



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

June 26, 2023

Regulatory Division
Western Evaluation Branch

Project Manager:
Sara Fortuna
(504) 862-2284
sara.b.fortuna@usace.army.mil

Application #: MVN-2023-00089-WKK

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS IN CALCASIEU PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, c/o: Providence Engineering and Environmental Group, L.L.C., 1201 Main Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802.

LOCATION OF WORK: Located in Calcasieu Parish, located off Forest Avenue, unnamed tributary of Coon Gully, in the community of Lake Charles, Louisiana, (Latitude North: 30.279940° N, Longitude West: -93.163459° W), as shown within the enclosed drawings. (Hydrologic Unit Code 08080203, Calcasieu Basin).

CHARACTER OF WORK: Work consists of clearing operations, excavating approximately 423 cubic yards of earthen fill material, and placing approximately 2.22 cubic yards of concrete to construct a 15-foot wide by 2,311-foot long drainage ditch, which would start at Forest Avenue and connect to an unnamed tributary of Coon Gully, and deepen the existing approximate 15-foot wide by 250-foot long tributary from an elevation of +1.6 feet to -0.4 feet. Excavated fill material would be hauled offsite to a non-wetland location. Work would be limited within a 55-foot wide servitude. The purpose of the project is to provide drainage improvements for the local community. It is anticipated that approximately 0.22 of an acre of forested wetlands and approximately 0.09 of an acre of non-wetland waters. would be permanently impacted via project implementation. If a Department of the Army permit is granted, the applicant has proposed to mitigate unavoidable wetlands impacts at an approved and acceptable mitigation bank within the N.O. District.

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 Engineer's project manager listed above or forwarded to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY DIVISION, RGW, Sara Fortuna**. 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 requester 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. 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 is presently unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places at or near the proposed work but is pending further review in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. As deemed necessary, copies of this public notice will be sent to the State Archeologist, State Historic Preservation Officer, and federally listed tribes regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

Based on the Information Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool for Endangered Species in Louisiana, as signed on January 27, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it has been determined that the project is located in wetlands and/or waters known to be utilized by the Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) and determined that the activity is not likely to adversely affect this species.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would have no effect on 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 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 may result in the destruction, alteration, and/or disturbance of **0.09 of an acre** 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.

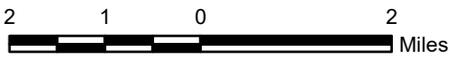
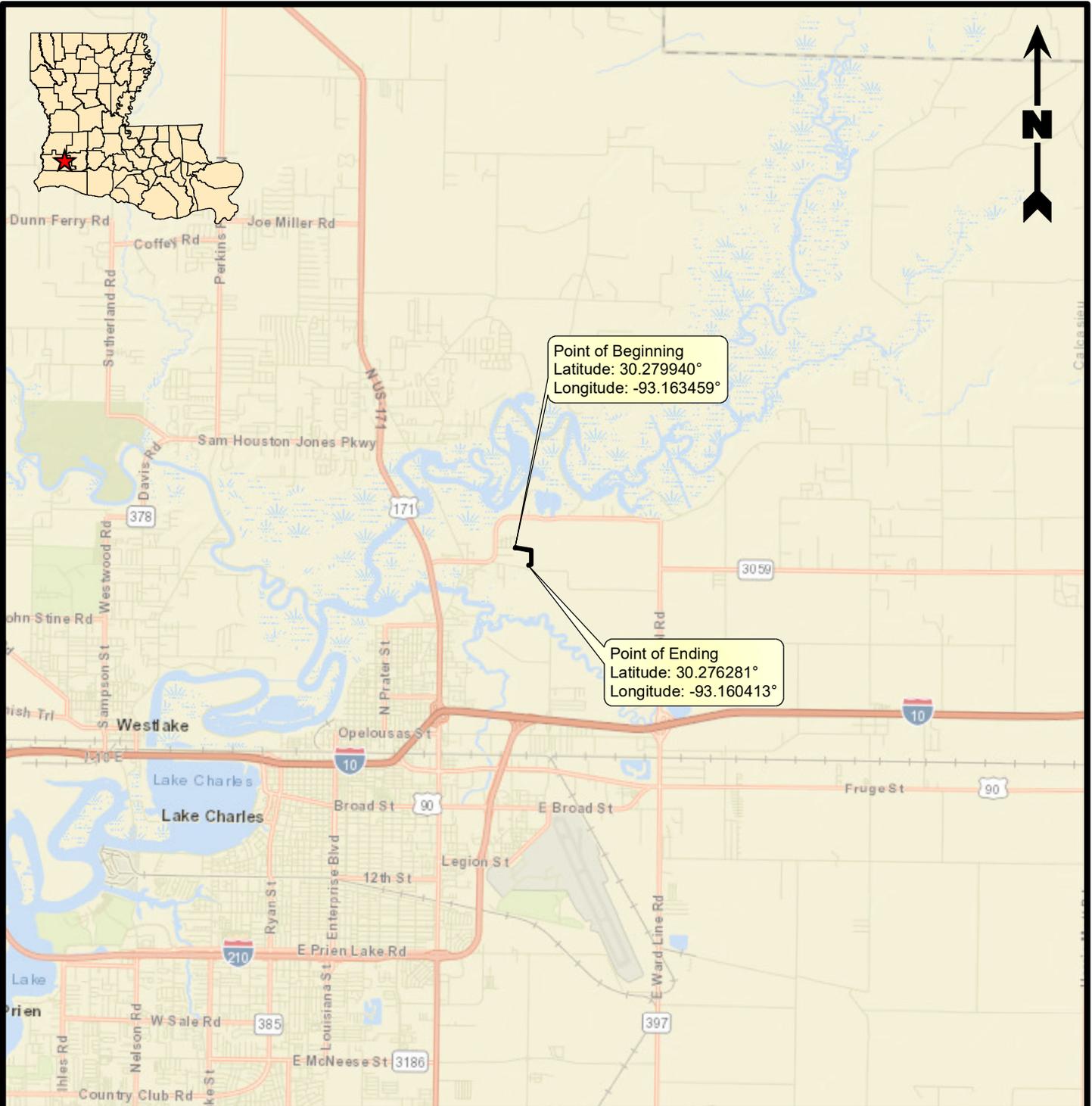
If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality before a Department of the Army permit could be issued.

