

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

August 4, 2014

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
Permit Application Number
MVN 2014-0364-CQ

(225) 219-3225
Project Manager
Ms. Elizabeth Johnson
WQC Application Number
WQC 140723-03

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, 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).

HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION OF THE WESTERN MAUREPAS SWAMP IN LIVINGSTON PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, c/o Forte and Tablada, Inc., Attn: Ms. Nelle Fruge', 1234 Del Este Avenue, Suite 602, Denham Springs, LA 70726

LOCATION OF WORK: In Sections 33, 34, & 35, Township 9 South, Range 5 East, located east of the intersection of LA Highway 22 and Homes Port Drive, along the southern spoil bank of the Amite River Diversion Canal, between the intersection of the Petite Amite River and the Blind River, near Maurepas, Louisiana, in LIVINGSTON PARISH, 30.226008 N and -90.706503 W, as shown on the enclosed drawings. This project is located in USGS Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 08070204.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant has requested Department of the Army authorization to construct two conveyance channels off the southern spoil bank of the Amite River Diversion Canal into the adjacent Maurepas swamp habitat. The two conveyance channels extend approximately 0.63 mile and 0.61 mile southerly into the Maurepas Swamp. In addition, the project proposes to construct cuts into the abandoned railroad bed within the swamp to improve hydrologic connectivity. Side cast dredged material from the cuts and conveyance channels are proposed to form higher elevation hammocks within the swamp. Constructed gaps between these hammocks are proposed to maintain water flow and exchange within the swamp. The project is proposed to be constructed in the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management Area. The degrading swamp is slowly converting from freshwater swamp habitat to freshwater marsh habitat and open water areas. The project purpose of this project is to restore hydrologic

function to the wetlands adjacent to the Amite River Diversion Canal. Approximately 87,714 cubic yards of native swamp would be excavated and placed as fill material for the construction of the conveyance channels and placement of spoil material along these conveyances, respectively. Approximately 13.7 acres of swamp are to be excavated for conveyance channels construction and approximately 34.8 acres of swamp are to be impacted via clearing and fill placement for the construction of the proposed hammocks. The total proposed right-of-way for the limits of clearing, channel excavation and spoil placement totals approximately 183-linear feet wide near the spoil bank of the Amite River Diversion Canal and gradually narrows the more southerly the channel extends into the Maurepas Swamp (from approximately 140-linear feet to 92-linear feet wide). Project implementation proposes to directly impact approximately 923 acres of swamp habitat and positive secondary impacts are proposed to total approximately 1,410 acres of swamp habitat via hydrologic restoration. The applicant has stated that compensatory mitigation will be supplied with vegetative plantings as necessary.

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 to the project manager or clicking on the project manager's name on the public notice grid on the web page. 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. 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 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.

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.

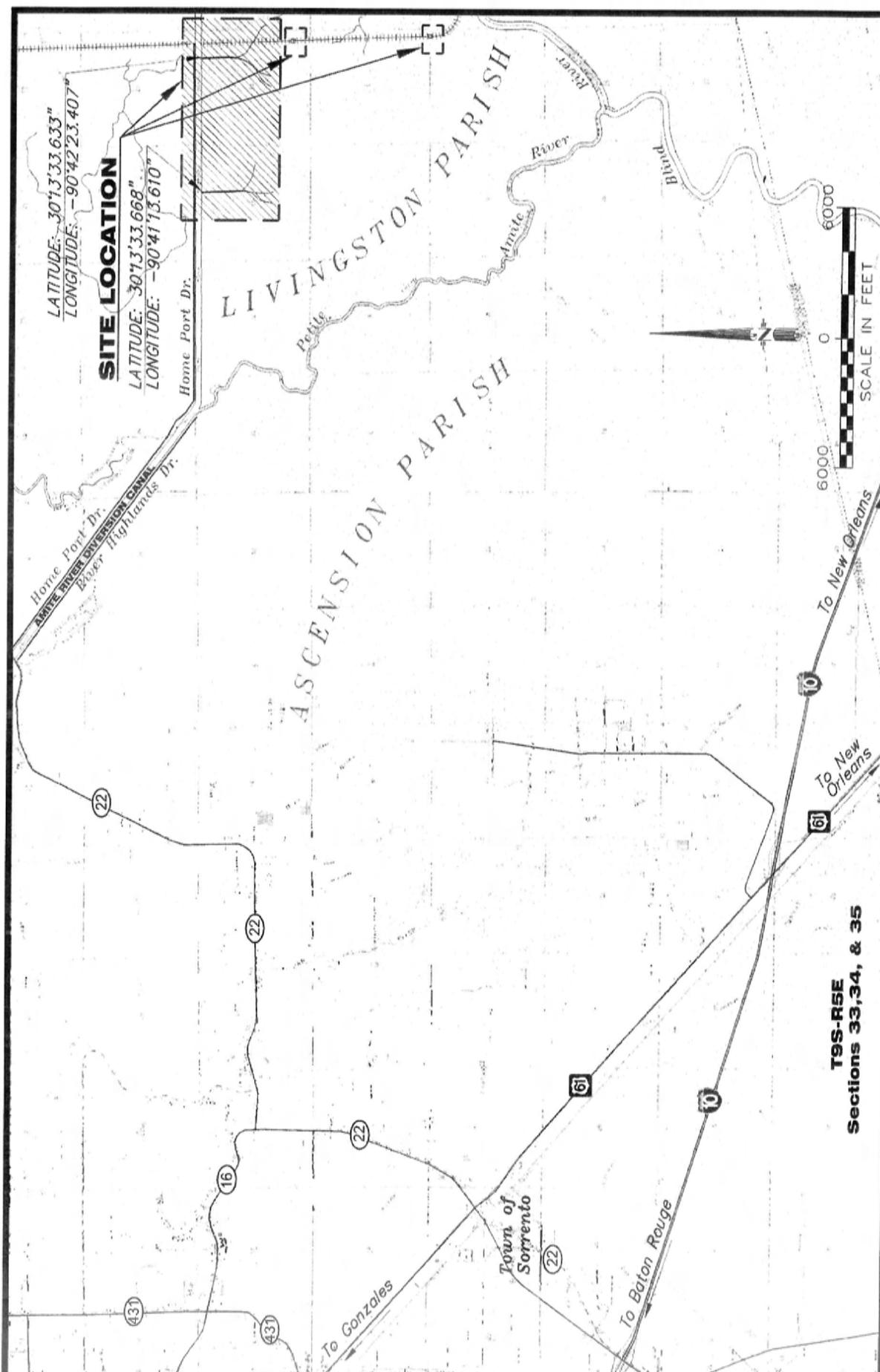
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

