## JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

## July 22, 2013

United States Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District Regulatory Branch Post Office Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

(504) 862-2225 <u>Brad.LaBorde@usace.army.mil</u> Project Manager Brad LaBorde Permit Application Number MVN 2013-1109 EOO State of Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality ATTN: Water Quality Certifications Post Office Box 4313 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

(225) 219-3225

Project Manager Jamie Phillippe WQC Application Number WQC 130718-01

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: [] 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, Water Quality Certifications, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2047 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

## After-the-fact (ATF) Shorebird Nesting Habitat Enhancement in Grand Isle, LA

**NAME OF APPLICANT**: Barataria Terrebonne Estuary Foundation, % T. Baker Smith, LLC, ATTN: Kodi Babin, Post Office Box 1336, Thibodaux, Louisiana 70302.

**LOCATION OF WORK**: Eight test plots within a 13.3 acre site between Yacht Harbor Avenue and Loma Linda Road in Grand Isle, Louisiana, Jefferson Parish, as shown on the enclosed drawings.

Latitude: 29.2477/Longitude: -89.9781; Hydrologic Unit Code: 08090301 – East Central Louisiana Coastal

The work described below was partially completed prior to obtaining a Department of the Army permit and was in violation of Section 301 of the Clean Water Act. All legal issues concerning the unauthorized work have been deferred.

**CHARACTER OF WORK**: This project includes ATF placement of 1,021 cubic yards of sandy grit material in 3 test plots and 1,038 cubic yards of oyster shell material at 3 proposed test plots for a shorebird habitat project/study. Fill material will be 2-inches thick within these 6 plots. No material will be placed in the 2 remaining control areas. Total jurisdictional wetland impacts are 7.7 acres, which includes 3.8 acres for ATF work and 3.9 acres for the remaining proposed work. The applicant has proposed to contract with a Corps approved mitigation bank to compensate for the unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional wetlands associated with the project.

The applicant may be required to fully or partially restore the project site to pre-project conditions, if issuance of the permit is determined to be contrary to the overall public interest.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close 20 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. Similar 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. 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 Section 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.

The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined during 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 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.

No properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places were identified 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 the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work is Not Likely to Adversely 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.

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 **N/A** 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, Water Quality Certifications, before a permit is issued.

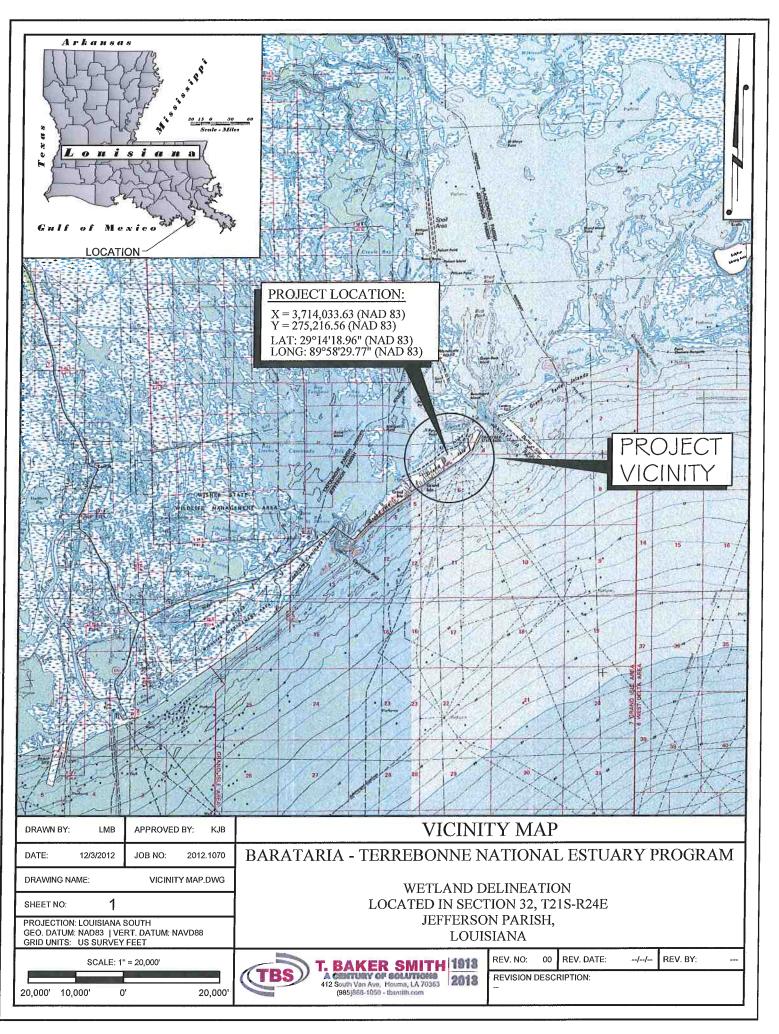
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

