



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Portland District

PUBLIC NOTICE for Permit Application

Issue Date: August 13, 2004

Expiration Date: September 10, 2004

Corps of Engineers Action ID: 200200638

Oregon Department of State Lands Number: RF-33005

30 Day-Notice

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States, as described below and shown on the attached plan.

Comments: Comments on the described work should reference the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers number shown above and should reach this office no later than the above expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Comments should be mailed to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
CENWP-OP-GE (Ms. Lisa Grudzinski)
2201 North Broadway, Suite C
North Bend, Oregon 97459-2372

Applicant: Catching Slough Drainage District

Location: The project is located in Ross Inlet Slough, River Mile 2.5, near Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon. The project is in Sections 12 and 13 of Township 26 South, Range 13 West.

Project Description: The applicants are proposing to excavate up to 4,200 cubic yards (CY) of sediment and organics from a total of 4,200 linear feet of North Slough and adjacent drainage ditches. Dredging would occur in 2,700 linear feet of the main channel of Ross Slough, and 1,500 linear feet of adjacent drainage ditches. Currently, water flow is restricted by accumulated sediment. Portions of wetland pastures within the project area are regularly inundated with water during winter months.

Sediment would be removed to restore the waterway to the original dimensions of 2-6 feet wide on the bottom, 10-12 feet wide on the top, and 1-6 feet deep. The excavated material would be placed alongside the waterways or on existing dikes until dry, then thin-spread not greater than 3-inches over adjacent wetland pastures. The work would be accomplished using an excavator working from existing dikes and farm roads, or from pastures along the Slough. Material would be thin-spread using a cat to push the dried material over the pasture.

Purpose: Excavate accumulated sediment from existing waterways to facilitate proper flow patterns and maintain pastures for grazing and hay production.

Drawing(s): Four (4) Drawings are included.

Additional Information: Additional information may be obtained from Ms. Lisa Grudzinski, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (541) 756-5316, or lisa.a.grudzinski@nwp01.usace.army.mil.

Authority: This permit will be issued or denied under the following:

Section 404, Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), for discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

Sediment Testing: Sediment is composed primarily of silt and sand sized particles, likely from localized sources such as upriver logging and agricultural operations. The project area was last dredged approximately 6 years ago, and is expected to require future maintenance dredging approximately 4 years. No chemicals, pesticides, or herbicides are used on the property, and there are no known sources of pollutants in the vicinity of the project. A final decision regarding sediment testing is pending.

Water Quality Certification: A permit for the described work will not be issued until certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L. 95-217), has been received or is waived from the certifying state. Attached is the state's notice advertising the request for certification.

Section 404(b)(1) Evaluation: The impact of the activity on the public interest will be evaluated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency guidelines pursuant to Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

Coastal Zone Management Act Certification: A permit for the described work will not be issued until the state has concurred with the applicant's certification that the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the State Coastal Zone Management Program. Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3) requires the applicant to provide a Certification of Consistency statement. If the state fails to concur or object to the certification statement within six months, state concurrence shall be conclusively presumed. Attached to this Public Notice is a notice of application for Certification of Consistency with the State's Coastal Zone Management Program.

Public Hearing: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Endangered Species: Preliminary determinations indicate that the described activity will not affect endangered species, or their critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). Formal consultation under Section 7 of the Act is not required for the described activity.

Cultural Resources: The described activity is not located on property registered or eligible for registration in the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places. This notice has been provided to the State Historic Preservation Office.

Evaluation: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the described 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 described activity, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the described activity 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, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

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 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 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.

Additional Requirements: State law requires that leases, easements, or permits be obtained for certain works or activity in the described waters. These State requirements must be met, where applicable, and a Department of the Army permit must be obtained before any work within the applicable Statutory Authority, previously indicated, may be accomplished. Other local governmental agencies may also have ordinances or requirements, which must be satisfied before the work is accomplished.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Water Quality 401 Certification

Corps of Engineers Action ID Number: 200200638

Notice Issued: August 13, 2004

Oregon Department of State Lands Number: RF-33005 **Written Comments Due:** September 10, 2004

WHO IS THE APPLICANT: Catching Slough Drainage District

LOCATION OF CERTIFICATION ACTIVITY: See attached U.S. Army Corps of Engineers public notice.

