



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-C**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2018-00231-MJF**

**April 10, 2018**

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**  
**OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL**

**MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**  
**DMR-180257**

**PROPOSED IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE**  
**CONSTRUCTION OF TWO SIDE RAILROAD TRACKS, MOSS POINT, JACKSON**  
**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. Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT: Mississippi Export Railroad**  
**4519 McInnis Avenue**  
**Moss Point, Mississippi 39563**

**AGENT: BMI Environmental Services**  
**Attention: Mr. Larry Lewis**  
**401 Cowan Road, Suite A**  
**Gulfport, Mississippi 39507**

**LOCATION: Wetlands associated with Lyons Creek south of Carter's Road, Section 9, Township 6 South, Range 5 West, City of Moss Point, Jackson County, Mississippi. (Latitude 30.5488 North, Longitude -88.4863 West). The area is depicted on the Mississippi Big Point Quadrangle, United States Geological Survey Topographic Map.**

**WORK: The applicant is requesting a permit to place fill material in 5.7 acres of jurisdictional wetlands (5.1 acres of pine savannah wetlands and 0.6 acres of bottomland hardwood wetland drain) for the construction of two siding tracts for Mississippi Export Railroad (MSE). The sidings would be constructed on the east and west sides of the existing railroad tracks located south of Carter's Road. The sidings would be constructed parallel to the existing MSE railroad line and within the existing 100 foot right of way (ROW). The West Siding would be approximately 7,100 linear feet and the East Siding would be approximately 7,100 linear feet. The sidings would be**

connected by switch points at both ends of the respective sidings. The applicant states that the new siding tracks would allow them to effectively and safely manage the longer train lengths and more frequent train traffic for its customers.

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:** The approximately 22.2-acre site is located within a 100 foot wide railroad ROW which extends approximately 7,100 linear feet in length. The ROW contains an existing railroad along the center line and forested areas are located on the east and west of the existing track. The project site drains into Lyons Creek. Lyons Creek drains southwest to the Escatawpa River, which drains to the Pascagoula River, which drains to the Mississippi Sound.

**PROJECT PURPOSE:** Construction of two siding railroad tracks.

**AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION:** As part of their avoidance measures, the applicant evaluated five different sites as possible locations for the proposed project. Once the applicant determined which site was most feasible for the proposed project, they evaluated two alternative designs. During construction the applicant proposes minimization of wetland impacts through use of best management practices to ensure that additional wetlands outside the project footprint not be affected. USACE has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and minimization at this time.

**MITIGATION:** The applicant proposes to mitigate for unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional wetlands through the purchase of mitigation credits from a wetlands mitigation bank approved by the Mobile District, USACE. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has not verified the adequacy of this mitigation proposal at this time.

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) initially determined the basic project purpose is construction of two siding railroad tracks. The project as proposed would not be considered a water dependent activity. Additional reviews will be performed by USACE and cooperating agencies.

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 applied for coastal zone consistency from the State of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources in accordance with Section 57-15-6 of the Mississippi Code Annotated.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by 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 benefits, 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, protected species, 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.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (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 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 for consideration of 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 Part 325, USACE has determined that the permit area is the entire ROW within the project area. We are seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), 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. Based on review of the project area, USACE has determined that the proposed project would have “**no potential to cause affects**” on cultural resources in the permit area. **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will consult with the SHPO to make a final determination**

**based upon this review 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. .**

Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicated the following species may be present in Jackson County; Hydrologic Unit Code - 031700080703: the Black Pine Snake (T) (*Pituophis melanoleucus lodingi*), the gopher tortoise (T)(*Gopherus polyphemus*), the Dusky gopher frog (*Rana sevosa*), the Louisiana quillwort(E) (*Isoetes louisianensis*), the Yellow-blotched Map Turtle (T) (*Graptemys flavimaculata*), the Mississippi Sandhill Crane (E) (*Grus canadensis pulla*), and , the Wood Stork (*Mycteria Americana*),. No listed critical habitat is located on or near the project site. Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants for the county and the Agent's Endangered and Threatened Species evaluation, suggest that the proposed activity "may affect but is not likely to adversely affect" the Black Pine snake. In addition the proposed activity should have "no effect" on remaining listed endangered or threatened species. Suitable habitat for threatened and endangered species is not found on the proposed project site.

