



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
SAVANNAH DISTRICT
100 WEST OGLETHORPE AVENUE
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3604

March 17, 2020

Regulatory Division
SAS-2018-00581

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
Savannah District/State of Georgia

The Savannah District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C § 1344), as follows:

Application Number: SAS-2018-00581

Applicant: Mr. James Irvin
Georgia Central Railway, L.P.
13901 Sutton Park Drive, Suite 125
Jacksonville, Florida 32224

Savannah Green IV Owner, LLC
Mr. Ban-y P. Marcus
2 Post Road West
Westport, Connecticut 06880

Agent: Mr. Michael J. DeMell
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC., A Terracon Company
2201 Rowland Avenue
Savannah, Georgia 31404

Location of Proposed Work: In waters and wetland located 0.4 miles west of Pooler Parkway, 0.6 miles south of U.S. 80, and 0.4 miles north of S. H. Morgan Parkway, in Pooler, Chatham County, Georgia (Latitude 32.1137, Longitude -81.2740). The location of these parcels is immediately east of the existing Port Logistics Center

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:
The applicant is proposing to fill 2.58 acres of wetland to construct a rail served Container Storage Yard to serve the existing Port Logistics Center. To mitigate for the proposed impacts, the applicant would purchase 15.52 grandfathered credits (1.94 credits for 2018 SOP) from a Corps approved compensatory mitigation bank that services the project area and provides appropriate functional replacement credits.

BACKGROUND

The proposed project is a re-development of a currently approved container and trailer storage facility. On September 16, 2019, a Nationwide Permit #14 was approved on these same parcels to impact 0.50-acre of wetland for the construction of an access road and rail spur extension. However, the needs of the current project require a larger container storage area and thus additional impacts on site. Condition J of the NWP required the purchase of 3.04 wetland mitigation credits from the Yam Grandy Mitigation Bank. These credits were purchased on July 26, 2019.

This Joint Public Notice announces a request for authorizations from both the Corps and the State of Georgia. The applicant's proposed work may also require local governmental approval.

STATE OF GEORGIA

Water Quality Certification: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division will review the proposed project for water quality certification, in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Prior to issuance of a Department of the Army permit for a project location in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia, review for Water Quality Certification is required. A reasonable period of time, which shall not exceed one year, is established under the Clean Water Act for the State to act on a request for Water Quality Certification, after which, issuance of such a Department of the Army permit may proceed.

State-owned Property and Resources: The applicant may also require assent from the State of Georgia, which may be in the form of a license, easement, lease, permit or other appropriate instrument.

Georgia Coastal Management Program: Prior to the Savannah District Corps of Engineers making a final permit decision on this application, the project must be certified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division, to be consistent with applicable provisions of the State of Georgia Coastal Management Program (15 CFR 930). Anyone wishing to comment on Coastal Management Program certification of this project should submit comments in writing within 30 days of the date of this notice to the Federal Consistency Coordinator, Coastal Management Program, Coastal Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, One Conservation Way, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-8600 (Telephone 912-264-7218).

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Savannah District must consider the purpose and the impacts of the applicant's proposed work, prior to a decision on issuance of a Department of the Army permit.

Cultural Resources Assessment: Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties or properties listed as eligible for inclusion are located at the site or in the area affected by the proposed work. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical or historical data may be located at the site and could be affected by the proposed work.

Endangered Species: A preliminary review the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) list of Endangered and Threatened Species (IPaC) indicates the following listed species may occur in the project area: Eastern Indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*), Wood stork (*Mycteria americana*); red cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*); frosted flatwoods salamander (*Ambystoma cingulatum*) and pondberry (*Lindera melissifolia*).

Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.), we request information from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service; or, any other interested party, on whether any species listed or proposed for listing may be present in the area.

Public Interest Review: 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 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, flood plain 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.

Consideration of Public Comments: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Native American 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 Corps to determine whether to issue, 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 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 proposed activity.

