



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

# PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant:  
Keith Bowden  
Town of Orrington

Published: January 23, 2026  
Expires: February 23, 2026

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**New England District  
Permit Application No. NAE-2025-00871**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The New England District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1344) **and/or** Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. §403). The purpose of this public notice is to solicit comments from the public regarding the work described below:

**APPLICANT:** Keith Bowden  
Town of Orrington  
One Municipal Way  
Orrington, ME 04474

**AGENT:** Chris McHan  
Jacobs  
120 St. James Avenue, Suite 500  
Boston, MA 02116

**WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** The project would affect the Penobscot River; at Latitude 44.711750° N and Longitude -68.836701° W; in Orrington, Penobscot County, Maine.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:** The project site encompasses approximately 17,000 square feet of river bottom in the Penobscot River and ten acres of adjacent upland property. This land has a history of disturbance, having been used for non-development purposes and extractive gravel mining from 1929 to 1991, first by private owners and then by the City of Brewer. After acquiring the property in 1991, the Town of Orrington briefly used it for a local highway project before undertaking reclamation efforts to improve site grades and drainage, making it more environmentally stable and visually appealing. Since then, the site has remained fallow and is now characterized by disturbed land dominated by early successional grasses, herbs, and shrubs, with mixed forests along its boundaries. The river bottom itself is composed mainly of sandy sediments, gravel, and occasional boulders, with a narrow strip of mud and saltmarsh running through the proposed ramp area.

## **PROJECT PURPOSE:**

**Basic:** The project's basic purpose is navigational access.

**Overall:** The project's overall purpose is to provide an all-tide access boat ramp on the Penobscot River within the confines of the Town of Orrington, Maine.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant requests authorization to discharge approximately 2,184 cubic yards of permanent fill into an 11,412-square-foot area below the high tide line and mean high water of the Penobscot River to construct a public boat launch. The discharge will cause the permanent loss of 1,639 square feet of saltmarsh and 5,576 square feet of intertidal mudflats.

**AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION:** The applicant has provided the following information in support of efforts to avoid and/or minimize impacts to the aquatic environment: The original design, which had a larger footprint, was revised. This revision decreased the total volume of fill material from 7,500 cubic yards to 2,184 cubic yards, which in turn reduced the total proposed fill area to 11,412 square feet below the high tide line.

Several avoidance and minimization measures have been proposed to further mitigate environmental effects. To reduce the physical footprint, the applicant evaluated several on-site locations and orientations before siting the ramp at the "thinnest portion of intertidal marsh and mudflat." The downstream orientation of the boat ramp further minimizes impacts on aquatic resources and reduces the potential for ice buildup. During construction, a turbidity curtain will be installed to contain disturbed sediments and keep fish out of the work area. Finally, to minimize the suspension and transport of sediments, all possible construction below the Mean High Water (MHW) line will be performed "in the dry" during low tide periods.

**COMPENSATORY MITIGATION:** The applicant offered the following compensatory mitigation plan to offset unavoidable functional loss to the aquatic environment: To compensate for unavoidable impacts to waterways and wetlands, the applicant proposes to make a one-time In-Lieu Fee contribution to the Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES:** The Corps evaluated the undertaking pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) utilizing its existing program-specific regulations and procedures along with 36 CFR Part 800. The Corps' program-specific procedures include 33 CFR 325, Appendix C, and revised interim guidance issued in 2005 and 2007, respectively. The District Engineer consulted district files and records and the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and initially determines that:

No historic properties (i.e., properties listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places) are present within the Corps' permit area; therefore, there will be no historic properties affected. The Corps subsequently requests concurrence from the SHPO and/or THPO.

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.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** The Corps has performed an initial review of the application, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Greater Atlantic Region Section 7 Mapper, and the NMFS Critical Habitat Mapper to determine if any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, as well as the proposed and final designated critical habitat may occur in the vicinity of the proposed project. Based on this initial review, the Corps has made a preliminary determination that the proposed project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the listed species.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Effect Determination</u>
Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) and its critical habitat	Endangered / Final	May affect, not likely to adversely affect
Atlantic sturgeon ( <i>Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus</i> ) and its critical habitat	Threatened / Final	May affect, not likely to adversely affect
Shortnose sturgeon ( <i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i> )	Endangered	May affect, not likely to adversely affect

This notice serves as request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

**ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:** Pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1996, the Corps reviewed the project area, examined information provided by the applicant, and consulted available species information.

The Corps intends to initiate Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation separately from this public notice. A separate EFH consultation package will be sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The Corps will not make a permit decision until the consultation process is complete.

Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

**NAVIGATION:** The proposed structure or activity is not located in the vicinity of a federal navigation channel.

**SECTION 408:** The applicant does not require permission under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 408) because the activity, in whole or in part, will not alter, occupy, or use a Corps Civil Works project.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** Water Quality Certification may be required from the State of Maine, Department of Environmental Protection.

**Coastal Zone Management Act Consistency:** In accordance with Section 307(c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, applicants for Federal Licenses or Permits to conduct an activity affecting land or water uses in a State's coastal zone must provide certification that the activity complies with the State's Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program to USACE as well as the State's CZM Program. The applicant has stated that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved State CZM Program and must provide necessary data and information to support that statement to the State CZM Program. No permit will be issued until the State has concurred with the applicant's certification or has waived its right to do so. Comments concerning the impact on the State's coastal zone should be sent to this office with a copy to the State's CZM office.

**NOTE:** This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This information has not been verified or evaluated to ensure compliance with laws and regulation governing the regulatory program. The geographic extent of aquatic resources within the proposed project area that either are, or are presumed to be, within the Corps jurisdiction has not been verified by Corps personnel.

**EVALUATION:** The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to 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 cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food, and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act or the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

**COMMENTS:** 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 proposed activity. Any comments received will

be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this determination, comments are used to assess impacts to 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 (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The New England District will receive written comments on the proposed work, as outlined above, until February 23, 2026. Comments should be submitted electronically via the Regulatory Request System (RRS) at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs> or to CENAE-R-PN-ME@USACE.ARMY.MIL. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Attention: [cenae-r-me@usace.army.mil](mailto:cenae-r-me@usace.army.mil). Please refer to the permit application number in your comments.

