



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT  
P.O. BOX 2288  
MOBILE, AL 36628-0001

**CESAM-RD-A**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2021-01100-EAH**

**August 23, 2022**

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND**  
**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**REQUEST TO DREDGE AND IMPACT WETLANDS IN CONJUNCTION**  
**WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH AND RECREATION**  
**AREA ON BON SECOUR RIVER, BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT:** Baldwin County Commission  
Attention: Mr. Joey Nunnally, P.E., County Engineer  
P.O. Box 220  
Silverhill, Alabama 36576

**AGENT:** Wetland Sciences, Inc.  
Attention: Mr. Craig Martin  
3308 Gulf Beach Highway  
Pensacola, Florida 32507

**LOCATION:** Bon Secour River off County Road 6; within Section 35, Township 8 South, Range 3 East; at Latitude 30.307238, Longitude -87.723800; in Gulf Shores, Baldwin County, Alabama.

**PROJECT PURPOSE:** Provide outdoor recreational opportunities to the public which includes boating access to navigable waters and fishing piers.

**PROPOSED WORK:** Following removal of the existing remnant pile-supported structures and private boat ramp, the applicant proposes new channel dredging and the construction of a public boat ramp with access piers, a kayak launch, and two fishing piers. The dredge footprint would include a navigation channel and boat launch basin, encompassing 1.61 acre of waterbottoms. Approximately 6,528-cubic-yards of sediment would be dredged, by hydraulic means, to a depth of 7-feet at Mean Low Water. Dredged material would be pumped to a 0.83-acre dewatering basin to decant and be spread on the upland property. The new concrete boat ramp would be 162-foot-long by 40-foot-wide and would involve the discharge of fill material within 0.033-acre of emergent wetlands and 0.062 acre of waterbottoms. Two 6-foot-wide, L-shaped access piers would be constructed adjacent to the

boat ramp for docking and staging while launching and retrieving vessels. A kayak launch would be constructed northwest of the boat ramp and would include a 55-foot-long by 6-foot-wide boardwalk, a 10-foot square platform, a 20-foot-long gangway and kayak chute, and a 16-foot-long by 24-foot-wide floating platform. The northern fishing pier would be located between the kayak launch and the boat ramp and would include a 107-foot-long by 6-foot-wide access pier over wetlands and a terminal 8-foot-long by 22-foot-wide open deck. The southern fishing pier would be located southeast of the boat ramps and would include a 49-foot-long by 6-foot-wide access pier and a terminal 8-foot-long by 22-foot-wide open deck. Upland development would include 76 vehicle-trailer parking spaces and 32 standard vehicle parking spaces, a 1,400-linear-foot gravel walking trail along the perimeter of the development, a 1,000-square-foot restroom facility adjacent to the parking area, and a 220-square-foot pavilion to be located near the southern fishing pier.

**AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION:** The applicant submitted a wetland delineation identifying 0.99-acre of wetlands located north of the existing boat ramp and 0.026-acre of wetlands located south of the existing boat ramp. The proposed project would cause the permanent loss of 0.033-acre of the narrowest portion of wetlands to the north. Fill impacts to wetlands located to the south would be avoided. A 30-foot wetland buffer would be maintained for the avoidance of impacts to the remaining wetlands. At this time, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has not determined the adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and minimization efforts for the proposed activity.

**MITIGATION:** The applicant proposes to mitigate for wetland fill and shading impacts through preservation, protection, and enhancement of existing on-site wetlands. The applicant's submitted plan proposes the installation of ten low-profile segmented oyster breakwater structures in waters fronting the 0.026-acre wetland area located south of the boat ramp. The structures would be located approximately 30-linear-feet waterward of the existing Mean High Water shoreline and would span an estimated 150-linear-feet of nearshore waterbottoms. Planting of 2,000 *Spartina alterniflora* is proposed landward of the breakwaters, to be established on 18-inch centers, for a total creation and enhancement area of 4,500-square-feet. The applicant estimates the proposal represents a 3.5:1 creation to impact ratio. A 5-year monitoring and maintenance plan has been provided with the mitigation proposal. At this time, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has not determined the adequacy of the applicant's mitigation proposal.

**WATER QUALITY / COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT:** The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Alabama in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, and for a consistency determination regarding Coastal Zone regulations in accordance with the Alabama Coastal Area Management Program. Upon completion of the required advertising and public comment review, a determination relative to Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone consistency will be made by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. This notice will serve as the notification to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pursuant to section 401(a)(2) of the Clean Water Act.

**HISTORIC PROPERTIES:** In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Appendix C of 33 CFR Part 325, the undertaking defined in this notice

is being considered for the potential to affect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR Part 325, the Mobile District has determined the permit area consists of the entire undertaking in waters of the United States, as well as the entire upland development. Past uses of the subject parcels include a recreational vehicle (RV)/travel trailer park, single-family residential developments, and a private water-access area. As described above, the property features an existing concrete boat ramp, adjacent bulkhead, and pier to be removed. An additional multi-vessel dock was previously located to the north of the existing structures. The currently proposed boat ramp, access piers, and mitigation area would occur within the footprint of the previous structures. Development of the upland recreation area and the dewatering pit would occur within the footprint of the past developments.

At this time, the USACE, Mobile District has not made a final determination regarding potential effects of the project on cultural/historic resources. The permit area described above will be reviewed by the USACE District Archaeologist to provide a recommendation on the potential for existence of cultural and historic properties. The National Register of Historic Places will be consulted for properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register, which are known to exist and would be affected by the proposed work. The Mobile District is seeking comments regarding the existence, or the potential for existence, of significant cultural and historic properties within the permit area. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or federally-recognized American Indian tribes will be performed as determined to be appropriate.

**ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT:** This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The project under review would result in dredging impacts to approximately 1.61 acre of un-vegetated estuarine substrate, shading impacts to 0.037 acre of tidal wetlands, and 0.033 acre of dredging impacts to tidal wetlands, which are all EFH complexes utilized by various life stages of multiple marine species. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have an adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries due to the minor area of impact and proposed mitigation activities. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigative measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate the proposed activity may affect the West Indian manatee (T) and the Alabama red-bellied turtle and will have no effect on the following listed endangered or threatened species with the potential to exist within the watershed of the permit area: wood stork (T) and eastern indigo snake (T). There is no designated critical habitat within the project action area. The above determination is based on review of the Standard Local Operating Procedures for Endangered Species (SLOPES) programmatic agreement species effects determination keys for the aforementioned listed species and is being coordinated with the USFWS via this Public Notice.

**COMMENTS:** This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the USACE can be based. The Mobile

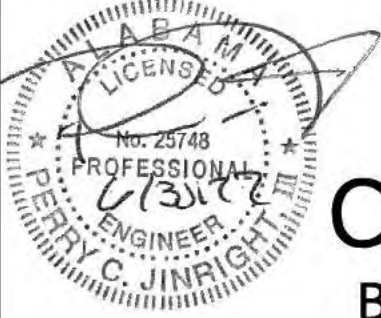
District is soliciting comments from the public, federal, state and local agencies and officials, Indian tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the USACE to determine whether to issue, modify, 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 below. 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. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing, setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition.

