

US Army Corps
Of Engineers
Wilmington District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Issue Date: 20 November 2008
Comment Deadline: 20 December 2008
Corps Action ID #: SAW-2008-03051

The Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application from **Coastal Carolina Regional Airport (formerly Craven Regional Airport)** seeking Department of the Army authorization to impact **0.81 acres of jurisdictional waters and wetlands** associated with **efforts to bring the airport into compliance with Federal Aviation Administration requirements for airport safety in Craven County, 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: Coastal Carolina Regional Airport
Attention: Mr. Thomas Braaten
200 Terminal Drive
New Bern, North Carolina 28562

AGENT: The LPA Group Incorporated
Attention: Mr. Edward Smail
4401 Belle Oaks Drive, Suite 105
North Charleston, South Carolina 29405

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 project area is located at the north terminus of Runway 22 at the Coastal Carolina Regional Airport adjacent to Scotts Creek on the north and south sides of North Carolina State Road 1167 (Williams Road) south of New Bern, Craven County, North Carolina (35.082441 N -77.037078 W).

Existing Site Conditions

Coastal Carolina Regional Airport is located southwest of US Highway 70 near the confluence of the Neuse and Trent Rivers south of New Bern in Craven County, North Carolina. The project is located in a 48.86 area that comprises the Runway 22 Safety Area including proposed improvements to the runway overrun area. The Safety Zone extends from the north end of the existing runway, across North Carolina State Road 1167 and ends at the existing right of way for the North Carolina Railroad. The area includes portions of Scott Creek and 10.77 acres of jurisdictional wetlands.

Applicant's Stated Purpose

The applicant's stated purpose for the project is to improve safety at the Coastal Carolina Regional Airport by extending the Runway 22 Runway Safety Area to meet current Federal Aviation Administration design and safety standards.

Project Description

The applicant proposes to place fill in 0.81 acres of jurisdictional wetlands including the placement of fill in 0.58 acres and clearing and grubbing an additional 0.23 acre area. The applicant proposes to extend the existing runway 290 feet and clearing the entire area between the end of the runway and NCSR 1167. The applicant is proposing payment into the North Carolina Ecosystem Enhancement Program In-lieu Fee Program to provide compensatory mitigation for these impacts.

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 combined with the appropriate application fee at the North Carolina Division of Water Quality central office in Raleigh will constitute initial receipt of an application for a 401 Water Quality 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), 1650 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1650 Attention: Ms Cyndi Karoly by 20 December 2008.

The applicant has certified that the proposed work 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 is, by this notice, forwarding this certification to the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (NCDCM) and requesting its concurrence or objection. Generally, the Corps will not issue a Department of the Army (DA) permit until 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, 10 December 2008. Comments should be submitted to Tracey L. Wheeler, US Army Corps of Engineers, Post Office Box 1000, Washington, North Carolina 27889.

