



REGIONAL REVIEW NOTIFICATION

Atlanta Regional Commission • 40 Courtland Street NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 • ph: 404.463.3100 • fax: 404.463.3105 • www.atlantaregional.com

DATE: Apr 2 2009

ARC REVIEW CODE: X904021

TO: Potentially Affected Local Governments and Other Interested Parties
FROM: Charles Krautler, Director

NOTE: This is digital signature.
Original on file.

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) has received the following proposal and is initiating a regional review to seek comments from potentially impacted jurisdictions and agencies. The ARC requests your comments related to the proposal not addressed by the Commission's regional plans and policies.

Name of Proposal: JPN: 440 Acre Pump-Storage Reservoir on Bear Creek
Review Type: Corps of Engineers Permit/Other Public Notices

Description: The South Fulton Municipal Regional Water and Sewer Authority (the "Authority") proposes to build a 440-acre Pump-Storage Reservoir on Bear Creek in Fulton County. The reservoir would provide the year 2050 water demand of 16.44 million gallons per day for the Authority. Water for the reservoir would be pumped from the Chattahoochee River. Water from the reservoir would then be pumped to the Water Treatment Plant proposed for construction alongside Highway 70.

Submitting Local Government: South Fulton Municipal Regional Water and Sewer Authority

Date Opened: Apr 2 2009

Deadline for Comments: Apr 21 2009

Earliest the Regional Review can be Completed: Apr 21 2009

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES ARE RECEIVING NOTICE OF THIS REVIEW:

ARC LAND USE PLANNING
ARC DATA RESEARCH
GEORGIA ENV. FACILITIES AUTHORITY
CITY OF FAIRBURN
CITY OF CHATTAHOOCHEE HILLS
FORSYTH COUNTY

ARC ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CITY OF UNION CITY
CITY OF ATLANTA
UPPER CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVERKEEPER

ARC TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FULTON COUNTY
CITY OF PALMETTO
DOUGLAS COUNTY
GEORGIA CONSERVANCY

Attached is information concerning this review.

If you have any questions regarding this review, Please contact Jon Tuley at (404) 463-3309 or jtuley@atlantaregional.com. If the ARC staff does not receive comments from you by Apr 21 2009, we will assume that your agency has no additional comments and we will close the review. Comments by email are strongly encouraged.

The ARC review website is located at: <http://www.atlantaregional.com/landuse>.

ARC STAFF NOTICE OF REGIONAL REVIEW AND COMMENT FORM

DATE: Apr 2 2009

ARC REVIEW CODE: X904021

TO: ARC Land Use, Environmental, Transportation, Research, and Aging Division Chiefs

FROM: Jon Tuley, Extension: 3-3309

Reviewing staff by Jurisdiction:

Land Use: Tuley, Jon

Transportation: N/A

Environmental: Santo, Jim

Research: N/A

Aging: N/A

Name of Proposal: JPN: 440 Acre Pump-Storage Reservoir on Bear Creek

Review Type: Corps of Engineers Permit/Other Public Notices

Description: The South Fulton Municipal Regional Water and Sewer Authority (the "Authority") proposes to build a 440-acre Pump-Storage Reservoir on Bear Creek in Fulton County. The reservoir would provide the year 2050 water demand of 16.44 million gallons per day for the Authority. Water for the reservoir would be pumped from the Chattahoochee River. Water from the reservoir would then be pumped to the Water Treatment Plant proposed for construction alongside Highway 70.

Submitting Local Government: South Fulton Municipal Regional Water and Sewer Authority

Date Opened: Apr 2 2009

Deadline for Comments: Apr 21 2009

Earliest the Regional Review can be Completed: Apr 21 2009

Response:

- 1) ☐ Proposal is CONSISTENT with the following regional development guide listed in the comment section.
- 2) ☐ While neither specifically consistent nor inconsistent, the proposal relates to the following regional development guide listed in the comment section.
- 3) ☐ While neither specifically consistent nor inconsistent, the proposal relates to the following regional development guide listed in the comment section.
- 4) ☐ The proposal is INCONSISTENT with the following regional development guide listed in the comment section.
- 5) ☐ The proposal does NOT relate to any development guide for which this division is responsible.
- 6) ☐ Staff wishes to confer with the applicant for the reasons listed in the comment section.

COMMENTS:



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
PIEDMONT BRANCH
1590 ADAMSON PARKWAY, SUITE 200
MORROW, GEORGIA 30260-1777

MAR 18 2009

Regulatory Division
200900225

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
Savannah District/State of Georgia

The Savannah District has received an application for a Department of the Army Permit, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), as follows:

Application Number: 200900225

Applicant: South Fulton Municipal Regional Water & Sewer Authority
Attention: John Miller, Chairman
PO Box 190
Palmetto, Georgia 30268

Agent: Wm. Thomas Craig
1144 College Avenue
PO Box 1587
Covington, Georgia 30015

Location of Proposed Work: The proposed project is located at Latitude 33° 26' 42" North and Longitude 84° 45' 16" West, along Campbellton-Redwing Road (Highway 70), approximately 8 miles north of the Fulton-Coweta County line. The site is northwest of the City of Palmetto in Fulton County, Georgia. See attached Figure 1: General Location Map.

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the US Army Corps of Engineers: The South Fulton Municipal Regional Water and Sewer Authority (the "Authority") was established to serve the three member cities, Fairburn, Palmetto and Union City. The Authority proposes to build a 440-acre Pump-Storage Reservoir on Bear Creek in Fulton County. The reservoir would provide the year 2050 water demand of 16.44 million gallons per day for the Authority. Water for the reservoir would be pumped from the Chattahoochee River. Water from the reservoir would then be pumped to the Water Treatment Plant proposed for construction alongside Highway 70. See attached Figure 2: Proposed Bear Creek Reservoir USGS Overlay.

Approximately 90,000 cubic yards of soil would be required to construct the dam. The dam would have a height of 42 feet, a length of 547 feet, and a width of 298 feet. See attached Figure 3: Bear Creek Reservoir Concept Plan & Profile. The earthen dam and impounded basin would impact: 40,413 linear feet (7.65 miles) of perennial, intermittent and ephemeral streams; 30.56 acres of wetlands; 5.55 acres of open waters. See attached Figure 4: Jurisdictional Waters Map Proposed Bear Creek Reservoir.

The applicant provided a preliminary alternatives analysis of avoidance alternatives, surface water alternatives, and minimization alternatives for the unmet water supply of 2050 for the Authority. The alternatives included no action, water conservation, recycle and reuse of wastewater, groundwater, purchase of water from existing source, request increased withdrawal at existing intake site, upland constructed flow augmentation reservoir, traditional reservoir (no pumped storage), construction of several reservoirs, increased size/yield of an existing reservoir, river intake system (no storage reservoir), river or stream intake with one storage reservoir, construction of several intakes with storage reservoirs. Three sites were reviewed as alternatives; Line/Deep Creek Reservoir (Figure 6), Pea Creek Reservoir (Figure 5), and Bear Creek Reservoir (Figure 2).

Table F-10. Comparison of Short-listed Alternatives.

