



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant:
**Jackson County Port
Authority**

Published: July 25, 2025
Expires: August 25, 2025

**Mobile District
Permit Application No. SAM-2015-00813-PAH
Joint Public Notice: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE),
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Office of
Pollution Control (MDEQ), and Mississippi Department of
Marine Resources (MDMR) (DMR25-000153)**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The Mobile District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. §1344) **and/or** Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. §403). The purpose of this public notice is to solicit comments from the public regarding the work described below:

APPLICANT: Jackson County Port Authority
P.O. Box 70
Pascagoula, Mississippi 39568-0070

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: The project would affect waters of the United States and navigable waters of the United States associated with the Pascagoula River. The project/review area is located within the Pascagoula River in 7 Section, 8S Township, 6W Range; at Latitude 30.3647 and Longitude -88.56645; in the City of Pascagoula, Jackson County, Mississippi.

EXISTING CONDITIONS:

Proposed Dredging Location: The subject area is part of the Jackson County Port Authority's facilities in the Pascagoula River. The Pascagoula River in this location is a tidal waterbody with silty water bottoms. The Port facilities are heavily industrialized and are utilized for national and international commerce.

Potential Dredge Disposal Sites:

1. The Triple Barrel Dredged Material Management Site is designated as Federal and Non-Federal dredged material sites and is previously authorized Civil Works Disposal areas currently utilized by both the Corps and the Port.
2. Singing River Island Semi-confined Open Water Site is designated as Federal and Non-Federal dredged material sites and is previously authorized Civil Works Disposal areas currently utilized by both the Corps and the Port.
3. The Round Island Beneficial Use Site was previously permitted under SAM-2011-01590-KMN. The containment structure has been completed and the site is currently receiving approved dredged material.

PROJECT PURPOSE:

Basic: Maintenance dredging and dredged material disposal.

Overall: To perform maintenance dredging to maintain depths of docks equal to adjacent Federal Channel in order to obtain National Economic Development benefits of the Federal Channel and to dispose of dredged material.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant requests reauthorization to perform maintenance dredging at the Jackson County Port Authority's (Port) Pascagoula River West Bank Marine Terminal Facilities. A 10-year permit was authorized for this project on February 23, 2017. The proposed maintenance dredging would remove approximately 90,000 cubic yards of accumulated silts and sands every 3 years from the Port's facilities utilizing either hydraulic pipeline dredge or mechanical type dredge methods. The proposed dredging would restore navigational depths to -42 feet below mean low water. Dredged material would be disposed at either the Triple Barrel Dredged Material Management Site, the Singing River Island Semi-confined Open Water Site or the Round Island Beneficial Use Site (BU). Sediment testing will be required prior to disposal in the BU site. The applicant is seeking a 10-year authorization.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: The applicant has provided the following information in support of efforts to avoid and/or minimize impacts to the aquatic environment: The proposed work is limited to existing berths and will utilize existing disposal locations. No new work is proposed.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION:

The applicant has provided the following explanation why compensatory mitigation should not be required: This project should not result in the loss of a special aquatic site; the applicant is not proposing mitigation for impacts at this time.

CULTURAL RESOURCES:

The Corps evaluated the undertaking pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) utilizing its existing program-specific regulations and procedures along with 36 CFR Part 800. The Corps' program-specific procedures include 33 CFR 325, Appendix C, and revised interim guidance issued in 2005 and 2007, respectively. The District Engineer consulted district files and records and the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and initially determines that:

No historic properties (i.e., properties listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places) are present within the Corps' permit area; therefore, there will be no historic properties affected. The Corps subsequently requests concurrence from the SHPO and/or THPO.

The District Engineer's final eligibility and effect determination will be based upon coordination with the SHPO and/or THPO, as appropriate and required, and with full

consideration given to the proposed undertaking's potential direct and indirect effects on historic properties within the Corps-identified permit area.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The Corps has performed an initial review of the application, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Standard Local Operating Procedures for Endangered Species (SLOPES), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southeast Region Section 7 Mapper, and the NMFS Critical Habitat Mapper to determine if any threatened, endangered, proposed, or candidate species, as well as the proposed and final designated critical habitat may occur in the vicinity of the proposed project. Based on this initial review, the Corps has made a preliminary determination that the proposed project may affect species and critical habitat listed below. No other ESA-listed species or critical habitat will be affected by the proposed action.

