

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 OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400
Charleston, South Carolina 29405

REGULATORY DIVISION
Refer to: P/N # 2006-2W-035-2

MARCH 17, 2006

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

SC DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
POST OFFICE BOX 37
MCCLELLANVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29458

for a permit to establish drainage of a large pond and provide a freshwater source to another managed wetland area by constructing a ditch within an existing management area. In addition, two water control structures will be installed and one will be replaced adjacent to

THE NORTH AND SOUTH SANTEE RIVERS

at a location on Cedar Island in Georgetown County, South Carolina (Latitude 33.13213, Longitude 79.25316)

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, APRIL 17, 2006

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

The proposed work consists of excavating a ditch, approximately 1, 233 feet long and 3 feet deep. The spoil will be sidecast near the proposed ditch. The applicant states that the spoil material will be dispersed in a fashion that will have minimal impact after the first year. In addition, a rice trunk structure will be added in a perimeter dike in an existing tidal creek along the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, a spillway box (6' wide X 2' tall X 28' long) will be placed in the newly constructed ditch between the two management areas and an existing, currently dilapidated, rice trunk structure will be replaced in a perimeter dike along the South Santee River. The purpose of the proposed activity, according to the applicant, is to improve water circulation and quality in managed wetlands which will positively impact fish, wading birds, waterfowl, and associated wildlife.

MARCH 17, 2006

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 the Coastal Zone Management Program (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.

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 0.3 acre 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 the project is in the vicinity of a *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (bald eagle). However, it has been determined that the project will have no effect on the bald eagle or 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).

The District Engineer has 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. Consultation of the National Register constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