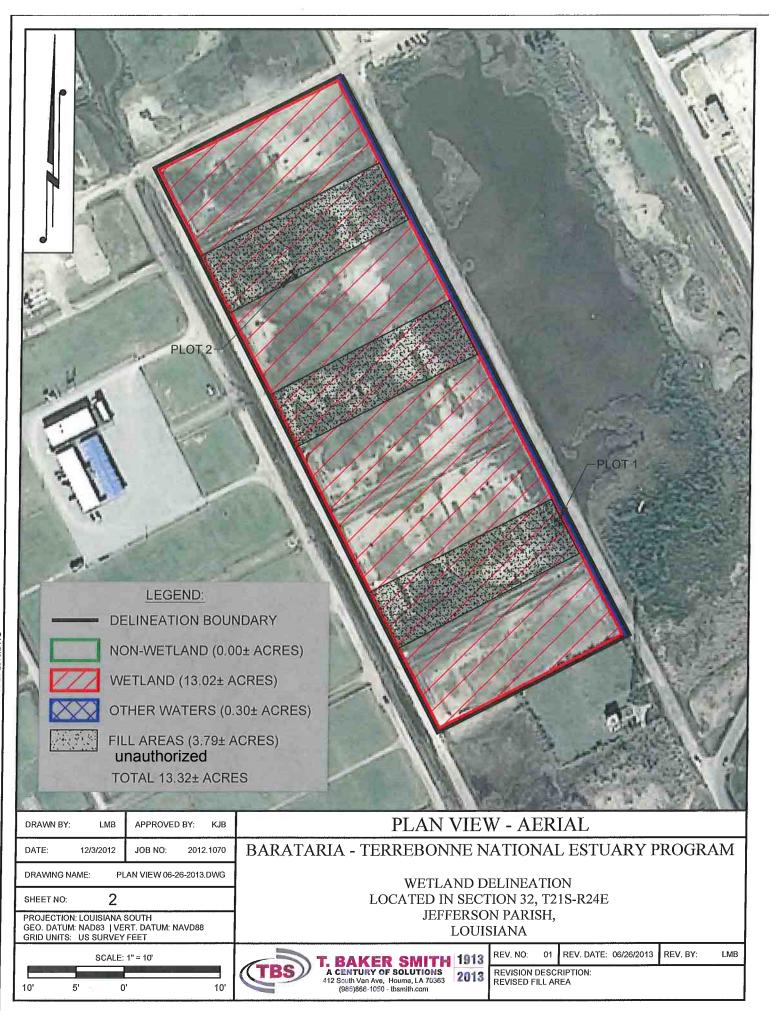
The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

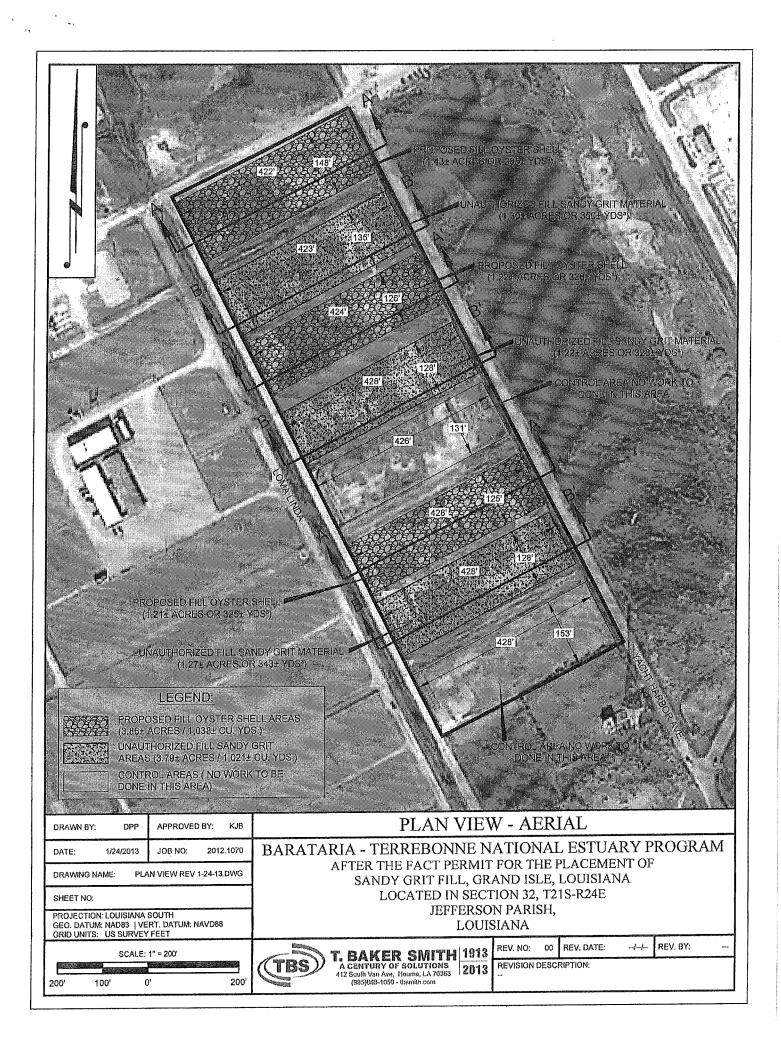
You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

