

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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

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PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2018-00741-MJF

February 16, 2022

### JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

# MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL (MDEQ)

#### MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

# MODIFICATION OF THE CURRENT PERMIT FOR EXISTING BULKHEAD AND JETTY REPAIR AND ACCESS, MISSISSIPPI SOUND, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT: Jackson County Board of Supervisors** 

2915 Canty Street

Pascagoula, Mississippi 39567

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: On Belle Fountaine Beach at the western terminus of Belle Fountain Drive, Section 13, Township 8 South, Range 8 West, Latitude 30.348333 North, Longitude -88.748611 West, within an unnamed Bayou and Mississippi Sound, Jackson County, Mississippi.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The proposed modified plan would adjust the northern-most segment of the permitted alignment slightly to the west and extend the northern segment of the alignment approximately 500 linear feet northward. The alignment adjustment to the west is required to move the channel away from the base of the repaired jetty. In addition, the extension northward of the alignment is to connect to deeper water found at the mouth of the Belle Fountaine Bayou. The channel width would remain at 40-feet with 3:1 side slopes and the depth would be dredged to -5 MLW. The estimated cubic yards of material to be dredged associated with the permit modification is 1,600 cubic yards. Dredged material disposal would remain at the Harrison County Development Commission's Dredge Disposal Area C-1 Disposal Site.

The applicant has applied for coastal zone (CZ) consistency in accordance with the State Coastal Zone Management Program. A determination relative to CZ consistency will be made by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. (DMR21-000539).

The Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification Rule (Certification Rule, 40 CFR 121), requires certification for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge. The applicant is responsible for requesting certification and providing required information to the certifying agency. As of the date of this public notice, the applicant has not submitted a certification request to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (certifying authority).

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 (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, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The 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 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.

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 historic properties. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the Corps has determined the permit area consists of the previously permitted alignment and the proposed alignment. 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. The Corps has made a preliminary determination that the proposed project would have **no potential to effect** on historic properties. In a letter to the MDMR dated July 18, 2018, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) stated that no cultural resources eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places are likely to be affected by the project (MDAH Log #07-014-18). The MDAH did not response to USACE from the initial public notice. However, 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 the general public regarding the existence or the potential for existence of significant cultural and historic properties which may be affected by the work. This action 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 project area.

Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicated the following species may be present onsite: The Dusky Gopher Frog (Rana sevosa) (E), the Gulf Sturgeon (Acipenser) listed as threatened with critical habitat (TCH), the Green sea turtle (Chelonia) (T), the Kemp's Ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*) (E), the Loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) (T), the Piping Plover (Charadrius melodus) (TCH), the Red Knot (Calidris canutus rufa), (T), and Wood Stork (Mycteria americana) (T), and the West India Manatee (Trichechus manatus) (E). Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants for the watershed suggest that the proposed activity may affect but is not likely to adversely affect listed endangered or threatened species. Specifically, the West India Manatee, the Gulf Sturgeon and its critical habitat and the listed sea turtles may be affected by this project. This determination is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service via this public notice and will be submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service for coordination via their website. Consultation with USFWS and NMFS was completed during the initial permit review. All required permit conditions would remain in effect for the permit modification to include the Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Activities and the Sea Turtle and Smalltooth Sawfish Construction Conditions.