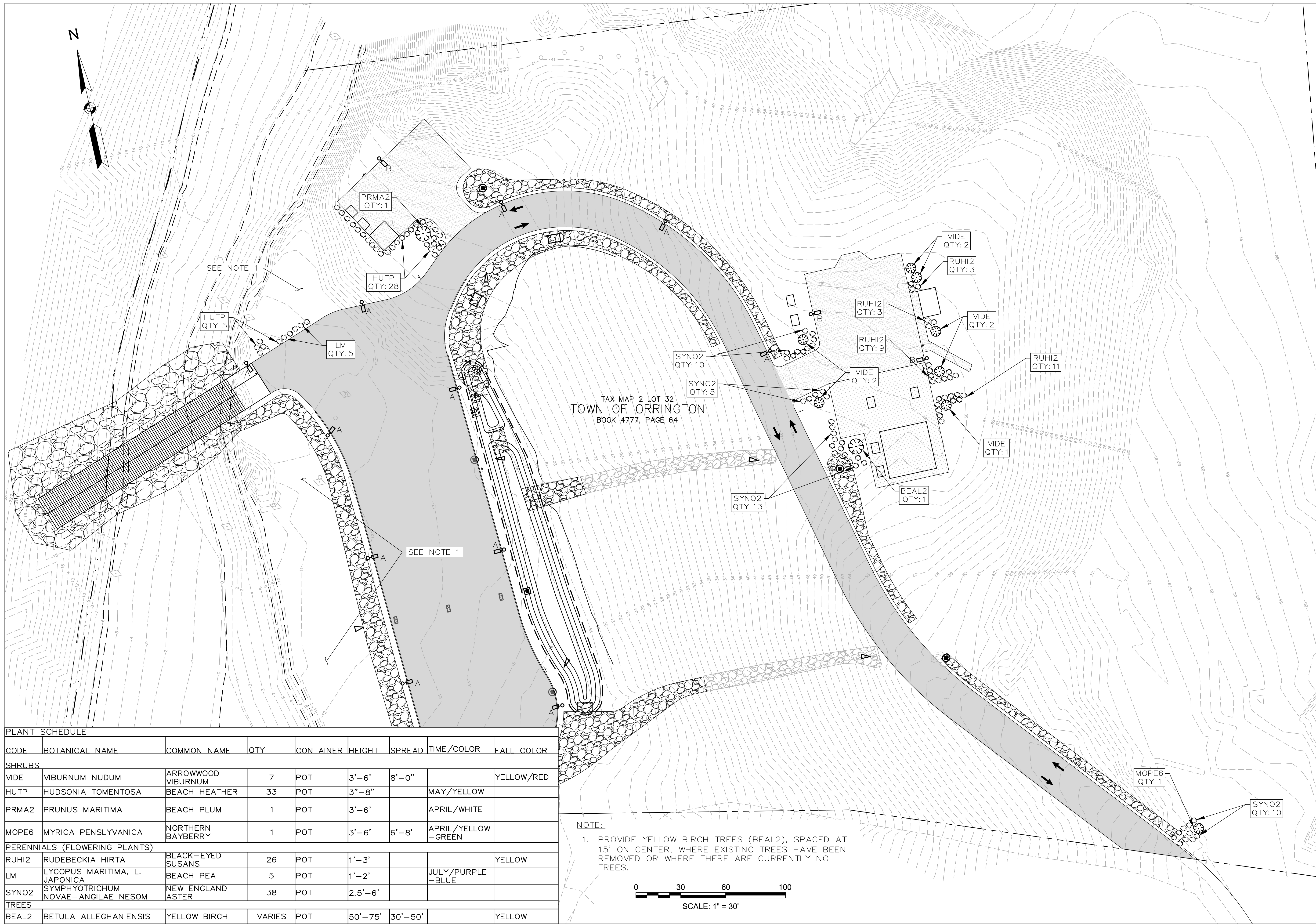
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing will be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.







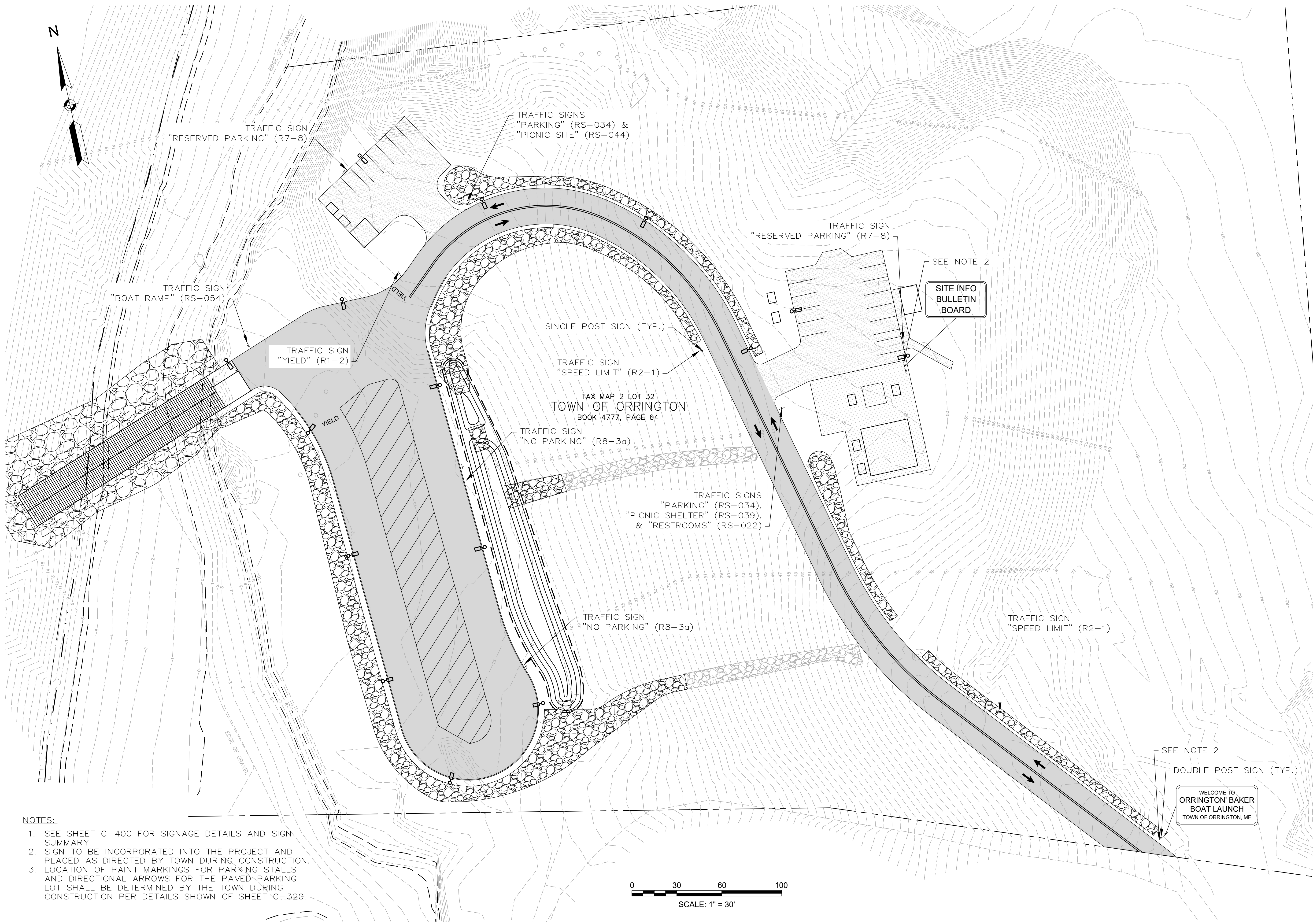
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TOWN OF ORRINGTON ONE MUNICIPAL WAY ORRINGTON, ME 04474	100% SUBMISSION	J a c o b s  120 ST. JAMES AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR BOSTON, MA 02116	ORRINGTON BOAT LAUNCH SITE LANDSCAPING PLAN	C-103	
				DATE 07/17/2025 PROJ F4Y77301 SCALE 1"=30' SHEET 06 of 28	DESIGNED BY: W. ZUBRICK CHECKED BY: S. PAGLIA APPROVED BY: C. MORIN BY: APVD C. MORIN
				CRAIG R. MORIN, PE MAINE PE NO. 10209	



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NOTES:

1. SEE SHEET C-400 FOR SIGNAGE DETAILS AND SIGN SUMMARY.
2. SIGN TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE PROJECT AND PLACED AS DIRECTED BY TOWN DURING CONSTRUCTION.
3. LOCATION OF PAINT MARKINGS FOR PARKING STALLS AND DIRECTIONAL ARROWS FOR THE PAVED PARKING LOT SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE TOWN DURING CONSTRUCTION PER DETAILS SHOWN OF SHEET C-320.

