



PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army
Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore
District

In Reply to Application Number
CENAB-OP-RMN(LAFARGE NORTH
AMERICA/DREDGING)05-64762-25

Comment Period: 04 August 2005 to 02 September 2005

PN-05-34

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. AT THIS TIME, NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED.

The Baltimore District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) and State authorization pursuant to the Tidal Wetlands Act and/or Nontidal Wetlands Protection Act, as described below:

APPLICANT *Lafarge North America*
 Attn: John R Era II
 5700 Chemical Rd
 Baltimore, MD 21226

LOCATION *Curtis Creek, Baltimore City, Maryland*

WORK: To hydraulically or mechanically maintenance dredge a portion of an existing 1, 617-foot-long by 110 to 759-foot-wide "Y"-shaped channel in Curtis Creek to a depth of -32.0 feet at MLW. The proposed dredging will result in approximately 30,000 cubic yards of material to be deposited at the Hart Miller Island Disposal Site. The applicant is also requesting periodic maintenance dredging for a period of 10 years, subject to prior notification of the District Engineer and availability of an adequate disposal site for the dredged material. The purpose of the proposed project is to maintain navigable depths for commercial watercraft to access the existing cement unloading facility.

All work is to be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact *Claudia R. Steele* at (410) 962-5675 or *Claudia.R.Steele@usace.army.mil*.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 04-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely effect essential fish habitat (EFH). Based on a preliminary EFH analysis, the Baltimore District has determined that there will not be a substantial adverse effect on EFH and an abbreviated consultation will be conducted with NMFS.

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 benefit 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 the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, 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.

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.

The applicant is required to obtain a water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water

Act from the Maryland Department of the Environment. Any written comments concerning the work described above which relate to water quality certification must be received by the Standards and Certification Division Maryland Department of the Environment, Montgomery Park Business Center, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430, Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1708 within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. The 401 certifying agency has a statutory limit of one year to make its decision.

The applicant has certified in this application that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner consistent with the Maryland Coastal Zone Program. This certification statement is available for inspection in the District Office; however, public comments relating to consistency must be received by the Coastal Zone Division, Maryland Department of the Environment, Montgomery Park Business Center, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430, Baltimore, Maryland, 21230-1708, within the comment period as specified above. It should be noted that CZ Division has a statutory limit of 6 months in which to make its consistency determination.

The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits which may be required.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

