

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

July 25, 2022

United States Army
Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Regulatory, Eastern Evaluation Branch
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118
Permit Application Number:
MVN-2020-0034-EPP
Project Manager:
Stephanie Castaing
504-862-1564
Stephanie.L.Castaing@usace.army.mil

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).

RING LEVEE SYSTEM-JONES POINT IN JEFFERSON PARISH.

NAME OF APPLICANT: Lafitte Area Independent Levee District, c/o ELOS Environmental LLC, Attention: Randal Daigle, 607 West Morris Avenue, Hammond, Louisiana 70403.

LOCATION OF WORK: Jones Point, in Marrero, Louisiana, in Jefferson Parish, as shown on the attached drawings.

POB: Latitude: 29.753516 Longitude: -90.14228

Hydrologic Unit Codes: 08090301, East Central Louisiana-Coastal

CHARACTER OF WORK: Installation of a ring levee system to provide tidal protection to the community of Jones Point. The project as proposed would permanently impact approximately 7.81 acres and temporarily impact 4.69 acres of wetlands and other waters. Project implementation would require the excavation/fill of 4,413 cubic yards of native material and deposition of 2,607 cubic yards of crushed stone, 4,122 cubic yards of rock, 5,245 cubic yards of sand, and 99, 420 cubic yards of clay. The applicant has stated, the proposed project will result in a net benefit to the aquatic environment; therefore, compensatory mitigation has not been proposed.

The comment period on the requested Department of the 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 Corps of Engineers project manager listed above or forwarded to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, ATTENTION: REGULATORY DIVISION, RGE, Stephanie Castaing. 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 requestor 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.

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 has determined that additional information is required for NHPA compliance review. 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.

The New Orleans District has determined that the activity is not likely to adversely affect the West Indian Manatee and may affect, but not likely to adversely affect the Eastern Black Rail, based on the Information & Planning Consultation for Endangered Species in Louisiana (IPaC), dated January 27, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office. Further coordination has been initiated with the Louisiana Ecological Services Office regarding the Eastern Black Rail.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work is Not Likely to Adversely Affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Departments of Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of such 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 <u>7.81</u> acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would have no 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, Water Quality Certifications, before a permit is issued.

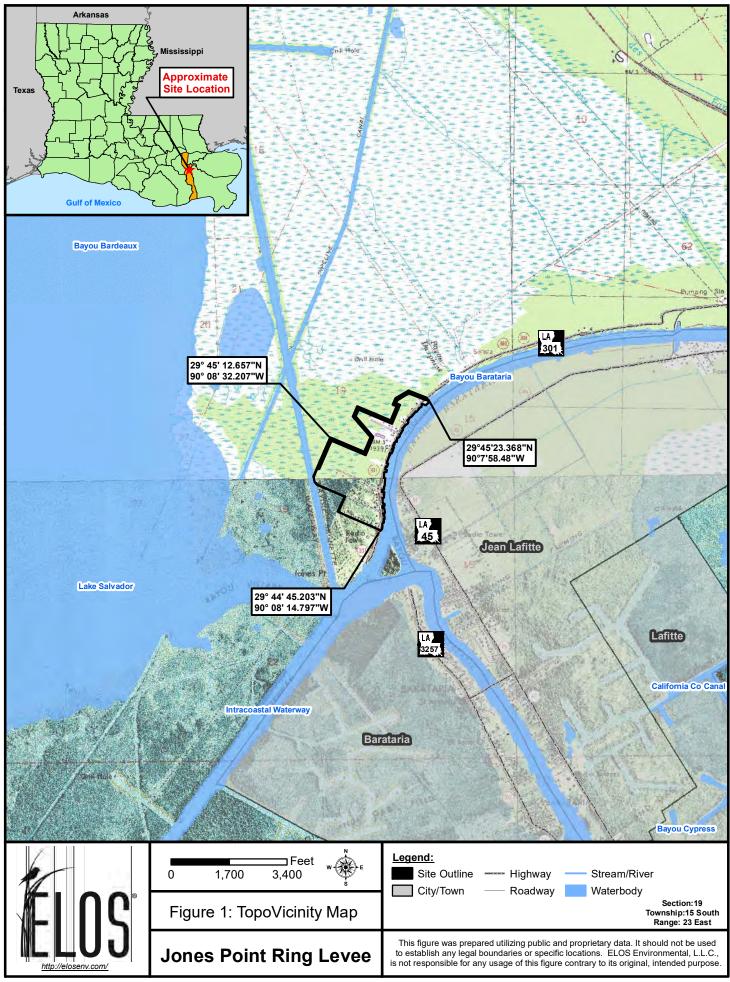
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

