

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N SAC-2018-00995

August 26, 2019

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), a prospectus has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the South Carolina Interagency Review Team by

HALIDON HILL MITIGATION BANK, LLC
724 ROYALL AVENUE
MOUNT PLEASANT, SC 29464

for a proposal to establish and operate a wetland and stream mitigation bank that is adjacent to the

COOPER RIVER

At a location approximately 3.5 miles southwest of the community of Huger between SC 41 and S-8-98, Berkeley County South Carolina, (Latitude: 33.057664°, Longitude: -79.829683 °), Huger SC U.S. Geological Service Quadrangle sheets.

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

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 project consists of establishing a freshwater wetland and stream mitigation bank in the Cooper River watershed (8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code 03050201) located in the Level III Middle Atlantic Plains Ecoregion. The proposed 1,744.5-acre mitigation site includes approximately 1,074.6 acres of wetlands, 22.8 acres of non-wetland waters, and 647.1 acres of uplands.

The proposal is to preserve 175.14 acres of freshwater wetland and 802 linear feet of stream. In addition, 222.93 of freshwater wetlands will be enhanced through removal of loblolly pine and replanted with native hardwood species. 94.36 acres of wetland will be enhanced through filling ditches, breaching/removal of berms, removal of roads and culverts, and installation of bridges or low flow crossings. 418.81 acres of wetland will be enhanced through

removal of loblolly pine, replanting native species, and removing hydrological impairments. 16.91 acres of freshwater wetland will be restored by removal of loblolly pine and restoring natural hydrology. 21,881 linear feet of stream will be restored through removal of undersized culverts, bank stabilization, and construction of a new channel. The bank sponsor, using a conservation easement, will protect the mitigation bank site.

NOTE: This public notice and associated plans are available on the Corps' website at:
<http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices> .

Also, according to the Prospectus, the proposed mitigation bank will provide in-kind compensatory mitigation for authorized impacts to aquatic resources located within the in the Cooper River, Santee River, Bulls Bay, and the Stono River Watershed. The work required to complete the proposed activities on the mitigation site may be authorized under Nationwide Permit #27 after reviews by the Corps, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and the Interagency Review Team.

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 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 acres 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 District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has made no determination of effect on any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species. 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 Federally listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity

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)(f)(1)), and has initially determined that historic properties, are present; moreover, these historic properties may be affected by the undertaking. This public notice serves to notify the State Historic Preservation Office that the Corps plans to initiate Section 106 consultation on these historic properties. Individuals or groups who would like to be consulting parties for the purposes of the NHPA should make such a request to the Corps in writing within 30 days of this public notice. 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 other interested parties to provide any information they may have with regard to historic properties.

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 approve or deny the proposed mitigation bank will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. 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. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

