

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



APPLICATION NO.:

MVK-2014-851

EVALUATOR:

Ms. Tarmiko Graham

PHONE NO.:

(601) 631-5540

E-MAIL:

Tarmiko.V.Graham@usace.army.mil

DATE:

April 26, 2019

EXPIRATION DATE:

May 16, 2019

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-OD-F at the above address, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality at Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, 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. Sam G. Polles
MS Department of Wildlife,
Fisheries, and Parks
1505 Eastover Drive
Jackson, Mississippi 39211

Name of Agent:

Mr. Bart A. Pittman
Pittman Environmental Services, LLC
Post Office Box 1926
Purvis, Mississippi 39475

Location of Work: Section 21, T1N-R5E, Latitude 31.915022, Longitude –89.796428, in the Sellers Creek watershed within the Middle Pearl-Strong Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC: 03180002), Simpson County, Mississippi.

<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 for the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into jurisdictional wetlands to repair an existing dam in Simpson County, Mississippi.

Improvements are being proposed for the existing dam of Simpson County Lake. Currently, the Simpson County Lake Dam's crest is too low to accommodate 100% of the probable maximum precipitation (PMP); therefore, it does not meet current Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) high Hazard design criteria for storing and passing the PMP without overtopping or breaching the structure. Raising the top of the dam crest elevation by 3 feet and replacing principal spillway conduit is planned in order to meet MDEQ high hazard design criteria. Installation of chimney and blanket filters on the downstream side of the existing embankment would safely control and direct the flow of seepage through the dam.

The embankment crest would be raised 3 feet and downstream side slopes flattened to 4:1, which extends the toe area. The slope would allow for improved maintenance and improve overall stability and integrity of the dam. A 50 feet wide stability berm would be added at the downstream toe. The existing deteriorated outlet drain pipe would be replaced with a new pipe and riser to safely drain or lower the lake for maintenance. The cement treated upstream lake edge would be shaped and rock rip rap added for wave action protection. Some wetland areas would be cleared and grubbed for construction and long-term maintenance and inspection but not permanently filled.

Approximately 0.83 acres of forested wetlands would be filled and 0.17 acre of emergent wetlands would be cleared and grubbed. Approximately 155 linear feet of a perennial stream would be filled and piped to accommodate widening the dam. Approximately 8,522 cubic yards of fill material would be placed in the jurisdictional areas.

Dominate species include sweet bay magnolia, sweet gum, black gum, woodwardia, Chinese privet, and yellow poplar. Hydric soils within the project site include Mantachie loam; occasionally flooded, Smithdale fine sandy and Smithdale-Lucy.

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of jurisdictional impacts through the purchase of credits from an approved mitigation bank, whose service area includes the same 8-digit HUC: 03180002.

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.

<u>Cultural Resources</u>: The Regulatory Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, state lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. This project has been previously evaluated for Department of the Army Permit requirements associated with regulated activities. Coordination and compliance with 106 responsibilities was completed at that time.

Endangered Species: 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 these listed species: Ringed map turtle and Gulf sturgeon.

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 site is not 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.

<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.

<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, http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

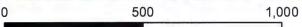
Momas A. M-Cale Thomas A. McCabe

Chief, Evaluation Section

Regulatory Branch

Proposed Levee Improvements, Simpson County, MS





Feet

Legend

Project Boundary

Wetlands

Other Waters of the U.S.

Enclosure 1

Site is Jurisdictional

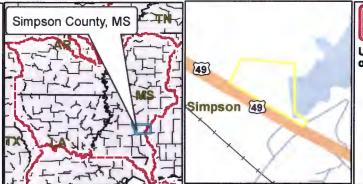
Thursday, December 18, 2014

MVK-2014-851

Proposed Levee Improvements On Behalf of Simpson County Lake By Pittman Environmental Services Project in Simpson County, MS

Preliminary **Jurisdictional Determination**

Aerial Imagery: NAIP 2014 Map By Jared Everitt



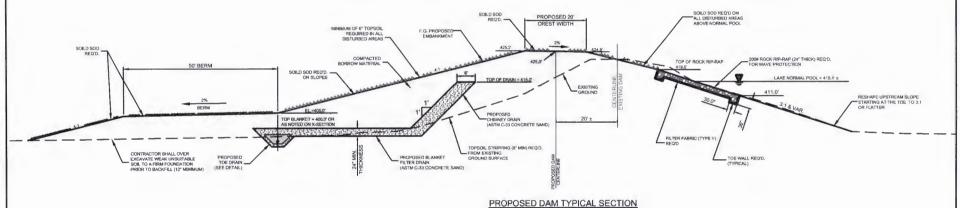


US Army Corps of Engineers.

Regulatory Branch

Enforcement Section

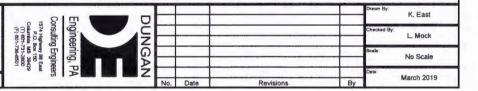
SIMPSON DAM REPAIRS SIMPSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI



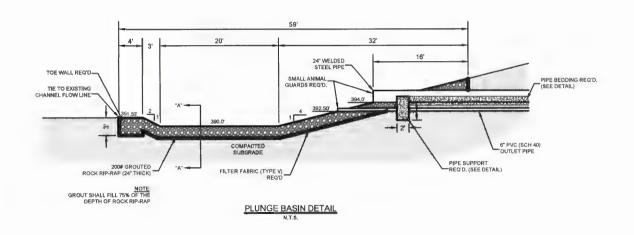
GS# 645-007 Sheet 1416c023

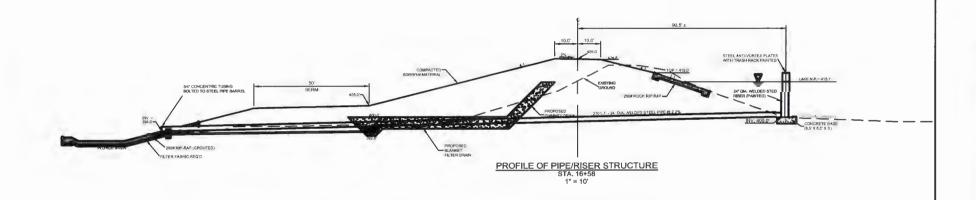
Proposed Dam Typical Section

SIMPSON DAM REPAIR **DIVISION OF FISHERIES** SIMPSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI



SIMPSON DAM REPAIRS SIMPSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI





Sheet No.

Pipe/Riser Structure

GS# 645-007 SIMPSON DAM REPAIR DIVISION OF FISHERIES SIMPSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

SHERIES MISSISSIPPI



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