



June 18, 2026

CFH Monroe, LLC  
Attn: Mr. Jordan Holloway  
PO Box 2024  
Bluffton, SC 29910  
jordan@clelandgroup.com

SENT BY CERTIFIED MAIL  
9214 8969 0099 9790 1428 2450 01  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
AND BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

Re: Approval of Application and Reclamation Plan for a Mine Operating Permit  
Issuance of an Individual Mine Operating Permit  
Mine Permit #I-002428 | Monroe Tract Surface Mine | City of Hardeeville, Jasper County

Dear Mr. Holloway:

The S.C. Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) has approved the application and reclamation plan for the Monroe Tract Surface Mine as of the date of this letter. SCDES has received the reclamation bond submitted in the amount of \$877,261.00.

With the receipt of the reclamation bond and the approval of the application and reclamation plan, this letter serves as official notification that the Individual Mine Operating Permit for the Monroe Tract Surface Mine is being issued as of the date of this letter. Enclosed are the permit document, reclamation plan, coastal zone consistency determination, and mine and reclamation maps.

Should there be any questions or if we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the project manager, Wendy Hamilton, at 803-898-1368 or by e-mail at [wendy.hamilton@des.sc.gov](mailto:wendy.hamilton@des.sc.gov). Colin Scherer is the regional mine inspector for Jasper County and can be reached at 843-846-1030 or by e-mail at [colin.scherer@des.sc.gov](mailto:colin.scherer@des.sc.gov).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeremy E. Eddy".

Jeremy E. Eddy, P.G.  
Manager, Mining & Reclamation Program

enclosure

cc: DES: Brett Caswell, C. Scherer; MSHA: D. Conn; City of Hardeeville: K. Woodruff, Jasper Co: J. Iwanicki, T. Williams, L. Wagner, and H. Spade





SC DEPARTMENT of  
**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES**

**INDIVIDUAL MINE  
OPERATING PERMIT**

**Monroe Tract Surface Mine  
CFH Monroe, LLC**

CFH Monroe, LLC, a corporation, has been granted a Mine Operating Permit, Mine Permit Number I-002428, to operate the Monroe Tract Surface Mine in accordance with this Permit, the approved Reclamation Plan, the S.C. Mining Act (S.C. Code Sections 48-20-10 *et seq.*, 1976), and Regulations 89-10 *et seq.* The operator shall conduct this operation as represented in documents submitted to support the issuance of this permit.

---

JEREMY E. EDDY, P.G.  
MANAGER - MINING AND RECLAMATION PROGRAM  
DIVISION OF MINING AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

**PERMIT NUMBER:** I-002428  
**ORIGINALLY ISSUED:** June 18, 2026  
**MODIFIED:** N/A



**Part I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

In accordance with Section 48-20-60 of the South Carolina Mining Act, this Mine Operating Permit will remain valid unless it terminates as set forth in R.89-270 or is revoked in accordance with Section 48-20-160 and R.89-280. The anticipated mining completion date is shown on the *Schedule for Implementing Conservation and Reclamation Practices* in the *Reclamation Plan*.

The approved *Permit Application, Reclamation Plan*, and all supplemental information referenced herein, are an integral part of this permit. *Land Entry Agreements and Mine Maps* as identified in Part II and Part V, respectively, are also a part of this permit.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

<b>Home Office Address:</b>	CFH Monroe, LLC PO Box 2024 Bluffton, SC 29910
<b>Local Office Address:</b>	Same as Home Office Address
<b>Address for Official Mail:</b>	Same as Home Office Address

**Company personnel and title to be the contact for official business and correspondence [South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) should be notified in writing immediately of any change in contact, address, telephone or e-mail]:**

Jordan Holloway Vice President	Telephone: 843-422-1751 Email: jordan@clelandgroup.com
-----------------------------------	---

**LOCATION:** The mine is located on the Limehouse, SC U.S.G.S. 7.5' Topographic Map. The approximate geographic coordinates for the site are:

Latitude: <u>32.18125</u>	Longitude: <u>-81.04229</u>
---------------------------	-----------------------------

**LOCATION DESCRIPTION:** The operation is located in Jasper County, approximately 2.7 miles southeast of Limehouse, S.C. Specifically, the site is located 1.2 miles southwest of the junction of SC Secondary Highway S-27-34 (Levy Road) and SC Primary Highway 315 (S. Okatie Highway). The site is located east of Callajoe Way, one mile south of its junction with Levy Road.

**Part II: PERMITTED LAND**

This permit allows CFH Monroe, LLC, also referred to as the operator, to conduct mining operations within the permitted land as defined through the *Land Entry Agreement* submitted as part of the application. Permitted land as defined by Section 48-20-40(18) is "the affected land in addition to (a) lands identified for future mining to become affected land; (b) and undisturbed or buffer area that is or may become adjacent to the affected land." Therefore, this permit grants the operator the right to conduct active mining operations within the specified affected land, delineate land for future mine areas as future reserves, and to establish undisturbed buffer zones to mitigate any adverse effects to the surrounding environment.

**AFFECTED LAND:** 33.8 acres of land are to be affected by CFH Monroe, LLC under the current mine plan; 33.8 of the affected acres are currently bonded. The affected acres are derived from the operator's response in the *Application for a Mine Operating Permit* and are shown on the approved mine map(s).

**FUTURE RESERVES:** 0.0 acres are identified as future reserves and are specified on the mine site map. Prior to the initiation of activity in future reserves, the operator shall submit detailed mine and reclamation plans to SCDES for approval.

**BUFFER AREAS:** 28.5 acres are identified as buffer area, setbacks, or areas that will not be disturbed beyond the pre-mine natural state. These buffer areas are identified on the mine site map. Acres designated as buffer areas are not bonded under the reclamation bond. Any activity within the buffer areas (e.g. removal of timber) shall require **prior** notification and approval by SCDES.

**TOTAL PERMITTED AREA:** 62.3 acres as submitted on the *Land Entry Agreement(s)*.

**LAND ENTRY AGREEMENTS:** The operator is required to furnish and maintain up-to-date *Land Entry Agreements* on all lands covered under this permit. Any change in ownership on any portion of land covered by this permit, the operator is responsible for furnishing the appropriate and completed *Land Entry Agreements* (Forms MR-600 or MR-700) to SCDES within 30 days of the change of ownership.

Land Owner(s) as Listed on *Land Entry Agreement(s)*:

TMS #: 038-00-06-039, 038-00-06-162, WJCI Holdings LLC

Total acres of the contiguous tract(s) of land for which the permit is granted:

OWNED 0.0                      LEASED 62.3                      TOTAL 62.3

### **Part III: FINANCIAL ASSURANCE FOR RECLAMATION**

The financial assurance for reclamation is based upon the total affected acres. Pursuant to Section 48-20-70 and R.89-200, the financial assurance for this mining permit is set at \$877,261.00. The financial assurance shall remain in force and continuous throughout the life of the mining operation and shall only be released, partially or in full, back to the operator after the operator has completed reclamation in accordance with the approved *Reclamation Plan* and the minimum standards in R.89-330.

### **Part IV: MINE OPERATIONS**

CFH Monroe, LLC is permitted to mine sand at the Monroe Tract Surface Mine. The maximum depth to the pit floor shall not exceed -10 feet mean sea level (to an approximate elevation of 25 feet below ground surface as measured from the lowest ground surface elevation). Mining will take place on tracts of land leased by the referenced operator. These tracts of land are identified in the submitted *Land Entry Agreements* (LEAs).

#### **MINE/PIT CHARACTERIZATION:**

Ground clearing and excavation will be conducted using bulldozers and excavators. Loaders will load haul trucks for immediate off-site transport. Slope grading will be completed with bulldozers as excavations progress. Operations will start in Segment 1 (17.0 acres), then continue through Segment 2 (2.9 acres), and finally in Segment 3 (1.8 acres).

Adequate amounts of topsoil shall be used to construct the berm or stockpiled for reclamation of the affected area; excess topsoil not needed for reclamation may be sold.

#### **PROCESSING PLANT LOCATED ON MINE SITE:**

Processing plants are not permitted at this mine site. Screens set to remove roots or other organic matter from the topsoil are not considered to be processing and are allowed on the site.

#### MINE DEWATERING:

The water table at the mine site is relatively shallow, and lowering of the water table via dewatering may be necessary to facilitate mining. Where feasible, stormwater runoff shall be diverted into the pit and contained.

The operator shall use a system of sumps and a sediment basin to manage water prior to release from the mine. A sediment basin and sump shall be constructed prior to excavation of Segment 1. Sumps shall be constructed in each segment to collect groundwater and stormwater and allow retention time for settling of sediment. Floating pumps will transfer clean water from sumps in Segments 2 and 3 through overground hoses into Segment 1. Water collected in Segment 1 will be pumped into the sediment basin.

A turbidity curtain shall be installed in the basin to remove any potential sediment. Basin water will gravity drain to a constructed outfall ditch with a stone filter ring as noted on approved mine maps. The vegetated ditch and filter ring shall be maintained to ensure water velocity is reduced to prevent erosion and the potential for sediment transport offsite.

Water released from the mine will travel through Monkey John Swamp to the Wright River. All water discharged to a receiving stream must be through an outfall regulated by the NPDES permit and meet regulated standards.

The tract has constructed ditches to collect and channel stormwater from the surrounding area. In addition to managing on-site ground and stormwater, the operator shall be responsible for ensuring excavations do not impede the flow of floodwaters in the vicinity of the mine. Prior to activities in Segment 2, the operator shall construct and maintain a ditch to re-route stormwater flow from Osprey Lake around the eastern portion of the mine and reconnect with the pre-mine ditch system to the north. A graded connection to Segment 2 shall be constructed in the re-routed ditch to serve as an overflow and alleviate flooding concerns. Upon final reclamation, surface water flow shall be restored to the original, pre-mine ditches.

