



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-2022-00807-JEB

September 2, 2022

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

REQUEST TO FILL 1.03-ACRES OF WETLANDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A FIRE TRAINING LIFE SAFETY FACILITY, GULF SHORES, 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 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: City of Gulf Shores
c/o Mark Acreman
P.O. Box 220
Gulf Shores, Alabama 36576

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

LOCATION: The project is located at 36th Avenue west; within Section 5, Township 9 South, Range 4 East; at Latitude 30.295394, Longitude -87.692662; in Gulf Shores, Baldwin County, Alabama.

PROJECT PURPOSE: The project purpose is to construct a fire training life safety facility at the western end of west 36th Avenue in Gulf Shores.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant is requesting a permit to fill 1.03-acres of hydric pine flatwoods wetlands for the construction of a fire training life safety facility including classroom space, parking, stormwater facilities, and various real condition firefighting and field exercises within a city owned 80-acre parcel at the western end of west 36th Avenue in Gulf Shores.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: The applicant has indicated the proposed fill area represents minimal impacts necessary to satisfy the project purpose. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District, has not yet verified the adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and minimization efforts at this time.

MITIGATION: The applicant has proposed mitigation for project impacts through purchase of appropriate mitigation credits from a local, approved mitigation bank. The Mobile District has not yet verified the adequacy of the applicant's proposal at this time.

WATER QUALITY: 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 ADEM. 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, which includes the footprint of the jurisdictional fill area that would be disturbed by construction of the project. The National Register of Historic Places has been 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. Further coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or federally-recognized American Indian tribes will be performed as determined to be appropriate.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The USACE, Mobile District's review of the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate the following listed endangered (E) or threatened (T) species have the potential to exist within the Oyster Bay 12 digit HUC boundary: Florida manatee (E), Alabama beach mouse (E), Piping plover (T), Wood stork (T), Red knot (C), Eastern indigo snake (T), Gopher tortoise (C), Green sea turtle (T), Kemp's ridley sea turtle (E), Loggerhead sea turtle (T) and Gulf sturgeon (T). There is no designated critical habitat within the project's action area.

Review of this proposed activity for potential effects on the above list of threatened or endangered species has been accomplished by use of species-specific Standard Local Operating Procedures for Endangered Species (SLOPES). The USACE, Mobile District's review has indicated the proposed activity will have no effect on the above listed species. Details of the proposed activity are being provided to federal and state agencies via this Public Notice for receipt of any relevant comments regarding potential effects of the proposed project on the listed species.

COMMENTS: This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) can be based. The USACE is soliciting comments from the public, from federal, state and local agencies and officials, from Indian tribes, and from 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.

