

# JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

February 12, 2018

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Attn: Regulatory Branch  
7400 Leake Avenue  
New Orleans, LA 70118

State of Louisiana  
Department of Environmental Quality  
Attn: Water Quality Certifications  
Post Office Box 4313  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313

Project Manager:  
Michael H. Herrmann  
(504) 862-1954/ (504) 862-2574 fax  
michael.h.herrmann@usace.army.mil  
Application # MVN-2017-01521-WLL

Project Manager:  
Elizabeth Hill  
(225) 219-3225  
WQC Application Number:  
WQC 180206-01

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: [X] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 U.S.C. 403); and/or [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 U.S.C. 1344).

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in La. R.S. 30:2074(A)(3) and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L. 95-217; 33 U.S.C. 1341).

## **INSTALLATION OF 4 WATERCONTROL STRUCTURES IN VERMILION PARISH, LOUISIANA**

**Name of Applicant:** Vermilion Corporation, C/O: Libersat Coastal Services, 732 Maple Street, Abbeville, LA 70510. ATTN: Ralph Libersat.

**Location of Work:** The project is located in Sections 19,20,29 in T16SR01E and Section 23 in T16SR01W, in the Town of Pecan Island all within Vermilion Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the attached drawings.

(Lat 29.6084, Long -92.3961) within the Mermentau Watershed.

**Character of Work:** Excavate 66 cubic yards of earthen material and place spoil for the purpose of installing four (4) 48-inch culverted watercontrol structures with aluminum variable, crested weirs and flap gates, all for managing 3,400 acres of tidal marshland through alleviating ponding and encouraging the growth of emergent wetlands.

As proposed, the project is anticipated to impact .04 acre of water bottoms and .02 acre of existing scrub shrub associated with levee/ watercontrol earthen construction.

The comment period for the Department of the Army (DA) permit application and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close **20 days** from the date of this joint public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in

this DA permit and WQC request and must be mailed, so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the DA permit application must reference the applicant's name and the DA Permit Number, and be mailed to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the address above. Similar letters concerning the WQC must reference the applicant's name and the WQC Number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above. Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing or e-mailing the Project Manager listed above. Any request must be specific and substantively supportive of the requested extension, and received by this office prior to the end of the initial comment period. The Section Chief will review the request and the requestor will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous to the initial comment period and, inclusive of the initial comment period, will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days.

The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

### **Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria**

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 benefit 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 these being: 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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public, federal, state, and local agencies and officials, Indian Tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and 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 proposed activity.

The New Orleans District is unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Issuance of this public notice solicits input from the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work is unlikely to adversely effect species listed as endangered, and may effect habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of endangered species listed by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Based on the South Louisiana **Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES)**, as signed on October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it has been determined that the proposed activity is not likely to adversely affect the West Indian Manatee.

It has been determined that the dredge footprint is located in waters known to be utilized by the West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) and determined that the activity is not likely to adversely affect this species. If this permit is issued, the permittee will be required to follow the SLOPES Manatee Conditions for In-Water Use.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of .06 acre of possible EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality before a permit is issued.

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.