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.

JOHN M. HERMAN
Chief, Central Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosure



LATITUDE: 30°13'33.633"
LONGITUDE: -90°42'23.407"

SITE LOCATION

LATITUDE: 30°13'33.668"
LONGITUDE: -90°41'13.610"

Home Port Dr.

Home Port Dr.
AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL
Bobby Highlands Dr.

LIVINGSTON PARISH

ASCENSION PARISH

Town of Sorrento



T9S-R5E
Sections 33, 34, & 35

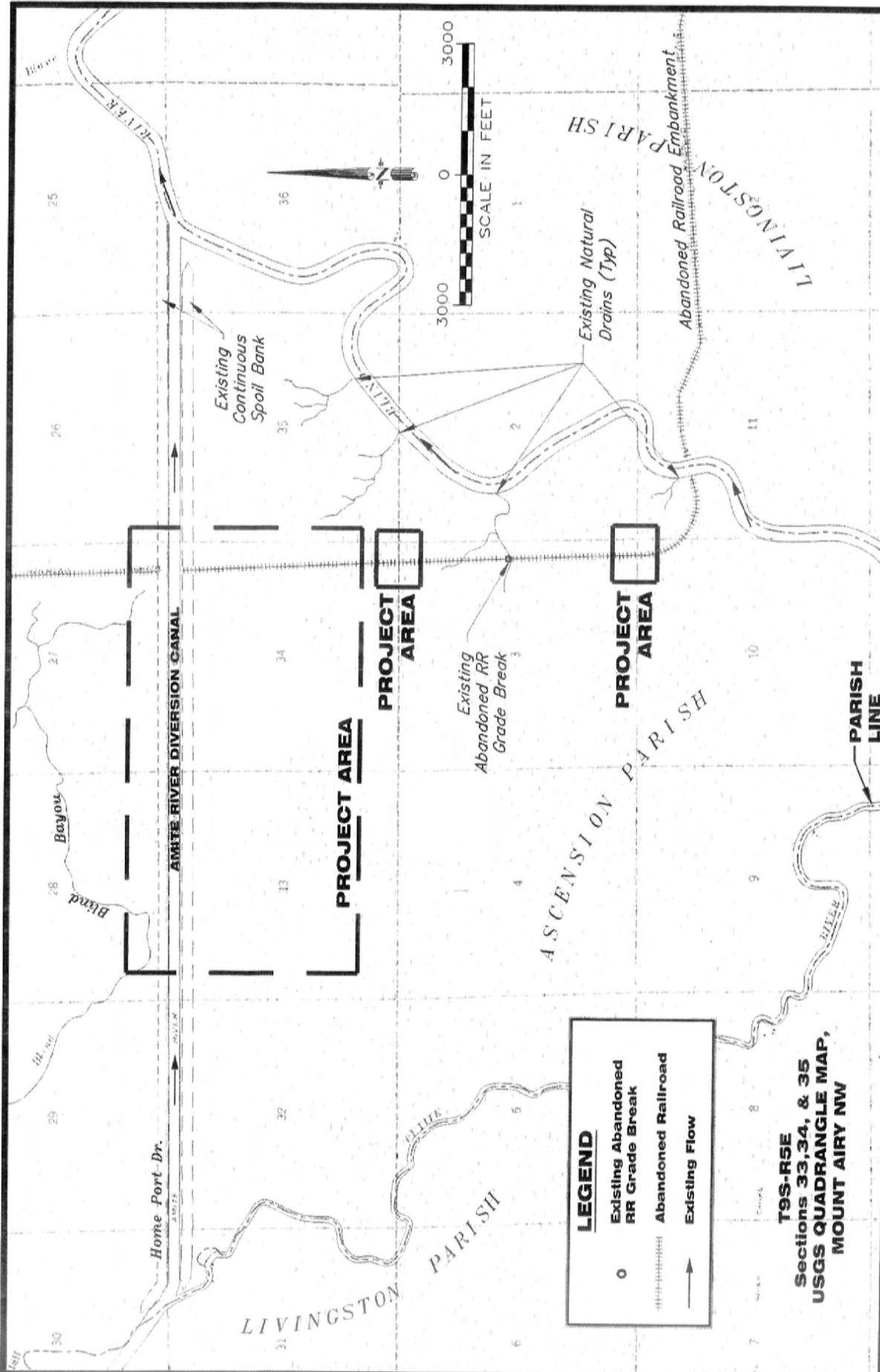
DRAWN BY: DBT
CHECKED BY: JDL
DATE: MAY 8, 2014

