



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers.**

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



# Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	MVK-2015-424
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Kristi Hall
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-7528
FAX NO.:	(601) 631-5459
E-MAIL:	Kristi.W.Hall@usace.army.mil
DATE:	February 5, 2016
EXPIRATION DATE:	February 25, 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.

Application also has been made 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. Jeff Lueke  
L & L Delta Farms  
Rural Route No 3, Box 162  
McLeansboro, Illinois 62859

Name of Agent:  
Mr. Jerry Diagle  
Blue Frog Environmental  
58 Foxfire Lane  
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302

Location of Work: Section 11, 12, 13,14 T9N- R7E, Latitude 31.7676, Longitude - 91.7152, within Bayou Louis watershed part of the Lower Ouachita River Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC 08040207) Catahoula 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 the Army permit to conduct regulated activities in jurisdictional wetlands for the purpose of installing a furrow irrigation system for agricultural purposes. The applicant proposes to fill 7.44 acres of wetlands (5.69 acres of forested wetland and 1.75 acres of farmed, emergent wetland) across 14 wetland features. Filling of jurisdictional areas would allow the fields to become a rectangular shape and provide more efficient irrigation, as furrow irrigation system works best on flat, square fields.

The vegetative communities within the project area are dominated by sugar berry (*Celtis laevigata*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), American elm (*Ulmus Americana*), bitter-nut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), native pecan (*Carya illinoensis*), willow oak (*Quercus phellos*), nuttall oak (*Quercus nuttallii*), bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), peppervine (*Ampelosis arborea*), buckwheatvine (*Brunnichia ovate*), poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*), blackberry (*Rubus argutus*), horsebrier (*Smilax rotundifolia*), summer grape (*Vitis aestivalis*), youpon (*Illex vomitoria*) and Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*). Soil within the project site consists of Alligator and Tensas soils, having a respective hydric component percent rating of 85 and 80 by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of jurisdictional impacts through permittee responsible mitigation.

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, state 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. Cultural resources review revealed no sites or surveys within one mile of the review area.

**Endangered Species:** Based on our initial finding the proposed work would have no effect on Sprague's pipit and not likely to adversely affect the northern long-eared bat. 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 may adversely affect the following species: Louisiana black bear. The project will have no effect on the Pallid sturgeon or Red-cockaded woodpecker. Further coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducted as part of the permit review process.

**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 development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any floodplain development permit requirements. The project is completely 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.

