

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

May 31, 2016

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

(504) 862-2225

Brad.LaBorde@usace.army.mil

Project Manager
Brad LaBorde
Permit Application Number
MVN 2013-0192 EOO

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

(225) 219-3225

Project Manager
Elizabeth Hill
WQC Application Number
WQC 160427-03

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).

Drainage Improvements in Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana

NAME OF APPLICANT: Tangipahoa Parish Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1, % ELOS Environmental, LLC, Attn: Flynn Daigle, 43177 E. Pleasant Ridge Road, Hammond, Louisiana 70403.

LOCATION OF WORK: Within the existing South Slough and adjoining canals located along the northern border of the Joyce Wildlife Management Area and east of Interstate 55, near Ponchatoula, Louisiana, Tangipahoa Parish, as shown on the enclosed drawings.

Latitude: 30.40729, Longitude: -90.43116

Hydrologic Unit Code: 08070204 – Lower Mississippi Region – Lake Maurepas Watershed

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant proposes to access the project area to dredge, de-slag, and chip material for drainage improvements. Work in the subject canals would extend 19,824 linear feet and include dredging to an elevation no greater than -5 feet (NAVD88) and removal of woody material obstructing drainage flow. All organic and woody material is proposed to be sprayed/broadcasted within 100 feet of the bank, not to exceed 4 inches. The jurisdictional impacts associated with the proposed action include excavating 51,509 cubic yards within 27.2 acres of Waters of the U.S. and depositing the material within 119.03 acres of forested wetlands. The applicant anticipates impacts associated with the disposal area to be temporary; therefore, no compensatory mitigation measures have been proposed at this time.

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**. **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.** 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.

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, nor habitat designated as critical to the recovery of any species, listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

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 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity is "not likely to adversely affect" the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*). If authorized, "The Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Activities" will be made part of the permit's special conditions.

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 **146.2** 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.

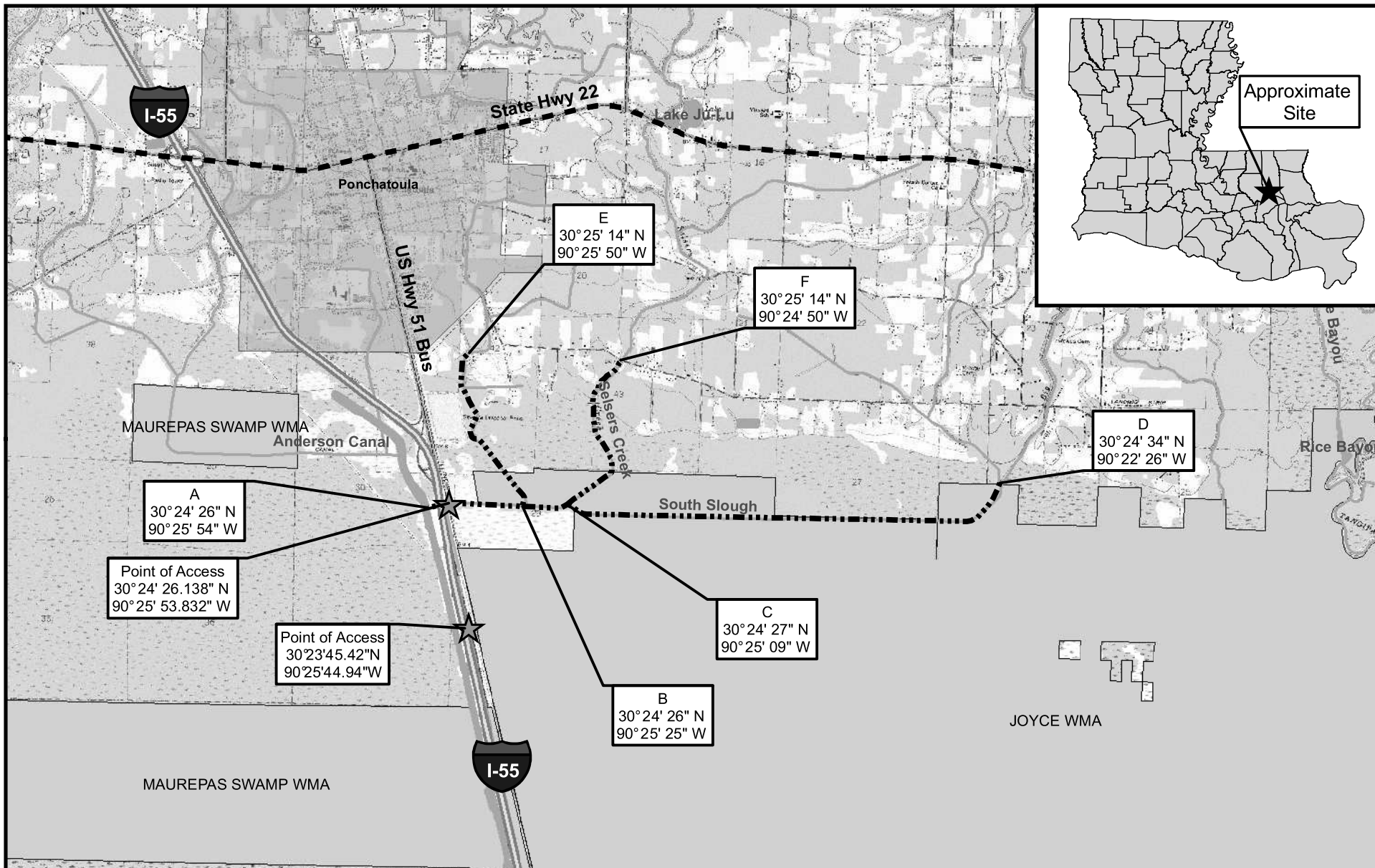
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