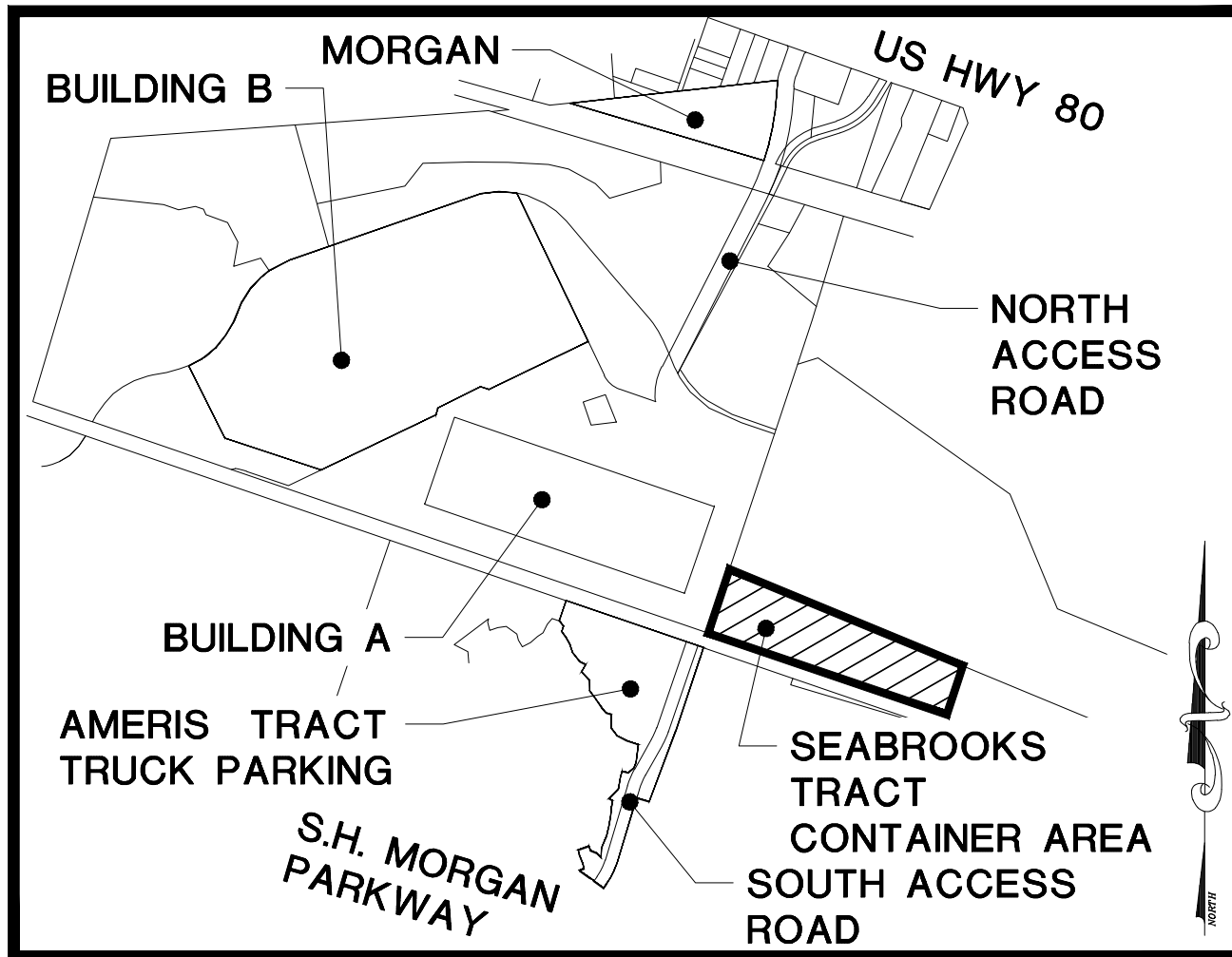
Application of Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines: The proposed activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States. The Savannah District's evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

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 for a Department of the Army permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. The decision whether to hold a public hearing is at the discretion of the District Engineer, or his designated appointee, based on the need for additional substantial information necessary in evaluating the proposed project.

Comment Period: Anyone wishing to comment on this application for a Department of the Army permit should submit comments by email to sarah.e.wise@usace.army.mil. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Ms. Sarah E. Wise, 100 West Oglethorpe Avenue Savannah, Georgia 31401-3604, no later than 30 days from the date of this notice. Please refer to the applicant's name and the application number in your comments.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please contact Ms. Sarah E. Wise, Team Lead, Coastal Branch at 912-652-5550.

