

Draft Environmental Assessment

Denham Springs Housing Authority, Change of Location Project

FEMA-4277-DR-LA

Denham Springs, Livingston Parish, Louisiana

October 2023



FEMA

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VI
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TABLE OF CONTENTS	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 <i>Rainfall Event</i>	1
1.2 <i>Project Authority</i>	1
1.3 <i>Background</i>	2
1.4 <i>General Site Description</i>	7
2 PURPOSE AND NEED	7
3 ALTERNATIVES	8
3.1 <i>Overview of Alternatives</i>	8
3.2 <i>Alternative 1 - No Action</i>	8
3.3 <i>Alternative 2 – Reconstruct at Pre-Disaster Location</i>	8
3.4 <i>Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Facilities at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)</i>	9
4 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS	10
4.1 <i>Geology, Soils, and Topography</i>	1
4.1.1 <i>Regulatory Setting</i>	1
4.1.2 <i>Existing Conditions</i>	1
4.1.3 <i>Environmental Consequences</i>	13
4.2 <i>Wetlands and Waters of the United States</i>	13
4.2.1 <i>Regulatory Setting</i>	13
4.2.2 <i>Existing Conditions</i>	15
4.2.3 <i>Environmental Consequences</i>	16
4.3 <i>Floodplains</i>	17
4.3.1 <i>Regulatory Setting</i>	17
4.3.2 <i>Existing Conditions</i>	18
4.3.3 <i>Environmental Consequences</i>	18
4.4 <i>Coastal Resources</i>	18
4.4.1 <i>Regulatory Setting</i>	20
4.4.2 <i>Existing Conditions</i>	21
4.4.3 <i>Environmental Consequences</i>	21
4.5 <i>Federally Protected Species, Critical Habitats, and Other Biological Resources</i>	22
4.5.1 <i>Regulatory Setting</i>	22
4.5.2 <i>Existing Conditions</i>	23
4.5.3 <i>Environmental Consequences</i>	24
4.6 <i>Air Quality</i>	24
4.6.1 <i>Regulatory Setting</i>	24
4.6.2 <i>Existing Conditions</i>	25
4.6.3 <i>Environmental Consequences</i>	26
4.7 <i>Noise</i>	26
4.7.1 <i>Regulatory Setting</i>	26

4.7.2	Existing Conditions.....	27
4.7.3	Environmental Consequences.....	27
4.8	<i>Traffic</i>	27
4.8.1	Regulatory Setting.....	28
4.8.2	Existing Conditions.....	28
4.8.3	Environmental Consequences.....	30
4.9	<i>Cultural Resources</i>	30
4.9.1	Regulatory Setting.....	31
4.9.2	Existing Conditions – Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties.....	31
	Environmental Consequences.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.10	<i>Hazardous Materials</i>	31
4.10.1	Regulatory Setting.....	36
4.10.2	Existing Conditions.....	37
4.10.3	Environmental Consequences.....	38
4.11	<i>Environmental Justice</i>	39
4.11.1	Regulatory Setting.....	39
4.11.2	Existing Conditions.....	40
4.11.3	Environmental Consequences.....	43
5	CONDITIONS AND MITIGATION MEASURES.....	43
6	PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT.....	45
7	CONCLUSIONS.....	46
8	AGENCY COORDINATION.....	47
9	LIST OF PREPARERS.....	48
10	REFERENCES.....	49

APPENDICES

Site Photographs	Appendix A
Conceptual Design Layout	Appendix B
Agency Correspondence	Appendix C
Reports and Assessments	Appendix D
Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination	Appendix E
Public Notice and Draft FONSI	Appendix G

TABLES

Table 1. Federally Listed Species Known to Occur in Livingston Parish	23
Table 2. ACS 2016 - 2020 Summary Report (Source EPA EJSCREEN Tool).....	42

FIGURES

Figure 1 – General location of the proposed project site	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 2 – Existing DSHA Administrative Building	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 3 – Damaged Housing Building	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 4 – Interior of Damaged Housing Unit.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 5 – Interior of Damaged Housing Unit.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 6 – Proposed Relocation Site on U.S. 190 Highway	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 7 – Aerial view of Damaged Denham Springs Housing Authority	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 8 – Excerpt from Design Plans of the Proposed Construction	16
Figure 9 – USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey for the Proposed DSHA New Construction Site.....	20
Figure 10 – National Wetlands Inventory Map for New Construction Location	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 11 – NFHL FIRMette of the DSHA facility at Existing Location	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 12 – NFHL FIRMette for the Proposed DSHA New Construction Site.	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 13 – Estimated Annual Average Daily Traffic near Existing DSHA Location	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 14 – Estimated Annual Average Daily Traffic near Proposed DSHA Location.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 15 – USGS 1995 Denham Springs Topographic Quadrangle Map	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 16 – Aerial Map Showing APE at Existing DSHA Location	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 17 – Aerial Map Showing APE at Proposed DSHA Location	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 18 – EPA Regulated Sites at Existing DSHA Location	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Figure 19 – EPA Regulated Sites at Proposed DSHA Location....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

APE	Area of Potential Effects
BMP	Best Management Practices
CAA	Clean Air Act
CBRA	Coastal Barrier Resources Act
CBRS	Coastal Barrier Resources System
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
C.F.R.	Code of Federal Regulations
CUP	Coastal Use Permit
CWA	Clean Water Act
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act
dBA	decibel, on the A-weighted Scale
DSHA	Denham Springs Housing Authority
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
DNL	Day-Night Average Sound Level
DSHA	Denham Springs Housing Authority
DoA	U.S. Department of the Army
EA	Environmental Assessment
EC	Elevation Certificate
EDMS	Electronic Document Management System
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
E.O.	Executive Order
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
LA GOHSEP	Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
LADOTD	Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

LCRP	Louisiana Coastal Resources Program
LFA	Local Floodplain Administrator
LDEQ	Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
LDNR	Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
LPDES	Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFHL	National Flood Hazard Layer
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NO _x	Nitrogen Oxide
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWP	Nation Wide Permit(s)
O ₃	Ozone
PA	Public Assistance
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
P.L.	Public Law
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RHA	Rivers and Harbors Act
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SFHA	Special Flood Hazard Area
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office/Officer
SIP	State Implementation Plan
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S.C.	U.S. Code
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 *Rainfall Event*

During the Incident Period of August 11, 2016, to August 31, 2016, prolonged rainfall occurred over the state of Louisiana dropping unprecedented rain, exceeding 20 inches. The accumulation of the rainfall vastly exceeded the capacity of the gravity tributaries that serviced the Amite and Comite River watersheds in Livingston Parish. Due to the severity of the flooding event, on August 14, 2016 FEMA issued formal notice which declared that Livingston Parish, among others in Louisiana, was considered a major disaster area. Including among the many flooding casualties was the Denham Springs Housing Authority (Sub-Recipient).

The Sub-Recipient, Denham Springs Housing Authority (DSHA), suffered flood related damages to its facilities located at 600 Eugene Street in Denham Springs, LA. The entire housing complex suffered substantial damages during the August 2016 flood event. The excessive rain and flooding inundated the buildings and surrounding areas with up to 6 feet of floodwaters. The facility remained under water for multiple weeks, during which time mold began to rapidly grow in the buildings.

1.2 *Project Authority*

On August 14, 2016, President Barack Obama declared a major disaster for the state of Louisiana (FEMA-4277-DR-LA), authorizing the United States Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide federal assistance in designated areas of Louisiana. This assistance is pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), Public Law (P.L.) 93-288, as amended. Section 406 of the Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Program to assist with funding the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of public facilities damaged as a result of the declared disaster.

On January 29, 2013, the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013 was signed into law. The law authorized several significant changes to the means by which FEMA delivered disaster assistance under a variety of programs. Section 1102 of the Act revised the Stafford Act creating a new Section 428 that authorized the Administrator to establish and adopt alternative procedures for administering federal assistance under the Public Assistance program. Specific implementation procedures were released on December 19, 2013 and memorialized in the Public Assistance Alternative Procedures (PAAP) Pilot Program Guide for Permanent Work. The Sub-Recipient has requested disaster funding for an Alternate Procedures Project for the relocation and restoration of their facility.

In accordance with FEMA Instruction 108-1-1, this Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ; 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508). (Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act 2005).

The purpose of this EA is to analyze potential environmental and cultural resource impacts of the proposed project. FEMA will use the findings in this EA to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

1.3 Background

The DSHA has submitted a formal request through the State of Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (LA GOHSEP) for funding under FEMA's PA Program for the replacement and relocation of the damaged DSHA facilities.

The current DSHA facilities are located at 600 Eugene Street, Denham Springs, Louisiana 70726 (Lat/Long: 30.477388, -90.954279). The DSHA facilities provided housing for elderly/disabled residents. It was comprised of 20 buildings, three (3) served as support buildings for the residential units (e.g., an administrative office/community building, a storage building, and a maintenance building), a 10 unit housing building, a 12 unit housing building, and 15 duplex housing buildings. DSHA has requested the use of the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act's Public Assistance Alternative Procedure Pilot Program (Section 428) and requested funding to rebuild the entire DSHA complex outside of the flood zone. The original location is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), AE flood zone. At this location, Floodplain Management regulations would require DSHA to build the lowest floor at or above the level of the base flood. This would potentially create a facility not ideally suited for people with disabilities and elderly residents of Denham Springs.

The DSHA has requested to have the entire facility relocated to a new site which is outside of the SFHA. The new site is located on Florida Boulevard approximately 1.5 miles from the original DSHA location located at Lat/Long: 30.483039, -90.937535. This site for the new location is approximately +/- 29.5 acres in total; however, the new DSHA facility would be situated on 5 acres of land. The scope of work for the new facility includes construction of a single-story complex consisting of an administrative building and 20 housing buildings (to include one, two, three, and four bedroom individual housing units); concrete roads with parking spaces and sidewalks; and a detention pond and swale within an estimated five (5) acre parcel. This facility will provide housing for approximately 200 residents. Approximately 30% of the residents will be elderly. For the residents, approximately 35% will be "lower-middle class" with the remaining 65% being "poor."

Additional construction activities include demolition of the existing flooded buildings, landscape, and roadways at the original site. All demolition activities must be completed in accordance with local, state, and federal requirements.

Historical records show that the proposed site was previously utilized as a mobile home park. The mobile home park remained until the late 1990's. The proposed site is currently vacant and has been since 1999. In 2018, approximately 6.4 acres of the north west corner of the site was subdivided and developed for commercial use (Thompson Funeral Home). The remaining property is currently vacant (Figure 1).

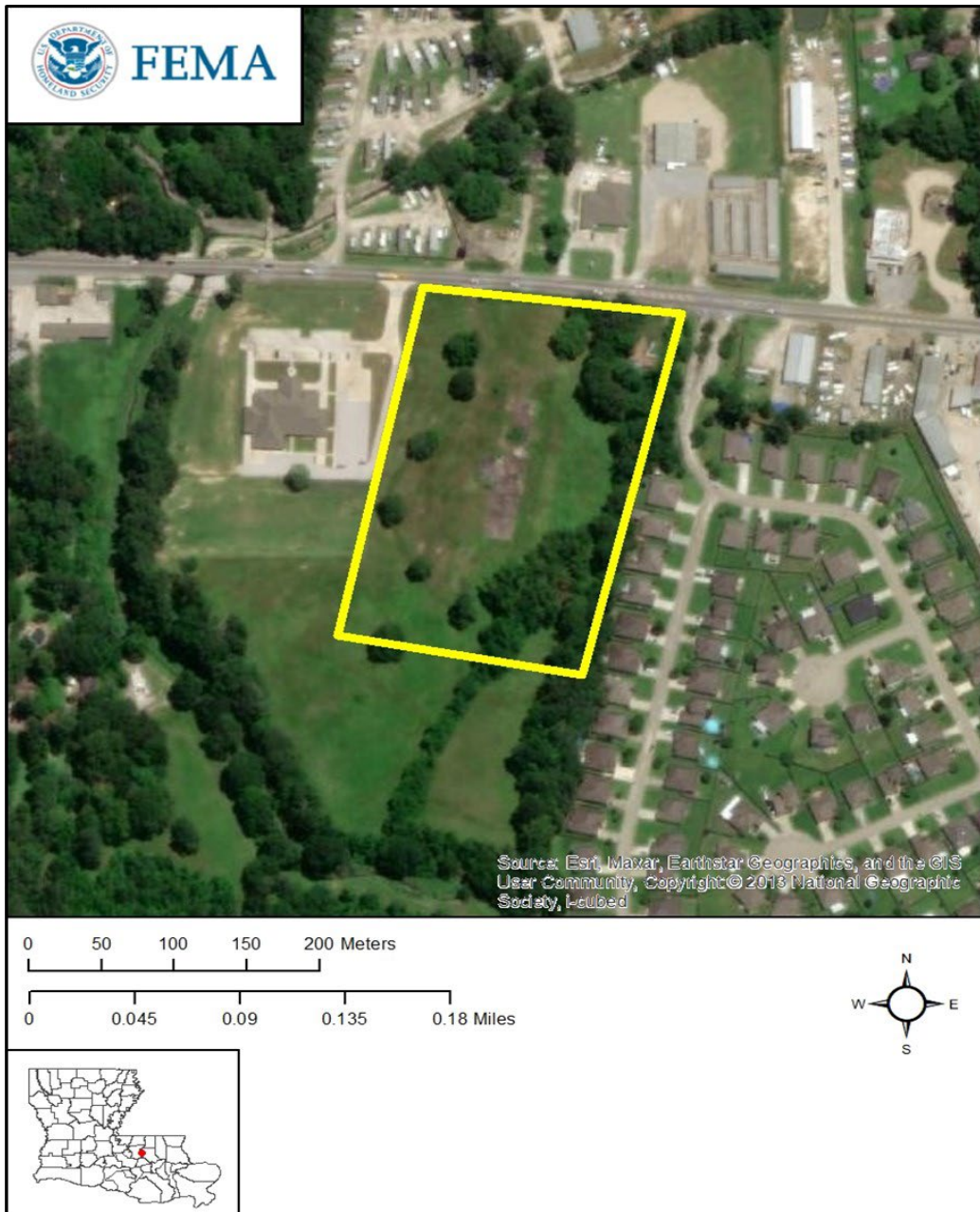


Figure 1 – Aerial image showing proposed relocation site at 30.483039°, -90.937535° on Florida Boulevard (Highway 190) in Denham Springs, Louisiana.



Figure 2 – Existing DSHA Administrative Building located at original facility location at 600 Eugene Street.



Figure 3 – Unoccupied/damaged housing building located at original facility location at 600 Eugene Street.



Figure 4 – Interior of damaged housing unit.



Figure 5 – Interior of damaged housing unit.



Figure 6 – Proposed location on U.S. 190 Highway.

1.4 General Site Description

Livingston Parish, covering approximately 703 square miles, is located in southeastern Louisiana. Livingston Parish is bounded on the west by East Baton Rouge Parish, on the southwest by Ascension Parish, on the south by St. John the Baptist Parish, on the east by Tangipahoa Parish, and on the north by St. Helena Parish. Flowing to the south and then east, the Amite River is a major natural drainage feature that separates Livingston Parish from East Baton Rouge and Ascension Parish. Approximately, 648 square miles (92%) of the parish is land and the remaining 55 square miles (8%) is water. Livingston Parish is primarily rural with the exception of the Cities of Denham Springs and Walker and several smaller towns located primarily along US Highway 190. The parish is entirely within the Mississippi River Delta, with a subtropical, humid climate typical of coastal regions along the Gulf of Mexico.

The city of Denham Springs is the largest area of commercial and residential development in Livingston Parish. The city is situated at the intersections of the east-west highways, US Highway 190 and Interstate 12 (I-12), with Louisiana Highway 16, the major north-south artery in western Livingston Parish. Based on the 2020 United States Census, there were 9,286 people 3,615 households, and 2,256 families residing in the city. Denham Springs has a humid subtropical climate with hot summers and mild winters. The city experiences moderate to heavy rainfall and is at risk of severe thunderstorms and high winds year around. The average winter temperature is 54°F and the average summer temperature is 79°F. Livingston Parish typically receives 63 inches of rainfall annually (Trahan 1989).

2 PURPOSE AND NEED

The objective of FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program is to provide assistance to state, tribal, and local governments, as well as certain private non-profits so that communities can respond to and recover from presidentially declared major disasters or emergencies. Catastrophic damage from severe storms and flooding has resulted in an extraordinary demand for housing assistance in communities within Livingston Parish, one of the hardest hit areas in Louisiana. The August 2016 prolonged rainfall resulted in catastrophic flooding. Thousands of homes and businesses were submerged and officials estimated that 75 percent of homes in Livingston Parish were a total loss. Many rivers and waterways, particularly the Amite and Comite rivers, reached record levels, and rainfall exceeded 20 inches in multiple parishes.

The historic flooding of August 2016 severely damaged all of the DSHA buildings. The mission of the DSHA is to provide affordable housing to low and moderate-income residents and to assist them in becoming self-sufficient. The purpose and need of this proposal is to assist DSHA in providing affordable housing opportunities for low-income, disabled, and elderly tenants, and constituents of Livingston Parish outside of the SFHA.

3 ALTERNATIVES

3.1 *Overview of Alternatives*

The NEPA process consists of an evaluation of the environmental effects of a federal undertaking, including its Alternatives. Three (3) Alternatives have been considered including 1) the “**No Action**” Alternative, 2) The “**Reconstruction at the Pre-Disaster Location**” Alternative, and 3) the “Preferred Action Alternative” which is the **Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Authority Facilities to an alternate location.**

3.2 *Alternative 1 - No Action*

Under the “No Action” alternative, there would be no reconstruction of the damaged housing buildings. “No Action” would abandon the substantially damaged and unusable buildings at the 600 Eugene Street location. The vacant properties would be a hazard, a blight on the neighborhood, a potential source of liability and violation of local ordinances. Furthermore, no action would forego the opportunity to provide affordable housing in an area of high opportunity. This alternative does not meet the purpose and need, but will continue to be evaluated throughout this EA and serve as a baseline comparison of impacts from other action alternatives.

3.3 *Alternative 2 – Reconstruct at Pre-Disaster Location*

After an extensive evaluation of the structures at the original DSHA location, the structures were determined to be substantially damaged. They are also located in the SFHA. All buildings and facilities must be brought into compliance with the currently adopted NFIP standards and FEMA’s floodplain management regulation. Demolishing the existing structures and rebuilding on the original site location was evaluated; however, in order to rebuild at the location the finished floor elevation for building would need to be set approximately 8 feet above the existing site elevation or floodproofed, as necessary to meet building code requirements. The resulting facility would not be ideally suited for people with disabilities and elderly residents it would serve. This alternative would also include demolishing the existing flooded buildings, landscape, and roadways. All activities must be completed in accordance with local, state, and federal requirements. All existing above-grade improvements would be removed as part of the site demolition. Due to use of heavy machinery during construction, the access road will not be useable. This alternative is located in a SFHA and the floodplain management requirements would require construction standards not ideally suited for people with disabilities and elderly residents of Denham Springs. Therefore, this alternative does not meet the purpose and need and is eliminated from further consideration.



Figure 7 – Aerial view of the damaged Denham Springs Housing Authority.

3.4 *Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Facilities at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)*

This Preferred Alternative meets the objectives of the Denham Springs Housing Authority to address the overwhelming need for affordable housing by providing to its residents high quality, safe and decent affordable housing in areas that provide access to the necessary tools to achieve economic sustainability. This Alternative would involve the demolition and relocation of the DSHA facilities 1.5 miles from the original location. The proposed site is outside of the 100-year flood plain and contains ample room for the housing development and provides access to a main highway (U.S. Highway 190). The scope of work for the new facility includes construction of a single-story complex consisting of an administrative building, maintenance building, and 18 housing buildings (to include one, two, three, and four bedroom individual housing units); concrete roads with parking spaces and sidewalks; and a detention pond and swale within an estimated five (5) acre parcel. The new buildings will be constructed to the local and state building code requirements, with generally the same interior and exterior design as the units at the original location (Figure 8).



Figure 8 – Excerpt from design plans showing the extent of the proposed construction on Florida Boulevard in Denham Springs, Louisiana.

4 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

4.1 Geology, Soils, and Topography

4.1.1 Regulatory Setting

The Farmland Protection Policy Act (P.L. 97-98, §§ 1539-1549; 7 U.S.C. 4201, et seq.) was enacted in 1981 and is intended to minimize the impact federal actions have on the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses. This law assures that, to the extent possible, federal programs and policies are administered in a way that is compatible with state and local farmland protection policies and programs. In order to implement the FPPA, federal agencies are required to develop and review their policies and procedures every two (2) years. The FPPA does

not authorize the federal government to regulate the use of private or non-federal land or, in any way, affect the property rights of owners.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is responsible for protecting significant agricultural lands from irreversible conversions that result in the loss of essential food or environmental resources. For purposes of the FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and farmland of statewide or local importance. Prime farmland is characterized as land with the best physical and chemical characteristics for production of food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops (USDA 2013). Farmland subject to FPPA requirements does not currently have to be used for cropland; it can also be forest land, pastureland, or other land, but not water or built-up land.

4.1.2 Existing Conditions

Livingston Parish lies in the Gulf Coastal Plain of the United States and the geology consists of Quaternary (Pleistocene and Holocene) units. These are deposits of clays, sandy clays, silt, sand and gravel that can be found throughout the Parish (USGS, 2014). Most of Livingston Parish is covered by the Pleistocene Prairie Terraces. These are overlain by Loess on the western edge of the Parish but mainly to the west of the Amite River. The Holocene alluvium consists of narrow deposits from the many surface water streams that flow across the parish (Natalbany, Tickfaw and Amite Rivers and their tributaries Hog Branch, Blood River, Colyell Creek and Little Natalbany River) (USDA, SCS and LAES, 1991). At depth is the Tuscaloosa Marine Shale, which is part of a Cretaceous formation yielding oil and natural gas (Mineral Web 2016).

Surface elevations vary across the parish from 0-110 feet, with the highest point located in the northern part of the parish and the lowest point on the shore of Lake Maurita's in the southeast part of the parish. The Denham Springs and Baton Rouge Faults pass through Livingston Parish in an east-west direction. These faults are active but not seismic, which means they gradually move but do not cause detectable earthquakes (LGS 2001, 2008). These faults create a disparity in elevation along areas to the south of the faults (i.e., the downthrown). The overall topography of the parish slopes generally from the north (high) to the southeast (sea level at Lake Maurepas).

USDA Web Soil Survey (accessed in February 2023) indicates that the majority (62.6%) of the soil at the proposed site located on U.S. Highway 190 consists of the following prime farmland soil: Satsuma silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes (Sa; 40.7%). The Satsuma silt loam (Sa), are somewhat poorly drained soil with no frequency of flooding or ponding, non-hydric Group D soil that is found in ridges on stream terraces landform and originates from Loess.

The remainder of the project area (37.4%) consists of the following non-prime farmland soil: Gilbert-Brimstone silt loams, occasionally flooded (Ge; 31.8%). The Gilbert-Brimstone are poorly drained, hydric soil of Group C/D that are found in depressions and originate from loamy fluviomarine deposits of Late Pleistocene age. [USDA 2023, NRCS 2023]. (*Figure 09* - web soil survey for proposed site property).



Figure 9 – USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey for the Proposed DSHA New Construction Site.

4.1.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

The “No Action” Alternative would have no significant impacts on prime farmland, unique farmland, farmland of statewide or local importance, or other important geologic resources.

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Facilities at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

None of the the soil at the proposed location construction site can be considered as prime farmland soil, as the proposed site is located in an urban area that is not being used for the production of food, feed, forage, fiber, or oilseed crops. In its January 27, 2023, letter, the NRCS stated that the proposed construction areas where work will be performed are in incorporated/urban areas and therefore are exempt from the rules and regulations of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)-Subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549 (Appendix C). Furthermore the project will have no impacts to NRCS works in the vicinity.

In addition, the preferred alternative of demolishing the damaged buildings would have no negative impacts on farmlands. No other significant impacts to geologic resources resulting from Alternative 3 are anticipated.

4.2 Wetlands and Waters of the United States

4.2.1 Regulatory Setting

Wetlands have important ecological functions and are biologically diverse. They assimilate nutrients in surrounding surface waters, remove suspended solids and pollutants from stormwater, and protect shorelines from wind and wave action and storm-generated forces. Actions that would impact wetlands would require review under several regulatory programs.

The United States Army Corps Engineers (USACE) regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Wetlands are identified as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, or that under normal hydrologic conditions do or would support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. The USACE also regulates the building of structures in waters of the U.S. pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA). Executive Order (E.O.) 11990, Protection of Wetlands, directs federal agencies to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and to preserve and enhance the values of wetlands for federally funded projects. FEMA regulations for complying with E.O. 11990 are codified at 44 C.F.R. Part 9, Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) regulates discharges to waters of the United States through permits issued under Section 402 of the CWA, entitled the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), which authorizes and sets forth standards for state

administered permitting programs regulating the discharge of pollutants into navigable waters within each state's jurisdiction. On August 27, 1996, USEPA Region VI delegated the authority to administer the NPDES program for matters within the jurisdiction of the State of Louisiana. Having assumed NPDES responsibilities, Louisiana directly issues NPDES permits and has primary enforcement responsibility for facilities located within the State, with certain exceptions such as Indian Country Lands. Louisiana administers the NPDES Program and surface water discharge permitting system under the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) program.

The LPDES requires permits for the discharge of pollutants/wastewater from any point source into waters of the State. Per the CWA, the term "point source" is defined as "any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance such as a pipe or a ditch." Prior to assumption of the program, permittees were required to hold both a valid state and federal permit. Today, all point source discharges of pollutants to waters in the state of Louisiana are subject to a LPDES permit issued by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ). Additionally, the LDEQ requires a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for land disturbing activities greater than 1 acre. For land disturbing activities greater than 5 acres the LDEQ requires: 1) a SWPPP 2) a Notice of Intent and 3) a Notice of Completion.

Section 303(d) of the CWA requires states to develop a list of impaired waters. Water is considered impaired if the current quality does not meet the numeric or narrative criteria in a water quality standard, or the designated use described by that state is not achieved. Section 303(d)(2) requires that states submit and USEPA approve or disapprove lists of waters for which existing technology-based pollution controls are not stringent enough to attain or maintain state water quality standards, and for which Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) must be prepared (40 C.F.R. §130.7). Total maximum daily loads are pollution budgets designed to identify necessary reductions of pollutant loads to the impaired waters so that the appropriate water quality standards are met, including designated uses like fishing or swimming and water quality criteria for parameters such as dissolved oxygen and water clarity. The regulations require states to identify water quality limited waters still requiring TMDLs every two years. The lists of waters still needing TMDLs must also include priority rankings and must identify the waters targeted for TMDL development during the next two years (40 C.F.R. § 130.7). Types of impairments may include, for example, impaired primary contact use (e.g., swimming, water skiing), mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in fish tissue, impaired fish consumption use, low dissolved oxygen, copper, phosphorus, manganese, excessive siltation, physical-habitat alterations, and total suspended solids which impair aquatic life use.

FEMA is required to engage in the 8-step decision-making process to ensure that proposed activities are consistent with EO 11990 and to evaluate the potential effects of an action on wetlands. The 8-step process includes using minimization measures when a project affecting a wetland is the only practicable alternative. Minimization measures include avoidance techniques such as establishing wetland buffer zones to avoid converting or filling wetlands and obtaining and complying with NPDES permits. Recipients and sub-recipients are responsible for obtaining any applicable NPDES permits and meeting permit conditions. In addition to complying with 44 C.F.R. Part 9, the recipient or sub-recipient must obtain the applicable CWA Section 404 permit prior to the initiation of the project if it will affect jurisdictional wetlands. The recipient or sub-recipient must coordinate with USACE to determine whether any of the Nation Wide Permits (NWP) or a Regional General Permit

apply or whether an Individual Permit is required. Proposed projects that require an Individual Permit will require close coordination between the recipient or sub-recipient, FEMA and USACE. The recipient or sub-recipient is required to comply with all conditions of the 404 general or individual permit, which may include compensation measures, such as wetlands banking, for any loss of wetlands.

4.2.2 Existing Conditions

In Livingston Parish, wetlands generally occur along the natural floodplains of the Amite River and its tributaries as freshwater forested/shrub wetlands. Amite River flood plains and associated wetland dominates areas in the southern Livingston Parish. Wetlands are also widely present in flat, poorly drained areas in northern Livingston Parish. According to the current U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) mapper (see Figure 10), there are no existing wetlands within the new construction site (USFWS, 2023). There are no navigable waters at either of the sites (existing and proposed locations).

