

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT

7400 LEAKE AVENUE NEW ORLEANS LA 70118-3651

July 17, 2023

Regulatory Division
Western Evaluation Branch

Project Manager: Johnny Duplantis (504) 862-2548 johnny.j.duplantis@usace.army.mil

Application #: MVN-2023-00614-WPP

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 USC 403); and/or [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344), and/or [] Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. Section 408).

Carencro Bankline Restoration Project

NAME OF APPLICANT: The Louisiana Land and Exploration, LLC, c/o: Ducks Unlimited, 125 Southpark Road, Lafayette, Louisiana 70508.

LOCATION OF WORK: Located in Terrebonne Parish, on the north bank of Carencro Bayou, in Carencro, Louisiana, Latitude 29.378172, Longitude -91.0115306, as shown within the enclosed drawings. Hydrologic Unit Code 08090302, Terrebonne Watershed.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The proposed project would restore eight breaches and approximately 10 miles of natural ridge habitat adjacent to Carencro Bayou. Approx. 540,931 cubic yards (CY) of material would be excavated and 160,766 CY of material would be brought in as additional fill. Approximately 36.36 acres of unvegetated waterbottoms would be excavated. Approximately 45.95 acres of existing bankline ridge would be restored to an elevation of 3.5 feet above sea level. The proposed project would benefit the surrounding marsh by increasing the efficacy of previous restoration projects in the area by restoring freshwater flow, preventing saltwater intrusion, and maintaining appropriate water levels within existing area marshlands. The project would result in the restoration and enhancement of freshwater marsh habitat in three distinct micro-watersheds. The south watershed is 1,299 acres, the north watershed is 5,779 acres, and the east watershed is 5,178 acres. Combined, the project would have a beneficial effect to 12,255 acres of marsh habitat. The applicant has proposed that the project benefits will outweigh the detriments, and therefore have not proposed a compensatory mitigation plan for the project. A final decision on whether or not to require compensatory mitigation will be decided by the Corps of Engineers at the completion of its permit review process.

The comment period on the requested Department of the Army Permit will close 20 days from the date of this 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 permit request, and must be submitted so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters and/or comments concerning the subject permit application must reference the Applicant's Name and the Permit Application Number and can be preferably emailed to the Corps of Engineer's project manager listed above or forwarded to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY DIVISION, RGW, Johnny Duplantis.** Individuals or parties may also request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by mail or preferably by emailing the specified project manager listed above. Any request for an extension of time to comment 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 Branch Chief will review the request and the requester will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous and inclusive of the initial comment period and will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days. This public notice is also available for review online at https://go.usa.gov/xennJ

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 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 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 presently unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places at or near the proposed work but is pending further review in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. As deemed necessary, copies of this public notice will be sent to the State Archeologist, State Historic Preservation Officer, and federally listed tribes regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Based on the Information Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool for Endangered Species in Louisiana, as signed on January 27, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it has been determined that the project is located in habitat known to be utilized by the Western Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) and the Eastern Black Rail (Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis), and determined that the activity is not likely to adversely affect these species. If the DA permit is approved, the permittee will be required to the follow the IPaC mitigative conditions for the Western Manatee (Trichechus manatus) and the Eastern Black Rail (Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis).

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would have no effect on any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any such species.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal may result in the destruction, alteration, and/or disturbance of <u>36.36 acres</u> of 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 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 Department of the Army permit could be issued.*

Any person may request 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, and can be <u>preferably</u> emailed to the USACE project manager listed above or mailed to the address listed above.

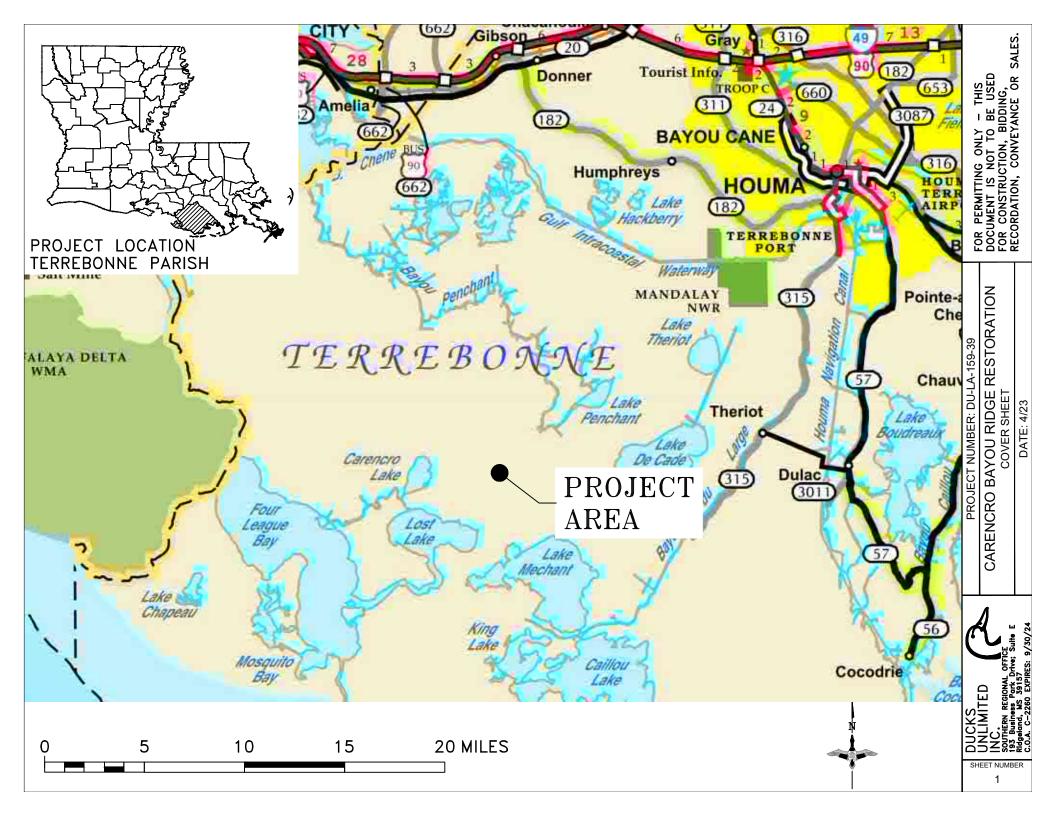
The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resource's Coastal Resources Program (Application #

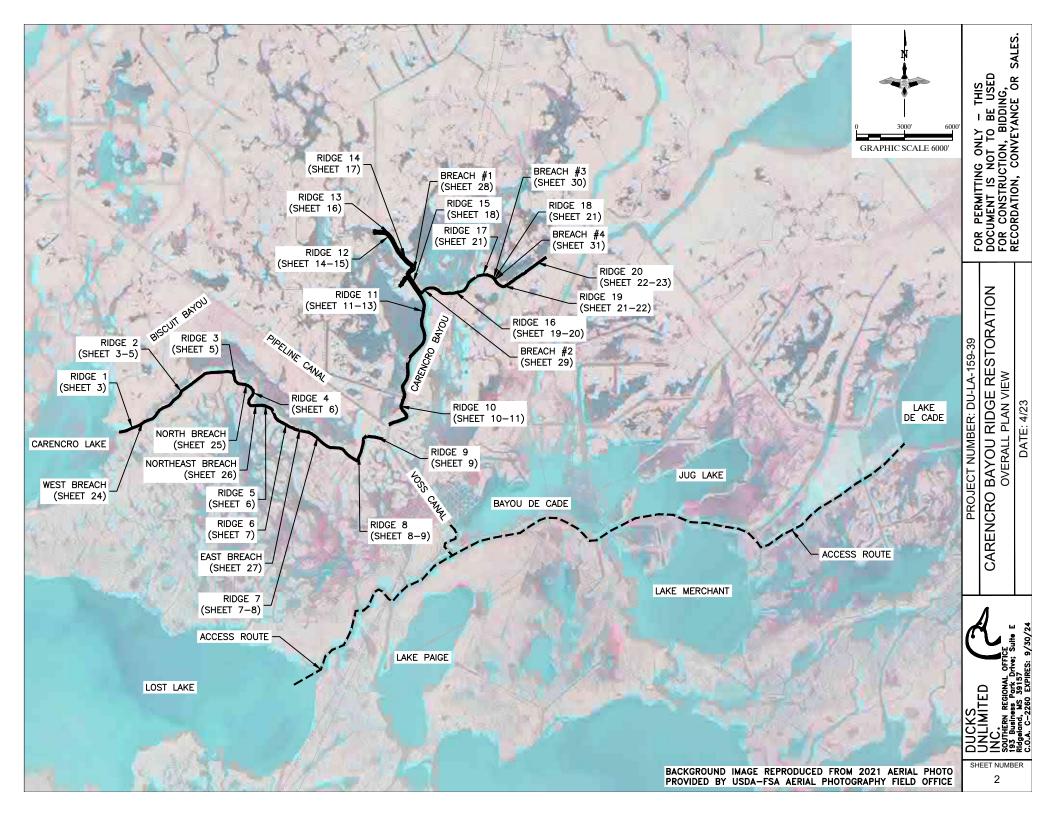
P20230250). The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant receives approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.

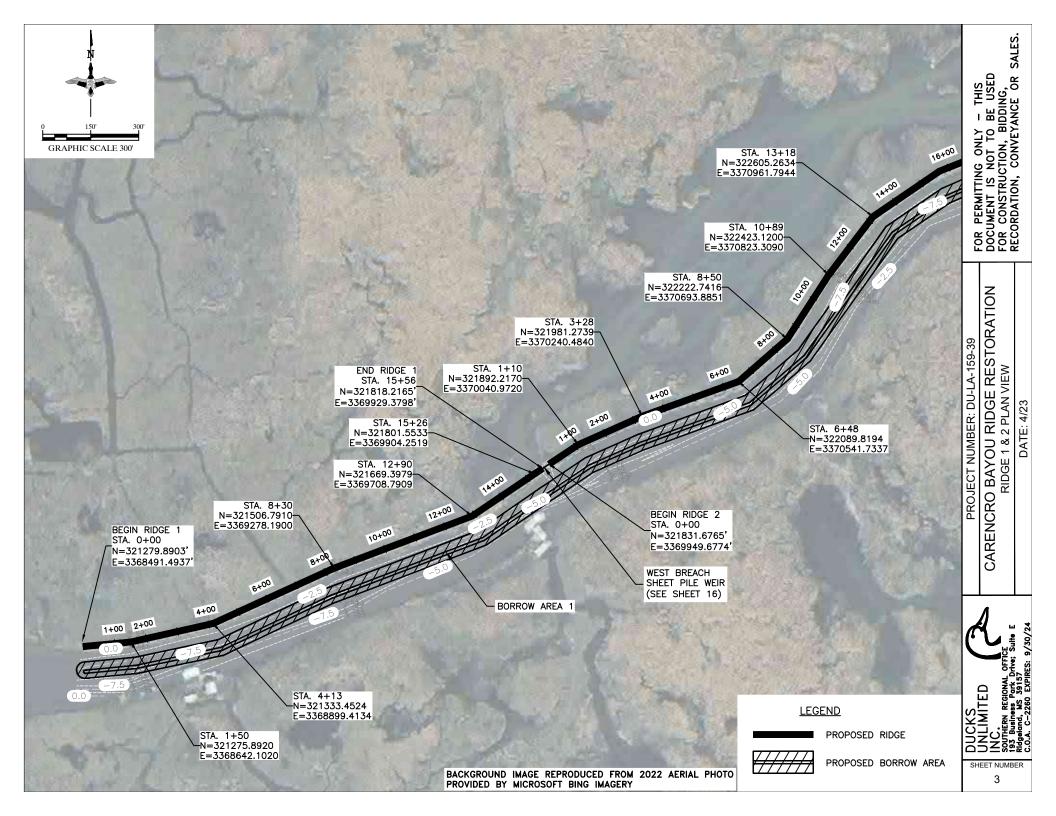
You are invited to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

