



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

May 24, 2019

Regulatory Division  
SAS-2006-01175

**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)

Application Number: SAS-2006-01175

Applicant: Thunderbolt Marine, Inc.  
Mr. Wayne Varner  
3124 River Drive  
Savannah, Georgia 31404

Agent: Sligh Environmental Consultants, Inc.  
Attention: Jeffrey P. Williams  
31 Park of Commerce Way, Suite 200B  
Savannah, Georgia 31405

Location of Proposed Work: The project site is located in the Thunderbolt Marina basin, on the south side of the Wilmington River, in the Town of Thunderbolt, Chatham County, Georgia (Latitude 32.0240° north and Longitude -81.0475° west).

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the US Army Corps of Engineers: Thunderbolt Marine, Inc. (TMI) has requested Department of the Army authorization to conduct maintenance dredging within the TMI basin. Specifically, TMI would dredge approximately 62,145 cubic yards of accumulated sediment from the basin the first year, and 25,000 cubic yards of sediment the following four years. The marina is approximately 750' long and 450' wide. The marina would be maintained at a depth of -18 mean low water (MLW). All dredge material would be removed via the use of an 8" hydraulic cutterhead dredge and disposed of (via pumping through a pipe) to the upland Confined Disposal Facility 9-A (CDF 9-A) which is owned by the applicant. The CDF 9-A is located across the Wilmington River from Thunderbolt Marina, in Chatham County, Georgia.

## **BACKGROUND**

The first maintenance dredging permit for TMI's boat basin was issued on November 24, 1998, and reauthorized on April 22, 2003, (USACE Permit No. 98000197 & 20061175. These permits authorized the dredging of 100,000 cubic yards of sand, silt and clay sediment via a hydraulic cutterhead dredge to return basin to the original project depth of -18.0' MLW. The permit also authorized the maintenance dredging of approximately 25,000 cubic yards of material annually. The above permits expired in 2008. An additional maintenance dredging permit was obtained on February 25, 2009, and was extended on September 26, 2014, for an additional five years which expired on March 31, 2019. The most recent permit and the subsequent extension authorized an annual maintenance hydraulic dredge of 25,000 cubic yards.

The applicant sampled and tested the sediments to be dredged on July 15, 2014, and the data did not suggest that dredge discharges would contribute to degradation of water quality within the Wilmington River. A Tier II Sediment Sampling Analysis Report is being completed by Terracon Consultants, Inc. in accordance with the Sediment Analysis Plan which was reviewed and approved by the USACE and included analysis of sediment physical and chemical properties, settling time, and elutriate.

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 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.

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 Ecological Services 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 Engineer 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.

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 indicates the following listed species may occur in the project area: Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*), Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), North Atlantic Right Whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*), West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*), Eastern Indigo Snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*), Green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Leatherback

sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), Loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*), Red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), and 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 from the US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, or any other interested party, information 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 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.

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.

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.

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: Mr. Scott Guinn, 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 Mr. Scott Guinn, Project Manager, Coastal Office at 912-652-5048.

Enclosures:

1. Thunderbolt Marine Inc., Boat Basin Maintenance Dredging Location Exhibit, dated April 30, 2019
2. Boat Basin Maintenance Dredging, Sheets 1-9, dated April 22, 2019



