

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

REGULATORY DIVISION
Refer to: P/N # SAC-2012-00095

December 18, 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

**FIGURE 8 SOUTH CAROLINA
ATTN: MR. BILL SCHROEDER
995 GATE PARKWAY NORTH, SUITE 330
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32246**

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

SIMPSON CREEK AND BUCK CREEK

at a location near the intersection of Bulloch Trail and South Carolina Highway 9 in Horry County, South Carolina (Latitude 33.96249 N, Longitude -78.763608 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 18, 2013

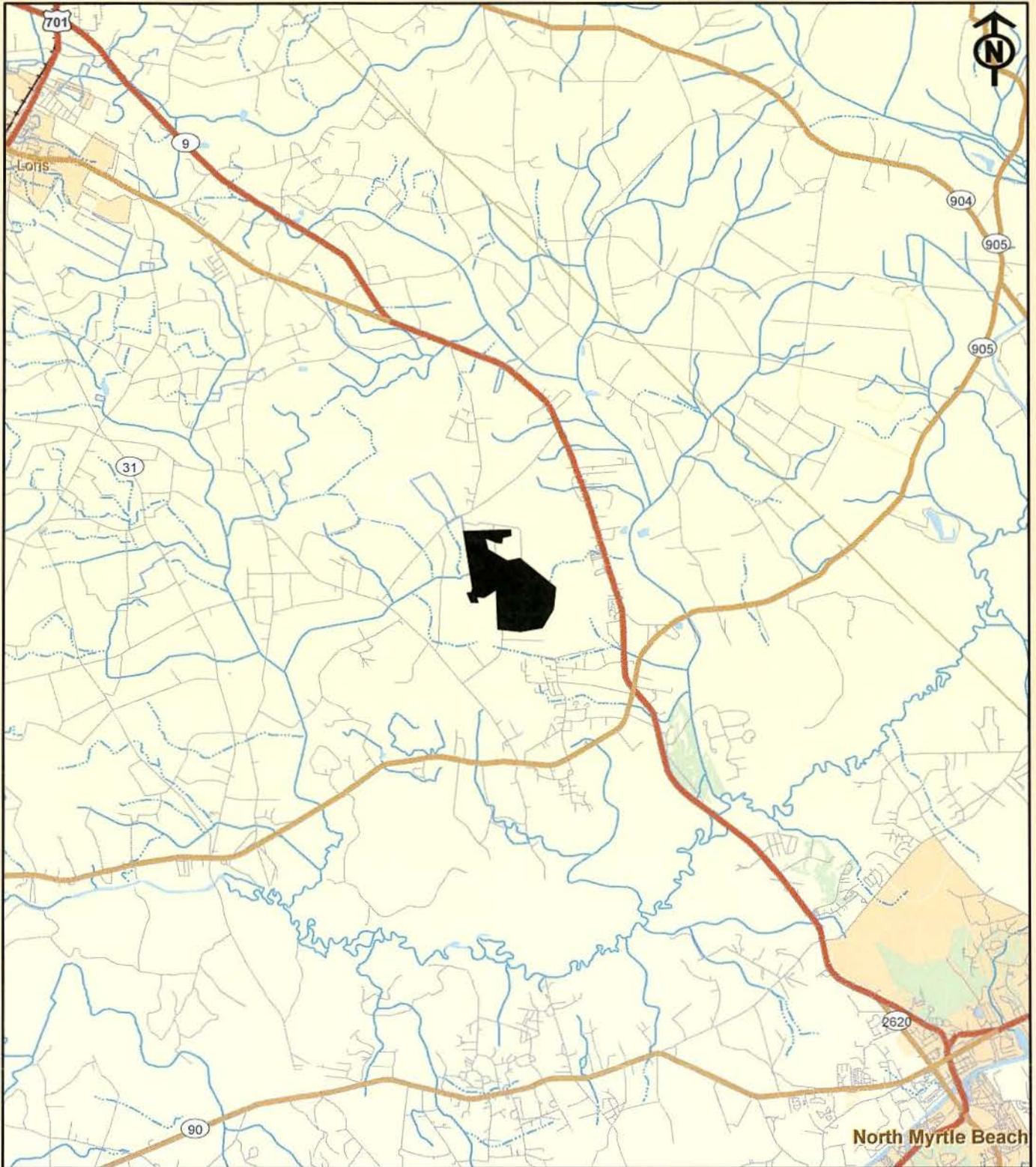
from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed project consists of establishing a freshwater wetland mitigation bank that is located within the Waccamaw River watershed (USGS 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code 03040206). The 733.75-acre mitigation bank site is a portion of a 1,678.55-acre parent tract that is subject to a development agreement with Horry County. According to the Prospectus, the bank sponsor is working with Horry County to amend the current development agreement for the 6,460-acre Carolina Station Tract, which includes the parent tract and the proposed mitigation bank site. The proposed Cowpen Swamp Mitigation Bank includes approximately 144.14 acres of wetlands, 562.79 acres of upland pine plantation, 17.26 acres of maintained roads, and 9.42 acres of maintained powerline right-of-way.

