



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

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CESAM-PD-EC
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. FP06-HC01-02

14 August 2006

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
AND
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
AND
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**REHABILITATION EFFORT FOR THE
HARRISON COUNTY BEACHES, MISSISSIPPI
HURRICANE/SHORE PROTECTION PROJECT**

Interested persons are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Mobile District is proposing to implement restoration of the shoreline protection project to pre Hurricane Katrina conditions. The previous beach nourishment project, completed in 2001, will be considered the pre-Katrina condition and will be used as the template for the current project being proposed. The project will result in placement of approximately 1.1 million cubic yards of beach quality sand hydraulically dredged from existing borrow sites located approximately 1500 feet offshore from the Harrison County shoreline. The beach will be restored to elevation 5.0 - 5.5 National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD), extending approximately 230 feet seaward to elevation 3.5 NGVD, and extending approximately 35 feet to mean sea level. Damaged culverts, inlets and outfalls will be replaced.

This public notice is issued in accordance with rules and regulations published in the Federal Register on 26 April 1988. These laws are applied whenever dredged or fill materials may enter waters of the United States, or for the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of placement into ocean waters. The recipient of this notice is requested specifically to review the proposed action as it may impact water quality, relative to the requirements of Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Review of any other potential impacts is also requested.

PROJECT AUTHORITY: This project would be constructed under the authority of Public Law (PL) 84-99, Flood and Coastal Storm Emergencies (33 U.S.C.701n) (69 Stat. 186). Under this law the Chief of Engineers, acting for the Secretary of the Army, is authorized to undertake activities including disaster preparedness, advance measures, emergency operations (Flood

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Response and Post Flood Response), rehabilitation of flood control works threatened or destroyed by flood, protection or repair of federally authorized shore protective works threatened or damaged by coastal storm, and provisions of emergency water due to drought or contaminated source.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: Mississippi Sound Shoreline extending from Biloxi Inlet on the east to Henderson Point on the west in Harrison County, Mississippi.

PROPOSED ACTION: The previous beach nourishment project, completed in 2001, will be considered the pre-Katrina condition and will be used as the template for the current project being proposed. The project would result in placement of approximately 1.1 million cubic yards of beach quality sand hydraulically dredged from existing borrow sites located approximately 1500 feet offshore from the Harrison County shoreline. The beach will be restored to elevation 5.0 - 5.5 NGVD, extending approximately 230 feet seaward to elevation 3.5 NGVD, and extending approximately 35 feet to mean sea level. Damaged culverts, inlets and outfalls will be replaced as shown in the enclosed typical cross sections for the beach nourishment project.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Pursuant to the Clean Water Act, state water quality certification is required for the proposed activities. The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control (OPC) is charged with the issuance of water quality certification for permits which may result in any discharge into waters of the United States. OPC will make a decision relative to water quality for the proposed action upon completion of the required comment period.

COASTAL ZONE CONSISTENCY: Pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act, State of Mississippi, Department of Marine Resources (DMR), has the regulatory authority in the coastal zone of Mississippi pursuant to the Coastal Wetlands Protection Law (Section 49-27-1 through 69), enabling legislation in Section 57-15-6 for the Mississippi Coastal Program and the guidelines of the Mississippi Coastal Program. The Corps has determined the proposed action is consistent with the Coastal Zone Management Act to the maximum extent practicable. DMR will make a decision relative to coastal zone consistency for the proposed action upon completion of the required comment period.

USE BY OTHERS: The proposed action is not expected to cause significant land use changes in the adjacent areas.

SECTION 404(b)(1) EVALUATION REPORT: Water quality impacts associated with the proposed action have been addressed in an evaluation report prepared in accordance with the guidelines promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Section

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404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Minor increases in turbidity may be experienced in the immediate vicinity of the project during the course of construction. This increase would be temporary and would return to pre-project conditions shortly after completion of construction. The Section 404(b)(1) evaluation is available for review in the Mobile District Office upon request.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) CONSIDERATIONS:

In accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) addressing the proposed action has been prepared. The EA and FONSI are available for review in the Mobile District Office.

ENDANGERED/THREATENED SPECIES: Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the proposed action is being coordinated with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service regarding potential impacts to endangered or threatened species and their critical habitat under their purview. Our preliminary review of this action indicates that there would be no adverse effect on any listed endangered and/or threatened species or their critical habitat.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The beach nourishment protection project in Harrison County, Mississippi will not significantly affect coastal habitat identified as EFH. The project contains no submerged vegetation or marsh within the project vicinity. Therefore, it is expected that impacts associated with the project would be minor.