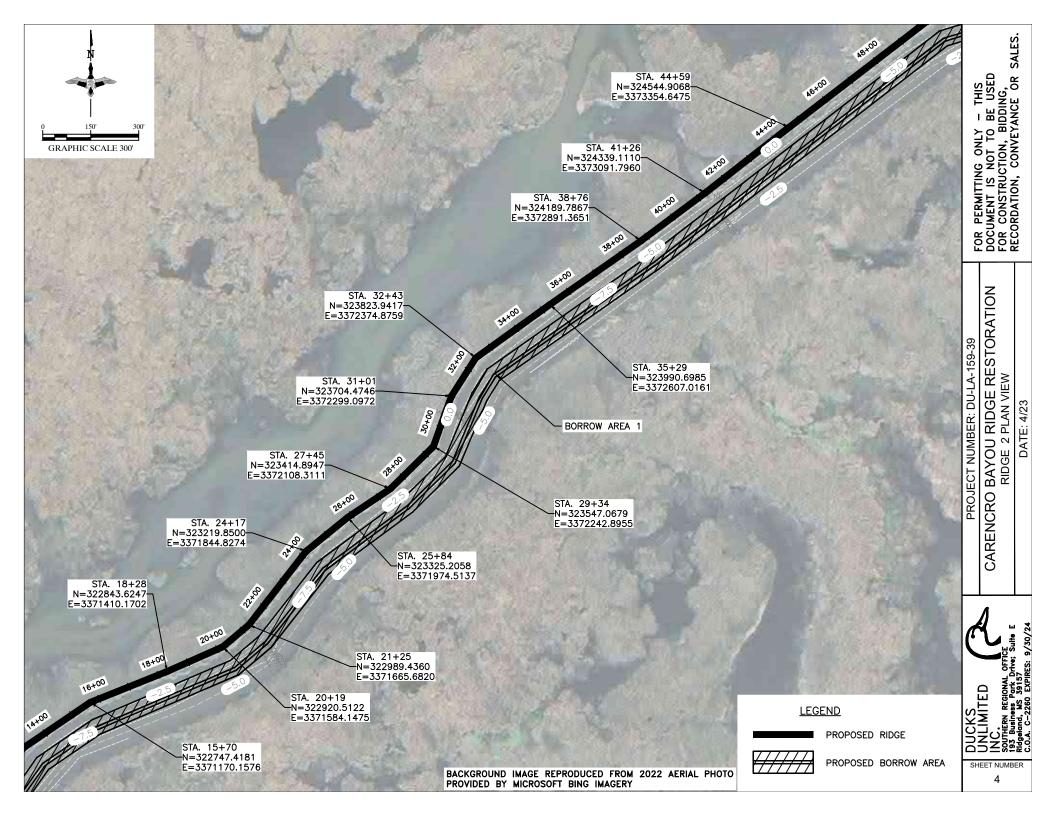
Darrell S. Barbara Chief, Western Evaluation Branch Regulatory Division

