

**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers**

Baltimore District
PN-24-18

Public Notice

**In Reply to Application Number
NAB-2024-60545-P05 (GreenVest, LLC - Habitat Re-
Establishment)**

Comment Period: June 18, 2024 to July 17, 2024

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO INFORM INTERESTED PARTIES OF THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY AND TO SOLICIT COMMENTS. NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED AT THIS TIME.

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (33 USC 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344), as described below:

APPLICANT:

GreenVest, LLC
Mr. Brian Cramer, Vice President
4201 Northview Drive, Suite 202
Bowie, Maryland 20716

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK:

The proposed project is located in the Patapsco River between the South Hanover Street and Potee Street Bridges, in Baltimore, Maryland.
Latitude/Longitude: (39.2461, -76.6115).

OVERALL PROJECT PURPOSE:

Perform tidal marsh restoration with the goal of aquatic habitat enhancement, through restoration of hydrologic connections of the existing marsh located on the subject site to the Patapsco River and reestablishment of submergent and shallow emergent marsh habitat. The project is a phase of the overall Reimagine Middle Branch plan which proposes to create marshlands, habitats, and public access along 11-miles of shoreline of the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

To enhance an approximate 5.0-acres of existing marsh located on the west side of Reed Bird Island, west of the Hanover Street Bridge, east of the Potee Street Bridge, at the site identified as Patapsco River East Bank. The existing marsh consists of approximately 4.9-acres of phragmites and 0.1-acre of mixed native/non-native

vegetation marsh. The proposed marsh project at Patapsco River East Bank consists of the following work: removal of the existing 4.9-acre phragmites marsh by mechanically grading and removing 2,858-cubic-yards of material and reusing the material on-site to create high and low marsh; to construct approximately 570-linear-feet, 0.10-acres/4,471-square-feet of segmented gravel stone sill with 148-cubic-yards of gravel; enhance the graded phragmites marsh with approximately 1.21-acres/52,832-square-feet of native low marsh vegetation and approximately 3.79-acres/165,121-square-feet of native high marsh vegetation. Work will not extend channelward of the existing marsh. The proposed marsh includes various woody debris features for both stability and habitat located within the marsh and at the sill vents, unplanted sand and cobble sections to facilitate fish passage. All work is proposed in accordance with the attached plans.

EFFECTS ON AQUATIC RESOURCES:

Activity (i.e. culvert)	Stream Impact (lf)	Wetland Impact (Acre/Ft ²)	Authority (Section 10/404/408)
Stone sill	570	0.10 / 4,471	Section 10/404
High Marsh		1.21 / 52,832	Section 10/404
Low Marsh		3.79 / 165,121	Section 10/404

LEAD FEDERAL AGENCY:

The United States Army Corps of Engineers, as the lead federal agency, is responsible for all coordination pursuant to applicable federal authorities.

APPLICANT'S PROPOSED AVOIDANCE, MINIMIZATION, AND COMPENSATORY MITIGATION:

The proposed project purpose is aquatic habitat enhancement through restoration of hydrologic connections of the existing marsh to the Patapsco River and reestablishment of submergent and shallow emergent marsh habitat within the Patapsco River, in Baltimore City, Maryland. The proposed project does not extend channelward of the existing marsh. All material excavated from the existing project site will be regraded on site to achieve the goals of restoring hydrologic connections and reestablishment of marsh habitat. Fill material imported will be limited to gravel required for the construction of stone sill to ensure project edge stability along the waters' edge.

CORPS EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS:

This project will be evaluated pursuant to Corps Regulatory Program Regulations (33 CFR Parts 320-332). The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, 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 reasonable 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, economic, 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, mineral needs, and consideration of property ownership and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The evaluation of the impact of this project will also include application of the Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, United States Environmental Protection Agency.

ENDANGERED SPECIES:

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will have no effect federally listed threatened or endangered 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.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), 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 on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), including species of concern, life cycle habitat, or Habitat Areas of Particular Concern. The project site lies in or adjacent to EFH as described under MSFCMA for managed species under the MSFCMA. The Baltimore District has made a preliminary determination that the project will have no adverse effect on EFH. The Baltimore District has made a preliminary determination that mitigative measures are not required to minimize adverse effects on EFH at this time. This determination may be modified if additional information indicates otherwise.

HISTORIC RESOURCES:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and applicable guidance, the Corps has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and initially determined that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion, therein, are located at the site of the proposed work. The Corps has made the preliminary determination that the proposed project would have no effect on historic

properties. The Corps final eligibility and effect determination will be based on coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office 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.

TRIBAL RESOURCES:

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act also requires federal agencies to consult with federally recognized American Indian tribes that attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by the agency's undertaking. Corps Tribal Consultation Policy mandates an open, timely, meaningful, collaborative, and effective deliberative communication process that emphasizes trust, respect, and shared responsibility. The policy further emphasizes that, to the extent practicable and permitted by law, consultation works toward mutual consensus and begins at the earliest planning stages before decisions are made and actions taken. The Corps final eligibility and effect determination will be based on coordination with interested tribes, in accordance with the Corps current tribal standard operating procedures as appropriate and required, and with full consideration given to the proposed undertaking's potential direct and indirect effects on tribal resources.

MODIFICATION OF CIVIL WORKS PROJECTS: 33 USC 408 (SECTION 408):

All Section 408 proposals will be coordinated internally at the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The Section 408 decision will be issued along with the Section 404 and/or Section 10 decision. Please see the following link for more information regarding Section 408: <https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Section-408-Requests/>.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:

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

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS:

Where applicable, the applicant has certified in this application that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this public notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

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

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS:

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 provided will become part of the public record for this action and are subject to release to the public through the Freedom of Information Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must be received by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District within the comment period specified above through postal mail at the address below or electronic submission to the project manager email address below. Written comments should reference the Application Number NAB-2024-60545-P05.

PUBLIC HEARING REQUESTS:

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 within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. Also, it must clearly set forth the interest which may be adversely affected by this activity and the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected. The public hearing request may be submitted by electronic mail or mailed to the following address:

Ms. Marion Gall
marion.gall@usace.army.mil
United States Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District
Regulatory Branch
1631 South Atherton Street, Suite 101
State College, Pennsylvania 16801

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

General information regarding the Corps' permitting process can be found on our website at <https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>. This public notice has been prepared in accordance with Corps implementing regulations at 33 CFR 325.3. If you have any questions concerning this specific project or would like to request a paper copy of this public notice, please contact Ms. Marion Gall at (814) 235-1761 or at marion.gall@usace.army.mil with NAB-2024-60545-P05 in the subject line. This public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Branch.



APPLICATION BY:
BRIAN CRAMER
GREENVEST, LLC
4201 NORTHVIEW DRIVE, SUITE 202
BOWIE, MD 20716

DATE ISSUES / REVISIONS

AGENT/ENGINEER:

The Stables Building 2081 Clipper Park Road
Baltimore, MD 21211 / ph: 410.554.0156
fx: 410.554.0168 / www.biohabitats.com
Restore the Earth & Inspire Ecological Stewardship