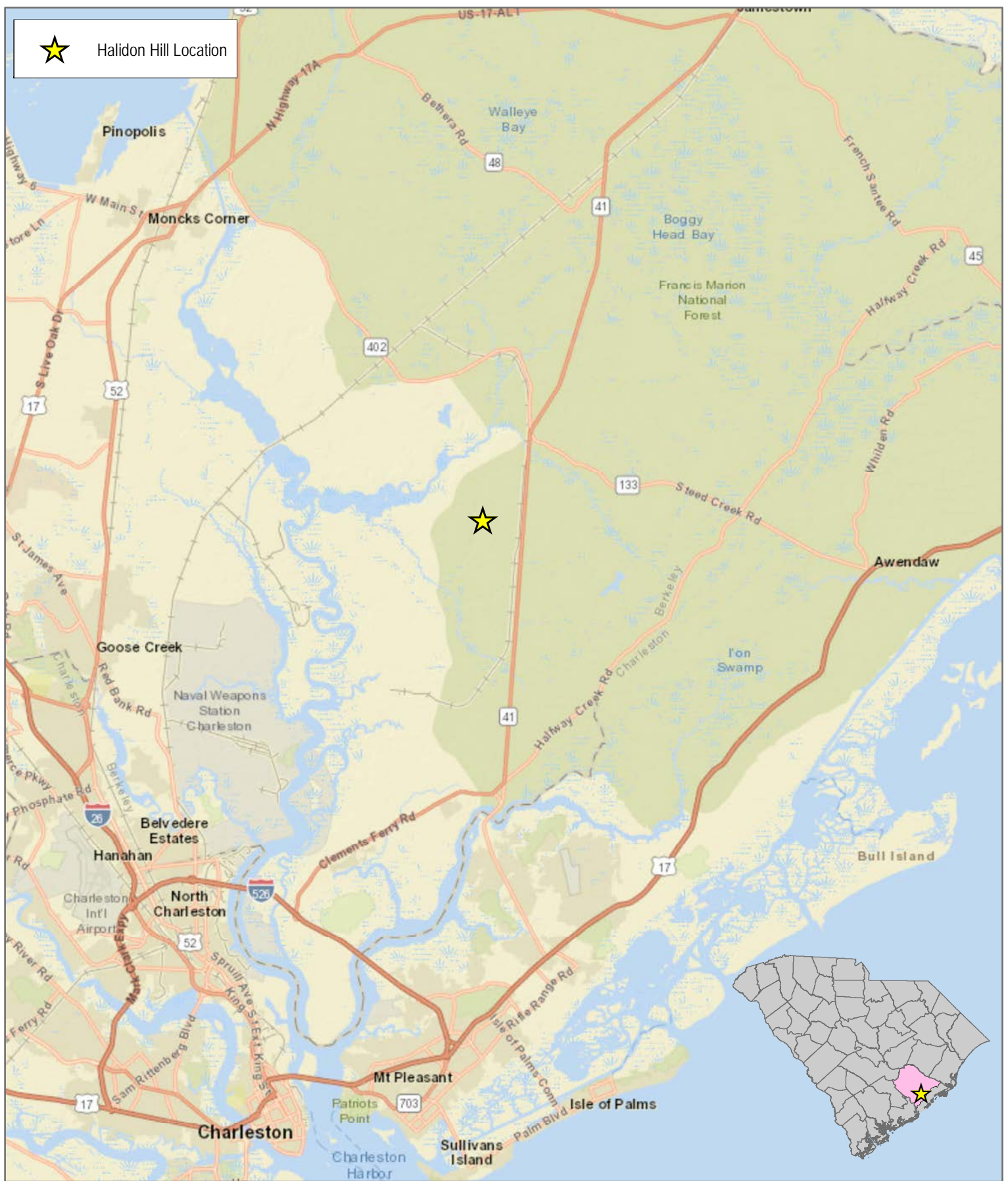
The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, 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. **Please submit comments in writing, identifying the project of interest by public notice number, to the following address:**

**US Army Corps of Engineers
Attention: Regulatory Division
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403**

The Prospectus for the proposed mitigation bank is available for review by appointment between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday at the address listed above. If there are any questions concerning the proposed mitigation bank or the information included in this public notice please contact David B. Wilson by e-mail at david.b.wilson@usace.army.mil or by telephone at 843-329-8044.



