
Appendix C. Wetland Determination Report



| | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery | 6-30-09 | 7-22-09 |
| <small>SITE LOCATION</small> | <small>DATE</small> | <small>ISSUE DATE</small> |
| Abe Lincoln National Cemetery Phase II | 50165.000 | |
| <small>PROJECT NAME</small> | <small>PROJECT NUMBER</small> | |
| Carol Schulte | | |
| <small>ISSUED BY</small> | <small>SIGNATURE</small> | |
| | | |
| <small>PARTICIPANT</small> | <small>COMPANY</small> | |
| Carol Schulte | JJR, LLC | |

A. Introduction

The purpose of the field inspection was to identify the extent and character of wetlands within certain areas of the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, which is scheduled for expansion and/or improvements. The project site is located on the cemetery property south of Elwood, Illinois, in Will County, and is managed and operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The review took place on June 30 and July 1, 2009. A site map can be found in Figure 1. Photos of the investigated sites can be found in Appendix B.

B. Methodology

Methodology used to identify wetlands, including evaluation of plant species, evidence of hydrology, and soil inspection was typical of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 1987 Wetlands Delineation Manual (Manual). Wetlands on the subject property were marked in the field with orange and black “JJR” survey ribbon. Each flag line was prefixed by a letter, and the flags within each series were numbered sequentially. The wetlands are referenced in this report by the letters that prefix their boundary flags. The flagged wetland boundaries were later surveyed using a Leica System 1200 Global Positioning Receiver (GPS). The KARA reference network established in northern Illinois was utilized, broadcasting real time data corrections. The data received along with the real time corrections allowed JJR an overall positional accuracy of plus or minus 0.05 foot.

USDA/NRCS soil survey maps, aerial photos, topographic maps, and NWI maps were used to obtain information about the site before the visit was made.

C. Results and Discussion

1. Description of site

The cemetery consists of gentle rolling hills of traditional lawn in burial areas surrounded by unmown meadows with both weedy and native species, and forested areas.

Grant Creek, which traverses the southern portion of the cemetery, typically has steep eroded banks – in some areas, the banks are virtually vertical. Grant Creek

flows into the Des Plaines River, which eventually joins with the Kankakee River to form the Illinois River, which flows into the Mississippi River. The cemetery forms the southern border of the Des Plaines River watershed.

The soil survey (Figure 2) shows the portions of the site that were reviewed for wetland extent contained mostly Ashkum silty clay loam with one area containing Ozaukee silt loam. Areas along the creek generally contained Lawson silt loam, occasionally flooded. All three soils are considered hydric soils by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service. Hydric soils are those that have developed under sufficiently wet conditions to support the growth and regeneration of hydrophytic vegetation.

Other areas of the cemetery property have a mix of mostly well-drained silt loam soil types according to the soil survey. Soil borings at the site, however, indicate much heavier, clayey soils than the survey indicates.

The NWI map for the project site can be found in Figure 3. A topographic map can be found in Figure 4.

It should be noted that extensive construction has taken place in recent years to the north and west of the cemetery. These changes are not reflected in the NWI and topographic maps. Drainage patterns of ditches and intermittent streams have been altered, and roads have been added, removed, and/or altered.

2. Findings

Four areas at the site were investigated for wetlands because of their proximity to possible improvements at the cemetery. Three of the areas investigated met all three criteria necessary to be considered wetlands: a dominance of wetland vegetation, presence of hydrologic indicators, and hydric soils.

The findings follow, and a map of the wetlands can be found in Figure 5. USACE Field Data Forms can be found in Appendix A. A regulatory summary of these wetlands can be found in Section D.

Wetland A (See Figure 5A):

This wetland is an approximately 6.4 acre emergent/wet meadow wetland that runs along Walter Strawn Road in an undeveloped portion north of the cemetery proper. It is adjacent to the drainage ditch along the road, but is separated by a slight berm that is likely spoil piles from ditch cleanouts. The client states that 8-15' of topsoil was spread over this entire area north of the cemetery in approximately 1992, and now a good portion of this area drains toward this wetland. The land adjacent to the wetland is unmown meadow dominated by mostly non-native upland species, with some shrubby areas.

The center (and majority) of Wetland A is dominated by giant reed (*Phragmites australis*) ringed by a population of reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), with an outer fringe of more diverse wetland species. These species include common water plantain (*Alisma subcordatum*), foxtail sedge (*Carex vulpinoidea*), Bebb's sedge (*Carex bebbii*), Torrey's sedge (*Juncus torreyi*), dark green bulrush (*Scirpus atrovirens*), common beggar's ticks (*Bidens frondosa*), germander (*Teucrium canadense*), and rice cut grass (*Leersia oryzoides*). On the northern boundary of this wetland was an area slightly lower in elevation that had populations of giant reed, cattail (*Typha angustifolia*), red bulrush (*Scirpus pendulus*), and common water plantain.

A soil pit was excavated near the outer edge of the flagged area and it was found to contain deep layer of dark mineral material to 16" depth, displaying the Munsell Soil Color Chart's low chroma hydric indicator of 10YR 2/1.

Evidence of hydrology included periodic inundation to about 2-3", saturation in the upper 12", drainage patterns, and water-stained leaves.

This wetland was flagged based upon fairly abrupt changes in hydrophytic vs. non-hydrophytic vegetation. Adjacent upland indicator species included wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), and tall goldenrod (*Solidago altissima*).

Wetland B (See Figure 5B):

This 0.52-acre forested wetland is part of a wooded area at the southwest corner of the intersection of Hoff Road and I-53. A railroad track runs parallel to the west side of I-53 between the wetland and I-53. A small branch of Grant Creek runs parallel to the tracks and is part of this wetland. The adjacent creek had approximately 12" of slowly moving water in it during the field visit.

The entire wooded area was not flagged as wetland because of the change from mostly wet species in the southern portion to drier species at the northern end. However, a fringe of reed canary grass existed between the northern wooded area and Hoff Road. The wetter southern portion was dominated by such species as elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*), willow species (*Salix* sp.), box elder (*Acer negundo*), reed canary grass, marsh blue grass (*Poa palustris*), silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*), cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), hog peanut (*Amphicarpus bracteata*), and riverbank grape (*Vitis riparia*). The northern area left out of the flagged boundary was dominated by upland and facultative species, such as white mulberry (*Morus alba*), tatarian honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*), starry solomon's seal (*Smilacina stellata*), white snakeroot (*Eupatorium rugosum*), and hog peanut. The area between the ditch and the railroad tracks was dominated

almost entirely by reed canary grass, which is occasionally mowed within the easement, according to photographs taken at various times of the year.

A soil pit was excavated and it was found to contain a deep layer of dark mineral material to 16" depth, displaying the Munsell Soil Color Chart's low chroma hydric indicator of 10YR 2/1.

Evidence of hydrology included inundation of the ditch to 12", drift lines, drainage patterns, and water-stained leaves.

This wetland was flagged based on changes from elderberry/box elder/willow plant species to white mulberry/honeysuckle/white snakeroot/solomon's seal plant species. A portion of Wetland B is within the unmapped 100-year floodplain.

Wetland C (See Figure 5C):

This very small 0.03-acre emergent/scrub shrub wetland includes a small stream that carries run-off down to Grant Creek through a culvert. The wetland has apparently formed due to restriction at a culvert running under the committal shelter loop road. This theory is based on the fact that the wetland forms a triangular delta that widens at the structure, and also that older surveys show the stream entering the culvert from a different location. Where the stream used to angle to the southeast, turn sharply west for ~20' and enter the culvert, it now traverses mostly due south with only a ~3' turn into the culvert. A puddle of standing water is what is left of the original stream channel. Several dead multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*) at the eastern wetland edge most likely died because of increasingly wetter conditions and are now surrounded by herbaceous wetland species.

This wetland was dominated by reed canary grass, fowl manna grass (*Glyceria striata*), germander, wingstem (*Verbesina alternifolia*), common beggar's ticks, lady's thumb (*Polygonum persicum*), curly dock (*Rumex crispus*), dark green bulrush, smooth gooseberry (*Ribes subhirtellum*), willow species, paw paw (*Asimina triloba*), and American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*).

At the north (or top) end of the "delta" of the wetland the stream has more defined banks and the neighboring plant community becomes dominated with more upland species such as may apple (*Podophyllum peltatum*), honeysuckle, sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), paw paw, and wingstem.

A soil pit was not excavated because of the presence of the stream, the dominance of FACW and OBL plant species, and the artificial soil profile caused by sediment deposition.

Indicators of hydrology included inundation to 6-8", drift lines, sediment deposits, and drainage patterns.

