

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

June 8, 2020

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 70821-4313

(504) 862-1217
Project Manager
Kenny Blanke
Kenneth.G.Blanke@usace.army.mil
MVN 2019-00848-CQ

(225) 219-3225
Project Manager
Ms. Elizabeth Hill
WQC Application Number
WQC 200506-02

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).

AFTER-THE-FACT BARRIER TO HELP MINIMIZE FLOOD RISK DUE TO STORM SURGE ALONG OAK POINT ROAD NEAR PONTE AUX CHENES, LOUISIANA IN LAFOURCHE PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: Lafourche Parish Government, c/o GIS Engineering, LLC, Attn: Mohan Menon, 450 Laurel Street, Suite 1500, Houma, Louisiana 70801.

LOCATION OF WORK: Located in Pointe Aux Chenes, Louisiana, along Bayou Point Aux Chenes and Oak Point Road, in Lafourche Parish, as shown on the attached drawings. This project is located in the Barataria Basin (Latitude 29.4494 N Longitude -90.4654 W, West Central Louisiana Coastal HUC 08090301).

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant is requesting an after-the-fact Department of the Army permit to construct an approximate 11,879-linear foot storm surge barrier in three different alignments along Oak Point Road. The proposed barrier consists of approximately 4,723 feet of Hesco baskets aligned in a single row on top of an existing levee and 3,227 feet of Hesco baskets arranged in a pyramid fashion with two baskets at the bottom and one on the top. The final alignment proposes to construct 3,929 feet of earthen berm barrier through the placement of dredged waterbottom material from Bayou Pt. Aux Chenes. Approximately 15,900 cubic yards of material would be dredged and placed as fill as a result of project implementation. Approximately 4.51 acres of jurisdictional wetlands would be permanently impacted as a result of barrier construction. The applicant has claimed that the project has been designed to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse wetland impacts to the maximum extent practicable. The applicant is proposing to utilize best management practices during and after the construction phase of the project. The applicant is proposing to compensate for the unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional wetlands through the purchase of mitigation credits at an appropriate

Corps approved mitigation bank.

The comment period for the Department of Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will close in **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 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 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 (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 inclusion of special conditions, the proposed activity is not likely adversely affect the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*).

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 4.51 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.

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.

JOHN M. HERMAN
Chief, Central Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosure



ENGINEERING LLC

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197 Elysian Drive
Houma, LA 70363
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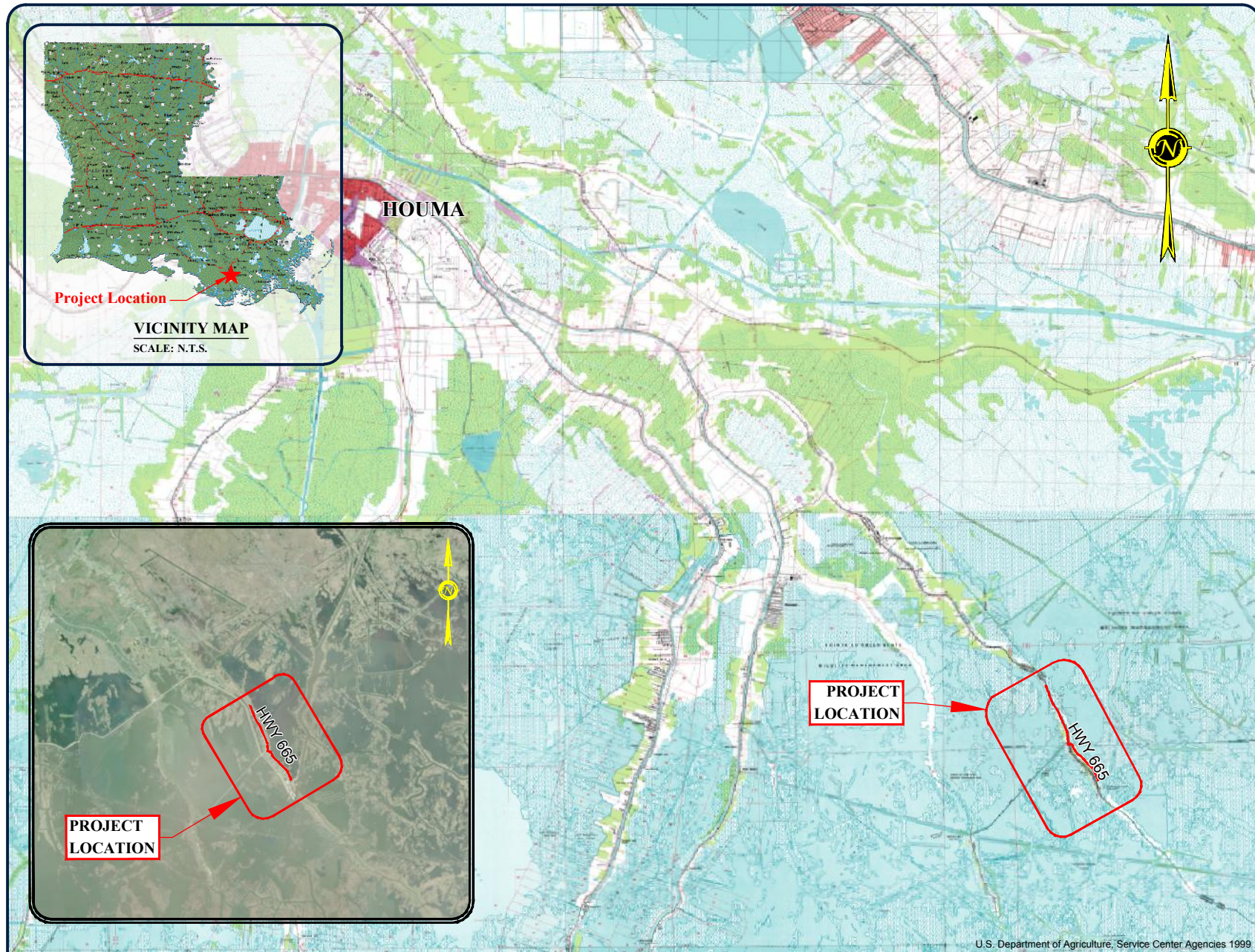
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POINT AUX CHENES EMERGENCY ALIGNMENT

VICINITY MAP

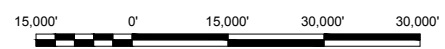
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|----------------|-----------------|
| Project number | 39130-1114 |
| Date | AUGUST 2019 |
| Designed by | DMM |
| Drawn by | MAC,JJS |
| Checked by | MAC |
| Checked by | JPC |
| Plot Date | August 30, 2019 |

01



NOTE: THE IMAGE ABOVE IS A GENERAL REPRESENTATION OF THE WORK AREA, ACTUAL FIELD CONDITIONS MAY DIFFER.

