



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**
Wilmington District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Issue Date: February 9, 2007
Comment Deadline: February 23, 2007
Corps Action ID #: 2006-32521-360

The Wilmington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has received an application from Charlotte Douglas International Airport seeking Department of the Army authorization to impact 16,312 linear feet of stream channel, 0.432 acre of wetlands, and 4.631 acre of open water ponds associated with the expansion of the existing airport, in Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. This request is a modification to a previous request dated May 2006.

Specific plans and location information are described below and shown on the attached plans. This Public Notice and all attached plans are also available on the Wilmington District Web Site at www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands

Applicant: Charlotte-Douglas International Airport
C/o Mr. Jerry Orr
Mr. Brian Hennessey
Post Office Box 19066
Aviation Department
Charlotte, North Carolina 28219

AGENT (if applicable): ClearWater Environmental Consultants
Mr. R. Clement Riddle, P.W.S.
718 Oakland Street
Hendersonville, North Carolina 28791

Authority

The Corps will evaluate this application and decide whether to issue, conditionally issue, or deny the proposed work pursuant to applicable procedures of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

Location

The proposed project is located within the Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT) Expansion Area of approximately 2,500 acres of land in the City of Charlotte, North Carolina (35.2147389°N, 80.942716°W). The airport is bounded to the north by US 74 (Wilkinson Boulevard) and to the east the project is bounded by existing Runway 18R/36L. The southern

project boundary is located just south of Byrum Drive and the western boundary is the recently completed Interstate 485.

The study area contains Coffey Creek and Ticer Creek, the upper reaches of named intermittent streams (known as Little Paw Creek and Beaverdam Creek), and numerous headwaters of small unnamed intermittent streams. The site also contains wetlands and open waters that are adjacent to these tributary systems. All of these channels are part a tributary system to the Catawba River, which is navigable below the Mountain Island Lake Dam.

Existing Site Conditions

The 2,500-acre site consists mostly of upland areas. There are 21.76 acres of jurisdictional Waters of the U.S. including wetlands. A detailed description of community types can be found at <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands/Notices/2005/0531167.pdf> in the Public Notice dated September 23, 2005. In general, there are 4.17 acres of wetlands, 45,642 linear feet of stream channels, and 8.43 acres of open water ponds on the site. A majority of the impacts associated with this project are to stream channels on the site. Stream channels on the site include Ticer Creek, Coffee Creek, and their unnamed tributaries. Approximately 37,420 linear feet of stream channels were determined to be perennial and/or intermittent channels with important aquatic functions. These channels have water flow throughout the year and provide habitat to fish, crayfish, and small invertebrates. These streams were observed to have stable stream banks, scattered persistent pools, channel substrate and biological indicators such as crayfish and amphibians were observed in and around persistent pools. Approximately 8,222 linear feet of stream channel was determined to be intermittent streams with minimal aquatic function and exhibit little or no flow most of the year.

Applicant's Stated Purpose

The purpose/need as outlined in the June 27, 2006 Public Notice has not changed. The purpose of the projects as stated in the application is to allow the airport to reduce delay, lessen noise impacts, and provide an aviation facility that can accommodate aviation traffic and passenger demand well into the future. Construction of the third parallel runway and associated parallel and connecting taxiways would address the following needs by providing sufficient airfield capacity during peak operating periods, providing a means for reducing delay during peak periods, and providing sufficient runway length to accommodate potential air transportation demand.

Project Description

The project description as outlined in the June 27, 2006 Public Notice has not changed. Please visit <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands/Notices/2006/0632521360.pdf> for a copy of this Public Notice. The applicant is still requesting impacts for all projects as approved in the Final EIS. In general, these projects included the construction of a new 9,000 linear foot long runway, extension of existing Runway 18R/36L, and the relocation of Old Dowd Road, Wallace Neel Road, and West Boulevard.

The purpose of this Public Notice is to request a project modification that increases the proposed impacts from those originally proposed in the May 2006 application. Changes in impacts are due to site specific adjustments and finalization of grading plans. In general, stream channel impacts have increased and wetland and open water impacts have decreased. Impacts to stream channels proposed in the last application was 13,547 linear feet. The applicant is now proposing an additional 2,765 linear feet of stream channel impacts. The table below summarized the proposed changes.

Feature	May 2006 Application	Current Request	Change
Perennial & Intermittent (important) Stream Channels (lf)	10,339	13,446	+3,107
Intermittent (unimportant) Stream Channels (lf)	3,208	2,866	-342
Stream Impact Total (lf)	13,547	16,312	+2,765
Wetland (acres)	1.062	0.432	-0.63
Open Water Ponds (acres)	4.789	4.631	-0.158

The applicant is proposing to mitigate for the impacts at a 1:1 ratio by two methods.

- Purchase 6,686 linear feet of stream mitigation credits from the City of Charlotte Stream & Wetland Umbrella Bank.
- Purchase 9,626 linear feet of stream mitigation credits and 0.432 acre of wetland credits from the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program.

Due to the numerous public notices previously released for this project and the applicant's construction timeline, the comment period for this public notice has been reduced to 15 days.

Other Required Authorizations

This notice and all applicable application materials are being forwarded to the appropriate State agencies for review. The Corps will generally not make a final permit decision until the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ) issues, denies, or waives State certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (PL 92-500). The receipt of the application and this public notice in the NCDWQ Central Office in Raleigh serves as application to the NCDWQ for certification. A waiver will be deemed to occur if the NCDWQ fails to act on this request for certification within sixty days of the date of the receipt of this notice in the NCDWQ Central Office. Additional information regarding the Clean Water Act certification may be reviewed at the NCDWQ Central Office, 401 Oversight and Express Permits Unit, 2321 Crabtree Boulevard, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-2260. All persons desiring to make comments regarding the application for certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act should do so in writing delivered to the North Carolina Division of Water Quality (NCDWQ), 2321 Crabtree Boulevard, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-2260, Attention: Ms Cyndi Karoly by February 23, 2007.

Essential Fish Habitat

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Corps' initial determination is that the proposed project will not adversely impact EFH or associated fisheries managed by the South Atlantic or Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Councils or the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Cultural Resources

The Corps has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and has determined that registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are located within the project area and/or will be affected by the proposed work. A Memorandum of Agreement between the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources and the applicant was implemented on August 11, 1999 to resolve issues related to these resources.

Endangered Species

The Corps has reviewed the project area, examined all information provided by the applicant and consulted the latest North Carolina Natural Heritage Database. Based on available information and coordination with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, there are no species listed as threatened or endangered or their critical habitat formally designated pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) within the project area.

Evaluation

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 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 (in accordance with Executive Order 11988), 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. For activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill materials in waters of the United States, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines.