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

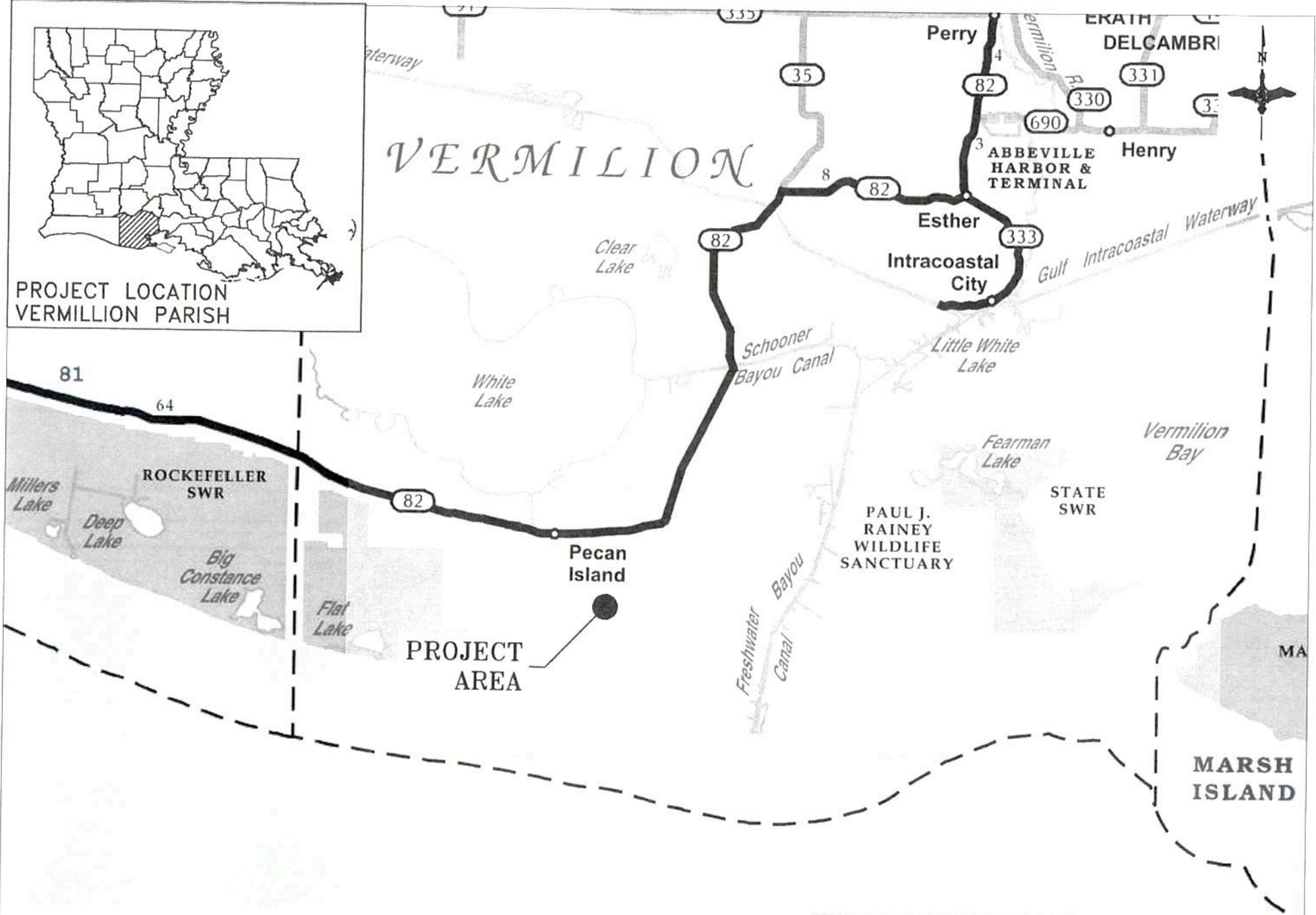
You are invited to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Darrell S. Barbara  
Chief, Western Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch

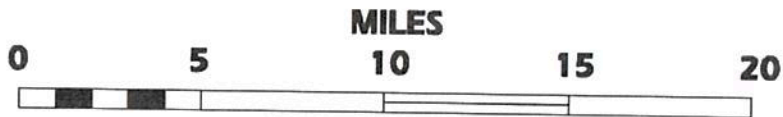
Enclosure



PROJECT LOCATION  
VERMILLION PARISH



PROJECT  
AREA

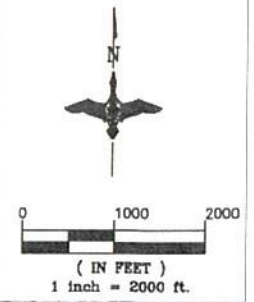


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**DUCKS UNLIMITED INC.**  
SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE  
193 Business Park Drive, Suite E  
Ridgeland, MS 39157



PROJECT NO. DU-LA-184-1	
SOUTH PECAN ISLAND VICINITY MAP VERMILLION PARISH, LA	
11/17	SHEET 1 OF 8



PROPOSED WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE #3  
 LAT: 29°36'47.81"  
 LONG: 92°26'36.26"  
 SEE SHEET 6

IMPOUNDMENT AREA  
 APPROX. 3400 ACRES

PROPOSED WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE #2  
 LAT: 29°36'53.41"  
 LONG: 92°24'13.45"  
 SEE SHEET 5

