

PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New York District, CENAN-OP-RU Upstate Regulatory Field Office 1 Buffington Street, Bldg. 10, 3rd Fl. North Watervliet, New York 12189-4000

In replying refer to:
Public Notice Number: NAN-2022-00639-UDO

Issue Date: October 7, 2024 Expiration Date: November 6, 2024

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: General Services Administration

One World Trade Center, 55th Floor

New York, New York 10007

ACTIVITY: Discharge of fill material into waters of the United States to facilitate the upgrade

of the United States Land Port of Entry at Rouses Point

WATERWAY: Unnamed tributaries and adjacent wetlands (Lake Champlain Watershed)

LOCATION: St. John's Highway, Champlain and Rouses Point, Clinton County, NY

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 SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO <u>DUSTIN.A.DORR@USACE.ARMY.MIL</u>, OR PREPARED IN WRITING AND MAILED TO

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THE ATTENTION OF DUSTIN DORR AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS, TO REACH THIS OFFICE BY THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THIS NOTICE, otherwise, it will be presumed that there are no objections to the activity.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be fully considered during the public interest review for this permit application. Comments provided will become part of the public record for this permit application. All written comments, including contact information, will be made a part of the administrative record, available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act. The Administrative Record, or portions thereof, may also be posted on a Corps of Engineers internet web site. Due to resource limitations, this office will normally not acknowledge the receipt of comments or respond to individual letters of comment.

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 email is considered just as carefully in the permit decision process and bears the same weight as that furnished at a public hearing.

The Project is being funded by the General Services Administration (GSA) using funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act. The GSA is the lead federal agency for this project and is responsible for coordinating review in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

GSA initiated consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531), with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on September 30, 2022. The GSA made a determination that USFWS ESA-listed species were not present at the project site. Most recently, on August 16, 2024, USFWS concurred with GSA's determination.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, GSA initiated consultation with the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on May 20, 2022. In a letter dated November 10, 2023, the NYSHPO stated that no historic properties, including archaeological and/or historic resources, will be adversely affected. GSA has determined that no historic properties, including archaeological and/or historic resources, will be adversely affected by the proposed project.

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 and coastal zone management program concurrence, the applicant has obtained or requested the following governmental authorization for the activity under consideration:

• New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

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. Please send all comments and guestions concerning this application to Dustin.A.Dorr@usace.army.mil.

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In order for us to better serve you, please complete our Customer Service Survey located at http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/CustomerSurvey.aspx.

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

FOR AND IN BEHALF OF

Amy L. Gitchell

Stephan A. Ryba

Chief, Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

CENAN-OP-RU PUBLIC NOTICE NO. NAN-2022-00639-UDO

WORK DESCRIPTION

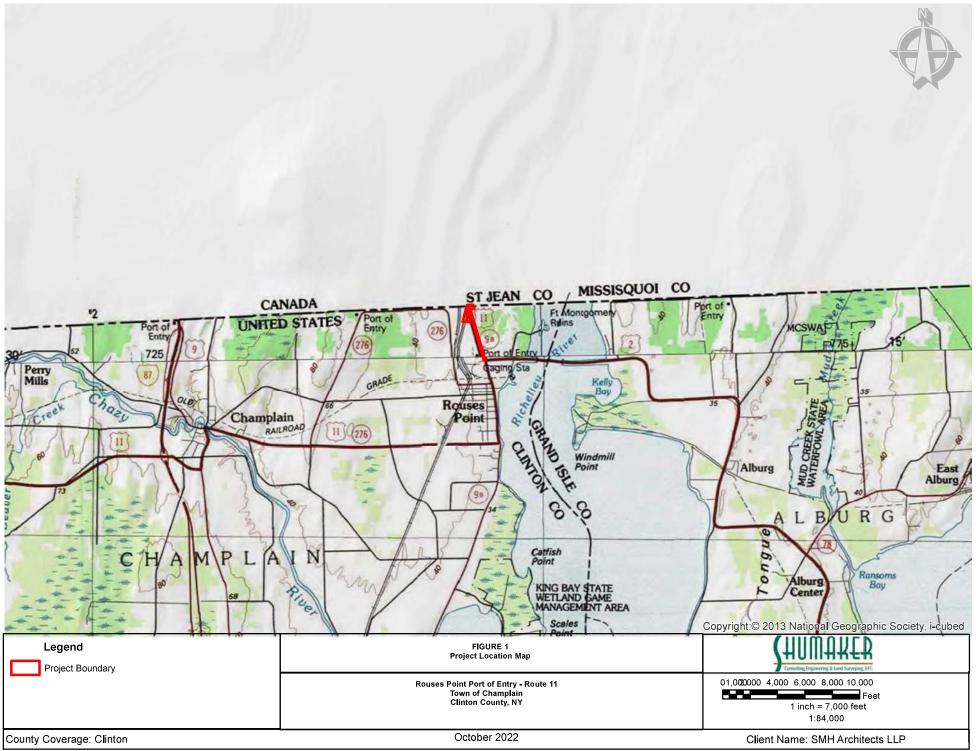
The permit applicant, General Services Administration, has requested Department of the Army (DA) authorization to construct a new Land Port of Entry (LPOE) at the United States and Canada border along United States Route 11 (St. John's Highway), in the Town of Champlain and the Village of Rouses Point, Clinton County, New York. The proposed work would involve the following:

