



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

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



Public Notice

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|------------------|------------------------------|
| APPLICATION NO.: | MVK-2014-1019 |
| EVALUATOR: | Jana Jacobson |
| PHONE NO.: | (601) 631-7136 |
| FAX NO.: | (601) 631-5459 |
| E-MAIL: | jana.jacobson@usace.army.mil |
| DATE: | April 27, 2015 |
| EXPIRATION DATE: | May 18, 2015 |

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, are considering an application for a Department of the Army permit and State water quality certification for the work described herein. A water quality certification is required in accordance with statutory authority contained in the LRS 30:2074 A(3) and provisions of the Clean Water Act. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-OD-F, at the above address, and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, 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. Richard Meredith
Town of Columbia
Post Office Drawer 10
Columbia, Louisiana 71418

Name of Agent:
Mr. Bart Pittman
Pittman Environmental Services, LLC
Post Office Box 1926
Purvis, Mississippi 39475

Location of Work: Section 21, T13N-R4E, latitude 32.1014, longitude -92.0708, within the Ouachita River drainage basin, Caldwell Parish, Louisiana.

Description of Work: (See enclosed attachments)

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 the Army permit for the mechanized land clearing and associated discharge of dredged and/or fill material into jurisdictional wetlands and other waters for the construction of a recreational park.

The applicant proposes to construct a recreational park consisting of a lake, new outfall structure, pedestrian trail, pavilion, and parking area. The project area consists of a borrow pit which currently serves as a runoff and storage area for the town of Columbia. The borrow pit is drained by two existing pumps and a 48-inch outfall structure. The area historically consisted of a larger open water area but in recent years has silted in.

Approximately 52,000 cubic yards of material would be excavated from the existing borrow pit to create an 11.21-acre lake. Excavated material would be used to create the levee of the proposed outfall structure and to create open-park areas for recreation. The pedestrian trail would be 8 feet in width, 6,775 feet in length, and would circle the lake. A crushed limestone parking area would be located in the northwest corner.

Of the 14.2 acres of wetlands onsite, approximately 3.43 acres would be filled, 4.55 acres would be dredged, and 0.92 acre of open water would be filled for the creation of the proposed lake and recreational park.

The vegetation present at the site consists of loblolly pine, red maple, Chinese tallow tree, pin oak, Louisiana iris, American elm, black tupelo, Carolina dropseed, muscadine, peppervine, Japanese honeysuckle, American buckwheat fine. The majority of the soil is classified as Perry Clay and Yorktown clay, which consist of very deep, poorly drained, very slowly permeable soils.

The applicant proposes to mitigate for wetland losses by purchasing credits from an approved mitigation bank and through onsite mitigation. The mechanized land clearing and associated discharge of dredged and/or fill material in jurisdictional wetlands 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 investigation for the presence of potentially eligible historic properties has been required. Copies of this public notice have been sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally Recognized Tribes, and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to historic properties that could result from the proposed activity.

Endangered Species: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not likely adversely affect any endangered species or their critical habitat. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat will 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/offices/od/odf/main.asp>, or go directly to the Final Permit Actions web page at <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/MonthlyNotice/pnmain.asp>.

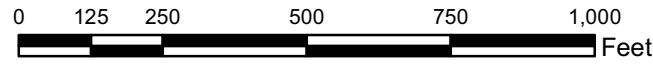


**Anthony Lobred
Acting Chief, Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch**

PROPOSED LAKE SHERMAN RECREATIONAL PARK (MVK-2014-1019)

