## JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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 12 SEPTEMBER 2012

Refer to: P/N SAC-2012-909-2G

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

THE S. C. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
C/O ROSS SELF
P. O. BOX 167, 1000 ASSEMBLY STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202

for a permit to enlarge 16 existing fish attractor sites in

## LAKE MOULTRIE AND LAKE MARION

At thirty five existing sites in the lakes as shown on the attached drawings.

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 enlargement and maintenance of the existing fish attractor sites. The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (DNR) currently has oversight and maintenance responsibilities for 19 existing fish attractor sites in Lake Marion and 16 existing fish attractor sites in Lake Moultrie for a total of 35 sites in the Santee Cooper lakes. The existing sites are approximately 75' in diameter (approximately 0.10 ac or 4,416 sf) and vary in profile height from site to site. They are located at various depths ranging from 12' to 45'. Each existing fish attractor is constructed of polyethylene tubing with various amounts of brush and woody material added. The placement of brush piles has proven very productive, however it is very labor intensive to maintain as they only last a few years and then must be replaced. The

## 12 SEPTEMBER 2012

proposed enlargement of the existing fish attractors to one acre in size with the proposed material list is designed as a more permanent and lower maintenance approach to enhancing the sites. The existing fish attractors are marked with buoys and are maintained for public use by DNR.

The DNR, in partnership with Santee Cooper Country, is seeking Federal and State authorization to enlarge and maintain the existing sites for a minimum period of 10 years. Specifically, DNR proposes to enlarge and enhance the sites up to a diameter of 240' (approximately 1.0 ac or 45,216 sf) with a variety of materials including clean rock, concrete, clean retired steel or iron structures, and woody debris. Please see Sheets 1 – 73 of the attachments for maps and cross sections of the proposed sites. This material will be transported by barge or boat from designated staging areas as the material becomes available. See attached Sheets 74 – 82 for maps and locations of the proposed staging areas.

To enlarge the sites to one acre each will provide enough room for the fish attractor to be fished by multiple boats without over crowding the site. As they are now, each site can be fished by one boat at a time. The coordinates provided are the location of the marker buoys at each site. The existing sites were designed with an approximate radius of 37.5' around a center buoy. The proposed enlargement of each site will have a radius of 120' around the buoy.

DNR will construct, monitor and manage the proposed sites. The proposed materials will be transported by boat or barge to a site from the designated staging areas and placed within the permitted radius of the site (120' radius proposed). It will be the responsibility of the DNR Santee Cooper biologist to then monitor and manage the project. This includes the procurement of the materials, transporting the materials, and insuring the materials are clean and environmentally safe. The materials used will be recorded by site number, date, type and volume of material, profile height, and the GPS coordinates of the location where the materials are placed.

The existing fish attractor sites were located to minimize impacts to Waters of the U.S. Environmentally sensitive areas have been avoided and most of the sites are located on or near contour changes in the lake bottom that naturally attract fish. Important aquatic resources such as small coves and shallow shoreline areas have been avoided and these areas will not be adversely impacted by the project. Sites were also located in low or moderate boat traffic areas. None of the sites were located in extreme traffic areas, navigation channels or small cove areas. The top elevation of the proposed structures will not extend above elevation 68' which will allow for a minimum of approximately 4' of clearance between the top of the structure and the normal low water elevation of 72.8'. The proposed enlargement of the sites will not adversely impact navigation and should enhance public access for recreational fishing.

The purpose of the proposed work is to provide additional recreational fishing opportunities for the general public, enhance and improve aquatic habitat in the lakes, require less maintenance, and benefit tourism and the local economy of the Santee Cooper lakes region.

NOTE: Plans depicting the work described in this notice are available and will be provided, upon receipt of a written request, to anyone that is interested in obtaining a copy of the plans for the specific project. The request must identify the project of interest by public notice number and a self-addressed stamped envelope must also be provided for mailing the drawings to you. Your request for drawings 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

## REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N #SAC-2012-909-2G

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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 South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (15 CFR 930). 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. Persons wishing to comment or object to State certification must submit all comments in writing to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control at the above address within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice.

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 36 acres of lacustrine substrates upstream of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our 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). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect 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 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended).

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 the NHPA, the District Engineer has also consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. To insure that other cultural resources 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 to provide any information it may have with regard to historic and cultural resources.

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 102 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,

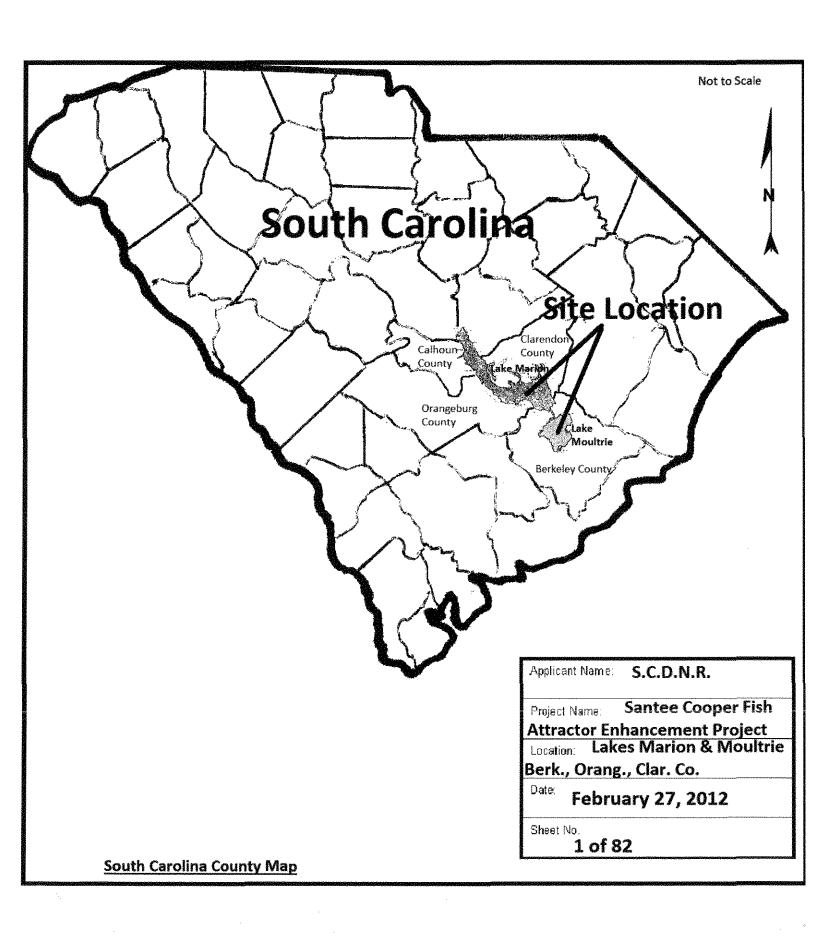
REGULATORY DIVISION
Refer to: P/N #SAC-2012-909-2G

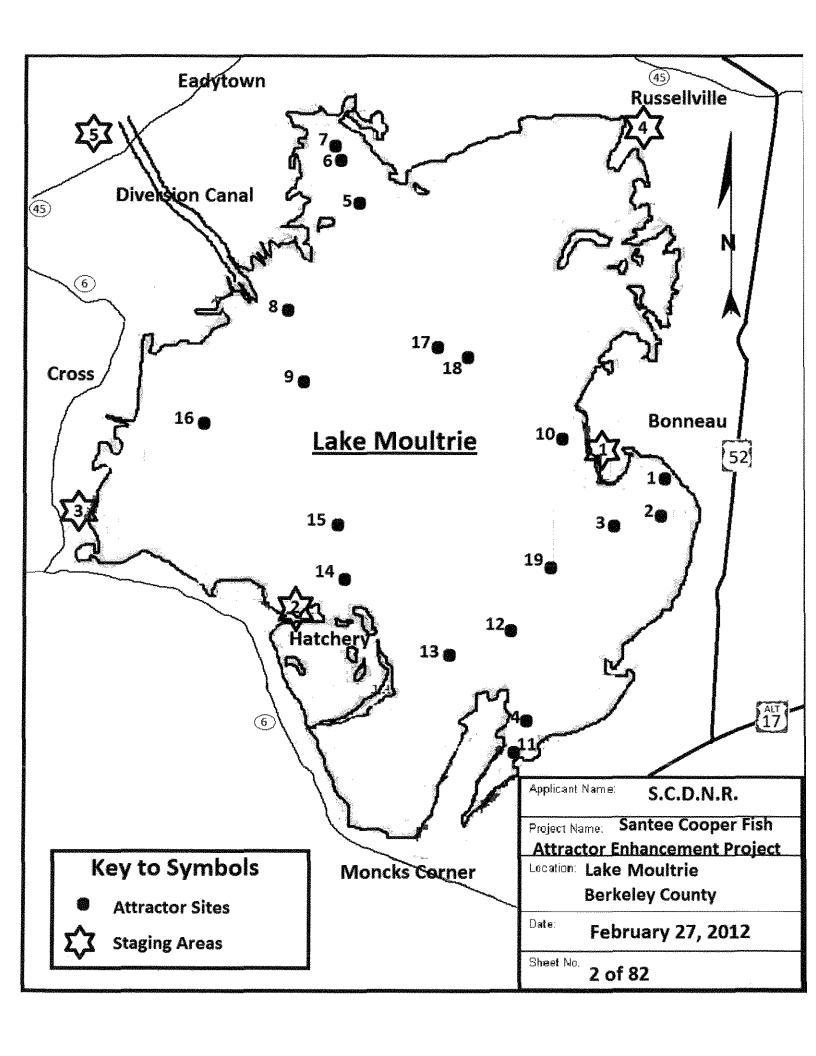
12 SEPTEMBER 2012

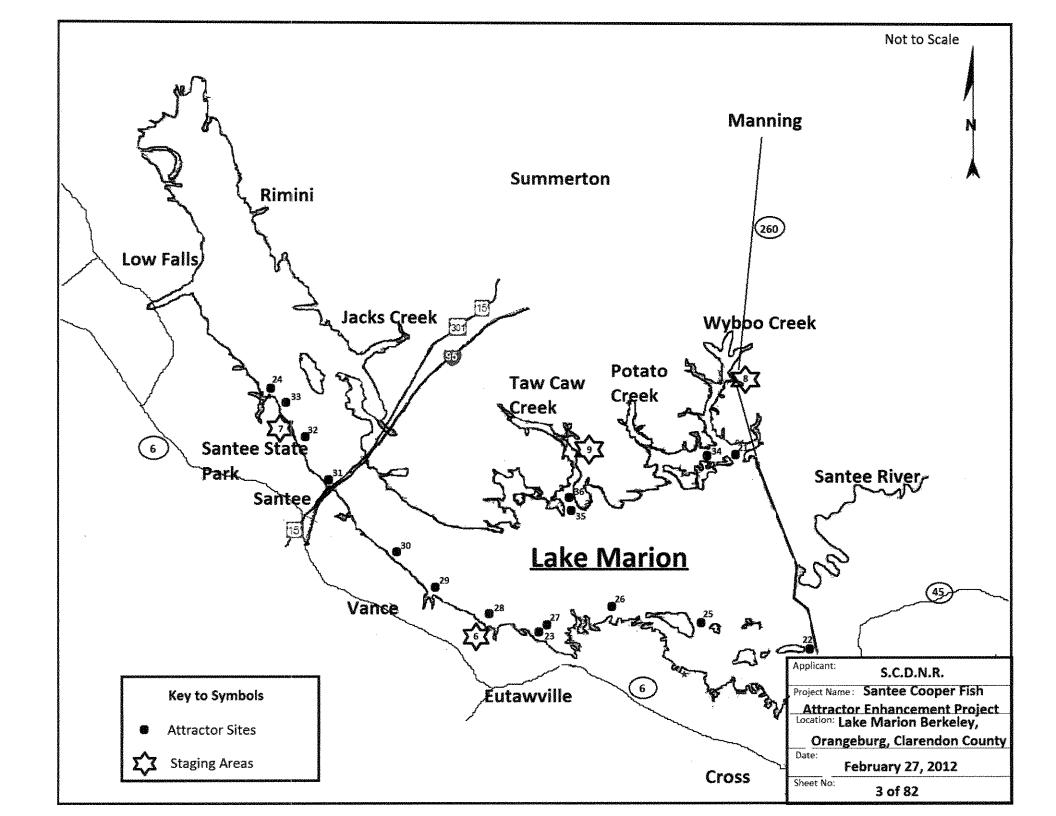
flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps of Engineers 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 of Engineers 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.

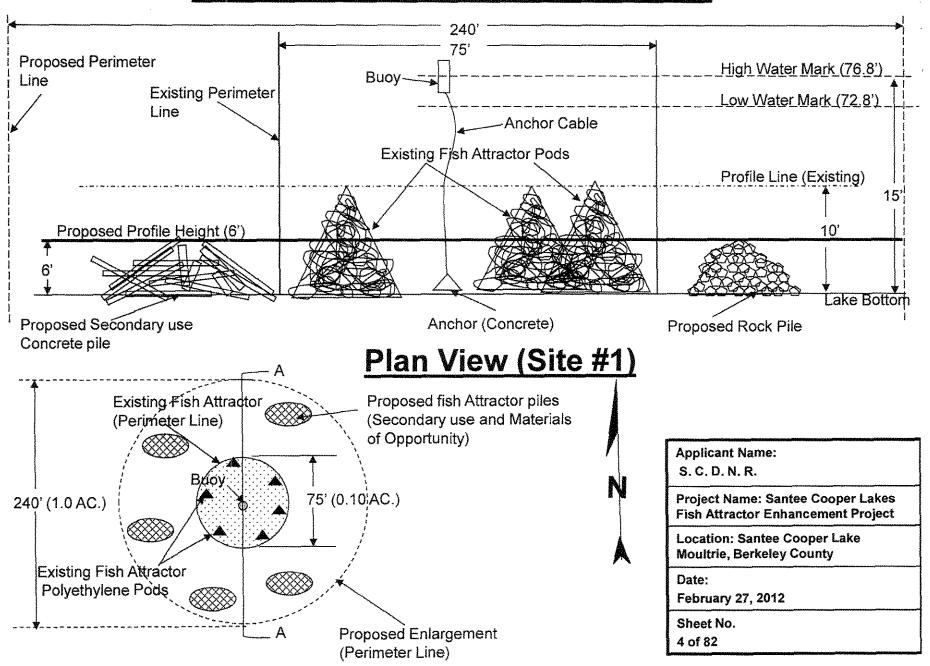
If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Mary Hope Green at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.

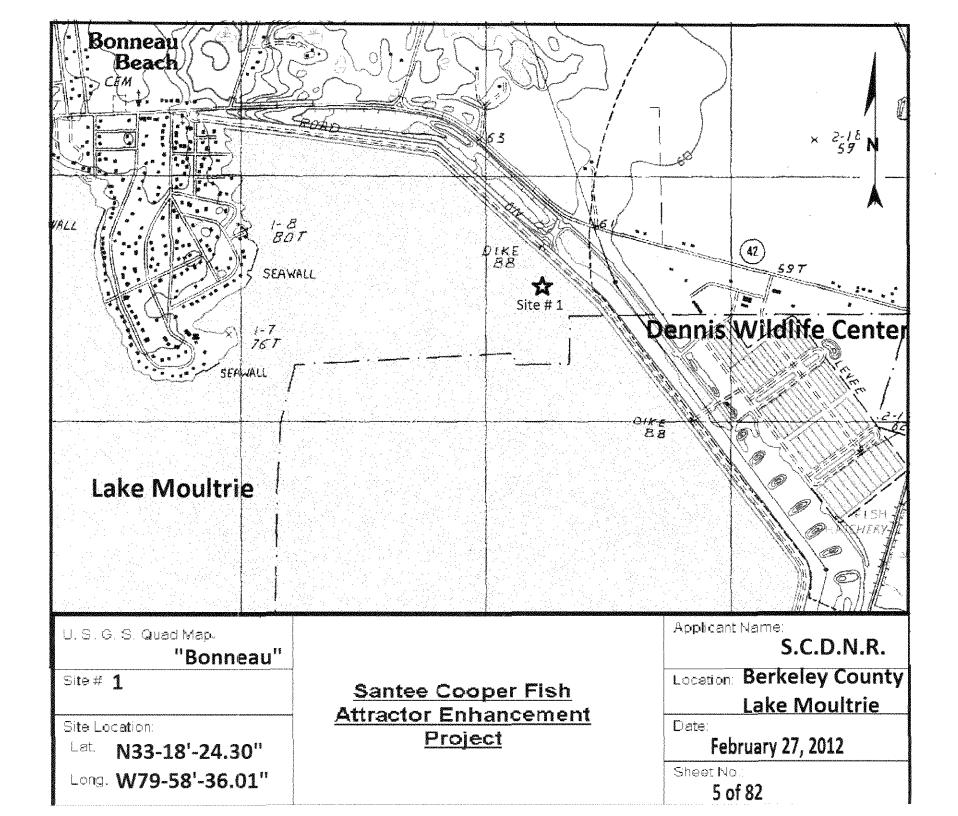




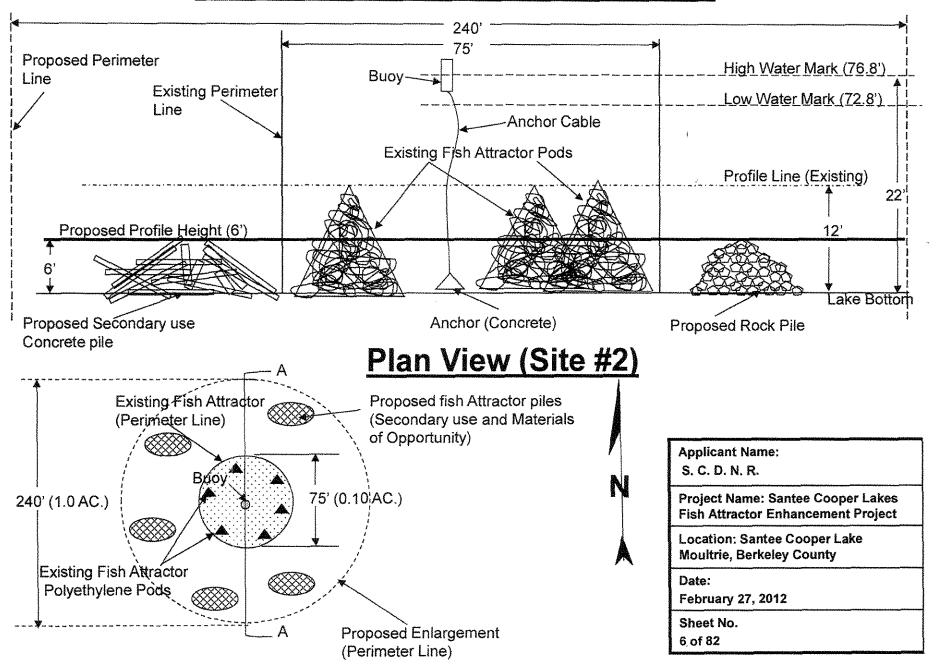


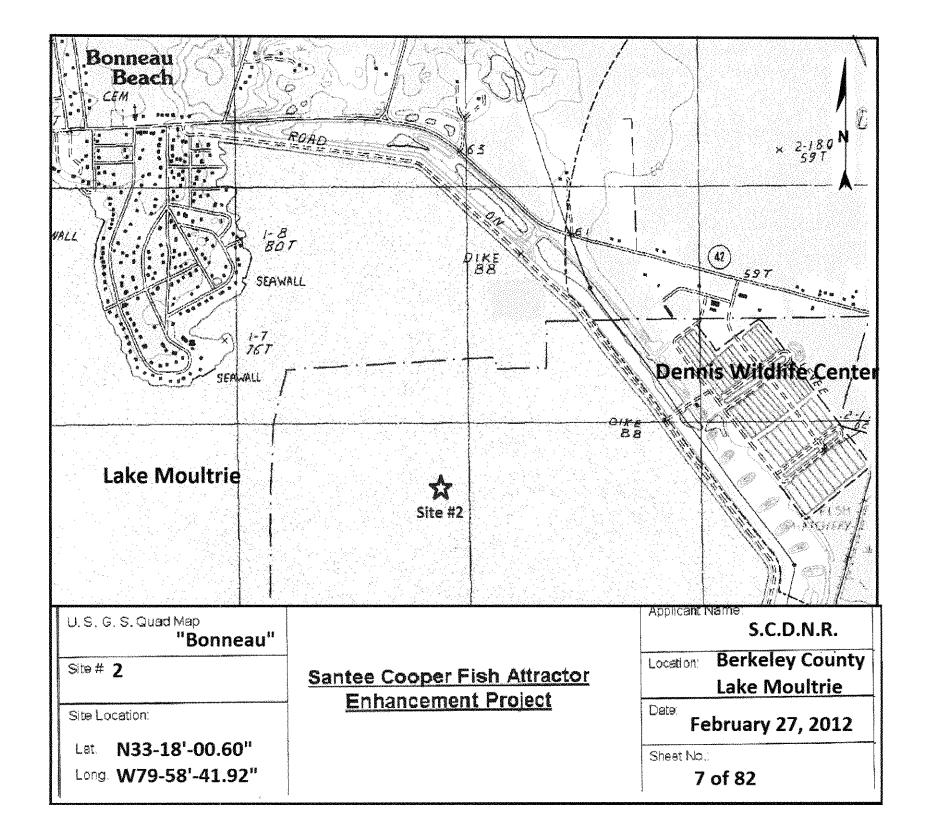
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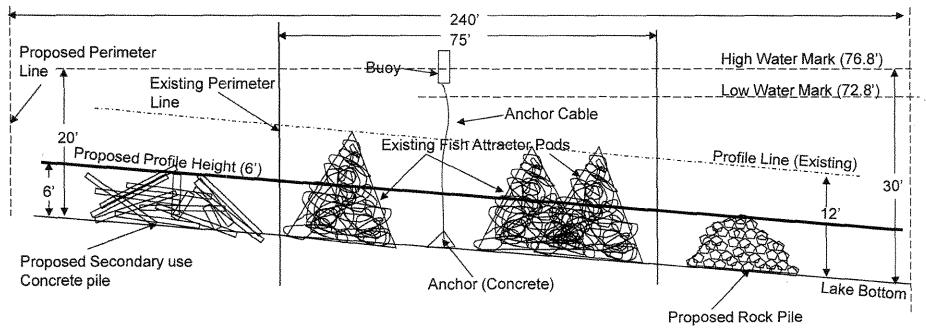


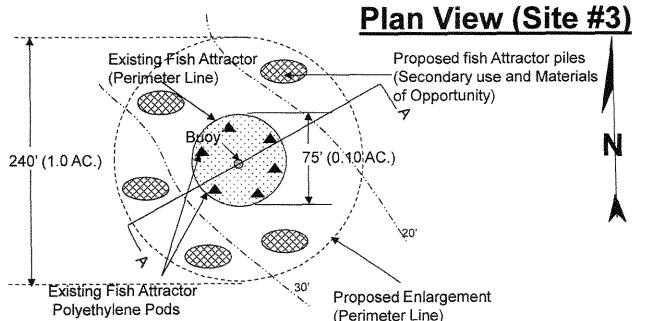
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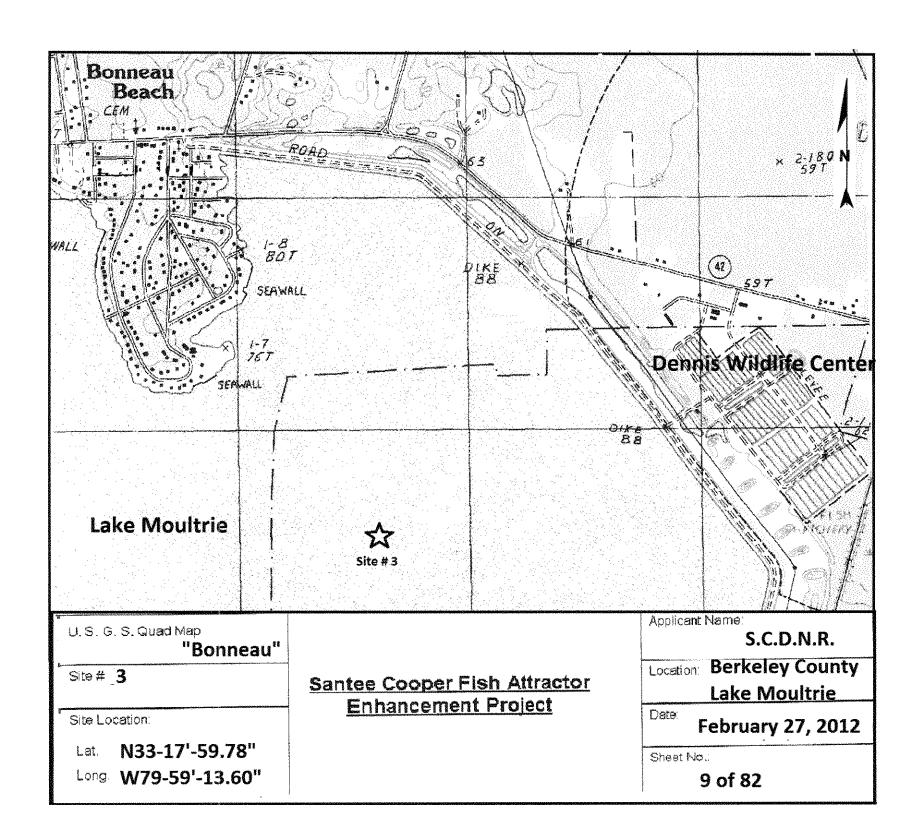
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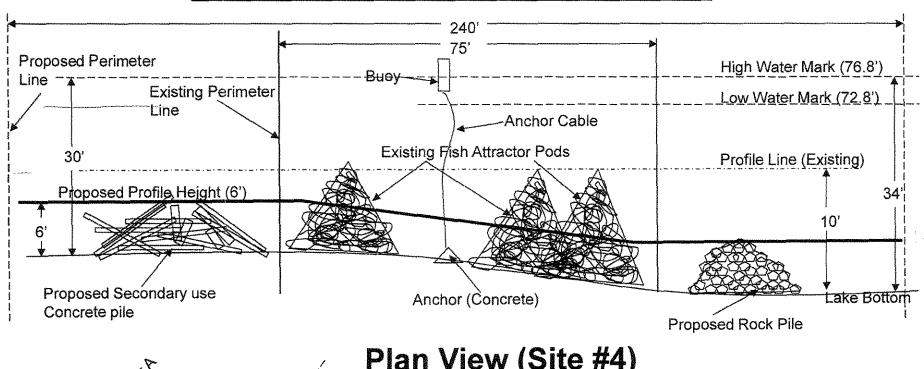


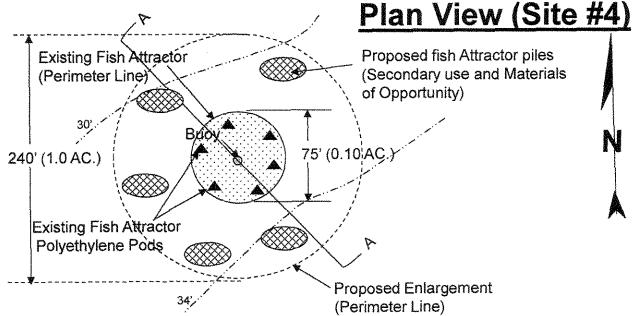
# Applicant Name: S. C. D. N. R. Project Name: Santee Cooper Lakes Fish Attractor Enhancement Project Location: Santee Cooper Lake Moultrie, Berkeley County Date: February 27, 2012 Sheet No.

