



**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-2007-913
EVALUATOR:	Ramona Warren
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E-MAIL:	regulatory@usace.army.mil
DATE:	November 4, 2008
EXPIRATION DATE:	December 4, 2008

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District is considering a proposal to establish a wetland mitigation bank in Morehouse Parish, Louisiana. A prospectus describing the proposed bank has been received from Ecosystem Renewal, LLC on behalf of Missouri Loop LLC, the bank Sponsor. The mitigation bank site is located in Sections 9, Township 21 North, Range 8 East in Morehouse Parish in northeast Louisiana (enclosure 1 and 2).

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 losses of waters of the United States, 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 wetland mitigation bank by restoring 302 acre tract. The bank would include approximately 302 acres of bottomland hardwoods wetlands restoration. The restoration and enhancement of the 302-acre area will increase wetland function, provide species diversity, and increase the width of a wildlife corridor along the Ouachita River.

Baseline Conditions / Current Land Use / Proposed Actions:

The proposed Mitigation Bank is located on a tract owned by the Sponsor in Morehouse Parish in northeast Louisiana. The Missouri Loop Mitigation Bank (MLMB) is located north of State Highway 2 and directly abuts Little Missouri Loop Road, east of Mer Rouge, Louisiana. The proposed MLMB site is bordered by a USFWS wildlife refuge known as the Joe Oliveras on the east and north, agricultural land on the west, and 16th Section land owned by the Morehouse Parish School Board on the south. The site is located within the greater Ouachita watershed, Boeuf Drainage Basin, listed as United States Geologic Survey as hydrologic unit code 08050001. The site lies within the Arkansas/ Ouachita River Back

Swamps Physiographic Region, which consists of flat plains with floodplain depressions containing ponded wetlands, swamps, and lakes in addition to some low gradient streams with silty substrate.

The site is currently maintained as agricultural cropland, and was cleared, ditched and drained prior to federal wetlands regulation. USDA classified the site as prior-converted farmland (enclosure 3). The site is surrounded by a levee and divided into a series of cultivation blocks largely for the farming of rice, soybeans, or corn. The majority of soil on the site is listed as Perry clay a hydric soil (enclosure 4).

The sponsor would restore wetland hydrology to the agricultural fields by plugging ditches and canals as needed. Existing crop rows and furrows would be leveled to re-establish natural surface contours. Mixed bottomland hardwood/bald cypress habitats would be planted with appropriate hard-mast species. One- to two-year-old seedlings would be planted on 12-foot centers. Species selected would be planted as dictated by terrain and soil conditions (enclosure 5).

Service Area: This Mitigation Bank will be established to provide mitigation to compensate for impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands, within the Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District. This area is demarcated by the United States Geologic Survey as hydrologic unit codes 08050001 (primary service area) and 8050002 (secondary service area) within Boeuf River Basin. Also, the applicant is proposing that areas outside of the Boeuf-Tensas Accounting unit but within the larger Ouachita watershed be considered on a conditional basis within the secondary service area (enclosure 6).

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.

