

January 22, 2024

Regulatory Division Eastern Evaluation Branch

Project Manager: Carrie Schott (504) 862-1153 Carrie.G.Schott@usace.army.mil

Application #: MVN-2023-00475-ECS

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).

UTILIZATION OF EXISTING BORROW PITS FOR DISPOSAL OF NON-CONTAMINATED EARTHEN MATERIAL IN ST. TAMMANY PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: St. Tammany Parish Government, Attn: Mr. Joey Lobrano, 21454 Koop Drive, Mandeville, LA 70471.

LOCATION OF WORK: Located off of Nunez Road, Slidell, in St. Tammany Parish Louisiana, (lat. 30.243586, long. -89.745569), as shown within the attached drawings. (Hydrologic Unit Code 080902010307, Salt Bayou Watershed).

CHARACTER OF WORK: The proposed project is to utilize existing borrow pits for disposal of non-contaminated earthen material. The purpose of the project is to provide a disposal area to place non-contaminated earthen material obtained from the cleaning of drainage ditches. The project as proposed would permanently impact approximately 96 acres of waterbottoms. It is not anticipated that there will be any permanent or temporary impacts to wetlands from the project activities as spoils will be placed in open waters and waterbottoms.

<u>MITIGATION</u>: Should mitigation be required; the applicant will purchase credits from a mitigation bank located within the watershed of impact.

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, RGE, Carrie Schott. 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. Further, all factors that may be

relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the potential cumulative effects associated with the proposed project.

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.

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.

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 "may affect, not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)" the threatened West Indian Manatee. Additionally, a determination of a "No effect" was provided for the Gopher Tortoise and the Red-cockaded Woodpecker.

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 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 LA Department of Environmental Quality before a Department of the Army permit is issued.

Any person may request, (preferably by email to the project manager, or 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 (Louisiana Coastal Zone Application P20221026). 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 invited to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Brad LaBorde Chief, Eastern Branch Regulatory Division

