



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE DISTRICT  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 2288  
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001**

**CESAM-RD-M  
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2012-00282-SBC**

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL**

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**

**PROPOSED RUNWAY SAFETY AREA, BOBBY L. CHAIN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT,  
HATTIESBURG, FORREST COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT: City of Hattiesburg  
Attention: Mr. Bert Kuyrkendall, P. E.  
Director of Engineering  
Post Office Box 1898  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39403**

**AGENT: FTN Associates, Ltd.  
Attention: Mr. Eric Necaise  
6508 Dogwood View Parkway, Suite B  
Jackson, Mississippi 39213-7867**

**LOCATION OF WORK: Wetlands adjacent to Priests Creek, Bobby L. Chain Municipal Airport, 717 J. M. Tatum Industrial Drive, Section 36, Township 4 North, Range 13 West, Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi (North 31.25868; West -89.244413).**

**WORK DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to discharge fill material into medium quality jurisdictional wetlands for the purpose of constructing a runway safety area (RSA) at an existing municipal airport. According to the applicant's agent, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) received a mandate from Congress in 2005 that required non-compliant RSAs to come up to standards as stipulated in FAA Advisory Circular (AC) 150/5300-13; the purpose of the mandate is to reduce the number of overshoot and undershoot landing incidents at airports. For a "CII" category airport such as the Bobby L. Chain Airport, the RSA must be 1,000 feet long by 500 feet wide. The FAA has reviewed the project as submitted and approved the funds for construction for Fiscal Year 2013.**

**The project site currently consists mostly of herbaceous and graminoid-dominated emergent wetland community (pine savannah) maintained by mowing and bush hogging; the wetlands are enclosed by open grassy uplands within the confines of the airport facility, which is surrounded on three sides by undeveloped forested tracts. Approximately 5.10 acres of these wetlands are proposed to be permanently filled and graded for the purposes of this project; the RSA will not be paved. Opportunities for wetland impact avoidance and minimization are limited, due to the size requirements of the RSA as stipulated by FAA. An M-WRAP habitat quality assessment indicates the wetland quality is medium. No tidal wetlands or open waters will be affected by the project. During construction, appropriate best management practices will be implemented to prevent sediment from leaving the construction site and entering offsite wetlands or other jurisdictional waters. Mitigation for permanent impacts to 5.10 acres of medium quality wetlands (based on M-WRAP score) will be accomplished by the purchase of an appropriate number of credits from a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) approved wetland mitigation bank.**

The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Mississippi in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, and upon completion of the required advertising, a determination relative to certification will be made. The applicant has also applied for certification from the State that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the State Coastal Zone Management Program. A determination relative to consistency will be made by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR).

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the Corps can be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. 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 benefit 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 the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

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 decision, comments are used to assess impacts on 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 and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a

public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the proposed activity on this site was considered for the potential to effect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. Although the extent of Federal control and responsibility for these considerations are confined to the limits of the permit area for this particular project, the potential indirect effects that may occur to historic properties as a result of this undertaking were also considered. The Corps reviewed the project permit area and made a preliminary determination that there will be no effect to cultural or historic properties as a result of this undertaking. We are seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer regarding the existence or the potential for existence of significant cultural and historic properties within the permit area. Historic architectural or archaeological investigations may be necessary to ascertain the existence of such resources. Efforts will be made through the consultation process to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to significant cultural and historic properties that may occur as a result of this undertaking. The District Engineer remains the final decision authority.

Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate that the proposed activity will not affect listed threatened or endangered species.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2012-00282-SBC** and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineer Mobile District, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: RD-S-M, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225-2261, and the DMR, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, in time to be received within 30 days of the date of this public notice.

If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager via e-mail at **tad.m.zebryk@usace.army.mil** or phone number **(251) 694-3779**. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at [www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx)

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**MOBILE DISTRICT  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineer**