**MIDDLE BRANCH
RESILIENCY
INITIATIVE**

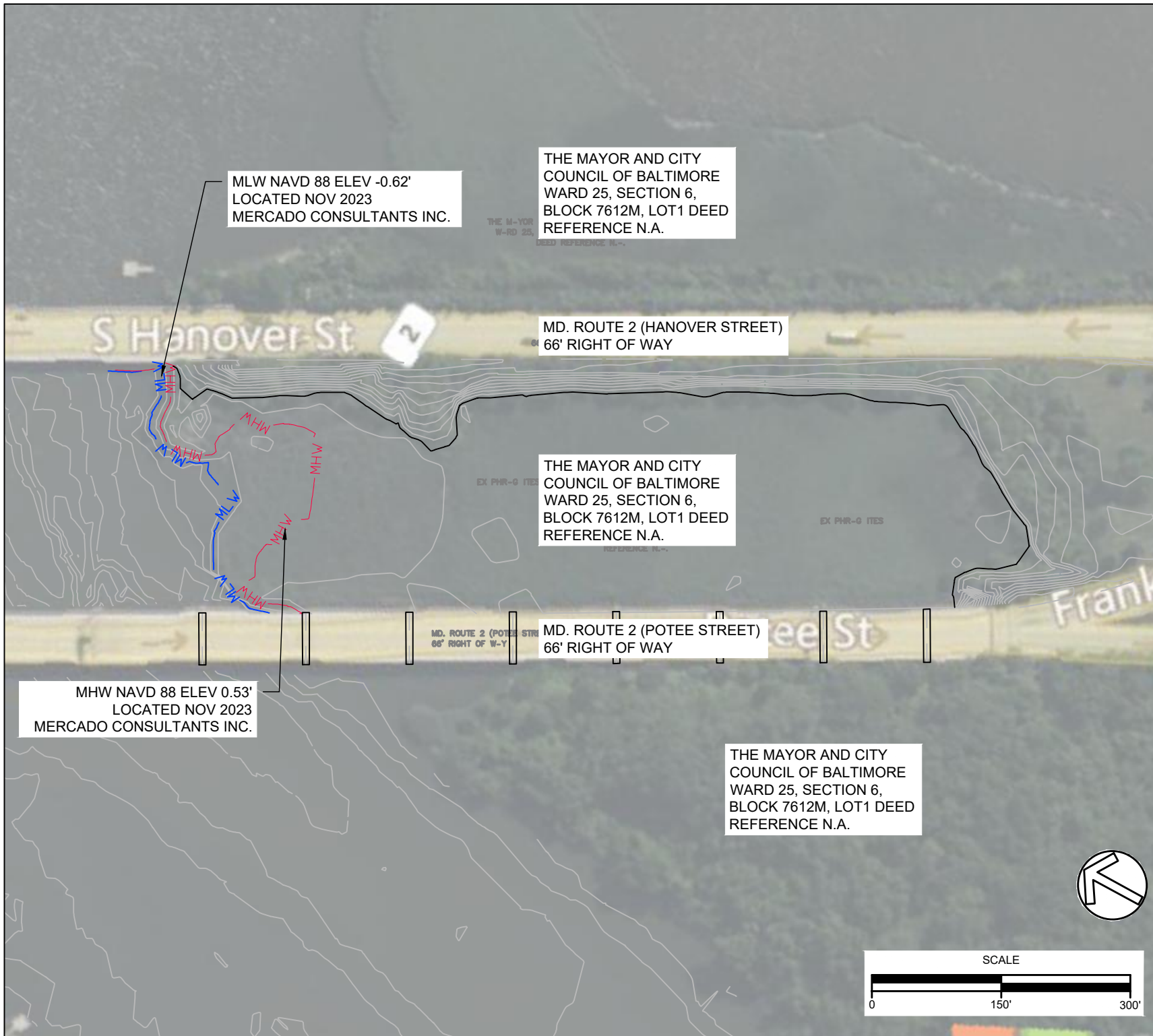
TITLE:
LOCATION PLAN

PROJECT NO. :
22002.04

SCALE:
NTS

BY: JP CHECK: CS

DWG. NO. :
2 OF 9



APPLICATION BY: BRIAN CRAMER GREENVEST, LLC 4201 NORTHVIEW DRIVE, SUITE 202 BOWIE, MD 20716 ----	
DATE	ISSUES / REVISIONS
AGENT/ENGINEER:  The Stables Building, 2081 Clipper Park Road Baltimore, MD 21211 / ph: 410.554.0156 fx: 410.554.0168 / www.biohabitats.com <i>Restore the Earth & Inspire Ecological Stewardship</i>	
MIDDLE BRANCH RESILIENCY INITIATIVE	
TITLE: EXISTING CONDITION	
PROJECT NO. : 22002.04	
SCALE: AS SHOWN	
BY: JP	CHECK: CS
DWG. NO. : 3 OF 9	

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Restore the Earth & Inspire Ecological Stewardship

