



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

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

CESAM-RD-M
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2022-00620-KMN

May 25, 2023

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)

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

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
DMR23-000222

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF RAILROAD CORNER BENEFICIAL USE SITE FOR
DISPOSAL OF DREDGED MATERIAL, 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 (33 USC 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
Attention: Mr. Jared Harris
1141 Bayview Avenue
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

WATERWAY AND LOCATION:

Mississippi Sound, near the mouth of the West Pascagoula River, Jackson County, Mississippi. Latitude 30.3692° North, Longitude -88.594° West

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant is requesting a 10-year Department of the Army Permit to construct a beneficial use site for the placement of dredged material in the open waters of the Mississippi Sound. The purpose of this project as stated by the applicant is to create approximately 175 acres of marsh habitat in an area referred to as Railroad Corner. The proposed project would be constructed within an 180-acre project site currently consisting of shallow, open water habitat with water depths which vary from -1 to -5.5 feet Mean lower low water (MLLW). The proposed site is located within the Mississippi Sound east of the mouth of the West Pascagoula River with marsh systems located to the east and west, the CSX Railroad bridge located to the north running between Gautier and Pascagoula. During a survey completed in September 2022, submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) was located along the western portion of the project area. SAV was present from the

edge of the marsh to approximately 15 feet waterward. Total acreage equals approximately 1.44 acres. No shellfish were observed within the project area during the survey. The project components would include the construction of three berms to hold approximately 966,000 cubic yards of dredged material to support the creation of approximately 175 acres of coastal marsh. An earthen berm would be constructed on the western side of the project area to preserve existing SAV habitat, a vegetated berm would be constructed along the eastern portion of the proposed site, and a rock berm would be constructed along the southern extent of the project area.

Rock Berm: An approximately 1,365 linear foot rock berm with a crest elevation of +6.2 feet MLLW would be constructed along the southern extent of the project area. A 60-foot gap would remain between the western marsh and the western end of the proposed rock berm to allow for continued flow to the area containing SAV along the western portion of the project site. Two 30-foot gaps would be placed within the rock berm to allow for tidal exchange and fish passage. Approximately 926 square feet of brackish marsh would be covered at the eastern tie-in of the rock berm.

Vegetated Berm: An approximately 1,325 linear foot vegetated berm with a maximum width of 55 feet and a crest elevation of +4.0 feet MLLW would be placed to reinforce a thin section of existing marsh on the eastern side of the project area

Earthen Berm An approximately 3,500 linear foot earthen berm with a proposed crest elevation of +2 feet mean lower low water (MLLW) would be constructed to protect existing SAV habitat located along the western side of the project area. The earthen berm would tie into the western end of the rock berm and extend to the northern boundary, paralleling the shoreline and providing a minimum 25-foot open water buffer for the SAV. This would create a tidal creek which would provide tidal flow and fish access to any naturally occurring tidal creeks within the created marsh located on the eastern side of the earthen berm. In addition to preserving the existing habitat, the establishment of the earthen berm could provide additional habitat for existing SAV along its western boundary.

Marsh habitat elevations would vary between -0.5 feet to +3 feet MLLW (=+0.2 to +3.7 feet NAVD88) with a target elevation of +1.0-foot MLLW (+1.7 feet NAVD88). Marsh planting is not anticipated as a component of the project. Due to the proximity of existing healthy marsh in the area, natural recruitment is anticipated to provide seeding of the newly created BU areas. *Juncus roemerianus* (black needlerush) and *Spartina alterniflora* (smooth cordgrass) are two common marsh species known to exist in adjacent marshes and would be likely volunteers for recruitment to the newly constructed beneficial use cells.

Access channels: Due to the shallow depths in the vicinity of the proposed berms, various construction access channels are proposed. A construction access channel is proposed on the south side of the rock berm with an approach channel from the mouth of Railroad Corner. Depending on site conditions, the construction channel may be located on the north side of the proposed rock berm. Access channels within the site along the western

earthen berm and to the eastern vegetated berm may also be required for construction access. Access channels would be dredged to a bottom elevation of -6.7 foot, NAVD88 (-6.0 feet, MLLW) with a bottom width of 50 feet. Dredged material from the channels would be placed within the beneficial use site, for construction of the earthen berm, or for construction of the vegetated berm. The applicant stated that no mitigation measures were proposed as the project would create approximately 175 acres of marsh habitat.

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. (DMR23-000222).

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.

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, 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 new 175-acre project site. The National Register of Historic Places will be consulted for properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register, which are known to exist and would be affected by the proposed work. The Mobile District is seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer regarding the existence, or the potential for existence, of significant cultural and historic properties within the permit area.

Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate the following federally-listed species and their critical habitat are known or expected to occur within the project area: West Indian Manatee (T), Eastern Black Rail (T), Piping Plover (T-CH), Red Knot (T-CH), Green Sea Turtle (T), Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle (E), Loggerhead Sea Turtle (T-CH), and Gulf Sturgeon (T-CH). At this time, the USACE, Mobile District has made no determination with regard to potential effects of the project on the above-listed species. Further coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and NMFS will be performed as determined to be appropriate.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The proposal would impact the 175-acre project site of marine/estuarine substrate utilized by various life stages of species. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not adversely impact EFH, or associated fisheries managed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council or the National Marine Fisheries Service. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would have no effect to 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.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2022-00620-KMN** 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 (cesam-rd@usace.army.mil), with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, Attention Ms. Carrie Barefoot (CBarefoot@mdeq.ms.gov), Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225, and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, Attention: Ms. Jennifer Wilder (Jennifer.Wilder@dmr.ms.gov), 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, **Kaaren M. Neumann (Kaaren.M.Neumann@usace.army.mil), phone (228) 386-8293**. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our website at: www.sam.usace.army.mil 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

FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES ONLY
"NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION"

NOTE: BACKGROUND IMAGE
BASED ON NOAA NAUTICAL
CHART 11374 INTRACOASTAL
WATERWAY DAUPHIN ISLAND
TO DOG KEYS PASS.



drawn by:

date:

approved by:

date:

PROJECT:

WATERBODY:

COUNTY:

STATE:

LATITUDE:

LONGITUDE:

Railroad Corner Beneficial Use
Site
Railroad Corner
Jackson
Mississippi
30°21'57.66"N
88°35'42.88"W

LOCATION MAP

Applicant: MDMR

Project Address: Pascagoula, MS

Parcel ID:





11-May-2023
SHEET 01

FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES ONLY
"NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION"

NOTE:
1. VERTICAL DATUM, FEET-MLLW,
2. CONTOURS ARE BASED TICE ENGINEERING INC, JULY 2022 SURVEY.



 A Geosynapse Company	drawn by:	PROJECT:	Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site	EXISTING CONDITIONS		 CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL 11-May-2023 SHEET 02
	date:	WATERBODY:	Railroad Corner	Applicant: MDMR		
	approved by:	COUNTY:	Jackson	Project Address: Pascagoula, MS		
	date:	STATE:	Mississippi	Parcel ID:		
		LATITUDE:	30°21'57.66"N			
		LONGITUDE:	88°35'42.88"W			

C:\p\pascagoula\03-3940 MS Railroad Corner\03-3940 MS Railroad Corner.dwg, 03/25/2023, 02:51:17Z
NOTE: THESE DRAWINGS AND DESIGNS ARE STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND PROTECTED BY INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT LAW. DETAILS MUST NOT BE DISCLOSED, REPRODUCED OR COMMUNICATED TO A 3rd PARTY IN ANY FORM OR MANNER WITHOUT THE PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT.



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NOTE:
1. VERTICAL DATUM, FEET-MLLW.
2. CONTOURS ARE BASED TICE ENGINEERING INC. JULY 2022 SURVEY.

