

JOINT
PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1949 INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD, ROOM 140
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA 29526

and

THE S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400
Charleston, South Carolina 29405

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N SAC-2017-01470

DATE January 26, 2018

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et.seq.), an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

Town of Briarcliffe Acres / Huston Huffman
c/o The Brigman Company
PO Box 1532
Conway, South Carolina 29528

for a permit to reestablishment of a previous channel location for White Point Swash and dune restoration in tidal waters adjacent to the

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Located at the terminus of Ocean Creek Drive, North Myrtle Beach, Horry County, South Carolina (Latitude: 33.7885 °N, Longitude: -78.7387 °W), **Wampee Quad**.

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by the **Corps** and SCDHEC until

30 Days from the Date of this Notice

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed work consists of relocating White Point Swash, restoring a natural dune, and improving flushing of an adjacent tidal estuary. In detail, the Town of Briarcliffe Acres is proposing to re-align White Point Swash to its natural location. The swash has recently migrated south from

its previous location and is threatening an existing beach cabana that provides the Town of Briarcliffe Acres access to the ocean. The primary re-alignment selection criterion is based on a review of historic aerial imagery which depicts the position of the swash relatively unchanged for two decades. However, according to the applicant, White Point Swash began an abnormal migration south during the spring of 2017 and has continued to progress in a southwesterly direction resulting in the loss of approximately 2.3 acres of critical sand dune. The proposed activities include excavation 2.04 acres of channel and the dredging / scraping of 1.74 acres of previously deposited siltation to relocate the swash to its historical location. The material removed during swash relocation will be deposited northwest of the newly established channel to restore approximately 2.64 acres of dune recently impacted by the swash migration. Additionally, these activities will restore the functions within the upstream estuary that have been diminished due to limited tidal flushing resulting from accumulated sediments within the swash mouth.

NOTE: Due to the dynamic nature of the continual coastal processes ongoing, the figures stated at the time of application may vary slightly during construction activities.

Specific Project Details Provided by the Applicant:

Proposed Construction Methodology:

Construction activities for this project will consist of the deposition of fill material for the re-construction of lost dunes within the current location of the migrated swash channel, dredging within the swash channel to remove accumulated sediments and excavation to re-establish the previous channel location across the beach face. These activities will be accomplished using earth moving equipment and transported with off-road dump trucks. All dredged material will be used for the re-construction of dunes and beach face. Dunes restoration will be constructed to match the existing profile of adjacent undisturbed dunes. Upon the completion of construction, dunes will be stabilized with native vegetation. The newly constructed channel will be graded to match depths from the upstream Ocean Creek Plantation bridge tapering to the confluence with the ocean. In order to maintain navigability of White Point Swash, the applicant will establish the new channel prior to filling the existing migrated channel.

Proposed Wetland Impacts:

The proposed impacts will result in fill associated with the dune restoration and excavation/dredging for the channel re-location and removal of sediments within the swash. Specifically, impacts associated with the dune restoration (see figure 4) consist of fill within 2.64 acres of the current location of the swash mouth. Re-location of the swash channel to its previous location will result in 2.04 acres of excavation below the high tide line along the beach front (see figure 5). In addition, the applicant proposes to dredge 1.74 acres (8,300 cubic yards) of sediment below the high tide line to restore the swash channel to original depth and contour (see figure 6).

Long Term Maintenance Activities:

Due to the potential for ongoing morphological changes of White Point Swash driven by coastal processes the applicant is proposing a long-term maintenance plan to rely on dredging within the swash mouth to maintain proper tidal flushing and re-location activities should swash migration occur. This plan will rely on routine onsite observations monitoring the infill of sediments and swash migration which will provide the applicant a proactive approach to avoid future dune erosion. In addition, the applicant is currently in discussions with Coastal Carolina University - Center for Marine and Wetland Studies to document water quality and the morphodynamics of

the swash and upstream estuary.

Upon completion of the proposed dune restoration and swash re-location, an as-built plan will be prepared to document the final grades and contour of the dune and swash to serve as a baseline for future restoration activities if necessary. Should swash migration occur, the applicant will notify USACE and OCRM prior to commencing the necessary activities to avoid dune erosion and swash migration.

Avoidance and Minimization:

The applicant stated: Avoidance to impacts to wetland resources was not practicable due to the current migration of the swash resulting in continual dune erosion and infill of the swash mouth which has caused diminished tidal flushing within the upstream estuary. The applicant through careful planning has chosen to limit impacts to only those necessary to restore the swash to its previous location and depth. Specifically the proposed impacts will restore the swash to the previous location of the swash that has remained in place for the last two decades.

