

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
Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Section
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N SAC-2021-01461

September 10, 2021

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

Mr. Jason Thompson
Horry County Government
4401 Privetts Road
Conway, South Carolina 29526

for a permit to construct a 2.84 mile, four-lane, divided roadway that extends El Bethel Road south to improve regional connectivity between US Highway 378 and US Highway 701 south in

Jurisdictional Freshwater Wetlands

at a location beginning on the south side of US Highway 378 at the intersection of El Bethel Road, continuing south for 1.59 miles before curving to the southeast and intersecting Cates Bay Highway near its intersection with Dirty Branch Road. After crossing Cates Bay Highway, the corridor continues southeast until it connects to US Highway 701 south near Cedar Lane, in the City of Conway, Horry County, South Carolina (Latitude: 33.8369°N, Longitude: -79.0875°W), Conway Quad Sheet.

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,

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 construction of a 2.84-mile, four-lane, divided roadway that extends El Bethel Road south to improve regional connectivity between US Highway 378 and US Highway 701 South. In detail, the proposed roadway will permanently impact 3.916 acres of jurisdictional, freshwater wetlands for the construction of the roadway. Specifically, 2.496 acres of impacts consist of fill material placed in wetlands for the construction of the new road, 0.58 acre of impacts consist of excavation activities, and 0.84 acre of impacts consist of mechanized land clearing. No tributaries are proposed to be impacted. As a result of the proposed roadway, US Highway 701 will be widened from Tiger Drive to approximately 180 feet north of New Road. The Conway Perimeter alignment would require the closing and/or realignment of four local roadways:

- Dirty Branch Road: The intersection of Dirty Branch Road and Cates Bay Highway would be closed, and Dirty Branch Road would be realigned approximately 1200 feet north of the current intersection to intersect the new roadway at a preferred angle.
- Faulk Circle: The new Perimeter Road would bisect Faulk Circle, which would be eliminated to the west of the new roadway and a cul-de-sac would be added to the east of the new roadway. As a result, there would be no direct access from the Perimeter Road onto Faulk Circle.
- Wesley Drive: The new Perimeter Road would bisect Wesley Drive. The southernmost portion of the road would be closed, and a cul-de-sac would be added for residential access. The northernmost portion would have access from the northbound lanes of the new Perimeter Road.
- Hemingway Chapel Road: The new Perimeter Road would bisect Hemingway Chapel Road. As a result, the portion of Hemingway Chapel Road connected to US 378 would have a cul-de-sac added to the west of the new roadway. A new side road will be constructed and tie into Hemingway Chapel Road. This new side road will serve as the entrance road for a new residential development currently planned for this location. The portion of Hemingway Chapel Road that is connected to US 701, to the east of the Perimeter Road, would curve to the west to meet the new roadway.

The applicant has proposed to mitigate for impacts to wetlands and/or waters of the United States by purchasing 28.3 credits from the Independent Republic Heritage Preserve Wetland Mitigation Bank. As stated by the applicant, "The primary purpose of the project is to improve regional network connectivity between US 378 and US 701 and to contribute to the network of perimeter routes for enhanced local mobility."

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. 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 3.916 acres of freshwater wetlands upstream 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)(f)(1)), and has initially determined that no historic properties are present; therefore, there will be no effect on historic properties. This public notice serves to notify the State Historic Preservation Office that the Corps plans to initiate Section 106 consultation. 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.

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 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, 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.

