



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: August 26, 2014
Comment Period Ends: September 25, 2014
File Number: NAE-2014-01595
In Reply Refer To: Dan Vasconcelos
Phone: (978) 318-8653
E-mail: daniel.b.vasconcelos@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division (MassDOT), 10 Park Plaza, Boston, Massachusetts 02116. This work is proposed in the Great Ditch and unnamed wetlands at Needham Street, Dedham, Massachusetts. The site coordinates are: Latitude 42.271013° Longitude -71.190887°.

Although this project may have only minimal impacts and may be eligible for authorization under the current Massachusetts General Permit, the work is not expected to begin until after the General Permit expires on January 20, 2015. The applicant is seeking an individual permit to allow for a full five years in which to complete the work.

The work involves the discharge of 969 square feet of fill material into the Great Ditch and an unnamed wetland associated with the replacement of the bridge (No. D-05-003) conveying Needham Street over the Great Ditch in Dedham, Massachusetts. The purpose of the work is to replace the existing, functionally obsolete bridge with a new bridge. The proposed work would replace the existing two-span structure with a single span structure oriented slightly to the north of the existing bridge. The new abutments would be constructed behind the existing abutments and the old abutments cut down to match the elevation of rip-rap to be placed in front of the new abutments for slope protection. The existing center pier would be cut down two feet below the mudline. The proposed low chord of the new bridge will be slightly higher than the existing bridge. Of the total impacts, 140 square feet would be permanent impacts below the Ordinary High Water (OHW) line of the Great Ditch, 470 square feet would be temporary impacts below OHW, and 359 square feet will be permanent impacts to unnamed vegetated wetlands. Permanent Section 404 impacts below OHW would result from the placement of rip-rap for slope and scour protection, while temporary impacts below OHW are limited to the installation of steel sheeting, and associated dewatering, to allow demolition of the existing center pier and construction of the rip-rap slopes to occur under dry conditions. Permanent Section 404 impacts to vegetated wetlands would result from slope grading to accommodate the new road alignment.

The work is shown on the attached plans entitled “404 INDIVIDUAL PERMIT PLANS, DEDHAM, NEEDHAM STREET OVER GREAT DITCH”, on 5 sheets, and dated “August 12, 2014”.

In developing plans for replacing the Needham Street Bridge, MassDOT considered ways to avoid and minimize impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands. Steps to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands and waterways include installing sedimentation and erosion controls, conducting in-water work behind steel sheet cofferdams to reduce turbidity, installation of shielding to prevent debris from entering the river, and grading to a 2:1 slope adjacent to wetland areas. No compensatory mitigation is proposed because the impacts are minimal.

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

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 proposed 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 proposal. 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 proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that little likelihood exists for the proposed work to impinge upon properties with cultural or Native American significance, or listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no further consideration of the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is necessary. This determination is based upon one or more of the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work.
- b. The permit area has been recently created.
- c. The proposed activity is of limited nature and scope.
- d. Review of the latest published version of the National Register shows that no presence of registered properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are in the permit area or general vicinity.
- e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s)

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

The New England District, Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed the list of species protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, which might occur at the project site. It is our preliminary determination that the proposed activity for which authorization is being sought is designed, situated or will be operated/used in such a manner that it is not likely to adversely affect any Federally listed endangered or threatened species or their designated critical habitat. By this Public Notice, we are requesting that the appropriate Federal Agency concur with our determination.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- Permit, License or Assent from State.
- Permit from Local Wetland Agency or Conservation Commission.
- Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Vasconcelos at (978) 318-8653, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.



Karen K. Adams
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices by email, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