Proposed Mitigation:

The applicant offered no compensatory mitigation for the proposed impacts and stated proposed project would result in an uplift to the functions and values of aquatic resources.

Project Purpose:

The project purpose as stated by the applicant is to relocate White Point Swash to its historic location along the beach front which will restore and alleviate substantial dune erosion in addition to restoring vital tidal flushing of an adjacent tidal estuary.

NOTE: This public notice and associated plans are available on the Corps' website at:
<http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices> .

The District Engineer has concluded that the discharges associated with this project, both direct and indirect, should be reviewed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in accordance with provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. As such, this notice constitutes a request, on behalf of the applicant, for certification that this project will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The work shown on this application must also be certified as consistent with applicable provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Program (15 CFR 930). This activity may also require evaluation for compliance with the S. C. Construction in Navigable Waters Permit Program. State review, permitting and certification is conducted by the S. C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certifications are received. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Implementation of the proposed project would impact **6.42** acres of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. The District Engineer's initial determination is that the proposed

action would not have a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The District Engineer's final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

Pursuant to the Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended), the Corps has reviewed the project area, examined all information provided by the applicant, and the District Engineer has determined that the project may affect, not likely to adversely affect any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. However, it has been determined that the project will have no effect on Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) and/or the Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*) and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request for written concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service on this determination.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), this public notice also constitutes a request to Indian Tribes to notify the District Engineer of any historic properties of religious and cultural significance to them that may be affected by the proposed undertaking.

In accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the District Engineer has consulted South Carolina ArchSite (GIS), for the presence or absence of historic properties (as defined in 36 C.F.R. 800.16)(1)(1)), and has initially determined that no historic properties are present; therefore, there will be no effect on historic properties. To ensure that other historic properties that the District Engineer is not aware of are not overlooked, this public notice also serves as a request to the State Historic Preservation Office and any other interested parties to provide any information they may have with regard to historic properties. This public notice serves as a request for concurrence within 30 days from the SHPO (and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer).

The District Engineer's final eligibility and effect determination will be based upon coordination with the SHPO and/or THPO, as appropriate and required and with full consideration given to the proposed undertaking's potential direct and indirect effects on historic properties within the Corps-identified permit area.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project 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 and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights,

the Corps cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. 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 activity. **Please submit comments in writing, identifying the project of interest by public notice number, to the following address:**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION
1949 INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD, ROOM 140
CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA 29526**

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact T. Brian Hardee, Project Manager, at (843) 365-084.



