



US Army Corps
Of Engineers
Wilmington District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Issue Date: March 7, 2007
Comment Deadline: April 6, 2007
Corps Action ID #: 2007-00286-067

The Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application from Marine Corps Base-Camp Lejeune seeking Department of the Army authorization to impact **12.5 acres of wetlands and 12,800 linear feet of stream** associated with **the construction of a Special Forces detachment to be known as the Marine Corps Special Operations Command (MARSOC) in Onslow, North Carolina.**

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: Marine Corps Base – Camp Lejeune
Attn: Mr. John Townsen
PSC 20004
Camp Lejeune, North Carolina 28542-0004

AGENT (if applicable): Marine Corps Base – Camp Lejeune
Permit Point of Contact
Attn: Martin Korenek
PSC Box 20004
Camp Lejeune, North Carolina 28542-0004

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 USC 1344).

Location

The 1,857 acre project site (currently known as the Stone Bay Rifle Range) is located east of US Hwy 17 and north of NC State Highway 210. The Stone Bay Rifle Range site is bordered to the north by Stones Creek, to the south by Everetts Creek, to the west by Highway 210, and to the east by Stones Bay. There are a number of unnamed tributaries

within the site which drain to Stones Bay, adjacent to the New River. Included with this project is a waste water utility corridor (18.7 km) which runs west from the Stone Bay area then north along the eastern side of U.S. Highway 17N to the Marine Corps Air Station New River in Jacksonville. The project area can be located at 34° 34.83 N and 77° 27.18 W.

Existing Site Conditions

The existing Stone Bay Rifle Range utilizes a natural high ground ridge as the corridor for the main access road. The existing complex utilizes approximately 40 buildings which serve as administration buildings, barlocks, training facilities, and maintenance facilities. The existing range is mostly forested except for the aforementioned amenities as well as clearing areas for small arms ranges and tactical landing zones.

Soil types within the project area were preliminarily determined using the Onslow County Soil Survey (USDA 1992). Soils at MCBCL are comprised primarily of loamy fine sands and fine sands. Eight soil types are mapped in the MARSOC project area, three of which (Muckalee loam, Bohicket silty clay loam, and Leon fine sand) are listed as hydric soils by the National Technical Committee on Hydric Soils (USDA 1995). Hydric soils are influenced by seasonally high water tables and typically have high organic content and small particle size. Non-hydric soils occurring in the project area include Baymeade Urban land complex, Baymeade fine sand, Kureb fine sand, Marvyn loamy fine sand, and Pactolus fine sand.

The unnamed tributary that dissects the project area has been designated as a primary Nursery Area by the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries.

The uplands are comprised of Mesic Pine flatwoods, Mesic mixed Hardwoods, dry-Oak-Hickory, and Pine-Scrub Oak Sandhill. The wetlands are characterized by Palustrine Scrub-Shrub wetlands, Palustrine Forested wetlands, Estuarine Emergent wetlands, Estuarine Scrub-Shrub wetlands, and Estuarine Forested wetlands. The wetlands were verified by Wilmington District staff in late July early August. An estimated 345 acres of wetlands were identified during the verification with 72 percent characterized as forested wetlands and the remaining as estuarine, forested and emergent wetlands and palustrine scrub-shrub broad leaved evergreen wetlands.

Ephemeral and intermittent/perennial streams can be found in association with wetlands within the project area. Intermittent streams identified in the project area were observed after recent rainfalls. The streams can be best described as headwater systems. Stream origins that begin as seepages in pine flatwoods type habitat become very narrow often 1-2 feet wide for significant distances as the topography increases with movement downstream. The topographic relief in the headwaters areas supports channel forming and sediment transport and deposition downstream. Movement downstream revealed continuous bed and bank features with some interruptions. The benthic macro-invertebrate community is appeared to be weak due to the input of sediment. Most of the

jurisdictional wetland area was confined to the stream channel without any riparian wetlands. Channel slopes in the upper portions of the streams were surprisingly steep with low sinuosities. Riffle-pool sequences were often absent in the headwaters areas. Indicators of depositional bars were infrequent and often lacking. Head cuts were observed in some areas with well incised channels. However, this was a feature that was not common in the project area. Hydrologic indicators such as the presence or absence of water in the channel, leaf litter accumulation, and sediment deposition was observed. Water in the channel in the upstream areas closest to the project site was absent to weak with moderate to strong leaf litter. Well incised channels identified in the headwaters area widen, and become less visible due to reduced topography. The streams ultimately form riparian wetlands with active floodplains that connect to the Stones Bay estuary due to the lack of channel forming features.

Applicant's Stated Purpose

The stated purpose is to build a new complex to support housing, training and security for a Marine Corps special forces units including all ancillary facilities and utilities.

Project Description

The MARSOC project would be constructed through a Design/Build acquisition strategy that has been developed by the Marine Corps' contracting agent, the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Mid Atlantic (NAVFAC-MIDLANT).

