



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

# PUBLIC NOTICE

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Applicant:  
City of Starkville  
Attention: Mr. Rodney Lincoln

Published: March 13, 2025  
Expires: April 14, 2025

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**Mobile District  
Permit Application No. SAM-2017-00956-JMT**

## **JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE**

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

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

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** The Mobile District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1344). The purpose of this public notice is to solicit comments from the public regarding the work described below:

**APPLICANT:** City of Starkville  
Attention: Mr. Rodney Lincoln  
120 Airport Road  
Starkville, Mississippi 39759

**AGENT:** Pittman Environmental Services, LLC  
Attention: Mr. Bart Pittman  
Post Office Box 1926  
Purvis, Mississippi 39475

**WATERWAY AND LOCATION:** The project would affect waters of the United States associated with Tobacco Juice Creek. The project area is located at the George M. Bryan Airport in 17 Section, 18 North Township, 14 East Range; at Latitude 33.423134 and Longitude -88.847939; in Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:** The 68-acre project area extends south from the southern end of the runway at the George M. Bryan Airport in Starkville, Mississippi. The project area primarily consists of cleared, undeveloped uplands, however, there are 0.76 acre of non-forested wetlands in the southwest quadrant of the project area. Mississippi Highway 25 is west of the project area, pastureland is south of the project area, undeveloped forested land is east of the project area, and the George M. Bryan airport is immediately north of the project area. Based on the surrounding land use, the project area likely consisted of pastureland, cropland, and forested land prior to the construction of the airport in 1934.

## **PROJECT PURPOSE**

**Basic:** The basic project purpose is transportation.

**Overall:** The overall project purpose is to improve aviation safety at the George M. Bryan Airport in Starkville, Mississippi. The applicant is proposing to achieve the overall project purpose by extending the runway and taxiway to meet current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) design standards, allow current aircraft users to safely operate at maximum load, and expand airport access to larger aircraft.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant requests authorization to discharge 10,468 cubic yards of fill material into 0.76 acre of non-forested wetland for grading associated with the construction of a Runway Safety Area (RSA) at the George M. Bryan Airport. The RSA would be constructed in association with the extension of the runway. In accordance with FAA Advisory Circular 150/5300-13B, the RSA must be 500 feet wide and extend 1,000 feet beyond the terminus of the extended runway.

**AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION:** The applicant has provided the following information in support of efforts to avoid and/or minimize impacts to the aquatic environment: The expansion has been designed to minimize fill required, which minimizes the wetland area impacted.

**COMPENSATORY MITIGATION:** The applicant offered the following compensatory mitigation plan to offset unavoidable functional loss to the aquatic environment: The applicant proposes to purchase in-kind wetland credits from an approved mitigation bank.

**LEAD FEDERAL AGENCY ROLE:** The FAA is considered the lead federal agency for the coordination and conduct of environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the proposed project. Pursuant to NEPA and FAA regulations, FAA finalized an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on January 8, 2020, for the proposed runway and taxiway extension. The Corps is considering adopting FAA's final environmental documentation findings; however, a separate decision document would be prepared prior to a final decision concerning issuance or denial of the requested Department of the Army (DA) permit. Comments received would be used by the Corps in the preparation of any supplemental EA and/or an Environmental Impact Statement, if required, pursuant to NEPA prior to a final decision concerning issuance or denial of the DA permit.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES:** The Corps is evaluating the undertaking for effects to historic properties as required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This public notice serves to inform the public of the proposed undertaking and invites comments including those from local, State, and Federal government Agencies with respect to historic resources. Our final determination relative to historic resource impacts may be subject to additional coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer, federally recognized tribes and other interested parties.

The FAA is the lead Federal agency for NHPA consultation for the proposed action. Any required consultation will be completed by the FAA.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** The Corps has performed an initial review of the application and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website to determine if any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, as well as the proposed and final designated critical habitat may occur in the vicinity of the proposed project. Preliminary review of the USFWS IPAC indicates the following species have the potential to occur in the vicinity of the proposed project: Northern Long-eared Bat, Tricolored Bat, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Alligator Snapping Turtle, Monarch Butterfly, and Price's Potato-bean.

Pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA, any required consultation with the Service(s) will be conducted in accordance with 50 CFR part 402. The FAA is the lead Federal agency for ESA consultation for the proposed action. Any required consultation will be completed by the FAA.

This notice serves as request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

**NAVIGATION:** The proposed structure or activity is not located in the vicinity of a federal navigation channel.

**SECTION 408:** The applicant will not require permission under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (33 USC 408) because the activity, in whole or in part, would not alter, occupy, or use a Corps Civil Works project.

