

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

December 15, 2014

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Regulatory Branch
Post Office Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

State of Louisiana
Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Certification Section
Post Office Box 4313
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313

Project Manager: Michael H. Herrmann
(504) 862-1954/ (504) 862-2574 fax
Michael.h.herrmann@usace.army.mil
Permit Application Number:
MVN-2013-03019-WLL

Project Manager: Elizabeth Johnson
(225) 219-3225 / (504) 219-1039 Fax
WQC Application Number:
WQC 141106-02

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

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in La. R.S. 30:2074(A)(3) and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L. 95-217; 33 U.S.C. 1341).

CONSTRUCT A LEVEE WITH WATERCONTROL STRUCTURES FOR A MARSH MANAGEMENT PROJECT IN VERMILION PARISH, LOUISIANA

Name of Applicant: USDA- Natural Resources Conservation Service, 3737 Government St., Alexandria, LA 71302

Location of Work: Off Hwy 333, between the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) and Bayou Chene, Intracoastal City in VERMILION PARISH, Lat 29.785922, Long -92.177486, as shown on the attached drawings.

Lat 29.785922, Long -92.177486, Hydrologic Unit Code : 08080202 Vermilion Bay.

The work described below was completed prior to obtaining a Department of the Army permit and was in violation of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. All legal issues concerning the unauthorized work have since been deferred.

Character of Work: Excavate 24,883 cubic yards of sediment and redeposit for the construction of 7,344 feet of marsh management levee with (3) variable crested water control structures, all to enhance and prevent saltwater intrusion within 53 acres of marsh.

Project will impact approximately 4.1 acres of open water bottoms, 6.09 acres of marsh habitat due to placement of fill to construct the levee and affect 54 acres of marsh enclosed within the project area. The applicant proposes to offset wetland impacts through enhancement, preservation and restoration of the project's enclosed marsh through the implementation of the marsh management project.

The applicant may be required to fully or partially restore the site to pre-project conditions if issuance of a permit is determined to be contrary to the public interest.

The comment period for the Department of the Army (DA) permit application and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close **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 DA permit and WQC request and must be mailed, so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the DA permit application must reference the applicant's name and the DA Permit Number, and be mailed to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the address above. Similar letters concerning the WQC must reference the applicant's name and the WQC 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 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 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 these being: 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 U.S. 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 U.S. 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.

No properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places are known to be near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical sites or data. Issuance of this public notice solicits input from the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Departments of Interior or Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species.

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 59 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality before a permit is issued.

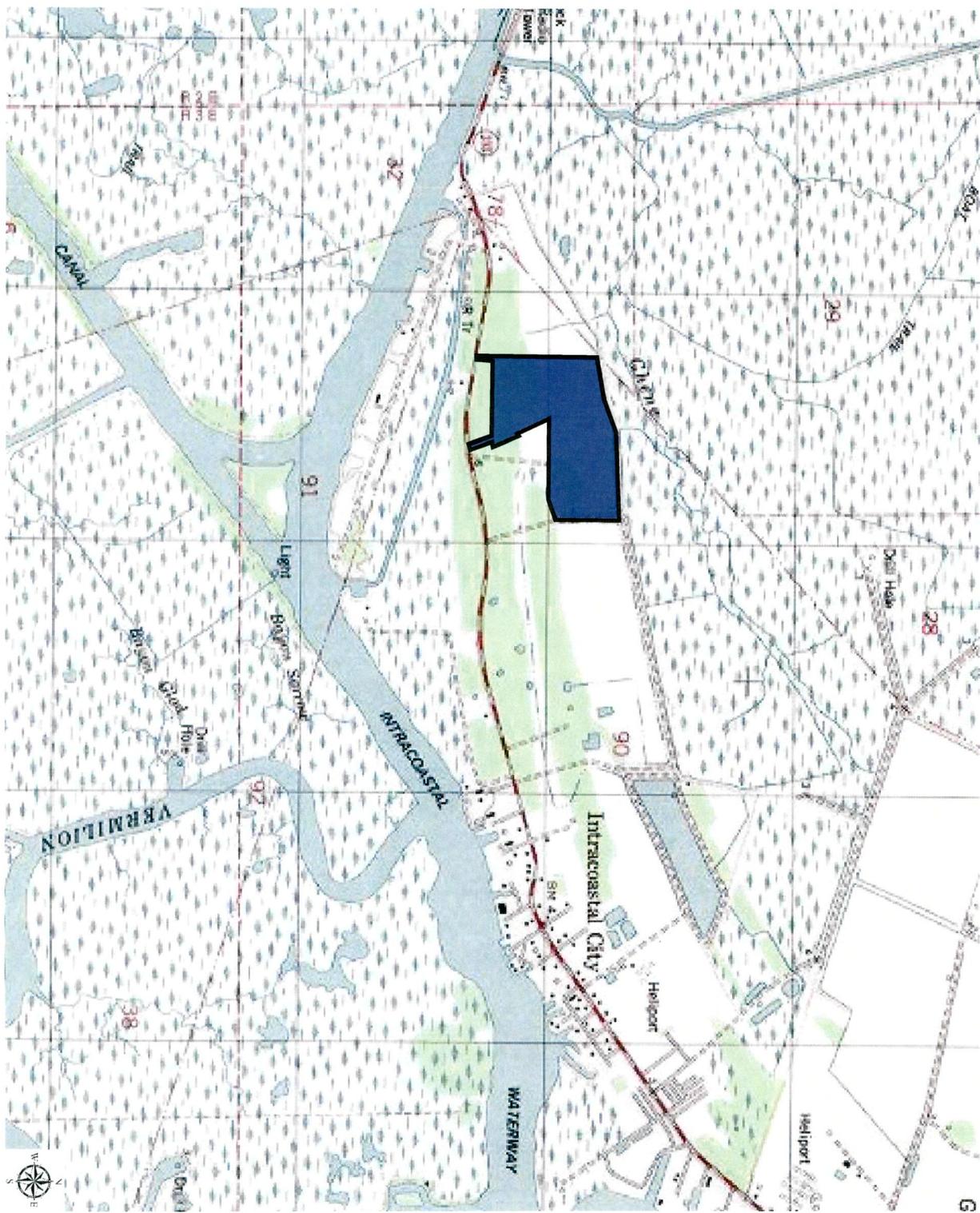
The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant receives approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.