Site	Normal Pool	Surface Area	State Hwy Impacts	Total estimated construction costs (millions)	Buildings impacts	Wetland Impacts (NW1 acres)	Stream Impacts
Line/Deep Creek	772	556	2,019	\$13.1	4	272	9.56
Pea Creek	804	986	7,302	\$16.6	18	70	9.96
Bear Creek	754	440	2,951	\$8.5	3	70	5.16

The applicant provided a conceptual mitigation plan to compensate for the loss of streams, wetlands and open waters. Three separate mitigation areas are proposed for the mitigation:

1. Fulton County: 2.3 miles of riparian buffer restoration along one side of the Chattahoochee River; 4.2 miles of riparian buffer preservation along the Chattahoochee River; 4.5 miles of preservation of five tributaries of the Chattahoochee River (Figure 3).
2. Meriwether County: 24.3 acres of wetland restoration; 0.5 miles priority one stream restoration (Figures 4 and 6).

3. Harris County: 23.13 acres of wetland restoration; 0.6 miles priority one and two stream restoration (Figures 8 and 10).

BACKGROUND

This Joint Public Notice announces a request for authorizations from both the US Army Corps of Engineers and the State of Georgia. The applicant's proposed work may also require local government approval.

STATE OF GEORGIA

Water Quality Certification: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, intends to certify this project at the end of 30 days in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, which is required by an applicant for a Federal Permit to conduct an activity in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia. Copies of the application and supporting documents relative to a specific application will be available for review and copying at the office of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, Water Protection Branch, 4220 International Parkway, Suite 101, Atlanta, Georgia 30354, during regular office hours. A copier machine is available for public use at a charge of 25 cents per page. Any person who desires to comment, object, or request a public hearing relative to State Water Quality Certification must do so within 30 days of the State's receipt of the application in writing and state the reasons or basis of objections or request for a hearing. The application can also be seen in the Savannah District US Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Piedmont Branch, 1590 Adamson Parkway, Suite 200, Morrow, Georgia.

State-owned Property and Resources: The applicant may also require assent from the State of Georgia which may be in the form of a license, easement, lease, permit, or other appropriate instrument.

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Savannah District must consider the purpose and the impacts of the applicant's proposed work, prior to a decision on issuance of a Department of the Army Permit.

Cultural Resources Assessment: Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Preservation Division Act of 1966, as amended, we request the Georgia Historic Preservation Division or any other interested party to review the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places to determine if the property has or does not have any registered properties or properties listed as eligible for inclusion located on the site or in the area affected by the proposed work. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be located at the site and could be affected by the proposed work. The applicant has prepared a Phase I Cultural Resources Survey which will be evaluated and coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Threatened and Endangered Species: Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), we request from the US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, or any other interested party, information on whether any species listed or proposed for listing may be present in the area.

Public Interest Review: 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, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

Consideration of Public Comments: The US Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Native American 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 US Army 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 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.

Application of Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines: The proposed activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States. The Savannah District's evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

Public Hearing: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. The decision whether to hold a public hearing is at the discretion of the District Engineer, or his designated appointee, based on the need for additional substantial information necessary in evaluating the proposed project.

Comment Period: Anyone wishing to comment on this application for a Department of the Army Permit should submit comments in writing to the Savannah District, US Army Corps of Engineers, Piedmont Branch, Attention: Mr. Gary Craig, 1590 Adamson Parkway, Suite 200, Morrow, Georgia 30260-1777, no later than 30 days from the date of this notice. Please refer to the applicant's name, South Fulton Municipal Regional Water & Sewer Authority, and the application number (200900225) in your comments.

If you have any questions please contact Mr. Gary L. Craig at (678) 422-2728.

Enclosures

- Figure 1: General Location Map
- Figure 2: Proposed Bear Cr. Reservoir USGS Overlay
- Figure 3: Bear Cr. Reservoir Concept Plan & Profile
- Figure 4: Jurisdictional Water Map Proposed Bear Cr. Reservoir
- Figure 5: Pea Creek Reservoir Site
- Figure 6: Deep Creek Reservoir Site

Mitigations Site Maps

- Figure 3: Forsyth County Site
- Figures 4 and 6: White Sulphur Creek Site
- Figures 8 and 10: Mulberry Creek Site