JOB No. 28027
SCALE: AS SHOWN
SHEET No. FIGURE 1

AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL
LIVINGSTON PARISH CIAP PROJECT PERMIT
T9S-R5E
VICINITY MAP



P.O. BOX 298
CONZALES, LA 70707-0298
PH: (225) 644-5523

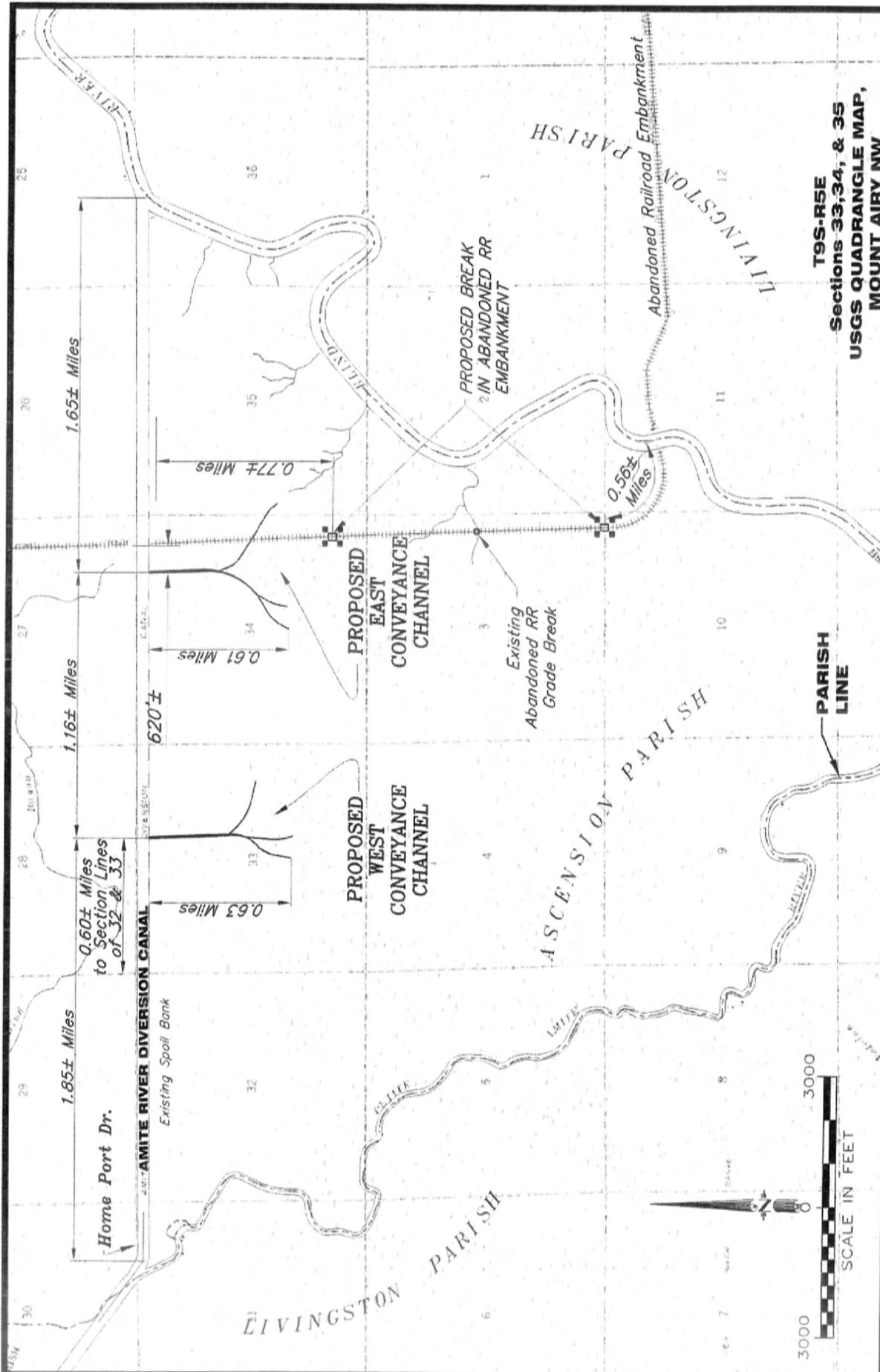


T9S-R5E
Sections 33, 34, & 35
USGS QUADRANGLE MAP,
MOUNT AIRY NW

DRAWN BY: DBT JOB No. 28027
 CHECKED BY: JDL SCALE: AS SHOWN
 DATE: MAY 8, 2014 SHEET NO. FIGURE 2

AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL,
LIVINGSTON PARISH CIAP PROJECT PERMIT
 T9S-R5E
SITE MAP - EXISTING

