



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 2288
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

CESAM-RD-M

PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2017-00265-PAH

March 15, 2017

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL**

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

**COMMERCIAL FILL, PORT OF GULFPORT,
GULFPORT, HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DOA) permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT: Mississippi State Port Authority
Post Office Box 40
Gulfport, Mississippi 39501**

LOCATION: At the Port of Gulfport, Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi (Latitude 30.3607 North, Longitude 89.0915).

WORK DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to fill 0.67 acre of waters of the United States for the expansion of the usable work area at the Port of Gulfport. The applicant is seeking a 5-year authorization.

PROJECT PURPOSE: The proposed activity is for expansion of work area on the East Pier of the Port of Gulfport to accommodate the needs of the current tenant.

MITIGATION: The applicant is not proposing mitigation.

The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Mississippi in accordance with Section 401(a) (1) of the Clean Water Act and upon completion of the required advertising; a determination relative to certification will be made. The applicant has applied for State Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act and for Coastal Zone (CZ) Consistency in accordance with the State Coastal Zone Management Program. Upon completion of the required advertising and public comment review, a determination relative to WQC and CZ consistency will be made by the Mississippi Office of Pollution Control and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) can be

based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, 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, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The USACE 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 USACE to determine whether to issue, 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 the 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. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held for consideration of this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the undertaking defined in this notice is being considered for the potential to affect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the USACE has determined the permit area consists of the entire project area.

The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and no properties listed in or eligible for the National Register are known to exist which would be affected by the proposed work. This action constitutes the full extent of cultural resources investigations unless comment to this notice is received documenting that significant sites or properties exist which may be affected by this work, or that adequately documents that a potential exists for the location of significant sites or properties within the project area. We are seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally-recognized American Indian tribes, local historical societies, museums, universities, the National Park Service, and the general public regarding the existence or the potential for existence of significant cultural and historic properties which may be affected by the work.

Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicates the following species may be present on-site: West Indian manatee; Gulf Sturgeon; Green Sea Turtle; Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle; and Loggerhead Sea Turtle. The USACE has determined the proposed activity would have no effect to endangered or threatened species. The proposed activities are not located in Gulf Sturgeon critical habitat. The project will be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The proposed action would encompass approximately 0.67 acre of open waters of the Mississippi Sound. The proposed project will temporarily affect the benthic community and water quality during installation. The project area includes estuarine substrate and water column utilized by various life stages of various marine species. 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.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2017-00265-PAH** and should be directed to the District Commander, U.S. Army Engineer, Mobile District, Attention: Mr. Philip A. Hegji, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, and a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Attention: Ms. Florance Bass, P.E., Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Bureau of Wetlands Permitting and Mitigation, 1141 Bay View Avenue, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530.

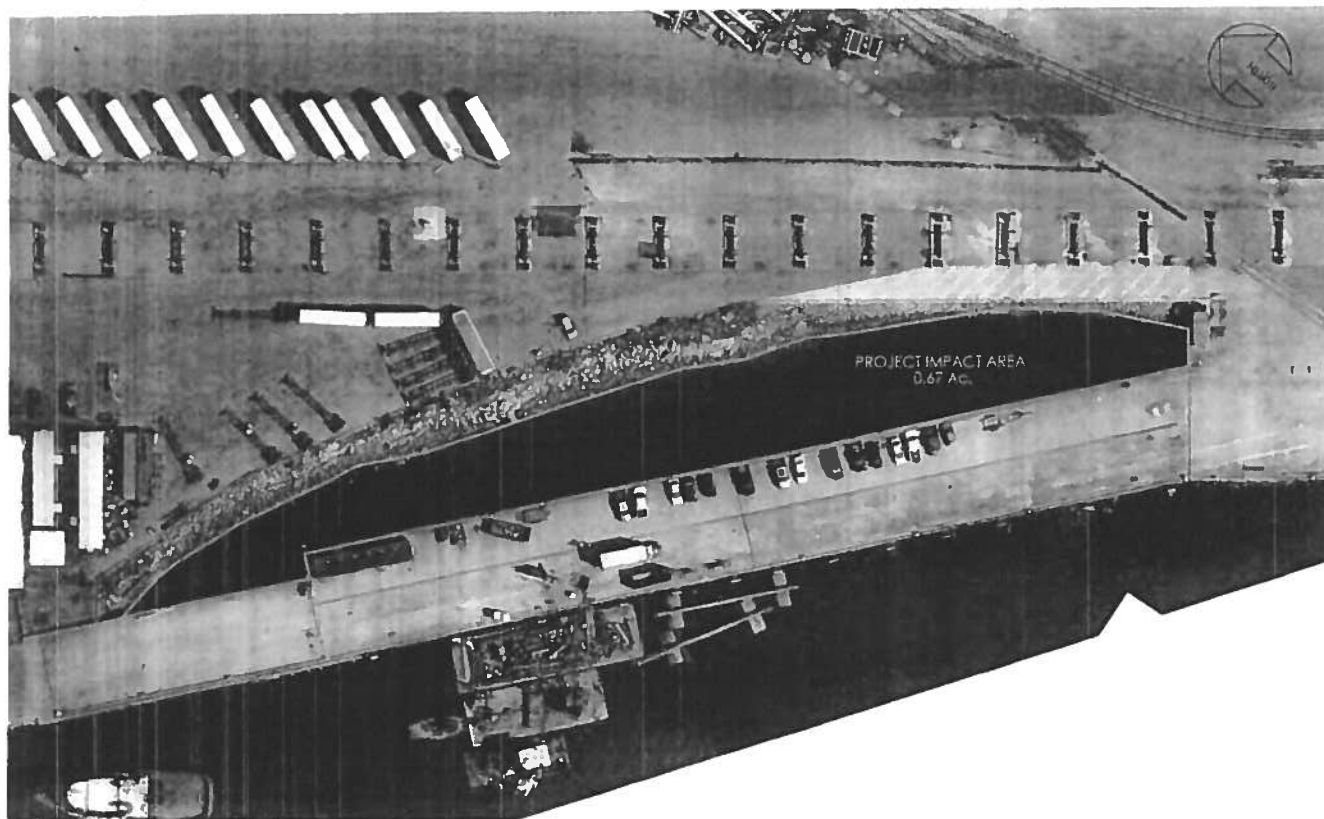
All Comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this Public Notice. If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager, Mr. Hegji at (251) 690-3222 or by email at philip.a.hegji@usace.army.mil. Please refer to the above Public Notice number **SAM-2017-00265-PAH**.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

NOT TO SCALE



DATE: 03-06-2017

FILE NAME: 3332-01 MCDERMOTT IMPACT EXHIBIT



BROWN, MITCHELL
& ALEXANDER, INC.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

PORT OF GULFPORT
McDermott Wharf Expansion
Impact Exhibit
GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

SAM-2017-00245-PAH
DEPT. OF THE ARMY

