



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

CESAM-RD-M
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2013-01299-PAH

February 9, 2024

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL (MDEQ)**

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
DMR23-000766**

**PROPOSED MAINTENANCE DREDGING OF BAYOU CASOTTE HARBOR,
PASCAGOULA, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: Jackson County Port Authority
Attention: Mr. Michael Smith
3033 Pascagoula Street
Pascagoula, MS 39567

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: At Bayou Casotte Harbor; within Section 17, Township 8 South, Range 5 West; Latitude 30.34533 and Longitude -88.505466; in Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant is requesting a 10-year Department of the Army Permit to dredge approximately 82,000 cubic yards initially, with an additional 45,000 cubic yards every 3-4 years from 17-acres of waterbottoms within the Bayou Casotte Harbor in Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi. The applicant proposes to dredge the areas adjacent to the docks at the E&F terminal, the G& H terminal, the G dock extension and the docking basin to maintain access to the dock areas. The water bottoms would be dredged from the current depth, which ranges from approximately -35 feet to -38 feet Mean Low Water (MLW), to the previously established depth of -38 MLW with -2 feet of advanced maintenance dredging for a total depth of -40 feet MLW. The Bayou Casotte Harbor would be dredged by mechanical dredging from a barge or by hydraulic dredging. The substrate consists of unconsolidated sand and silt. No submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) beds are known to occur in or near the project

area. The depths of the Bayou Casotte Harbor are not appropriate for SAV habitat. Therefore, no impacts to SAV are anticipated. The dredged material would be moved to a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) approved beneficial use disposal site or the Bayou Casotte Dredge Material Management Site (BCDMMS).

COASTAL ZONE: The applicant has applied for coastal zone (CZ) consistency in accordance with the State Coastal Zone Management Program.

WATER QUALITY: The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification Rule (Certification Rule, 40 CFR 121), requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge. The applicant is responsible for requesting certification and providing required information to the certifying agency. As of the date of this public notice, the applicant has not submitted a certification request to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (certifying authority).

HISTORIC PROPERTIES: In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the undertaking defined in this notice is being considered for the potential to affect historic properties. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the Corps has determined the permit area consists of the entire dredging footprint and the immediate adjacent waterbottoms. The National Register of Historic Places will be consulted for properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register, which are known to exist and would be affected by the proposed work. The Mobile District is seeking comments regarding the existence, or the potential for existence, of significant cultural and historic properties within the permit area. At this time, the USACE, Mobile District has made no determination regarding potential effects of the project on cultural/historic resources. Further coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer and/or federally-recognized American Indian tribes will be performed as determined to be appropriate.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate the following federally-listed species are known or expected to occur within the project area: *West Indian Manatee (T)*, *Red Knot (T)*, *Wood Stork (T)*, *Alabama Red-bellied Turtle (E)*, *Black Pinesnake (T)*, *Eastern Black Rail (T)*, *Mississippi Sandhill Crane (E)*, *Dusky Gopher Frog (E)*, *Gopher Tortoise (T)*, *Loggerhead Sea Turtle (E)*, and *Gulf Sturgeon (T)*. There is no designated critical habitat within the project action area. At this time, the USACE, Mobile District has made no determination regarding potential effects of the project on the above-listed species. Further coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and NMFS will be performed as determined to be appropriate.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The proposal would impact estuarine substrate utilized by various life stages of species. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not adversely impact EFH, or associated fisheries managed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council or the National Marine Fisheries Service. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would have no effect to EFH or Federally managed fisheries. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

COMMENTS: This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 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, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The USACE 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 of Engineers 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.

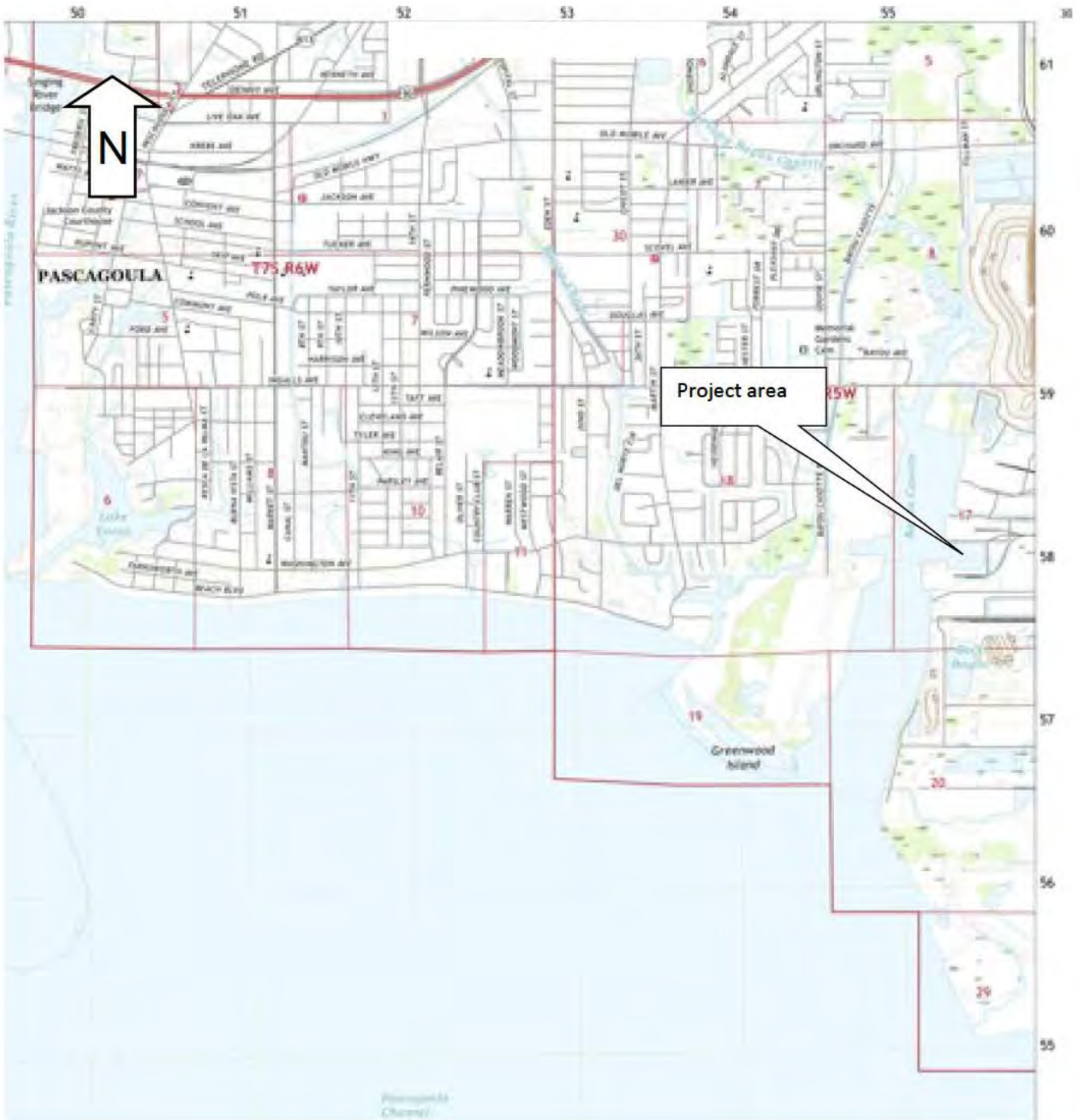
Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2013-01299-PAH** and should be directed to the District Engineer, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Mobile, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: Christopher S. Pickering, or submitted electronically at christopher.s.pickering@usace.army.mil, (251) 455-8627. Copies of all comments should be furnished to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530.

All comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this Public Notice.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx.