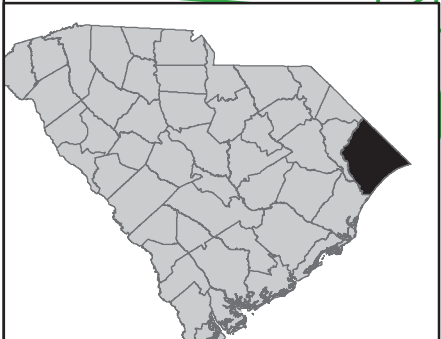
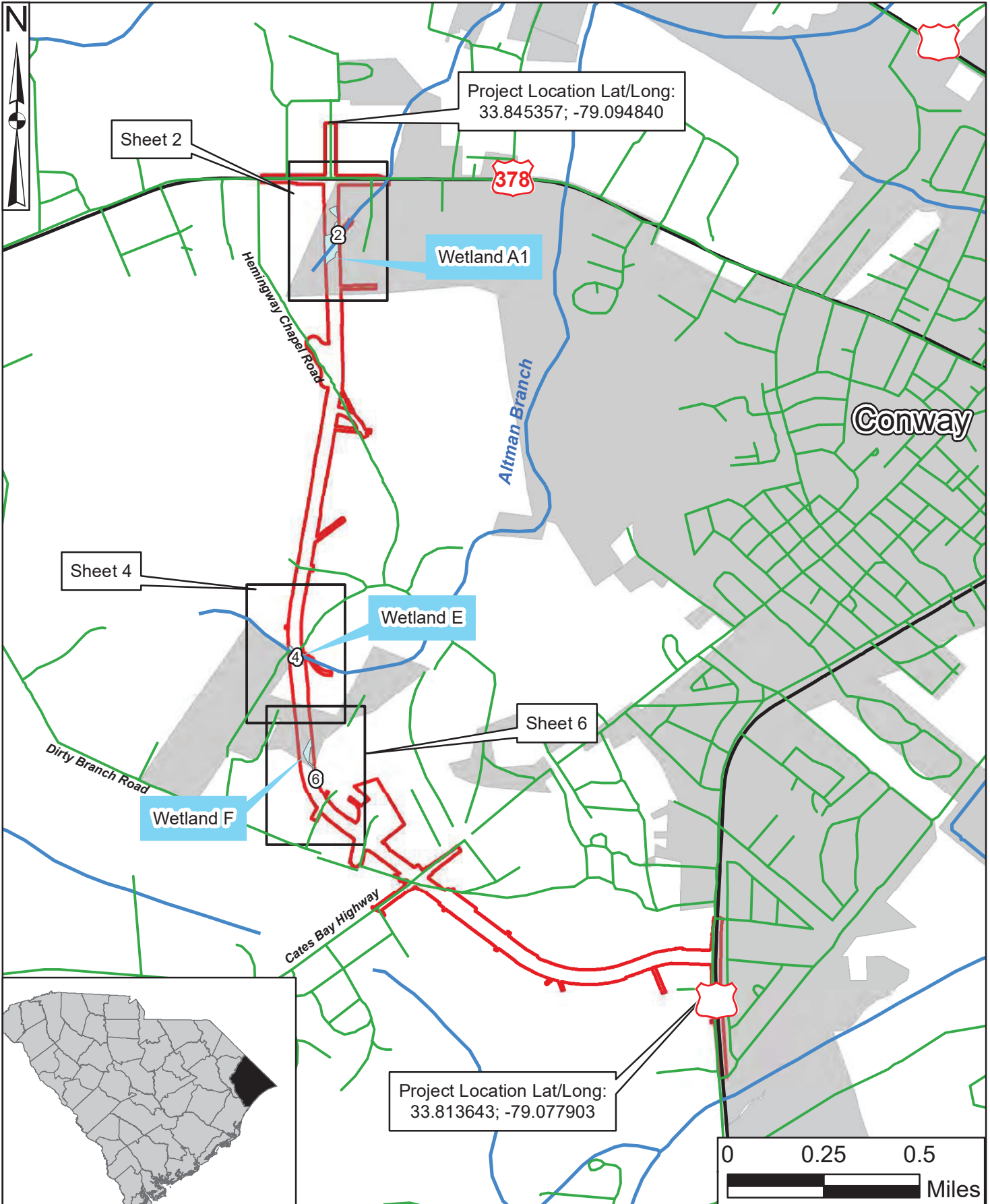
The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, 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. **When providing comments, please reference the project number and provide written comments to the following address (emailing comments is the preferred method):**

SAC.RD.Conway@usace.army.mil

or mail to:

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION
1949 Industrial Park Road, Room 140
Conway, South Carolina 29526**

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Wiley Bracey, Team Lead, at (843) 365-1707, or by email at Wiley.C.Bracey@usace.army.mil.