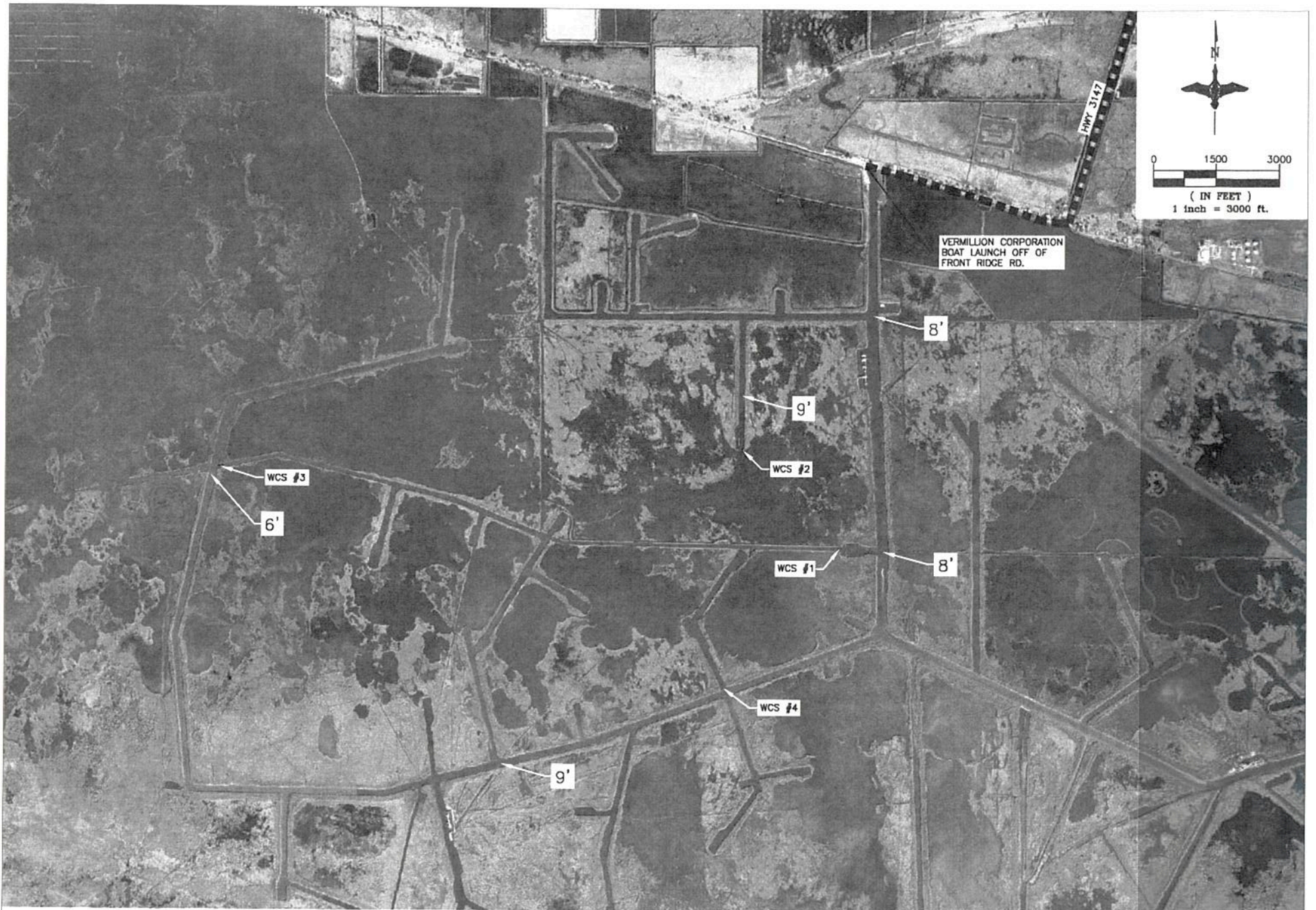
PROPOSED WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE #1  
 LAT: 29°36'30.41"  
 LONG: 92°23'46.17"  
 SEE SHEET 4

PROPOSED WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE #4  
 LAT: 29°35'57.49"  
 LONG: 92°24'18.09"  
 SEE SHEET 7

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PROJECT NO.	DU-LA-184-1
<b>SOUTH PECAN ISLAND    PLAN VIEW    VERMILLION PARISH, LA</b>	
11/17	SHEET 2 OF 8



