

Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435 www.mvk.usace.army.mil

Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.: MVK-2022-913

EVALUATOR: Ms. Tarmiko Graham

(601) 631-5540 PHONE NO.:

E-MAIL: Tarmiko.V.Graham@usace.army.mil

April 13, 2023 DATE: May 3, 2023

EXPIRATION DATE:

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-RD, 4155 East Clay Street, Vicksburg Mississippi 39183-3435, and must reach this office by the cited expiration date.

The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification Rule (Certification Rule, 40 CFR 121), effective September 11, 2020, requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge. The scope of a CWA Section 401 certification is limited to assuring that a discharge from a Federally licensed or permitted activity will comply with water quality requirements. The applicant is responsible for requesting certification and providing required information to the certifying agency. As of the date of this public notice, the applicant has submitted a certification request to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (certifying authority) and the Corps of Engineers has notified the certifying agency of the reasonable period of time for them to act upon the certification request.

Law Requiring a Permit: 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. Keith Hicks **Rankin County Board of Supervisors** 211 East Government Street Brandon, Mississippi 39042

Name of Agent:

Ms. Carol Jackson Waggoner Engineering, Inc. 143A LeFleurs Square Jackson, Mississippi 39211

<u>Location of Work</u>: Section 16, T6N-R3E, Latitude 32.365824, Longitude -89.989251, within the Pearl River Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC 03180002), Rankin 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 to conduct regulated activities in "Waters of the U.S." for the purpose of streambank stabilization in Rankin County, Mississippi. The purpose of the project is to provide a long term, durable, minimal-maintenance solution that curtails incremental erosion and prevents catastrophic losses of sensitive irreplaceable resources.

The proposed project is located at Reservoir Park Road and ends near Old Fannin Road. A majority the project occurs near residential areas, with a Northwest Rankin athletic recreation complex also affected. Due to residential and commercial development in the area there has been an increase of impervious areas thus causing more water runoff during rain events. The Unnamed Tributary of Pearl River that is adjacent to various subdivisions has seen degradation due to this increase of water during rain events. This has caused erosional issues in several areas and precipitated encroachment of the banks onto adjacent private properties.

During the urbanization of the watershed, this project area has been subject to an increase in the frequency of bank-full flows. Thus, this channel that was modified from its original course to drain the surrounding developments has been transformed by systemic erosion. As a result, the stream channel erosion has caused the stream to be more susceptible to flooding during normal rain events due to the lack of floodplain area. Mechanisms designed for this project reach would aid in stabilizing channel banks by utilizing rip rap and gabion infrastructure. Armoring the bank would ensure that areas along the bank would have the capability to withstand various high volume and velocity flow characteristics. The gabions that would be placed within the reach would help prevent scour, and dissipate the water flow energy, while protecting against residential property damage. These elements would improve the overall health of the stream from years of haphazard urbanization due to residential development and increased imperviousness (i.e. roads, driveways).

Approximately 4,689 of linear feet of a perennial stream would be impacted due to bank stabilization. Fill material that would be implemented during the project have been designed to alleviate or lessen the erosional issues of the stream caused by the instability of the banks. Approximately 8,800 cubic yards of riprap

and 700 cubic yards of gabion would be placed along the drainage ditch. The placement of riprap, gabion and crushed stone would aid in the restoration of functions and values such as flow control and erosion control that have been depleted due to the urbanization of surrounding areas and channelization of the stream during the years.

The applicant is proposing that due to past channelization of the stream and urbanization of surrounding areas, the proposed measures taken by the project to avoid and minimize the impacts along the stream and the benefits associated with the design of the project that no compensatory mitigation is needed. The project is avoiding the intermittent and ephemeral portions of the stream. There are no wetland impacts associated with the project.

Soils within the proposed site consists of Cascilla-Arkabutla, frequently flooded, Gillsburg silt loam, occasionally flooded, Tippah silt loam, Providence silt loam and Kipling silt loam.

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>: The Regulatory Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the <u>National Register of Historic Places</u>, 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: Threatened and Endangered Species for this area include the Northern long-eared bat and Wood stork. 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 and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would have no effect on these species or their habitats.

<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 project is not located within the 100-year floodplain.

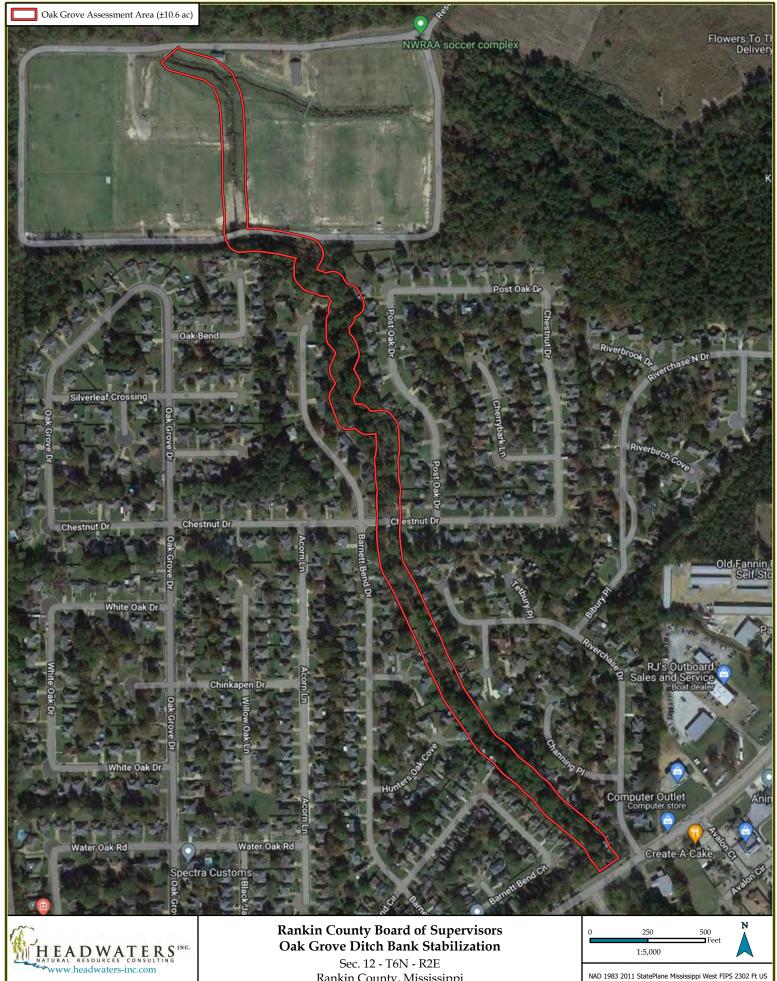
Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may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

<u>Public Involvement</u>: 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.

