



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

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CESAM-RD-M
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2015-00075-PAH

July 24, 2015

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE SAM-2015-00075-PAH
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

PROPOSED WETLAND FILL FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY, 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.

APPLICANTS: **City of Hattiesburg**
Attention: Mr. Lamar Rutland, P.E.
212 West Front Street
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401

AGENT: **Pittman Environmental Services, LLC**
Post Office Box 1926
Purvis, Mississippi 39475

LOCATION: The proposed site is located within Hattiesburg between James Street and the existing south sewage lagoon complex. The property is located in Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi (Latitude 31.3060° North, Longitude 89.2725° West). The project site includes Burketts Creek and wetland areas that drain into Burketts Creek, a perennial tributary to Bernard Bayou, in the Leaf River drainage (HUC 03170005).

WORK: The applicant proposes to impact 55 linear feet of Burketts Creek, fill 11.82 acres of wetlands associated near Burketts Creek, and clear 0.41 acre of wetlands associated with Burketts Creek for the construction of a waste water treatment facility for the City of Hattiesburg (City).

ALTERNATIVES: Four Alternative sites were evaluated. The applicant states the proposed preferred site is the only property available that meets the required criteria for the project location. Selection criteria for the location of the preferred alternative were based upon: being within or immediately adjacent to lagoon complex; property owned by the City; projected construction timeline that would allow the City to meet the deadlines established by the Consent Decree; a minimal impact to residential areas; a minimum acreage of ±40 acres to support facility; cost; and environmental impacts.

AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION: Due to the required footprint of the proposed waste water treatment facility and the location of wetlands within the site, impacts to wetlands cannot be reduced. The preliminary project plans impacted the entire reach of Burketts Creek within the site by either re-aligning around the site or piping under the site. The plan has been redesigned to limit the Burketts Creek impacts to the one required crossing. A Second Amended Agreed Order and the Amended Consent Judgment does not allow the City any flexibility in the design and construction of the facility.

PROJECT PURPOSE: As stated by the applicant, the project is for the construction of a waste water treatment facility.

MITIGATION: The applicant proposes to provide in-kind compensatory mitigation through the purchase of mitigation credits.

The applicant has applied for State Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Upon completion of the required advertising and public comment review, a determination relative to WQC will be made by the Mississippi Office of Pollution Control.

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 (USACE) 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 concerning whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, 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 USACE 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 undertaking defined in this notice is being considered for the potential to affect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the USACE has determined that the permit area consists of the entire project site. The applicant has conducted a Phase I cultural resources and archaeological survey of the property, and has stated that there are historic or archeological properties known to exist on the site, which may be affected by the proposed work. The USACE has made a preliminary determination that the project is not likely to affect cultural and historic resources within the permit area. However, we are seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer, federally recognized American Indian tribes, local historical societies, museums, universities, the National Park Service, and the general public regarding the existence, or the potential for existence, of significant cultural and historic properties, which may be affected by the work. This action constitutes the full extent of cultural resources investigations unless comment to this notice is received documenting that significant sites or properties exist which may be affected by this work, or that adequately documents that a potential exists for the location of significant sites or properties within the project area.

By letter dated June 16, 2015, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has stated that the activity as proposed will have no effect on endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2015-00573-PAH**, and should be directed to the District Engineer, USACE, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Attention: Mr. Philip A. Hegji, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001 and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225-2261.

All comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this public Notice. If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager, Mr. Hegji at (251) 690-3222 or philip.a.hegji@usace.army.mil. 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.

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures



Time is important to you. Map.

