

JOINT
PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 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 2009-1056-1IW

28 SEPTEMBER 2009

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

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
c/o OLSEN ASSOCIATES, INC.
ATTN.: CHRISTOPHER G. CREED, P.E.
4438 HERSCHEL STREET
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32210

for a permit to perform beach nourishment and to construct a groin in Waters of the U.S., the

ATLANTIC OCEAN

at a location along the beach at the northeastern end of Hilton Head Island at the intersection of the Atlantic Ocean and Port Royal Sound shorelines in Beaufort County, South Carolina (Latitude 32.21159°, -80.67394°). The borrow area is located on the eastern side of the Port Royal Sound ebb tidal shoal platform (Latitude 32.2348°, Latitude -80.6123°).

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 both of the above mentioned offices until

12 O'CLOCK NOON, WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2009

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed work consists of: (1) the placement of 0.8 to 1.0 million cubic yards of beach compatible sand along approximately 5,400 feet of Atlantic Ocean shoreline between Barnacle Road (just north of The Westin Resort) and the southern area of the "sand spit" at the northeast tip of the island and (2) the construction of a low-crested, "leaky" groin at the northern terminus of the island's Atlantic Ocean shorefront and within the limits of the beach fill. This project area occurs between locations on the Atlantic Ocean and Port Royal Sound shorelines

that have been nourished in the past, however, the area for this project has not been previously nourished. Due to the erosion rate at this location, the project design and configuration will be reevaluated immediately prior to construction considering site conditions at that time. The range of required sand volume is intended to accommodate the replacement of additional sand that will in all likelihood be eroded from the project shoreline between the time of this application and the time of construction.

The Applicant has provided the following information:

The purpose of the project is to restore an area of highly erosional beach with sand fill from an offshore borrow site and to stabilize the area with a low-crested, "leaky" groin by reducing future sand loss rates. The project will include sufficient sand volume to minimize potential downdrift effects of the proposed permeable groin and meet typical annual sand transport volume demands expected for the period between project completion and the next planned comprehensive beach renourishment project on the island. The expected date for the next major renourishment on Hilton Head Island will be around 2015 to 2017. The risk of potential adverse effects along the adjoining Port Royal Sound shoreline will be further minimized and managed through the continued implementation of the Town of Hilton Head Island's Beach Management Program. The program includes monitoring, maintenance, management, and enhancement of the island's shorelines through periodic beach fill placement and the strategic use and maintenance of shore stabilizing structures, as needed. The shore stabilizing benefits of some of the seventeen existing groins along the 9,000 feet of Port Royal Sound shoreline located immediately north of the proposed "leaky" groin will further serve to stabilize the shoreline downdrift of the proposed project.

The proposed project is required due to a recent onset of persistent chronic shoreline retreat along the noted shoreline. Since about 1999, portions of the proposed project shoreline have experienced consistent recession rates varying from 60 to 130 feet per year. Prior to that date, the shoreline was highly accretional. The low-crested, "leaky" groin is intended to reduce the shoreline retreat rate following fill placement, maintain a more consistent shoreline positions along the Atlantic Ocean and Port Royal Sound shorelines, and allow for continued alongshore sand transport from the Atlantic Ocean shoreline to the Port Royal Sound shoreline.

The hydraulically placed sand will be shaped into the typical construction berm configuration used on Hilton Head Island in the past with a crest elevation of +8 ft NGVD and a seaward slope of 1:20 (i.e., 1 vertical unit to 20 horizontal units). Fill berm widths are expected to vary from 250 to 500 feet. The variation is due to the irregular configuration of the existing, eroded shoreline. The fill will taper to the existing shoreline at both the north and south ends. At the southern end of the project, the fill will taper about 500 feet to the existing shoreline. At the northern end of the project, just north of the structure, the fill will taper from the low-crested groin to the southern area of the "sand spit" as the spit is configured at the time of construction.

Beach quality sand fill for this project will be dredged from a portion of a large linear ebb tidal shoal feature located on the eastern side of the Port Royal Sound ebb tidal shoal platform. Sediment conditions at this location have been investigated through seismic sub-bottom survey techniques, Vibracore collection, and laboratory analyses. The proposed sand source is suitable for use as beach fill material on the north end of Hilton Head Island. Dredging will be performed by a hydraulic cutter-suction dredge. The sand will be pumped from the borrow area to the fill site through a submerged pipeline. Operational conditions will be placed upon the use

REGULATORY DIVISION

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28 SEPTEMBER 2009

of the proposed borrow area to avoid creation of isolated deep holes that may adversely affect the recovery of benthic invertebrate communities following dredging. To evaluate project performance and potential effects to adjacent shorelines, the Town of Hilton Head Island's annual beach monitoring program will be expanded. This will include the establishment of additional beach profile monitoring stations, more frequent surveys of the project area in the two years following project completion, and specific annual summary reports related to the project. The physical monitoring will also include periodic surveys of the proposed borrow area.

The project fill site is located along a section of shoreline that is designated as Critical Habitat (USFWS SC Unit-15) for wintering piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*). The project is intended to stabilize and maintain the critical habitat area through continued beach fill placement at a nourishment interval of approximately eight to ten years. The applicant states that current erosional conditions significantly threaten the habitat area and, if unaddressed, it is possible that most of the remaining shorefront which is designated as critical habitat within Unit 15 will be lost. Stabilization, maintenance, and protection of the remaining shorefront habitat are principal goals and beneficial effects of this project. Minimization of potential adverse effects to the spit and foraging habitat north of the beach fill area within Unit 15 is considered in the proposed project design and is also a primary objective of the project.

It is understood that a Section 7 consultation with the USFWS will be required as part of the permitting for this project to address nesting sea turtle, piping plover, and piping plover critical habitat issues. In support of this consultation and in consultation with other resource agencies, the Applicant has initiated the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Biological Assessment (BA) for the proposed activities. A monitoring and management plan for piping plovers is also under development by the Town for the protection and management of wintering piping plovers during and following project construction and evaluation of potential impacts and recovery of foraging habitat within Critical Habitat Unit 15 following project construction.

The Town of Hilton Head intends to minimize potential project-related effects to nesting sea turtles and wintering piping plovers. It is noted, however, that due to the expected time required to construct all project elements (beach fill and groin structure), construction related activities will overlap into both of these seasons. Prior to submittal of a Department of the Army permit application, the Applicant initiated communication with various resource agencies to determine the time of year during which construction related activities will least affect listed species and resources of concern. In this regard, initial communications with the agencies have contributed to the current project design. Specifically, the Town of Hilton Head has agreed to resource agency recommendations for minimizing direct fill placement north of the "sand spit," an area identified as high quality foraging habitat.

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 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 the Coastal Zone Management Program (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.

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 240 acres 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 is likely to adversely affect the loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta carretta*) and the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) is likely to adversely affect designated critical habitat (USFWS SC Unit-15) for wintering piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*). This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service to initiate formal consultation on these species and/or critical habitat that may be present in the area which would be affected, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended). A biological assessment (or other similar document) detailing our analysis of the effects of the action will be provided.

