



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

App. rec'd: 11 Sep 04
app. complete: 11 Sep 04
Comment exp: 10-25-04

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

CESAM-OP-S
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MS04-02564-M

23 September 2004

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

PROPOSED BEACH NOURISHMENT IN CLERMONT HARBOR, MISSISSIPPI SOUND,
HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the River and Harbor 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: Hancock County Board of Supervisors
Attention: Mr. Rocky Pullman, President
Post Office Box 429
Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi 39520

WATERWAY: On Mississippi Sound, near Clermont Harbor, Hancock County, Mississippi.

WORK: The applicant is requesting a permit to perform beach nourishment at the existing beach in Clermont Harbor. The applicant proposes to place approximately 2,140 cubic yards of clean beach sand in an area 550 feet along Beach Boulevard and between 1 and 100 feet wide at a depth of 1 to 2 feet. The applicant proposes to obtain beach quality sand from an upland source. The site contains a marsh fringe, approximately 0.39 acre, predominantly vegetated with Spartina alterniflora and a section of submerged aquatic vegetation, approximately 1,000 square feet. The applicant proposes to transplant all coastal marsh vegetation and SAV to the mitigation site located adjacent to the nourishment area. The applicant proposes to avoid SAV located outside of the boundaries of the beach template as shown in the applicant's drawings. The purpose of the proposed project is to nourish the existing manmade beach which was last nourished in 1967 as stated by the applicant. The project will provide a recreational beach for residents as well as some form of protection for the existing seawall and public road against erosion and high wave energy during storm events.

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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 certified 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.

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.

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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.

The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and no properties listed in or eligible for the National Register are known to exist which would be affected by the proposed work. This review 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 permit area. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer and the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Division of Archeological Services.

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

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The proposal would impact approximately 0.40 acre of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of red drum, Spanish mackerel, and shrimp. Our initial determination is the proposed action would adversely impact 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 Services.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **MS04-02564-M** and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: Regulatory Branch, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 10385, Jackson,

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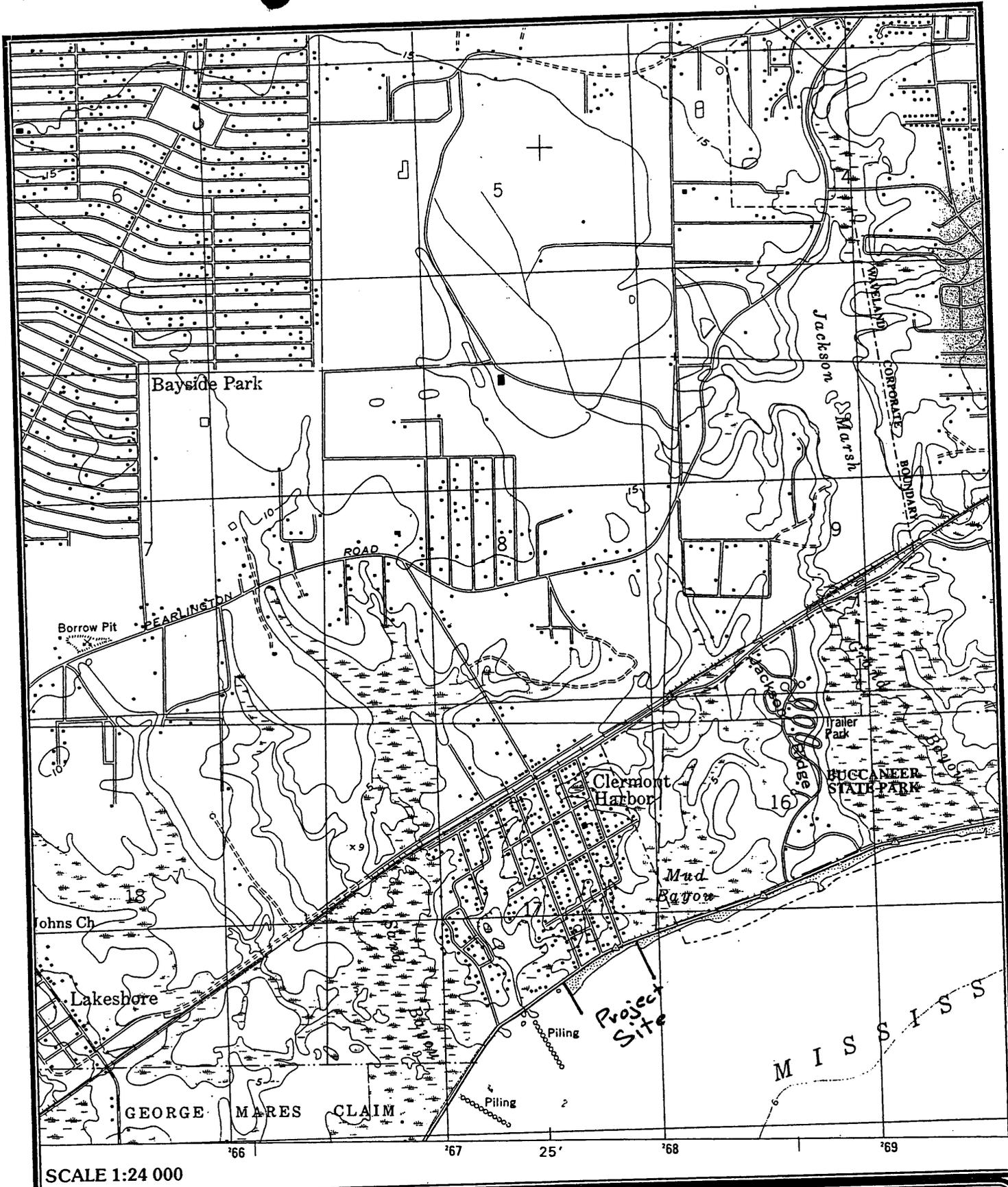
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Mississippi 39289, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, in time to be received not later than **25 October 2004**.

