



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

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

April 27, 2021

CESAM-RD-M
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2021-00450-AMR

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

**PROPOSED DISCHARGE OF FILL INTO 0.034 ACRES OF TIDAL WATERS INCLUDING 42
SQUARE FEET OF MARSH GRASS ASSOCIATED WITH WIDENING A BOAT LAUNCH
AND CONSTRUCTION OF PIERS AT HILLER PARK, BILOXI, 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 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: City of Biloxi
Attention: Ms. Mary Williams, P.E.
214 A Delauney Street
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

AGENT: Seymore Engineering
Attention: Mr. Jody Spires
925 Tommy Munro Dr. Suite G
Biloxi, Mississippi, 39532

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: The project is located in the Back Bay of Biloxi watershed in Hiller Park, Biloxi, Harrison County, Mississippi, Latitude: 30.4106 North, Longitude: -88.9543 West.

WORK DESCRIPTION: The applicant is proposing to replace the existing dilapidated concrete 32' X 70' boat ramp with a new 40' X 70' concrete boat ramp. Additionally, the applicant proposes to build 230' of piers and boardwalk adjacent to the ramp and adjacent to the waterfront edge.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this project is to replace the existing single ramp public boat launch with a double ramp. The intention of this project is to take an existing debilitated public amenity and replace it with a safer, more attractive public amenity with twice the capacity and more opportunity for public access to the water.

MITIGATION: The applicant proposes to relocate the 42 square feet (S.F.) section of marsh grass to be re-established adjacent to the project area.

WATER QUALITY: The applicant is in the process of pre-application filing for certification from the State of Mississippi in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Upon completion of the required advertising, a determination relative to certification will be made.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES/CULTURAL RESOURCES: 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 effect 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 that the permit area is the proposed new boat ramp, piers, and boardwalk footprint. The USACE has determined that the proposed project would have "No Effect" to cultural resources in the permit area due to the habitat type and previous disturbance. 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.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES: 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 within the project area: the Alabama Red-bellied Turtle (*Pseudemys alabamensis*) (E), Dusky Gopher Frog (*Rana sevosia*) (E), Gopher Tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) (T), Gulf Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*) (T), Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) (T), Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) (T), and Red Knot (*Calidris rufa*) (T). The review of the above species suggests that the proposed activity will have no effect on the listed species except for the Manatee and the Wood Stork. The activity may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the Manatee and the Wood Stork. 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.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The project area includes 42 S.F. of marsh grasses that may be utilized by various life stages of various marine species. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or Federally managed fisheries if the marsh grasses are relocated near the project area. 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 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 impacts, 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.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2021-00450-AMR** and should be directed to USACE, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Attention: Ms. Angela M. Rangel, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Environmental Permitting Division, Attention: Ms. Florance Bass, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225; and to Jennifer Wilder of Wetlands Permitting, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, 1141 Bayview Avenue, 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) 694-3873 or email at angela.m.rangel@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