Any person may request 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, and can be preferably emailed to the USACE project manager listed above or mailed to the address listed above.

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

Darrell S. Barbara
Chief, Western Evaluation Branch
Regulatory Division

Enclosures



Legend

 Project Area (3.20 Acres)

Reference

Base map comprised of ESRI StreetMap USA data.

Vicinity Map

Section 404 Permit Application
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana

Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
Forest Avenue Drainage Project

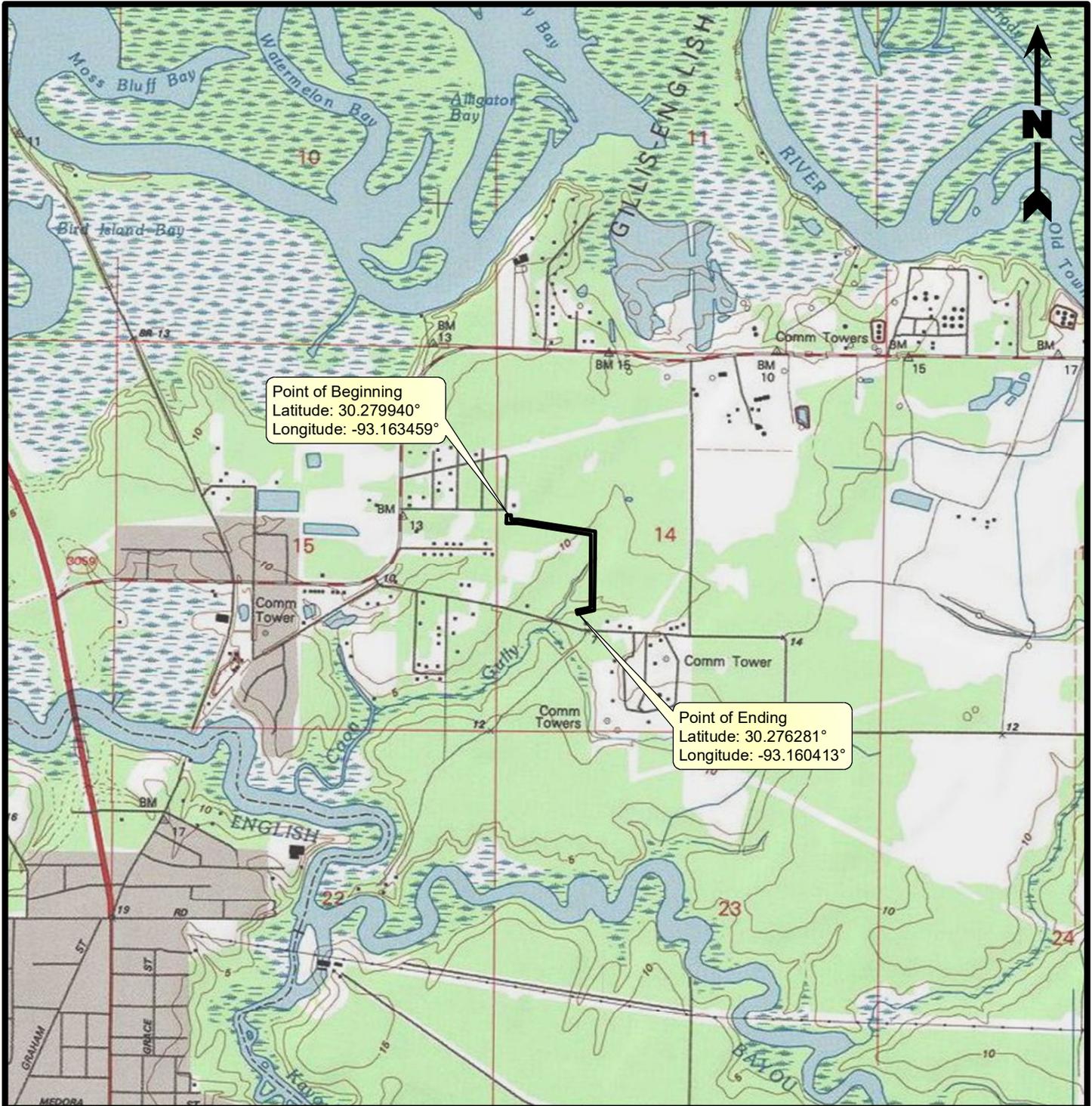


PROVIDENCE

Drawn By	AFA	11/23/22
Checked By	TDJ	11/23/22
Approved By	TK	11/23/22

Project Number	242-004
Drawing Number	242-004-A012

1
Figure



Legend

 Project Area (3.20 Acres)

Reference

Base map comprised of United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map, "Moss Bluff, LA".

Site Location Map

Section 404 Permit Application
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana

Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
Forest Avenue Drainage Project



