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Wildwood Drive Natural Resource Assessment

Date:

9/4/2018

To:

City of West Linn Planning Department

From:

Stacey Reed, PWS, Senior Wetland Scientist

Project:

19738 Wildwood Drive Single Family Residence on Lot of Record

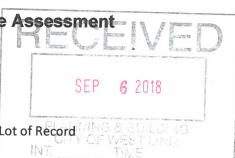
Subject:

WRA Permit and Hardship Variance

Site Location:

T2S, R1E, Section 23AC, Tax Lot 9004

West Linn, Clackamas County, Oregon



# Introduction

AKS Engineering & Forestry, LLC (AKS) conducted a natural resource assessment for 19738 Wildwood Drive, West Linn, Clackamas County, Oregon (Tax Lot 9004 of Assessor's Tax Map 2S 1E 23AC). The study area is shown on attached Figures 1-2. An unnamed tributary to Robin Creek is mapped on the City of West Linn's Water Resource Area (WRA) map flowing northeasterly through the northwest corner of the site. The tributary is located at the bottom of a ravine with no distinct top of slope for at least 150 feet, requiring a 200 foot wide WRA buffer. The WRA buffer consumes the entire site.

This memorandum describes the results of the natural resource assessment and requests a hardship variance approval for a single-family home within the outer edges of the WRA buffer. This memo documents the project meets all of the hardship provisions described in Section 32.110 of City of West Linn Community Development Code (CDC) Chapter 32 Water Resource Area Protection.

# **Existing Conditions and Background Mapping**

The project site consists of an undeveloped property located within the Hidden Springs residential neighborhood of West Linn. The project site is generally dominated with Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), red alder (*Alnus rubra*), and pineland swordfern (*Polystichum munitum*) with Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) along the edges near Wildwood Drive. The topography on the site slopes northerly toward the tributary that flows through the northern portion of the site. Topography is steep, with greater than 25 percent slopes throughout.

According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil survey map for Clackamas County, Oregon Area soil survey and the Clackamas County hydric soil list Saum silt loam with 30%-60% slopes are mapped extending throughout the entire site (Figures 3). Saum silt loams are not listed as hydric, nor do they have any hydric inclusions.

The City of West Linn has an Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) approved Local Wetland Inventory (LWI) map (Figure 4). The LWI map has an unnamed drainage mapped within the project site. Our study confirmed a portion of the drainage is located within the site. According to the City's WRA map, an unnamed tributary to Robin Creek is mapped in the northwest portion of the site (Figure 5). According to the WRA map, no Significant Riparian Corridors are mapped on the site.

#### **On-Site Protected Water Resource**

AKS Senior Wetland Scientist, Stacey Reed, PWS, conducted site visits on May 9 and 14, 2018 to evaluate site conditions and determine whether the flow regime within the on-site portions of the tributary was ephemeral or intermittent. The channel daylights approximately 50 feet off-site to the west from a large diameter culvert that passes flow under Wildwood Drive. On-site, the channel is narrow averaging approximately 3 foot wide channel bed with 1 foot tall banks. The dominant streambed substrate is silt loam with scattered gravels and cobbles. The on-site portion of the channel contained approximately 1/2-inch deep continuous flow during the May 9, 2018 site visit. However, according to the National Weather Service (NWS) Portland station, approximately 0.25-inch of rainfall was received within the 3 days prior to the May 9, 2018 site visit. Therefore, a follow up site visit was conducted a week later on May 14, 2018. The on-site upper portions of the channel were dry (lacked flow) during the May 14, 2018 site visit, but the lower half of the channel contained approximately ¼-inch deep continuous flow. Since portions of the channel still contained flow, we determined the on-site portions of the channel to be intermittent. Intermittent drainages mapped on West Linn's WRA map are considered a Protected Water Feature requiring a WRA buffer.

The ordinary high water mark (OHWM) for the on-site portion of drainage was professionally land surveyed by Andy Paris and Associates, Inc. The Existing Conditions Map depicting the surveyed water boundaries and adjacent topography is included as Figure 6. Representative site photographs are attached for reference.