MARSOC MASTER PLAN CONCEPT

A MARSOC master plan concept for Special Operation Forces (SOF) Marine Corps Special Operations Command (MARSOC) Complex has been developed Site Plan - Master Plan Wetlands Impact January 24 2007. This concept plan will serve as the base upon which numerous design/build projects will be developed in support of the MARSOC. This contract will build operations and training facilities for use by the MARSOC. This facility will provide specialized training for non-conventional missions performed by the Marine Corps in the evolving Homeland Security/Anti-terrorism role.

The estimated 544 acre site for the MARSOC complex site is mostly wooded and will require clearing and grubbing. The construction will consist of exterior brick veneer buildings with cast-in-place concrete foundations. Related amenities and site work includes earthwork, grading, landscaping, drainage, storm water management, parking lot and paved roadway, sidewalks, site excavation, sanitary sewer system extensions, domestic water extensions, a new steam boiler plant and distribution lines, fire suppression water pumps, electrical utilities, telephone, Local Area Network (LAN), emergency power systems, and an antenna tower. A fire station, an enlisted dining facility, and an exchange building, will be constructed to support the MARSOC Complex, under a separate contract(s).

Construction proposed under this contract will include all grading, drainage, fencing, and road demolition, as well as road improvements and new road construction to access and support the new facilities. The entrance to the complex will be modified to provide secure entry to the new facility and permit access to the existing firing ranges and other facilities already existing in the area.

MARSOC WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEM PLAN / STUDY

The MARSOC Waste Water Collection System plan will utilize portions of an existing waste water distribution system that currently provides service to all of Camp Lejeune including the Stone Bay area. The existing wastewater collection system was constructed in the mid-1990s and consists of a series of wastewater pump stations and force mains that pump flow from the Rifle Range to US 17, Camp Geiger, Camp Johnson, and Tarawa Terrace ultimately discharging at the French Creek WWTP.

The existing waste water distribution line (10 inch main) within the project area runs from the Stone Bay Rifle Range west to U.S. Highway 17 north to a lift station along Hwy 17, then to the Marine Corps Air Station New River in Jacksonville. The proposed waste water collection system will require an additional, new (12-16 INCH) line that will be installed adjacent to the existing line within portions of the existing waste water distribution line within the existing mowed and maintained right-of way (ROW). New construction of an additional waste water distribution line and ROW is proposed from a point at the intersection of U.S Highway 17 and Verona Loop Road (southern intersection) east towards New River. This new ROW is proposed within the road shoulder along the north side of Verona Loop Road to a new lift station.

The site for the proposed Verona Loop pump station is located in an area north of the intersection of Verona Loop Road and Rhodes Point Road. The existing site is wooded and will require clearing and grubbing. The pump house will be constructed of cast-in-place concrete with an exterior brick veneer. A portion of the building will be below grade. This sub-grade portion, as well as the building foundation system, will also be constructed of cast-in-place concrete. New site work at the pump station site will include the pump house, bituminous paved drive, parking, fencing, sidewalks and associated concrete pads for new equipment.

The new line will continue from the proposed pump station along the north side of Rhodes Point Road to the New River. Installation of the new line will consist of a combination of excavation and trenching as well as directional boring beneath waters of the U.S. where feasible in order to minimize impacts to wetlands and waters of the U.S. Temporary impacts to wetlands due to the associated excavation, backfill, or bedding for the installation of the waste water lines are expected.

A directional bore under the New River from Rhodes Point is required to connect this waste water line to the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) near the mouth of French Creek. The river crossing will be a single line without the casing pipe (multiple waste

water lines have been installed under the New River at Camp Lejeune and use single line, uncased pipe).

Proposed Impact:

Building and operating the MARSOC Complex will cause temporary and permanent, unavoidable impacts to wetlands due to mechanized land clearing, cutting, and filling required for the construction of roads, facilities, buildings, waste water distribution lines and other infrastructure. These estimated impacts are based upon the MARSOC Site plan concept. Avoidance and minimization measures to avoid wetland impacts will be incorporated into the design/build process.

Construction of the MARSOC Complex may require impacting (clearing, cutting, and filling) an estimated 12.5 acres of wetlands (approximately 9.3 acres of riparian wetlands and 3.2 acres of non-riparian wetlands), and 12,800 linear feet of stream impacts.

Temporary impacts to wetlands due to the associated excavation, backfill, or bedding for the installation of the waste water lines are estimated at 1.41 acres (calculation based on a trench /excavation width of 5 feet). However, detailed construction drawings and project descriptions for this specific construction project is not currently available.

Proposed Mitigation:

The Greater Sandy Run Wetland Mitigation Bank in the GSRA on Camp Lejeune has over 500 credits of pine flatwood, pocosin, and bottomland hardwood credits available for compensatory mitigation.

