

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

December 7, 2007

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N # **2007-2525-11Q**

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), 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

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
c/o Mr. JOE COOK
POST OFFICE DRAWER 309
BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29901

for a permit to place fill material in wetlands draining to

SAWMILL CREEK

at a location adjacent and east of Buck Island Road (S-7-29), about 0.5-mile north of the intersection with Simmonsville Road, in the Town of Bluffton, Beaufort County (S-7-474) (Lat. 32.25119; Long. -80.87834).

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 both of the above mentioned offices until

12 O'CLOCK NOON, MONDAY, January 07, 2008

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

The proposed work consists of placing fill material in 2.95 acres of wetlands and other jurisdictional waters to facilitate construction of a new middle school building and associated campus facilities. As mitigation for the proposed impacts, the applicant proposes to preserve and buffer the remaining 11.32 acres of on-site wetlands and other waters. The applicant has requested that mitigation credits in excess of those offset by on-site preservation be deferred by a variance recognized in the Corps of Engineers' Standard Operating Procedure for Compensatory Mitigation because of the public interest aspect of the project.

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N # 2007-2525-11Q

December 07, 2007

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
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107.**

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. 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 2.95 acres of freshwater wetlands upstream 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 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.

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N # **2007-2525-1IQ**

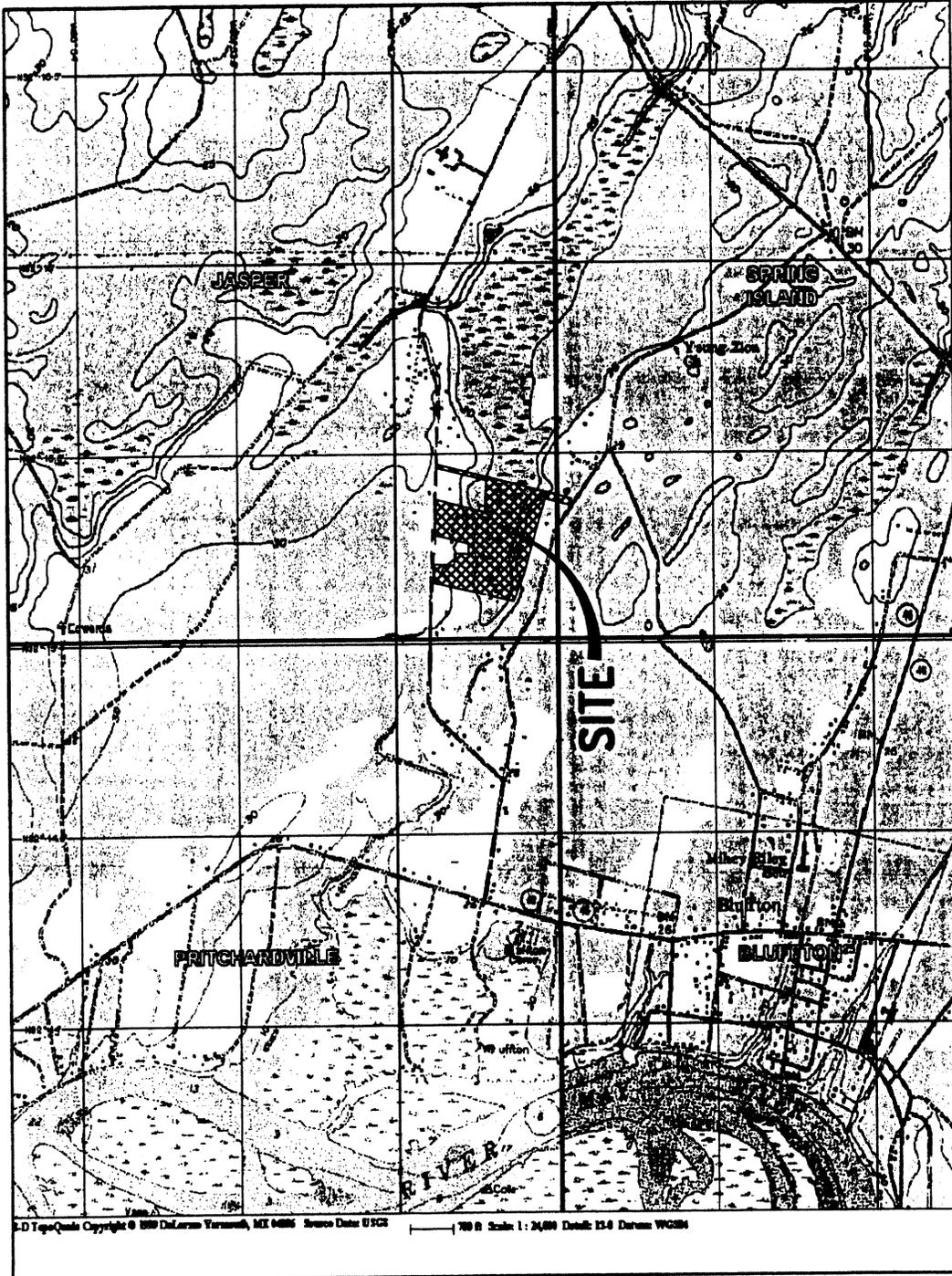
December 07, 2007

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 Paul Hinchcliff at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.



D TopoQuads Copyright © 1999 DeLorme Vermont, VT 05485 Source Data © 1922 700 ft Scale 1:24,000 Detail 1:4,000 Derive WGS84

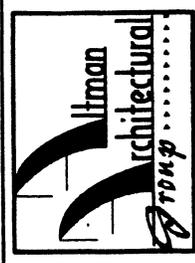
BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED ACTION: NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
 BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.
 APPLICANT: BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