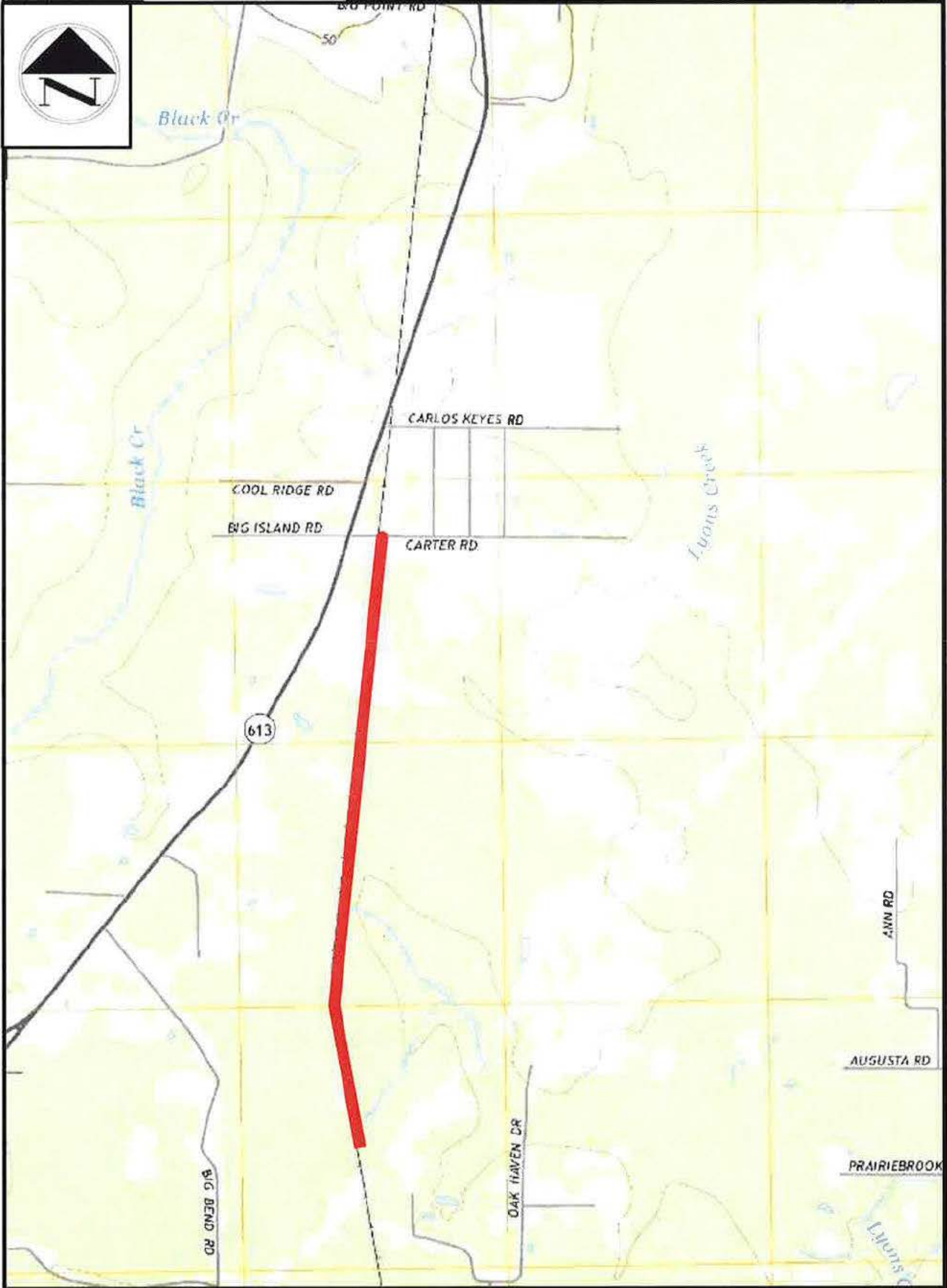
Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2018-00231-MJF** and should be directed to USACE, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Attention: **Ms. Maryellen Farmer**, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 104, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, **Attention: Ms. Florance Bass, P.E.**, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and the Department of Marine Resources, **Attention: Mr. Greg Christodoulou**, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 501, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530.