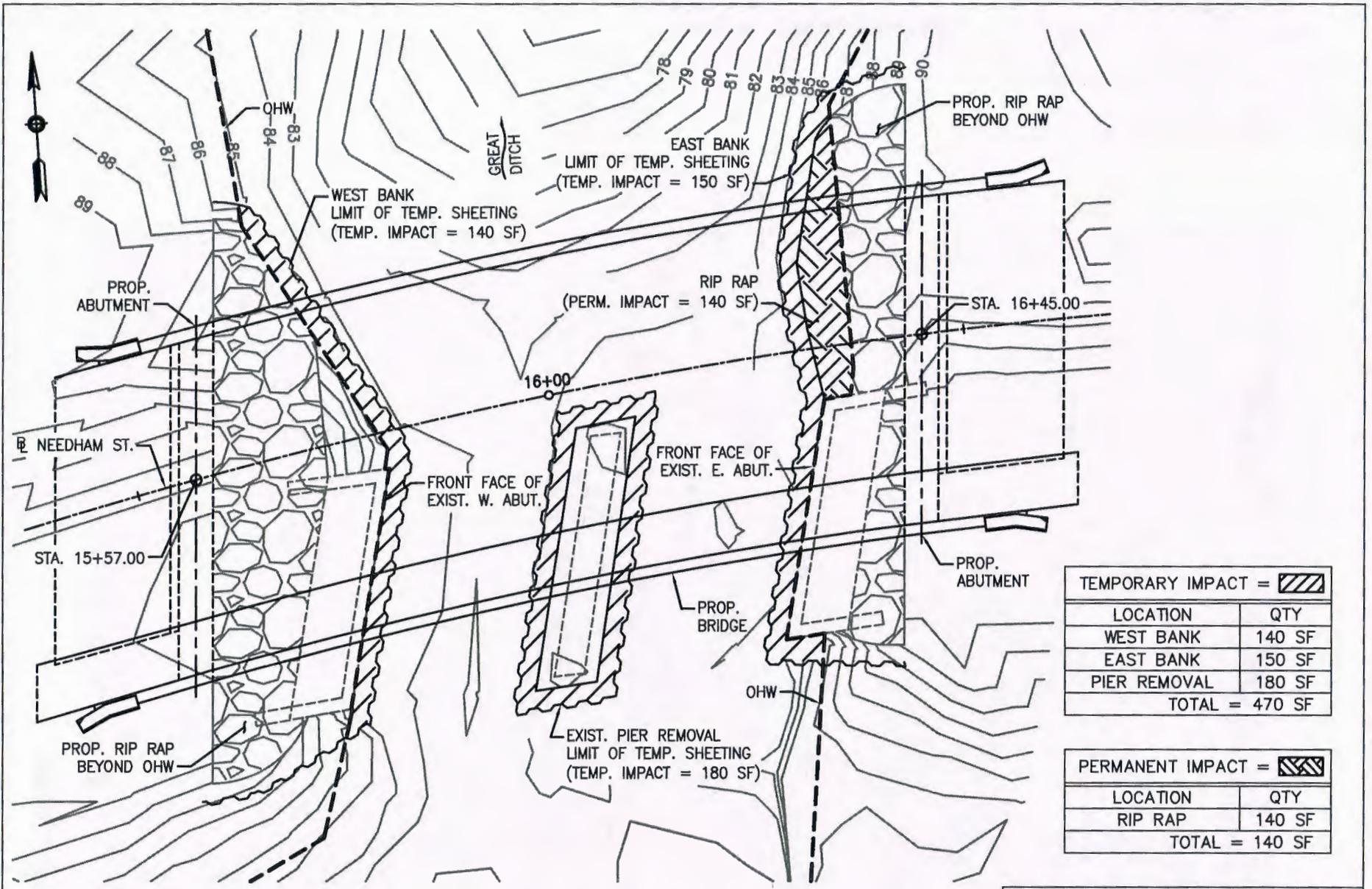
NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____



LOCUS PLAN



404 INDIVIDUAL PERMIT		
DEDHAM		
NEEDHAM STREET OVER GREAT DITCH		
LOCUS PLAN		
BRIDGE NO. D-05-003 (BKG)		
 Dewberry		
DATE: 08/12/14	SCALE: 1"=1000'	EXHIBIT NO. 1



