



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

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



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	<u>MVK-2018-862</u>
EVALUATOR:	<u>Ms. Samantha Thompson</u>
PHONE NO.:	<u>(601) 631-5478</u>
E-MAIL:	<u>Samantha.H.Thompson@usace.army.mil</u>
DATE:	<u>November 13, 2019</u>
EXPIRATION DATE:	<u>December 13, 2019</u>

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, is considering a proposal to establish the Falcon SP Mitigation Bank (FMB). A prospectus has been received describing the proposed bank from WYCAR Land Company, LLC, the Bank sponsor. The proposed site is located in Sections 7, 12, 13 and 18, T16S-R22 and 23E, Lafayette and Nevada Counties, Arkansas (USGS HUC 11140203).

Description: The FMB is being proposed by the bank Sponsor as a means to meet the requirements for compensatory mitigation for future and yet unknown wetland 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 6.5 miles northeast of Stamps, Arkansas. The site is centered on the point 33.443234° N, -93.434255° W. The site is currently maintained as forested land and non-riparian areas are maintained for silviculture activities.

Baseline Conditions / Current Land Use / Proposed Actions:

The property consists of approximately 557 acres, currently 214 acres of wetlands are found on-site and approximately 30,950 linear feet of streams. Approximately 33.9 acres of scrub-shrub wetlands and 180.2 acres of forested wetlands are located within the property. Additionally, two intermittent streams (totaling approximately 26,150 linear feet) and one perennial stream (totaling approximately 4,800 linear feet) exist on the property. WYCAR intends for FMB to serve as a stream restoration and bottomland hardwood mitigation bank.

Dominant habitats associated with the wetlands on the tract consisted of forested and scrub-shrub areas. Upland areas consisted predominantly of loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) managed by silviculture activities. Dominant species identified

within the forested wetlands included willow oak (*Quercus phellos*), American holly (*Ilex opaca*), water hickory (*Carya aquatica*), and green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*). The scrub-shrub areas are dominated by button bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*). American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*) was common in hardwood forested stream corridors. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has mapped the soils in the proposed mitigation bank as Bowie fine sandy loam, Guyton silt loam, Harleston fine sandy loam, Ruston fine sandy loam, Sacul fine sandy loam, Smithdale fine sandy loam and Bibb fine sandy loam. Sources of hydrology include rainfall, sheet flow, and drainage from the north of the tract. The hydrology predominately drains through the site from the north to the south. Jones Branch, Clear Creek and one unnamed tributary traverse through the site with flows reaching Bayou Dorcheat.

The proposed FMB site is located in the Bayou Dorcheat watershed, within the United State Geological Survey (USGS) Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 11140203 and 11140205. The present habitat type of FMB is a combination of forest land, wetlands, development, and open water habitat.

The Sponsor proposes approximately 214 acres of the FMB could be used as compensatory mitigation through the restoration of streams, riparian buffer corridors and bottomland hardwood wetlands. Within this 214 acres, the Sponsor proposes that approximately 8,000 linear feet of stream channel and over 25,000 feet of riparian buffer could be restored and used as compensatory mitigation.

Service Area: This Mitigation Bank would be established to provide mitigation to compensate for impacts to waters of the United States, including wetlands and stream, within the Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District Regulatory Boundary in the state of Arkansas. The proposed service area for this mitigation bank is demarcated by the United States Geologic Survey as hydrologic unit codes 11140203 and 11140205. 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
Regulatory Branch**