

US Army Corps of Engineers

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



APPLICATION NO.:

MVK-2016-941

EVALUATOR:

Ms. Kristi Hall

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DATE:

April 10, 2018

EXPIRATION DATE:

May 1, 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, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality at Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39226-2261, 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:

Name of Agent:

Mr. Gary Rhoads City of Flowood Post Office Box 320069 Mr. Paul Forster City of Flowood 2101 Airport Road

Flowood, Mississippi 39232

Flowood, Mississippi 39232

<u>Location of Work</u>: Section 22, T6N- R2E, Latitude 32.3473, Longitude -90.0894, within 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 an after-the-fact Department of the Army permit to conduct regulated activities in jurisdictional wetlands for the purpose of constructing recreational fields along with landscaping, walkways, lighting and

parking at the Liberty Road Park in Flowood, Mississippi. Approximately 8.63 acres of wetlands have already been filled, 6.66 acres would remain as part of project design and 1.97 acres would be restored to pre-impact conditions. An additional 0.75-acre of wetlands would also be filled to complete the project, approximately 58,000 cubic yards of fill material would be required.

The vegetative communities within the project area are dominated by shrub-scrub vegetation including black willow, Chinese tallow, sugar cane plume grass smartweed, juncus, and cattails. The majority of the site is covered in approximately 3-6 feet of fresh soil. Soil beneath fresh fill is mapped as Cascilla-Arkabutla and Leverette silt loam, having a respective hydric component percent rating of 82 and 5 by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of jurisdictional impacts through the purchase of credits from a commercial mitigation bank.

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 National Register of Historic Places, state 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 has been so extensively modified that little likelihood exists for the proposed project to impinge upon a historic property, even if present within the affected area.

<u>Endangered Species</u>: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect the following endangered species or their critical habitats: Northern long-eared bat, Ringed map turtle or Gulf Sturgeon.

Floodplain: 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 completely 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.armv.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

Thomas A. McCabe Chief, Evaluation Section

Thomas A. MECale

Regulatory Branch

MVK-2016-941







Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination

Liberty Park
Facility Expansion
City of Flowood
Rankin County, Mississippi



Legend



Project Area

Emergent Wetlands (5.98 Acres) Filled Wetland (8.63 Acres)

Proposed by: Bert Turcotte

Enclasurs 1





