

# JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

January 11, 2021

United States Army  
Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Regulatory Branch  
7400 Leake Avenue  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

State of Louisiana  
Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Permits Division  
Post Office Box 4313  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

(504) 862-1217  
Project Manager  
Kenny Blanke  
[Kenneth.G.Blanke@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kenneth.G.Blanke@usace.army.mil)  
MVN 2007-01199-CQ

(225) 219-3225  
Project Manager  
Ms. Elizabeth Hill  
WQC Application Number  
WQC 201116-01

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: [X] 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).

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2074 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

## **PROPOSED PARKING AREA AND EXTENSION OF TIME TO CONSTRUCT AUTHORIZED WORK FOR EXISTING SAND MINING OPERATIONS IN MISSISSIPPI RIVER NEAR MODESTE, LOUISIANA IN ASCENSION PARISH**

**NAME OF APPLICANT** L.J. Noel, Inc., c/o Wood Materials, LLC, Attn: Stacey Trombley, 5821 River Road, Avondale, Louisiana 70094

**LOCATION OF WORK:** Within the Mississippi River Basin, in the Lower Mississippi River – Baton Rouge hydrologic unit (HUC 08070100), in the Mississippi River, right descending bank, mile 184.5, near Modeste, Louisiana, in Ascension Parish (Latitude 30.1866 N, Longitude - 91.0227 W).

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The applicant has requested an extension of time to complete previously authorized work and to modify an existing Department of the Army permit authorization. The proposed permit modification includes the construction of a job site area to be utilized for a parking area, job site trailer, and fuel tank storage located adjacent to the previously authorized sand batture pits. The applicant is also proposing a modification to the types of materials to be stockpiled in the batture pits. The current modification proposes to stockpile aggregate material (limestone or raw concrete processed to crushed concrete) in addition to the previously authorized mined sand from both the Mississippi River and the batture pit areas. Jurisdictional batture Other Waters of the US (existing borrow pit and side slope of existing berm area) would be impacted from the proposed modification from construction of the job site area. The original permit authorization included the dredging of sand material from the Mississippi River and the placement of dredged material into batture containment pits (2 of 4 pits have been completed). Approximately 2,500,000 cubic yards of sand material annually would be hydraulically dredged from the river bottom and would be placed in the batture pit for stockpiling. Approximately 1.5 acres of jurisdictional batture OWOUS would be impacted by

permit modification. The 4 previously authorized bature containment pits have been previously mitigated under the original permit authorization.

The applicant stated that the impacted area has been minimized to the smallest footprint that will allow the goals of the project to be achieved. Best management practices will be employed during construction to minimize sediment excursion. Compensatory mitigation is not anticipated due to the permit modification only proposing to impact jurisdictional Other Waters of the US.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close **30 days** from the date of this joint 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/or this WQC request and must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH** Letters concerning the Water Quality Certification must reference the applicant's name and the WQC Application number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above. The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

### **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 US 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 US 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. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any species, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of such species, listed as endangered

by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Utilizing the Information & Planning Consultation for Endangered Species in Louisiana (IPaC), 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 with the proposed activity is not likely to adversely affect the pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) and will have no effect on other known species.

