



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

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



# Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	MVK-2017-823
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Kristi Hall
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-7528
E-MAIL:	Kristina.W.Hall@usace.army.mil
DATE:	June 20, 2018
EXPIRATION DATE:	July 11, 2018

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 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), which applies to structures or work in navigable waters of the United States, and 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. Beax Gex  
Hancock County Port and Harbor  
Commission  
14054 Fred & Al Key Road  
Kiln, Mississippi 39566

Name of Agent:  
Ms. Renee Robertson  
Anchor QEA  
9797 Timber Circle, Suite B  
Daphne, Alabama 36527

**Location of Work:** Sections 16, 17, 20, and 21, T10S- R16E, Latitude 30.166806, Longitude -89.619125, Little Lake at the mouth of the East Pearl River to the Gulf of Mexico (8-digit USGS HUC 03180004), St. Tammany 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 waters of the United States for the purpose of maintenance dredging at Little Lake Ship Channel to the previously permitted depth of approximately 15 feet and placing material along the northern border of Little Lake to restore and enhance marsh habitat. Approximately 185,000 cubic yards of material is expected to be dredged during the current maintenance event and an additional 185,000 is expected to be dredged over the next five years.

Material would be removed from the shipping channel and placed in one of three locations. Material would be pumped into two nearby marsh fringe areas, totaling 45 acres, for beneficial use. A turbidity curtain would be installed to reduce dispersal of material. The applicant proposes to place material in approximately 45 acres north of the project area. No vegetated shallows would be impacted by the proposed project. The applicant has also considered transporting material to a beneficial use area in Hancock County, Mississippi. The third disposal location considered would be to side cast material along the dredged shipping channel.

No compensatory mitigation would be required for this proposal.

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.

**State Coastal Zone Consistency Statement:** Federal agency activities must be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a state coastal management program, and license and permit activities must be fully consistent. The Louisiana Office of Coastal Management is currently reviewing this request.

**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: 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 following species and/ or their habitat are listed as threatened or endangered for St. Tammany Parish (as of April 26, 2018): Dusky gopher frog, West Indian manatee, Alabama heelsplitter mussel, Louisiana Quillwort, Atlantic Sturgeon, Gopher tortoise, Ringed map turtle, and Red-cockaded woodpecker. Our initial finding is that the proposed work will not affect the Louisiana Quillwort. 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 not affect the following species or their critical habitat: Interior least tern, Red-cockaded woodpecker, Gopher tortoise, Dusky gopher frog, and Ringed map turtle. Using SLOPES we have also determined the project is not likely to adversely affect the following species or their critical habitat: West Indian manatee, Piping plover, and Red knot. Special conditions would be added to any final authorization to reach a not likely to adversely affect determination for the West Indian manatee. Further coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service will be conducted regarding for potential impacts to the Atlantic sturgeon.

**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 flood plain development permit requirements. The project is completely located within the 100 year floodplain.

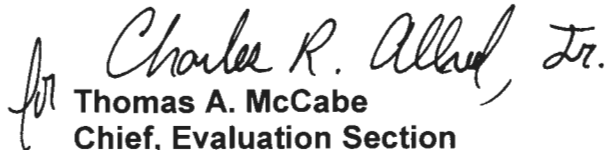
**Evaluation Factors:** The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which 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>.

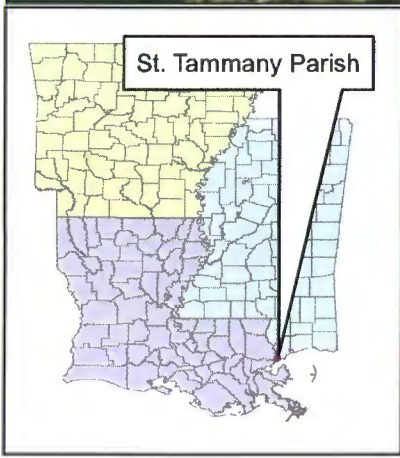
  
for Thomas A. McCabe  
Chief, Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch





**Legend**

-  Beneficial Use Disposal Area= 44.5 acres
-  Dredge= 189.5 acres



THERE ARE JURISDICTIONAL WATERS OF THE U.S. IDENTIFIED WITHIN THE PROPOSED PROJECT BOUNDARY, THUS A PERMIT MAYBE REQUIRED

June 18, 2018

**MVK-2017-823**

Hancock County Port and Harbor Commission  
 Little Lake Dredging and Beneficial Use Project  
 St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

**Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination**

**Aerial Imagery: ESRI World Imagery**




**Regulatory Branch**  
 Enforcement Section



0 5 10 20  
Miles

Prepared By: Kristi Hall





**SOURCE:** Earthstar Geographics SIO © 2017 HERE © 2017 Microsoft Corporation.  
**HORIZONTAL DATUM:** Mississippi State Plane, East Zone, NAD83, U.S. Feet.

