



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

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

Regulatory Division  
Public Notice Number: SAM-2014-00721-MBM

June 12, 2015

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

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

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**

**PROPOSED WOLF RIVER MITIGATION BANK, HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received a complete mitigation banking prospectus for the proposed establishment of a mitigation bank referred to as the **Wolf River Mitigation Bank**. Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**BANK SPONSOR: Wolf River Mitigation Bank  
Mississippi Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
C/o Headwaters, Inc.  
Attention: Ms. Monica Humphrey  
P.O. Box 2836  
Ridgeland, Mississippi 39158**

The mitigation bank sponsors, Mississippi Fish and Wildlife Foundation, are proposing to establish a 417.80-acre commercial mitigation bank in Hancock County, Mississippi, to generate wetland and stream mitigation credits for purchase by interested Department of Army (DOA) permit applicants in order to fulfill compensatory wetland and stream mitigation requirements for various project-related impacts subject to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) regulatory authority pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The proposed service area for the mitigation bank includes Jackson, Harrison, Hancock, George, Stone, and Pearl River Counties, as well as the remaining area in the Mississippi Coastal Streams Watershed HUC 03170009. Use of bank outside of designated service would require the use of the Mobile District Proximity Factor Method. The mitigation bank is located in Sections 1 and

**12 of Township 5 South, Range 14 West, 30.628159 North, -89.353222 West,  
Hancock County, Mississippi.**

**To generate wetland mitigation credits within the proposed Wolf River Mitigation Bank, the sponsors propose to enhance 77.34 acres of bottomland hardwood wetlands and restore 120.94 acres of pine savannah wetland habitat. There are 32.48 acres of upland pine savannah habitat within the proposed mitigation bank that will not generate mitigation credits. The site has historically been used and managed for pine silviculture purposes. The proposed pine savannah restoration activities would include tree removal, prescribe burn management, and exotic species control. The proposed bottomland hardwood enhancement activities would include exotic species removal, and tree planting of target bottomland hardwood wetland species to restore the composition, density and diversity of the native bottomland hardwood wetland system. The banker is proposing to perform wetland credit calculations using the Wetland Rapid Assessment Procedure (WRAP) and the Modified Wetland Rapid Assessment Procedure (M-WRAP). The Corps has not verified the acreages or appropriateness of the proposed actions at this time.**

**To generate stream mitigation credits within the mitigation bank, the applicant is proposing to enhance 166.96 acres of bottomland hardwood wetlands within 200-foot wide riparian buffer zones along 13,345.15 linear feet of Wolf River, 200-foot wide riparian buffer zones along 12,464.71 linear feet of perennial streams, and 100-foot wide riparian buffer zones along 2,185.76 linear feet of intermittent streams. No instream mitigation is proposed. All stream credit calculations will be determined using the 2012 Mobile District Compensatory Stream Mitigation Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines. The Corps has not verified the acreages or appropriateness of the proposed actions at this time.**

On 10 April 2008 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued new regulations, in the Federal Register, Vol. 73, No. 70, governing compensatory mitigation for losses of aquatic resources. The new regulation, 33 CFR 332 – Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources, establishes performance standards and criteria for mitigation projects including mitigation banks. Part 33 CFR 332.8 addresses requirements for establishing, operating, and maintaining mitigation banks that provide credits to satisfy mitigation requirements of the Clean Water Act, Section 404 permit program. Recognizing the potential benefits mitigation banking offers for streamlining the permit evaluation process and providing more effective mitigation for authorized impacts to wetlands, the agencies encourage the establishment and appropriate use of mitigation banks in the Section 404 program. This guidance became effective 9 June 2008.

