

Public Notice

 U.S. Army Corps
 Permit Application No:
 SWG-2016-00082

 Of Engineers
 Date Issued:
 14 October 2021

 Comments
 Comments
 15 November 2021

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, GALVESTON DISTRICT

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE: To inform you of a proposal for work in which you might be interested. It is also to solicit your comments and information to better enable us to make a reasonable decision on factors affecting the public interest. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is not the entity proposing or performing the proposed work, nor has the Corps taken a position, in favor or against the proposed work.

AUTHORITY: This application will be reviewed pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

APPLICANT: Adloy, LLC

623 West Texas Avenue Baytown, Texas 77520-4755

POC: Jack Adcox

Telephone: 281-837-6940 Email: jaadcox@yahoo.com

AGENT: Lloyd Engineering

6565 West Loop South, Suite 708

Bellaire, Texas 77401-3500

POC: Marisa Weber Telephone: 832-426-4656 Email: marisa@lloydeng.com

LOCATION: The project site is located in the San Jacinto River, at 2739 Highland Shores Drive, in Highlands, Harris County, Texas. The project can be located on the U.S.G.S. quadrangle map titled: Highlands, Texas.

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE (NAD 83):

Latitude: 29.838291° North; Longitude: 095.100869° West

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant requests After-The-Fact authorization for the excavation of a 1.09-acre area for the creation of a boat basin. The applicant also proposes to dredge approximately 4,500 cubic yards of material from a 0.54-acre area to a depth of 10 feet below Mean Lower Low Water to expand the boat basin, and to dredge approximately 66,500 cubic yards of material from a 6.48-acre barge basin to a depth of 18 feet below Mean Lower Low Water to provide safe ingress and egress of barges. The facility is currently a sand and gravel operation and a dredge material placement area.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: This project was undertaken to provide safe navigation in an area that was opened during natural storm events. The project has been designed to avoid all impacts to special aquatic sites.

MITIGATION: No discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States is proposed as part of this project. No compensatory mitigation is proposed for this project as no loss of waters of the United States is proposed as a result of this project.

CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS: The project site is currently an existing sand and gravel mining operation, and a multi cell dredged material placement area.

NOTES: This public notice is being issued based on information furnished by the applicant. This project information has not been verified by the Corps. The applicant's plans are enclosed in 4 sheets.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required. Since permit assessment is a continuing process, this preliminary determination of EIS requirement will be changed if data or information brought forth in the coordination process is of a significant nature.

OTHER AGENCY AUTHORIZATIONS: Consistency with the State of Texas Coastal Management Plan is required. The applicant has stated that the proposed activity complies with Texas' approved Coastal Management Program goals and policies and will be conducted in a manner consistent with said program.

No water quality certification is required.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: The Staff Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. The following is current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the undertaking upon these properties:

The permit area has been so extensively impacted by sand mining operations that there is no potential for historic properties to exist within the permit area. Therefore, the proposed project has no potential to effect historic properties.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES: Preliminary indications are that no known threatened and/or endangered species or their critical habitat will be affected by the proposed work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on Essential Fish Habitat or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. 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.

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW FACTORS: This application will be reviewed in accordance with 33 CFR 320-332, the Regulatory Programs of the Corps, and other pertinent laws, regulations and executive orders. 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 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 conservation. economics. considered: among those are general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

SOLICITATION OF 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 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 Impact Assessment and/or an EIS 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.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts upon which a decision by the Corps may 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.

PUBLIC HEARING: The purpose of a public hearing is to solicit additional information to assist in the evaluation of the proposed project. Prior to the close of the comment period, any person may make a written request for a public hearing, setting forth the particular reasons for the request. The District Engineer will determine if the reasons identified for holding a public hearing are sufficient to warrant that a public hearing be held. If a public hearing is warranted, all known interested persons will be notified of the time, date, and location.

CLOSE OF COMMENT PERIOD: All comments pertaining to this public notice must reach this office on or before **15 November 2021**. Extensions of the comment period may be granted for valid reasons provided a written request is received by the limiting date. **If no comments are received by that date, it will be considered that there are no objections**. Comments and requests for additional information should reference our file number, **SWG-2016-00082**, and should be submitted to:

North Evaluation Unit Regulatory Division, CESWG-RDE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District 2000 Fort Point Road Galveston, Texas 77550 409-766-3869 Phone 409-766-3931 Fax swg_public_notice@usace.army.mil

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