

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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

June 15, 2021

Regulatory Branch SAS-2021-00308

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-2021-00308

<u>Applicant</u>: Mr. Shay Foley, Alcon, 11460 Johns Creek Parkway, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097

Agents: Contour Environmental, LLC

<u>Location of Proposed Work</u>: On 12.6-acres within the 74-acre Alcon campus, south of Johns Creek Parkway, East of Georgia State Route 141, west of Cameron Drive, Johns Creek, Fulton County, Georgia (Latitude 34.0536, Longitude -84.1697).

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: The proposed project involves the expansion of the Alcon manufacturing facility and will construct a new multi-story 99,250 square foot manufacturing building, a new 37,500 square foot warehouse, surrounding parking lots, access roads, and associated infrastructure. The project proposes to fill 0.07 acres of wetland and pipe 1,120 linear feet of perennial stream and 941 linear feet of intermittent stream in order to expand the manufacturing capabilities of the site. The applicant used the 2018 mitigation SOP to calculate 0.32 wetland credits and 15,161 stream credits as compensatory mitigation for the proposed impacts.

BACKGROUND

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.

Alcon currently operates a manufacturing facility at the project location and provides ophthalmic surgical and vision care products including implantable devices, consumables, equipment, contact lenses, and ocular health.

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 located 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.

<u>State-owned Property and Resources</u>: 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.

<u>Cultural Resources Assessment</u>: A review of the National Register Information System (an online server associated with the National Register of Historic Places) determined that there are no historic properties located within or surrounding the project area. Additionally, a Phase I Archeological survey was completed with 21 shovel tests sites and a pedestrian survey. All shovel tests were negative and no new archeological or historical properties were identified.

<u>Endangered Species</u>: The U.S. fish and Wildlife Service's Information, Planning, and Conservation System (IPaC) was reviewed for the project area and no critical habitat exists for any federally threatened or endangered species exists on the site.

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 and the potential effects this project may have on those species.

<u>Public Interest Review</u>: 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.

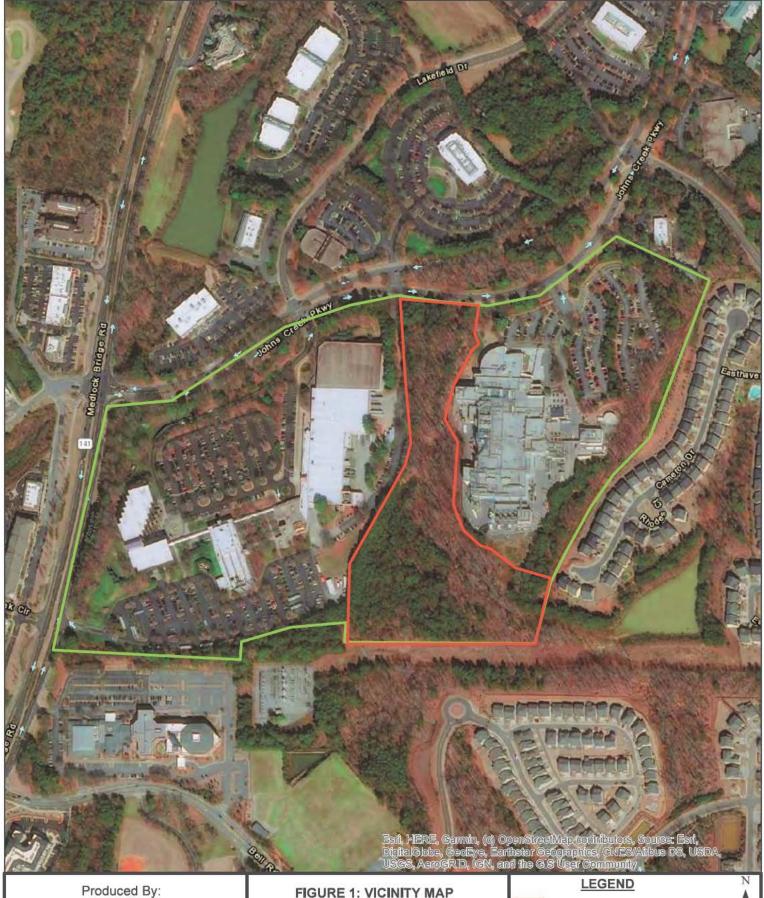
<u>Public Hearing</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application for a Department of the Army permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public 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.