June 12, 2015

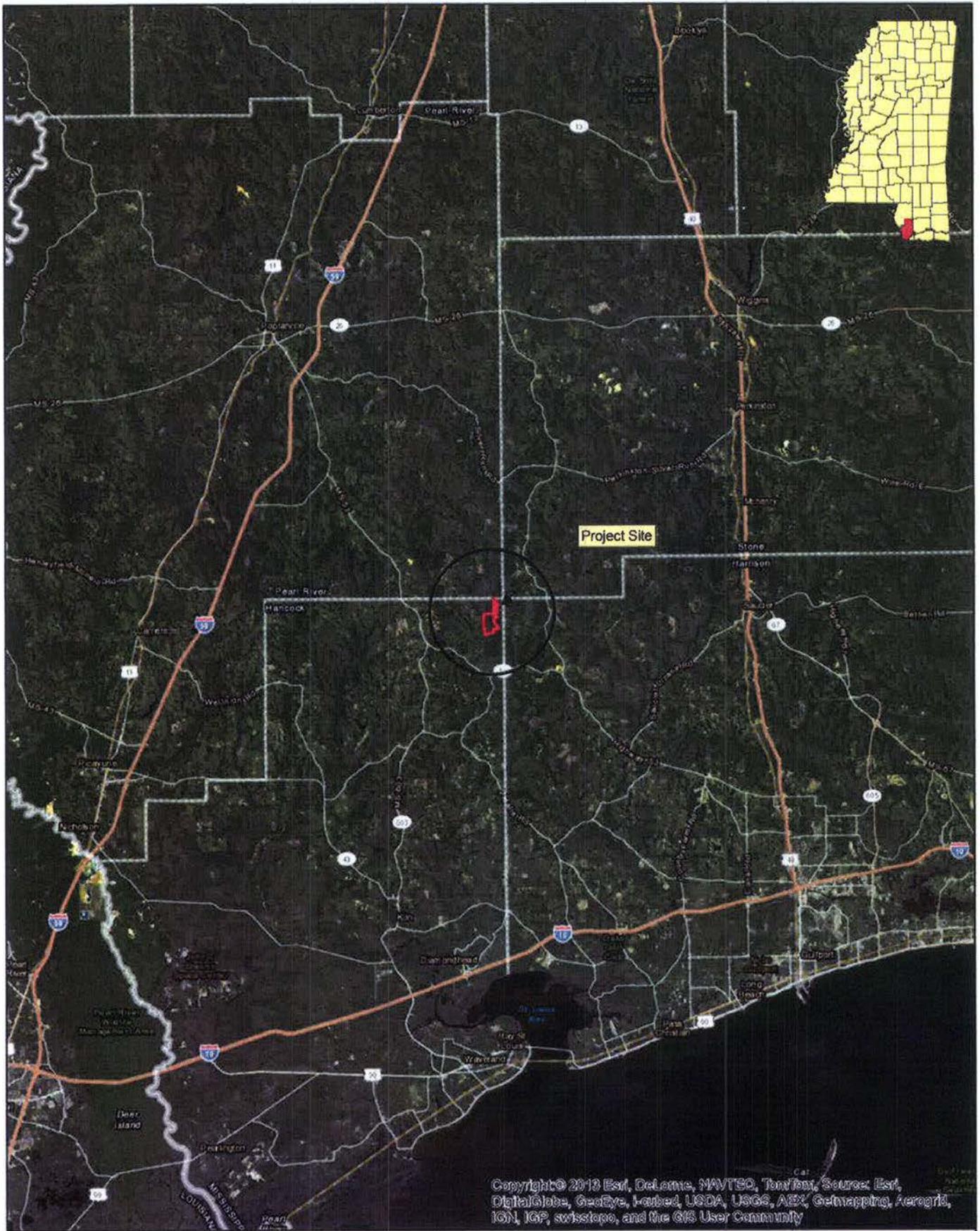
An interagency group of Federal and State regulatory and resource agency representatives, as appropriate given the projected use for the bank, referred to as the Mitigation Banking Interagency Review Team (IRT), is signatory to a banking instrument and oversees the establishment, use and operation of a mitigation bank. Information provided in the prospectus will serve as the basis for establishing a banking instrument which will describe in detail the physical and legal characteristics of the bank and how the bank will be established and operated.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties for consideration while evaluating this proposed activity. Copies of all comments received will be distributed to the other members of the IRT and the bank sponsor for full consideration in the development of the mitigation bank.

Comments concerning this Public Notice should be received within 30 days of the date of this public notice and should refer to number **SAM-2014-00721-MBM** and direct your correspondence to the District Commander, U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: Regulatory Division; with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225-2261, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530. If you have any questions concerning this publication, please contact Mr. Michael Moxey, IRT Chair, at [michael.b.moxey@usace.army.mil](mailto:michael.b.moxey@usace.army.mil) or telephone number (251) 690-2658.

