



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

August 29, 2022

Regulatory Division  
Central Evaluation Branch

Project Manager  
S. Gail Gainey  
(504) 862-1545  
Sandra.g.gainey@usace.army.mil

SUBJECT: MVN-2022-00561-CG

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received by the District engineer for a Department of the Army permit to authorize the following 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); and ( ) Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. Section 408).

### **PROPOSED BARGE FLEET IN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, RDB AT RM 218.5 IN WEST BATON ROUGE PARISH**

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Florida Marine Transporters c/o John Maurin of Lanier & Associates Consulting Engineers, Inc., 4101 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA 70115.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** In the Mississippi River, Right Descending Bank, River Mile 218.5 right descending bank, east of Morrisonville, Louisiana, in West Baton Rouge Parish, within the Mississippi River Basin in hydrologic unit (HUC 08070100), as shown on the attached drawings (Latitude 30.342499 N, Longitude -91.183888 W).

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The applicant has requested Department of the Army authorization to install, operate, and maintain a barge fleet to include two blocks of barges moored in place with a head anchor and pull chain on a seven-spar barge string with a tail anchor and chain. The maximum size of the fleet will be two blocks consisting of seven tiers, nine barges wide (126 barges total). Approximately 20.25 acres of traditionally navigable waterways would be impacted by the fleet. It is anticipated that the proposed action would have minimal impact on adjacent wetlands as all work will be performed from vessels in the waterway and no access to or from the adjacent wetlands is proposed.

The applicant proposes to avoid additional direct impacts and minimize secondary impacts to the maximum extent practicable by avoiding all adjacent wetlands, limiting the activity to the designated over-water work areas at the site of the proposed fleet, and through compliance with all

U.S. Coast Guard navigational requirements. No compensatory mitigation has been proposed as this project does not include impacts to wetlands.

The comment period for the Department of Army will close in **30 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 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 **ATTENTION: REGULATORY DIVISION, RGC, S. Gail Gainey**. This public notice is also available for review online at <https://go.usa.gov/xennJ>.

### **Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria**

The decision whether to issue a Section 10 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 utilizes the National Register of Historic Places to identify properties listed on or near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. However, extent of coverage and impacts is undetermined at this time pending a National Historic Preservation Act compliance determination. Copies of this notice are made available to the State Archeologist and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Departments of Interior or Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as

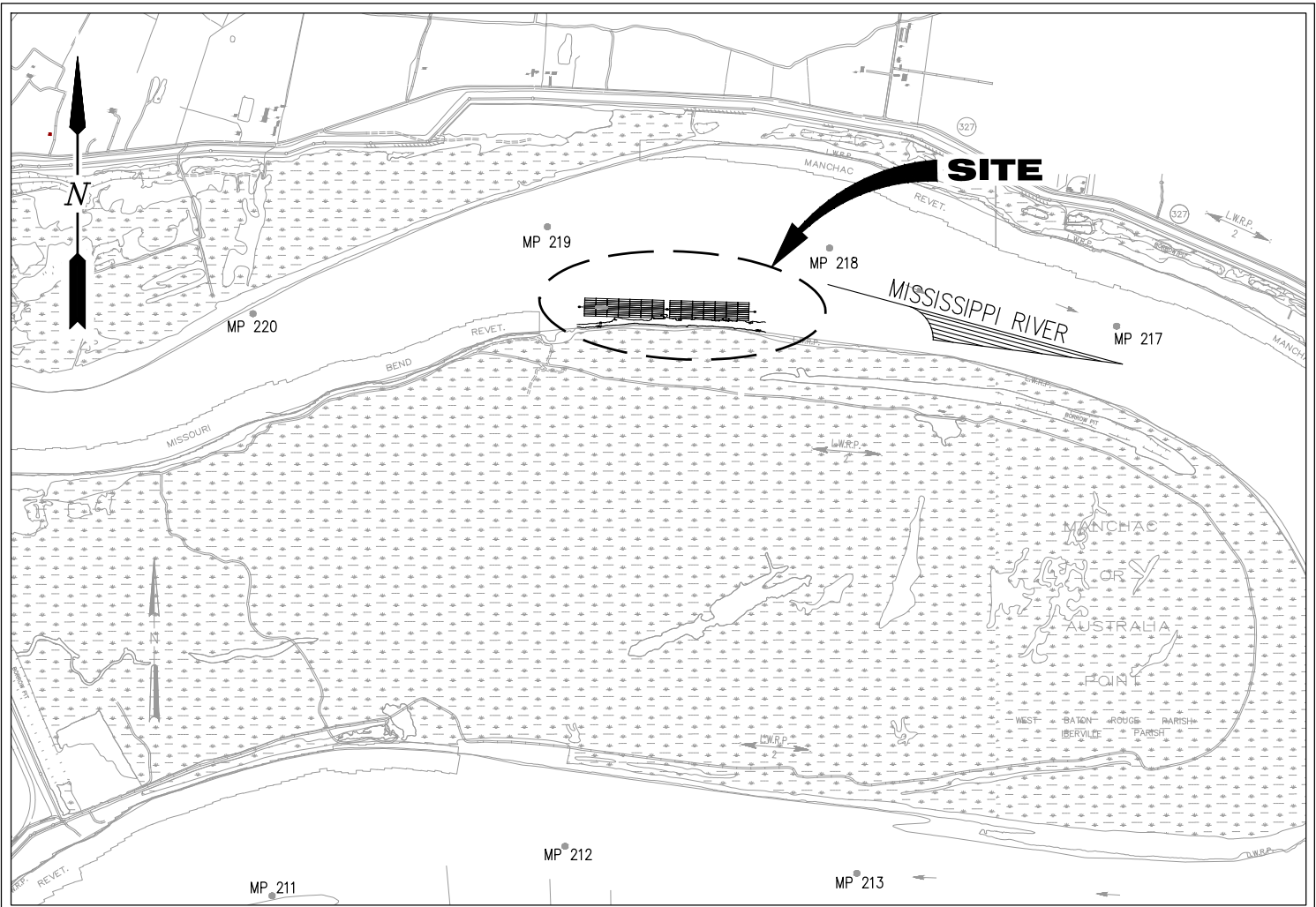
critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species. Utilizing Information, Planning and Consultation (IPAC) for Endangered Species in Louisiana, signed on January 27, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would have no effect on West Indian Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) and is not likely to adversely affect Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*).