**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 at (228) 523-4116 or email at [maryellen.j.farmer@usace.army.mil](mailto:maryellen.j.farmer@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](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx).

MOBILE DISTRICT  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures



SCALE: 1" = 400'  
 ISSUE DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2018  
 WARD ENGINEERING & SURVEYING  
 713A City Ave. N  
 Ridgely, MS 38863  
 P: 662-837-0540  
 F: 662-837-0592  
 www.wardeng.com



PROPOSED ACTIVITIES:

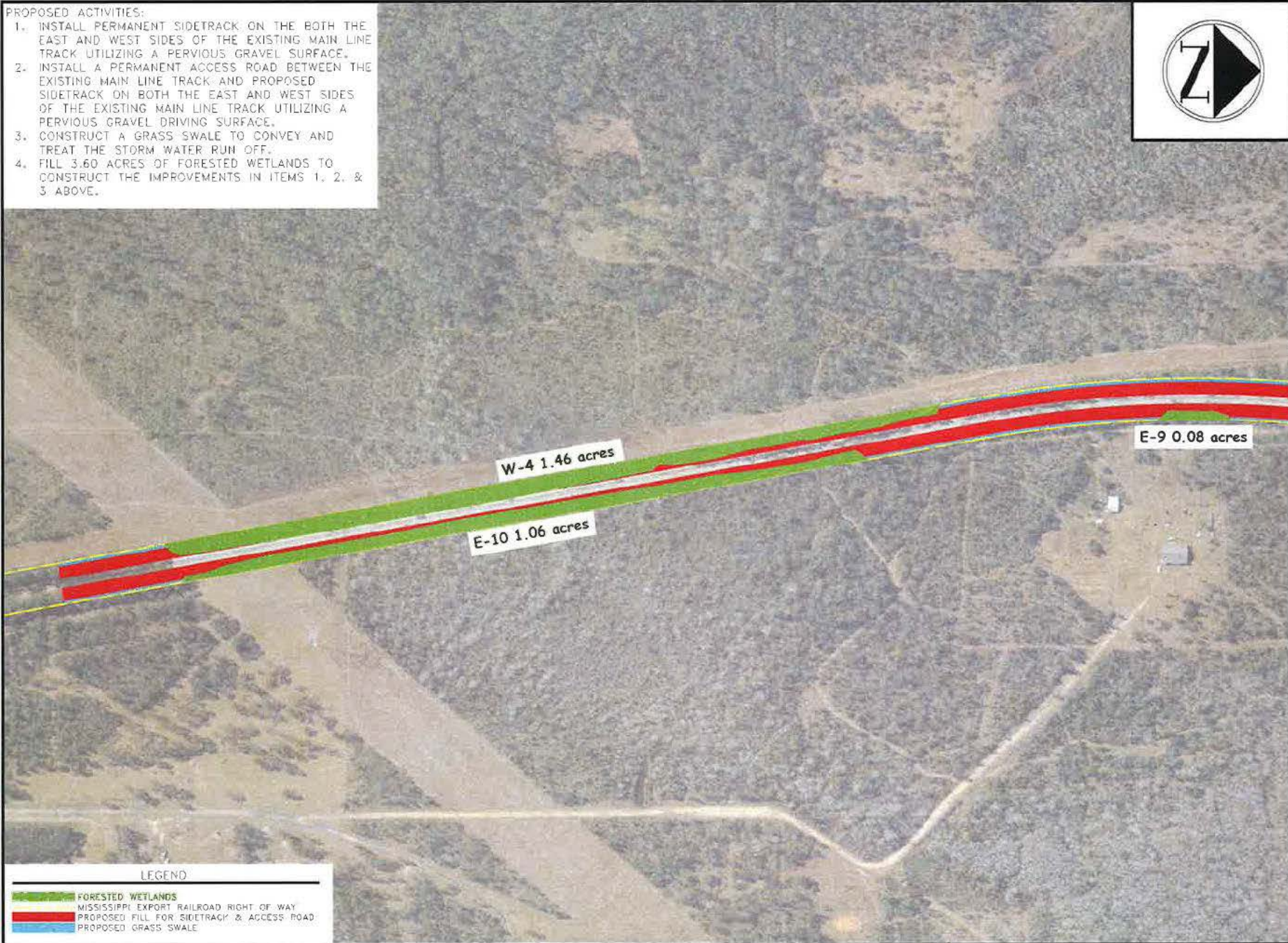
1. INSTALL PERMANENT SIDETRACK ON THE BOTH THE EAST AND WEST SIDES OF THE EXISTING MAIN LINE TRACK UTILIZING A PERVIOUS GRAVEL SURFACE.
2. INSTALL A PERMANENT ACCESS ROAD BETWEEN THE EXISTING MAIN LINE TRACK AND PROPOSED SIDETRACK ON BOTH THE EAST AND WEST SIDES OF THE EXISTING MAIN LINE TRACK UTILIZING A PERVIOUS GRAVEL DRIVING SURFACE.
3. CONSTRUCT A GRASS SWALE TO CONVEY AND TREAT THE STORM WATER RUN OFF.
4. FILL 3.60 ACRES OF FORESTED WETLANDS TO CONSTRUCT THE IMPROVEMENTS IN ITEMS 1, 2, & 3 ABOVE.