MIDDLE BRANCH RESILIENCY INITIATIVE

TITLE: **PROPOSED
CONDITION**

PROJECT NO. :
22002.04

SCALE:
AS SHOWN

BY: JP CHECK: CS

DWG. NO. :
4 OF 9

PROPOSED MLW

PROPOSED MHW

SL-1

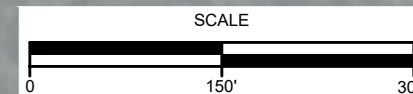
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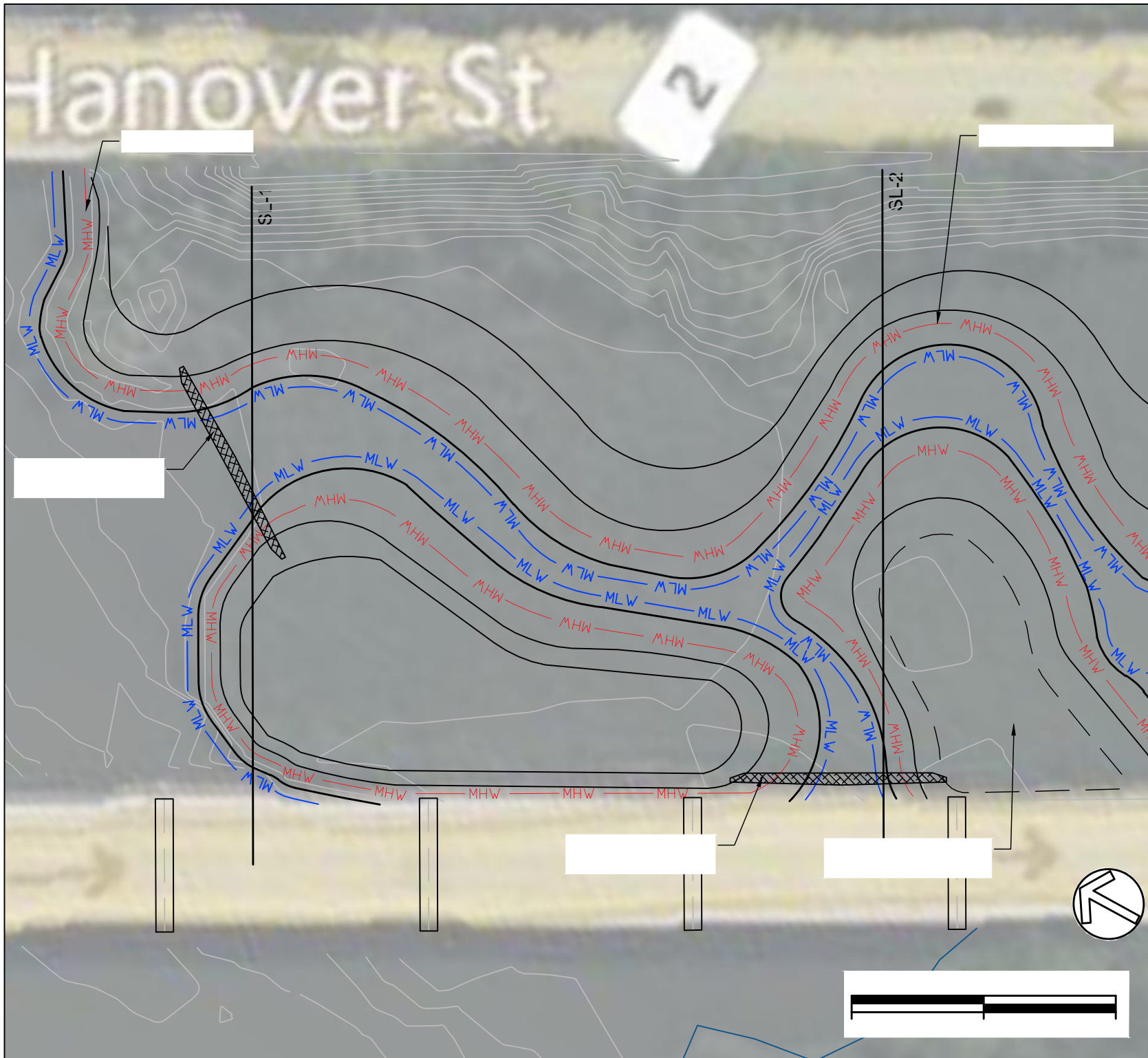
SL-3

LARGE WOODY VENT STRUCTURE

NOTES:

1. REMOVE INVASIVE PHRAGMITES AND TRASH DEBRIS FROM 4.9 AC OF TIDAL MARSH.
2. CONSTRUCT 570 LF OF STABILIZED SHORELINE REINFORCED WITH ROCK AND FILL (SHEET 8).
3. ACHIEVE CUT/FILL BALANCE BY EXCAVATING AND REGRADING APPROXIMATELY 2,860 CU YD OF MATERIAL.
4. INSTALL WETLAND PLANTS AND SHRUBS (SHEET 9).





APPLICATION BY:
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MATCHLINE- SEE SHEET 6

AGENT/ENGINEER:



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MIDDLE BRANCH RESILIENCY INITIATIVE

TITLE: ENLARGED
PROPOSED
CONDITION (1 OF 2)

