



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

May 17, 2023

Regulatory Division
SAS-2020-00630

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 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. § 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1344), as follows:

Application Number: SAS-2020-00630

Applicant: Mr. Kirk Croasmun, Engineering Director
Bryan County
66 Captain Matthew Freeman Drive
Richmond Hill, Georgia 31324

Agent: Mr. Stuart Sligh
Sligh Environmental Consultants, Inc
31 Park of Commerce Way
Suite 200B
Savannah, Georgia 31405

Project Purpose as Proposed by Applicant: The applicant's stated project purpose is "public recreation facility and boat ramp".

Location of Proposed Work: The project site is located at Bryan Fisherman's Co-Op Site, east of Highway 144 and west of Kilkenney Creek on Bryan Fisherman's Co-Op Road in Richmond Hill, Bryan County, Georgia (Latitude 31.8185 and Longitude -81.1893). The aquatic resources located on-site drain to Kilkenney Creek, a Traditional Navigable Waterway (TNW).

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

The applicant is proposing to permanently impact 0.33 acres, temporarily impact 0.09 acres, and have shading impacts to 0.21 acres of aquatic resources in order to construct a public recreational facility and boat ramp.

Specifically, the applicant proposes to fill 0.17 acre of salt marsh and 0.16 acre of open water, and temporarily impact 0.09 acres of salt marsh for the construction of the

boat ramp. In addition, the applicant proposes shading impacts to 0.14 acre of salt marsh and 0.07 acre of freshwater marsh for the installation of the boardwalk.

The applicant also requests to remove existing tanks, block perimeter wall, concrete foundation, concrete loading dock, stairs, asphalt driveway, parking lot, and barge within the marsh and remove existing timber piles and remaining commercial dock that are within Kilkenny Creek, totaling approximately 1.5 acres (64,351 square feet) of restoration. No other mitigation was proposed.

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.

The Bryan County Fisherman's Co-Op originally operated from the 1970's through the early 2000's as a place fisherman could off load their catch and seafood could be sold to the public. In 2004, Bryan County Fisherman's Cooperative, Inc., sold the property to Kilkenny Waterfront Properties, LLC. On January 30, 2007, under project number SAS-2006-01079, the Department of the Army authorized Kilkenny Waterfront Properties a change of use (from commercial marina to recreational marina) and modification to serve as a recreational marina facility to the residents of an adjacent residential development. The construction for the approved project was never initiated and the facility has fallen into disrepair.

On September 4, 2020, Bryan County purchased the property from Kilkenny Waterfront Properties, LLC for the development of a public recreational area to include a boat access launching facility, public walking trails, picnic areas, and restrooms. The proposed application is the result of park planning and grants from the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program.

By letter dated September 19, 2020, a delineation verification was completed by the Corps for the project location under project number SAS-2020-00630. The expiration date of this verification is September 19, 2025, unless new information warrants a revision prior to that date.

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. The applicant has coordinated with Georgia EPD and was informed that a pre-certification meeting was unnecessary.

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.

Marshland Protection: This notice also serves as notification of a request to alter coastal marshlands (under the provision of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act, Georgia Laws, 1970, p. 939 and as amended), if required. Comments concerning this action should be submitted to the Marsh and Shore Management Section, Coastal Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, 1 Conservation Way, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-8600 (Telephone 912-264-7218).

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

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH): This notice initiates the EFH consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal may result in the destruction or alteration of EFH utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, bluefish or snapper grouper management complexes. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have an individual or cumulatively substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Atlantic Ocean. Our final determination relative to project impacts to EFH

and the need for mitigation measures are subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS and the South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council.

Endangered Species: A preliminary review the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service's Protected Resource Divisions (NMFSPRD)'s list of Endangered and Threatened Species (IPaC) indicates the following listed species may occur in the project area: West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*); Eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis spp.*); piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*); red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*); wood stork (*Mycteria americana*); Eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*); green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*); hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*); Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*); leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*); loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*); Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*); and shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*).

Per the Effects Determination Guidance for Endangered and Threatened Species (EDGES), the Corps has determined that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*); Eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis spp.*); wood stork (*Mycteria americana*); and the Eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*); and would have no effect on the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*); green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*); hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*); Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*); leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*); loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*); Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*); and shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*).

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. In addition, a Wood Stork Determination Key was generated for the project location and, based on the information provided, it was determined that the proposed project is not within 2,500 feet of an active wood stork nesting colony. We are requesting clarification or correction if this is found to be in error from the USFWS.

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.