**Jacobs**

120 ST. JAMES AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR  
BOSTON, MA 02116

**ORRINGTON BOAT LAUNCH  
SITE SIGNAGE PLAN**

TOWN OF ORRINGTON  
ONE MUNICIPAL WAY  
ORRINGTON, ME 04474

**100% SUBMISSION**

**C-104**

DATE	07/17/2025
PROJ	F4Y77301
SCALE	1"=30'
SHEET	07 of 28

CRAIG R. MORIN, PE  
MAINE PE  
NO. 10209

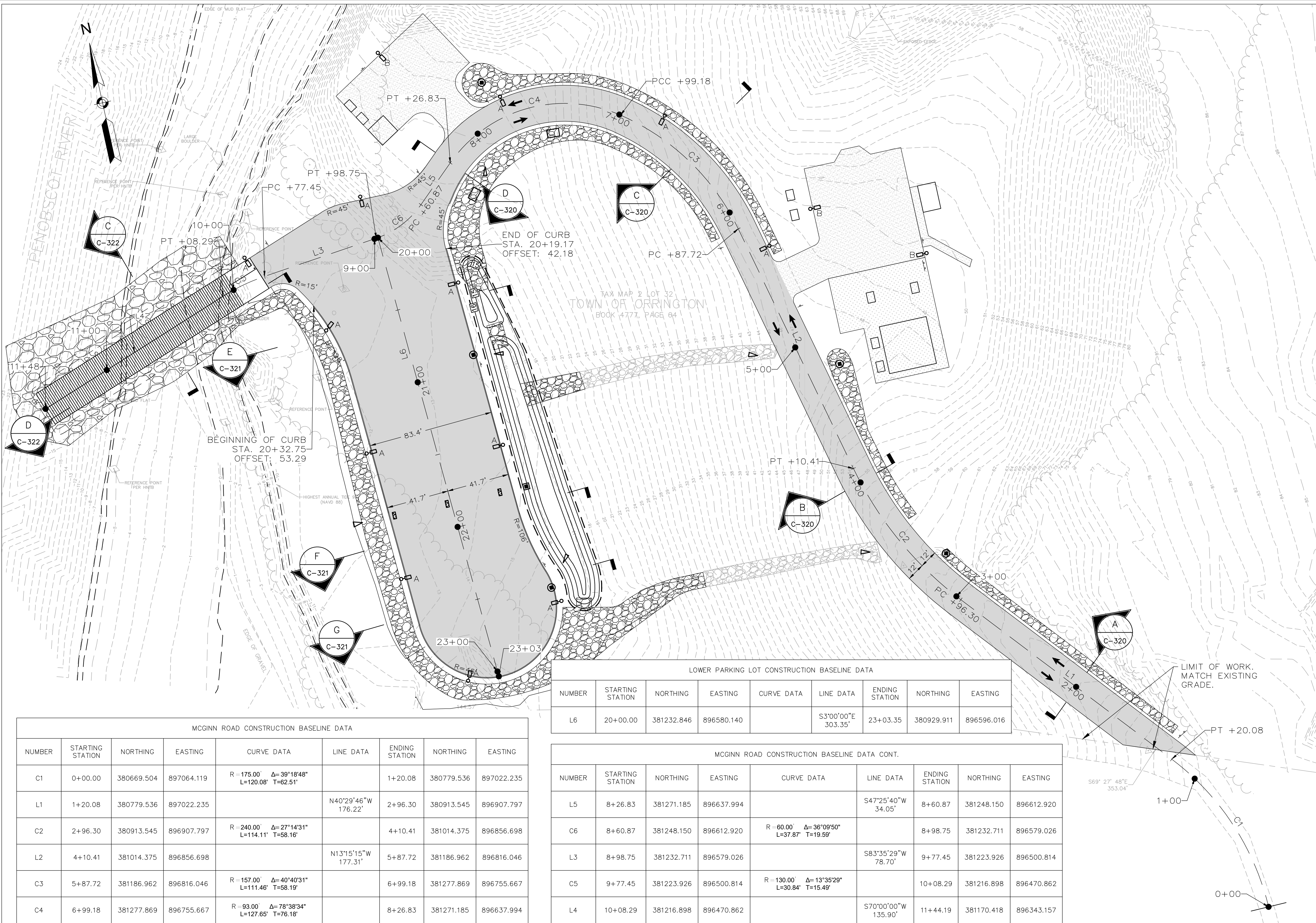
NO.	DATE	DESIGNED BY:	DRAWN BY:	REVISION	CHECKED BY:	APPROVED BY:	BY:
		W. ZUBRICK	S. PAGLIA		C. MORIN		C. MORIN







