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TO: USACOE, OCRM, SCDHEC-BOW
FROM: Tony M. Woody, PE
Thomas & Hutton
DATE: March 10, 2021
SUBJECT: Sullivan's Island Accreted Lands
Work Plan
JOB NO.: 25357.0002

1.0 NARRATIVE

On October 7, 2020 the Town of Sullivan's Island entered into a Settlement Agreement to end a decade long lawsuit and agreed to thin the vegetation on the Accreted Lands to serve the interest of improved mosquito control, improved vegetation management, enhanced public safety, improved public health, and scenic enhancement. The vegetation thinning will be accomplished by utilization of environmentally sensitive means (use of appropriate equipment, thinning techniques, naturalist approved seeding, etc) and can avoid material problems with erosion, particularly in light of documented natural accretion in the area.

The Accreted Lands are located on the southern portion of Sullivan's Island in TMS #523-12-00-077, 529-09-00-112 (two parcels), 529-10-00-087, and a portion of TMS #529-09-00-068. The total area is approximately 147 acres, and is divided into three Zones... 1, 2, and 3, and a Transition Zone that is part of all three Zones. The Zones were established to identify different thinning approaches to better represent the different environments of each zone.

The attached Work Plan Exhibit identifies the three Zones, and the Transition Zone, the Beach Front Baseline and Setback Line, the Dune Line (in Zone 3), and the delineated Freshwater Wetlands (pending USACOE review). The description below identifies the work to be accomplished along with the means and methods within each zone, inside and outside of the Freshwater Wetlands, landward and seaward of the Beach Front Setback Line, and landward and seaward of the Dune Line.

The goal of this technical paper is to describe the work (thinning and removal of existing vegetation) along with the means and methods of accomplishing the work with enough clarity and in enough detail to allow Federal and State agencies with permitting authority to determine if the proposed activities will require a permit.

2.0 GENERAL

- A. In order to be respectful of habitat during breeding seasons, work to be planned to commence and conclude during the period between November 1st and February 28th. If field or other unexpected conditions delay progress on work commenced during this period then such work will be completed as near as possible to February 28th.
- B. TOSI will retain expertise to determine on a daily basis if conditions are suitable to work during the work period identified above. The determination will include weather patterns and soil moisture condition.
- C. When present, stumps will remain in place and treated with a herbicide approved for use in the associated environment to prevent new growth.
- D. No removal of vegetation that disturbs the soil will occur and no fill including incidental fill will be placed in Freshwater Wetlands.
- E. Unless otherwise specified below, trees and other vegetation removed from the Accredited Lands will be transferred to an inland site on Sullivan's Island outside of the Accreted Lands, chipped, and disposed of in accordance with Local and State regulations.
- F. Existing beach access paths will be used to the maximum extent practicable. Alternate routes and dispersed routes may be utilized where it appears that geographically dispersed activity, rather than concentrated activity, would be more protective of the natural environment.

3.0 TRANSITION ZONE LANDWARD OF SETBACK LINE IN ZONES 1, 2, AND LANDWARD OF DUNE LINE IN ZONE 3

- A. Retain all Live Oaks, Magnolias, and Palm trees 16" DBH or greater. Lesser size species and other species will be cut to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- B. Trees and shrubs 3" DBH and smaller shall be cut at ground level and mulched in place if located outside of wetland or removed if located inside a wetland. Cutting of such material will be by chainsaw or similar device if located inside a wetland.
- C. Trees and shrubs removed greater than 3" DBH shall be cut by chainsaw and carried offsite with small non powered equipment.
- D. Stumps will remain in place.
- E. Vines will be removed as determined by TOSI.

4.0 TRANSITION ZONE SEAWARD OF SETBACK LINE IN ZONES 1, 2, AND SEAWARD OF DUNE LINE IN ZONE 3

- A. No tree or shrub removal proposed.
- B. Vegetation will be pruned or trimmed by TOSI after receipt of an arborist opinion that the proposed trimming or pruning will not likely endanger the long-term survival of the plant material.
- C. Vines will be removed as determined by TOSI.