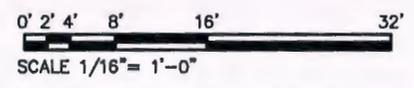
TEMPORARY IMPACT =

LOCATION	QTY
WEST BANK	140 SF
EAST BANK	150 SF
PIER REMOVAL	180 SF
TOTAL = 470 SF	

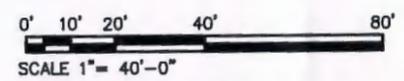
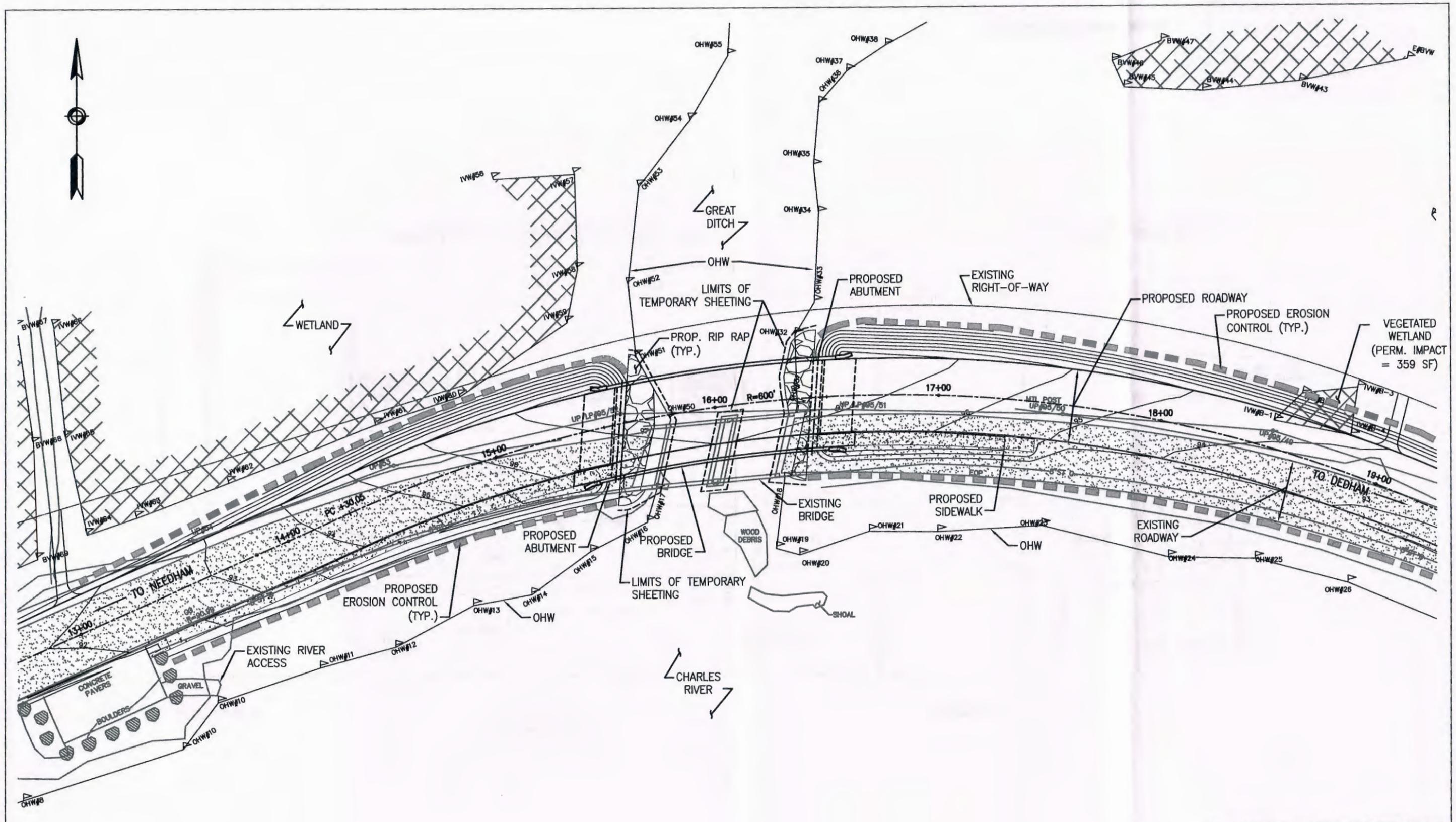
PERMANENT IMPACT =