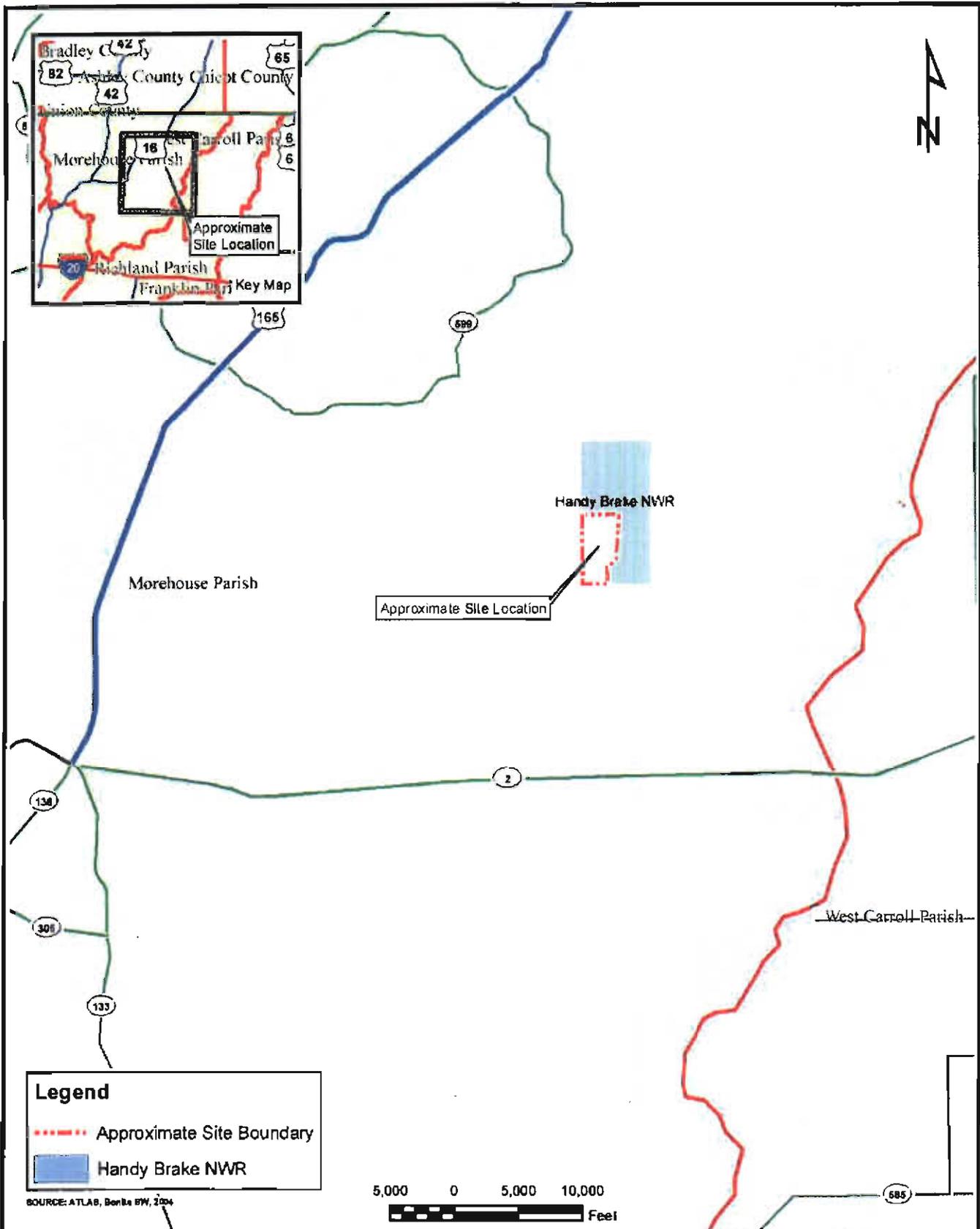
Comments on this proposed mitigation bank may be provided to the Corps at the address below. Comments should be received no later than the expiration date of this public notice.

Please provide comments to:

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



Anne S. Woerner
Chief, Evaluation Section



Legend

- - - - - Approximate Site Boundary
- Handy Brake NWR

SOURCE: ATLAS, Bonita RW, 2004

Ecosystem Renewal, LLC
 2040 Steele Boulevard
 Baton Rouge, LA 70808

ecosystem
 renewal

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Missouri Loop Mitigation Area