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TOWN OF ORRINGTON  
ONE MUNICIPAL WAY  
ORRINGTON, ME 04474

**Jacobs**  
120 ST. JAMES AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR  
BOSTON, MA 02116

ORRINGTON BOAT LAUNCH  
ALIGNMENT PLAN

C-300

DATE 07/17/2025  
PROJ F4Y77301  
SCALE 1"=30'  
SHEET 11 of 28

100% SUBMISSION

CRAIG R. MORIN, PE  
MAINE PE  
NO. 10209

C. MORIN

C. MORIN

S.DEANGELIS

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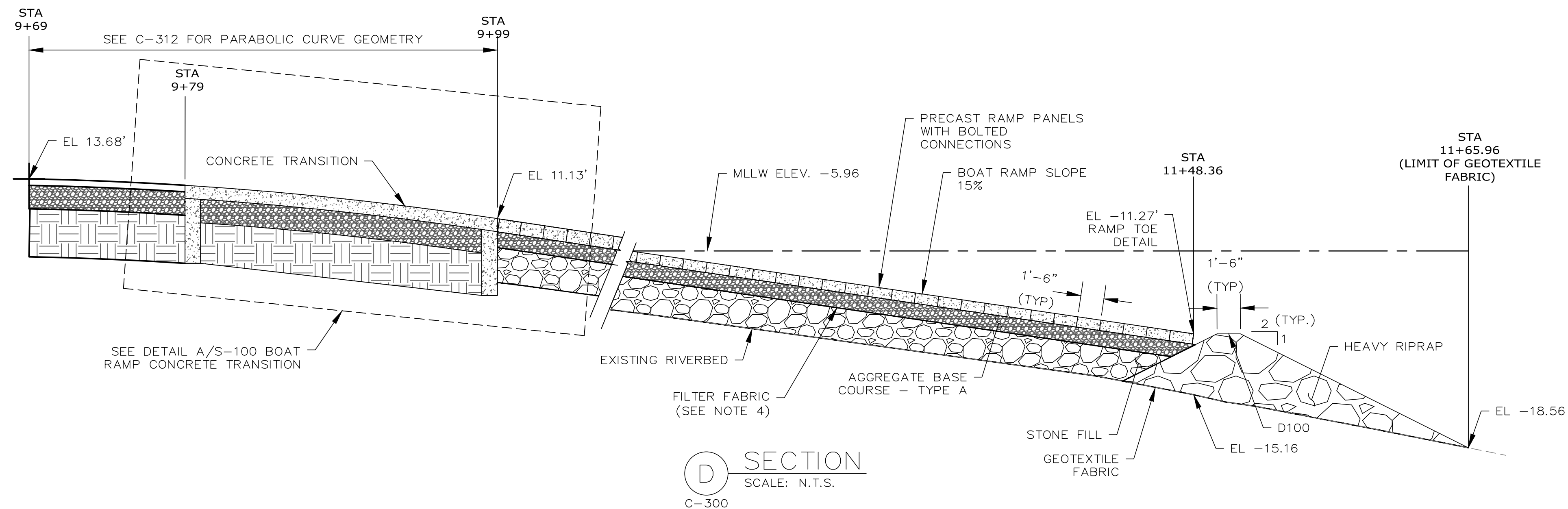
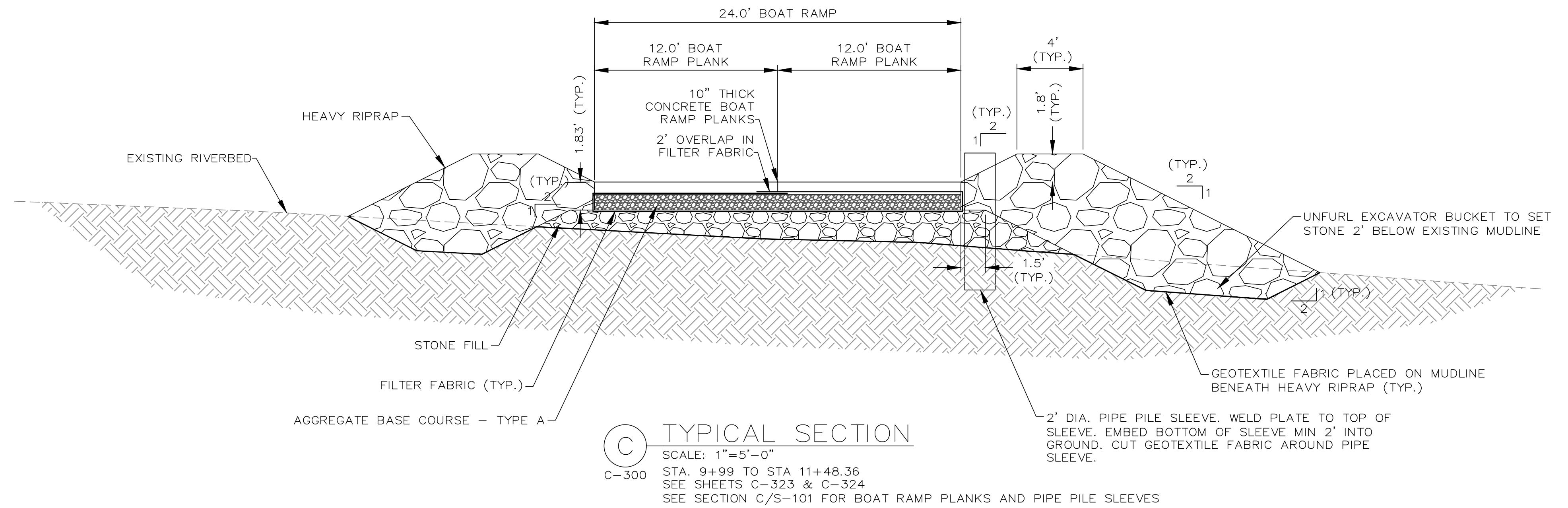
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BY: APVD