Grant Creek Floodplain:

The banks above Grant Creek were investigated to determine their wetland character. The north bank from the area of a proposed bridge (approximately 80' west of the existing bridge) to a point approximately 1650' along the creek edge was inspected. The banks are mostly very steep and fairly eroded, with some areas being completely vertical at the downriver side of bends, being held in place by tree roots. A few areas have a gentler slope.

The dominant plant species found were typical of stream floodplains. The ground plane was almost completely dominated by wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*), with other herbaceous plant species including white avens (*Geum canadense*), wood nettle (*Laportea canadensis*), white snakeroot, Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), honewort (*Cryptotaenia canadensis*), garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), smooth sweet cicely (*Osmorhiza longistylis*), and wingstem. The shrubby understory included tatarian honeysuckle, amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*), and paw paw. The tree layer included paw paw, American linden (*Tilia americana*), hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), slippery elm (*Ulmus rubra*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), and occasionally black walnut (*Juglens nigra*) and bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*).

In calculating the percent dominant plant species that are either OBL, FACW, or FAC (indicating hydrophytic wetland species), the total is 9 out of 16 plants or 56%. This exceeds the Manual's 50% requirement to be a wetland. However, 2 of the FAC plants are in fact FAC-, which are not considered to be typically adapted for life in an anaerobic soil condition according to the Manual. If we use the FAC neutral test and eliminate all FAC species, the result is 3 out of 9 species, or 33%. In reality, the most dominant plants in the floodplain were wild ginger and honeysuckle species, both favoring an upland habitat.

Indicators of hydrology were present, typical of flashy streams: drift lines, water marks, and sediment deposits.

Soils were not excavated because of a lack of dominance of wetland vegetation and an artificial soil profile due to sediment deposition. However, the soil survey indicates that this portion of the creek that was investigated is comprised of Lawson silt loam, which is considered a hydric soil.

D. Conclusion

1. Background Summary of Wetland Regulation

The USACE receives its authority to regulate wetlands from Section 404 of the 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act (CWA). The USACE will assert jurisdiction over “waters of the U.S.” if:

- They are traditional navigable waters;
- They are wetlands adjacent to traditional navigable waters;
- They are non-navigable tributaries of traditional navigable waters that are relatively permanent where the tributaries typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally;
- They are wetlands that directly abut such tributaries.

The USACE will determine whether they will assert jurisdiction over waters of the U.S. based on fact-specific analysis to determine whether there is a significant connection with a traditional navigable water if:

- The non-navigable tributary is not relatively permanent;
- The wetland adjacent to non-navigable tributaries is not relatively permanent;
- The wetland is adjacent to but does not directly abut a relatively non-navigable tributary.

“Waters of the U.S.” include:

- All waters which are currently used, or were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide;
- All interstate waters including interstate wetlands;
- All other waters such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds, the use, degradation or destruction of which could affect interstate or foreign commerce, including any such waters:
 - Which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes; or
 - From which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or
 - Which are used or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce.
- All impoundments of waters otherwise defined as waters of the U.S. under the definition;
- Tributaries of waters;
- The territorial seas;

- Wetlands adjacent to waters of the U.S. (other than waters that are themselves wetlands).

Wetlands “abut” a water of the U.S. if they are not separated from the tributary by an upland feature, such as a berm or dike.

Wetlands are “adjacent” to a water of the U.S. if:

- there is an unbroken surface or shallow sub-surface connection to jurisdictional waters. This hydrologic connection may be intermittent;
- they are physically separated from jurisdictional waters by a man-made dike or barrier, natural river berms, beach dunes, and the like;
- their proximity to a jurisdictional water is reasonably close, supporting the science-based inference that such wetlands have an ecological interconnection with jurisdictional waters.

According to the CWA jurisdiction following the Rapanos court case, a water body is considered to have a “significant nexus” with a traditional navigable water if its flow characteristics and functions in combination with the ecologic and hydrologic functions performed by all wetlands adjacent to such a tributary, affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of a downstream traditional navigable water. A significant nexus evaluation to determine CWA jurisdiction may be needed on:

- non-navigable tributaries that are not relatively permanent, including adjacent wetlands;
- wetlands adjacent to, but not directly abutting, a relatively permanent tributary;
- Intermittent non-navigable tributaries and their adjacent wetlands.

Isolated wetlands not adjacent to waters of the U.S. will be regulated if they are *contiguous* with a water of the U.S. To be “contiguous”, there must be a continuous surface water connection between the two aquatic areas. The surface water connection can be: 1) surface flowing water at regular intervals of time, or 2) a continuum of wetlands between the two areas. Groundwater, surface overflow during periods of extreme precipitation, or tiling do not constitute surface water connections. A culvert under a road that connects two aquatic areas, if it is not excessively long, can constitute a surface water connection.

2. Summary of Project Site Wetland Regulation

Wetland A

Wetland A was determined to be under jurisdiction of the USACE because it is adjacent to a relatively permanent non-navigable tributary of a water of the U.S; in this case it is a ditch that has water flow most of the year. A significant nexus evaluation may need to be conducted because the wetland does not directly abut the

ditch. The USACE will determine the jurisdiction of the adjacent ditch. The ditch apparently flows west to Baseline Road, at which point it flows south along this road to eventually flow into Grant Creek, which is itself a tributary to the Des Plaines River. Although a very short-height berm separates the ditch from the wetland, the berm is a man-made barrier (presumably created as a result of spoil piles from ditch clean-out), thus this wetland may have been historically connected and is adjacent to a relatively permanent non-navigable tributary.

Historic data for Wetland A is not available; however, it is known that 8-15' of fill was added to the land surrounding this wetland in 1992 +/-, causing runoff to accumulate in this area. Thus this wetland may have been caused in part by human action.

Wetland B

Wetland B was determined to be under jurisdiction of the USACE because it abuts a permanent (perennial) non-navigable tributary of the Des Plaines River, Grant Creek.

Wetland C

Wetland C was determined to be under jurisdiction of the USACE because it abuts a relatively permanent water (tributary) of Grant Creek. The jurisdiction of the tributary will be determined by the USACE.

3. Recommendations

Because there is a potential for direct and/or indirect impacts to wetlands and/or waters of the U.S., it is our professional opinion that a USACE Jurisdictional Determination be completed for all three areas identified as regulated wetlands at the cemetery property.

Activities requiring Section 404 permits are limited to dredging or placing fill material into a water of the U.S. The USACE is responsible for final determination of jurisdiction of wetlands and/or "waters of the U.S.", as protected under the Clean Water Act, and whether proposed modifications will be permitted. Impacts are prohibited unless documentation is provided that demonstrates no practicable alternatives to wetlands/waters of the U.S. modifications exist. Modifications will be permitted only when the proposed direct environmental impacts can be sufficiently avoided, and/or minimized, and appropriately mitigated.

Literature Source:

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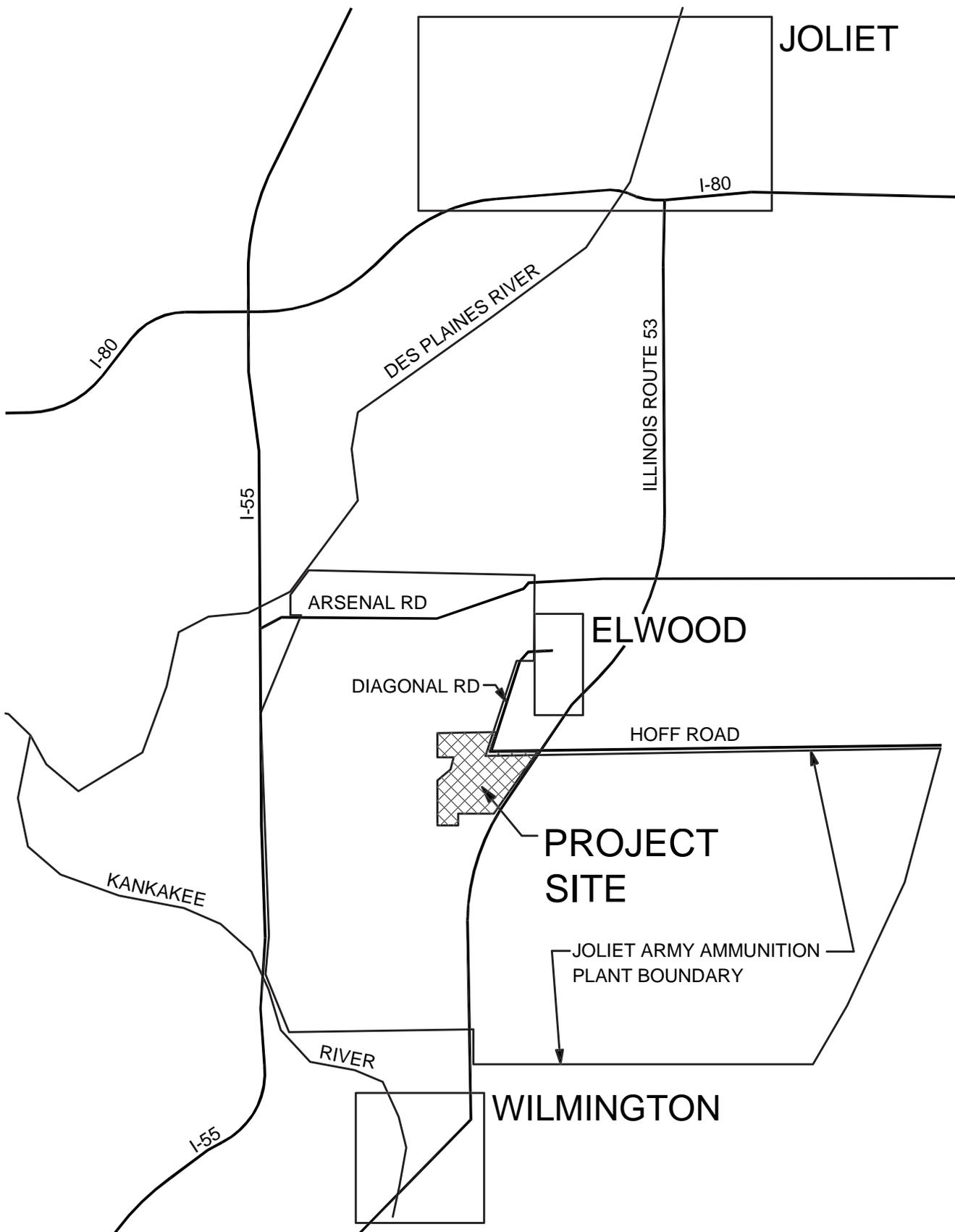
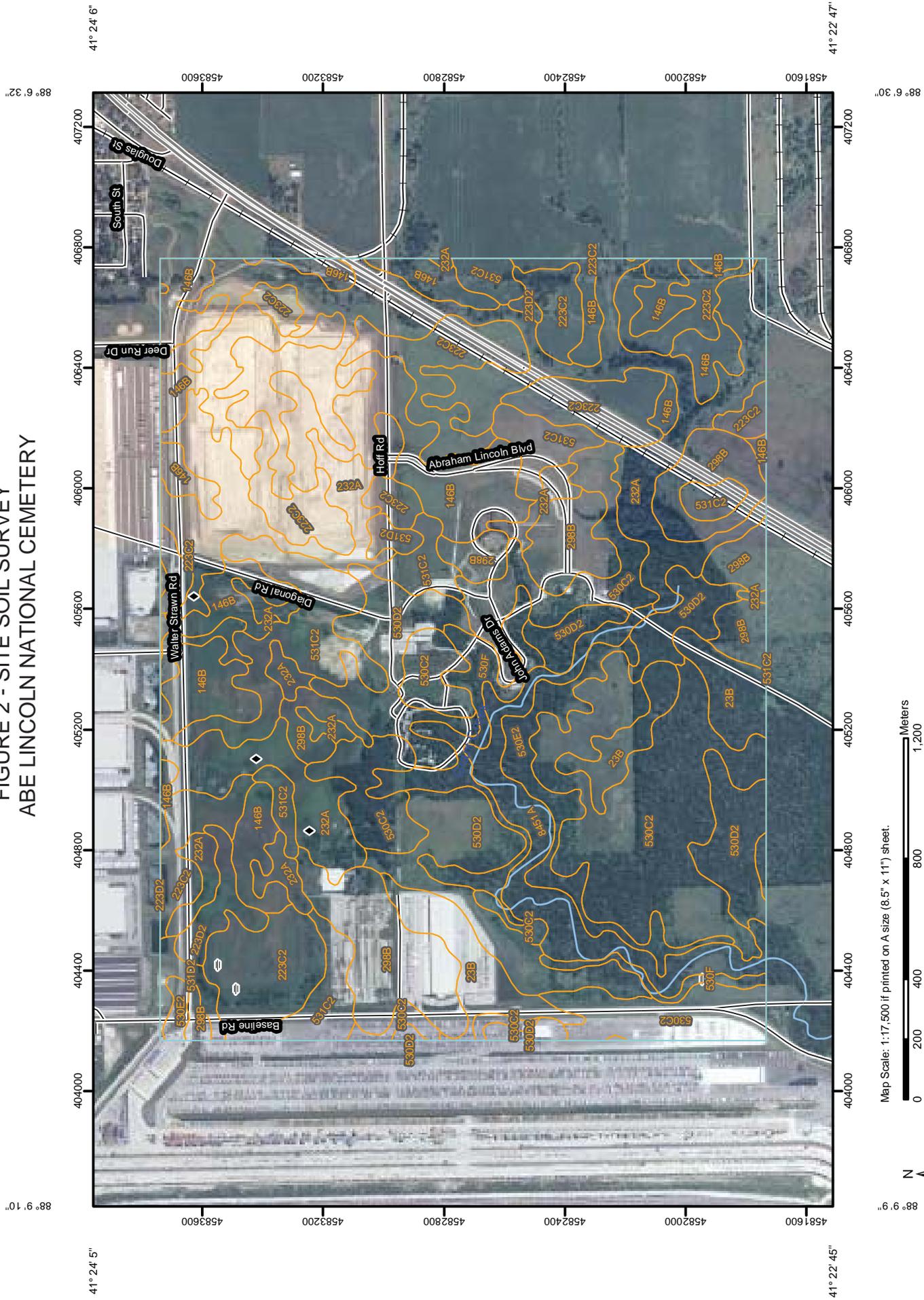


FIGURE 1-SITE MAP
ABE LINCOLN NATIONAL CEMETERY

FIGURE 2 - SITE SOIL SURVEY ABE LINCOLN NATIONAL CEMETERY



MAP LEGEND

| | |
|--|---|
|  Area of Interest (AOI) |  Very Stony Spot |
|  Soils |  Wet Spot |
|  Area of Interest (AOI) |  Other |
|  Soil Map Units | Special Line Features |
|  Blowout |  Gully |
|  Borrow Pit |  Short Steep Slope |
|  Clay Spot |  Other |
|  Closed Depression | Political Features |
|  Gravel Pit |  Cities |
|  Gravelly Spot | Water Features |
|  Landfill |  Oceans |
|  Lava Flow |  Streams and Canals |
|  Marsh or swamp | Transportation |
|  Mine or Quarry |  Rails |
|  Miscellaneous Water |  Interstate Highways |
|  Perennial Water |  US Routes |
|  Rock Outcrop |  Major Roads |
|  Saline Spot |  Local Roads |
|  Sandy Spot | |
|  Severely Eroded Spot | |
|  Sinkhole | |
|  Slide or Slip | |
|  Sodic Spot | |
|  Spoil Area | |
|  Stony Spot | |

MAP INFORMATION

Map Scale: 1:17,500 if printed on A size (8.5" x 11") sheet.
 The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:12,000.
 Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for accurate map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Web Soil Survey URL: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>
 Coordinate System: UTM Zone 16N NAD83

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Will County, Illinois
 Survey Area Data: Version 5, Jan 3, 2007
 Date(s) aerial images were photographed: 7/7/2007; 7/21/2007

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

| Will County, Illinois (IL197) | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|
| Map Unit Symbol | Map Unit Name | Acres in AOI | Percent of AOI |
| 23B | Blount silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes | 51.3 | 4.0% |
| 146B | Elliott silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes | 174.8 | 13.6% |
| 223C2 | Varna silt loam, 4 to 6 percent slopes, eroded | 156.6 | 12.2% |
| 223D2 | Varna silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded | 12.1 | 0.9% |
| 232A | Ashkum silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | 236.5 | 18.4% |
| 298B | Beecher silt loam, 2 to 4 percent slopes | 112.2 | 8.7% |
| 530C2 | Ozaukee silt loam, 4 to 6 percent slopes, eroded | 202.0 | 15.7% |
| 530D2 | Ozaukee silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded | 125.1 | 9.7% |
| 530E2 | Ozaukee silt loam, 12 to 20 percent slopes, eroded | 29.9 | 2.3% |
| 530F | Ozaukee silt loam, 20 to 30 percent slopes | 35.7 | 2.8% |
| 531C2 | Markham silt loam, 4 to 6 percent slopes, eroded | 93.2 | 7.2% |
| 531D2 | Markham silt loam, 6 to 12 percent slopes, eroded | 11.1 | 0.9% |
| 8451A | Lawson silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded | 46.6 | 3.6% |
| Totals for Area of Interest | | 1,287.1 | 100.0% |