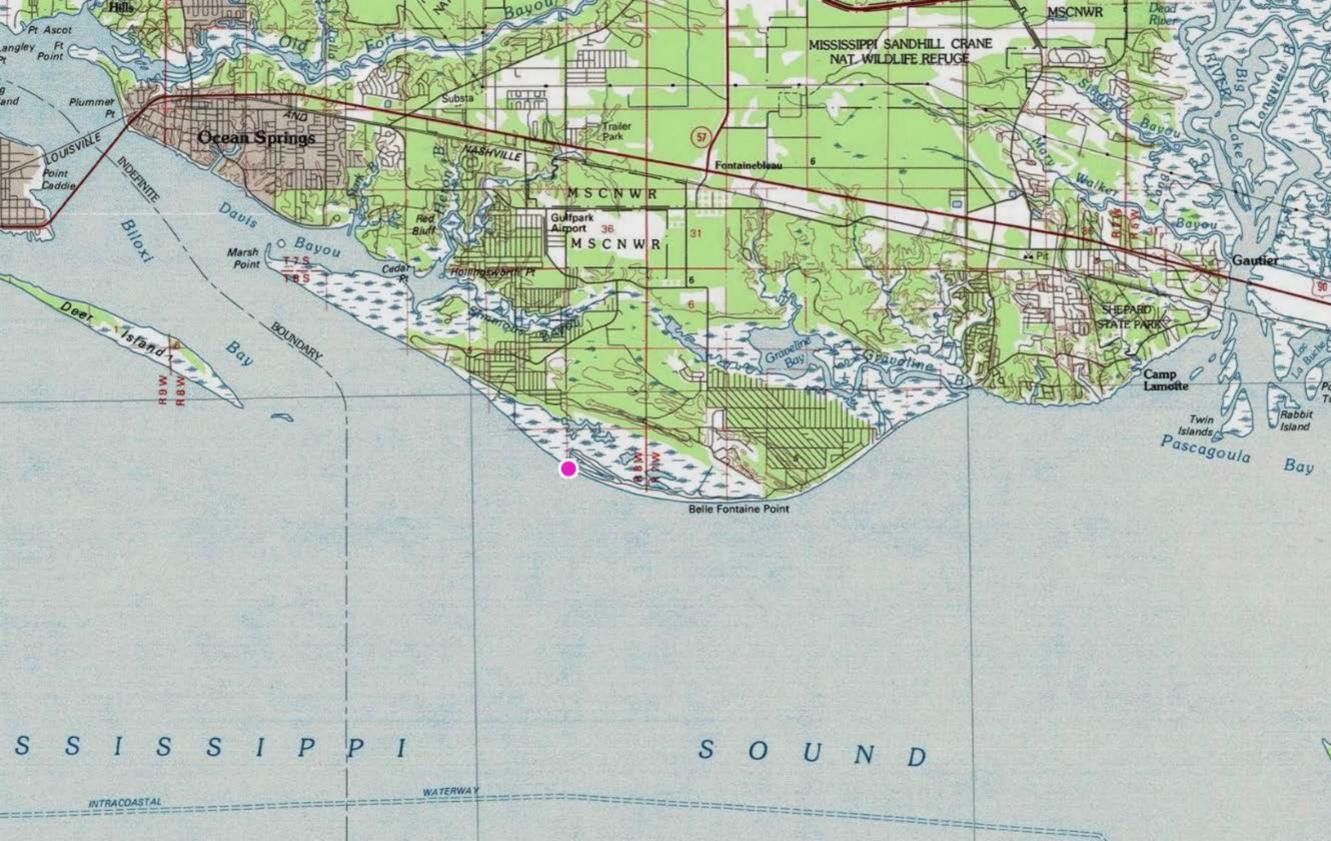
Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number SAM-2018-00741 and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: South Mississippi Branch, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, in time to be received within **30 days** of the date of this public notice.

