

November 13, 2025

SC Department of Transportation C/O Will McGoldrick 955 Park Street Room 509 Columbia, SC 29201

Re:

2022-01082

Dear Mr. McGoldrick:



The Bureau of Coastal Management (the Department) has reviewed your application for filling in the critical area and freshwater wetlands at I-526 and Long Point Road, Mt Pleasant, Charleston County, South Carolina and has issued a permit for this work. You should carefully read the description of the authorized project and special conditions that have been placed on the permit, as these conditions may modify the permitted activity. In addition, there are a series of general conditions that should be reviewed. The original and one photocopy of the permit, as issued, are enclosed. After carefully reading the permit, if you wish to accept the permit as issued, sign and date in the signature block entitled "PERMITTEE" on the original version of the permit and **return it to this Department. Keep the photocopy for your records.** 

<u>PLEASE READ CAREFULLY</u>: You are required to sign and return the original version of your permit to this Department <u>within thirty (30) days.</u> S.C. Code Ann. § 48-6-30(D)(2) provides, "Within thirty calendar days after the mailing of a decision [pursuant to S.C. Code Ann.§ 48-6-30(D)(1)], an applicant, permittee, licensee, certificate holder, or affected person desiring to contest the department decision may request a contested case hearing before the Administrative Law Court, in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act."

In order to request a construction placard, please submit a critical area placard request through ePermitting. You must send in this request before the time you wish to start construction. At that time a construction placard will be sent to you to post at the construction site.

**PLEASE NOTE**: You are not authorized to commence work under the permit until we have received the original version of the entire permit signed and accepted by you, and a construction placard has been issued and posted at the construction site. The receipt of this permit does not relieve you of the responsibility of acquiring any other federal, state, or local permits that may be required. Please return the signed permit to the following address:

Bureau of Coastal Management 1362 McMillan Ave, Suite 400 Charleston, SC 29405

Sincerely

Sarah E. Reed Project Manager

Critical Area Permitting Section

**Enclosure** 

## SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BUREAU OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT

### CRITICAL AREA PERMIT & COASTAL ZONE CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION

Permittee(s): South Carolina Department of Transportation

Permit Number(s): 2022-01082

Date of Issuance: 11/13/2025

Expiration Date: 11/13/2030

Location: On and adjacent to Rathall Creek and Hobcaw Creek at I-526 and Long Point Road,

Mount Pleasant, Charleston County, South Carolina (TMS#: NA - SCDOT Right of Way)

SEE SPECIAL

CONDITION(S)

This permit is issued under the provisions of S. C. Code Ann. Section 48-39-10, et seq., and 23A S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 30-1 through 30-18, as amended. Please carefully read the project description and special conditions that appear on this permit/certification as they will affect the work that is allowed and may modify the work from that shown on the submitted plans. All special conditions attached to the permit will take precedent over submitted plans. The general conditions are also a part of this permit/certification and should be read in their entirety. The S. C. Contractor's Licensing Act of 1999, enacted as S.C. Code Ann. Section 40-11-5 through 430, requires that all construction with a total cost of \$5,000 or more be performed by a licensed contractor with a valid contractor's license for marine class construction, except for construction performed by a private landowner for strictly private purposes. Your signature on and acceptance of this permit denotes your understanding of the stated law regarding use of licensed contractors. All listed special and general conditions will remain in effect for the life of the permit. This applies to permittee, future property owners, or permit assignees.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT, AS AUTHORIZED**

The plans submitted by you, attached hereto, show the work consists of the following: improvements to the I-526 and Long Point Road interchange in Mt. Pleasant. The project study area (PSA) extends along I-526 from the Wando River to Hobcaw Creek, approximately 1 mile north & south of Long Point Road, & along Long Point Road from the Wando Welch Terminal to Egypt Road. This project will improve the operations of the I-526 mainline and its interchange at Long Point Road and reduce operational conflicts between port-related and local traffic within the PSA by modifying the interchange and constructing new ramps to provide access to the Wando Welch Terminal (Wando Port Connector) and associated local roads. Specifically, the project will involve the construction of roadways including a widened bridge approach, new flyover ramps to I-526 and Wando Port Connector, and relocated I-526 westbound off ramp. Construction activities will include grading, re-grading of existing ditches, constructing side slopes, paving, and connecting to the existing transportation network. Installation of guardrails, medians, and other safety components will also be included as part of the project. Stabilization on newly formed side slopes will be completed prior to project close out. Rip-rap will be placed around the bridge approaches. Construction impacts of noise walls will be built on the existing embankment, contained within the project construction limits. The widened roadway embankment between the Wando River and the bridge over the tributary to Rathall Creek will retain the existing bridge over tidal wetlands but require fill impacts for the construction activity. The project will also include the construction of two bridges to I-526 from the Wando Port Connector, approximately 0.20 and 0.25 miles each. The Wando Port Connector will be constructed at-grade and include fill impacts to non-tidal wetlands and SAC-26-1992-762 Protected Lands. The relocated I-526 westbound off ramp will bridge over freshwater wetlands and the tributary to Hobcaw Creek; however, it will include fill impacts for construction. In total, the project will require the placement fill material in 0.33 acres of tidal marsh/critical areas, 3.53 acres of freshwater wetlands, and 1.37 acres of protected freshwater wetlands. To mitigate for these impacts, the permittee has agreed to purchase 4.46 tidal wetland credits, 38.83 freshwater wetland credits, and 230 freshwater wetland credits (to compensate for the removal of protective covenants on 9.553 acres of freshwater wetlands inclusive of the 1.37 acres).



#### SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- 1. The permittee is required to keep adjacent critical areas free of construction materials, litter, debris, chemical contaminants, etc.
- 2. Any disturbed critical area adjacent to the construction site must be restored to original contours and conditions upon completion.
- 3. Only clean, earthen materials free of all potential sources of pollution may be used as fill in the aquatic impact area.
- 4. The project must be in compliance with any applicable floodplain, stormwater, land disturbance, shoreline management guidance or riparian buffer ordinances.
- 5. An as-built survey of the structure(s) must be submitted to the Department within 90 days from completion of construction. The survey must be performed by a registered land surveyor, must show all components of the structure(s), and must list the starting and ending coordinates of the structure(s) in the SC State Plane Coordinate System, which can be obtained by survey-grade Global Positioning System equipment.
- 6. The applicant must implement BMPs that will minimize erosion and migration of sediments on and off the project site during and after construction. These practices should include the use of appropriate grading and sloping techniques, mulches, hay bales, silt fences, or other devices capable of preventing erosion, migration of sediments, and bank failure. All disturbed land surfaces and sloped areas affected by the project must be stabilized.
- 7. All efforts must be made to protect existing native riparian vegetation in and along shoreline areas.
- 8. Where plantings are prescribed, the applicant shall use native plantings appropriate for the ecoregion and should exclude plant species found on the exotic pest plant council list: https://se-eppc.org/southcarolina/SCEPPC\_LIST2014finalOct.pdf.
- 9. Once the project is initiated, it must be carried to completion in an expeditious manner, to the greatest extent practicable, to minimize the period of disturbance to the environment.
- 10. Mitigation for 0.33 acres of impacts to marsh/tidal critical areas, will be provided through the purchase of 4.46 mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank. The proof of purchase of the 4.46 tidal wetland mitigation credits must be submitted to the Department prior to beginning work on the project.
- 11. 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.
- 12. The applicant has agreed to a monitoring plan during construction for cultural resources identified as being adjacent to the project. See additional coordination letter on September 23, 2025 from SCDAH, SHPO Project Number 22-EJ0143, SCDOT Project No. P04131.
- 13. The applicant has agreed to the boundaries of 38CH0319 and a 25' buffer must be marked on all construction documents and noted as "Historic Cemetery" and reference SC Code of Laws 16-17-600. The applicant should

avoid any ground disturbance or temporary use of the cemetery and buffer area for staging equipment or materials (Per SCDAH, SHPO Project Number 22-EJ0143, SCDOT Project No. P041314).

- 14. The project must be consistent with State Stormwater Permitting requirements during and post construction for protection of water quality.
- 15. 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.
- 16. The applicant agrees to coordinate with SCDNR if state protected species are encountered during construction.
- 17. The applicant agrees to implement the following Best Management Practices be incorporated into the design of all bridges:
  - a. All necessary measures will be taken to prevent oil, tar, trash, debris, and other pollutants from entering the adjacent waterway and/or wetland
  - b. Bridge decks will be designed to keep runoff velocities low and control pollutant loadings
  - c. The use of scuppers on bridges will be minimized and all deck drainage will be conveyed to land for treatment in detention ponds and infiltration systems to mitigate pollution loads
  - d. Conveyance systems will be designed to withstand the velocities of projected peak discharge
- 18. The applicant agrees to limit the removal of vegetation to what is necessary for the construction of the proposed improvements.
- 19. Prior to land disturbance and impacts to jurisdictional wetlands of 4.9 acres (3.53 acres of freshwater wetlands, and 1.37 acres of protected freshwater wetlands (Under SAC-26-1992- 762)), applicant must fully comply with all general, special and regional terms and conditions of the US Army Corps of Engineers Permit (SAC-2022-01082 and SAC-26-1992-762) as well as SCDES requirements for Water Quality and Coastal Zone Certifications.
- 20. Mitigation for the impacts to 4.9 acres of wetlands will be provided through the purchase of 38.83 freshwater wetland credits and an additional 230 freshwater wetland credits for impacts to protected wetlands under previous Permit SAC-26-1992-762. The proof of purchase of the 38.83 freshwater wetland credits and 230 freshwater wetland credits (to compensate for the removal of protective covenants on 9.553 acres of freshwater wetlands) must be submitted to the Department prior to beginning work on the project.



