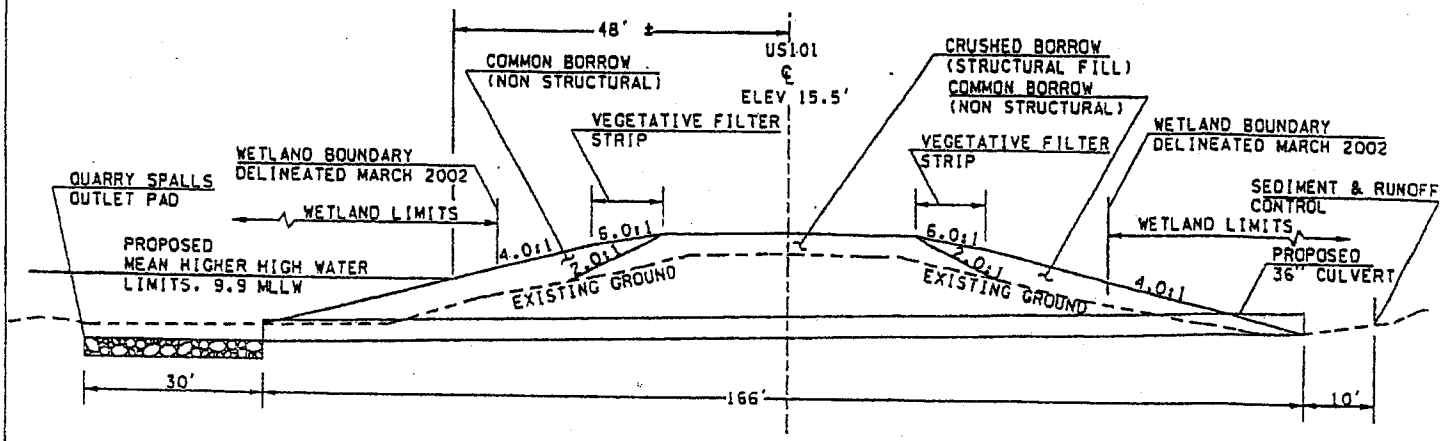
Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoration
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 7 of 10