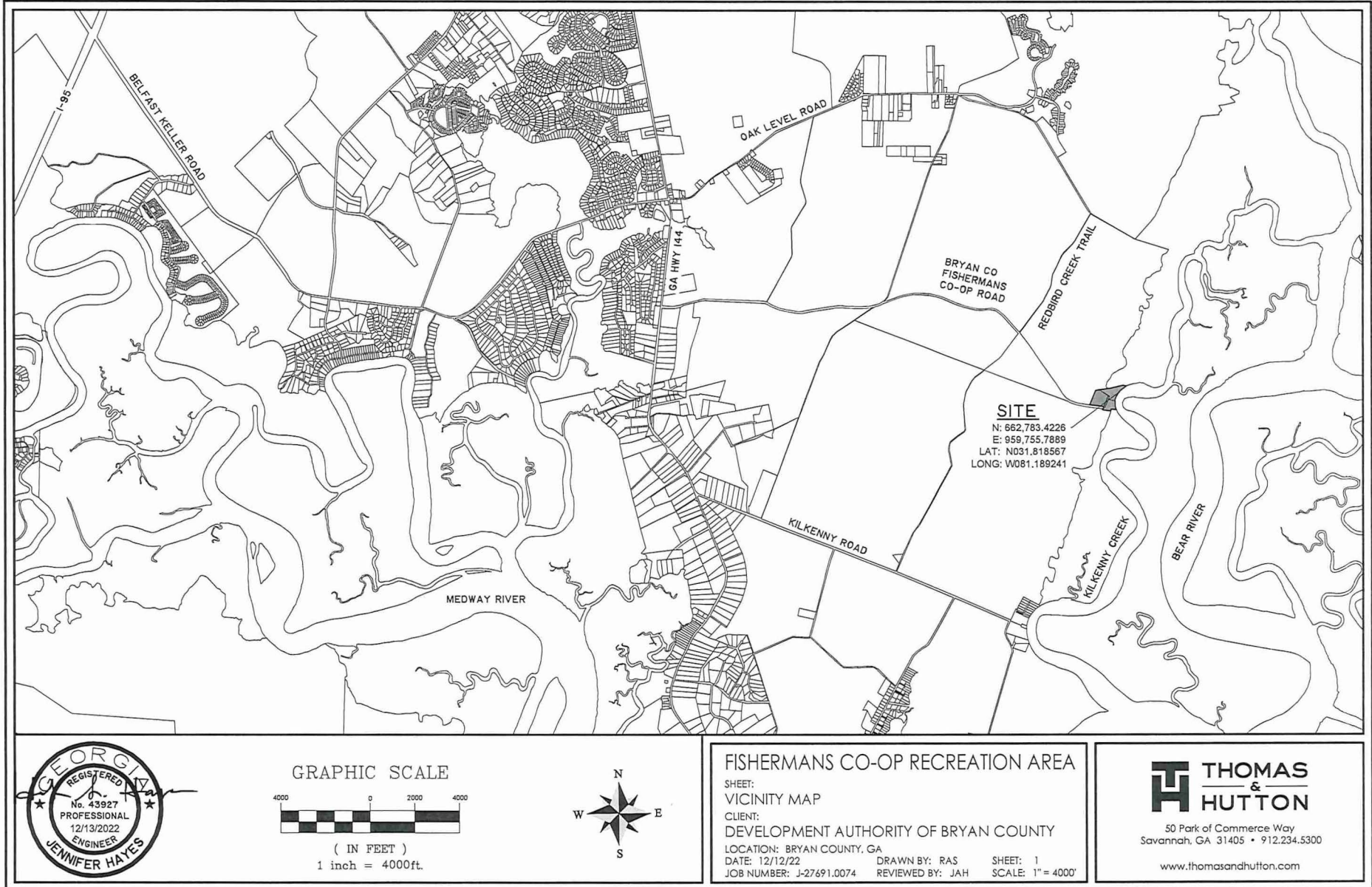
Public Hearing: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application for a Department of the Army permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. 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 sherelle.d.reinhardt@usace.army.mil. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Sherelle Reinhardt, 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 Sherelle Reinhardt, Regulatory Specialist, Coastal Branch at 912-724-1578.



Enclosures:

1. Figure 1 – Vicinity Map
2. Plan and Profile Drawings








LEGEND

PROJECT AREA

	JURISDICTIONAL SALT MARSH & SALTWATER	7.53 AC.
	- TOTAL AREA WITHIN 50' SALT MARSH BUFFER	6.72 AC.
	- TOTAL IMPACTED AREA WITHIN 50' SALT MARSH BUFFER	2.19 AC.
	JURISDICTIONAL FRESHWATER WETLANDS	2.84 AC.
	TOTAL PROJECT WETLAND AREA	10.37 AC.
	TOTAL PROJECT UPLAND AREA	12.31 AC.
	<hr/> TOTAL PROJECT AREA	22.68 AC.

PROJECT IMPACTS

		IMPACT AREA:	IMPACT VOLUME:
	PERMANENT SALT MARSH IMPACTS	0.17 AC. (7,569 SQ. FT.)	73 CU. YD. (FILL) / 169 CU. YD. (CUT)
	PERMANENT OPEN WATER IMPACT	0.16 AC. (6,929 SQ. FT.)	56 CU. YD. (FILL) / 156 CU. YD. (CUT)
	TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION SALTWATER IMPACT	0.09 AC. (3,850 SQ. FT.)	
	BOARDWALK SALT MARSH INSTALL COVERAGE	0.14 AC. (6,274 SQ. FT.)	
	BOARDWALK FRESHWATER MARSH INSTALL COVERAGE	0.07 AC. (3,252 SQ. FT.)	



