



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Vicksburg District
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435
www.mvk.usace.army.mil



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	MVK-2016-539
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Charlene Mosley
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-5264
E-MAIL:	Charlene.P.Mosley@usace.army.mil
DATE:	December 6, 2016
EXPIRATION DATE:	December 27, 2016

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-OD-F, 4155 Clay Street, Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3435, and must reach this office by the cited expiration date.

The application also has been made available to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services for a Water Quality Certification in accordance with La. R.S. 30.2074(A)(93), and Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L. 95-217). Additional information is on file with the above office, and may be inspected at any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Copies may be obtained upon payment of cost of copying. Comments concerning the application can be filed with the Office of Environmental Services within 20 days of this notice to the following address: Office of Environmental Services, Post Office Box 4313, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313.

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

Name of Applicant:
Mr. Vince Forte
LA-ARK Pateua
3932 Jefferson Davis Place
Monroe, Louisiana 71201

Name of Agent:
Mr. Ryan Richardson
LA-ARK Pateua
4150-C Old Sterlington Road
Monroe, Louisiana 71203

Location of Work: Section 16, T23N-R9E, latitude 32.9808N, longitude -91.5533W within the Boeuf drainage basin, (HUC: 08050001) in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana.

Description of Work: (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 is applying for a Department of Army permit to conduct regulated activities in jurisdictional areas for the purpose of constructing a levee system for a green tree reservoir. The applicant's stated purpose is to develop the necessary infrastructure to maintain impounded water throughout the winter months for attracting and holding overwintering waterfowl.

The proposed work would involve the addition of a levee system with associated water control structure(s) for impounding water. The proposed levee would be approximately 11,904 feet in length, with a 12-foot top width, a 33-foot base width, and a minimum of 3:1 side slopes. The average top elevation would be 98.0 feet mean sea level (msl). With the exception of the northernmost portion of the property, the levee would surround the entire project area. A 36-inch steel box riser would be installed at the bottom flow line of the unnamed slough near the southwest corner of the property with rock reinforced discharge.

The proposed project would involve the mechanized land clearing and filling of approximately 9.34 acres of wetlands. There would be approximately 63.91 acres of wetlands seasonally inundated by the proposed reservoir.

Approximately 31,925 cubic yards of clay soil would be placed in jurisdictional areas for levee construction. Fill material would be extracted within the proposed levee right-of-way on site with no added soil or fill material brought onto the levee construction site. Approximately 15 cubic yards of rock aggregate would be placed at the discharge site of the water control structure to reduce the potential for erosion or scouring at the discharge pipe. A water level management plan has been developed for the proposed project.

Vegetation in the wetland area includes overcup oak, bitter pecan, swamp dogwood, smart weed, common ragweed, and balloon vine. Hydric soil within this project consists of Perry Clay (PC).

The applicant has proposed to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of wetland functions and values by purchasing credits from an approved mitigation bank within the same 8-digit HUC 08050001.

The placement of dredged and/or fill material in waters of the United States associated with the mechanized land clearing and commercial development requires a Department of the Army Permit.

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.

State Water Quality Permit: 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.

Cultural Resources: The Regulatory Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. The following is current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the proposed undertaking upon these properties: An historic properties investigation has been conducted within the permit area. No sites determined eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places are within the permit area or affected area. Copies of the public notice have been sent to the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, Federally-recognized Tribes and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to historic properties that could result from the proposed activity.

Endangered Species: Based on the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES) as signed on December 1, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it has been determined that the proposed activity will have no effect on the following species: Red-cockaded woodpecker. The proposed work will have no effect on the following species or their critical habitats: Pink mucket and Rabbitsfoot. The proposed work may affect but not likely to adversely affect the Northern-Long Eared Bat. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat would be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

Flood Plain: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

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.