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Attachments



Site: Bayou Casotte Dredging Project
 Port of Pascagoula
 Pascagoula, Jackson County, MS

Figure 1 - Topographic Map (Map Source: USGS, 2012)

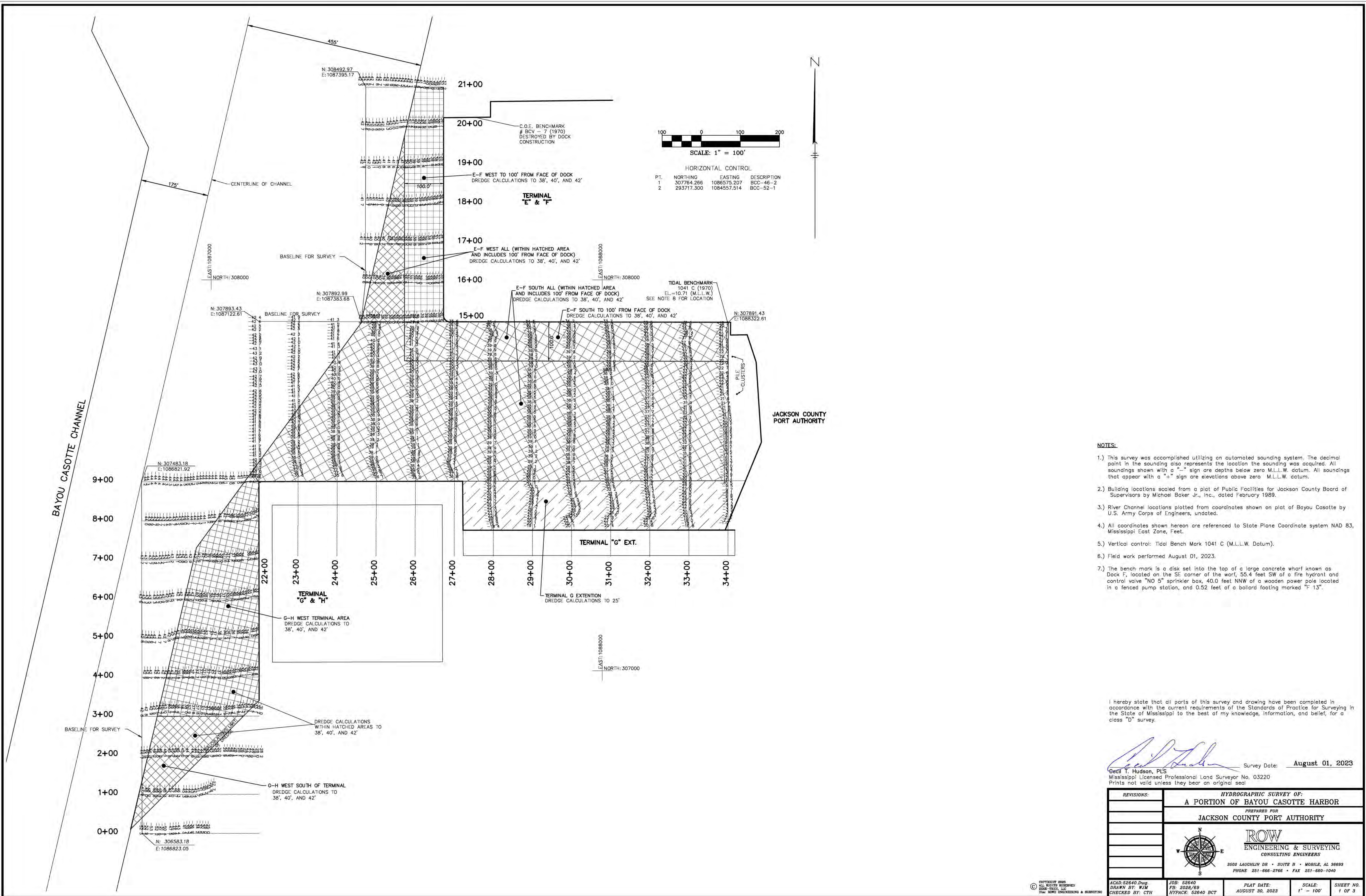
Appendix ID:
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Site: Bayou Casotte Dredge Location
Pascagoula, Jackson County, MS

Figure 1 – Site Location (Map Source: Google Earth, 2023)