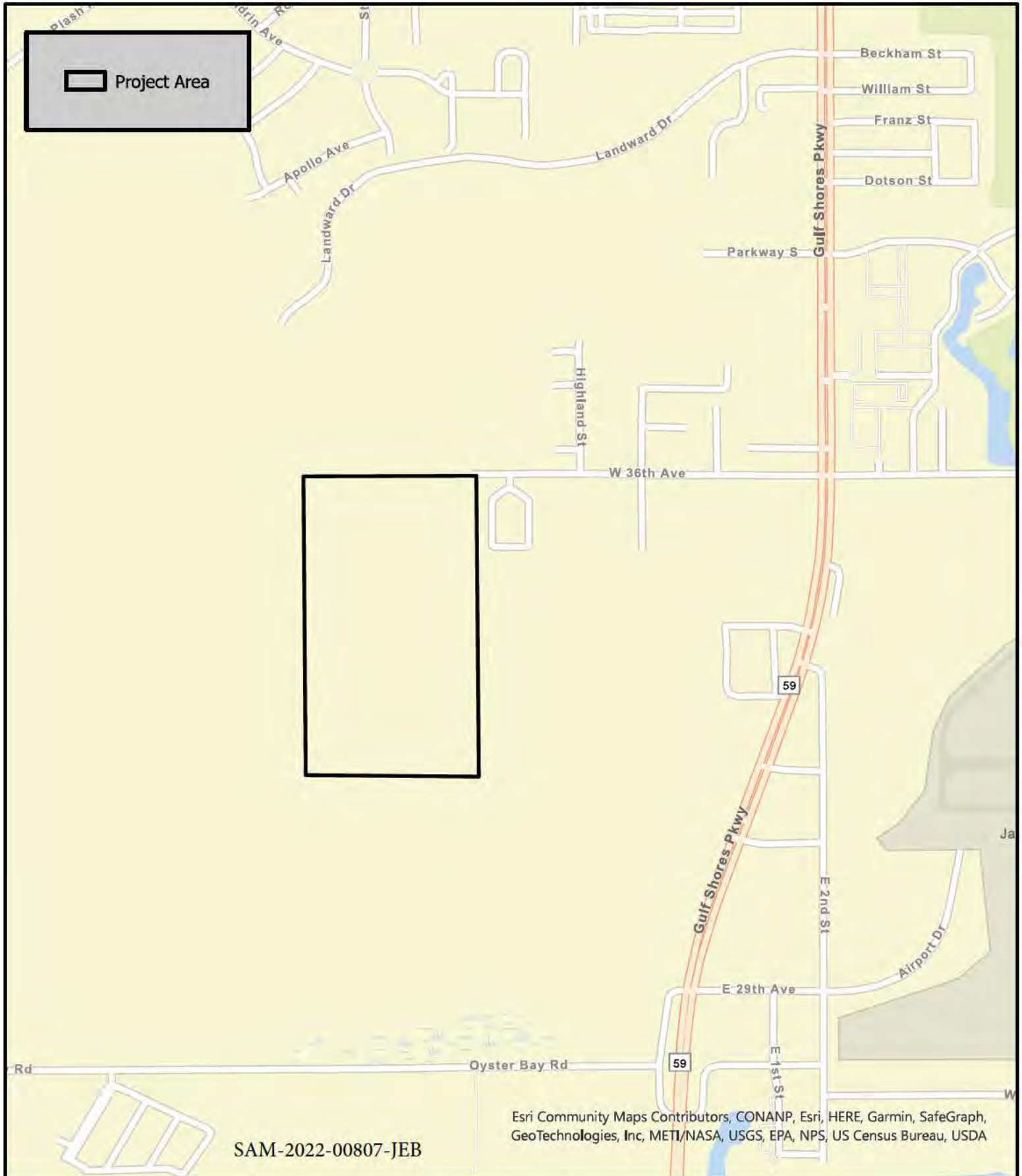
Correspondence concerning this notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2022-00807-JEB**, and should be directed to the project manager, Mr. Eric Buckelew by e-mail at james.e.buckelew@usace.army.mil, or to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Attention: Mr. Eric Buckelew, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001. Copies of all comments should be furnished to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management at coastal@adem.alabama.gov, or sent to: Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Mobile Branch / Coastal Section, 3664 Dauphin Street, Suite B, Mobile, Alabama 36608.

All comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this Public Notice. If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact Mr. Eric Buckelew by e-mail at james.e.buckelew@usace.army.mil, or (251) 690-3184. Please refer to the above Public Notice Number SAM-2022-00807, in any communication concerning this project.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Attachments



SAM-2022-00807-JEB

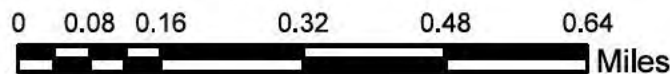
Esri Community Maps Contributors, CONANP, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA



All data within this map are supplied as is, without warranty. This product has not been prepared for legal, engineering, or survey purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