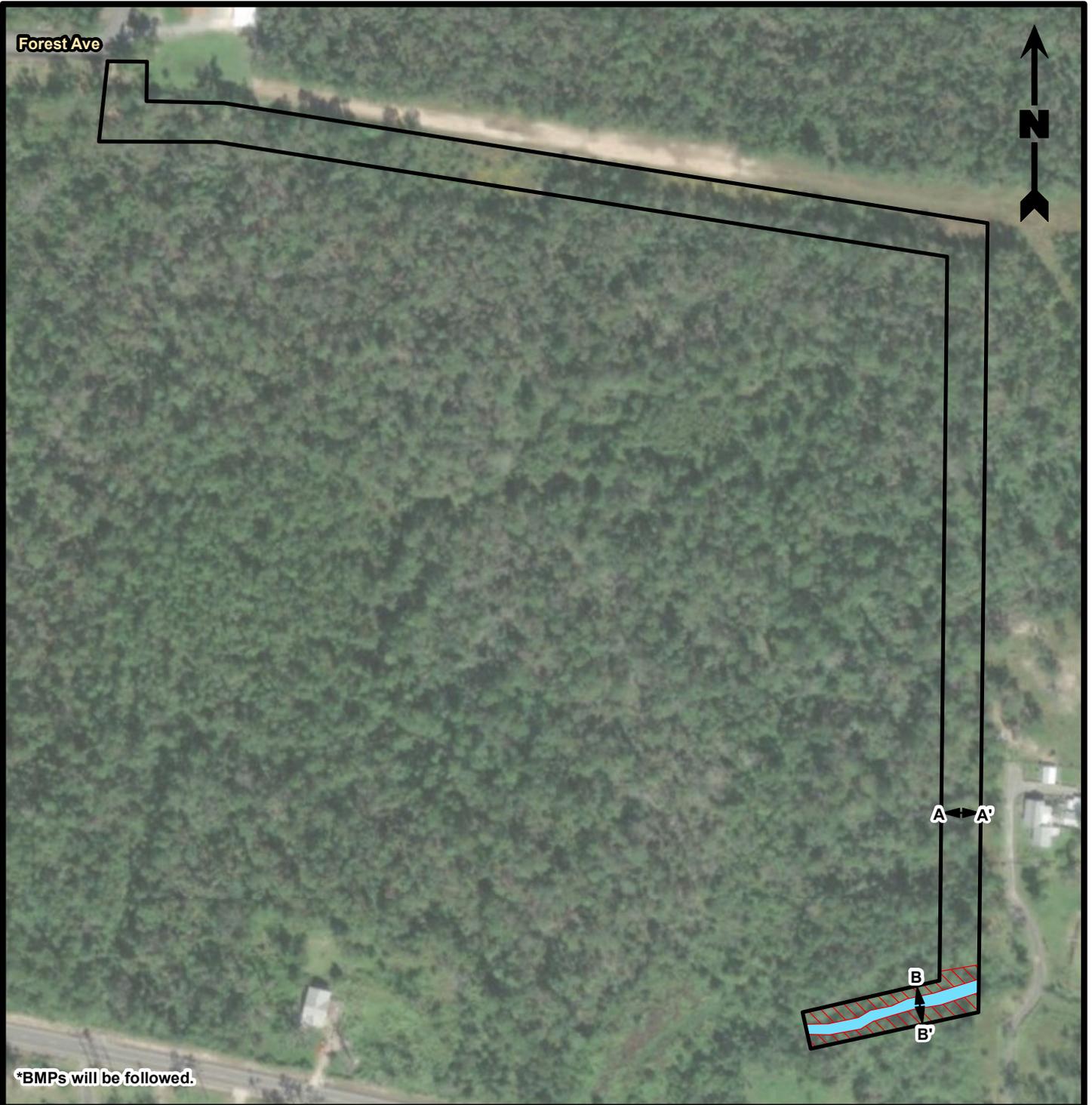
PROVIDENCE

Drawn By	AFA	11/23/22
Checked By	TDJ	11/23/22
Approved By	TK	11/23/22

Project Number	242-004
Drawing Number	242-004-A013

2
Figure

Forest Ave



*BMPs will be followed.



Legend

-  Project Area (3.20 Acres)
-  Permanently Impacted Wetlands (0.22 Acre)
-  Permanently Impacted Jurisdictional Waters of the U.S. (0.09 Acre/~250 Linear Feet)