GSA
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.
 P.O. BOX 298
 CONZALEES, LA 70707-0298
 PH: (225) 644-5523



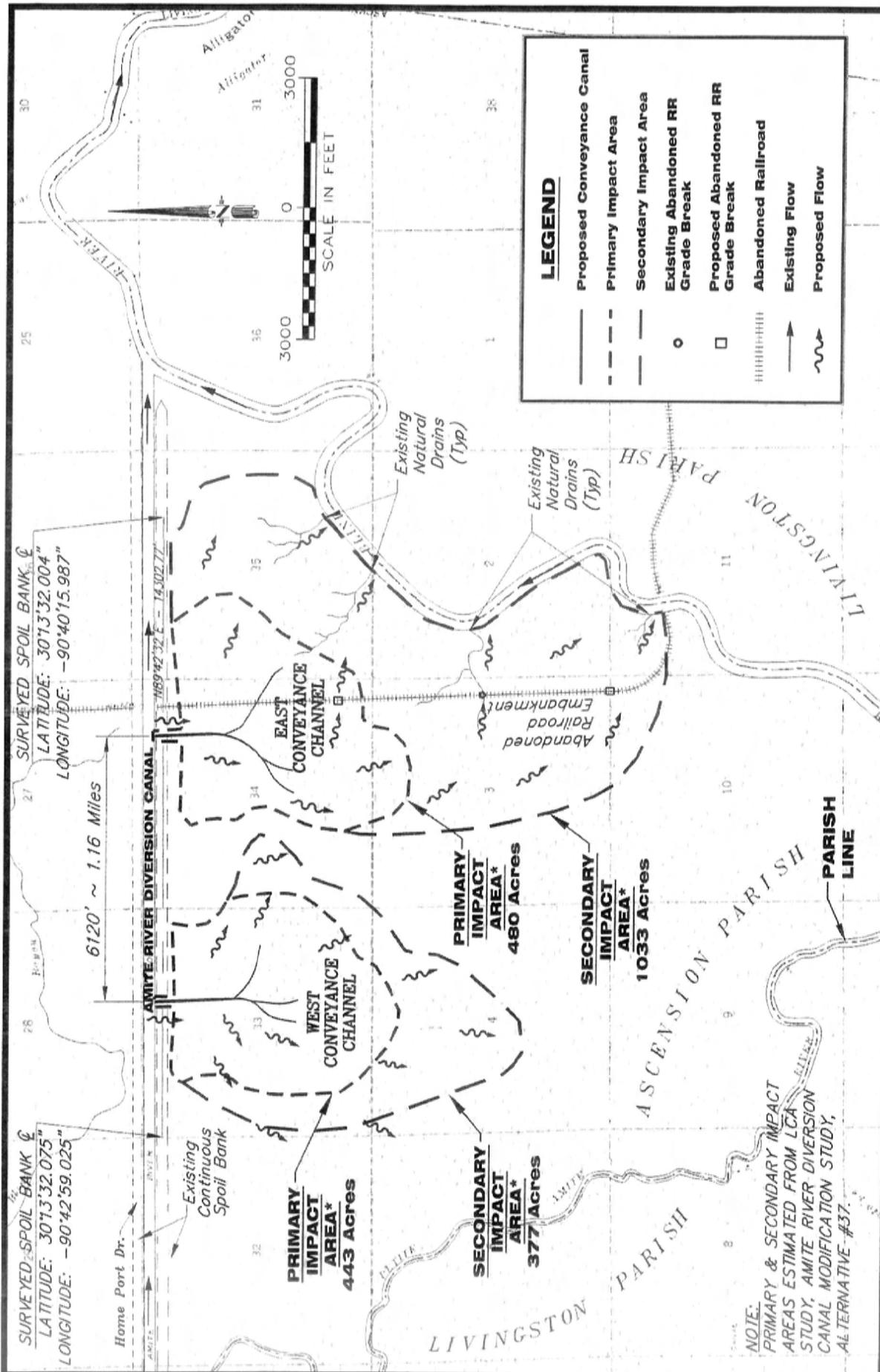
T9S-R5E
Sections 33, 34, & 35
USGS QUADRANGLE MAP,
MOUNT AIRY NW



P.O. BOX 298
 CONZALEES, LA 70707-0298
 PH: (225) 644-5523
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.

AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL,
LIVINGSTON PARISH CIAP PROJECT PERMIT
T9S-R5E
SITE MAP - PROPOSED

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 DATE: MAY 8, 2014 SHEET No. FIGURE 3



SURVEYED SPOIL BANK ϕ
 LATITUDE: 30°13'32.075"
 LONGITUDE: -90°42'59.025"

SURVEYED SPOIL BANK ϕ
 LATITUDE: 30°13'32.004"
 LONGITUDE: -90°40'15.987"

Home Port Dr.

Alligator

6120' ~ 1.16 Miles

AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL

WEST CONVEYANCE CHANNEL

EAST CONVEYANCE CHANNEL

Existing Natural Drains (Typ)

Abandoned Railroad Embankment

Existing Natural Drains (Typ)

PARISH LINE

ASCENSION PARISH

LIVINGSTON PARISH

AMITE

Home Port Dr.