Morehouse Parish, Louisiana

Location Map

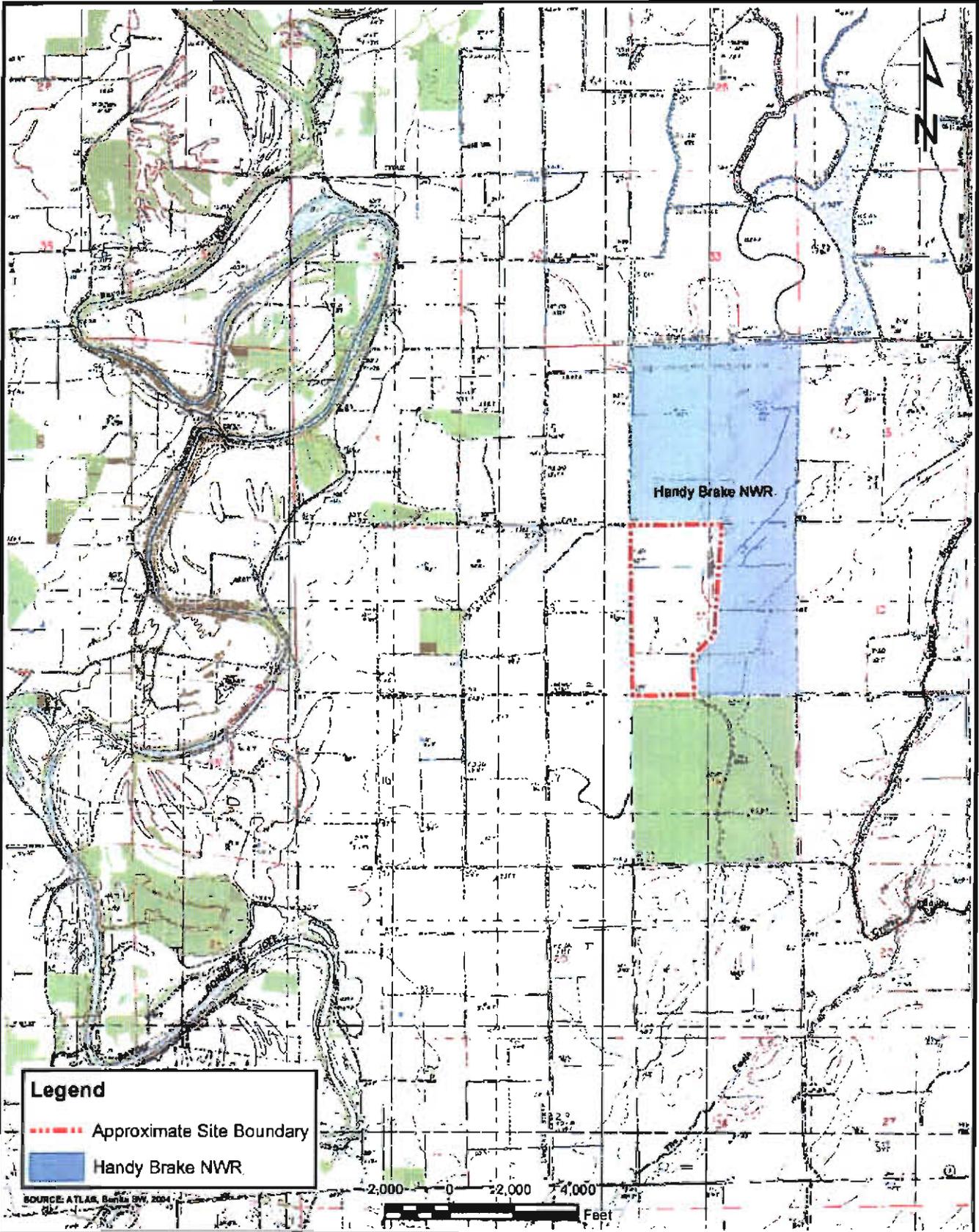
SCALE	DATE
1" equals 10,000'	07/24/2008

FIGURE

1

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ENCL 1



Ecosystem Renewal LLC
 2040 Beala Boulevard
 Baton Rouge LA 70808

ecosystem
 renewal

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 PROJECT NUMBER 4-0010-001

**Morehouse Parish
 Mitigation Site
 near Handy Brake NWR**

Morehouse Parish, LA

USGS Topographic Map

SCALE 1" equals 4,000'