Table 01: ESA-listed species and/or critical habitat potentially present in the action area.

Species Common Name and/or Critical Habitat Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	Potential Effect
Mississippi Sandhill Crane	<i>Antigone canadensis pulla</i>	Endangered	No Effect
Dusky Gopher Frog	<i>Rana sevosa</i>	Endangered	No Effect
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Threatened	No Effect
Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius Melodus</i>	Threatened	No Effect
Eastern Black Rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i>	Threatened	No Effect
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Threatened	No Effect
Gopher Tortoise	<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	Threatened	No Effect
Alabama Red-Bellied Turtle	<i>Pseudemys alabamensis</i>	Endangered	No Effect
West Indian Manatee	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>	Threatened	NLAA
Gulf Sturgeon and Gulf Sturgeon Critical Habitat	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus</i>	Threatened	NLAA

Green Sea Turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Threatened	NLAA
Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	Endangered	NLAA
Loggerhead Sea Turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Threatened	NLAA

Pursuant to Section 7 ESA, any required consultation with the Service(s) will be conducted in accordance with 50 CFR part 402. The USACE is the lead Federal agency for ESA consultation for the proposed action. Any required consultation will be completed by USACE.

This notice serves as request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species or critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: Pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act 1996, the Corps reviewed the project area, examined information provided by the applicant, and consulted available species information.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not likely to adversely affect EFH and/or fisheries managed by Fishery Management Councils and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Implementation of the proposed project would directly impact approximately 30 acres of estuarine substrate and water column. The effects of the project are determined to be minimal and temporary. These habitat(s) are utilized by the following species and their various life stages:

NOAA Essential Fish Habitat (7 feature(s) returned)	
Species	Life Stage
Coastal Migratory Pelagics	
Red Drum	
Shrimp	
Spinner Shark	
Blacktip Shark (Gulf of Mexico Stock)	
Bull Shark	
Reef Fish	
Source: https://services2.arcgis.com/C8EMgrsFcRFL6LrL/arcgis/rest/services/EFH/FeatureServer/0	

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.

NAVIGATION: Based on the Mississippi State Plane coordinates provided by the applicant, the waterward edge of the proposed dredging is 0 feet away from the near bottom edge of the Pascagoula River federal channel. The area to be dredged meets up with the federal channel and is a component of maintaining the federal channel in this location.

SECTION 408: The applicant will require permission under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 408) because the activity, in whole or in part, would alter, occupy, or use a Corps Civil Works project.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: Water Quality Certification may be required from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. 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).

COASTAL ZONE: The applicant received coastal zone (CZ) consistency from the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources in accordance with the State Coastal Zone Management Program under DMR25-000153 on June 5, 2025.

NOTE: This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This information has not been verified or evaluated to ensure compliance with laws and regulation governing the regulatory program. The geographic extent of aquatic resources within the proposed project area that either are, or are presumed to be, within the Corps jurisdiction has been verified by Corps personnel.

EVALUATION: 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 cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historical 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, considerations of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act or the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine Protection

Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

COMMENTS: The Corps 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 Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this determination, comments are used to assess impacts to 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 (EA) and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The Mobile District will receive written comments on the proposed work, as outlined above, until August 25, 2025. Comments should be submitted electronically via the Regulatory Request System (RRS) at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs> or to Maryellen Farmer at maryellen.j.farmer@usace.army.mil. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Attention: Maryellen Farmer, 100 Canal Street, Regulatory Division, Mobile, Alabama 36602-1901. Copies of all comments should be furnished 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. Please refer to the permit application number in your comments.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider the application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. Requests for a public hearing will be granted, unless the District Engineer determines that the issues raised are insubstantial or there is otherwise no valid interest to be served by a hearing.