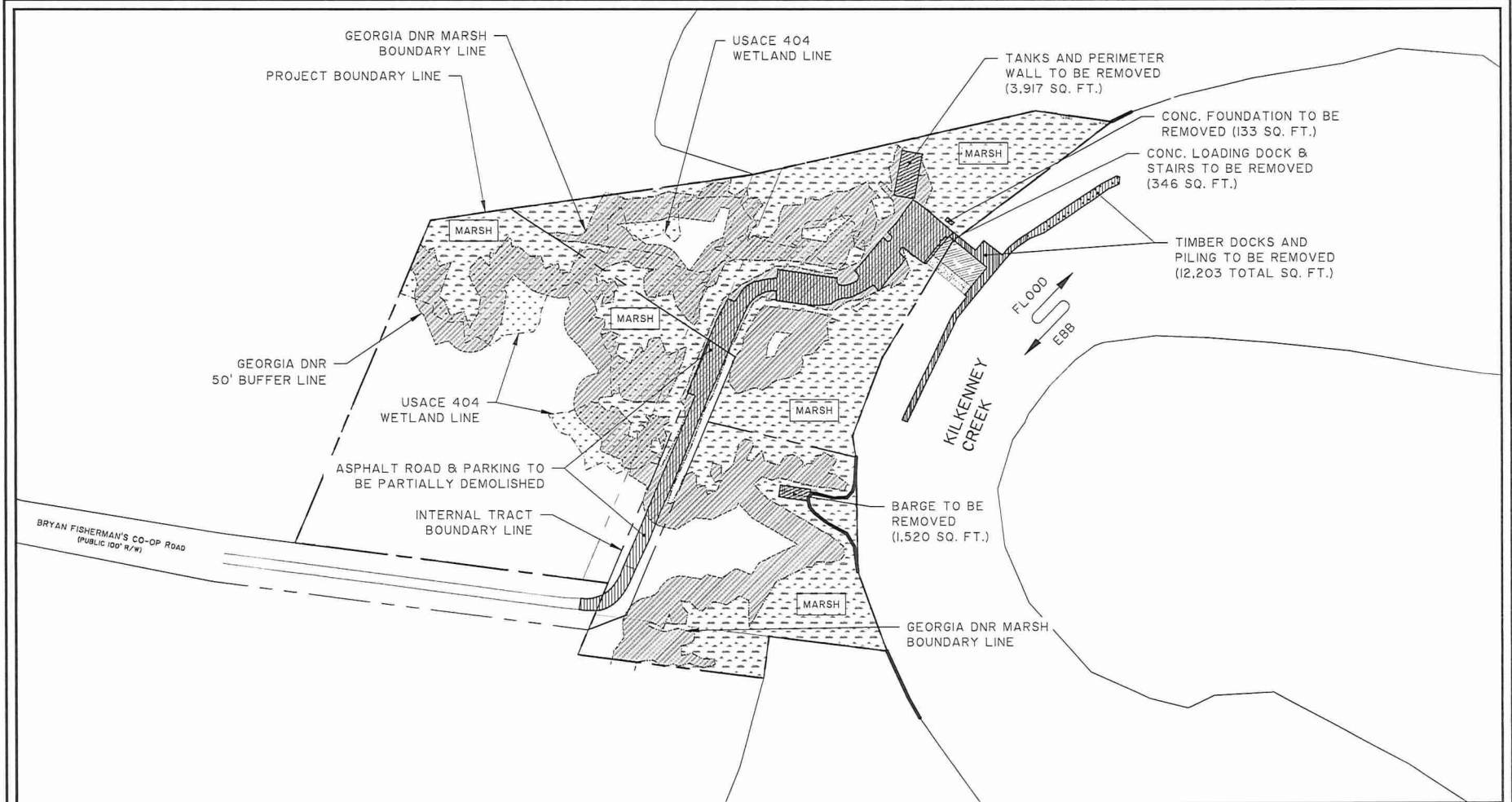
FISHERMANS CO-OP RECREATION AREA

SHEET:
PROJECT IMPACTS
CLIENT:
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF BRYAN COUNTY
LOCATION: BRYAN COUNTY, GA
DATE: 12/12/22
JOB NUMBER: J-27691.0074
DRAWN BY: RAS
REVIEWED BY: JAH
SHEET: 2
SCALE: NTS

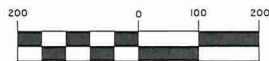


50 Park of Commerce Way
Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300

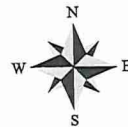
www.thomasandhutton.com



GRAPHIC SCALE



(IN FEET)
1 inch = 200 ft.



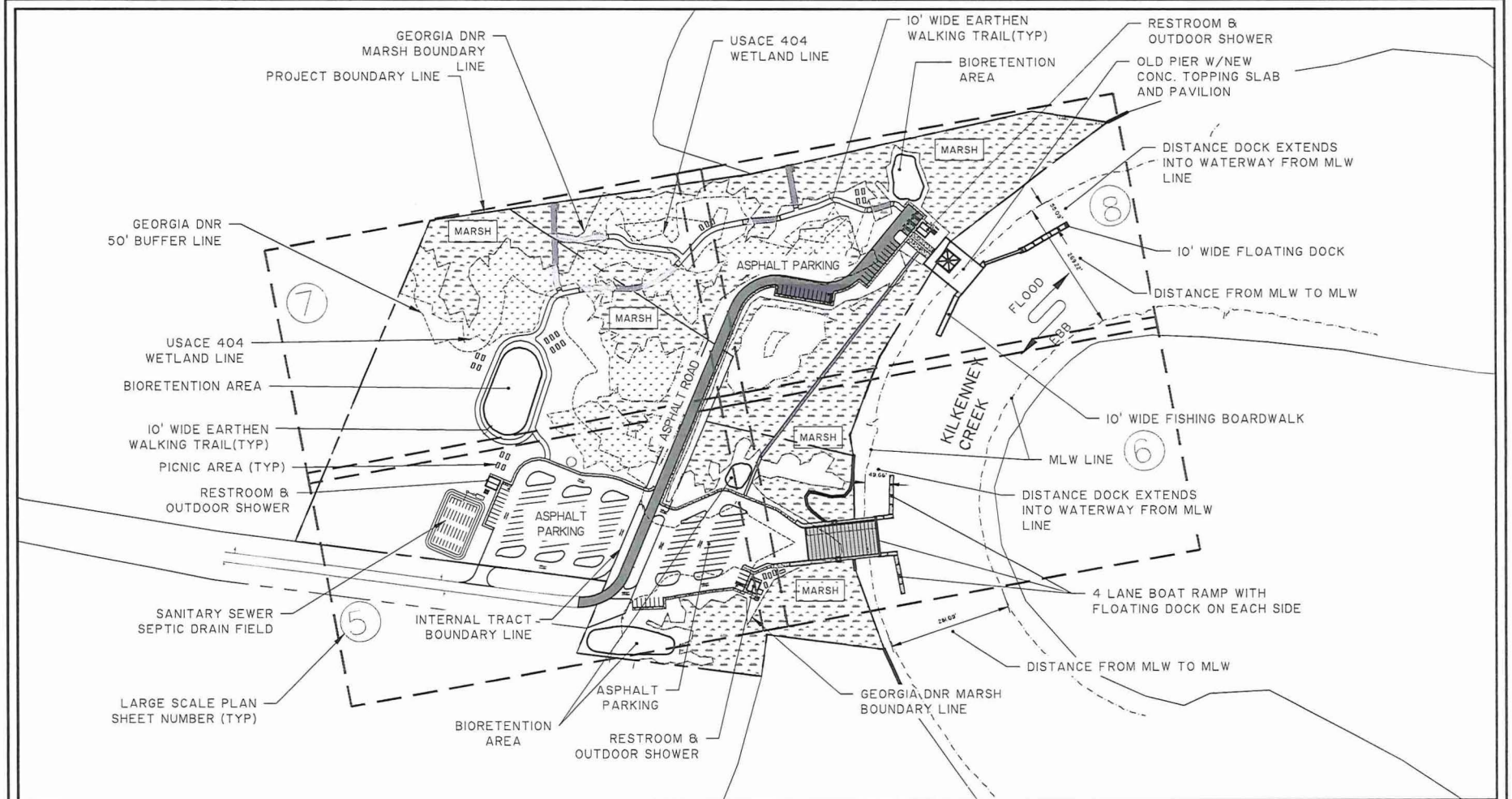
FISHERMANS CO-OP RECREATION AREA

SHEET:
EXISTING CONDITIONS AND DEMOLITION
CLIENT:
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF BRYAN COUNTY
LOCATION: BRYAN COUNTY, GA
DATE: 12/12/22
JOB NUMBER: J-27691.0074
DRAWN BY: RAS
REVIEWED BY: JAH
SHEET: 3
SCALE: 1" = 200'



50 Park of Commerce Way
Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300

www.thomasandhutton.com



GRAPHIC SCALE



(IN FEET)
1 inch = 200 ft.



