120988 JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS 69A Hagood Avenue Charleston, SC 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 SAC-2017-01033 August 8, 2017

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), 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 South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control by

Mr. Johnson Stevens Stevens Towing Company 4170 Highway 165 Meggett, South Carolina 29449

for a permit to upgrade an existing marine towing facility on the

Wadmalaw River

at the existing Stevens Towing Company freight transportation company on Yonges Island in Meggett, Charleston County, South Carolina (Latitude: 32.6908 °N, Longitude: -80.2243 °W), Quad Sheet- SC- Wadmalaw.

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 performing upgrades at the Stevens Towing Company facility. In detail the applicant proposes to construct two travel lift piers. A 1,000 ton lift is proposed towards the northern portion of the site and adjacent to an existing marine railway (Figures 2-4).

The piers are designed to provide access to deeper water so that dredging is not required. The lift consists of two linear piers extending from the uplands and into the waters of the Wadmalaw River. Each pier is 365' long and 14'2" wide. Each pier is constructed with a 13' x 3' steel box girder, plus an overhang with guardrails (Figure 4). The clearance between piers is 47.5'. Each pier is supported by fifty-two 42" steel pipe piles, located at 30' centers. Four of the piles are located in the uplands.

In addition, a 150 ton lift is proposed near the southeastern portion of Steven's property (Figure 5-6). The piers are designed to provide access to deeper water so that dredging is not required. The lift consists of two linear piers extending from the uplands into waters of the Wadmalaw River. These piers will be 178'9" long and 9' wide. Each pier is constructed with a concrete bent cap, on which a second concrete block and a timber deck with steel or aluminum framing will be constructed (Figure 6). The clearance between each pier is 36'9". Each pier is supported by thirty-two 18" steel pipe piles, located at 25' centers. Four of the piles will be located in the uplands.

Lastly, the applicant proposed to replace its existing anchorage area with a safer, more dependable moorage area. The existing anchorage consists of anchors and chains, which are marked by and attached to buoys. The anchorage is located across from Stevens' facility and on the southern portion of the Wadmalaw sound. The proposed moorage area consists of six 48" steel pipe piles installed in a linear fashion at 90' centers. The first pile (easternmost) will be located at the same position of the current, easternmost anchor. The depths in this area range from 9' mean low water (MLW) to 28' MLW. The piling will be marked with lights to denote their locations.

The applicant did no propose mitigation for these activities because the only impact from the proposed project is shading associated with the new travel lifts, and will not require excavation/dredging or filling of wetlands. The project purpose is to perform necessary upgrades to the existing marine towing facility to provide industry-standard services as well as provide more stable/safer moorage area for personnel using their mooring areas.

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

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. 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 approximately 0.31 acres (13,560 square feet) 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 Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), a Federally endangered species is present in the vicinity of the project. However, it has been determined that the project will have <u>no effect</u> on this species and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. In addition, the proposed project <u>may affect</u>, not likely to adversely <u>affect</u> the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*), a Federally endangered species.

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.

