



**CESAM-RD-C**

**Public Notice Number SAM-2007-1590-JBM**

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 (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 undertaking defined in this notice is being 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

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project, the potential indirect effects that may occur to historic properties as a result of this undertaking are also being considered. 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 concerned citizens 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 endangered or threatened species.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or Federally managed fisheries.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number SAM-2007-1590-JBM and should be directed to:

District Engineer  
U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile (RD-C)  
Post Office Box 2288  
Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001

With a Copy to:

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality  
Office of Pollution Control  
Post Office Box 10385  
Jackson, Mississippi 39289

And to:

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources  
1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101  
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

Comments should be received no later than **21 days** from the date of this Public notice.

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If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager via e-mail at [john.b.mcfadyen@sam.usace.army.mil](mailto:john.b.mcfadyen@sam.usace.army.mil) or telephone number **(251) 690-3222**. 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/RD/reg](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/RD/reg), and please take a moment to complete our customer satisfaction survey while you're there. Your responses are appreciated and will allow us to improve our services.

Encls.

MOBILE DISTRICT  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineer

Proposed St. Martin High School  
Section 16, T7S, R8W  
Jackson County, Mississippi



Map prepared by PAC Services LLC

0 3,500 7,000 14,000 Feet



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
PROPOSED ST MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project consists of the construction of a 160,050 s.f. high school complex located on 16<sup>th</sup> Section lands (S16 T7S R8W) in Jackson County. The project is funded in part by FEMA as part of the Hurricane Katrina recovery effort.

PURPOSE AND NEED:

The Jackson County School Board is in need of lost educational space caused by Hurricane Katrina. In addition, FEMA is working with the Board to upgrade this facility to a federally funded and approved community 361 Storm Shelter which will better protect citizens in future events.

DESCRIPTION & COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES:

The Board reviewed several other alternatives within the 16<sup>th</sup> section grounds. Coordination with FEMA and their regulations as to what they would fund as well as guidance through the regulatory agency pre-application process, this site was selected.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT:

The project will impact approximately 40 acres of pine woodlands. It is necessary to impact 2.31 acres of jurisdictional wetlands that currently serve as a drainage pattern wetlands from the adjacent flats. The main creek is not going to be directly impacted with fill material.

PROJECT IMPACTS:

DIRECT IMPACTS: 2.31 acres  
INDIRECT IMPACTS: 40 acres  
COASTAL WETLANDS: none

MITIGATION:

The applicant proposes to construct the project utilizing BMP's and also will purchase necessary credits at a ratio of 3:1 from an approved regional mitigation bank.