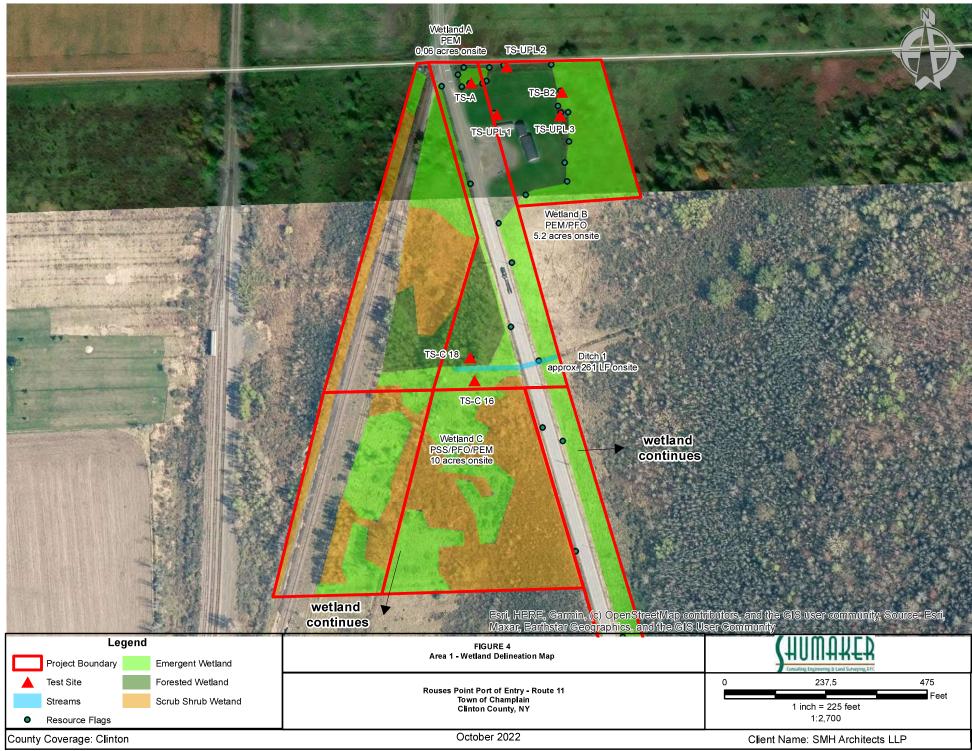
The construction of a new LPOE facility, including a new building, asphalt parking and driving areas, concrete sidewalks, fencing, inspection booths, utility lines, and construction of staging and storing areas for construction. The project will also include the removal of existing structures, utility poles, and land clearing.

