

**REVISED**  
**JOINT**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**69A Hagood Avenue**  
**Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107**

and

**THE S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**  
**Office of Environmental Quality Control**  
**Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Programs Section**  
**2600 Bull Street**  
**Columbia, South Carolina 29201**

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N # SAC-2007-01254-(REVISED-REVISED)5K

January 27, 2012

Pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1341), an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control by

**RICHARD BOWERS & MORRY JOHNSTON**  
**C/O CHRISTOPHER M. LAKE**  
**PALMETTO ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING, INC.**  
**955 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE E52**  
**LEXINGTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29072**

for a permit to place fill material in waters of the United States in and adjacent to

**BELL BRANCH**

generally located east of Rocky Mount Road (S-29-379) and north of Stoneboro Road (SC Hwy 522), in Lancaster County, South Carolina (Latitude: 34.54775 Longitude: -80.78006).

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.

**PLEASE NOTE:** A public notice was originally advertized for the proposed work on July 30, 2007, subsequently withdrawn on July 28, 2008, revised and advertized on September 9, 2010, and subsequently withdrawn on July 13, 2011. This revised notice constitutes an advertisement of the revised proposed work. **Please be advised, that only comments received in response to this revised notice, dated January 27, 2012, will be considered during the permit review process.**

The proposed work consists of filling 0.07 acre of waters of the United States or 140 linear feet of Bell Branch, a perennial stream, to construct an earthen embankment with a siphon spillway. The embankment will create a 21.8 acre open water impoundment, which will flood 1.35 acres of waters of the United States or 2,316 linear feet of Bell Branch, a perennial stream. As stated by the applicants the purpose of the proposed work is to construct a recreational lake for private use. As calculated by the applicants the revised proposed work would require 14,315 credits. The applicants have stated that no approved mitigation banks servicing this ecoregion/watershed have stream credits available at the time of this submittal. As such, the applicants are proposing Permittee Responsible Mitigation as compensatory mitigation to offset the permanent loss of waters of the United States. The applicants propose to enhance buffers on 7,207 linear feet and preservation on 10,486 linear feet of onsite streams as compensatory mitigation for the proposed project impacts. This would result in the preservation of approximately 3.4 miles of perennial stream and 119 acres of upland buffer which per the calculations prepared by the applicants would generate 15,544 credits.

**NOTE: Plans depicting the work described in this notice are available and will be provided, upon receipt of a written request, to anyone that is interested in obtaining a copy of the plans for the specific project. The request must identify the project of interest by public notice number and a self-addressed stamped envelope must also be provided for mailing the drawings to you. Your request for drawings should be addressed to the**

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION NORTHWEST BRANCH  
1835 ASSEMBLY STREET RM 865 B-1  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201**

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 (Section 401 of the Clean Water Act). The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certification is received. 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 applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review. Persons wishing to comment or object to State certification or the navigable waters permit must submit all comments in writing to the S. C. Department of Health and Environmental Control at the above address within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice.

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 1.42 acres of freshwater habitat well inland of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our 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). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed endangered or threatened species or designated or proposed critical

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habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended).

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 the NHPA, the District Engineer has also consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. To insure that other cultural resources 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 to provide any information it may have with regard to historic and cultural resources.

