



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers.**

Vicksburg District  
4155 Clay Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435  
[www.mvk.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil)

# Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	MVK-2016-653
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Jennifer Brown
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-5147
E-MAIL:	Jennifer.G.Brown@usace.army.mil
DATE:	January 7, 2025
EXPIRATION DATE:	January 28, 2025

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 either be emailed to the project manager listed above, submitted through the Regulatory Request system at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs/public-notice>, or mailed in hard-copy 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 Water Quality Certification Improvement Rule (Certification Improvement Rule, 40 CFR 121), effective November 27, 2023, requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that has the potential to 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 not submitted a certification request to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (certifying authority). In accordance with Certification Improvement Rule, once the applicant submits a certification request, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the certifying authority will jointly establish the reasonable period of time for the certifying authority to act upon the certification request.

**Law Requiring a Permit:** Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

**Name of Applicant:**  
Mr. Aaron Farris  
Performance Proppants, LLC  
6356 Highway 3  
Benton, Louisiana 71006

**Name of Agent:**  
Mr. Chad Turner  
Providence Engineering and  
Environmental Group, LLC  
1201 Main Street  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

**Location of Work:** Section 36, Township 19 North, Range 14 West; Latitude 32.606082, Longitude -93.760074; Along the Left-Descending Bank of the Red River, 8-digit HUC 11140202; Bossier Parish and Caddo Parish, Louisiana.

**Description of Work:** (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The applicant (Performance Proppants, LLC) proposes to mechanically excavate additional areas adjacent to their existing “Hat Creek Sand Mine” mining operation to meet increased commercial demand for sand. The four proposed expansion areas (totaling 52.61 acres) include 0.58 acres of emergent wetlands, 15.59 acres of forested wetlands and additional open water spaces. Existing vegetation would be cleared from the sites and removed to an upland area. Overburden would be excavated, transported via truck to the nearby mine facility and processed for future use and/or sale. The applicant proposes to dredge the “Area 4” areas down to an elevation of 130 feet NAV88 using barge-mounted dredges. The new clearing, stripping, and dredging of the additional wetlands and open waters would require a modification to Performance Proppants, LLC’s existing Section 10/404 Department of the Army permit which currently expires on August 5, 2027. To offset the wetland functional losses, the Applicant proposes to purchase compensatory mitigation credits.

Performance Proppants, LLC first received a Department of the Army permit in 2017 for regulated impacts to 27.18 acres of wetlands. A permit modification was authorized in 2018 for the construction of a pipeline (boring under the Red River). A subsequent permit modification was authorized in 2022 for regulated discharges and dredging work in “Area 3” (20.37 acres of wetlands and 20.75 acres of other waters). In 2024, a permit modification was authorized for the expansion of the mine to include dredging of a Red River sandbar (approximately 60 acres) down to elevation 145 feet NAV88, access road construction and the withdrawal of water from the Red River to flood the mining pits.

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.

**State Water Quality Permit:** 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.

**Cultural Resources:** The Regulatory Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. The Regulatory Division has determined that there is no potential to cause effect to cultural resources.

**Endangered Species:** The Threatened and Endangered Species list for the proposed project area includes the red-cockaded woodpecker (threatened), the tricolored bat (proposed endangered), the alligator snapping turtle (proposed threatened) and the monarch butterfly (proposed threatened). Utilizing the Information for Planning and Consultation tool for Endangered Species in Louisiana (as per Memorandum of Agreement, signed on January 14, 2020, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Louisiana Ecological Services Office), the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would have no effect on the Red cockaded woodpecker. Additionally, the Corps has determined that the proposed expansion activities would not jeopardize the continued existence of the tricolored bat, alligator snapping turtle or monarch butterfly.

**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 proposed project is 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.