According to the bank sponsor, the proposed mitigation bank will enhance the existing 144.14 acres of wetlands on the project site and will restore both vegetation and hydrology within 415.26 acres of palustrine forested wetlands that were converted to upland pine plantation by past management activities. 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 monitoring wells will be installed on the mitigation bank site to document existing hydrology conditions and to document the restoration of natural hydrology 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.



 Mitigation Bank Boundary

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

Site Location Map
 Cowpen Swamp Mitigation Bank
 Horry County, South Carolina

Figure 1

Project Vicinity Map - ESRI StreetMap USA

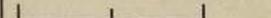
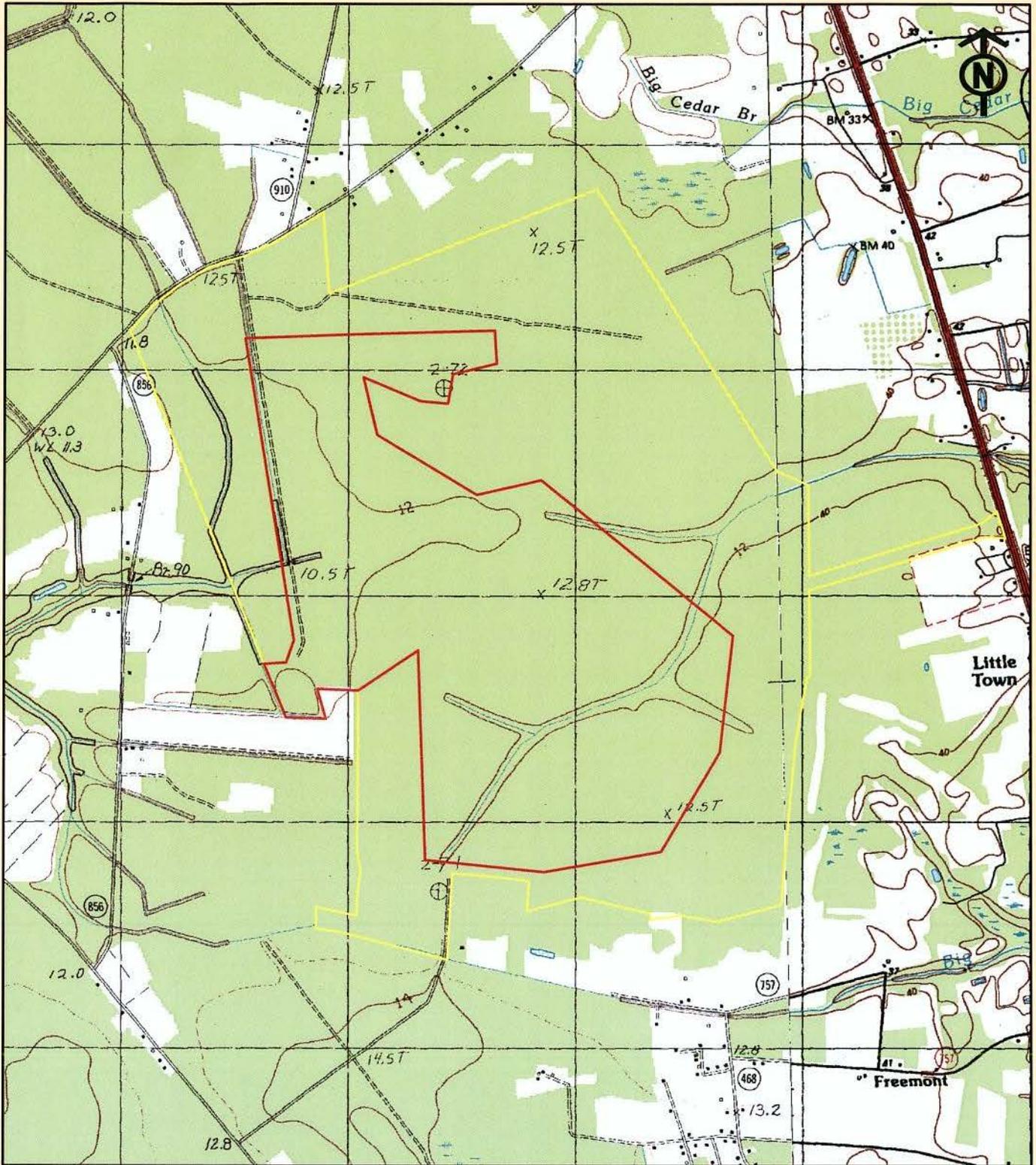
0 1 2 Miles