*A Stormwater Master Plan for Monroe Tract Surface Mine* (Thomas & Hutton, J-31689.0000, May 2024/ Revised July 2025) researched the potential for adverse effects of the project on the current drainage system in the area. The report concluded the reclaimed mine operation would not affect the current pre-development flow rates; post development runoff is detained on site and released at less than pre-developed rates to a maximum 100 year/ 24 hour storm event. The storm drainage system design meets or exceeds requirements of city, county, and state government entities.

Discharge of water shall cease if the dewatering causes flooding conditions to property downstream of the mine site.

If an operator receives a complaint concerning adverse impacts to neighboring wells, the operator is to notify SCDES's Manager of the Mining and Reclamation Program, Columbia, SC, within 48 hours. After investigation, if SCDES determines dewatering activities at the mine are affecting a drinking water well or water supply well, the operator shall be responsible for repairing, deepening, or re-drilling such wells. Until that permanent water supply is re-established, the operator shall supply the owner with a temporary water supply (e.g., bottled water for drinking, provisions for laundry).

#### BLASTING:

Blasting operations are not permitted at this mine site.

#### NOISE MONITORING AND CONTROL:

The operator shall use Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize noise from the mine site. These noise BMPs shall include, at a minimum, proper maintenance of mufflers on equipment (trucks, trackhoes, pumps, etc.) and consideration of special buffering measures if planning to operate equipment during nighttime hours. To supplement these controls, the operator shall maintain vegetated buffers along the property lines and construct/vegetate an earthen berm along the boundary shared with Osprey Lake subdivision.

OTHER STATE OR FEDERAL PERMITS:

The operator must obtain, maintain, and update, as appropriate, all necessary State and Federal permits in order to construct and operate the mine.

**Part V: MAPS**

The mine site maps were prepared by Thomas & Hutton. These maps are further identified with the following SCDES map numbers and are part of the operating permit:

SM-2428-1V1 Overall Sand Surface Mine Map Dated: May 19, 2026

The reclamation maps were prepared by Thomas & Hutton. These maps are further identified with the following SCDES map numbers and are part of the operating permit:

RM-2428-1V1 Reclamation Map Dated: May 19, 2026

The Sediment and Erosion Control information was prepared by Thomas & Hutton. The information is further identified with the following SCDES number and is part of the operating permit:

SC-2428-1V1 ES & PC Notes – EC3.1 Dated: May 19, 2026

SC-2428-2V1 ES & PC Notes – EC3.2 Dated: May 19, 2026

**Part VI: PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

MINE SITE AND SURROUNDING AREA:

The parcel is located in a rural area surrounded by large tracts of forested lands. Wetland systems are prevalent in the area. Historically, the tract has been in silviculture practice and supports a mixture of pine and hardwood trees. A few residences are located on adjacent tracts including a subdivision to the southeast.

Topography at the site is relatively flat, ranging from 15 to 20 feet mean sea level. Ditches have been constructed to drain stormwater from the tract and adjacent areas. The main soil types are Williman loamy fine sand and Coosaw loamy fine sand. The western portion has small terraces and wetlands have been delineated as noted on the approved mine maps. The wetland system drains to Monkey John Swamp which runs west of the tract.

Structures located on the property will be removed prior to the start of construction. The operator shall obtain appropriate demolition permits and dispose of debris at a permitted landfill.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

A gate shall be installed on Callajoe Way approximately 1,000 feet prior to the entrance to the mine site. The gate shall be kept locked during inactive periods. *Warning* and/or *Danger* signs shall be posted around the perimeter of the property. In the future, if determined to be necessary by SCDES, an appropriate fence shall be installed around the affected area.

The operator shall use BMPs to prevent accumulation of sediment/soil on public roads carried by trucks and other vehicles exiting the mine site. The mine access exits to Callajoe Way, an unimproved road that connects to Levy Road. As noted on the mine map, the operator shall install a gravel construction entrance at both at the mine and at the junction of Callajoe Way and Levy Road. The operator shall remove material tracked onto Levy Road daily or more frequently if needed.

The operator shall establish a protected area or establish procedures to minimize fuel spillage or incidental spillage of other petroleum products during storage, refueling of equipment or in the performance of routine maintenance on equipment. Contaminated materials resulting from contact with petroleum products shall be removed from the site and disposed of properly to prevent contamination to ground and surface water resources.

PUBLICLY-OWNED PARKS, FORESTS, OR RECREATION AREAS:

There are no publicly owned parks, forests, or recreational areas near this mine site.

#### WETLANDS AND SURFACE WATER AREAS:

Wetland systems are prominent in this area and drain to Monkey John Swamp. Historical ditches constructed in the permit area collect and channel stormwater from the area surrounding the mine site.

On-site wetlands have been delineated (Resource + Land Consultants, June 13, 2025) and noted on the approved mine maps. These wetlands shall be protected by a combination of undisturbed buffers and installation of double rows of silt fencing. The wetland buffers shall be marked prior to the initiation of mining activities and flagging maintained throughout the life of the mine.

Silt fencing shall be installed along the mine side of the wetland buffers and extend along the access road. The silt fencing must be properly installed, maintained, and inspected, especially after heavy rains, to ensure the fencing remains effective and sediment does not impact wetlands.

The operator is allowed to discharge accumulated mine waters, free of sediment, from the Segment 1 into wetlands. The operator shall comply with the NPDES General Permit for Non-metallic Mineral Mining and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan developed for the mine.

#### SIGNIFICANT CULTURAL OR HISTORICAL SITES:

A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey, *Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the Monroe Tract Surface Mine*, was conducted by Brockington and Associates, Inc. (May 2025). The reconnaissance did not identify any archaeological resources within the project tract. One new historic resource, the SAL Charleston & Savannah branch located along the western boundary of the project tract, was not recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The SC Department of Archives and History concurred with the report, concluding the operation will have no effect on historic properties (R. Larsen, October 14, 2025, SHPO Project No. 25-RL0053).

If archaeological materials are encountered prior to or during the construction of mine facilities or during mining, the S.C. Department of Archives and History, S.C. Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, and SCDES should be notified immediately. Archaeological materials consist of any items, fifty years or older, which were made or used by humans. These items include, but are not limited to, stone projectile points (arrowheads), ceramic sherds, bricks, oyster shell, worked wood, bone and stone, metal and glass objects, human skeletal remains, and concentrations of charcoal and stones below the ground surface. These materials may be present on the ground surface and/or under the surface of the ground.

#### WILDLIFE:

Common wildlife typical to this area can be found in the permitted area. SC Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) reviewed and commented on the proposed operation (K. Brown, March 10, 2025). According to the SCDNR Natural Heritage Trust database, there are no records of threatened or endangered species within the proposed project site. SCDNR did determine the site had habitat suitable for the Spotted Turtle (*Clemmys guttata*), a state threatened species. SCDNR required either a survey or implementation of avoidance and minimization measures to ensure the turtle is protected.

Sligh Environmental Consultants, Inc. conducted a preliminary Threatened and Endangered Species survey to assess potential habitat and the presence of the Spotted Turtle (April 28, 2025, SECI# 01-25-058). Based on the current environment, it was concluded the site contained marginal habitat conducive for the Spotted Turtle. The study recommended the operator observe management guidelines. To ensure the turtle is protected, the operator shall implement avoidance and minimization measures outlined in Appendix 1 of the SCDNR letter (Appendix B)

#### VISUAL SCREEN:

To appropriately screen the operation from view, the operator shall maintain a minimum fifty-foot undisturbed buffer between mining activity and all property lines, as shown on the mine map. For additional screening from the adjacent subdivision, an earthen berm shall be constructed/vegetated as depicted on the approved mine map.

ACID WATER GENERATION:

Acid water is not anticipated to be generated from the oxidation of existing minerals currently found on this site.

AIR QUALITY:

The mine operator shall use appropriate measures (e.g., water truck, dust suppressants) to control fugitive dust created by moving equipment along haul roads. The operator shall, where feasible, establish vegetation in non-active mine areas that are barren to stabilize the soil and reduce the potential for wind erosion and dust emissions.

**Part VII: STANDARD CONDITIONS OF MINE OPERATING PERMIT**

SURVEY MONUMENTS:

In accordance with R.89-130, the operator shall install and maintain the two required permanent survey monuments or control points within the permitted area, as shown on the mine site map. At SCDES's discretion, the operator may be required to mark the affected area with flagging or other appropriate measures.

RIGHT OF ENTRY:

Pursuant to Section 48-20-130 and R.89-240, the operator shall grant SCDES and/or duly appointed representatives access to the permitted area for inspection to determine whether the operator has complied with the reclamation plan, the requirements of this chapter, rules and regulations promulgated hereunder, and any terms and conditions of this permit.

RECORDS RETENTION:

All records are to be maintained in accordance with the additional terms and conditions of this permit or regulations. Records shall be kept on site or at the office designated for receipt of official mail and shall be open for inspection during normal business hours. The records shall be maintained for a minimum of three (3) years or as specified by SCDES. The operator shall furnish copies of the records upon request to SCDES.

PERMIT MODIFICATIONS:

Pursuant to Section 48-20-80, the operator may modify the permit and/or *Reclamation Plan* upon approval by SCDES. Requests for permit and/or *Reclamation Plan* modifications may be made to SCDES on Form MR-1300. The operator shall submit any requested supporting data for consideration during SCDES's evaluation of the modification request. If a modification request is determined to be substantial by SCDES, it will be publicly noticed pursuant to R.89-100, and a modification fee will be required as specified in R.89-340. If SCDES determines activities proposed under the *Reclamation Plan* and other terms and conditions of the permit are failing to achieve the purpose and requirements of the S.C. Mining Act and Regulations, SCDES shall notify the operator of its intentions to modify the permit and/or *Reclamation Plan* pursuant to Section 48-20-150.