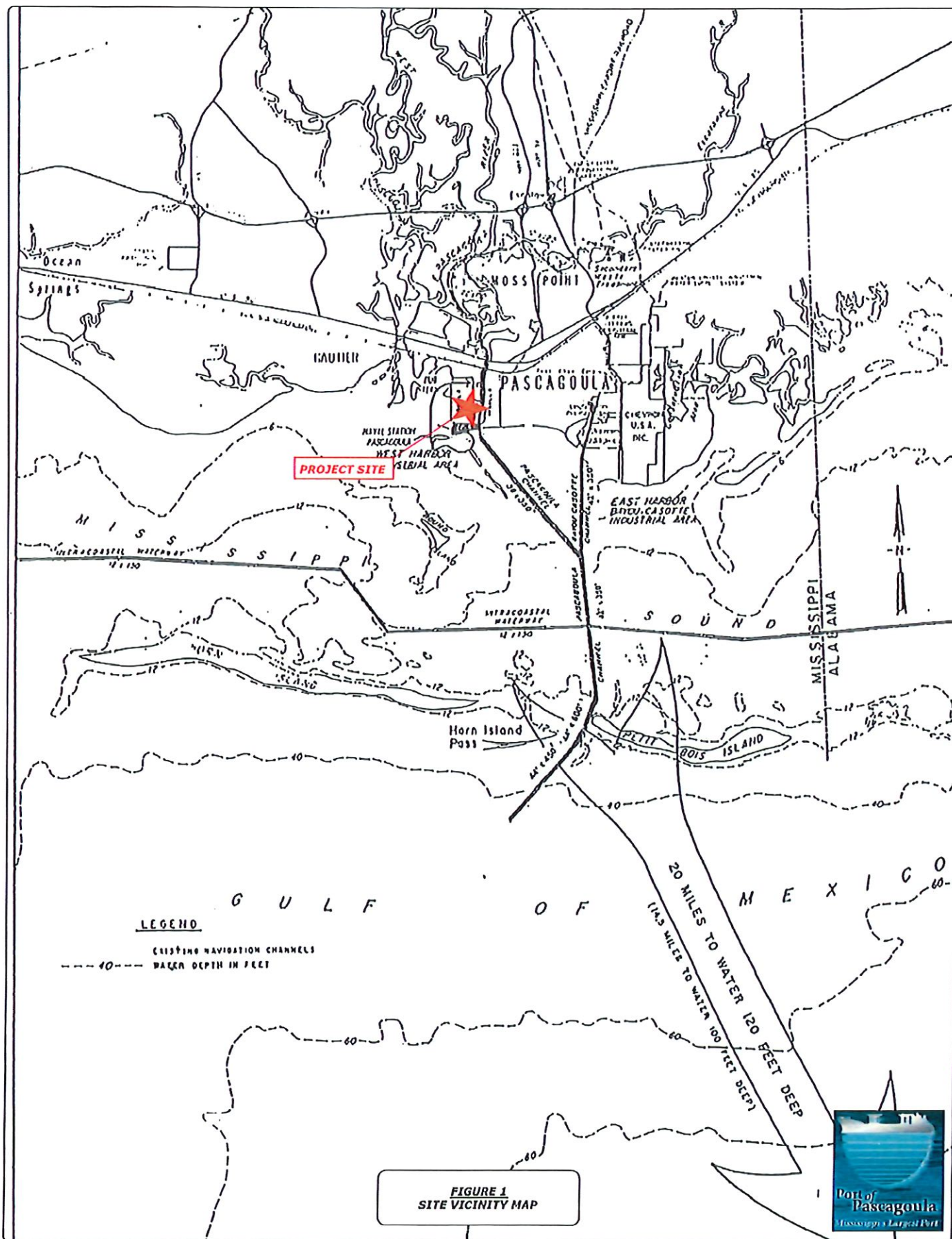
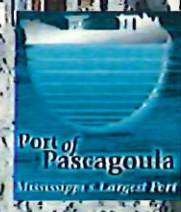