Petal

Central Ave

Old Highway 42

Highway 11

Boule St

S Main St

Corinth Rd

Hattiesburg

Hardy St

Bay St

Hall Ave

Carterville

Old Hwy 49

SAM-2015-00075

Old River Rd

Sunrise Rd

Sunri

Dixie Pine

Edwards St

49

Cooper



SAM-2015-00075

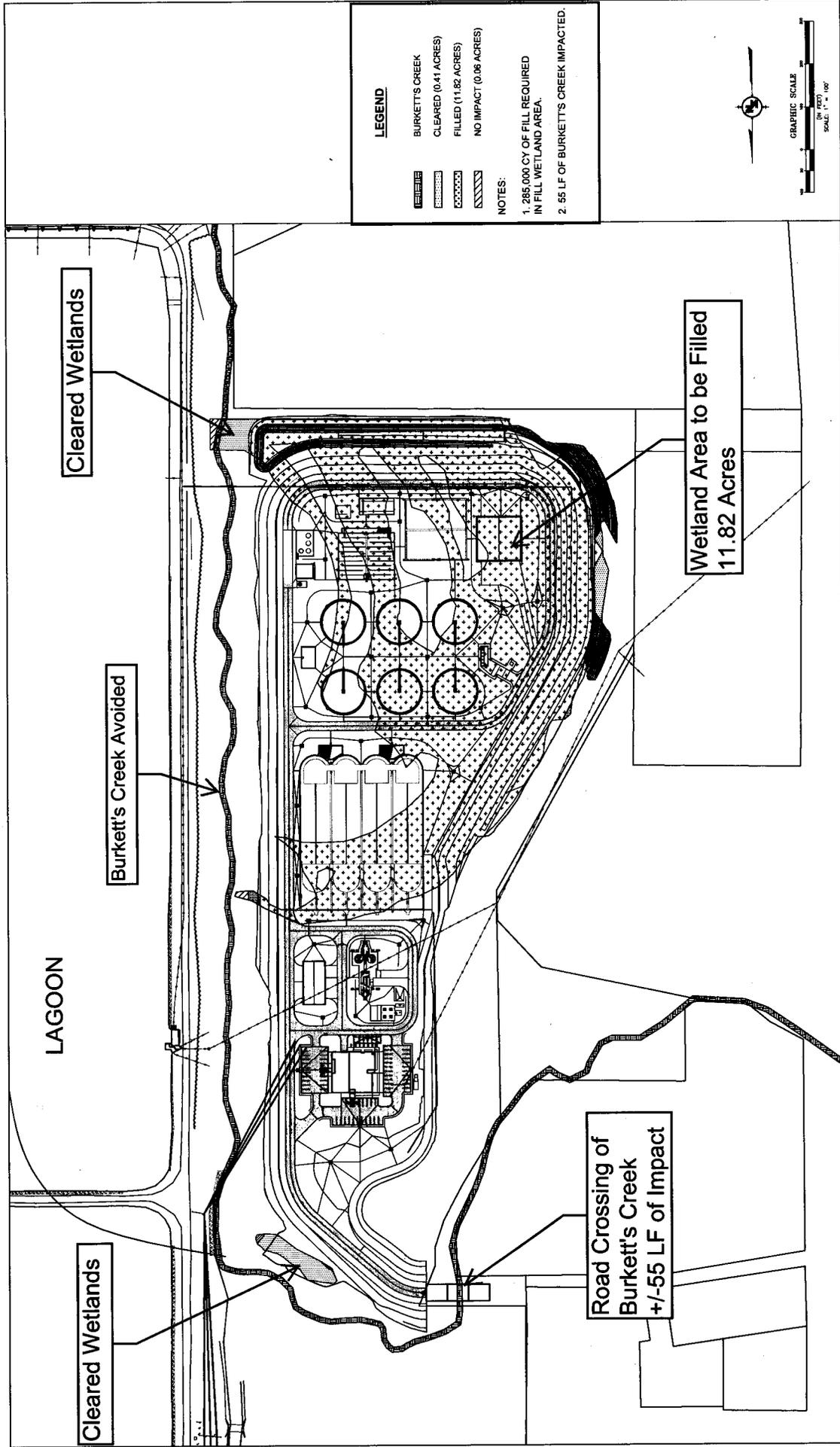
Faulkner St

James St

Railroad St

...time to download pictures for your map.

SAM-2015-00075- SITE PLAN, PROPOSED IMPACTS

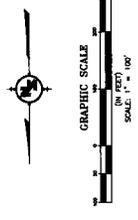


LEGEND

-  BURKETT'S CREEK
-  CLEARED (0.41 ACRES)
-  FILLED (11.82 ACRES)
-  NO IMPACT (0.06 ACRES)

NOTES:

1. 285,000 CY OF FILL REQUIRED IN FILL WETLAND AREA.
2. 55 LF OF BURKETT'S CREEK IMPACTED.