TRANSFER OF PERMIT:

Pursuant to Section 48-20-70, this permit may be transferred to another responsible party. The permit shall comply with R.89-230. The transferor of the permit will remain liable for all reclamation obligations until all required documents, plans, and the replacement reclamation bond have been submitted and approved by SCDES. The transfer will be considered complete when all parties have received notification of SCDES's approval by certified letter.

DURATION OF MINE OPERATING PERMIT:

In accordance with Section 48-20-60, this Mine Operating Permit will remain valid unless this permit terminates as outlined in R.89-270 or is revoked in accordance with Section 48-20-160 and R.89-280. The proposed mining completion date is shown on the *Schedule for Conservation and Reclamation Practices* in the *Reclamation Plan*.

Pursuant to R.89-80(B), the operator shall conduct reclamation simultaneously with mining whenever feasible. Initiation of reclamation shall be at the earliest practicable time, but no later than 180 days following termination of mining of any segment of the mine, and shall be completed within two years after completion or termination of mining on any segment of the mine.

## **Part VIII: ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

Pursuant to Section 48-20-30 of the S.C. Mining Act, "SCDES has ultimate authority, subject to the appeal provisions of this chapter, over all mining, as defined in this chapter, and the provisions of the chapter regulating and controlling such activity." This allows SCDES to assist, cooperate with, or supersede other State agencies in taking enforcement action against violations of the State Regulations or the S.C. Mining Act to ensure the purposes of this Act are enforced.

The operator shall comply with all conditions of this mine operating permit at all times. Non-compliance with this mining permit, statute, or regulations could lead to permit revocation and bond forfeiture pursuant to Sections 48-20-160 and 48-20-170 or other enforcement action allowed by law.

Compliance with the Mine Operating Permit requires the operator to conduct the mining operation as described in the approved *Application for a Mine Operating Permit*. Variance from the *Application for a Mine Operating Permit*, this permit, statute, or regulation, without first receiving SCDES approval, shall be deemed non-compliant with the permit.

An operator or official representative of the mine operator who willfully violates the provisions of the S.C. Mining Act, rules and regulations, or willfully misrepresents any fact in any action taken pursuant to this chapter or willfully gives false information in any application or report required by this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars for each offense. Each day of continued violation after written notification shall be considered a separate offense.

The operator is responsible for all mining activity on the permitted mine site.

## **Part IX: REPORTS**

### ANNUAL RECLAMATION REPORTS:

The operator shall comply with Section 48-20-120 and Regulation 89-210 and submit an *Annual Reclamation Report* on Form MR-1100 as supplied by SCDES. The report form will be made available to the operator electronically. The operator should receive access to the *Annual Reclamation Report* form from SCDES by July 1 of each year; however, the operator is ultimately responsible for obtaining the form and is not excused from penalty fees for failure to submit the report on time.

The Annual Operating Fee is a part of the *Annual Reclamation Report*. Failure to submit a complete *Annual Reclamation Report* and fee, in accordance with Section 48-20-120 and R.89-340, will result in a late penalty payment. The *Annual Reclamation Report* and Annual Operating Fee are required if any permitted land is not fully reclaimed and released by SCDES by June 30 of each year.

### SPECIAL REPORTS:

SCDES may at any time request information, data, or explanations from the operator as to conditions relating to the permitted mine site. Such requests from SCDES shall be made in writing to the operator with an appropriate time frame stated for the submittal of the requested information to SCDES. The operator must produce the information requested within the timeframe specified by SCDES.

## **Part X: ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. Temporary or permanent placement of refuse and debris (e.g., concrete, brick, asphalt) from off-site locations is prohibited without approval by SCDES. The operator is approved to use topsoil material brought in from off-site locations for the purpose of mine land reclamation. The operator shall maintain records detailing information on the material including source location (TMS of parcel), estimated volume of soils brought into the mine, and the approximate location of the disposition in the mine. Laboratory results of any testing should be included. The logbook shall be made available upon request by SCDES.

2. The operator shall obtain appropriate permits for the demolition of structures on the property. All debris must be removed and disposed of at a SCDES permitted landfill facility.
3. The operator shall comply with the approved Coastal Zone Consistency Determination issued by the SCDES Bureau of Coastal Management (BCM). See Appendix B.
4. The operator shall comply with the SC Department of Natural Resources directives concerning protection of the Spotted Turtle (*Clemmys guttata*). See Appendix C.

# APPENDIX A

## MODIFICATIONS TO MINE PERMIT I-002428

NUMBER	DATE	<b>DESCRIPTION OF MODIFICATION</b> (PA= Permitted Acreage; AA= Affected, Bonded Acreage; FR= Reserves Acreage, B= Buffer Acreage)
Issue	6/18/26	PA = 62.3 ac., AA = 33.8 ac., FR = 0.0 ac., B = 28.5 ac. Permit issued.



Coastal Zone Consistency Determination

To: Wendy Hamilton, BLWM Mining and Reclamation Permitting Section

From: Reid E. Hotelling, BCM Coastal Zone Consistency Section <sup>RH</sup>

Applicant: CFH Monroe, LLC

Project Name: Monroe Tract Surface Mine

Finding: Conditionally Consistent with the SC Coastal Zone Management Program

Site Location: 2708 Levy Road, Hardeeville, Jasper County, South Carolina  
(TMS#: 039-00-06-039)

Reference #: HQ4-PP0B-SWY3B

Date: June 18, 2026

---

The staff of the Bureau of Coastal Management (BCM) reviewed the above referenced Coastal Zone Consistency project request for land disturbance associated with mineral extraction. The property will be divided into 3 total segments, each mined individually for sand. Segment 1 ( 17.0 acres) will be excavated first, followed by Segment 2 (2.9 acres) and Segment 3 (1.8 acres) using excavators, dozers, loaders during the operation of the mine. Stormwater management includes a sump area which will be provided within each segment to retain water and allow sediment to settle. A floating pump will be installed to remove groundwater and pump it via an above-ground hose to the sediment basin. A turbidity curtain is also proposed in the sediment basin to further promote sediment settling prior to discharge to the outfall ditch and stone filter ring. A proposed reclamation plan involves restoring each segment to a pond and grasslands. The total area of disturbance will be 33.80 acres of a 62.30-acre project site.

We hereby certify that the above referenced project is **Conditionally Consistent** with the ***Guidelines for Evaluation of All Projects*** as well as the Coastal Industries (*Mineral Extraction*), Wildlife and Fisheries Management, and Stormwater Management (*Runoff, Mines and Landfills*) policies contained in the S.C. Coastal Zone Management Program provided the following conditions are included in the permits and adhered to by the applicant.

1. In the event that any historic or cultural resources and/or archaeological materials are found during the course of work, the applicant must notify the State Historic Preservation Office and the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Historic or cultural resources consist of those sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places and those sites that are eligible for the National Register. Archaeological

materials consist of any items, fifty years old or older, which were made or used by man. These items include, but are not limited to, stone projectile points (arrowheads), ceramic sherds, bricks, worked wood, bone and stone, metal and glass objects, and human skeletal materials.

2. The project must be consistent with State Stormwater Permitting requirements during and post construction for protection of water quality.
3. All construction BMPs must be installed, inspected and maintained to hold sediment onsite and to protect any adjacent or downstream critical area, wetlands and waters through the life of the project. Upon completion of construction activities, all disturbed (including undeveloped) areas, including those impacted for access, must be immediately stabilized.
4. The project must be fully consistent with local zoning and comprehensive plans prior to work being conducted.
5. Prior to any construction activity, install silt fencing from November 15th through January 15th. Silt fencing should include 45-degree arms to direct spotted turtles to the uplands adjacent to the waterbody and away from the construction site (Figure 1). The 45-degree arms should be placed at a minimum of 100 ft from the waterbody and no more than 300 ft from the waterbody. Additionally, silt fence arms should extend at least 50-ft and extend in each direction so that the ends of each 45-degree angle to the fence meet to form a triangle. Silt fencing should remain in place throughout the duration of the proposed construction activities. If silt fencing cannot be placed in accordance with this timing, see additional silt fencing exclusion below.
6. Prior to construction, monitor the silt fencing to ensure it is effectively working properly on a monthly basis. This should effectively exclude the species from the project area prior to construction activities. Once construction activities begin, the silt fence should be monitored weekly, at a minimum, for the integrity of the fencing and the presence of spotted turtles or other herpetofauna or small wildlife species. The SCDNR recommends that a permit is in hand prior to exclusion to address handling and relocation of any spotted turtles encountered during the project.
7. Should the applicant not be able to install the silt fencing in accordance with the proposed window, it will require the applicant to install the exclusion fencing when the species is more active and has the potential to trap individuals within the area of proposed construction. Therefore, the SCDNR recommends checking the perimeter of the fencing twice daily for 14 days prior to ground disturbance and/or clearing in areas adjacent to and near these wetlands to ensure that spotted turtles are not trapped within the proposed project footprint.
8. Any turtles found within the construction area during this initial monitoring period and the construction monitoring period described below must be relocated. The relocation plan

must be submitted to the SCDNR Permitting Biologist and a permit received from SCDNR prior to the installation of the silt fencing.

9. During the initial 14 days of monitoring, the construction area should be entirely enclosed within the exclusion fence. After the 14-day installation period, a single point of access may be established in the exclusion fence, utilizing four 45-degree arms (two facing inward and two facing outwards (e.g., ---< >---)) as outlined in the guidance below. Please note that the following guidance necessitates that a minimum 100' upland buffer be established between the affected area and the adjacent wetlands.
  - a. Silt fencing should include 45-degree arms to direct spotted turtles to the uplands adjacent to the waterbody and away from the construction site. The 45-degree arms should be placed at a minimum of 100 ft from the waterbody and no more than 300 ft from the waterbody. Additionally, silt fence arms should extend at least 50-ft and extend in each direction so that the ends of each 45-degree angle to the fence meet to form a triangle. Silt fencing should remain in place throughout the duration of the proposed construction activities.
  - b. Prior to construction, monitor the silt fencing to ensure it is working properly on a monthly basis. This should effectively exclude the species from the project area prior to construction activities. Once construction activities begin, the silt fence should be monitored weekly for the integrity of the fencing and the presence of spotted turtles or other herpetofauna or small wildlife species. If spotted turtles are encountered, the SCDNR state herpetologist should be notified immediately by calling 854-202-0472
10. The applicant is not authorized to impact any wetlands. In the event any impacts to wetlands occur, the US Army Corps of Engineers and SCDES-BCM must be notified, and all work must cease to minimize additional impacts until the applicant receives authorization.

This determination shall serve as the SCDES BCM Coastal Zone Consistency Determination for the work described above. However, this determination **does not** serve as a Department permitting decision and **does not** alleviate the applicant's responsibility to obtain any applicable State or Federal permit(s) for the work. Local government authorizations **may also** be required.

## APPENDIX C

State of South Carolina  
Department of Natural Resources



Thomas S. Mullikin, PhD, JD, *Director*  
Lorianne Riggan, *Director*,  
*Office of Environmental Programs*

March 10, 2025

Wendy Hamilton  
SCDES  
Bureau of Land & Waste Management  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

RE: CFH Monroe LLC, Monroe Tract Surface Mine, I-002428, Jasper County

*Electronic submittal*

Dear Ms. Hamilton,

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) is the state agency charged by state law with the management, protection, and enhancement of wildlife, fisheries, and marine resources in South Carolina. In addition to natural resource management responsibilities through research, management and licensing, the SCDNR is also charged with statewide responsibilities for regulating watercraft operation and associated recreation on state waters, conducting geological surveys and mapping, promoting soil and water conservation, flood mitigation, drought response planning and coordination, and the coordination of the state scenic rivers program. SCDNR's mission is to serve as the principal advocate for and steward of South Carolina's natural resources (SCDNR authorities and responsibilities are described in Titles 48, 49 and 50, South Carolina Code of Laws (1976), as amended). As such, personnel with the SCDNR have reviewed the proposed project, evaluated its impact on natural resources and offer the comments below.

### Project Details

The proposed project involves the establishment and operation of a sand mine at a 63.2-acre property in Jasper County. The total affected acreage proposed is 25.0 acres and includes Segment 1 (17.0 acres), Segment 2 (1.8 acres), Segment 3 (2.9 acres) and haul roads (3.3 acres). The remaining 38.2 acres consist of buffers and avoided wetlands. The proposed maximum depth of the mine is 25 feet. The applicant proposes an outfall ditch running from Segment 1 that will allow discharge into neighboring wetlands following settling.

### Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species

According to the SCDNR Natural Heritage Trust database, there are no records of threatened or endangered species within the project area. Please keep in mind that this information is derived from existing databases, and do not assume that it is complete. Areas not yet inventoried by SCDNR biologists may contain significant species or communities.

Based on aerial images and information provided by the applicant, the SCDNR finds it appropriate for the applicant to conduct a state threatened and endangered species habitat assessment for the threatened spotted turtle (*Clemmys guttata*). Please see Appendix 1 for survey

information and avoidance and minimization measures for these state protected species. Below are brief descriptions of habitat considerations for these state protected species to be utilized in the requested habitat assessment. Please provide pictures of onsite wetlands proposed for impact and preservation, as well as adjacent uplands. Pictures should be accompanied by a figure showing the location of the images within the proposed project site. If suitable habitat is found, additional measures are likely to be required by the SCDNR to avoid or minimize take of a state protected species; these measures are provided in Appendix 1 State Threatened and Endangered Species Avoidance and Minimization Measures as information. The SCDNR recommends Appendix 1 is read thoroughly as it may be more beneficial for the applicant in some scenarios regarding certain species to assume presence and then work with the agency to avoid and minimize take in lieu of a habitat assessment.

### *Spotted Turtle*

The proposed project may have suitable habitat for spotted turtle. Suitable habitat for spotted turtle includes heavily vegetated, shallow wetlands with standing or flowing water including Carolina Bays, bogs, swamps, marshes, and wet meadows (wetlands with soft, mucky substrates are preferred) (Jensen et al. 2008). While often associated predominantly with wetlands, spotted turtle spend a considerable amount of time on land throughout the year; however, preferred upland habitat types have not been identified. Keep in mind that spotted turtles are known to move considerable distances between and within habitats; a male can have a home range of 5 hectares, where females have been documented to have home ranges of 16 hectares (Litzgus and Mousseau 2004). The SCDNR recommends prior to any habitat disturbance in the proposed work area that additional habitat information be provided. Should suitable habitat exist, additional surveys may be needed. Please see Appendix 1 State Threatened and Endangered Species Guidance, for additional information.

### General Comments

#### *Aquatic Resource Buffers*

Readily available scientific literature indicates that the ability of vegetated buffers to trap suspended sediments are positively correlated with width and negatively correlated with slope (Wenger 1999). A literature review performed by Castelle et al (1994), found that buffers must be 30 meters (100 ft) wide to maintain the health of the biota in nearby streams, but that this width would need to be increased for steeper slopes. Peterjohn and Correll (1984) found that for a 5% slope, only ninety percent of the suspended sediment was trapped in the first 19 meters (62 ft), and that the entire 60-meter (164 ft) buffer trapped only 94% of the sediment. Therefore, the SCDNR requests that adjacent streams and wetlands be protected by vegetated riparian buffers at least 150-foot wide wherever practicable.

### *Reclamation*

Upon reclamation of the proposed mine site, the SCDNR recommends against the use of non-native stabilization seed mixes that include Sericea Lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*), Bermuda grass, and Bahiagrass. Native to eastern Asia, Sericea Lespedeza is considered a noxious, invasive plant pest, earning a “severe threat” designation by the South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council. A study of a reclaimed mine in Virginia found that northern bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) populations were limited due to poor habitat quality resulting from the monoculture plantings of Sericea Lespedeza and turf grasses (Stauffer 2011). At a former surface mine site in

Kentucky (now Peabody Wildlife Management Area), a 2015 study demonstrated that areas dominated by *Sericea Lespedeza* were not preferred habitat for bobwhite (Unger et al.), as it is not a preferred food for bobwhite (Ellis 1961), nor does it contain enough nutritional value to support a bobwhite population (Newlon et al. 1964). Due to its invasive nature and lack of benefit to wildlife, the SCDNR strongly recommends against planting *Sericea Lespedeza*. Additionally, Bermuda grass, Bahiagrass, and other non-native turf grasses, once established, will likely outcompete native vegetation and may create difficulties in establishing native vegetative habitat.

Instead of planting *Sericea Lespedeza* and non-native turf grasses, the SCDNR prefers and recommends the use of native warm season grasses and/or other native forbs for stabilization that are beneficial for wildlife and pollinators. Native warm season grass species suggestions include: Indiangrass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*) and little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*). A list of beneficial pollinator plant species, such as milkweed (*Asclepias spp.*), for the southeast may be found at [www.xerces.org/pollinators-southeast-region/](http://www.xerces.org/pollinators-southeast-region/) or by visiting <http://www.pollinator.org/guides>. Additional South Carolina native pollinator plant species that may be applicable for use at the site during reclamation can be found in Appendix A of the Technical Guidance for the Development of Wildlife and Pollinator Habitat at Solar Farms at <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/solar/assets/pdf/solarHabitatGuide.pdf>.

### Summary

The SCDNR has no objections to the proposed work provided the above recommendations are considered and the below best management practices for mining are applied during the project and included as permit conditions.

- Prior to beginning any land disturbing activity, appropriate erosion and siltation control measures (i.e. silt fences or barriers) must be in place and maintained in a functioning capacity until the area is permanently stabilized.
- All necessary measures must be taken to prevent oil, tar, trash and other pollutants from entering the adjacent offsite areas/wetlands/water.
- Once the project is initiated, it must be carried to completion in an expeditious manner to minimize the period of disturbance to the environment.
- Land disturbance should be kept to a minimum and accomplished in phases, when possible. Disturbed areas should be exposed only for the period of time required to extract the resource and vegetation should be re-established promptly.
- Land clearing should not begin until sediment basins and other conservation practices have been established. Clearing should be limited to the areas to be immediately mined.
- The number of overburden piles should be kept to a minimum and runoff should be diverted into sediment basins until vegetation can be established. Overburden piles should not be placed in drainage-ways or floodways.
- Upon completion, all disturbed areas must be permanently stabilized with vegetative cover (preferable), riprap or other erosion control methods as appropriate.
- All plantings should consist of appropriate native species for the ecoregion and should exclude plant species found on the exotic pest plant council list: [https://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/SCEPPC\\_LIST2014finalOct.pdf](https://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/SCEPPC_LIST2014finalOct.pdf).
- At the time of reclamation of the mine site to a pond, if the ultimate goal for the pond is to provide recreational fishing opportunities, SCDNR recommends that you consult with

the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Clemson Extension to determine any modifications needed for increased productivity. These modifications could include the incorporation of as much shoreline variation with the use of peninsulas and islands in reclamation to provide ideal shoreline habitat for wildlife and aquatic vegetation. Care should be taken to create littoral zone habitat near shorelines, approximately 3 feet or less and the deeper portions of the pond should ideally be no more than 8 to 15 feet for recreational fishing. For your reference, the SCDNR Guidelines for Private Recreational Ponds can be found online at [www.dnr.sc.gov/environmental/docs/private-ponds.pdf](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/environmental/docs/private-ponds.pdf).

