

JOINT
PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1949 Industrial Park Road, Room 140
Conway, South Carolina 29526

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-2015-00953-3H

29 February 2016

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

GEORGETOWN COUNTY
c/o GEL ENGINEERING, LLC
P.O. BOX 30712
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29417

for a permit to maintenance dredge within two (2) existing marinas, five (5) channels, and around a public boat ramp in

PARSONAGE CREEK and MAIN CREEK

at a location southeast of U.S. Highway 17 Business, within the Crazy Sisters Marina, Marsh View Marina, around the SC DNR public boat ramp, Marsh Walk Channel and four (4) other adjacent channels located in Murrells Inlet, Georgetown County, South Carolina (Latitude 33.556551N, Longitude -79.032551°W), Brookgreen 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 maintenance dredging within two (2) existing marinas, five (5) channels, and around a public boat ramp. In detail, the work consists of dredging 52,000 cubic

yards of material from within approximately 7.88 acres of tidal waters from both Main Creek and Parsonage Creek. The proposed dredging will be performed by a hydraulic cutterhead suction dredge.

Specific Project Details Provided by the Applicant:

The proposed maintenance dredging in the project area includes Channels A through D, The Marshwalk Channel, the SCDNR Boat Landing, Marsh View Marina, and the Crazy Sisters Marina, as depicted on sheet 2 of 7 of the attached plans. The project area was last dredged in 2003. The proposed dredge depth in Channels A through D is -7.0 feet mean low water (MLW) with an overdepth allowance of 1.0 foot, for a total dredge depth of -8.0 feet MLW. The proposed dredge depth in the Marshwalk Channel, the SCDNR Boat Landing, the Marsh View Marine, and the Crazy Sisters Marina is -6.0 feet MLW with an overdepth allowance of 1.0 foot, for a total dredge depth of -7.0 feet MLW. The applicant stated that these depths are consistent with previous maintenance dredge events and do not include any new areas, either in width or depth.

The proposed material will be dredged by a hydraulic cutterhead suction dredge. The proposed dredged material will be transferred via pipeline and be either deposited in a nearby, upland Confined Disposal Facility (CDF), or be processed through a dewatering system staged on a nearby undeveloped parcel. Sheet 7 of 7 of the attached plans depicts the location of the proposed upland CDF and the conceptual layout area for the dewatering system.

The CDF has been designed, and may be constructed on a nearby tract of land for future maintenance dredging events. However, for the proposed dredge event planned for the upcoming dredge season (2016-2017), a dewatering system will be utilized. Based on the type of material proposed for dredging, the dewatering contractor may elect to utilize a flocculent to facilitate the dewatering of the site sediments. The dewatering site may include the hydrocyclones to separate larger grained material and debris, filter belt presses, storage vessels, and a staging area. The specific design of the dewatering system will be completed by the dewatering system contractor.

The proposed dredge material will be transported to the dewatering site via a temporary pipeline, which will extend under Highway 17 Business in existing infrastructure. The effluent water from the dewatering system will be discharged via a second pipeline (via the same infrastructure) into Parsonage Creek. The temporary pipelines will be laid cross an existing wetland. Placement of the pipeline will not require heavy equipment so no impacts to the wetlands are anticipated. The pipelines will be removed after the completion of the maintenance dredging. The dewatered sediments will be transported to an existing, permitted Georgetown County landfill.

A Sediment Evaluation has been completed for the project area, and in accordance with the approved *Sampling and Analysis Plan*, dated September 3, 2015. The *Sediment Testing Report* states the following:

1. Disposal of the proposed dredge material from the Murrells Inlet Project will not significantly impact the environmental integrity of the proposed inland CDF or the dewatering process, so no special handling or monitoring should be required.
2. The effluent from the proposed inland CDF or dewatering activities will not negatively impact surface water quality of Parsonage or Main Creeks.

Avoidance and Minimization:

The applicant stated that the proposed dredging will be performed with a hydraulic cutterhead dredge with dredged material transported via pipeline. In addition, the applicant stated that impacts to marsh grass have been avoided in the design of the proposed project.

Proposed Mitigation:

The applicant offered no compensatory mitigation for the proposed impacts.

Project Purpose:

The project purpose as stated by the applicant is to provide year round boating access during all tidal cycles for marinas, public boat ramp, and commercial businesses offering waterside access.

NOTE: This public notice and associated plans are available on the Corps' website at: <http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices> . 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
1949 Industrial Park Road, Room 140
Conway, South Carolina 29526**

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 (7.88) 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 Corps has reviewed the project area, examined all information provided by the applicant, and the District Engineer has determined that the project is not likely to adversely affect any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request for written concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service on this determination.

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)(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.

