

PUBLIC NOTICE

Issue Date: November 20, 2008
Comment Deadline: December 20, 2008
Corps Action ID #: SAW-2008-03094

The Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received a prospectus describing the establishment of a stream and wetland compensatory mitigation bank, known as Godwin Bay Mitigation Bank for Federal and State permits as described below:

Bank Sponsor

Restoration Systems, LLC

This public notice does not imply, on the parts of the Corps of Engineers or other agencies, either favorable or unfavorable opinion of the work to be performed, but it issued to solicit comments regarding the factors on which final decisions will be based. 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. The complete prospectus and mitigation plans are also available at the Wilmington District, Raleigh Field Office. Please contact 919-554-4884 extension 22, to request a copy.

WATERWAYS AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK: The proposed bank site is located west of NC Highway 50, approximately 4 miles south of Benson, Johnston County, NC. The approximate geographic coordinates are 35.3395° north latitude and -78.4888° west longitude. The site is a Carolina bay with a manmade break in the rim that allows waters to exit the site through a system of manmade drainage ditches, ultimately flowing through unnamed tributaries to Mill Creek or Stone Creek in the Neuse River Basin, Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 03020201. (See attached maps).

PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE: The bank sponsor proposes to establish, design, construct, and operate a wetland compensatory mitigation bank composed of 77 acres located southeast of Benson, Johnston County, North Carolina.

As stated by the sponsor, the primary goals and objectives of this proposed mitigation bank are to improve flood attenuation and storage. Specifically, the sponsor plans to restore 65.9 acres of drained palustrine wetlands. The sponsor states the goals and objectives would be accomplished by: 1) removing non-point and point sources of pollution associated with agricultural activities, 2) restoring the original hydrology by filling approximately 14,000 linear feet of existing drainage ditches, 3) reforesting of a native wetland community with subsequent reestablishment of habitat diversity and functional continuity, 4) permanently protecting the site's full potential as a wetland. The sponsor states that the proposed bank would be protected in perpetuity by a conservation easement. The applicant states that upon completion the proposed bank would offer 65.9 acres of Wetland Mitigation Units.

The proposed 77 acre bank site is currently utilized for agricultural activities associated with the production of chickens, hogs, and row crops such as corn, wheat, and soybeans. A total of approximately 75.6 acres of the proposed Bank's land area are currently underlain by hydric soils that have been impacted by ditching, excavation and removal of vegetation. The enclosed map shows the approximate location of proposed restoration and enhancement sites.

The proposed geographic service area is the 8 digit HUC, 03020201, located within the Neuse River Basin.

This mitigation bank may be considered one of a number of practicable alternatives available to applicants to compensate for unavoidable stream and wetland impacts associated with permits issued under the authority of Sections 404 and 401 of the Clean Water Act for projects located within the prescribed geographic service area.

Oversight of this wetland compensatory mitigation bank will be by a group of Federal and State agency representatives collectively referred to as the Interagency Review Team (IRT). The IRT shall be chaired by the Wilmington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, N.C. Division of Water Quality, and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission.

The actual approval of the use of this mitigation bank for a specific project is the decision of the Corps of Engineers pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Corps provides no guarantee that any particular individual or general permit will be granted authorization to use this wetland compensatory mitigation bank to compensate for unavoidable wetland impacts associated with a proposed permit, even though mitigation from this bank may be available.