Legend

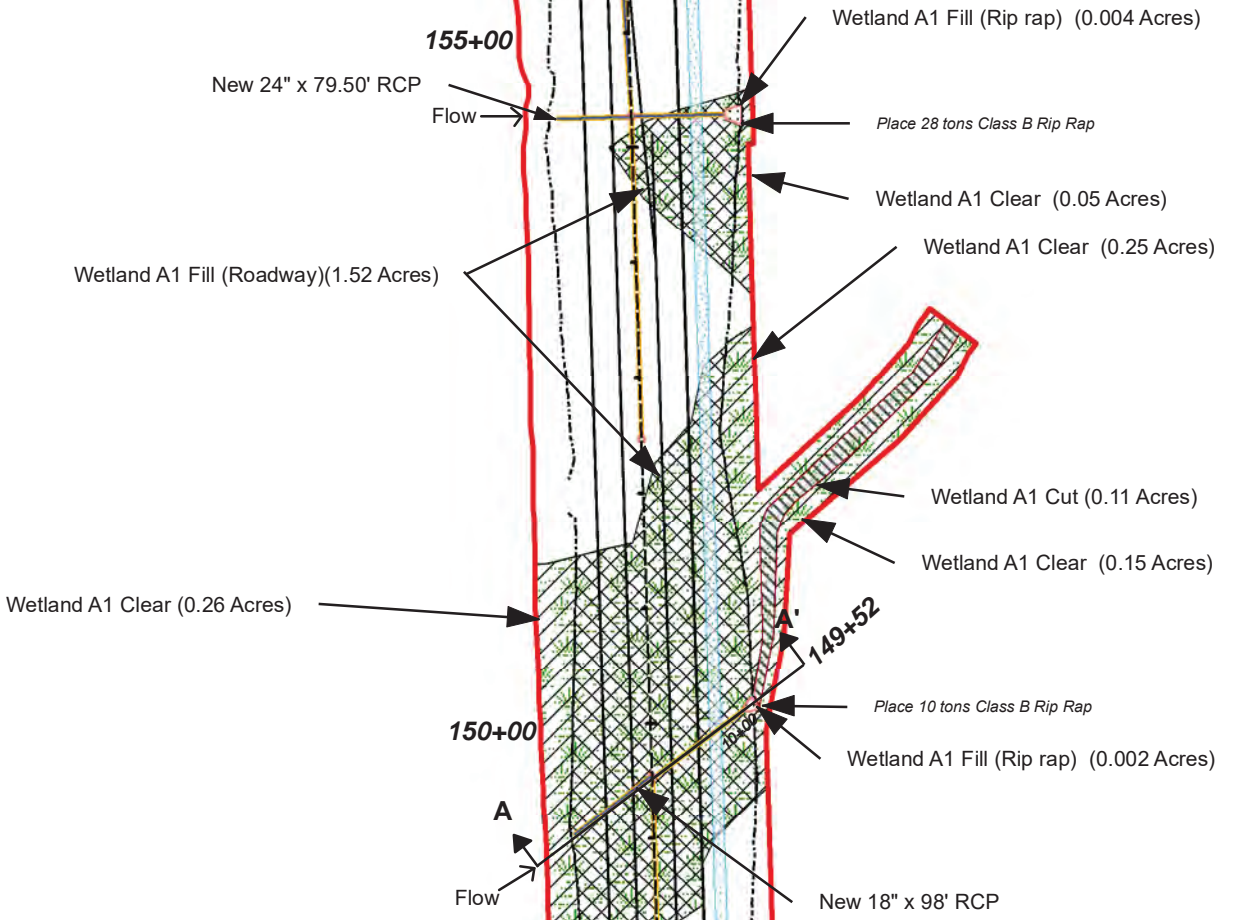
US Route	Streams
SC Roads	
Project Study Area (95.51 Acres)	