WHAT IS PROPOSED: See attached U.S. Army Corps of Engineers public notice on the proposed project

NEED FOR CERTIFICATION: Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act requires applicants for Federal permits or licenses to provide the Federal agency a water quality certification from the State of Oregon if the proposed activity may result in a discharge to surface waters.

DESCRIPTION OF DISCHARGES: See attached U.S. Army Corps of Engineers public notice on the proposed project.

WHERE TO FIND DOCUMENTS: Documents and related material are available for examination and copying at Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Division, 811 S.W. 6th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204-1390.

While not required, scheduling an appointment will ensure documents are readily accessible during your visit. To schedule an appointment please call Ms. Alice Kavajecz at (503) 229-6962.

Any questions on the proposed certification may be addressed to the 401 Program Coordinator at (503) 229-5408.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Public Hearing: Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 340-48-0020 (6) states that "The Director shall provide an opportunity for the applicant, any affected state, or any interested agency, person, or group of persons to request or petition for a public hearing with respect to certification applications. If the Director determines that new information may be produced thereby, a public hearing will be held prior to the Director's final determination. Instances of doubt shall be resolved in favor of holding the hearing. There shall be public notice of such a hearing."

Written comments:

Written comments on the proposed certification must be received at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality by 5 p.m. on **September 10, 2004**. Written comments should be mailed to Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Attn: 401 Program Coordinator, 811 S.W. 6th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204-1390 or faxed to (503) 229-5408.. ***People wishing to send written comments via e-mail should be aware that if there is a delay between servers or if a server is not functioning properly, e-mails may not be received prior to the close of the public comment period.*** People wishing to send comments via e-mail should send them in Microsoft Word (through version 7.0), WordPerfect (through version 6.x) or plain text format to 401publiccomment@deq.state.or.us. Otherwise, due to conversion difficulties, DEQ recommends that comments be sent in hard copy.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT: DEQ will review and consider all comments received during the public comment period. Following this review, the permit may be issued as proposed, modified, or denied. You will be notified of DEQ's final decision if you present either oral or written comments during the comment period. Otherwise, if you wish to receive notification, please call or write DEQ at the above address.

ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION: This publication is available in alternate format (e.g. large print, Braille) upon request. Please contact DEQ Office of Communications and Outreach at (503) 229-5317 or toll free within Oregon at (800) 452-4011 to request an alternate format. People with a hearing impairment can receive help by calling DEQ's TTY at (503) 229-6993.

PUBLIC NOTICE

OREGON COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION

Date: August 10, 2004

Corps of Engineers Action ID Number: 200200638

Oregon Department of State Lands Number: RF-33005

NOTIFICATION

For projects subject to coastal zone review, notice is hereby given that the project is being reviewed by the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) as provided in Section 307(c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act. The applicant believes that the activities described in the attached materials would comply with and be conducted in a manner consistent with the Oregon Coastal Management Program. Project information can be made available for inspection at DLCD's Salem office.

DLCD is hereby soliciting public comments on the proposed project's consistency with the Oregon Coastal Management Program. Written comments may be submitted to DLCD, 635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150, Salem, OR 97301-2540, attention consistency review specialist. Any comments must be received by DLCD on or before the comment deadline listed in the federal notice. For further information, you may call DLCD at (503) 373-0050, ext. 253.

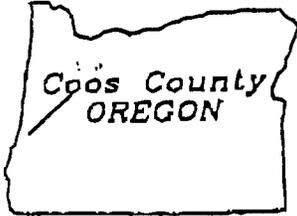
REVIEW CRITERIA

Comments should address consistency with the applicable elements of the Oregon Coastal Management Program. These elements include the following:

- Acknowledged Local Comprehensive Plans & Implementing Ordinances
- Statewide Planning Goals
- Applicable State Authorities (e.g. Removal-Fill Law and Oregon Water Quality Standards)

INCONSISTENT?

