



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
TATE REEVES  
GOVERNOR  
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

October 6, 2020

Mr. Danny Boudreaux Jr.  
Harrison County Government  
15309 Commerce Road  
Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

Re: Harrison County Board of Supervisors, West  
Biloxi Ramp, Maintenance Dredging  
Harrison County  
COE No. SAM-2018-1344-RCV  
WQC No. WQC2019024

Pursuant to Section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U. S. C. 1251, 1341), the Office of Pollution Control (OPC) issues this Certification, after public notice and opportunity for public hearing, Rudolph C. Villarreal, an applicant for a Federal License or permit to conduct the following activity:

Harrison County Board of Supervisors, West Biloxi Ramp, Maintenance Dredging: The applicant is proposing to discharge fill material on the beach in West Biloxi. The site is located just south of the intersection of Camellia Street and US Highway 90. The purpose of this proposed activity is to construct a public boat ramp. The constructed site will include two boat ramps, three finger piers, a bulkhead, a rock jetty, and a parking lot on the beach. In order to complete this project, dredging will be done through a combination of hydraulic cutter heads and the use of a barge. Impacts associated with dredging include a 300 feet long by 160 feet wide by 8 feet deep queuing basin in open water, maintenance dredging of 2500 feet long by 75 feet wide by 8 feet deep of an existing channel, and dredging of an 800 feet long by 75 feet wide by 8 feet deep channel in open water connecting the queuing basin to the existing basin. The dredged material will be contained using sand berms and dikes, and the disposal site is located along the existing sand beach upland area, which were selected down drift of the project site due to the direction of sediment transport within the project area. The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources has issued an exception for the project (DMR-190157) through the Mississippi Beneficial Use of Dredge Material Program, in relation to Mississippi Code §49-27-61. Beach impacts associated with this project are 460 feet long by 124 feet wide parking lot, two 90

feet long by 32 feet wide boat ramps, and approximately 900 square feet of dune grasses along the existing rock breakwater and the southern edge of the existing parking lot. According to an SAV survey, no submerged aquatic vegetation was observed in the project footprint. [SAM-2018-1344-RCV, WQC2019024].

The Office of Pollution Control certifies that the above-described activity will be in compliance with the applicable provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and Section 49-17-29 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, if the applicant complies with the following conditions:

1. All fill material and excavation areas shall have side slopes of at least 3:1 (horizontal:vertical) and shall be immediately seeded, stabilized and maintained.
2. The channel depth shall gradually increase toward open water and shall not exceed the controlling navigational depth. No “sumps” shall be created by proposed dredging.
3. Best management practices shall be used at all times during construction to minimize turbidity at both the dredge and spoil disposal sites. The disposal sites shall be constructed and maintained in a manner that minimizes the discharge of turbid waters into waters of the State. Best management practices may include, but not limited to, the use of staked hay bales; staked filter cloth; sodding, seeding and mulching; staged construction; and the installation of turbidity screens around the immediate project site. Any effluent from the disposal area should be routed through a return swale system and filtered through a series of hay bales and silt fences so as to reduce the turbidity of the effluent.
4. All bulkhead and piling materials shall be steel, concrete, plastic, vinyl, or timber treated with chromated copper arsenate (CCA).
5. Special care shall be taken prior to and during construction to prevent the movement of sediment into adjacent waters.
6. Fill material shall be clean and non-polluting, free of trash, debris, asphalt, etc.
7. Turbidity outside the limits of a 750-foot mixing zone shall not exceed the ambient turbidity by more than 50 Nephelometric Turbidity Units.
8. No sewage, oil, refuse, or other pollutants shall be discharged into the watercourse.

The Office of Pollution Control also certifies that there are no limitations under Section 302 nor standards under Sections 306 and 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act which are applicable to the applicant's above-described activity.

This certification is valid for the project as proposed. Any deviations without proper modifications and/or approvals may result in a violation of the 401 Water Quality Certification. If you have any questions, please contact Leah Drinnon at [ldrinnon@mdeq.ms.gov](mailto:ldrinnon@mdeq.ms.gov) or 601-961-5624.

Sincerely,



Krystal Rudolph, P.E., BCEE  
Chief, Environmental Permits Division

KR: ld

cc: Rudy Villarreal, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District  
Jennifer Wilder, Department of Marine Resources  
Paul Necaise, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Molly Martin, Environmental Protection Agency  
Benjamin Benvenuti, Covington Civil and Environmental