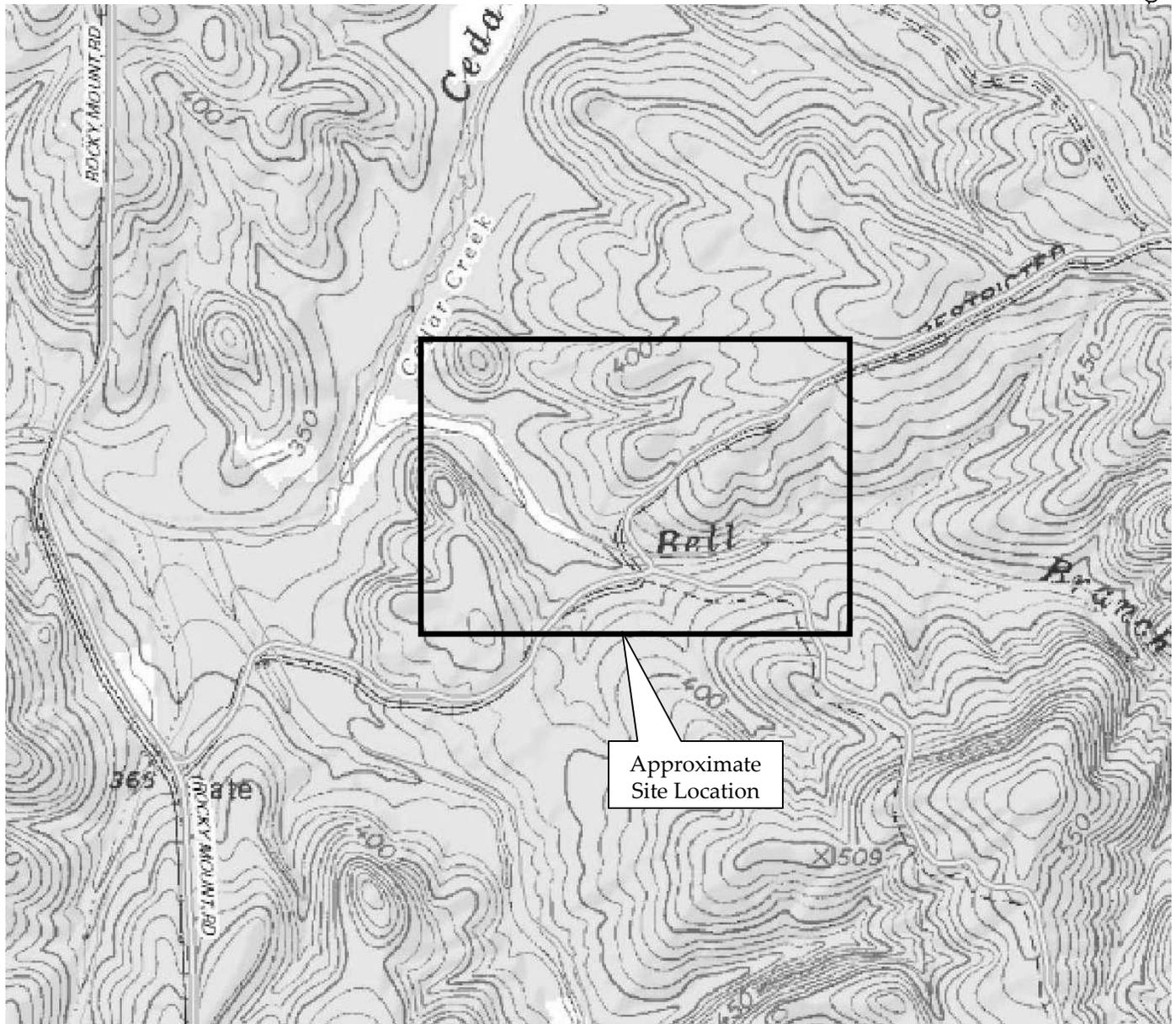
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

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 and will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act and, as appropriate, the criteria established under authority of Section 102 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended. 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 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 of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps of Engineers 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 of Engineers 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.

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Leslie Parker at 803-253-3444.



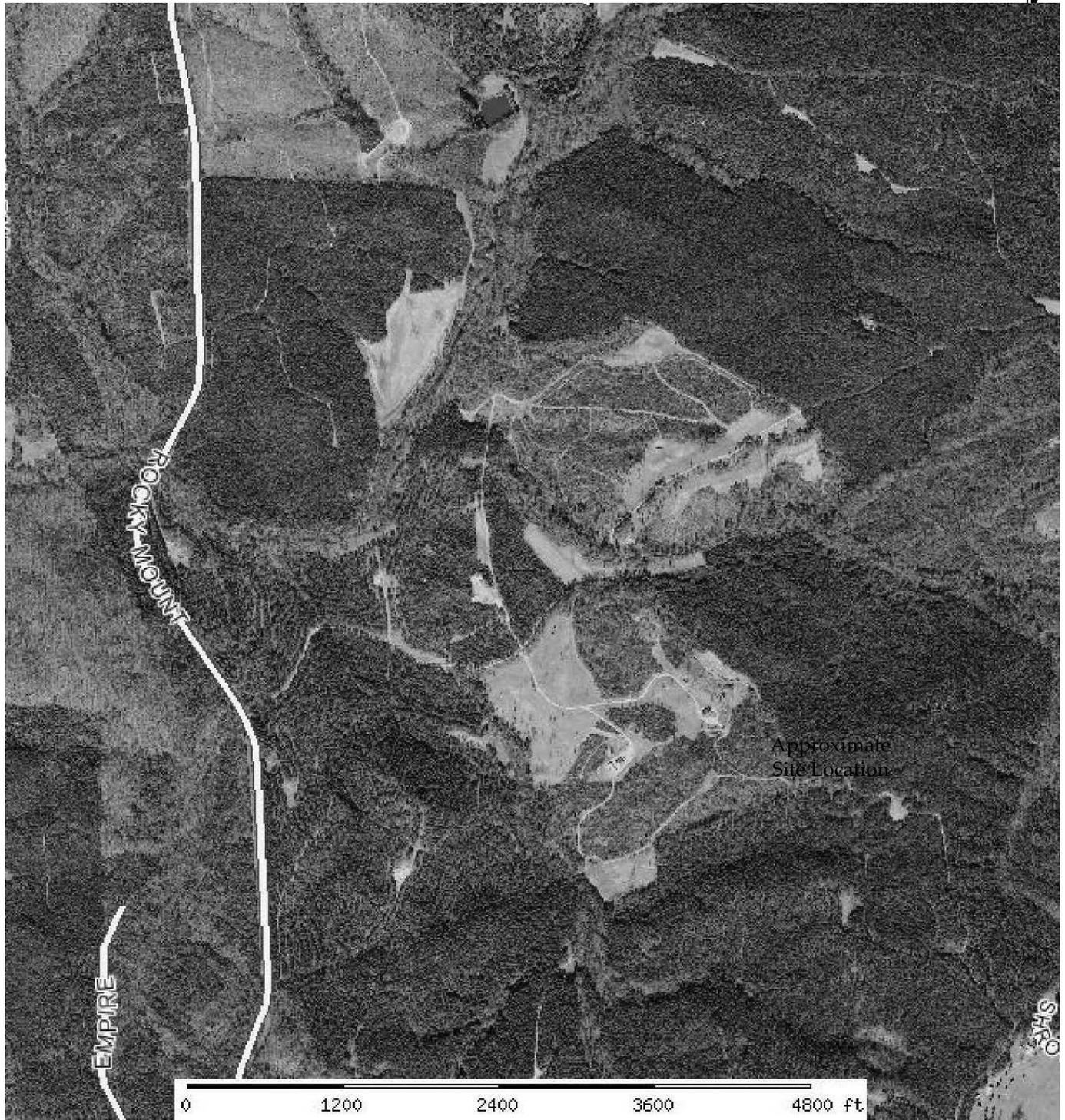


**Approximate Scale:** 1" = 1,000'

Reference: National Map Viewer, accessed September 20, 2011.

**Project:** Indian Rock Lake  
**Applicant:** Morry Johnston/Richard Bowers  
**Activity:** Lake Construction  
**County:** Lancaster  
**Lat:** 34.54805 **Lon:** -80.78144

**Figure 2: Topographic Map**  
**Agent:** Palmetto Environmental Consulting, Inc.  
955 East Main Street, Suite E #52  
Lexington, SC 29072  
Sheet \_\_\_ of \_\_\_      January 6, 2012  
File # \_\_\_\_\_



Approximate Scale: As shown

Reference: Lancaster County GIS website, accessed September 20, 2011.