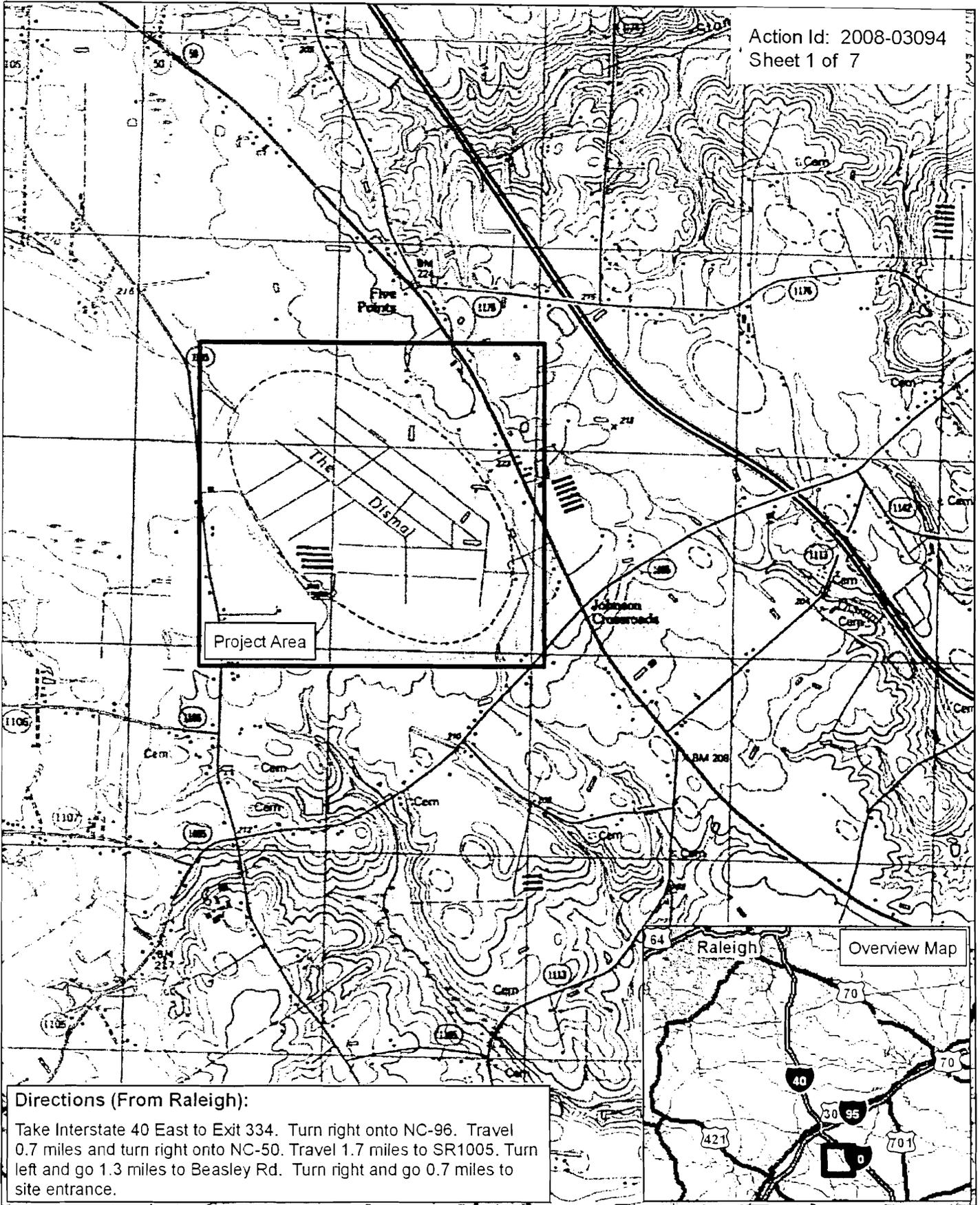
AUTHORITY: A Public Notice regarding proposed mitigation banks is required pursuant to the rules published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources (33 CFR 332.8(d)(4)).

FEDERAL EVALUATION OF PROPOSAL: 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 this proposed mitigation bank. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps in evaluating this proposal. Comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards and flood plain values (in accordance with Executive Order 11988), land use, navigation, shore 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.

Preliminary review indicates that: 1) An environmental impact statement will not be required; 2) No species of fish, wildlife, or plant (or their critical habitat) listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (PL 93-205) will be affected; and 3) No cultural or

historic resources considered eligible or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places will be affected. Additional information may change any of these preliminary findings.

Written comments pertinent to the proposed work, as outlined above, will be received in this office. Attention: Thomas Brown, Raleigh Regulatory Field Office, 3331 Heritage Trade Drive, Suite 105, Wake Forest, North Carolina 27587, until 5:00 p.m., December 20, 2008.



Directions (From Raleigh):

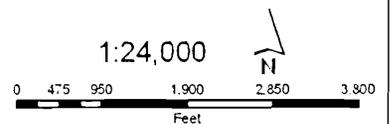
Take Interstate 40 East to Exit 334. Turn right onto NC-96. Travel 0.7 miles and turn right onto NC-50. Travel 1.7 miles to SR1005. Turn left and go 1.3 miles to Beasley Rd. Turn right and go 0.7 miles to site entrance.