Exhibit Date: July 24, 2012

Drawn By: JPW

Reviewed By: SFS

Job Number : 01-11-018.1



Tract Boundary
 Mitigation Bank Boundary

sligh environmental consultants, inc.
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 fax (912) 232-0453

U.S. Geological Survey
 Hammond and Longs Quadrangles
 Cowpen Swamp Mitigation Bank
 Horry County, South Carolina

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

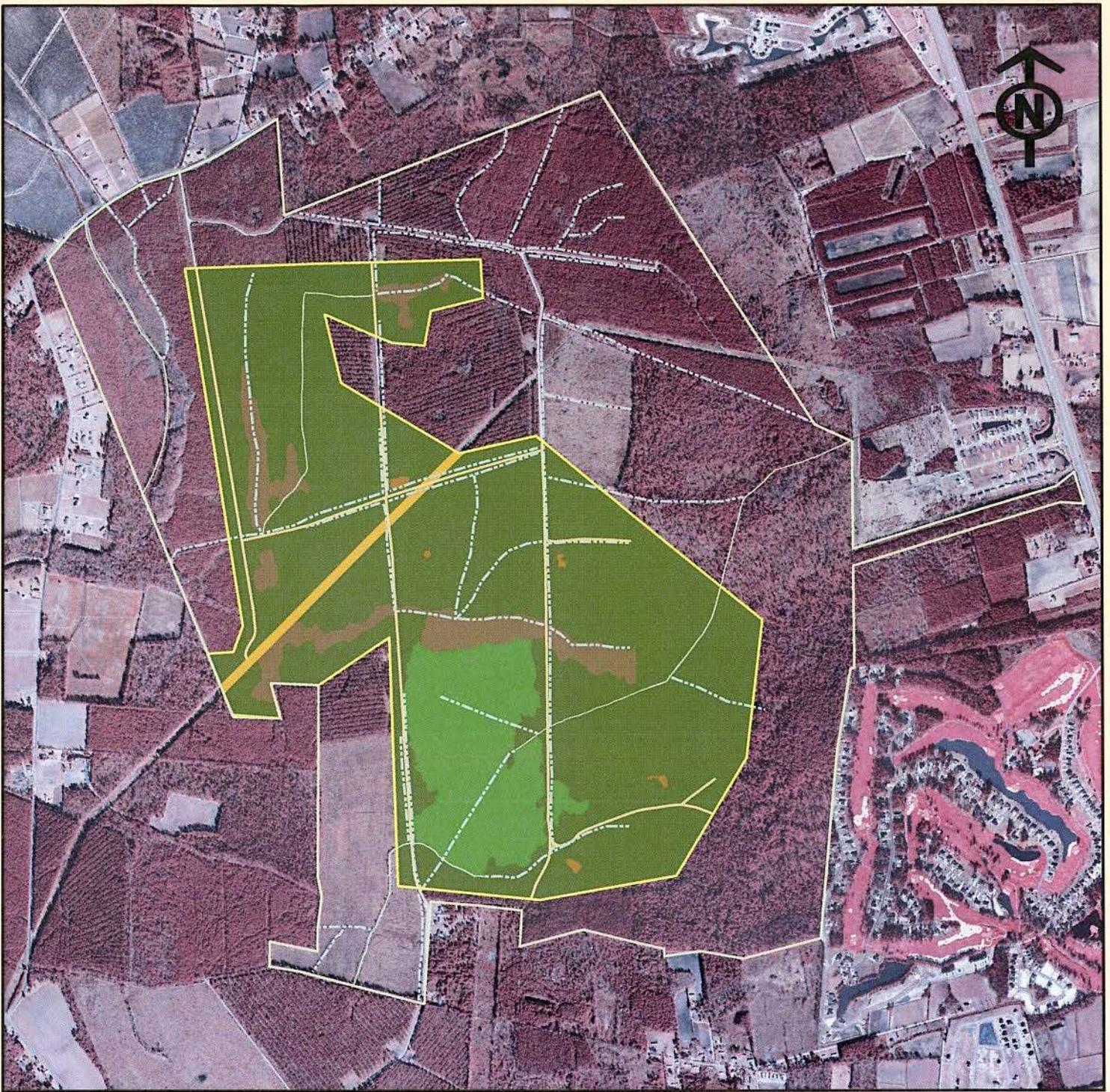
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Figure 2



Tract Boundary - 1,678.55 Acres	Isolated Depressional Wetland - 1.73 Acres	Silvicultural Ditch
Bank Footprint - 733.61	Planted Pine Wetland - 99.36 Acres	Jurisdictional Ditch
Pine Plantation Upland - 562.79 Acres	Powerline Right of Way - 9.42 Acres	
Hardwood Wetland - 43.05 Acres	Silvicultural Road - 17.26 Acres	

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Existing Habitat Exhibit
 Cowpen Swamp Mitigation Bank
 Horry County, South Carolina