Confined Upland Disposal Facility 9-A

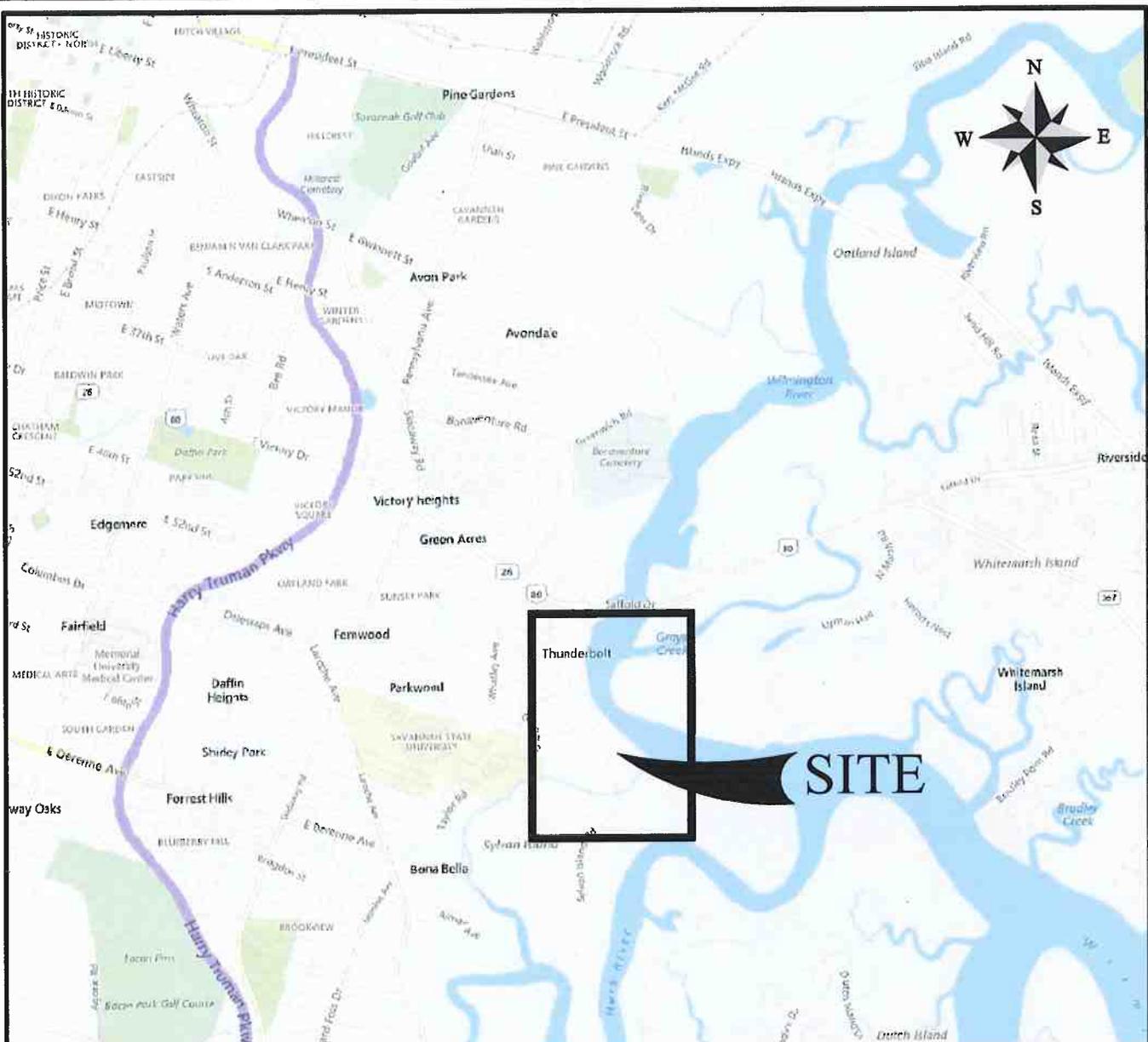
TMI - Boat Basin

**sligh**environmental consultants, inc.  
31 Park of Commerce Way, Suite 200B  
Savannah, Georgia 31405  
phone (912) 232-0451  
fax (912) 232-0453

**THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.**  
Boat Basin Maintenance Dredging  
Location Exhibit  
Chatham County, Georgia

500
 Feet
Exhibit Date: April 30, 2019
Drawn By: JPW
Reviewed By: BWW
Job Number : 01-14-012.1

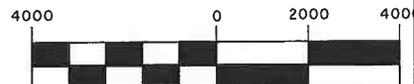
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**SITE**



GRAPHIC SCALE



( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 4000ft.

DATUM: MLLW

### BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING

SHEET NAME:  
VICINITY MAP  
APPLICANT:  
**THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.**  
LOCATION: THUNDERBOLT, GA  
DATE: 02/21/19  
JOB NUMBER: J - 26078.0000

SHEET: 1  
SCALE: 1" = 4000'



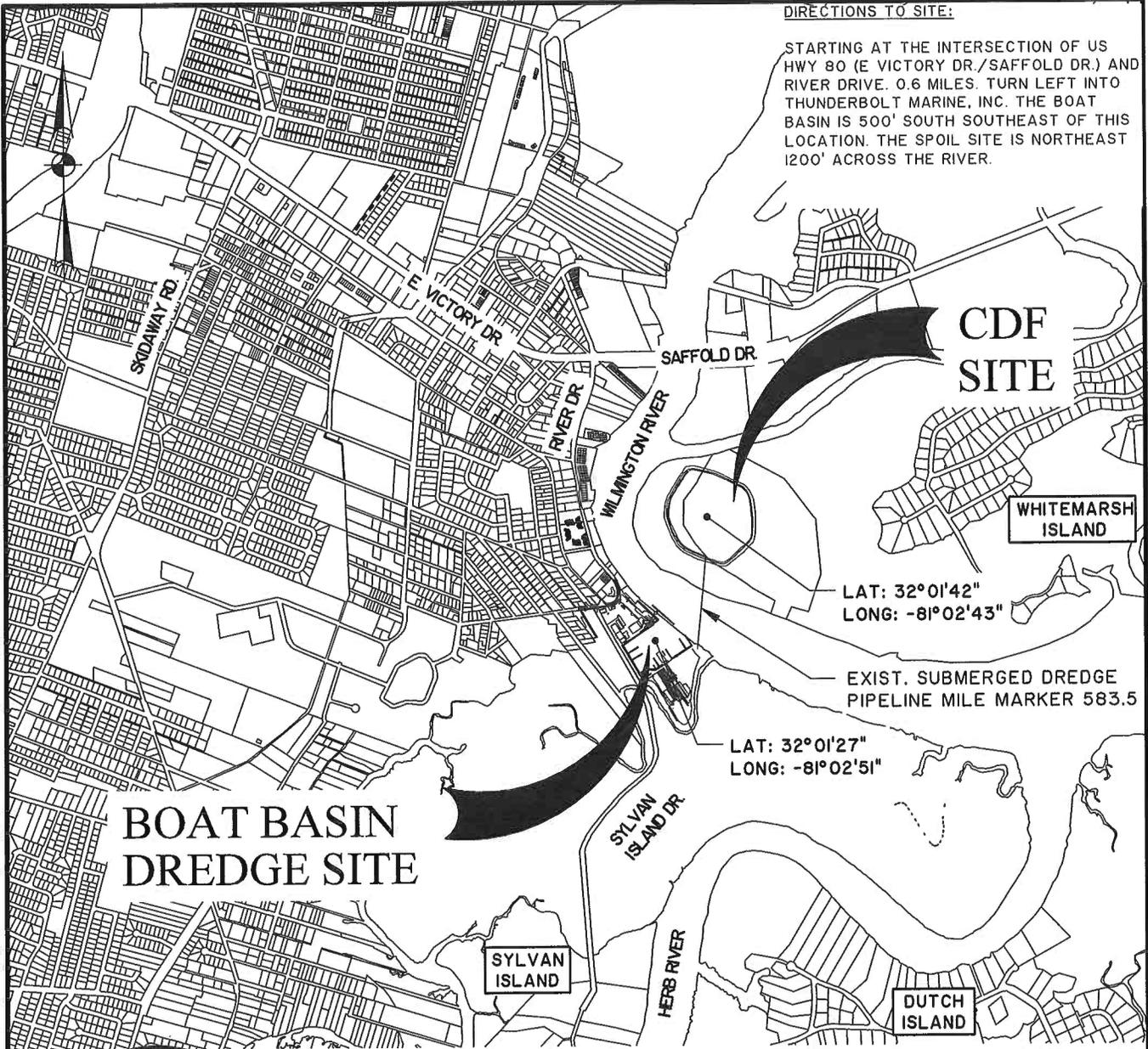
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DIRECTIONS TO SITE:

