

# PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
New York District  
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building  
New York, N.Y. 10278-0090  
ATTN: Regulatory Branch

**In replying refer to:**  
Public Notice Number:2005-00262-YN  
Issue Date:AUGUST 22, 2005  
Expiration Date:SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

**To Whom It May Concern:**

The New York District, Corps of Engineers 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).

**APPLICANT:** U.S. General Services Administration  
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building  
26 Federal Plaza, Room 1639  
New York, NY 10278

**ACTIVITY:** Discharge fill material into waters of the United States to expand an existing United States Port of Entry facility.

**WATERWAY:** Unnamed Tributary in the Lake Champlain River Basin

**LOCATION:** Town of Champlain, Clinton County, New York.

A detailed description and plans of the applicant's activity are enclosed to assist in your 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, 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, considerations 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 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.

**ALL COMMENTS REGARDING THE PERMIT APPLICATION MUST BE PREPARED IN WRITING AND MAILED TO REACH THIS OFFICE BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE,**  
otherwise, it will be presumed that there are no objections to the activity.

**CENAN-OP-RW**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 2005-00262-YN**

Any person may request, in writing, before this public notice expires, that a public hearing be held to collect information necessary to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons why a public hearing should be held. It should be noted that information submitted by mail is considered just as carefully in the permit decision process and bears the same weight as that furnished at a public hearing.

Our preliminary determination is that the activity for which authorization is sought herein is not likely to affect any Federally endangered or threatened species or their critical habitat. However, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531), the District Engineer is consulting with the appropriate Federal agency to determine the presence of and potential impacts to listed species in the project area or their critical habitat.

Based upon a review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, there are no known sites eligible for, or included in, the Register within the permit area. Presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost by work accomplished under the required permit.

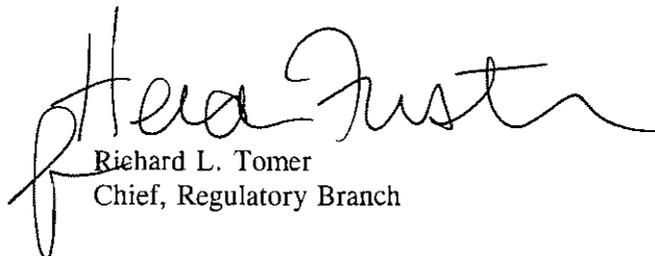
Reviews of activities pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 (b) of the Clean Water Act and the applicant will obtain a water quality certificate or waiver from the appropriate state agency in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act prior to a permit decision.

In addition to any required water quality certificate, the applicant has obtained or requested the following governmental authorization for the activity under consideration:

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation - SPDES General Permit**

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the activity to any persons known by you to be interested and who did not receive a copy of this notice. If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact this office at (518) 273-7420 and ask for Kevin Bruce.

For more information on New York District Corps of Engineers programs, visit our website at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>