Camp Lejeune proposes to use the Greater Sandy Run Mitigation Bank as compensatory mitigation for portions of the MARSOC facility. This will allow practical and economical compensatory mitigation for the MARSOC project. Camp Lejeune also proposes to provide wetland mitigation for riparian impacts and stream impacts by making payment to the NC EEP if no on-site wetland mitigation alternatives are available.

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), Section 401 Oversight and Express Permits Unit, 2321 Crabtree Boulevard, Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-2260, Attention: Ms Cyndi Karoly by March 30, 2007.

The applicant has not provided to the Corps, a certification statement that his/her proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved North Carolina Coastal Zone Management Program. Pursuant to 33 CFR 325.2(b)(2), the Corps can not issue a permit for the proposed work until the applicant submits such a certification to the Corps and the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (NCDCM), and the NCDCM notifies the Corps that it concurs with the applicant's consistency certification.

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 is not aware that any registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are located within the project area or will be affected by the proposed work. Presently, unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be located within the project area and/or could be affected by the proposed work.

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, the Corps has determined pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, that the proposed project will have no effect on federally listed endangered or threatened species or their formally designated critical habitat.

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

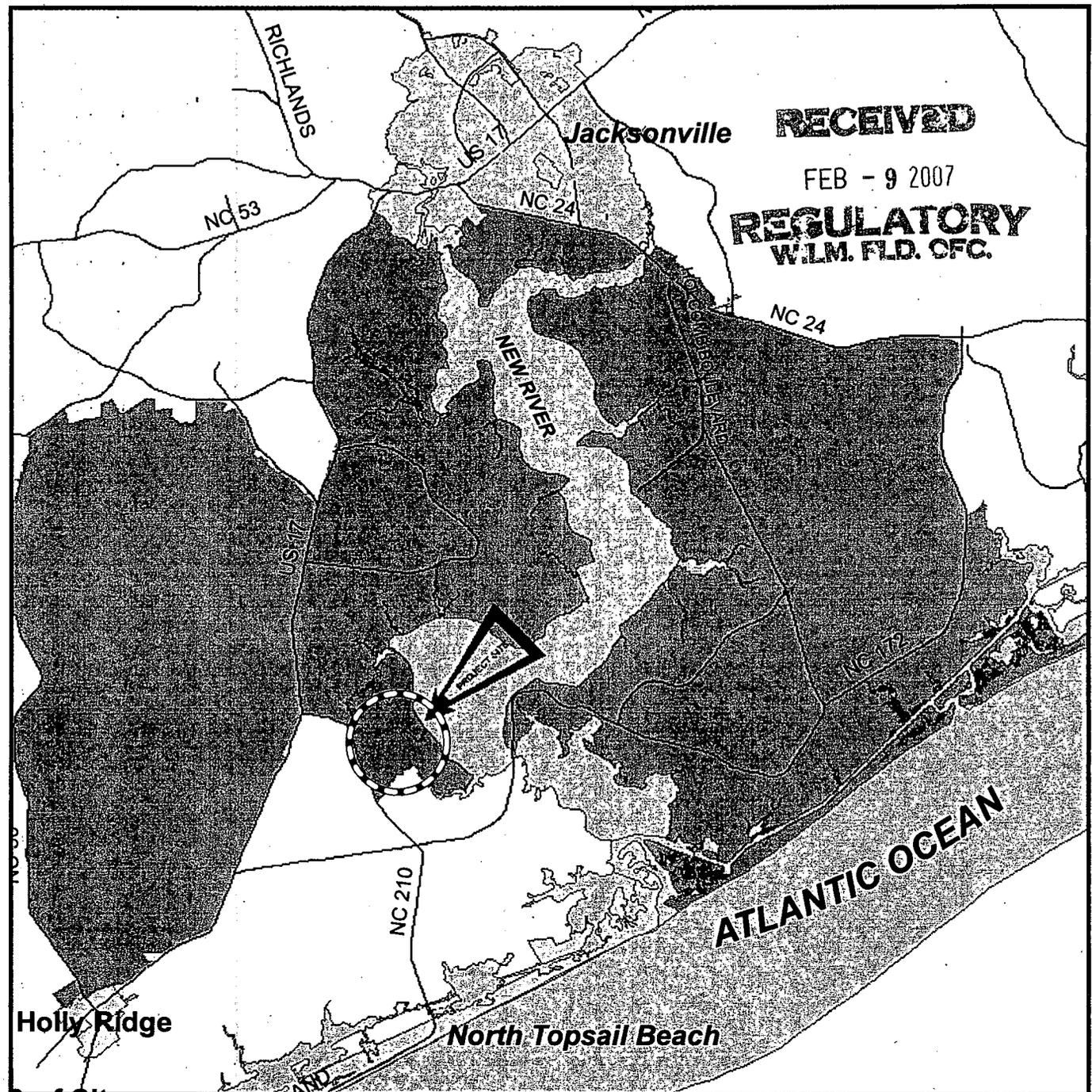
which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values (in accordance with Executive 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

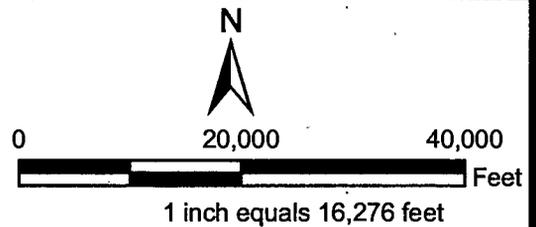
The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State and local agencies and officials, including any consolidate State Viewpoint or written position of the Governor; Indian Tribes and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. 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 (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, April 6, 2007. Comments should be submitted to Brad Shaver, Regulatory Specialist, P.O. Box 1890 Wilmington, N.C. 28402-1890. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Shaver at (910) 251-4611.



