



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS LA 70160-0267

MAY 4, 2015

Operations Division
Eastern Evaluation Section

Project Manager
Jennifer Burkett
(504) 862-2045
jennifer.e.burkett@usace.army.mil
SUBJECT: MVN 2015-0781 EBB

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 [] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

ARTIFICIAL REEF IN GULF OF MEXICO OFF OF PLAQUEMINES PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries c/o Michael McDonough at Artificial Reef Program, Post Office Box 98000, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.

LOCATION OF WORK: Mississippi Canyon Area Block 280, Gulf of Mexico, off of Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the attached drawings.

CHARACTER OF WORK: Install and maintain the four-pile oil and gas jacket of ExxonMobil's Mississippi Canyon 280 A-Lena structure on the seafloor to create an artificial reef. The proposed project is located more than two nautical miles from safety fairways and at least a thousand feet from active pipelines, and 880' of clearance will be maintained over the structure. No special aquatic sites will be affected by this project; no mitigation is anticipated. This request is pursuant to Act 100, 1986 Louisiana Legislature and National Fishing Enhancement Act of 1984.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit will close **15 days** from the date of this 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 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. 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 decision as to whether a permit will be issued will be based on an evaluation of the impact of the proposed work on navigation and national security.

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 2.83 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 before a permit is issued.

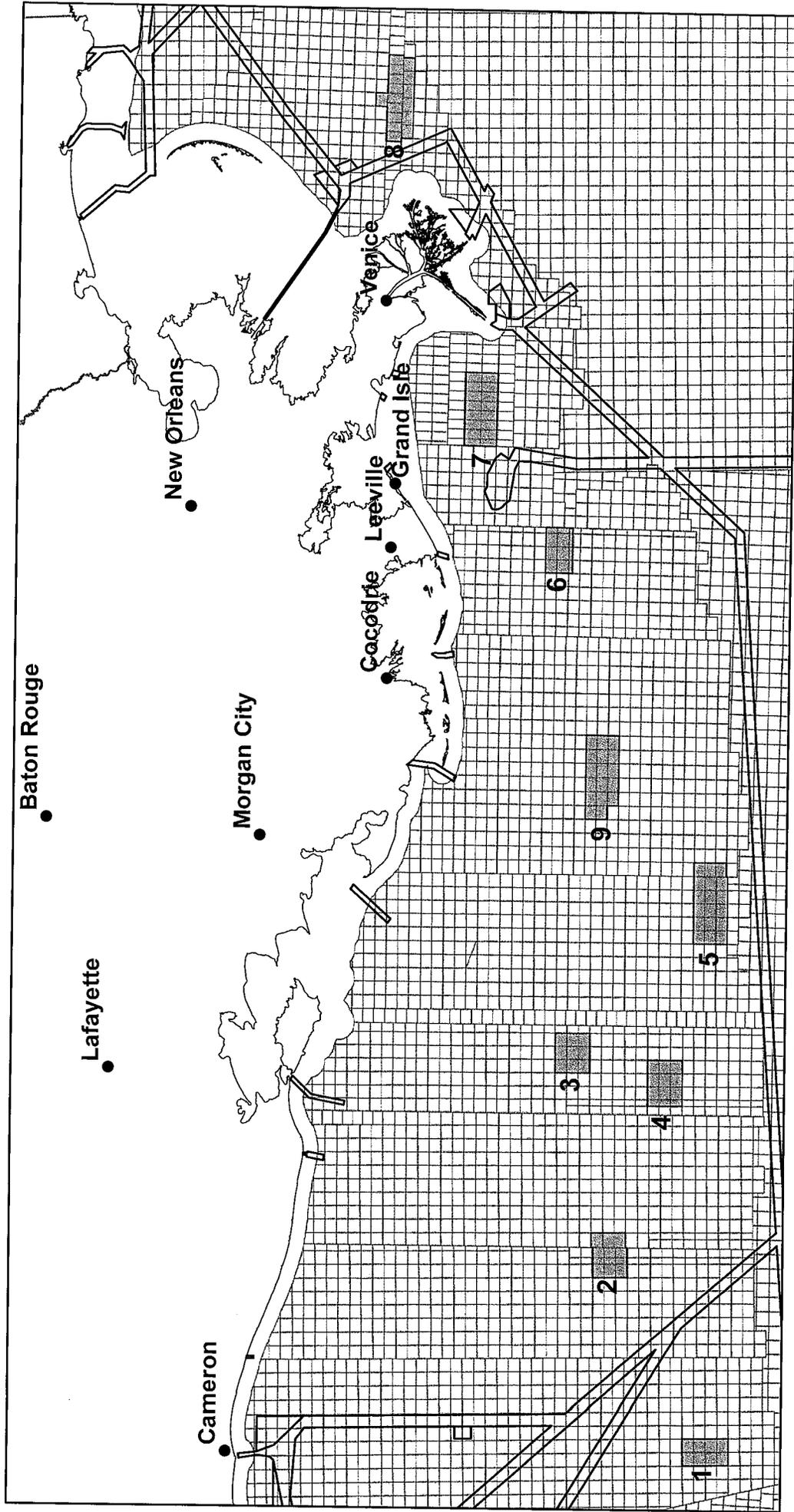
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

