



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

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



# Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	RHW-MVK-2013-810
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Ramona Warren
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-5441
FAX NO.:	(601) 631-5459
E-MAIL:	Ramona.H.Warren@usace.army.mil
DATE:	July 25, 2014
EXPIRATION DATE:	August 15, 2014

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality 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 LRS 30:207A (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, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date.

**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. Charles Phillips  
Post Office Box 262  
Sicily Island, Louisiana 71368

**Location of Work:** Sections 43, T11N- R 7&8 E, latitude 31.897500, longitude -91.696488 within the Lower Ouachita drainage basin, 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. The purpose of the project is to convert cattle farm back to a row crop farm and to level ground for irrigation efficiency.

The proposed project would involve the mechanized land clearing and filling of several fragmented parcels of land that has solely been utilized for cattle farming. The proposed project would allow irrigation equipment to be extended and make a full rotation. Upon project completion, the irrigation system would function more efficiently and provide more coverage to the crops. The project would impact approximately 1.17 acres of forest wetlands.

The vegetation at the project site consists of American sycamore, Water oak, Sugarberry, Sweetgum, Baldcypress, Willow oak, Overcup oak, Southern red oak, Saw greenbrier, Poison ivy, and Field blackberry. Soil's within this project area consists of Calhoun silt loam with 0.5 percent slope, and Memphis silt loam with 5-12 % slopes

Best Management Practices would be implemented and maintained through the life of the project ensuring that no secondary adverse effect would occur to adjoining habitats.

The applicant has proposed to purchase 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 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. The permit area is likely to yield resources eligible for inclusion in the National Register of historic places. An investigation for the presence of potentially eligible historic properties is justified.

**Endangered Species:** Our initial finding is that the proposed work would have no effect the following endangered species or their critical habitat: Louisiana Black Bear, Spragues's Pipit, Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Pallid Sturgeon. 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.

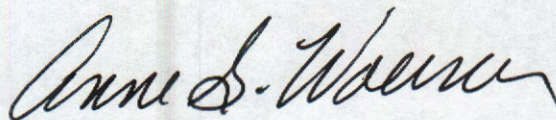
**Evaluation Factors:** The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which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

