

#### **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

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

July 18, 2022

Regulatory Division Central Evaluation Branch

Project Manager:
Jamie Crowe
(504) 862-2675
Jamie.M.Crowe@usace.army.mil
Application #: MVN 2022-00088 CO

## **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).

# PROPOSED BARGE FLEET IN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN WEST BATON ROUGE PARISH

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Wood Resources, LLC, c/o Lanier and Associates Consulting Engineers, Inc., 4101 Magazine Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70115.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** In the Mississippi River Basin, in the Mississippi River – Lower Baton Rouge Hydrologic Unit (HUC 08070100); in the Mississippi River, right descending bank, mile 242, in West Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, as shown on the attached drawings.

<u>CHARACTER OF WORK:</u> The applicant has requested a Department of the Army authorization to install and maintain 88 monopiles to secure three blocks of barges consisting of one block of 9 tiers, each 8 barges wide; one block of 23 tiers, each 8 barges wide; and one block of 12 tiers, each 8 barges wide. All work will be performed by a barge-mounted crane from the waterway. No special aquatic sites will be affected by this project; no mitigation is anticipated.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit will close <u>30 days</u> from the date of this public notice. The public notice can be reviewed at <a href="https://go.usa.gov/xennJ">https://go.usa.gov/xennJ</a>. 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 <a href="pereferably">pereferably</a> emailed to the Corps of Engineers project manager listed above or forwarded to the Corps

of Engineers at the address above, <u>ATTENTION: REGULATORY DIVISION, RGC, Jamie</u> <u>Crowe</u>.

### **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. Issuance of this public notice solicits input from 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 Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species.

The New Orleans District has determined that the proposed project is not likely to adversely affect the pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*). No other known endangered/threatened species listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Interior will be impacted by the proposed activity. These determinations are based on Information & Planning Consultation for Endangered Species in Louisiana (IPaC) agreement dated January 27, 2020 between the US Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District and US Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office

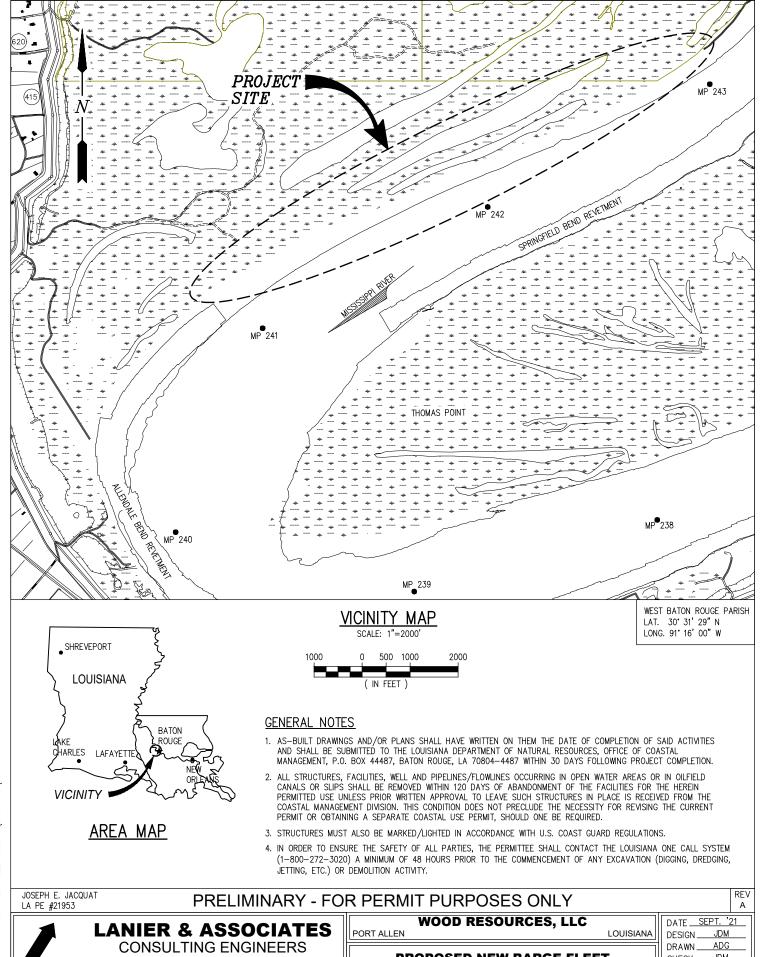
This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's

proposal may result in the destruction, alteration and/or disturbance of <u>n/a</u> 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.