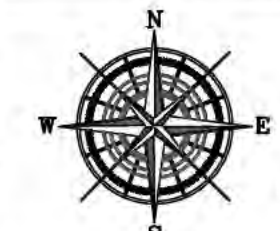
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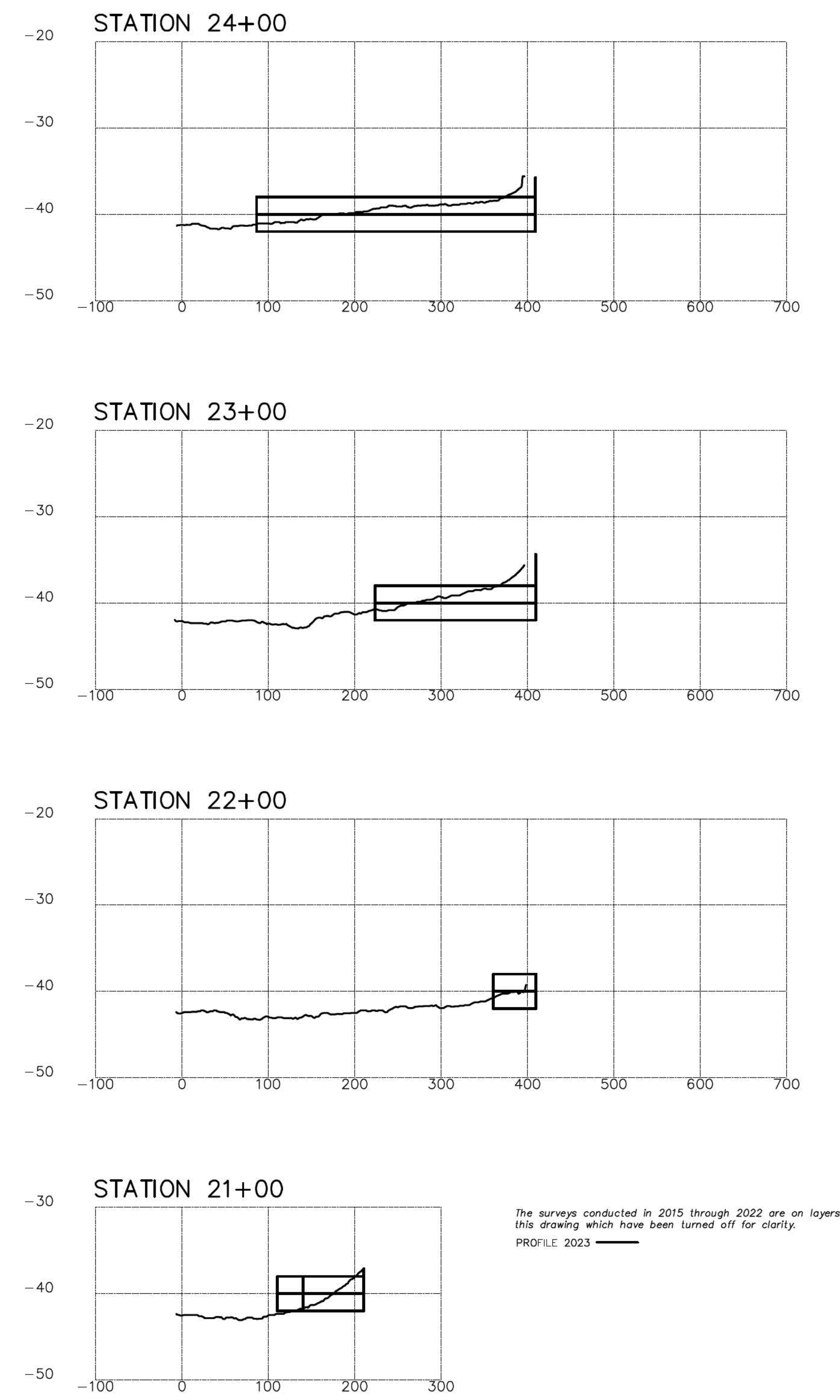
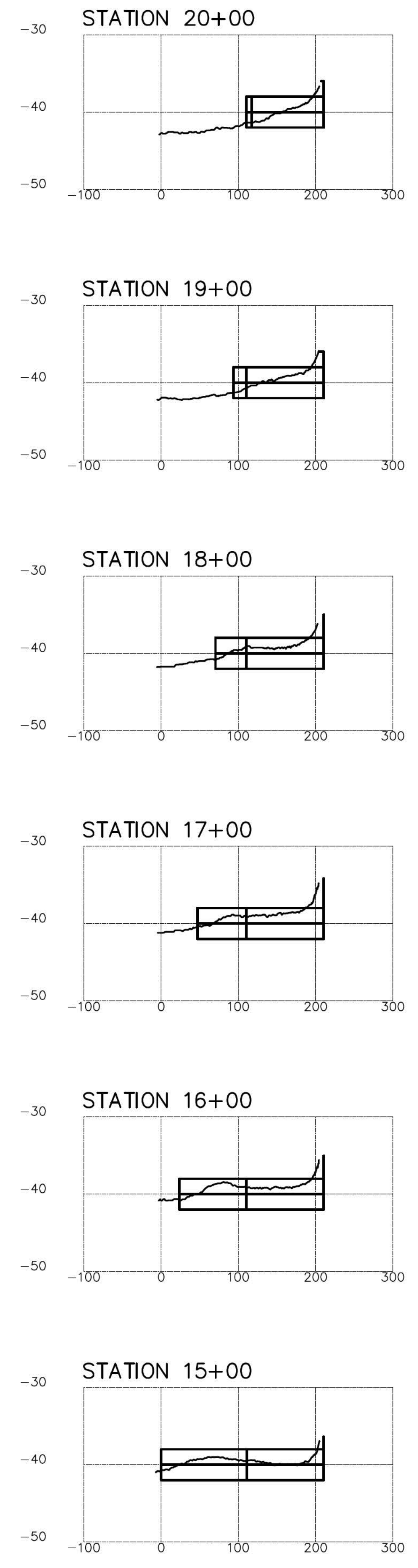
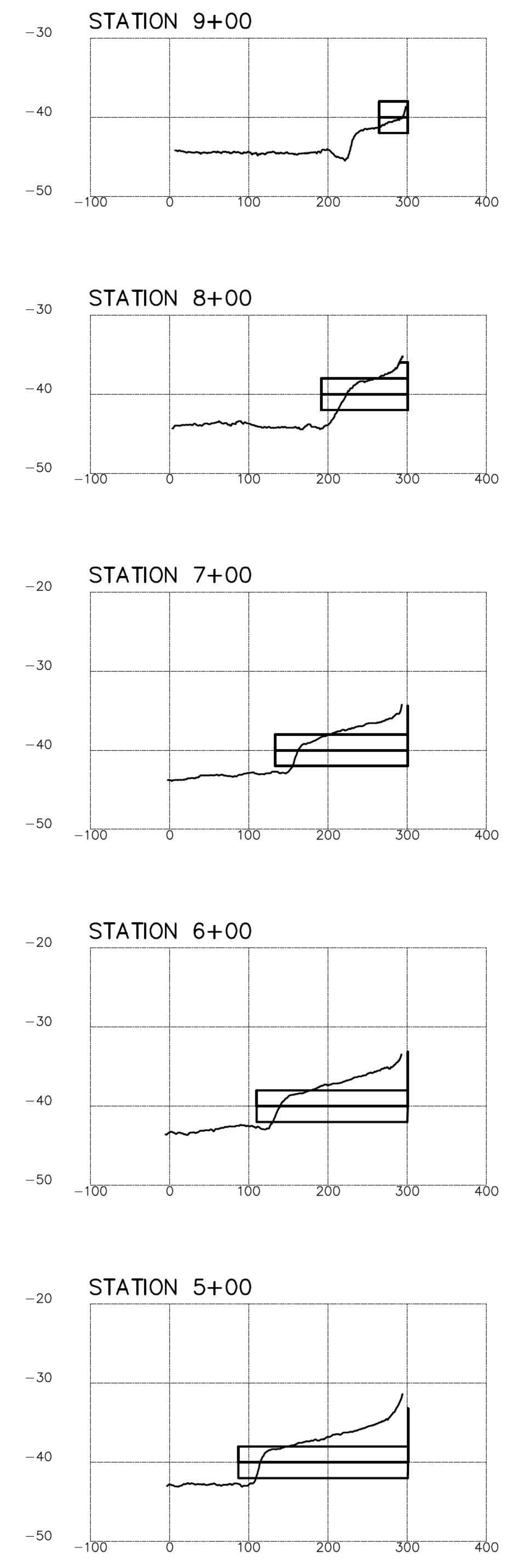
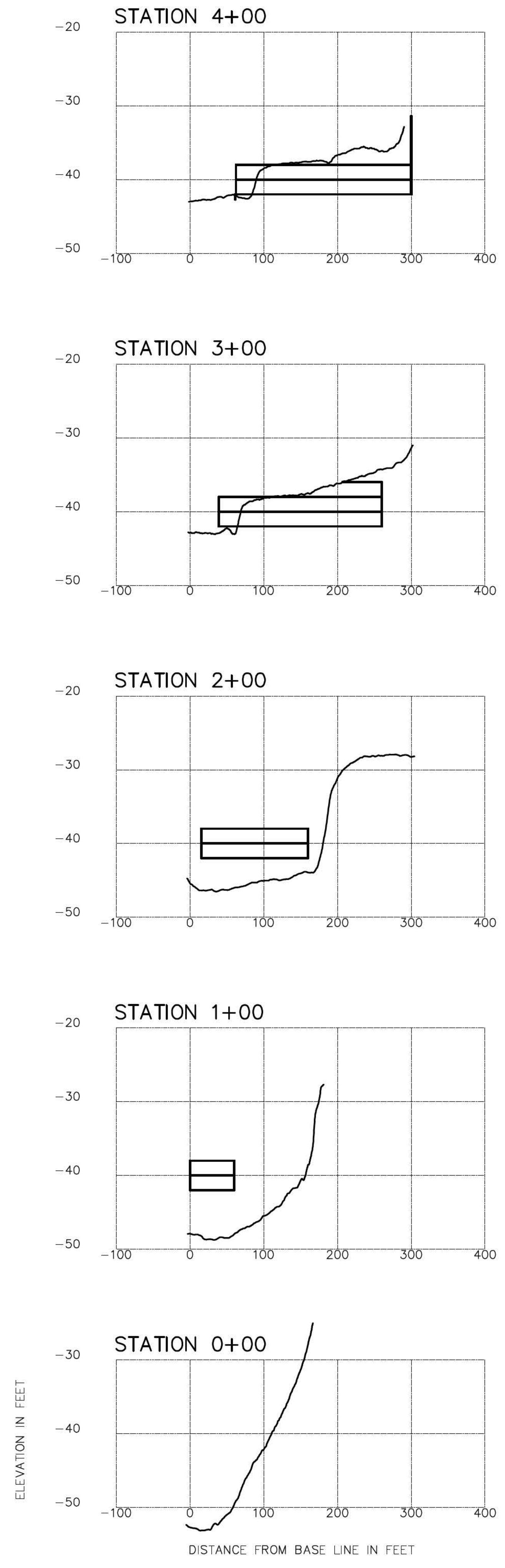
PT.	NORTHING	EASTING	DESCRIPTION
1	307764.266	1086573.207	BCC-46-2
2	293717.300	1084557.514	BCC-52-1

- NOTES:**
- 1.) This survey was accomplished utilizing an automated sounding system. The decimal point in the sounding also represents the location the sounding was acquired. All soundings shown with a "-" sign are depths below zero M.L.L.W. datum. All soundings that appear with a "+" sign are elevations above zero M.L.L.W. datum.
 - 2.) Building locations scaled from a plat of Public Facilities for Jackson County Board of Supervisors by Michael Baker Jr., Inc., dated February 1989.
 - 3.) River Channel locations plotted from coordinates shown on plat of Bayou Casotte by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, undated.
 - 4.) All coordinates shown herein are referenced to State Plane Coordinate system NAD 83, Mississippi East Zone, Feet.
 - 5.) Vertical control: Tidal Bench Mark 1041 C (M.L.L.W. Datum).
 - 6.) Field work performed August 01, 2023.
 - 7.) The bench mark is a disk set into the top of a large concrete wharf known as Dock F, located on the SE corner of the wharf, 55.4 feet SW of a fire hydrant and control valve "NO 5" sprinkler box, 40.0 feet NNW of a wooden power pole located in a fenced pump station, and 0.52 feet of a bollard footing marked "F 13".