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.

Michael V. Farabee
Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section

Enclosure

Louisiana Artificial Reef Planning Areas



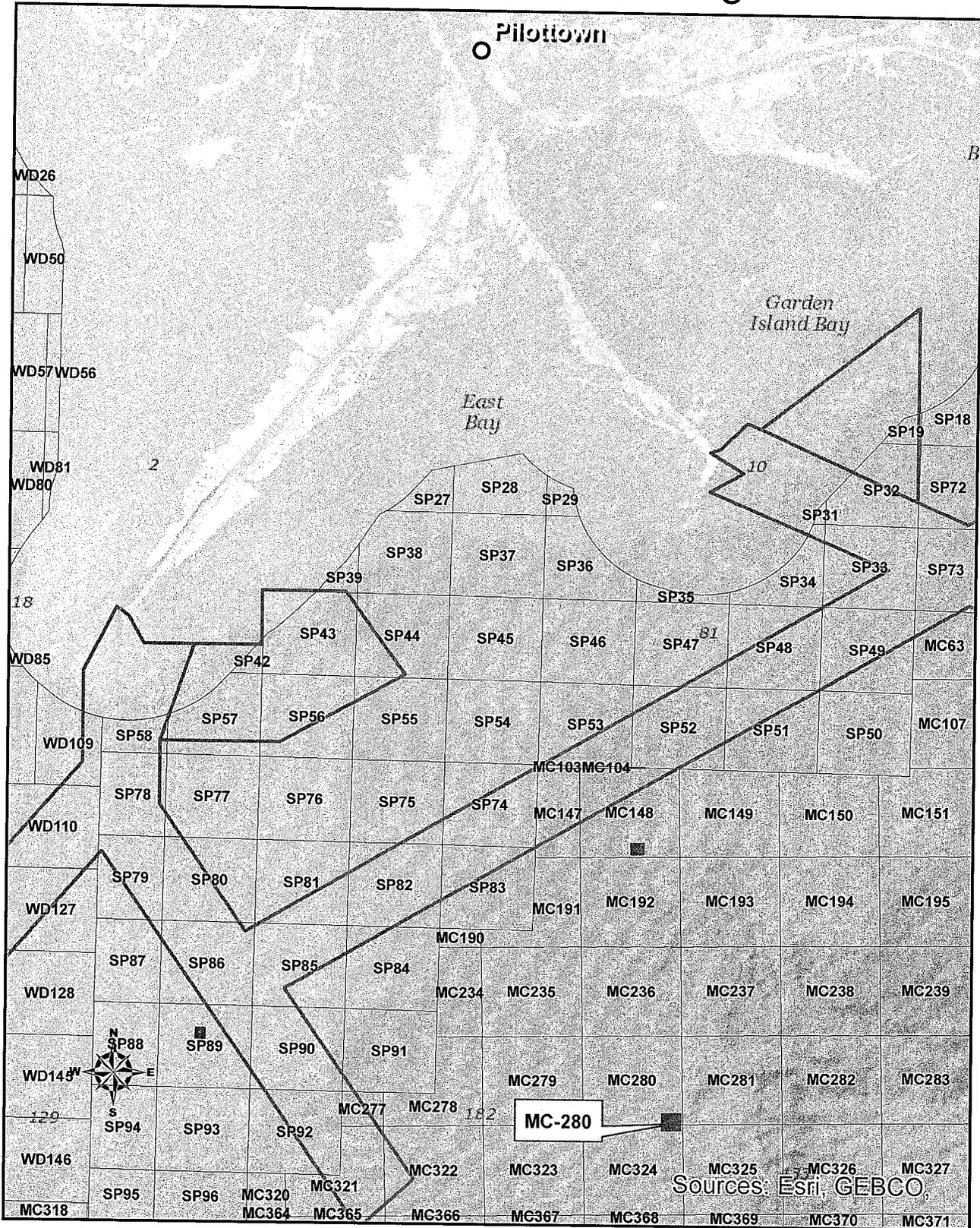
Planning Areas

- Planning Areas
- Fairways
- OCS Blocks

Planning Areas

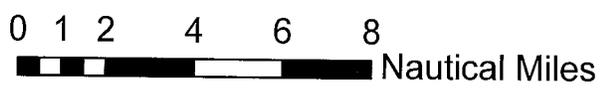
1. West Cameron Planning Area
2. East Cameron Planning Area
3. South Marsh Island (76) Planning Area
4. South Marsh Island (146) Planning Area
5. Eugene Island Planning Area
6. South Timbalier Planning Area
7. West Delta Planning Area
8. Main Pass Planning Area
9. Ship Shoal Planning Area

Louisiana Artificial Reef Program

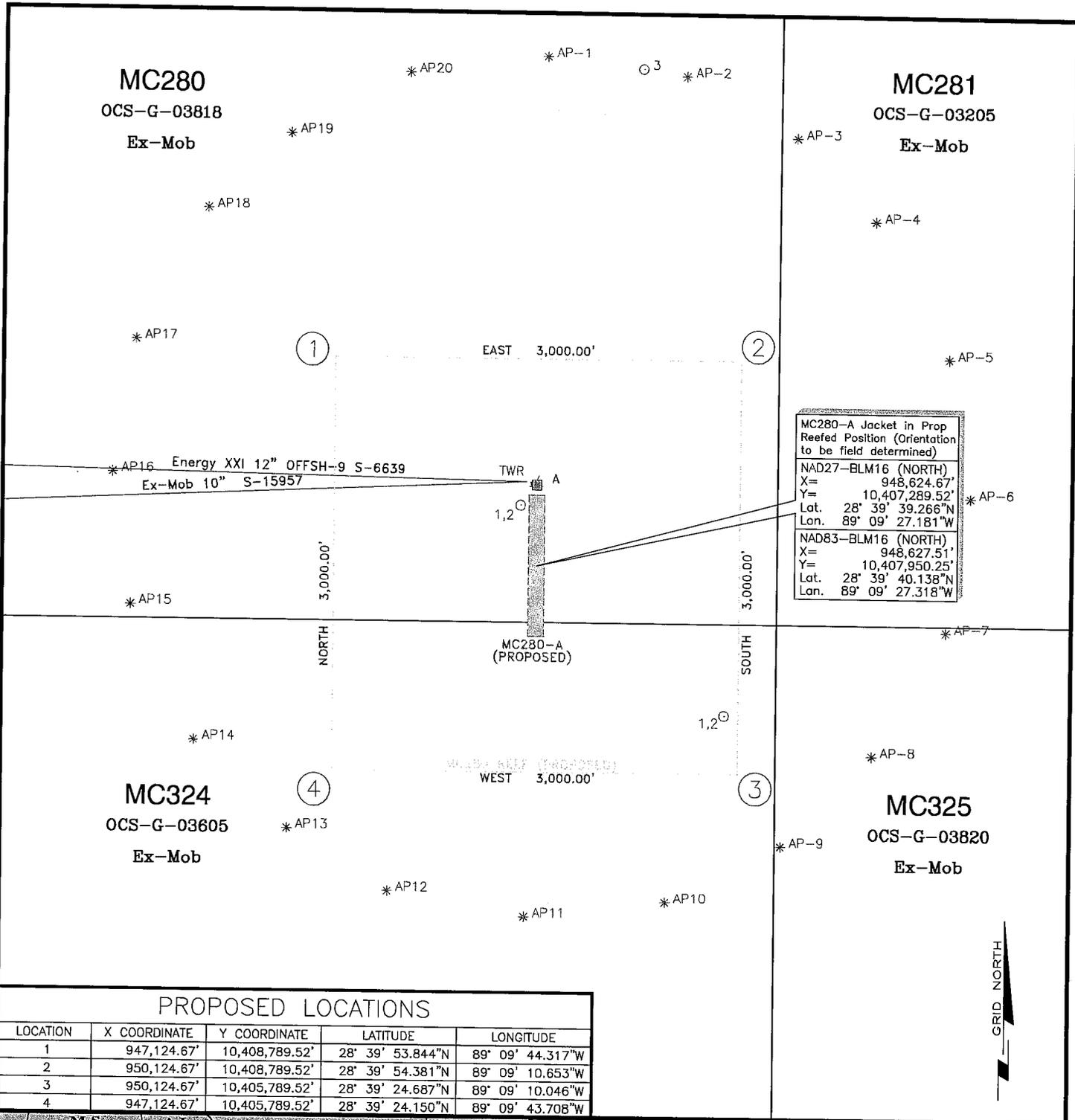


-  LA Reef Sites
-  Reef Planning Areas
-  OCS Blocks
-  Fairways

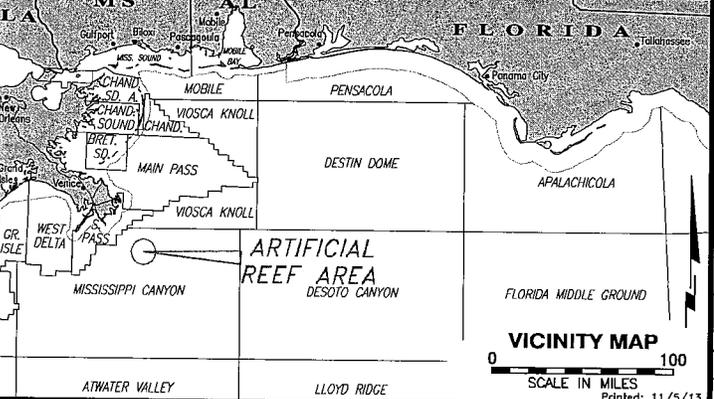
MC-280 Reef Vicinity Map



Sources: Esri, GEBCO



PROPOSED LOCATIONS				
LOCATION	X COORDINATE	Y COORDINATE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
1	947,124.67'	10,408,789.52'	28° 39' 53.844"N	89° 09' 44.317"W
2	950,124.67'	10,408,789.52'	28° 39' 54.381"N	89° 09' 10.653"W
3	950,124.67'	10,405,789.52'	28° 39' 24.687"N	89° 09' 10.046"W
4	947,124.67'	10,405,789.52'	28° 39' 24.150"N	89° 09' 43.708"W



