



APPLICATION NO.:

MVK-2017-951

EVALUATOR:

Ms. Kristi Hall

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DATE:

April 10, 2018

EXPIRATION DATE:

May 10, 2018

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, is considering a proposal to establish the Three Creeks Mitigation Bank. A prospectus has been received describing the proposed bank from Peace River Mitigation, LLC, the bank Sponsor. The proposed site is located in Sections 11, 12, 13, and 14, T23N-R5W and Claiborne Parish, Louisiana (enclosure).

<u>Description</u>: The Three Creeks Mitigation Bank is being proposed by the bank sponsor as a means to meet the requirements for compensatory mitigation for future and yet unknown wetland and stream losses which may be permitted by the Corps under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The proposed bank site is approximately six miles north of Summerfield, Louisiana and seven miles southwest of Junction City, Arkansas. The site is and has historically been used as a pine plantation.

Baseline Conditions / Current Land Use / Proposed Actions:

According to the preliminary jurisdictional determination issued by the Vicksburg District, the property consists of approximately 275.6 acres, with 161.4 acres of young planted pines, 57.9 acres of bottomland hardwood wetlands, 1,719 linear feet of intermittent stream, 16,041 linear feet of perennial stream.

Vegetation can be characterized by young planted pines and mature bottomland hardwoods. Dominant species in planted pine wetlands are loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), saw-tooth blackberry (*Rubus argutus*), dogfennel (*Eupatorium capillifolium*), common boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*), swamp smartweed (*Persicaria hydropiperoides*), round-head rush (*Juncus validus*), lamp rush (*Juncus effuses*), broom rosette grass (*Dichanthelium scoparium*), cypress rosette grass (*Dichanthelium dichotomum*), yellow-fruit rush (*Carex annectens*),

white-edge sedge (Carex debilis), common fox sedge (Carex vulpinoidea), marsh flat sedge (Cyperus pseudovegetus), rusty flat sedge (Cyperus odoratus), short-bristle horned beak sedge (Rhynchospora corniculata), slender wood-oats (Chasmanthium laxum), tall goldenrod (Solidago altissima), blunt spike-rush (Eleocharis obtusa), wing-leaf primrose-willow (Ludwigia decurrens), late goldenrod (Solidago gigantea), muscadine (Vitis rotundifolia), and American buckwheatvine (Brunnichia ovata). Tree species identified in mature hardwoods along stream corridors include willow oak (Quercus phellos), water oak (Quercus nigra), swamp chestnut oak (Quercus michauxii), sweetgum (Liquidambar styraciflua), southern bald-cypress (Taxodium distichum), American hornbeam (Carpinus caroliniana), common buttonbush (Cephalanthus occidentalis), southern arrow-wood (Viburnum dentatum), and southern bayberry (Morella cerifera).

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has mapped the soils in the proposed mitigation bank as Bowie fine sandy loam (Bw); Guyton-Ouachita silt loams, (Go); Eastwood very fine sandy loam (Ed); and Flo loamy fine sand (Fo). Only the Guyton-Ouachita silt loam is listed on the hydric soils list (NRCS 2015 National Hydric Soil List).

The proposed Three Creeks Mitigation Bank site is located in the Bayou D'Arbonne Watershed of the Ouachita River, within the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 08040206. The hydrogeomorphic wetland class of the proposed Three Creeks Mitigation Bank is a combination of riverine wetlands and depressional wetlands, with primary sources of hydrology from riverine backwater flooding, overland flow from adjacent lands, and direct precipitation.

The proposed work plan involves degrading beds created for establishing pine plantations, afforestation of wetlands and riparian buffers, fluvial geomorphological restoration of streams, and implementation of effective short-term management strategies to successfully establish the mitigation bank (see table below).

| HABITAT | ACREAGE | LINEAR FEET |
|--|---------|-------------|
| Jurisdictional Areas | | |
| Bottomland Hardwood Rehabilitation (Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands) | 96.09 | |
| Bottomland Hardwood Enhancement (Non-Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands) | 9.01 | |
| Cypress/Tupelo Swamp Enhancement | 9.16 | • |
| Bottomland Hardwood Preservation | 15.61 | |
| Stream Buffer Bottomland Hardwood Rehabilitation (Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands) | 35.53 | 7,195 |
| Stream Buffer Bottomland Hardwood | 5.19 | 1,051 |

| Enhancement (Non-Bedded Pine Dominant | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| Wetlands) | | |
| Stream Buffer Bottomland Hardwood Preservation | 32.72 | 6,626 |
| Intermittent Tributaries Preliminary Alignment and Riparian Buffer Corridor | 17.05 | 2,639 |
| Instream Preservation (Three Creeks) | 14.78 | 16,041 |
| TOTAL | 235.14 | 33,552 |
| Non-Jurisdictional Areas | | |
| Upland Buffer Restoration | 31.70 | |
| Upland Buffer Preservation | 1.82 | |
| Upland Stream Buffer Restoration | 2.38 | 482 |
| Upland Stream Buffer Preservation | 3.39 | 686 |
| Existing Roads | 1.13 | |
| TOTAL | 40.42 | 1,168 |

<u>Service Area</u>: 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 Regulatory Boundary in the state of Louisiana. The proposed service area for this mitigation bank is demarcated by the United States Geologic Survey as hydrologic unit codes 08040206 and 08040207. 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.