Richard L. Tomer  
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

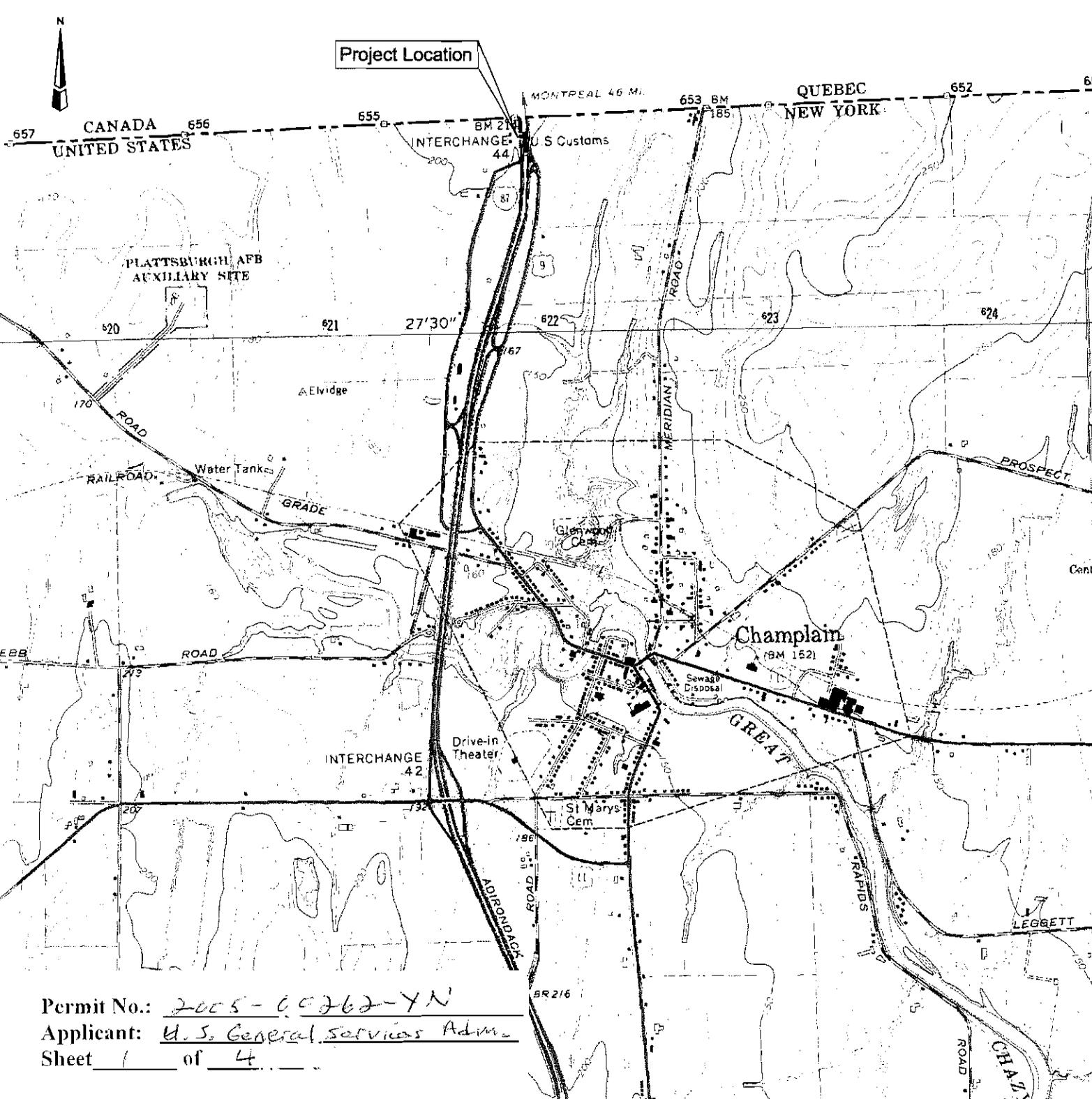
**WORK DESCRIPTION**

The applicant, United States General Services Administration, has requested Department of the Army authorization for the discharge of fill material into waters of the United States to facilitate the expansion of an existing U.S. Port of Entry facility located in the Town of Champlain, Clinton County, New York. The stated purpose of the project is to expand the infrastructure of the existing facility to improve safety conditions and the operations of Federal border agencies.

The expansion of the Champlain Border Facility is being conducted in three phases. Previous work conducted in Phase I and proposed work for Phase II do not involve impacts to waters of the United States. Phase III includes the construction of a new passenger vehicle inspection area, administration building, export control building, veterinary services facility, visitor parking, and improvements to existing roadways and the primary inspection area.

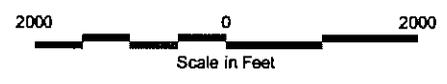
The proposed Phase III work would involve the discharge of fill material into 1.2 acres of emergent wetland, consisting primarily of narrow-leaved cattail and silky dogwood. The hydrology for this wetland is provided from stormwater runoff from the existing I-87 roadway and border station facilities.

To mitigate for the proposed impacts to aquatic resources, the applicant proposes to establish 1.2 acres of emergent and shrub wetland on-site. The hydrology for this wetland will utilize stormwater runoff from the surfaces of the proposed expansion.



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 Applicant: U.S. General Services Admin.  
 Sheet 1 of 4

**PROJECT LOCATION**



**Expansion of Champlain  
 Port of Entry**

Champlain, Clinton County,  
 New York

**GSA**  
 General Services Administration  
 Region 2  
 26 Federal Plaza  
 New York, NY 10028

EXISTING I-87 NORTHBOUND (NB)