Enclosures

Geoportal Map

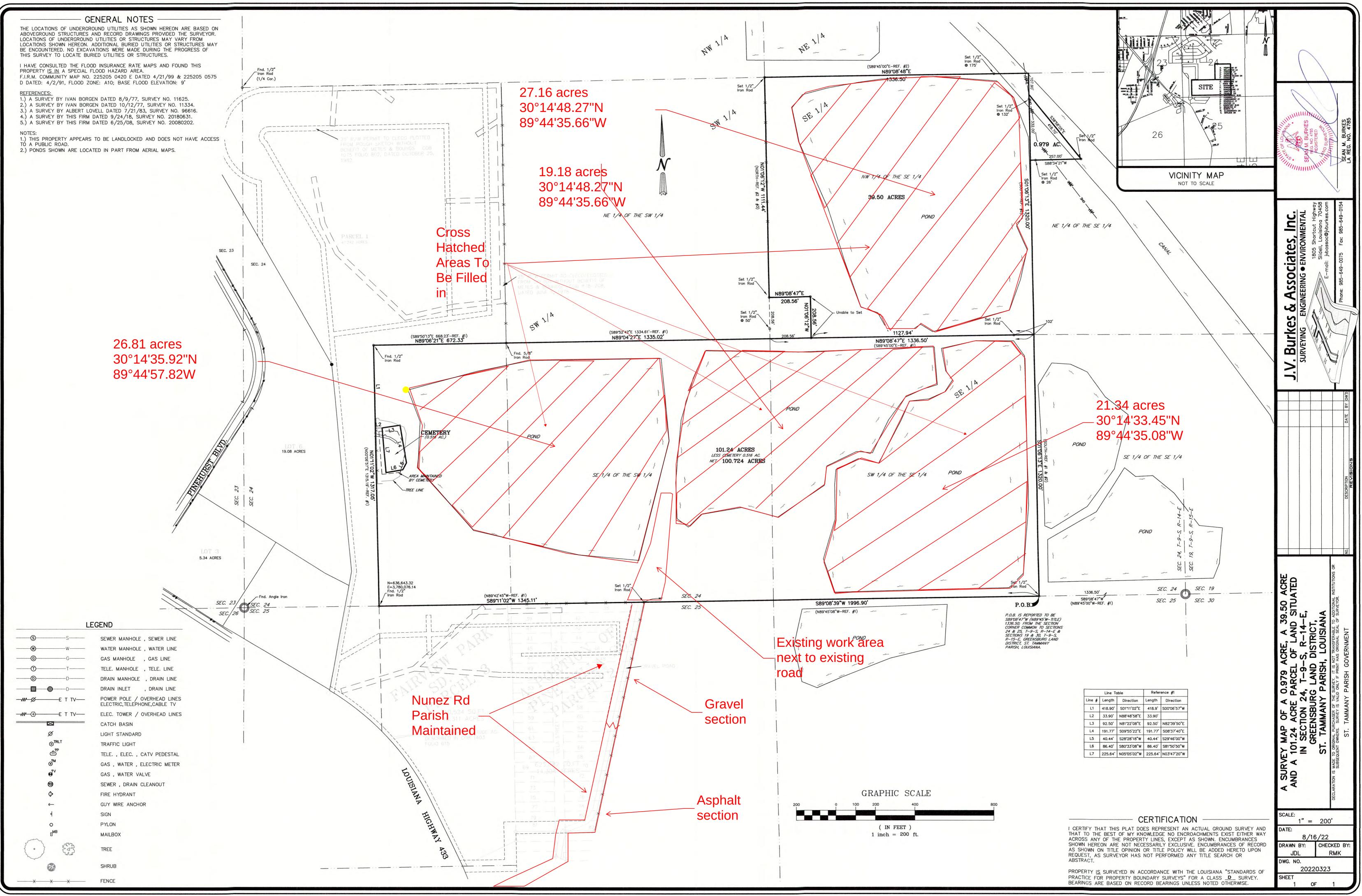


DISCLAIMER: Every reasonable effort has been made to assure the accuracy of the parcel and base map data presented. The St. Tammany Parish Assessor makes no warranties, express or implied, regarding the completeness, reliability or suitability of the site data and assumes no liability associated with the use or misuse of said data. The parcel data on the base map is used to locate, identify and inventory parcels of land in St. Tammany Parish for assessment purposes only and is not to be used or interpreted as a legal survey or legal document. Additional data layers not originating in the Assessors Office are also presented for informational purposes only. Before proceeding in any legal matter, all data should be verified by contacting the appropriate county or municipal office.