HIGHWAY 101 CROSS SECTIONS

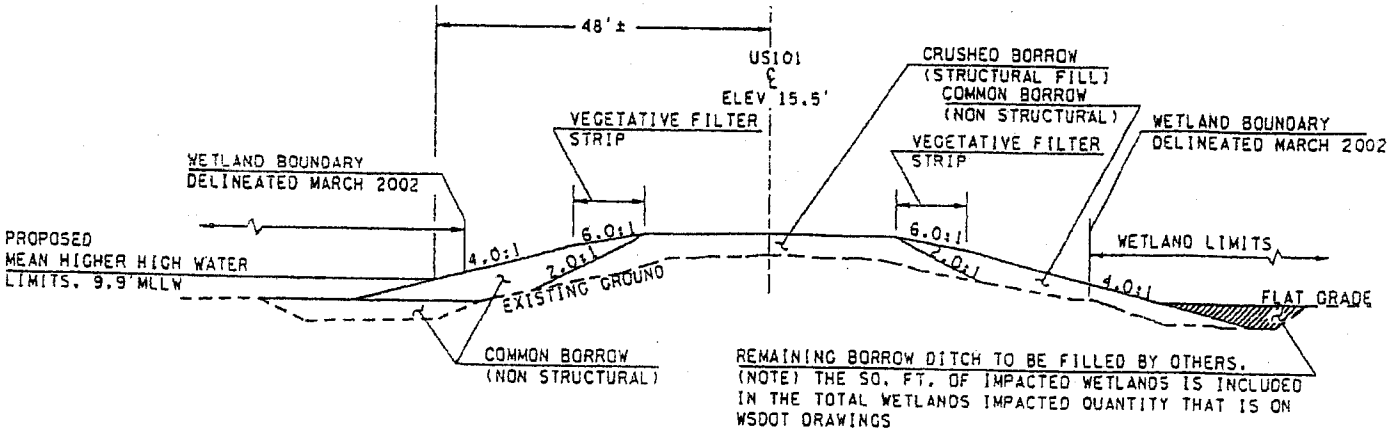
SECTION VIEW A-A

EXISTING AND PROPOSED FOOTPRINT, AND
PROPOSED CULVERT PIPE SECTION AT US101,
STA. 1045+50 LOOKING TOWARD SOUTH BEND



SECTION VIEW B-B

EXISTING AND PROPOSED FOOTPRINT AT US101
STA. 1051+00. TYPICAL SECTION MP 51.29 TO MP52.51
LOOKING TOWARD SOUTH BEND



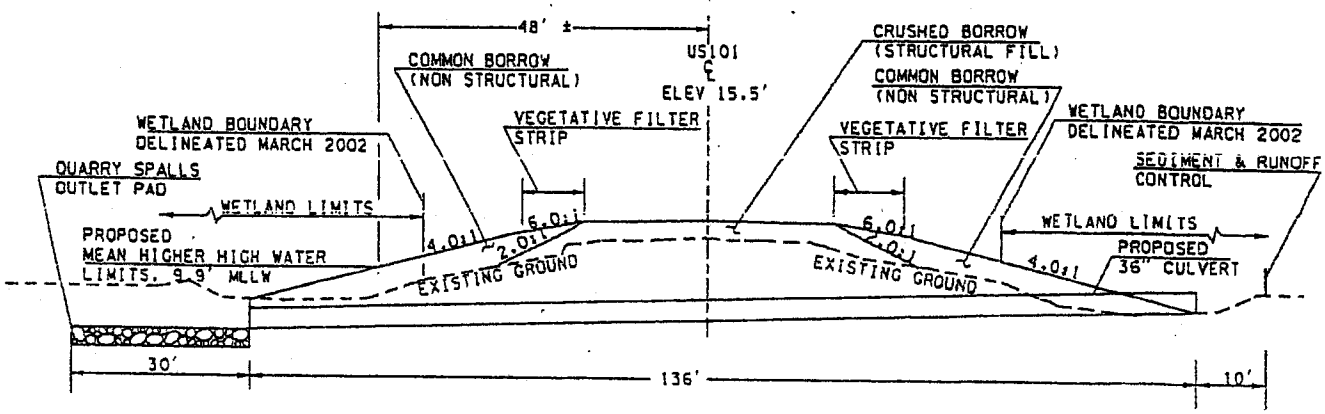
Reference: 200400681
Applicant: WDFW, WSDOT, USACE, NRCS, DU
Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoration
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 8 of 10

0 12 24
SCALE IN FEET

HIGHWAY 101 CROSS SECTIONS

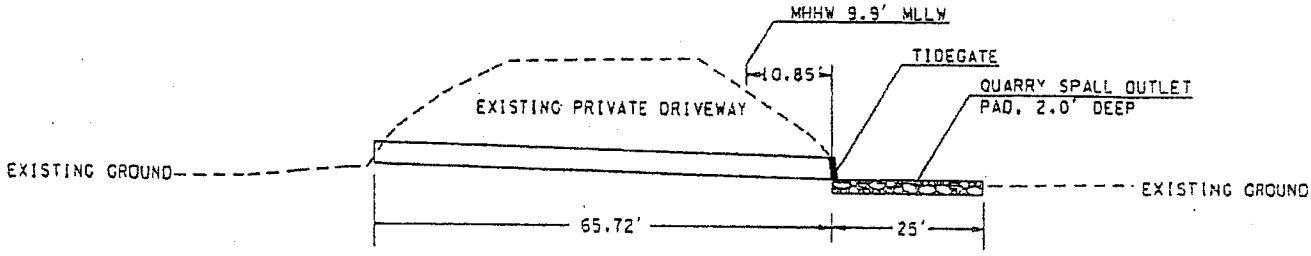
SECTION VIEW C-C

EXISTING AND PROPOSED FOOTPRINT, AND
PROPOSED CULVERT PIPE SECTION AT US101,
STA. 1063+00 LOOKING TOWARD SOUTH BEND



SECTION VIEW D-D

PROPOSED 30" CULVERT PIPE SECTION AT
US101, STA. 1083+50 VICINITY, 60' RT.,



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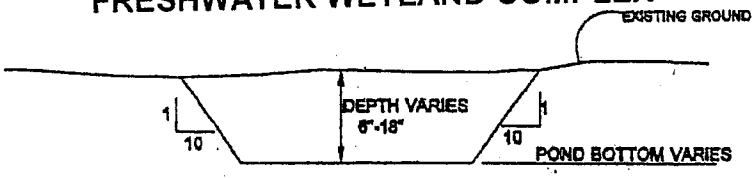
Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoration
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 9 of 10