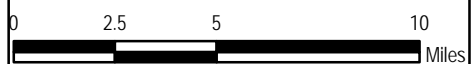
Halidon Hill Location

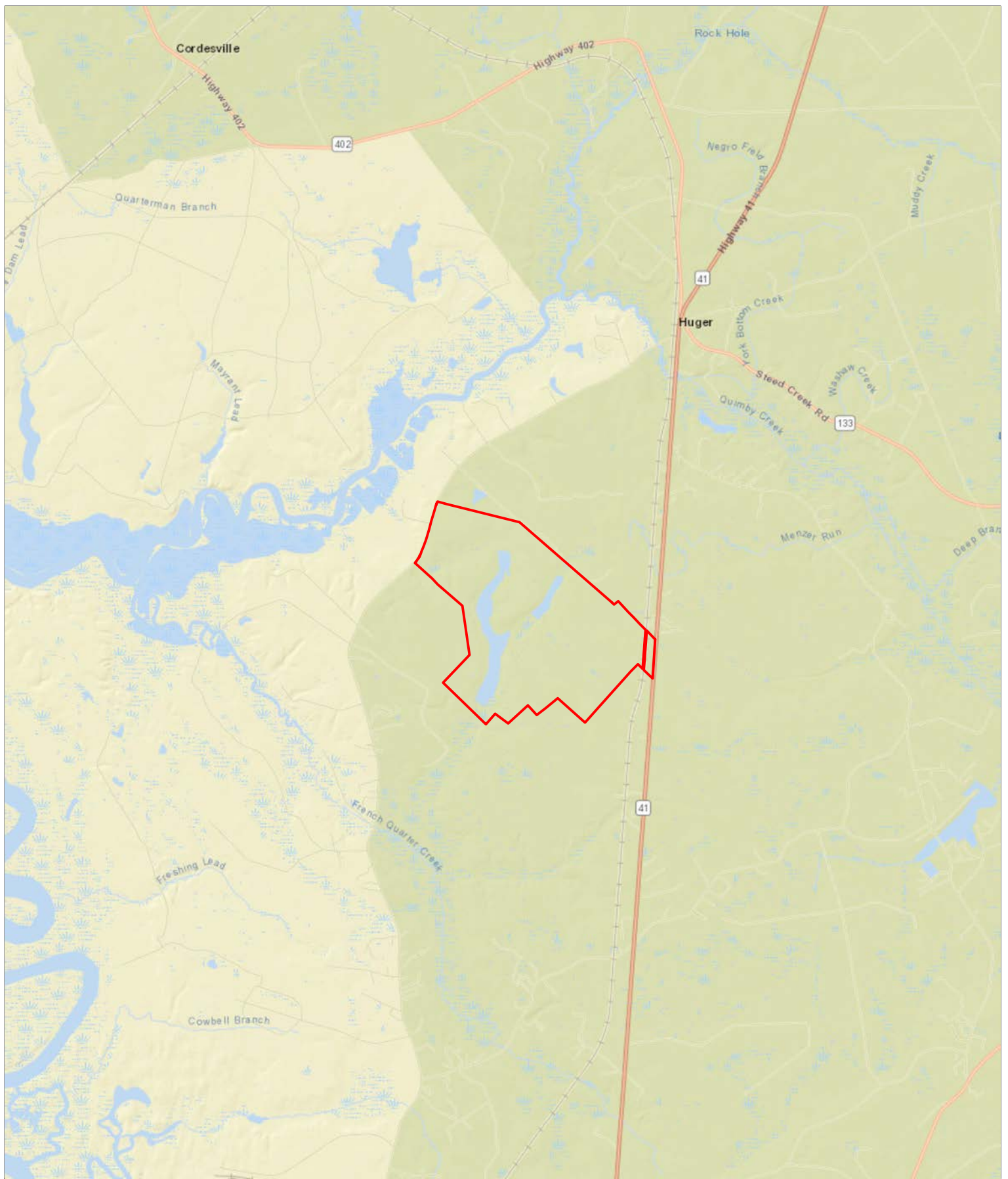


952 Houston Northcutt Blvd., Suite 100
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
Ph: (843) 556-2624 Fx: (843) 556-4329
www.JMT.com

Figure 1 - Vicinity Map
Halidon Hill Mitigation Bank
Mitigation Prospectus
Berkeley County, South Carolina
Source: ESRI
Date: July 2019