NOAA TIDE STATION 8741533
PASCAGOULA

DATUM	ELEV. FT-MLLW
MHHW	1.6
MHW	1.5
NAVD88	0.7
MLW	0.1
MLLW	0

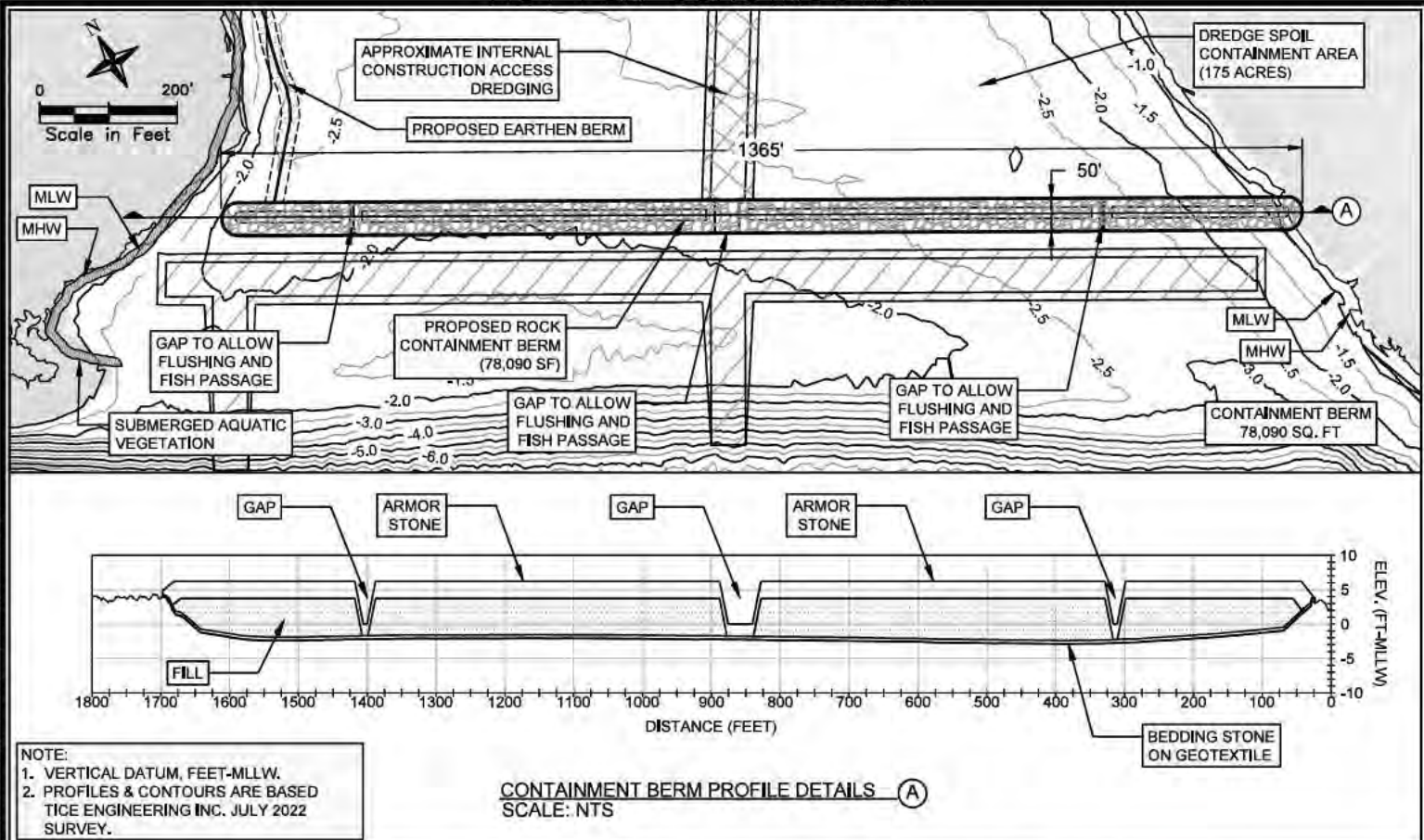




 A Geospatial Company	drawn by:	PROJECT:	Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site	PROPOSED CONDITIONS		 CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL
	date:	WATERBODY:	Railroad Corner	Applicant: MDMR		
	approved by:	COUNTY:	Jackson	Project Address: Pascagoula, MS		
	date:	STATE:	Mississippi	Parcel ID:		
		LATITUDE:	30°21'57.66"N			
		LONGITUDE:	88°35'42.88"W			

11-May-2023
SHEET 03

11-May-2023
SHEET 03

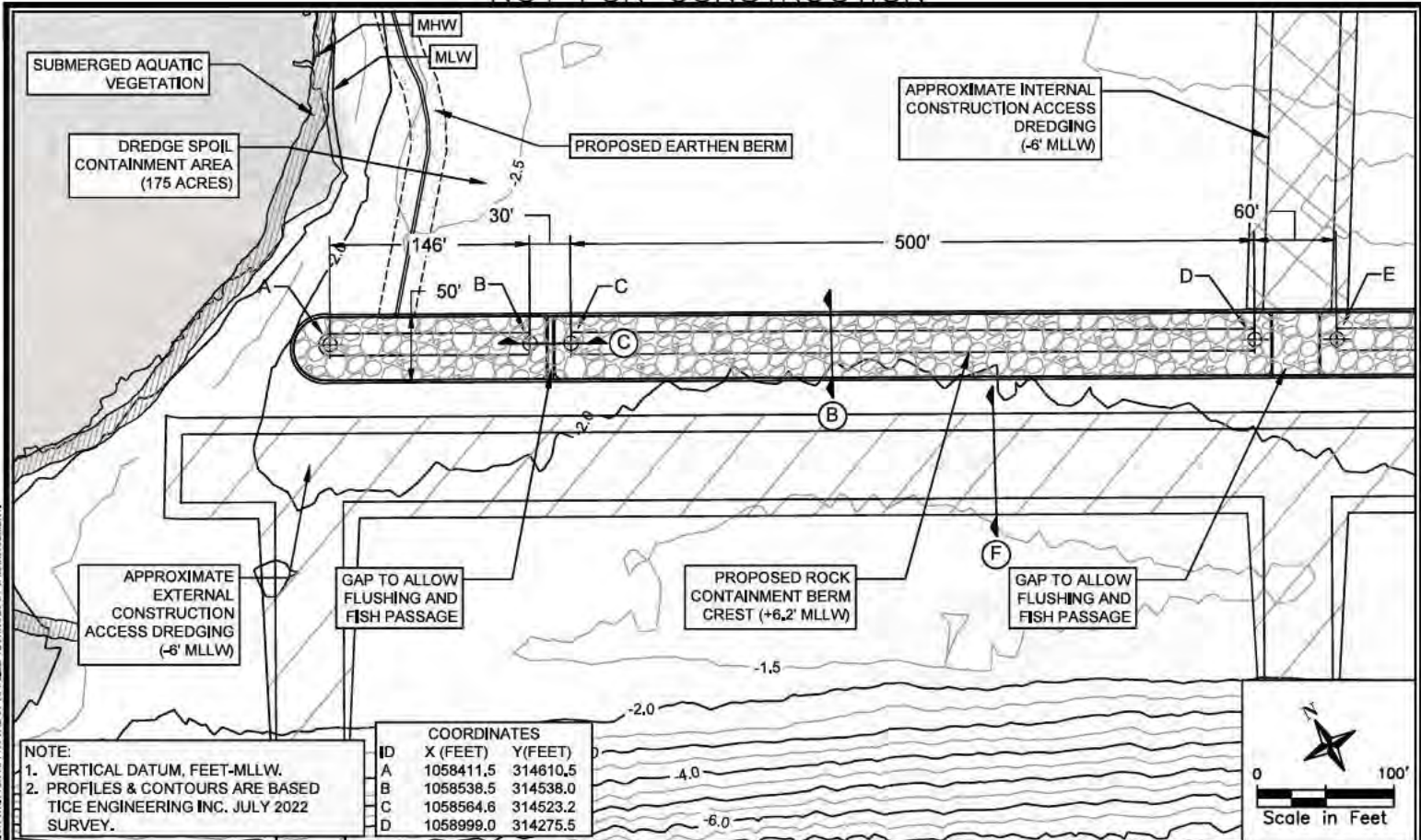
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 <small>A CONSULTING & CONSTRUCTION COMPANY</small>	drawn by:	PROJECT:	Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site	PROPOSED CONTAINMENT BERM OVERVIEW		 CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL
	date:	WATERBODY:	Railroad Corner	Applicant: MDMR		
	approved by:	COUNTY:	Jackson	Project Address: Pascagoula, MS		
	date:	STATE:	Mississippi	Parcel ID:		
		LATITUDE:	30°21'57.66"N			
		LONGITUDE:	88°35'42.88"W			