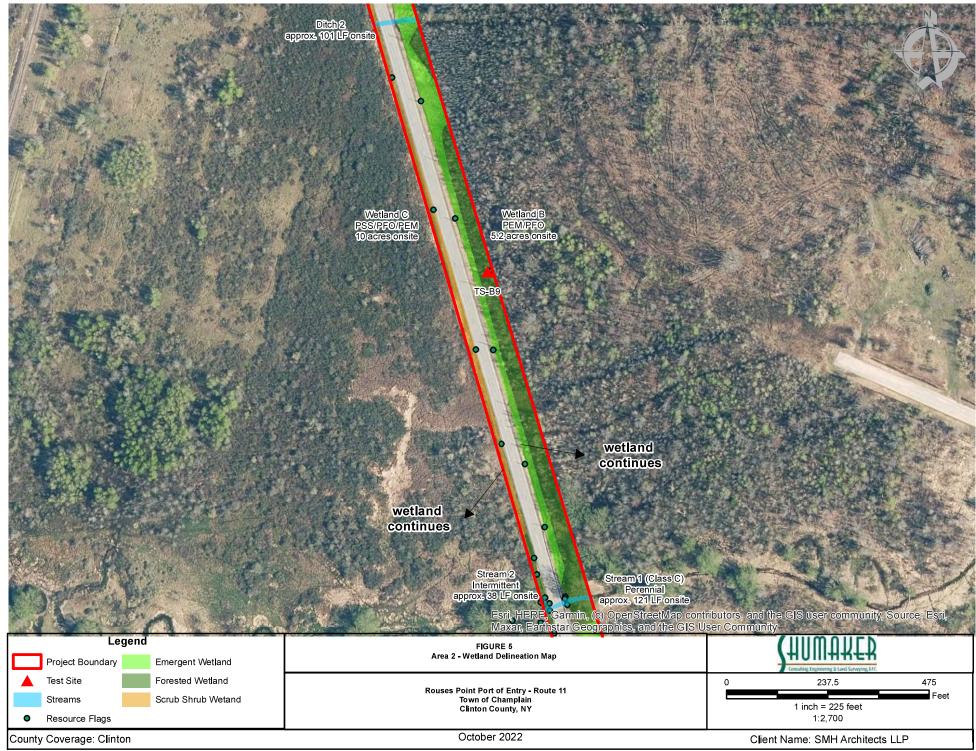
Impacts to two wetlands are proposed to occur as a result of the proposed project within the Richelieu River watershed. A total of 5.164 acres of permanent freshwater wetland impacts are proposed. Permanent freshwater wetland impacts will result in the loss of 1.92 acres of emergent freshwater wetlands, 2.35 acres of scrub shrub wetlands, and .88 acres of In addition, a maximum of .46 acres of temporary freshwater wetland forested wetlands. impacts are proposed, In order to offset permanent impacts to wetlands, a Permittee-Responsible Mitigation (PRM) plan has been proposed. The proposed PRM plan includes mitigation. freshwater wetland includina 5.43 establishment/creation and .95 acres of restoration resulting in an anticipated wetland mosaic consisting of forested wetland, scrub-shrub wetland, and emergent wetland dependent on variable hydrology.