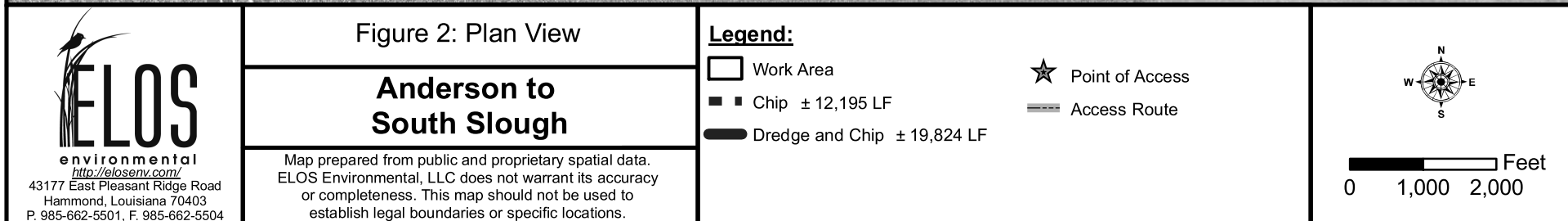
The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver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

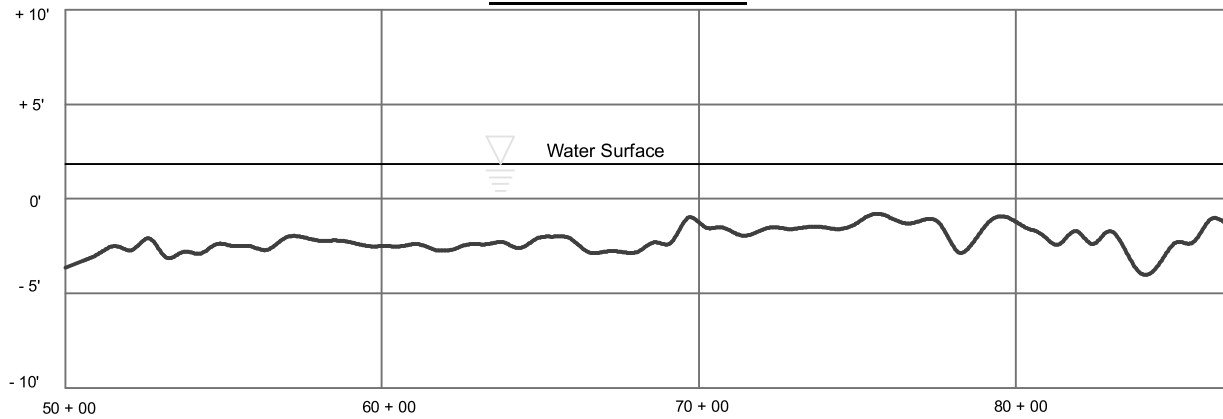
for
Michael V. Farabee
Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section

