

Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435 www.mvk.usace.armv.mil

Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:

MVK-2019-857

EVALUATOR:

Ms. Anne Woerner

PHONE NO.:

(601) 631-5369

E-MAIL:

Valerie.A.Woerner@usace.army.mil
March 15, 2023

DATE:

April 4, 2023

EXPIRATION DATE:

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District is considering an application for a Department of the Army Permit for the work described herein. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-RD, 4155 East Clay Street, Vicksburg Mississippi 39183-3435, and must reach this office by the cited expiration date.

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 submitted a certification request to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (certifying authority) and the Corps of Engineers has notified the certifying agency of the reasonable period of time for them to act upon the certification request.

<u>Law Requiring a Permit:</u> Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the United States.

Name of Applicant:
Mr. Matthew Stroupe
United States Air Force
6141 Range Road
Barksdale AFB, Louisiana 71110

Name of Agent:
Ms. Elizabeth Brock
Michael Baker international
2113 Government Street D-3
Ocean Springs, Mississippi 39564

<u>Location of Work</u>: Section 20 & 29, Township 18 North, Range 12 West; Latitude 32.521981, Longitude -93.626919; within the Flat River Drainage Basin (8-digit HUC 11140204); Bossier Parish, Louisiana.

<u>Description of Work</u>: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The applicant, in conjunction with Barksdale Air Force Base, is applying for a Department of the Army permit to conduct regulated activities in jurisdictional areas for the purpose of constructing a new Entry Control Facility (ECF) in Bossier Parish, Louisiana.

The new Entry Control Facility would serve as a primary gate and would provide a point of entry for personnel, visitors, and deliveries to Barksdale Air Force Base (AFB) directly from Interstates 1-20 and 1-220. These proposed upgrades would provide the Antiterrorism Force Protection (AT/FP) and Physical Security measures required for current security and terrorist threats.

The Entrance Control Facility would be located on the northern side of Barksdale Air Force Base and would connect the base to a new state highway constructed by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development. The roadway work would include travel lanes, medians, shoulders, barriers, drainage structures, fencing, site lighting and all required highway-related facilities. The ECF construction would include: new cable reinforced swing gates and fencing, hardened gatehouse, hardened sentry booths, hardened overwatch position, duress alarm system, overhead canopy for tandem vehicle processing with security lighting, elevated access control lane islands, rejection turnaround area for privately owned vehicles (POV), inspection facility for vehicle inspection and POV occupants, permanent passive barriers from the perimeter fence to the active vehicle barriers, active vehicle barriers, temporary emergency generator connection point, and all necessary utilities and pavements. The ECF would include the infrastructure to support gate automation, CCTV and duress alarm.

The proposed project would include the construction of two 10'X10' box culverts in Musselshell Bayou resulting in approximately 0.80 acres (349.5 linear feet) of impacts to the perennial stream. Additionally, the proposed project would fill and regrade two intermittent streams and one ephemeral stream. The proposed work would result in approximately 0.56 acres (3060.6 linear feet) of impacts to intermittent streams and approximately 0.01 acre (278.5 linear feet) of ephemeral stream impacts. The proposed project would also fill approximately 0.37 acre of Wetland Area BAFB2-9 and approximately 0.39 acre of Wetland Area BAFB2-2, for a total of approximately 0.76 acres of forested wetland impacts (see attached figures).

Approximately 14,006 cubic yards of fill material consisting of 835 cubic yards of concrete, 477 cubic yards of aggregate, 68 cubic yards of asphalt, and 135 cubic yards of binder would be placed in the jurisdictional areas of the proposed project.

The dominant vegetation consists of overcup oak, hackberry, American elm, sweetgum, green ash, Cherokee sedge, yellow nutsedge, lizard's tail, trumpet creeper, peppervine, muscadine and American buckwheat vine. Soils observed within the project area consisted of clays and silty clay loams.

To compensate for the proposed wetland functional losses, the applicant proposes to purchase compensatory mitigation credits from a USACE Vicksburg District approved mitigation bank servicing the hydrologic unit code of the impacts, HUC 11140204.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

<u>State Water Quality Permit</u>: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

<u>Cultural Resources</u>: The Regulatory Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the <u>National Register of Historic Places</u>, lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. Currently this office is coordinating with the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally recognized Tribes, and other interested parties regarding potential effects to historic properties that could result from the proposed activity.

