



US Army Corps
of Engineers
New England District

696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: December 11, 2007

Comment Period Ends: January 11, 2008

File Number: NAE-2005-01068

In Reply Refer To: Brian E. Valiton

Or by e-mail: brian.e.valiton@usace.army.mil

The District Engineer has received a permit application from the applicant below to **conduct work in waters of the United States** as described below. The Corps is soliciting comments on both the project itself and the range of issues to be addressed in the environmental documentation.

APPLICANT: Massachusetts Port Authority (MASSPORT) Runway 5/23 Safety Area Improvements
Laurence G. Hanscom Field, Bedford, Massachusetts.

ACTIVITY: MASSPORT has applied to place fill in inland waters and wetlands to improve the existing Runway End 5/23 safety areas at Hanscom Field to meet FAA standards to the extent feasible. The proposed safety area improvements involve impacts to 92,288 sq. ft. (2.12 acres) of waters and wetlands subject to Corps of Engineers jurisdiction. Since the project will require the filling of jurisdictional waters and wetlands MASSPORT has proposed a detailed mitigation plan that is intended to mitigate for unavoidable adverse impacts to the wetlands functions and values at the Runway 23 end of the project. A detailed description and plans of the activity, including the mitigation, are attached.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED WORK:

This work is proposed in waters and adjacent wetlands associated with a number of small streams that are tributary to the Shawsheen River at the airport property at Hanscom Drive, Bedford, Massachusetts. The proposed location of the Runway 23 filling is on the USGS Concord quadrangle sheet at Zone 19 UTM coordinates 4704940.00 N and 0312300.00 E or Lat/Long

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
 Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
 Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act).

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 as amended.

Based on his initial review, the District Engineer has determined that little likelihood exists for the proposed work to impinge upon properties with cultural or Native American significance, or listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, no further consideration of the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is necessary. This determination is based upon one or more of the following:

- a. The permit area has been extensively modified by previous work.
- b. The permit area has been recently created.
- c. The proposed activity is of limited nature and scope.
- d. Review of the latest published version of the National Register shows that no presence of registered properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein are in the permit area or general vicinity.
- e. Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s)

The States of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved **Coastal Zone Management Programs**. Where applicable the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this Public Notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:

- (X) Permit, License or Assent from State.
- (X) Permit from Local Wetland Agency or Conservation Commission.
- (X) Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. **Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date.** If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Brian Valiton at (978) 318-8166, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

CENAE-R
FILE NO. NAE-2005-1068

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for a public hearing shall specifically state the reasons for holding a public hearing. The Corps holds public hearings for the purpose of obtaining public comments when that is the best means for understanding a wide variety of concerns from a diverse segment of the public.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

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

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.



Karen K. Adams
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

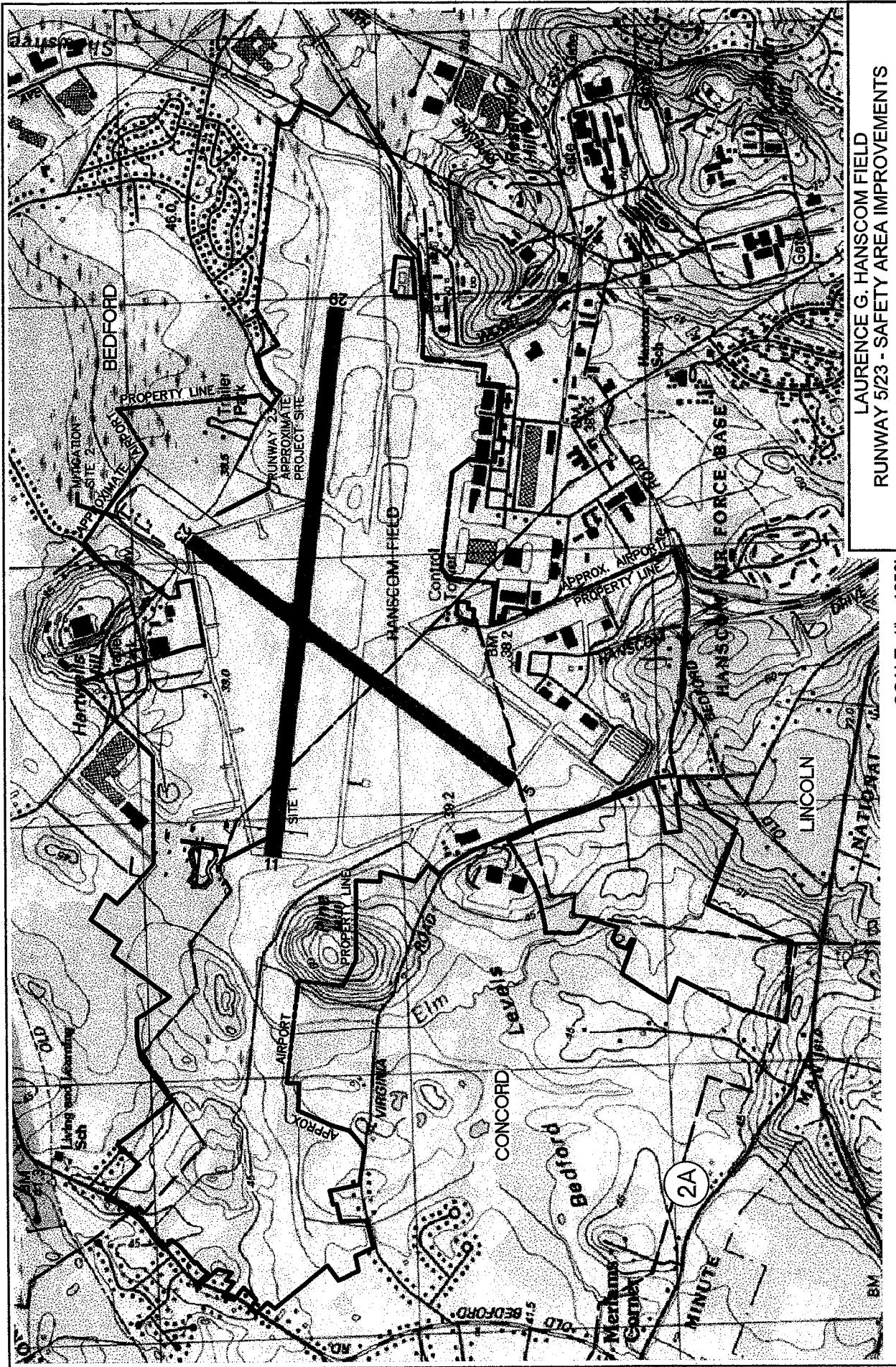
If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

PROPOSED WORK AND PURPOSE

The proposed project consists of regrading and other improvements to runway safety areas (RSA's) at Runways 5/23 at Hanscom Field. The RSA is a defined surface surrounding the runway and is designed to reduce the risk of damage to the aircraft in the event of an excursion from the runway. The RSA also provides access for fire fighting and rescue equipment during such incidents. The current runway 5/23 does not meet FAA design standards and the FAA has requested that the safety area be improved. The work will require the discharge of fill material into waters of the United States for various project features including relocating the roadway, widening the runway 23 safety areas 23 from 300 to 500 feet, and constructing the mitigation project. Total fill area to be placed is currently estimated to be a total of 91,413 sq. ft. of wetlands. The site mitigation will provide 2.25 acres of new wetlands at Site 1 and 1.6 acres of new wetland at Site 2.