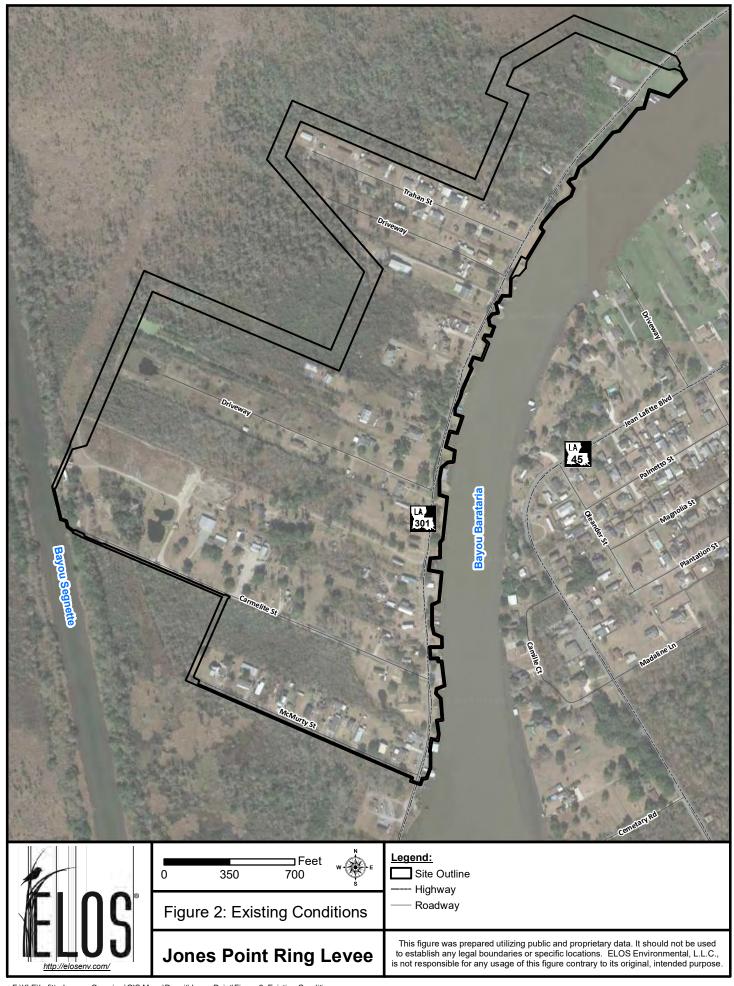
The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

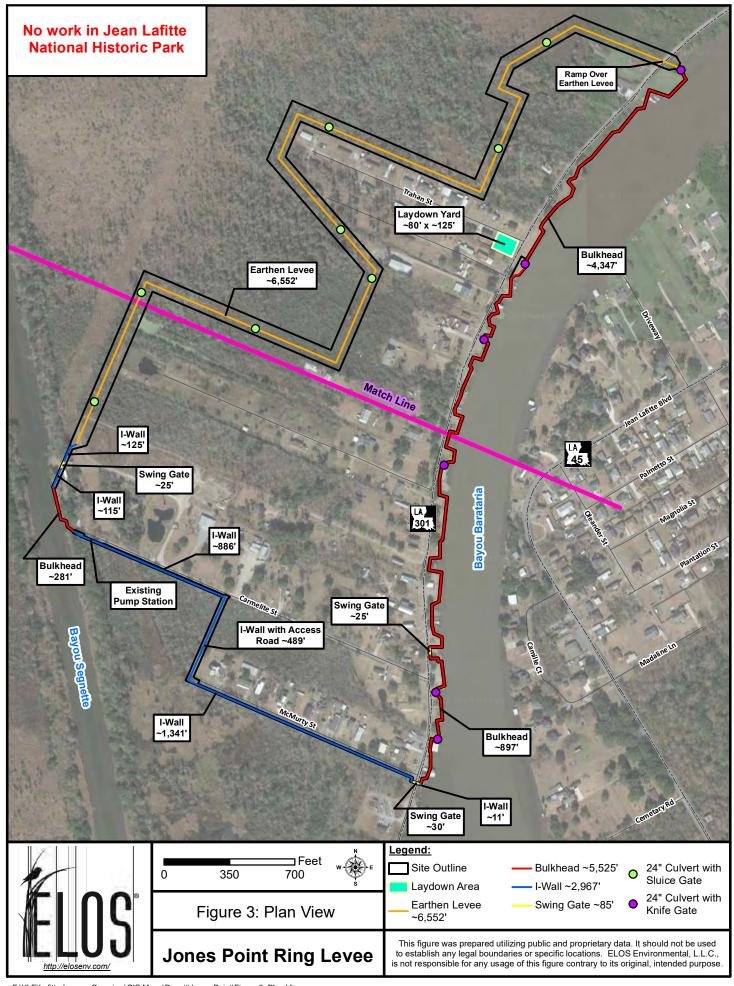
You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