TOWN OF COLUMBIA, LOUISIANA





SITE PLAN-PROPOSED IMPACTS

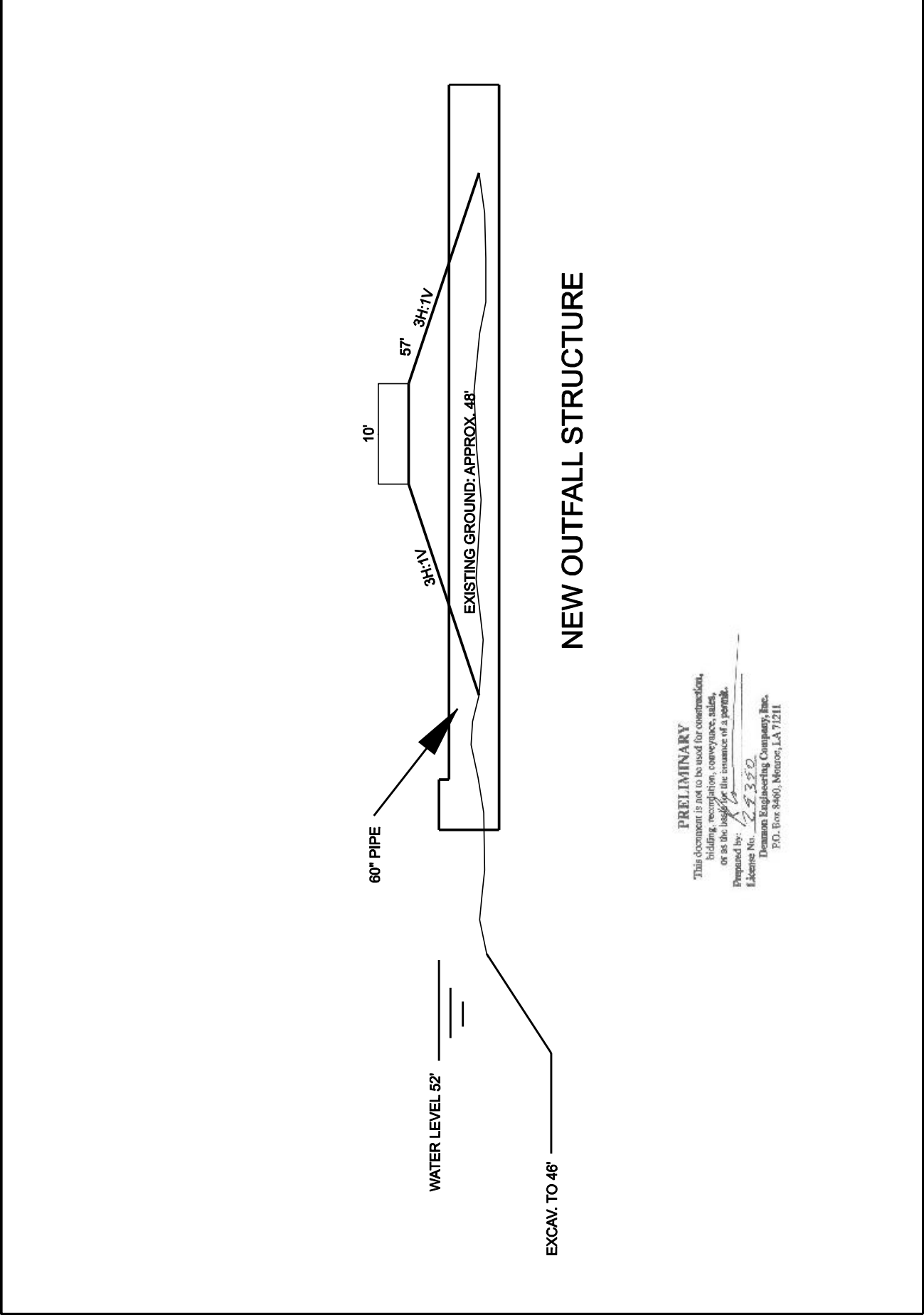


Legend

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|--|------------------------------------------------------|
| | Property Limits |
| | Proposed Lake +/-11.21 Acres |
| | Walking Trail (Elevated Within Wetlands) +/-6,775 LF |
| | PFO Wetland Fill Impacts +/-3.21 Acres |
| | Open Water Fill Impacts +/-0.92 Acres |
| | PEM Wetland Fill Impacts +/-0.22 Acres |
| | PFO Wetland Dredge/Lake Impacts +/-0.73 Acres |
| | PSS Wetland Dredge/Lake Impacts +/-1.48 Acres |
| | PEM Wetland Dredge/Lake Impacts +/-2.34 Acres |
| | PFO Wetland No Impacts +/-4.06 Acres |
| | PEM & Shallow Water Areas (Enhancement) +/-2.9 Acres |

