



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

July 10, 2017

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Operations Division
Eastern Evaluation Section

Project Manager
Scott Kennedy
(504) 862-2259
Scott.N.Kennedy@usace.army.mil

SUBJECT: MVN-2009-02747 EMM

PUBLIC NOTICE

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 [] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

GRAND ISLE 9 ARTIFICIAL REEF IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

NAME OF APPLICANT: Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808.

LOCATION OF WORK: Gulf of Mexico, Grand Isle 9 area, approximately 6 miles off the coast of Grand Isle, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the attached drawings.

CHARACTER OF WORK: Enhance the existing Grand Isle 9 artificial reef site by installing and maintaining constructed reef materials (reefballs or reef pyramids) to provide structural habitat for the purpose of enhancing fishing opportunities in the Gulf of Mexico. Clearance from the top of the constructed reef material to the water surface will be at least 30 feet. This request is pursuant to Act 100, 1986 Louisiana Legislature and the National Fishing Enhancement Act of 1984.

The comment period will close **15 days** from the date of this 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 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.

Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the impact of the proposed work on navigation and national security.

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 the State Historic Preservation Officer regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect critical habitat nor any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

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 **2.30** 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 before a permit is issued.

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.

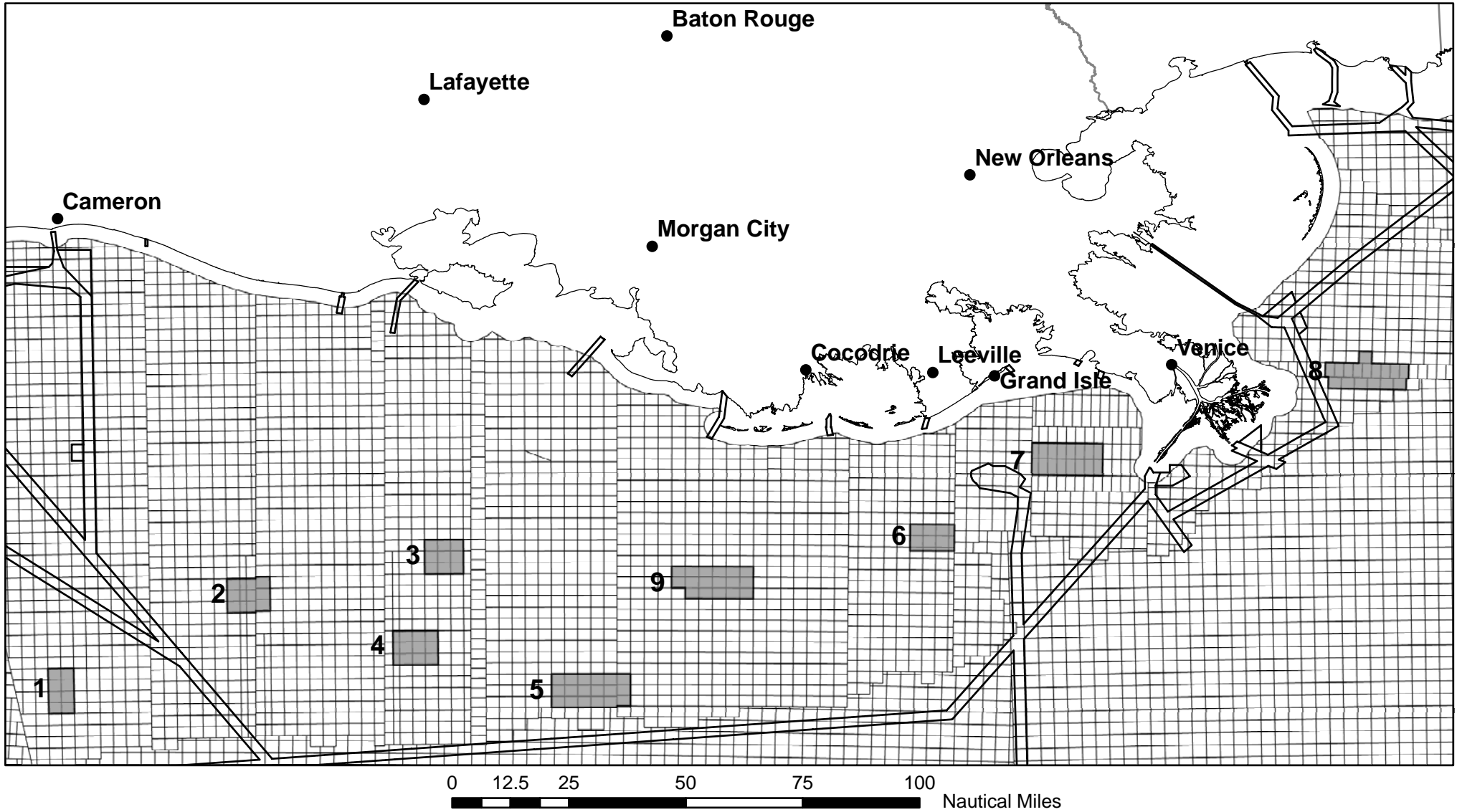
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.