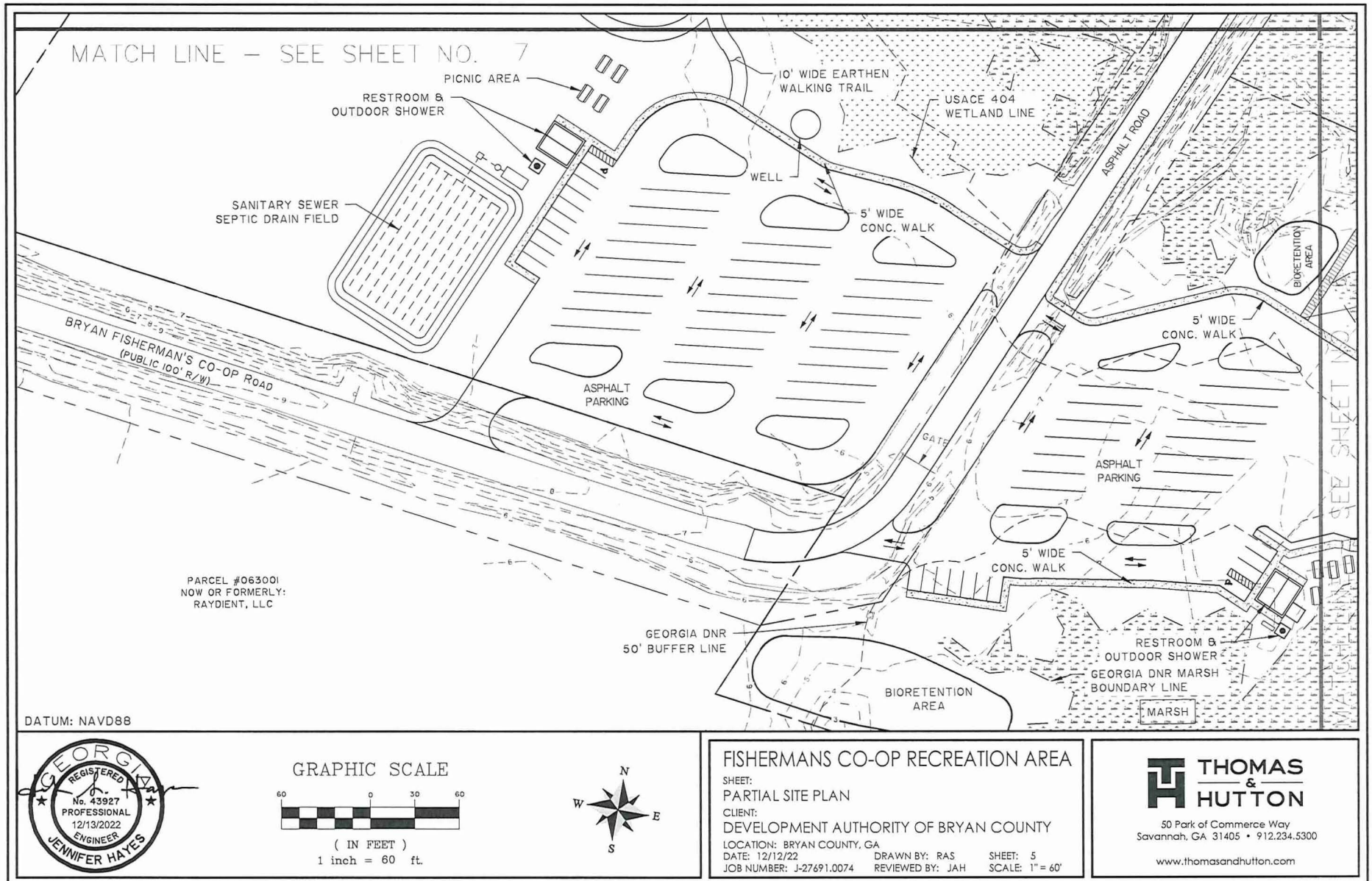
FISHERMANS CO-OP RECREATION AREA

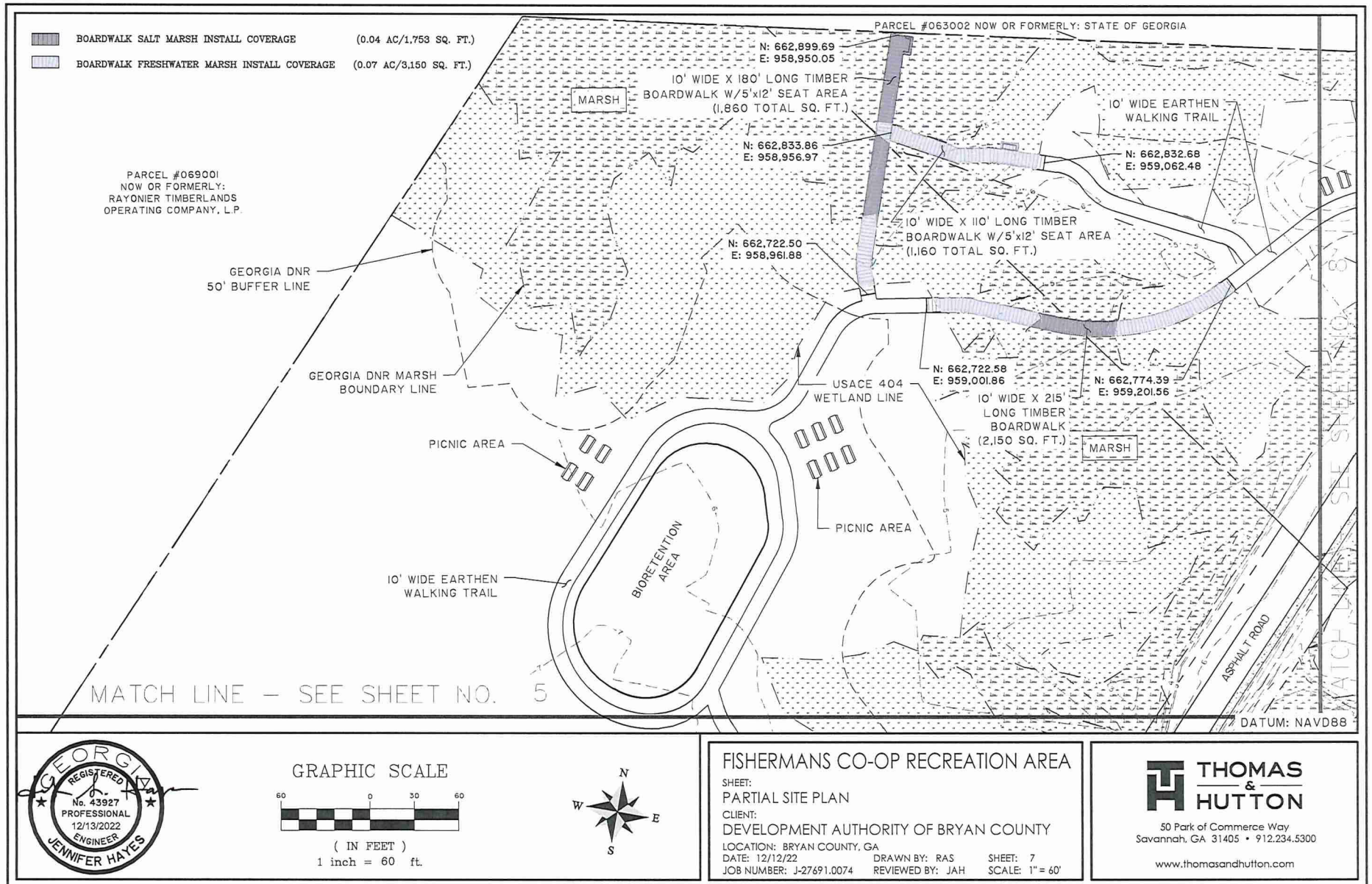
SHEET:
OVERALL PLAN
CLIENT:
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF BRYAN COUNTY
LOCATION: BRYAN COUNTY, GA
DATE: 12/12/22
JOB NUMBER: J-27691.0074
DRAWN BY: RAS
REVIEWED BY: JAH