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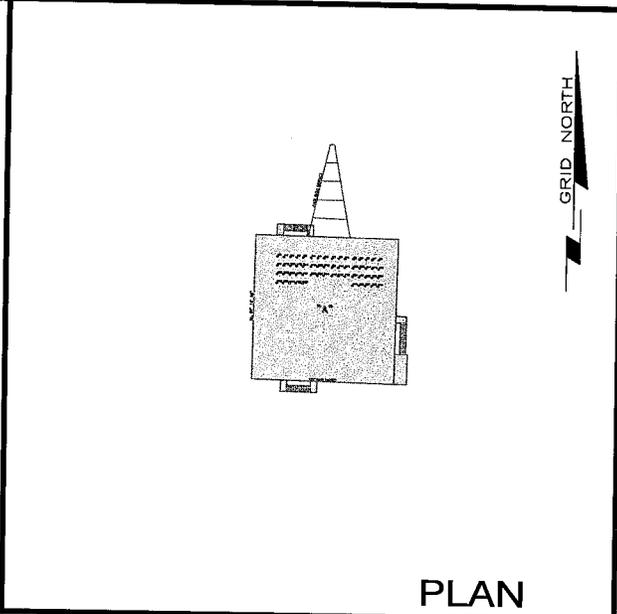
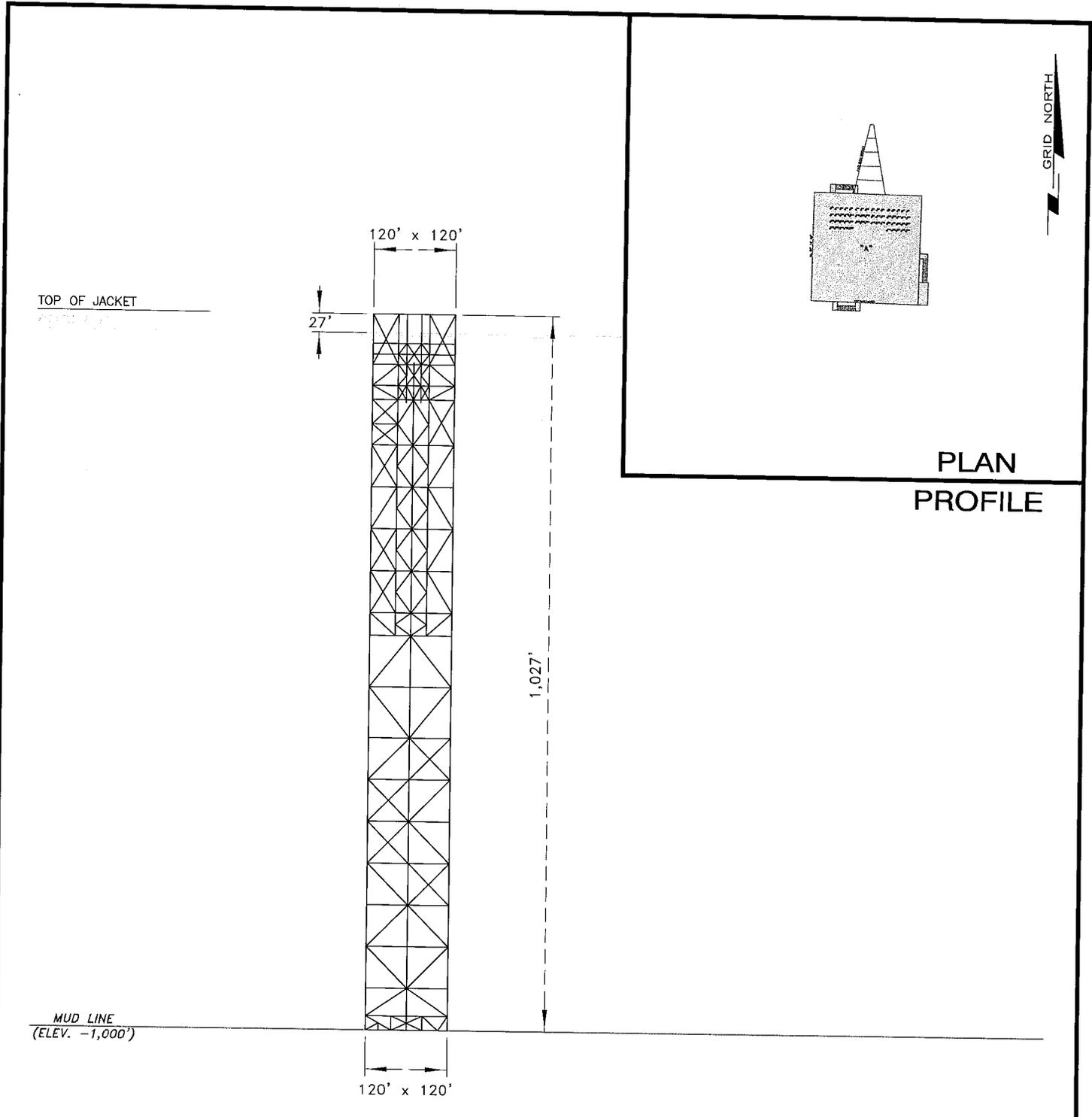
MISSISSIPPI CANYON 280 - "A"