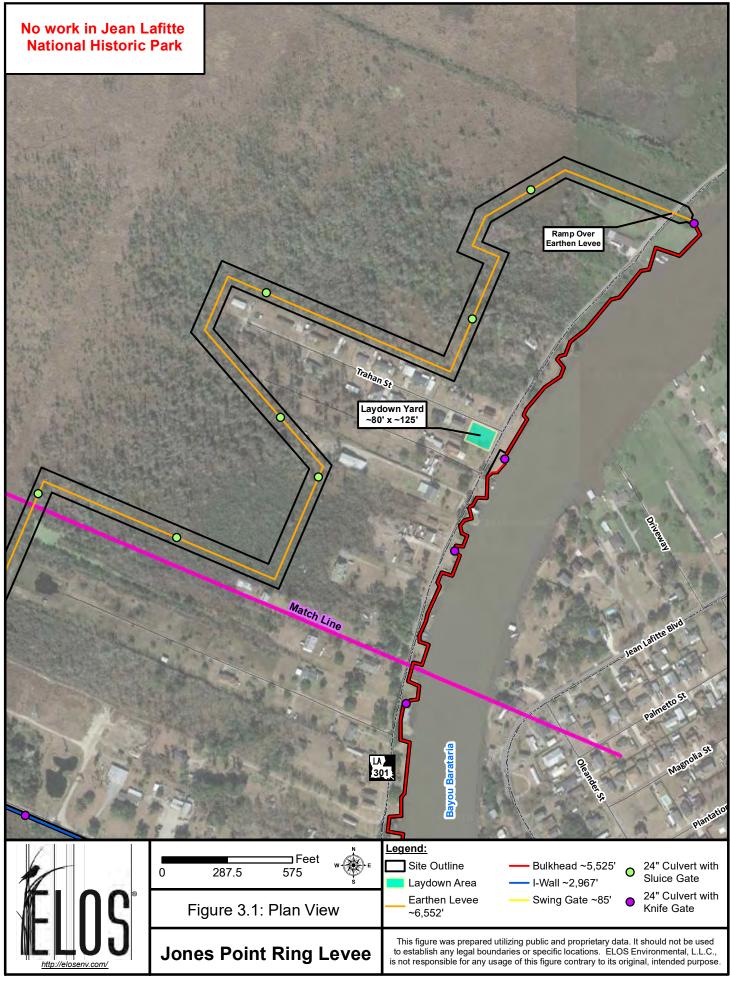
Michael V. Farabee Chief, Eastern Evaluation Branch

