



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant:
Tom Farmer
City of Benton

Published: June 13, 2025
Expires: July 4, 2025

**Vicksburg District
Permit Application No. MVK-2025-00189**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The Vicksburg District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1344) **and/or** Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. §403). The purpose of this public notice is to solicit comments from the public regarding the work described below:

APPLICANT: Tom Farmer
City of Benton
Post Office Box 607
Benton, Arkansas 72018

AGENT: Jimmy Rogers
ECCI
13000 Cantrell Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72223

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: The project would affect waters of the United States associated with the Saline River. The project/review area is located on the West side of the Saline River, Benton, Arkansas in 17 Section, 2S Township, 15W Range; at Latitude 34.554N and Longitude -92.626 in Saline County, Arkansas.

EXISTING CONDITIONS: The section of river that would be impacted by the proposed work is a maintained and controlled stretch of river that runs around Benton, Arkansas. The proposed project area is located in an existing and maintained floodplain dominated by emergent vegetation with scrub/shrub wetlands and forested riparian corridors.

PROJECT PURPOSE: The project purpose is to develop an RV Park and Sports Complex for the recreational use of the citizens of Benton and visitors to the area. The RV Park will include camping areas, roadways, restrooms facilities, an entertainment pavilion, shuffleboard courts and a carport for golf carts. The Sports Complex will include a soccer/sport facility and parking areas. There will be other components throughout both the RV Park and Sports Complex that include a playground, dog park and multi-use trails. A fishing pier is also proposed to be constructed and will be located on the bank of the Saline River. Components of the RV Park, Sports Complex and fishing pier will result in impacts to waters of the U.S.

Basic: Recreational Facility

Overall: To construct a recreational facility which will include an RV Park and Sports Complex and a single concrete structure that will serve as a fishing pier/kayak dock and boat ramp, in the city of Benton, Saline County, Arkansas

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant requests authorization for the deposition of fill into a Section 10 waterway (Saline River) for the construction of a concrete fishing pier/kayak dock and boat ramp, and the deposition of fill into Section 404 aquatic resources for the development of an RV park and Sports Complex.

The proposed work area encompasses approximately 85 acres of floodplain and approximately 100 linear feet of riverbank (Saline River) which would be developed into a concrete fishing pier/kayak dock and boat ramp. Impacts from the proposed work would include:

- A. Approximately 0.026 acres of Section 10 waters of the U.S. (fill), concrete fishing pier/kayak dock and boat ramp (81 cubic yards).
- B. Approximately 8.1 acres of (palustrine scrub/shrub ((PSS) wetlands) Section 404 waters of the U.S. (structure), RV Park and Sports Complex.
- C. Approximately 340 Linear Feet of (Intermittent Stream) Section 404 waters of the U.S. (fill), RV Park and Sports Complex.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: The site selection has been developed to avoid impacts to jurisdictional aquatic resources to the greatest extent possible.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: The applicant is proposing to mitigate for the unavoidable impacts of approximately 8.1 acres of (PSS) wetlands) Section 404 waters (fill) and 340 linear feet of (Intermittent Stream) Section 404 waters (fill) with the purchase of compensatory mitigation credits from an USACE approved mitigation bank.

CULTURAL RESOURCES:

The Corps is evaluating the undertaking for effects to historic properties as required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This public notice serves to inform the public of the proposed undertaking and invites comments including those from local, State, and Federal government Agencies with respect to historic resources. Our final determination relative to historic resource impacts may be subject to additional coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer, federally recognized tribes and other interested parties.

The District Engineer's final eligibility and effect determination will be made with full consideration given to the proposed undertaking's potential direct and indirect effects on historic properties within the Corps-identified permit area.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The Corps has performed an initial review of the application utilizing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) to determine if any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat may occur in the vicinity of the proposed project. Based on this initial review, the below listed species may occur within the proposed project area. The Corps is still reviewing potential impacts to the listed species for an effects determination and will coordinate with USFWS as necessary.

Alligator Snapping Turtle
Indiana Bat
Tricolored Bat
Eastern Black Rail

Piping Plover
Rufa red Knot
Arkansas Fatmucket
Ouachita Fanshell

Pink Mucket
Rabbitsfoot
Winged Mapleleaf

Pursuant to Section 7 ESA, any required consultation with the Service(s) will be conducted in accordance with 50 CFR part 402.

The US Army Corps of Engineers is the lead Federal agency for ESA consultation for the proposed action. Any required consultation will be completed by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

This notice serves as request to the USFWS for any additional information on whether any listed, or proposed to be listed, endangered or threatened species or critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: Pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1996, the Corps reviewed the project area, examined information provided by the applicant, and consulted available species information.

The Corps has determined the proposal would have no effect on any Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) [no EFH identified at the location]. Therefore, no consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service on EFH as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1996 is required.

NAVIGATION: The proposed work would not occur within a federal navigation channel.

SECTION 408: The applicant will not require permission under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 408).

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Water Quality Certification may be required from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality to certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

NOTE: This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This information has not been verified or evaluated to ensure compliance with laws and regulation governing the regulatory program. The geographic extent of aquatic resources within the proposed project area that either are, or are presumed to be, within the Corps jurisdiction has been verified by Corps personnel.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts 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 reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments.