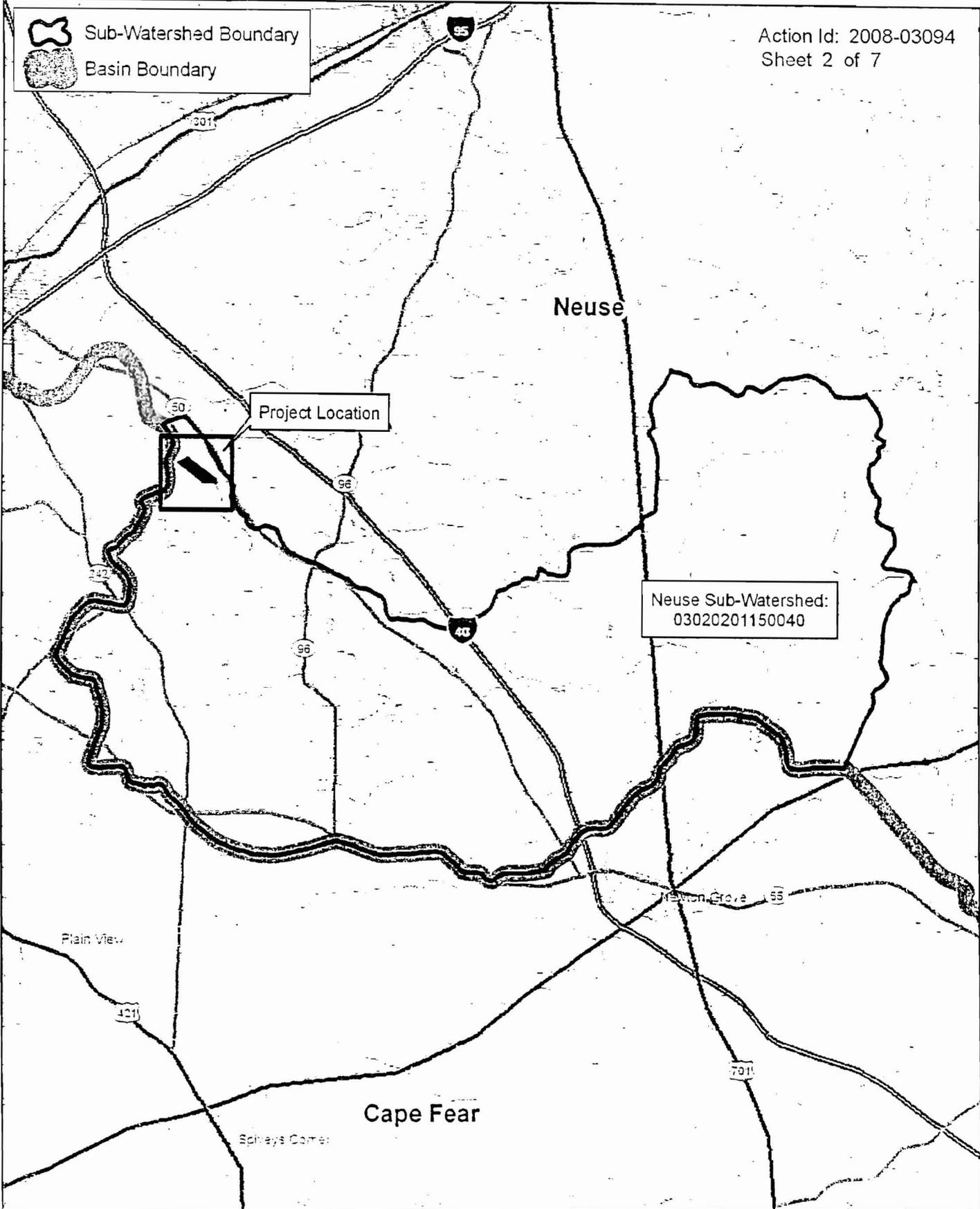
Restoration Systems, LLC
 1101 Haynes St. Suite 211
 Raleigh, NC 27604
 tel: 919.755.9490

Figure 1:
 Project Location

Godwin Bay Mitigation Bank
 Johnston County, NC



 Sub-Watershed Boundary
 Basin Boundary

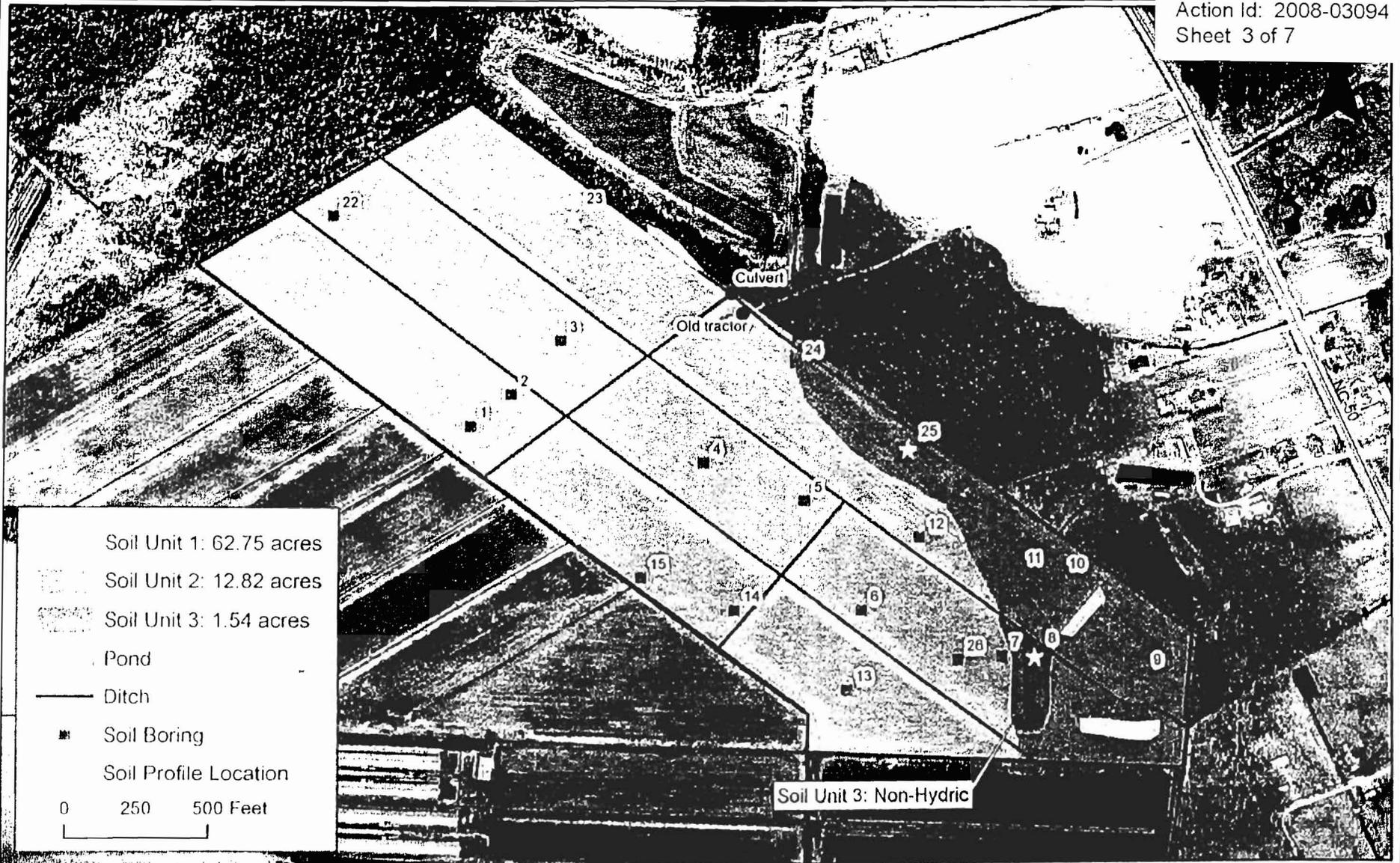


Neuse Sub-Watershed:
03020201150040

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1101 Haynes St. Suite 107
Raleigh, NC 27604
tel: 919.755.9490

Figure 2b:
HUC
Location
Godwin Bay Mitigation Bank
Neuse 01
Johnston County, NC

1:125,000
0 0.45 0.9 1.8 2.7 3.6
Miles

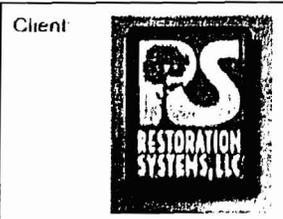



Soil Unit 1: 62.75 acres
Soil Unit 2: 12.82 acres
Soil Unit 3: 1.54 acres
Pond
Ditch
Soil Boring
Soil Profile Location
0 250 500 Feet