Existing Continuous Spoil Bank

PRIMARY IMPACT AREA* 443 Acres

SECONDARY IMPACT AREA* 377 Acres

PRIMARY IMPACT AREA* 480 Acres

SECONDARY IMPACT AREA* 1033 Acres

PARISH LINE

ASCENSION PARISH

LIVINGSTON PARISH

AMITE

Home Port Dr.

Existing Continuous Spoil Bank

PRIMARY IMPACT AREA* 443 Acres

SECONDARY IMPACT AREA* 377 Acres

PRIMARY IMPACT AREA* 480 Acres

SECONDARY IMPACT AREA* 1033 Acres

PARISH LINE

ASCENSION PARISH

LIVINGSTON PARISH

AMITE

Home Port Dr.

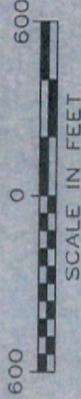
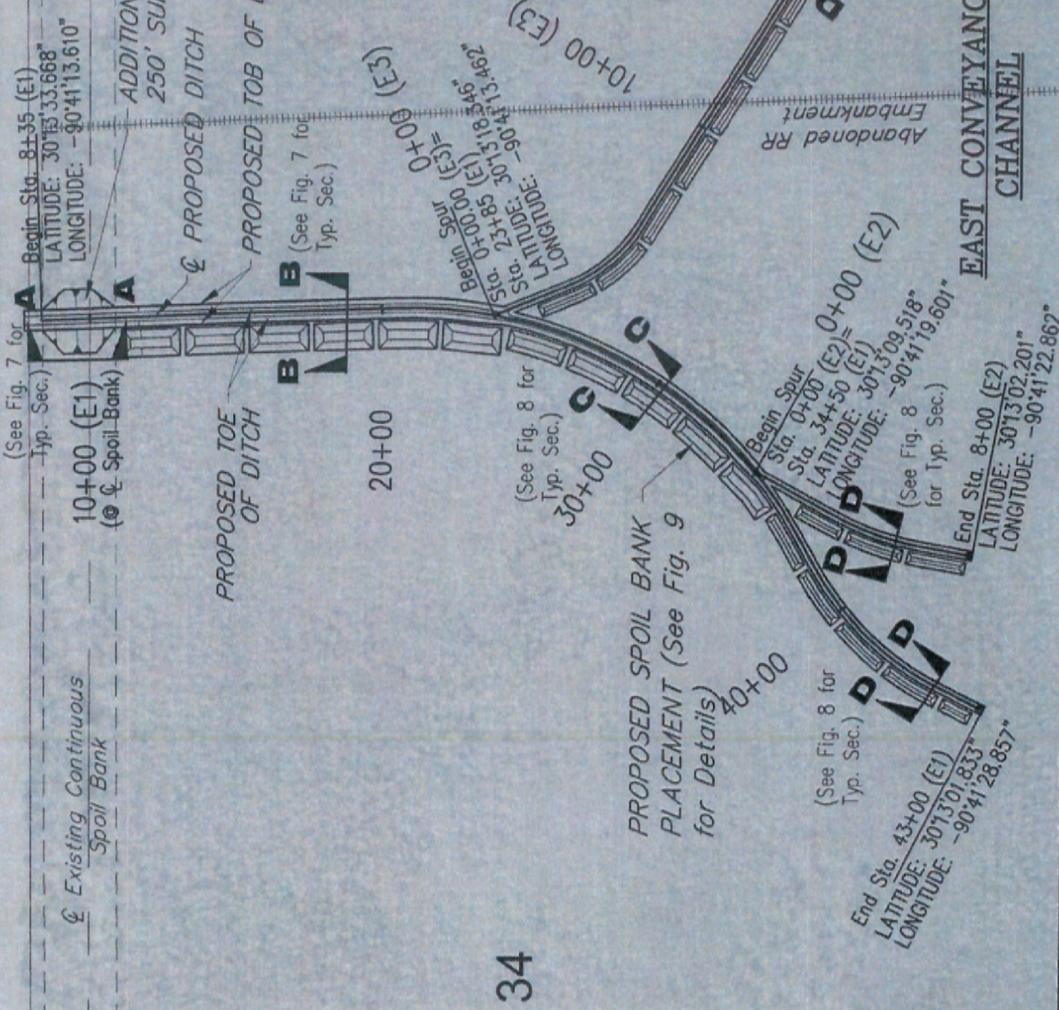
Existing Continuous Spoil Bank

DRAWN BY: DBT JOB No. 28027
 CHECKED BY: JDL SCALE: AS SHOWN
 DATE: MAY 8, 2014 SHEET No. FIGURE 4

AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL
 LIVINGSTON PARISH CIAP PROJECT PERMIT
 T9S-R5E
 SITE MAP - PROPOSED



AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL



34

35

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JOB No. 28027
 SCALE: AS SHOWN
 SHEET No. FIGURE 5

AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL
 LIVINGSTON PARISH CIAP PROJECT PERMIT
 T9S-R5E
 SITE PLAN - PROPOSED (EAST)



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AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL

(See Fig. 7 for Typ. Sec.)