If you believe this project is inconsistent with the Oregon Coastal Management Program, your comments to DLCD should explain why you believe the project is inconsistent and should identify the Oregon Coastal Management Program element(s) in question. You should also describe how the project could be modified, if possible, to make it consistent with the Oregon Coastal Management



LOCATION INFORMATION
SE 1/4 Sec. 12 and NE 1/4 Sec. 13
T. 26 south, R. 13 west, W.M.
Latitude 43° 19'
Longitude 124° 11'

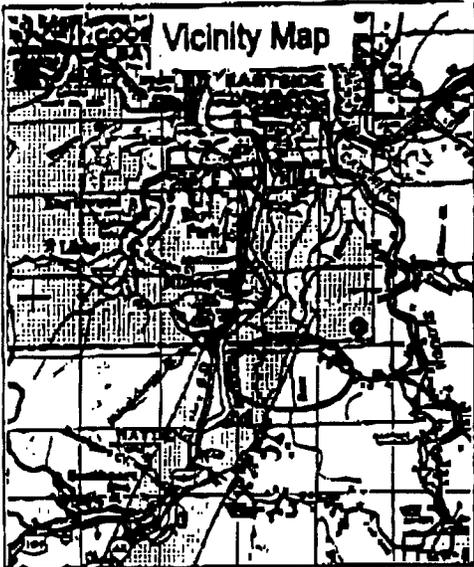
VICINITY



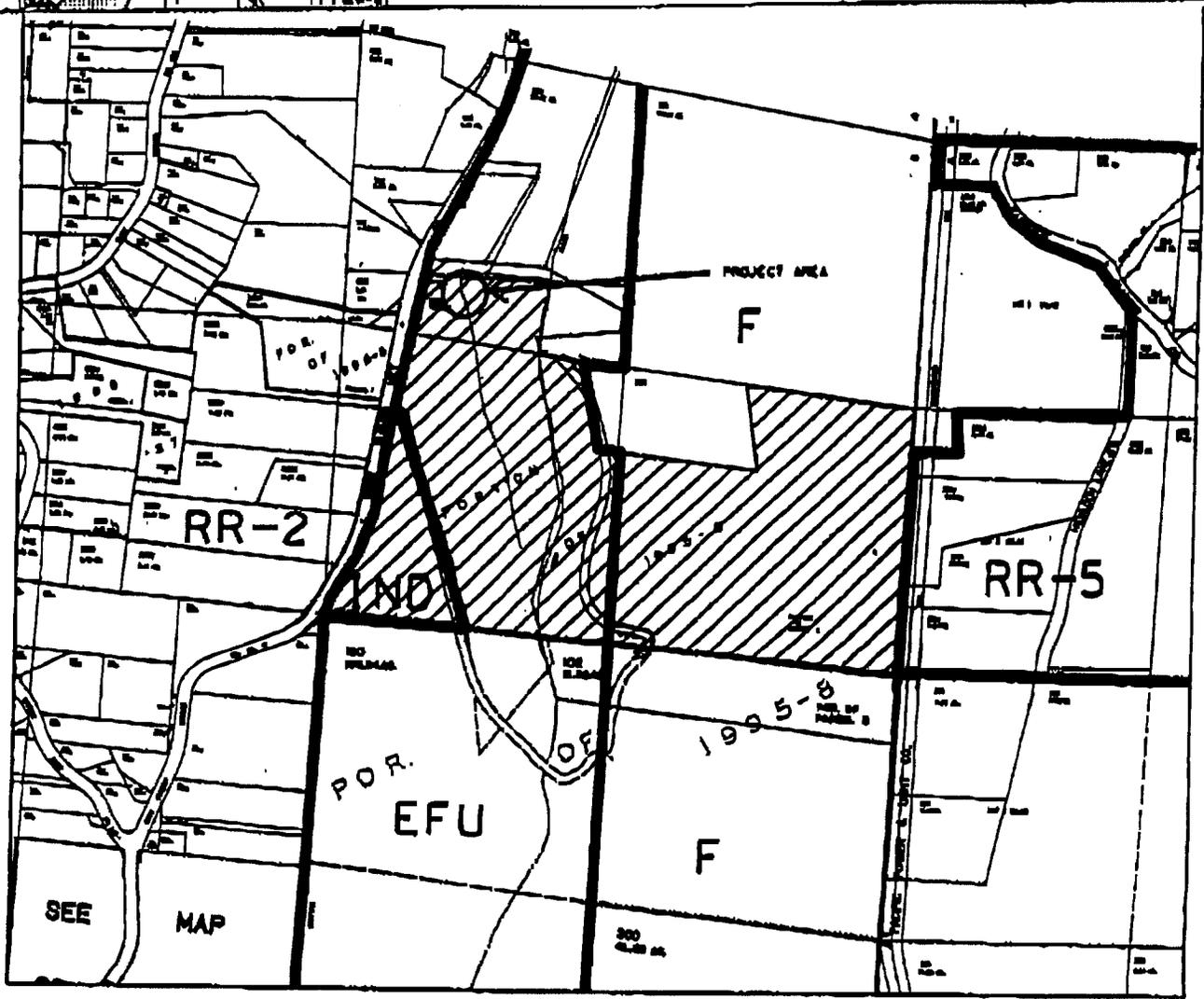
LOCATION

(From USGS, Coos Bay 7.5 Minute Quad)

Proposed Sediment Removal
Ross Slough, Coos County, Oregon
By: Catching Slough Drainage District
Gordon Ross, Agent
Sheet 1 of 2 -- June 22, 1998