Enclosure

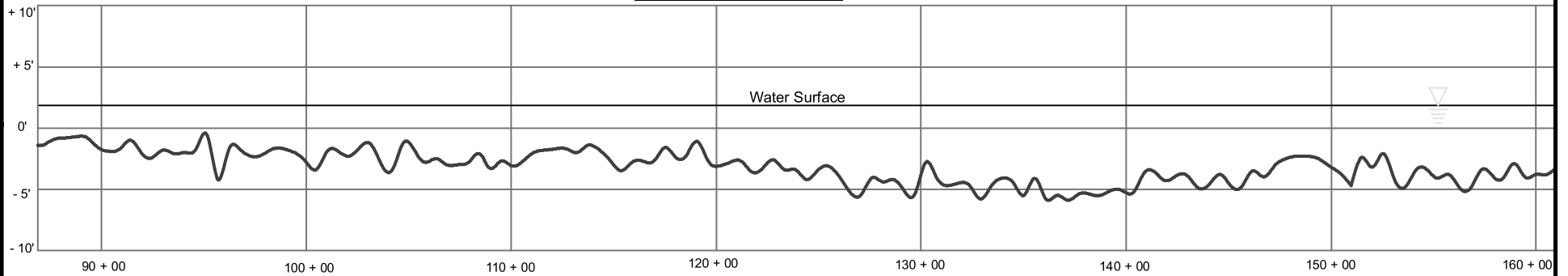




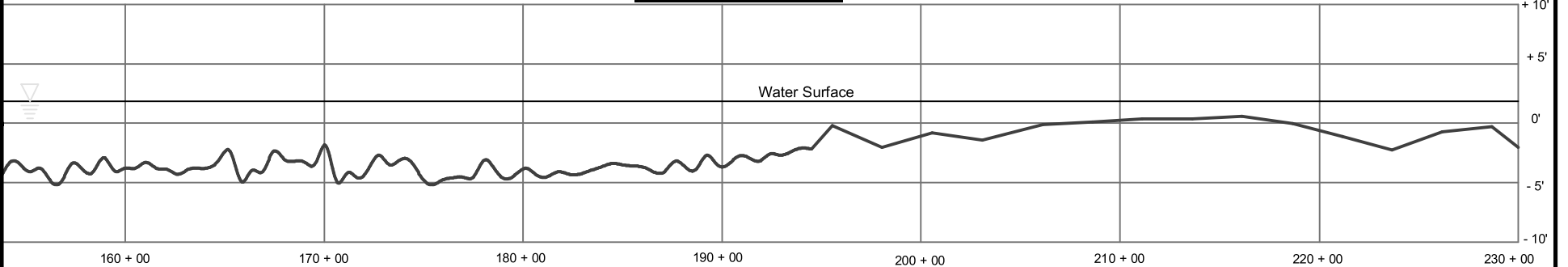
W-3 Main Canal Profile



W-4 Main Canal Profile



W-4 Main Canal Profile



43177 East Pleasant Ridge Road
Hammond, Louisiana 70403
P. 985-662-5501, F. 985-662-5504

Figure 3: Canal Profile

**Anderson to
South Slough**

Map prepared from public and proprietary spatial data.
ELOS Environmental, LLC does not warrant its accuracy
or completeness. This map should not be used to
establish legal boundaries or specific locations.

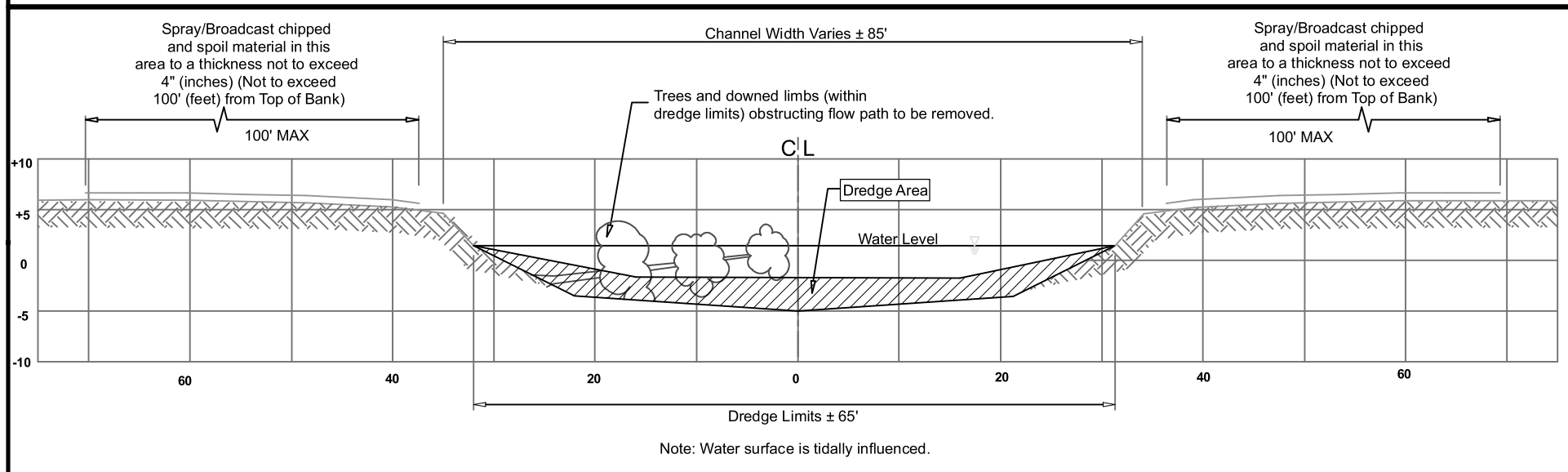
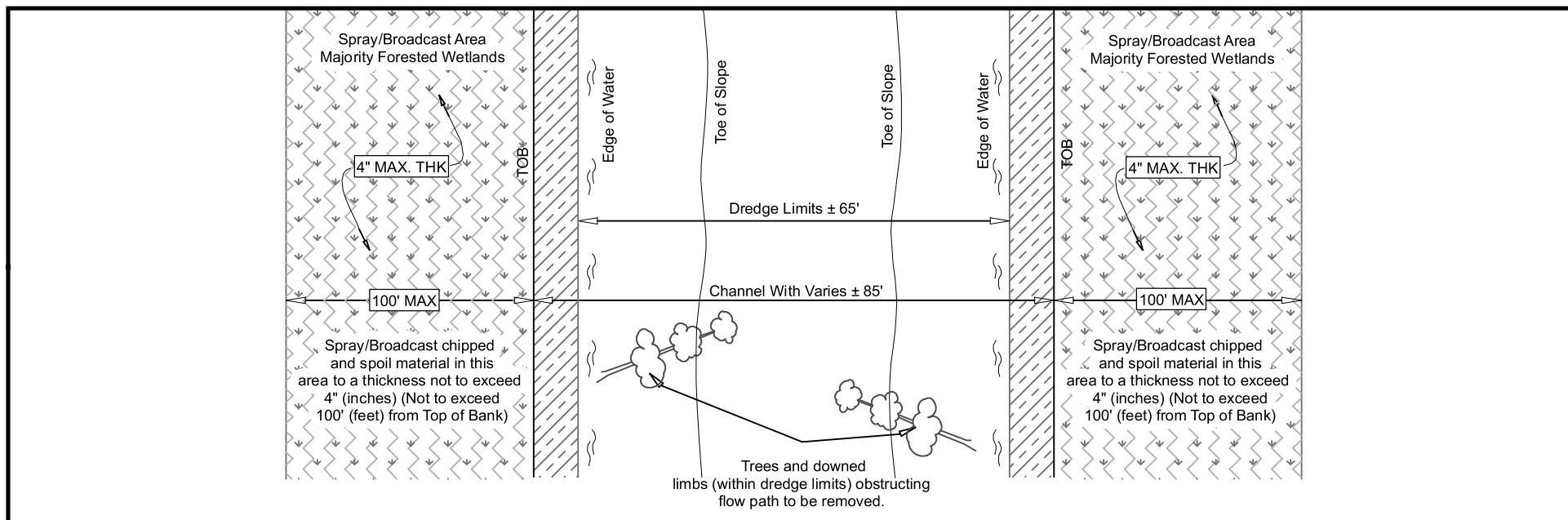
Legend

— Canal Bottom

Elevations represented in NAVD88

Estimated Findings:

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Excavations | 51,509 cu yds |
| Fill | 51,509 cu yds |



Note: Water surface is tidally influenced.



