



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

January 17, 2023

Regulatory Division
Central Evaluation Branch

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

Application #: MVN- 2022-00593-CG

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: [] 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), and/or [] Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. Section 408).

PROPOSED EXPANSION OF A RAIL CHAMBERING YARD IN WEST BATON ROUGE PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Port of Greater Baton Rouge c/o Elliot Boudreaux of CSRS, Inc., 8555 United Plaza Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70809.

LOCATION OF WORK: Along North Line Road adjacent to the GIWW in Section 12, Township 7 South, Range 12 East, in Port Allen, Louisiana, in West Baton Rouge Parish, within the Terrebonne Basin in hydrologic unit (HUC 08070300), as shown on the attached drawings (Latitude 30.435906 N, Longitude -91.233642 W).

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant has requested Department of the Army authorization to clear, grade, and deposit fill and/or aggregate material to construct and maintain an expansion to a rail chambering yard at the Port of Baton Rouge to include three (3) staging tracks with a total rail car capacity of 375 cars, four (4) loading and unloading tracks with a total capacity of 132 cars, and an emergency vehicular turnaround (roadway). The chambering yard will tie into an existing Union Pacific line located adjacent to Louisiana Highway. Approximately 1,616 cubic yards of earthen fill material and approx. 5,394 cubic yards of crushed limestone would be hauled in and deposited to achieve required grade elevation requirements. The proposed project is situated on a 95-acre tract and would impact approximately 3.3 acres of forested wetlands and approx. 1,150 linear feet of waters of the U.S. This project abuts the proposed Gron Fuels Plant which is being evaluated for a separate authorization (MVN-2021-00678-CG).

The applicant proposes to avoid additional direct impacts and minimize secondary impacts to the maximum extent practicable by limiting the construction activity to the designated construction areas onsite and utilizing existing parking lots, staging areas and lay down yards during construction, placing silt fencing and rip rap during construction as erosion control measures, and disposing of all removed vegetation on-site as chipped mulch.

If authorized, the project will receive approval from all appropriate local drainage authorities. As compensation for unavoidable wetland impacts, the applicant proposes to use a Corps approved mitigation bank within the watershed of impact

The comment period for the Department of Army will close in **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 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**. Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing or e-mailing the Corps of Engineers Project Manager listed above. Any request 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 to the initial comment period and inclusive of the initial comment period, will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days. 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 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 the Information & Planning Consultation for Endangered Species in Louisiana protocol, dated 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 work will not effect the West Indian Manatee.