STARTING AT THE INTERSECTION OF US HWY 80 (E VICTORY DR./SAFFOLD DR.) AND RIVER DRIVE. 0.6 MILES. TURN LEFT INTO THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC. THE BOAT BASIN IS 500' SOUTH SOUTHEAST OF THIS LOCATION. THE SPOIL SITE IS NORTHEAST 1200' ACROSS THE RIVER.



**BOAT BASIN DREDGE SITE**

**CDF SITE**

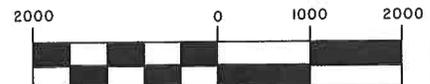
LAT: 32°01'42"  
LONG: -81°02'43"

EXIST. SUBMERGED DREDGE PIPELINE MILE MARKER 583.5

LAT: 32°01'27"  
LONG: -81°02'51"



**GRAPHIC SCALE**



( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 2000ft.

DATUM: MLLW

**BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING**

SHEET NAME:  
LOCATION MAP

APPLICANT:  
THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.

LOCATION: THUNDERBOLT, GA  
DATE: 02/21/19  
JOB NUMBER: J - 26078.0000

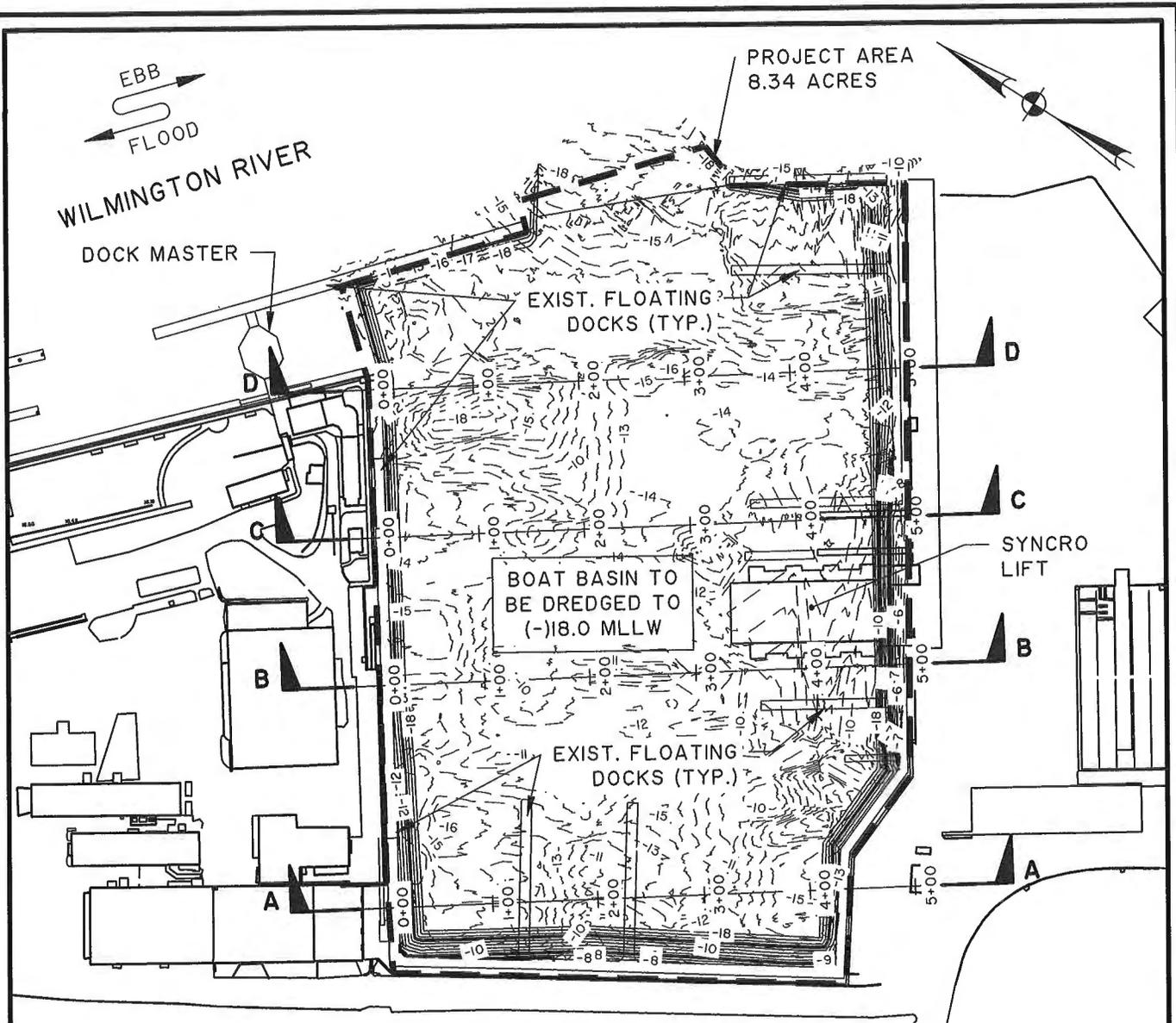
SHEET: 2  
SCALE: 1" = 2000'



