



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

Southeast District Office
3301 Gun Club Road, MSC 7210-1
West Palm Beach, FL 33406
561-681-6600

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Jeanette Nuñez
Lt. Governor

Shawn Hamilton
Secretary

February 24, 2022

STATE 404 PROGRAM PUBLIC NOTICE

Permit Application No. 13-355773-006-SFI

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The Department of Environmental Protection has received an application for a State 404 Program permit pursuant to 62-331, Florida Administrative Code, as described below:

APPLICANT: National Park Service
C/o Michael Machupa
40001 SR 9336
Homestead, FL. 33034
machupa@nps.gov

LOCATION: The Salem Radio Towers Access Road Expansion site is located on the south side of U.S. Highway 41/State Rd. 90 (Tamiami Trail) in Miami-Dade, Florida. This site is approximately 4.1 miles west of the intersection of Tamiami Trail and CR 997 (Krome Ave).

APPROXIMATE CENTRAL COORDINATES:
Latitude N 25° 44' 37.71", Longitude W-80° 32' 48.96".

PROJECT PURPOSE: Salem Radio Towers is in an area where several hydrologic restoration projects (Modified Water Deliveries Project, Central Everglades Planning Project, Tamiami Trail Next Steps), are being implemented in order to restore more natural hydrologic conditions in the North East Shark River Slough area of the Everglades National Park. These projects will increase inundation patterns and water depths in the area. It is necessary for there to be access to the Salem Radio Towers to conduct routine maintenance.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant seeks authorization to fill approximately 1.50 acres of wetlands for the raising of the elevation of the access road and paths to the radio building and towers. This will require the widening of the road and paths as well, which will result in unavoidable impacts to wetlands.

EXISTING CONDITIONS: The project includes an access road that is approximately 4,270 linear feet. The access road traversed Mixed Wetland Hardwoods, Mixed Wetland Shrubs, Sawgrass Marsh, and an area dominated by exotic Brazilian Pepper. The extent of federally jurisdictional wetlands within the project limits was delineated using the methodology described in Chapter 62-340, Florida Administrative Code.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION INFORMATION: The modification of the original South Florida Water Management District ERP Permit reduced the size (both height and width) of the access road, therefore reducing impacts from what was originally approved.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: The loss of 1.50 acres of wetland function is proposed to be offset through the purchase of 0.94 credit from Hole in the Donut Mitigation Bank. In addition to the credits, 0.46 acres of historic fill adjacent to the access road that is dominated by exotics and is an exotic seed bank for the area will be excavated to grade to match the sawgrass prairie that surrounds it.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: Coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) resulted in no comments. By copy of this public notice, the Department is providing information for review. Our final determination relative to historic resource impacts is subject to review by and coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office and those federally recognized tribes with concerns in Florida and the permit area.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The Department, in coordination with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, has determined the proposed project has the potential to affect the Everglades Bully, Eastern Indigo Snake, Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow, Everglades Snail Kite, eastern Black Rail, Wood Stork, West Indian Manatee, Florida Panther, Florida Bonneted Bat and the Everglades Mink. The FWS and FWCC believes there will be no effects to the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow and the West Indian Manatee from construction and operation of the project. The potential to affect the remainder of the above listed species will be discountable and the department concurs with the NPS's MANLAA determination.

COMMENTS regarding the potential authorization of the work proposed should be submitted in writing to David White at 3301 Gun Club Rd, MSC 7210-1. West Palm Beach, FL. 33406, or by electronic mail at David.N.White@FloridaDEP.gov, within 30 days from the date of this notice. Written comments will be made part of the record and should reference the above permit application number. Objections must be factual, specific, and fully describe the reasons upon which any objection is founded. Any comments received will be considered by the Department to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. Unless a written request is filed with the Department within the 30-day public comment period, the Department may decide on the application without a public meeting.

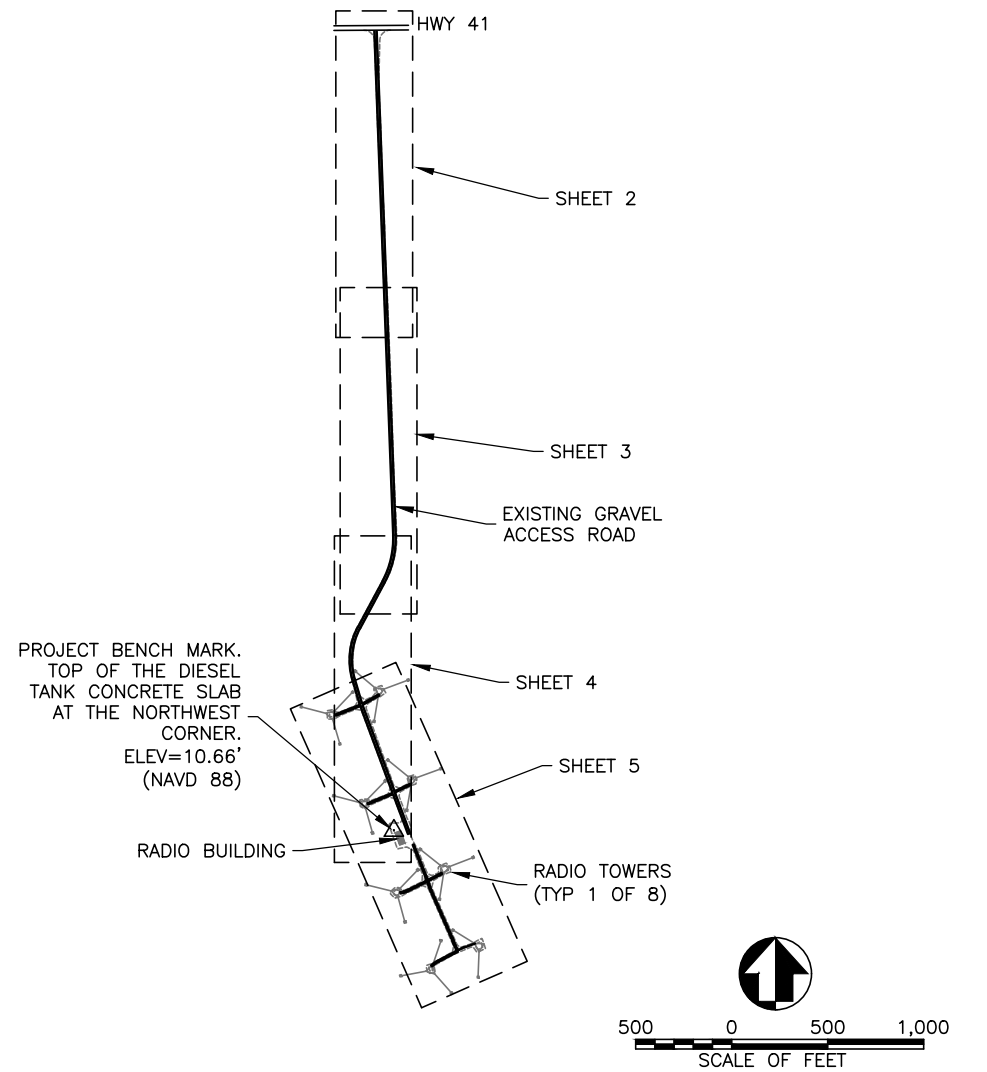
EVALUATION: The determination as to whether a permit will be issued, or a public meeting held, will be based on an evaluation of all relevant factors, including the public comments received and the effect of the proposed work on the public interest, including, but not limited to, fish, wildlife, historical resources, and pollution. The specific permit decision criteria can be found in Chapter 62-331, Florida Administrative Code.

The Department 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. To make this consideration, comments are used to assess impacts to endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public meeting and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION regarding this application, contact the project manager, David White at 3301 Gun Club Rd, MSC 7210-1. West Palm Beach, FL. 33406, or by electronic mail at David.N.White@FloridaDEP.gov or by phone at (561 681-6649).

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC MEETING: Any person may request a public meeting. The request must be submitted to David White within the designated comment period of the notice and must state the specific reasons for requesting the public meeting.

Attachments to be included: (plan and elevation drawing showing the general and specific site location and character of all proposed activities, including the size relationship of the proposed structures to the size of the impacted waterway and depth of water in the area)



SALEM RADIO SITE
SCALE: SCALE A

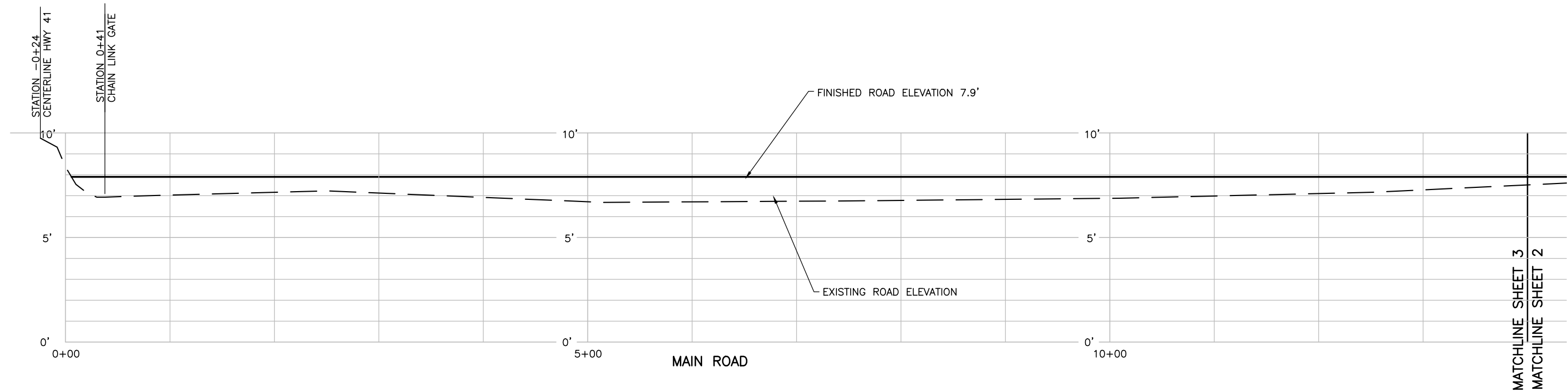
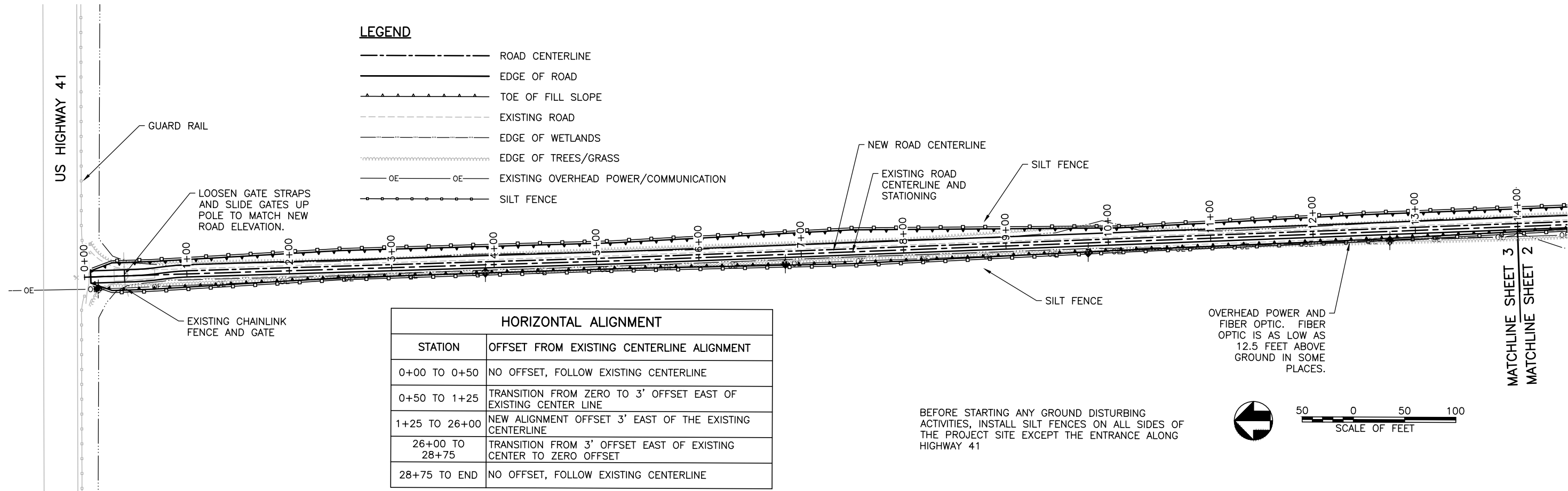
DRAWING INDEX		
SHEET	SUB SHEET	TITLE
1		COVER SHEET
2		ROAD PLAN AND PROFILE--STA 0+00 TO 14+00
3		ROAD PLAN AND PROFILE--STA 14+00 TO 28+00
4		ROAD PLAN AND PROFILE--STA 28+00 TO END
5		SOUTH PATH AND TOWER PATHS PLAN AND PROFILES
6		ROAD CROS SECTIONS
7		ROAD CROS SECTIONS
8		SOUTH PATH AND TOWER PATH CROSS SECTIONS
9		MITIGATION AREA CROSS SECTIONS
10		TYPICAL ROAD, PATH AND CULVERT SECTIONS
11		MITIGATION AREA AND ANTENNA FLOOD PROJECTION



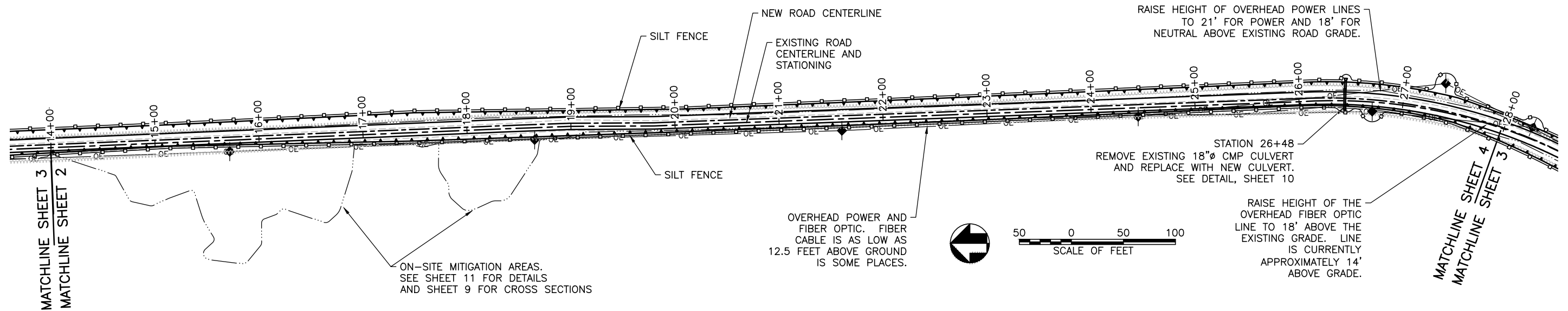
EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
WORLD HERITAGE SITE



CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS		TITLE OF SHEET		DRAWING NO.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK		RAISE EXISTING GRAVEL ROAD		160
		LOCATION WITHIN PARK SALEM RADIO TOWER SITE		150,891
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK		NAME OF PARK EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK		PMIS NO. 254186
		REGION SOUTHEAST	COUNTY MIAMI-DADE	STATE FLORIDA

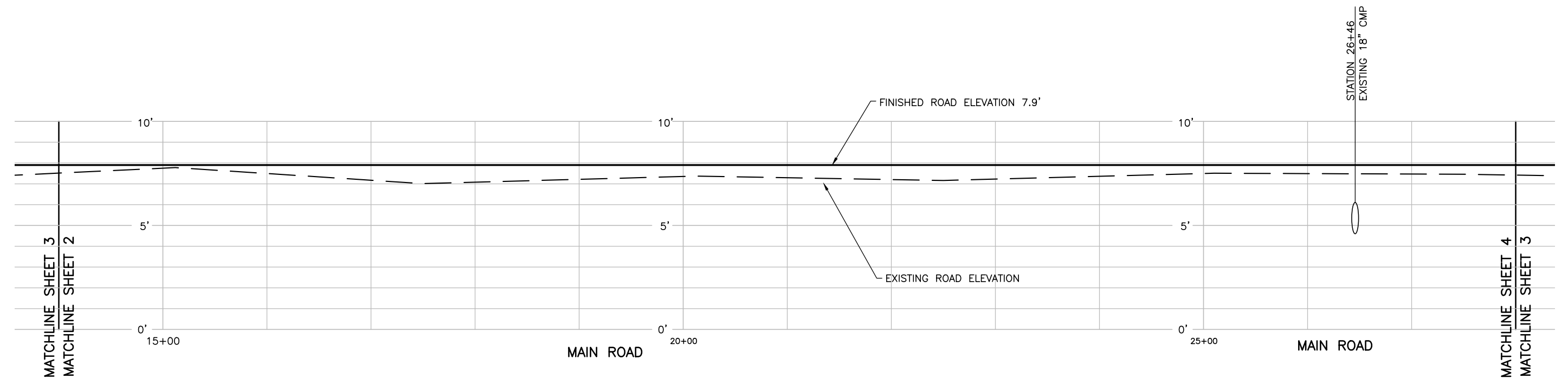


DESIGNED: W H SHELLEY	SUB SHEET NO.	TITLE OF SHEET ROAD PLAN AND PROFILE STA 0+00 TO 14+00 SALEM RADIO TOWER SITE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK		DRAWING NO. 160 150.891
DRAWN: WHS				PMIS NO. 254186
TECH. REVIEW: NPS				SHEET
DATE: 08/2020				2 OF 11



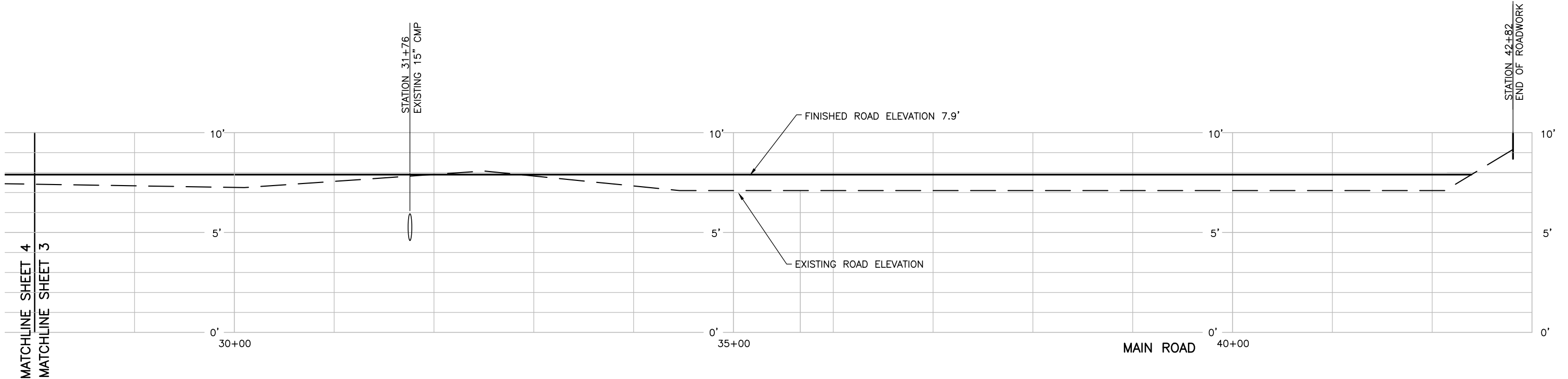
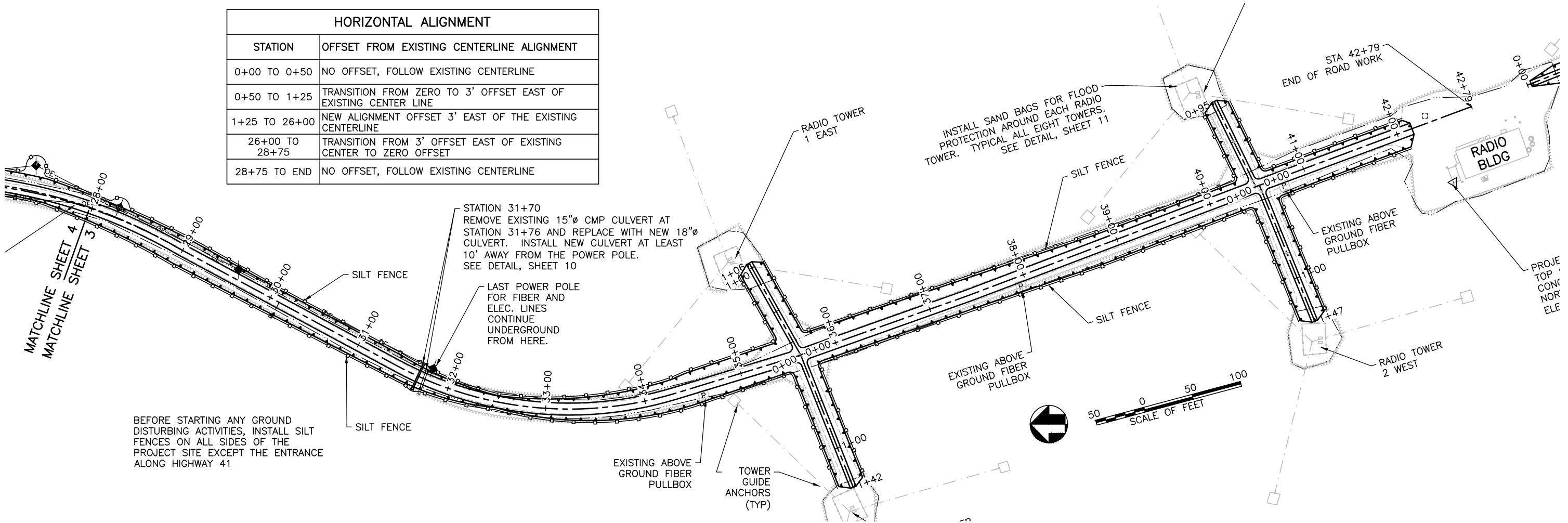
BEFORE STARTING ANY GROUND DISTURBING ACTIVITIES, INSTALL SILT FENCES ON ALL SIDES OF THE PROJECT SITE EXCEPT THE ENTRANCE ALONG HIGHWAY 41

BE
DI:
FE
PF
AL

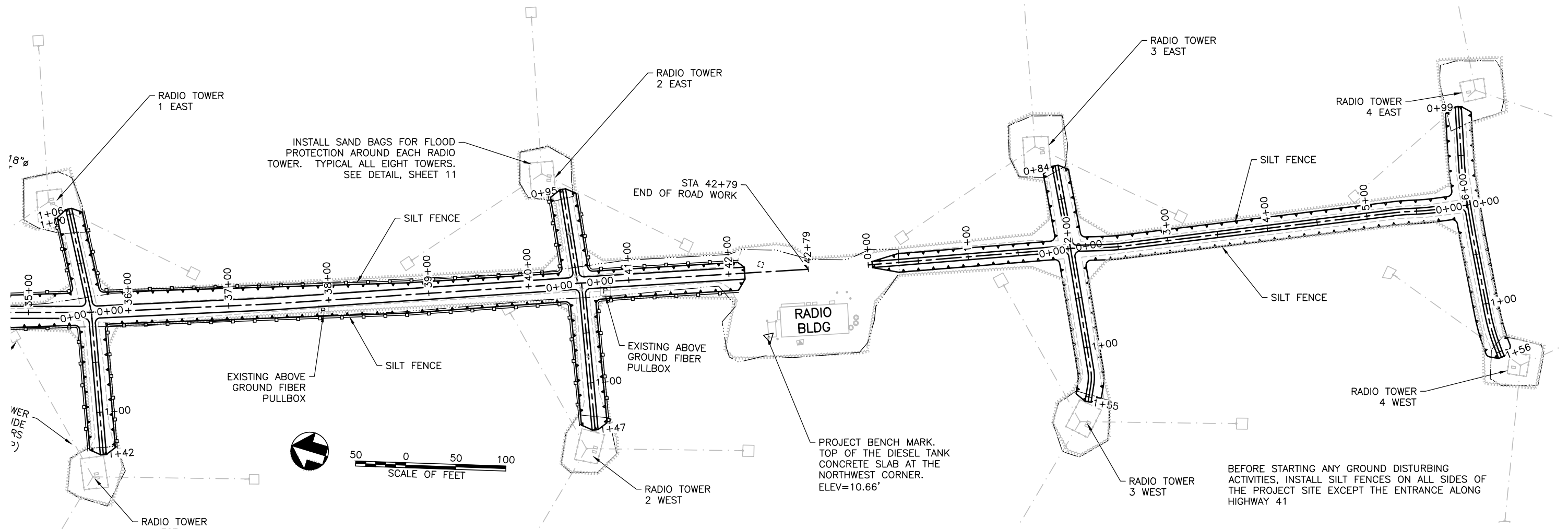


DESIGNED: W H SHELLEY	SUB SHEET NO.	TITLE OF SHEET ROAD PLAN AND PROFILE STA 14+00 TO 28+00 SALEM RADIO TOWER SITE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK	DRAWING NO. 160 150,891
DRAWN: WHS			PMIS NO. 254186
TECH. REVIEW: NPS			SHEET 3 OF 11
DATE: 08/2020			

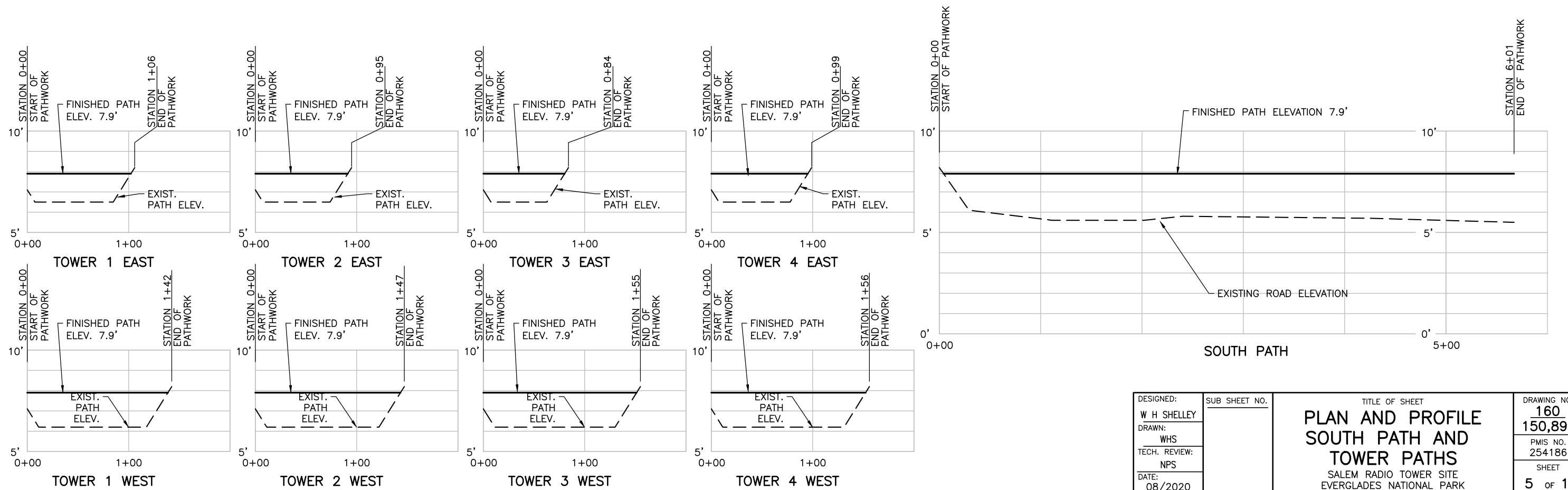
HORIZONTAL ALIGNMENT	
STATION	OFFSET FROM EXISTING CENTERLINE ALIGNMENT
0+00 TO 0+50	NO OFFSET, FOLLOW EXISTING CENTERLINE
0+50 TO 1+25	TRANSITION FROM ZERO TO 3' OFFSET EAST OF EXISTING CENTER LINE
1+25 TO 26+00	NEW ALIGNMENT OFFSET 3' EAST OF THE EXISTING CENTERLINE
26+00 TO 28+75	TRANSITION FROM 3' OFFSET EAST OF EXISTING CENTER TO ZERO OFFSET
28+75 TO END	NO OFFSET, FOLLOW EXISTING CENTERLINE



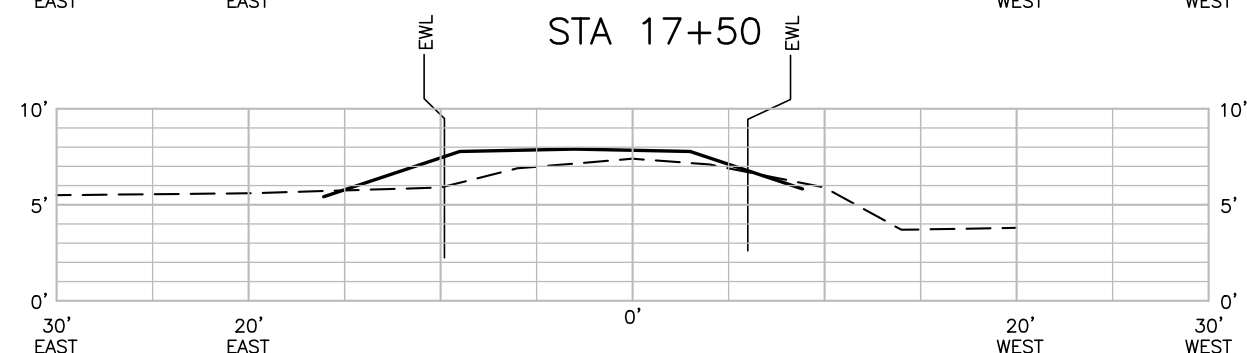
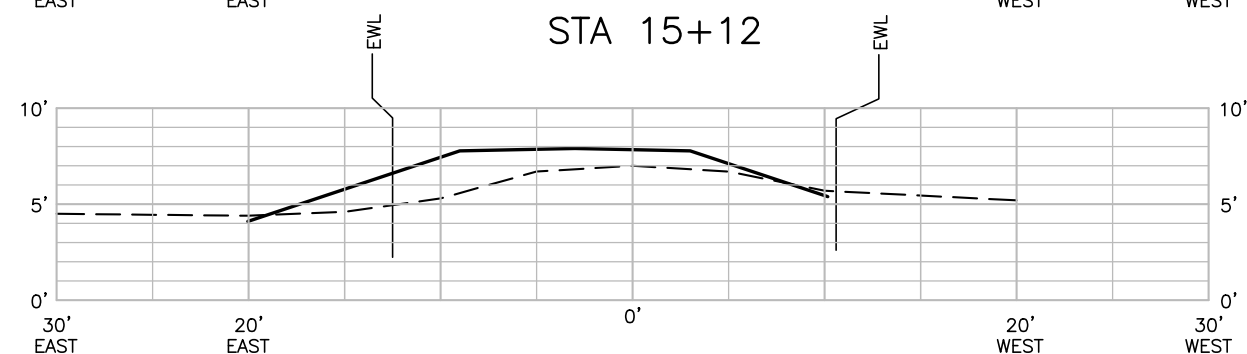
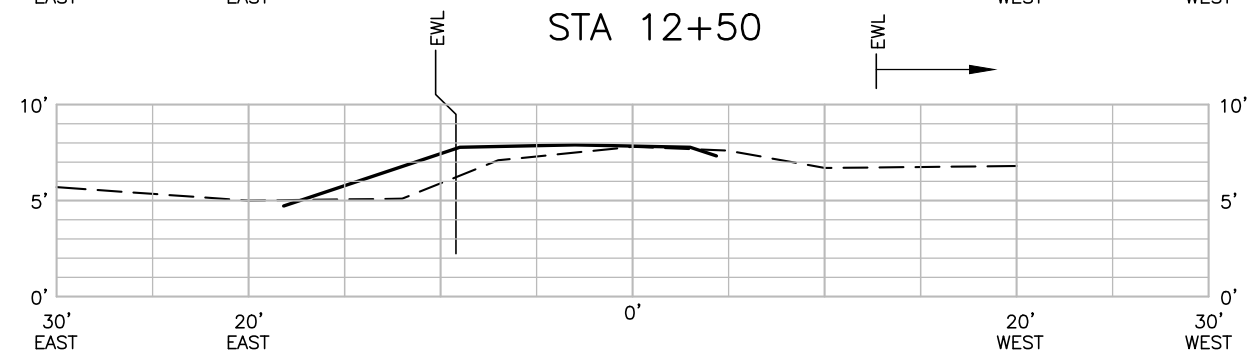
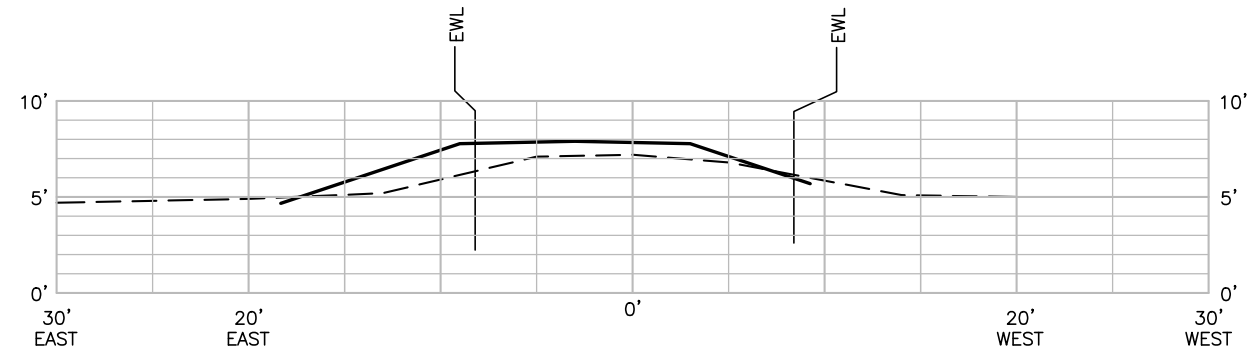
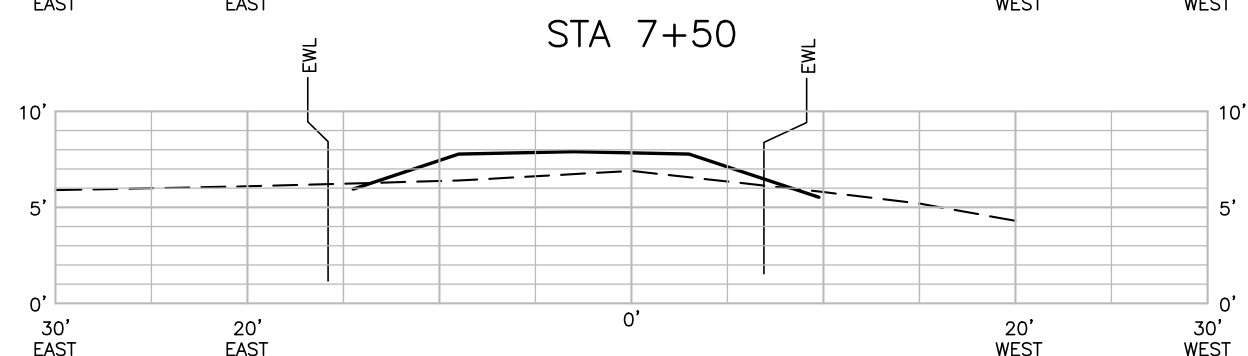
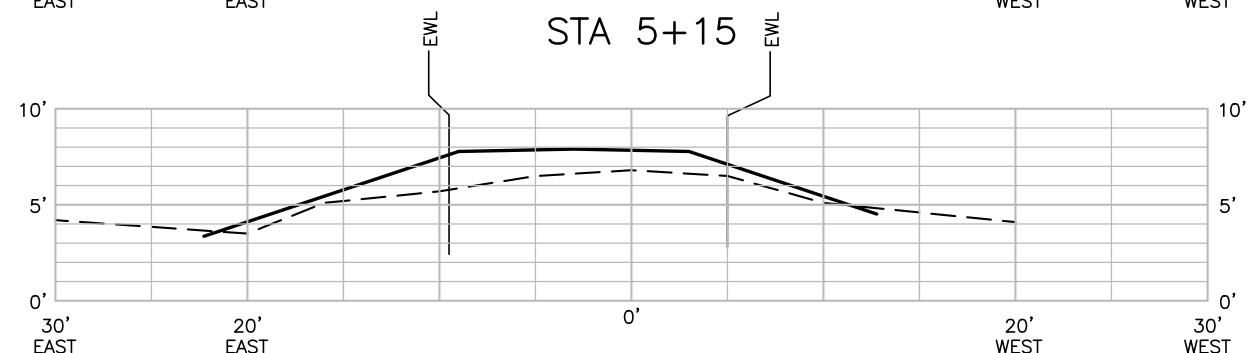
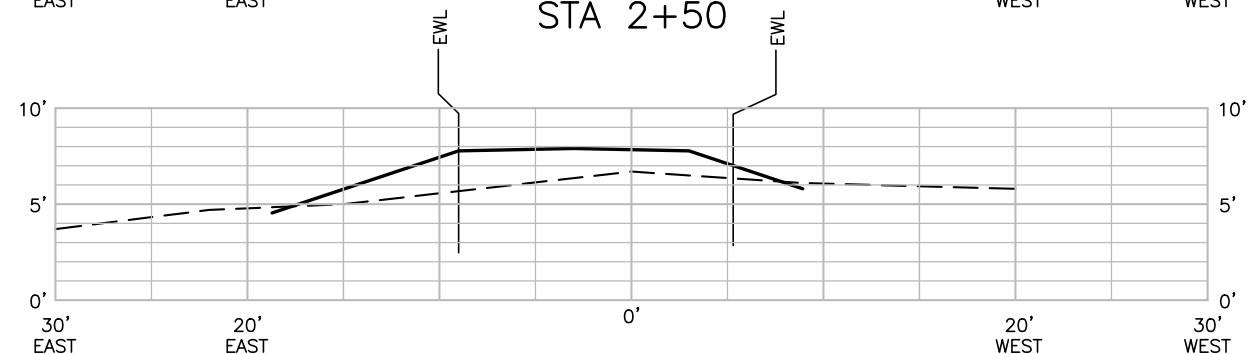
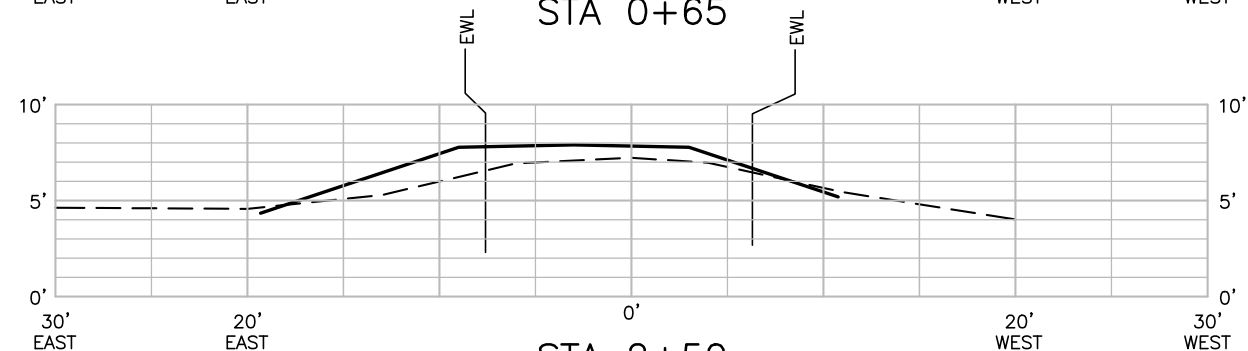
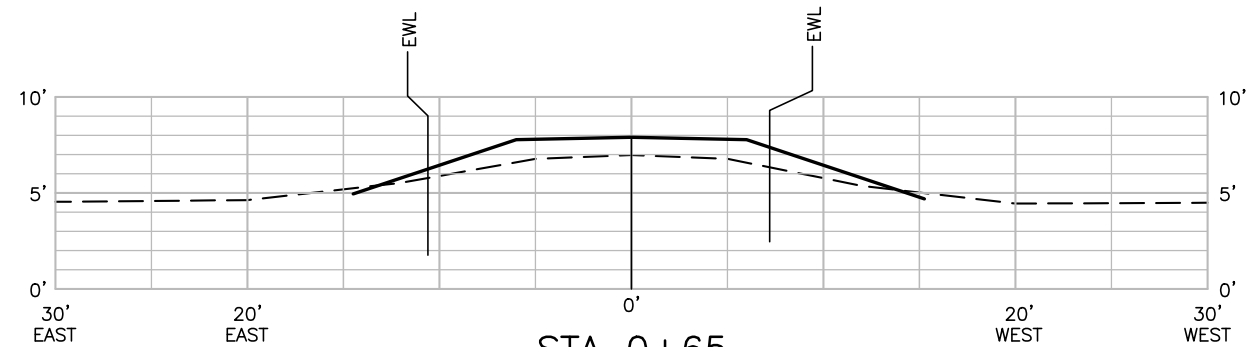
DESIGNED: W H SHELLEY	SUB SHEET NO.	TITLE OF SHEET ROAD PLAN AND PROFILE STATION 28+00 TO END SALEM RADIO TOWER SITE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK	DRAWING NO. 160
DRAWN: WHS			PMIS NO. 254186
TECH. REVIEW: NPS			SHEET 4 OF 11
DATE: 08/2020			



BEFORE STARTING ANY GROUND DISTURBING ACTIVITIES, INSTALL SILT FENCES ON ALL SIDES OF THE PROJECT SITE EXCEPT THE ENTRANCE ALONG HIGHWAY 41



DESIGNED: W H SHELLEY	SUB SHEET NO.	TITLE OF SHEET PLAN AND PROFILE SOUTH PATH AND TOWER PATHS	DRAWING NO. 160
DRAWN: WHS		SALEM RADIO TOWER SITE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK	PMIS NO. 254186
TECH. REVIEW: NPS			SHEET 5 OF 11
DATE: 08/2020			



EWL=EDGE OF WETLAND

--- EXISTING GROUND SURFACE

— PROPOSED GROUND SURFACE

DESIGNED: W H SHELLEY	SUB SHEET NO.	TITLE OF SHEET ROAD CROSS SECTIONS		DRAWING NO. 160 150,891
DRAWN: WHS				PMIS NO. 254186
TECH. REVIEW: NPS		SALEM RADIO TOWER SITE EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK		
DATE: 08/2020		SHEET 6 of 11		