

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

REGULATORY DIVISION
Refer to: P/N # SAC-2011-00847

December 5, 2012

Pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1341) and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et. seq.) a Prospectus has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the South Carolina Interagency Review Team by

**POPLAR GROVE LLC
ATTN: MR. VIC MILLS
2743 PERIMETER PARKWAY
BUILDING 100, SUITE 370
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30909**

for a proposal to establish and operate a wetland mitigation bank that is adjacent to tributaries of

RANTOWLES CREEK

at a location near the intersection of Tannenbaum Road and Delemar Highway (South Carolina Highway 165) in Dorchester County, South Carolina (Latitude 32.845339 N, Longitude -80.221677 W).

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 of Engineers until

12 O'CLOCK NOON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2013

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

The proposed project consists of establishing a freshwater wetland mitigation bank that is located within the Stono River watershed (USGS 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Codes 3050202). The 250-acre project site is a portion of a 3,000-acre tract that is currently protected by a conservation easement. The proposed mitigation bank site includes approximately 204.7 acres of jurisdictional wetlands, 40.5 acres of uplands, and 4.8 acres of other aquatic resources (ditches, streams, and canals).

According to the bank sponsor, the proposed mitigation bank will preserve the existing streams (approximately 1,600 linear feet) on the project site and will enhance the vegetation and hydrology within the existing wetland systems. The mitigation work plan consists of removing planted loblolly pine, planting native hardwood species, and plugging the existing ditches to restore natural flows within the project site. Groundwater and surface water monitoring wells will be installed on the mitigation bank site to document existing hydrology conditions and to evaluate the restoration of natural hydrology on the project site. The bank sponsor is proposing to use the Regional Guidebook for Applying the Hydrogeomorphic Approach to Assessing the Functions of Headwater slope Wetlands on the South Carolina Coast to document the functional lift on the project site.

The proposed mitigation bank will provide in-kind compensatory mitigation for authorized impacts to aquatic resource functions and services associated with future development activities within the Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain and Sea Islands Coastal Marsh ecoregions, as shown on the attached Service Area Map. The work required to complete the restoration and enhancement of aquatic resources located on the mitigation site may be authorized under Nationwide Permit #27 after review by the Corps, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and the Interagency Review Team. According to the bank sponsor, the mitigation bank site will be further protected by granting additional rights through a conservation easement or transferring fee title to an appropriate land trust.

The Prospectus for the proposed mitigation bank is available for review by appointment between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday at the address listed above. Please note if information about the location of Federally listed Threatened or Endangered species or the location of cultural resources is included in this Prospectus, this portion of the document may be withheld in accordance with the appropriate statutes for the protection of this information. If there any questions concerning the proposed mitigation bank or the information included in this public notice please contact Mr. Nat Ball by e-mail at nathaniel.i.ball@usace.army.mil or by telephone at 843-329-8044.