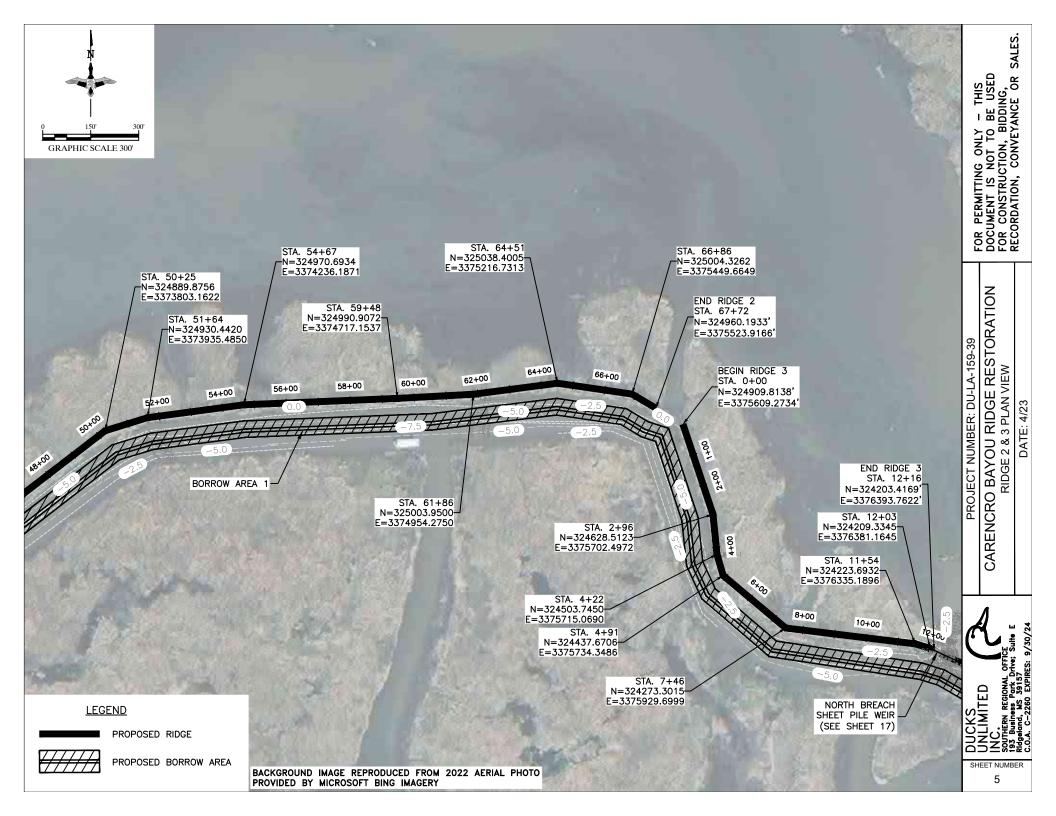
Enclosures

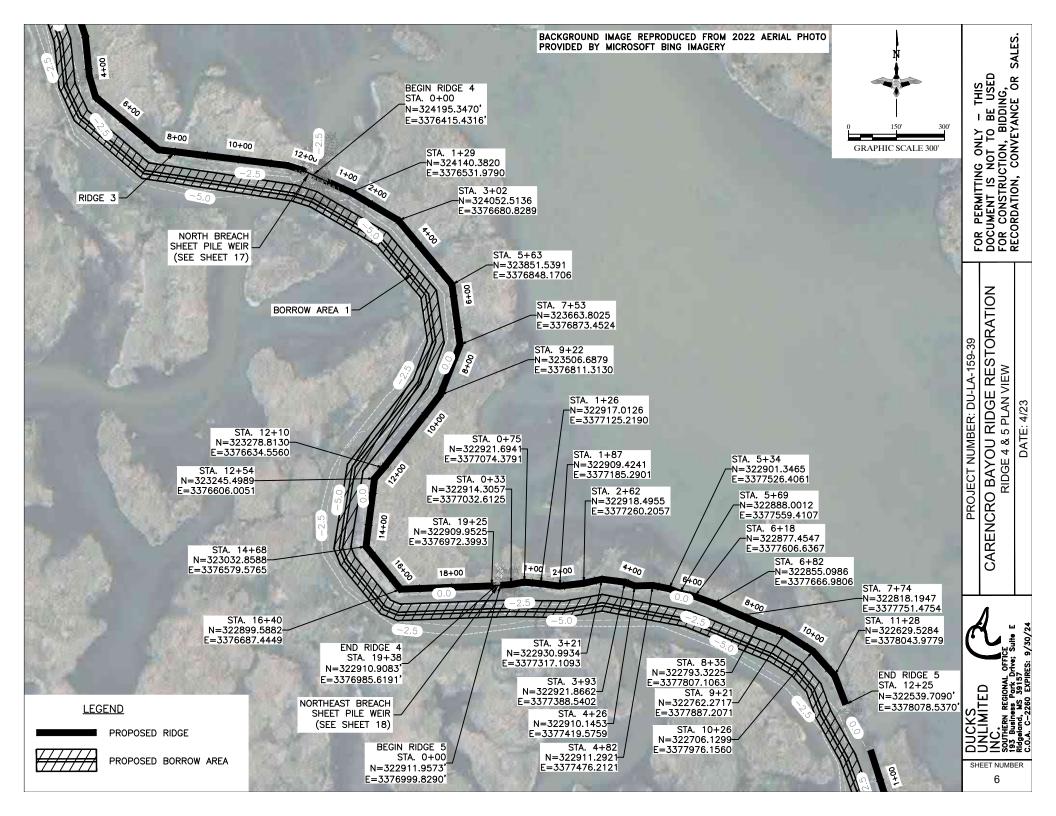


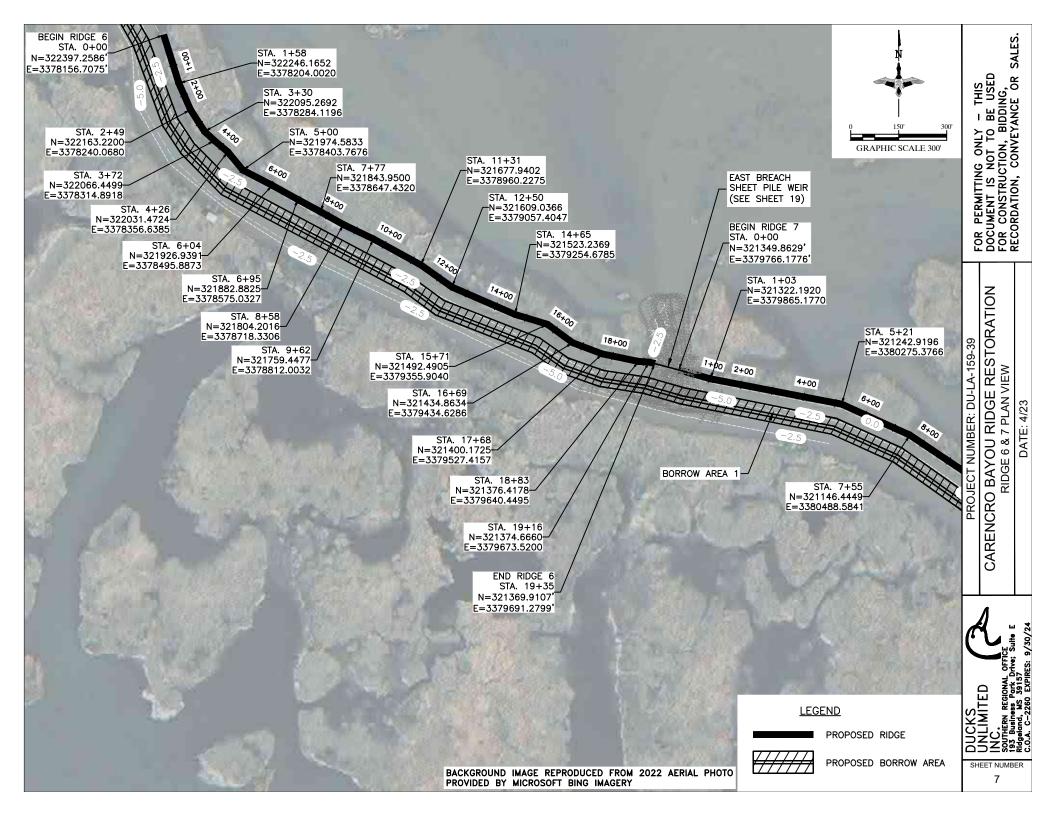


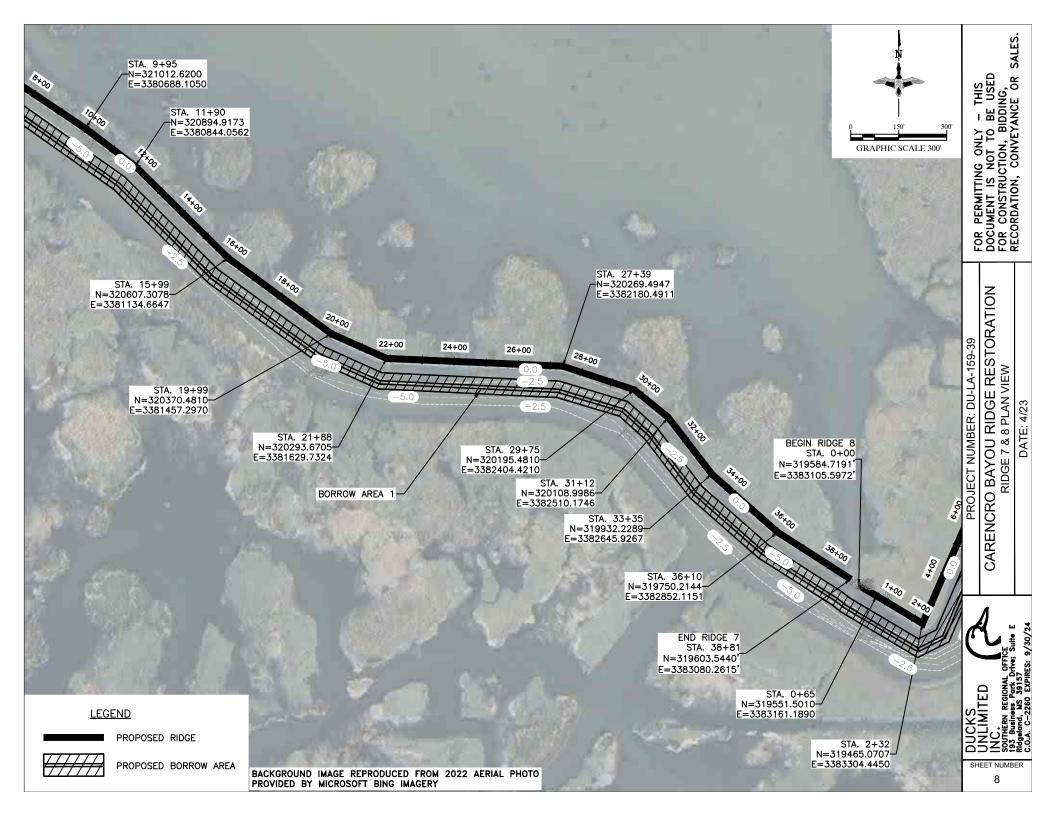


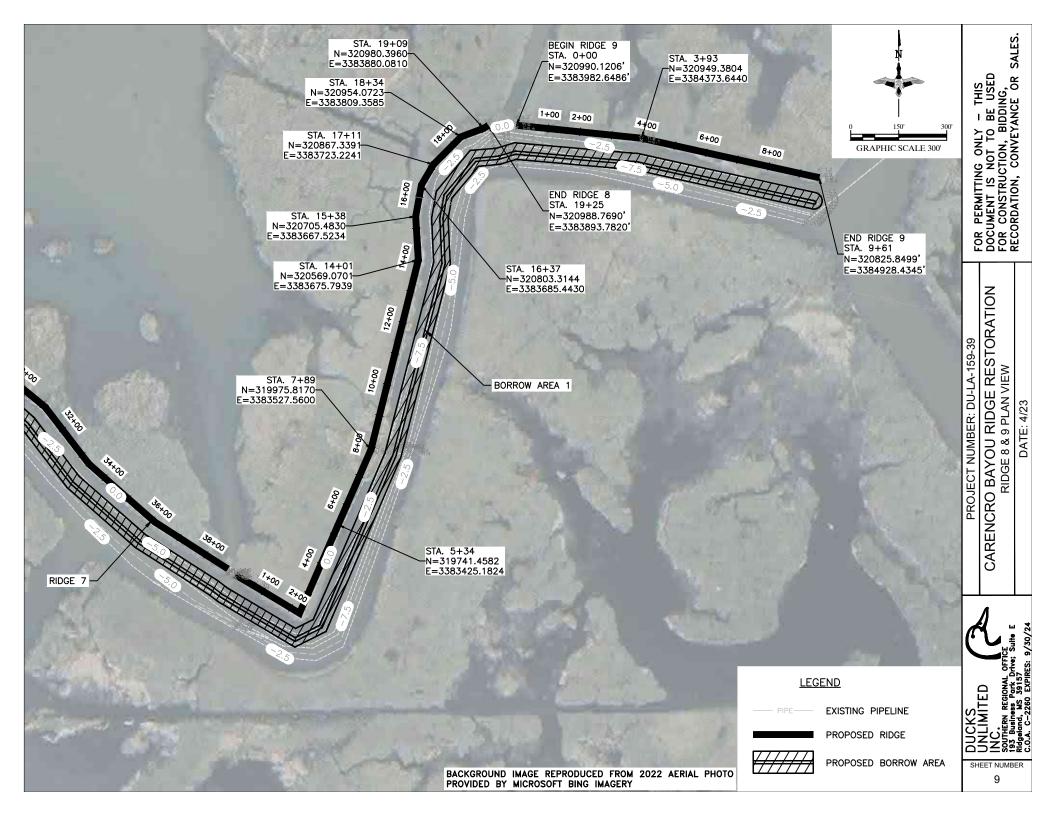


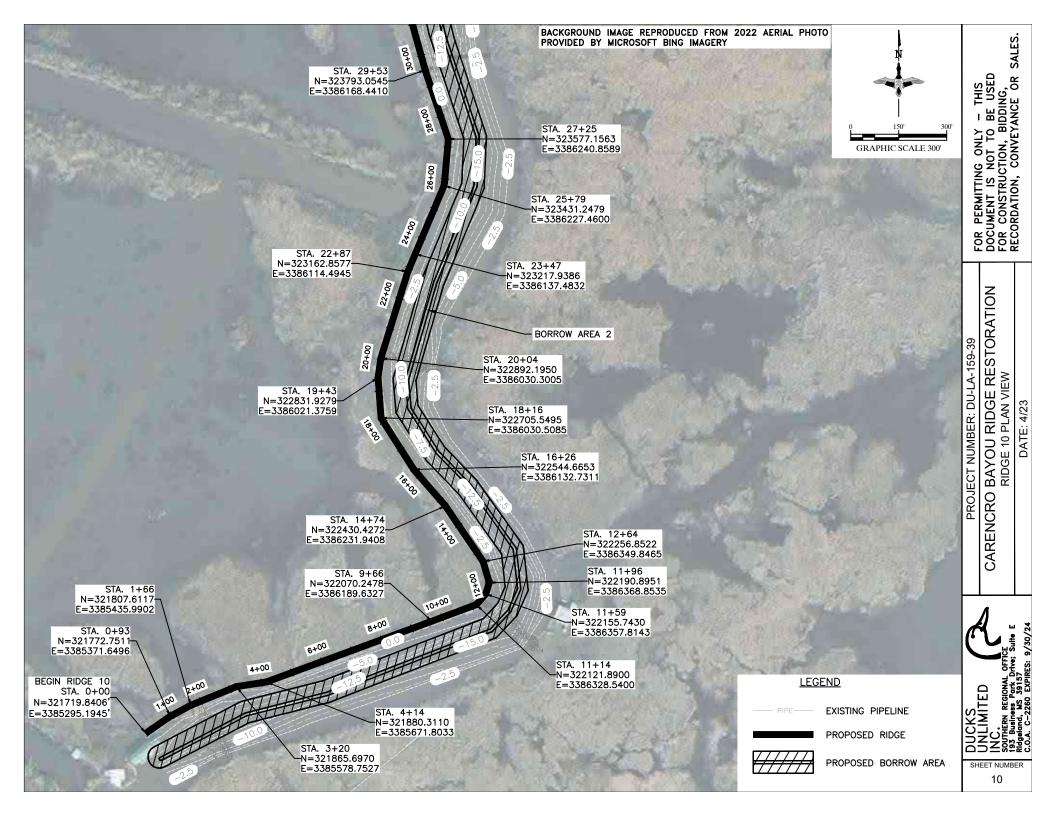


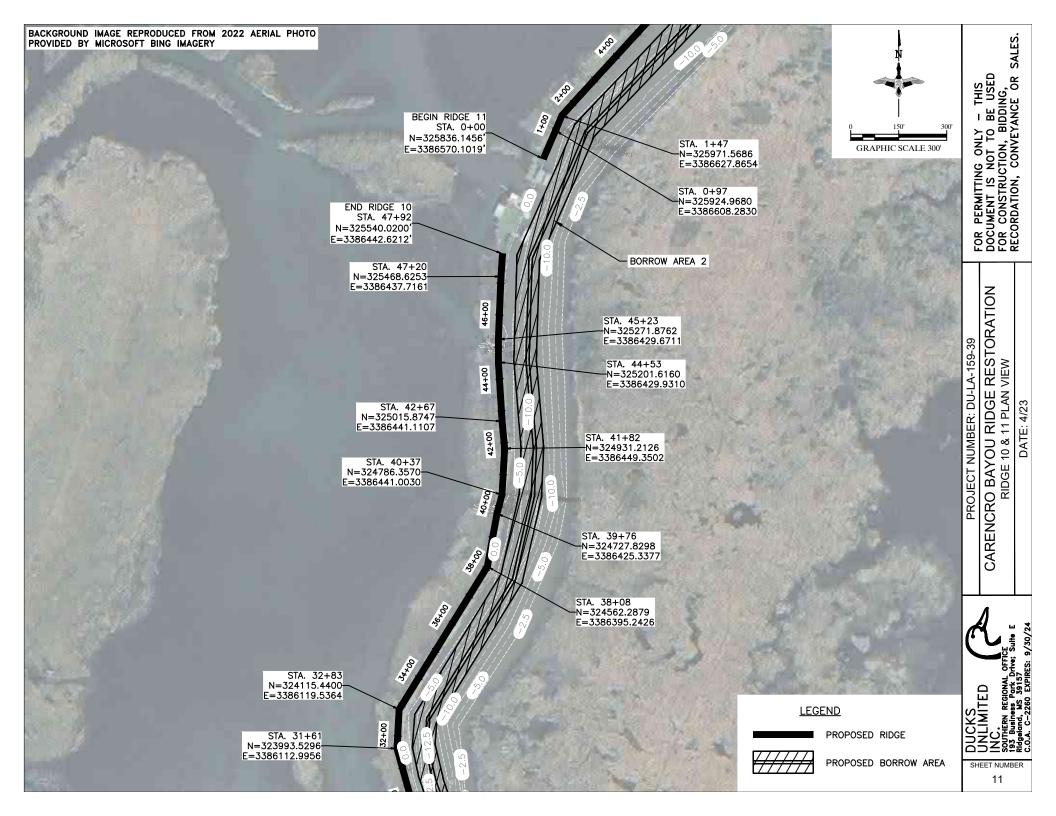


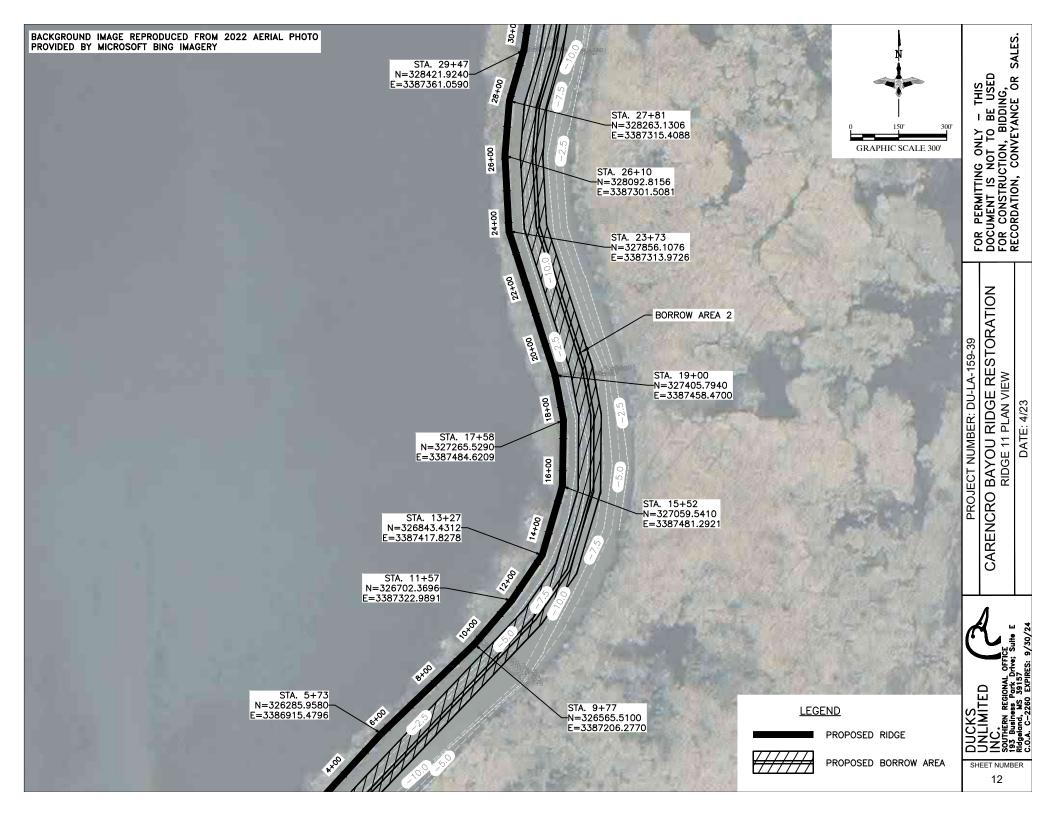


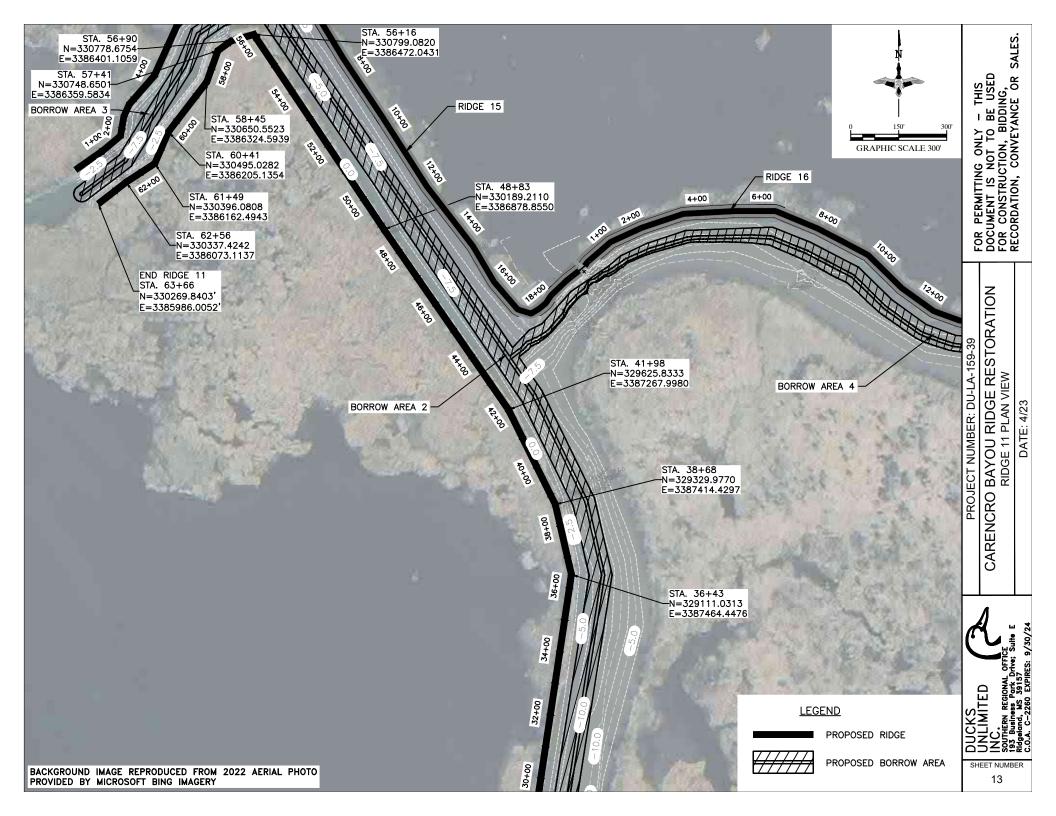


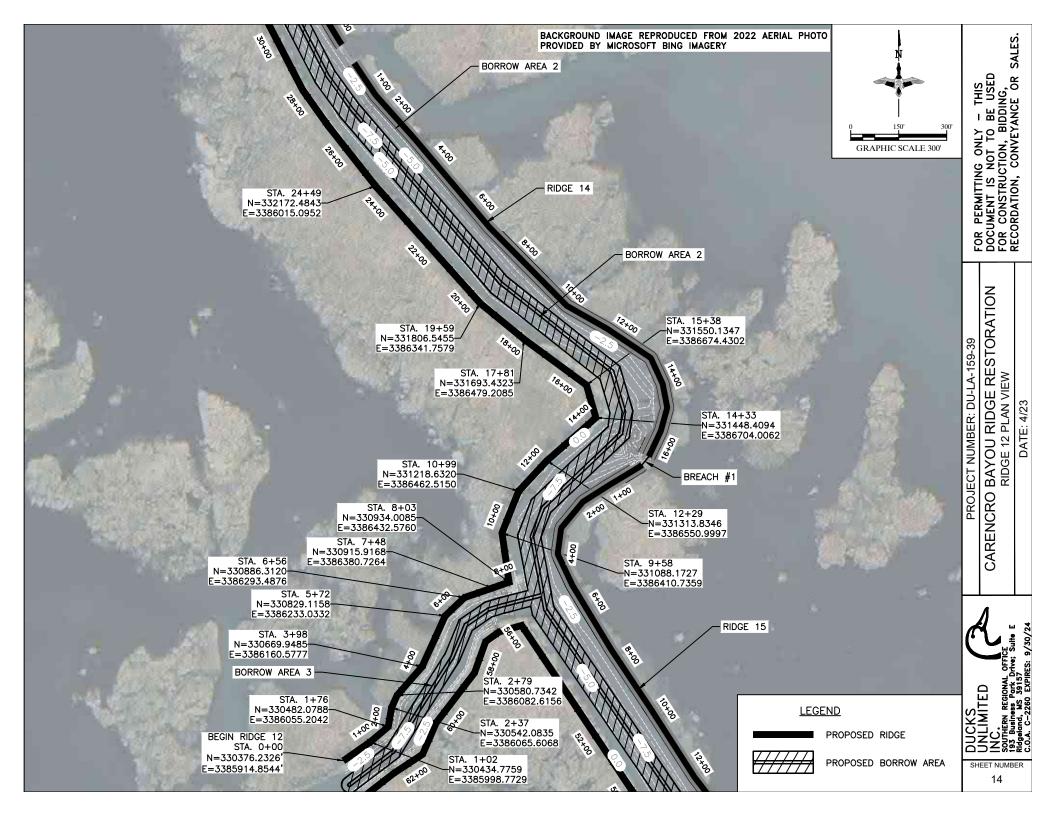