-  Cross Section

Notes

~2,311' from the proposed drainage ditch to the nearest natural tributary.

Reference

Base map comprised of ESRI's World Imagery exported 02/20/23.

Aerial Photograph

Section 404 Permit Application
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana

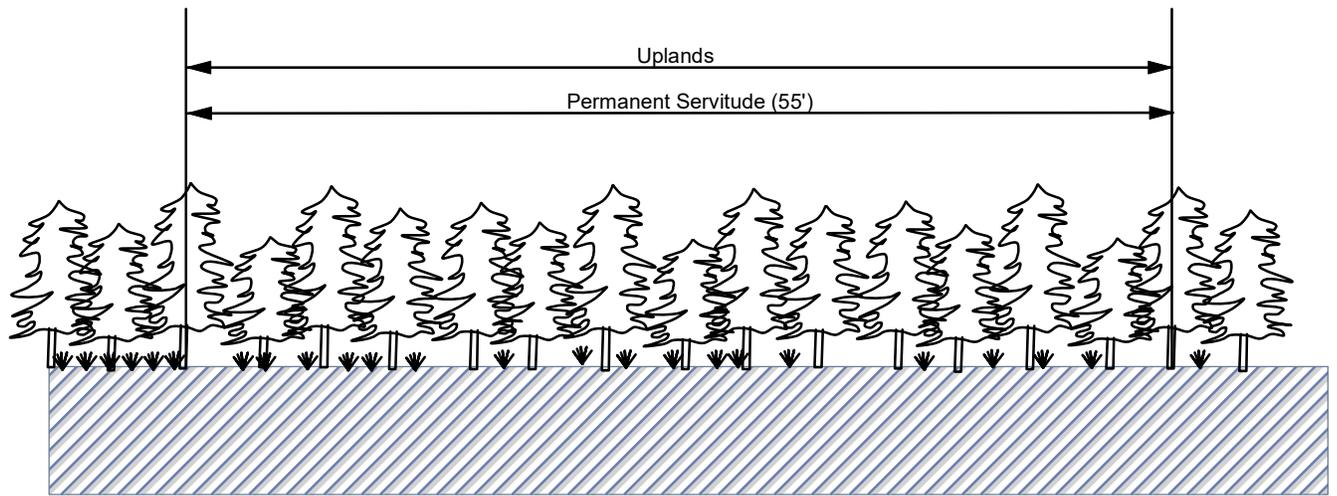
Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
Forest Avenue Drainage Project