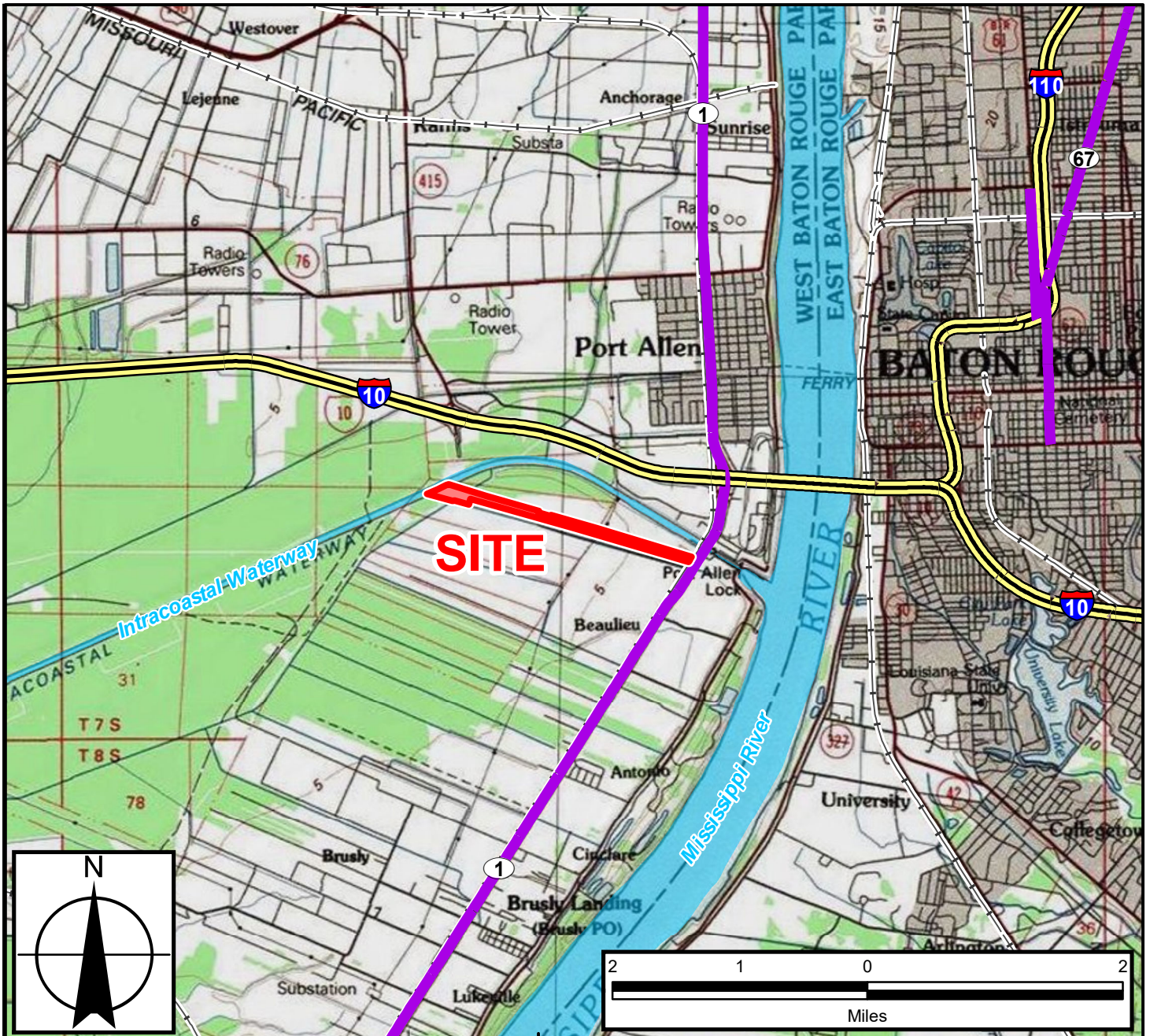
This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of NA acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our 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 applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, 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. 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