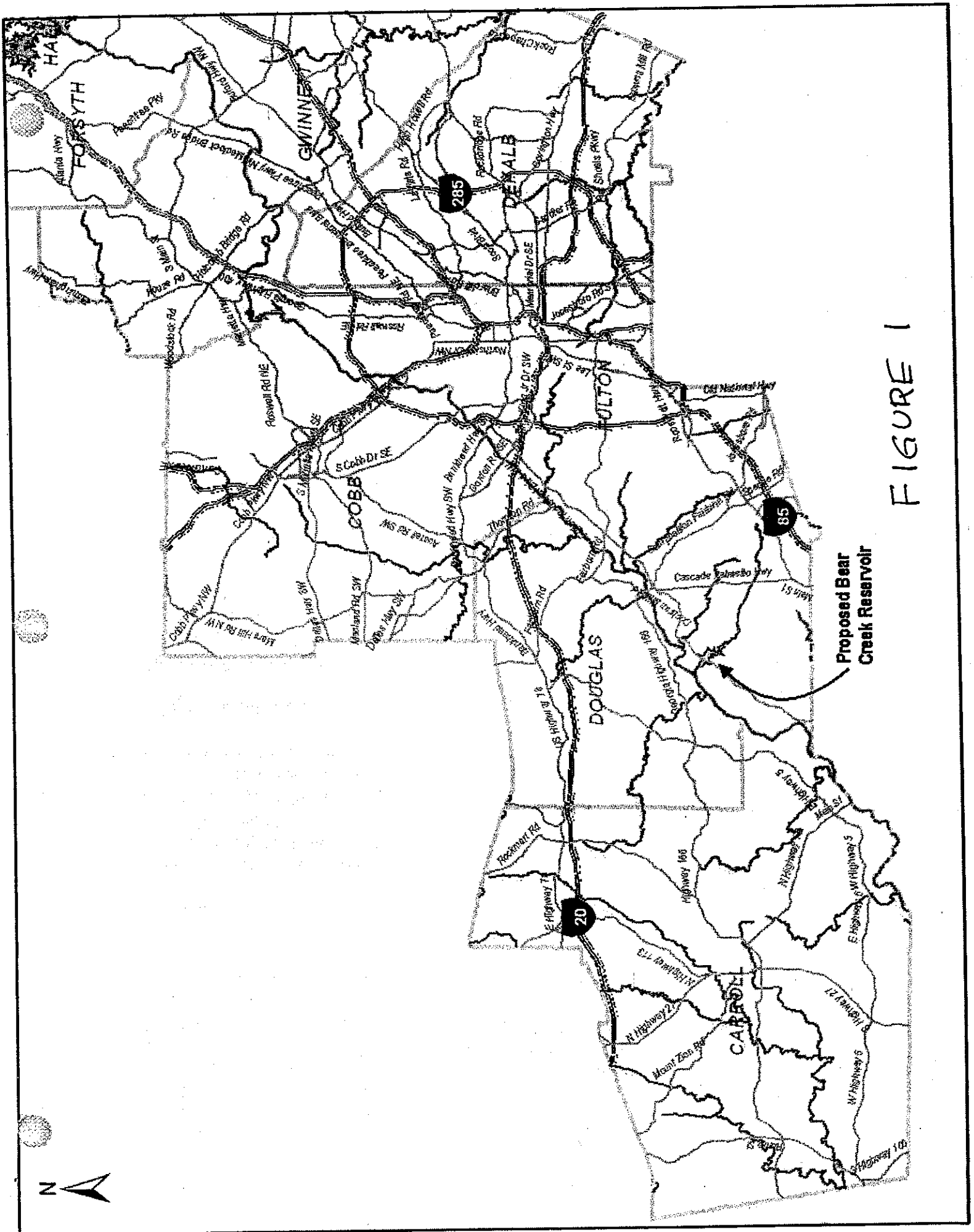
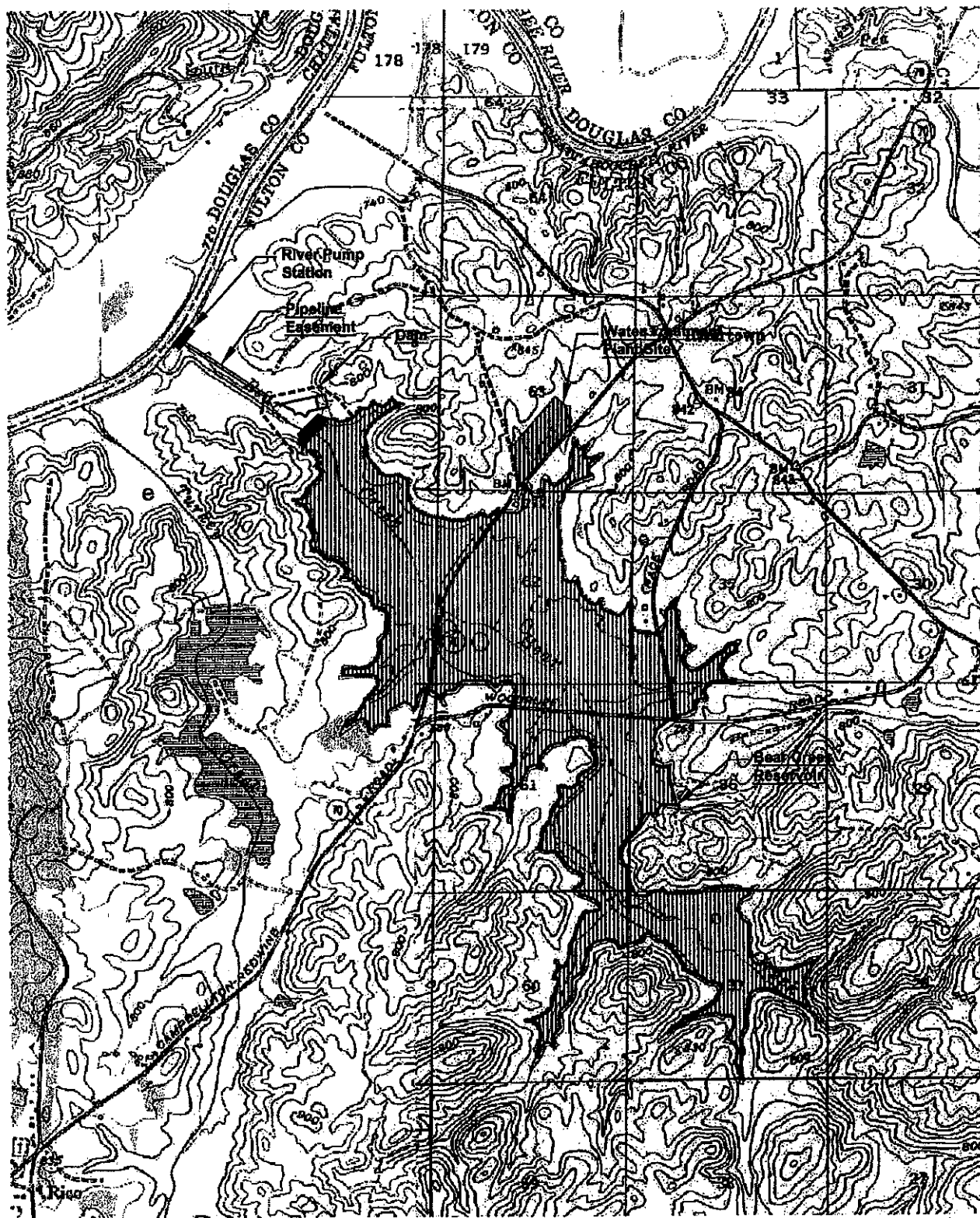


FIGURE 1

FIGURE 2



**S. Fulton Municipal Regional W & SA
Proposed Bear Creek Reservoir USGS Overlay**

March 5, 2009

Scale: 1" = 2000'

Infratec Consultants, Inc.