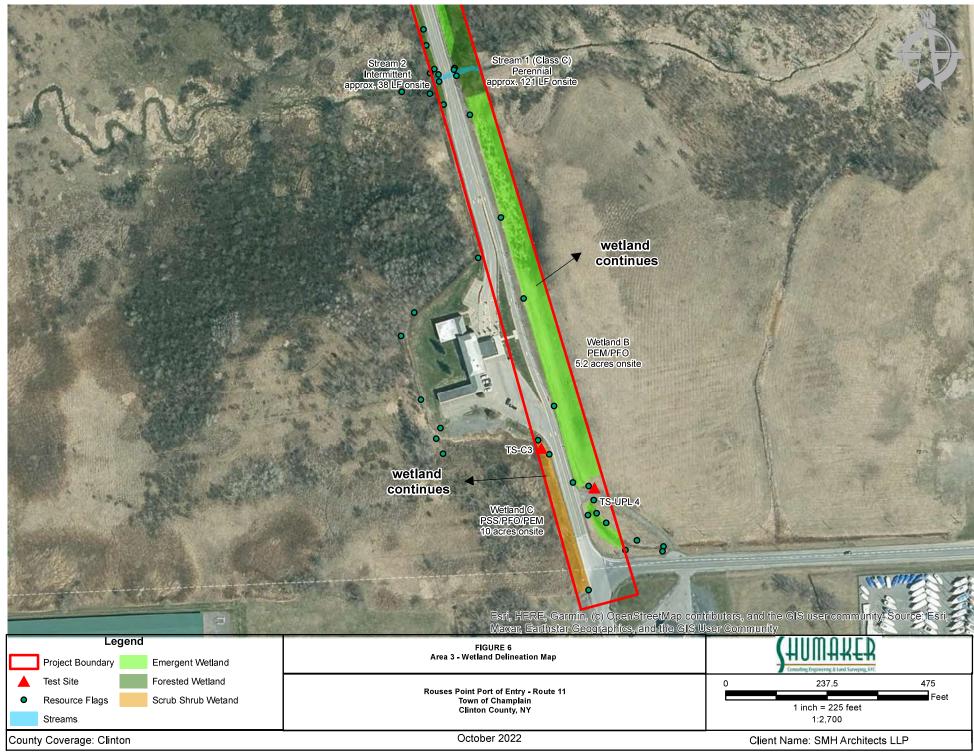
The applicant has stated that they have avoided, minimized, and mitigated for potential impacts proposed to the maximum extent practicable by reducing the footprint of the original layout, utilizing existing infrastructure, reducing grading, and offsetting permanent impacts to wetlands with a PRM plan. Best Management Practices and mitigation measures will be utilized in order to minimize impacts to water quality including silt fencing that will be utilized throughout the course of project construction activities. Orange warning fencing will also be utilized proximate to wetland areas in conjunction with signage to prevent unauthorized access to wetlands.

The applicant's stated purpose of the project is to construct a modernized and expanded LPOE at Rouses Point to house additional support staff, provide functional program areas, expand parking, and increase efficiency. The new facility would co-locate program areas (the CBP Head House, Trusted Traveler Programs, and rail inspection program) to allow all program areas to be served by the same CBP personnel in a single location, close to the U.S.-Canadian border.







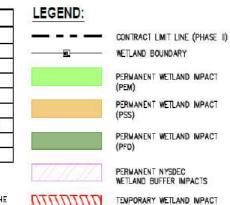


		PERMANENT FRESHWATER WETLAND II	MPACTS (WETL	AND C)		
	COLOR KEY	IMPACT I.D.	AREA (SF)		AREA (ACRES)	
NYSCEÇ FRESHWATE	R WETLAND AREA IMPACTS	•				
		EMERGENT	84,039		1.93	
		SCRUB SHRUB	102,259		2.35	
		FORESTED	38,456		0.88	
TOTAL NYSDEC IMPACTS =			224,754		5.16	
NYSDEC FRESHWATER WETLAND BUFFER IMPACTS			PERVIOUS	IMPERVIOUS	PERVIOUS	IMPERVIOUS
7	11 11 11 11 11 11 11	100' WETLAND BUFFER IMPACT	20,685	33,264	0.47	0.76
99		TOTAL NYSDEC BUFFER IMPACTS -	53,950		1.24	

NOTES:

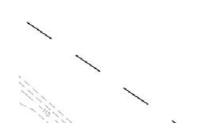
DISPOSAL SITE FOR REMOVAL OF EXISTING TOPSOIL FROM PHASE II OF THE PROJECT, PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE DISPOSAL SITE OF THE TOPSOIL BEING REMOVED FROM THIS PHASE OF THE PROJECT:

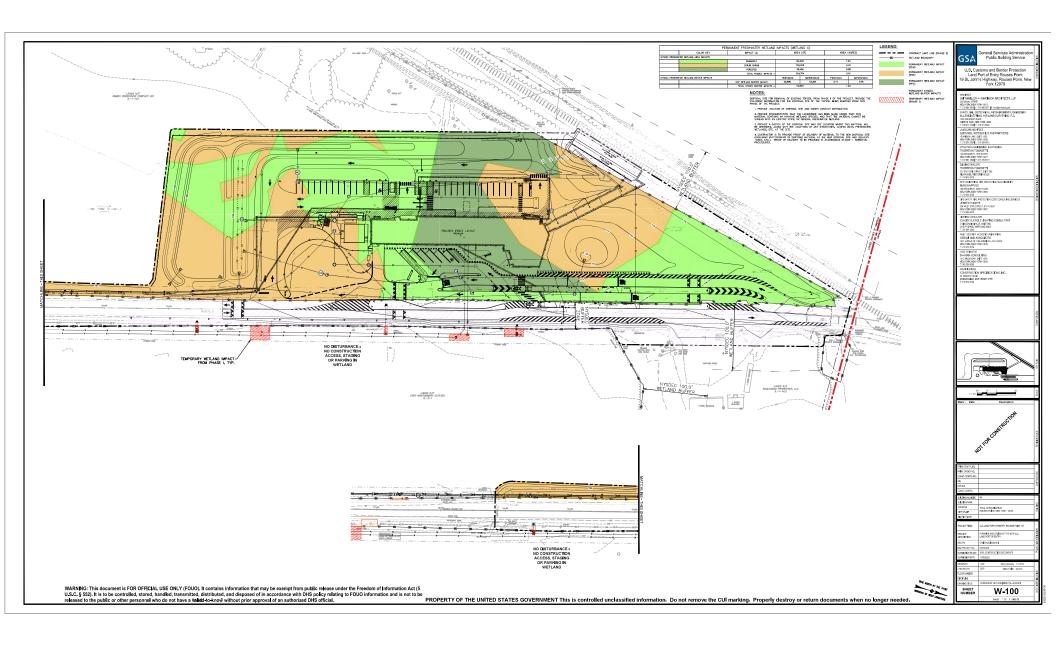
- 1. PROVIDE LOCATION OF DISPOSAL SITE AND OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION.
- 2. PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION THAT THE LANDOWNER HAS BEEN WADE AWARE THAT THIS MATERIAL CONTAINS AN INVASIVE WETLAND SPECIES, AND THAT THE MATERIAL CANNOT BE SPREAD INTO AN EXISTING STATE OR FEDERAL FRESHWATER WETLAND.
- 3. PROVIDE A SKETCH OF THE DISPOSAL SITE AND THE LOCATION WHERE THIS MATERIAL WILL BE DEPOSITED, ALONG WITH THE LOCATIONS OF ANY STRUCTURES, ACCESS WAYS, FRESHWATER WETLANDS, ETC. AT THE SITE.
- 4. CONTRACTOR IS TO PROVIDE PROOF OF DELIVERY OF MATERIAL TO THE NEW DISPOSAL SITE (INCLUDING PHOTOGRAPHS OF DISPOSED MATERIAL AT THE NEW DISPOSAL SITE AND DELIVERY TO BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE 013300 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES.

