



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

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



# Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	TVG-MVK-2015-271
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Tarmiko Graham
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DATE:	July 17, 2015
EXPIRATION DATE:	August 15, 2015

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, is considering a proposal to establish the Lower Pearl Stream Mitigation Bank (LPMB). A prospectus has been received describing the proposed bank from Stream Mitigation Mississippi, LLC, the bank Sponsor. The proposed site is located in Section 5, Township 3 South, Range 17 West, Pearl River County, Mississippi (enclosure).

**Description:** This wetland mitigation bank is being proposed by the bank Sponsor as a means to meet the requirements for compensatory mitigation for future and as yet unknown wetland losses, which may be permitted by the Corps under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The bank sponsor proposes to develop a stream mitigation bank within a 160.0-acre site by restoring/enhancing 13,000 linear feet of channel. The proposed work would increase the wetland function, provide species diversity, and increase the width of a wildlife corridor within the West Hobolochitto Creek Watershed (HUC 03180004).

**Baseline Conditions / Current Land Use / Proposed Actions:**

The proposed site is located in Pearl River County, Mississippi, west of the town of Poplarville. The two streams proposed for restoration are tertiary, perennial tributaries of the West Hobolochitto Creek. The site is located within an area that has been historically utilized for agricultural purposes.

The proposed mitigation bank site is comprised of two impaired perennial streams and degraded riparian buffers. The two streams are currently impaired due to historic disturbances and alterations. The stream channels appear to have been partially channeled and have become incised, limiting access to the

**floodplain. The streams have been disconnected from the floodplain and have lost significant function. The historic land uses adjacent to the stream reaches consisted of agriculture activities. The current land use adjacent to the streams is silviculture, loblolly pine plantation.**

**The two streams appear to have constant flow except during periods of drought and below normal rainfall. Flow was observed during a March 2014 site visit; no flow was observed during an October 2014 site visit (below normal rainfall). The two streams flow parallel with one another, intersecting at the eastern limits of the proposed bank site. Both streams are similar in size, function, and existing condition. Both streams have been altered and degraded due to historic and current land uses. The two streams have an average top bank width of approximately 12 feet X 18 feet and channel depth of approximately 3 feet X 6 feet. The stream channels are incised with nearly vertical and 2:1 slope. Currently, the riparian buffers are comprised of dense Chinese privet, Chinese tallow, and pine plantation.**

**Restoration activities would include modification and/or construction of new channels to correct alterations and increase stream function. Riparian buffers would be enhanced by the change in land use, placement of a perpetual protective instrument and reforestation with native species. The two streams currently exhibit significant instability and natural recovery is unlikely. The ability to incorporate a maximum riparian buffer on each side of the stream reaches would compliment channel restoration activity and allow for long term protection. The buffers are gently sloping and mostly non-wetland, allowing for the possibility of Priority 1 stream restoration. The location within the watershed would limit potential impacts from areas up gradient from the site.**

**In addition to riparian buffer enhancement, in-channel activity designed to deliver functional lift would include augmented stream sinuosity, the restoration of appropriate bankfull discharge width and entrenchment ratios. A maximum riparian buffer width (6 X min. width) would be established for both sides of each reach. The riparian buffer would require approximately 90%-100% reforestation/restoration. Undersiderable and exotic species would be removed, site prepped and reforested with native seedlings.**

**No stream mitigation bank currently exists within the Lower Pearl River drainage basin. Historically, the lack of stream credits within or in close proximity to the primary HUC has resulted in mitigation credits being purchased outside of the watershed or else provided for with out-of-kind credits. The proposed mitigation bank would provide needed stream credits to the service area and meet the projected need for future stream mitigation within HUC unit 03180004. The size of the streams and the buffer characteristics offer the opportunity for the Sponsor to implement mitigation actions that are technically feasible and carry a high probability of success.**

**Service Area:** This Mitigation Bank would be established to provide mitigation to compensate for impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, within the Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District. These areas are demarcated by the United States Geologic Survey as hydrologic unit code 03180004. Decisions authorizing the use of credits from the Mitigation Bank will be made by the appropriate authority on a case by case basis in accordance with all applicable requirements.

The prospectus, which outlines the conceptual plan for the bank, is available for review at the Vicksburg District, Corps of Engineers at the address given below.