Horry County Ride III
 Conway Perimeter Road Phase II
 August 2021
 SCDOT Project ID: P031826
 SAC 2021-003561
 SAC 2020-00780

HORRY COUNTY
Sheet 1 of 7
PERMIT SHEET INDEX LAYOUT



Project Location Lat/Long:
33.845357; -79.094840



PLANS NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

TOTAL IMPACTS	
Wetland Permanent Cut	0.11 AC
Wetland Permanent Fill Impacts (Roadway)	1.52 AC
Wetland Permanent Fill Impacts (Rip Rap)	0.006 AC
Wetland Clearing Impacts	0.71 AC



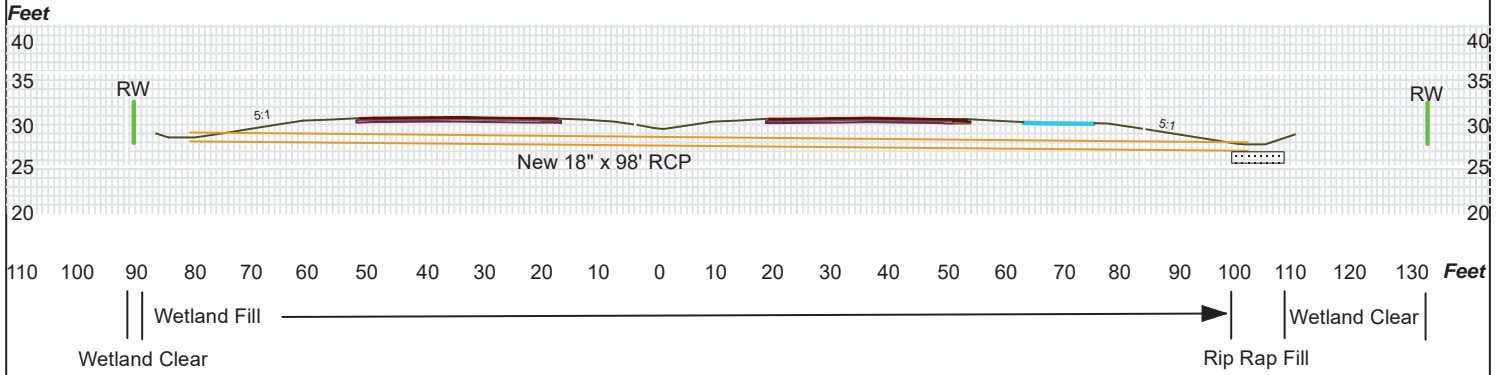
Legend

Wetland Clear	Pipe
Wetland Fill	Wetland Cut
Sidewalk	
Edge of Pavement	
Slope Fill	
Rip Rap Impact	
Jurisdictional Wetland	
Project Study Area (95.51 Acres)	

Horry County Ride III
Conway Perimeter Road Phase II
August 2021
SCDOT Project ID: P031826
SAC-2021-01461