Enclosures:



VICINITY MAP

NOT TO SCALE

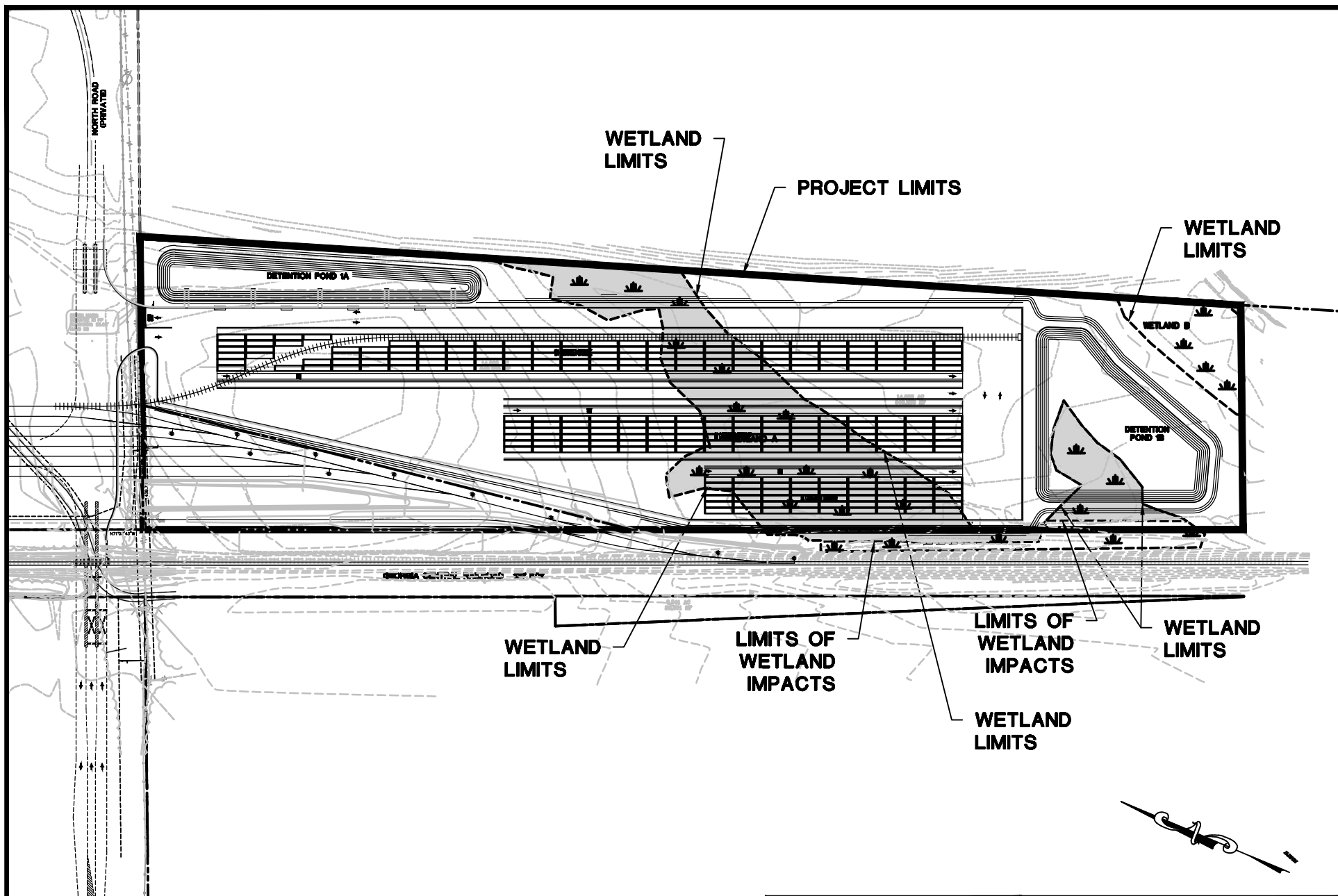
WETLAND EXHIBIT

Drawn: DMN	Date: 02/18/2020
Checked: CLM	Scale: N.T.S.
Job No.: 18-LD-042(04)	Page: 1 OF 3

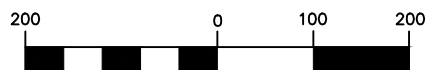


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GRAPHIC SCALE



(IN FEET)
1 inch = 200 ft.

