

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

and

Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management
1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400
Charleston, South Carolina 29405

NOTE: THIS IS A CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CIVIL WORKS PROJECT

CESAC-PM-TE

August 27, 2004

Refer to: P/N # 2004-1R-178

Hunting Island Section 206
Ecosystem Restoration and Protection Project
Beaufort County, South Carolina

The Charleston District, Corps of Engineers, Charleston, South Carolina, proposes to perform the work described herein with due consideration and review given to the relevant provisions of the following laws:

1. The Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251, et. seq.).
2. The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, et. seq.).
3. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (U.S.C. 470, et. seq.) and the Preservation of Historical Archeological Data Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 469, et. seq.).
4. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, (42 U.S.C. 4321).
5. The South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et.seq.)

The purpose of this notice is to advise all interested parties of the proposed placement of sand on the northern end of Hunting Island and the construction of six (6) sheet-pile groins (see Figures 1 and 2).

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 at this office until

12 O'CLOCK NOON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

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

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Hunting Island Project will involve sand placement on the northern end of the island north of the Cabin Road Protection Project that was completed in March 2003. The Federal Project will involve sand placement beginning at the north terminal groin and moving south for approximately 10,145 linear feet of beach. Figure 2 shows the limits of the Section 103 (Cabin Road Protection) Project and the extent of the Federal project.

In addition to the sand placement, the project will also include the construction of six 450-foot rock-reinforced, sheet-pile groins, spaced approximately 1,250 feet apart, with sufficient cell nourishment to support a 9-year periodic nourishment cycle. Periodic renourishment is not part of this project and, if performed, will be pursued as a separate project by S.C. Parks, Recreation and Tourism. The additional groins will extend from the existing terminal groin and work southward. Approximately 1,461,000 cubic yards of sand will be placed on the beach.

Sand placement will be made with a hydraulic pipeline cutterhead dredge or a hopper dredge. Beach compatible material (sand) from the off-shore borrow sites will be pumped along the project length and will be discharged as a slurry to a design elevation of 8 feet NGVD. During construction, temporary training dikes of sand would be used to contain the discharge and control the fill placement. Fill sections will be graded by land based equipment, such as bulldozers and articulated front-end loaders, and other equipment as necessary. The sand will then be graded, raked, and tilled (on alternate segments) as necessary in coordination with recommendations and requirements from regulatory agencies. It is anticipated construction will begin in late-2005 and will require approximately 6 to 8 months for completion. This construction window should minimize impacts to sea turtles, fish, shellfish, and infauna. This schedule could change due to contractual issues, inclement weather, equipment failure, or other unforeseen difficulties.

The borrow areas being used for beach compatible sand are designated in Figure 3. These three areas total nearly 670 acres. The primary borrow area for this project is a large rectangular area covering approximately 490 acres to the SE off the coast of Hunting Island and is annotated as Area #1. It starts at roughly 6,000 feet off-shore the southern end of the island and is well within the 3-mile limit. The second area

(approximately 40 acres) is less than a 1000 feet to the NE of Area #1, and Area #3 (approximately 130 acres) is about 2,000 feet N of Area #2. Approximately 4.8 million cubic yards of sand are available from these three sites; however, the majority of the sand will be drawn from borrow site #1. Sand will be removed from the borrow area(s) to a depth of six (6) to eight (8) feet. Because of the dynamic nature of the coastal area and the constant movement of sand, it is expected that the borrow areas will fill with sand of the same grain size after dredging is completed. All three areas have been carefully mapped out to avoid live/hard bottom.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

This document serves as a public notice on behalf of the SCDHEC for water quality certification. A certification is required from DHEC stating that the proposed construction will be conducted in a manner consistent with the Clean Water Act. By this notice, the Charleston District requests DHEC to issue that certification. Persons wishing to comment on State Certification are invited to submit same in writing to SCDHEC, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, within 30 days of the date of this notice.

This project is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program. By this notice, the Charleston District requests concurrence from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) that the proposed activity, occurring in Beaufort County, is consistent with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program. Concurrence is conclusively presumed if no state action is received within 45 days of receipt of this notice.

The Charleston District is coordinating with Federally recognized tribes with a historic presence in South Carolina to determine the presence or absence of archeological and/or historic resources that may be present within the project site boundaries.

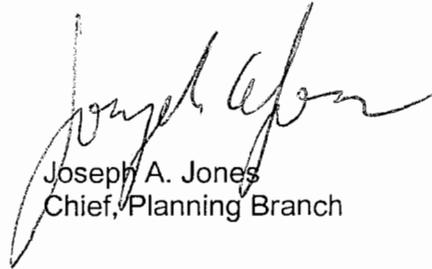
Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended), the District Engineer has consulted the most recently available threatened and endangered species information and has initiated consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this proposed project. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. These requests should be made to DHEC at the address listed above.