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## Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #4)





Applicant Name: S. C. D. N. R.

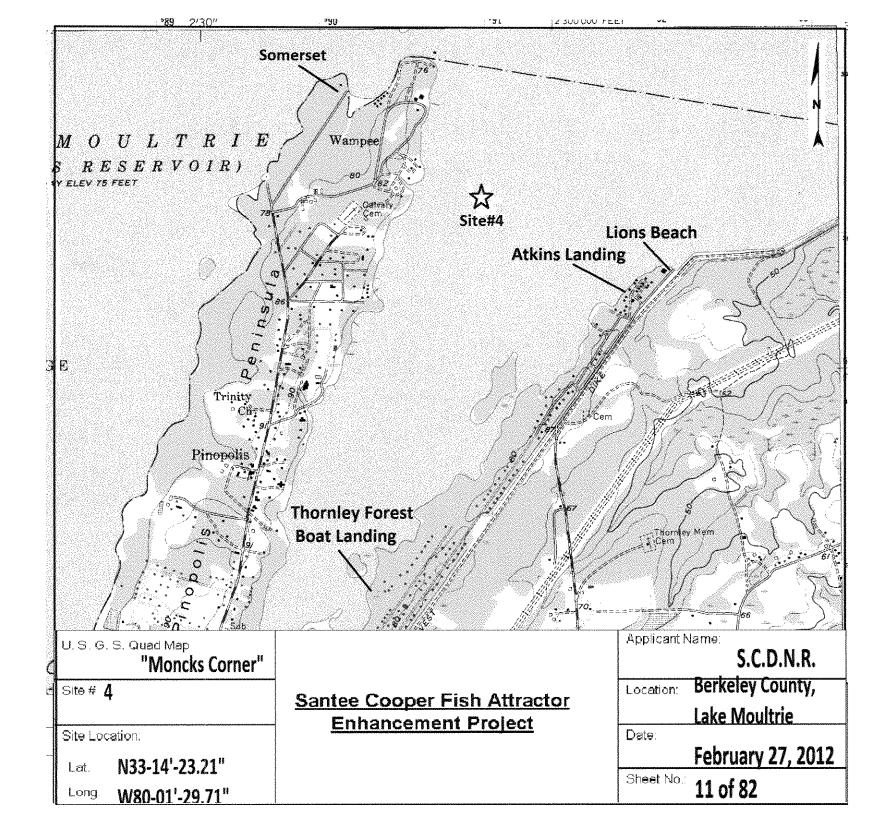
Project Name: Santee Cooper Lakes Fish Attractor Enhancement Project

Location: Santee Cooper Lake Moultrie, Berkeley County

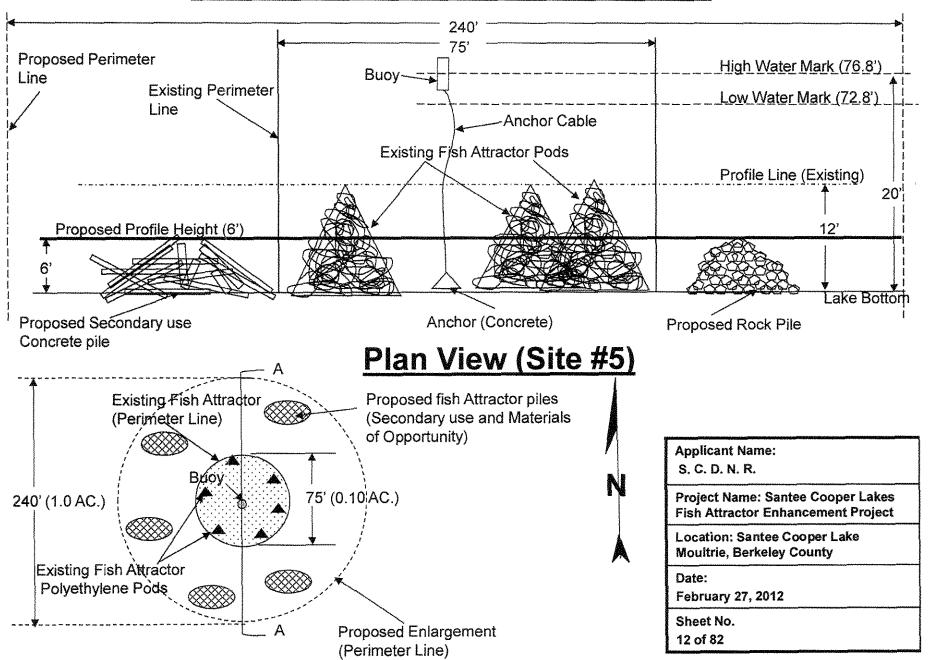
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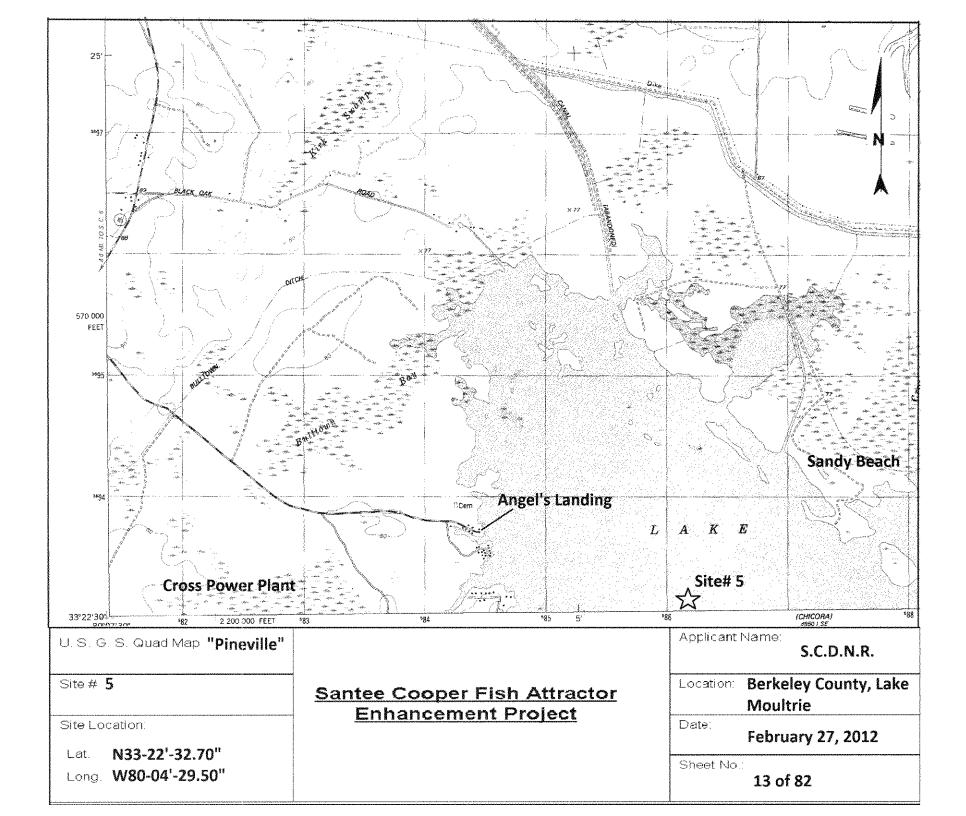
February 27, 2012

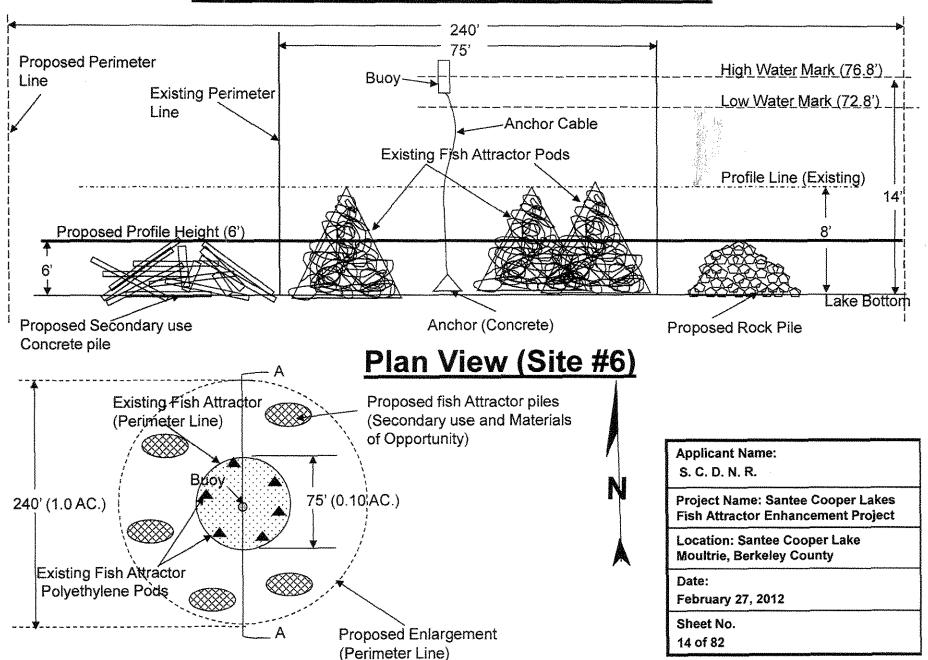
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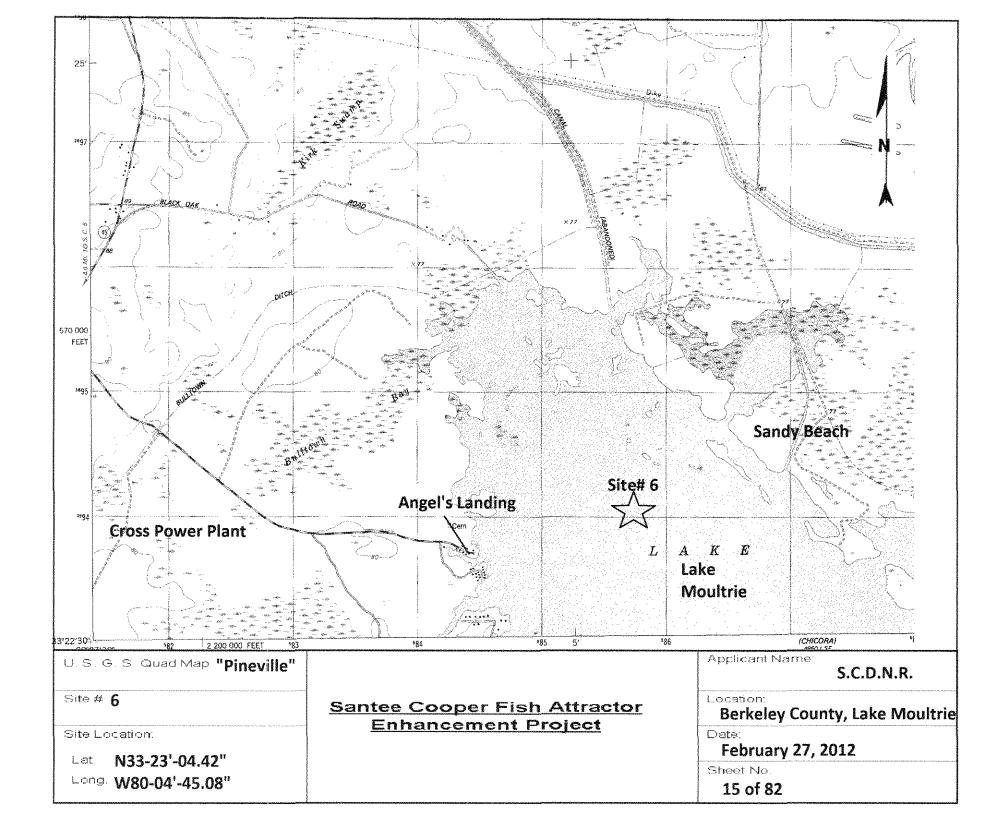


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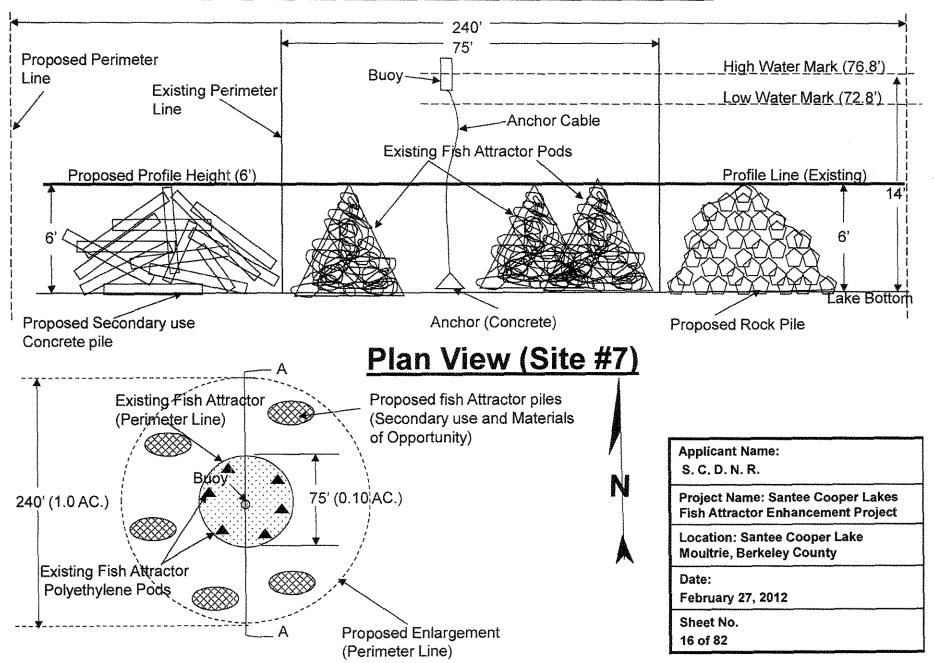


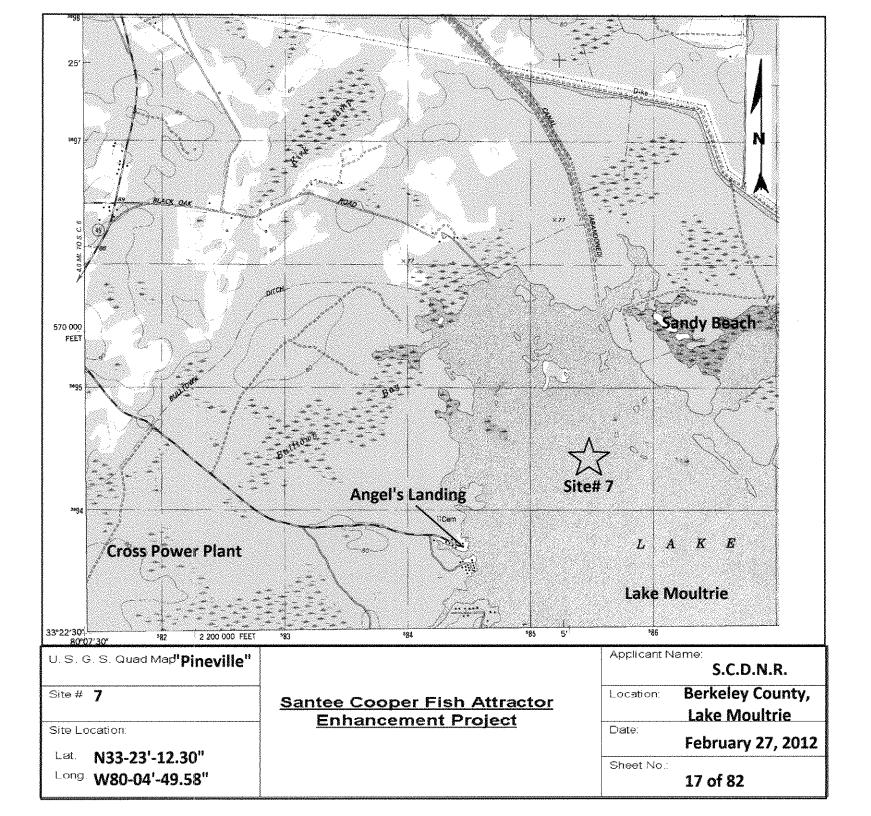






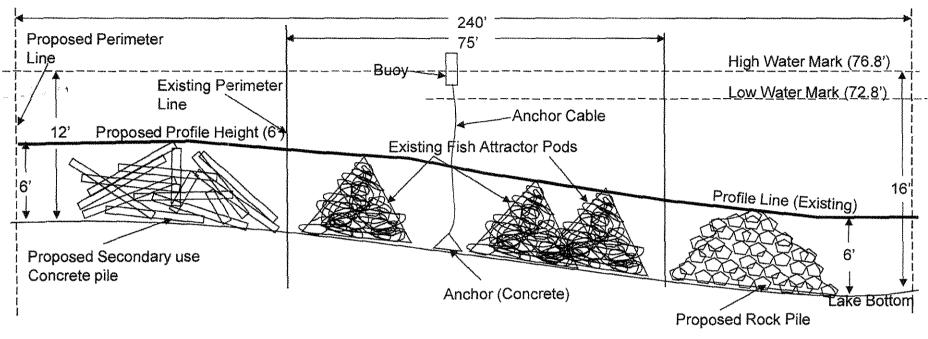
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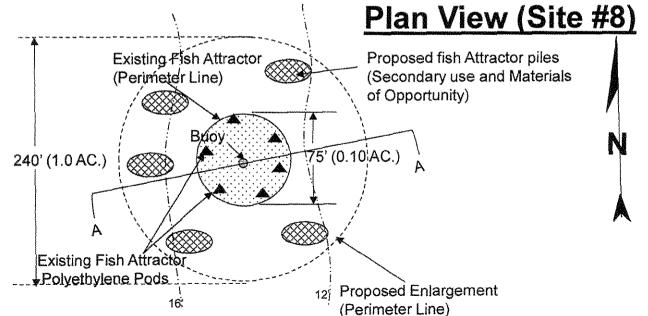




# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #8)

Not to Scale





**Applicant Name:** 

S. C. D. N. R.

Project Name: Santee Cooper Lakes Fish Attractor Enhancement Project

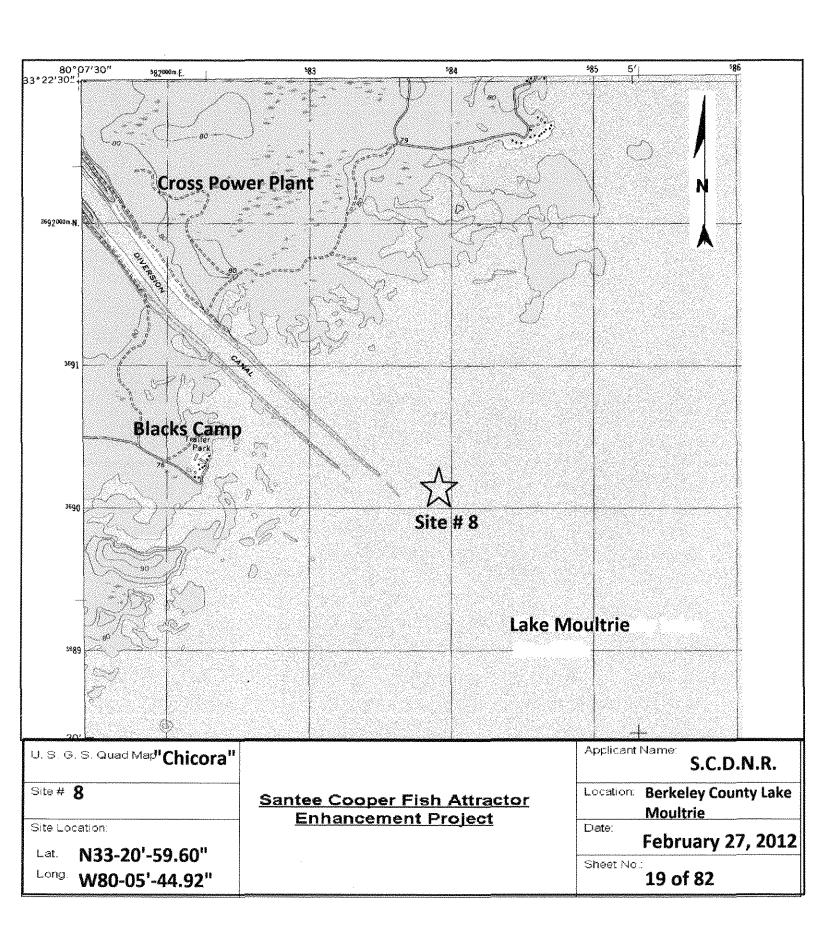
Location: Santee Cooper Lake Moultrie, Berkeley County

Date:

February 27, 2012

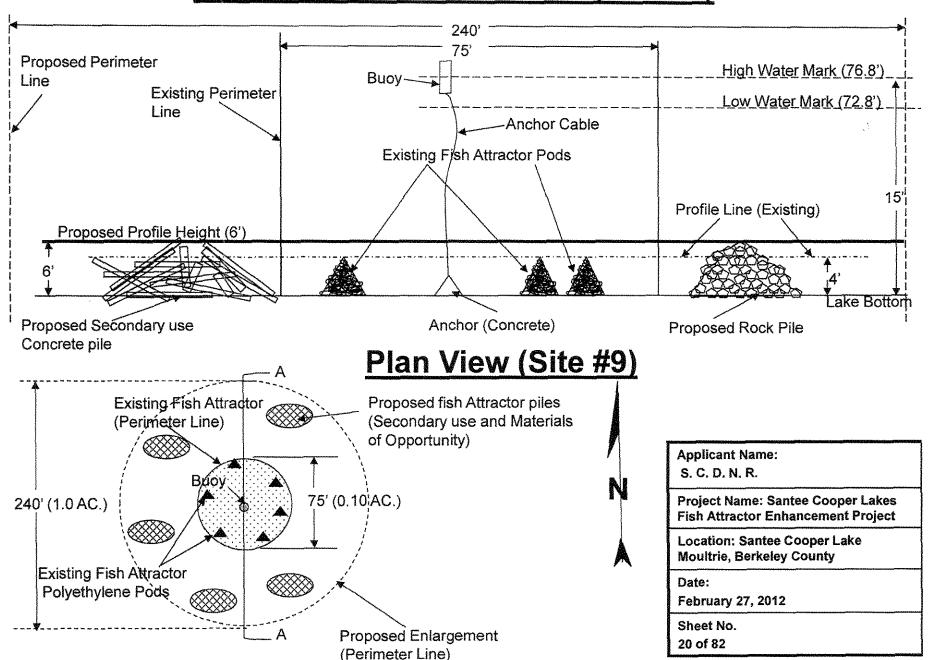
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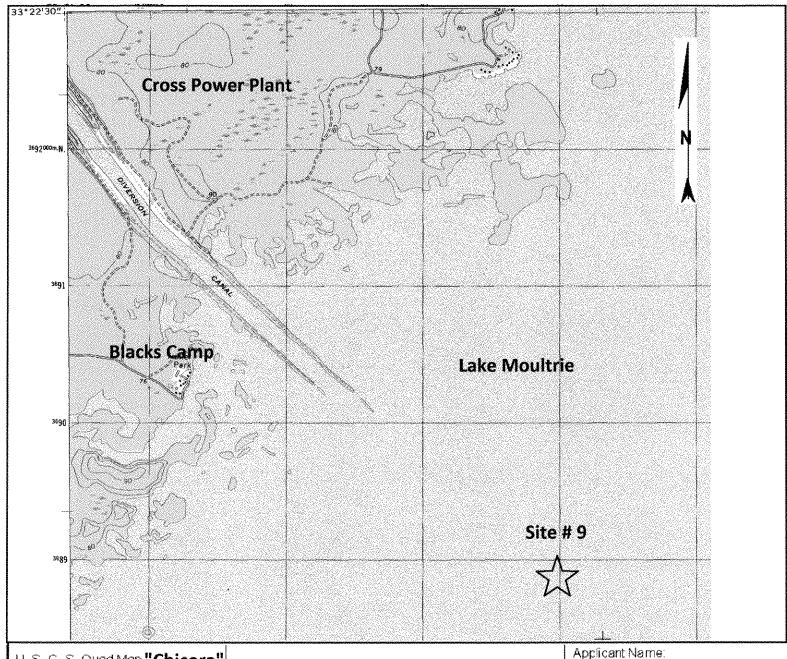
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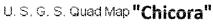


# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #9)

Not to Scale







Site# 9

Site Location:

Lat. N33-19'-49.19" Long. W80-05'-18.89" Santee Cooper Fish Attractor **Enhancement Project** 

S.C.D.N.R.

