

APPENDIX B
Agency Correspondence

June 11, 2009

Michael Trusclair
District Conservationist
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Subject: Relocation of St. Bernard Animal Control Shelter
Chalmette, Louisiana, St. Bernard Parish

Dear Mr. Trusclair,

FEMA has proposed funding for the relocation of the St. Bernard Parish Animal Control Shelter. An Environmental Assessment has been initiated to analyze impacts to the natural and human environment. St Bernard Parish proposes to construct a new single-story prefabricated steel building, approximately 6,200 square feet with a finished elevation of 4.3 feet, on reinforced concrete slab supported by piles driven approximately 60 feet deep. Please find the attached proposed scope of work, coordinates for the proposed new location, and Form AD-1006. We would appreciate your review of this proposed site for prime and unique farmland and/or farmland of local or statewide importance.

NRCS should respond to these requests within 15 days of their receipt. In the event that NRCS fails to complete its response within the required period, we will proceed as though the site were not farmland.

Responses can be faxed to our office at (504) 762-2527. Please contact Desiree.Joseph@associates.dhs.gov, Environmental Specialist, at (504) 762-2468, with any questions.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Spann
Environmental Specialist
FEMA LA Transitional Recovery Office
1250 Poydras, 17th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112
Cell Phone: 832-588-0175
tiffany.spann@dhs.gov

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
FEMA-DR 1603 LA
1250 Poydras Street, 17th floor
New Orleans, LA 70112

June 11, 2009

MEMORANDUM TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Scoping Notification/ Solicitation of Views – St Bernard Animal Shelter

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is mandated by the U.S. Congress to administer Federal disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. The Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Public Assistance Program to provide emergency temporary administrative, educational, medical, or other support facilities for areas impacted by disasters while repairs and reconstruction of storm damaged facilities are being undertaken.

The following scope of work and attached site plan correspond to a proposed project for which FEMA funding has been requested. The project is the relocation of the St Bernard Animal Shelter.

St Bernard Parish (applicant) proposes to construct a new single-story prefabricated steel building, approximately 6,200 square feet with a finished elevation of 4.3 feet, on reinforced concrete slab supported by piles driven approximately 60 feet deep. The applicant has not provided an address for the site, but has provided the following coordinates:

29.9156 N, -89.8987 W (northwest corner);
29.9160 N, -89.8990 W (northeast corner);
29.9155 N, -89.8996 W (southeast corner);
29.9151 N; -89.8994 W (southwest corner).

Upon completion of the new animal shelter, the existing facility which was damaged by wind and flood during Hurricane Katrina, will be demolished and removed. The damaged facility is located at 115 Agriculture Street, Chalmette, Louisiana, 29.9620 N, -89.9563 W.

To ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Orders, and other applicable Federal regulations, we will be preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). To assist us in preparation of the EA, we request that your office

review this project information for a determination as to the requirements of any formal consultations, regulatory permits, determinations, or authorizations.