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 proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to proceed with the

project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment 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 proposed activity.

Questions or comments concerning this notice should be directed to Mr. Alan Shirey of the District's Environmental Resources Team (PM-TE) at telephone numbers (843) 329-8166.



Joseph A. Jones
Chief, Planning Branch

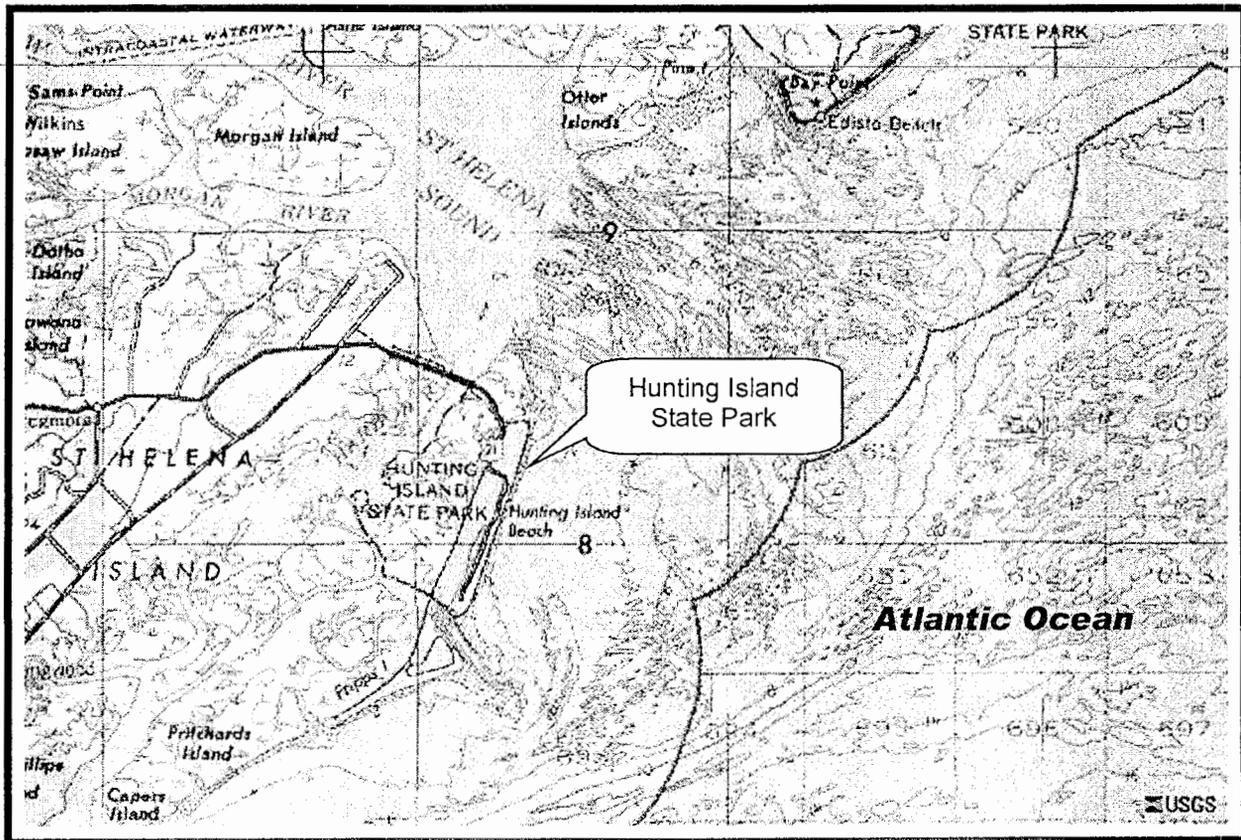
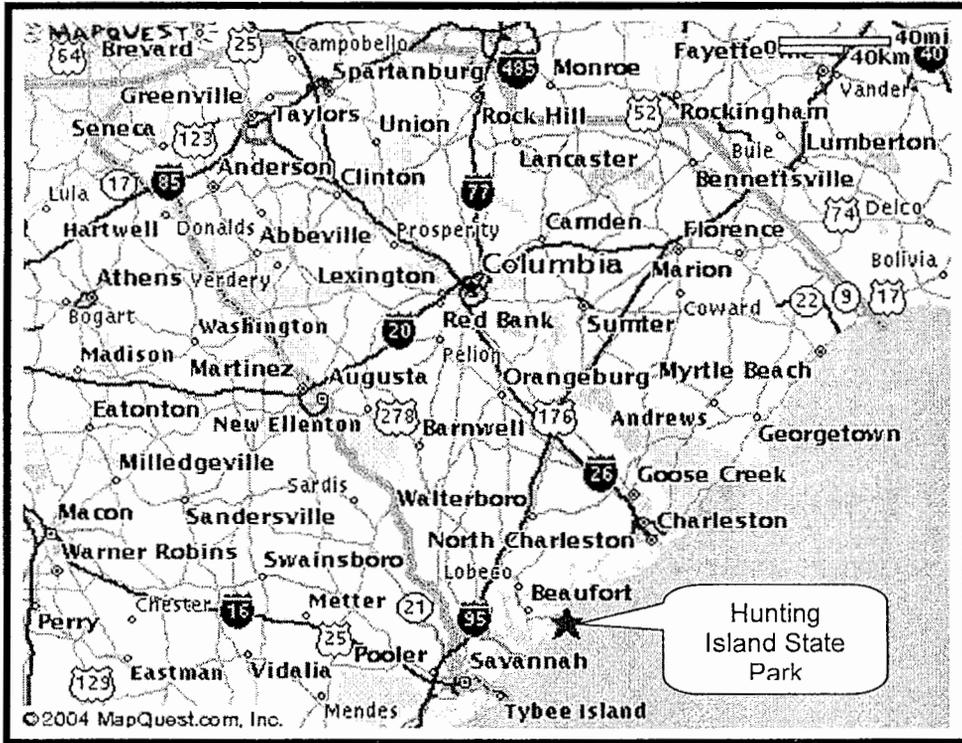