**Berkeley County, Lake Moultrie** 

Date:

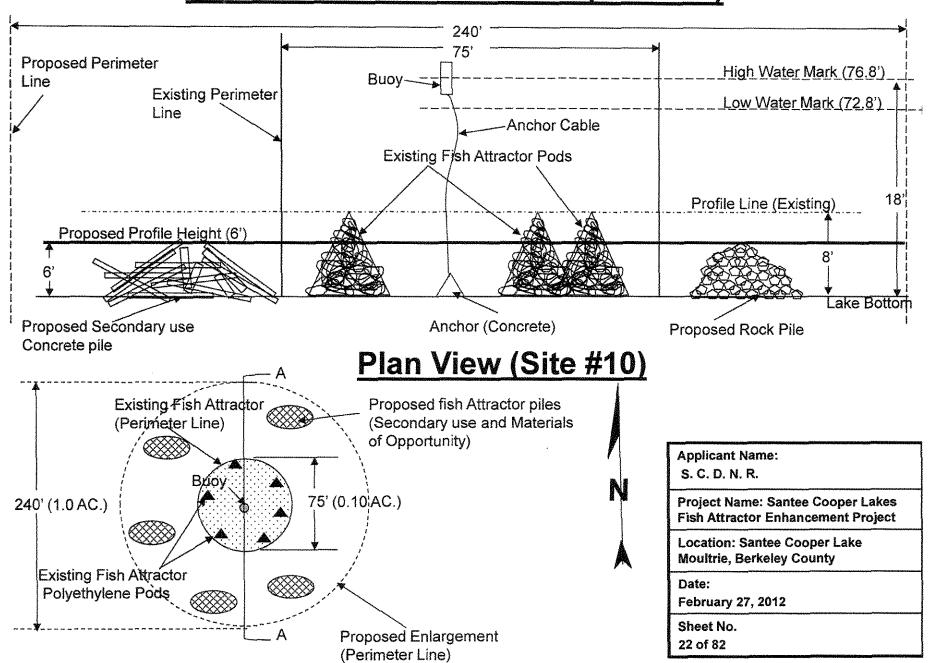
February 27, 2012

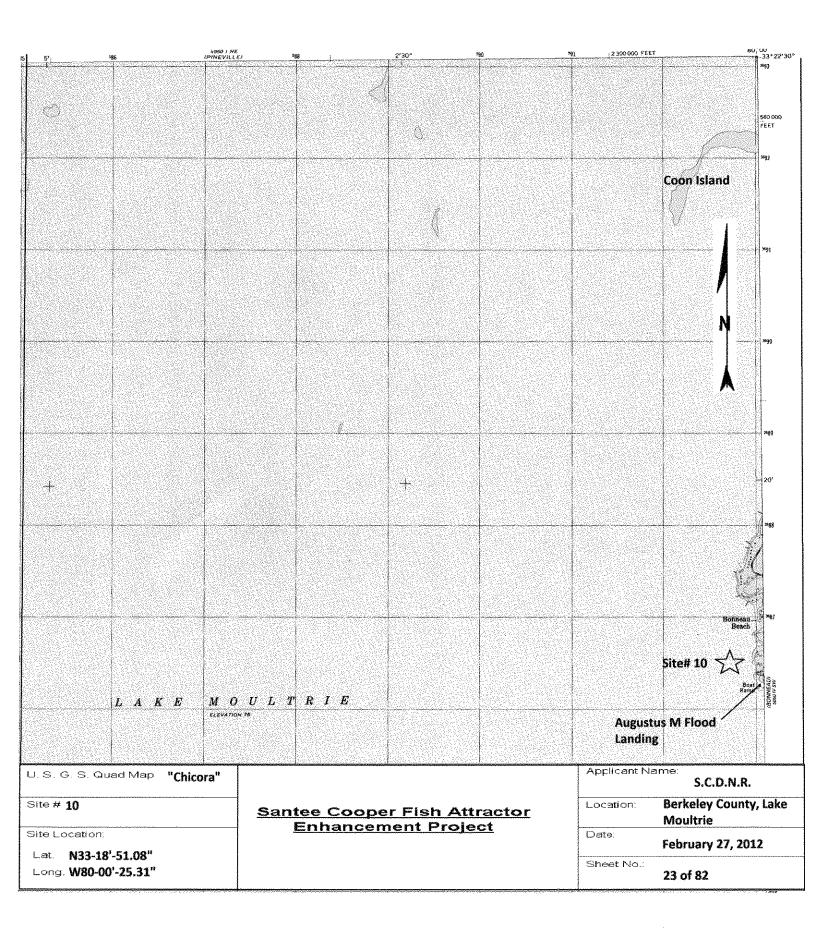
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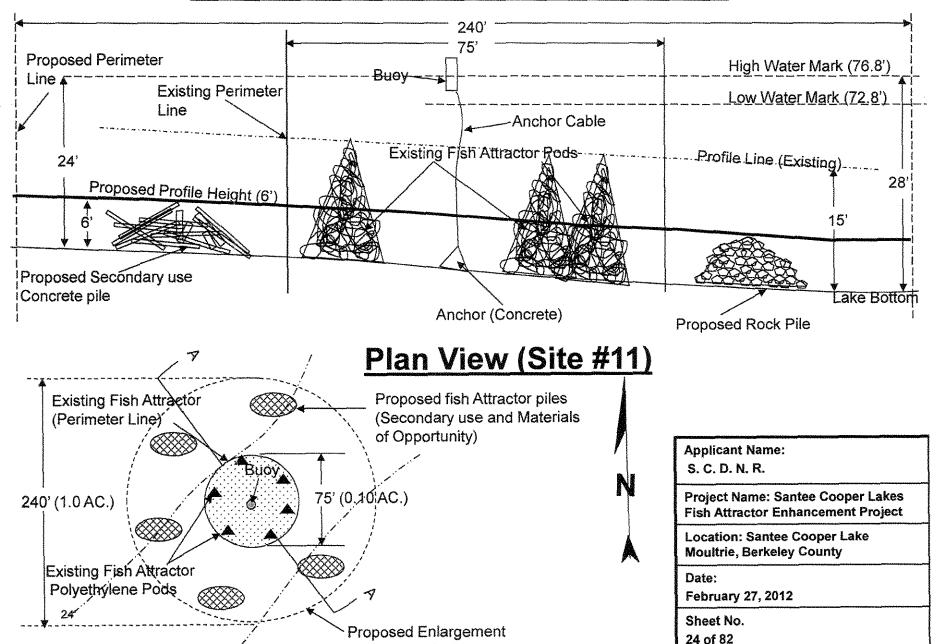
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Not to Scale



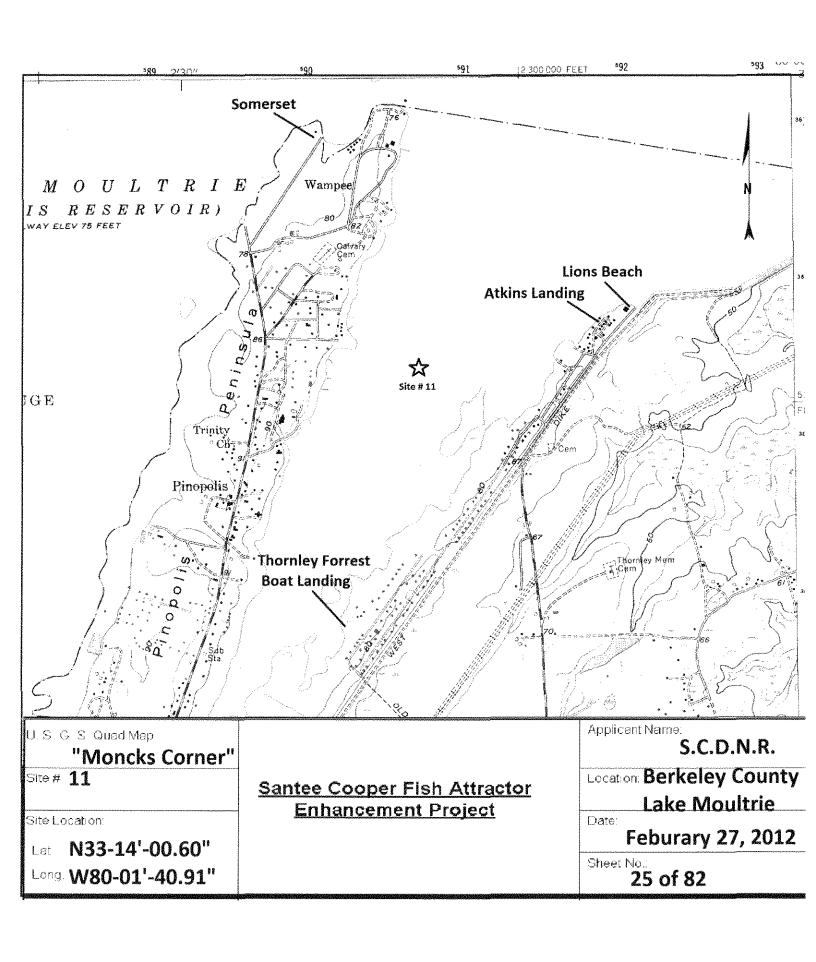


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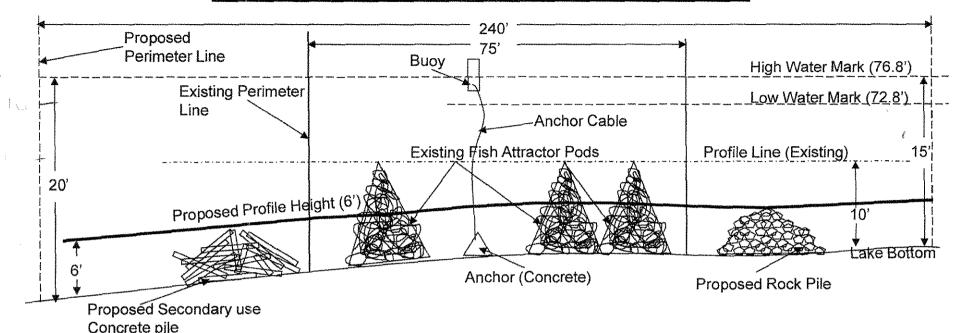


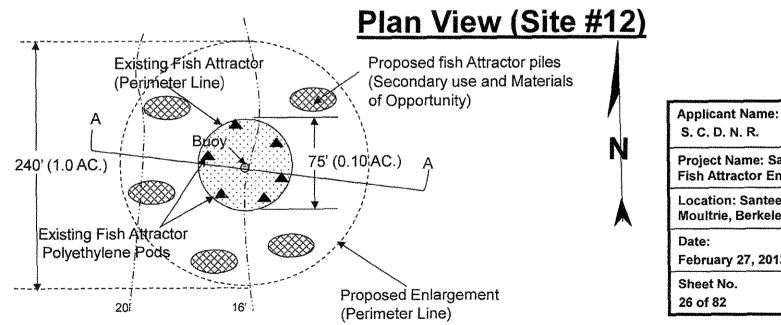
(Perimeter Line)

28'



# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #12)

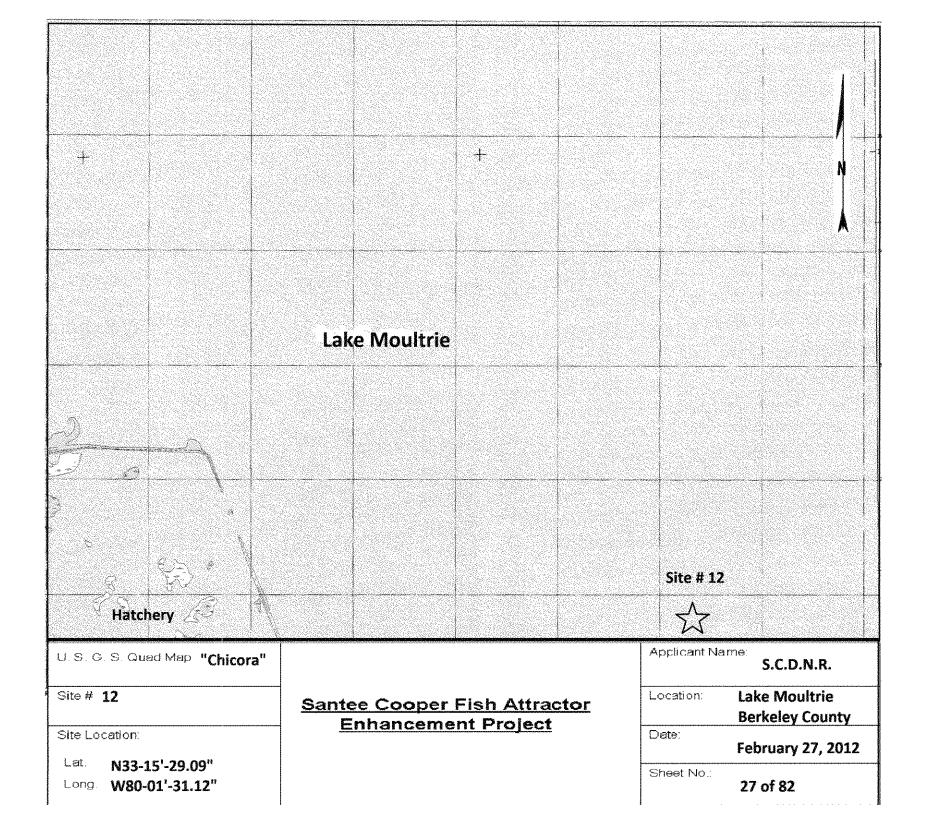


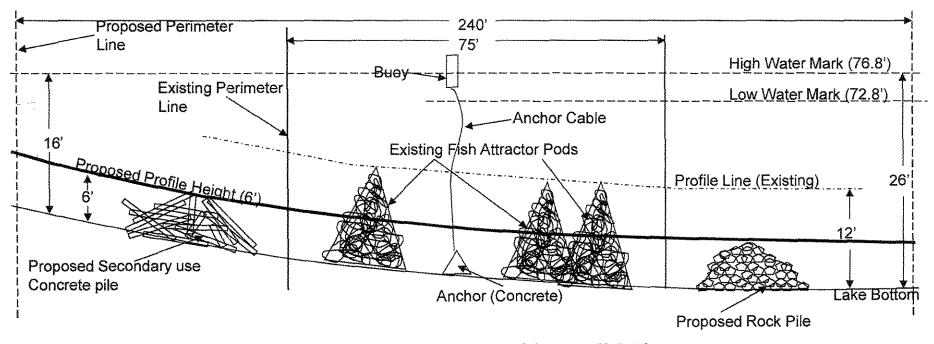


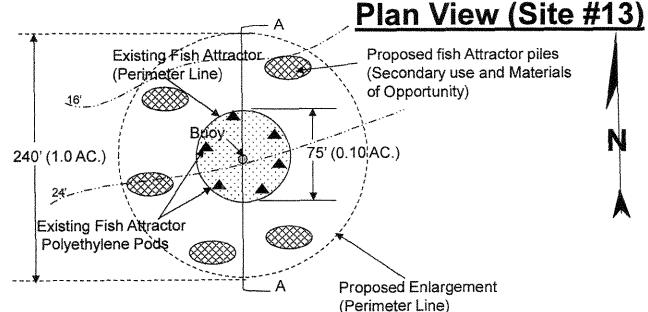
**Project Name: Santee Cooper Lakes** Fish Attractor Enhancement Project

Location: Santee Cooper Lake Moultrie, Berkeley County

February 27, 2012







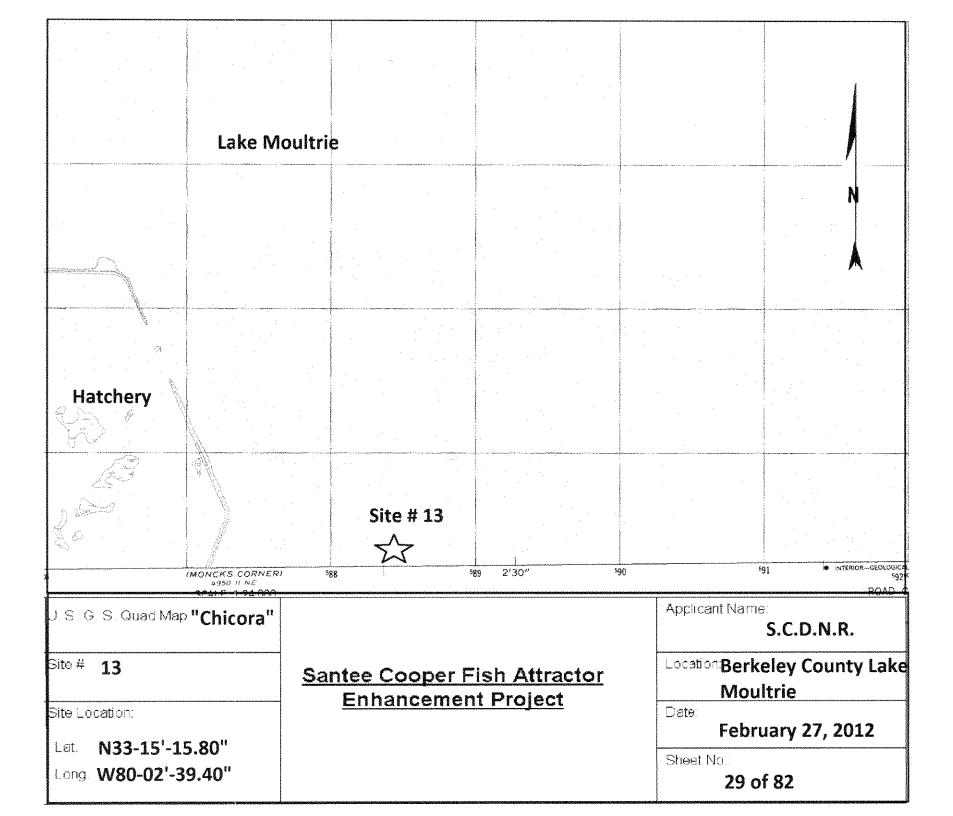
Applicant Name:
S. C. D. N. R.