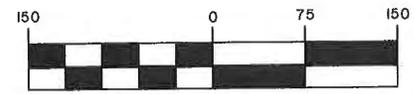
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GRAPHIC SCALE



( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 150 ft.

DATUM: MLLW

### BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING

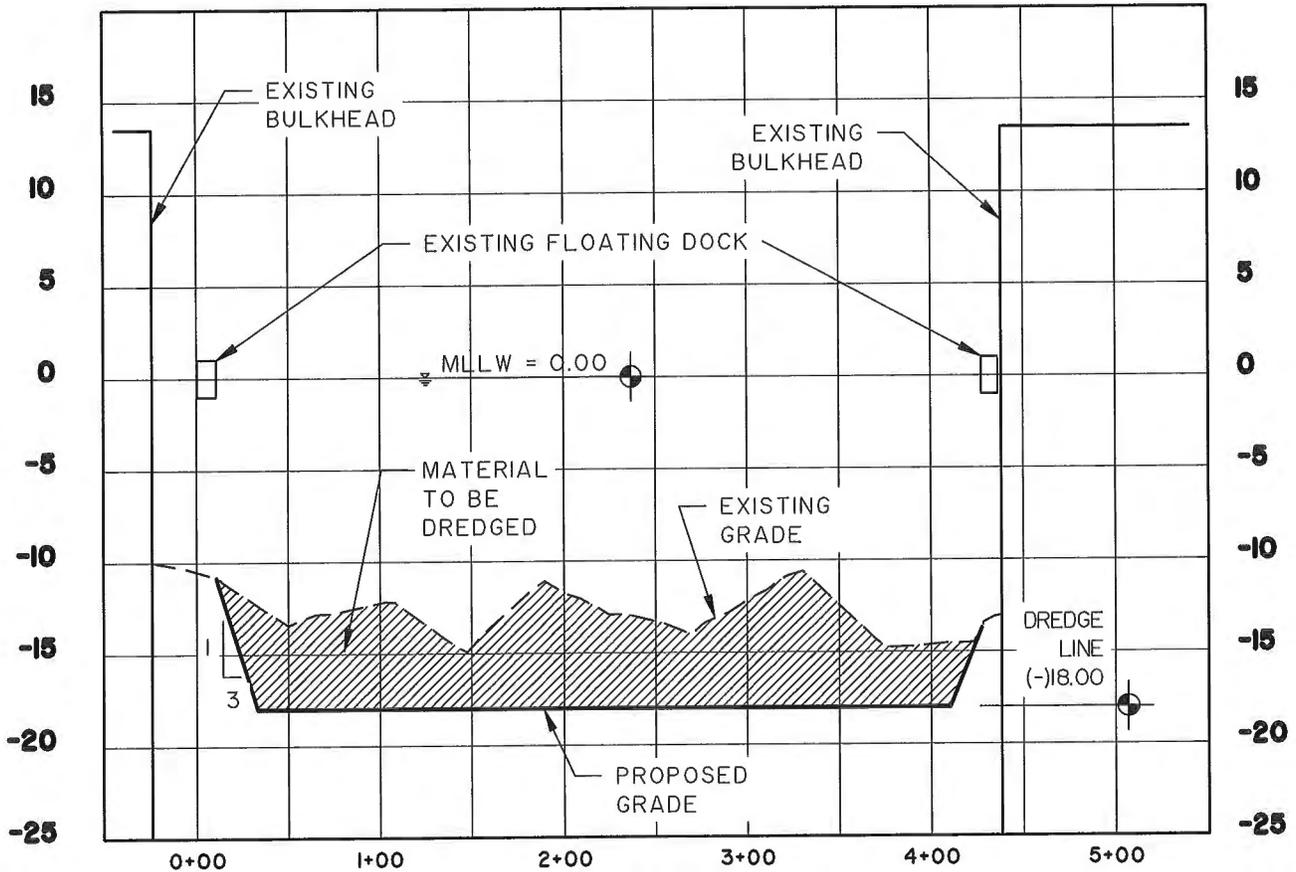
SHEET NAME:  
**SITE MAP**  
 APPLICANT:  
**THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.**  
 LOCATION: THUNDERBOLT, GA  
 DATE: 02/21/19  
 JOB NUMBER: J - 26078.0000

SHEET: 3  
 SCALE: 1" = 150'



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**SECTION AA**

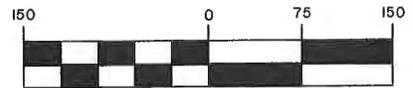
DREDGED VOLUME  
= 62,145 CY

SCALE: HORZ.: 1" = 100'  
VERT.: 1" = 10'

6+00



GRAPHIC SCALE



( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 150 ft.