Proposed Activity: Dune restoration and Swash Re-alignment

Applicant: Town of Briarcliffe Acres

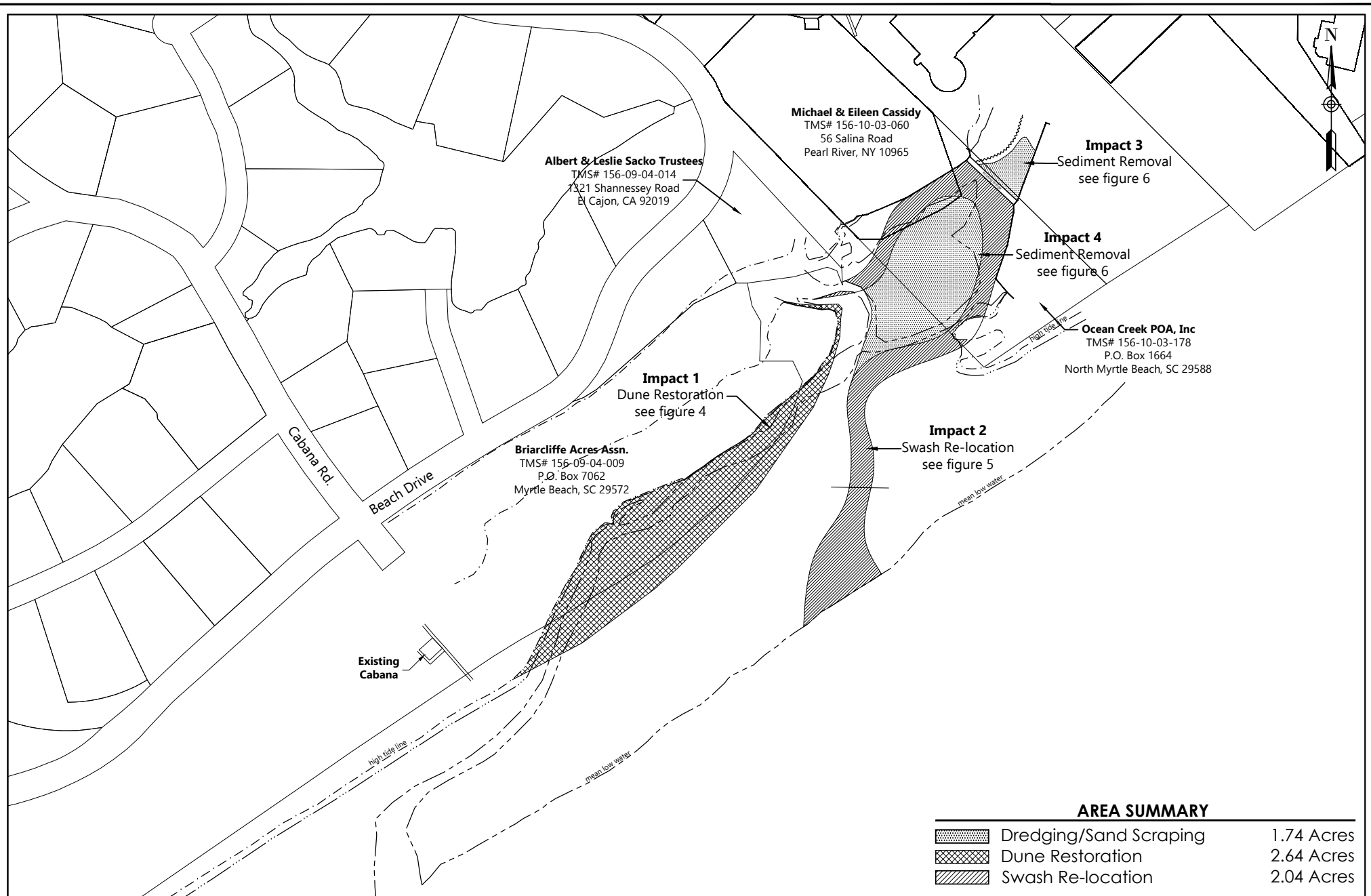
Figure 1



Proposed Activity: Dune restoration and Swash Re-alignment

Applicant: Town of Briarcliffe Acres

Figure 2



AREA SUMMARY

	Dredging/Sand Scraping	1.74 Acres
	Dune Restoration	2.64 Acres
	Swash Re-location	2.04 Acres

Overall Plan View

White Point Swash Re-Alignment
Horry County
Date: 12-8-17
Application No.