Figure 11

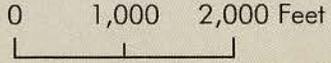
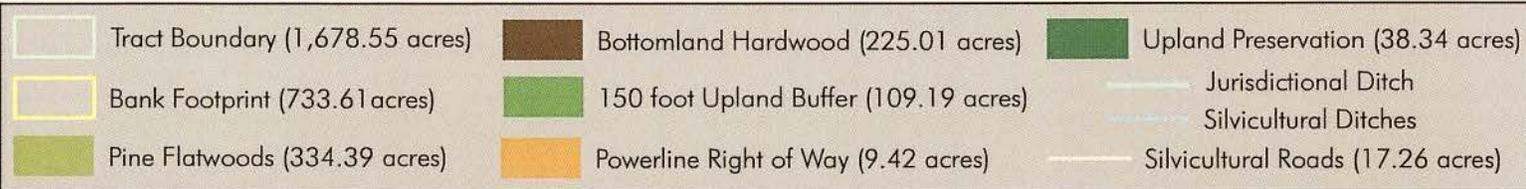
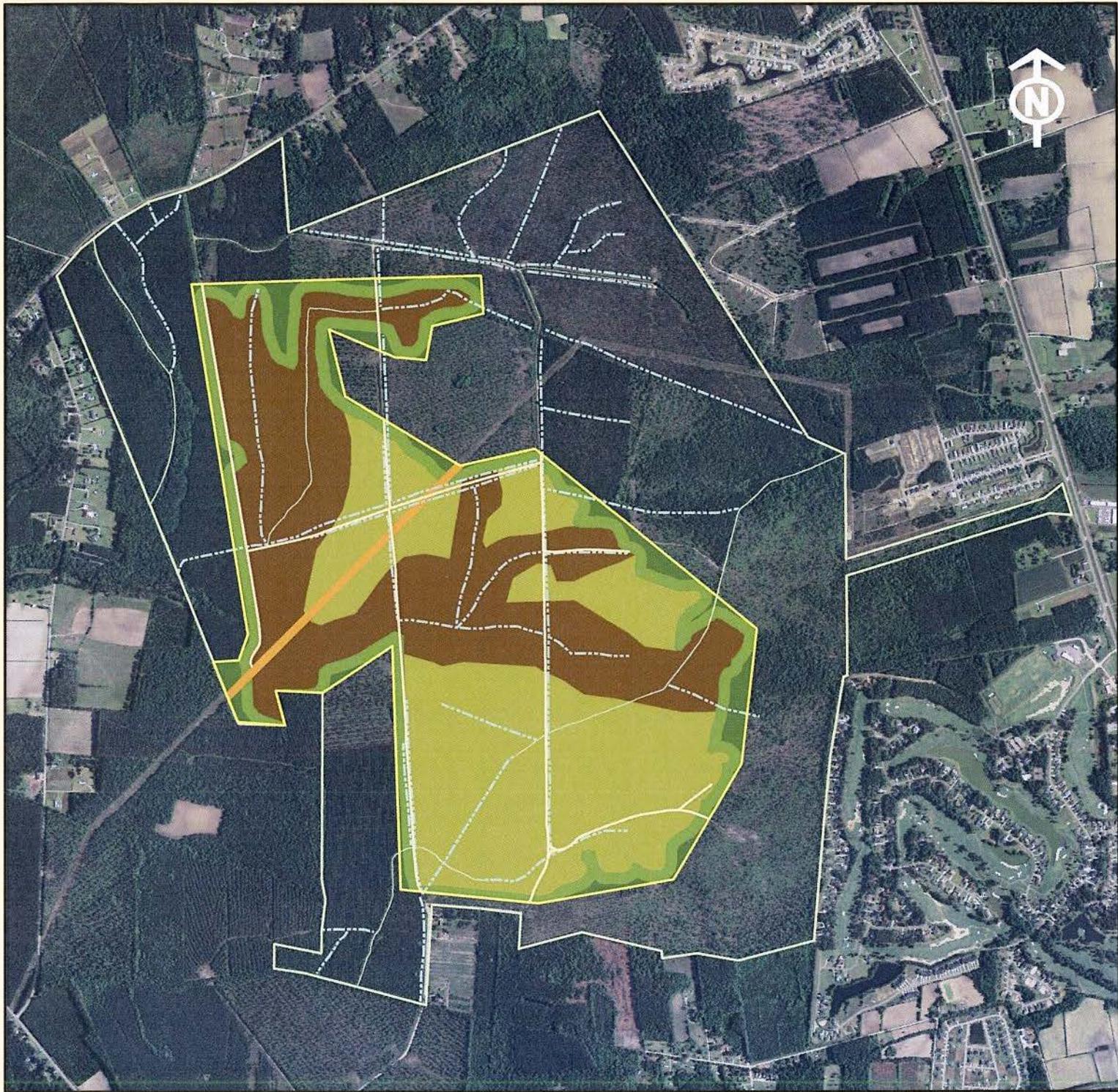


Exhibit Date: October 22, 2012

Drawn By: JPW

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Proposed Wetland Habitat
 Cowpen Swamp Mitigation Bank
 Horry County, South Carolina

