## 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
Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Section
2600 Bull Street
Columbia. South Carolina 29201

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N SAC-2017-00728 17 MAY 2017

Pursuant to 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

c/o S&ME, Inc. 1330 Highway 501 Business Conway, South Carolina 29526

for a permit to relocate University Boulevard for the expansion of the Coastal Carolina University (CCU) football stadium facilities. The proposed work includes the placement of fill material into freshwater wetlands located adjacent to an offsite tributary of the

## **WACCAMAW RIVER**

situated within CCU campus, south of and adjacent to University Boulevard, west of and adjacent to Quail Run Road, in the City of Conway, in Horry County, South Carolina (Latitude: 33.7912°N, Longitude: -79.0165°W), Conway 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** until

15 Days from the Date of this Notice,

and SCDHEC will receive written statements regarding the proposed work 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 University Boulevard for the expansion of CCU's football stadium facilities. In detail, the work consists of filling 0.91 acres of freshwater wetlands

that were previously preserved and buffered as mitigation for impacts associated with the Department of the Army (DA) permit # SAC-1992-16969 (f.k.a 26-92-905(x)) issued on February 17. 1993. The applicant stated that in September of 2015, CCU accepted the invitation to join the Sun Belt Conference (NCAA Division 1 Football). All of the CCU sports with the exception of football joined the conference in July of 2016, with football program transitioning to its full Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) status in 2018. The stadium, Brooks Stadium, currently accommodates 9,214 fans. The need to expand Brooks Stadium is a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) requirement that all FBS teams to maintain an average paid attendance of 15,000 per home game at least once every two years. The stadium expansion will take place in two phases and will increase the total seating to 20,700 seats. The addition of over 11,000 new seats in Brooks Stadium will require additional parking near the stadium. The applicant is proposing to realign University Boulevard, which is currently located adjacent to the south end of the stadium. The proposed re-alignment of University Boulevard will open up approximately 16 acres and will create approximately 3,440 new parking spaces adjacent to the stadium. The re-alignment of University Boulevard and the additional parking spaces will require the filling of 0.91 acres of freshwater wetlands. The applicant has proposed to mitigate for impacts to wetlands by purchasing the required mitigation credits from the Carter Stilley Mitigation Bank. Mitigation will include the following:

- 1). The 0.91 acre wetland preservation area to be filled associated with the DA permit # SAC-1992-16969 will be replaced by purchasing 9.3 wetland preservation credits.
- 2). The 1.55 acre protected upland buffer area associated with the DA permit #SAC-1992-16969 will be replaced by purchasing 0.8 wetland preservation credits
- 3). The proposed 0.91 acre wetland fill will be mitigated for by purchasing 9.3 credits (4.7 Restoration / Enhancement credits and 4.6 wetland preservation credits).

Total proposed compensatory mitigation for impacts (filling of 0.91 acre of preserved wetlands) associated with the project will include purchasing 19.4 credits from the Carter Stilley Mitigation Bank.

The project purpose is to expand the existing CCU football stadium.

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

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). 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 0.91 acres of waters upstream from 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 is 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. 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)(I)(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.

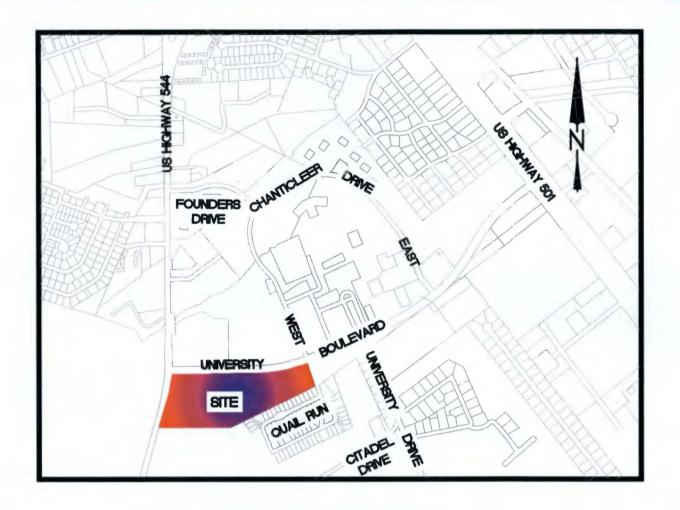
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

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 Rob Huff, Watershed Manager, at (843) 365-4239.