11-May-2023
SHEET 04

FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES ONLY
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drawn by:

date:

approved by:

date:

PROJECT:

WATERBODY:

COUNTY:

STATE:

LATITUDE:

LONGITUDE:

Railroad Corner Beneficial Use
Site

Railroad Corner

Jackson

Mississippi

30°21'57.66"N

88°35'42.88"W

PROPOSED CONTAINMENT
BERM OVERVIEW

Applicant: MDMR

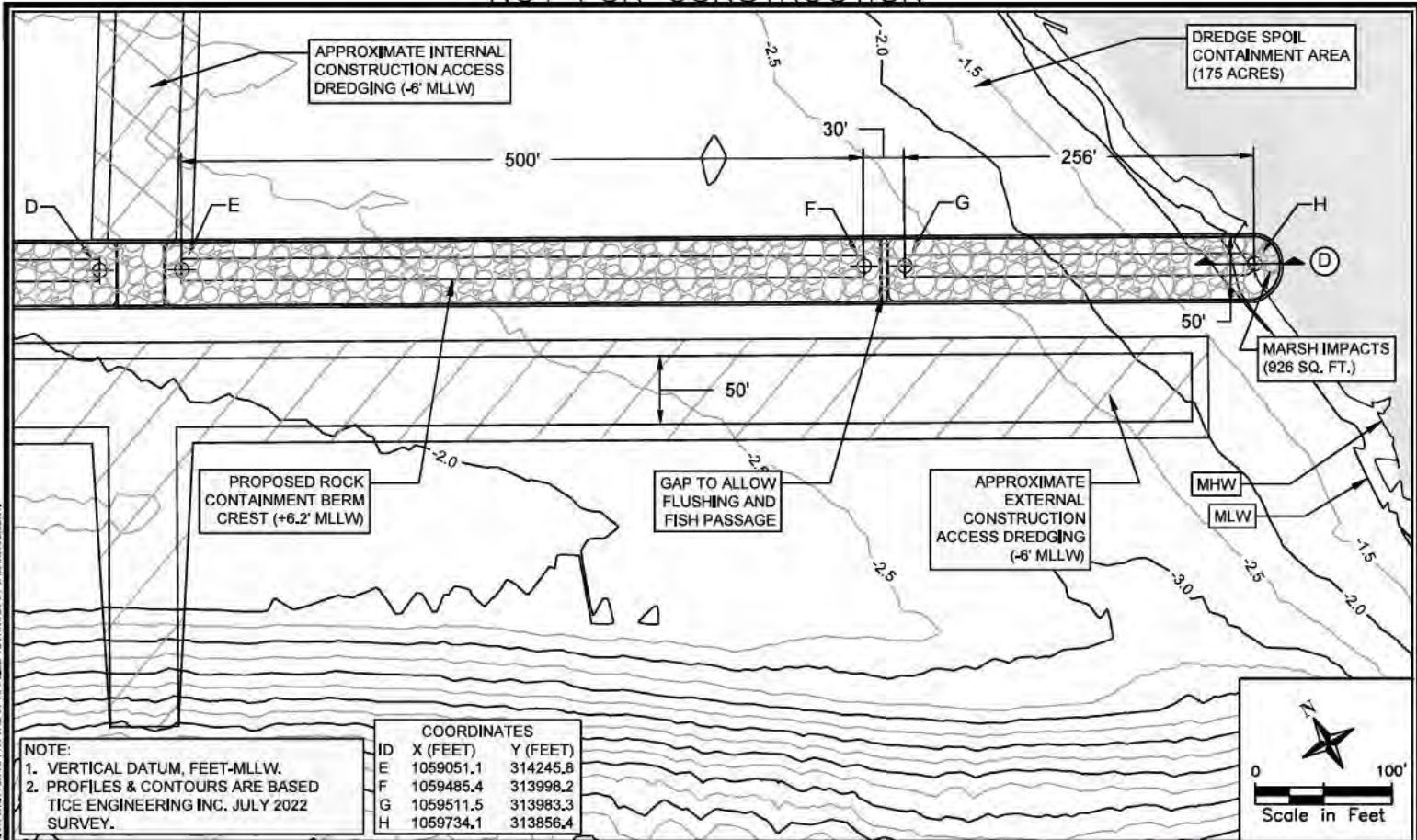
Project Address: Pascagoula, MS

Parcel ID:



11-May-2023
SHEET 05

FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES ONLY
"NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION"



drawn by:

date:

approved by:

date:

PROJECT:

WATERBODY:

COUNTY:

STATE:

LATITUDE:

LONGITUDE:

Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site
Railroad Corner
Jackson
Mississippi
30°21'57.66"N
88°35'42.88"W