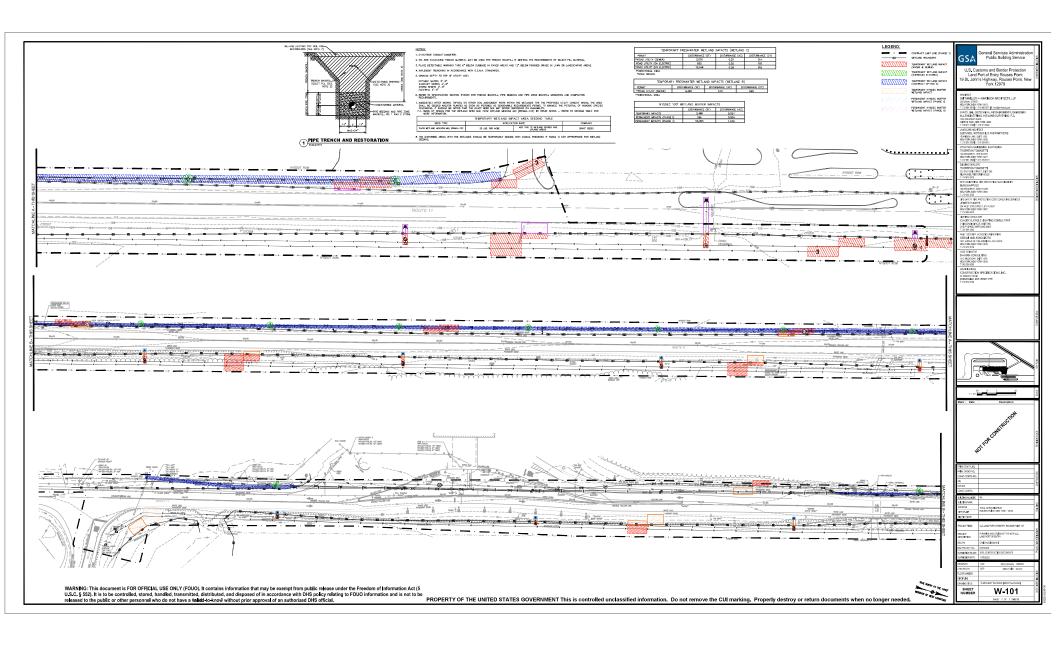


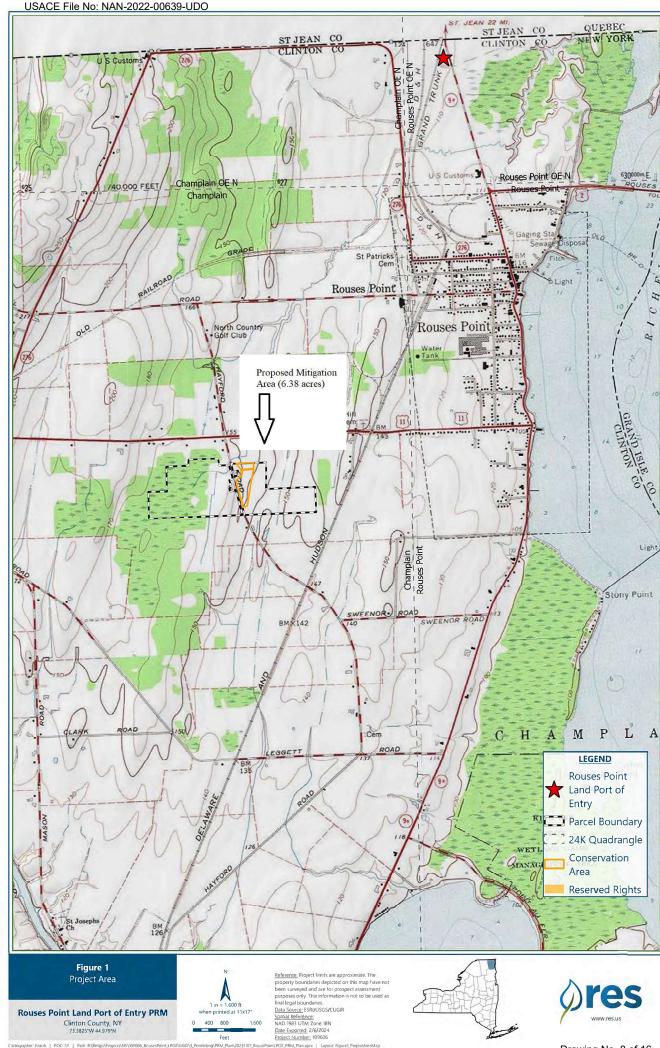
(PHASE I)

