

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT P.O. BOX 2288 MOBILE, AL 36628-0001

CESAM-RD-A PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2005-04485-RCV April 19, 2019

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND STATE OF ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PROPOSED DISCHARGE OF FILL MATERIAL ASSOCIATED WITH
MODIFICATIONS OF ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AT SITE 9 FOR U.S. HIGHWAY 98
FROM THE MISSISSIPPI LINE TO EAST OF COUNTY ROAD 576, MOBILE
COUNTY, ALABAMA

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). This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) can be based. Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: Alabama Department of Transportation

P.O. Box 303050

Montgomery, Alabama 36130-3050

LOCATION/WATERS: Site 9 at Long Branch; near the Wilmer-Georgetown Road and Danner Road intersection; at Latitude: 30.832975° North, Longitude: 88.350414° West; Section 35, Township 2 South, Range 4 West; Wilmer, Alabama.

PROPOSED WORK: The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) requests a modification for the construction of US 98 from the Mississippi Line to Semmes, Alabama. This project was previously permitted June 26, 2006 under Department of the Army (DA) Permit SAM-2005-04485-RCV. In addition to a request for a time extension, the ALDOT has also requested design modifications that would occur at Site 9 of the proposed project. Modifications include the acquisition of additional right-of-way and an increase in stream impacts. New stream impacts would include placement of a 378-linear-foot box culvert, 900 square feet of riprap to be placed at the culvert inlet, and 900 square feet of riprap to be placed at the culvert outlet, within Long Branch at Wilmer Georgetown Road. Additional right-of-way to be acquired along Wilmer Georgetown Road and Danner Road, which would include a 0.75-acre increase of wetland impacts, from 1.78-acre to 2.53 acre, for flattening road shoulder slopes and the realignment of Danner Road.

AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION: The proposed modifications have been designed to improve drainage at the existing Long Branch road crossing, as well as flatten slopes to stabilize road shoulders and improve erosion control.

MITIGATION: Compensatory mitigation for the additional 0.75-acre of wetland impacts associated with this portion of the project would be provided through the deduction of credits from an USACE approved ALDOT mitigation bank. Stream impacts are to be mitigated through the purchase of credits from a USACE approved commercial mitigation bank.

WATER QUALITY: The project was coordinated with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) as part of the 2016 modification request. By letter dated December 12, 2016, the ADEM provided State Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act; however, due to changes in the project design and an increase in project impacts, a determination relative to WQC will be made by ADEM as it relates to the activities currently proposed, upon completion of the required advertising and public comment review.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES: In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and Appendix C of 33 CFR Part 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 Part 325, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has determined the permit area consists of the 2.53 acres of temporary and permanent wetland impact. The project was coordinated with the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) as part of the 2008 DA permit modification, which included the area of Site 9 currently under review. By letter dated August 4, 2008 the AHC concurred that the proposed project (AHC 08-0996) should have no effect on historic properties either listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). For the currently proposed activities, the USACE has made a preliminary determination that there will be no effect on cultural and historic resources listed or eligible for listing on the NRHP. This action constitutes the full extent of cultural resources investigation within the project area.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The following species listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as being threatened or endangered are found within Baldwin County and may be located within the Hamilton Creek-Big Creek watershed (HUC 031700080502) in which the project is located: Wood stork (*Mycteria americana*), eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon couperi*), black pine snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus lodingi*), and the gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*). The Endangered Species Act (ESA) action area for this project does not intersect with any federally-designated critical habitat.

USACE review of this request for modifications and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Species with the potential to occur in this area, has preliminarily found that the proposed modifications will have no effect on the wood stork (Mycteria americana). Additionally, the USACE has preliminarily determined the proposed

activities may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect the eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon couperi*), black pine snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus lodingi*), and the gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*). This determination is being coordinated with the USFWS via this public notice.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the 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 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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state and local agencies and officials; 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.

Correspondence concerning this public notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2005-04485-RCV** and should be directed via email to the project manager, Ms. Elizabeth A. Seavoy, at elizabeth.a.seavoy@usace.army.mil, or to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Attention: Ms. Elizabeth A. Seavoy, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001. Copies of all comments should be furnished to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management at

<u>coastal@adem.alabama.gov</u>, or sent to: Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Mobile Branch / Coastal Section 3664 Dauphin Street, Suite B, Mobile, Alabama 36608.

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, Ms. Elizabeth Seavoy by email at elizabeth.a.seavoy@usace.army.mil, or at (251) 694-3781. Please refer to the Public Notice Number SAM-2005-04485-RCV, in any communication concerning this project.

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

Attachments

index to Project

INDEX SEE SHEET TA

Existing Bridge (Retain) - NONE

Required and Existing Bridge (Culvert) - NONE

Required Bridge STA TO STA INDEX LENGTH 18+80.00 21+60.00 280.00

TOTAL BRIDGE EFFECT = 280.00

Equations & Exceptions - Name

FEET MILES Total Stationing of Project 2800.00 Equations & Exceptions 0.00 Net Length of Project 2800.00 0.530 Not Length of Bridges 280,00 0.053 Net Length of Roadways 2520.00 0.477

ALABAMA

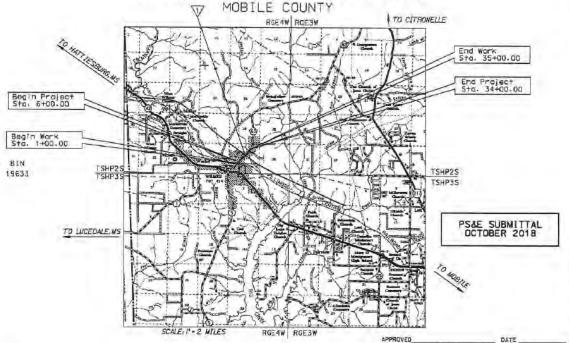
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PLANS OF PROPOSED PROJECT NUMBER

NHF-0042(535)

CONSTRUCT BRIDGE ON (CR-63) WILMER-GEORGETOWN ROAD OVER SR-42(US-98) WITH JUGHANDLE INTERCHANGE ONTO SR-42(US-98)

GRADE, DRAIN, BASE, PAVE & BRIDGE



PROJECT MANAGER REGISTRATION NO.

DATE

ASST. VICE-PRESIDENT REGISTRATION NO. -

THIS SYMBOL IS USED TO DENOTE ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE CONSTRUCTED IN THIS CONTRACT

REFERENCE FISCAL SHEET LAST SHEET PROJECT NO. YEAR NO. AL NHF-0042(535) 2019 1 200

CONTRACT IO NO.

Preliminary Project No. Code No.

NHF-0042(517) 4321-NH-100004326-2

Design Designation	
ADT (2019)	4390
AOT (20291	5360
K. Starratoricine consumeror	11%
0	60%
TOHY	3%
TADT	4%
V / Design Speed)	45
Min. Stopping Sight Dist.	360

These plans have been prepared to conform with the Alabama Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Highway Construction, 2018 Edition.



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

REGION ENGINEER

CHIEF ENGINEER

Approved

TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

PREPARED AND RECOMMENDED BY VOLKERT, INC. CONSULTING ENGINEERS

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