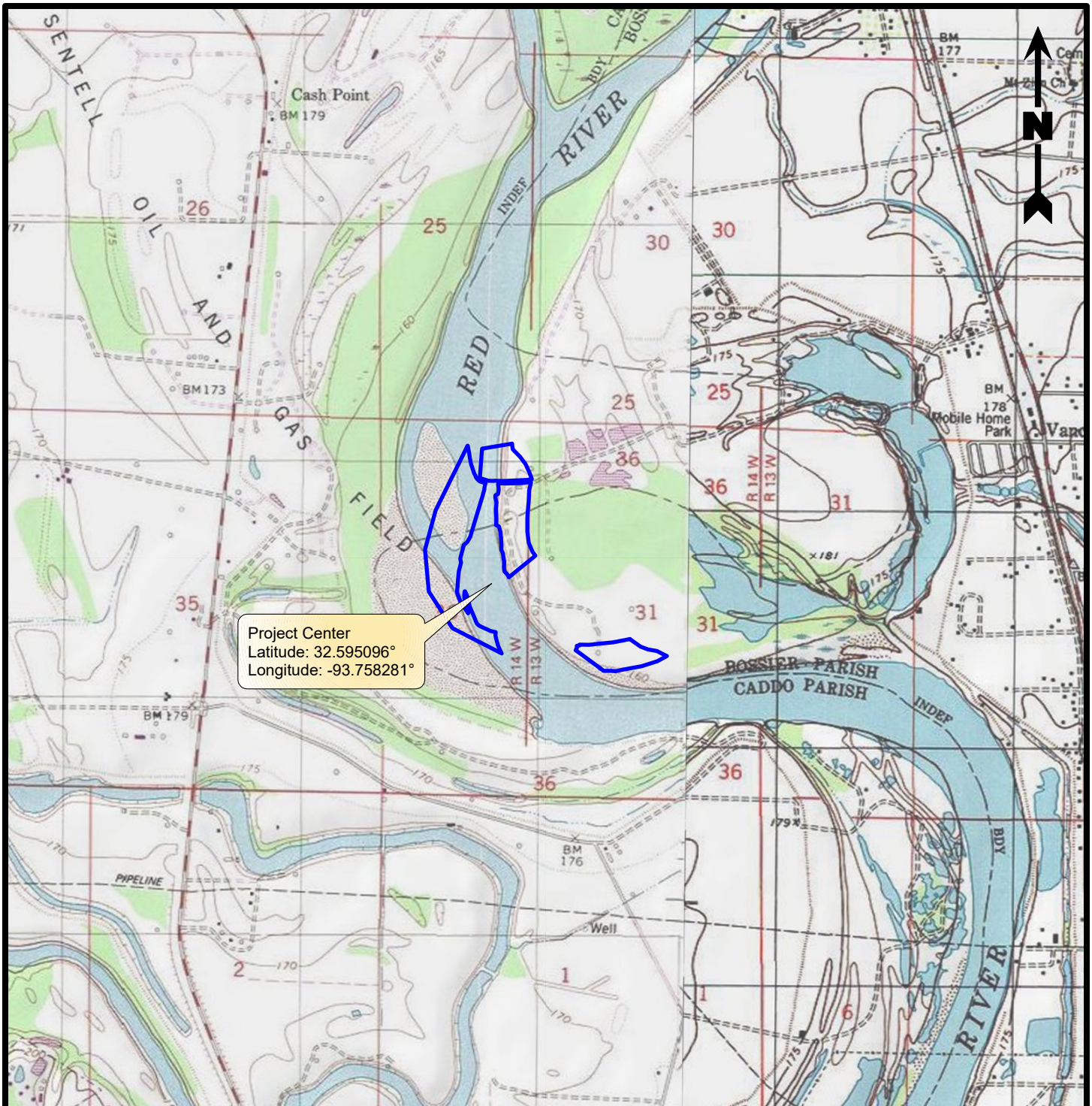
**Opportunity for a Public Hearing:** Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on 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>.

**Andy Sanderson  
Chief, Arkansas and Louisiana Branch  
Regulatory Division**





2,000 1,000 0 2,000  
Feet

## Legend

Project Area (52.61 Acres)

## Reference

Base map comprised of United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic maps, "North Highlands, LA" and "Bossier City, LA".

## Site Location Map

Section 10/404 Permit Modification  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