Project Name: Santee Cooper Lakes
Fish Attractor Enhancement Project

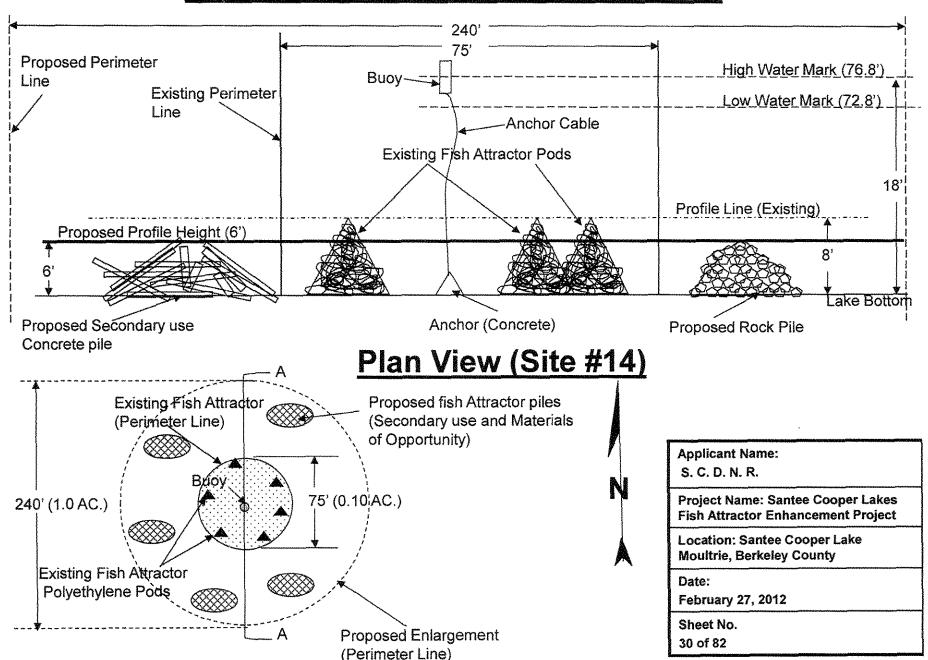
Location: Santee Cooper Lake
Moultrie, Berkeley County

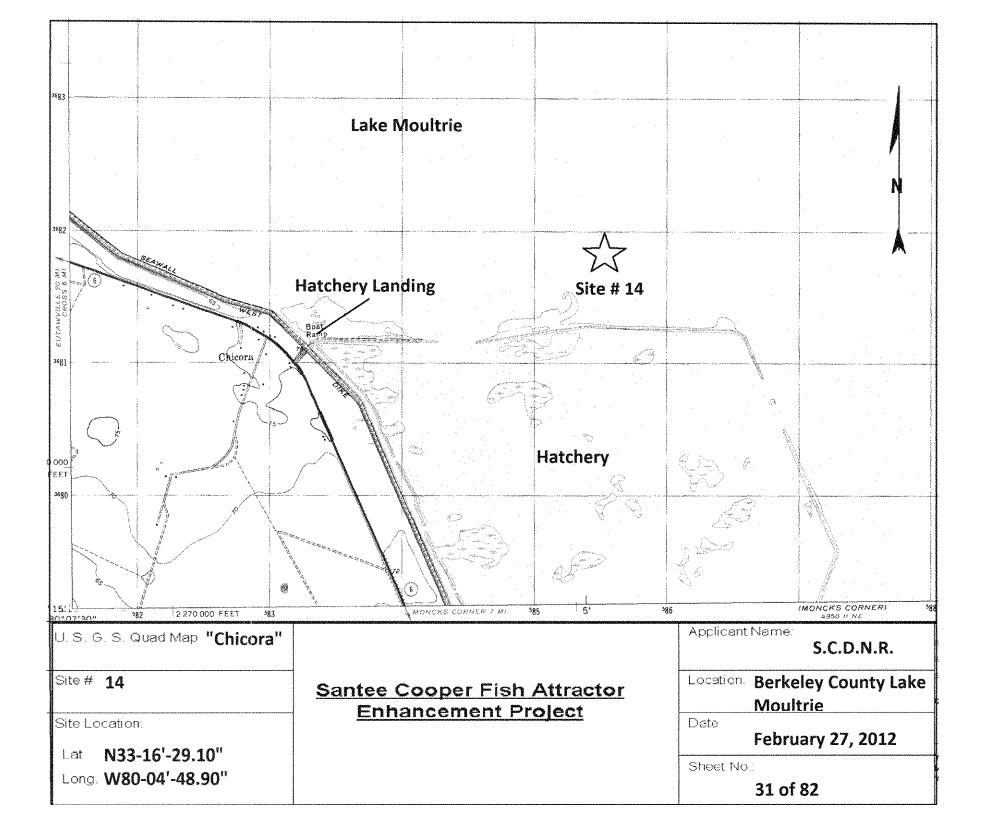
Date:
February 27, 2012

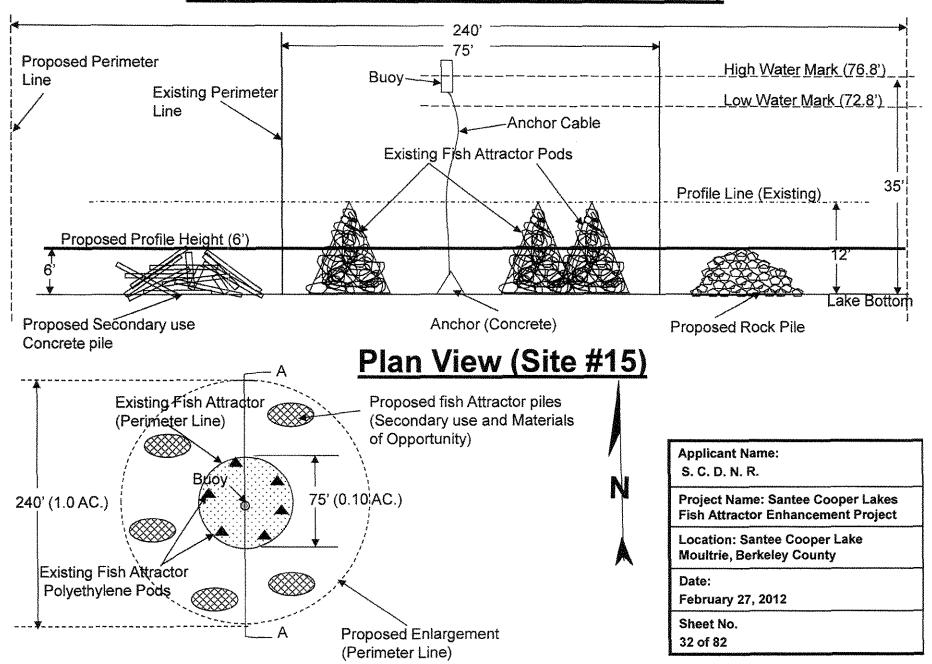
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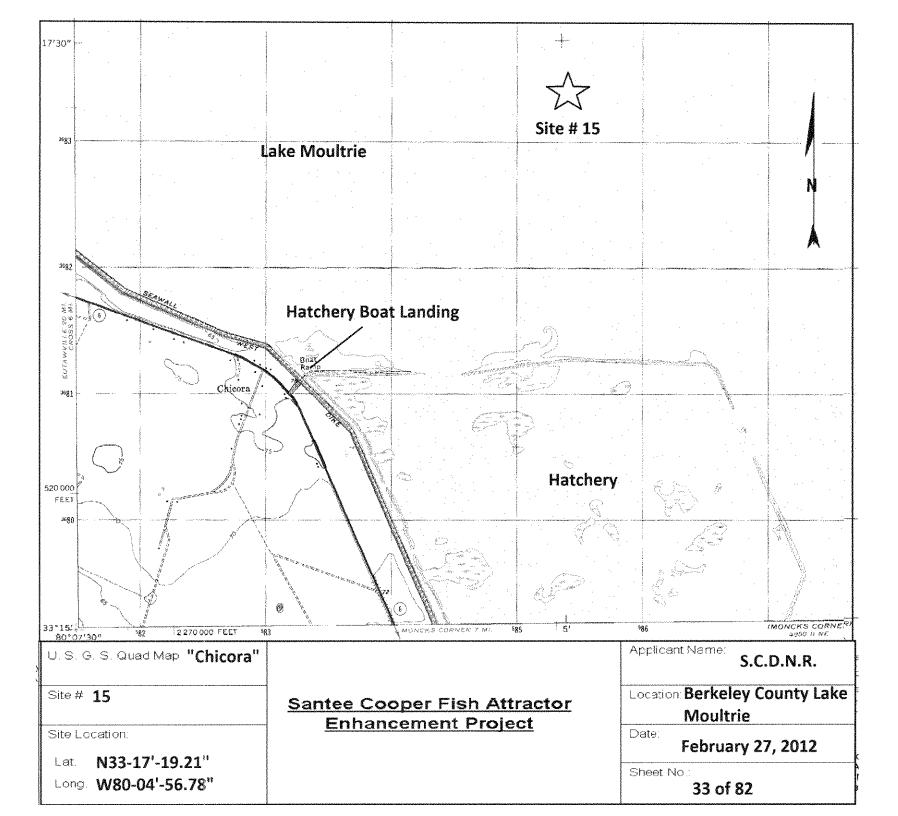


# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #14)

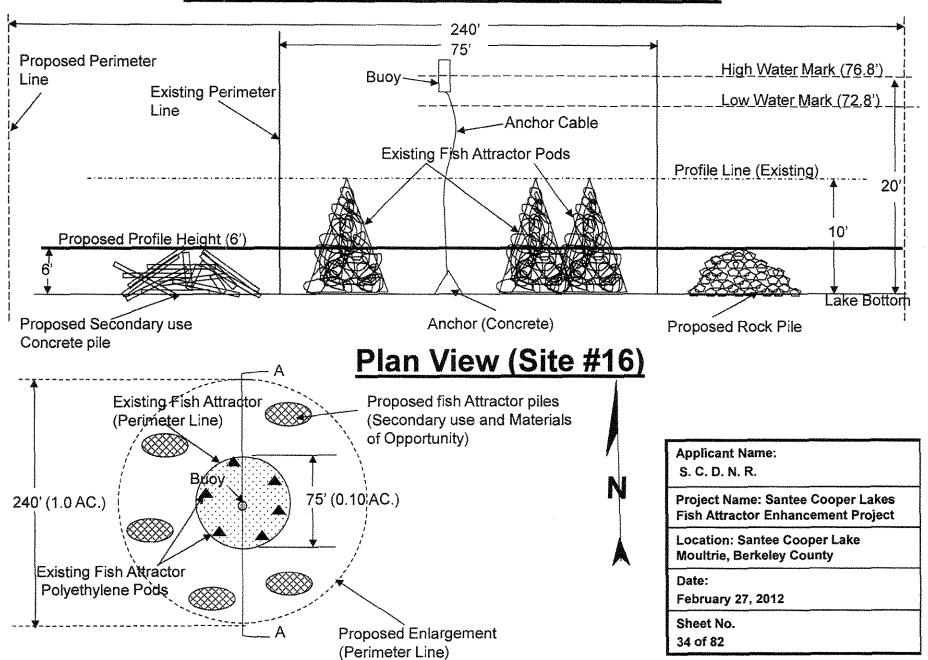


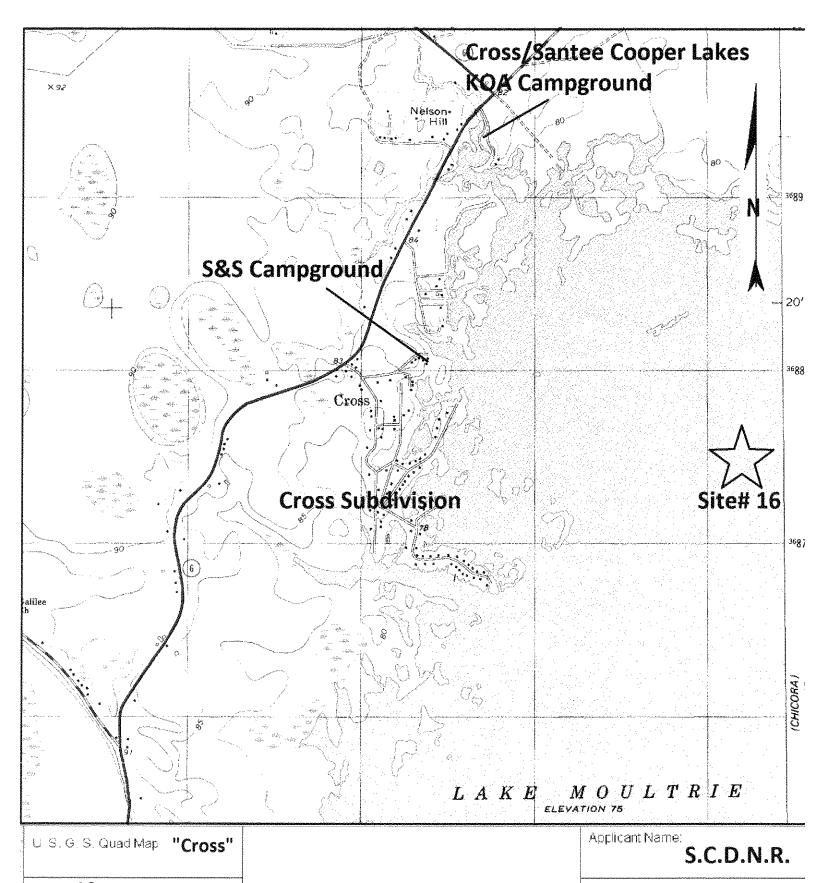






# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #16)





Site# 16

Site Location

Lat N33-19'-03.00"

Long. W80-07'-31.80"

Santee Cooper Fish Attractor
Enhancement Project

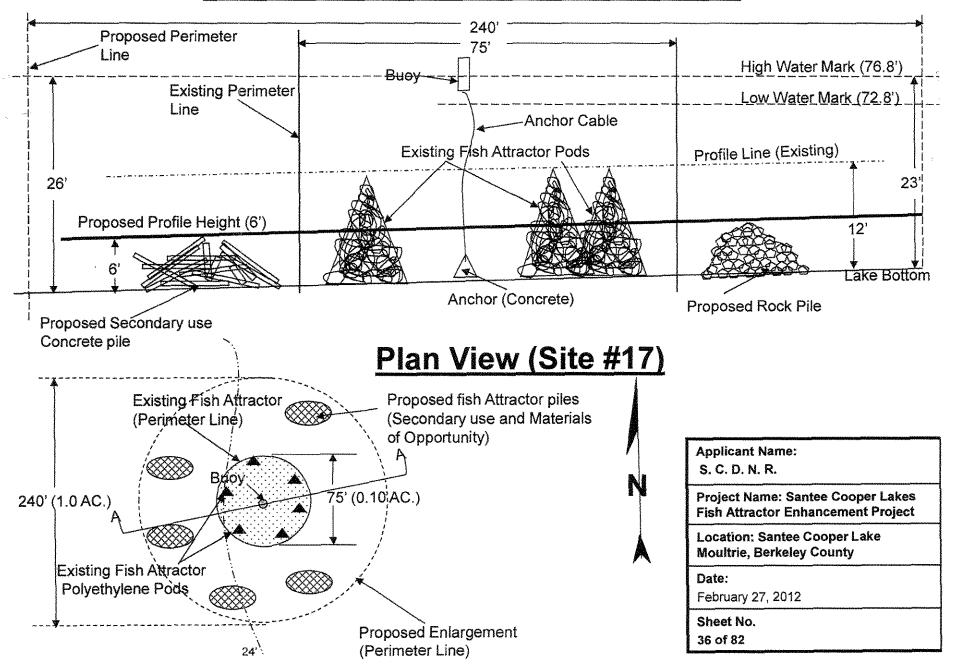
Location: Berkeley County,
Lake Moultrie

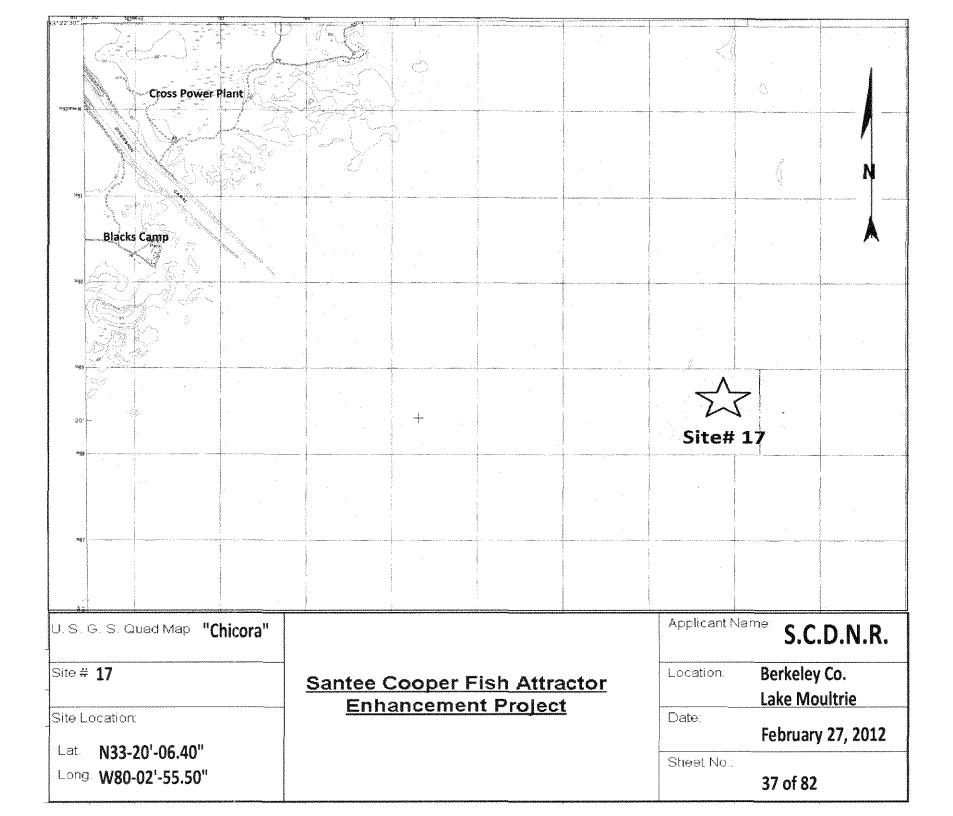
Date:

February 27, 2012

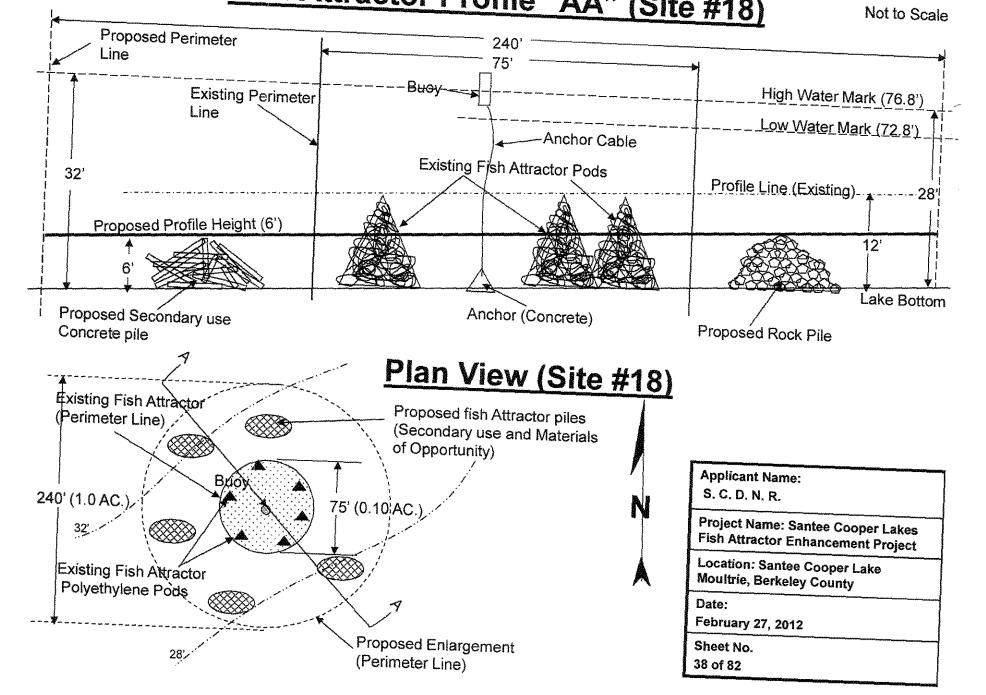
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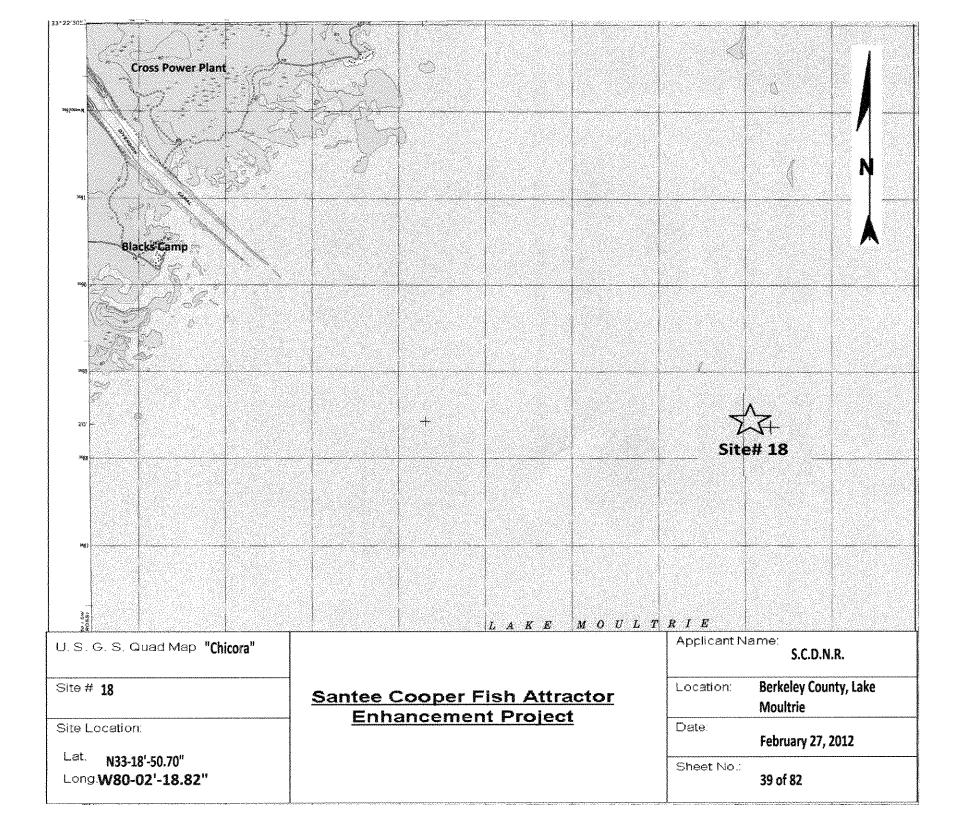
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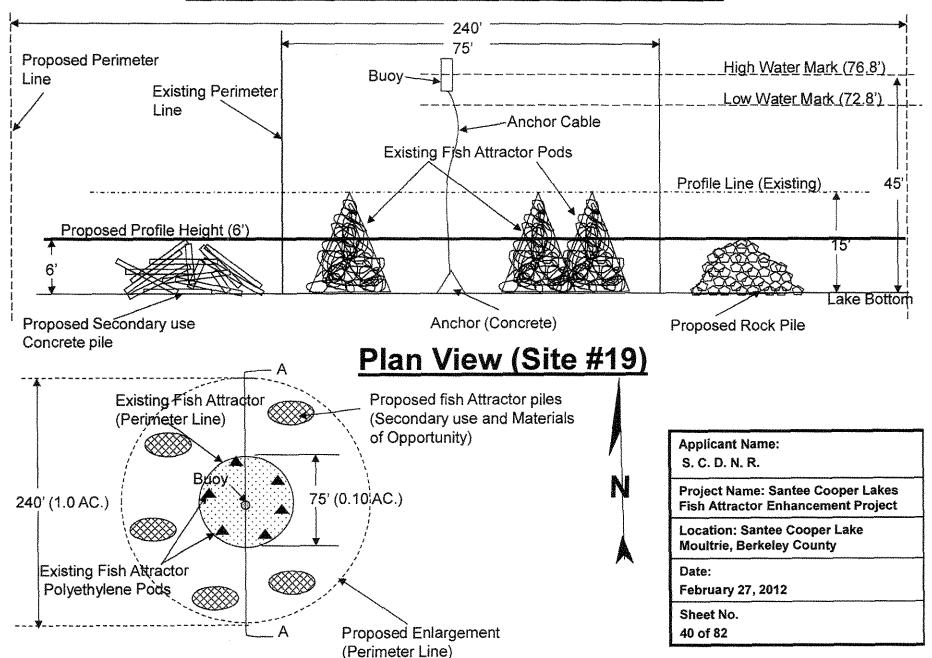








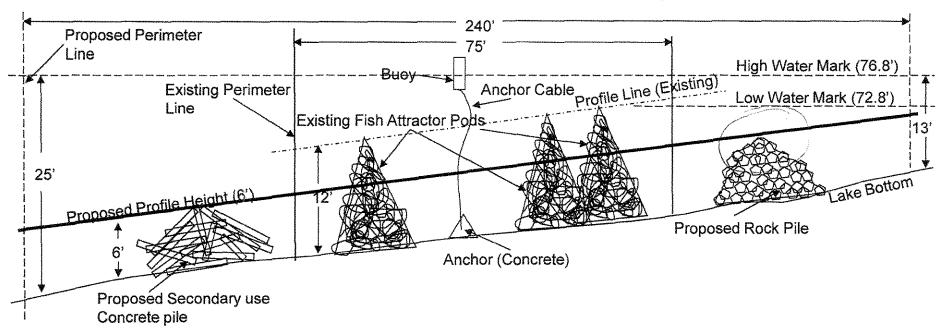


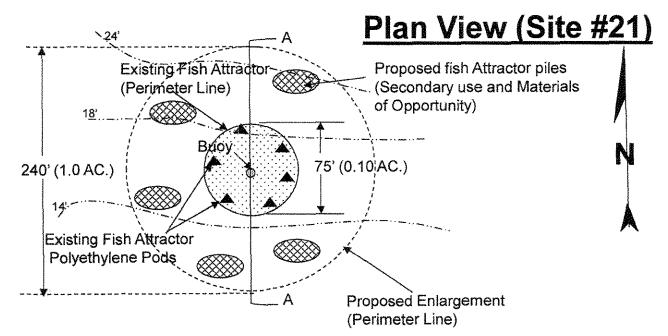


MOULT	R $I$ $E$				Bonneau Beach	(BONNEAU)	
				Augustus M	Flood Boat Landing	3685	
					Site#19	3684 17/30 <sup>4</sup>	
U. S. G. S. Quad Map "Chicora"  Site # 19  Site Location:  Lat N33-16'-43.00"  Long. W80-00'-45.90"		Santee Coope Enhancen	er Fish Attract	Or Location	Applicant Name: S.C.D.N.R.  Location Berkeley County, Lake Moultrie Date: February 27, 2012  Sheet No.: 41 of 82		

# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #21)

Not to Scale





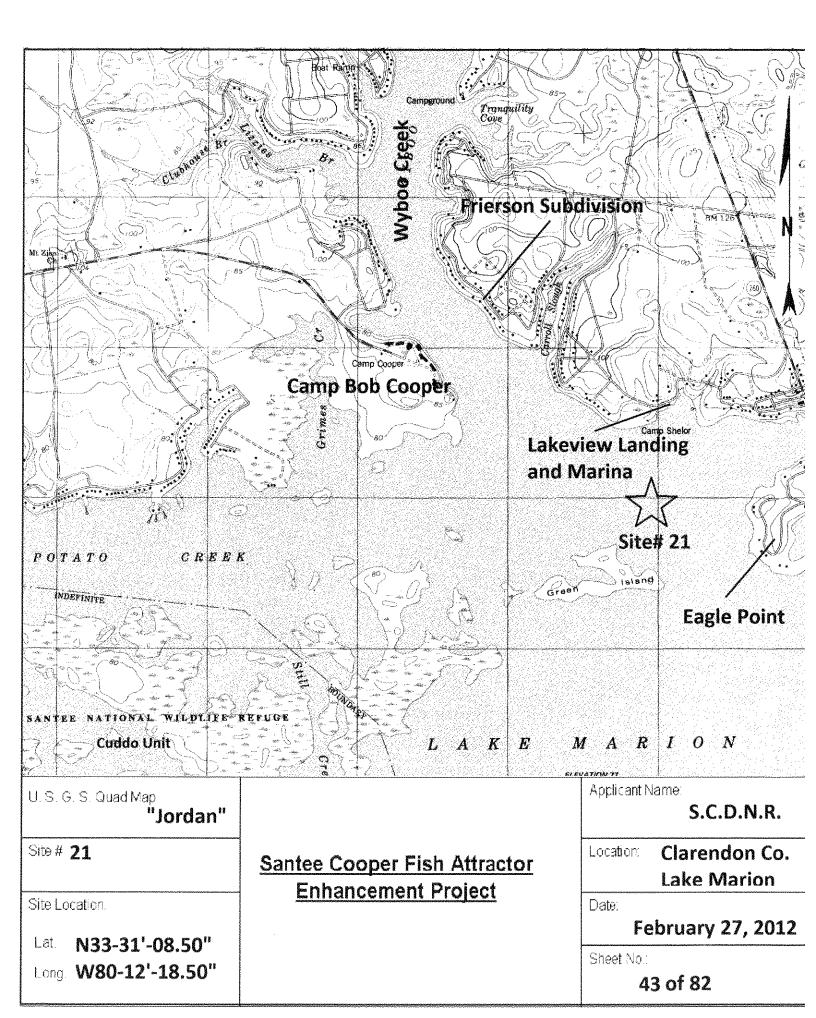
Applicant Name:
S. C. D. N. R.

