

US Army Corps of Engineers Memphis District



FILE NUMBER: MVM-2021-124 (BSP)

NOTICE DATE: September 15, 2021

Attn: Postmaster, Please Post Until

EXPIRATION DATE: Ctober 15, 2021

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

AUTHORITY: Pursuant to 33 CFR 325, as published in the Federal Register dated November 13, 1986, this notice announces an application submitted for a Department of the Army permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

APPLICANT:

Glenn Post, III 198 Naomi Drive Farmerville, Louisiana 71241 (318) 366-7942

PURPOSE: The project purpose is to maintain a controlled water level within forested wetlands during waterfowl hunting season.

LOCATION: The project site is located in Section 19, Township 10N, Range 1W, in Jackson County, Arkansas, as shown on the attached map (Attachment 1).

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The project includes the construction of 3,212 linear feet of earthen levee and the installation of water control structures as shown on the attached Map (Attachment 2). The earthen levee will be 4 feet high, 15 feet wide at the top, and have a base width of 19 feet. Fill will be acquired by excavating an adjacent borrow ditch. The total width of impact is 38 feet as shown on the attached drawing (Attachment 3). As proposed, the project will impact 2.8-acres of non-forested wetlands.

AVOIDANCE/MINIMIZATION: The applicant has proposed to construct the earthen levee within an area that has been cleared by the previous landowner. To offset wetland impacts, the applicant proposes to mitigate onsite.

MITIGATION: The applicant proposes to mitigate impacts at a 2:1 ratio with the restoration of 5.6 acres of bottomland hardwoods in Section 19, Township 10N, Range 1W, in Jackson County, Arkansas, as shown on the attached map (Attachment 2). The proposed mitigation area is currently managed as moist soils and located on the same property as the proposed impacts.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification Rule (Certification Rule, 40 CFR 121), effective September 11, 2020, requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge. The scope of a CWA Section 401 certification is limited to assuring that a discharge from a federally licensed or permitted activity will comply with water quality requirements. 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 Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment Division of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) (certifying

authority). In accordance with Certification Rule part 121.6, once the applicant submits a certification request the Corps of Engineers will determine the reasonable period of time for the certifying agency to act upon the certification and provide written notification.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: Our preliminary determination is that the proposal would have no effect on the Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis*), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) or Fat Pocketbook (*Potamilus capax*). It is also our preliminary determination that the proposal may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect Pondberry (*Lindera melissifolia*). This notice is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Any comments USFWS may have regarding endangered or threatened wildlife or plants, or their critical habitat, will be considered in our evaluation of the described work.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, the Memphis District will identify and evaluate potential effects of the proposed action on historic properties through consultation with federal, state, and local agencies, federally-recognized Indian Tribes, the public, and other interested parties.

FLOODPLAIN: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Floodplain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a floodplain development permit is required. Floodplain administrators should review the proposed public notice and notify this office of any floodplain development permit requirements.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW: The purpose of this public notice is to advise all interested parties of the activities for which a permit is sought and to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the probable impact on the public interest.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the 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 project, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project 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 Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state and local agencies and officials; federally recognized 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.

PUBLIC HEARING: 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 a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reason for holding a public hearing. The District Engineer will determine if the issues raised are substantial and whether a hearing is needed for making a decision. If a public hearing is held, it will be for the purpose of obtaining additional information that we could not otherwise obtain through a public notice process; not to inform the public about the specific details of the project in greater detail than what is found in this notice. This is not a Corps of Engineers project. We are not a proponent nor are we an opponent of the project. We are merely the permitting authority of Section 404 and Section 10 permits required by our office.

COMMENTS OR REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Send comments to the Corps of Engineers, Memphis District. Comments may be sent via mail or email to the following:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Memphis District ATTN: Ben Pitcock 167 North Main Street, Room B-202 Memphis, Tennessee 38103-1894 E-mail: <u>benjamin.s.pitcock@usace.army.mil</u> phone: (901) 544-3468 fax: (901) 544-0211