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Figure 4: Typical Dredge

Anderson to South Slough

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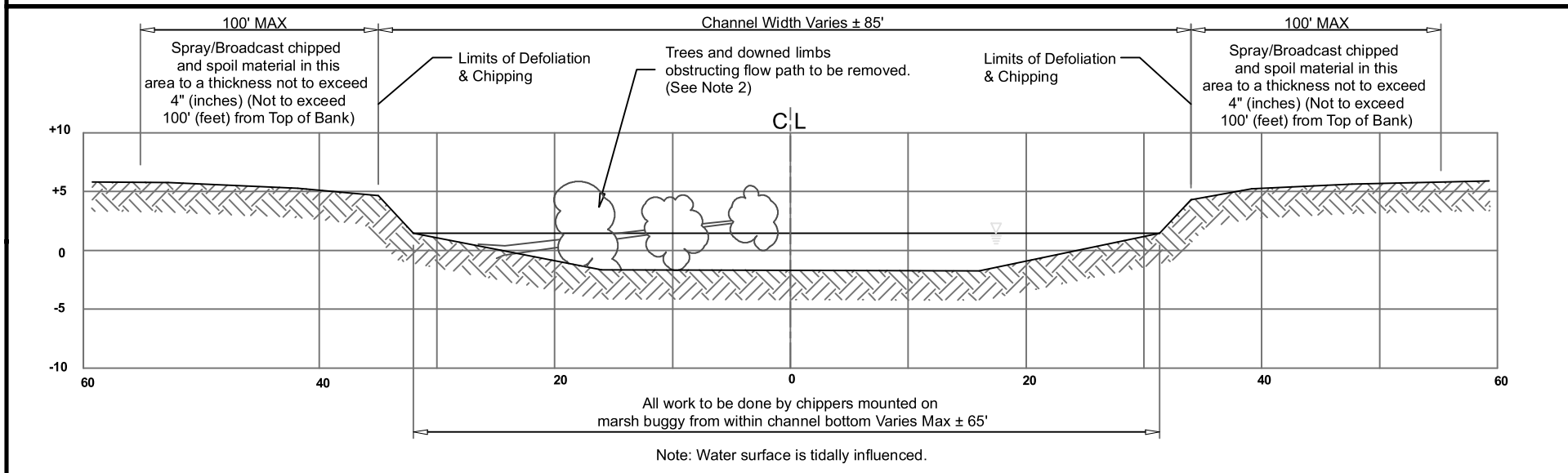
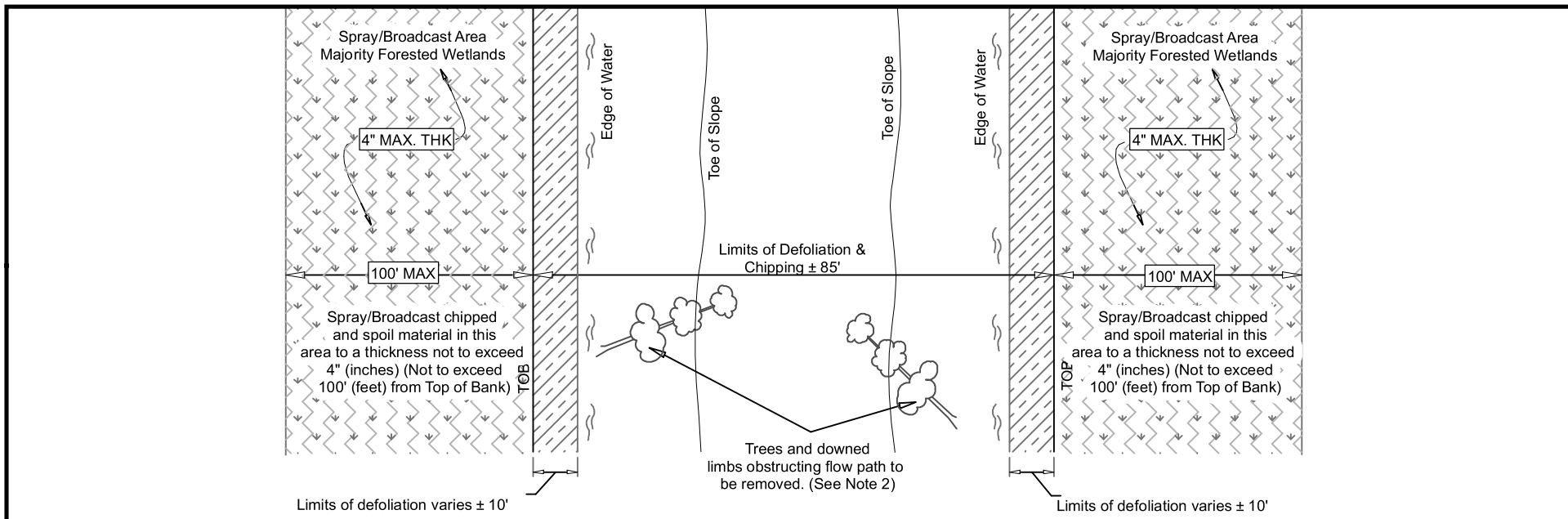
Notes:


- 1) No work to be done along Top of Bank.
- 2) Tree and downed limbs (within dredge limits) obstructing flow path shall be removed.
- 3) Overhanging tree limbs shall be trimmed to a distance of 10' above the water surface of the channel.
- 4) Grinding and mulching of removed vegetation will be allowed, stumps and root systems shall remain in place less than 6" high to retain bank stability.
- 5) Contractor is to make certain that no bank is to be damaged or disturbed.
- 6) No living trees greater than 6" DBH shall be cut.

Elevations represented in NAVD88

Estimated Findings:

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Excavations | 51,509 cu yds |
| Fill | 51,509 cu yds |



| | | |
|---|---|--|
|  <p>ELOS environmental http://elosenv.com/ 43177 East Pleasant Ridge Road Hammond, Louisiana 70403 P. 985-662-5501, F. 985-662-5504</p> | <p>Figure 5: Typical Chipping</p> | <p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) No work to be done along Top of Bank. 2) Tree and downed limbs (within dredge limits) obstructing flow path shall be removed. 3) Overhanging tree limbs shall be trimmed to a distance of $10'$ above the water surface of the channel. 4) Grinding and mulching of removed vegetation will be allowed, stumps and root systems shall remain in place less than $6"$ high to retain bank stability. 5) Contractor is to make certain that no bank is to be damaged or disturbed. 6) No living trees greater than $6"$ DBH shall be cut. <p>Elevations represented in NAVD88</p> |
| | <p>Anderson to South Slough</p> | |
| | <p>Map prepared from public and proprietary spatial data. ELOS Environmental, LLC does not warrant its accuracy or completeness. This map should not be used to establish legal boundaries or specific locations.</p> | |

