

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE DISTRICT P.O. BOX 2288 MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

CESAM-RD-M
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2018-01344-RCV

May 10, 2019

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

PROPOSED IMPACTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A PUBLIC BOAT RAMP, BILOXI, HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: Harrison County Government

Attention: Mr. Danny Boudreaux Jr.

15309 Commerce Road Gulfport, MS 39503

AGENT: Mr. Benjamin Benvenutti

2510 14th Street, Ste 1010

Gulfport, MS 39501

LOCATION OF WORK AND WATERWAY: The proposd Harrison County public boat ramp, parking lot, bulkhead and finger piers will be located on the beach in West Biloxi just south of the intersection of Camellia Street and US Hwy 90. The project site will impact a total of 900 square feet of beach dune habitat will be impacted by the installation of the boat ramp, Section 35, Township 7 South, Range 10 West, Biloxi, Harrison County, Mississippi (starting at Latitude 30. 392133° North, Longitude 88.953386° West, ending at Latitude 30. 382378° North, Longitude 88.954547° West).

PROJECT PURPOSE: The basic project purpose of the proposed filling activity is a public boat ramp. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has initially determined this project to be non-water dependent.

EXISTING CONDITIONS:

The project is located located on the beach in West Biloxi just south of the intersection of Camellia Street and US Hwy 90. The plant communities along the coast near the project site are typical for coastal beaches and primarily includes dune grasses along the existing hardened shoreline. Approximately 900 square feet of dune grasses will be impacted along the existing rock breakwater and the southern edge of the existing parking lot. No

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submerged aguatic vegetation was observed in the project footprint, as confirmed through an SAV survey of the project area. The project will require coordination with the Missippi Coastal Improvement Program for impacts to the comprehensive plan for beach restoration in Harrison County.

ALTERNATIVES: On-site alternatives were considered for environmental concerns. There could be no other project design alternative that would result in as few impacts as the project design, without further reducing the scope of the project.

PROPOSED WORK: Work will include the construction of two boat ramps, three finger piers supporting the boat ramps, a bulkhead connecting the boat ramps to a proposed rock jetty and existing rock jetty, a parking lot constructed on the sand beach to support the boat ramp, and dredging of a queuing basin and existing channel. All dredging work will be completed through a combination of hydraulic cutter heads and mechanical dredging using a barge. Work will also include the construction of a rock jetty to protect the boat ramps and finger piers. See Figure 2

The project components include the following which are also shown in Figure 2 -**Project Drawings:**

- two 32 ft wide by 90 ft long boat ramps
- three 7 ft wide by 110 ft long finger piers supporting the boat ramps
- up to 80 feet of bulkhead connecting the boat ramps to a proposed rock jetty and existing rock jetty
- a 460 ft long by 124 ft wide parking lot constructed on the sand beach to support the boat ramp
- dredging of a 300 ft long by 160 ft wide by 8 ft deep queuing basin in open water
- maintenance dredging of 2500 LF long by 75 ft wide by 8 ft deep of an existing channel
- dredging of an 800 ft long by 75 ft wide by 8 feet deep channel in open water connecting the queuing basin to the existing channel
- construction of a 1,025 feet long by 50 feet wide rock jetty to protect the boat ramps and finger piers from operational and storm conditions, provide tranquil conditions at the ramps, queuing area and entrance channel and minimize potential for sedimentation of the dredged queuing area and entrance channel.

AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION: The Harrison County Board of Supervisors have identified this location in conjunction with the City of Biloxi and DMR as an ideal place to provide public access to the Mississippi Sound and it's natural resources. The dredged material will be contained using sand berms and dikes to control runoff from impacting wetlands and adjacent water bodies. The disposal site is located along the existing sand beach upland area within a previously USACE permitted sand beach template. The disposal locations were selected downdrift of the project site to due to the direction of sediment transport within the project area. The sand dredged during the project would naturally be transported to the disposal areas based on the sediment transport study completed. See figure 5

The USACE has not verified the accuracy or adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and

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 by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) will be consulted for properties listed in or eligible for the National Register, which would be affected by the proposed work. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, and Division of Archeological Services for further consultation and comments. Previous investigations for the facility have determined that no properties are listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR Part 325, the USACE has determined the permit area is the full area of development for the overall project footprint. The agent representing the applicant submitted a Cultural Resource Assessment of the current permit review area to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) for review. Copies of this public notice are being sent to the SHPO.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicates the following species may be present in the area: Alabama Red-Bellied Turtle, Dusky Gopher Frog, Gopher Tortoise, Loggerhead Sea Turtle, Sandhill Crane, Piping Plover, Red Knot, Wood Stork, Gulf Sturgeon, and West Indian Manatee. The USACE has initially determined the proposed activity would be not likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species. The proposed dredge activities are located in Gulf Sturgeon critical habitat. The project will be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The proposal includes no impacts to EFH. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would be not likely to adversely affect 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 Service.