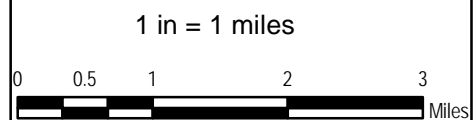
1 in = 5 miles





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Figure 2 - Location Map
Halidon Hill Mitigation Bank
Mitigation Prospectus
Berkeley County, South Carolina
Source: ESRI
Date: July 2019





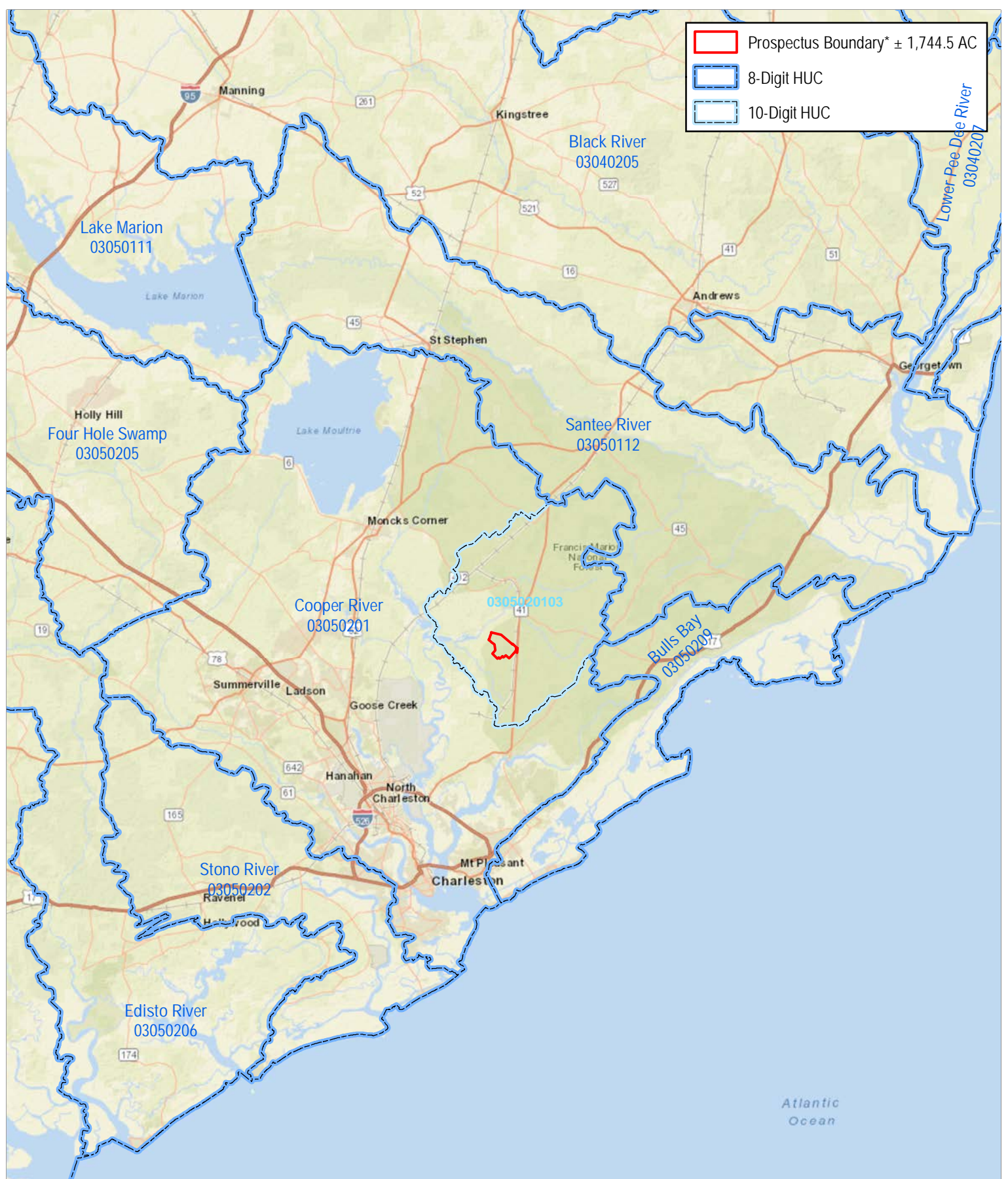
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Figure 3 - Mitigation Bank Boundary