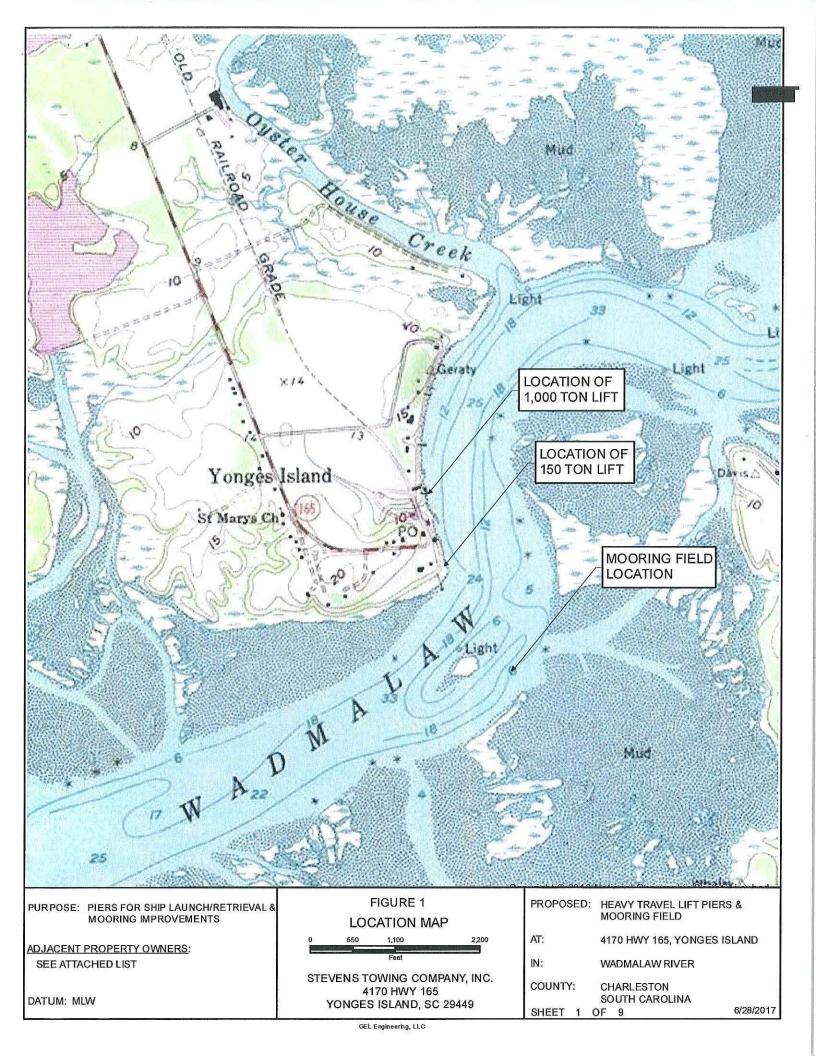
The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All 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.

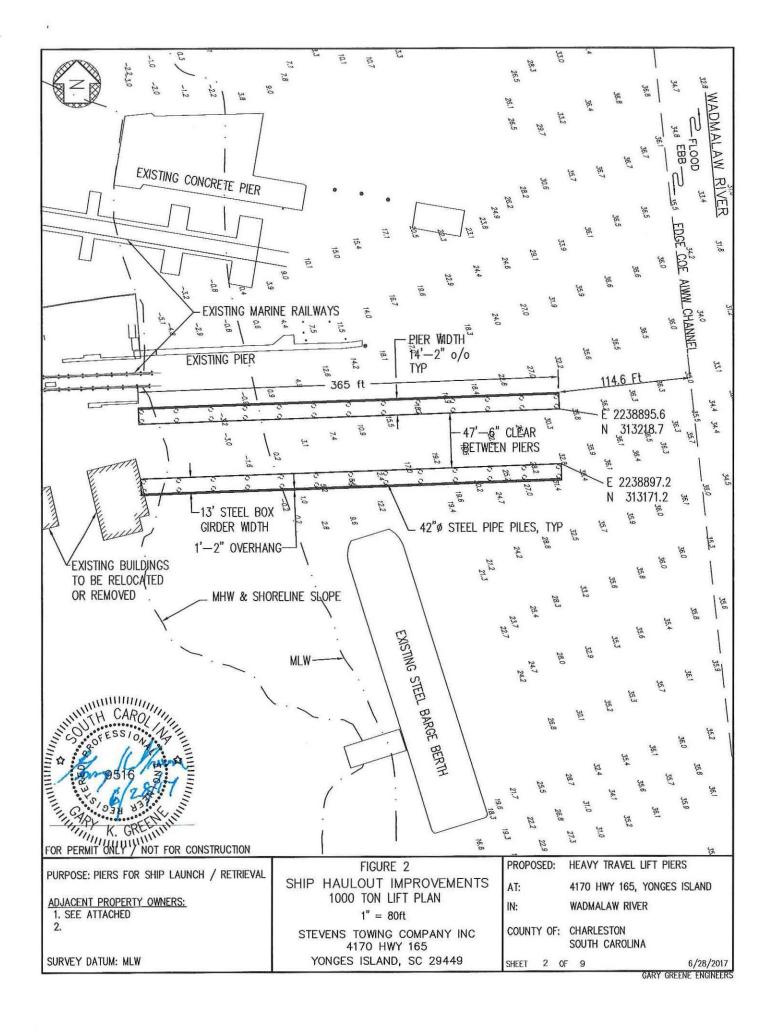
The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and

