



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Portland District

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## for Permit Application

**Issue Date:** July 13, 2004

**Expiration Date:** August 11, 2004

**Corps of Engineers Action ID:** 200400419

**Oregon Department of State Lands Number:** RF-32565

### 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 (Mr. Dominic Yballe)  
1600 Executive Parkway, Suite 210  
Eugene, Oregon 97401-2156

**Applicant:** Mr. Robert Copeland

**Location:** The site is in Section 13A, Township 36 South, Range 6 West; and in the city of Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon.

**Project Description:** The applicant proposes to place 1,021 cubic yards of development fill in 1.14 acres of wetland to build a 37 unit residential subdivision.

The onsite wetlands are characterized as Palustrine Emergent (PEM) in the northern portion of the site and Palustrine Forested (PFO) in the southern portion near Upper River Road. The Tokay Canal and Hillside Lateral Canal run through the site. Hydrological connections are maintained in a north-south direction from the canals through the wetlands and discharge into a stormwater conveyance system ultimately discharging back in the Rogue River. Historic disturbances have changed the vegetative dominance from native species to reed canarygrass and invasive shrubs, with various native trees adapted to the current hydrologic conditions.

The proposed activity will impact the northern portions of wetland, while preserving and enhancing the southern PFO and reed canarygrass dominated areas.

**Mitigation:** The applicant has provided a compensatory wetland mitigation plan to preserve 0.75-acre of wetland, enhance 0.60-acre of onsite wetlands, create 0.16-acre onsite wetlands, and create 1.17 acres of wetlands offsite. The offsite wetland mitigation will be part of a 5.35 acres wetland creation project designed as advanced mitigation for future projects.

If a permit is issued, the Corps will determine what is appropriate and practicable compensatory mitigation. The amount of compensatory mitigation required shall be commensurate with the expected impacts of the project.

**Purpose:** The purpose of the project is to build residential homes to meet the anticipated needs for new single-family housing.

**Drawings:** Eight (8) drawings are attached.

**Additional Information:** Additional information may be obtained from Mr. Dominic Yballe, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (541) 465-6894 or [dominic.p.yballe@nwp01.usace.army.mil](mailto:dominic.p.yballe@nwp01.usace.army.mil).

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

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

**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 (EPA) guidelines pursuant to Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

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

**Endangered Species:** Preliminary determinations indicate that the described activity may affect endangered species or their critical habitat designated as designated under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). A final permit decision will not be made until consultation as required under Section 7 of the Act is completed.

**Cultural Resources:** There are no recorded historic properties within the permit area. The permit area has been so extensively modified by modern development, there is little likelihood the proposed project will affect an undisturbed historic property or other type of cultural resource.

**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.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)**  
**Water Quality 401 Certification**

**Corps of Engineers Action ID Number:** 200400419

**Notice Issued:** July 13, 2004

**Oregon Department of State Lands Number:** RF-32565

**Written Comments Due:** August 11, 2004

**WHO IS THE APPLICANT:** Mr. Robert Copeland

**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. Sixth 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, (503) 229-5845 or toll free within Oregon at 1-800-452-4011. People with hearing impairments may call DEQ's TTY at (503) 229-6993.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