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 0 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.

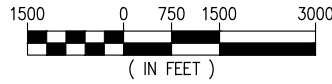
John M. Herman  
Chief, Central Evaluation Branch  
Regulatory Division

Enclosures

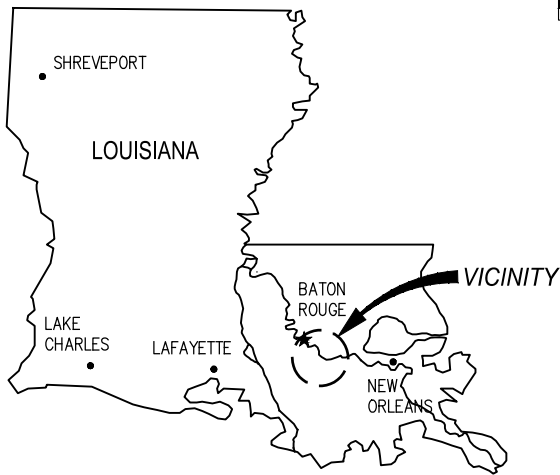


**VICINITY MAP**

SCALE: 1" = 3000'



WEST BATON ROUGE PARISH  
 LAT. 30° 20' 33" N  
 LONG. 91° 11' 02" W



**AREA MAP**

**NOTES**

1. AS-BUILT DRAWINGS AND/OR PLANS SHALL HAVE WRITTEN ON THEM THE DATE OF COMPLETION OF SAID ACTIVITIES AND SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, OFFICE OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT, P.O. BOX 44487, BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-4487 WITHIN 30 DAYS FOLLOWING PROJECT COMPLETION.
2. ALL STRUCTURES, FACILITIES, WELL AND PIPELINES/FLOWLINES OCCURRING IN OPEN WATER AREAS OR IN OILFIELD CANALS OR SLIPS SHALL BE REMOVED WITHIN 120 DAYS OF ABANDONMENT OF THE FACILITIES FOR THE HEREIN PERMITTED USE UNLESS PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL TO LEAVE SUCH STRUCTURES IN PLACE IS RECEIVED FROM THE COASTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION. THIS CONDITION DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE NECESSITY FOR REVISING THE CURRENT PERMIT OR OBTAINING A SEPARATE COASTAL USE PERMIT, SHOULD ONE BE REQUIRED.
3. STRUCTURES MUST ALSO BE MARKED/LIGHTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH U.S. COAST GUARD REGULATIONS.
4. IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL PARTIES, THE PERMITEE SHALL CONTACT THE LOUISIANA ONE CALL SYSTEM (1-800-272-3020) A MINIMUM OF 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF ANY EXCAVATION (DIGGING, DREDGING, JETTING, ETC.) OR DEMOLITION ACTIVITY.
5. ALL ELEVATIONS REFER TO NAVD 88 UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.