Figure 12

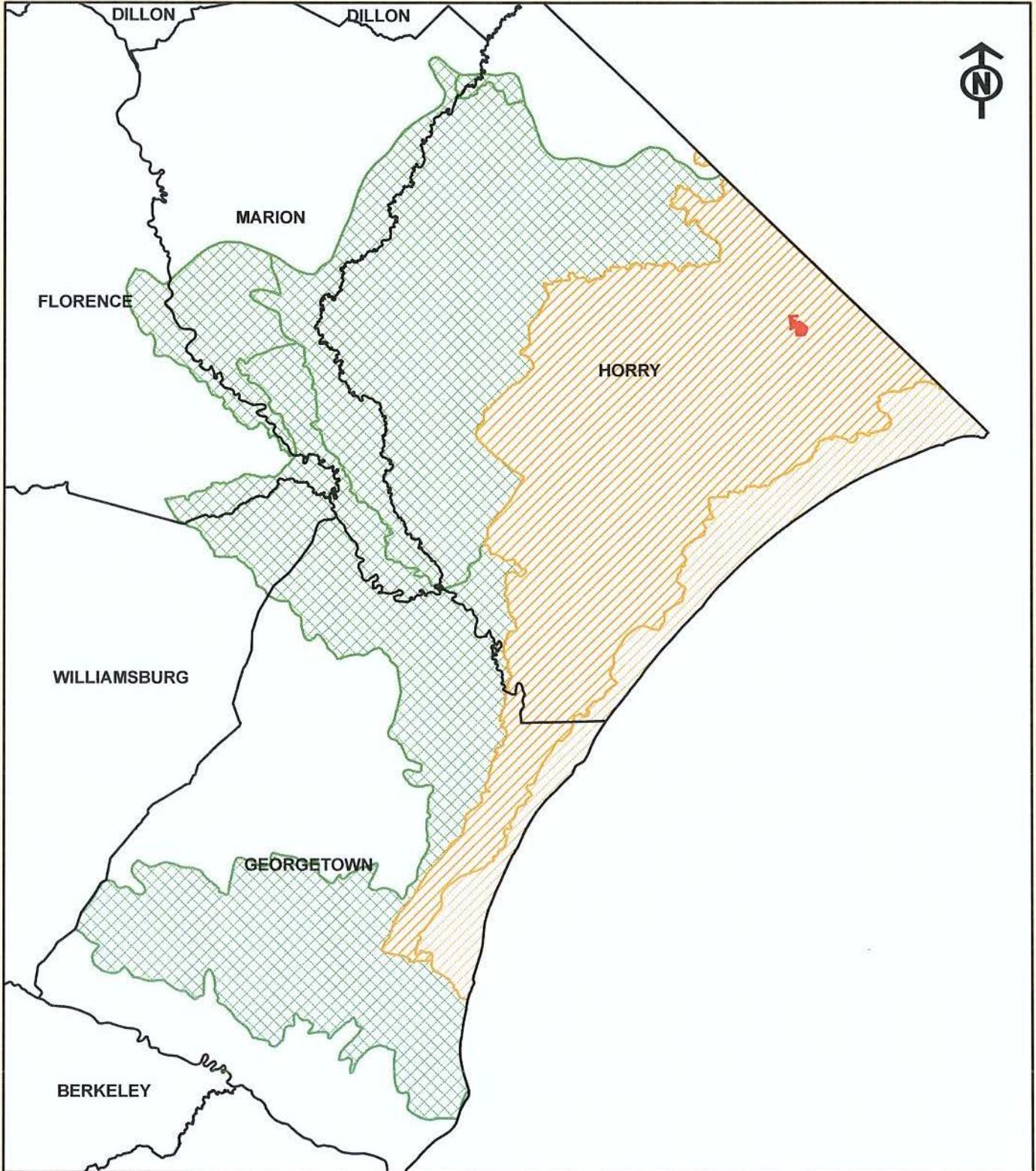
0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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Bank Site
 Primary Service Area
 Secondary Service Area
 County Boundaries

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Service Area Map
 Cowpen Swamp Mitigation Bank
 Horry County, South Carolina

Figure 15

0 7.5 15 Miles

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