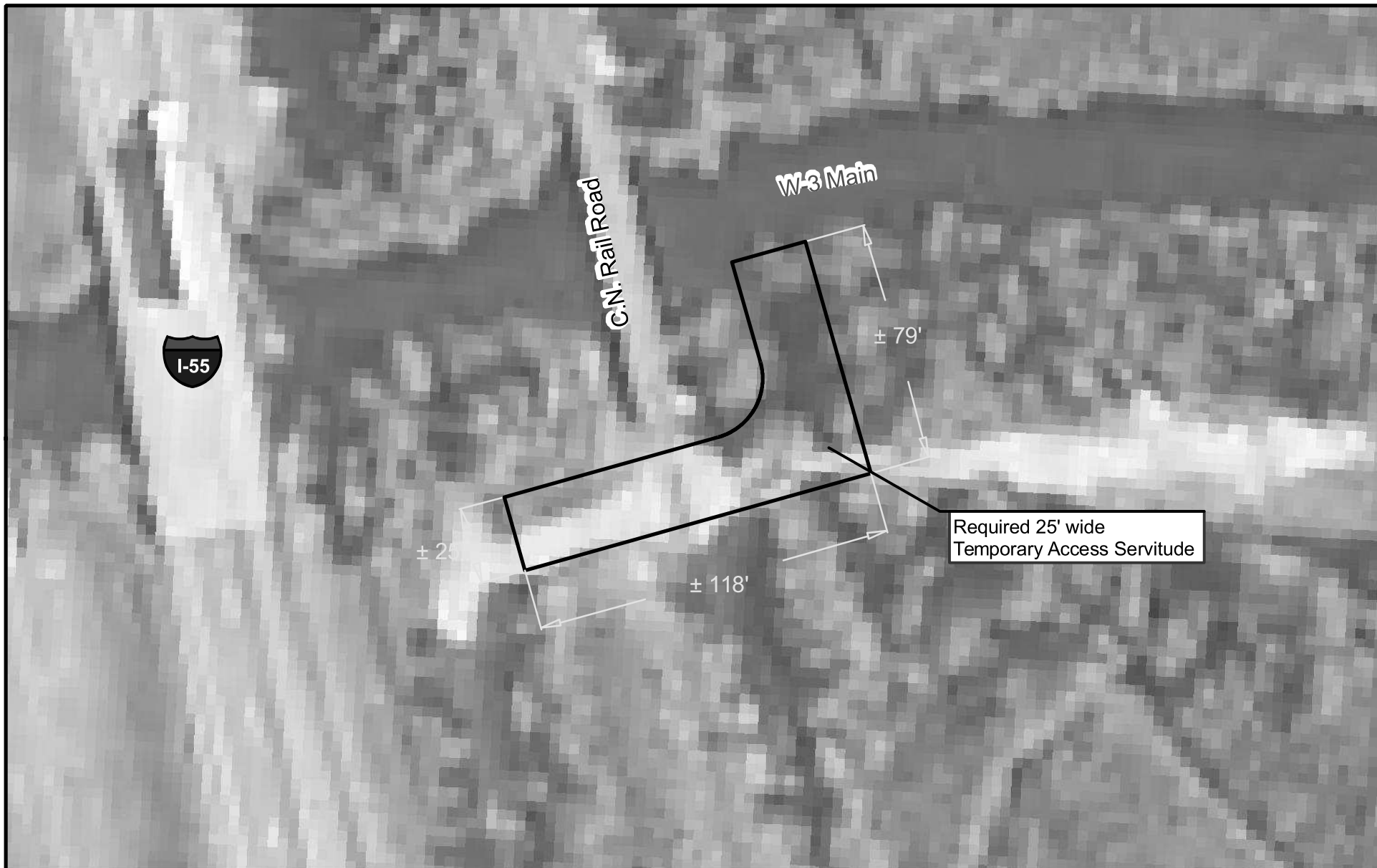


Figure 6: Temporary Access

Anderson to South Slough

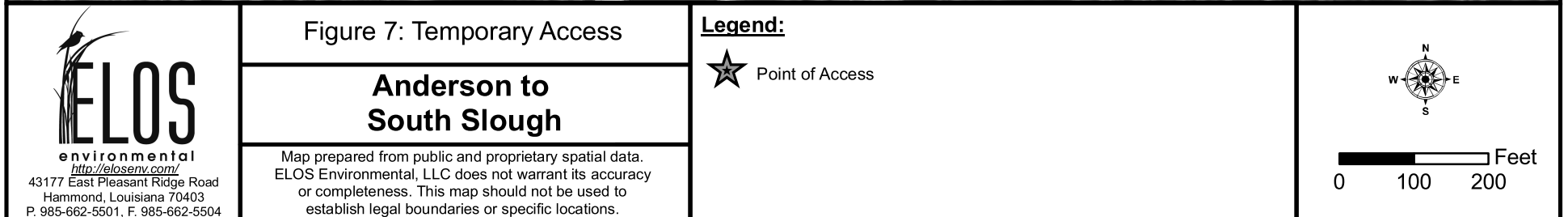
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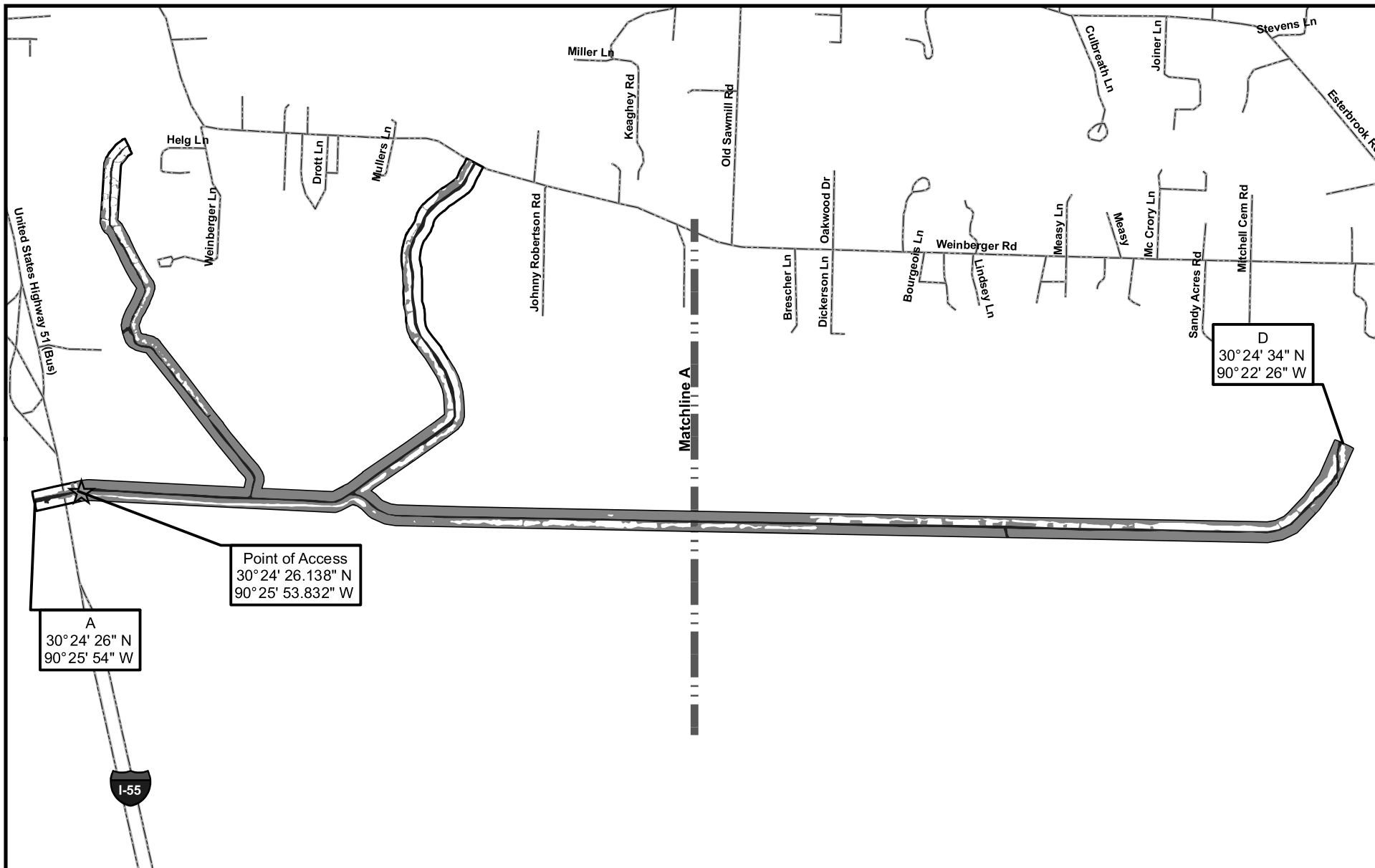
Legend:


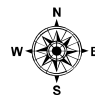
- Temporary Access Servitude
- Access Route

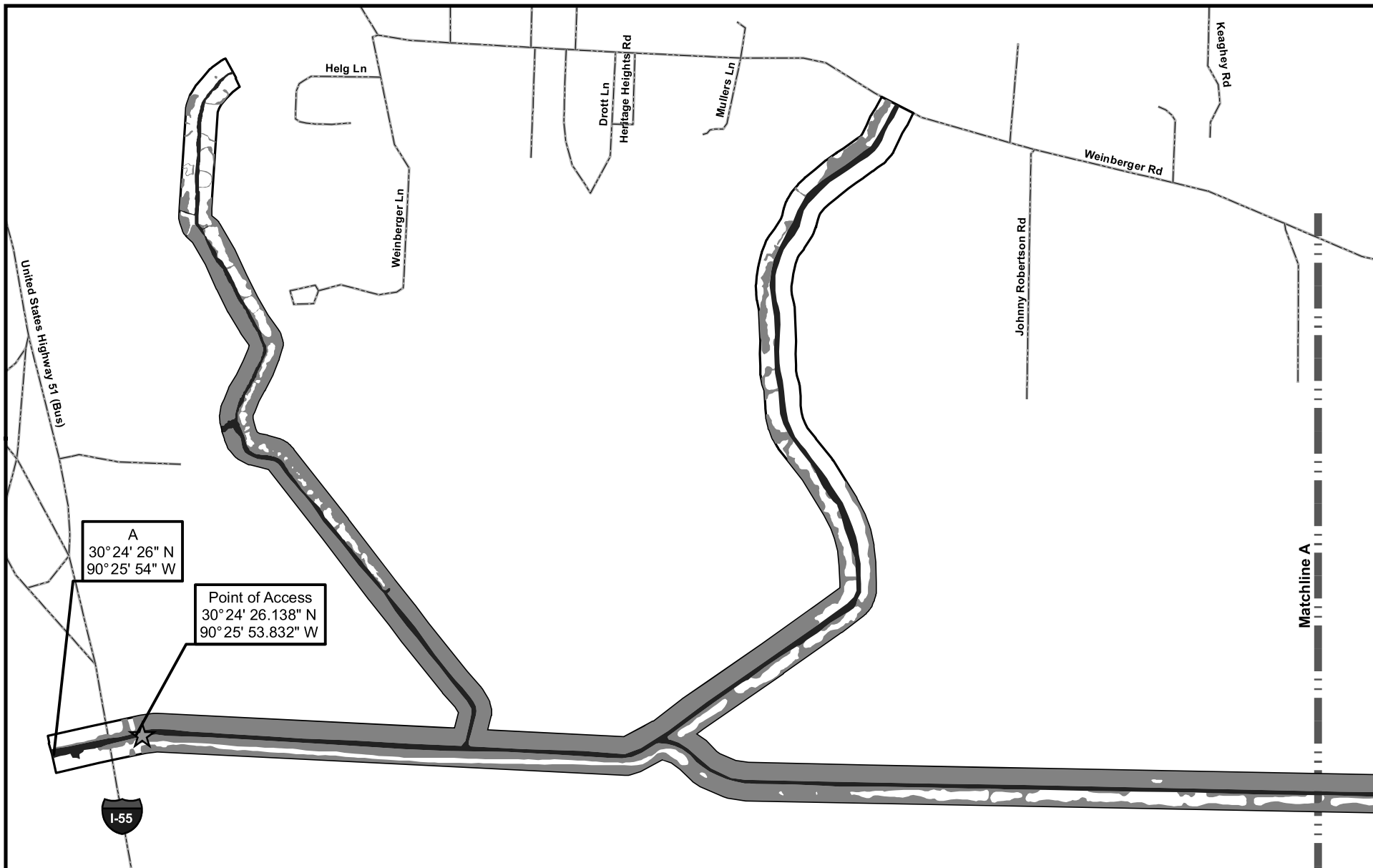



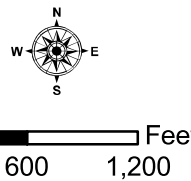
0 25 50 Feet

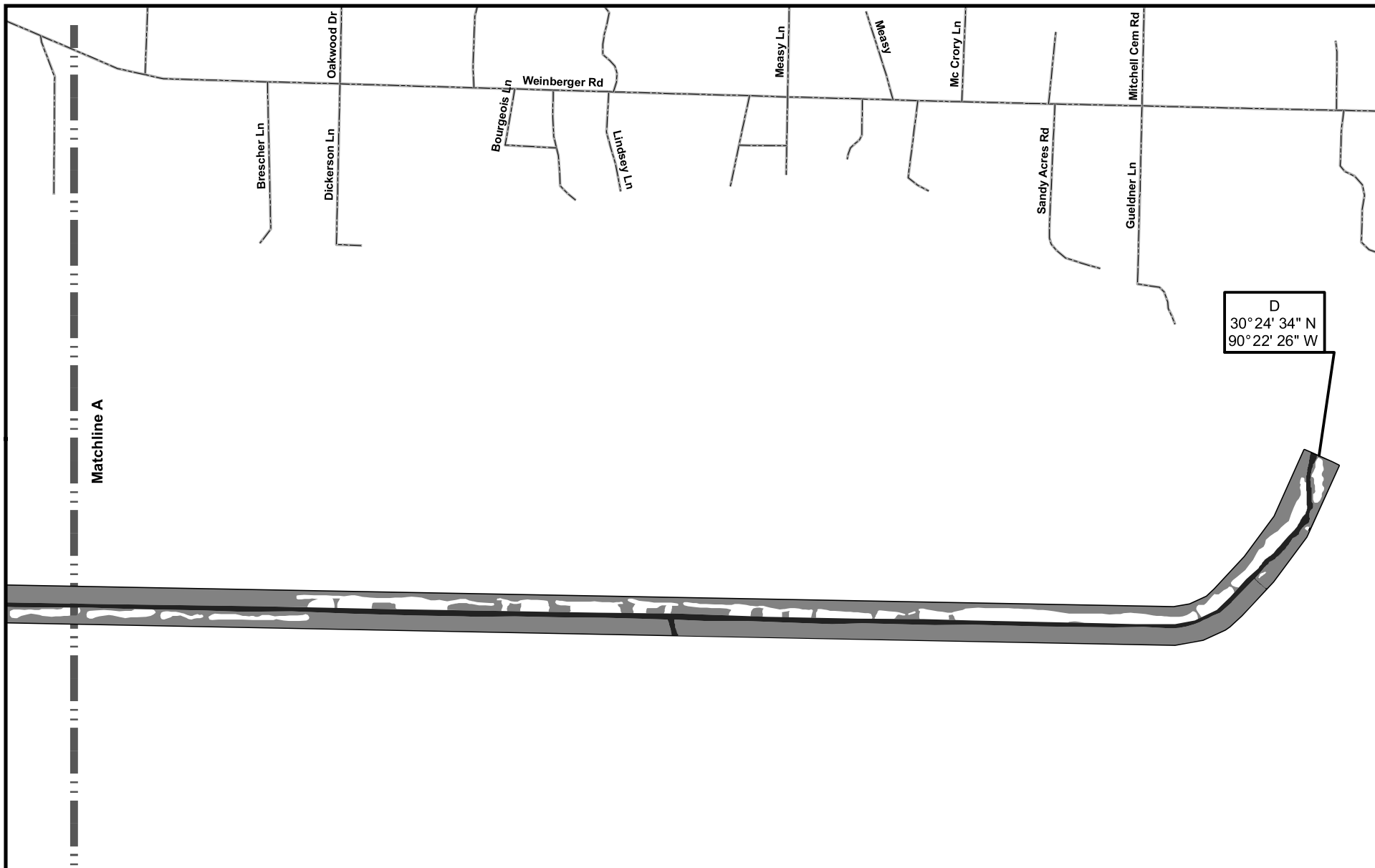




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|  <p> http://elosenv.com/ 43177 East Pleasant Ridge Road Hammond, Louisiana 70403 P. 985-662-5501, F. 985-662-5504 </p> | <p>JD Overlay</p> | <p>Legend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Limits Other Waters/Work Area Wetlands Matchline <p>Refer to MVN-2015-02505-SQ</p> | <p>Temporary Impacts</p> <table> <tr> <td>Project Limits</td> <td>~198.40 Acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wetlands</td> <td>~119.03 Acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Waters</td> <td>~27.28 Acres</td> </tr> </table> | Project Limits | ~198.40 Acres | Wetlands | ~119.03 Acres | Other Waters | ~27.28 Acres |  <p>0 1,000 2,000 Feet</p> |
| | Project Limits | | | ~198.40 Acres | | | | | | |
| Wetlands | ~119.03 Acres | | | | | | | | | |
| Other Waters | ~27.28 Acres | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Anderson to South Slough</p> <p>Map prepared from public and proprietary spatial data. ELOS Environmental, LLC does not warrant its accuracy or completeness. This map should not be used to establish legal boundaries or specific locations.</p> | | | | | | | | | | |



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|--|--|---|----------------|---------------|----------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---|
