

Draft Environmental Assessment
City of Youngsville
Highland Ridge Subdivision &
Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond
Project
HMGP-4277-0036-LA
Lafayette Parish, Louisiana
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FEMA

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Region 6
800 North Loop 288
Denton, TX 76209



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

APE	Area of Potential Effect
BMP	Best Management Practices
CAA	Clean Air Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System
ESA	Endangered Species Act
GOHSEP	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
HHS	Health and Human Services
HMGP	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
HUD	Housing and Urban Development
LADOTD	Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging Data
LMI	Low to Moderate Income
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
ROW	Right-Of-Way
SCS	Soil Conservation Service
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
TRI	Toxic Resources Inventory
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USCB	United States Census Bureau
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United State Geological Service

1.0 Introduction

South Lafayette has experienced an increase in drainage issues over the past decade resulting from the increase of high-intensity storms that have become more prevalent in recent years. These storms have resulted in street flooding, road closures, school closures, business closures, pavement degradation and failures, and an increase in rising water level encroachments on residential structures. These consequences, coupled with the tremendous growth of Lafayette Parish and the increase of impervious area within the watersheds, have resulted in Coulee LaSalle inadequately draining the watershed during several storm events each year. This dynamic drainage problem is not isolated to the city limits of Youngsville. The flooding of Coulee LaSalle and its laterals extends throughout Lafayette Parish, St. Martin Parish, and Iberia Parish.

In August 2016, severe flooding was caused by an unnamed storm that produced approximately 30 inches of rainfall over a 72-hour period in the Youngsville area, which ultimately resulted in a major federal disaster declaration FEMA DR-4277-LA. FEMA is administering this disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), Public Law (PL) 93-288, as amended. Section 404 of the Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to provide funds to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration.

After the storm, the City of Youngsville (Sub-recipient), applied for funding through the HMGP administered by the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to reduce localized flooding during and after storm events within the Coulee LaSalle watershed.

This Environmental Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations to implement NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508), and FEMA's procedures for implementing NEPA (FEMA Instruction 108-1-1). FEMA is required to consider potential environmental impacts before funding or approving actions and projects. The purpose of this EA is to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action (HMGP-4277-0036-LA Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond Project) on the physical and human environment. 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).

2.0 Purpose and Need

Through HMGP, FEMA provides grants to state, local, tribal and territorial governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures. The purpose of HMGP is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. FEMA's hazard mitigation assistance provides funding for eligible mitigation measures that reduce disaster losses, reduces vulnerability of communities to disasters and their effects, promotes individual and community safety and their ability to adapt to changing conditions and withstand and rapidly recover from disruption due to emergencies (resilience), promotes community vitality after a disaster, which all results in safer communities that are less reliant on external financial assistance.

The purpose of this proposed project is to improve inundation in the Coulee LaSalle watershed and to provide flooding relief to the Highland Ridge Subdivision.

The capacity of the existing drainage infrastructure in the City of Youngsville was exceeded during the unnamed storm event and the resulting flooding caused damage to numerous roadways, private residences, small businesses, and local government buildings. When accounting for damages to automobiles, agricultural losses, business interruptions, and private residences, the costs resulting from the damages caused by this rainfall event totaled approximately \$26 million. Approximately 368 homes within the Coulee LaSalle watershed were flooded in the August 2016 rain event. Most of these homes experienced 6"-18" of water in their homes with the majority of them receiving less than 1 foot of water in their homes. Of the 368 homes, 320 of them were within the Highland Ridge Subdivision which outfalls to a lateral referenced in this study as Lateral 1, which connects to Coulee LaSalle and is located just west of the proposed regional detention pond location.

There is a need to provide for stormwater runoff storage to lower the water surface elevation in receiving streams and reduce flood risk to homes, roadways, and other structures and infrastructure within the Coulee LaSalle watershed.

3.0 Alternatives

Four alternatives were identified as part of the Phase 1 process: No Action Alternative; Alternative #1; Alternative #2 (Proposed Action); and Alternative #3. This EA is evaluating the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action Alternative #2. Alternative #1 and Alternative #3 were eliminated from further consideration. The alternatives are listed and described below:

3.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no steps would be taken to increase stormwater storage, lower water surface elevations, or reduce flood risk to structures and facilities. If no action is to take place, the immediate project area as well as the watershed area within Lafayette Parish along with downstream areas within St. Martin and northern Iberia Parishes would continue to experience flooding in high-intensity storms resulting in continued losses and damages to lives, property, and businesses. The losses and damages would continue to negatively impact the economy in the area. In addition, the water surface elevations would continue to increase during high intensity storm events.

3.2 Proposed Action

Alternative #2 (Proposed Action) is to construct two detention ponds consisting of a total of approximately 16 acres on a 22-acre parcel of land located adjacent to both Coulee LaSalle and Lateral 1 of Coulee LaSalle. The project area is bounded to west by Larriviere Road, the east by Coulee LaSalle, the south by Lateral 1 and north by private property just south of Young Street (LA Hwy 92). See **Appendix A-1** for a project map.

The proposed ponds are designed to serve as a reservoir for Coulee LaSalle during high intensity storms to reduce the risk of flooding in the surrounding areas. The project would require the excavation of approximately 16 acres to an average depth of 13 feet. The detention ponds would require two inlet control structures, two outlet control structures, pond lining, two dry hydrants, and a dewatering pump for added water level control. The Proposed Action also includes the construction of a 900 square foot building that would be used to store the pump and other materials for pond maintenance.