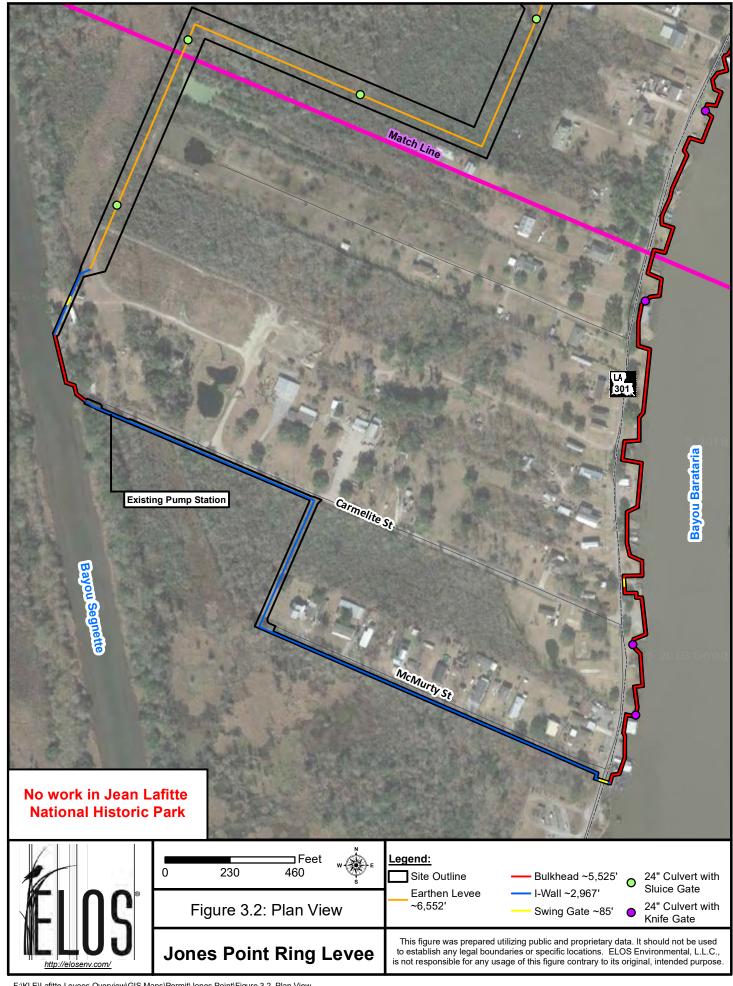
Enclosure

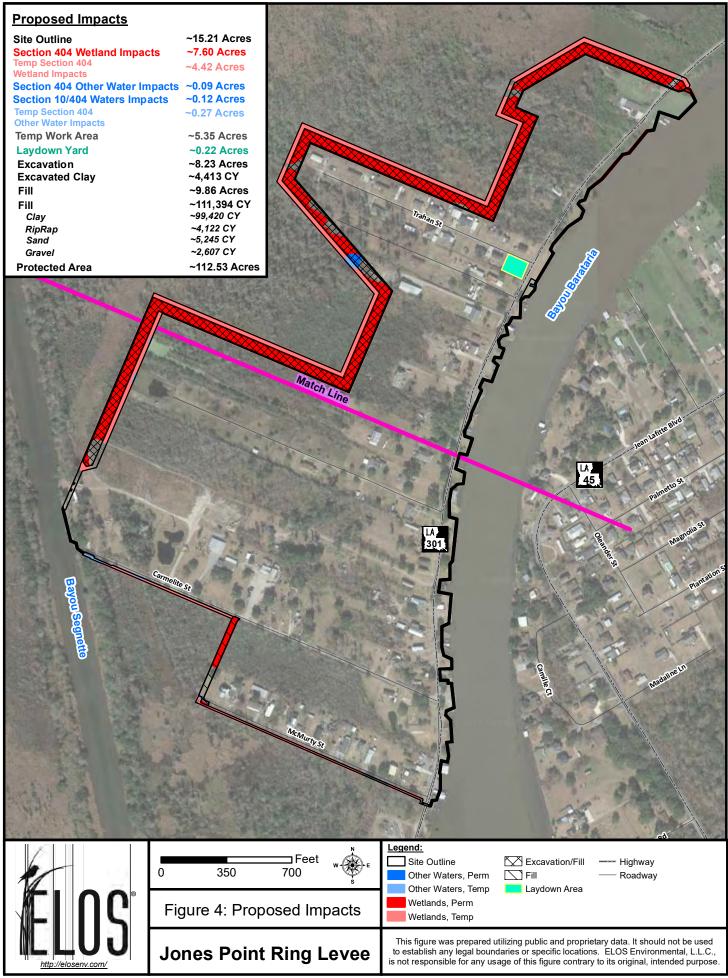


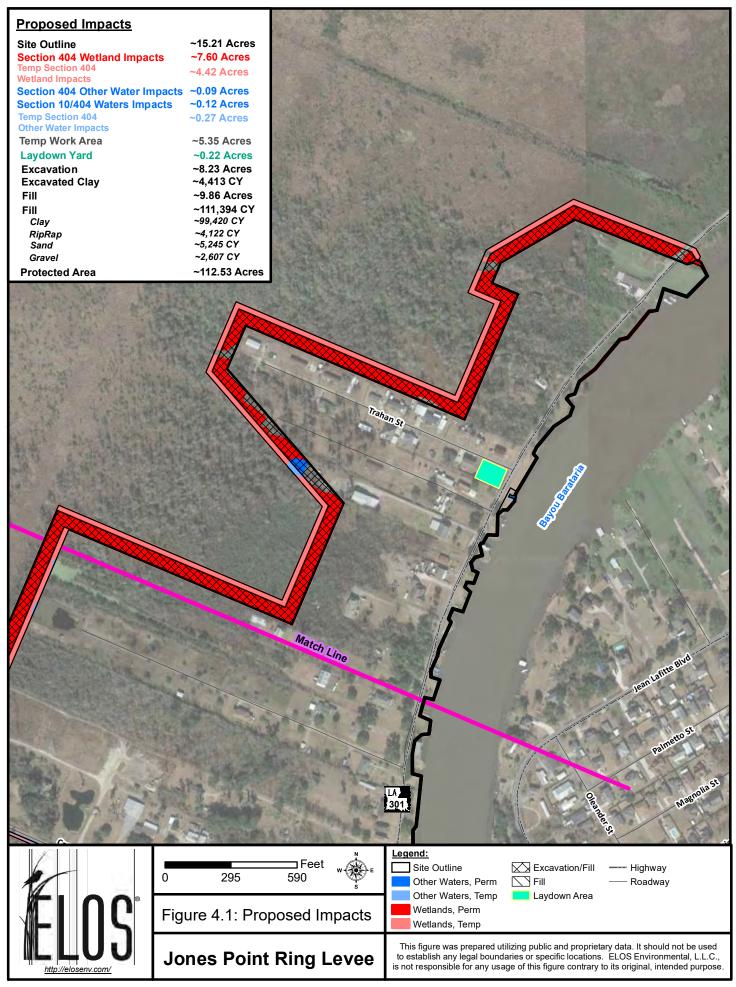


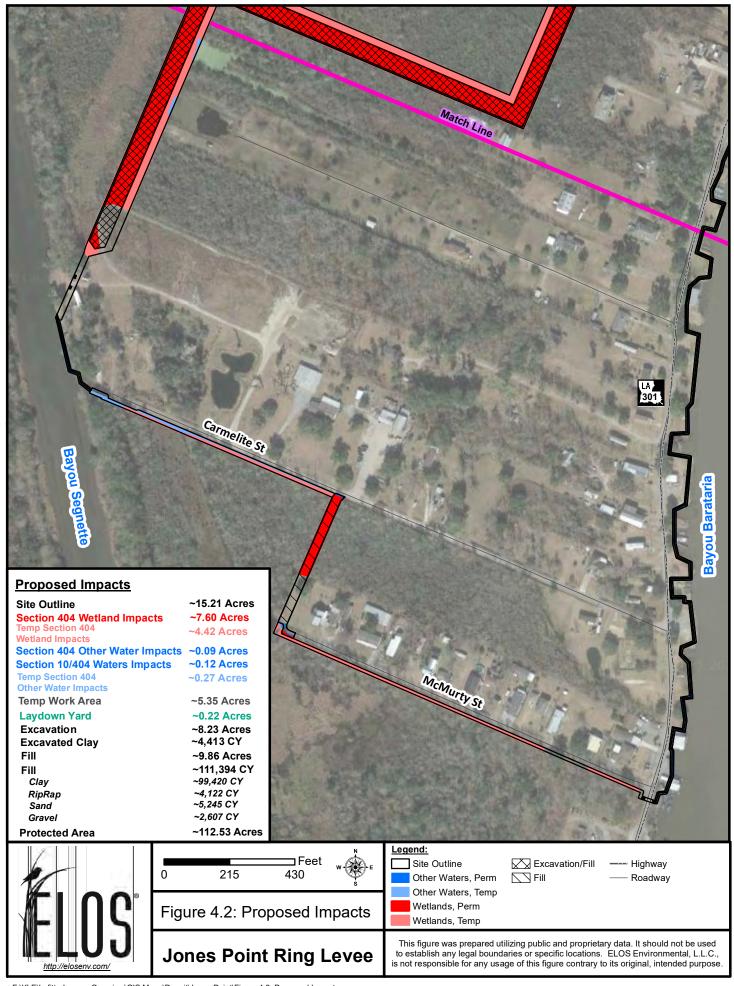


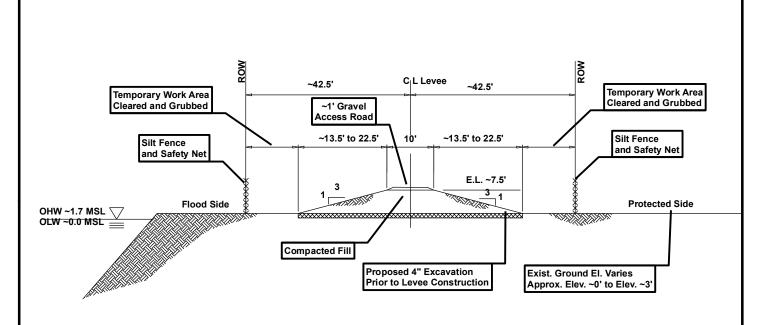










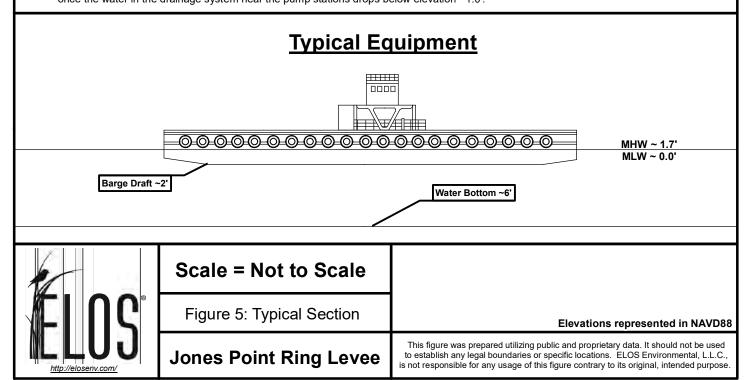