Comments on this proposed mitigation bank may be provided to the Corps at the address below. Comments should be received no later than the expiration date of this public notice.

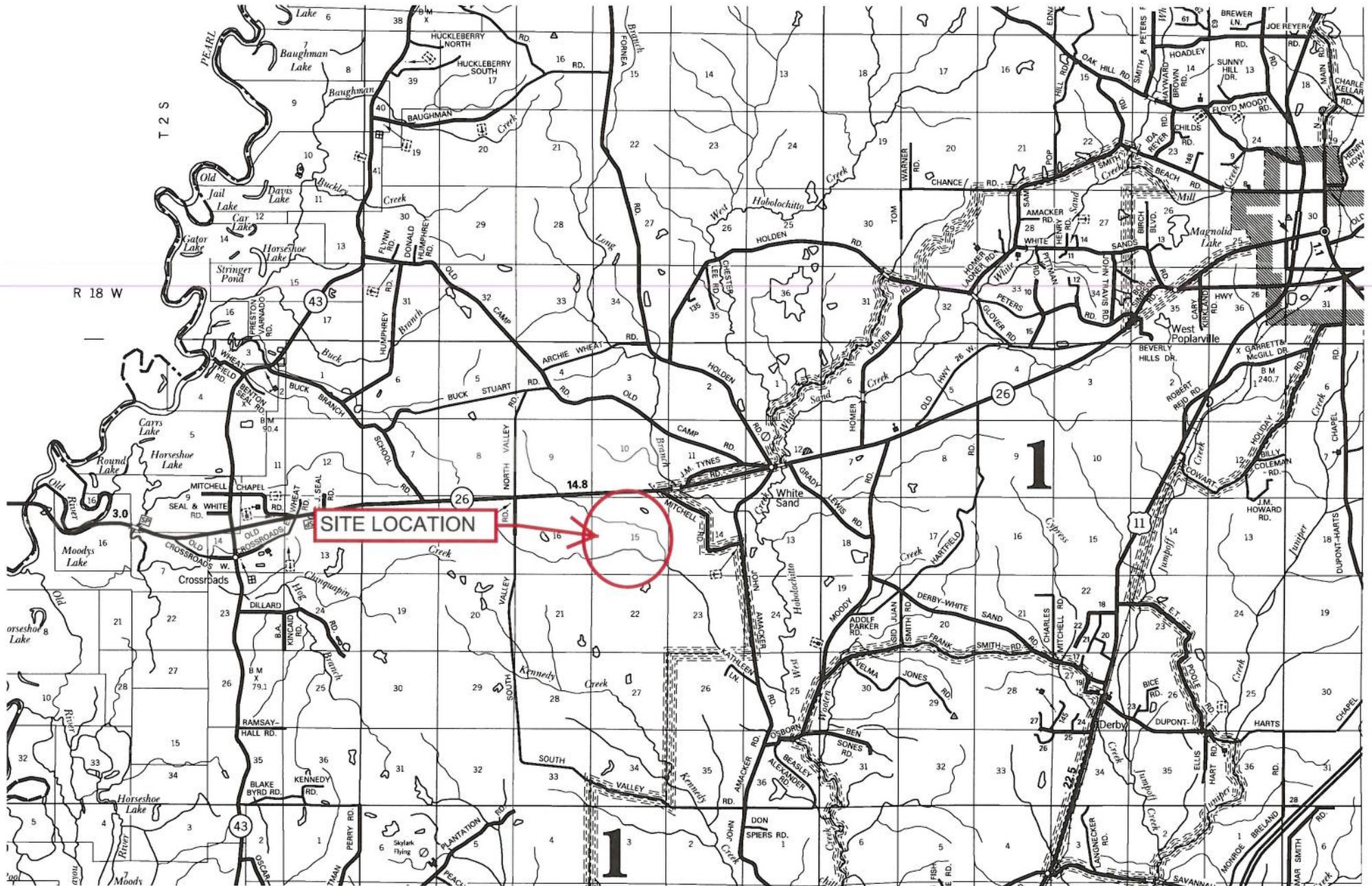
Please provide comments to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Vicksburg District  
ATTN: CEMVK-OD-F  
4155 Clay Street  
Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3485