Vicinity MAP

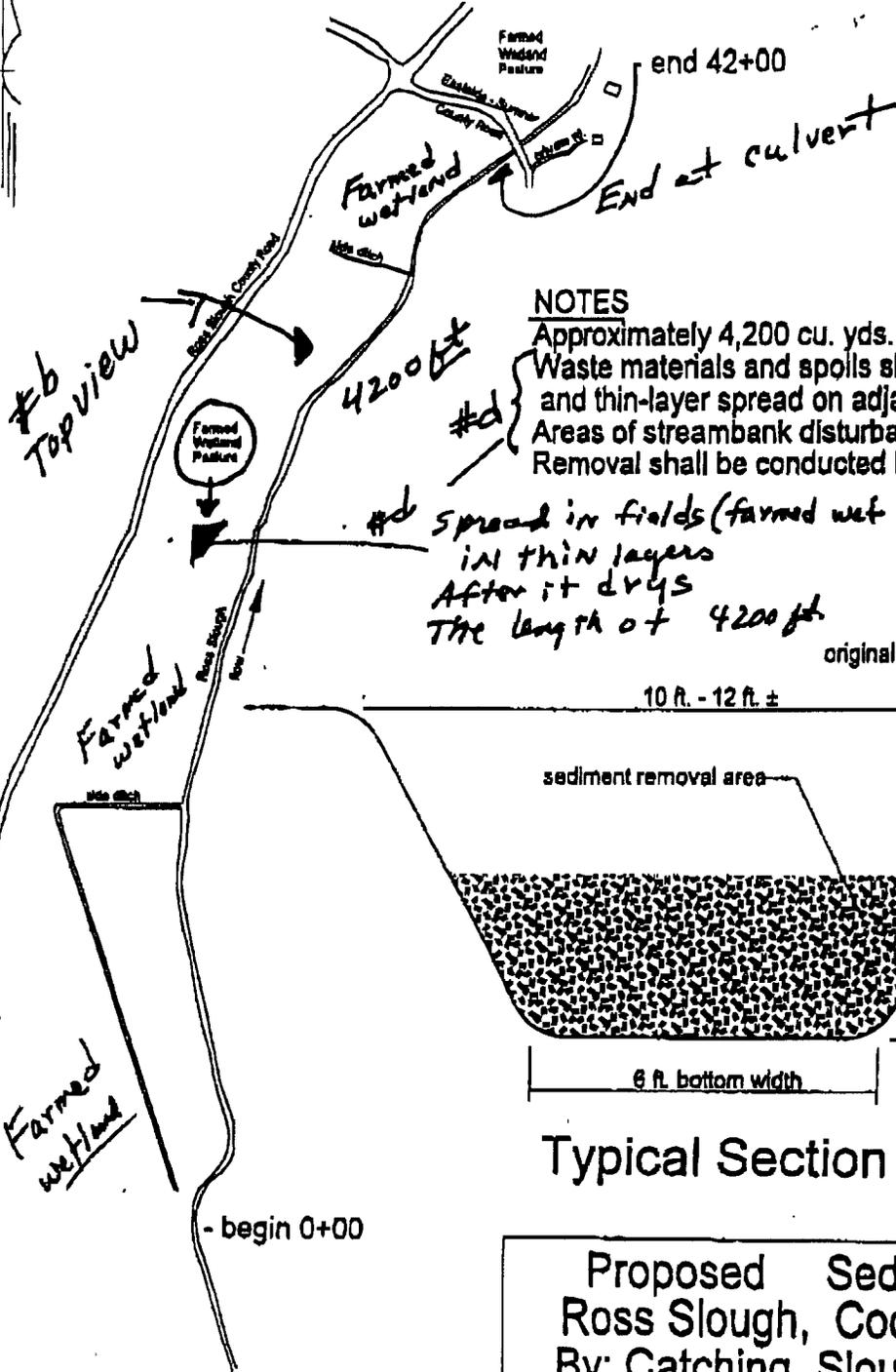


Scale One Inch = 800'

Subject Property = [hatched box symbol]



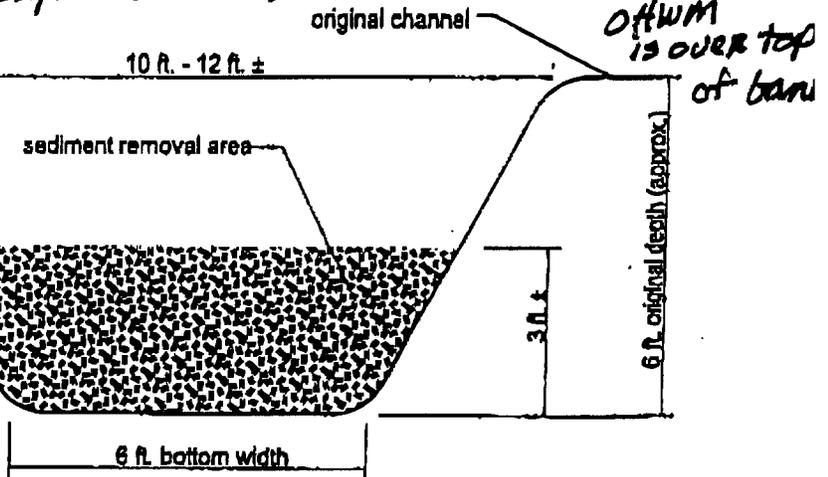
Plan View (not to scale)



NOTES

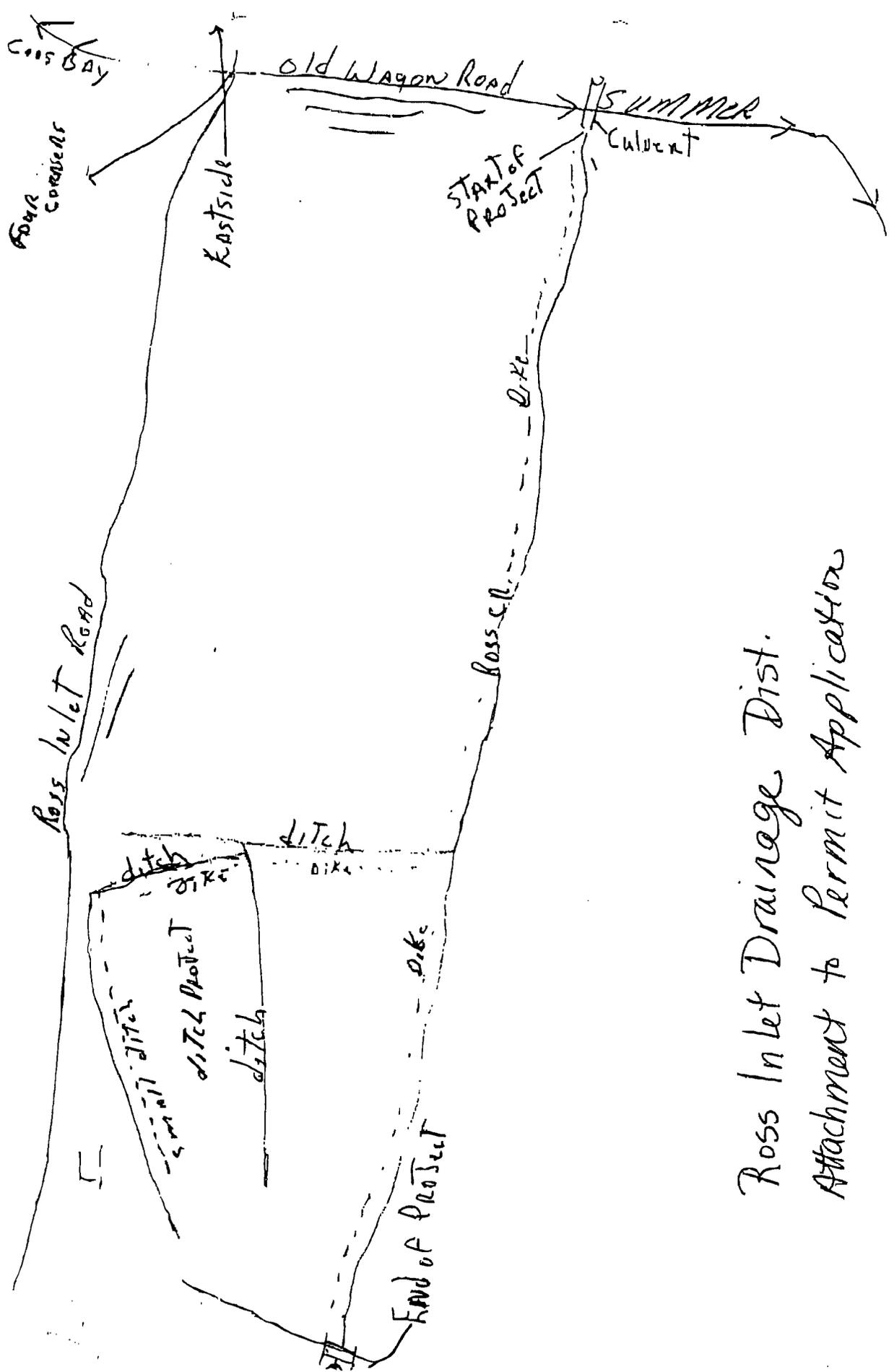
Approximately 4,200 cu. yds. removal
 Waste materials and spoils shall be placed above bankline
 and thin-layer spread on adjacent pastures
 Areas of streambank disturbance shall be seeded
 Removal shall be conducted between Jul. 1 and Sep. 15

#d spread in fields (farmed wet land)
 in thin layers
 After it dries
 The length of 4200 ft



Typical Section

Proposed Sediment Removal
 Ross Slough, Coos County, Oregon
 By: Catching Slough Drainage District
 Gordon Ross, Agent
 Sheet 2 of 2 -- June 22, 1998



Ross Inlet Drainage Dist.
 Attachment to Permit Application