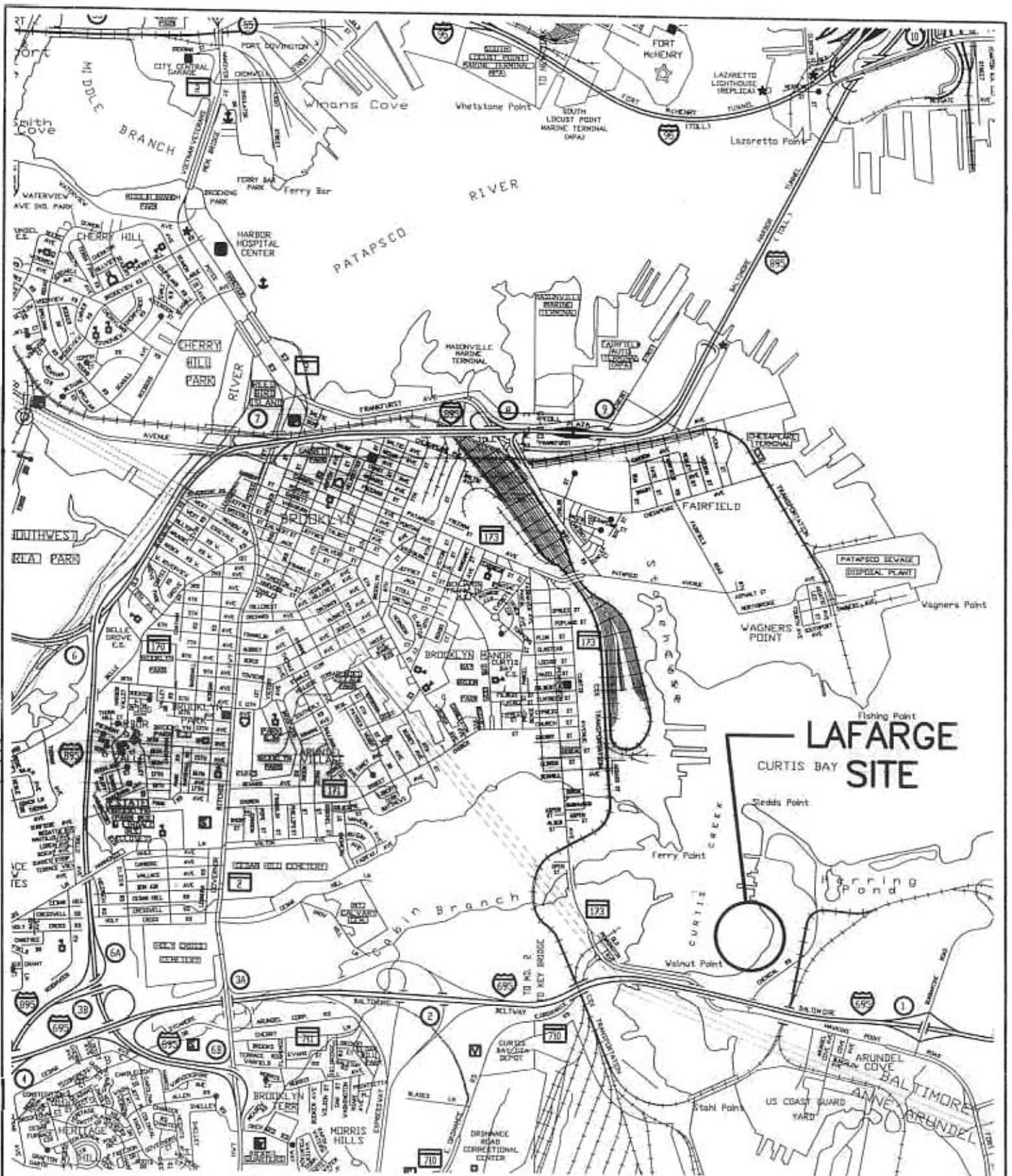
The evaluation of the impact of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may request a public hearing. The request, which must be in writing, must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period as specified as above to receive consideration. Also, it must clearly state forth the interest which may be adversely