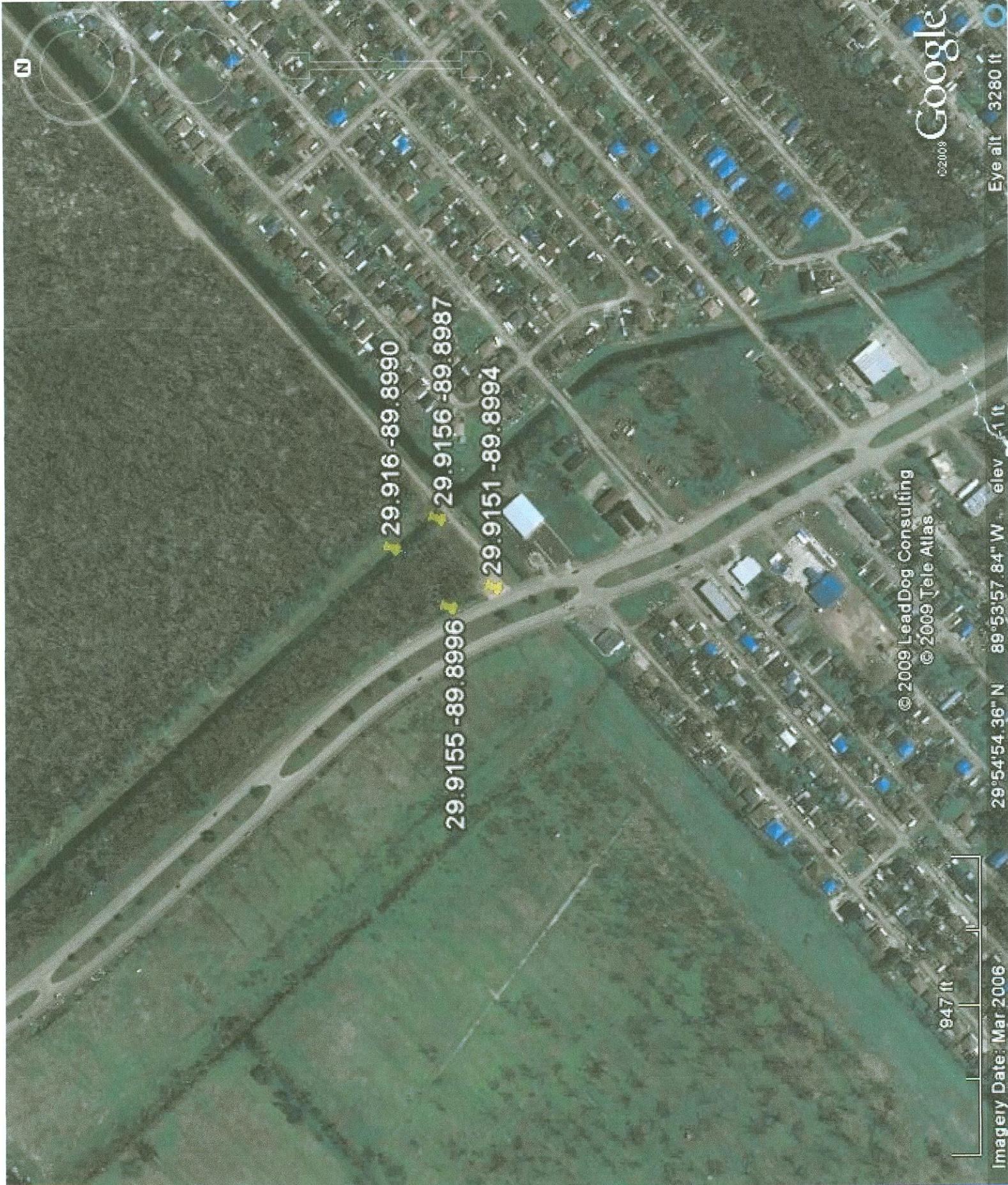
Please respond within 15 calendar days of the date of this scoping notification. If our office receives no comments at the close of this period, we will assume that your agency does not object to the project as proposed.

Comments may be faxed to (504) 762-2527, emailed to Desiree.Joseph@associates.dhs.gov, or mailed to the attention of Desiree Joseph, Environmental Section, at the address above.

For questions regarding this matter, please contact Desiree Joseph at (504) 762-2468.

Cynthia Teeter
Deputy Environmental Liaison Officer

Distribution: LDEQ, USEPA, NOAA-NMFS, USACE, LWFD, LDNR



29.916 -89.8990

29.9156 -89.8987

29.9151 -89.8994

29.9155 -89.8996

947 ft

Imagery Date: Mar 2006

29°54'54.36" N 89°53'57.84" W elev 1 ft

© 2009 LeadDog Consulting
© 2009 Tele Atlas

Google
©2008

Eye alt 3280 ft

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
14246 US Hwy. 90
P.O. Box 531
Boutte, LA 70039
985-758-2162 Ext. 3

June 16, 2009

Tiffany Spann
Environmental Specialist
FEMA LA Transitional Recovery Office
1250 Poydras, 17th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112

RE: Prime Farmland Determination for St. Bernard Parish Animal Control Shelter in Chalmette, Louisiana

Dear Ms. Spann,

Please find attached Form AD-1006, Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form for the proposed St. Bernard Parish Animal Shelter located in Chalmette, Louisiana, which is in St. Bernard Parish.

I have reviewed the information for the Animal Shelter and this site is located in an area that is in prime farmland. The soil located on this site is Schriever silty clay loam(Sh). I have documented on the AD-1006 that 1.5 acres of farmland will be impacted from this proposed Animal Shelter located in Chalmette, Louisiana, which is in St. Bernard Parish.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call me at 985-758-2162 x=3.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Trusclair".