CULTURAL RESOURCES CONSIDERATION: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and no properties listed on, being nominated to, or that have been determined eligible for the National Register are known to exist in the vicinity of the proposed work. The Mississippi State Historic Preservation Officer has determined that no Indian cultural or religious sites will be impacted.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN: On 21 April 1997, the President issued Executive Order (EO) 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health and Safety Risks*. This EO requires federal agencies, to the extent permitted by law and appropriate, and consistent with the agency's mission, to make it a high priority to identify and assess environmental health and safety risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children and ensure that its policies, programs, activities, and standards address disproportionate risk to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks. The construction of the recommended plan does not constitute a disproportionate risk to children.

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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: Executive Order (EO) 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low-Income Populations was issued on 11 February 1994. The order requires that federal agencies conduct programs, policies, and activities that substantially affect human health or the environment so that there are no disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low income populations. This project is not designed to create a benefit for any group or individual, but rather benefits on a region-wide basis. There are no indications that the recommended plan would be contrary to the goals of EO 12898, or would create disproportionate, adverse human health or environmental impacts on minority or low income populations of the surrounding communities.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to proceed with the proposed action will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed action on overall public interest. That decision will reflect the national concerns for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that reasonably may be expected to accrue from this proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, would be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands historic properties, 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 and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the public. The proposed action will proceed unless it is found to be contrary to the overall public interest.

COORDINATION: Among the agencies receiving copies of this public notice are:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
Regional Director, National Parks Service
Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
Mississippi State Historic Preservation Officer

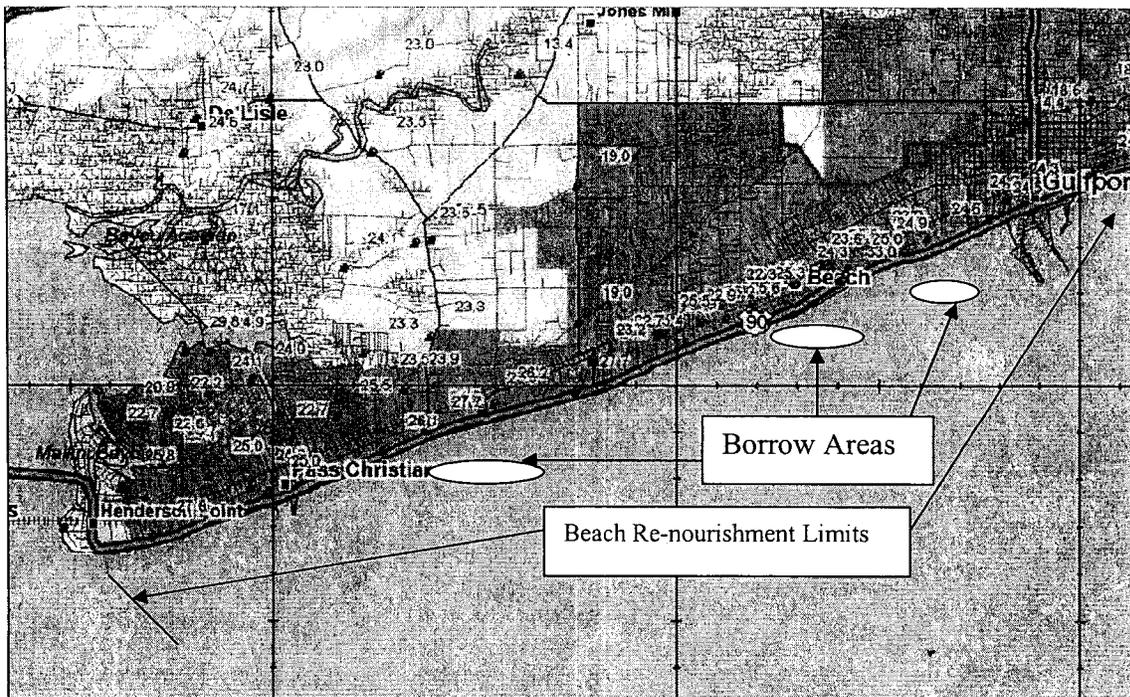
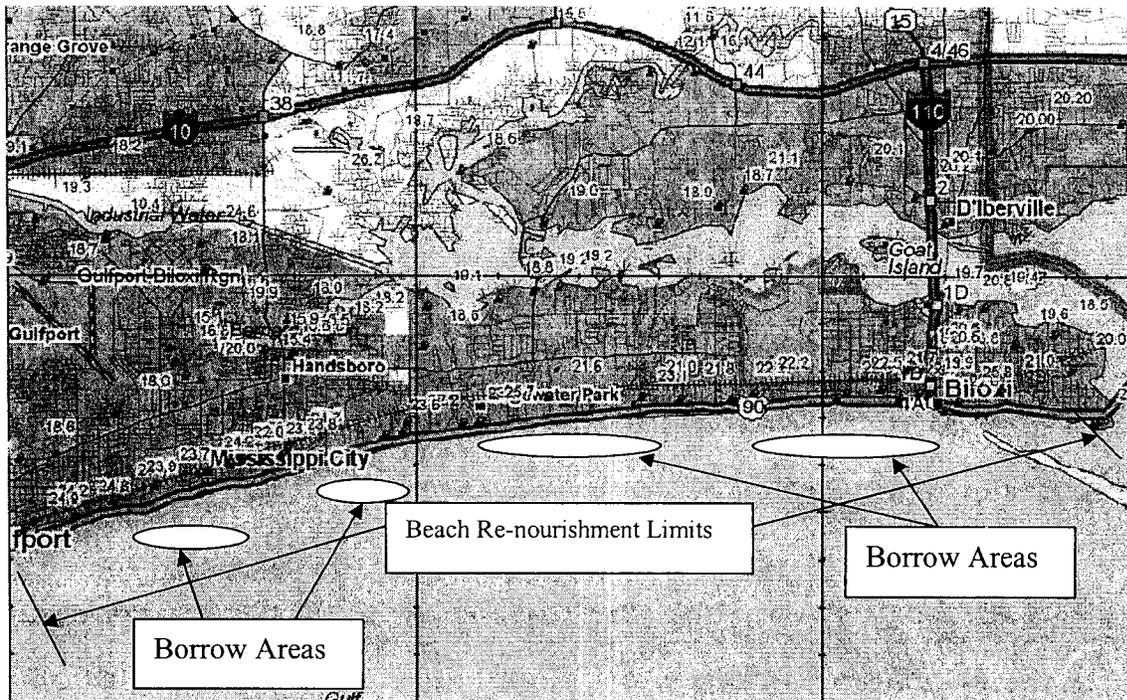
Other federal, state, and local organizations, and United States Senators and Representatives of Mississippi are being sent copies of this notice and are invited to participate in coordinating this proposed action. You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any person who may have interest in the proposed action.