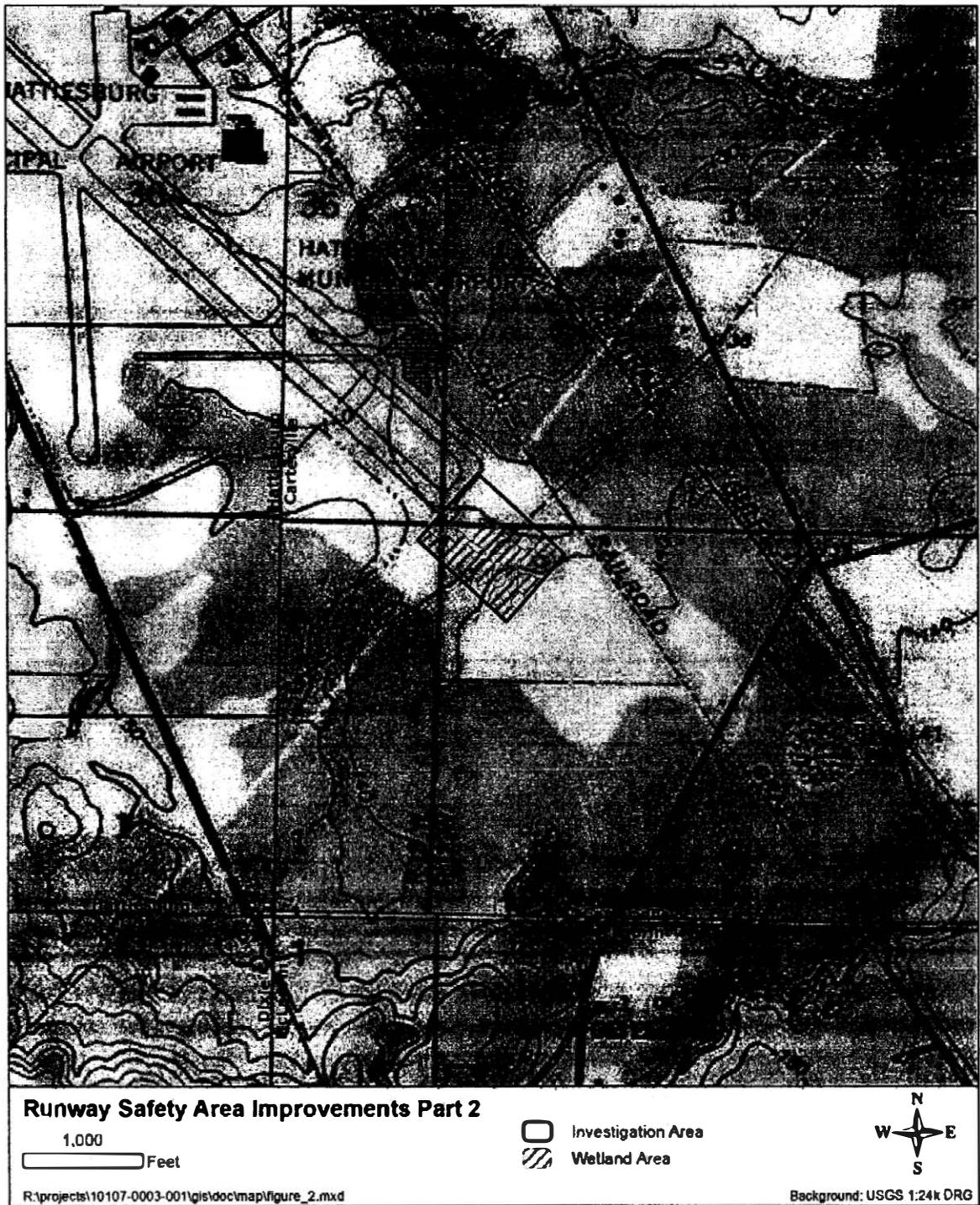


Figure 2. Map showing an overview of the project area based on USGS topographic quadrangles, Hattiesburg, Carterville, Dixie, and McLaurin (7.5-minute series).