If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact this office, **Ms. Linda Brown**, telephone number **(251) 694-3786**. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

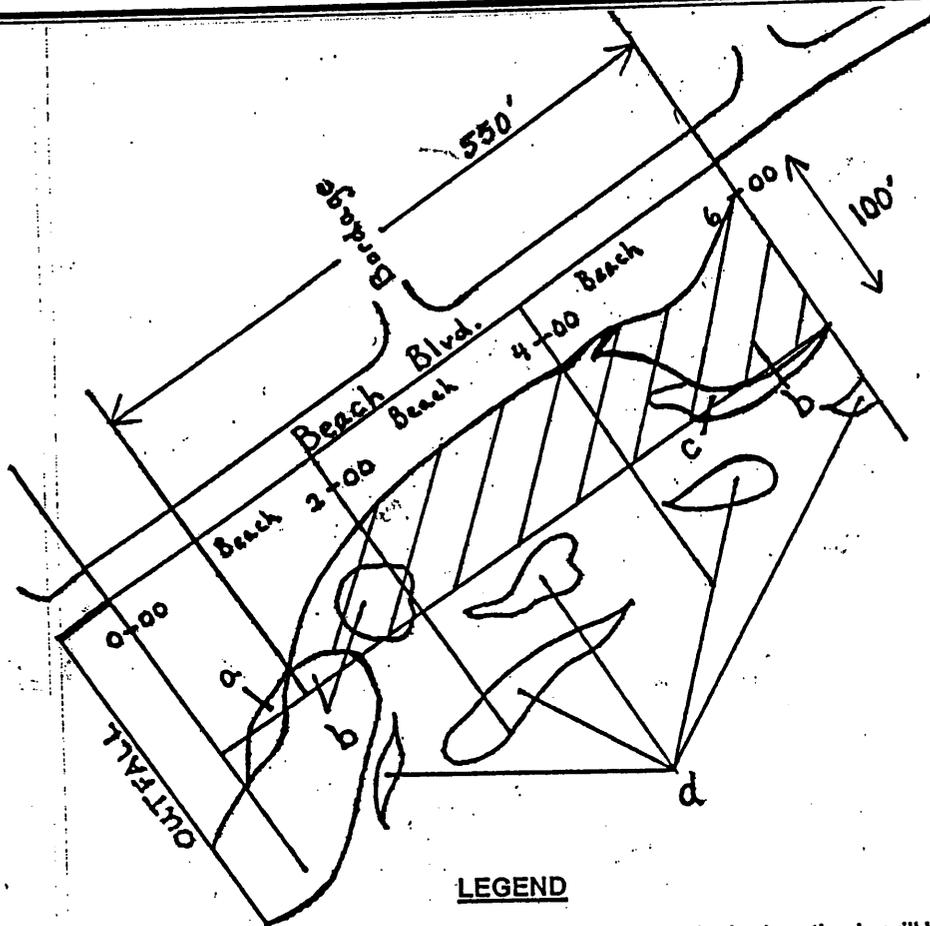


Compton Engineering, PA
Engineering, Surveying and Environmental

Site: **Clermont Harbor Beach**
Hancock County, Mississippi

Figure Title: **USGS Topographic Map**

Figure Number



Renourishment Site



Total Fill Area = 0.88 acres

LEGEND

- a. A section of a scrub-shrub wetland – will be avoided
- b. Coastal marsh vegetation dominated by *Spartina alterniflora* (approximately 0.39 acres) – will be transplanted to Mitigation Site
- c. A section of a *Rupia maritima* seagrass bed (approximately 1000 square feet) – will be transplanted to Mitigation Site
- d. *Rupia maritima* seagrass beds – will be avoided and marked as off-limits

Compton Engineering, P.A.
Engineering and Environmental Services

Site: Clermont Harbor, Mississippi Sound
Beach Boulevard
Bay Saint Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi

Figure Title: **Renourishment Site**

Figure Number:



Compton Engineering, P.A.
Engineering and Environmental Services

Site: Clermont Harbor, Mississippi Sound
Beach Boulevard
Bay Saint Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi

Figure Title: **Mitigation Site**

Figure
Number:

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