Publish Date: 2018/05/23 2:37 PM | User: dholmer  
 Filepath: K:\Projects\1254 Hancock County\Hancock County Port\Permit-Little Lake\1254-RP-001 (Little Lake Location).dwg Dredge Permit



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MVK-2017-823

**HANCOCK COUNTY PORT SEDIMENT  
 CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT**




**Figure 1  
 Little Lake Project Location Map**

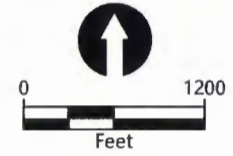
Dredging Permit  
 St. Tammany Parish, LA  
 Hancock County Port



**SOURCE:** © 2017 DigitalGlobe © CNES (2017) Distribution Airbus DS © 2017 Microsoft Corporation.  
**HORIZONTAL DATUM:** Mississippi State Plane, East Zone, NAD83, U.S. Feet.  
**VERTICAL DATUM:** Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

**LEGEND:**

-  Existing Bathymetry (2' Contour Interval)
-  Project Stationing
-  Proposed Dredging Footprint for First Dredging Event



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**HANCOCK COUNTY PORT SEDIMENT  
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**Figure 2  
 Little Lake Project Site Map (1 of 2)**

Dredging Permit  
 St. Tammany Parish, LA  
 Hancock County Port



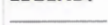
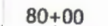
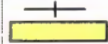


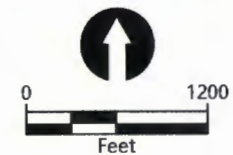
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**HORIZONTAL DATUM:** Mississippi State Plane, East Zone, NAD83, U.S. Feet.

**VERTICAL DATUM:** Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

**LEGEND:**

-  Existing Bathymetry (2' Contour Interval)
-  Project Stationing
-  Proposed Dredging Footprint for First Dredging Event



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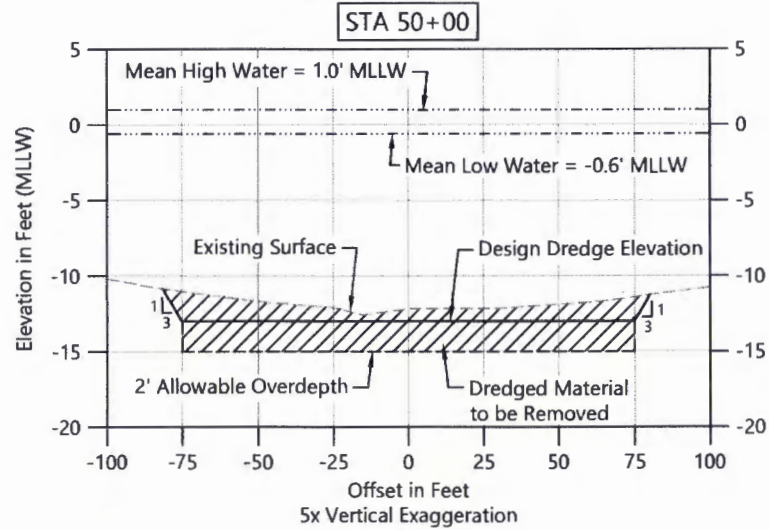
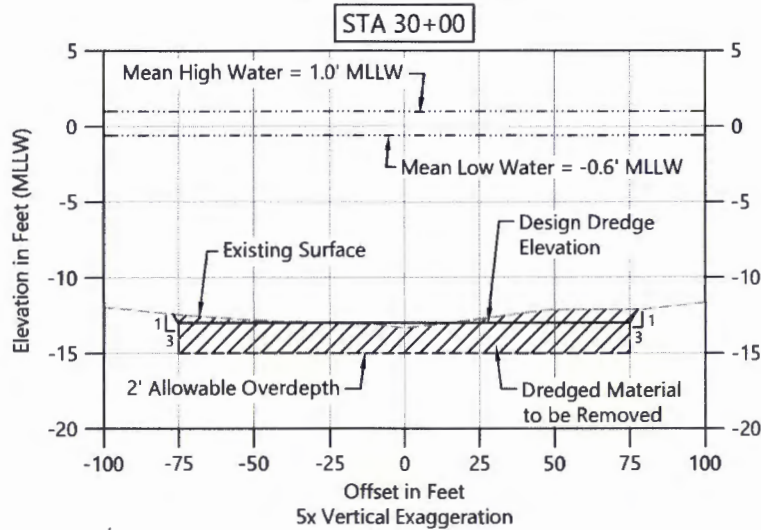
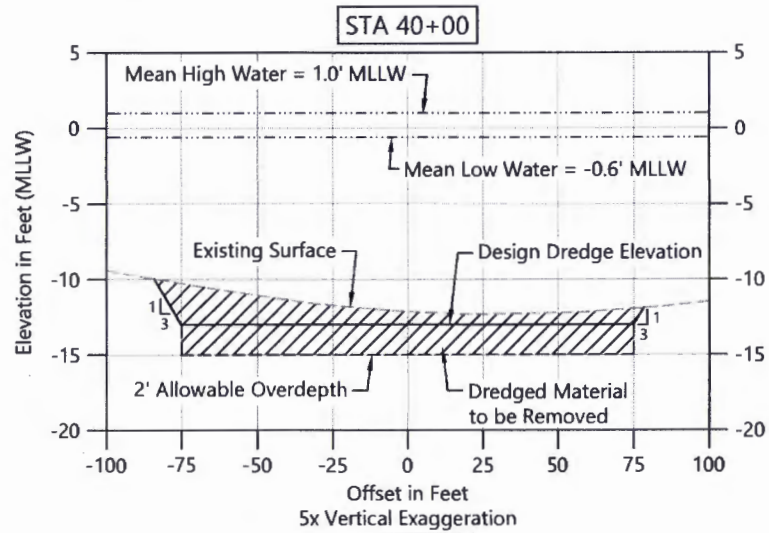
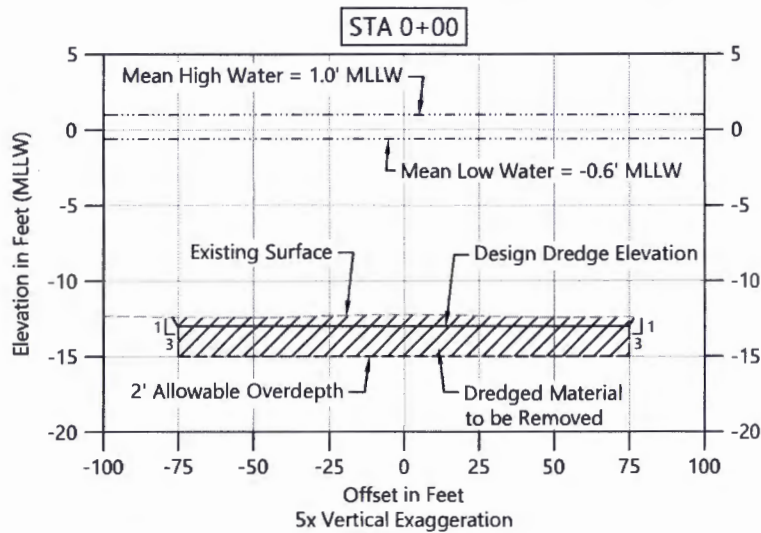
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**Figure 3  
 Little Lake Project Site Map (2 of 2)**