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.

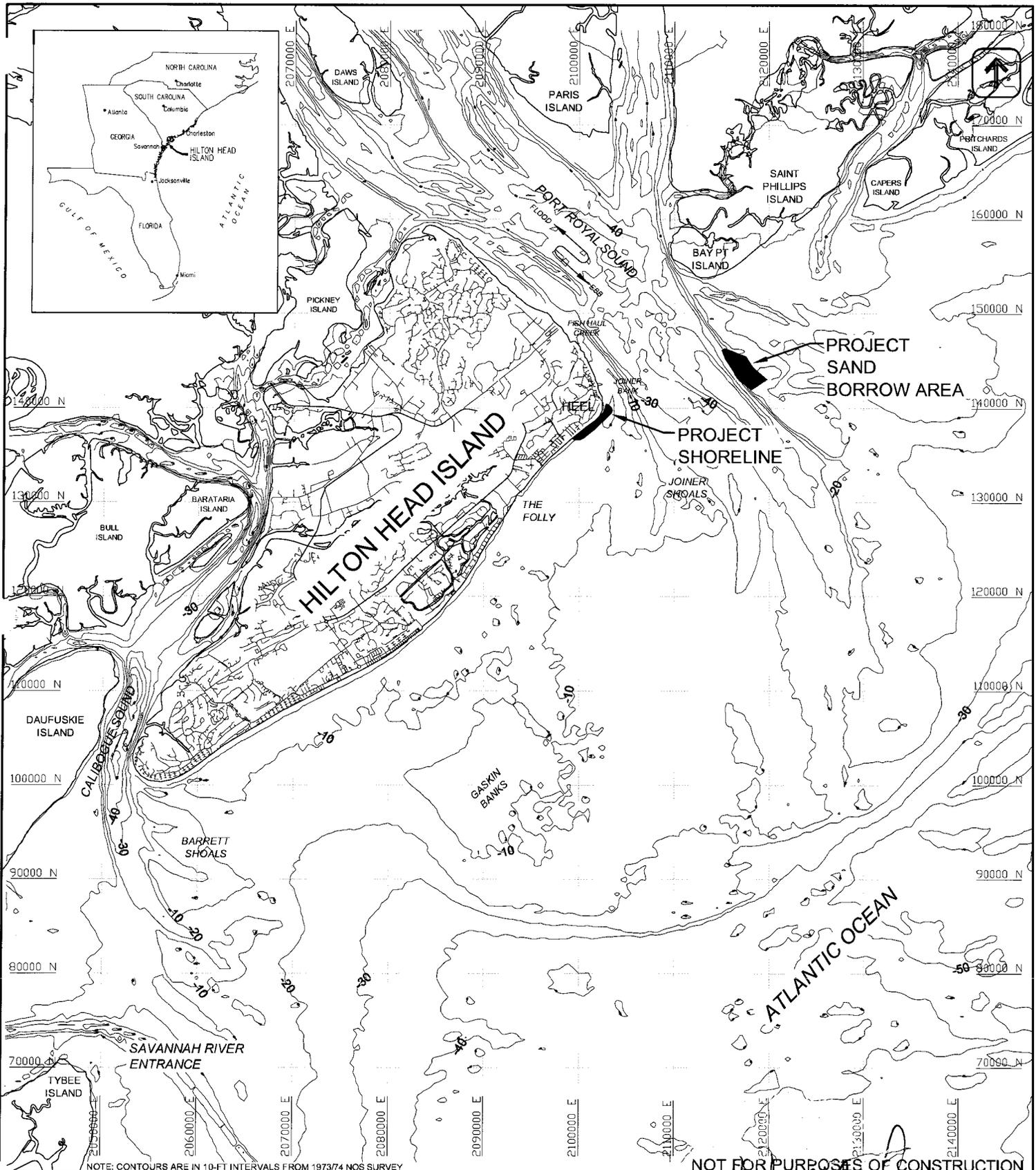
In accordance with the NHPA, the District Engineer has also consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered 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, 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 Debbie King at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.



NOTE: CONTOURS ARE IN 10-FT INTERVALS FROM 1973/74 NOS SURVEY

NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

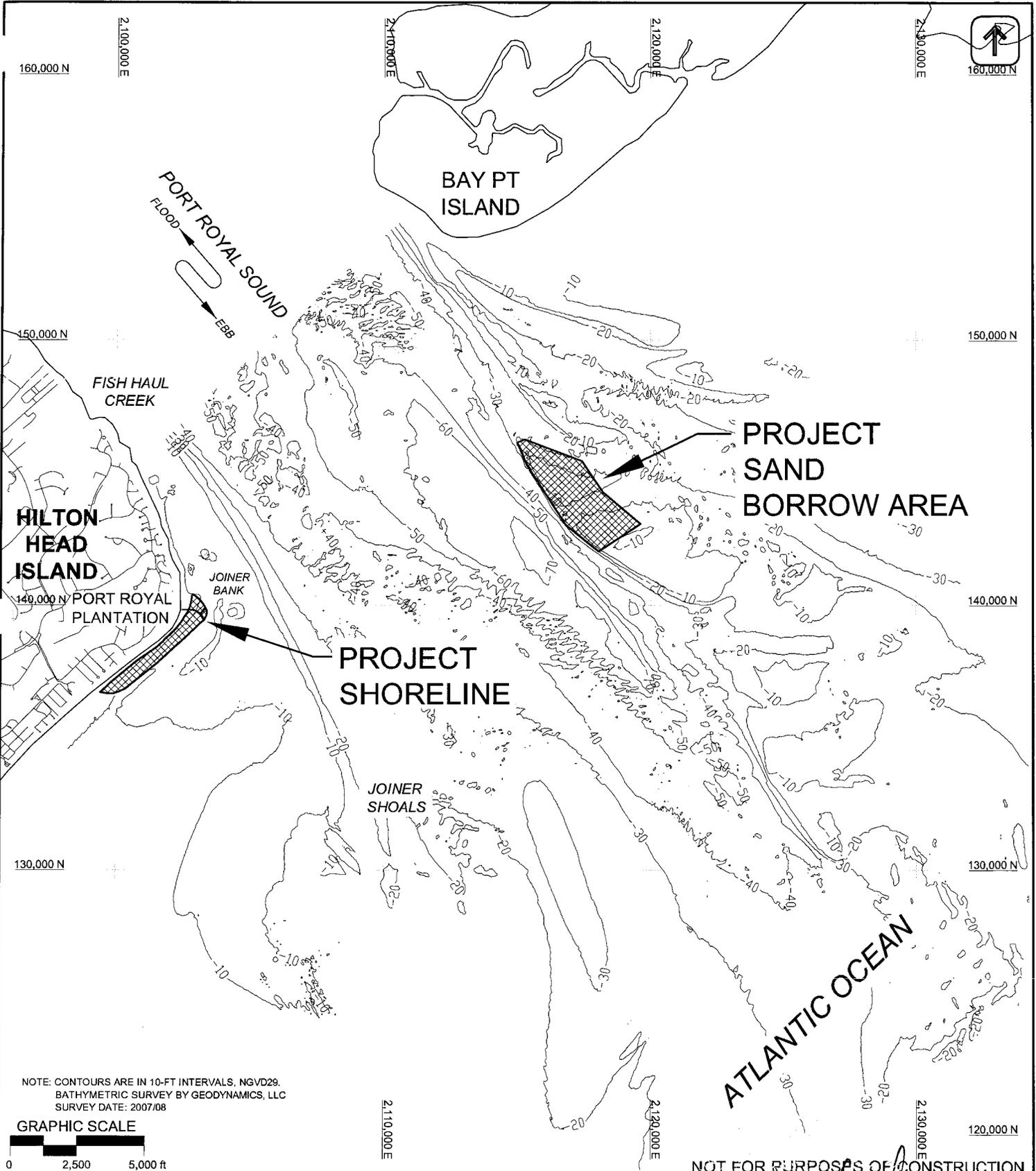
APPLICANT:
 TOWN OF
 HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
SAC 2009-1056-1IW