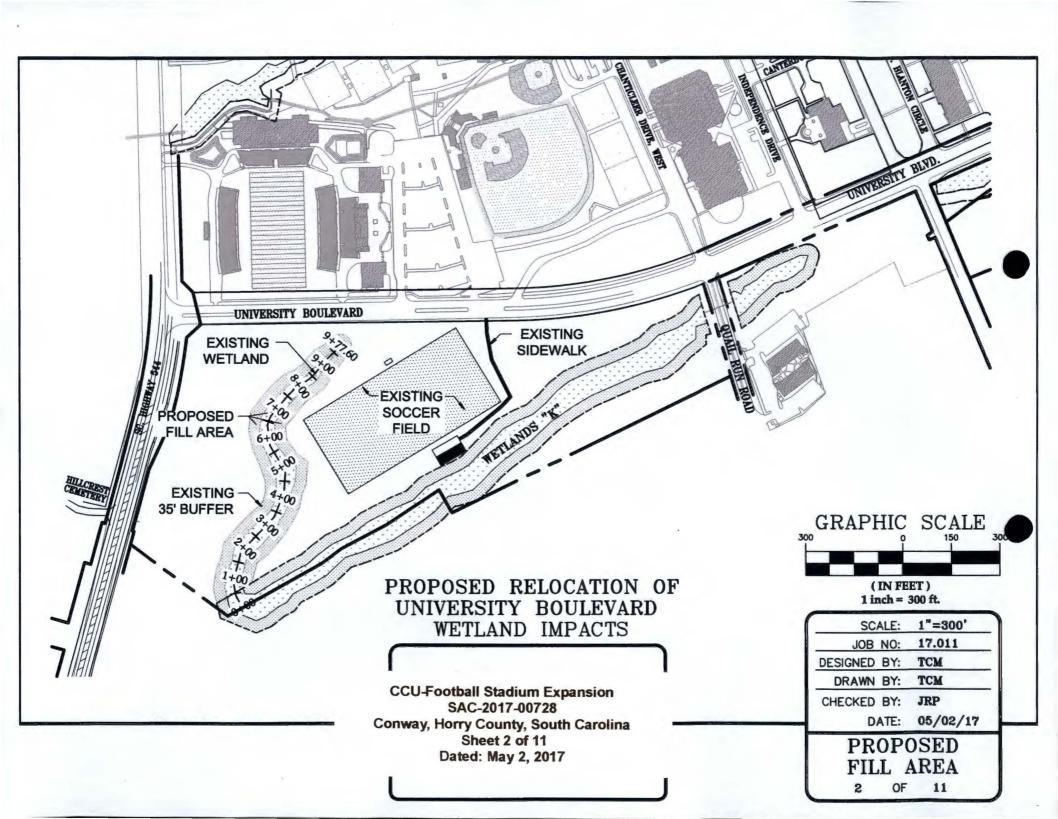


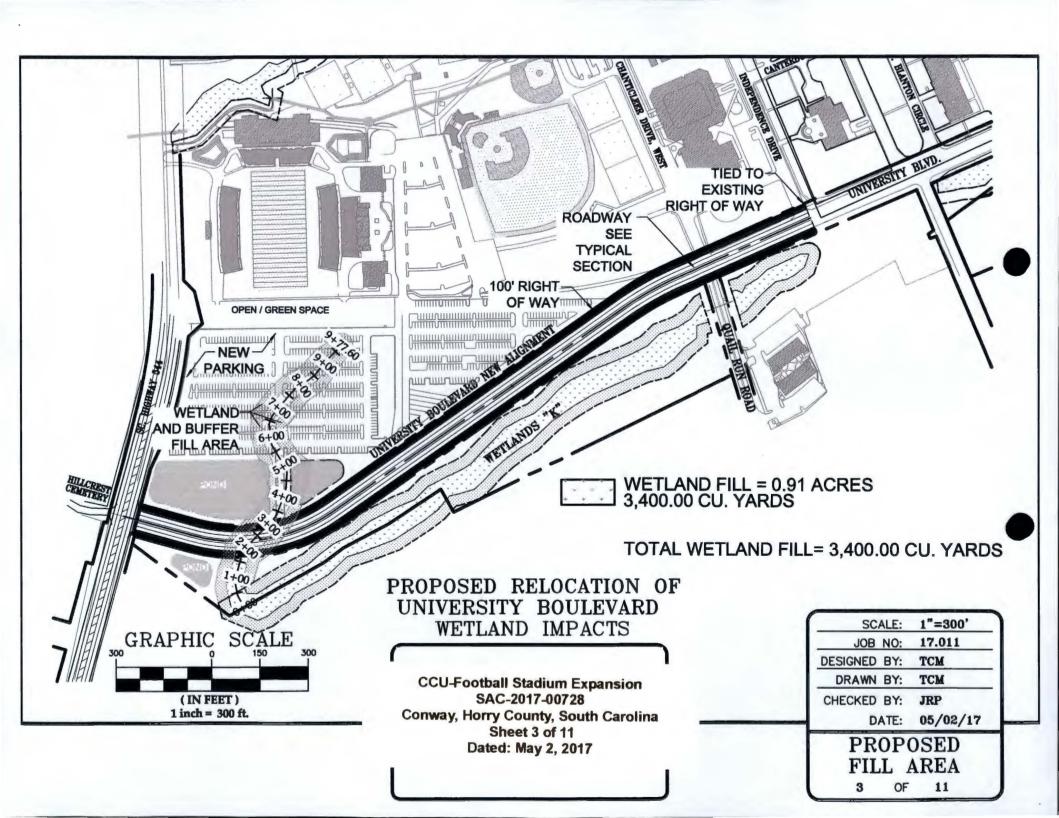
CCU-Football Stadium Expansion SAC-2017-00728 Conway, Horry County, South Carolina Sheet 1 of 11 Dated: May 2, 2017