DATUM: MLLW

**BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING**

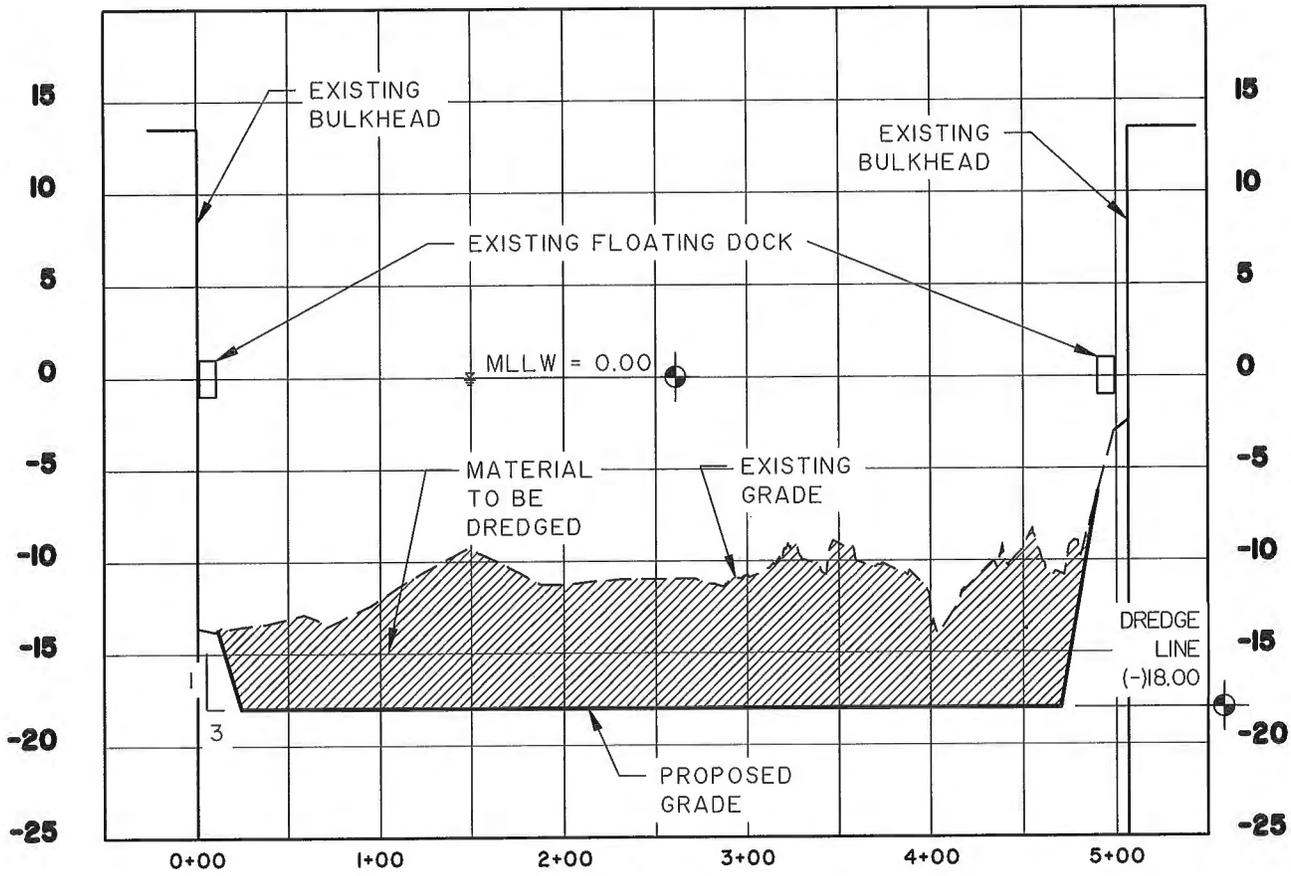
SHEET NAME:  
**SECTION AA**  
APPLICANT:  
**THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.**  
LOCATION: THUNDERBOLT, GA  
DATE: 02/21/19  
JOB NUMBER: J - 26078.0000

SHEET: 4  
SCALE: 1" = 100'



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**SECTION BB**

DREDGED VOLUME  
= 62,145 CY

SCALE: HORZ.: 1" = 100'  
VERT.: 1" = 10'



GRAPHIC SCALE



( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 150 ft.