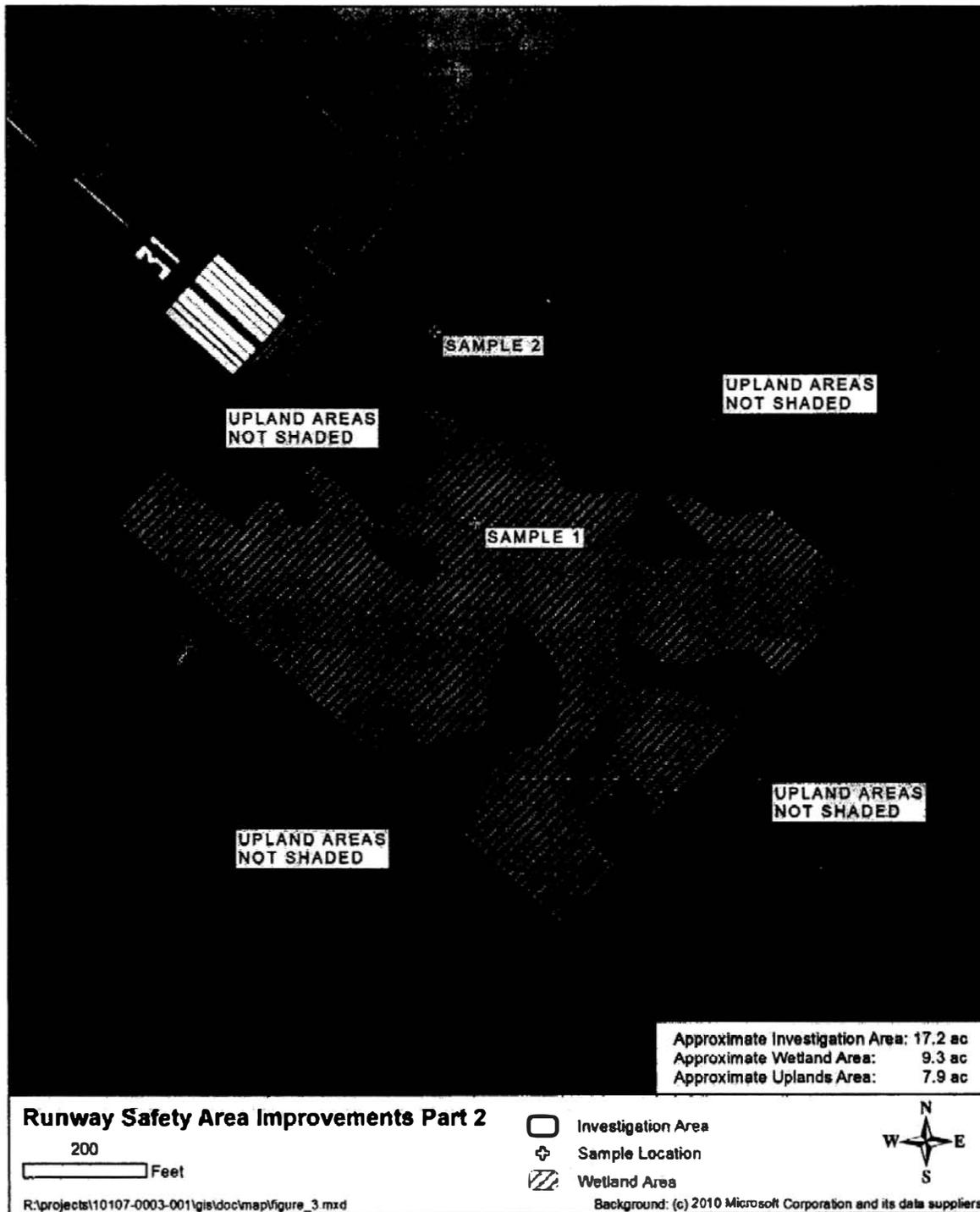
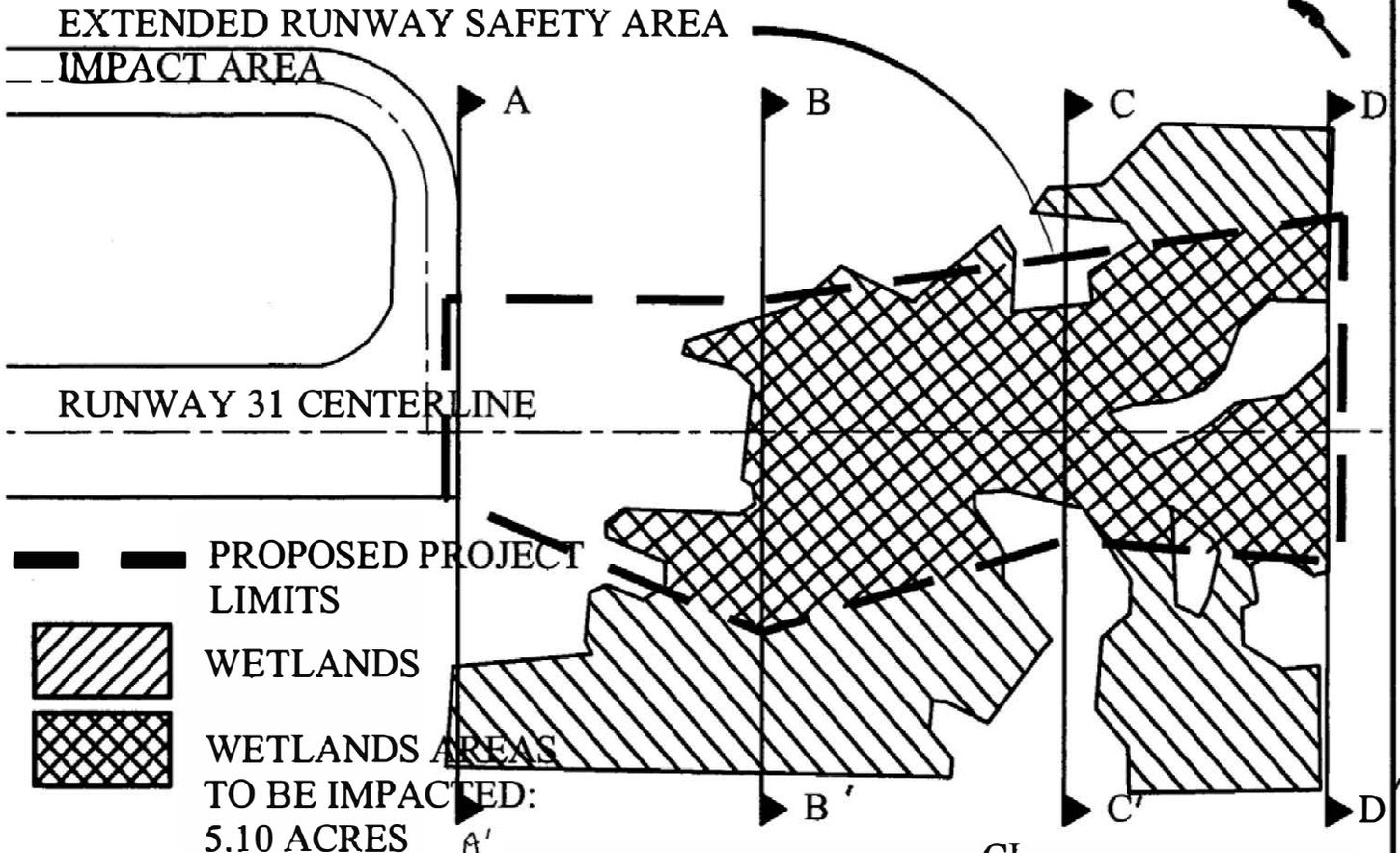
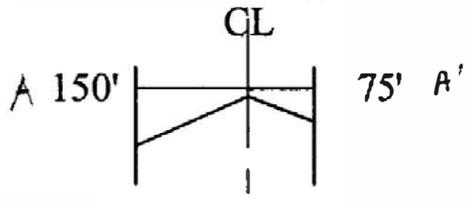


Figure 3. Map showing uplands, wetlands and sampling site locations.

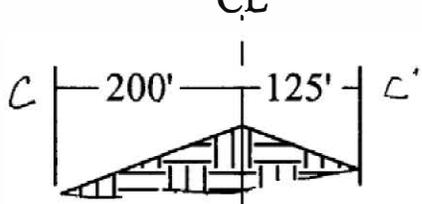
BUILD ALTERNATIVE ONE (PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE)



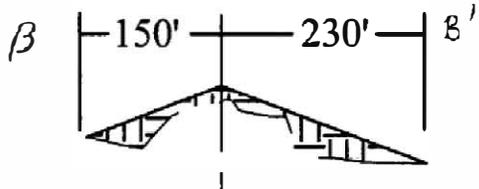
-  PROPOSED PROJECT LIMITS
-  WETLANDS
-  WETLANDS AREAS TO BE IMPACTED:  
5.10 ACRES



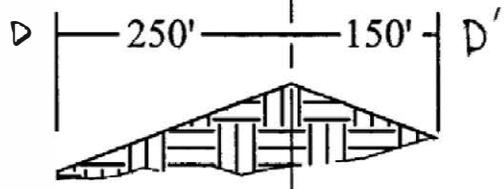
SECTION A



SECTION C



SECTION B



SECTION D



Design & Management Professionals  
 Aviation - Civil Engineering  
 Education & Development  
 Shreveport, Louisiana  
 800 Spring Street, Suite 204 Shreveport, LA 71101 • Telephone: (318) 222-8252 • Facsimile: 222-8251

HATTIESBURG-BOBBY L. CHAM MUNICIPAL AIRPORT HATTIESBURG, MS	
Scale: 1"=200'	Date: 04/10/2013
Drawn By: <b>EFN</b>	Revised: xx/xx/xx
Project No. XX-XXX	