

CESAM-RD-M PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2024-00093-MJF

December 12, 2024

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL (MDEQ)

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES DMR24-000033

PROPOSED OPEN WATER FILL OF SAND AND/OR RIPRAP FOR CONSTRUCTION OF POINT CADAT MARSH ISLAND, CITY OF BILOXI, HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

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

APPLICANT: City of Biloxi Attention: Ms. Christy LeBatard 214A Delauney Street Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

LOCATION: Biloxi Bay North of U.S. Highway 90 Bridge; City of Biloxi; Harrison County; Mississippi; Latitude: 30.395366°; Longitude: -88.857146°

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant proposes to place approximately 18,200 cubic yards of sand fill material and approximately 6,900 cubic yards of riprap material at or below Mean High Water (MHW) for the construction of a 2.5-acre marsh island with emergent vegetation, a protective emergent breakwater, submerged breakwaters, an area for submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) recruitment, a sand beach area and a living shoreline with a riprap sill. Three marker buoys are included in the plan design.

-Sand Beach: An existing sand beach located along the western portion of the project site would have debris removed and approximately 2,140 cubic yards of sand fill material added. Sediment source would be from upland borrow pits. No dredge spoil is proposed for the sand beach.

-Living Shoreline: The area to the south of the proposed beach would be protected with a living shoreline comprised of a riprap sill requiring approximately 443 cubic yards of material, and emergent breakwater labeled #7 on the attached plans. This area would be planted with Smooth Cordgrass, Black Needlerush and Saltmeadow Cordgrass.

-Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) area: No plantings would take place as recruitment is expected to occur naturally. Fill material would be medium to coarse sand sourced from upland sources such as borrow pits. Approximately 2,430 cubic yards of material would be placed. This is the area shown on the plans as a dark colored figure in the location of breakwaters #5 and #6 and submerged breakwater #10.

-Emergent Breakwaters: The breakwaters would require the placement of approximately 6,400 cubic yards of material. These structures would be comprised of a geotextile grid base with stone rip rap placed to grade. Maximum crest elevation would be ± 2.8 ' NAVD88. Emergent breakwaters are labeled as numbers 1 through 7.

Label	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Fill (cubic yards)
1	±180	±31	591
2	±156	±36	658
3	±165	±36	690
4	±207	±38	960
5	±164	±38	771
6	±204	±38	982
7	±570	±33	1689

-Submerged Breakwaters: The submerged breakwaters would require the placement of approximately 500 cubic yards of material. These structures would be comprised of a geotextile grid base with stone riprap placed to grade. Maximum crest elevation would be ± 0.7 ' NAVD88. Submerged breakwaters are labeled as numbers 8 through 11.

Label	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Fill (cubic yards)
8	±190	±10	165
9	±142	±10	122
10	±140	±10	130
11	±99	±10	72

-Marsh Island: The proposed 2.5 acre marsh island would require the placement of approximately 13,100 cubic yards of borrow sand. Material would be sourced from upland borrow pits. This area would be planted with Smooth Cordgrass, Black Needlerush and Saltmeadow Cordgrass. See attached plans for depth location and plant spacing.

The applicant states the project purpose is to help restore Mississippi's gulf coast and shoreline, improve aesthetics, provide storm protection and estuarine habitat.

COASTAL ZONE: The applicant has applied for coastal zone (CZ) consistency in accordance with the State Coastal Zone Management Program. A determination relative to CZ consistency will be made by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

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WATER QUALITY: The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification Rule (Certification Rule, 40 CFR 121), requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge. The applicant is responsible for requesting certification and providing required information to the certifying agency. As of the date of this public notice, the applicant has not submitted a certification request to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (certifying authority).

HISTORIC PROPERTIES: 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 historic properties. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the Corps has determined the permit area consists of the entire undertaking in waters of the United States, which includes the footprint of the proposed fill areas, areas immediately adjacent to the proposed fill areas, and those areas that would be utilized for construction access and equipment and materials staging. The National Register of Historic Places will be consulted for properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register, which are known to exist and would be affected by the proposed work. The Mobile District is seeking comments regarding the existence, or the potential for existence, of significant cultural and historic properties within the permit area. At this time, the USACE, Mobile District has made no determination regarding potential effects of the project on cultural/historic resources. Further coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or federallyrecognized American Indian tribes will be performed as determined to be appropriate.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate the following federally-listed species are known or expected to occur within the project area: West Indian Manatee (T), Eastern Black Rail (T), Piping Plover (T), Red Knot (T), Green Sea Turtle (T), Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle (E), Loggerhead Sea Turtle (T), and Gulf Sturgeon (T). There is no designated critical habitat within the project action area. At this time, the USACE, Mobile District has made no determination regarding potential effects of the project on the above-listed species. Further coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and NMFS will be performed as determined to be appropriate.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The proposed project would impact approximately 8.18 acres of essential fish habitat. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse effect on EFH or Federally managed fisheries. 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.

COMMENTS: 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 can be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in

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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, 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, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The 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 Corps of Engineers 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 to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2024-00093-MJF** and should be directed to the District Engineer, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Mobile, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: Maryellen Farmer, or submitted electronically at maryellen.j.farmer@usace.army.mil, 251-509-6240. Copies of all comments should be furnished to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530.

All comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this Public Notice.

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

MOBILE DISTRICT U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Attachments









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CAD BVN ENG DBA DATE 6/28/2024 SCALE 1"=100' BMA# 3555 KBE55\3555-07 PLANSET SHEET C-121

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BREAKWATER FILL SCHEDULE				
PLAN DESIG.	LENGTH (FT.)	WIDTH (FT.)	TOTAL (CY.)	
1	±180	±31	591	
2	±156	±36	658	
3	±165	±36	690	
4	±207	±38	960	
5	±164	±38	771	
6	±204	±38	982	
7	±570	±33	1689	
8	±190	±10	165	
9	±142	±10	122	
10	±140	±10	130	
11	±99	±10	72	

	AREA OF PLANTINGS (SF.)			TOTAL	
ANT (SF.)	SILL	EMERGENT ISLAND	TOTAL	PLANTS	
1	9,865	9,595	19,460	11,234	
D	6,599	19,913	26,512	61,228	
3	3,087	39,980	43,067	44,203	





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CONSULTING ENGINEERS

8/27/2024

s: \3555d-07 point cadet nearshore habitat restoration, phase 1 (nfwf)\01-drafting\01-dwgs\01-production\3555-07 permit.dwg-8/27/2024



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BROWN, MITCHELL & ALEXANDER, INC. CONSULTING ENGINEERS

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