D & S Environmental Services personnel conducted an on-site field investigation on April 3, 2023 to determine the extent and location of any jurisdictional wetlands and other waters of the U.S. During the site visit no primary and secondary wetland hydrology indicators such as high water table, saturation, sediment deposits, and oxidized rhizospheres along living roots were not observed at the project site. The dominate vegetation on the project site consists of mostly upland, non-hydrophytic grasses.

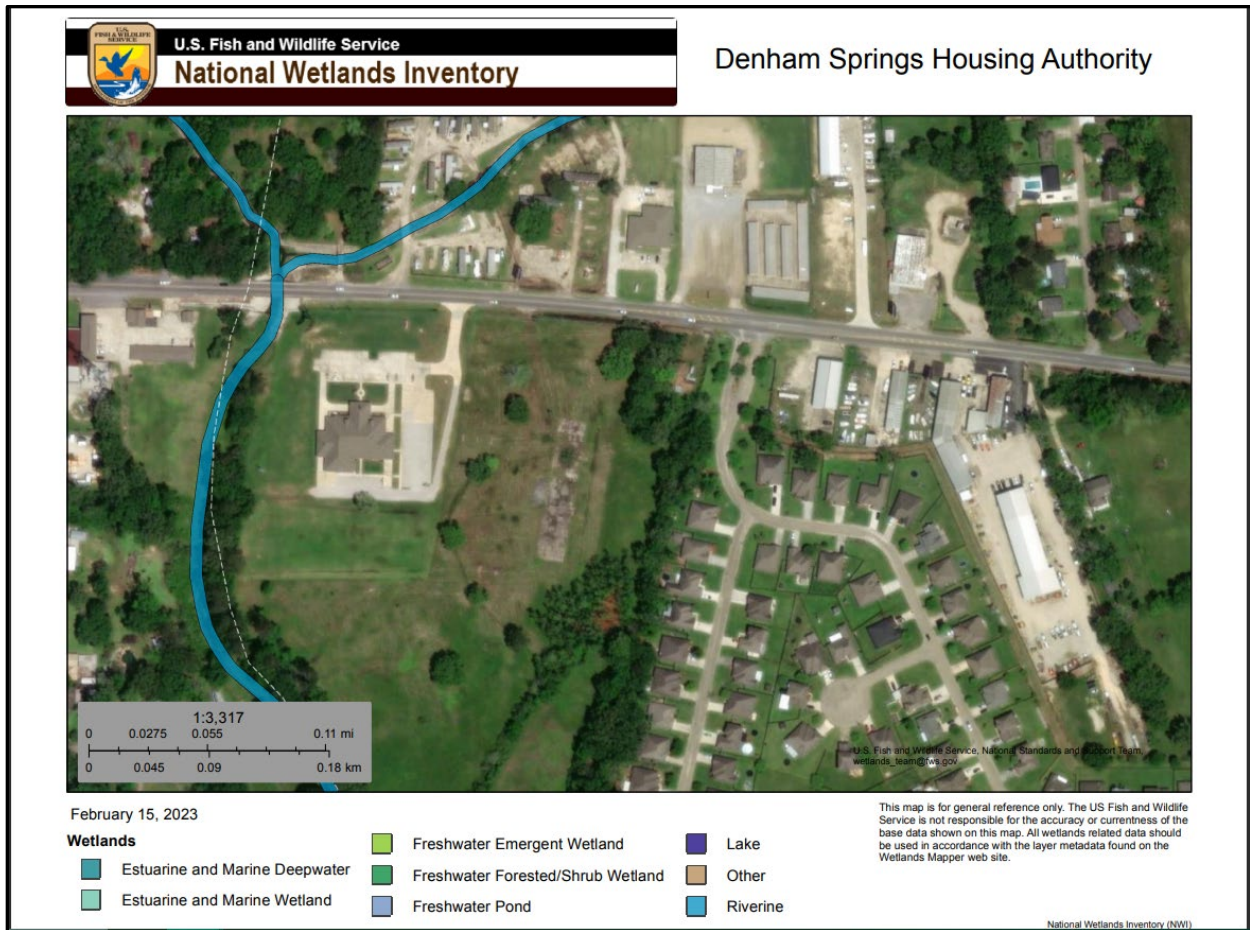


Figure 10 – National Wetlands Inventory Map for New Construction Location on Florida Boulevard (U.S. Highway 190).

4.2.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

The “No Action” Alternative would have no impact on wetlands or other waters of the U.S. and would not require permits under § 404 of the CWA or § 10 of the RHA.

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Facilities at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

A preliminary jurisdictional determination (JD) dated June 28, 2023, the USACE determined that part of the property contains wetlands and non-wetland waters that may be subject to Corps’ jurisdiction. The approximate limits of the wetlands are 0.08 acre and non-wetland waters are 0.23 acre (Appendix C). An 8-Step Decision Making Process was conducted to document the presence of wetlands and non-wetlands on site and to consider the impacts to wetlands and non-wetland waters should deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. be required. A Department of the Army (DA) permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will be required

prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. (see Appendix E)

If the project results in a discharge to offsite waters of the state, an LPDES permit may be required in accordance with the CWA and Title 33 of the Louisiana Clean Water Code. For example, if the project results in a new discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater. In addition, proposed construction activities may require an LDPES stormwater permit, but there is an existing general permit (LAR200000) for construction activities between one (1) and five (5) acres.

In order to minimize indirect impacts (erosion, sedimentation, dust, and other construction-related disturbances) to waters of the state or well defined drainage areas surrounding the site, the contractor should implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) that meet LDEQ’s permitting specifications for stormwater and also include the following into the daily construction routine: silt screens, barriers (e.g., hay bales), berms/dikes, and or fences to be placed as and where needed. Fencing should be placed to mark staging areas for storage of construction equipment and supplies, as well as for sites where maintenance/repair operations occur.

4.3 Floodplains

4.3.1 Regulatory Setting

Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, requires federal agencies to avoid direct or indirect support or development within or affecting the 1% annual-chance Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) (i.e., 100-year floodplain) whenever there is a practicable Alternative (for “Critical Actions”, within the 0.2% annual chance SFHA, i.e., the 500-year floodplain). FEMA uses the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) to determine the flood hazard zone for the proposed project location. FEMA’s regulations for complying with E.O. 11988 are codified in 44 C.F.R. Part 9, Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands.

Section 9.6, 44 C.F.R., details an eight-step process that decision-makers must use when considering projects either located within the floodplain or with the potential to affect the floodplain. The 8-step process: assesses the action with regard to human susceptibility to flood harm and impacts to wetlands; analyzes principle flood problems, risks from flooding, history of flood loss, and existing flood protection measures; and includes public notice and opportunity for the public to have early and meaningful participation in decision-making and alternative selection. If impacts cannot be avoided, the 8-step process includes requirements to incorporate measures to minimize and mitigate potential risks from flooding and impacts to wetlands as appropriate (see Appendix D).

Under 44 C.F.R. Part 9, FEMA is required to avoid activities in a floodplain unless it is the only practicable alternative. If undertaking a proposed project in the floodplain is the only practicable alternative, then FEMA must minimize the impacts to the floodplain and the impacts from floods to the facility or structure. Minimization techniques apply to the location of structures, facilities, equipment and building contents in floodplain areas. This could include elevating facilities or structures above the base flood elevation. Minimization techniques may include flood-proofing

structures or facilities. Some of these facilities may be considered “critical actions” under this analysis because the risk of flooding might be too great. In such cases, the base flood elevation or standard for flood-proofing is the 500-year flood event.

4.3.2 Existing Conditions

Approximately 75% of the total land area in Livingston Parish is in the 100-year floodplain. The parish is bound in all directions, except for the northern and northeastern boundaries, by bodies of water. The Amite River forms the western border and is a tributary to Lake Maurepas. The Blind River and Lake Maurepas collectively form the southern border. The Natalbany River, which drains into Lake Maurepas, forms the southern half of the eastern border. The principal source of flooding in the parish is generally attributed to headwater overflow of the Amite River, Colyell Creek, Middle Colyell Creek, Grays Creek, Millers Canal, Blind River, and Blood River; also, backwater overflows occur along the lower portions of the Colton Creek, Grays Creek, Long Slash Branch, Beavery Creek, Bayou Barbary, Allen Bayou, Colyell Creek, Blood River, and Blind River.

Historically, Livingston Parish has experienced significant flooding due to 16 major flood events which occurred between 1990 and 2020 (SDMI, 2021). Based on previous flood events, the risk of flooding varies with the topography. Riverine flooding and excess stormwater primarily affect the low-lying areas (i.e., the unincorporated areas) in the parish, and flood depths of up to five feet can be expected. The incorporated areas of Denham Springs, Walker, Livingston, Port Vincent, and French Settlement can expect flood depths from three to five feet, while the incorporated areas of Albany, Killian, and Springfield can expect flood levels up to three feet.

4.3.3 Environmental Consequences

Practicable Alternatives to locating the proposed action in the floodplain were identified and evaluated. Various practicability factors were considered including feasibility, social concerns, hazard reduction, mitigation costs, and environmental impacts.

Alternative 1 – No Action

Alternative 1 was reviewed for possible impacts associated with occupancy or modification to a floodplain. The City of Denham Springs enrolled in the NFIP on October 15, 1981. Based on FIRM panel number 22063C0205E dated April 3, 2012, the DSHA facility is located entirely in Zone AE, area of 100-year flooding (i.e., 1% annual chance of flooding). The BFE is 44 feet.

Per 44 C.F.R. § 9.11(d)(6), no project should be built to a floodplain management standard that is less protective than what the community has adopted in local ordinances through its participation in the NFIP. The “No Action” Alternative would have no additional adverse impacts to the floodplain. However, the DSHA facility would remain susceptible to the 1% annual chance of flooding because the existing foundation is not elevated to the FEMA approved BFE. In addition, access to the location would be restricted in the event of a flood and would adversely affect the ability to evacuate. Thus, Alternative 1 does not meet the purpose and need of the project.

The National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) FIRMette, accessed on February 23, 2023 (at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>), of the DSHA facility at its current location is shown in Figure 11.

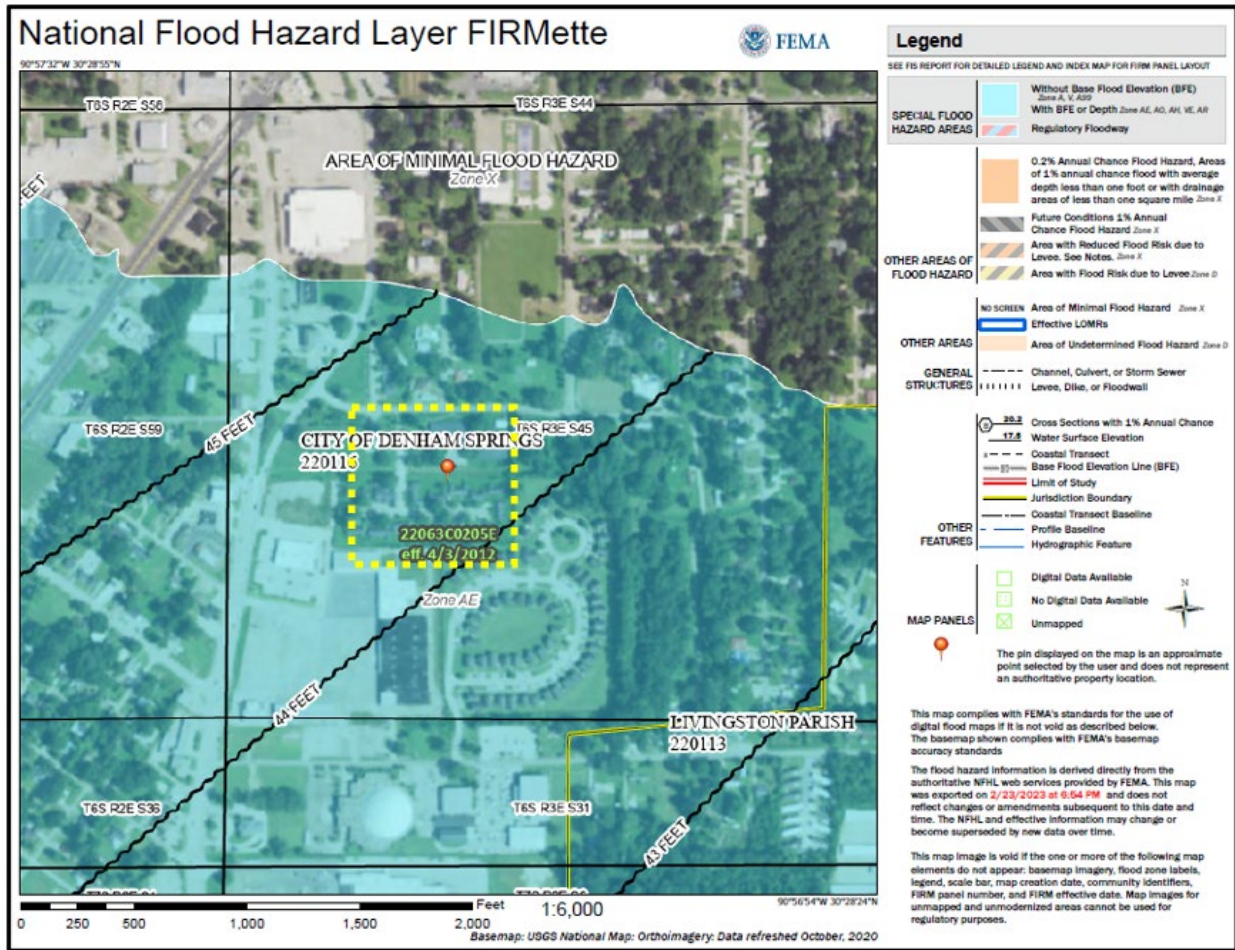


Figure 11 – NFHL FIRMette of the DSHA facility at its current location (Lat/Long: 30.477507, -90.953673).

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Authority Facilities at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

Alternative 3 was reviewed for possible impacts associated with occupancy or modification to a floodplain. The enrollment date in the NFIP for City of Denham Springs is October 15, 1981. Based on FIRM panel numbers 22063C0205E and 22063C0210E dated April 3, 2012, the proposed construction site is located in unshaded Zone X, outside the 500-year floodplain (i.e., area of minimal flood hazard). Based on FIRM panel number 22063C0205E dated April 3, 2012, DSHA’s original facilities are located entirely in Zone AE, area of 100-year flooding (i.e., 1% annual chance of flooding). As such, the proposed alternative location was determined to be the most practicable as the entire site is located outside the SFHA. DSHA is required to coordinate with the local floodplain administrator to ensure compliance with any local codes and NFIP requirements.

The NFHL FIRMette, accessed on February 21, 2023 (at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>), of the DSHA facility at its proposed location is shown in Figure 12.

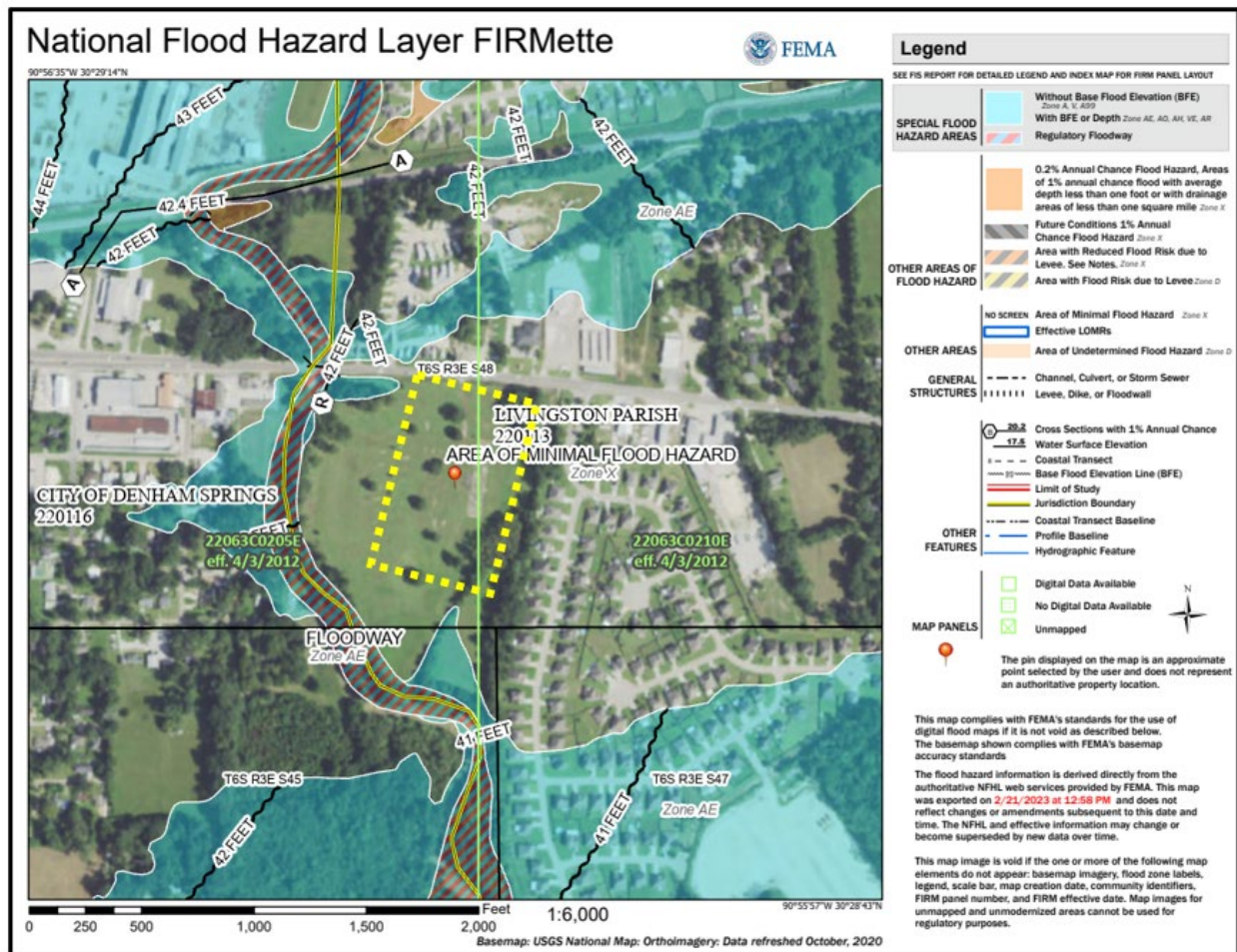


Figure 12 – NFHL FIRMette for the Proposed DSHA New Construction Site (Lat/Long: 30.482972, -90.937788).

4.4 Coastal Resources

4.4.1 Regulatory Setting

4.4.1.1 Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972

The Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.) is administered by the Department of Commerce’s Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). It applies to all coastal states and to all states that border the Great Lakes. The CZMA was established to help prevent any additional loss of living marine resources, wildlife, and nutrient-enriched areas; alterations in ecological systems; and decreases in undeveloped areas available for public use. The CZMA gives states the authority to determine whether activities of governmental agencies are consistent with federally-approved coastal zone management programs. Each state coastal zone management program must include provisions protecting coastal natural resources, fish, and wildlife; managing development along coastal shorelines; providing public access to the coast for recreational purposes; and incorporating public and local coordination for decision-making in coastal areas. This voluntary federal-state

partnership addresses coastal development, water quality, shoreline erosion, public access, protection of natural resources, energy facility siting, and coastal hazards.

The Federal Consistency provision, contained in § 307 of the CZMA, allows affected states to review federal activities to ensure that they are consistent with the state’s coastal zone management program. This provision also applies to non-federal programs and activities that use federal funding and that require federal authorization. Any activities that may have an effect on any land or water use or on any natural resources in the coastal zone must conform to the enforceable policies of the approved state coastal zone management program. NOAA’s regulations in 15 C.F.R. Part 930 provide the procedures for arriving at or obtaining a consistency determination.

The CZMA requires that coastal states develop a State Coastal Zone Management Plan or program and that any federal agency conducting or supporting activities affecting the coastal zone conduct or support those activities in a manner consistent with the approved state plan or program. To comply with the CZMA, a federal agency must identify activities that would affect the coastal zone, including development projects, and review the state coastal zone management plan to determine whether a proposed activity would be consistent with the plan.

4.4.1.2 Louisiana State and Local Coastal Resources Management Act of 1978

Pursuant to the CZMA, the State and Local Coastal Resources Management Act of 1978 (R.S. 49:214.21 et seq. Act 1978, No. 361) is the state of Louisiana’s legislation creating the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program (LCRP). The LCRP establishes policy for activities including construction in the coastal zone, defines and updates the coastal zone boundary, and creates regulatory processes. The LCRP is under the authority of the LDNR OCM. If a proposed action is within the Coastal Zone boundary, OCM will review the eligibility of the project concurrently with its review by other federal agencies (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service). The mechanism employed to review these projects is the Coastal Use Permit (CUP). Per the CZMA, all proposed federal projects within the coastal zone must undergo a Consistency Determination by OCM for that project’s consistency with the state’s Coastal Resources Program (i.e., LCRP) (LDNR 2016).

4.4.1.3 Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982

The Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) of 1982 (16 U.S.C. § 3501 et seq.), administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), was enacted to protect sensitive and vulnerable barrier islands found along the U.S. Atlantic, Gulf, and Great Lakes coastlines. The CBRA established the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS), which is composed of undeveloped coastal barrier islands, including those in the Great Lakes. With limited exceptions, areas contained within a CBRS are ineligible for direct or indirect federal funds that might support or promote coastal development, thereby discouraging development in coastal areas.

4.4.2 Existing Conditions

The project site is located entirely outside the Louisiana Coastal Zone and any regulated CBRA unit. None of the evaluated alternatives involves relocation to the coastal zone or a CBRS unit.

4.4.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

The “No Action” Alternative would entail no undertaking and therefore, would have no impact on a coastal zone or a CBRS unit.

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Authority Facilities at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

All Alternative 3 actions will take place outside the Coastal Zone and any CBRS unit, therefore CZMA and CBRA requirements do not apply.

4.5 Federally Protected Species, Critical Habitats, and Other Biological Resources

4.5.1 Regulatory Setting

4.5.1.1 Endangered Species Act

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) prohibits the taking of listed, threatened, and endangered species unless specifically authorized by permit from the USFWS or the NMFS. “Take” is defined in 16 U.S.C. 1532 (19) as “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in any such conduct.” “Harm” is further defined to include significant habitat modification or degradation that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing behavioral patterns such as breeding, feeding, or sheltering (50 C.F.R. § 17.3) (Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants 1975).

Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA requires the lead federal agency to consult with either the USFWS or the NMFS, depending on which agency has jurisdiction over the federally listed species in question, when a federally funded project either may have the potential to adversely affect a federally listed species, or a federal action occurs within or may have the potential to impact designated critical habitat. The lead agency must consult with the USFWS, the NMFS, or both (Agencies) as appropriate and will determine if a biological assessment is necessary to identify potentially adverse effects to federally listed species, their critical habitat, or both. If a biological assessment is required, it will be followed by a biological opinion from the USFWS, the NMFS, or both depending on the jurisdiction of the federally listed species identified in the biological assessment. If the impacts of a proposed federal project are considered negligible to federally listed species, the lead agency may instead prepare a letter to the Agencies with a “May Affect, but Not Likely to Adversely Affect” determination requesting the relevant agency’s concurrence. This EA serves to identify potential impacts and meet the ESA § 7 requirement by ascertaining the risks of the proposed action and Alternatives to known federally listed species and their critical habitat, as well as providing a means for consultation with the Agencies.

4.5.1.2 Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Unless otherwise permitted by regulation, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 (16 U.S.C. 703-712) prohibits pursuing; hunting; taking; capturing; killing; attempting to take, capture, or kill;

possessing; offering for sale; selling; offering to purchase; purchasing; delivering for shipment; shipping; causing to be shipped; delivering for transportation; transporting; causing to be transported; carrying or causing to be carried by any means whatever; receiving for shipment, transportation, or carriage; or exporting; at any time or in any manner, any migratory bird or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird, that is included on the list of protected bird species (General Provisions; Revised List of Migratory Birds 2013). The USFWS is responsible for enforcing the provisions of this Act.

4.5.2 Existing Conditions

As of the latest updated USFWS threatened and endangered list for Livingston Parish, dated February 27, 2023, one (1) mammal species, the West Indian manatee, two (2) reptile species Alligator snapping turtle and Gopher Tortoise, one (1) clam species, Inflated Heelsplitter, one (1) fish species, the Atlantic Gulf sturgeon (Gulf Subspecies), and (1) bird species, the Red-cockaded Woodpecker, are federally listed as threatened or endangered and are known to occur in select waterways and lands within Livingston Parish (see Table 1). The proposed project site is located within the Mississippi Flyway (Mississippi Flyway Council).

Table 1 – Federally Listed Species Known to Occur in Livingston Parish.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	Habitat Requirements	Critical Habitat	Impact* / Rationale
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	<i>Picoides borealis</i>	Endangered	Mature pine forests. Longleaf pines.	Alternative 3 - No	None/There is no suitable habitat at the Alternative 3 site.
Alligator Snapping Turtle	<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	Proposed Threatened	Wherever found	Alternative 3 - No	None/There is no suitable habitat at the Alternative 3 site.
Atlantic Gulf sturgeon (Gulf Subspecies)	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi</i>	Threatened	Anadromous fish species that spends most of its life in freshwater habitats and spawns in estuarine bays. Found in a variety of substrate areas based on age class of species.	Alternative 3 - No	None/There is no suitable habitat at the Alternative 3 site.
West Indian manatee	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>	Threatened	Found in marine, estuarine, and freshwater environments with a strong preference for warm and well-vegetated waters.	Alternative 3 - No	None/There is no suitable habitat at the Alternative 3 site.
Inflated Heelsplitter	<i>Potamilus inflatus</i>	Threatened	Wherever found	Alternative 3 - No	None/There is no suitable habitat at the Alternative 3 site.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	Habitat Requirements	Critical Habitat	Impact* / Rationale
Gopher Tortoise	<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	Proposed Threatened	Wherever found	Alternative 3 - No	None/There is no suitable habitat at the Alternative 3 site

Note: Data accessed February 15, 2023 from the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Project Review and Guidance for Other Federal Trust Resources Online Application hosted by the Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office of the USFWS (<https://www.fws.gov/southeast/lafayette/project-review/>).

4.5.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

The “No Action” Alternative would entail no undertaking and, therefore, would have no impact on species federally listed as threatened or endangered, migratory birds, or federally listed critical habitats.

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Facilities at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

Relocation and new construction of the housing facilities would have no effect on biological resources. The proposed site existing vegetation is not considered critical habitat and none provides suitable habitat for rare, threatened, or endangered species found in Livingston Parish. One of the species of concern in Livingston Parish is the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) (*Picoides borealis*). Per the USFWS Louisiana Ecological Services Office ESA Project Review and Guidance for Other Federal Trust Resources Report dated August 14, 2023 (IPaC Record Locator Number 381-130342523) (Appendix C), the proposed project is outside the critical habitat and would have no effect on the Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*). There are no critical habitats within the project area under the Louisiana Ecological Services Office’s jurisdiction.

In a letter dated February 3, 2023, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) stated that “no impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project” and “no state or federal wildlife refuges, wildlife management areas, or scenic streams are known to occur at the specified site within Louisiana’s boundaries”.

4.6 Air Quality

4.6.1 Regulatory Setting

4.6.1.1 Clean Air Act of 1970 (Including 1977 and 1990 Amendments)

The Clean Air Act (CAA) (42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.) is the federal law that regulates air emissions from stationary and mobile sources. This law tasks the USEPA, among its other responsibilities, with establishing primary and secondary air quality standards. Primary air quality standards protect the public’s health, including the health of “sensitive populations, such as people with asthma, children, and older adults.” Secondary air quality standards protect the public’s welfare by

promoting ecosystem health, preventing decreased visibility, and reducing damage to crops and buildings. The USEPA also has set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for the following six (6) criteria pollutants: carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), ground-level ozone (O₃), particulate matter (less than 10 micrometers [PM₁₀] and less than 2.5 micrometers [PM_{2.5}]), and sulfur dioxide (SO₂).

In addition, the USEPA regulates hazardous air pollutants, such as asbestos, under the “air toxics” provisions of the CAA. Section 112 of the CAA established the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) and required the USEPA to develop and enforce regulations to protect the public from exposure to airborne contaminants that are known to be hazardous to human health. Major health effects associated with asbestos include lung cancer, mesothelioma, and asbestosis (USEPA 2016a).