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, historic properties, 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. Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will also include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**All comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this Public Notice.** Correspondence concerning this notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2021-01100-EAH**, and should be directed to the District Engineer, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Attention: Ms. Elizabeth A. Hamilton, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, or by e-mail at [elizabeth.a.hamilton@usace.army.mil](mailto:elizabeth.a.hamilton@usace.army.mil), or (251) 690-3262. Copies of all comments should be furnished to the ADEM at [coastal@adem.alabama.gov](mailto:coastal@adem.alabama.gov), or sent to: Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Mobile Branch, Coastal Section, 3664 Dauphin Street, Suite B, Mobile, Alabama 36608.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at [www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx).

Attachments



JINRIGHT & ASSOCIATES DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS  
208 Greeno Road N., Ste. C Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
P.O. Box 1929 Fairhope, Alabama 36533  
Phone: (251) 928-3443 Fax: (251) 928-3665  
jadengineers.com

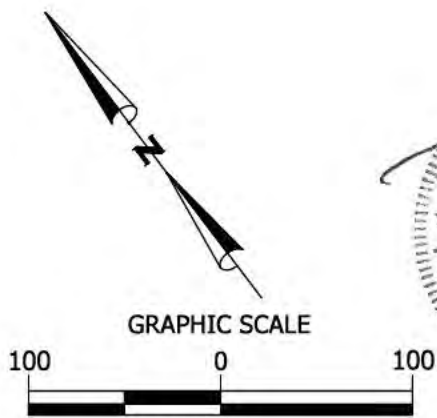
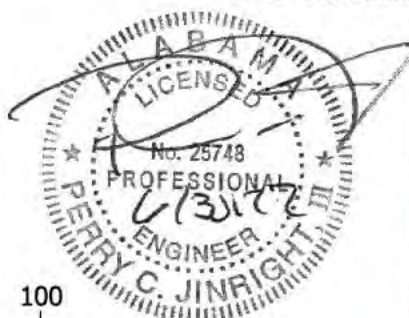
# CR 6 - BOAT RAMP

## BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA



SHEET  
C1





GRAPHIC SCALE

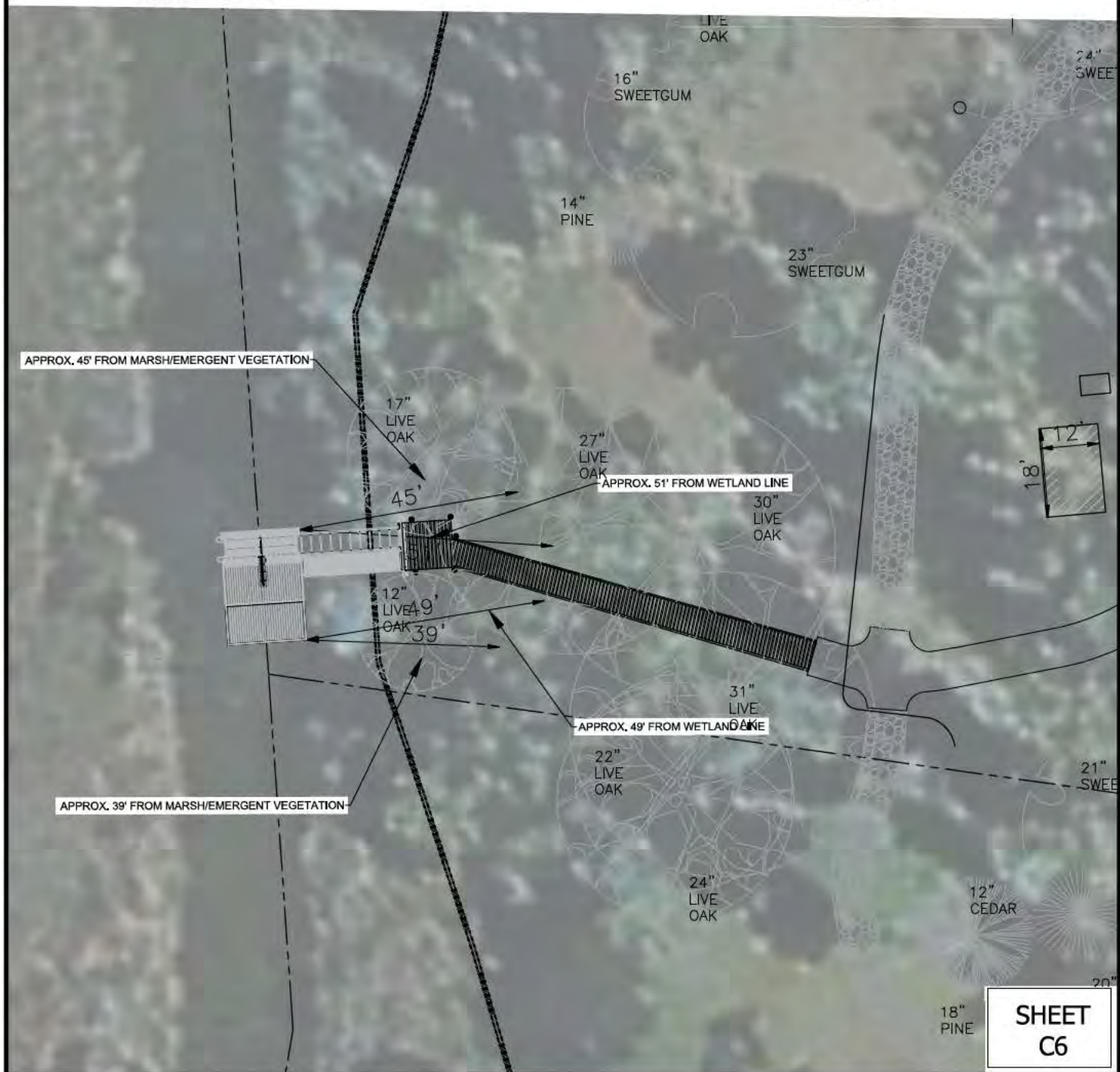
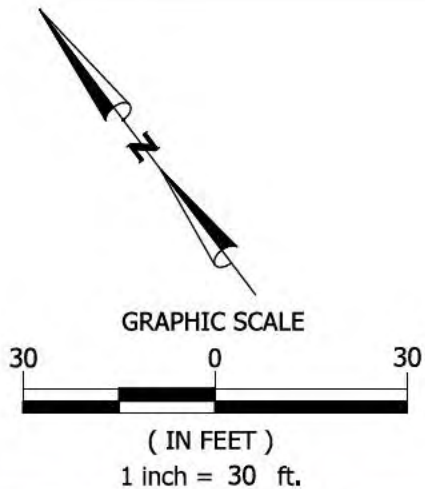
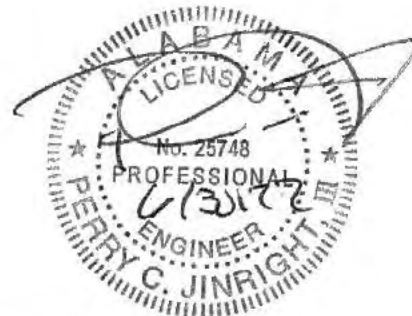
( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 100 ft.

SITE DATA TABLE	
STATE OF ALABAMA BALDWIN COUNTY	
30°18'23.36" N	87°43'21.60" W
EXIST. WETLAND DATA:	
SITE AREA:	14.92 AC
REMAIN. WETLANDS - UNDISTURBED:	0.955 AC
WETLANDS - PROPOSED IMPACT:	0.0333 AC



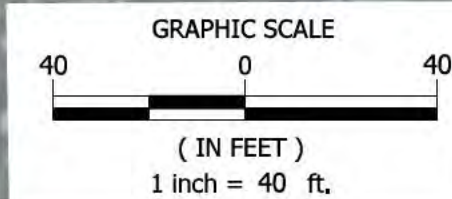
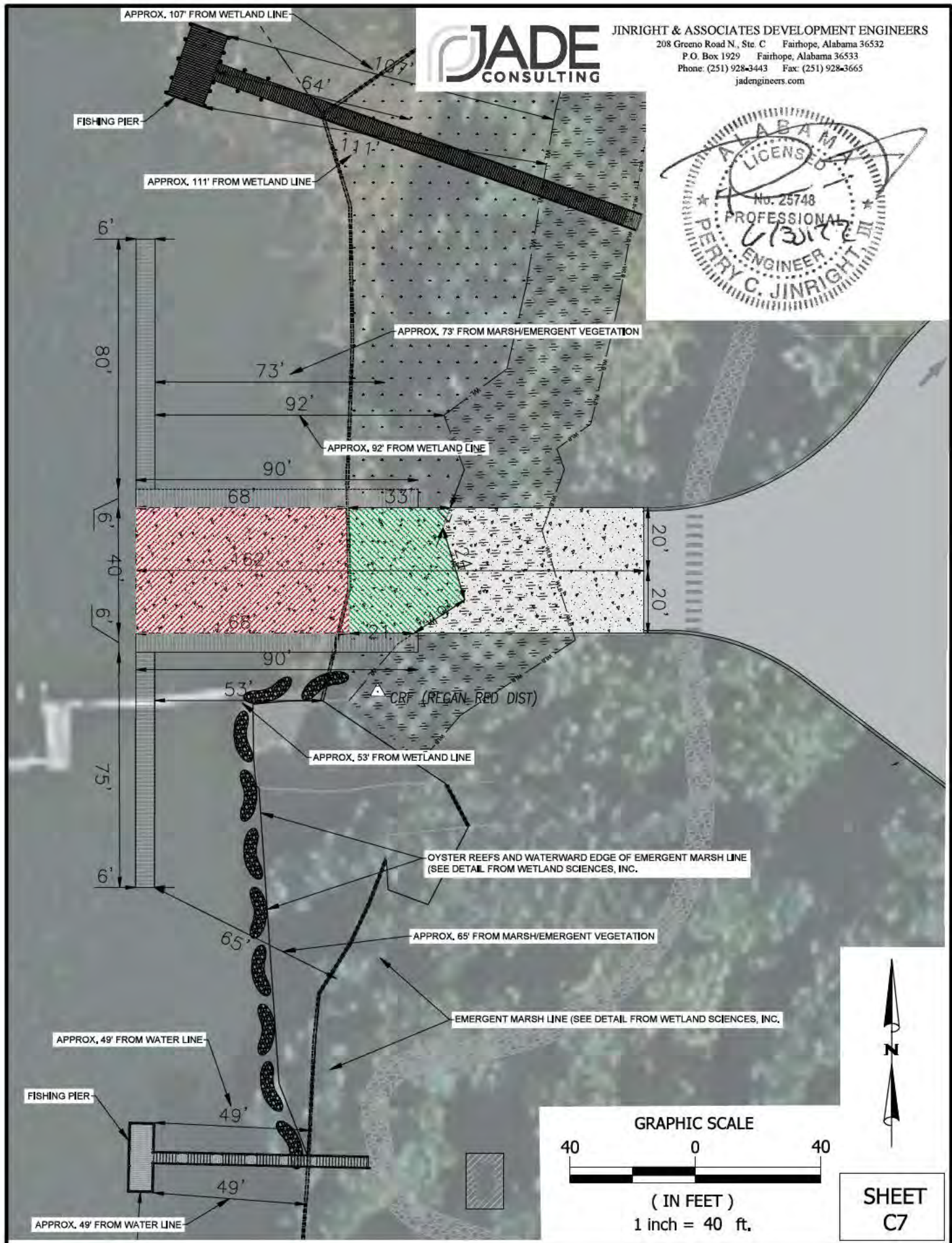
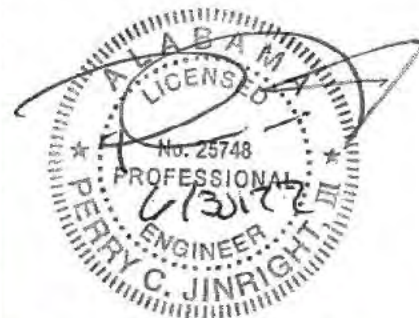
**SHEET**  
**C5**



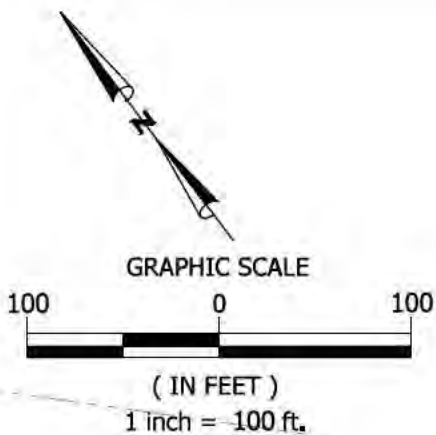




JINRIGHT & ASSOCIATES DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS  
 208 Greeno Road N, Ste. C Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
 P.O. Box 1929 Fairhope, Alabama 36533  
 Phone: (251) 928-3443 Fax: (251) 928-3665  
 jadengineers.com



SHEET  
 C7



SITE DATA TABLE	
STATE OF ALABAMA BALDWIN COUNTY	
30°18'23.36" N	87°43'21.60" W
EXIST. WETLAND DATA:	
SITE AREA:	14.92 AC
REMAIN. WETLANDS - UNDISTURBED:	0.959 AC
WETLANDS - PROPOSED IMPACT:	0.029 AC
APPROX. DREDGING AREA	70,316 SF ≈ 1.61 AC
DREDGING CUT:	6528 CY