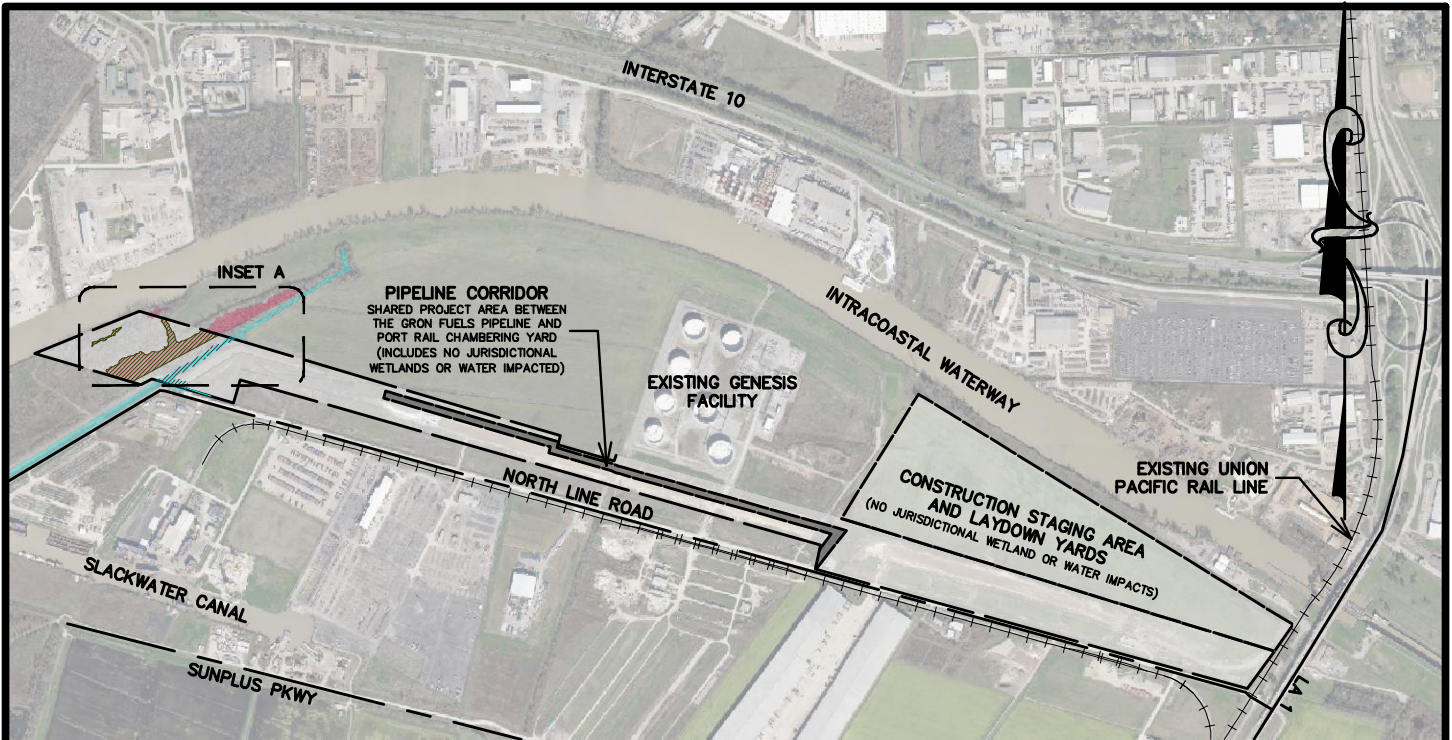
Legend

-  Port Chambering Yard
- Major Roads**
- Existing Roadway**
-  Interstate
-  4-Lane State Highway
-  Railroad
-  Waterbody







**Port of Greater Baton Rouge
Rail Chambering Yard**

Sheet 1 - Vicinity Map



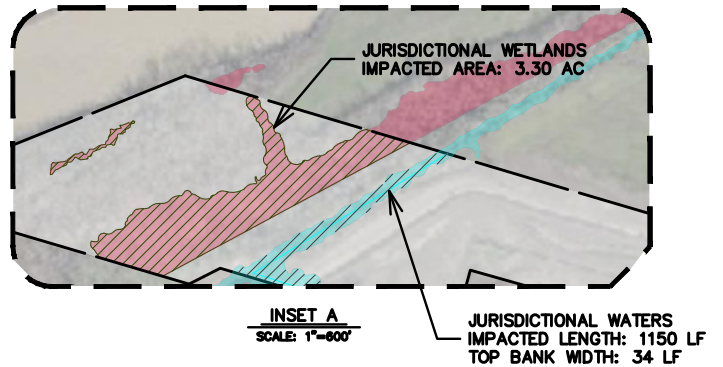


LEGEND:

-  PROJECT AREA LIMITS (TOTAL AREA: 95 AC)
-  JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS (IMPACTED AREA: 3.30 AC)
-  JURISDICTIONAL (404) WATERS (IMPACTED LENGTH: 1150 LF)
-  SHARED AREA BETWEEN THE GRON FUELS PIPELINE AND PORT RAIL CHAMBERING YARD. THIS OVERLAPPING AREA INCLUDES NO JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS OR WATERS
-  IMPACTED AREAS
-  EXISTING RAILROAD TRACKS

LAND INFORMATION:

PROJECT LIMITS: 95 AC



ISSUED FOR
PERMITTING ONLY
April 25, 2022



8555 United Plaza Blvd Baton Rouge, LA 70808
Telephone: 225 769-0546 Fax: 225 767-0060
www.csrsinc.com

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SCALE: 1"=1700'