EXISTING EAST SERVICE ROAD

EXISTING WETLAND

DITCH

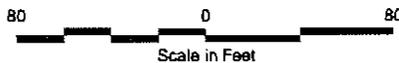
SITE PLAN

Existing Wetland

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Sheet 2 of 4



### EXISTING CONDITIONS



### Expansion of Champlain Port of Entry

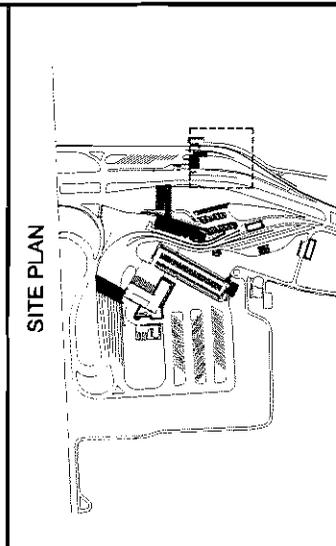
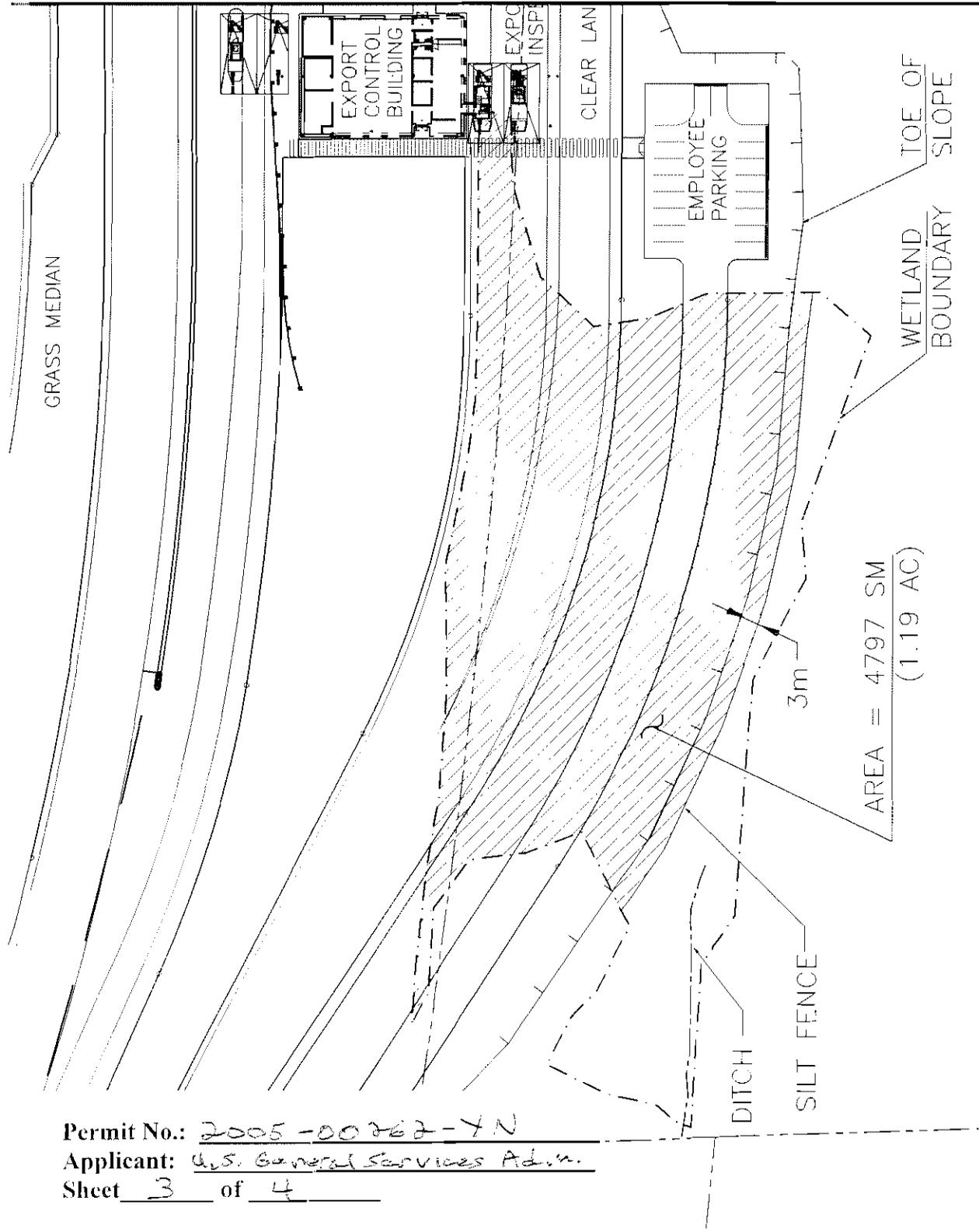
Champlain, Clinton County,  
New York

Figure 3

June 2005



General Services Administration  
Region 2  
26 Federal Plaza  
New York, NY 10028

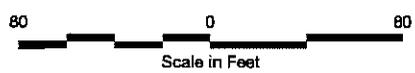


Wetland Impact Area



Permit No.: 2005-00762-YN  
 Applicant: U.S. General Services Admin.  
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**WETLAND IMPACTS**