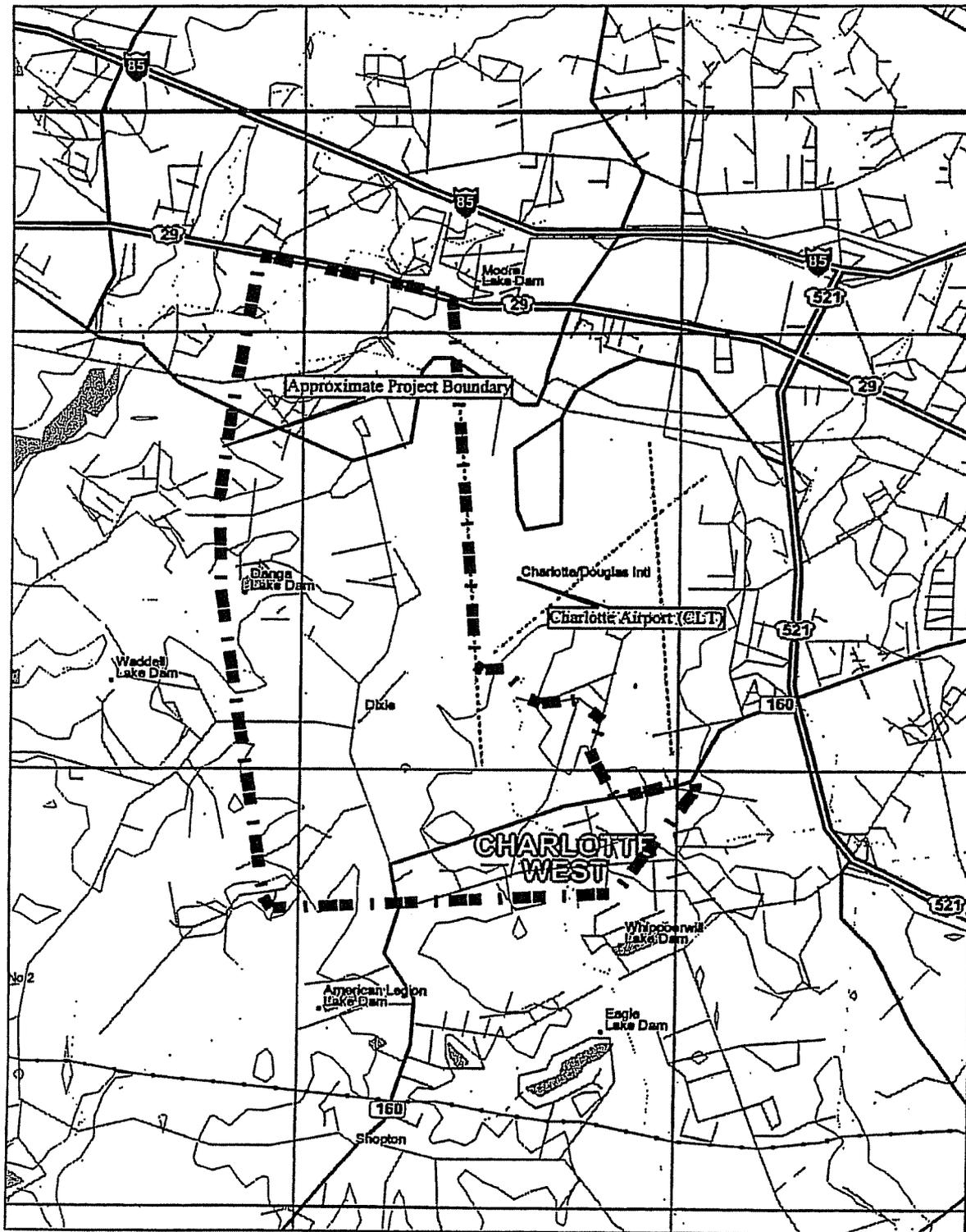
Commenting Information

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 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 (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) 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.

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 shall 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.

Written comments pertinent to the proposed work, as outlined above, will be received by the Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, until 5pm, February 23, 2007. Comments should be submitted to Ms. Amanda Jones, US Army Corps of Engineers, Asheville Regulatory Field Office, 151 Patton Avenue, Room 208, Asheville, North Carolina 28801-5006.



BASE MAP BY DeLORME 3-D TOPO QUADS 1999



WEST EXPANSION MASTER PLAN

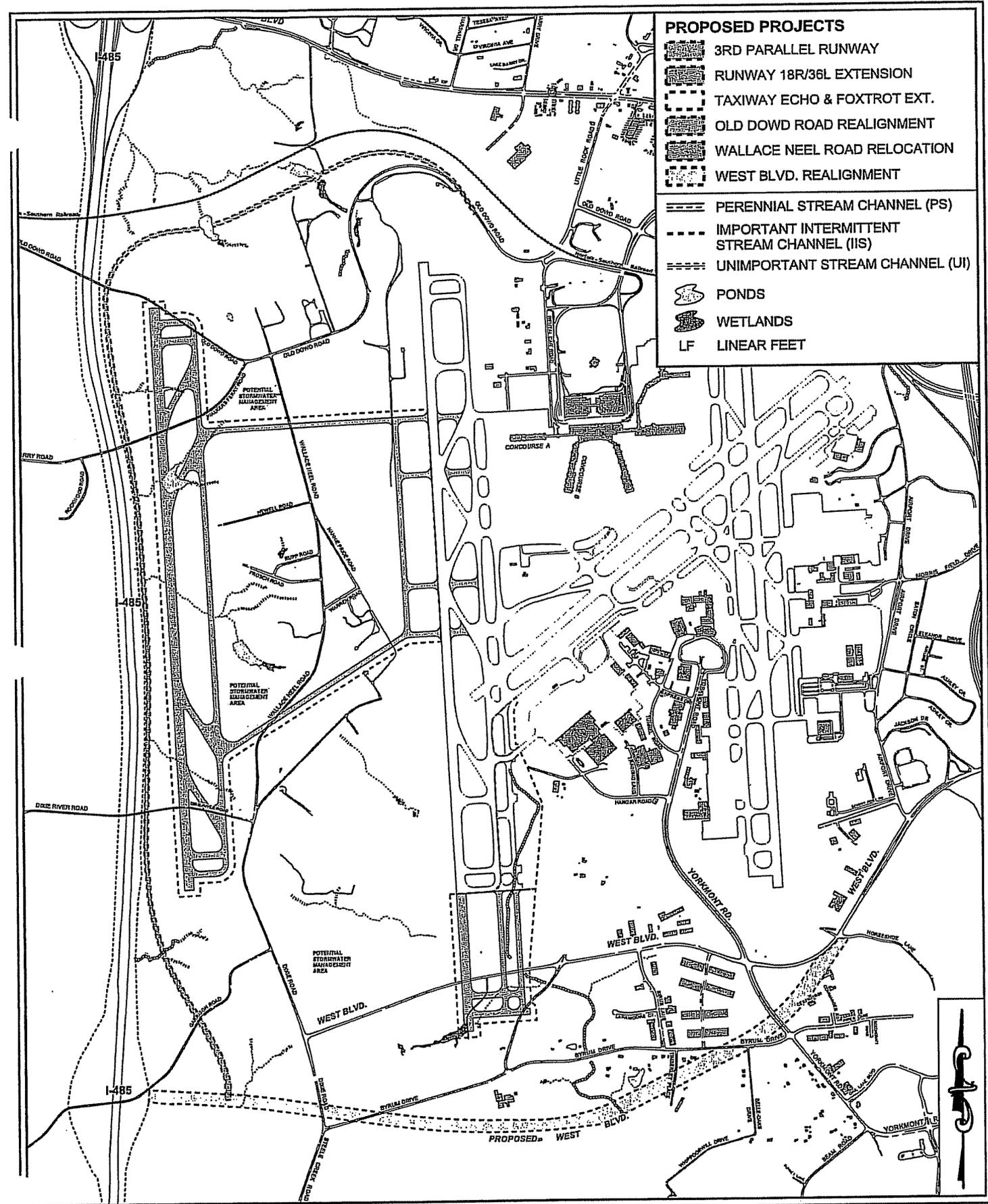
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FILE NAME: First Westside EIR.dwg