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

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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.

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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (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.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2018-01344-RCV** and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Engineer District Mobile, Attention: **Mr. Rudolph C. Villarreal**, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, 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 Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, **Attention: Ms. Jennifer Wilder**, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, 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 (251) 690-3246, or at rudolph.c.villarreal@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.

MOBILE DISTRICT U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures

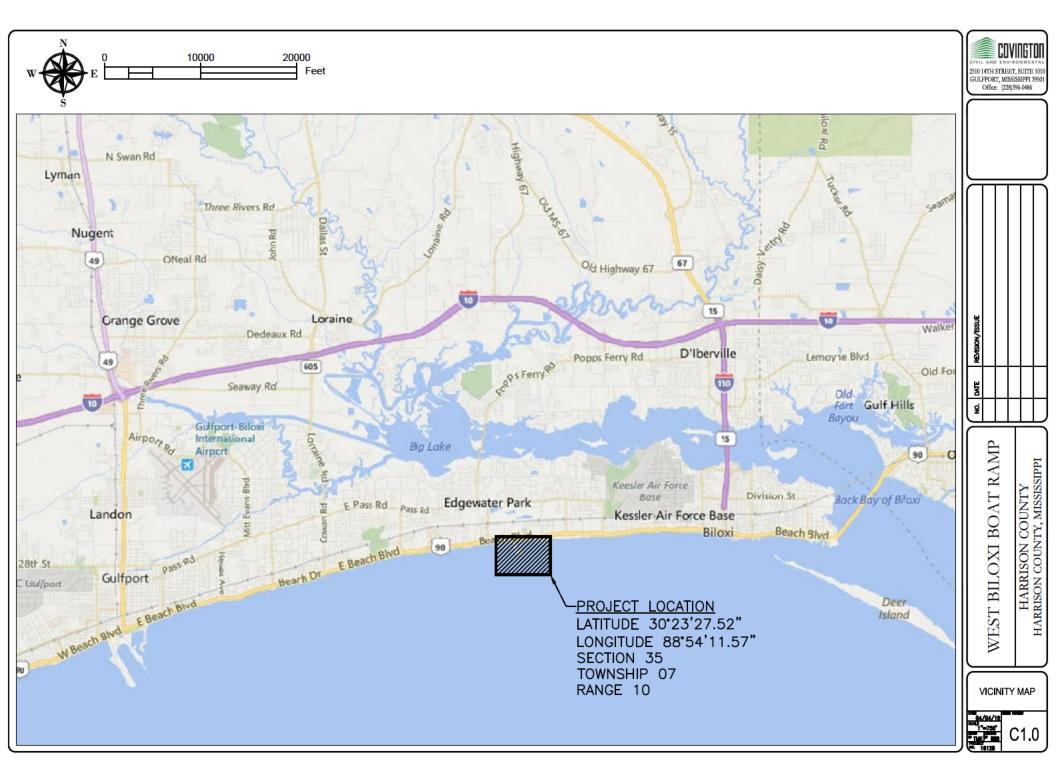


Fig. 1 Vicinity Map SAM-2018-01344-RCV

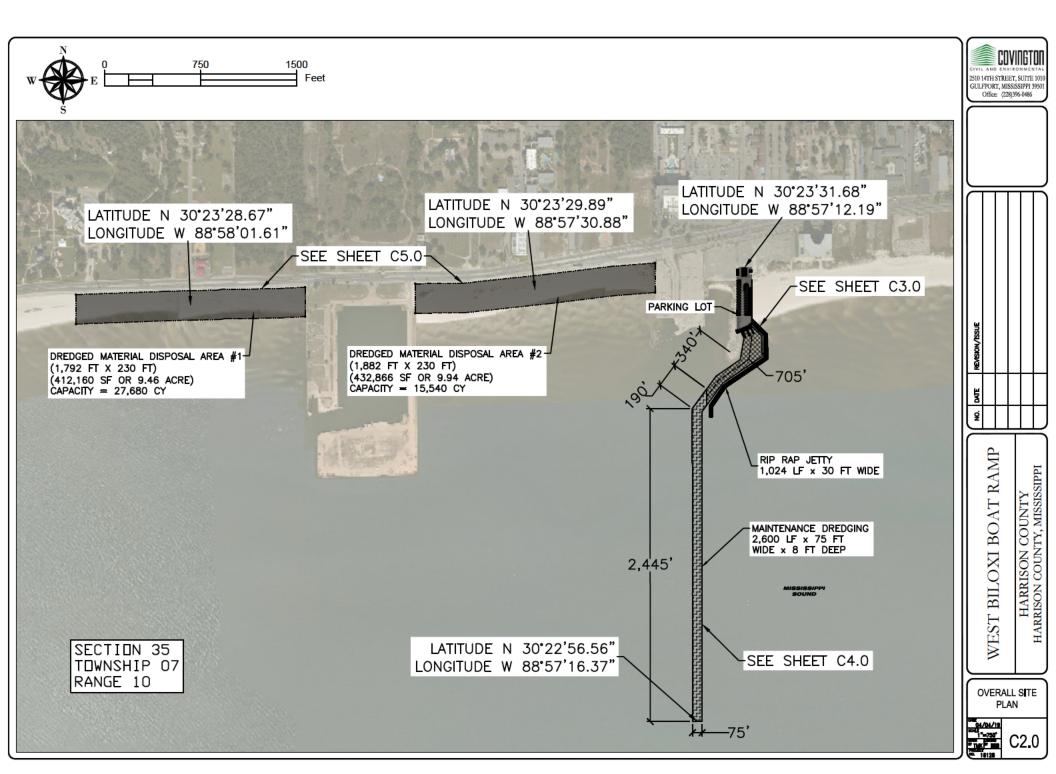
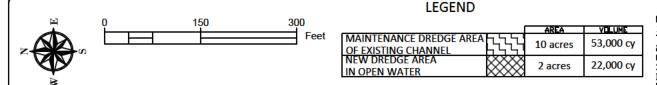


Fig 2 SAM-2018-01344-RCV



USCG PRIVATE AIDS TO NAVIGATION WILL BE CONSULTED TO DETERMINE NUMBER AND TYPE OF CHANNEL MARKINGS.
2. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THE PREVIOUSLY DREDGED CHANNEL WAS CONSTRUCTED TO 8 FT DEEP BY 150 FT WIDE. 3. THE CHANNEL MAINTENANCE SHALL BE UP TO 8 FT DEEP BY 75 FT WIDE (BOTTOM WIDTH) AND SHALL BE WITHIN THE PREVIOUSLY DREDGED 150 FT WIDE CHANNEL FOOTPRINT.



HARRISON COUNTY HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

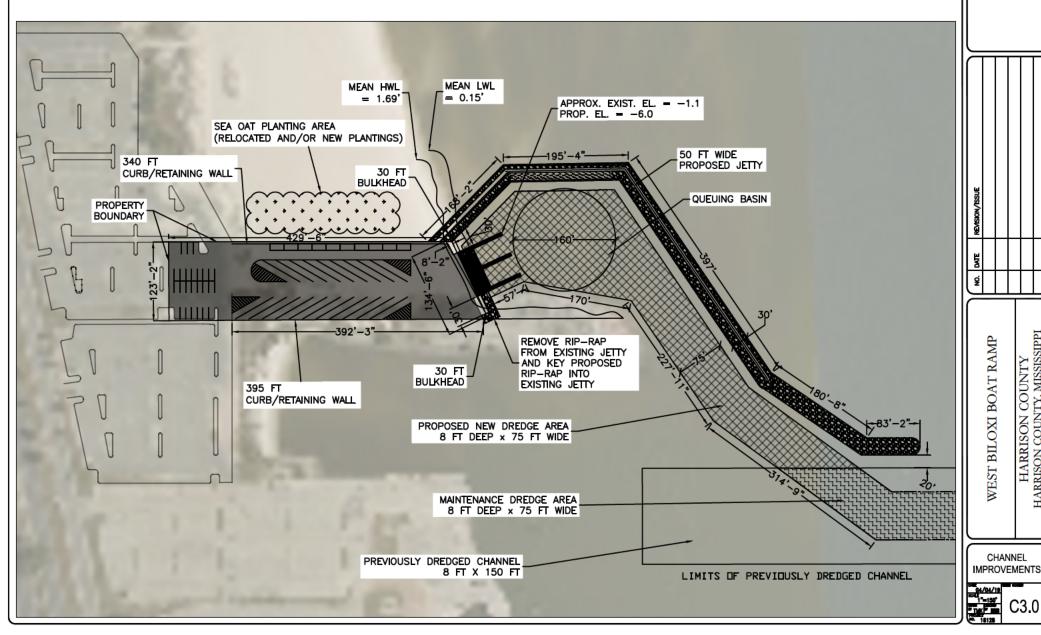
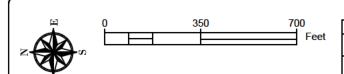


Fig. 3



L	E	G	E	N	C

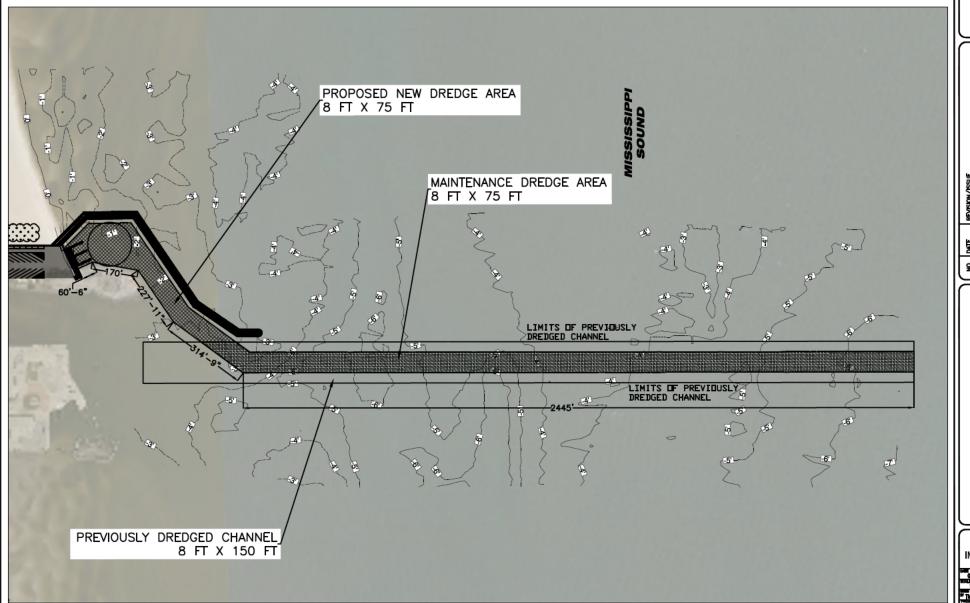
EXISTING CONTOUR		ABEA	VIII IIVI
		AREA	VILLUME
MAINTENANCE DREDGE AREA		10 acres	53.000 cv
OF EXISTING CHANNEL		10 acres	33,000 Cy
NEW DREDGE AREA		2 acres	22,000 cv
IN OPEN WATER		Z acres	22,000 Cy

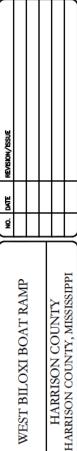
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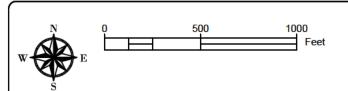
NUTLES!