Under the 1990 amendments to the CAA, the USEPA may delegate its regulatory authority to any state which has developed an approved State Implementation Plan (SIP) for carrying out the mandates of the CAA. The State of Louisiana’s initial SIP was approved on July 5, 2011, and its CAA implementing regulations are codified in Title 33:III of the Louisiana Environmental Regulatory Code. The SIP has been revised several times since its original approval.

According to 40 C.F.R. § 93.150(a), “No department, agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government shall engage in, support in any way or provide financial assistance for, license or permit, or approve any activity which does not conform to an applicable implementation plan.” In addition, 40 C.F.R. § 93.150(b) states, “A Federal agency must make a determination that a Federal action conforms to the applicable implementation plan in accordance with the requirements of this subpart before the action is taken.” As a result, when FEMA provides financial assistance for a project, such as the one currently under review in this EA, the CAA requires a General Conformity determination whenever the project site is located in a “non-attainment area” for any one (1) of the six (6) criteria pollutants (Revisions to the General Conformity Regulations 2010).

4.6.2 Existing Conditions

Effective March 21, 2017, Livingston Parish was designated by EPA as an ozone attainment area with a maintenance plan under the 8-hour standard (81 FR 95051, December 27, 2016). As part of the ozone maintenance area, federal activities proposed in Livingston Parish may be subject to the State’s general conformity regulations as promulgated under LAC 33:III.Chapter 14, Subchapter A, *Determining Conformity of General Federal Actions to State or Federal Implementation Plans*. As a result, a general conformity applicability determination is required for FEMA-funded projects within this parish. Pursuant to both 40 C.F.R. § 93.153(b) and Title 33:III.1405.B.1, the applicable rate and *de minimis* threshold for volatile organic compound (VOC) and nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions is 100 tons per year.

4.6.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

The “No Action” Alternative would involve no undertaking and, therefore, would cause no short- or long- term impacts to air quality and no general conformity applicability determination would be required.

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Authority Facilities at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

In an August 25, 2023 email, LDEQ stated, “Currently, Livingston Parish is classified as a maintenance area with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. However, since your general conformity determination shows that the proposed VOC and NO_x emissions will be less than the de minimis levels, the Department has no objections to implementation of this project” (Appendix C). The sub-recipient provided a detailed list of equipment and vehicles proposed for use in project, which were used to calculate the estimated quantity of VOC and NO_x emissions.

This alternative potentially includes short-term impacts to air quality resulting from construction activities. Particulate emissions from the generation of fugitive dust during project construction would likely be increased temporarily in the immediate project vicinity. Other emission sources on site could include internal combustion engines from work vehicles, air compressors, or other types of construction equipment. These effects would be localized and of short duration.

To reduce potential short term effects to air quality from construction-related activities, the contractor would be responsible for using BMPs to reduce fugitive dust generation and diesel emissions. Emissions from the burning of fuel by internal combustion engines could temporarily increase the levels of some of the criteria pollutants, including CO₂, NO_x, O₃, and PM₁₀, and non-criteria pollutants such as VOCs. To reduce these emissions, running times for fuel-burning equipment should be kept to a minimum and engines should be properly maintained.

4.7 Noise

4.7.1 Regulatory Setting

Noise is commonly defined as unwanted or unwelcome sound and most commonly measured in decibels (dBA) on the A-weighted scale (i.e., the scale most similar to the range of sounds that the human ear can hear). The Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) is an average measure of sound over a 24-hour period. The DNL descriptor is accepted by federal agencies as a standard for estimating sound impacts and establishing guidelines for compatible land uses. Sound is federally regulated by the Noise Control Act of 1972 (42 U.S.C. 4901 et seq.), which charges the USEPA with preparing guidelines for acceptable ambient noise levels. USEPA guidelines, and those of many other federal agencies, state that outdoor sound levels in excess of 55 dBA DNL are “normally unacceptable” for noise-sensitive land uses including residences, schools, places of worship, or hospitals (USEPA 1974). The Noise Control Act, however, only charges

implementation of noise standards to those federal agencies that operate noise-producing facilities or equipment.

Within Livingston Parish, the noise control program is administered through the combined efforts of the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office and Livingston Parish Department of Public Works. The rules concerning the noise can be found in the Livingston Parish Council Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5.5, Article II, § § 11-17. Concerning construction noise, it is unlawful to operate power equipment between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on weekdays, and between 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. on weekends. However, installation and maintenance of public and private utilities as well as construction activities for which a permit has been issued are limited to work during the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in zoned residential areas (Section 5.5-13h). During these hours, none of the noise produced by machinery <5 horsepower shall exceed levels of 75dBA. Machinery over five horsepower shall not exceed 82 dBA.

4.7.2 Existing Conditions

Average acceptable day-night sound pressure levels fall in a range between 50 dB in quiet suburban areas to 70 dB in very noisy urban areas (USEPA 1974). The day-night sound level is a cumulative metric that accounts for the total sound energy occurring over a 24-hour period, with nighttime noise (occurring from 10 pm to 7 am) more heavily weighted to reflect community sensitivity during nighttime hours. Seventy-five (75) dB is generally considered unacceptable in urban areas with 85 dB being unacceptable in industrial areas (Housing and Urban Development [HUD]). The existing DSHA site is immediately adjacent to LA 3002, a four-lane divided highway.

4.7.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the “No Action” Alternative there would be no short- or long-term impact to noise levels because no construction or demolition would occur.

Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA New Housing Authority Development at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

Under this alternative, construction activities would result in short-term increases in noise during the construction period. Equipment and machinery utilized on the project site is required to meet all local, state, and federal noise regulations. Following completion of construction activities, operations at the new site is not expected to result in any significant increases in noise levels. DSHA should monitor noise generators and highway generated noise to ensure residents are not adversely impacted. Corrective action must be implemented if noise levels exceed the permissible level.

4.8 Traffic

4.8.1 Regulatory Setting

Roads play a major role in the management of traffic, particularly in densely-populated urban areas such as Denham Springs. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD) is responsible for maintaining public transportation, state highways, interstate highways under state jurisdiction, and bridges located within the state of Louisiana. These duties include the planning, design, and building of new highways in addition to the maintenance and upgrading of current highways. Roads not part of any highway system usually fall under the jurisdiction of and are maintained by applicable local government entities; however, the LADOTD is responsible for assuring that all local agency federal-aid projects comply with all applicable federal and state requirements (LADOTD 2016).

4.8.2 Existing Conditions

The existing DSHA housing site is surrounded by residential properties and commercial development and the amount of traffic on South Range Avenue has steady increased with the development of Denham Springs' business district. Estimated Annual Average Daily Traffic Routine Traffic Counts were conducted by LADOTD at a local level (Parish) at a location along South Range Avenue about 0.2 mile north of the existing DSHA site. The counts generally show that South Range Avenue had 21, 070 vehicles per day in 2022, the latest year for which figures are available (see Figure 13; LADOTD 2023).

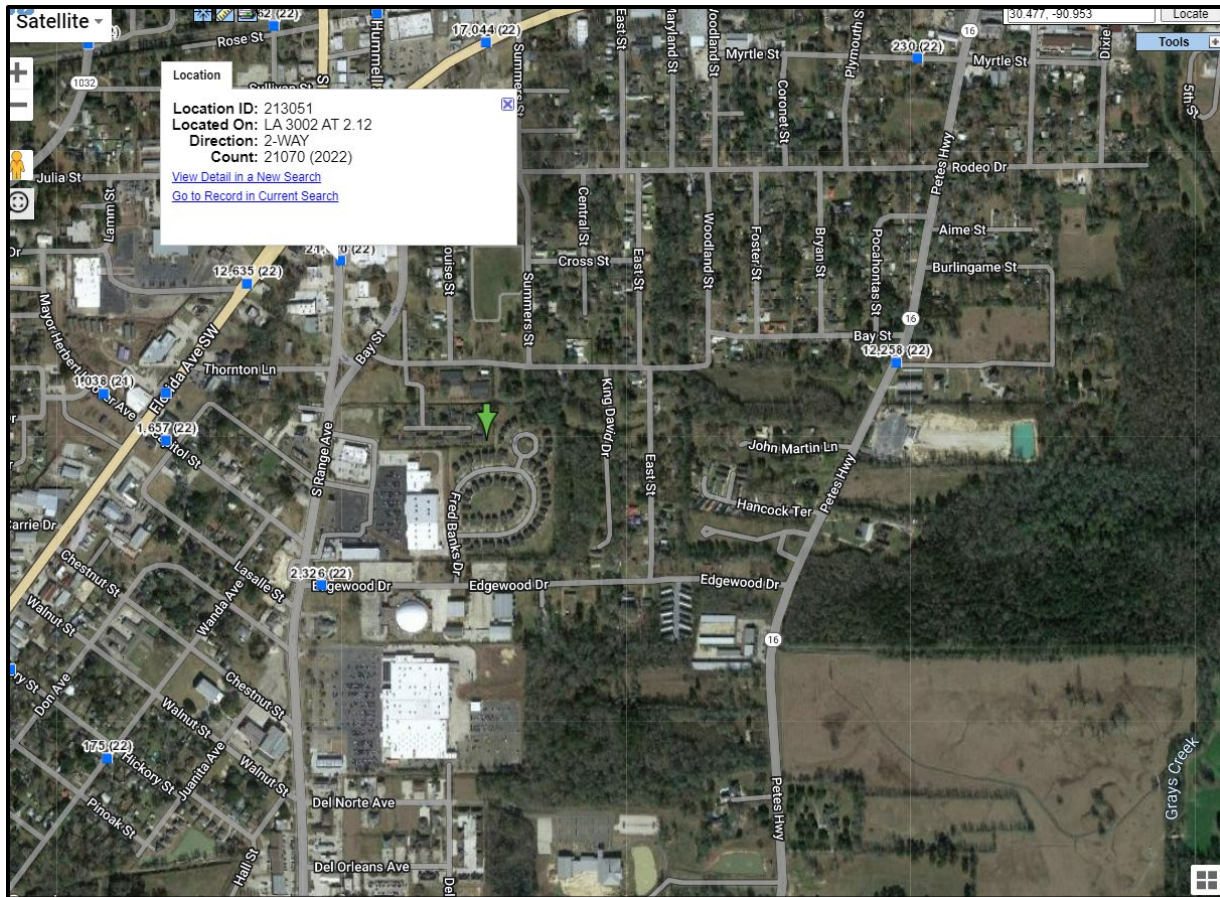


Figure 13 – Estimated annual average daily routine traffic counts along South Range Ave, Denham Springs, near the existing DSHA location.

The proposed site for the DSHA is easily accessible and located 1.5 miles northeast from the original DSHA location. It is located along U.S. Highway 190, a major two-lane divided road. Estimated Annual Average Daily Traffic Routine Traffic Counts were conducted by LADOTD at a local level (Parish) at one location along U.S. Highway 190 about .14 mile north of the site. The counts show that U.S. Highway 190 had traffic counts of 17,150 vehicles per day in 2022; much lower than South Range Ave (see Figure 14; LADOTD 2023).

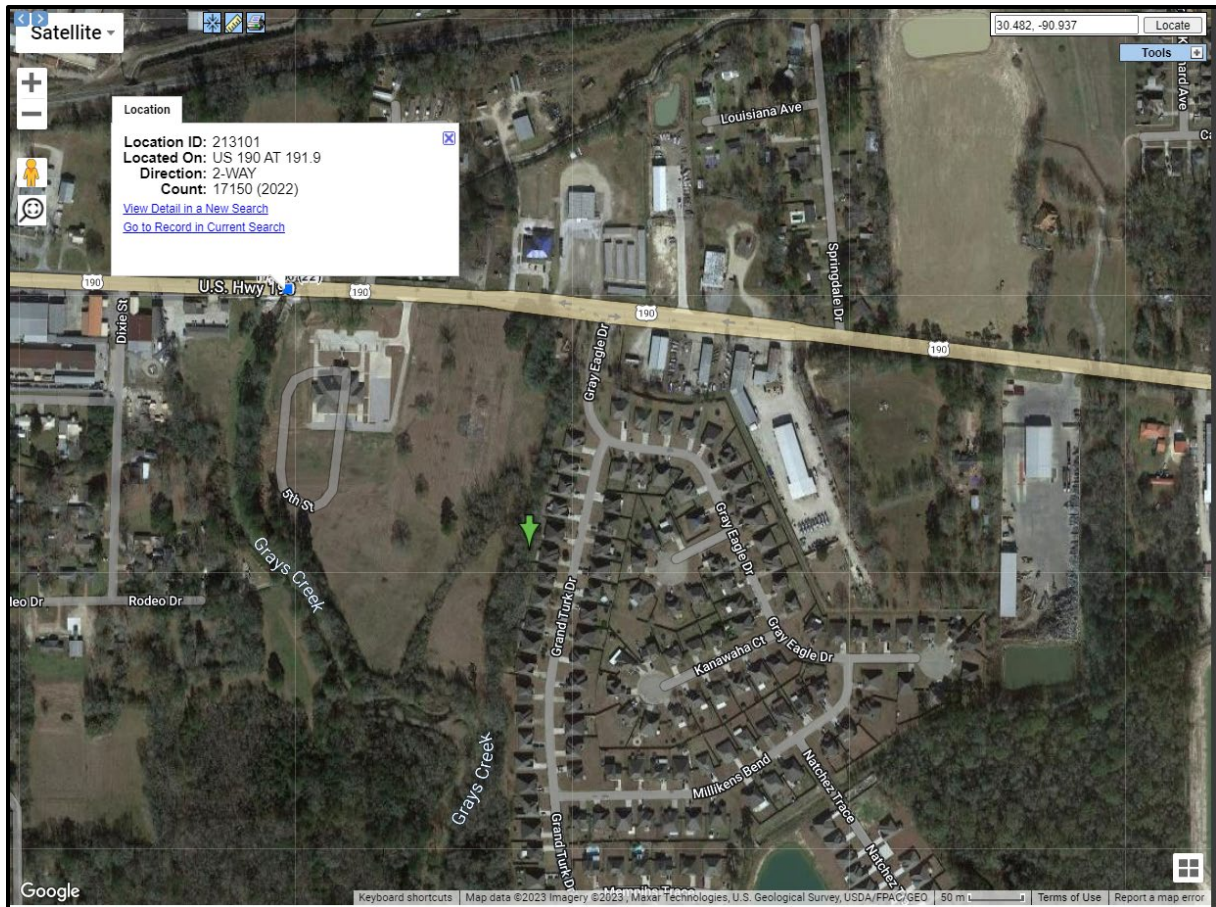


Figure 14 – Estimated annual average daily routine traffic counts along U.S. 190 Highway, Denham Springs, near the proposed DSHA location.

4.8.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

Implementation of the “No Action” Alternative would not adversely affect the site traffic patterns as no construction would occur.

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Authority Development at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

Under the Preferred Action alternative, a temporary increase in traffic during preliminary construction activities and during construction of the new facility would be expected. Once construction of the new facility components has been completed, traffic would be expected to return to normal. Only minimal long-term effects, if any, on current traffic patterns would likely occur. DSHA is responsible for coordinating with LADOTD to secure appropriate permits and approvals for tying in to the existing highway.

During construction, the contractor would be expected to take all reasonable precautions to control site access. All activities would be conducted in a safe manner in accordance with OSHA work zone traffic safety requirements. The contractor would post appropriate signage and fencing to minimize foreseeable potential public safety concerns. Proper signs and barriers would be in place prior to the initiation of construction activities in order to alert pedestrians and motorists of the upcoming work and traffic pattern changes (e.g., detours or lanes dedicated for construction equipment egress).

As a result, no significant permanent traffic impacts would be expected as a result of the proposed operation and future use of the site under Alternative 3.

4.9 Cultural Resources

4.9.1 Regulatory Setting

Consideration of impacts on cultural and historic resources is mandated under Section 101(b)(4) of the NEPA, as implemented by 40 CFR Part 1501-1508 and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires Federal agencies to consider affects undertakings could potentially have on historic properties.

FEMA has chosen to address potential impacts to historic properties through the NHPA's Section 106 consultation process as implemented through 36 CFR Part 800. Requirements for this includes determining if proposed actions or alternatives could potentially affect significant or historic properties defined as archaeological sites, historic districts, standing structures, or other historic resources either listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or determined to be eligible for listing and when such properties are identified by federal agencies, attempts are made to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects proposed actions can have on historic properties.

In order to fulfill its Section 106 responsibilities, FEMA initiated consultation for this project in two Areas of Potential Effect (APEs A and B) in Denham Springs in accordance with the *Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and Participating Tribes*, executed on December 21, 2016 (Figure 1). The APEs consist of property at 600 Eugene Street (APE A) where 20 structures were initially proposed to be repaired or mitigated and later, demolished and rebuilt and the property at 30.483039, -90.937535 (center point) on Florida Boulevard (Highway 190) (APE B) is where a new housing facility is proposed to be constructed.

4.9.2 Existing Conditions – Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties

The property 600 Eugene Street (APE A) shown in Figure 2 measures approximately 6.3 acres containing 15 duplexes, a 10-unit multifamily building, a 12-unit multifamily building, an office building, and a maintenance building built between 1968 and 1969 and a more modern storage building. FEMA originally identified the property as being eligible for funding for permanent repairs and potential mitigation and determined it was "Not Eligible" for listing on the National

Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in a letter submitted to the SHPO on December 13, 2017 and SHPO concurrence with the determination was received on December 22, 2017.

As it was later determined that the facility would be demolished and the structures would be rebuilt at a higher elevation, FEMA consulted with the SHPO for the change in the scope of the proposed work in a letter with a “No Historic Properties” determination on December 31, 2018 and SHPO concurrence with the determination was received on January 16, 2019.

The Denham Springs Housing Authority requested that the facility be rebuilt at a new location on Florida Boulevard (Highway 190) after recognizing that the present location was in an AE flood

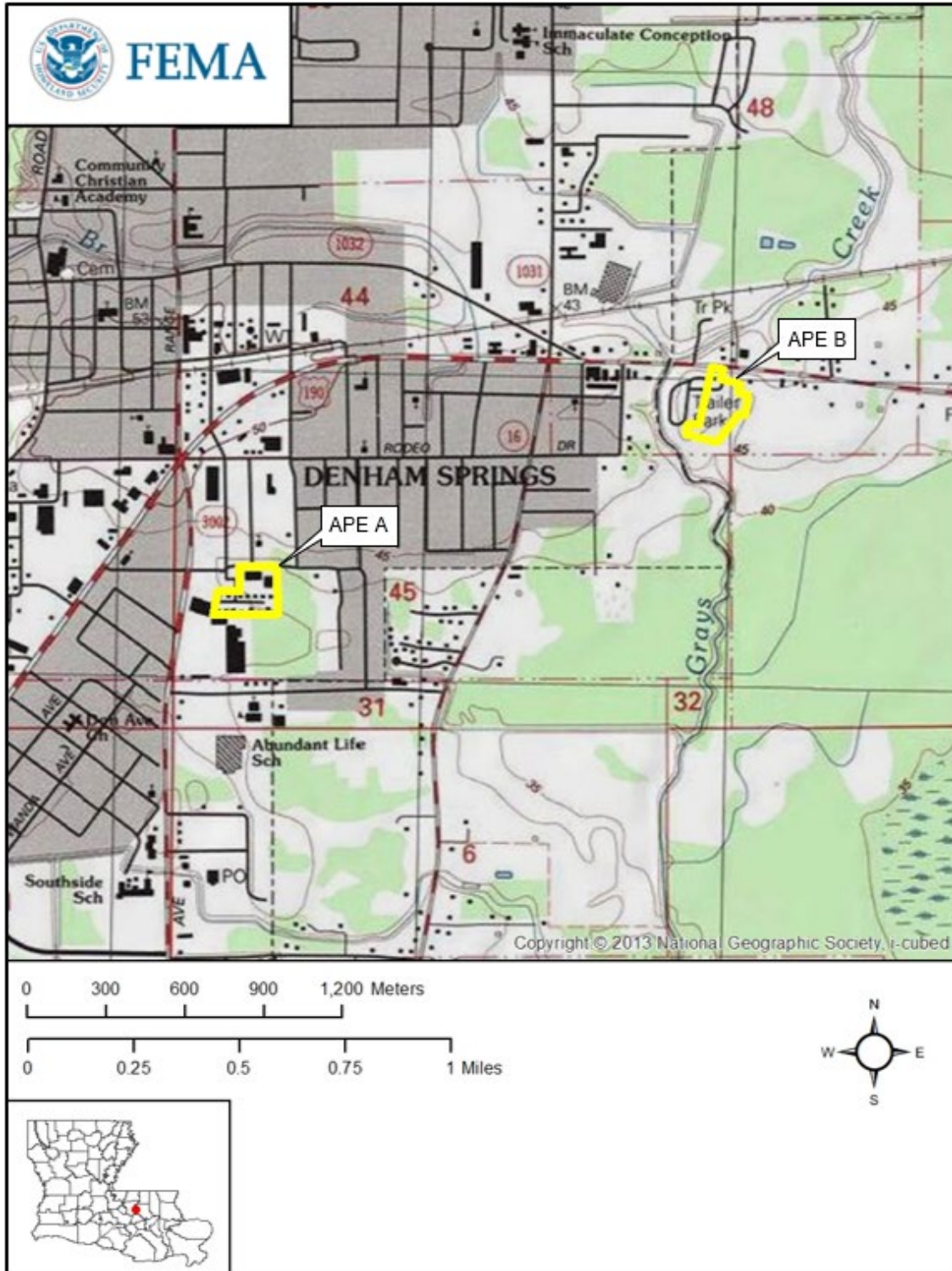


Figure 15. Excerpt from the USGS 1995 Denham Springs 7.5 Minute Series topographic quadrangle map showing locations of APE A at 600 Eugene Street and APE B at 30.482972, -90.937788 on Florida Boulevard (Highway 190) in Denham Springs (Scale 1:24,000).

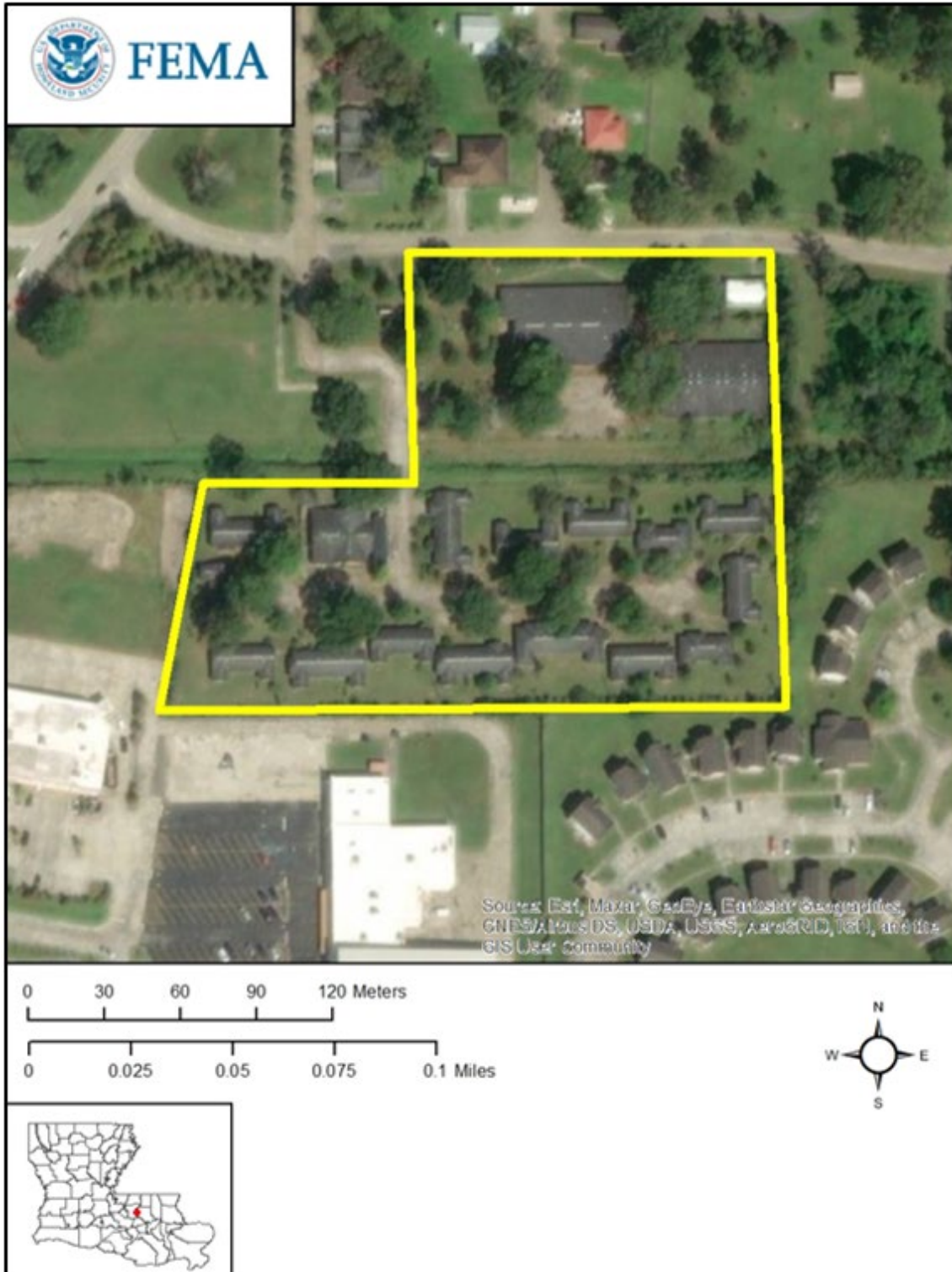


Figure 16. Aerial image showing the APE at APE A at 600 Eugene Street in Denham Springs (Scale 1:12,000).

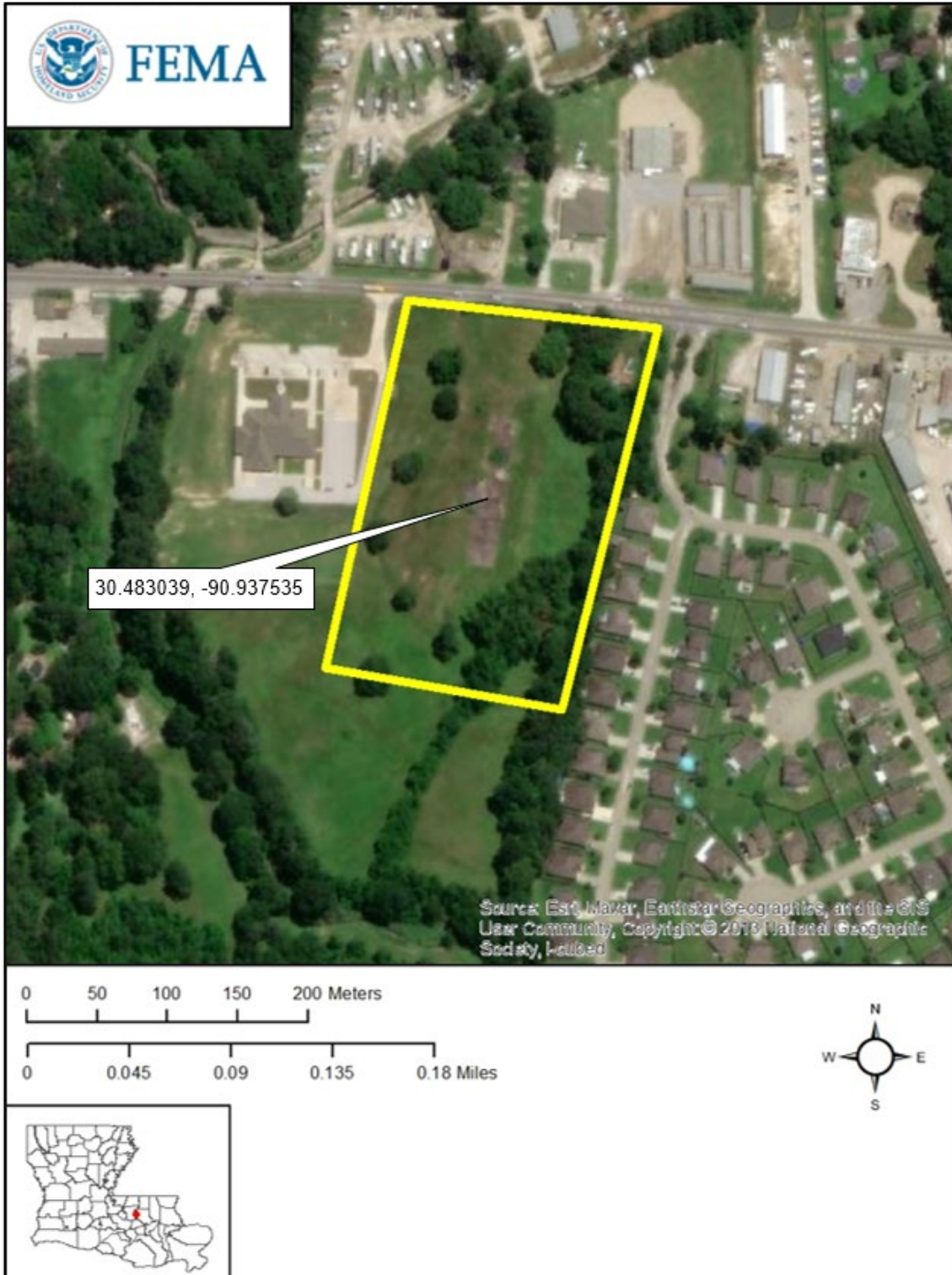


Figure 17. Aerial image showing the APE at APE B (30.482972, -90.937788) on Florida Boulevard (Highway 190) in Denham Springs (Scale 1:12,000).

zone and elevating the structures would not be accessible for elderly and people with disabilities residing in the structures.