Bryan Williamson Chief, Mississippi Branch Regulatory Division

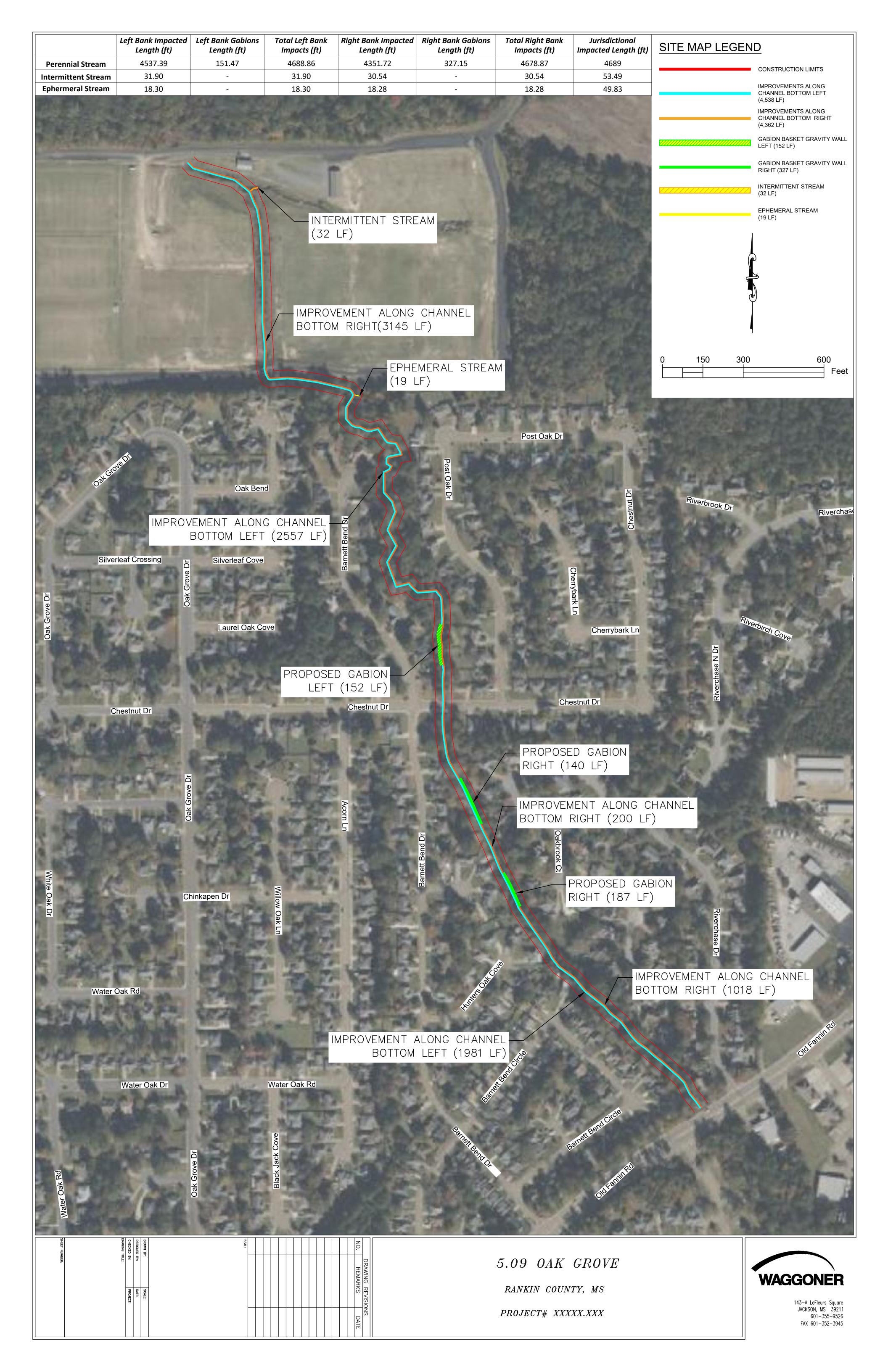


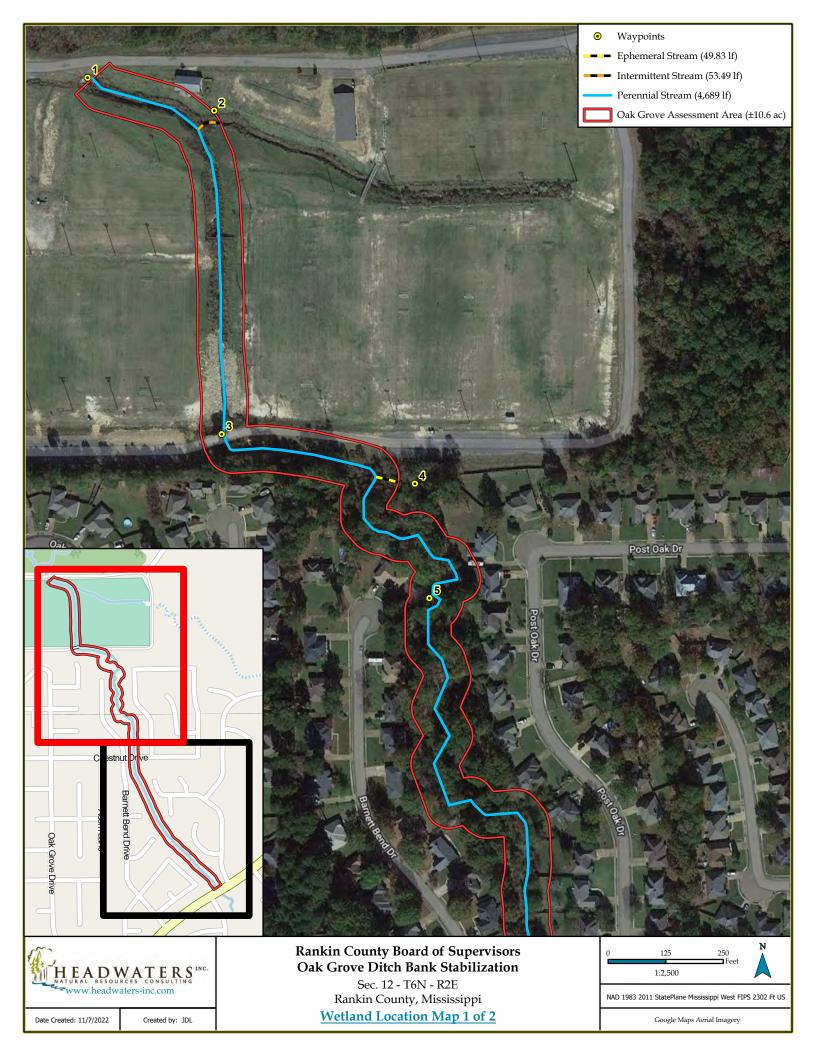
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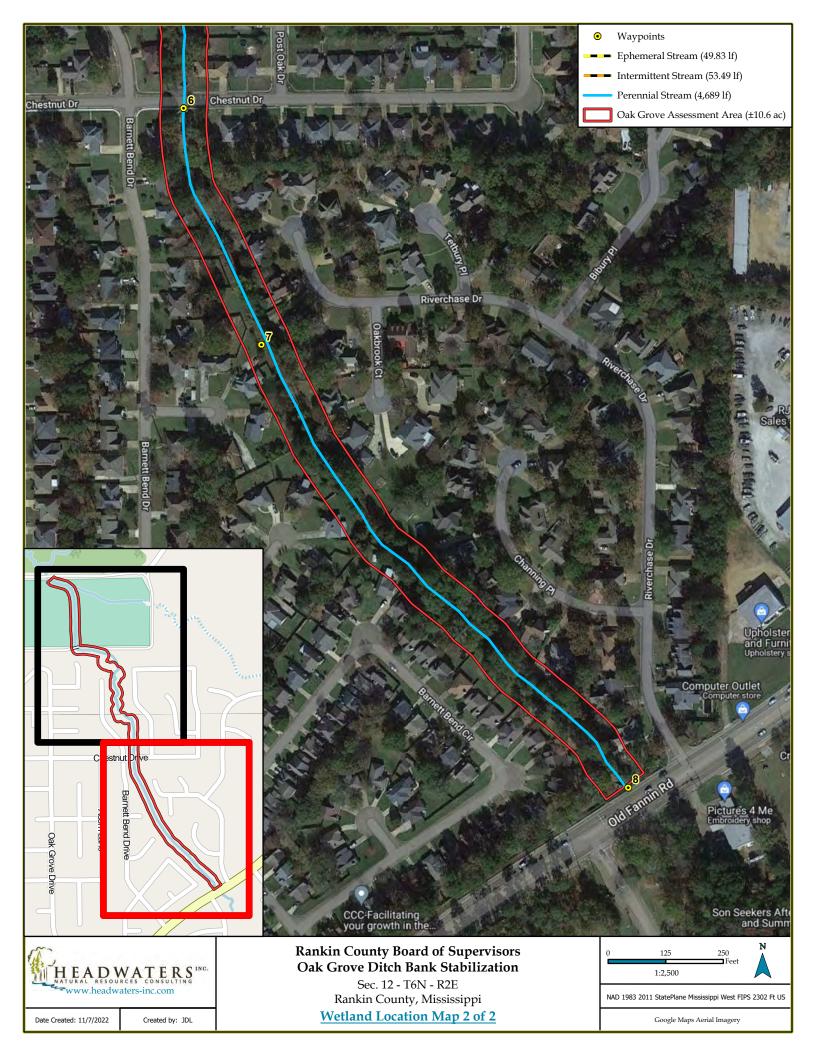
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Rankin County, Mississippi **Site Location Map**

