



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
SAVANNAH DISTRICT  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS 100 W.  
OGLETHORPE AVENUE  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3640

October 23, 2018

Regulatory Branch  
SAS-2016-00854

**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-2016-00854

Applicant: Mr. Surendra Gupta  
Springlakes Homeowners Association  
186 Kestwick Drive West  
Martinez, Georgia 30907

Agent: Eldridge Whitehurst  
Cranston Engineering Group, PC  
452 Ellis Street  
Augusta, Georgia 30901

Location of Proposed Work: The project site is located within the Springlakes Subdivision, in Martinez, Columbia County, Georgia (Latitude 33.5046, Longitude -82.1143). Reed Creek, a tributary of the Savannah River, runs through the lake.

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:  
As proposed, the applicant would remove approximately 55,000 cubic yards (CYs) of accumulated sediment from Spring Lake. The material would be removed via mechanical equipment consisting of backhoes, bulldozers and dump trucks. All material would then be transported to an upland site(s) for disposal. To facilitate the work, the lake would be drained, and the lake bed allowed to dry for several weeks. Sediment would then be excavated by mechanical means and placed in trucks for transport to the disposal area(s). According to the applicant, no dredging would occur within the footprint of Reed Creek. However, to facilitate access to the eastern side of the lake, the applicant would install a temporary 50' x 20' road crossing over the creek. The road would utilize culverts to maintain the existing flow of the creek. Upon completion of the dredging, the crossing would be removed.

In the upper end of the lake, the lakebed would be undercut an additional two feet to create extra future storage for sediment. In addition, a forebay would be constructed (i.e. excavated) at the upper end of the lake.

## **BACKGROUND**

The applicant has completed a Tier II evaluation per the Inland Testing Manual. The sediment samples were analyzed to determine concentrations of metals, total petroleum hydrocarbons, ammonia, nitrate/nitrite, pesticides, and silica-gel treated n-Hexane extractable material. Based on the evaluation, the sediment generally consists of silty sand and sandy silt. Elutriate testing indicated concentrations of zinc slightly greater than the EPA Freshwater Sediment Ecological Screening Value (ESV) in two of the samples. Elutriate concentrations of all other compounds were less than applicable GA EPD in-stream water quality standards.

This Joint Public Notice announces a request for authorizations from both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 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, intends to certify this project at the end of 30 days in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, which is required for a Federal Permit to conduct activity in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia. Copies of the application and supporting documents relative to a specific application will be available for review and copying at the office of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection Branch, 2 MLK Jr. Drive, Suite 418, Atlanta, Georgia 30334, during regular office hours. A copier machine is available for public use at a charge of 10 cents per page. All coastal projects are filed at our Brunswick office and will need to be requested from Mr. Bradley Smith at [Bradley.Smith@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Bradley.Smith@dnr.ga.gov). Any person who desires to comment, object, or request a public hearing relative to State Water Quality Certification must do so within 30 days of the State's receipt of application in writing and state the reasons or basis of objections or request for a hearing. The application can be reviewed in the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, 100 W. Oglethorpe Avenue Savannah, Georgia 31401-3640.

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.

## **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: 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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 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 in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Ms. Sarah E. Wise, 100 W. 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 Section at (912) 652-5550.

1 Enclosure

1. Wetlands Master Plan for Dredging, Springlakes Dredging, Columbia County, Georgia, prepared for Springlakes Association, dated September 20, 2018, (Sheets 1-13).

**WETLANDS  
MASTER PLAN  
FOR  
SPRINGLAKES DREDGING  
COLUMBIA COUNTY, GEORGIA**

**PREPARED FOR  
SPRINGLAKES ASSOCIATION**



**PREPARED BY**  
**Cranston Engineering Group, P.C.**  
ENGINEERS - PLANNERS - SURVEYORS

452 ELLIS STREET, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30901  
POST OFFICE BOX 2546, AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30903  
TELEPHONE 706-722-1588  
FACSIMILE 706-722-8379  
mail@cranstonengineering.com

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT,  
SIMKINS ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING, LLC  
BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**MASTER WETLANDS PLAN  
SPRINGLAKES DREDGING  
COLUMBIA COUNTY, GEORGIA**