SHEET: 4
SCALE: 1" = 200'

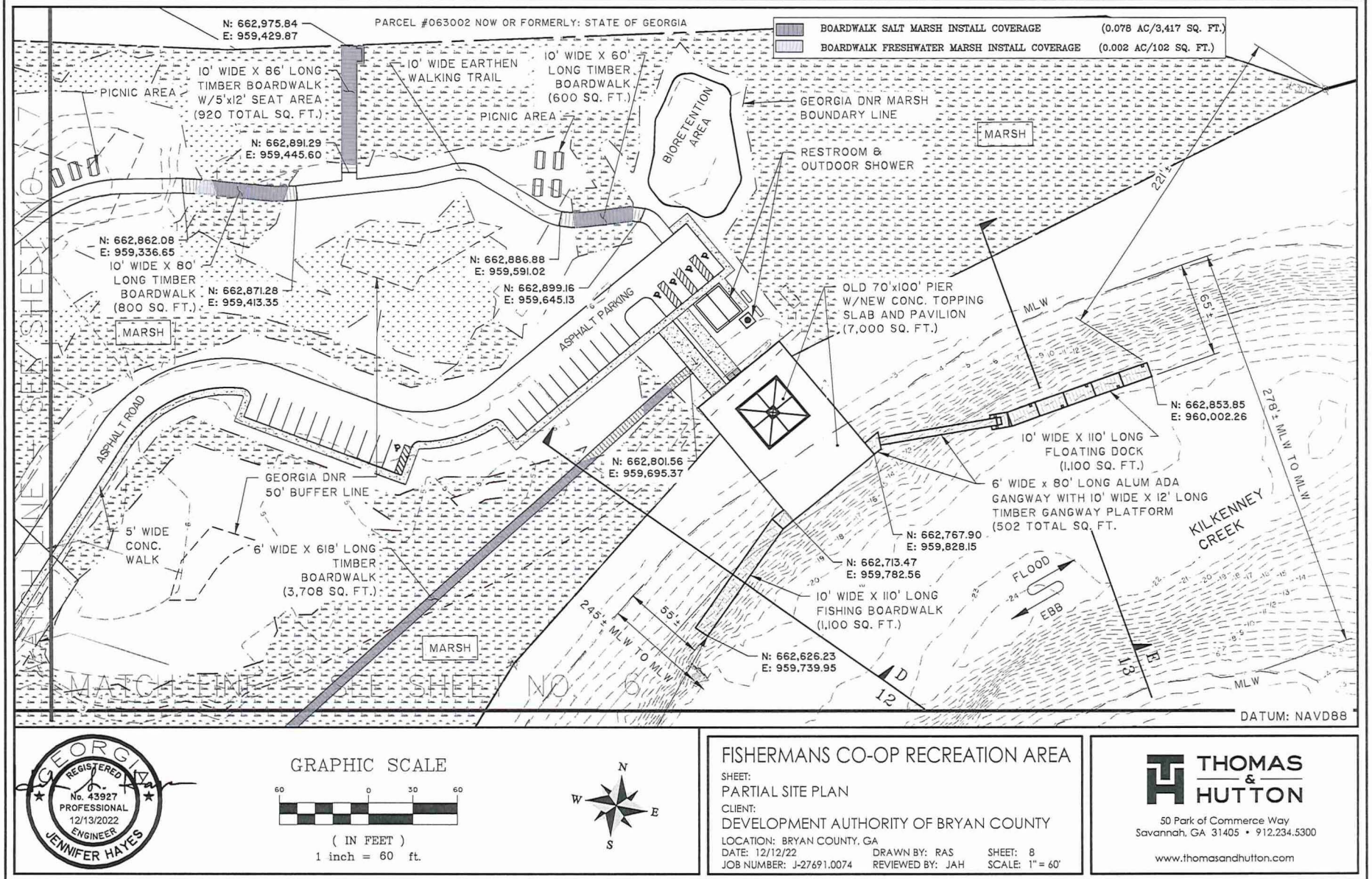


50 Park of Commerce Way
Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300

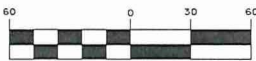
www.thomasandhutton.com



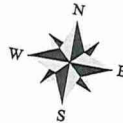




GRAPHIC SCALE



(IN FEET)
1 inch = 60 ft.



