



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Suite 322
315 South Allen Street
State College, Pennsylvania 16801

March 1, 1988

Mr. James Butch
Environmental Protection Agency
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mr. Butch:

A draft restoration plan for the Robert Brace is enclosed.

General Discussion

The plan is based on the following:

Aerial photography from 1968, 1977, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987;
The Soil Survey of Erie County, Pennsylvania, published by the Soil
Conservation Service; field visits by our staff and other agencies; a U.S.G.S.
topographic map; the National Wetland Inventory map; information supplied by
Mr. Brace; and technical discussions with the Soil Conservation Service, the
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, and EPA staff.

The goal of the draft plan is to restore all wetlands disturbed since October
1984, while permitting Mr. Brace to maintain drainage in all areas drained
prior to October 1984, as discussed with you and Mr. Don Wilson of the Buffalo
Corps of Engineers. The plan was prepared by the Service because Mr. Brace
has failed to provide his own plan and our biologist is familiar with the site
and restoration techniques. This plan will be circulated to all agencies
involved in the case with requests for comments.

We request that you coordinate any revisions with the regulatory agencies. We
will prepare a revised plan with added details from those agencies.

We recommend that the draft or revised draft plan be submitted to Mr. Brace
and his attorney for comment and that another on-site meeting be held with Mr.
Brace to discuss details of the plan and any response or additional
information that Mr. Brace may wish to add to the plan. The maps and
information supplied by Mr. Brace in response to your request for information
was sketchy at best.

Specific Details for Implementing the Plan

1. Restore all wetlands disturbed since October 1984 by:



- a) Plugging all drainage tiles in the areas disturbed since October 1984 in a manner specified by the regulatory agencies. Non-perforated drainage pipe may cross wetlands to maintain drainage in adjacent fields.
 - b) Plugging the southernmost surface ditches in the areas indicated with cross hatching.
2. Maintaining drainage to all fields drained prior to October 1984.
 3. Revegetating only if natural revegetation is not successful.

Agency Comments

By copy of this letter, we are requesting that each agency involved submit comments within ten days to EPA with a copy to the Service addressing the following points.

1. Does this plan satisfy your agency's resource protection goals?
2. Does the plan appear to be reasonable and technically sound?
3. Do you have any technical specifications that should be considered in developing the final restoration plan?

If you need additional information please contact David Putnam of my staff at (814-234-4090).

Sincerely,

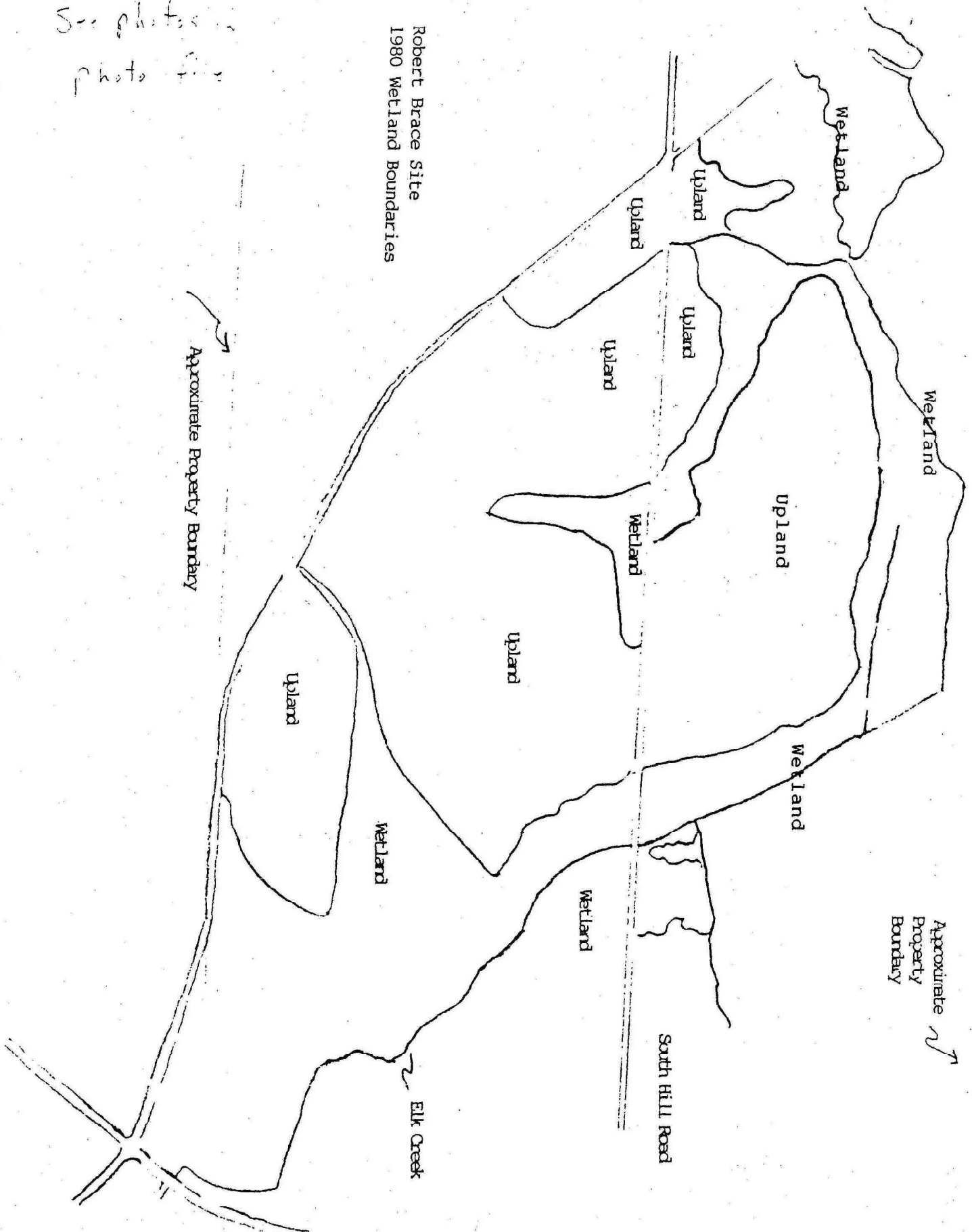


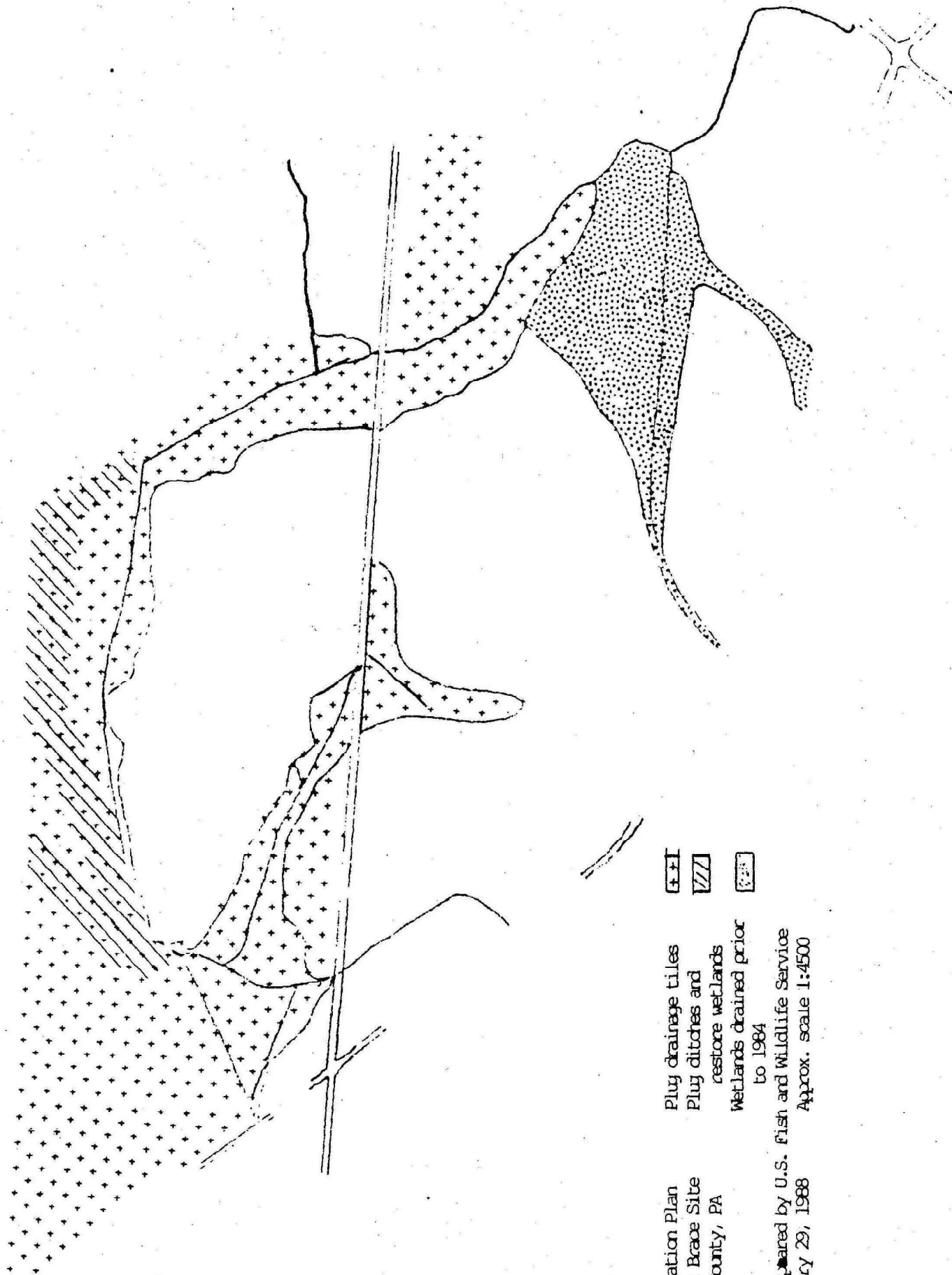
Charles J. Kulp
Supervisor

Enclosures
Photos w/overlays
Restoration plan
wetlands map

See photos in
photo file

Robert Brace Site
1980 Wetland Boundaries





DRAFT

Restoration Plan
Robert Braoe Site
Erie County, PA



Plug drainage tiles



Plug ditches and
restore wetlands



Wetlands drained prior
to 1984

Prepared by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
February 29, 1988
Approx. scale 1:4500