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:** Water Quality Certification may be required from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. The applicant will apply for certification from the State of Mississippi in accordance with Section 401(a) (1) of the Clean Water Act. Upon completion of the required advertising and public comment review, a determination relative to water quality certification will be made by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

**NOTE:** This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This information has not been verified or evaluated to ensure compliance with laws and regulation governing the regulatory program. The geographic extent of aquatic resources within the proposed project area that either are, or are presumed to be, within the Corps jurisdiction has not been verified by Corps personnel.

**EVALUATION:** 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

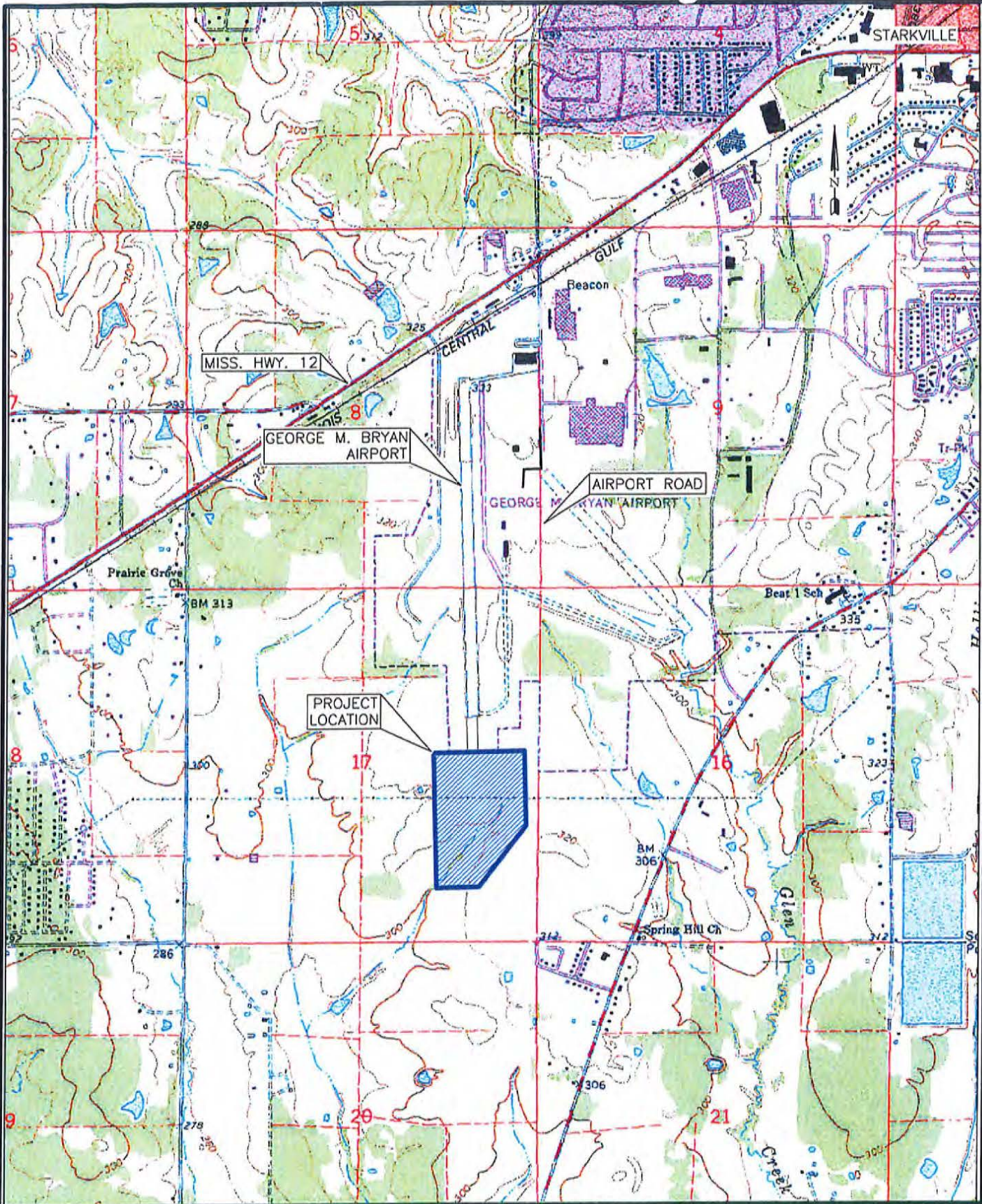
utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical 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. Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act or the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

**COMMENTS:** The Corps 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 to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this determination, comments are used to assess impacts to 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 (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The Mobile District will receive written comments on the proposed work, as outlined above, until April 14, 2025. Comments should be submitted electronically via the Regulatory Request System (RRS) at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs> or to Jevon Coleman at [jevon.d.coleman@usace.army.mil](mailto:jevon.d.coleman@usace.army.mil) with a copy to Carrie Barefoot at [cbarefoot@mdeq.ms.gov](mailto:cbarefoot@mdeq.ms.gov). Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Birmingham Field Office, Attention: Jevon Coleman, 600 Vestavia Parkway, Suite 203, Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35216, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Environmental Permits Division, 401 Stormwater Branch, Attention: Ms. Carrie Barefoot, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225. Please refer to the permit application number in your comments.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing will be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