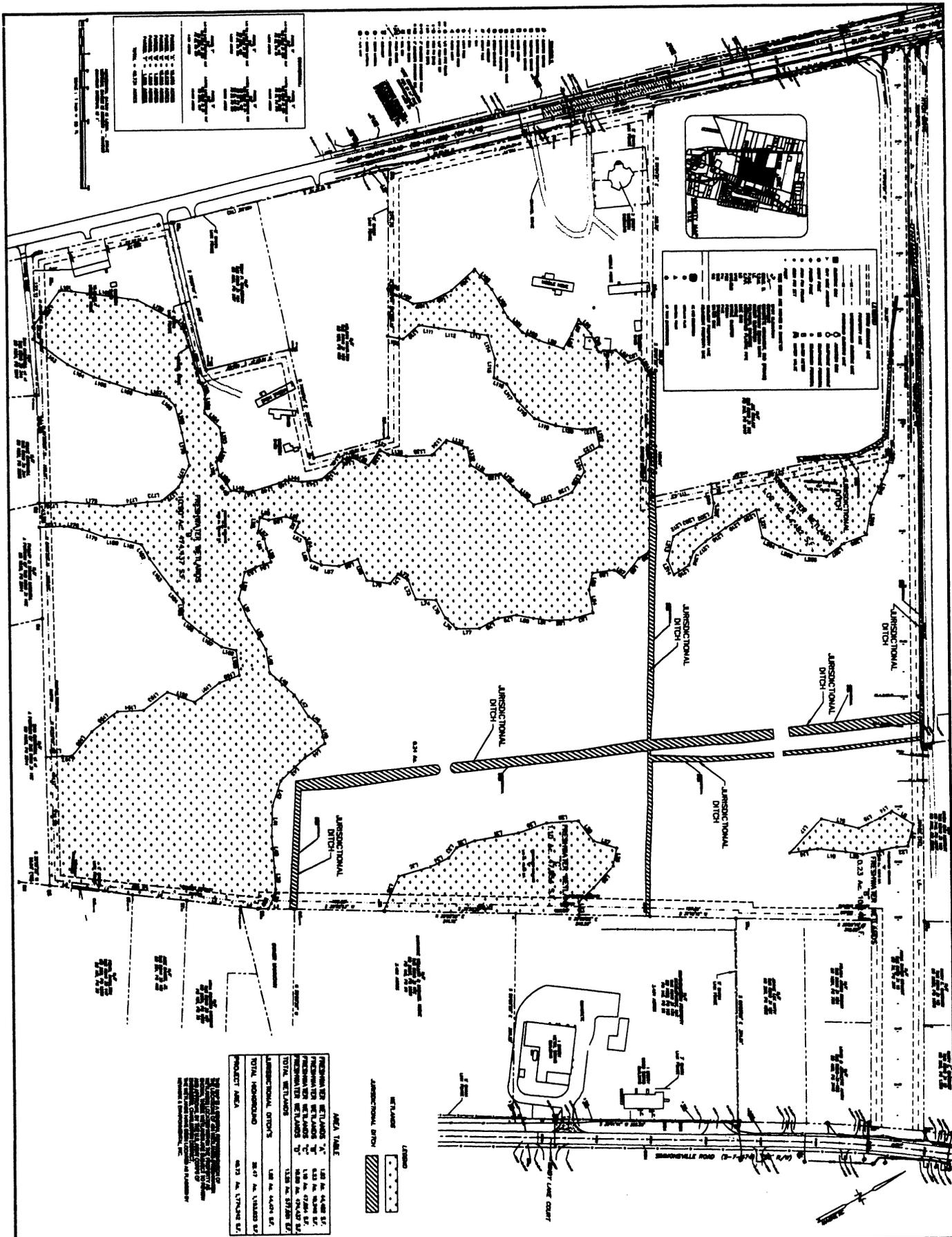
VICINITY MAP 11-16-07 1 of 10

Army Corps of Engineers
 Charleston District
 PE Hinchliff, Biologist
 Beaufort County School District
 Proposed New Middle School / Beaufort County SC
 Date: 07DEC07
 Ref: P/N# 2007-2525-11Q

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317 PROFESSIONAL
 BEAUFORT, SC 299
 PLANNING ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM





Symbol	Description
(Stippled Area)	WETLAND
(Dashed Line)	PROPERTY LINE
(Solid Line)	EXISTING ROAD
(Hatched Area)	PROPOSED ROAD
(Circle with Cross)	WELL
(Square with Cross)	UTILITY
(Triangle)	OBSTACLE