PERMITTEE'S ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO GENERAL CONDITIONS NUMBERS FOUR (4) AND FIVE (5). BY ACCEPTANCE OF THIS PERMIT, PERMITTEE IS PLACED ON NOTICE THAT THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, BY ISSUING THIS PERMIT, DOES NOT WAIVE ITS RIGHTS TO REQUIRE PAYMENT OF A REASONABLE FEE FOR USE OF STATE LANDS AT A FUTURE DATE IF SO DIRECTED BY STATUTE.

THE PERMITTEE, BY ACCEPTANCE OF THIS PERMIT AGREES TO ABIDE BY THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS CONTAINED HEREIN AND TO PERFORM THE WORK IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF. ANY DEVIATION FROM THESE CONDITIONS, TERMS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR REVOCATION, SUSPENSION OR MODIFICATION OF THIS PERMIT AND THE INSTITUTION OF SUCH LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AS THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE.

_						
DΔ	rm	it	NΙ	Im	ber:	٠

2022-01082

Your signature below, as permittee, indicates that you accept and agree to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit.

Will McGoldrick	12/10/25
PERMITTEE(S)	DATE
SC Dept of Transportation	

This permit becomes effective when the State official, designated to act for the Bureau of Coastal Management, has signed below.

CRITICAL AREA PERMITTING PROJECT MANAGER

Sarah E. Reed

Or Other Authorized State Official

11/13/2025 DATE



#### **GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

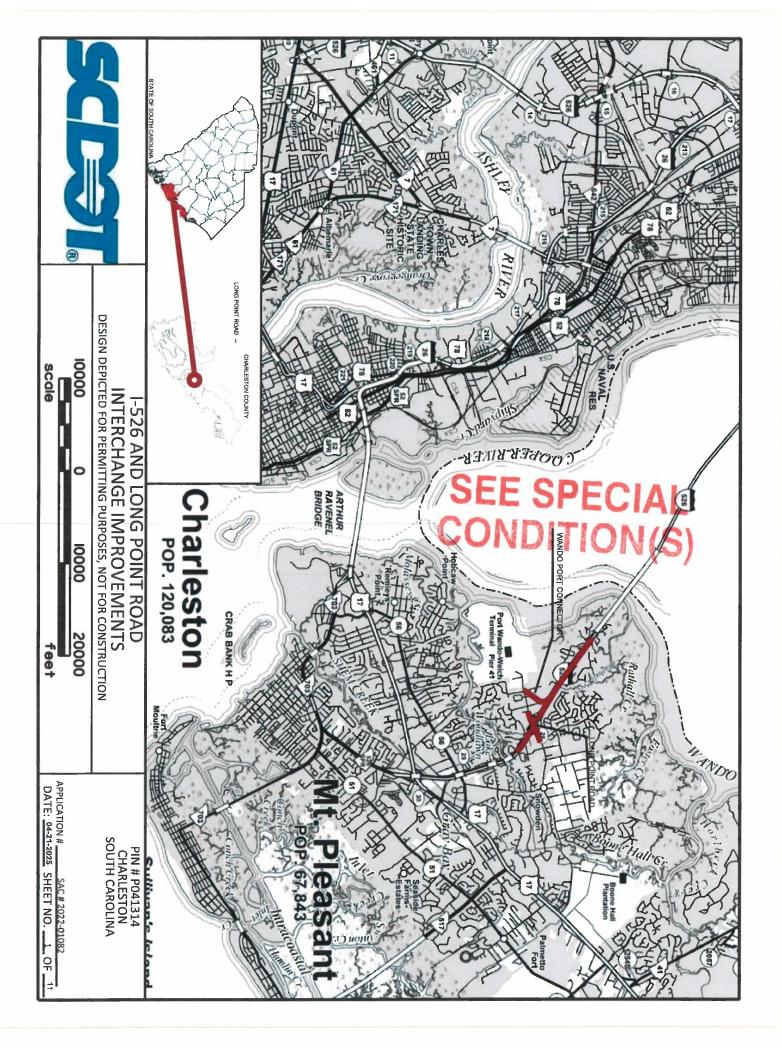
This construction and use permit is expressly contingent upon the following conditions which are binding on the permittee:

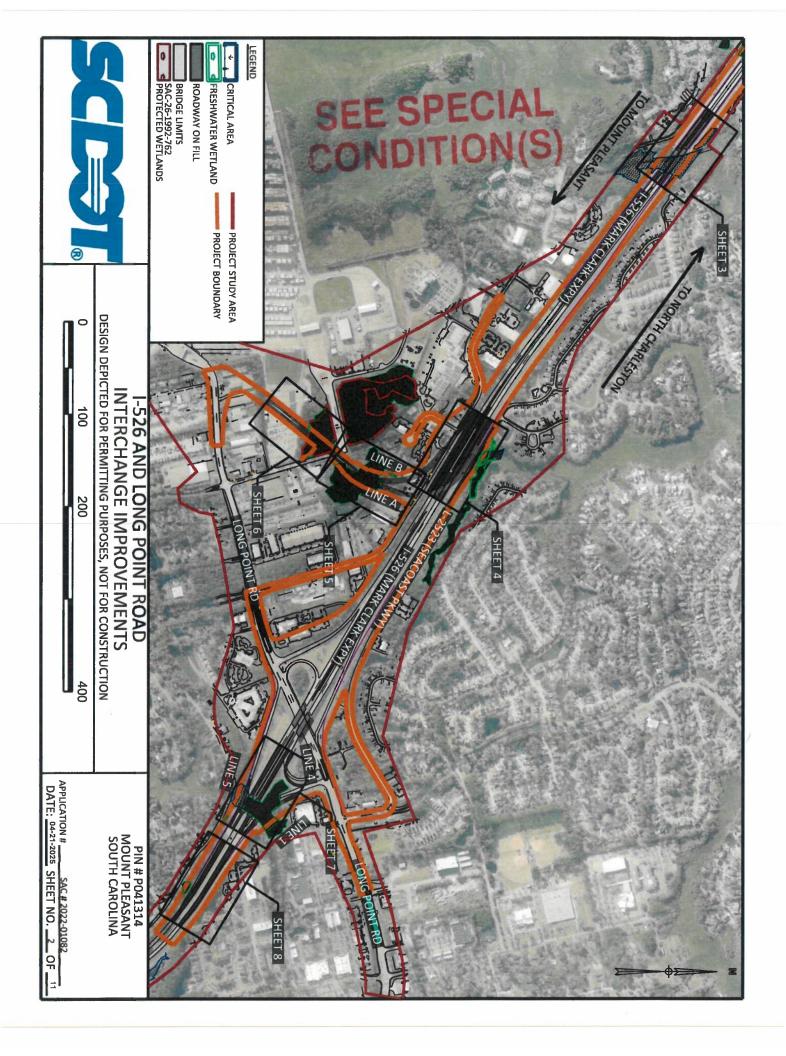
- The permittee, in accepting this permit, covenants and agrees to comply with and abide by the provisions and conditions herein and assumes all responsibility and liability and agrees to save the Department and the State of South Carolina, its employees or representatives, harmless from all claims of damage arising out of operations conducted pursuant to this permit.
- 2. If the activity authorized herein is not constructed or completed within five years of the date of issuance, this permit shall automatically expire. A request, in writing, for an extension of time shall be made not less than thirty days prior to the expiration date.
- 3. All authorized work shall be conducted in a manner that minimizes any adverse impact on fish, wildlife and water quality.
- 4. This permit does not relieve the permittee from the requirements of obtaining a permit from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers or any other applicable federal agency, nor from the necessity of complying with all applicable local laws, ordinances, and zoning regulations. This permit is granted subject to the rights of the State of South Carolina in the navigable waters and shall be subject, further, to all rights held by the State of South Carolina under the public trust doctrine as well as any other right the State may have in the waters and submerged lands of the coast.
- 5. This permit does not convey, expressly or impliedly, any property rights in real estate or material nor any exclusive privileges; nor does it authorize the permittee to alienate, diminish, infringe upon or otherwise restrict the property rights of any other person or the public; nor shall this permit be interpreted as appropriating public properties for private use.
- 6. The permittee shall permit the Department or its authorized agents or representatives to make periodic inspections at any time deemed necessary to ensure that the activity being performed is in accordance with the terms and conditions of this permit.
- 7. Any abandonment of the permitted activity will require restoration of the area to a satisfactory condition as determined by the Department
- 8. This permit may not be transferred to a third party without prior written notice to the Department, either by the transferee's written agreement to comply with all terms and conditions of this permit or by the transferee subscribing to this permit and thereby agreeing to comply.
- 9. If the display of lights and signals on any structure or work authorized herein is not otherwise provided for by law, such lights and special signals as may be prescribed by the United States Coast Guard shall be installed and maintained by and at the expense of the permittee.
- 10. The permit construction placard or a copy of the placard shall be posted in a conspicuous place at the project site during the entire period of work.
- 11. The structure or work authorized herein shall be in accordance with the permit, as issued, and shall be maintained in good condition. Failure to build in accordance with the permit, as issued, or failure to maintain the structure in good condition, shall result in the revocation of this permit.

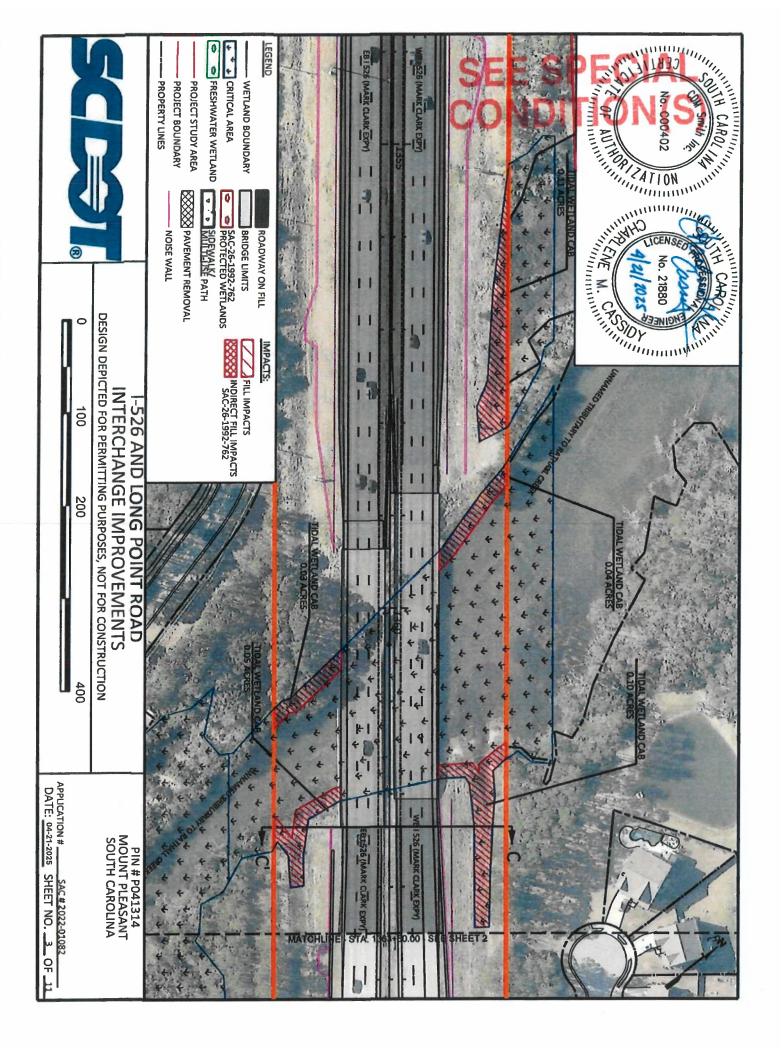


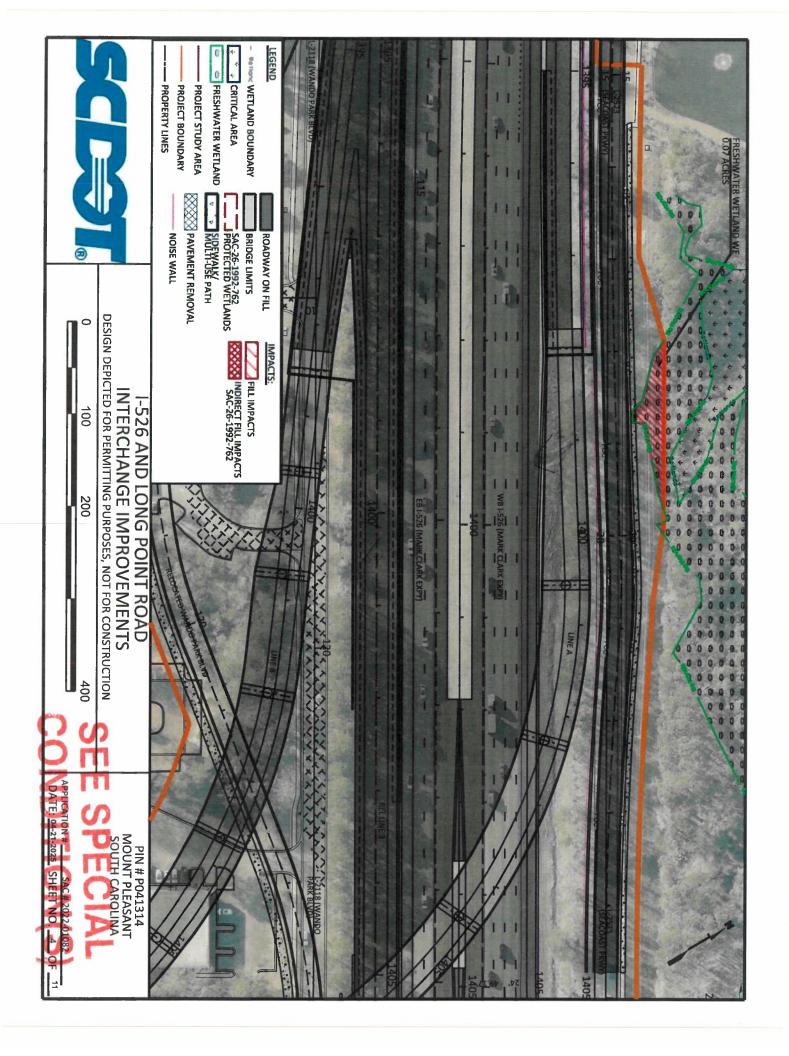
- 12. The authorization for activities or structures herein constitutes a revocable license. The Department may require the permittee to modify activities or remove structures authorized herein if it is determined by the Department that such activity or structures violates the public's health, safety, or welfare, or if any activity is inconsistent with the public trust doctrine. Modification or removal under this condition shall be ordered only after reasonable notice stating the reasons therefore and provision to the permittee of the opportunity to respond in writing. When the Permittee is notified that the Department intends to revoke the permit, Permittee agrees to immediately stop work pending resolution of the revocation.
- 13. The Department shall have the right to revoke, suspend, or modify this permit in the event it is determined the permitted structure (1) significantly impacts the public health, safety and welfare, and/or is violation of Section 48-39-150, (2) adversely impacts public rights, (3) that the information and data which the permittee or any other agencies have provided in connection with the permit application is either false, incomplete or inaccurate, or (4) that the activity is in violation of the terms and/or conditions, including any special conditions of the permit. That the permittee, upon receipt of the Department's written intent to revoke, suspend, or modify the permit has the right to a hearing. Prior to revocation, suspension, or modification of this permit, the Department shall provide written notification of intent to revoke to the permittee, and permittee can respond with a written explanation to the Department. (South Carolina Code Section 1-23-370 shall govern the procedure for revocation, suspension or modification herein described).
- 14. Any modification, suspension or revocation of this permit shall not be the basis of any claim for damages against the Department or the State of South Carolina or any employee, agent, or representative of the Department or the State of South Carolina.
- 15. All activities authorized herein shall be, if they involve a discharge or deposit into navigable waters or ocean waters, at all times consistent with all applicable water quality standards, effluent limitations, and standards of performance, prohibitions, and pretreatment standards established pursuant to applicable federal, state and local laws.
- 16. Extreme care shall be exercised to prevent any adverse or undesirable effects from this work on the property of others. This permit authorizes no invasion of adjacent private property, and the Department assumes no responsibility or liability from any claims of damage arising out of any operations conducted by the permittee pursuant to this permit.