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. The prospectus, which outlines the conceptual plan for the bank, is available at the following website:

http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices.aspx
The prospectus is available for review at the Vicksburg District, Corps of
Engineers at the address given below. Please provide comments to:

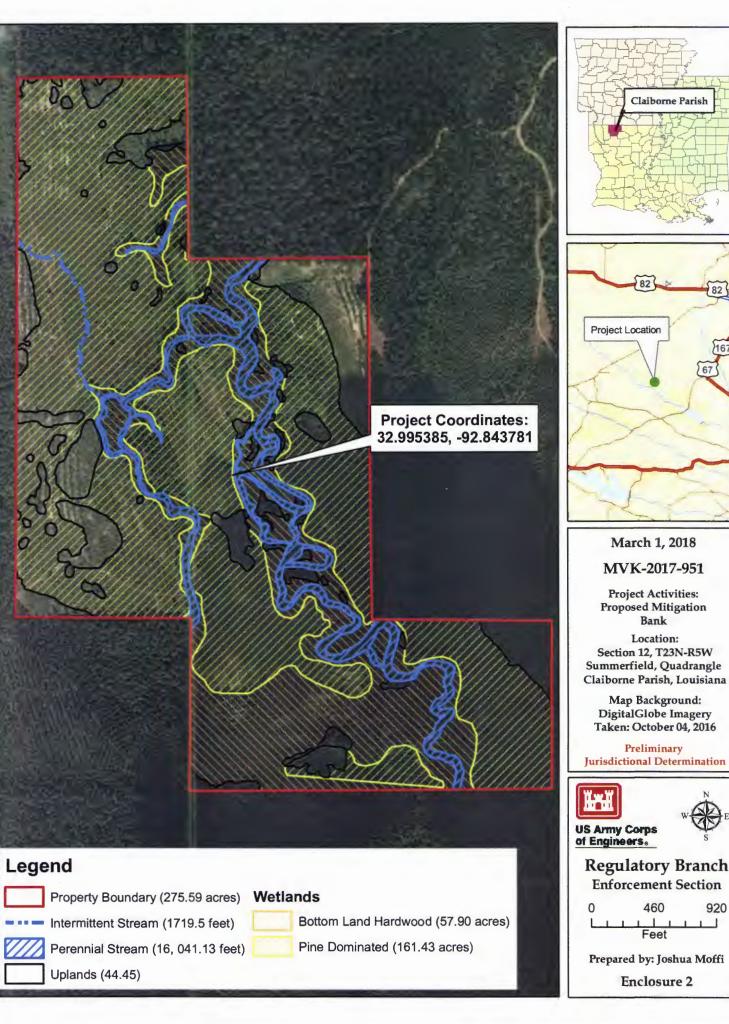
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District ATTN: CEMVK-OD-F 4155 Clay Street Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3485