Soil Unit 3: Non-Hydric



The
Catena
Group

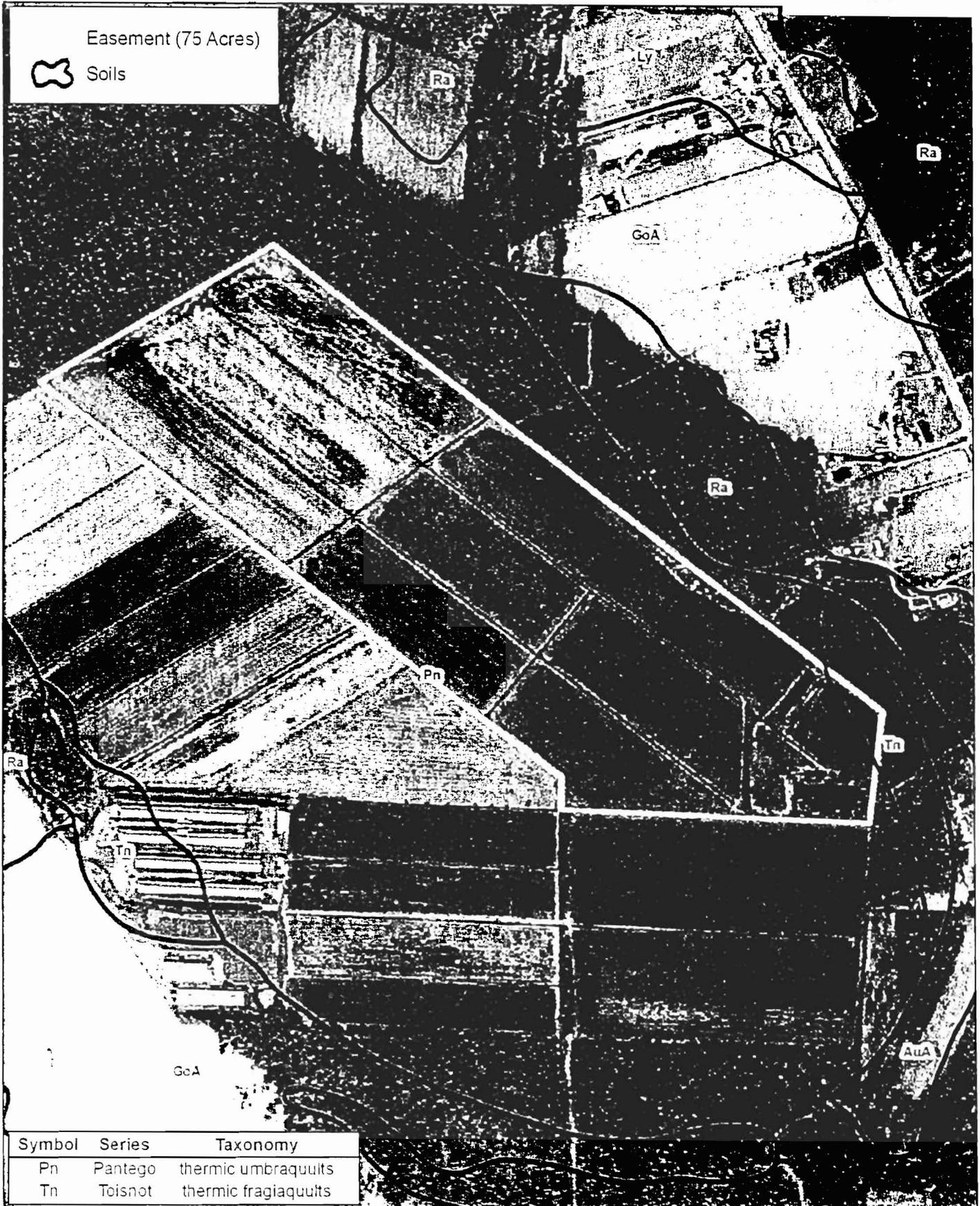


Godwin Bay
Mitigation Bank
Existing Conditions

Johnston County, North Carolina

Date.	September 2008
Scale.	As Shown
Job No.	4135

Figure
3



Symbol	Series	Taxonomy
Pn	Pantego	thermic umbraquits
Tn	Toisnot	thermic fragiaquits