LOCATION	QTY
RIP RAP	140 SF
TOTAL = 140 SF	

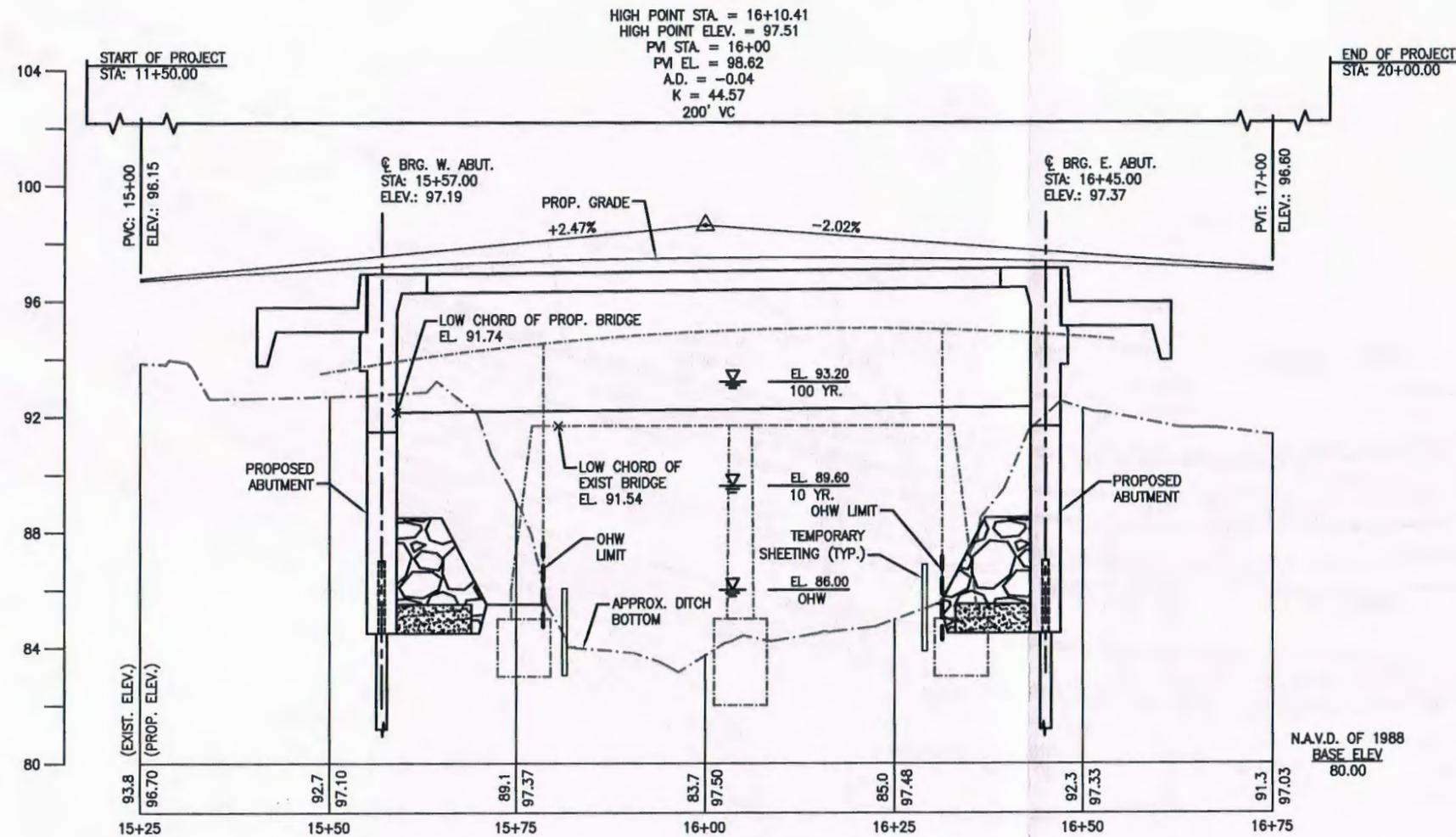
IMPACTS TO LAND UNDER WATERS OF THE U.S.