affected by this activity in the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected.

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

For

Janet M. Vire
Chief, Regulatory Branch



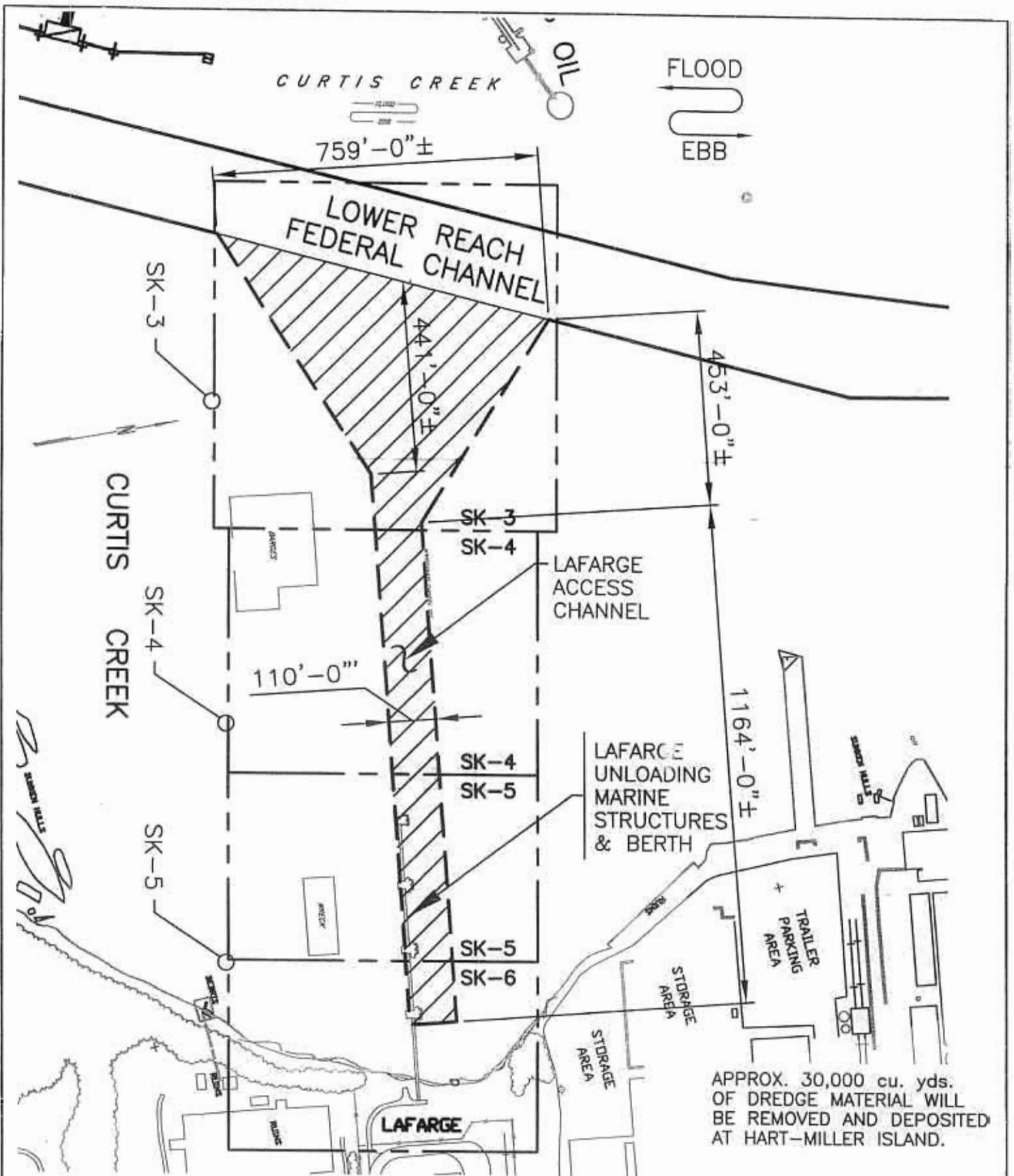
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249 Fairmount Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21286
410-512-4500