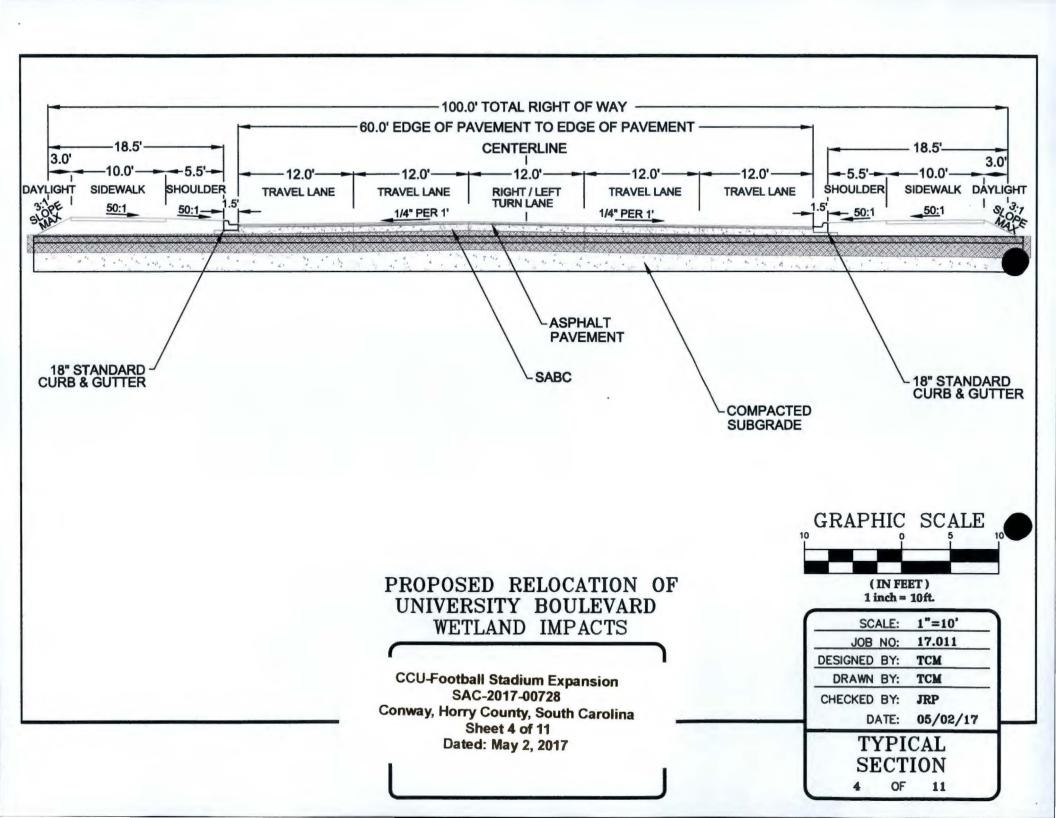
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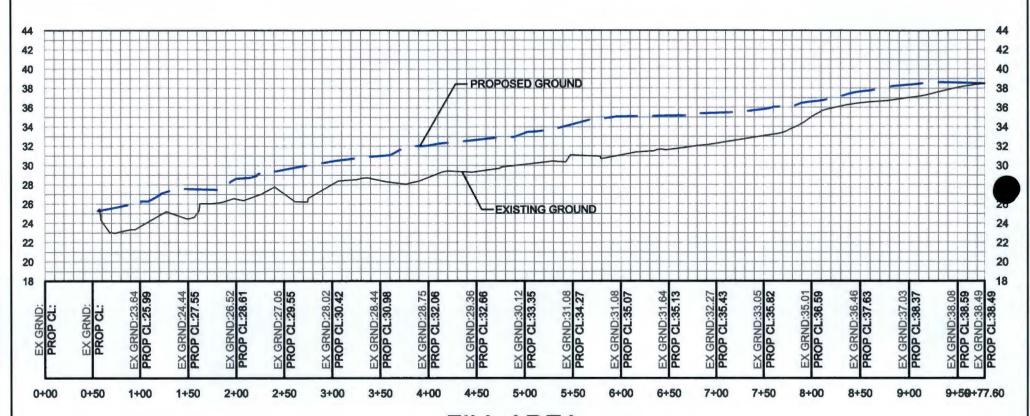
LOCATION MAP