Michael Trusclair
District Conservationist
New Orleans Field Office

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Date Of Land Evaluation Request	6/11/09
Name Of Project	St. Bernard Parish, Animal Control Shelter	Federal Agency Involved	Federal Emergency Management Agency
Proposed Land Use	Animal Shelter	County And State	Chalmette, Louisiana St. Bernard Parish

PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Request Received By NRCS	6/11/09
Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply – do not complete additional parts of this form).		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input 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 <i>St. Bernard Soil Survey</i>	Name Of Local Site Assessment System <i>none</i>	Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS <i>6/16/09</i>	

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	1.5			
	B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly				
C. Total Acres In Site	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland	1.5			
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland	.0008			
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted	100			
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value				

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion	0	85	0	0	0
Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)					

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Maximum Points			
Site Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(b))					
1. Area In Nonurban Use	15	7			
2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use	10	7			
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed	20	0			
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	0			
5. Distance From Urban Builtup Area	15	1			
6. Distance To Urban Support Services	15	0			
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	0			
8. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	10	0			
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services	5	0			
10. On-Farm Investments	20	1			
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	10	0			
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	0			
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	16	0	0	0

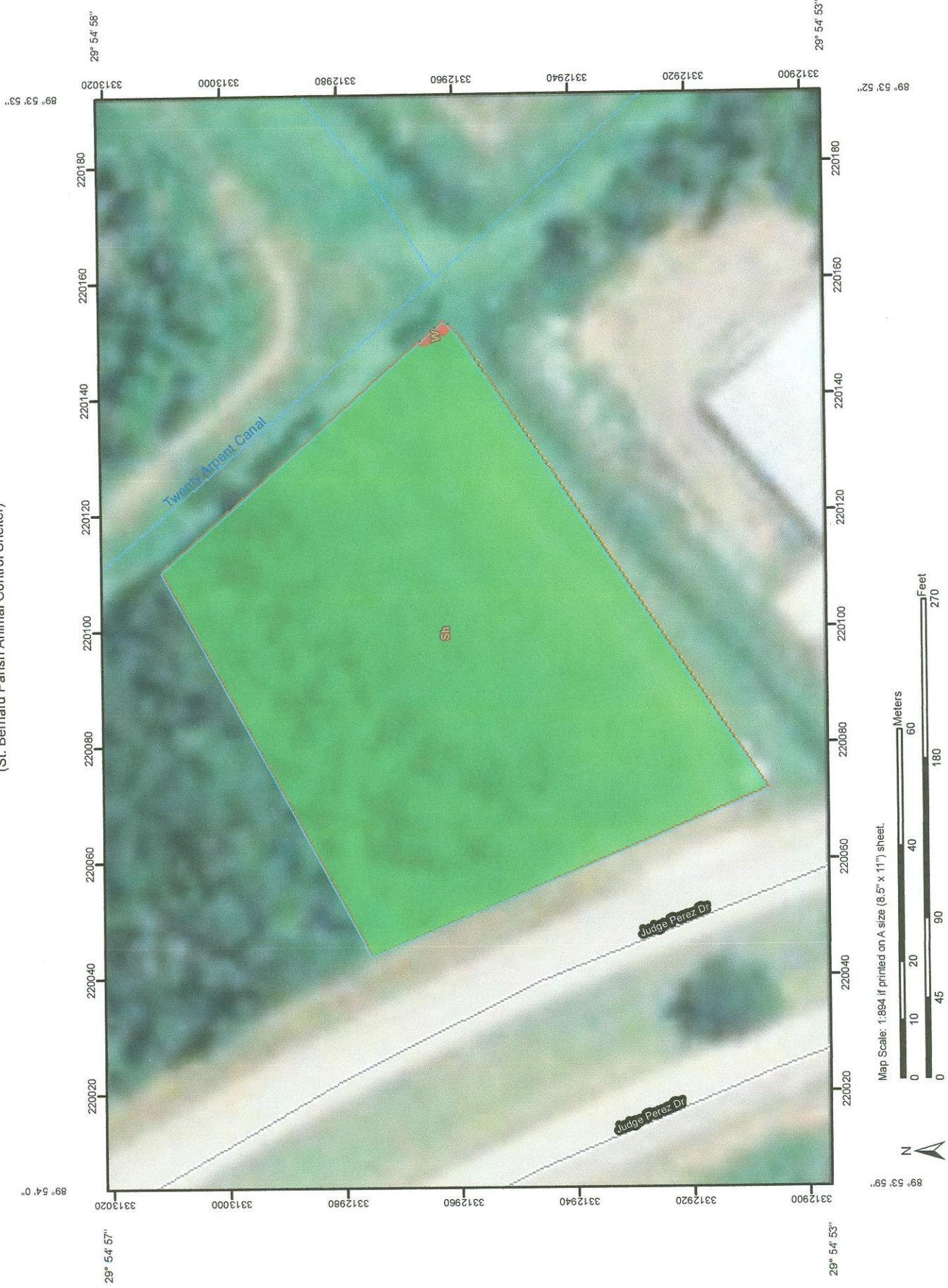
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)					
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100	85	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160	16	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	260	101	0	0	0