Thomas A McCabe

Chief, Evaluation Section

Thomas A. Mª Cabe

Regulatory Branch







March 1, 2018

MVK-2017-951

Project Activities: Proposed Mitigation Bank

Location: Section 12, T23N-R5W Summerfield, Quadrangle

Map Background: DigitalGlobe Imagery Taken: October 04, 2016

Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination

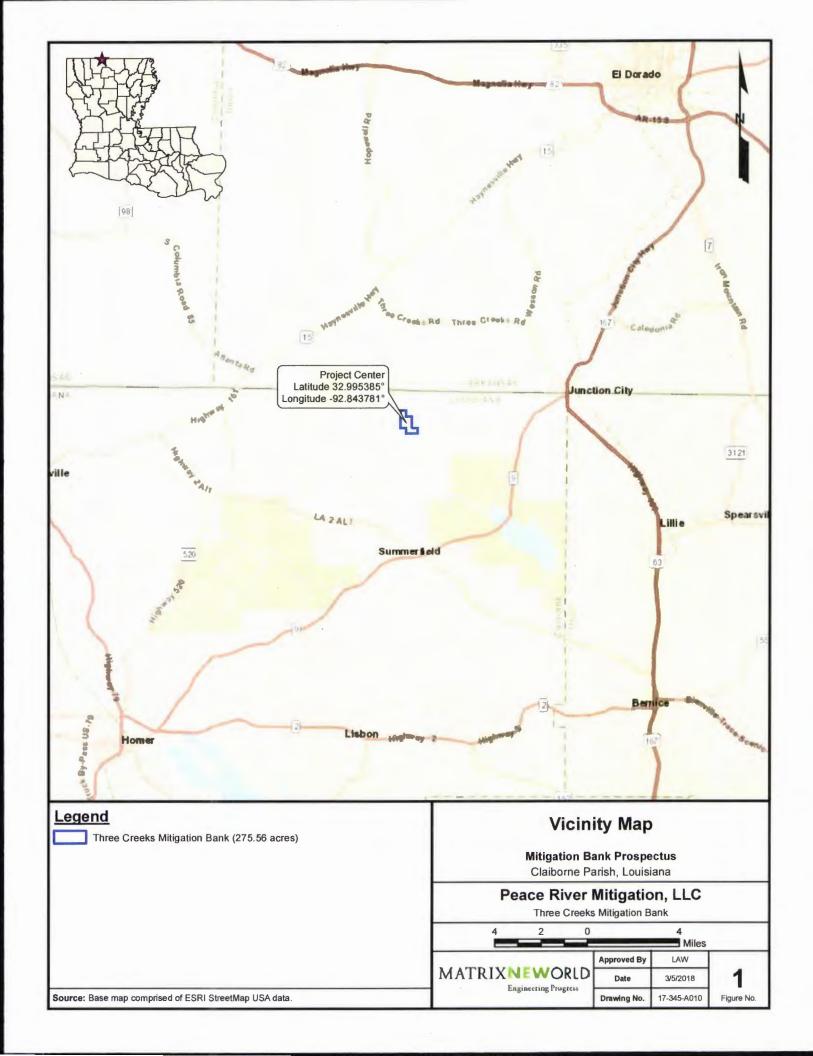


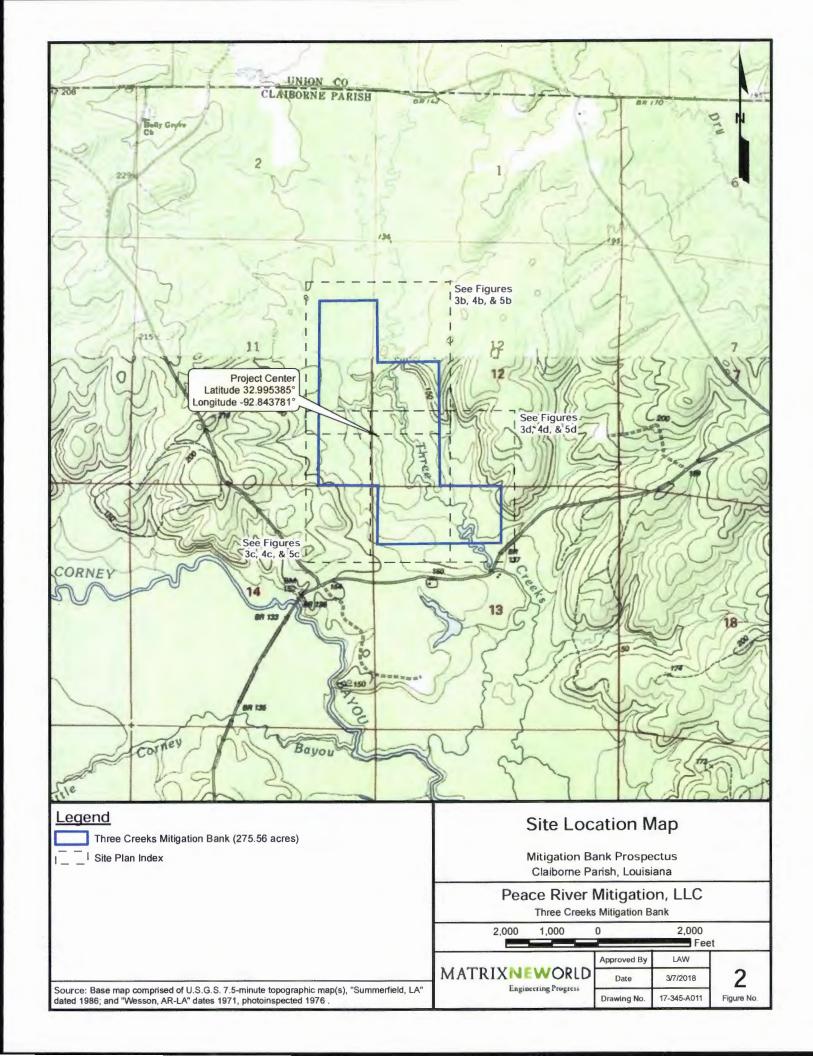
Regulatory Branch **Enforcement Section**

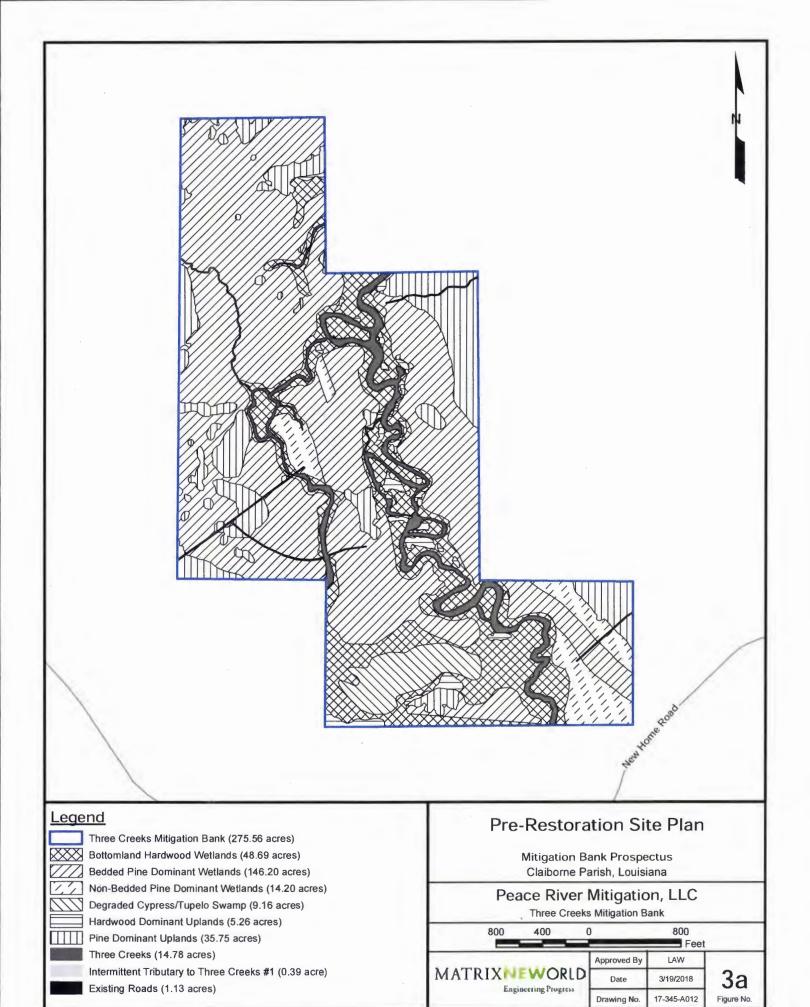
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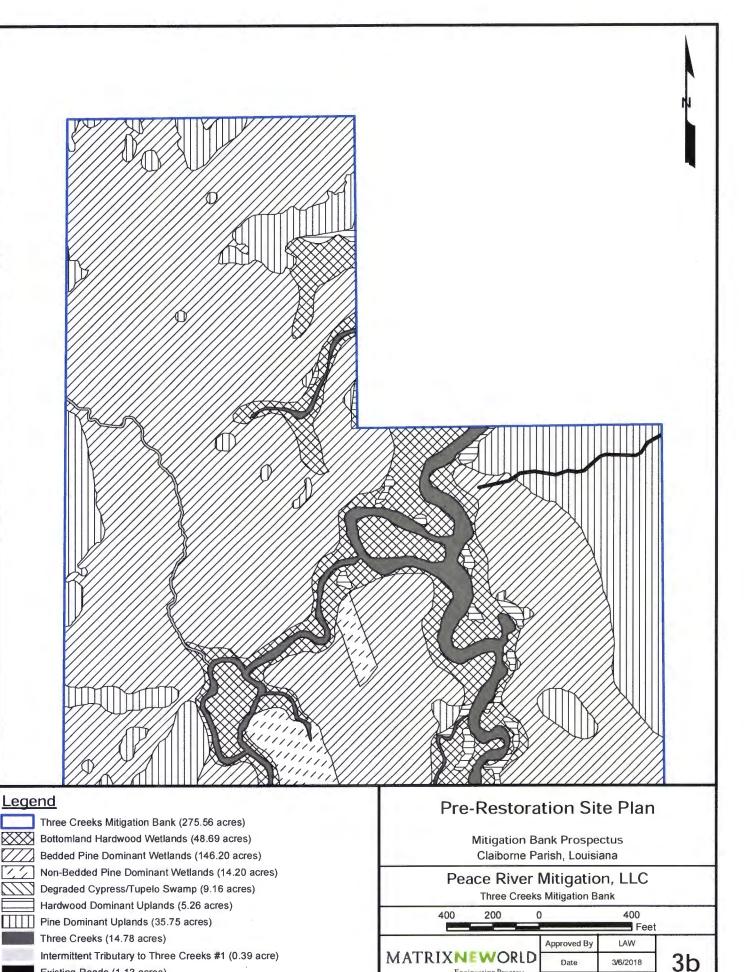
Prepared by: Joshua Moffi