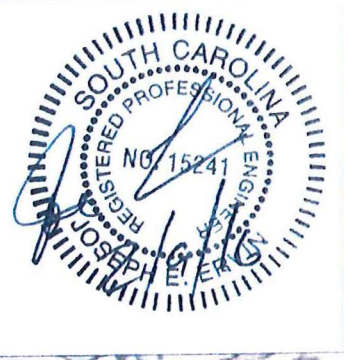
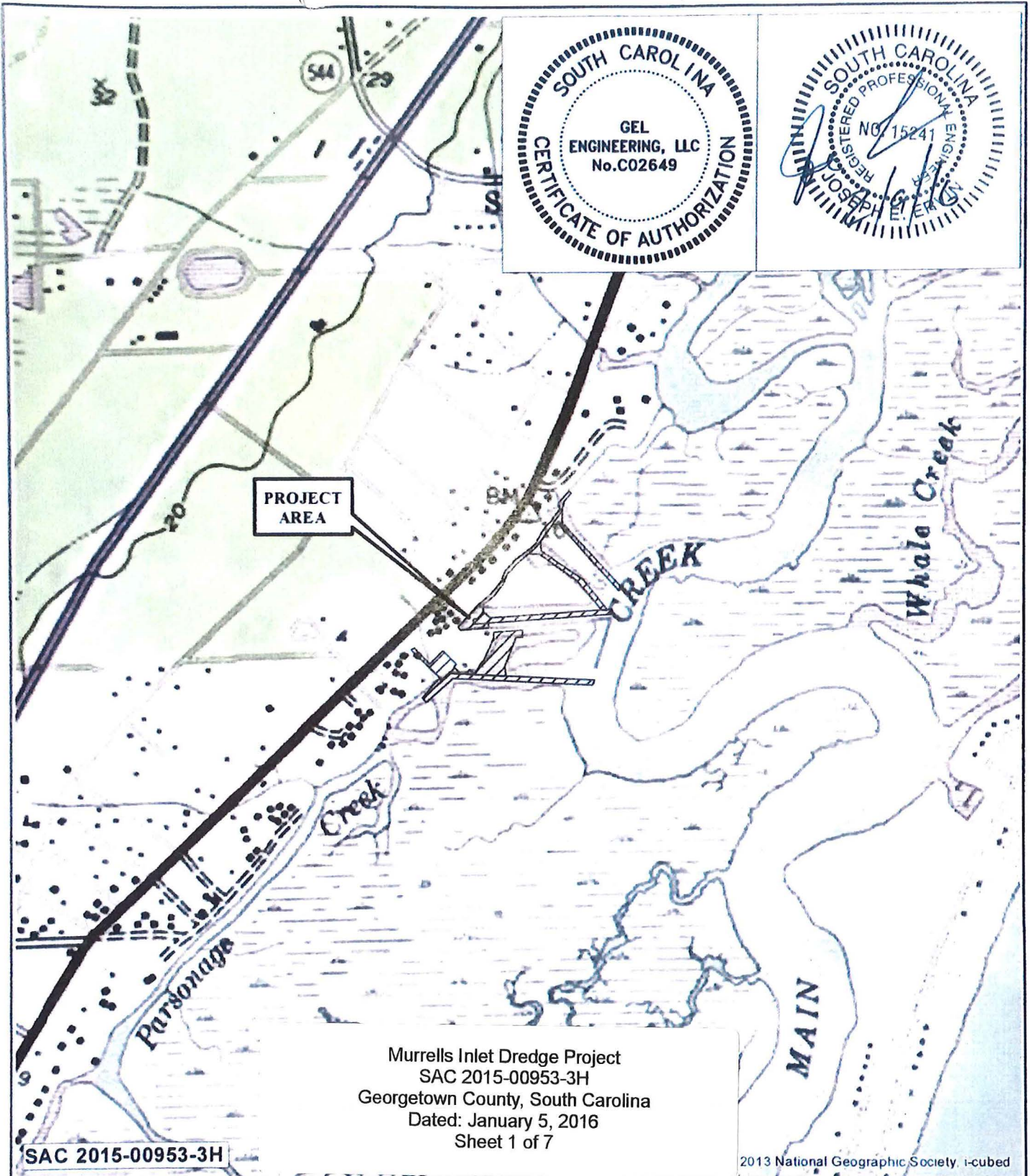
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

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.

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Rob Huff at 843-365-4239.