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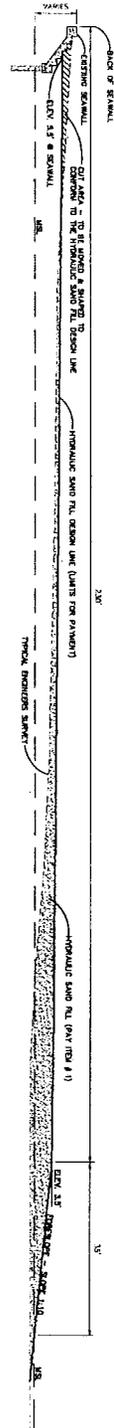
CORRESPONDENCE: Any person who has an interest that may be affected by the proposed activity may request a public hearing. Any comments or requests for a public hearing must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer within 30 days of the date of this public notice. A request for a hearing must clearly set forth the interest that may be affected and the manner in which the interest may be affected. You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties who may have an interest in the proposed activities. Correspondence concerning the public notice should refer to Public Notice No. FP06-HC01-02 and should be directed to the Commander, U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, ATTN: CESAM-PD-EC. For additional information please contact Ms. Linda Brown at (251) 694-3786.



CURTIS M. FLAKES
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mobile District



HARRISON COUNTY BEACH RENOURISHMENT



TYPICAL BEACH SECTION
 STATION 1187+00 TO 1189+00
 SCALE 1"=10'



TYPICAL BEACH SECTION
 STATION 1110+20 TO 1184+00
 SCALE 1"=10'



TYPICAL BEACH SECTION
 STATION 1184+00 TO 1187+00
 SCALE 1"=10'

BROWN & MITCHELL, INC.
 ENGINEERS & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS
 327 JAIL STREET
 GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI 39507

Drawn By	ESJ
Checked By	SKL
Date	1/20
Scale	AS SHOWN
Job No.	2173
Sheet No.	13 of 21

SAND BEACH RENOURISHMENT PROJECT
 HARRISON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TYPICAL BEACH SECTIONS

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Revised	Date	By