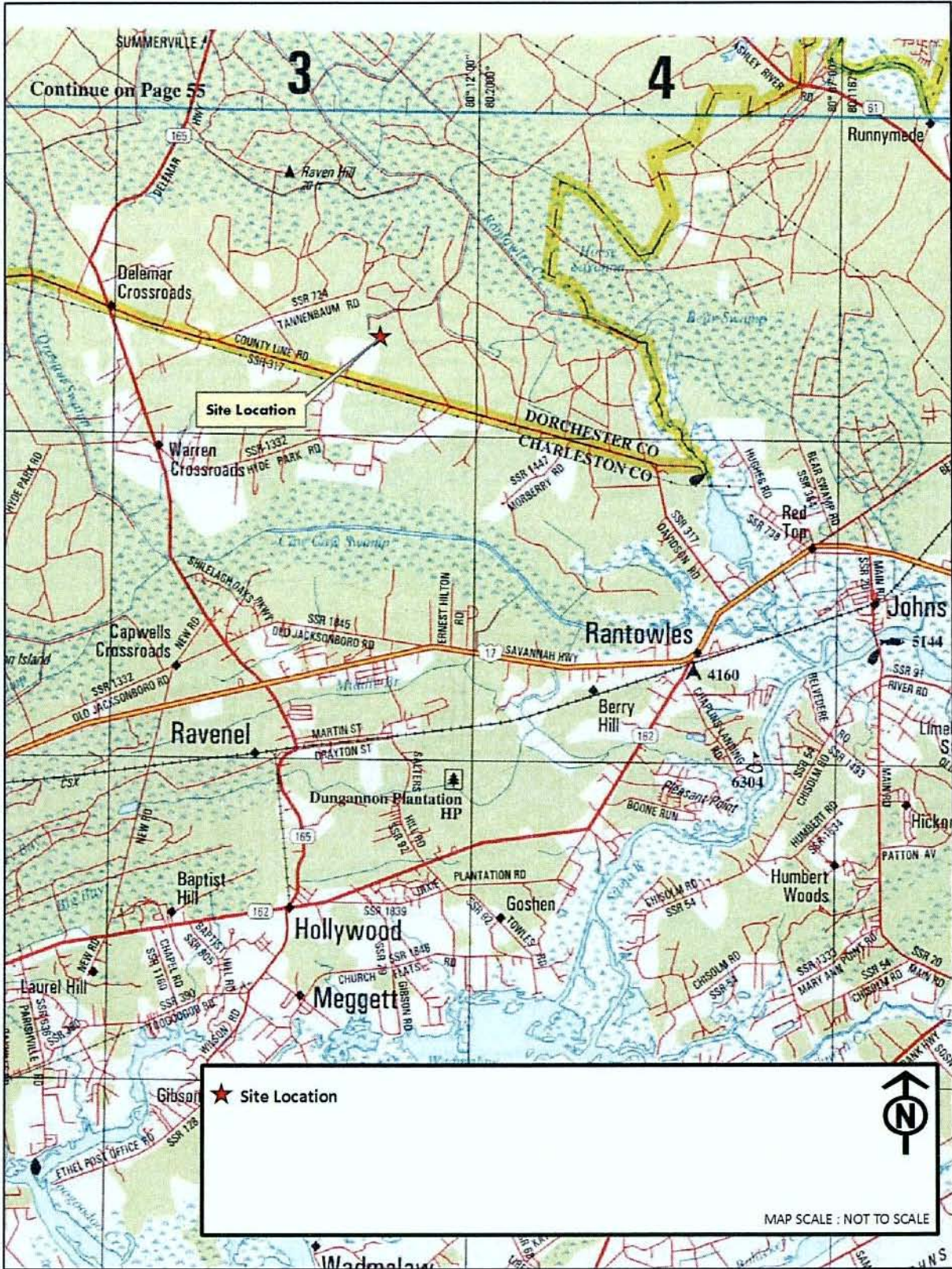


FIGURE 1, LOCATION MAP, SOUTH CAROLINA GAZETTEER

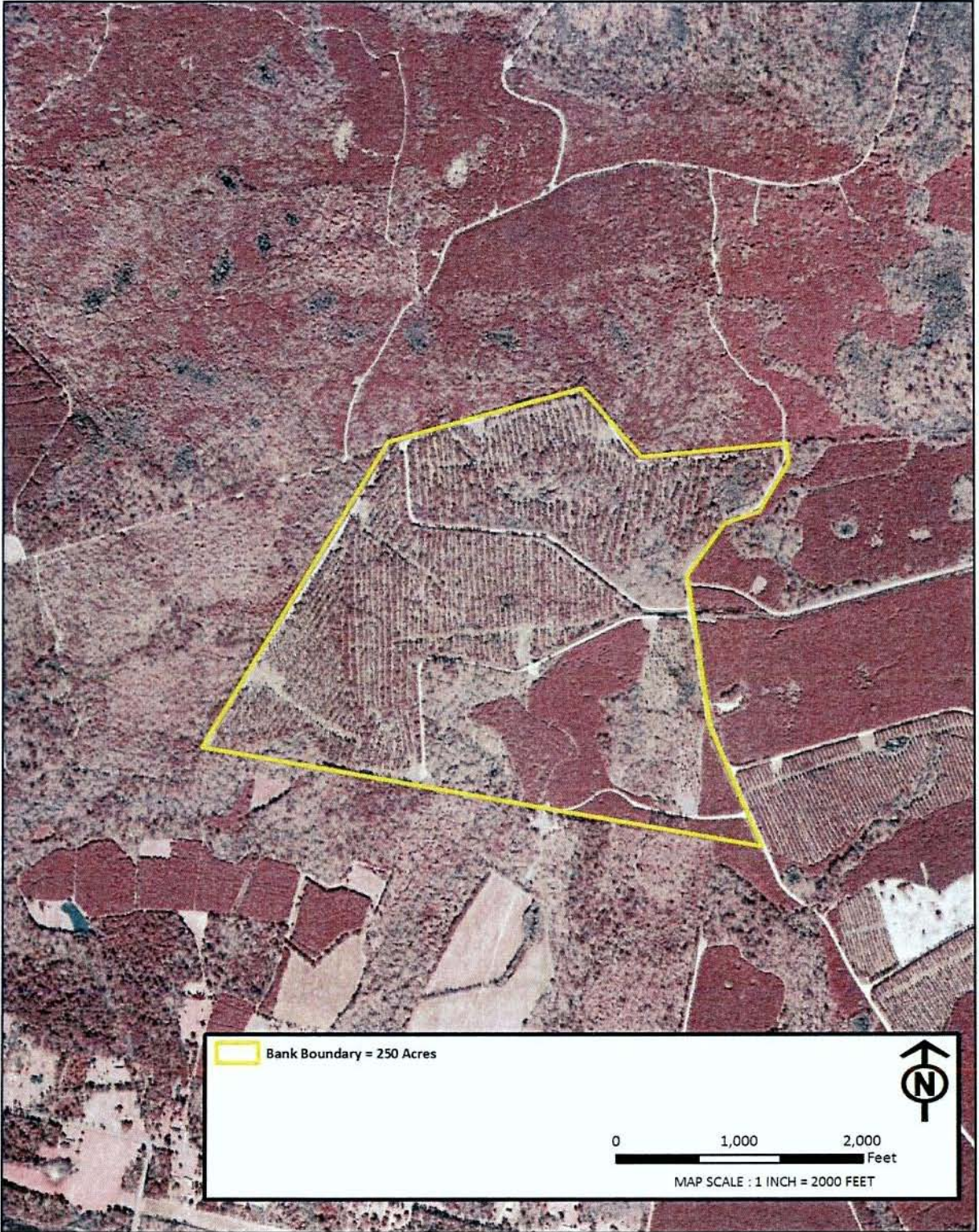


FIGURE 4, 2006 CIR PHOTOGRAPH, RAVENEL QUADRANGLE