PURPOSE ADEQUATE NAVIGATION

APPLICANT
GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC

DATUM NAD83

DATE 01/05/2016

FIGURE 1
LOCATION MAP

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MURRELLS INLET MAINTENANCE
DREDGING PROJECT
MURRELLS INLET, SOUTH CAROLINA

PROPOSED: MAINTENANCE DREDGING

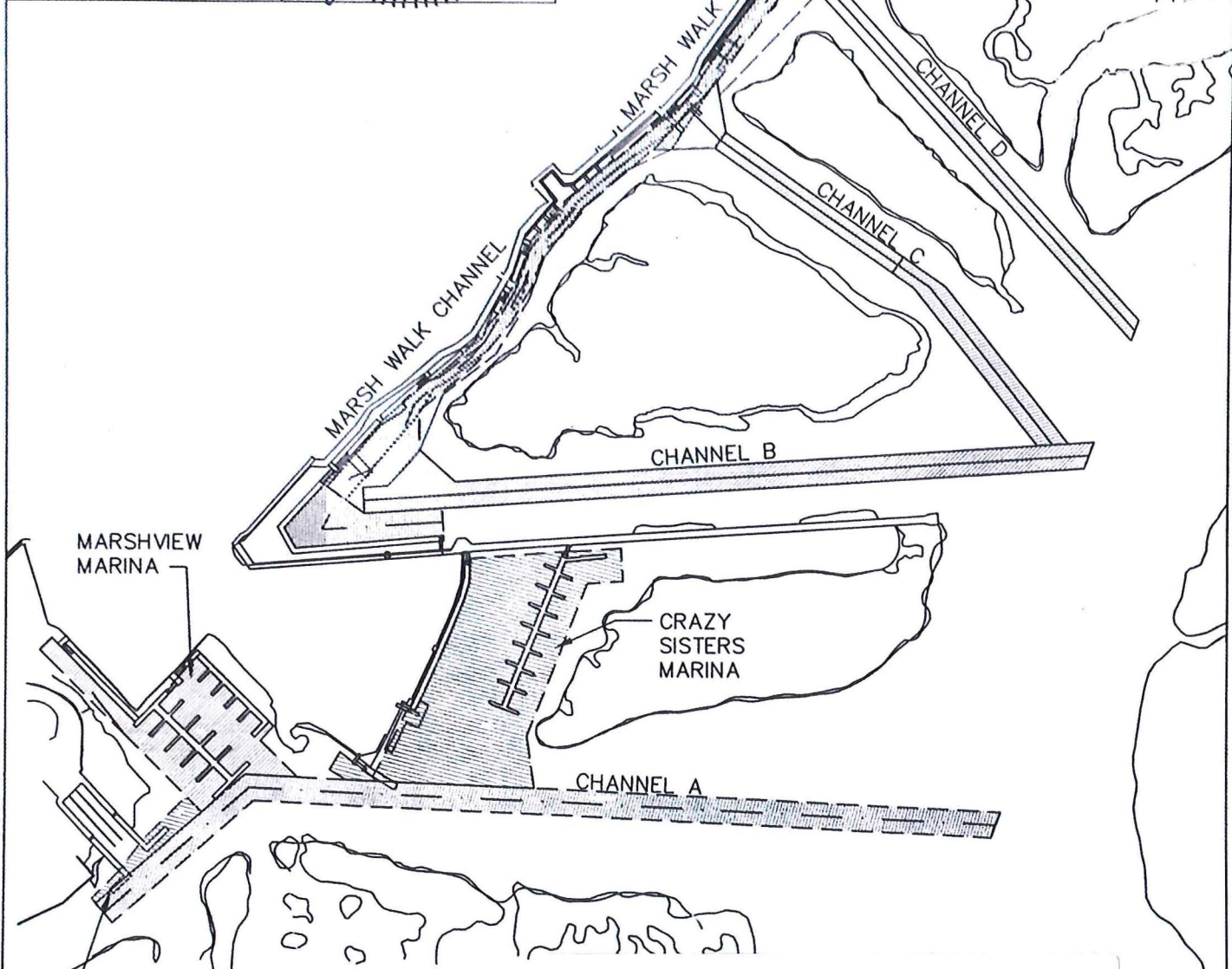
AT: MURRELLS INLET,
SOUTH CAROLINA

IN: ADJACENT TO MAIN CREEK &
PARSONAGE CREEK

COUNTY: GEORGETOWN

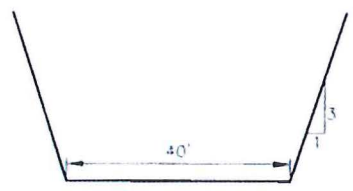
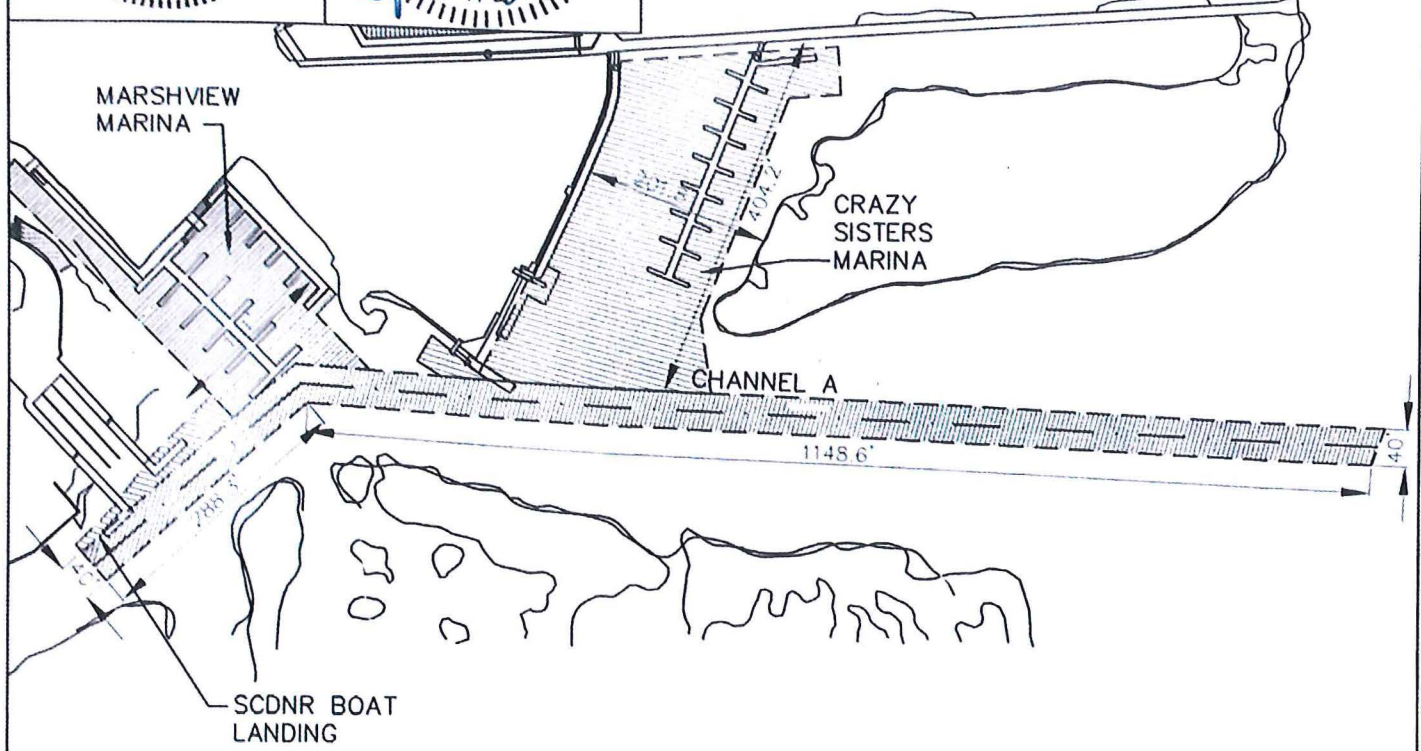
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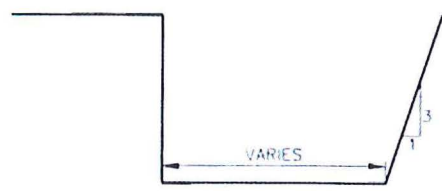


Murrells Inlet Dredge Project
 SAC 2015-00953-3H
 Georgetown County, South Carolina
 Dated: January 5, 2016
 Sheet 2 of 7

<p>PURPOSE: ADEQUATE NAVIGATION</p> <p>APPLICANT GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC</p> <p>SURVEY DATUM: NAD83</p> <p>DATE: 01/05/2016</p>	<p>FIGURE 2 PLAN VIEW</p> <p>APPROXIMATE SCALE: 1" = 250'</p> <p>MURRELLS INLET MAINTENANCE DREDGING PROJECT MURRELLS INLET, SOUTH CAROLINA</p>	<p>PROPOSED: MAINTENANCE DREDGING</p> <p>AT: MURRELLS INLET, SOUTH CAROLINA</p> <p>IN: ADJACENT TO MAIN CREEK & PARSONAGE CREEK</p> <p>COUNTY: GEORGETOWN</p>
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CHANNEL A
7' + 1' MLW DREDGE DEPTH



MARINAS
6' + 1' MLW DREDGE DEPTH

Murrells Inlet Dredge Project
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Georgetown County, South Carolina
Dated: January 5, 2016
Sheet 3 of 7