 **CAMP LEJEUNE**



MARSOC
 MCB Camp Lejeune
 Onslow County, NC

Prepared: January 22, 2006
 Author: Land and Wildlife Resources Section
 Organization: Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune
 Environmental Conservation Branch

Figure 1. Vicinity Map

SITE PLAN - MASTER PLAN WETLANDS IMPACT

January 24, 2007





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 WILM.FLD.SFC
 4,400

Figure 2. Project Overview

0 2,200 4,400



1 inch equals 1,047 feet

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— MARSOC Planning Area

--- WASTE WATER SYSTEM CORRIDOR

Map Source: 2004 Aerial Photograph



New Lift Station

Directional Bore

Start New Construction

Existing Lines

Advanced Waste Water Treatment Plant

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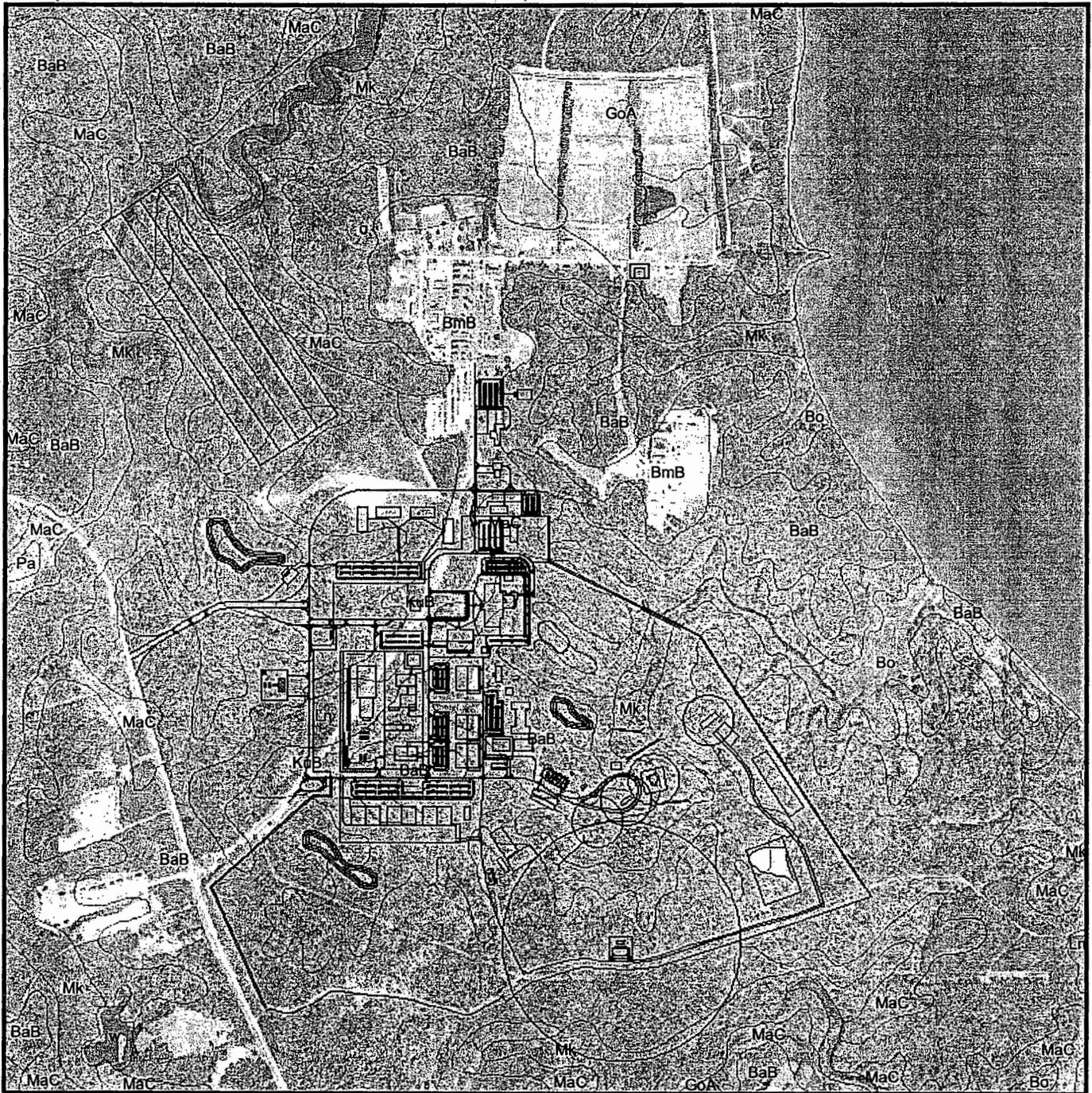
WETLANDS
 WASTE WATER SYSTEM-CORRIDOR