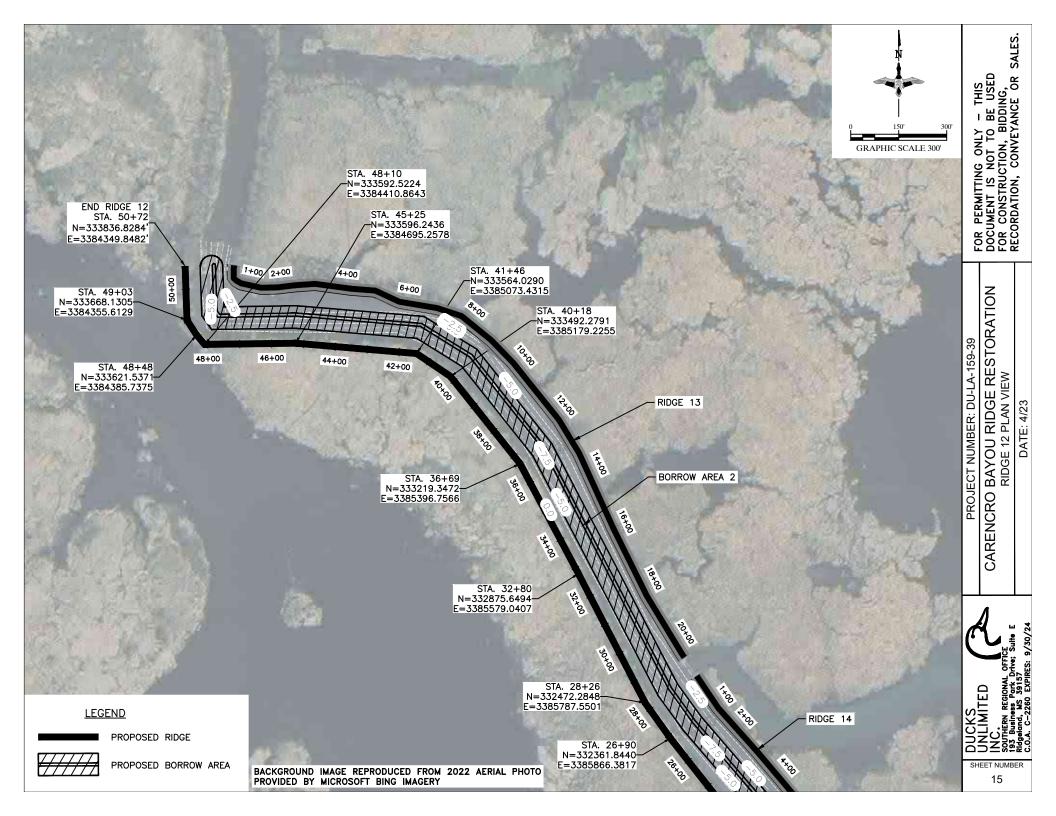


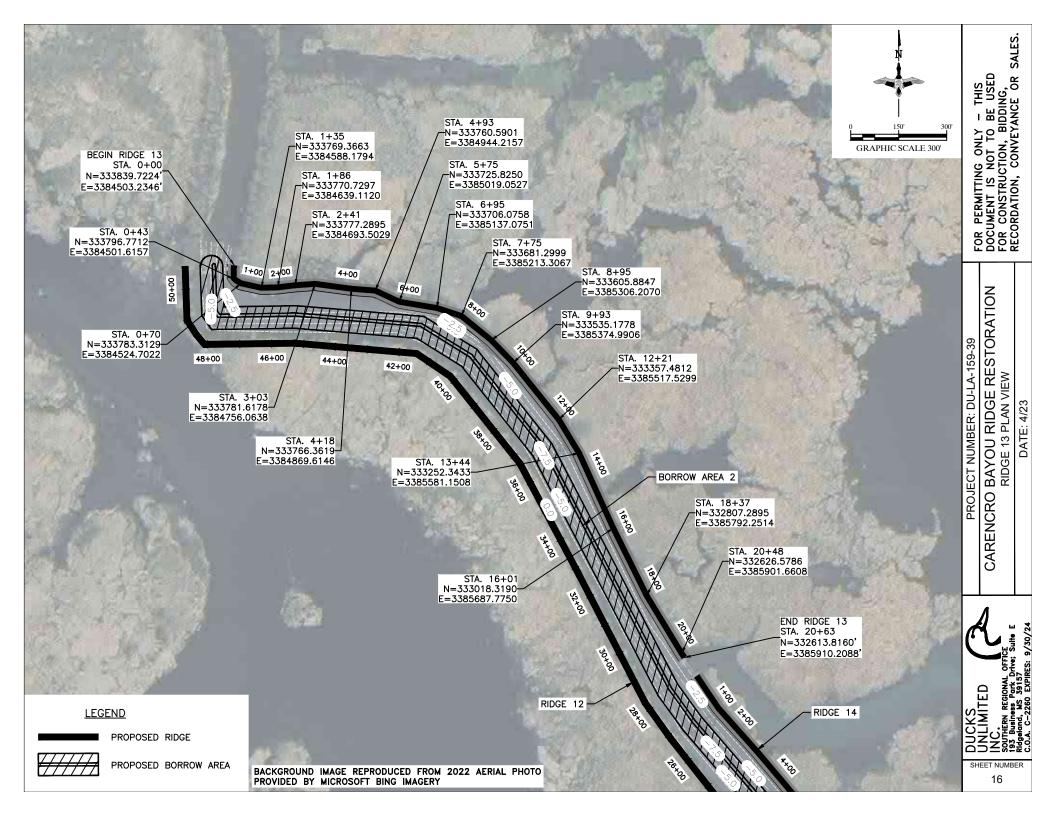


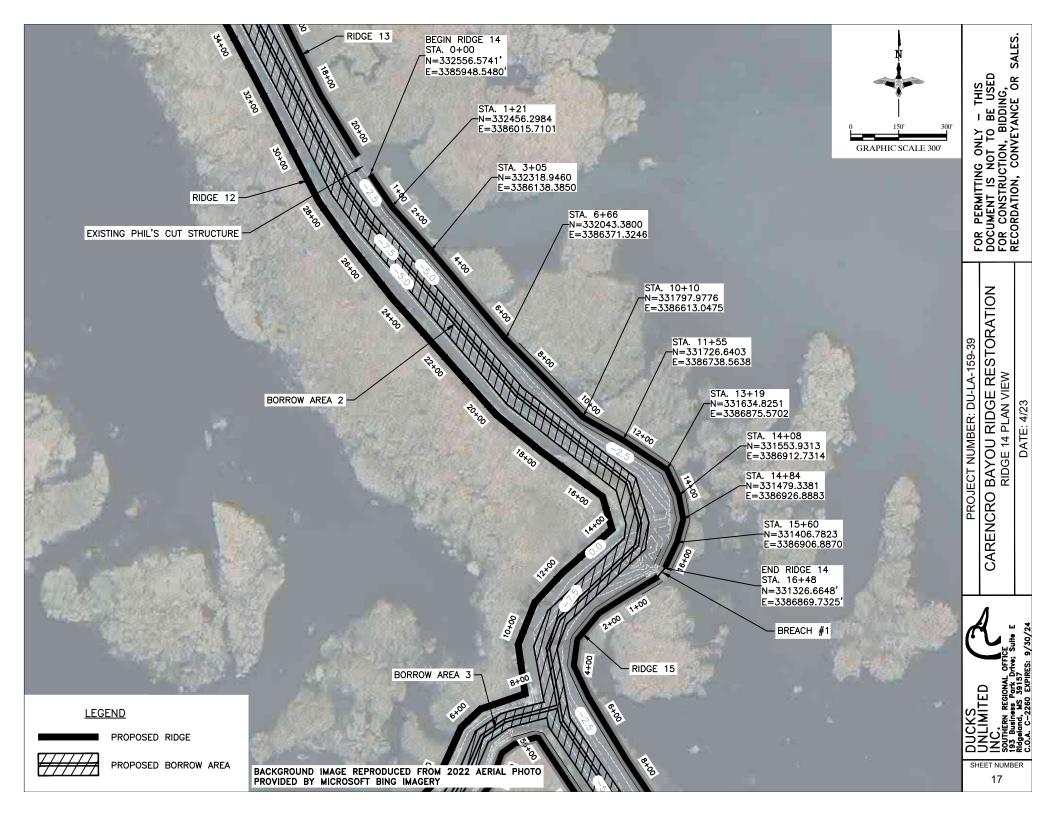


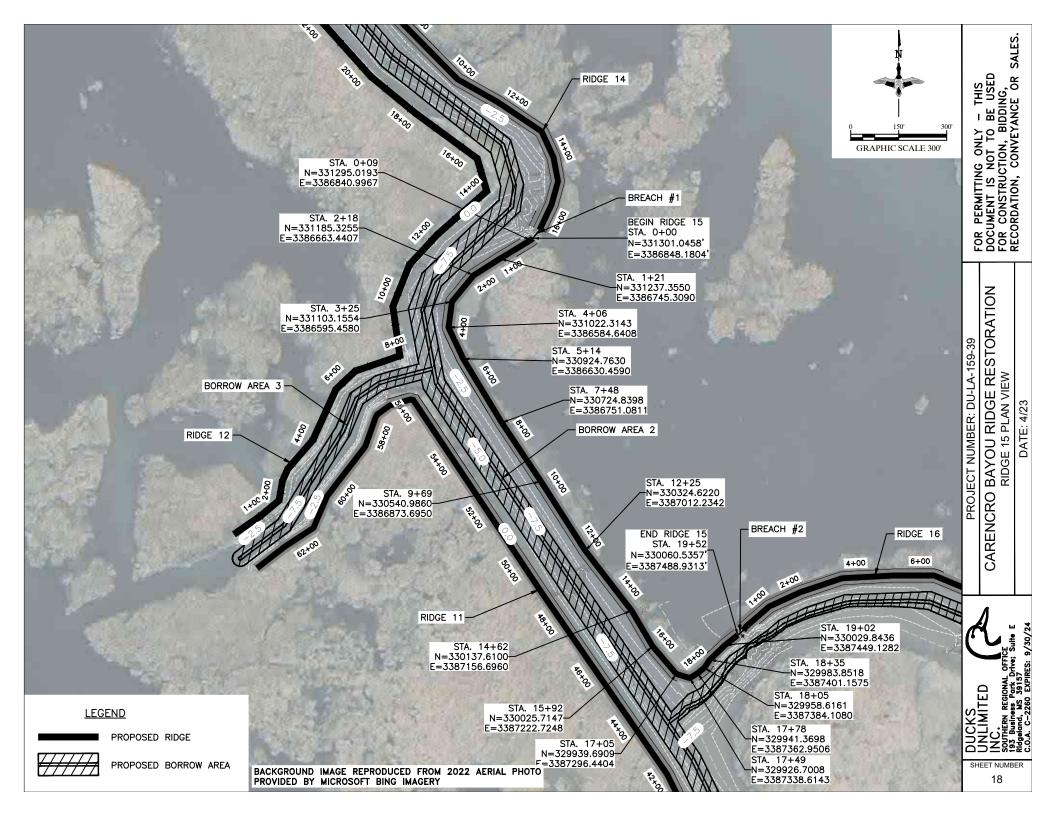


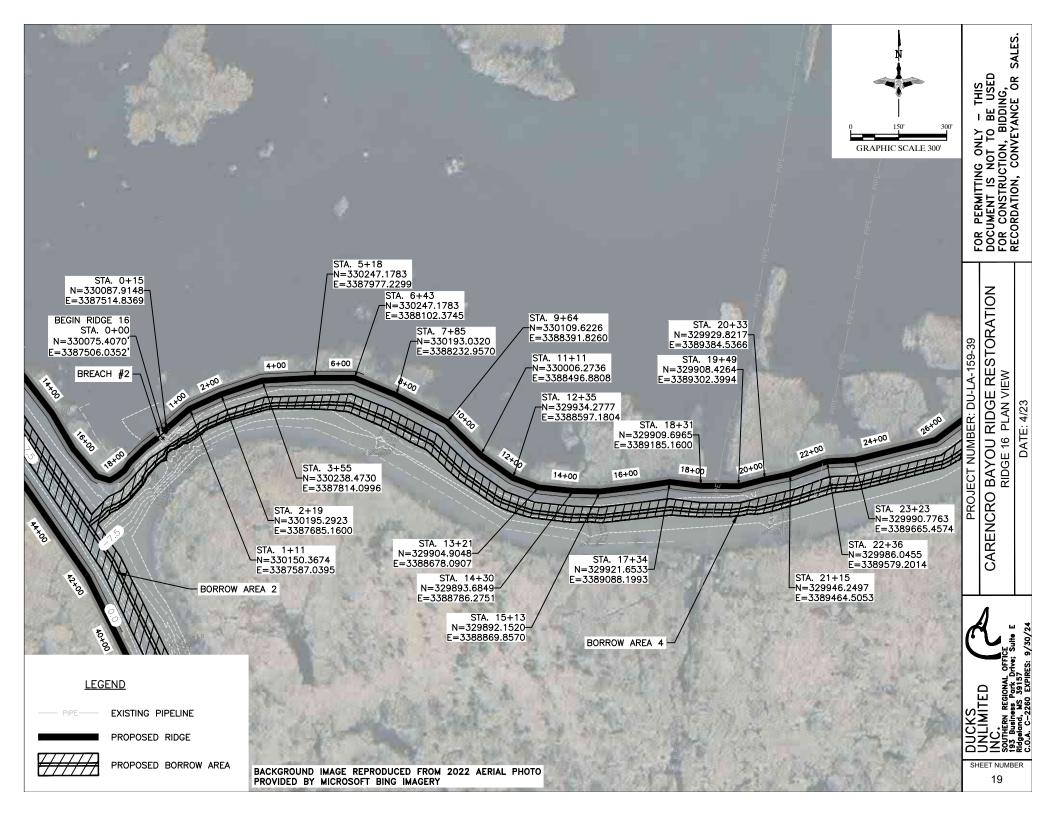


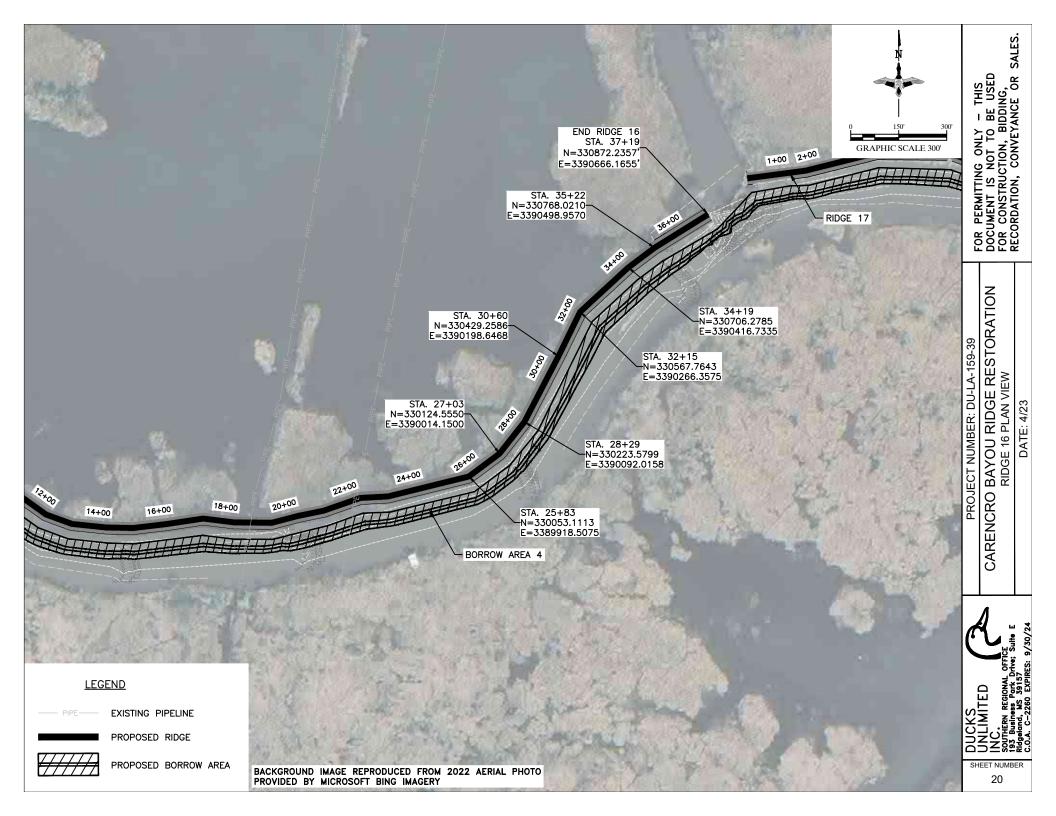


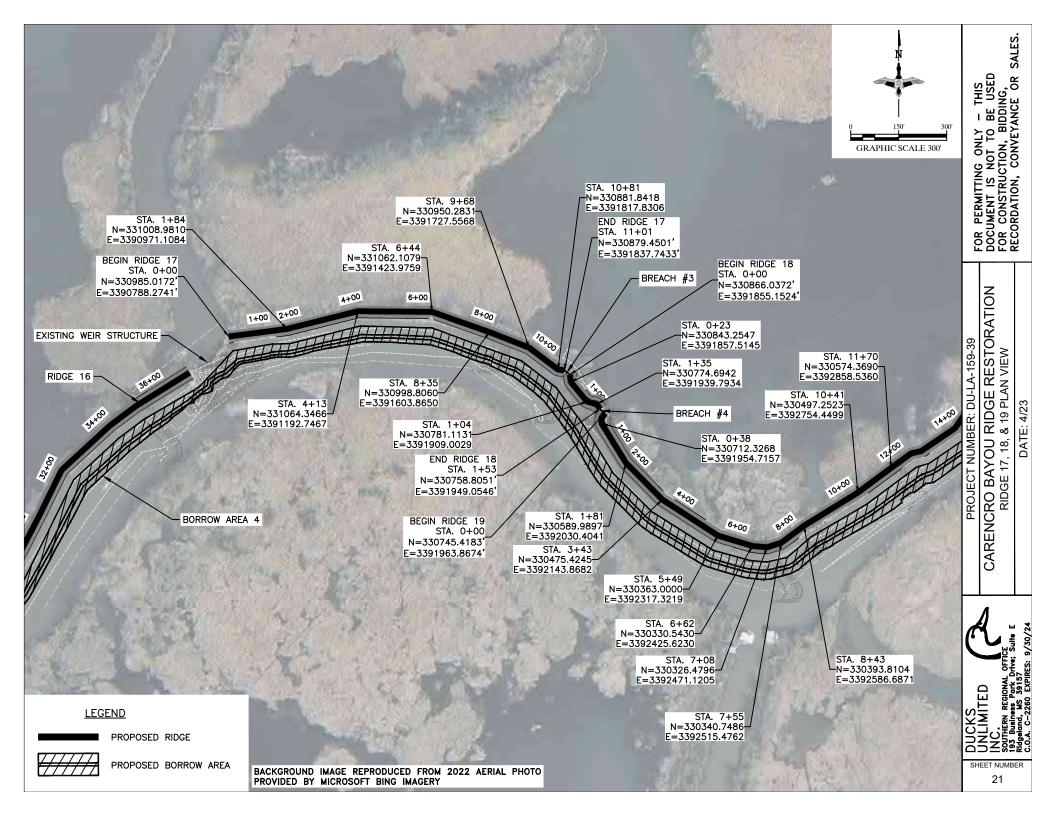


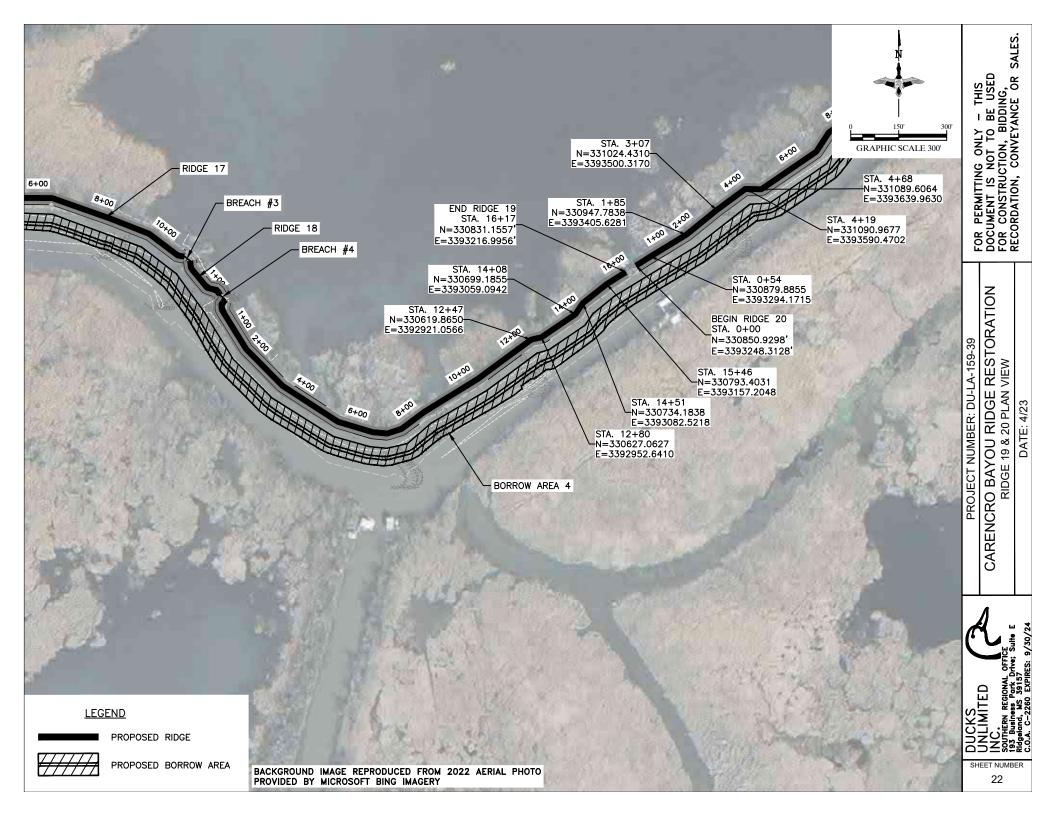


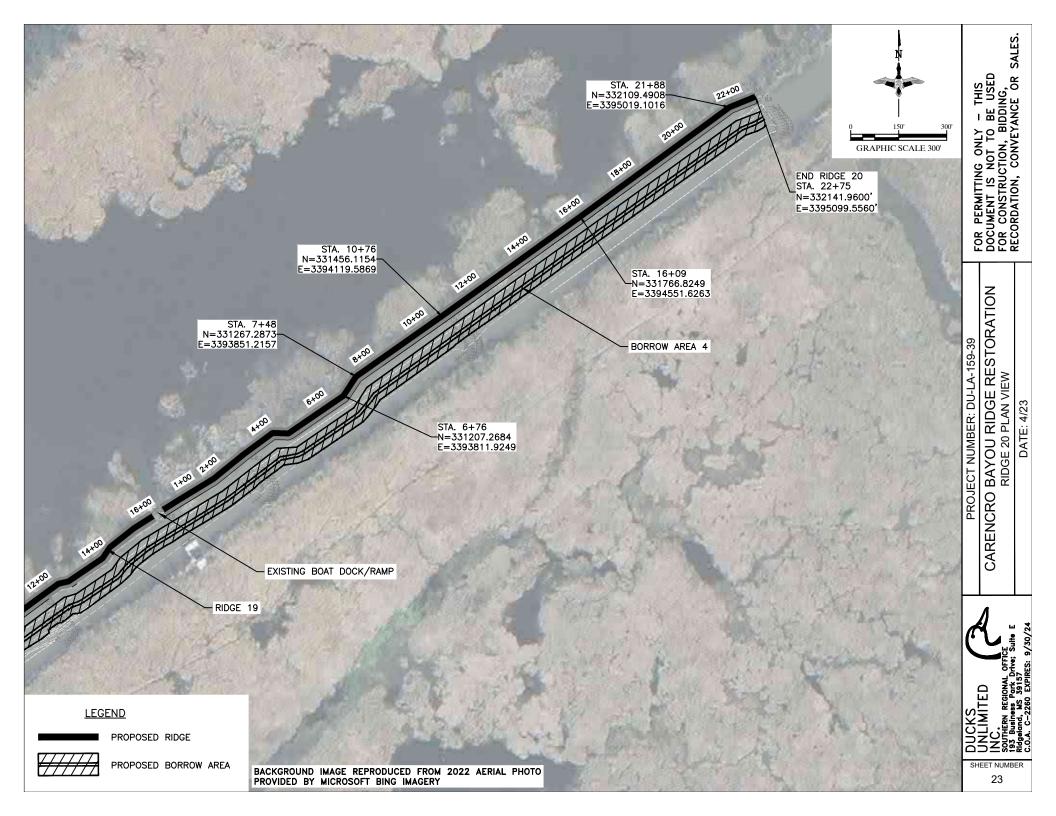