PURPOSE: ADEQUATE NAVIGATION

APPLICANT
GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC

SURVEY DATUM: NAD83

DATE: 01/05/2016

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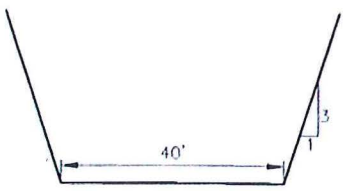
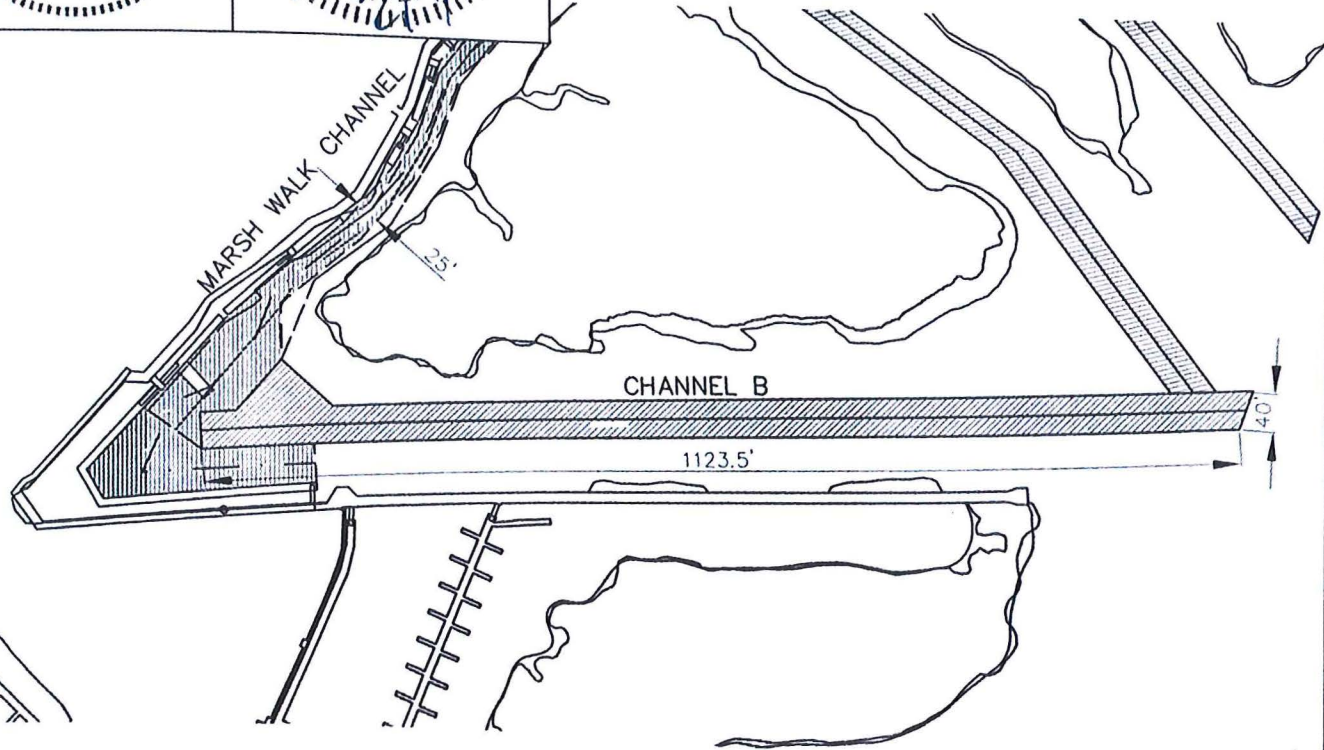
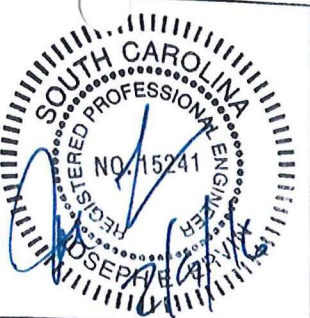
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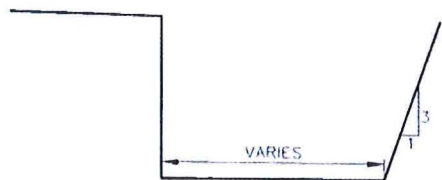
MURRELLS INLET MAINTENANCE
DREDGING PROJECT
MURRELLS INLET, SOUTH CAROLINA

IN: ADJACENT TO MAIN CREEK &
PARSONAGE CREEK

COUNTY: GEORGETOWN



CHANNEL B
7' + 1' MLW DREDGE DEPTH



MARSHWALK
6' + 1' MLW DREDGE DEPTH

Murrells Inlet Dredge Project
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Georgetown County, South Carolina
Dated: January 5, 2016
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PURPOSE: ADEQUATE NAVIGATION