Dredging Permit  
 St. Tammany Parish, LA  
 Hancock County Port





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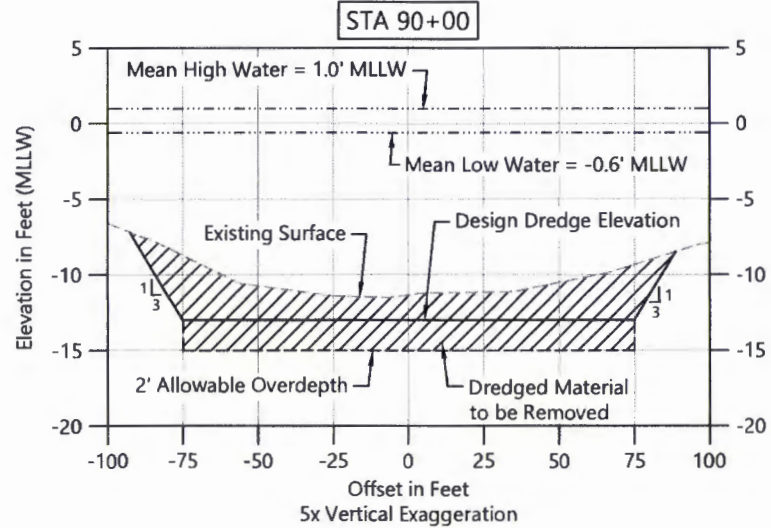
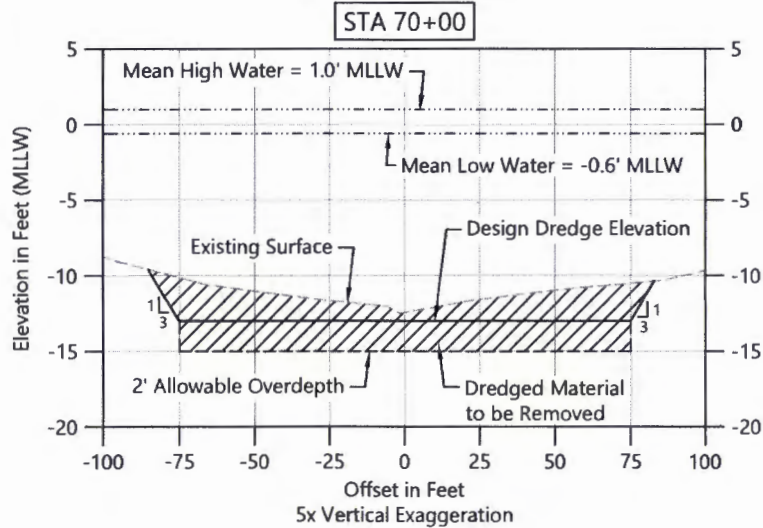
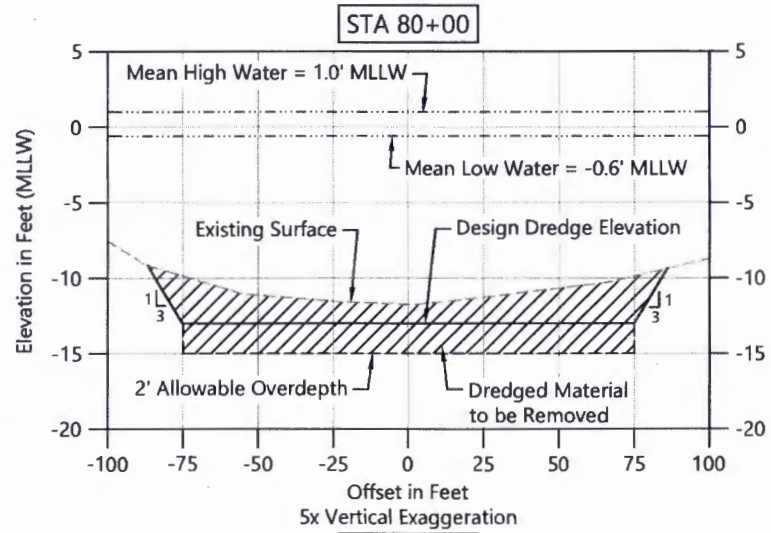
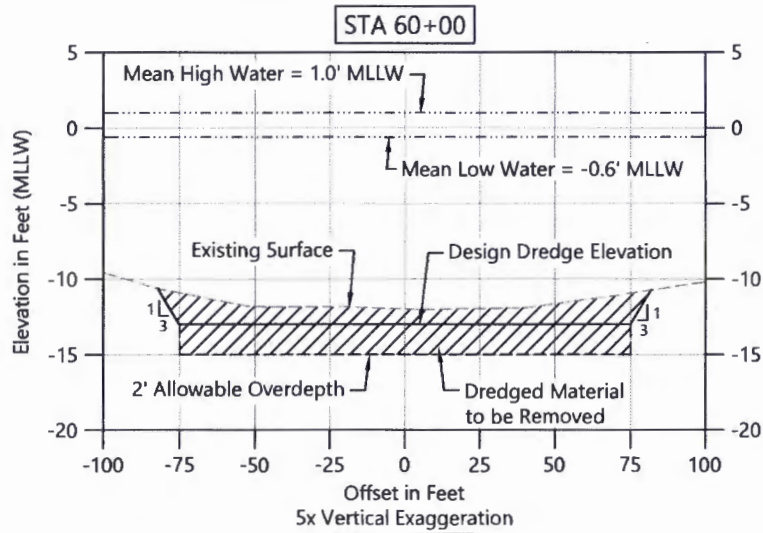
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**Figure 4  
 Sections on Project Stationing**

Dredging Permit  
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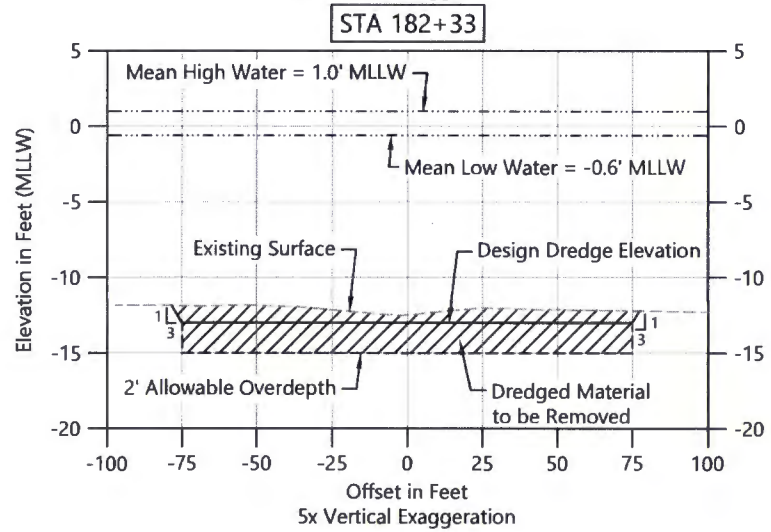
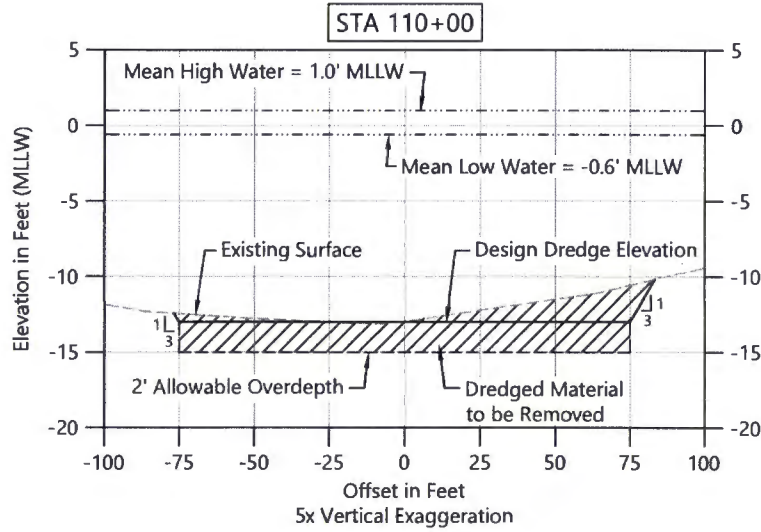
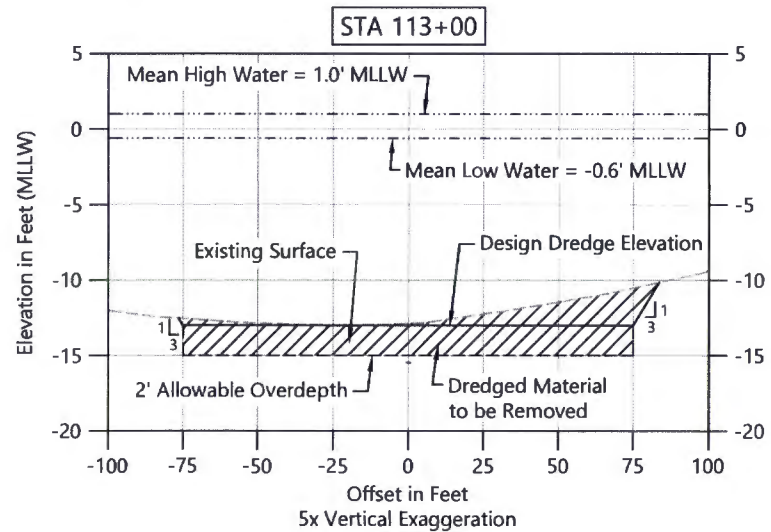
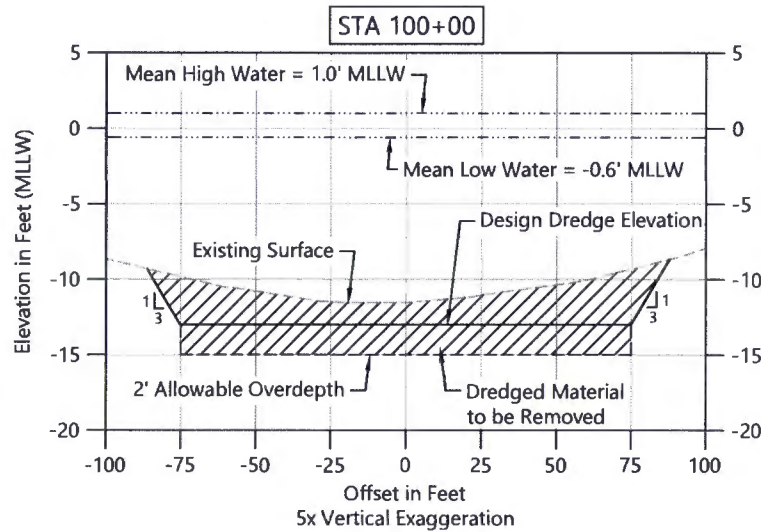
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**Figure 5  
 Sections on Project Stationing**