DATUM: MLLW

**BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING**

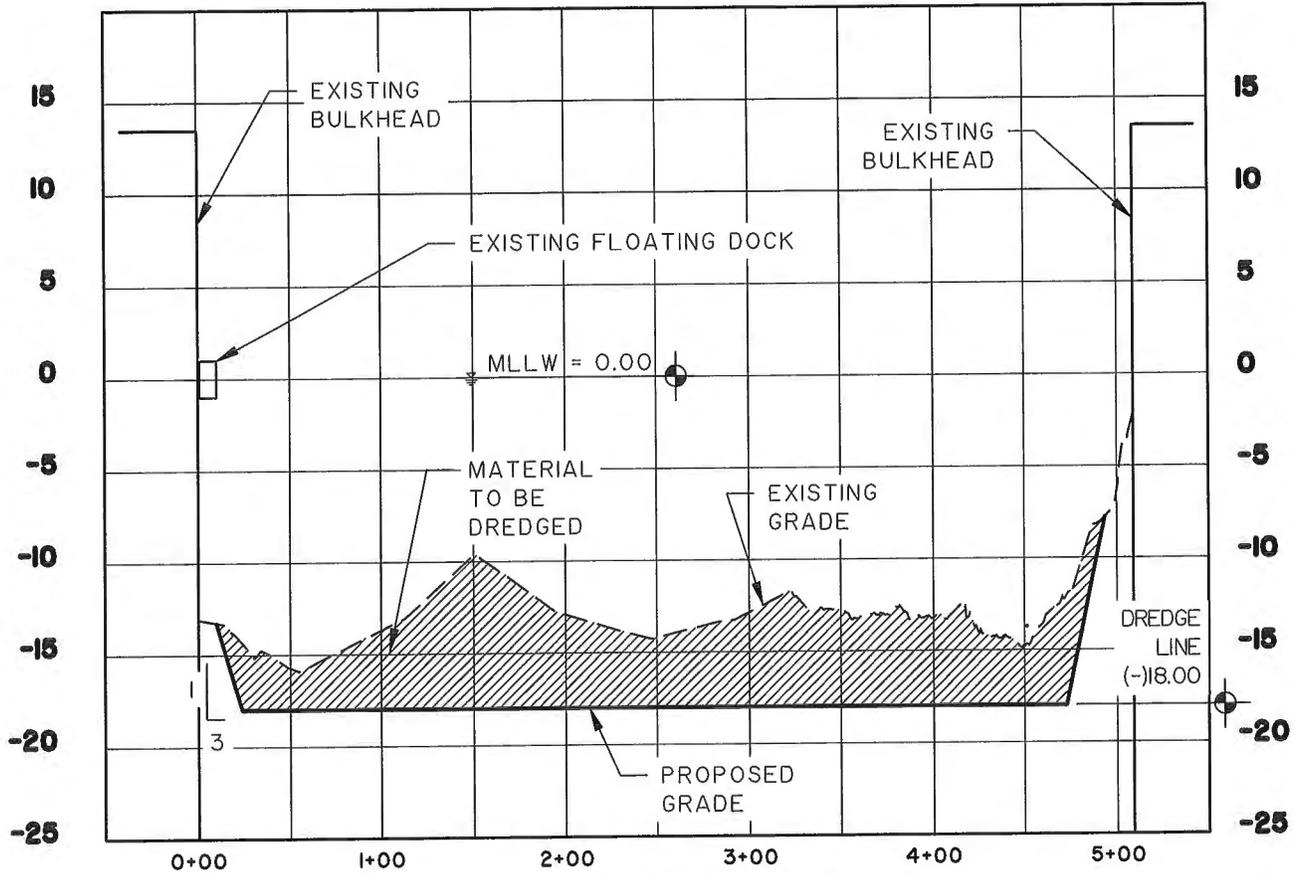
SHEET NAME:  
**SECTION BB**  
APPLICANT:  
**THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.**  
LOCATION: THUNDERBOLT, GA  
DATE: 02/21/19  
JOB NUMBER: J - 26078.0000

SHEET: 5  
SCALE: 1" = 100'



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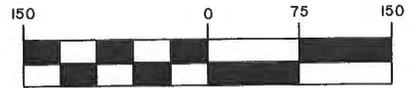
### SECTION CC

DREDGED VOLUME  
= 62,145 CY

SCALE: HORZ.: 1" = 100'  
VERT.: 1" = 10'



GRAPHIC SCALE



( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 150 ft.