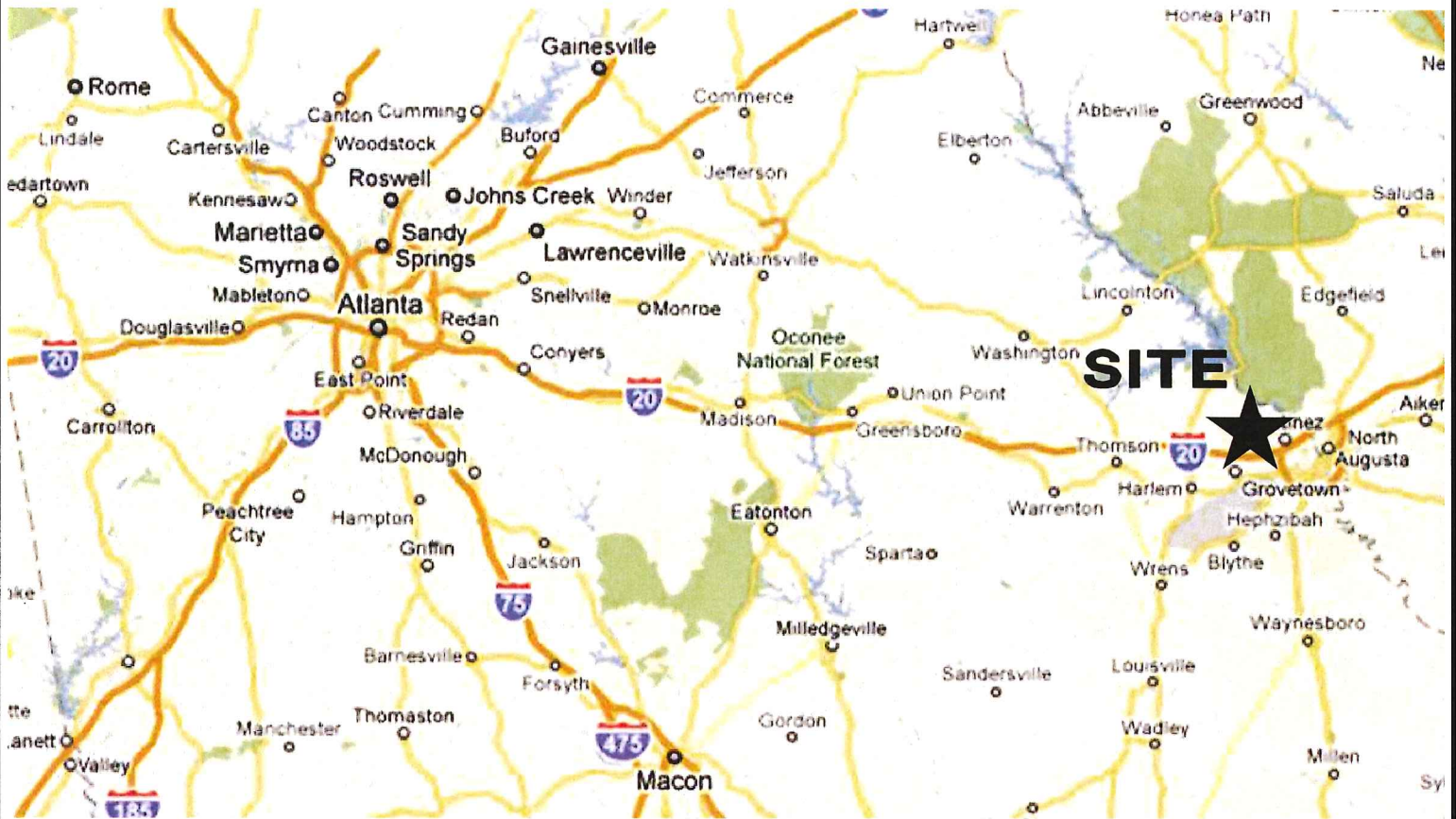


**SPRINGLAKES  
ASSOCIATION**

**COVER SHEET**

MAY 15, 2018  
REV. SEPT. 20, 2018

**SHEET 1 OF 13**



**MASTER WETLANDS PLAN**  
**SPRINGLAKES DREDGING**  
**COLUMBIA COUNTY, GEORGIA**

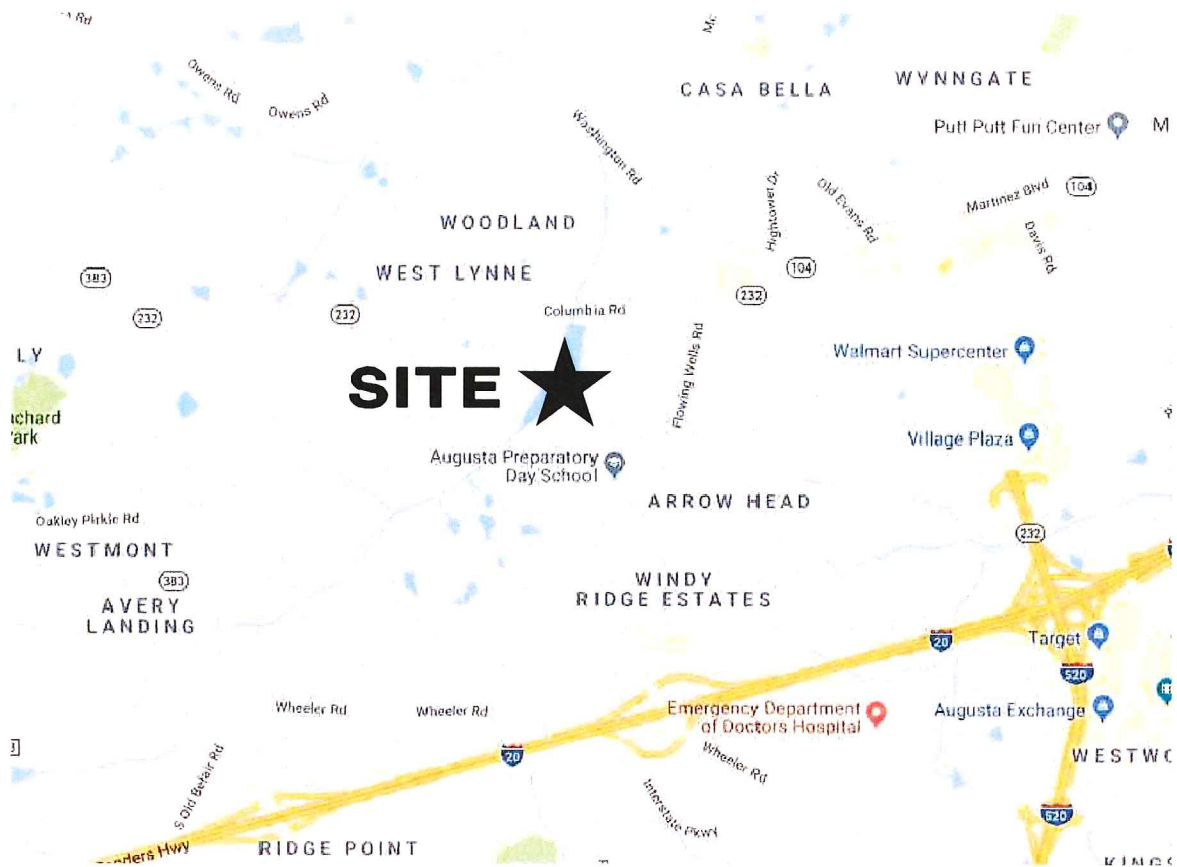


**SPRINGLAKES**  
ASSOCIATION

VICINITY MAP  
NOT TO SCALE  
MAY 15, 2018  
REV. SEPT. 20, 2018

SHEET 2 OF 13





**MASTER WETLANDS PLAN**  
**SPRINGLAKES DREDGING**  
**COLUMBIA COUNTY, GEORGIA**



**SPRINGLAKES**  
ASSOCIATION

**LOCATION MAP**

NOT TO SCALE  
MAY 15, 2018  
REV. SEPT. 20, 2018

**SHEET 3 OF 13**



EVANS, GA-SC  
2017

AUGUSTA WEST, GA  
2017

MARTINEZ, GA-SC  
2017

GROVETOWN, GA  
2017

USGS QUAD SHEETS



**MASTER WETLANDS PLAN**  
**SPRINGLAKES DREDGING**  
**COLUMBIA COUNTY, GEORGIA**



**SPRINGLAKES**  
ASSOCIATION

**USGS QUAD SHEET**

NOT TO SCALE  
MAY 15, 2018  
REV. SEPT. 20, 2018

SHEET 4 OF 13



## PROJECT DATA

TOTAL PROJECT AREA 10.0 AC.