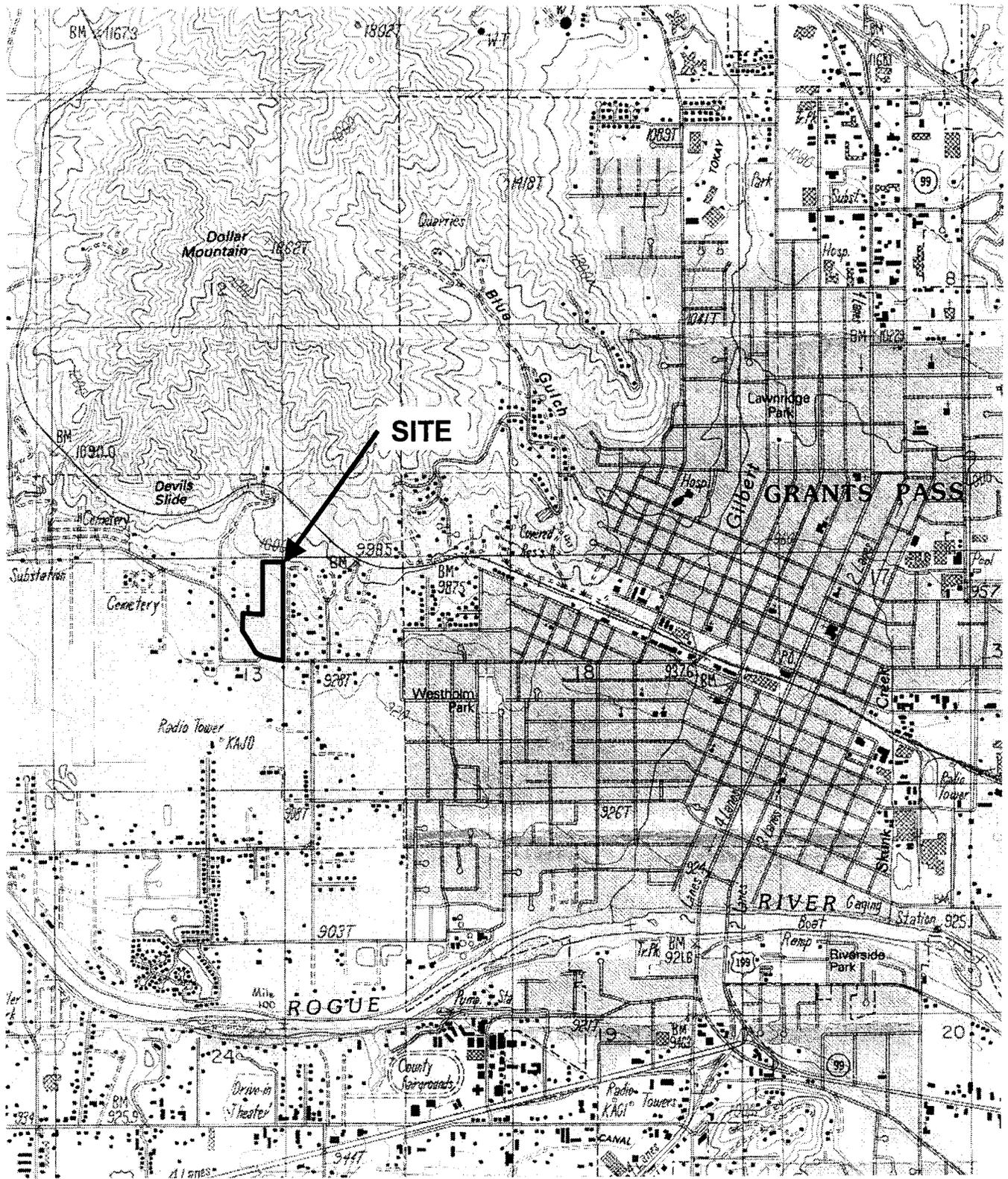
**Public Hearing:** Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 340-48-0020 (6) states that "The Director shall provide an opportunity for the applicant, any affected state, or any interested agency, person, or group of persons to request or petition for a public hearing with respect to certification applications. 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 **August 11, 2004**. Written comments should be mailed to Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Attn: 401 Program Coordinator, 811 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204-1390 or faxed to (503) 229-6124. ***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 at [401publiccomments@deq.state.or.us](mailto:401publiccomments@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 Public Affairs at (503) 229-5766 or toll free within Oregon at 1-800-452-4011 to request an alternate format. People with a hearing impairment can receive help by calling DEQ's TTY at (503) 229-6993.



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Location and general topography of the proposed River Road Estates (tax lots 1100 and 1200) in Grants Pass, Oregon (USGS, Grants Pass, Oregon quadrangle, Provisional Edition, 1986).