Endangered Species: The Threatened and Endangered Species list for the project area includes the red cockaded woodpecker, the northern long=eared bat abd tge monarch butterfly. Utilizing the Information for Planning and Consultation tool for Endangered Species in Louisiana (as per Memorandum of Agreement, signed on January 14, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Louisiana Ecological Services Office), the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would have no effect to the Red cockaded woodpecker, the Northern long-eared bat, or the Monarch butterfly.

<u>Floodplain</u>: 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 development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements. The project area is not located within the 100-year floodplain.

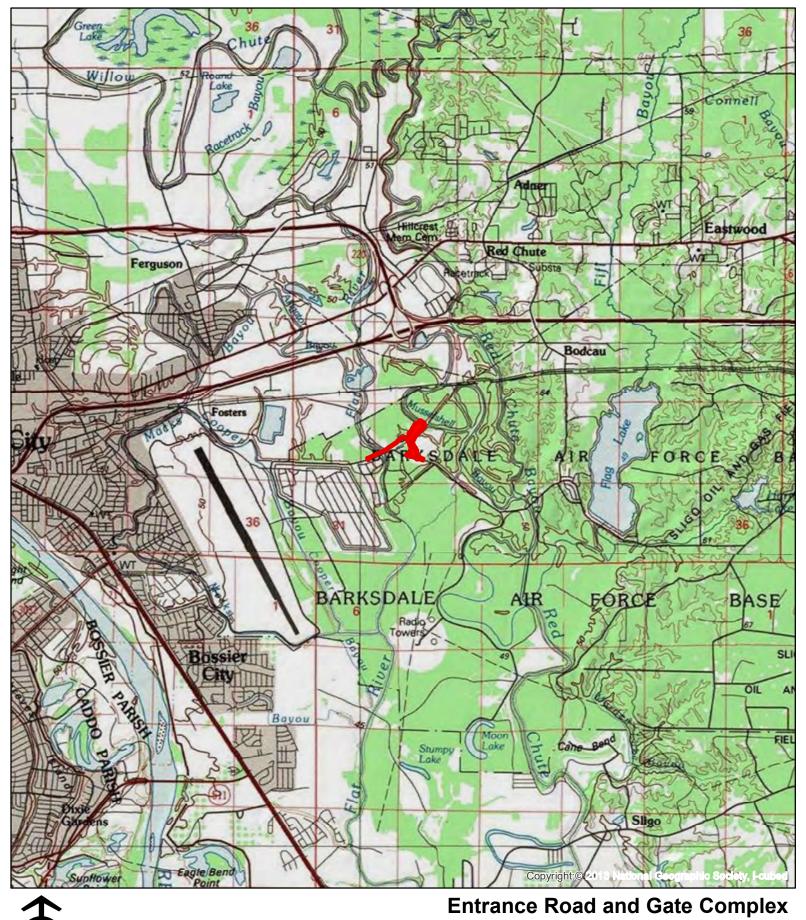
Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

<u>Public Involvement</u>: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

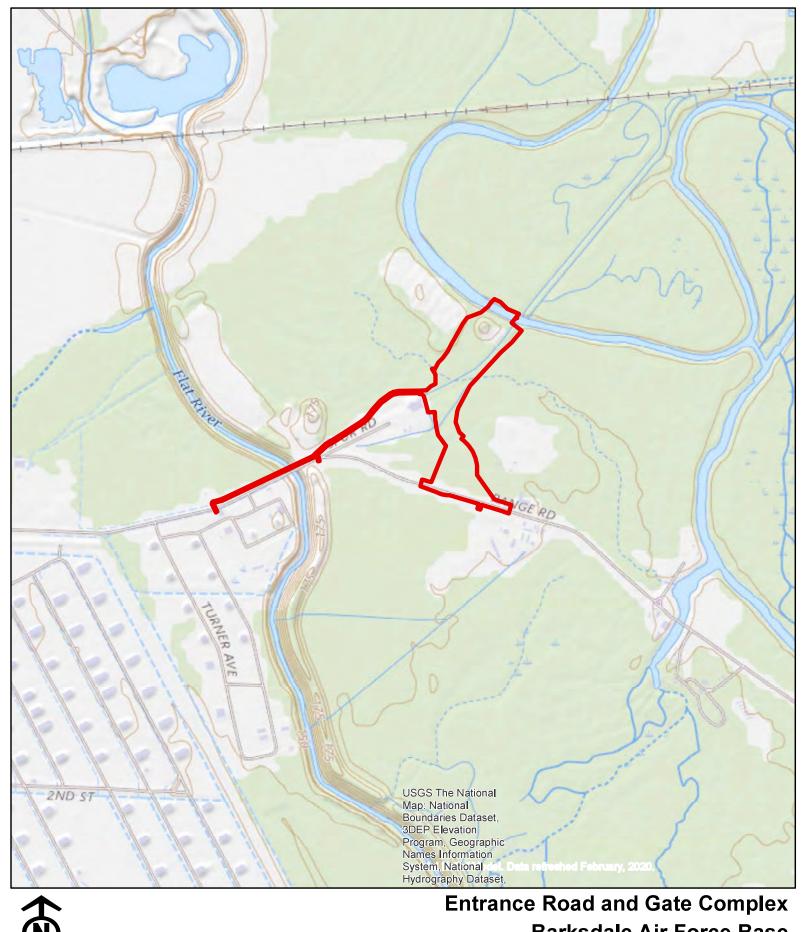
For Andy Sanderson
Acting Chief, Louisiana Branch
Regulatory Division

