

**JOINT**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION**  
**1949 Industrial Park Road, Room 140**  
**Conway, South Carolina 29526**

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 # 2013-00365-4E**

**19 JUNE 2013**

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), the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et seq.), and the S.C. Construction in Navigable Waters Permit Program (R. 19-450, et seq., 1976 S.C. Code of Laws, as amended), an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

**AL DE MARCHI**  
**WEDGEFIELD PLANTATION ASSOCIATION**  
**1956 WEDGEFIELD ROAD**  
**GEORGETOWN, SOUTH CAROLINA 29440**

for a permit to place fill material within a tidal ditch located at the end of a man-made canal that connects to the

**BLACK RIVER**

at a location north of Wedgefield Road, east of US Highway 701, north of the City of Georgetown, Georgetown County, South Carolina (Latitude 33.429031, Longitude -79.249815).

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, depicted as Project "A" on the applicant's plans, consists of the placement of fill and the extension of a stormwater pipe within a tidal ditch. In detail, the applicant proposes to extend an existing 24" pipe by 59' and backfill the area (0.14 acres/ 310 cubic yards) with clean fill. Complete avoidance of impacts to waters of the US was not possible due to the nature of the project and the erosion of the ditch below mean high water. According to the applicant, impacts were minimized by only placing fill material within the tidal ditch and

stabilizing the edge of the ditch to prevent further erosion or damage. Also, the work will be conducted during low tide when the water level is below the entrance into the tidal ditch. The applicant does not propose any mitigation "since the project is beneficial to both the Wedgefield Plantation Association, the State of South Carolina, and the various utility companies serving the Plantation". According to the applicant, this project will prevent further erosion and the eventual collapse of the bank which has several utility boxes located along the edge of the eroding tidal ditch. The purpose of the proposed project, as stated by the applicant, is to "stop the severe erosion caused by drainage from the Plantation into the existing man-made canals".

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  
1949 Industrial Park Road, Room 140  
Conway, South Carolina 29526.**

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 South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (15 CFR 930). The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certifications are 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 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 0.146 acres of tidal marsh habitat with 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.

Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended), the District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and 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 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.

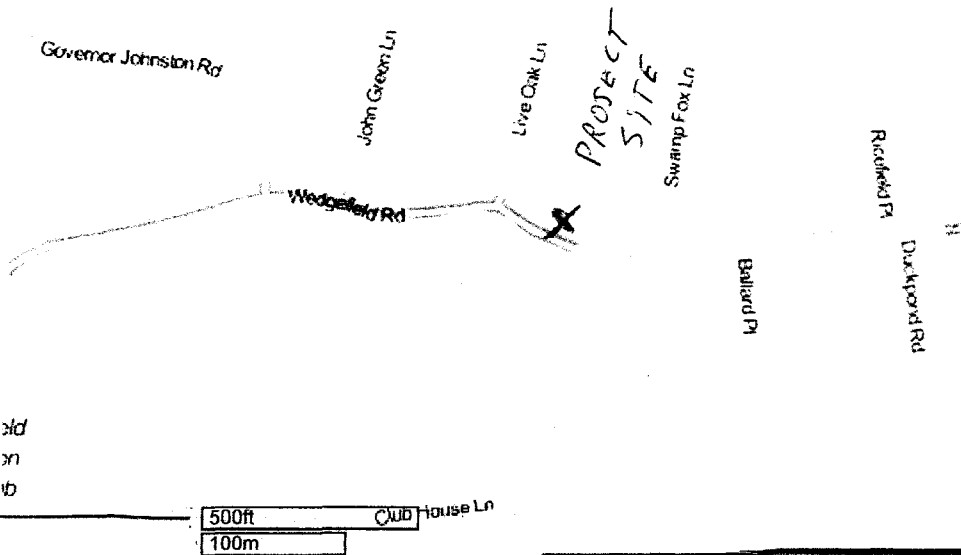
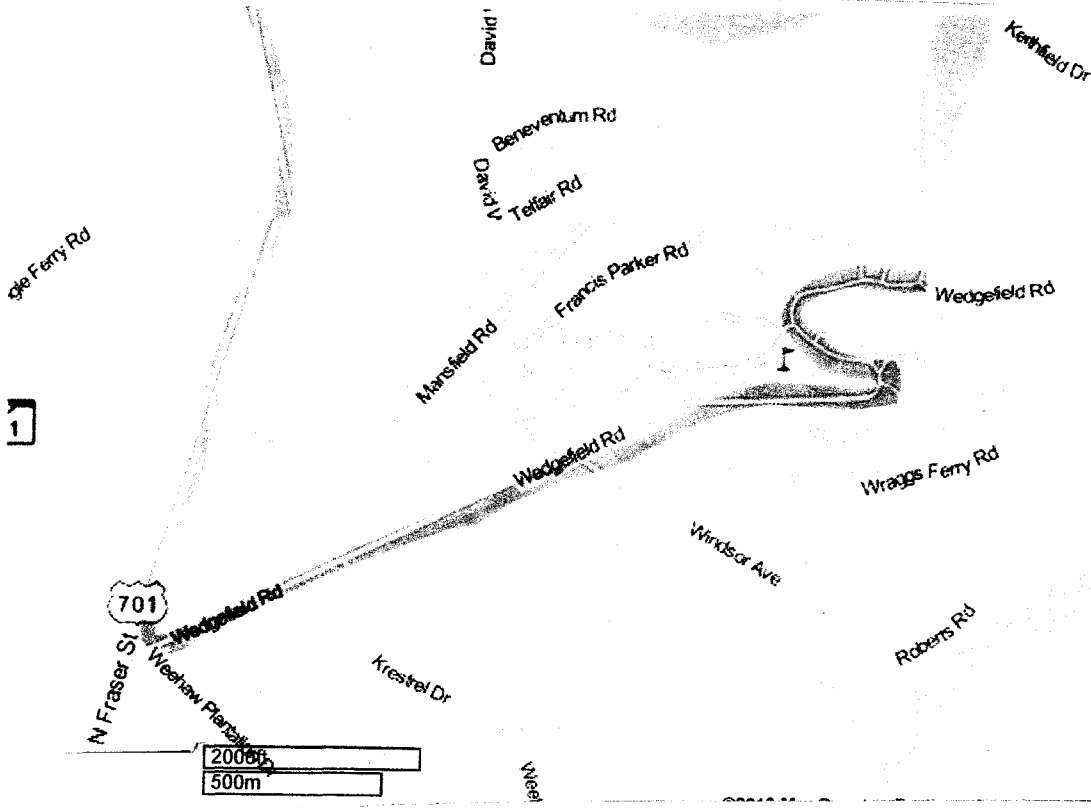
The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest and will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under authority of Section 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.