VICINITY MAP



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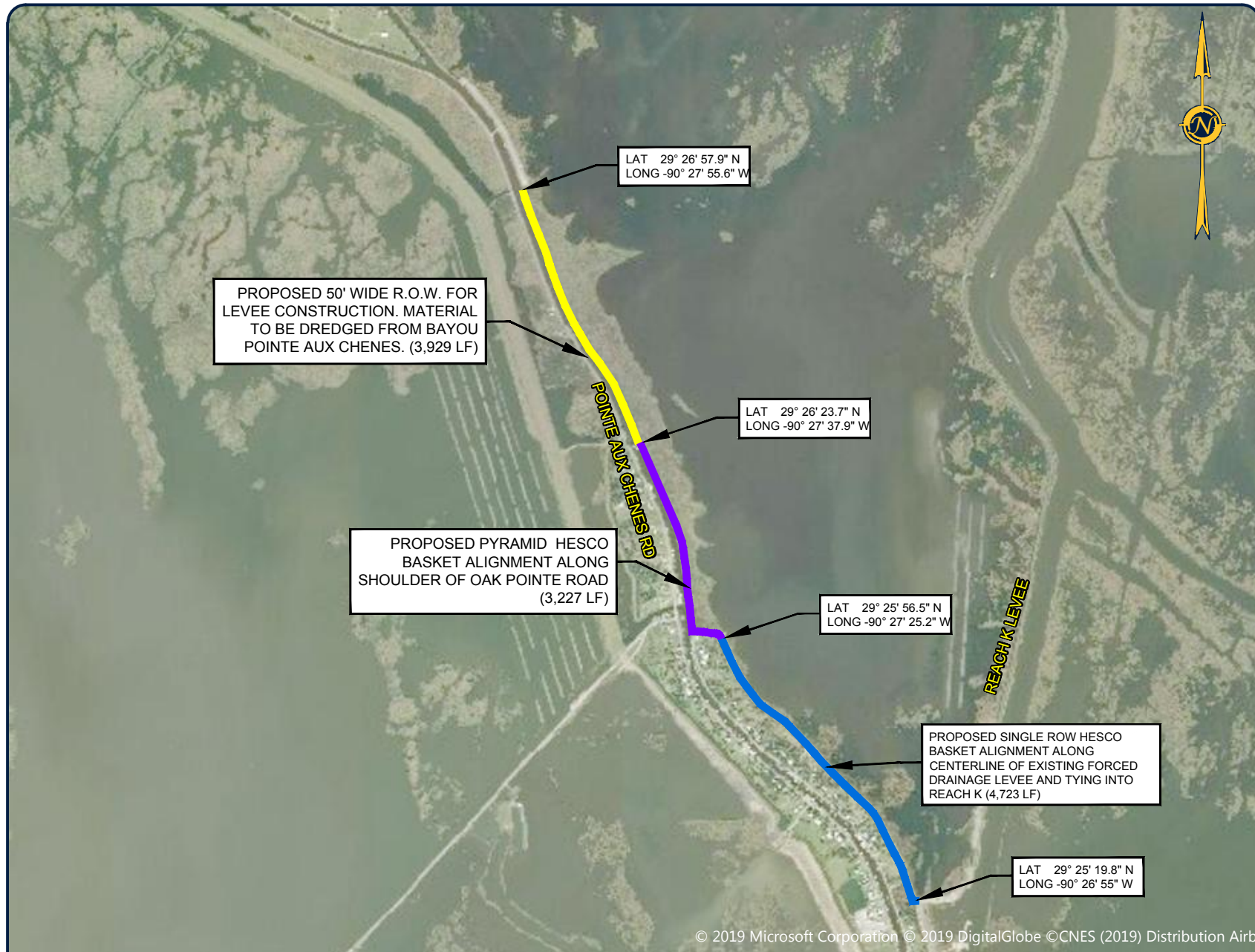
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PROJECT SITE PLAN

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|----------------|------------------|
| Project number | 39130-1114 |
| Date | AUGUST 2019 |
| Designed by | DMM |
| Drawn by | MAC,JJS |
| Checked by | MAC |
| Checked by | JPC |
| Plot Date | October 14, 2019 |

02



NOTE: THE IMAGE ABOVE IS A GENERAL REPRESENTATION OF THE WORK AREA. ACTUAL FIELD CONDITIONS MAY DIFFER.