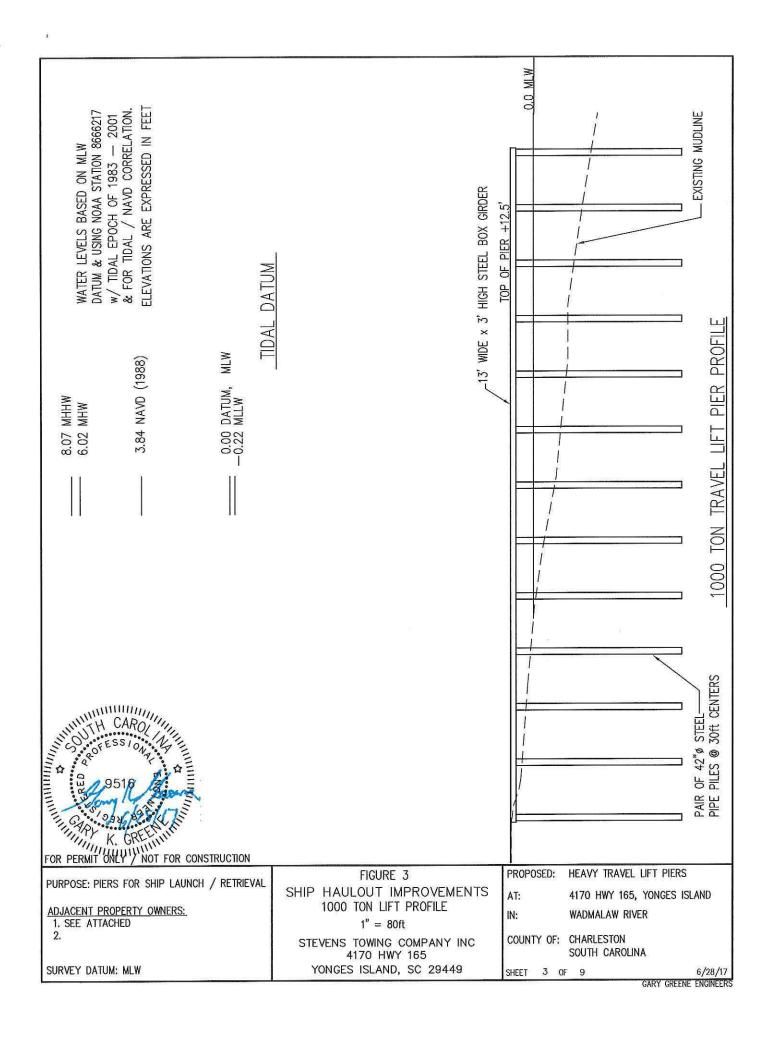
officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to 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. Please submit comments in writing, identifying the project of interest by public notice number, to the following address:

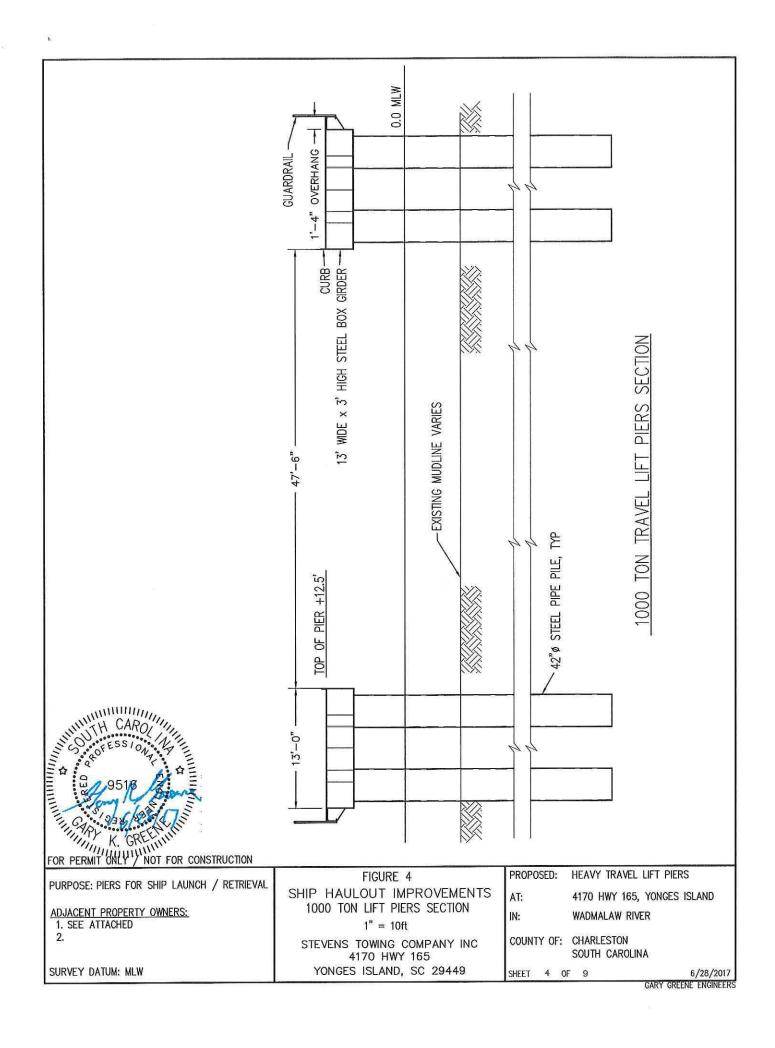
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION 69A Hagood Avenue Charleston, SC 29403-5107