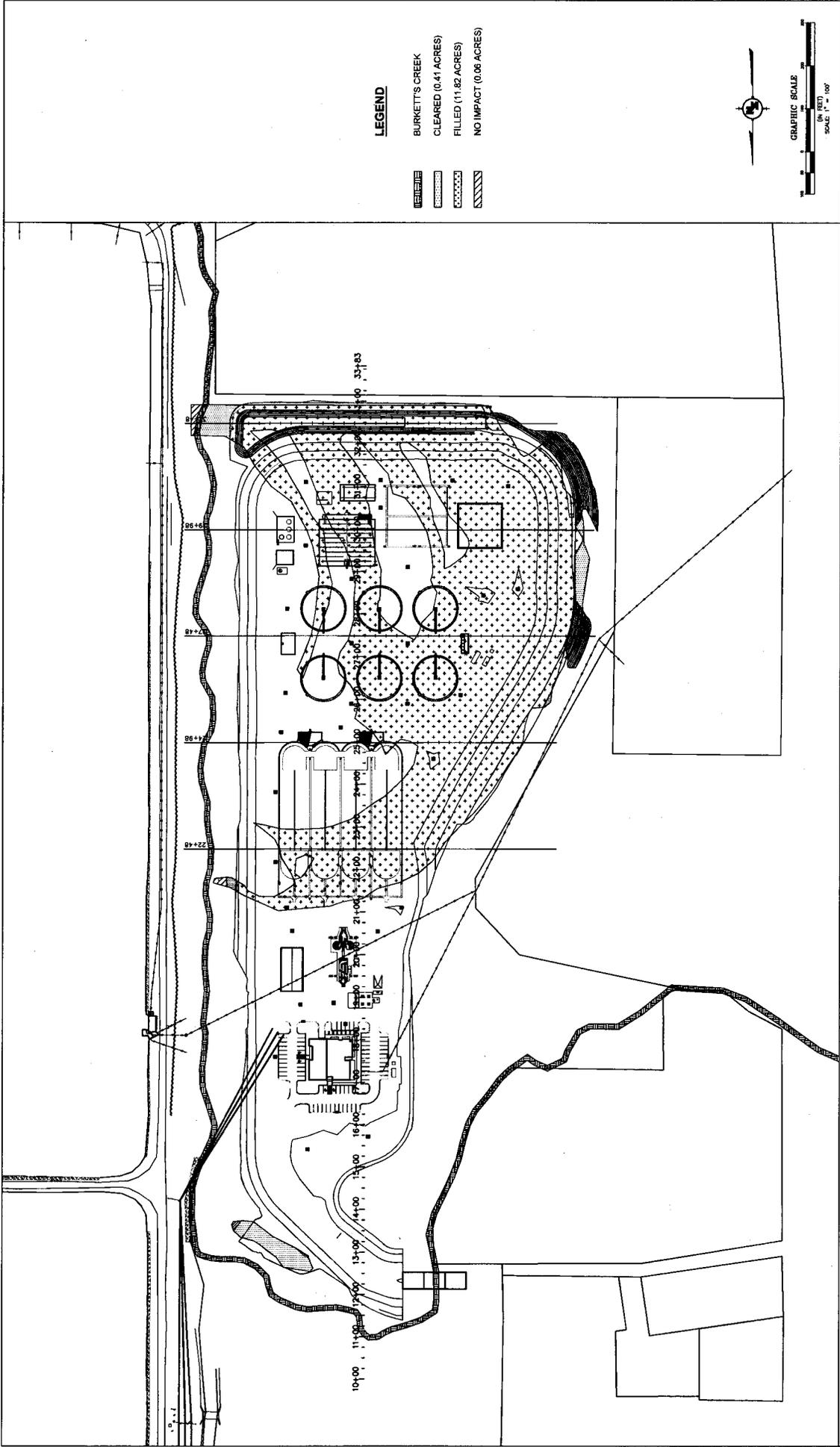


WETLAND IMPACT MAP

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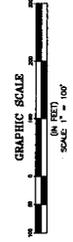
CITY OF HATTIESBURG
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
CITY OF HATTIESBURG
HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

WETLAND IMPACT MAP



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CROSS SECTIONS KEY



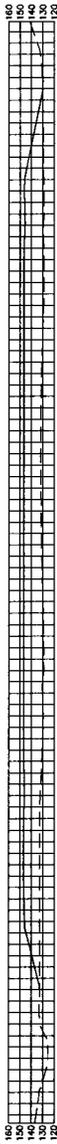
CITY OF HATTIESBURG
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI



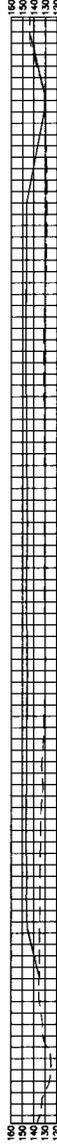
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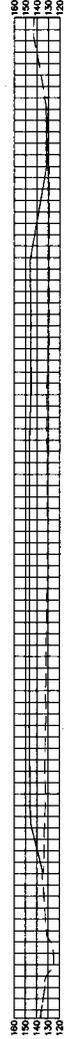
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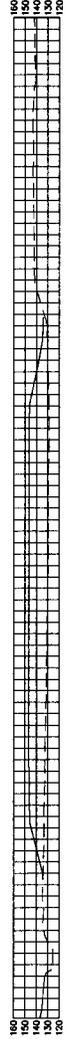
29+98



27+48



24+98



22+48

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CROSS SECTIONS