Existing Spoil Bank

Begin Sta. 8+35.00 (W1)
 LATITUDE: 30°13'33.633"
 LONGITUDE: -90°42'23.407"

10+00 (W1)
 (See Fig. 7 for Typ. Sec.)

MINIMUM 250' SURVEY LENGTH

PROPOSED TOE OF DITCH

PROPOSED TOB OF DITCH

PROPOSED DITCH

20+00

0+00 (W3)

Begin Spur Sta. 0+00.00 (W3)
 LATITUDE: 30°13'58.24"
 LONGITUDE: -90°42'22.749"

10+00 (W3)

End Sta. 14+00 (W3)
 LATITUDE: 30°13'09.672"
 LONGITUDE: -90°42'08.930"

30+00

0+00 (W2)

Begin Spur Sta. 0+00.00 (W2)
 STA. 30+40 (W1)
 LATITUDE: 30°13'11.942"
 LONGITUDE: -90°42'23.326"

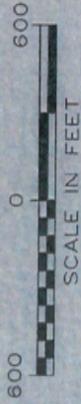
PROPOSED SPOIL BANK PLACEMENT (See Fig. 9 for Details)

40+00

10+00 (W2)

End Sta. 11+00 (W2)
 LATITUDE: 30°13'01.189"
 LONGITUDE: -90°42'23.175"

End Sta. 43+00 (W1)
 LATITUDE: 30°13'00.857"
 LONGITUDE: -90°42'29.023"



34

33

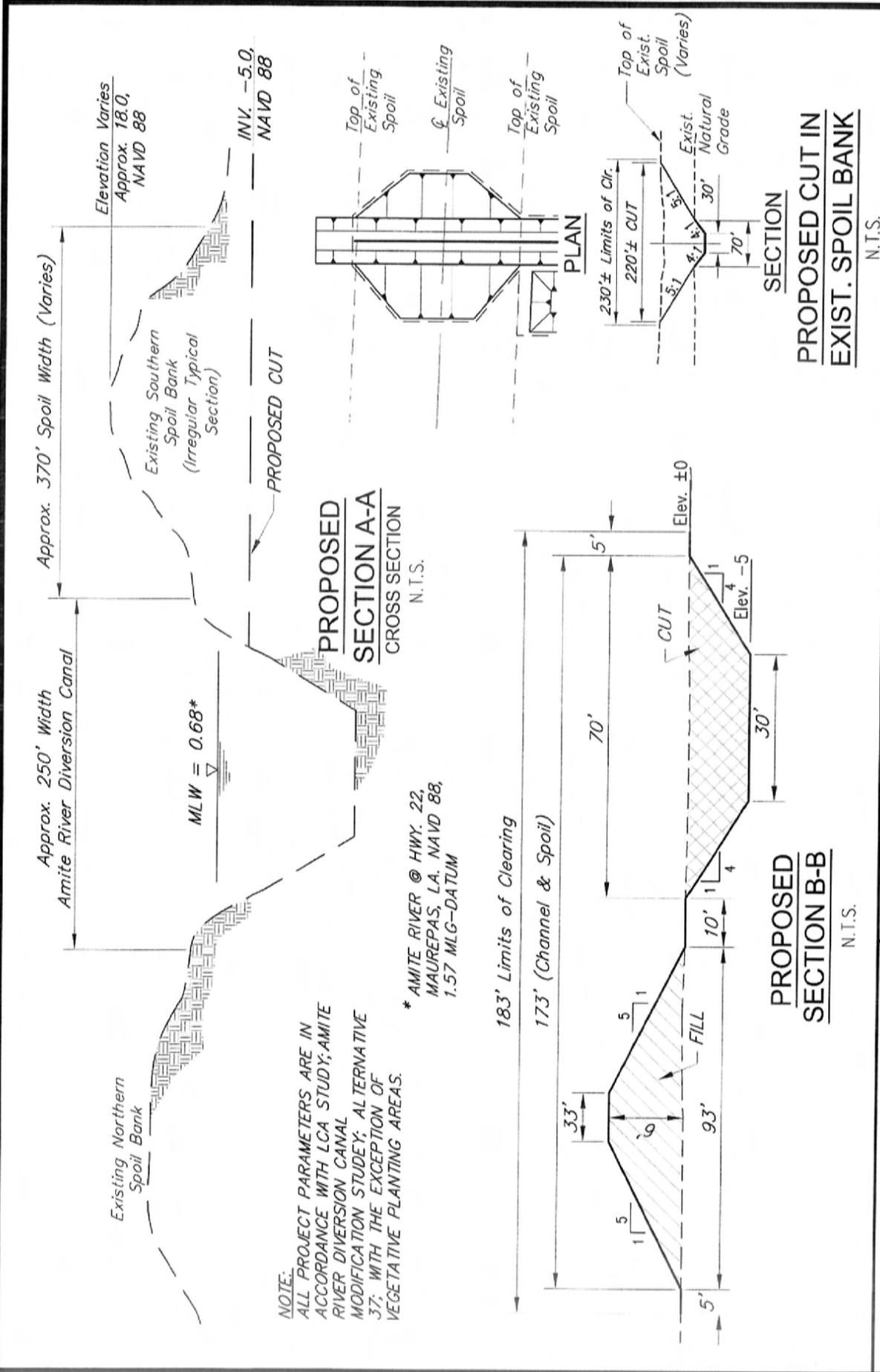
DRAWN BY: DBT
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 DATE: MAY 8, 2014