VICINITY PLAN
LAFARGE NORTH AMERICA
CURTIS CREEK FACILITY
MAINTENANCE DREDGING
NOT TO SCALE

DATE:
6-10-05
DRAWING NO.
SK-1
WBCM NO.
20050037



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OVERALL PLAN

**LAFARGE NORTH AMERICA
CURTIS CREEK FACILITY
MAINTENANCE DREDGING
SCALE: 1" = 300'**

DATE:
6-10-05

DRAWING NO.
SK-2

WBCM NO.
20050037

LOWER REACH CHANNEL

EXTENT OF EXISTING CHANNEL DREDGE TO EL. -32.0

INDICATES SIDE SLOPES ASSUMED @ 3 TO 1

SK-3

SK-4

BARGES

PARTIAL PLAN

DATE: 6-10-05

LAFARGE NORTH AMERICA
CURTIS CREEK FACILITY
MAINTENANCE DREDGING

DRAWING NO. SK-3

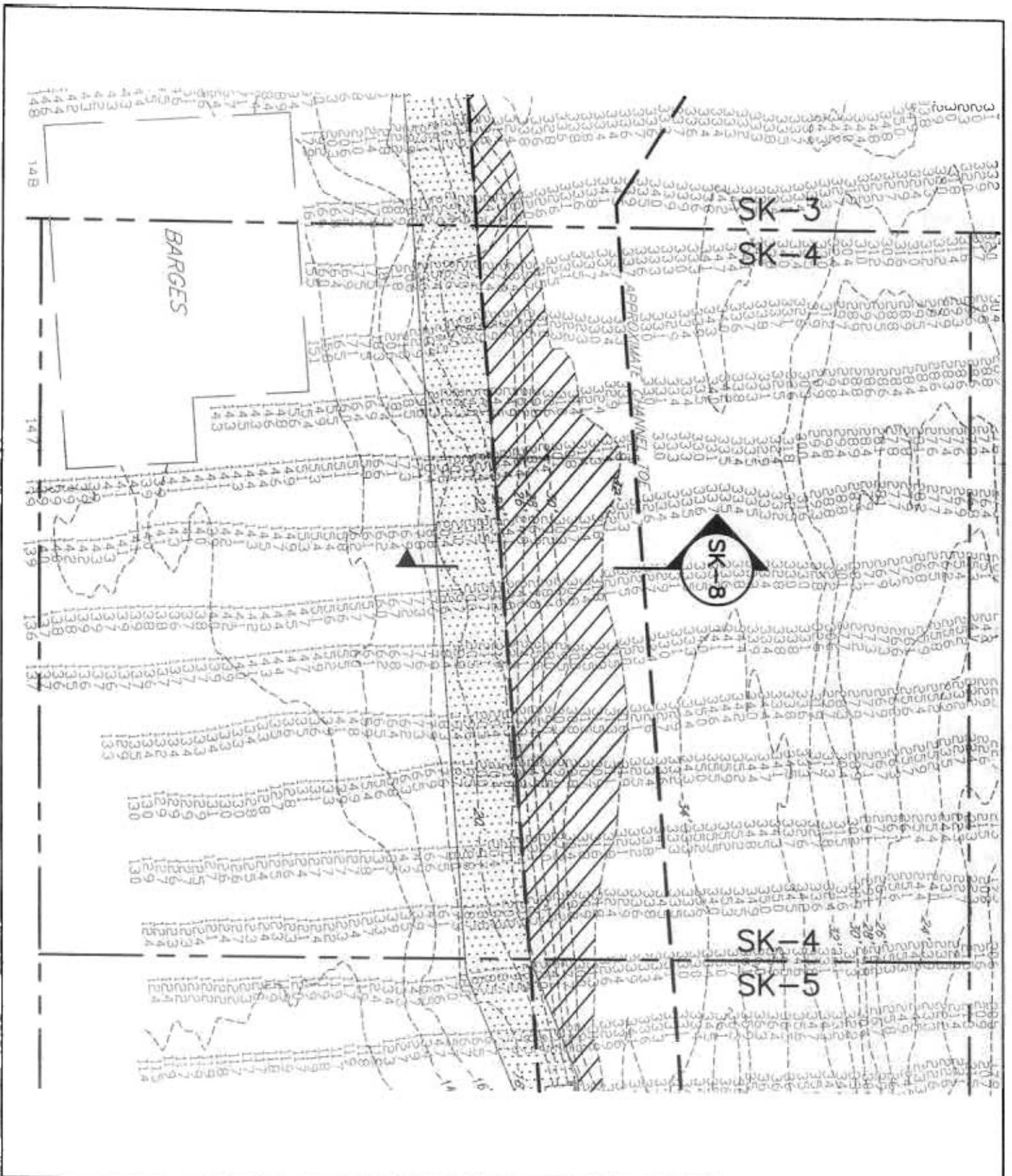
WBCM NO. 20050037

SCALE: 1" = 100'