(Star)	PROPOSED STRUCTURE
(Circle with Dots)	PROPOSED DRIVE
(Circle with X)	PROPOSED DRIVE
(Circle with +)	PROPOSED DRIVE
(Circle with -)	PROPOSED DRIVE
(Circle with /)	PROPOSED DRIVE
(Circle with \)	PROPOSED DRIVE
(Circle with .)	PROPOSED DRIVE
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(Circle with v)	PROPOSED DRIVE
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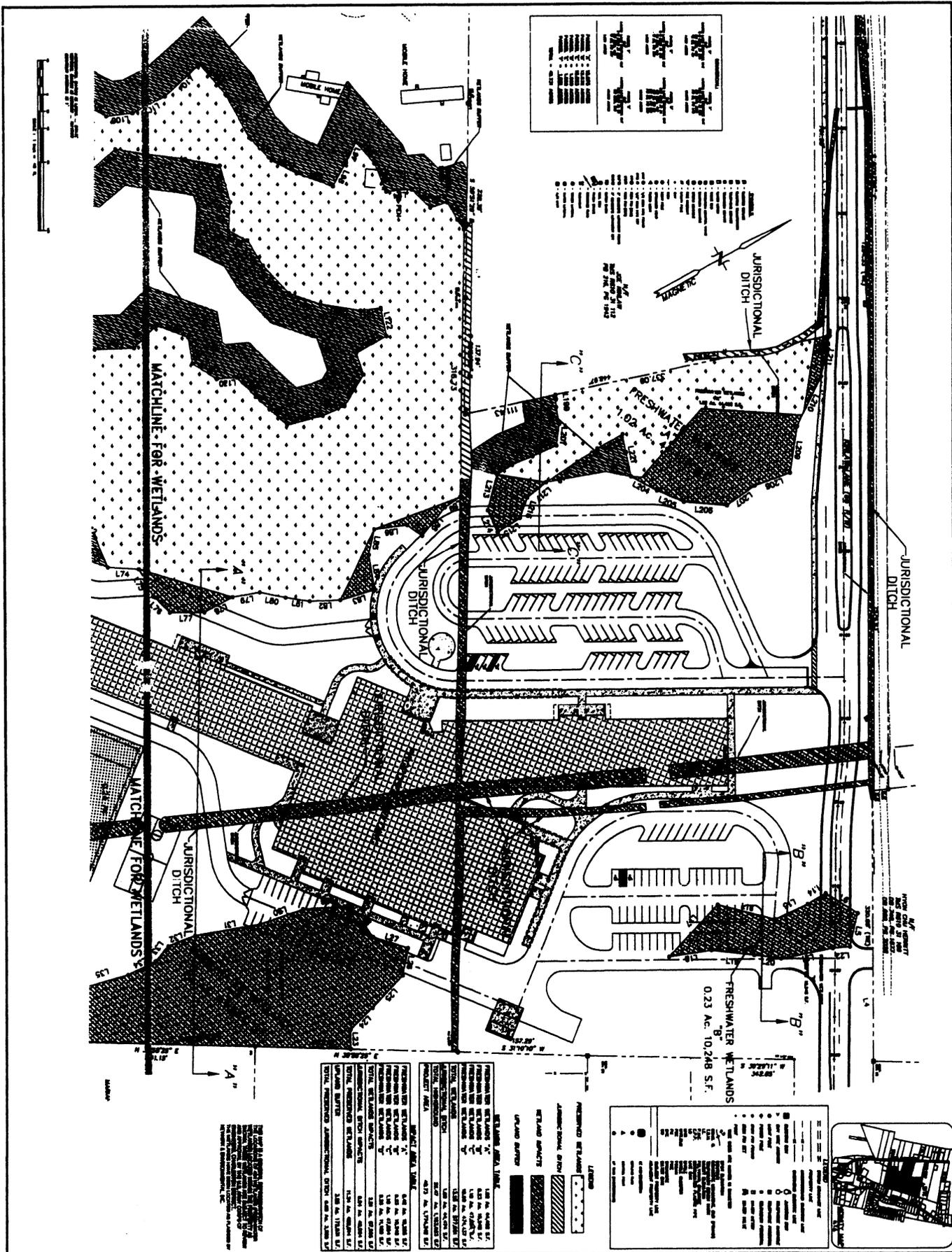
BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
 BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.
 APPLICANT: BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