APPLICANT
GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC

SURVEY DATUM: NAD83

DATE: 01/05/2016

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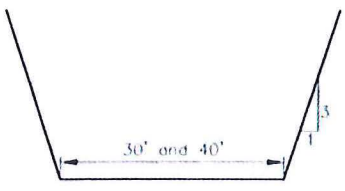
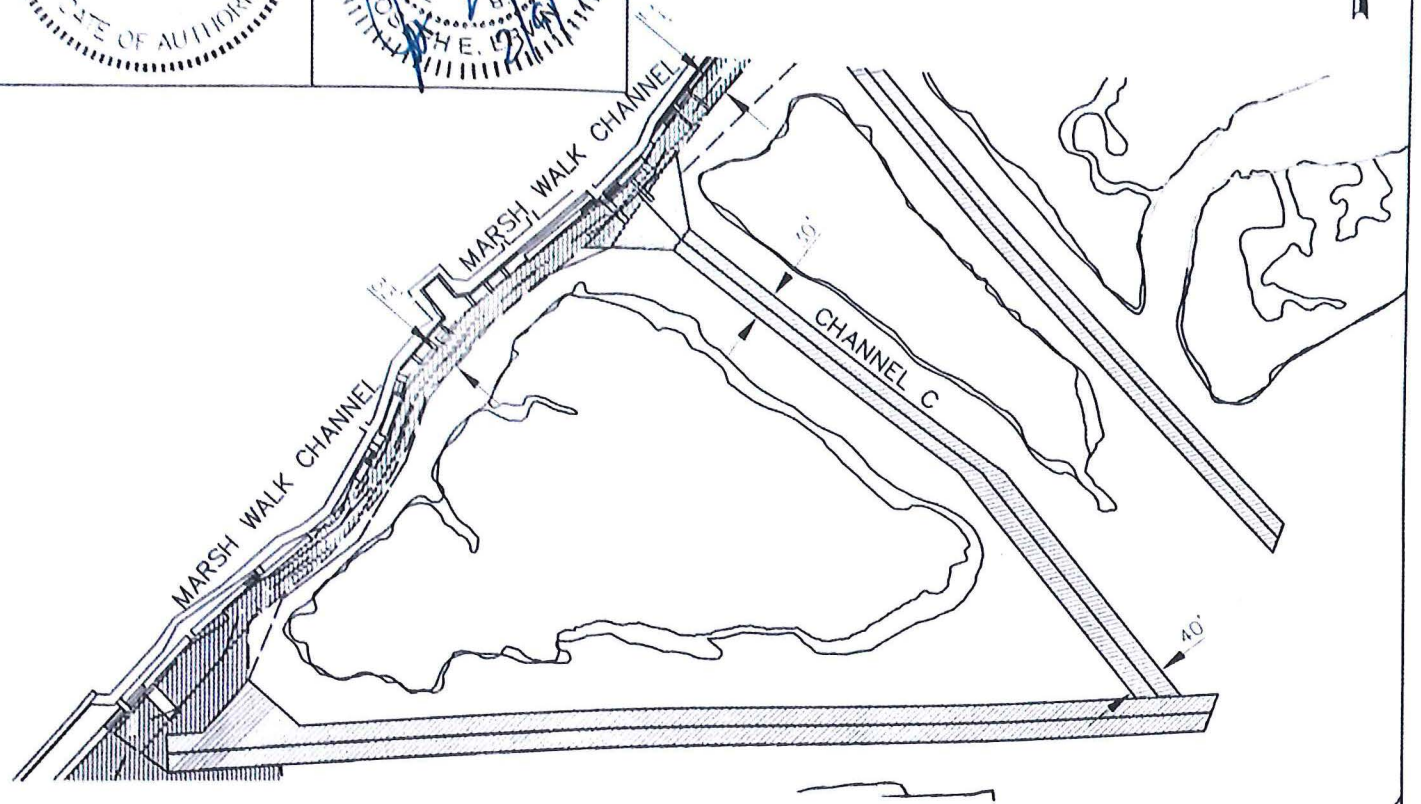
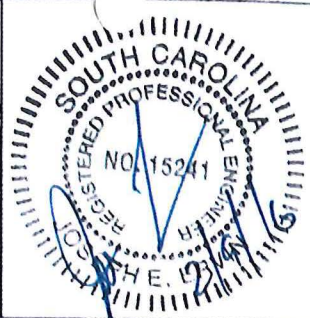
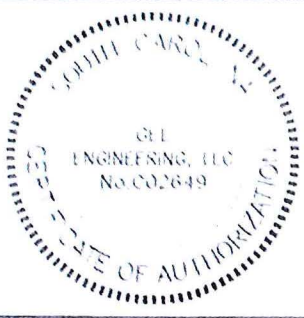
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MURRELLS INLET MAINTENANCE
DREDGING PROJECT
MURRELLS INLET, SOUTH CAROLINA