Proposed Activity: Dune restoration and Swash Re-alignment

Applicant: Town of Briarcliffe Acres

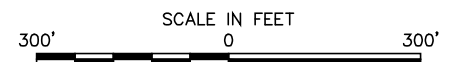
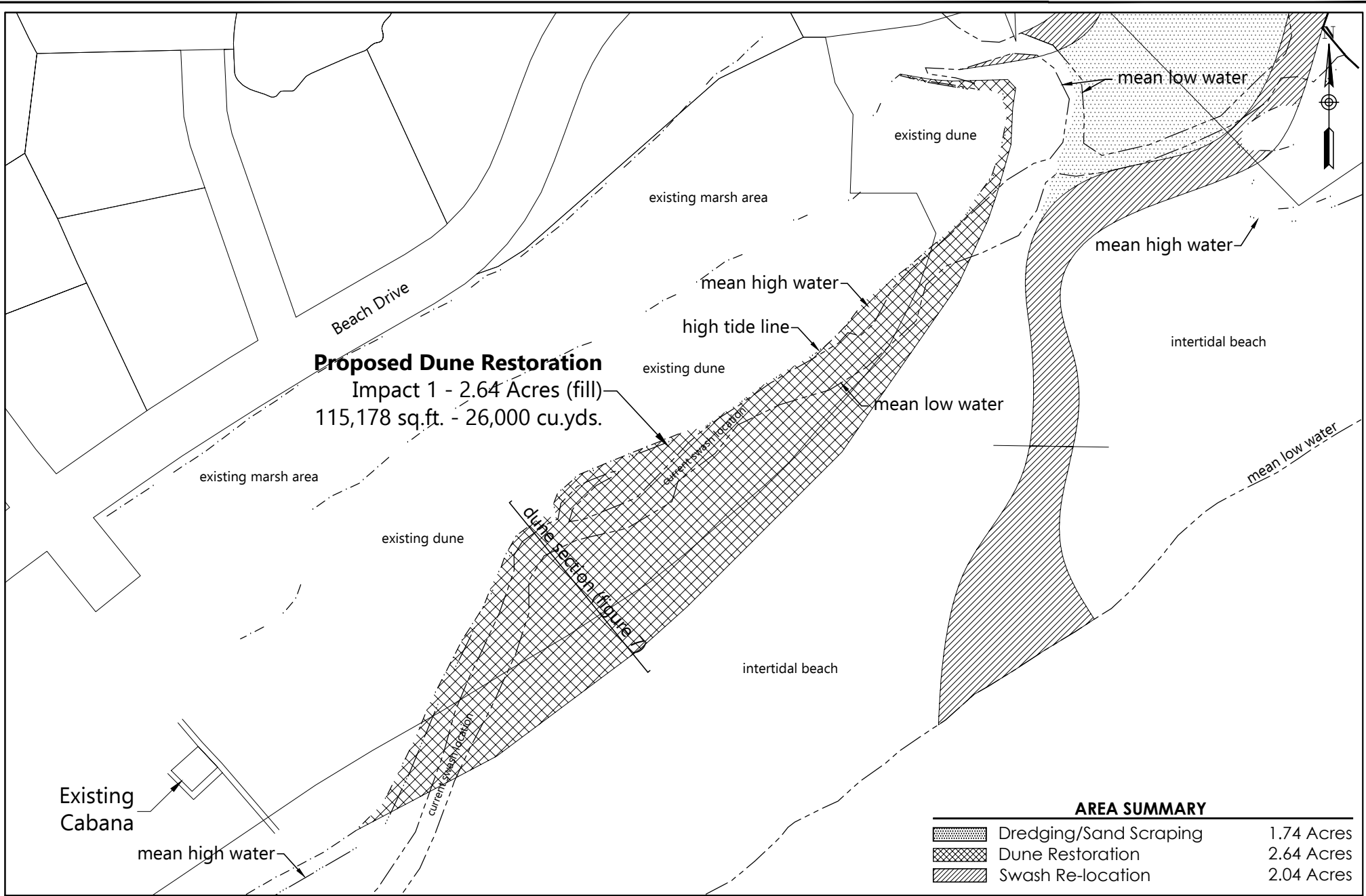


Figure 3



Plan View - Dune Restoration

White Point Swash Re-Alignment
 Horry County
 Date: 12-8-17
 Application No.