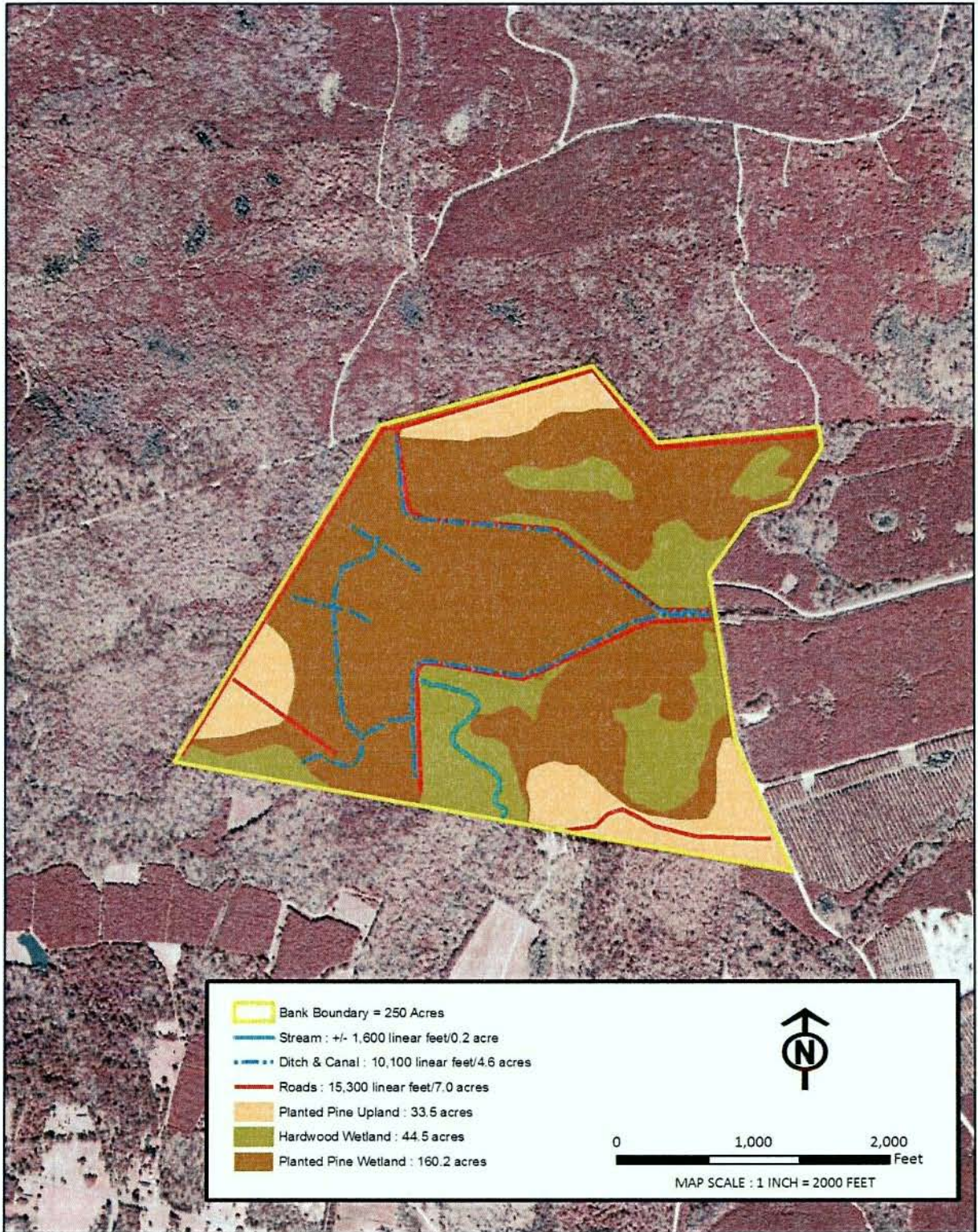
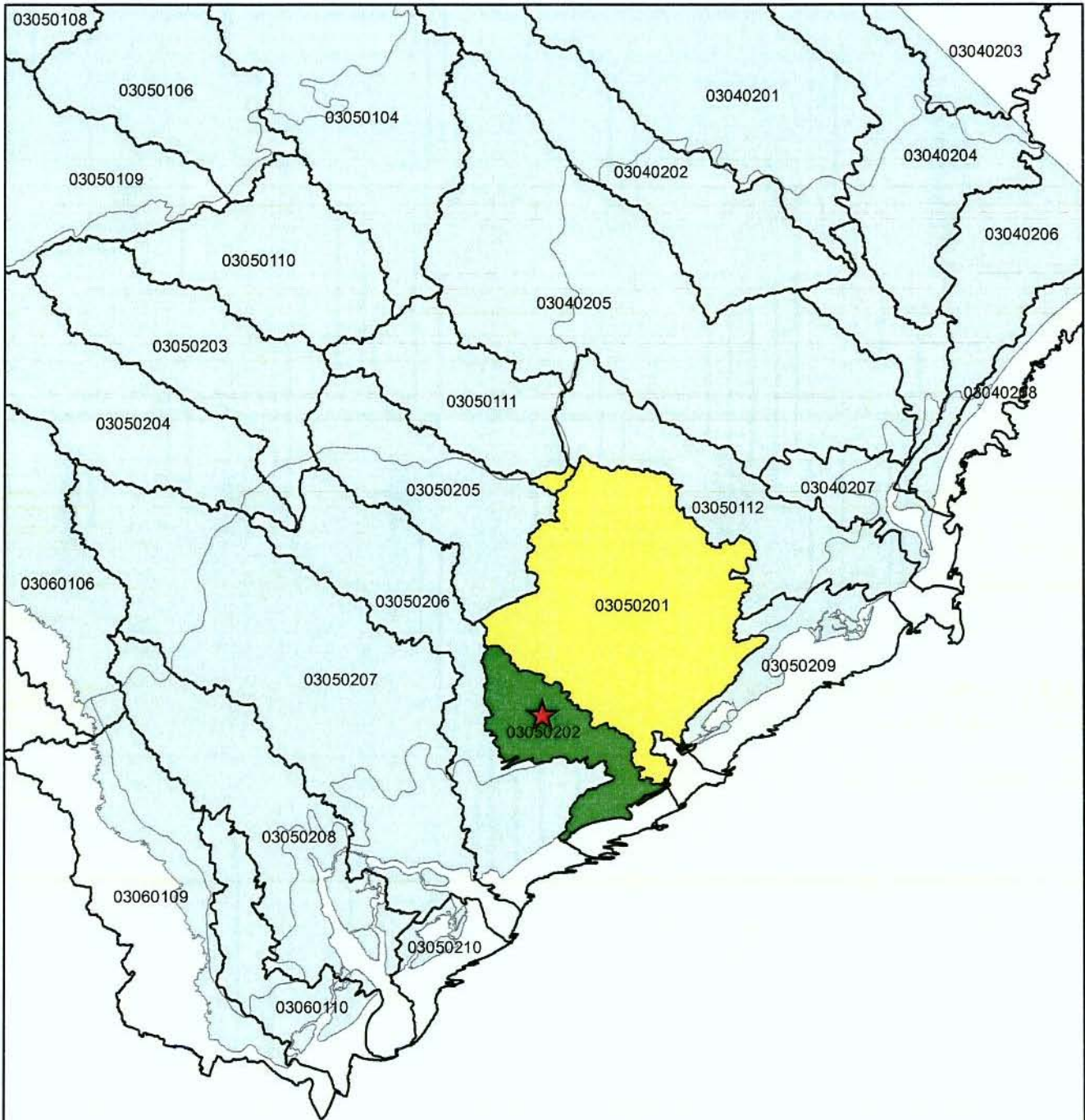






FIGURE 3, EXISTING HABITATS, 2006 CIR PHOTOGRAPH, RAVENEL QUADRANGLE



	PRIMARY SERVICE AREA	
	SECONDARY SERVICE AREA	
	SITE LOCATION	

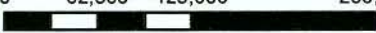
0 62,500 125,000 250,000 Feet

 MAP SCALE : 1 INCH = 125,000 FEET

FIGURE 9. POPLAR GROVE MITIGATION BANK SERVICE AREA MAP