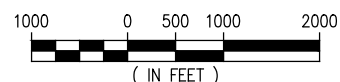
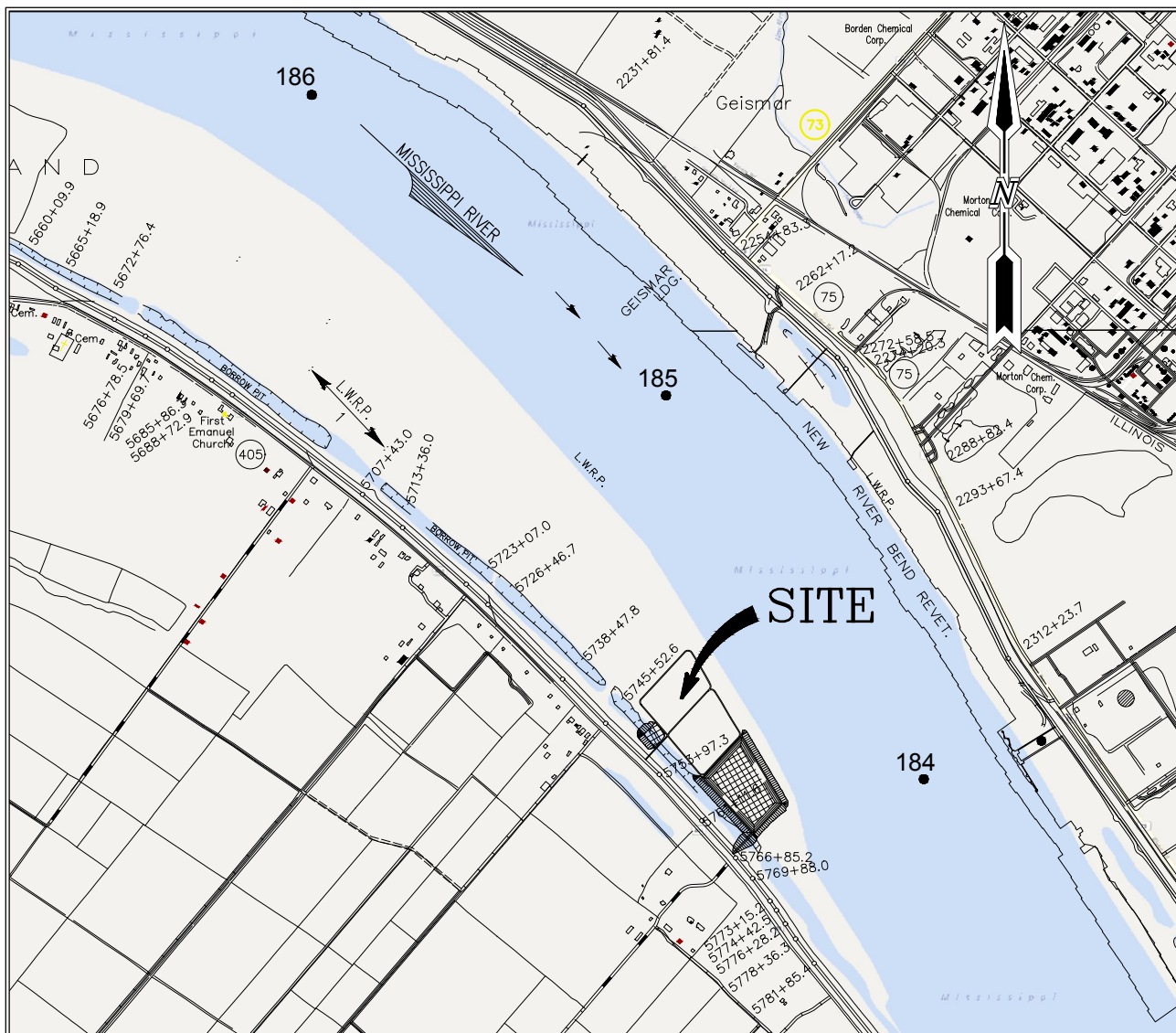
This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of NA acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our 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.

for JOHN M. HERMAN  
Chief, Central Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch

Enclosure



JOSEPH E. JACQUAT  
LA PE #21953

PRELIMINARY - FOR PERMIT PURPOSES ONLY

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**LANIER & ASSOCIATES**  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
INCORPORATED