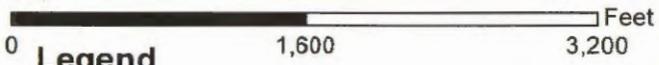
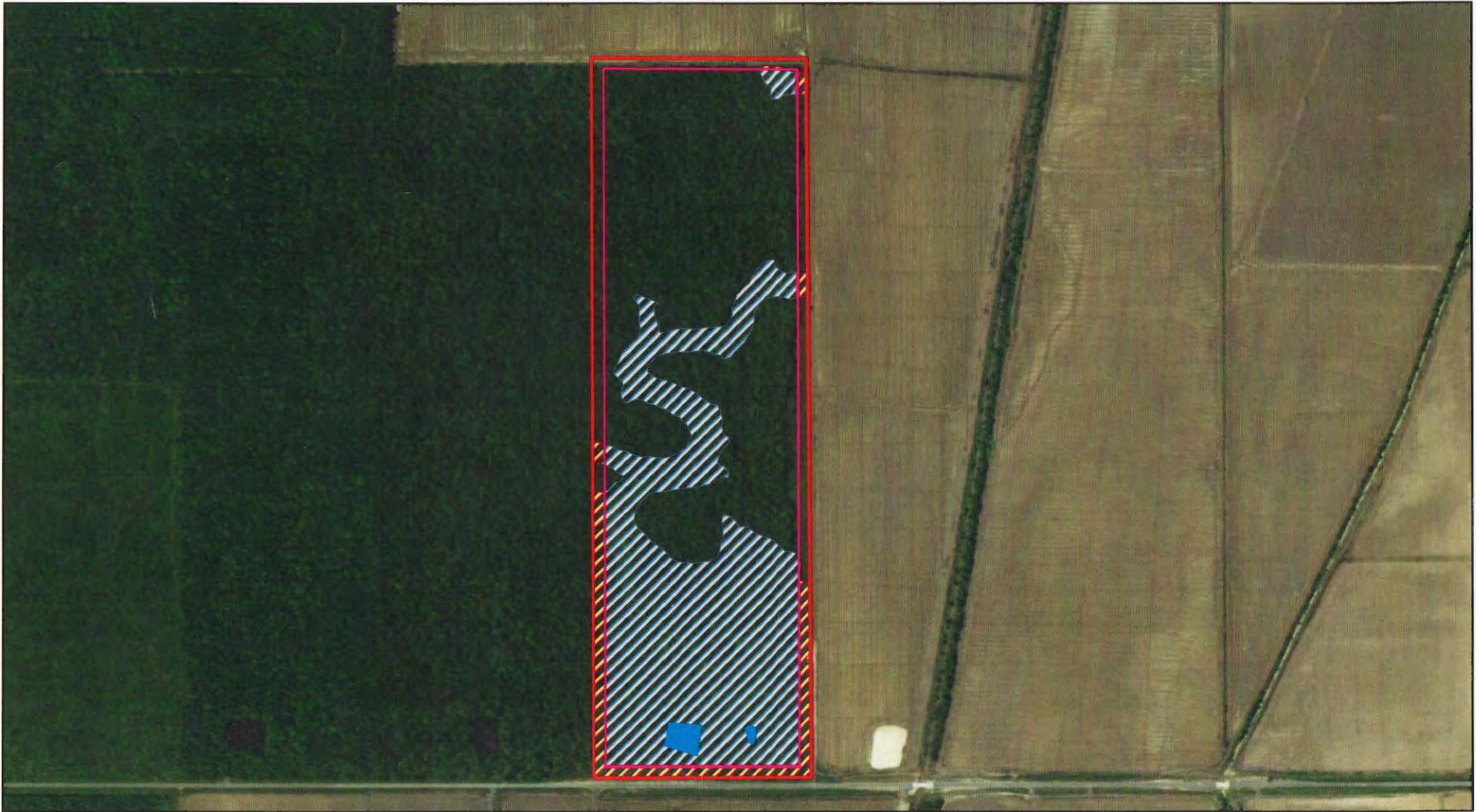
Public Involvement: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine 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>, and click on ORM Permit Decisions under Program Links.

Thomas A. McCabe
Thomas A. McCabe
Chief, Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch

Project Site, Morehouse Parish, LA



Legend

-  Project Boundary
-  Proposed 70ft Work Area
-  Wetlands Impacted (9.34 Acres)
-  Open Water(1.21 Acres)
-  Wetlands(63.91)

Enclosure 1

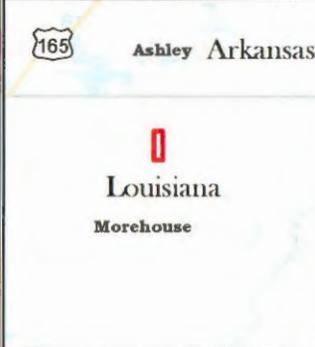
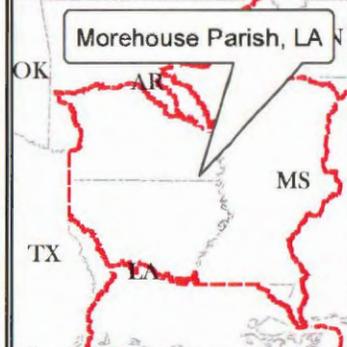
Site is Jurisdictional

Monday, November 28, 2016

MVK-2016-539

LA-ARK Pateau GTR
Jones, LA
Morehouse Parish

**Preliminary
Jurisdictional Determination**






**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

**Regulatory
Branch
Enforcement
Section**



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LA-ARK PATEAU

Levee Cross Section
(Not to Scale)



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LA-ARK PATEAU