



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
New England District
11 Lincoln Street, Room 210
Essex Junction, VT 05452

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: January 28, 2014
Comment Period Ends: February 28, 2014
File Number: NAE-2012-1569
In Reply Refer To: Marty Abair
Phone: (802) 872-2893
E-mail: Martha.a.abair@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application from the applicant below to **conduct work in waters of the United States** as described below.

APPLICANT: Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, Mr. Patrick Berry, Commissioner, 1 National Life Drive, Montpelier, Vermont 05602

ACTIVITY: Place fill and perform dredging in Lake Champlain and place fill in adjacent wetlands in conjunction with the construction of improvements at the existing John Guilmette State Fishing Access off US Route 2 and Featherbed Lane in South Hero, Vermont. A detailed description and plans of the activity are attached.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK

This work is proposed on Lake Champlain US Route 2 and Featherbed Lane in South Hero, Vermont. The project is on the USGS South Hero, VT 7.5' quadrangle sheet at UTM coordinates 4943798.0 N and 637447.0 E.

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.

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).

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 Marty Abair at our Vermont Project Office at 802 872-2893.

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.

In accordance with 33 CFR 325.2(a)(8), we publish monthly a list of permits issued or denied during the previous month at www.nae.usace.army.mil/reg, under the heading "Monthly General and Individual Permit Authorizations." Relevant environmental documents and the SOFs or RODs are available upon written request and, where applicable, upon the payment of administrative fees. Also visit www.nae.usace.army.mil for more information on the New England District Corps of Engineers programs.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.



**Frank J. DelGiudice
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division**

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, 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: _____

PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE

The existing access consists of a 23' wide, 57' long concrete ramp with an adjacent 5' wide, 50' long floating dock. The proposed work will involve:

- a. Removal of the existing concrete ramp and floating dock.
- b. Construction of a new 38' wide, 70' long reinforced concrete ramp with a 5' wide stone apron along the north, south and east sides. The ramp will extend a maximum of 68' beyond Ordinary High Water (OHW). The northwest corner of the ramp will encroach into an emergent wetland. This portion of the work will involve the placement of about 192 cy of stone fill and precast concrete below OHW and will impact about 60 sq. ft. (0.001 acre) of wetland and 2709 sq. ft. (0.06 acre) of lake bottom.
- c. Excavation of about 1850 cy of silt and gravel to a depth of -5' OLW from an irregularly-shaped 19,000 sq. ft. (0.44 acre) area extending a maximum of 190' beyond OHW. The excavated material will be disposed of at an upland, non-wetland site.
- d. Temporary placement of about 1400 cy of excavated material and stone or granular borrow to facilitate the dredging and the construction of the ramp in the dry. This work will temporarily impact about 9900 sq. ft. (0.23 acre) of lake bottom and about 93 sq. ft. (0.002 acre) of wetland. The temporary fill material will be removed from the waterway in its entirety upon completion of the project and disposed of at an upland, non-wetland site.
- e. Installation of a 70' long, 6' wide seasonal dock along the approximate centerline of the new ramp and extending a maximum of about 58' beyond OHW. The dock will be held in place with a 6' x 23' concrete dock anchor which will be an integral part of the ramp.
- f. Realignment of about 450 linear ft. of Featherbed Lane to improve sight distance for cars exiting the access area to US Route 2. This will involve the relocation of about 500 linear ft. of an unnamed tributary to the north side of the proposed road and extension of an existing culvert carrying the stream under Featherbed Lane. About 1500 sq. ft. (0.03 acre) of the stream and about 785 sq. ft. (0.018 acre) of wetland will be impacted by this portion of the work.
- g. Expansion and reconfiguration of the existing boat staging area upslope of the proposed ramp. This portion of the work will impact about 30 sq. ft. (0.0007 acre) of wetland.
- h. Expansion and reconfiguration of the existing parking lot on the north side of Featherbed Lane. This portion of the work will not impact waters of the U.S.

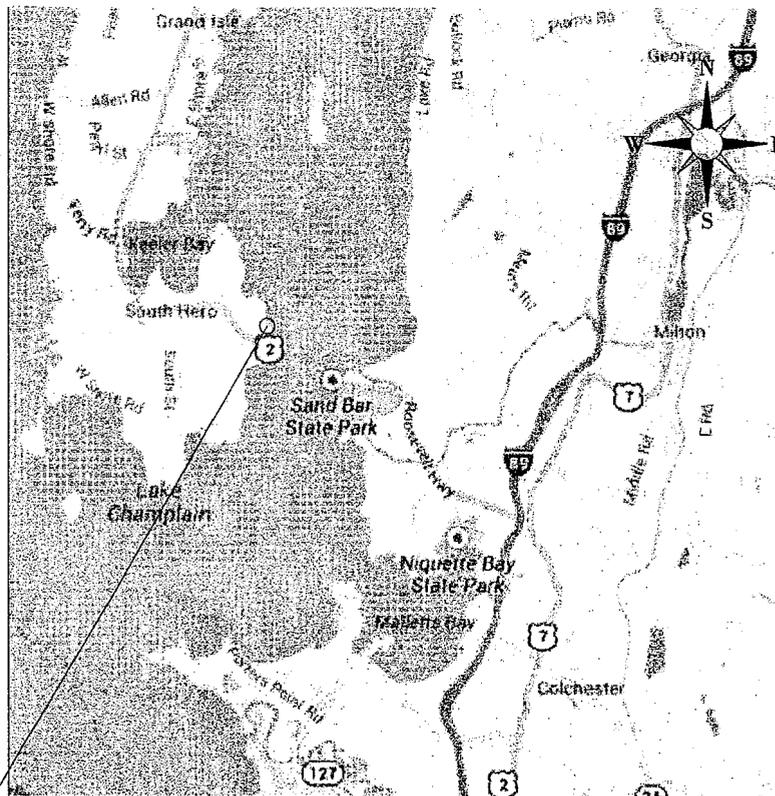
The basic purpose of this project is to improve an existing State Fishing Access area for recreational boaters and fishermen.

The project involves the construction of improvements at an existing State fishing access area. There is no other alternative that will allow the applicants to accomplish their basic project purpose.

MITIGATION

Impacts of the project have been minimized to the maximum extent practicable. The Corps has determined that compensatory mitigation is not necessary.

The work is described on the enclosed plans, in fifteen sheets, entitled "JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA", and dated "1/23/2014".



PROJECT LOCATION MAP, NOT TO SCALE

PROJECT LOCATION

The project is located at the John Guilmette Fishing Access Area in South Hero, Vermont. From Interstate 89 in Vermont, take exit 17 and head west on U.S. Route 2. After passing the Sand Bar State Park on the right and crossing the bridge you will be in South Hero, Vermont. The entrance to the access area is the first right after Featherbed Lane. The access area is approximately 6.4 miles heading west on U.S. Route 2 from exit 17 on Interstate 89.

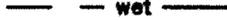
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Work shall consist of clearing and grubbing, constructing a parking area, construction of a new road, installation of silt curtain, excavation, placement of stone fill, installation of a solar light, construction of a coffer dam, construction of a reinforced concrete boat ramp and dock anchor, placement of bituminous concrete pavement, lakeward dredging, landscaping, placement of topsoil, turf establishment, placement of reinforcement fabric, placement of new culverts and all incidental work necessary to complete the project.