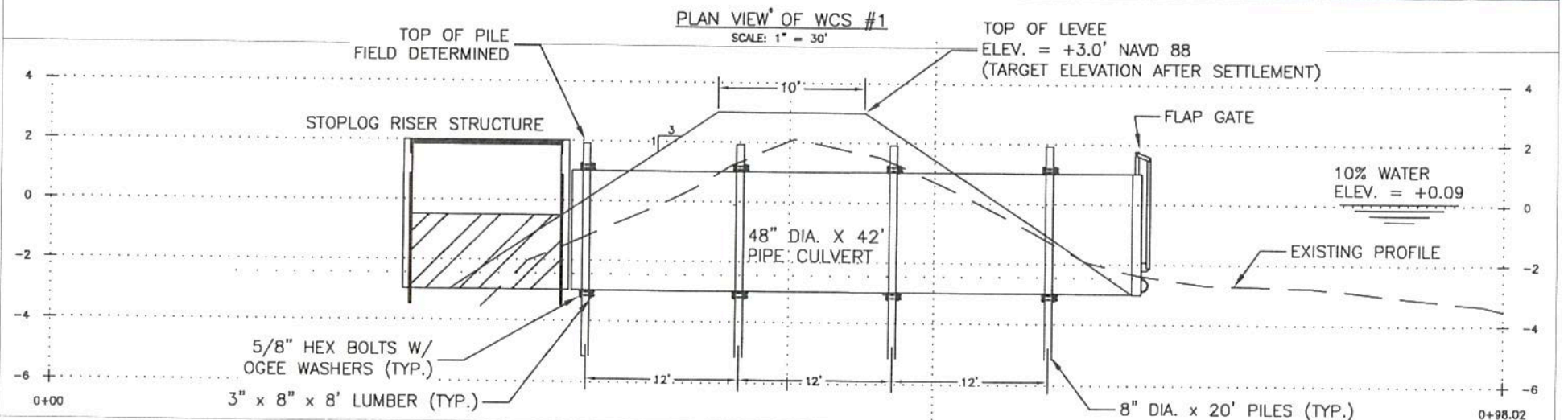
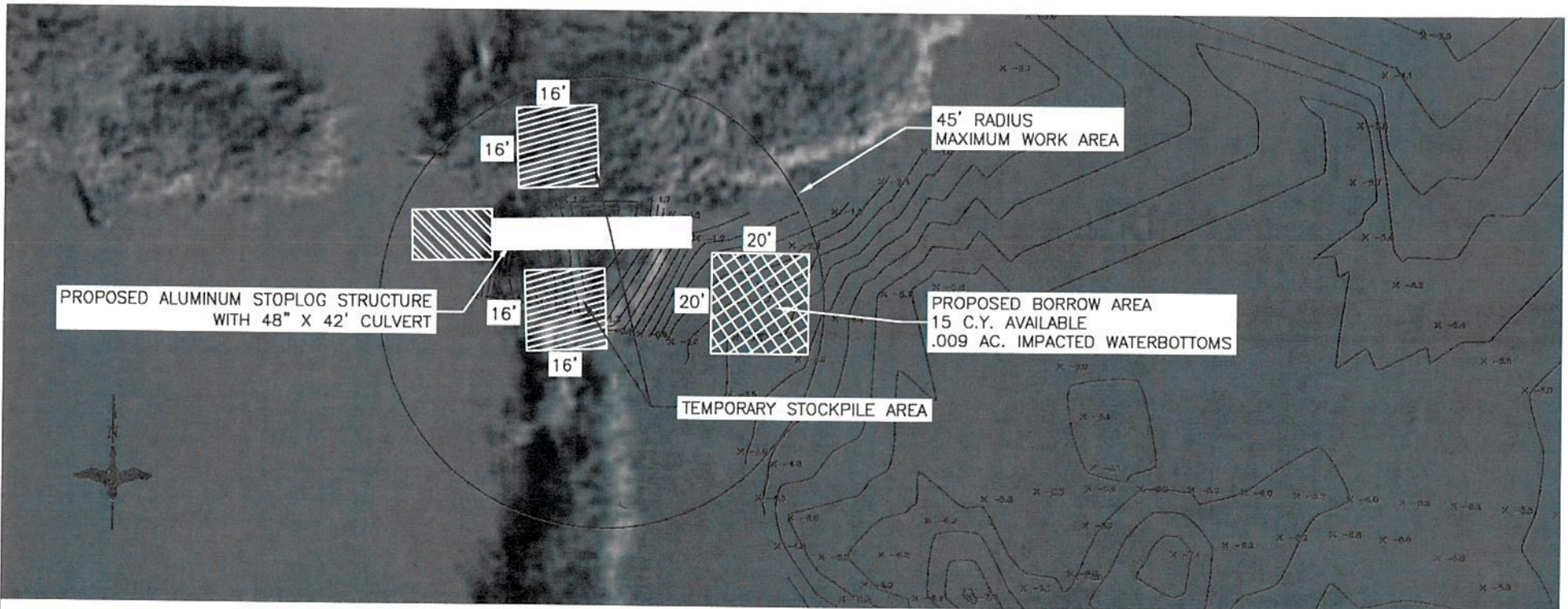
**LEGEND:**

- 8' AVERAGE CENTERLINE CHANNEL WATER DEPTH
- ACCESS ROAD/ HIGHWAY

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PROJECT NO. DU-LA-184-1	
<b>SOUTH PECAN ISLAND</b>	
PROJECT ACCESS	
VERMILLION PARISH, LA	
11/17	SHEET 3 OF 8



PROFILE OF WCS #1  
SCALE  
HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1" = 10'  
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 5'