LA: C-1120 TX: F-2981  
NEW ORLEANS, LA • BEAUMONT, TX

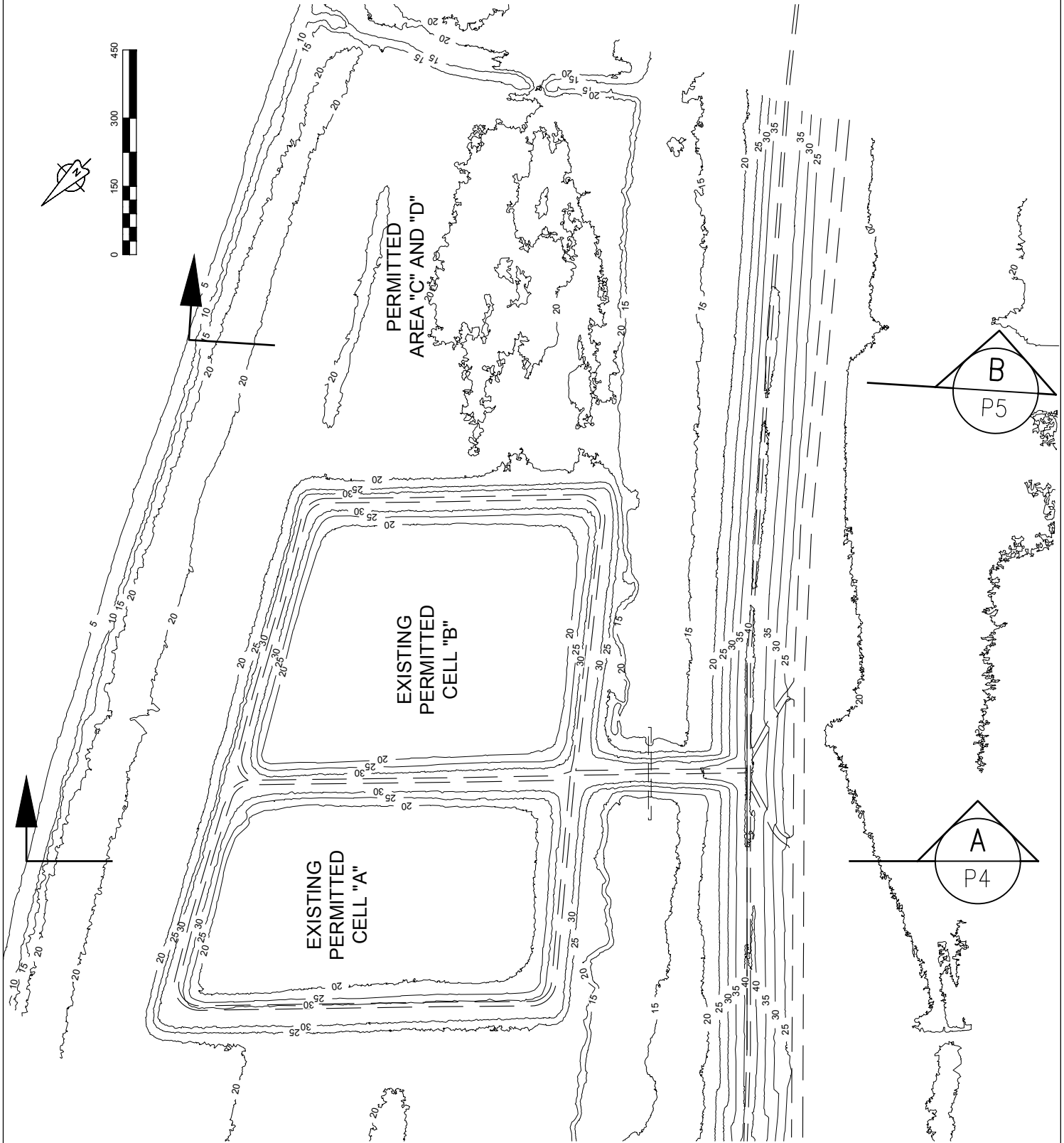
**WOOD RESOURCES**

NEW ORLEANS

LOUISIANA

**ASCENSION PARISH FACILITY  
BARROW PIT AND STOCKPILE  
VICINITY AND SITE PLAN**

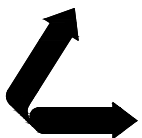
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SHEET No.  
P1 OF 5