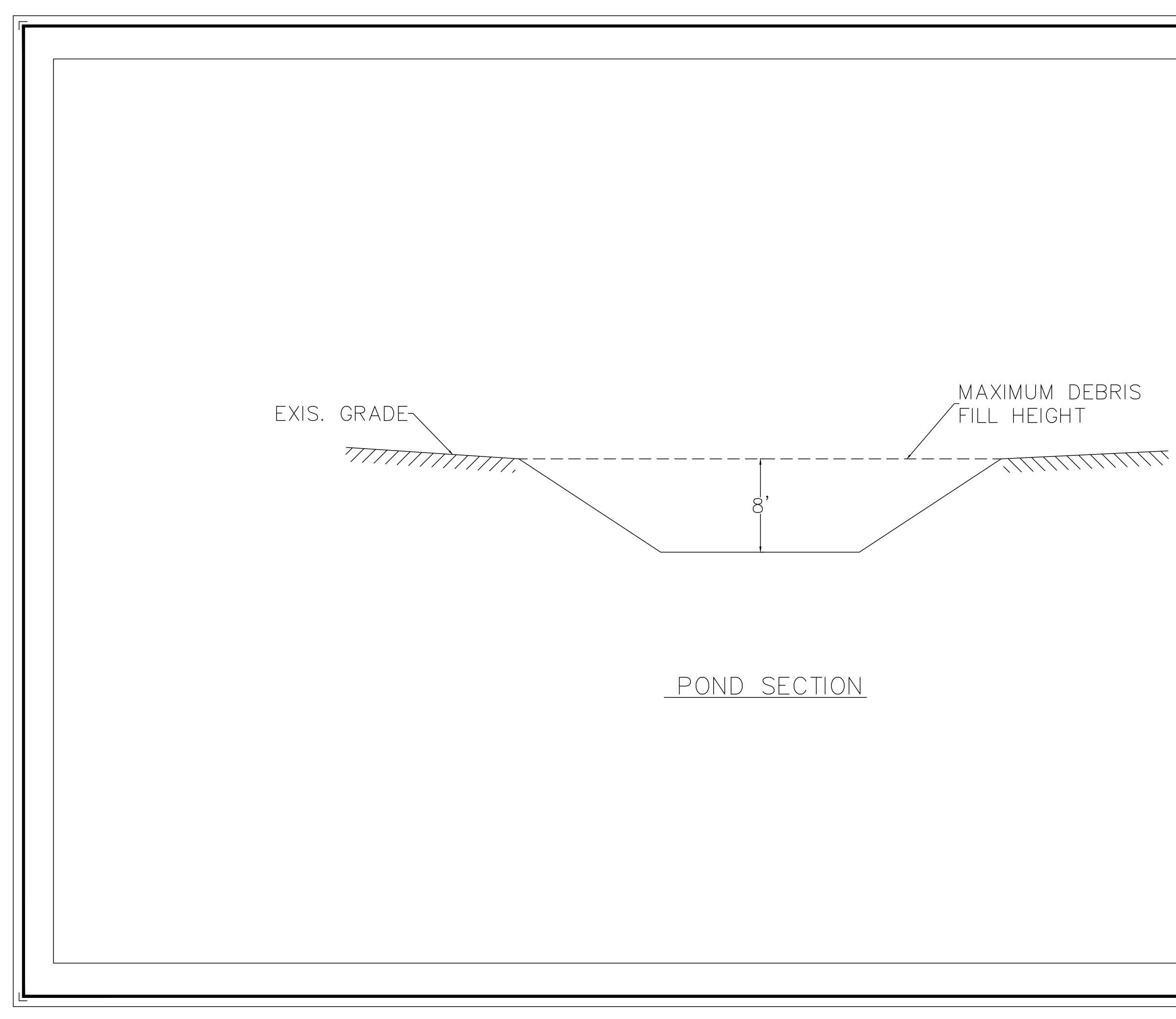
May 24, 2022

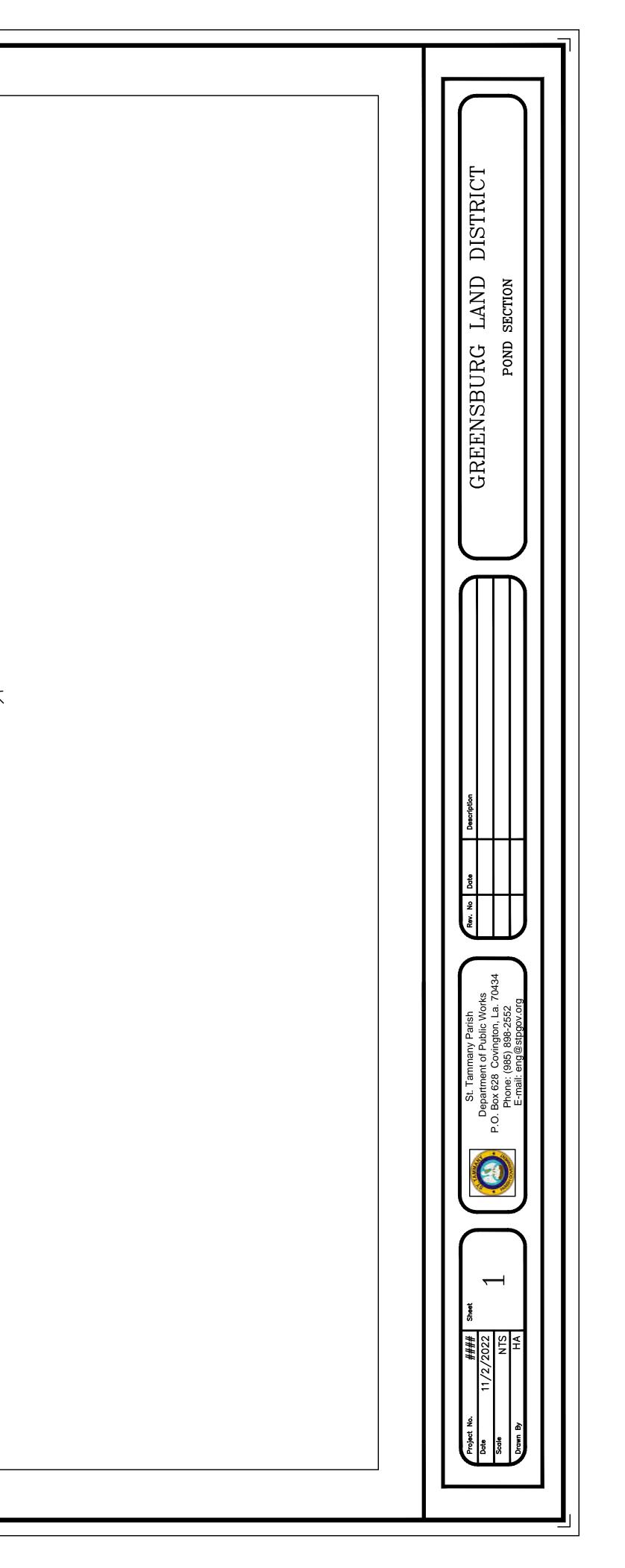
1 inch = 1,481 feet 810 1,620 2,430 3,240 Feet

