

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

May 2, 2016

United States Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Regulatory Branch
Post Office Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

State of Louisiana
Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Services
Post Office Box 4313
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

(504) 862-1545
Project Manager
S. Gail Gainey
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MVN 2002-02687-CG

(225) 219-3225
Project Manager
Elizabeth Hill
WQC Application Number
WQC # 160426-01

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the US Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: [X] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS 30:2074 A(3) and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

DREDGING AND LEVEE REFURBISHMENT ON YANKEE CANAL IN LAFOURCHE PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: South Lafourche Levee District, c/o Joseph C. Picciola II, Inc., PO Box 687, Cut Off, LA 70345.

LOCATION OF WORK: In Yankee Canal, Section 22, T19S-R22E, near Golden Meadow, Louisiana, in Lafourche Parish, within the East Central Louisiana Coastal hydrologic unit (HUC 08090301), as shown on the attached drawings (Latitude 29.390807 N, Longitude - 90.252611 W).

An Emergency Authorization (MVN-2016-00086-CY) was issued on January 13, 2016 to authorize the immediate dredging of Yankee Canal to reinforce the existing levee.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant has requested Department of the Army authorization to dredge the Yankee Canal and discharge the dredged material on the Yankee Canal Levee. Approximately 95,042 cubic yards of material would be dredged from approximately 7.1 acres of open water and deposited in a 10.6 acre area to achieve desired levee grade elevation requirements. A preliminary analysis has determined wetlands to be present at the project site; however, extent of coverage and impacts is undetermined at this time pending wetland delineation.

It is presumed that the applicant has designed the project to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse impacts to the maximum extent practicable. The applicant proposes to avoid additional direct impacts and minimize secondary impacts by conducting all work from marine vessels within the waterway or within the footprint of the existing levee. Any further reduction would limit operability of the levee and, therefore function deeming the project impracticable. The project lies within the limits of the federal Larose to Golden Meadow Hurricane Protection Levee. Compensatory mitigation for impacts to wetlands within the levee system were satisfied during the installation of the federal levee.

The comment period for the Department of Army will close in **20 days** from the date of this joint public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit and/or this WQC request and must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH**. Similar letters concerning the Water Quality Certification must reference the applicant's name and the WQC application number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above. Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing or e-mailing the Corps of Engineers Project Manager listed above. Any request must be specific and substantively supportive of the requested extension, and received by this office prior to the end of the initial comment period. The Section Chief will review the request and the requestor will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous to the initial comment period and, inclusive of the initial comment period, will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days.

The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined during weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The US Army Corps of Engineers 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. Any comments received will be considered by the US Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The New Orleans District is unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

The New Orleans District has determined that the proposed project is located in waters known to be utilized by the West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*). Utilizing Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species in Louisiana (SLOPES), dated October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, the Corps has determined that with the inclusion of the Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Activities, proposed work is not likely to adversely affect the West Indian Manatee.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of up to n/a acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services before a permit is issued.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana

Coastal Resources Program (Louisiana Coastal Zone Application P200160023). The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

JOHN M. HERMAN
Chief, Central Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosures



STATE VICINITY MAP

NOT TO SCALE

SOUTH LAFORCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
 YANKEE CANAL DREDGING AND LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS

PROPOSED: AUTHORIZATION OF DREDGING AND REMEDIATION OF YANKEE CANAL LEVEE

APPLIED BY: SOUTH LAFORCHE LEVEE DISTRICT

AREA: GOLDEN MEADOW, LOUISIANA

PROJECT IS LOCATED IN SECTIONS 21, 22 & 23, T-19-S, R-22-E



PICCIOLA & ASSOCIATES, INC.

CIVIL ENGINEERS
 LAND SURVEYORS

NAVAL ARCHITECTS
 MARINE ENGINEERS

P.O. BOX 687
 CUT OFF, LOUISIANA 70345
 (985) 632-5786

REV.3: 03-14-16

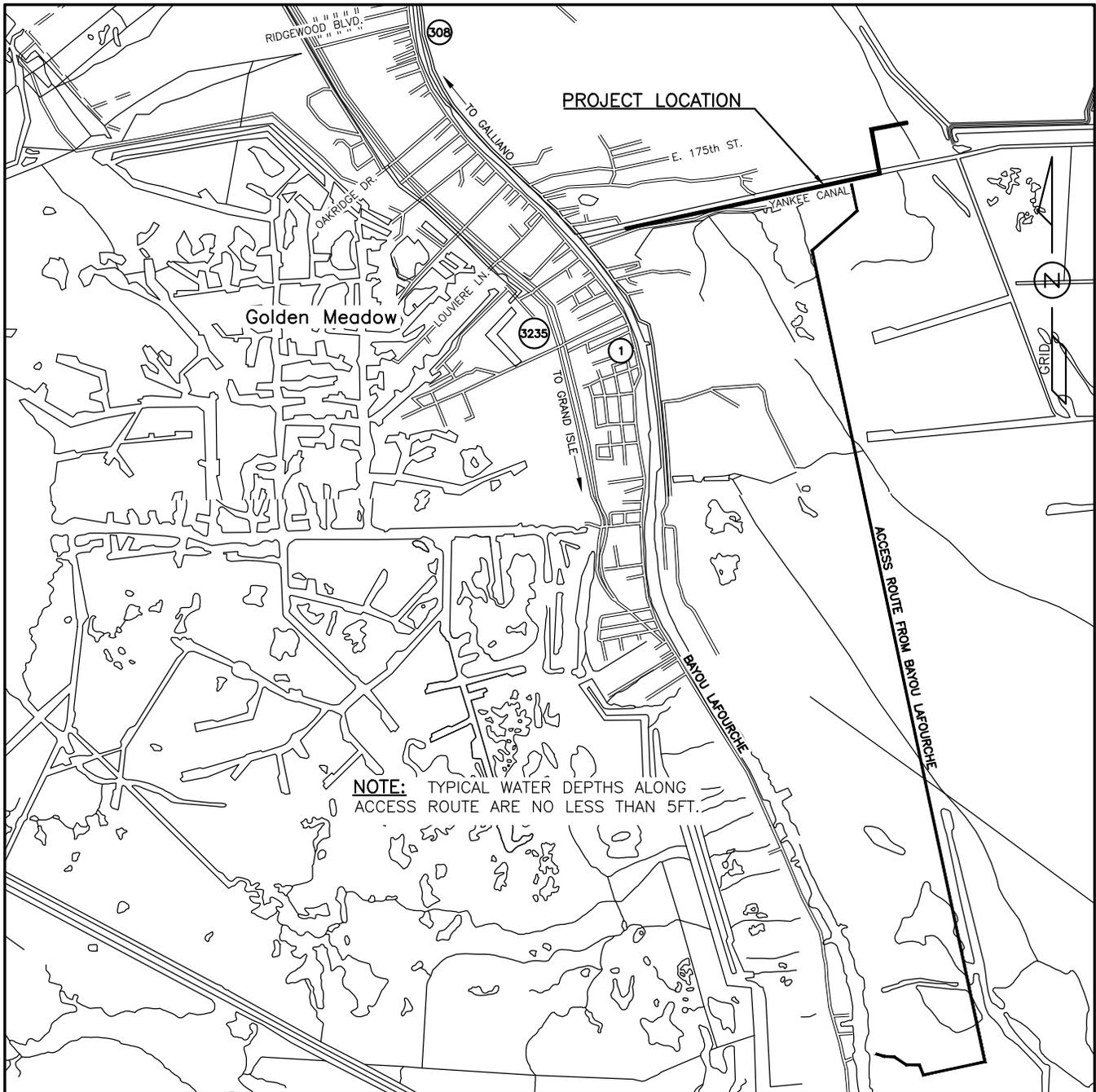
REV.2: 02-29-16

REV.1: 01-07-16

DATE: 12-21-15

J.N.: 0828-1501

SHEET 1 OF 5



GOLDEN MEADOW FARMS QUAD. MAP
 GOLDEN MEADOW QUAD. MAP

SCALE: 1" = 3000'

LOCAL VICINITY MAP

PROPOSED: AUTHORIZATION OF DREDGING AND REMEDIATION OF YANKEE CANAL LEVEE
APPLIED BY: SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT
AREA: GOLDEN MEADOW, LOUISIANA
 PROJECT IS LOCATED IN SECTIONS 21, 22 & 23, T-19-S, R-22-E

LATITUDE = 29° 23' 27.60"
 LONGITUDE = 90° 15' 05.30"
 (LAT. & LON. IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY IN THE CENTER OF THE PROJECT AREA.)



