

# PUBLIC NOTICE

January 11, 2021

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

Project Manager  
Zachary Steinkoenig  
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**MVN 2020-01257-CF**

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the US 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 [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

## **PROPOSED PROPWASHING AND DRILLING OF THE PALO DURO SIDETRACK WELL IN BAYOU SORREL**

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** HILCORP ENERGY COMPANY, c/o Providence Engineering and Environmental Group LLC, 1201 Main Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70764.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** In Bayou Sorrel and within the Bayou Sorrel Oil and Gas Field, Latitude 30.164803, Longitude -91.361134, in Iberville Parish, within the Atchafalaya Basin in hydrologic unit (HUC 08080101), as shown on the attached drawings.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The applicant has requested a Department of the Army authorization to propwash for access for a drill barge, shell barge, and supply barge for the drilling of the Palo Duro Sidetrack Well. Approximately 210 cubic yards of native material will be temporarily disturbed from the propwashing. Additionally, 8 three-pile clusters will be temporarily placed in waterbottoms for the removal of the drill barge. It is anticipated that the proposed action would have minimal impact on adjacent wetlands.

The applicant is claiming that they have chosen the most direct route through an existing open water access channel to avoid impacts to vegetated wetlands and minimize impacts to waterbottoms and have selected the most shallow draft drilling barge and to conduct the project in April, when water levels are typically high, to reduce the amount of propwashing.

The comment period for the Department of Army Permit 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 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**. 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.

### **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 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 or Interior.

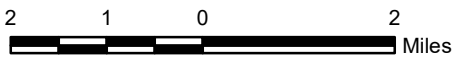
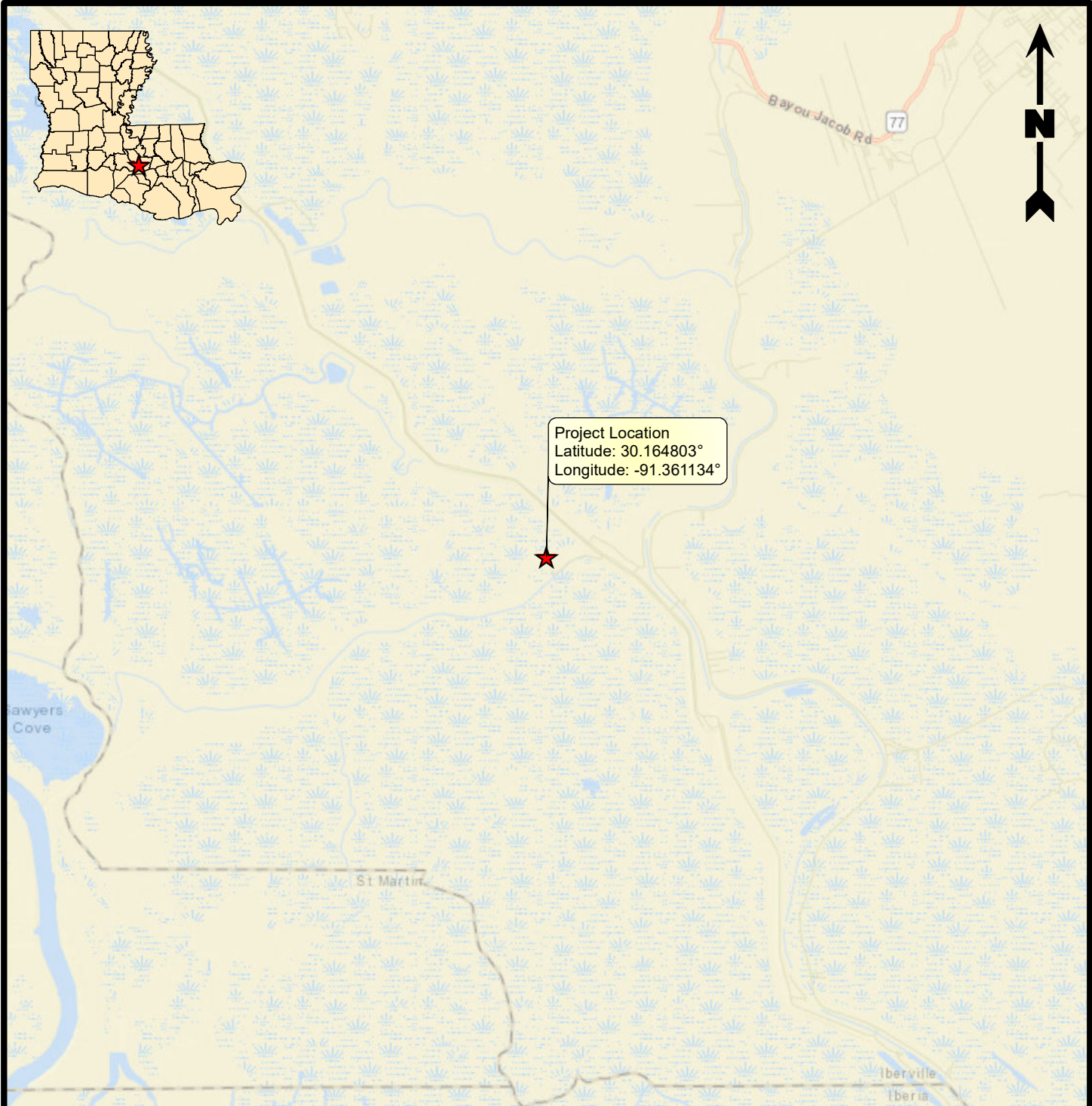
This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of up to n/a acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. 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 water quality standards will be required from the Louisiana 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.