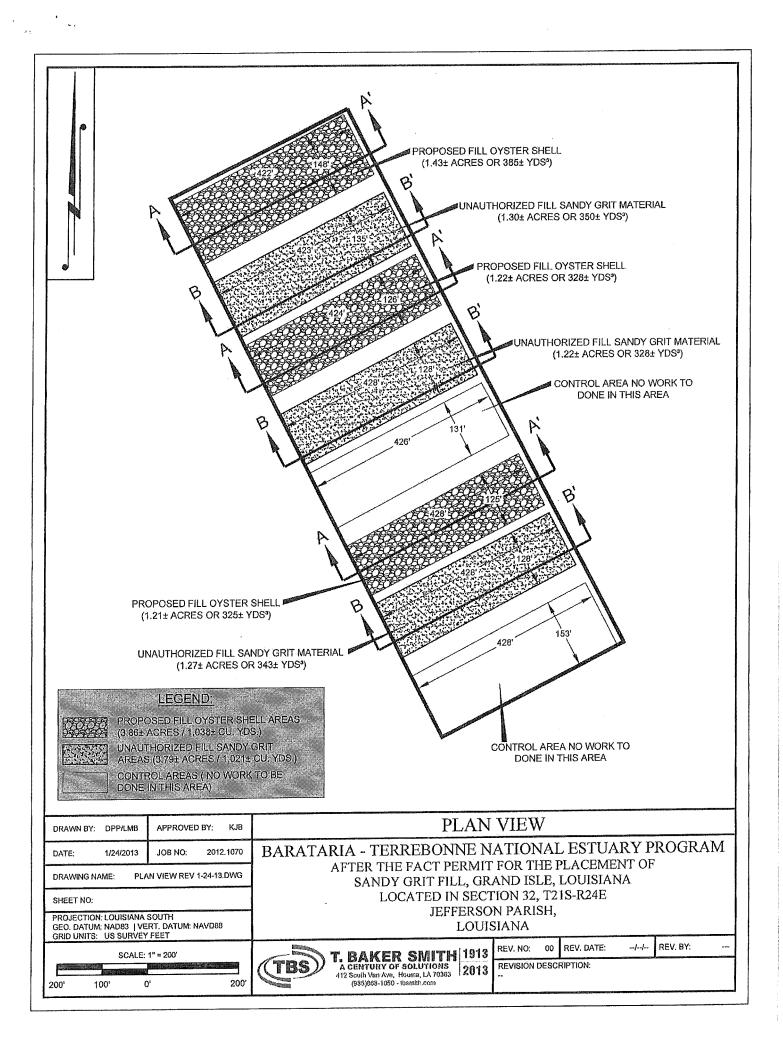
Michael V. Farabee Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section