Site Selected: <i>SITE A</i>	Date Of Selection: <i>6/17/09</i>	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Reason For Selection:

VERY LOW SCORE

Farmland Classification—St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana
(St. Bernard Parish Animal Control Shelter)



MAP INFORMATION

Map Scale: 1:894 if printed on A size (8.5" x 11") sheet.
 The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.
 Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for accurate map measurements.
 Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Web Soil Survey URL: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>
 Coordinate System: UTM Zone 16N NAD83
 This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.
 Soil Survey Area: St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana
 Survey Area Data: Version 6, Oct 10, 2008
 Date(s) aerial images were photographed: 9/20/2007
 The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

MAP LEGEND

 Area of Interest (AOI)	 US Routes
 Area of Interest (AOI)	 Major Roads
 Soils	 Local Roads
 Soil Map Units	
 Prime farmland if subsided, completely removing the root inhibiting soil layer	
 Prime farmland if irrigated and the product of I (soil erodibility) x C (climate factor) does not exceed 60	
 Prime farmland if irrigated and reclaimed of excess salts and sodium	
 Farmland of statewide importance	
 Farmland of local importance	
 Farmland of unique importance	
 Not rated or not available	
 Political Features	
 Cities	
 Water Features	
 Oceans	
 Streams and Canals	
 Transportation	
 Rails	
 Interstate Highways	

Farmland Classification

Farmland Classification-- Summary by Map Unit -- St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana				
Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
Sh	Schriever silty clay loam	All areas are prime farmland	1.5	99.8%
W	Water	Not prime farmland	0.0	0.2%
Totals for Area of Interest			1.5	100.0%

Description

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

Rating Options

Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Tie-break Rule: Lower



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 60267
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Operations Division
Operations Manager,
Completed Works

Ms. Desiree Joseph
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
FEMA-DR 1603 LA
1250 Poydras Street, 17th Floor
New Orleans, LA 70112

Dear Ms. Joseph:

This is in response to the Solicitation of Views request dated June 11, 2009, on behalf of the St. Bernard Animal Shelter, concerning the construction of a new Animal Shelter in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana.

We have reviewed your request for potential Department of the Army regulatory requirements and impacts on any Department of the Army projects.

We do not anticipate any adverse impacts to any Corps of Engineers projects.

Based on review of recent maps, aerial photography, soils data, we have determined that this property is not in a wetland subject to Corps of Engineers jurisdiction. A Department of the Army permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will not be required for the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material on this site.

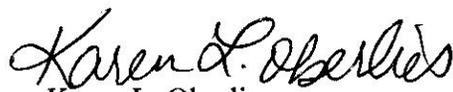
You and your client are advised that this approved jurisdictional determination is valid for a period of 5 years from the date of this letter unless new information warrants revision prior to the expiration date or the District Commander has identified, after public notice and comment, that specific geographic areas with rapidly changing environmental conditions merit re-verification on a more frequent basis.

Off-site locations of activities such as borrow, disposals, haul-and detour-roads and work mobilization site developments may be subject to Department of the Army regulatory requirements and may have an impact on a Department of the Army project.

Please contact Mr. Robert Heffner, of our Regulatory Branch by telephone at (504) 862-1288, or by e-mail at Robert.A.Heffner@usace.army.mil for questions concerning wetlands determinations or need for on-site evaluations. Questions concerning regulatory permit requirements may be addressed to Mr. Michael Farabee by telephone at (504) 862-2292 or by e-mail at Michael.V.Farabee@usace.army.mil.