FISHERMANS CO-OP RECREATION AREA

SHEET:

PARTIAL SITE PLAN

CLIENT:

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF BRYAN COUNTY

LOCATION: BRYAN COUNTY, GA

DATE: 12/12/22

JOB NUMBER: J-27691.0074

DRAWN BY: RAS

REVIEWED BY: JAH

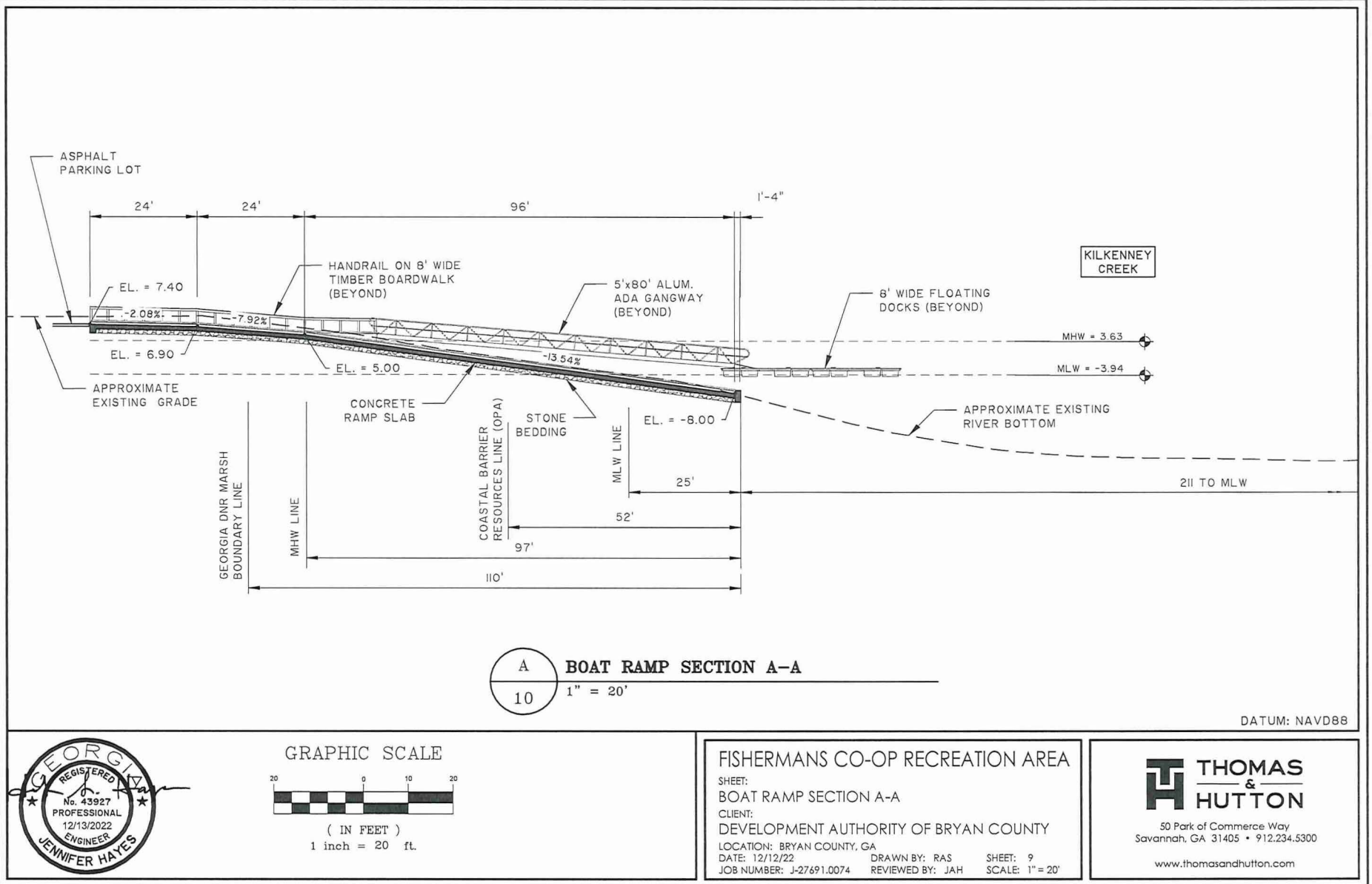
SHEET: 8

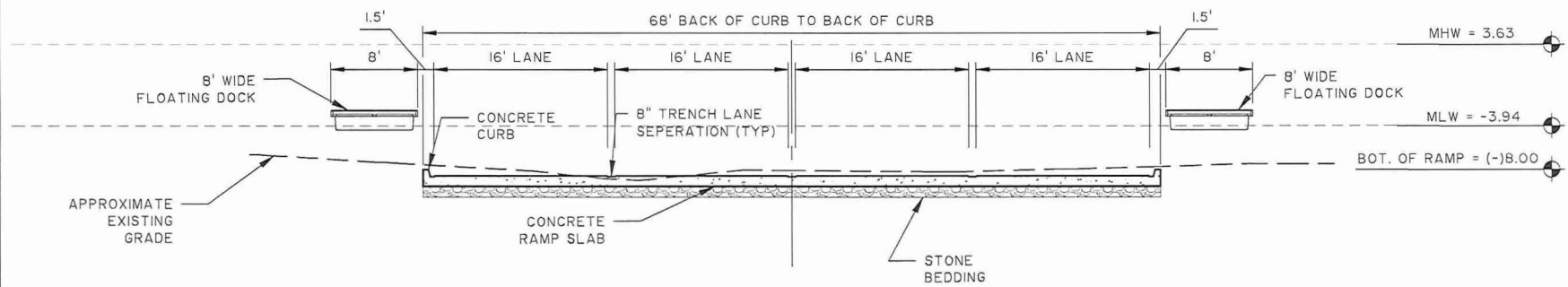
SCALE: 1" = 60'



50 Park of Commerce Way
Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300

www.thomasandhutton.com





C
10

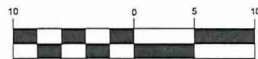
BOAT RAMP SECTION C-C

1" = 10'

DATUM: NGVD88



GRAPHIC SCALE



(IN FEET)
1 inch = 10 ft.

