

# JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

October 31, 2011

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT  
REGULATORY FUNCTIONS  
BRANCH  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70160**

**STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY  
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES  
P.O. BOX 4313  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821-4313**

**STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF COASTAL  
MANAGEMENT  
P.O. BOX 44487  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-4487**

**Phone** (504) 862-2548  
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**Phone** (225) 219-3225  
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**Phone** (225)-342-3167  
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**CORPS REVIEWER:  
Johnny Duplantis**

**DEQ REVIEWER:  
Jamie Phillippe**

**OCM REVIEWER:  
Chris Seifert**

**COE NUMBER:  
MVN-2011-02539**

**WQC NUMBER:  
111006-01**

**CUP NUMBER:  
P20111274**

**DESCRIPTION:** Caminada Headland Beach and Dune Restoration Project (OCPR Project BA-45 EB). The proposed project includes the re-establishment of the eroded headland/beach through the creation of a continuous beach and dune system for approx. 31,000 linear feet of shoreline on the Caminada Headland from Belle Pass eastward to Bayou Moreau. Approx. 5,121,000 cu. yds. of sand will be mined from the South Pelto borrow area. There will be four optional re-handling/pump-out areas to facilitate placement of the sand mined from offshore, and the dredging contractor will most likely utilize only one of these four available re-handling/pump-out areas. Each area will have a corresponding conveyance corridor to lay a pipeline that will transport sand material from the selected re-handling/pump-out area to the headlands and beach/dune fill template. Two of these areas include pump-out areas located in Belle Pass to the east of the navigational channel, one pump-out area is located in Pass Fourchon, and the one re-handling/pump-out area is offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. A maximum of 803,900 cu. yds. of material may be dredged from the selected re-handling/pump-out site(s) to place a booster pump/pump-out barge.

**LOCATION:** The restoration project extends from Lat 29° 05' 13"N, Long 90° 13' 20"W (the east jetty of Belle Pass) to Lat 29° 08' 02"N, Long 90° 08' 19"W (approx. 0.5 miles east of Bayou Moreau). The sand will be mined from Ship Shoal, an OCS borrow area located in South Pelto Area Blocks 13 and 14, approx. 27 nautical miles southwesterly from the project. The Ship Shoal borrow area is centered at Lat 28° 54' 47"N, Long 90° 36' 38"W.

**IMPACT:** Approx. 220 acres of unvegetated waterbottom will be impacted at the borrow site approx. 27 miles offshore. For the four optional re-handling sites, the largest site, which is located offshore in unvegetated waters, is approx. 50 acres; the other three optional sites range between 2 and 10 acres. Approx. 170 acres of deteriorated, supratidal beach habitat and 160 acres of waterbottom may be impacted by the placement of sand to create/restore approx. 328 acres of beach and dune habitat.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) water quality certification is required. Concurrent with processing of this application, the LDEQ is reviewing this application under Section 401

of the Clean Water Act and in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Title 30, Chapter 11, Part IV, Section 2074 A (3) to determine if the work would comply with State water quality standards and other applicable provisions of the CWA. By virtue of an agreement between the USACE and the LDEQ, this public notice is also issued for the purpose of advising all known interested persons that there is pending before the LDEQ a decision on water quality certification under such act. Comments concerning this application for water quality certification in Louisiana must be submitted, using the applicant's name, to: State of Louisiana, Department of Environmental Quality, Attn: Jamie Phillippe, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313. The public comment period extends 30 days from the publication date of this notice. A copy of the public notice with a description of the work is available for review between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays at the LDEQ office at 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802. Copies may be obtained upon payment of the cost of printing. The LDEQ may conduct a public hearing to consider all comments concerning water quality if requested in writing. A request for a public hearing must contain the following information: the name, mailing address, application number, or other recognizable reference to the application; a brief description of the interest of the requester, or of persons represented by the requester; and a brief description of how the application, if granted, would adversely affect such interest.

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM): A lease for South Pelto Blocks 13 and 14 is required from BOEM. If you have any questions concerning the lease application, you may contact Kenneth Ashworth at [kenneth.ashworth@boem.gov](mailto:kenneth.ashworth@boem.gov) (504) 736-2656 or Michael Miner at [micheal.miner@boem.gov](mailto:micheal.miner@boem.gov) (504) 736-2700 or by fax at 504-736-2502.

**NOTE:** The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has sole regulatory authority over the use of Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) sand resources from South Pelto Blocks 13 and 14, under the OCS Lands Act. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) requires a permit for all other aspects of the project, including dredging of any state water borrow areas, as well as conveyance and placement of sand resources. BOEM and the Corps are working collaboratively to ensure effective implementation of the required National Environment Act (NEPA) process, the required Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 consultations, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery and Conservation Management Act Essential Fish Habitat consultation (Section 305); the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process; and the Coastal Zone Management Act Section 307 consistency determination.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close **20 days** from the date of this joint public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit and/or this WQC request and must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH**. Similar letters concerning the Water Quality Certification must reference the applicant's name and the WQC Application number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above.

The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined during weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

### **Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria**

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, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 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 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, 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 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.

No properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places are near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Departments of Interior or Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of N/A acre(s) of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH 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.

If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Water Resources before a permit is issued.

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.

You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Ronnie Duke  
Chief, Western Evaluation Section  
Regulatory Branch

Attachments