

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

May 30, 2016

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

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

(504) 862-1217
Project Manager
Kenny Blanke
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MVN 2015-2139-CQ

(225) 219-3225
Project Manager
Ms. Elizabeth Johnson
WQC Application Number
WQC 160519-04

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: [] 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, Office of Environmental Services, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2074 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

PROPOSED DRAINAGE DITCH AND MAINTENANCE ACCESS ROAD ALONG LA HIGHWAY 1032 (4H CLUB ROAD) NEAR DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA IN LIVINGSTON PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Livingston Parish Gravity Drainage District No. 1, c/o Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., Attn: Mr. Spencer Varnado, 5420 Corporate Blvd., Suite 22, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.

LOCATION OF WORK: Located along and northeast LA Highway 1032 (4H Club Road), in Section 44, Township 7 South, Range 3 East, within the Amite River hydrologic unit (HUC 08090302), near Denham Springs, Louisiana, in LIVINGSTON Parish, as shown on the enclosed drawings (Latitude 30.41405 N Longitude -90.94444 W). The levee point of beginning starts adjacent to LA Highway 1032 and continue northeasterly for approximately 1100 feet.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant has requested a Department of the Army authorization to clear, grade, excavate, and deposit fill material to construct an approximate 1,100-foot drainage ditch to alleviate flooding and improve drainage in a growing residential area of Denham Springs. The proposed ditch will tie into an existing culvert at LA Highway 1032 and flow away from residential areas. An access road which is to be utilized in future maintenance of the ditch is also proposed to be constructed immediately adjacent to the proposed drainage ditch. Approximately 408 cubic yards of excavated native soil and 23 cubic yards of hauled in aggregate material are to be placed in jurisdictional forested wetlands. The proposed project proposes to directly impact approximately 0.6 acre of jurisdictional forested wetlands. The applicant has designed the project to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse impacts to the maximum extent practicable.

As compensation for unavoidable wetland impacts, the applicant proposes to use a Corps approved mitigation bank within the watershed of impact.

The comment period for the Department of Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality 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 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. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any species, nor affect any

habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of such species, listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Interior and 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 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 NA 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.

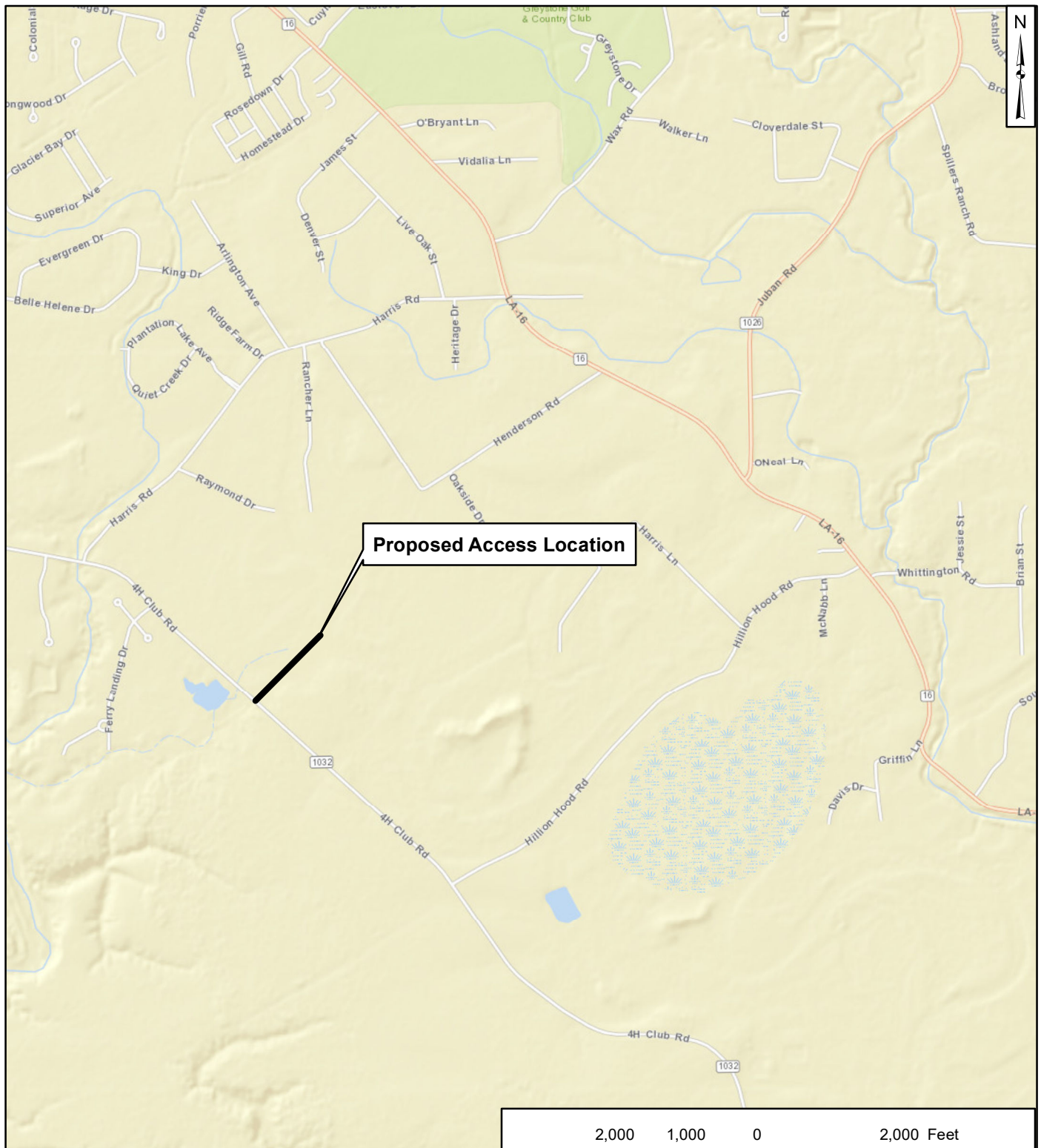
If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, 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