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

**Enclosure** 



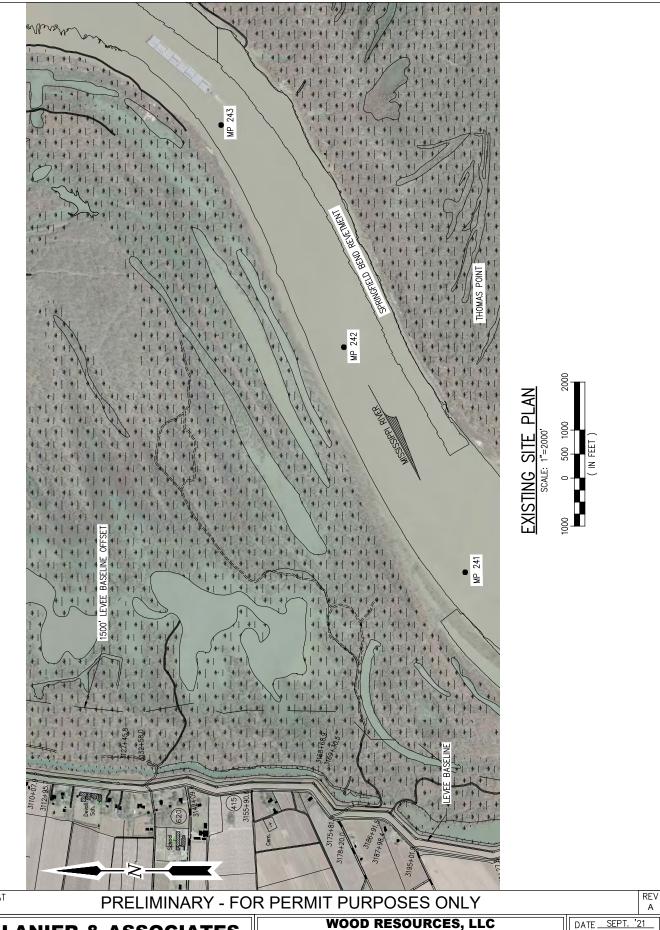
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PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET AREA MAP, VICINITY MAP & NOTES

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JOSEPH E. JACQUAT LA PE #21953

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PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET
EXISTING SITE PLAN