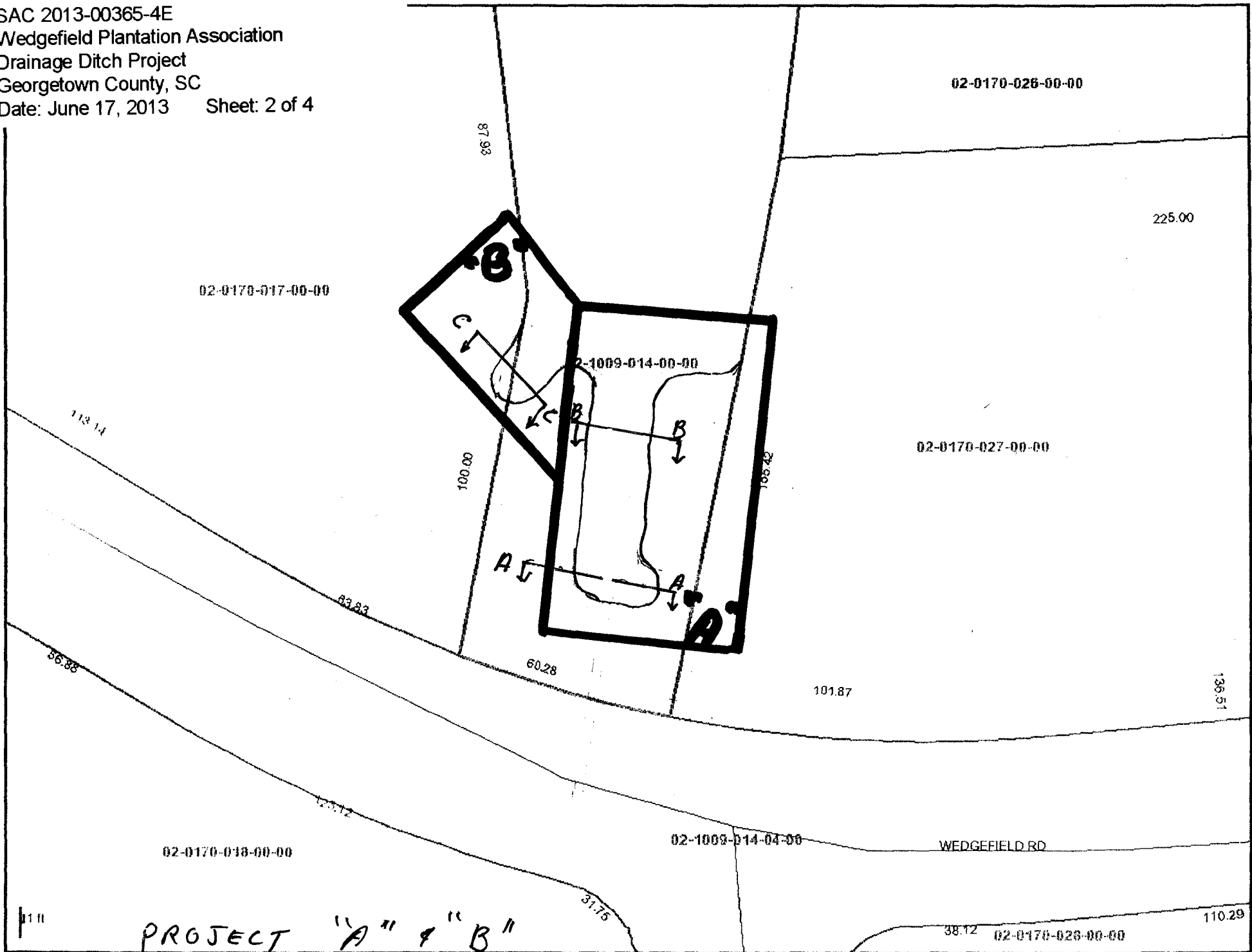
The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine 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 Ann Eaddy at 843-365-1709.