FIGURE  
1





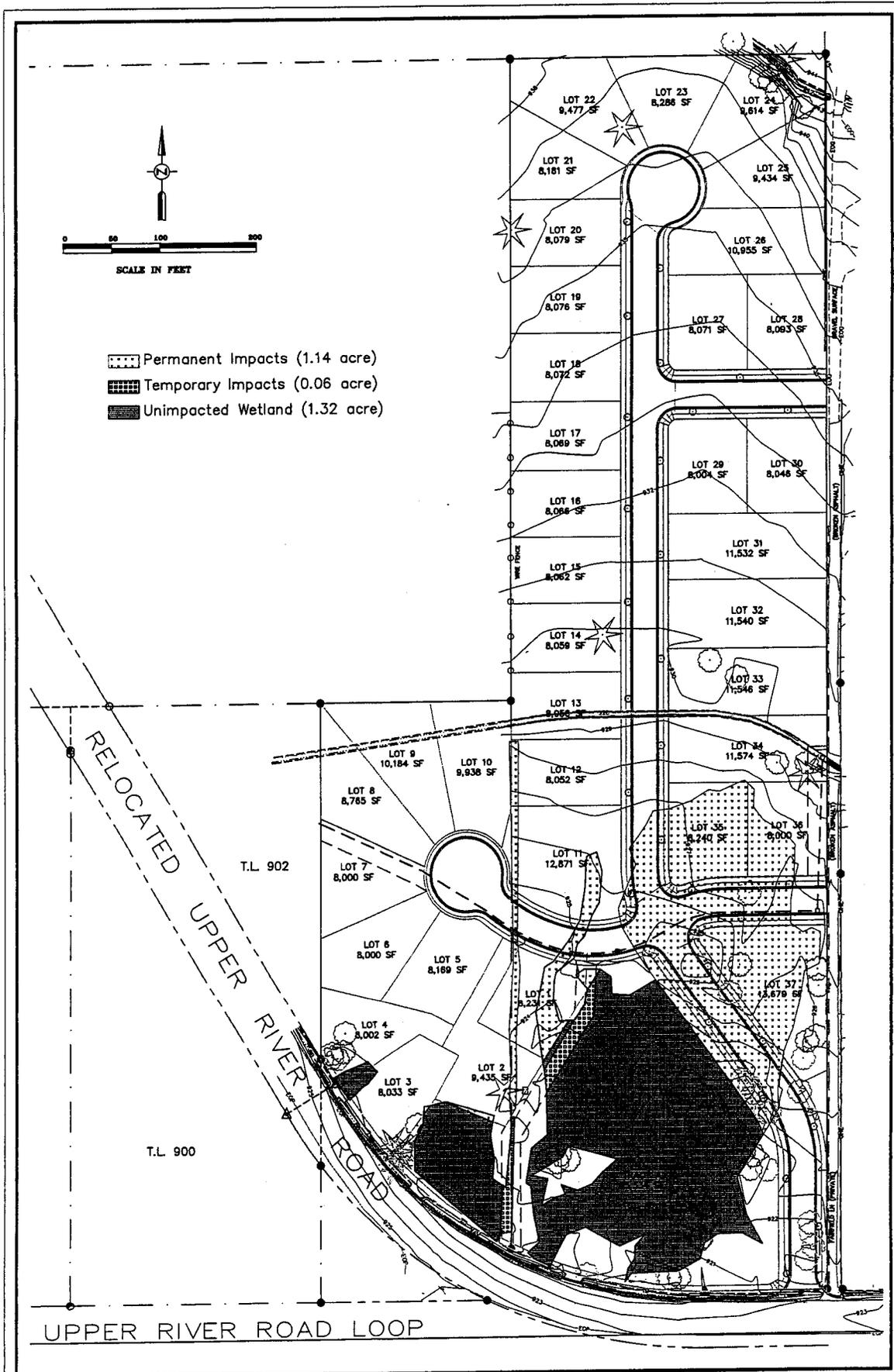