HORRY COUNTY
Sheet 2 of 7
PERMIT PLAN DRAWING

Sta. 149+52
 Section A-A'
 Wetland A1



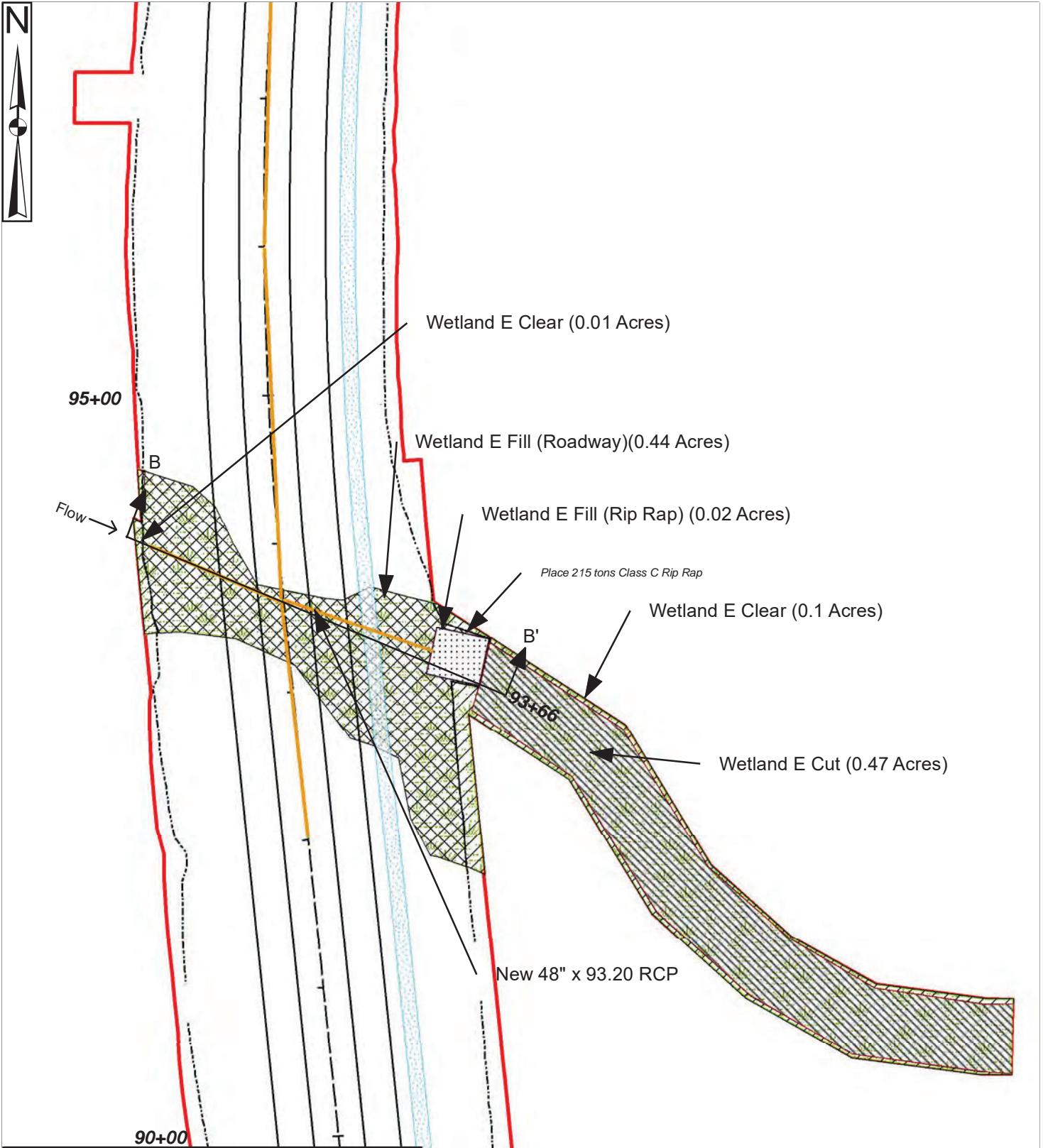
- Legend**
- Rip Rap
 - Pipe
 - Sidewalk
 - Right of Way
 - Roadway

Horry County Ride III
 Conway Perimeter Road Phase II
 August 2021
 SCDOT Project ID: P031826
 SAC-2021-01461

HORRY COUNTY

Sheet 3 of 7

PERMIT DRAWING
 CROSS SECTION



TOTAL IMPACTS	
Wetland Permanent Cut	0.47 AC
Wetland Permanent Fill Impacts (Roadway)	0.44 AC
Wetland Permanent Fill Impacts (Rip Rap)	0.02 AC
Wetland Clearing Impacts	0.11 AC