Halidon Hill Mitigation Bank
 Mitigation Prospectus
 Berkeley County, South Carolina
 Source: ESRI, Berkeley GIS
 Date: July 2019

1 inch equals 2,000 feet

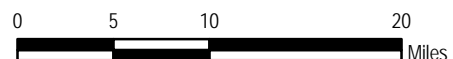


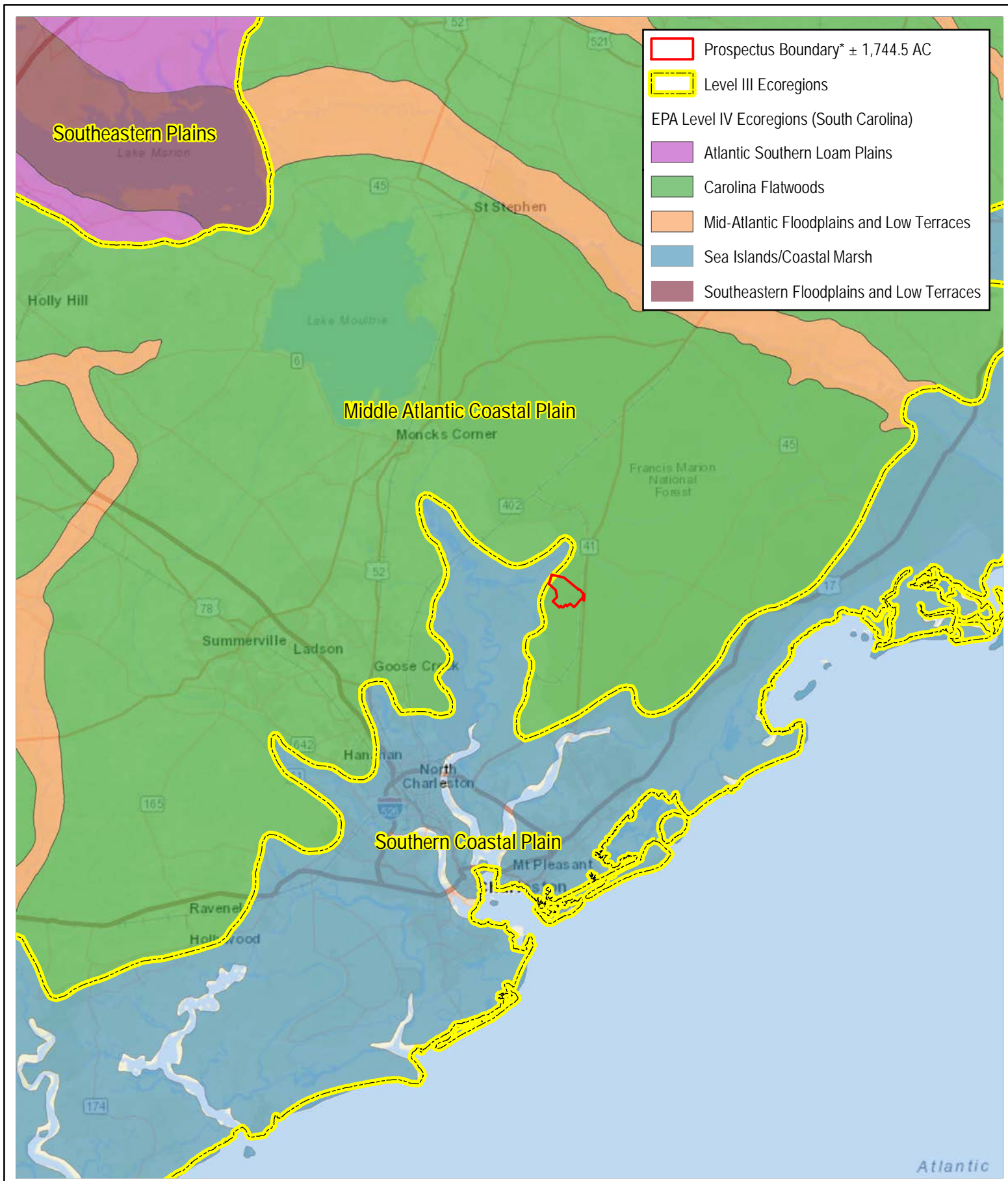


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Figure 4 - 8-Digit Hydrologic Unit Code Map
Halidon Hill Mitigation Bank
Mitigation Prospectus
Berkeley County, South Carolina
Source: ESRI, USGS
Date: July 2019