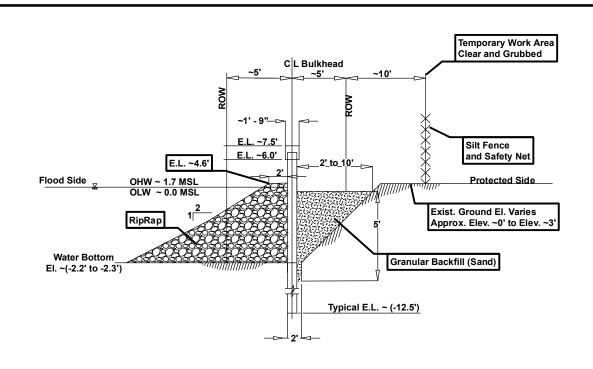
Typical Earthen Levee

Operation Plan

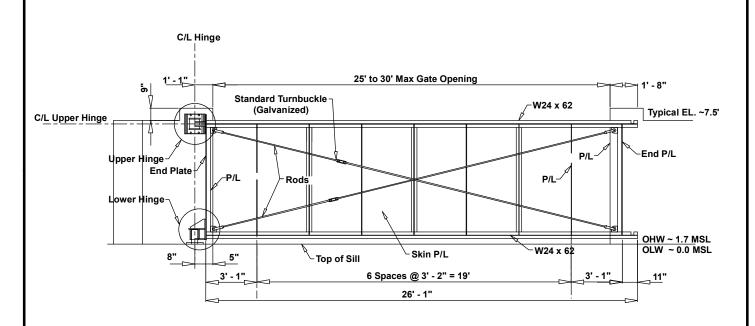
During rain events with normal tide levels, the drainage system will generally perform the same way it currently does. The northern area will gravity flow towards the northwest. The southernmost area currently has a pump station at Carmelite Street. This pump station will be removed, but a new pump in the same general area will pump the water to Bayou Villars on the west side, as it currently does now.

