## 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

REGULATORY DIVISION
Refer to: P/N # 2015-00606-1T

31 August 2015

Pursuant to 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
ROBERT MCFEE
C/O
JIM GENTRY
127 WOODLAWN STREET
WALTERBORO, SC 29488

for a permit to place fill in waters of the U.S. associated with the

#### PORT ROYAL SOUND

at the Hilton Head Airport located at 120 Beach City Road on Hilton Head Island, Beaufort County, South Carolina (32.22445 Latitude/ -80.69678 Longitude), (Hilton Head Quad)

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 consists of the placement of fill material into 1.74 acres (3,870 linear feet) of waters of the U.S. In detail, the work includes the placement of 34,400 cubic yards of fill material in 1.74 acres (3,870 linear feet) of waters of the U.S. to convert the waters to a piped underground system. The waters that will be impacted are located adjacent to an active runway.

Current plans for the airport runway improvements (not associated with this proposed project) included extending the existing runway by 400 feet on the north end and 300 feet on the south end and adding an engineered material arresting system on the south end. These improvements will change the classification of the airport and require alteration of the sizes of the runway safety area (RSA) and taxiway safety area (TSA) per standards in the FAA Advisory Circular 150-5300-13 A. The circular indicates the RSA and TSA cannot include drainage ditches and that slopes within the RSA and TSA are limited to no more than 3%. The taxiway to the east of the runway will have to be moved an additional 100 feet to the east to provide the necessary 400 feet RSA width required by the FAA. In addition, current FAA regulations indicate open water on an airport is a potential wildlife attractant, that wildlife within the airport operations area is a safety hazard, and that the hazard must be addressed. The waters of the U.S. that is proposed to be filled is located between the RSA and TSA and is approximately 12 feet wide, 7 feet deep, and has with four piped segments approximately 75 feet in length. The FAA advisory circular indicates that drainage ditches and open water cannot be located in the RSA or TSA. Since this waters of the U.S. provides drainage from off-site properties to the west, the applicant has proposed to pipe the open portions of the waters of the U.S. to remove the hazards.

The purpose of the proposed project is to remove the hazard to air traffic and provide Safety for the approximately 80,000 passengers and private aircraft owners who utilize this airport. Avoidance and minimization of project impacts has occurred by utilizing the existing footprint of the waters of the U.S. and dos not impact the quality of any wetlands located on or adjacent to the airport property. The applicant has proposed to purchase 11.0 credits from the Sweetleaf Mitigation Bank. According to the applicant, Beaufort County does not have a master plan for the future airport expansion that could impact the remaining wetlands and it is not possible to anticipate future FAA regulations or policy. Preservation and buffering of the remaining wetlands could present significant problems if removal or alteration is required to meet future FAA safety requirements and/or access and facility construction. Therefore, the applicant proposes leaving the remaining wetlands free of conservation easements should serious need for the use of some portion of their area arise. In addition, current FAA policy is that airports do not have wetlands present due to their ability to attract wildlife, which is a hazard to air traffic.

NOTE: This public notice and associated plans are available on the Corps' website at: <a href="http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices">http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices</a>. For those unable to access the website, a copy of this notice and the associated plans will be provided, upon receipt of a written request. The request must identify the project of interest by public notice number and a self-addressed stamped envelope must also be provided. Your request 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 Coastal Zone Management Program (15 CFR 930). 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 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 1.73 acres of waters of the U.S. upstream of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. The District Engineer's 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). The District Engineer's final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

Pursuant to the Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended), the Corps has reviewed the project area, examined all information provided by the applicant, and the District Engineer has determined, based on the most recently available information that the project will have <u>no effect</u> 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 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 Section 106 of the NHPA, the District Engineer has consulted South Carolina ArchSite (GIS), for the presence or absence of historic properties (as defined in 36 C.F.R. 800.16)(/)(1)), and has initially determined that no historic properties are present; therefore, there will be no effect on historic properties. To ensure that other historic properties 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 and any other interested parties to provide any information they may have with regard to historic properties. This public notice serves as a request for concurrence within 30 days from the SHPO (and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer).