MOBILE DISTRICT  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures



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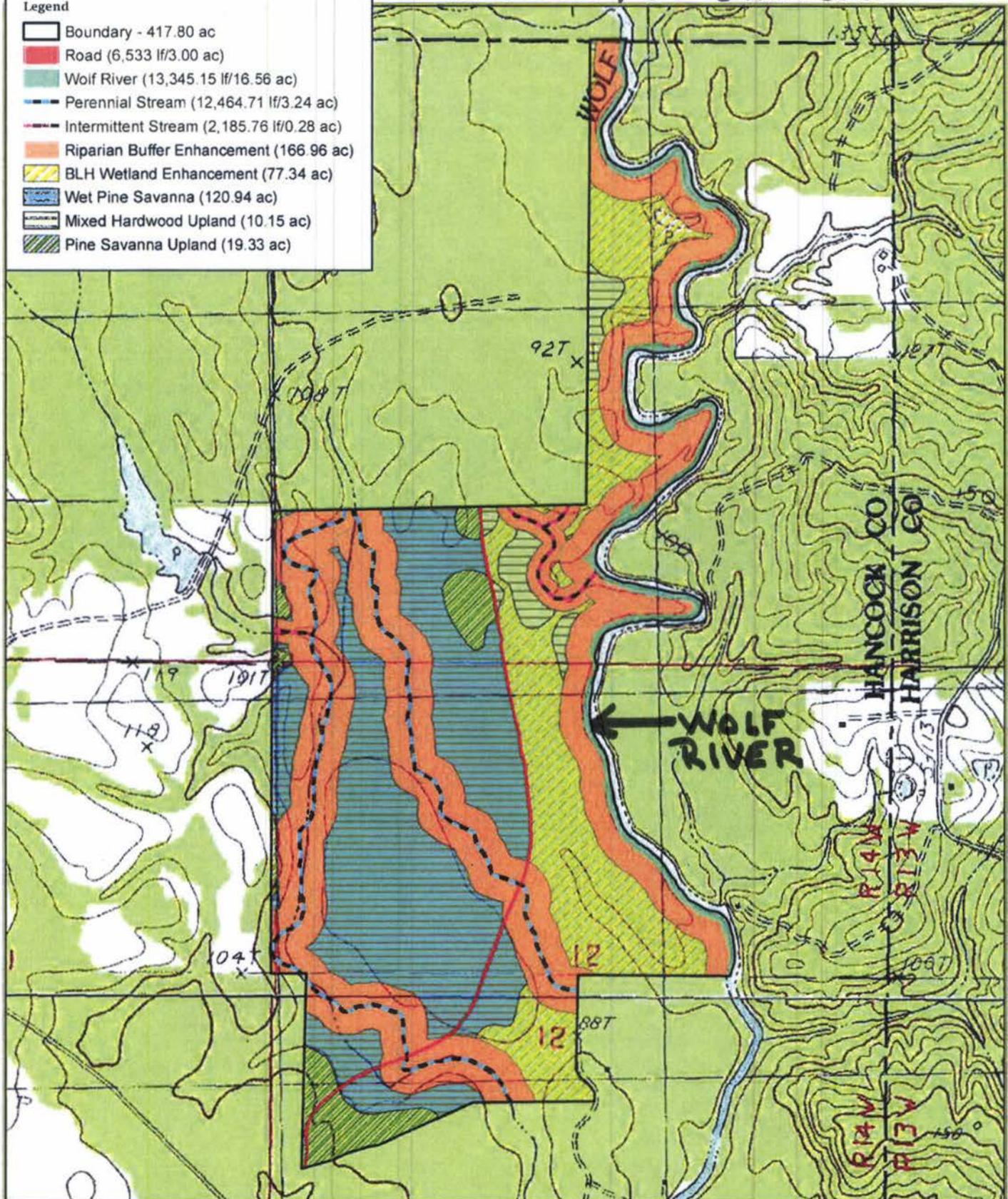


**Wolf River Mitigation Bank**  
 Sections 1 and 12, T5S, R14W  
 Hancock County, Mississippi



Section 1+12, Township 5 South, Range 14 West  
 30.628159 N -89.35322 W

- Legend**
-  Boundary - 417.80 ac
  -  Road (6,533 lf/3.00 ac)
  -  Wolf River (13,345.15 lf/16.56 ac)
  -  Perennial Stream (12,464.71 lf/3.24 ac)
  -  Intermittent Stream (2,185.76 lf/0.28 ac)
  -  Riparian Buffer Enhancement (166.96 ac)
  -  BLH Wetland Enhancement (77.34 ac)
  -  Wet Pine Savanna (120.94 ac)
  -  Mixed Hardwood Upland (10.15 ac)
  -  Pine Savanna Upland (19.33 ac)



**Wolf River Mitigation Bank**  
 Section 1 and 12, T5S, R14W  
 Hancock County, Mississippi



Hancock County, MS.