Project Name: Santee Cooper Lakes
Fish Attractor Enhancement Project

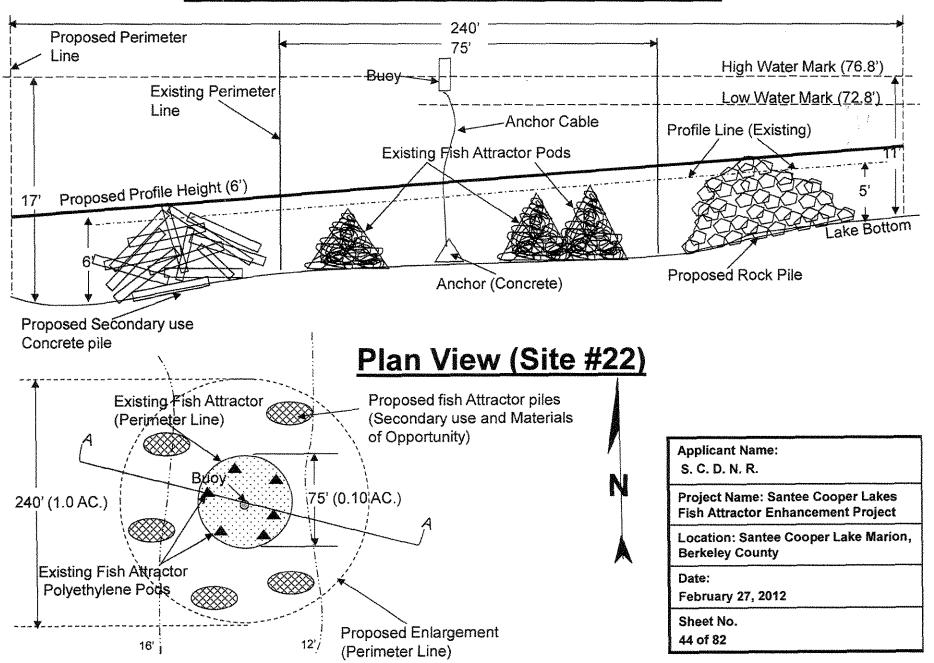
Location: Santee Cooper Lake Marion,
Berkeley County

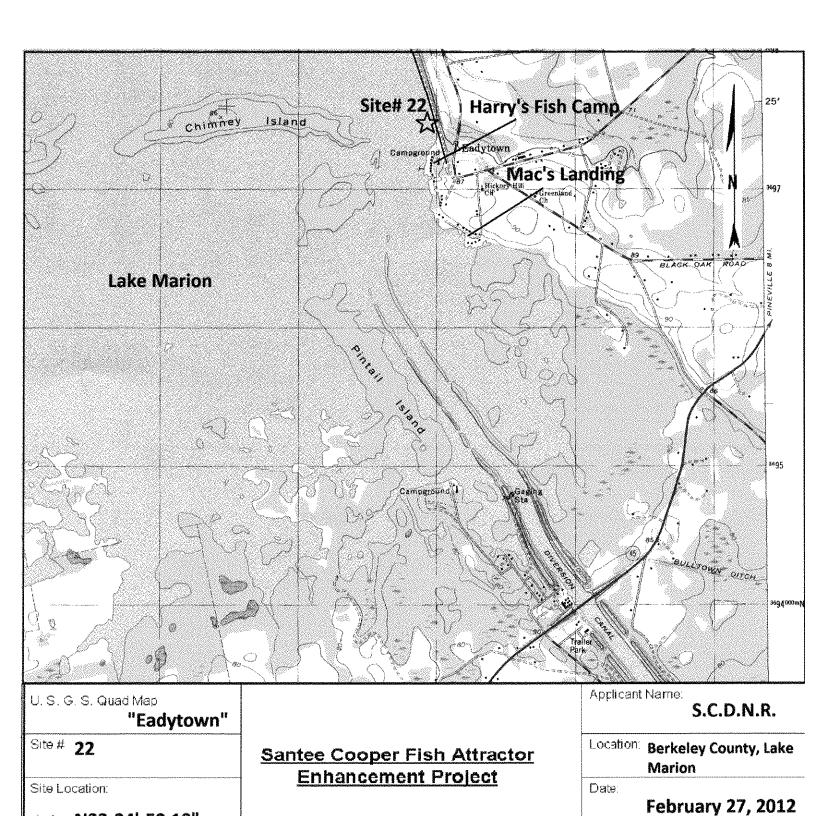
Date:
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#### Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #22)





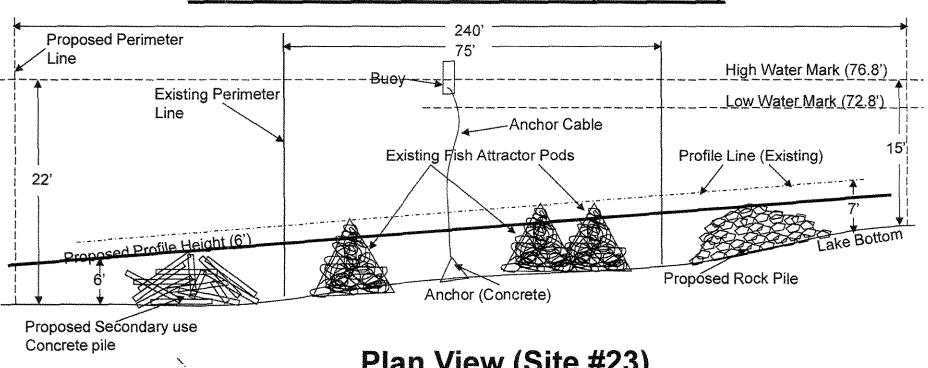
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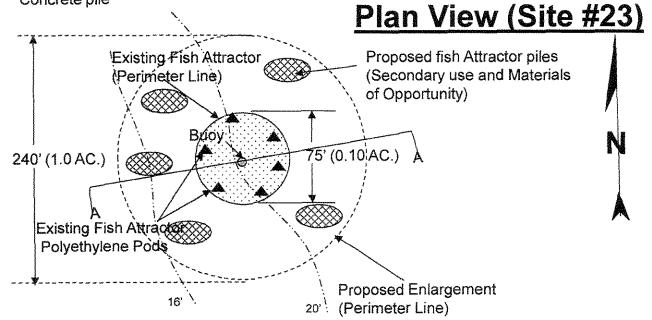
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Lat. N33-24'-52.10"

Long W80-09'-07.60"

#### Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #23)





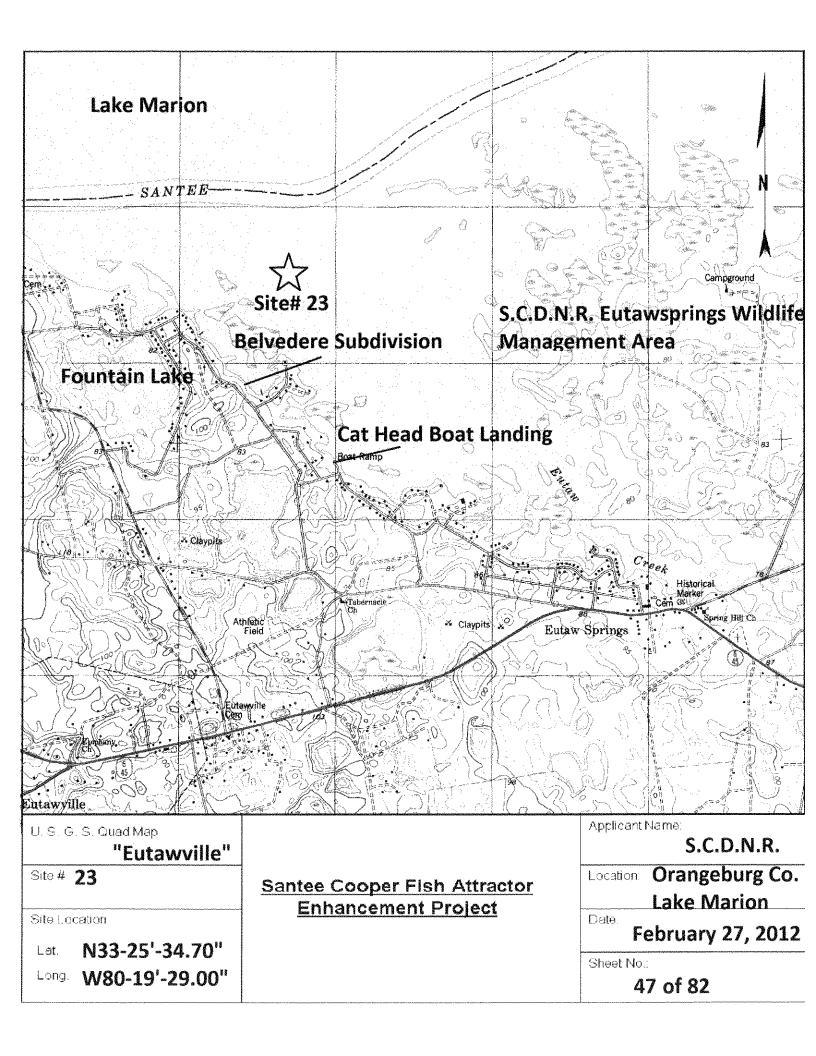
Applicant Name:
S. C. D. N. R.

Project Name: Santee Cooper Lakes
Fish Attractor Enhancement Project

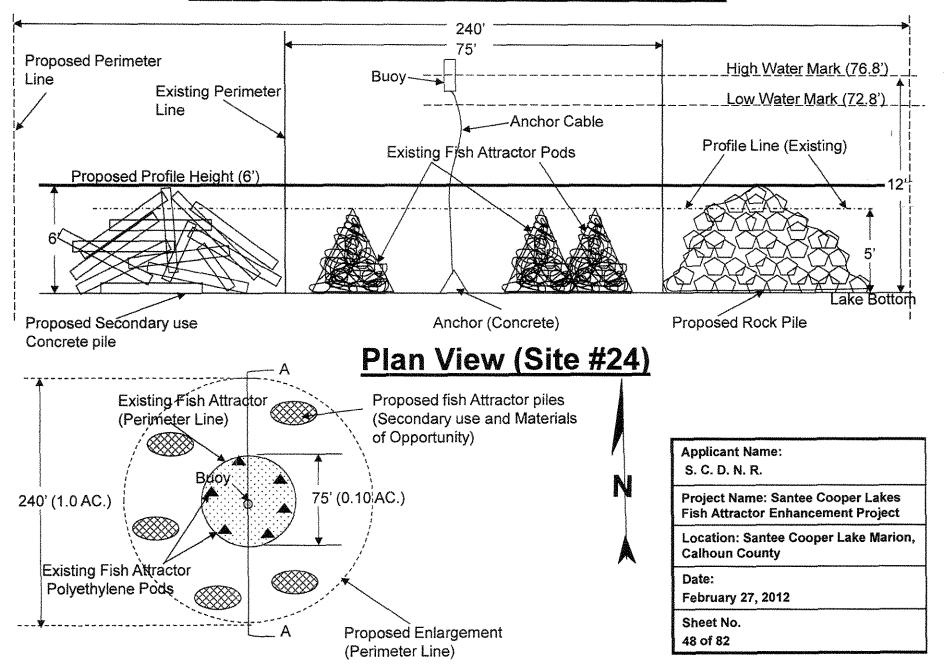
Location: Santee Cooper Lake Marion,
Berkeley County

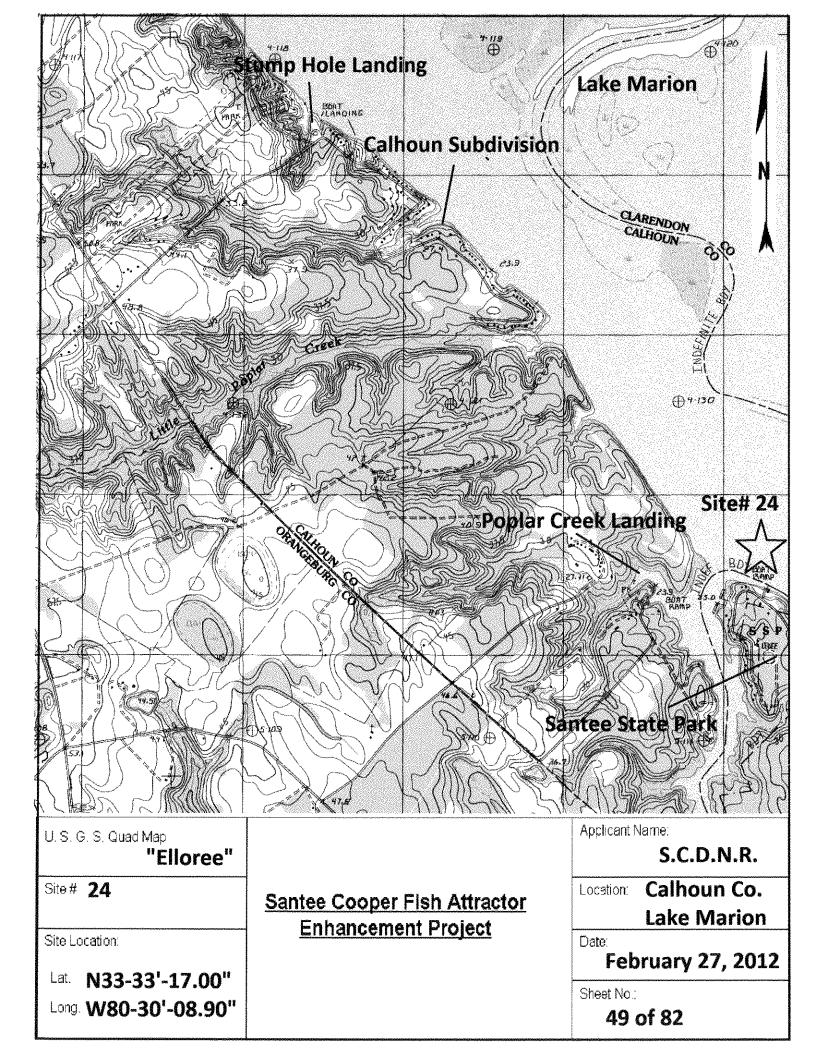
Date:
February 27, 2012

Sheet No.

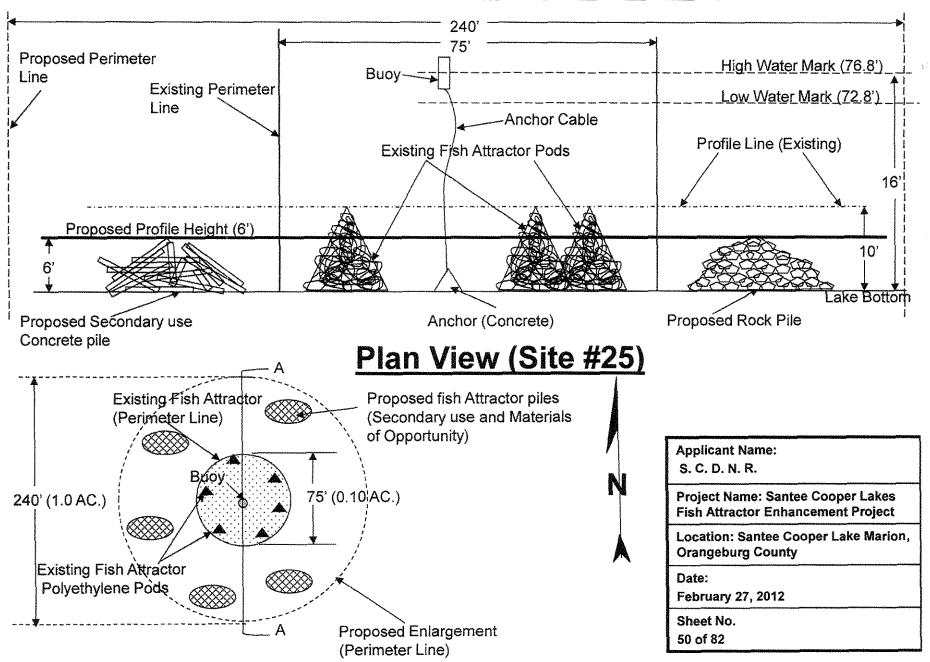


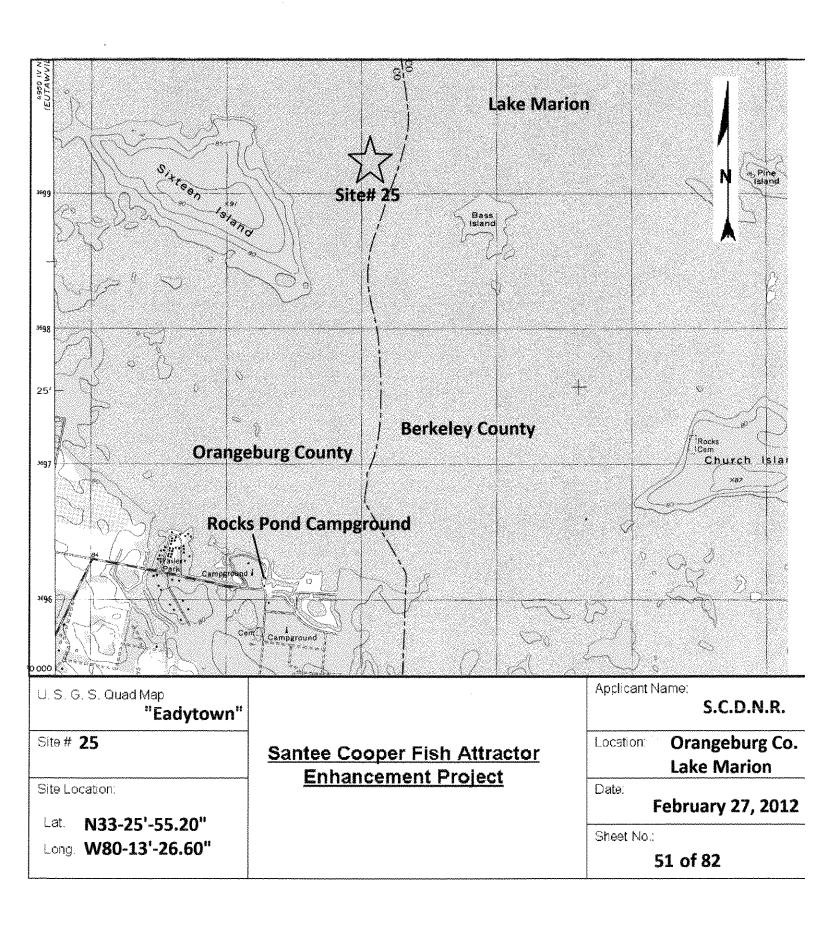
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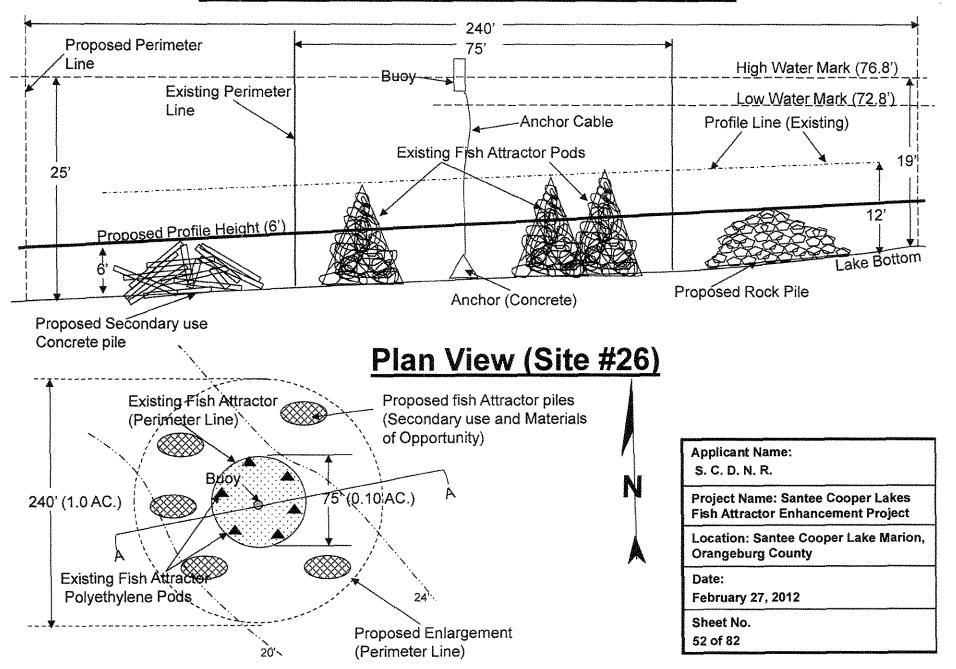