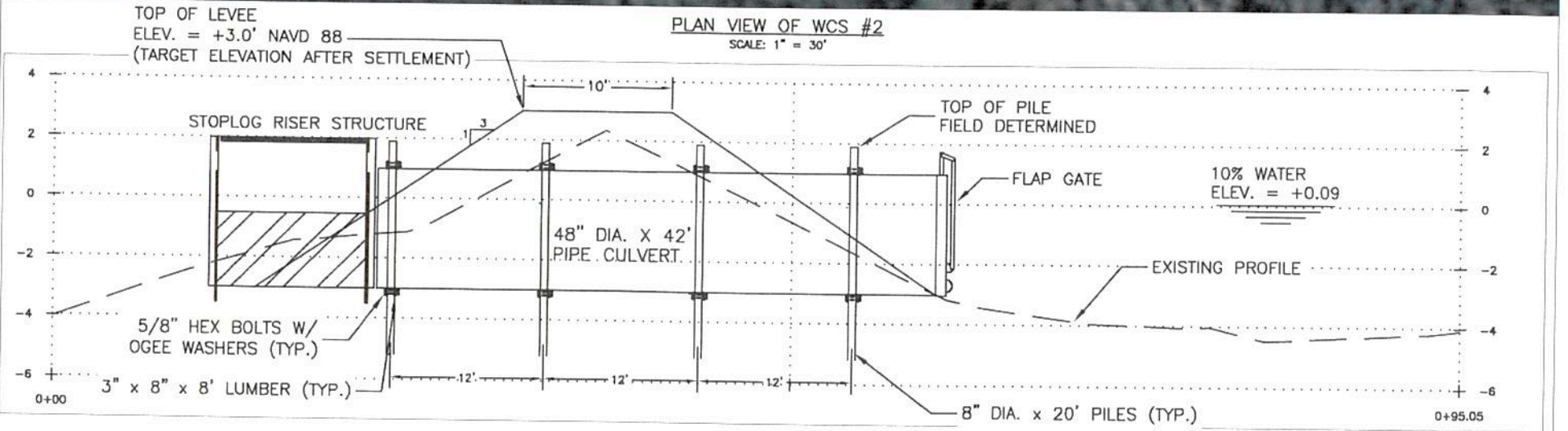
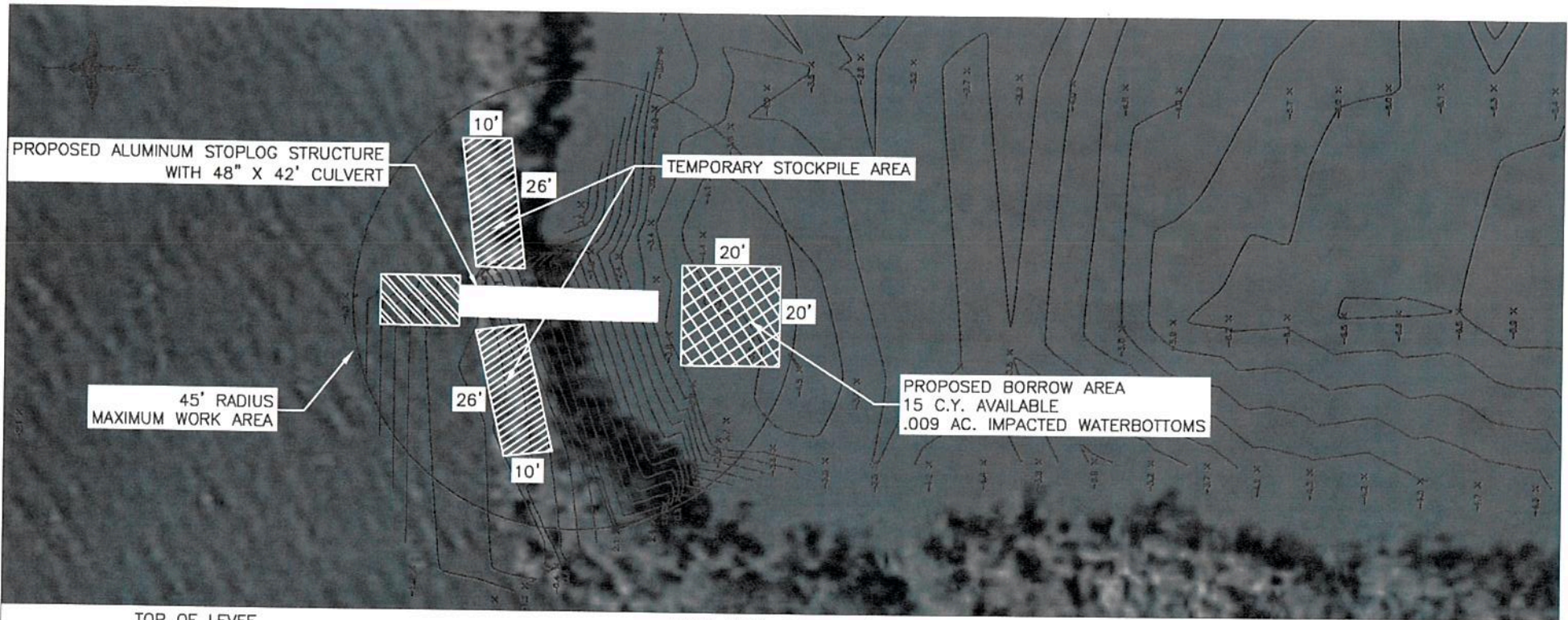
NOTE: WATER ELEVATION DATA OBTAINED FROM CRMS1965-H02 2017.