SCALE:  
N.T.S.  
ISSUE DATE:  
FEBRUARY 28, 2018

**WARD**  
**ENGINEERING**  
**ENGINEERING SURVEYING**  
1739A City Ave. N  
Ridley, MS 38863  
P. 662-837-8545  
F. 662-837-8592  
www.wardeng.com

REVISIONS  
REV. # ISSUED FOR REVIEW DATE/FILE  
REVISED ISSUED FOR WORK DATE/FILE



LEGEND	
	FORESTED WETLANDS
	MISSISSIPPI EXPORT RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED FILL FOR SIDETRACK & ACCESS ROAD
	PROPOSED GRASS SWALE

PROJECT TITLE:  
MISSISSIPPI EXPORT RAILROAD  
PROPOSED CARTER'S ROAD SIDETRACKS  
JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI  
SHEET TITLE:  
ENLARGED PRELIMINARY PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PLAN SHEET

010-001-00  
MSE-16-001

SHEET NO.  
**E-7.0**



**PROPOSED ACTIVITIES:**

1. INSTALL PERMANENT SIDETRACK ON THE BOTH THE EAST AND WEST SIDES OF THE EXISTING MAIN LINE TRACK UTILIZING A PERVIOUS GRAVEL SURFACE.
2. INSTALL A PERMANENT ACCESS ROAD BETWEEN THE EXISTING MAIN LINE TRACK AND PROPOSED SIDETRACK ON BOTH THE EAST AND WEST SIDES OF THE EXISTING MAIN LINE TRACK UTILIZING A PERVIOUS GRAVEL DRIVING SURFACE.
3. CONSTRUCT A GRASS SWALE TO CONVEY AND TREAT THE STORM WATER RUN OFF.
4. FILL 2.17 ACRES OF FORESTED WETLANDS TO CONSTRUCT THE IMPROVEMENTS IN ITEMS 1, 2, & 3 ABOVE.