The tidal protection systems will be activated during a high tide event. It is anticipated that when the water surface elevation in the drainage system near the pump stations reaches elevation ~2.0', both the existing and new pump stations will turn on. Once the water surface elevation reaches ~3.0', flood gates will be closed and all sluice gates and knife gates on culverts crossing the protection system will be closed as well. The rain water that normally would gravity flow during normal tide levels will then be pumped by the new pump stations towards Bayou Barataria. Once the high tide event ends and the water surface elevation in Bayou Barataria drops below ~2.0' the flood gates, sluice gates, and knifegates will be reopened. The pump stations will shut down once the water in the drainage system near the pump stations drops below elevation ~1.0'.





Typical Bulkhead



Typical Swing Gate



Scale = Not to Scale

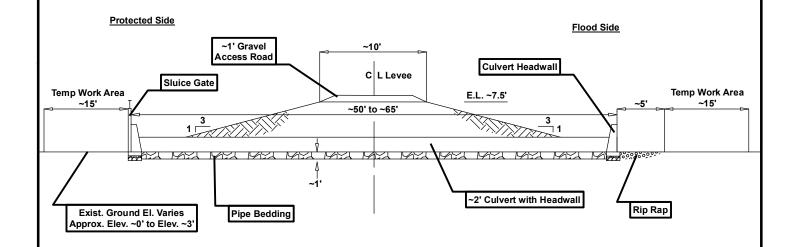
Figure 6: Typical Section

Elevations represented in NAVD88

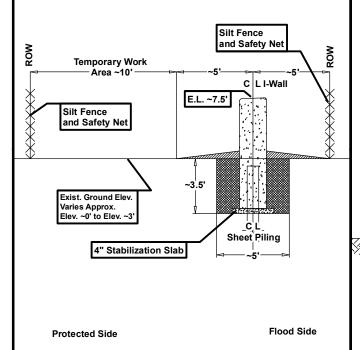
Jones Point Ring Levee

This figure was prepared utilizing public and proprietary data. It should not be used to establish any legal boundaries or specific locations. ELOS Environmental, L.L.C., is not responsible for any usage of this figure contrary to its original, intended purpose.

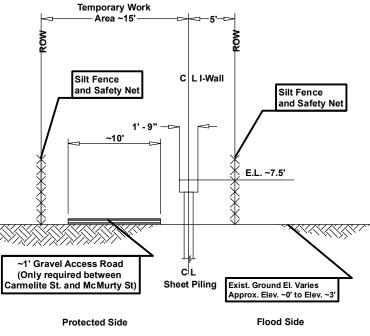
Typical Levee Section at Drainage Culvert



Typical I-Wall Section ~10' on Each Side of Swing Gate



Typical I-Wall and Access Road Section





Scale = Not to Scale

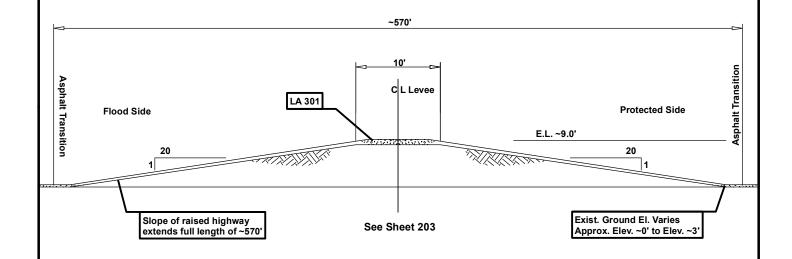
Figure 7: Typical Section

Jones Point Ring Levee

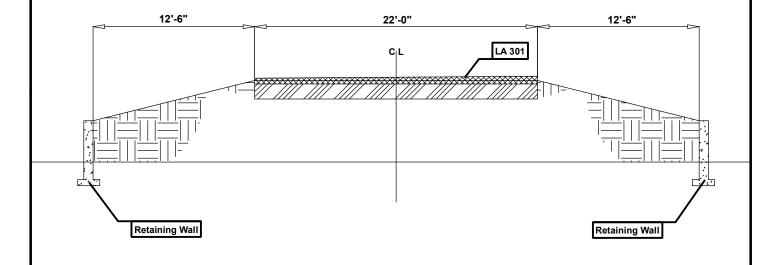
Elevations represented in NAVD88

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Typical Cross Section of LA 301 Highway Raised Over Earthen Levee





