

# JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

September 28, 2015

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

(504) 862-2284  
[Sara.B.Fortuna@usace.army.mil](mailto:Sara.B.Fortuna@usace.army.mil)  
Project Manager  
Sara Fortuna  
Permit Application Number  
MVN-2015-01764-WKK

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

(225) 219-3526  
[Karen.Latuso@la.gov](mailto:Karen.Latuso@la.gov)  
Project Manager  
Karen Latuso  
WQC Application Number  
WQC 150901-02

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: [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, Water Quality Certifications, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2047 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

## **DREDGING, ACCESS CHANNEL, SLIP, LIMESTONE PAD, BARGES, PLATFORMS, BOAT DOCK, WALKWAY, and PILE CLUSTERS IN ST. MARTIN PARISH**

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** McMoRan Oil & Gas, L.L.C., c/o Tim Morton & Associates, Inc.,  
730 E. Kaliste Saloom Road, Lafayette, Louisiana 70508.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** West bank side of Old River, Bayou Long Field, approximately 2.8 miles northwest from the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the enclosed drawings.

Location: Latitude: 29°57'31.2" N / Longitude: -91°18'12.5" W, Hydrologic Unit Code: 08080101 – Atchafalaya Basin.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** Expand an existing oil well site by conducting dredging operations to construct a 90-foot wide by 2,221-foot long access channel and a 450-foot wide by 495-foot long slip, install a 100-foot wide by 280-foot long limestone pad, 50-foot wide by 180-foot long platform, 15-foot wide by 24-foot long platform, 10-foot wide by 20-foot long boat dock, 10-foot wide by 145-foot long walkway, and thirty-seven 6-pile clusters, six 3-pile clusters, and place barges of various sizes on location, all to drill Highlander "K" well. Approximately 4.75 acres of jurisdictional cypress/tupelo swamp wetlands, 1.41 acres of emergent/ floating aquatic vegetation, and 3.67 acres of waterbottoms would be permanently impacted via project implementation. A Geological Review was on held on August 13, 2015 at the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management and determined there are no less damaging feasible alternatives. All dredged fill material would be hauled off site by barge and disposed at a state-approved facility located outside of the levee

protection system. The applicant agrees to compensate for wetland impacts by purchasing credits at a Department of the Army approved mitigation bank.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit 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 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 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.

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. 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 the proposed activity would have no effect on any listed 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 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 applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Certifications, 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.

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 received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

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



**VICINITY MAP**

REPRODUCED FROM STATE HIGHWAY MAP

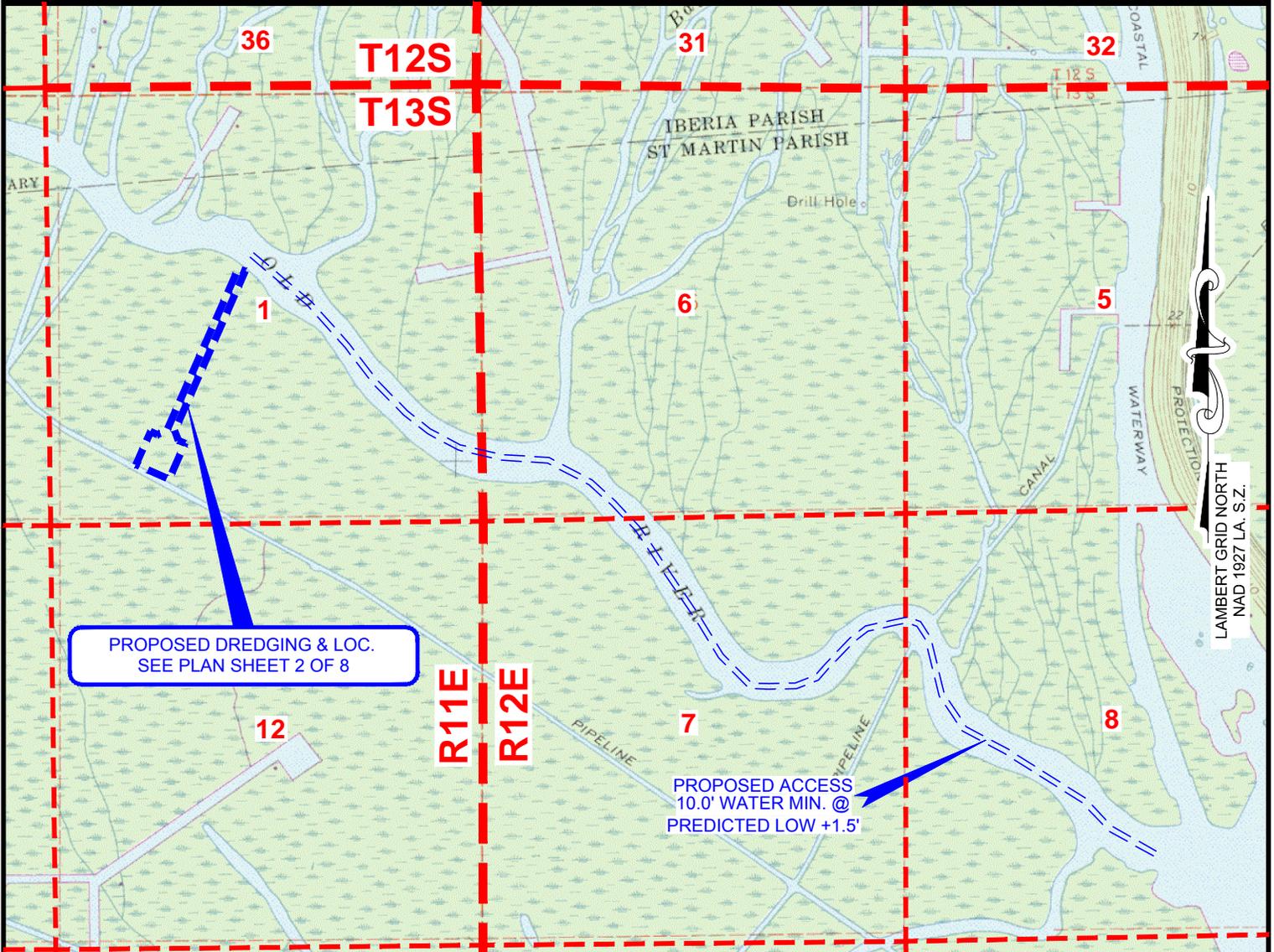


As-built drawings and/or plats shall have written on them the date of completion of said activities and shall be submitted to the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management, P.O. Box 44487, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487 within 30 days following project completion.

All structures built under the authorization and conditions of this permit shall be removed from the site within 120 days of abandonment of the facilities for the herein permitted use, or when these structures fall into a state of disrepair such that they can no longer function as intended. This condition does not preclude the necessity for revising the current permit or obtaining a separate Coastal Use Permit, should one be required, for such removal activities.

Structures must also be marked / lighted in accordance with U.S Coast Guard regulations.

In order to ensure the safety of all parties, the permittee shall contact Louisiana One Call System (1-800-272-3020) a minimum of 48 hours prior to the commencement of any excavation (digging, dredging, jetting, etc.) or demolition activity.



**LOCATION MAP**

REPRODUCED FROM USGS CENTERVILLE NE QUADRANGLE



**McMoRan Oil & Gas LLC**  
 1615 POYDRAS STREET  
 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70112

**PROPOSED DREDGING & LOCATION  
 HIGHLANDER (PROJECT K)**  
 Bayou Long Field  
 St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

PREPARED BY:



730 E. KALISTE SALOOM RD.  
 LAFAYETTE, LA 70508  
 (337) 210-0000  
 LA Reg. No. 330

JOB No: 150584

DATE: Jul. 8, 2015

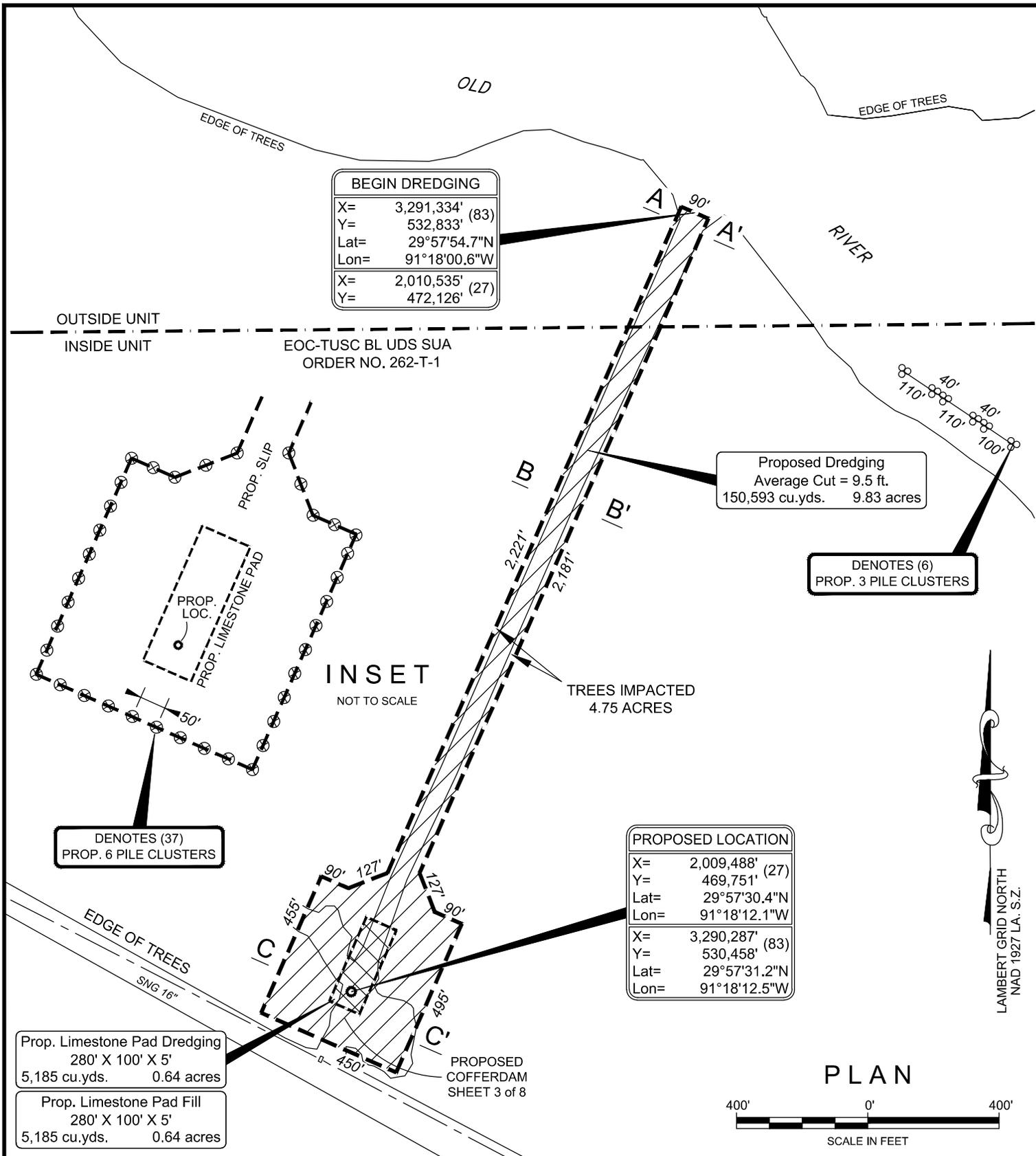
DRW: REP

CKD: HEK

FILE: C150584.DWG

**SHEET 1 of 8**

REV. 0



BEGIN DREDGING	
X=	3,291,334' (83)
Y=	532,833' (83)
Lat=	29°57'54.7"N
Lon=	91°18'00.6"W
X=	2,010,535' (27)
Y=	472,126'

Proposed Dredging  
Average Cut = 9.5 ft.  
150,593 cu.yds. 9.83 acres

DENOTES (6)  
PROP. 3 PILE CLUSTERS

TREES IMPACTED  
4.75 ACRES

INSET  
NOT TO SCALE

DENOTES (37)  
PROP. 6 PILE CLUSTERS

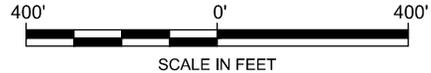
PROPOSED LOCATION	
X=	2,009,488' (27)
Y=	469,751' (27)
Lat=	29°57'30.4"N
Lon=	91°18'12.1"W
X=	3,290,287' (83)
Y=	530,458'
Lat=	29°57'31.2"N
Lon=	91°18'12.5"W

Prop. Limestone Pad Dredging  
280' X 100' X 5'  
5,185 cu.yds. 0.64 acres

Prop. Limestone Pad Fill  
280' X 100' X 5'  
5,185 cu.yds. 0.64 acres

PROPOSED  
COFFERDAM  
SHEET 3 of 8

PLAN



McMoRan Oil & Gas LLC  
1615 POYDRAS STREET  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70112

PROPOSED DREDGING & LOCATION  
HIGHLANDER (PROJECT K)  
Bayou Long Field  
St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

PREPARED BY: **C&C Technologies**  
An Oceanering International Company

730 E. KALISTE SALOOM RD.  
LAFAYETTE, LA 70508  
(337) 210-0000  
LA Reg. No. 330

JOB No: 150584

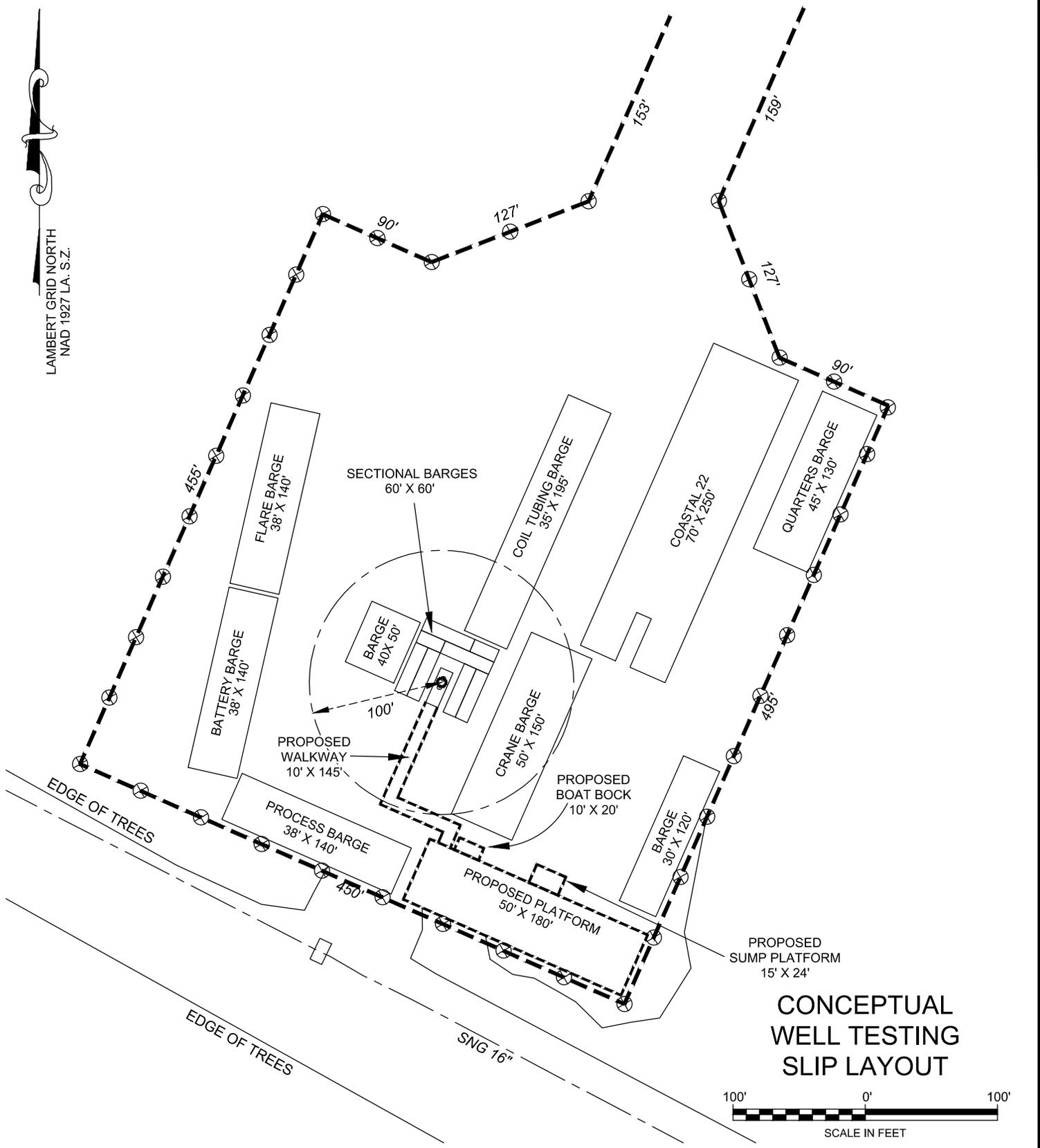
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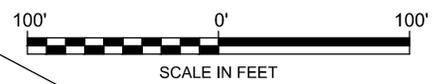
SHEET 2 of 8

REV. 1

LAMBERT GRID NORTH  
NAD 1927 LA. S.Z.



**CONCEPTUAL  
WELL TESTING  
SLIP LAYOUT**



**McMoRan Oil & Gas LLC**  
1615 POYDRAS STREET  
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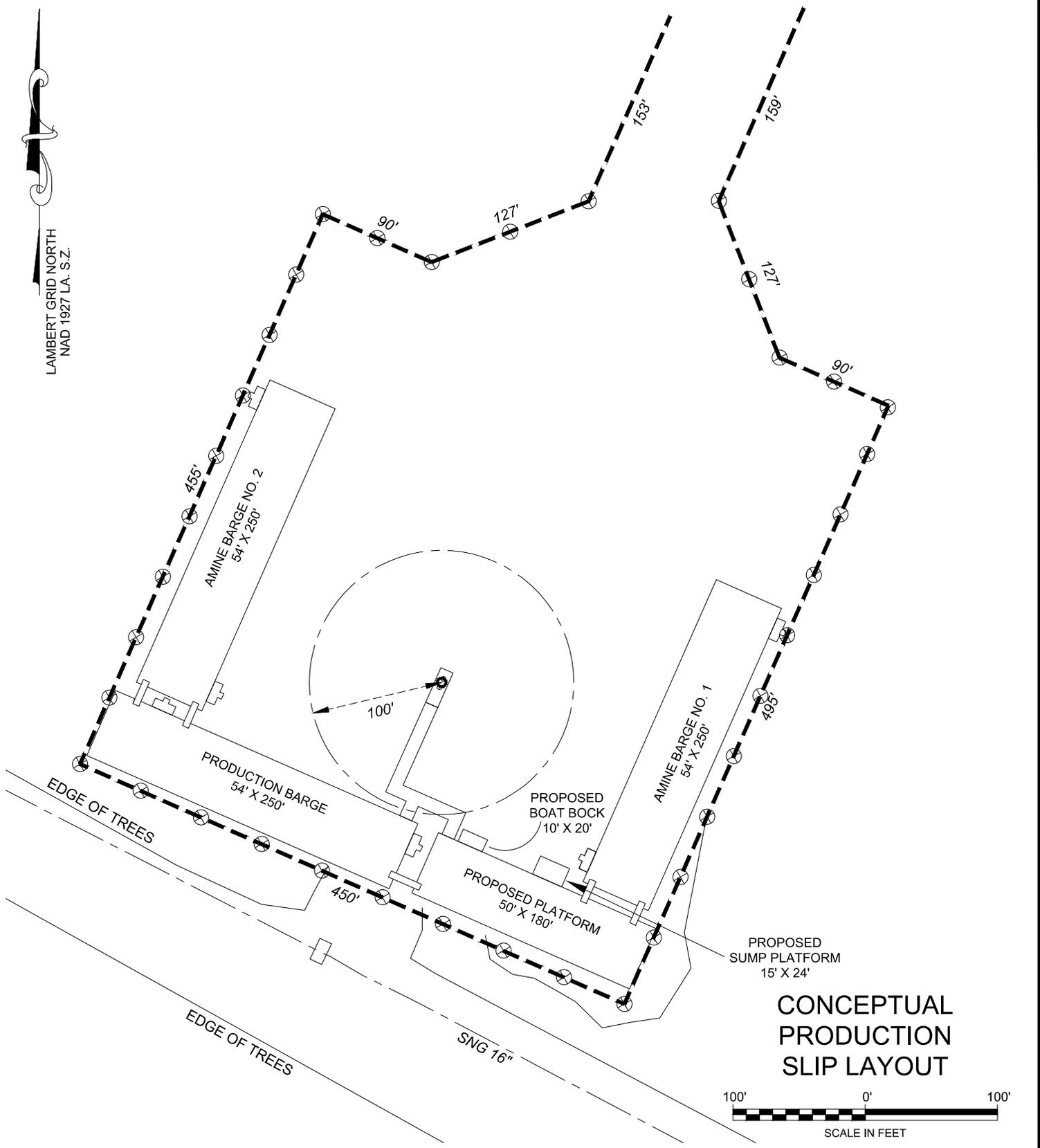
**PROPOSED DREDGING & LOCATION  
HIGHLANDER (PROJECT K)**  
Bayou Long Field  
St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

PREPARED BY: **C&C Technologies**  
An Oceanering International Company

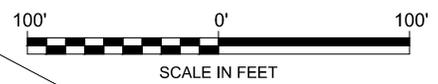
730 E. KALISTE SALOOM RD.  
LAFAYETTE, LA 70508  
(337) 210-0000  
LA Reg. No. 330

JOB No: 150584		DATE: Jul. 8, 2015	
DRW: REP	CKD: HEK	<b>SHEET 3 of 8</b>	
FILE: C150584A-2.DWG			

LAMBERT GRID NORTH  
NAD 1927 LA. S.Z.



**CONCEPTUAL  
PRODUCTION  
SLIP LAYOUT**



**McMoRan Oil & Gas LLC**  
1615 POYDRAS STREET  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70112

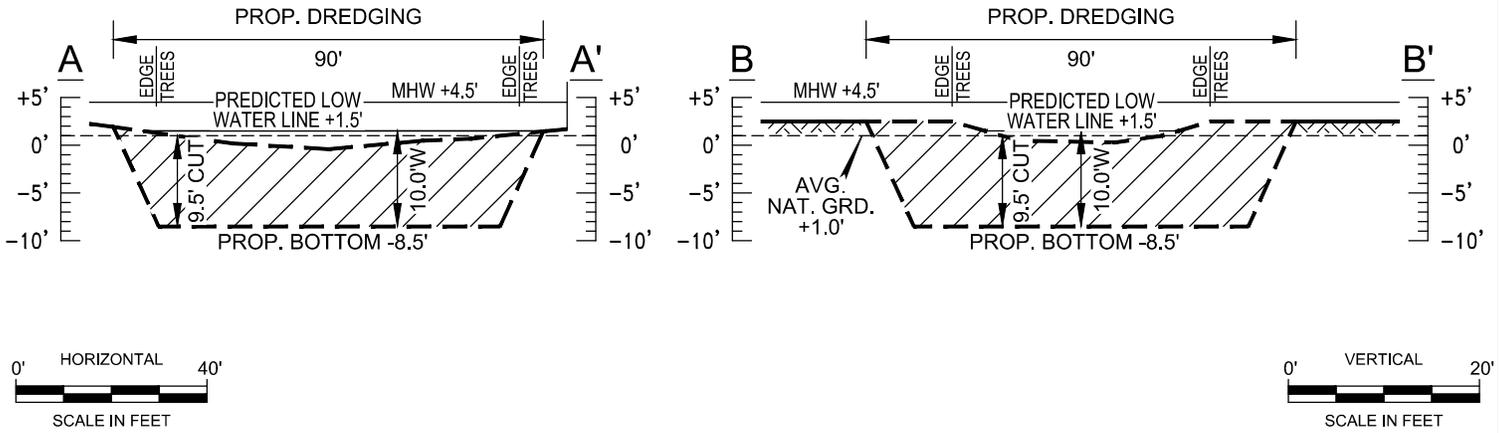
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Bayou Long Field  
St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

PREPARED BY:  **C&C Technologies**  
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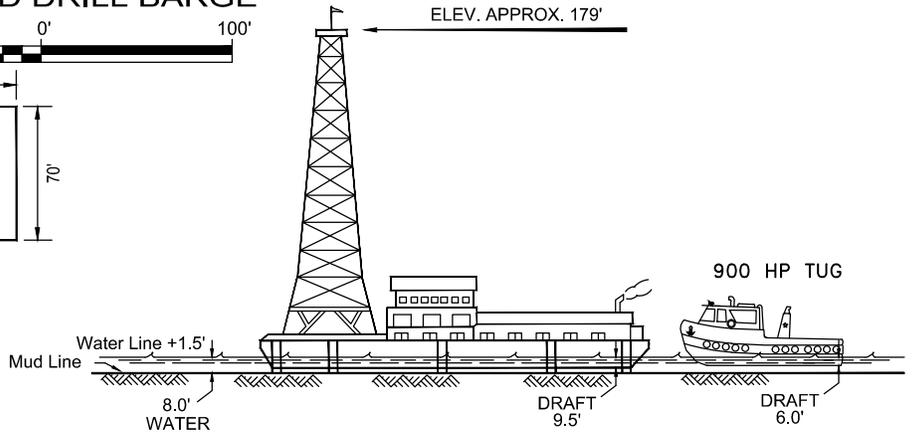
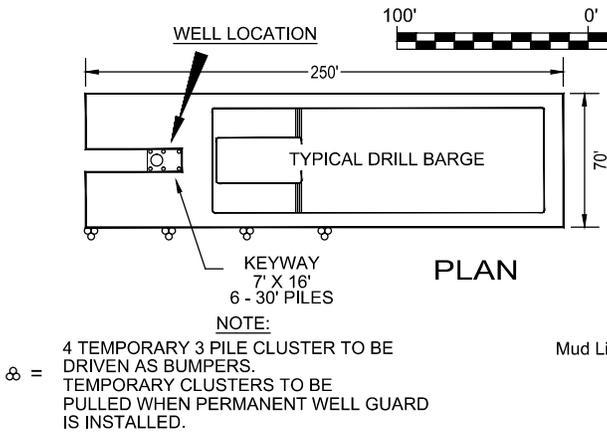
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DRW: REP	CKD: HEK	<b>SHEET 4 of 8</b>	REV. <b>0</b>
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# TYP. SECTION



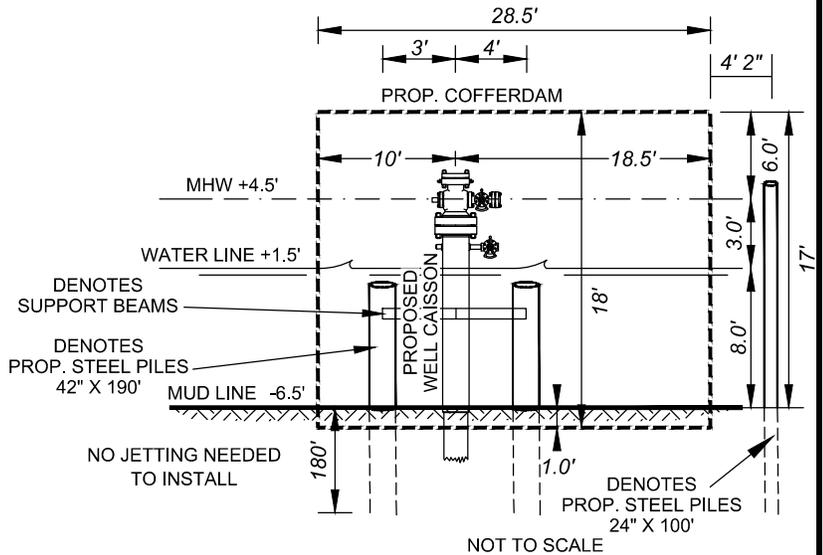
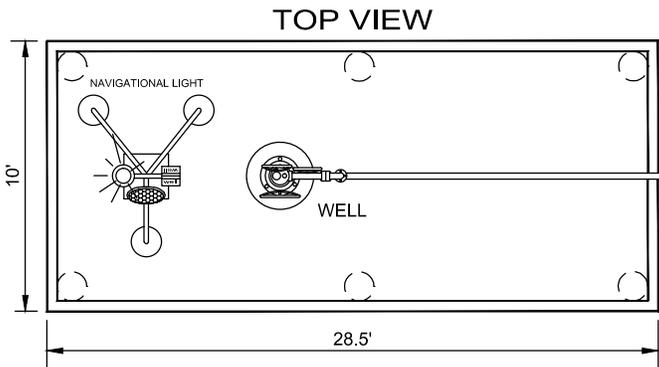
## TYPICAL DIESEL POWERED DRILL BARGE

## ELEVATION



## TYPICAL WELL HEAD PROTECTOR

NOT TO SCALE



**McMoRan Oil & Gas LLC**  
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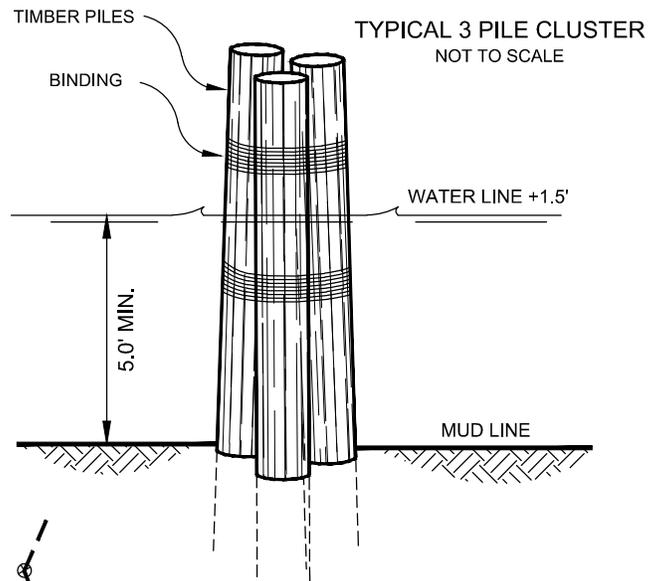
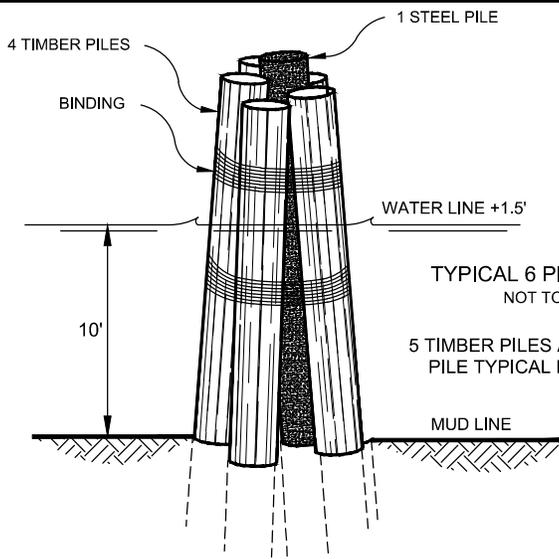
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**SHEET 5 of 8**

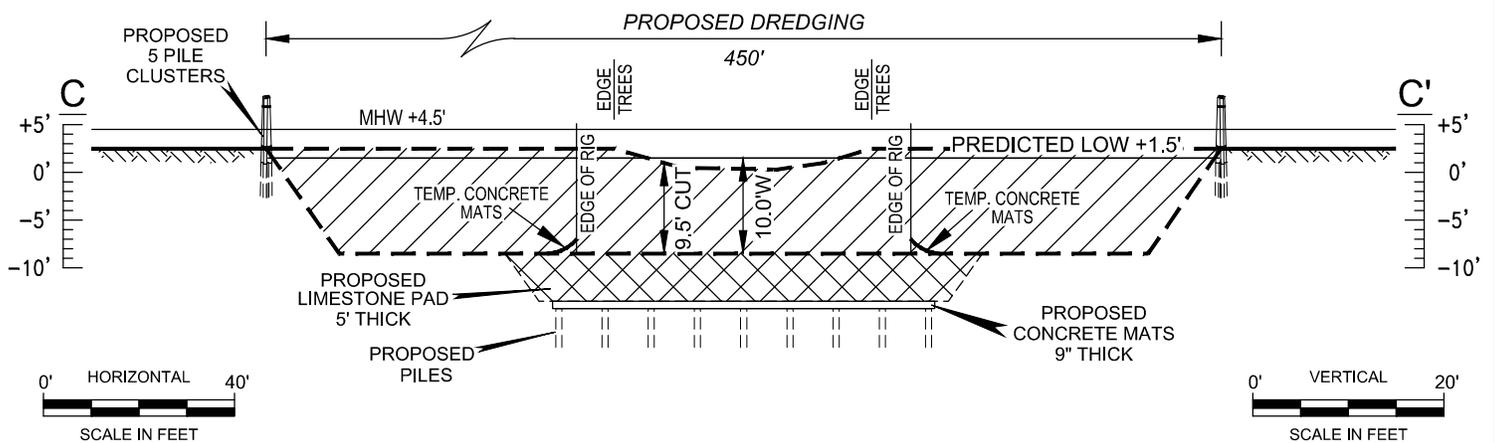
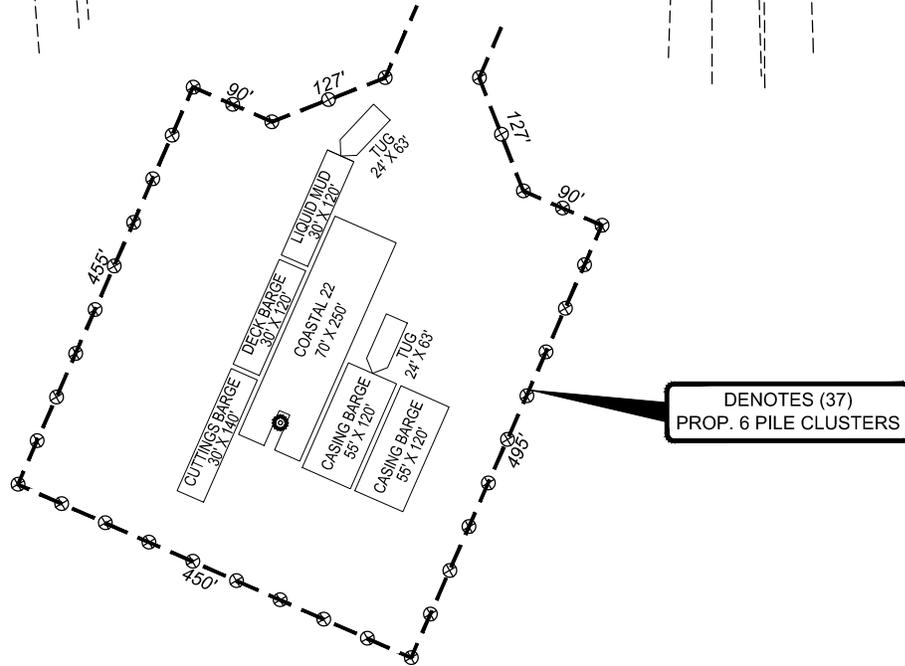
REV. 1