1 OF 11

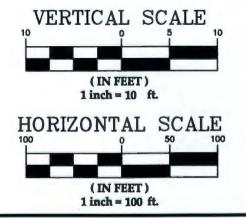








# **FILL AREA**



PROPOSED RELOCATION OF UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD WETLAND IMPACTS

CCU-Football Stadium Expansion SAC-2017-00728 Conway, Horry County, South Carolina Sheet 5 of 11 Dated: May 2, 2017 SCALE: 1"=100'

JOB NO: 17.011

DESIGNED BY: TCM

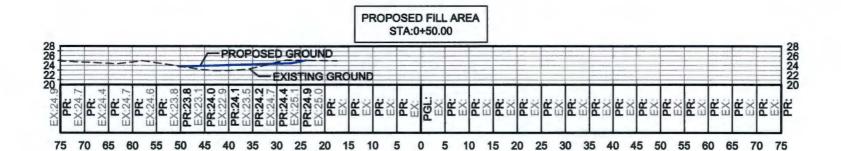
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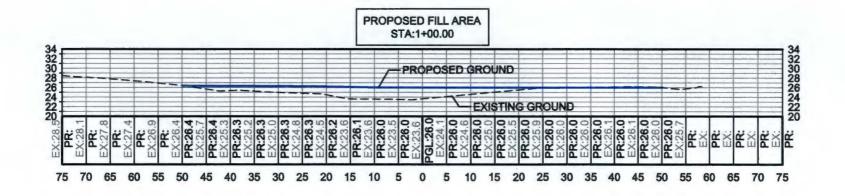
CHECKED BY: JRP