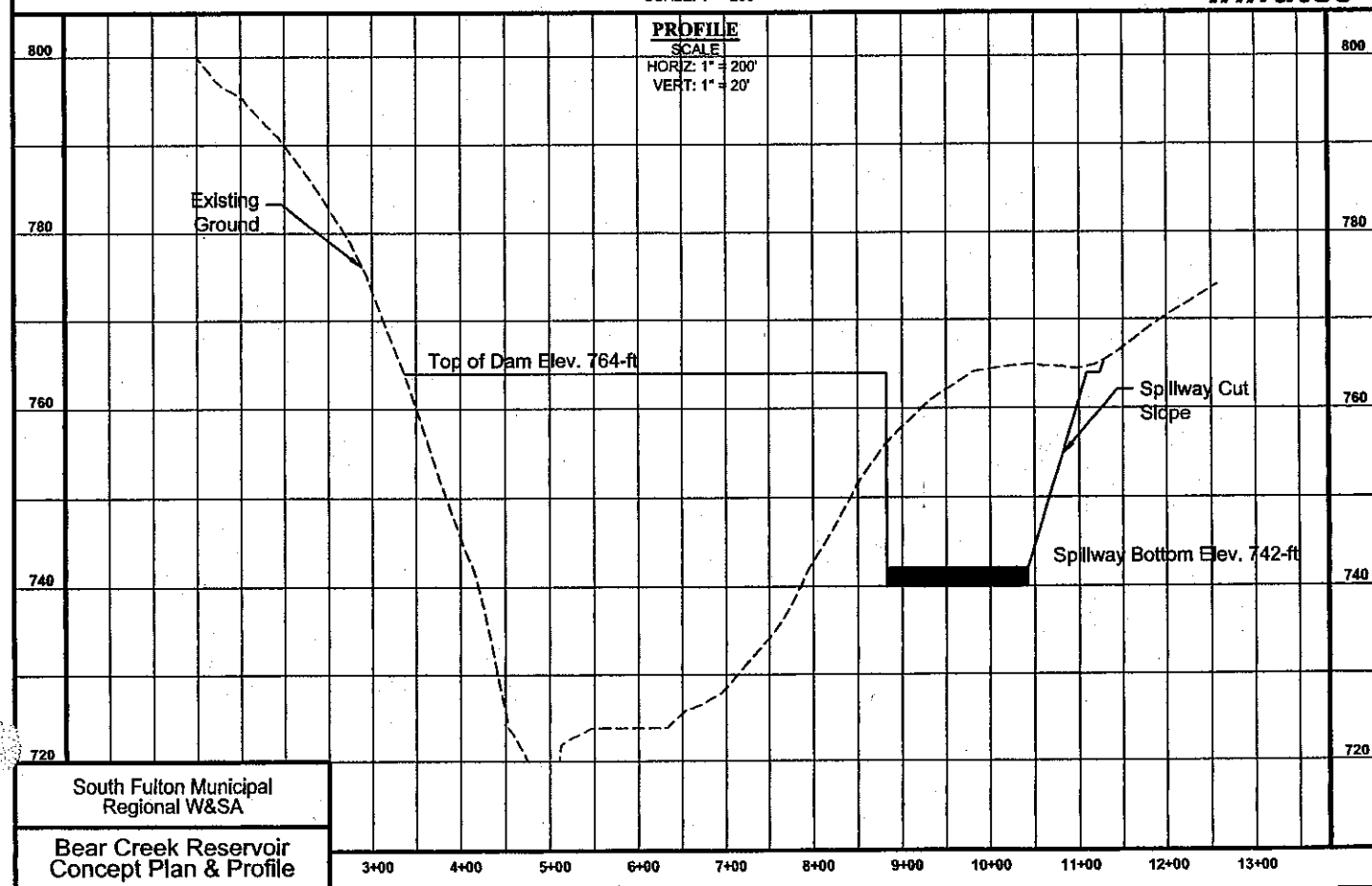
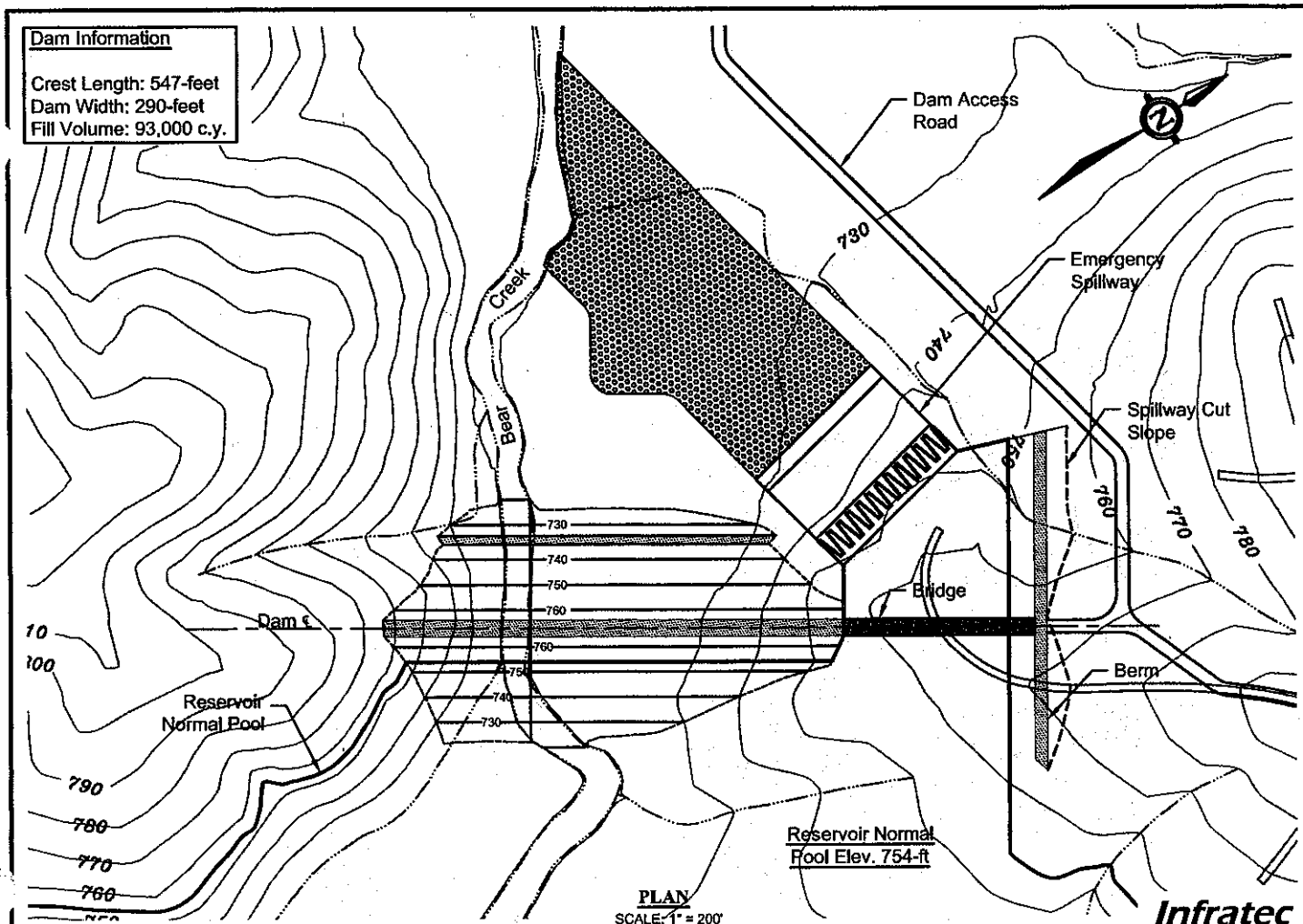