1 inch = 10 miles





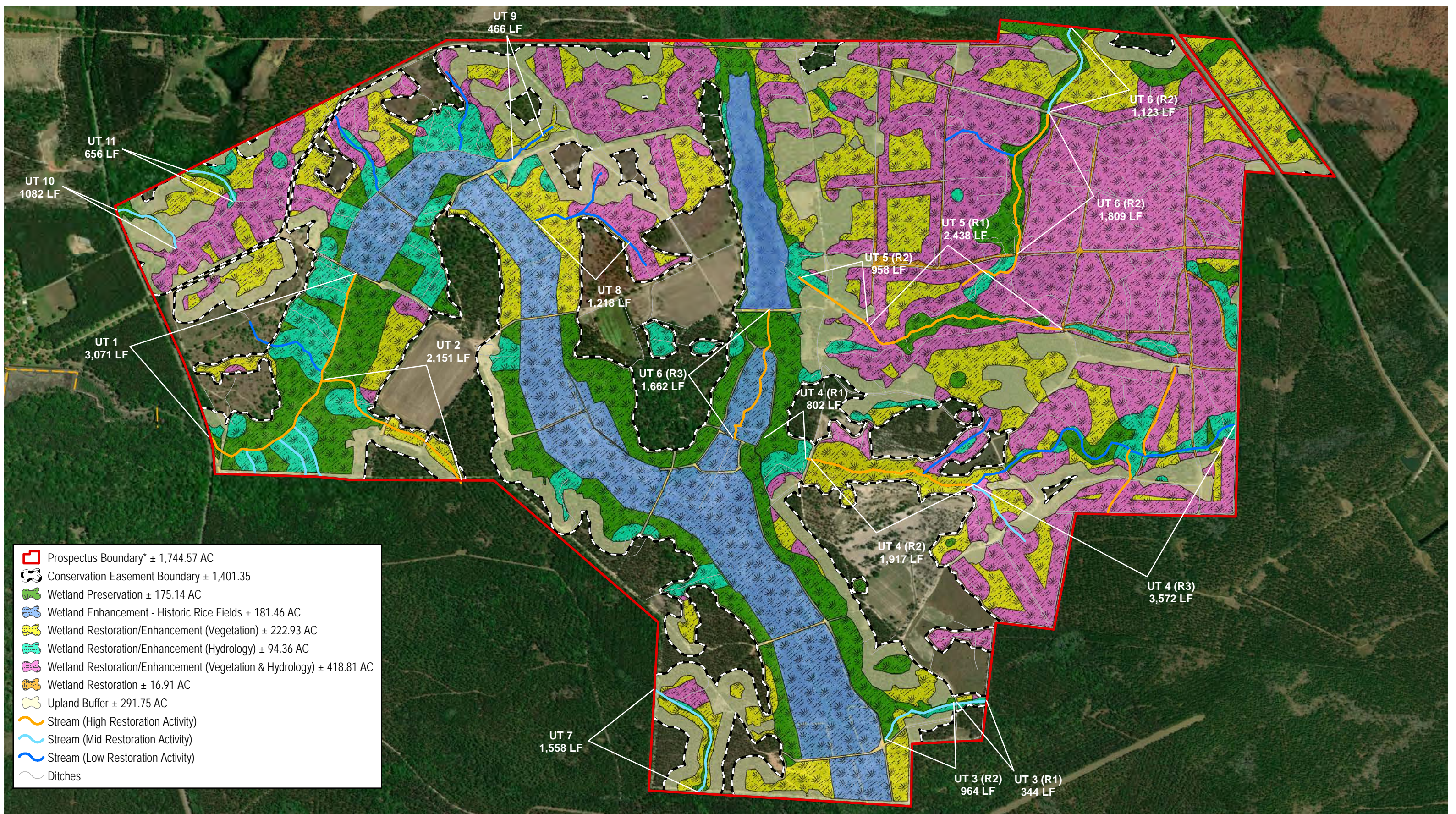
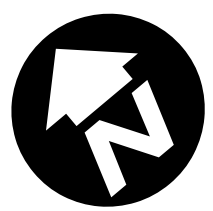
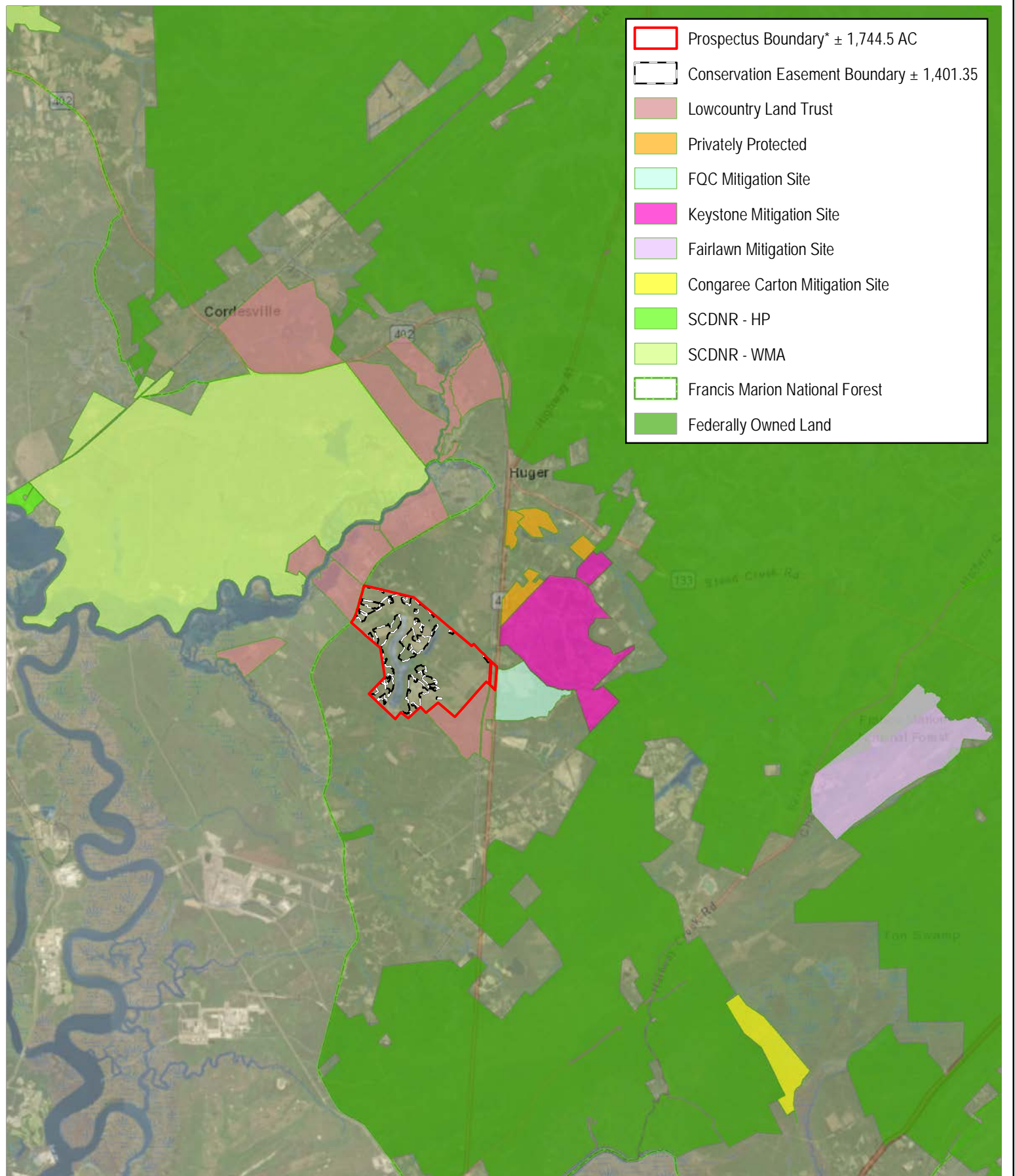