JOSEPH E. JACQUAT  
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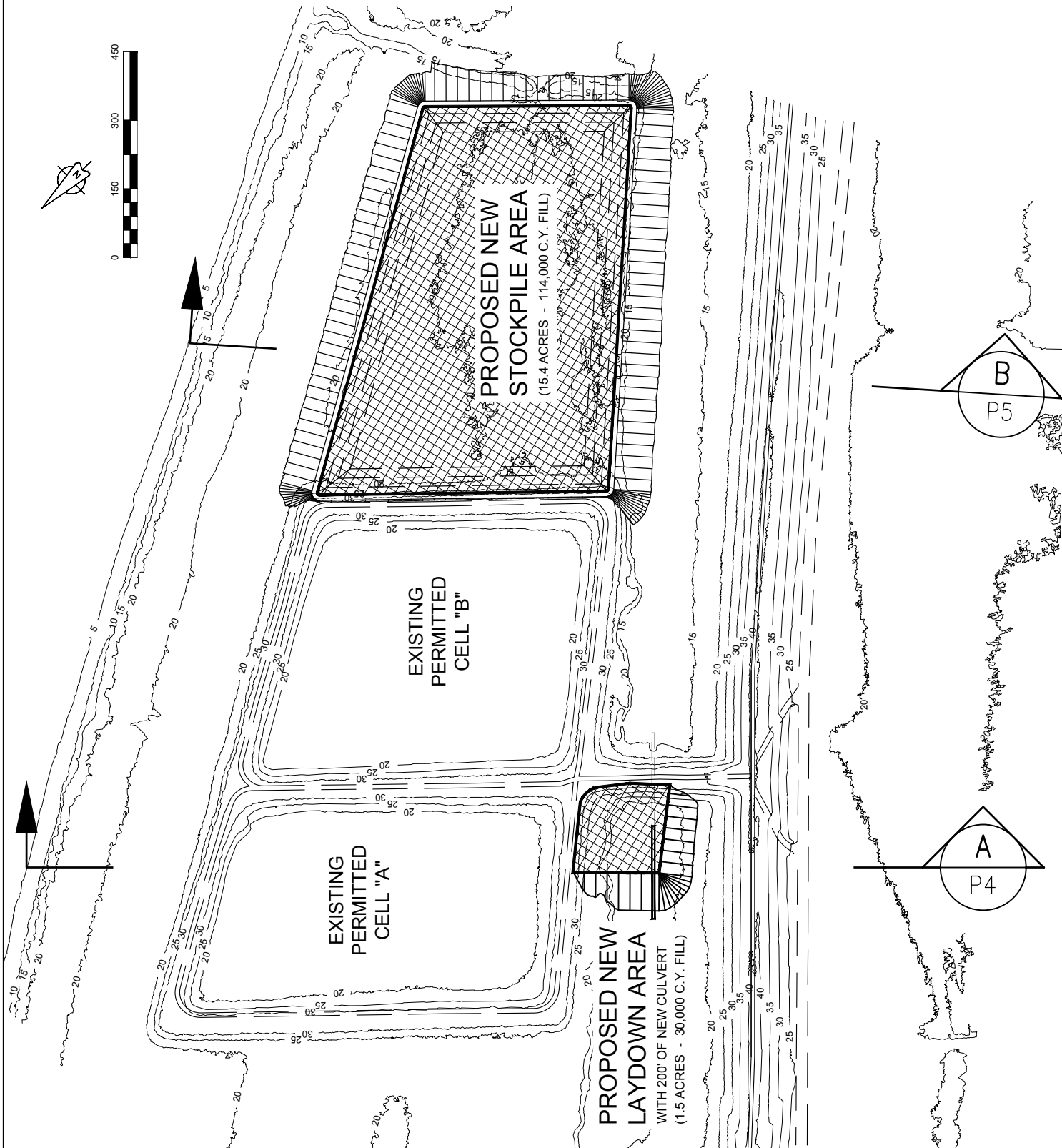
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**WOOD RESOURCES**