FIGURE 3

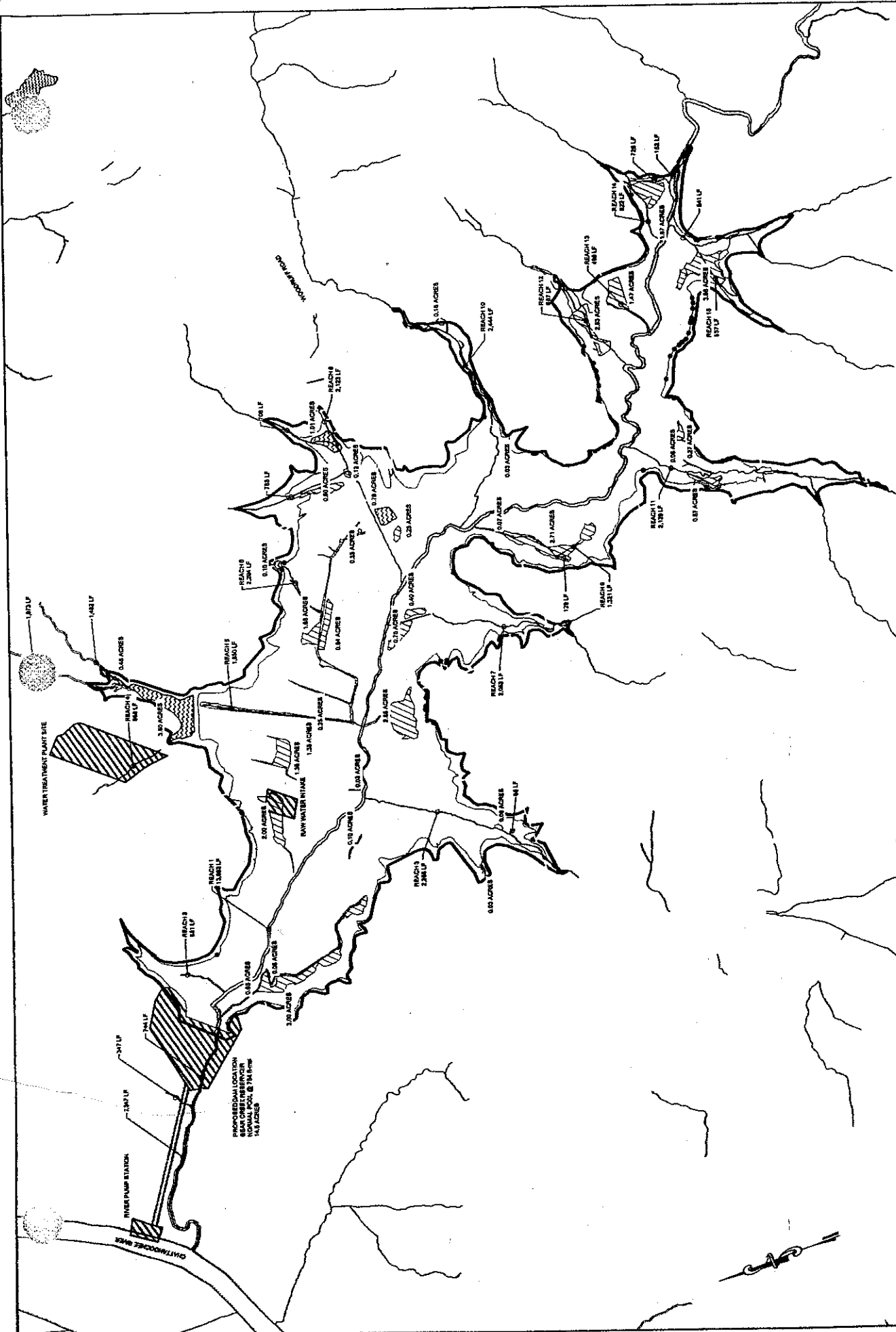


FIGURE 4

JURISDICTIONAL WATERS MAP	
PROPOSED BEAR CREEK RESERVOIR	
SCALE: AS SHOWN	DRAWN BY: CAK
DATE: FEB. 10, 2009	REVISED:
APPROVED BY:	
SOUTH FULTON MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY	
PREPARED BY CAK UNLIMITED DESIGN, INC. FOR ECO-SOUTH, INC.	
SHEET 1	