Notes

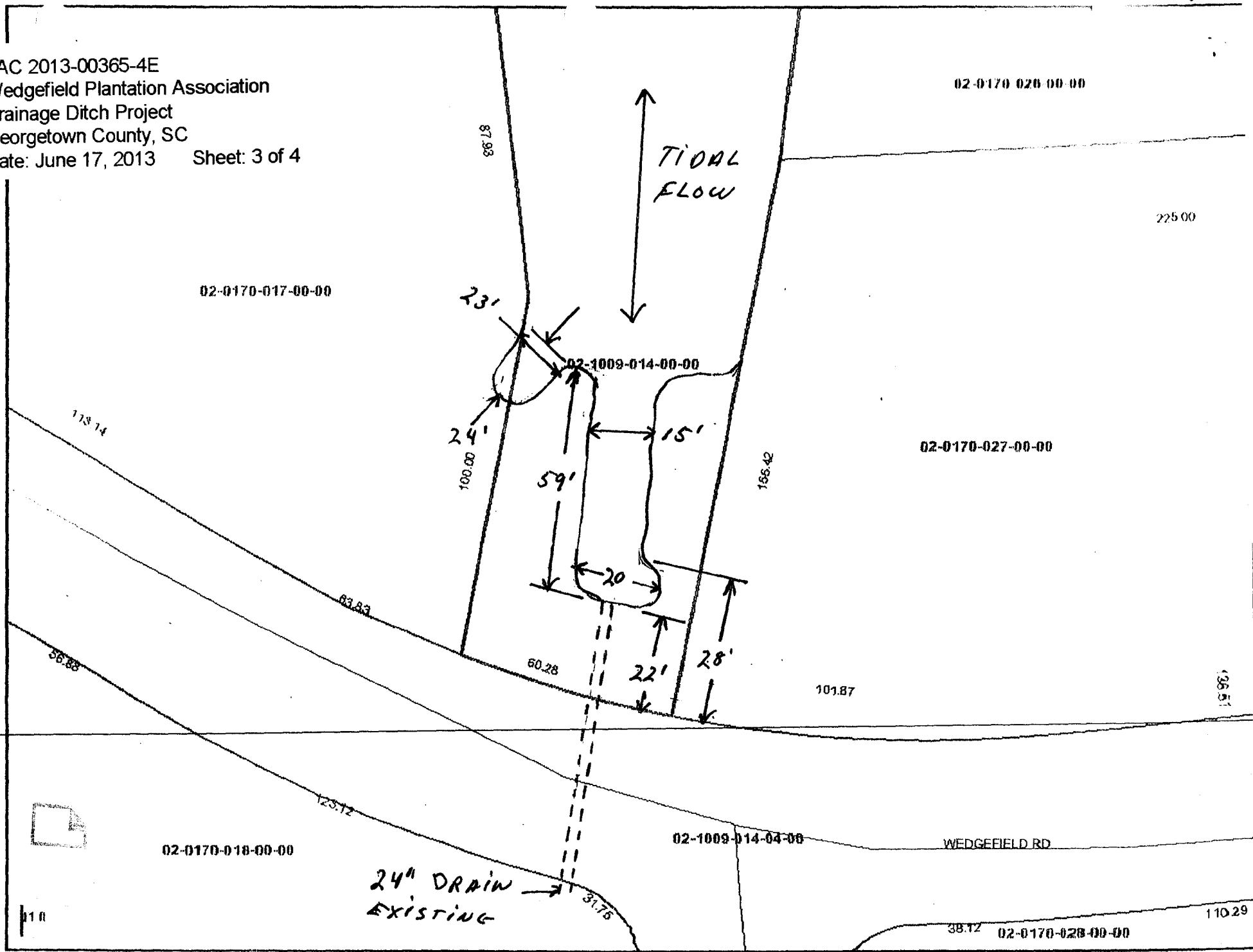
Conway to project site in Wedgefield Plantation. 701 South to Wedgefield Road. Follow Wedgefield Road to the project site located on the north side between Swamp Fox Lane and Live Oak Lane.