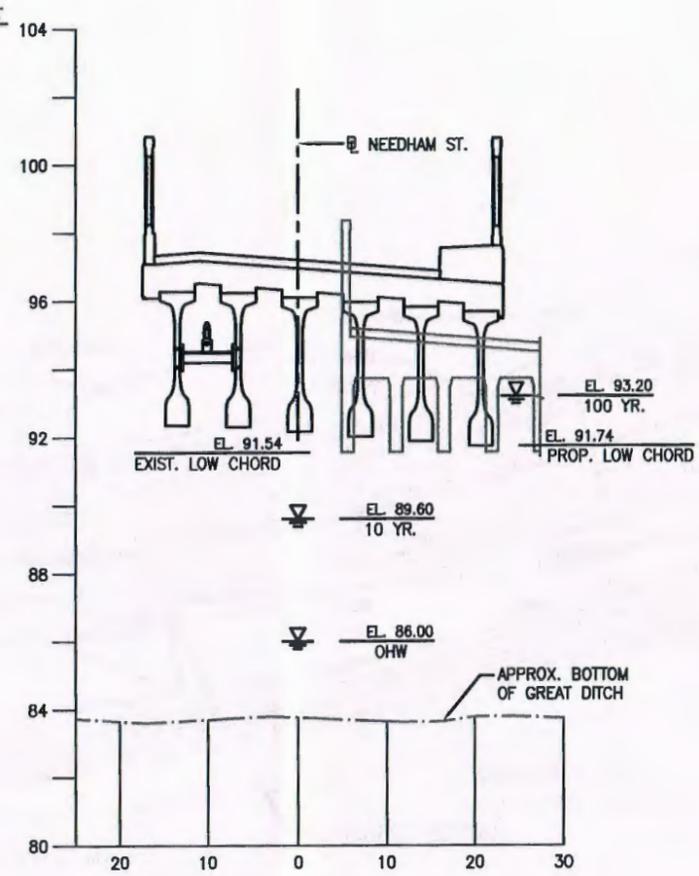
404 INDIVIDUAL PERMIT		
DEDHAM NEEDHAM STREET OVER GREAT DITCH		
LUW IMPACT AREAS BRIDGE NO. D-05-003 (BKG)		
Dewberry		
DATE: 08/12/14	SCALE: 1/16"=1'-0"	EXHIBIT NO. 2



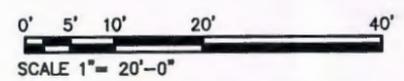
404 INDIVIDUAL PERMIT		
DEDHAM		
NEEDHAM STREET OVER GREAT DITCH		
GENERAL PLAN		
BRIDGE NO. D-05-003 (BKG)		
Dewberry		
DATE: 08/12/14	SCALE: 1"=40'-0"	EXHIBIT NO. 3



ROADWAY PROFILE - NEEDHAM ST. OVER GREAT DITCH
 HORIZ. SCALE: 1" = 20'-0" / VERT. SCALE = 1/8" = 1'-0"

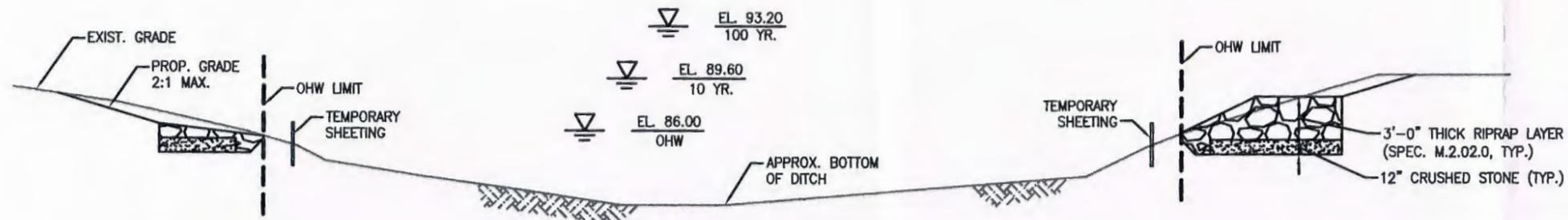
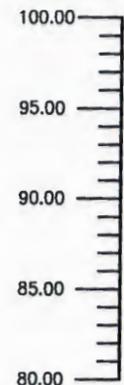


PROFILE - GREAT DITCH
 HORIZ. SCALE: 1" = 20'-0" / VERT. SCALE = 1/8" = 1'-0"



404 INDIVIDUAL PERMIT		
DEDHAM		
NEEDHAM STREET OVER GREAT DITCH		
ROADWAY & DITCH PROFILE		
BRIDGE NO. D-05-003 (BKG)		
Dewberry		
DATE: 08/12/14	SCALE: AS NOTED	EXHIBIT NO. 4