Enclosure



2,000 1,000 0 2,000 Feet



LPGDD1 Hwy 1032 Drainage Ditch Project

Livingston Parish, Louisiana

Geosyntec
consultants

Figure

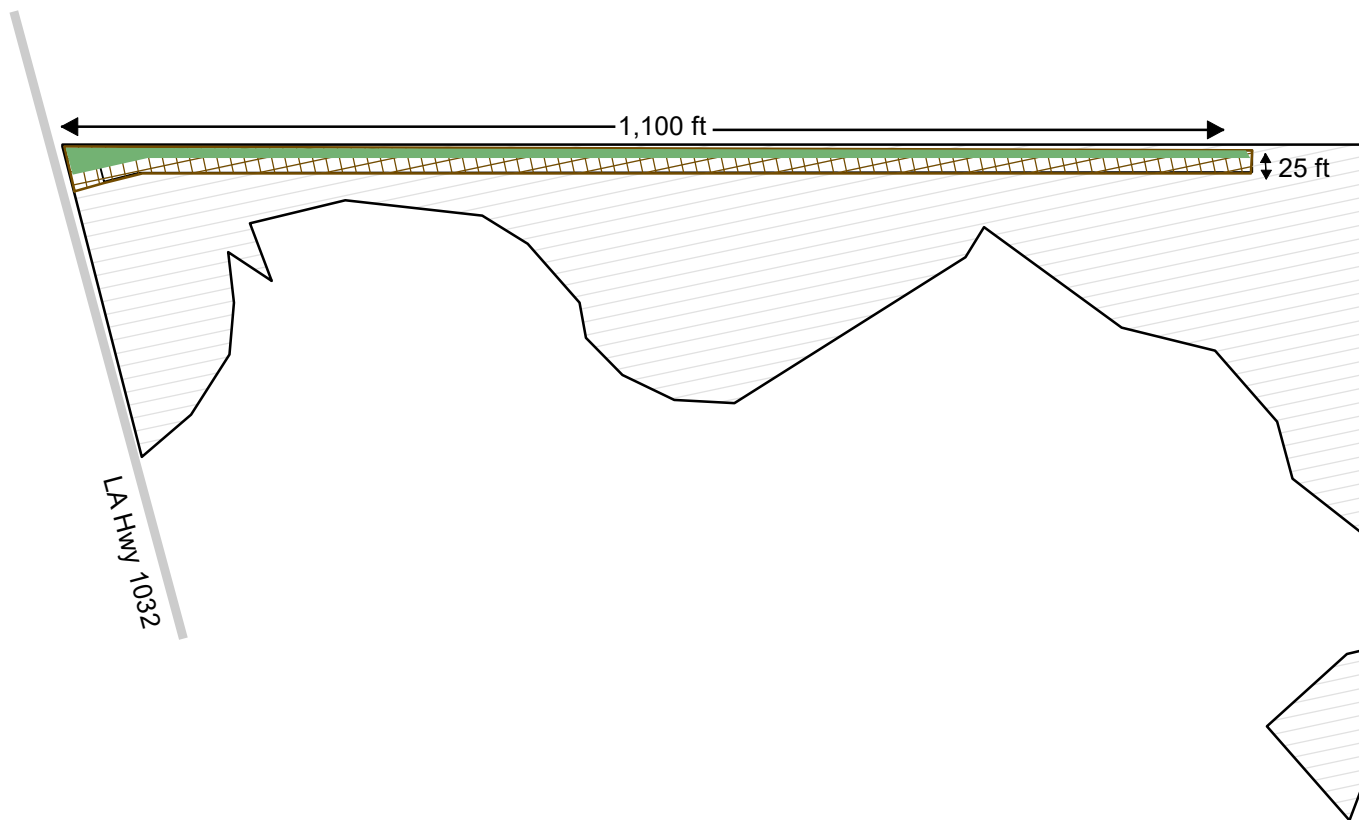
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Notes