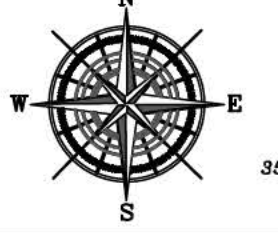

I hereby state that all parts of this survey and drawing have been completed in accordance with the current requirements of the Standards of Practice for Surveying in the State of Mississippi to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, for a class "D" survey.

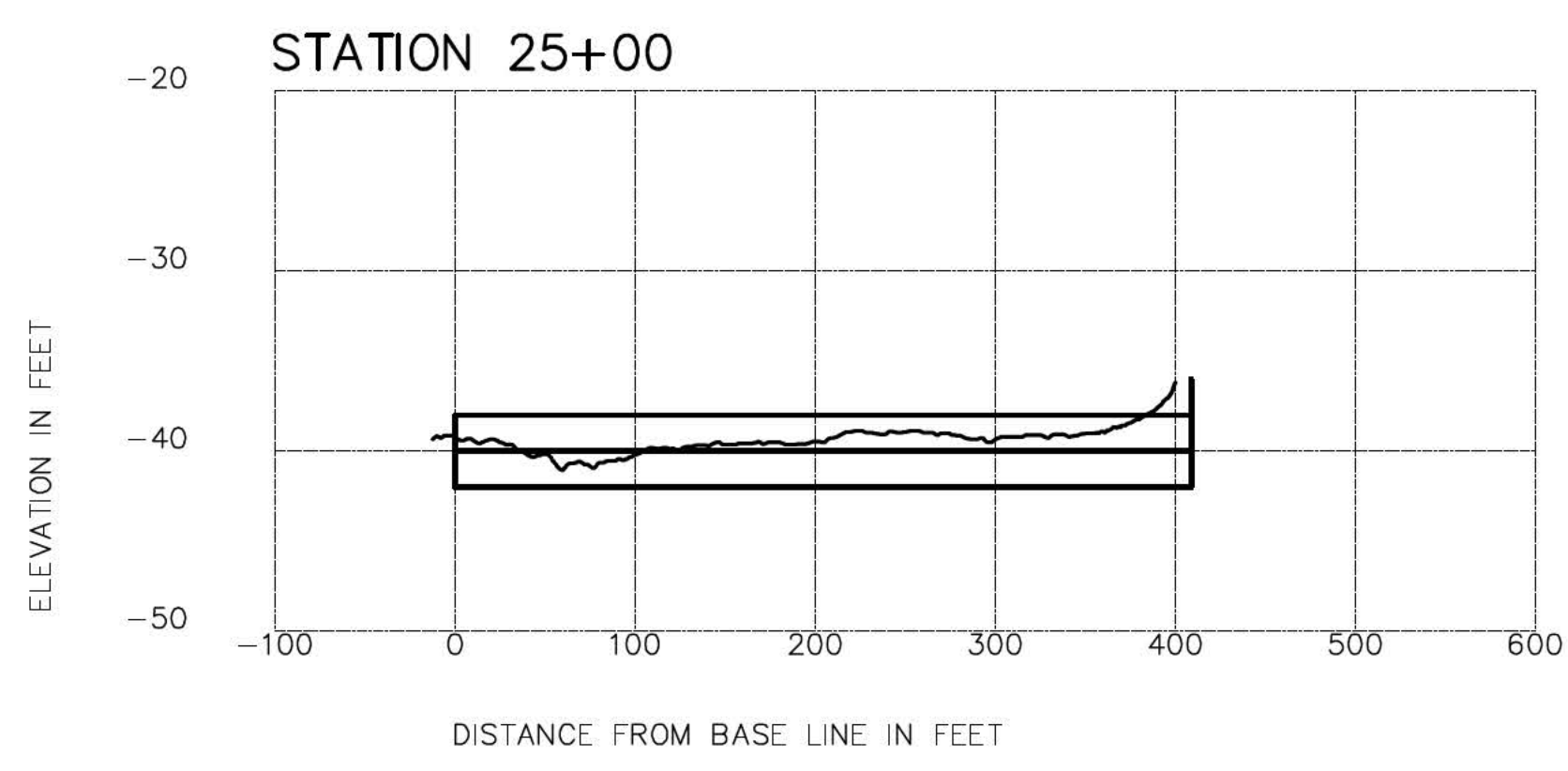
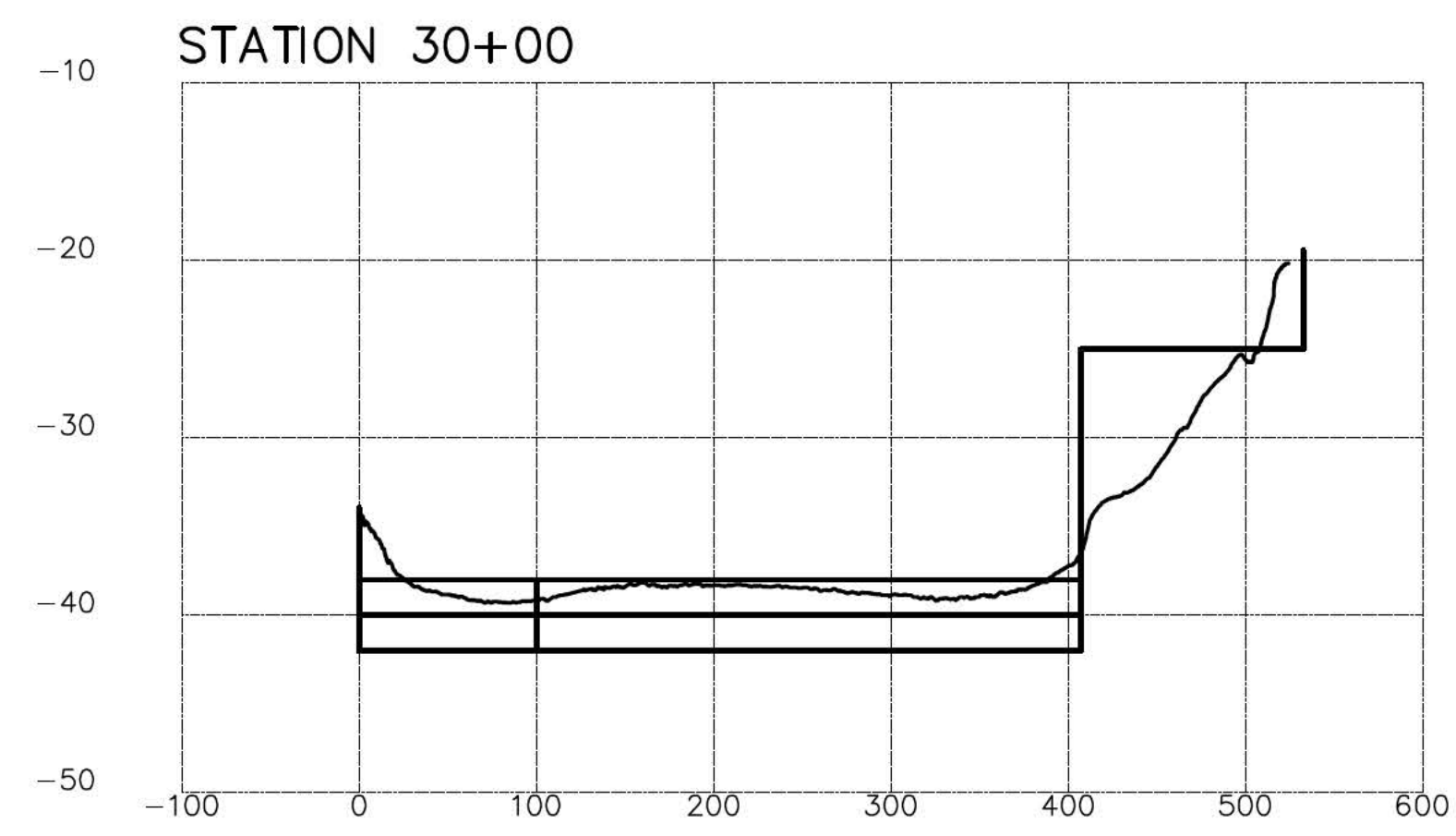
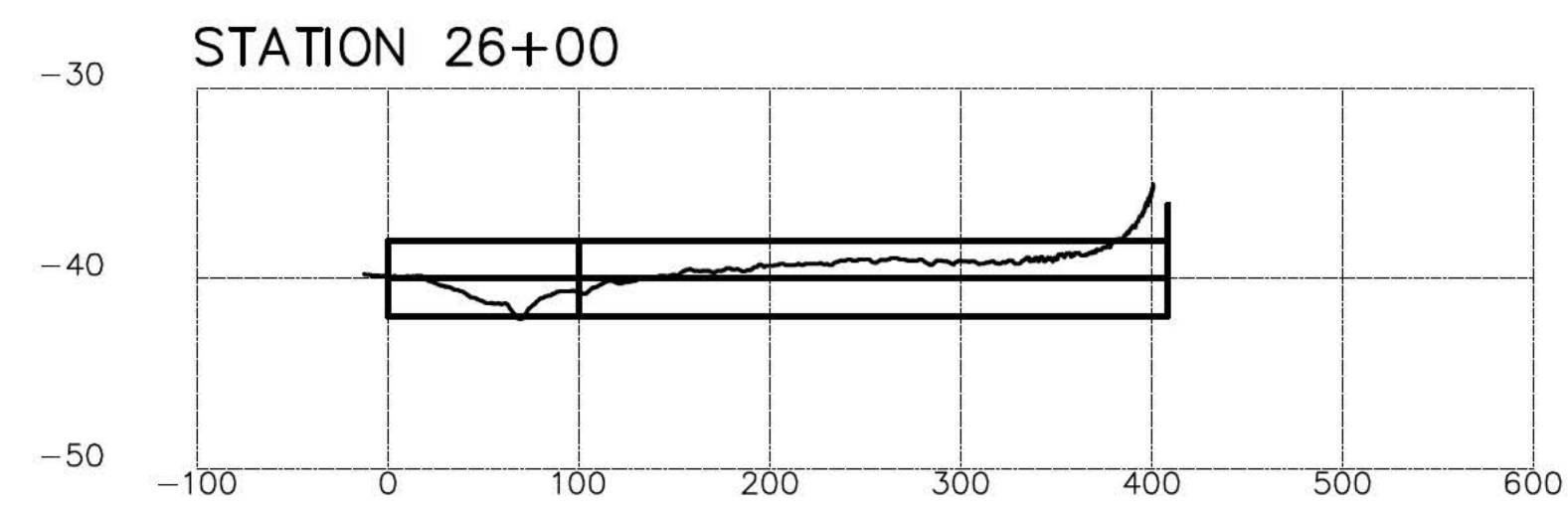