Site Location Map

Gulf Shores Fire Station
Baldwin County, AL

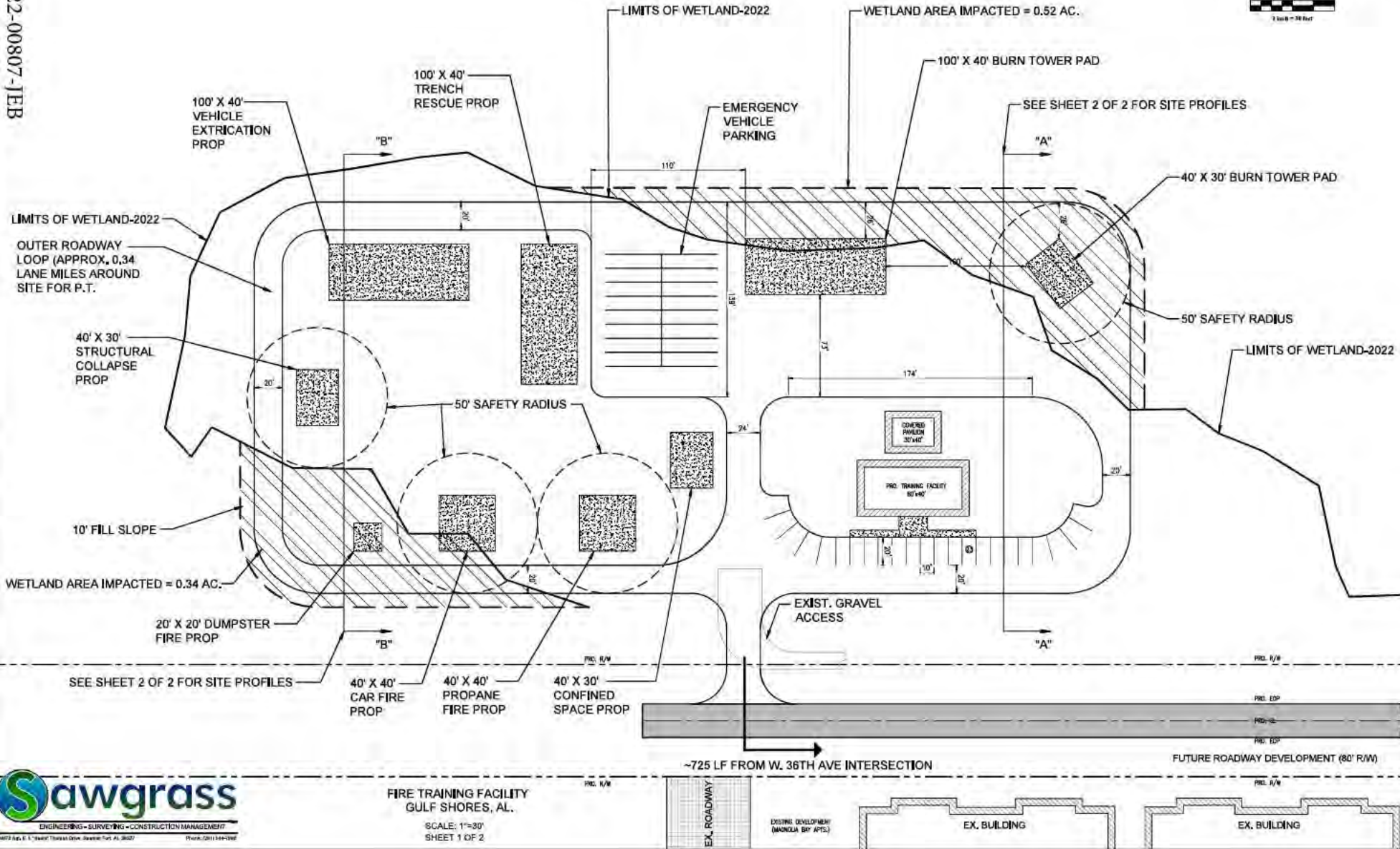
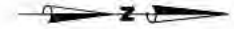


Data Source:
ERSI
Imagery Source:
ESRI



Coordinate System:
NAD 1983 AL
State Plane West

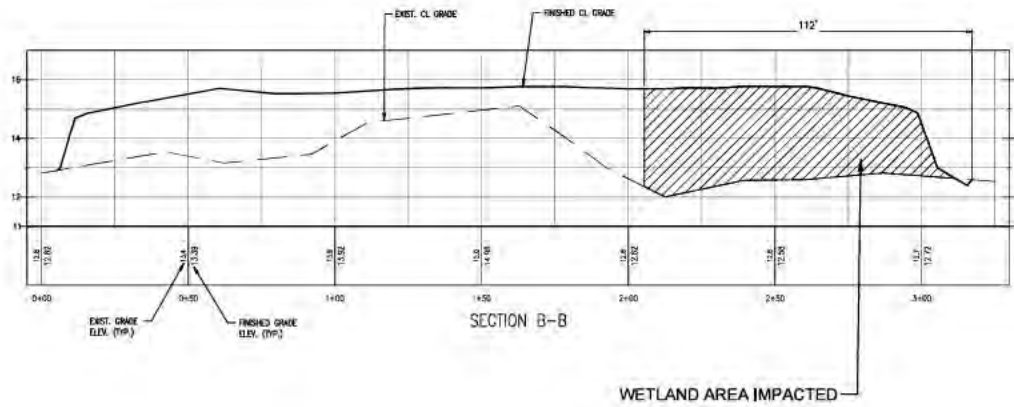
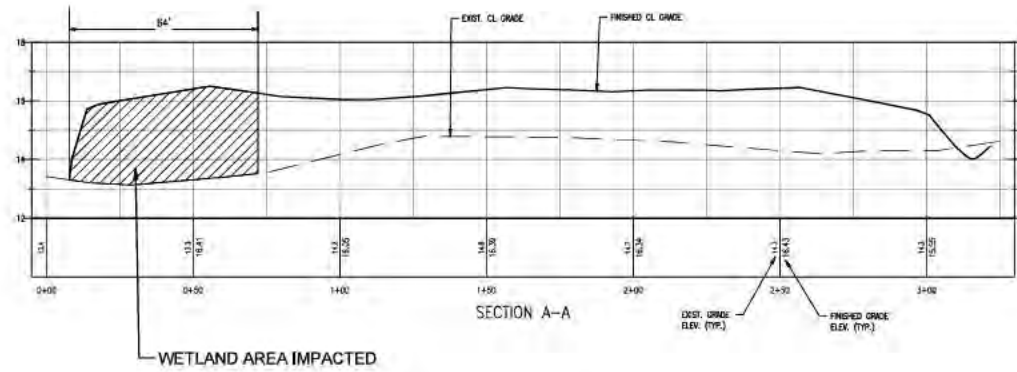
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FIRE TRAINING FACILITY
GULF SHORES, AL.