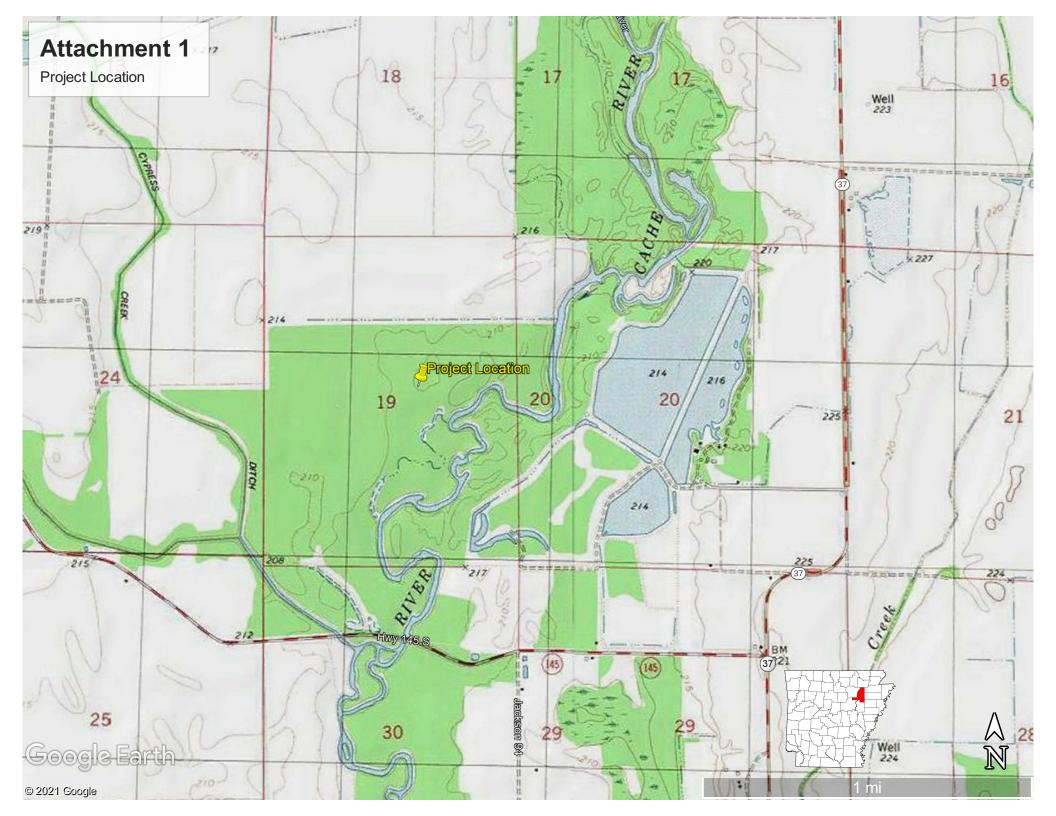
The Corps of Engineers may provide copies of all comments, (including name & address of those providing comments) to the applicant for consideration and response prior to a decision. Comments must be received by the expiration date listed on page one of this notice.

For Final Individual Permits actions in the Memphis District, go to the following link:

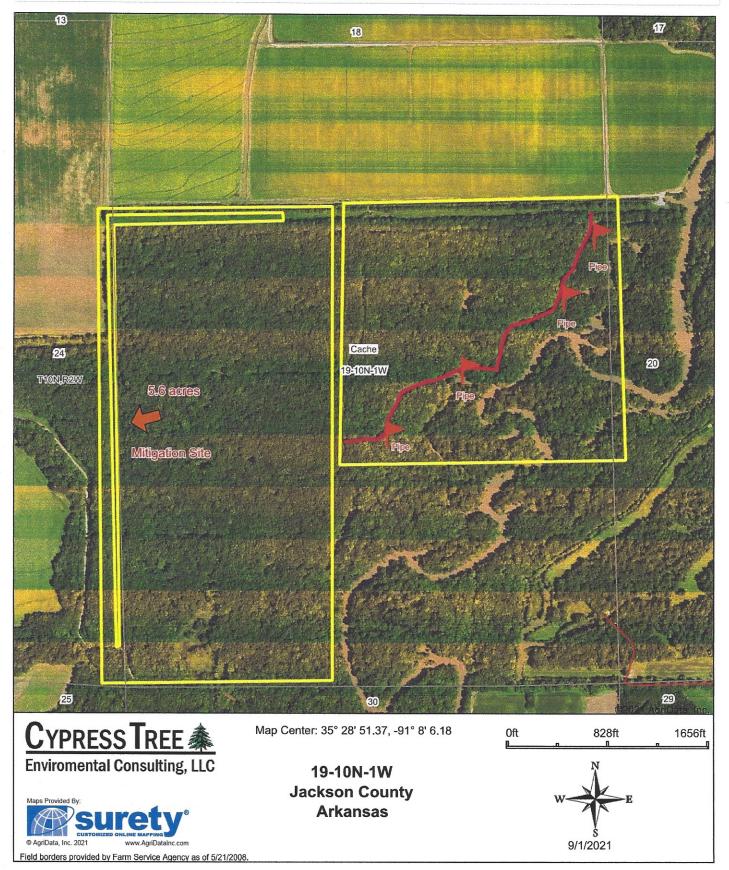
<u>http://permits.ops.usace.army.mil/orm-public</u>. Using the Filter by District drop down box, select MVM-Memphis District, then select the year and month (information will populate in the table below). All pending individual permits can be located by selecting the **"Pending IP"** tab above. All of the environmental documents and statements of findings supporting issuance or denial of the permit decisions are available upon written request and where applicable, upon the payment of administrative fees. They are also available at the Memphis District, Regulatory Division office for examination.

Gregg W. Williams Chief Regulatory Division

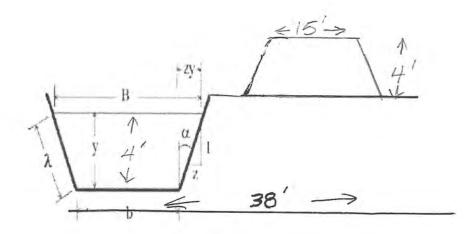
Attachments



5.6 Acre Mitigation Site



Post Farms Levee/Road



Trapezoidal Cross Section