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
 PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE
 RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT

[Signature]
 9-15-09

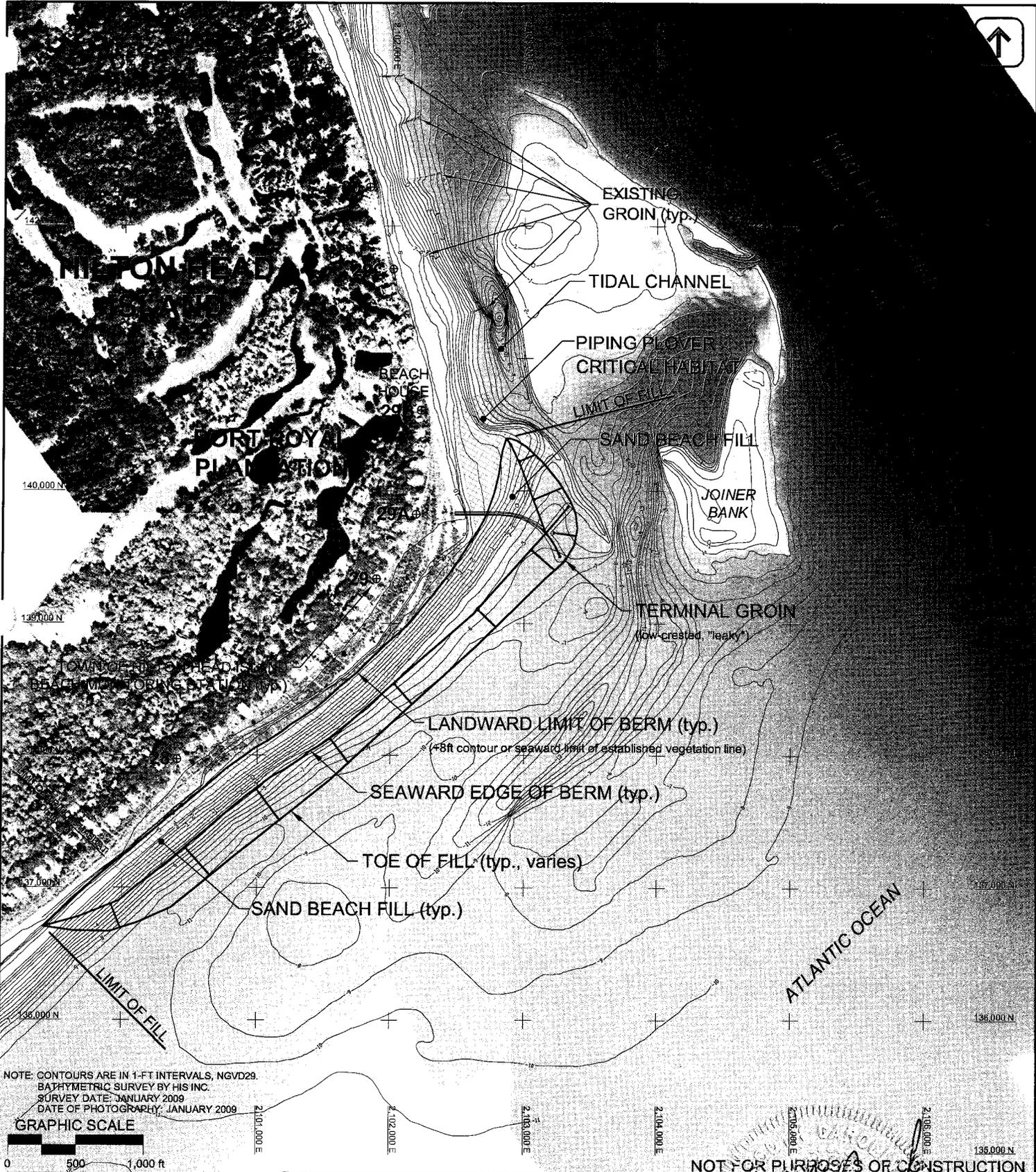
PROJECT LOCATION

DATE:	APPROVED:	REVISION:	DATE:
	<i>[Signature]</i>		07/31/09
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WLR			
SHEET			
1 OF 11			

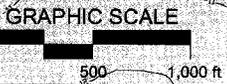


NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

APPLICANT: TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC SAC 2009-1056-1IW	TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT PROJECT LOCATION	DATE: _____ APPROVED: _____ REVISION: _____ <i>[Signature]</i> 7-15-09	DATE: 07/31/09
			DRAWN BY: WLR
			SHEET 2 OF 11



NOTE: CONTOURS ARE IN 1-FT INTERVALS, NGVD29.
 BATHYMETRIC SURVEY BY HIS INC.
 SURVEY DATE: JANUARY 2009
 DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY: JANUARY 2009