2 of 10 EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN 11-16-07

Army Corps of Engineers
 Charleston District
 Hinchliff, Biologist

Beaufort County School District
Proposed New Middle School / Beaufort County SC
 Date: 07DEC07
 Ref: P/N# 2007-2525-11Q sheet 2 of 10

31 PROFESSIONAL VILLAGE 'CIRCLE'
 BEAUFORT, SC 29907 (843) 884-8821
 STRUCTURE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT



BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
 BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.
 APPLICANT: BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Army Corps of Engineers
 Charleston District
 P. Hinchliff, Biologist

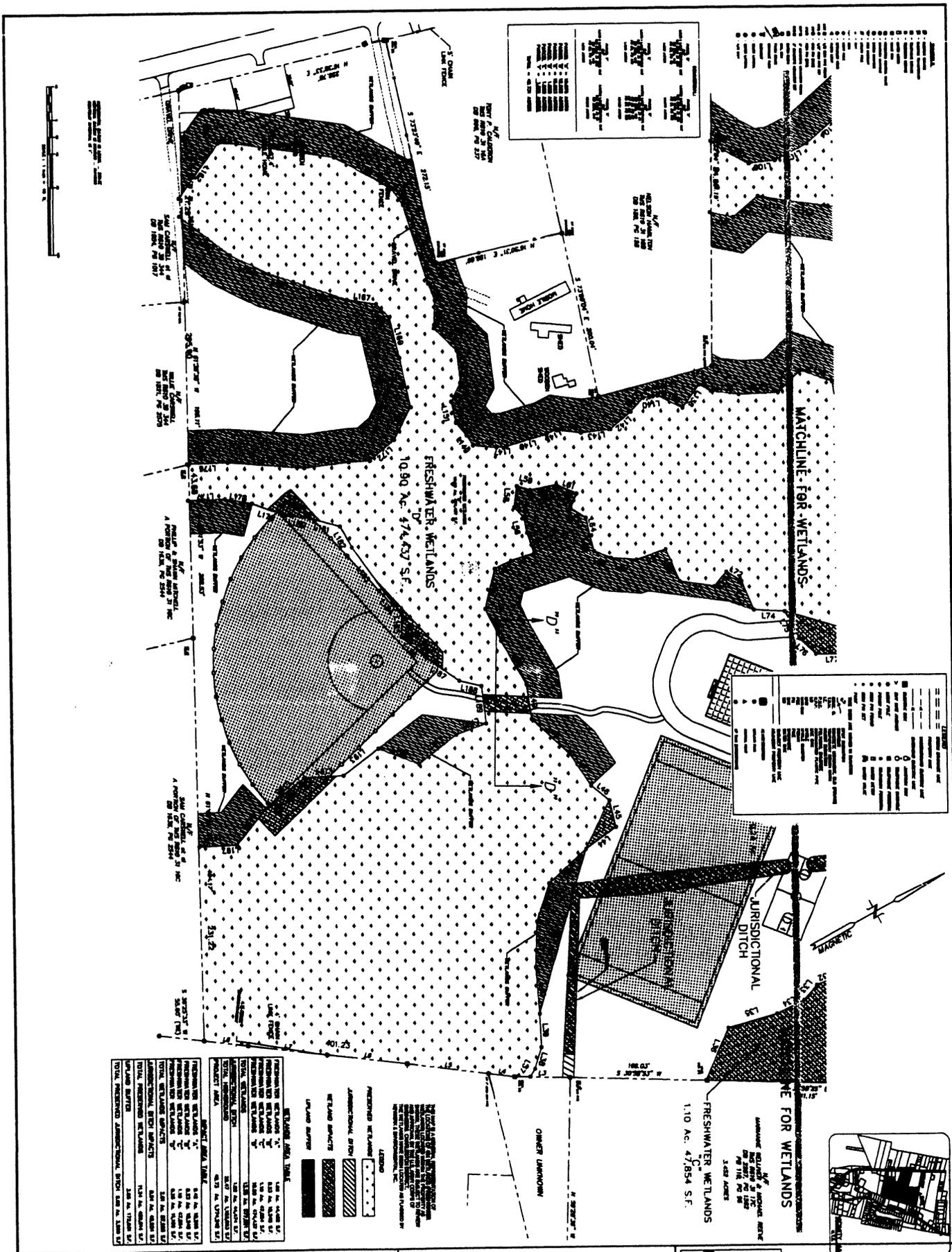
Beaufort County School District
 Proposed New Middle School / Beaufort County SC