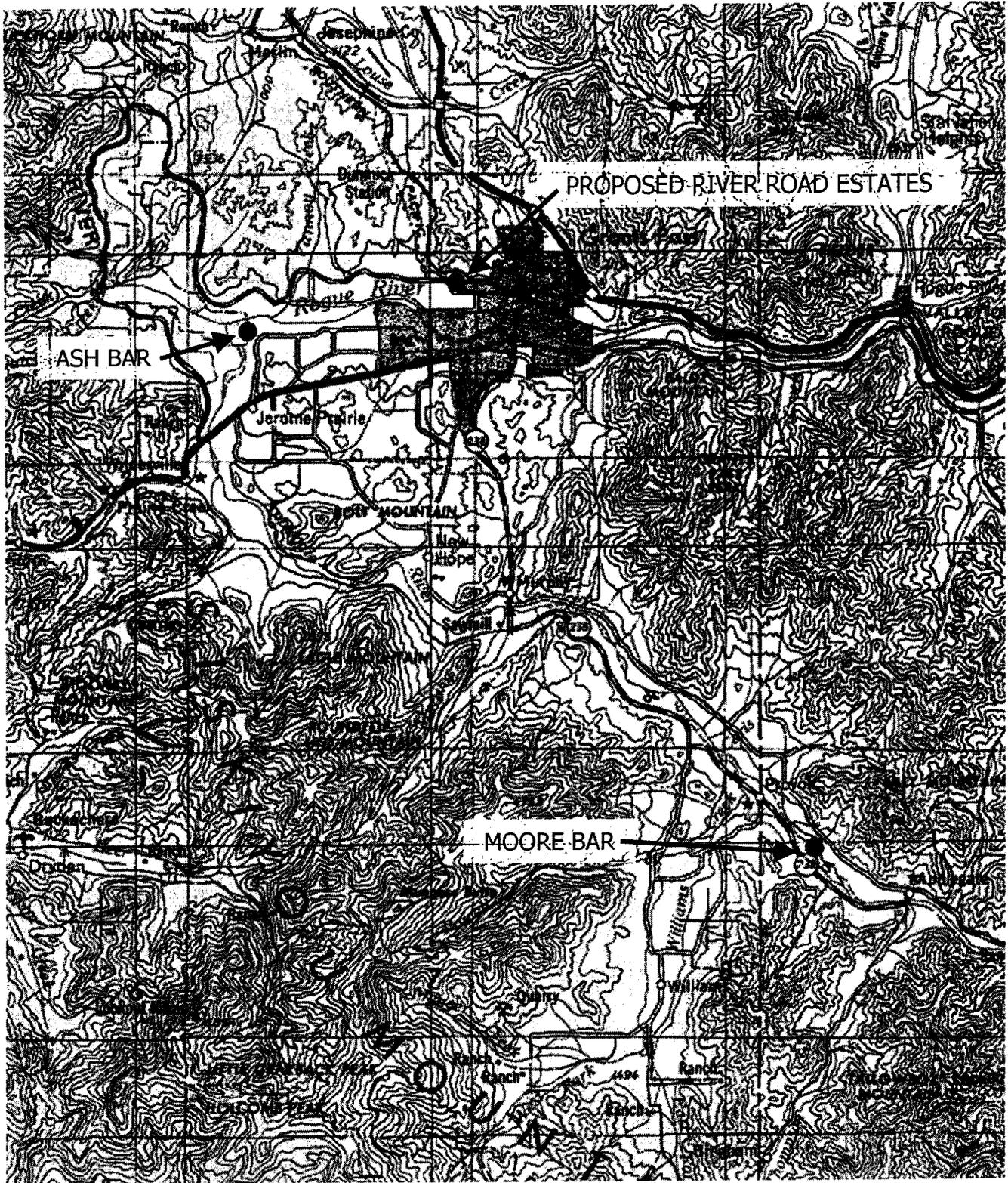