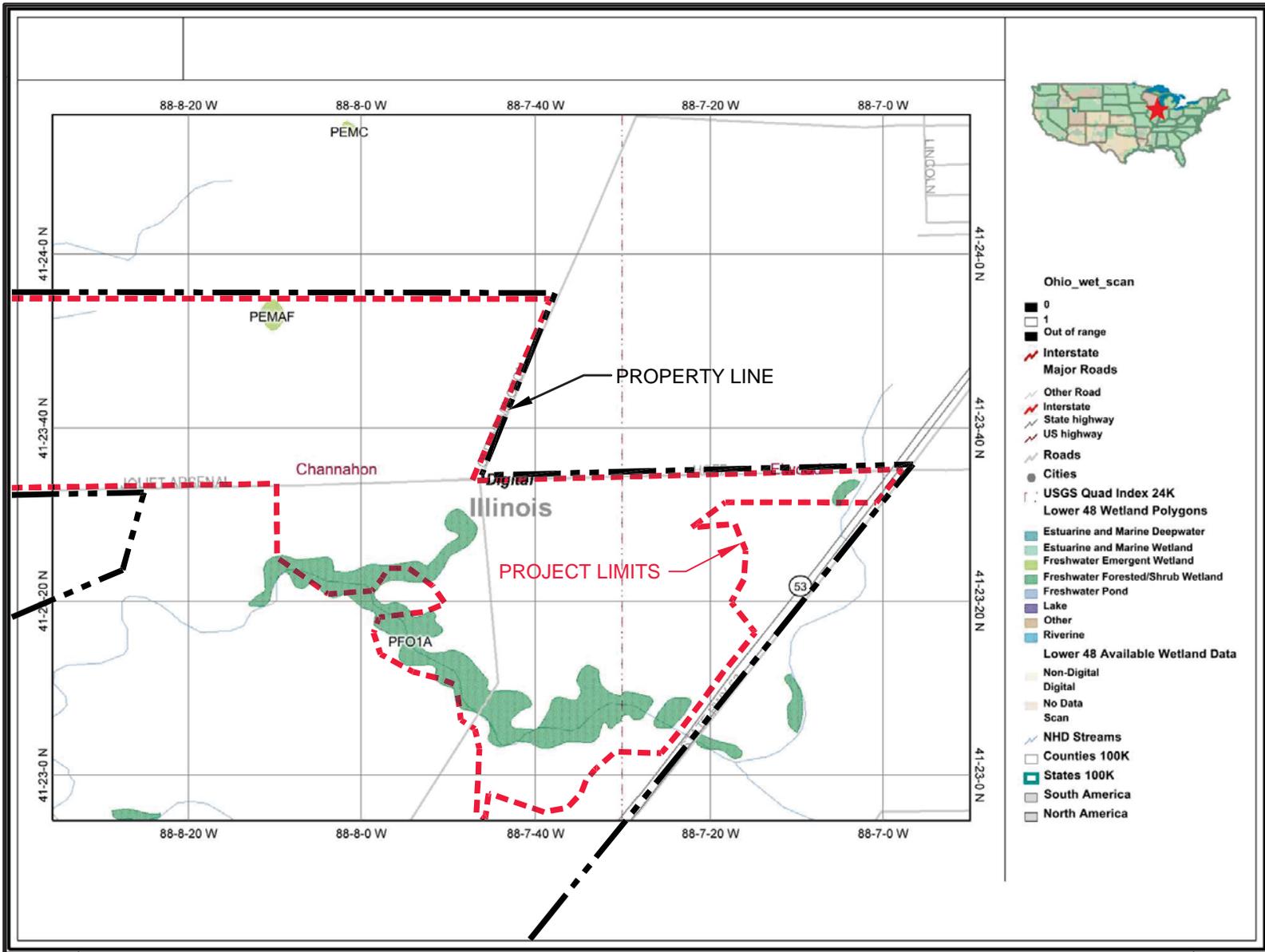
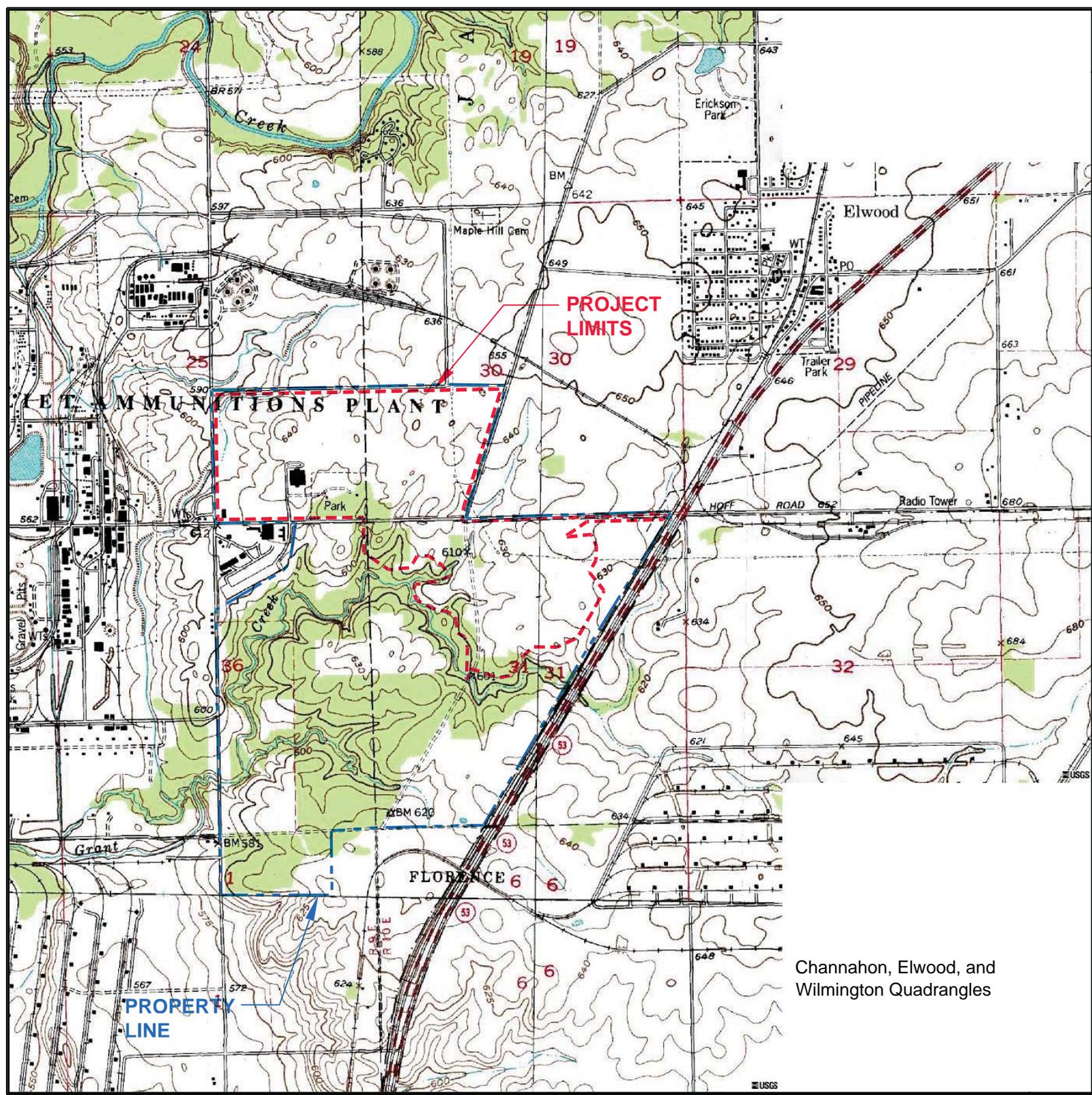


