



5214/NASDEP/RDA

PRINCIPALS

May 21, 2019

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Boston Conservation Commission  
1 City Hall Square, Room 709  
Boston, MA 02201

**Subject: Request for Determination of Applicability for Sediment Sampling for 401 Water Quality Certificate Application for North Allston Storm Drain Extension Project, Allston, MA**

Dear Commission Members:

On behalf of the Boston Water and Sewer Commission ("BWSC"), "Applicant", and in coordination with Harvard University ("Harvard"), Epsilon Associates, Inc. ("Epsilon") is pleased to submit Request for Determination of Applicability ("RDA") to the Boston Conservation Commission ("BCC" or the "Commission"). WPA Form 1 is included as Attachment A.

ASSOCIATES

The Applicant proposes to complete sediment sampling in the proposed location of the North Allston Storm Drain Extension Project ("NASDEP") outfall in the Charles River. The sampling is required to perform laboratory analysis of the sediments in order to advance design and permitting of the outfall, in particular the MassDEP Section 401 Water Quality Certificate requirements (see 314 CMR 9.07(2)(b)). The borings will be coordinated by Haley & Aldrich on behalf of the Applicant. (A Notice of Intent will be filed for the NASDEP itself later this summer.) A small amount of sample material is required and only that necessary for the testing required by MassDEP (2 samples), and results in a *de minimus* disturbance to the river bottom.

While these samples were attempted to be taken from land, due to the existing conditions of the bottom close to shore, it was infeasible to get through the rocks and cobble to collect the requisite sediment. Therefore, the Applicant is proposing to access the area via water and utilize a small drill rig and casing as described in this application to complete the sampling.

Richard M Lampeter, INCE  
Geoff Starsiak, LEED AP BD+C  
Marc Bergeron, PWS, CWS

3 Mill & Main Place, Suite 250  
Maynard, MA 01754  
[www.epsilonassociates.com](http://www.epsilonassociates.com)

978 897 7100  
FAX 978 897 0099

### **Existing Conditions**

Proposed sediment sampling as described below will occur within 25 feet of the shore line within the Charles River approximately 350 feet north of the Cambridge / River Street Bridge in Allston. Water depths in this area range from 8 to 10 feet deep. Proximate to the shoreline the embankment consists of small granite boulders rocks stabilizing the steep slope. There is not any emergent vegetation in the water way at this location.

### **Proposed Work**

Two sediment samples will be taken using a small drill rig using cased rotary drilling techniques mounted on a barge (approximately 16 feet long by 11 feet wide) within the project limits in the Charles River. The small barge and work boat will enter the river in Watertown and motor to the sampling location with the boat pushing the barge.

Once at the project location, a 4-inch diameter pipe casing will be set onto the river bottom. The drill rig will push the casing into the sediment. The sample will be collected using a drill bit inside the casing. The casing will serve to isolate the sampling activity from the river. Once the sample is collected, the casing will be pulled from the river bottom. Samples collected are typically about a quart to a gallon of material, depending on depth and return and after the lab samples are taken, are disposed of properly. Minimal disturbance to the river bottom is anticipated, with no release of sediment resulting from this effort. This work effort is similar to a boat anchoring for a few hours.

The contractor will need approximate two days to complete this sampling effort, including travel time to and from the boat launch. The sampling area is primarily out of the main navigation portion of the river channel. At night the boat will return to the ramp and the barge will be anchored to the shoreline and marked with lights.

See Attachment B for Locus Map and proposed area of sampling. Please see Attachment C for site photographs of the project area and examples of equipment.

### **Conclusion**

We respectfully request that the Commission place this matter on the agenda for the next available public meeting (on June 5, 2019); and confirm that the proposed work will not result in alteration of a jurisdictional resource area under a Negative Determination, with conditions if deemed necessary. If you require additional information or wish to

Boston Conservation Commission  
May 21, 2019

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coordinate a site visit prior to the public meeting, please contact me at 978-461-6271 or [ajacobs@epsilonassociates.com](mailto:ajacobs@epsilonassociates.com). We look forward to discussing this matter with the Commission.