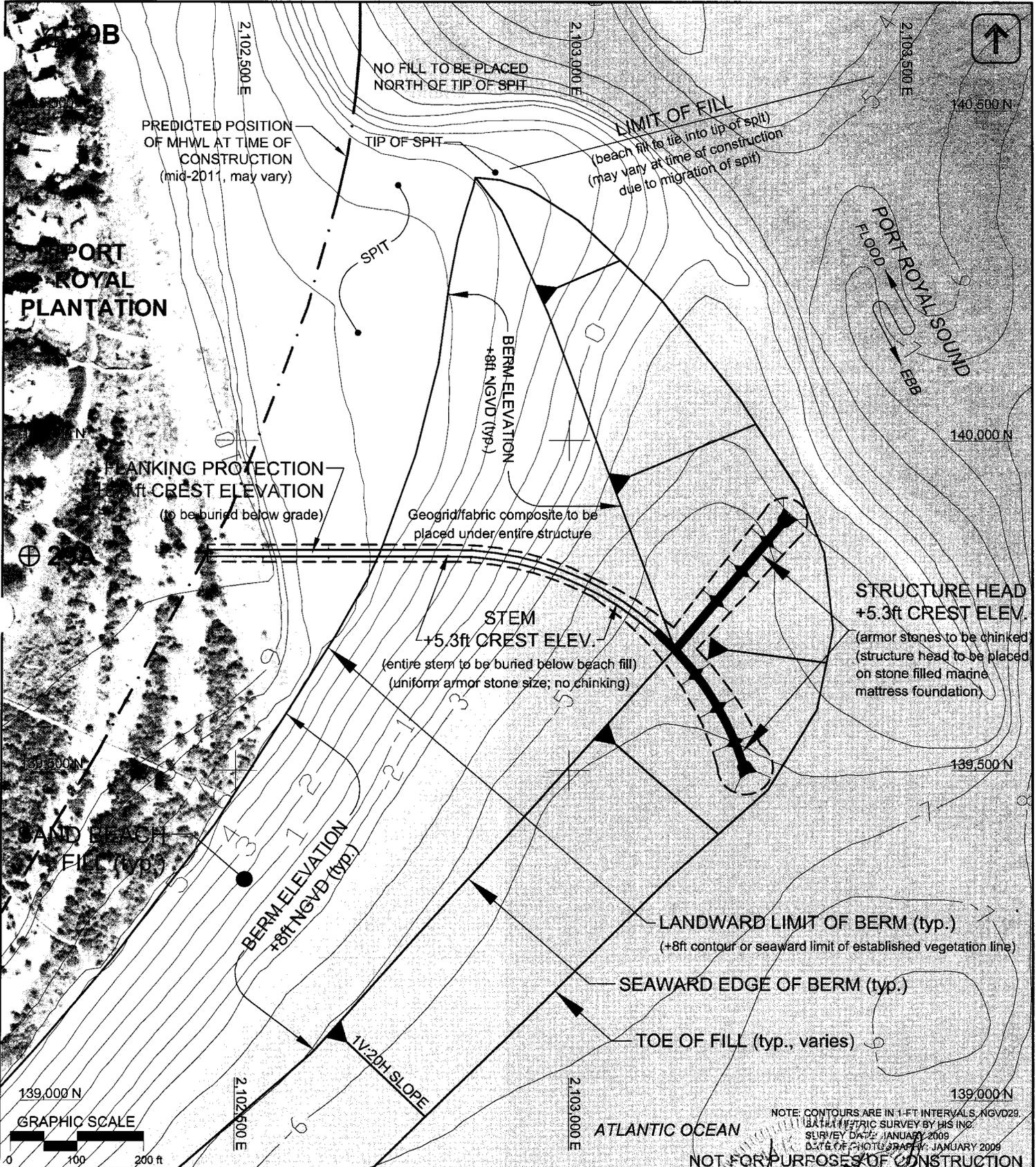
NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

APPLICANT:
 TOWN OF
 HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
 SAC 2009-1056-1IW

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
 PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE
 RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT
 BEACH FILL PLAN

DATE:	APPROVED:	REVISION:	DATE:
	<i>[Signature]</i>		07/31/09
		9-15-09	

07/31/09
 DRAWN BY:
 WLR
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 3 OF 11

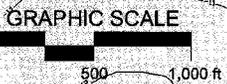
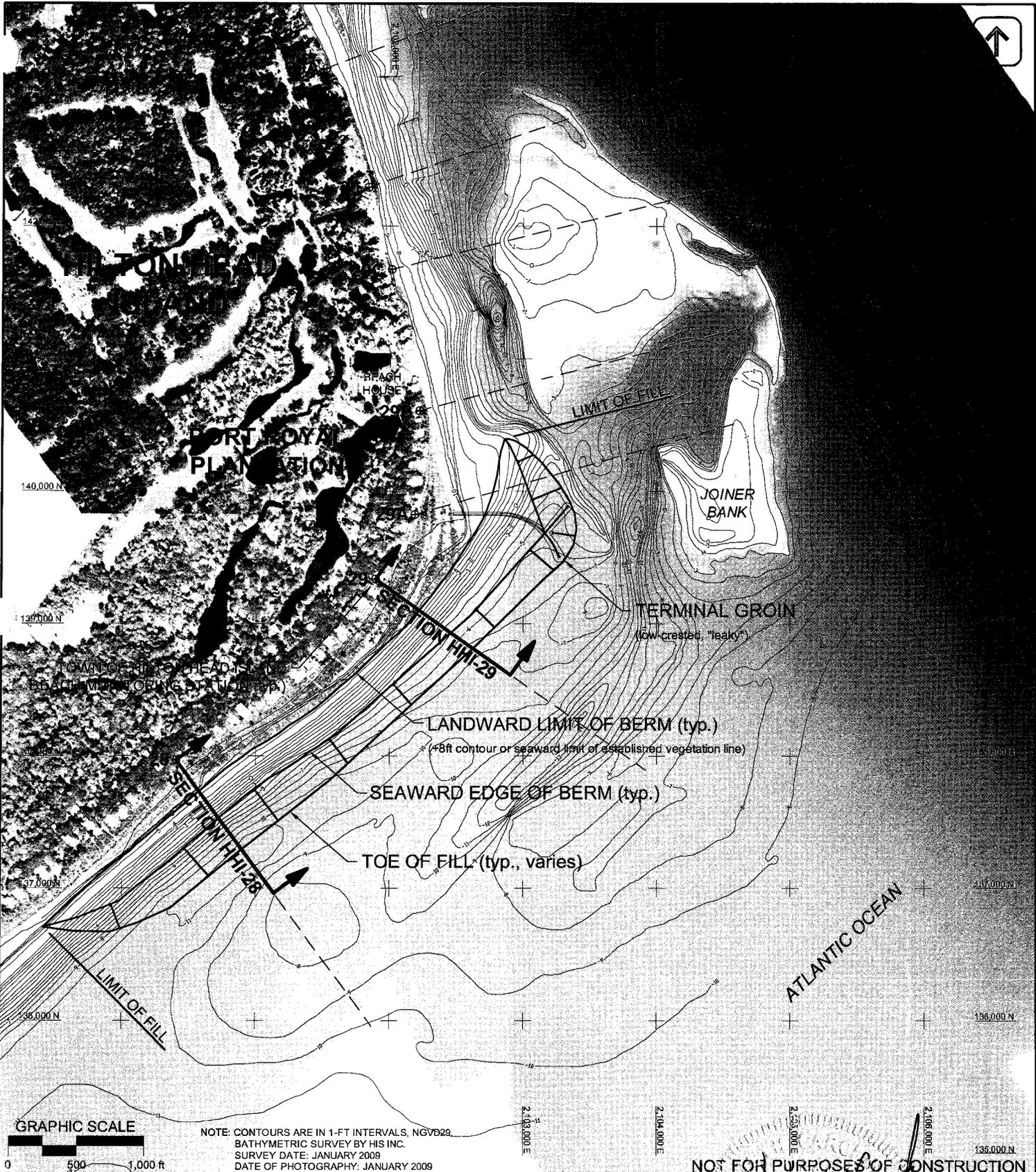