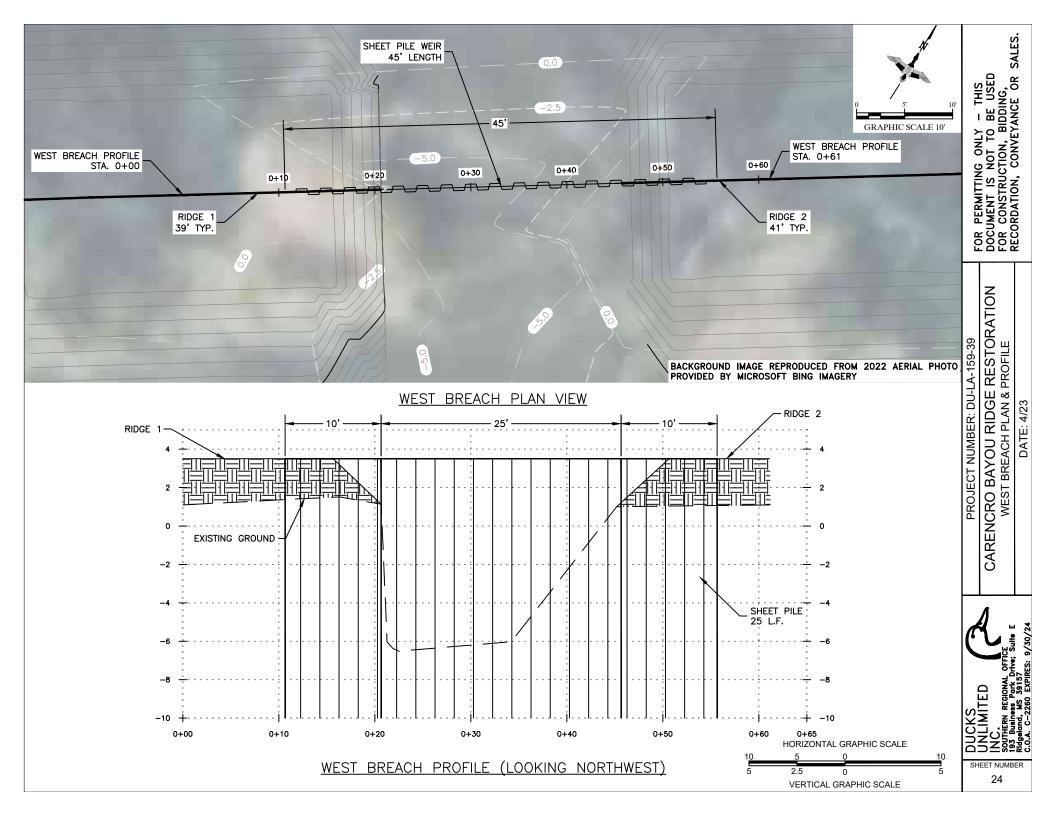


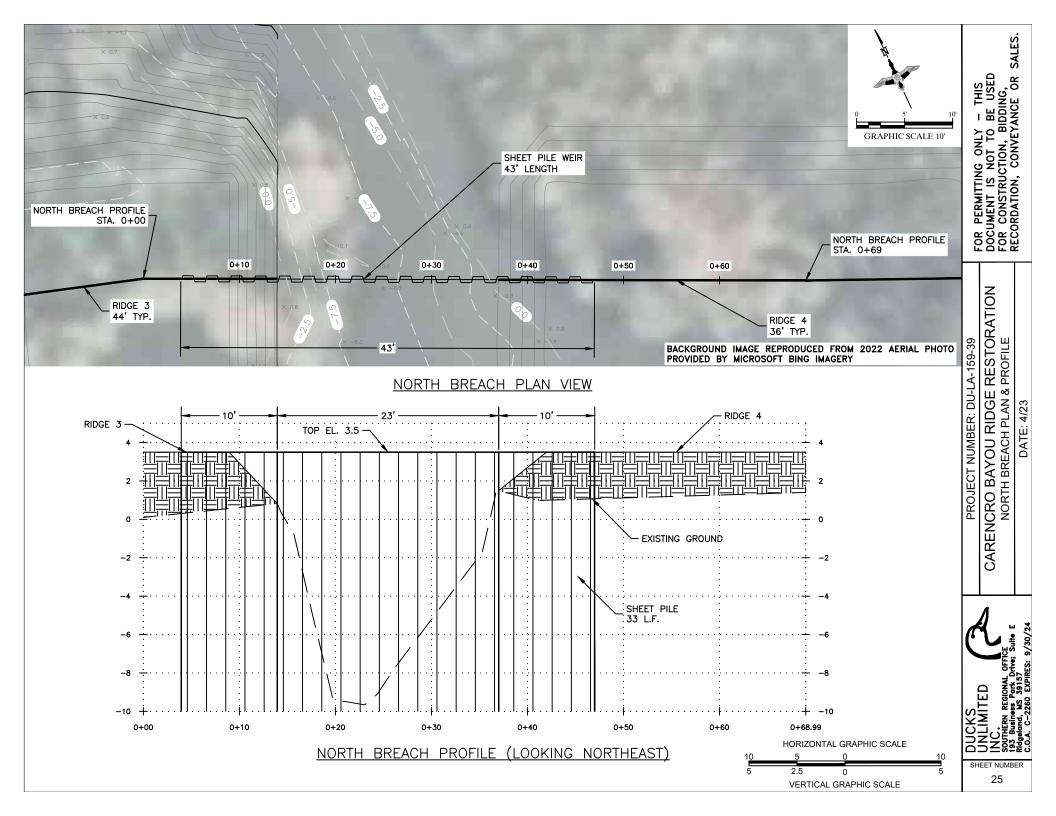


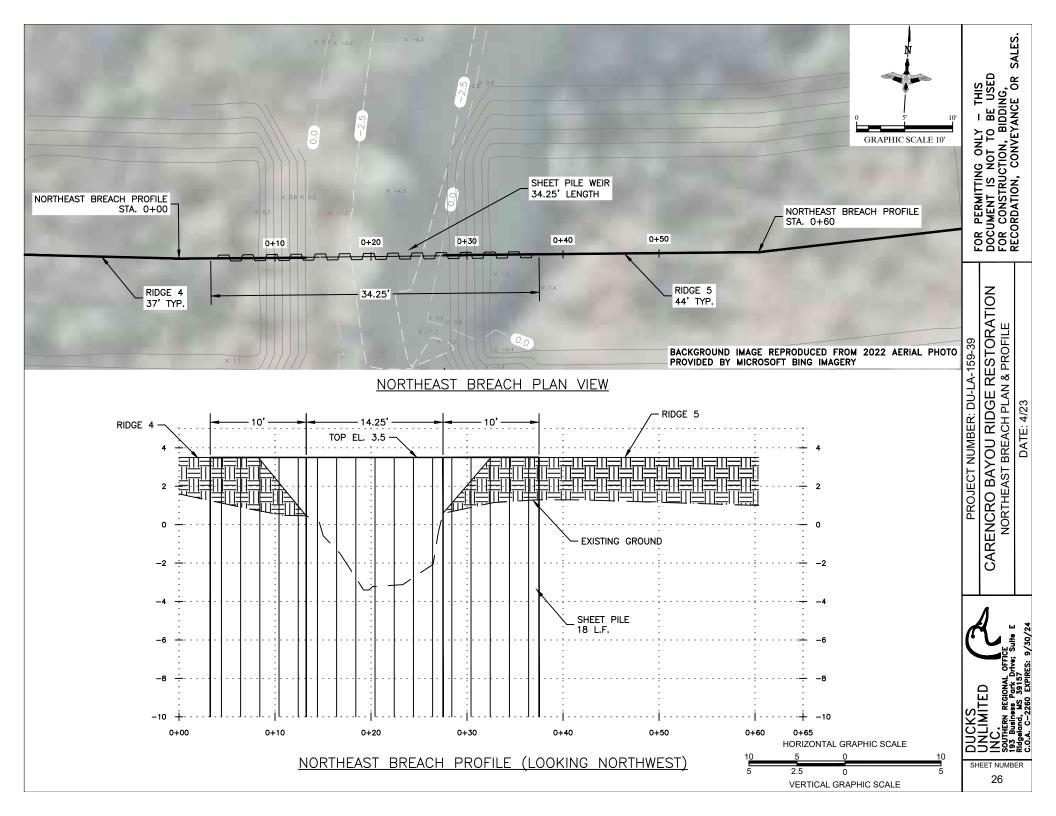


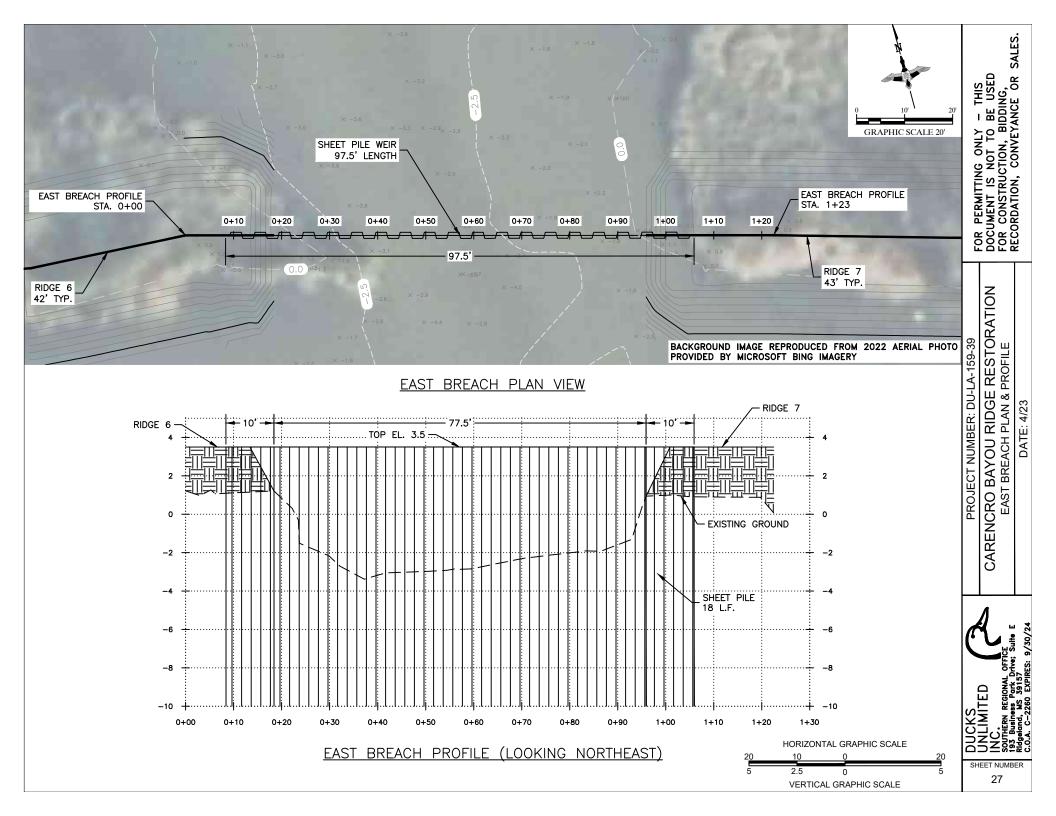


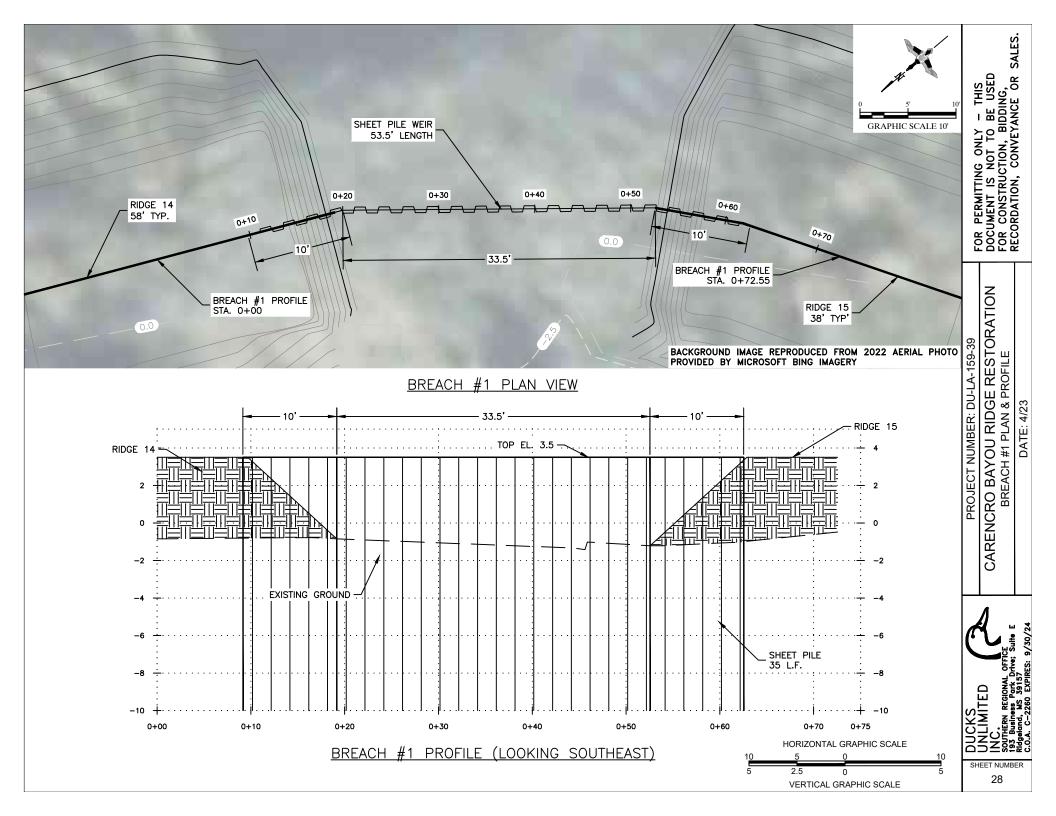


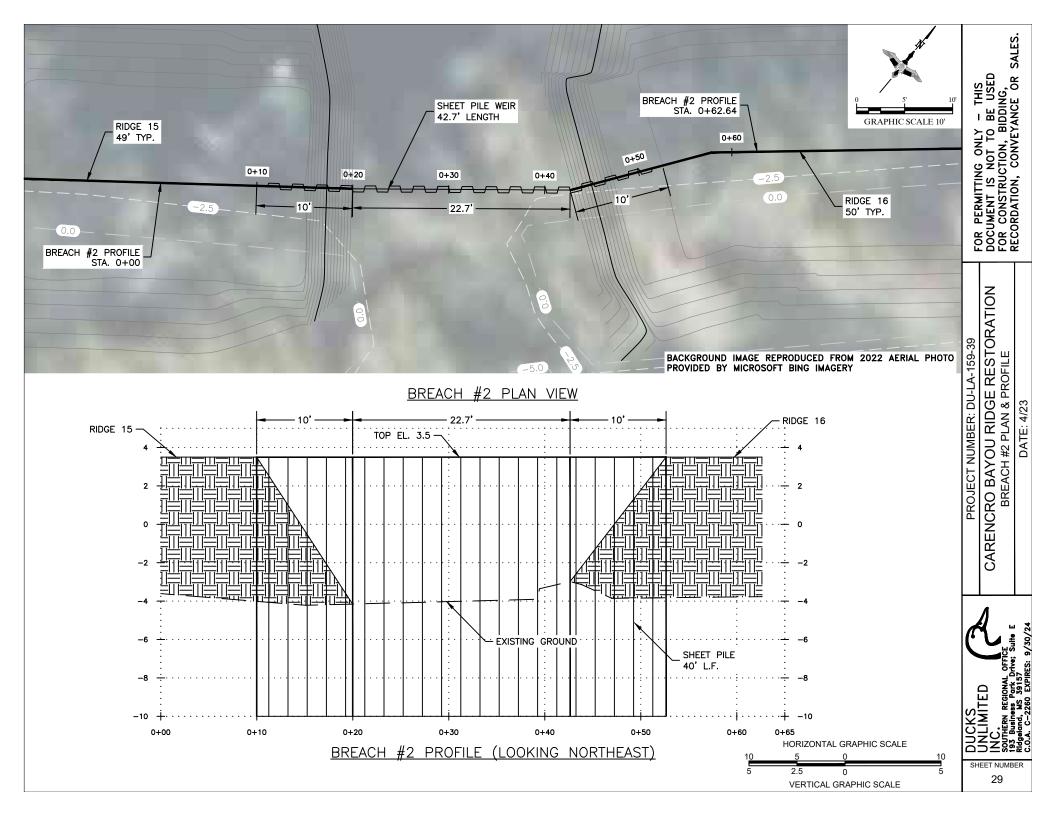


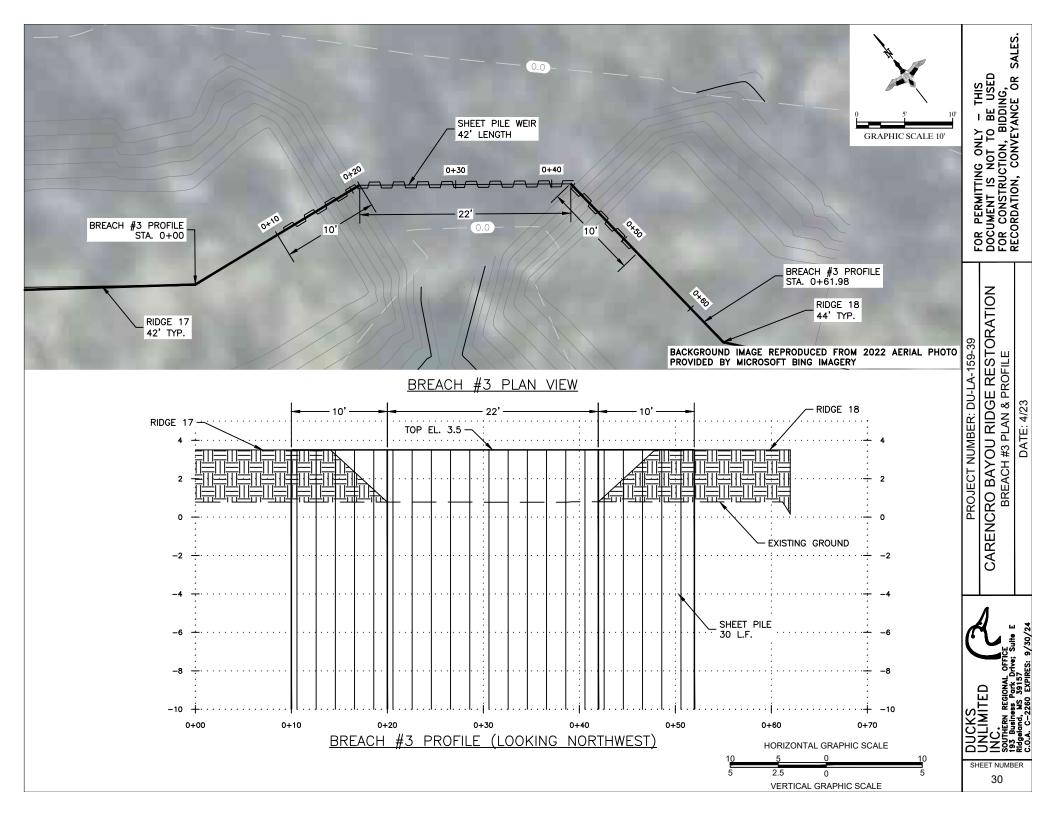


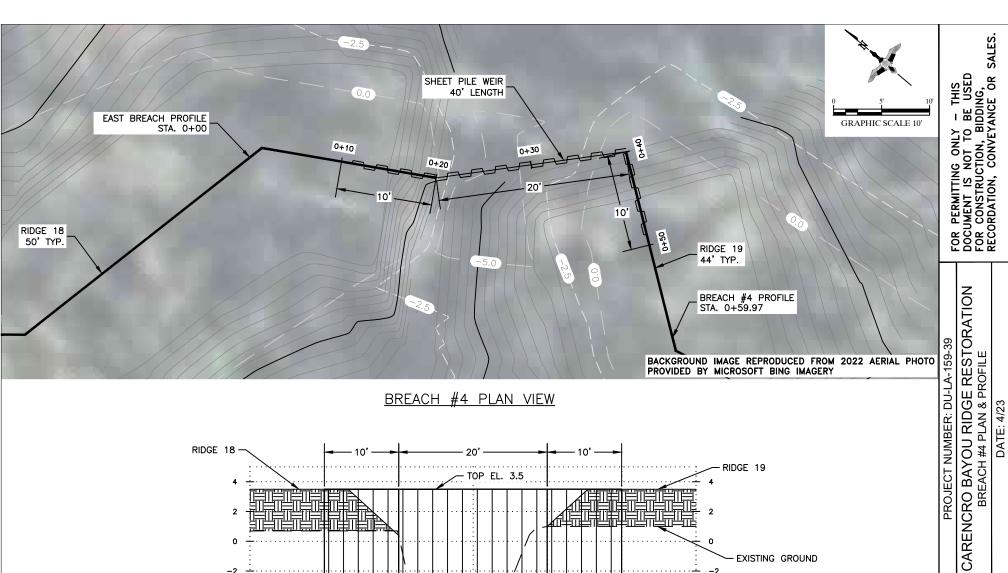


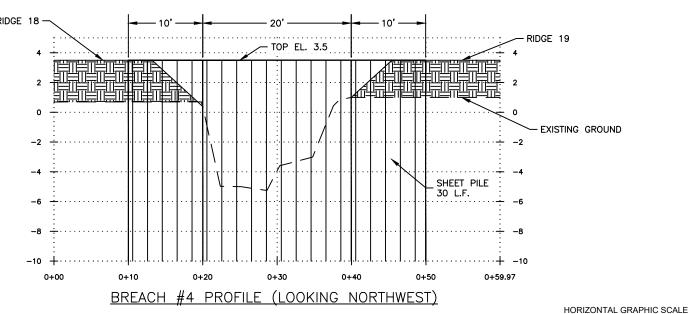










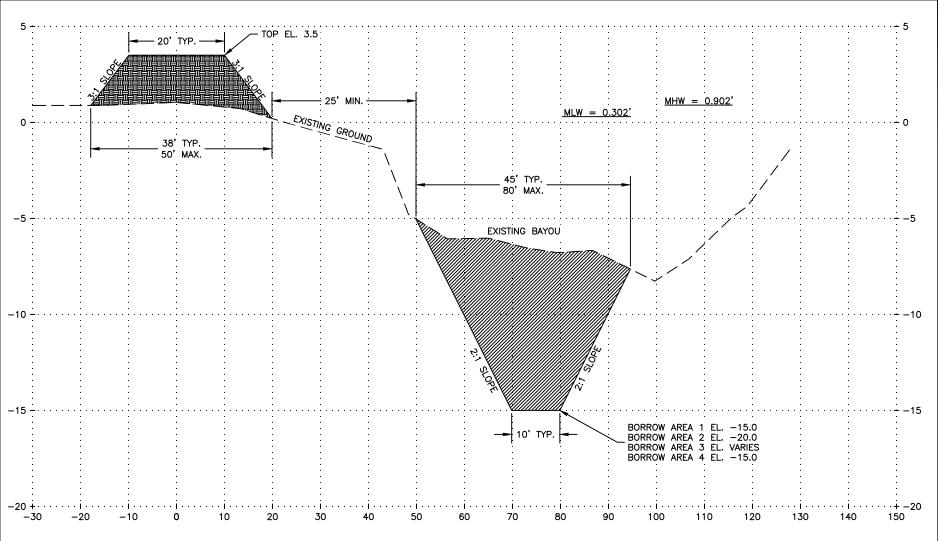