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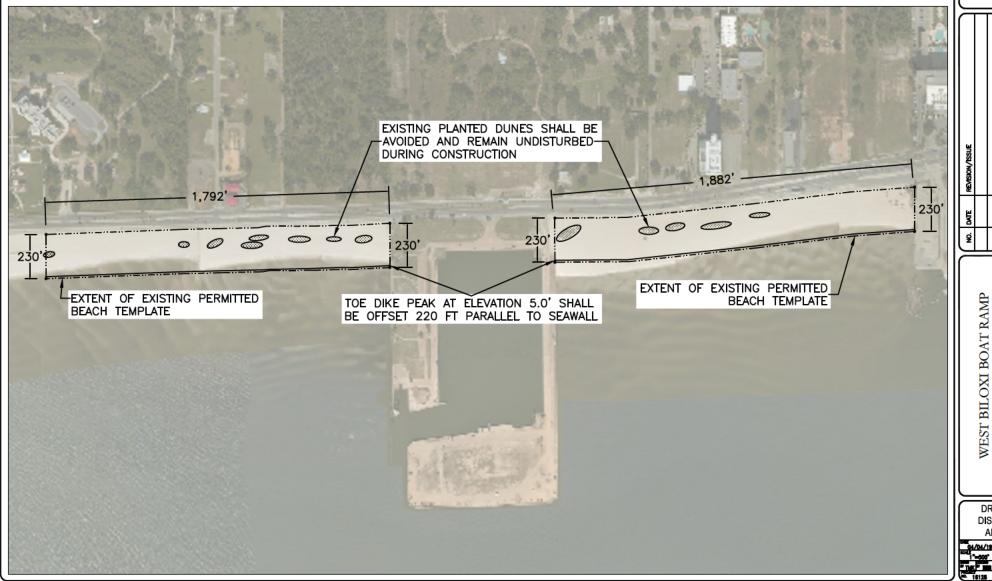




AREA	LOCATION	NORTHING	EASTING
	NW	324246.94	941175.42
DREDGE	NE	324305.21	942965.27
AREA 1	SE	324074.89	942965.27
	SW	324016.78	941175.42
	NW	324332.15	943825.57
DREDGE DISPOSAL	NE	324493.48	945698.63
AREA 2	SE	324262.82	945698.63
	SW	324102.14	943825.57

NOTES;
1. DISPOSAL AREA SHALL BE CONTAINED WITHIN THE EXISTING PERMITTED SAND BEACH TEMPLATE WHICH EXTENDS 230 FT SOUTH OF THE USACE SEAWALL AT A MAXIMUM ELEVATION OF 5 FT.
2. CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT FILL OR DISTURB EXISTING BEACH DUNES.





