

US Army Corps of Engineers.

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



APPLICATION NO.:

MVK-2018-203

EVALUATOR:

Ms. Samantha Thompson

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Samantha.H.Thompson@usace.army.mil

DATE:

May 9, 2018

EXPIRATION DATE:

May 29, 2018

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-OD-F, 4155 Clay Street, Vicksburg, Mississippi 39183-3435.

Application also has been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services for a Water Quality Certification in accordance with La. R.S. 30.2074(A)(93), and Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L. 95-217). Additional information is on file with the above office, and may be inspected at any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Copies may be obtained upon payment of cost of copying. Comments concerning the application can be filed with the Office of Environmental Services within 20 days of this notice to the following address: Office of Environmental Services, Post Office Box 4313, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313.

<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:

Mr. Tracy Purifoy Hunt Forest Products, LLC Post Office Box 1263 Ruston, Louisiana 71270

Name of Agent:

Mr. Chad Turner
Matrix New World Engineering
4451 Bluebonnet Boulevard
Suite E
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809

Location of Work: Section 5 & 8, T10N- R2E, Latitude 31.872615, Longitude -92.285387, within the Lower Red-Ouachita Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC 08040302), LaSalle Parish, Louisiana.

<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 jurisdictional waters for the purpose of constructing a rail spur and a facility loop road associated with a proposed sawmill located in Urania, LaSalle Parish, Louisiana. Hunt Forest Products, LLC is proposing to construct a facility loop road around the proposed sawmill as well as 4,619.95 linear feet of rail spur to service the sawmill. In addition to the facility loop road and rail spur, the proposed facility will consist of a sawmill, log cranes, drying kilns, dry lumber storage, wet log storage and associated pond, office buildings, and employee parking. The sawmill will consume approximately 850,000 tons of lumber annually and produce 200 million board feet of lumber, along with providing wood chips, sawdust, planer shavings and hog fuel to LaSalle BioEnergy, LLC.

The total project area consists of 106.13 acres. The applicant proposes to impact 0.65 acre of jurisdictional wetlands and 80.20 linear feet of other waters. Approximately 502 cubic yards of stabilized soil, 747 cubic yards of ballast material, and 10 cubic yards of concrete would be used for the project.

The vegetative communities within the project area are dominated by Black willow, Sweetgum, Loblolly pine, Chinese tallow tree, Sycamore, Privet, Yaupon, Baccharis, Rush, Goldenrod, Broom sedge, Cat tails, Panic grass, Sedge, and Wool grass. Soil within the project site consists of Frizzle silt loam soils.

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the proposed jurisdictional impacts through the purchase of credits from a USACE approved mitigation bank that services the same 8-digit HUC 08040302.

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>, 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. Currently, this office is coordinating with the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally-recognized Tribes, and other interested parties regarding potential effects to historic properties that could result from the proposed activity.

<u>Endangered Species</u>: Based on the agent's coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it has been determined that the proposed activity will have no effect on the Red-cockaded woodpecker and a not likely to adversely affect determination was made for the Northern long-eared bat.

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 primarily located outside 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.

Thomas A. McCabe
Chief, Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch







16 April 2018 MVK-2018-203

Applicant: Hunt Forest Products

Proposed Work: Site Development

Location: Sections 5 & 8, T10N-R2E Olla West & Tulus LA, Quadrangle LaSalle Parish, LA

Map Background: NAIP Aerial Imagery (2010)

Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination

Prepared by: Robert G. Ulmer, Jr.



US Army Corps of Engineers

Regulatory Branch

Enforcement Section

500

1,000 Feet