FIGURE 3 - NATIONAL WETLAND INVENTORY MAP
 ABE LINCOLN NATIONAL CEMETERY



Channahon, Elwood, and
Wilmington Quadrangles

FIGURE 4 - TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF PROJECT SITE
ABE LINCOLN NATIONAL CEMETERY



FIGURE 5 - OVERALL WETLAND LOCATION MAP
 ABE LINCOLN NATIONAL CEMETERY

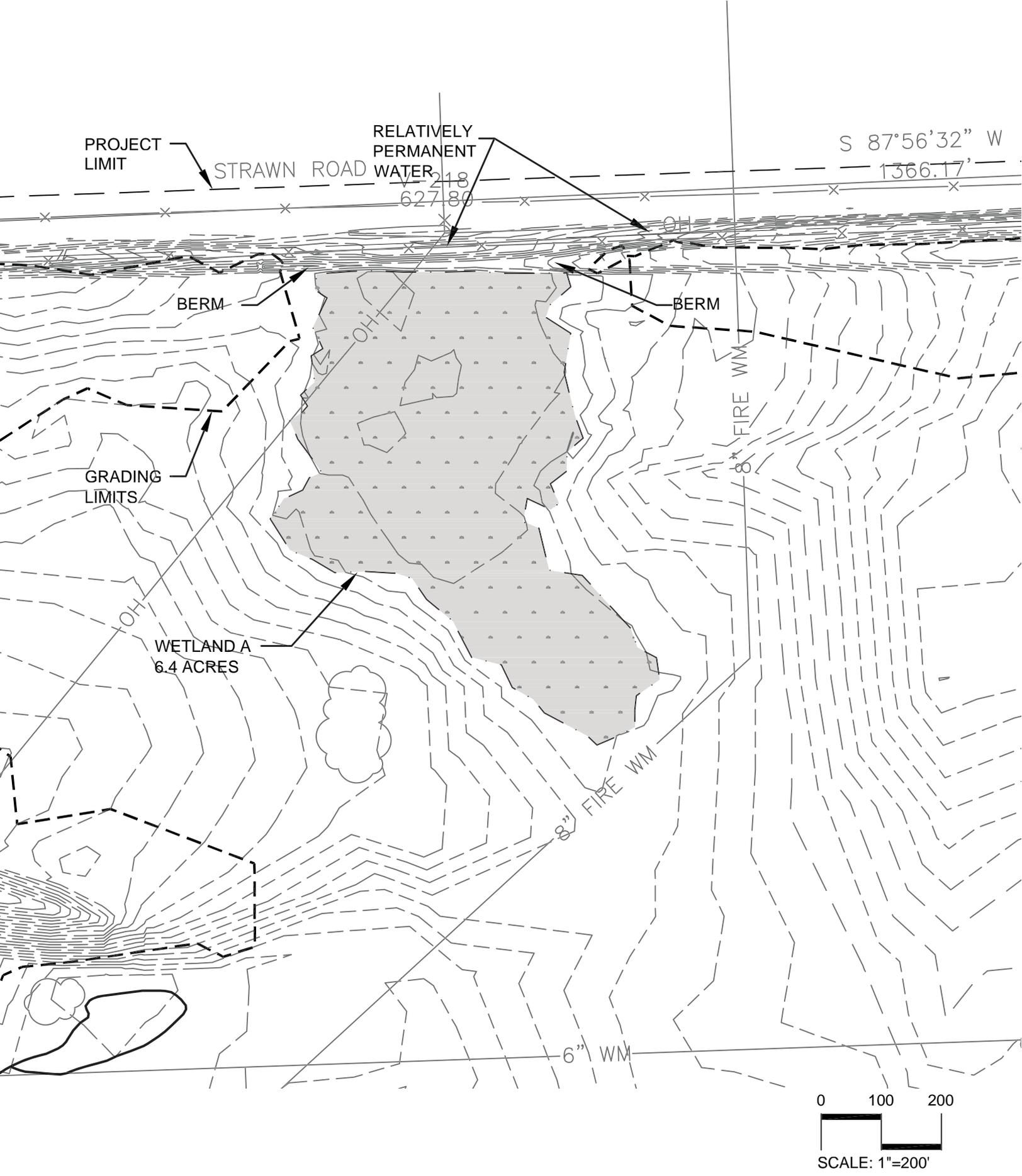


FIGURE 5A-WETLAND LOCATION MAP-WETLAND A
 ABE LINCOLN NATIONAL CEMETERY

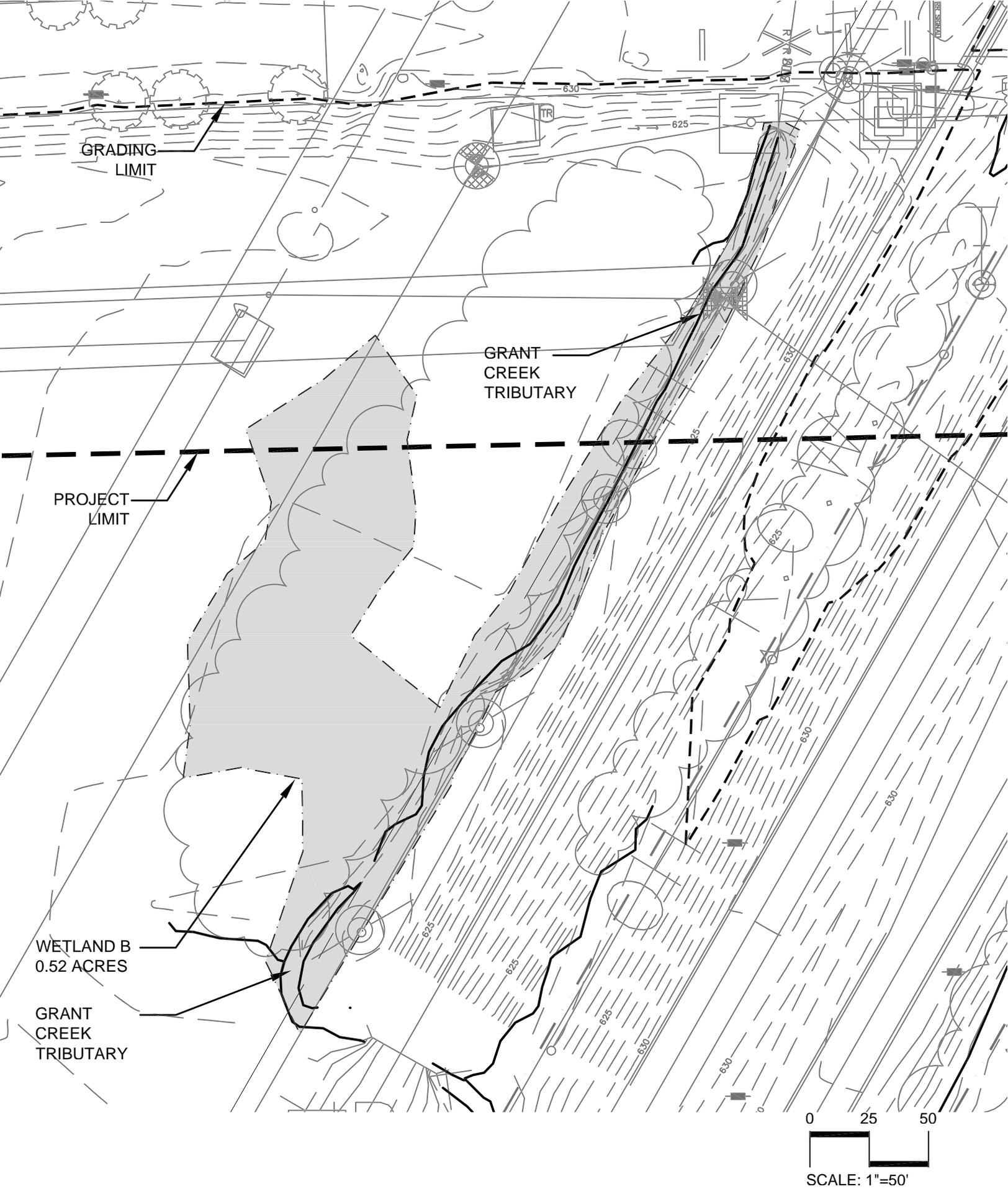


FIGURE 5B-WETLAND LOCATION MAP-WETLAND B
ABE LINCOLN NATIONAL CEMETERY

APPENDIX A – WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORMS

Abe Lincoln National Cemetery

DATA FORM
ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION
(1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)

| | |
|--|---|
| Project/Site: <u>Abc Lincoln National Cemetery</u> Applicant/Owner: <u>Wetland's owner</u> Investigator: <u>Carol Schulte</u> | Date: <u>6/30/09</u> County: <u>Will</u> State: <u>IL</u> |
| Do Normal Circumstances exist on the site? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Is the site significantly disturbed (Atypical Situation)? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Is the area a potential Problem Area? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> (If needed, explain on reverse.) | Community ID: <u>EMWMA</u> Transect ID: <u>A1-A-68</u> Plot ID: _____ |

VEGETATION

| Dominant Plant Species | Stratum | Indicator | Dominant Plant Species | Stratum | Indicator |
|--------------------------------|----------|--------------|------------------------|---------|-----------|
| 1. <u>Phragmites australis</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>FACW+</u> | 9. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. <u>Phalaris arundinacea</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>FACW+</u> | 10. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. <u>Scirpus pendulus</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>OBL</u> | 11. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. <u>Alyssa subcordatum</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>OBL</u> | 12. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. <u>Bidens frondosa</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>FACW</u> | 13. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ | _____ | 14. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7. _____ | _____ | _____ | 15. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 8. _____ | _____ | _____ | 16. _____ | _____ | _____ |

Percent of Dominant Species that are OBL, FACW or FAC (excluding FAC-):

100%

Remarks: wetland fringe plants include Carex vulpinoidea, Carex bledai, Juncus tenuis, Scirpus atrovirens. WL consisted mainly of Phragmites bordered by Phalaris, then bordered by absc.
Plants 3-5 dominated a wetter pocket on W side.