Enclosure 2









Existing Roads (1.13 acres)

Date

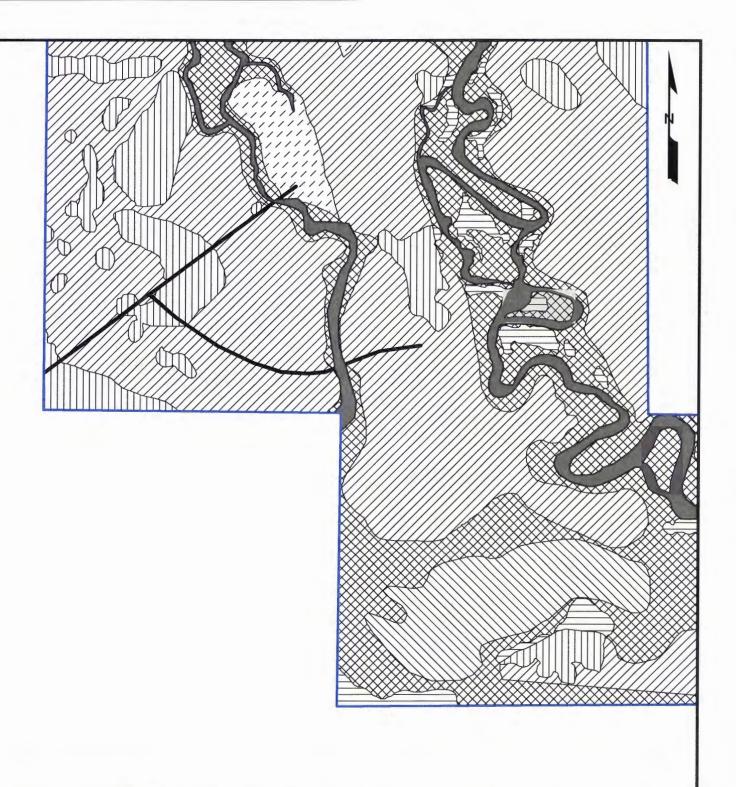
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Engineering Progress

3/6/2018

17-345-A013

Figure No.



Legend Thre

Three Creeks Mitigation Bank (275.56 acres)

Bottomland Hardwood Wetlands (48.69 acres)

Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands (146.20 acres)

Non-Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands (14.20 acres)

Degraded Cypress/Tupelo Swamp (9.16 acres)

Hardwood Dominant Uplands (5.26 acres)

Pine Dominant Uplands (35.75 acres)

Three Creeks (14.78 acres)

Intermittent Tributary to Three Creeks #1 (0.39 acre)

Existing Roads (1.13 acres)

Pre-Restoration Site Plan

Mitigation Bank Prospectus Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

Peace River Mitigation, LLC

Three Creeks Mitigation Bank

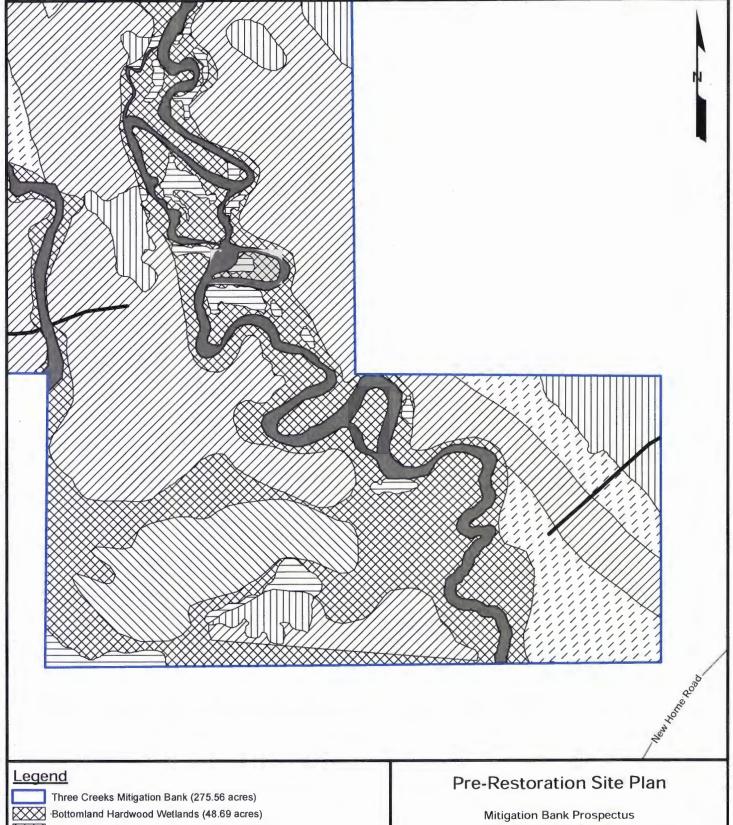
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Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands (146.20 acres)

Non-Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands (14.20 acres)

Degraded Cypress/Tupelo Swamp (9.16 acres)

Hardwood Dominant Uplands (5.26 acres)

Pine Dominant Uplands (35.75 acres)

Three Creeks (14.78 acres)

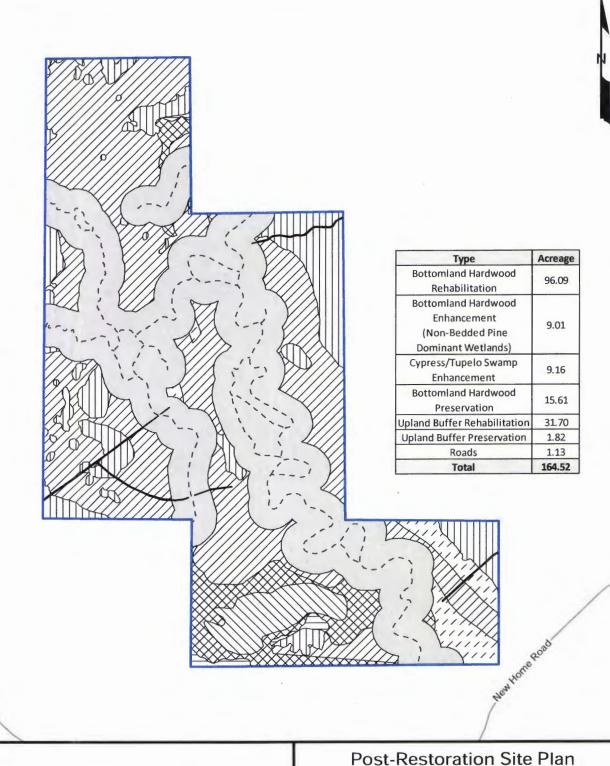
Intermittent Tributary to Three Creeks #1 (0.39 acre)

Existing Roads (1.13 acres)

Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

Peace River Mitigation, LLC

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Bottomland Hardwood Three Creeks Mitigation Bank (275.56 acres) Preservation Bottomland Hardwood Upland Buffer Rehabilitation Rehabilitation (Bedded Pine **Upland Buffer Preservation** Dominant Wetlands) **Existing Roads Bottomland Hardwood** Enhancement (Non-Bedded Stream Centerline Pine Dominant Wetlands) Streams and Stream Buffers Cypress/Tupelo Swamp Enhancement (See Figures 5a-5d)

Legend

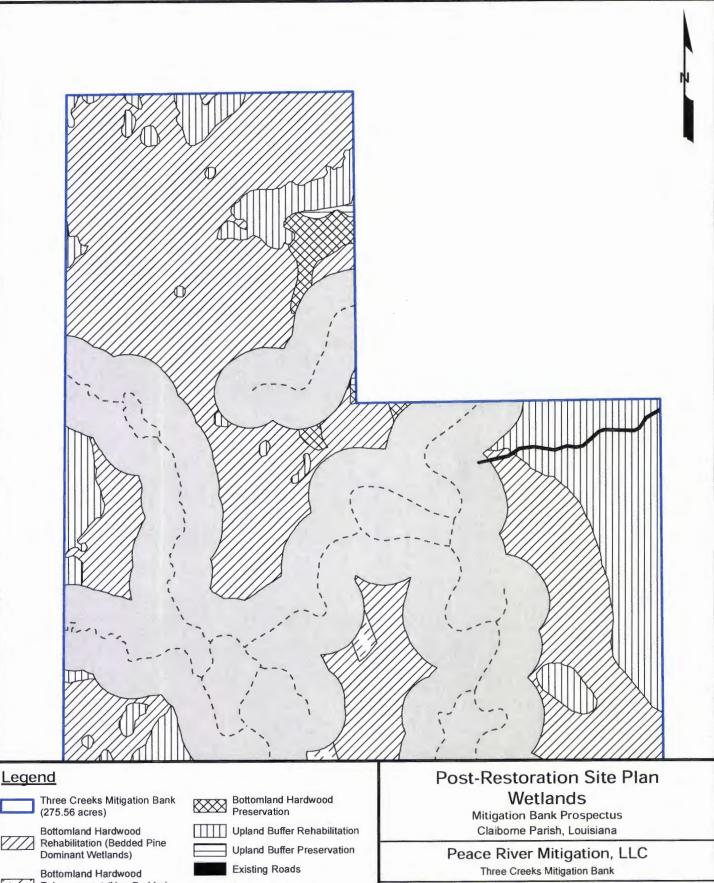
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Wetlands

Mitigation Bank Prospectus Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

Peace River Mitigation, LLC









Enhancement (Non-Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands)



Cypress/Tupelo Swamp Enhancement

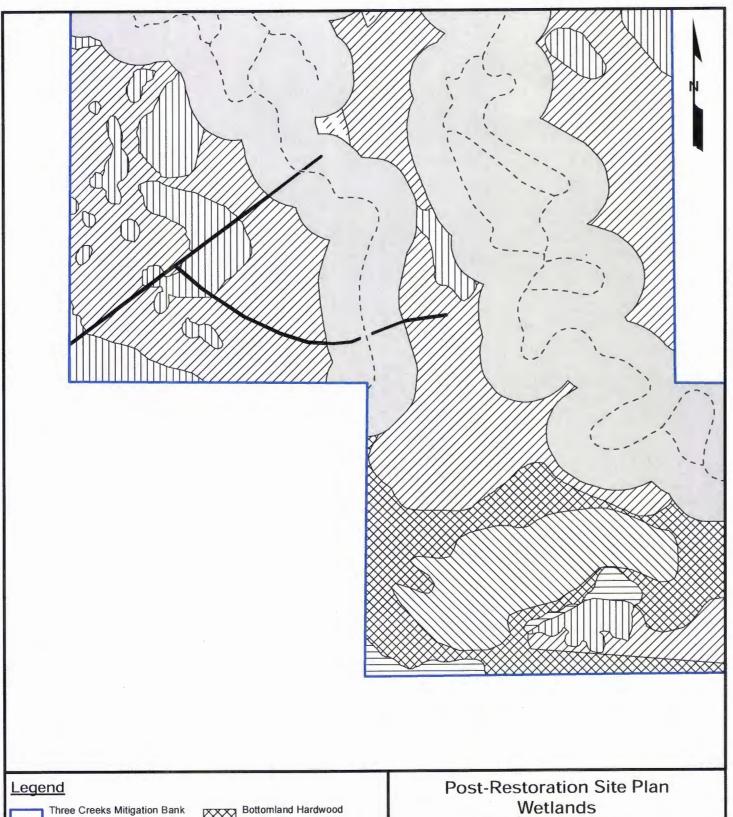


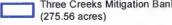
Stream Centerline



Streams and Stream Buffers (See Figures 5a-5d)

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Bottomland Hardwood Rehabilitation (Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands)

Bottomland Hardwood Enhancement (Non-Bedded Pine Dominant Wetlands)

Cypress/Tupelo Swamp Enhancement

Preservation

Upland Buffer Rehabilitation **Upland Buffer Preservation**

Existing Roads

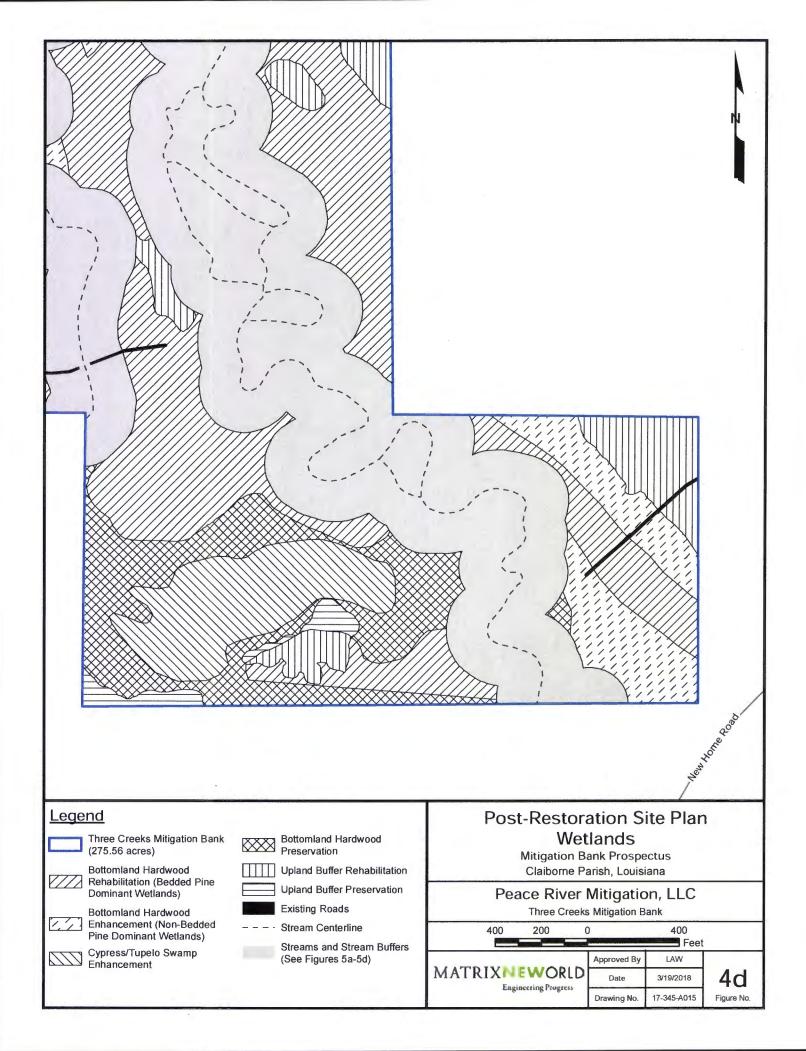
Stream Centerline

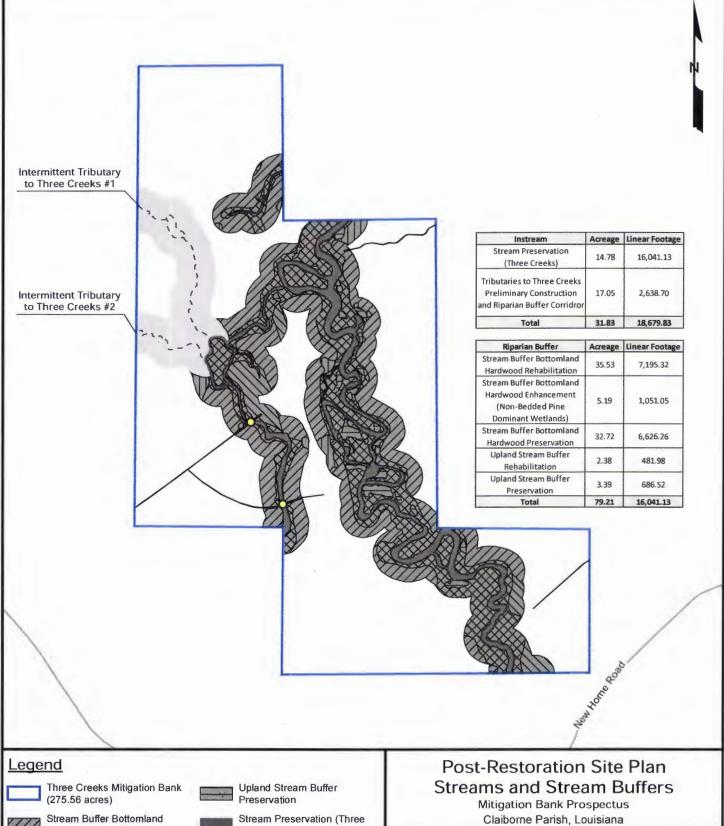
Streams and Stream Buffers (See Figures 5a-5d)

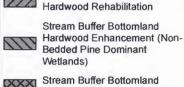
Mitigation Bank Prospectus Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

Peace River Mitigation, LLC

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Stream Buffer Bottomland Hardwood Preservation

Upland Stream Buffer Rehabilitation Stream Preservation (Three Creeks)

Intermittent Tributaries to Three Creeks

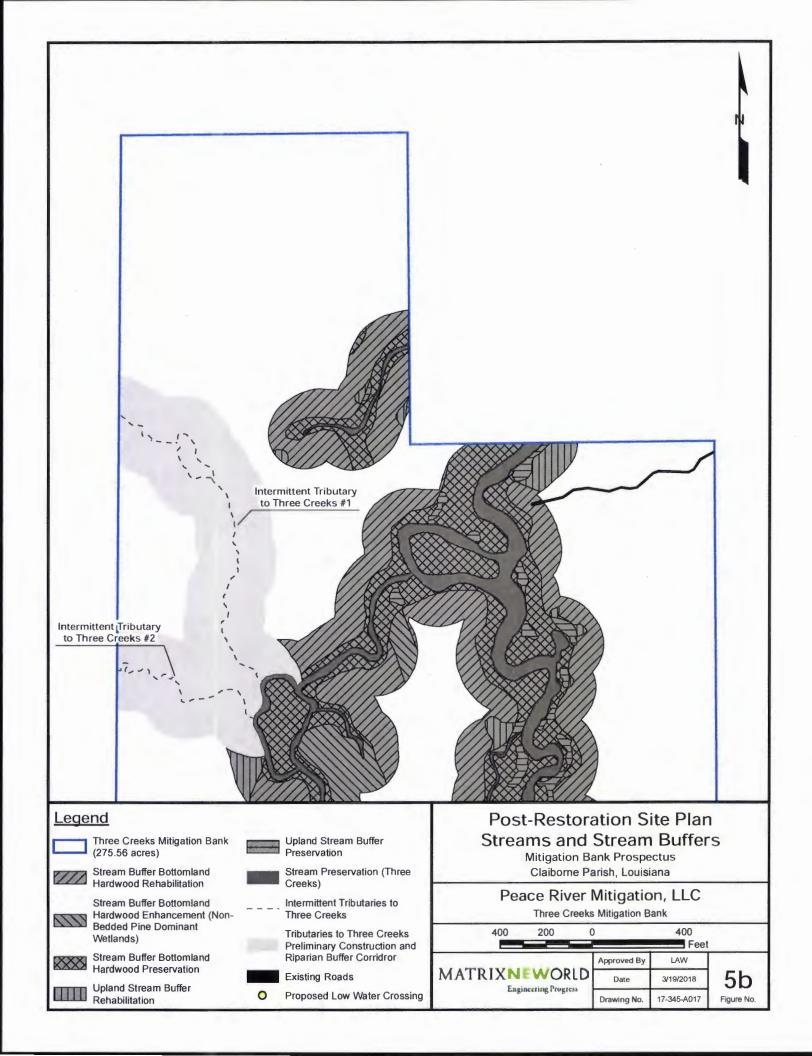
Tributaries to Three Creeks Preliminary Construction and Riparian Buffer Corridror