DREDGING B-B CROSS-SECTION

WATER ELEV. 10  
AT TIME OF SURVEY  
MEAN HIGH WATER = 0.74

DREDGING C-C CROSS-SECTION

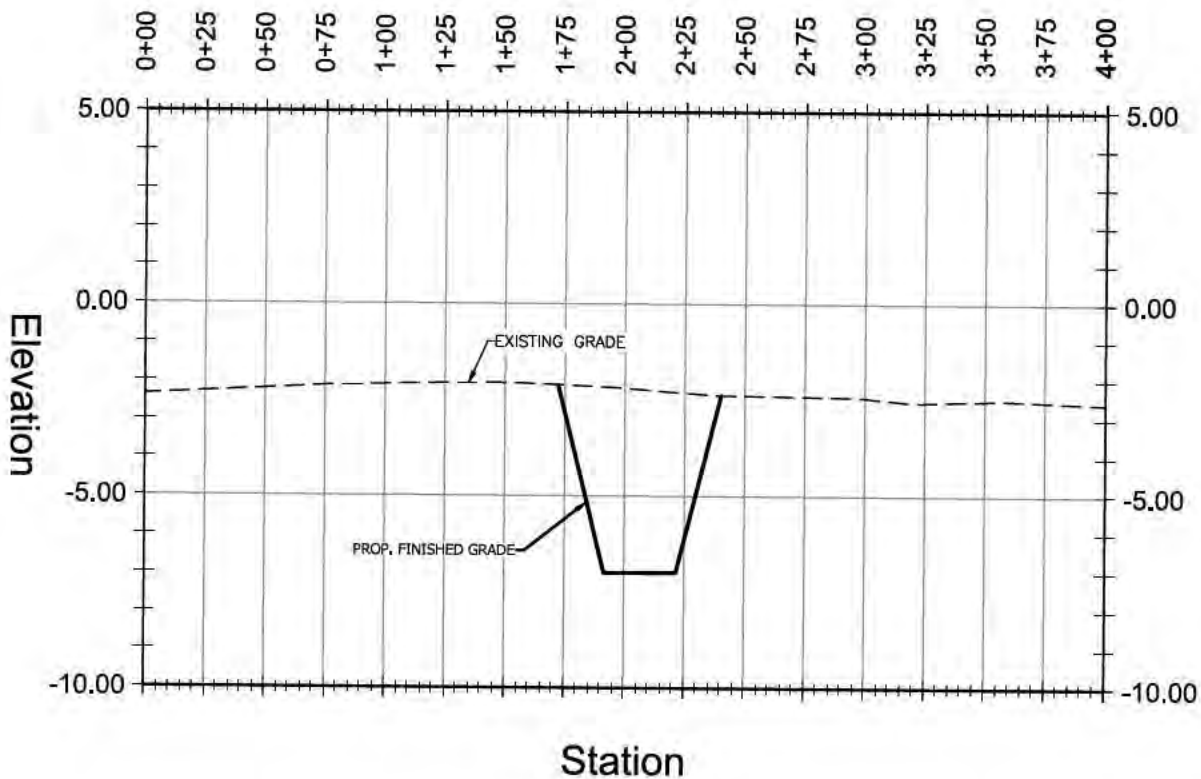
APPROX. LENGTH OF DREDGING CHANNEL

DREDGING A-A CROSS-SECTION

# Profile View of DREDGING A-A CROSS-SECTION

Scale: 1"=80' Horizontal

1"=5' Vertical



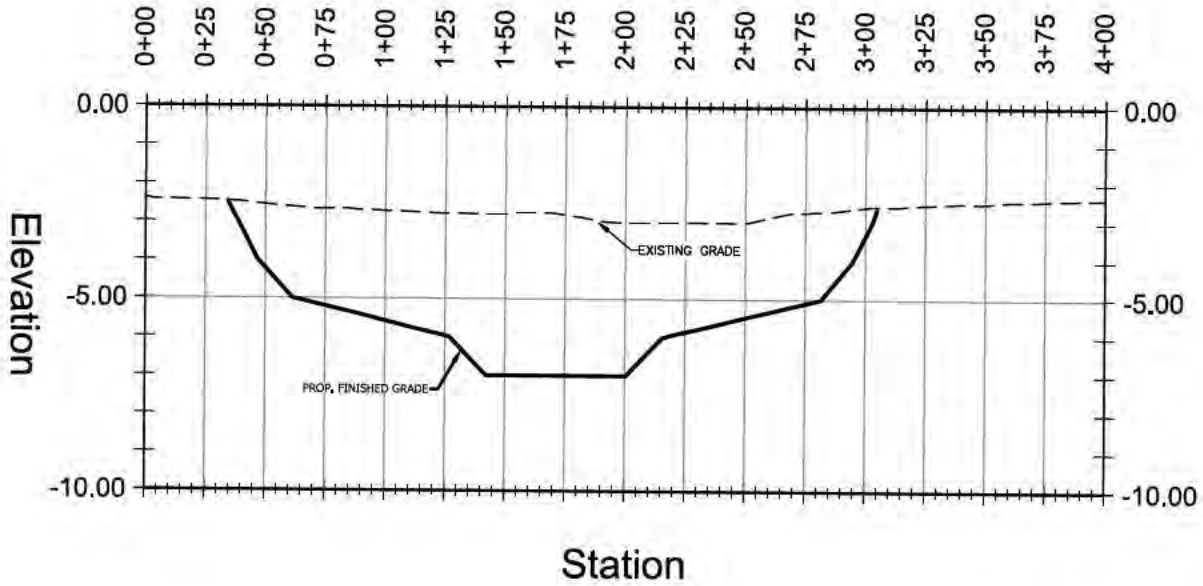
JINRIGHT & ASSOCIATES DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS  
208 Green Road N. Ste. C Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
P.O. Box 1929 Fairhope, Alabama 36533  
Phone (251) 924-4445 Fax (251) 924-6665  
jadeng@jcs.com