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SHEET 2 OF 5



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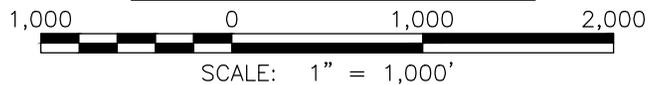
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SHEET 3 OF 5



EXISTING SITE PLAN





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SHEET 4 OF 5



OVERALL SITE PLAN

NOTE: DREDGE AND FILL OPERATIONS ARE CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.



SCALE: 1" = 1,000'



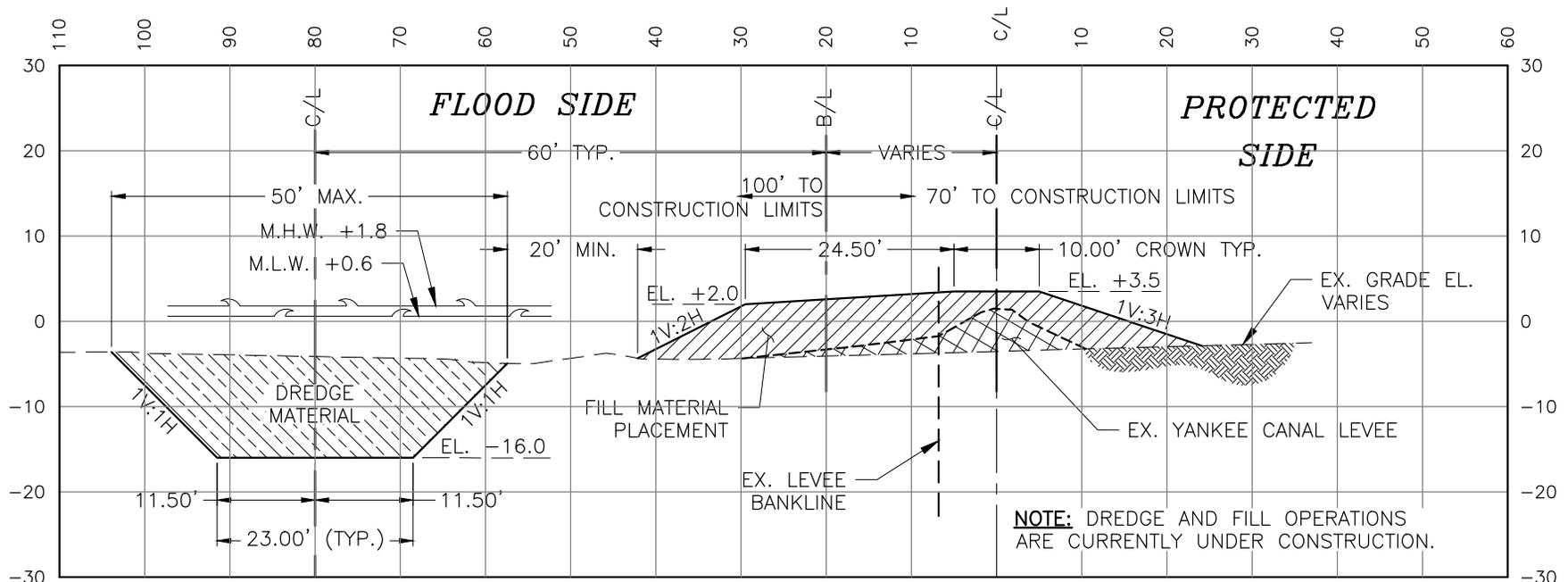
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SHEET 5 OF 5



DREDGE/FILL NOTE: APPROXIMATELY 95,042 CUBIC YARDS SHALL BE DREDGED FROM YANKEE CANAL AND PLACED ALONG PROJECT BASELINE AS PER TYPICAL DREDGE/FILL SECTION SHOWN. MATERIAL SHALL BE SHAPED AND GRADED BY SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT AS PER FINISHED LEVEE SECTION ONCE IT HAS BEEN DRIED AND CAN BE WORKED.