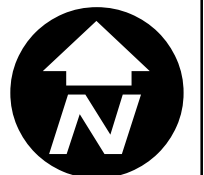
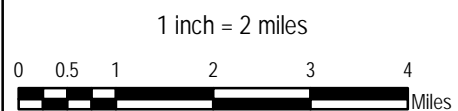
Figure 6: Mitigation Unit Map

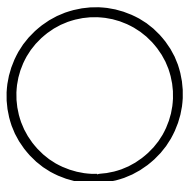
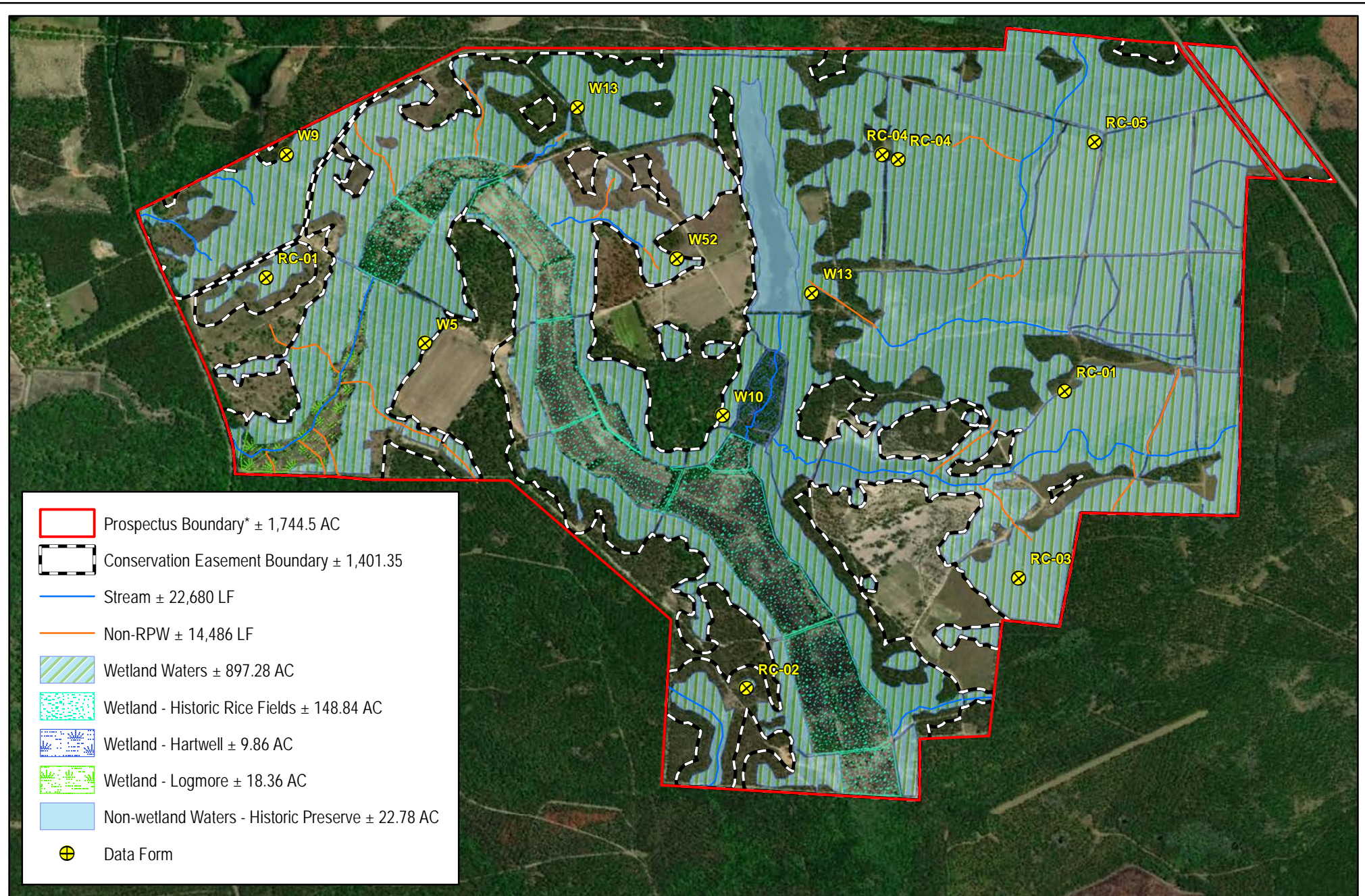