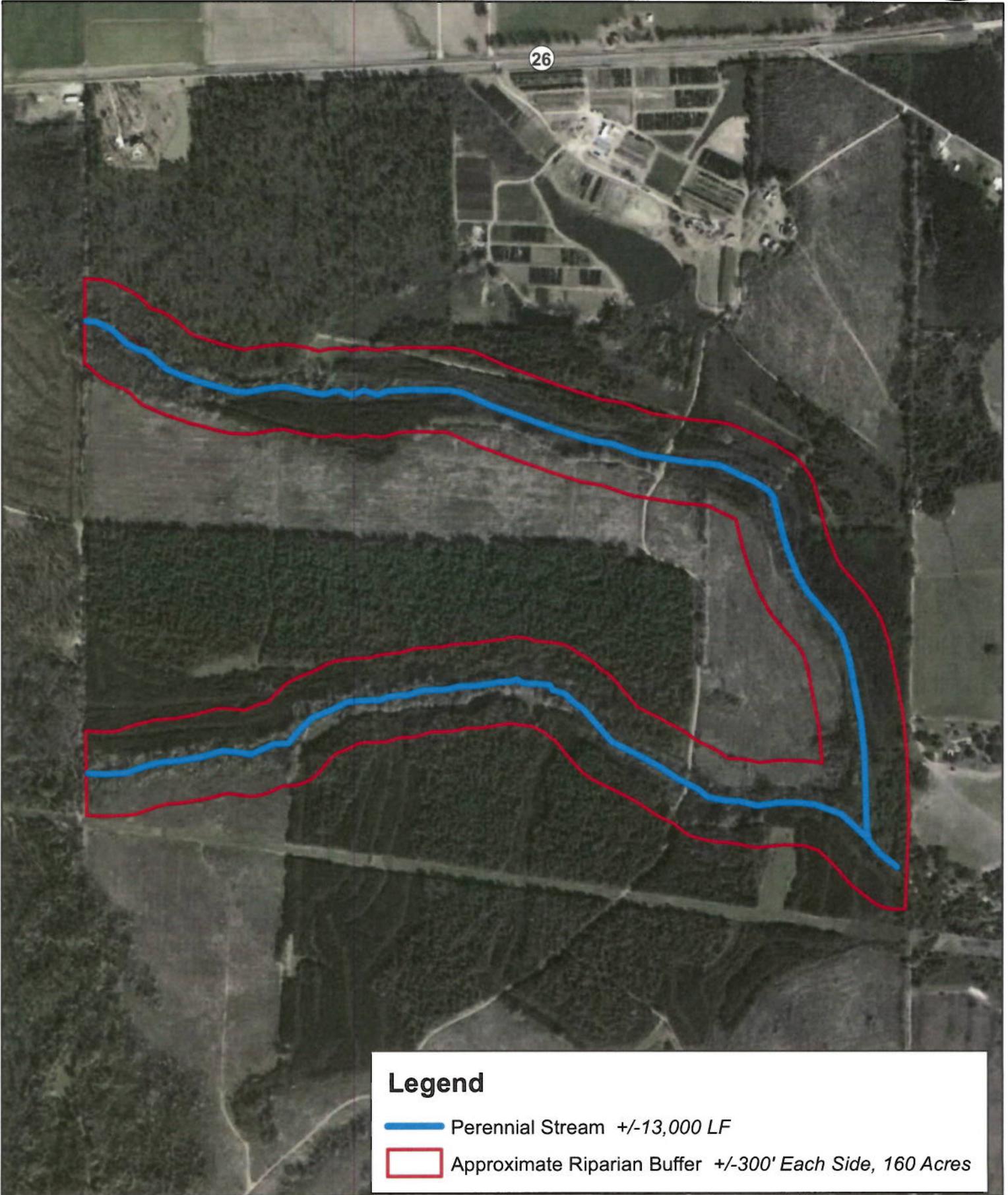
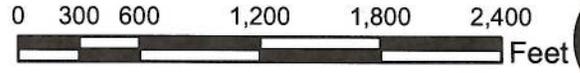


