

US Army Corps

THE STREET

Public Notice

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

APPLICATION NO .:	MVK-2016-209
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Samantha Thompson
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-5478
E-MAIL:	Samantha.H.Thompson@usace.army.mil
DATE:	January 28, 2022
EXPIRATION DATE:	February 18, 2022

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality are considering an application for a Department of the Army Permit and State Water Quality Certification for the work described herein. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-RD, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality at Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39226-2261, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date.

<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. Larry Britt C.B. Holdings, LLC 1300 Access Rd, Suite 100 Oxford, Mississippi 38655 Name of Agent: Mr. Cullen Dendy Headwaters, Incorporated Post Office Box 3658 Tupelo, Mississippi 38803

<u>Location of Work</u>: Section 3, T9S-R3W, Latitude 34.3301, Longitude -89.5023, within the Murray Creek watershed part of the Lower Mississippi River Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC 08030203), Lafayette County, Mississippi.

Description of Work: (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 wetlands and other waters of the United States associated with the construction of a dam and impending lake. The stated purposes of the lake are storm water management for the city of Oxford, an irrigation source for the golf course, and recreational boating and fishing. The proposed Grand Oaks Lake is part of an existing and ongoing Planned Urban Development by Grand Oaks Development. The development consists of approximately 453 acres centered around the existing Oxford country club and golf course.

The earthen dam would be approximately 27.5 feet high with 4:1 (H to V) side slopes and a top width of approximately 15 feet. A concrete spillway would be constructed on the downstream slope of the levee with riprap placed at the outlet. A PVC siphon pipe would be installed approximately 3 feet below the top of the levee to lower the lake as needed. A total of 23 surface acres would be inundated and the lake would have a maximum depth of 27.5 feet.

Permanent fill for the proposed dam consists of 0.24 acre of forested wetlands and 297.71 linear feet of other waters of the United States. The new inundated area would convert 5.86 acres of forested wetlands and 2,366.78 linear feet of perennial stream into other waters of the United States.

The wetland hydrology consists of surface water, iron deposits, and sediment deposits. The wetland vegetation entails of sweetgum, yellow popular, American hornbean, common rush, river birch, red maple, American sycamore, black willow, green ash, sedge, Chinese privet, southern dewberry, lizard's tail, and cattail. Soils within the project site consist of Kirkville fine sandy loam and Smithdale sandy loam.

The applicant proposes to purchase compensatory mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank which services the project's 8-digit HUC service area.

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: The permit area is likely to yield resources eligible for inclusion in the National Register of historic places. An investigation for the presence of potentially eligible historic properties is justified.

<u>Endangered Species</u>: Threatened and Endangered Species for this area include the Wood Stork and the Northern long-eared bat. Utilizing the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species (SLOPES) as signed on June 28, 2017, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would have no effect on the Wood stork and may affect the Northern long-eared bat; however, this project complies with the final 4(d) rule with incidental take covered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Intra-Service Biological Opinion for the final 4(d) rule for the Northern long-eared bat.

<u>Floodplain</u>: 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 completely located outside the 100-year floodplain.

<u>Evaluation Factors</u>: 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.