PLANS NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

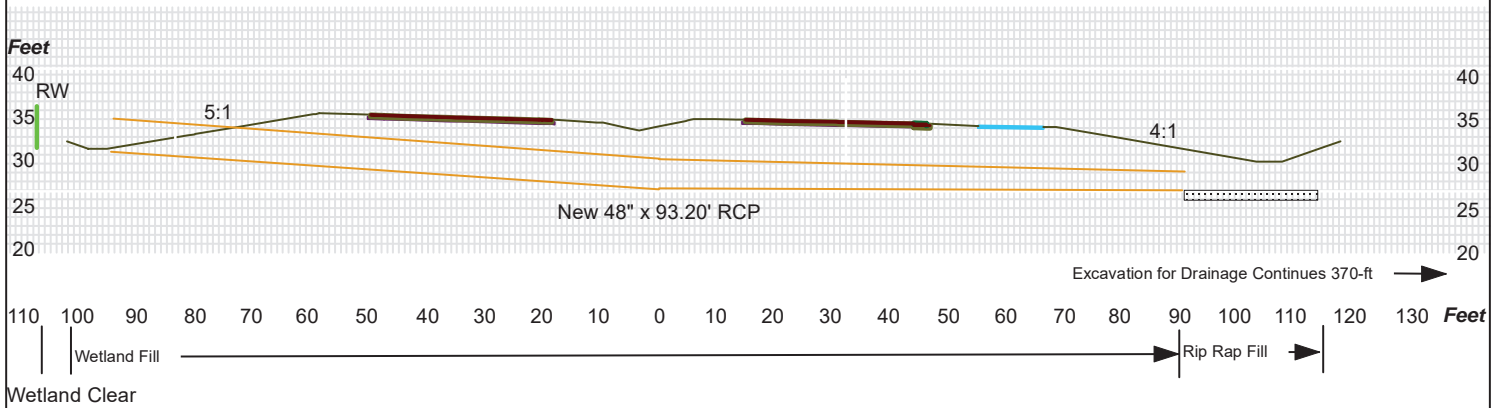


Legend	
	Wetland Clear
	Wetland Fill
	Sidewalk
	Edge of Pavement
	Slope Fill
	Rip Rap Impact
	Jurisdictional Wetland
	Project Study Area (95.51 Acres)
	Pipe
	Wetland Cut

Horry County Ride III
 Conway Perimeter Road Phase II
 August 2021
 SCDOT Project ID: P031826
SAC-2021-01461

HORRY COUNTY
 Sheet 4 of 7
 PERMIT PLAN DRAWING

Sta. 93+66
 Section B-B'
 Wetland E



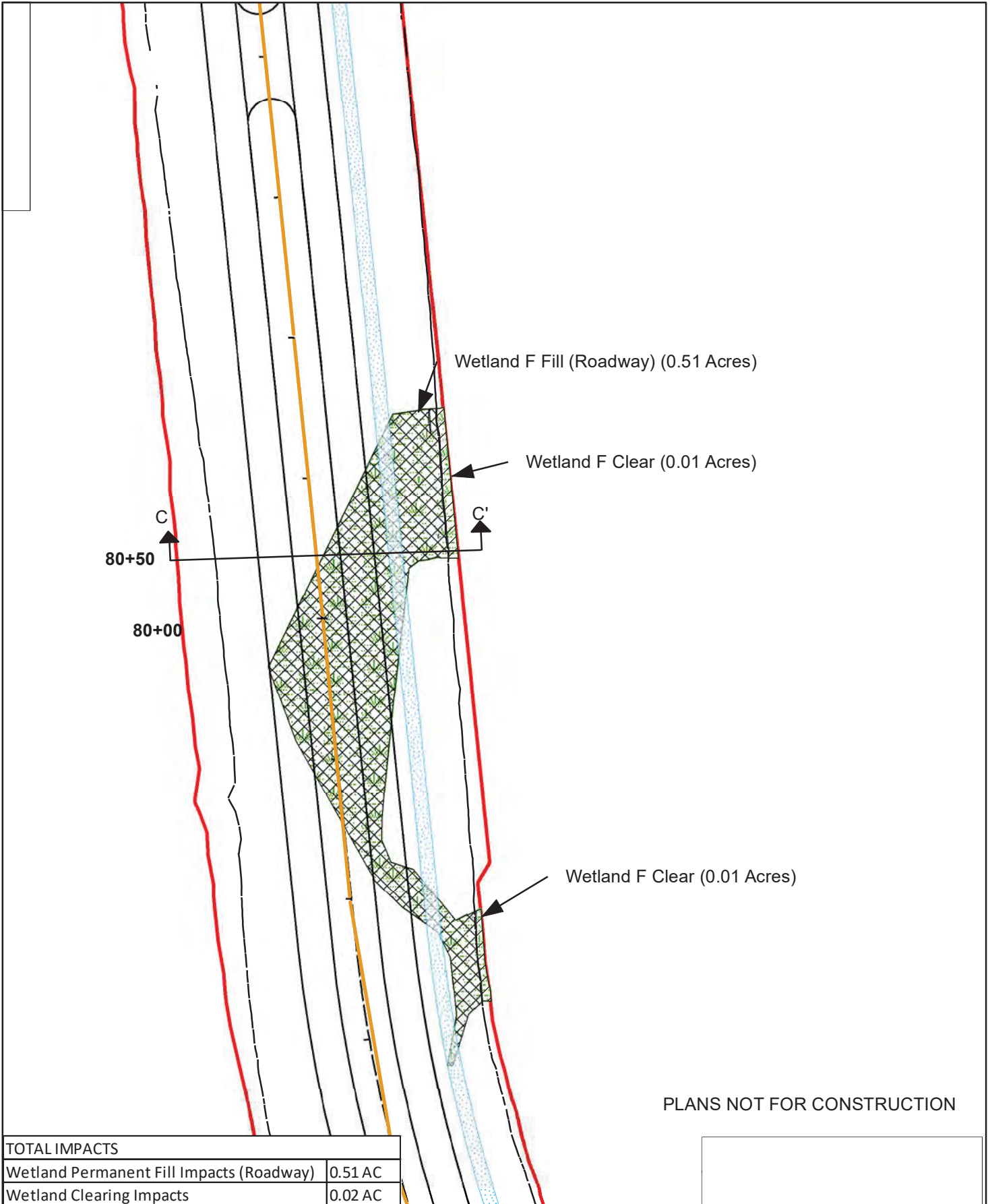
- Legend**
- Rip Rap
 - Pipe
 - Sidewalk
 - Right of Way
 - Roadway

Horry County Ride III
 Conway Perimeter Road Phase II
 August 2021
 SCDOT Project ID: P031826
 SAC-2021-01461

HORRY COUNTY

Sheet 5 of 7

PERMIT DRAWING
 CROSS SECTION



PLANS NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

TOTAL IMPACTS	
Wetland Permanent Fill Impacts (Roadway)	0.51 AC
Wetland Clearing Impacts	0.02 AC