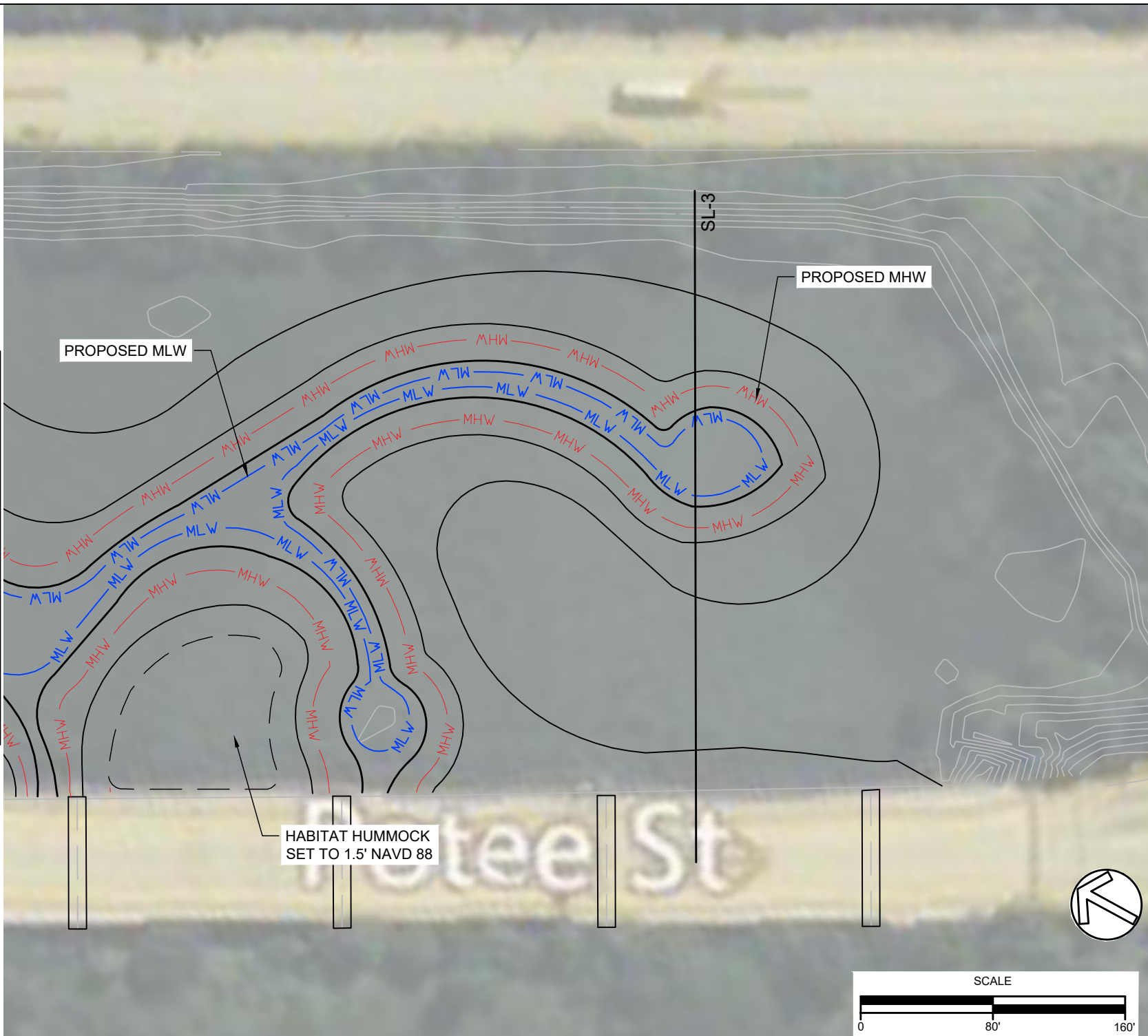
PROJECT NO.: 22002.04


SCALE: AS SHOWN

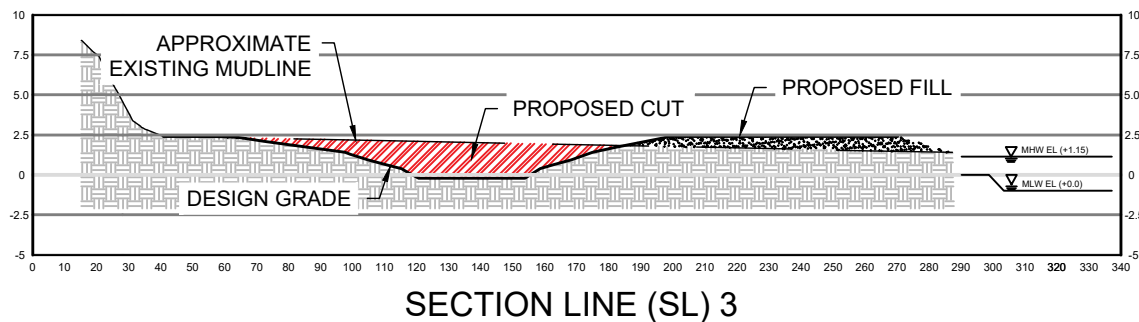
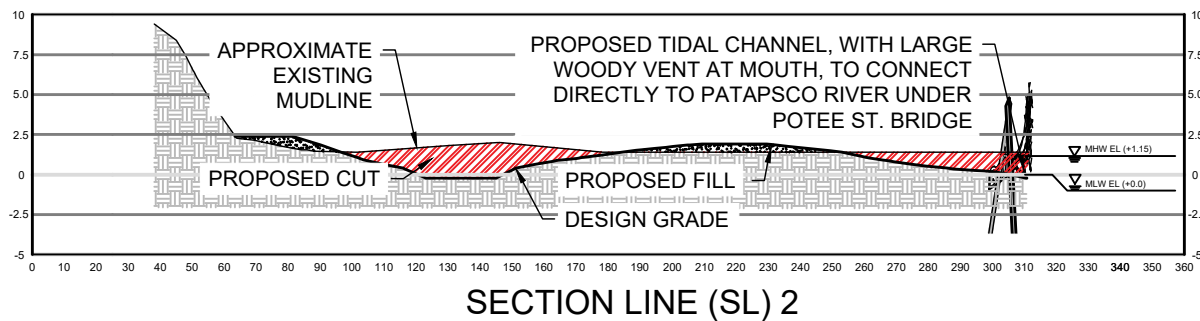
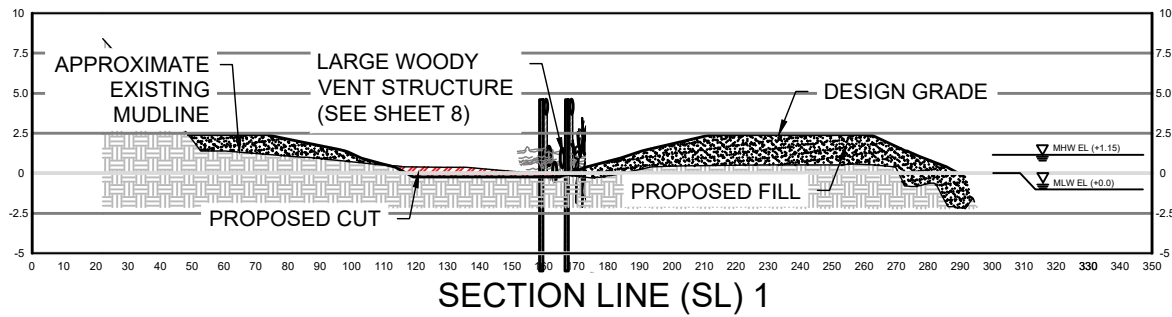
BY: JP CHECK: CS

DWG. NO.: 5 OF 9

MATCHLINE- SEE SHEET 5



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MIDDLE BRANCH RESILIENCY INITIATIVE	