PROPOSED REEF POSITON

BLOCK 280
 MISSISSIPPI CANYON AREA
 GULF OF MEXICO

FUGRO CHANCE INC.
200 Dulles Dr. Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-3001 (337) 237-1300

GEODETIC DATUM: NAD27 PROJECTION: BLM 16 (NORTH) GRID UNITS: US SURVEY FEET		SCALE IN FEET	
Job No.: 1302419	Date: 11/05/13	Drwn: SJL	Chart: Of:
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PLAN
PROFILE

Printed: 11/5/13

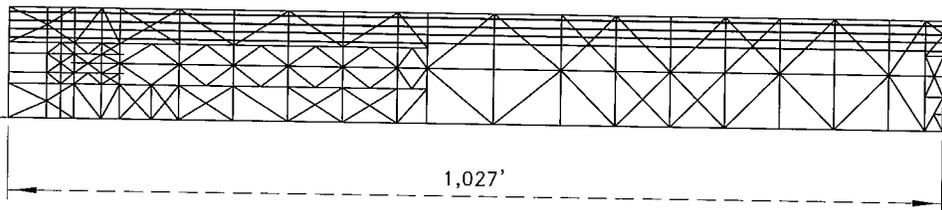
ExxonMobil

MISSISSIPPI CANYON 280 - "A"
TO BE REEFED
 BLOCK 280
 MISSISSIPPI CANYON AREA
 GULF OF MEXICO

FUGRO CHANCE INC.
200 Dulles Dr. Lafayette, Louisiana 70506-3001 (337) 237-1300

GEODETIC DATUM: NAD27 PROJECTION: LOUISIANA SOUTH GRID UNITS: US SURVEY FEET	SCALE IN FEET <div style="text-align: right;"> </div>
Job No.: 1302419 Date: 11/05/13 Drwn: SJL	Chart: Of:
Dwgfile: H:\2013\1302419\CAD\1302419B	
2 3	

MUD LINE
(ELEV. -1,000')



APPROX. 880' CLEARANCE

NOTES:

- 1) 8 MILES TO NEAREST SHIPPING FAIRWAY.
- 2) CLEARANCES BASED ON CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS.

ExxonMobil

**MISSISSIPPI CANYON 280 - "A"
IN PROPOSED REEF POSITION**

BLOCK 280
MISSISSIPPI CANYON AREA
GULF OF MEXICO

FUGRO CHANCE INC.
200 Dulles Dr., Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-5001 (337) 237-1300



GEODETIC DATUM: NAD27
PROJECTION: LOUISIANA SOUTH
GRID UNITS: US SURVEY FEET

SCALE 0 200'
IN FEET

Job No.: 1302419

Date: 11/05/13

Drwn: SJL

Chart: Of:

Printed: 11/5/13

Dwgfile: H:\2013\1302419\CAD\1302419B

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