HYDROLOGY

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks): <input type="checkbox"/> Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photographs <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> No Recorded Data Available | Wetland Hydrology Indicators: Primary Indicators: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inundated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saturated in Upper 12 Inches <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks <input type="checkbox"/> Drift Lines <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns in Wetlands Secondary Indicators (2 or more required): <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves <input type="checkbox"/> Local Soil Survey Data <input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks) |
| Field Observations: Depth of Surface Water: <u>in some areas 2-3</u> (in.) Depth to Free Water in Pit: _____ (in.) Depth to Saturated Soil: _____ (in.) | Remarks: <u>no water found in outer perimeter soil pit but areas of standing water are scattered throughout.</u> |

**REVISED DATA FORM
ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION
(1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)**

| | |
|--|--|
| Project/Site: <u>Abe Lincoln National Cemetery</u> Applicant/Owner: <u>Veteran's Administration</u> Investigator: <u>Carol Schulte</u> | Date: <u>6-30-09</u> County: <u>Will</u> State: <u>IL</u> |
| Do Normal Circumstances exist on the site? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Is the site significantly disturbed (Atypical Situation)? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No Is the area a potential Problem Area? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No (If needed, explain on reverse.) | Community ID: <u>FO</u> Transect ID: <u>B1-B8; B-1A-B-13A</u> Plot ID: _____ |

VEGETATION

| Dominant Plant Species | Stratum | Indicator | Dominant Plant Species | Stratum | Indicator |
|----------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------------------|---------|-----------|
| 1. <u>Salix sp.</u> | <u>T</u> | | 9. _____ | | |
| 2. <u>Sambucus canadensis</u> | <u>S/S</u> | <u>FACW-</u> | 10. _____ | | |
| 3. <u>Ampelocarpus bracteata</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>FAC</u> | 11. _____ | | |
| 4. <u>Acer negundo</u> | <u>T</u> | <u>FACW-</u> | 12. _____ | | |
| 5. <u>Phalaris arundinacea</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>FACW+</u> | 13. _____ | | |
| 6. <u>Poa palustris</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>FACW+</u> | 14. _____ | | |
| 7. _____ | | | 15. _____ | | |
| 8. _____ | | | 16. _____ | | |

Percent of Dominant Species that are OBL, FACW or FAC (excluding FACU): 5/5 = 100%

Remarks: Salix species was not identified but is likely hydrophytic as it was growing in water.

HYDROLOGY

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>___ Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks): ___ Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge ___ Aerial Photographs ___ Other ___ No Recorded Data Available</p> <p>Field Observations:</p> Depth of Surface Water: <u>12</u> (in.) Depth to Free Water in Pit: _____ (in.) Depth to Saturated Soil: _____ (in.) | <p>Wetland Hydrology Indicators:</p> <p>Primary Indicators:</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inundated <input type="checkbox"/> Saturated in Upper 12 Inches <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drift Lines <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns in Wetlands <p>Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves <input type="checkbox"/> Local Soil Survey Data <input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks) |
| Remarks: <u>a drainage ditch is part of this wetland</u> | |

SOILS

| | | | | | |
|---|---------|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Map Unit Name (Series and Phase): <u>Askeum silty clay loam</u> | | Drainage Class: <u>poorly drained</u> | | | |
| Taxonomy (Subgroup): _____ | | Field Observations Confirm Mapped Type? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | | | |
| Profile Description: | | | | | |
| Depth (inches) | Horizon | Matrix Color (Munsell Moist) | Mottle Colors (Munsell Moist) | Mottle Abundance/Contrast | Texture, Concretions, Structure, etc. |
| <u>16"</u> | | <u>10YR 7/1</u> | | | |
| | | | | | |
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| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Hydric Soil Indicators: | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histosol <input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon <input type="checkbox"/> Sulfidic Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Aquic Moisture Regime <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Gleyed or Low-Chroma Colors | | <input type="checkbox"/> Concretions <input type="checkbox"/> High Organic Content in Surface Layer in Sandy Soils <input type="checkbox"/> Organic Streaking in Sandy Soils <input type="checkbox"/> Listed on Local Hydric Soils List <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Listed on National Hydric Soils List <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks) | | | |
| Remarks: | | | | | |

WETLAND DETERMINATION

| | |
|---|---|
| Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No (Circle) Wetland Hydrology Present? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Hydric Soils Present? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | (Circle) Is this Sampling Point Within a Wetland? Yes No |
| Remarks: <u>All 3 indicators are present to confirm this site is a wetland. The northern portion of the wooded area was dominated by upland species and a few FAC species, thus was not flagged.</u> | |

Approved by HQUSACE 2/92

DATA FORM
ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION
 (1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)

| | |
|--|--|
| Project/Site: <u>Abe Lincoln National Cemetery</u> Applicant/Owner: <u>Veteran's Admin</u> Investigator: <u>Carol Schulte</u> | Date: <u>7/1/09</u> County: <u>Will</u> State: <u>IL</u> |
| Do Normal Circumstances exist on the site? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Is the site significantly disturbed (Atypical Situation)? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Is the area a potential Problem Area? Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> (If needed, explain on reverse.) | Community ID: <u>FO/WMA</u> Transect ID: <u>C</u> Plot ID: _____ |

VEGETATION

| Dominant Plant Species | Stratum | Indicator | Dominant Plant Species | Stratum | Indicator |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| 1. <u>Glucerna striata</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>OBL</u> | 9. <u>Platanus occidentalis</u> | <u>T</u> | <u>FACW</u> |
| 2. <u>Phalaris arund.</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>OBL</u> | 10. <u>Populus deltoides</u> | <u>T</u> | <u>FACT</u> |
| 3. <u>Teuchium canadense</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>FACW-</u> | 11. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. <u>Pipes subinellum</u> | <u>SS</u> | <u>FACW</u> | 12. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. <u>Vandisia adenitoba</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>FACW</u> | 13. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. <u>Asi nua nitoba</u> | <u>T</u> | <u>FAC</u> | 14. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7. <u>Salix sp.</u> | <u>S/S</u> | _____ | 15. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 8. <u>Scirpus atrovirens</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>OBL</u> | 16. _____ | _____ | _____ |

Percent of Dominant Species that are OBL, FACW or FAC (excluding FAC-): 100%

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks): <input type="checkbox"/> Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photographs <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> No Recorded Data Available | Wetland Hydrology Indicators: Primary Indicators: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inundated <input type="checkbox"/> Saturated in Upper 12 Inches <input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drift Lines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns in Wetlands Secondary Indicators (2 or more required): <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches <input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves <input type="checkbox"/> Local Soil Survey Data <input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks) |
| Field Observations: Depth of Surface Water: <u>6-8</u> (in.) Depth to Free Water in Pit: _____ (in.) Depth to Saturated Soil: _____ (in.) | Remarks: <u>Small stream is part of this wetland, but banks become steep further N and are dominated by upland species.</u> |

SOILS

| | | | | | |
|---|---------|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Map Unit Name (Series and Phase): <u>Ozaukee silt loam</u> | | Drainage Class: <u>Moderately well-drained</u> | | | |
| Taxonomy (Subgroup): _____ | | Field Observations Confirm Mapped Type? Yes No | | | |
| Profile Description: | | | | | |
| Depth (Inches) | Horizon | Matrix Color (Munsell Moist) | Mottle Colors (Munsell Moist) | Mottle Abundance/ Size/Contrast | Texture, Concretions, Structure, etc. |
| | | | | | |
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| Hydric Soil Indicators: | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Histosol <input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon <input type="checkbox"/> Sulfidic Odor <input type="checkbox"/> Aquic Moisture Regime <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Gleyed or Low-Chroma Colors | | <input type="checkbox"/> Concretions <input type="checkbox"/> High Organic Content in Surface Layer in Sandy Soils <input type="checkbox"/> Organic Streaking in Sandy Soils <input type="checkbox"/> Listed on Local Hydric Soils List <input type="checkbox"/> Listed on National Hydric Soils List <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks) | | | |
| Remarks: | | | | | |

WETLAND DETERMINATION

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------|----------|--|--|
| Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No (Circle) | | | |
| Wetland Hydrology Present? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No | (Circle) | | |
| Hydric Soils Present? | <input type="radio"/> Yes | No | | Is this Sampling Point Within a Wetland? | <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No |
| Remarks: <u>wetland has established at drainage structure, sediment deposit at drainage structure blocks free flow and has thus dispersed water around it. soils were not checked but strong presence of hydrophytic plants and hydrology indicators confirm this area is a wetland, and sediment deposition results in an artificial soil horizon.</u> | | | | | |