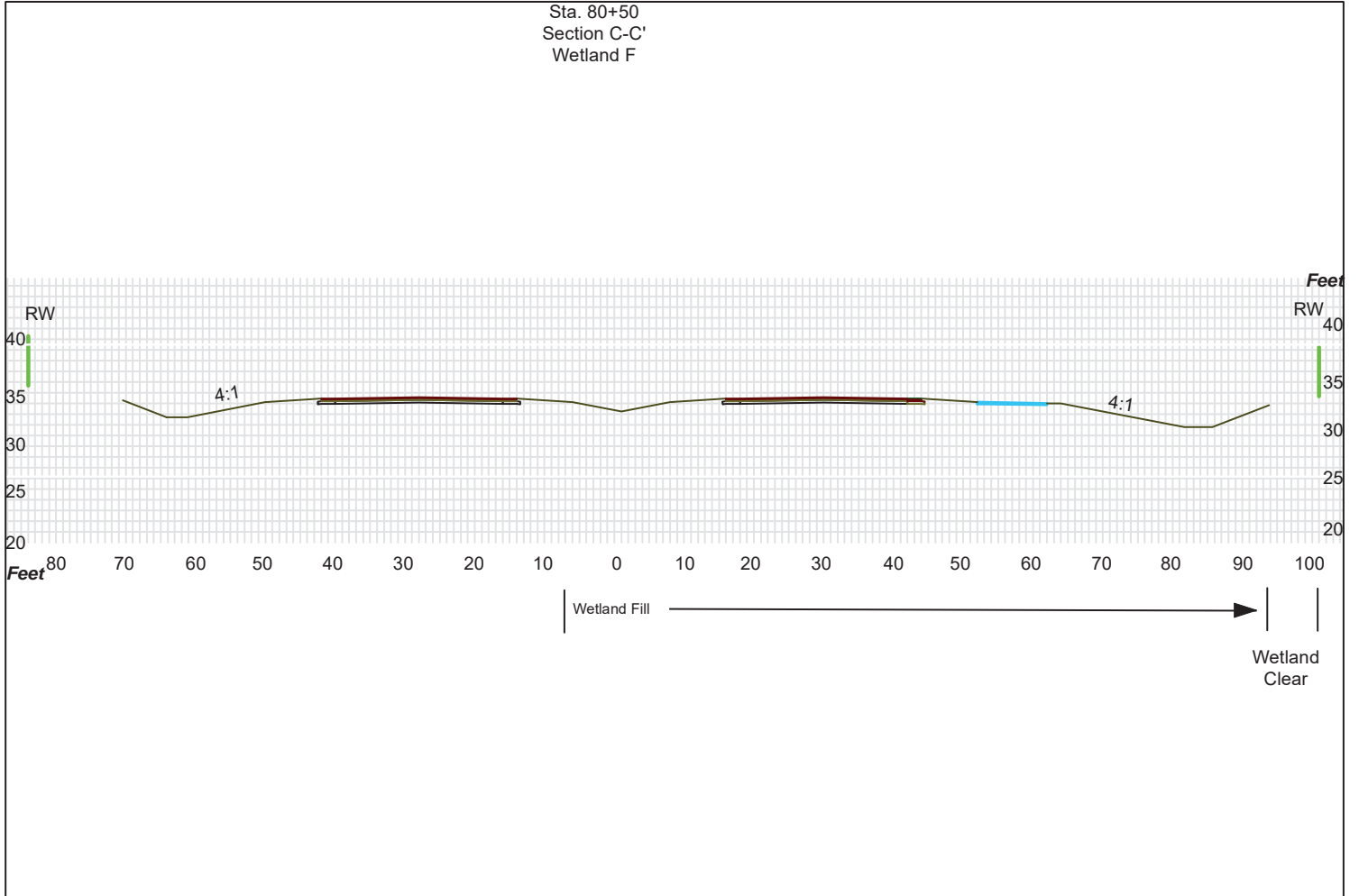






Legend	
	Wetland Clear
	Wetland Fill
	Sidewalk
	Edge of Pavement
	Slope Fill
	Jurisdictional Wetland
	Project Study Area (95.51 Acres)
	Pipe

Horry County Ride III
 Conway Perimeter Road Phase II
 August 2021
 SCDOT Project ID: P031826
SAC-2021-01461

HORRY COUNTY
Sheet 6 of 7
PERMIT PLAN DRAWING

Sta. 80+50
 Section C-C'
 Wetland F



	Legend  Sidewalk  Right of Way  Roadway	Horry County Ride III Conway Perimeter Road Phase II August 2021 SCDOT Project ID: P031826 SAC-2021-01461	Horry County
			Sheet 7 of 7
			PERMIT DRAWING CROSS SECTION