SHEET  
C10

# Profile View of DREDGING B-B CROSS-SECTION

Scale: 1"=80' Horizontal

1"=5' Vertical



**JADE**  
CONSULTING

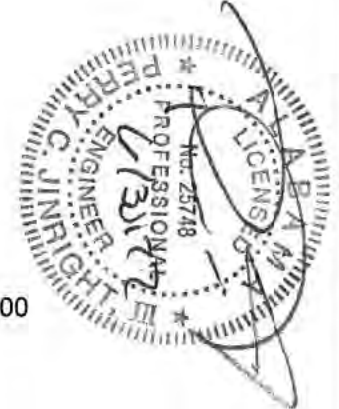
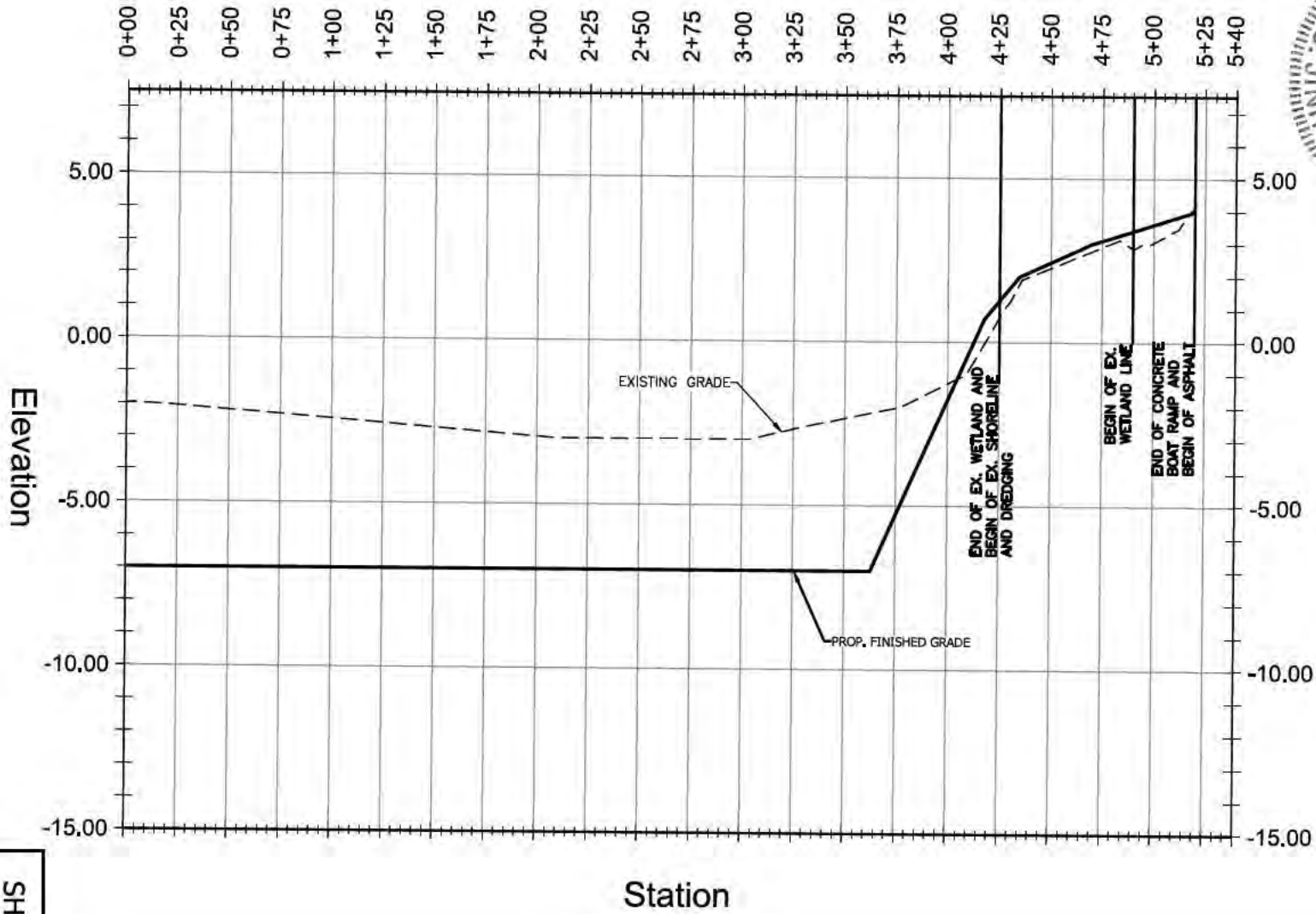
JIMRIGHT & ASSOCIATES DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS  
208 Green Road N. Ste. C Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
P.O. Box 1929 Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
Phone (251) 924-4445 Fax (251) 924-6065  
jimright@jades.com

SHEET  
C11

# Profile View of DREDGING C-C CROSS-SECTION

Scale: 1"=80' Horizontal

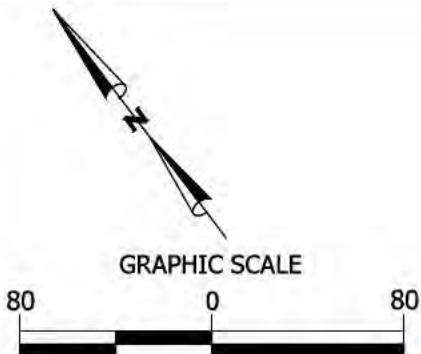
1"=5' Vertical



**JADE**  
CONSULTING

JIRRIGHT & ASSOCIATES DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS  
 208 Green Road N, Ste. C Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
 P.O. Box 1929 Fairhope, Alabama 36533  
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SHEET  
C12



( IN FEET )  
1 inch = 80 ft.