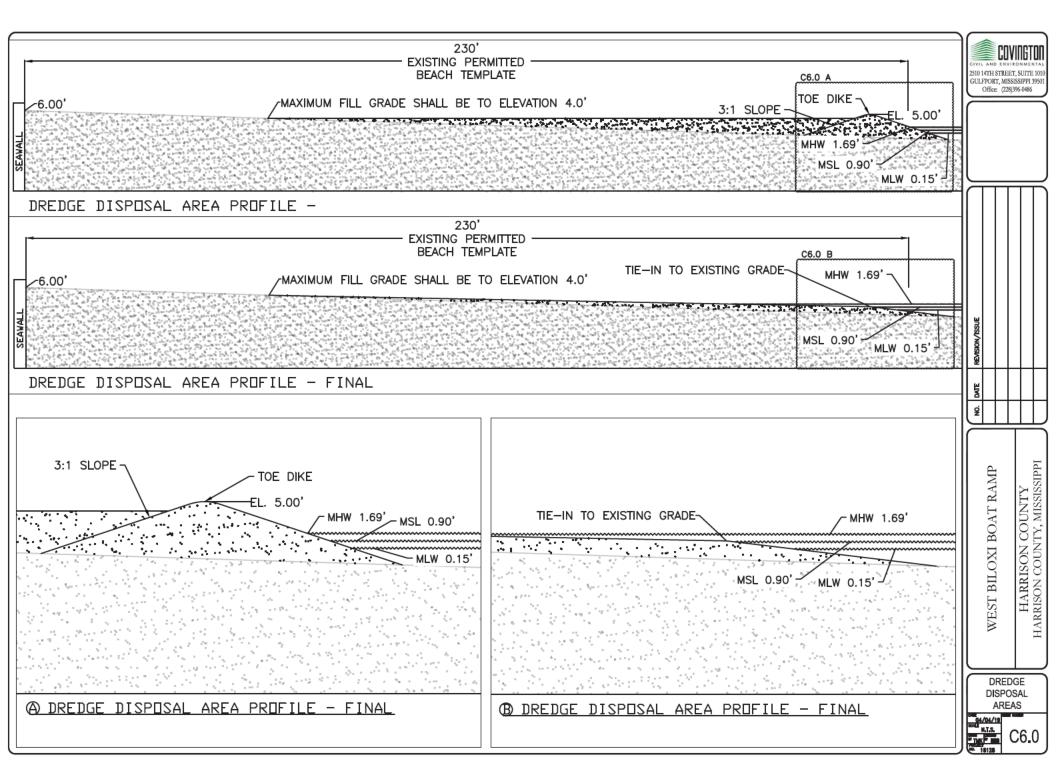


Fig 6 SAM-2018-01344-RCV

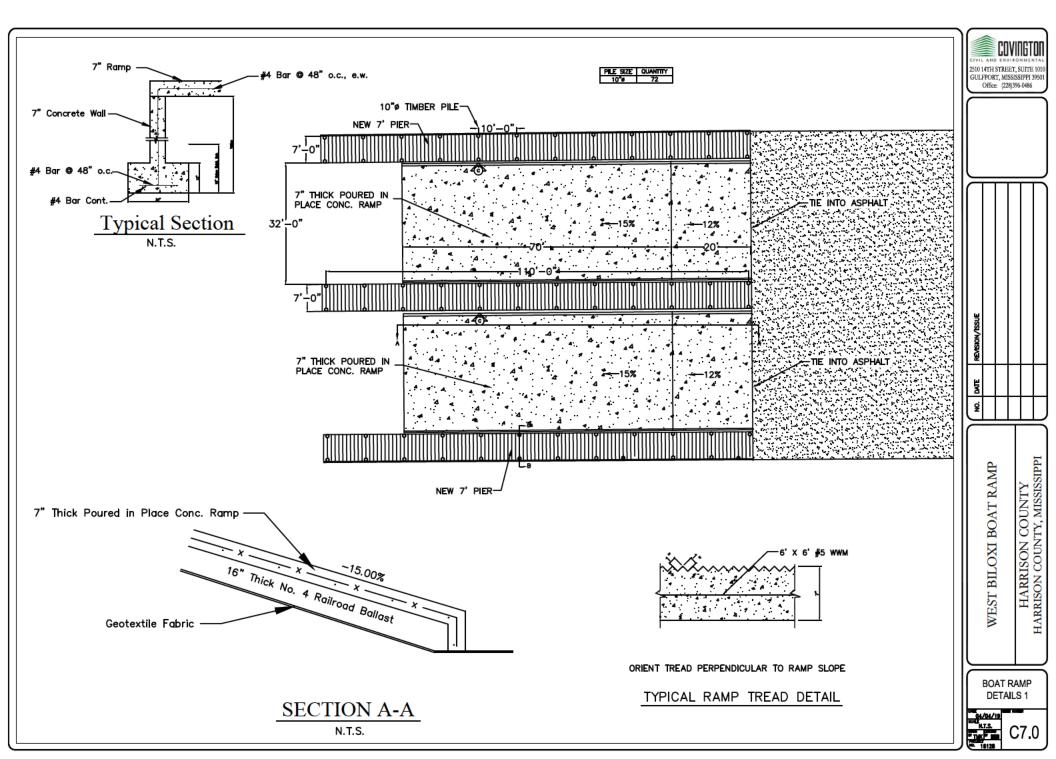