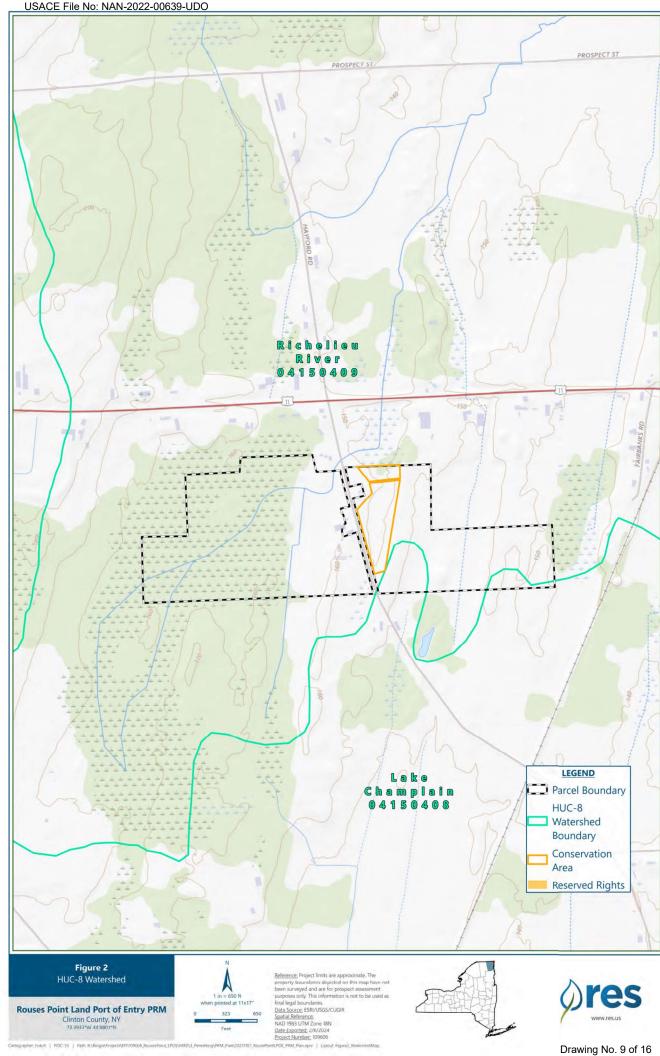












USACE File No: NAN-2022-00639-UDO TO TO Legend Parcel Boundary Conservation Area Reserved Rights 2' Contour Reference: Project limits are approximate. The property boundaries depicted on this map have not been surveyed and ser for prospect assessment purposes only. This information is not to be used as final legal boundaries.

Data Source: ESR/USGS/CUGIR STATIAL BROWNINGS. Figure 8 Topography **Rouses Point Land Port of** Entry PRM Spatial Reference: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane New York East FIPS 3101 Ft Clinton County, NY 73.3916"W 44.9789"N

USACE File No: NAN-2022-00639-UDO DP-2 Legend Parcel Boundary Conservation Area Reserved Rights 24K Quadrangle - Ditch Delineated Wetlands PEM (0.95 acres) PEM/PSS Data Point O Upland Wetland Reference: Project limits are approximate. The property boundaines depicted on this map have not been surveyed and are for prospect assessment purposes only. This information is not to be used as final legal boundaries. Data Source: ESR/USGS/CUGR Soatali Reference. Figure 3B Delineated Aquatic Resources Rouses Point Land Port of Entry PRM Spatial Reference: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane New York East FIPS 3101 Ft Clinton County, NY 73.3916"W 44,9789"N

OC: SY: | Path: R. Respin Projects NVV 109606. Rouse Point: LPDE UNXOL3. Permitting VRM. Plan 2023:1107. Rouse Point: POE. PRM. Plan april: | Layout: Figure 38. Delineation

USACE File No: NAN-2022-00639-UDO Legend Conservation Area Reserved Rights PEM Impact Inside of Site (0.95 acres) PEM Impact Outside of Site (0.02 acres) Beference: Project limits are approximate. The property boundaries depicted on this map have not been surveyed and are for prospect assessment purposes only. This information is not to be used as final legal boundaries.

Data Source: ESRI/USGS/CUGIR
Soatial Reference.

NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane New York East FIPS 3101 Ft Figure 11 Wetland Impact Location Rouses Point Land Port of Entry PRM Clinton County, NY 73.3916"W 44.9789"N

Cartographer: hrauh | POC: SY | Path: Ri;Respiri;Projects;NY(109606;RousesPoint_LPOE\AKKD\3;Permitting;PRM_Plan(20231107;RousePoint_POE-PRM_Plan.apox | Layout;Figu

USACE File No: NAN-2022-00639-UDO Legend Parcel Boundary Conservation Area Reserved Rights Proposed Wetlands (6.38 acres/6.06 mitigation acres) Creation (5.43 acres/5.43 mitigation acres) Restoration (0.95 acres/ 0.63 mitigation acres) Reference: Project limits are approximate. The property boundaines depicted on this map have not been surveyed and are for prospect assessment purposes only. This information is not to be used as final legal boundaries. Data Source: ESR/USGS/CUGIR Soatali Reference. Figure 10 Resource Development Rouses Point Land Port of Entry PRM Spatial Reference: NAD 1983 2011 StatePlane New York East FIPS 3101 Ft Clinton County, NY 73.3915"W 44.979"N