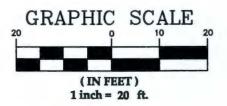
DATE: 05/02/17

PROPOSED

PROPOSED FILL AREA 5 OF 11



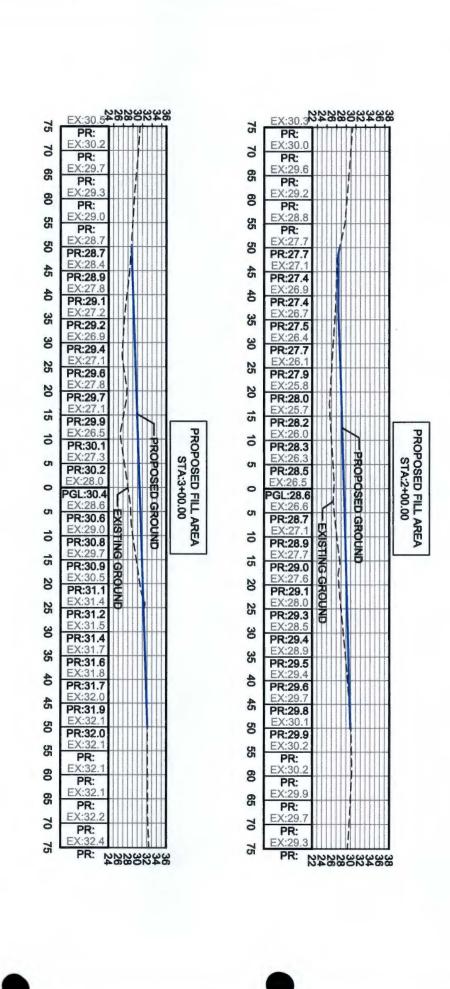




CCU-Football Stadium Expansion SAC-2017-00728 Conway, Horry County, South Carolina Sheet 6 of 11 Dated: May 2, 2017

SC	ALE:	1"=20'
JOB	NO:	17.011
DESIGNED	BY:	TCM
DRAWN	BY:	TCM
CHECKED	BY:	JRP
D	ATE:	05/02/17
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11





CCU-Football Stadium Expansion
SAC-2017-00728
Conway, Horry County, South Carolina
Sheet 7 of 11
Dated: May 2, 2017

SCALE: 1"=20'

JOB NO: 17.011

DESIGNED BY: TCM

DRAWN BY: TCM

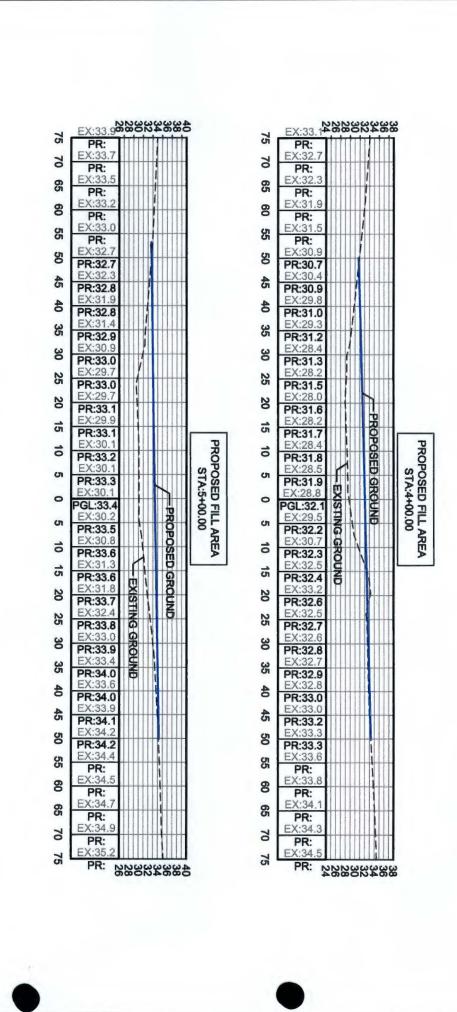
CHECKED BY: JRP

DATE: 05/02/17

PROPOSED

FILL AREA

7 OF 11





CCU-Football Stadium Expansion SAC-2017-00728 Conway, Horry County, South Carolina Sheet 8 of 11 Dated: May 2, 2017

DESIGNED BY:

SCALE:

1"=20'

DRAWN BY:

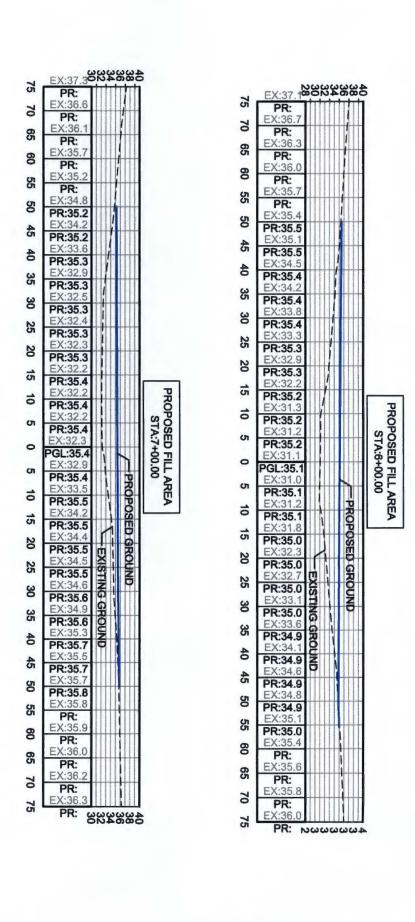
CHECKED BY:

TCM TCM

DATE:

05/02/17

PROPOSED FILL AREA





CCU-Football Stadium Expansion SAC-2017-00728 Conway, Horry County, South Carolina Sheet 9 of 11 Dated: May 2, 2017

SCALE: 1"=20"

JOB NO: 17.011

DESIGNED BY: TCM

DRAWN BY: TCM

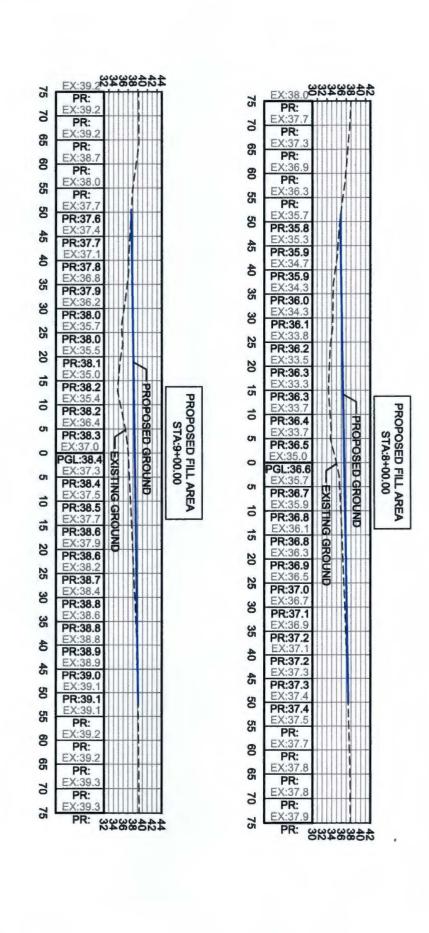
CHECKED BY: JRP

DATE: 05/02/17

PROPOSED

FILL AREA

9 OF 11





CCU-Football Stadium Expansion SAC-2017-00728 Conway, Horry County, South Carolina Sheet 10 of 11 Dated: May 2, 2017

PROPOSED FILL AREA DESIGNED BY:

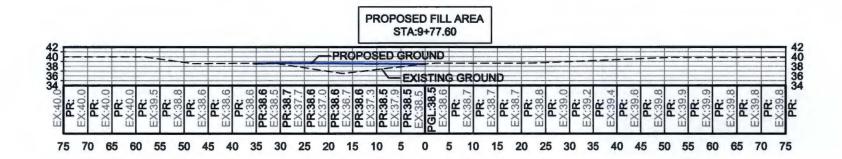
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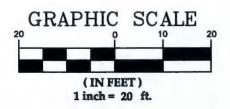
1"=20' 17.011

DRAWN BY:

CHECKED BY:

TCM TCM





CCU-Football Stadium Expansion SAC-2017-00728 Conway, Horry County, South Carolina Sheet 11 of 11 Dated: May 2, 2017

SCALE:	1"=20'
JOB NO:	17.011
DESIGNED BY:	TCM
DRAWN BY:	TCM
CHECKED BY:	JRP
DATE:	05/02/17
PROP	OSED
FILL	AREA

OF

11