JOB No. 28027
 SCALE: AS SHOWN
 SHEET No. FIGURE 6

AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL
 LIVINGSTON PARISH CIAP PROJECT PERMIT
 T9S-R5E
 PROPOSED SITE MAP (WEST)



P.O. BOX 298
 CONZALEES, LA 70707-0298
 PH: (225) 644-5523



NOTE:
 ALL PROJECT PARAMETERS ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH LCA STUDY; AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL MODIFICATION STUDY; ALTERNATIVE 37; WITH THE EXCEPTION OF VEGETATIVE PLANTING AREAS.

* AMITE RIVER @ HWY. 22, MAUREPAS, LA. NAVD 88, 1.57 MILG-DATUM

PROPOSED SECTION A-A
 CROSS SECTION
 N.T.S.

PROPOSED SECTION B-B
 N.T.S.

PROPOSED CUT IN EXIST. SPOIL BANK
 N.T.S.

DRAWN BY: DBT
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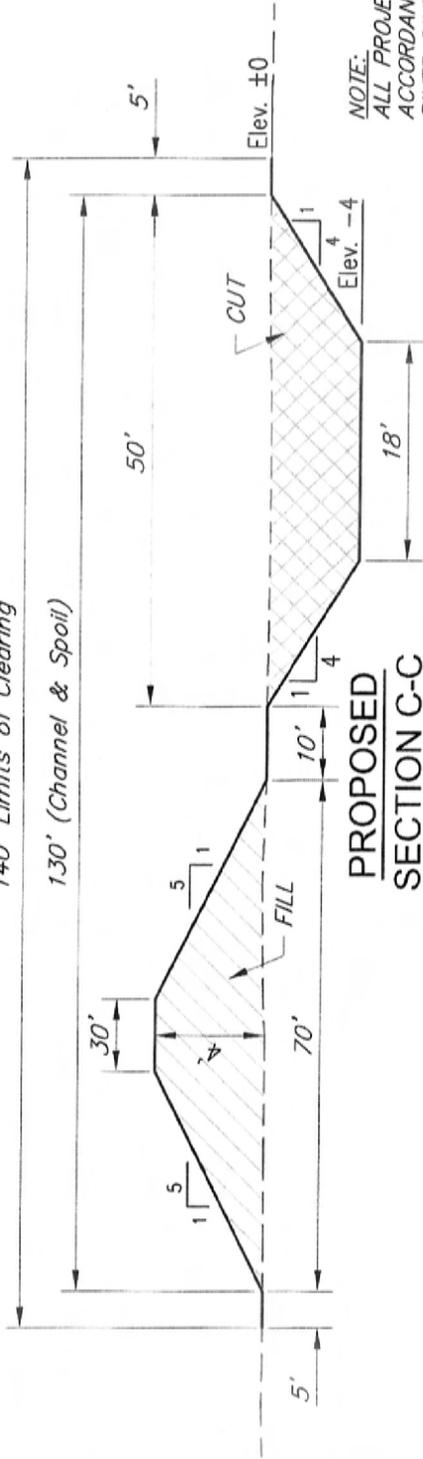
JOB No. 28027
 SCALE: N.T.S.
 SHEET No. FIGURE 7

FIGURE 6
 LIVINGSTON PARISH CIAP PROJECT PERMIT
 T9S-R5E
 SPOIL BANK TYPICAL SECTION

GSA
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.
 P.O. BOX 298
 CONZALEES, LA 70707-0298
 PH: (225) 644-5523

140' Limits of Clearing

130' (Channel & Spoil)



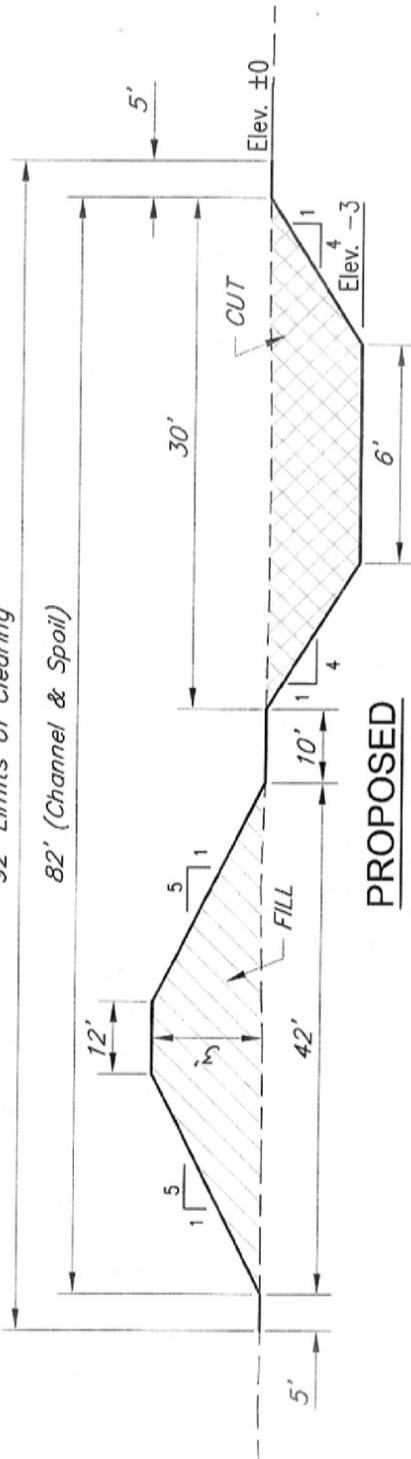
PROPOSED SECTION C-C

N.T.S.