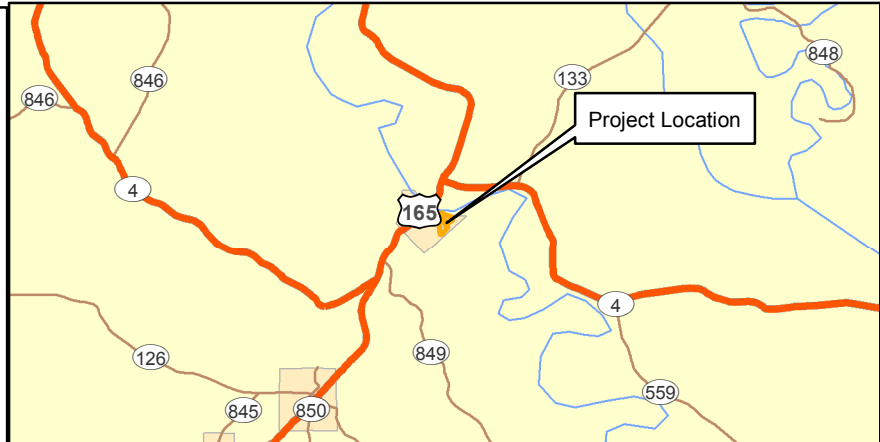
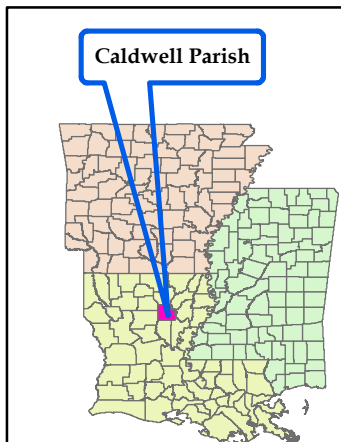
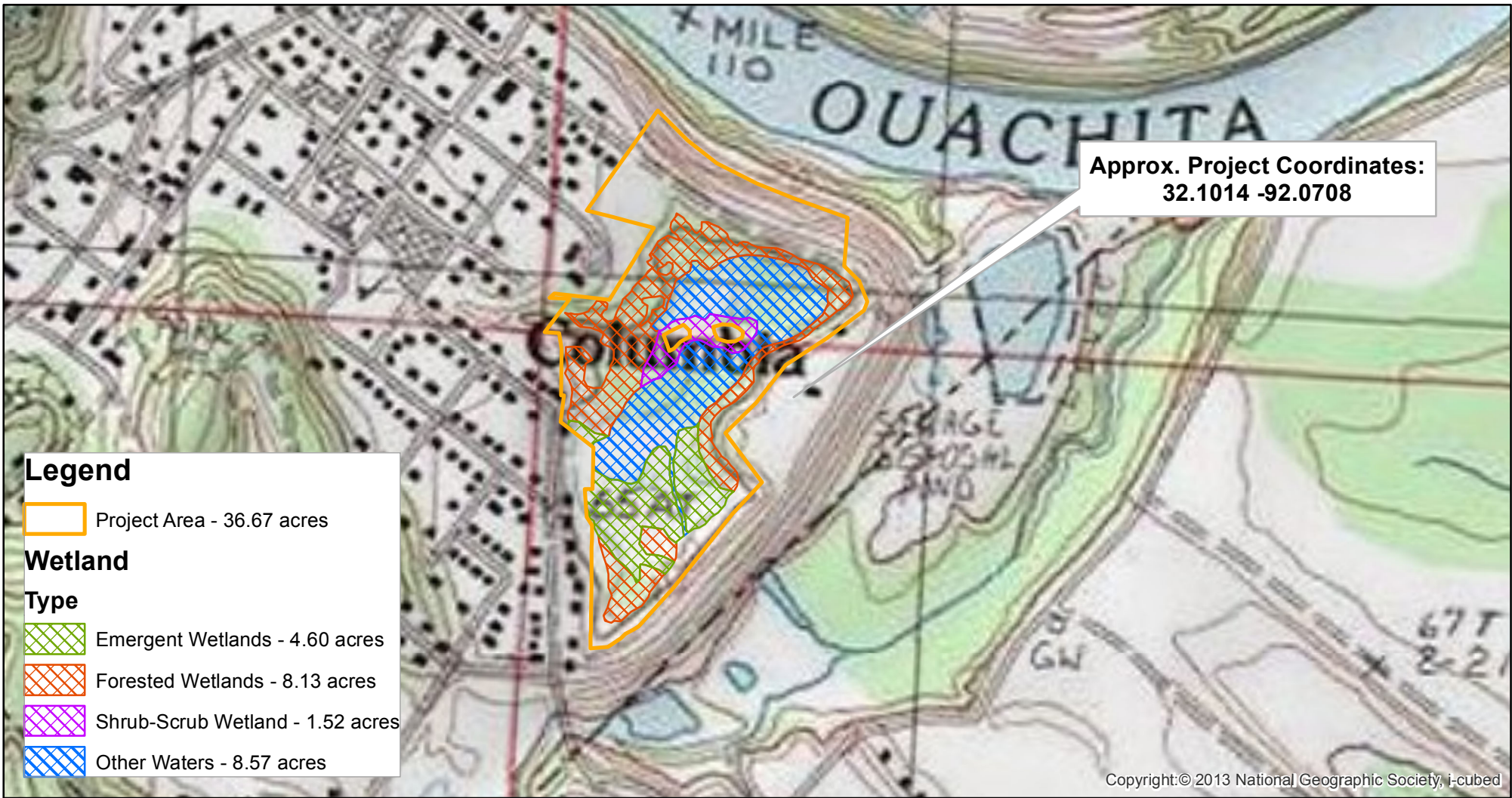
**Proposed lake to require +/-52,000 CY of excavation
 +/-10,500 CY fill required for proposed control structure
 +/-21,899 CY fill to be placed within jurisdictional wetland
 +/-6,381 CY fill to be placed within existing open water**