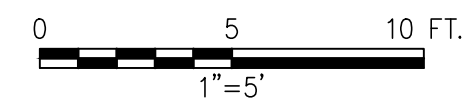



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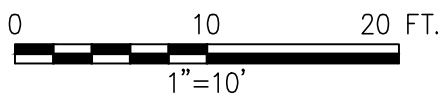
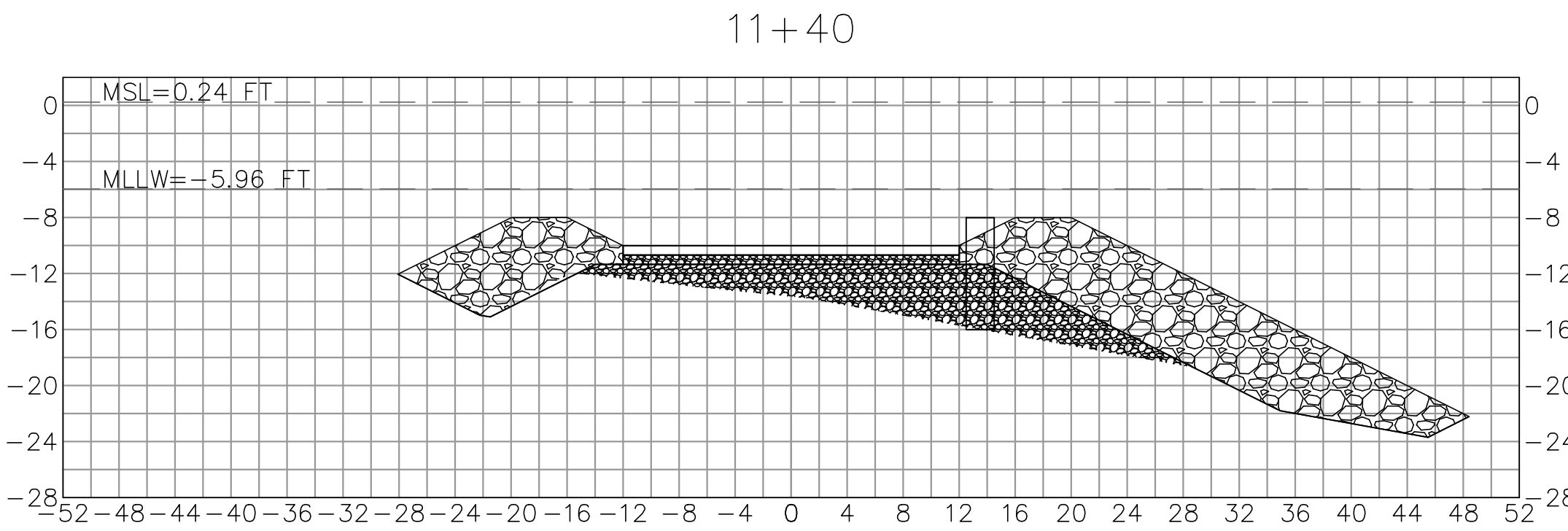
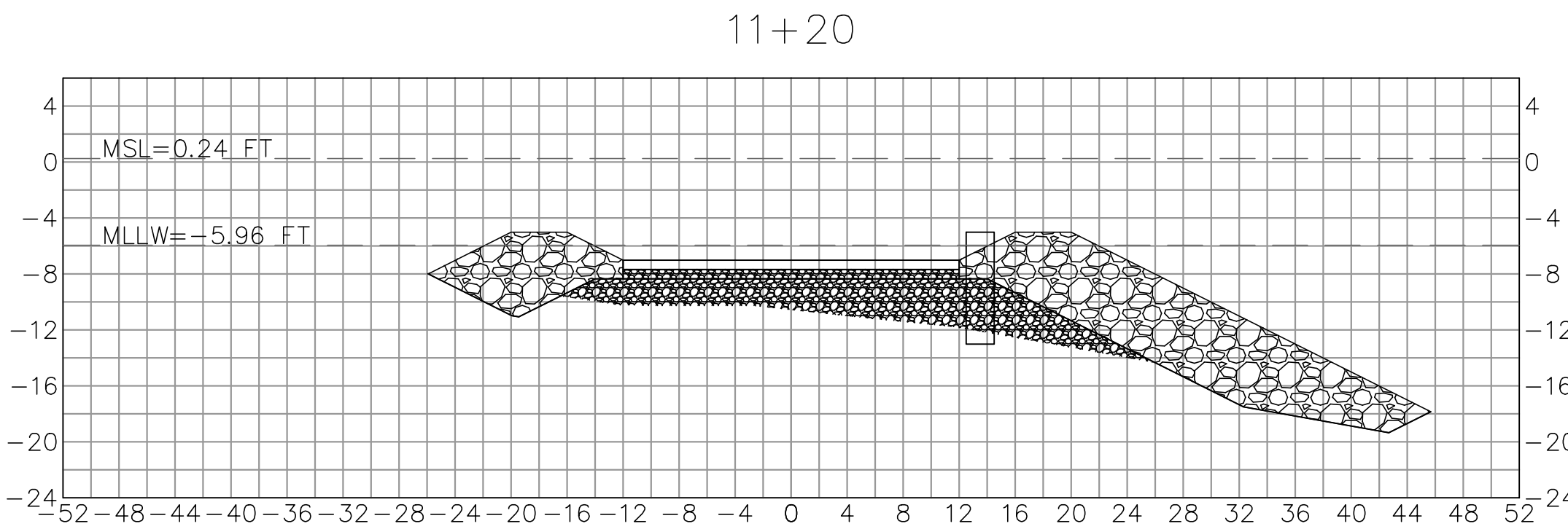