NOTE:
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92' Limits of Clearing

82' (Channel & Spoil)



PROPOSED SECTION D-D

N.T.S.

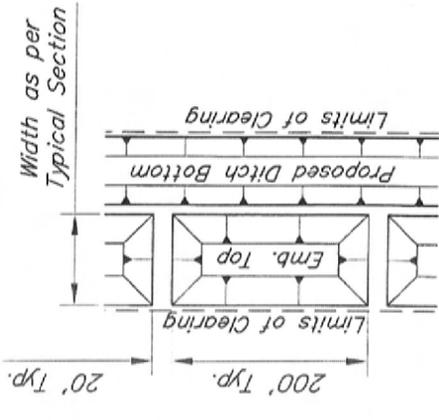
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DATE: MAY 8, 2014

JOB No. 28027
SCALE: N.T.S.
SHEET No. FIGURE 8

AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL
LIVINGSTON PARISH CIAP PROJECT PERMIT
T9S-R5E
WEST & EAST CHANNEL TYPICAL SECTIONS

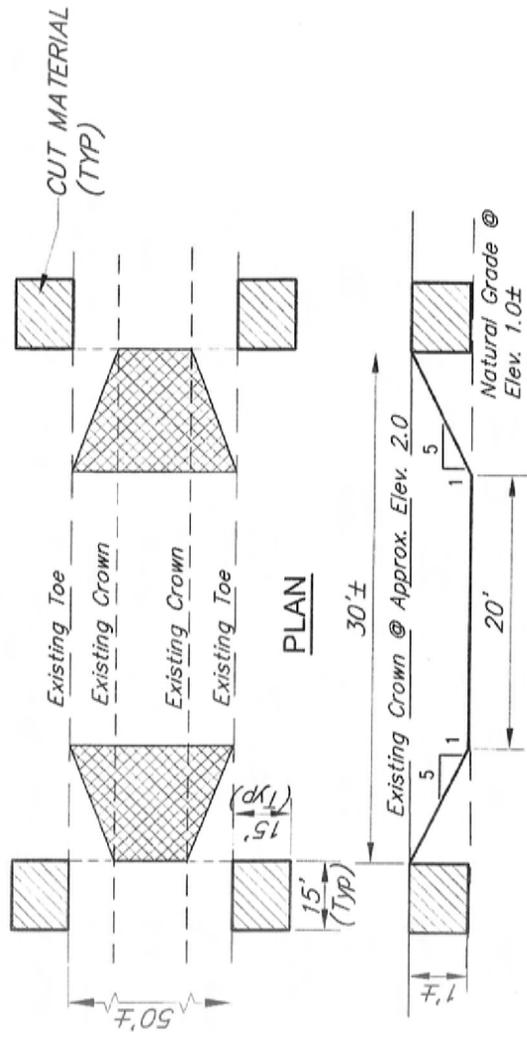


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CONZALLES, LA 70707-0298
PH: (225) 644-5523



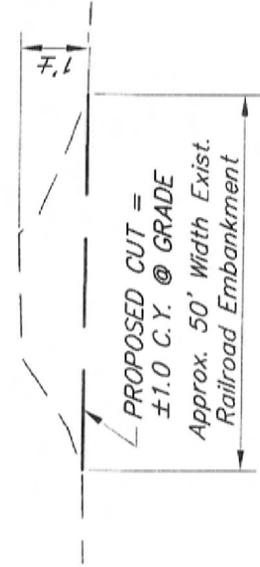
**PROPOSED SPOIL BANK
PLACEMENT DETAIL**

N.T.S.



**PROPOSED RAILROAD
EMBANKMENT BREAK**

N.T.S.



**EXISTING RR
EMBANKMENT SECTION**

N.T.S.

CONVEYANCE CANAL	EXCAVATION (CUT)		LIMITS of CLEARING		SPOIL (FILL)	
	Cu. Yds.	Acres	Acres	Acres	Cu. Yds.	Cu. Yds.
WEST	43,040	6.5	16.5	16.5	43,040	43,040
EAST	44,762	7.2	18.3	18.3	44,762	44,762
TOTAL	87,714	13.7	34.8	34.8	87,714	87,714

NOTE:
ALL PROJECT PARAMETERS ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH LCA STUDY; AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL MODIFICATION STUDY; ALTERNATIVE 37; WITH THE EXCEPTION OF VEGETATIVE PLANTING AREAS.

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JOB No. 28027
 SCALE: N.T.S.
 SHEET No. FIGURE 9



AMITE RIVER DIVERSION CANAL
 LIVINGSTON PARISH CIAP PROJECT PERMIT
 T9S-R5E
 WEST & EAST CHANNEL TYPICAL SECTIONS

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