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PROJECT NO. DU-LA-184-1
<b>SOUTH PECAN ISLAND</b>
WCS #1 PLAN & PROFILE
VERMILION PARISH, LA
11/17
SHEET 4 OF 8



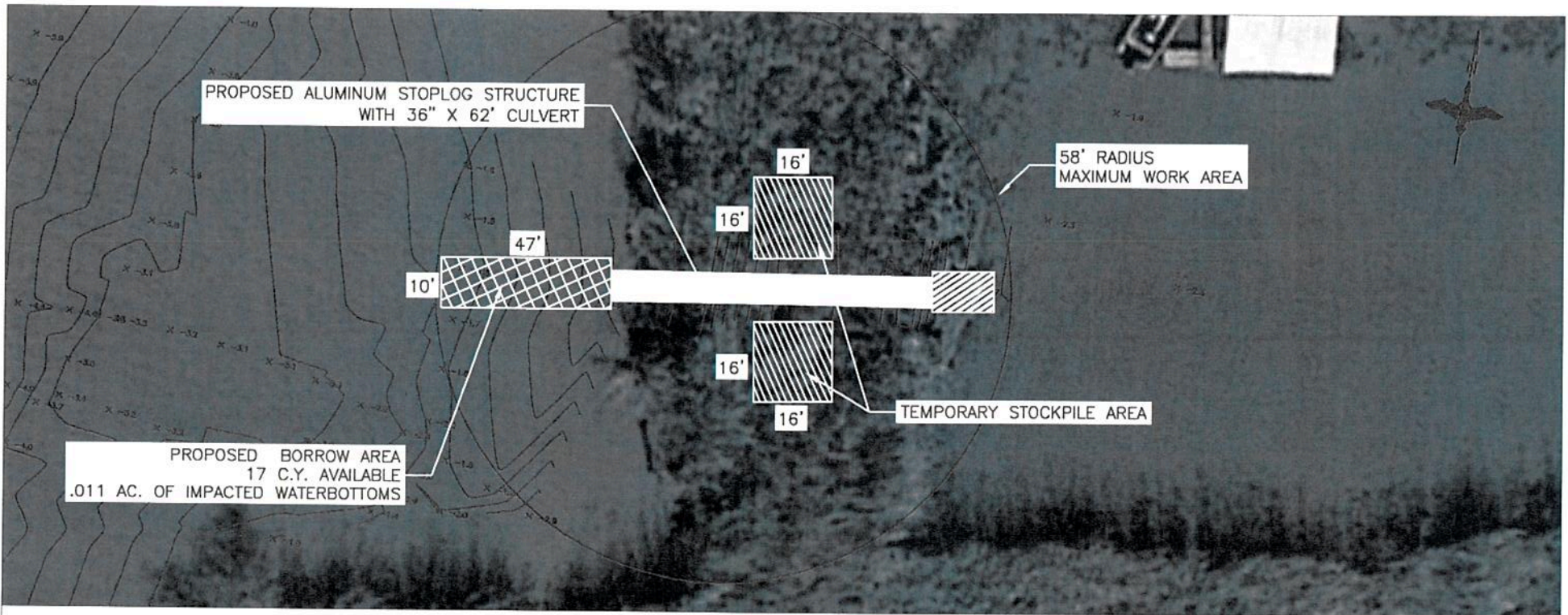
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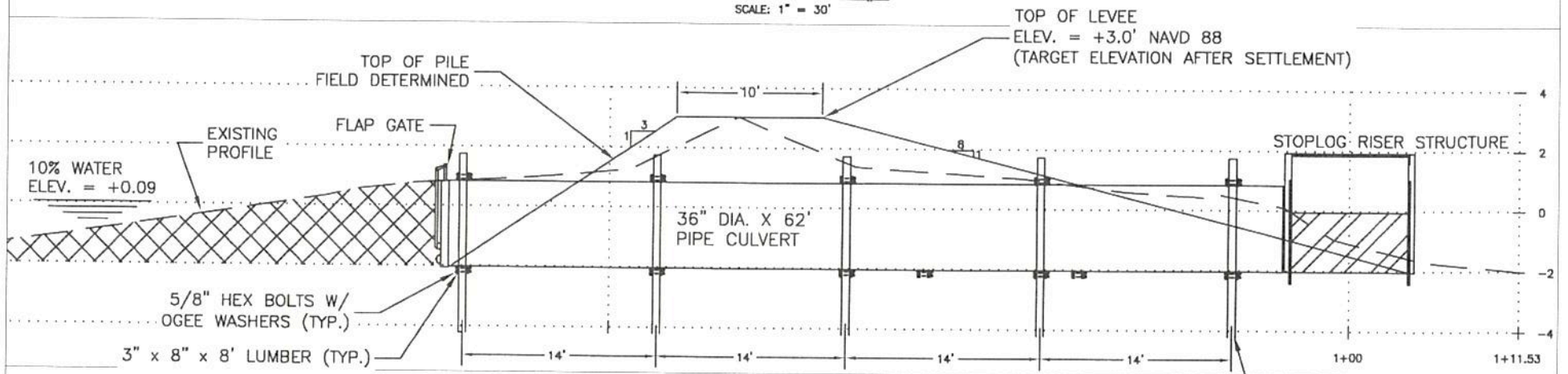
PROJECT NO. DU-LA-184-1	
SOUTH PECAN ISLAND WCS #2 PLAN & PROFILE VERMILION PARISH, LA	
11/17	SHEET 5 OF 8





