Determinations File Copy

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

6013 Lakeside Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana 46278

FILE COPY

SUBJECT: ENG - 7 and 15 Day Flood Elevations Wabash River

DATE: May 3, 1995

TO: Posey, Gibson, Knox, Sullivan, Vigo, Vermillion and Parke County Field Offices

FILE CODE: 210

Enclosed are flood profiles for 7 and 15 day duration, 50% chance flood events along the Wabash River. The attached documentation explains how to use this information when making wetland determinations adjacent to the Wabash River. File the profiles along with the documentation with your Food Security Act Manual to use when making wetland determinations.

ROBERT L. EDDLEMAN
State Conservationist

Instruction for Using the 7 and 15 Day Flooding Profiles

The enclosed profiles represent the minimum water levels, for riverine flooding (flowing water), sustained for periods of 7 and 15 days, at least once every two years (50% chance) during the growing season. These profiles should yield elevations which are lower than those previously issued on USGS topo maps. The change is the result of a redefinition of the growing season in the Memorandum of Agreement with the Corps of Engineers, EPA and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The profiles should be used in the following manner:

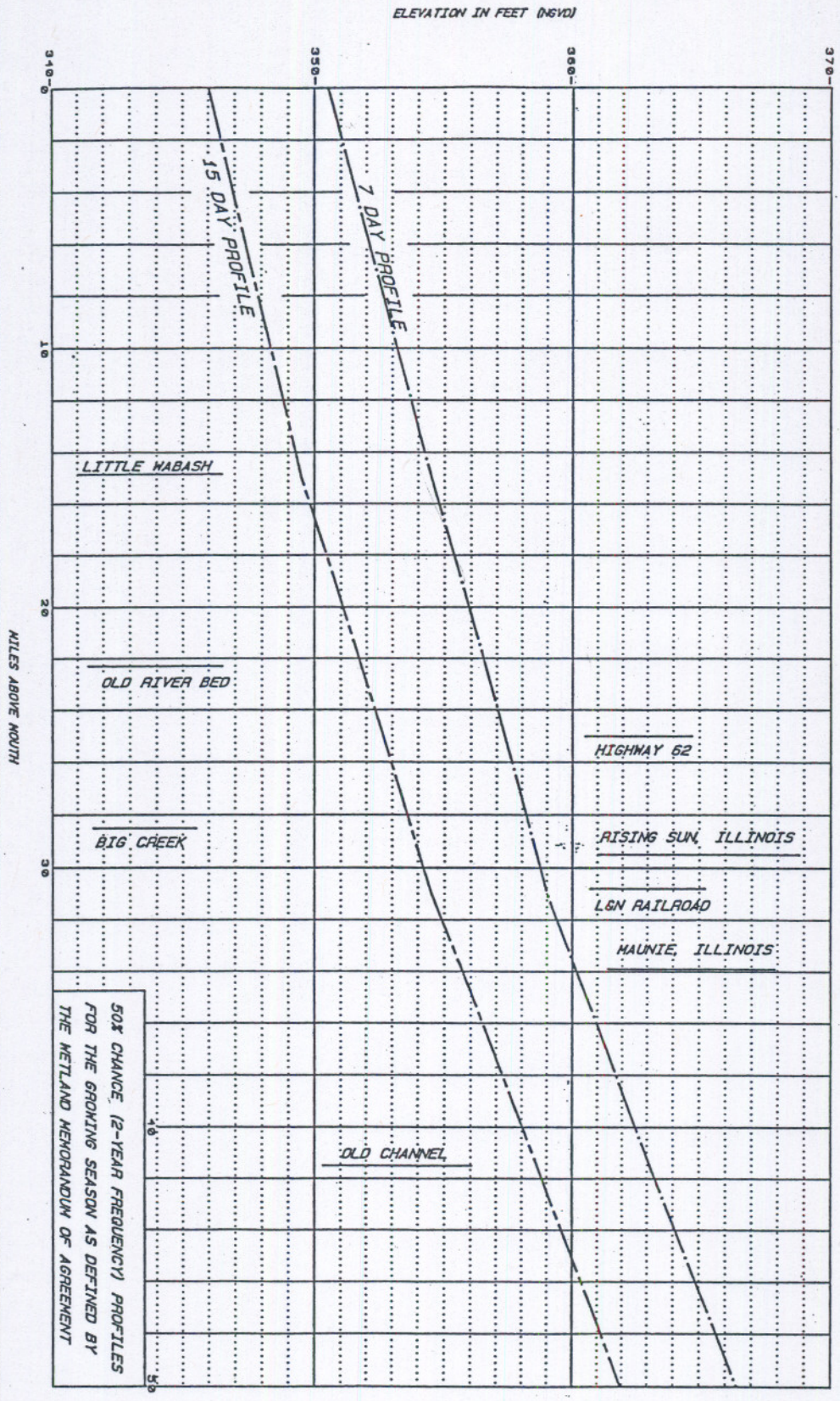
1. The 15 day profiles should only be used for FSA determinations on agricultural land. Agricultural land within the elevation of the 15 day flood line is a farmed wetland. The soil is hydric even if it does not exhibit hydric colors. The type of vegetation on the site should not be the natural undisturbed vegetation. Remember, for 15 day duration flooding we are talking only about agricultural land.

2. The 7 day profiles should only be used for non agricultural areas when preparing a determination using the Corps of Engineers 1987 manual. Using the Corps' procedure, the 7 day flood elevation is only a hydric soil criteria. Soil which is subject to frequent (50% chance), long duration (7 consecutive days or more in the growing season) flooding is hydric, regardless of the color of the soil.

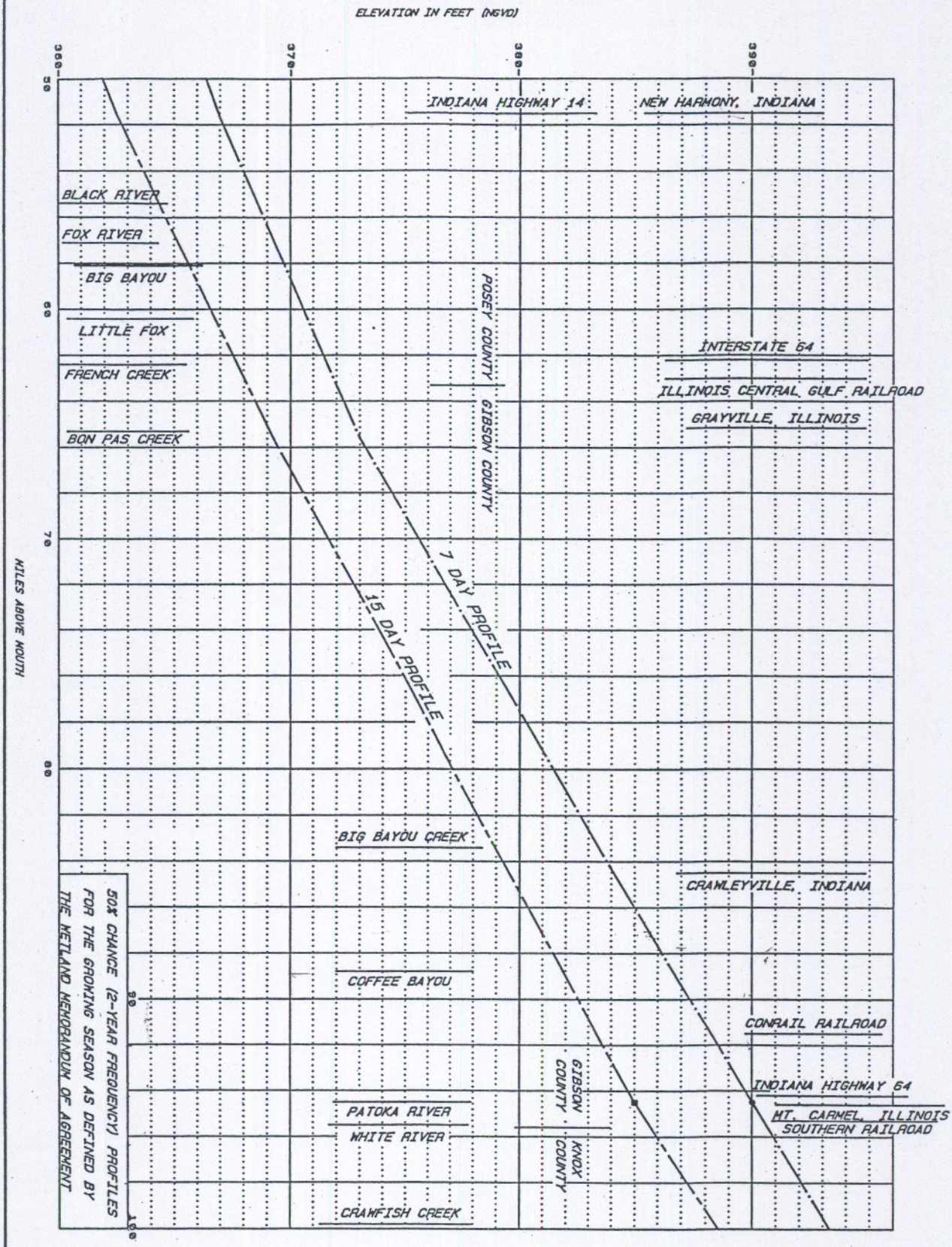
   The other wetland criteria of hydrophytic vegetation and hydrology must be confirmed onsite. In Indiana, the 7 days of flooding does not necessarily meet the Corps' hydrology criteria of inundation or saturation for at least 5% of the growing season. Onsite indicators of hydrology and hydrophytic vegetation must be found to confirm that an area is a wetland.

3. Areas which are above the elevation of the 7 or 15 day flood should be evaluated using the normal Corps or FSA criteria, whichever is appropriate, for hydric soils, hydrology and hydrophytic vegetation.

To use the profiles, determine the location of your site in relation to the river. For the Ohio River this can be done by reading the river miles from the USGS topo map. For other rivers use nearby land marks such as bridges or tributary streams. Go to the appropriate profile and location on the profile and read the elevation for the 7 or 15 day duration flood. Refer back to the USGS topo to determine if your site is within the computed elevation. If the elevation of the site is ambiguous, a level survey from a known elevation may be required to verify the elevation.



CAD FILE NO. WAB 050A DRAWING NO.	WABASH RIVER 7 AND 15 DAY FLOODING PROFILES	Designed P. MCLOUD Date 3-95	Approved By
SHEET NO. 1 OF 5	U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE	Drawn Date Traced Date Checked Date	Title Title



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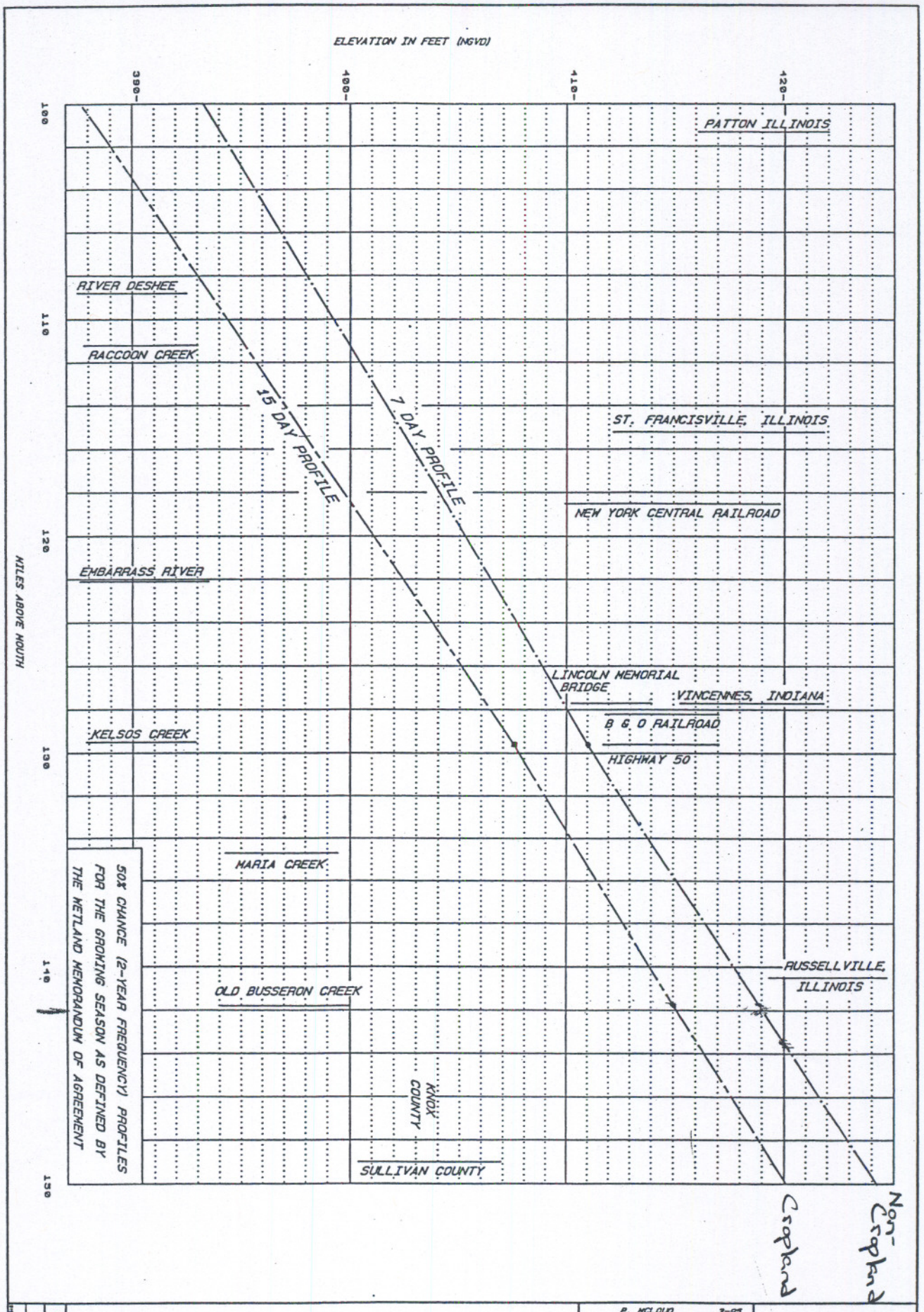
DRAWING NO.		Drawn Date	Title
SHEET NO. 2 OF 5	U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE	Traced Date	
		Checked Date	Title



WABASH RIVER 7 AND 15 DAY FLOODING PROFILES

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SHEET NO. 3 OF 5

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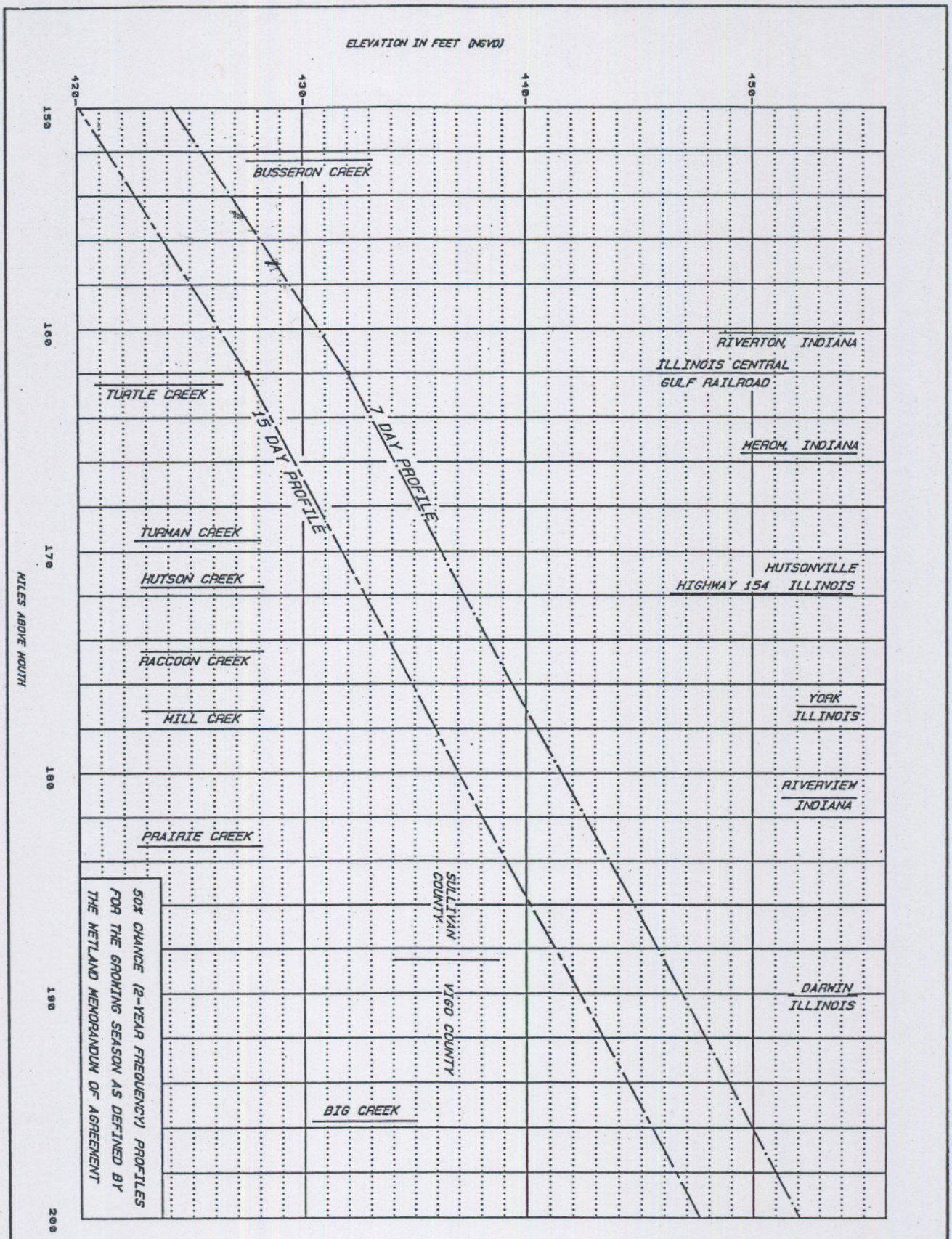

WABASH RIVER 7 AND 15 DAY FLOODING PROFILES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

CAD FILE NO. WAB 200R

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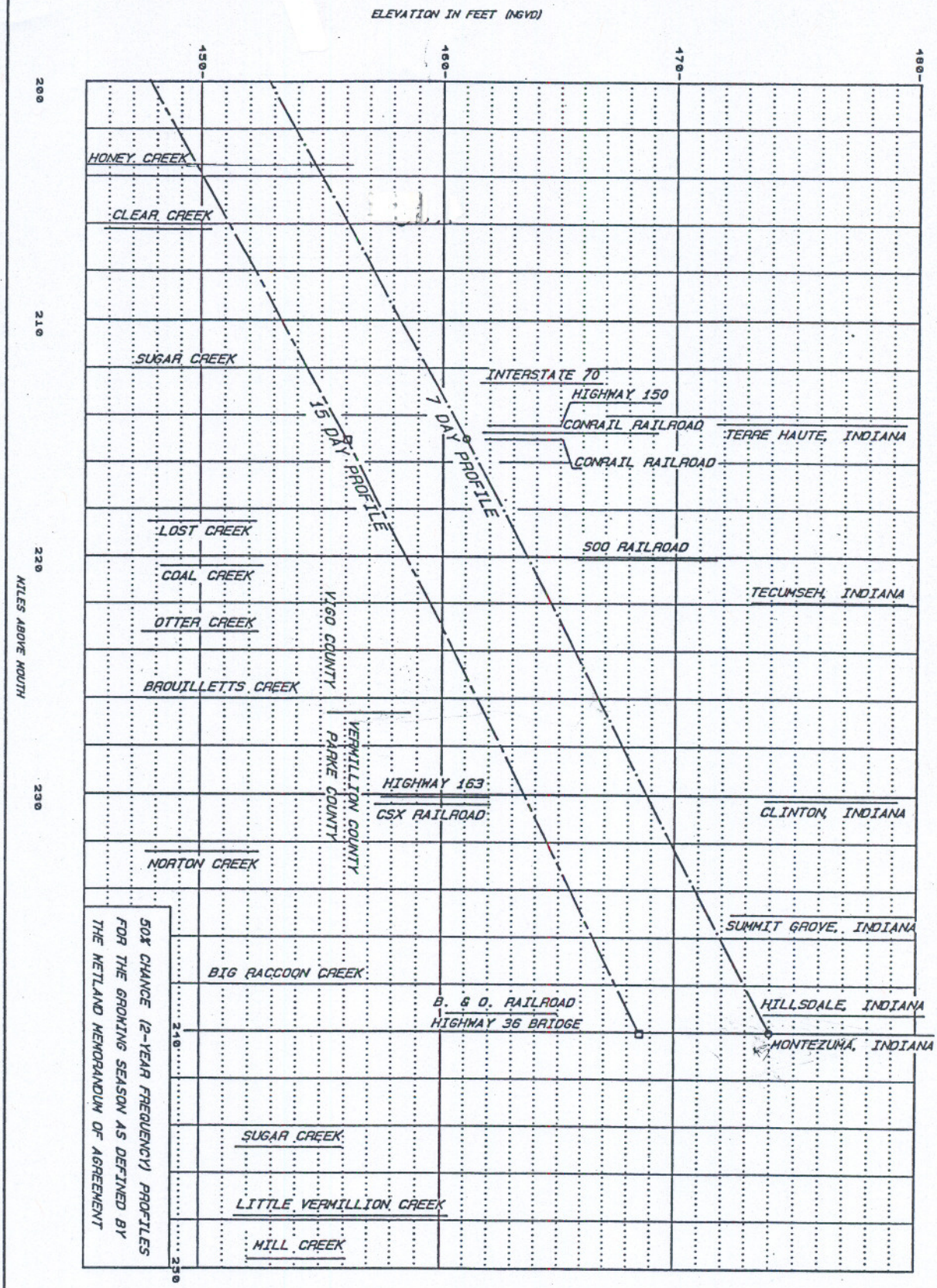

WABASH RIVER 7 AND 15 DAY FLOODING PROFILES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

P. MCLOUD 3-95

CAD FILE NO. MAB 2507

DRAWING NO.

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