SITE LOCATION MAP

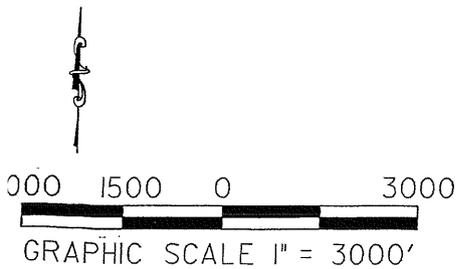


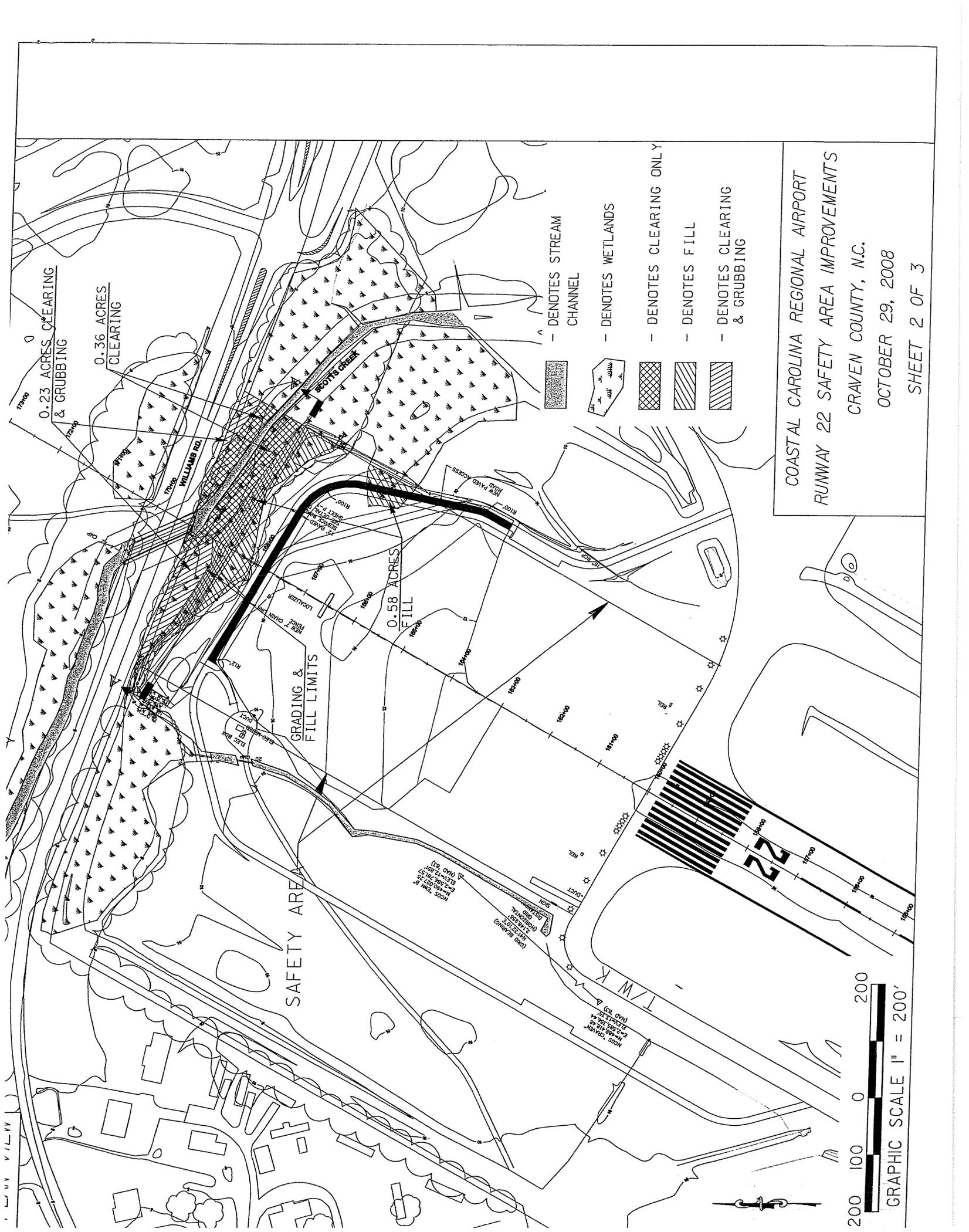
N35°4'24.84"
W77°2'32.66"

SOURCE: USGS Topographic Map, New Bern Quadrangle

PROJECT
SITE

COASTAL CAROLINA REGIONAL AIRPORT
RUNWAY 22 SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS
CRAVEN COUNTY, N.C.
OCTOBER 29, 2008
SHEET 1 OF 3





0.23 ACRES CLEARING & GRUBBING

0.36 ACRES CLEARING

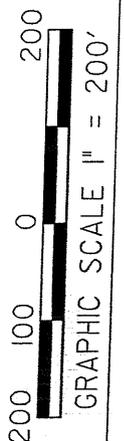
0.58 ACRES FILL

GRADING & FILL LIMITS

SAFETY AREA

- DENOTES STREAM CHANNEL
- DENOTES WETLANDS
- DENOTES CLEARING ONLY
- DENOTES FILL
- DENOTES CLEARING & GRUBBING

COASTAL CAROLINA REGIONAL AIRPORT
 RUNWAY 22 SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS
 CRAVEN COUNTY, N.C.
 OCTOBER 29, 2008
 SHEET 2 OF 3