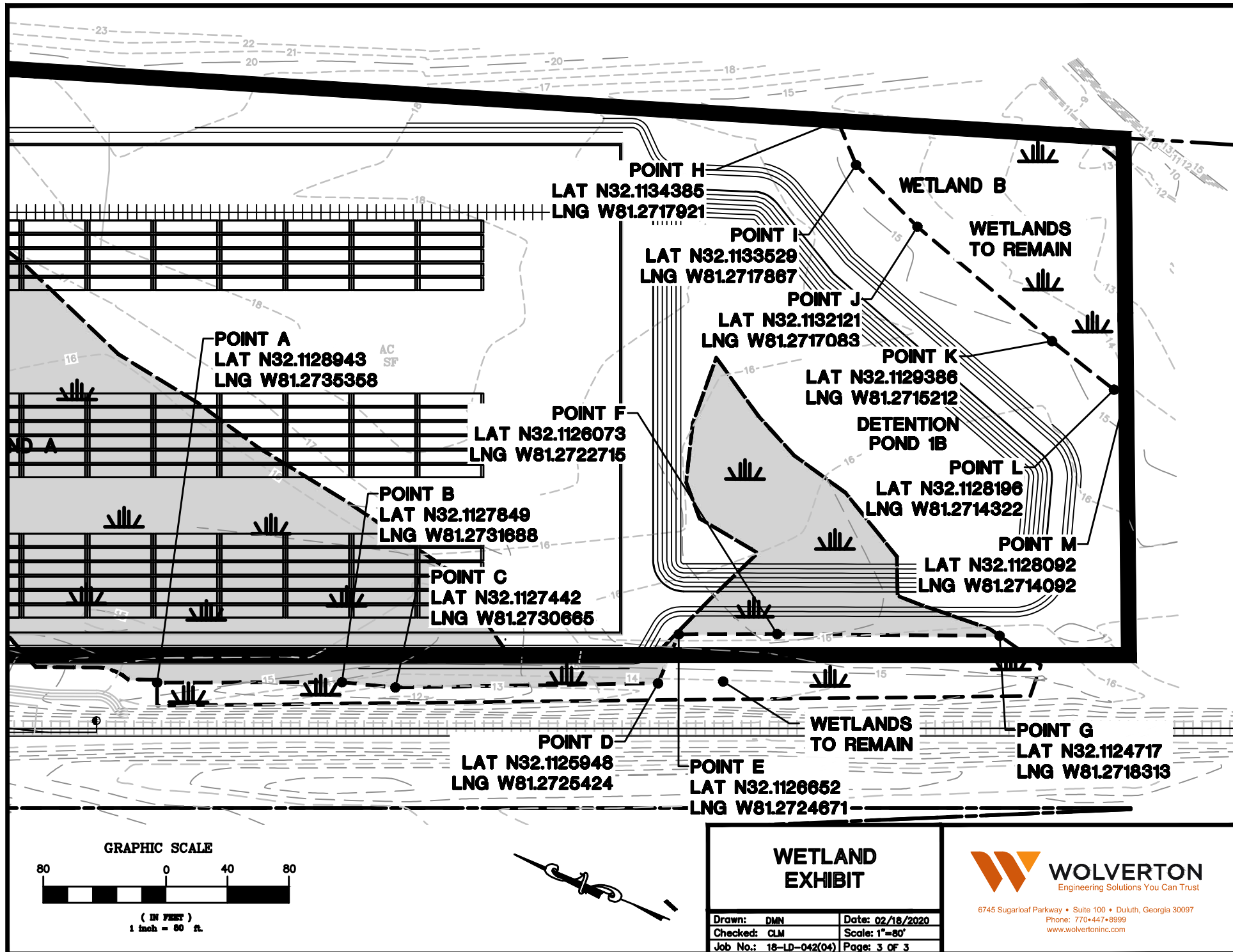
PROPOSED TOTAL WETLAND IMPACTS - 2.58 ACRES

WETLAND EXHIBIT

Drawn: DMN	Date: 02/18/2020
Checked: CLM	Scale: 1"=200'
Job No.: 18-LD-042(04)	Page: 2 OF 3

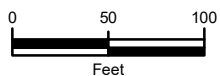


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 Project Boundary



Source(s): ESRI Basemap Streetmap

Disclaimer: The information depicted on this figure is for conceptual purposes only, serves to aid a licensed engineer or geologist in rendering professional services, and is subject to review and approval by appropriate regulatory agencies.



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Recent Google Earth Aerial Imagery

MLC - Seabrook Parcel

Chatham County, Georgia

Project: HM197043

Date: Feb. 2020

Drwn/Chkd: AJV/MJD

Figure: 2