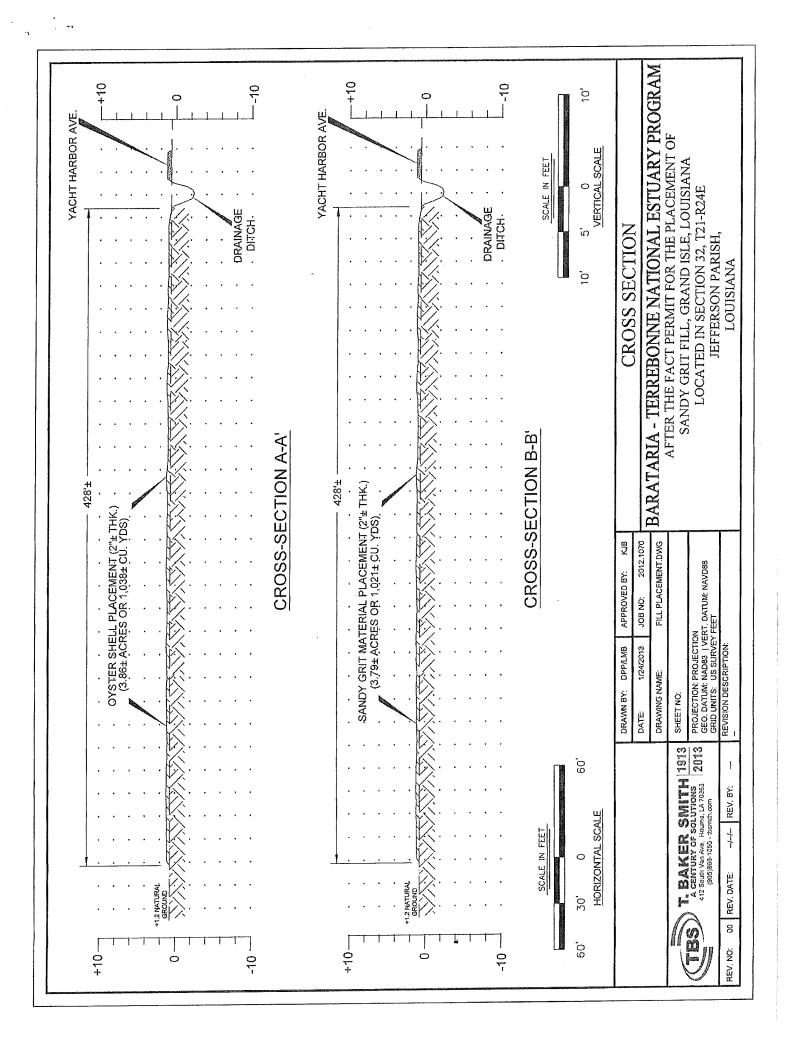
Enclosure











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	VADDS / 7 701 ACDES OF SAMDY ODIT FUL MATERIAL WAS DUACED
1) APPROXIMATELY 1021± CUBIC YARDS / 3.79± ACRES OF SANDY GRIT FILL MATERIAL WAS PLACED AS SHOWN ON SHEETS 2 & 3 OF 5.	
2) AS-BUILT DRAMINGS WILL BE PROVIDED TO LA. DNR, CMD AND COE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF COMPLETION OF THIS PROJECT, IF APPLICABLE.	
3) 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, IF APPLICABLE. THIS CONDITION DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE NECESSITY FOR REVISING THE CURRENT PERMIT OR OBTAINING A SEPARATE COASTAL USE PERMIT, SHOULD ONE BE REQUIRED, FOR SUCH REMOVAL ACTIVITIES.	
4) STRUCTURES MUST ALSO BE MARKED/LIGHTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH U.S. COAST GUARD REGULATIONS, IF APPLICABLE.	
5) 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.	
FILL AREAS:	
OYSTER SHELL FILL: 1,038± CUBIC YARDS 3.86± ACRES	
	SANDY GRIT FILL: 1,021± CUBIC YARDS 3.79± ACRES
DRAWN BY: DPP APPROVED BY: KJB	NOTES
DRAWN BT: DPP APPROVED B1. KJB DATE: 1/24/2013 JOB NO: 2012.1070	BARATARIA - TERREBONNE NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM
DRAWING NAME: FILL PLACEMENT.DWG	AFTER THE FACT PERMIT THE FOR PLACEMENT OF SANDY GRIT FILL, GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA
SHEET NO:	LOCATED IN SECTION 32, T21S-R24E
PROJECTION: LOUISIANA SOUTH GEO. DATUM: NAD83   VERT. DATUM: NAVD88 GRID UNITS: US SURVEY FEET	JEFFERSON PARISH, LOUISIANA
	TBS TACENTURY OF SOLUTIONS REV. NO: 00 REV. DATE:
	A CENTURY OF SOLUTIONS 412 South Van Ave, Houma, LA 70363 (985)868-1050 - tbsmith.com

- 9