JOSEPH E. JACQUET P.E.  
 LA PE #21953

**PRELIMINARY - FOR PERMIT PURPOSES ONLY**

REV A

**LANIER & ASSOCIATES**  
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
 INCORPORATED

LA: EF-1120 TX: F-2981  
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**FLORIDA MARINE TRANSPORTERS**  
 MORRISONVILLE LOUISIANA

**PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET  
 VICINITY MAP, AREA MAP & NOTES**

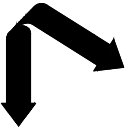
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 DESIGN JDM  
 DRAWN ADG  
 CHECK JDM  
 JOB NO 12075  
 SHEET No.

1 OF 6

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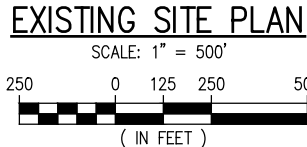


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PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET  
EXISTING SITE PLAN

DATE MAR. '22  
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SHEET No. 2 OF 6



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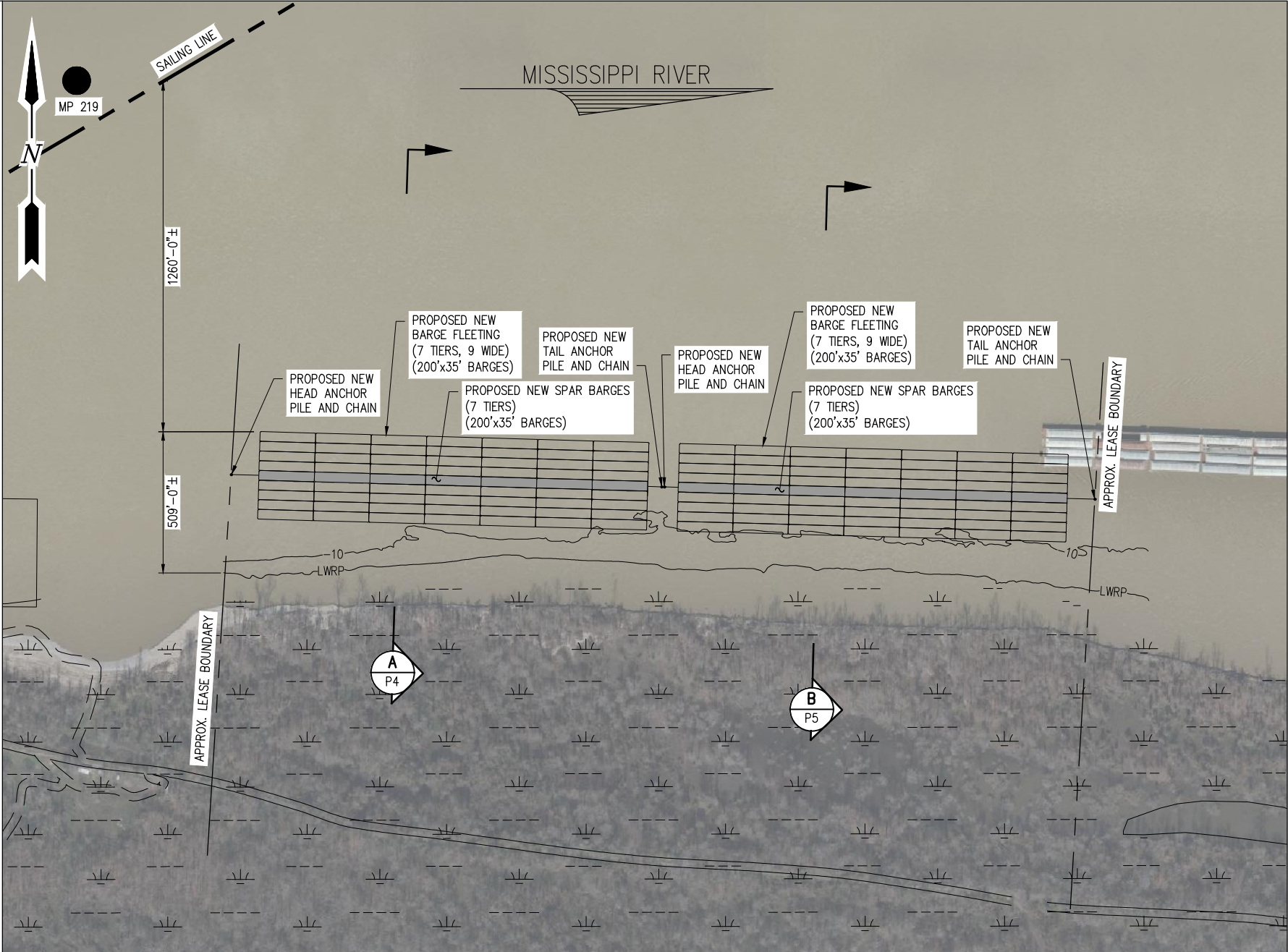