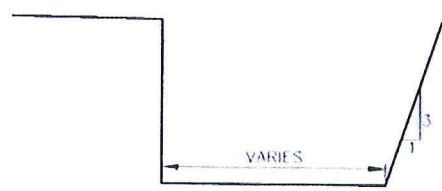
DREDGING

IN: ADJACENT TO MAIN CREEK & PARSONAGE CREEK

COUNTY: GEORGETOWN



CHANNEL C
7' + 1' MLW DREDGE DEPTH



MARSHWALK
6' + 1' MLW DREDGE DEPTH

PURPOSE: ADEQUATE NAVIGATION

APPLICANT
GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC

SURVEY DATUM: NAD83

DATE: 01/05/2016

Murrells Inlet Dredge Project
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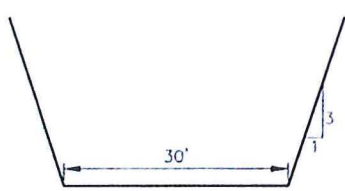
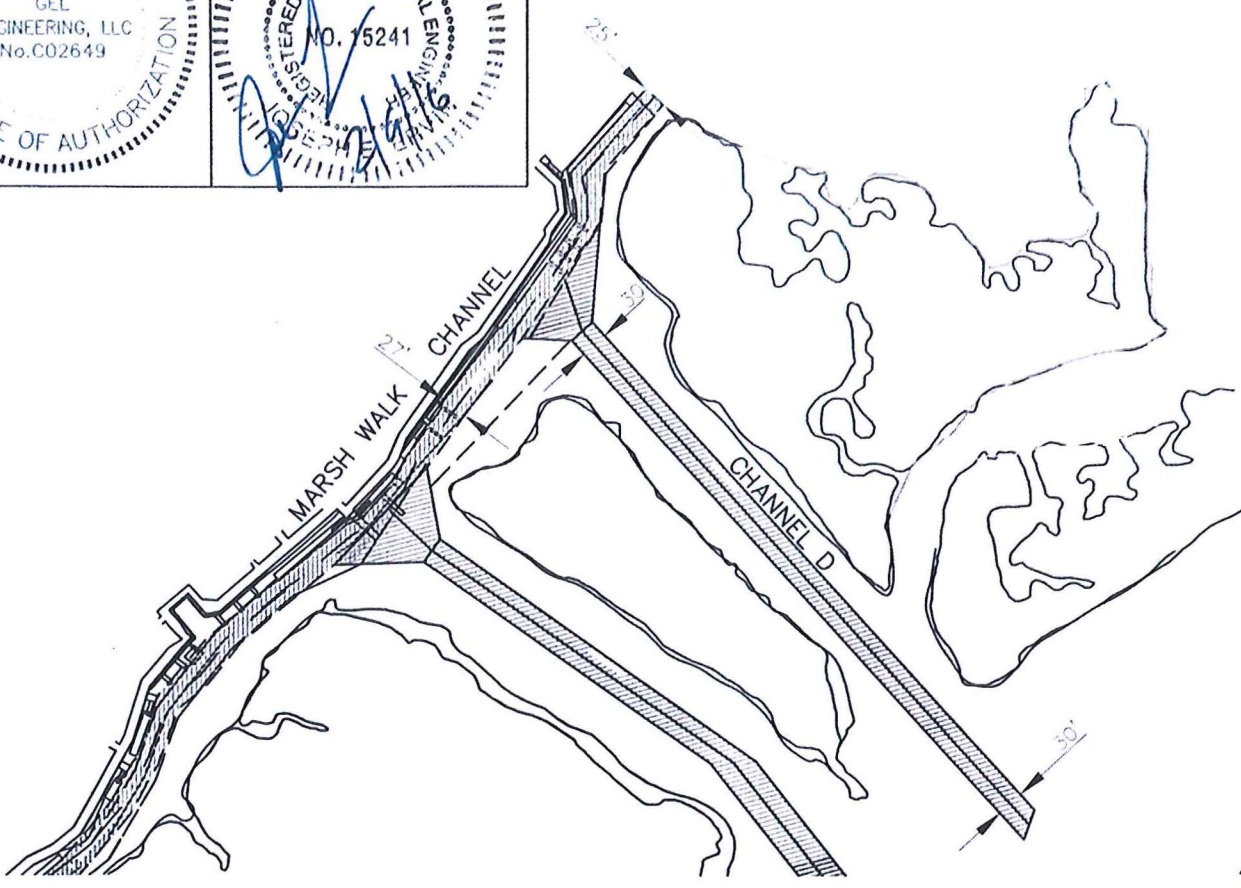
MURRELLS INLET MAINTENANCE
DREDGING PROJECT
MURRELLS INLET, SOUTH CAROLINA

IN: ADJACENT TO MAIN CREEK &
PARSONAGE CREEK

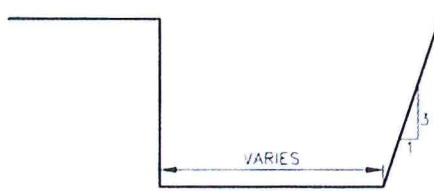
COUNTY: GEORGETOWN

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CHANNEL D
7' + 1' MLW DREDGE DEPTH



MARSHWALK
6' + 1' MLW DREDGE DEPTH

Murrells Inlet Dredge Project
SAC 2015-00953-3H
Georgetown County, South Carolina
Dated: January 5, 2016
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PURPOSE: ADEQUATE NAVIGATION