Figure 1 – Location Maps

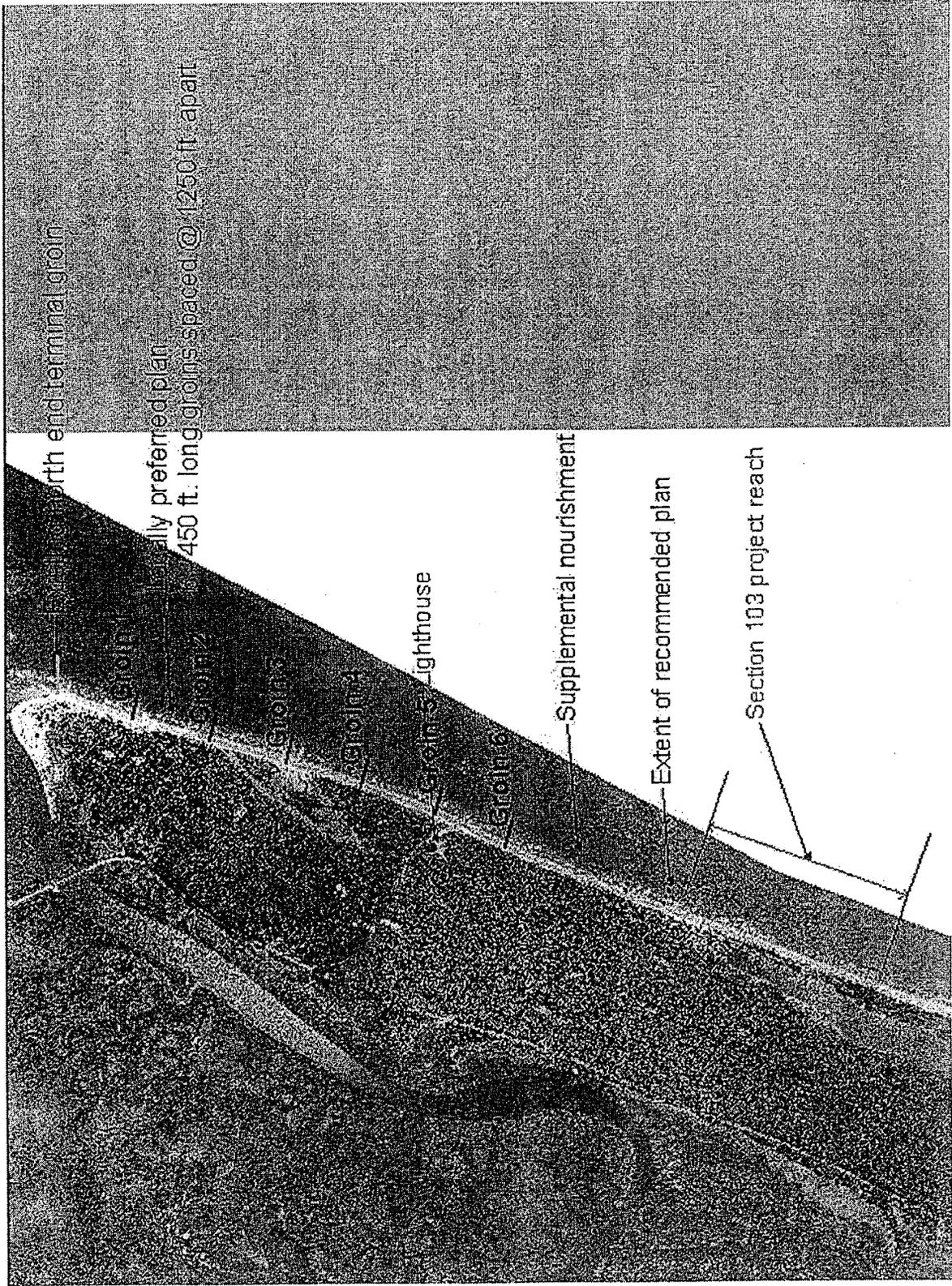


FIGURE 2: HUNTING ISLAND PROJECT LIMITS