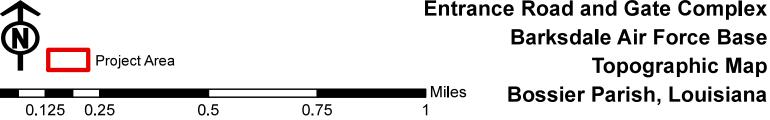


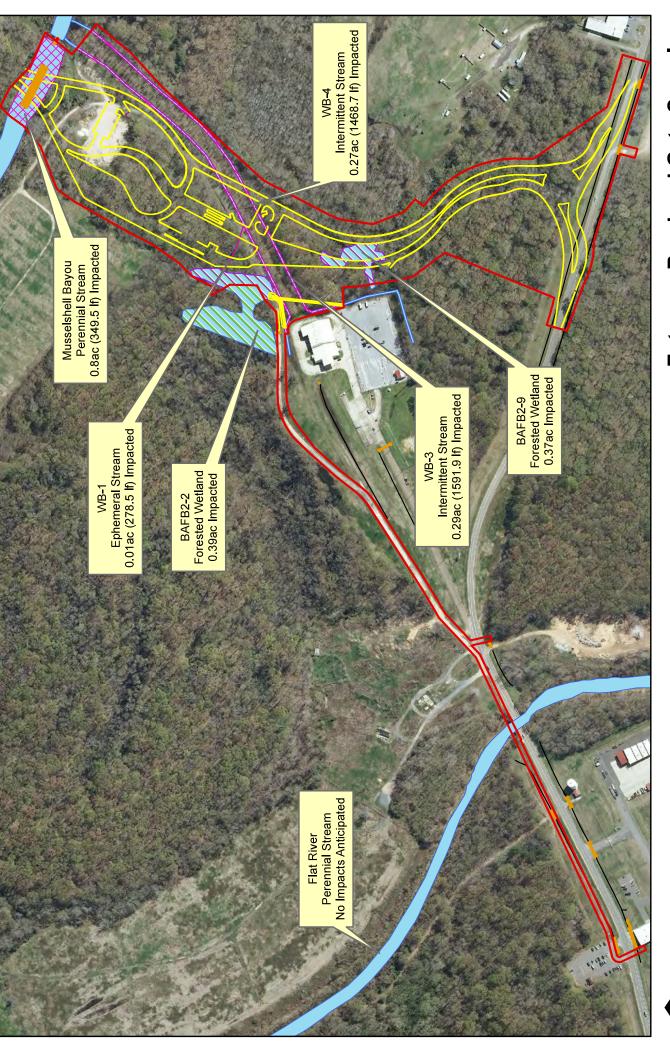
Project Area

0 0.5 1 2 3 4

ce Road and Gate Complex Barksdale Air Force Base Project Location Map Bossier Parish, Louisiana







Barksdale Air Force Base Entrance Road and Gate Complex Wetland Impacts Map

Bossier Parish, Louisiana

Wetland Impacts

Other Water Impacts

2,500

Feet

1,875

1,250

625

312.5

Culvert ///// Wetlands

Limits of Disturbance -

Edge of Pavement

Ditch

Other Waters

(c) 13mg