The work is described on the enclosed plans entitled "LAURENCE G. HANSCOM FIELD RUNWAY 5/23 – SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS," on 13 sheets, and dated "SEPTEMBER 2007."



USGS MAP: MAYNARD, MA



(APPROX.)

LOCATION MAP

McGillian-Johnson, Inc.
10 FERRY STREET, UNIT 11,
CONCORD CENTER, SUITE 210, CONCORD, NH 03301
PH: 603-225-2978 FAX: 603-225-0095



FIGURE
1



LAURENCE G. HANSCOM FIELD
RUNWAY 5/23 - SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS
RUNWAYS 5 AND 23
NATIONAL WETLAND INVENTORY

McFarland - Johnson, Inc.

10 FERRY STREET, UNIT 11,
CONCORD CENTER, SUITE 210, CONCORD, NH 03391
PH: 603-225-2978 FAX: 603-225-0095



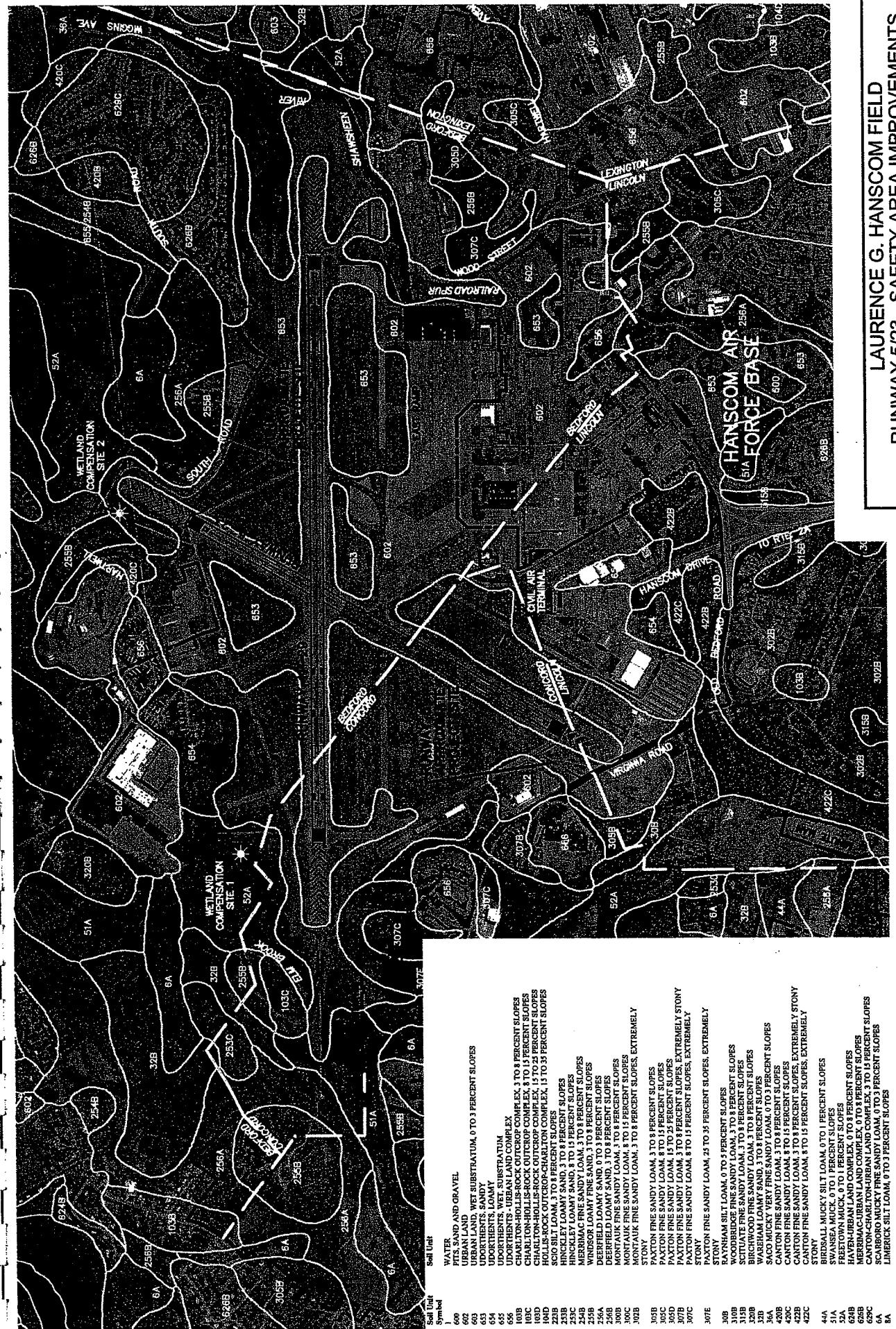
Wetlands & Wildlife, Inc.
233 RUSSELL HILL ROAD
ASHBURNHAM, MA 01430



MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
ONE HARBORSIDE DRIVE
EAST BOSTON, MA 02128



FIGURE



RUNWAY 5/23 - SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS RUNWAYS 5 AND 23 SOILS MAP