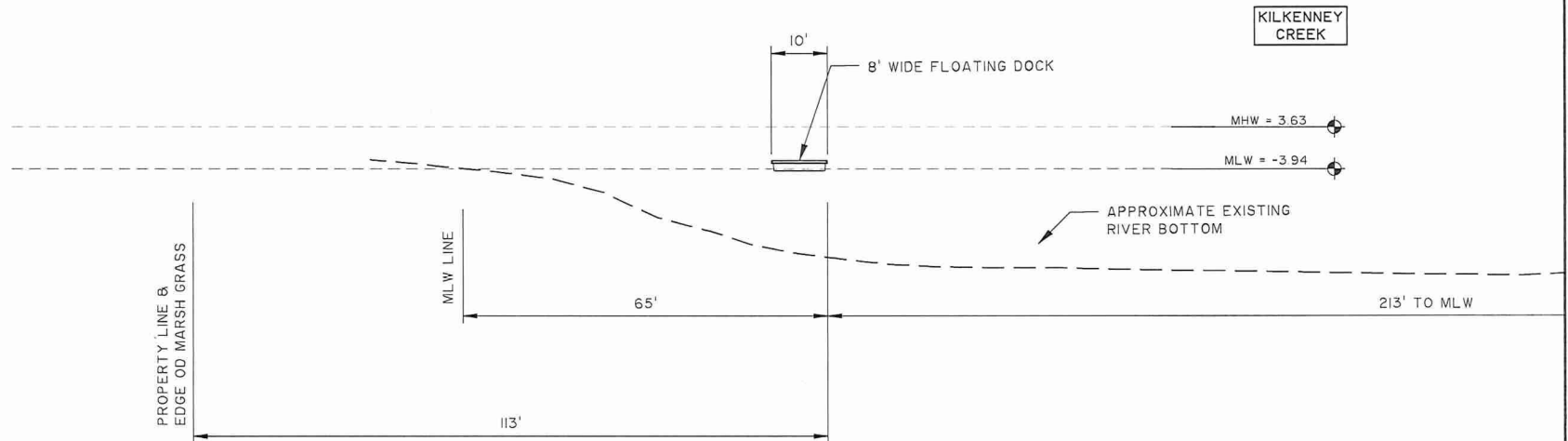
FISHERMANS CO-OP RECREATION AREA

SHEET:
BOAT RAMP SECTION C-C
CLIENT:
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF BRYAN COUNTY
LOCATION: BRYAN COUNTY, GA
DATE: 12/12/22 DRAWN BY: RAS SHEET: 11
JOB NUMBER: J-27691.0074 REVIEWED BY: JAH SCALE: 1" = 10'

THOMAS & HUTTON

50 Park of Commerce Way
Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300

www.thomasandhutton.com



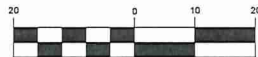
E
10

FLOATING DOCK SECTION E-E
 1" = 20'

DATUM: NAVD88



GRAPHIC SCALE



(IN FEET)
1 inch = 20 ft.

FISHERMANS CO-OP RECREATION AREA

SHEET:

13 FLOATING DOCK SECTION E-E

CLIENT:

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF BRYAN COUNTY

LOCATION: BRYAN COUNTY, GA

DATE: 12/12/22

DRAWN BY: RAS

SHEET: 13

JOB NUMBER: J-27691.0074

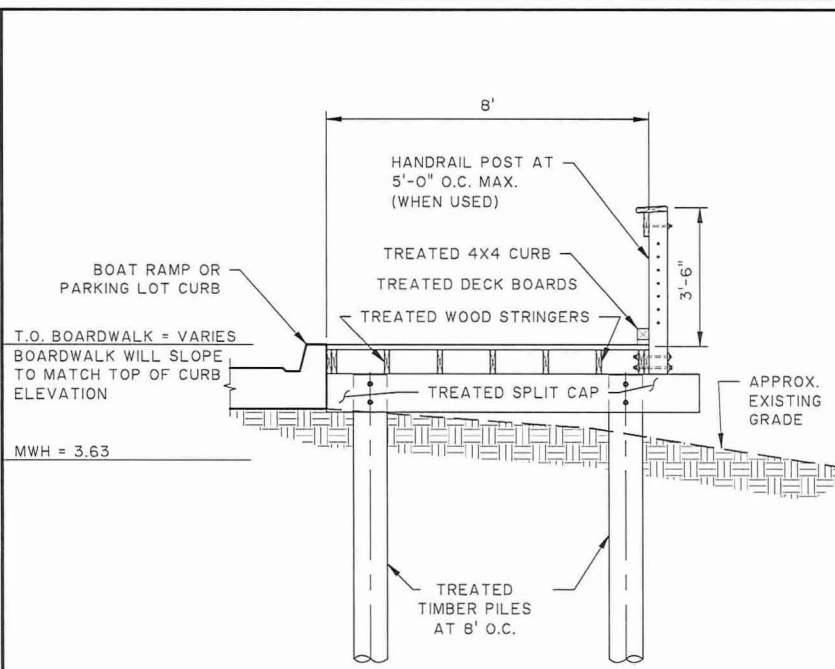
REVIEWED BY: JAH

SCALE: 1" = 20'