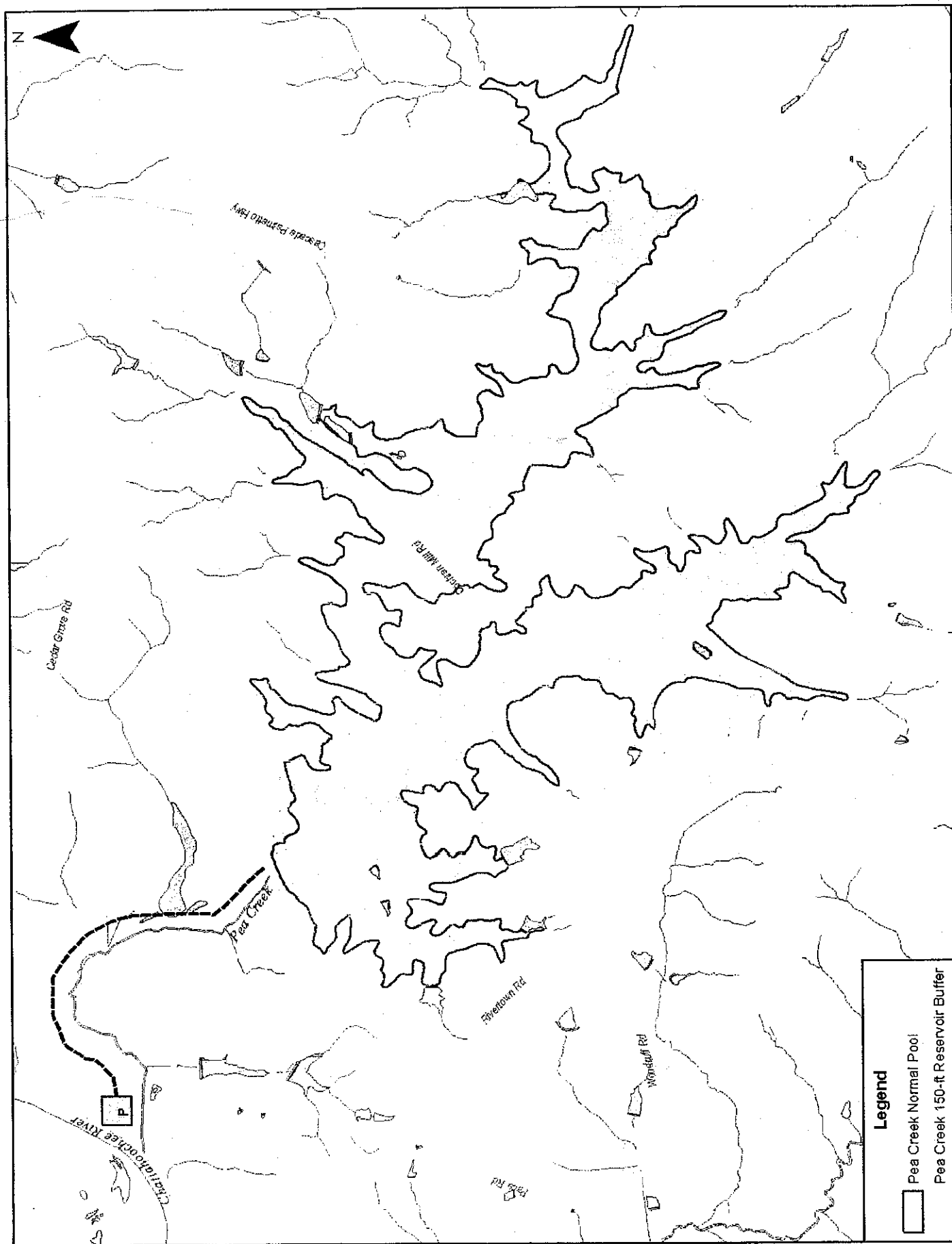


Figure 5

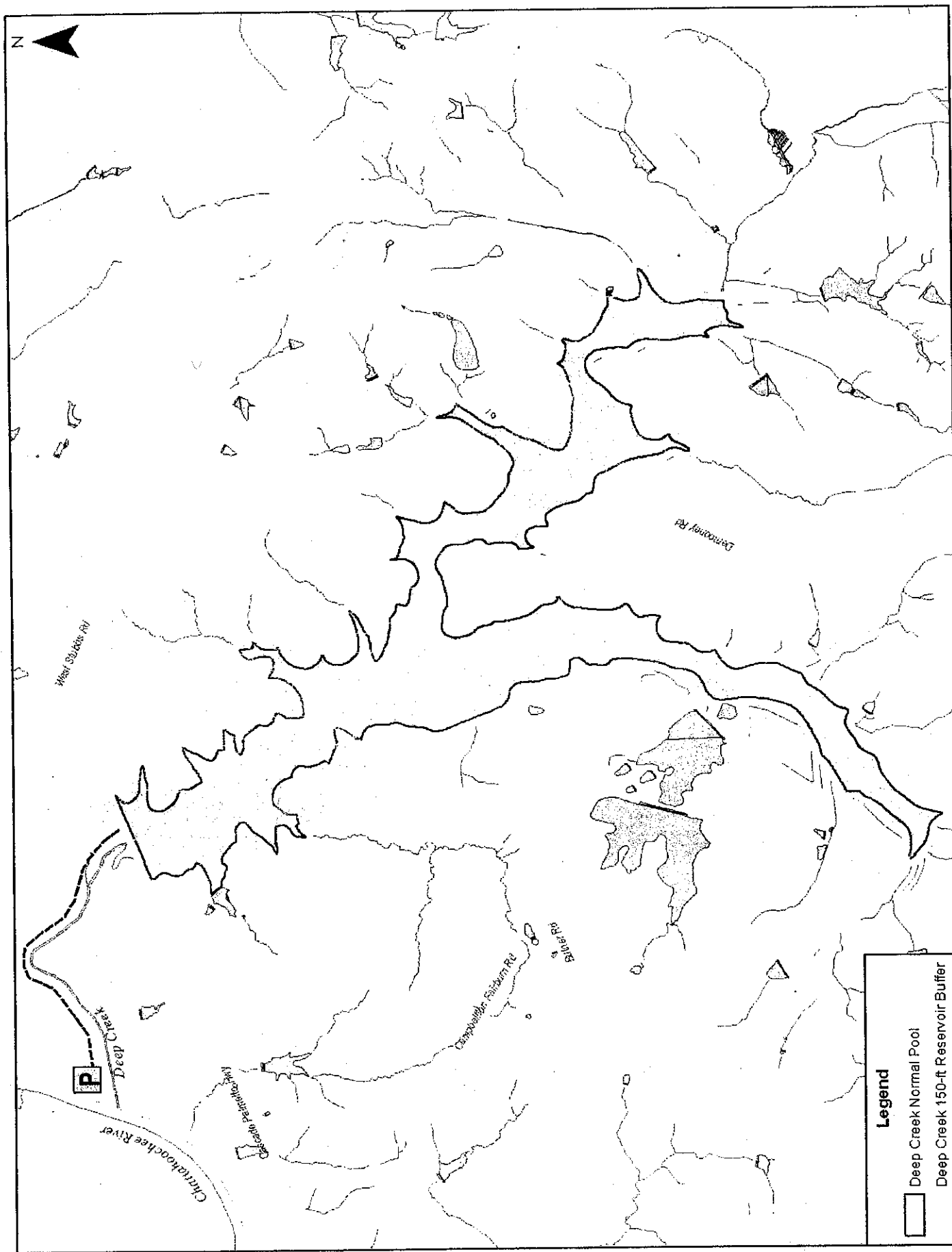
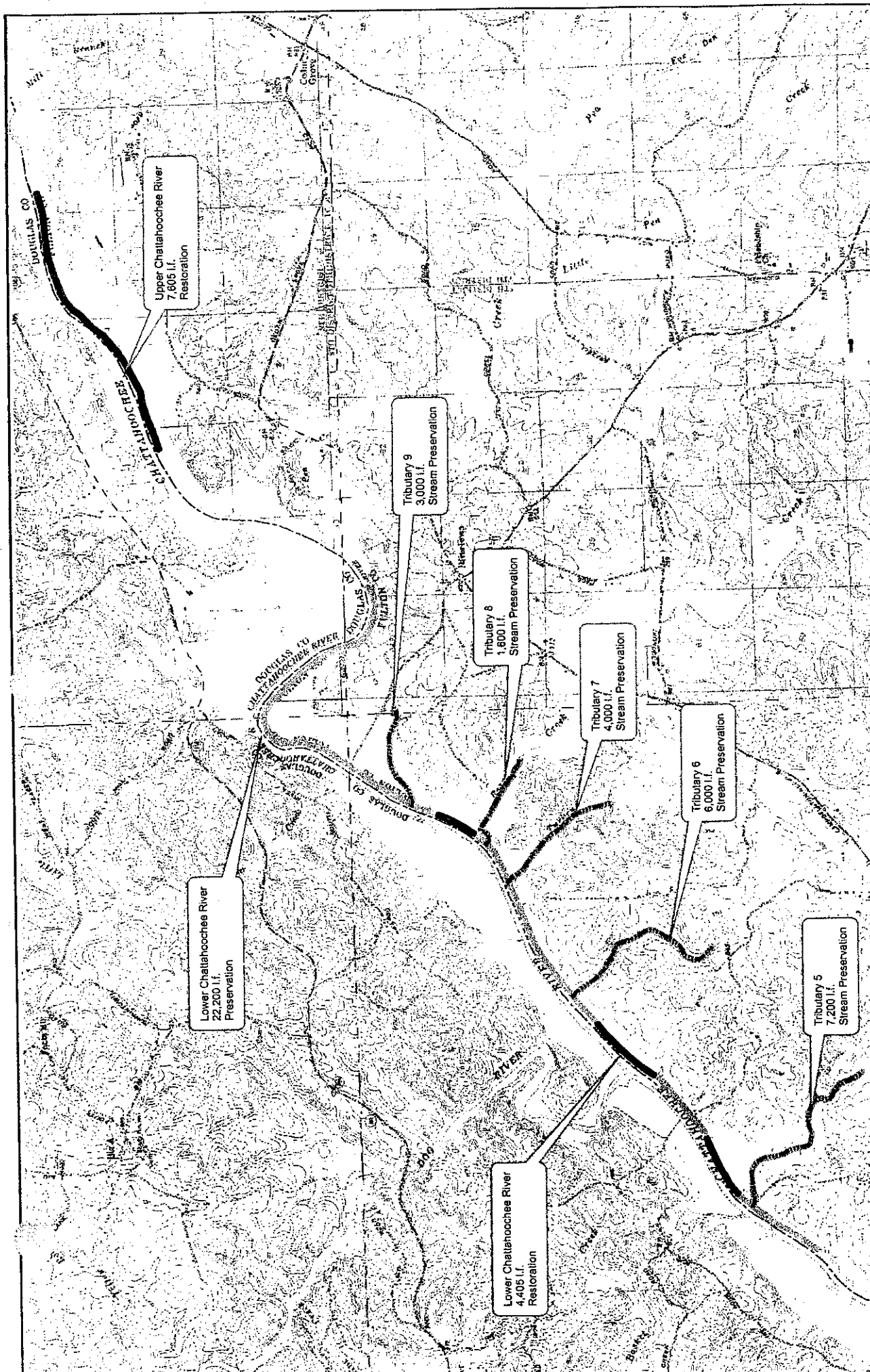
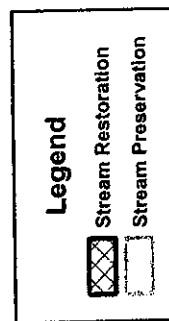
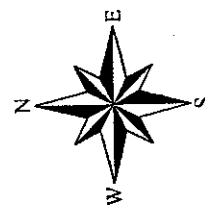


Figure 6



**FIGURE 3. Chattahoochee River Mitigation Site
Topographic Map**

7.5 minute USGS Quadrangle Campbellton, Palmetto, Rica, ne, and Winston, Ga
Fulton County, Georgia



Eco-South, Inc.