Alternative 1 – No Action

Implementation of the “No Action” Alternative would not adversely effect historic properties or cultural resources.

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DHSA Housing Authority Development at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

The most practical undertaking for residents of the facility will entail constructing 20 single-story administrative and housing buildings with one, two, three, and four bedroom units; concrete roads with parking spaces and sidewalks; and a detention pond and swale within an estimated five acre area on Florida Boulevard (Highway 190) (APE B) as shown in Figure 3.

The sub-recipient provided FEMA with results of a Phase I archaeological survey conducted in APE B in a report titled *Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of 8.6 Acres (3.5 Hectares) near Denham Springs, Livingston Parish, Louisiana* (McMains and Shuman 2022). The survey of 8.6 acres was done on May 19, 2022. No artifacts or features were identified in thirty-one shovel tests excavated in the area and a circa 1940 single story residence considered ineligible for listing on the NRHP was identified in the 0.5 acre northeastern corner of the archaeological APE. SHPO concurred with Dr. Malcolm Shuman’s determination that no historic properties listed on the NRHP or eligible for listing would be affected by the proposed construction on June 28, 2022.

FEMA consulted on the proposed construction with the SHPO and Tribes sharing an interest in the area including Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, Kialegee Tribal Town, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, and Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana on August 4, 2022 with a determination of “No Historic Properties Affected.” The SHPO concurred with the determination on August 12, 2022 and tribal concurrence was received from the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians on September 2, 2022, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma on September 6, 2022, and the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma on September 26, 2022.

4.10 Hazardous Materials

4.10.1 Regulatory Setting

The management of hazardous materials is regulated under various federal and state environmental and transportation laws and regulations, including but not limited to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know provisions of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA); the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act; and the Louisiana Voluntary Investigation and Remedial Action statute. The purpose of the regulatory requirements set forth under these laws is to ensure the protection of human health and the environment through proper management

(identification, use, storage, treatment, transport, and disposal) of these materials. Some of the laws provide for the investigation and cleanup of sites already contaminated by releases of hazardous materials, wastes, or substances.

The TSCA (codified at 15 U.S.C., Ch. 53), authorizes the USEPA to protect the public from “unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment” by regulating the introduction, manufacture, importation, sale, use, and disposal of specific new or already existing chemicals. “New Chemicals” are defined as “any chemical substance which is not included in the chemical substance list compiled and published under [TSCA] § 8(b).” Existing chemicals include any chemical currently listed under § 8(b), including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), asbestos, radon, lead-based paint, chlorofluorocarbons, dioxin, and hexavalent chromium.

TSCA Subchapter I, “Control of Toxic Substances” (§§ 2601-2629), regulates the disposal of PCB-containing products, sets limits for PCB levels present within the environment, and authorizes the remediation of sites contaminated with PCBs. Subchapter II, “Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response” (§§ 2641-2656), authorizes the USEPA to impose requirements for asbestos abatement in schools and requires accreditation of those who inspect asbestos-containing materials. Subchapter IV, “Lead Exposure Reduction” (§§ 2681-2692), requires the USEPA to identify sources of lead contamination in the environment, to regulate the amounts of lead allowed in products, and to establish state programs that monitor and reduce lead exposure.

4.10.2 Existing Conditions

USEPA database searches for the existing and proposed project areas and vicinity reveal that a number of hazardous waste sites are located along South Range Road and U.S. Highway 190. Four (4) of these sites are located within 0.5 miles of the Alternative 2 site (South Range Road). Two (2) of these sites are located within 0.5 miles of the Alternative 3 site (U.S. Highway 190) (Figures 18 and 19).

The LDEQ’s Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) database was also reviewed for e Alternative 3 location. There no records for hazardous waste management and disposal, solid waste disposal, leaking underground storage tank, or enforcement issues for either location.

There are no recorded oil or gas wells on the Alternative 3 site (LDEQ 2015a, 2015b; USEPA 2015b, 2015c).

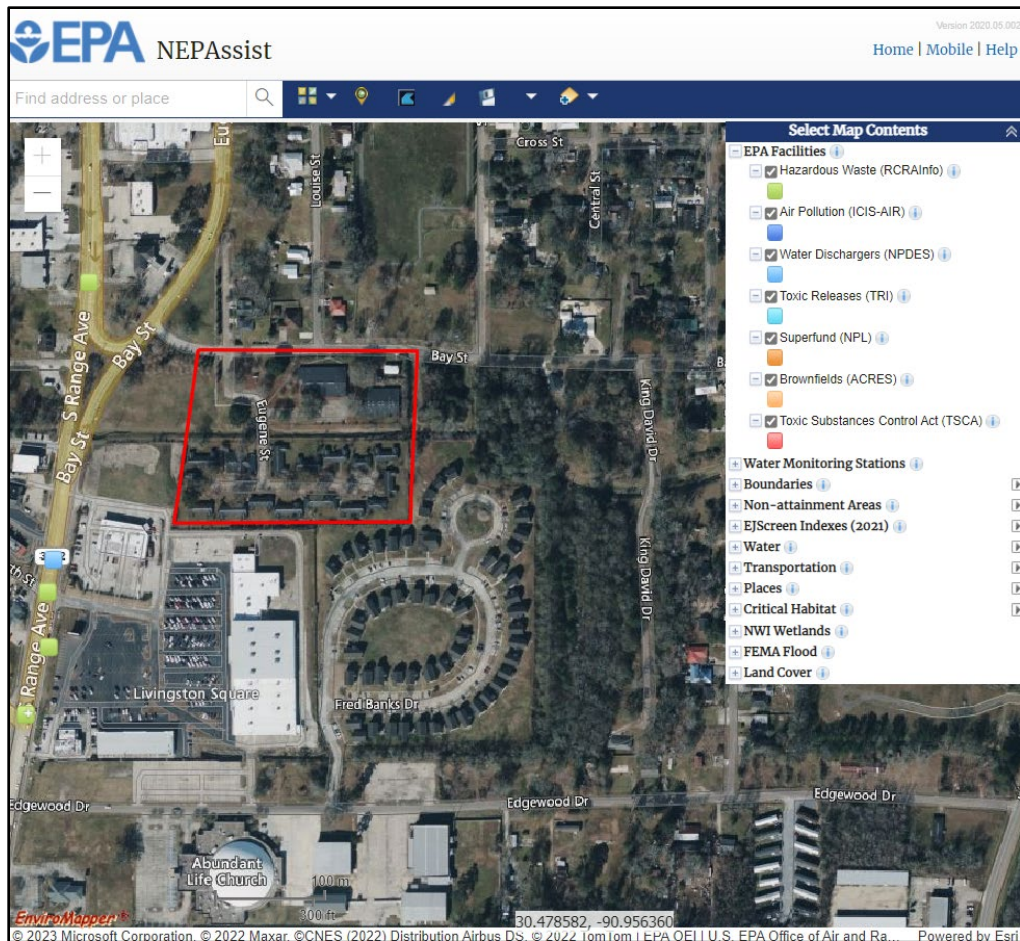


Figure 18 – Map showing EPA regulated sites at existing DSHA location (NEPAAssist, 2023).

4.10.3 Environmental Consequences

Alternative 1 – No Action

Under this alternative, there would be no action taken. Thus, there would be no disturbance of any hazardous materials or the creation of any additional hazards to human health.

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DSHA Housing Authority Development at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

Under this action alternative, as with all construction activities, there is a possibility of encountering hazardous materials or suspected hazardous materials during construction activities.

During excavation and construction activities, the contractor would be expected to take all reasonable precautions to control unauthorized site access. All activities involving the use of hazardous materials would be conducted in a safe manner in accordance with OSHA safety requirements. Should unanticipated hazardous materials or suspected hazardous materials (such

as buried waste drums) be encountered, the construction contractor would stop work immediately and notify the LDEQ. Work would remain stopped until LDEQ personnel could access the site and if necessary, remove hazardous materials.

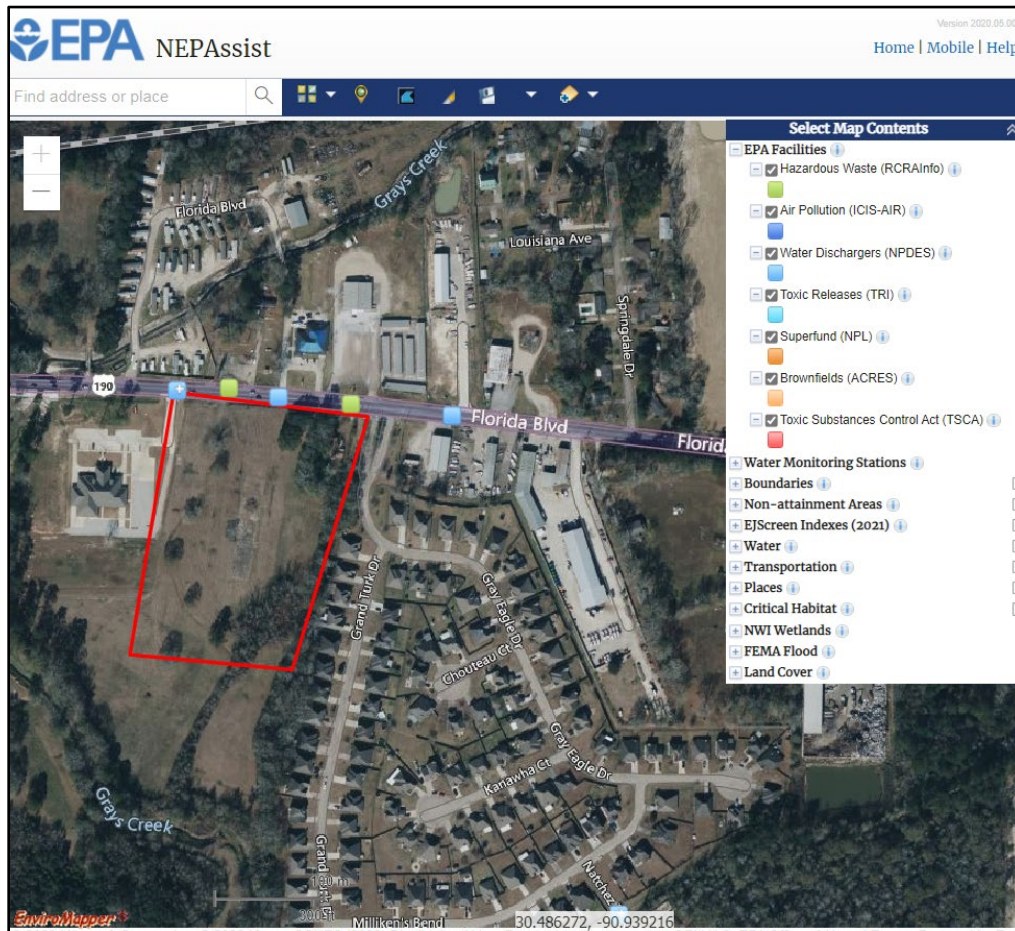


Figure 19 – Map showing EPA regulated sites at new proposed DSHA location (NEPAAssist, 2023).

4.11 Environmental Justice

4.11.1 Regulatory Setting

E.O. 12898, entitled “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations,” was signed on 11 February 1994 (U.S. President. 1994). The E.O. directs federal agencies to make achieving environmental justice part of their missions by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high adverse human health, environmental, economic, and social effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority and/or low-income populations.

4.11.2 Existing Conditions

According to the United States Census Bureau 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimate Data Profile Parish the total population of Denham Springs, Louisiana 70726 was 9,192. The 2020 demographic estimates for Denham Springs were 11% Black or African American, 82% White, 9% Hispanic, 0% American Indian and Alaska Native, 0% Asian and 3% some other race. For the 2021 U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey estimated the median household income at \$71,910 (Table 2).



EJSCREEN ACS Summary Report



Location: City: Denham Springs city
 Ring (buffer): 0-mile radius
 Description:

Summary of ACS Estimates		2016 - 2020		
Population				9,192
Population Density (per sq. mile)				1,264
People of Color Population				2,013
% People of Color Population				22%
Households				3,574
Housing Units				4,488
Housing Units Built Before 1950				167
Per Capita Income				33,233
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)				7.27
% Land Area				99%
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)				0.08
% Water Area				1%
		2016 - 2020 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Race				
Total		9,192	100%	1,049
Population Reporting One Race		8,831	96%	1,801
White		7,518	82%	1,048
Black		1,055	11%	378
American Indian		13	0%	61
Asian		7	0%	29
Pacific Islander		0	0%	14
Some Other Race		238	3%	271
Population Reporting Two or More Races		361	4%	212
Total Hispanic Population		803	9%	271
Total Non-Hispanic Population		8,390		
White Alone		7,179	78%	1,047
Black Alone		1,055	11%	378
American Indian Alone		13	0%	61
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone		7	0%	29
Pacific Islander Alone		0	0%	14
Other Race Alone		14	0%	48
Two or More Races Alone		121	1%	208
Population by Sex				
Male		4,379	48%	749
Female		4,814	52%	658
Population by Age				
Age 0-4		715	8%	266
Age 0-17		2,162	24%	413
Age 18+		7,030	76%	779
Age 65+		1,638	18%	535

Table 2 – ACS 2016-2020 Summary Report (Source EPA EJSCREEN Tool).



EJSCREEN ACS Summary Report



Location: City: Denham Springs city
 Ring (buffer): 0-mile radius
 Description:

	2016 - 2020 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment			
Total	6,077	100%	817
Less than 9th Grade	222	4%	123
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	465	8%	218
High School Graduate	2,163	36%	588
Some College, No Degree	1,562	26%	249
Associate Degree	388	6%	237
Bachelor's Degree or more	1,278	21%	328
Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English			
Total	8,477	100%	1,050
Speak only English	7,647	90%	874
Non-English at Home ¹⁺²⁺³⁺⁴	830	10%	233
¹ Speak English "very well"	583	7%	231
² Speak English "well"	18	0%	53
³ Speak English "not well"	143	2%	137
⁴ Speak English "not at all"	86	1%	91
³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than well"	229	3%	164
²⁺³⁺⁴ Speak English "less than very well"	247	3%	164
Linguistically Isolated Households*			
Total	119	100%	97
Speak Spanish	119	100%	96
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	0	0%	14
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	0	0%	14
Speak Other Languages	0	0%	14
Households by Household Income			
Household Income Base	3,574	100%	524
< \$15,000	209	6%	106
\$15,000 - \$25,000	538	15%	262
\$25,000 - \$50,000	795	22%	491
\$50,000 - \$75,000	533	15%	217
\$75,000 +	1,499	42%	237
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure			
Total	3,574	100%	524
Owner Occupied	2,481	69%	531
Renter Occupied	1,093	31%	201
Employed Population Age 16+ Years			
Total	7,264	100%	836
In Labor Force	4,511	62%	493
Civilian Unemployed in Labor Force	354	5%	229
Not In Labor Force	2,753	38%	651

Table 2 – ACS 2016-2020 Summary Report (Source EPA EJSCREEN Tool).

4.11.3 Environmental Consequences

In compliance with E.O. 12898, the following key questions were addressed with regard to potential Environmental Justice concerns:

- Is there an impact caused by the proposed action? No
- Is the impact adverse? No
- Is the impact disproportionate? No
- Has an action been undertaken without considerable input by the affected low-income and/or minority community? No

Alternative 1 – No Action

The “No Action” Alternative would not involve the implementation of a federal program, policy, or activity. As a result, the community would be left without resilient affordable housing stock in areas at lower risk for flooding and in areas of higher opportunity which potentially could result in impacts to low-income or minority populations.

Alternative 3 – Relocation and New Construction of the DHSA Housing Authority Development at an Alternate Site (Preferred Alternative)

Implementation of Alternative 3 would have no disproportionately high adverse human health, economic, or social effects on minority or low-income populations as specified in E.O. 12898. In addition, input from the affected community (to include any low-income and/or minorities) will be solicited through the public notice process prior to finalization of this EA.

5 CONDITIONS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Based upon the studies, reviews, and consultations undertaken in this EA, several conditions must be met and mitigation measures taken by the Sub-recipient prior to and during project implementation:

1. The Sub-recipient must follow all applicable local, state, and federal laws, regulations, and requirements and obtain and comply with all required permits and approvals prior to initiating work.
2. If human bone or unmarked grave(s) are present within the project area, compliance with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (R.S. 8:671 et seq.) is required. The sub-recipient shall notify the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the remains are located within twenty-four hours of the discovery. The sub-recipient shall also notify FEMA and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology at 225-342-8170 within seventy-two hours of the discovery.

3. If during the course of work, archaeological artifacts (prehistoric or historic) are discovered, the sub-recipient shall stop work in the vicinity of the discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The sub-recipient shall inform their Public Assistance (PA) contacts at FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA Historic Preservation (HP) staff. The sub-recipient will not proceed with work until FEMA EHP completes consultation with the SHPO, and others as appropriate.
4. Sub-recipient must comply with all local, state, and federal requirements related to sediment control, disposal of solid waste, control and containment of spills, and discharge of surface runoff and/or stormwater from the site.
5. If the project results in a discharge to waters of the State, an LPDES permit may be required in accordance with the Clean Water Act and the Louisiana Clean Water Code. If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater. In order to minimize indirect impacts (erosion, sedimentation, dust, and other construction-related disturbances) to nearby waters of the U.S. and surrounding drainage areas, the contractor must ensure compliance with all local, state, and federal requirements related to sediment control, disposal of solid waste, control and containment of spills, and discharge of surface runoff and stormwater from the site. All documentation pertaining to these activities and Sub-recipient compliance with any conditions should be forwarded to LA GOHSEP and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files.
6. All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is recommended that the sub-recipient contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371 to determine if your proposed project requires a permit.
7. Per 44 C.F.R. § 9.11(d)(6), no project should be built to a floodplain management standard that is less protective than what the community has adopted in local ordinances through their participation in the NFIP. Per 44 C.F.R. § 9.11(d)(9), for the replacement of building contents, materials, and equipment, where possible disaster-proofing of the building and/or elimination of such future losses should occur by relocation of those building contents, materials, and equipment outside or above the base floodplain. The Sub-recipient is required to coordinate with the local floodplain administrator regarding floodplain permit(s) prior to the start of any activities. All coordination pertaining to these activities and Sub-recipient compliance with any conditions must be documented and copies forwarded to the LA GOHSEP and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files.
8. In order for to comply with FEMA floodplain requirements and to eligible for project funding, after construction of the proposed project and prior to FEMA project close-out, additional verification will be needed to ensure that proper coordination occurred regarding work within the floodplain. The following documentation will be required:

- a. A copy of the Post-Construction Elevation Certificate (EC) signed/sealed by licensed surveyor, engineer, or architect as well as the local floodplain administrator (LFA); or
 - b. If the post-construction EC is not signed by the local Floodplain Administrator, then a Certificate of Occupancy signed by the LFA or a letter from the local Floodplain Administrator stating the structure was built in compliance with the local floodplain ordinance.
9. All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.
 10. If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.

6 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The public is invited to comment on the proposed action. The draft EA and draft FONSI were available for review at the City of Denham Springs Office of Planning and Development at 116 North Range Avenue, Denham Springs, Louisiana 70726 (hours of operation are Monday – Thursday 7:00 am – 5:30 pm, Friday – Sunday closed) and the Denham Springs – Walker Library at 8101 U.S. Highway 190, Denham Springs, Louisiana 70726 (hours of operation are Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 9:00 pm, Friday and Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, closed on Sunday). A display ad was published in *The Livingston Parish News*, the paper of record for Livingston Parish, on Thursday October 26, 2023; Thursday, November 2, 2023; Thursday, November 9, 2023; and in *The Advocate* on Thursday October 26, 2023; Friday, October 27, 2023; Monday, October 30, 2023. The documents were available for download from FEMA's website and the Denham Spring Housing Authority website at <http://www.denhamspringshousingauthority.org/>. There was thirty (30) day comment period, beginning on Thursday October 26, 2023 and concluding on Monday, November 27, 2023.

A copy of the Public Notice is attached in Appendix G.

7 CONCLUSIONS

The findings of this EA conclude that the proposed action at the proposed site would result in no significant adverse impacts to the natural and human environment, including geology, groundwater, floodplains, public health and safety, traffic, hazardous materials, socioeconomic and biological resources, environmental justice, or cultural resources.

During project construction, short-term impacts to soils, surface water, transportation, air quality, and noise are anticipated and conditions have been incorporated to mitigate and minimize the effects (see Section 6, Conditions and Mitigation Measures). No long-term adverse impacts are anticipated from the proposed project. Therefore, FEMA finds the proposed action meets the requirements for a FONSI under NEPA and the preparation of an EIS will not be required.

8 AGENCY COORDINATION

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office

Tribal Historic Preservation Office and/or Cultural Offices

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

National Marine Fisheries Service

National Resources Conservation Service

9 LIST OF PREPARERS

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Appendix Summaries

Appendix A: Site Photographs

This Appendix includes the site photographs. There are 18 photographs of the interior and exterior of various existing structures of the Denham Springs Housing project, as well as photographs of the proposed relocated site of the Denham Springs Housing Authority project.

Appendix B: Conceptual Design Layout

This Appendix includes the conceptual designs and site plans for the new Denham Springs Housing buildings. There are 9 site plans, conceptual and computer aided drawings of the new Denham Springs Housing Authority project and its location.

Appendix C: Agency Correspondence

This Appendix includes the correspondence to and from other government agencies. These include emails from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to FEMA with no objections to the Denham Springs Housing Authority project. Another email is from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to Mr. David Templet (Professional Wetland Scientist and President of D and S Environmental Services) with a Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination, map and its forms attached. USACE determined that there are wetland and non-wetland waters present on the proposed Denham Springs Housing Authority project site that will require a Department of the Army (DA) permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. Lastly, a Consistency Letter obtained from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) with a “No Effect” Determination in regards to the Red-cockaded Woodpecker for the proposed Denham Springs Housing Authority is included as well.

Appendix D: Reports and Assessments

This Appendix includes the reports and assessments. This includes an assessment from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) regarding possible pollutants as a result of the proposed Denham Springs Housing Authority project. Livingston Parish is classified as a maintenance area with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. FEMA requested a list of road and non-road vehicles that will be used for the duration of the project to calculate the estimated quantity VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) and NOx (Nitrogen Oxides) emissions. We submitted the findings to the LDEQ for concurrence. In an email dated August 25, 2023, the LDEQ responded with no objections based on the information provided in our submittal. The general conformity determination results were less than the de minimis levels. There is also the Wetland Analysis Report, along with figures and maps, from D and S Environmental Services of April 2023 that concludes that the proposed Denham Springs Housing Authority project site does not contain jurisdictional wetlands but does contain 0.31 acre of “Other waters of the U.S.” that will require a Department of the Army (DA) permit prior to any dredge/fill activity.

Appendix E: Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination

This Appendix includes the Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination. This includes an email from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to Mr. David Templet (Professional Wetland Scientist and President of D and S Environmental Services) with a Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination, map and its forms attached. USACE determined that there are wetland and non-wetland waters present on the proposed Denham Springs Housing Authority project site that will require a Department of the Army (DA) permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S.

Appendix A
Site Photographs



Photo 1. View of existing DSHA administrative building at located at original facility at 600 Eugene Street.



Photo 2. View of existing damaged duplex housing unit # 130.



Photo 3. View of interior of damaged housing unit.



Photo 4. View of interior of damaged housing unit.



Photo 5. View of interior of damaged housing unit.



Photo 6. View of interior of damaged housing unit



Photo 7. View of existing damaged courtyard at housing building # 102.



Photo 8. View of interior of damaged housing unit



Photo 9. View of interior of damaged housing unit



Photo 10. View of interior of damaged housing unit



Photo 11. View of existing damaged courtyard at housing building # 102.



Photo 12. View of damaged maintenance shed building.



Photo 13. View of Proposed DSHA New Construction Site.



Photo 14. View of Proposed DSHA New Construction Site.



Photo 15. View of Proposed DSHA New Construction Site (Thompson Funeral Home in distant background).



Photo 16. View of Proposed DSHA New Construction Site.



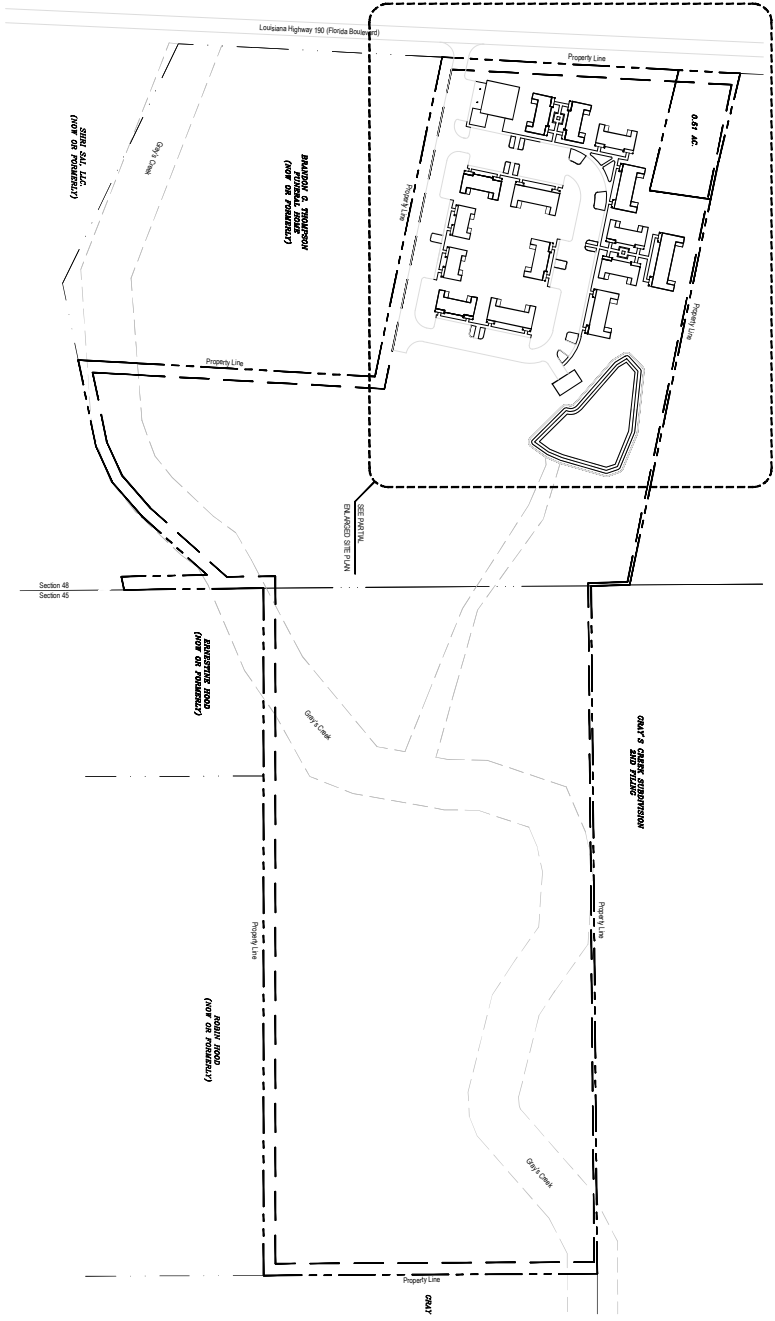
Photo 17. View of Proposed DSHA New Construction Site.