## Performance Proppants, LLC

Hat Creek Sand Mine – Area 4 Expansion

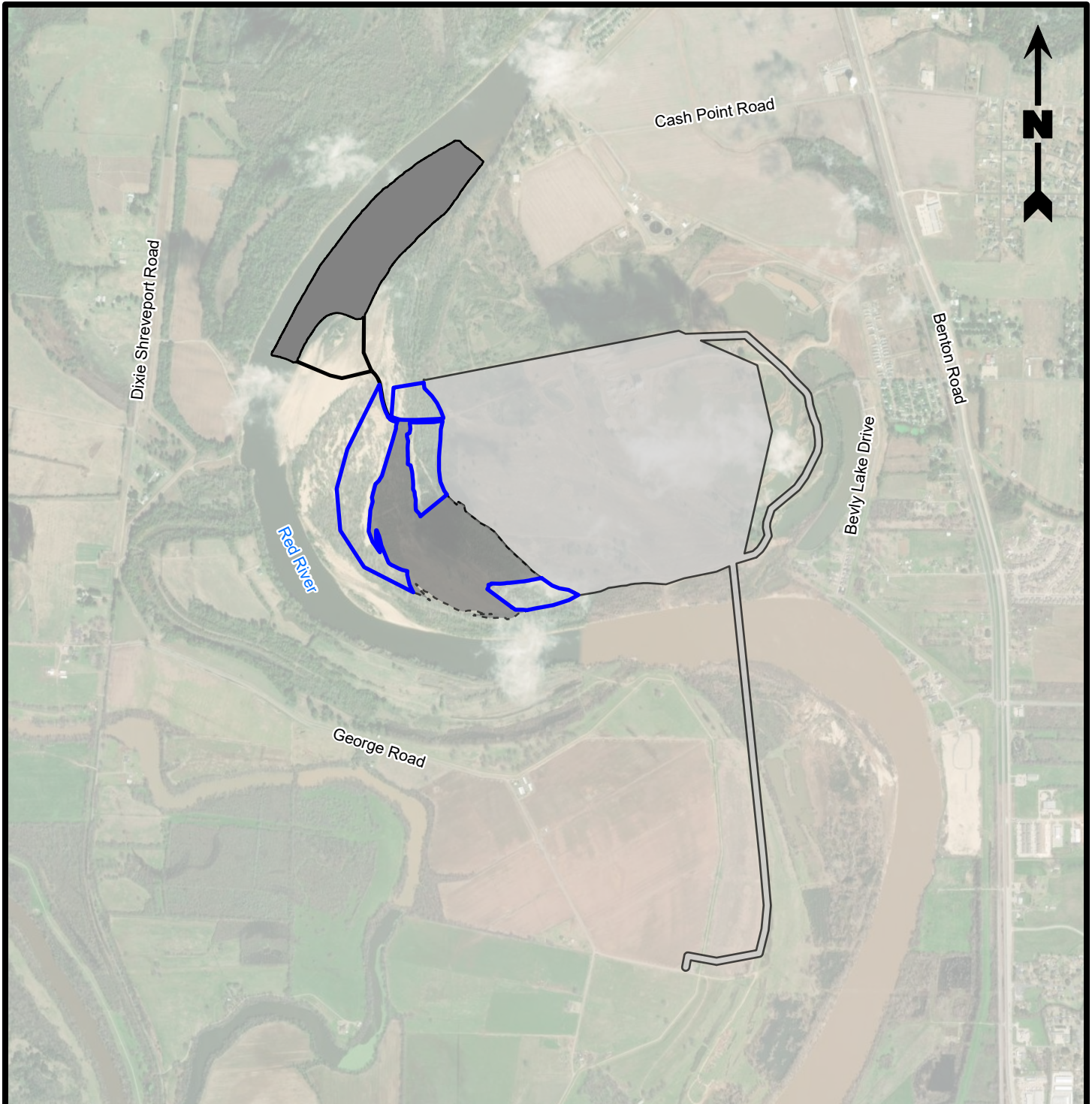


**PROVIDENCE**

Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24

Project Number 1148-001	<b>2</b> Figure
Drawing Number 1148-001-A121	





2,000 1,000 0 2,000  
Feet

## Legend

- Project Area (52.61 Acres)
- Previously Permitted Project Area (MVK-2016-653) (09/24/24)
- Previously Permitted Project Area (MVK-2016-653) (08/02/22)
- Previously Permitted Project Area (MVK-2016-653) (12/20/17)

## Reference

Base map comprised of ESRI World Imagery.

## Project Overview

**Section 10/404 Permit Modification**  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

**Performance Proppants, LLC**  
Hat Creek Sand Mine – Area 4 Expansion



**PROVIDENCE**

Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24

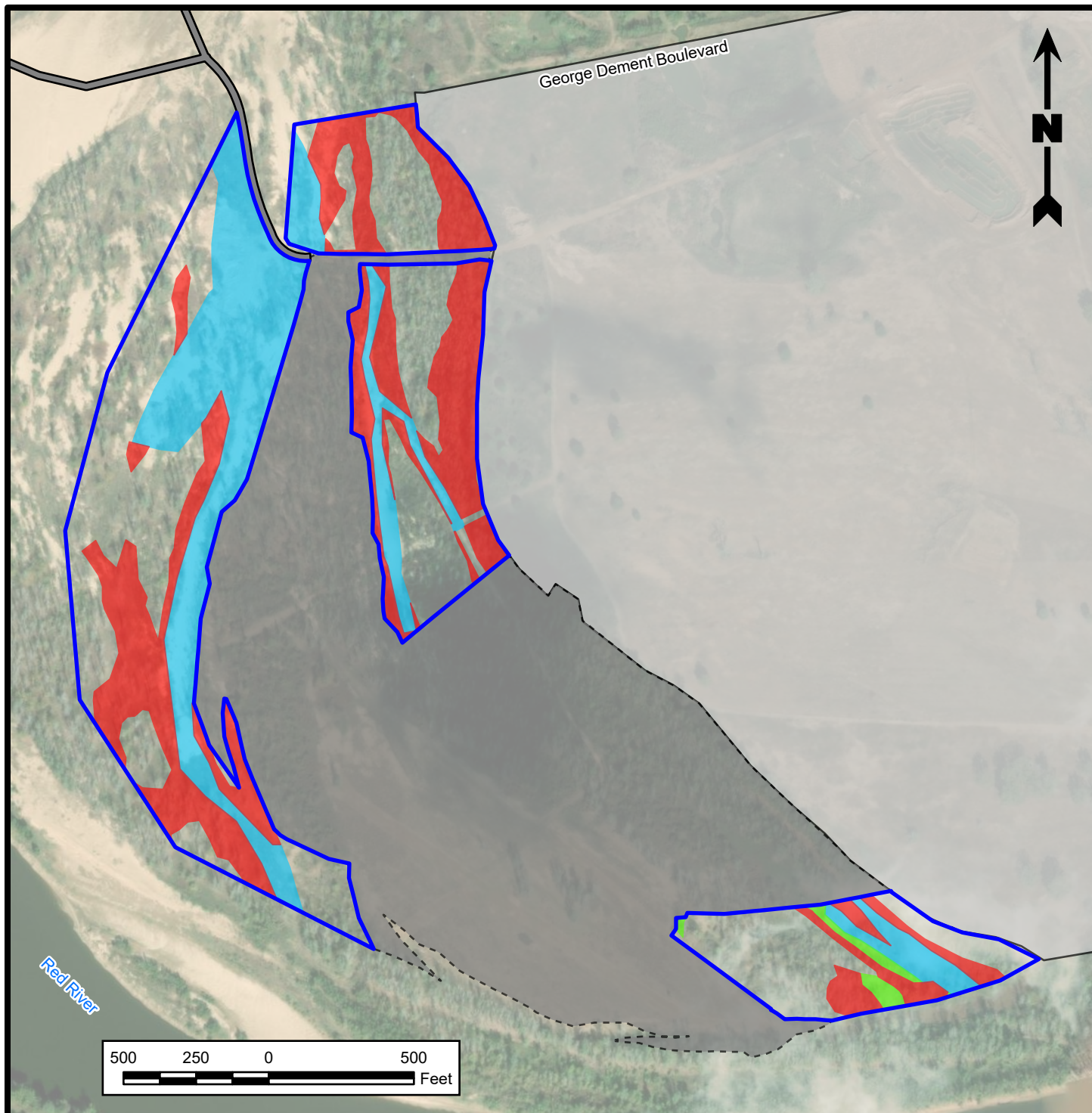
Project Number  
1148-001

Drawing Number  
1148-001-A122

**3**

Figure





## Legend

- Project Area (52.61 Acres)
- Impacted PEM Wetlands (0.58 Acre)
- Impacted PFO Wetlands (15.59 Acres)
- Impacted Waters (13.73 Acres)
- Previously Permitted Project Area (MVK-2016-653) (12/20/17)
- Previously Permitted Project Area (MVK-2016-653) (08/02/22)
- Previously Permitted Project Area (MVK-2016-653) (09/24/24)

## Reference

Base map comprised of ESRI World Imagery.