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**Applicant:** Morry Johnston/Richard Bowers

**Activity:** Lake Construction

**County:** Lancaster

**Lat:** 34.54805 **Lon:** -80.78144

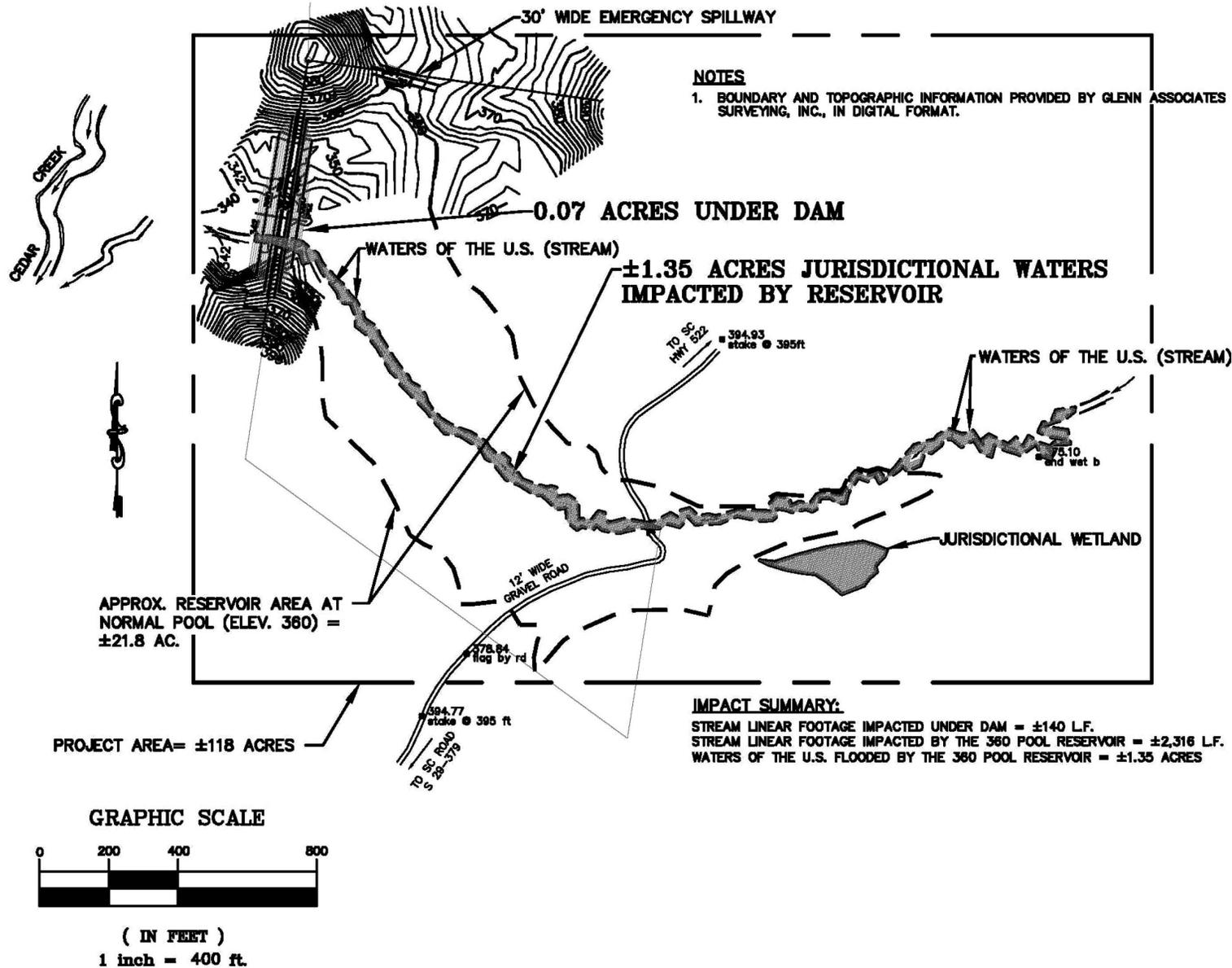
**Figure 3: Aerial Photograph**