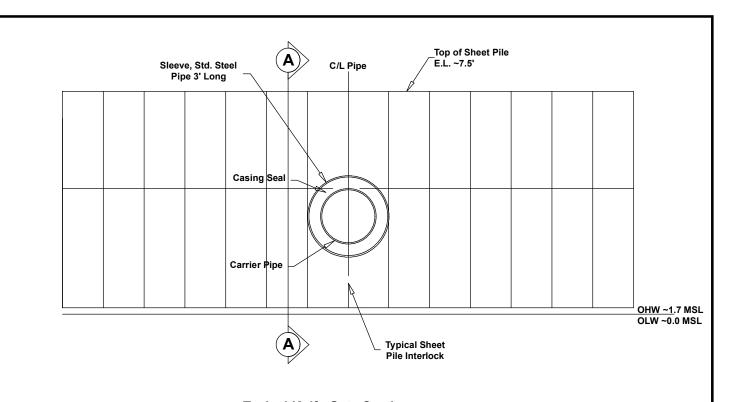
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Figure 8: Typical Section

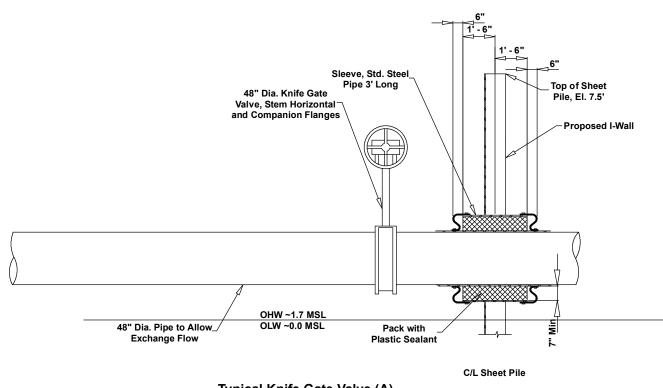
Jones Point Ring Levee

Elevations represented in NAVD88

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Typical Knife Gate Section



Typical Knife Gate Valve (A)



Scale = Not to Scale

Figure 9: Typical Section

Elevations Represented in NAVD88

Jones Point Ring Levee

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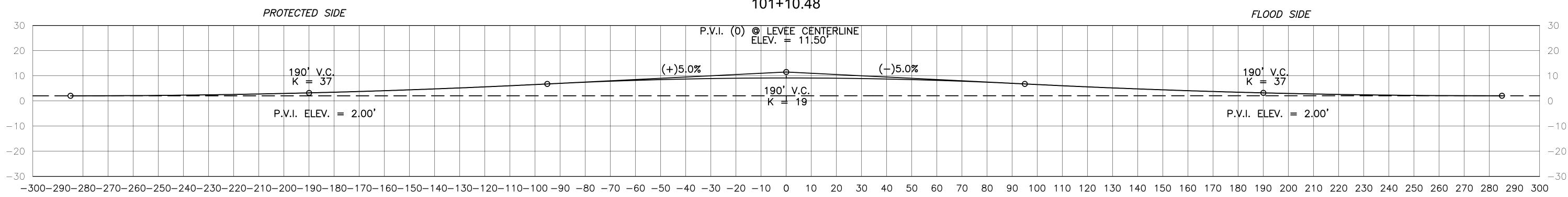
Meyer Engineers, Ltd.

JEFFERSON PARISH E DISTRICT, OWNER

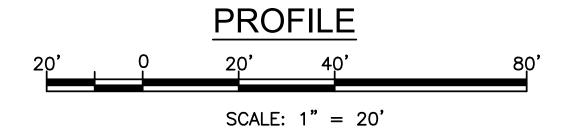
PROTECTION,

sheet no.

STATION ALONG LEVEE CENTERLINE 101+10.48



DESIGN SPEED = 30 MPH



100% PRELIMINARY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

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