Proposed Activity: Dune restoration and Swash Re-alignment

Applicant: Town of Briarcliffe Acres

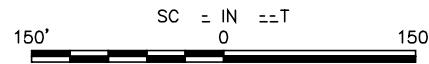
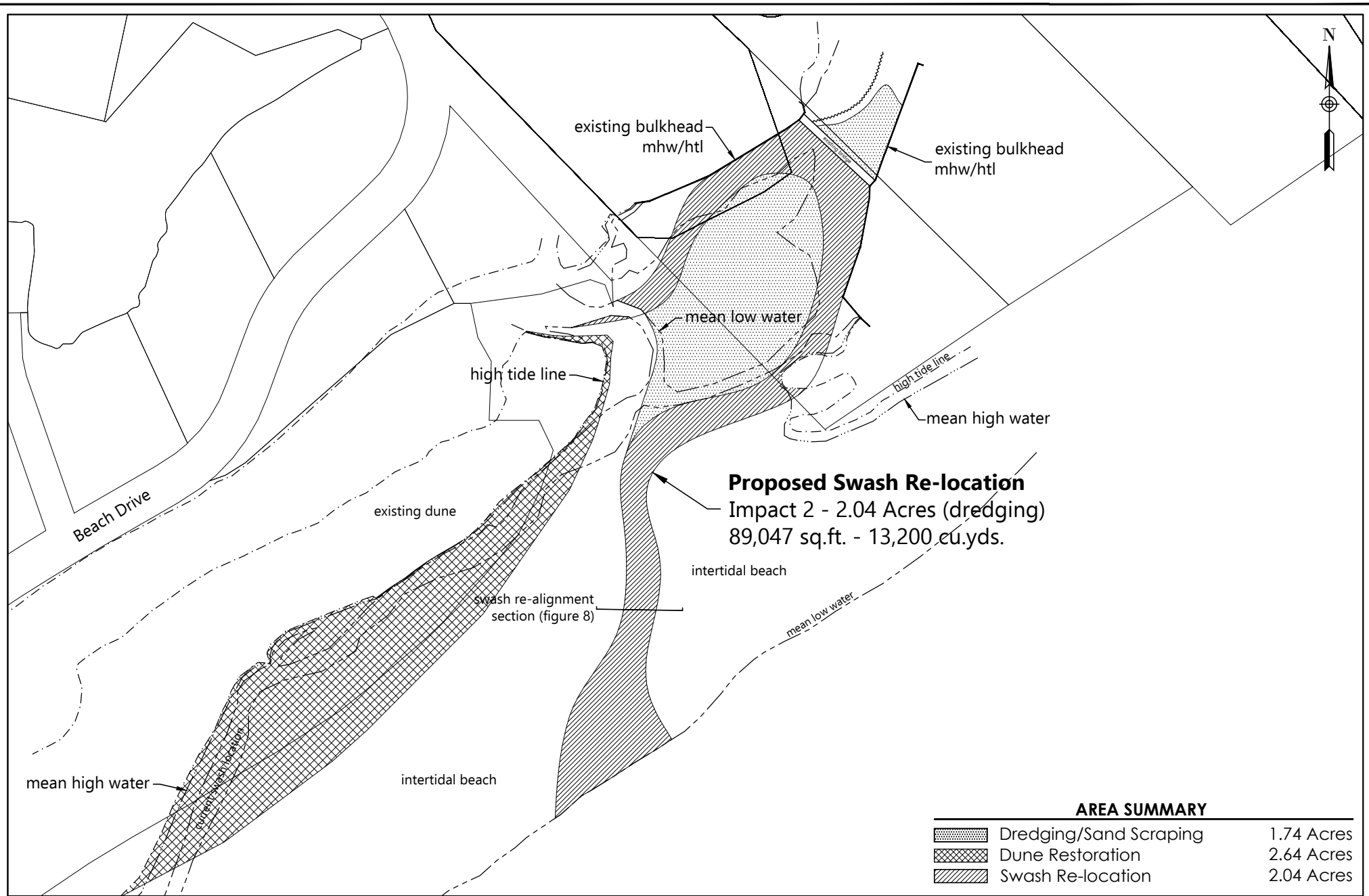


Figure 4



AREA SUMMARY

	Dredging/Sand Scraping	1.74 Acres
	Dune Restoration	2.64 Acres
	Swash Re-location	2.04 Acres

Plan View - Swash Re-alignment

White Point Swash Re-Alignment
 Horry County
 Date: 12-8-17
 Application No.