FIGURE  
5

Proposed 37-lot development (alternative #3) showing permanent and temporary impacts, wetland to remain, and cross-section locations at River Road Estates in Grants Pass, Oregon (plan provided by Reece and Associates, 2004).

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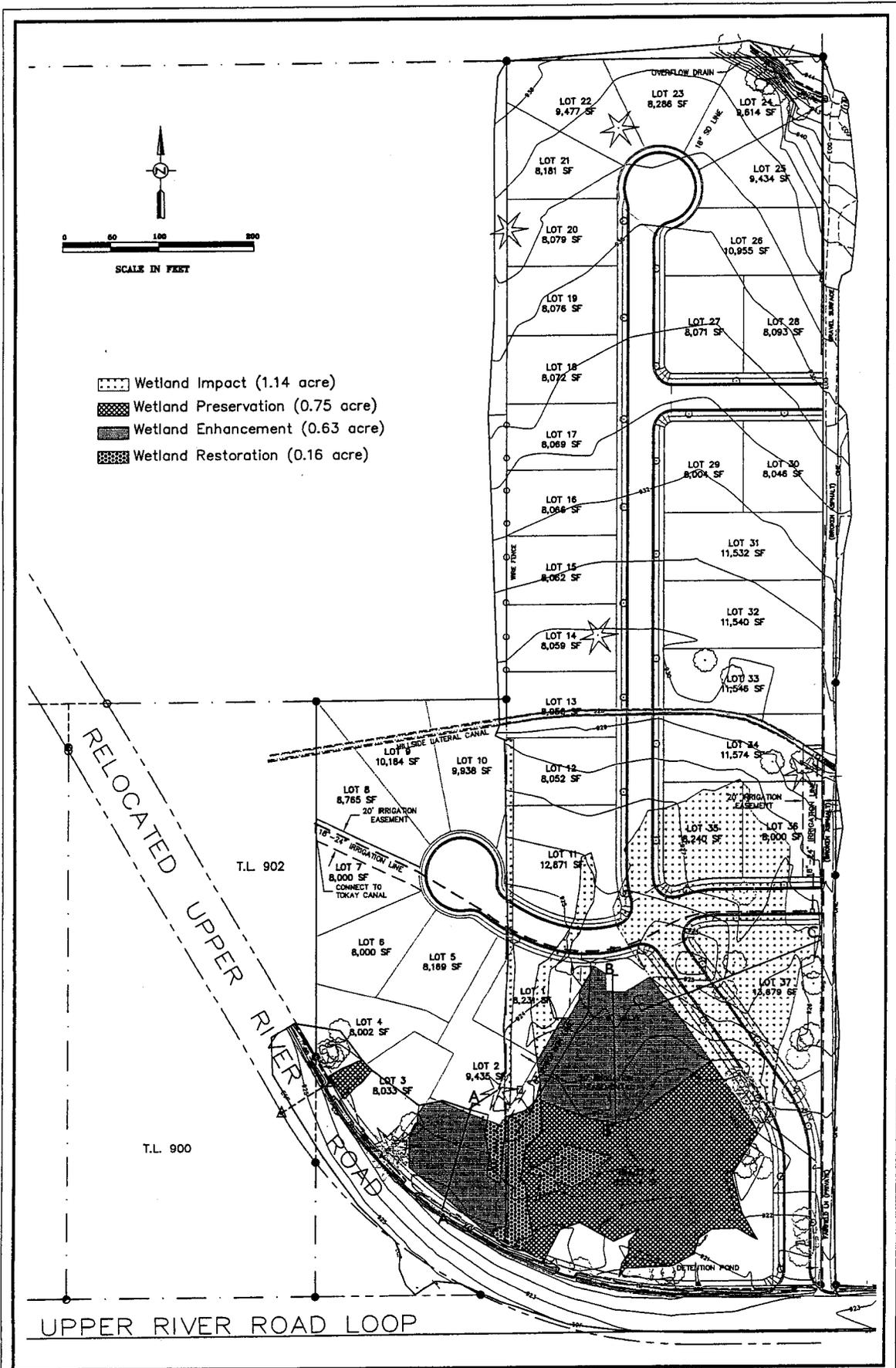
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Location and general topography of the proposed River Road Estates, the off-site mitigation area at Ash Bar, and the reference site at Moore Bar (Topozone, 1:250K series, 2004).