Date: 07DEC07

Ref: P/N# 2007-2525-11Q

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PROFESSIONAL VILLAGE CIRCLE
 LUFKIN, TX 75907 (409) 938-8851
 ALL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT



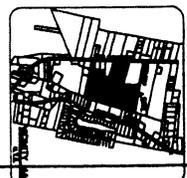
LEGEND	
	JURISDICTIONAL DITCH
	WETLAND BUFFER
	FRESHWATER WETLANDS
	OTHER WETLANDS
	OTHER FEATURES

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
 BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.
 APPLICANT: BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

4 of 10 PRELIMINARY WETLAND IMPACT PLAN 11-16-07

Army Corps of Engineers
 Charleston District
 P/Hinchliff, Biologist

Beaufort County School District
 Proposed New Middle School / Beaufort County SC
 Date: 07DEC07
 Ref: P/N# 2007-2525-11Q sheet 4 of 10



PROFESSIONAL VILLAGE CIRCLE
 LENOIR, NC 27561 (919) 986-4801
 J/E PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

WETLANDS AREA TABLE

FRESHWATER WETLANDS "A"	1.02 AC.	44,482 S.F.
FRESHWATER WETLANDS "B"	0.23 AC.	10,248 S.F.
FRESHWATER WETLANDS "C"	1.10 AC.	47,854 S.F.
FRESHWATER WETLANDS "D"	10.90 AC.	474,437 S.F.
TOTAL WETLANDS	13.25 AC.	577,021 S.F.
JURISDICTIONAL DITCH	1.02 AC.	44,474 S.F.
TOTAL HIGHGROUND	26.47 AC.	1,153,033 S.F.
PROJECT AREA	40.73 AC.	1,774,242 S.F.

IMPACT AREA TABLE

FRESHWATER WETLANDS "A"	0.42 AC.	18,295 S.F.
FRESHWATER WETLANDS "B"	0.23 AC.	10,248 S.F.
FRESHWATER WETLANDS "C"	1.10 AC.	47,854 S.F.
FRESHWATER WETLANDS "D"	0.26 AC.	11,189 S.F.
TOTAL WETLANDS IMPACTS	2.01 AC.	87,556 S.F.
JURISDICTIONAL DITCH IMPACTS	0.94 AC.	40,924 S.F.
TOTAL PRESERVED WETLANDS	11.24 AC.	489,614 S.F.
UPLAND BUFFER	3.95 AC.	172,031 S.F.
TOTAL PRESERVED JURISDICTIONAL DITCH	0.08 AC.	3,550 S.F.

THIS MAP IS A GENERAL REPRESENTATION OF THE LOCATIONS OF 404 WETLANDS (FRESHWATER WETLANDS) LOCATED WITHIN THE PROPERTY AS SHOWN. THESE WETLANDS ARE SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, CHARLESTON DISTRICT. THE WETLANDS HAVE BEEN LOCATED AS FLAGGED BY NEWKIRK & ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