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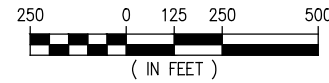
**PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET**  
**PROPOSED NEW SITE PLAN**

DATE	MAR. '22
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DRAWN	ADG
CHECK	JDM
JOB NO.	12075
SHEET No.	3 OF 6



**PROPOSED NEW SITE PLAN**

SCALE: 1" = 500'



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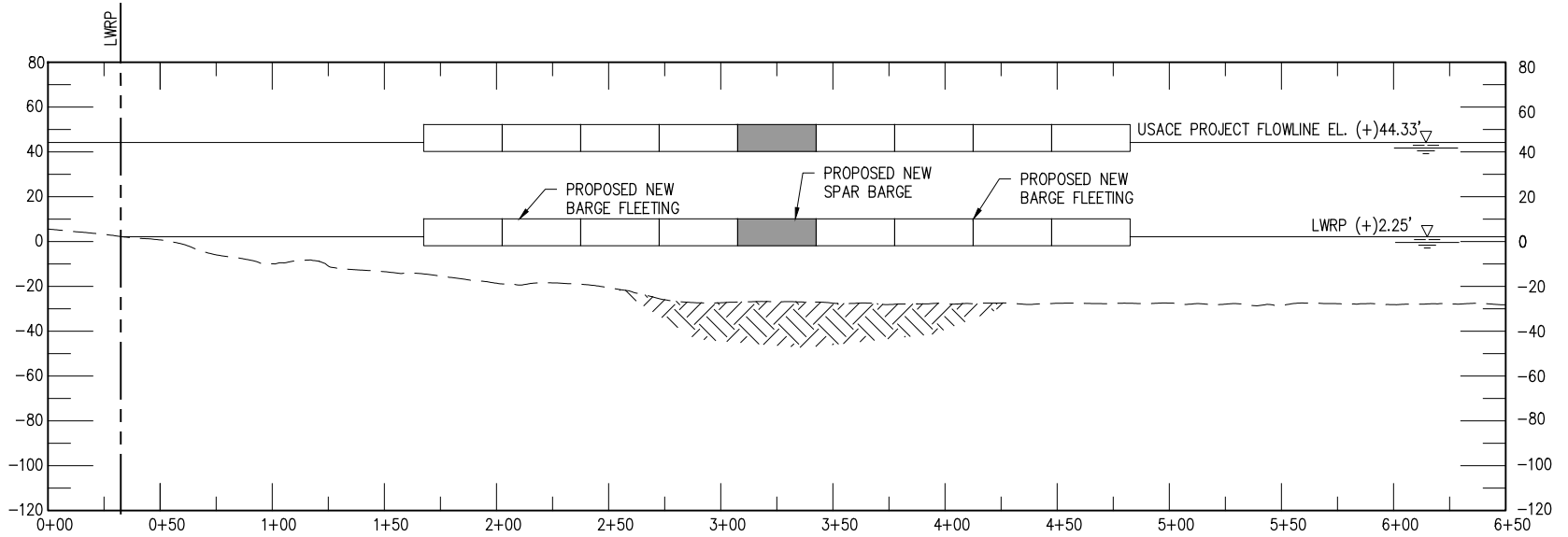


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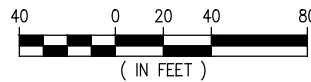
**PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET**  
TYPICAL CROSS SECTION

DATE	MAR. '22
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DRAWN	ADG
CHECK	JDM
JOB NO.	12075
SHEET No.	4 OF 6