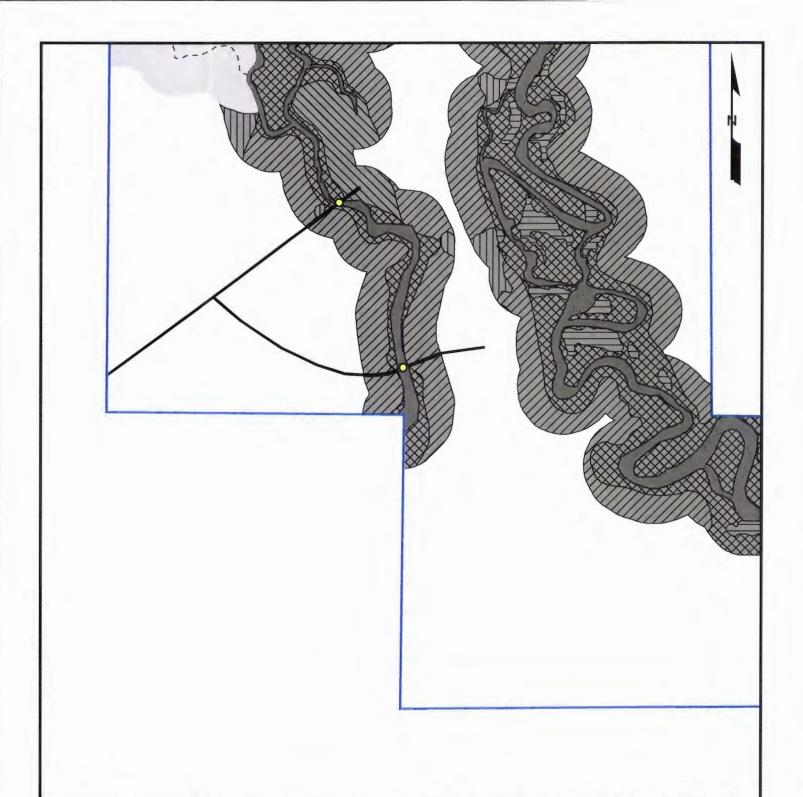
Existing Roads

Proposed Low Water Crossing

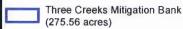
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Legend



Stream Buffer Bottomland Hardwood Rehabilitation

Stream Buffer Bottomland
Hardwood Enhancement (Non-Bedded Pine Dominant
Wetlands)

Stream Buffer Bottomland Hardwood Preservation

Upland Stream Buffer Rehabilitation



Stream Preservation (Three Creeks)

Intermittent Tributaries to Three Creeks

Tributaries to Three Creeks Preliminary Construction and Riparian Buffer Corridror

Existing Roads

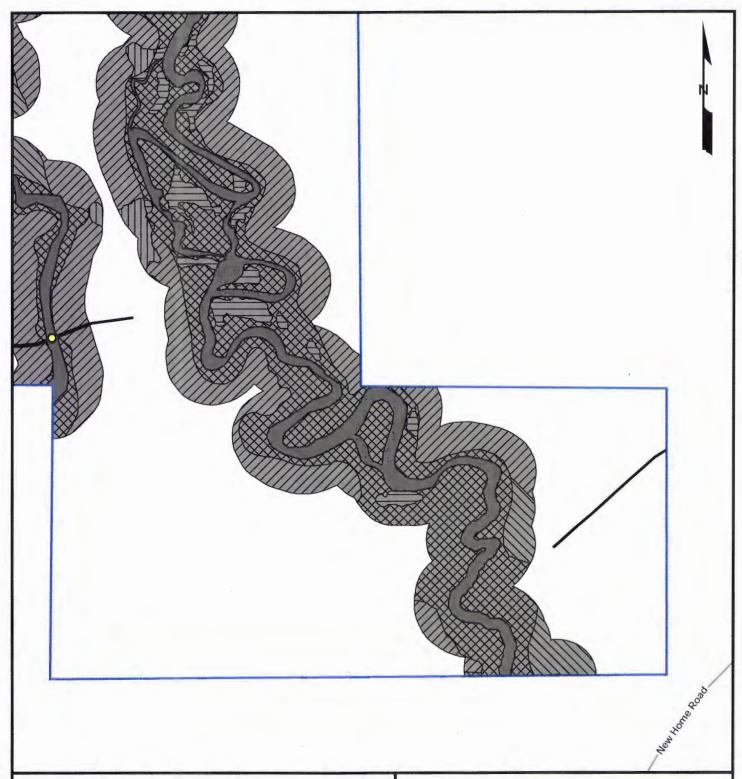
Proposed Low Water Crossing

Post-Restoration Site Plan Streams and Stream Buffers

Mitigation Bank Prospectus Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

Peace River Mitigation, LLC

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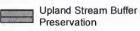
Three Creeks Mitigation Bank (275.56 acres)

Stream Buffer Bottomland Hardwood Rehabilitation

Stream Buffer Bottomland
Hardwood Enhancement (NonBedded Pine Dominant
Wetlands)

Stream Buffer Bottomland Hardwood Preservation

Upland Stream Buffer Rehabilitation



Stream Preservation (Three Creeks)

Intermittent Tributaries to Three Creeks

Tributaries to Three Creeks
Preliminary Construction and
Riparian Buffer Corridror

Existing Roads

Proposed Low Water Crossing

Post-Restoration Site Plan Streams and Stream Buffers

Mitigation Bank Prospectus Claiborne Parish, Louisiana

Peace River Mitigation, LLC

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