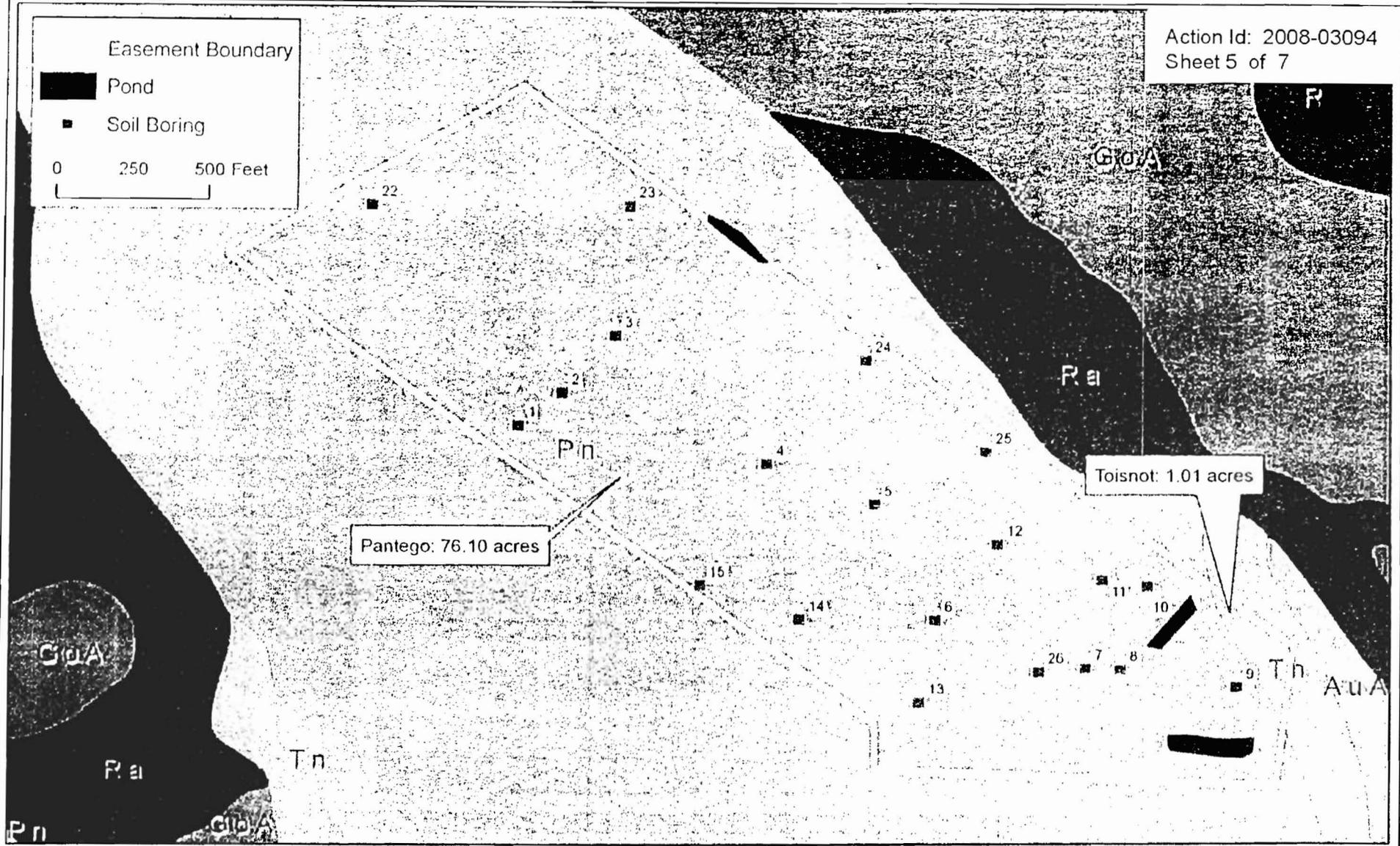
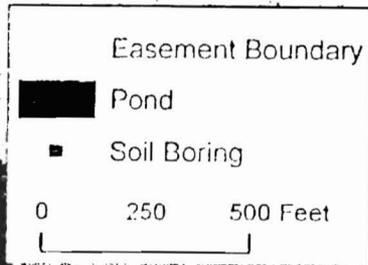
<p>Restoration Systems, LLC 1101 Haynes St. Suite 107 Raleigh, NC 27604 tel: 919.755.9490</p>	<p>Figure 4: Soils</p>	<p>Godwin Bay Mitigation Bank Neuse 01 Johnston County, NC</p>	<p>1:6,000</p> <p>0 115 230 460 690 920 Feet</p>
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Easement Boundary