## Site Plan

**Section 10/404 Permit Modification**  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

**Performance Proppants, LLC**  
Hat Creek Sand Mine – Area 4 Expansion

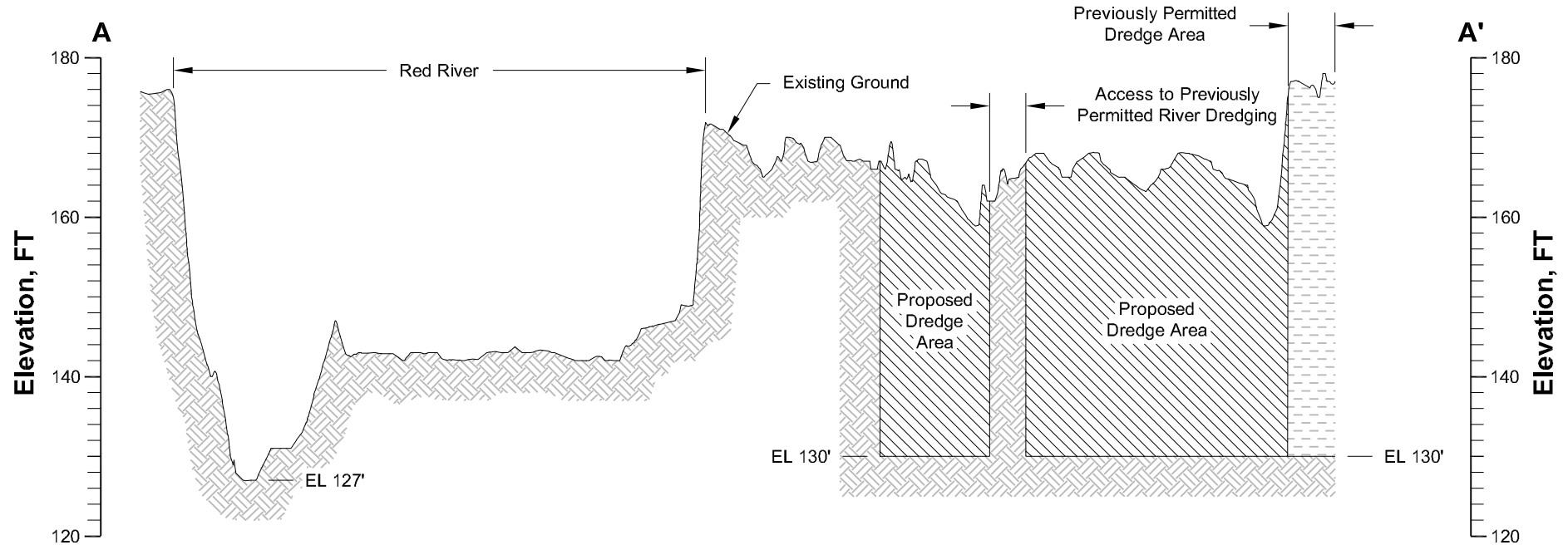


**PROVIDENCE**



Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24

Project Number  
1148-001  
Drawing Number  
1148-001-A123

**4**  
Figure

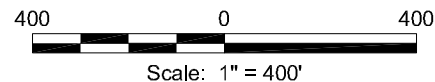


## Legend

-  Proposed Dredge to EL 130' (52.61 Acres/2,870,369.62 yd<sup>3</sup>)
-  Previously Permitted Dredge Area

## Reference

Cross sections generated from survey data collected January 27, 2022 by Forte and Tablada and client-provided figure packet titled: Hat Creek Facility Wet Sand Expansion, project number: 221007, dated: February 2022, transect no: 1.