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.

Michael Farabee
Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section

Attachments

Louisiana Artificial Reef Planning Areas



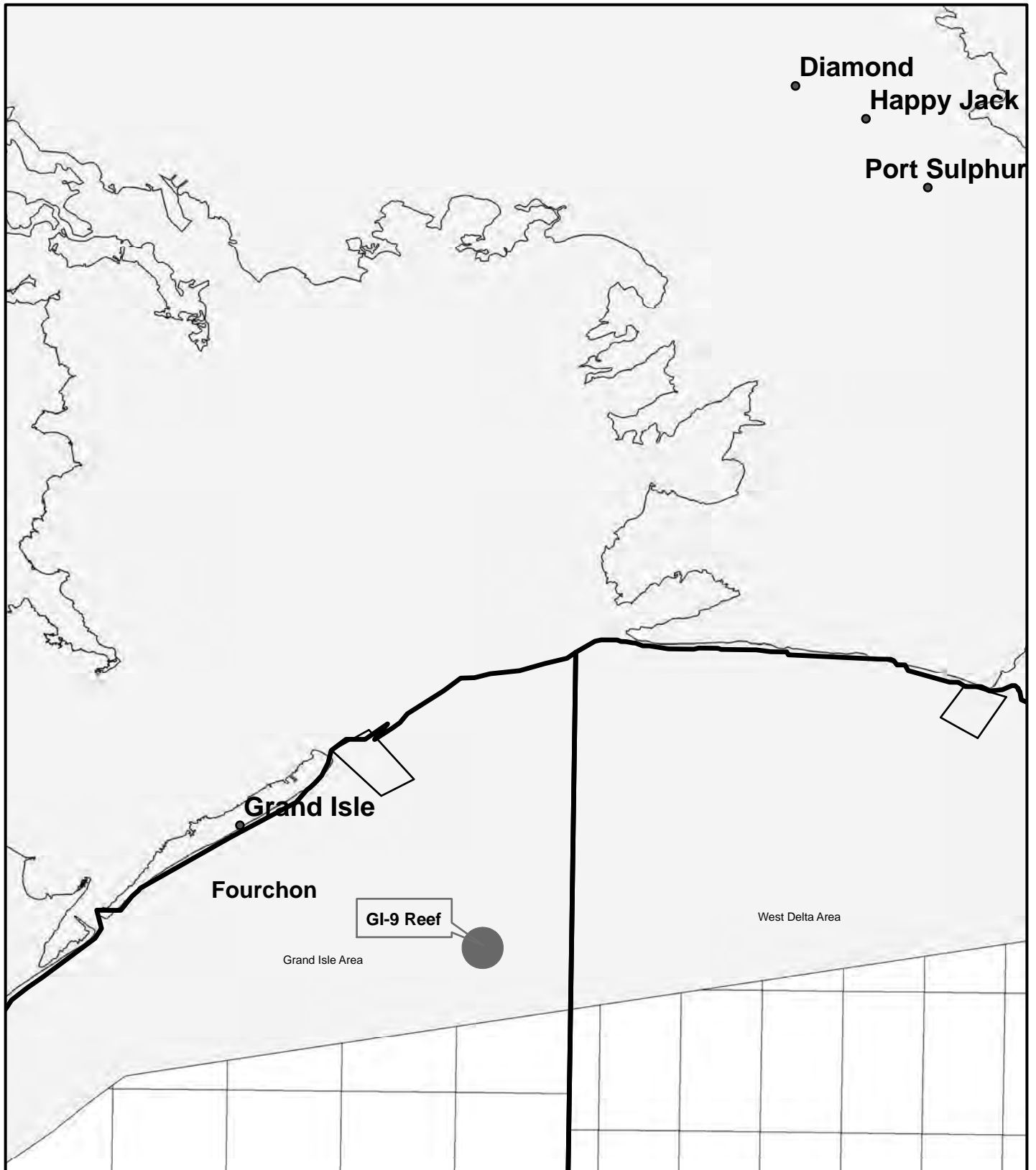
-  **Planning Areas**
-  **Fairways**
-  **OCS Blocks**