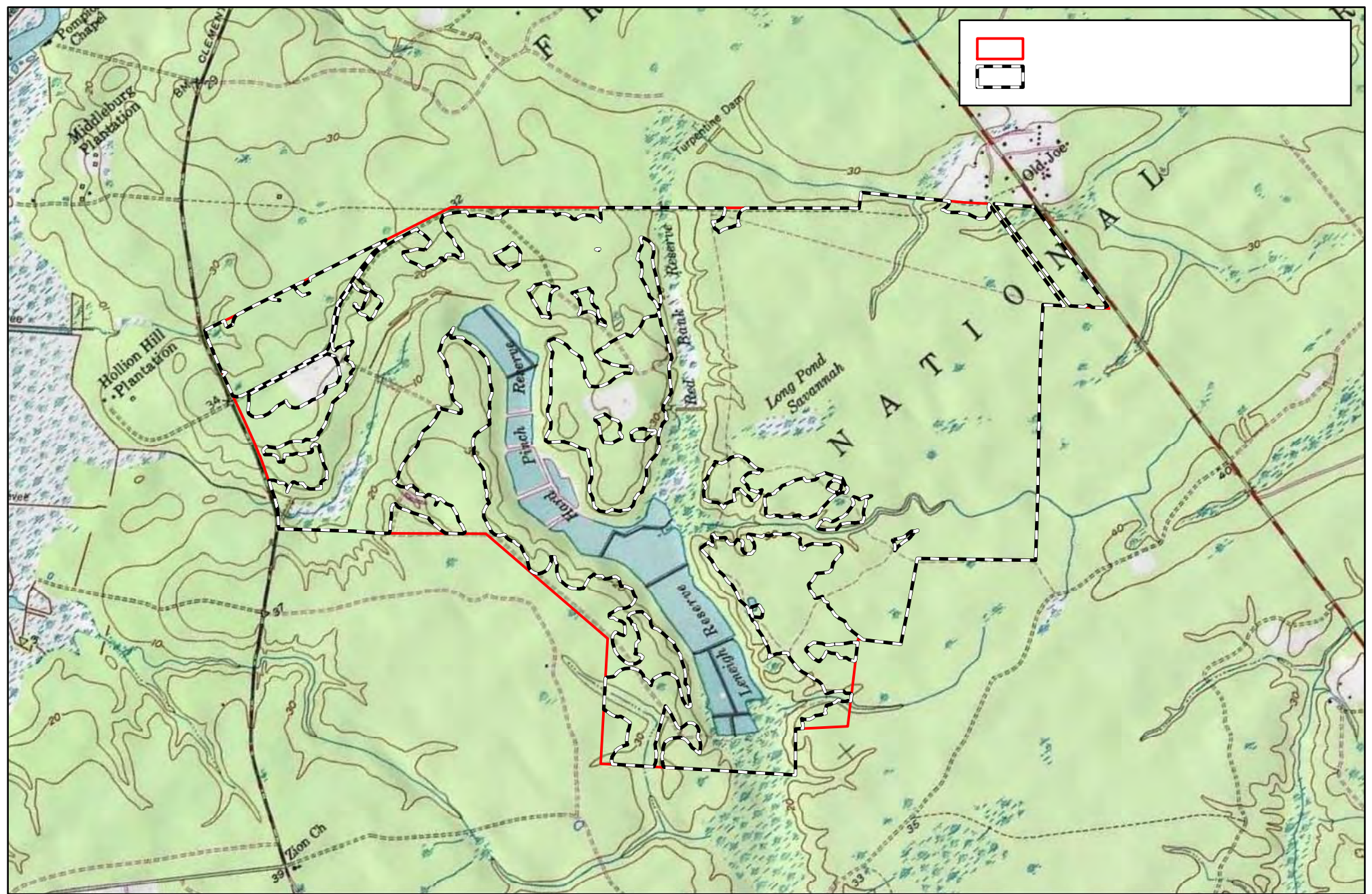


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Figure 8 - Protected Lands Map
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Berkeley County, South Carolina
Source: ESRI, EPA
Date: July 2019







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Figure 11: USGS Topographic Map
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Mitigation Prospectus
Berkeley County, South Carolina
Source: ESRI
Date: July 2019

1 inch = 2,000 feet

0 1,000 2,000 4,000
Feet