ENLARGED PROPOSED CONDITION (2 OF 2)	
TITLE:	PROJECT NO. : 22002.04
SCALE: AS SHOWN	
BY: JP	CHECK: CS
DWG. NO. : 6 OF 9	



VERTICAL SCALE

HORIZONTAL SCALE



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**MIDDLE BRANCH
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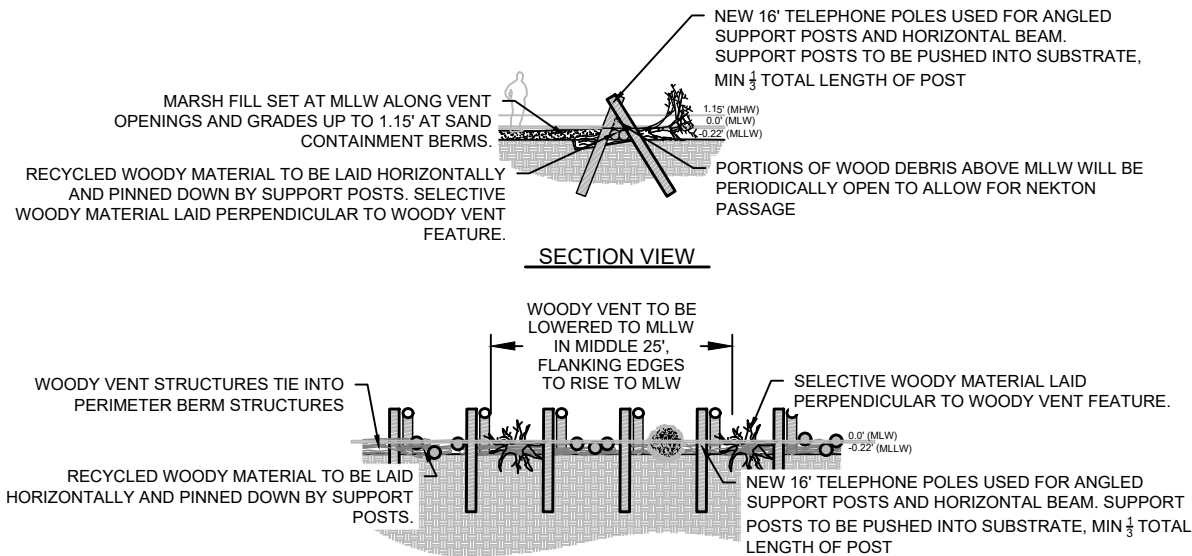
TITLE:
CROSS-SECTIONS