All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food, fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act or the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

COMMENTS: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State, and local agencies and officials, Indian Tribes and other Interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this determination, comments are used to assess impacts to endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

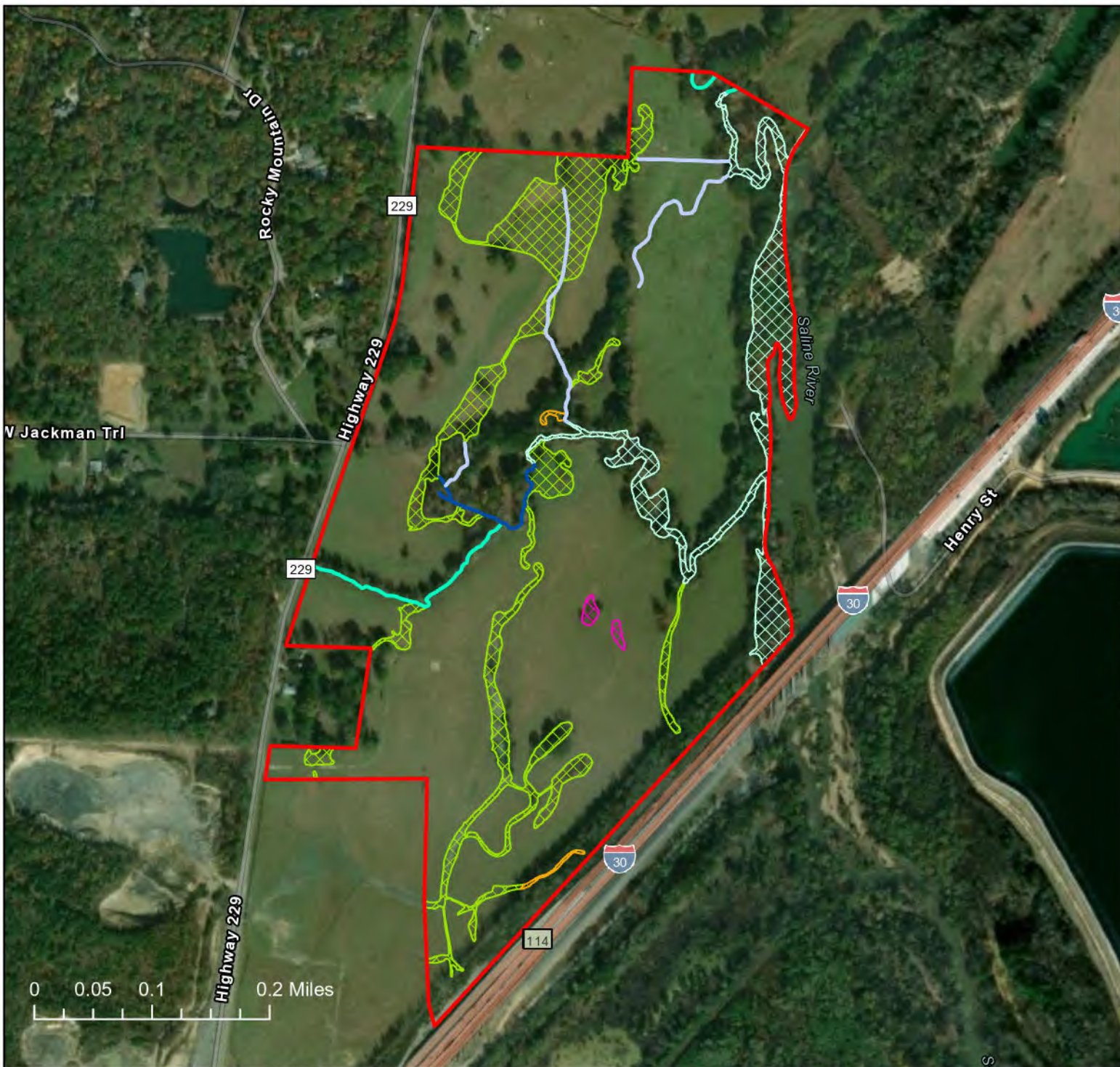
The Vicksburg District will receive written comments on the proposed work, as outlined above, until July 4, 2025. Comments should be submitted electronically via the Regulatory Request System (RRS) at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs> or to William Pigott at William.L.Pigott@usace.army.mil. Please refer to the permit application number in your comments.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application.

Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing will be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Molly Connerton". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Molly" and last name "Connerton" clearly distinguishable.

Molly Connerton
Chief, (Acting) Arkansas Branch
Regulatory Division



Legend	
Project Boundary	Intermittent RPW (1,291.68 LF) Jurisdictional
PEM Wetland (12.22 acres) Jurisdictional	Perennial RPW (557.13 LF) Jurisdictional
PEM Wetland (0.25 acres) Non-Jurisdictional	Non-RPW (5,788.2 LF) Non-Jurisdictional
PFO Wetland (0.15 acres) Jurisdictional	
Saline River (6.97-acres) Jurisdictional	

*There are jurisdictional wetlands or other waters of the U.S. within the proposed area.
Enclosure 1



Limits of Disturbance

BENTON THOMAS PARK

RV PARK AND SPORTS COMPLEX | Wetland Graphic 3.13. 2025





Limits of Disturbance

PEM Wetland 6

PEM Wetland 9

WET-AC

WET-F

PEM Wetland 2

PEM Wetland 1

PEM Wetland 3

RPW-3

RPW-2

WET-A

WET-AB

WET-B

WET-A

BENTON THOMAS PARK

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