## Cross Section A-A'

**Section 10/404 Permit Modification**  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

**Performance Proppants, LLC**  
Hat Creek Sand Mine - Area 4 Expansion



**PROVIDENCE**

Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24

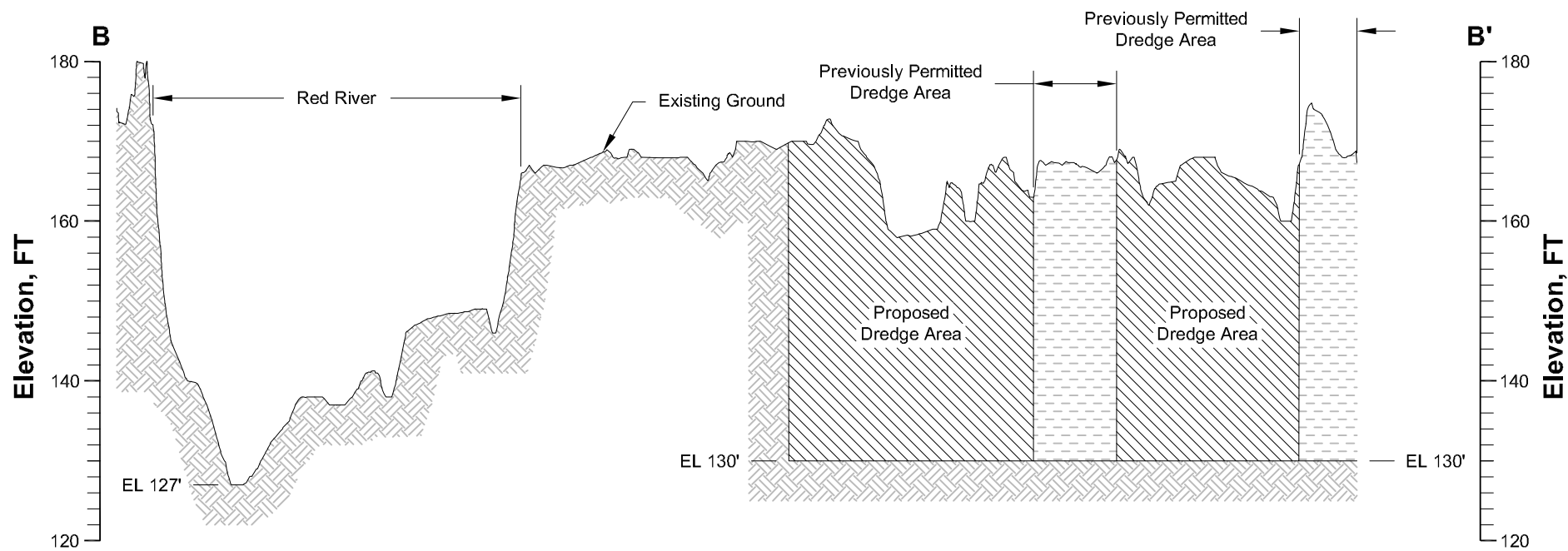
Project Number  
1148-001

Drawing Number  
1148-001-A125

**6**

Figure






### Section B-B'

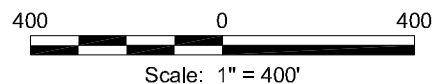
Horizontal Scale: 1" = 400'  
Vertical Scale: 1" = 20'

### Legend

-  Proposed Dredge to EL 130' (52.61 Acres/2,870,369.62 yd<sup>3</sup>)
-  Previously Permitted Dredge Area

### Reference

Cross sections generated from survey data collected January 27, 2022 by Forte and Tablada and client-provided figure packet titled: Hat Creek Facility Wet Sand Expansion, project number: 221007, dated: February 2022, transect no: 3.



### Cross Section B-B'

**Section 10/404 Permit Modification**  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

**Performance Proppants, LLC**  
Hat Creek Sand Mine - Area 4 Expansion



**PROVIDENCE**

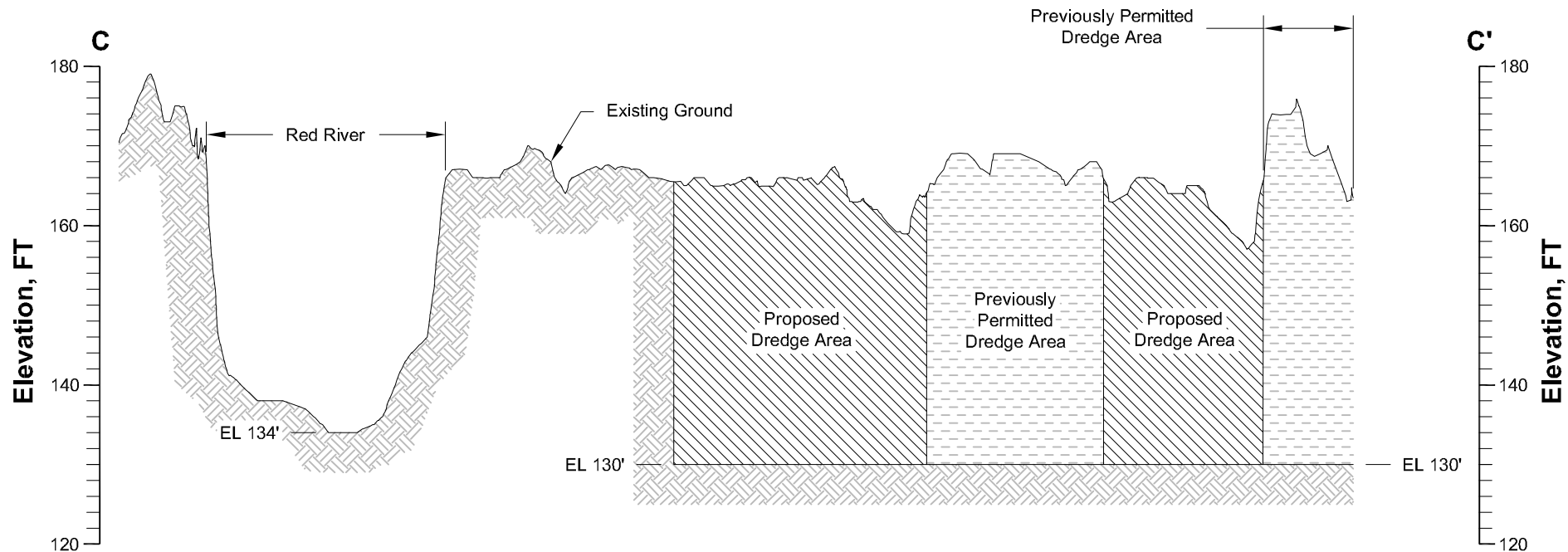
Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24

Project Number  
1148-001

Drawing Number  
1148-001-A126

**7**



Figure



### Section C-C'

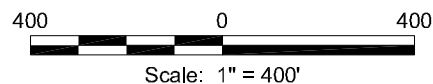
Horizontal Scale: 1" = 400'  
Vertical Scale: 1" = 20'

### Legend

-  Proposed Dredge to EL 130' (52.61 Acres/2,870,369.62 yd³)
-  Previously Permitted Dredge Area

### Reference

Cross sections generated from survey data collected January 27, 2022 by Forte and Tablada and client-provided figure packet titled: Hat Creek Facility Wet Sand Expansion, project number: 221007, dated: February 2022, transect no: 6.