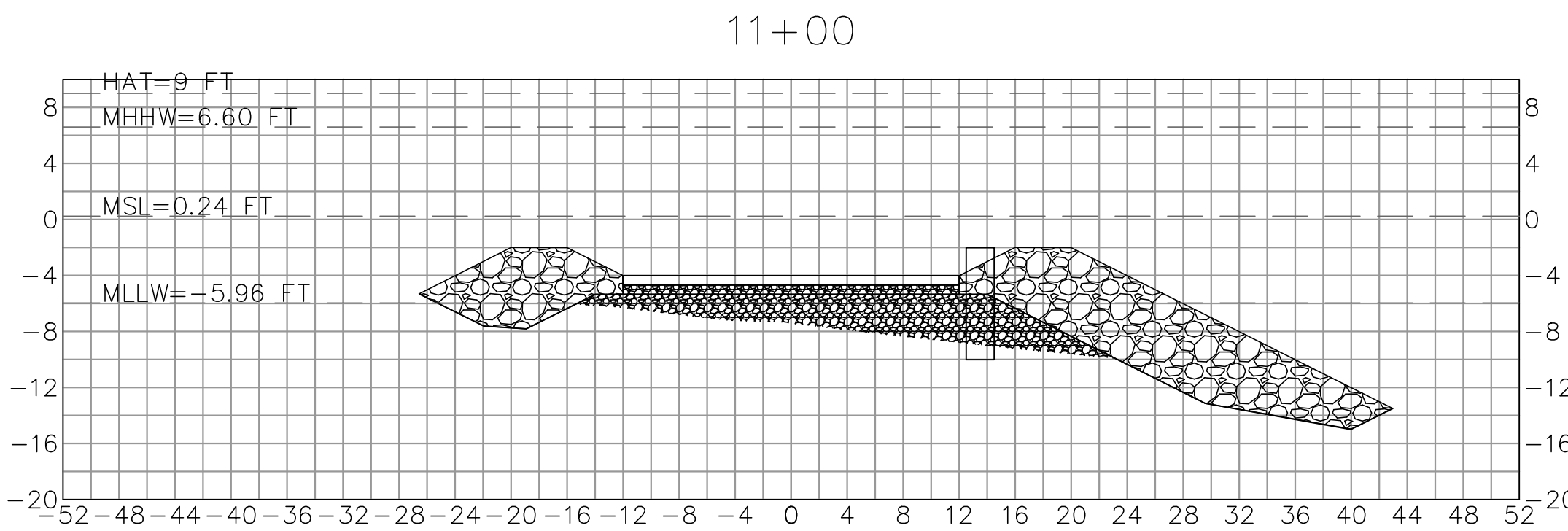
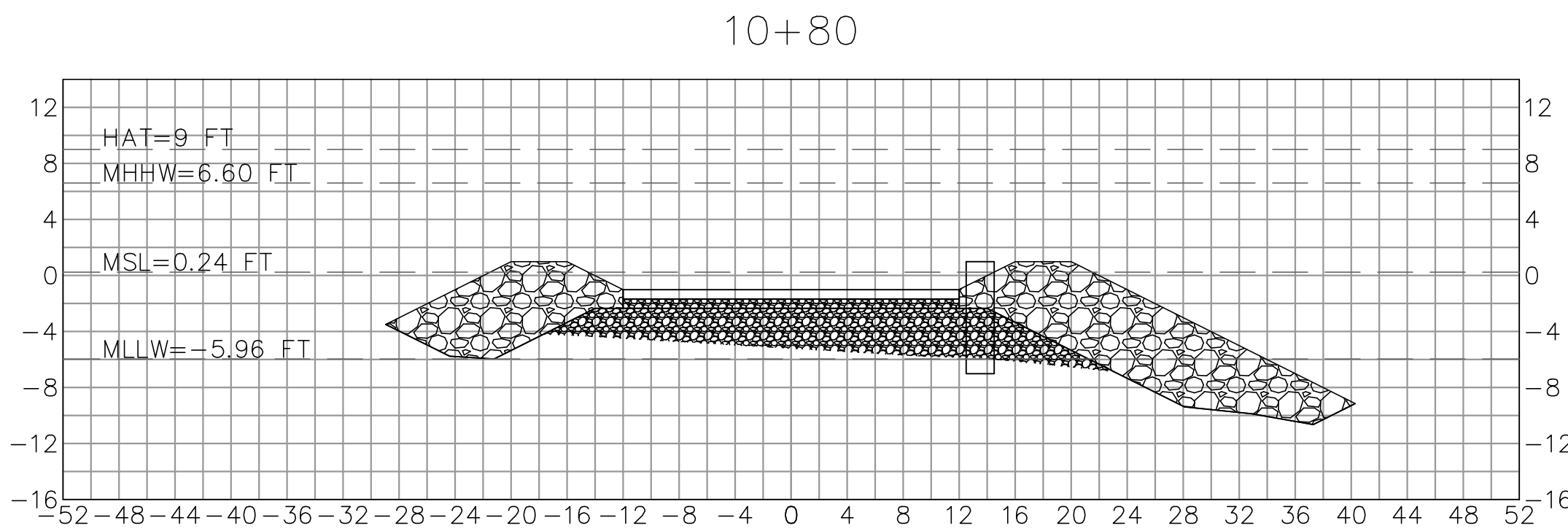
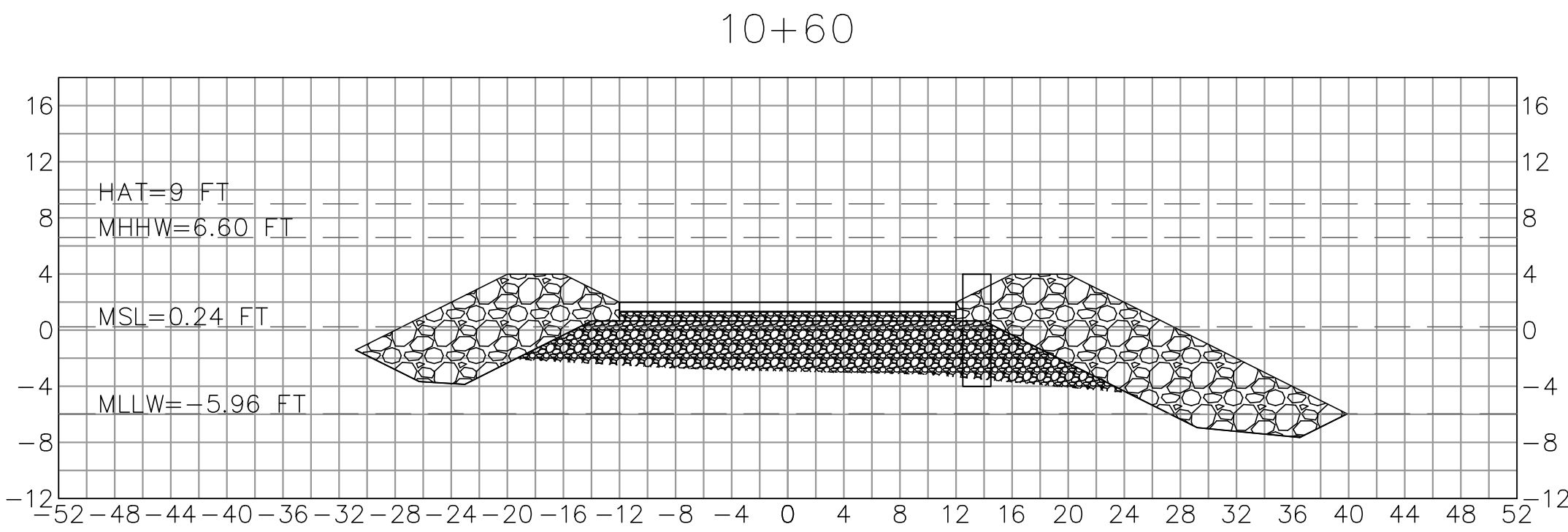
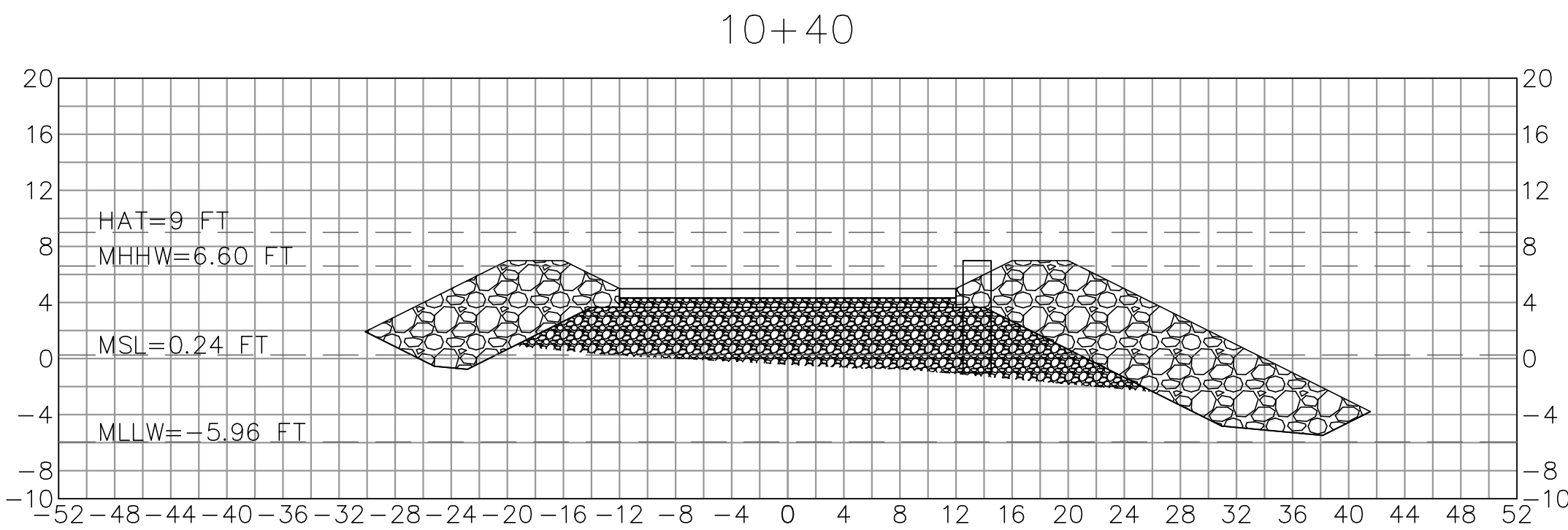
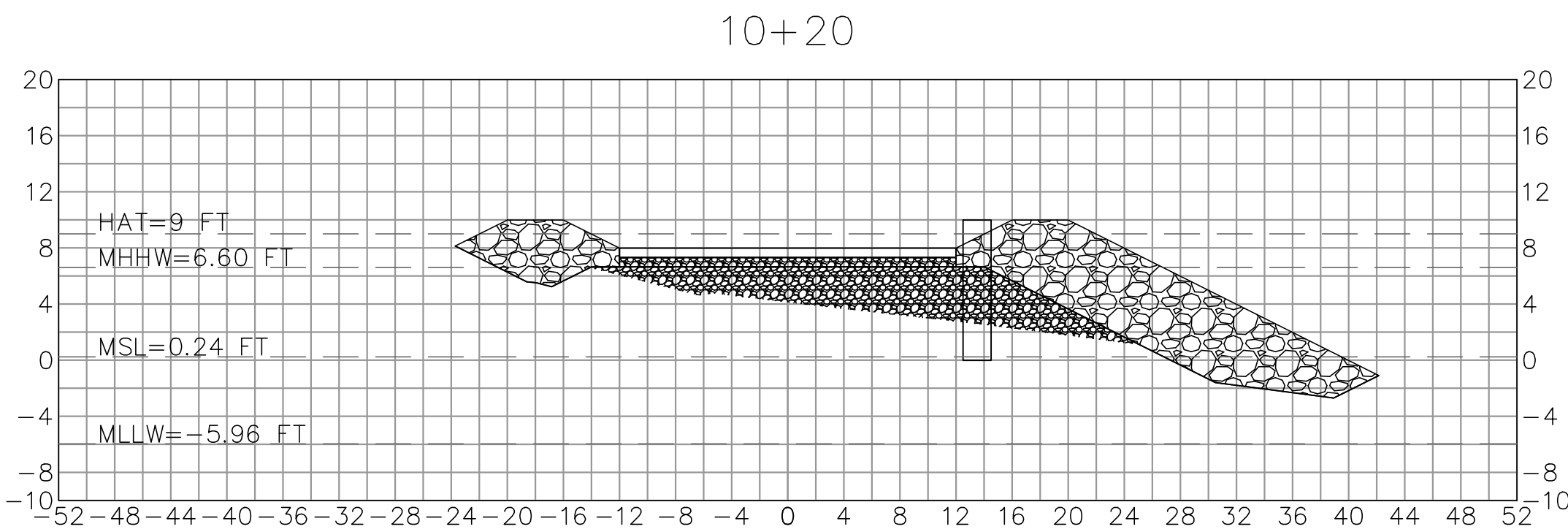
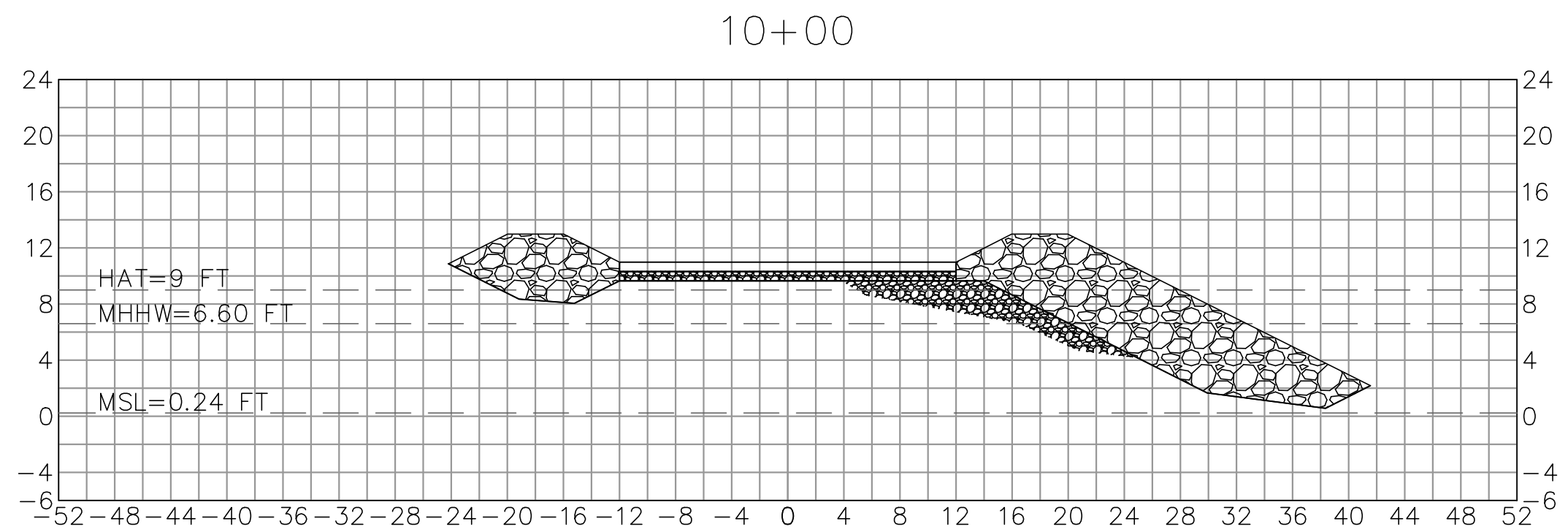
NOTES

1. PRECAST MANUFACTURER SHALL DETERMINE PICK POINTS FOR TRANSPORTATION DELIVERY & INSTALLATION. AFTER INSTALLATION, PICK POINT HARDWARE SHALL BE REMOVED AND GROUTED TO CREATE A LEVEL RAMP SURFACE,
2. PLACE BOAT RAMP PLANKS WITH TIGHT JOINTS.
3. FILTER FABRIC SHALL WRAP AROUND THE TOP OF THE AGGREGATE BASE COURSE ON EACH SIDE BY A MINIMUM LENGTH OF 2'-0".



<div> <div>  <p>120 ST. JAMES AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR BOSTON, MA 02116</p> </div> <div> <p><b>ORRINGTON BOAT LAUNCH BOAT RAMP SECTIONS I</b></p> </div> </div>		<p>TOWN OF ORRINGTON ONE MUNICIPAL WAY ORRINGTON, ME 04474</p>		<div> <div> <div>DESIGNED BY: S.DEANGELIS</div> <div>DRAWN BY: S.DEANGELIS</div> <div>CHECKED BY: C. MORIN</div> <div>APPROVED BY:</div> </div> <div> <div>NO.</div> <div>DATE</div> <div>REVISION</div> <div>BY</div> <div>APVD</div> </div> </div>										<p>CRAIG R. MORIN, PE MAINE PE NO. 10209</p>	
C-322		DATE 07/17/2025													
		PROJ F4Y77301													
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		SHEET 17 of 28													

