

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

June 13, 2022

Regulatory Division Central Evaluation Branch

Zachary Steinkoenig (504) 862-1288 Zachary.j.steinkoenig@usace.army.mil Application #: MVN-2019-01017-CF

PUBLIC NOTICE

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the US 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), [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

PROPOSED REHABILITATION AND EXPANSION OF THE NORTHERN DEEP-WATER BERTH AT THE PORT OF GREATER BATON ROUTE WITHIN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

NAME OF APPLICANT: PORT OF GREATER BATON ROUGE, c/o Ragland, Aderman & Associates, Inc., 3888 Government Suite, Suite 100, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, ATTN: James Ragland

LOCATION OF WORK: Located at the existing Port of Greater Baton Rouge, right descending bank of the Mississippi River, mile point 229.5, Latitude 30.445556, Longitude -91.200278, within the Mississippi River Basin in hydrologic unit (HUC 08070100), as shown on the attached drawings.

<u>CHARACTER OF WORK</u>: The applicant has requested Department of the Army authorization to add a walkway, two new platform dolphins, new mooring dolphins, and repair rip-rap to existing berthing structures adjacent to Dock 2 of the Port of Baton Rouge Deep-water Berth. The purpose of the additional structures is to provide the port with additional capacity for larger sized tankers and barges. Approximately 0.09 acre of additional structural deck and 0.04 acre of walkway will be added to the existing structure. In addition, approximately 0.10 acre of rip-rap will be placed on Mississippi River waterbottoms for repair when the new piles are installed. The project proposed no dredging and no impacts to batture wetlands.

The applicant's design proposed to avoid impacts to wetlands and fill is limited to rip-rap repair areas.

The comment period for the Department of Army Permit will close in <u>30 days</u> from the date of this public notice. This public notice is also available for review online at

https://go.usa.gov/xennJ. 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 and/or comments concerning the subject permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number and preferably emailed to the Corps of Engineers project manager listed above or forwarded to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, <u>ATTENTION:</u> **REGULATORY DIVISION**, **RGC**, *Zachary Steinkoenig*.

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 regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

The New Orleans District has determined that the proposed project is located in waters known to be utilized by the pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) and determined that the proposed activity is not likely to adversely affect the species based

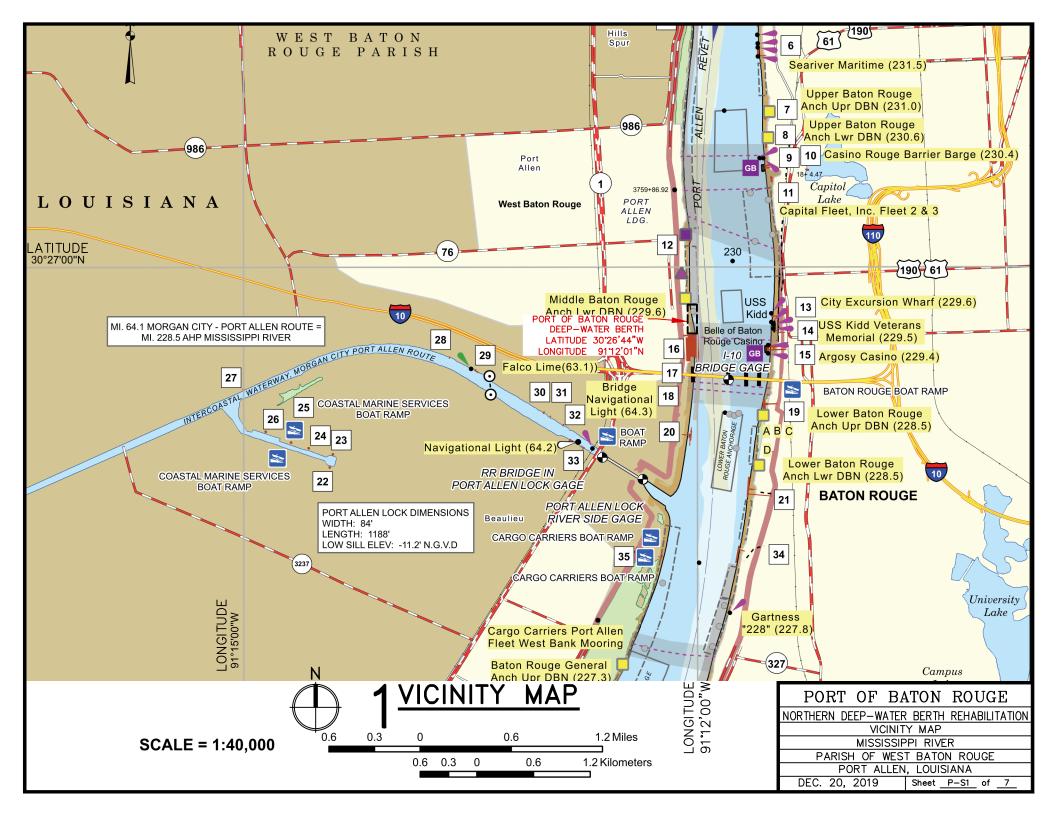
on the Information & Planning Consultation for Endangered Species (IPaC) procedure, as signed on January 27, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal may result in the destruction, alteration and/or disturbance of $\underline{N/A}$ 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 water quality standards will be required from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services before a Department of the Army permit can be 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 Branch Regulatory Division





Z SITE PLAN-NORTHERN DEEP-WATER BERTH SCALE: 1"=400'-0" LARGEST VESSEL - AFRAMAX TANKER

PORT OF BA	TON ROUGE
NORTHERN DEEP-WATER BERTH REHABILITATION	
PLAN NORTHERN DEEP-WATER BERTH MOORING	
MISSISSIPPI RIVER	
PARISH OF WEST BATON ROUGE	
PORT ALLEN, LOUISIANA	
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