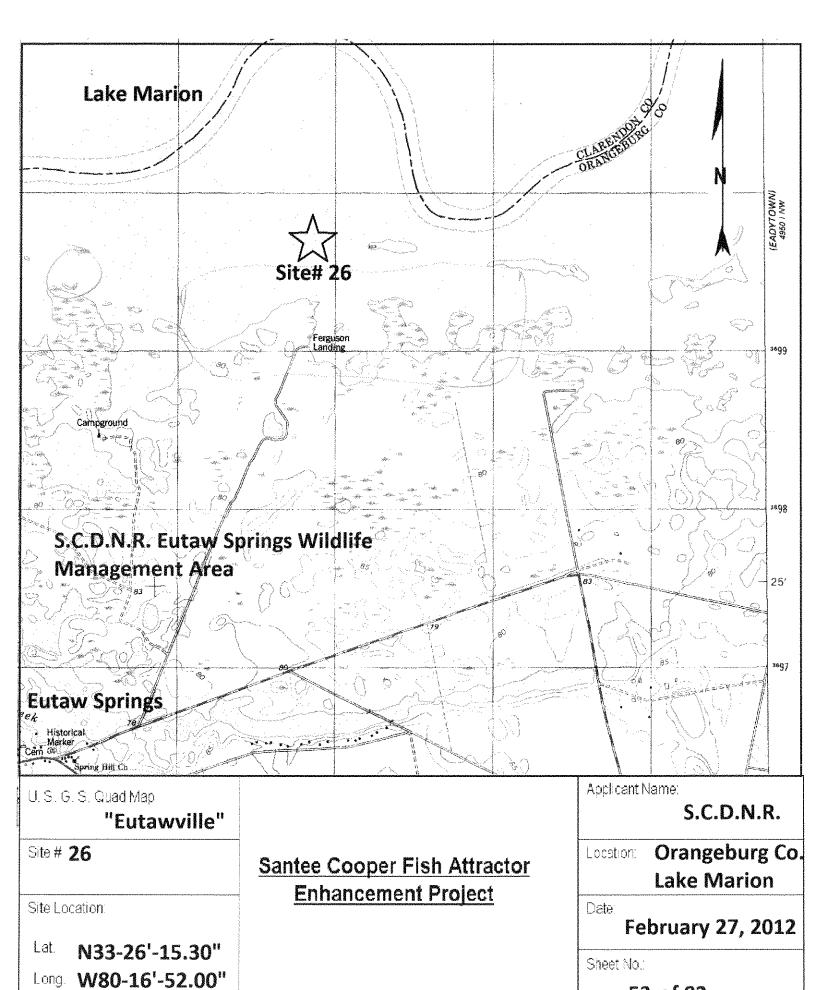
# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #25)



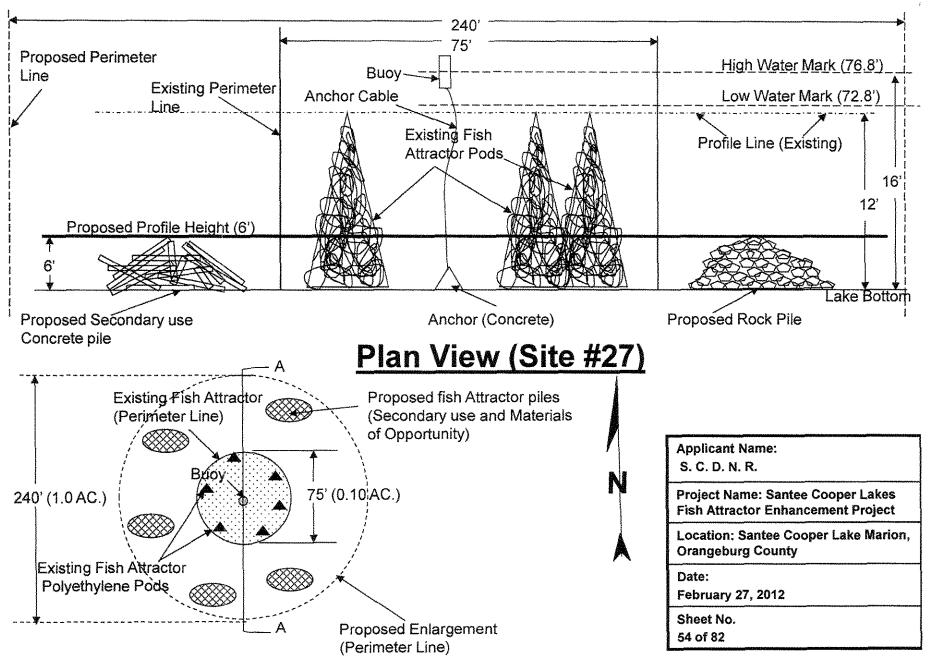


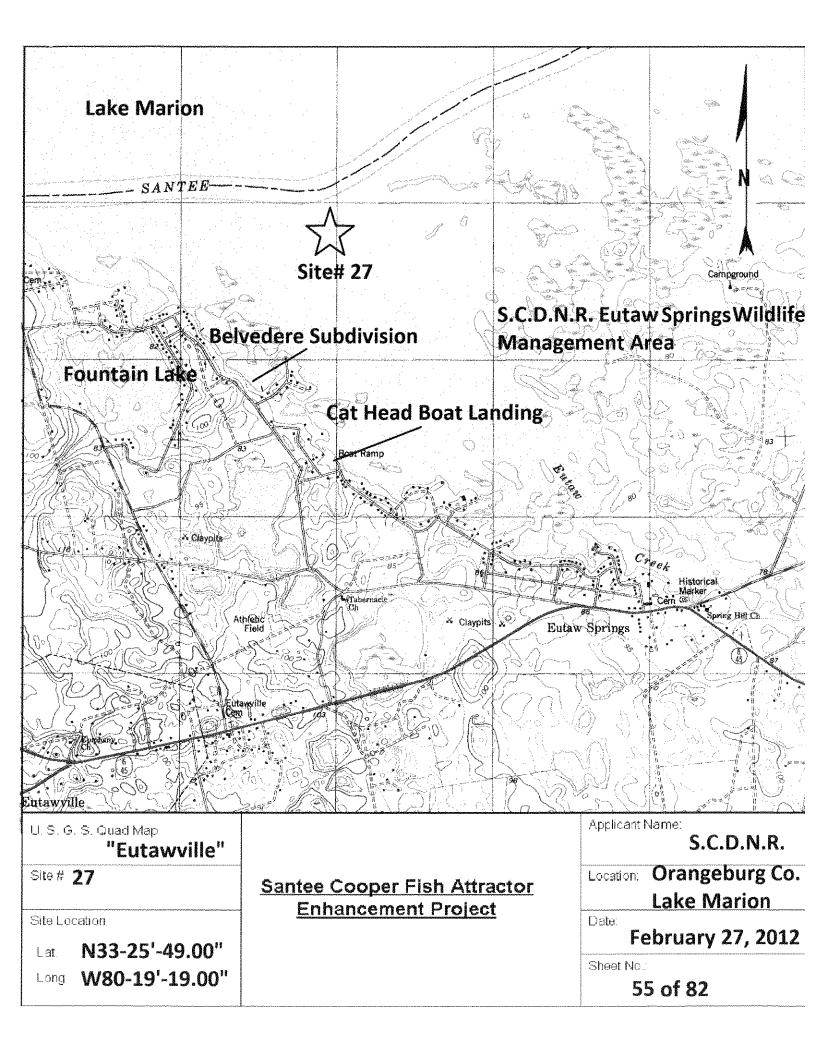
#### Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #26)



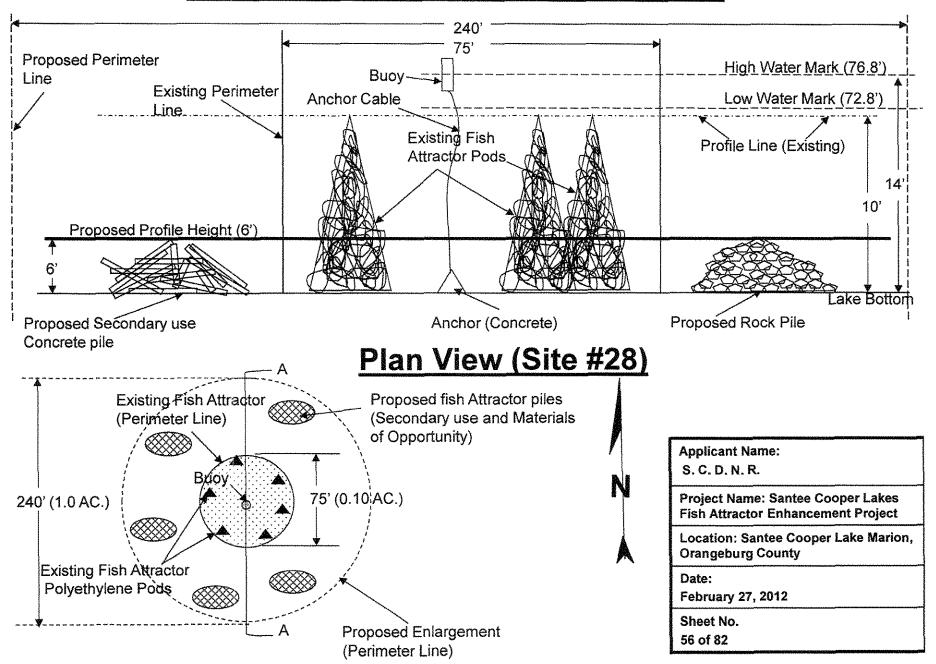


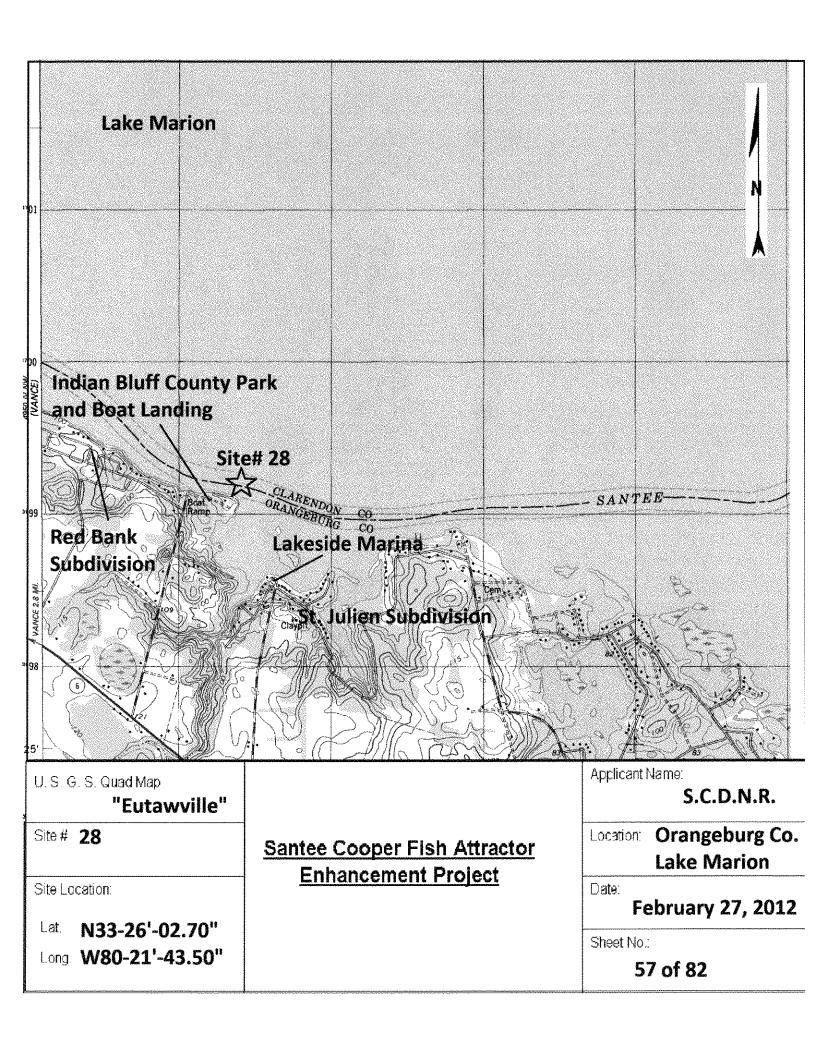


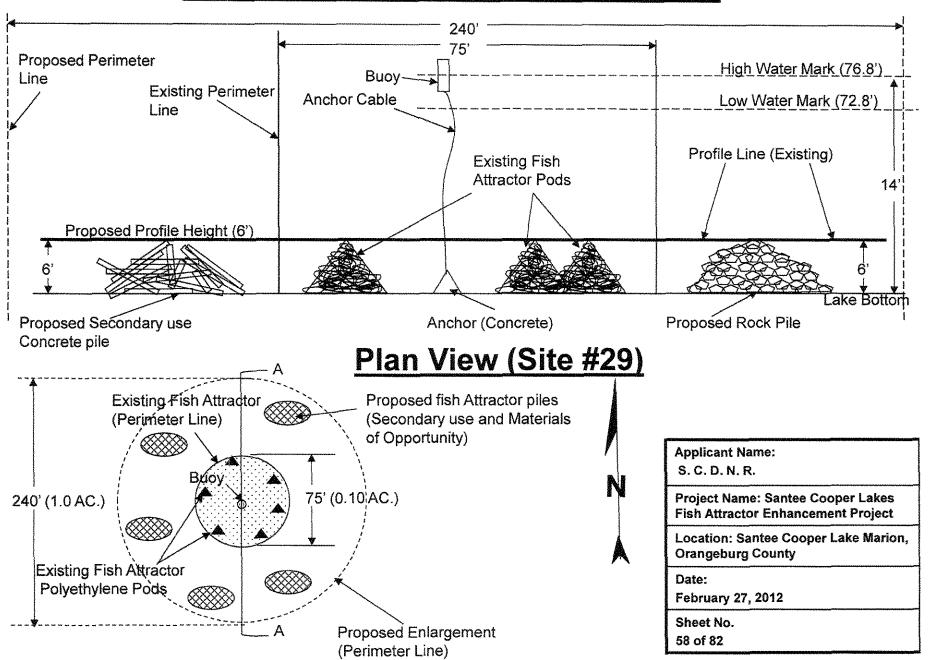


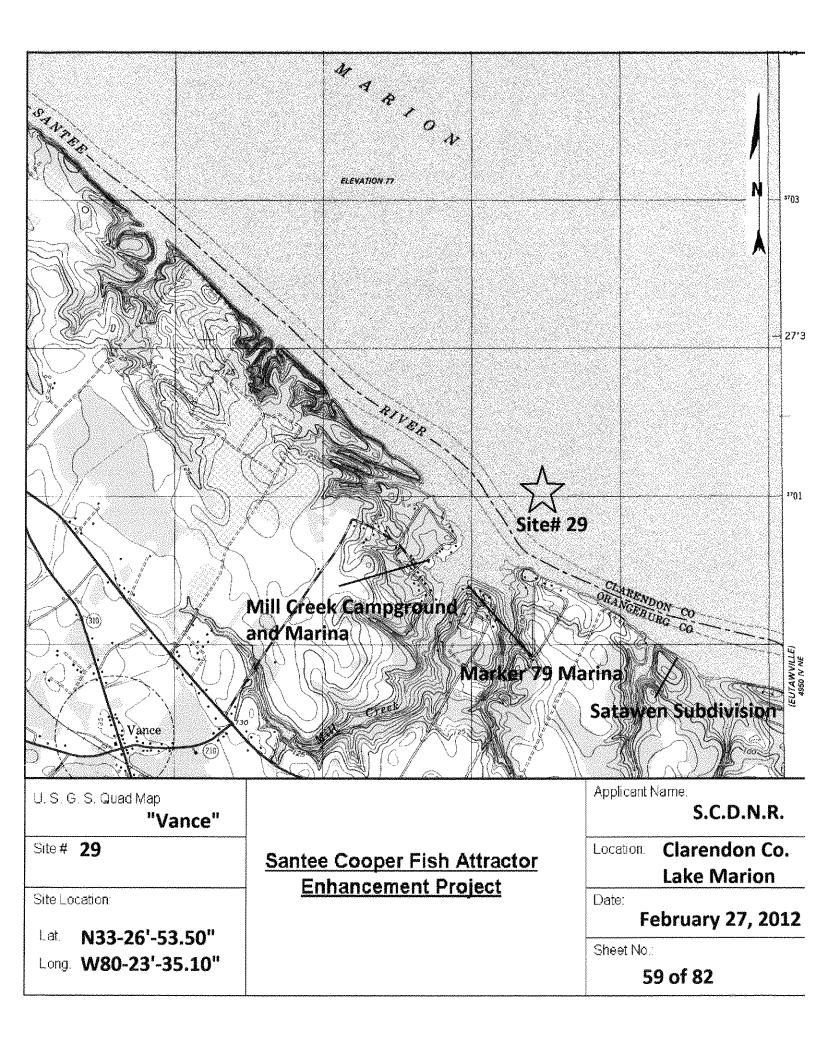


# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #28)

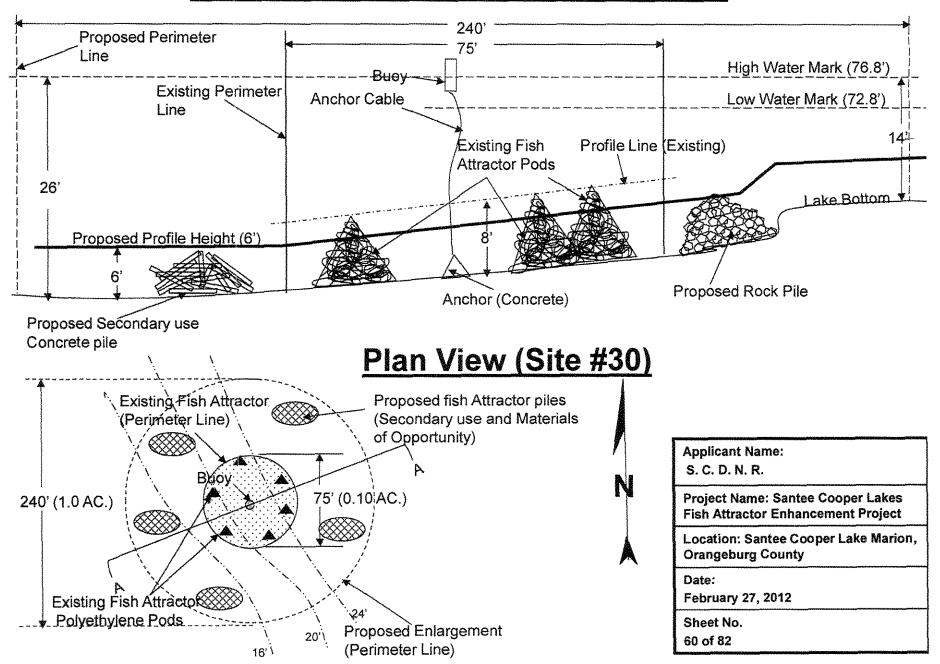


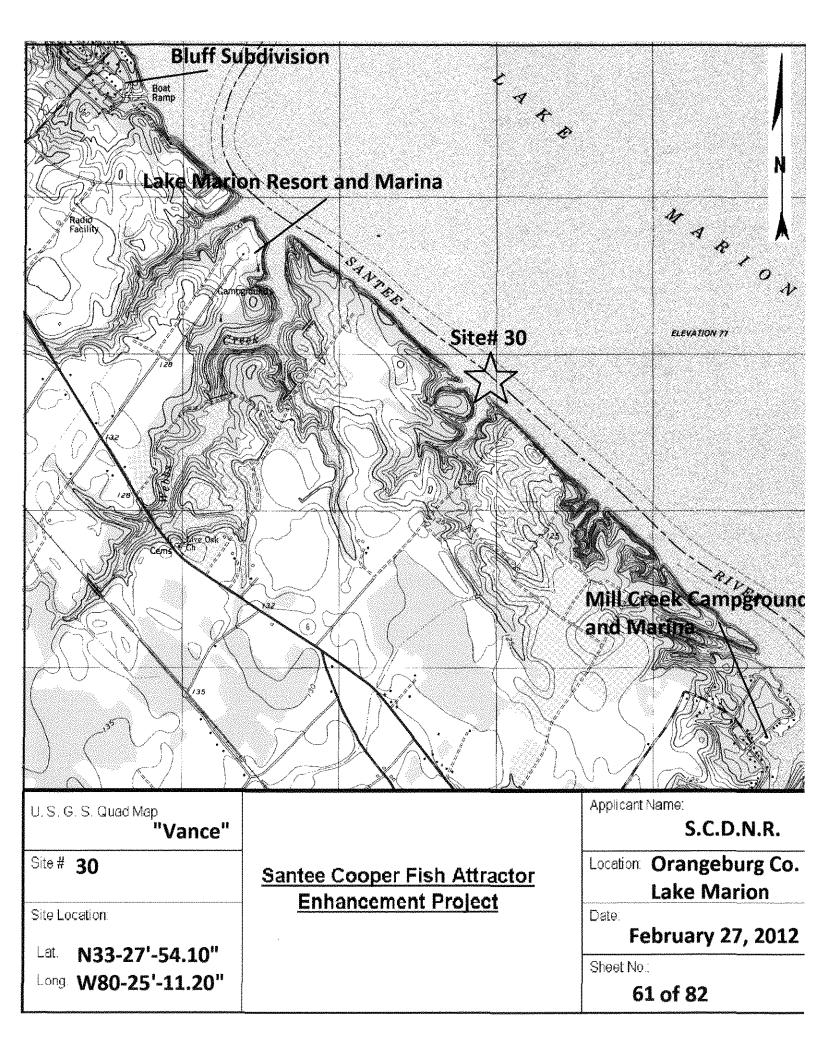




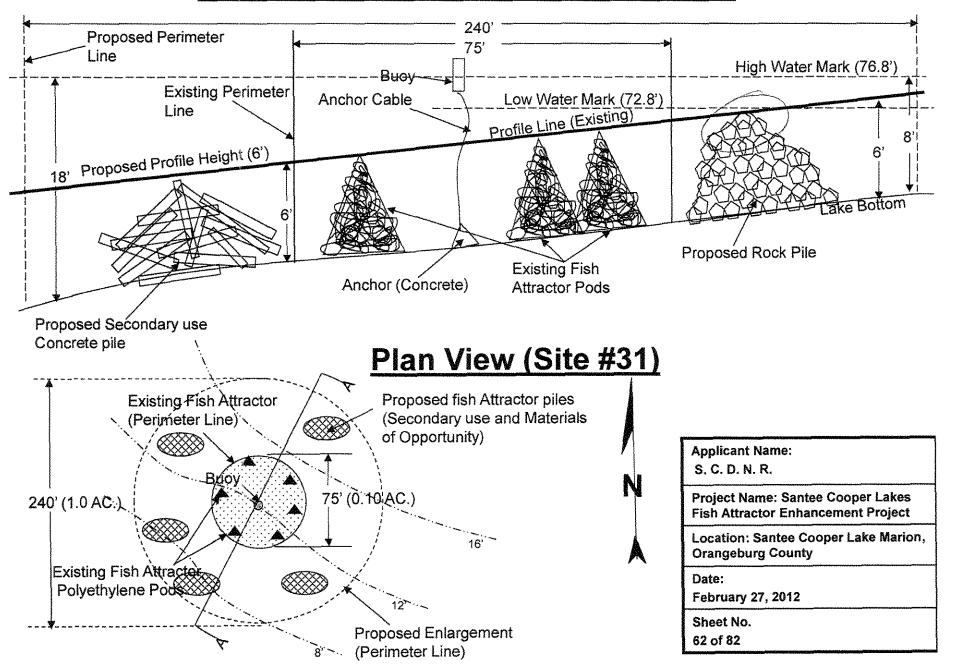


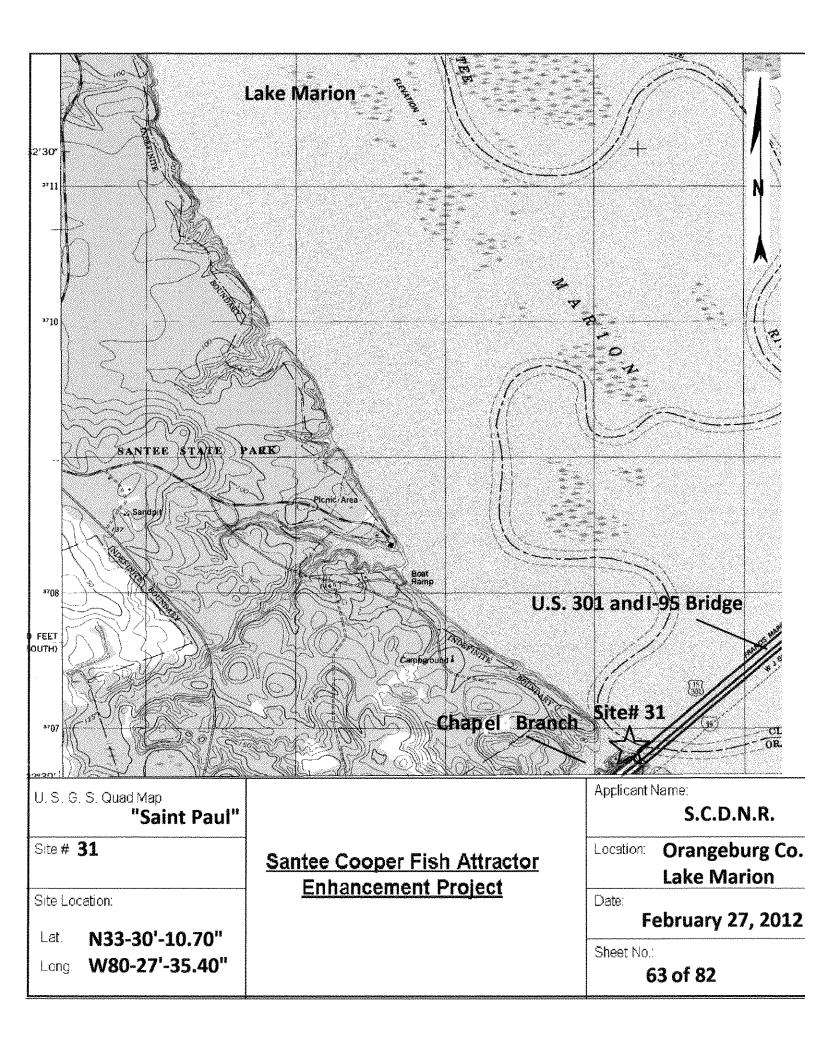
#### Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #30)