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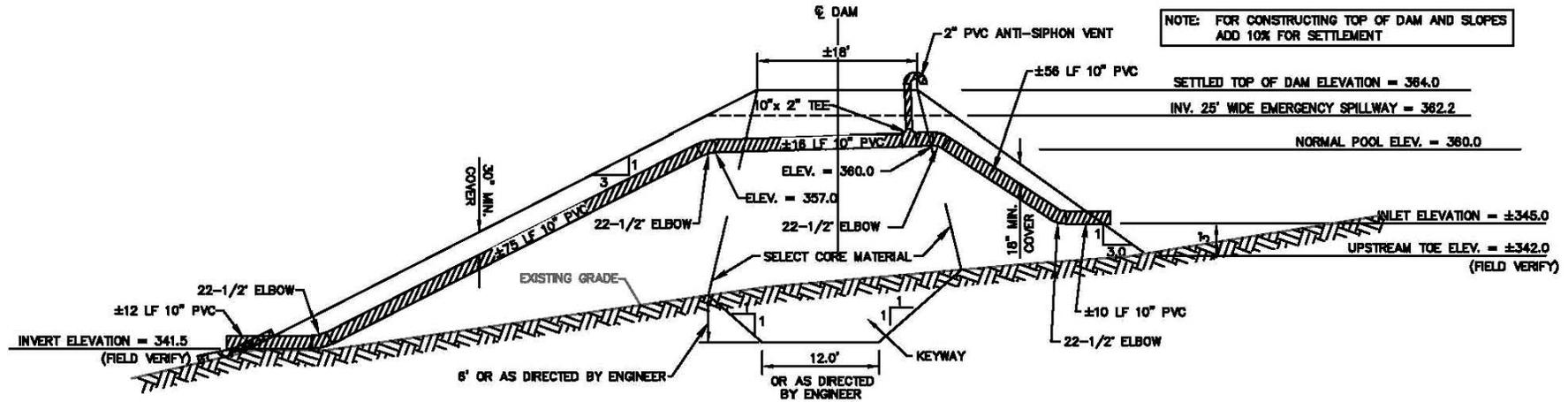
Reference: Heritage Engineering, Inc.

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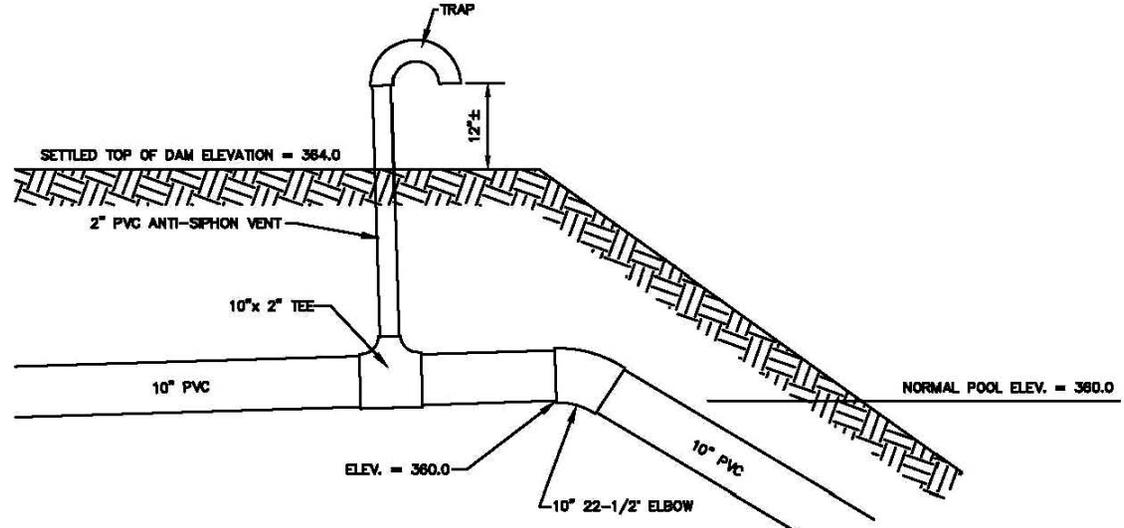
**Figure 4: Topographic Map**

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**SECTION AT SPILLWAY**  
 NOT TO SCALE