### Cross Section C-C'

Section 10/404 Permit Modification  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

**Performance Proppants, LLC**  
Hat Creek Sand Mine - Area 4 Expansion



**PROVIDENCE**

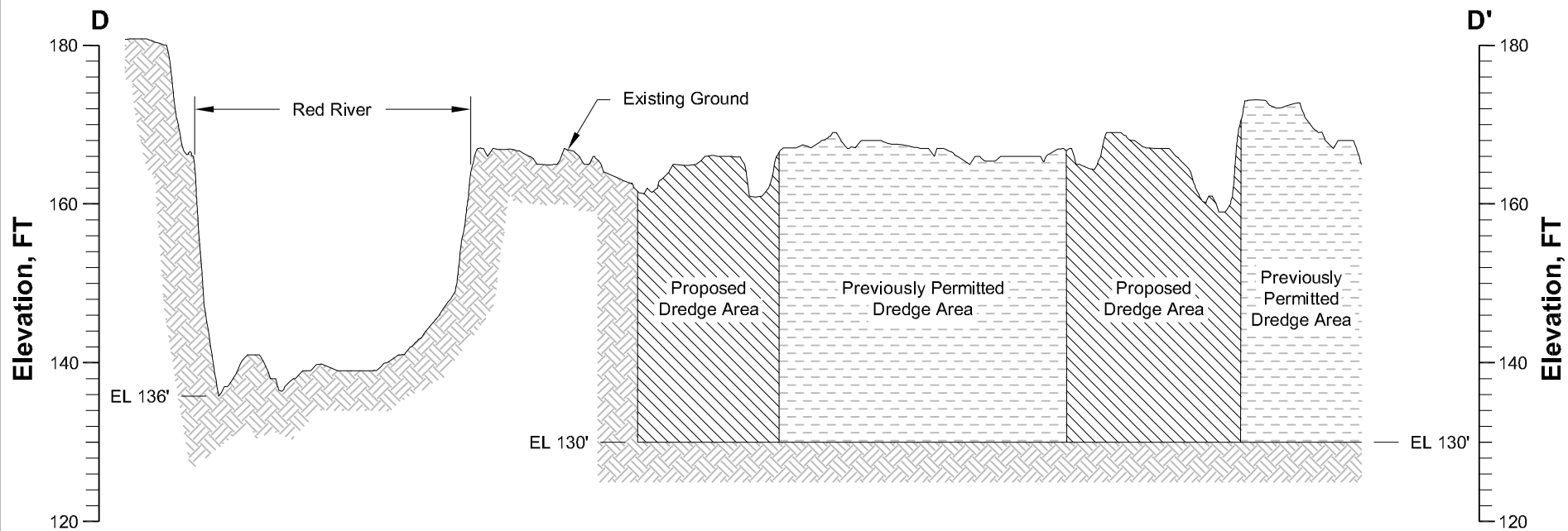
Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24

Project Number  
1148-001


Drawing Number  
1148-001-A127

**8**

Figure

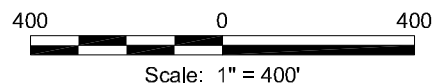


## Legend

-  Proposed Dredge to EL 130' (52.61 Acres/2,870,369.62 yd³)
-  Previously Permitted Dredge Area

## Reference

Cross sections generated from survey data collected January 27, 2022 by Forte and Tablada and client-provided figure packet titled: Hat Creek Facility Wet Sand Expansion, project number: 221007, dated: February 2022, transect no: 9.