<u>Comment Period</u>: 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. Holly Ross, 1104 North Westover Boulevard, Suite 9, Albany, Georgia, 31707, or by email to: holly.A.Ross@usace.army.mil, 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. Holly Ross, Project Manager, Albany Field Office at 648-422-2727 or via email at holly.a.ross@usace.army.mil.

Enclosures:

- 1. Location and Project Area Mapping (3 pages)
- 2. Proposed site layout (1 page)





Contour Environmental LLC 4462 Bretton Court NW, Suite 14 Acworth, Georgia 30101

FIGURE 1: VICINITY MAP

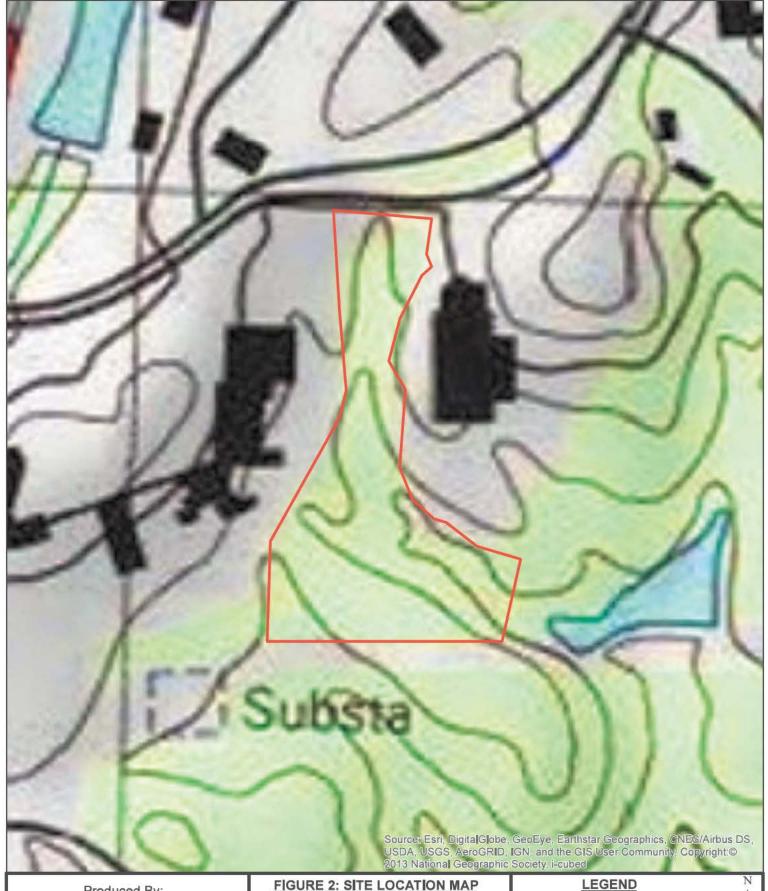
Alcon Manufacturing Site Johns Creek, Georgia For Alcon CE21HGA:01 January 21, 2021

Expansion Area 12.6 Acres Alcon Campus 74.651 Acres



410

Feet



Produced By:



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FIGURE 2: SITE LOCATION MAP 7.5 MIN USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUAD

Alcon Manufacturing Site Johns Creek, Georgia For Alcon CE21HGA:01 January 21, 2021



Property Boundary



330 Feet





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DELINEATION MAP

Alcon Manufacturing Site Johns Creek, Georgia For Alcon CE21HGA:01 January 21, 2021

Property Boundary

Perennial Stream

Intermittent Stream

200 //// Wetland Feet