PROJECT NO.: 73100100

PRINTED: 05/03/2002

SCALE: NTS



PROPOSED PROJECTS

- 3RD PARALLEL RUNWAY
- RUNWAY 18R/36L EXTENSION
- TAXIWAY ECHO & FOXTROT EXT.
- OLD DOWD ROAD REALIGNMENT
- WALLACE NEEL ROAD RELOCATION
- WEST BLVD. REALIGNMENT

PERENNIAL STREAM CHANNEL (PS)
 IMPORTANT INTERMITTENT STREAM CHANNEL (IS)
 UNIMPORTANT STREAM CHANNEL (UI)

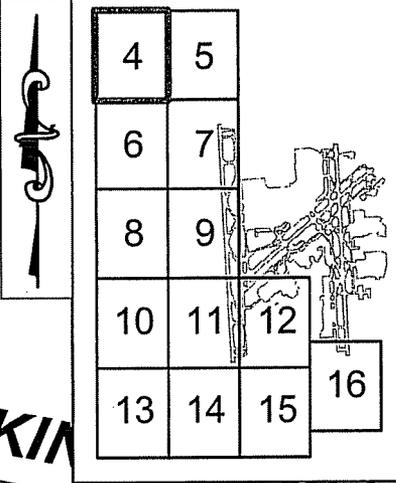
PONDS
 WETLANDS
 LF LINEAR FEET



PROPOSED PROJECT

-  ORIGINAL RUNWAY CONSTRUCTION LIMITS
-  REVISED RUNWAY CONSTRUCTION LIMITS
-  RUNWAY 18R/36L EXT. AND ANCILARY T/W'S
-  ANCILLARY TAXIWAY EXTENSION
-  OLD DOWD ROAD REALIGNMENT
-  WALLACE NEEL ROAD REALIGNMENT
-  WEST BLVD. REALIGNMENT

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WILKIN BLVD

I-485

1L IIS
786 LF (13)

1L UI
540 LF (13)

1M IIS
393 LF (10)

1Q UI
311 LF (8)

1K IIS
3218 LF (7)

2B (Tiger Branch) PS
1671 LF (1)

1Z IIS
2195 LF (2)

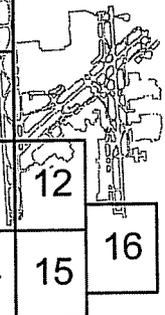
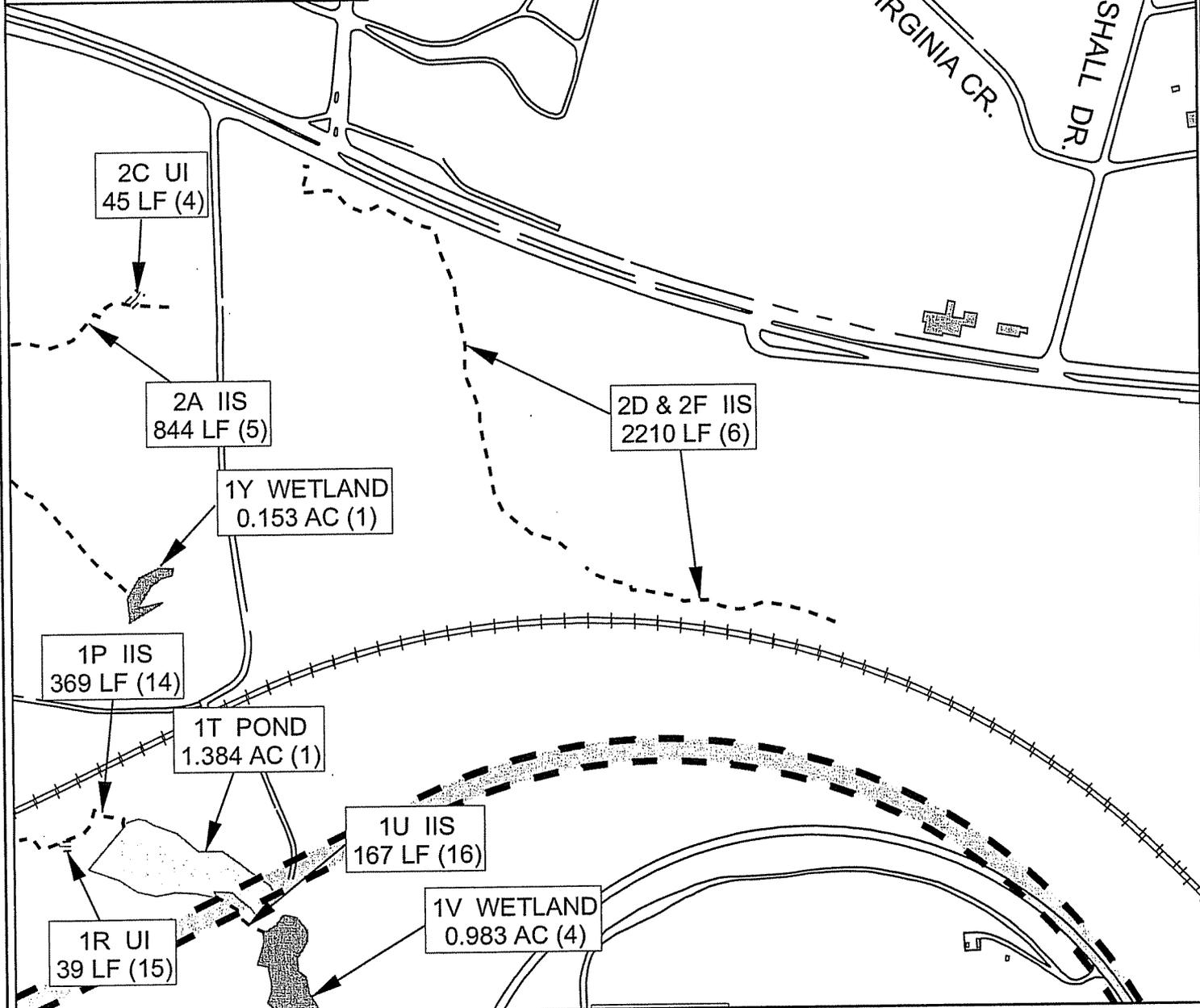
2E UI
198 LF (3)