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TOWN OF ORRINGTON  
ONE MUNICIPAL WAY  
ORRINGTON, ME 04474

100% SUBMISSION

**Jacobs**  
120 ST. JAMES AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR  
BOSTON, MA 02116

ORRINGTON BOAT LAUNCH  
BOAT RAMP SECTIONS II

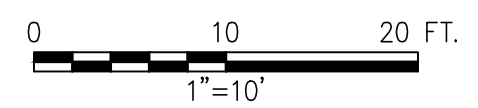
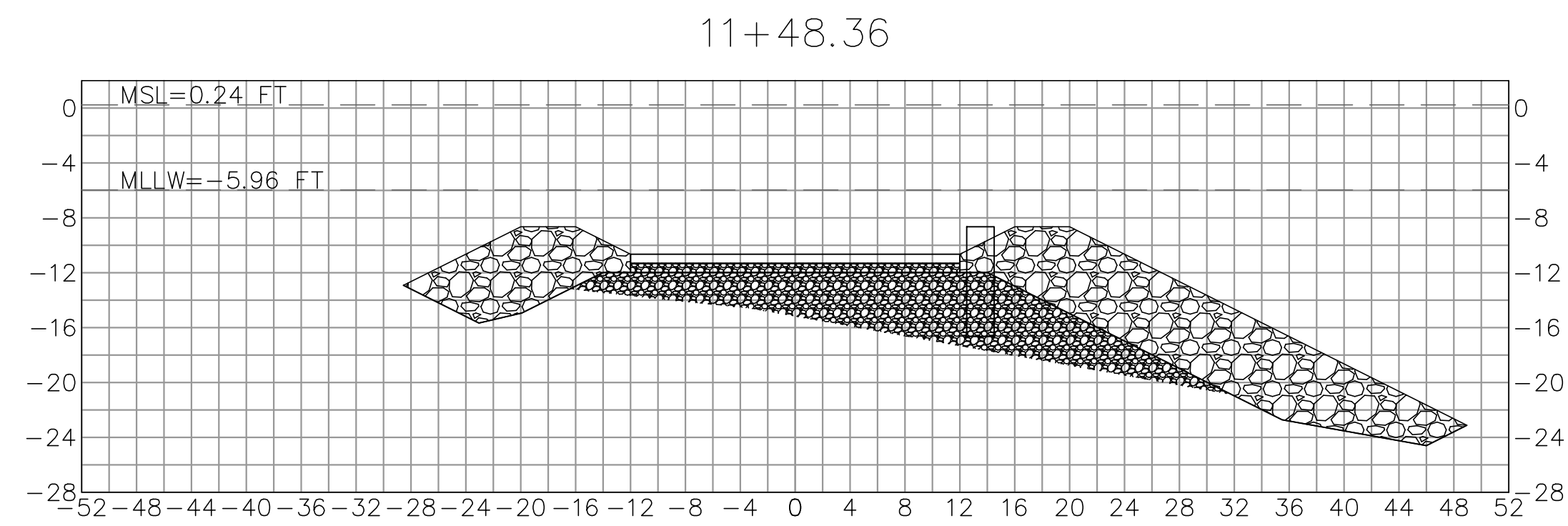
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PROJ	F4Y77301
SCALE	1"=10'
SHEET	18 of 28

CRAIG R. MORIN, PE  
MAINE PE  
NO. 10209

NO.	DATE	DRAWN BY:	DESIGNED BY:	REVISION	CHECKED BY:	APPROVED BY:	BY:
		S.DEANGELIS	S.DEANGELIS		C. MORIN		APVD





**Jacobs**  
120 ST. JAMES AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR  
BOSTON, MA 02116

# ORRINGTON BOAT LAUNCH BOAT RAMP SECTIONS III

TOWN OF ORRINGTON  
ONE MUNICIPAL WAY  
ORRINGTON, ME 04474

## 100% SUBMISSION

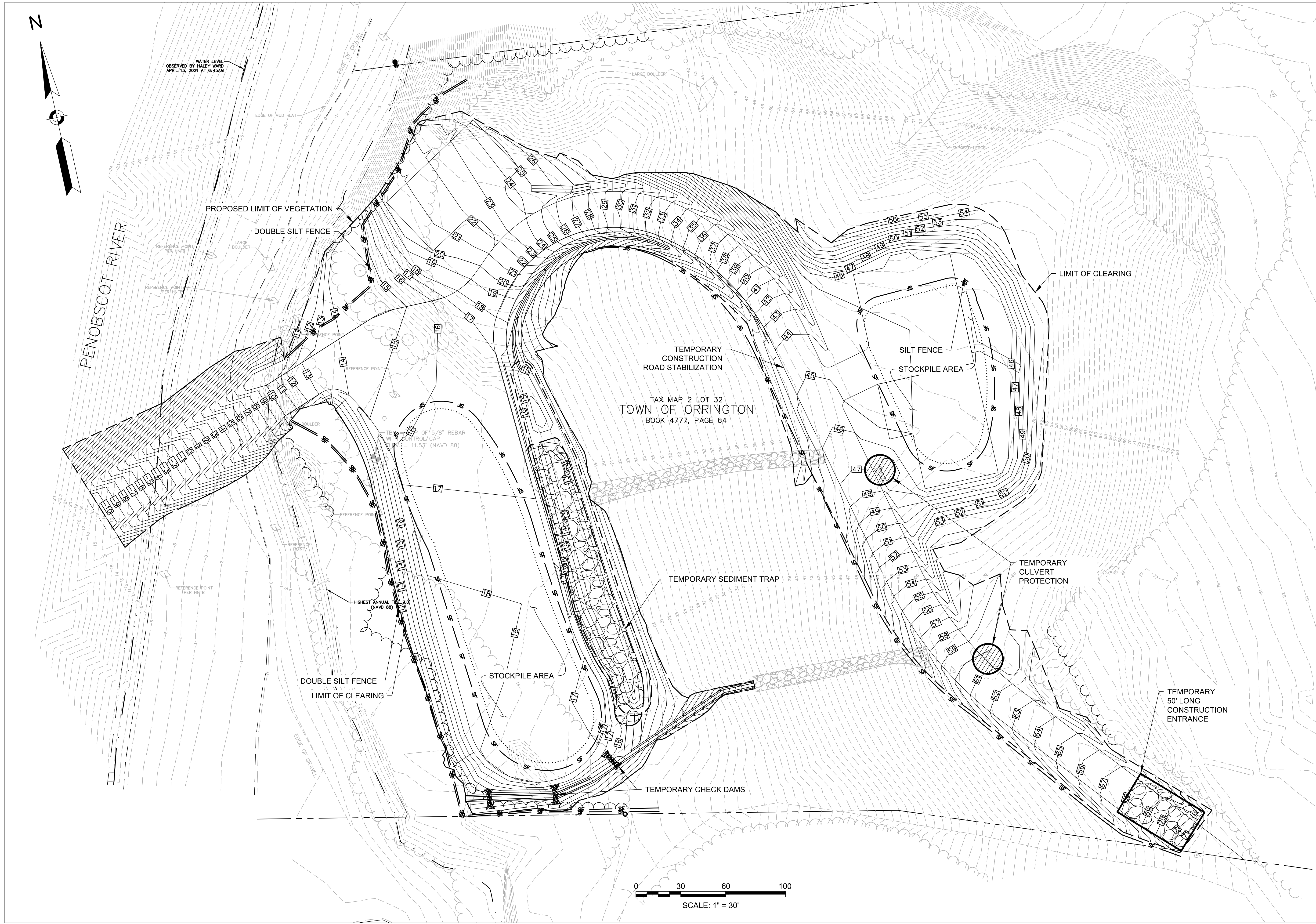
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PROJ	F4Y77301
SCALE	1"=10'
SHEET	19 of 28

CRAIG R. MORIN, PE  
MAINE PE  
NO. 10209

NO.	DATE	REVISION		BY	APVD
DESIGNED BY: S.DEANGELIS		DRAWN BY: S.DEANGELIS		APPROVED BY: C. MORIN	

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<b>Jacobs</b> 120 ST. JAMES AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR BOSTON, MA 02116	<b>ORRINGTON BOAT LAUNCH EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN</b>	<b>100% SUBMISSION</b>		TOWN OF ORRINGTON ONE MUNICIPAL WAY ORRINGTON, ME 04474	
		C-500			
DATE 07/17/2025		PROJ F4Y77301		SCALE 1"=30'	
SHEET 23 of 26		DESIGNED BY: W. ZUBRICK		DRAWN BY: E. DRIZIK	
		REVISION		CHECKED BY: C. MORIN	
		APPROVED BY:		BY: APVD	
		C. MORIN		C. MORIN	
		NO. DATE		CRAIG R. MORIN, PE MAINE PE NO. 10209	