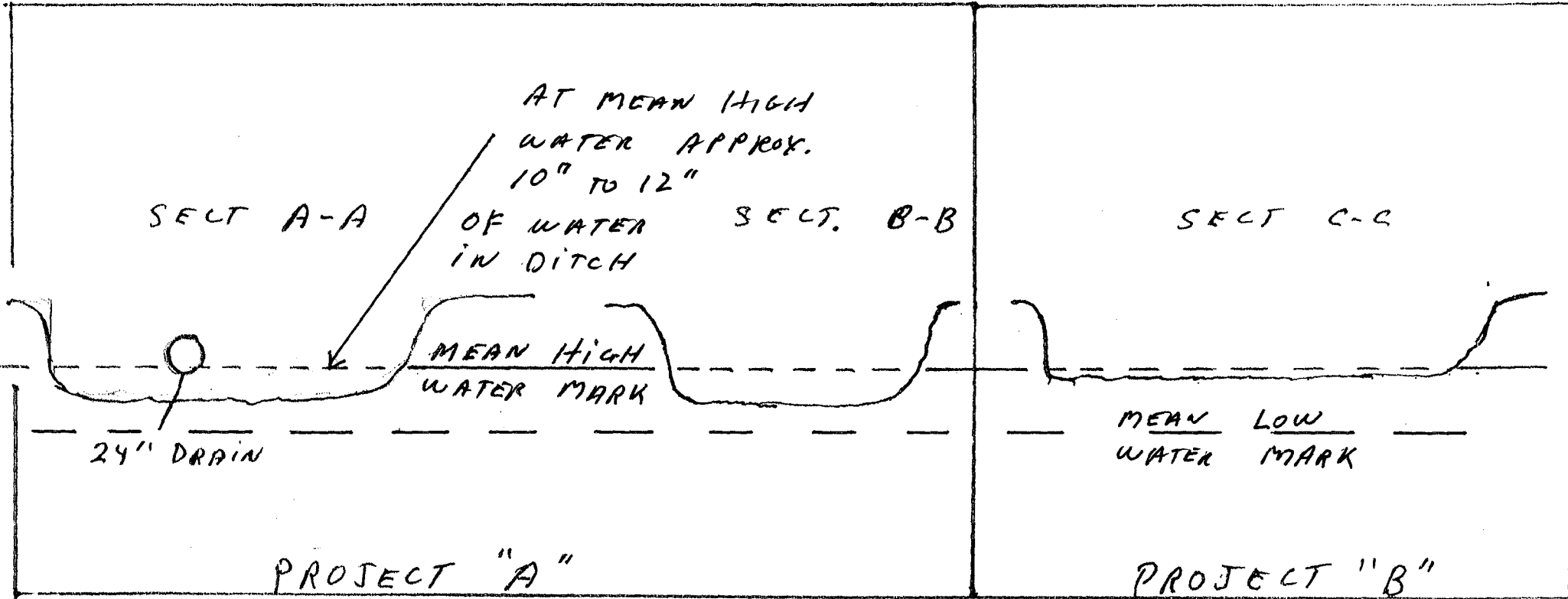




PROJECT "A" & "B"

SAC 2013-00365-4E  
 Wedgefield Plantation Association  
 Drainage Ditch Project  
 Georgetown County, SC  
 Date: June 17, 2013 Sheet: 3 of 4





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SAC 2013-00365-4E  
 Wedgefield Plantation Association  
 Drainage Ditch Project  
 Georgetown County, SC  
 Date: June 17, 2013    Sheet: 4 of 4