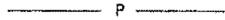
DESIGNED: JJB DRAWN: RCL CHECKED: JJB REVISION 1: 7-12-13 REVISION 2: REVISION 3:	STATE OF VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION FACILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION MONTPELIER, VERMONT 05620-3510	TOWN: SOUTH HERO STATE: VERMONT DATE: 1/23/2014 DATUM: ASSUMED
	DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE	SHEET: 1 OF 15
	PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA	SCALE: AS NOTED

LEGEND

EXISTING CONDITIONS

-  EXISTING CONTOUR - 2 FT INTERVAL
-  EXISTING CONTOUR - 10 FT INTERVAL
-  EXISTING EDGE OF ROAD
-  EXISTING EDGE OF RAMP, DOCK
-  EXISTING PROPERTY BOUNDARY
-  EXISTING TREES, WOODS BOUNDARY
-  EXISTING WATER LEVEL (O.H.W. or O.L.W)
-  EXISTING R.O.W
-  EXISTING OVERHEAD POWER
-  EXISTING BUILDING, STRUCTURE
-  EXISTING STREAM
-  EXISTING WETLANDS LIMIT
-  EXISTING POWER POLE
-  TEMPORARY BENCH MARK
-  SURVEY STATION

PROPOSED CONDITIONS

-  PROPOSED CONTOUR - 1 FT INTERVAL
-  PROPOSED CONTOUR - 5 FT INTERVAL
-  PROPOSED LIMITS OF CONSTRUCTION
-  PROPOSED LIMITS OF EXCAVATION
-  PROPOSED BURIED UTILITIES
-  PROPOSED TREES, WOODS BOUNDARY
-  PROPOSED SILT FENCE
-  PROPOSED FILTER CURTAIN

DESIGNED: JJB

DRAWN: RCL

CHECKED: JJB

REVISION 1: 7-12-13

REVISION 2:

REVISION 3:

STATE OF VERMONT
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 MONTPELIER, VERMONT 05620-3510

DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE

PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

TOWN: SOUTH HERO

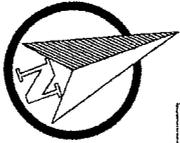
STATE: VERMONT

DATE: 1/23/2014

DATUM: ASSUMED

SHEET: 2 OF 15

SCALE: AS NOTED



SHEET 6

EXISTING US ROUTE 2

EXISTING TOILET BUILDING & INFORMATION BUILDING

EXISTING PARKING AREA ROAD

EXISTING GRASS PARKING AREA

EXISTING STREAM (TYP)

EXISTING CONCRETE BOX CULVERT

EXISTING FEATHERBED LANE

EXISTING BOAT STAGING AREA

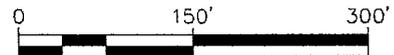
EXISTING F&W ACCESS RAMP

~LAKE CHAMPLAIN~



EXISTING SITE

Scale: 1"=150'

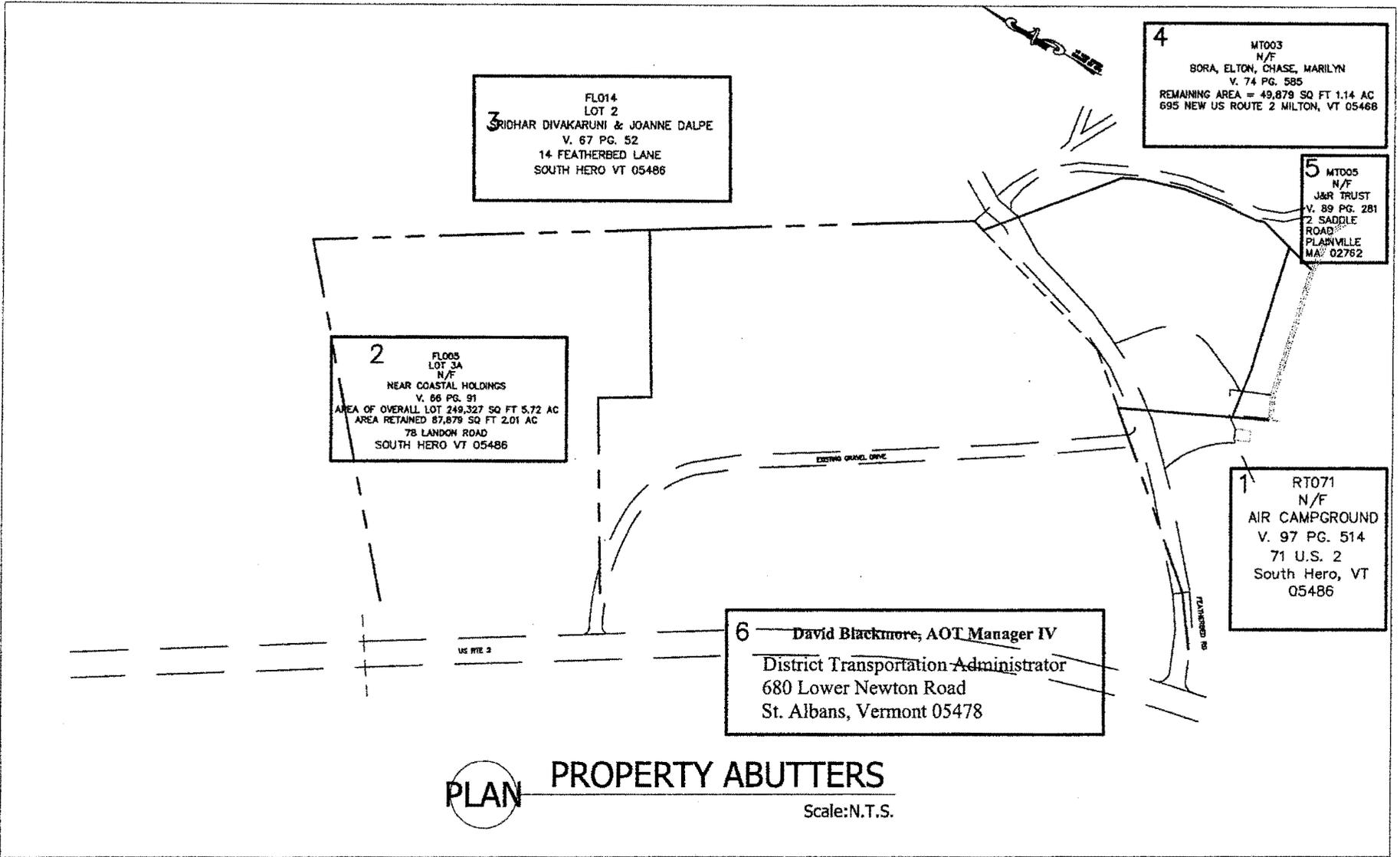


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STATE OF VERMONT
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TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/23/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: 3 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED

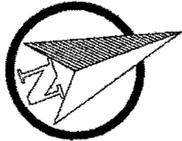
DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE
 PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA



PLAN PROPERTY ABUTTERS

Scale: N.T.S.

