

US Army Corps of Engineerse

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



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.: EVALUATOR: PHONE NO.: E-MAIL: DATE: EXPIRATION DATE: MVK-2018-428 Ms. Tarmiko Graham (601) 631-5540 Tarmiko.V.Graham@usace.army.mil July 2, 2018 July 22, 2018

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the Mississippi 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. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-OD-F at the above address, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality at Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date.

<u>Law Requiring a Permit</u>: 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. Tom Porter Columbia-Marion County Airport Authority 151 Airport Road Columbia, Mississippi 39429 <u>Name of Agent:</u> Mr. Bart Pitman Pittman Environmental Services Post Office Box 1926 Purvis, Mississippi 39475

<u>Location of Work</u>: Section 21, T4N-R18W, Latitude 31.30097, Longitude -89.80621, in the Buckhorn Creek watershed within the Lower Pearl Drainage Basin (USGS HUC 03180004), Marion County, Mississippi.

<u>Description of Work</u>: (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 for the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into jurisdictional wetlands for the construction of a runway and taxiway extension. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a safe aviation facility that meets the current design standards, allows airport users to operate more safely and efficiently, and allows access to a wider range of aircraft than the current facilities support.

The current existing runway width does not meet the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) design standards for a C-II airport in AC 150/5300-13A, and must be widened as well as lengthened. The proposed project would extend and widen runway 5/23 from 70 feet wide by 4,460 feet long supporting B-I aircraft to 100 feet wide by 5,500 feet long supporting C-II aircraft. Approximately 1.23 acres of wetlands would be impacted for the proposed project. A total of approximately 12,080 cubic yards of fill material would be placed into the jurisdictional wetlands.

The vegetative communities within the project area are dominated by sweetbay magnolia, purple anise, baccharis, black gum, loblolly pine, sweet gum, Chinese privet, yaupon holly, water oak, Southern magnolia, black willow, red maple, and Chinese tallow. Soil within the project site is dominated by Smithdale sandy loam.

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of jurisdictional impacts through the purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank that services the project area.

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.

<u>State Water Quality Permit</u>: 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.

<u>Cultural Resources</u>: 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.

<u>Endangered Species</u>: Utilizing the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES) as signed on June 28, 2017, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District (Corps) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would have no effect on the Wood stork.

<u>Floodplain</u>: 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 proposed project site is not 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.

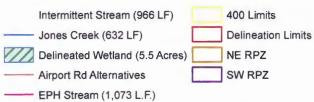
Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

Charle R. alber, T. Thomas A. McCabe Chief, Evaluation Section

Regulatory Branch



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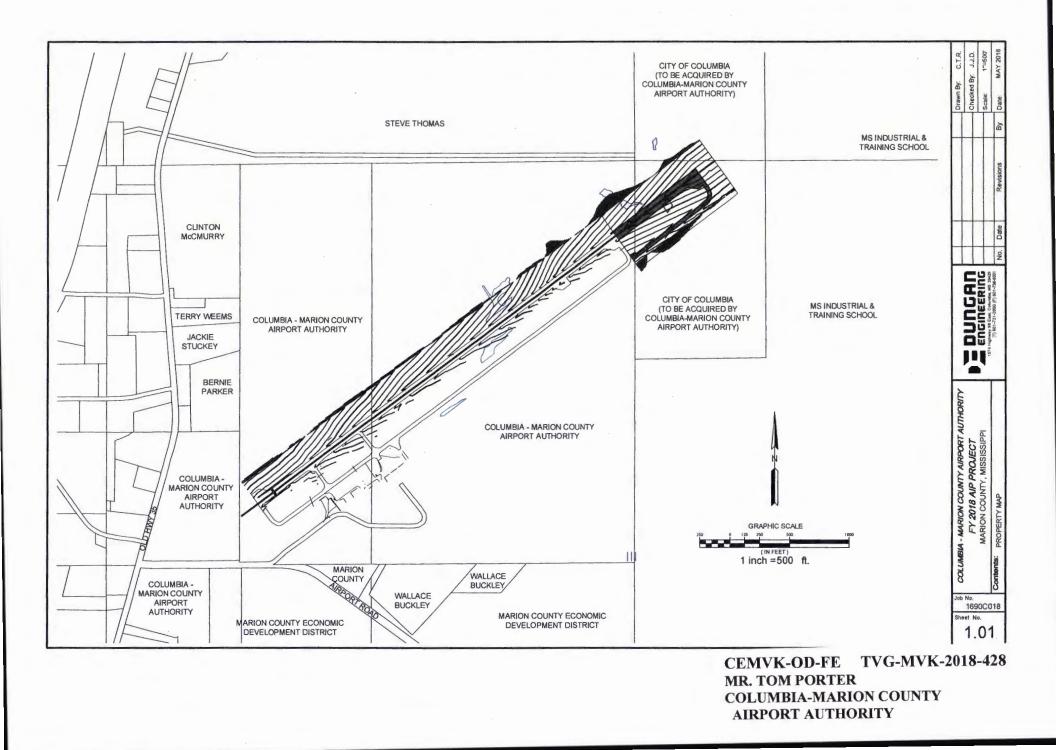
CEMVK-OD-FE TVG-MVK-2018-428 **MR. TOM PORTER COLUMBIA-MARION COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

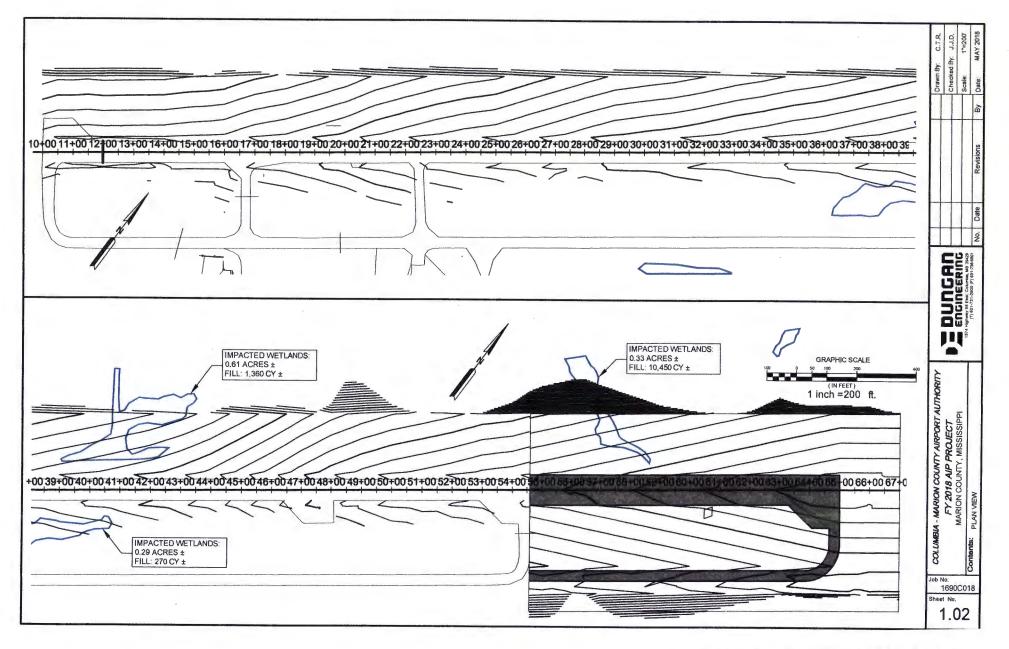
Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination





Section





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