Photo 18. View of Proposed DSHA New Construction Site (Thompson Funeral Home in background).

Appendix B
Conceptual Design Layout

OVERALL SITE PLAN
 Scale: 1" = 300'-0"
 11-14-2022



1	REVISION	DATE
DESIGNER	DATE	DRAWN BY

REVISION	DATE

Denham Springs Housing

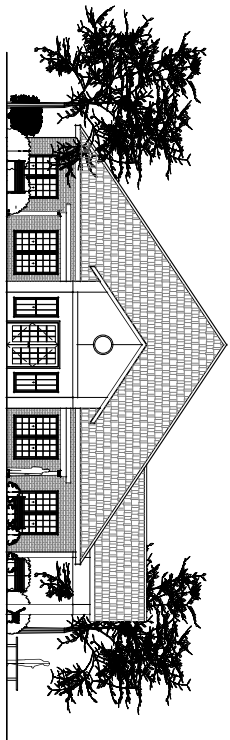
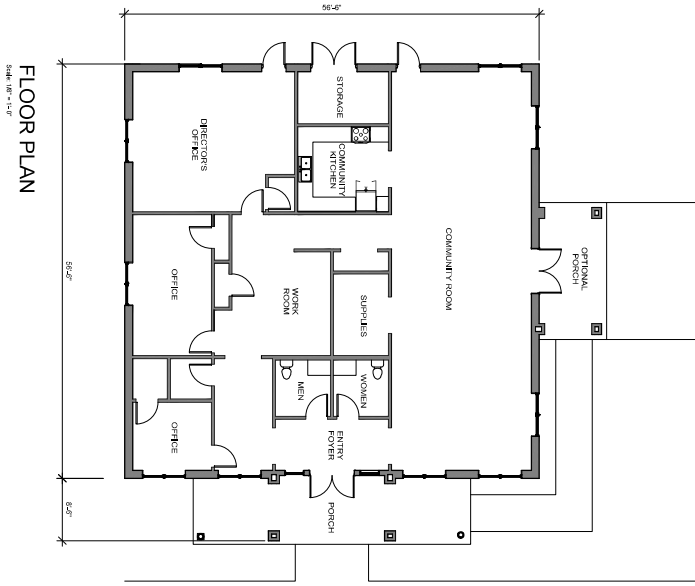
DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA

ALVIN FAIRBURN & ASSOCIATES, LLC
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS
 LAND SURVEYORS & DESIGNERS
 LAND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS

1289 DEL ESTE AVENUE
 DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA 70726 (225) 665-1515



OFFICE / COMMUNITY CENTER



PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

FLOOR PLAN
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

3	OWNER	DATE	DESIGNED BY
	PROGRAM	DATE	DRAWN BY
	NO. REVISIONS	DATE	CHECKED BY
	PROJECT	DATE	DATE

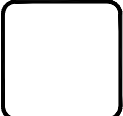
REVISIONS	DATE

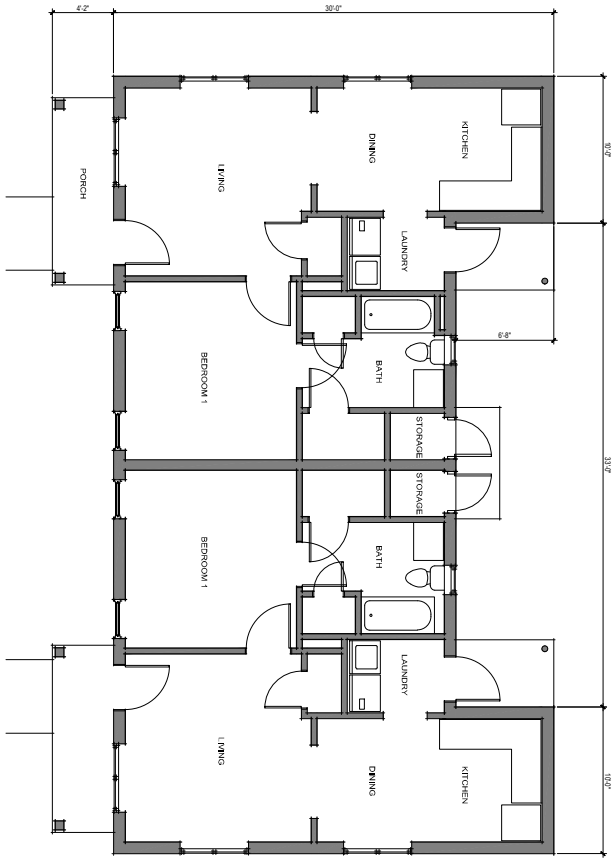
Denham Springs Housing

DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA

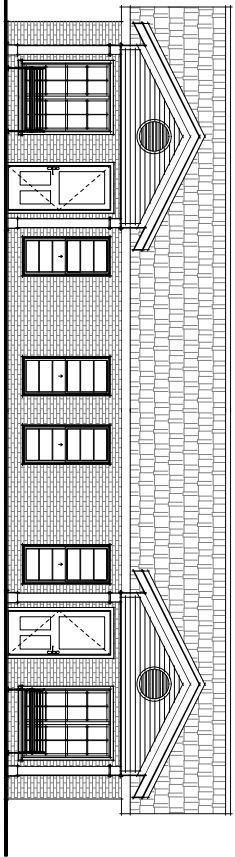


ALVIN FAIRBURN & ASSOCIATES, LLC
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS
 LAND SURVEYORS & DESIGNERS
 LAND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS
 1389 DEL ESTE AVENUE
 DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA 70726 (225) 665-1515



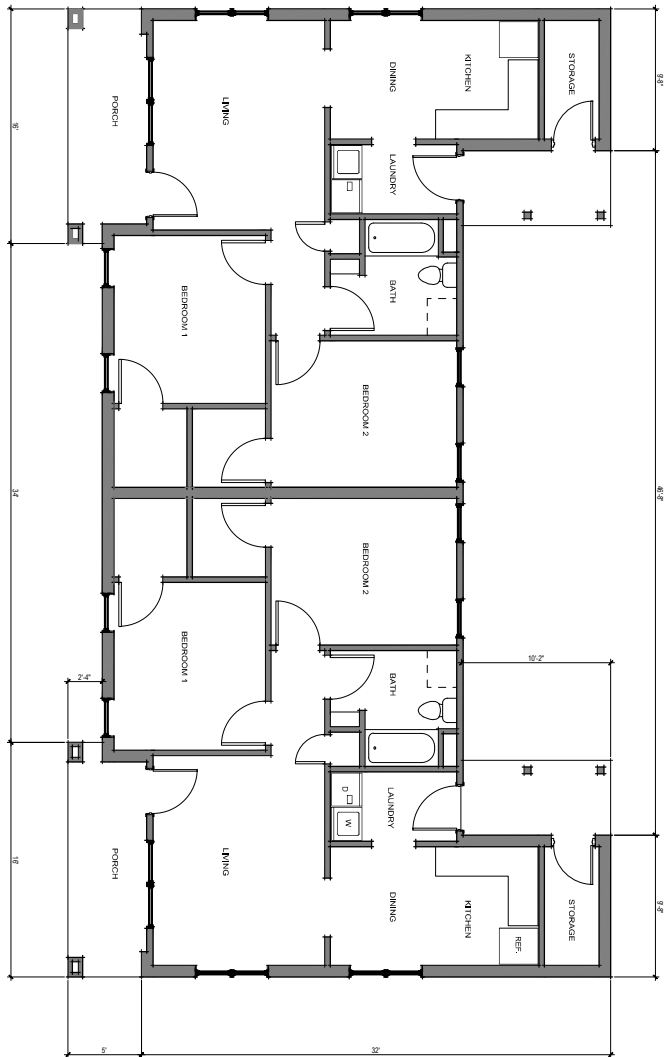


FLOOR PLAN
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

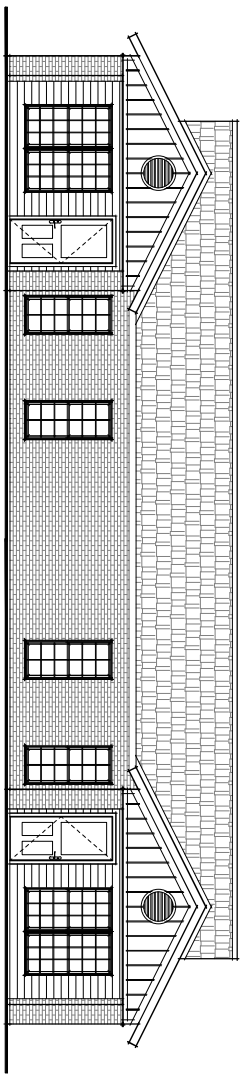


PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

1 BEDROOM UNIT

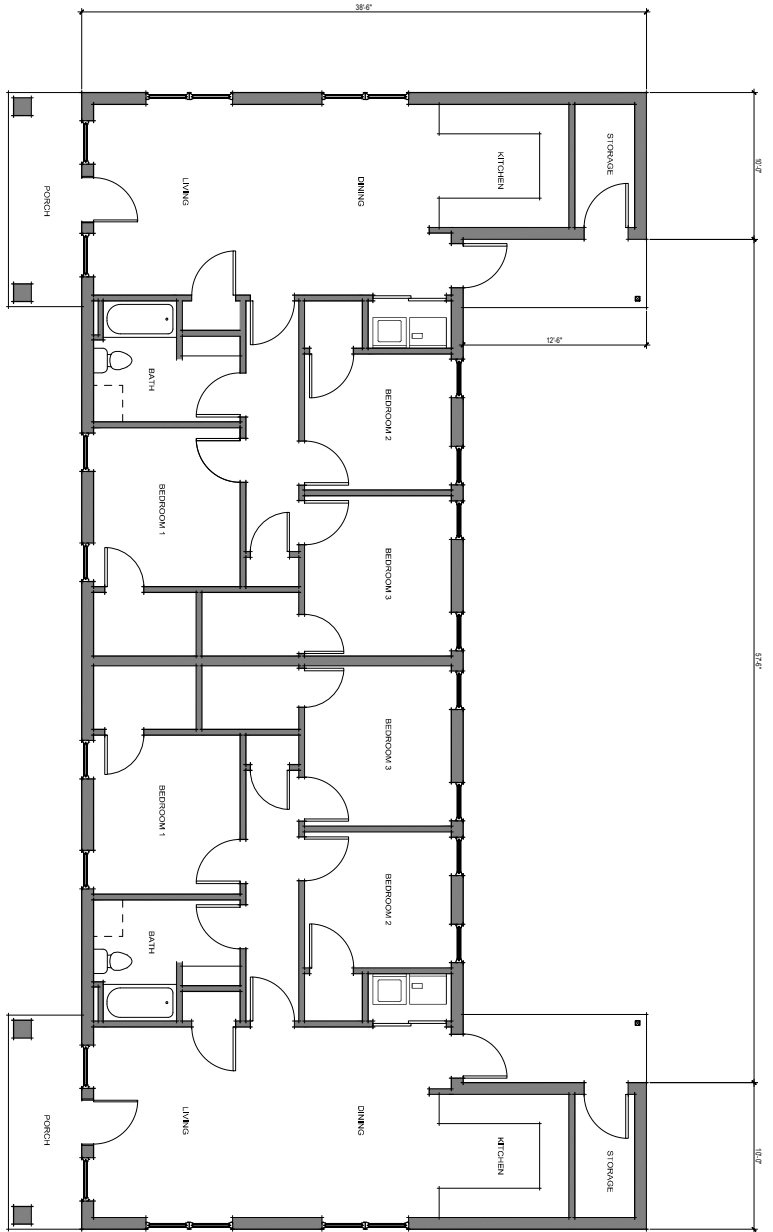


FLOOR PLAN
 2/24/16 1/4" = 1'-0"

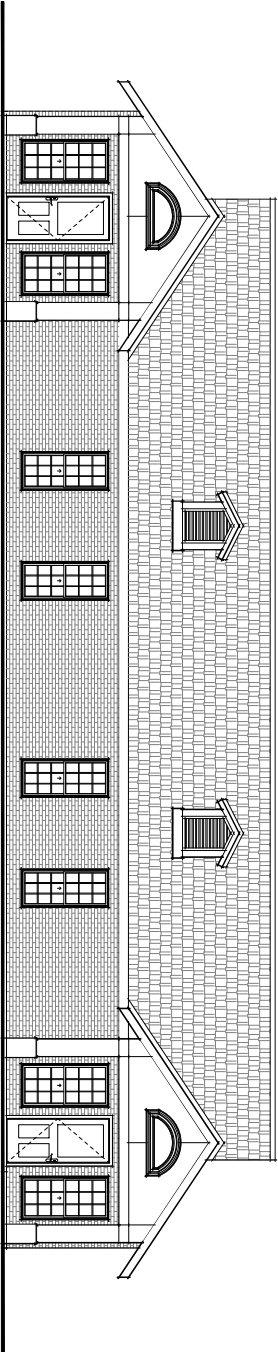


PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION
 2/24/16 1/4" = 1'-0"

2 BEDROOM UNIT



FLOOR PLAN
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"



PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

3 BEDROOM UNIT

DATE	DESIGNED BY
PROGRAM	DRAWN BY
AMENDED	CHECKED BY
NO.	DATE
SHEET NO.	

REVISION	DATE

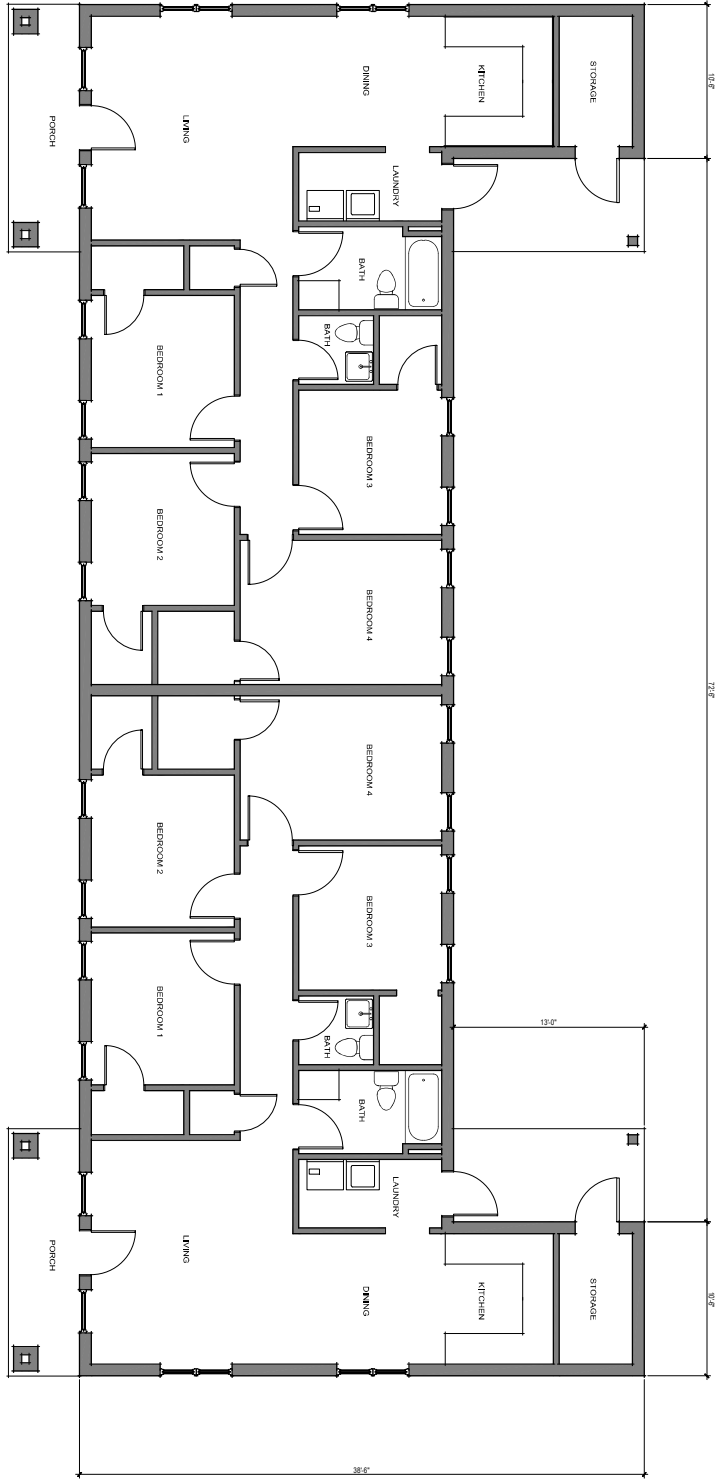
Denham Springs Housing

DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA

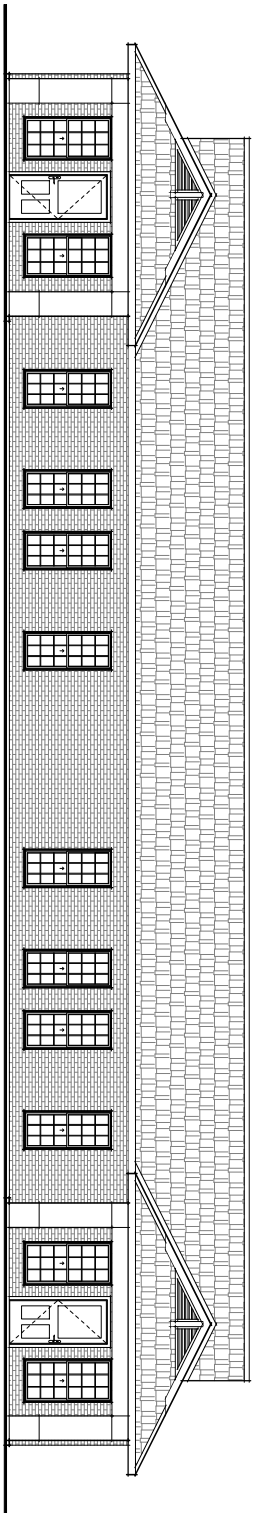


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 LAND SURVEYORS & DESIGNERS
 LAND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS
 1389 DEL ESTE AVENUE
 DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA 70726 (225) 665-1515





FLOOR PLAN
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"



PROPOSED FRONT ELEVATION
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"

4 BEDROOM UNIT

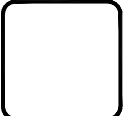
7	REVISIONS	DATE
DRAWN BY	DATE	

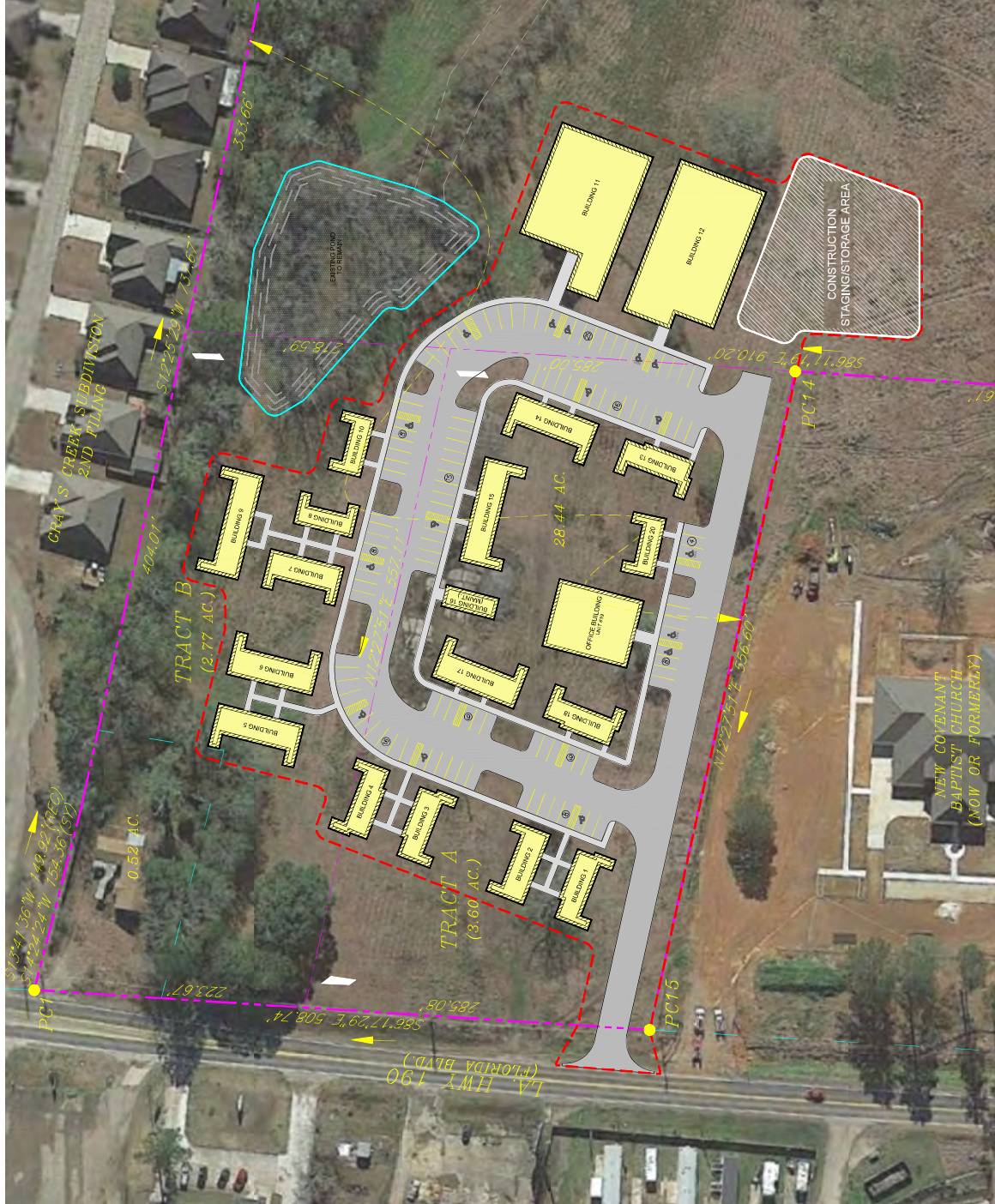
Denham Springs Housing

DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA



ALVIN FAIRBURN & ASSOCIATES, LLC
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS
 LAND SURVEYORS & DESIGNERS
 LAND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS
 1289 DEL ESTE AVENUE
 DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA 70726 (225) 665-1515





LEGEND

- PROPERTY LINE
- LIMITS OF CONSTRUCTION
- PROPOSED PAVEMENT
- PROPOSED SIDEWALK
- PROPOSED BUILDING

DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

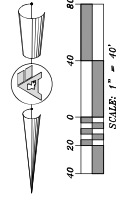
TOTAL SITE AREA: ±29.5 AC.
 ZONING: NONE
 SETBACKS: FRONT-25', SIDE-7', REAR-20'
 NUMBER OF BUILDINGS: ±20
 NUMBER OF UNITS: ±52
 TOTAL BUILDING AREA: ±42,500 SF
 PROPOSED UNITS:
 1 BR - 26
 2 BR - 16
 3 BR - 8
 4 BR - 2

PARKING SPACES REQ'D: 104 (2 SP/UNIT)
 PARKING SPACES PROP: 120
 ADA SPACES REQUIRED: 5
 ADA SPACES PROPOSED: 15

EXISTING SITE USE: VACANT
 PREVIOUS SITE USE: MOBILE HOME PARK

PROPERTY CORNER COORDINATES

LOCATION	NORTHING	EASTING
PC1	721725.117	3405841.201
PC2	720854.0307	3405649.425
PC3	720852.6838	3405583.664
PC4	719680.1894	3405589.481
PC5	719679.5107	3405020.743
PC6	720851.0139	3405025.277
PC7	720846.9041	3404787.337
PC8	720871.5492	3404782.87
PC9	720873.8626	3404929.007
PC10	720974.2989	3404818.463
PC11	721033.8974	3404767.239
PC12	721094.8797	3404740.059
PC13	721241.8293	3404710.877
PC14	721210.7006	3405216.537
PC15	721754.907	3405333.33



DENHAM SPRINGS HOUSING AUTHORITY CONCEPTUAL SITE LAYOUT - US HWY 190

ALVIN FAIRBURN & ASSOCIATES, LLC
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS - LAND SURVEYORS
 LAND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS -
 PROJECT DESIGNERS
 1110 SOUTH RANGE AVENUE
 DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA, 70221-1173 (225) 665-1515



AE&F-A170012

Appendix C
Agency Correspondence

From: [Spann, Tiffany](#)
To: [Marissa Jimenez](#); [Hadden, Shalise](#)
Cc: [DEQ SOV](#); [Vivian \(Aucoin\) Johnson \(DEQ\)](#); [Keith Horn](#); [Carey Dicharry](#)
Subject: RE: DEQ SOV# 230821/0685(duplicate230127/0035) Construction of Housing Facility on Florida Boulevard (State Highway 190) - Denham Springs Housing Facility of 20 Bldgs.
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:13:04 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Received, thank you!

Tiffany Spann-Winfield
Environmental Liaison Officer | EHP | FEMA Region VI
Mobile: (504) 218-6800
tiffany.spann@fema.dhs.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency
fema.gov



From: Marissa Jimenez <Marissa.Jimenez@LA.GOV>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 4:27 PM
To: Spann, Tiffany <Tiffany.Spann@fema.dhs.gov>; Hadden, Shalise <shalise.hadden@fema.dhs.gov>
Cc: DEQ SOV <DEQSOV@LA.GOV>; Vivian (Aucoin) Johnson (DEQ) <Vivian.Johnson2@la.gov>; Keith Horn <Keith.Horn@LA.GOV>; Carey Dicharry <Carey.Dicharry@LA.GOV>
Subject: DEQ SOV# 230821/0685(duplicate230127/0035) Construction of Housing Facility on Florida Boulevard (State Highway 190) - Denham Springs Housing Facility of 20 Bldgs.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Please select the Phish Alert Report button on the top right of your screen to report this email if it is unsolicited or suspicious in nature.

August 25, 2023

Tiffany Spann-Winfield, Lead Environmental Protection Specialist
FEMA-FMA 2019
Region VI - Louisiana Recovery Office
1500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Tiffany.Spann@fema.dhs.gov

Construction of Housing Facility on Florida Boulevard (State Highway 190) - Denham Springs Housing Facility of 20 Bldgs.

RE: 230821/0685(duplicate230127/0035)

FEMA Funding
Livingston Parish

Dear Ms. Spann-Winfield:

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) has received your request for comments on the above referenced project.

After reviewing your request, the Department has no objections based on the information provided in your submittal. However, for your information, the following general comments have been included. Please be advised that if you should encounter a problem during the implementation of this project, you should immediately notify LDEQ's Single-Point-of-contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640.

- Please take any necessary steps to obtain and/or update all necessary approvals and environmental permits regarding this proposed project.
- If your project results in a discharge to waters of the state, submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) application may be necessary.

- If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is recommended that you contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-3590 to determine if your proposed project requires a permit.
- If your project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit is required. An application form or Notice of Intent will need to be submitted if the sludge management practice includes preparing biosolids for land application or preparing sewage sludge to be hauled to a landfill. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <https://deq.louisiana.gov/page/sewage-biosolids> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 3590.
- If any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps directly regarding permitting issues. If a Corps permit is required, part of the application process may involve a water quality certification from LDEQ.
- All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.
- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if your water system improvements include water softeners, you are advised to contact the LDEQ Water Permits to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.
- **It seems that this project involves residential construction in an suburban area, and historic land uses have not been identified in the submittal. It is therefore advised that a site-specific environmental assessment be performed to address specific environmental concerns, and provide for worker safety.**
- ***If any underground storage tanks are encountered during the project, they must be managed in accordance with LAC Title 33:Part XI of the Environmental Regulatory Code. <http://deq.louisiana.gov/resources/category/regulations-lac-title-33>***

Currently, Livingston Parish is classified as a maintenance area with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. However, since your general conformity determination shows that the proposed VOC and NOx emissions will be less than the *de minimis* levels, the Department has no objections to implementation of this project.

Please send all Solicitation of Views (SOVs) requests and questions to SOVs@la.gov.