## WATERS OF THE U.S.

TOTAL AREA 9.2 AC.

### A. OPEN WATERS

TOTAL AREA 8.8 AC.

### B. EXPOSED SEDIMENT

TOTAL AREA 0.4 AC.

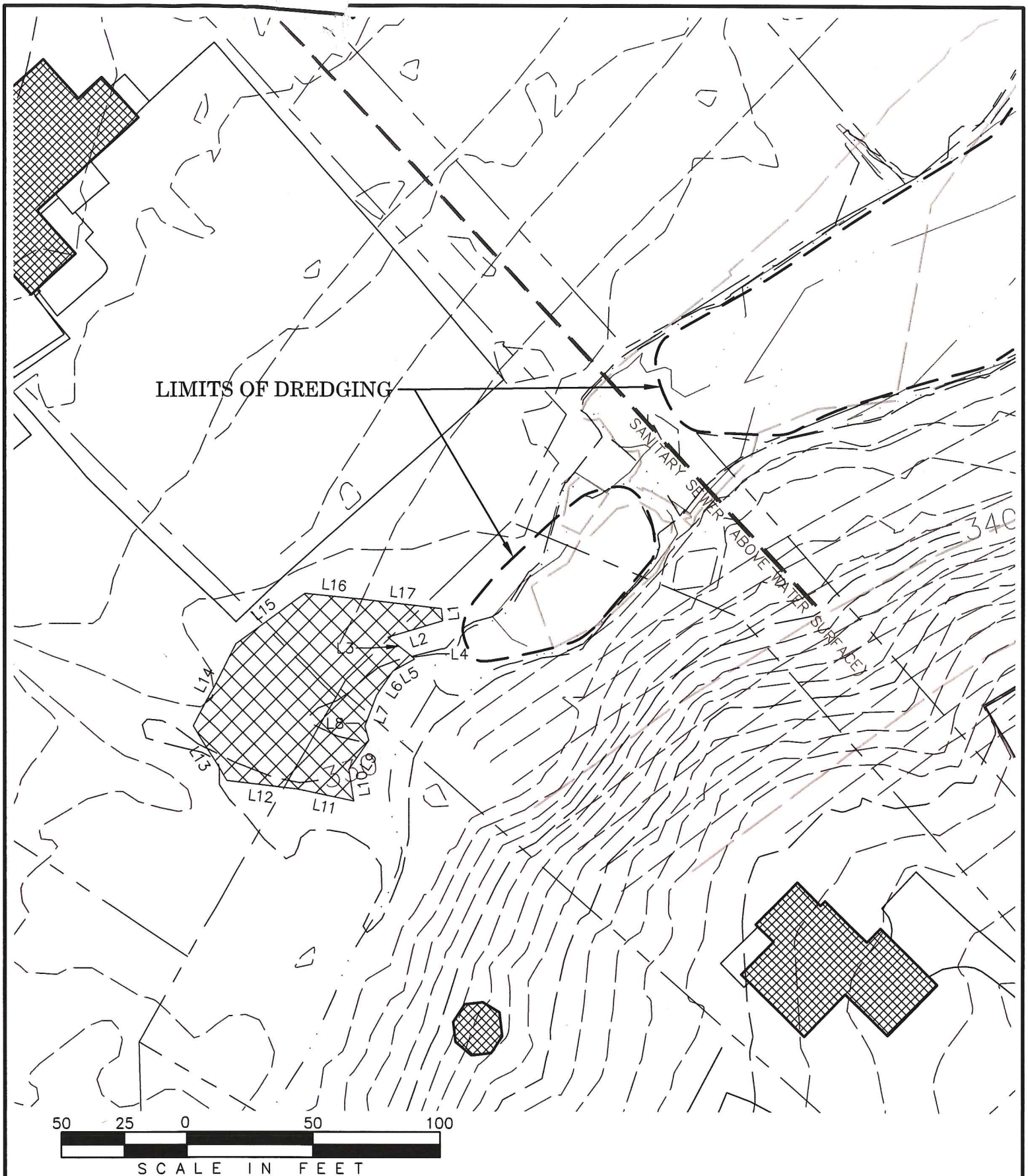
## DREDGING QUANTITY

A. INTAKE PHASE 55,000 CUBIC YARDS

## FILL IN WETLANDS/WATER

A. TEMPORARY PIPE AND CROSSING OF FLOW AFTER LAKE IS DRAINED 0.02 AC. 20 L.F.





**MASTER WETLANDS PLAN**  
**SPRINGLAKES DREDGING**  
 COLUMBIA COUNTY, GEORGIA



**SPRINGLAKES**  
 ASSOCIATION

**SPRINGLAKES LAKE**  
**WETLANDS**  
**DELINEATION**

SCALE: 1" = 50'