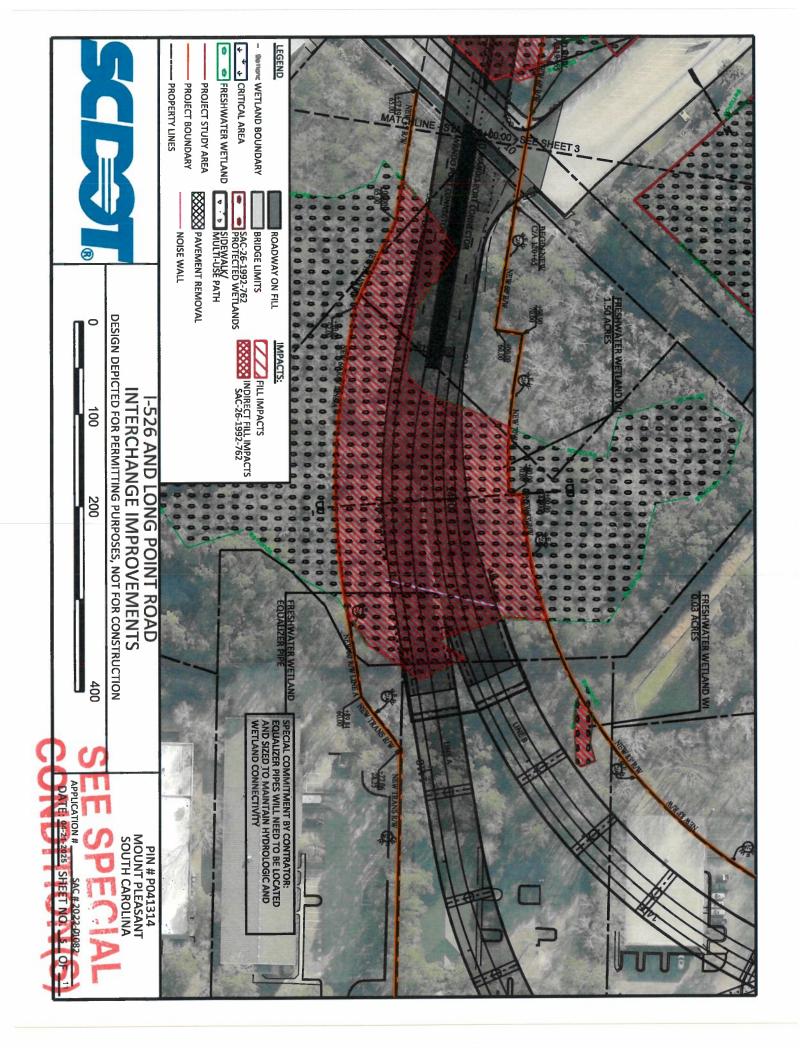


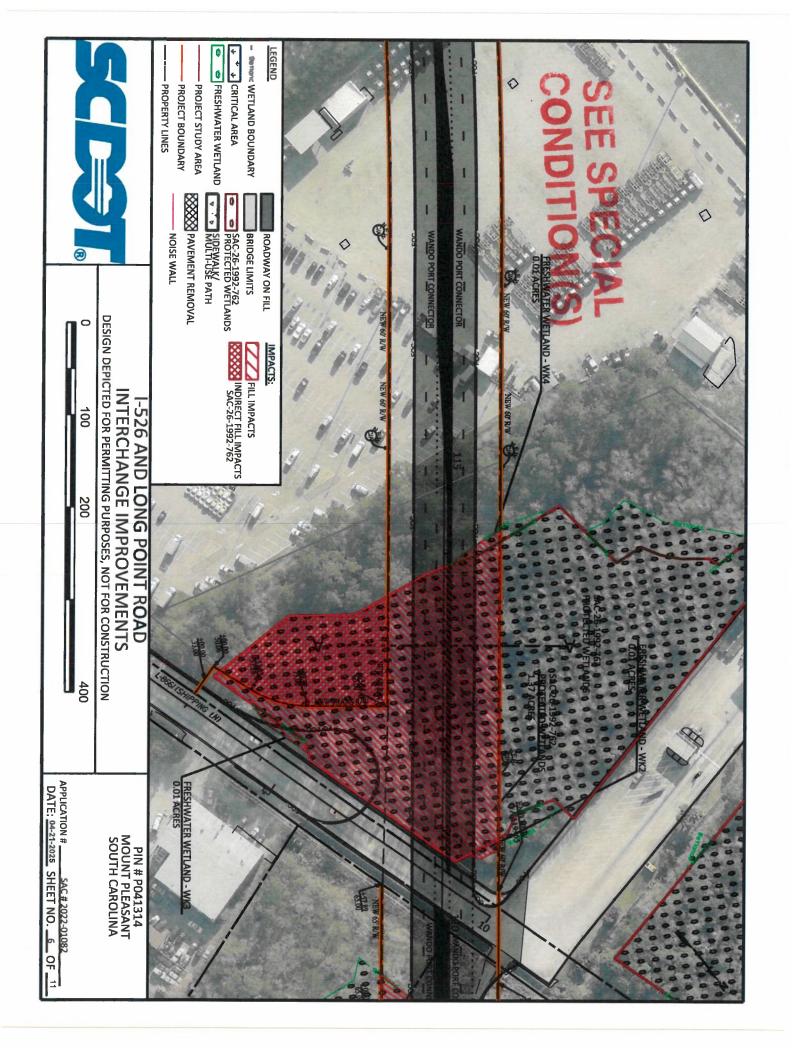


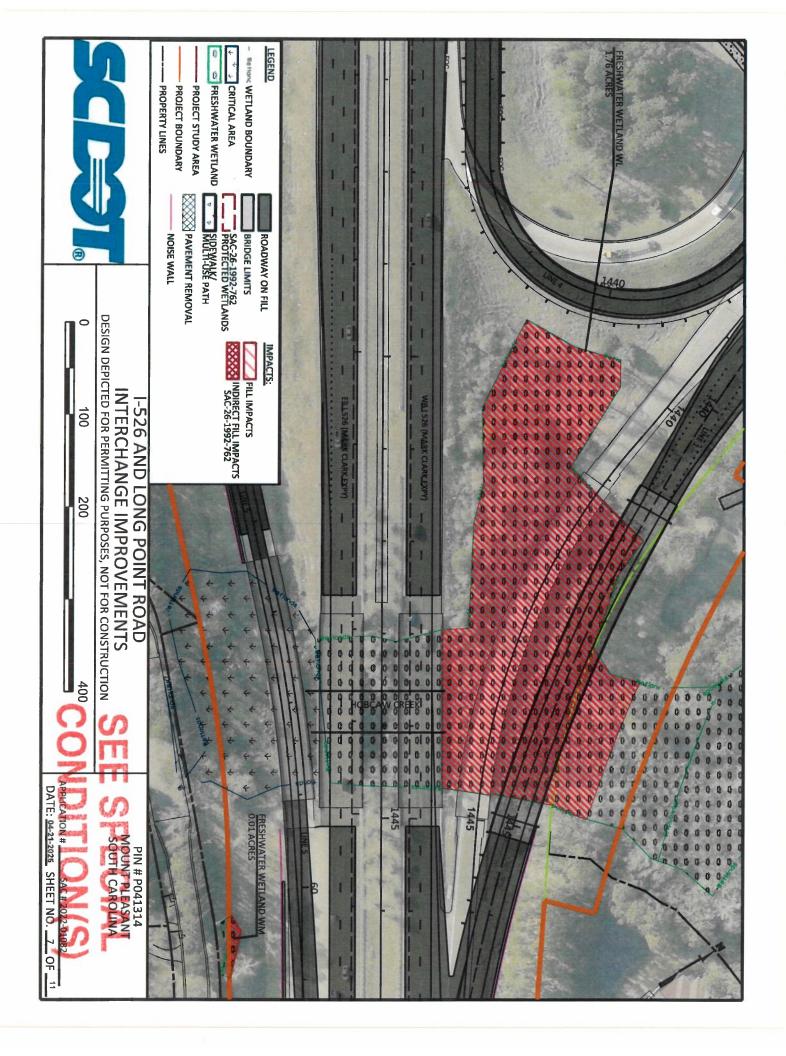


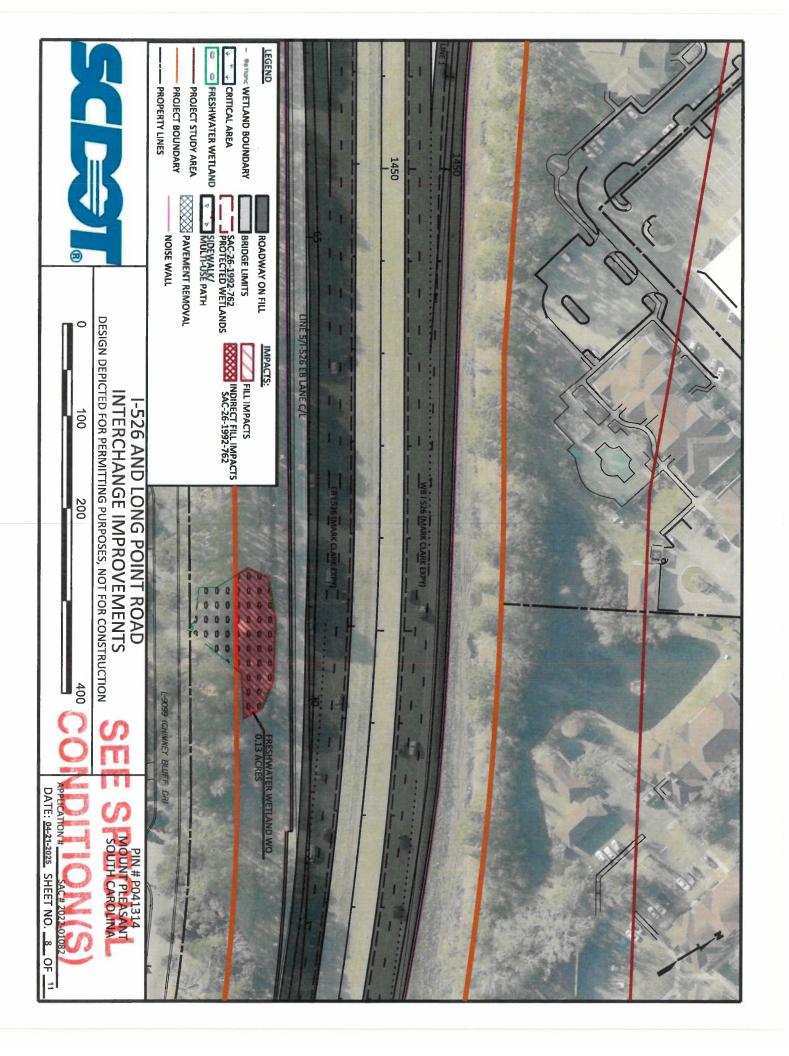












# FILL 25 25 15 10 10 10 10 10 10 IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION OR CONSTRUCTION ACCESS THE REST WAS USED AND WAS USED THE $\triangleright$ DESIGN DEPICTED FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES, NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION WETLAND TYPICAL WETLAND CROSS SECTION INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS I-526 AND LONG POINT ROAD 100 EXISTING GROUND ROW WANDO PARK CONNECTOR WETLAND STA. 117+00.00 200 PROPOSED GRADE WETLAND L IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION OR SAC-26-1992-762 A'S PROTECTED WETLANDS CONSTRUCTION ACCESS 400 CONDITION(S) SEE SPECIAL APPLICATION # DATE: 04-21-2025 SHEET NO. 9 OF 11 PIN # P041314 MOUNT PLEASANT SOUTH CAROLINA SAC # 2022-01082