## Cross Section D-D'

**Section 10/404 Permit Modification**  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

**Performance Proppants, LLC**  
Hat Creek Sand Mine - Area 4 Expansion



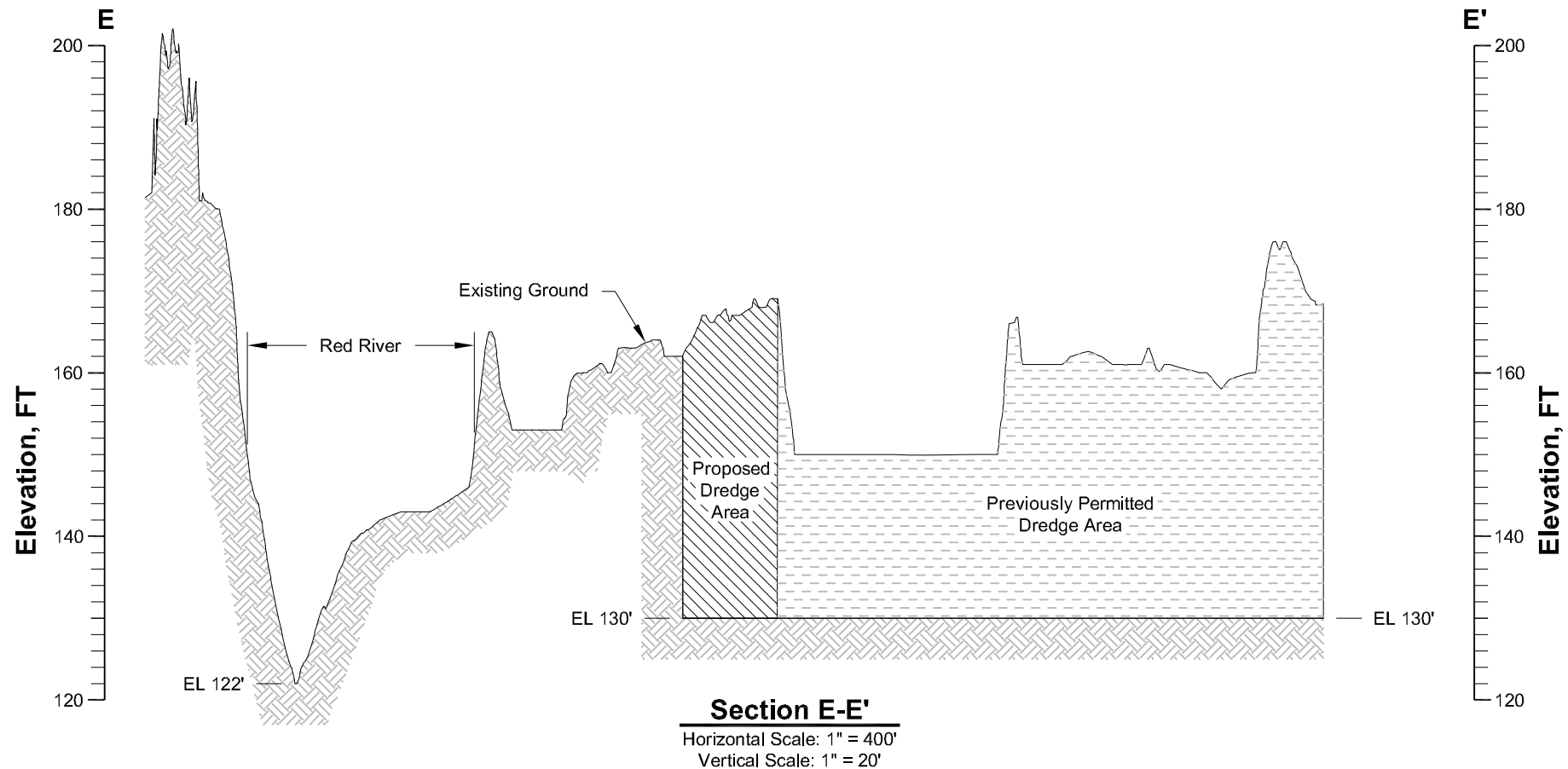
**PROVIDENCE**

Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24



Project Number  
1148-001  
Drawing Number  
1148-001-A128

**9**  
Figure



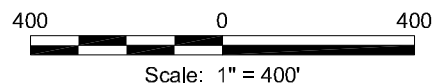


## Legend

-  Proposed Dredge to EL 130' (52.61 Acres/2,870,369.62 yd<sup>3</sup>)
-  Previously Permitted Dredge Area

## Reference

Cross sections generated from survey data collected January 27, 2022 by Forte and Tablada and client-provided figure packet titled: Hat Creek Facility Wet Sand Expansion, project number: 221007, dated: February 2022, transect no: 13.