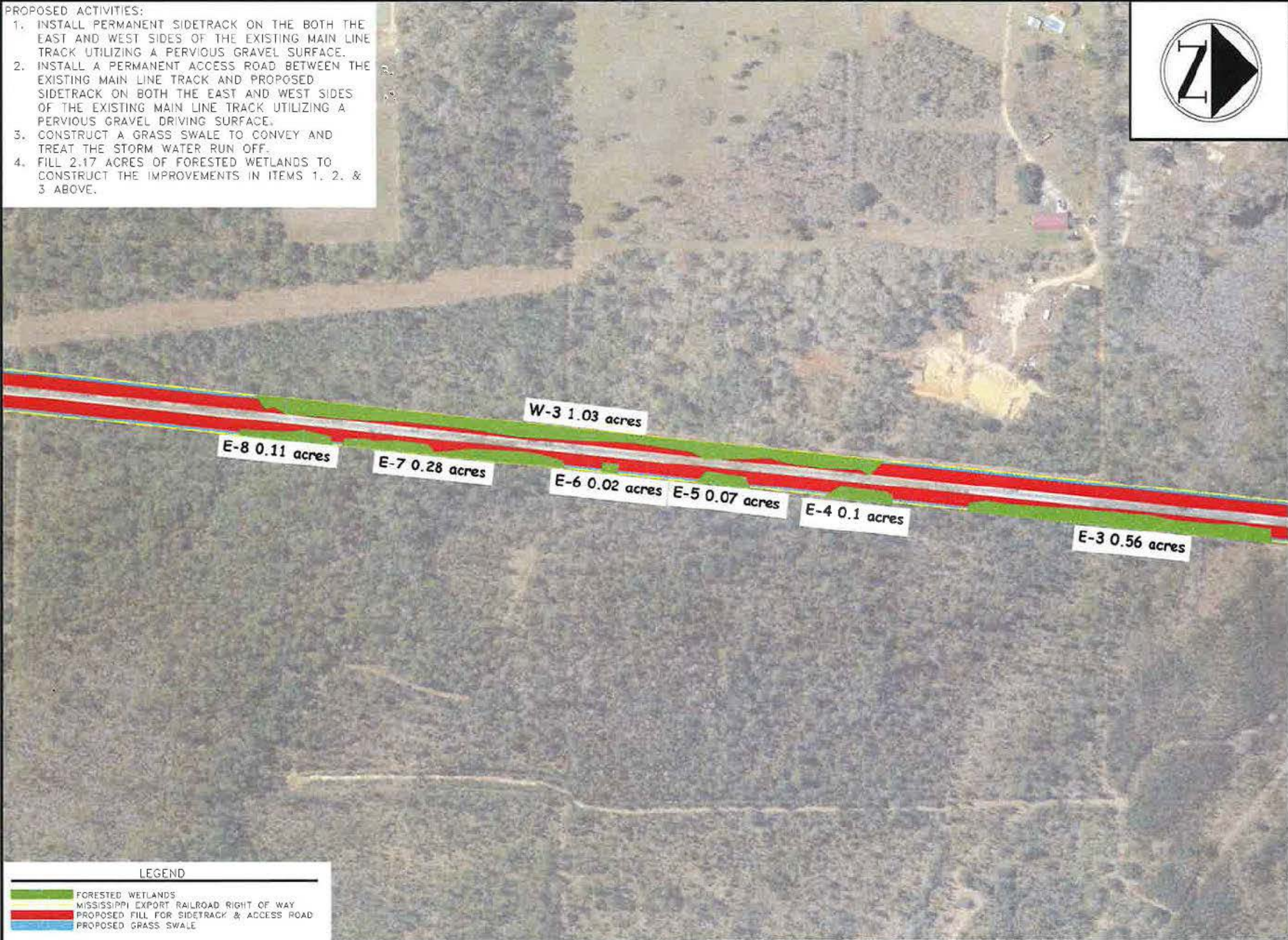


SCALE:  
N.T.S.  
ISSUE DATE:  
FEBRUARY 28, 2018

173A DIV AVE N  
RICKEY, MS 38853  
P. 662-837-8545  
F. 662-837-8592  
www.wardeng.com

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REVISIONS  
REV. # 0123 FOR REV. 02/17/18  
REV. 022 FOR REV. 02/20/18



LEGEND	
<span style="color: green;">█</span>	FORESTED WETLANDS
<span style="color: yellow;">█</span>	MISSISSIPPI EXPORT RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY
<span style="color: red;">█</span>	PROPOSED FILL FOR SIDETRACK & ACCESS ROAD
<span style="color: blue;">█</span>	PROPOSED GRASS SWALE

PROJECT TITLE:  
MISSISSIPPI EXPORT RAILROAD  
PROPOSED CARTER'S ROAD SIDETRACKS  
JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

SHEET TITLE:  
ENLARGED PRELIMINARY PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PLAN SHEET

PROJECT NO.  
MSE-16-001

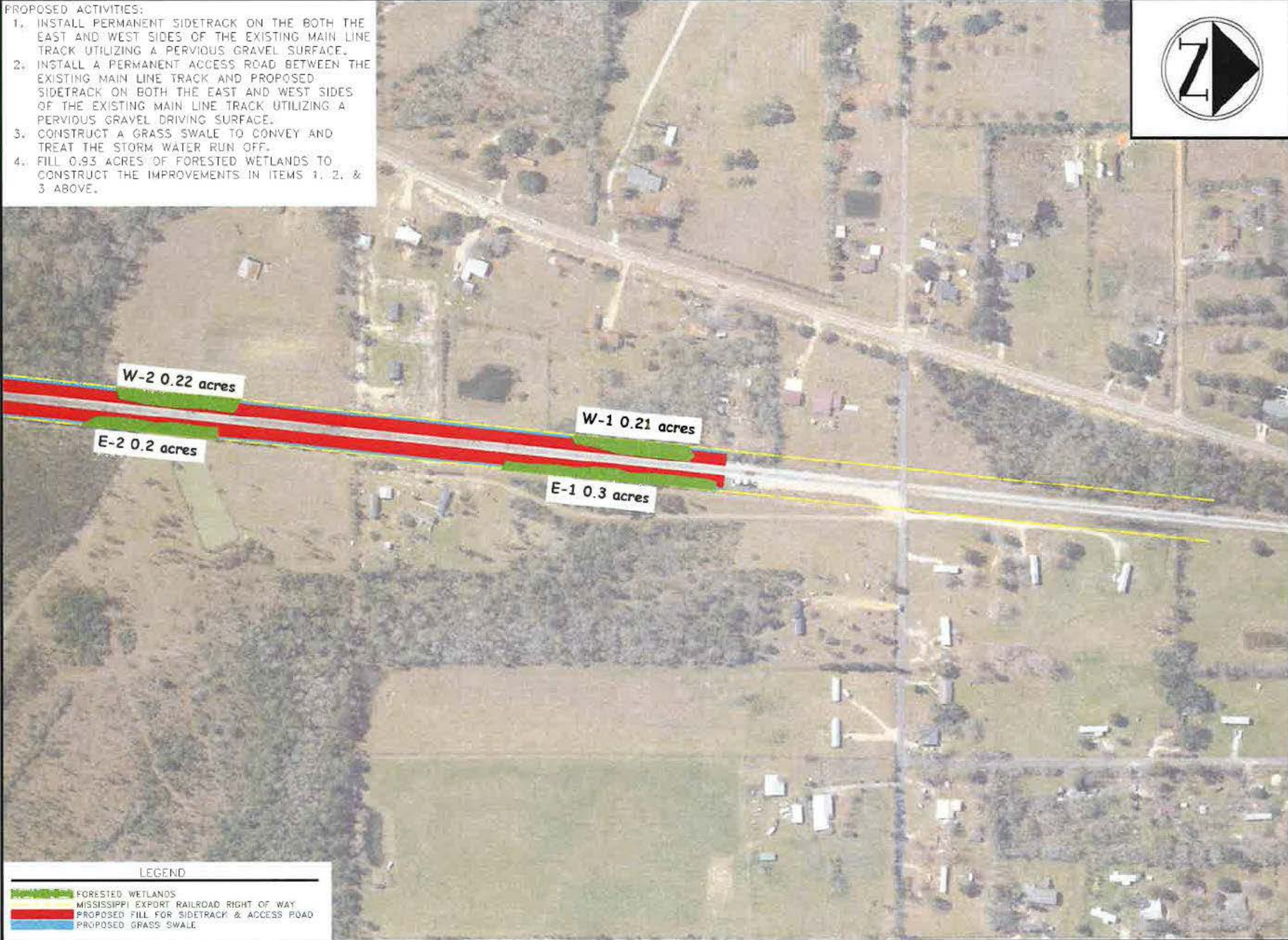
SHEET NO.