Future correspondence concerning this matter should reference our account number MVN-2009-01714-SE. This will allow us to more easily locate records of previous correspondence, and thus provide a quicker response.

Sincerely,


Karen L. Oberlies
Solicitation of Views Manager



FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Louisiana Transitional Recovery Office
1250 Poydras Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
504-762-2527 (Fax)

June 11, 2009

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
646 Cajundome Blvd., Ste. 400
Lafayette, LA 70506
Attn: Deborah Fuller

Re: St Bernard Animal Shelter, St Bernard Parish
FEMA 1603-DR-LA

Dear Ms. Fuller,

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has received a request to fund the following Improved Project located near the intersection of East Judge Perez Drive and Angeliqye Drive in Violet, Louisiana. The project is the relocation of the St Bernard Animal Shelter.

Project Description: St Bernard Parish (applicant) proposes to construct a new single-story prefabricated steel building, approximately 6,200 square feet with a finished elevation of 4.3 feet, on reinforced concrete slab supported by piles driven approximately 60 feet deep. The applicant has not provided an address for the site, but has provided the following coordinates:

29.9156 N, -89.8987 W (northwest corner);
29.9160 N, -89.8990 W (northeast corner);
29.9155 N, -89.8996 W (southeast corner);
29.9151 N, -89.8994 W (southwest corner).

Upon completion of the new animal shelter facility, the existing facility which was damaged by wind and flood during Hurricane Katrina, will be demolished and removed. The damaged facility is located at 115 Agriculture Street, Chalmette, Louisiana (29.9620 N, -89.9563 W).

We kindly request your concurrence that the project is not likely to adversely affect threatened or endangered species or fish and wildlife resources. Please review the attached site plan, and fax your determination to the undersigned at (504) 762-2527. If you have any questions, feel free to call the undersigned at (504) 762-2254.

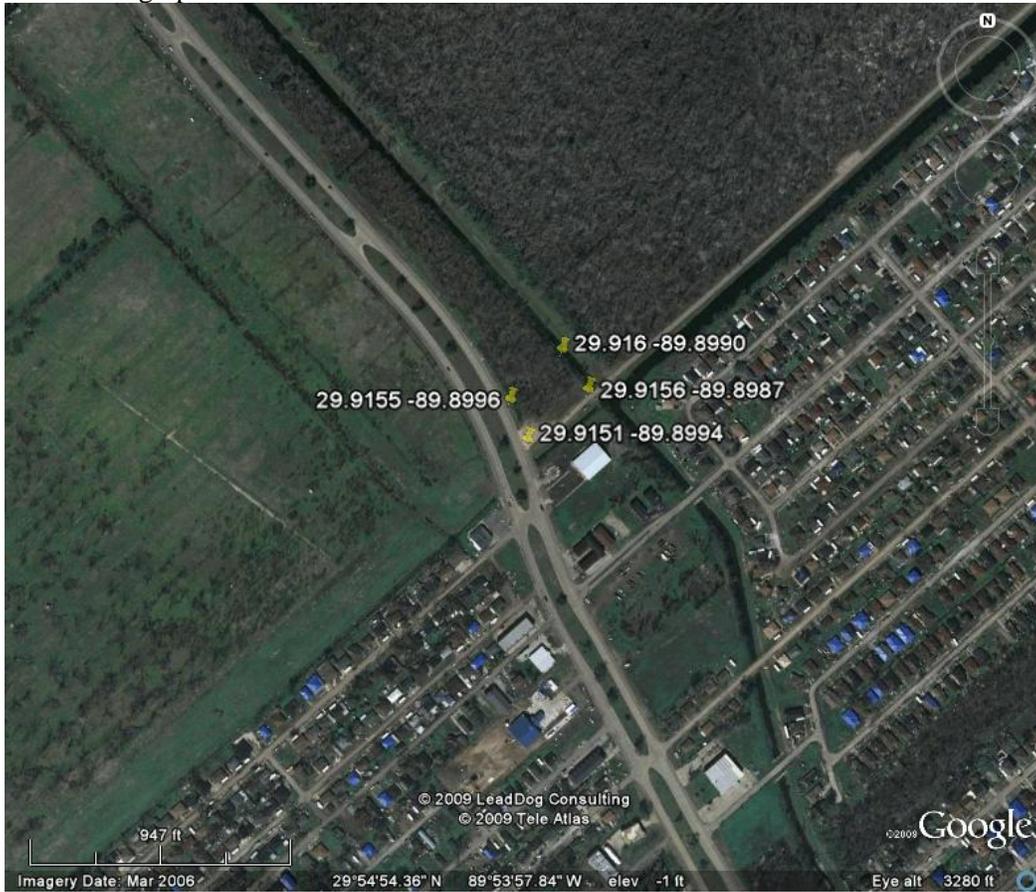
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Brandon M. Clark
FEMA Environmental Specialist

Att.