FILE: C150584A.DWG





### DRILLING BARGE LAYOUT



McMoRan Oil & Gas LLC  
1615 POYDRAS STREET  
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PROPOSED DREDGING & LOCATION  
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Bayou Long Field  
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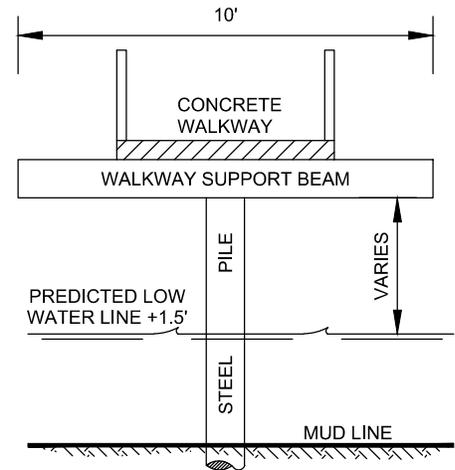
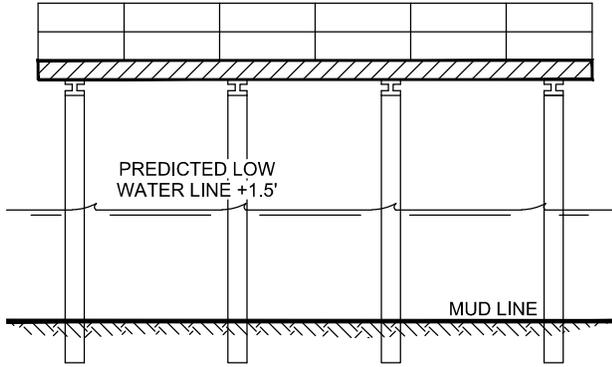
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SHEET 7 of 8

REV. 1

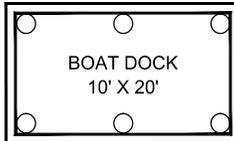
TYPICAL WALKWAY  
SIDE VIEW

SCALE IN FEET

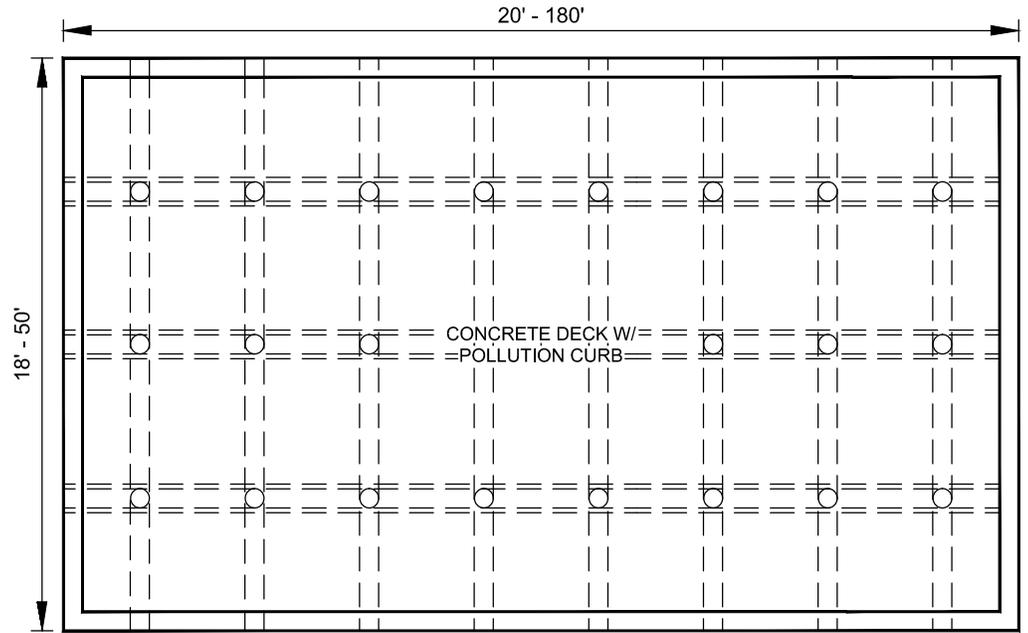


TYPICAL WALKWAY DETAIL

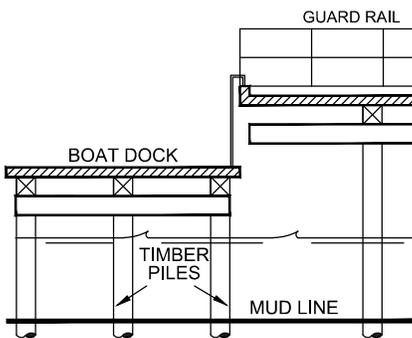
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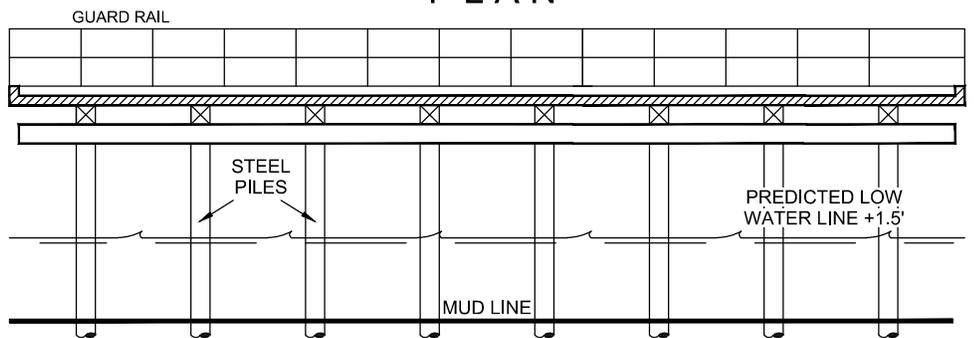
PLAN



PLAN



ELEVATION



TYPICAL PLATFORM  
ELEVATION

NOT TO SCALE



McMoRan Oil & Gas LLC

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PROPOSED DREDGING & LOCATION  
HIGHLANDER (PROJECT K)

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SHEET 8 of 8

REV.

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