■ Pond

■ Soil Boring

0 250 500 Feet



Client



Godwin Bay
Mitigation Bank
Soil Boring Locations

Johnston County, North Carolina

Date

September 2008

Scale

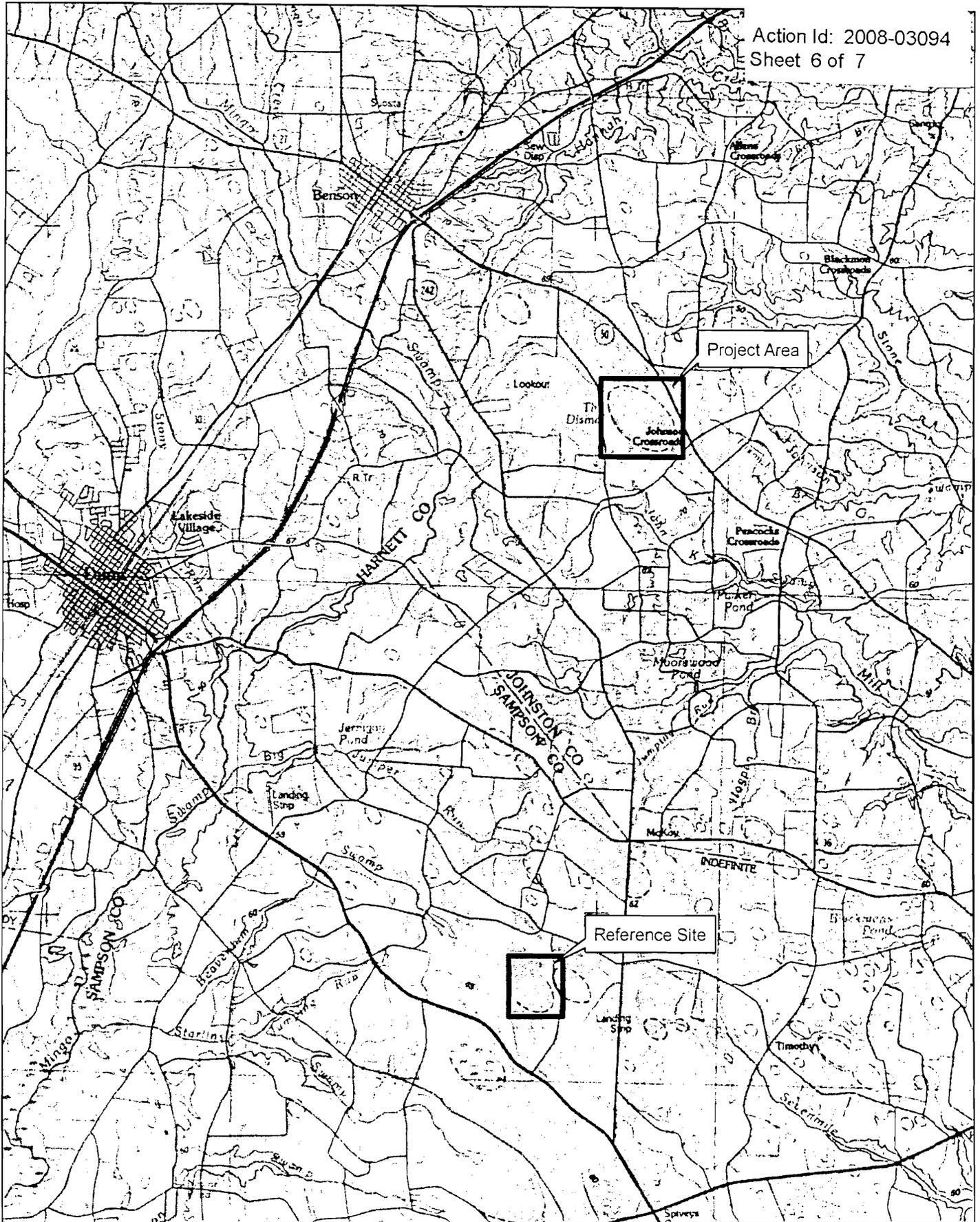
As Shown

Job No

4135

Figure

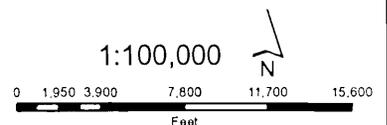
4b

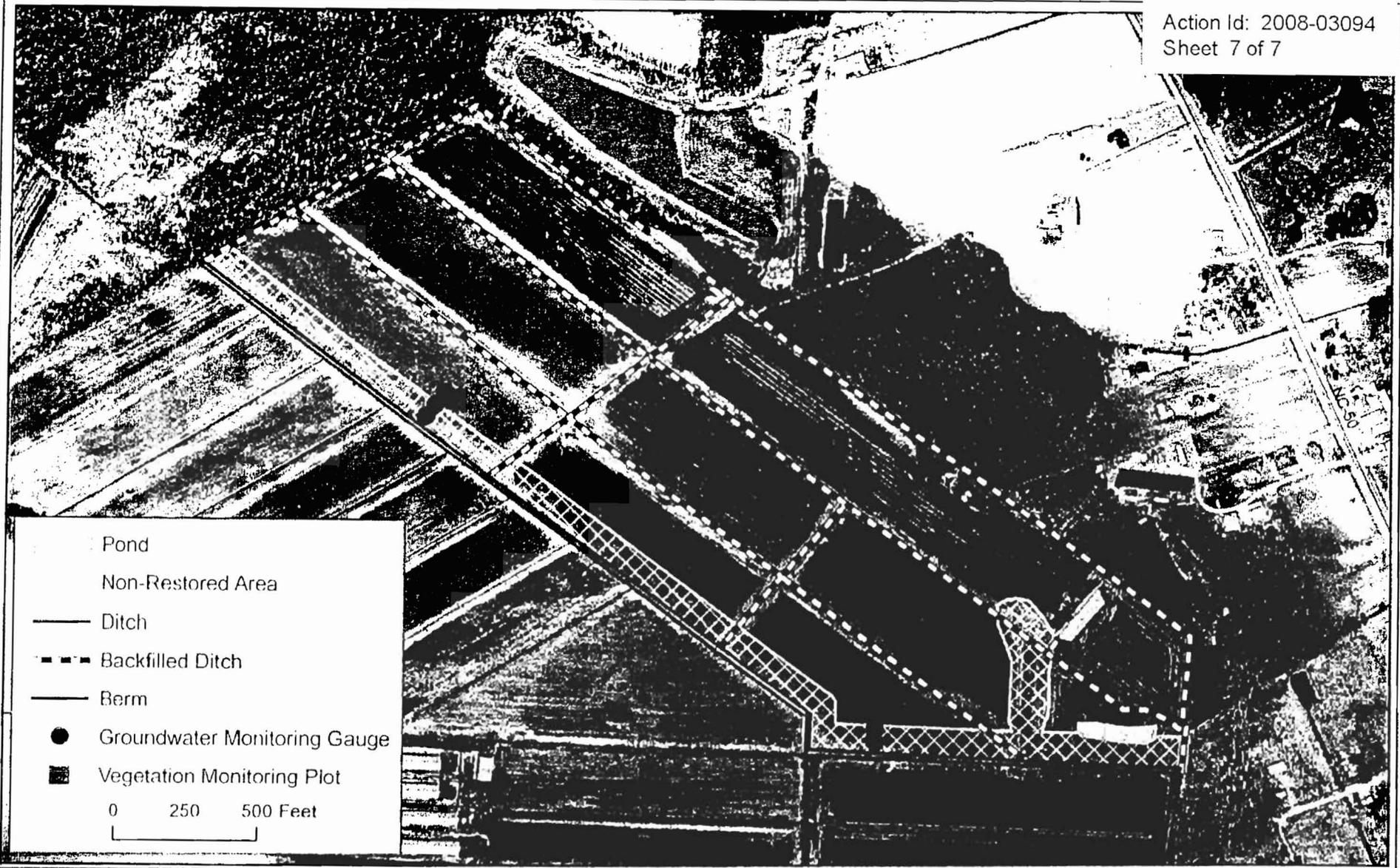


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Figure 6:
Reference
Ecosystem

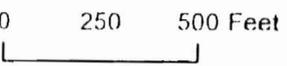
Godwin Bay Mitigation Bank
Johnston County, NC





-  Pond
-  Non-Restored Area
-  Ditch
-  Backfilled Ditch
-  Berm
-  Groundwater Monitoring Gauge
-  Vegetation Monitoring Plot

0 250 500 Feet



The
Catena
Group

Client:



RESTORATION
SYSTEMS, LLC

Godwin Bay
Mitigation Bank
Monitoring Plan

Johnston County, North Carolina

Date:	September 2008
Scale:	As Shown
Job No.:	4135

Figure

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