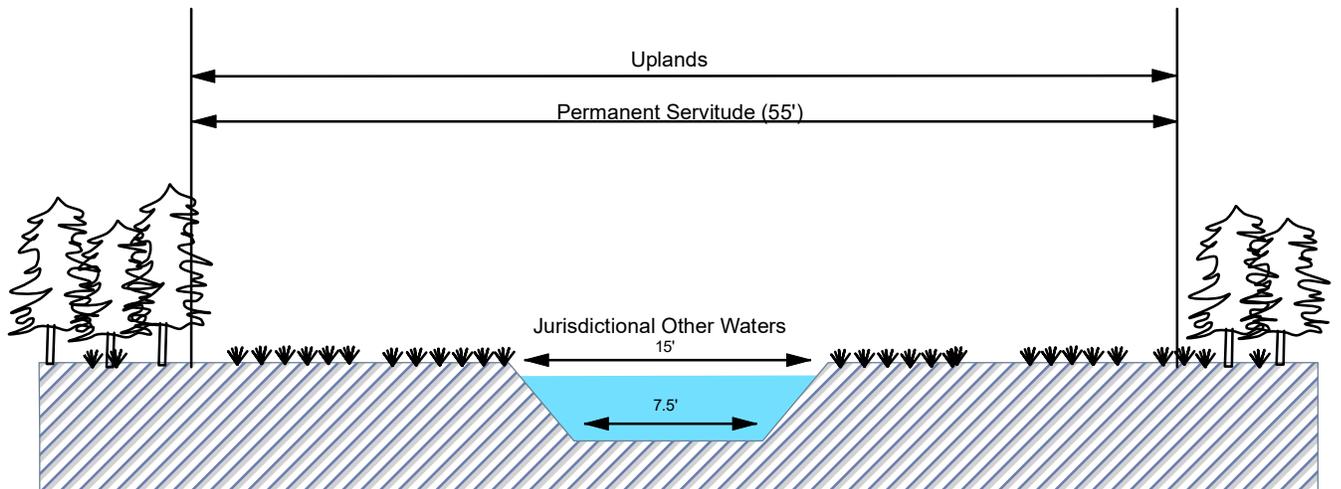
PROVIDENCE

Drawn By	AFA	02/20/23
Checked By	TDJ	02/20/23
Approved By	TK	02/20/23

Project Number 242-004	3 Figure
Drawing Number 242-004-A014	



Pre-Construction Cross Section A-A'
Not To Scale



Post-Construction Cross Section A-A'
Not To Scale

Notes

~0.22 acre of proposed permanent impacts to wetlands located on the property.

~0.09 acre, or ~250 linear feet, of proposed permanent impacts to jurisdictional waters of the U.S. located on the property.

**Typical Wetland Cross Section
Detail A-A'**

Section 404 Permit Application
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana

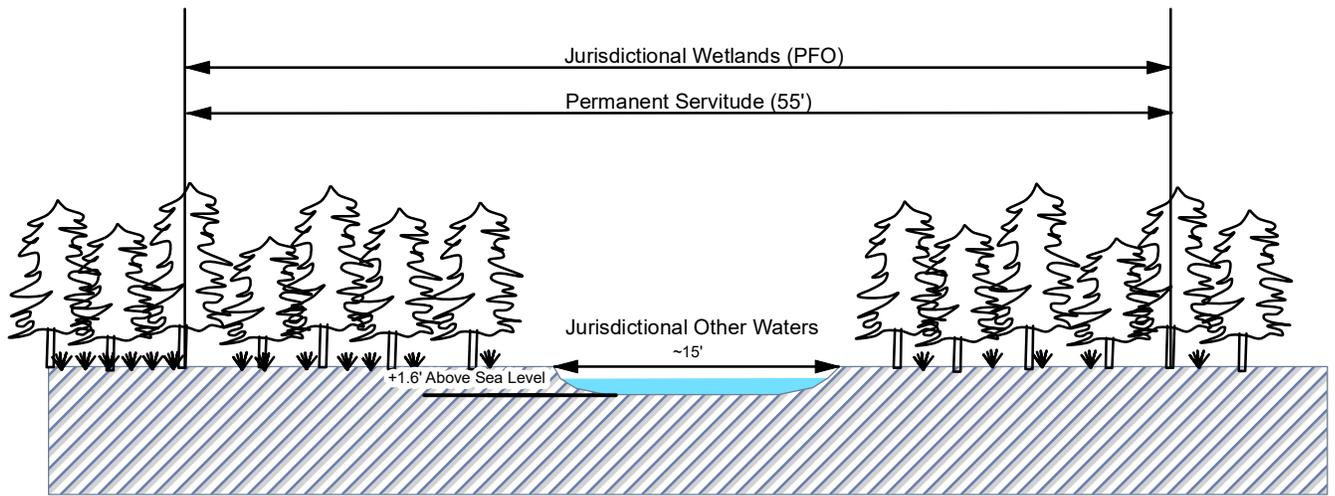
Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
Forest Avenue Drainage Project



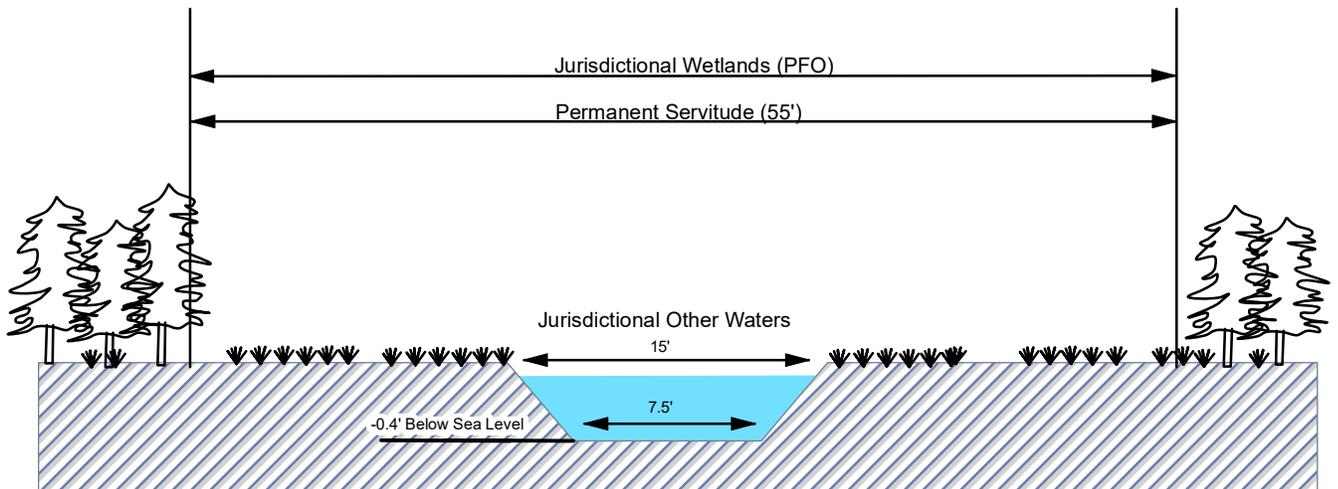
Drawn By	AFA	12/02/22
Checked By	TDJ	12/02/22
Approved By	TK	12/02/22

Project Number	242-004
Drawing Number	242-004-A015

4a
Figure



Pre-Construction Cross Section B-B'
Not To Scale



Post-Construction Cross Section B-B'
Not To Scale

Notes

~0.22 acre of proposed permanent impacts to wetlands located on the property.

~0.09 acre, or ~250 linear feet, of proposed permanent impacts to jurisdictional waters of the U.S. located on the property.

**Typical Wetland Cross Section
Detail B-B'**

Section 404 Permit Application
Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana

Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
Forest Avenue Drainage Project



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Drawing Number	242-004-A016

4b
Figure