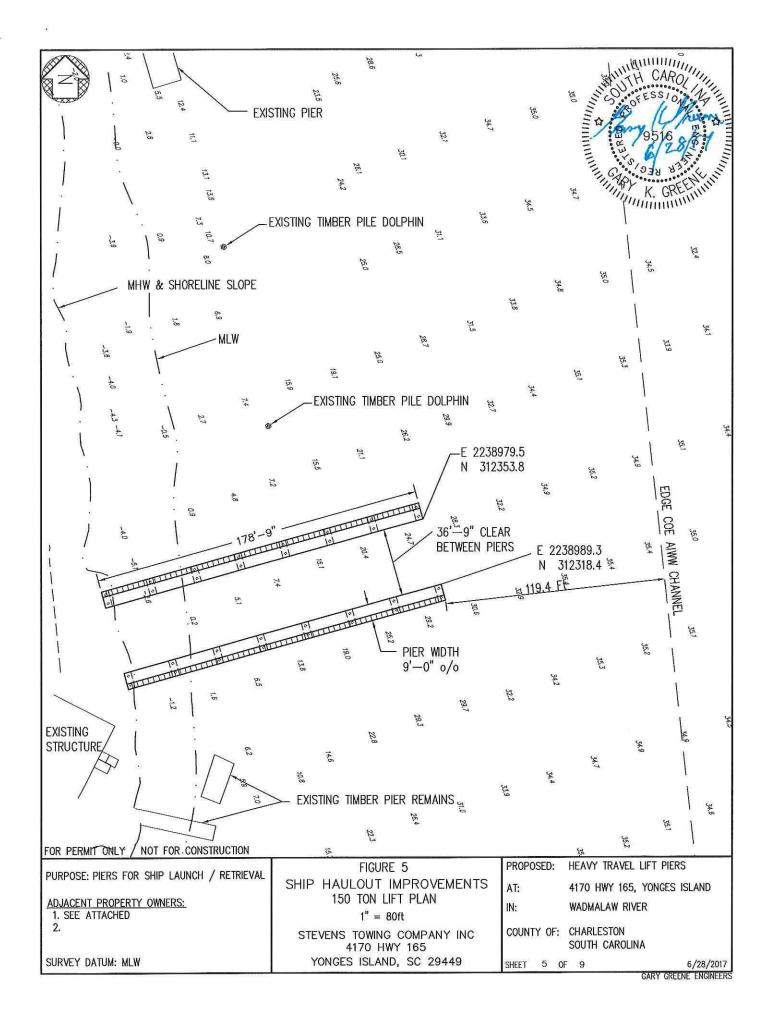
If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Chelsea B. Fannin, Project Manager, at (843) 329-8038 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.