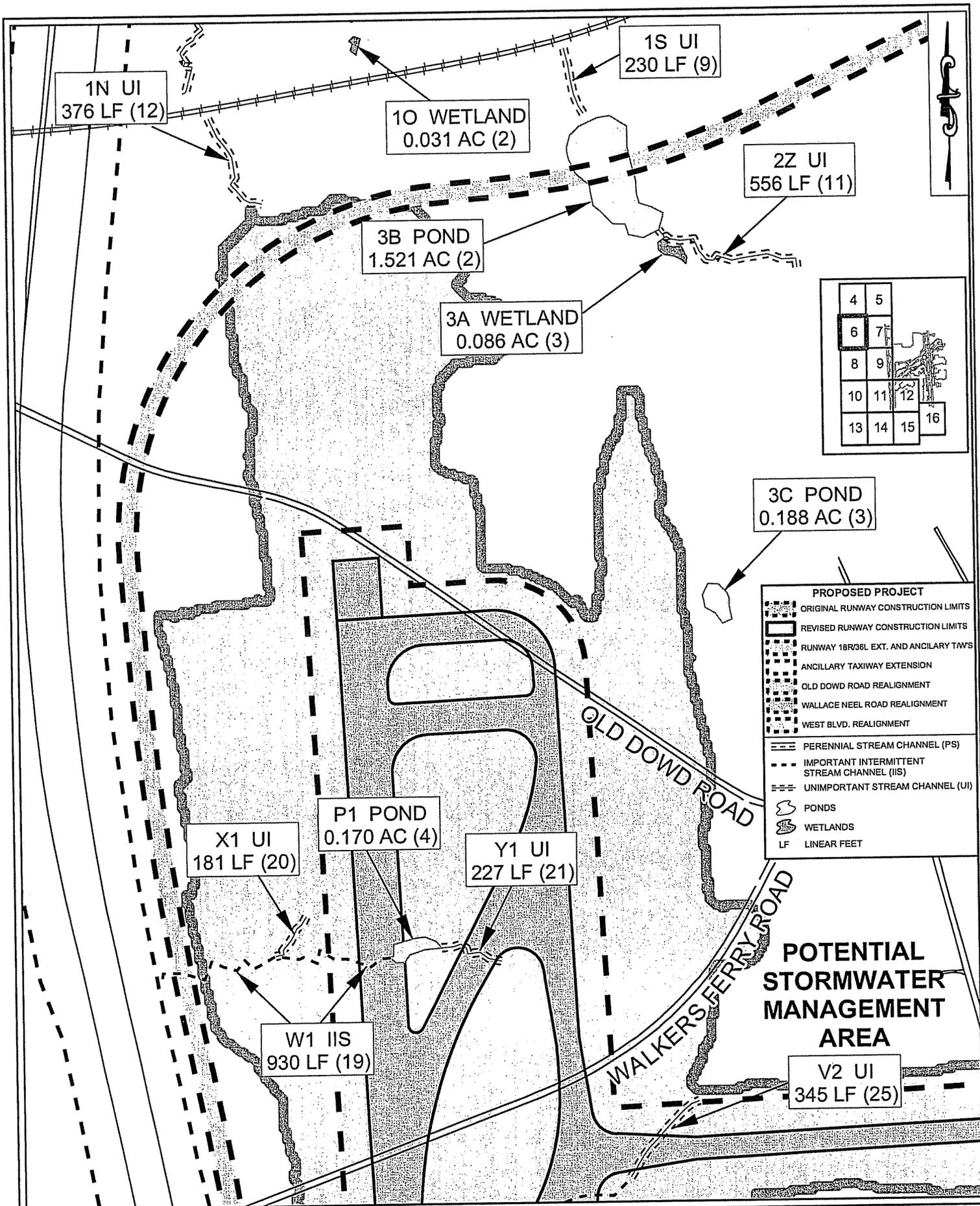
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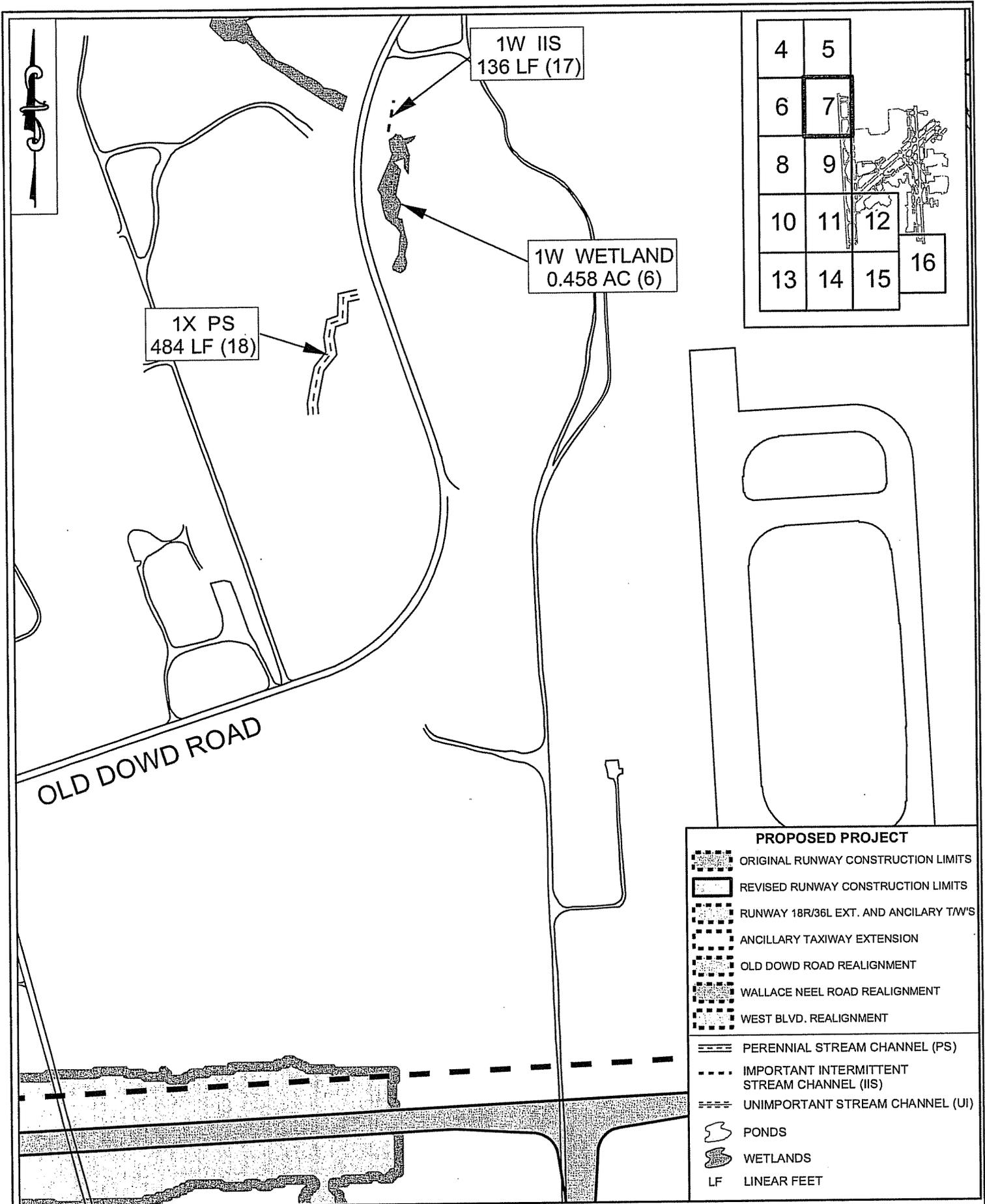
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