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project and provide comments. Should you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at [brownmk@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:brownmk@dnr.sc.gov) or by phone at 803-734-3766.

Sincerely,



Kyle Brown  
Office of Environmental Programs  
South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

## References

- Castelle, A.J., A.W. Johnson & C. Conolly. 1994. Wetland and stream buffer requirements - A review. *Journal of Environmental Quality*.
- Ellis, J.A. 1961. Consumption of some food items by pen-reared bobwhites. *Journal of Wildlife Management*.
- Jensen, J.B., C.D. Camp, J.W. Gibbons, M.J. Elliott. 2008. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Georgia*. University of Georgia Press. Athens, GA.
- Litzgus, J.D. & T.A. Mousseau. 2004. Home range and seasonal activity of southern spotted turtles (*Clemmys guttata*): Implications for management. *Copeia*, 2004(4), 804–817. <https://doi.org/10.1643/CH-04024R1>
- Newlon, C.F., T.S. Baskett, R.P. Breitenbach, & J.A. Stanford. 1964. Sustaining values of emergency foods for bobwhites. *The Journal of Wildlife Management*.
- Peterjohn, W.T. & D.L. Correll. 1984. Nutrient dynamics in an agricultural watershed: Observations on the role of a riparian forest. *Ecology*.
- Stauffer, D.F. 2011. Potential of reclaimed mine–land habitat to support northern bobwhite bobwhite—a pilot study. Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Richmond.
- Unger, A.M., E.P. Tanner, C.A. Harper, P.D. Keyser, F.T. Van Manen, J.J. Morgan, and D.A. Baxley. 2015. Northern bobwhite seasonal habitat selection on a reclaimed surface coal mine in Kentucky. *Journal of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies*.
- Wenger, S. 1999. A Review of the Scientific Literature on Riparian Buffer Width, Extent, and Vegetation. Publication of the Office of Public Service and Outreach, Institute of Ecology; University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia (March 5, 1999).

## Appendix 1. Avoidance and Minimization Measures for Protected Species

The SCDNR offers the following comments for future assessments and consideration for protected species. Additional information regarding habitat assessments for state protected species can be found in the SCDNR State Listed Protection Guidance document found here: <https://dnr.sc.gov/environmental/docs/SCDNRStateListedSpeciesProtectionGuidance.pdf>.

### *Spotted Turtle*

*For areas where wetlands are being avoided, the SCDNR recommends the following:*

- Prior to any construction activity, install silt fencing from November 15th through January 15th. Silt fencing should include 45-degree arms to direct spotted turtles to the uplands adjacent to the waterbody and away from the construction site (Figure 1). The 45-degree arms should be placed at a minimum of 100 ft from the waterbody and no more than 300 ft from the waterbody. Additionally, silt fence arms should extend at least 50-ft and extend in each direction so that the ends of each 45-degree angle to the fence meet to form a triangle. Silt fencing should remain in place throughout the duration of the proposed construction activities. If silt fencing cannot be placed in accordance with this timing, see additional silt fencing exclusion below.
- Prior to construction, monitor the silt fencing to ensure it is effectively working properly on a monthly basis. This should effectively exclude the species from the project area prior to construction activities. Once construction activities begin, the silt fence should be monitored weekly, at a minimum, for the integrity of the fencing and the presence of spotted turtles or other herpetofauna or small wildlife species. The SCDNR recommends that a permit is in hand prior to exclusion to address handling and relocation of any spotted turtles encountered during the project.

*If silt fencing for exclusion cannot be placed at the appropriate time outlined above, then the following should be abided:*

Should the applicant not be able to install the silt fencing in accordance with the proposed window, it will require the applicant to install the exclusion fencing when the species is more active and has the potential to trap individuals within the area of proposed construction. Therefore, the SCDNR recommends checking the perimeter of the fencing twice daily for 14 days prior to ground disturbance and/or clearing in areas adjacent to and near these wetlands to ensure that spotted turtles are not trapped within the proposed project footprint.

Any turtles found within the construction area during this initial monitoring period and the construction monitoring period described below must be relocated. The relocation plan must be submitted to the SCDNR Permitting Biologist<sup>1</sup> and a permit received from SCDNR prior to the installation of the silt fencing.

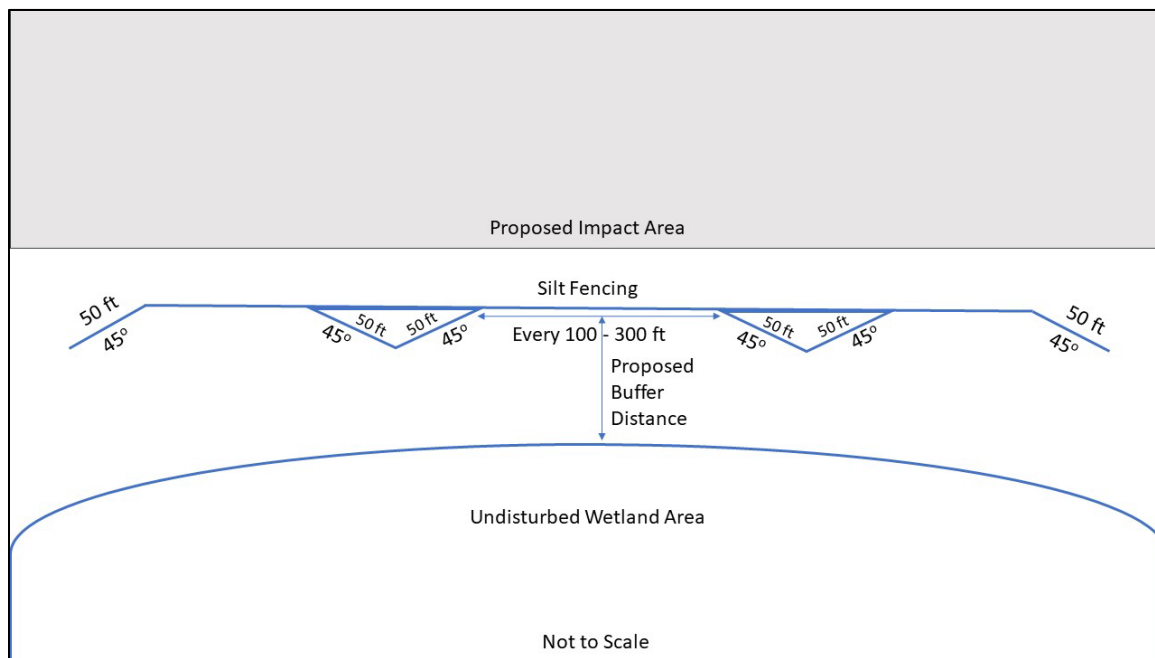
During the initial 14 days of monitoring, the construction area should be entirely enclosed within the exclusion fence. After the 14-day installation period, a single point of access may be established in the exclusion fence, utilizing four 45-degree arms (two facing inward and two

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/scientificcollinstructions.pdf>

facing outwards (e.g., ---< >---) as outlined in the guidance below. Please note that the following guidance necessitates that a minimum 100' upland buffer be established between the affected area and the adjacent wetlands.

- Silt fencing should include 45-degree arms to direct spotted turtles to the uplands adjacent to the waterbody and away from the construction site. The 45-degree arms should be placed at a minimum of 100 ft from the waterbody and no more than 300 ft from the waterbody. Additionally, silt fence arms should extend at least 50-ft and extend in each direction so that the ends of each 45-degree angle to the fence meet to form a triangle. Silt fencing should remain in place throughout the duration of the proposed construction activities.
- Prior to construction, monitor the silt fencing to ensure it is working properly on a monthly basis. This should effectively exclude the species from the project area prior to construction activities. Once construction activities begin, the silt fence should be monitored weekly for the integrity of the fencing and the presence of spotted turtles or other herpetofauna or small wildlife species. If spotted turtles are encountered, the SCDNR state herpetologist should be notified immediately by calling 854-202-0472.



**Figure 1.** Spotted turtle exclusion silt fencing diagram.

### SCDNR Spotted Turtle Relocation Guidance

Relocation can occur moving animals to similar habitats onsite or to suitable habitat offsite. The relocation plan for moving spotted turtles away from areas they will be impacted must be submitted to SCDNR for review prior to the installation of the silt fencing and the proper permits acquired from the SCDNR Permitting Biologist<sup>2</sup> for the movement of a state protected species. If you have questions, please contact the State Herpetologist by emailing [herps@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:herps@dnr.sc.gov).