Map Source: 2004 Aerial Photograph

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 Waste Water Collection System
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Figure 4. Waste Water Collection System

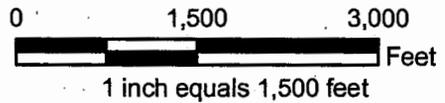


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— MARSOC MASTER PLAN

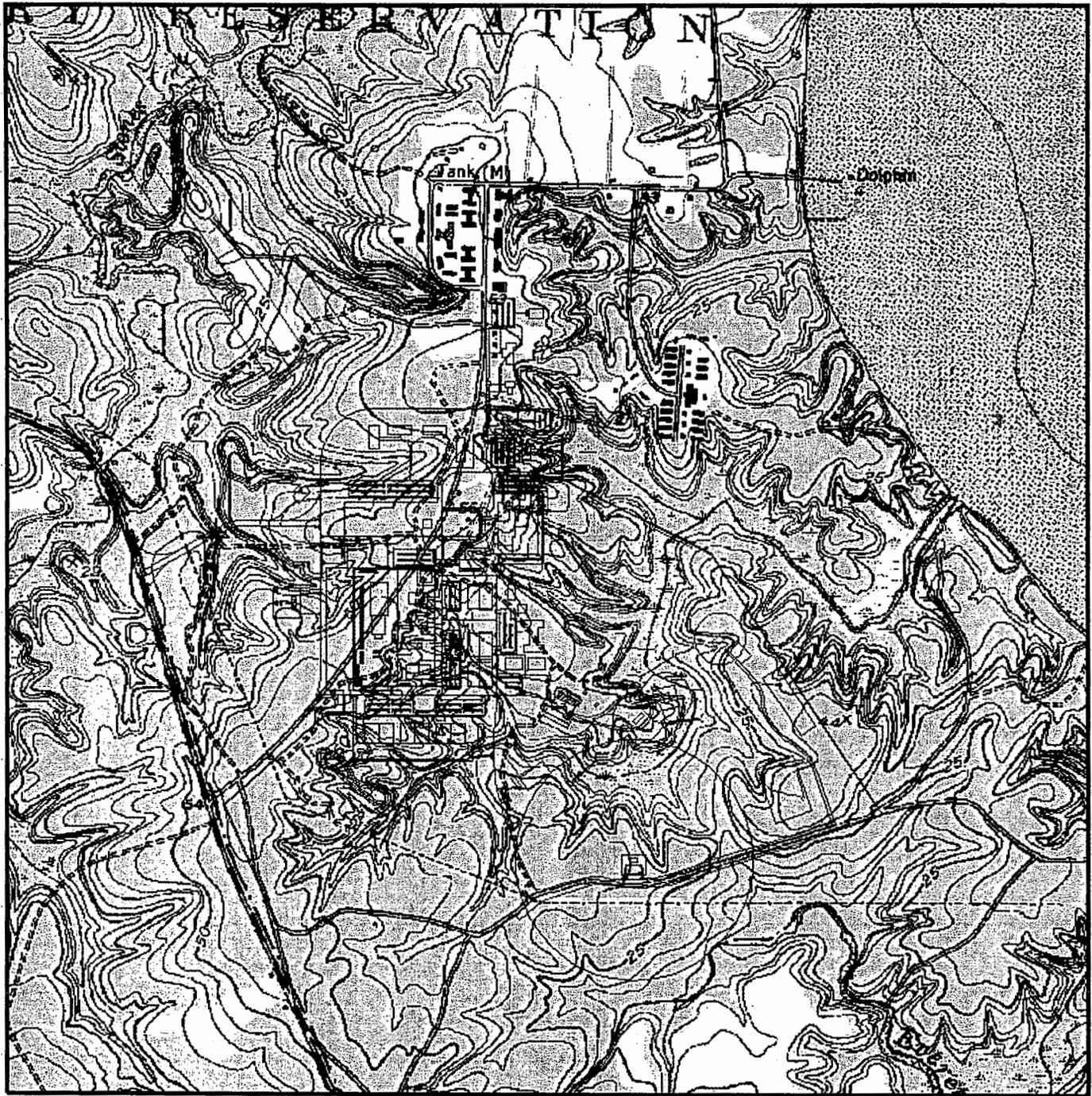
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Environmental Conservation Branch

Figure 5. Soils



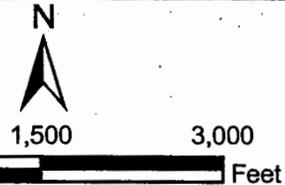
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— MARSOC MASTER PLAN