PLAN VIEW OF WCS #3

SCALE: 1" = 30'



PROFILE OF WCS #3

SCALE  
HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1" = 10'  
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 5'

NOTE: WATER ELEVATION DATA OBTAINED FROM CRMS1965-H02 2017.

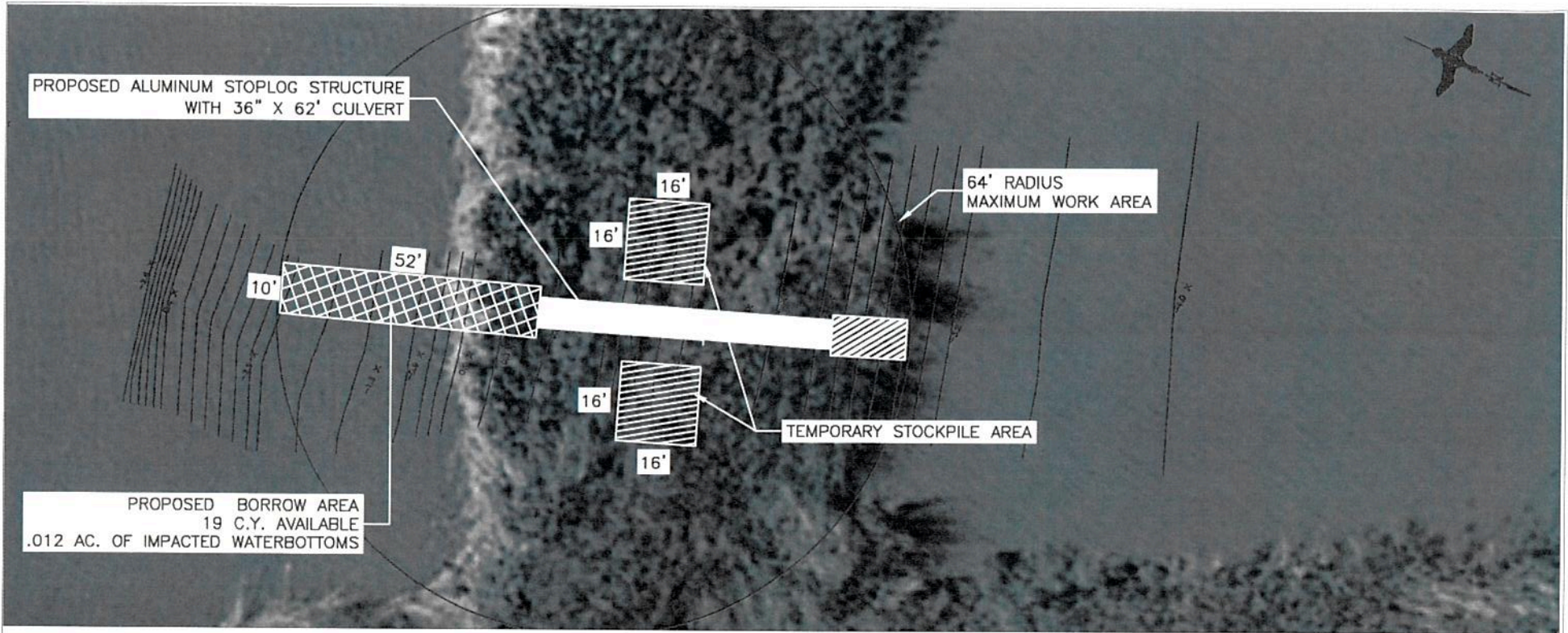
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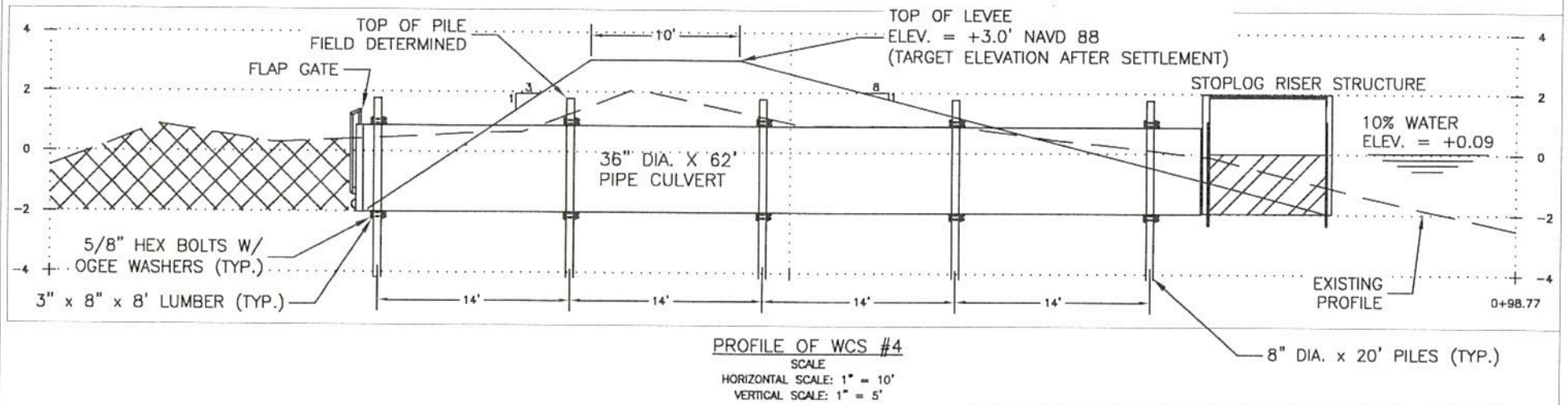