PROPOSED CONTAINMENT BERM OVERVIEW

Applicant: MDMR

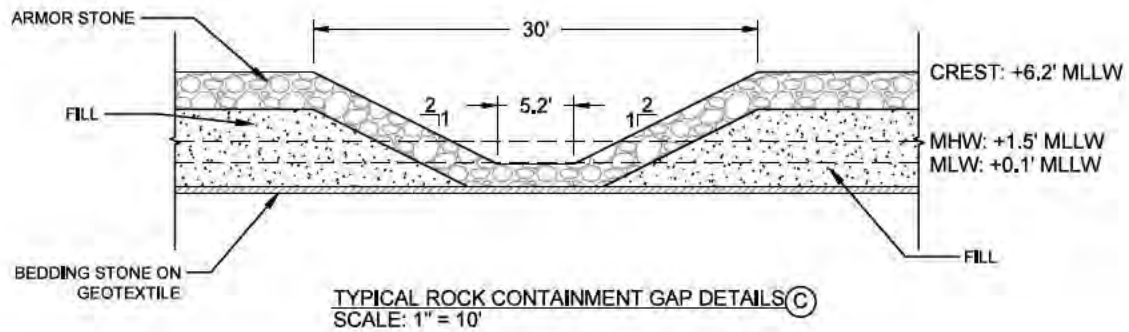
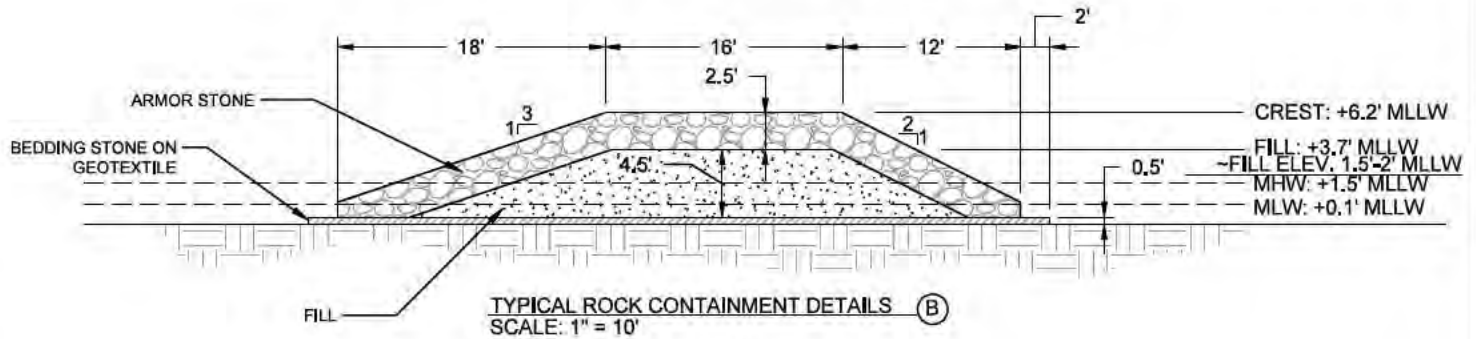
Project Address: Pascagoula, MS

Parcel ID:



11-May-2023
SHEET 06

FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES ONLY
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drawn by:
 date:
 approved by:
 date:

PROJECT: Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site
 WATERBODY: Railroad Corner
 COUNTY: Jackson
 STATE: Mississippi
 LATITUDE: 30°21'57.66"N
 LONGITUDE: 88°35'42.88"W

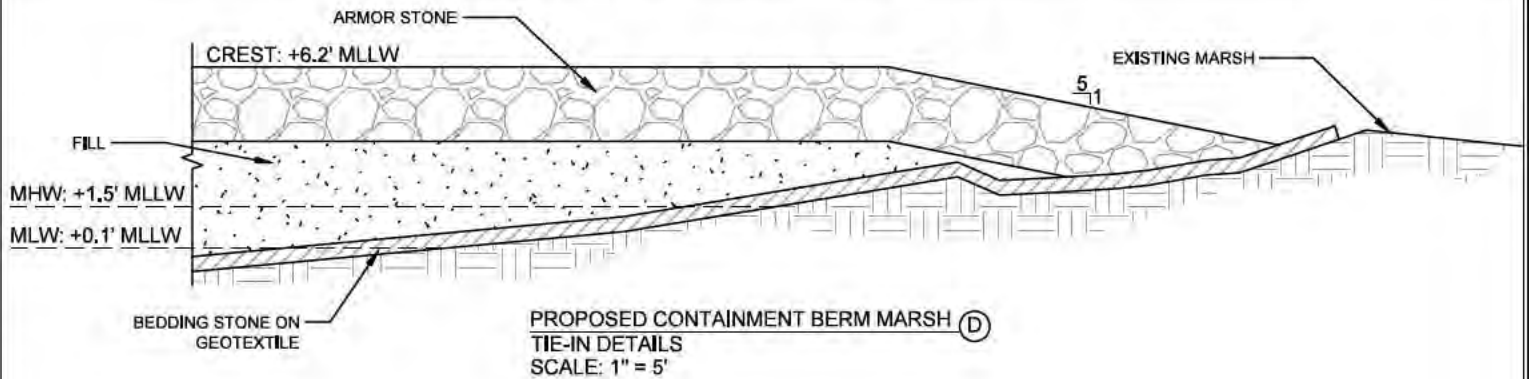
PROPOSED CONTAINMENT
 BERM DETAILS



Applicant: MDMR
 Project Address: Pascagoula, MS
 Parcel ID:



11-May-2023
 SHEET 07

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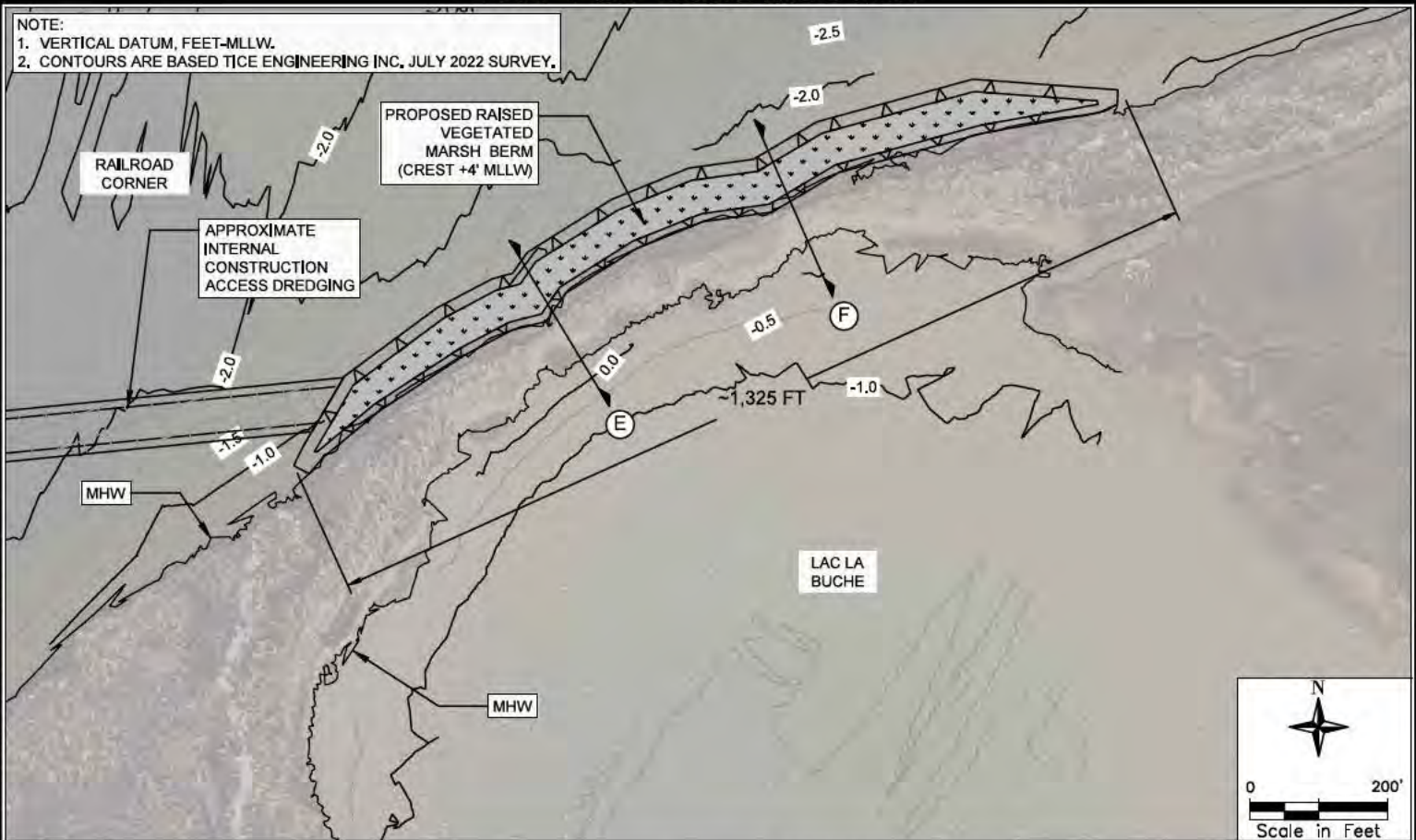
	drawn by:	PROJECT:	Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site	PROPOSED CONTAINMENT BERM DETAILS		
	date:	WATERBODY:	Railroad Corner	Applicant: MDMR		
	approved by:	COUNTY:	Jackson	Project Address: Pascagoula, MS		
	date:	STATE:	Mississippi	Parcel ID:		
		LATITUDE:	30°21'57.66"N			
		LONGITUDE:	88°35'42.88"W			

11-May-2023
SHEET 08

11-May-2023
SHEET 08

FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES ONLY
"NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION"

NOTE:
1. VERTICAL DATUM, FEET-MLLW.
2. CONTOURS ARE BASED TICE ENGINEERING INC., JULY 2022 SURVEY.



drawn by:

date:

approved by:

date:

PROJECT: Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site
WATERBODY: Railroad Corner
COUNTY: Jackson
STATE: Mississippi
LATITUDE: 30°21'57.66"N
LONGITUDE: 88°35'42.88"W