LOUISIANA

**ASCENSION PARISH FACILITY  
BARROW PIT AND STOCKPILE  
EXISTING SITE PLAN**

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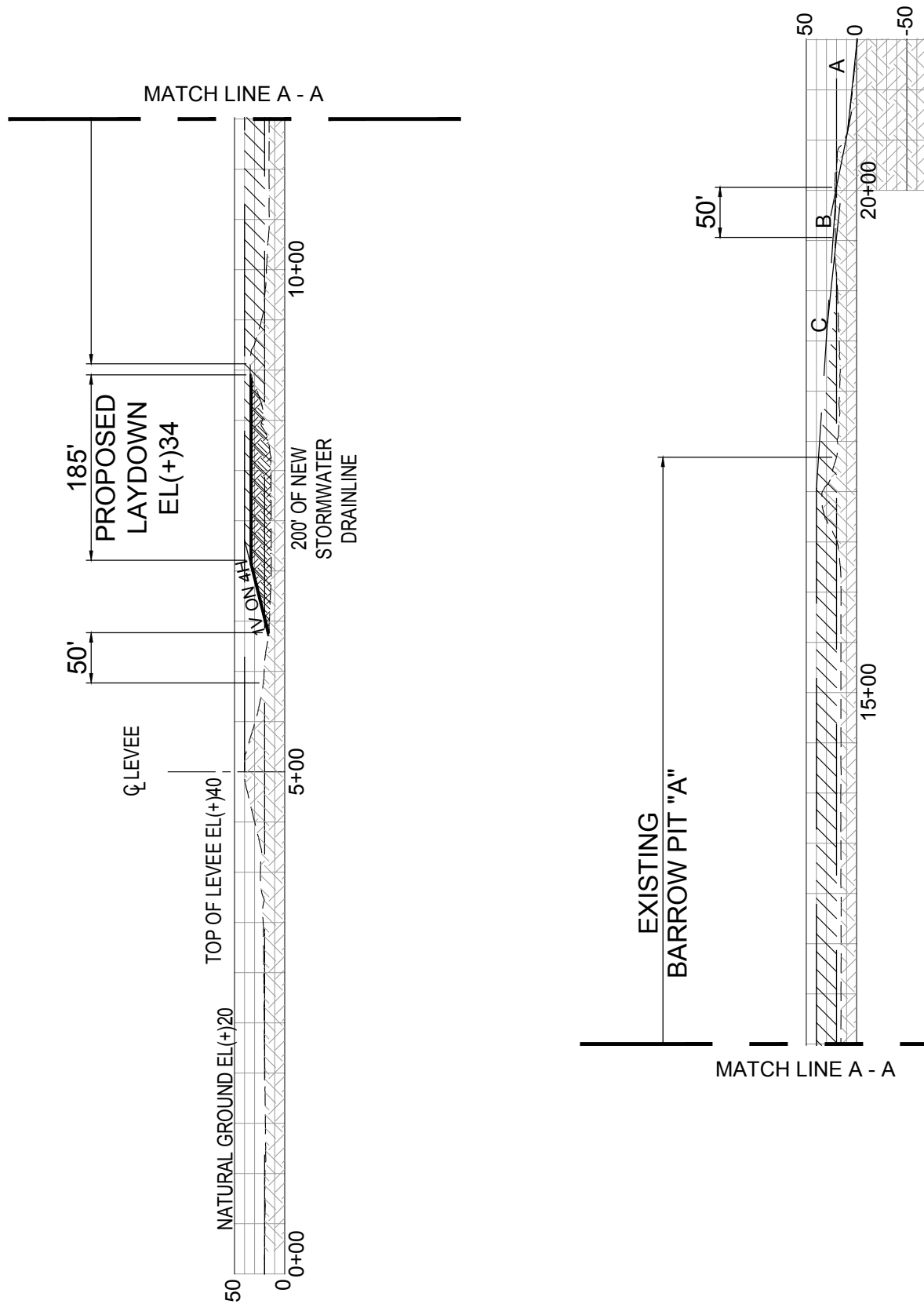
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**WOOD RESOURCES**