DESIGNED: JJB DRAWN: RCL CHECKED: JJB REVISION 1: 7-12-13 REVISION 2: REVISION 3:	STATE OF VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION FACILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION MONTPELIER, VERMONT 05620-3510	TOWN: SOUTH HERO STATE: VERMONT DATE: 1/23/2014 DATUM: ASSUMED SHEET: 4 OF 15 SCALE: AS NOTED
	DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE	
	PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA	



EXISTING R.O.W.
(TYP)

EXISTING APPLE ISLAND
MARINA, DOCK BUILDINGS, &
UTILITIES

PROPOSED RE-LOCATED
DITCH / STREAM

EXISTING STREAM

PROPOSED COFFER DAM/HAUL ROAD

PROPOSED PARKING AREA

PROPOSED HANDICAP PARKING

EXISTING STREAM

PROPOSED CULVERT EXTENSION

PROPOSED FEATHERBED LANE

PROPOSED BOAT STAGING AREA

EXISTING FEATHERBED LANE

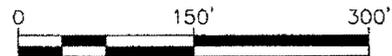
PROPOSED BURIED UTILITIES

PROPOSED ACCESS AREA RAMP



PROPOSED SITE

Scale: 1"=150'



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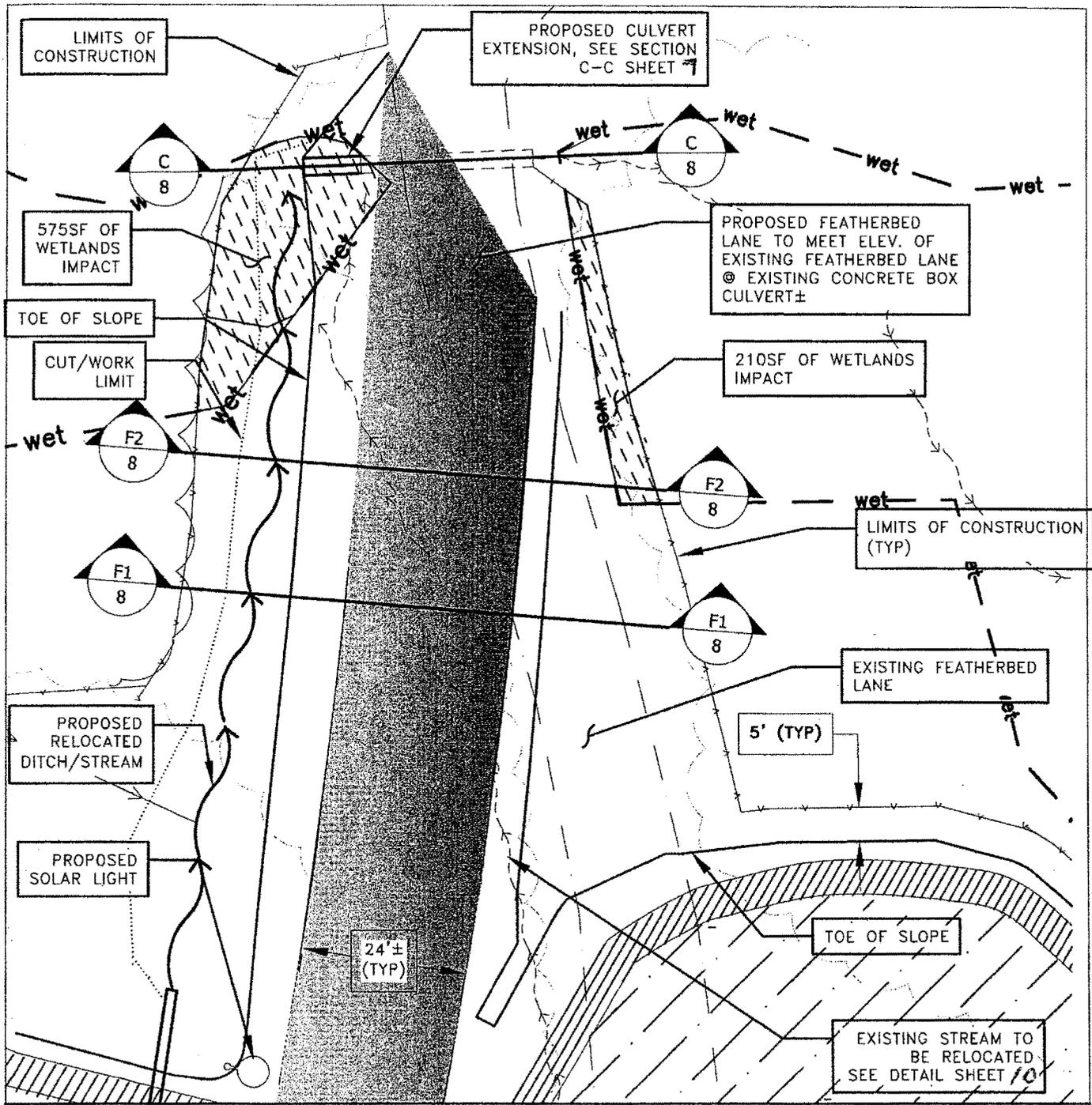
DEPARTMENT

FISH & WILDLIFE

PROJECT

JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

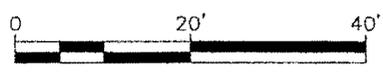
TOWN: SOUTH HERO
STATE: VERMONT
DATE: 1/23/2014
DATUM: ASSUMED
SHEET: 5 OF 16
SCALE: AS NOTED



PLAN

FEATHERBED LANE

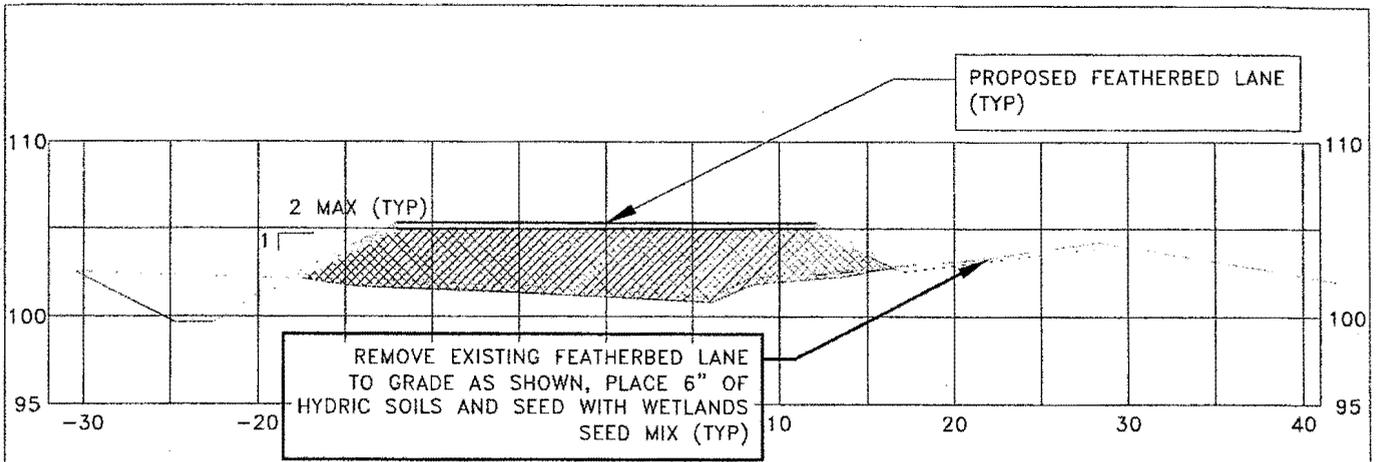
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DESIGNED: JJB
 DRAWN: RCL
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 REVISION 1: 7-12-13
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 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
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 DEPARTMENT: FISH & WILDLIFE
 PROJECT: JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

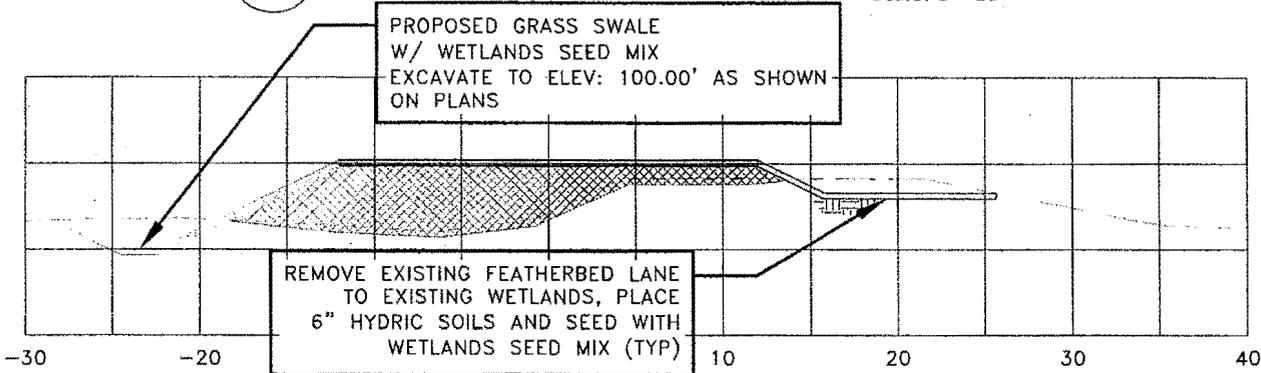
TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/23/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: 6 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED



F1-F1

FEATHERBED LANE/WETLANDS

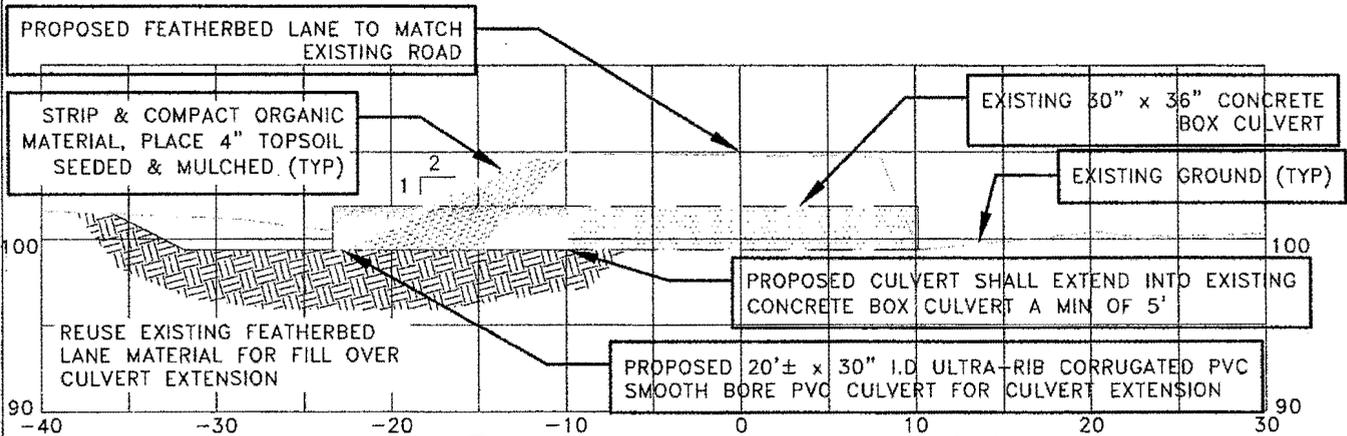
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F2-F2

FEATHERBED LANE/WETLANDS

Scale: 1"=10'



C-C

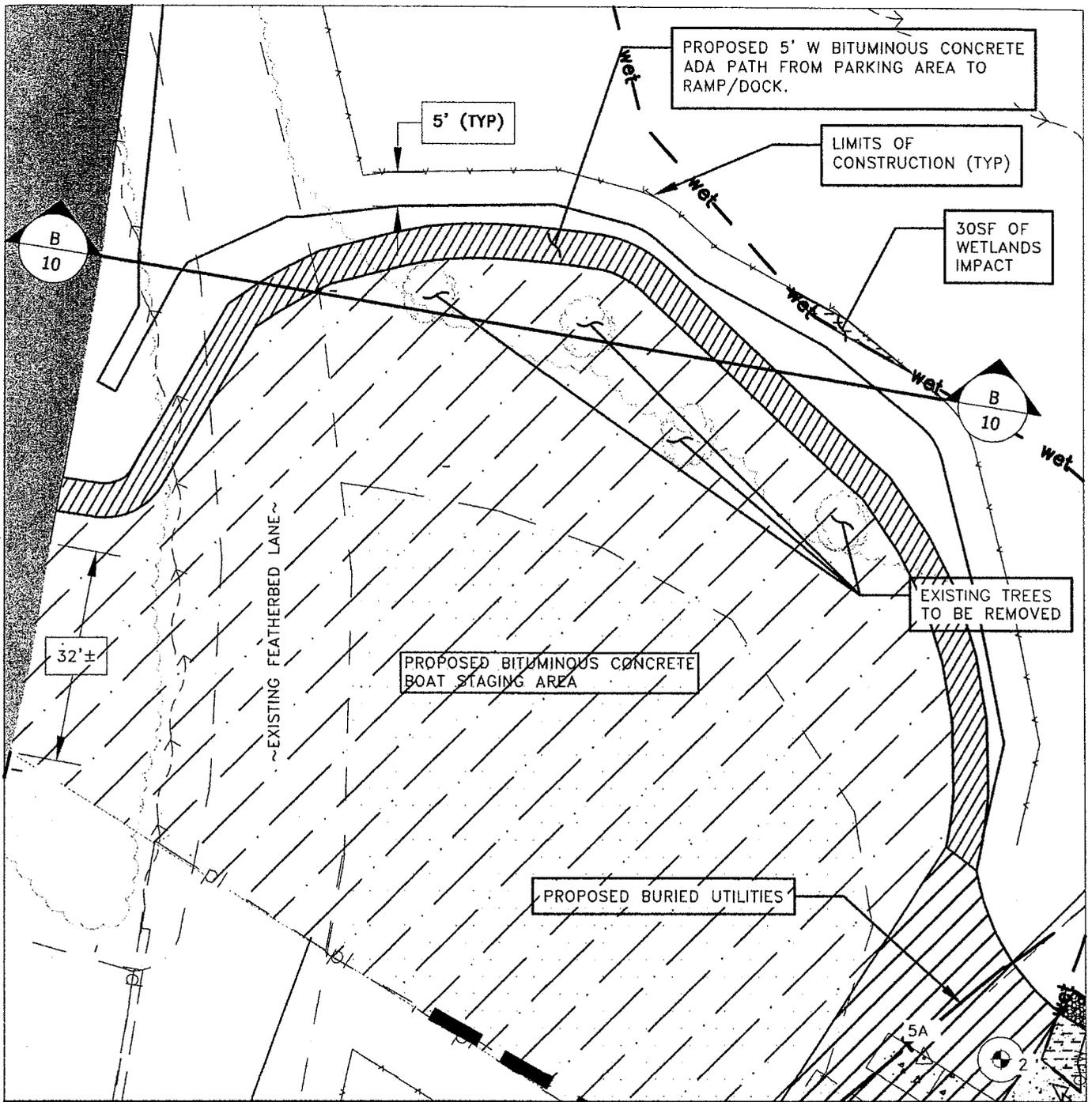
CULVERT EXTENSION

Scale: 1"=10'

DESIGNED: JJB
 DRAWN: RCL
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 REVISION 3:

STATE OF VERMONT
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 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
 FACILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION
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 DEPARTMENT: FISH & WILDLIFE
 PROJECT: JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

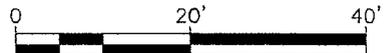
TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/23/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: 7 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED



PLAN

BOAT STAGING AREA

Scale: 1"=20'



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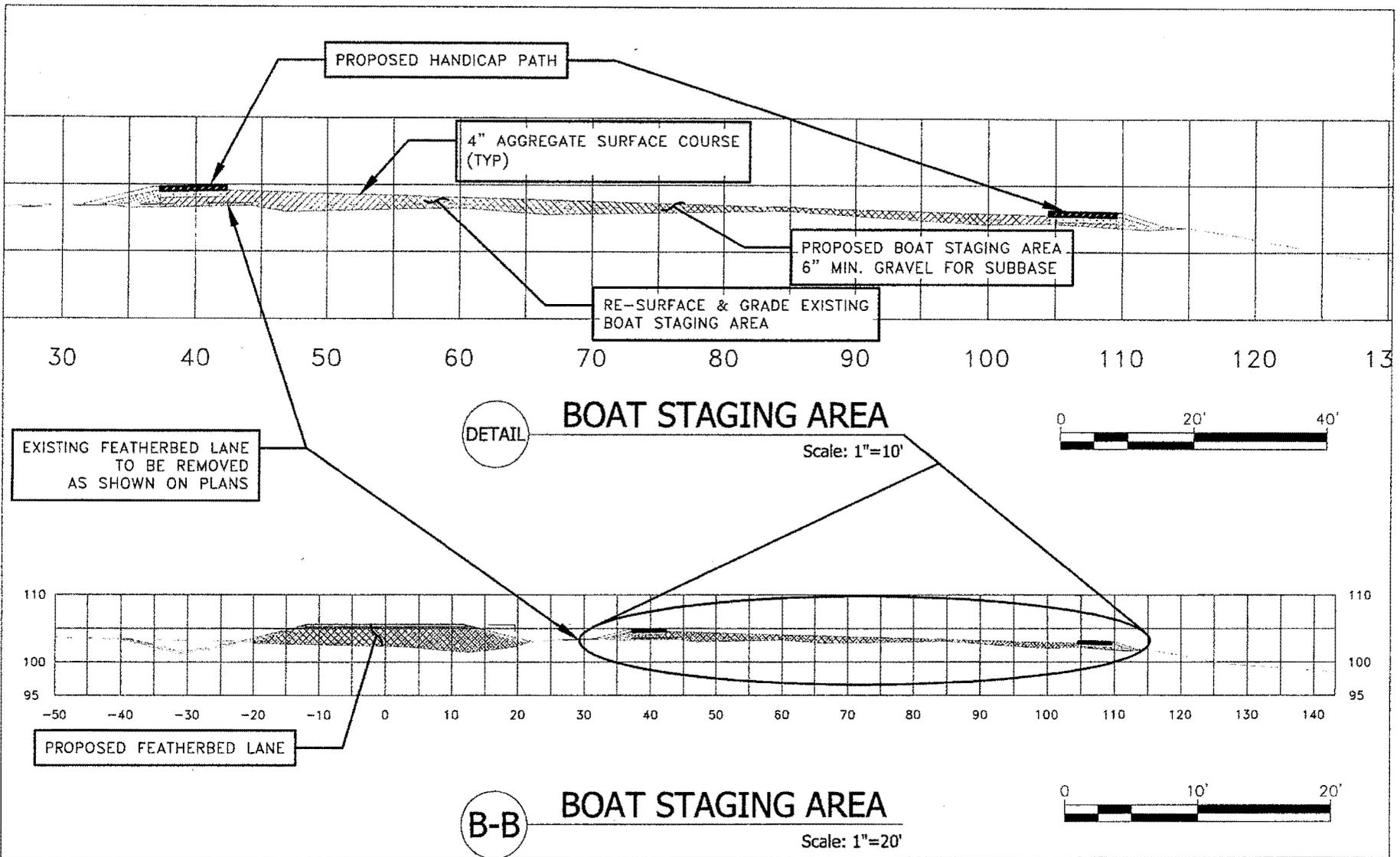
DEPARTMENT

FISH & WILDLIFE

PROJECT

JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/23/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: 8 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED

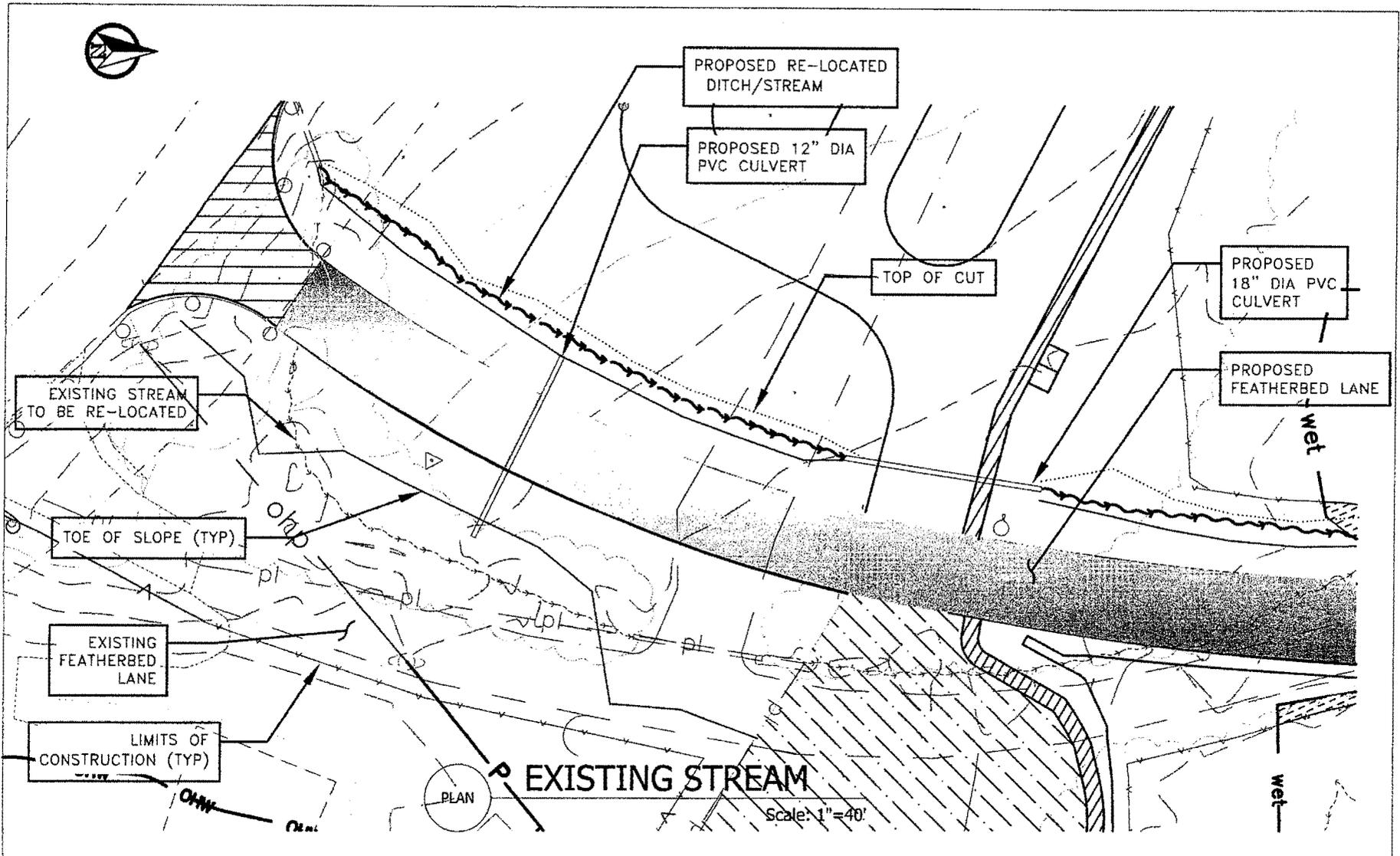


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DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE
 PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/23/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: 9 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED



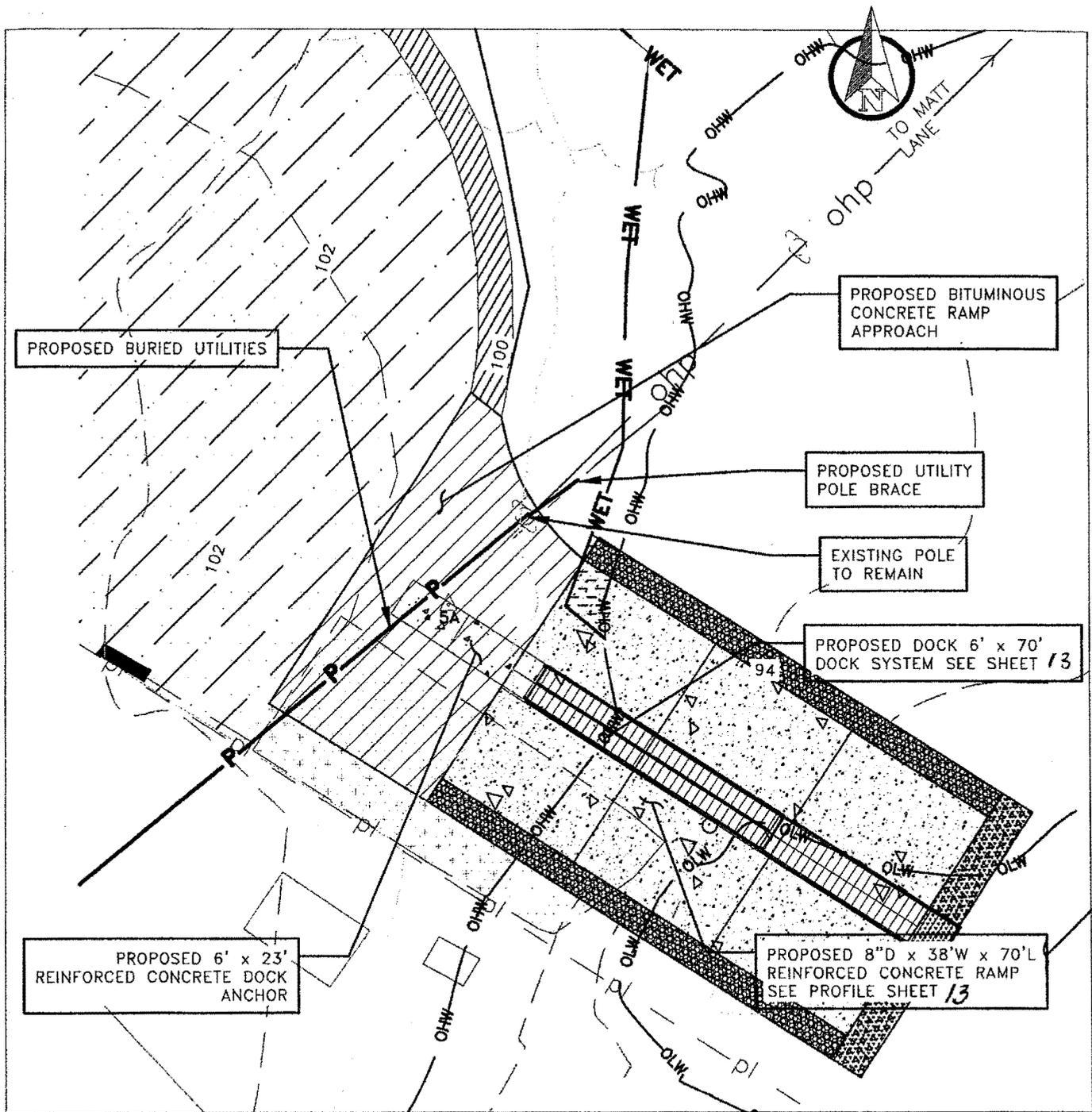
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STATE OF VERMONT
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DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE

PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/23/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: ~~10~~ OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED



PLAN

PROPOSED RAMP

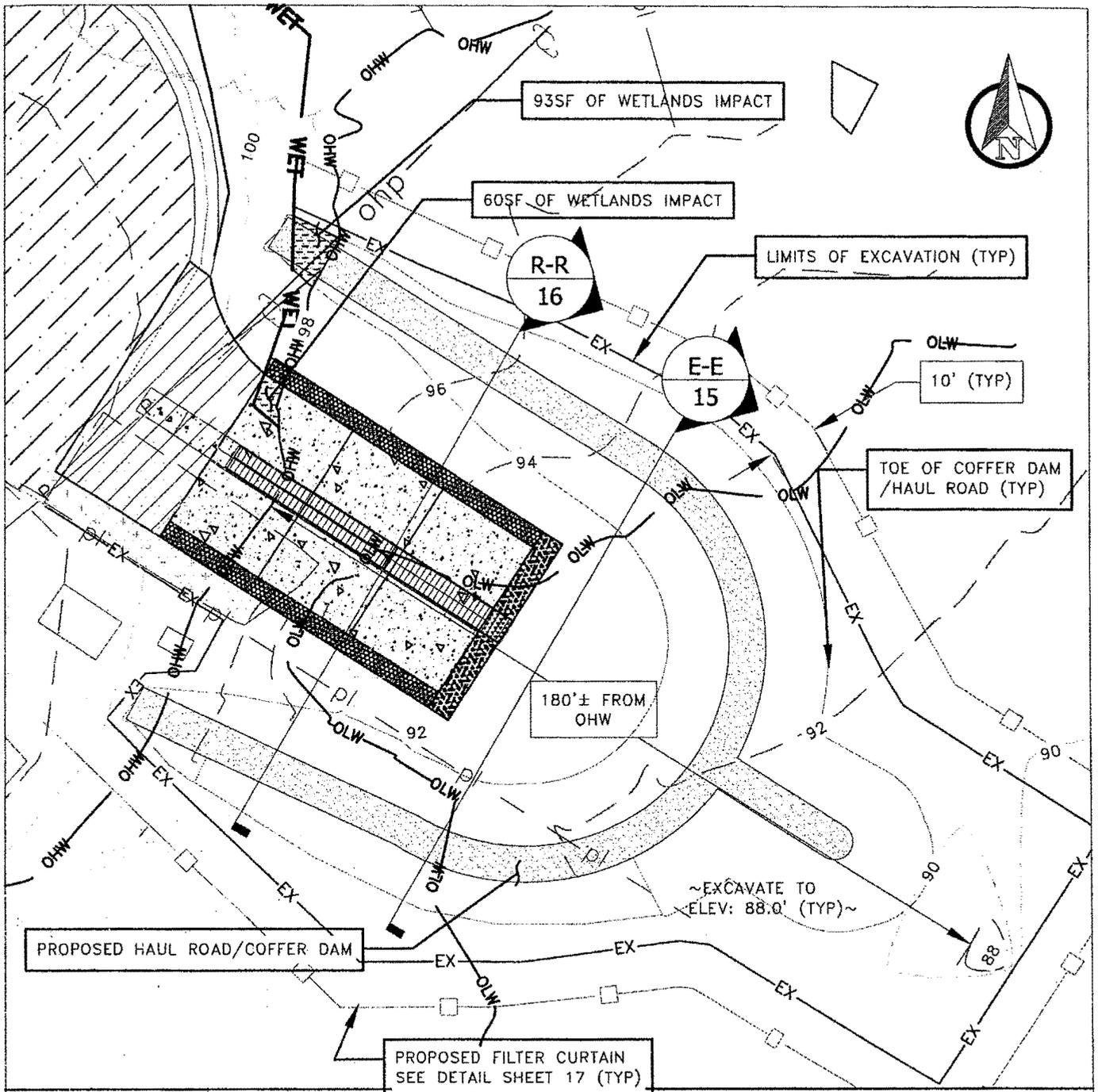
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DESIGNED: JJB
 DRAWN: RCL
 CHECKED: JJB
 REVISION 1: 7-12-13
 REVISION 2:
 REVISION 3:

STATE OF VERMONT
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DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE
 PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

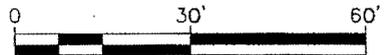
TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/23/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: 11 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED



PLAN

PROPOSED LAKE DREDGING

Scale: 1"=30'

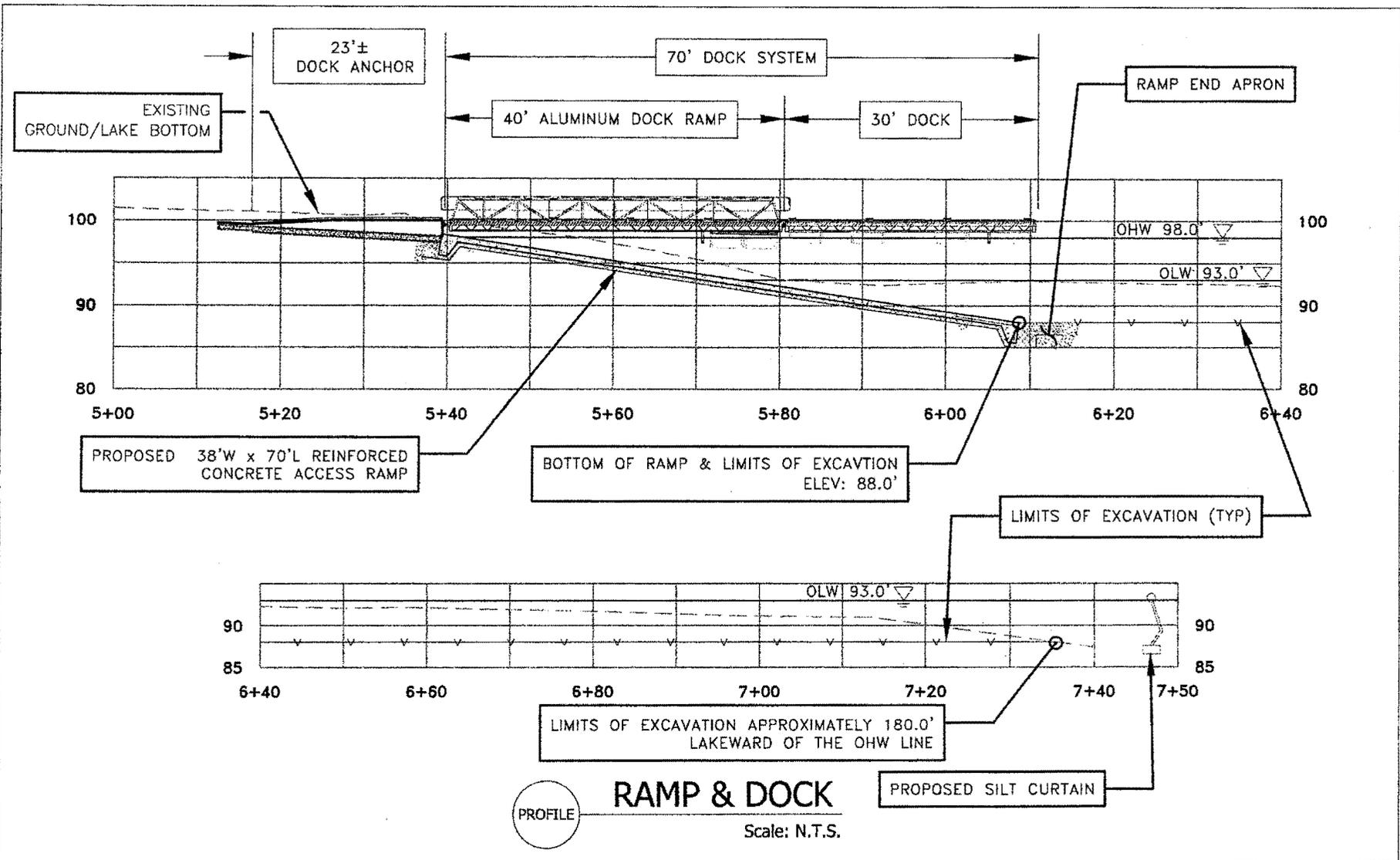


DESIGNED: JJB
 DRAWN: RCL
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 MONTPELIER, VERMONT 05620-3510

DEPARTMENT: FISH & WILDLIFE
 PROJECT: JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/24/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: 12 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED

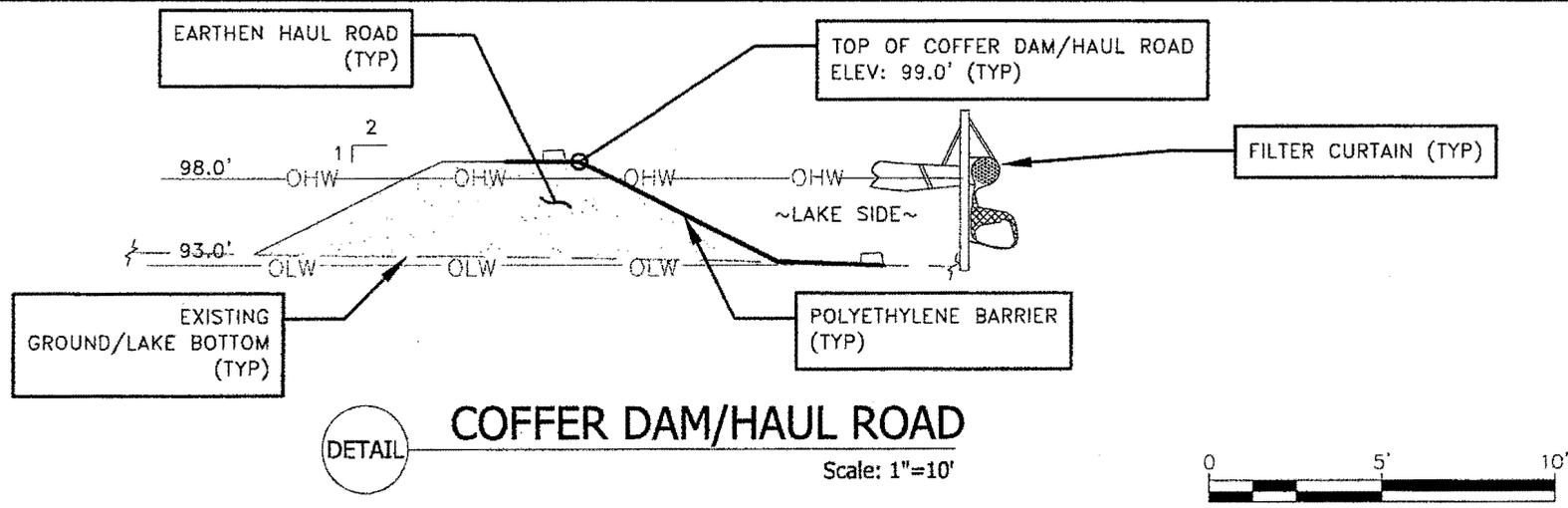
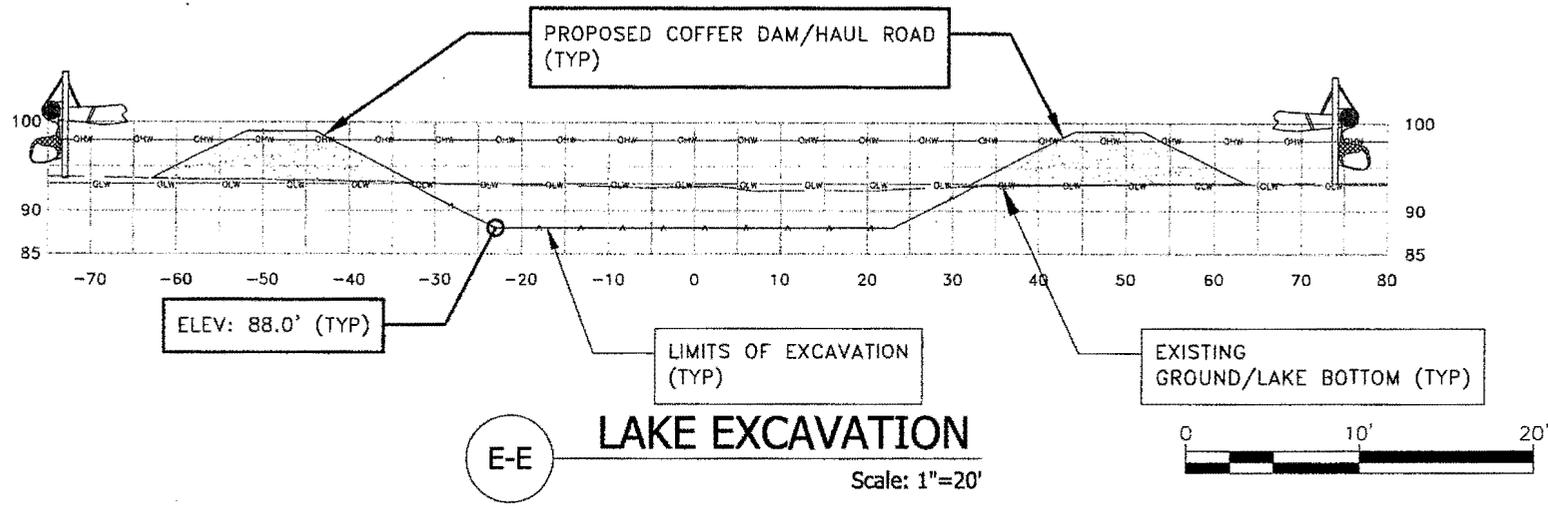


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TOWN: SOUTH HERO
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 SHEET: 13 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED

DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE
 PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

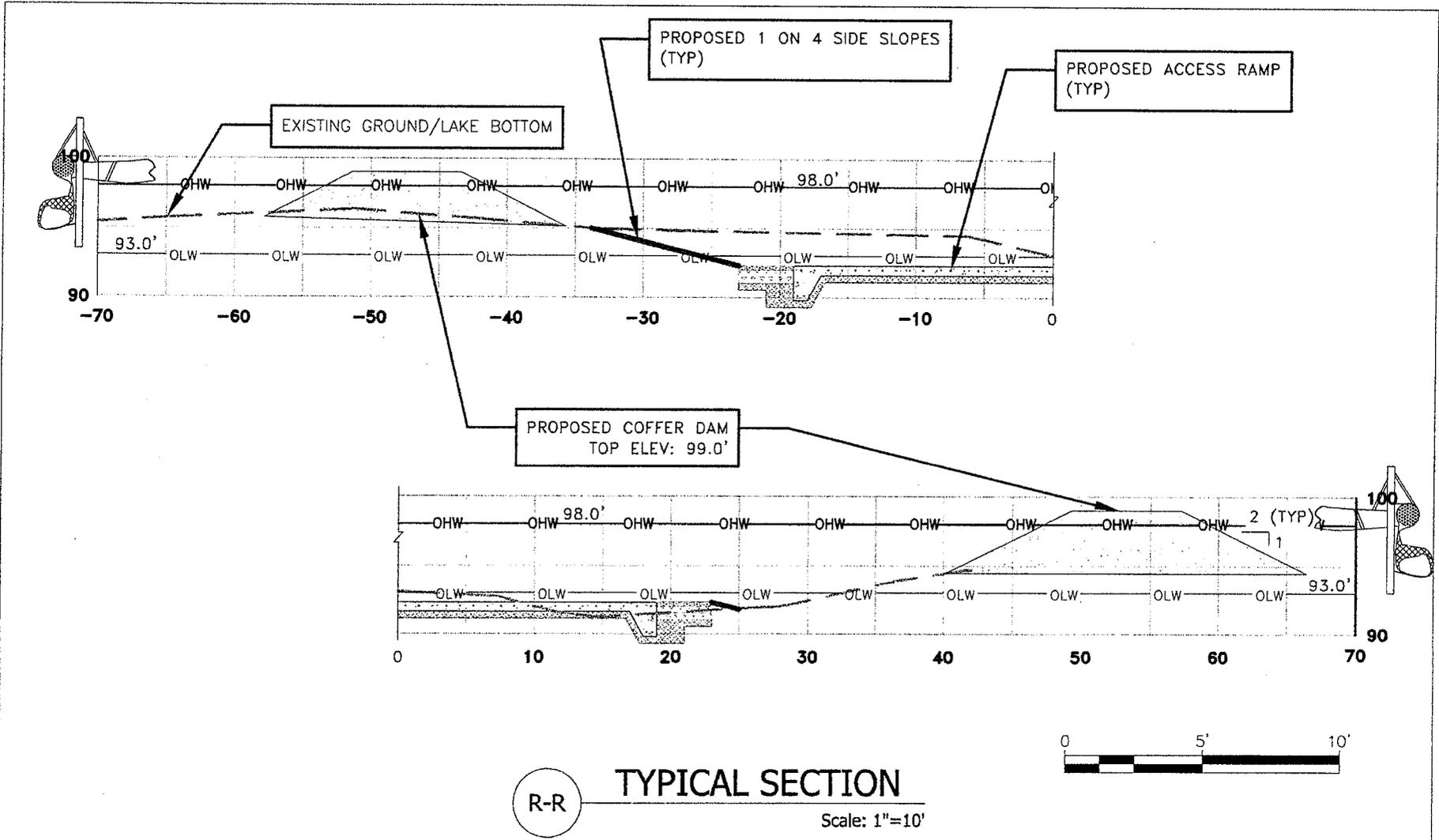


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DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE
 PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/23/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: 14 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED



R-R

TYPICAL SECTION

Scale: 1"=10'

DESIGNED: JJB
 DRAWN: RCL
 CHECKED: JJB
 REVISION 1: 7-12-13
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 REVISION 3:

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 DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
 FACILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION
 MONTPELIER, VERMONT 05620-3510

DEPARTMENT FISH & WILDLIFE
 PROJECT JOHN GUILMETTE ACCESS AREA

TOWN: SOUTH HERO
 STATE: VERMONT
 DATE: 1/23/2014
 DATUM: ASSUMED
 SHEET: 15 OF 15
 SCALE: AS NOTED