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/scientificcollinstructions.pdf>

The relocation plan should include the following:

- Maps of where habitat will be impacted and the proposed relocation area.
- Photos of suitable habitat in the proposed relocation area.
- **Temporary Relocations** generally entail translocating individuals immediately outside of exclusion fencing and into adjacent or nearby areas outside of areas of active construction where they were encountered and only in areas that provide similar suitable habitat and cover. Protocols for temporary relocations should include silt fencing monitoring plan and may also include the following best management practices:
  - Reptiles may move during the night and seek shelter, therefore, all machinery and construction materials or debris that remain overnight at the work area shall be inspected by a designated and qualified environmental inspector. All personnel will be responsible for visually inspecting vehicles and equipment throughout the lifecycle of the Project. Details outlining visual inspections will be provided during a Project-specific training for all on-site Project personnel. Project-specific training material for protected species conservation will be developed and used to inform onsite workers of spotted turtles.
  - Depending upon the specific location for clearing or intrusive work, if a spotted turtle is encountered during the daily pre-work examination, field work/construction may be delayed temporarily in the immediate vicinity until after the animal has voluntarily moved outside the work area or is relocated.
  - If work is in progress after completion of the pre-work examination and a worker observes an animal that may be a spotted turtle, all workers within a 50-foot radius shall cease work immediately and all machines within the same radius shall be turned off. The permit holder's environmental professional shall be contacted immediately. The person that detected the reptile will maintain observation of the specimen until the designated professional arrives, while maintaining a separation distance of no less than 25 feet from the reptile, to avoid being detected and cause the animal to hide. Upon arrival of the approved designated professional, the person that encountered the individual animal will show the professional where the turtle is for relocation as needed.
- **Relocation Trap Assessments** (NOT LIKELY NEEDED FOR THIS PROJECT SINCE EXCLUDING WETLANDS) are a more intensive method intended to facilitate the collection of all individuals in an area that will be impacted or completely lost. These sites should be trapped at a minimum of two weeks per month in March, April and May. Each week of trapping should include a 4-night trap run for a total of at least 12 nights during the entire Spotted Turtle active season, March 1 to May 15. The relocation plan must include a trapping protocol and survey schedule with maps that show all wetlands and trapping schedule/plots/protocol/density of traps when applicable.

***Trap Configuration***

- Within each of the four circular sampling plots, place ten traps (recommended: ProMar TR-502 or TR-503 24 or 36"x12" collapsible turtle traps OR crab traps utilized in FL/GA, see equipment section, below) 0–200 m from the reference point at the plot centroid (40 traps total over the four reference plots) in areas within the project footprint that will be impacted.
- Ideally, all ten traps within a single reference plot should be the same trap type, though different reference plots could have different trap types. The ten traps per

sampling plot can be placed in any number of wetlands (e.g., one large wetland or as many as five small wetlands). Ideally, traps should be placed at least 30 m intervals (the average daily movement distance of females in the spring observed by Litzgus and Mosseau [2004] in South Carolina) in different directions from the reference point (e.g., 30 m to NW; 60 m to NE, etc.); however, the configuration and wetlands and microhabitat will often preclude this strategy. In instances where the wetland configuration is a single linear feature (e.g., a ditch or canal), the traps may be placed in a line along the wetland, separated by at least 30 m, ideally.

### **Trap Placement**

- *Microhabitat*.—Traps should be located within high potential use areas, if they exist in the project footprint to be impacted. High potential microhabitat is as follows:
  - In shallow ( $\leq 0.2$  m,  $<$  trap diameter) flow channels that may direct movement of individuals;
  - At the edge of thick vegetation (e.g., sedges, grasses, shrubs) or structure (e.g., logs, debris);
  - Proximal to basking sites;
  - At sites with good solar exposure;
  - Surrounded by cover that conceals traps;

If high potential use areas aren't available in the project footprint to be surveyed, the consultant should use their expertise of the species to place traps in locations that have the highest potential for capturing spotted turtles.

- *Placement*.—Traps should be firmly staked into the ground (e.g., with 4' plastic-wire coated tomato stakes) or affixed to adjacent structures (e.g., using rope) at two locations to prevent animals, wind, etc. from moving them. The traps should be set so that turtles have adequate headspace to breathe. For ProMar traps, place 1–2 empty plastic bottles (16 oz, with caps on tight) within traps or pool noodles along the outside of traps to ensure breathing space. GPS coordinates should be recorded at each trap once they are placed, and traps should be flagged or marked in accordance with each researcher's preference, including the reference number and trap number. In locations where traps may be seen by the public (e.g., roadsides, boardwalks, etc.), traps can be inconspicuously labeled, instead, so as to not attract attention. On the day of trap deployment, complete the trap set-up field form including habitat suitability information. Surveyors must watch forecast weather conditions and pull or monitor traps if heavy precipitation or flooding is expected. During subsequent DA trap placements, traps should generally be placed in the same location as during the previous run, unless this is impossible due to changing water levels.
- *Trap Checks*.—Traps should be checked at least every 24 hours. On each trap-check day, the trap-check field form should be completed, and the turtle individual field form should be completed for each Spotted Turtle captured in the trap (see protocol for processing individual turtles). Traps should be baited with  $\sim\frac{1}{2}$  can of sardines in oil (e.g., Beach Cliff) and rebaited every 24 hours.
- Protocol for handling captured animals (including target and non-target organisms) – photos verification of each individual and documentation of other species (see photo

verification details below). Captured animals shall never be left in the sun, and if relocation cannot take place immediately, animals must be placed in a shaded, cool, dry place that is clear of vehicles and heavy equipment, human activity, and project activities. If an animal needs to be temporarily housed, a labeled, disinfected, plastic container with a lid that has airholes may be used, however, the individual must be relocated within 24 hours. In the event an individual is killed or dies during holding, it will immediately be reported to SCDNR, and the permittee will implement any instruction requested by SCDNR accordingly for specimen disposition. If individuals are encountered, sub-meter accurate GPS coordinates will be collected for the collection location and the translocation location. Any data or information collected during the Project will be compiled and provided to SCDNR. Data will include photographs, GPS coordinates, and any other relevant data available to collect or requested during observations and/or collection.

- Handling and capture of protected species will only occur if individuals are encountered inside the construction areas and relocation will result in avoiding inadvertent adverse impacts to these species. No other handling or capture of these species are allowed.
- Protocol for transporting and releasing captured animals to relocation site including details on when and where.
- Resumes/curriculum vitae of entities completing this work; reptile and amphibian survey trapping experience is required.

### **Photo Voucher Protocol**

General photography procedures

The camera used for photo vouchers should be 1024 x 768 pixels or higher. For all voucher photographs of each individual should include at a minimum, a photo the dorsal view (from above), ventral view (belly) and lateral view should be obtained. It is ideal to photograph the specimen on a light background including a ruler to show size. Photographs in an individual's hand is also acceptable if no other options are available. This also helps to capture the size, but please keep in mind to try to allow the animal to occupy as much of the field of view as possible to capture the detail necessary for identification. In general, effort should be made to photograph any distinguishing features.

Example Photo Vouchers of a Gopher Frog as a reference

Photo 1 (Dorsal view)



Photo 2 (Lateral View)



# MR-500 Reclamation Plan for an Individual Mine Operating Permit

## Environmental Protection

---

### **Describe practices to protect adjacent resources such as roads, wildlife areas, woodland, cropland and others during mining and reclamation.**

Construction entrance, per SCDHEC, shall be used to protect existing roads. Construction entrances will be placed at the intersection of Callajoe Way and Levy Road in addition to the construction entrance to the project site. A 50' undisturbed wetland buffer will ensure adequate distance between mine and adjacent wetlands to prevent negative effects on existing hydrology and wildlife.

### **Describe proposed methods to limit significant adverse effects on adjacent surface water and groundwater resources.**

As stated above, a minimum 50' undisturbed wetland buffer will eliminate effects to groundwater resources. Also temporary sediment basins, outfall ditches and a stone filter ring directly upstream of the outfall pipe have been designed to prevent erosion and eliminate effects to surface water.

### **Describe method to prevent or eliminate conditions that could be hazardous to animal or fish life in or adjacent to the permitted area.**

There are no known fisheries present in the area of the mining. Dust control, silt fence, rock check dams and other BMPs will be installed to prevent sediment from leaving the site.

The mine will be reclaimed as operations advance which include grading banks to the required 3H:1V slope. Water discharges from the site will be in accordance to the NPDES water quality standards

### **Describe how applicant will comply with State air quality and water quality standards as established by the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services.**

BMPs, as listed on the site development and erosion control plans along with the provided notes and documentations, are consistent with SCDHEC and SC mining Act requirements. This plan shall be implemented by the selected contractor.

## Reclamation of Affected Area

---

### **State useful purpose(s) the affected land is being proposed for reclamation.**

Lake or Pond

### **Feasibility Documentation Attachment**

NONE PROVIDED

**Comment**

NONE PROVIDED

### **Will the final maximum surface gradient (slope) in soil, sand, or other unconsolidated materials be steeper than 3 Horizontal : 1 Vertical (18 degrees or 33 percent)?**

No

### **How will the final slopes in unconsolidated material be accomplished?**

The maximum reclamation slope shall be 3:1. All areas will be stabilized with grass cover upon completion of mining activities. Gradient shall be achieving utilizing on site excavated materials, to be compacted and stabilized upon completion. Clean material from offsite construction projects may be brought in to achieve 3:1 slope

If the slope will be by backfilling, demonstrate that there is adequate material to accomplish the stated final gradient. If gradient is to be achieved by bringing in material from outside the permitted area, state the nature of the material and approximate quantities. If the gradient is to be achieved by grading, show that there is adequate area for grading to achieve gradient (i.e., adequate distance between the property line and edge of highwall).

**Final slopes calculations or other supporting information attachment(s)**

[EC0.1 - EC0.4.pdf - 02/09/2026 02:09 PM](#)

[31589.0000 - Monroe Tract - Overall Mine Map- Contours - 05-19-2026.pdf - 05/19/2026 05:53 PM](#)

**Comment**

Uploading the revised mine map with contours

**Describe the plan for revegetation or other surface treatment of affected area(s). The revegetation plan shall include but not be limited to the following: (a) planned soil test; (b) site preparation and fertilization; (c) seed or plant selection; (d) rate of seeding or amount of planting per acre; (e) maintenance.**

See sheet EC0.4. Notes on this sheets describe items a-e listed above.