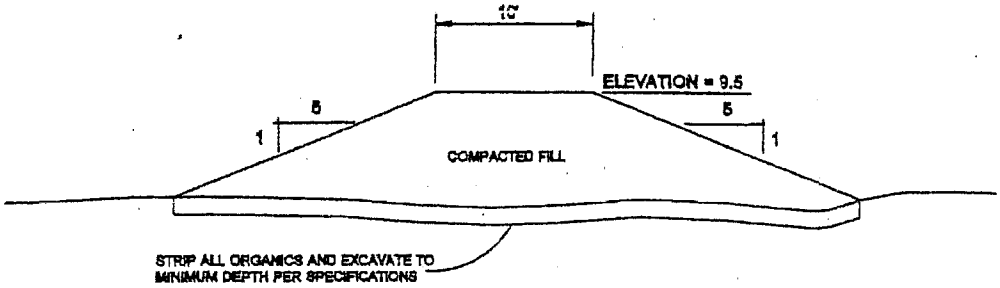
0 12 24
SCALE IN FEET

TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS
FRESHWATER WETLAND COMPLEX



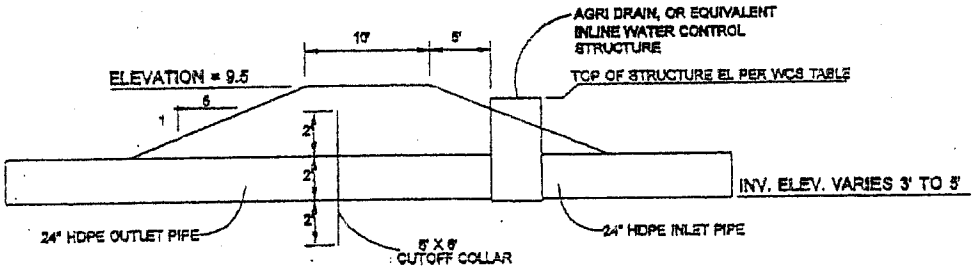
AMPHIBIAN POND

N.T.S.



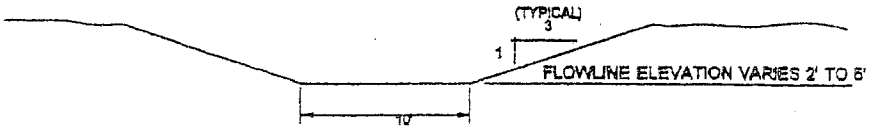
TYPICAL LEVEE

N.T.S.



LEVEE SECTION AT WCS

N.T.S.



TYPICAL SWALE

N.T.S.

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Name of project: Willapa River Habitat Restoration
Location: Near South Bend, Pacific County, WA
Date: August 20, 2004 Sheet 10 of 10

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
P.O. Box 47600 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7600
(360) 407-6000 • TDD Only (Hearing Impaired) (360) 407-6006

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Notice of Application for
Water Quality Certification
and for
Certification of Consistency with the
Washington Coastal Zone Management Program

Date: August 25, 2004

Notice is herby given that a request has been filed with the Department of Ecology, pursuant to the requirements of Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL 95-217), to certify that the project described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. 200400681 will comply with the Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Act, and with applicable provisions of State and Federal water pollution control laws.

Notice is herby given that a request has been filed with the Department of Ecology, pursuant to the requirements of Section 307© of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451), to certify that the above referenced project will comply with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

Any person desiring to present views on the project pertaining to the project on either or both (1) compliance with water pollution control laws or (2) the project's compliance or consistency with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program may do so by providing written comments within 30 days of the above publication date to:

Federal Permit Coordinator
Department of Ecology
SEA Program
Post Office Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600