\\wg\airport\George M. Bryan\Environmental Site Assessment 4.2017.dwg, 5/11/17 2:57:21 PM, 1:1



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SOURCE: USGS 7.5 MIN. SERIES - STARKVILLE QUADRANGLE - OKTIBBEHA COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

LOCATION MAP

FIGURE 1

CLEARWATER CONSULTANTS, INC.  
STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI


GEORGE M. BRYAN FIELD  
STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI


RUNWAY EXTENSION  
APRIL 2017

**SAM-2017-00956-JMT**

2021 Aerial Photograph of the George M. Bryan Airport

**Legend**

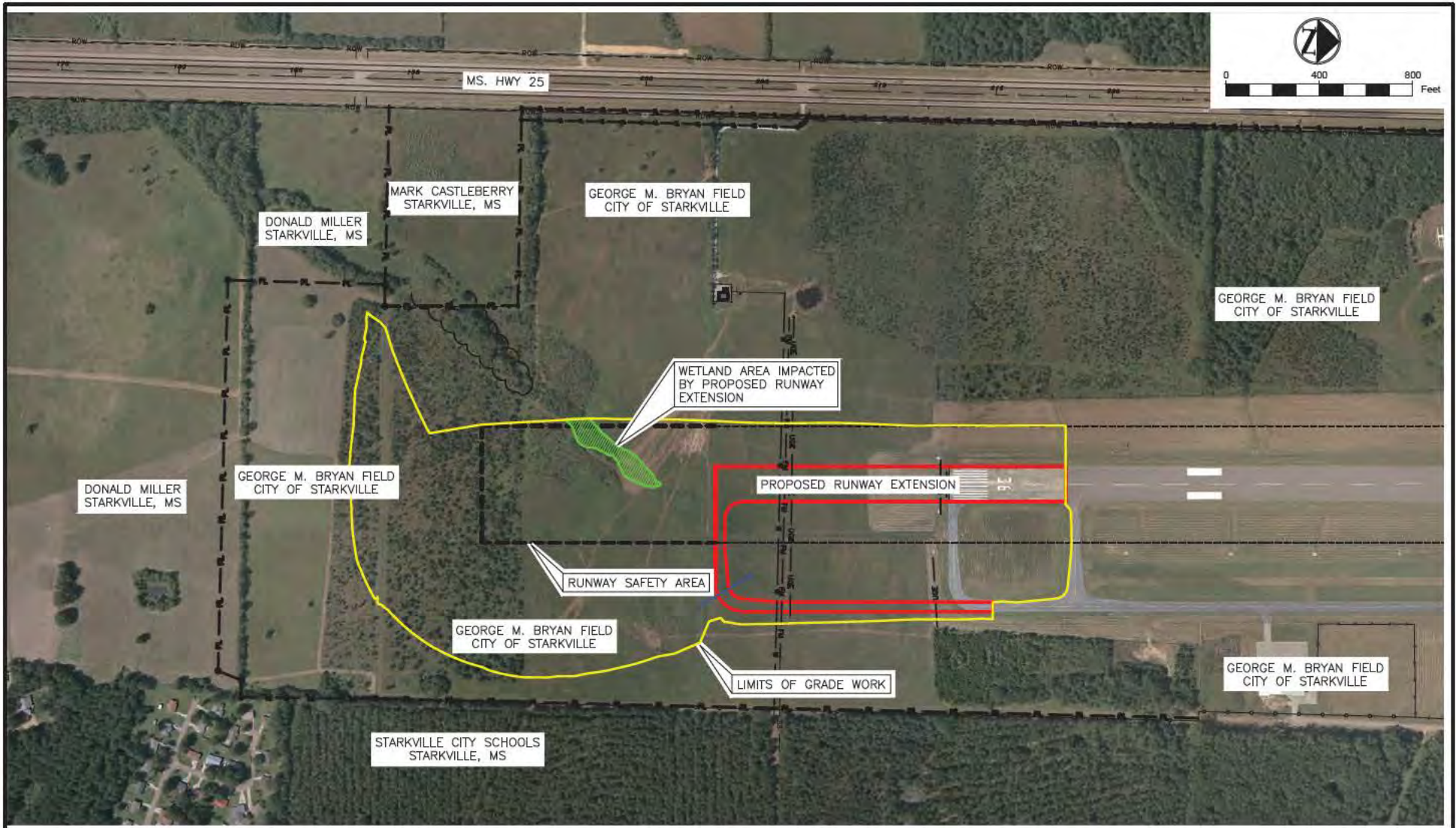
 Project Area south of the runway

 33.423134, -88.847939

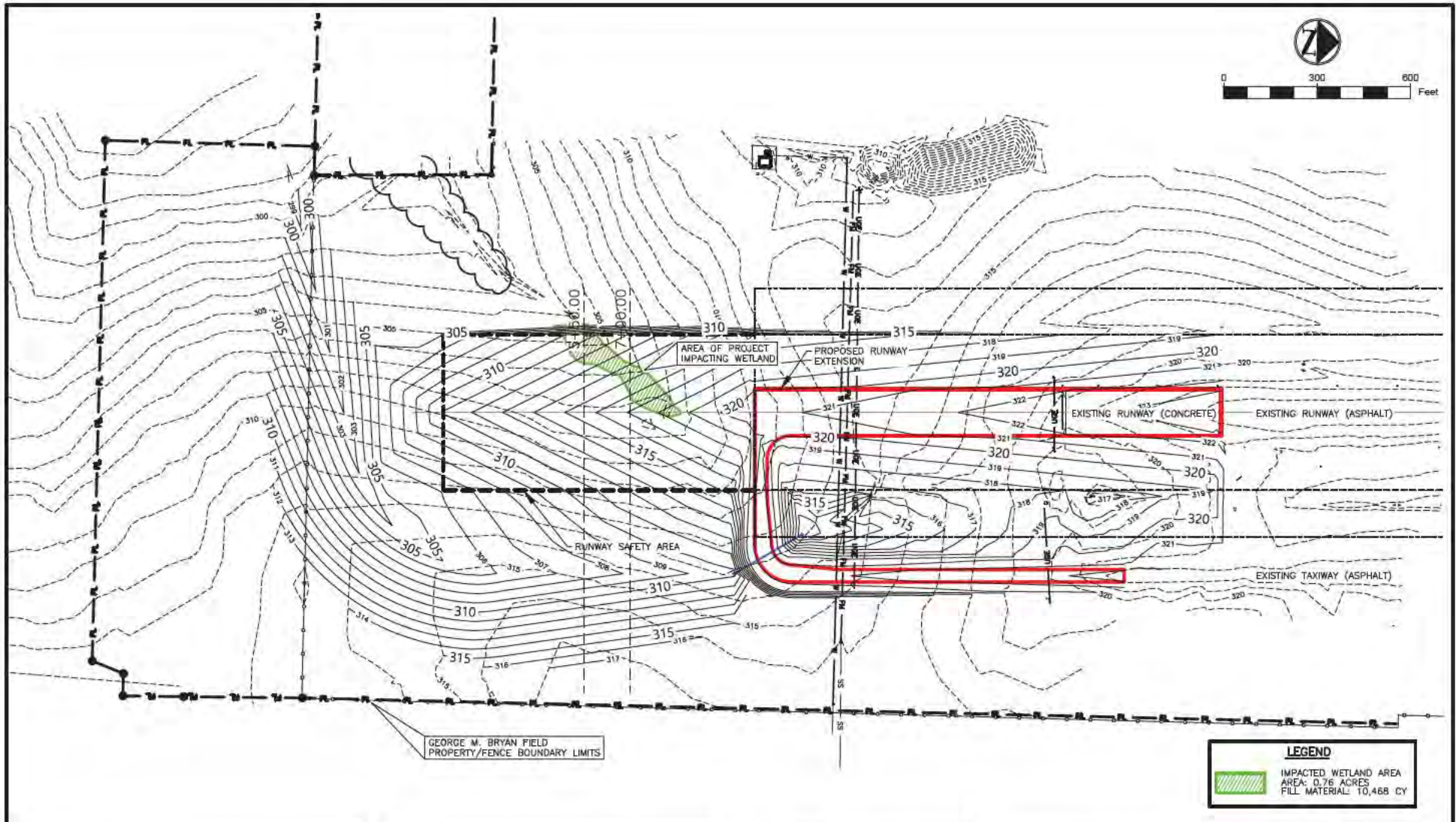
Google Earth

3000 ft





<p>CLEARWATER CONSULTANTS, INC. STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI</p>	<p>GEORGE M. BRYAN FIELD STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI</p>	<p>SCALE: 1" = 400'</p>	<p>2025 AIP WETLANDS AREA OWNERSHIP MAP</p>	<p>FIGURE 4</p>
		<p>DATE: FEBRUARY 2025</p>		



CLEARWATER CONSULTANTS, INC.  
STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

GEORGE M. BRYAN FIELD  
STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

SCALE: 1" = 300'  
DATE: FEBRUARY 2025

2025 AIP  
WETLANDS AREA  
SITE PLAN

FIGURE  
1

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