Planning Areas

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. West Cameron Planning Area | 6. South Timbalier Planning Area |
| 2. East Cameron Planning Area | 7. West Delta Planning Area |
| 3. South Marsh Island (76) Planning Area | 8. Main Pass Planning Area |
| 4. South Marsh Island (146) Planning Area | 9. Ship Shoal Planning Area |
| 5. Eugene Island Planning Area | |



Louisiana Artificial Reef Program



Diamond
Happy Jack
Port Sulphur

Grand Isle
Fourchon

GI-9 Reef

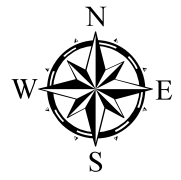
West Delta Area

Grand Isle Area

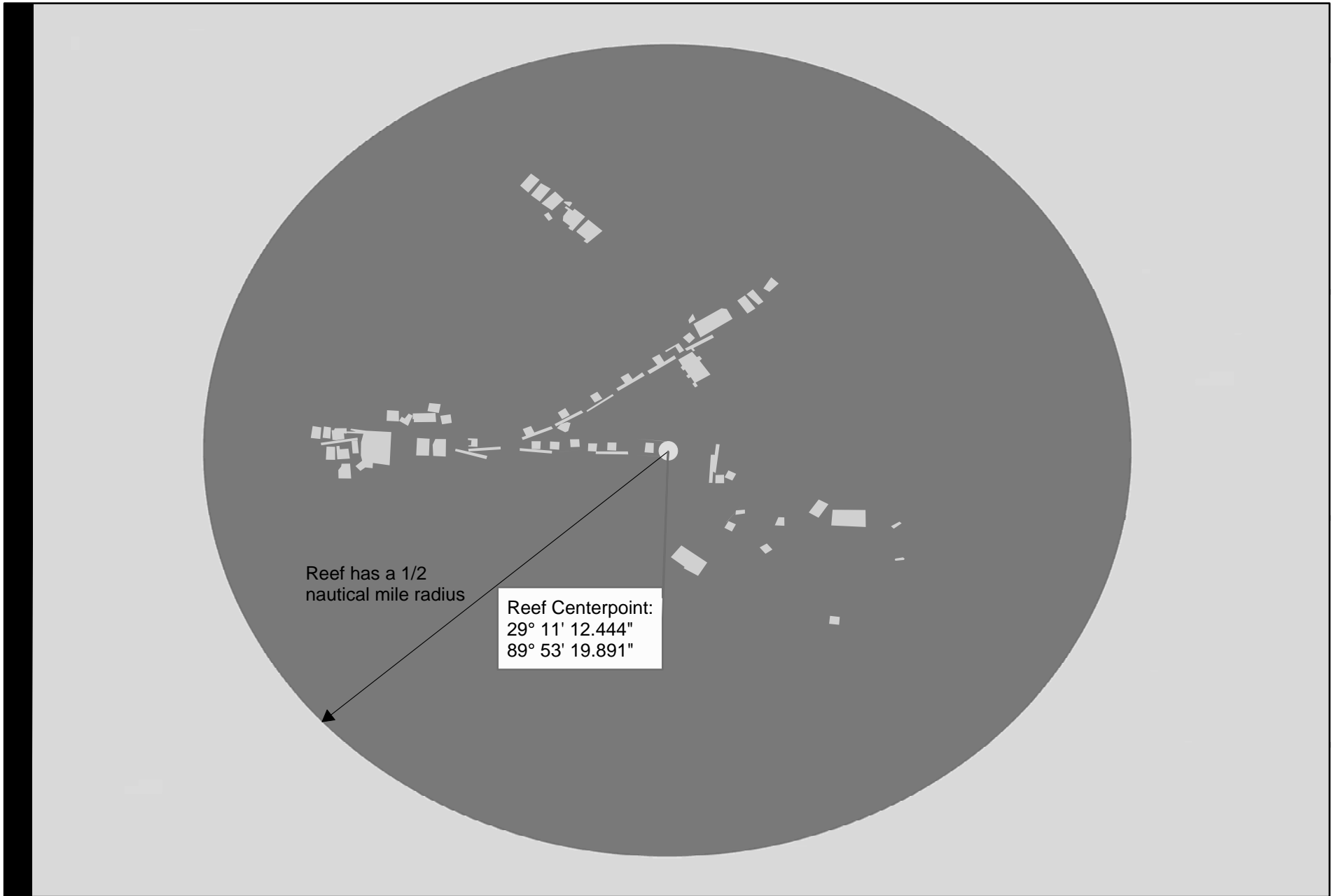
0 1 2 4 6 8 Nautical Miles

- Permitted Reef
- Fairways
- OCS Blocks



Grand Isle 9 Vicinity Map

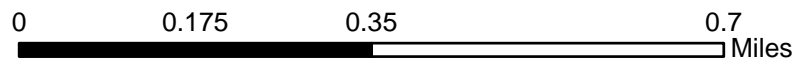


Louisiana Artificial Reef Program



Legend

-  Reefed Structures in GI-9 Reef
-  GI-9 Reef



Plan View: Grand Isle 9 Reef

March 09, 2017



Not to be used for navigation.