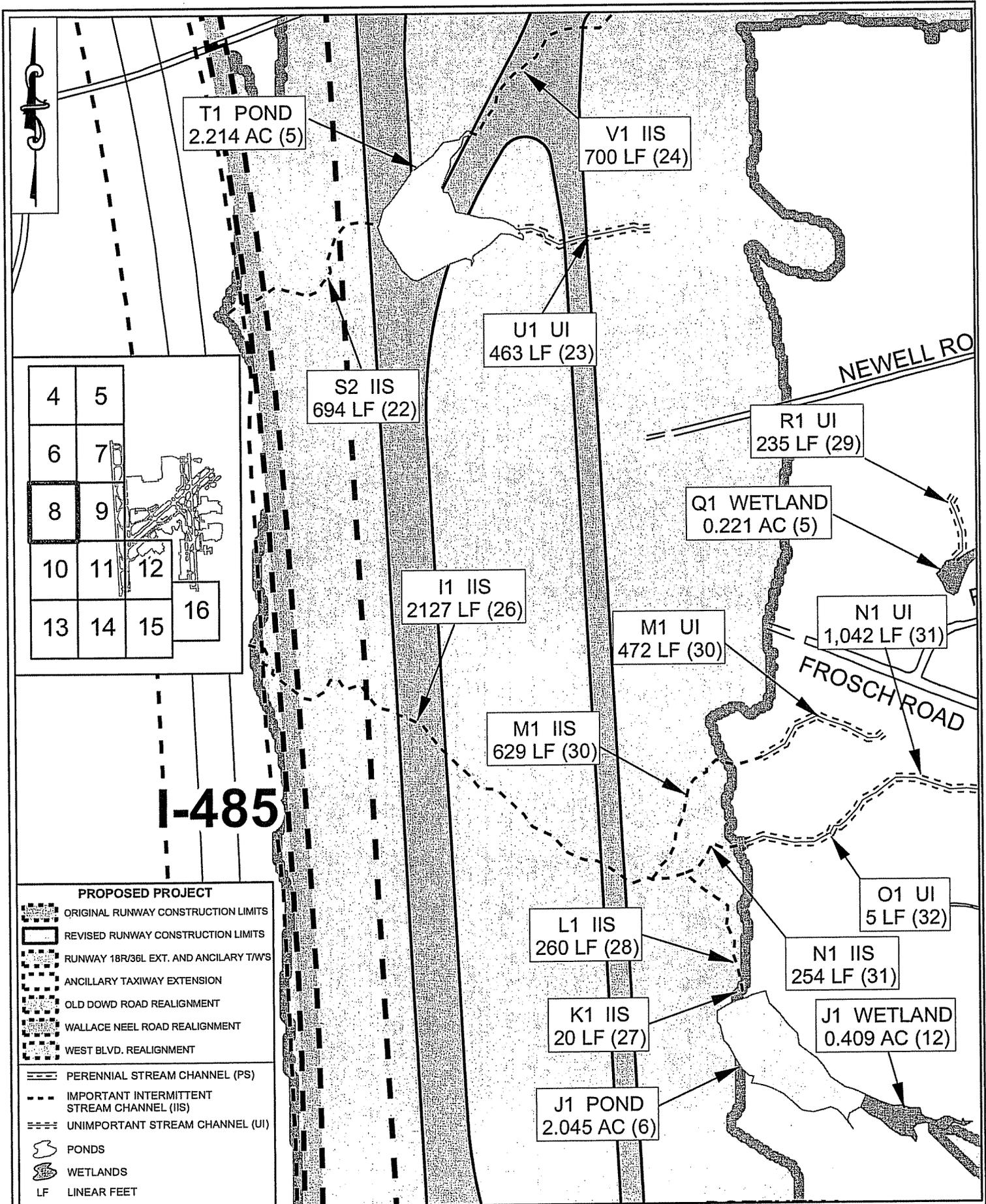
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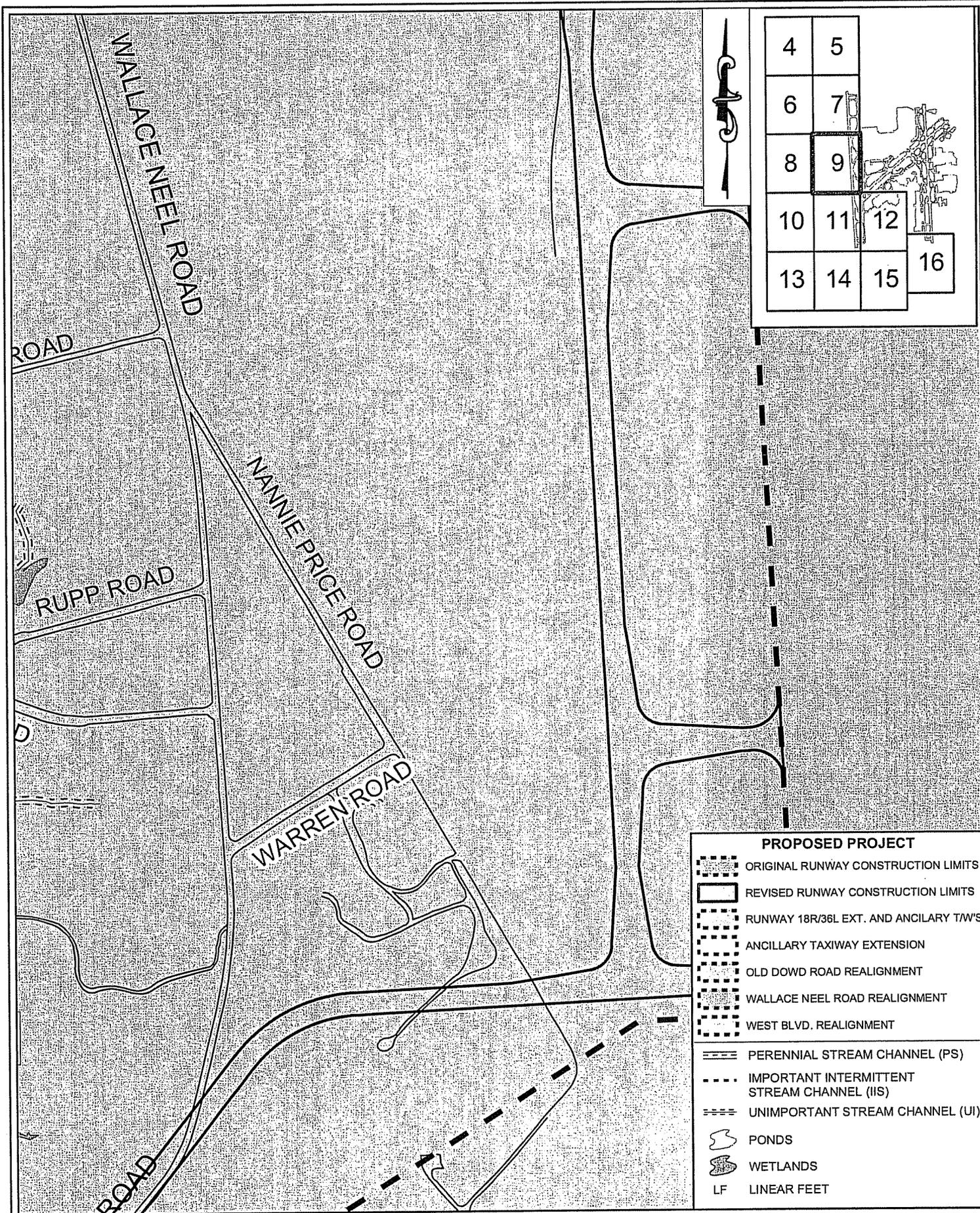