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PROJECT NO. DU-LA-184-1	
SOUTH PECAN ISLAND	
WCS #3 PLAN & PROFILE	
VERMILLION PARISH, LA	
11/17	SHEET 6 OF 8



PLAN VIEW OF WCS #4  
SCALE: 1" = 30'



NOTE: WATER ELEVATION DATA OBTAINED FROM CRMS1965-H02 2017.

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PROJECT NO. DU-LA-184-1
<b>SOUTH PECAN ISLAND</b>
WCS #4 PLAN & PROFILE
VERMILLION PARISH, LA
11/17
SHEET 7 OF 8

GENERAL NOTES:

1. Horizontal survey control is Louisiana State Plane Coordinates, South Zone, NAD83; and Vertical control is NAVD88 (Geoid12A). Based on Trimble RTX Centerpoint post-processed solution from CORS data collected at autonomous Base position.
2. Excavation will be made with barge mounted drag line or long reach excavator. After placement of fill material, shaping as per typical sections will be performed.
3. Non-wet levee embankment used as temporary stockpile area must be regraded back to original elevation and shape once excavated material is removed.
4. Excavation is limited to open water area. There will be no excavation of marsh.
5. All utilities observed at the time of survey are shown on the drawing; however, absence of utilities in drawing is not assurance that other utilities do not exist on this site. It is the contractor's responsibility to call the National 811 "Call before you dig" number to verify any conflicting utilities prior to beginning any work.
6. All fully loaded vessels will produce a 4' draft.

QUANTITIES			
WCS	BORROW MATERIAL (C.Y.)	PIPE LENGTH (L.F.)	WATERBOTTOM IMPACT (AC.)
1	15	42	.009
2	15	42	.009
3	17	62	.011
4	19	62	.012
TOTALS	66	208	.041

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PROJECT NO. DU-LA-184-1  
**SOUTH PECAN ISLAND**  
GENERAL NOTES AND QUANTITIES  
VERMILLION PARISH, LA  
11/17 SHEET 8 OF 8