**DEWATERING BASIN B-B CROSS-SECTION**

EP: 3+00.00

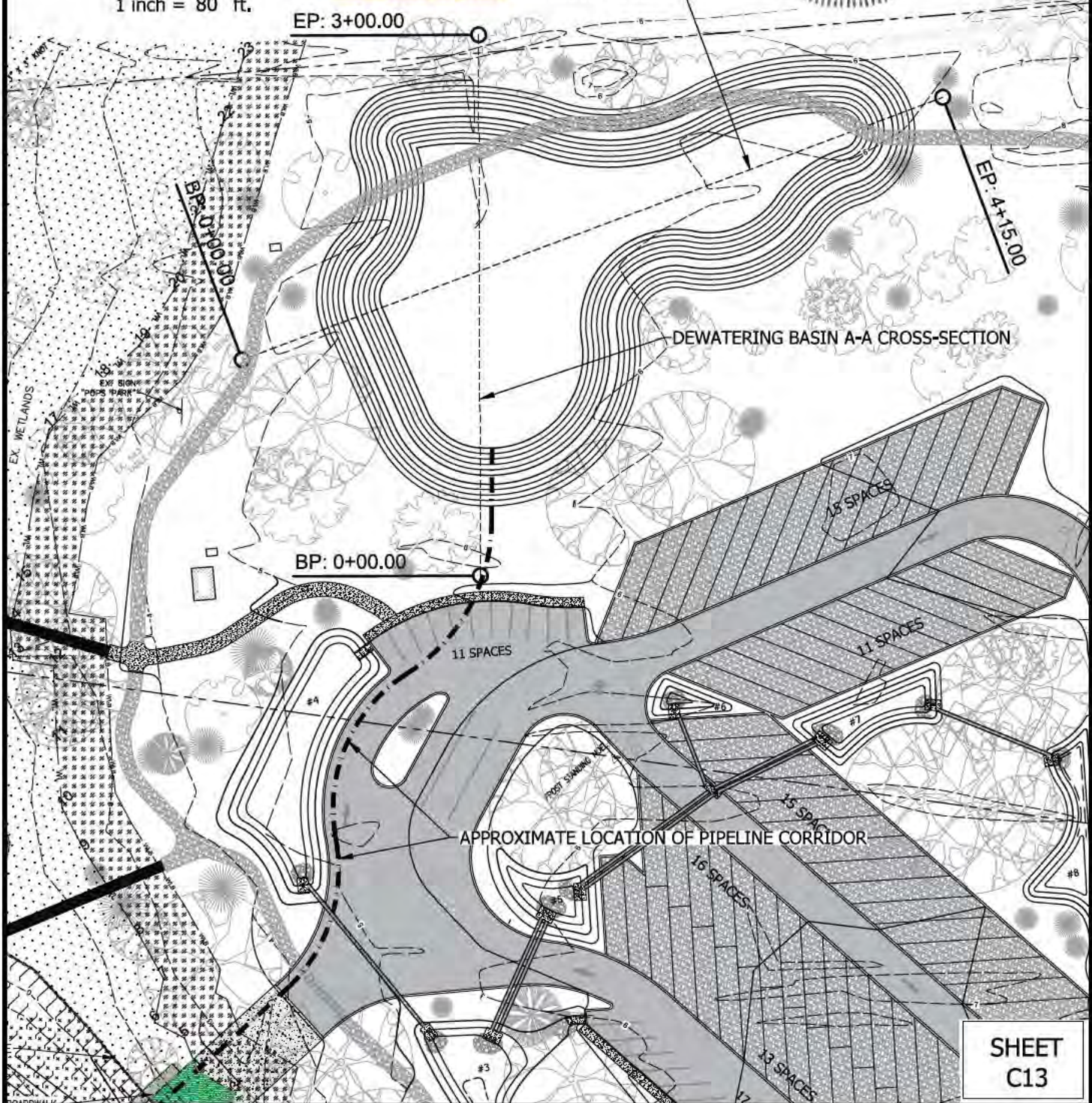
EP: 4+15.00

**DEWATERING BASIN A-A CROSS-SECTION**

BP: 0+00.00

APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF PIPELINE CORRIDOR

SHEET  
C13





JINRIGHT & ASSOCIATES DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS

208 Greeno Road N., Ste. C Fairhope, Alabama 36532

P.O. Box 1929 Fairhope, Alabama 36533

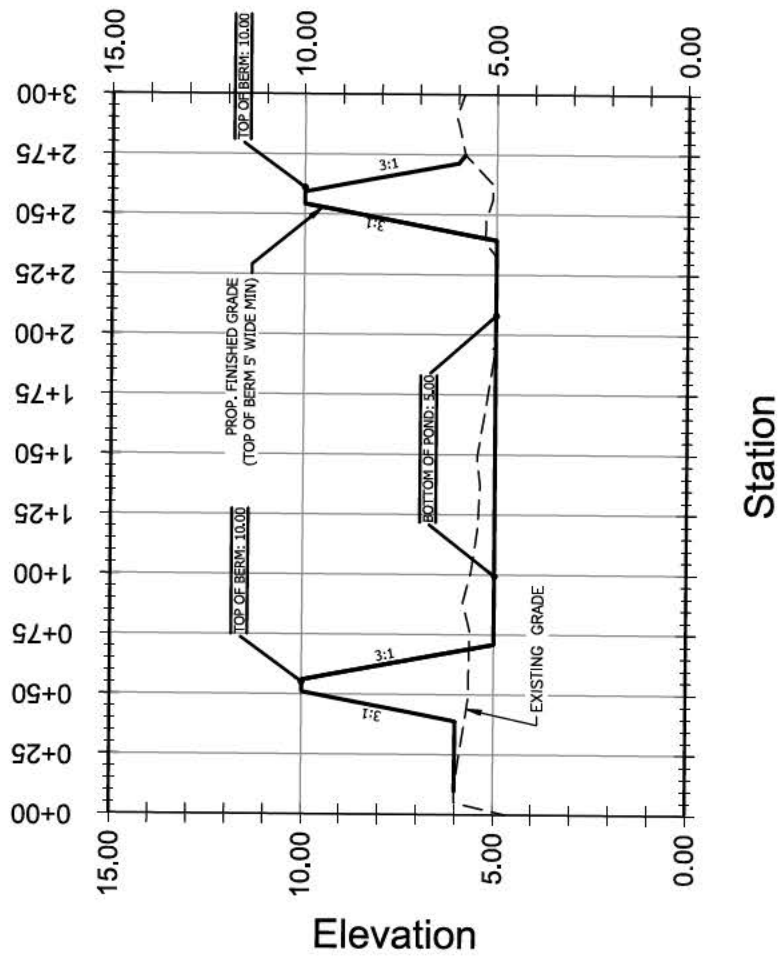
Phone: (251) 928-3443 Fax: (251) 928-3665

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**Profile View of DREDGE MATERIAL DEWATERING BASIN (A-A)**