## Cross Section E-E'

**Section 10/404 Permit Modification**  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

**Performance Proppants, LLC**  
Hat Creek Sand Mine - Area 4 Expansion



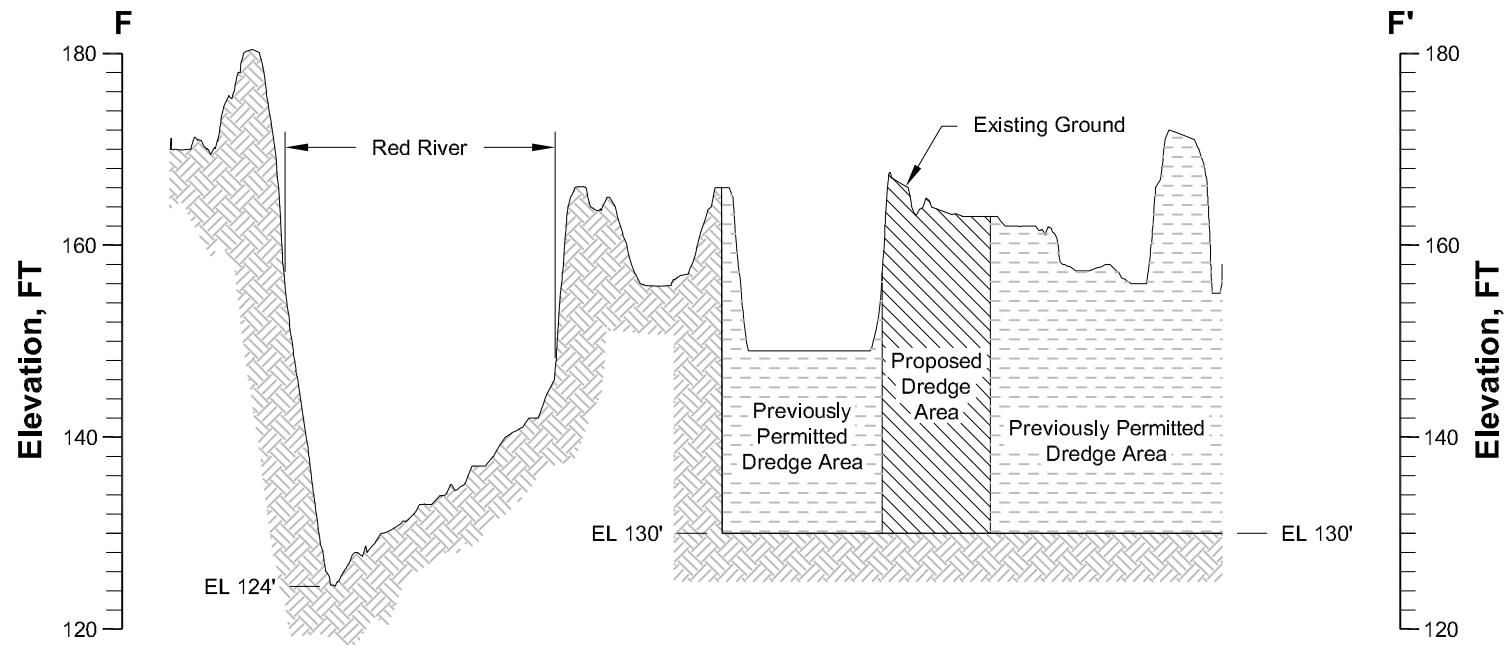
**PROVIDENCE**

Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24

Project Number  
1148-001

Drawing Number  
1148-001-A129



**10**  
Figure



### Section F-F'

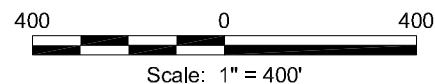
Horizontal Scale: 1" = 400'  
Vertical Scale: 1" = 20'

### Legend

-  Proposed Dredge to EL 130' (52.61 Acres/2,870,369.62 yd<sup>3</sup>)
-  Previously Permitted Dredge Area

### Reference

Cross sections generated from survey data collected January 27, 2022 by Forte and Tablada and client-provided figure packet titled: Hat Creek Facility Wet Sand Expansion, project number: 221007, dated: February 2022, transect no: 19.



### Cross Section F-F'

Section 10/404 Permit Modification  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

**Performance Proppants, LLC**  
Hat Creek Sand Mine - Area 4 Expansion



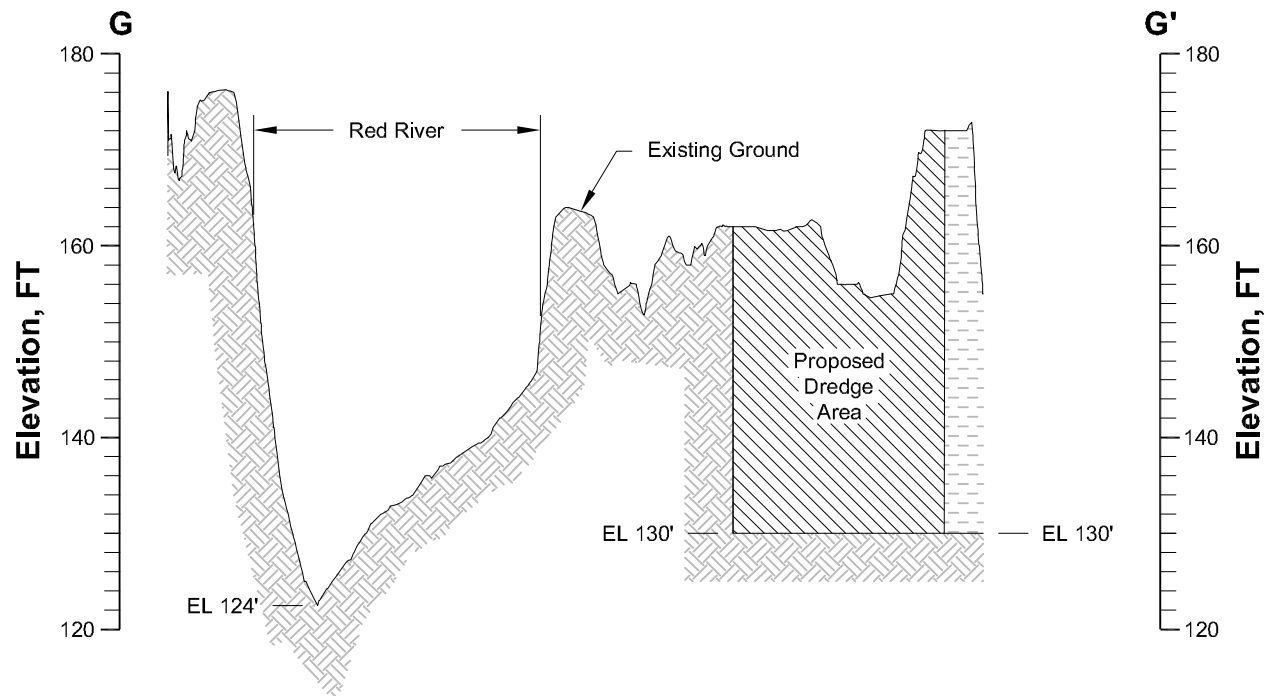
**PROVIDENCE**

Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24

Project Number  
1148-001

Drawing Number  
1148-001-A130



**11**  
Figure



### Section G-G'

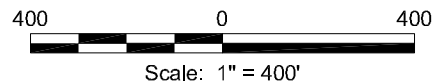
Horizontal Scale: 1" = 400'  
Vertical Scale: 1" = 20'

### Legend

-  Proposed Dredge to EL 130' (52.61 Acres/2,870,369.62 yd<sup>3</sup>)
-  Previously Permitted Dredge Area

### Reference

Cross sections generated from survey data collected January 27, 2022 by Forte and Tablada and client-provided figure packet titled: Hat Creek Facility Wet Sand Expansion, project number: 221007, dated: February 2022, transect no: 22.



### Cross Section G-G'

**Section 10/404 Permit Modification**  
Bossier and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana

**Performance Proppants, LLC**  
Hat Creek Sand Mine - Area 4 Expansion



**PROVIDENCE**

Drawn By	LMM	11/04/24
Checked By	JTL	11/04/24
Approved By	MM	11/04/24

Project Number  
1148-001

Drawing Number  
1148-001-A131

**12**  
Figure