Sincerely,

EPSILON ASSOCIATES, INC.



Alyssa Jacobs, PWS  
Senior Consultant & Manager,  
Ecological Sciences

Cc: John Sullivan, BWSC  
Rob Lowell, DCR  
Will Donham, Harvard

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**ATTACHMENT C      SITE PHOTOGRAPHS**

**Attachment A**

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WPA Form 1



# WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

## A. General Information

**Important:**  
When filling out forms on the computer, use only the tab key to move your cursor - do not use the return key.



1. Applicant:

Henry Vitale, Boston Water and Sewer Commission		_____	
Name		E-Mail Address	
980 Harrison Avenue			
Mailing Address			
Boston	MA	02119	
City/Town	State	Zip Code	
(617) 989-7000		_____	
Phone Number		Fax Number (if applicable)	

2. Representative (if any):

Epsilon Associates		_____	
Firm			
Alyssa Jacobs		ajacobs@epsilonassociates.com	
Contact Name		E-Mail Address	
3 Mill & Main Place Suite 250			
Mailing Address			
Maynard	MA	01754	
City/Town	State	Zip Code	
978-461-6271		_____	
Phone Number		Fax Number (if applicable)	

## B. Determinations

1. I request the Boston \_\_\_\_\_ make the following determination(s). Check any that apply:  
Conservation Commission

- a. whether the **area** depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below is an area subject to jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act.
- b. whether the **boundaries** of resource area(s) depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below are accurately delineated.
- c. whether the **work** depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act.
- d. whether the area and/or work depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the jurisdiction of any **municipal wetlands ordinance** or **bylaw** of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Municipality

- e. whether the following **scope of alternatives** is adequate for work in the Riverfront Area as depicted on referenced plan(s).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





## WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

### C. Project Description (cont.)

b. Identify provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act or regulations which may exempt the applicant from having to file a Notice of Intent for all or part of the described work (use additional paper, if necessary).

N/A

3. a. If this application is a Request for Determination of Scope of Alternatives for work in the Riverfront Area, indicate the one classification below that best describes the project.

- Single family house on a lot recorded on or before 8/1/96
- Single family house on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
- Expansion of an existing structure on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
- Project, other than a single family house or public project, where the applicant owned the lot before 8/7/96
- New agriculture or aquaculture project
- Public project where funds were appropriated prior to 8/7/96
- Project on a lot shown on an approved, definitive subdivision plan where there is a recorded deed restriction limiting total alteration of the Riverfront Area for the entire subdivision
- Residential subdivision; institutional, industrial, or commercial project
- Municipal project
- District, county, state, or federal government project
- Project required to evaluate off-site alternatives in more than one municipality in an Environmental Impact Report under MEPA or in an alternatives analysis pursuant to an application for a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or 401 Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Protection.

b. Provide evidence (e.g., record of date subdivision lot was recorded) supporting the classification above (use additional paper and/or attach appropriate documents, if necessary.)





# WPA Form 1- Request for Determination of Applicability

Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act M.G.L. c. 131, §40

## D. Signatures and Submittal Requirements

I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing Request for Determination of Applicability and accompanying plans, documents, and supporting data are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I further certify that the property owner, if different from the applicant, and the appropriate DEP Regional Office were sent a complete copy of this Request (including all appropriate documentation) simultaneously with the submittal of this Request to the Conservation Commission.

Failure by the applicant to send copies in a timely manner may result in dismissal of the Request for Determination of Applicability.

Name and address of the property owner:

MA Department of Conservation and Recreation

Name

251 Causeway Street Suite 900

Mailing Address

Boston

City/Town

MA

State

02114

Zip Code

Signatures:

I also understand that notification of this Request will be placed in a local newspaper at my expense in accordance with Section 10.05(3)(b)(1) of the Wetlands Protection Act regulations.

*J. Vitale*

Signature of Applicant

*5/21/19*

Date

*Alma Jacobs*

Signature of Representative (if any)

5/20/19

Date

Approve as to Form

*[Signature]*  
Office of General Counsel

**Attachment B**

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Figures

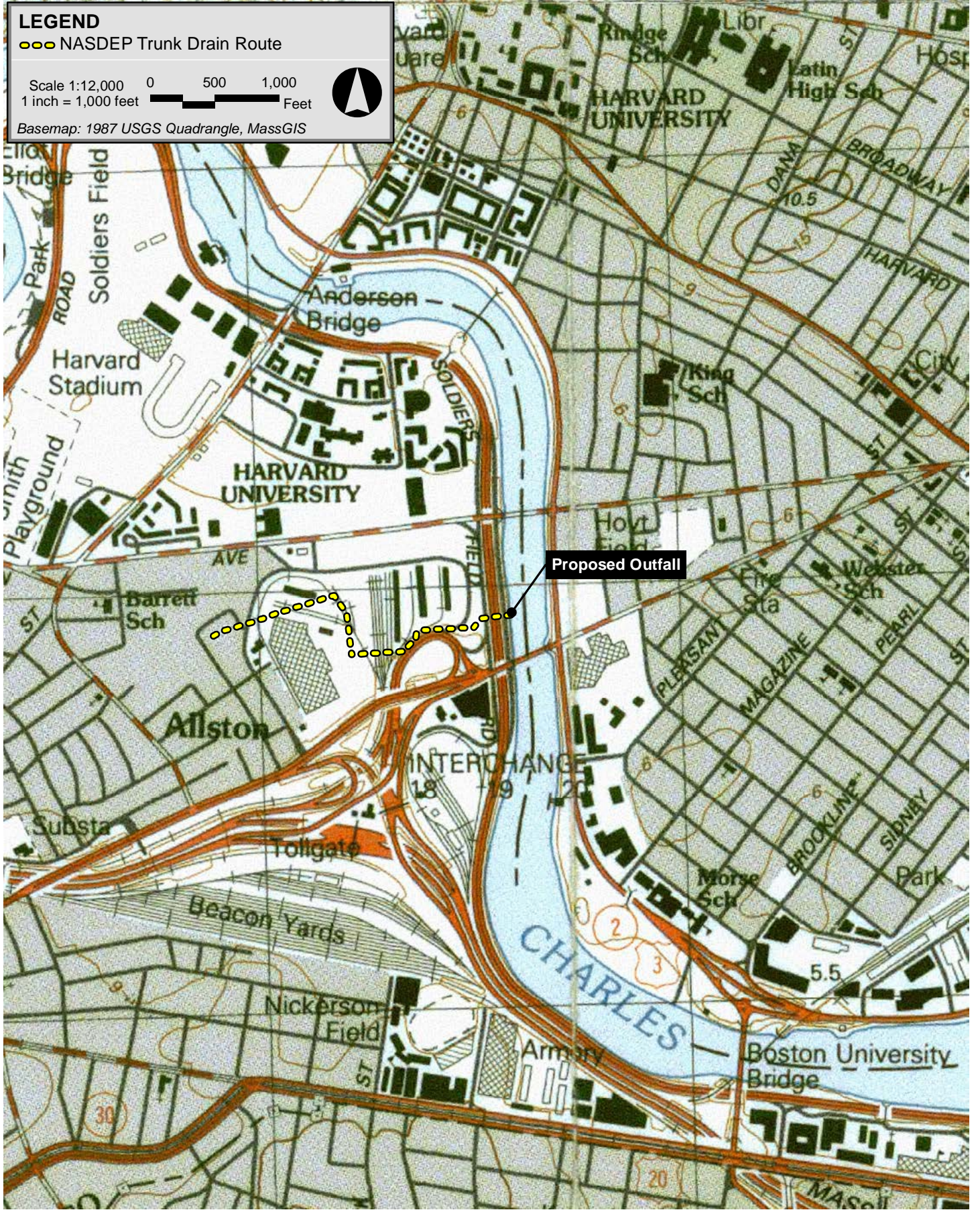


**LEGEND**

- NASDEP Trunk Drain Route

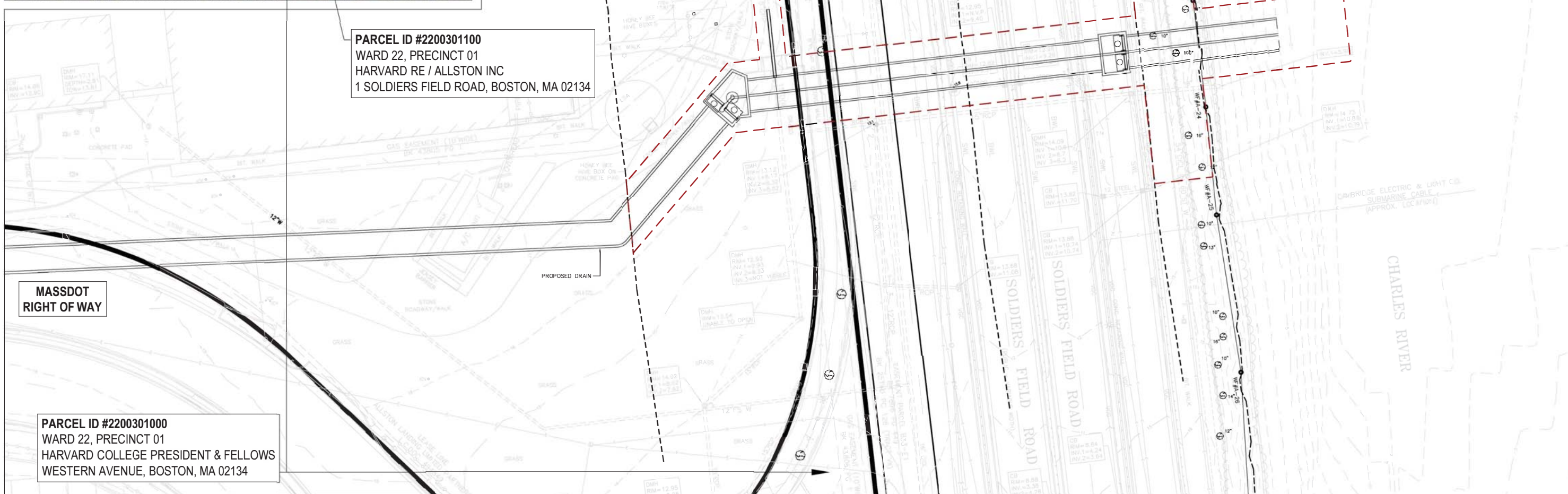
Scale 1:12,000 0 500 1,000  
1 inch = 1,000 feet Feet

Basemap: 1987 USGS Quadrangle, MassGIS



North Allston Storm Drain Extension Project Allston, Massachusetts



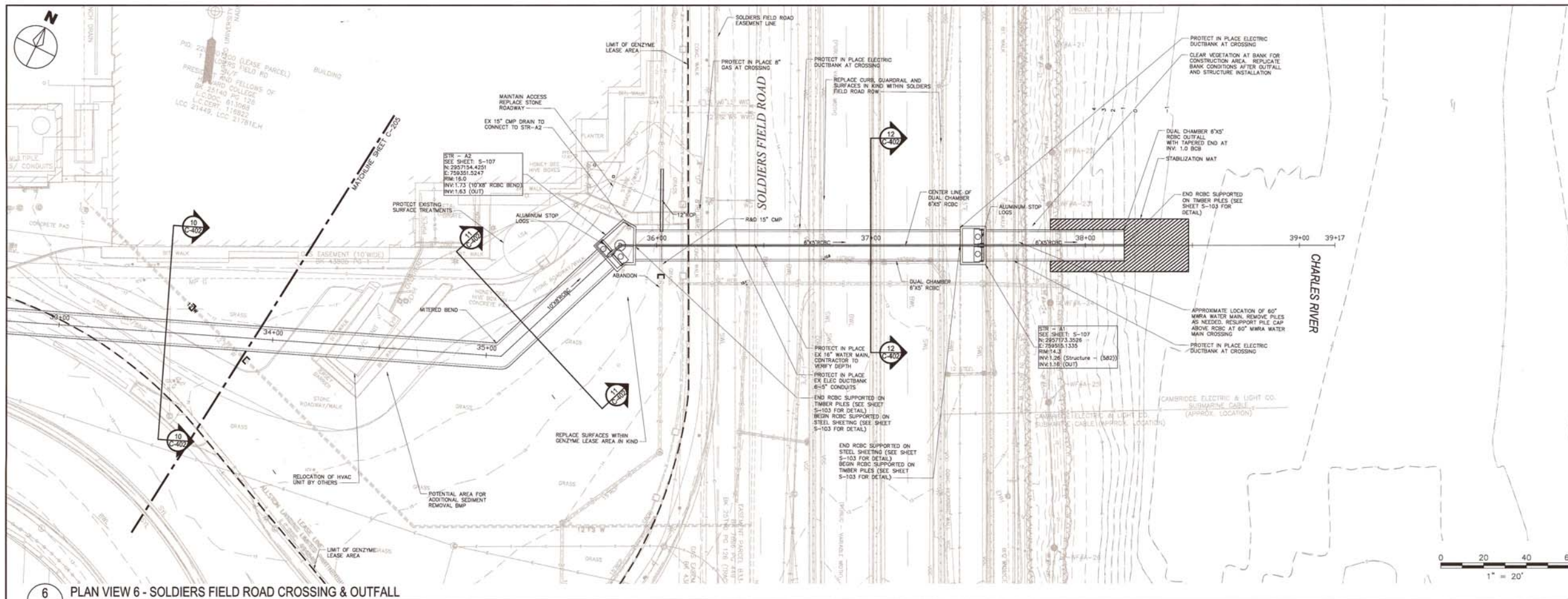


**5** PLAN VIEW - SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD CROSSING & OUTFALL  
HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=20'



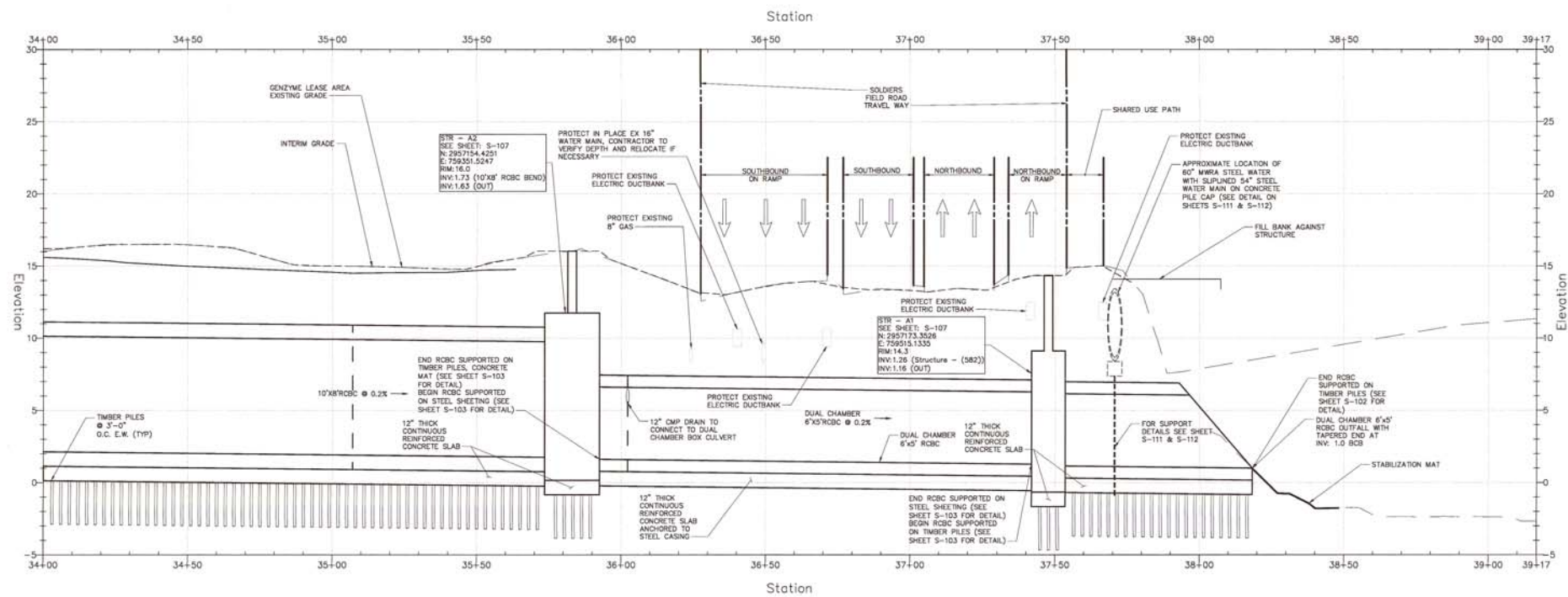
T:\5276\Harvard Trans And Inf Consulting Services\W09 - ALN Drainage Phase 1 DD-CD\Disciplines\01 - Civil\Plot Sheets\Permitting Content Development\MEPA Figures.dwg





6 PLAN VIEW 6 - SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD CROSSING & OUTFALL  
HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=20'

- NOTES:
- SEE SHEETS C-401 & C-402 FOR CROSS SECTIONS
  - SEE SHEETS C-403 FOR DETAILS
  - ALL RCP TO BE CLASS V PIPING.



6 PROFILE VIEW 6 - SOLDIERS FIELD ROAD CROSSING & OUTFALL  
HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=20'  
VERTICAL SCALE: 1"=4'

OWNER:  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
SMITH CAMPUS CENTER, SUITE 901  
1350 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138  
617.496.6688

PROJECT LOCATION:  
100 WESTERN AVENUE  
ALLSTON LANDING NORTH  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

REGISTRATION STAMP:  
**ISSUED FOR BWSC DESIGN REVIEW**



REV NO	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY

PRIMARY:  
**wsp**  
75 ARLINGTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116  
617.426.7330

PROJECT TITLE:  
**NORTH ALLSTON STORM DRAIN EXTENSION PROJECT**

SHEET TITLE:  
**PLAN & PROFILE 6 SOLDIER FIELD ROAD CROSSING & OUTFALL**  
50% CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

DISCIPLINE:  
**CIVIL**

DRAWN BY: J/PW  
CHECKED BY: C/JD  
APPROVED BY: ABB

SCALE: AS NOTED  
DATE: 5/10/19

SHEET NUMBER:  
**C-206**

**GEOLOGIC-EARTH EXPLORATION**

7 SHERWOOD DRIVE  
 NORFOLK, MA 02056  
 (508) 384-4434 Fax (508) 384-4452

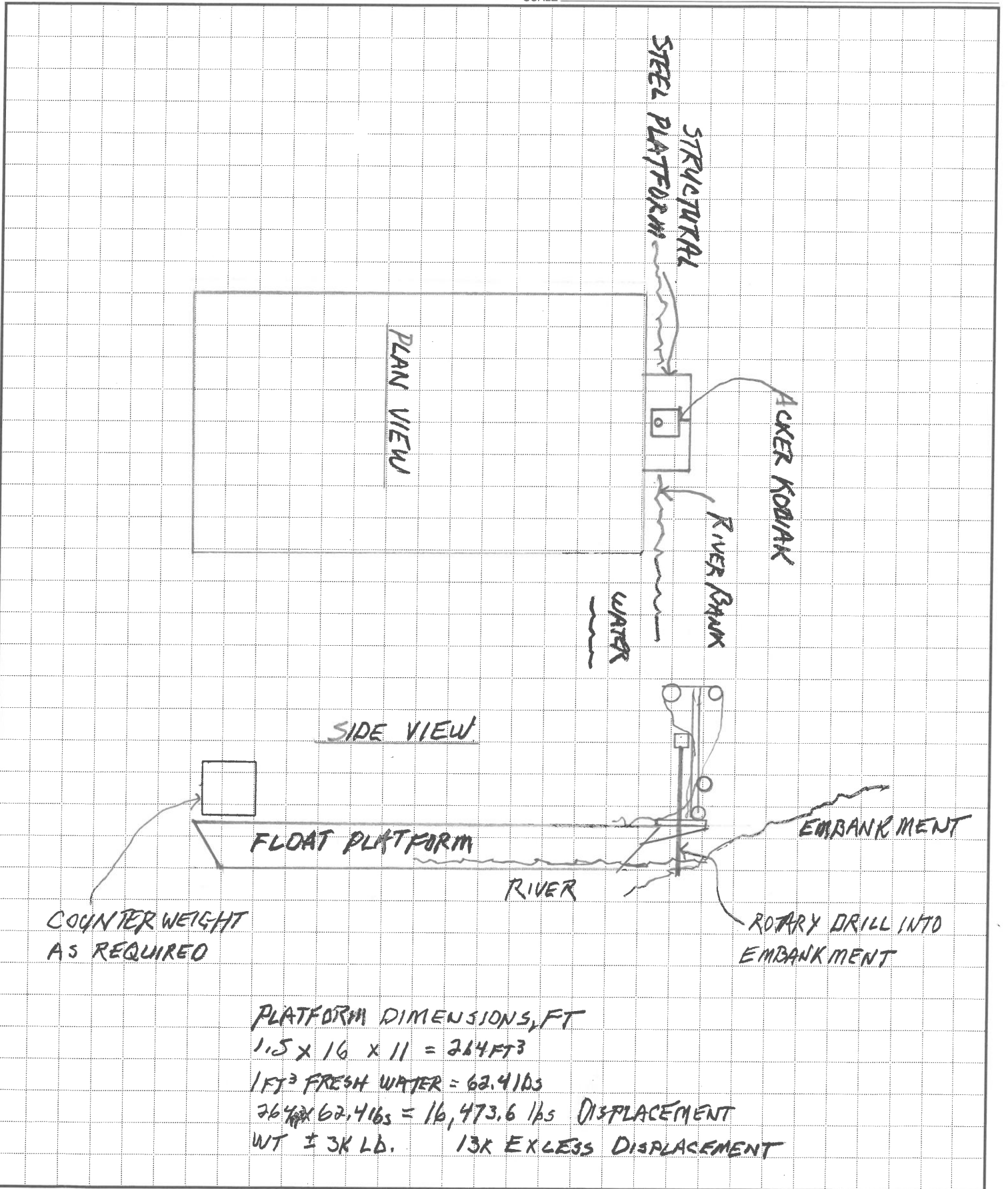
JOB JOHN BODE / HHA CHARLES EMBANKMENT

SHEET NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_

CALCULATED BY P. CARROLL DATE 3/11/19

CHECKED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SCALE \_\_\_\_\_



PLATFORM DIMENSIONS, FT  
 $11.5 \times 16 \times 11 = 214 \text{ FT}^3$   
 $1 \text{ FT}^3 \text{ FRESH WATER} = 62.4 \text{ lbs}$   
 $214 \times 62.4 \text{ lbs} = 16,473.6 \text{ lbs DISPLACEMENT}$   
 WT  $\pm$  3K LB. 13K EXCESS DISPLACEMENT

**Attachment C**

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Site Photographs





**Photo 1:** Representative view of the bank of the Charles River.



**Photo 2:** View from River Street Bridge looking at the proposed Project area (Sanofi building is in the background.)





Photo 3: Photo of drill rig on barge similar to what will be used for this sampling effort.