Army Corps of Engineers

Charleston District
 Jeff Hinchliff, Biologist

Beaufort County School District

Proposed New Middle School / Beaufort County SC

Date: 07DEC07

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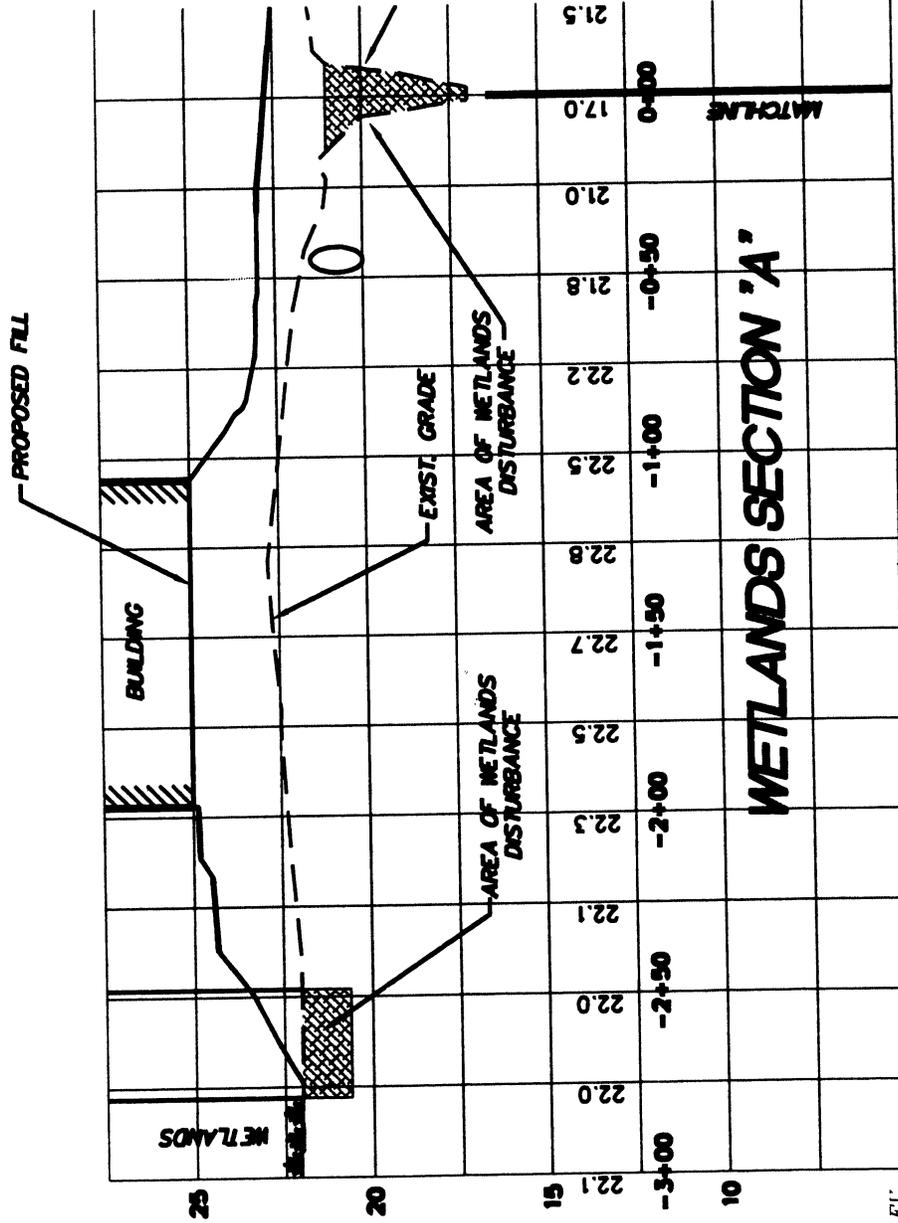


37 PROFESSIONAL
 BEAUFORT, SC 2
 PLANNING ARCHITECTURE PROGRA

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
 BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.
 APPLICANT: BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

WETLANDS TABLES 11-16-07

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DATUM ELEV.
5.00

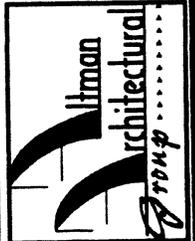
WETLANDS SECTION "A"

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED AGENTS: NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
 BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.
 ATTACHMENT: BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