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SITE PLAN - HESCO BASKET SOUTH




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**SITE PLAN - HESCO
 BASKET SOUTH**

| | |
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| Drawn by | MAC,JJS |
| Checked by | MAC |
| Checked by | JPC |
| Plot Date | August 30, 2019 |

03

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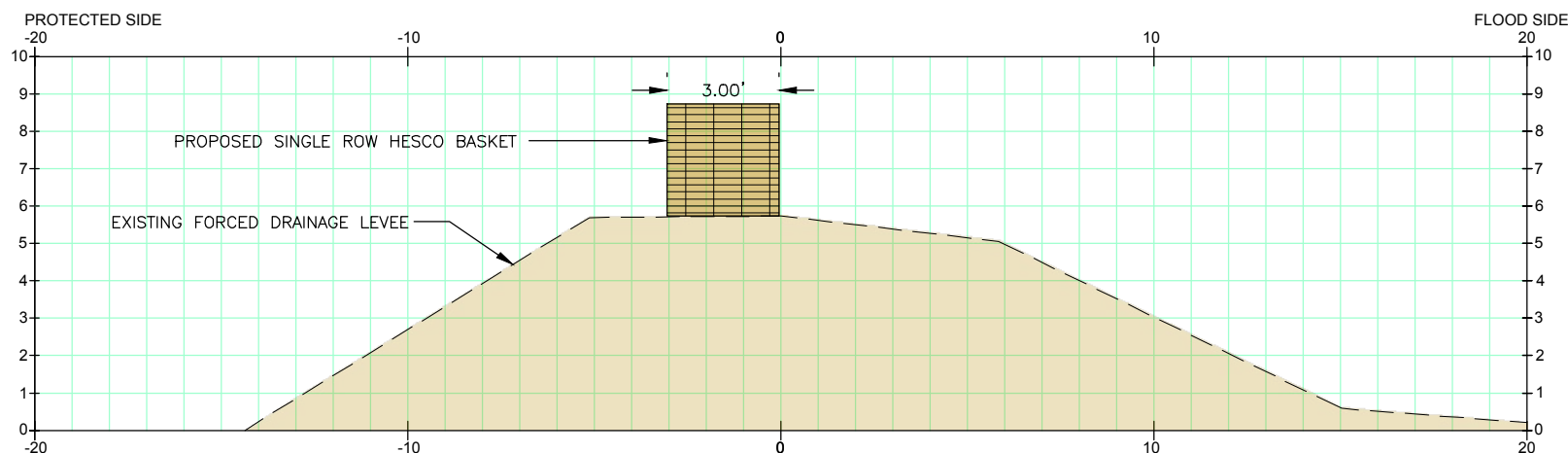
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TYPICAL SECTION- HESCO BASKET

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| Date | AUGUST 2019 |
| Designed by | DMM |
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04



TYPICAL SECTION - HESCO BASKET

SCALE: 1" = 5'-0"



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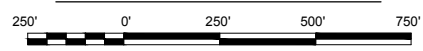
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**SITE PLAN - HESCO
 PYRAMID**

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SITE PLAN - HASKEL PYRAMID



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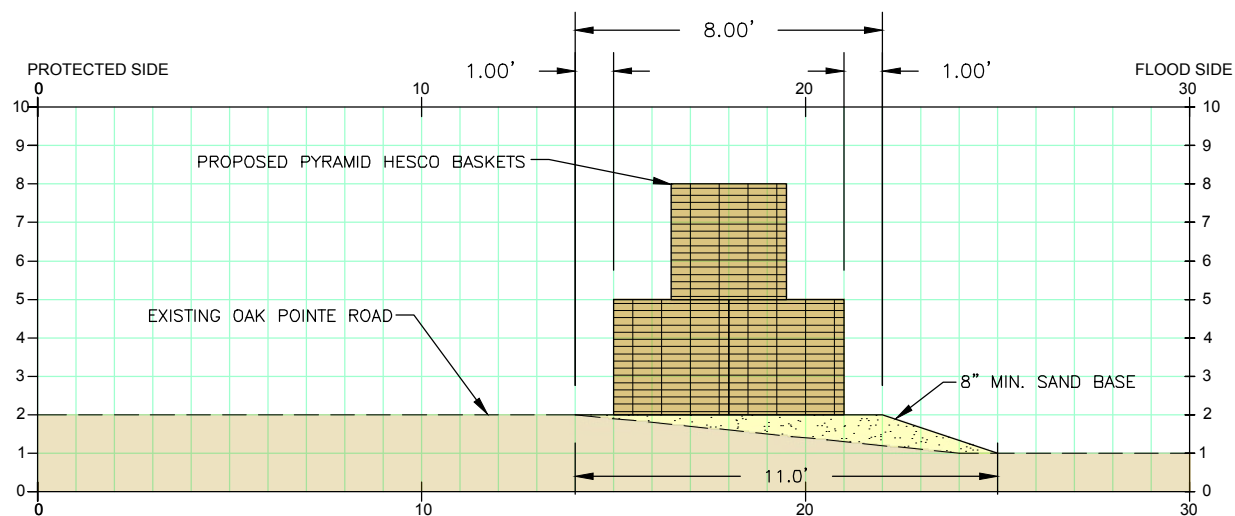
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| Project number | 39130-1114 |
| Date | AUGUST 2019 |
| Designed by | DMM |
| Drawn by | MAC,JJS |
| Checked by | MAC |
| Checked by | JPC |
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06