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.

Darrell S. Barbara
Chief, Western Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosure

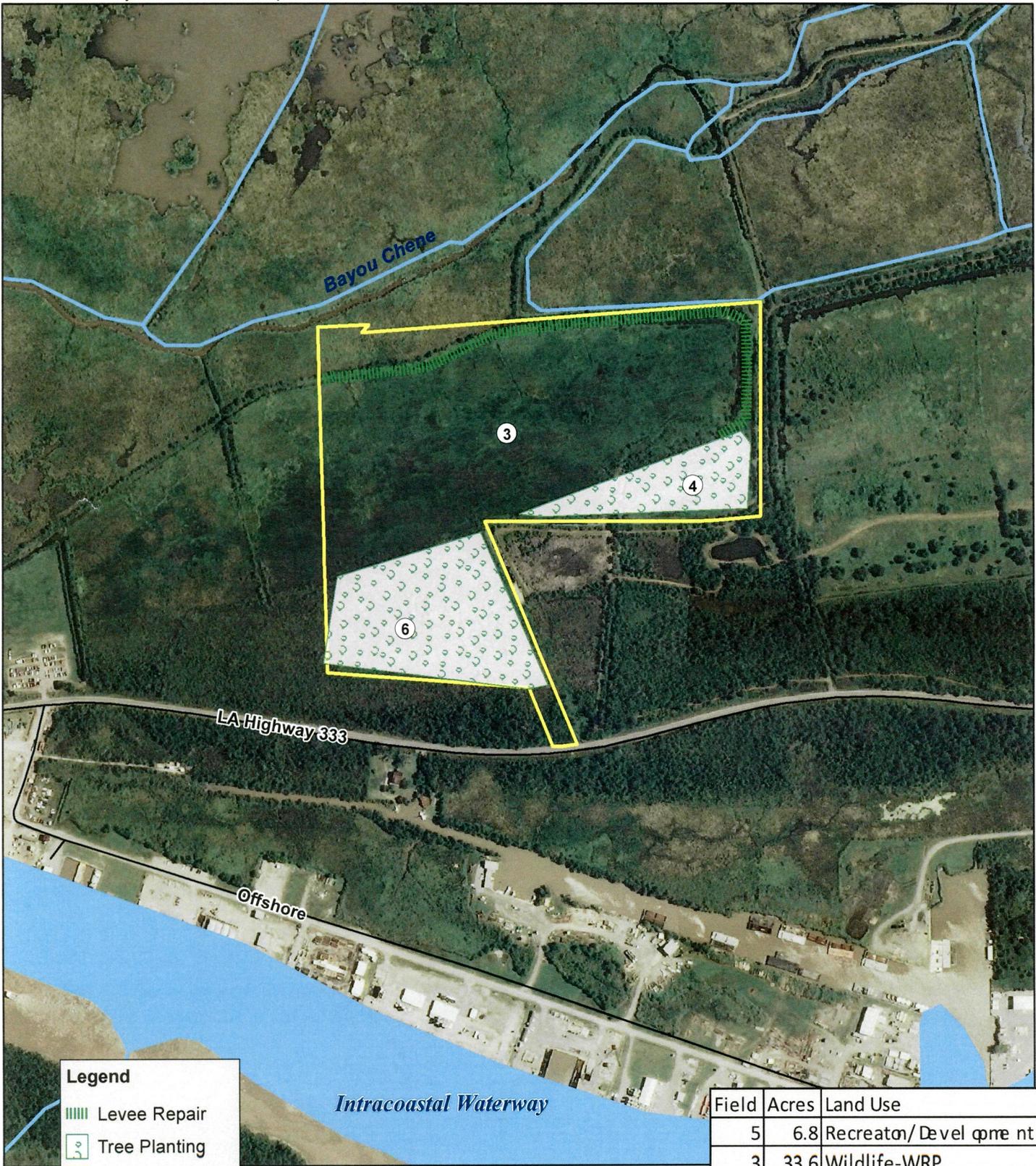


WRP AAI Map

Date: 5/20/2014

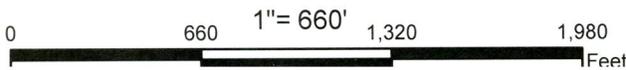
Customer(s): ROLAND LEBLANC
 District: VERMILION SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 Approximate Acres: 62.5- Application Acres
 69.3- Total Acres
 Township 14 South, Range 03 East, Sections 32 & 90
 Intracoastal City 1.5 miles East Zip 70510

Field Office: ABBEVILLE SERVICE CENTER
 Agency: USDA NRCS
 Assisted By: Kayla Deen
 State and County: LA, VERMILION
 F# 2036 T# 2477



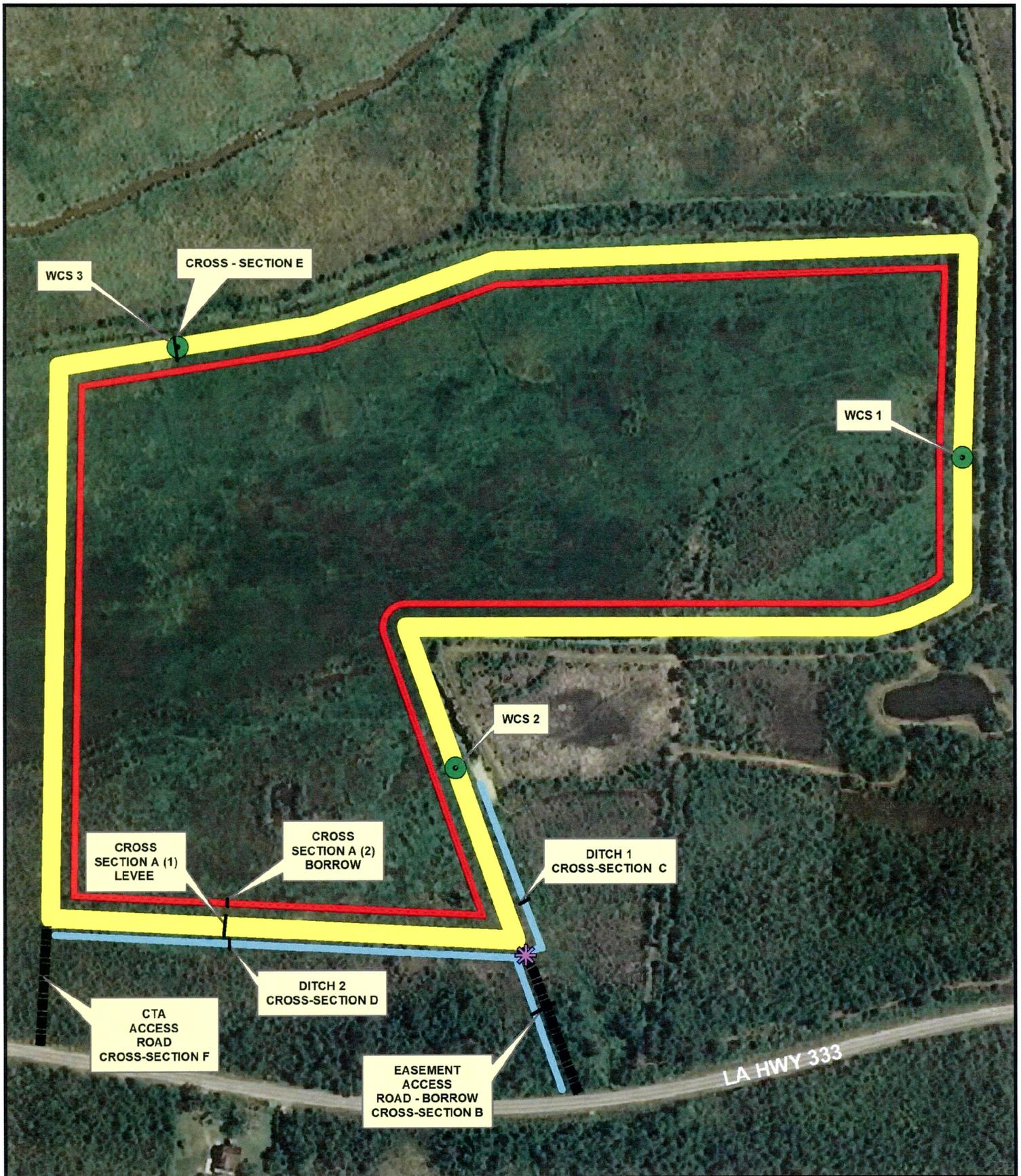
Legend

-  Levee Repair
-  Tree Planting
-  WRP Application
-  Roads
-  Streams
-  Water Bodies



Field	Acres	Land Use
5	6.8	Recreation/ Development
3	33.6	Wildlife-WRP
4	14.7	Wildlife-WRP
6	14.2	Wildlife-WRP
	62.5	Application Acres
	69.3	Total Acres

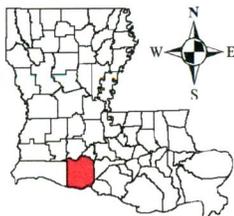




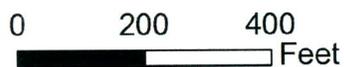
Map Produced By:
 United States Department of Agriculture
 Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Alexandria, LA

Data Source: NAIP 2013

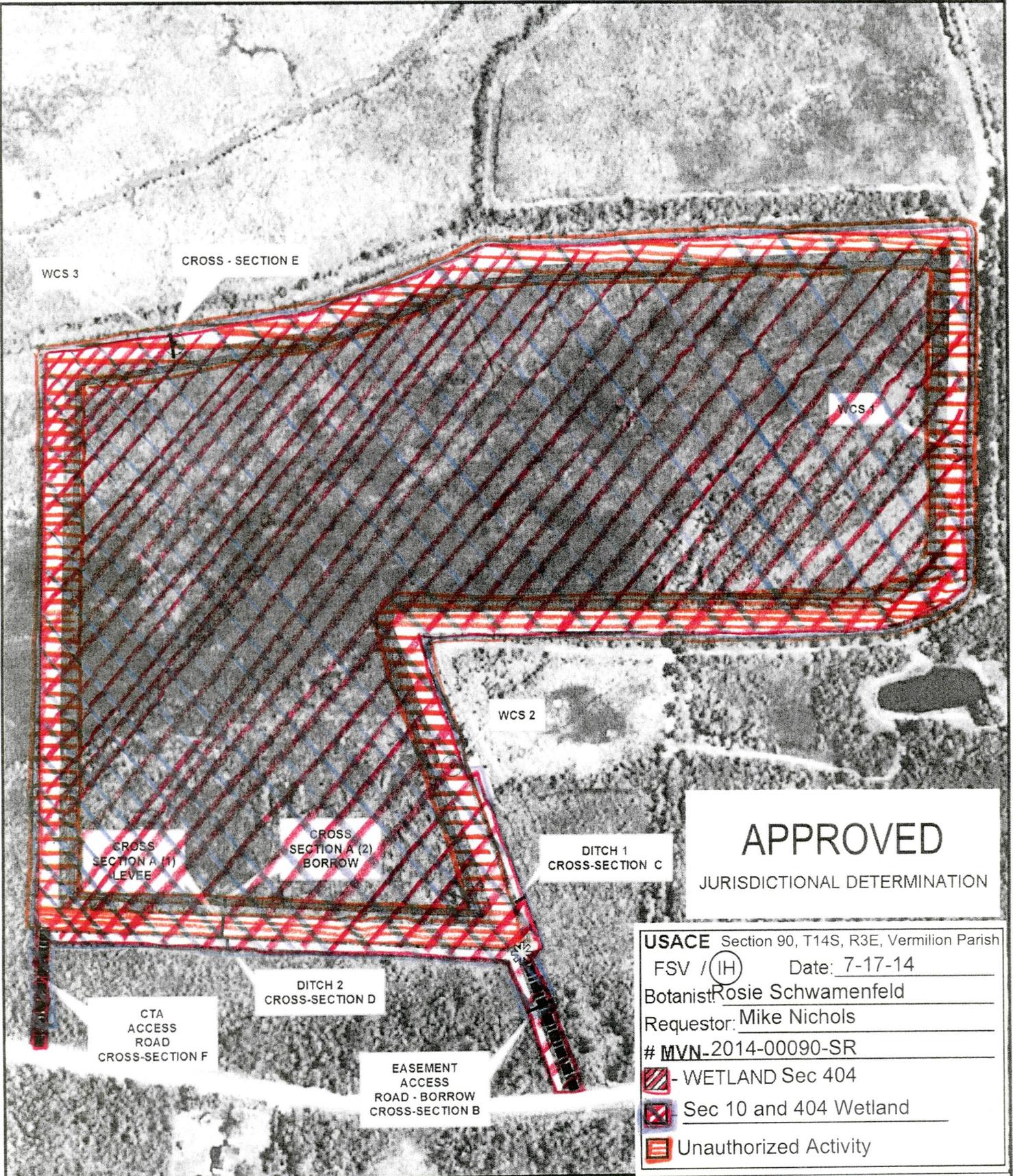
Map Date: JUNE 25, 2014



ROLAND LEBLANC WRP ID-00075 PERMIT MAP



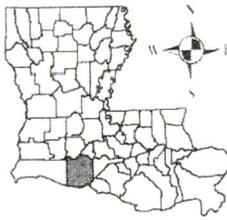
Legend	
	EXISTING LEVEE-TW=10'-SS=4:1'-BW=34'
	EXISTING BORROW AREA-TW=16'-SS=1.5:1'-BW=4'
	EXISTING WCS
	PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD-BW=25'
	PROPOSED DITCHES-TW1=20'-TW2=15'
	PROPOSED CULVERT-24"CPVC



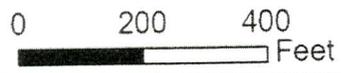
APPROVED
 JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION

USACE Section 90, T14S, R3E, Vermilion Parish
 FSV / (IH) Date: 7-17-14
 Botanist: Rosie Schwamenfeld
 Requestor: Mike Nichols
 # MVN-2014-00090-SR
 ■ - WETLAND Sec 404
 ■ - Sec 10 and 404 Wetland
 ■ - Unauthorized Activity

Map Produced By:
 United States Department of Agriculture
 Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Alexandria, LA
 Data Source: NAIP 2013
 Map Date: JUNE 25, 2014



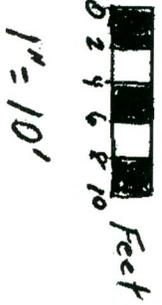
ROLAND LEBLANC
WRP ID-00075
PERMIT MAP



- Legend**
- EXISTING LEVEE-TW=10'-SS=4.1'-BW=34'
 - EXISTING BORROW AREA-TW=16'-SS=1.5.1'-BW=4'
 - EXISTING WCS
 - PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD-BW=25'
 - PROPOSED DITCHES-TW1=20'-TW2=15'
 - PROPOSED CULVERT-24"CPVC

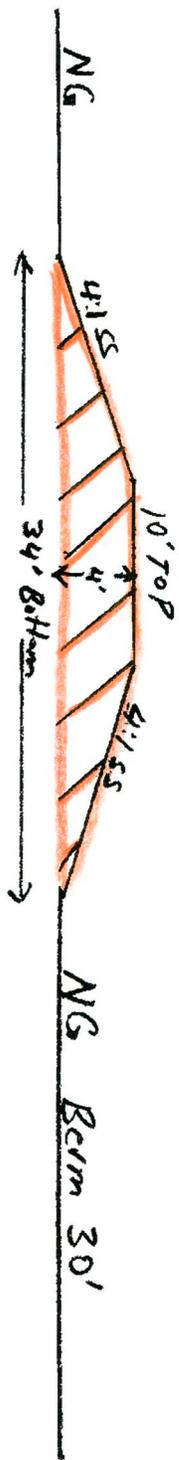
Final Cross Sections

STATE LA	PROJECT Roland LeBlanc WRP # 10-00075		
BY Michael Nichols	DATE 6/26/2014	CHECKED BY	DATE
SUBJECT WRP Shallow Water Area (SWA) Levee			JOB NO.
SHEET			OF



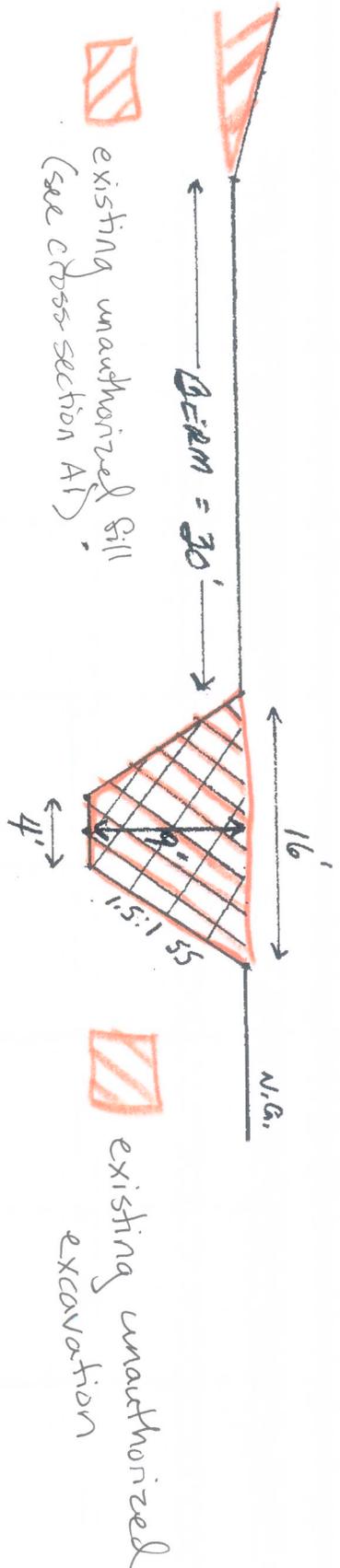
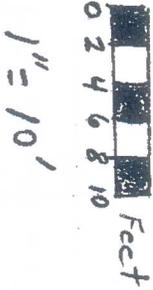
 existing
 unauthorized Fill

Shallow Water Area Levee
 Deposition (Existing)



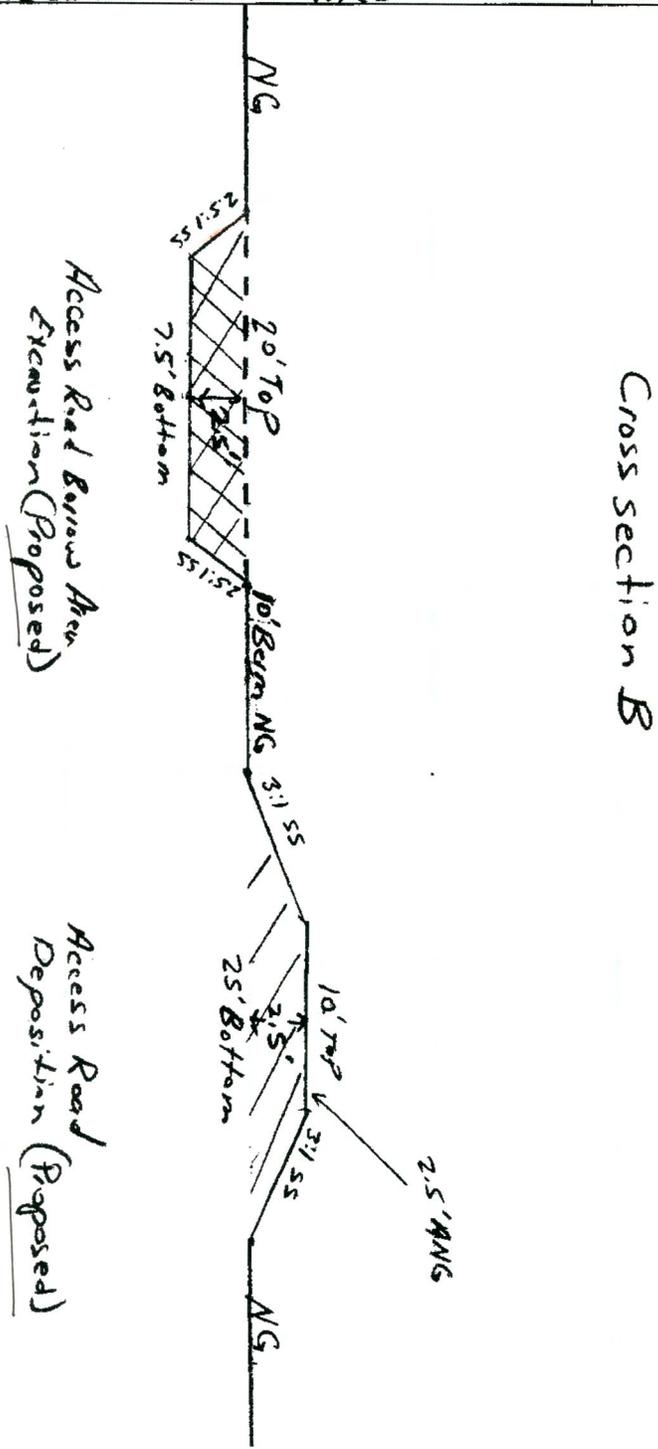
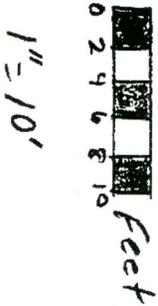
Cross Section A(1)

STATE LA	PROJECT ROLAND LEGLAND WRP # 10-00075		
BY DTMFI	DATE 6/26/2010	CHECKED BY	DATE
SUBJECT WRP BORROW AREA			JOB NO.
			SHEET OF



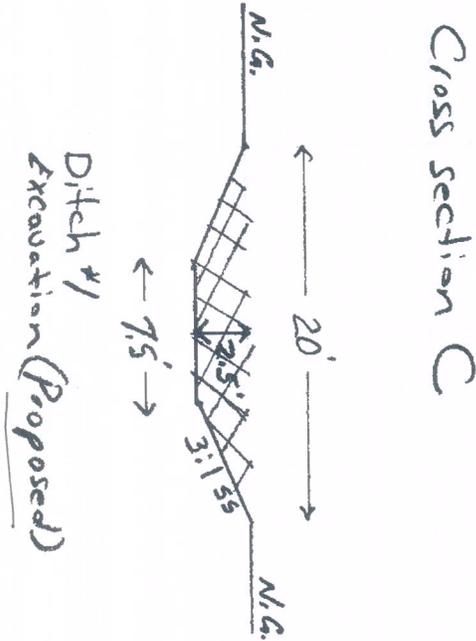
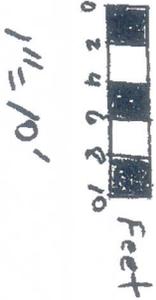
Cross Section A(2)

STATE <i>LA</i>	PROJECT <i>Roland LeBlanc WRP # 10-00075</i>		
BY <i>Michael Nichols</i>	DATE <i>6/26/2004</i>	CHECKED BY	DATE
SUBJECT <i>WRP Access Road and Borrow Area</i>			JOB NO.
			SHEET _____ OF _____

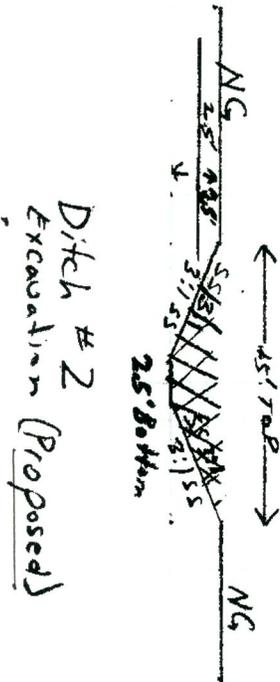


Ditch #1

STATE <u>LA</u>		PROJECT <u>ROLAND LEBLANC WRP # 10-00075</u>		
BY <u>D TAFFI</u>	DATE <u>6/26/2014</u>	CHECKED BY	DATE	JOB NO.
SUBJECT <u>WRP DITCH 1</u>				SHEET _____ OF _____



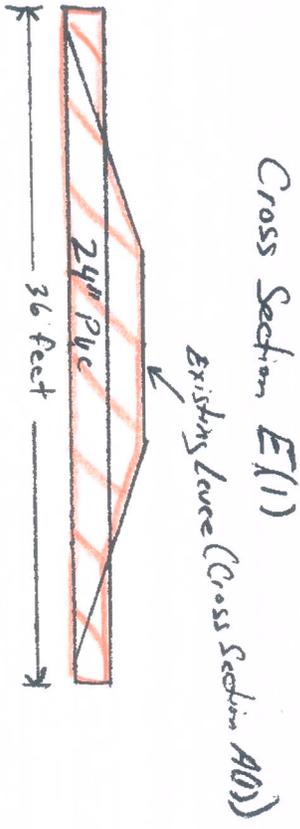
STATE LA	PROJECT Roland LeBlanc WRP # 10-00075		
BY Michael Nichols	DATE 6/26/2014	CHECKED BY	DATE
SUBJECT WRP Ditch #2			JOB NO.
			SHEET OF



Cross Section D

STATE <i>LA</i>	PROJECT <i>Reland LeBlanc WRP # 10.00075</i>		
BY <i>Michael Nichols</i>	DATE <i>6/26/2014</i>	CHECKED BY	DATE
SUBJECT <i>WRP Water Control Structure #3 Cross Section</i>			JOB NO.
SHEET _____			OF _____

0 2 4 6 8 10 Feet
 1 inch = 10 Feet



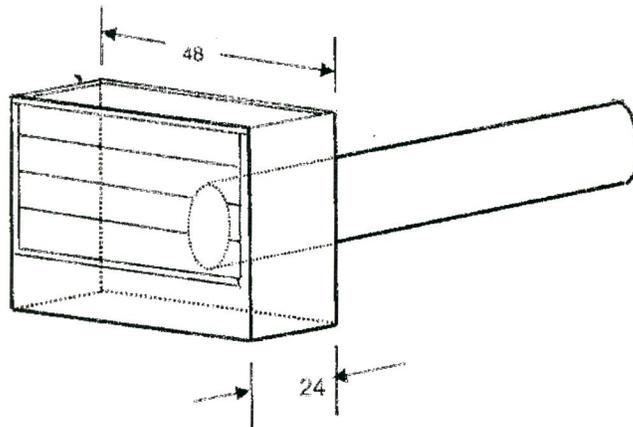
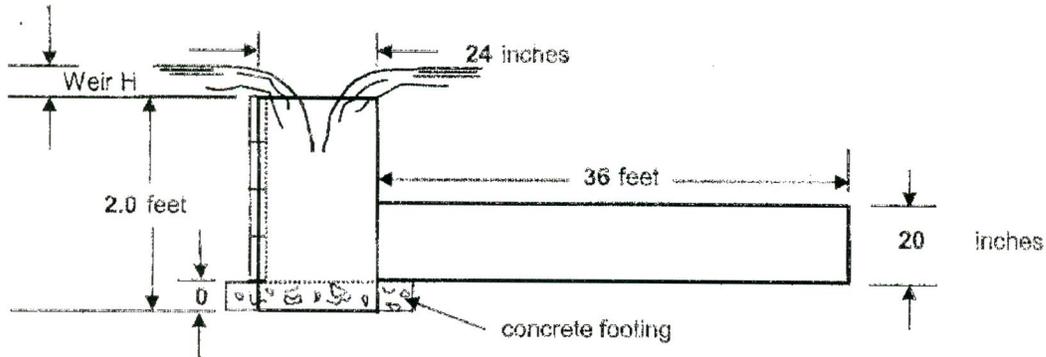
existing unauthorized Still

Existing unauthorized

FLASHBOARD HEADER DESIGN

E(2)

Landowner RL WRP 10-00075
Structure No. #3
Designed by JMP & RGD
Date 3/18/14



$Q_{REQ} = 3.81$ cfs

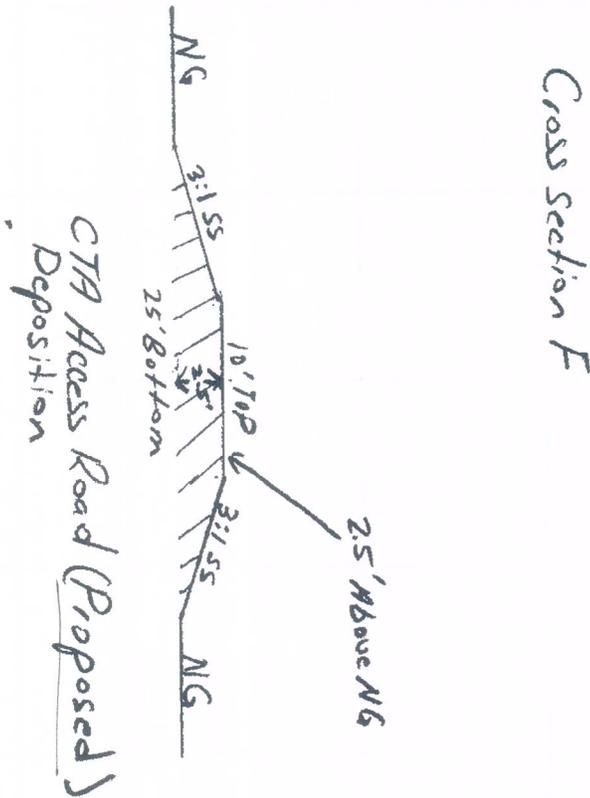
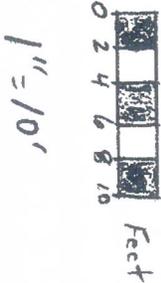
HEADER DIMENSIONS

Length = 24 inches
Width = 48 inches
Weir H = 0.25 feet
Height = 2 feet
Footing thick'n's = 0 inches
 $Q_{DES} = 5.25$ cfs

BARREL DIMENSIONS

Diameter = 20 inches
Length = 36 feet
Material is SSP

STATE LA	PROJECT Roland LeBlanc WRP# 10-00075		
BY Michael Nichols	DATE 6/26/2014	CHECKED BY	DATE
SUBJECT WRP CTA Access Road			JOB NO.
			SHEET _____ OF _____



Water management plan:

* Install the boards in the fall to maintain an average of 6" to 12" of shallow water for migratory waterfowl and water-birds over the winter months.

* Remove the boards in early spring.*

*Water cannot be drained below existing normal ground because water control structures have metal plates welded to that elevation. If adequate rainfall occurs, water will typically be held 6" to 12" above normal ground during fall, winter, and early spring. Structures will remain "open" during middle and late spring and summer to enhance and maintain native herbaceous wetland vegetation. In most years, the shallow water areas will be flooded with less than 6" during fall due to low rainfall during this period.