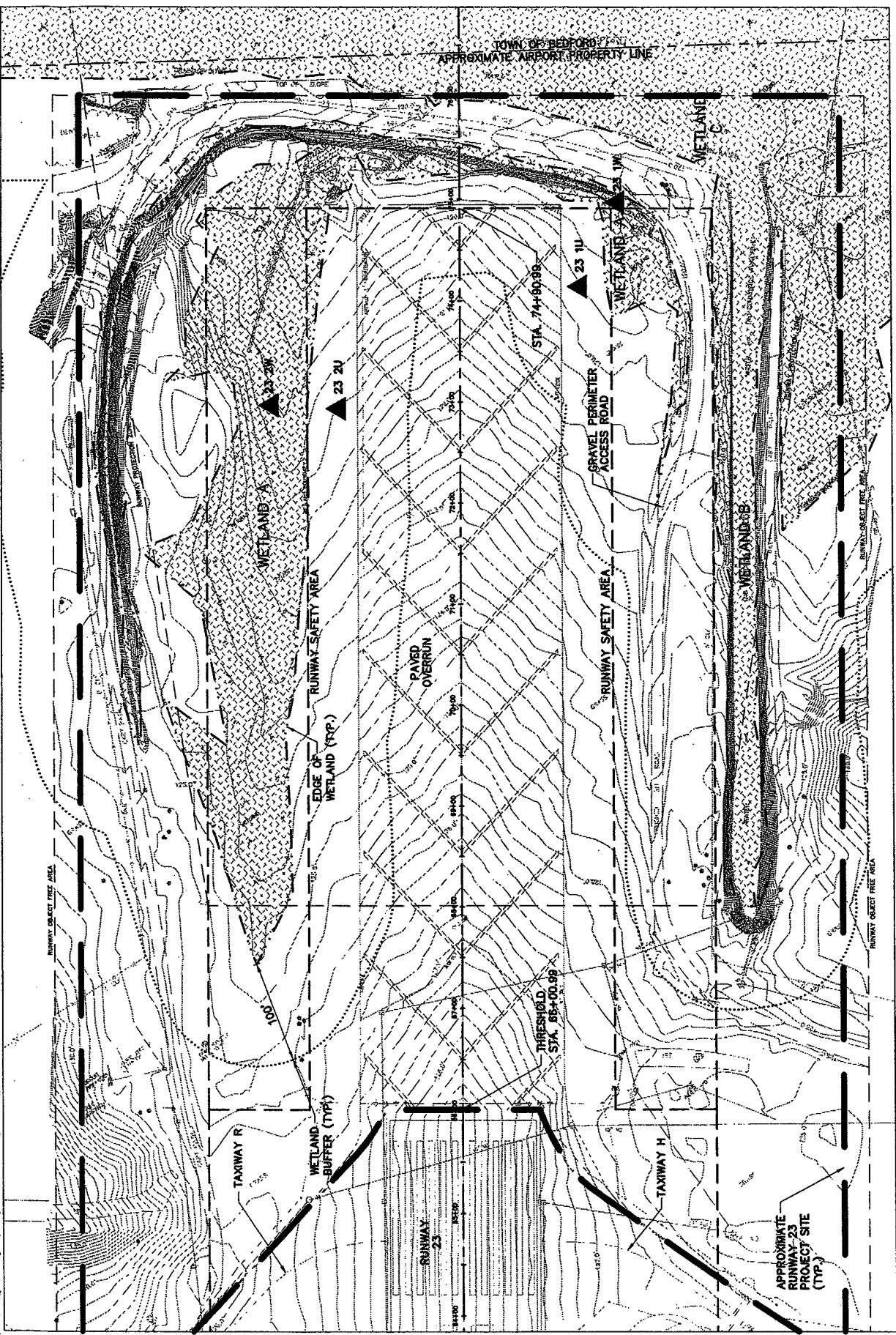
WETLANDS & WILDLIFE, INC.
233 RUSSELL HILL ROAD
ASHBURNHAM, MA 01430

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
ONE HARBORSIDE DRIVE
EAST BOSTON, MA 02128



McFarland-Johnson, Inc. 10 FERRY STREET, UNIT 11,
CONCORD CENTER, SUITE 210, CONCORD, NH 03301
PH: 603-225-2978 FAX: 603-225-0995 3

▲ TRANSECT
DATA POINTS
SOIL AND VEGETATION
INFORMATION FOR
DATA POINTS DEPICTED
HERE ARE DESCRIBED
IN THE WETLAND
DELINeATION FIELD
DATA FORMS
(ATTACHED)



LAURENCE G. HANSCOM FIELD
RUNWAY 5/23 - SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS
RUNWAY 23 EXISTING
CONDITIONS PLAN

McFarland-Johnson, Inc.



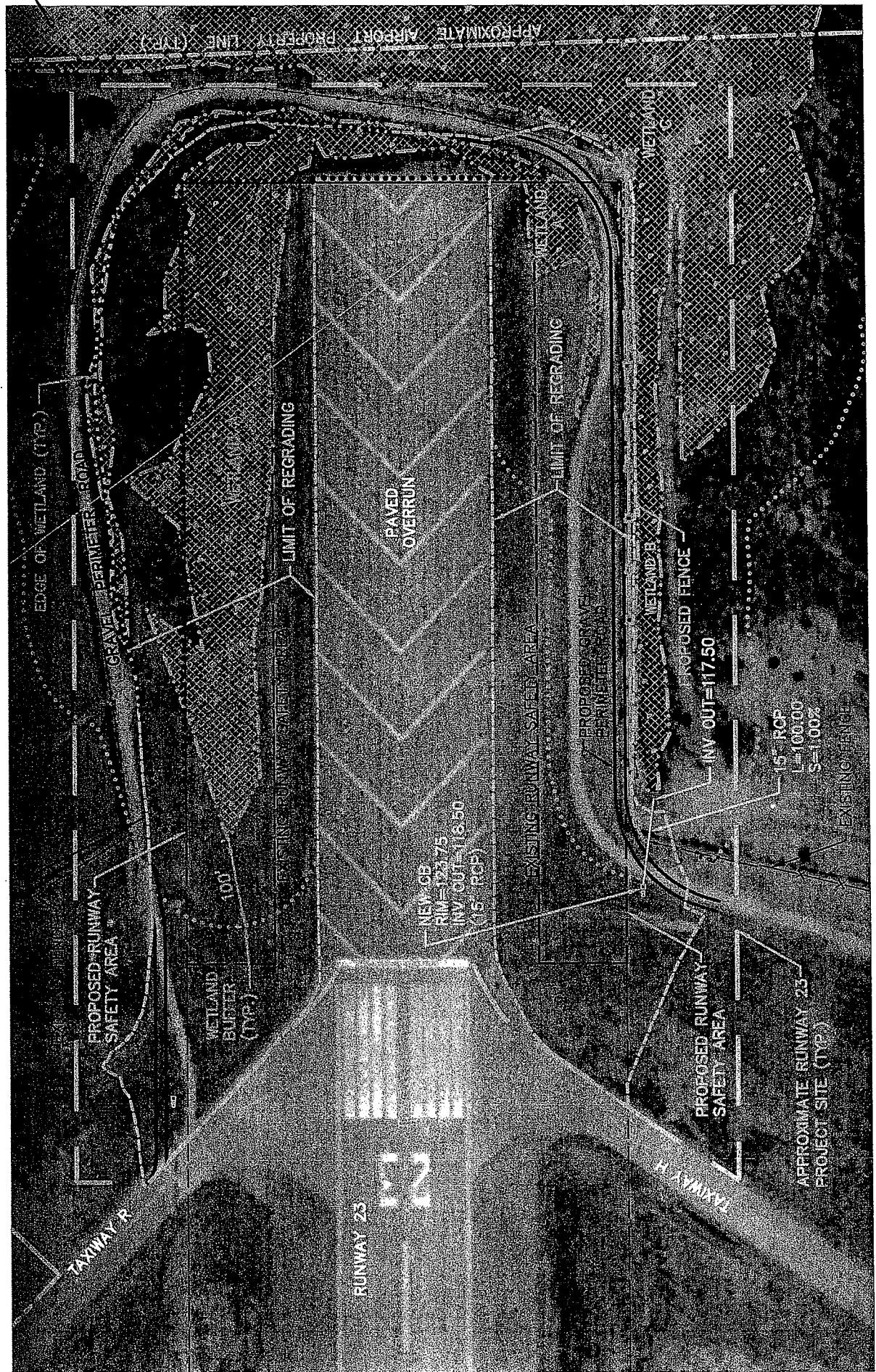
10 FERRY STREET, UNIT 11,
CONCORD CENTER, SUITE 210, CONCORD, NH 03301
PH: 603-225-2978 FAX: 603-225-0095