TYPICAL SECTION - HESCO PYRAMID
 SCALE: 1" = 5'-0"



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POTENTIAL WETLAND IMPACT (4.5 ACRES)

SITE PLAN - EMERGENCY LEVEE LIFT



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**SITE PLAN
 EMERGENCY LEVEE
 LIFT**

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| Project number | 39130-1114 |
| Date | AUGUST 2019 |
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| Drawn by | MAC,JJS |
| Checked by | MAC |
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| Plot Date | September 3, 2019 |

07

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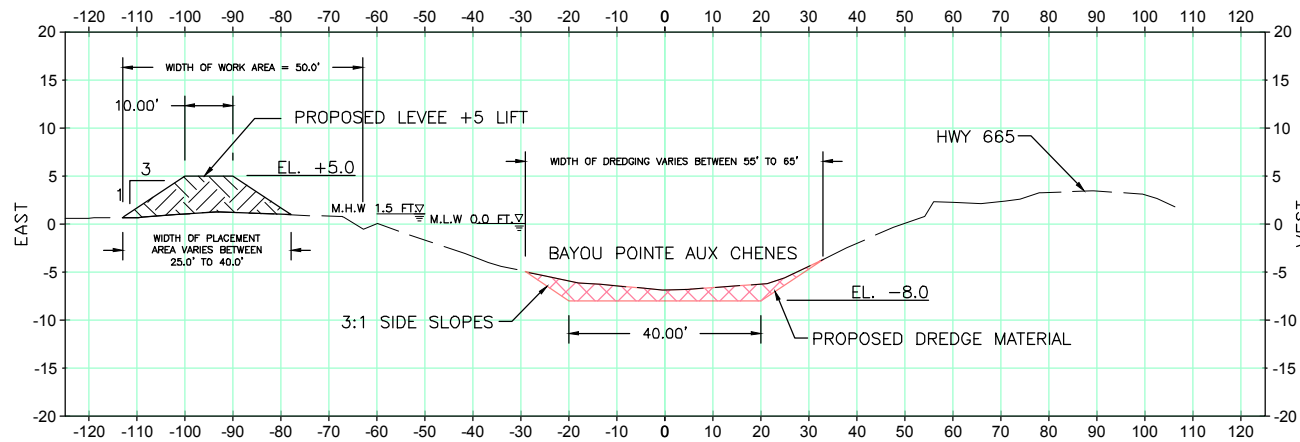
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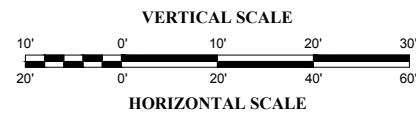
TYPICAL SECTION LEVEE FILL

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| Project number | 39130-1114 |
| Date | AUGUST 2019 |
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TYPICAL SECTION - LEVEE FILL



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