APPLICANT
GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC

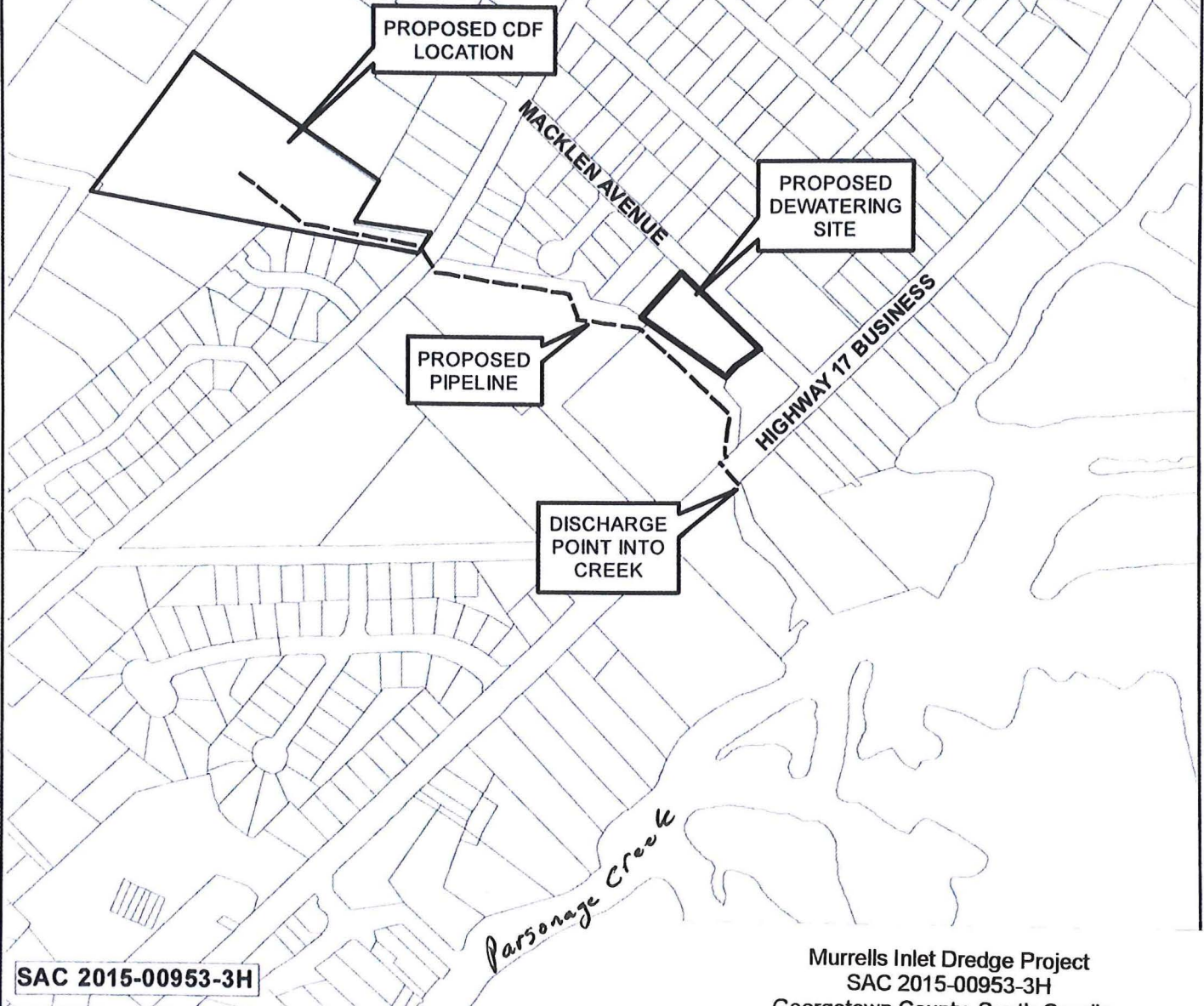
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MURRELLS INLET MAINTENANCE
DREDGING PROJECT
MURRELLS INLET, SOUTH CAROLINA

IN: ADJACENT TO MAIN CREEK &
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COUNTY: GEORGETOWN



SAC 2015-00953-3H

Murrells Inlet Dredge Project
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Georgetown County, South Carolina
Dated: January 5, 2016
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PURPOSE: ADEQUATE NAVIGATION

FIGURE 7
CDF AND DEWATERING
LOCATION MA

APPLICANT
GEORGETOWN COUNTY, SC

MURRELLS INLET MAINTENANCE
DREDGING PROJECT
MURRELLS INLET, SOUTH CAROLINA

IN: ADJACENT TO MAIN CREEK &
PARSONAGE CREEK

DATUM: NAD83

COUNTY: GEORGETOWN

DATE 01/05/2016

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GEL Engineering, LLC

a Member of THE GEL GROUP INC