MARCH 17, 2006

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

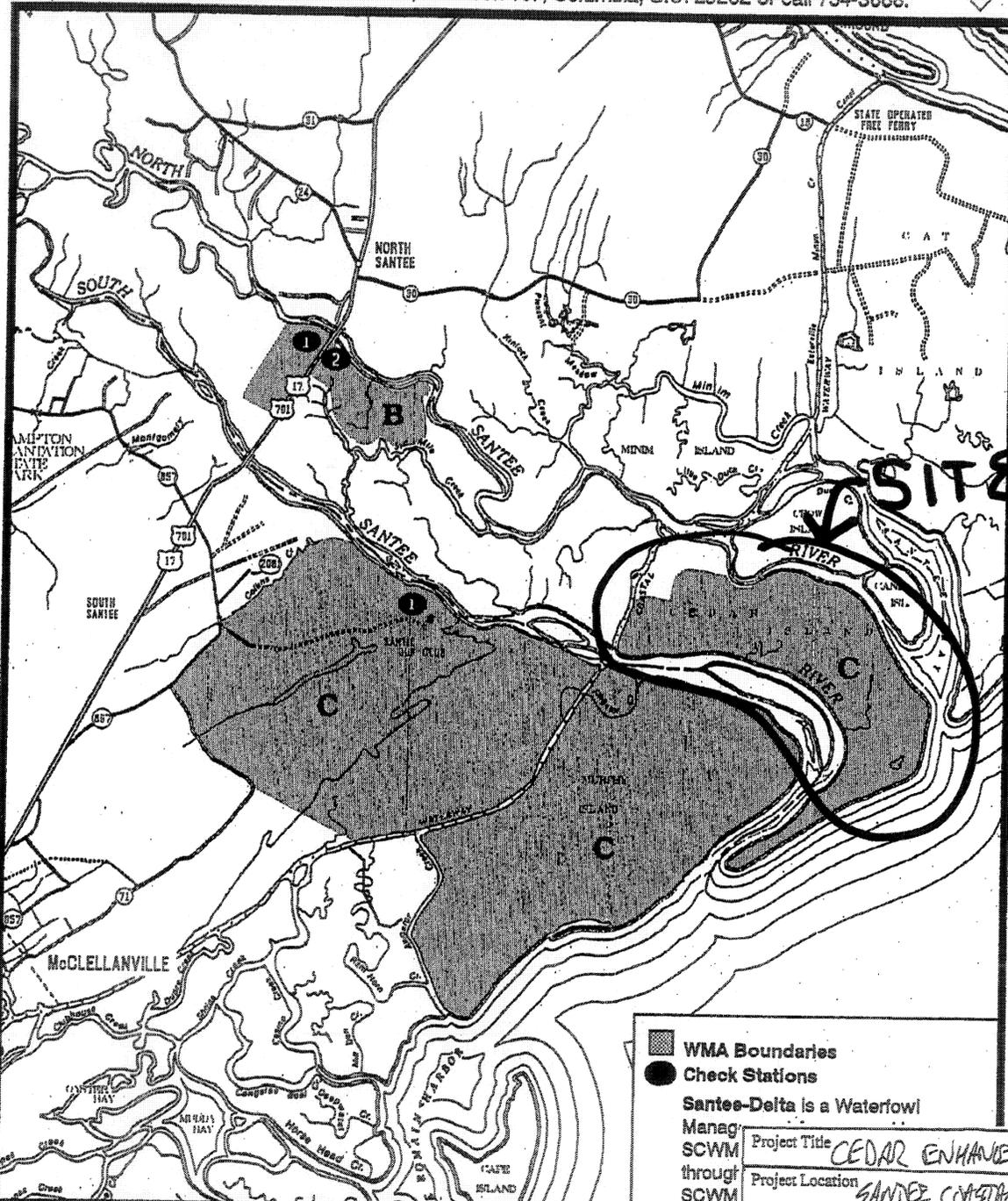


Elizabeth Jackson
Project Manager
Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Santee-Delta WMA (B) Santee Coastal WMA (C)

(Georgetown and Charleston counties)

Shaded areas show the approximate WMA boundaries. Boundaries should be marked with these signs.
For information and regulations write: SCWMRD, P.O. Box 167, Columbia, S.C. 29202 or call 734-3888.



WMA Boundaries
Check Stations
 Santee-Delta is a Waterfowl
 Manag
 SCWM
 through
 SCWM



WMA boundaries are subject to change. Check with the S.C. Wildlife Department for the current revision date on published maps.

The South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department prohibits discrimination national origin, handicap or age. Direct all inquiries to the Office of Personnel, P.O. Bo

Project Title	CEDAR ENHANCEMENT '06	
Project Location	Santee Coastal Reserve	
Applicant	SCDNR	
Authorized Agent	J. WESZKOW	
Drawing Scale	Date	2/7/06
Application #	2006-2W-035	

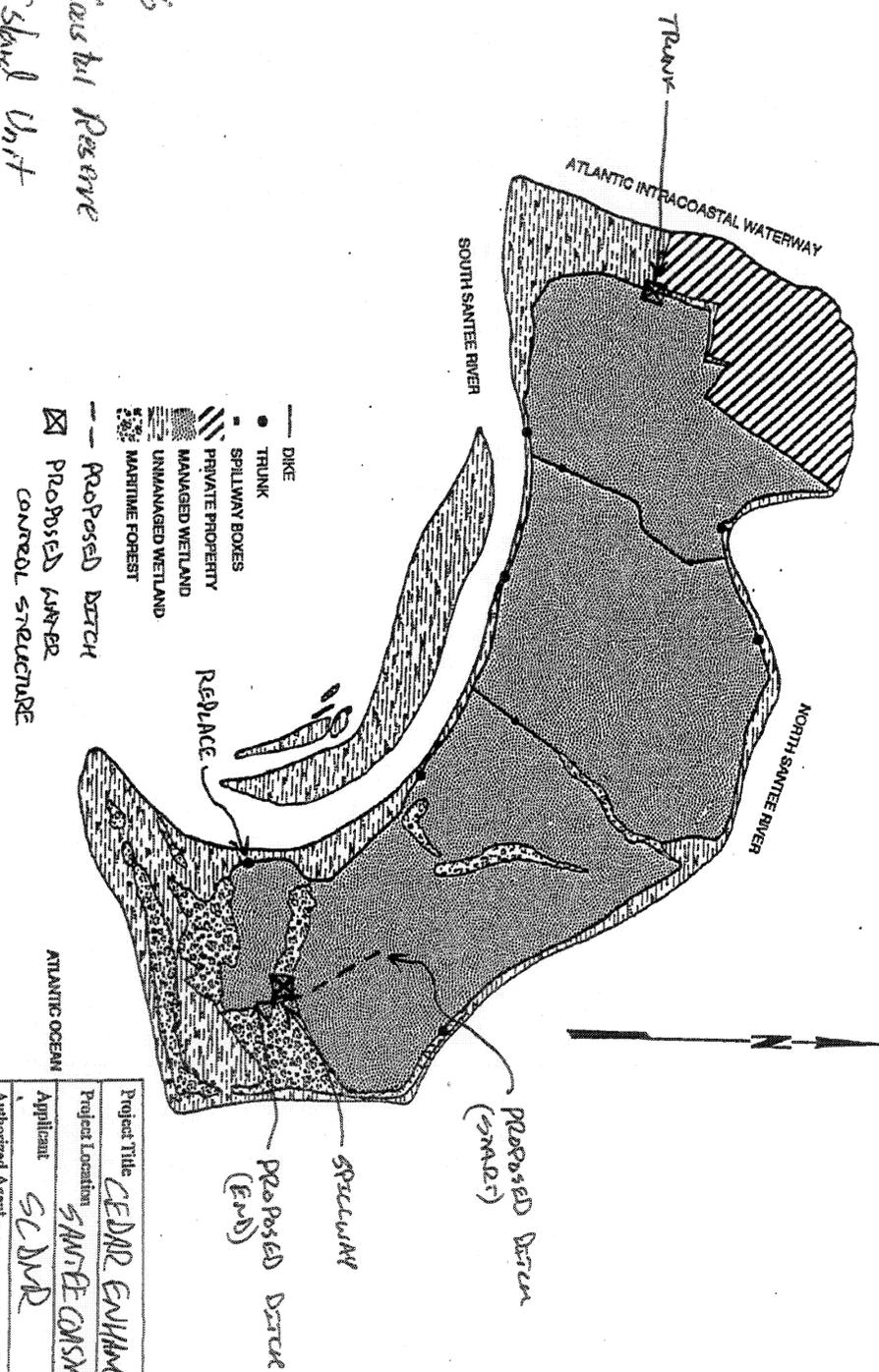
Narrative Description of the "Cedar Enhancement '06" Project.

