

**JOINT**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**Northwest Branch, Columbia Office**  
**69A Hagood Avenue**  
**Charleston, South Carolina 29403**  
**and**  
**THE S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**  
**Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Section**  
**2600 Bull Street**  
**Columbia, South Carolina 29201**

REGULATORY DIVISION  
Refer to: SAC-2020-01429

July 6, 2021

Pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1341), and the S.C. Construction in Navigable Waters Permit Program (R. 19-450, et. seq., 1976 S.C. Code of Laws, as amended), an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control by

**The City of Columbia**  
**Attn.: Mr. Gregory Tucker**  
**1737 Main Street**  
**Columbia, South Carolina 29201**

for a permit to construct a new resilient water supply intake in

**the Congaree River**

at a location adjacent to the existing Columbia Canal embankment, west of the intersection of Huger Street and Highway 126, in Columbia, in Richland County, South Carolina (Latitude: 34.006249°, Longitude: -81.058307°), Columbia North 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 installation of a new raw water intake structure with

associated bank stabilization and stream crossing for an access road. In detail the project would include temporary fill of 1.04 acres of stream bottom within the Congaree River for a coffer dam which would temporarily dewater 0.27 acre of the Congaree River during project construction. Proposed permanent impacts include 0.18 acre of fill associated with the water intake structure, screening, and submersible pumping electrical supply and controls, as well as 0.41 acre of riprap stabilization adjacent to the proposed intake structure. Construction of a laydown area would include culvert impacts to 18 linear feet of an unnamed tributary and fill of 0.01 acre of wetlands. The water supply intake would have an initial capacity of 60 million gallons per day and would be capable of being expanded to 80 million gallons per day. This raw water intake would replace the water intake at the canal which was affected by the canal embankment failure resulting from flooding in 2015. The proposed raw water intake would be designed to survive an embankment breach if one were to occur, and the intake would be founded on rock in the riverbed of the Congaree River. The housing for the proposed intake structure would be 110 feet long, 60 feet wide, and 77 feet high, 62 feet of which would be exposed above the water surface of the Congaree River. The intake structure would include four submersible pumps which would access water via a wet well at the base of the intake structure. The applicant proposes a screening facility at the base of the intake facility on the western face. The screen would consist of a bank of half-round barrel screens based on a submerged slab approximately 7 to 13 feet below normal water surface elevation. The screening facility would include compressed air lines for periodically bursting air back through the screens for debris removal. Raw water piping would be comprised of dual 48-inch ductile iron pipes which would extend from the submersible pumps through the raw water pump station structure, across the canal, and would connect to the existing raw water piping before discharging into the existing Canal Water Treatment Plant Reservoir. Proposed road access to the intake would include installation of a 42 ft wide, 157.5 ft long permanent bridge over the Columbia Canal. The bridge would include 21 feet of width for traffic and 21 feet of width for the dual 48-inch ductile iron pipe to connect the water intake to the Canal Water Treatment Plant. The applicant has not proposed compensatory mitigation for this project. The project purpose as stated by the applicant is to provide the City of Columbia with a resilient water supply intake for the Canal Water Treatment Plant, while maintaining the Canal's compliance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) current safety standards and meeting long-term water quantity demands for the City.

**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. 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. 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 1.90 acres of freshwater habitat well inland 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 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 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. 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