Source of Topographic Image: Topographic basemap available with ArcView 10.0

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

April 2016



Legend

-  Excavated - 0.25 Acre (407.4 Cubic Yards)
-  Filled - 0.30 Acre (429.6 Cubic Yards)
-  Wetland (MVN-2014-00599-SY)

750 375 0 750 Feet



LPGDD1 Hwy 1032 Drainage Ditch Project

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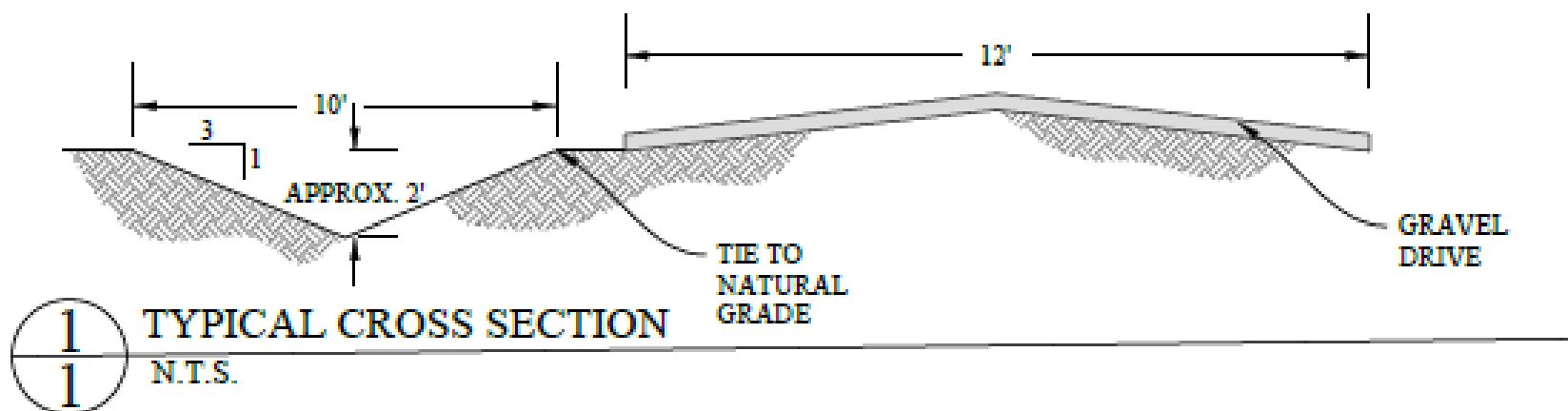
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Figure

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Source: Montoya Design Group, LLC. September 2015.

LPGDD1 Hwy 1032 Drainage Ditch Project

Livingston Parish, Louisiana



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Baton Rouge, LA

April 2016

Figure
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