**TYPICAL CROSS SECTION**

SCALE: 1" = 80'

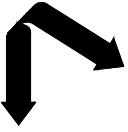


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P3

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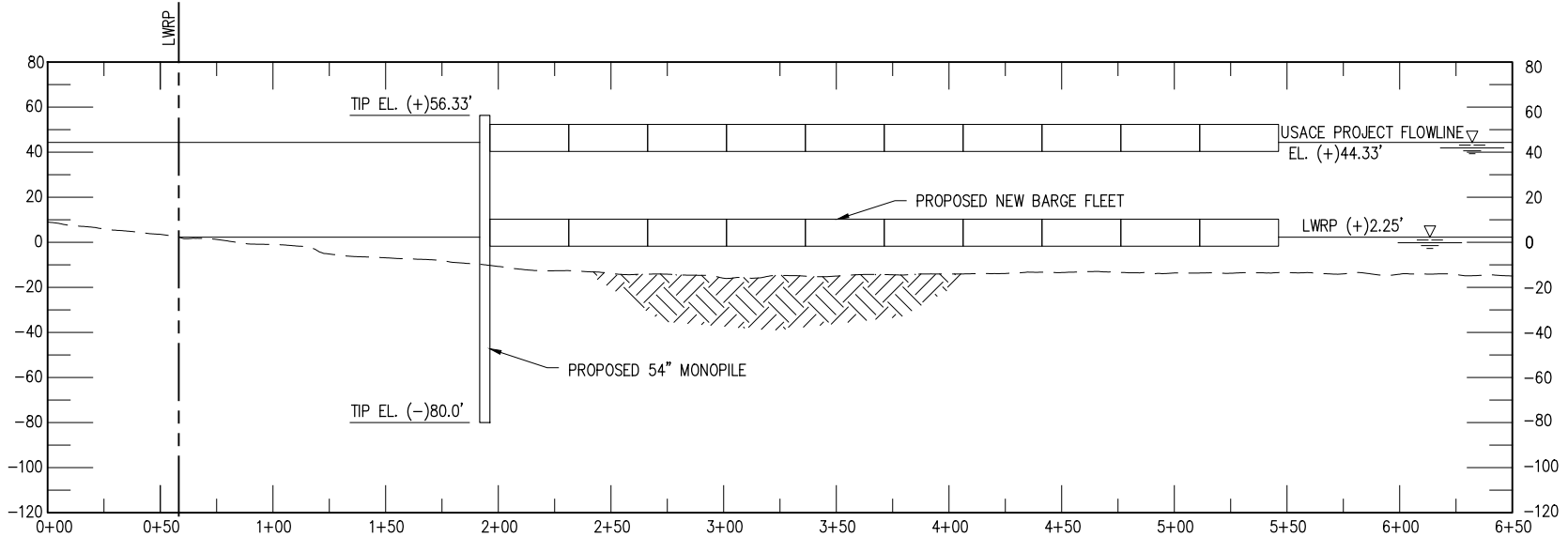
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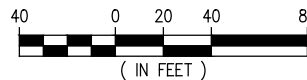
FLORIDA MARINE TRANSPORTERS  
MORRISONVILLE LOUISIANA  
**PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET**  
TYPICAL CROSS SECTION  
BARGE FLEET OPTION

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CHECK JDM  
JOB NO 12075  
SHEET No. 5 OF 7



**TYPICAL CROSS SECTION**

SCALE: 1" = 80'

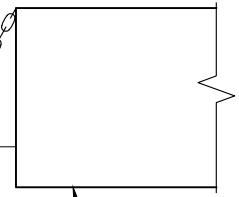


**B**  
P3



USACE PROJECT FLOWLINE  
EL. (+)44.33'

LWRP EL. (+)2.25'



SPAR BARGE

ANCHOR CHAIN

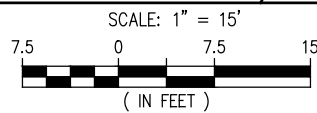
MUDLINE VARIES

3'-0"  
(MIN.)

36"Ø ANCHOR PILE  
(FULLY COATED)

PILE TIP EL. (-)100.0'

### ELEVATION - ANCHOR PILE, CHAIN & BOUY



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**PROPOSED NEW BARGE FLEET  
PROPOSED NEW ANCHOR PILE DETAIL**

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DRAWN ADG  
CHECK JDM  
JOB NO. 12075  
SHEET No.

**6 OF 6**