MAY 15, 2018

REV. SEPT. 20, 2018

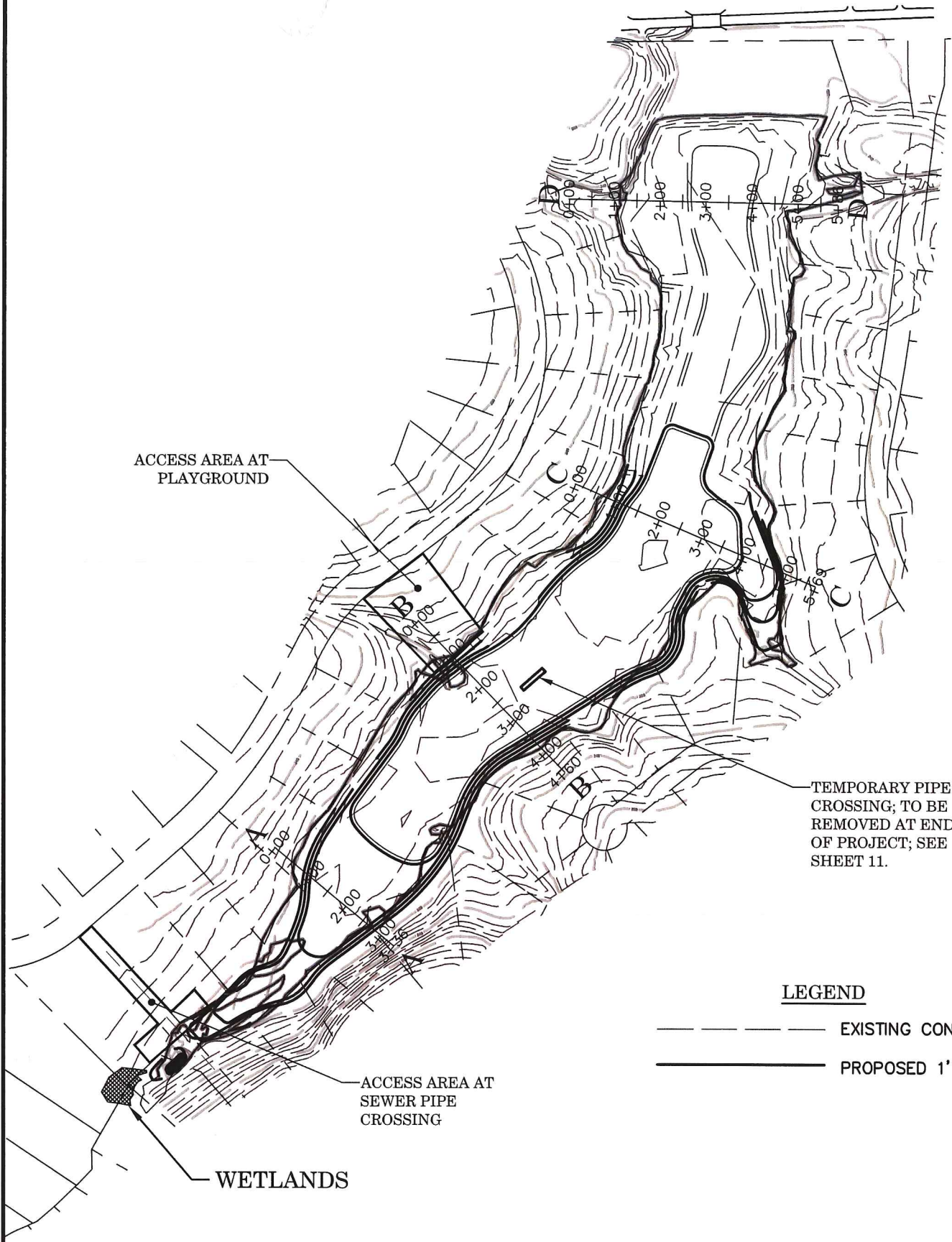
SHEET 6 OF 13

## WETLANDS DELINEATION

LINE #	LENGTH	DIRECTION
L1	4.835	S05° 54' 44"E
L2	22.425	S73° 06' 01"W
L3	11.315	S50° 53' 10"E
L4	2.169	S45° 00' 00"E
L5	9.566	S60° 11' 42"W
L6	11.407	S34° 11' 05"W
L7	13.179	S20° 53' 38"W
L8	5.843	S15° 54' 47"E
L9	13.850	S34° 21' 53"W
L10	12.615	S08° 43' 37"E
L11	22.641	N78° 17' 06"W
L12	28.660	N83° 13' 23"W