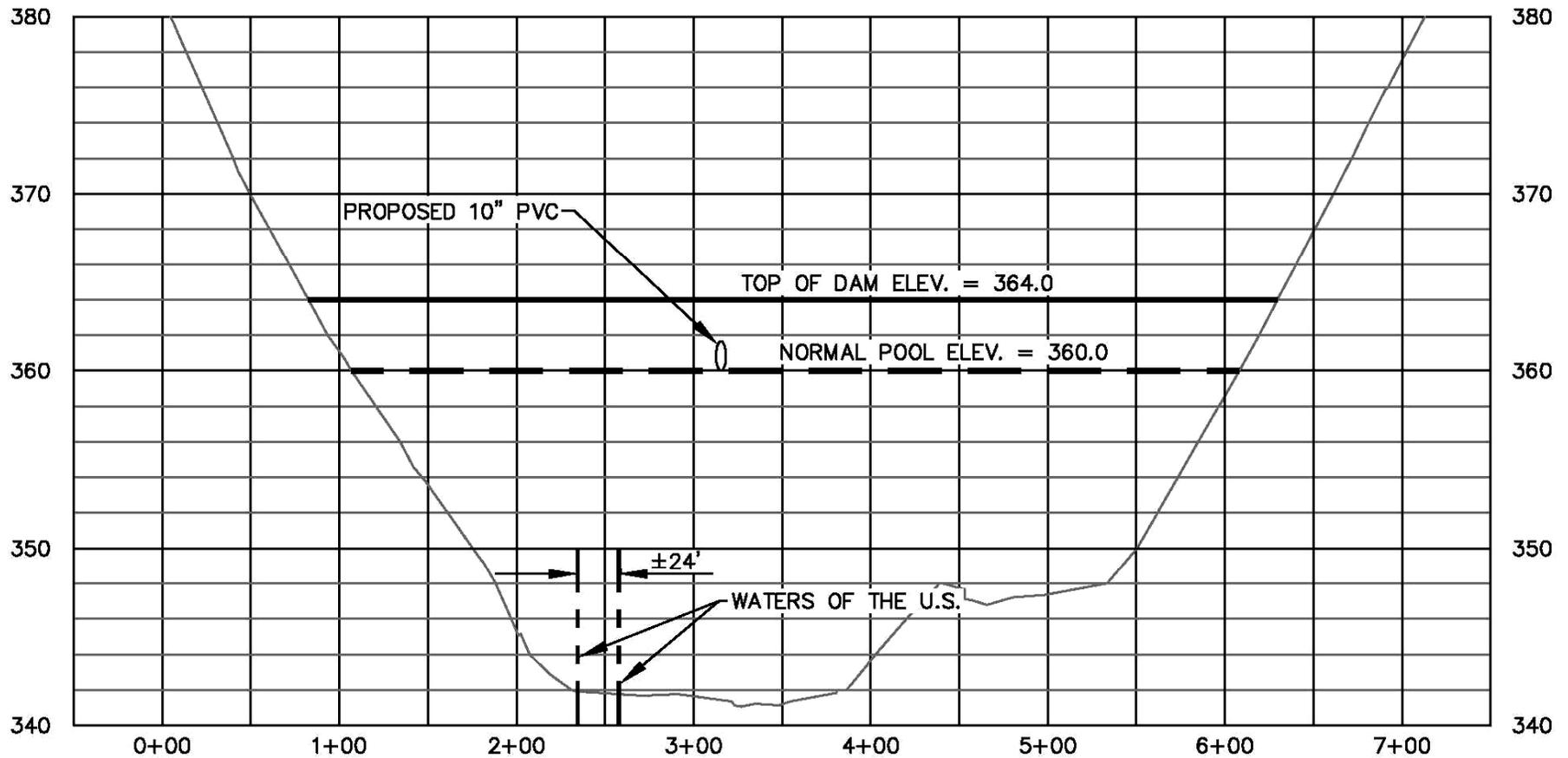


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 NOT TO SCALE

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**Figure 5: Proposed Dam Cross Section**  
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SECTION ALONG DAM CENTERLINE