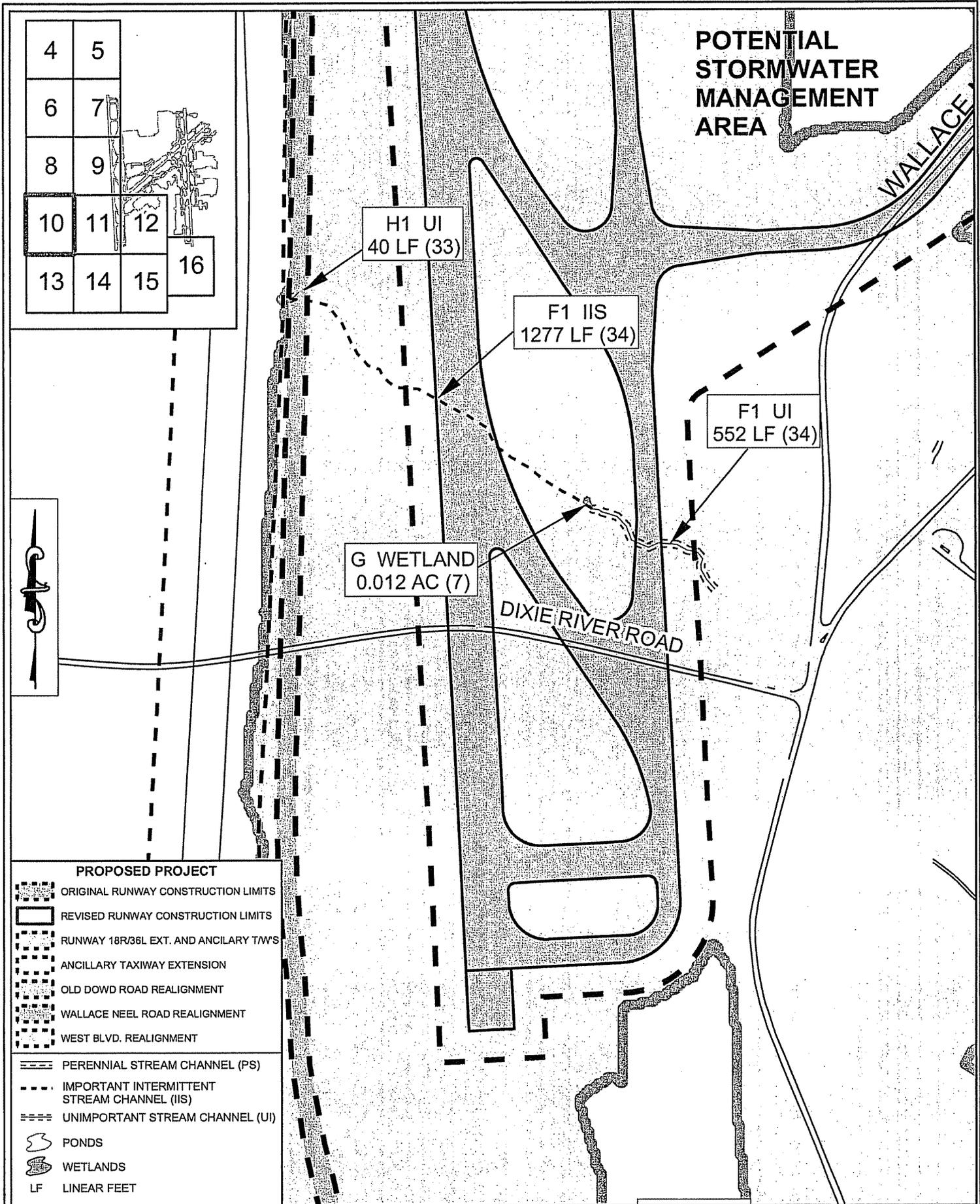


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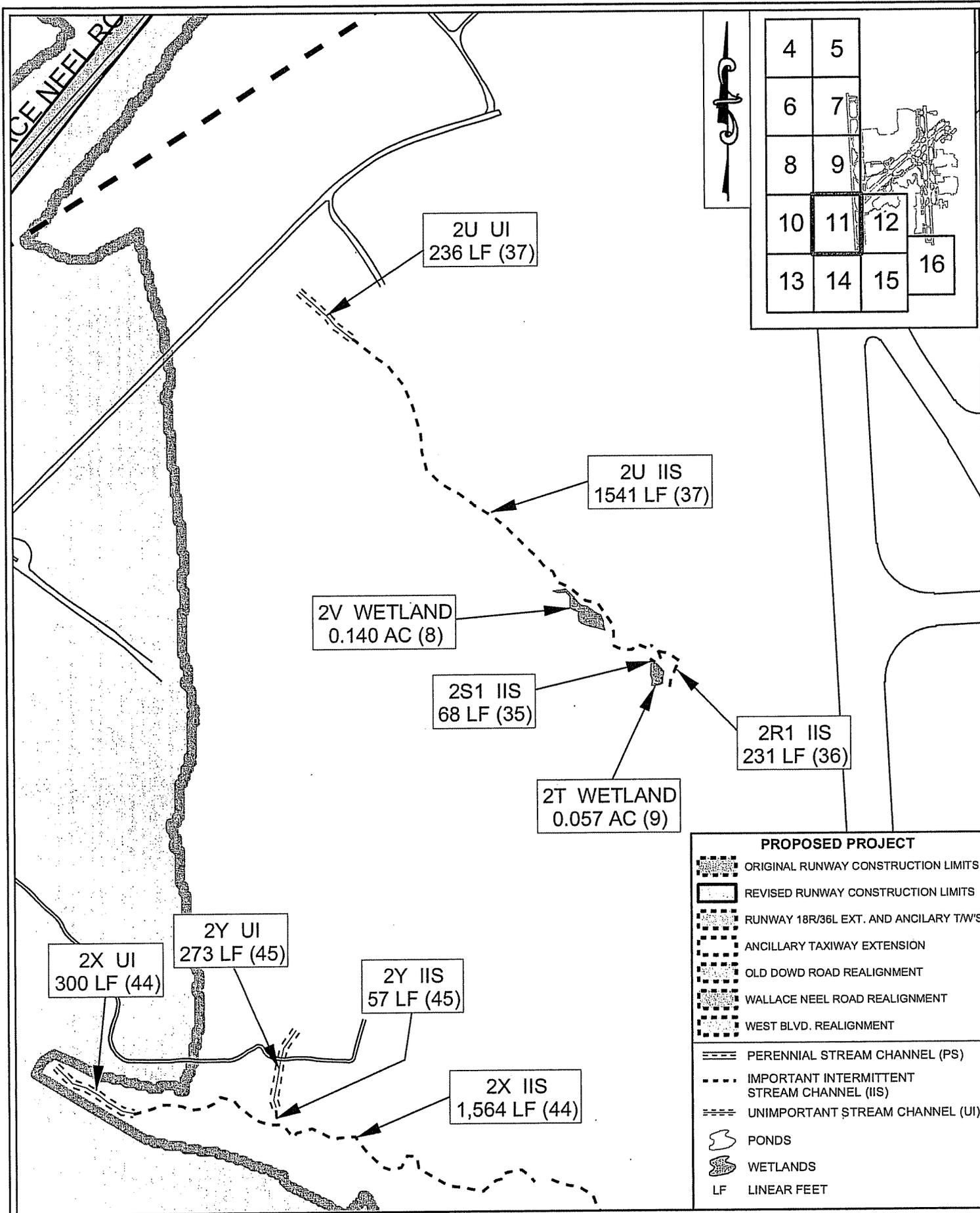
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