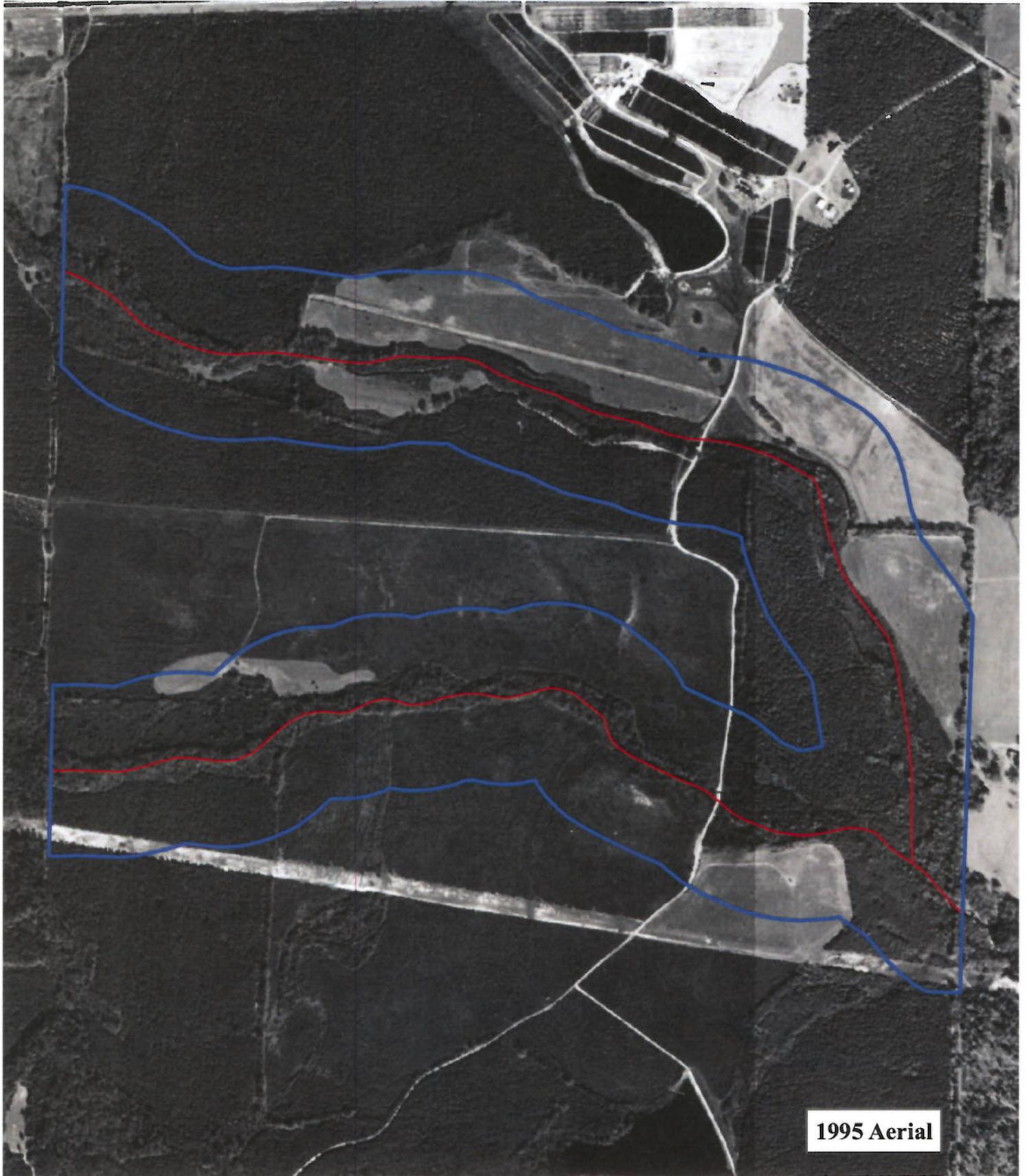
**Randel V. Holder**  
Chief, Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch

# PROPOSED STREAM MITIGATION BANK PEARL RIVER COUNTY, MS

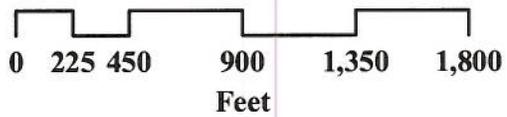


# PROPOSED STREAM MITIGATION BANK PEARL RIVER COUNTY, MS





1995 Aerial



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Phone: 228-575-7747 FAX: 228-575-7759

# PROPOSED STREAM MITIGATION BANK PEARL RIVER COUNTY, MS