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

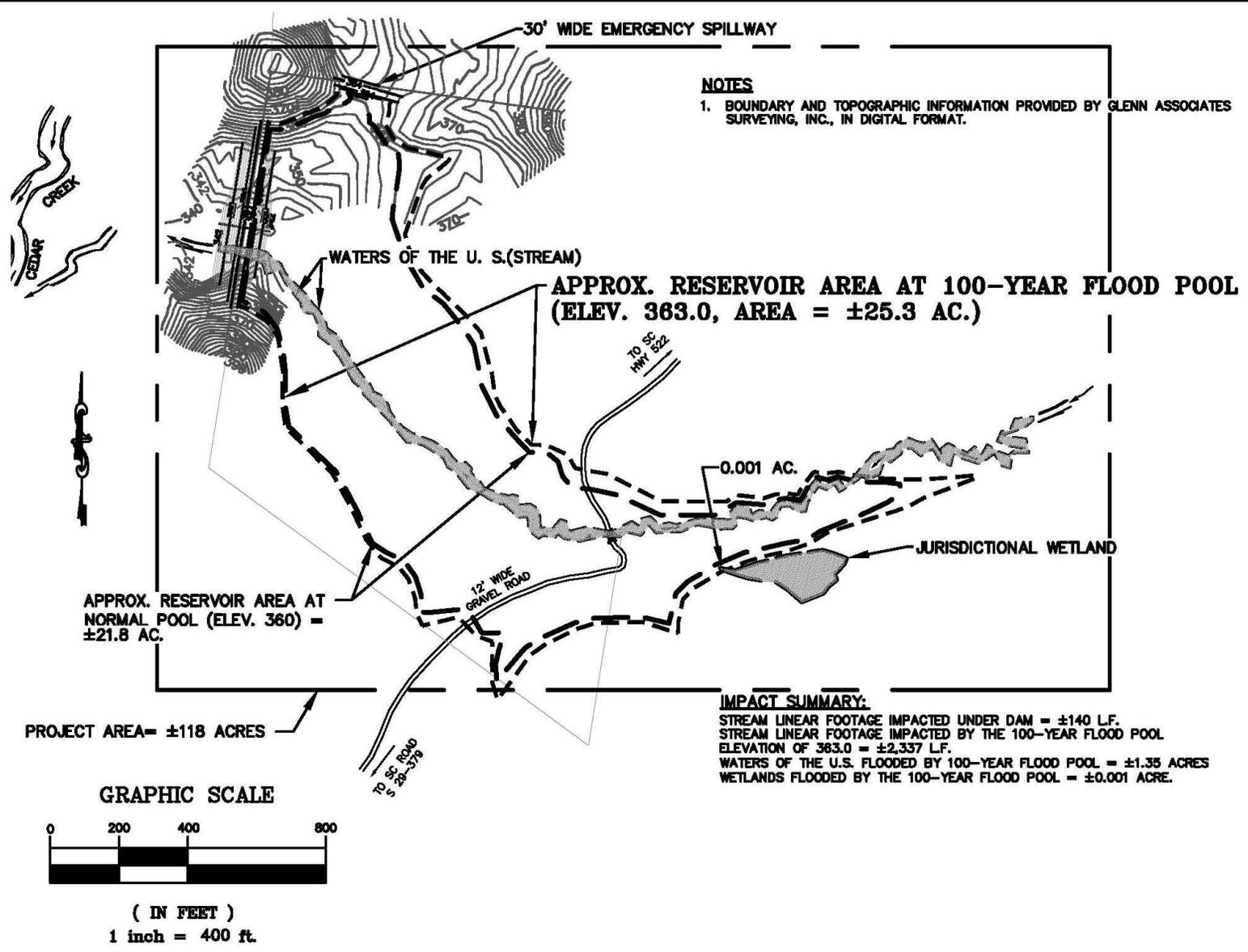
Reference: Heritage Engineering, Inc.