Dredging Permit  
 St. Tammany Parish, LA  
 Hancock County Port





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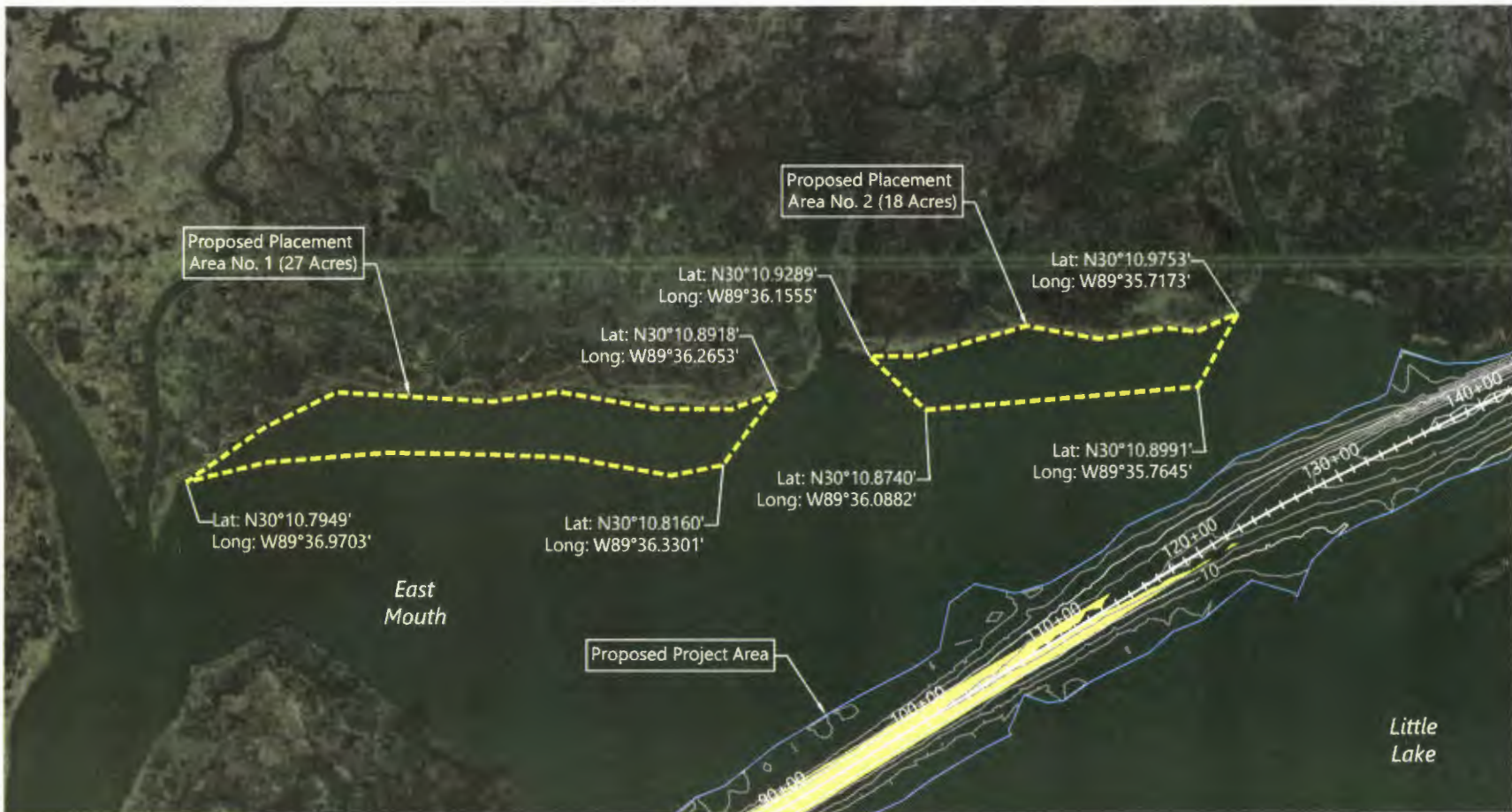
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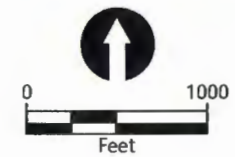
**HANCOCK COUNTY PORT SEDIMENT  
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**Figure 6  
 Sections on Project Stationing**

Dredging Permit  
 St. Tammany Parish, LA  
 Hancock County Port



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**HORIZONTAL DATUM:** Mississippi State Plane, East Zone, NAD83, U.S. Feet.  
**VERTICAL DATUM:** Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).