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
ONE HARBORSIDE DRIVE
EAST BOSTON, MA 02128



FIGURE

4

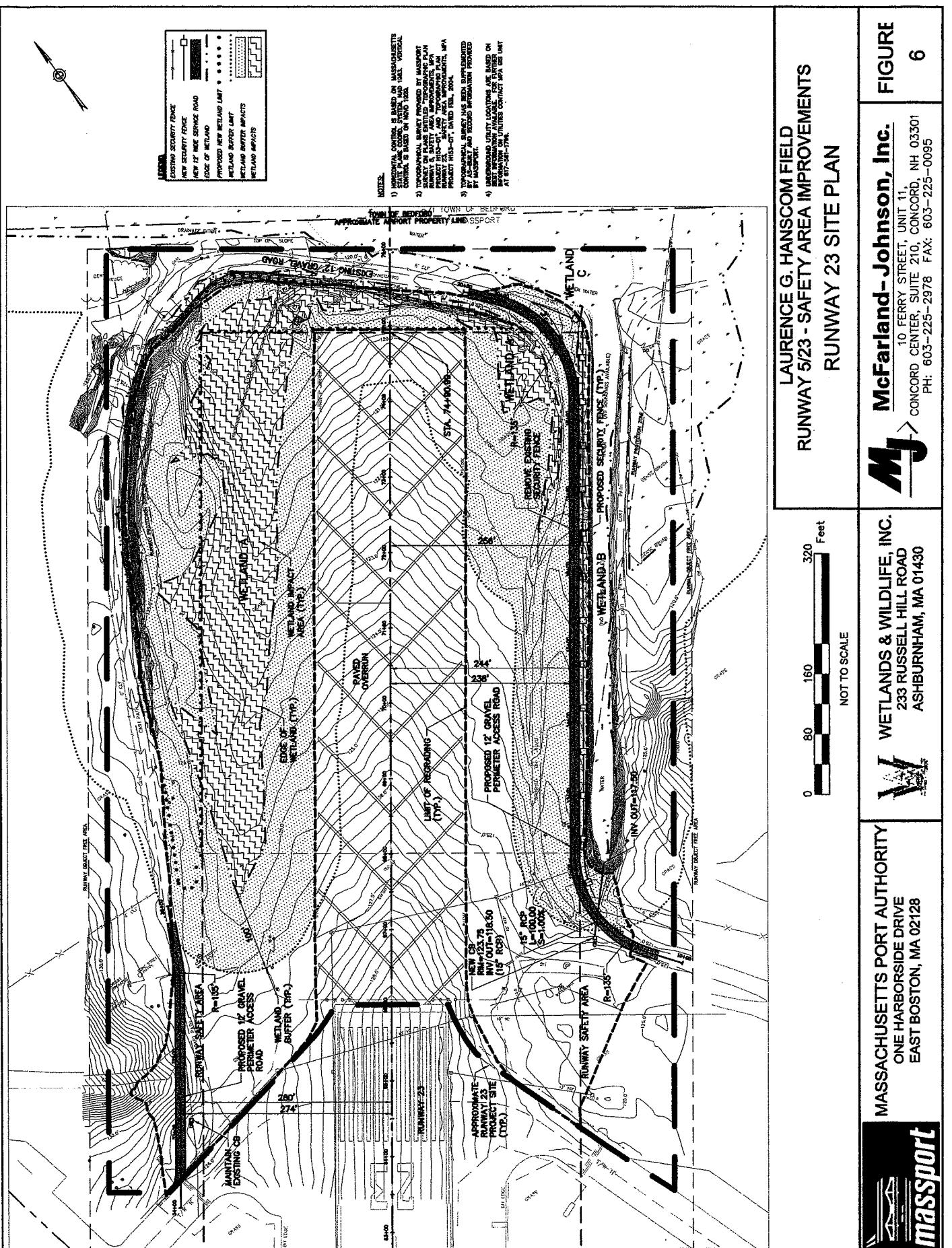


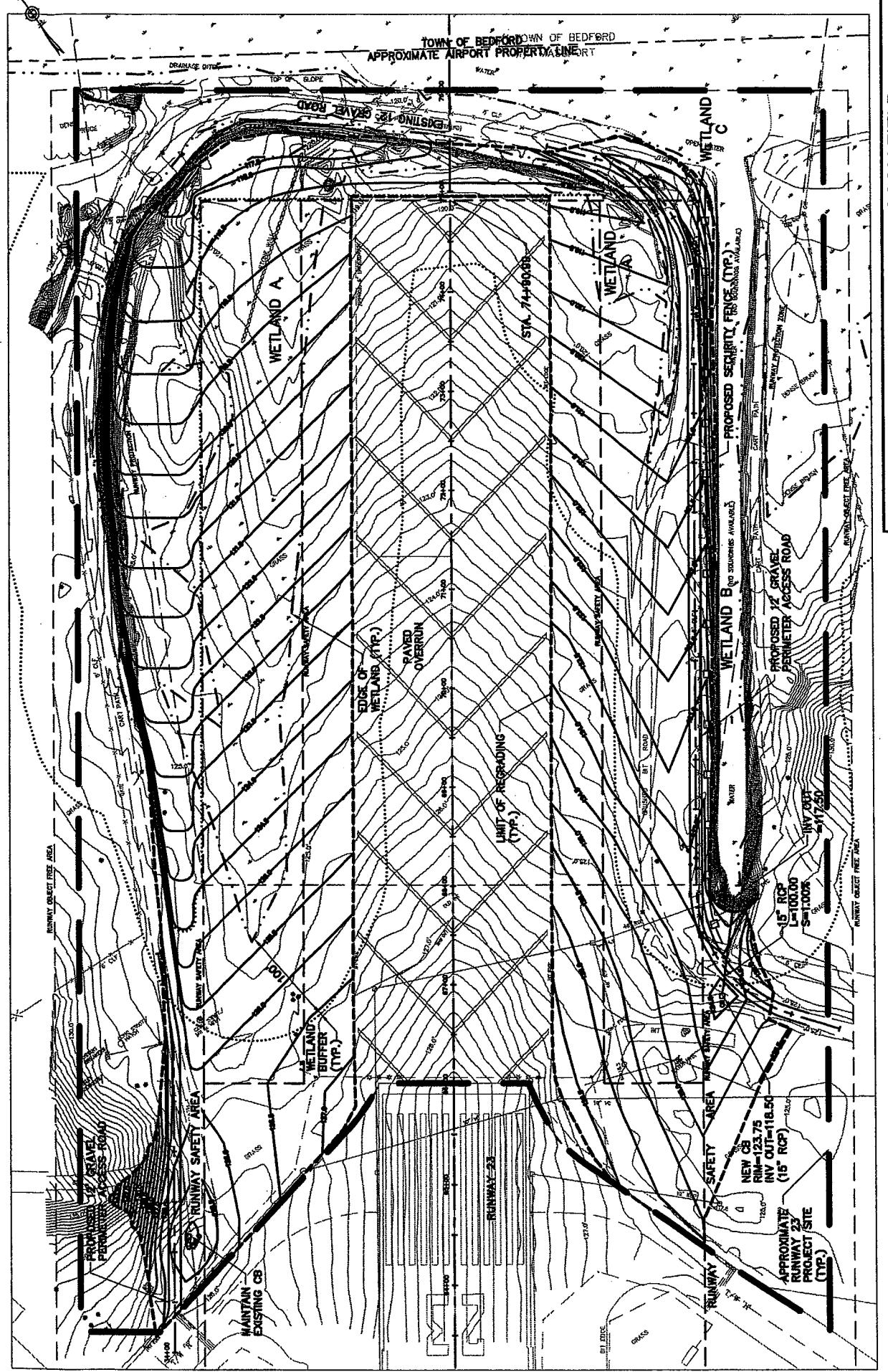
McFarland-Johnson, Inc.

J

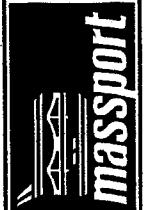
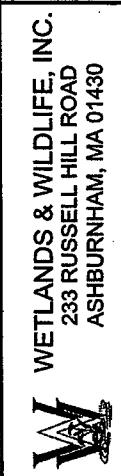
10 FERRY STREET, UNIT 11,
CONCORD CENTER, SUITE 210, CONCORD, NH 03301
PH: 603-225-2978 FAX: 603-225-0095

FIGURE
5





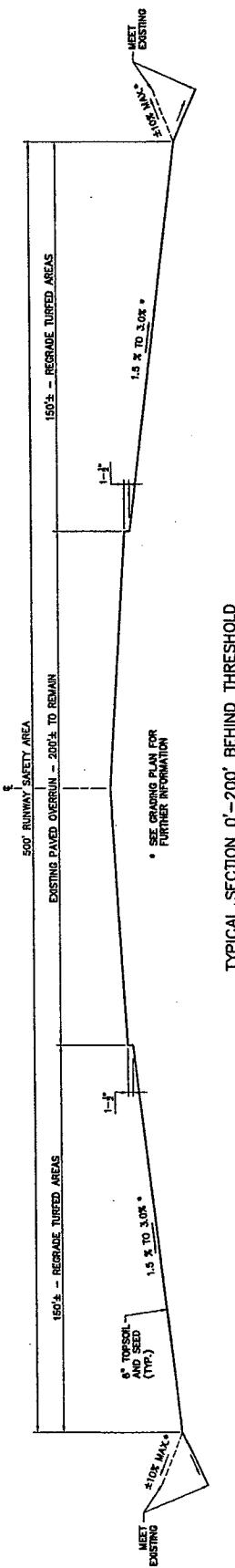
LAURENCE G. HANSCOM FIELD
RUNWAY 5/23 - SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS
RUNWAY 23 GRADING PLAN



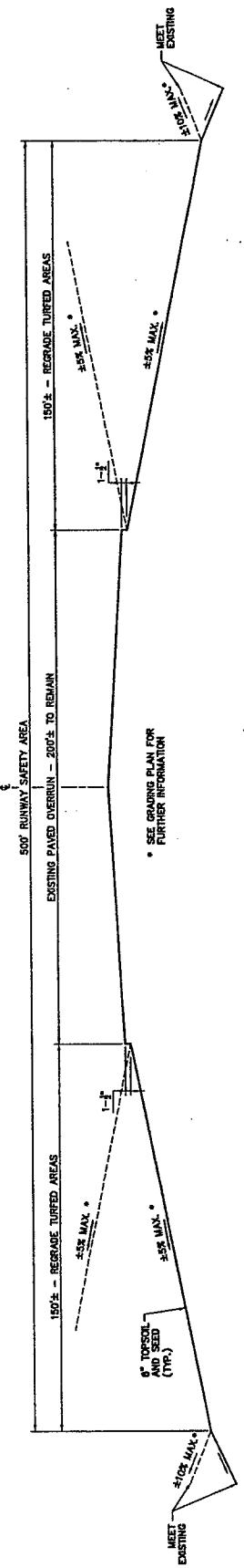
McFarland - Johnson, Inc.

10 FERRY STREET, UNIT 11,
CONCORD CENTER, SUITE 210, CONCORD, NH 03301
PH: 603-225-2978 FAX: 603-225-0095

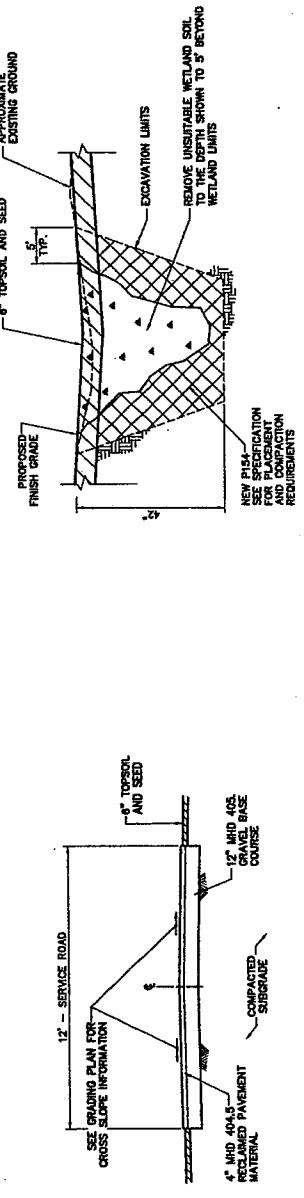
FIGURE
7



TYPICAL SECTION 0'-200' BEHIND THRESHOLD
NOT TO SCALE



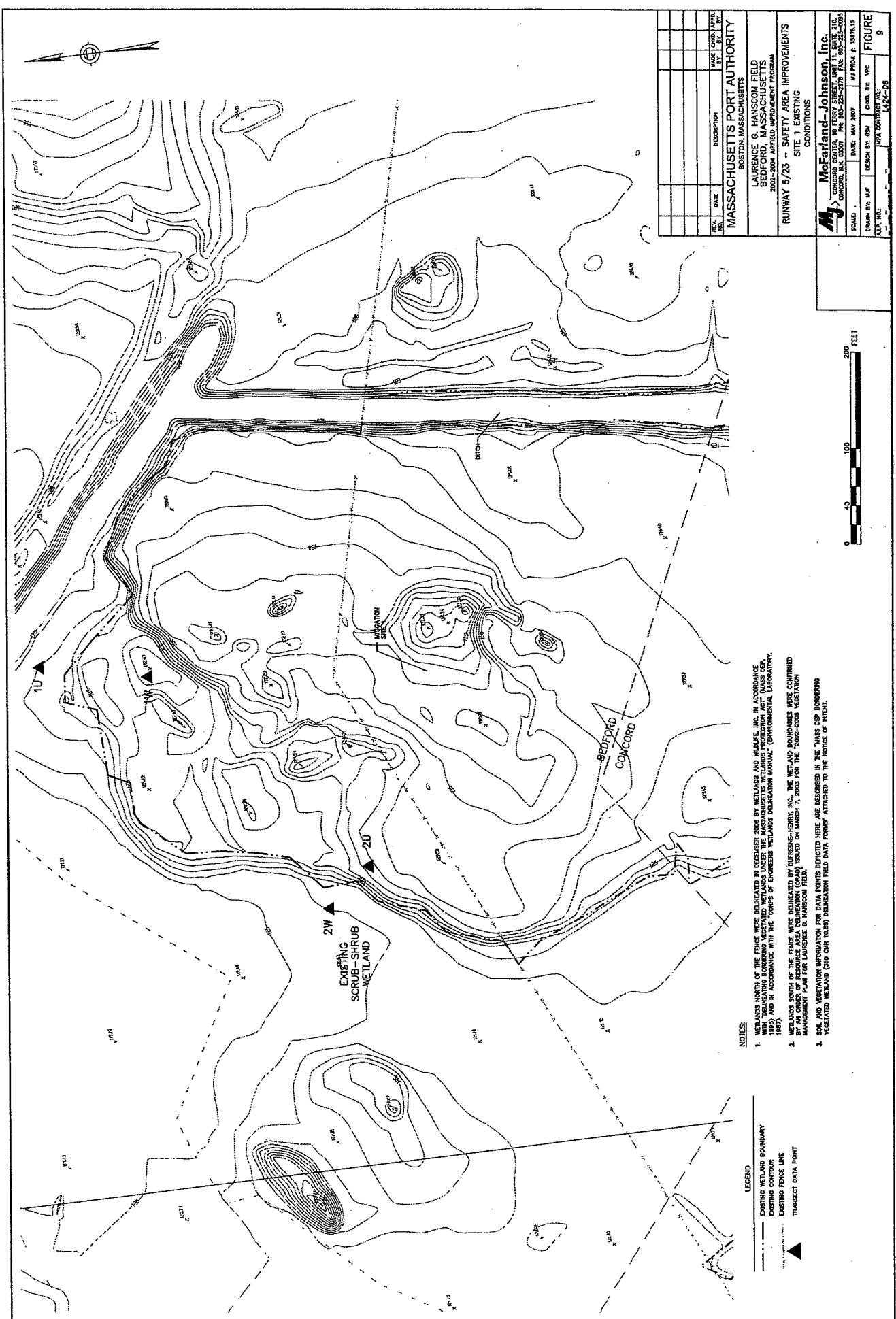
TYPICAL SECTION MORE THAN 200 FEET BEYOND THRESHOLD

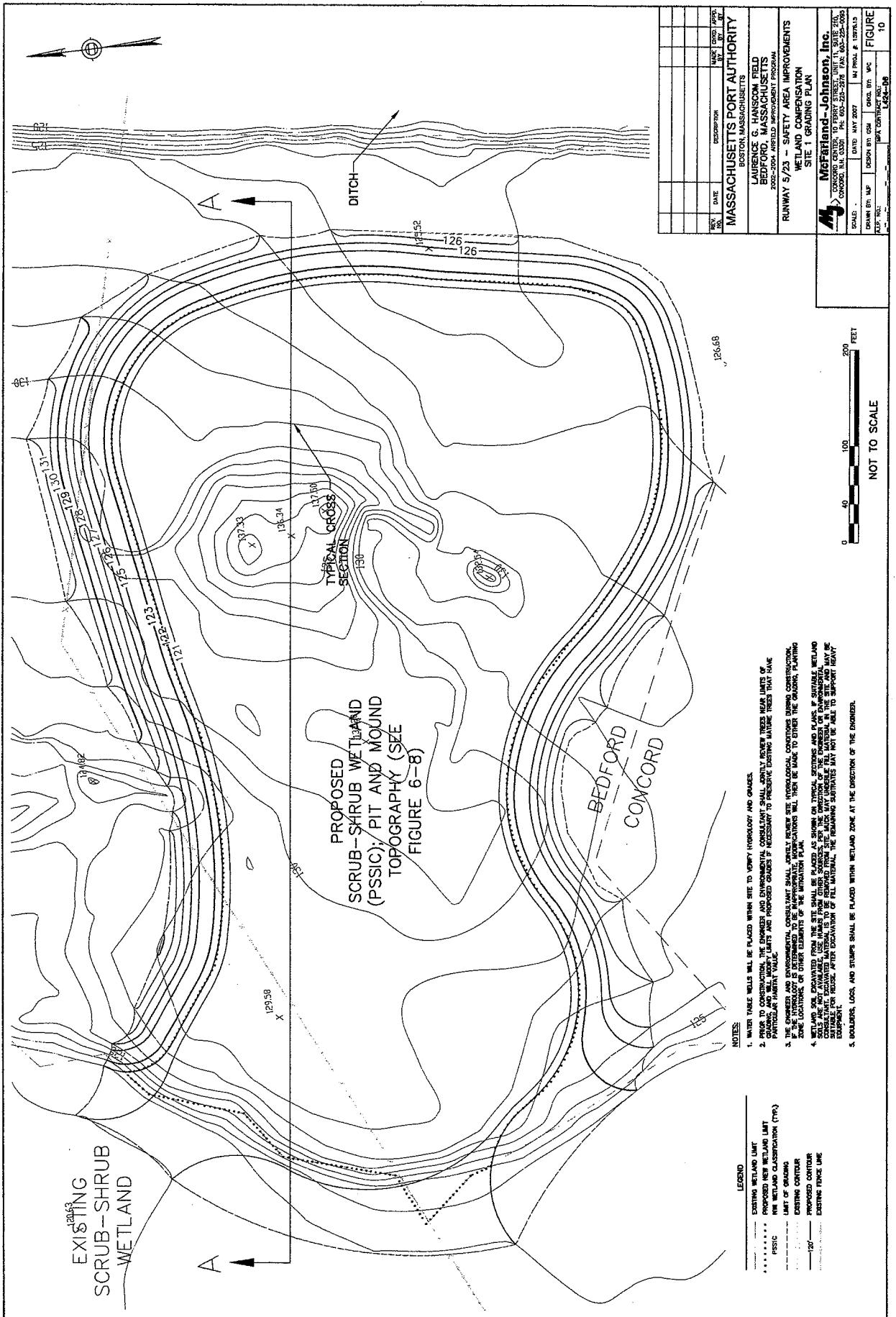


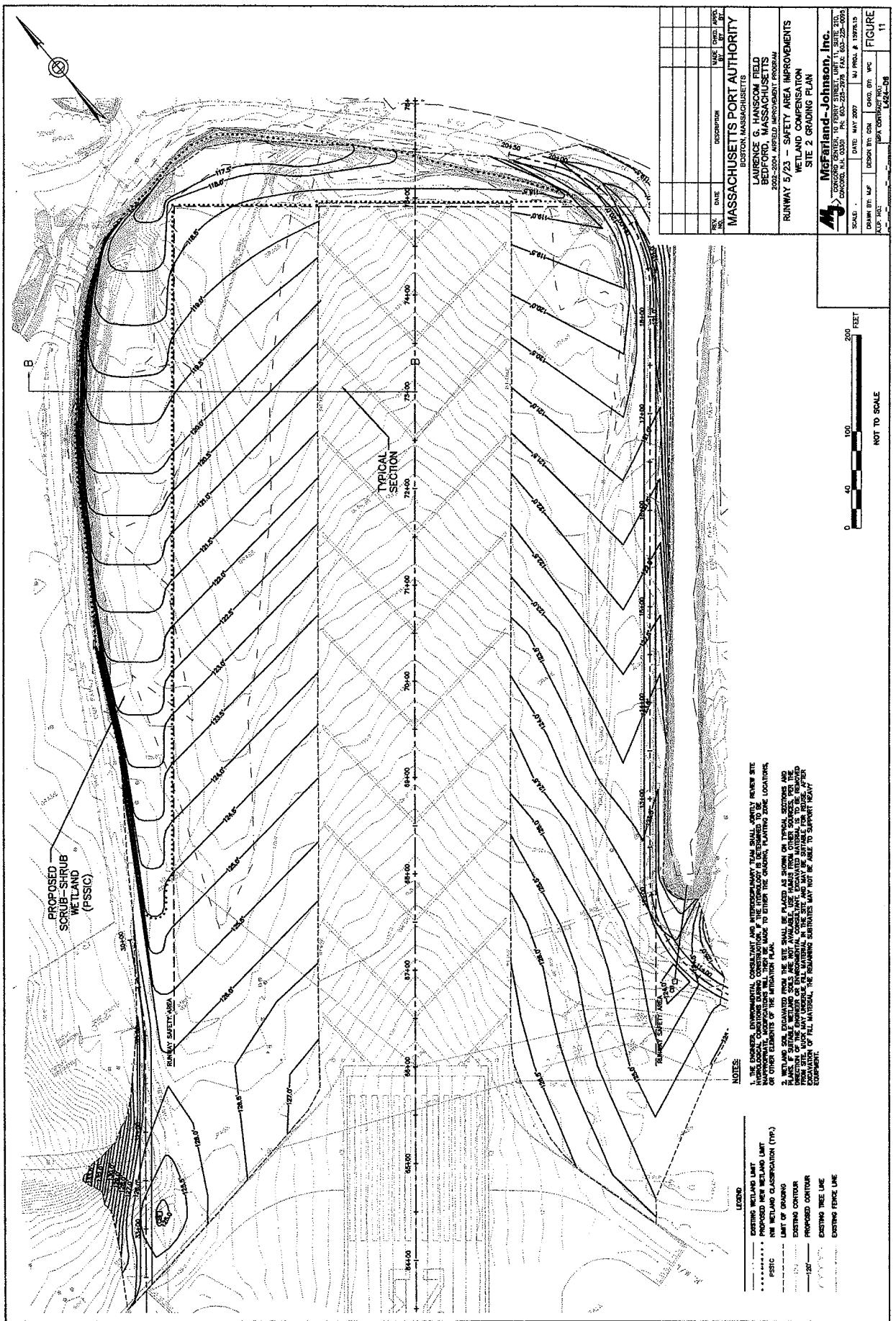
A technical diagram titled "TYPICAL WETLAND SOIL REPLACEMENT" oriented vertically. It shows a cross-section of a "SERVICE ROAD" at the bottom, followed by an "EMBANKMENT" with a slope, and finally a "BACKFILL" area. The diagram includes labels for "NOT TO SCALE" and "NOT TO SCALE" near the top right.

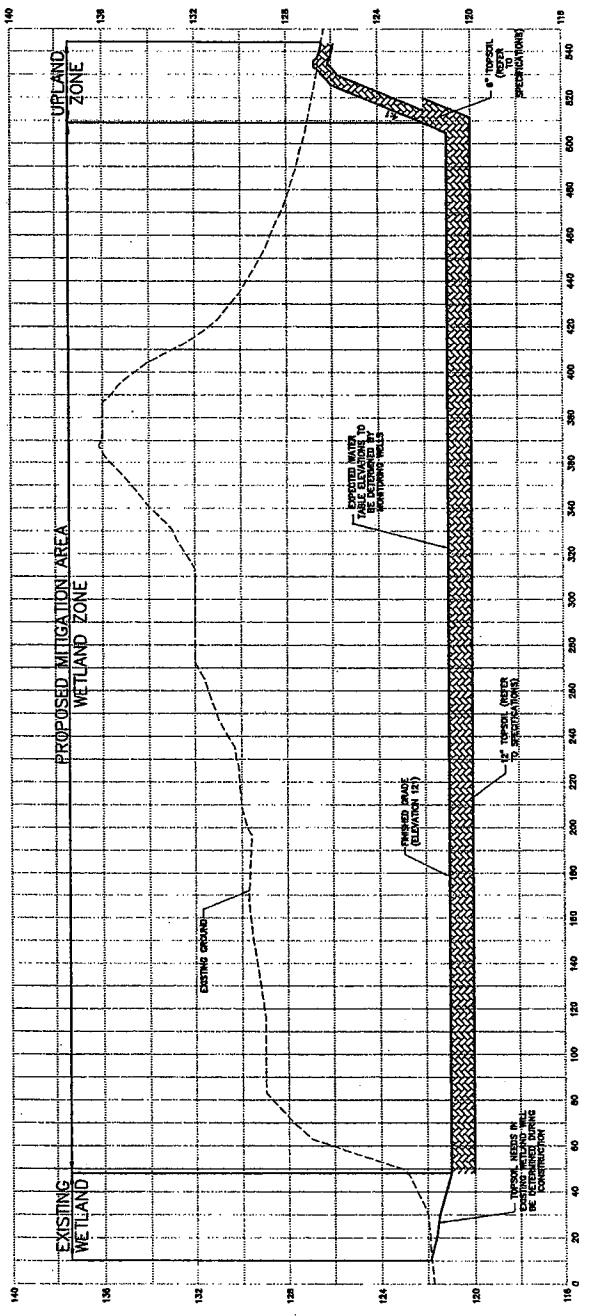
NEW DATE	3/7/05	300' INCHES SUBMISSION	LAST REV.	10/04	CHG. REV.	10/04	BY
EXPIRE DATE			BY				
MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY							
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS							
LAURENCE G. HANSON FIELD							
BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS							
2002-2004 AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM							
RUNWAY 6/23 - RUNWAY SAFETY AREA							
TYPICAL SECTIONS							
McFarland-Johnson, Inc.							
 McFarland-Johnson, Inc.							
CONSULTING ENGINEERS • PLANNERS • DESIGNERS							
100 BOSTON AVENUE • NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 02740 • TEL: 508/997-2000							
FAX: 508/997-2001 • E-MAIL: info@mfjinc.com							
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE							
DRAFTS: REV. 10-2004							
ALL DRAWINGS ARE IN INCHES							
DRAWN BY: TAB		DECR'D BY: TAB		CHG'D BY: TAB		ISSUED BY: TAB	
TYPICAL DRAWINGS INDEX							
TYPICAL SECTION INDEX							
B							

18

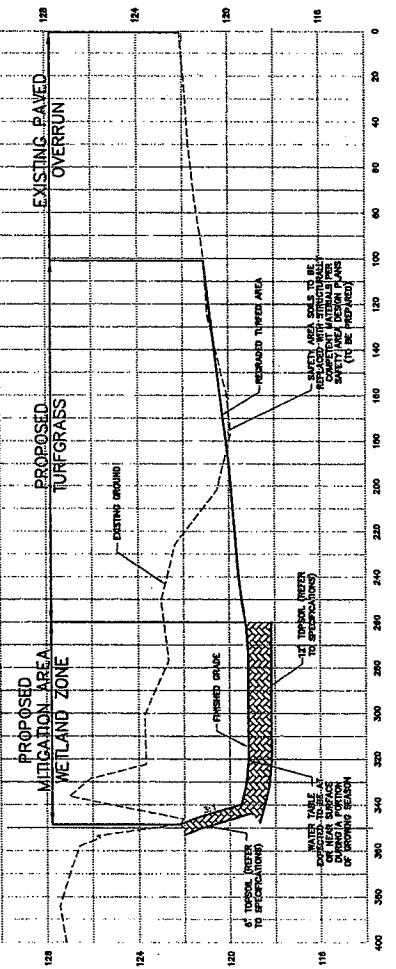








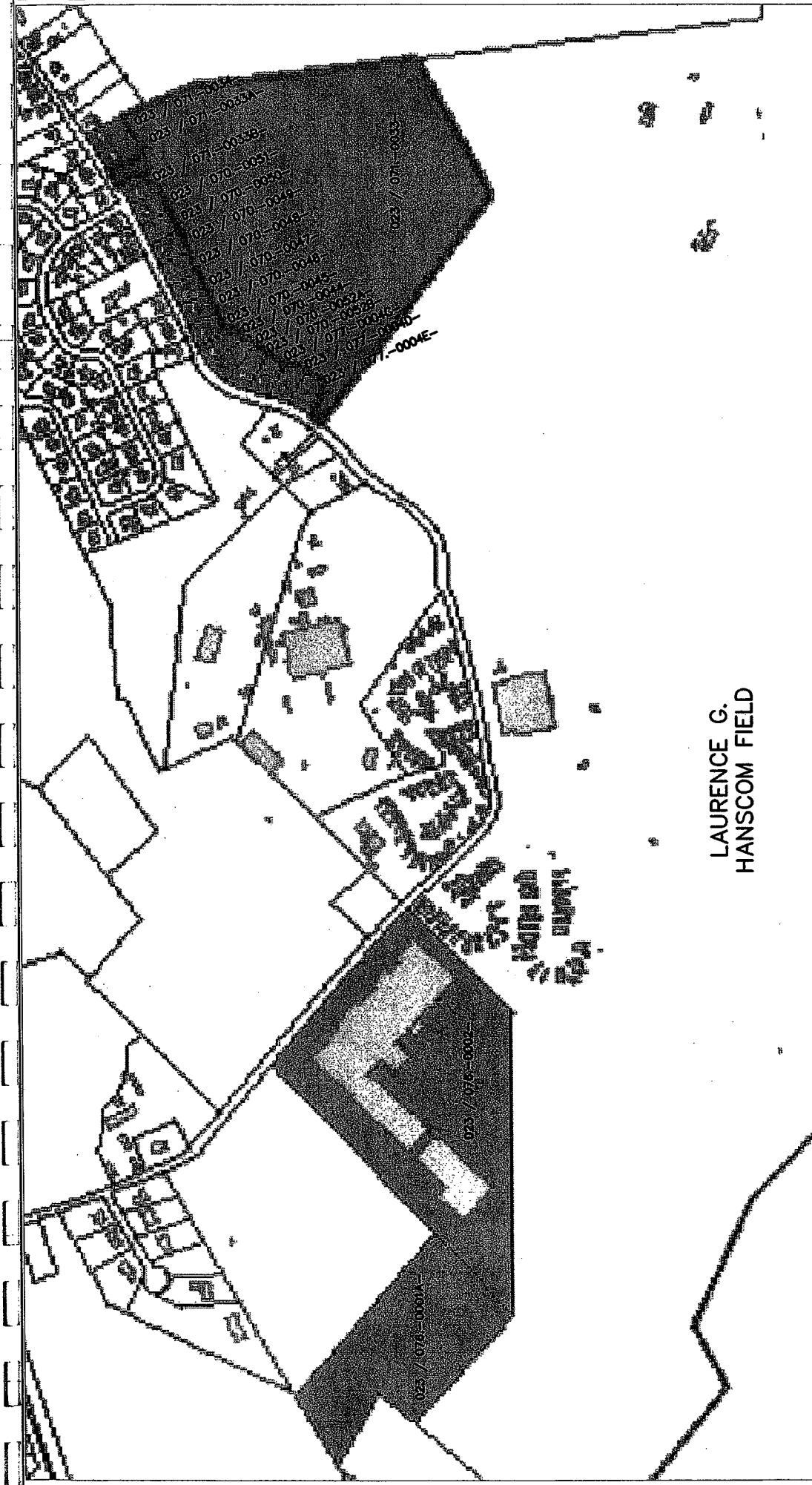
TYPICAL SECTION A-A
MIGRATION SITE 1



TYPICAL SECTION B-B
MITIGATION SITE 2

REV. NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	MADE BY	PROD. BY	APPR. BY
		MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS			
		LAWRENCE G. HANSON, FIELD BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS			
		2002-087 - APPROVED AEROTRACK PROGRAM			
		RUNWAY 5 / 23 - SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS WETLAND COMPENSATION SITES 1 AND 2			
		TOTAL SECTION			
		McFarland-Johnson, Inc. CONCORD CENTER 10, PERRY STREET, UNIT 11, SUITE 100 CONCORD, NH 03301-2976, FAX: 603-225-0045 TELE: 603-225-0045, FAX: 603-225-0045 E-MAIL: MAJ.MCFARLAND@AOL.COM			
		SCALE: AS BUILT	DATED: MAY 2007	MAJ PROJ. #:	1597615
		DRAWN BY: JAF	DESIGN BY: CGSA	CHG'D. BY:	FIGURE
		APPR'D. BY:			12
		REVIEWED BY:			L42-085
		APPR'D. BY:			ALFA NO.:

CONFIDENTIAL



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NOT TO SCALE

LAURENCE G. HANSCOM FIELD
RUNWAY 5/23 - SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS
ADJOINING PARCELS

MASSACHUSETTS PORT AUTHORITY
ONE HARBORSIDE DRIVE
EAST BOSTON, MA 02128



WETLANDS & WILDLIFE, INC.
233 RUSSELL HILL ROAD
ASHBURNHAM, MA 01430



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10 FERRY STREET, UNIT 11,
CONCORD CENTER, SUITE 210, CONCORD, NH 03301
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FIGURE
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