DATUM: MLLW

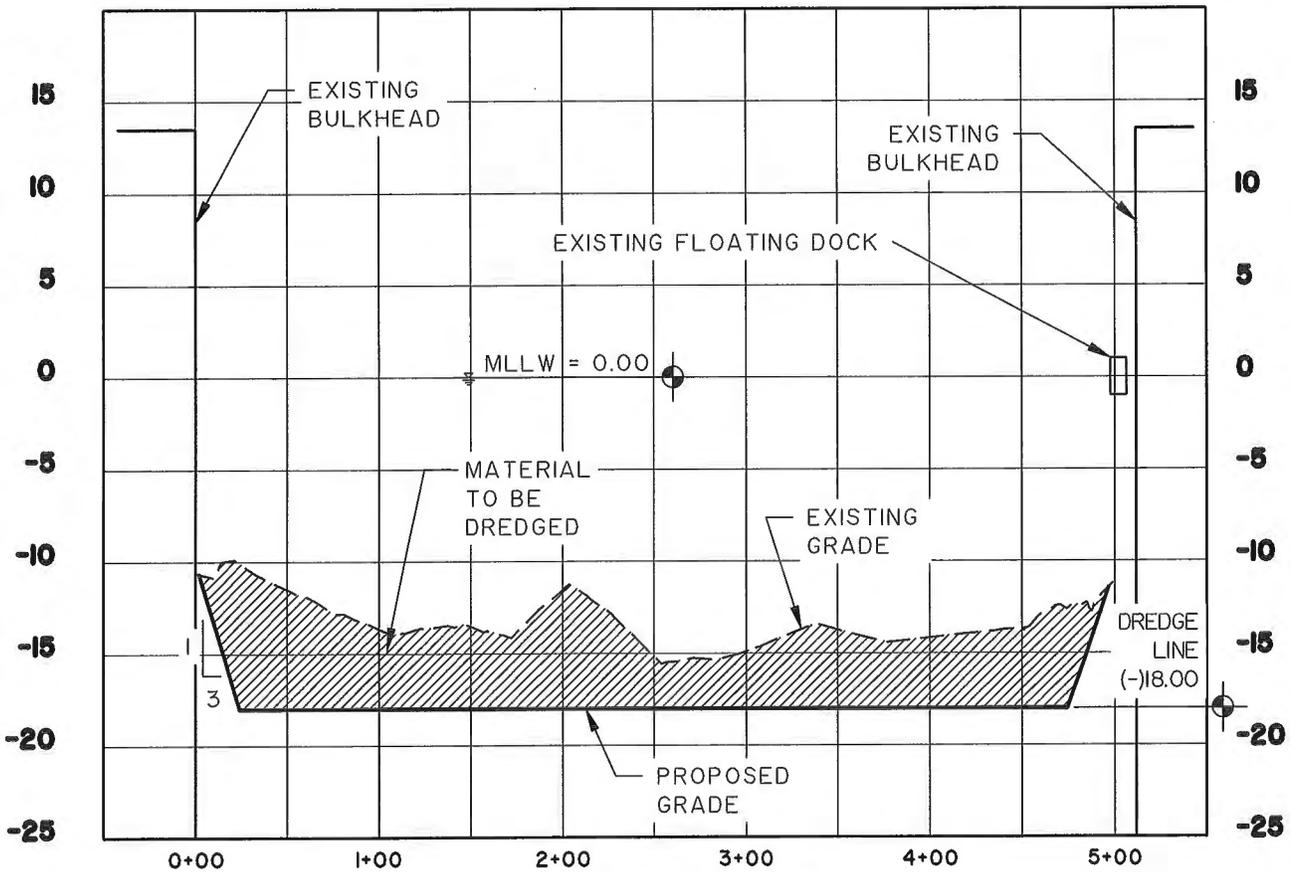
## BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING

SHEET NAME:  
SECTION CC  
APPLICANT:  
THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.  
LOCATION: THUNDERBOLT, GA  
DATE: 02/21/19  
JOB NUMBER: J - 26078.0000

SHEET: 6  
SCALE: 1" = 100'



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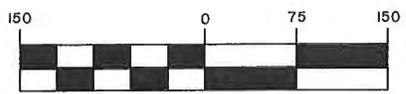
### SECTION DD

SCALE: HORZ.: 1" = 100'  
VERT.: 1" = 10'

DREDGED VOLUME  
= 62,145 CY



### GRAPHIC SCALE



(. IN FEET )  
1 inch = 150 ft.

DATUM: MLLW

## BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING

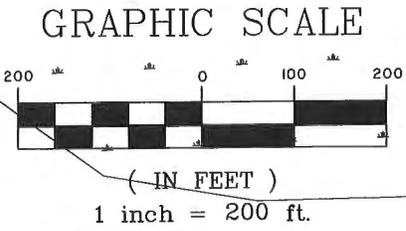
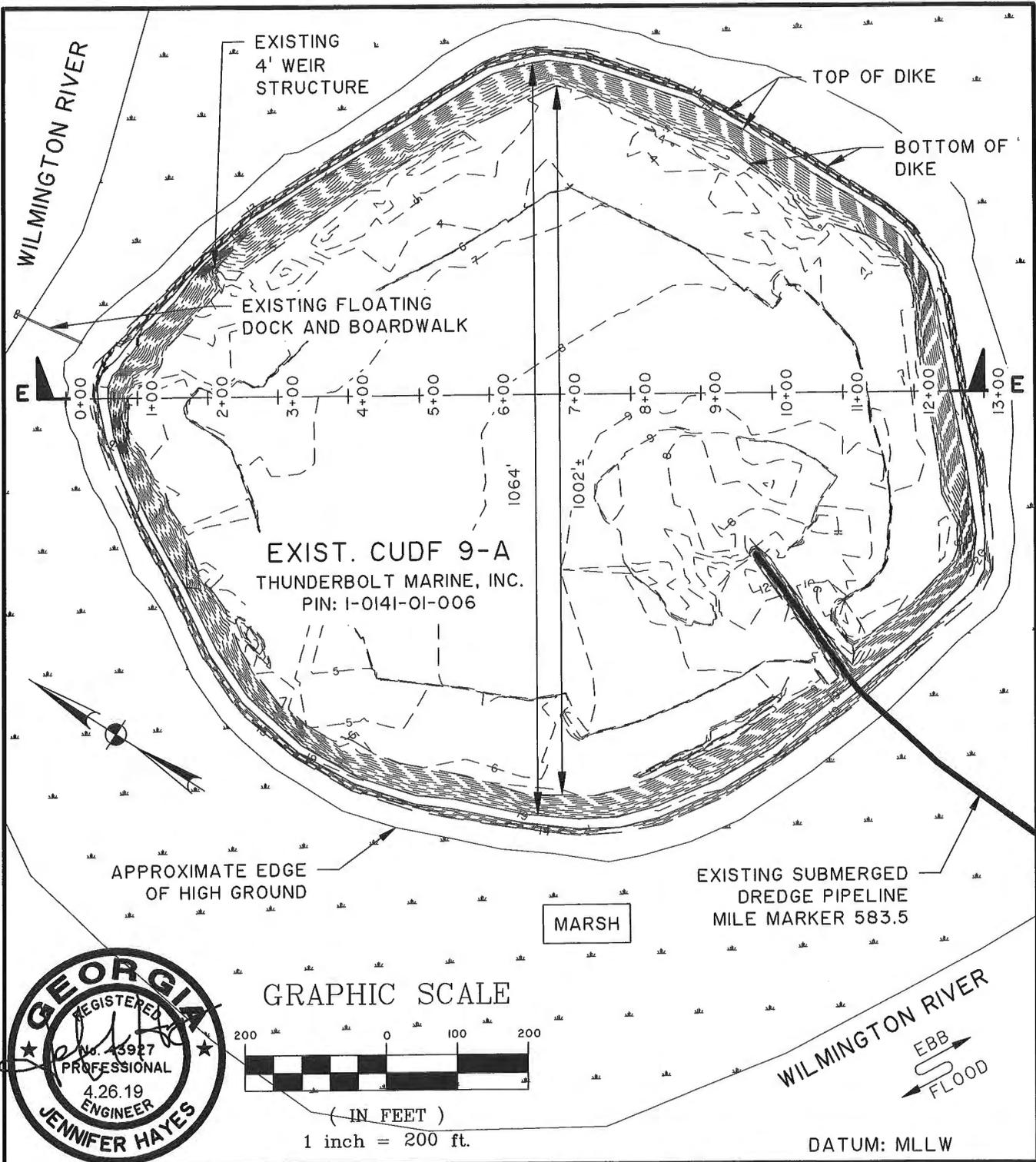
SHEET NAME:  
SECTION DD  
APPLICANT:  
THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.  
LOCATION: THUNDERBOLT, GA  
DATE: 02/21/19  
JOB NUMBER: J - 26078.0000