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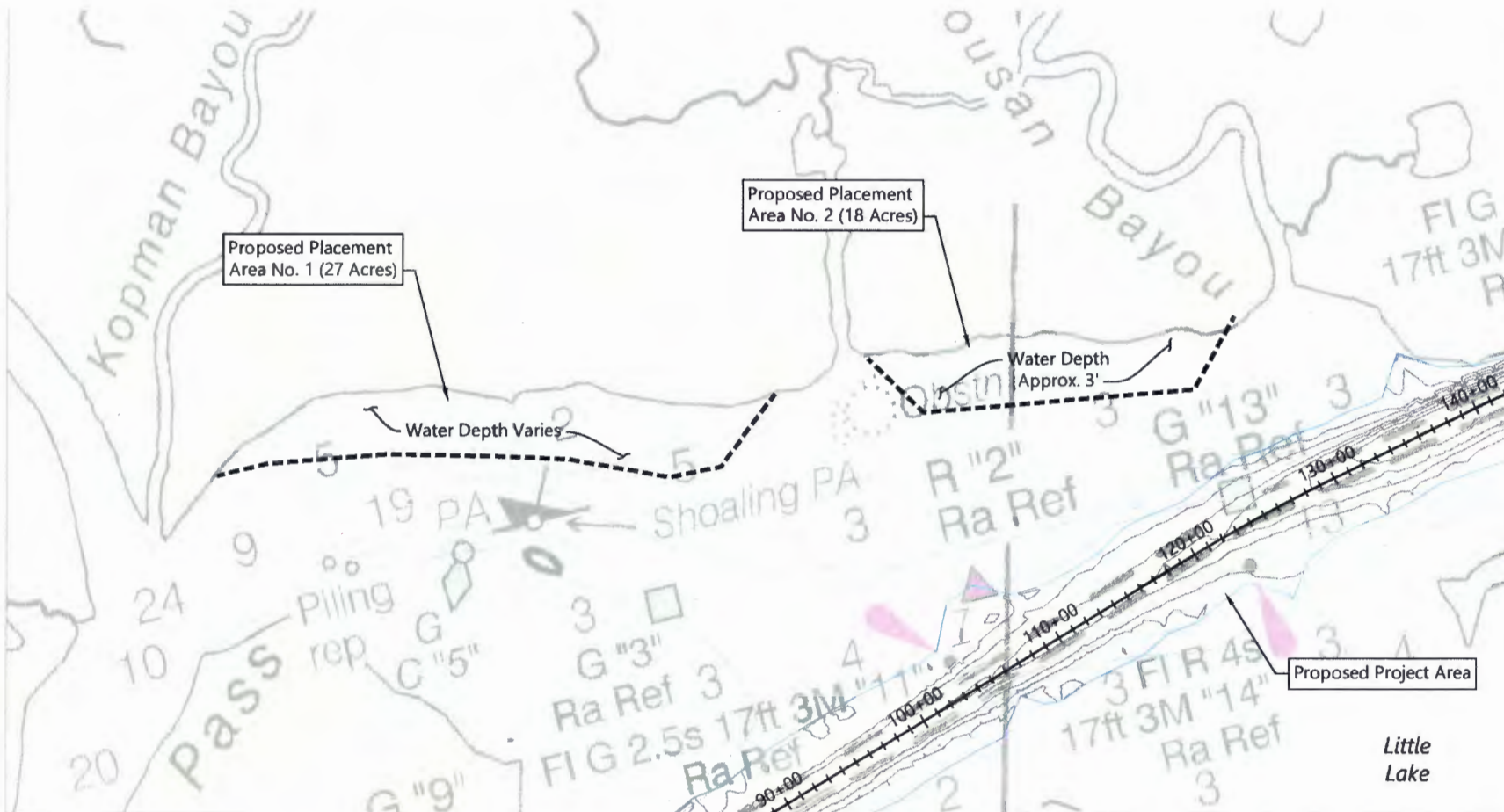
MVK-2017-823

**HANCOCK COUNTY PORT SEDIMENT CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT**

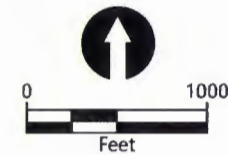
**Figure 7**  
**Little Lake Placement Areas**

Dredging Permit  
 St. Tammany Parish, LA  
 Hancock County Port





**SOURCE:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).  
**HORIZONTAL DATUM:** Mississippi State Plane, East Zone, NAD83, U.S. Feet.  
**VERTICAL DATUM:** Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).  
**NOTE:** Soundings shown are depth in feet.



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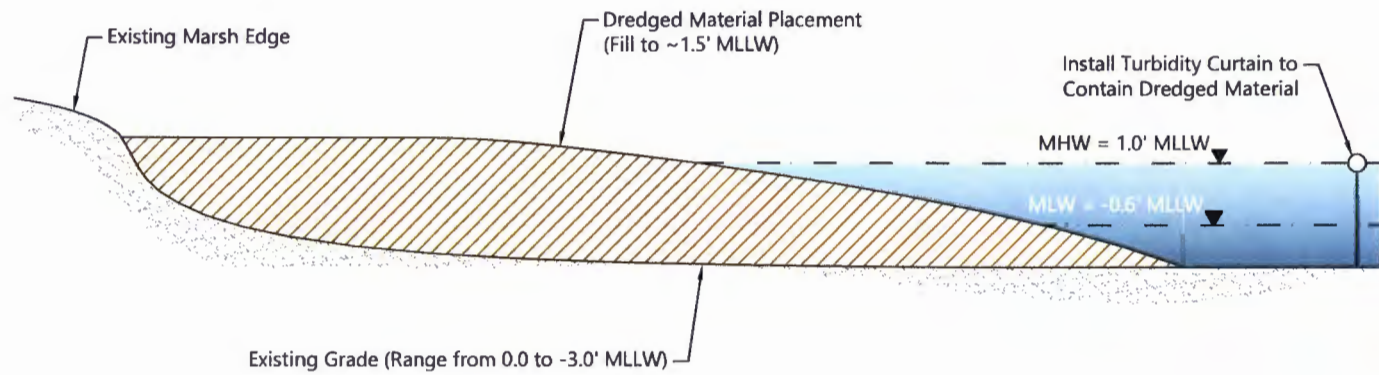
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**Figure 8**  
**Little Lake Placement Areas with NOAA Chart**

**HANCOCK COUNTY PORT SEDIMENT  
 CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT**

Dredging Permit  
 St. Tammany Parish, LA  
 Hancock County Port



Typical Placement Area Cross Section  
Not to Scale

**VERTICAL DATUM:** Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

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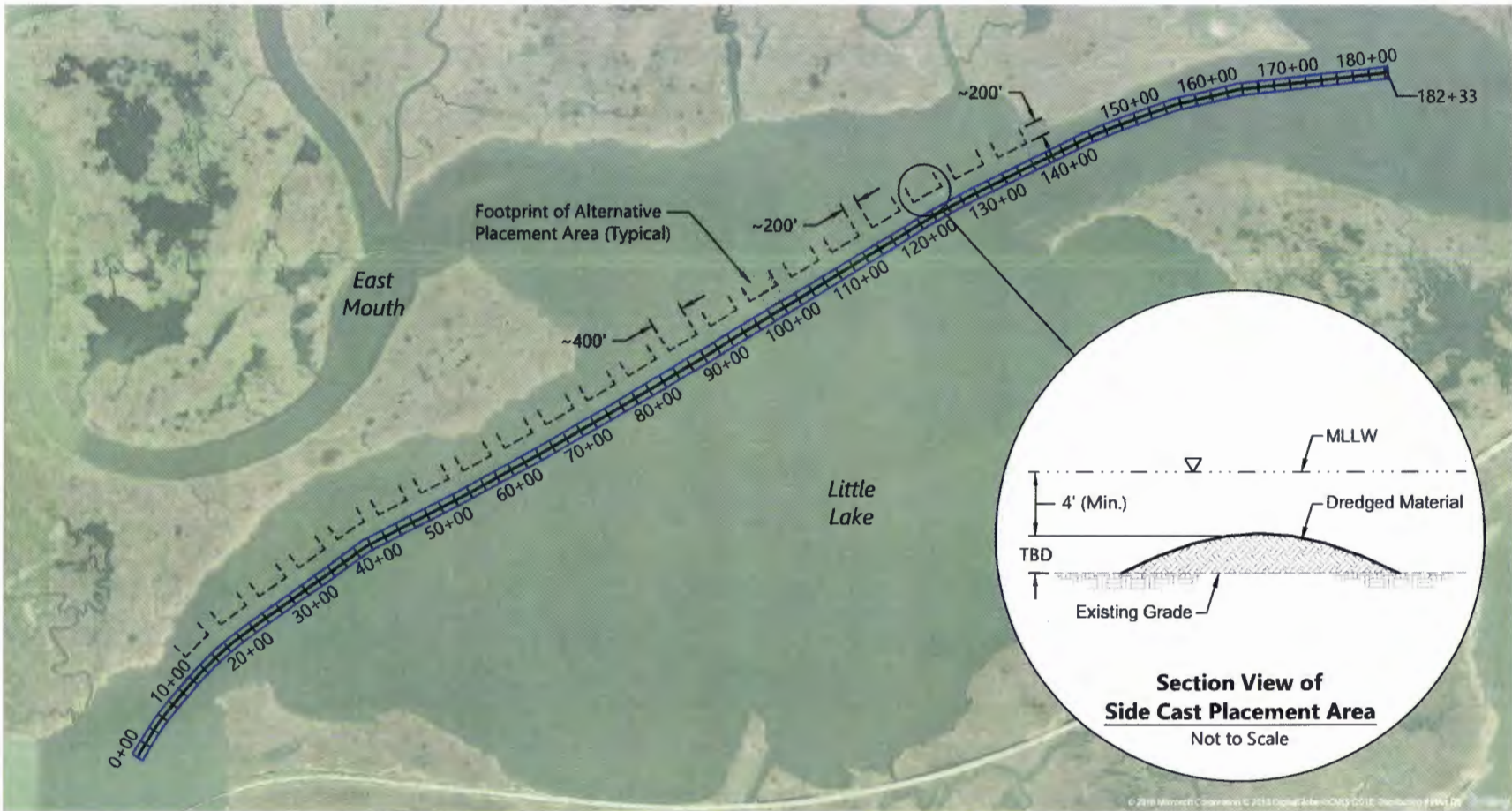
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**HANCOCK COUNTY PORT SEDIMENT  
CHARACTERIZATION PROJECT**

**Figure 9  
Typical Placement Area Cross Section**

Dredging Permit  
St. Tammany Parish, LA  
Hancock County Port





**HORIZONTAL DATUM:** Mississippi State Plane, East Zone, NAD83, U.S. Feet.

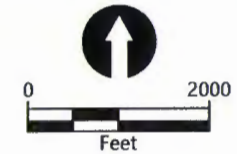
**VERTICAL DATUM:** Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

**LEGEND:**

80+00 Project Alignment



Proposed Dredge Boundary and Footprint of Dredge Cut



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**HANCOCK COUNTY PORT SEDIMENT  
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**Figure 10  
Alternate Placement Area #2**

Dredging Permit  
St. Tammany Parish, LA  
Hancock County Port