FIGURE  
6

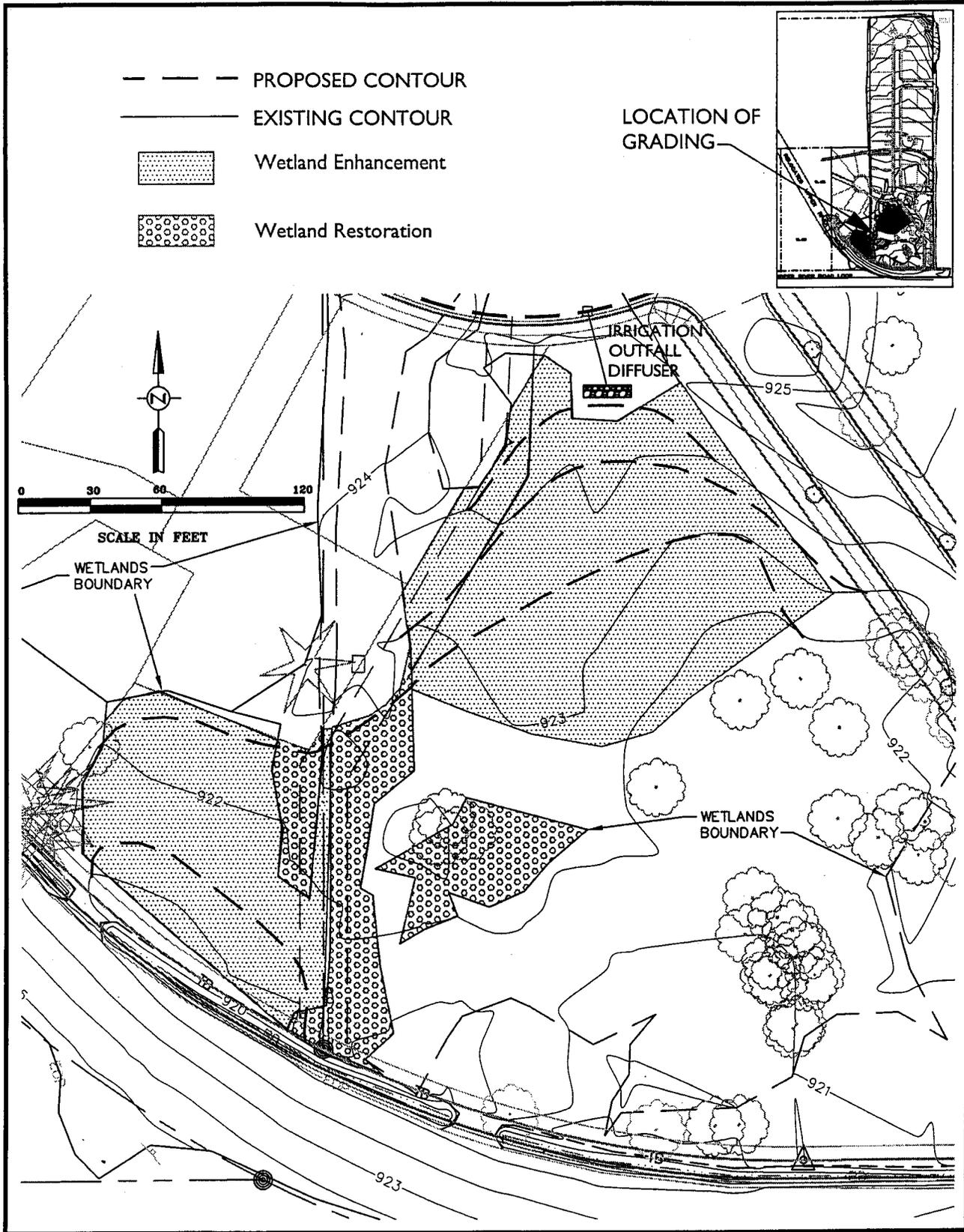


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**FIGURE 7**  
 Proposed 37-lot development (alternative #3) showing wetland mitigation plan at River Road Estates in Grants Pass, Oregon (plan provided by Reece and Associates, 2004). Cross-sections A-A', B-B' and C-C' are on figures 8A and 8B.  
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Proposed grading plan for on-site wetland mitigation at River Road Estates in Grants Pass, Oregon (base map provided by Reece and Associates, 2004).