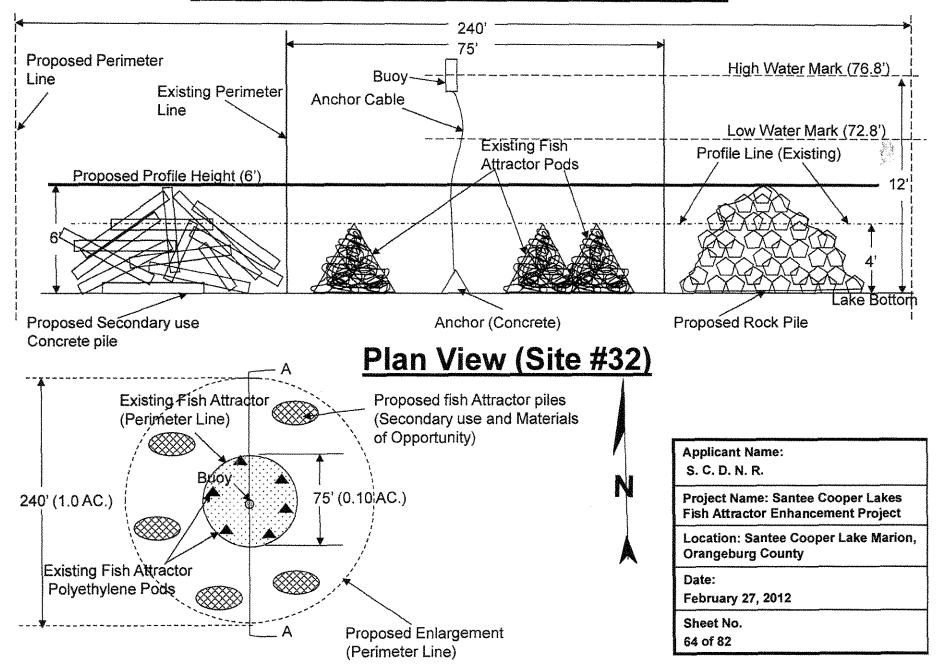


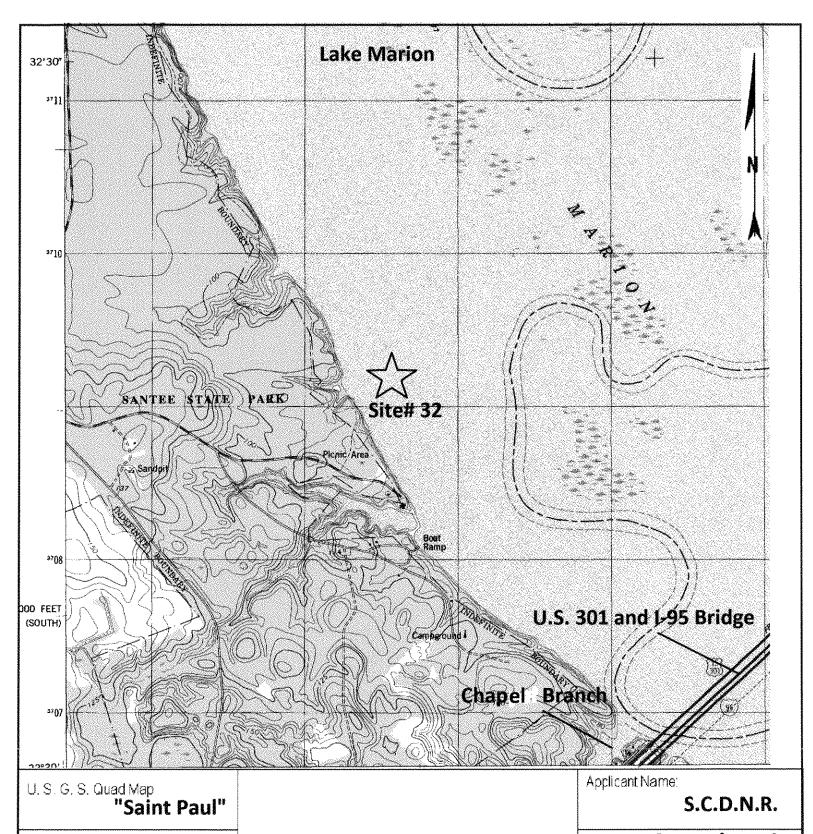
#### Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #31)





# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #32)





Site # 32

Site Location:

Lat. N33-31'-28.50"

Long. W80-28'-40.80"

# Santee Cooper Fish Attractor Enhancement Project

Location: Orangeburg Co.

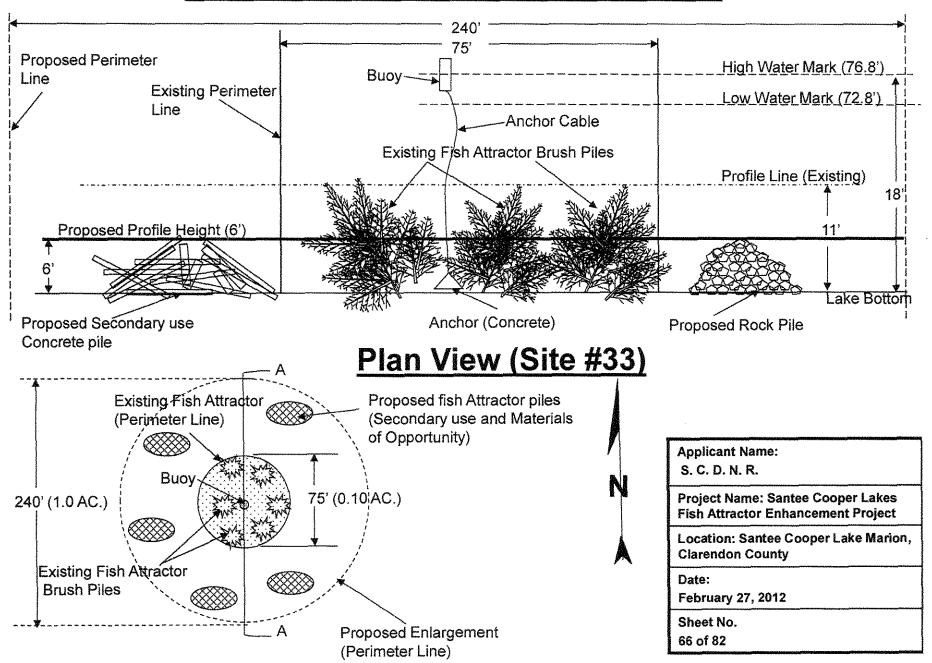
**Lake Marion** 

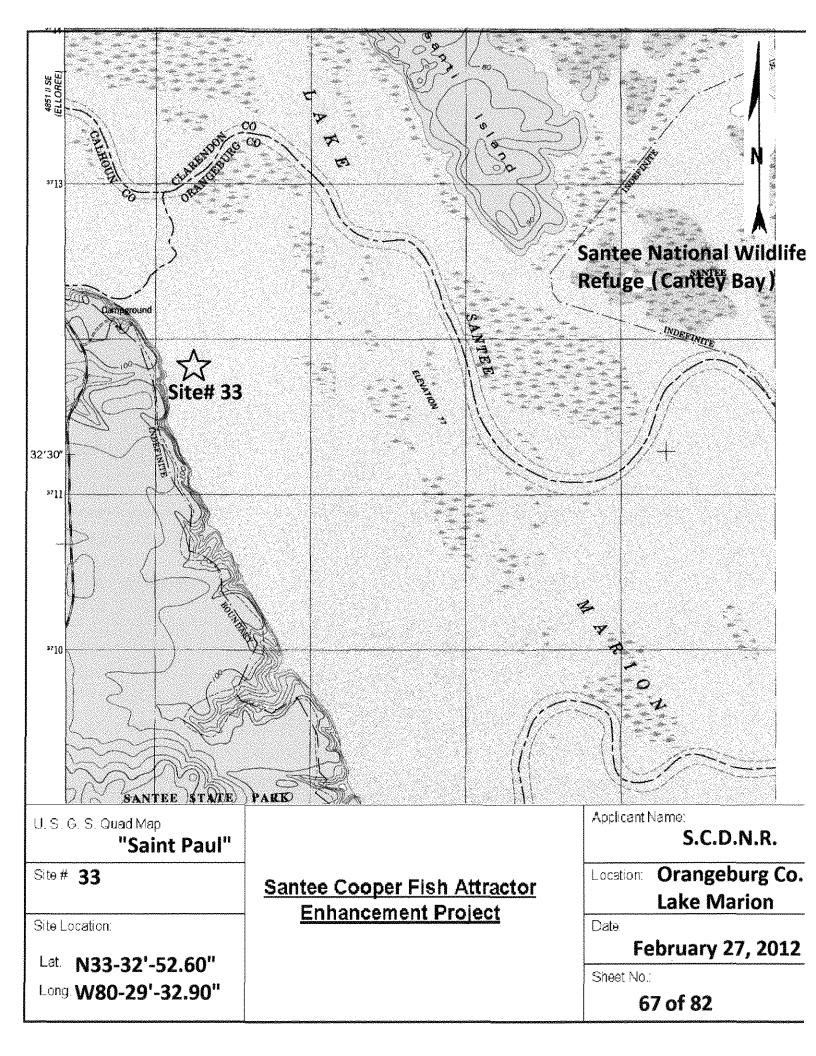
Date:

February 27, 2012

Sheet No.:

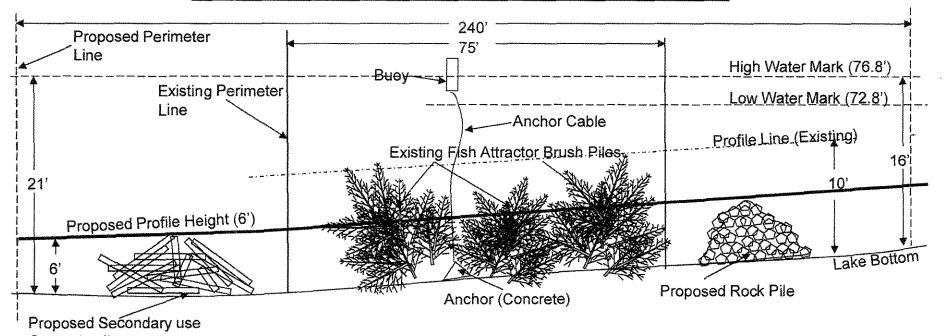
#### Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #33)

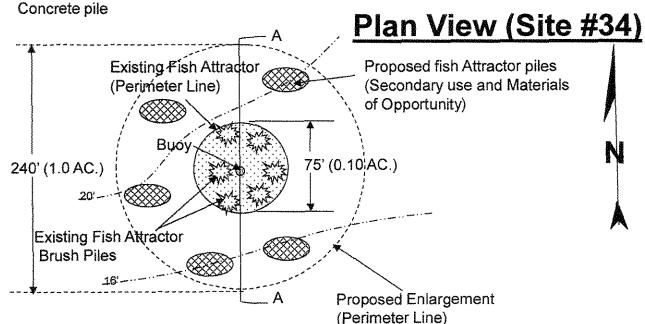




# Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #34)

Not to Scale



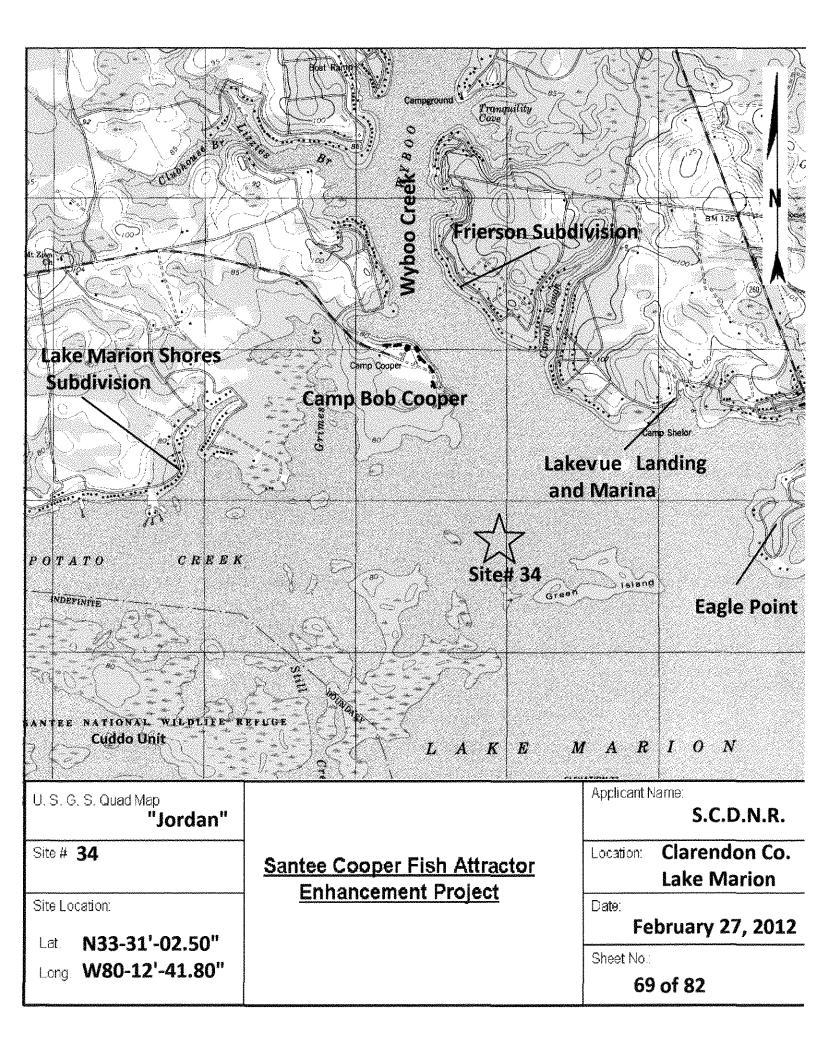


Applicant Name:
S. C. D. N. R.

Project Name: Santee Cooper Lakes
Fish Attractor Enhancement Project
Location: Santee Cooper Lake Marion,
Clarendon County

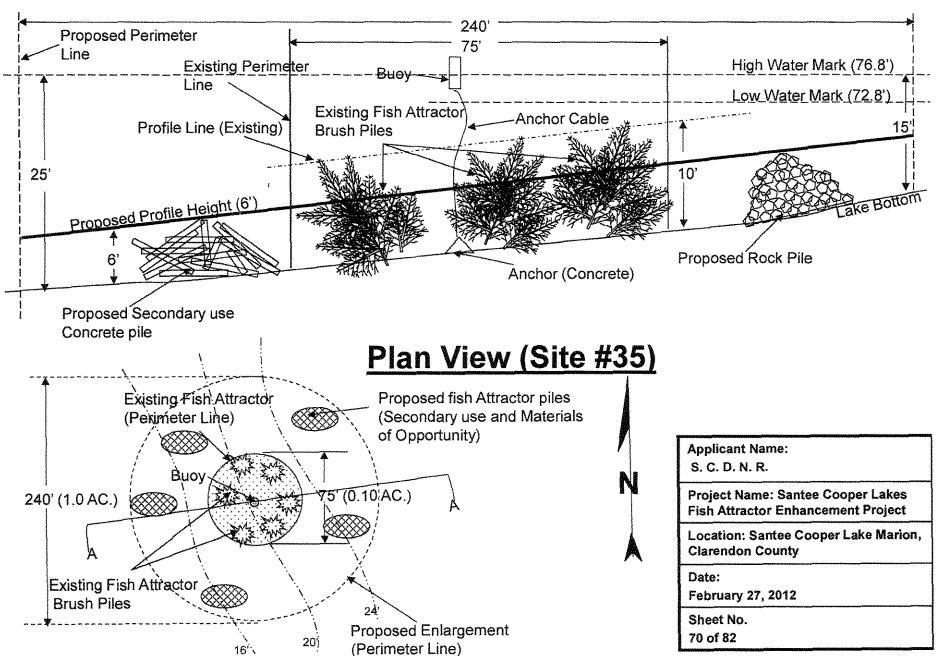
Date:
February 27, 2012

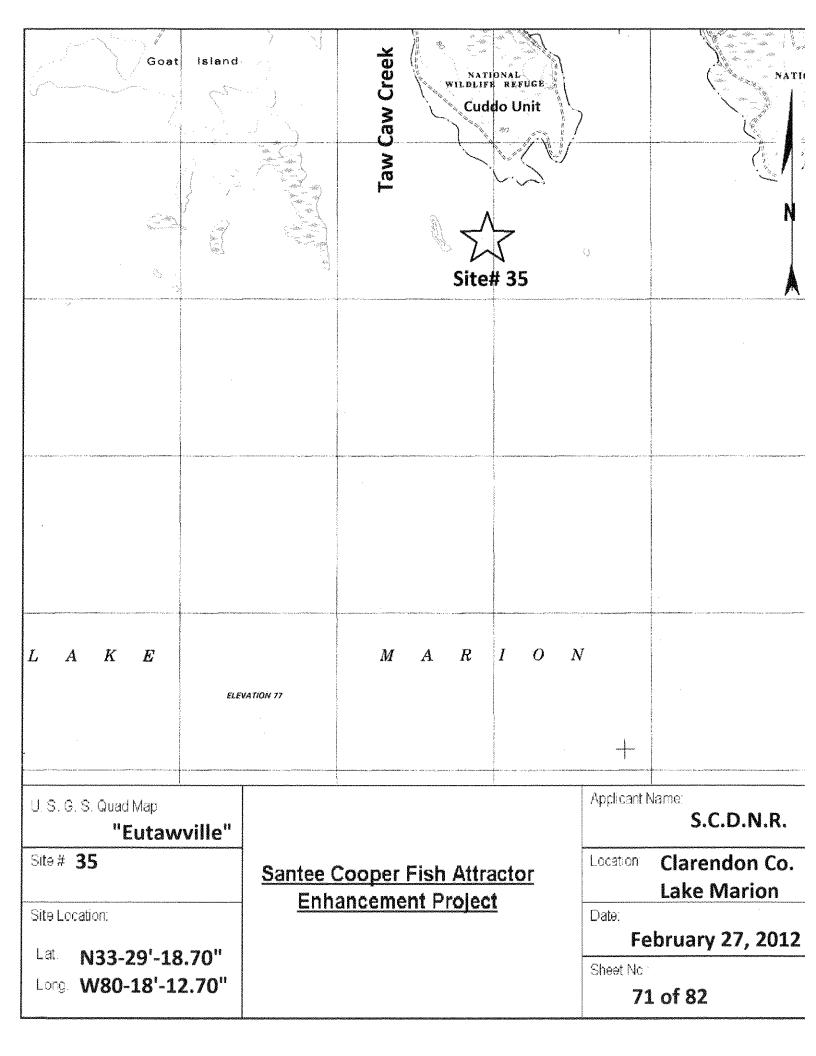
Sheet No.
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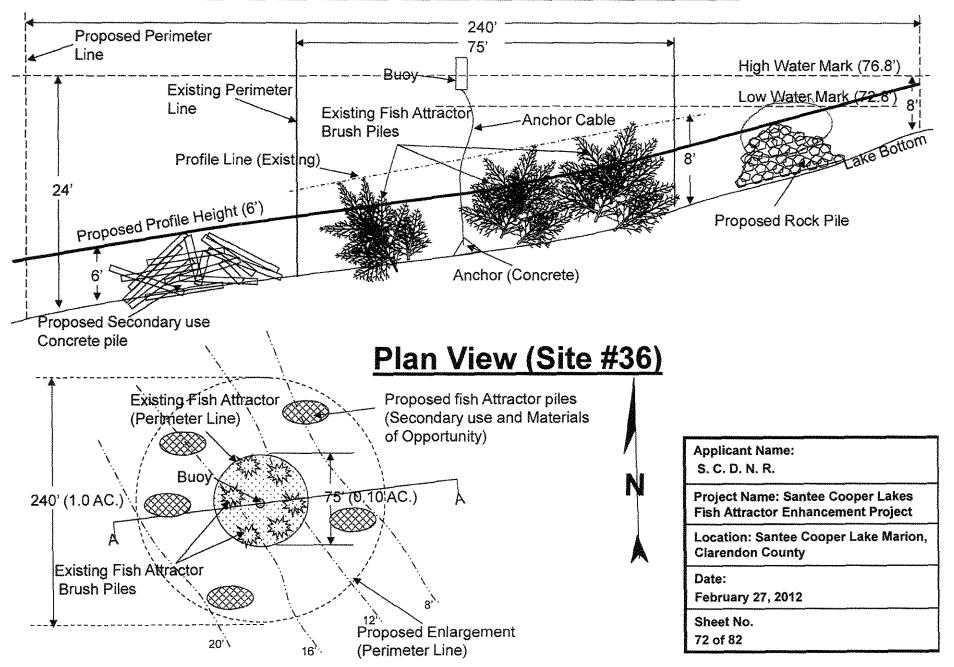


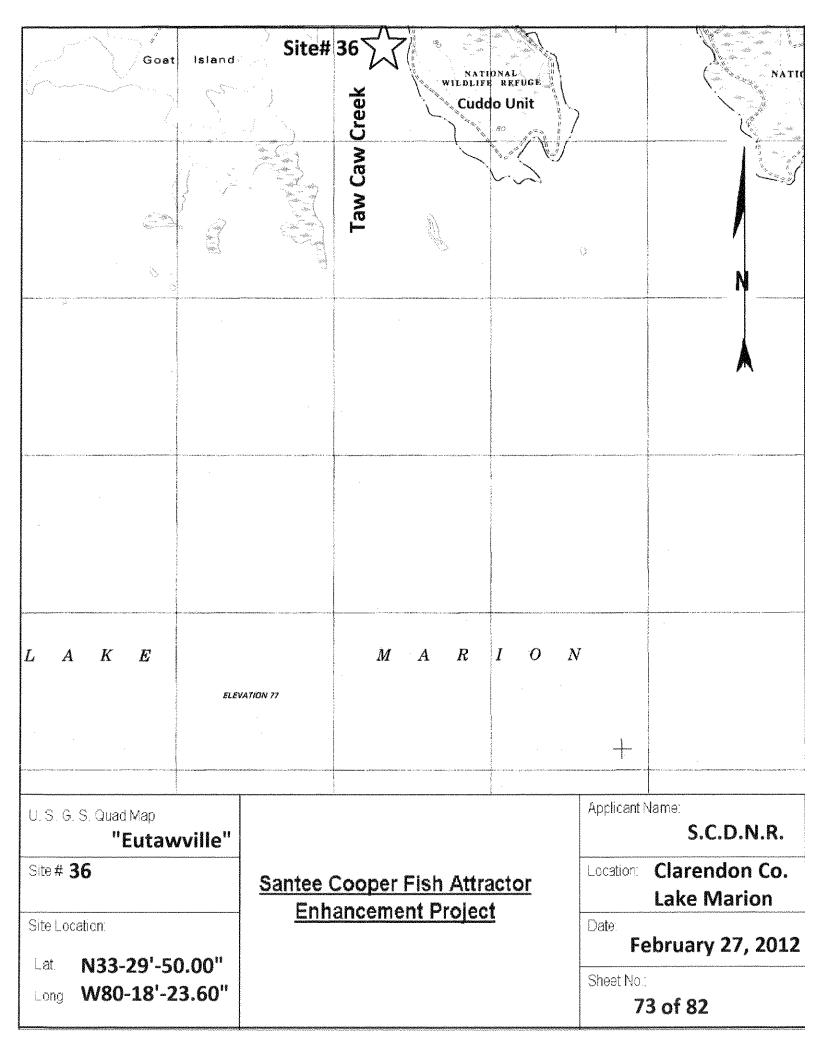
## Fish Attractor Profile "AA" (Site #35)

