



DATE: July 1, 2021, 2021

TO: James M. Joiner, Sr. Regulatory Project Manager

US Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District

Idaho Falls Regulatory Office 900 N Skyline Drive, Suite A Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

FROM: Robin Jones, Aquatic Ecologist

Confluence Consulting, Inc.

PO Box 1133

Bozeman, MT 59771

SUBJECT: Conceptual Wetland Mitigation Plan – Howell Ranch Pond

Application # NWW-2021-245-I02

INTRODUCTION

Confluence Consulting Inc. submitted a permit application on the behalf of Mr. Dan Janney, for construction of a pond the Howell Ranch property, which is located just outside of Ashton, ID. Construction of the pond will permanently convert 1.05 acres of PEM wetland to open water. The regulatory guidance provided by US Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) Idaho Falls Regulatory Office indicated that these impacts would require compensatory mitigation. As no wetland mitigation banks currently exist within the region, the aforementioned wetland impacts will be mitigated on site. The following narrative describes the conceptual plan for compensatory wetland mitigation on the Howell Ranch property and accompanies Sheet 9 in the Howell Ranch Pond proposed design plan set. A more detailed wetland mitigation plan that addresses the requirements outlined in 33 CFR § 332.4 will be submitted to the USACOE at a later date.

PRE-PROJECT CONDITIONS

The majority of the Howell Ranch property is located in an alluvial valley that contains a small stream named Porcupine Creek. Much of the valley bottom is a wet meadow, classified as palustrine emergent (PEM) wetland, which is the wetland type that will be impacted by the pond construction. Porcupine Creek is fringed by PEM and palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS) wetlands on both banks. The hydrologic sources that support these wetlands include Porcupine Creek, shallow groundwater, and a numerous springs and seeps that emerge adjacent to and upgradient of the creek.

The proposed mitigation area is located in an upland area on the south side of Porcupine Creek. This 1.12-acre upland area lies between the PEM/PSS wetlands along the creek and a wetland swale to the South. The proposed mitigation area is slightly higher in elevation (2-3 feet) then the surrounding wetlands and is dominated by FACU and FAC grasses and forbs.

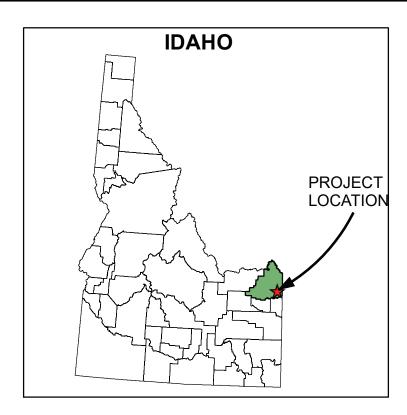


Conceptual Design Memo

CONCEPTUAL MITIGATION PLAN

Since the proposed mitigation area is nearly surrounded by wetlands, the upland area will likely convert into a wetland simply by lowering the ground surface elevation so that the water table is closer to the surface. To gain access to the water table, the proposed mitigation area will be excavated to an elevation that is 18 inches below the elevation of the surrounding wetlands. The excavated area will then be revegetated using PEM wetland sod that will be stripped from the pond construction area. The edges of the excavated area will be graded to blend in with the surrounding wetland areas. The spoils excavated from the mitigation area will be graded into a dry hillside located upslope of the mitigation area.

As the water table surrounding the proposed mitigation area currently supports both PEM and PSS wetlands, it is reasonable to assume that it will also support wetlands within the mitigation area after the ground surface elevation has been lowered. However, if the first 2-3 years following construction are especially dry, the wetland sod mats placed in the mitigation area may require supplemental watering to assist with wetland vegetation establishment. In this case, the sod will occasionally be irrigated using water from Porcupine Creek. Mr. Janney holds an irrigation water right for Porcupine Creek which could be used to support these activities.



HOWELL RANCH FISHING POND

SHEET INDEX

- COVER SHEET / PROJECT LOCATION
- 2. OVERALL SITE
- 3. POND PLAN
- 4. POND PROFILE AND CROSS SECTION
- 5. POND OUTLET DETAIL
- 6. POND INLET DETAIL
- 7. FILL LOCATIONS
- 8. WETLAND IMPACTS
- 9. WETLAND MITIGATION PLAN

PREPARED FOR:

DAN JANNEY 1111 S. ROOP ST. UNIT 100 CARSON CITY, NV 89702



PREPARED BY:

CONFLUENCE CONSULTING, INC PO BOX 1133 BOZEMAN, MT 59771



PROJECT VICINITY AERIAL PHOTO
TAX PARCELS RP09N44E25CE00 & RP09N44E24CE00

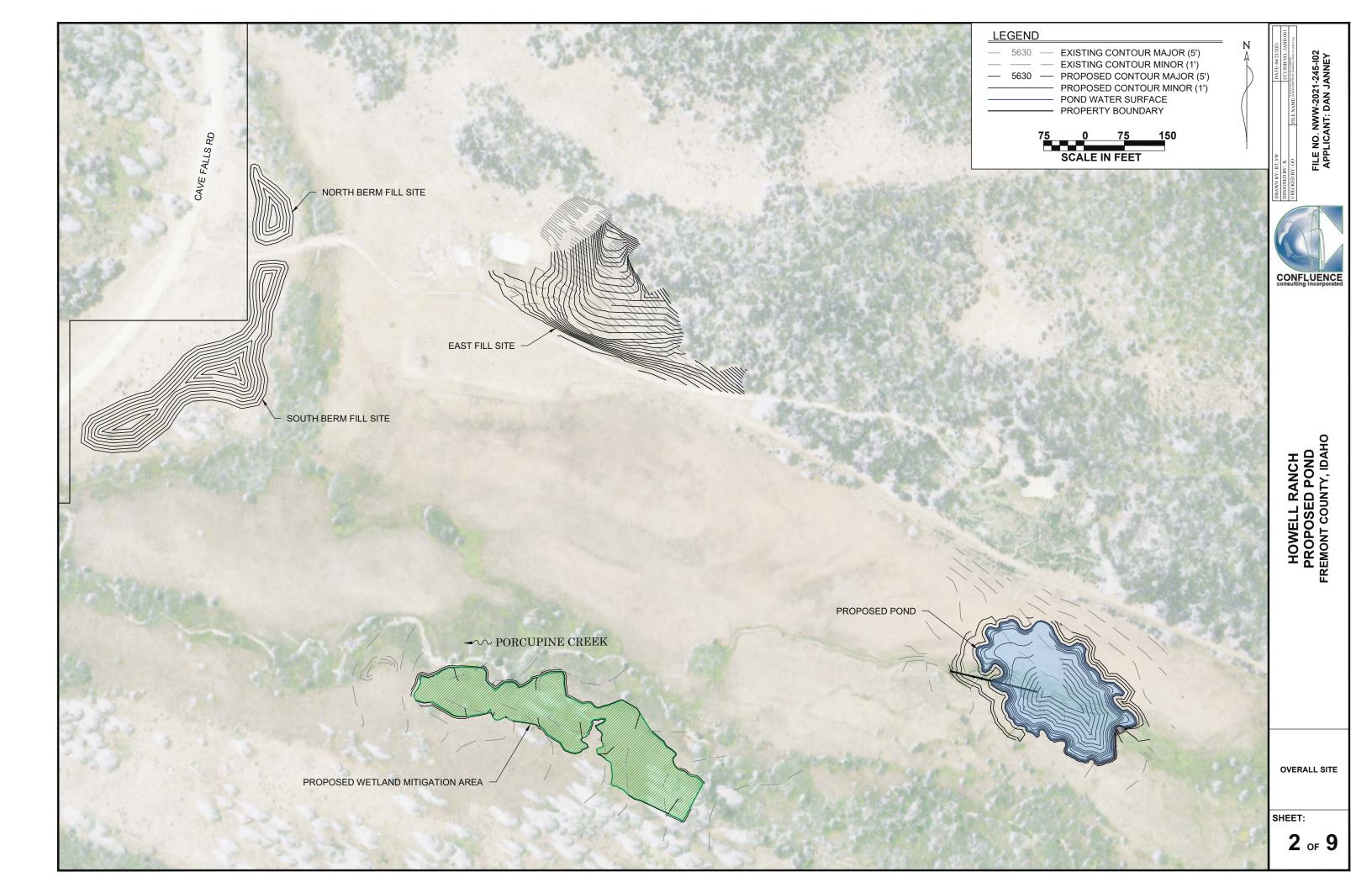


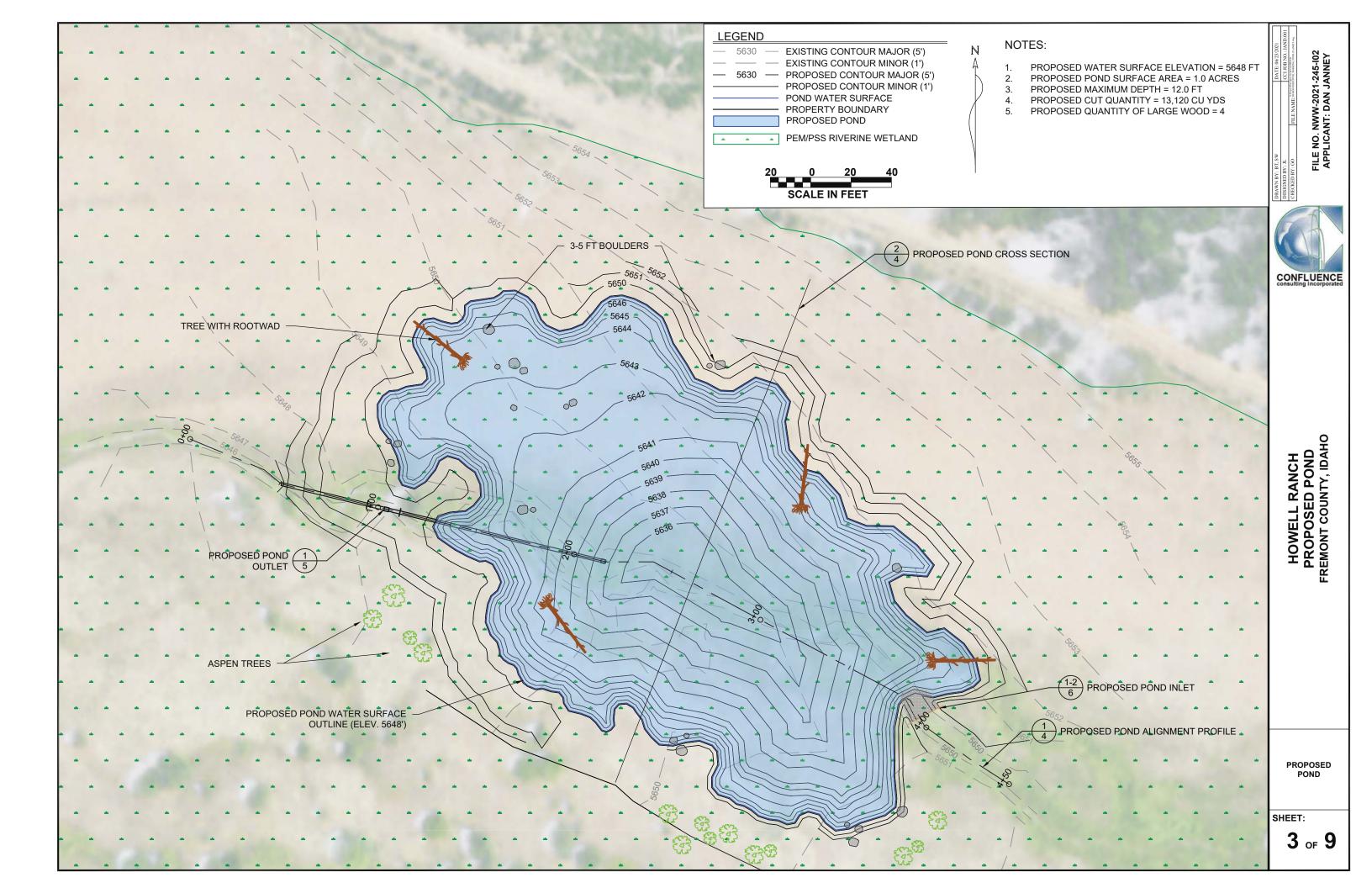
PROJECT VIVINITY TOPGRAPHIC MAP <u>\$24 & 25, T09 N R44 E</u> COVER SHEET
PROJECT

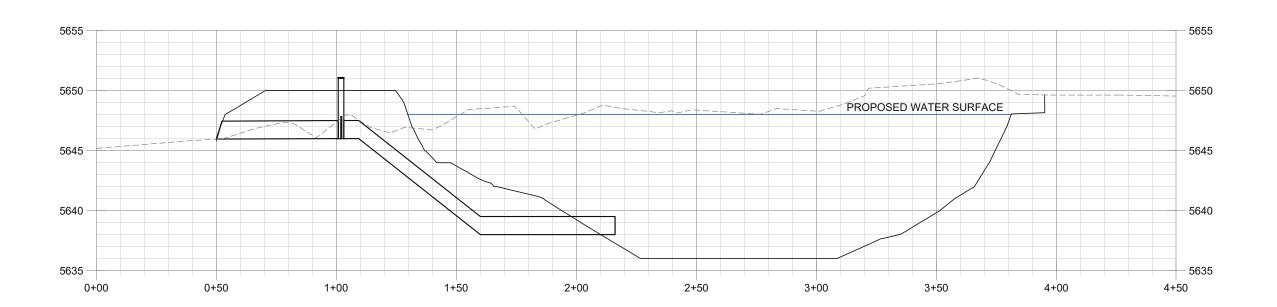
LOCATION

SHEET:

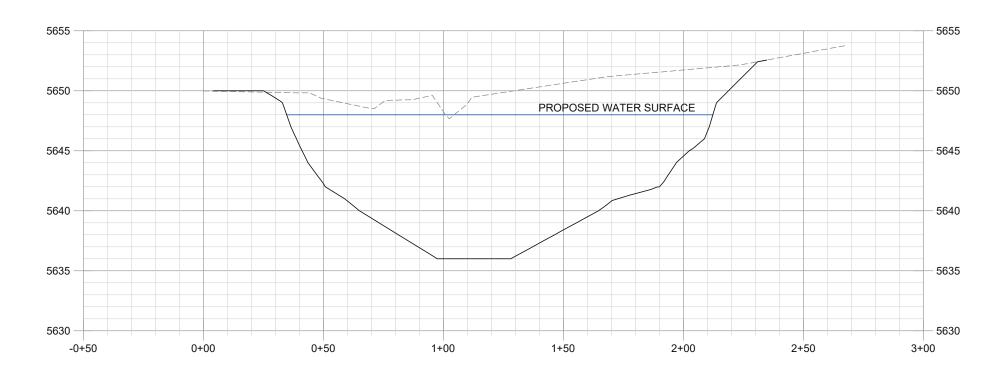
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1 PROPOSED POND ALIGNMENT PROFILE
HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1" = 40'
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 8'



LEGEND

EXISTING GROUND
PROPOSED GROUND
PROPOSED WATER SURFACE

PROPOSED POND CROSS SECTION
HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1" = 40'
VERTICAL SCALE: 1" = 8'

FILE NO. NWW-2021-245-102
APPLICANT: DAN JANNEY



HOWELL RANCH PROPOSED POND FREMONT COUNTY, IDAHO

PROPOSED POND PROFILE AND CROSS SECTION

SHEET:

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