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FIGURE

8

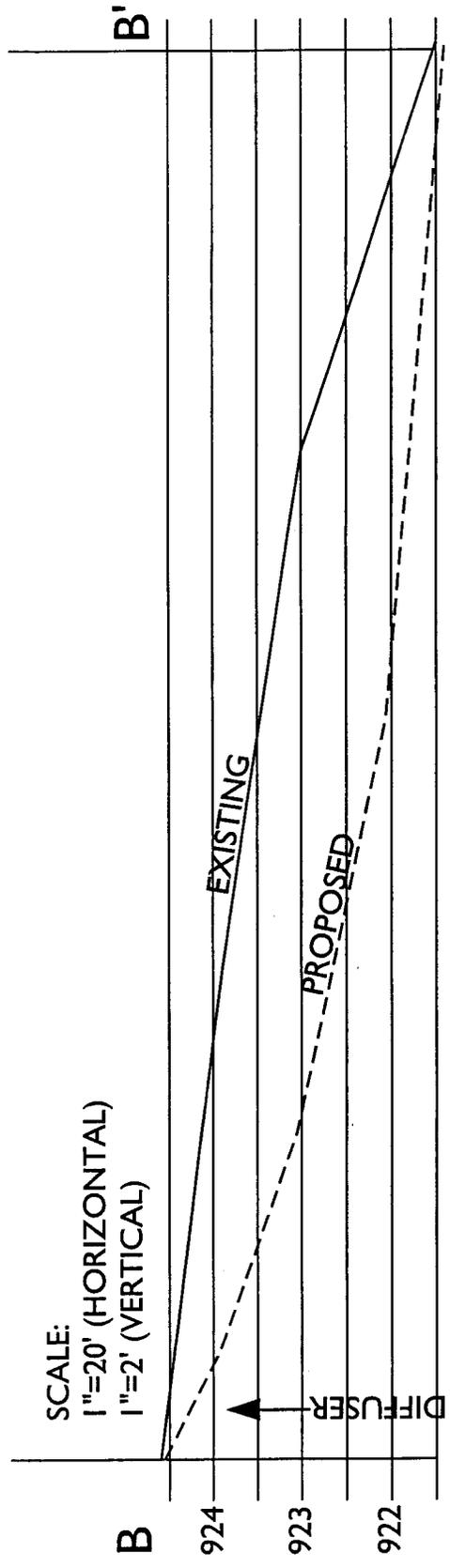
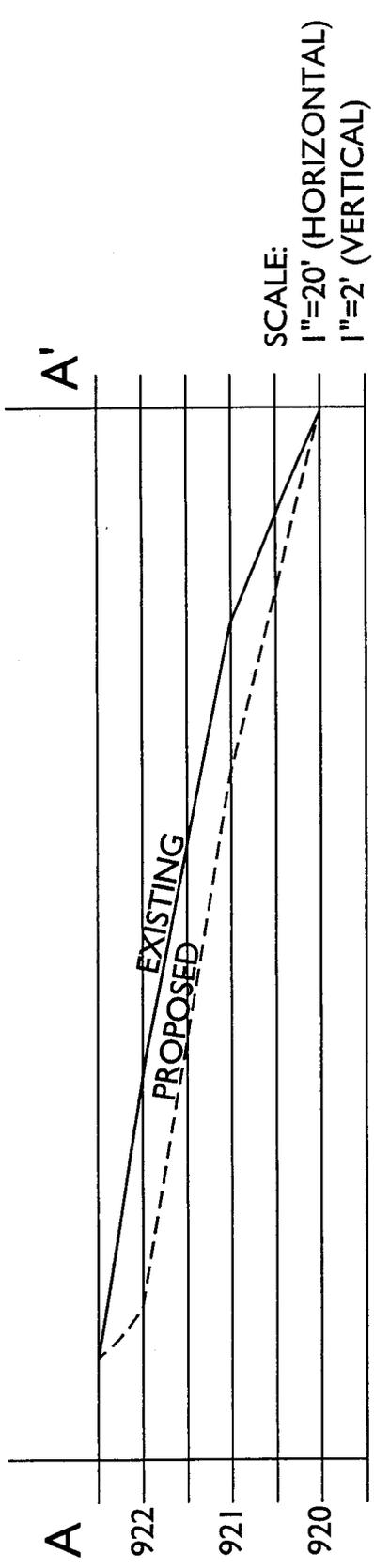


FIGURE  
8A

Cross-sections A-A' and B-B' showing proposed and existing on-site contours at the proposed River Road Estates in Grants Pass, Oregon.