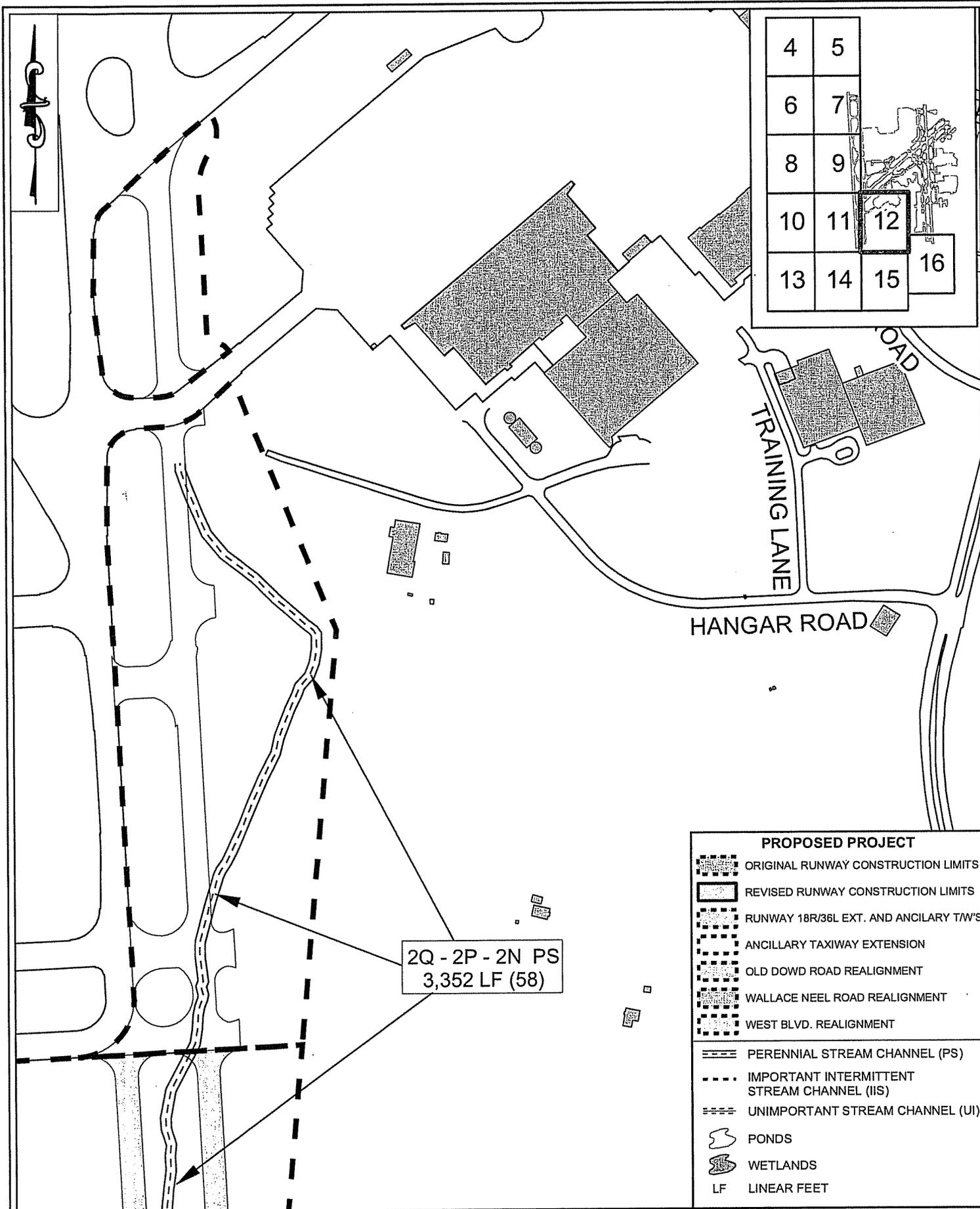
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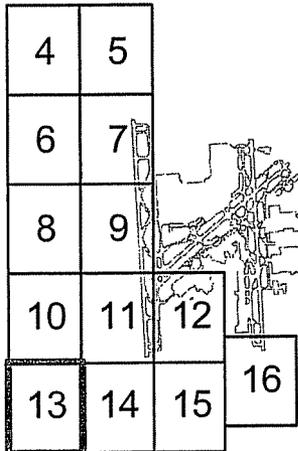
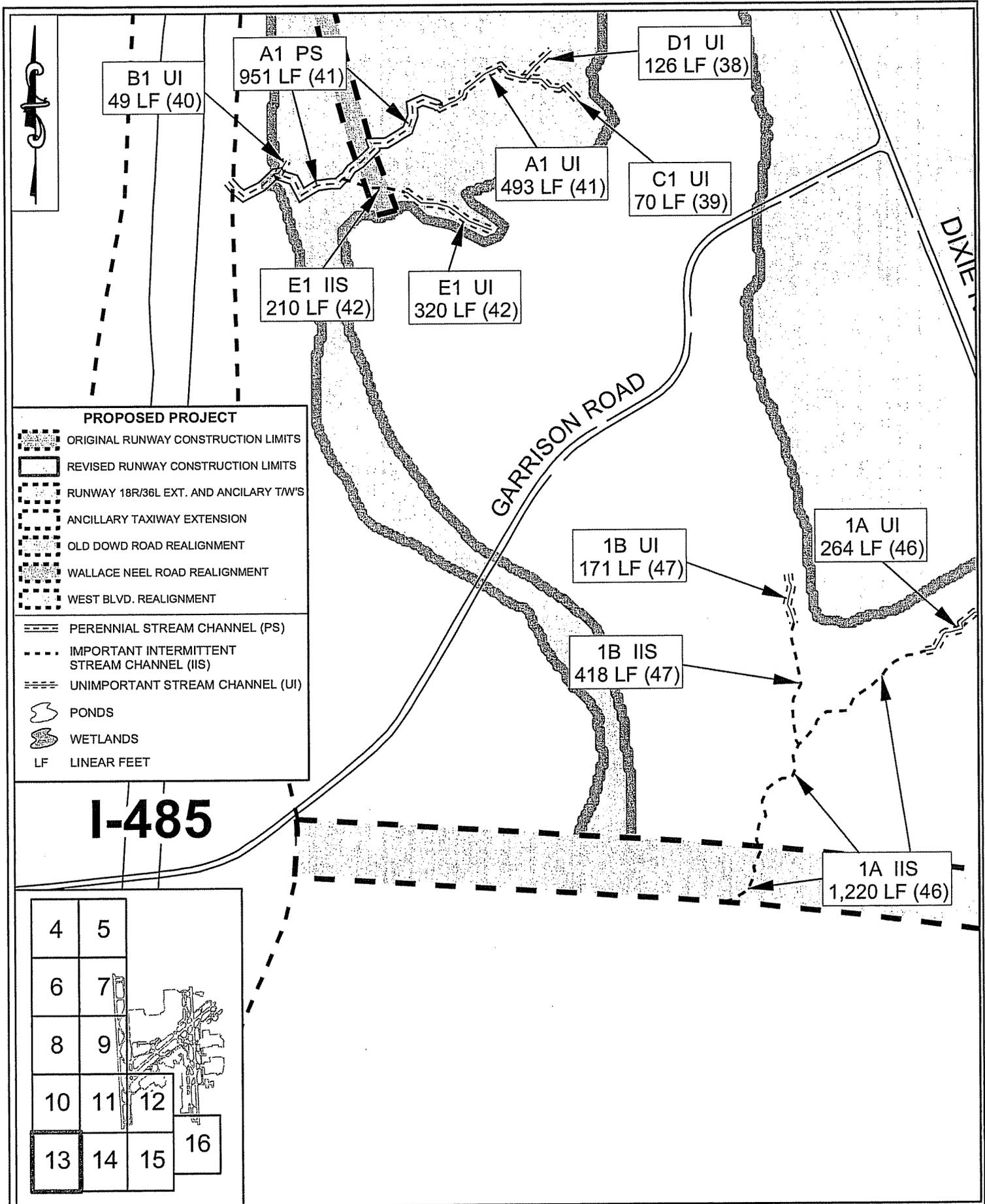