**E-8.0**



PROPOSED ACTIVITIES:

1. INSTALL PERMANENT SIDETRACK ON THE BOTH THE EAST AND WEST SIDES OF THE EXISTING MAIN LINE TRACK UTILIZING A PERVIOUS GRAVEL SURFACE.
2. INSTALL A PERMANENT ACCESS ROAD BETWEEN THE EXISTING MAIN LINE TRACK AND PROPOSED SIDETRACK ON BOTH THE EAST AND WEST SIDES OF THE EXISTING MAIN LINE TRACK UTILIZING A PERVIOUS GRAVEL DRIVING SURFACE.
3. CONSTRUCT A GRASS SWALE TO CONVEY AND TREAT THE STORM WATER RUN OFF.
4. FILL 0.93 ACRES OF FORESTED WETLANDS TO CONSTRUCT THE IMPROVEMENTS IN ITEMS 1, 2, & 3 ABOVE.



LEGEND	
	FORESTED WETLANDS
	MISSISSIPPI EXPORT RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY
	PROPOSED FILL FOR SIDETRACK & ACCESS ROAD
	PROPOSED GRASS SWALE

SCALE:  
N.T.S.  
ISSUE DATE:  
FEBRUARY 29, 2018

**WARD**  
**ENGINEERING**  
ENGINEERING • SURVEYING  
1738A City Ave. N  
Tupelo, MS 38869  
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F. 662-837-8562  
www.wardeng.com

REVISIONS	
REV #	DATE FOR REVISION
REV #	DATE FOR REVISION

PROJECT TITLE:  
MISSISSIPPI EXPORT RAILROAD  
PROPOSED CARTER'S ROAD SIDETRACKS  
JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI  
SHEET TITLE:  
ENLARGED PRELIMINARY PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS PLAN SHEET

MSE-16-001  
SHEET NO.

**E-9.0**



SCALE:  
N.T.S.  
ISSUE DATE:  
FEBRUARY 27, 2018

173A City Ave. N  
Ripley, MS 38893  
P. 662-837-8545  
www.wardeng.com

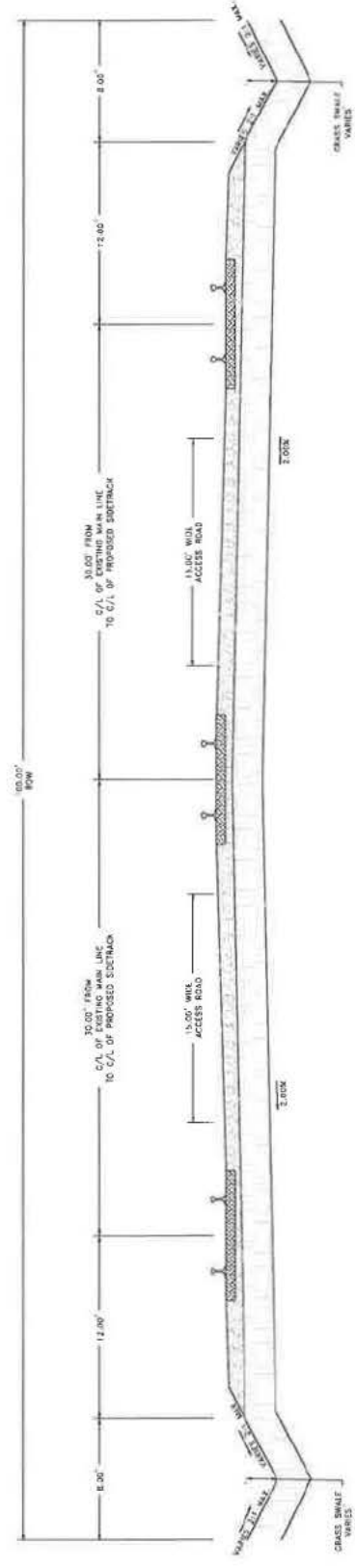


REVISIONS


PROJECT TITLE:  
MISSISSIPPI EXPORT RAILROAD  
PROPOSED CARTER'S ROAD SIDETRACKS  
JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI  
SHEET TITLE:  
PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TYPICAL SECTION

PROJECT NO.  
MSE-16-001

**E-10.0**



**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TYPICAL SECTION  
N.T.S.**