Attachment – St Bernard Animal Shelter, St Bernard Parish

1. Aerial Photograph – Site Plan



2. Site Photograph





"Joseph, Desiree (CTR)"
<Desiree.Joseph@associates.dhs.gov>

06/11/2009 03:15 PM

To <Deborah_fuller@fws.gov>

cc "Spann, Tiffany" <tiffany.spann@dhs.gov>, "Clark, Brandon" <brandon.clark@dhs.gov>

bcc

Subject USFWS Consultation - St Bernard Animal Shelter

Dear Ms. Fuller,

I have attached a letter describing an Improved Project proposed by St Bernard Parish. Feel free to contact Brandon Clark or me if you have any questions.\

Thanks in advance,

Désirée Joseph
NISTAC, Environmental Specialist
Contractor Support to FEMA's Louisiana Transitional Recovery Office
Desk: (504) 762-2468
Cell: (225) 614-2825
Fax: (504) 762-2527



FWS Consult St Bernard Animal Shelter.doc

This project has been reviewed for effects to Federal trust resources under our jurisdiction and currently protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act). The project, as proposed,
 Will have no effect on those resources
 Is not likely to adversely affect those resources.
This finding fulfills the requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Act.

Deborah A. Fuller June 15, 2009

Date

Acting Supervisor

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

St. Bernard Parish



FEMA

May 18, 2009

Scott Hutcheson
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Culture Recreation and Tourism
Post Office Box 44247
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Section 106 Review Consultation, Hurricane Katrina
Undertaking: Replacement of Animal Control Shelter
Applicant: St. Bernard Parish
Determination: **No Historic Properties Affected**

Dear Mr. Hutcheson:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be providing funds authorized under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, P.L. 93-288, as amended, in response to the following major Disaster Declarations;

- 1) FEMA-DR-1603-LA, dated August 29, 2005, as amended
- 2) FEMA-DR-1607-LA, dated September 23, 2005.

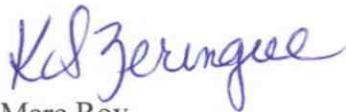
FEMA is initiating Section 106 review for the above referenced properties in accordance with the Programmatic Agreement among FEMA, the Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (LOHSEP) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation dated December 3, 2004. Due to wind and water damage, the Animal Control Shelter for St. Bernard Parish was damaged beyond repair. It is proposed that federal funding through FEMA's Public Assistance program be provided to St. Bernard Parish (Applicant) to replace the Animal Control Shelter (Undertaking) with a new facility in a new location (Undertaking). The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the rebuild site encompasses approximately one acre (Figure 1).

The scope of work indicates ground disturbing activities associated with construction of the new facility. Upon review of data provided by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), there are no known archaeological sites within 0.5 miles of the APE (Figure 2). The 1883 Mississippi River Commission map shows the area as undeveloped back-swamp (Figure 3); the soil types for the area consist of the Fausse-Water-Barbary association, which are soils located in low floodplains and back-swamp areas. FEMA archaeologist Michael Wilder conducted a site visit to the location on May 15, 2009. At this time, the land had been cleared of vegetation and surface visibility was excellent (85-90% exposure) across the entire APE (Figure 4). No evidence of historic or prehistoric cultural resources was noted during surface inspection of the entire APE. Artificial canals line the perimeter of the APE on both the north and east sides, and the area is flat, low-lying,

and consists entirely of reclaimed swampland. Due to the lack of archival evidence indicating historic structures in the area, the absence of any cultural materials noted during the field inspection, and the project's location within reclaimed swampland, FEMA requests SHPO concurrence with its "**No Historic Properties Affected**" determination.