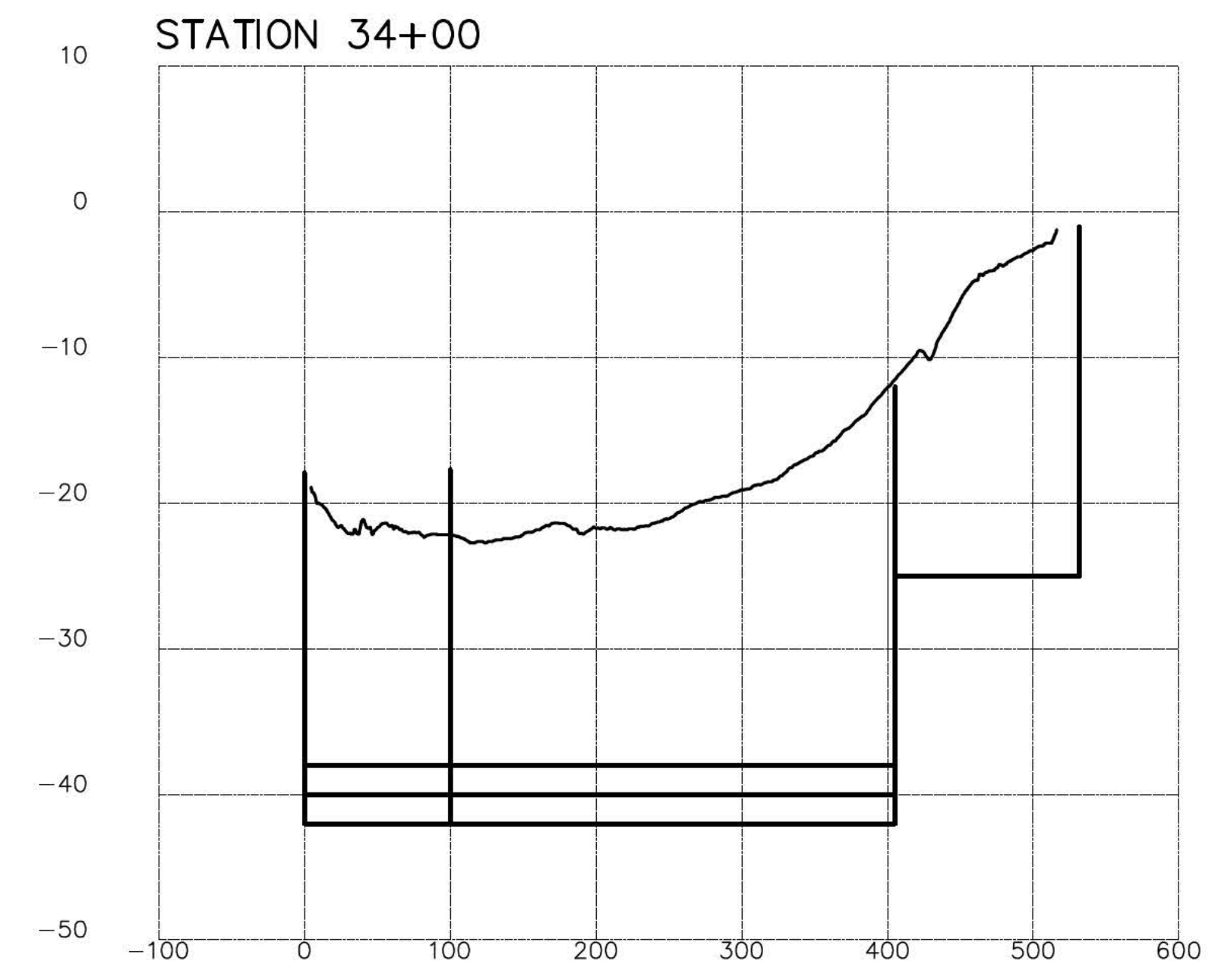
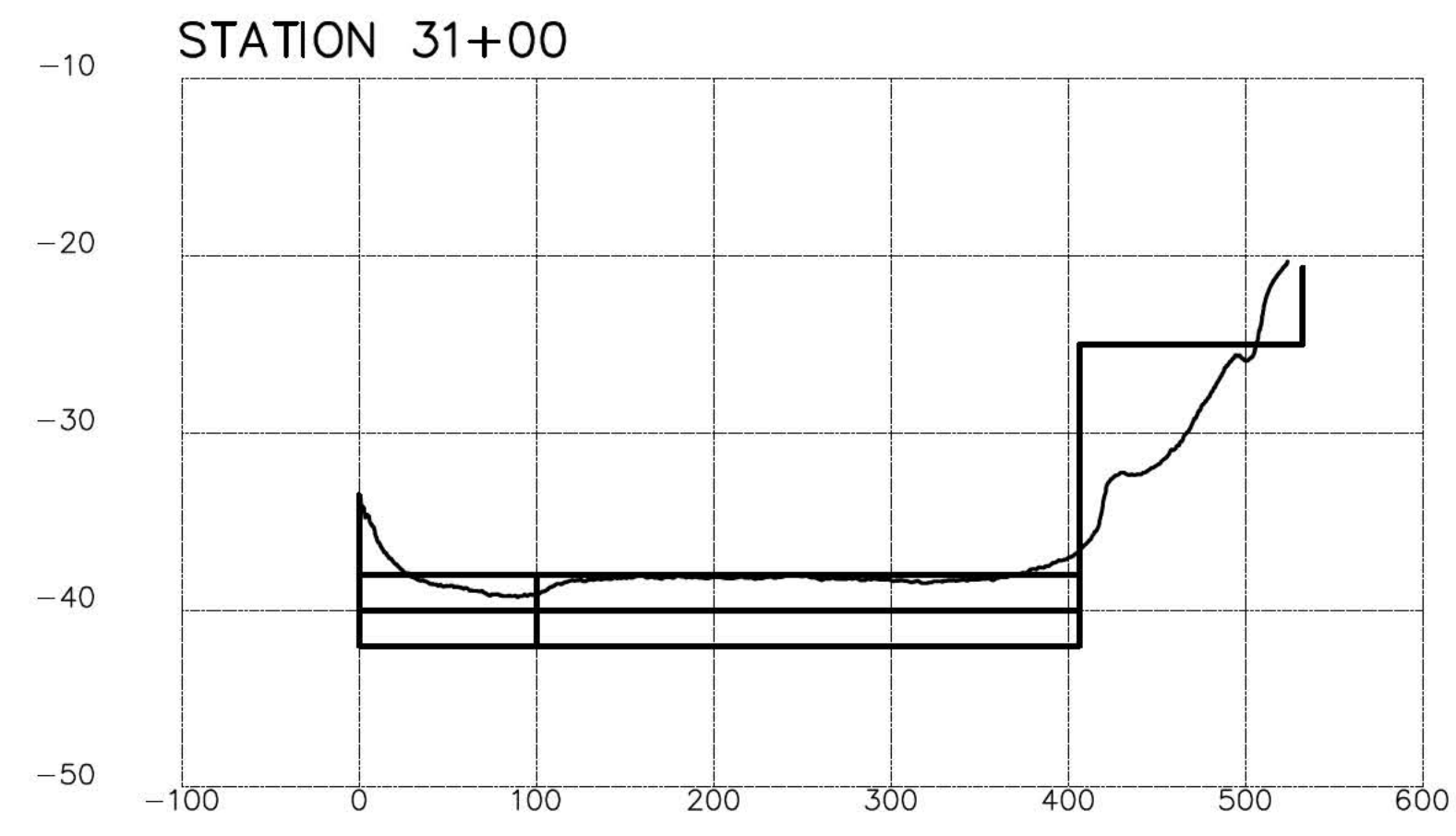
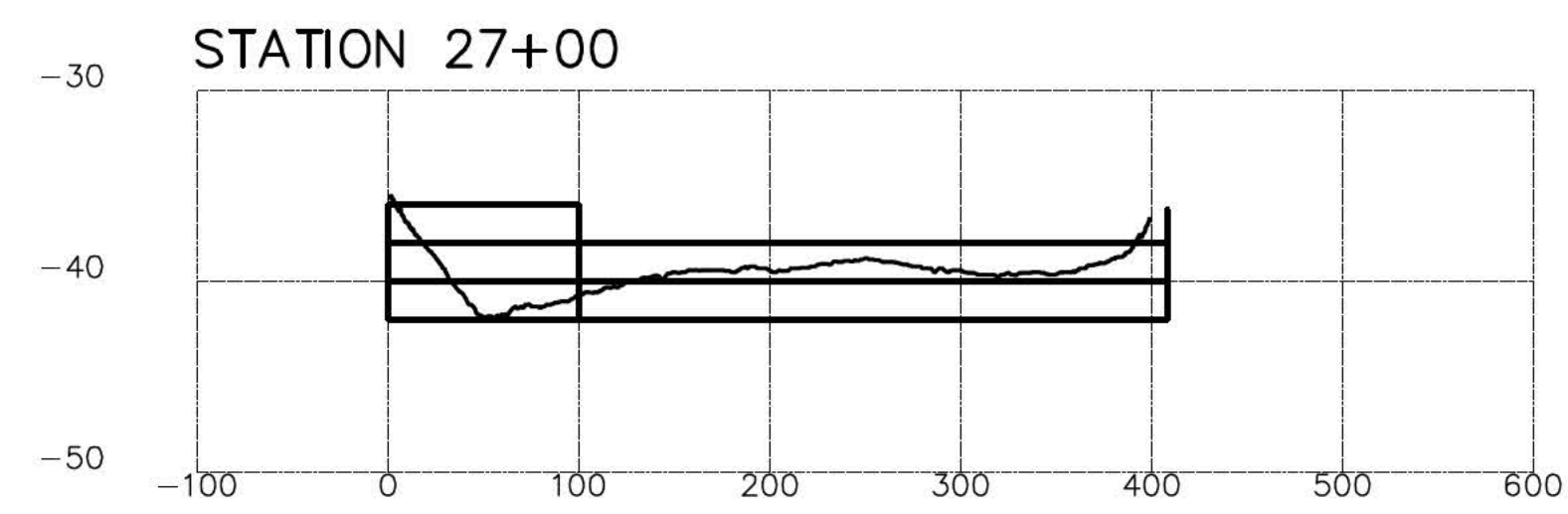
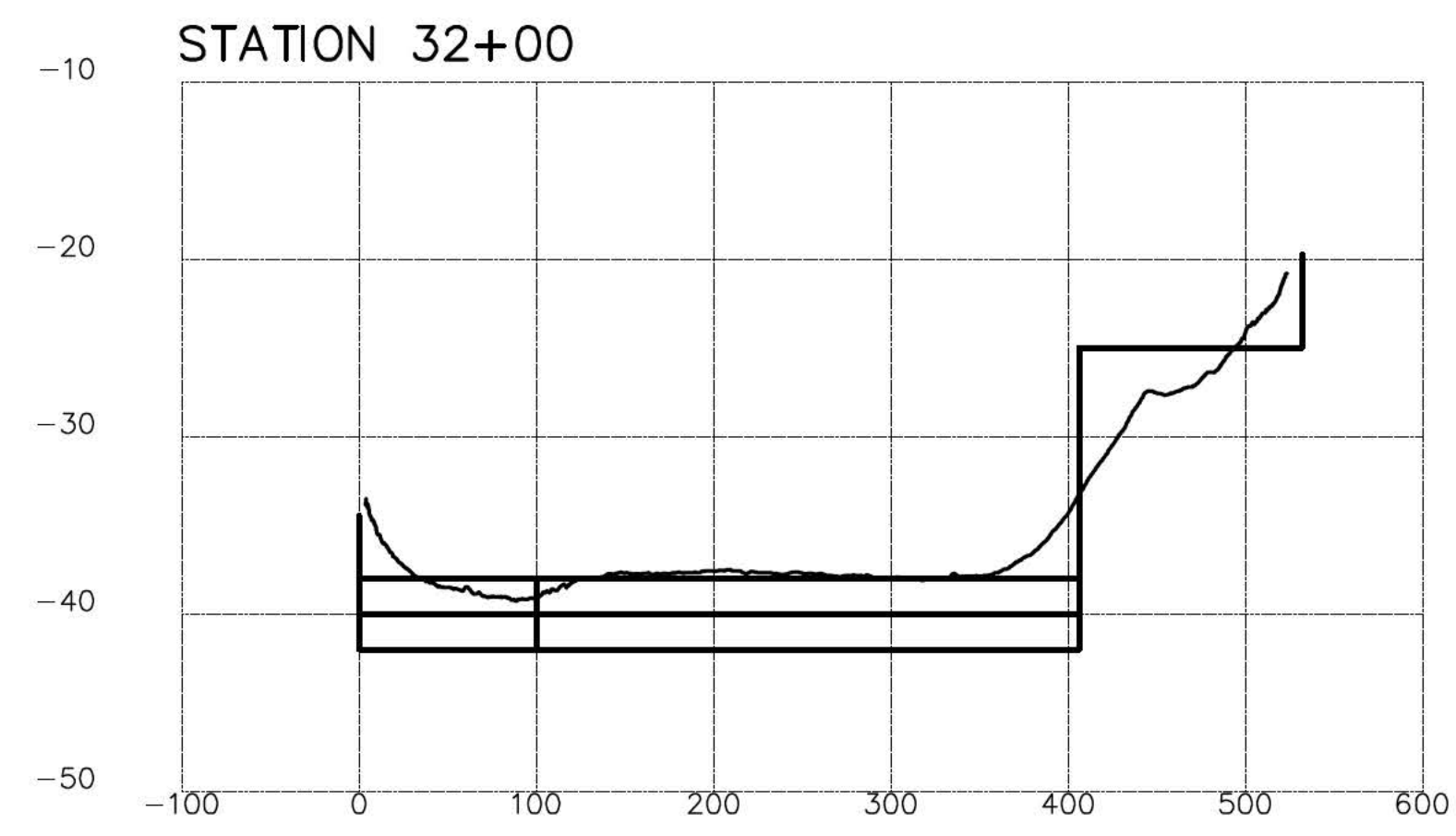
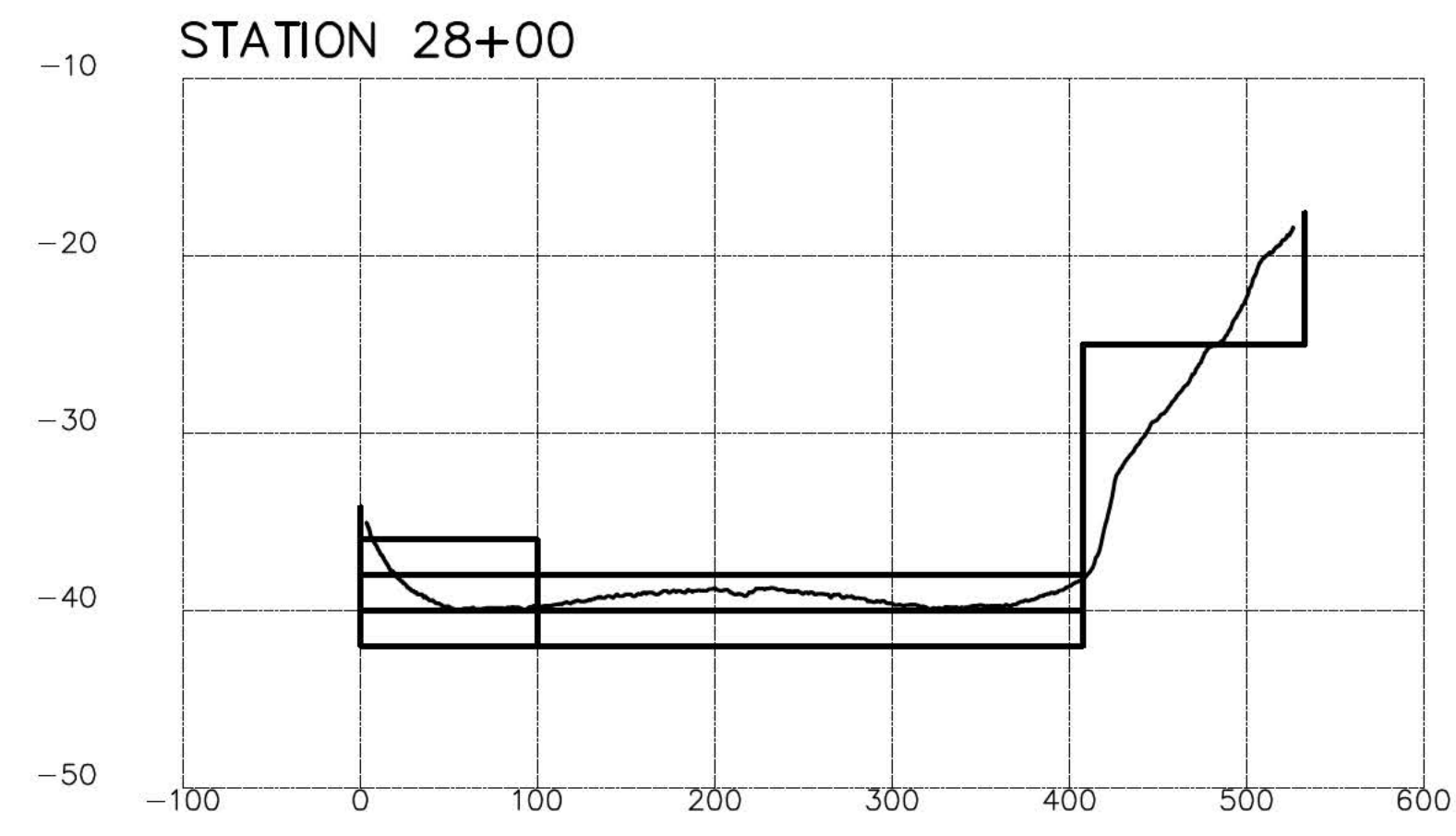
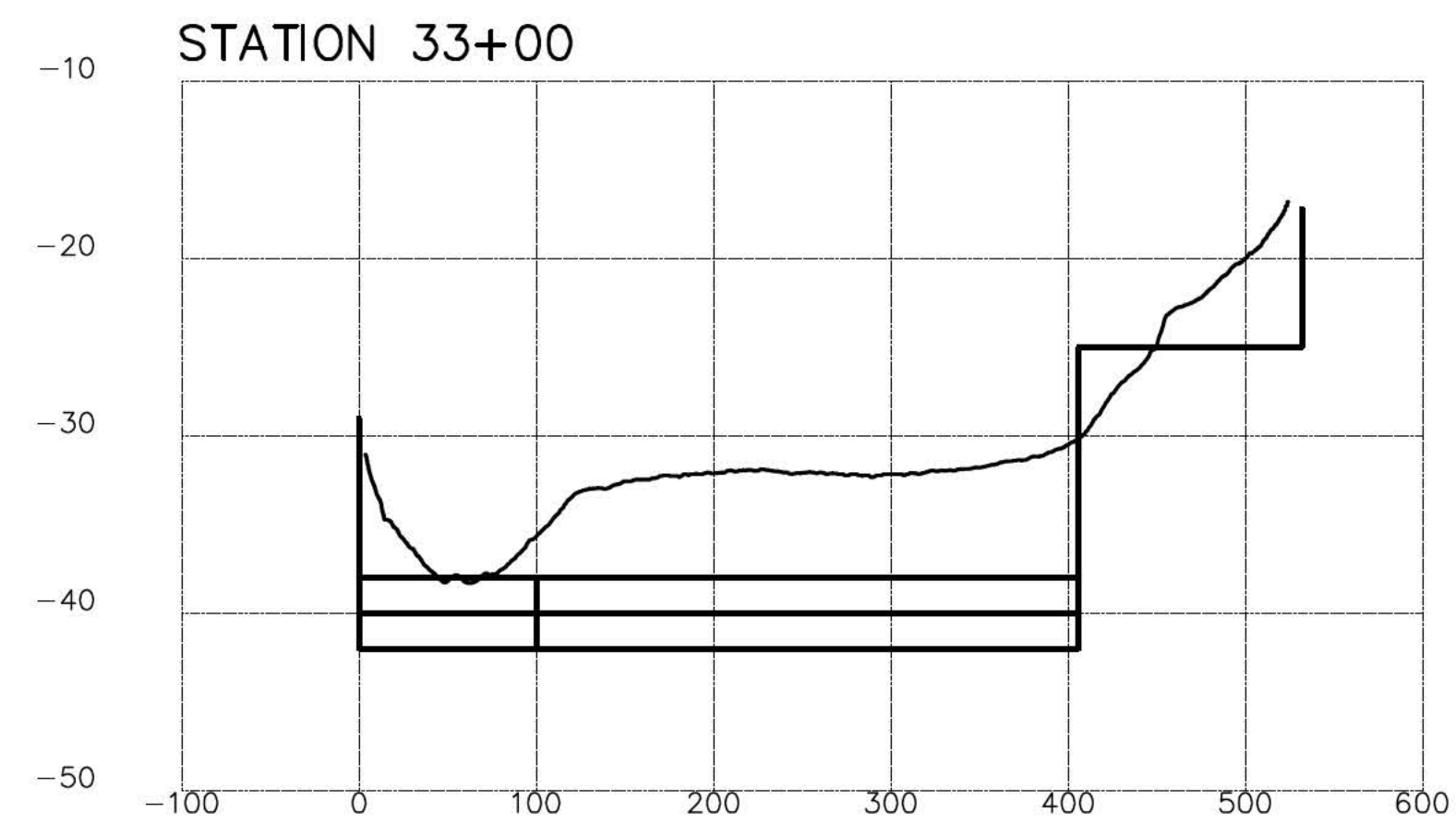