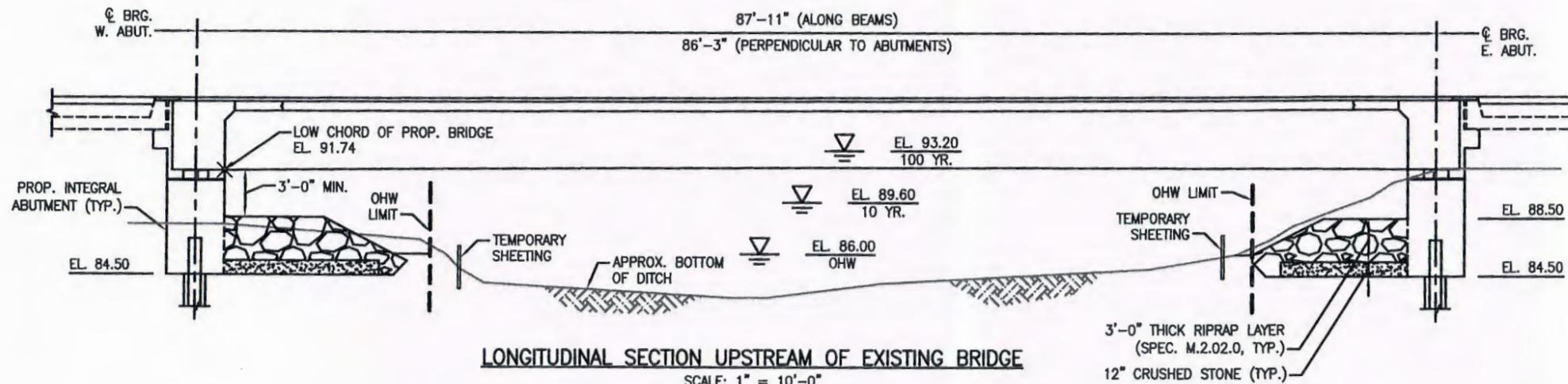
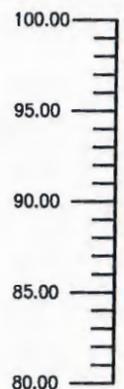
NAVD OF 1988



DITCH APPROACH SECTION

SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

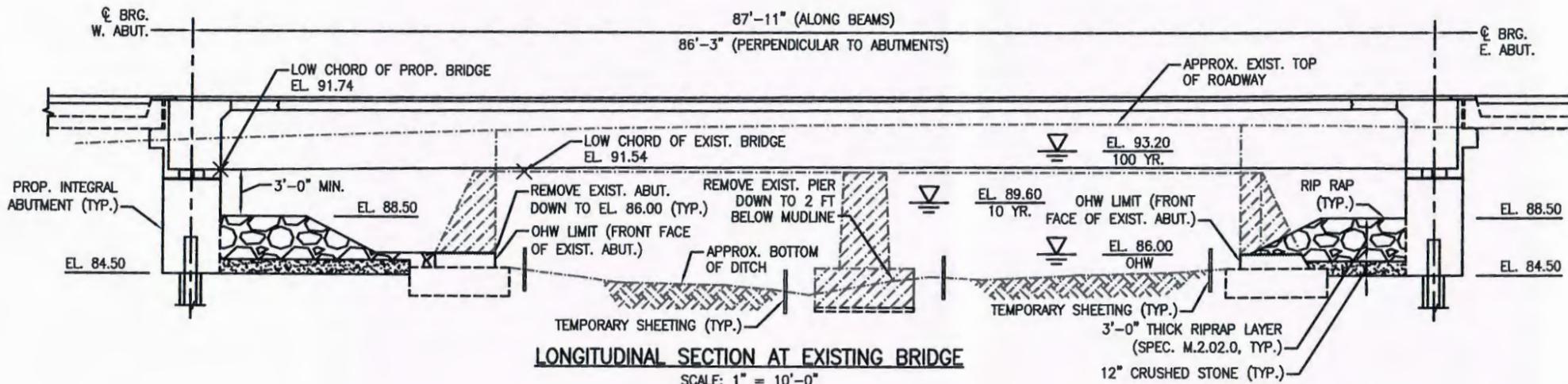
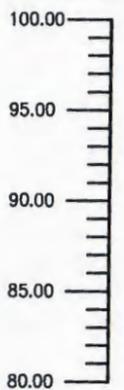
NAVD OF 1988



LONGITUDINAL SECTION UPSTREAM OF EXISTING BRIDGE

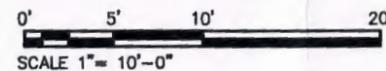
SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

NAVD OF 1988



LONGITUDINAL SECTION AT EXISTING BRIDGE

SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"



404 INDIVIDUAL PERMIT
DEDHAM
NEEDHAM STREET OVER GREAT DITCH
LONGITUDINAL SECTIONS
BRIDGE NO. D-05-003 (BKG)
Dewberry
DATE: 08/12/14 SCALE: 1"=10'-0" EXHIBIT NO. 5