**Does the possibility exist for (a) acid rock drainage; (b) where the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) Permit has discharge limitation parameters other than pH and Total Suspended Solids (TSS); (c) chemically treated tailings or stockpiles (excludes fertilizer or lime for revegetation purposes)?**

No

**Describe the methods to control contaminants and permanently dispose any mine waste. This includes any soil, rock (overburden), mineral, scrap, tailings, fines, slimes, or other material directly connected with the mining, cleaning, and preparation of mineral substances mined. It also includes all waste material deposited on or in the permit area from any source.**

Mining waste can be used as backfill in the mined-out areas of the mine. This can help to stabilize the underground workings and reduce the need for surface storage facilities.

**Describe the method of reclaiming settling and/or sediment ponds.**

During construction the mine itself will act as temporary sediment basin. Outlet controls are will be monitored and cleared of sediment and debris upon accumulation

**Describe the method of restoring or establishing stream channels, stream banks, and site drainage to a condition to minimize erosion, siltation, and other pollution.**

A ditch with stone filter ring will be grassed along with the bank of the pit to provide vegetation. Perimeter erosion control measures will remain in place until the site is stabilized.

**What are the maintenance plans to insure that the reclamation practices established on the affected land will not deteriorate before released by the Department?**

Any vegetation cover serving to stabilize disturbed soils that is unacceptable will be replaced. The department may come inspect the site prior to release.

**For final reclamation, submit information about practices to provide for safety to persons and to adjoining property in all excavations. Identify areas of potential danger (vertical walls, unstable slopes, unstable surface on clay slimes, etc.) and provide appropriate safety provisions.**

A minimum 50' undisturbed property buffer and a minimum 50' undisturbed wetland buffer is provided between the mining operation and adjacent properties.

We do not anticipate any access to mine areas by adjoining property owners as there is a substantial vegetative buffer. As mentioned before, the access to the mine is on a private, gated road

**What provisions will be taken to prevent noxious, odious, or foul pools of water from collecting and remaining on the mined area? For mines to be reclaimed as lakes or ponds, provide supporting information that a minimum water depth of four (4) feet on at least fifty percent (50%) of the pond surface area can be maintained.**

No standing water less than 4 feet will exist after reclamation. The site has an outfall ditch located adjacent to wetlands at the southwestern corner of the site. Upon completion of mining activities this elevation (12') should set the water elevation. Minimum depth will be greater than 4 feet.

**Identify any structures (e.g. buildings, roads) that are proposed to remain as part of final reclamation. Provide justification for leaving any structures.**

N/A

**Attach a copy of a map of the area (referred to as the RECLAMATION MAP) that shows the reclamation practices and conservation practices to be implemented. The following should be shown (A through P - see below):**

[31589.0000 - Monroe Tract - Reclamation Map - 05-19-2026.pdf - 05/19/2026 05:54 PM](#)

**Comment**

Uploaded the revised reclamation map now showing the outfall ditch and rerouted ditch.

- A. The outline of the proposed final limits of the excavation during the number of years for which the permit is requested.
- B. The approximate final surface gradient(s) and contour(s) of the area to be reclaimed. This would include the sides and bottoms of mines reclaimed ponds and lakes.
- C. The outline of the tailings disposal area.
- D. The outline of disposal areas for spoil and refuse (exclusive of tailings ponds).
- E. The approximate location of the mean shore line of any impoundment or water body and inlet and/or outlet structures which will remain upon final reclamation.
- F. The approximate locations of access roads, haul roads, ramps or buildings which will remain upon final reclamation.
- G. The approximate locations of various vegetative treatments.
- H. The proposed locations of re-established streams, ditches or drainage channels to provide for site drainage.
- I. The proposed locations of diversions, terraces, silt fences, brush barriers or other Best Management Practices to be used for preventing or controlling erosion and off-site siltation.
- J. Proposed locations of the measures to provide safety to persons and adjoining property.
- K. Segments of the mine that can be mined and reclaimed as an ongoing basis.
- L. The boundaries of the permitted area.
- M. The boundaries of the affected area for the anticipated life of the mine.
- N. The boundaries of the 100-year floodplain, where appropriate.
- O. Identify sections of mine where the final surface gradient will be achieved by grading and/or backfilling.
- P. A legend showing the name of the applicant, the name of the proposed mine, the north arrow, the county, the scale, the date of preparation and the name and title of the person who prepared the map.

THE REQUIRED RECLAMATION MAP SHALL HAVE A NEAT, LEGIBLE APPEARANCE AND BE OF SUFFICIENT SCALE TO CLEARLY SHOW THE REQUIRED INFORMATION LISTED ABOVE. THE BASE FOR THE MAP SHALL BE EITHER A SPECIALLY PREPARED LINE DRAWING, AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH, ENLARGED USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OR A RECENTLY PREPARED PLAT. RECLAMATION MAP SHOULD BE THE SAME SCALE USED FOR THE SITE MAP.

#### **Schedule for Implementation of Conservation and Reclamation Practices**

---

**As stated in Section 48-20-90 of the S.C. Mining Act, reclamation activities, to the extent feasible, must be conducted simultaneously with mining operations. Identify which areas or segments of the mine are not feasible to reclaim simultaneously with mining. Provide reasons why reclamation can not proceed simultaneously with mining in these areas.**

Reclamation will proceed simultaneously with mine activities in disturbed areas.

**Schedule for Implementing Conservation and Reclamation Practices**

<b>Conservation &amp; Reclamation Practices</b>	<b>Segment # or Area</b>	<b>Planned Amount</b>	<b>Planned Year</b>	<b>*Applied Amount</b>	<b>*Applied Year</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Install Survey Control Markers	PA	NONE PROVIDED	2026			Two permanent survey markers within the permitted area shall be located at least 100 feet apart. Maintain LOM
Flag Buffer Area	PA	NONE PROVIDED	2026			Markers should be located prior to start of mining. Maintain LOM
Post Warning Signs	PA	NONE PROVIDED	2026			Maintain LOM
Install Stormwater BMPS	PA	NONE PROVIDED	2026			BMPs shall be installed and maintained as necessary to ensure stormwater is retained on site. Maintain LOM
Construct Haul Roads, Access	PA	3.3 ac	2026			Prior to use, maintain LOM
Clear/ stockpile topsoil	1	17.0 ac	2027			Enough topsoil for reclamation must be stockpiled at the site
Excavate	1	17.0 ac	2027			Minimize the amount of disturbed acreage to reduce the potential for offsite sediment and erosion control measures
Clear/ stockpile topsoil	2	2.9 ac	2027-2028			Enough topsoil for reclamation must be stockpiled at the site. The existing ditch along the eastern portion of the site, which currently flows from south to north, will be rerouted.
Grade, topsoil, fertilize, seed final slopes	1	17.0 ac	2028			Slopes shall be graded as excavation progresses. Reclamation of mined out areas should be initiated within 180 days of termination of mining in those areas or earlier if grading/ soil preparation/ seeding is feasible; amount of affected acreage must be minimized
Excavate	2	2.9 ac	2028-2029			Minimize the amount of disturbed acreage to reduce the potential for offsite sediment and erosion control measures
Inspect, repair, maintain	1	17.0 ac	2029			Reclamation/vegetation shall be inspected on a regular basis and corrective measures taken to prevent erosion of final slopes
Clear/ stockpile topsoil	3	1.8 ac	2029			Enough topsoil for reclamation must be stockpiled at the site

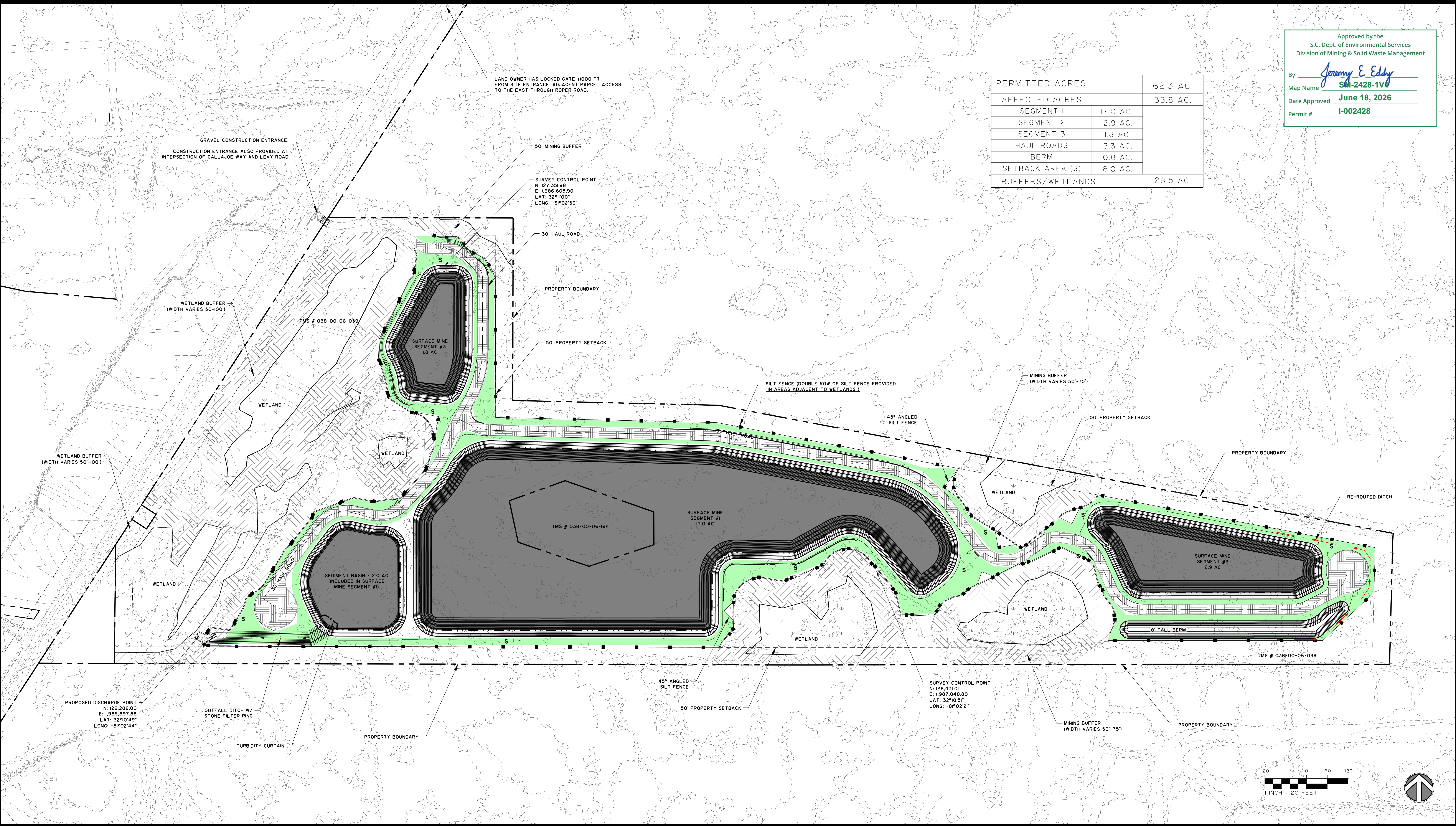
Conservation & Reclamation Practices	Segment # or Area	Planned Amount	Planned Year	*Applied Amount	*Applied Year	Notes
Grade, topsoil, fertilize, seed final slopes	2	2.9 ac	2029			Slopes shall be graded as excavation progresses. Reclamation of mined out areas should be initiated within 180 days of termination of mining in those areas or earlier if grading/ soil preparation/ seeding is feasible; amount of affected acreage must be minimized
Excavate	3	1.8 ac	2029-2030			Minimize the amount of disturbed acreage to reduce the potential for offsite sediment and erosion control measures
Inspect, repair, maintain	2	2.9 ac	2030			Reclamation/vegetation shall be inspected on a regular basis, and corrective measures shall be implemented as needed to prevent erosion along the final pit slopes and rerouted ditch.
Grade, topsoil, fertilize, seed final slopes	3	1.8 ac	2030-2031			Slopes shall be graded as excavation progresses. Reclamation of mined out areas should be initiated within 180 days of termination of mining in those areas or earlier if grading/ soil preparation/ seeding is feasible; amount of affected acreage must be minimized
Inspect, repair, maintain	1-3	25.0 ac	2031			Reclamation/vegetation shall be inspected on a regular basis and corrective measures taken to prevent erosion along the final pit slopes and rerouted ditch