# **Extent of the Water Resource Area (WRA)**

The slopes within the first 50 feet from the OHWM of the tributary are greater than 25%, with no distinct top of bank until Wildwood Drive. Therefore, according to Table 32-2 *Required Width of WRA* of Chapter 32.030 of the City's CDC, the width of a WRA for the on-site tributary extends 200 feet, which consumes the entire site (0.24 acres of on-site WRA). The extent of WRA and slope measurements are shown on the attached Existing Conditions Map (Figure 6).

#### **Existing Conditions of the WRA**

The existing condition of the on-site WRA was determined based on the presence of native vegetation, water features, and slope, consistent with CDC Section 32.050.F. The existing condition of the on-site WRA was determined to be in *good* condition due to having a dense native tree canopy and native understory. The entire site is under native tree canopy (red alder, bigleaf maple, and Douglas-fir trees). The understory was primarily dominated by pineland sword fern and vine maple, generally lacking any non-native invasive plants. Only a few Himalayan blackberry thickets were observed near the edge of the property, near Wildwood Drive.

### **Hardship Provision Compliance**

The project will consist of a single-family 3-story home within WRA. No impacts will occur within the Water Resource (drainage). The total area of the home is +/-3,000 square feet, with each story +/-1,000 square feet. The home is situated as far away from the on-site drainage as possible, near the top of the slope adjacent to Wildwood Drive. A geotechnical investigation was completed to confirm slope stability for the project. The geotechnical report prepared by H.G. Schlicker & Associates is attached. The site plan figures are included as Figures 7 and 7A. Figure 7 shows the full build out of the bottom story, along with the location for the fireplace. Figure 7A shows site erosion and control measures (construction management plan per Section 32.050.G)

<u>Stormwater Management</u>: Stormwater will be collected from roof drains and the driveway and directed downslope via a pipe to discharge into a City of West Linn Infiltration Rain Garden, Type 1 (see attached typical detail) for treatment prior to discharge into a riprap energy dissipation pad. The rain garden and riprap pad will be located above the delineated OHWM of the tributary. No work or disturbance will occur within the stream channel. The approximately location for the rain garden is shown on the attached Site Plan, Figure 7. According to



Table 32-5 MDA Calculation Summary of West Linn CDC, rain gardens are allowed within the WRA buffer and their footprint does not count towards the project's MDA calculation. No native trees with greater than 6-inch DBH will be removed for the installation of the rain garden. The rain garden will be planted with native vegetation per the attached detail.

The riprap energy dissipation pad will be approximately 10 square feet (5 foot by 5 foot) and will be placed within the WRA, at least 5 feet upslope from the OHWM of the drainage (approximate location shown on attached Figure 7). The location of the energy dissipater is not expected to have an erosive effect on the tributary or diminish the stability of the slope. According to Table 32-1 of West Linn CDC, the energy dissipater can occur within the WRA if no reasonable alternative exists. Since the entire site is within WRA, there are no alternatives to avoiding impact.

The stormwater discharge pipe leading to the rain garden will require +/- 60 square feet of temporary WRA disturbance. The Temporarily Disturbed Area (TDA) will be seeded with native erosion control grass seed mixture and planted with native pineland sword fern.

<u>Tree Preservation</u>: Figure 6 illustrates the surveyed location of all trees on the site. Figure 7A illustrates planned tree removal and preservation. A total of only 8 trees will be removed from the site for the project. The project preserves 9 trees, including the larger diameter trees on the site. The trees to be removed are smaller diameter, with the largest being a 12-inch diameter Douglas fir and a 15-inch diameter bigleaf maple. Of the 8 trees to be removed, only 2 bigleaf maple trees with greater than 12-inch DBH will be removed.

The project site is an established lot of record with the Assessor's office before January 1, 2006, meeting the hardship provision criteria under CDC 32.110.A.

The project will only require a total of 2,510 square feet of maximum disturbed area (MDA), consisting of home, deck, driveway and energy dissipation pad, meeting the hardship provision criteria under CDC 32.110.B.

# Impact Evaluation Per CDC 32.110.C.

The entire site is located with WRA buffer. Therefore, impacts to WRA are unavoidable. The project consists of relatively small impact to the buffer, resulting in under 5,000 square feet of MDA (impervious surfaces). The MDA encroachment is the least amount of square footage necessary to develop a single-family home compatible with the surrounding neighborhood. Therefore, the project meets criteria listed under CDC 32.110.C.1.