PROJECT NO. :
22002.04

SCALE:
AS SHOWN

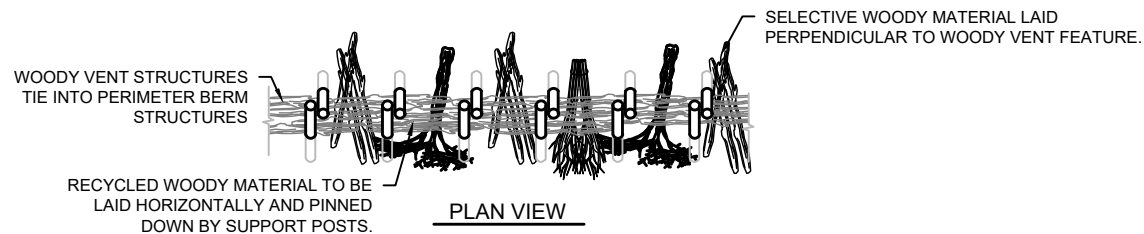
BY: JP	CHECK: CS
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DWG. NO. :
7 OF 9



SECTION VIEW

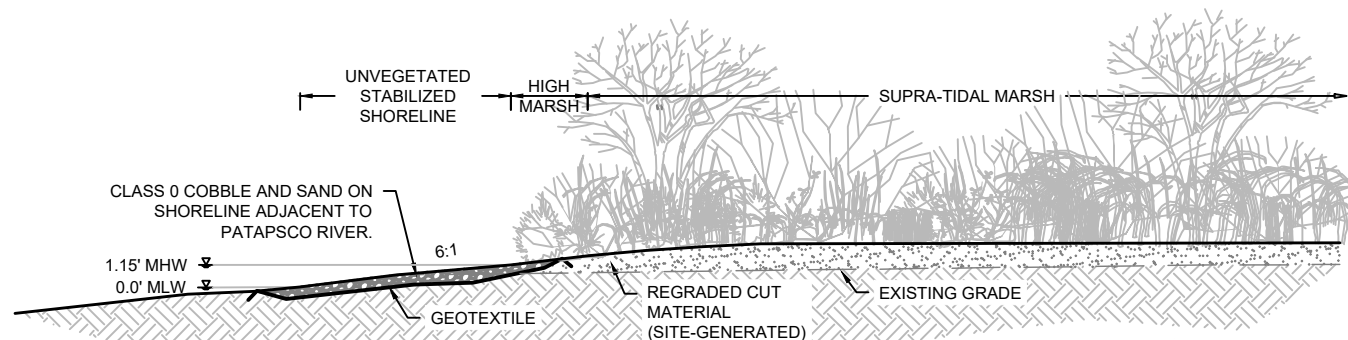
ELEVATION VIEW



PLAN VIEW

LARGE WOODY VENT STRUCTURE

NOT TO SCALE



TYPICAL 6:1 SHORELINE PROTECTION

NOT TO SCALE

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MIDDLE BRANCH RESILIENCY INITIATIVE

