

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT 7400 LEAKE AVENUE NEW ORLEANS LA 70118-3651

August 5, 2024

Regulatory Division Western Branch

Project Manager: Sara Fortuna (504) 862-2284 <u>sara.b.fortuna@usace.army.mil</u>

Application #: MVN-2012-02126-WKK

PUBLIC NOTICE

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), New Orleans District (CEMVN) 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), and/or [X] Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. Section 408)

DREDGING, BOAT SLIP, BULKEAD, AND ACCESS ROAD IN IBERIA PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Breaux's Bay-Craft, Inc., c/o: Staples Engineering and Consulting, L.L.C., attn.: Mr. Chandler Staples, Post Office Box 1314, Youngsville, Louisiana 70592.

LOCATION OF WORK: Bayou Teche, at the existing Breaux's Bay-Craft, Inc. facility, located in the community of Loreauville, in Iberia Parish, Louisiana, (Latitude North: 30.055555°N, Longitude West: -91.741111°W), as shown within the attached drawings. (Hydrologic Unit Code 08080102, Vermilion-Teche Basin.

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant has requested Department of Army authorization to dredge approximately 1,610 cubic yards of fill material within a 29-foot wide by 68-foot long area in Bayou Teche and within a 35-foot wide by 80-foot long area, all for the construction of the boat slip, excavate approximately 652 cubic yards of earthen fill material to construct 350 linear feet of ditch with a depth of 18 inches along a 47-foot wide by 170-foot long access road, install 245 feet of bulkhead, and place approximately 62 cubic yards of concrete for runners and 380 cubic yards of gravel behind the bulkhead, 592 cubic yards of limestone for the access road, and 2,262 cubic yards of dredged fill material behind the bulkhead and spread onsite in non-wetland locations. The purpose of the project is to provide a new boat slip for the existing facility. It is anticipated that approximately 0.045 of an acre of emergent wetlands would be permanently impacted and 0.04 of an acre of non-wetland waters would be temporarily

impacted via project implementation. No trees would be cleared during project implementation. No compensatory mitigation would be required.

The comment period for the requested Department of Army Permit will close 20 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 request, and must be submitted so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters and/or comments concerning the subject permit application must reference the Applicant's Name and the Permit Application Number and can be preferably emailed to the CEMVN's project manager listed above or forwarded to the CEMVN at the address above, ATTENTION: REGULATORY DIVISION, RGW, Sara Fortuna. Individuals or parties may also request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by mail or preferably by emailing the specified project manager listed above. Any request for an extension of time to comment 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 Branch Chief will review the request and the requester will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous and inclusive of the initial comment period and will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days. This public notice is also available for review online at https://go.usa.gov/xennJ

USACE 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.

This request will also be reviewed pursuant to Section 408 and USACE Engineering Circular (EC) 1165-2-220, which provides policy and procedural guidance for processing requests to alter USACE civil works projects.

The decision whether to grant permission for the requested alteration will be based on several factors. The benefits that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal will be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. Review of the requests for modification will be reviewed by a USACE technical review team considering the following factors:

a. Potential to Impair the Usefulness of the Project. Proposed alterations will be reviewed to determine whether the alteration would limit the ability of the USACE project to function as authorized, or would compromise or change any authorized project conditions, purposes or outputs. If USACE determines that the usefulness of the authorized project would be impaired, the request will be denied.

b. Potential to be Injurious to the Public Interest. Proposed alterations will be reviewed to determine the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, on the public interest. Factors that may be relevant to the public interest depend upon the type of USACE project being altered and may include, but are not limited to, such things as conservation, economic development, historic properties, cultural resources, environmental impacts, water supply, water quality, flood hazards, floodplains, residual risk, induced damages, navigation, shore erosion or accretion, and recreation. This evaluation will consider information received from the interested parties, including tribes, agencies, and the public. The decision whether to approve an alteration will be determined by the consideration of whether benefits are commensurate with risks. If the potential detriments are found to outweigh the potential benefits, then it may be determined that the proposed alteration is injurious to the public interest.

CEMVN is soliciting comments from area residents, 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 CEMVN 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 communities with environmental justice concerns, 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. Further, all factors that may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the potential cumulative effects associated with the proposed project. The Section 408 review will consider the potential impact to the usefulness of the Federal project and whether the proposed alteration would be injurious to the public interest. Policy and legal compliance will also be considered.

CEMVN is presently unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places at or near the proposed work but is pending further review in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. As deemed necessary, copies of this public notice will be sent to the

State Archeologist, State Historic Preservation Officer, and federally listed tribes regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would have no effect on any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any such species.

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 LA Department of Environmental Quality before a Department of the Army permit is issued.

Any person may request, (preferably by email to the project manager, or 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 invited to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Sincerely,

Darrell S. Barbara Chief, Western Branch Regulatory Division

Enclosure