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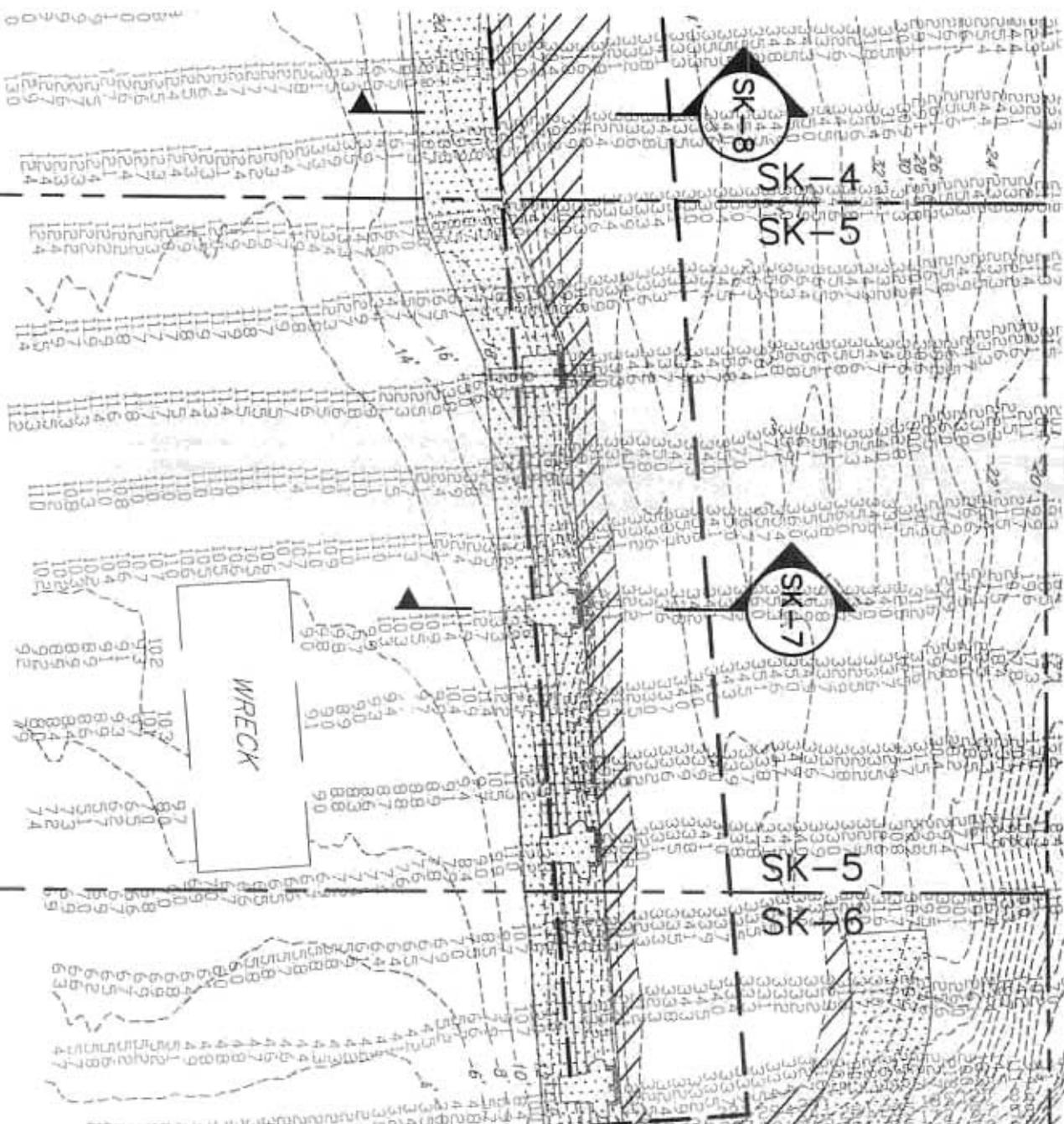
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Baltimore, MD 21286
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PARTIAL PLAN

**LAFARGE NORTH AMERICA
CURTIS CREEK FACILITY
MAINTENANCE DREDGING
SCALE: 1" = 100'**

DATE:
6-10-05
DRAWING NO.
SK-4
WBCM NO.
20050037



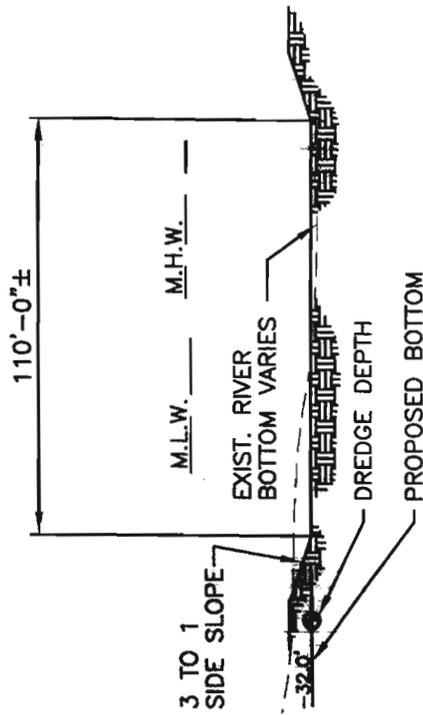
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PARTIAL PLAN
LAARGE NORTH AMERICA
CURTIS CREEK FACILITY
MAINTENANCE DREDGING
 SCALE: 1" = 100'

DATE:
 6-10-05
 DRAWING NO.
 SK-5
 WBCM NO.
 20050037



SECTION B - B

Jun 15, 2005 11:50am User: defox



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SECTION B-B

**LAFARAGE NORTH AMERICA
 CURTIS CREEK FACILITY
 MAINTENANCE DREDGING
 NOT TO SCALE**

DATE:
 6-10-05

DRAWING NO.
 SK-8

WBCM NO.
 20050037