LOUISIANA

**ASCENSION PARISH FACILITY  
BARROW PIT AND STOCKPILE  
PROPOSED SITE PLAN**

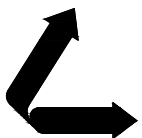
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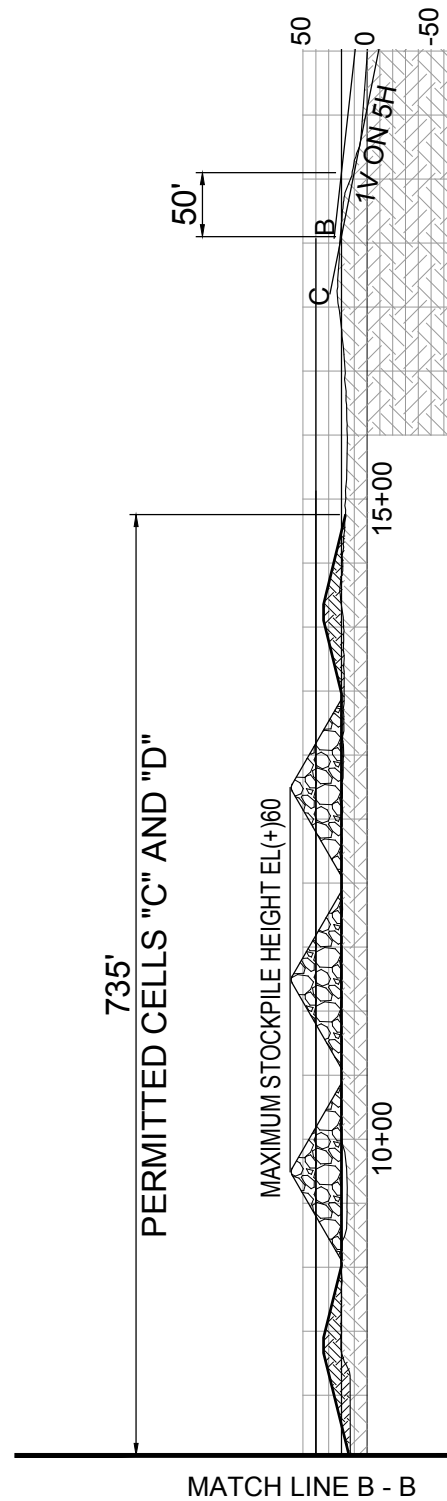
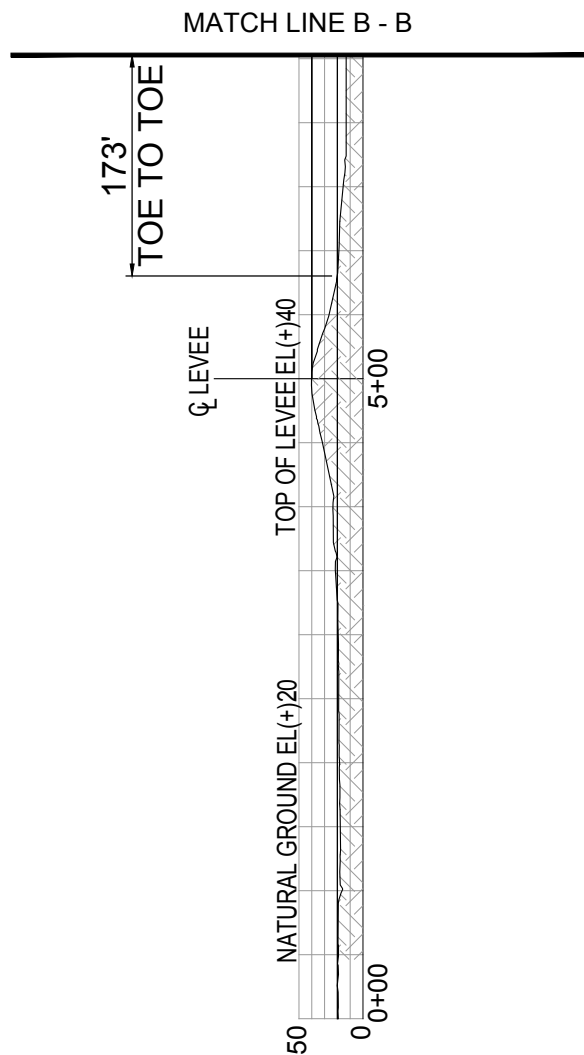
NEW ORLEANS

**WOOD RESOURCES**

LOUISIANA

**ASCENSION PARISH FACILITY  
BARROW PIT AND STOCKPILE  
SECTION "A" - LAYDOWN AREA**

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P4 OF 5



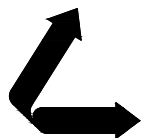
**SECTION "B" AT CELLS "C-D"**

SCALE: 1"=150'

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LA PE #21953

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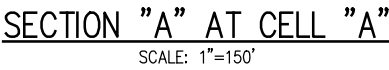
**WOOD RESOURCES**

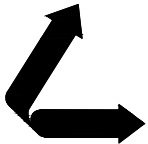
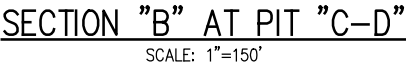
LOUISIANA

**ASCENSION PARISH FACILITY  
BARROW PIT AND STOCKPILE  
SECTION "B" - STOCKPILE AREA**

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

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<b>WOOD RESOURCES</b>	
NEW ORLEANS	LOUISIANA
<b>ASCENSION PARISH FACILITY PROPOSED STOCKPILE AREA SECTION "B"</b>	

SHEET NO.

## X-B