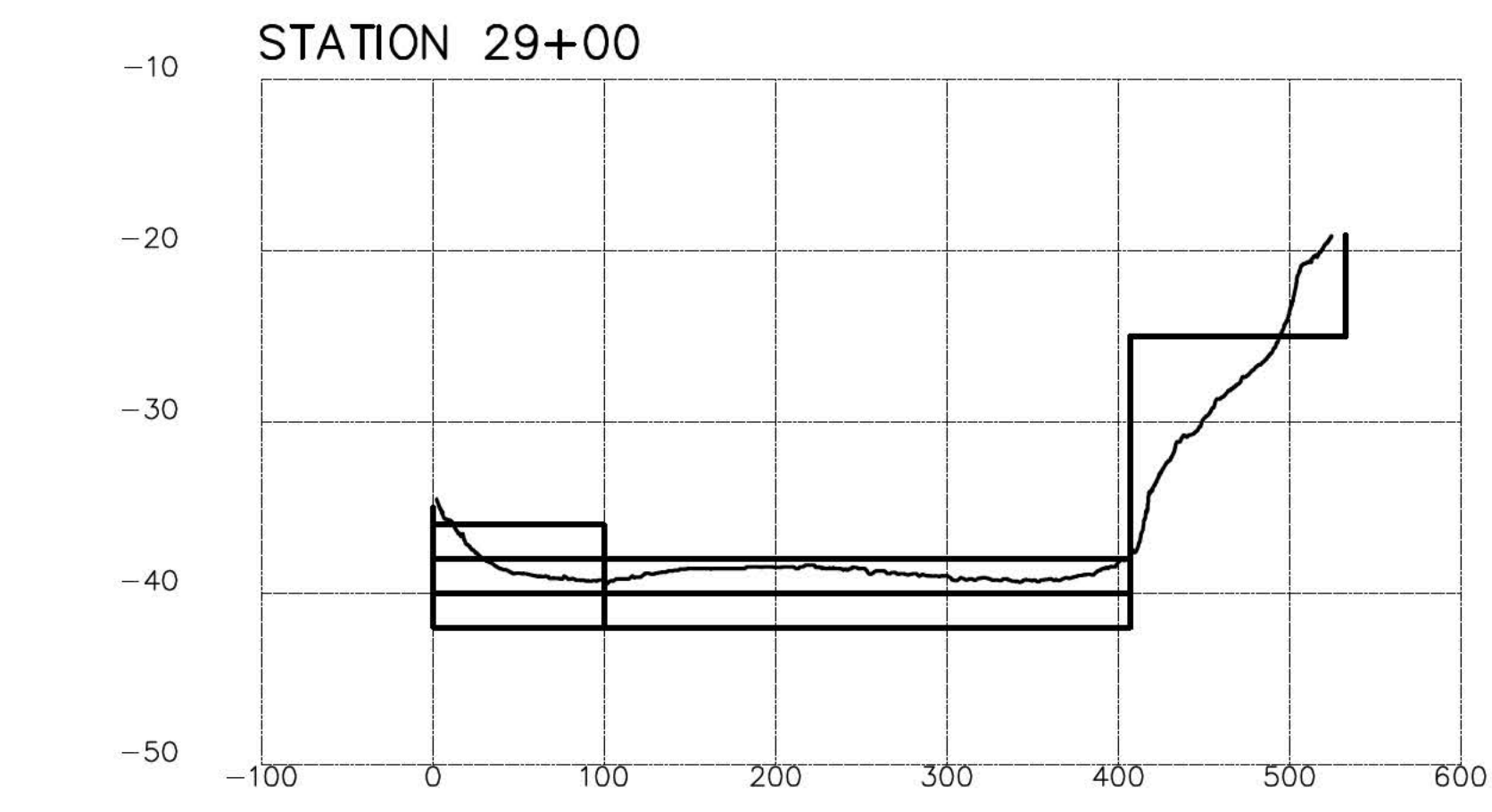
Seal T. Hudson
 Seal T. Hudson, PLS
 Mississippi Licensed Professional Land Surveyor No. 03220
 Prints not valid unless they bear an original seal.
 Survey Date: August 01, 2023