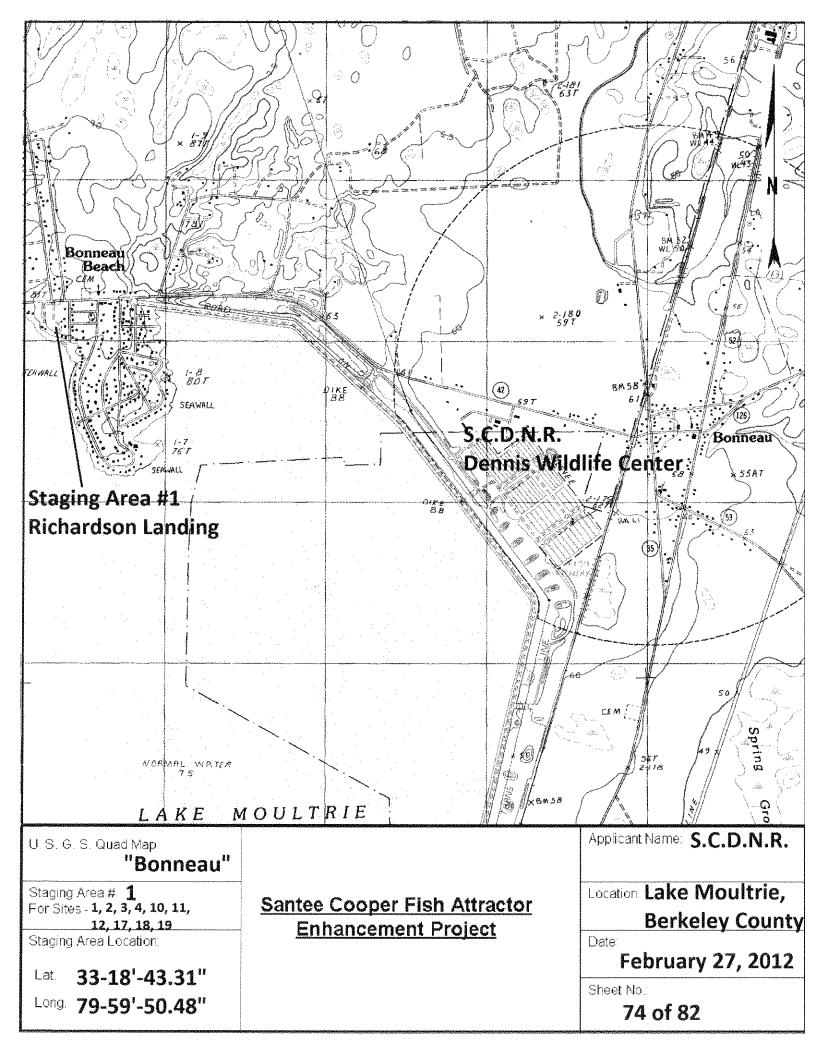
Not to Scale

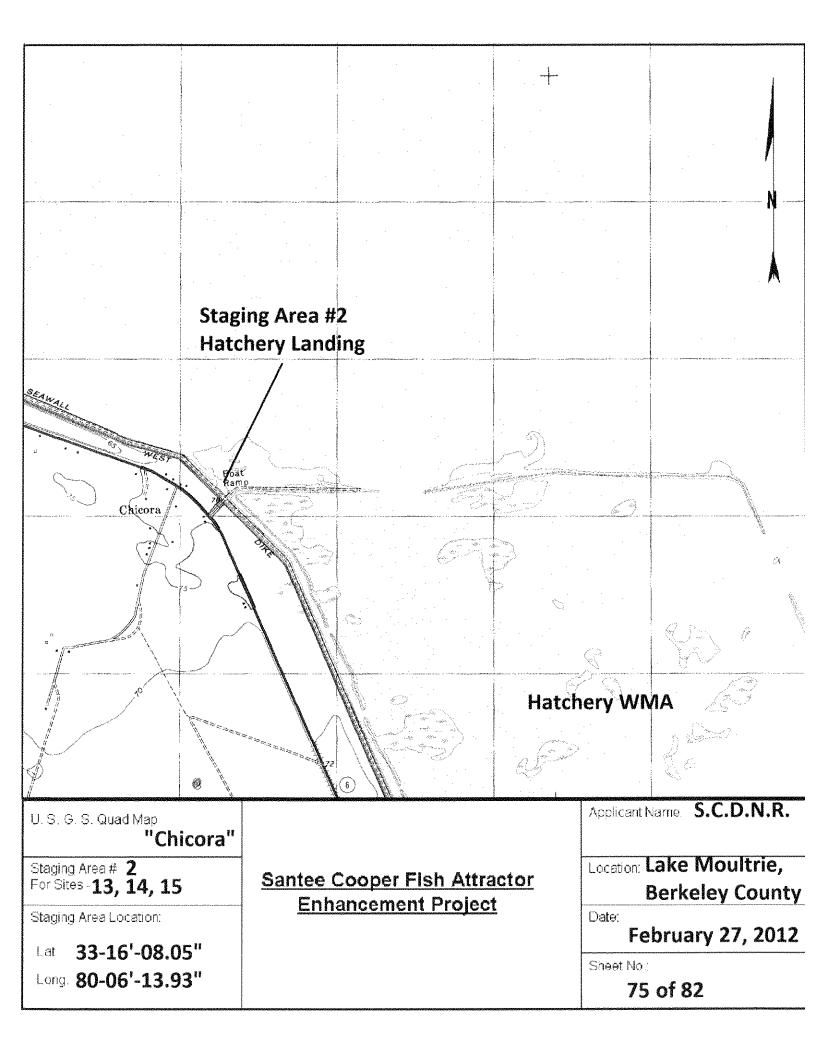


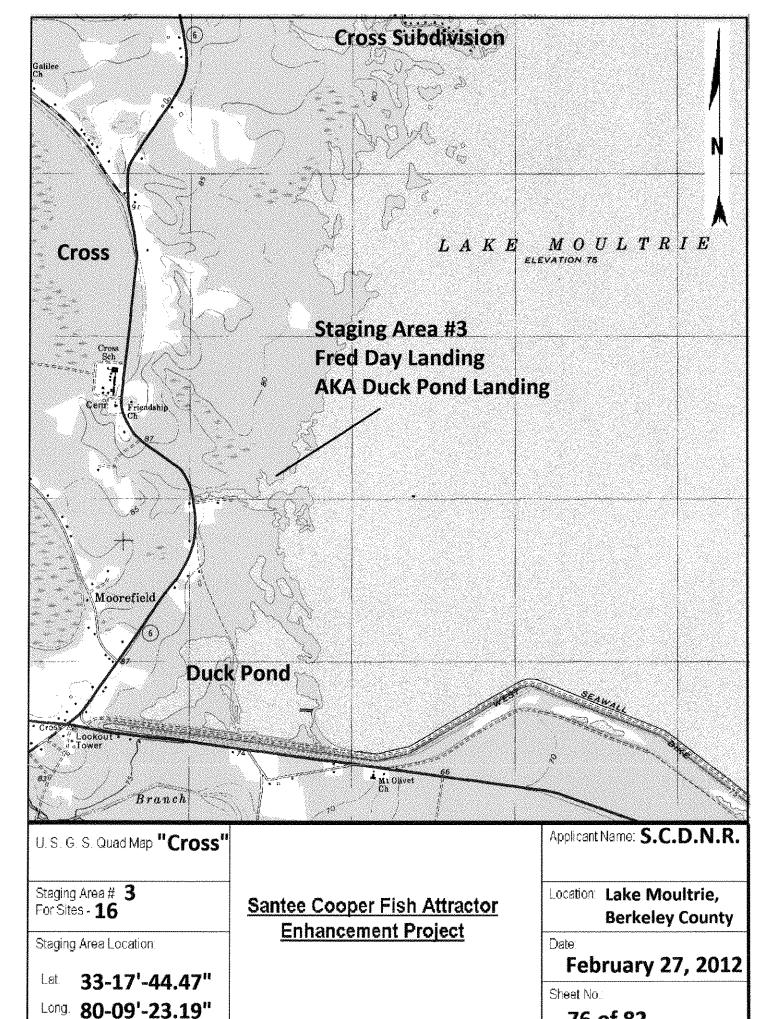


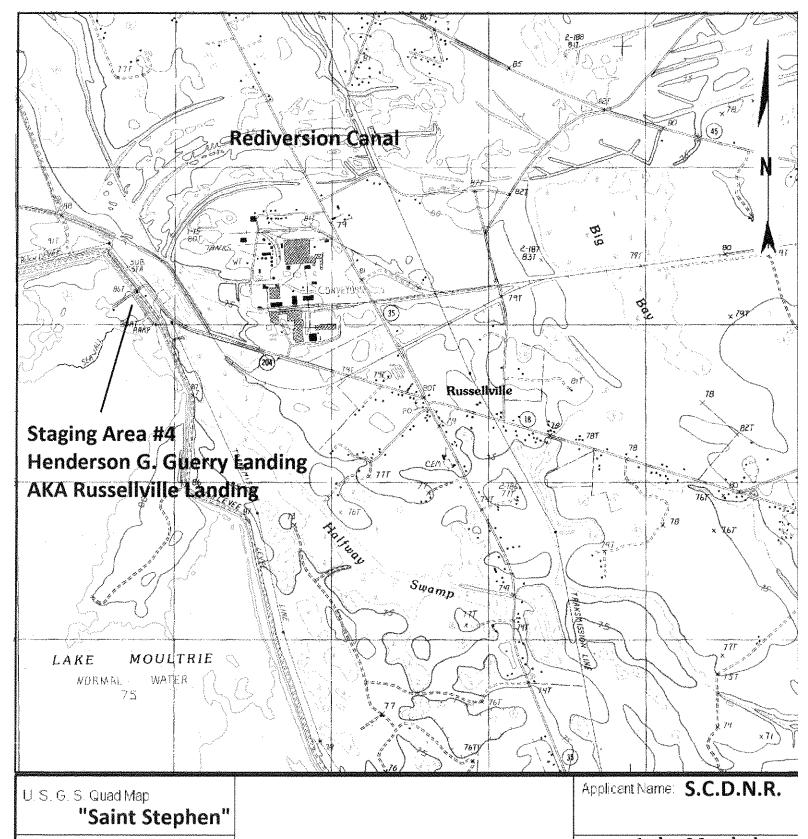












Staging Area # 4
For Sites - 5, 6, 7

Staging Area Location:

Lat. 33-24'-07.18"

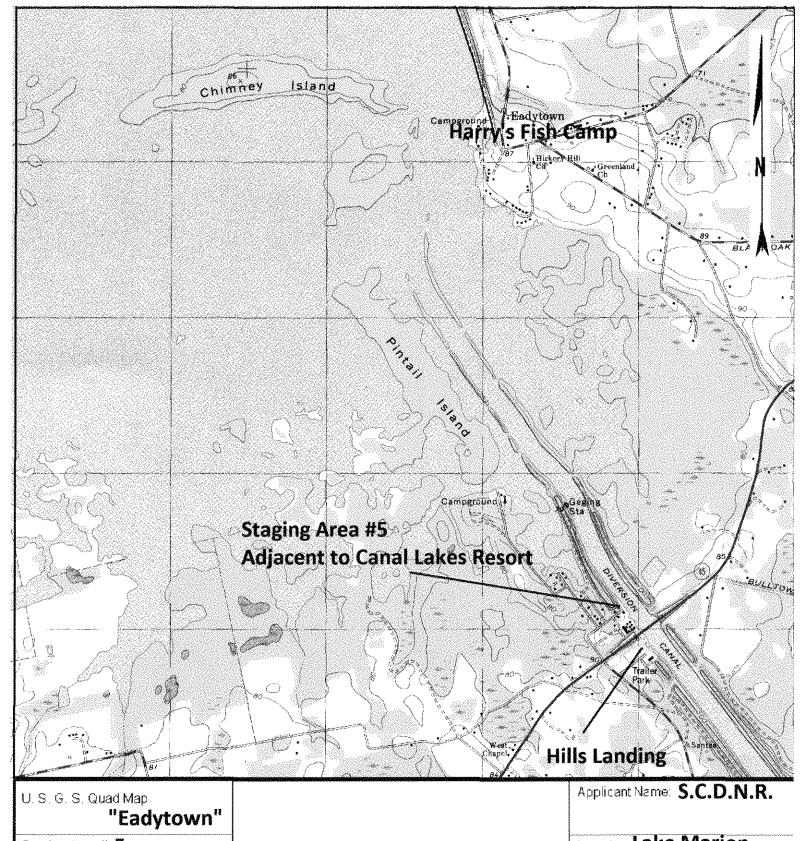
Long. **79-59'-32.86"** 

Santee Cooper Fish Attractor Enhancement Project Location Lake Moultrie,
Berkeley County

Date:

February 27, 2012

Sheet No.:



Staging Area # 5 For Sites - 8, 9, 22

Staging Area Location:

Lat. 33-23'-08.56"

Long. 80-08'-29.02"

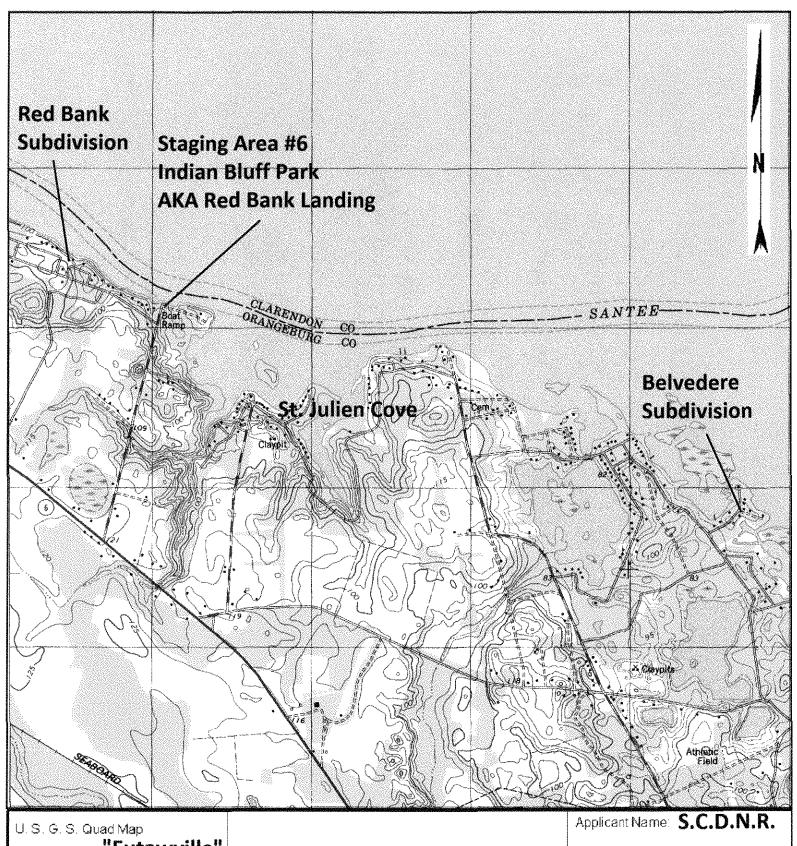
Santee Cooper Fish Attractor Enhancement Project Location: Lake Marion,

Berkeley County

Date:

February 27, 2012

Sheet No.:



## "Eutawville"

Staging Area # 6
For Sites -23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

Staging Area Location:

Lat. 33-25'-52.96"

Long. 80-21'-53.65"

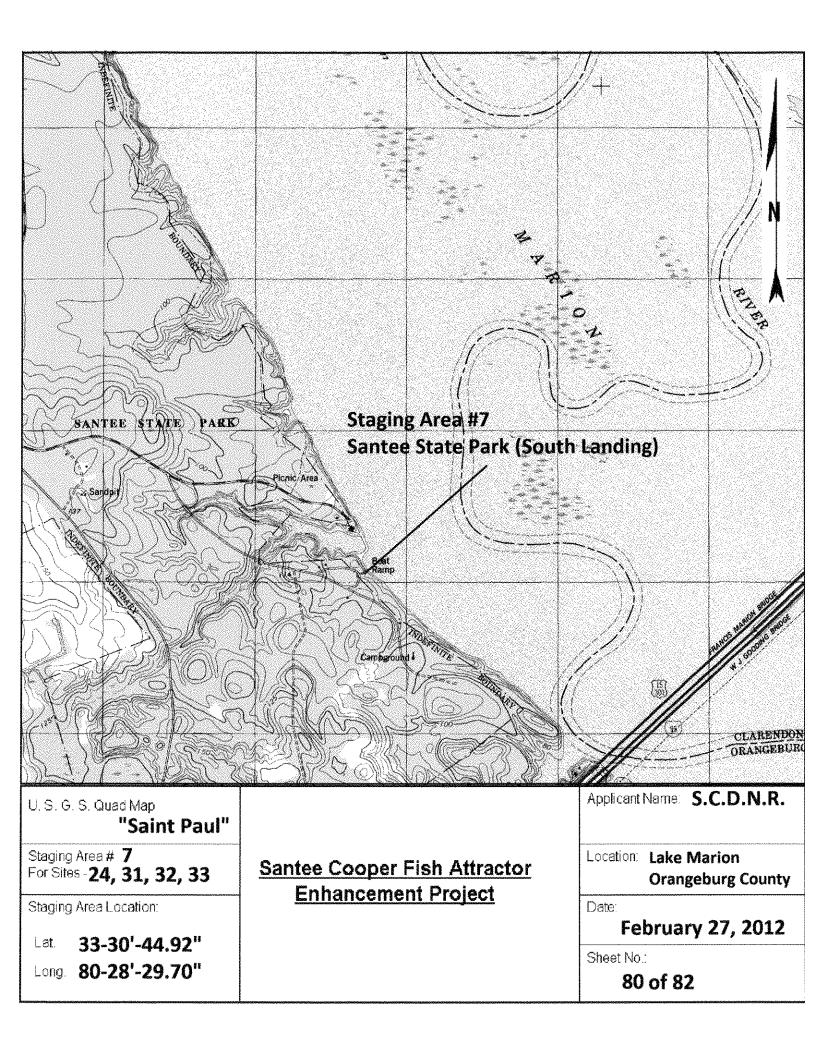
## Santee Cooper Fish Attractor Enhancement Project

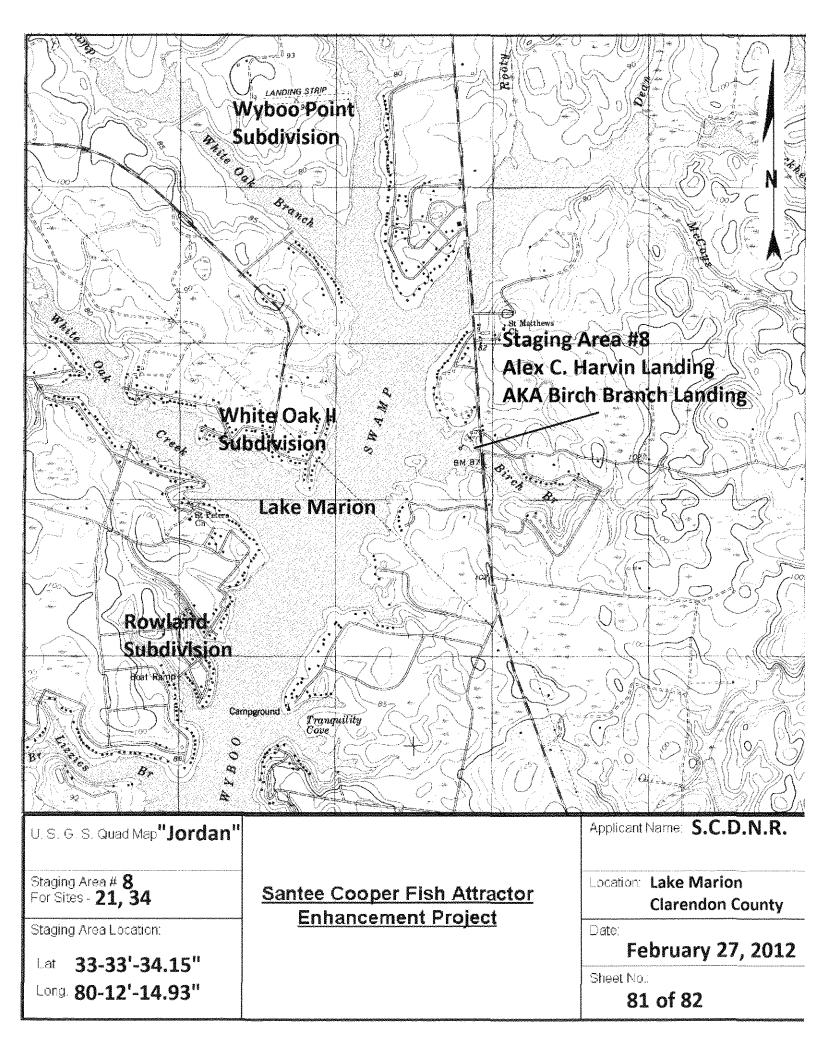
Location: Lake Marion,
Orangeburg County

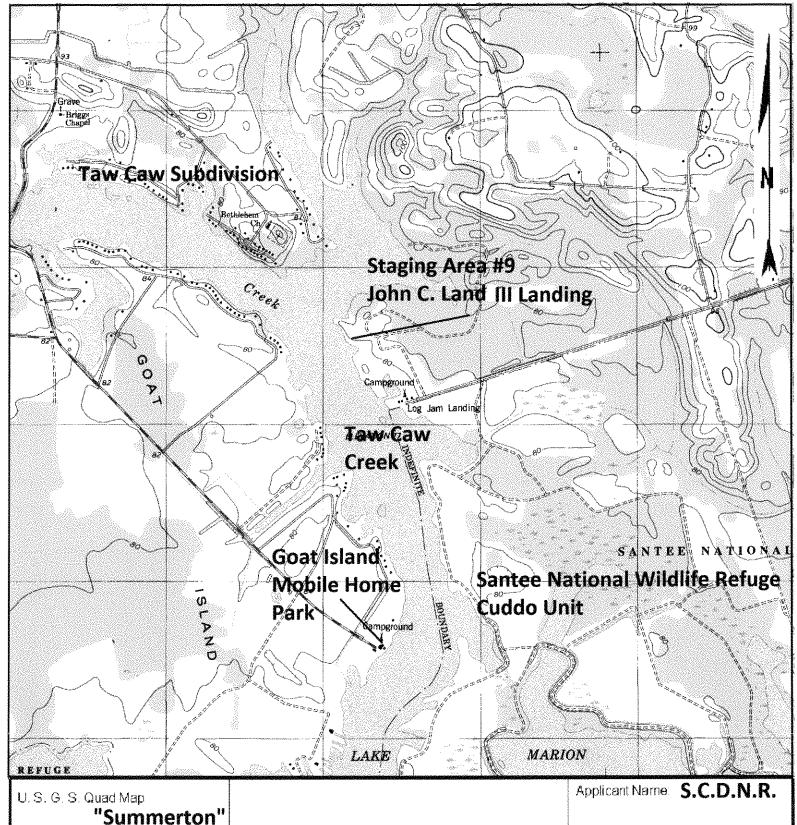
Date:

February 27, 2012

Sheet No.:







Staging Area # 9 For Sites - 35, 36

Staging Area Location:

33-31'-27.42"

Long. 80-18'-26.82"

Santee Cooper Fish Attractor **Enhancement Project** 

Location: Lake Marion **Clarendon County** 

Date:

February 27, 2012

Sheet No.: