

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

March 7, 2016

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

Project Manager
Sara Fortuna
Permit Application Number
MVN-2016-00068-WKK

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

(225) 219-3526

Elizabeth.Hill@la.gov

Project Manager
Karen Latuso
WQC Application Number
WQC 160129-03

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).

BREACH CLOSURES IN VERMILION PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Vermilion Parish Police Jury, c/o Sellers and Associates, Inc., 148-B Easy Street, Lafayette, Louisiana 70506.

LOCATION OF WORK: Adjacent along Vermilion Bay, approximately 5.0 miles southeast of Intracoastal City, in Vermilion Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the enclosed drawings.

Location: Western Breach: Latitude: 29°45'44" N / Longitude: -92°04'45" W, Eastern Breach: Latitude: 29°46'32" N / Longitude: -92°03'09" W, Hydrologic Unit Code: 08080103 – Vermilion River Basin

CHARACTER OF WORK: For the Western Breach Site, conduct dredging operations within a 40-foot wide by 180-foot long area and place 41 cubic yards of excavated material in a 30-foot wide by 130-foot long placement area along Vermilion Bay, install a 100-foot wide vinyl sheet pile structure, and two 20-foot wide by 20-foot long concrete mats or rip rap surrounded by two 50-wide by 50-foot long work areas. Approximately 0.17 of an acre of jurisdictional fresh marsh and cypress wetlands would be permanently impacted via project implementation. For the Eastern Breach Site, conduct dredging operations within a 40-foot wide by 180-foot long area and place 223 cubic yards of excavated material in a 20-foot wide by 210-foot long placement area along Vermilion Bay, install a 80-foot wide vinyl sheet pile structure, and two 20-foot wide by 20-foot long concrete mats or rip rap surrounded by two 50-wide by 50-foot long work areas. Approximately 0.23 of an acre of jurisdictional fresh marsh and cypress wetlands would be permanently impacted via project implementation. The purpose of closing both breach sites would prevent saltwater intrusion from the Vermilion Bay and the placement of excavated fill material would protect shoreline from erosion. 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.

The New Orleans District has determined that the project footprint is located in wetlands and waters known to be utilized by the West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) and determined the activity is not likely to adversely affect the West Indian Manatee and no effect on the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) based on the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (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. If this permit is issued, the applicant has agreed to follow the Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Activities.

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 0.4 of an acre 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.