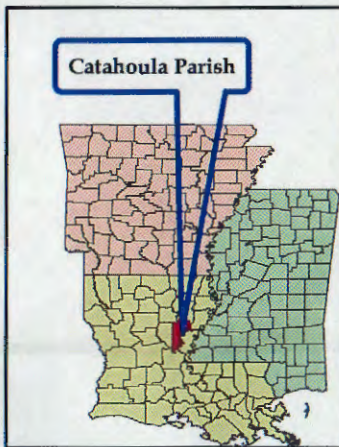
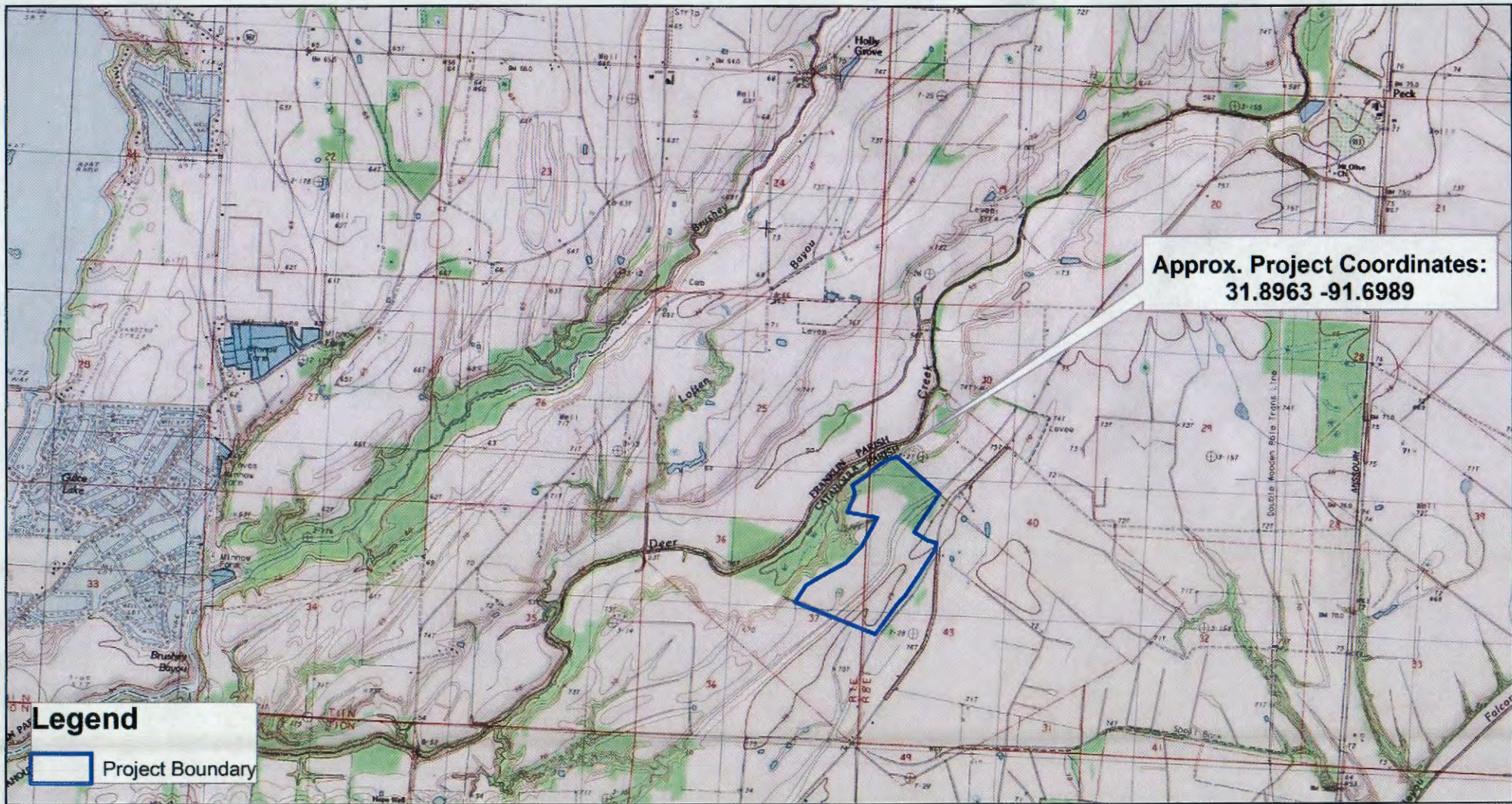
**Opportunity for a Public Hearing:** Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on 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/Monthly Notice/pnmain.asp](http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/MonthlyNotice/pnmain.asp).



Anne S. Woerner  
Chief, Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch



February 11, 2014  
**MVK-2013-810**

Applicant:  
 Charles Phillips

Proposed Work:  
 Pasture to Cropland Conversion

Location:  
 Section 43, T11N-R7&8E  
 Wisner, Quadrangle  
 Catahoula Parish, LA

Map Background:  
 NAIP Aerial Imagery (2004)

**Preliminary  
 Jurisdictional Determination**

Prepared by:  
 Robert G. Ulmer, Jr.

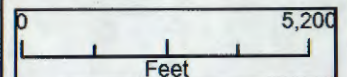


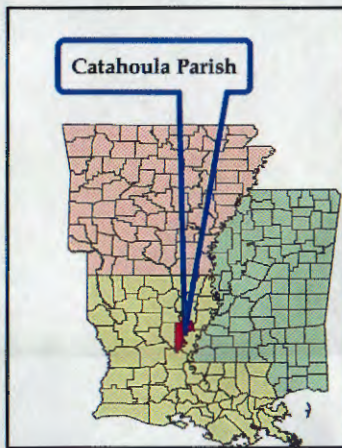
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**Enforcement Section**





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