Sincerely,

Marissa Jimenez

Environmental Scientist Manager

LDEQ Office of the Secretary

Outreach and Small Business Assistance

225-219-3963

January 27, 2023

LeSchina Holmes
FEMA LIRO
1500 Main Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RE: Scoping Notification/Solicitation of Views
Construction of Housing Facility on Florida Boulevard (State Highway 190)
Denham Springs Housing Authority, Denham Springs, Livingston Parish, Louisiana
FEMA Public Assistance Program, PW #1061 Version 3, FEMA-DR-4277-LA

LeSchina:

I have reviewed the above referenced project for potential requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) and potential impact to Natural Resources Conservation Service projects in the immediate vicinity.

Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a federal agency or with assistance from a federal agency. For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements can be forest land, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

The project map and narrative submitted with your request indicates that the proposed construction area is in an urban area and therefore is exempt from the rules and regulations of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)—Subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549. Furthermore, we do not predict impacts to NRCS work in the vicinity. For specific information about the soils found in the project area, please visit our Web Soil Survey at the following location: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Please direct all future correspondence to me at the address shown below.

Respectfully,



Brandon Waltman
Assistant State Soil Scientist

Attachment



Natural Resources Conservation Service
State Office
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302
Voice: (337) 290-4720 Fax: (844) 325-6947

Helping People Help the Land

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Date Of Land Evaluation Request <i>1/27/23</i>
Name Of Project <i>Construction of Housing Facility on Florida Blvd, D</i>	Federal Agency Involved <i>FEMA</i>
Proposed Land Use <i>Construction of a 20 unit housing facility</i>	County And State <i>Livingston Parish, Louisiana</i>

PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Request Received By NRCS <i>1/27/23</i>	
Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? <i>(If no, the FPPA does not apply -- do not complete additional parts of this form).</i>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Acres Irrigated	Average Farm Size
Major Crop(s)	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: %	Amount Of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %	
Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	Name Of Local Site Assessment System	Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS 1/27/23	

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)	Alternative Site Rating			
	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly				
C. Total Acres In Site	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland				
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland				
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted				
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value				

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted <i>(Scale of 0 to 100 Points)</i>	0	0	0
---	---	---	---

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria <i>(These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(b))</i>	Maximum Points				
1. Area In Nonurban Use					
2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use					
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed					
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government					
5. Distance From Urban Builtup Area					
6. Distance To Urban Support Services					
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average					
8. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland					
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services					
10. On-Farm Investments					
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services					
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use					
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	0	0	0	0

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)				
Relative Value Of Farmland <i>(From Part V)</i>	100	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment <i>(From Part VI above or a local site assessment)</i>	160	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	260	0	0	0

Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
----------------	-------------------	---

Reason For Selection:



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office
200 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506
Phone: (337) 291-3100 Fax: (337) 291-3139

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2023-0116327
Project Name: Denham Springs Housing Authority EA

August 14, 2023

Subject: Consistency letter for the project named 'Denham Springs Housing Authority EA' for specified threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location pursuant to the Louisiana Endangered Species Act project review and guidance for other federal trust resources determination key (Louisiana DKey).

Dear Shalise Hadden:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received on August 14, 2023 your effects determination(s) for the 'Denham Springs Housing Authority EA' (the Action) using the Louisiana DKey within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system. The Service developed this system in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Based on your answers, and the assistance in the Service's Louisiana DKey, you made the following effect determination(s) for the proposed Action:

Species	Listing Status	Determination
Red-cockaded Woodpecker (<i>Picoides borealis</i>)	Endangered	No effect

Your agency has met consultation requirements for these species by informing the Service of the "no effect" determinations. No further consultation for this project is required for these species. This consistency letter confirms you may rely on effect determinations you reached by considering the Louisiana DKey to satisfy agency consultation requirements under Section 7(a) (2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.; ESA).

The Service recommends that your agency contact the Service or re-evaluate the project in IPaC if: 1) the scope or location of the proposed project is changed significantly, 2) new information reveals that the action may affect listed species or designated critical habitat; 3) the action is modified in a manner that causes effects to listed species or designated critical habitat; or 4) a new species is listed or critical habitat designated. If any of the above conditions occurs,

additional consultation should take place before project changes are final or resources committed.

This IPaC-generated letter only applies to the species in the above table and **does not** apply to the following ESA-protected species that also may occur in the Action Area:

- Alligator Snapping Turtle *Macrochelys temminckii* Proposed Threatened
- Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Candidate

Please Note: If the Federal Action may impact bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) (54 Stat. 250, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 668a-d) may be required. Please contact Ulgonda Kirkpatrick (phone: 321/972-9089, e-mail: ulgonda_kirkpatrick@fws.gov) with any questions regarding potential impacts to bald or golden eagles.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

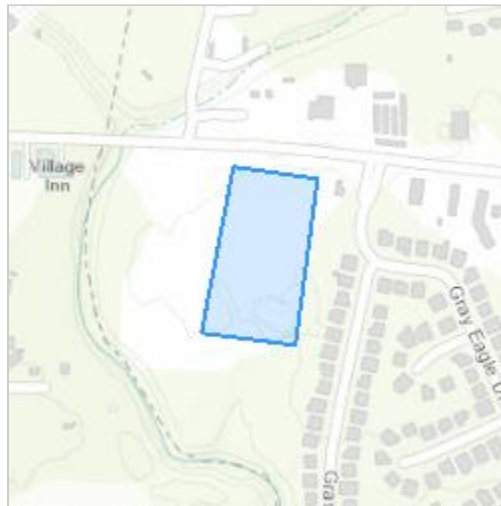
Denham Springs Housing Authority EA

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Denham Springs Housing Authority EA':

The Denham Springs Housing Authority (DSHA), suffered flood related damages to its facilities located at 600 Eugene Street in Denham Springs, LA. The entire housing complex suffered substantial damages during the August 2016 flood event. The existing DHS facility will be relocated to a new site which is outside the of the designated flood zone. The new site is located on Florida Boulevard Highway approximately 1.5 miles from the original DSHA location located (approximate address), Denham Springs, Louisiana 70726 (Lat/Long: 30.483039, -90.937535).

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@30.483001,-90.93767196454777,14z>



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Is the action authorized, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency?

Yes

2. Is the action authorized, funded, or being carried out by the:

b. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

3. Please identify your agency or organization type:

a. Federal agency

4. Have you determined that the project will have "no effect" on federally listed species? (If unsure select "No")

No

5. [Hidden Semantic] Does the project intersect the red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW) AOI?

Automatically answered

Yes

6. Will the project involve removal of suitable RCW foraging habitat (pine or pine/hardwood stands in which 50 percent or more of the dominant trees are pines and the dominant pine trees are 30 years of age or older)?

No

7. Will the project occur within suitable RCW nesting habitat (pine or pine/hardwood stands that contain pines 60 years of age or older)?

No

8. [Hidden Semantic] Does the project intersect the pink mucket mussel AOI ?

Automatically answered

No

9. (Semantic) Does the project intersect the Louisiana black bear Range?

Automatically answered

No

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Name: Shalise Hadden

Address: 1500 Main St

City: Baton Rouge

State: LA

Zip: 70802

Email: shalishadden@gmail.com

Phone: 2023049096

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Denham Springs city



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
7400 LEAKE AVE
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118-3651

June 28, 2023

Regulatory Division
Jurisdiction and Enforcement Branch

Mr. David C. Templet
D & S Environmental Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 510
French Settlement, Louisiana 70733

Dear Mr. Templet:

Reference is made to your request, on behalf of Denham Springs Housing Authority, for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) jurisdictional determination on property located in Section 48, Township 6 South, Range 3 East, Livingston Parish, Louisiana (enclosed map). Specifically, this property is identified as an 8.38 - acre site on and south of U.S. HWY 190 and just east of Grays Creek located in Denham Springs.

Based on review of recent maps, aerial photography, soils data, the delineation report provided with your request, and previous determinations, we have determined that part of the property contains wetlands and non-wetland waters that may be subject to Corps' jurisdiction. The approximate limits of the wetlands and non-wetland waters are designated in red and blue, respectively, on the map. A Department of the Army (DA) permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will be required prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S.

The delineation included herein has been conducted to identify the location and extent of the aquatic resources for purposes of the Clean Water Act for the particular site identified in this request. This delineation may not be valid for the Wetland Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended. If you or your tenant are USDA program participants, or anticipate participation in USDA programs, you should discuss the applicability of an NRCS Certified Wetland Determination with the local USDA service center, prior to starting work.

You and your client are advised that this preliminary jurisdictional determination is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of this letter unless new information warrants revision prior to the expiration date. Additionally, this determination is only valid for the identified project or individual(s) only and is not to be used for decision-making by any other individual or entity.

Should there be any questions concerning these matters, please contact Mr. Michael Windham at (504) 862-1235 and reference our Account No. MVN-2023-00521-SK. If you have specific questions regarding the permit process or permit applications, please contact our Central Evaluation Branch at (504) 862-1581.

Sincerely,
William R. Nethery
for Martin S. Mayer
Chief, Regulatory Division

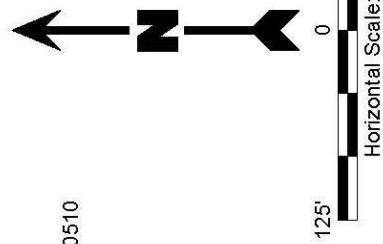
Digitally signed by
William R. Nethery
Date: 2023.06.28
12:29:40 -05'00'

Enclosures




MAP APPROVED BY:
 David C. Temple, Jr., PWS, RF
 President/Professional Wetland
 Scientist/Registered Forester

D&S Environmental Services, Inc.
 P.O. Box 510
 French Settlement, Louisiana 70733-0510
 Business: 225-698-3552
 Mobile: 225-413-4317

WETLAND AREA & ACREAGE TABLE	
AREA	ACREAGE
A	0.08



USACE
 IH 6/1/23
 MICHAEL WINDHAM
 FOR TEMPLET
 ACCOUNT # MVN-2023-00521-SK

-  -PROJECT AREA (8.07-ACRES)
-  - NON-WETLAND WATERS (0.23-ACRES)
-  - WETLAND (0.08-ACRES)

Denham Springs Housing Authority
 U.S. Hwy 190 Property

Jurisdictional Wetlands Map
 Livingston Parish, Louisiana

D & S ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.

Project No.: 05-2023-JDM Date: 2023.04.04 Figure No.: 2



PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (PJD) FORM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR PJD: June 28, 2023

B. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON REQUESTING PJD:

Templet, David, C.
D&S Environmental Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 510
French Settlement, Louisiana 70733

C. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: MVN-2023-00521-SK

D. PROJECT LOCATION(S) AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

(USE THE TABLE BELOW TO DOCUMENT MULTIPLE AQUATIC RESOURCES AND/OR AQUATIC RESOURCES AT DIFFERENT SITES)

State: Louisiana County/parish/borough: Livingston Parish City: Denham Springs

Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format):

Lat.: 30.483125° Long.: -90.937528°

Universal Transverse Mercator: 15N

Name of nearest waterbody: N/A

E. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

Office (Desk) Determination. Date: 6/1/23

Field Determination. Date(s):

TABLE OF AQUATIC RESOURCES IN REVIEW AREA WHICH "MAY BE" SUBJECT TO REGULATORY JURISDICTION.

Site number	Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)	Estimated amount of aquatic resource in review area (acreage and linear feet, if applicable)	Type of aquatic resource (i.e., wetland vs. non-wetland waters)	Geographic authority to which the aquatic resource "may be" subject (i.e., Section 404 or Section 10/404)
WET	30.4815	-90.9379	0.08-acres	wetland	404
WAT	30.4822	-90.9374	0.23-acres	non-wetland water	404

SUPPORTING DATA. Data reviewed for PJD (check all that apply)

Checked items should be included in subject file. Appropriately reference sources below where indicated for all checked items:

- Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the PJD requestor:
Map: _____.
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the PJD requestor.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report. Rationale: _____.
- Data sheets prepared by the Corps: _____.
- Corps navigable waters' study: _____.
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: _____.
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: Denham Springs, 1:24,000.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: NRCS WSS.
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: ORM2 (NWI mapper).
- State/local wetland inventory map(s): _____.
- FEMA/FIRM maps: _____.
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: _____. (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): 1998,2004,2005,2006,2008,2009,2013,2015,2017 Ar
or Other (Name & Date): Google Earth Pro.
- Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: _____.
- Other information (please specify): LA LIDAR.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The information recorded on this form has not necessarily been verified by the Corps and should not be relied upon for later jurisdictional determinations.

Michael
Windham

Signature and date of
Regulatory staff member
completing PJD

Digitally signed by Michael
Windham
Date: 2023.06.20 08:40:18
-05'00'

David Templet (request) - 4/7/23

Signature and date of
person requesting PJD
(REQUIRED, unless obtaining
the signature is impracticable)¹

¹ Districts may establish timeframes for requestor to return signed PJD forms. If the requestor does not respond within the established time frame, the district may presume concurrence and no additional follow up is necessary prior to finalizing an action.

- 1) The Corps of Engineers believes that there may be jurisdictional aquatic resources in the review area, and the requestor of this PJD is hereby advised of his or her option to request and obtain an approved JD (AJD) for that review area based on an informed decision after having discussed the various types of JDs and their characteristics and circumstances when they may be appropriate.
- 2) In any circumstance where a permit applicant obtains an individual permit, or a Nationwide General Permit (NWP) or other general permit verification requiring "pre-construction notification" (PCN), or requests verification for a non-reporting NWP or other general permit, and the permit applicant has not requested an AJD for the activity, the permit applicant is hereby made aware that: (1) the permit applicant has elected to seek a permit authorization based on a PJD, which does not make an official determination of jurisdictional aquatic resources; (2) the applicant has the option to request an AJD before accepting the terms and conditions of the permit authorization, and that basing a permit authorization on an AJD could possibly result in less compensatory mitigation being required or different special conditions; (3) the applicant has the right to request an individual permit rather than accepting the terms and conditions of the NWP or other general permit authorization; (4) the applicant can accept a permit authorization and thereby agree to comply with all the terms and conditions of that permit, including whatever mitigation requirements the Corps has determined to be necessary; (5) undertaking any activity in reliance upon the subject permit authorization without requesting an AJD constitutes the applicant's acceptance of the use of the PJD; (6) accepting a permit authorization (e.g., signing a proffered individual permit) or undertaking any activity in reliance on any form of Corps permit authorization based on a PJD constitutes agreement that all aquatic resources in the review area affected in any way by that activity will be treated as jurisdictional, and waives any challenge to such jurisdiction in any administrative or judicial compliance or enforcement action, or in any administrative appeal or in any Federal court; and (7) whether the applicant elects to use either an AJD or a PJD, the JD will be processed as soon as practicable. Further, an AJD, a proffered individual permit (and all terms and conditions contained therein), or individual permit denial can be administratively appealed pursuant to 33 C.F.R. Part 331. If, during an administrative appeal, it becomes appropriate to make an official determination whether geographic jurisdiction exists over aquatic resources in the review area, or to provide an official delineation of jurisdictional aquatic resources in the review area, the Corps will provide an AJD to accomplish that result, as soon as is practicable. This PJD finds that there "*may be*" waters of the U.S. and/or that there "*may be*" navigable waters of the U.S. on the subject review area, and identifies all aquatic features in the review area that could be affected by the proposed activity, based on the following information:

NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL OPTIONS AND PROCESS AND REQUEST FOR APPEAL

Applicant: David C. Templet	File Number: MVN-2023-00521-SK	June 28, 2023
Attached is:		See Section below
<input type="checkbox"/>	INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERMIT DENIAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERMIT DENIAL WITH PREJUDICE	D
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	E
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	F

SECTION I

The following identifies your rights and options regarding an administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at <https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/appeals/> or Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.

A: INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or object to the permit

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **OBJECT:** If you object to the permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may request that the permit be modified accordingly. You must complete Section II of this form and return the form to the district engineer. Upon receipt of your letter, the district engineer will evaluate your objections and may: (a) modify the permit to address all of your concerns, (b) modify the permit to address some of your objections, or (c) not modify the permit having determined that the permit should be issued as previously written. After evaluating your objections, the district engineer will send you a proffered permit for your reconsideration, as indicated in Section B below.

B: PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or appeal the permit

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **APPEAL:** If you choose to decline the proffered permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may appeal the declined permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

C. PERMIT DENIAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE: Not appealable

You received a permit denial without prejudice because a required Federal, state, and/or local authorization and/or certification has been denied for activities which also require a Department of the Army permit before final action has been taken on the Army permit application. The permit denial without prejudice is not appealable. There is no prejudice to the right of the applicant to reinstate processing of the Army permit application if subsequent approval is received from the appropriate Federal, state, and/or local agency on a previously denied authorization and/or certification.

D: PERMIT DENIAL WITH PREJUDICE: You may appeal the permit denial

You may appeal the denial of a permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

E: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept or appeal the approved JD or provide new information for reconsideration

- **ACCEPT:** You do not need to notify the Corps to accept an approved JD. Failure to notify the Corps within 60 days of the date of this notice means that you accept the approved JD in its entirety and waive all rights to appeal the approved JD.
- **APPEAL:** If you disagree with the approved JD, you may appeal the approved JD under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.
- **RECONSIDERATION:** You may request that the district engineer reconsider the approved JD by submitting new information or data to the district engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice. The district will determine whether the information submitted qualifies as new information or data that justifies reconsideration of the approved JD. A reconsideration request does not initiate the appeal process. You may submit a request for appeal to the division engineer to preserve your appeal rights while the district is determining whether the submitted information qualifies for a reconsideration.

F: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: Not appealable

You do not need to respond to the Corps regarding the preliminary JD. The Preliminary JD is not appealable. If you wish, you may request an approved JD (which may be appealed), by contacting the Corps district for further instruction. Also, you may provide new information for further consideration by the Corps to reevaluate the JD.

POINT OF CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION:

If you have questions regarding this decision you may contact:

William Nethery
Chief, Jurisdiction and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
7400 Leake Avenue New Orleans, LA 70118
(504) 862-1267

If you have questions regarding the appeal process, or to submit your request for appeal, you may contact:

Brian Oberlies
Administrative Appeals Review Officer
Mississippi Valley Division
P.O. Box 80 (1400 Walnut Street)
Vicksburg, MS 39181-0080
(601) 634-5820 FAX: (601) 634-5816

SECTION II – REQUEST FOR APPEAL or OBJECTIONS TO AN INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT

REASONS FOR APPEAL OR OBJECTIONS: (Describe your reasons for appealing the decision or your objections to an initial proffered permit in clear concise statements. Use additional pages as necessary. You may attach additional information to this form to clarify where your reasons or objections are addressed in the administrative record.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The appeal is limited to a review of the administrative record, the Corps memorandum for the record of the appeal conference or meeting, and any supplemental information that the review officer has determined is needed to clarify the administrative record. Neither the appellant nor the Corps may add new information or analyses to the record. However, you may provide additional information to clarify the location of information that is already in the administrative record.

RIGHT OF ENTRY: Your signature below grants the right of entry to Corps of Engineers personnel, and any government consultants, to conduct investigations of the project site during the course of the appeal process. You will be provided a 15-day notice of any site investigation and will have the opportunity to participate in all site investigations.

_____ Signature of appellant or agent.	Date:
Email address of appellant and/or agent:	Telephone number:

Appendix D
Reports and Assessments

From: [Spann, Tiffany](#)
To: [Marissa Jimenez](#); [Hadden, Shalise](#)
Cc: [DEQ SOV](#); [Vivian \(Aucoin\) Johnson \(DEQ\)](#); [Keith Horn](#); [Carey Dicharry](#)
Subject: RE: DEQ SOV# 230821/0685(duplicate230127/0035) Construction of Housing Facility on Florida Boulevard (State Highway 190) - Denham Springs Housing Facility of 20 Bldgs.
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:13:04 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Received, thank you!

Tiffany Spann-Winfield
Environmental Liaison Officer | EHP | FEMA Region VI
Mobile: (504) 218-6800
tiffany.spann@fema.dhs.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency
fema.gov



From: Marissa Jimenez <Marissa.Jimenez@LA.GOV>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 4:27 PM
To: Spann, Tiffany <Tiffany.Spann@fema.dhs.gov>; Hadden, Shalise <shalise.hadden@fema.dhs.gov>
Cc: DEQ SOV <DEQSOV@LA.GOV>; Vivian (Aucoin) Johnson (DEQ) <Vivian.Johnson2@la.gov>; Keith Horn <Keith.Horn@LA.GOV>; Carey Dicharry <Carey.Dicharry@LA.GOV>
Subject: DEQ SOV# 230821/0685(duplicate230127/0035) Construction of Housing Facility on Florida Boulevard (State Highway 190) - Denham Springs Housing Facility of 20 Bldgs.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Please select the Phish Alert Report button on the top right of your screen to report this email if it is unsolicited or suspicious in nature.

August 25, 2023

Tiffany Spann-Winfield, Lead Environmental Protection Specialist
FEMA-FMA 2019
Region VI - Louisiana Recovery Office
1500 Main Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Tiffany.Spann@fema.dhs.gov

Construction of Housing Facility on Florida Boulevard (State Highway 190) - Denham Springs Housing Facility of 20 Bldgs.

RE: 230821/0685(duplicate230127/0035)

FEMA Funding
Livingston Parish

Dear Ms. Spann-Winfield:

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) has received your request for comments on the above referenced project.

After reviewing your request, the Department has no objections based on the information provided in your submittal. However, for your information, the following general comments have been included. Please be advised that if you should encounter a problem during the implementation of this project, you should immediately notify LDEQ's Single-Point-of-contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640.

- Please take any necessary steps to obtain and/or update all necessary approvals and environmental permits regarding this proposed project.
- If your project results in a discharge to waters of the state, submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) application may be necessary.

- If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is recommended that you contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-3590 to determine if your proposed project requires a permit.
- If your project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit is required. An application form or Notice of Intent will need to be submitted if the sludge management practice includes preparing biosolids for land application or preparing sewage sludge to be hauled to a landfill. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <https://deq.louisiana.gov/page/sewage-biosolids> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 3590.
- If any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps directly regarding permitting issues. If a Corps permit is required, part of the application process may involve a water quality certification from LDEQ.
- All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.
- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if your water system improvements include water softeners, you are advised to contact the LDEQ Water Permits to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.
- **It seems that this project involves residential construction in an suburban area, and historic land uses have not been identified in the submittal. It is therefore advised that a site-specific environmental assessment be performed to address specific environmental concerns, and provide for worker safety.**
- ***If any underground storage tanks are encountered during the project, they must be managed in accordance with LAC Title 33:Part XI of the Environmental Regulatory Code. <http://deq.louisiana.gov/resources/category/regulations-lac-title-33>***

Currently, Livingston Parish is classified as a maintenance area with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. However, since your general conformity determination shows that the proposed VOC and NOx emissions will be less than the *de minimis* levels, the Department has no objections to implementation of this project.

Please send all Solicitation of Views (SOVs) requests and questions to SOVs@la.gov.

Sincerely,

Marissa Jimenez

Environmental Scientist Manager

LDEQ Office of the Secretary

Outreach and Small Business Assistance

225-219-3963

List of Vehicles and Equipment Anticipated for Proposed Project (add rows as necessary)

Estimated Project Duration: 365 days. Season of Year When Majority of Work Is Planned: summer and winter (Summer or Winter)

Road Vehicles (except heavy trucks) – **include personal/company vehicles bringing personnel to/from job site**

Type of Vehicle	Number of Vehicles on Job	Model Year (approx.)	Fuel Type (diesel or gasoline)	Average Miles/day per Vehicle	Number of Days on Job	Average Road Speed (mph)	Current Vehicle Mileage (nearest 25K)
Ford F-250	2	2020	diesel	45	365	45	100000
Chevy Silverado	2	2019	gas	60	365	50	75000
Dodge Charger	2	2018	gas	60	365	55	65000
Ford F-150	1	2015	gas	40	365	45	125000

Road Vehicles (heavy trucks) – **include trucks bringing equipment to/from job site, distance from concrete plant or dirt yard to site, etc.**

Type of Vehicle (include number of cubic yards for dump trucks)	Approx. Gross Weight of Vehicle	Number of Vehicles on Job	Model Year (approx.)	Fuel Type (diesel or gasoline)	Average Miles/day per Vehicle	Number of Days on Job	Average Road Speed (mph)	Current Vehicle Mileage (nearest 25K)
Concrete Truck (10CY)	40 ton	2	2013	diesel	60	300	40	75000
Flatbed Truck	40 ton	1	2015	diesel	120	200	45	75000
Tractor Trailer	40 ton	1	2015	diesel	120	200	45	75000
Dump Truck (15CY)	50,000	2	2010	diesel	120	150	40	75000

Non-Road Equipment - **if equipment drives to job site (e.g., truck crane), then include road portion in table above. Be sure to include small equipment, such as air compressors, generators, concrete saws, leaf blowers, vibrating plate compactors, mortar mixers, etc.**

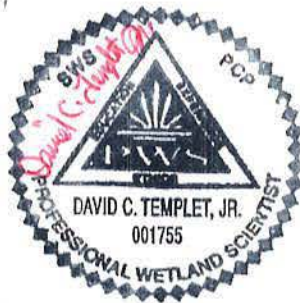
Type of Equipment (include model no., if possible)	Number of Pieces on Job	Model Year (approx.)	Fuel Type (diesel or gasoline)	Approx. Horsepower	Stroke for Gasoline (2 or 4)	Number of Hours per Day	Number of Days on Job
Caterpillar 938	1	2010	diesel	200		4	180
Volvo EC380	1	2010	diesel	300		4	100
John Deere 850k	1	2010	diesel	225		4	150
Bobcat S650	1	2014	diesel	75		6	350

**WETLAND ANALYSIS REPORT
U.S. HIGHWAY 190 PROPERTY
LIVINGSTON PARISH, LOUISIANA**

Prepared for:

DENHAM SPRINGS HOUSING AUTHORITY

APRIL, 2023



Prepared by:

**D&S Environmental Services, Inc.
P. O. Box 510
French Settlement, Louisiana 70733-0510**

**WETLAND ANALYSIS REPORT
U.S. HIGHWAY 190 PROPERTY
LIVINGSTON PARISH, LOUISIANA**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT.....	1
INTRODUCTION	2
SITE DESCRIPTION	3
Specific Location.....	3
History & Physiography.....	3
METHODOLOGY	3&4
RESULTS.....	4&5
Vegetation.....	4
Hydrology	4
Soils	4&5
CONCLUSION	5

FIGURES

FIGURES

- 1** Vicinity Map
- 2** Jurisdictional Wetlands Map
- 3-7** Property Boundary Maps with True Color, Colored Infrared,
U.S.G.S. Topographic Quad, LIDAR & Web Soil Survey Overlays

APPENDICES

APPENDIX

- I** Final Wetland Determination Data Form-Atlantic and Gulf Coastal
Plain Region-Version 2

APPENDIX

- II** Site Photographs

ABSTRACT

This report describes the methodology and results of a "Routine Wetland Determination" as outlined in the *1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (COE Technical Report Y-87-1) and subsequent *Regulatory Guidance Letters* (RGL), as well as pertinent regional supplement. The report discusses in detail the specific steps utilized by D&S Environmental Services, Inc. (DSES) to derive an accurate description of jurisdictional wetlands, areas subject to regulation as navigable waters (Section 10) and "Other Waters of the United States" (Section 404) located within the subject property. DSES utilized technically experienced personnel (**Professional Wetland Scientist; Certification #1755**) along with cutting edge technology to meticulously depict the correct amount and location of jurisdictional wetlands, areas subject to regulation as navigable waters (Section 10) and "Other Waters of the United States" (Section 404) within the subject property. **Based on this "Routine Wetland Determination", the site does not contain jurisdictional wetlands, however, does contain 0.31 acres of "Other Waters of the United States" (Section 404) (Non-wetland Waters), which will require a DOA permit prior to any dredge/fill activity within these areas.** Under the authority of the Clean Water Act (Section 404) and the Rivers and Harbor Act (Section 10) the United States Army Corps of Engineers has the responsibility to make the final determination of the location and extent of jurisdictional wetlands, navigable waters (Section 10) and "Other Waters of the United States" (Section 10) within this property, respectively. This report represents the "best professional judgment" of DSES personnel and should be considered preliminary until final approval is obtained from the New Orleans District Army Corps of Engineers office.

INTRODUCTION

This report describes the methodology and results of a "Routine Wetland Determination" regarding an 8.38-acre site located in Section 48, Township 6 South, Range 3 East, Livingston Parish, Louisiana on behalf of Denham Springs Housing Authority. The report discusses in detail the specific steps utilized by D&S Environmental Services, Inc. (DSES) to derive an accurate description of jurisdictional wetlands, areas subject to regulation as navigable waters (Section 10) and "Other Waters of the United States" (Section 404) (Non-wetland waters) located within the subject property.