Approved by HQUSACE 3/92

**REVISED DATA FORM
ROUTINE WETLAND DETERMINATION
(1987 COE Wetlands Delineation Manual)**

| | |
|---|--|
| Project/Site: <u>Abe Lincoln National Cemetery</u> | Date: <u>6/30/09</u> |
| Applicant/Owner: <u>Vegetation Administration</u> | County: <u>Will</u> |
| Investigator: <u>Carol Schulte</u> | State: <u>IL</u> |
| Do Normal Circumstances exist on the site? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No | Community ID: <u>Floodplain - non WL</u> Transect ID: _____ Plot ID: _____ |
| Is the site significantly disturbed (Atypical Situation)? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | |
| Is the area a potential Problem Area? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No (If needed, explain on reverse.) | |

VEGETATION

| Dominant Plant Species | Stratum | Indicator | Dominant Plant Species | Stratum | Indicator |
|--|---------|-------------|------------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| 1. <u>Asarum canadense</u> | | <u>UOI</u> | 9. <u>Xylopus nigra</u> | | <u>FACW</u> |
| 2. <u>Lonicera spp.</u> | | <u>UOI</u> | 10. <u>Osmorhiza latifolia</u> | | <u>FACW</u> |
| 3. <u>Alnus canadense</u> | | <u>FAC</u> | 11. <u>Urtica alternifolia</u> | | <u>FACW</u> |
| 4. <u>Eupatorium rugosum</u> | | <u>FACW</u> | 12. <u>Urtica rubra</u> | | <u>FAC</u> |
| 5. <u>Laportea canadensis</u> | | <u>FACW</u> | 13. <u>Celtis occidentalis</u> | | <u>FAC</u> |
| 6. <u>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</u> | | <u>FAC</u> | 14. <u>Cryptotaenia canadensis</u> | | <u>FAC</u> |
| 7. <u>Alnus phloclada</u> | | <u>FAC</u> | 15. <u>Aster multiflorus</u> | | <u>FAC</u> |
| 8. <u>Tilia americana</u> | | <u>FACW</u> | 16. <u>Urtica americana</u> | | <u>FACW</u> |
| Percent of Dominant Species that are OBL, FACW or FAC (excluding FACU): <u>Using FAC neutral: 3/9 = 33%</u> <u>9/16 = 56%, but 2 species = FAC - so</u> | | | | | |
| Remarks: <u>This area of a proposed bridge involves the banks of a flashy stream, "Grant Creek".</u> | | | | | |

HYDROLOGY

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>___ Recorded Data (Describe in Remarks): ___ Stream, Lake, or Tide Gauge ___ Aerial Photographs ___ Other ___ No Recorded Data Available</p> <p>Field Observations:</p> <p>Depth of Surface Water: _____ (in.)</p> <p>Depth to Free Water in Pit: _____ (in.)</p> <p>Depth to Saturated Soil: _____ (in.)</p> | <p>Wetland Hydrology Indicators:</p> <p>Primary Indicators:</p> <p>___ Inundated ___ Saturated in Upper 12 Inches ___ Water Marks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drift Lines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits ___ Drainage Patterns in Wetlands</p> <p>Secondary Indicators (2 or more required):</p> <p>___ Oxidized Root Channels in Upper 12 Inches ___ Water-Stained Leaves ___ Local Soil Survey Data ___ FAC-Neutral Test ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)</p> |
| Remarks: | |

APPENDIX B – REPORT PHOTOS

Abe Lincoln National Cemetery



Photo 1. Wetland A at flag A-1, looking north – northeast.
Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, June 30, 2009.



Photo 2. Wetland A at flag A-37, looking south at wet pocket in north portion of wetland.
Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, June 30, 2009.



Photo 3. Wetland B in the distance, looking southeast.
Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, June 30, 2009.



Photo 4. Ditch in Wetland B, looking southeast.
Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, June 30, 2009.



Photo 5. Same position as Photo 4, but looking up towards railroad tracks. Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, June 30, 2009.



Photo 6. Merged photo of Wetland C, looking northeast. Current pathway of stream at drainage structure can be seen to the right of the structure. Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, July 1, 2009.



Photo 7. Puddled water in Wetland C, where pathway of stream used to flow.
Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, July 1, 2009.



Photo 8. Stream at Wetland C, looking north – northeast; committal shelters in
background through trees.
Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, July 1, 2009.



Photo 9. Vicinity of proposed bridge across Grant Creek, west of existing bridge, looking northwest. Shows dominance of wild ginger and honeysuckle. Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, June 30, 2009.



Photo 10. Grant Creek at a strong meander east of existing bridge, looking northeast. Abe Lincoln National Cemetery, July 1, 2009.

Appendix D. Agency Coordination

- D-1. Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (Illinois SHPO)**
- D-2. U.S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service**
- D-3. Illinois Department of Agriculture**
- D-4. Illinois Department of Natural Resources**
- D-5. Illinois Natural Heritage Database**



Illinois Historic
Preservation Agency

FAX (217) 782-8161

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512 • www.illinois-history.gov

Will County

Elwood

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Expansion
West side of IL Route 53, South of Hoff Road
IHPA Log #004090106

December 22, 2010

Jennifer Bring
The 106 Group Ltd.
370 Selby Ave., Suite 206
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear Ms. Bring:

We have reviewed the documentation submitted for the referenced project(s) in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4. Based upon the information provided, no historic properties are affected. We, therefore, have no objection to the undertaking proceeding as planned.

Please retain this letter in your files as evidence of compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This clearance remains in effect for two years from date of issuance. It does not pertain to any discovery during construction, nor is it a clearance for purposes of the Illinois Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act (20 ILCS 3440).

If you have any further questions, please contact me at 217/785-5027.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Haaker
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chicago Ecological Services Field Office
1250 South Grove Avenue, Suite 103
Barrington, Illinois 60010
Phone: (847) 381-2253 Fax: (847) 381-2285

IN REPLY REFER TO:
FWS/AES-CIFO/

December 10, 2010

Kevin Dix
Office of Construction & Facilities Management
Department of Veteran Affairs
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Mr. Dix:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Chicago Field Office (Service) received your request for a threatened and endangered species review dated November 19, 2010. We have developed a new on-line threatened and endangered species review process. You can access it at <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Endangered> and click on the Section 7 Technical Assistance green shaded box in the lower right portion of the screen. There are three steps to this process; however, your project may or may not reach step 3. Additional details on completing this on-line process are enclosed.

In an effort to greatly reduce the timeframe in which you may receive a response from the Service we encourage you to use this new application; however, if you do not intend to use the on-line application, please contact Cathy Pollack at 847-381-2253, ex. 20 to complete the required review process.

Sincerely,

Janice C. Engle
Field Supervisor

Enclosure



Pat Quinn, Governor
Thomas E. Jennings, Director

Bureau of Land and Water Resources

State Fairgrounds • P.O. Box 19281 • Springfield, IL 62794-9281 • 217/782-6297 • TDD 217/524-6858 • Fax 217/557-0993

December 28, 2010

Mr. Kevin W. Dix
Project Manager (00CFM3B4)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Construction & Facilities Management
Washington, DC 20420

Re: Project No 915PC2003
Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery - Elwood, Illinois (Will)
Phase 2 Gravesite Expansion and Cemetery Improvements

Dear Mr. Dix:

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) has examined the above-referenced project for its potential impact to agricultural land in order to determine its compliance with the Illinois Farmland Preservation Act (505 ILCS 75/1 et seq.). Our analysis also relates to the federal Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 USC 4201 et seq.) which specifies that federal actions affecting farmland conversion shall be consistent with state and local programs to protect farmland.

The Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery is located on the grounds of the former Joliet Army Ammunition Plant near Elwood, Illinois. The existing cemetery totals 982 acres, of which 150 acres have been developed.

The Phase 2 project involves improvements to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. The proposed improvements will occur on ±260 acres of developed and undeveloped land, thus allowing the addition of 17,750 gravesites, columbarium niches, infrastructure repairs and upgrades to the existing cemetery. None of the cemetery property is currently farmed.

These improvements do not require the purchase of additional land. Because the improvements will occur on government-owned property and do not impact agricultural land, the IDOA has determined the project complies with the Illinois Farmland Preservation Act.

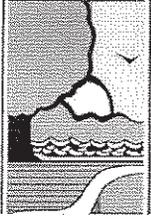
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven D. Chard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steven D. Chard, Acting Chief
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

SDC:TS

cc: Will-South Cook County SWCD
Agency project file



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

September 22, 2010

Mike Stirk
JJR, LLC
35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 2200
Chicago, IL 60601

Re: Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Phase II
Project Number(s): 1102834 [1003411]
County: Will

Dear Applicant:

This letter is in reference to the project you recently submitted for consultation. The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified protected resources that may be in the vicinity of the proposed action. The Department has evaluated this information and concluded that adverse effects are unlikely. Therefore, consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is terminated.