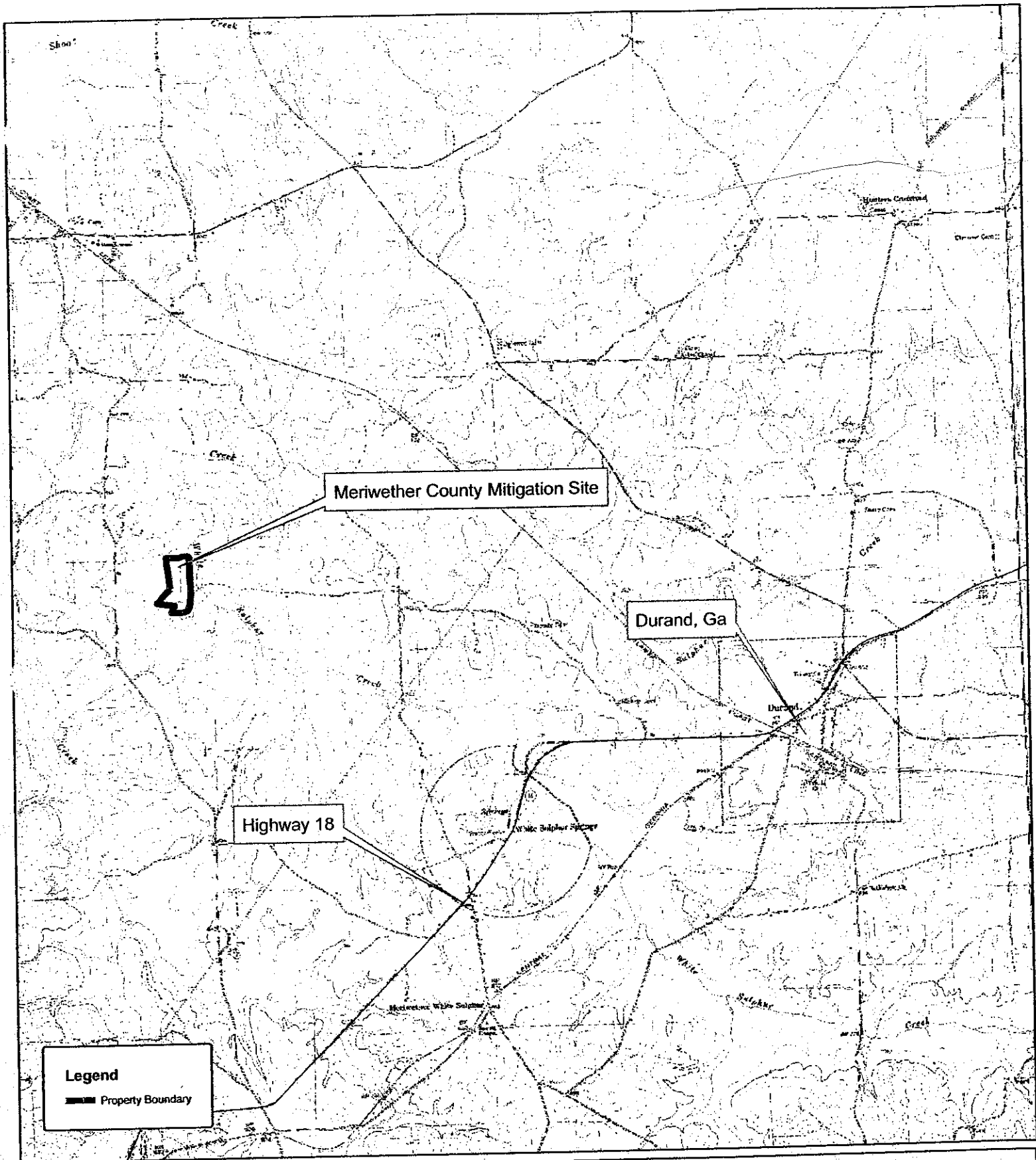
Environmental Consultants

7,600 Feet

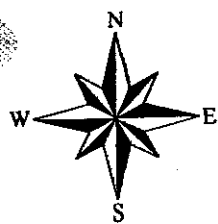
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3,800

7,600



**FIGURE 4 White Sulphur Creek Mitigation Site
Location Map**



7.5-minute USGS Quadrangles Durand, GA.
Meriwether County, Georgia

8,100 4,050 0 8,100 Feet

Eco-South, Inc.



