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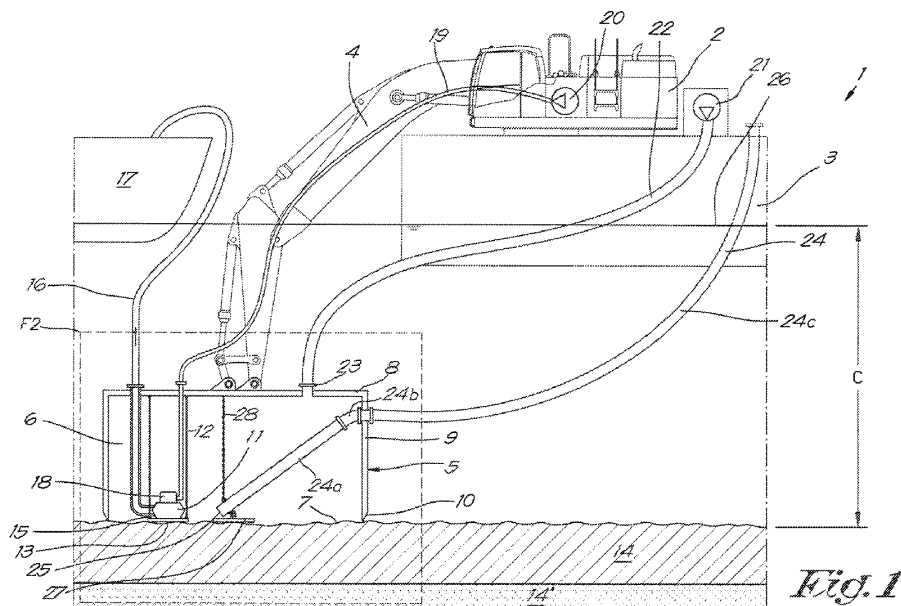
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(54) Title: DEVICE FOR THE REMOVAL OF SLUDGE AND/OR SAND FROM THE BOTTOM OF A WETLAND



(57) Abstract: Device for the in situ underwater removal of a layer of sludge and/or sand from the bottom of a wetland, the device containing: a diving bell (5) with an open bottom (7) and a lower free edge (10); means of driving the diving bell with its lower edge to a desired depth into the layer of sludge to be removed; a dredge pump (11) installed in the space of the diving bell and provided with an inlet (13) for pumping up the sludge and/or an outlet (15) to which a pipe (18) is connected for pumping the pumped up sludge and/or sand to a collector (17); a compressor (21) for pumping gas under pressure into the space of the diving bell during dredging, wherein the diving bell is also provided with a gas outlet (25) for the compressed gas, which gas outlet is adjustable in height in the diving bell because the outlet is attached to a float (27) that can float on the sludge.

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