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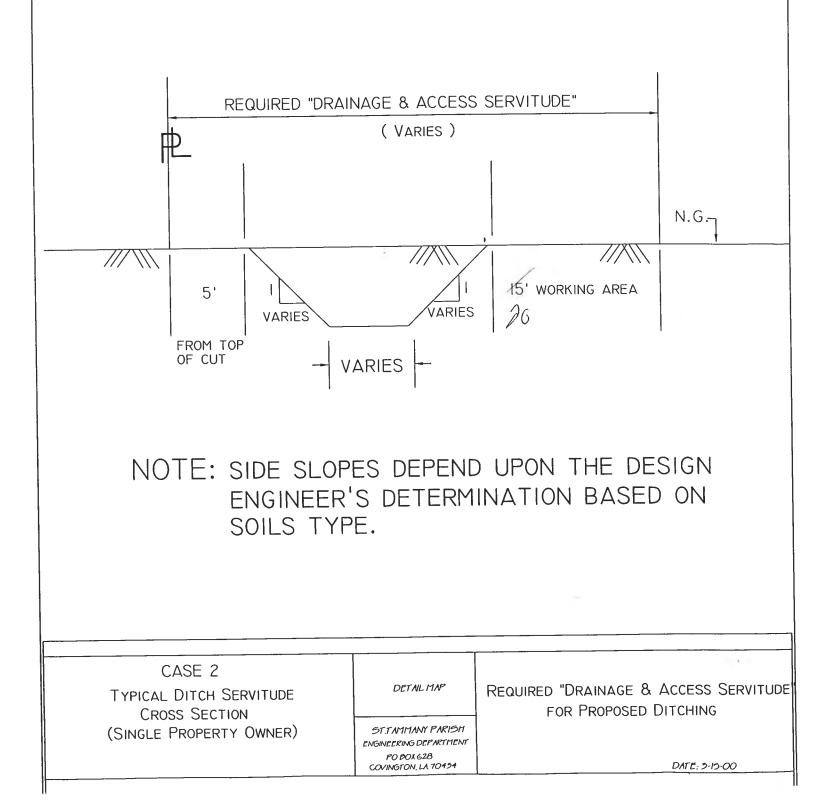








TYPICAL DITCH SERVITUDE CROSS SECTION (SINGLE PROPERTY OWNER)



TYPICAL DITCH SERVITUDE CROSS SECTION (BETWEEN TWO PROPERTY OWNERS)

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