PROPOSED THIN MARSH
PROTECTION DETAILS

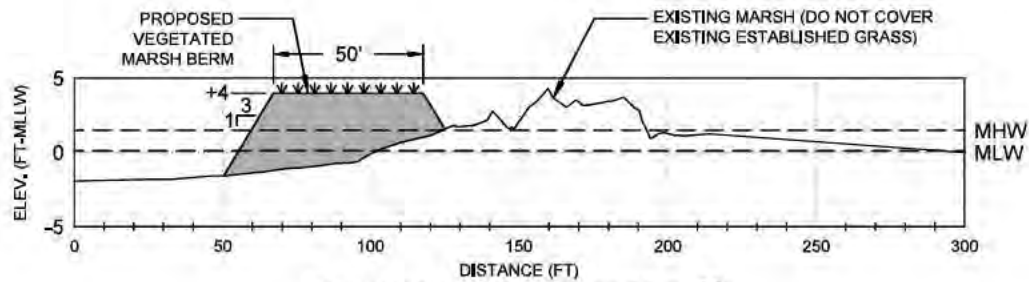
Applicant: MDMR

Project Address: Pascagoula, MS

Parcel ID:

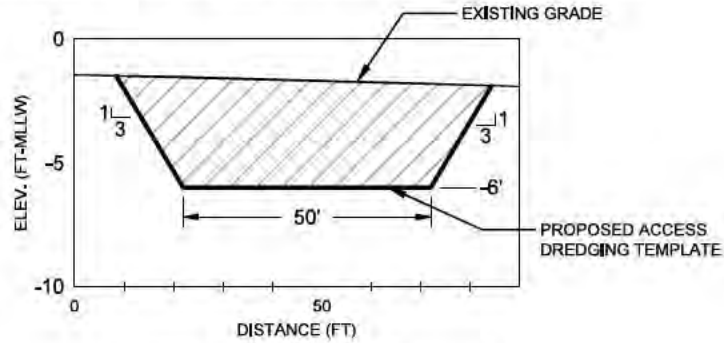


11-May-2023
SHEET 09

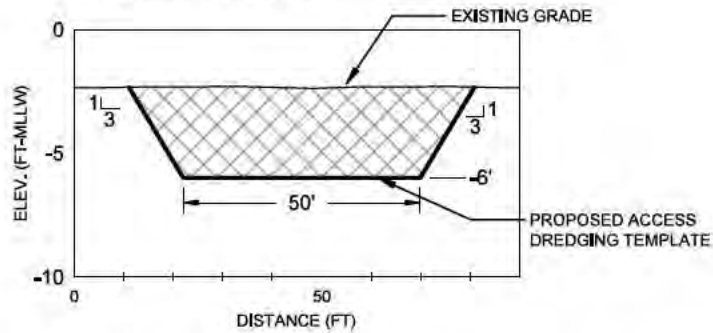


11-May-2023
SHEET 10

FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES ONLY
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TYPICAL EXTERNAL ACCESS DREDGING PROFILE (G)



TYPICAL INTERNAL ACCESS DREDGING PROFILE (H)



drawn by:
 date:
 approved by:
 date:

PROJECT: Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site
 WATERBODY: Railroad Corner
 COUNTY: Jackson
 STATE: Mississippi
 LATITUDE: 30°21'57.66"N
 LONGITUDE: 88°35'42.88"W

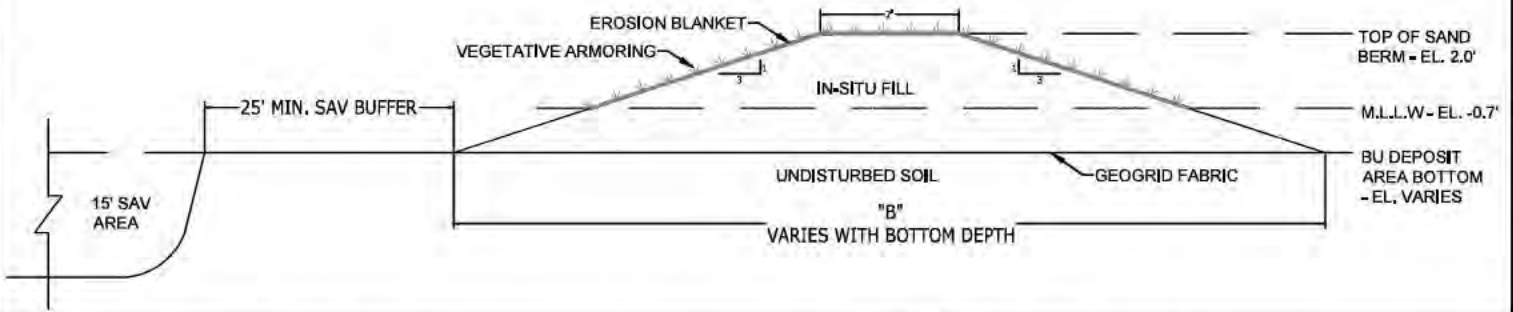
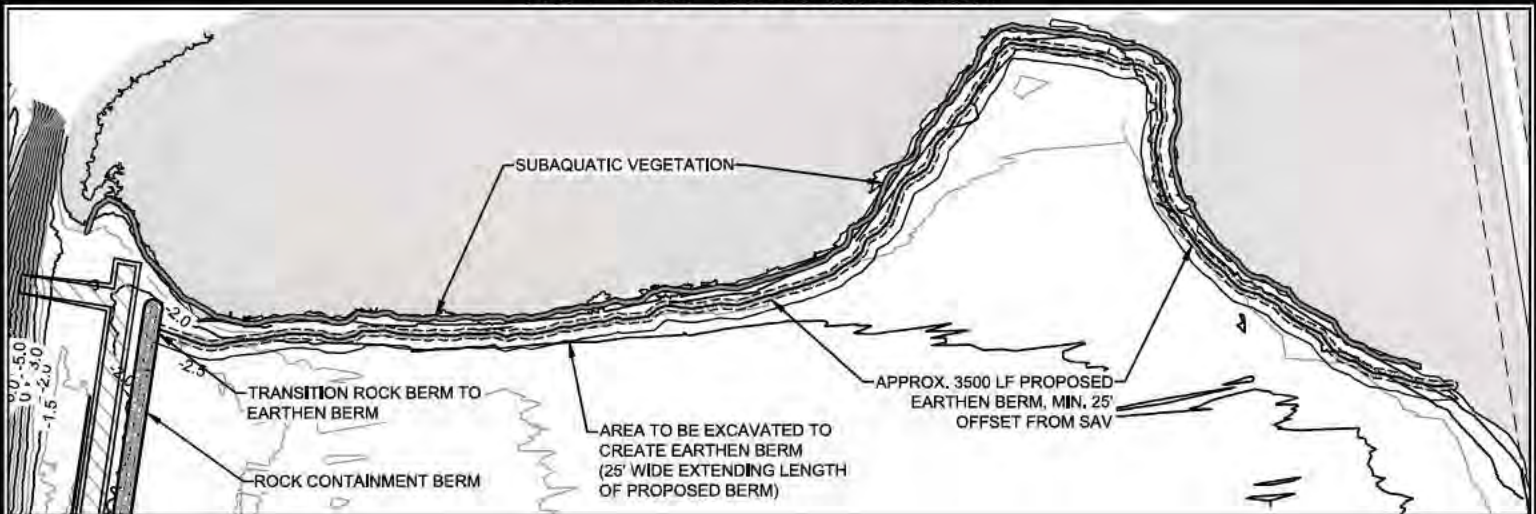
PROPOSED ACCESS DREDGING DETAILS