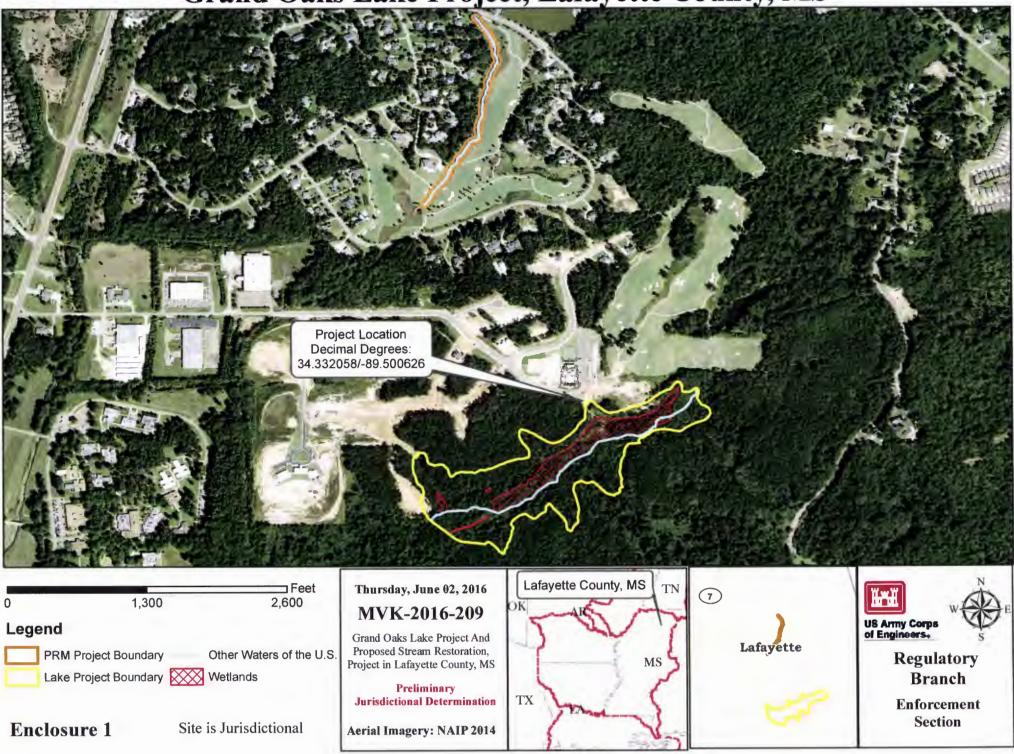
<u>Opportunity for a Public Hearing</u>: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment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

<u>Notification of Final Permit Actions</u>: 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, <u>http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx</u>.

Jennifer J. Brown

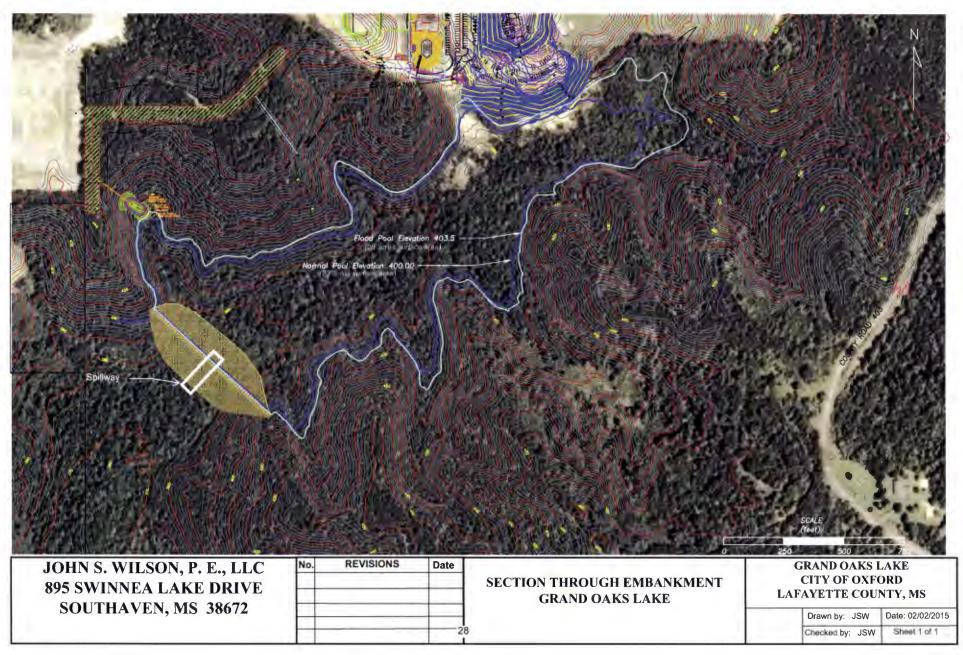
Jennifer G. Brown Team Lead, Permit and Evaluation Branch Regulatory Division

Grand Oaks Lake Project, Lafayette County, MS



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