L13	25.268	N31° 15' 52"W
L14	36.414	N27° 18' 17"E
L15	34.208	N54° 05' 37"E
L16	22.648	S84° 06' 19"E
L17	31.374	S83° 19' 29"E







**LEGEND**

- EXISTING CONTOUR
- PROPOSED 1' CONTOUR

**MASTER WETLANDS PLAN**  
**SPRINGLAKES DREDGING**  
**COLUMBIA COUNTY, GEORGIA**



**SPRINGLAKES LAKE**  
**GRADING PLAN**

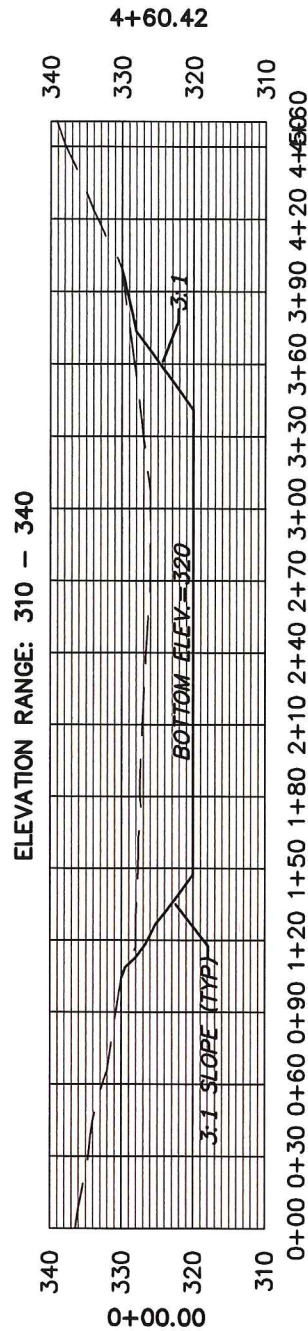
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REV. SEPT. 20, 2018

SHEET 8 OF 13

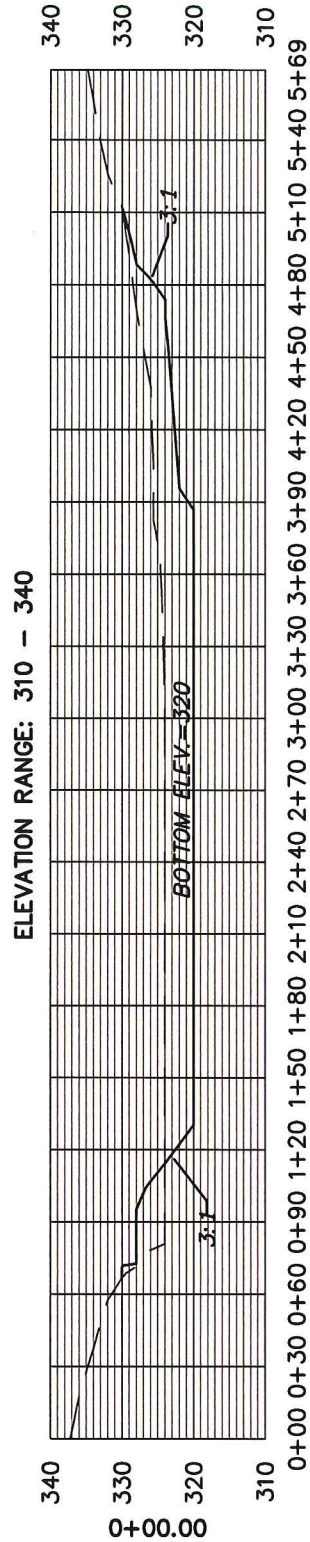




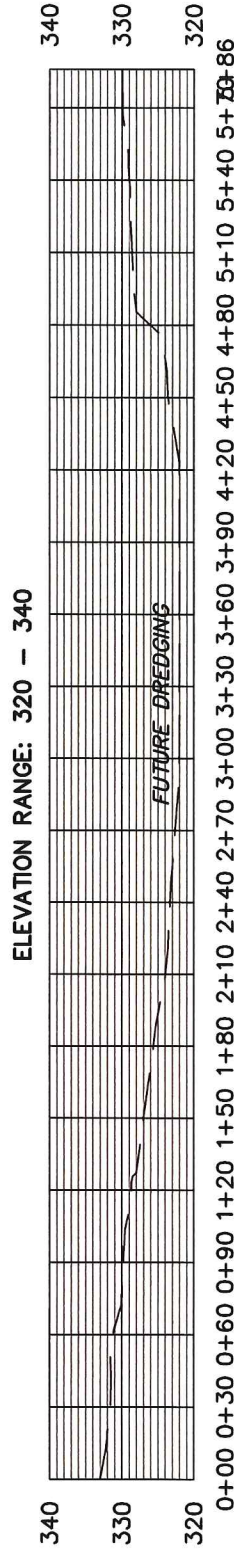
SECTION A



SECTION B

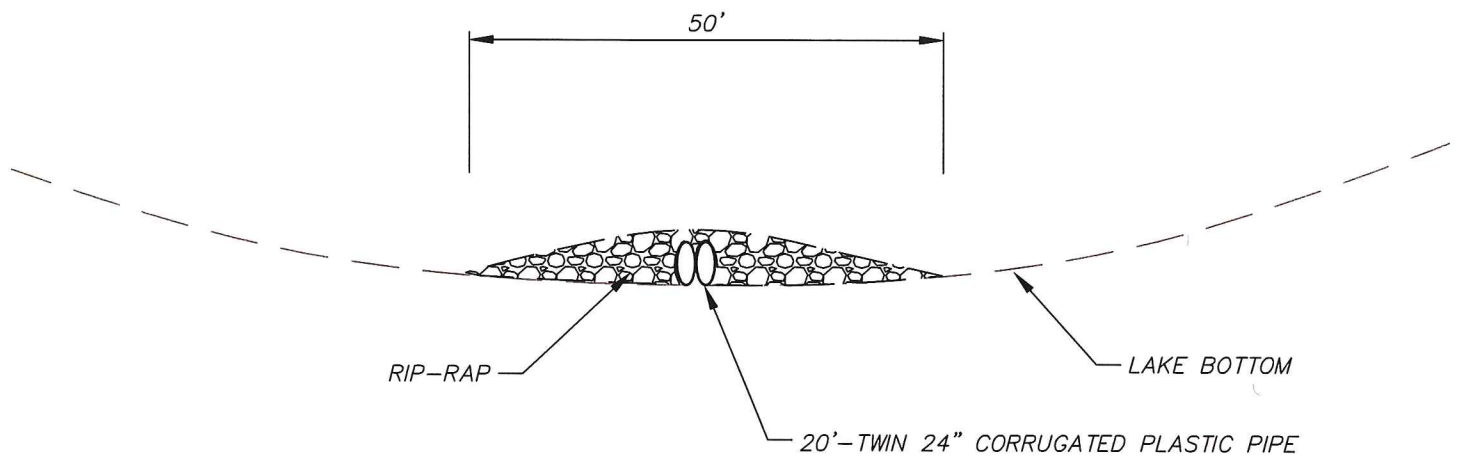


SECTION C



SECTION D









**MASTER WETLANDS PLAN**  
**SPRINGLAKES DREDGING**  
**COLUMBIA COUNTY, GEORGIA**



**SPRINGLAKES**  
ASSOCIATION

**DISPOSAL**  
**LOCATION MAP**  
NOT TO SCALE  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

**SHEET 12 OF 13**