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) proposes to add a rice trunk structure in a perimeter dike at an existing tidal creek along the Atlantic Inter Coastal Waterway to provide a source of low salinity water for management of Cedar Island during periods of draught. Also proposed is to add a drainage ditch to a large pond and continue the ditch into a remote section of another impoundment. This would allow for better management of both areas through increased water circulation and providing a source of low salinity water. A spillway box (not existing) would be placed in the ditch between the two management units to allow for management options. Another rice trunk structure (currently dilapidated) would be replaced in a perimeter dike along the South Santee River.

All of Cedar Island managed wetlands (2,800 acres) would benefit by the proposed project.

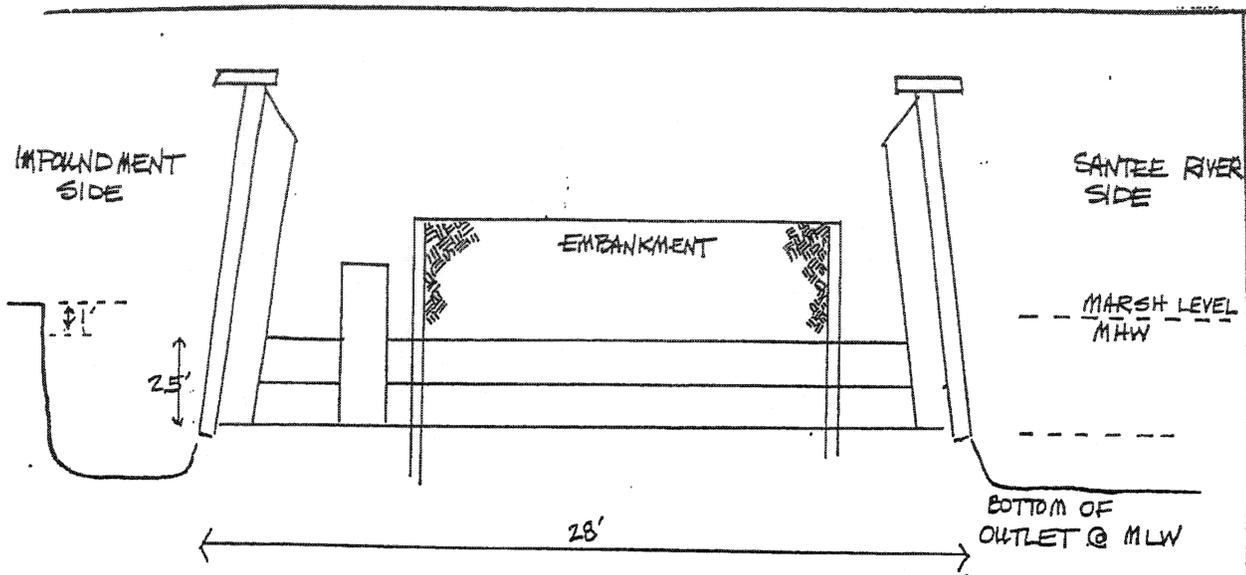
Project Title	CEDAR ENHANCEMENT	
Project Location	SANTEE COASTAL RESERVE	
Applicant	SCDNR	
Authorized Agent	J. WESTERHOLD	
Drawing Scale	Date	2/7/06
Application #	2006-200-035-2	

