

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers

Permit Application No:

Date Issued: Comments

Due:

SWG-2020-00872

Galveston District

20 May 2021

20 April 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 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).

- APPLICANT: Daniel P. Barton 1201 Shepherd Drive Houston, Texas 77007 Telephone: 713-822-4747 Email: dbarton@bartonlawgroup.com
 - AGENT: Ivy Construction 516 Weavers Cove Livingston, Texas 77351

POC: Charles Ivy Telephone: 936-239-2357 Email: charles@ivy-construction.com

LOCATION: The project site is located in Lake Livingston, between Nickerson Road and 8682 Farm-to-Market Road 3126, in West Livingston, Polk County, Texas. The project can be located on the U.S.G.S. quadrangle map titled: Blanchard, Texas.

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE (NAD 83):

Latitude: 30.673225° North; Longitude: -95.020669° West

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to discharge fill material into 1.093 acres of Lake Livingston to facilitate the installation of a 435-linear-foot bulkhead with backfill to stabilize shoreline from further erosion.

AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION: The applicant has avoided and minimized environmental impacts by not proposing any work that would cause impacts to any special aquatic sites or critical habitat. The applicant states that all materials used in construction will be brought in by land. No construction trash will be allowed to float in water. The applicant also states that the bulkhead will be built at the same time as the bluff is being cut down so no excess soil will be allowed to wash into the lake.

MITIGATION: The applicant is not proposing impacts to special aquatic sites or critical habitat therefore, the applicant is not proposing mitigation for this project.

CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS: The project site conditions consist of open-water area in Lake Livingston and adjacent shoreline. The substrate within the project boundary is unconsolidated bottom that is devoid of aquatic vegetation. The immediate vicinity is a residential 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. As of the date of this public notice, the Corps has received but not yet verified the wetland delineation. The applicant's plans are enclosed in 10 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.

Our evaluation will also follow the guidelines published by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 404 (b)(1) of the CWA.

OTHER AGENCY AUTHORIZATIONS: The proposed project will trigger review under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will review this application under Section 401 of the CWA and in accordance with Title 30, Texas Administrative Code Section 279.1-13 to determine if the work would comply with State water quality standards. The applicant has not yet reached out to the TCEQ to initiate the Section 401 CWA process. If you have comments or questions on this proposed project's State water quality certification process, please contact <u>401certs@tceq.texas.gov</u>. You may also find information on the Section 401 process here: <u>https://www.epa.gov/cwa-401/basic-information-cwa-section-401-</u>certification.

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 proposed project is of such limited nature and scope that it has no potential to effect historic properties, even if present within the project area.

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.

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, aesthetics. 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 **20 May 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-2020-00872, and should be submitted to:

North Unit Regulatory Division, CESWG-RDE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers P.O. Box 1229 Galveston, Texas 77553-1229 409-766-3869 Phone 409-766-3931 Fax swg_public_notice@usace.army.mil

> DISTRICT ENGINEER GALVESTON DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS