

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

September 22, 2104

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

(504) 862-1301
Project Manager
Neil T. Gauthier
Neil.T.Gauthier@USACE.army.mil
MVN 2014-01964-CM

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

(225) 219-3225
Project Manager
Elizabeth Johnson
WQC Application Number
WQC 140917-02

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: [] 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, Water Quality Certifications Section, 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 BANK STABILIZATION FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT IN ASCENSION PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Ascension Parish Government, c/o Natural Resource Professionals, LLC, Attn: Gregg Fell, 7478 Highland Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.

LOCATION OF WORK: Within a lateral of Bayou Francois, Section 33 and 34, T9S-R3E, between Airline Hwy and LA Hwy 44 in Brittany, Louisiana, in Ascension Parish, within the Lake Maurepas Basin in hydrologic unit (HUC 08070204), as shown on the attached drawings.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant has requested Department of the Army authorization to dredge, excavate, and place fill and rip-rap to provide bank stabilization and improve the drainage function and aesthetics of an unnamed lateral canal that drains directly into Bayou Francois. Approximately 826 cubic yards of herbaceous wetlands covering 0.17 acre and approximately 1,495 cubic yards of water bottoms covering 0.93 acre will be excavated and hauled of site to an approved non-wetland disposal area. In addition approximately 3,050 cubic yards of clean earthen fill material and rip-rap will be deposited along the north and south bank line below and above the ordinary high water mark and in wetlands to create a terrace, facilitate drainage, and armor the channel slopes. Upon completion the slopes will be stabilized with seeded mats and the high bank

will be planted with 2 year old cypress seedlings. The proposed project will permanently impact 0.68 acre of jurisdictional herbaceous wetlands and 3.6 acres of jurisdictional water bottoms. In addition the proposed project will temporarily impact 0.93 acre of jurisdictional water bottoms. It is anticipated that the proposed action would have minimal impact on adjacent wetlands.

The applicant has designed the project to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse impacts to the maximum extent practicable. Any further reduction would limit usage of the property and, therefore function deeming the project impracticable. As compensation for unavoidable wetland impacts, the applicant proposes to mitigate in-kind wetland credits from a Corps approved mitigation bank located in the watershed.

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. 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.

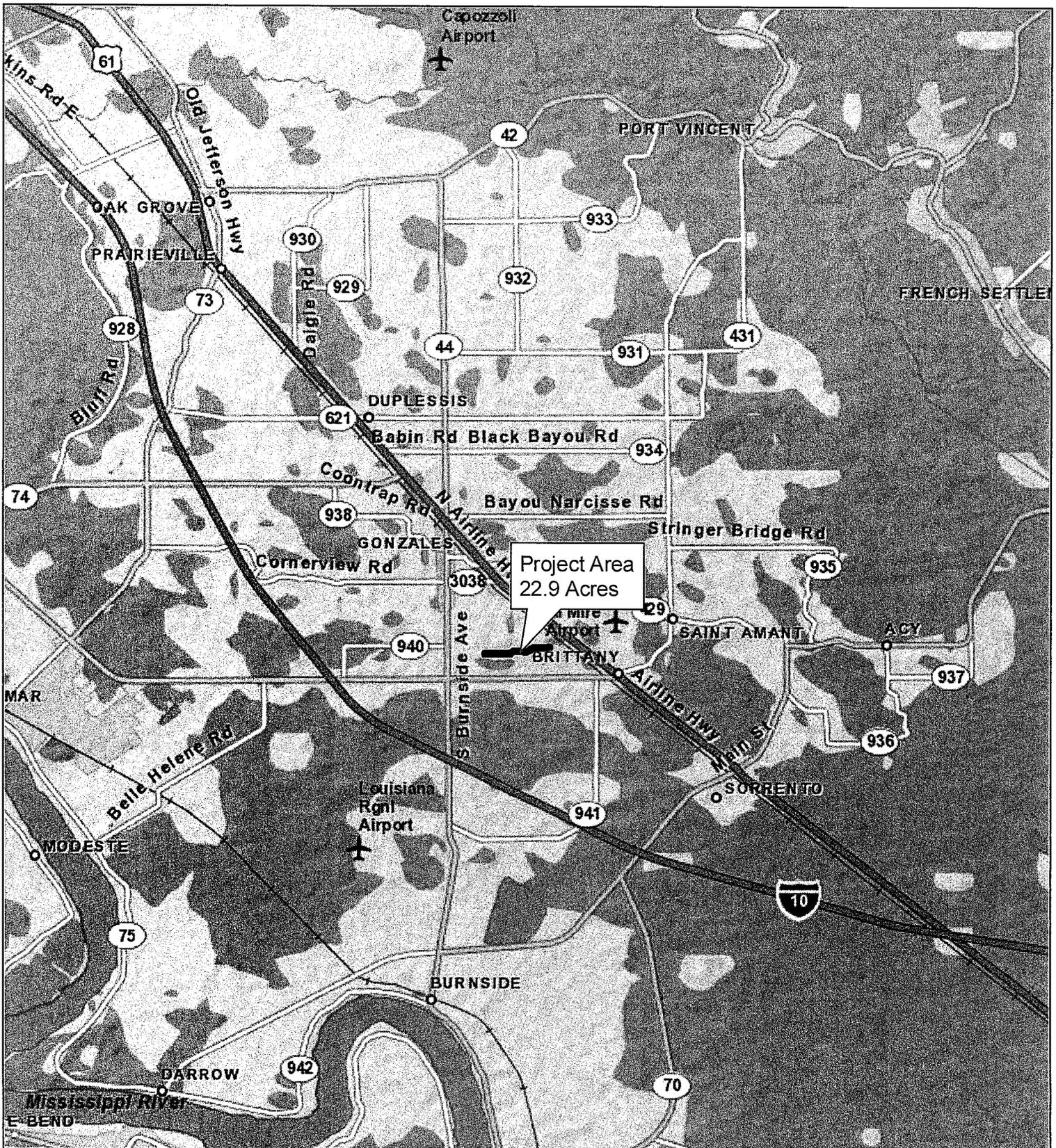
This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of up to n/a acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. 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, Water Quality Certifications Section 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.

JOHN M. HERMAN
Chief, Central Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosures



Legend

 Project Area (22.9 acres)



Map Notes:

1. The boundary shown is based on the boundary survey provided by the client.



Ascension Parish

Gonzales, LA

VICINITY MAP
FRANCOIS LATERAL
ASCENSION PARISH

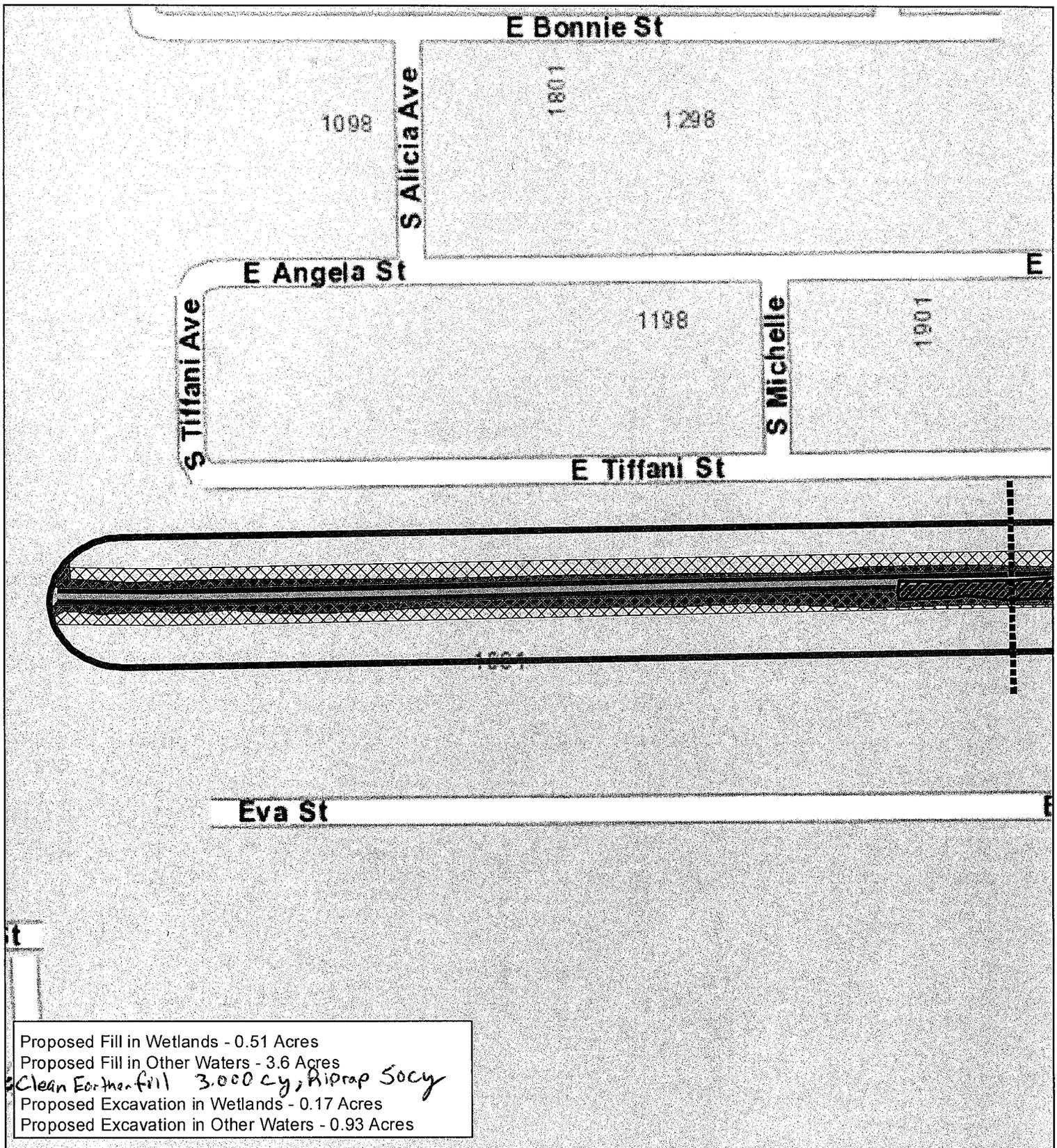
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Approved : GLF

Date : 07/29/2014

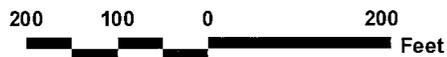
Map No. :

FIGURE 1



Legend

- Project Area (22.9 acres)
- Existing Wetlands (0.95 Acres)
- Existing Other Waters (6.9 acres)
- Proposed Excavation Area (0.93 Acres)
- Proposed Fill Area (6.87 Acres)
- Match Line



Map Notes:

1. The boundary shown is based on the boundary survey provided by the client.



Ascension Parish

Gonzales, LA

**SITE MAP A
FRANCOIS LATERAL
ASCENSION PARISH**

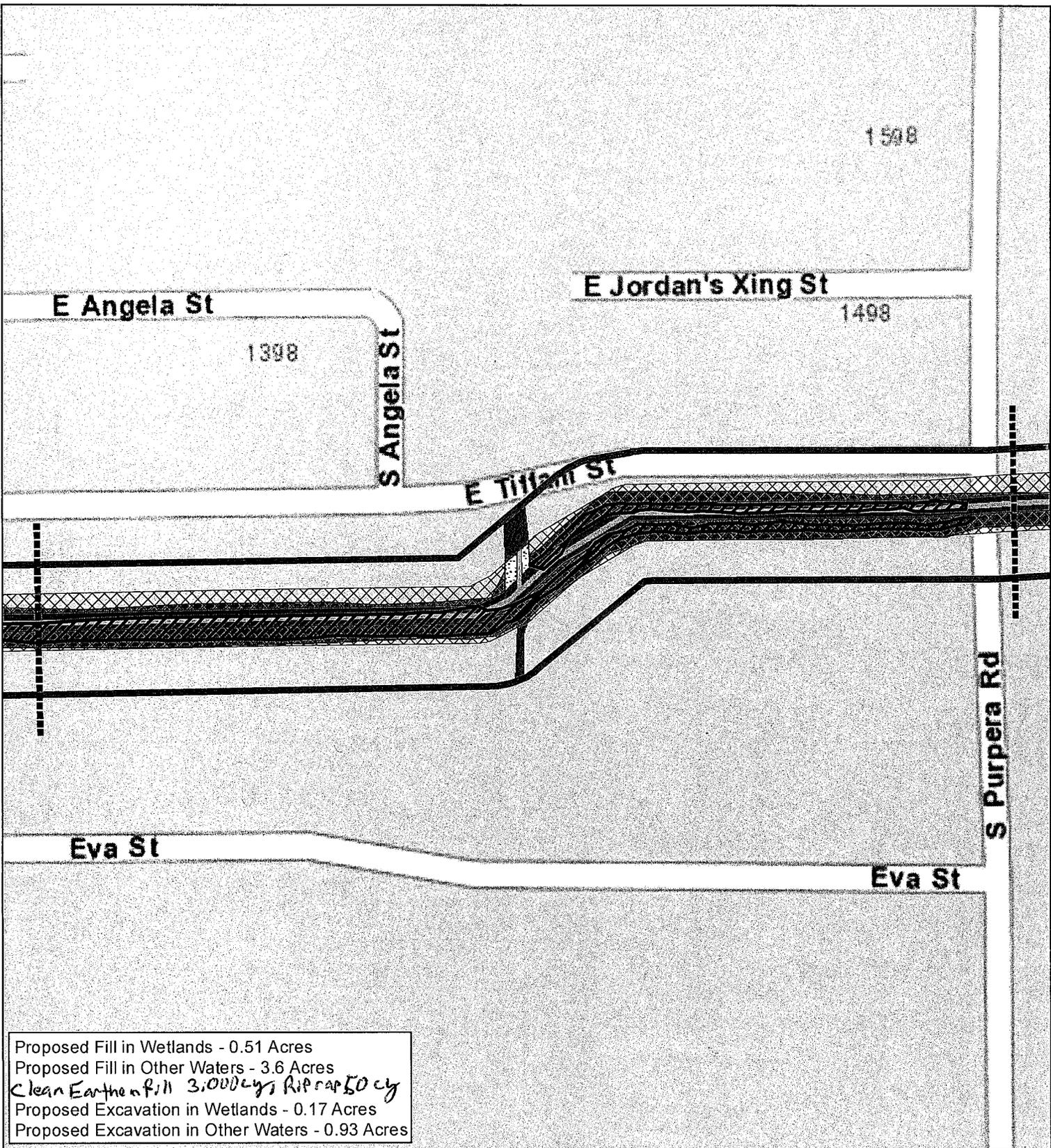
Created : AGB/ArcView

Approved : GLF

Date : 7/29/2014

Map No. :

FIGURE 3



Proposed Fill in Wetlands - 0.51 Acres
 Proposed Fill in Other Waters - 3.6 Acres
 Clean Earth and Fill 3,000 cy, Rip rap 50 cy
 Proposed Excavation in Wetlands - 0.17 Acres
 Proposed Excavation in Other Waters - 0.93 Acres

Legend

- Project Area (22.9 acres)
- Existing Other Waters (6.9 acres)
- Existing Wetlands (0.95 Acres)
- Proposed Fill Area (6.87 Acres)
- Proposed Excavation Area (0.93 Acres)
- Proposed Rip Rap (0.03 Acres)
- Match Line

200 100 0 200
 Feet

Map Notes:

- The boundary shown is based on the boundary survey provided by the client.

Ascension Parish

Gonzales, LA

SITE MAP B

FRANCOIS LATERAL

ASCENSION PARISH

Created: AGB/ArcView

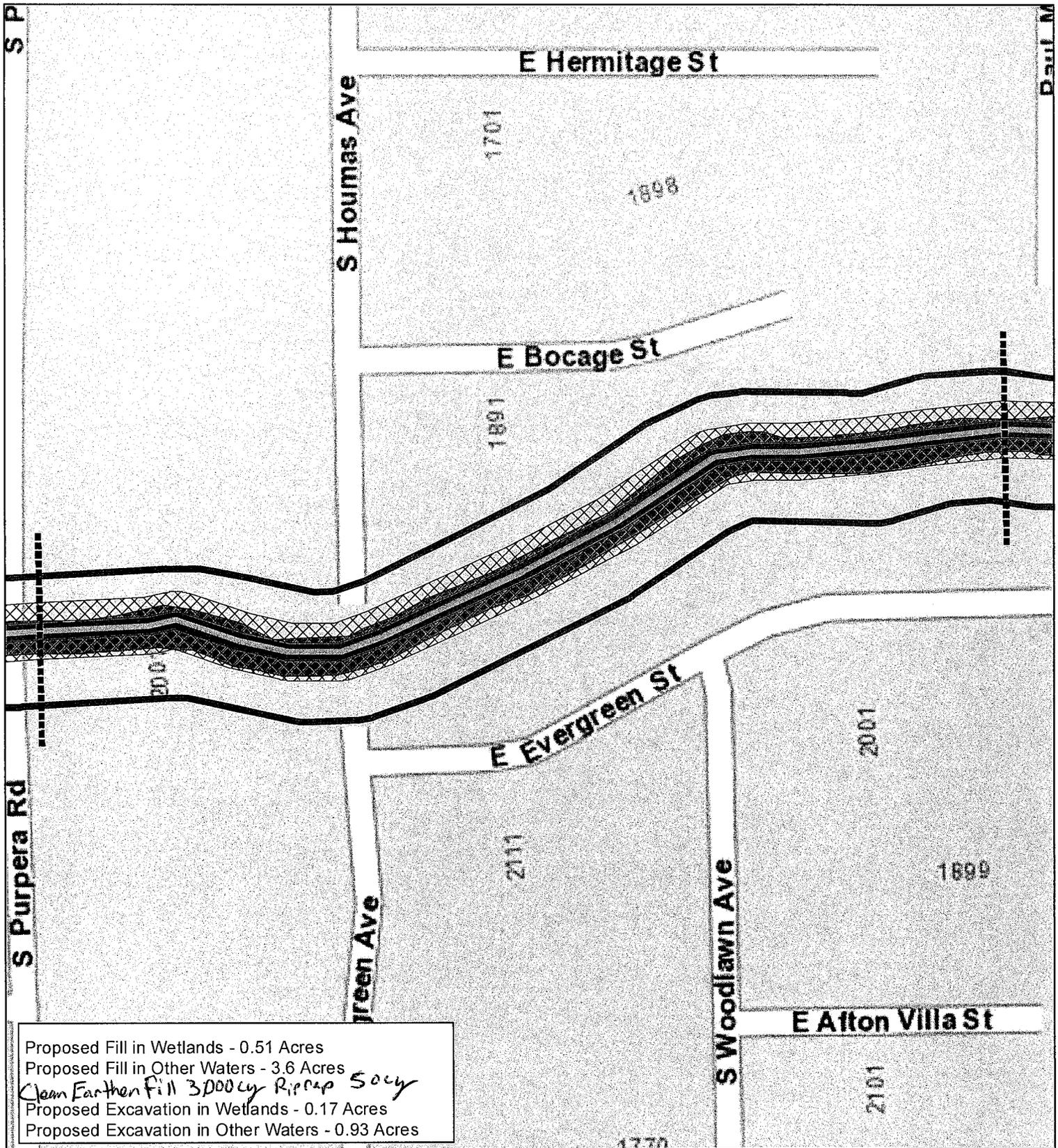
Approved: GLF

Date: 7/29/2014

Map No.:

FIGURE 4





Proposed Fill in Wetlands - 0.51 Acres
 Proposed Fill in Other Waters - 3.6 Acres
Clean Earthen Fill 3000cy Riprap 50cy
 Proposed Excavation in Wetlands - 0.17 Acres
 Proposed Excavation in Other Waters - 0.93 Acres

Legend

-  Project Area (22.9 acres)
-  Existing Other Waters (6.9 acres)
-  Existing Wetlands (0.95 Acres)
-  Proposed Excavation Area (0.93 Acres)
-  Proposed Fill Area (6.87 Acres)
-  Match Line



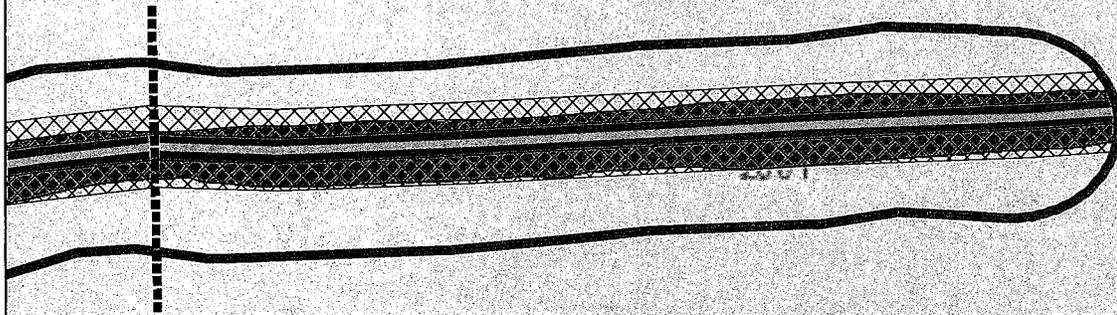
Map Notes:

1. The boundary shown is based on the boundary survey provided by the client.



Ascension Parish Gonzales, LA SITE MAP C FRANCOIS LATERAL ASCENSION PARISH
Created : AGB/ArcView Approved : GLF Date : 7/29/2014 Map No. :
FIGURE 5

Paul Moinot Rd



E Evergreen St

Proposed Fill in Wetlands - 0.51 Acres
Proposed Fill in Other Waters - 3.6 Acres
<i>Clean Earth fill 3,000 cy, Riprap 50 cy</i>
Proposed Excavation in Wetlands - 0.17 Acres
Proposed Excavation in Other Waters - 0.93 Acres

Legend

-  Project Area (22.9 acres)
-  Existing Wetlands (0.95 Acres)
-  Existing Other Waters (6.9 acres)
-  Proposed Excavation Area (0.93 Acres)
-  Proposed Fill Area (6.87 Acres)
-  Match Line



Map Notes:

1. The boundary shown is based on the boundary survey provided by the client.



Ascension Parish

Gonzales, LA

**SITE MAP D
FRANCOIS LATERAL
ASCENSION PARISH**

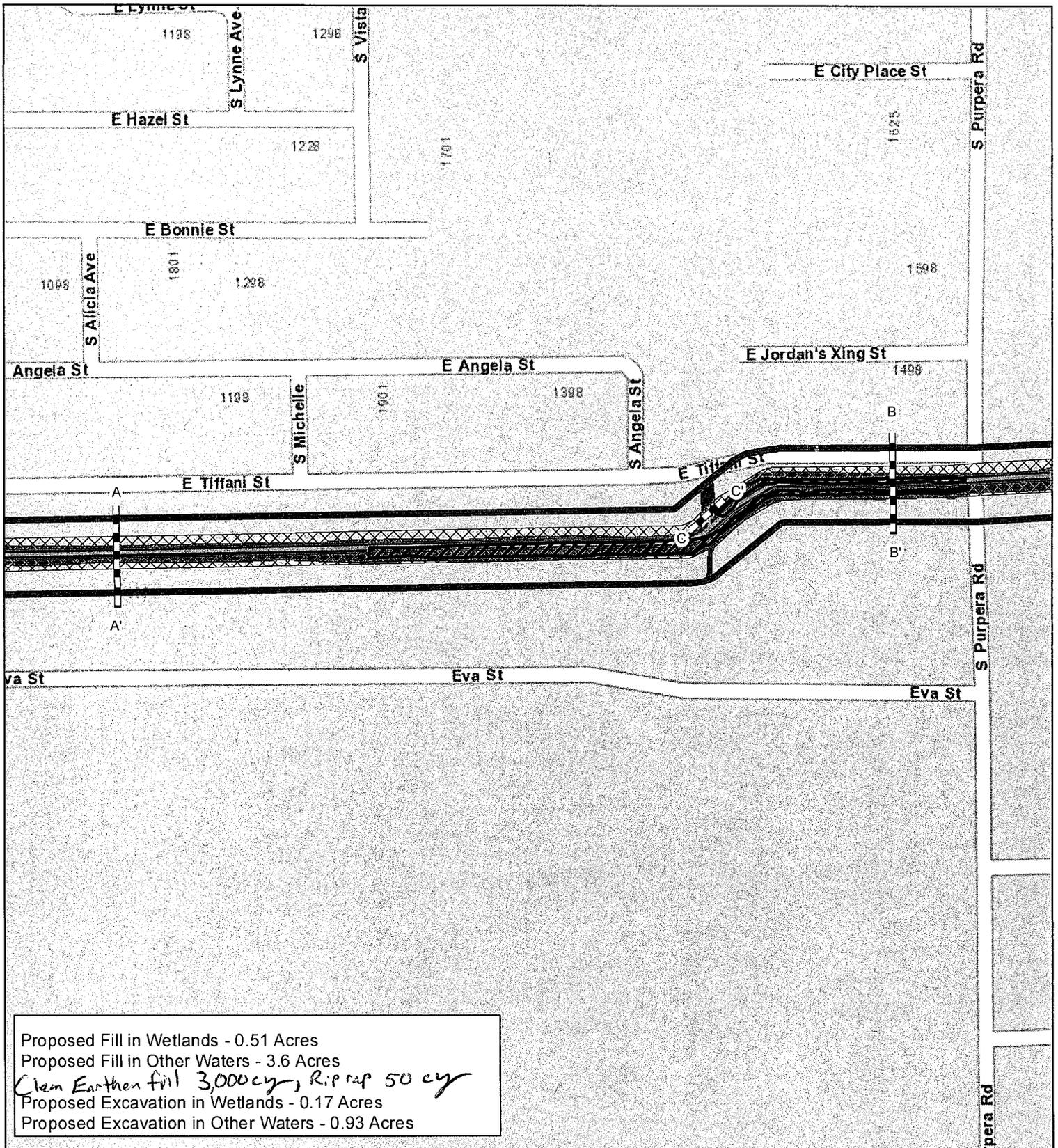
Created : AGB/ArcView

Approved : GLF

Date : 7/29/2014

Map No. :

FIGURE 6



Legend

- Project Area (22.9 acres)
- Existing Wetlands (0.95 Acres)
- Existing Other Waters (6.9 acres)
- Proposed Excavation Area (0.93 Acres)
- Proposed Fill Area (6.87 Acres)
- Proposed Rip Rap (0.03 Acres)
- Cross Sections



Map Notes:

1. The boundary shown is based on the boundary survey provided by the client.



Ascension Parish

Gonzales, LA

**CROSS SECTION MAP
FRANCOIS LATERAL
ASCENSION PARISH**

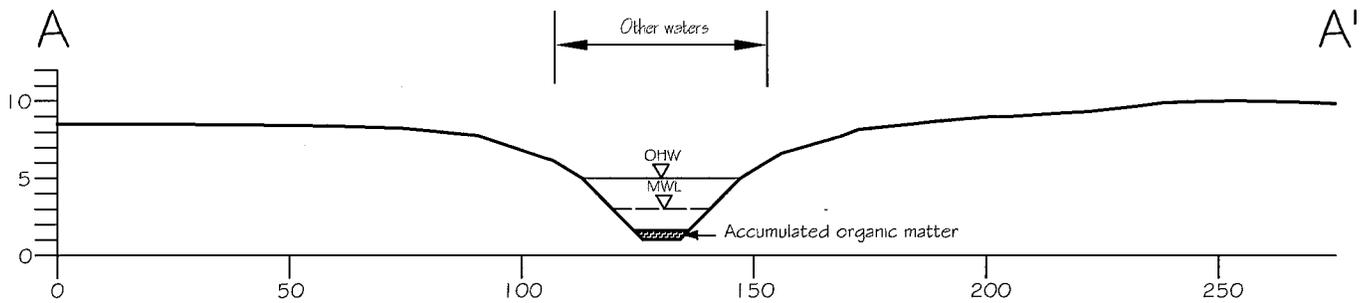
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Approved : GLF

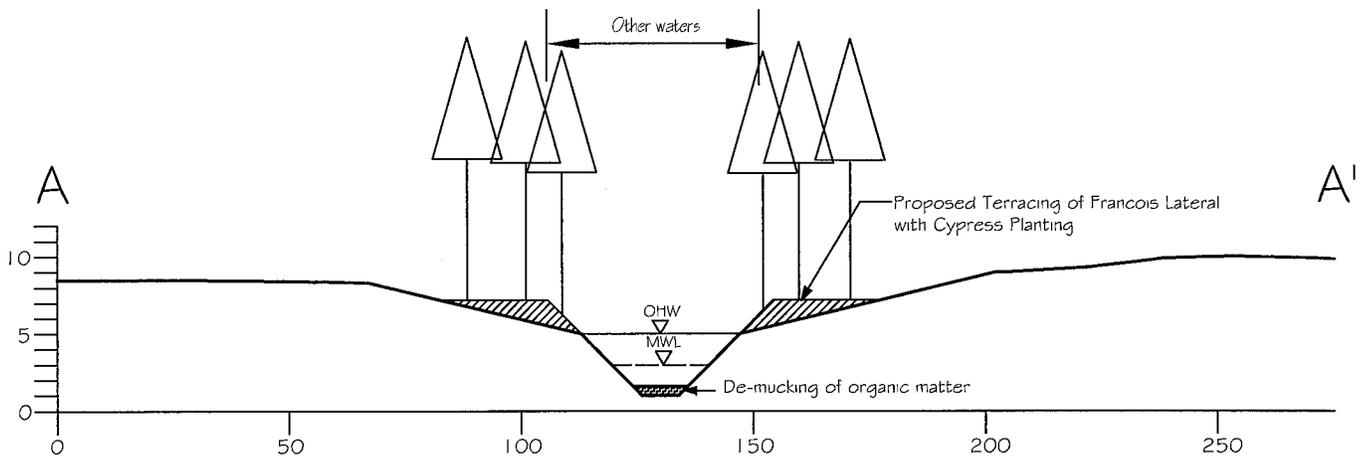
Date : 7/29/2014

Map No. :

Figure 7



Pre-Construction Cross Section
A - A'
NTS



Post-Construction Cross Section
A - A'
NTS

 Clean Earthen Fill **3,000 cy, Riprap 50 cy**



Map Notes:

1. The boundary shown is based on the boundary survey provided by the client.



Ascension Parish

Gonzales, LA

CROSS SECTION A-A'
FRANCOIS LATERAL
ASCENSION PARISH, LA

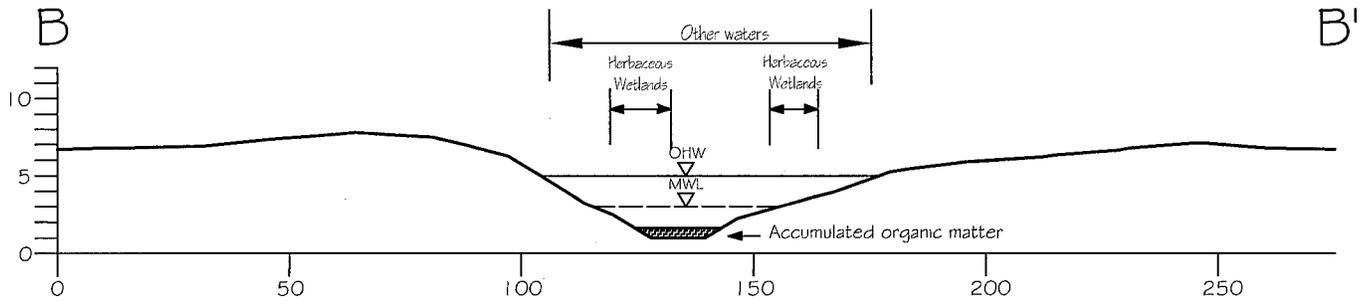
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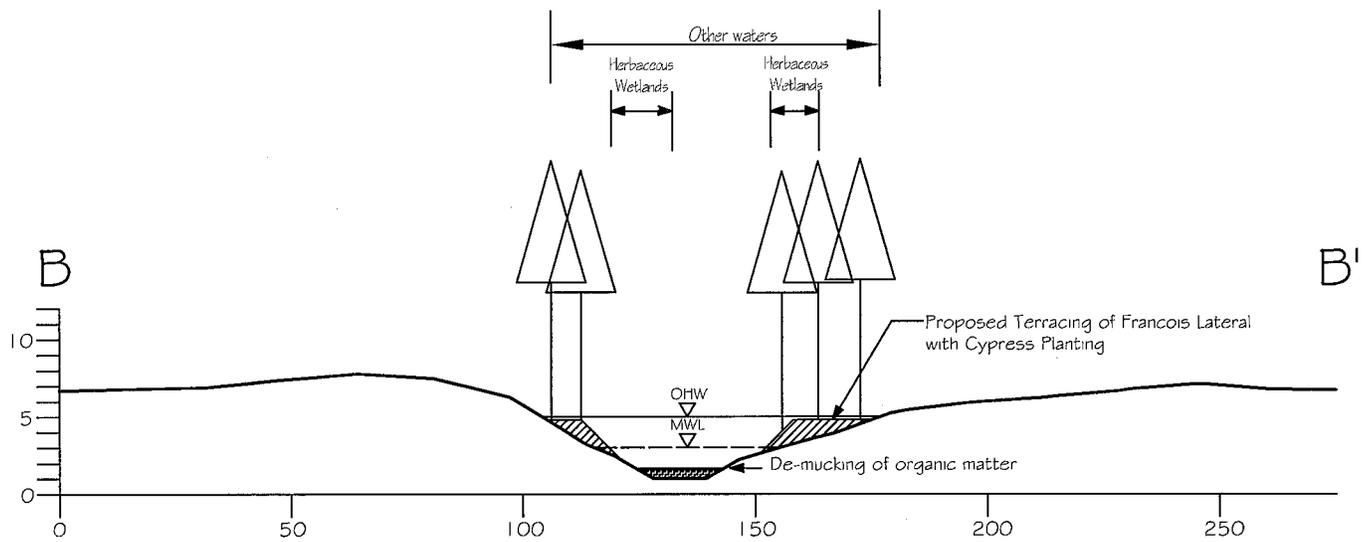
Date: 07/29/2014