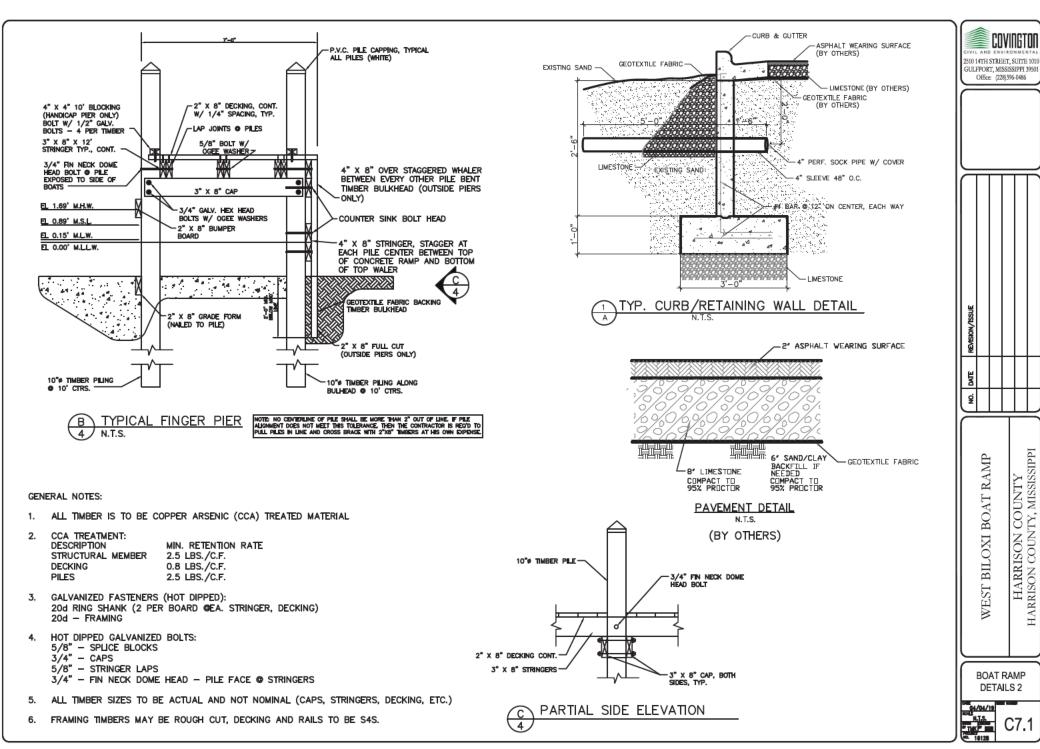
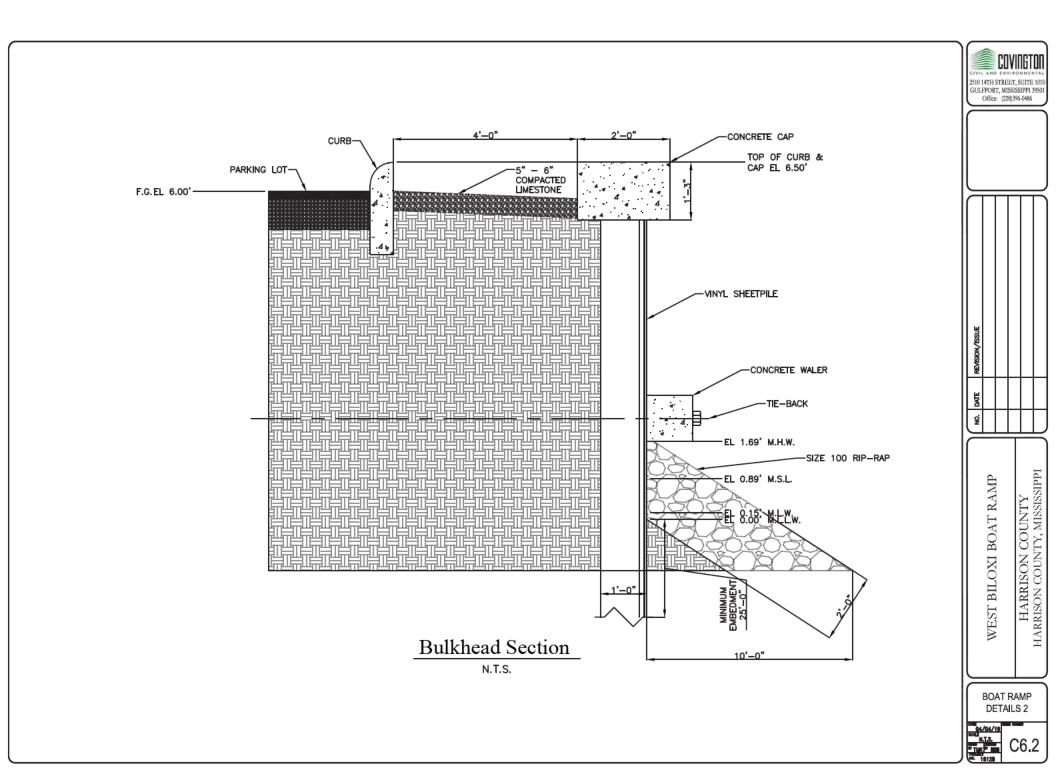