The state-endangered Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) has been recorded in the area. To prevent harm during its nesting season, the Department recommends that tree removal for the bridge crossing only be performed during the months of August through February.

This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

Karen Miller
Division of Ecosystems and Environment
217-785-5500

Jennifer Sieracki

From: Dix, Kevin W. (CFM) [Kevin.Dix@va.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 1:13 PM
To: Jennifer Sieracki
Cc: Neal Billetdeaux; Hank Byma; Dix, Kevin W. (CFM)
Subject: FW: Proj # 915PC2003, Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL
Attachments: image001.gif

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Jen: Here is the first response from the agency letters...

Kevin W. Dix
Project Manager
Office of Construction and Facilities Management (00CFM3B4)
(202) 461-8462

From: Kieninger, Tara [<mailto:Tara.Kieninger@Illinois.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2010 12:58 PM
To: Dix, Kevin W. (CFM)
Subject: Proj # 915PC2003, Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL

Dear Kevin,

I have reviewed the information you provided in your letter of request dated 11/19/10 regarding proposed improvements at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL. According to the Illinois Natural Heritage Database, the following sensitive resources occur within or in the vicinity of the project area, specifically Township 34 North, Range 9 East, Sections 25 & 36 and Township 34 North, Range 10 East, Sections 30 & 31, 3rd Principal Meridian

Occurs within the Project Site Boundary but outside the Area of New Development (these features also occur within 1 mile of the Project Site Boundaries):

- Bartramia longicauda (upland sandpiper)
- Lanius ludovicianus (loggerhead shrike)
- Joliet Army Ammunition Plant Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) site

Occurs within 1 mile of the Project Site Boundary:

- Circus cyaneus (northern harrier)

Note: In the future, you can access a list of resources for a specific project site via EcoCAT, our online Ecological Compliance Assessment Tool. Within the tool, you can submit either a basic "Information Request" or initiate the Endangered Species Consultation Process there. EcoCAT can be used to discover if known records of endangered or threatened species, Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) Sites, dedicated Illinois Nature Preserves, or registered Land & Water Reserves exist "in the vicinity." EcoCAT will not provide exact locations for sensitive resources; however, it provides a list of resources that are in the vicinity, either within or just outside the footprint of the project site that you draw. Results are instantaneous. Go to the IDNR EcoCAT web page: <http://www.dnrecocat.state.il.us/ecopublic/> and follow the instructions on-screen.

Please be aware that the Natural Heritage Database cannot provide a conclusive statement on the presence, absence, or condition of significant natural features in Illinois. The Department of Natural Resources can only summarize the existing information known to us at the time of the request. This report should not be regarded as a final statement on the area being considered, nor should it substitute for field surveys required for environmental assessments.

This letter is separate from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources consultation requirement under the Illinois Endangered Species Act (530 ILCS 10/11) and the Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act (525 ILCS 30/17). For more information on this process, please contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Division of Resource Review and Coordination, at One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271 or by telephone at (217)785-5500.

Sincerely,

Tara Kieninger

Database Program Manager
Illinois Natural Heritage Database
Illinois Dept of Natural Resources
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702
(217)782-2685
(217)785-2438 - fax
tara.kieninger@illinois.gov

Appendix E. Tribal Consultation

- E-1. Tribal Consultation Letter/Contacts**
- E-2 Citizen Potawatomi**
- E-3. Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma**

November [redacted], 2010

RECIPIENT

(title)

(address)

(address)

(address)

Re: Request for Section 106 Comment on the Expansion of the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Will County, Illinois

Dear RECIPIENT:

The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) within the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is proposing improvements to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. The existing cemetery is 982 acres, of which 150 acres are currently developed. The proposed improvements would involve approximately 260-acres of undeveloped and developed land. This would allow for the addition of 17,750 gravesites, columbarium niches, infrastructure repairs, and upgrades to the existing cemetery.

The cemetery is located near the Village of Elwood, Channahon and Jackson Townships, in Will County (Township 34 north, Range 9 east, Sections 25 and 36, Range 10 east, Sections 30 and 31) as illustrated on the enclosed Location Map. Therefore, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), we are providing a 30 day opportunity to comment on the referenced proposed undertaking.

The area of potential effect (APE) for the proposed project has been determined by the VA in consultation with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA). For archaeological resources, the APE includes all areas of proposed construction activities or other potential ground disturbing activities associated with expansion of the cemetery and illustrated on the attached Location Map. For architectural resources, to account for potential indirect visual, auditory, or noise effects caused by construction of the proposed cemetery, the APE also includes any adjacent architectural resources.

Cultural resource surveys to identify and evaluate archaeological and architectural resources within the APE have been completed. The archaeological survey results indicate that no sites were eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) due to lack of diagnostic material and/or associated features that would provide data to answer significant research questions. The architectural history survey identified seven extant historical architectural history properties. One is currently on the NRHP (the Alternate Route 66) and the developed portions of Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery are eligible for listing in the NRHP. It is the opinion of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) that the project area for proposed gravesite expansion and improvements at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery contain no significant historic, architectural, or archaeological resources. A copy of the IHPA letter is attached for your reference. It is expected, however, that the VA make contingency plans in the case of fortuitous finds or unexpected discoveries during ground disturbing activities within the project area.

If you have any comments, please provide them to Mr. Kevin Dix, Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Construction and Facilities Management (00CFM3B4), 811 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington DC, 20420; e-mail: Kevin.Dix@va.gov; or phone (202) 461-8462. The comment period will end December [--], 2010. I would like to thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin Dix
CFM/NCA Project Manager
Department of Veterans Affairs

cc: N. Billetdeaux (JJR)

Attachments

1. Location Map
2. Illinois Historic Preservation Agency letter

\\ch-file1\projects\50165\000\ea\tribal letters\ draft consultation letter .doc

**Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Expansion
Section 106 Tribal Consultation Contacts
November 21, 2010**

1. Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Mr. John 'Rocky' Barrett
Chairperson
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801

Ms. Karen Phillips
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801

2. Forest County Potawatomi Community

Mr. Harold 'Gus' Frank
Chairperson
Forest County Potawatomi Community of Wisconsin
5415 Everybody's Road
Executive Office Building
Crandon, WI 54520

3. Hannahville Indian Community

Mr. Kenneth Meshigaud
Chairperson
Hannahville Indian Community
N14911 Hannahville B1 Road
Wilson, MI 49896

4. Kickapoo Tribe of Indians in Kansas

Mr. Arlan Whitebird
Chairperson
Kickapoo Tribe of Indians in Kansas
1107 Goldfinch Road
Horton, KS 66439

5. Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma

Mr. Gilbert Salazar
Chairperson
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 70
McCloud, OK 74851

6. Prairie Band of the Potawatomi Nation

Mr. Steve Ortiz
Chairperson
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
16281 Q Road
Mayetta, KS 66509

CHAIRMAN
John A. Barrett



SECRETARY-TREASURER
D. Wayne Trousdale

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

December 16, 2010

Kevin Dix, Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Construction and Facilities Management (00CFM3B4)
811 Vermont Avenue NW
Washington DC 20420

Re: Project No. 915PC2003, Phase 2 Gravesite Expansion, Abraham Lincoln
National Cemetery, Will County, Elwood, IL

Mr. Dix,

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has cultural ties to the general land area referenced in your letter of November 29, 2010. However, at this time we know of no specific sites that fall within the APE for this project, and concur with the IHPA finding of no properties affected. Upon discovery of any archaeological remains or resources during construction, demolition, or repair, the applicant should immediately stop and notify the tribe pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1312.

Thank you for your time,

Stacy S. Coon
Collections Manager & Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Cultural Heritage Center
Ph. 405.878.5830 x 7106
Fax. 405.878.5840

Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma

P.O.Box 70
407 N. Hwy 102
McLoud, Oklahoma 74851

Administration Department
Phone: 405-964-4227; Fax: 405-964-4265
Email: kwilson@kickapootribeofoklahoma.com

December 7, 2010

Department of Veterans Affairs
ATTN: Kevin Dix
Office of Construction and
Facilities Management (00CFM3B4)
811 Vermont Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20240

RE: Project No. 915PC203, Phase 2

Dear Mr. Dix:

Thank you for consulting with the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma in regard to the above referenced site(s). At this time, the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma has no objections to the proposed development at the intended site(s). However, in the event burial remains and/or artifacts are discovered during the development or construction process, the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma would ask for immediate notification of such findings.

Should I be of any further assistance, please contact me (405) 964-4227.

Sincerely,



Kent Collier
NAGPRA Contact
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma

Cc: NAGPRA Consulting File

Gilbert Salazar
APETOCA
CHAIRMAN

Everett Suke
MOKITANOA
VICE-CHAIRMAN

Patricia Gonzales
MOKITANOCUA
SECRETARY

Jennell Downs
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