Established & Charted
Clearance: 27-ft

Minimum clearance:
30-ft

Maximum ht: 10-ft

Constructed reef material (10-12' wide)

Mudline: 40-ft

**Cross Section View of
Proposed Deployment
at GI-9 Reef**
March 9, 2017

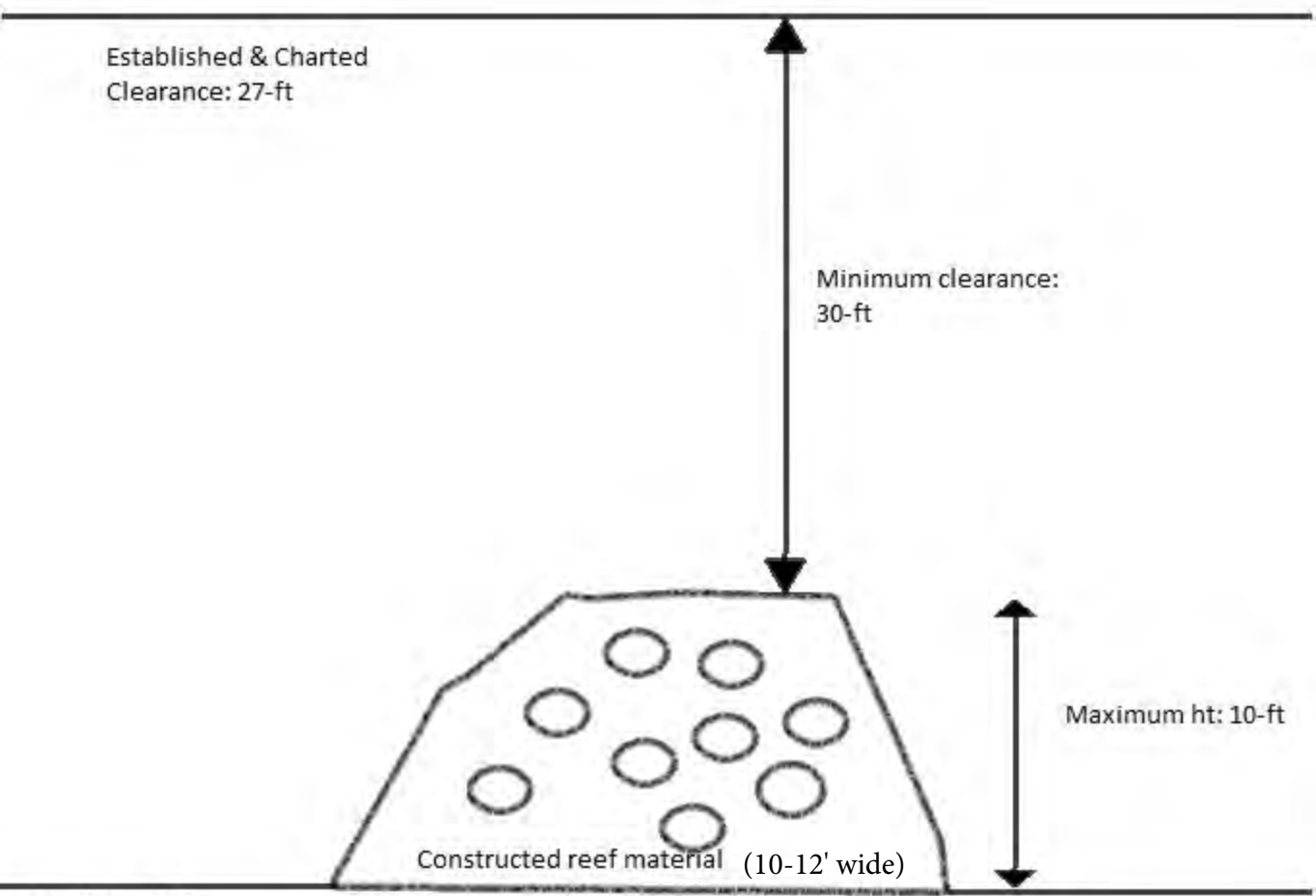


Figure 1



- 10' x 10' base
- 8' tall



- 12' x 12' x 12' base
- 10' tall