**Expansion of Champlain Port of Entry**

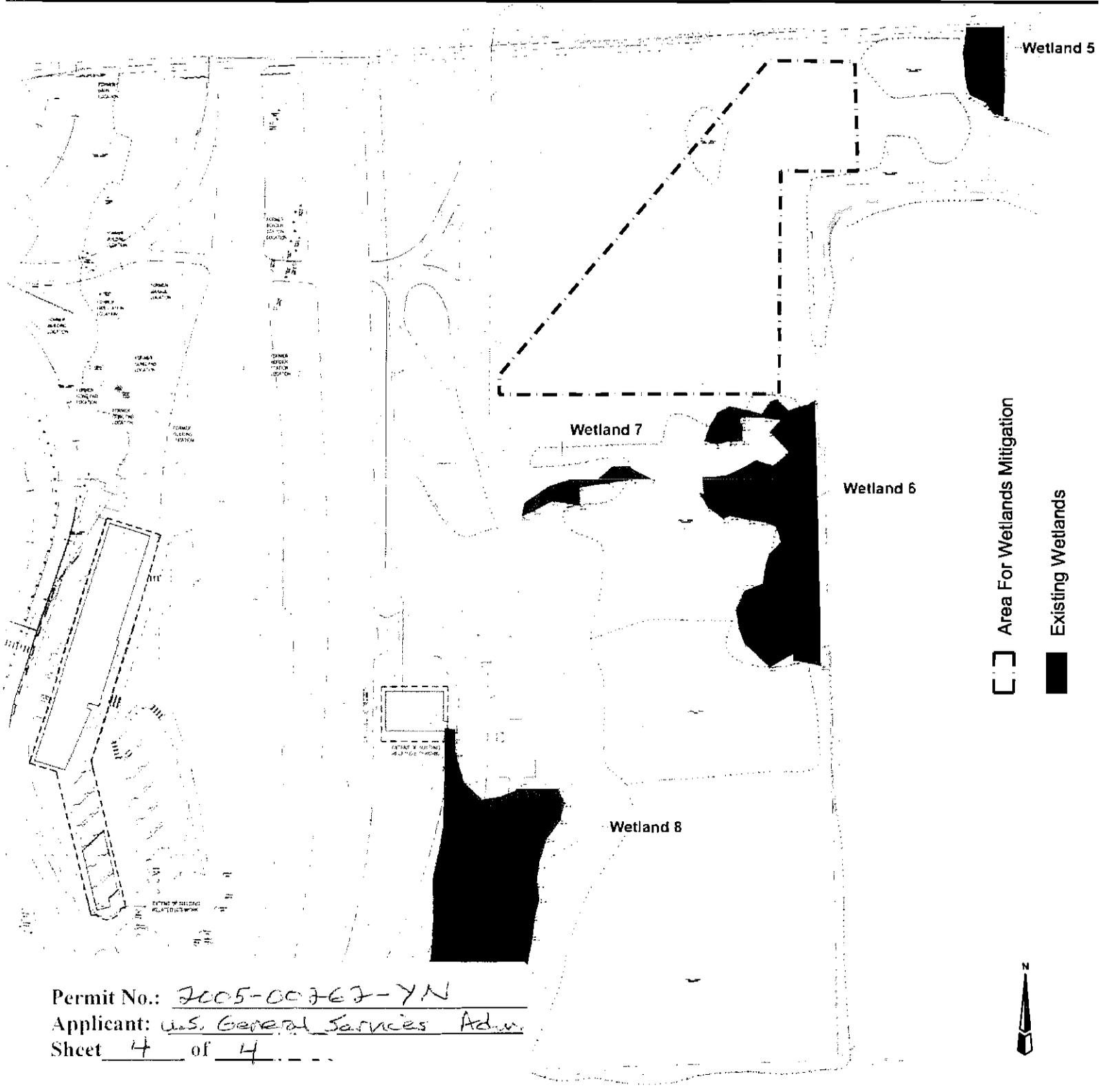
Champlain, Clinton County, New York



General Services Administration  
 Region 2  
 26 Federal Plaza  
 New York, NY 10028

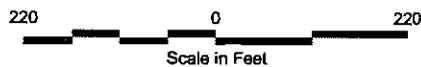
Figure 2

June 2005



Permit No.: 2005-00767-YN  
 Applicant: U.S. General Services Admin.  
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**PROPOSED WETLANDS  
 MITIGATION AREA**



**Expansion of Champlain  
 Port of Entry**

Champlain, Clinton County,  
 New York

Figure 4

June 2005



General Services Administration  
 Region 2  
 26 Federal Plaza  
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