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**Figure 6: Proposed Dam Profile**

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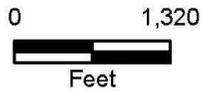
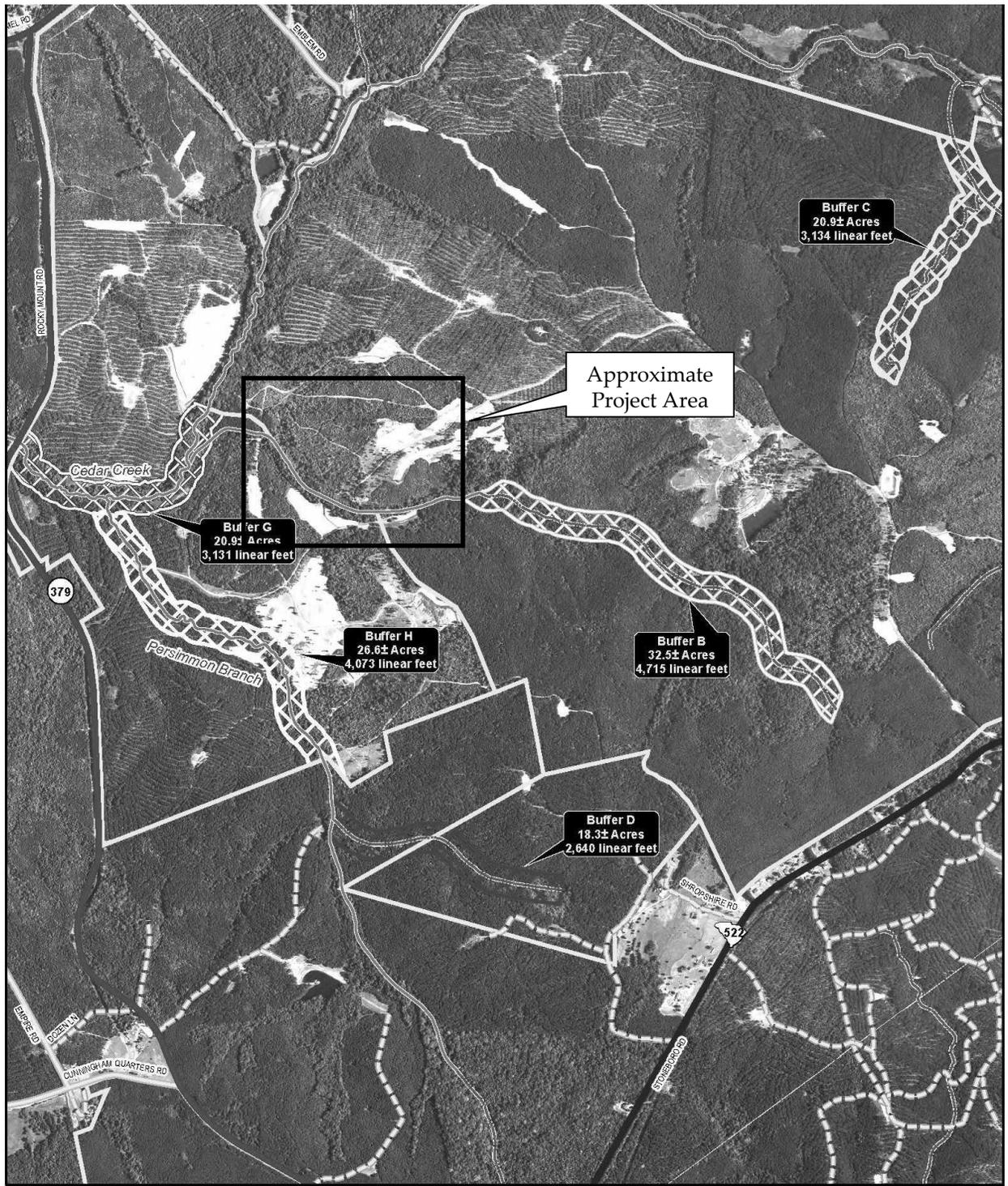
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**Figure 7: Proposed Pond at 100-Year Flood Pool**

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Proposed Buffer Map  
 2011 Aerial Photography  
 Indian Rock Farm at  
 Cedar Creek  
 2,093.5± Total Acres  
 Lancaster County, SC  
 December 2011

Areas B, D, and G – preservation

Areas C and H – buffer enhancement

Approximate Scale: As shown

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**Figure 8: Proposed Mitigation Areas**  
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