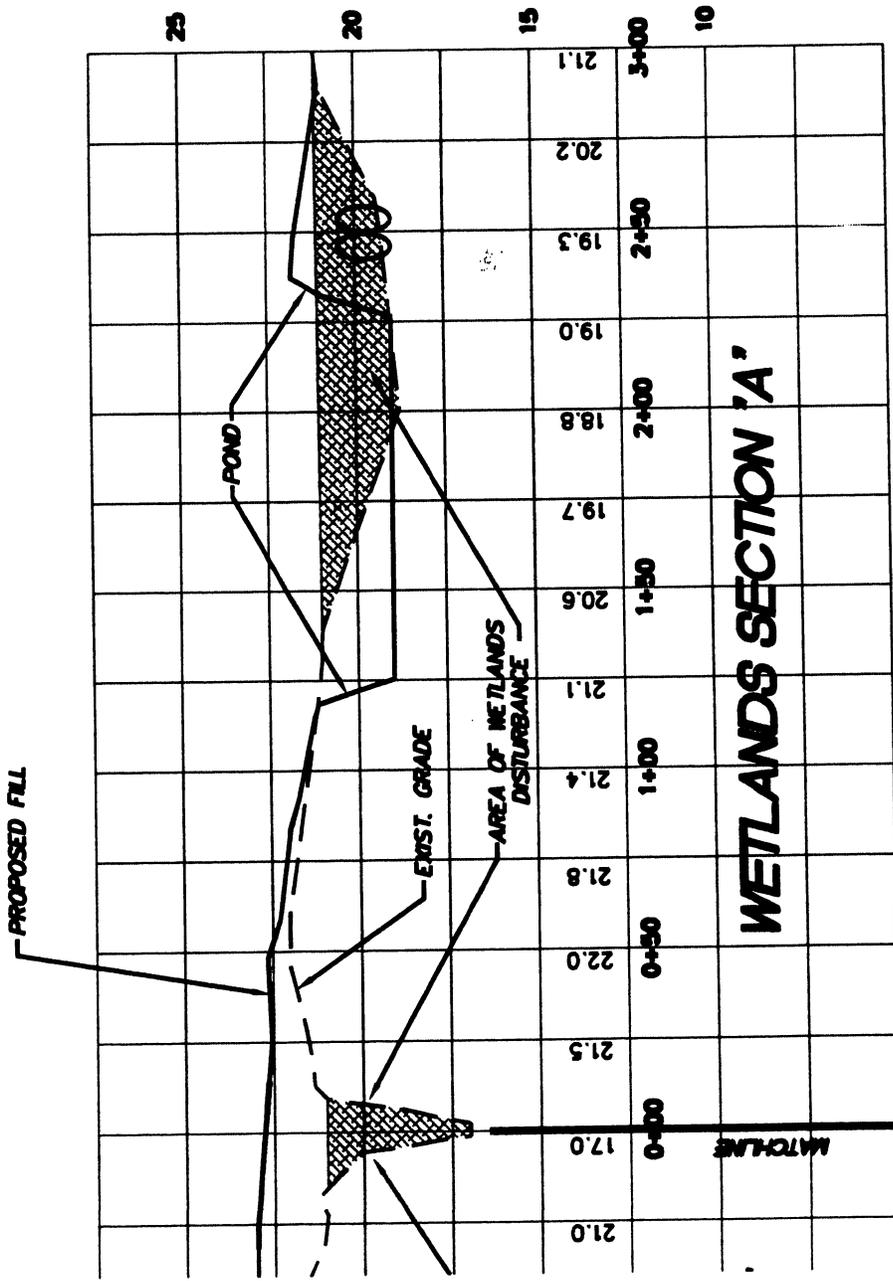
CROSS SECTION A 11-16-07 6 of 10

Army Corps of Engineers
 Charleston District
 Ft. Hitchcock, Biologist
 Beaufort County School District
 Proposed New Middle School / Beaufort County SC
 Date: 07DEC07
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 BEAUFORT, SC 29
 PLANNING ARCHITECTURE PROGRA



WETLANDS SECTION 'A'

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: **NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL**
 BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.
 AFFILIANT: **BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