Proposed Activity: Dune restoration and Swash Re-alignment

Applicant: Town of Briarcliffe Acres

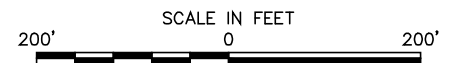
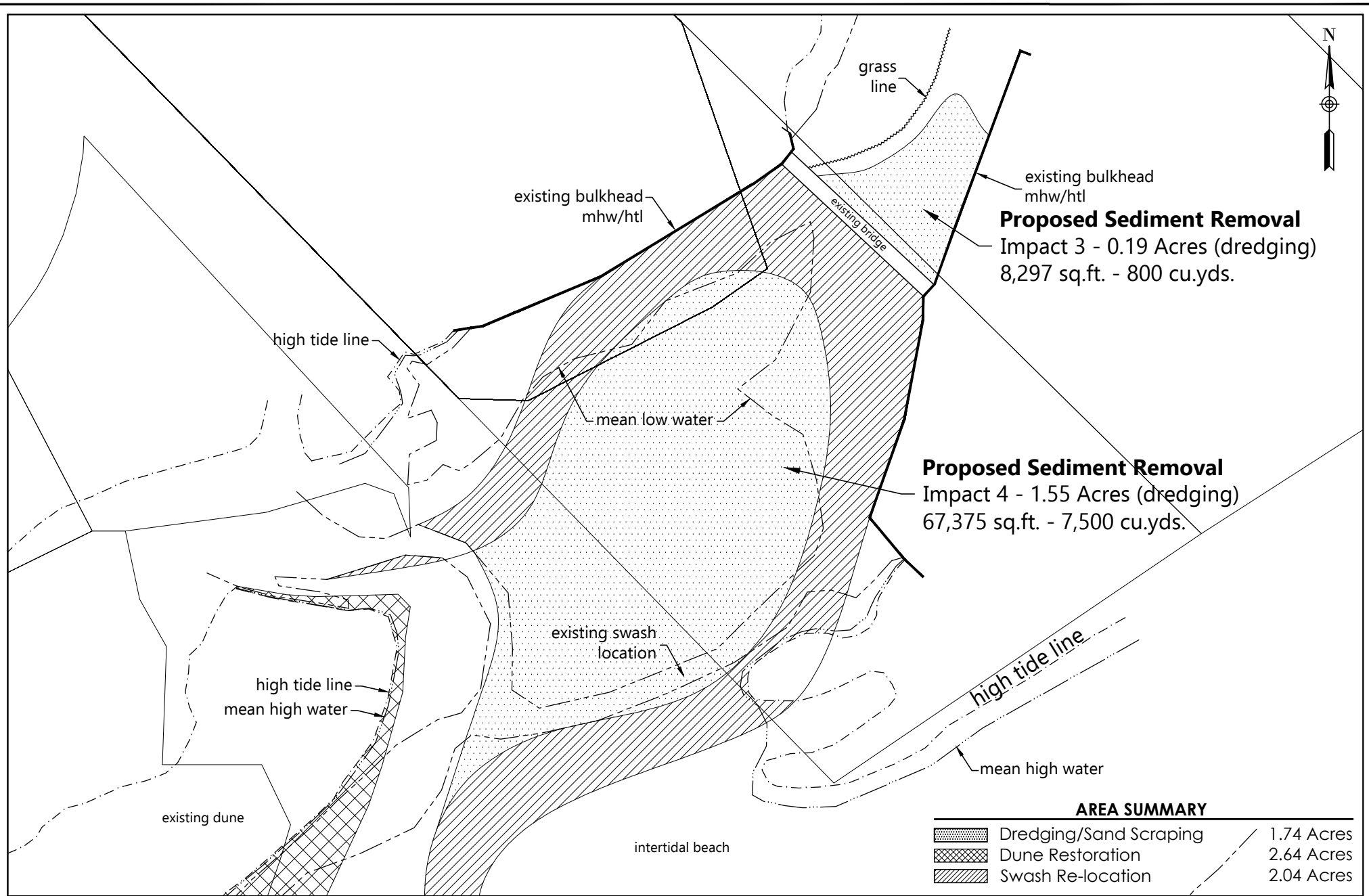