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WETLAND CUTS AND FILLS TABLE

| LOT #   | ELEVATION | NET CUT/FILL |
|---------|-----------|--------------|
| 1       | 926.50    | 322 CY FILL  |
| 2       | 924.00    | 12 CY FILL   |
| 11      | 926.50    | 18 CY FILL   |
| 12      | 926.50    | 78 CY FILL   |
| 36      | 927.50    | 57 CY FILL   |
| 37      | 927.50    | 530 CY FILL  |
| STREETS | VARIED    | 4 CY FILL    |

TOTAL: 1,021 CY FILL

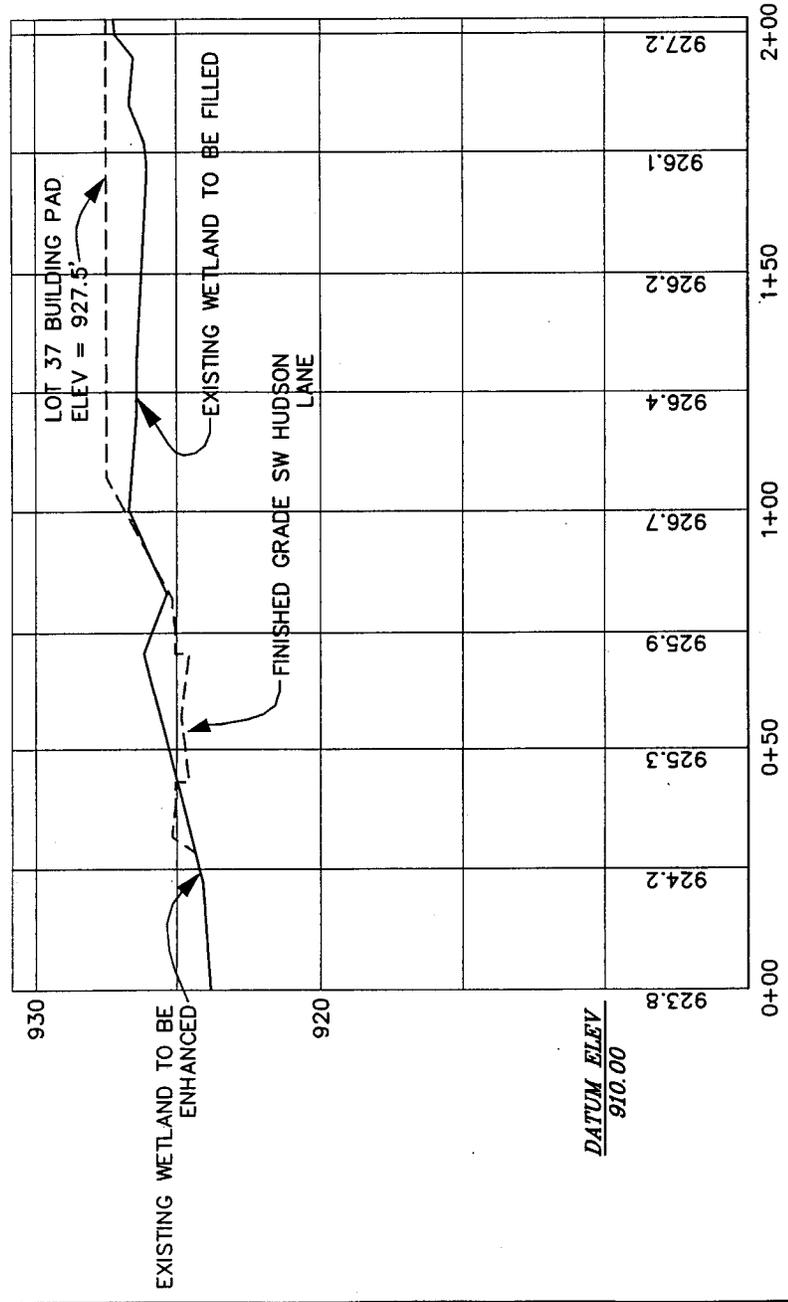


FIGURE 8B

Cross-section C-C' showing proposed and existing on-site contours across tax lot 37 and SW Hudson Lane at the proposed River Road Estates in Grants Pass, Oregon (cross-section provided by David Reece and Associates, 2004).

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