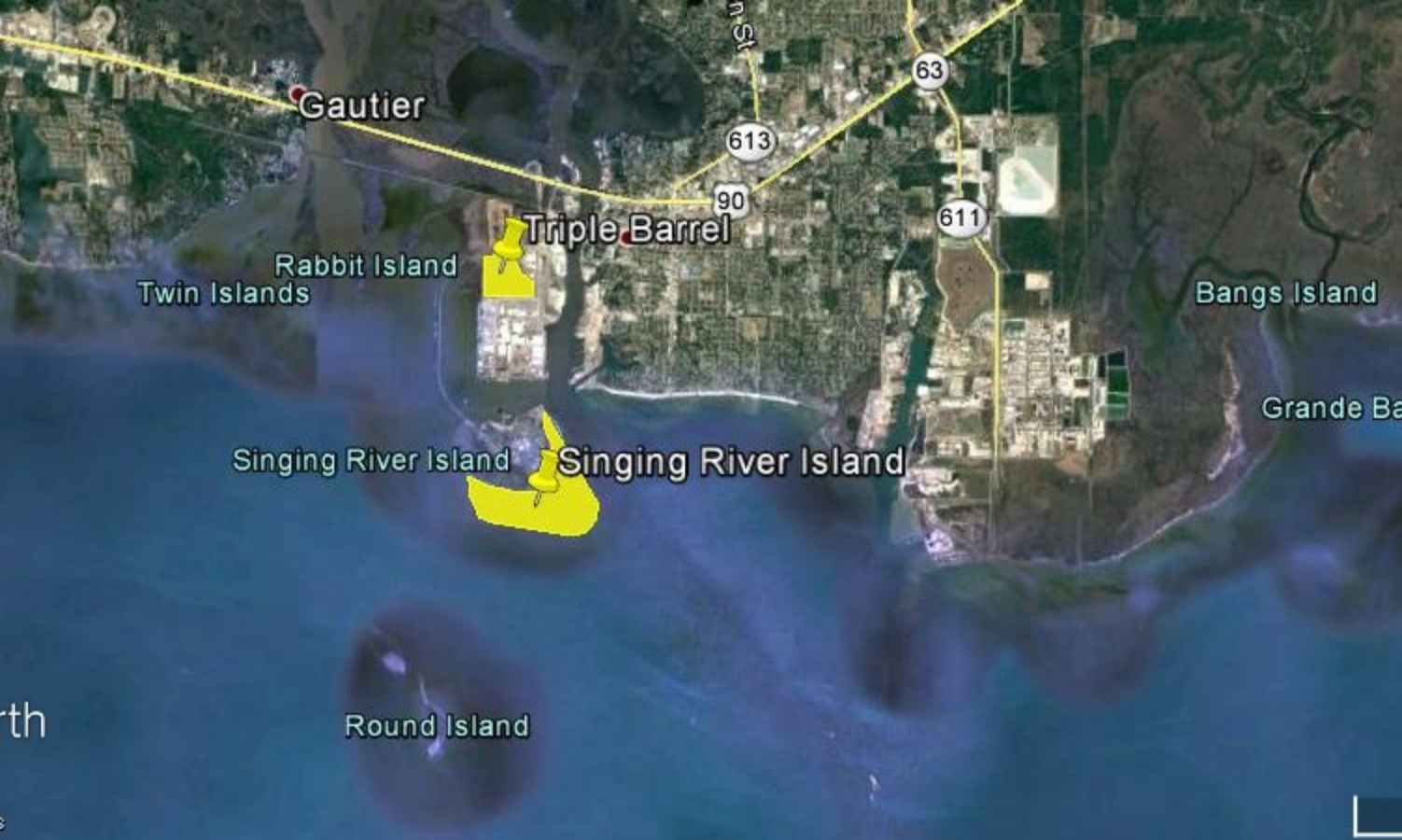