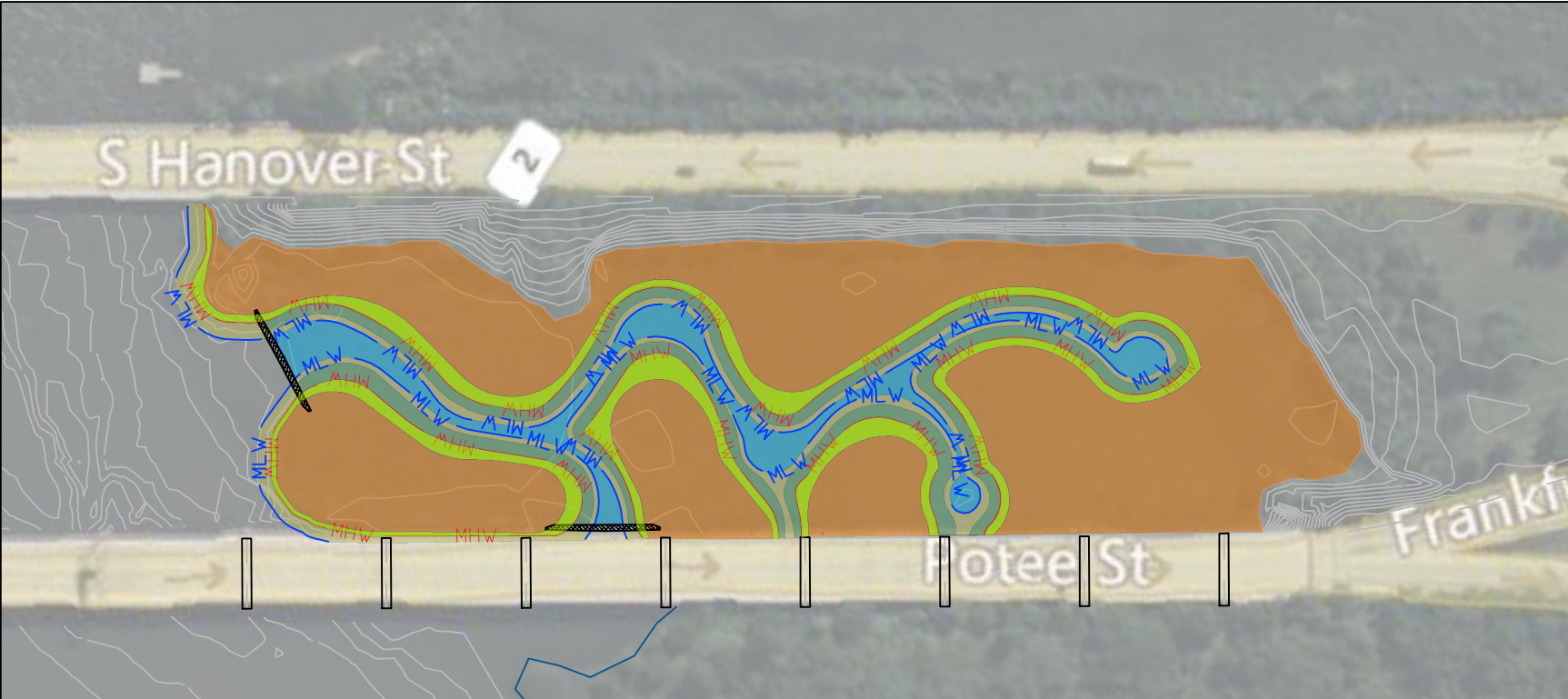
TITLE:
GENERAL DETAILS

PROJECT NO. :
22002.04

SCALE:
AS SHOWN

BY: JP	CHECK: CS
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DWG. NO. :
8 OF 9



LOW MARSH

Smooth cordgrass
Soft-stemmed bulrush
Sturdy bulrush

HIGH MARSH

Groundsel tree
Marsh hibiscus
Marsh elder

Sturdy bulrush
Saltgrass
Common three-square bulrush
Big Cordgrass
Tidmarsh amaranth
Olney's three-square bulrush
Virginia saltmarsh mallow
Saltmeadow cordgrass
Seaside Goldenrod
Perennial saltmarsh aster
Saltgrass

Sporobolus alterniflorus
Scirpus validus
Bolboschoenus robustus

Baccharis halimifolia
Hibiscus moscheutos
Iva frutescens

Bolboschoenus robustus
Distichlis spicata
Schoenoplectus pungens
Sporobolus cynosuroides
Amaranthus cannabinus
Schoenoplectus americanus
Kosteletzkya pentacarpos
Sporobolus pumilus
Solidago sempervirens
Symphyotricum undulatum
Distichlis spicata

LEGEND

- SHALLOW OPEN WATER
- MUDFLAT ZONE
- LOW MARSH ZONE
- HIGH MARSH ZONE
- SUPRATIDAL ZONE



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MIDDLE BRANCH
RESILIENCY
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TITLE:
PLANTING PLAN

PROJECT NO. :
22002.04

SCALE:
AS SHOWN

BY: JP CHECK: CS

DWG. NO. :
9 OF 9