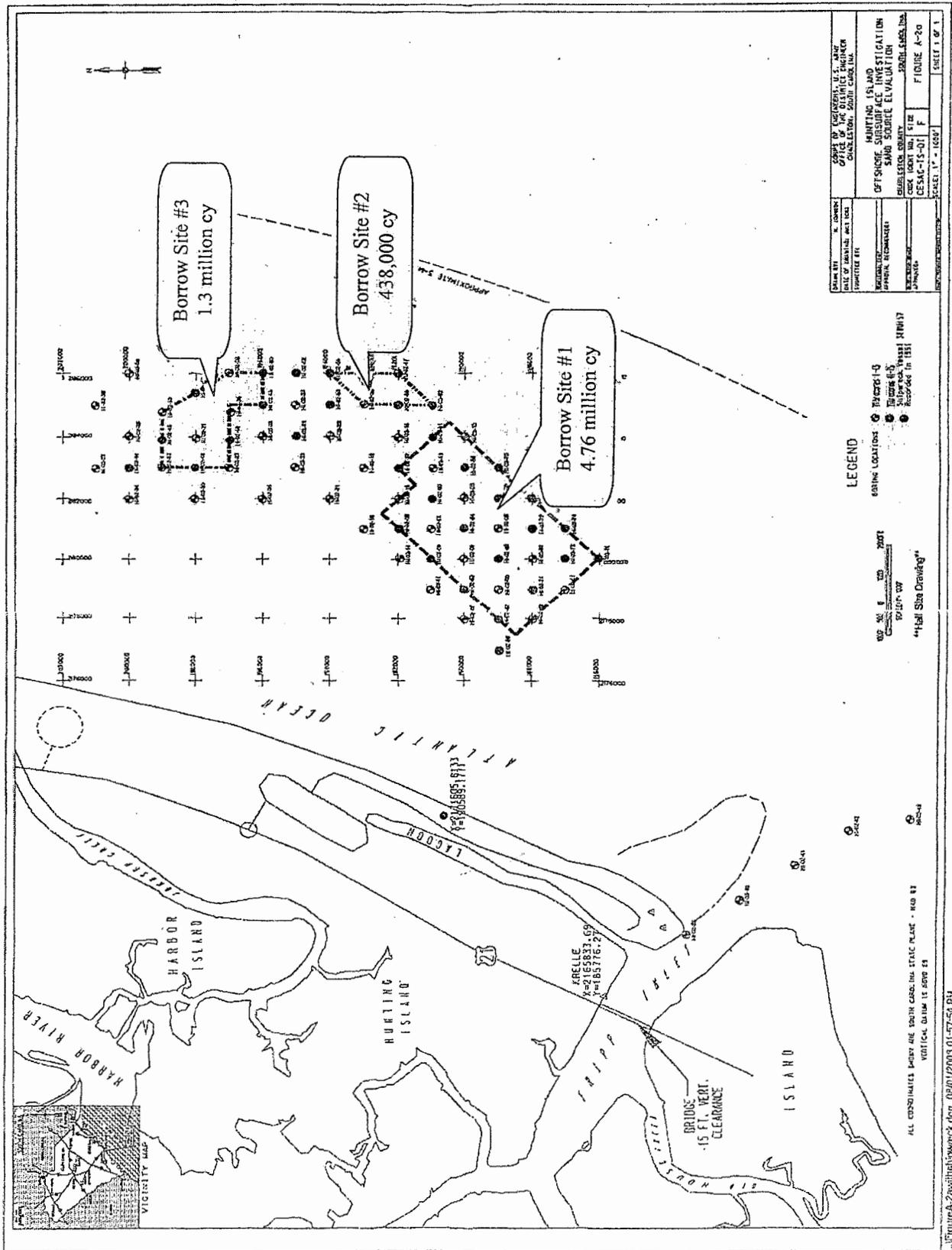


FIGURE 3

..FigureA-2a\huntingisland.dgn 08/01/2008 01:57:54 PM