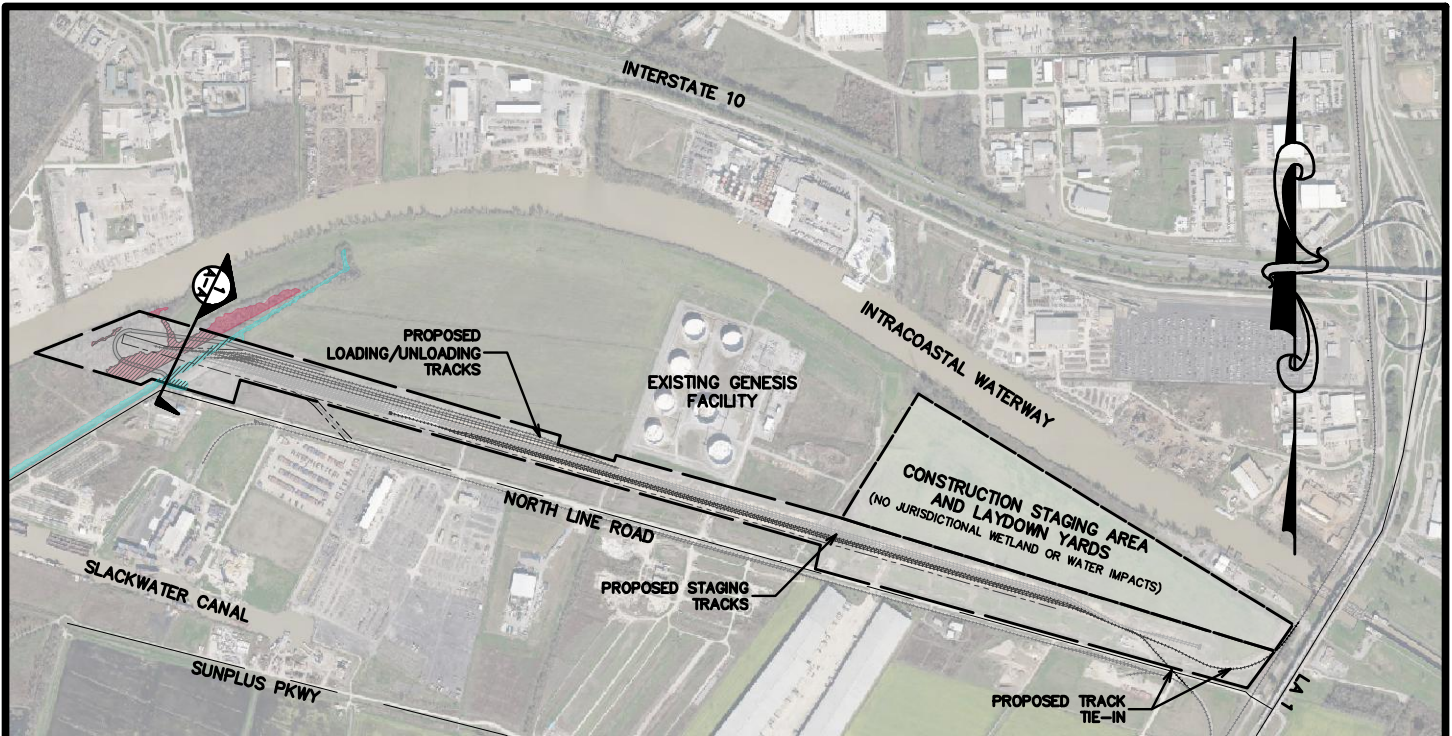
Date:

APRIL 2022

Project Number:

220090

Project:
PORT OF GREATER BATON ROUGE
RAIL CHAMBERING YARD
PORT OF GREATER BATON ROUGE



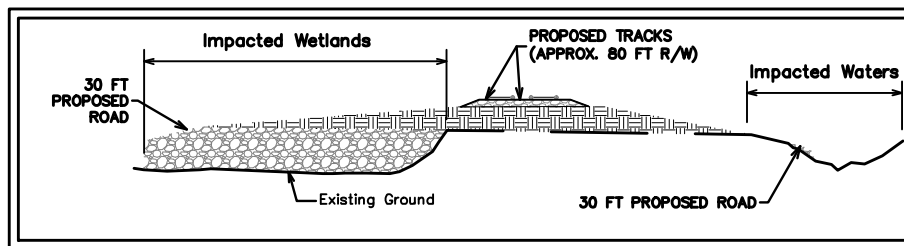
LEGEND:

- PROJECT AREA LIMITS
- ▭ PROJECT AREA LIMITS (TOTAL AREA: 95 AC)
- ▭ JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS (TOTAL IMPACTS: 3.30 AC)
- ▭ JURISDICTIONAL (404) WATERS (TOTAL IMPACTED LENGTH: 1150 LF)
- ▨ IMPACTED AREAS
- ▭ PROPOSED ROAD
- RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY
- +— EXISTING RAILROAD TRACKS
- +— PROPOSED LOADING/UNLOADING TRACKS
- +— PROPOSED STAGING TRACKS
- +— PROPOSED TRACK TIE-IN

CALCULATIONS:

TOTAL FILL FOR JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS:
1616 CY FILL AND 1194 CY CRUSHED STONE

TOTAL FILL FOR JURISDICTIONAL WATERS:
4200 CY CRUSHED STONE



1 TYPICAL SECTION A-A
N.T.S.

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PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

SCALE: 1"=1700'

Date:

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Project:

PORT OF GREATER BATON ROUGE
RAIL CHAMBERING YARD
PORT OF GREATER BATON ROUGE