APPLICANT:
TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
SAC 2009-1056-1IW

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE
RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT

STRUCTURE PLAN

DATE:	APPROVED:	REVISED:	DATE:
	<i>C. [Signature]</i>		07/31/09
DRAWN BY:			WLR
SHEET			4 OF 11



NOTE: CONTOURS ARE IN 1-FT INTERVALS, NGVD29
 BATHYMETRIC SURVEY BY HIS INC.
 SURVEY DATE: JANUARY 2009
 DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY: JANUARY 2009

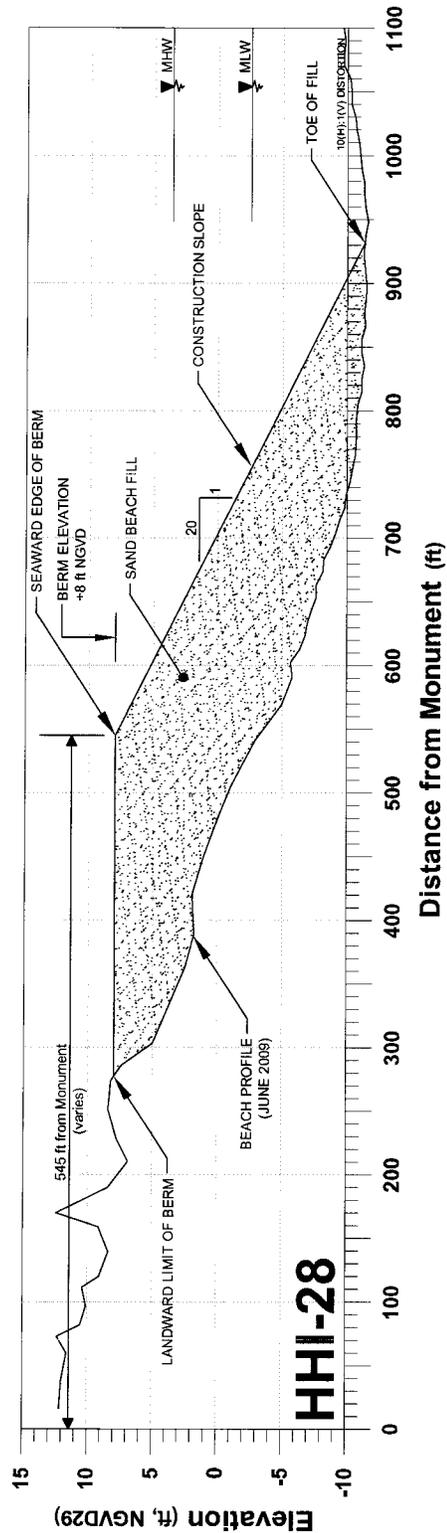
NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

APPLICANT:
 TOWN OF
 HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
 SAC 2009-1056-1IW

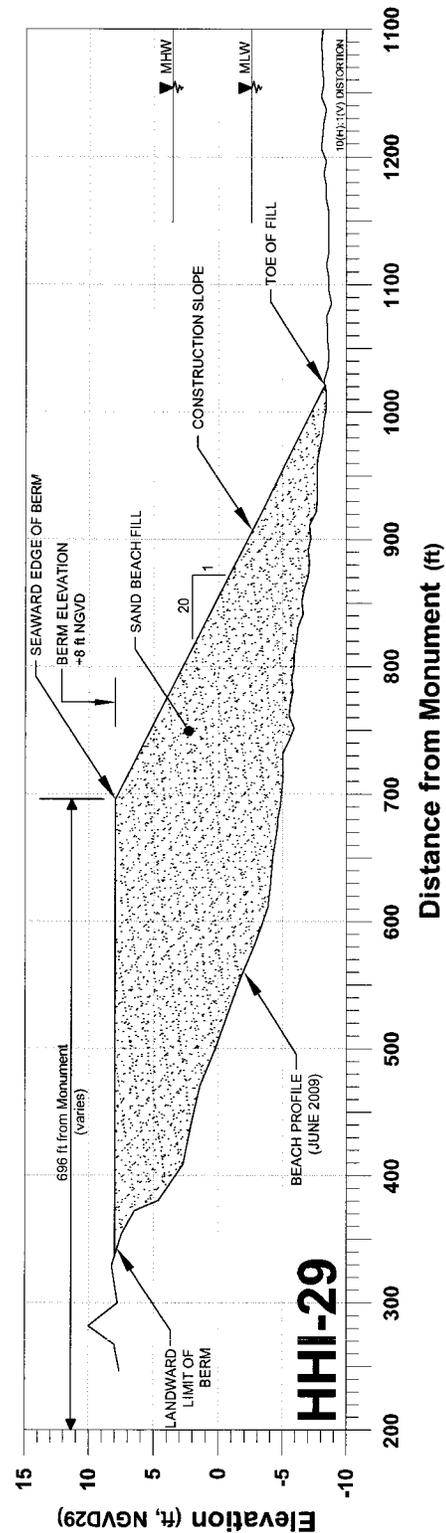
TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
 PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE
 RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT
 BEACH FLL PLAN
 DESIGN SECTION LOCATIONS