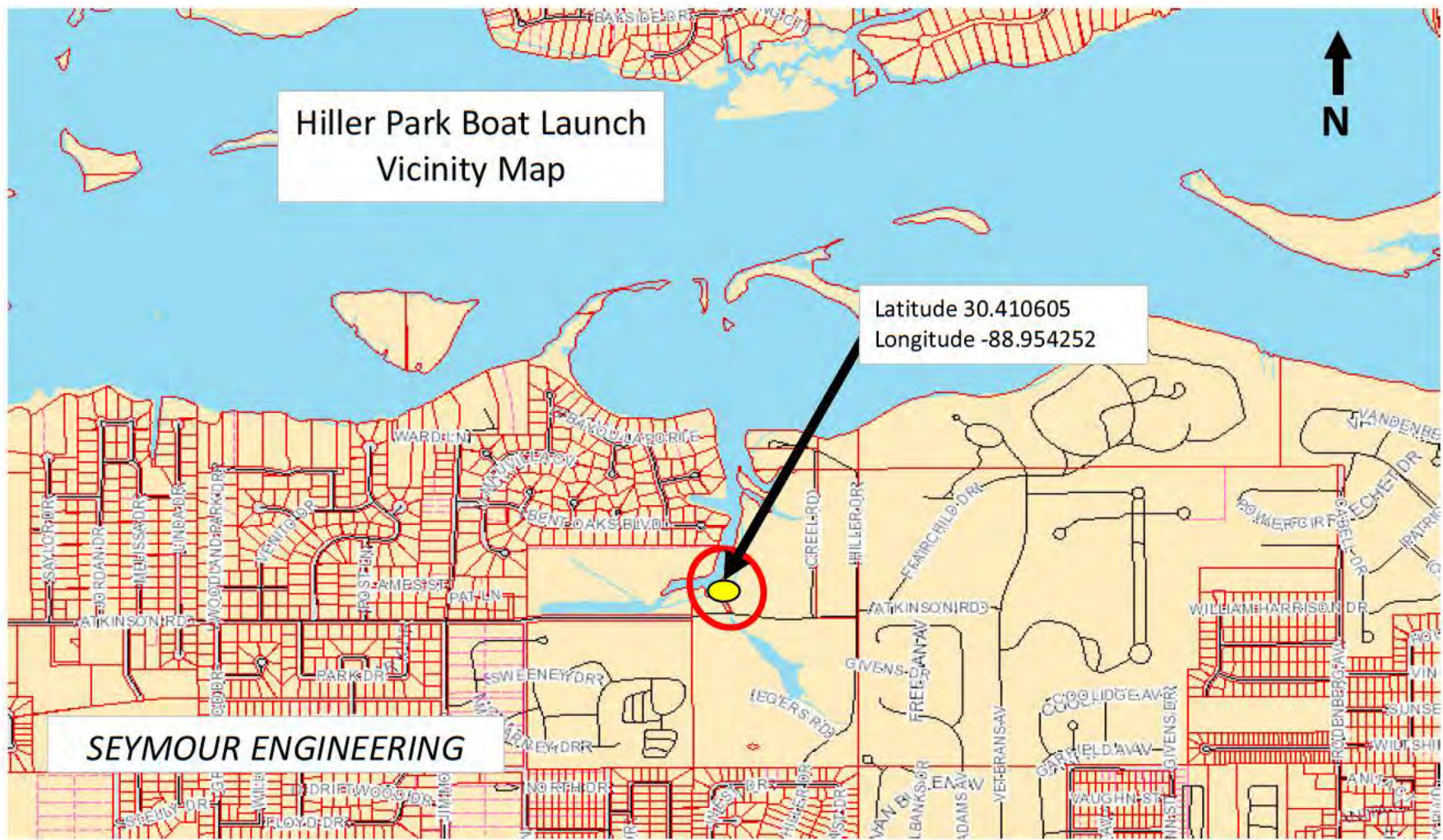
Hiller Park Boat Launch Vicinity Map

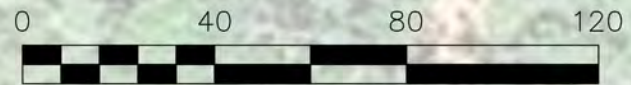
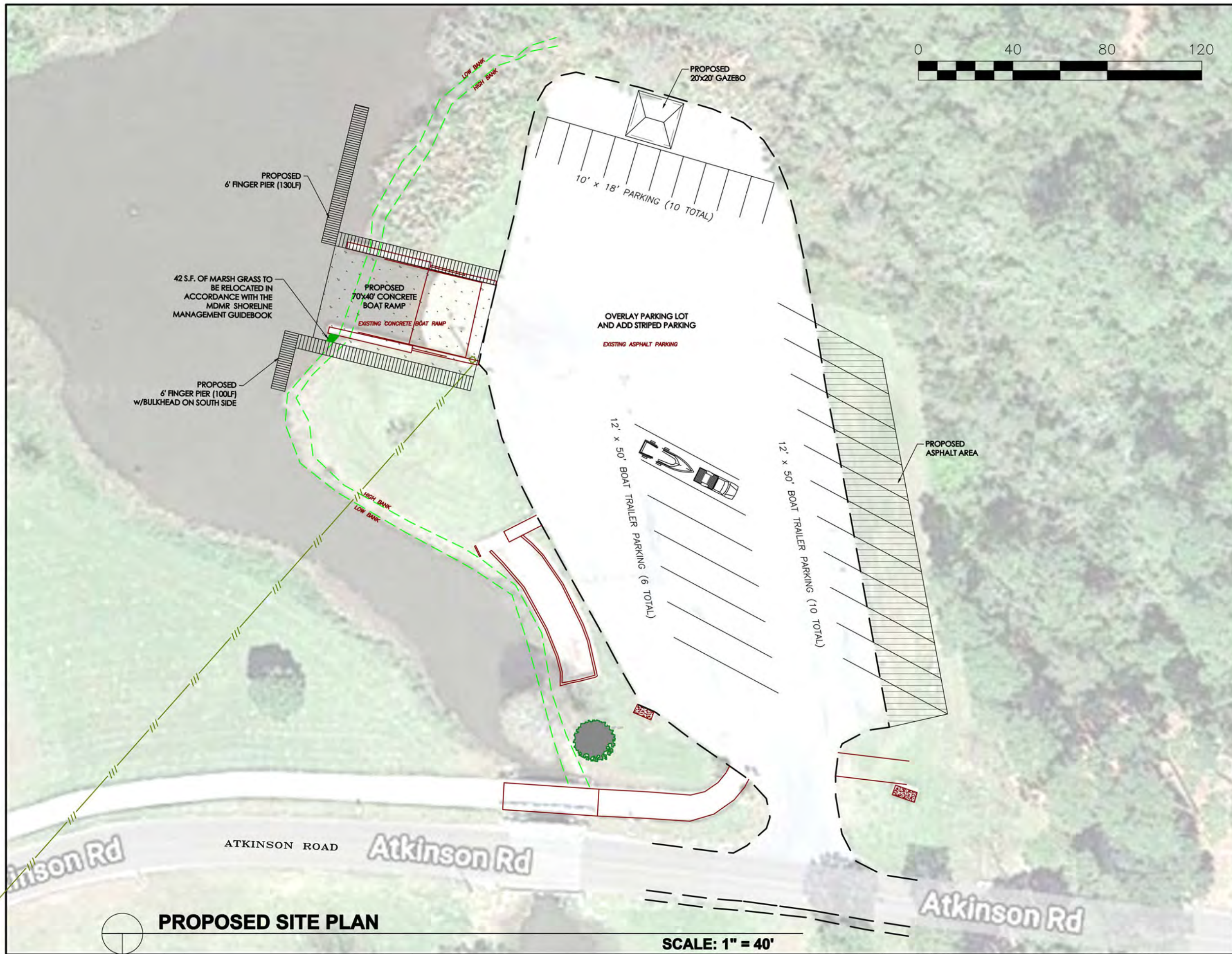


Latitude 30.410605
Longitude -88.954252



SEYMOUR ENGINEERING





PROPOSED SITE PLAN

-PRELIMINARY-
NOT ISSUED FOR
CONSTRUCTION

Revised	
Drawn	J. SPIRES
Checked	S. BROOKS
Approved	M. SEYMOUR
Date	02/10/2021

Sheet Title
PROPOSED SITE PLAN

Project Name
HILLER PARK BOAT LAUNCH

SEYMOUR ENGINEERING
 925 TOMMY MUNRO DRIVE, SUITE G
 BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI 39532
 PHONE: 228-385-2350 FAX: 228-385-2353

Sheet
CL1
 OF 1
 Project No.
 20-017