DATE 4/2/2008

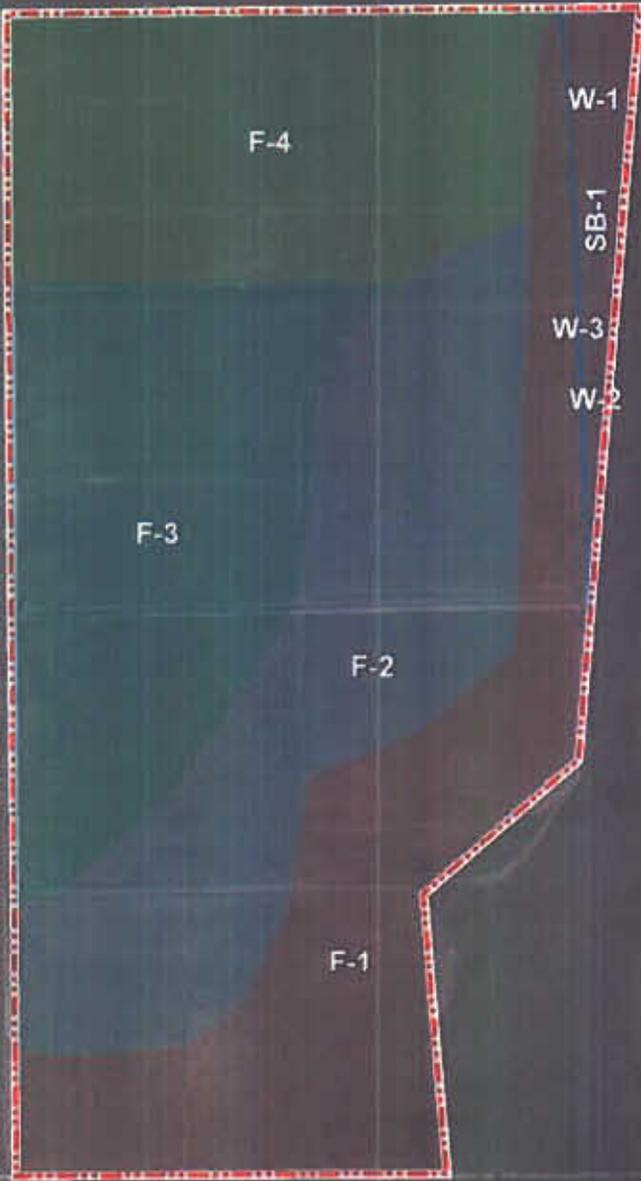
FIGURE
2

ENCL 2



Polygon	Acres
F-1	72.75
F-2	77.45
F-3	73.10
F-4	65.74
SB-1	6.26
W-1	1.41
W-2	2.60
W-3	1.26
Total	300.57

Legend	
Planting Zones	
	Elm-Ash-Sugarberry
	Existing Ditch
	Overcup Oak-Bitter Pecan
	Red Oaks-White Oaks Mixed
	Sweetgum-Red Oaks
	Approximate Site Boundary