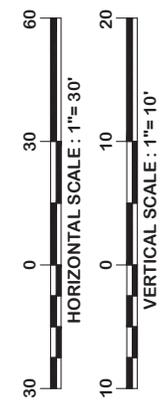
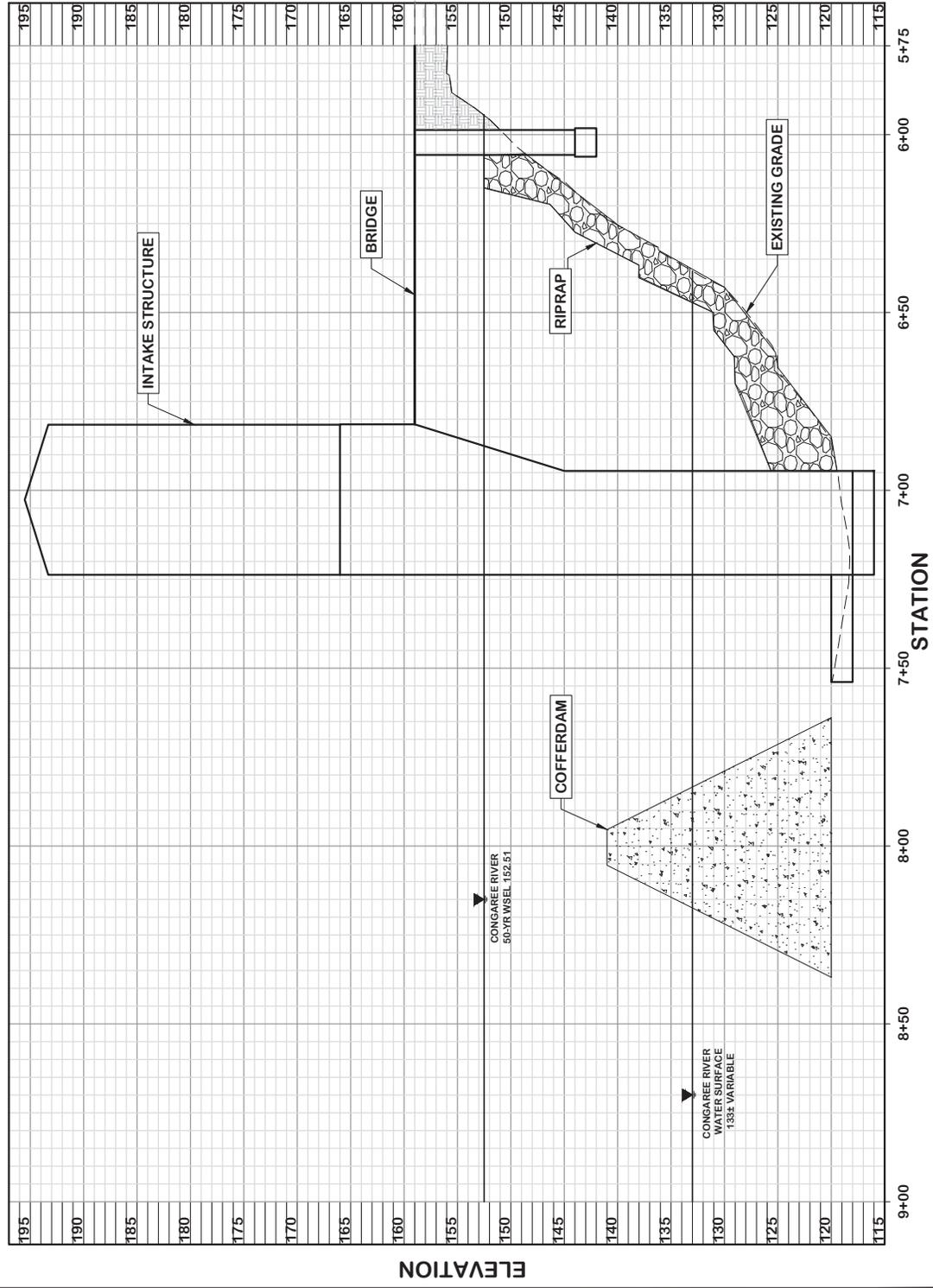
needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

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. **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  
Laura Boos-Northwest Branch  
69A Hagood Avenue  
Charleston, South Carolina 29403**

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Laura Boos at (803) 253-3902, or by email (preferred) at [laura.m.boos@usace.army.mil](mailto:laura.m.boos@usace.army.mil)