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|--------------|----------------------|-------------|------|------------|------|------|---------|---------|----------|-------|----|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SHEET NUMBER | 1 | DESIGNED BY | W.D. | CHECKED BY | E.T. | DATE | 10/1/14 | PROJECT | CALDWELL | STATE | LA | FEDERAL PROJECT | COLUMBIA RESTORATION AREA | CALDWELL PARISH |  |  |  |  |
| | REVISION DESCRIPTION | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



NEW OUTFALL STRUCTURE

PRELIMINARY
 This document is not to be used for construction, bidding, negotiation, conveyance, sales, or as the basis for the issuance of a permit.
 Prepared by: *[Signature]*
 License No. 28380
 Denmon Engineering Company, Inc.
 P.O. Box 8400, Metairie, LA 70211



February 4, 2015
MVK-2014-1019
 Applicant:
 City of Columbia
 Proposed Work:
 Recreational Area/Lake Development
 Location:
 Section 21, T13N-R4E
 Columbia, Quadrangle
 Caldwell Parish, LA
 Map Background:
 NAIP Aerial Imagery (2004)
Preliminary
Jurisdictional Determination
 Prepared by:
 Robert G. Ulmer, Jr.

US Army Corps of Engineers

Regulatory Branch
Enforcement Section

0 480 960
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