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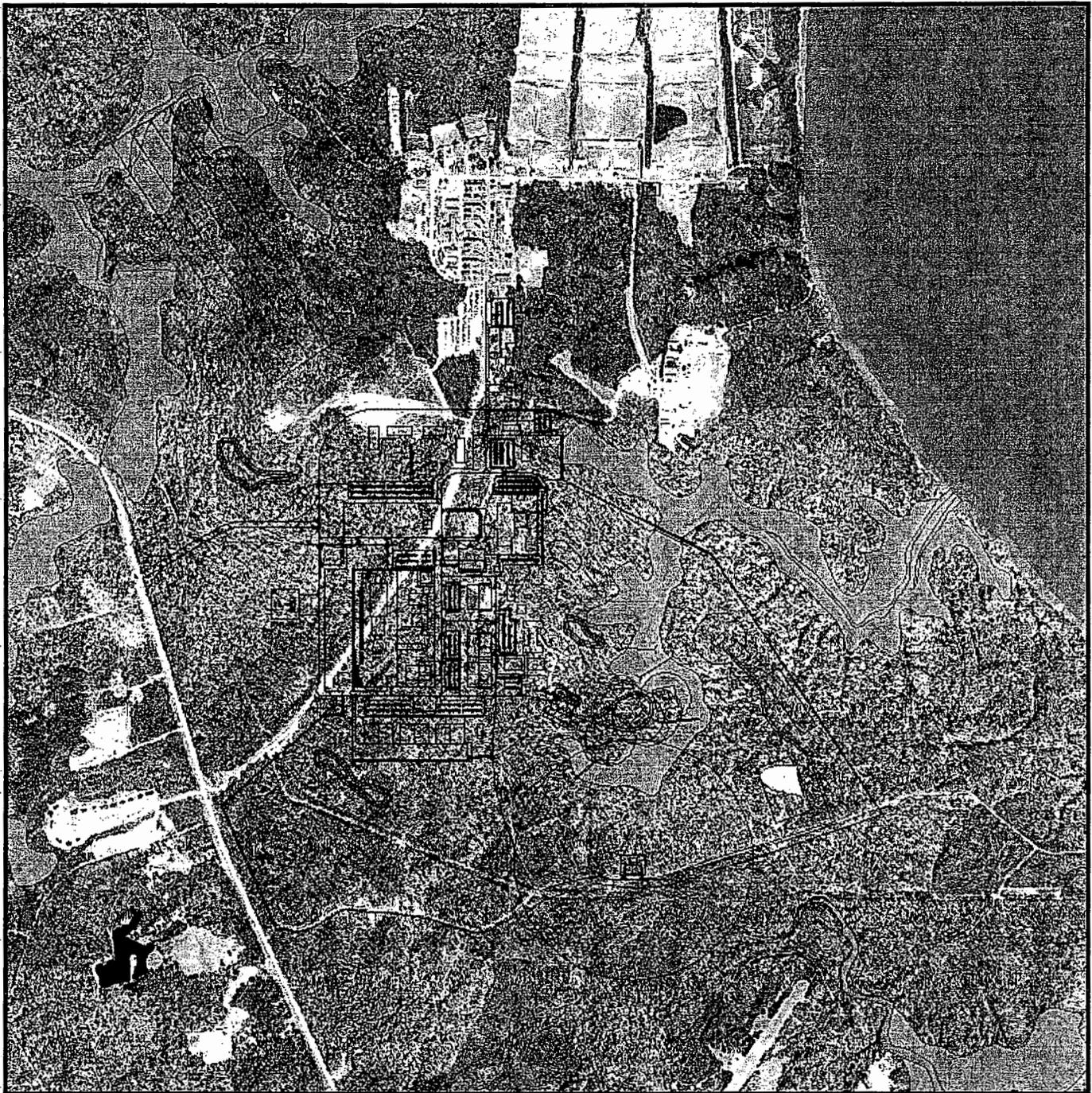
Map Source: USGS 7.5' Quadrangle, Sneads Ferry