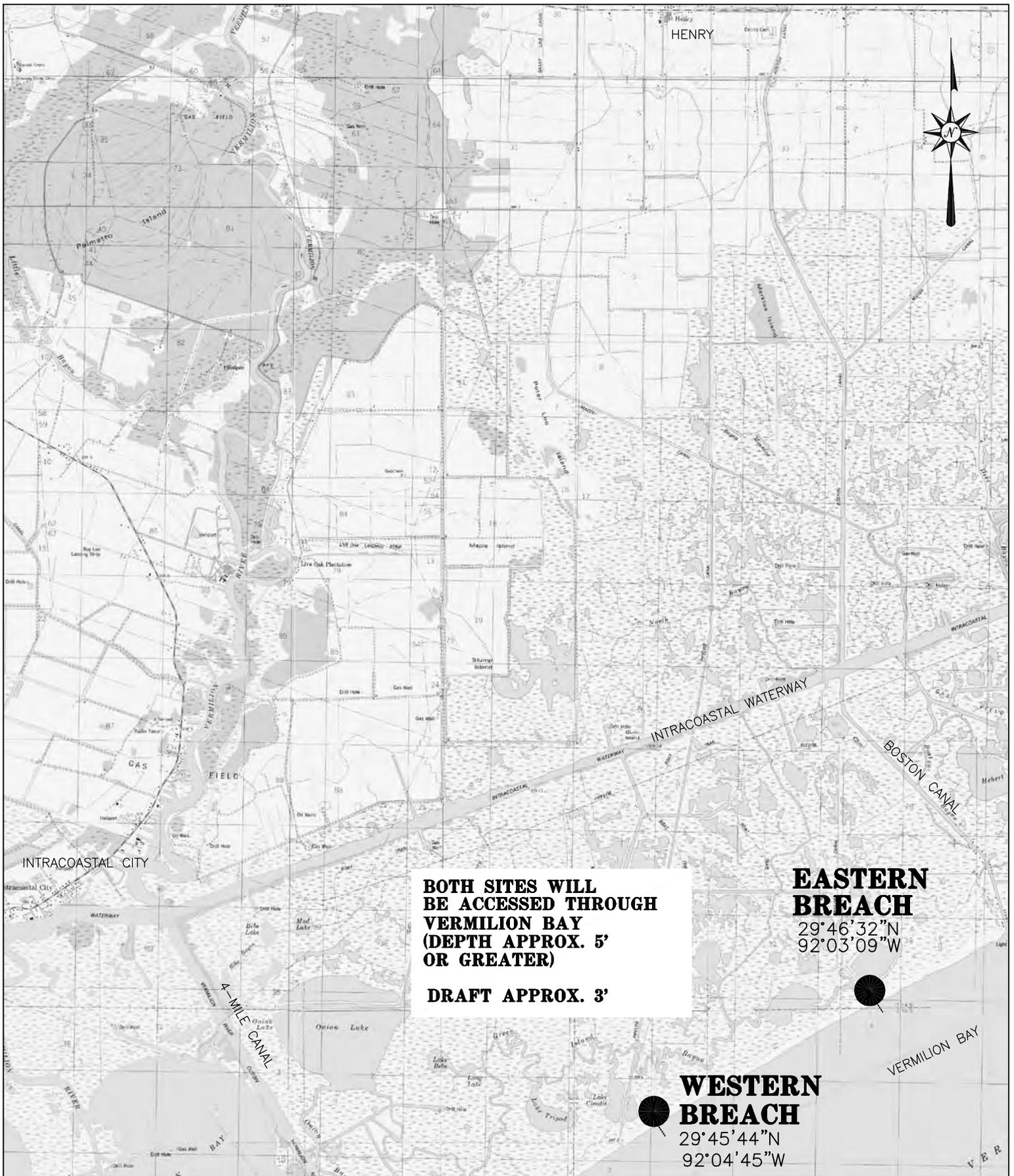
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

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

Enclosure



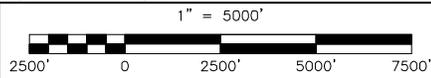
**BOTH SITES WILL
BE ACCESSED THROUGH
VERMILION BAY
(DEPTH APPROX. 5'
OR GREATER)

DRAFT APPROX. 3'**

**EASTERN
BREACH**
29°46'32"N
92°03'09"W

**WESTERN
BREACH**
29°45'44"N
92°04'45"W

LEGEND: ● PROJECT LOCATION



| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| ENGINEER | N. SONNIER |
| DRAWN BY | J. FABRE |
| DATE | NOVEMBER 2015 |
| SCALE | 1"=5000' |
| PROJECT FILE NO. | 8.321-22 8.321-22 |

Sellers & Associates, Inc.
ENGINEERS SURVEYORS PLANNERS
148-B Bessy Street, Lafayette, LA 70508 (337) 232-0777

**CLOSURE OF 2
BREACHES ON THE NORTH SHORE
OF VERMILION BAY**

VICINITY MAP

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------|---|
| CLIENT | VERMILION PARISH POLICE JURY | SHEET NO. | 1 |
| PROJECT | BREACHES | | |
| LOCATION | VERMILION PARISH, LOUISIANA | | |

| | | |
|------------------|------------|------|
| | EXCAVATION | FILL |
| VOLUME (CU. YD.) | 26 | 41 |
| AREA (ACRES) | .03 | 0.11 |

50'x50' WORK AREA

LIMITS OF TREE CLEARING
TREES SHALL BE STACKED IN WORK AREA

REQ'D. 100' WIDE VINYL SHEET PILE STRUCTURE

20'x20' CONCRETE MATS OR RIP RAP

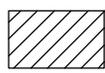
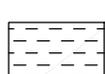
10' TYP.

20'x20' CONCRETE MATS OR RIP RAP

MAXIMUM LIMITS OF ACCESS DREDGING (180x40')

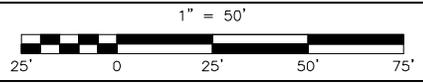
EXCAVATED MATERIAL PLACEMENT AREA
130'x30'

LEGEND:

-  ACCESS DREDGING
-  CONCRETE MATS OR RIP RAP
-  WORK AREA LIMITS OF CLEARING

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH WAS REPRODUCED FROM 2010 AERIAL IMAGES. CURRENT CONDITIONS (EXISTING SHORELINE) HAVE CHANGED AND ARE SHOWN ON THE TOPO. SEE SUPPLEMENTAL GOOGLE EARTH IMAGES FOR MORE CURRENT CONDITIONS.

NOTE: MINIMAL ACCESS DREDGING MAY BE REQUIRED IN VERMILION BAY AND THE EXISXTING CANAL. EXCAVATED MATERIAL SHALL BE STACKED ALONG THE SHORELINE AS SHOWN.



| | |
|----------|---------------|
| ENGINEER | N. SONNIER |
| DRAWN BY | J. FABRE |
| DATE | NOVEMBER 2015 |
| SCALE | 1"=5000' |
| PROJECT | 8321-22 |
| FILE NO. | 8321-22 |



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**CLOSURE OF 2
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OF VERMILION BAY**

SITE 1 - WESTERN BREACH

| | | | |
|----------|------------------------------|-----------|---|
| CLIENT | VERMILION PARISH POLICE JURY | SHEET NO. | 2 |
| PROJECT | BREACHES | | |
| LOCATION | VERMILION PARISH, LOUISIANA | | |

| | | |
|------------------|------------|------|
| | EXCAVATION | FILL |
| VOLUME (CU. YD.) | 208 | 223 |
| AREA (ACRES) | 0.09 | 0.11 |

REQ'D. 80' WIDE VINYL SHEET PILE STRUCTURE

20'x20' CONCRETE MATS OR RIP RAP

50'x50' WORK AREA LIMITS OF CLEARING TREES SHALL BE STACKED IN WORK AREA

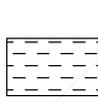
10' TYP.

20'x20' CONCRETE MATS OR RIP RAP

MAXIMUM LIMITS OF ACCESS DREDGING (180'x40')

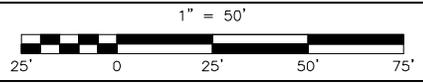
EXCAVATED MATERIAL PLACEMENT AREA 210'x20'±

LEGEND:

-  ACCESS DREDGING
-  CONCRETE MATS OR RIP RAP
-  WORK AREA LIMITS OF CLEARING

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NOTE: MINIMAL ACCESS DREDGING MAY BE REQUIRED IN VERMILION BAY AND THE EXISXTING CANAL. EXCAVATED MATERIAL SHALL BE STACKED ALONG THE SHORELINE AS SHOWN.



| | |
|----------|---------------|
| ENGINEER | N. SONNIER |
| DRAWN BY | J. FABRE |
| DATE | NOVEMBER 2015 |
| SCALE | 1"=5000' |
| PROJECT | 8321-22 |
| FILE NO. | 8321-22 |