Scale: 1"=80' Horizontal

1"=5' Vertical

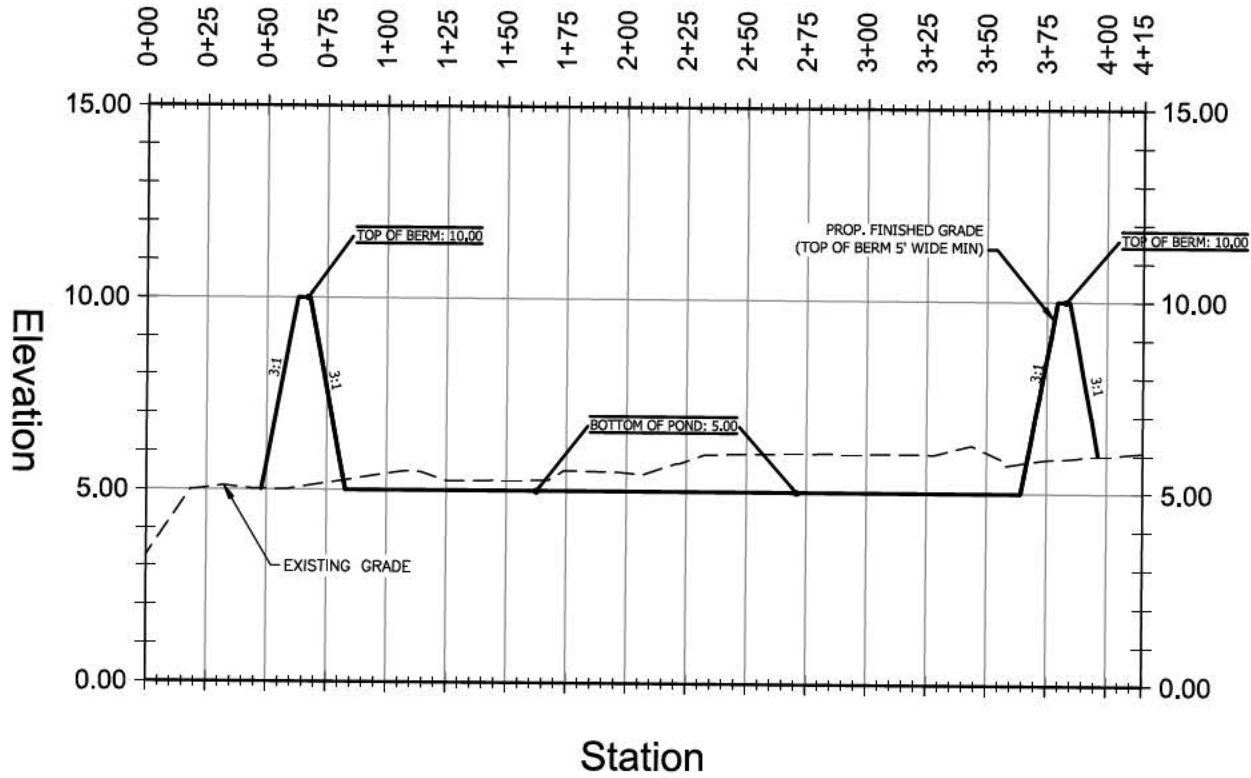




# Profile View of DREDGE MATERIAL DEWATERING BASIN (B-B)

Scale: 1"=80' Horizontal

1"=5' Vertical



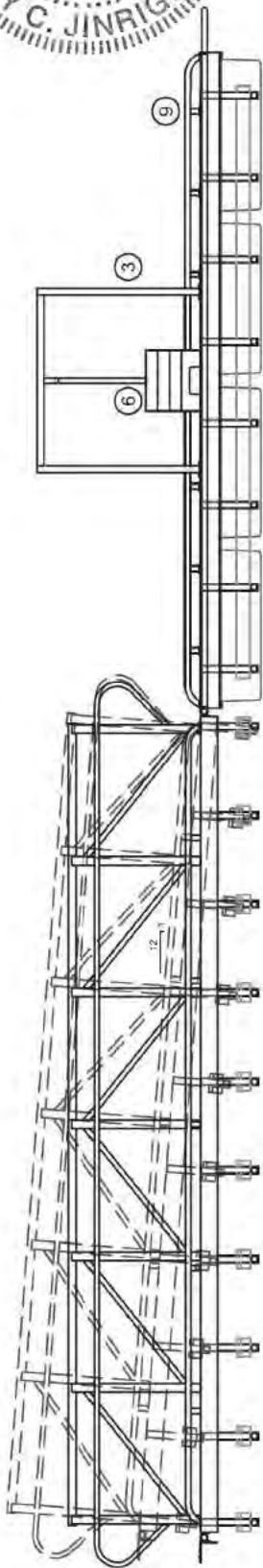
**JADE**  
CONSULTING

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 208 Green Road N. Ste. C Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
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SHEET  
C15

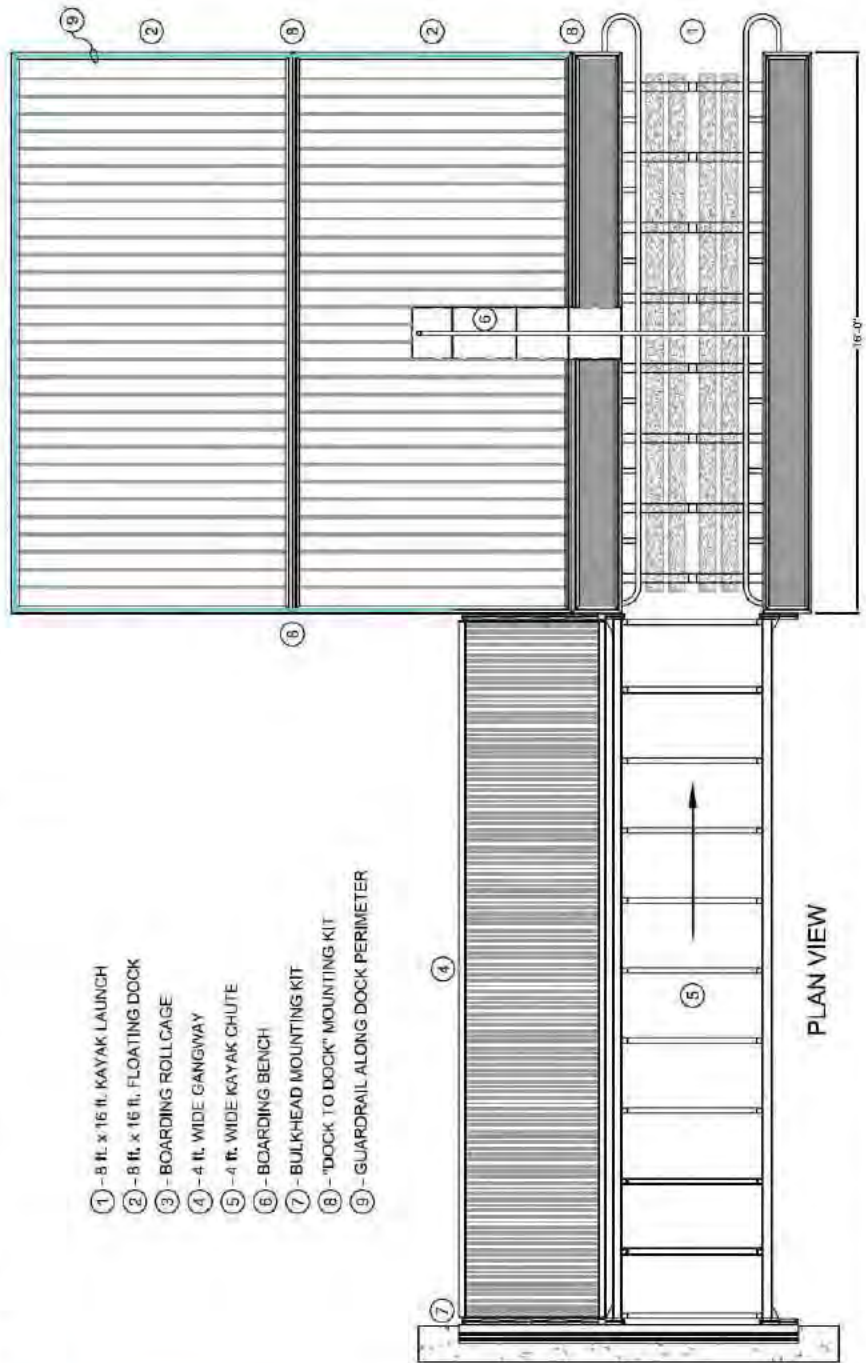


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 jadengineers.com



SIDE VIEW

Sheet 3 - Layout CR-16SAKL88-GC\* (\*length of Gangway/Chute from chart)



- ① - 8 ft. x 16 ft. KAYAK LAUNCH
- ② - 8 ft. x 16 ft. FLOATING DOCK
- ③ - BOARDING ROLL CAGE
- ④ - 4 ft. WIDE GANGWAY
- ⑤ - 4 ft. WIDE KAYAK CHUTE
- ⑥ - BOARDING BENCH
- ⑦ - BULKHEAD MOUNTING KIT
- ⑧ - "DOCK TO DOCK" MOUNTING KIT
- ⑨ - GUARDRAIL ALONG DOCK PERIMETER



boardsafedocks.com | 610.899.0286

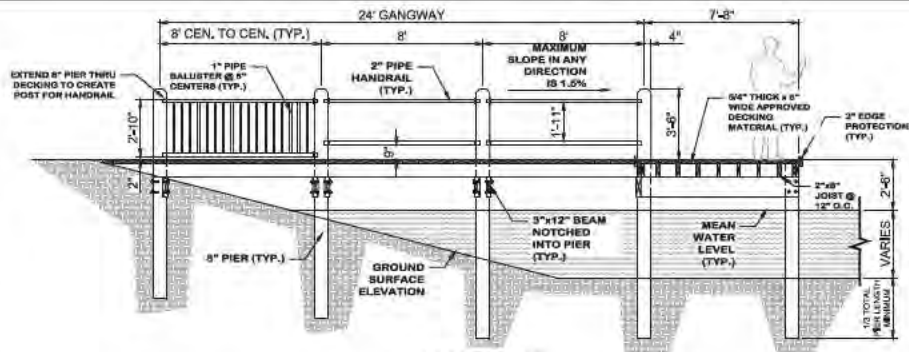
Board-Safe  
 604 Crisscross Road Fleetwood, PA 19522