Applicant: MDMR
 Project Address: Pascagoula, MS
 Parcel ID:



11-May-2023
 SHEET 11

FOR PERMITTING PURPOSES ONLY
 "NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION"



drawn by:

date:

approved by:

date:

PROJECT:

WATERBODY:

COUNTY:

STATE:

LATITUDE:

LONGITUDE:

Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site

Railroad Corner

Jackson

Mississippi

30°21'57.66"N

88°35'42.88"W

PROPOSED EARTHEN
BERM DETAILS

Applicant: MDMR

Project Address: Pascagoula, MS

Parcel ID:



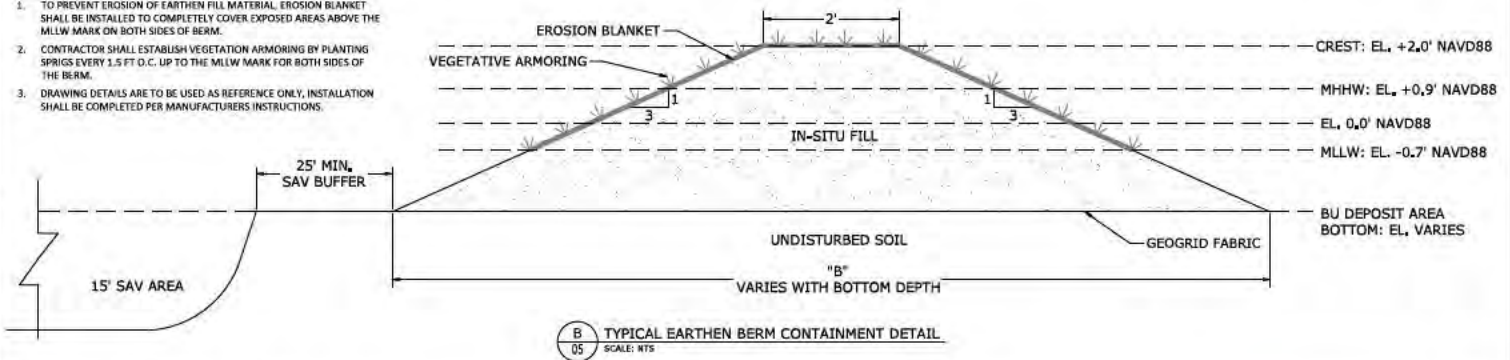
11-May-2023
SHEET 12

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VEGETATIVE ARMORING NOTES:

1. TO PREVENT EROSION OF EARTHEN FILL MATERIAL, EROSION BLANKET SHALL BE INSTALLED TO COMPLETELY COVER EXPOSED AREAS ABOVE THE MLLW MARK ON BOTH SIDES OF BERM.
2. CONTRACTOR SHALL ESTABLISH VEGETATIVE ARMORING BY PLANTING SPRIGS EVERY 1.5 FT O.C. UP TO THE MLLW MARK FOR BOTH SIDES OF THE BERM.
3. DRAWING DETAILS ARE TO BE USED AS REFERENCE ONLY, INSTALLATION SHALL BE COMPLETED PER MANUFACTURERS INSTRUCTIONS.



TYPICAL EARTHEN BERM CONTAINMENT DETAIL

SCALE: NTS



drawn by:

date:

approved by:

date:

PROJECT:

WATERBODY:

COUNTY:

STATE:

LATITUDE:

LONGITUDE:

Railroad Corner Beneficial Use Site
Railroad Corner
Jackson
Mississippi
30°21'57.66"N
88°35'42.88"W

PROPOSED
CONDITIONS

Applicant: MDMR

Project Address: Pascagoula, MS

Parcel ID:



11-May-2023
SHEET 05