DATE:	APPROVED:	REVISION:	DATE:
	<i>[Signature]</i>		07/31/09
		9-15-09	

DRAWN BY:	WLR
SHEET	5 OF 11



HHI-28



HHI-29

NOTE: HORIZONTAL(H) TO VERTICAL(V)
 DISTORTION IS 10(H):1(V)
 BATHYMETRIC SURVEY BY HIS INC.
 SURVEY DATE: JUNE 2009

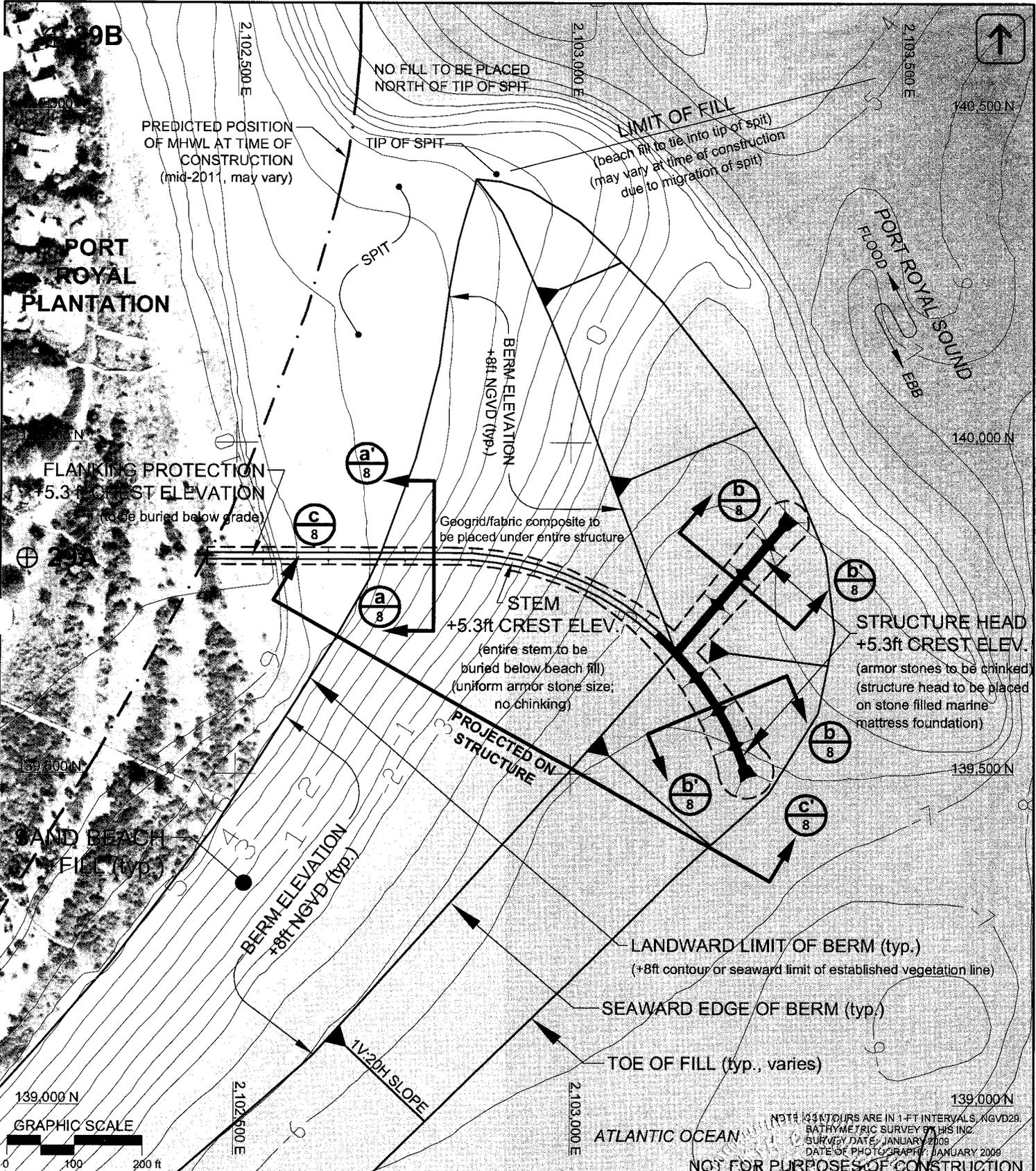
NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

APPLICANT:
 TOWN OF
 HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
SAC 2009-1056-1IW

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
 PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE
 RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT
**BEACH FILL
 DESIGN SECTIONS**

DATE:	APPROVED:	REVISION:	DATE:
	<i>[Signature]</i>		07/31/09
		9-15-09	

DRAWN BY:
WLR
 SHEET
 6 OF 11



APPLICANT:
 TOWN OF
 HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
 SAC 2009-1056-1IW

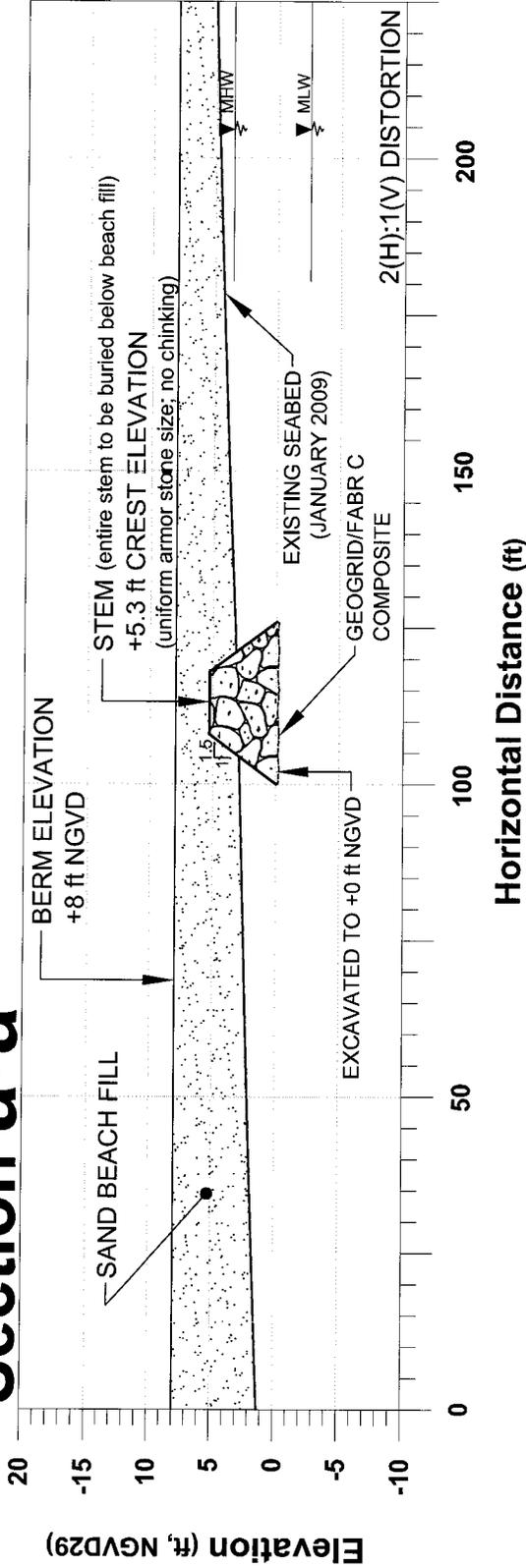
TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
 PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE
 RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT
**STRUCTURE PLAN
 DESIGN SECTIONS**