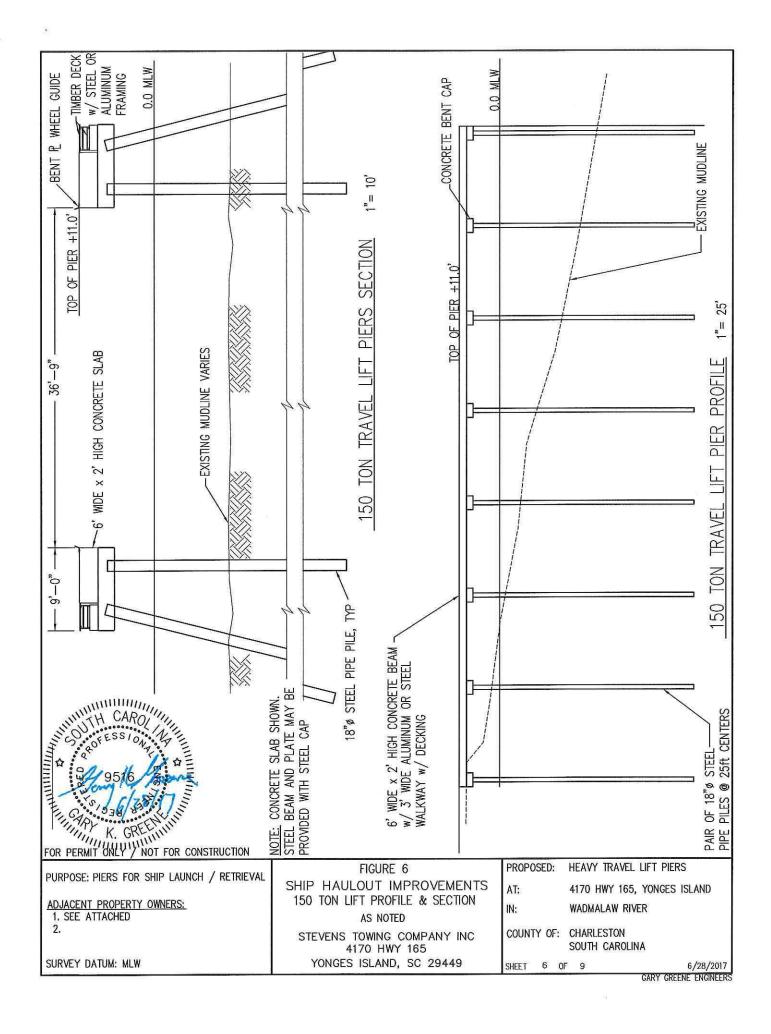


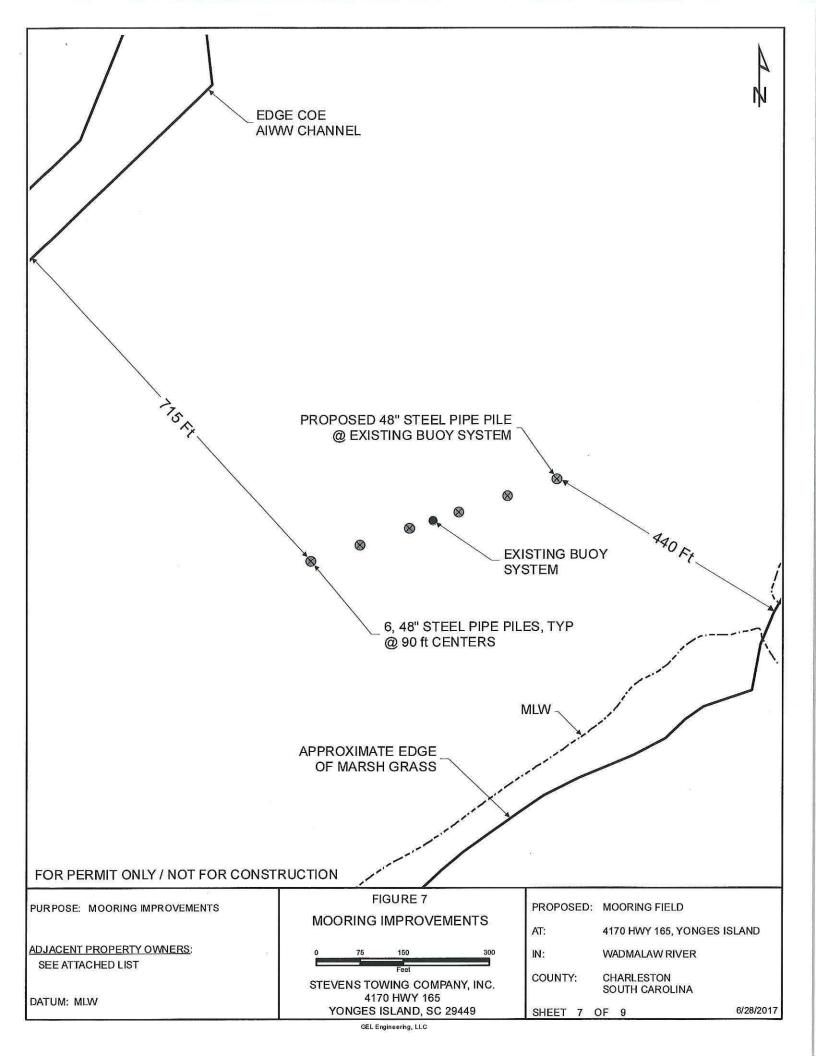


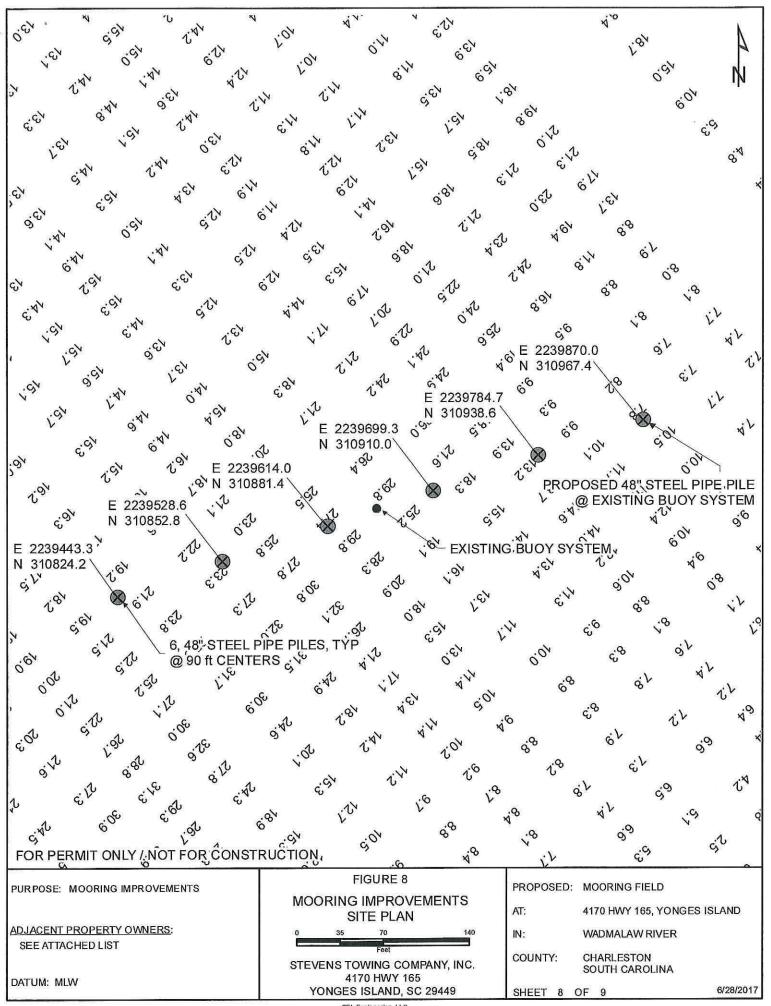


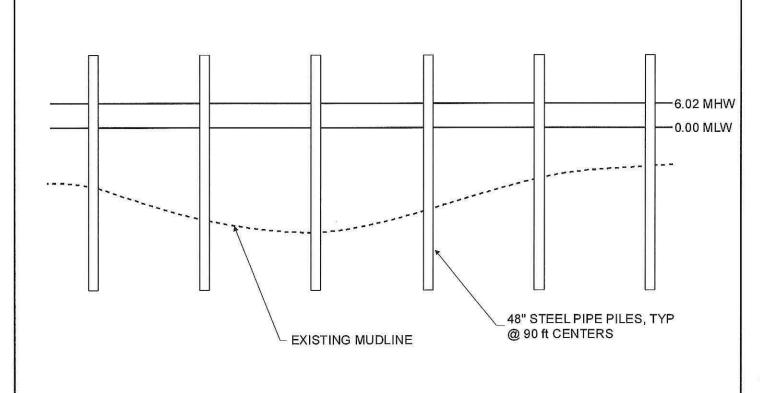












FOR PERMIT ONLY / NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

PURPOSE: MOORING IMPROVEMENTS

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:

SEE ATTACHED LIST

DATUM: MLW

FIGURE 9

MOORING IMPROVEMENTS **ELEVATION PLAN**

NOT TO SCALE

STEVENS TOWING COMPANY, INC. 4170 HWY 165 YONGES ISLAND, SC 29449

PROPOSED: MOORING FIELD

AT:

4170 HWY 165, YONGES ISLAND

IN:

WADMALAW RIVER

COUNTY:

CHARLESTON SOUTH CAROLINA

SHEET 9 OF 9

6/28/2017