SHEET: 7  
SCALE: 1" = 100'



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**BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING**

SHEET NAME:  
**CUDF SITE MAP**

APPLICANT:  
**THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.**

LOCATION: THUNDERBOLT, GA  
 DATE: 04/22/19  
 JOB NUMBER: J - 26078.0000

SHEET: 8  
 SCALE: 1" = 200'

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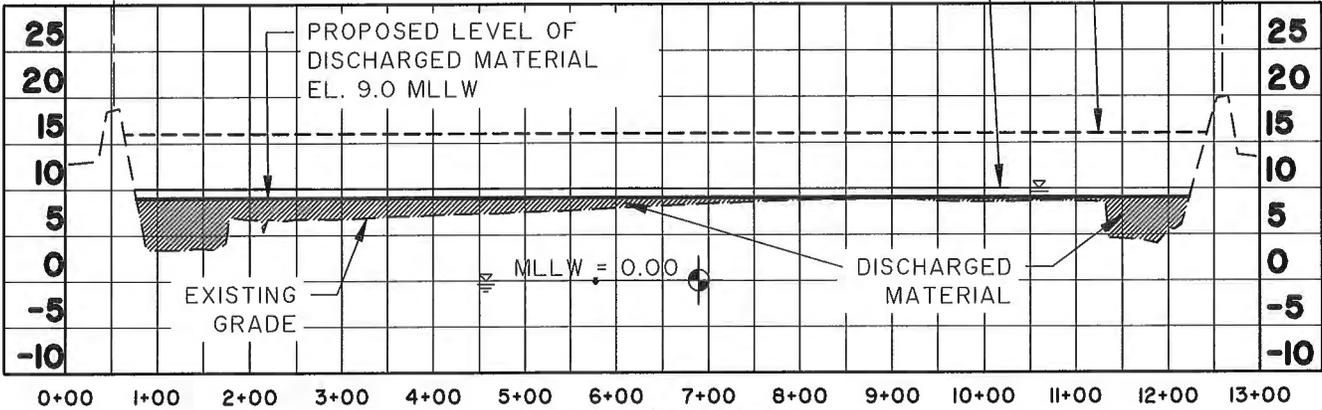
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MAXIMUM LEVEL OF DISCHARGED MATERIAL BASED ON 2' FREEBOARD FROM LOWEST POINT ON DIKE EL. 16.0 MLLW (TOTAL CAPACITY 293,800 CY.

APPROXIMATE WATER LEVEL DURING DREDGING OPERATIONS EL. 10.0 MLLW

CENTERLINE OF DIKE

CENTERLINE OF DIKE



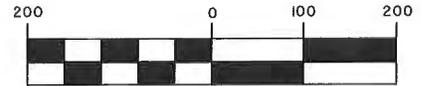
### SECTION EE

SCALE: HORZ.: 1" = 200'  
VERT.: 1" = 20'

DREDGED VOLUME = 62,145 CY  
CUDF TOTAL CAPACITY WITHOUT FREEBOARD = 362,700 CY



### GRAPHIC SCALE



( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 200 ft.

DATUM: MLLW

## BOAT BASIN MAINTENANCE DREDGING

SHEET NAME:  
CUDF 9-A SECTION EE  
APPLICANT:  
THUNDERBOLT MARINE, INC.  
LOCATION: THUNDERBOLT, GA  
DATE: 04/22/19  
JOB NUMBER: J - 26078.0000

SHEET: 9  
SCALE: 1" = 200'



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