Ecosystem Renewal, LLC
 2040 State Boulevard
 Baton Rouge, LA 70808

ecosystem
 renewal, llc

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PROJECT NUMBER 4-0010-001

**Missouri Loop
 Mitigation Bank Prospectus**

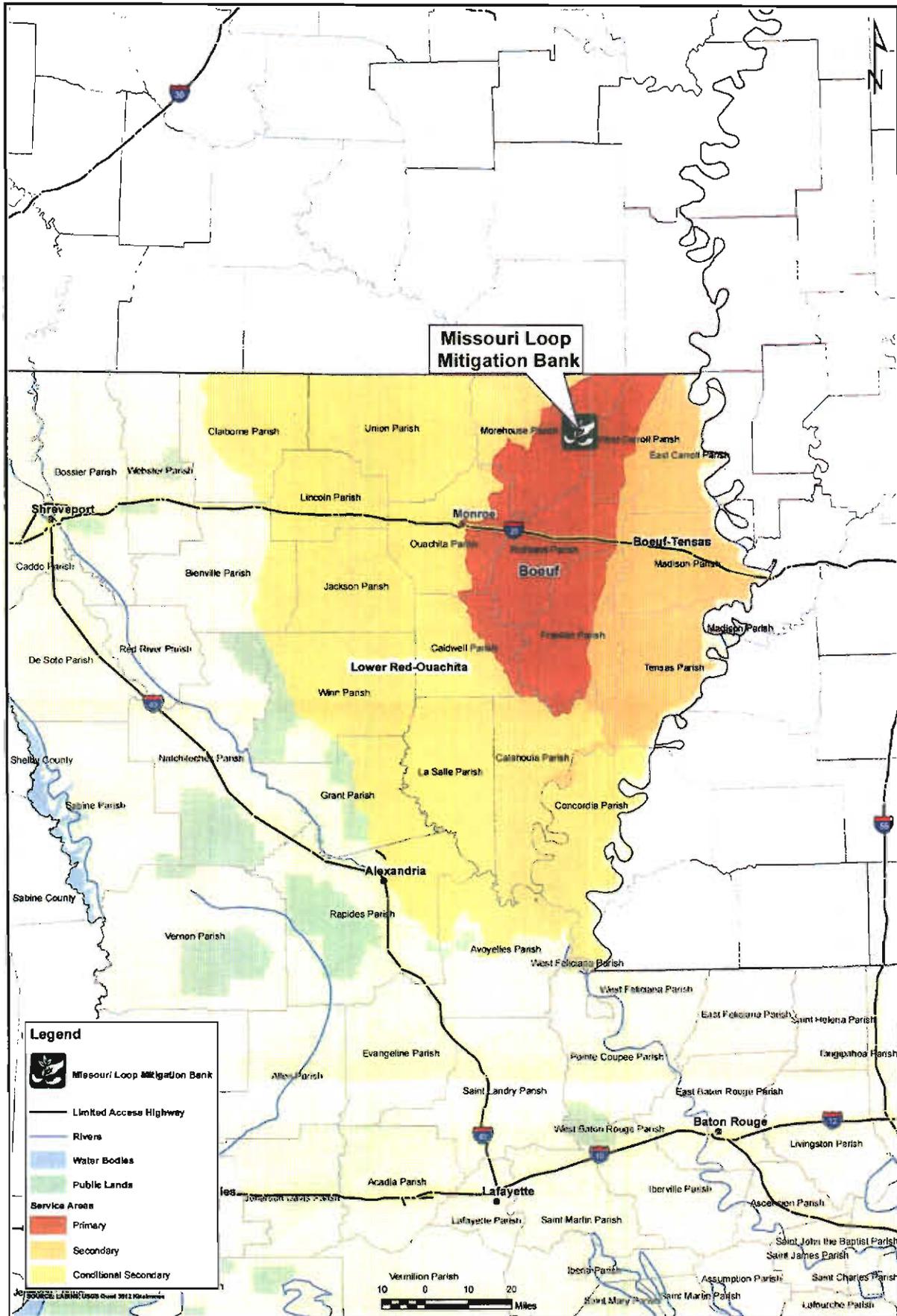
Morehouse Parish, LA

Planting Zones

SCALE 1" equals 800'
 DATE 7/29/2008

FIGURE
7

ENCLOSURE



	Service Area Map		Missouri Loop Mitigation Bank Prospectus Morehouse Parish, Louisiana	 Ecosystem Renewal LLC 2140 Banks Boulevard Baton Rouge, LA 70806
	SCALE 1" equals 20 miles	DATE 7/29/2008		

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