

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT 7400 LEAKE AVENUE NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70118

April 17, 2017

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF:

Operations Division Western Evaluation Section Project Manager Darlene Herman (504) 862-2287 Darlene.C.Herman@usace.army.mil

SUBJECT: MVN 2008-2095 WB

PUBLIC NOTICE

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received by the District engineer for a Department of the Army permit to authorize the following 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 THE GULF OF MEXICO

NAME OF APPLICANT: Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Artificial Reef Program, Post Office Box 98000, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.

LOCATION OF WORK: In the Gulf of Mexico, Eugene Island 276, off the coast of St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the attached drawings.

<u>CHARACTER OF WORK</u>: Deploy Fieldwood Energy's, Eugene Island 281 "A" jacket in the Eugene Island 276 artificial reef site to provide structural habitat for the purpose of enhancing fishing opportunities in the Gulf of Mexico. Clearance from the top of the deployed platform jacket to the water surface will be approximately 96.7 feet. This request is pursuant to Act 100, 1986 Louisiana Legislature and the National Fishing Enhancement Act of 1984.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit will close <u>15 days</u> 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 must be submitted 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 forwarded to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, <u>ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH</u>.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact 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, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The 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 Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, 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 the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or 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 is being forwarded to 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. Department of Interior 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 Magnus-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of $\underline{0}$ acre(s) 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 and certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Louisiana 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.

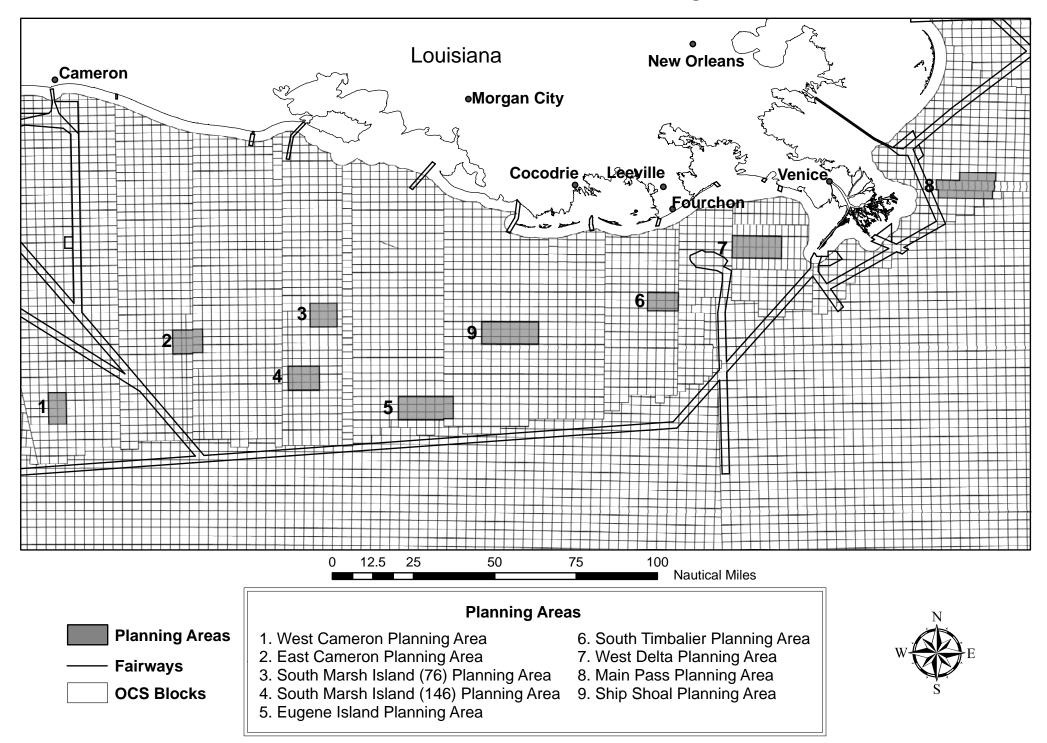
You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

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.

Darrell S. Barbara Chief, Western Evaluation Section Regulatory Branch

Attachments

Louisiana Artificial Reef Planning Areas



Louisiana Artificial Reef Program Ship Shoal Planning Area

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EI148	EI147	EI146	EI145	SS103	SS102	SS101	SS100	SS99	SS98	SS97	SS96	8895	8894	SS93	SS92	PL20	PL19	PL18	PL17	PL16
EI163	EI164	EI165	EI166	SS104	SS105	SS106	SS107	SS108	SS109	SS110	SS111	SS112	SS113	SS114	SS115	PL21	PL22	PL23	PL24	PL25
EI170	EI169	EI168	EI167	SS127	SS126	SS125	SS124	SS123	SS122	SS121	SS120	SS119	SS118	SS117	SS116	ST74	ST73	ST72	ST71	ST70
EI186	EI187	EI188	EI189	SS128	SS129	SS130	SS131	SS132	SS133	SS134	SS135	SS136	SS137	SS138	SS139	ST75	ST76	ST77	ST78	ST79
EI193	EI192	EI191	EI190	SS151	SS150	SS149	SS148	SS147	SS146	SS145	SS144	SS143	SS142	SS141	SS140	ST98	ST97	ST96	ST95	ST94
EI208	EI209	EI210	EI211	SS152	SS153	SS154	SS155	SS156	SS157	SS158	SS159	SS160	SS161	SS162	SS163	ST99	ST100	ST101	ST102	ST103
EI215	EI214	EI213	EI212	SS175	SS174	SS173	SS172	SS171	SS170	SS169	SS168	SS167	SS166	SS165	SS164	ST112	ST111	ST110	ST109	ST108
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EI282	EI281	EI280	EI279	SS248	SS249	SS250	SS251	SS252	SS253	SS254	SS255	SS255	SS250	SS258	SS259	ST215	ST217	ST213	ST212	ST220
EI297	EI298	EI299	EI300	SS271	SS270	SS269	SS268	SS267	SS266	SS265	SS264	SS263	SS262	SS261	SS260	ST243	ST242	ST241	ST240	ST239
EI304	EI303	EI302	EI301	SS272	SS273	SS274	SS275	SS276	SS277	SS278	SS279	SS280	SS281	SS282	SS283	ST244	ST245	ST246	ST247	ST248
EI319	EI320	EI321	EI322	SS295	SS294	SS293	SS292	SS291	SS290	SS289	SS288	SS287	SS286	SS285	SS284	ST271	ST270	ST269	ST268	ST267
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