JOHN M. HERMAN  
Chief, Central Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch

Enclosures



**Legend**

★ Project Location

**Reference**

Base map comprised of ESRI StreetMap USA data.

**Vicinity Map**

Section 404 Permit Application  
Iberville Parish, Louisiana

**Hilcorp Energy Company**  
Palo Duro Sidetrack

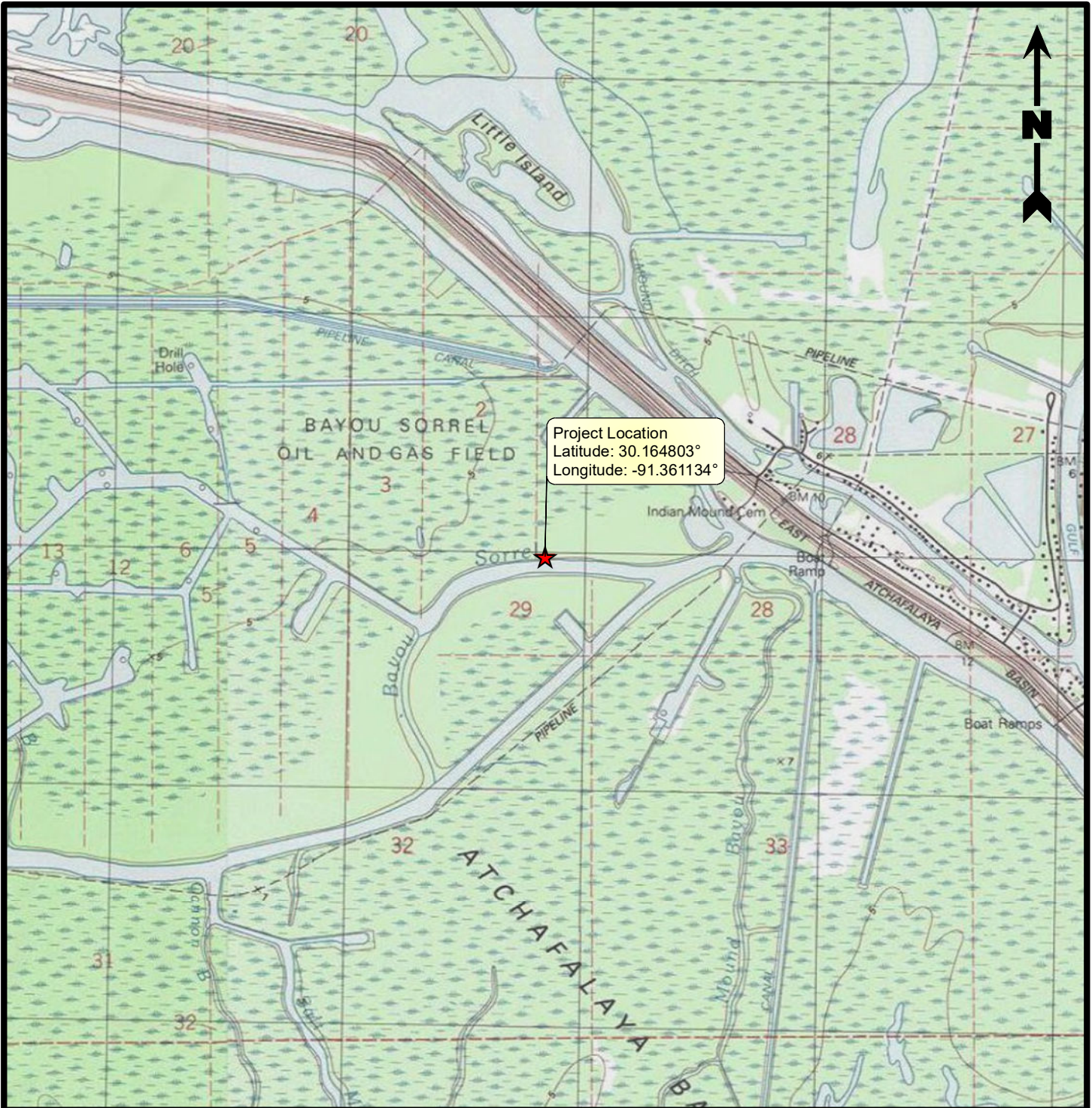


**PROVIDENCE**

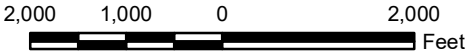
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|-------------|-----|------------|
| Drawn By    | SRM | 11/19/2020 |
| Checked By  | TDJ | 11/19/2020 |
| Approved By | TS  | 11/19/2020 |

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Project Number | 1140-151      |
| Drawing Number | 1140-151-A001 |