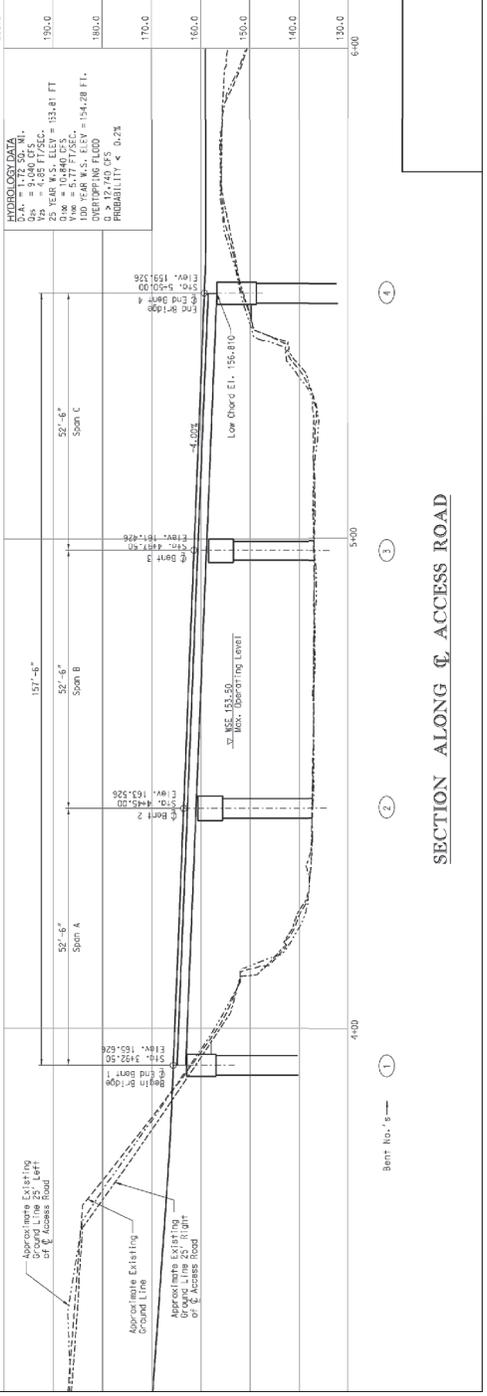
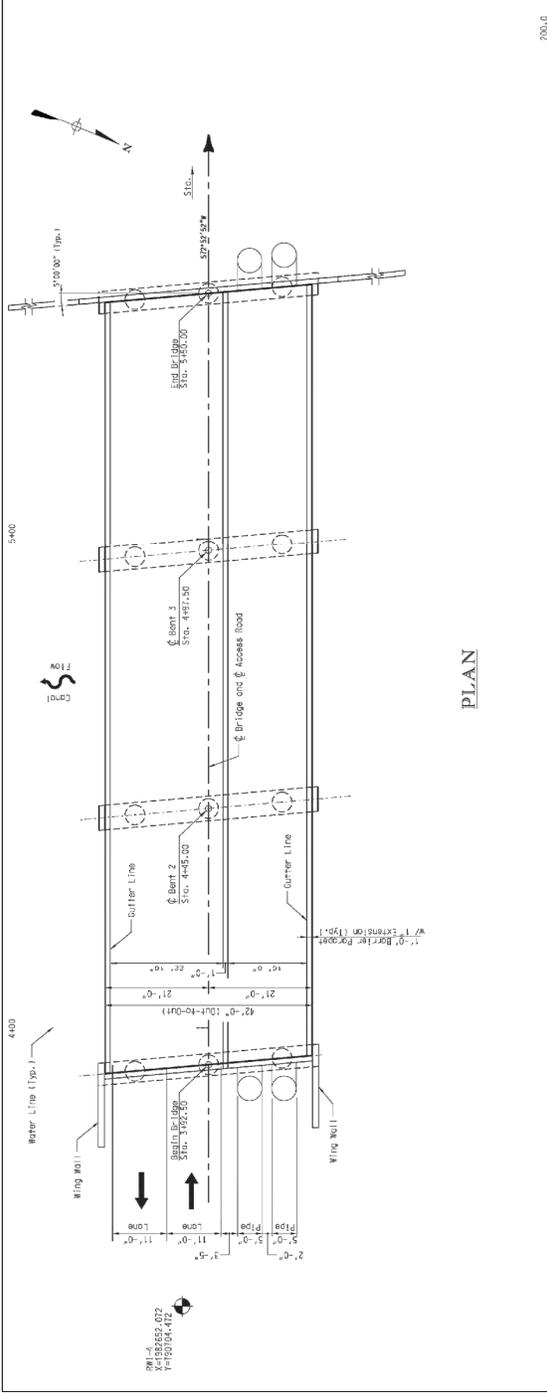


**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL

CITY OF COLUMBIA  
RESILIENT WATER SUPPLY  
CROSS-SECTION OF INTAKE STRUCTURE

APPLICANT:  
SAC#:  
CITY OF COLUMBIA  
SAC-2020-01429

WETLAND IMPACTS  
SHEET # 2



**Michael Baker**  
INTERNATIONAL

CITY OF COLUMBIA  
RESIDENT WATER SUPPLY  
PLAN AND SECTION OF BRIDGE

APPLICANT:  
SAC#:

CITY OF COLUMBIA  
SAC-2020-01429

WETLAND IMPACTS  
SHEET # 3