Figure 5



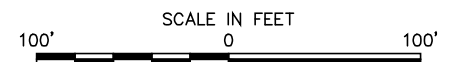
Plan View - Sediment Removal

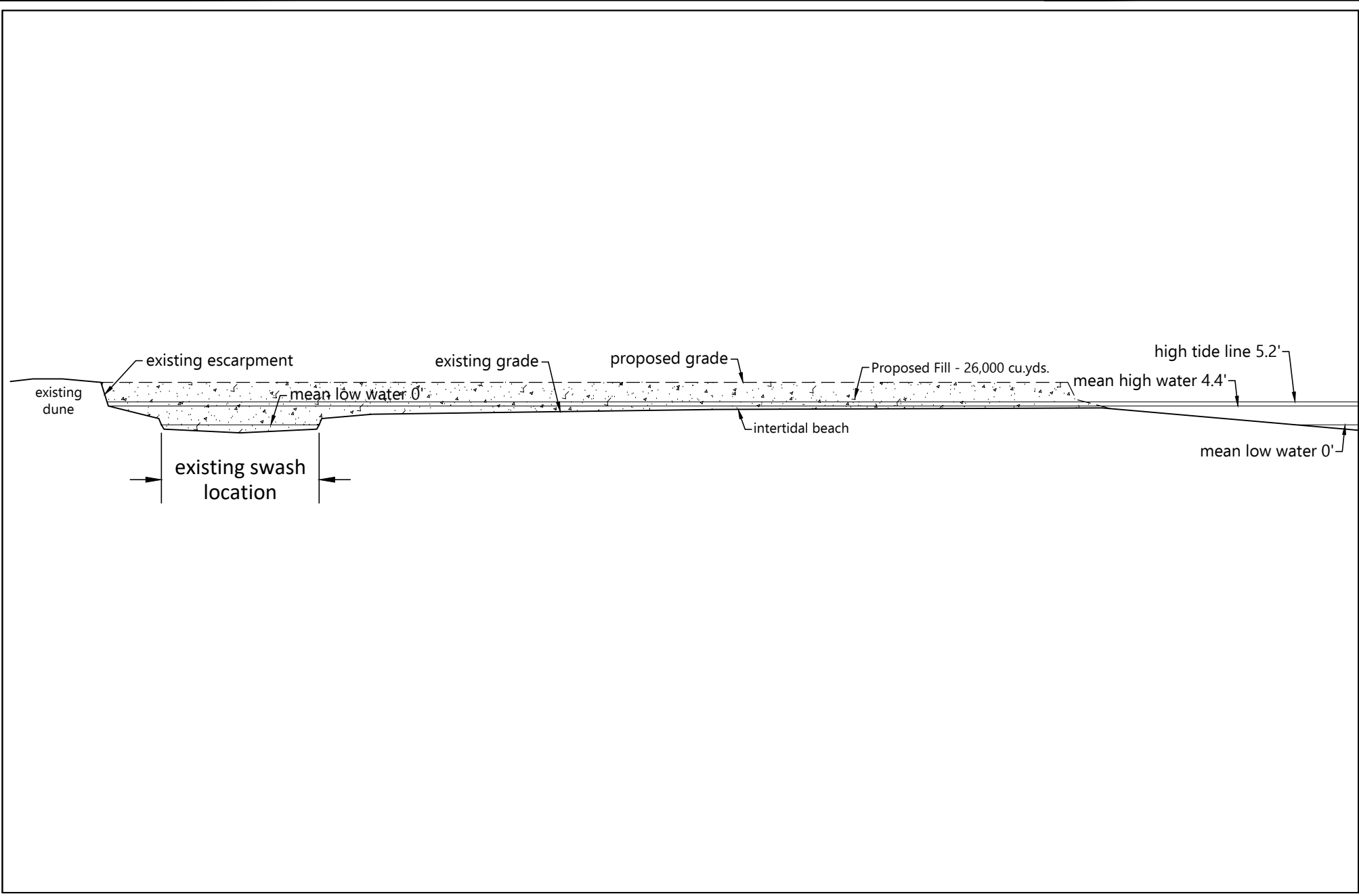
White Point Swash Re-Alignment
Horry County
Date: 12-8-17
Application No.

Figure 6

Proposed Activity: Dune restoration and Swash Re-alignment

Applicant: Town of Briarcliffe Acres





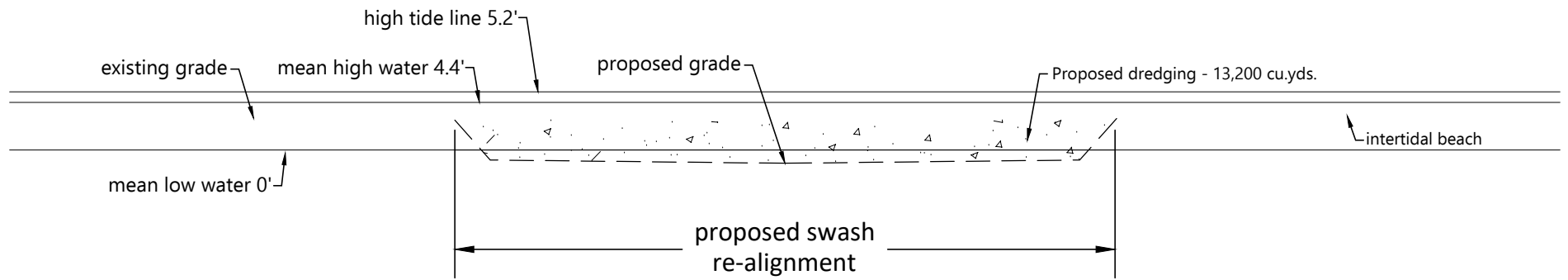
Section View - Dune Restoration

White Point Swash Re-Alignment
 Horry County
 Date: 12-8-17
 Application No.

Figure 7

Proposed Activity: Dune restoration and Swash Re-alignment

Applicant: Town of Briarcliffe Acres



Section View - Swash Re-alignment

White Point Swash Re-Alignment
 Horry County
 Date: 12-8-17
 Application No.

Figure 8

Proposed Activity: Dune restoration and Swash Re-alignment

Applicant: Town of Briarcliffe Acres