1 inch equals 1,500 feet

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Figure 8. USGS Quadrangle



— MARSOC MASTER PLAN

Primary Nursery Areas

Special Secondary Nursery Areas

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1,500

3,000

Feet

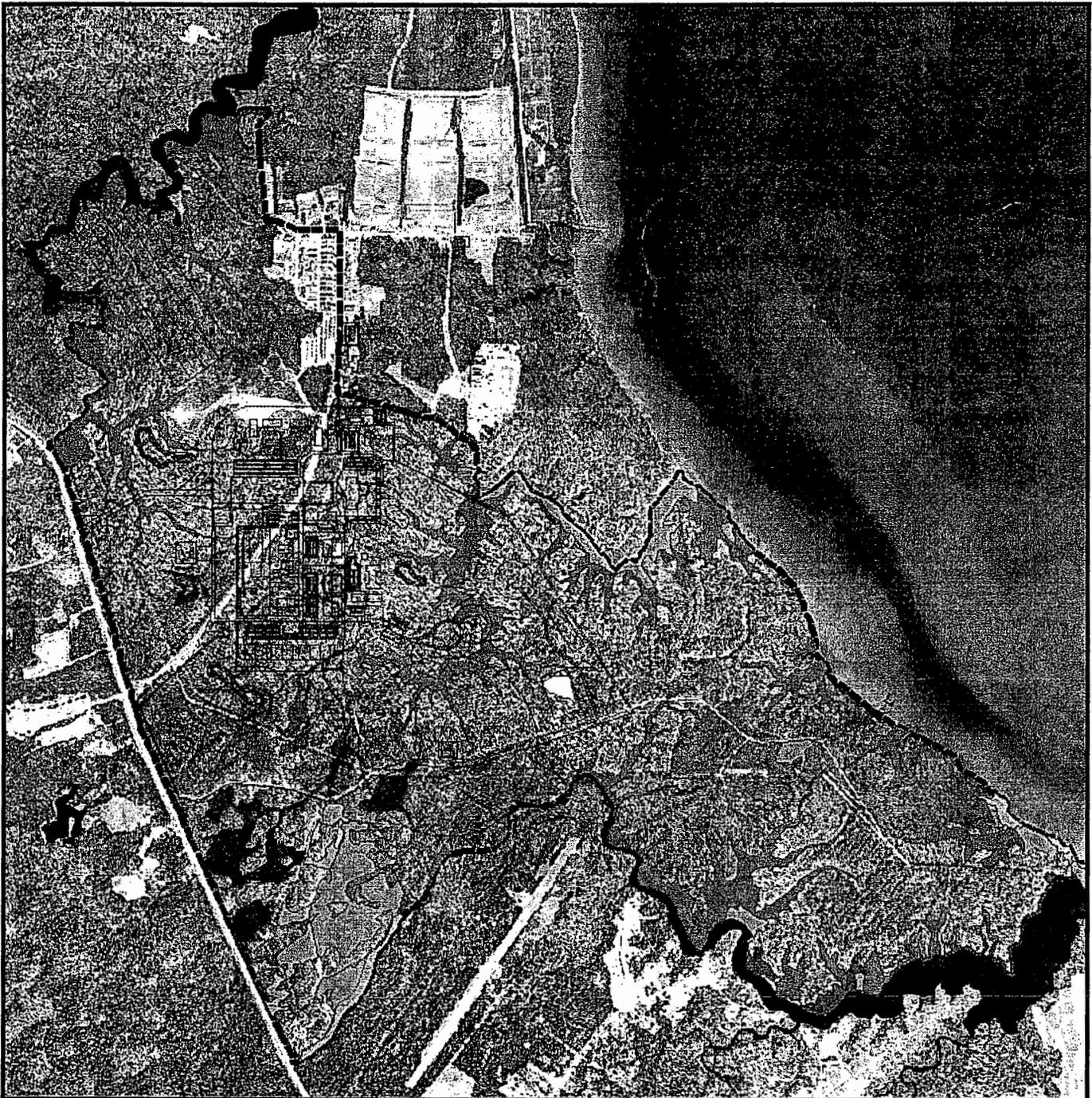
1 inch equals 1,500 feet

Map Source: 2004 Aerial Photograph

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Figure 6. Primary Nursery Areas



WETLANDS

	PFO4/SS3		PFO1/SS3		PSS3		E2FO1/SS3
	PFO4		PFO1		E2EMF		E2FO1
	PFO4		PFO3		E2SS3		
	PFO1/3						

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2,000 4,000 Feet
1 inch equals 2,000 feet