SCALE: 1"=30'
SHEET 1 OF 2

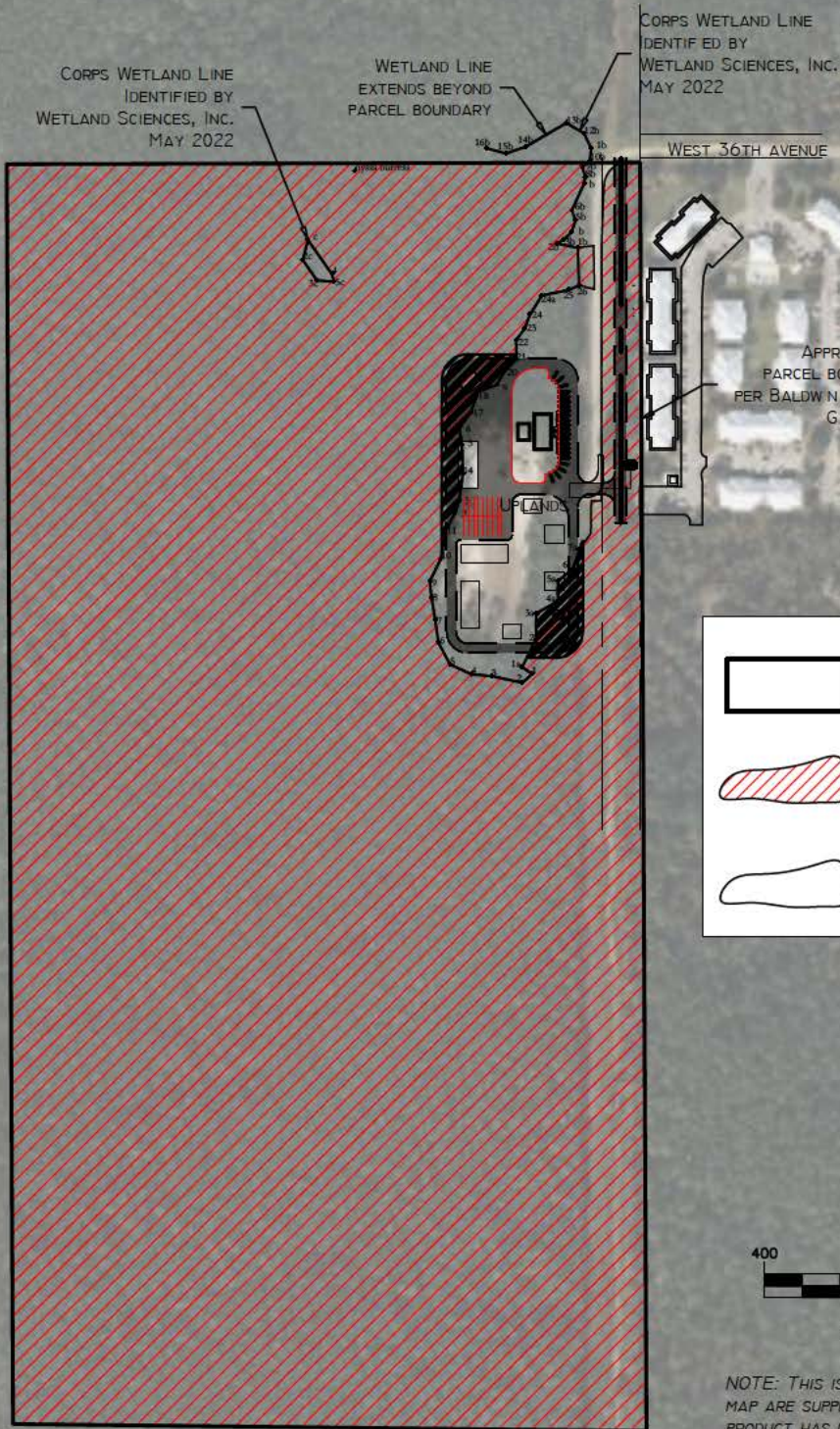
Small text at the bottom left corner: 3077 Ave. F, Cypress, Texas 77069, Phone: 281-416-3000, Fax: 281-416-3001



FIRE TRAINING FACILITY
GULF SHORES, AL.

SCALE: 1"=20' H.
1"=2' V.
SHEET 2 OF 2





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