FIGURE 2
West Bank Terminal Facilities
Maintenance Dredge Limits





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Triple Barrel

Rabbit Island

Twin Islands

Bangs Island

Grande Ba

Singing River Island

Singing River Island

Round Island

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TRIPLE BARREL DREDGE
MATERIAL MANAGEMENT SITE

FIGURE 3
DREDGE MATERIAL
MANAGEMENT SITE

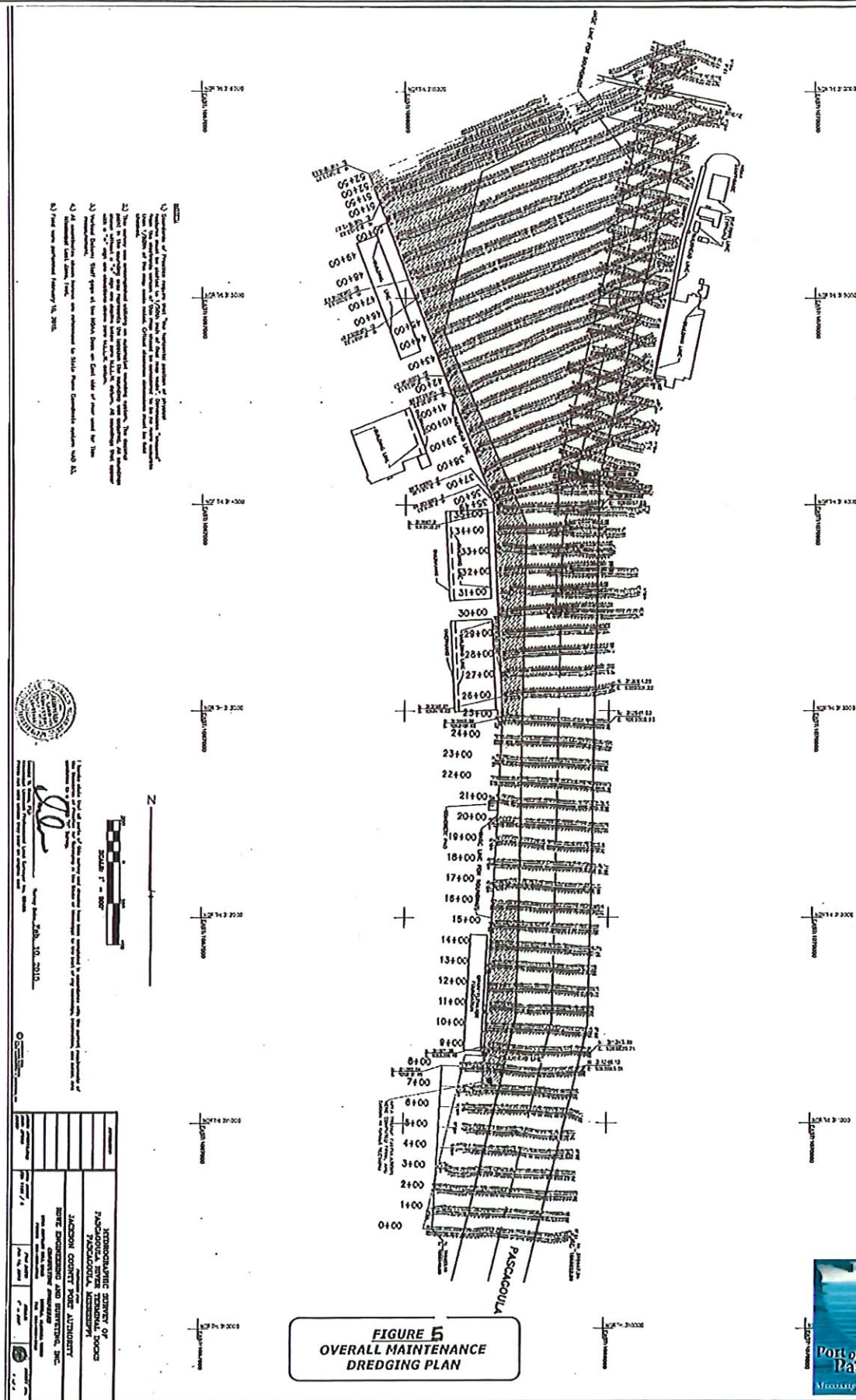


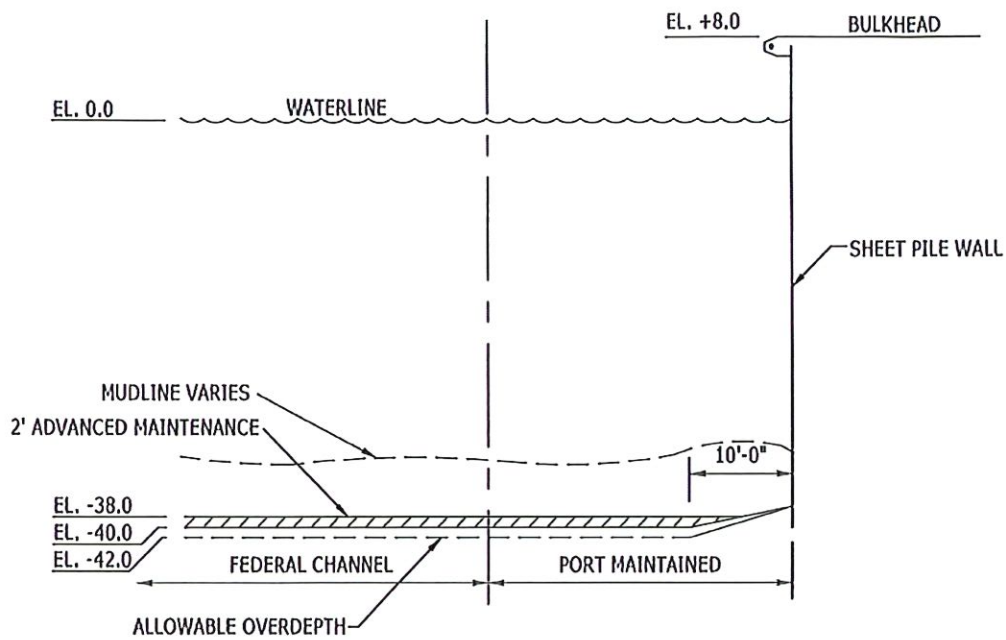
Pascagoula Bay

Singing River Island

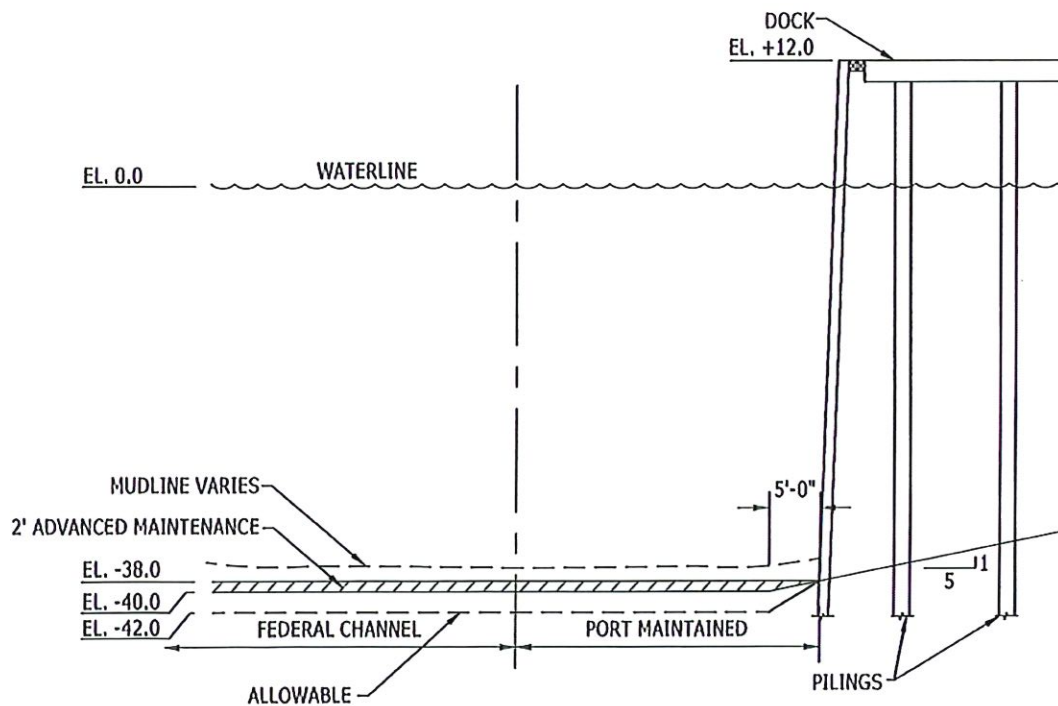


Round Island Beneficial Use Site





**TYPICAL SECTION AT SOUTH TERMINAL
(FORMER GRAIN ELEVATOR SITE)**



TYPICAL SECTION AT PORT DOCKS

**FIGURE 6
EXISTING & MAINT. DREDGE PLAN
TYPICAL SECTIONS AT SOUTH
TERMINAL AND PORT DOCKS**