DATE	APPROVED	REVISION	DATE
	<i>[Signature]</i>		07/31/09

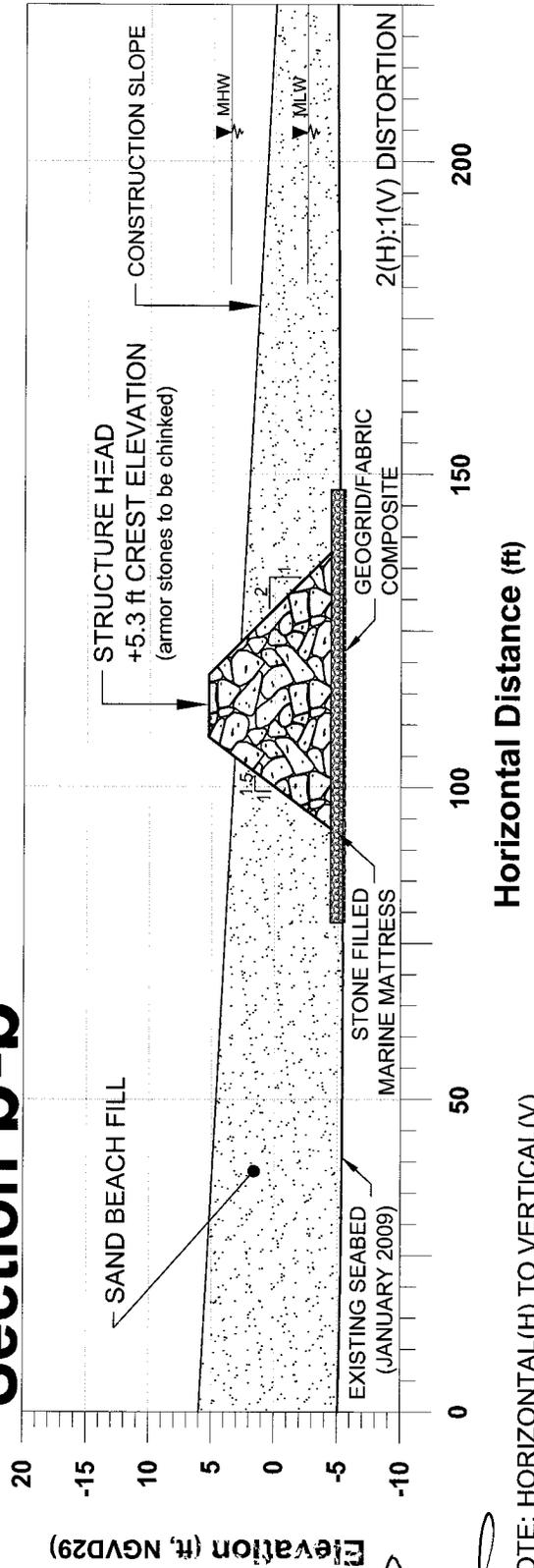
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 SHEET
 7 OF 11

Section a-a'



Section b-b'



NOTE: HORIZONTAL(H) TO VERTICAL(V)
DISTORTION IS 2(H):1(V)
BATHYMETRIC SURVEY BY HIS INC.
SURVEY DATE: JUNE 2009

APPLICANT:
TOWN OF
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
SAC 2009-1056-1IW

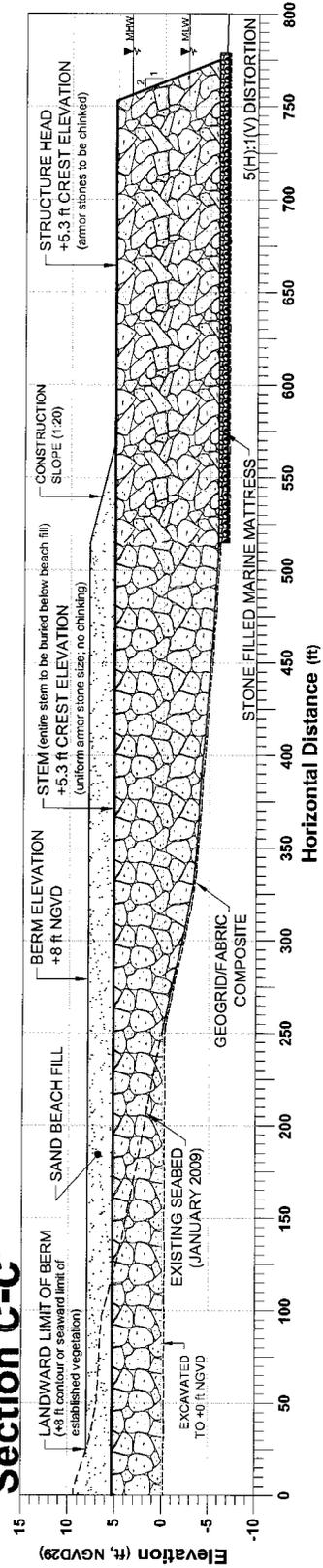
TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
PORT ROYAL SHORELINE RESTORATION
AND STABILIZATION PROJECT
STRUCTURE
DESIGN SECTIONS

DATE: 9-15-09
APPROVED: [Signature]
REVIS: [Signature]

DATE: 07/31/09
DRAWN BY: WLR
SHEET 8 OF 11

NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

Section C-C'



NOTE: HORIZONTAL(H) TO VERTICAL(V)
 DISTORTION IS 5(H):1(V)
 BATHYMETRIC SURVEY BY HIS INC.
 SURVEY DATE: JUNE 2009

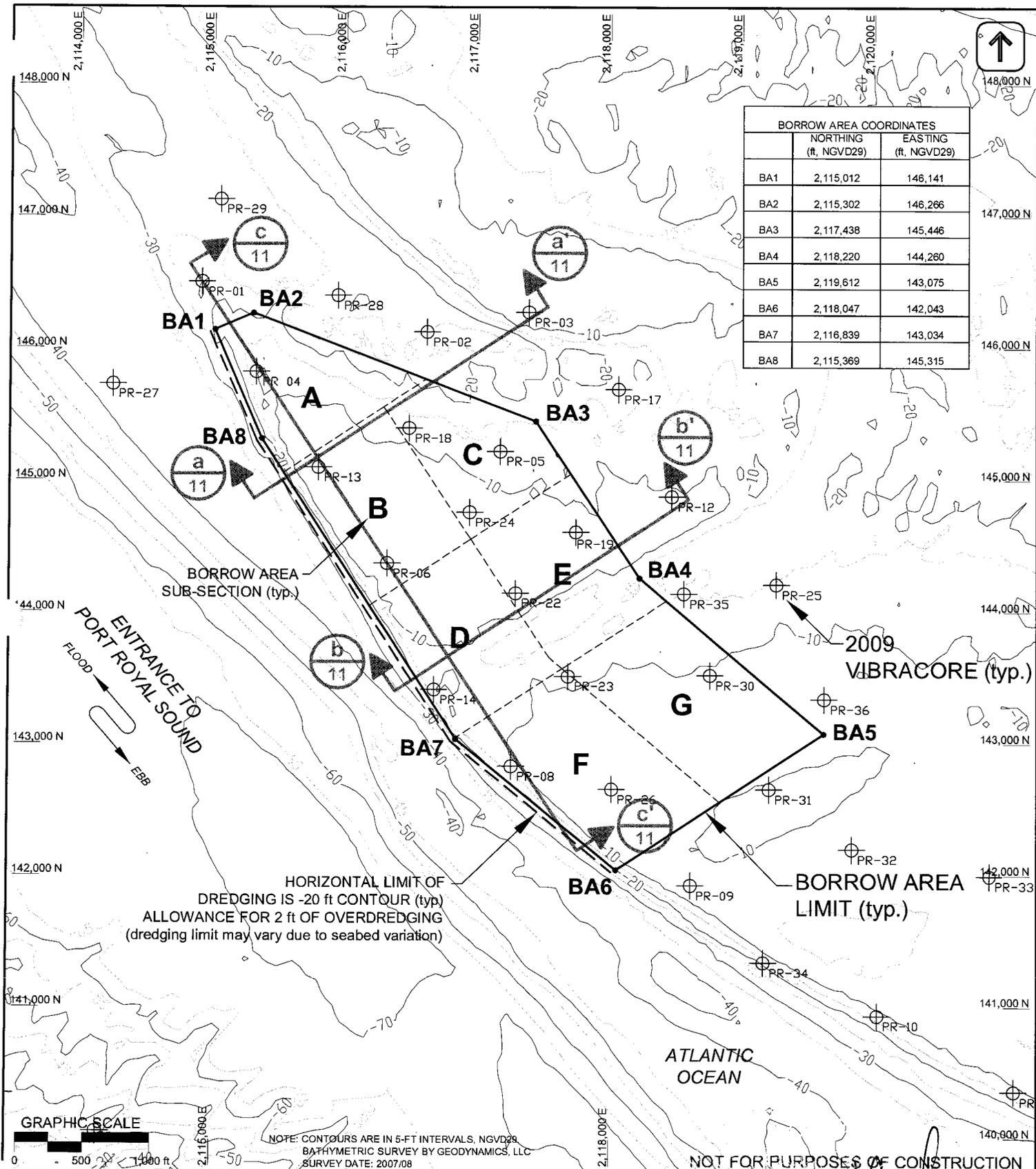
NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