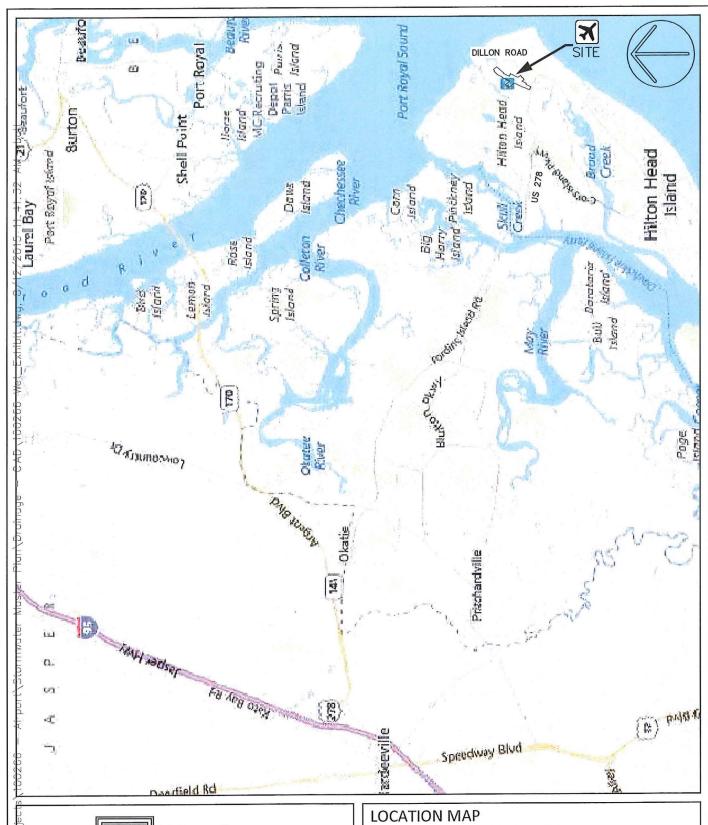
The District Engineer's final eligibility and effect determination will be based upon coordination with the SHPO and/or THPO, as appropriate and required and with full consideration given to the proposed undertaking's potential direct and indirect effects on historic properties within the Corps-identified permit area.

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 103 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 cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps 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 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 **Tracy Sanders** at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.



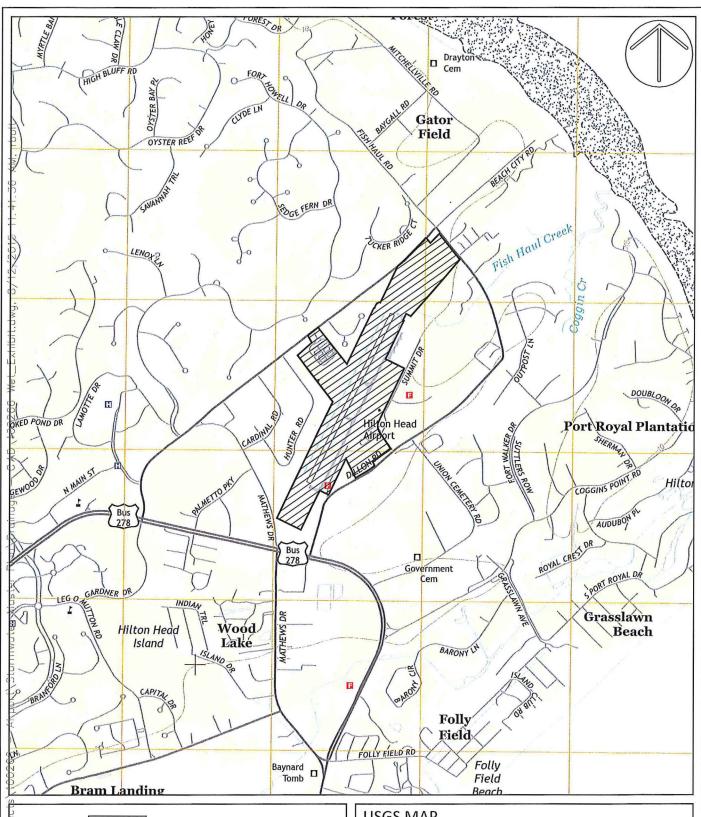


HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT CLIENT: HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT

SAC-2015-0606-1T

LOCATION: TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

DATE: 06/17/15 PROJECT #: 100266 SHEET: SCALE: 1 OF 12 1"= 3mi





## **USGS MAP**

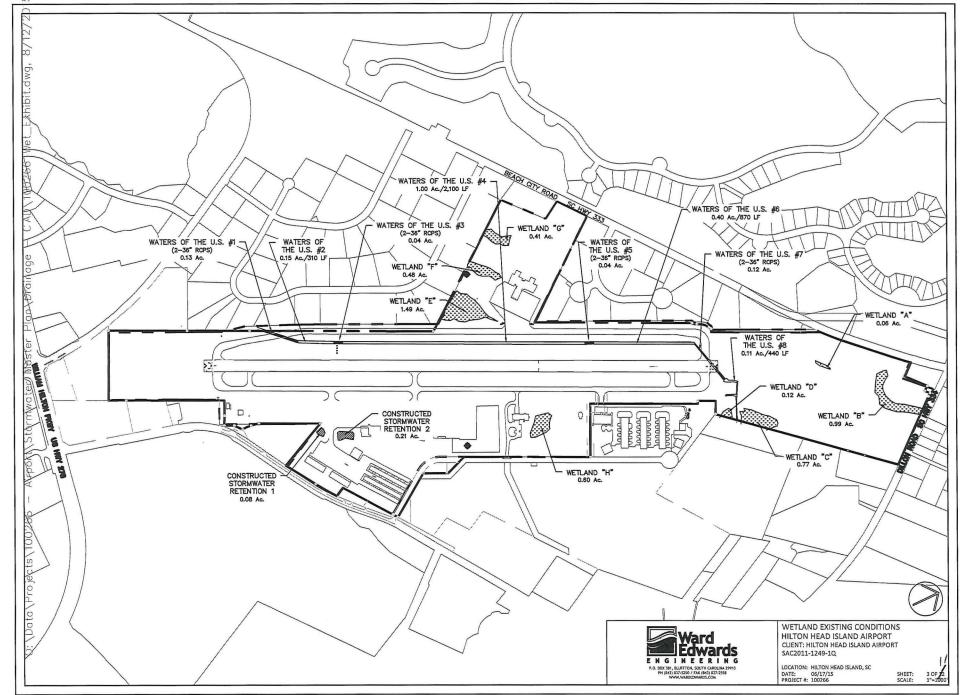
HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT CLIENT: HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT

SAC-2015-0606-1T

LOCATION: TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

DATE: 06/17/15 PROJECT #: 100266

SHEET: SCALE: 2 OF 12 1"=2000'



JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS Ward Edwards JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS

TO BE FILLED

CONSTRUCTED STORM

WATER RETENTION

WETLAND MASTER PLAN KEY SHEET HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT CLIENT: HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT SAC2011-1249-1Q

LOCATION: HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC DATE: 06/17/15 PROJECT#: 100266

SHEET: 4 OF 12 SCALE: 1"=800"

### **LEGEND**



JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS TO BE FILLED



JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS

#### JURISDICTIONAL FILL

IMPACT	IMPACTED ACREAGE	IMPACTED CU. YARDS	IMPACTED LINEAR FT.
1 (WATERS OF THE U.S.)	0.15	3,096	310
2 (2-36" PIPES)	0.04	688	75
3 (WATERS OF THE U.S.)	1.00	19,952	2,100
4 (2-36" PIPES)	0.04	688	75
5 (WATERS OF THE U.S.)	0.40	7,912	870
6 (WATERS OF THE U.S.)	0.11	2,064	440
TOTAL	1.74	34,400	3,870

## SUMMARY INFORMATION

TOTAL SITE

183.20 AC.

TOTAL JURISDICTIONAL CONNECTIONS TO BE FILLED

1.74 AC.



P.O. BOX 381, BLUFFTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29910 PH (843) 837-5250 / FAX (843) 837-2558 WWW.WARDEDWARDS.COM

# LEGEND AND SUMMARY INFORMATION HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT

CLIENT: HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT

SAC2011-1249-1Q

LOCATION: TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

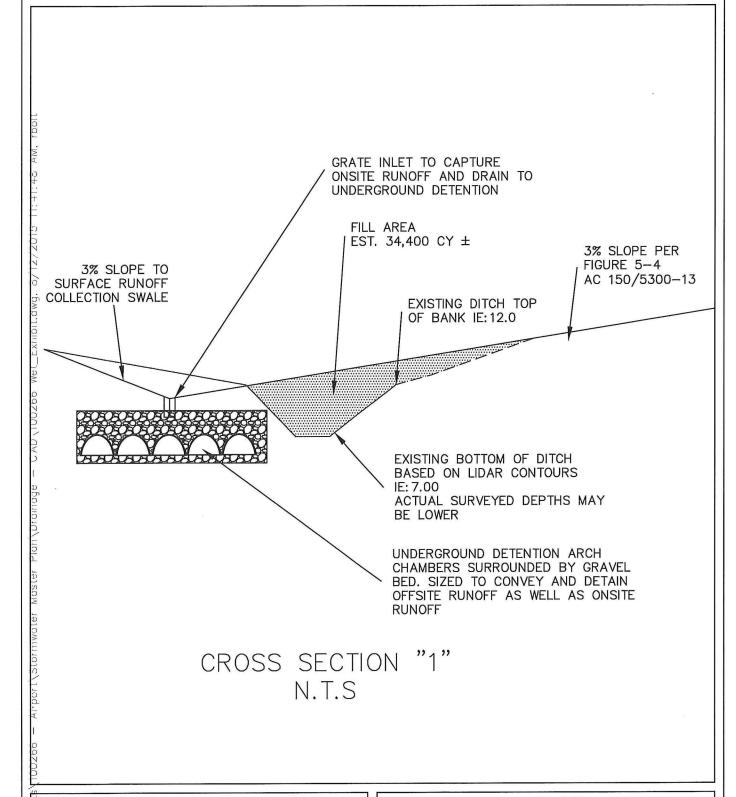
6 OF 12

06/17/15 PROJECT #: 100266

DATE:

SHEET: SCALE:

1"=1000'





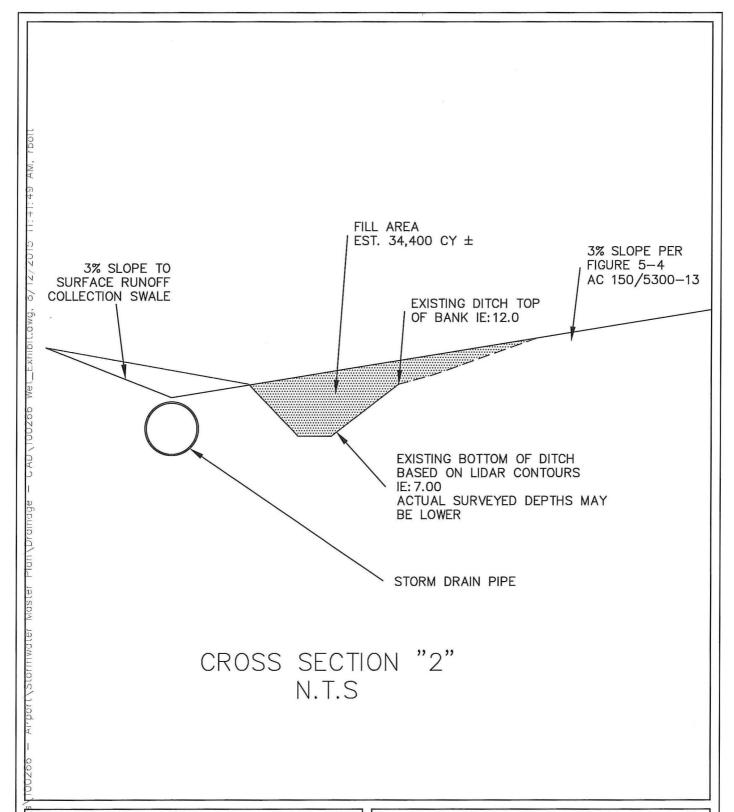
# TYPICAL CROSS SECTION "1" HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT

CLIENT: HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT

SAC2011-1249-1Q

LOCATION: HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

DATE: 06/17/15 PROJECT #: 100266 SHEET: SCALE: 7 OF 12 N.T.S





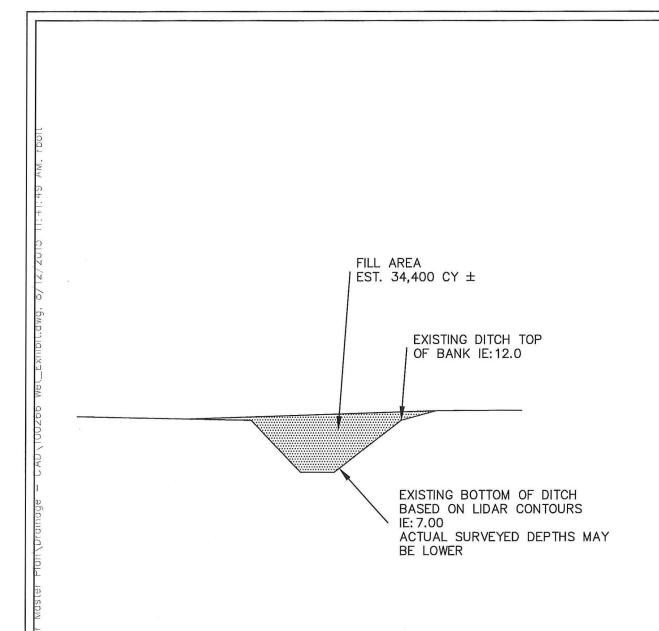
TYPICAL CROSS SECTION "2" HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT CLIENT: HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT SAC2011-1249-1Q

LOCATION: HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

DATE: 06/17/15 PROJECT #: 100266

SHEET: SCALE:

8 OF 12 N.T.S



CROSS SECTION "3" N.T.S



P.O. BOX 381, BLUFFTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29910 PH (843) 837-5250 / FAX (843) 837-2558 WWW.WARDEDWARDS.COM TYPICAL CROSS SECTION "3"
HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT
CLIENT: HILTON HEAD ISLAND AIRPORT
SAC2011-1249-1Q

LOCATION: HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

DATE: 06/17/15 PROJECT #: 100266 SHEET: 9 OF 22 SCALE: N.T.S

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