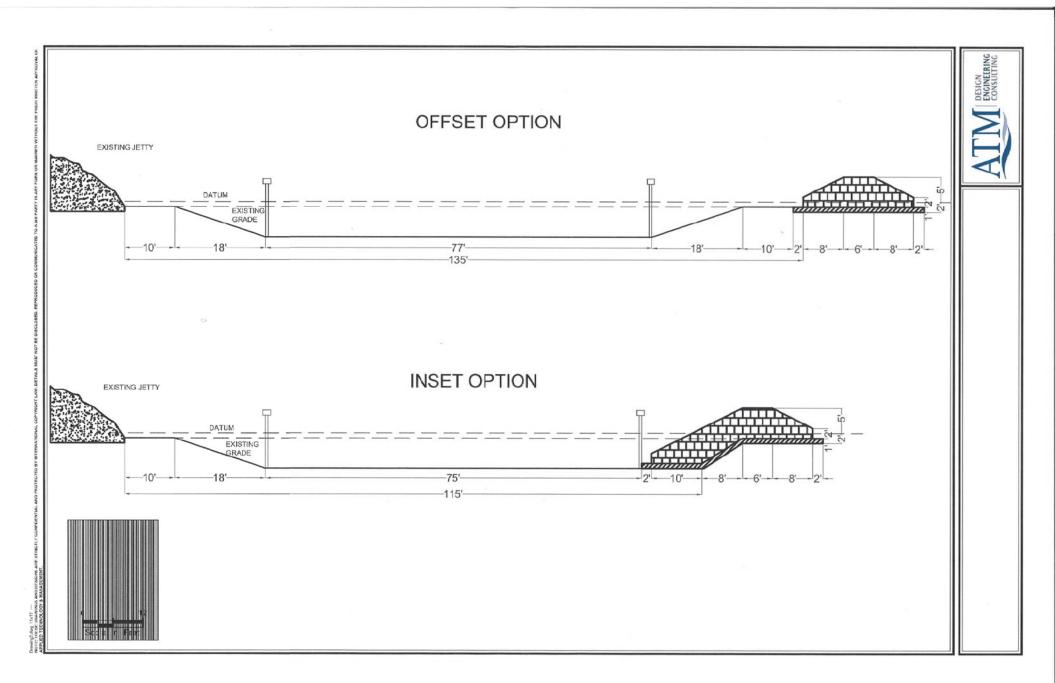
Fig 7 SAM-2018-01344-RCV





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Fig. 9



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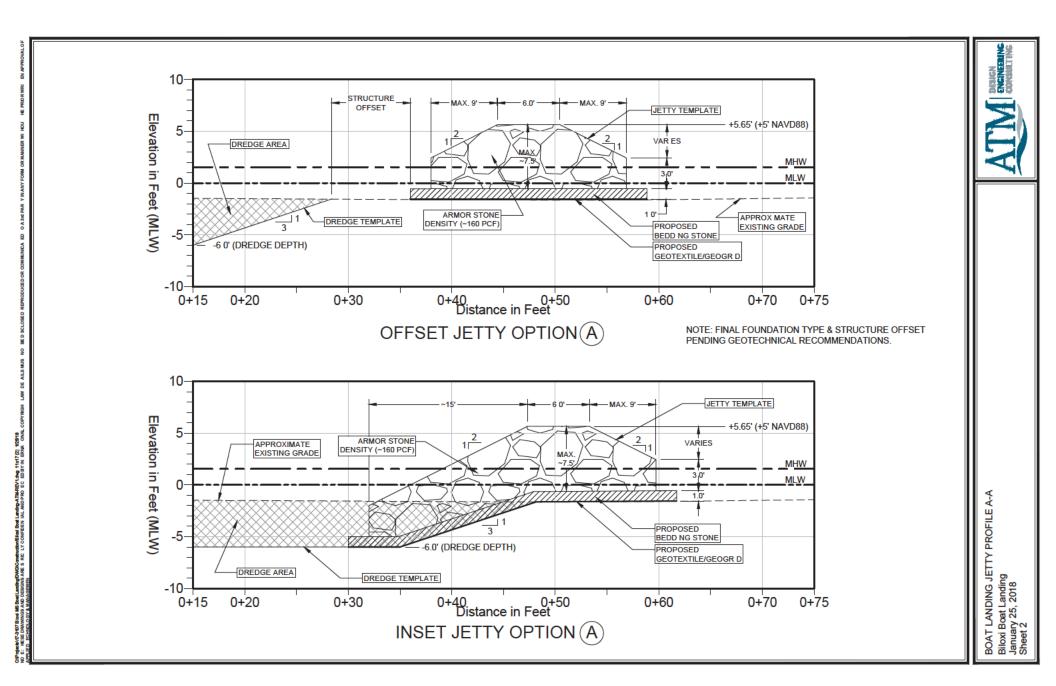


Fig 11 SAM-2018-01344-RCV