|          |
|----------|
| <b>1</b> |
| Figure   |



Project Location  
 Latitude: 30.164803°  
 Longitude: -91.361134°



**Legend**

★ Project Location

**Reference**

Base map comprised of United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic maps, "Grand River, LA" and "Bayou Sorrel, LA".

**Site Location Map**

Section 404 Permit Application  
 Iberville Parish, Louisiana

**Hilcorp Energy Company**  
 Palo Duro Sidetrack



**PROVIDENCE**

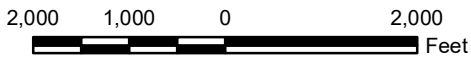
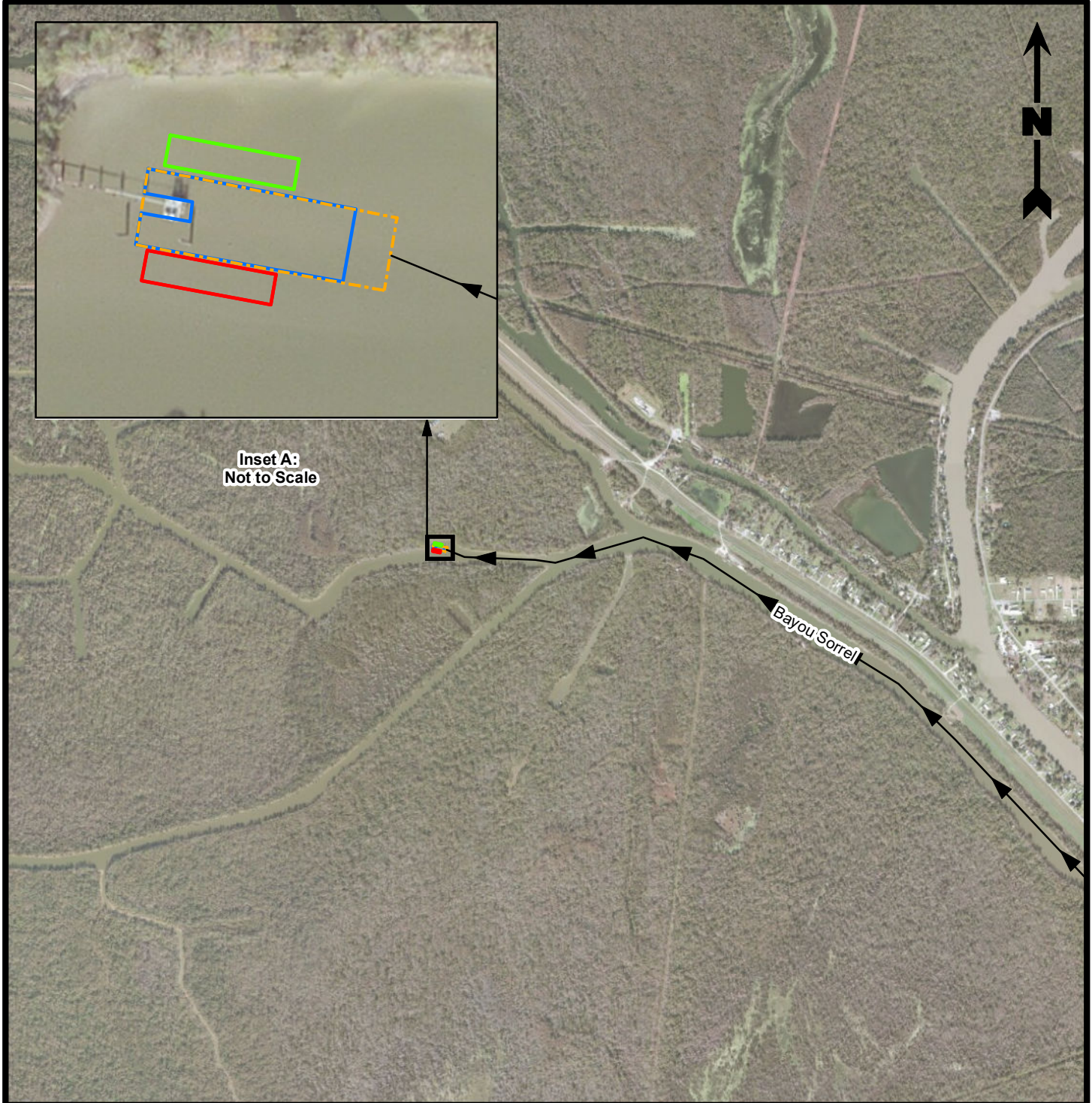
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|-------------|-----|------------|
| Drawn By    | SRM | 11/12/2020 |
| Checked By  | TDJ | 11/12/2020 |
| Approved By | TS  | 11/12/2020 |

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Project Number | 1140-151      |
| Drawing Number | 1140-151-A002 |






**2**  
 Figure



Inset A:  
Not to Scale



**Legend**

-  Proposed Prop Washing Area (0.26 Acre)
-  Drill Barge
-  Shale Barge
-  Supply Barge
-  Access (Depths > 8.5')

**Reference**

Base map comprised of ESRI's World Imagery (Clarity) exported 11/11/2020.

**Site Plan**

Section 404 Permit Application  
Iberville Parish, Louisiana

**Hilcorp Energy Company**  
Palo Duro Sidetrack

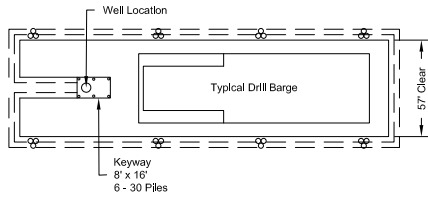


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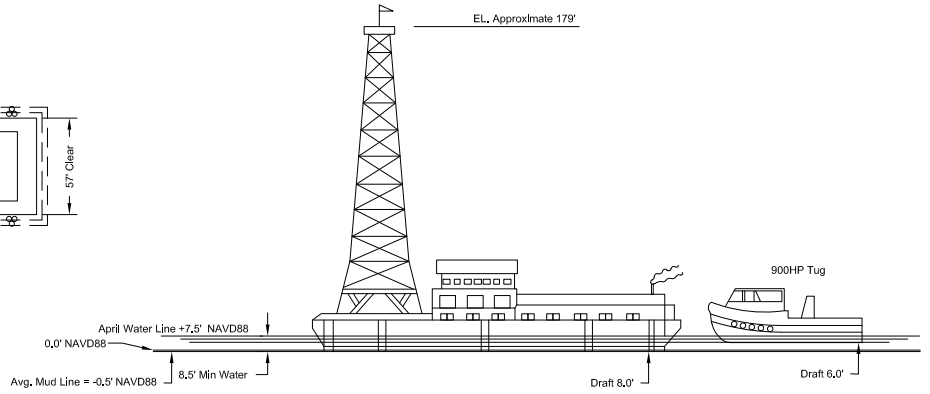
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| Drawn By    | SRM | 11/19/2020 |
| Checked By  | TDJ | 11/19/2020 |
| Approved By | TS  | 11/19/2020 |

|                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Project Number<br>1140-151      | <b>3</b><br>Figure |
| Drawing Number<br>1140-151-A003 |                    |

### Typical Diesel Powered Drill Barge



**Plan**  
Not to Scale

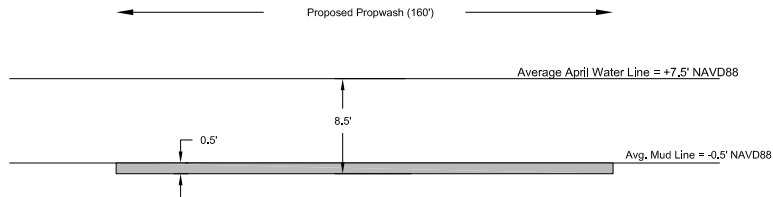


**Elevation**  
Not to Scale

**Note**

8 temporary 3 pile clusters to be driven to assist in removing drill barge from location.

### Typical Propwash Cross-Section



## Well Details

Section 404 Permit Application  
Iberville Parish, Louisiana

**Hilcorp Energy Company**  
Palo Duro Sidetrack



**PROVIDENCE**

|             |     |          |
|-------------|-----|----------|
| Drawn By    | TDJ | 11/16/20 |
| Checked By  | TS  | 11/16/20 |
| Approved By | RS  | 11/16/20 |

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Project Number | <b>4</b> |
| 1140-151       |          |
| Drawing Number | Figure   |
| 1140-151-A004  |          |

**Reference**

Details comprised from client provided figure.