

BUCKTOWN HARBOR
MITIGATION AREA STATUS
September 7, 2001

Bucktown Harbor West Expansion - Permits
CUP P961795, COE EN-19-970-0909
WQC 961106-08
BKI - 7410-11

Mitigation Requirements in Corps Permit

The mitigation requirements included conditions 1-5 as stated on the Corps of Engineers June 7, 1999 Permit.

The following 5 conditions pertaining to mitigation were made part of the permit.

1. An area at least 3.5 acres in size, at the location shown on the attached drawings will be used for marsh creation. Dredged material will be pumped into the mitigation area, concurrently with the fill placement for the marina and recreation area, and allowed to consolidate for about 1 year (or at a time agreed to by the permittees and the National Marine Fisheries Service), after which time the surface material will be graded (if necessary) to an elevation suitable for vegetative plantings for marsh creation (generally 1.5 to 2.0 feet NGVD).
2. Once the proper elevations have been established, the permittees will coordinate and establish the plantings of wetland vegetation (Louisiana eco-type smooth cordgrass, *Spartina alterniflora*) using nursery plugs placed at 4 feet on center.
3. The permittees will take appropriate steps to ensure that a minimum of 80% vegetative coverage is achieved within two complete growing seasons. Failure to meet this level may require some re-plantings or other work to obtain the required vegetative cover.
4. Following successful vegetation of the site, a 20-foot section of the rock containment dike, at the point where the dike ties in the lake shoreline, will be lowered to allow tidal exchange in the mitigation area. The National Marine Fisheries Service will be notified prior to lowering of the dike. The National Marine Fisheries Service can be reached in Baton Rouge at (225) 389-0508.
5. The National Marine Fisheries Service is experienced in coastal marsh creation projects and has expertise to insure a viable mitigation project. A monitoring plan will be developed and implemented, in consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, to assess site conditions such as mitigation area salinity, elevation, tidal exchange, and vegetative cover. Annual reports will be given to the National

BUCKTOWN HARBOR
MITIGATION AREA STATUS
September 7, 2001

Marine Fisheries Service and other interested resource agencies. Monitoring will be initiated when the fill placement is complete and terminated one-year following breaching of the rock dike, or upon attainment of 80% vegetative cover as stated in Condition 3 above, whichever is the latter. Changes to the mitigation and monitoring plan are allowed upon mutual agreement between the permittees and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Mitigation Area Status

Condition 1 of the mitigation is close to being accomplished. The U.S. Coast Guard Station construction started in January of 2000. The rock containment dike was shown to be complete in our May 16, 2000 aerial photos of the Bucktown site, but no dredge material was in place at that date. An on-site inspection September 26, 2000 showed hydraulic dredging well under way at the containment site. By the, December 7, 2000, aerial photograph, the containment area was covered with dredge spoil material but not completed. The containment area was inspected with the Coast Guard and Parish on January 3, 2001 to determine if the area could be accepted and turned over to the Parish for additional filling. The Parish had already started pushing fill on top of the dredge material. The Parish accepted the containment area on January 3, 2001. The Parish has since covered the hydraulic dredge material with trucked in fill.

The wetland mitigation area has been allowed to settle since completion of the hydraulic fill placement at the end of December of 2000. To date, the mitigation area has been settling for 8 months. The Parish has requested a survey of the Bucktown site to be performed when the Coast Guard harbor expansion work is complete some time during September of 2001. Surface elevations of the mitigation area will be determined by the survey. A preliminary indication of surface elevations shows a grade of 2.9' at the south east corner of the mitigation area. The west corner of the mitigation are is lower so the elevations are very close to the desired level. The desired surface elevations are between 2.0' to 1.5' ngvd. Subsurface drainage is proposed to discharge into the mitigation area at the south east corner. The invert of the drainage pipe is being set at 2.86'

Mitigation Work Schedule

In order to comply with the COE permit requirements, the current schedule for the Mitigation Plan should be to plant the wetland plants during the Summer of 2002. This will allow a time period of 17 months from placement of the hydraulic dredge material to wetland planting during the first appropriate growing season. The additional steps to be taken to accomplish the mitigation requirements are as follows:

BUCKTOWN HARBOR
MITIGATION AREA STATUS
September 7, 2001

- ❑ Submit and obtain a modification to the Department of Natural Resources Coastal Use Permit to include the planting and maintenance of the mitigation area by Jefferson Parish. (The mitigation area was permitted for construction by the Coast Guard through the DNR Consistency Statement process for Federal agencies.)
- ❑ Review the proposed soil settlement and planting schedule with the National Marine Fisheries and obtain their agreement.
- ❑ Develop a monitoring plan for approval by National Marine Fisheries.
- ❑ Evaluate settlement and surface elevations and degrade the site as necessary to elevations of 2.0' to 1.5' ngvd by end of April 2002. The Parish would perform the grading and check the finish surface elevations of the mitigation area.
- ❑ Prepare a set of bid Plans and Specifications for the wetland plantings to be bid between November and December 2001.
- ❑ Award Contract in January of 2002 so that plants can be ordered by the Contractor to be grown between March to May 2002 and delivered to the site for planting during June 2002.
- ❑ Plant *Spartina alterniflora* at 4' on center during the summer month of June 2002.
- ❑ Begin monitoring plan.

BUCKTOWN HARBOR
MITIGATION AREA STATUS
September 7, 2001

Estimated Mitigation Planting Costs

Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. estimates the cost of the Wetland Planting Contract to plant the wetland plants at around \$46,400. See the attached September 7, 2001 cost estimate.

An estimate of the design fee to prepare the Plans and Specifications for the wetland plantings is \$5,940 based upon the ASCE fee curve A. Preparation of a the Mitigation permit modification is estimated at around \$2,500.

A total cash budget for the wetland planting AE Design and Planting Contract is \$55,000.

Grading work to be performed by the Parish is estimated to cost the equivalent of around \$36,000.

File name: Mitigation Area Status 9-6-01