The home is approximately 85 feet from the edge of the drainage (at closest extent), and avoids impacts to the drainage. The home will not have a functional loss on the intermittent drainage. An 85 foot wide protective buffer between the home and the seasonal drainage is adequate to protect the stream functions. A total of 9 trees and dense native vegetation will remain between the home and the drainage; therefore, the project meets criteria listed under CDC 32.110.C.2.

The development will occur greater than 15 feet from the water resource, meeting criteria listed under CDC 32.110.C.3.

The access driveway is approximately 17-feet wide, with the home being situated as close to Wildwood Drive as possible; therefore, the project meets criteria listed under CDC 32.110.C.4.

Temporary disturbed areas (TDA) adjacent to the development area will be restored to pre-construction conditions and planted with native pineland sword fern.



# Mitigation

The project results in a total of 2,510 square feet of MDA. Permanent encroachment will be mitigated off-site through payment in lieu to the City of West Linn Parks Department. The remaining portions of the on-site WRA can be described as being in *good* condition. There are no non-native invasive plants to remove within remaining WRA and no opportunity to install additional plants as the remaining WRA is densely vegetated with native pineland sword fern and dense canopy of bigleaf maple trees. Off-site mitigation is the most practical approach for this project.

According to Section 32.090, off-site mitigation is allowed if there is not sufficient on-site area. According to Section 32.090.C, off-site mitigation ratios are 2:1; therefore, the project requires 5,020 square feet of off-site credits.

Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding this memorandum.

Stacey Reed, PWS

Senior Wetland Scientist

Stacy Reed

# **List of Figures**

Figure 1. USGS Vicinity Map

Figure 2. Tax Map (2S 1E 23AC)

Figure 3. NRCS Soil Survey Map

Figure 4. Local Wetland Inventory (LWI) Map

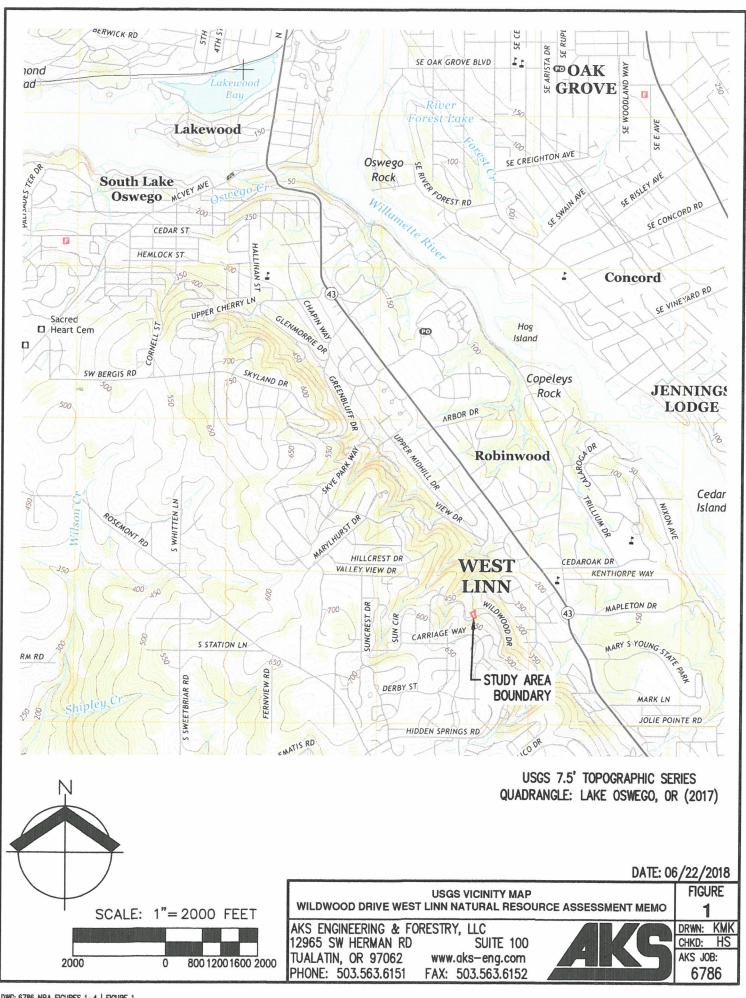
Figure 5. West Linn Water Resource Area (WRA) Map

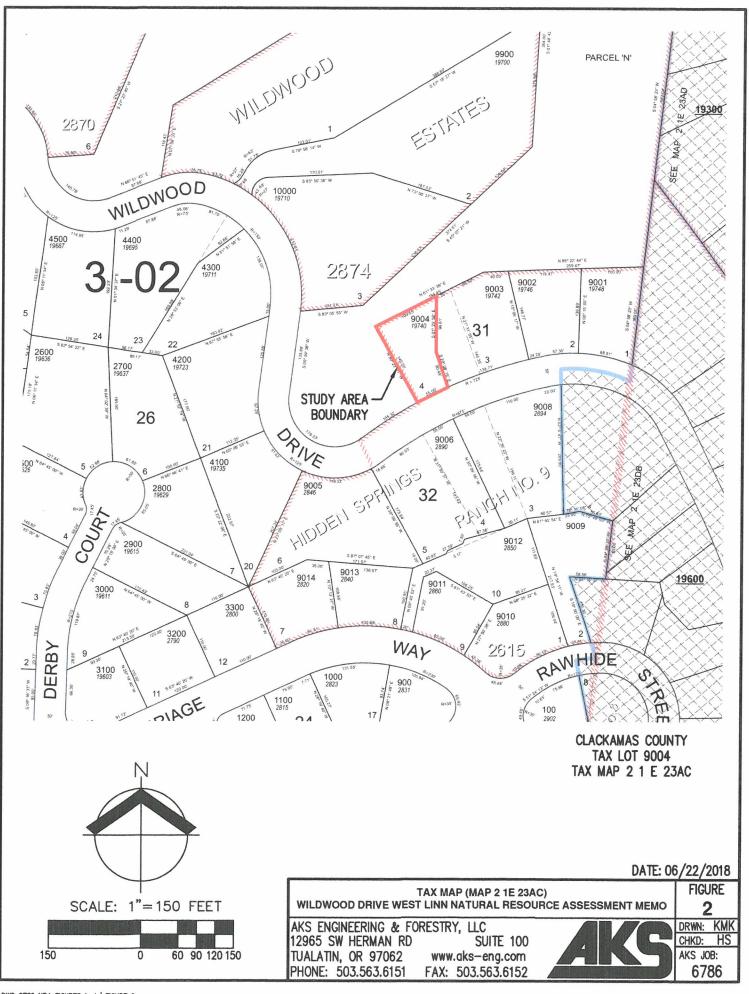
Figure 6. Existing Conditions Map

Figure 7 and 7A. Site and Erosion Control Figures

#### **List of Attachments**

Representative Site Photographs Geotech Report prepared by H.G. Schlicker & Associates City of West Linn Infiltration Rain Garden Type 1

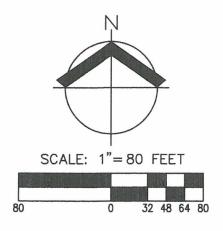






MAP UNIT SYMBOL	MAP UNIT NAME
78E	SAUM SILT LOAM, 30% TO 60% SLOPES; NON-HYDRIC

# NRCS WEB SOIL SURVEY FOR CLACKAMAS COUNTY



DATE: 06/22/2018

NRCS SOIL SURVEY MAP
WILDWOOD DRIVE WEST LINN NATURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT MEMO

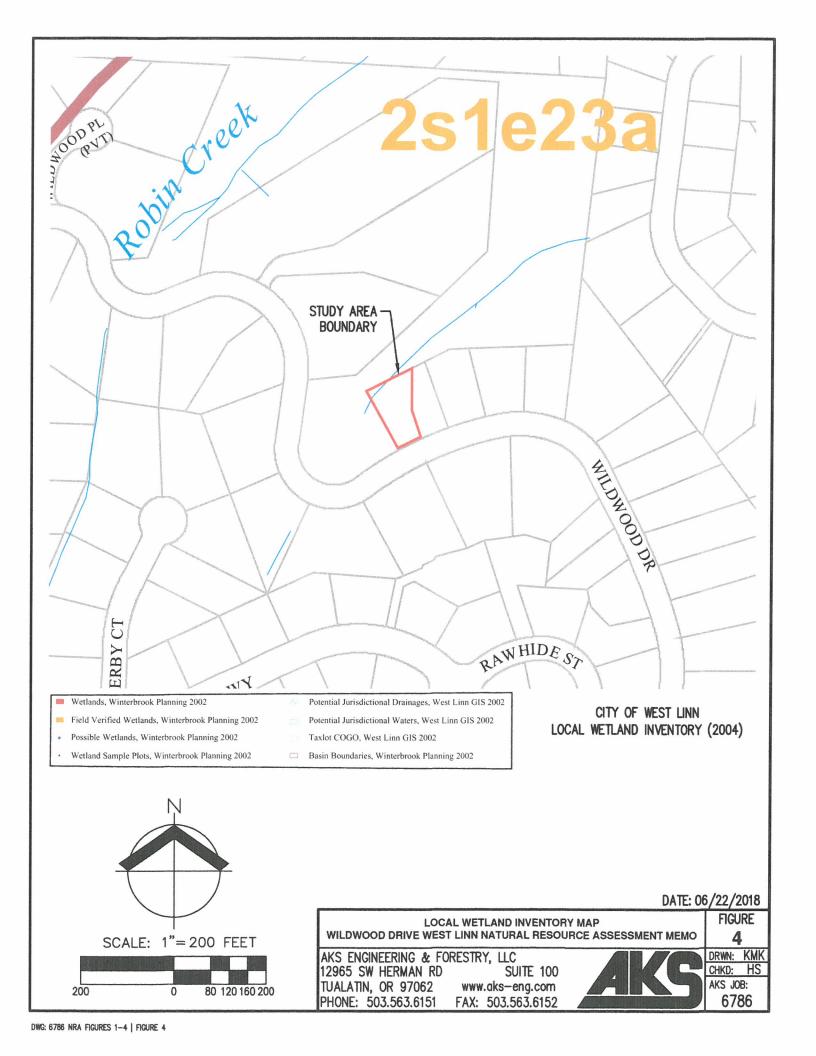
FIGURE 3

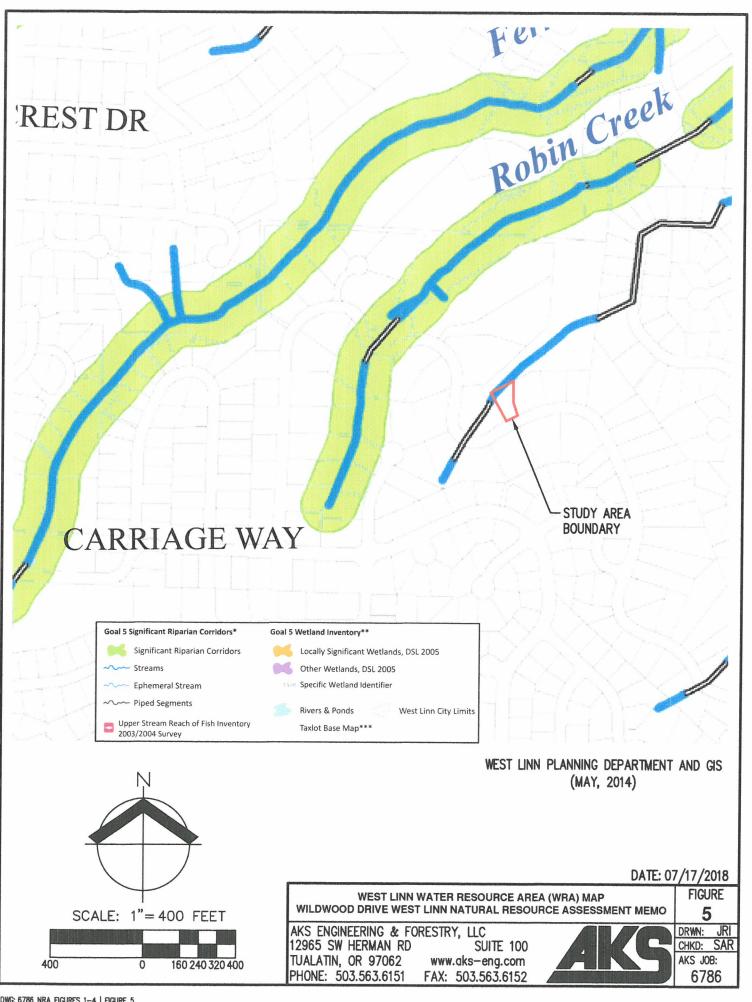
AKS ENGINEERING & FORESTRY, LLC 12965 SW HERMAN RD SU TUALATIN, OR 97062 www.aks-e

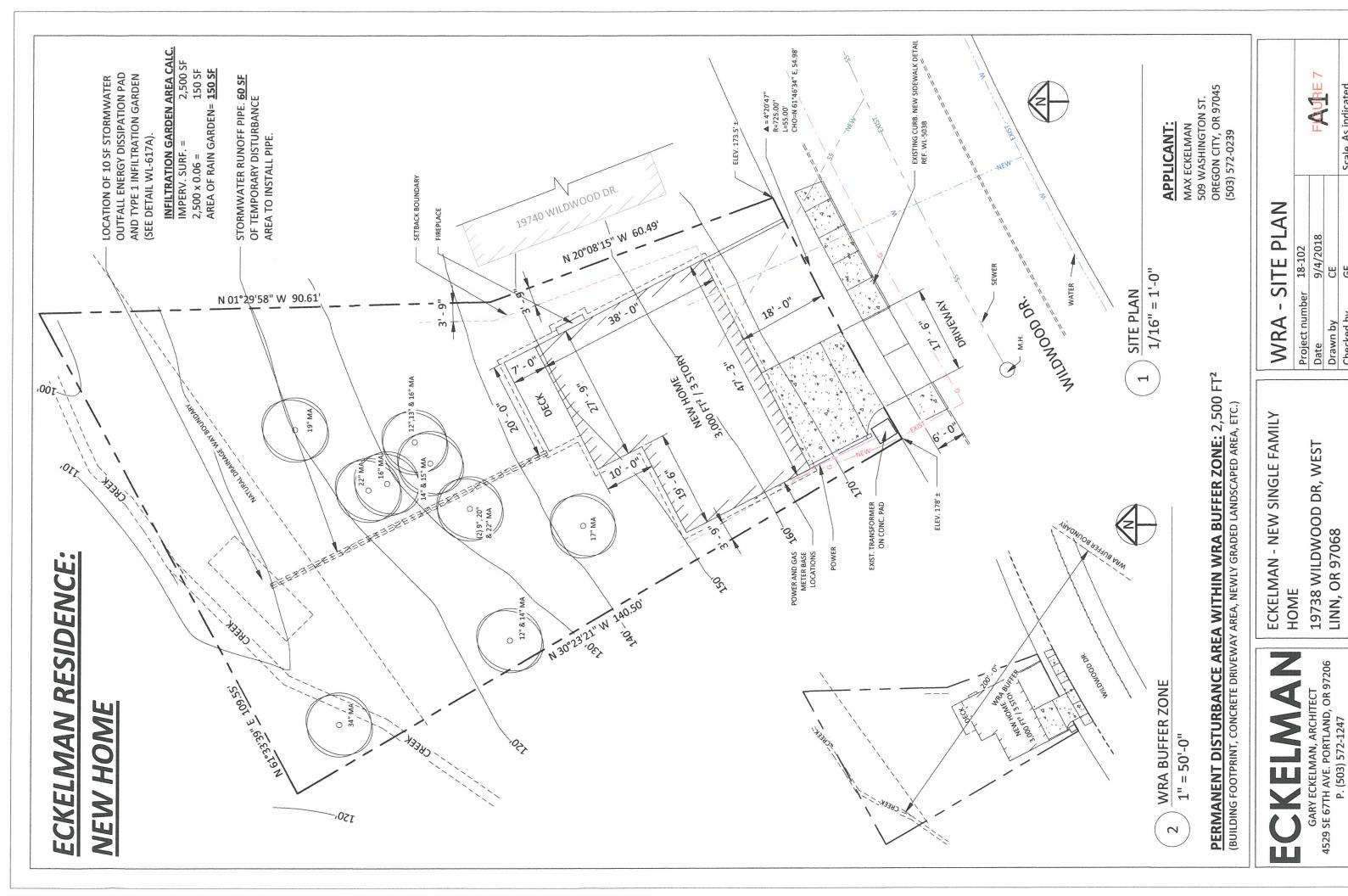
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6786



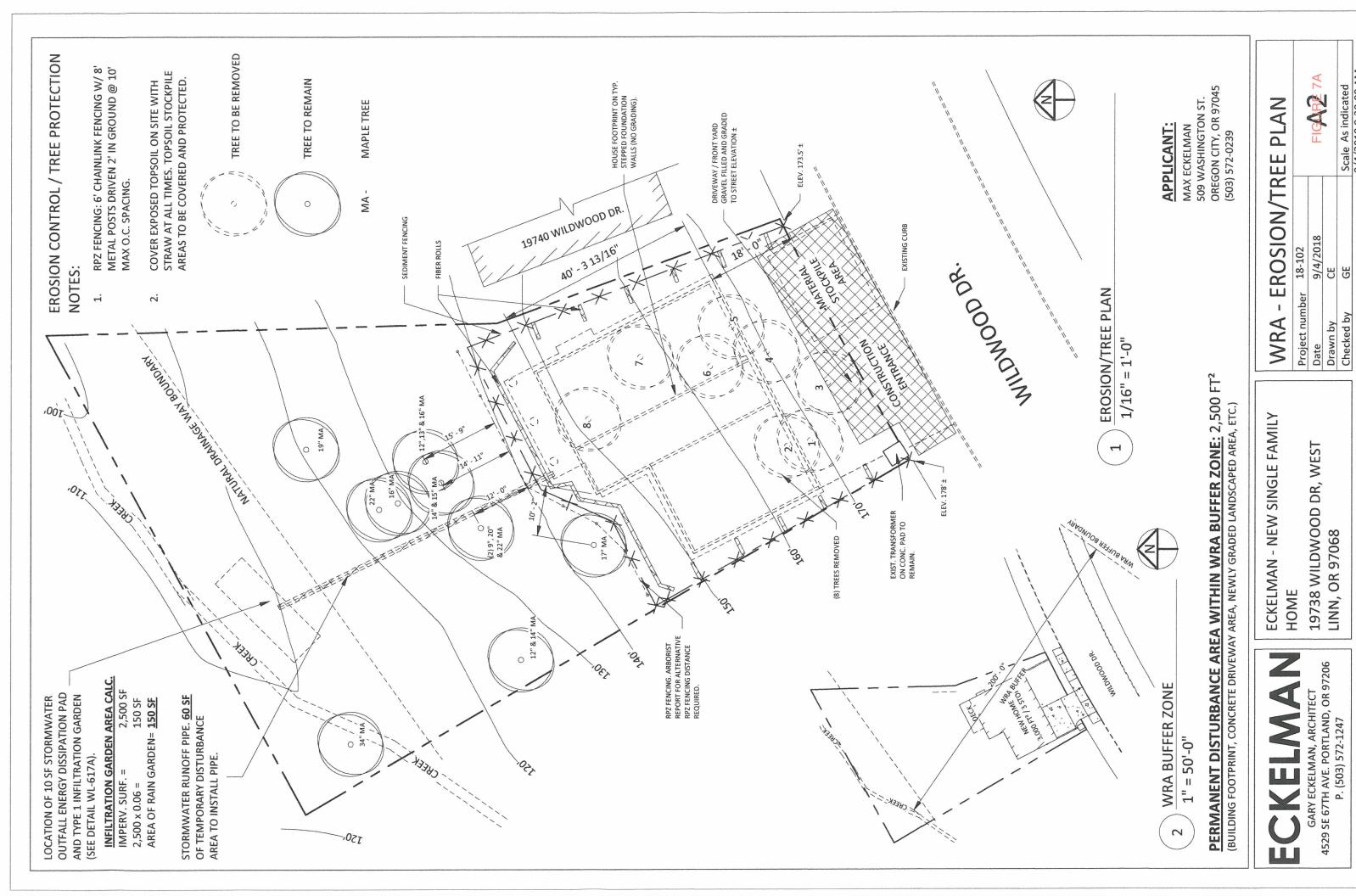




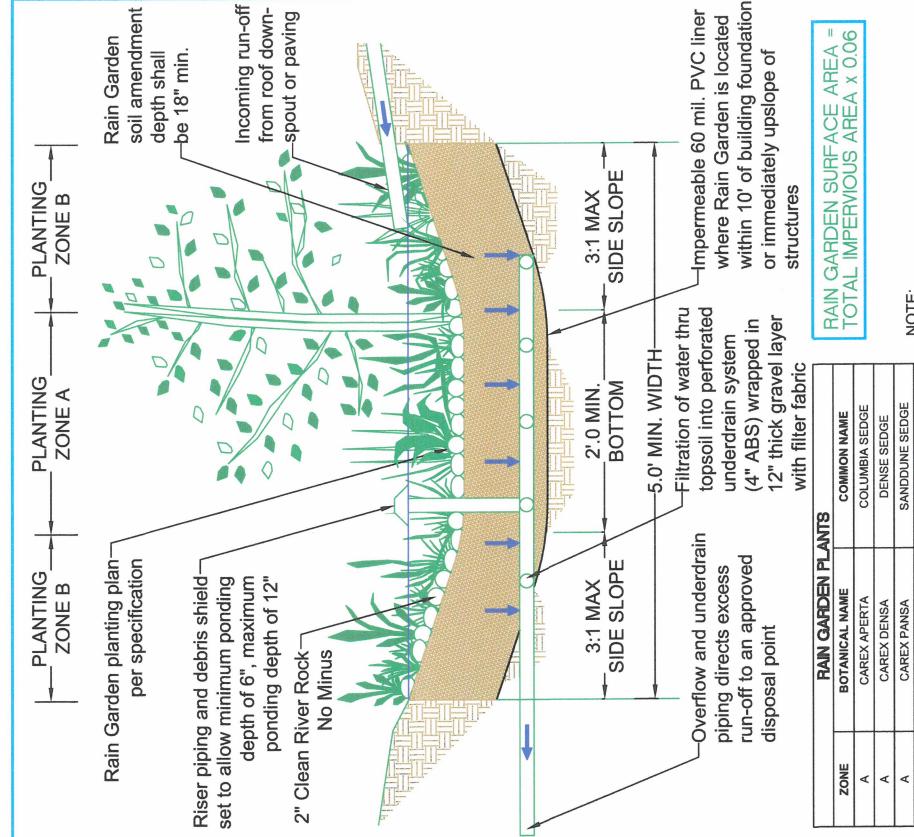
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NOTE:

**NEW ZEALAND ORANGE SEDGE** 

CREEPING SPIKE RUSH

COMMON RUSH COMMON RUSH COMMON RUSH

BALTIC RUSH

JUNCUS BALTICUS
JUNCUS EFFUSUS "CARMEN'S

TUFTED HAIR GRAS

DESCHAMSIA CAESPITOSA

CAREX TUMILICOLA

CAREX TESTACAE

ELEOCHARIS PALUSTRIS

FOOTHILL SEDGE

EACH ZONE. A MINIMUM OF 3
SPECIES SHALL BE USED IN EACH
ZONE. PLANT 1 GALLON POTS 18" O.C. IN

# TYPE TRATION GARDEN RAIN

S

2010 **DRAWING NO** DATE:

DWARF REDTWIG DOGWOOD

SPREADING RUSH

KINNIKINNICK DEER FERN

ARCTOSTAPHYLLOS UVA-URSI

BLECHNUM SPICANT CORNUS SERICEA VAR

STRIKE" JUNCUS EFFUSUS "CARMAN'S

GRAY"
JUNCUS PATENS

JAPANESE" JUNCUS EFFUSUS "GOLD

**BIG BLUE LILY TURF** 

LIRIOPE MUSCARI "BIG BLUE"

GAUTHERIA SHALLON

MAHONIA NERVOSA

MAHONIA REPENS

-617A  $\leq$ FILE NO.

LOW OREGON GRAPE CREEPING OREGON GRAPE