\*Applied fields to be completed by department

Approved by the  
S.C. Dept. of Environmental Services  
Division of Mining & Solid Waste Management

By Jeremy E. Eddy  
Map Name SM-2428-1V  
Date Approved June 18, 2026  
Permit # I-002428

PERMITTED ACRES	62.3 AC.
AFFECTED ACRES	33.8 AC.
SEGMENT 1	17.0 AC.
SEGMENT 2	2.9 AC.
SEGMENT 3	1.8 AC.
HAUL ROADS	3.3 AC.
BERM	0.8 AC.
SETBACK AREA (S)	8.0 AC.
BUFFERS/WETLANDS	28.5 AC.



PREPARED FOR:

OVERALL SAND SURFACE MINE MAP  
**MONROE TRACT**  
JASPER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

05/19/2026

**THOMAS & HUTTON**  
50 Park of Commerce Way  
Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300  
www.thomasandhutton.com

This map illustrates a general plan of the development which is for discussion purposes only, does not limit or bind the owner/developer, and is subject to change and revision without prior written notice to the holder. Dimensions, boundaries and position locations are for illustrative purposes only and are subject to an accurate survey and property description.

COPYRIGHT © 2024 THOMAS & HUTTON

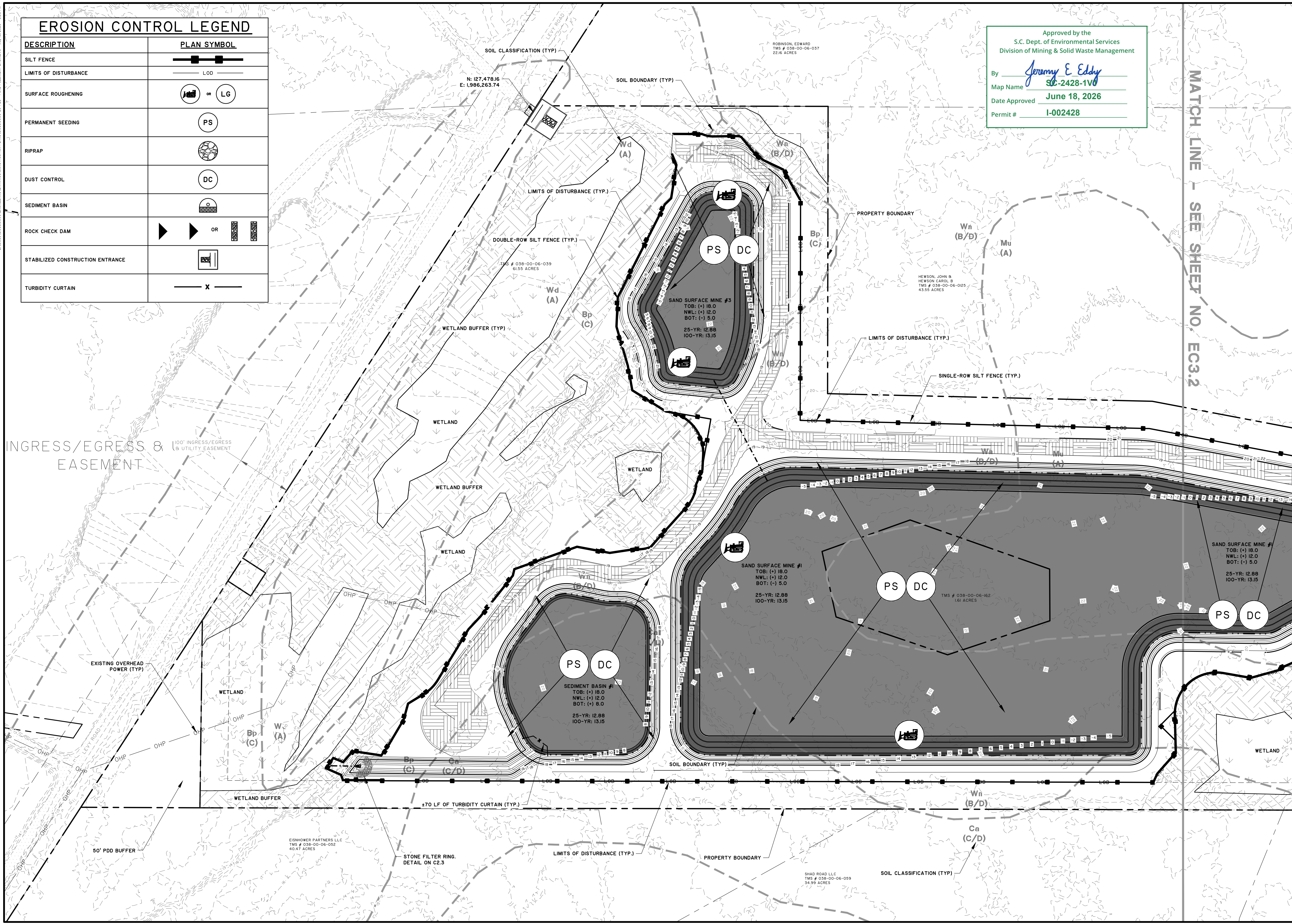


C:\Users\jerry.eddy\OneDrive\Documents\Projects\2024\EROSION CONTROL PLAN\2024-06-03-13.35.DWG - May 19, 2024 - 3:56 PM

### EROSION CONTROL LEGEND

DESCRIPTION	PLAN SYMBOL
SILT FENCE	
LIMITS OF DISTURBANCE	LOD
SURFACE ROUGHENING	or LG
PERMANENT SEEDING	PS
RIPRAP	
DUST CONTROL	DC
SEDIMENT BASIN	
ROCK CHECK DAM	OR
STABILIZED CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE	
TURBIDITY CURTAIN	X

Approved by the  
 S.C. Dept. of Environmental Services  
 Division of Mining & Solid Waste Management  
 By Jeremy E. Eddy  
 Map Name SC-2428-1V0  
 Date Approved June 18, 2026  
 Permit # I-002428



MATCH LINE - SEE SHEET NO. EC3.2

NO.	REVISIONS	BY	DATE

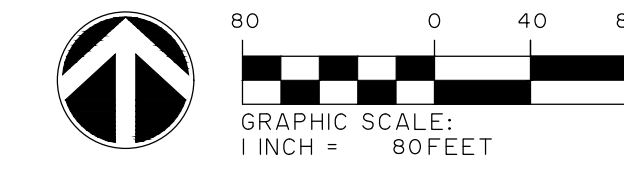
**THOMAS & HUTTON**  
 50 Park of Commerce Way  
 Savannah, GA 31405 • 912.234.5300  
 www.thomasandhutton.com

**ES & PC - STABILIZATION PLAN**

**MONROE TRACT SURFACE MINE**

**PROJECT LOCATION:**  
HARDEEVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

**CLIENT/OWNER:**  
CFH MONROE, LLC  
P.O. BOX 3822  
BLUFFTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29910



DATUM: HORIZ: NAD 83 VERT: NAVD 88

JOB NO:	31589.0000
DATE:	05/19/2026
DRAWN:	SGJ
DESIGNED:	SGJ
REVIEWED:	FIT
APPROVED:	SKM
SCALE:	1" = 80'

**EC3.1**