**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.

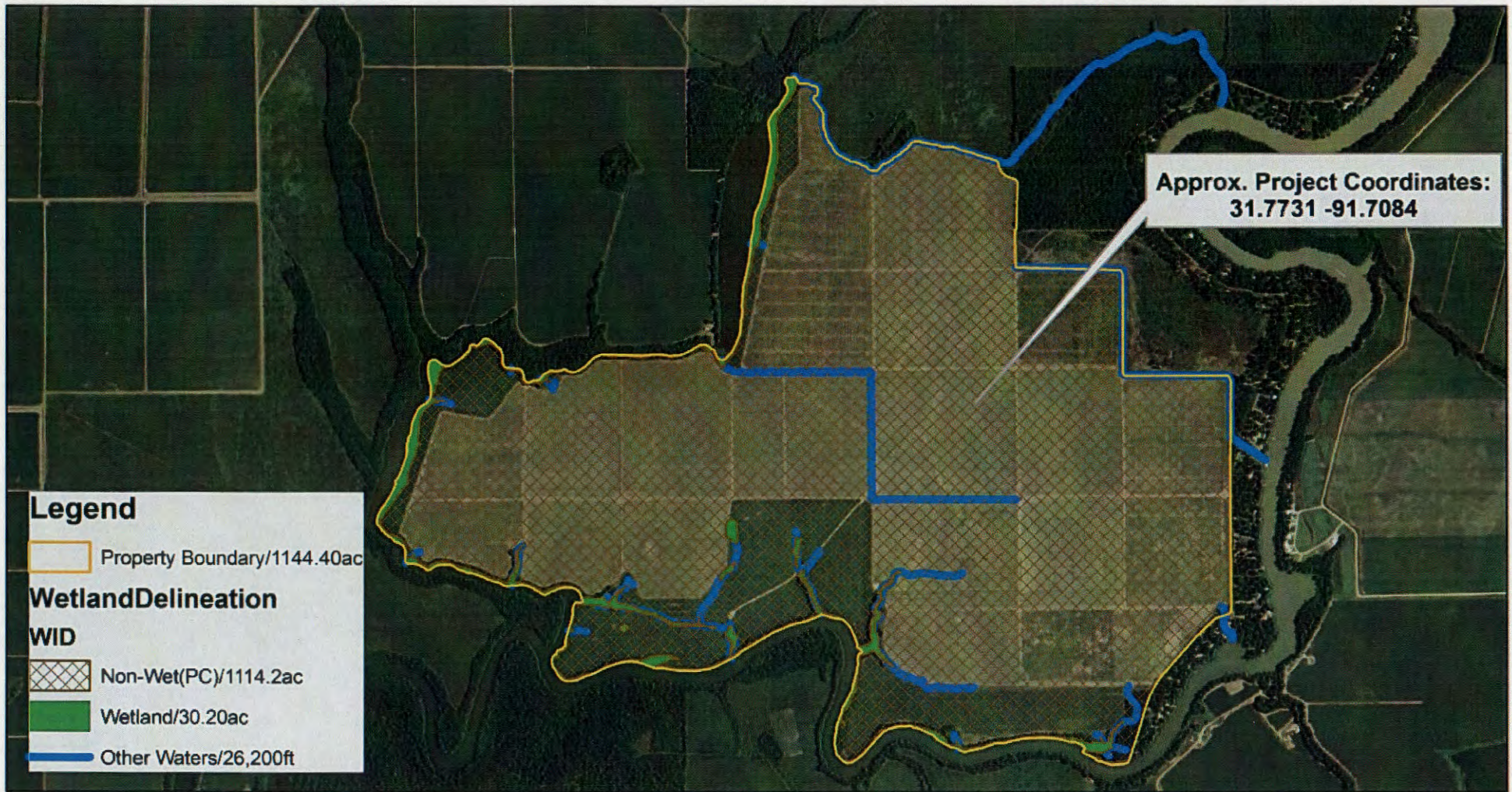
**Opportunity for a Public Hearing:** Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on 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>.

*Thomas A. McCabe*

Thomas A. McCabe  
Chief, Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch



**Legend**

Property Boundary/1144.40ac

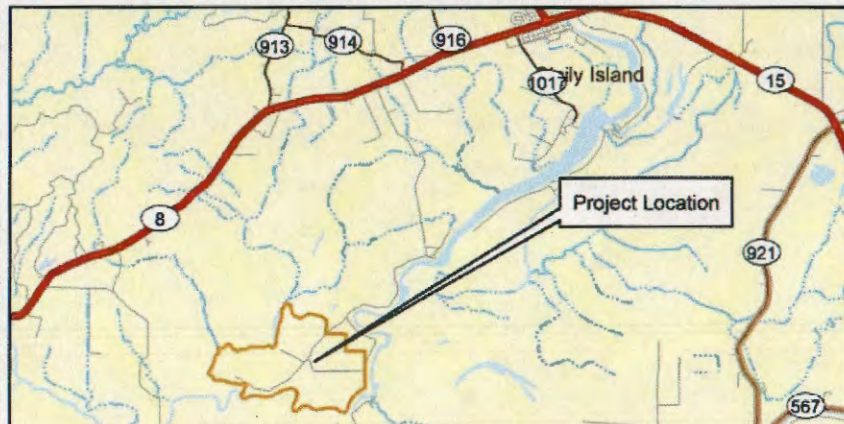
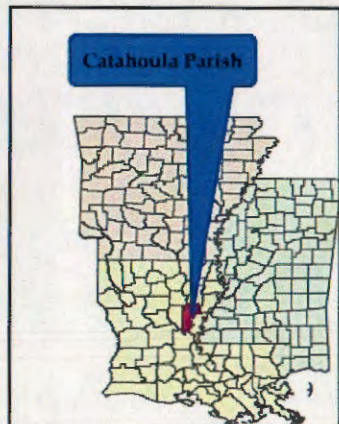
**Wetland Delineation**

**WID**

Non-Wet(PC)/1114.2ac

Wetland/30.20ac

Other Waters/26,200ft



August 20, 2015  
**MVK-2015-424**

Applicant:  
L&L Delta Farms

Proposed Work:  
Cropland Enhancement

Location:  
Sections 1,11,12 T9N-R7E  
Sections 7,18 T9N-R8E  
Sicily Island, Quadrangle  
Catahoula Parish, LA

Map Background:  
NAIP Aerial (2010)

**Preliminary  
Jurisdictional Determination**

Prepared by:  
Robert G. Ulmer, Jr.

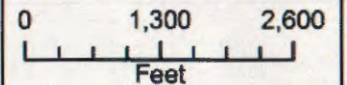


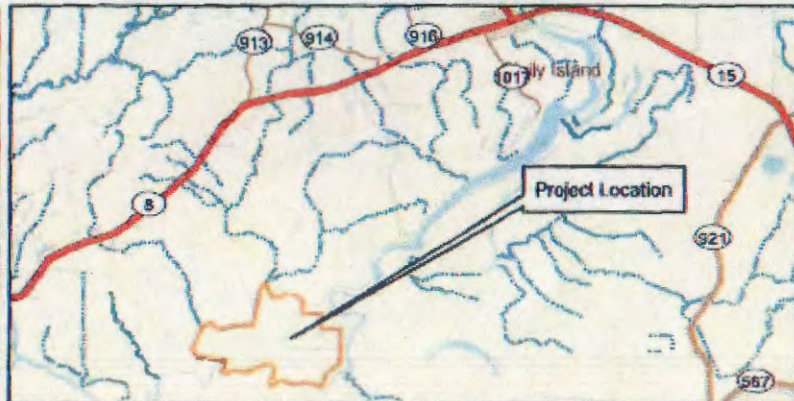
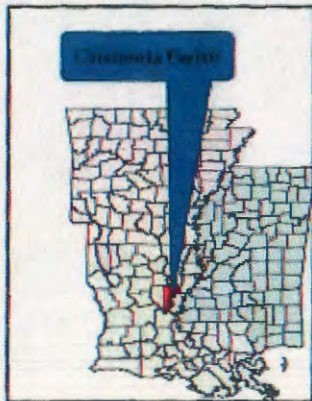
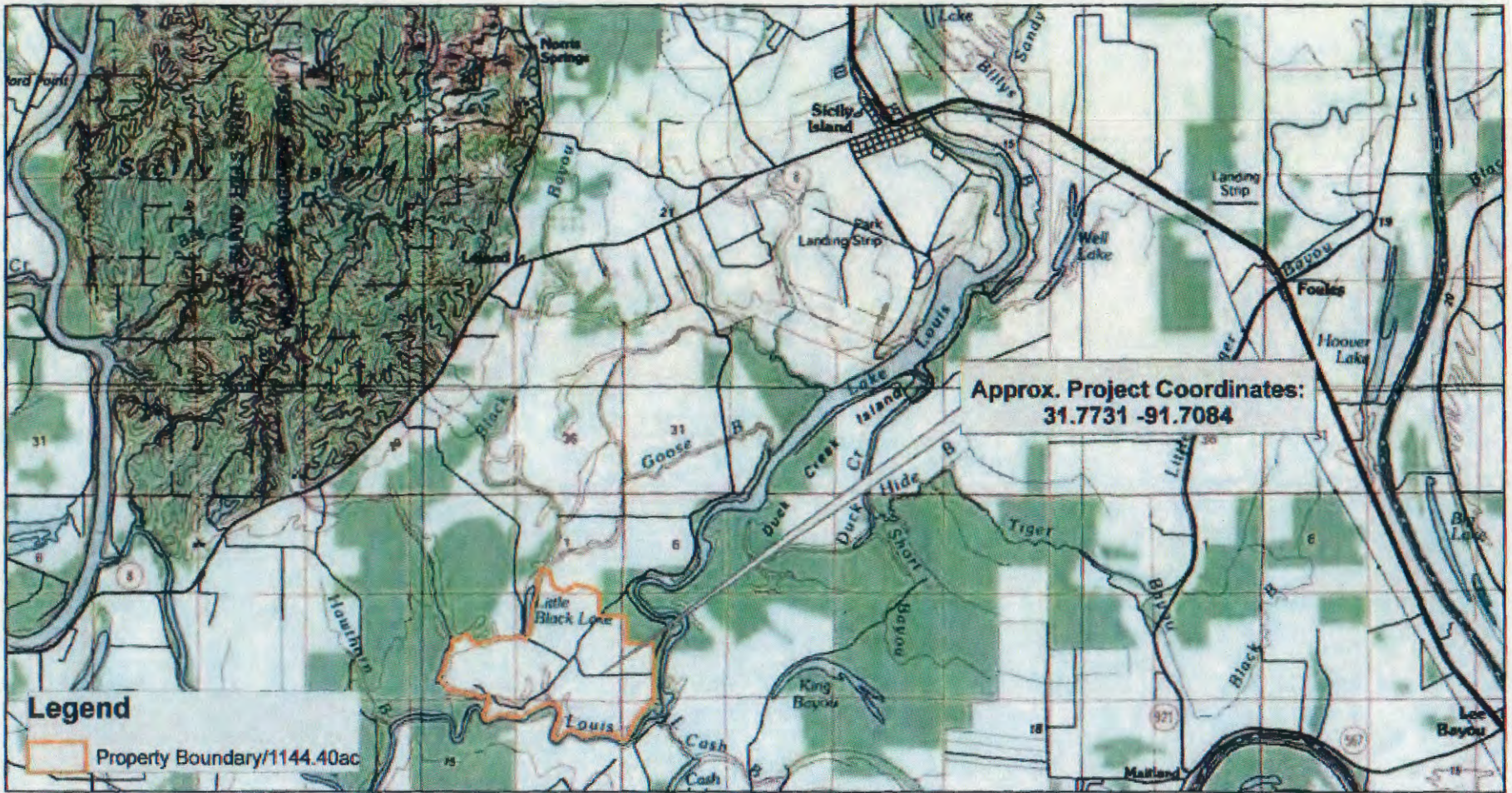
**US Army Corps  
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**Regulatory Branch**

**Enforcement Section**





**August 20, 2015**  
**MVK-2015-424**  
Applicant:  
L&I Delta Farms

**Proposed Work:**  
Cupland Enhancement

**Location:**  
Sections 1,11,12 T9N-R2E  
Sections 7,11 T9N-R0E  
Sicily Island, Quadrangle  
Catahoula Parish, LA

Map Background:  
NAIP Aerial (2010)  
**Preliminary**  
**Jurisdictional Determination**  
Prepared by:  
Robert C. Ulmer, Jr.

**US Army Corps of Engineers.**

**Regulatory Branch**

**Enforcement Section**

0 5,200 10,400  
Feet

Figure 2. L & L Delta Farms wetland conversion areas on 2103 digital aerial image.



CEMVK-OD-FE KWH-MVK-2015-424

L&L DELTA FARMS - FARM 2481