5.0 ZONE 1 OUTSIDE OF TRANSITION ZONE AND LANDWARD OF THE SETBACK LINE

- A. Myrtles that are inside Freshwater Wetlands – All myrtles to be trimmed to a minimum height of 3 feet.
- B. Myrtles that are outside of Freshwater Wetlands – 50% of myrtles to be cut at the ground. Remaining 50% to be trimmed to 5 feet. TOSI to identify the areas to be cut and retained based on field conditions, aesthetics, habitat, and natural considerations.
- C. Trees and shrubs 3" DBH and smaller that are specified for removal shall be cut at ground level and mulched in place outside of wetland areas, and shall be cut at ground level and removed from the site inside wetland areas.
- D. Trees specified for removal that are greater than 3" DBH shall be cut at ground level and removed from the site.
- E. Retain all Live Oaks, Magnolias and Palmettos. Retain all non-specified tree species if 6" DBH or larger. Lesser size specimens will be removed to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- F. Retain all non-specified tree species if 6" DBH or larger. Lesser size specimens will be removed to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- G. Retain all Cedar, Pine, and Hackberry Trees 12" DBH or greater. Lesser size specimens will be removed to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- H. Remaining plant material will be trimmed or pruned as determined by TOSI after receipt of an arborist's opinion that the proposed trimming or pruning will not likely endanger the long-term survival of the plant.
- I. Vines will be removed as determined by TOSI.

6.0 ZONE 2 OUTSIDE OF TRANSITION ZONE AND LANDWARD OF SETBACK LINE

- A. Myrtles that are inside Freshwater Wetlands - All myrtles shall be trimmed to a minimum height of 3 feet.
- B. Myrtles that are outside of Freshwater Wetlands - 50% of myrtles shall be cut at the ground. Remaining 50% shall be trimmed to 5 feet. TOSI to identify the areas to be cut and retained based on field conditions, aesthetics, habitat, and natural considerations.
- C. Trees and shrubs 3" DBH and smaller that are specified for removal shall be cut at ground level and mulched in place outside of wetland areas, and shall be cut at ground level and removed from the site inside wetland areas.
- D. Trees and shrubs specified for removal that are greater than 3" DBH shall be cut at ground level and removed from the site.
- E. Retain all Live Oaks, Magnolias and Palmettos 6" DBH or greater. Lesser size specimens will be removed to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- F. Retain all non-specified tree species if 8" DBH or larger. Lesser size specimens will be removed to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- G. Retain all Cedar, Pine, and Hackberry Trees 16" DBH or greater. Lesser size specimens will be removed to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- H. Remaining plant material will be trimmed or pruned as determined by TOSI after receipt of an arborist's opinion that the proposed trimming or pruning will not likely endanger the long-term survival of the plant.
- I. Vines will be removed as determined by TOSI.

7.0 ZONES 1 AND 2 SEWARD OF SETBACK LINE

- A. Myrtles shall be trimmed to a minimum height of 3'.
- B. No tree or shrub removal proposed.
- C. Vines will be removed as determined by TOSI.
- D. Vegetation other than myrtles will be pruned or trimmed by TOSI after receipt of an arborist's opinion that the proposed trimming or pruning will not likely endanger the long-term survival of the plant material.

8.0 ZONE 3 OUTSIDE OF TRANSITION ZONE AND LANDWARD OF DUNE LINE

- A. Myrtles that are inside Freshwater Wetlands - All myrtles shall be trimmed to a minimum height of 3 feet.
- B. Myrtles that are outside of Freshwater Wetlands - 50% of myrtles shall be cut at the ground. Remaining 50% shall be trimmed to 5 feet. TOSI to identify the areas to be cut and retained based on field conditions, aesthetics, habitat, and natural considerations.
- C. Retain all Live Oaks, Magnolias and Palmettos 6" DBH or greater. Lesser size specimens will be removed to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- D. Non-specified species 10" DBH or greater shall be retained. Lesser size specimens may be cut at ground level to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- E. Retain all Cedar, Pine, and Hackberry Trees 18" DBH or greater. Lesser size specimens may be cut at ground level to the extent reasonably practicable given existing field conditions.
- F. Trees and shrubs 3" DBH and smaller shall be cut at ground level and mulched in place outside of freshwater wetland areas, and shall be cut at ground level and removed from the site inside freshwater wetland areas.
- G. Remaining plant material will be trimmed or pruned as determined by TOSI after receipt of an arborist's opinion that the proposed trimming or pruning will not likely endanger the long-term survival of the plant.
- H. Vines will be removed as determined by TOSI.

9.0 ZONE 3 SEAWARD OF THE DUNE LINE

- A. Myrtles shall be trimmed to a minimum height of 3'.
- B. No trees or shrubs to be removed.
- C. Vegetation other than myrtles will be trimmed or pruned as determined by TOSI after receipt of an arborist's opinion that the proposed trimming or pruning will not likely endanger the long-term survival of the plant.