Google Maps Aerial Imagery

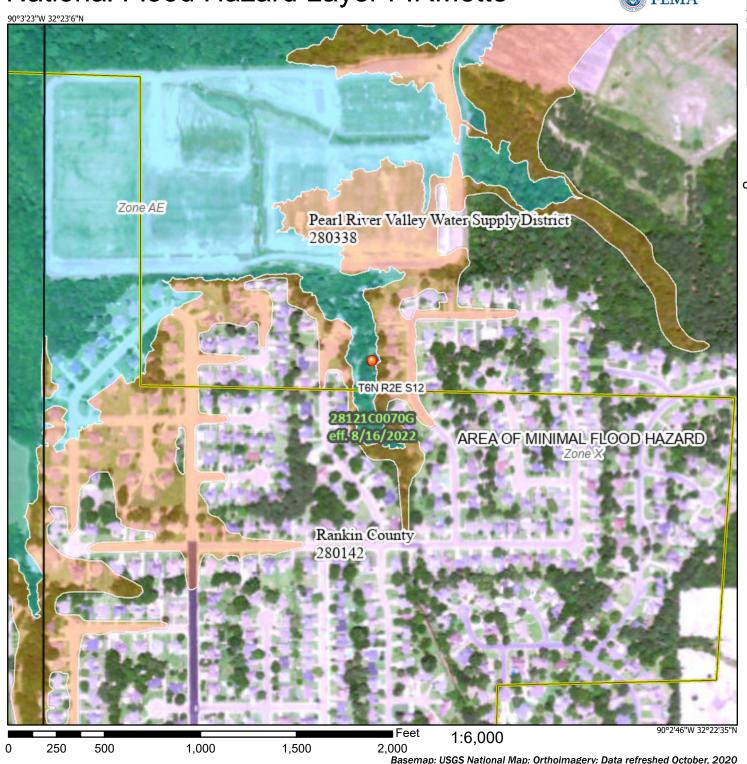






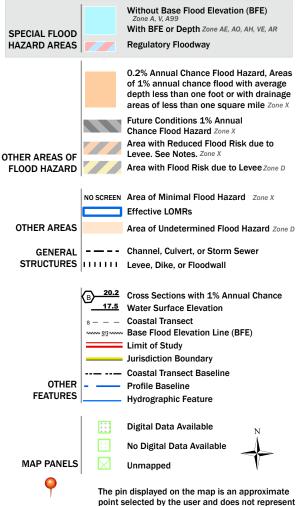
National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette





Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT



This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

an authoritative property location.

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 10/17/2022 at 3:58 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.