APPLICANT:
 TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
 SAC 2009-1056-1IW

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
 PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE
 RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT
 STRUCTURE
 DESIGN SECTIONS

DATE: 07/31/09
 APPROVED: [Signature]
 REVISION: 9-15-09

DATE: 07/31/09
 DRAWN BY: WLR
 SHEET 9 OF 11



APPLICANT:
TOWN OF
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
SAC 2009-1056-1IW

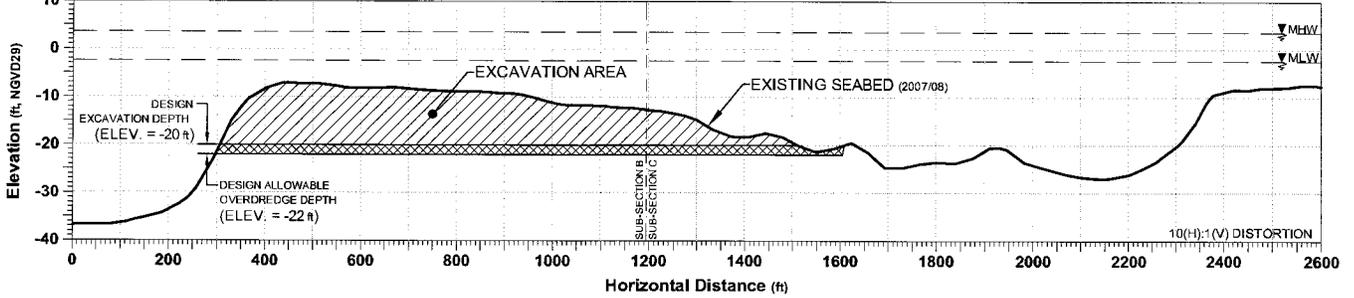
**TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE
RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT**

BORROW AREA PLAN

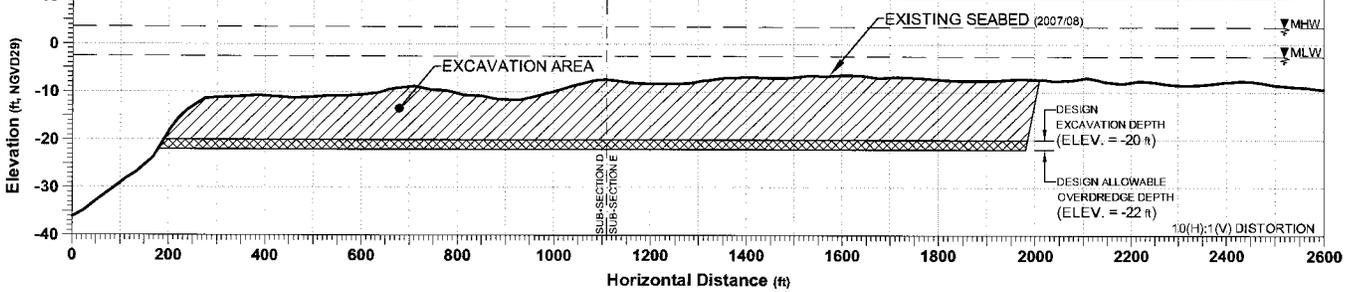
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9-15-09

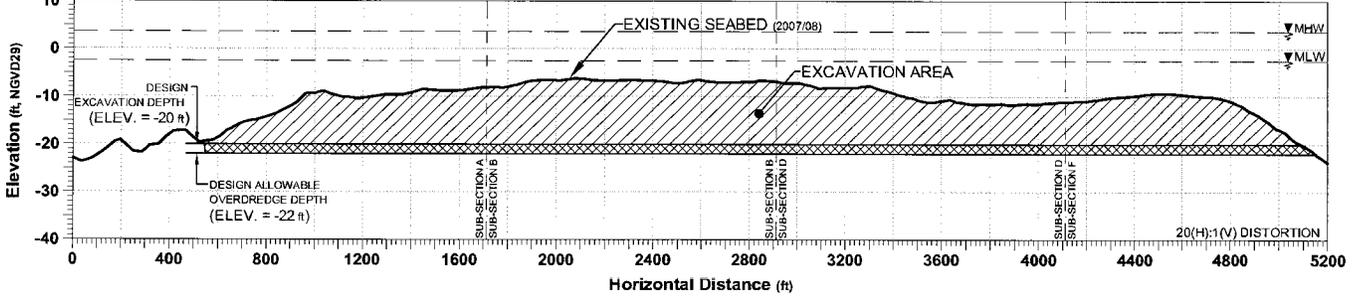
Section a-a'



Section b-b'



Section c-c'



SURVEY NOTES: BATHYMETRIC SURVEY BY GEODYNAMICS, LLC
SURVEY DATE: 2007/08

NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

APPLICANT:
TOWN OF
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC
SAC 2009-1056-1IW

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND
PORT ROYAL SOUND SHORELINE
RESTORATION AND STABILIZATION PROJECT
**BORROW AREA
DESIGN SECTIONS**

DATE	APPROVED	REVISION	DATE
	<i>[Signature]</i>		07/31/09
			DRAWN BY: WLR
			SHEET 11 OF 11