Environmental Consultants

Legend

- Property Boundary
- Ditch 1
- Ditch 2
- Wetland Restoration
25' Buffer

Wetland Restoration
24.3 Acres

Ditch 1
953 l.f.
P1 Restoration

Riparian Restoration
2.95 Acres

Ditch 2
1,646 l.f.
P1 or P2 Stream Restoration

**FIGURE 6 White Sulphur Creek Mitigation Site
Aerial Map**

DOQQ: durand_sw.1999

Meriwether County, Georgia

450

225

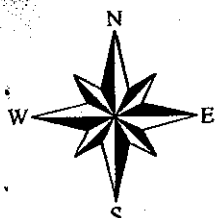
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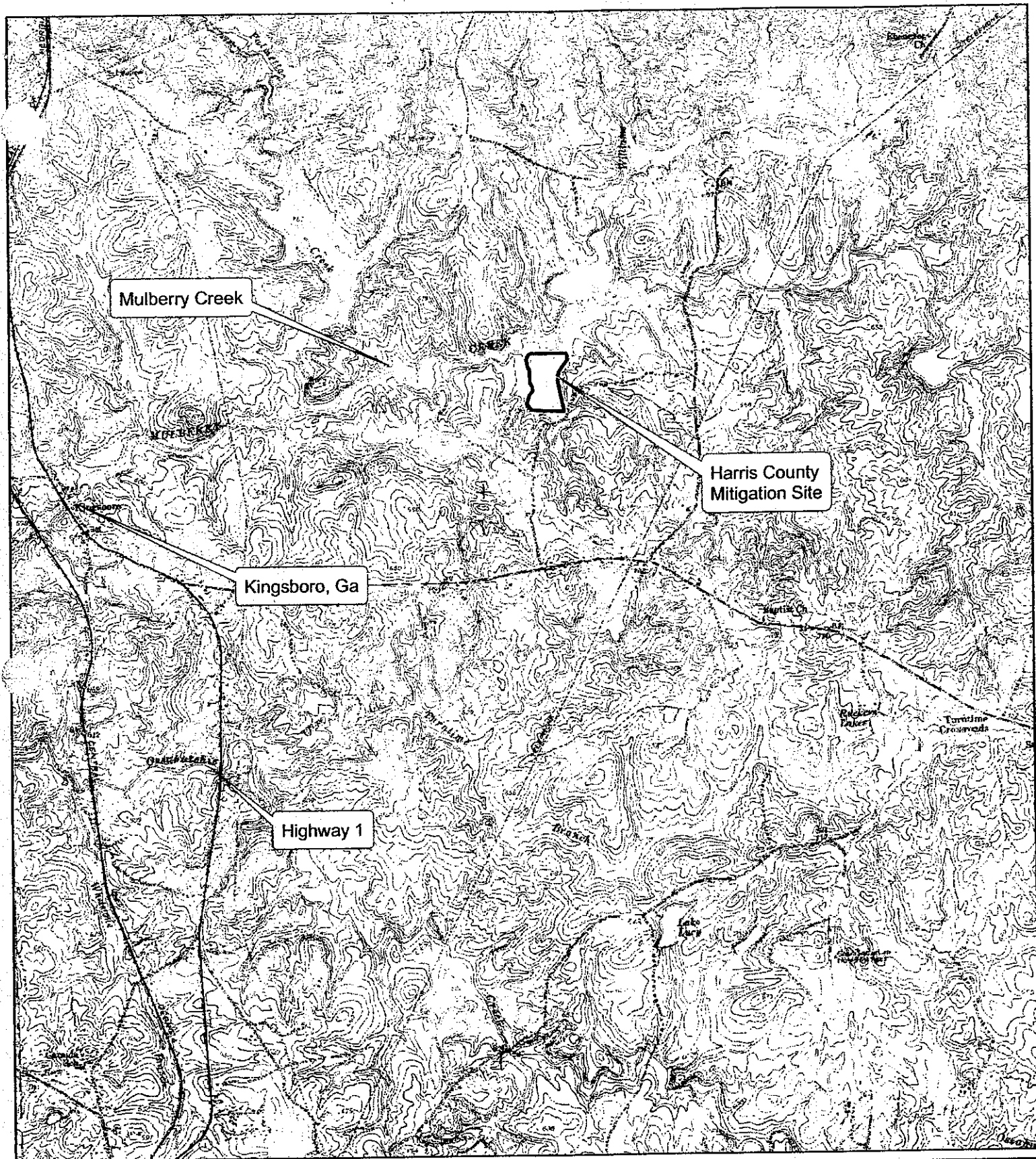
450 Feet

Eco-South, Inc.



Environmental Consultants





**FIGURE 8. Mulberry Creek Mitigation Site
Location Map**

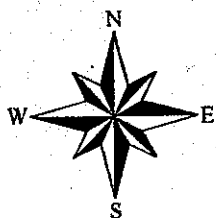
7.5-minute USGS Quadrangles Cataula, GA.

Harris County, Georgia

Eco-South, Inc.



Environmental Consultants

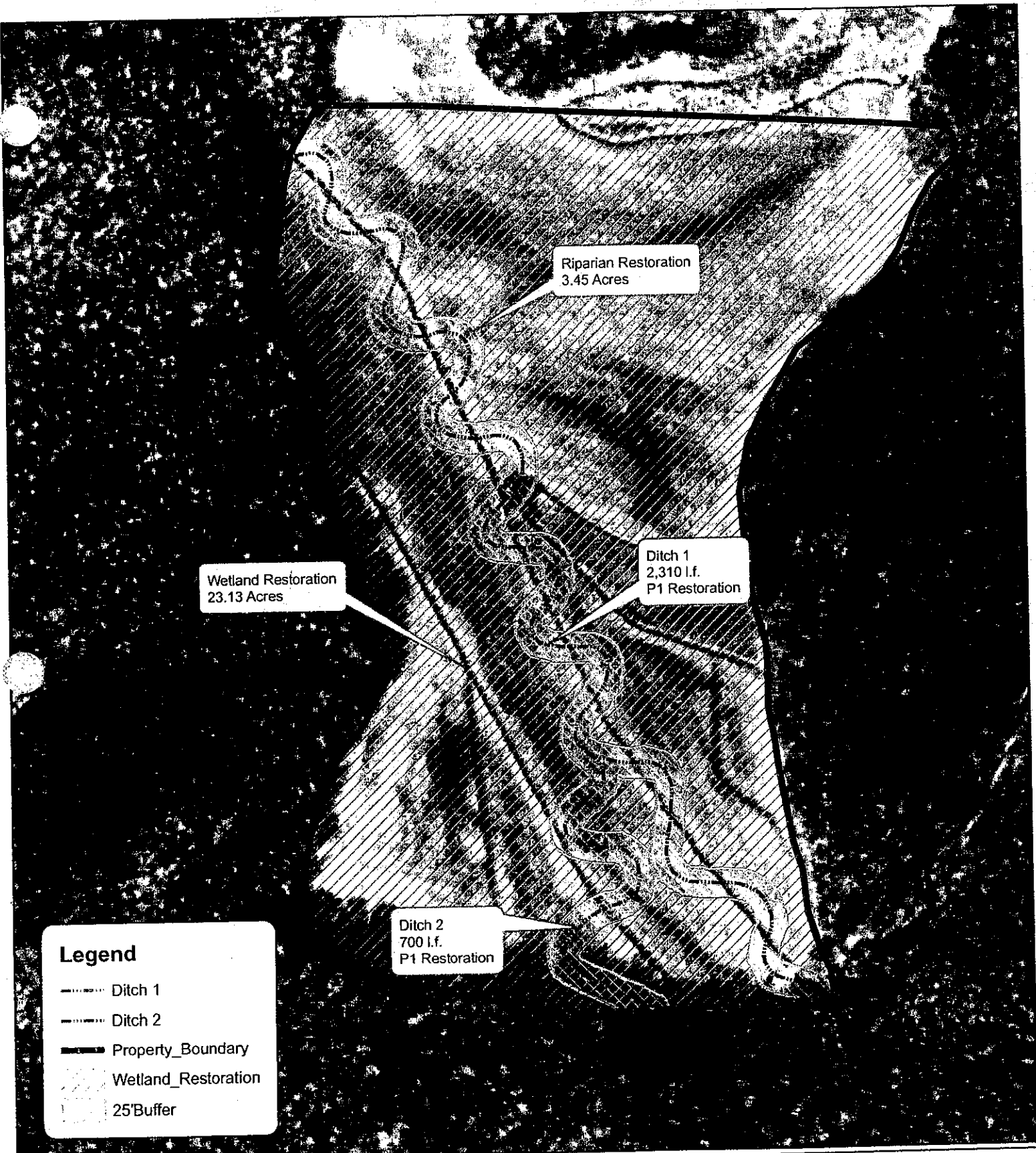


7,100

3,550

0

7,100 Feet



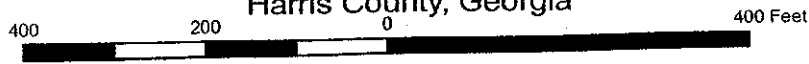
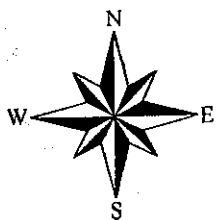
Legend

- Ditch 1
- Ditch 2
- Property_Boundary
- Wetland_Restoration
- 25' Buffer

**FIGURE 10 Mulberry Creek Mitigation Site
Aerial Map**

DOQQ: Cataula_nw.sid.1999

Harris County, Georgia



Eco-South, Inc.



Environmental Consultants