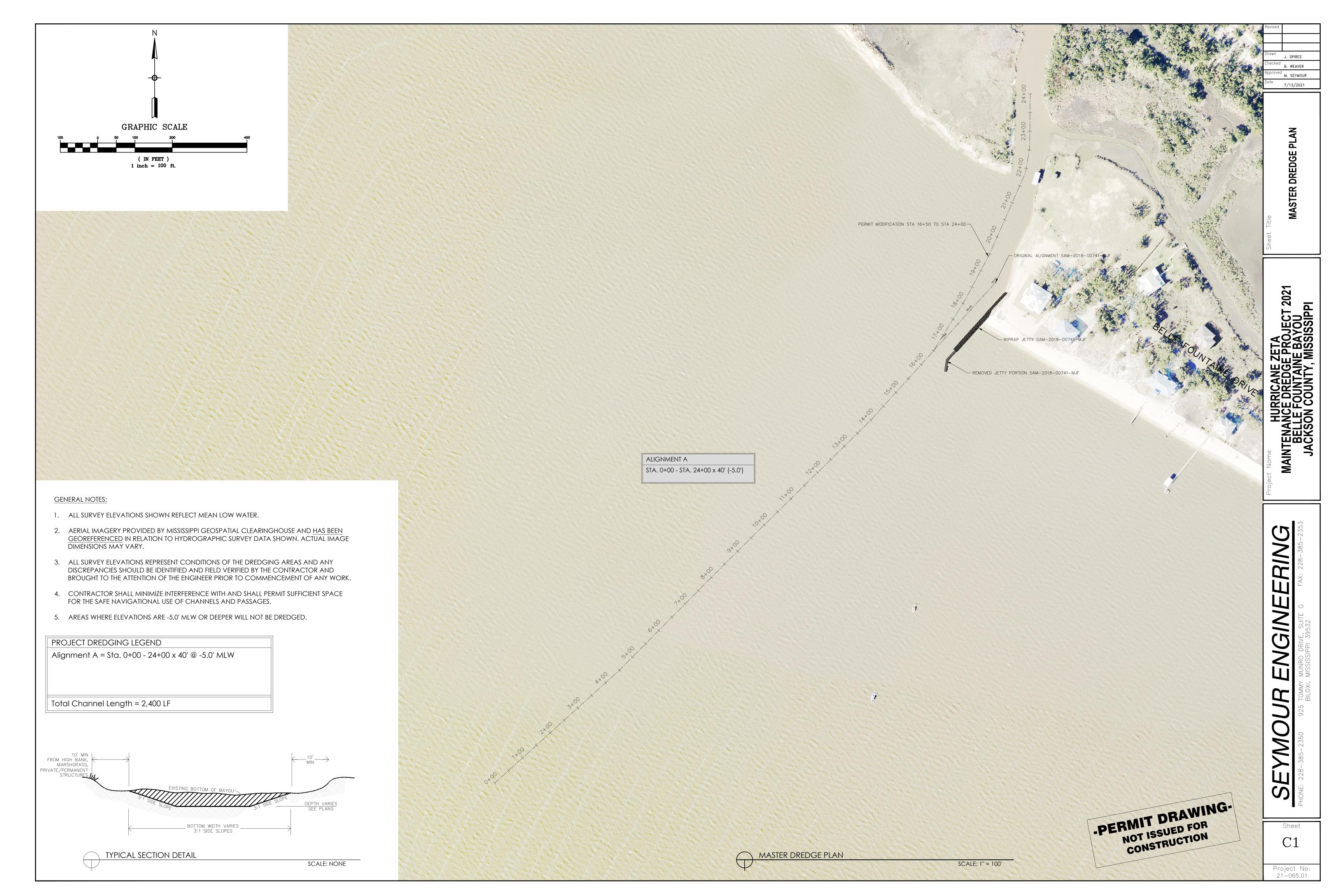
If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager for this application, **Maryellen J. Farmer** (<u>maryellen.j.farmer@usace.army.mil</u>.), at (228) 523-4116. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our website at: <a href="https://www.sam.usace.army.mil">www.sam.usace.army.mil</a> 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.

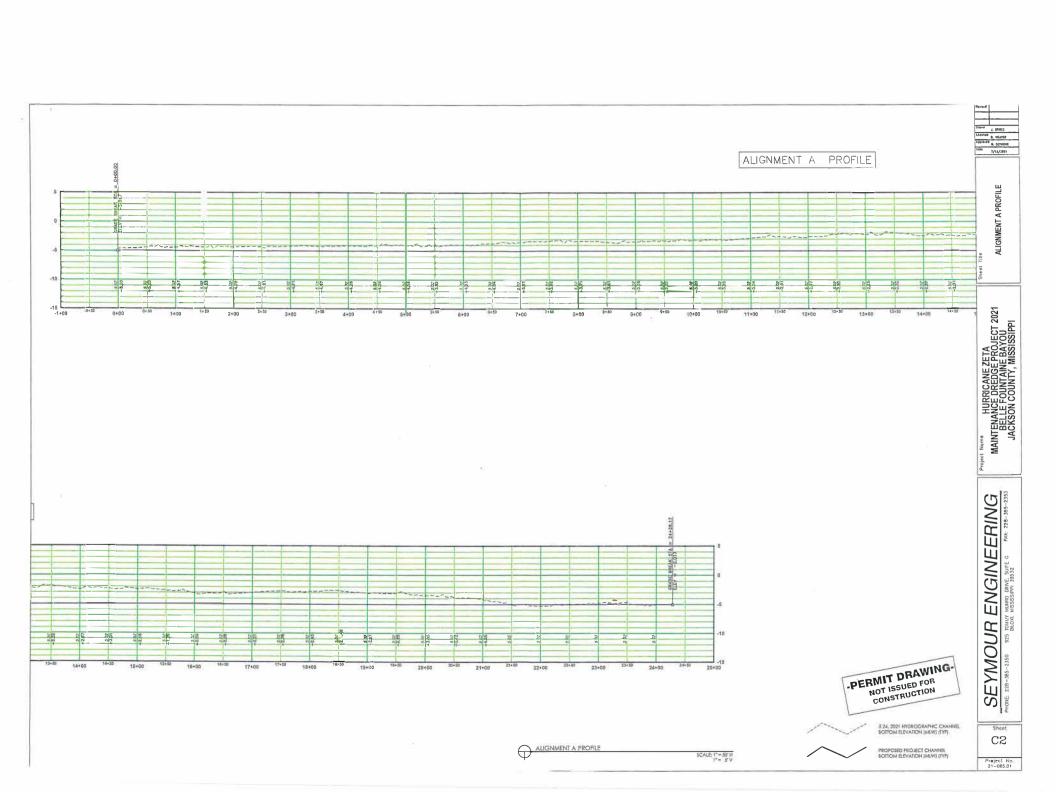
MOBILE DISTRICT U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

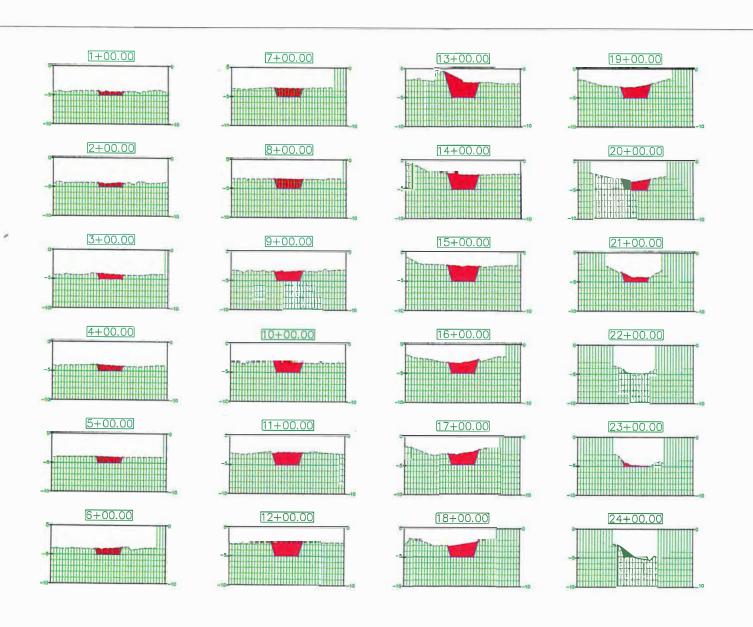
Enclosures











PERMIT DRAWING. NOT ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION

PROPOSED PROJECT CHANNEL BOTTOM ELEVATION (MLW) (TYP)

C3

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SEYMOUR ENGINEERING

PHONE: 228-3550 925 DOWN MICHORO CHINGS, SUITE OF FIXE: 228-355-2355

MUNRO DRIVE, SUITE C MISSISSIPPI 39532

ALIGNMENT A CROSS SECTIONS

MAINTENANCE DREDGE PROJECT 2021 MAINTENANCE DREDGE PROJECT 2021 BELLE FOUNTAINE BAYOU JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

ALIGNMENT A CROSS SECTIONS SCALE 1" = 50" H