REVISIONS:	HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY OF:			
	A PORTION OF BAYOU CASOTTE HARBOR			
	PREPARED FOR:			
	JACKSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY			
				
	ROW ENGINEERING & SURVEYING CONSULTING ENGINEERS <small>3502 LAUGHLIN DR • SUITE B • MOBILE, AL 36689 PHONE 251-666-2766 • FAX 251-660-1040</small>			
ACAD: 52640.Dwg	JOB: 52640	PLAT DATE:	SCALE:	SHEET NO.
DRAWN BY: WJM	FB: 2028/69	AUGUST 30, 2023	1" = 100'	1 OF 3
CHECKED BY: CTH	HYPACK: 52640.BCT			



The surveys conducted in 2015 through 2022 are on layers in this drawing which have been turned off for clarity.
PROFILE 2023

REVISIONS: 	HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY OF: A PORTION OF BAYOU CASOTTE HARBOR			
	PREPARED FOR JACKSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY			
				
	 3502 LAUHLIN DR • SUITE B • MOBILE, AL 36693 PHONE 251-668-2766 • FAX 251-660-1040			
ACAD: 52640.Dwg DRAWN BY: WJM CHECKED BY: CTH	JOB: 52640 FB: 2028/69 HYPACK: 52640 BCT	PLAT DATE: AUGUST 30, 2023	SCALE: HORIZ 1" = 100' VERT 1" = 10'	SHEET NO. 2 OF 3



The surveys conducted in 2015 through 2022 are on layers in this drawing which have been turned off for clarity.
 PROFILE 2023

ELEVATION IN FEET

DISTANCE FROM BASE LINE IN FEET

REVISIONS:	HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY OF: A PORTION OF BAYOU CASOTTE HARBOR			
	PREPARED FOR: JACKSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY			
			ROW ENGINEERING & SURVEYING CONSULTING ENGINEERS 3502 LAUCHLIN DR • SUITE B • MOBILE, AL 36693 PHONE 251-668-2766 • FAX 251-660-1040	
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