Jurisdictional wetlands are defined as "areas that are inundated or saturated at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions" (40 CFR 230.3). The *1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual (COE Technical Report Y-87-1)* outlines the mandatory three-parameter/criteria for determining the presence of a jurisdictional wetland, which are: (1) hydrophytic vegetation, (2) wetland hydrology and (3) hydric soils. Due to obvious problem areas (prairie potholes, beaver dams, etc...), the aforementioned criteria are subject to some subjectivity.

Definitions

A hydric soil is defined as a soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (*US Department of Agriculture [USDA] Soil Conservation Service [SCS] 1994*).

Hydrophytic vegetation is defined herein as the sum total of macrophytic plant life growing in water or on a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content. When hydrophytic vegetation comprises a community where indicators of hydric soils and wetland hydrology also occur, the area has wetland vegetation (*COE Technical Report Y-87-1*).

The term "wetland hydrology" encompasses the sum total of wetness characteristics in areas that are inundated or have saturated soils for a sufficient duration to support hydrophytic vegetation (*COE Technical Report Y-87-1*).

Deepwater aquatic habitats are "areas that are permanently inundated at mean annual water depths >6.6 feet or permanently inundated areas, ≤6.6 feet in depth that do not support rooted-emergent or woody plant species" (*Environmental Laboratory. 1987. "COE Wetlands Delineation Manual, Technical Report Y-87-1, U. S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, Miss.*). Any area that meets this description is commonly classified as "Other Waters of the United States" (Non-wetland Waters).

SITE DESCRIPTION

Specific Location

The site is located in Section 48, Township 6 South, Range 3 East, Livingston Parish, Louisiana (Figure 1). Specifically, the site is located on and south of U.S. Highway 190, approximately 0.33 miles east of the intersection at U.S. Highway 190 and LA Highway 16 (Petes Highway), as depicted in Figures 1 & 2.

History & Physiography

Historically, west-central Livingston Parish was formed from a sheeting hydrological effect, which resulted in “stream or marine terrace” type topography. This particular region is composed of Peoria loess of the Pleistocene age, which gives rise to level to gently sloping elevations at approximately 45 feet above sea level. This site is hydrologically connected to an on-site minor tributary of Grays Creek, which enters Grays Creek off-site to the south, thence Grays Creek Lake further downstream, ultimately emptying into the Amite River in the lower reaches of the parish (Port Vincent). The entire site consists of a well-drained abandoned field that has been converted back from a previous developed state, which is evident by historical aerial photographs and remnant concrete slabs and aggregate areas throughout.

METHODOLOGY

DSES utilized wetland delineation methods that are consistent with the *1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (COE Technical Report Y-87-1) and subsequent *Regulatory Guidance Letters* (RGL), as well as pertinent regional supplement, (see below for reference material).

Reference Material

- Web Soil Survey/Livingston Parish, Louisiana USDA Soil Survey (January, 1991)
- Soil Mapping Units and Hydric Soils Designations, Louisiana, (May, 1995)
- State of Louisiana-National Wetland Plant List-Final Draft Ratings U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) (2012).

DSES personnel were on-site on April 3, 2023, to determine the extent and location of jurisdictional wetlands, areas subject to regulation as navigable waters (Section 10) and “Other Waters of the United States” (Section 404) (Non-wetland waters). Data plots were established at vegetation community change throughout the site and recorded on a COE approved “Final Wetland Determination Data Form-Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Region-Version 2” (Appendix I), which in this case only required one. The plot size was sampled within an area containing a 30-foot radius or equivalent area thereof.

Dominant vegetation is based on the species that are most abundant within a plot and have a threshold value that is 20%. These vegetative species are used in the three-parameter/criteria to determine site wetness and are recorded based on ocular estimation or percent cover. Dominant plant species were recorded in the following strata: Tree, Sapling, Shrub, Herbaceous and/or Woody Vine. Additionally, each species is represented by a wetland indicator value, which corresponds with its "wetland status".

Soil observations were made by using a 2 3/4" bucket auger to extract a 12" (minimum) plug. Each soil plug was compared to a Munsell Soil Color Chart to correlate the soil color/texture at an approximate 10" depth. Soil color/texture is vital in proving/disproving anaerobic conditions.

Hydrology was assessed from various observations, which include, but are not limited to soil characteristics, dominant vegetative communities, physiographic properties, and other tangible observations, such as primary and secondary indicators (Final Wetland Determination Data Form-Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Region-Version 2).

The data plot, natural resources (Other Waters of the U.S. (Non-wetland Waters)) and other diagnostic land features were mapped utilizing a Trimble-GEO 7x GNSS Handheld Data Collection System. Real time corrections were made utilizing the radio signal based on the Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services Special Committee Paper No. I 04 (RTCM SC- I 04) format.

RESULTS

Vegetation

The site is primarily dominated by Bahia grass (*Paspalum notatum*), tall goldenrod (*Solidago altissima*), Simpler's joy (*Verbena hastata*), broom-sedge (*Andropogon virginicus*), dog-fennel (*Eupatorium capillifolium*), yankeeweed (*Eupatorium compositifolium*), perennial rye grass (*Lolium perenne*), etc.

Hydrology

Positive primary and secondary wetland hydrology indicators such as high water table, saturation, sediment deposits, oxidized rhizospheres along living roots, positive FAC-Neutral test, etc... were not observed on-site.

Soils

The Web Soil Survey for Livingston Parish/Livingston Parish, Louisiana USDA Soil Survey indicate the site is underlain Sa: Satsuma silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes, which are located in nearly level to moderately sloping areas and classified somewhat poorly drained. In addition, the Soil Surveys indicate the site is underlain by Ge: Gilbert-Brimstone silt loams, occasionally flooded, which are located in level to depressed areas

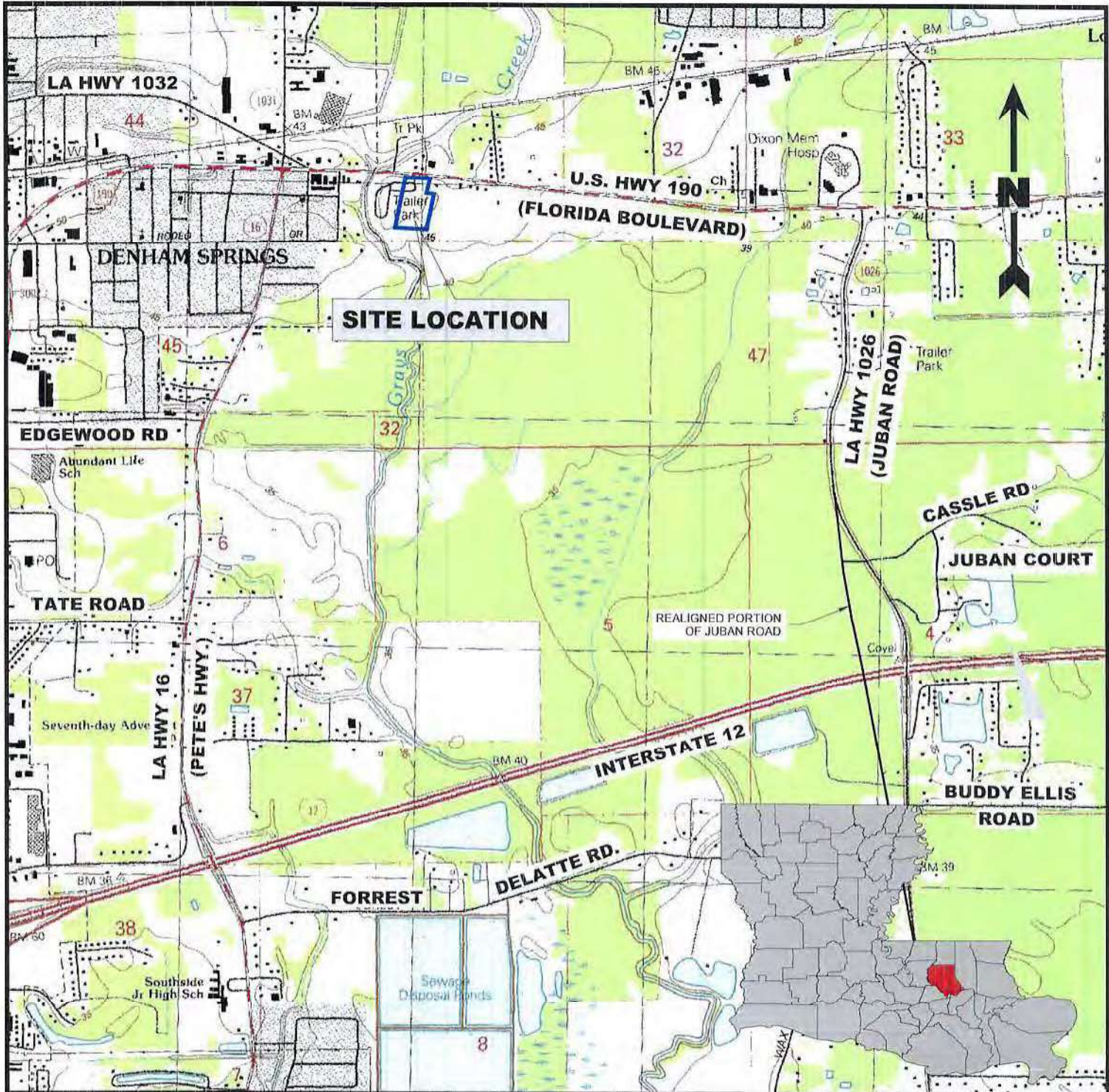
and classified poorly drained. According to the *Soils Mapping Units and Hydric Soils Designations, Louisiana*, (May, 1995), Satsuma soils are classified non-hydric, whereas, Brimstone and Gilbert soils are classified hydric. However, Satsuma mapped areas may be hydric provided inclusions are present. Observations by DSES personnel during the site visit agree with the descriptions for the soil series described in the Soil Survey, but disagree with portions of the mapping locations.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the *1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (COE Technical Report Y-87-1) and subsequent *Regulatory Guidance Letters* (RGL), as well as pertinent regional supplement, DSES utilized technically experienced personnel (**Professional Wetland Scientist; Certification #1755**) along with cutting edge technology to meticulously depict the correct amount and location of jurisdictional wetlands, areas subject to regulation as navigable waters (Section 10) and "Other Waters of the United States" (Section 404) within the subject property. **Based on this "Routine Wetland Determination", the site does not contain jurisdictional wetlands, however, does contain 0.31 acres of "Other Waters of the United States" (Section 404) (Non-wetland Waters), which will require a DOA permit prior to any dredge/fill activity within these areas.**

Under the authority of the Clean Water Act (Section 404) and the Rivers and Harbor Act (Section 10) the United States Army Corps of Engineers has the responsibility to make the final determination of the location and extent of jurisdictional wetlands, navigable waters (Section 10) and "Other Waters of the United States" (Section 404) (Non-wetland waters) within this property, respectively. This report represents the "best professional judgment" of DSES personnel and should be considered preliminary until final approval is obtained from the New Orleans District Army Corps of Engineers office.

FIGURES



Scale: 1" = 2,000'

Notes

Property is located in Section 48, T-6-S, R-3-E
 Latitude: 30°28'59.25"N Longitude: 90°56'15.10"W

Reference

Base map comprised of U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute topographic map "Denham Springs, LA".

Denham Springs Housing Authority

U.S. Hwy 190 Property

Vicinity Map

Livingston Parish, Louisiana



D & S
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.



Project No.: 05-2023-JDM

Date: 2023.04.04

Figure No.: 1

MAP APPROVED BY:
 David C. Temple, Jr., PWS, RF
 President/Professional Wetland
 Scientist/Registered Forester

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 P.O. Box 510
 French Settlement, Louisiana 70733-0510
 Business: 225-698-3552
 Mobile: 225-413-4317



Legend

- Property Boundary (8.38 Acres)
- Non-Wetlands (8.07 Acres)
- Other Waters Of The U.S. (Non-Wetland Waters) (0.31 Acres)
- DP** Data Plot
- Data Plots
- Picture Location & Direction

Denham Springs Housing Authority

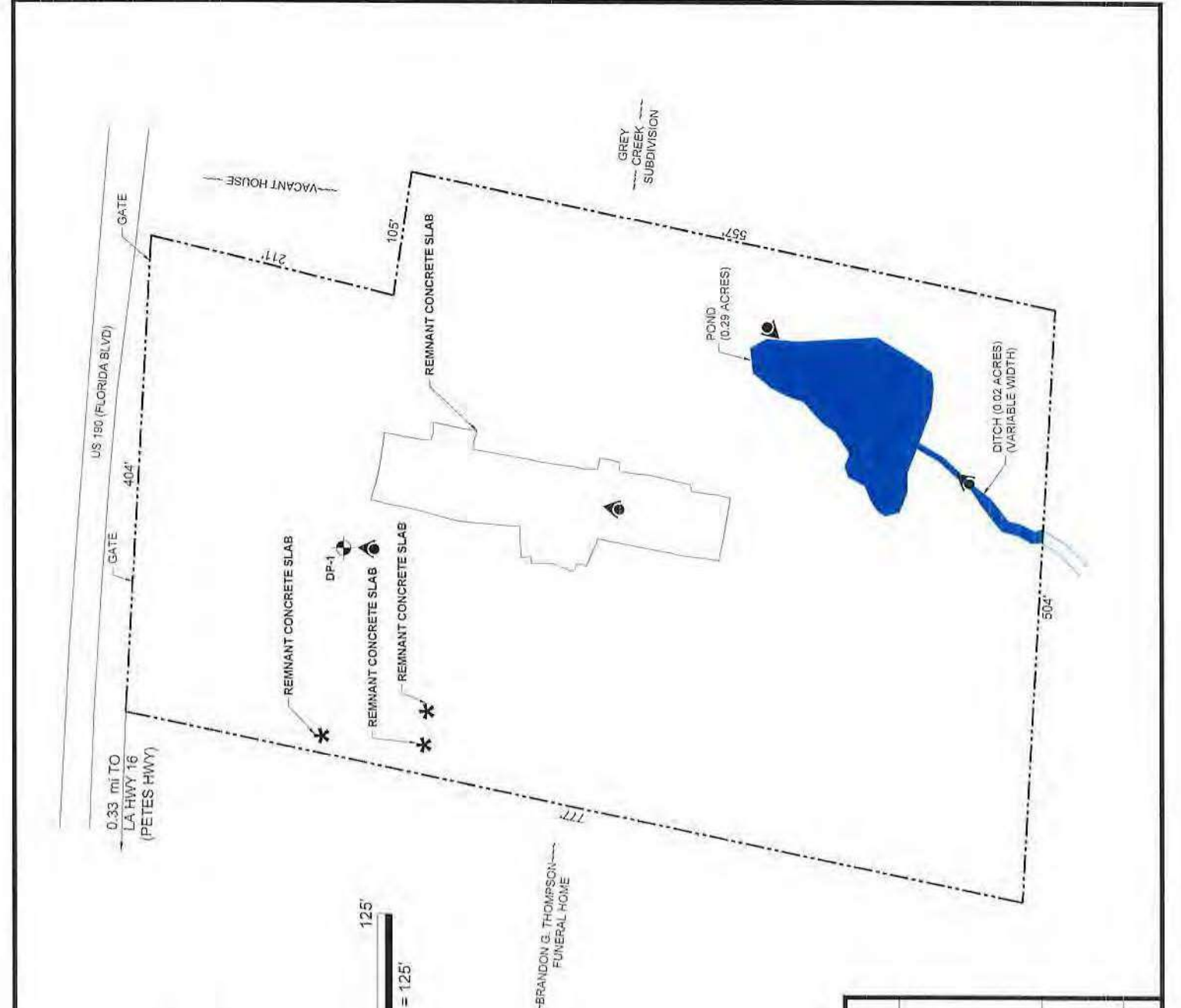
U.S. Hwy 190 Property

Jurisdictional Wetlands Map

Livingston Parish, Louisiana



Project No.: 05-2023-JDM Date: 2023.04.04 Figure No.: 2



MAP APPROVED BY:
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 Scientist/Registered Forester

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Legend

----- Property Boundary (8.38 Acres)



Denham Springs Housing Authority

U.S. Hwy 190 Property

**Property Boundary Map
 (True Color Overlay)**

Livingston Parish, Louisiana



Project No.: 05-2023-JDM

Date: 2023.04.04

Figure No.: 3

MAP APPROVED BY:
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Legend

----- Property Boundary (8.38 Acres)



Denham Springs Housing Authority

U.S. Hwy 190 Property

**Property Boundary Map
(Color Infrared Overlay)**

Livingston Parish, Louisiana



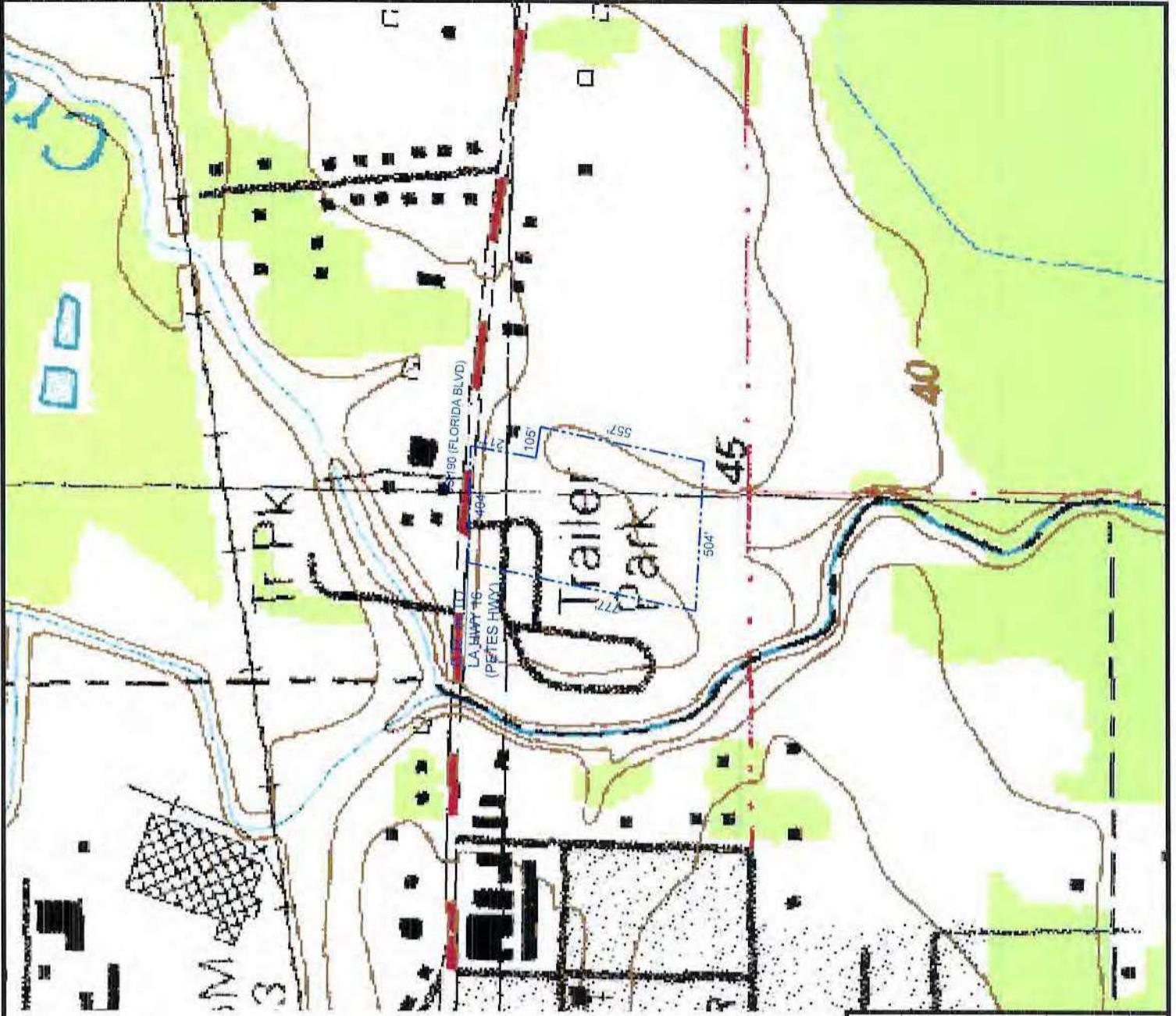
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Legend

----- Property Boundary (8.38 Acres)



Denham Springs Housing Authority

U.S. Hwy 190 Property

**Property Boundary Map
(USGS Topographic Quad Overlay)**

Livingston Parish, Louisiana



MAP APPROVED BY:

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Scientist/Registered Forester

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P.O. Box 510

French Settlement, Louisiana 70733-0510

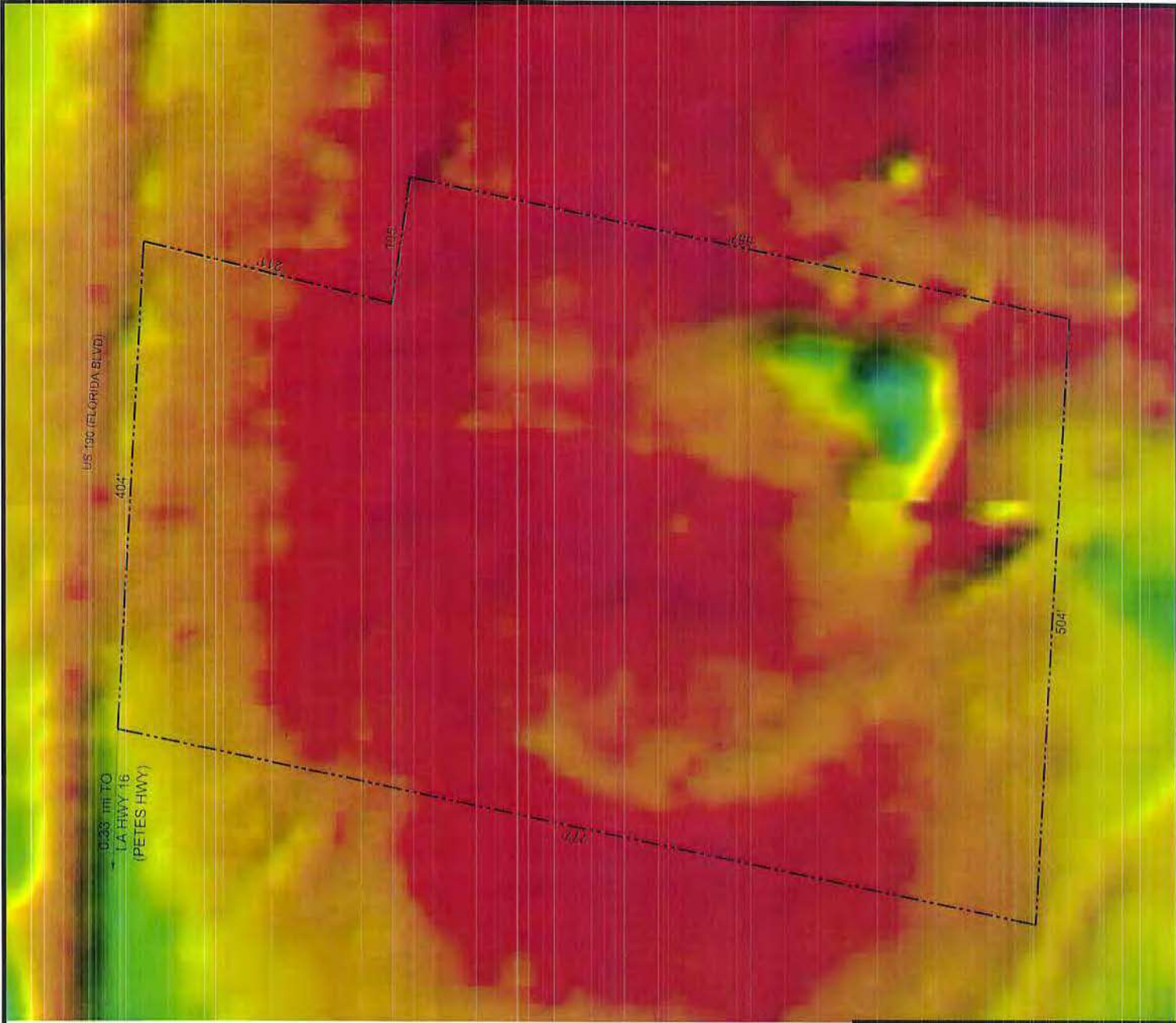
Business: 225-698-3552

Mobile: 225-413-4317



Legend

----- Property Boundary (8.38 Acres)



Denham Springs Housing Authority

U.S. Hwy 190 Property

**Property Boundary Map
(Lidar Overlay)**

Livingston Parish, Louisiana



MAP APPROVED BY:
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Legend

 Property Boundary
 (8.38 Acres)

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
Ge	Gilbert-Brimstone silt loams, occasionally flooded	2.8	33.3%
Sa	Satsuma silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	5.6	66.7%
Totals for Area of Interest		8.4	100.0%

Denham Springs Housing Authority

U.S. Hwy 190 Property

**Property Boundary Map
 (Web Soil Survey Overlay)**

Livingston Parish, Louisiana



Project No.: 05-2023-JDM Date: 2023/04/04 Figure No.: 7



Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

APPENDIX I

**FINAL WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA
FORM-ATLANTIC AND GULF COASTAL PLAIN
REGION-VERSION 2**

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Region

Project/Site: U.S. Highway 190 Property City/County: Livingston Parish Sampling Date: 4-3-23
 Applicant/Owner: Denham Springs Housing Authority State: LA Sampling Point: DP-1
 Investigator(s): DSES (David C. Temple, Jr.) Section, Township, Range: Section 48, Township 6 South, Range 3 East
 Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): level to gently sloping topo. Local relief (concave, convex, none): convex Slope (%): 1 to 3
 Subregion (LRR or MLRA): LRR=P & MLRA=134 Lat: 30°28'59.25"N Long: 90°56'15.10"W Datum: NAD 83
 Soil Map Unit Name: Sa: Satsuma silt loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes NWI classification: -Non-listed

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes No
 Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Remarks:
 - Data Plot is located in a well-drained abandoned field that has been converted back from a previous developed state, which is evident by historical aerial photographs and remnant concrete slabs and aggregate areas throughout (see Site Photographs).

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:	Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)
<u>Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water (A1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
<input type="checkbox"/> High Water Table (A2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation (A3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drainage Patterns (B10)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Marks (B1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Moss Trim Lines (B16)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment Deposits (B2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
<input type="checkbox"/> Drift Deposits (B3)	<input type="checkbox"/> Crayfish Burrows (C8)
<input type="checkbox"/> Algal Mat or Crust (B4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
<input type="checkbox"/> Iron Deposits (B5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Geomorphic Position (D2)
<input type="checkbox"/> Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Shallow Aquitard (D3)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water-Stained Leaves (B9)	<input type="checkbox"/> FAC-Neutral Test (D5)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sphagnum moss (D8) (LRR T, U)

Field Observations:	Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Surface Water Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____	
Water Table Present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____	
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Depth (inches): _____	

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:
 - Extrapolated data from aerial photographs & LIDAR are consistent with non-wetland characteristics.

Remarks:
 - This site is hydrologically connected to an on-site minor tributary of Grays Creek, which enters Grays Creek off-site to the south, thence Grays Creek Lake further downstream, ultimately emptying into the Amite River in the lower reaches of the parish (Port Vincent).

VEGETATION (Five Strata) – Use scientific names of plants.

Sampling Point: DP-1

<p><u>Tree Stratum</u> (Plot size: <u>30' radius</u>)</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:5%;"></th> <th style="width:35%;"></th> <th style="width:15%; text-align: center;">Absolute % Cover</th> <th style="width:15%; text-align: center;">Dominant Species?</th> <th style="width:10%; text-align: center;">Indicator Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1.</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>2.</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>3.</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>4.</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>5.</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr><td>6.</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td><td>_____</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"></td> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: right;"><u>0</u> = Total Cover</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"></td> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">50% of total cover: <u>0</u> 20% of total cover: <u>0</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Sapling Stratum</u> (Plot size: <u>30' radius</u>)</p> <table style="width:100%; 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Indicator Status	1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	4.	_____	_____	_____	_____	5.	_____	_____	_____	_____	6.	_____	_____	_____	_____			<u>0</u> = Total Cover					50% of total cover: <u>0</u> 20% of total cover: <u>0</u>								1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	4.	_____	_____	_____	_____	5.	_____	_____	_____	_____	6.	_____	_____	_____	_____			<u>0</u> = Total Cover					50% of total cover: <u>0</u> 20% of total cover: <u>0</u>								1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	4.	_____	_____	_____	_____	5.	_____	_____	_____	_____	6.	_____	_____	_____	_____			<u>0</u> = Total Cover					50% of total cover: <u>0</u> 20% of total cover: <u>0</u>								1.	<u>Paspalum notatum</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>yes</u>	<u>FACU</u>	2.	<u>Eupatorium compositifolium</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>FAC</u>	3.	<u>Verbena hastata</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>FAC</u>	4.	<u>Eupatorium capillifolium</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>FACU</u>	5.	<u>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>FACU</u>	6.	<u>Lolium perenne</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>FACU</u>	7.	<u>Andropogon virginicus</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>FAC</u>	8.	<u>Paspalum urvillei</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>FAC</u>	9.	<u>Solidago altissima</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>FACU</u>	10.	_____	_____	_____	_____	11.	_____	_____	_____	_____			<u>100</u> = Total Cover					50% of total cover: <u>50</u> 20% of total cover: <u>20</u>								1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	4.	_____	_____	_____	_____	5.	_____	_____	_____	_____			<u>0</u> = Total Cover					50% of total cover: <u>0</u> 20% of total cover: <u>0</u>			<p>Dominance Test worksheet:</p> <p>Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>0</u> (A)</p> <p>Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: <u>1</u> (B)</p> <p>Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: <u>0</u> (A/B)</p> <p>Prevalence Index worksheet:</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width:50%;">Total % Cover of:</th> <th style="width:50%;">Multiply by:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>OBL species _____</td><td>x 1 = <u>0</u></td></tr> <tr><td>FACW species _____</td><td>x 2 = <u>0</u></td></tr> <tr><td>FAC species _____</td><td>x 3 = <u>0</u></td></tr> <tr><td>FACU species _____</td><td>x 4 = <u>0</u></td></tr> <tr><td>UPL species _____</td><td>x 5 = <u>0</u></td></tr> <tr> <td>Column Totals: <u>0</u> (A)</td> <td><u>0</u> (B)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">Prevalence Index = B/A = _____</p> <p>Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 - Dominance Test is >50%</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0¹</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation¹ (Explain)</p> <p>¹Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.</p> <p>Definitions of Five Vegetation Strata:</p> <p>Tree – Woody plants, excluding woody vines, approximately 20 ft (6 m) or more in height and 3 in. (7.6 cm) or larger in diameter at breast height (DBH).</p> <p>Sapling – Woody plants, excluding woody vines, approximately 20 ft (6 m) or more in height and less than 3 in. (7.6 cm) DBH.</p> <p>Shrub – Woody plants, excluding woody vines, approximately 3 to 20 ft (1 to 6 m) in height.</p> <p>Herb – All herbaceous (non-woody) plants, including herbaceous vines, regardless of size, <u>and</u> woody plants, except woody vines, less than approximately 3 ft (1 m) in height.</p> <p>Woody vine – All woody vines, regardless of height.</p> <p>Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes _____ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	OBL species _____	x 1 = <u>0</u>	FACW species _____	x 2 = <u>0</u>	FAC species _____	x 3 = <u>0</u>	FACU species _____	x 4 = <u>0</u>	UPL species _____	x 5 = <u>0</u>	Column Totals: <u>0</u> (A)	<u>0</u> (B)
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SOIL

Sampling Point: DP-1

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix		Redox Features				Texture	Remarks
	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type ¹	Loc ²		
0-2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	plant material/organic (grass roots)
2-12	10yr 5/4	100	N/A	N/A			silt loam	indicative of the Sa series

¹Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. ²Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators: (Applicable to all LRRs, unless otherwise noted.)	Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils³:
<input type="checkbox"/> Histosol (A1) <input type="checkbox"/> Histic Epipedon (A2) <input type="checkbox"/> Black Histic (A3) <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrogen Sulfide (A4) <input type="checkbox"/> Stratified Layers (A5) <input type="checkbox"/> Organic Bodies (A6) (LRR P, T, U) <input type="checkbox"/> 5 cm Mucky Mineral (A7) (LRR P, T, U) <input type="checkbox"/> Muck Presence (A8) (LRR U) <input type="checkbox"/> 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR P, T) <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11) <input type="checkbox"/> Thick Dark Surface (A12) <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Prairie Redox (A16) (MLRA 150A) <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1) (LRR O, S) <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4) <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Redox (S5) <input type="checkbox"/> Stripped Matrix (S6) <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Surface (S7) (LRR P, S, T, U)	<input type="checkbox"/> Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (LRR S, T, U) <input type="checkbox"/> Thin Dark Surface (S9) (LRR S, T, U) <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (LRR O) <input type="checkbox"/> Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2) <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Matrix (F3) <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Dark Surface (F6) <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Dark Surface (F7) <input type="checkbox"/> Redox Depressions (F8) <input type="checkbox"/> Marl (F10) (LRR U) <input type="checkbox"/> Depleted Ochric (F11) (MLRA 151) <input type="checkbox"/> Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (LRR O, P, T) <input type="checkbox"/> Umbric Surface (F13) (LRR P, T, U) <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Ochric (F17) (MLRA 151) <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced Vertic (F18) (MLRA 150A, 150B) <input type="checkbox"/> Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (MLRA 149A) <input type="checkbox"/> Anomalous Bright Loamy Soils (F20) (MLRA 149A, 153C, 153D)

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 cm Muck (A9) (LRR O) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 cm Muck (A10) (LRR S) <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced Vertic (F18) (outside MLRA 150A,B) <input type="checkbox"/> Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (LRR P, S, T) <input type="checkbox"/> Anomalous Bright Loamy Soils (F20) (MLRA 153B) <input type="checkbox"/> Red Parent Material (TF2) <input type="checkbox"/> Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain in Remarks)	³ Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.
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Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? Yes _____ No

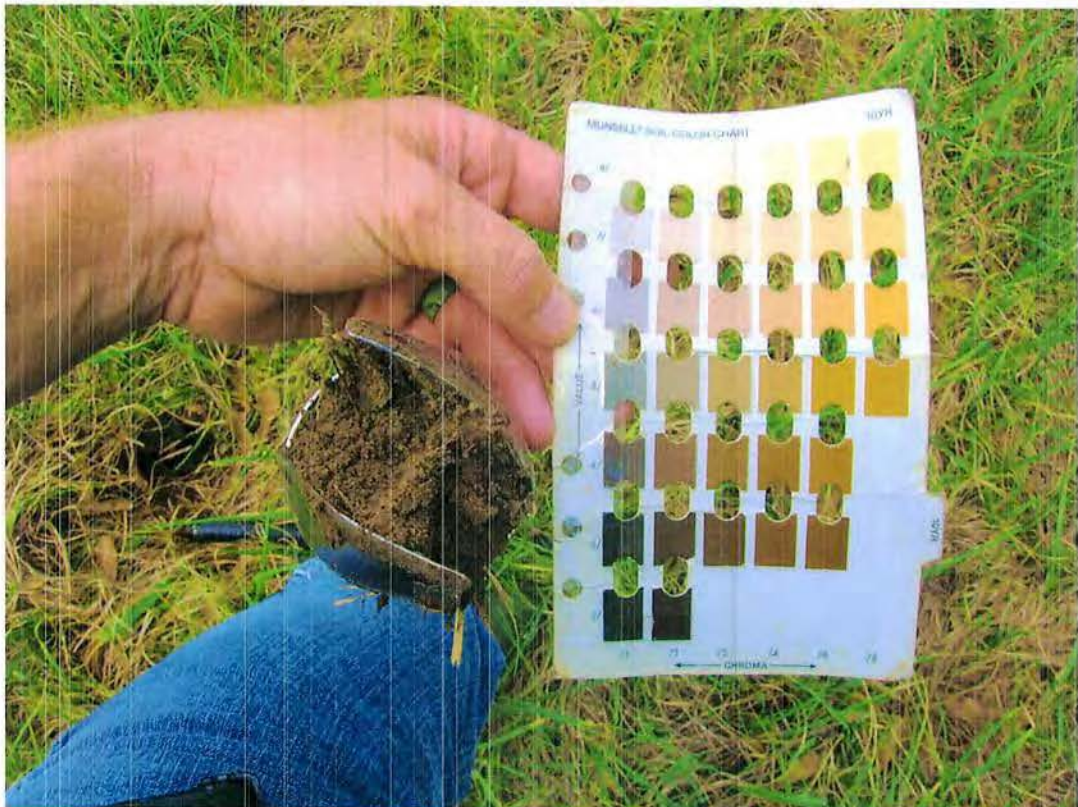
Remarks:

- Soil sample is indicative of the Satsuma series.
- See "Site Photographs" to obtain visual confirmation.

APPENDIX II
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



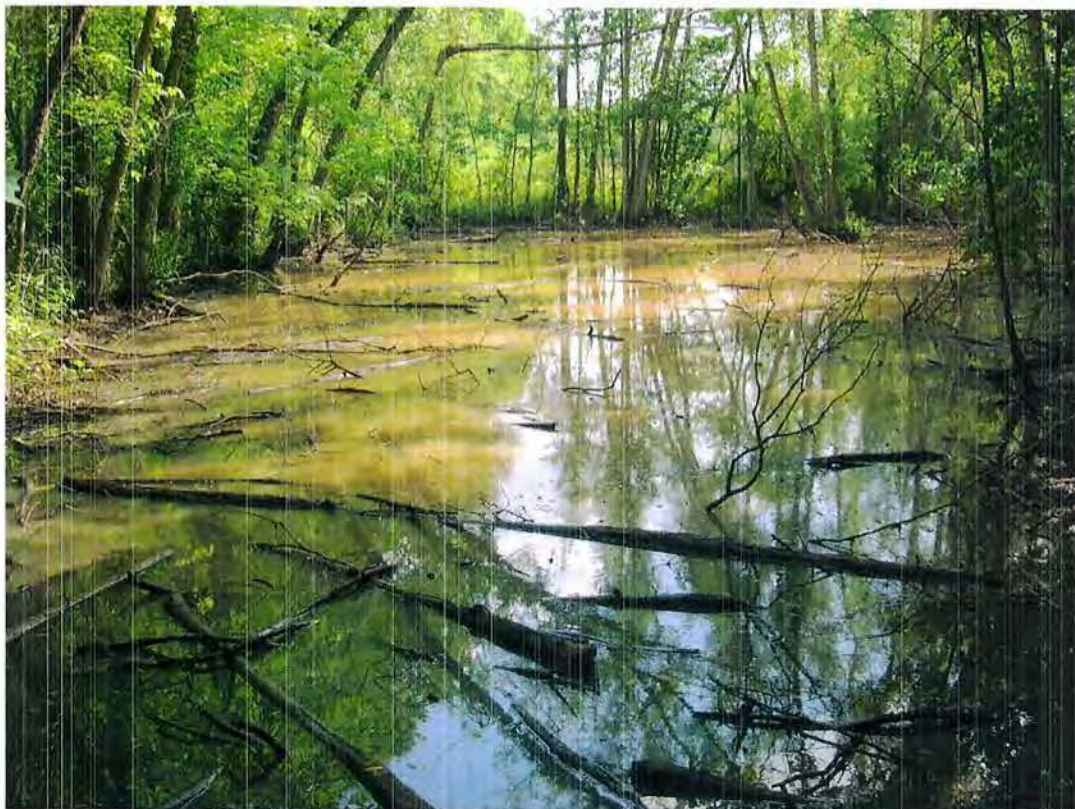
Vegetation indicative of Data Plot-1 (non-wetland).



Non-hydric soil indicative of the Satsuma series found within Data Plot-1.



"Other Waters of the U.S." (Section 404; Non-wetland Waters) (Grays Creek tributary).



"Other Waters of the U.S." (Section 404; Non-wetland Waters) (hydrologically connected pond).



Remnant concrete slab found on-site.

Appendix E
Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT
7400 LEAKE AVE
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118-3651

June 28, 2023

Regulatory Division
Jurisdiction and Enforcement Branch

Mr. David C. Templet
D & S Environmental Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 510
French Settlement, Louisiana 70733

Dear Mr. Templet:

Reference is made to your request, on behalf of Denham Springs Housing Authority, for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) jurisdictional determination on property located in Section 48, Township 6 South, Range 3 East, Livingston Parish, Louisiana (enclosed map). Specifically, this property is identified as an 8.38 - acre site on and south of U.S. HWY 190 and just east of Grays Creek located in Denham Springs.

Based on review of recent maps, aerial photography, soils data, the delineation report provided with your request, and previous determinations, we have determined that part of the property contains wetlands and non-wetland waters that may be subject to Corps' jurisdiction. The approximate limits of the wetlands and non-wetland waters are designated in red and blue, respectively, on the map. A Department of the Army (DA) permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will be required prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S.

The delineation included herein has been conducted to identify the location and extent of the aquatic resources for purposes of the Clean Water Act for the particular site identified in this request. This delineation may not be valid for the Wetland Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended. If you or your tenant are USDA program participants, or anticipate participation in USDA programs, you should discuss the applicability of an NRCS Certified Wetland Determination with the local USDA service center, prior to starting work.

You and your client are advised that this preliminary jurisdictional determination is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of this letter unless new information warrants revision prior to the expiration date. Additionally, this determination is only valid for the identified project or individual(s) only and is not to be used for decision-making by any other individual or entity.

Should there be any questions concerning these matters, please contact Mr. Michael Windham at (504) 862-1235 and reference our Account No. MVN-2023-00521-SK. If you have specific questions regarding the permit process or permit applications, please contact our Central Evaluation Branch at (504) 862-1581.

Sincerely,
William R. Nethery
for Martin S. Mayer
Chief, Regulatory Division

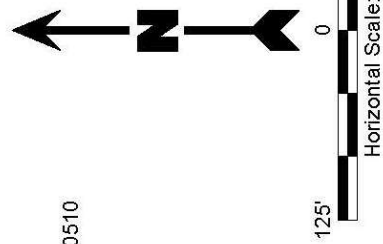
Digitally signed by
William R. Nethery
Date: 2023.06.28
12:29:40 -05'00'

Enclosures




MAP APPROVED BY:
 David C. Temple, Jr., PWS, RF
 President/Professional Wetland
 Scientist/Registered Forester

D&S Environmental Services, Inc.
 P.O. Box 510
 French Settlement, Louisiana 70733-0510
 Business: 225-698-3552
 Mobile: 225-413-4317

WETLAND AREA & ACREAGE TABLE	
AREA	ACREAGE
A	0.08



USACE
 IH 6/1/23
 MICHAEL WINDHAM
 FOR TEMPLET
 ACCOUNT # MVN-2023-00521-SK

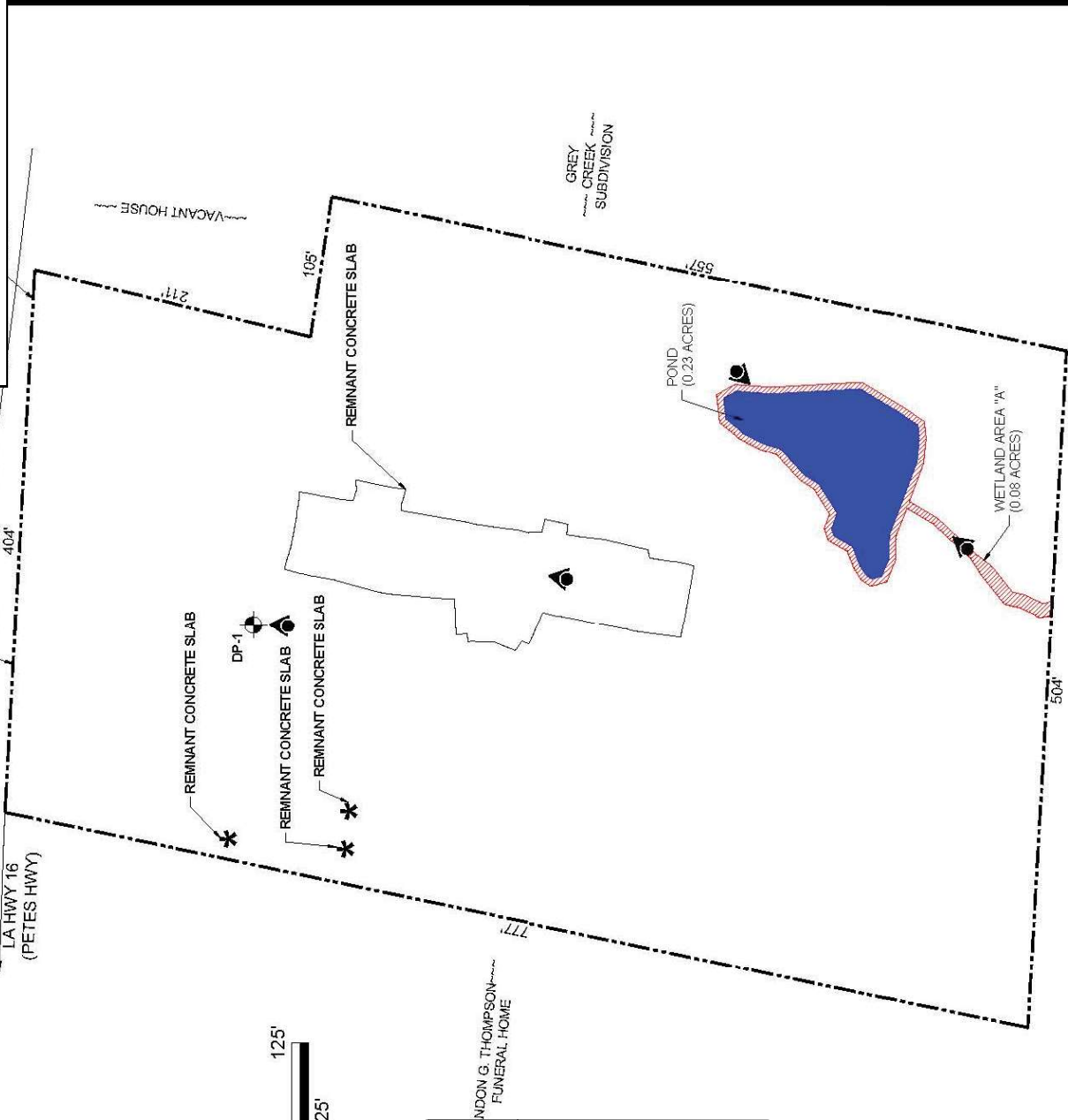
-  -PROJECT AREA (8.07-ACRES)
-  - NON-WETLAND WATERS (0.23-ACRES)
-  - WETLAND (0.08-ACRES)

Denham Springs Housing Authority
 U.S. Hwy 190 Property

Jurisdictional Wetlands Map
 Livingston Parish, Louisiana

D & S ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.

Project No.: 05-2023-JDM Date: 2023.04.04 Figure No.: 2



PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (PJD) FORM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR PJD: June 28, 2023

B. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON REQUESTING PJD:

Templet, David, C.
D&S Environmental Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 510
French Settlement, Louisiana 70733

C. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: MVN-2023-00521-SK

D. PROJECT LOCATION(S) AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

(USE THE TABLE BELOW TO DOCUMENT MULTIPLE AQUATIC RESOURCES AND/OR AQUATIC RESOURCES AT DIFFERENT SITES)

State: Louisiana County/parish/borough: Livingston Parish City: Denham Springs

Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format):

Lat.: 30.483125° Long.: -90.937528°

Universal Transverse Mercator: 15N

Name of nearest waterbody: N/A

E. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

Office (Desk) Determination. Date: 6/1/23

Field Determination. Date(s):

TABLE OF AQUATIC RESOURCES IN REVIEW AREA WHICH “MAY BE” SUBJECT TO REGULATORY JURISDICTION.

Site number	Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)	Estimated amount of aquatic resource in review area (acreage and linear feet, if applicable)	Type of aquatic resource (i.e., wetland vs. non-wetland waters)	Geographic authority to which the aquatic resource “may be” subject (i.e., Section 404 or Section 10/404)
WET	30.4815	-90.9379	0.08-acres	wetland	404
WAT	30.4822	-90.9374	0.23-acres	non-wetland water	404

SUPPORTING DATA. Data reviewed for PJD (check all that apply)

Checked items should be included in subject file. Appropriately reference sources below where indicated for all checked items:

- Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the PJD requestor:
Map: _____.
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the PJD requestor.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report. Rationale: _____.
- Data sheets prepared by the Corps: _____.
- Corps navigable waters' study: _____.
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: _____.
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: Denham Springs, 1:24,000.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: NRCS WSS.
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: ORM2 (NWI mapper).
- State/local wetland inventory map(s): _____.
- FEMA/FIRM maps: _____.
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: _____. (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): 1998,2004,2005,2006,2008,2009,2013,2015,2017 Ar
or Other (Name & Date): Google Earth Pro.
- Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: _____.
- Other information (please specify): LA LIDAR.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The information recorded on this form has not necessarily been verified by the Corps and should not be relied upon for later jurisdictional determinations.

Michael
Windham

Signature and date of
Regulatory staff member
completing PJD

Digitally signed by Michael
Windham
Date: 2023.06.20 08:40:18
-05'00'

David Templet (request) - 4/7/23

Signature and date of
person requesting PJD
(REQUIRED, unless obtaining
the signature is impracticable)¹

¹ Districts may establish timeframes for requestor to return signed PJD forms. If the requestor does not respond within the established time frame, the district may presume concurrence and no additional follow up is necessary prior to finalizing an action.

- 1) The Corps of Engineers believes that there may be jurisdictional aquatic resources in the review area, and the requestor of this PJD is hereby advised of his or her option to request and obtain an approved JD (AJD) for that review area based on an informed decision after having discussed the various types of JDs and their characteristics and circumstances when they may be appropriate.
- 2) In any circumstance where a permit applicant obtains an individual permit, or a Nationwide General Permit (NWP) or other general permit verification requiring "pre-construction notification" (PCN), or requests verification for a non-reporting NWP or other general permit, and the permit applicant has not requested an AJD for the activity, the permit applicant is hereby made aware that: (1) the permit applicant has elected to seek a permit authorization based on a PJD, which does not make an official determination of jurisdictional aquatic resources; (2) the applicant has the option to request an AJD before accepting the terms and conditions of the permit authorization, and that basing a permit authorization on an AJD could possibly result in less compensatory mitigation being required or different special conditions; (3) the applicant has the right to request an individual permit rather than accepting the terms and conditions of the NWP or other general permit authorization; (4) the applicant can accept a permit authorization and thereby agree to comply with all the terms and conditions of that permit, including whatever mitigation requirements the Corps has determined to be necessary; (5) undertaking any activity in reliance upon the subject permit authorization without requesting an AJD constitutes the applicant's acceptance of the use of the PJD; (6) accepting a permit authorization (e.g., signing a proffered individual permit) or undertaking any activity in reliance on any form of Corps permit authorization based on a PJD constitutes agreement that all aquatic resources in the review area affected in any way by that activity will be treated as jurisdictional, and waives any challenge to such jurisdiction in any administrative or judicial compliance or enforcement action, or in any administrative appeal or in any Federal court; and (7) whether the applicant elects to use either an AJD or a PJD, the JD will be processed as soon as practicable. Further, an AJD, a proffered individual permit (and all terms and conditions contained therein), or individual permit denial can be administratively appealed pursuant to 33 C.F.R. Part 331. If, during an administrative appeal, it becomes appropriate to make an official determination whether geographic jurisdiction exists over aquatic resources in the review area, or to provide an official delineation of jurisdictional aquatic resources in the review area, the Corps will provide an AJD to accomplish that result, as soon as is practicable. This PJD finds that there "*may be*" waters of the U.S. and/or that there "*may be*" navigable waters of the U.S. on the subject review area, and identifies all aquatic features in the review area that could be affected by the proposed activity, based on the following information:

NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL OPTIONS AND PROCESS AND REQUEST FOR APPEAL

Applicant: David C. Templet	File Number: MVN-2023-00521-SK	June 28, 2023
Attached is:		See Section below
<input type="checkbox"/>	INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	PROFFERED PERMIT (Standard Permit or Letter of permission)	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERMIT DENIAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERMIT DENIAL WITH PREJUDICE	D
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	E
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	F

SECTION I

The following identifies your rights and options regarding an administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at <https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/appeals/> or Corps regulations at 33 CFR Part 331.

A: INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or object to the permit

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **OBJECT:** If you object to the permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may request that the permit be modified accordingly. You must complete Section II of this form and return the form to the district engineer. Upon receipt of your letter, the district engineer will evaluate your objections and may: (a) modify the permit to address all of your concerns, (b) modify the permit to address some of your objections, or (c) not modify the permit having determined that the permit should be issued as previously written. After evaluating your objections, the district engineer will send you a proffered permit for your reconsideration, as indicated in Section B below.

B: PROFFERED PERMIT: You may accept or appeal the permit

- **ACCEPT:** If you received a Standard Permit, you may sign the permit document and return it to the district engineer for final authorization. If you received a Letter of Permission (LOP), you may accept the LOP and your work is authorized. Your signature on the Standard Permit or acceptance of the LOP means that you accept the permit in its entirety, and waive all rights to appeal the permit, including its terms and conditions, and approved jurisdictional determinations associated with the permit.
- **APPEAL:** If you choose to decline the proffered permit (Standard or LOP) because of certain terms and conditions therein, you may appeal the declined permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

C. PERMIT DENIAL WITHOUT PREJUDICE: Not appealable

You received a permit denial without prejudice because a required Federal, state, and/or local authorization and/or certification has been denied for activities which also require a Department of the Army permit before final action has been taken on the Army permit application. The permit denial without prejudice is not appealable. There is no prejudice to the right of the applicant to reinstate processing of the Army permit application if subsequent approval is received from the appropriate Federal, state, and/or local agency on a previously denied authorization and/or certification.

D: PERMIT DENIAL WITH PREJUDICE: You may appeal the permit denial

You may appeal the denial of a permit under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.

E: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept or appeal the approved JD or provide new information for reconsideration

- **ACCEPT:** You do not need to notify the Corps to accept an approved JD. Failure to notify the Corps within 60 days of the date of this notice means that you accept the approved JD in its entirety and waive all rights to appeal the approved JD.
- **APPEAL:** If you disagree with the approved JD, you may appeal the approved JD under the Corps of Engineers Administrative Appeal Process by completing Section II of this form and sending the form to the division engineer. This form must be received by the division engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice.
- **RECONSIDERATION:** You may request that the district engineer reconsider the approved JD by submitting new information or data to the district engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice. The district will determine whether the information submitted qualifies as new information or data that justifies reconsideration of the approved JD. A reconsideration request does not initiate the appeal process. You may submit a request for appeal to the division engineer to preserve your appeal rights while the district is determining whether the submitted information qualifies for a reconsideration.

F: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: Not appealable

You do not need to respond to the Corps regarding the preliminary JD. The Preliminary JD is not appealable. If you wish, you may request an approved JD (which may be appealed), by contacting the Corps district for further instruction. Also, you may provide new information for further consideration by the Corps to reevaluate the JD.

POINT OF CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION:

If you have questions regarding this decision you may contact:

William Nethery
Chief, Jurisdiction and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
7400 Leake Avenue New Orleans, LA 70118
(504) 862-1267

If you have questions regarding the appeal process, or to submit your request for appeal, you may contact:

Brian Oberlies
Administrative Appeals Review Officer
Mississippi Valley Division
P.O. Box 80 (1400 Walnut Street)
Vicksburg, MS 39181-0080
(601) 634-5820 FAX: (601) 634-5816

SECTION II – REQUEST FOR APPEAL or OBJECTIONS TO AN INITIAL PROFFERED PERMIT

REASONS FOR APPEAL OR OBJECTIONS: (Describe your reasons for appealing the decision or your objections to an initial proffered permit in clear concise statements. Use additional pages as necessary. You may attach additional information to this form to clarify where your reasons or objections are addressed in the administrative record.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The appeal is limited to a review of the administrative record, the Corps memorandum for the record of the appeal conference or meeting, and any supplemental information that the review officer has determined is needed to clarify the administrative record. Neither the appellant nor the Corps may add new information or analyses to the record. However, you may provide additional information to clarify the location of information that is already in the administrative record.

RIGHT OF ENTRY: Your signature below grants the right of entry to Corps of Engineers personnel, and any government consultants, to conduct investigations of the project site during the course of the appeal process. You will be provided a 15-day notice of any site investigation and will have the opportunity to participate in all site investigations.

_____ Signature of appellant or agent.	Date:
Email address of appellant and/or agent:	Telephone number: