



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

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

APRIL 25 2012

Regulatory Division
SAS-2010-00636

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-2010-00636

Applicant: Mr. William A. DiRico, Jr.
Martin Marietta Materials
3019 Riverwatch Parkway
Augusta, GA, 30907

Agent: Mr. Brandon F. Smith
Environmental Services, Inc.
131 Hutchinson Island Road
Savannah, Georgia 31421

Location of Proposed Work: The project site is located approximately 3-miles west of downtown Savannah and is located in the southern portion of the Interstate-16, Chatham Parkway, US HWY-17, and Lynes Parkway quadrant. The southern tip of the property is adjacent to US HWY-17. The approximately 50.41-acre site is made up of two parcels: a larger 38.25-acre rail abutting parcel that extends south to US HWY-17 and a narrow rail siding parcel (12.16-acres) that also abuts the existing CSX main line. (Latitude 32.0550555971818, Longitude -81.1554917993386).

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the US Army Corps of Engineers: The construction of a new aggregate and materials storage/distribution yard and to construct a rail siding track adjacent to the CSX main rail line. The proposed development of the aggregate and materials storage yard and the rail siding track involves the construction of aggregate storage pads, haul roads and truck turn-arounds, scale house, materials conveyor, rail spurs, rail siding tracks, stormwater management facilities, and floodplain mitigation areas. Given the nature of a facility like this, its associated railroad system requirements, roadway transportation needs, and proximity to suitable aggregate markets, and its needed location, wetland impacts could not be avoided. The proposed facility will result in the impact of 0.58-acre of jurisdictional wetlands, and 0.28-acre of jurisdictional canals for a project total of 0.86-acre of wetland impact. To offset the unavoidable impact to 0.86-acre of jurisdictional wetlands and man-made canals, the applicant proposes to purchase 4.59 wetland credits from an approved mitigation bank that

serves the project area. The applicant will utilize either the Yam Grandy Wetland Mitigation Bank (if approved prior to permit issuance) or Black Creek Wetland Mitigation Bank for wetland mitigation credits. The amount of mitigation credits needed for the proposed impacts were determined by using the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District Mitigation SOP, dated 31 March 2004.

BACKGROUND

This Joint Public Notice announces a request for authorizations from both the US 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, Water Protection Branch, 4220 International Parkway, Suite 101, Atlanta, Georgia 30354, during regular office hours. A copier machine is available for public use at a charge of 25 cents per page. 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, US Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, 1104 N. Westover Blvd, Suite 9 Albany, Georgia 31707.

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, Ecological Services Section, Coastal Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, One Conservation Way, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-8600 (Telephone 912-264-7218).

US 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.

In September of 2011, Environmental Services, Inc. (ESI) performed an intensive cultural resource assessment survey at the Martin Marietta/Savannah Yard Tract in Chatham County, Georgia, on behalf of Martin Marietta. The goal of the survey was to locate, identify, delineate, and evaluate all cultural resources within the property, including prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, as well as historic structures. The cultural resource assessment survey included a pedestrian inspection of the entire parcel combined with systematic shovel testing at 30-meter intervals where possible.

As a result of the Phase I cultural resource assessment survey, no new archaeological sites or historic structural remains were encountered. Modern debris was encountered in the southern portion of the tract. The pedestrian inspection and subsurface testing revealed the majority of the property to be poorly to very poorly drained. The closest previously recorded cultural resource is nearly 0.4 miles south of the project area; there will be no effect on previously recorded archaeological sites or historic structures.

As no new archaeological sites or historic structures were recorded within the project area, it is recommended that the proposed project be allowed to proceed without concern for impacts to significant cultural resources.

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 US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Department of Commerce, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Marine Fisheries Service; or, any other interested party, on whether any species listed or proposed for listing may be present in the area.

During several field visits over multiple years 2005, 2010, and 2011, the agent for the applicant (ESI) performed an assessment for Threatened and Endangered species within the southern tract and specifically on the northern parcel in 2011. Leading up to this investigation, ESI made contact with the appropriate agencies to ascertain their knowledge of potential listed species in the area. It is the opinion of ESI that the property does not contain any habitats that are uniquely suited to federally protected species and no populations were noted during ESI's field work conducted on both sites. Over half (11 of 16) of the federally listed species for this county are not offered suitable habitats by the project area due to their dependence on the marine ecosystems. The one listed plant species (pondberry, *Lindera melissifolia*) cites drainage

ditching and subsequent conversion of habitat to other uses as threats/detriment to this species of which these properties have been heavily altered by canals and borrow activities. Of the four remaining listed animal species, the wood stork (*Mycteria americana*) and the eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*) have broad habitat descriptions that preclude outright elimination. However, surveys in these areas did not reveal any populations within the project area, or any uniquely suited habitat not offered by most undeveloped tracts of land. The remaining two listed species, the flatwoods salamander (*Ambystoma cingulatum*) and red cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*), do have very specific habitat requirements and no suitable habitats within the property were identified.

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 US 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 US 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.

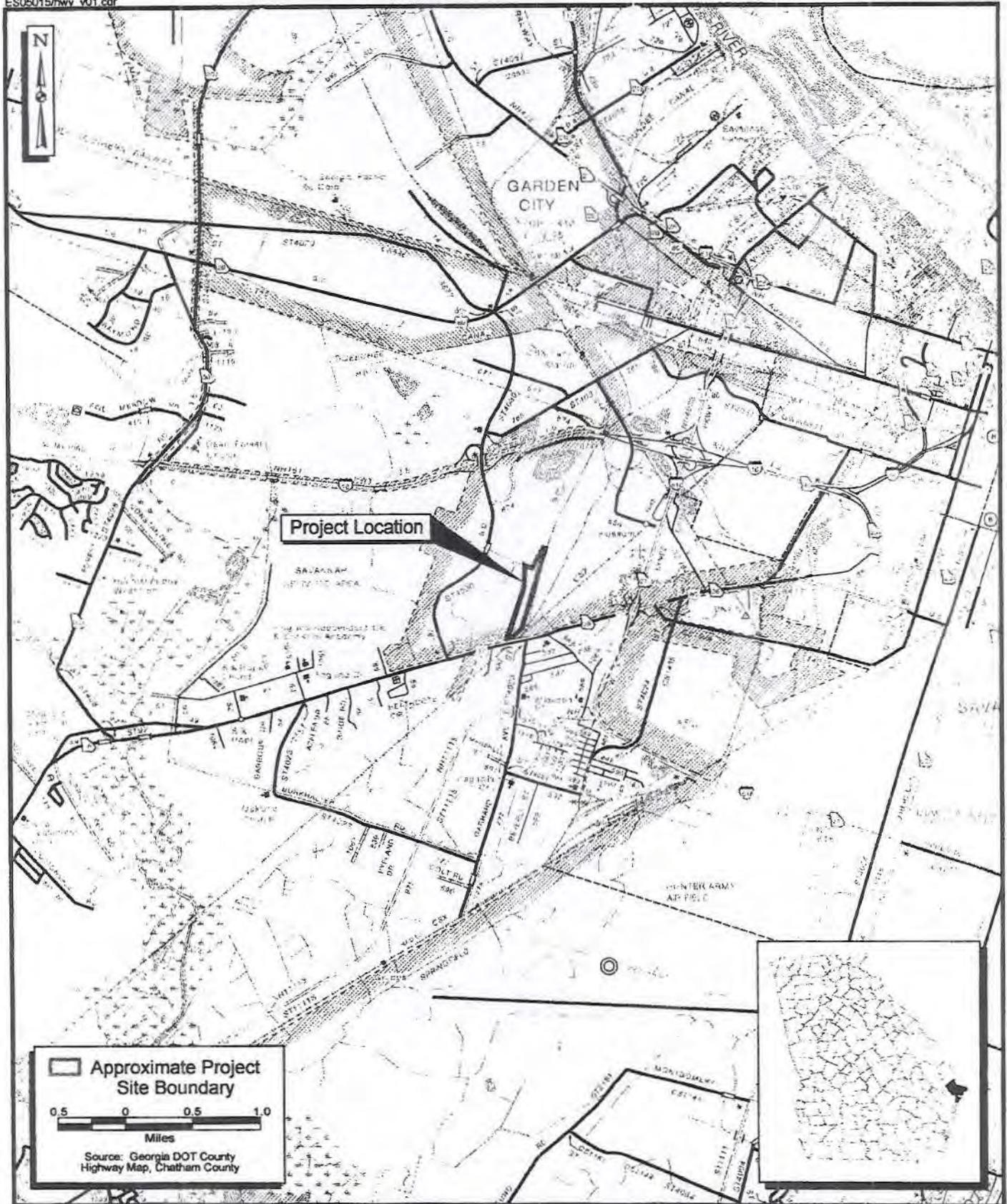
Public Hearing: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application for a Department of the Army Permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. 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, US Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Alan J. Miller, 1104 N. Westover Blvd, Suite 9 Albany, Georgia 31707, 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 Alan J. Miller, Project Manager, Coastal Branch, Albany Field Office at 229-430-8566.

4 Encls

1. Site Location Map
2. NWI Map
3. Wetland Impacts Map
4. Wetland Impacts Map



**Project Location Map
T&H/ CSX 33-Acre Property
Chatham County, Georgia**

Figure: 1
Project: ES05015.00
Date: Mar 2005

Enclos 3



C-4
Proposed Jurisdictional Canal Impact
0.06-acres

C-3
Proposed Jurisdictional Canal Impact
0.16-acres

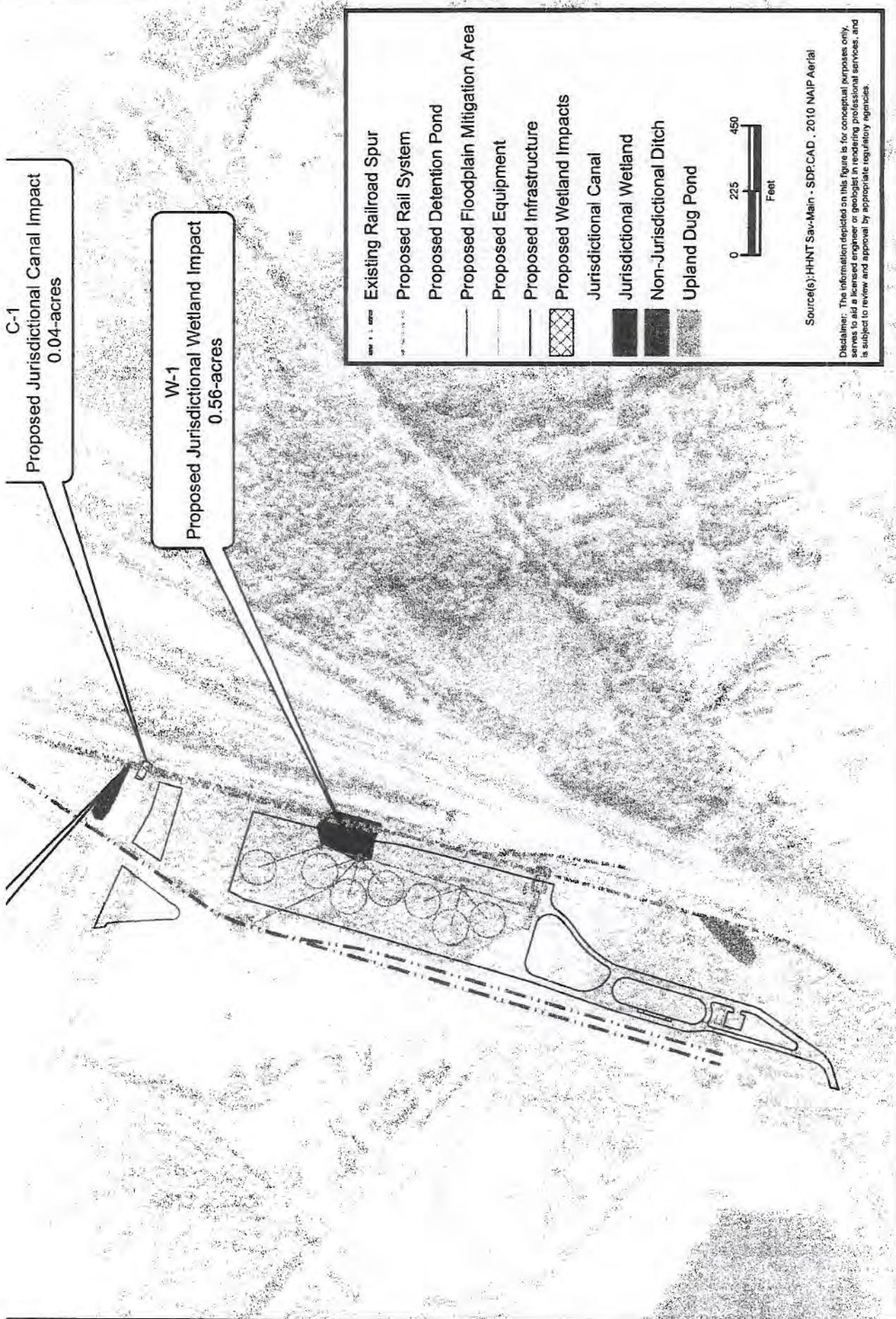
C-2
Proposed Jurisdictional Canal Impact
0.02-acres

W-2
Proposed Jurisdictional Wetland Impact
0.02-acres

Encl 3

C-1
Proposed Jurisdictional Canal Impact
0.04-acres

W-1
Proposed Jurisdictional Wetland Impact
0.56-acres



	Existing Railroad Spur
	Proposed Rail System
	Proposed Detention Pond
	Proposed Floodplain Mitigation Area
	Proposed Equipment
	Proposed Infrastructure
	Proposed Wetland Impacts
	Jurisdictional Canal
	Jurisdictional Wetland
	Non-Jurisdictional Ditch
	Upland Dug Pond

Scale: 0, 225, 450 Feet

Source(s): HHNT Sav-Main - SDR.CAD, 2010 NAIP Aerial

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.

Project:	ES10008.01
Date:	Feb. 2012
Drwn/Chkd:	TS/SB
Figure:	7

Proposed Wetland Impacts
Martin Marietta - Savannah Yard
Chatham County, GA

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Savannah, GA 31421
(912) 236-4711
(912) 236-3088 Fax
www.environmentalservicesinc.com

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