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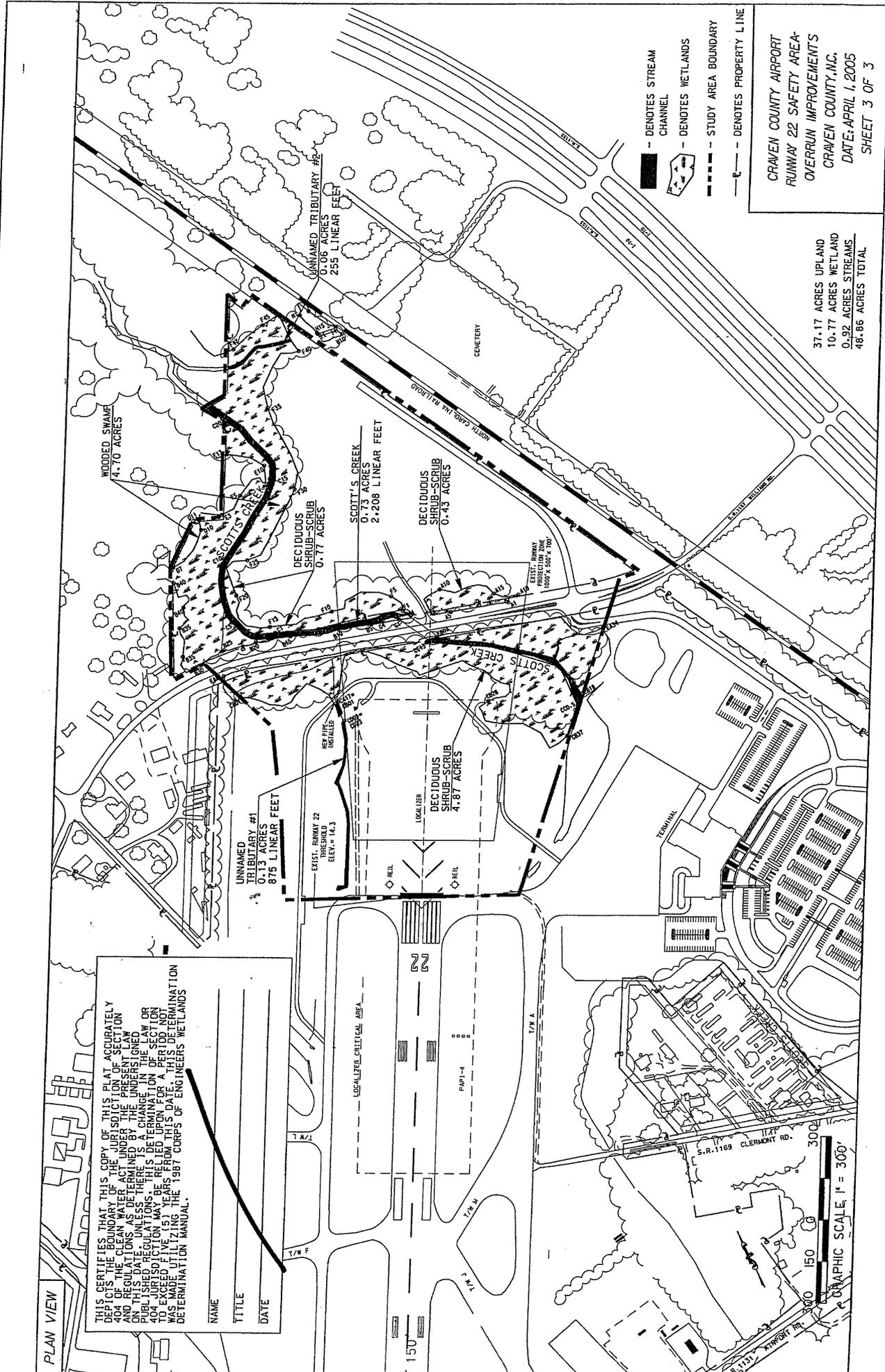
WILLIAMS RD.

VILWY

PLAN VIEW

THIS CERTIFIES THAT THIS COPY OF THIS PLAT ACCURATELY DEPICTS THE BOUNDARY OF THE JURISDICTION OF SECTION 404 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT AS DETERMINED BY THE PRESENT LAW IN THIS DATE, UNLESS THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE LAW OR IN THIS DATE. REGULATIONS, THIS DETERMINATION OF SECTION 404 JURISDICTION MAY BE HELD UPON FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED FIVE YEARS FROM THIS DATE. THIS DETERMINATION WAS MADE UTILIZING THE 1987 CORPS OF ENGINEERS WETLANDS DETERMINATION MANUAL.

NAME _____
TITLE _____
DATE _____



- DENOTES STREAM
- DENOTES CHANNEL
- DENOTES WETLANDS
- - - STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- - - DENOTES PROPERTY LINE

CRAVEN COUNTY AIRPORT
 RUNWAY 22 SAFETY AREA
 OVERRUN IMPROVEMENTS
 CRAVEN COUNTY, NC.
 DATE: APRIL 1, 2005
 SHEET 3 OF 3

37.17 ACRES UPLAND
 10.77 ACRES WETLAND
 0.92 ACRES STREAMS
 48.86 ACRES TOTAL

GRAPHIC SCALE, 1" = 300'