Your prompt review of this project is greatly appreciated. Should you need additional information please contact Michael Wilder, Archaeologist at 703-399-1839 or via email at michael.wilder@associates.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

for 

Marc Roy
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA-DR-1603-LA, FEMA-DR-1607-LA,
FEMA-DR-1792, FEMA-DR-1786

The FEMA/SHPO liaison concurs with the eligibility determination and the finding that there will be **No Historic Properties Affected** as a result of this Undertaking.

Jason A. Emery
Digitally signed by Jason A. Emery
Date: 2009.05.20 13:44:00 -05'00'

Division of Archaeology Reviewer

Date

The SHPO reviewer for standing structures concurs with the eligibility determination and the finding that there will be **No Historic Properties Affected** as a result of this Undertaking.

Digitally signed by Valerie Gomez
Date: 2009.05.21 08:46:52 -05'00'

Division of Historic Preservation Reviewer

Date



Figure 1. Location of the project area (in red).

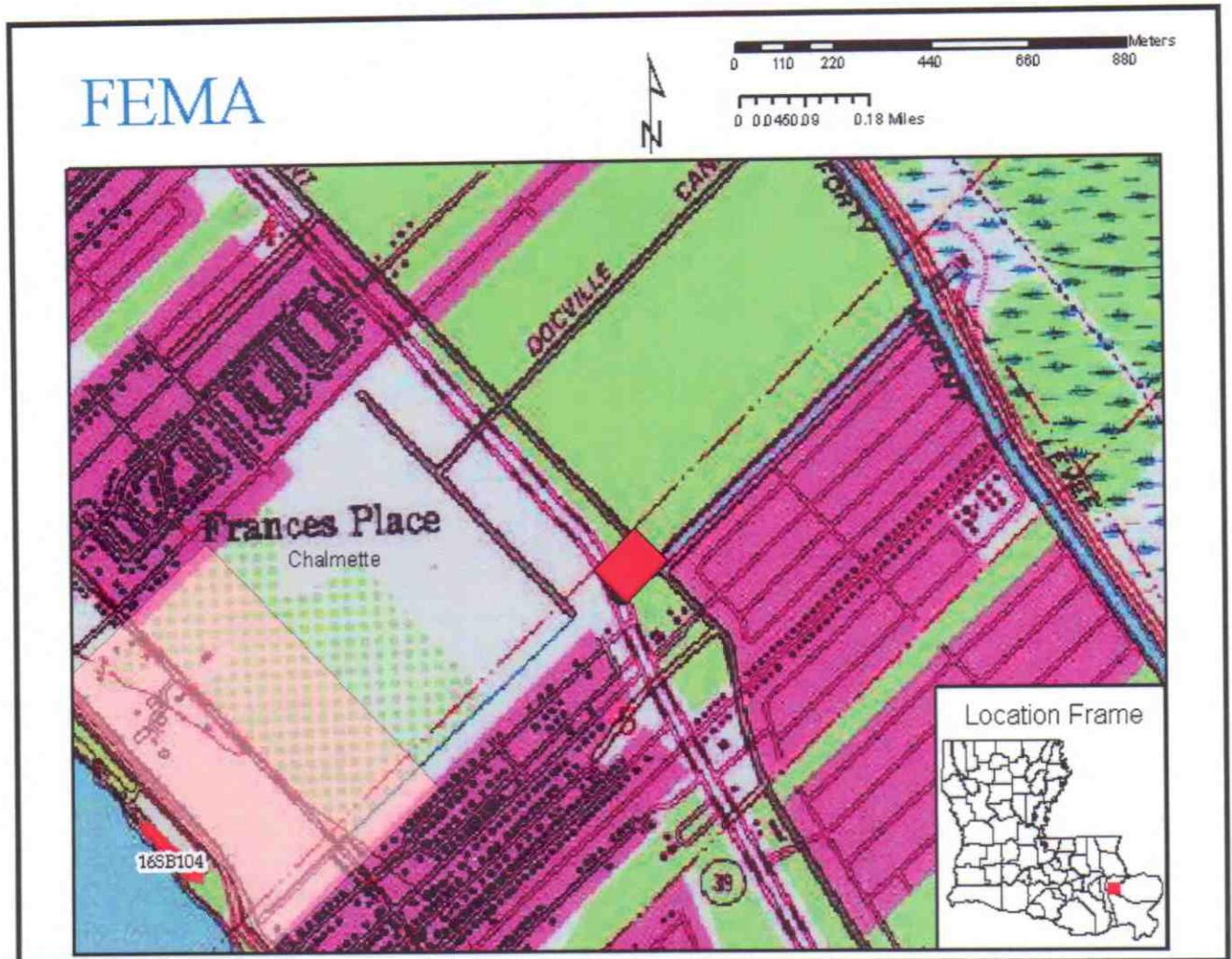


Figure 2. Project APE (red square) in relation to nearest known archaeological site.