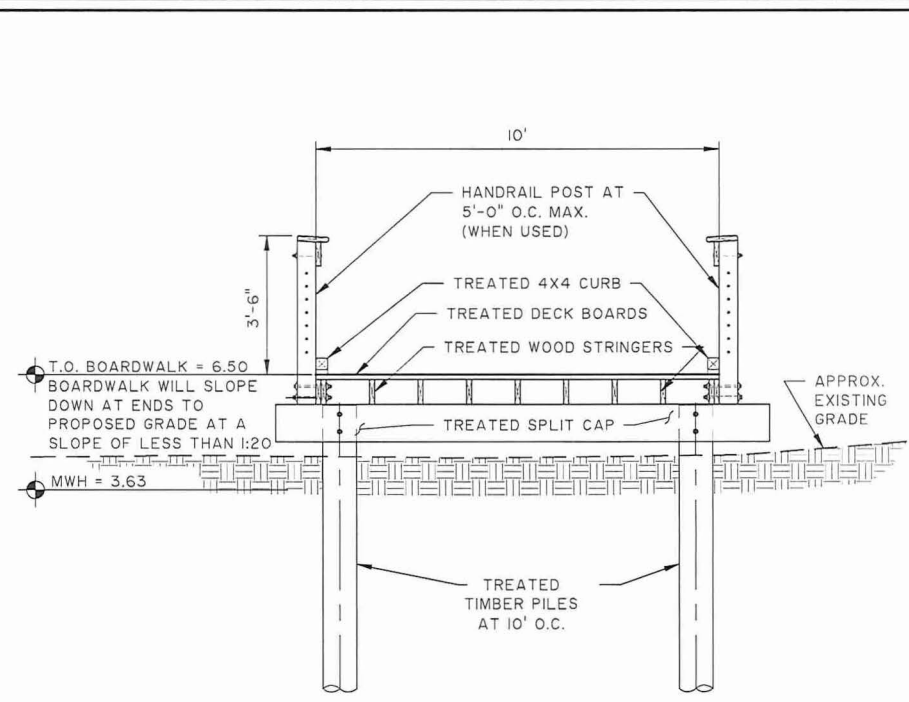
**THOMAS
&
HUTTON**

50 Park of Commerce Way
Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300

www.thomasandhutton.com

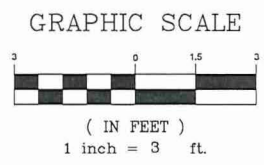


1
10
TYPICAL BOARDWALK SECTION AT BOAT RAMP
1" = 3'



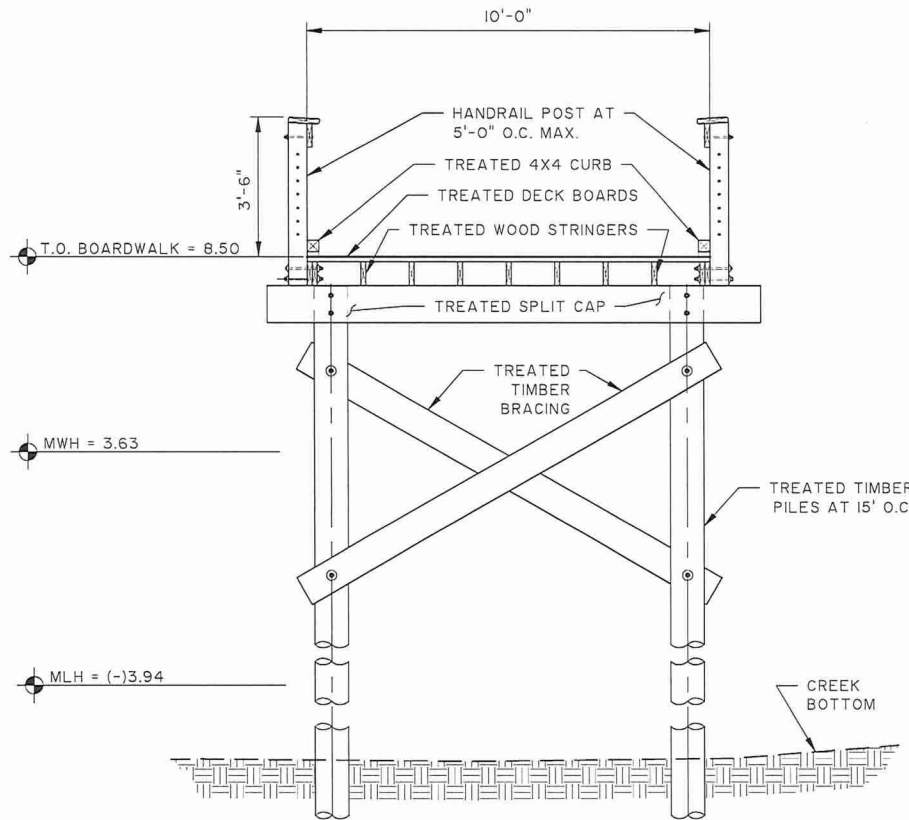
2
10
TYPICAL BOARDWALK SECTION AT MARSH WALK
1" = 3'

DATUM: NAVD88

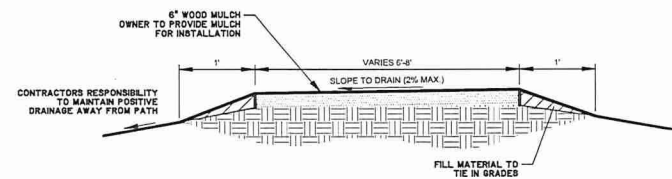


FISHERMANS CO-OP RECREATION AREA
SHEET:
TYPICAL BOARDWALK SECTION
CLIENT:
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF BRYAN COUNTY
LOCATION: BRYAN COUNTY, GA
DATE: 12/12/22
JOB NUMBER: J-27691.0074
DRAWN BY: RAS
REVIEWED BY: JAH
SHEET: 14
SCALE: 1" = 3'

THOMAS & HUTTON
50 Park of Commerce Way
Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300
www.thomasandhutton.com



3
11
TYPICAL FISHING BOARDWALK SECTION
1" = 3'

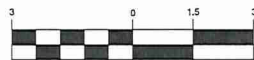


4
11
TYPICAL EARTHEN TRAIL
1" = 3'

DATUM: NAVD88



GRAPHIC SCALE



(IN FEET)
1 inch = 3 ft.

FISHERMANS CO-OP RECREATION AREA

SHEET:
TYPICAL SECTIONS
CLIENT:
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF BRYAN COUNTY
LOCATION: BRYAN COUNTY, GA
DATE: 12/12/22 DRAWN BY: RAS SHEET: 15
JOB NUMBER: J-27691.0074 REVIEWED BY: JAH SCALE: 1" = 3'

THOMAS & HUTTON

50 Park of Commerce Way
Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300

www.thomasandhutton.com