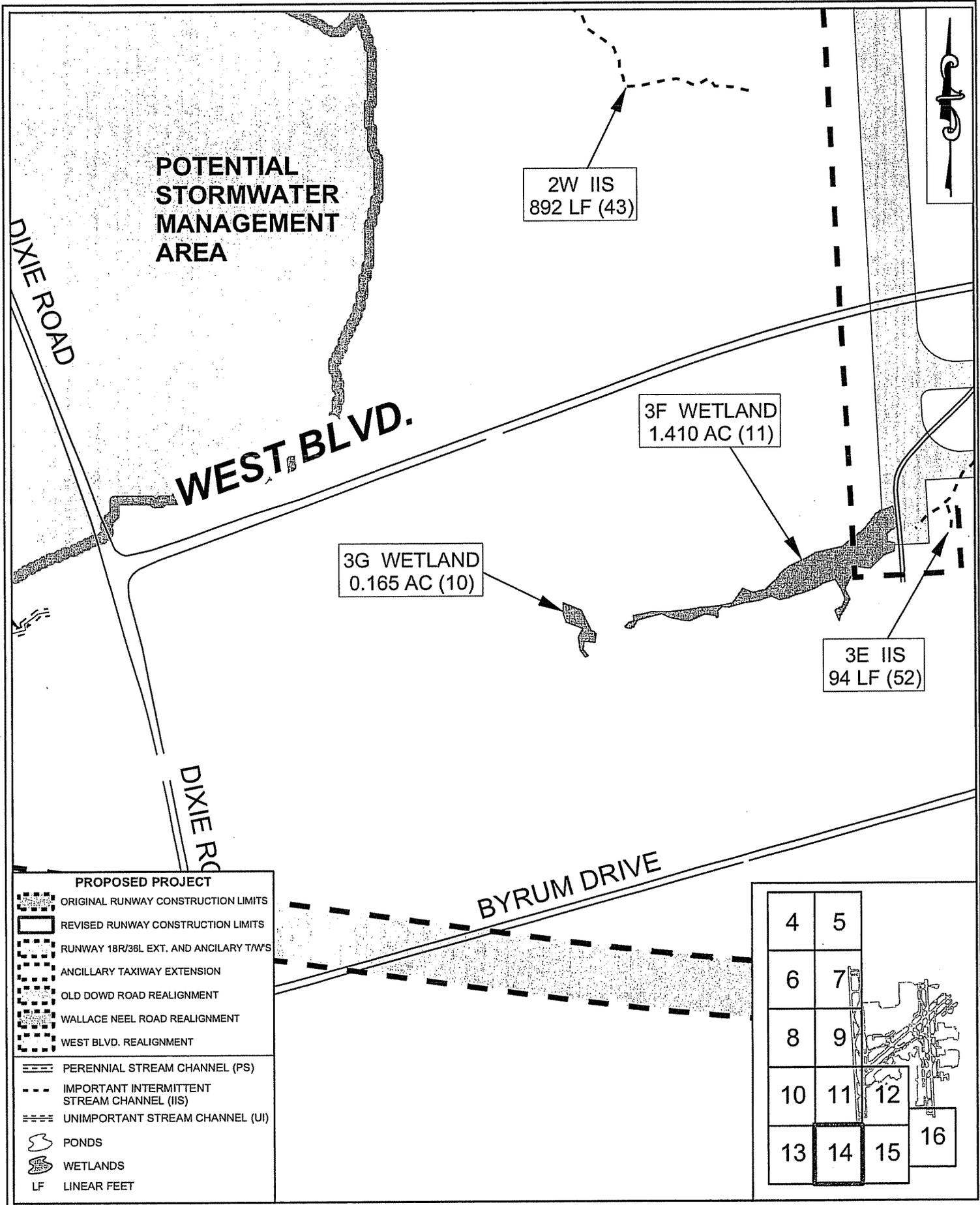


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POTENTIAL
STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT
AREA

2W IIS
892 LF (43)

3F WETLAND
1.410 AC (11)

3G WETLAND
0.165 AC (10)

3E IIS
94 LF (52)

DIXIE ROAD

WEST BLVD.

DIXIE RD

BYRUM DRIVE

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