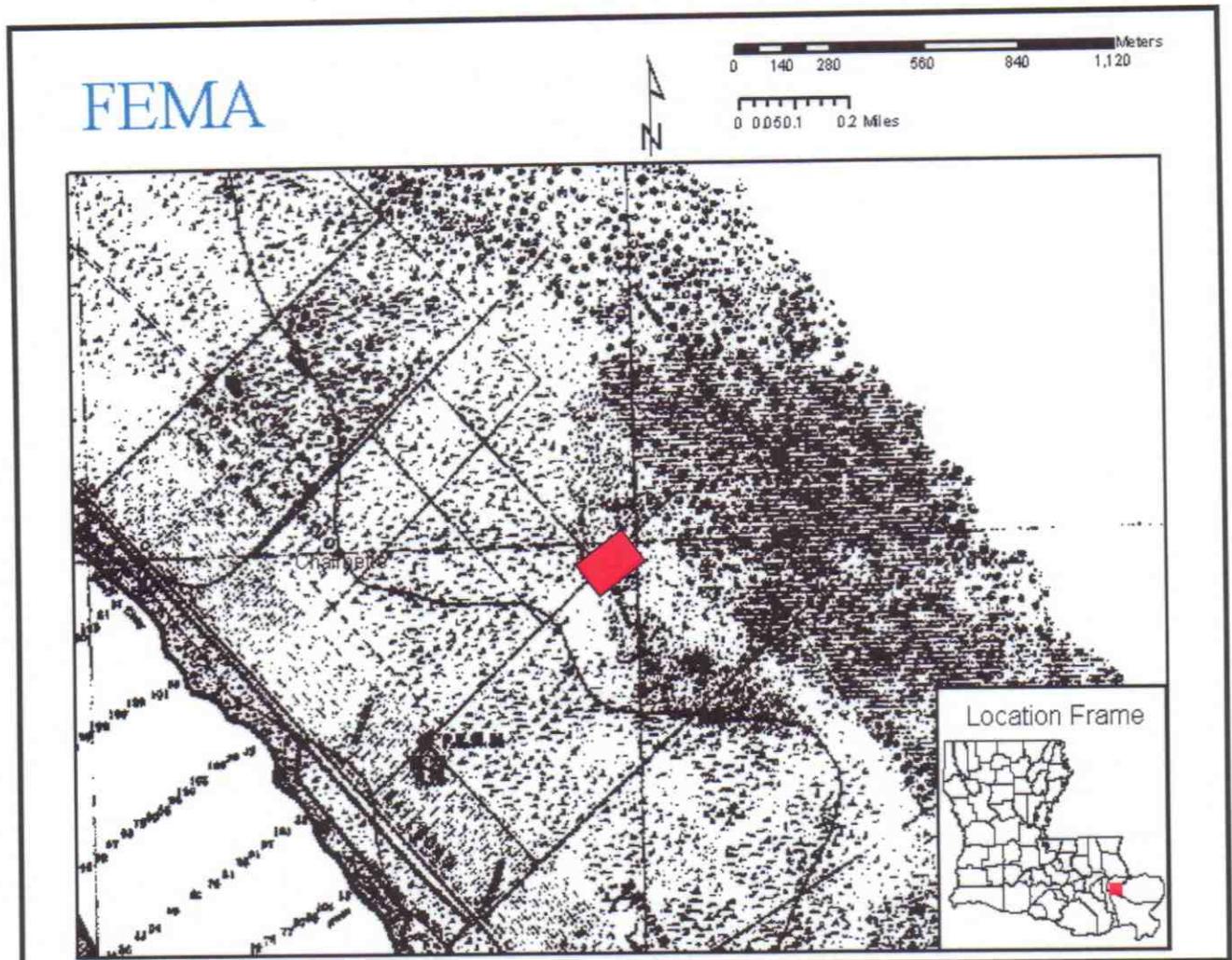


Figure 3. Project area (red square) plotted on MRC 1883 base layer.



Figure 4. Project area showing exposed soils. View to South.