|  <p> http://elosenv.com/ 43177 East Pleasant Ridge Road Hammond, Louisiana 70403 P. 985-662-5501, F. 985-662-5504 </p> | <p>JD Overlay 1</p> | <p>Legend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Limits Other Waters/Work Area Wetlands Matchline <p>Temporary Impacts</p> <table> <tr> <td>Project Limits</td> <td>~198.40 Acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wetlands</td> <td>~119.03 Acres</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Waters</td> <td>~27.28 Acres</td> </tr> </table> | Project Limits | ~198.40 Acres | Wetlands | ~119.03 Acres | Other Waters | ~27.28 Acres |  <p>0 600 1,200 Feet</p> |
| | Project Limits | | ~198.40 Acres | | | | | | |
| Wetlands | ~119.03 Acres | | | | | | | | |
| Other Waters | ~27.28 Acres | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Anderson to South Slough</p> <p>Map prepared from public and proprietary spatial data. ELOS Environmental, LLC does not warrant its accuracy or completeness. This map should not be used to establish legal boundaries or specific locations.</p> | <p>Refer to MVN-2015-02505-SQ</p> | | | | | | | | |



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JD Overlay 2

Anderson to South Slough

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Legend:

- Project Limits
- Other Waters/Work Area
- Wetlands
- Matchline

Refer to MVN-2015-02505-SQ

Temporary Impacts

Project Limits ~198.40 Acres
Wetlands ~119.03 Acres
Other Waters ~27.28 Acres



0 600 1,200 Feet