MATERIAL  
 Aluminum

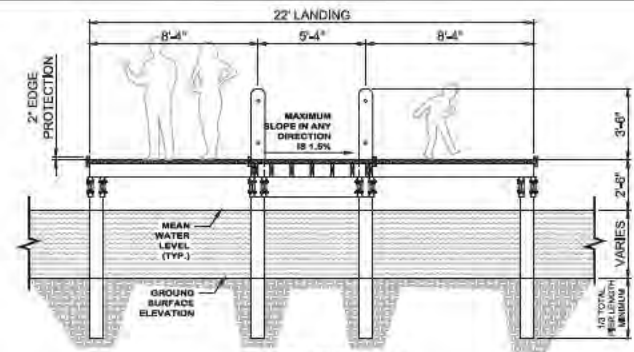
DESCRIPTION  
 ACCESSIBLE  
 KAYAK LAUNCH

SHEET  
 C16

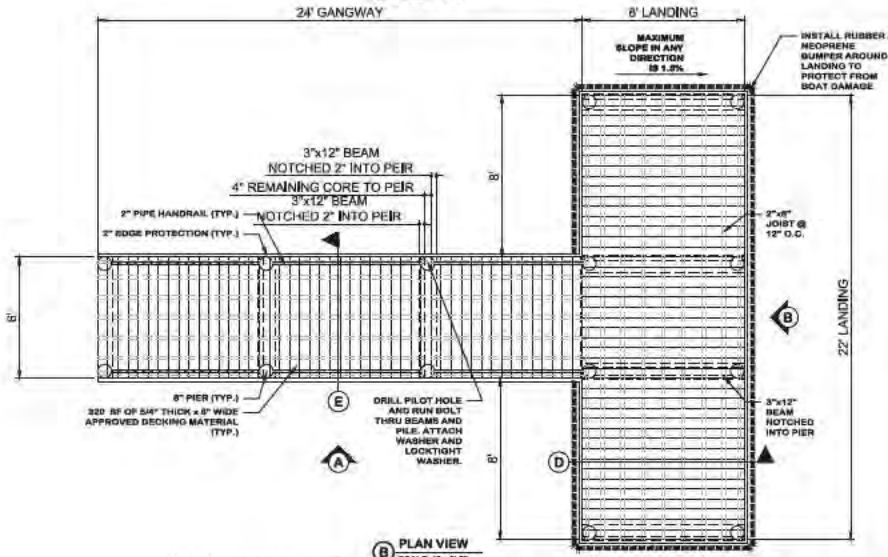
FISHING PIER ELEVATION DETAIL



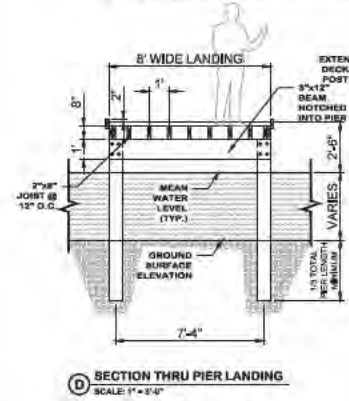
**(A) SIDE ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 1" = 3'-0"



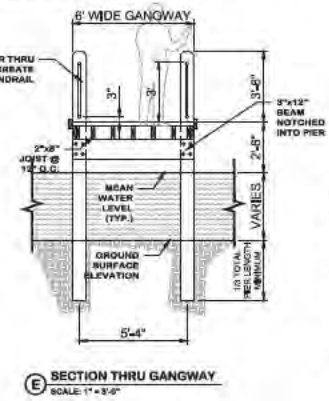
**(B) FRONT ELEVATION**  
SCALE: 1" = 3'-0"



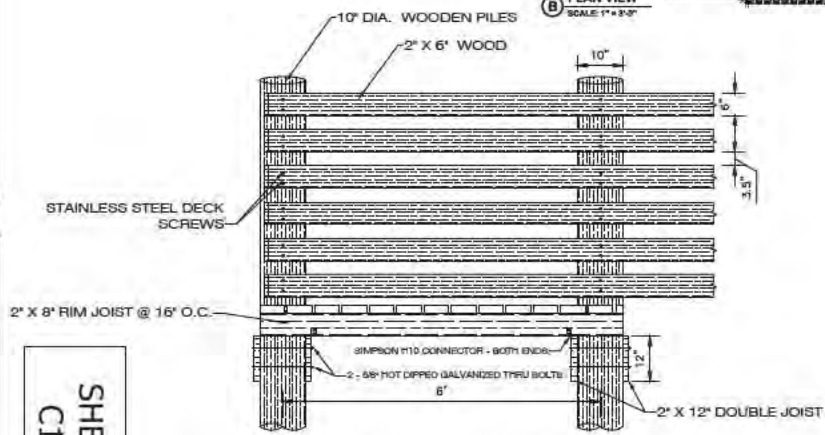
**(C) PLAN VIEW**  
SCALE: 1" = 3'-0"



**(D) SECTION THRU PIER LANDING**  
SCALE: 1" = 3'-0"



**(E) SECTION THRU GANGWAY**  
SCALE: 1" = 3'-0"



**FISHING PIER/DOCK RAILING DETAIL (FRONT VIEW)**  
N.T.S.

**GENERAL NOTES:**

1. ALL WORK SHALL CONFORM TO STATE AND LOCAL BUILDING CODES.
2. ALL WORK SHALL CONFORM TO FEDERAL ADA REGULATIONS.
3. ALL WORK SHALL CONFORM TO FEDERAL EPA REGULATIONS.
4. ALL STRUCTURAL LUMBER FOR PIER DOCKS SHALL BE MARINE TREATED SOUTHERN YELLOW PINE. ALL STRUCTURE LUMBER SHALL BE NO. 1 COMMON GRADE.
5. APPROVED DECKING MATERIAL SHALL BE SLIP RESISTANT IPE (84" THICK & 6" WIDE) DECKING. \*CONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE IPE AS THE DECKING MATERIAL. IN (BASE BID) CALCULATIONS. CONTRACTOR TO ALSO PROVIDE (ADDITIVE/ DUCTIVE BID ALTERNATE 1) - COMPOSITE DECKING MATERIAL, (AZEK) (ADDITIVE/ DUCTIVE BID ALTERNATE 2) - TYPICAL TREATED LUMBER DECKING (EVERWOOD). ALL GAPS IN HORIZONTAL WALKING SURFACES MUST BE LESS THAN 1/2".
6. ALL HARDWARE SHALL BE MARINE GRADE STAINLESS STEEL. BOLTS AND SCREWS ONLY ARE TO BE PRIMARY HARDWARE FASTENERS. NO NAILS ARE TO BE USED ON FINAL STRUCTURE.
7. CONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE ENGINEER STAMPED SHOP DRAWINGS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
8. TREE BRANCHES OVERHANGING ABOVE THE NEW PIER SHALL BE TRIMMED BACK TO A HEIGHT OF 12" CLEARANCE MIN. FROM THE TOP OF DECKING TO PROVIDE OVERHEAD CASTING CLEARANCE.



JINRIGHT & ASSOCIATES DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS  
2018 Green Road N. Ste. C Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
P.O. Box 1929 Fairhope, Alabama 36533  
Phone: (251) 928-3443 Fax: (251) 928-3668  
jadefairhope.com



**SHEET**  
**C17**