Figure 6
 Santee Coastal Preserve
 Cedar Island Unit



- DIKE
- TRUNK
- ▨ SPILLWAY BOXES
- ▨ PRIVATE PROPERTY
- ▨ MANAGED WETLAND
- ▨ UNMANAGED WETLAND
- ▨ MARITIME FOREST
- - - PROPOSED DITCH
- ▨ PROPOSED CONTROL STRUCTURE

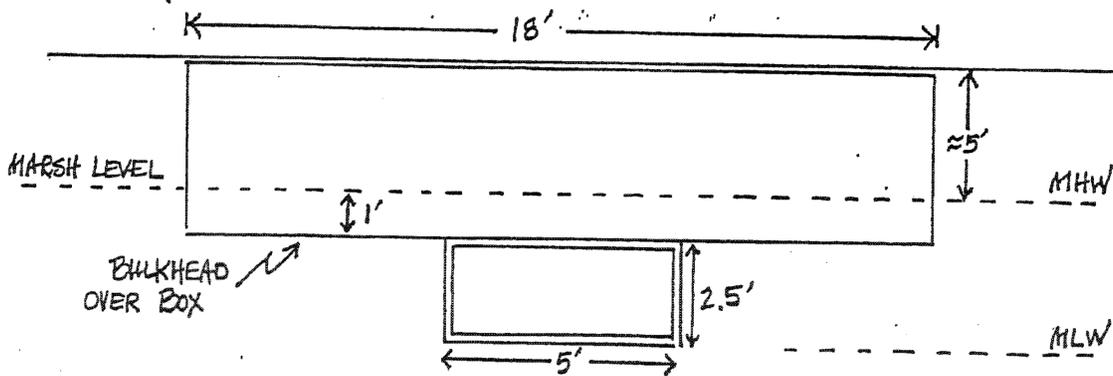
Project Title		CEDAR ENHANCEMENT '05	
Project Location		SANTEE COASTAL PRESERVE	
Applicant		SCMDP	
Authorized Agent		T. WESNERHOLD	
Drawing Scale		Date	
Application #		2/7/06	
2006-20-035			



TYPICAL TRUNK INSTALLATION
CROSS SECTION

TOP OF STRUCTURE INSTALLED
1' BELOW MHW
BOTTOM OF STRUCTURE INSTALLED
@ MLW

TYPICAL END VIEW

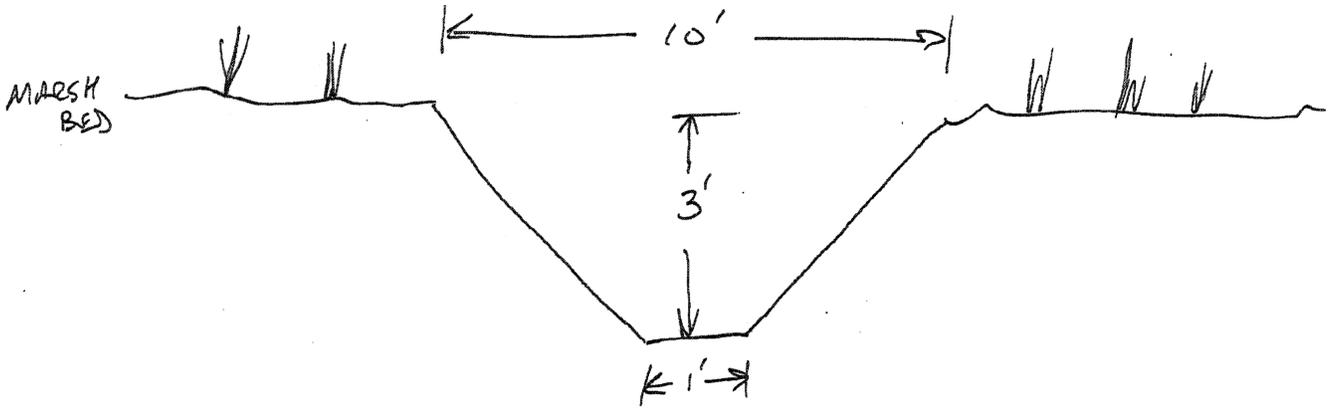


PURPOSE: WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE
FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

DATUM: MLW

Project Title		CEDAR ENHANCEMENT '06	
Project Location		SANTEE COASTAL RESERVE	
Applicant		SCDMR	
Authorized Agent		J. WESTERHOLD	
Drawing Scale	Date		
	2/7/06		
Application #			
2006-2W-035-2			

PROPOSED DITCHING



Project Title, CEDAR ENHANCEMENT	
Project Location SANTEE COASTAL RESERVE	
Applicant SCDNR	
Authorized Agent J. WESTERHOLD	
Drawing Scale	Date 2/7/06
Application #	
2006-20-035	