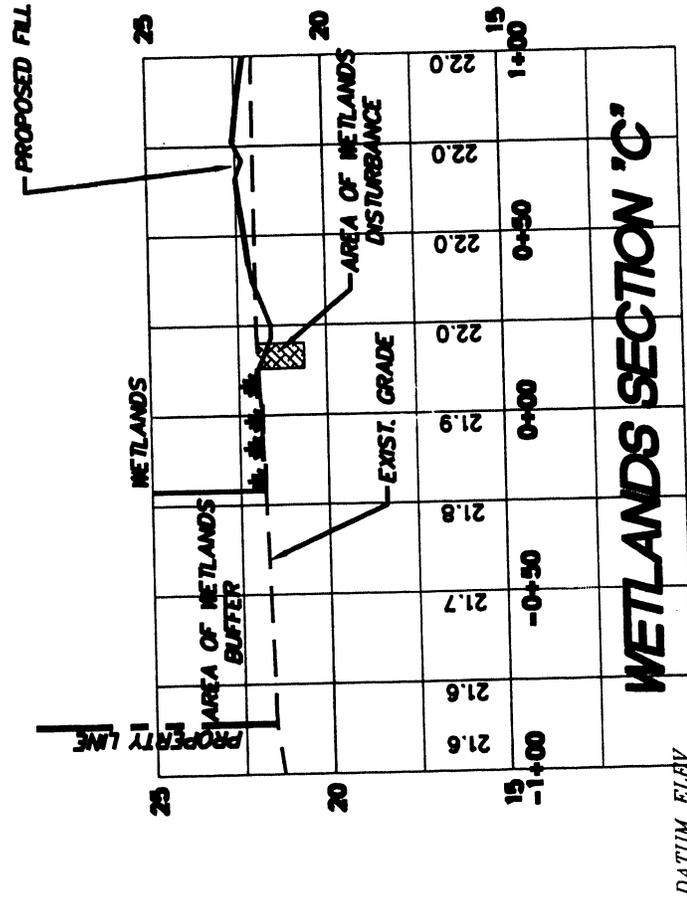
CROSS SECTION A11-16-07 7 of 10

Army Corps of Engineers
 Charleston District
 Hinchliff, Biologist
 Beaufort County School District
 Proposed New Middle School / Beaufort County SC

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 BEAUFORT, SC 299
 PLANNING ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM



BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED AGENTS: NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
 BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.
 APPLICANT: BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

CROSS SECTION C 11-16-07 9 of 10

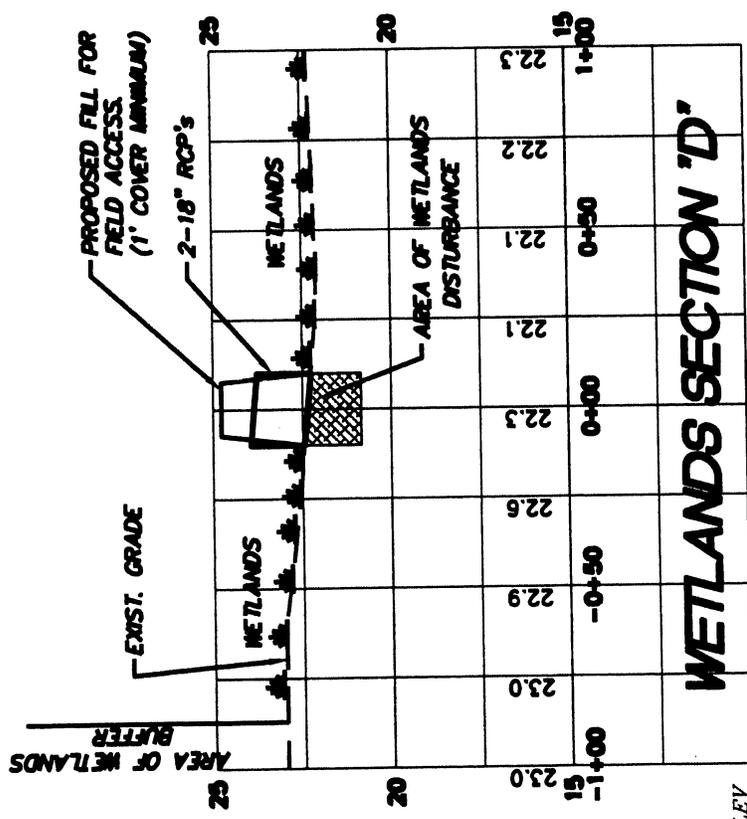
Army Corps of Engineers
 Charleston District
 ± Hinchliff, Biologist
 Beaufort County School District
 Proposed New Middle School / Beaufort County SC

Date: 07DEC07
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Litman Architectural Group

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 BEAUFORT, SC 299
 PLANNING ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM



DATUM ELEV
10.00

WETLANDS SECTION 'D'

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: **NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL**
 BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.
 APPUC#1: **BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

CROSS SECTION D 11-16-07 10 of 10

Army Corps of Engineers
 Charleston District
 Ft. Hinchliff, Biologist
 Beaufort County School District
 Beaufort County School / Beaufort County SC
 Proposed New Middle School / Beaufort County SC
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 BEAUFORT, SC 295
 PLANNING ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