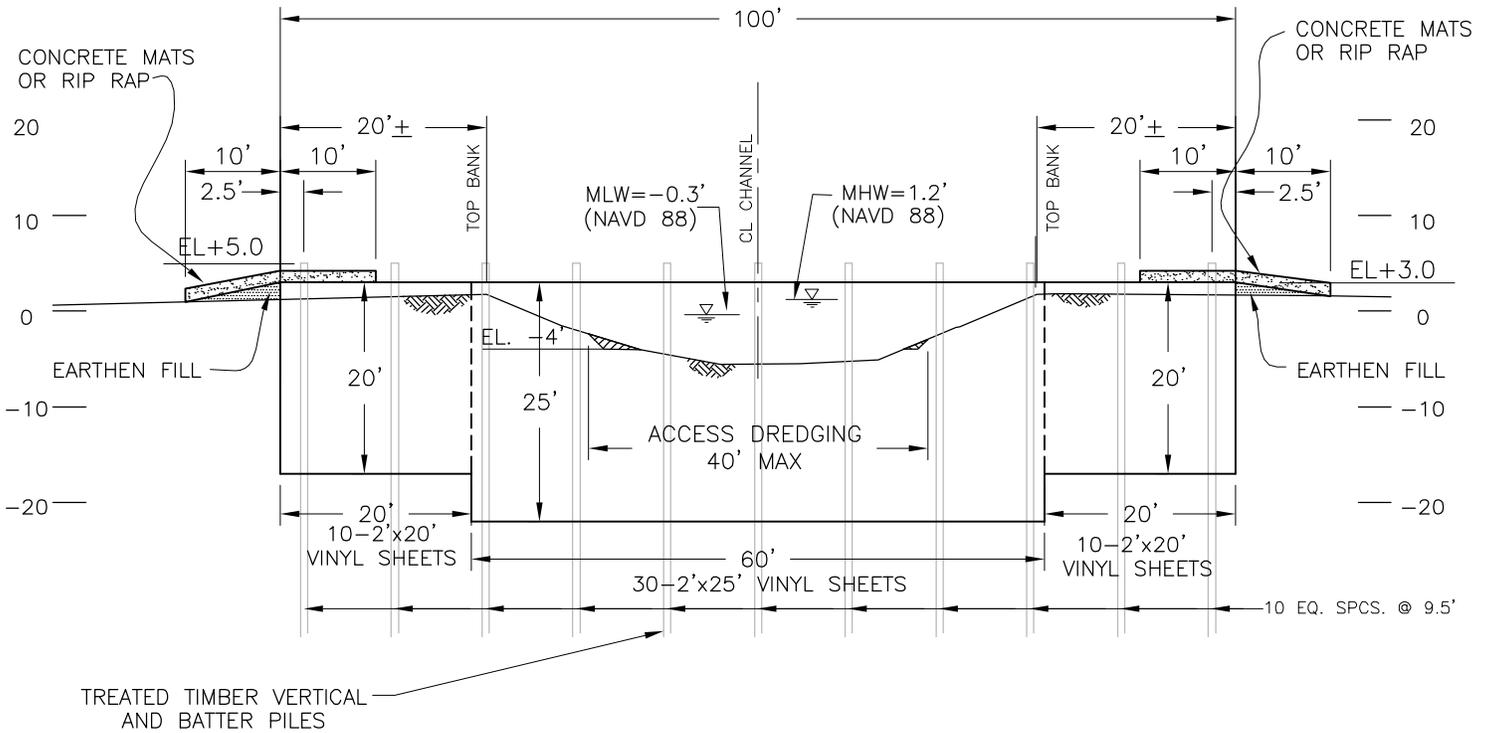
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**CLOSURE OF 2
 BREACHES ON THE NORTH SHORE
 OF VERMILION BAY**

SITE 2 - EASTERN BREACH

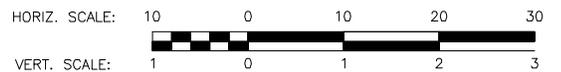
| | |
|----------|------------------------------|
| CLIENT | VERMILION PARISH POLICE JURY |
| PROJECT | BREACHES |
| LOCATION | VERMILION PARISH, LOUISIANA |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| SHEET NO. | 3 |
|-----------|---|



WESTERN BREACH

LEGEND:



| | |
|----------|---------------|
| ENGINEER | N. SONNIER |
| DRAWN BY | J. FABRE |
| DATE | NOVEMBER 2015 |
| SCALE | AS SHOWN |
| PROJECT | 8321-22 |
| FILE NO. | 8321-22 |

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**CLOSURE OF 2
 BREACHES ON THE NORTH SHORE
 OF VERMILION BAY**

CROSS SECTION - WESTERN

| | | |
|----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| CLIENT | VERMILION PARISH POLICE JURY | SHEET NO. 4 |
| PROJECT | BREACHES | |
| LOCATION | VERMILION PARISH, LOUISIANA | |