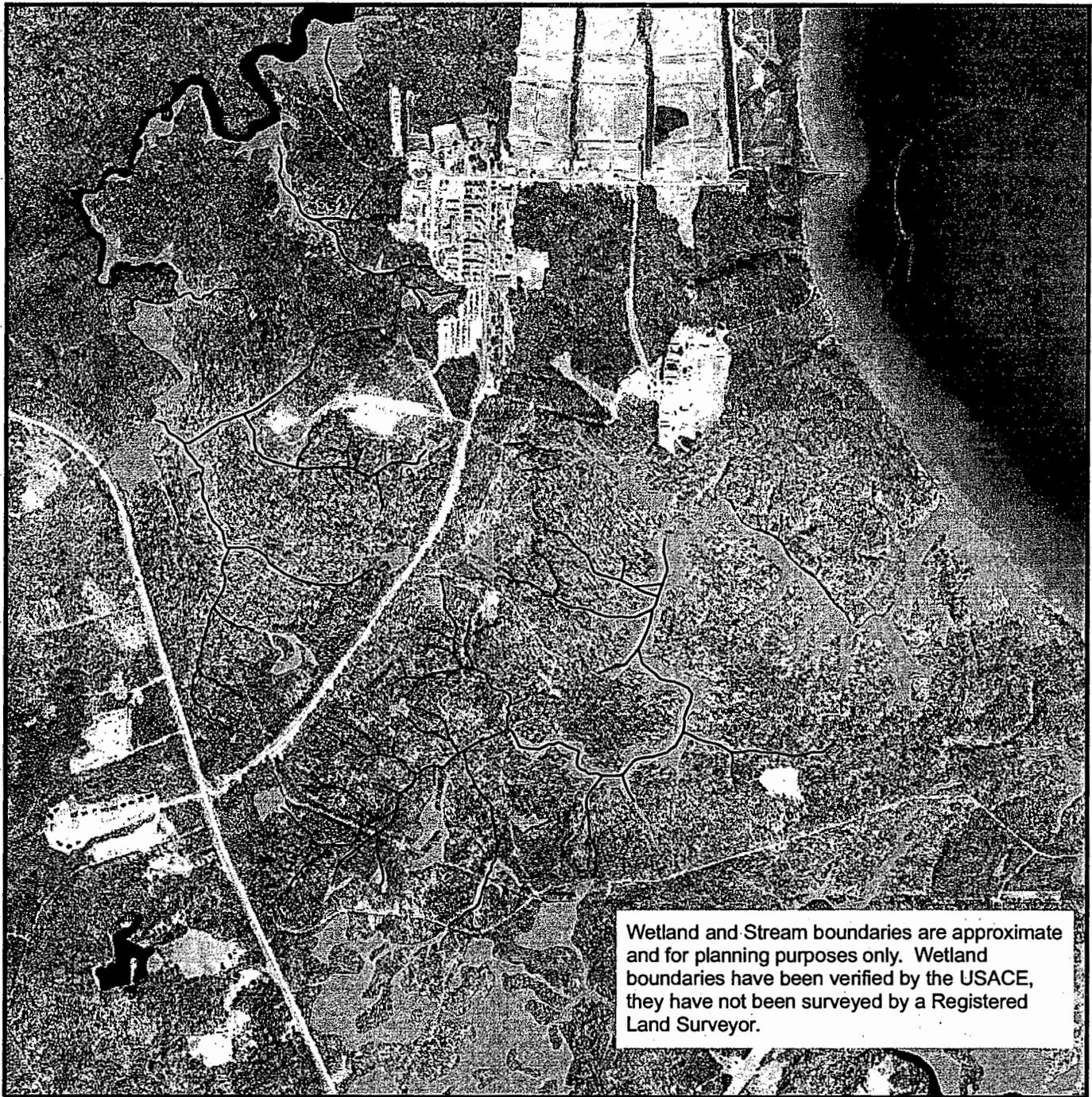
Map Source: 2004 Aerial Photograph

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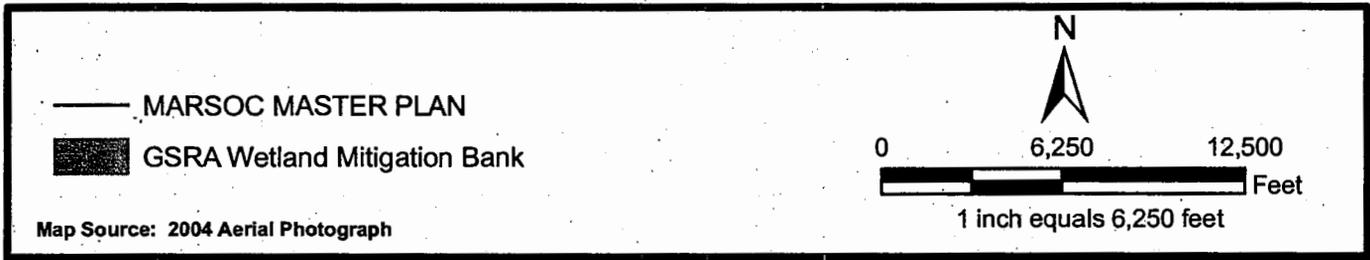
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Figure 7. Jurisdictional Wetlands



<p>  WETLANDS  EPHEMERAL STREAMS  INTERMITTENT/PERENNIAL </p> <p>Map Source: 2004 Aerial Photograph</p>	<p>RECEIVED</p> <p>FEB - 9 2007</p> <p>REGULATORY W.L.M. FLD. OFC.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">N</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">0 1,600 3,200</p>  Feet <p style="text-align: center;">1 inch equals 1,500 feet</p>
<p>MARSOC MCB Camp Lejeune Onslow County, NC</p>	<p>Prepared: January 22, 2006 Author: Land and Wildlife Resources Section Organization: Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune Environmental Conservation Branch</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Figure 9. Streams</p>



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Figure 10. GSRA Wetland Mitigation Bank

**Marine Special Operations Command (MARSOC), CWA Section 404 Individual
Permit, Section 401 Certification Application**

APPENDIX A

Cultural Resources Coordination