Map No.:

FIGURE 8



Pre-Construction Cross Section
B - B'
NTS



Post-Construction Cross Section
B - B'
NTS

 Clean Earthen Fill *3,000 cy, Rip rap 50 cy*

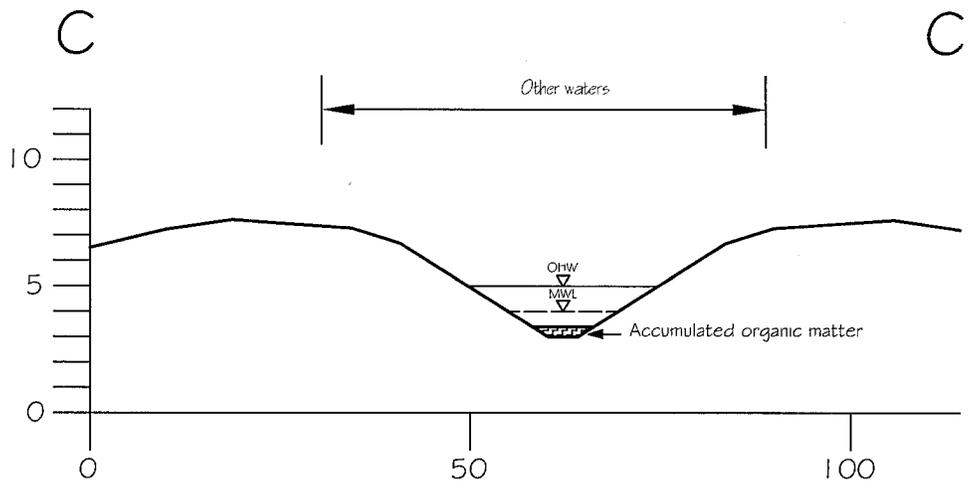
Map Notes:

1. The boundary shown is based on the boundary survey provided by the client.

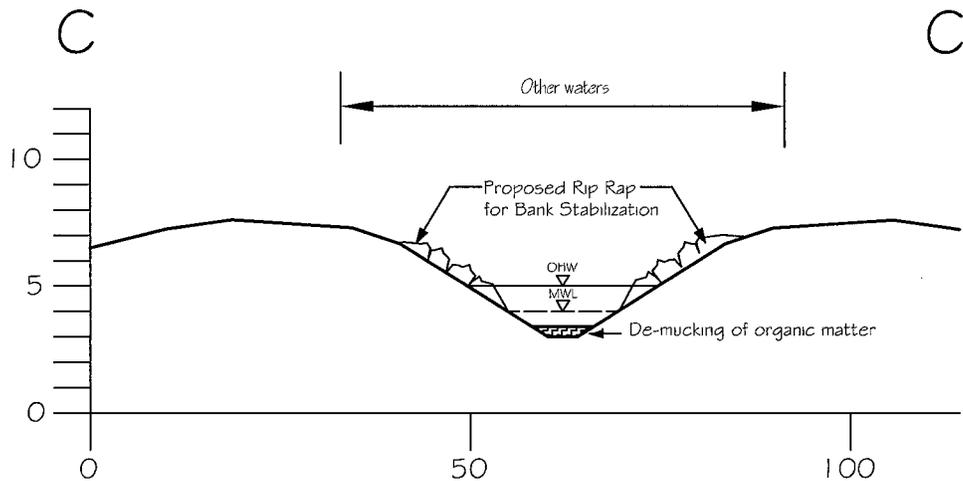


Ascension Parish
Gonzales, LA
CROSS SECTION B-B'
FRANCOIS LATERAL
ASCENSION PARISH, LA
Created: AGB
Approved: GLF
Date: 07/29/2014
Map No.:

FIGURE 9



Pre-Construction Cross Section
C - C'
NTS



Post-Construction Cross Section
C - C'
NTS

Clean earthen fill 3,000 cy, Rip rap 50 cy

Map Notes:

1. The boundary shown is based on the boundary survey provided by the client.



Ascension Parish
Gonzales, LA
CROSS SECTION C-C' FRANCOIS LATERAL ASCENSION PARISH, LA
Created: AGB
Approved: GLF
Date: 06/25/2014
Map No.:

FIGURE 10