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REGIONAL MS 39157
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C.O.A. C.—2260 EXPIRES: 9/30/24

SHEET NUMBER

2.5

VERTICAL GRAPHIC SCALE

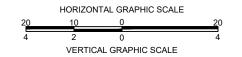


TYPICAL SECTION OF PROPOSED RIDGE RESTORATION & BORROW AREA

RIDGE ALIGNMENTS			
RIDGE #	LENGTH	EMBANKMENT (C.Y.)	
1	1,556	4,656	
2	6,772	19,924	
3	1,216	4,149	
4	1,938	4,870	
5	1,225	3,721	
6	1,935	6,449	
7	3,881	10,998	
8	1,925	5,600	
9	962	3,282	
10	4,792	14,905	
11	6,366	18,980	
12	5,072	15,326	

RIDGE ALIGNMENTS (CONT.)			
RIDGE #	LENGTH	EMBANKMENT (C.Y.)	
13	2,063	6,111	
14	1,649	6,336	
15	1,952	6,248	
16	3,719	14,276	
17	1,101	2,725	
18	154	680	
19	1,617	5,187	
20	2,775	6,343	
TOTAL	52,670	160,766	

BORROW AREAS			
BORROW #	LENGTH	EXCAVATION (C.Y)	
1	21,880	226,203	
2	15,244	217,007	
3	847	4,265	
4	9403	93,456	
TOTAL	47,374	540,931	



FOR PERMITTING ONLY - THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION, BIDDING,

RECORDATION, CONVEYANCE OR SAL

CARENCRO BAYOU RIDGE RESTORATION
TYPICAL DETAILS
DATE: 4/23

D ONAL OFFICE

UNLIMITED
UNLIMITED
INC.
SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE
193 Business Park Drive; Sulfe Independ, and Sulfe Independent Independe

SHEET NUMBER