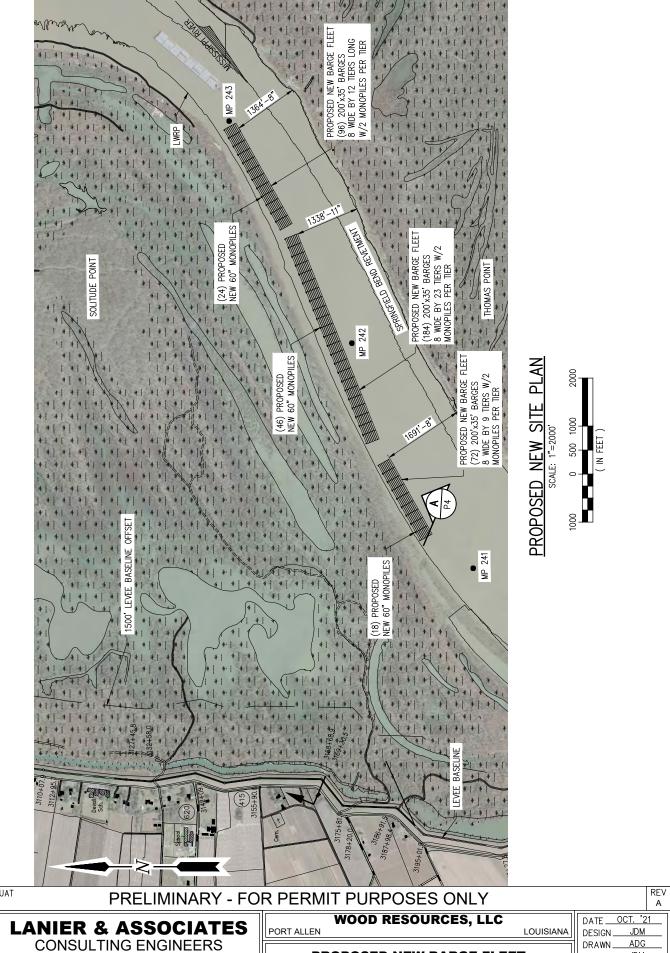
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LANIER & ASSOCIATES
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
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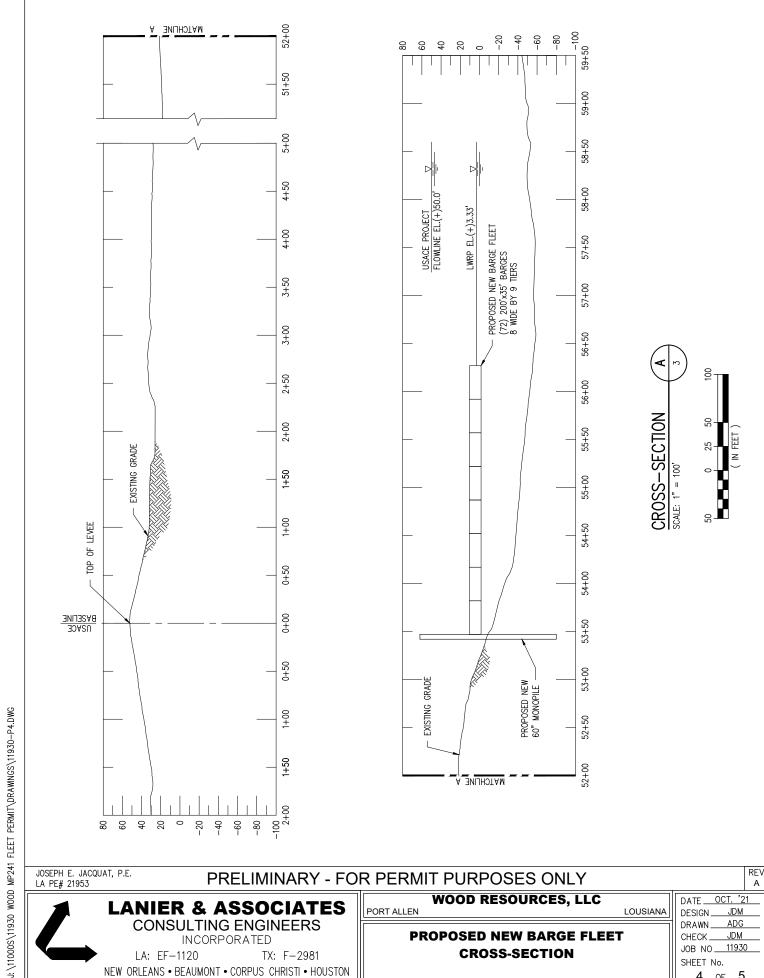


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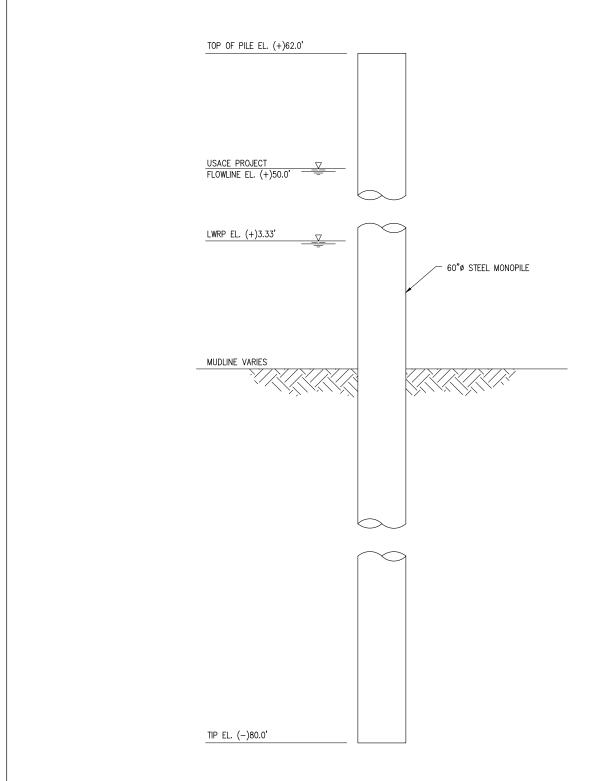
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PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET PROPOSED NEW SITE PLAN

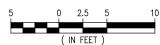


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### MONOPILE DETAIL



PRELIMINARY - FOR PERMIT PURPOSES ONLY

JOSEPH E. JACQUAT, P.E. LA PE #21953

**LANIER & ASSOCIATES CONSULTING ENGINEERS** 

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**WOOD RESOURCES, LLC** PORT ALLEN

> PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET **MONOPILE DETAIL**

DATE <u>OCT. '21</u> JDM DESIGN\_ DRAWN\_ ADG CHECK . JDM 11930 JOB NO\_

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