Pond 1 (30.09661, -91.97266) is approximately 12 acres and would have a depth of 13 feet. Pond 1 would have an inlet control structure consisting of a concrete headwall with four (4) 48-inch diameter openings and four (4) flap gates that would eliminate any negative flows into the channel and allow the pond to store water properly. The openings of the inlet structure would have bottom invert elevations of 19.5 and 20.0 ft. The outlet control structure for Pond 1 consists of an 8 ft. x 6 ft. box with a 24 in. reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) outlet with a flap gate.

Pond 2 (30.096470, -91.9708729) is approximately 4 acres and would have a depth of 13 feet. Pond 2 would have an inlet control structure consisting of a concrete headwall with one (1) 48-inch diameter opening and a flap gate. The outlet control structure for Pond 2 would consist of an 8 ft. x 6 ft. box with a 24-in. RCP outlet pipe with a flap gate.

The City would install a dry hydrant on each pond so that the ponds can be mechanically pumped out to maximize the storage volume. Excavated soils would be utilized to construct perimeter berms to an approximate crown at elevation 26 feet. The ponds would have 3H:1V (horizontal: vertical) side slopes which would intersect natural grades on the landside/protected side. The Proposed Action also includes the construction of an asphalt entrance way and a 12-foot wide access road around the perimeter of the ponds.

The proposed project would also include the installation of a flap gate on the pipe located under South Larriviere Road. The flap gate at this location is needed to reduce or eliminate the back flow or reverse flow that occurs and floods the Highland Ridge Subdivision.

The right of way acquisition required for project construction was from a willing seller. At the time of acquisition, a structure was present on the project site. The structure was deemed a hazard and was condemned by the City of Youngsville. Subsequently it was demolished in February 2021 and disposed of at the expense of the City of Youngsville. The demolition costs are not included as part of the FEMA HMGP grant.

3.3 Alternatives Considered and Dismissed

Alternative #1 is to construct a single 22-acre pond on the parcel of land owned by the Lafayette Parish School Board north of the Southside High School (30.093186, -91.962888). Alternative #1 was considered and dismissed because it would have resulted in adverse impacts to wetlands present within a portion of the project footprint. This alternative did provide water surface elevation benefit for the Coulee LaSalle and the nearby flooded homes. However, while this alternative provided significant benefit, it did not provide the greatest hydraulic benefit to the homes that experience repetitive flooding. In addition, during early property negotiations with the landowner, the property was going to be available for purchase. However, the property owner subsequently revised the property conditions to 10-year leases at one tenth of the purchase cost each year. For a 30-year lease, the City of Youngsville would be required to pay 3 times the purchase price for the parcel of land. The current land use of the property is agricultural and there would be additional costs for the agricultural losses to be paid to the farmer currently leasing the property. Therefore, this alternative was eliminated due to right of way costs and wetland impacts and anticipated required mitigation.

Alternative #3 is to construct a 25-acre pond on a parcel of land located east of Coulee LaSalle and east of the Highland Ridge subdivision that consists of a borrow pit that could be modified for use as a detention pond (30.09220, -91.9532892). Alternative # 3 was considered and dismissed after it was determined that this site would provide the

least hydraulic benefit for the recently flooded homes. In addition, the existing borrow pit consisted of side slopes that would need to be reinforced with sheet pile walls around the perimeter of the pond. The site would also require large pumps and generators to be installed to regulate the water within the pond. This alternative would cost more than \$25M and would be more expensive than the other two alternatives with the least amount of hydraulic benefit, therefore, it was eliminated.

See **Appendix A-2** for a map of Alternatives #1 and #3.

4.0 Affected Environment and Potential Impacts

4.1 Water Resources

4.1.1 Waters of the United States Including Wetlands

Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the regulatory authority for the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, which includes jurisdictional wetlands.

Executive Order (EO) 11990 Protection of Wetlands requires federal agencies to avoid, to the extent possible, the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands and to avoid direct or indirect support of new construction in wetlands wherever there is practicable alternative. Each federal agency shall provide leadership and shall take action to minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands, and preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands in carrying out the agency's responsibilities. FEMA uses the 8-step decision-making process to evaluate potential effects on, and mitigate effects to, wetlands in compliance with EO 11990 and 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 9.

4.1.1.1 Existing Conditions

The project site located in Section 9, Township 11 South, Range 5 East, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana, is approximately 23.8 acres with an address of 333 South Larriviere Road, Youngsville, Louisiana. Based on recent maps, aerial photograph, and soil data, it was determined that part of the property contains non-wetland waters of the U.S, located on the East and South corners of the property. The approximate limits of the non-wetland waters are designated in blue on the map attached to the Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination as completed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in **Appendix A-3**.

4.1.1.2 Potential Effects and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative:

Under the No Action Alternative, the existing wetlands would remain undisturbed and in their current condition.

Alternative #2 Proposed Action:

Per USACE's June 11, 2021, regulatory determination, wetlands are not present in the project area, therefore the 8-step process was not applied for wetlands. However, USACE determined that part of the property contains waters of the U.S. that may be subject to USACE jurisdiction under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The City does not intend to deposit or redistribute dredged or fill materials in the jurisdictional waters of Coulee LaSalle. The Proposed Action does however include an outfall into and a crossing of jurisdictional waters, and the City of Youngsville is responsible for coordinating with and obtaining any required Section 404 Permit(s) from USACE and/or any Section 401/402 Permit(s) from the state prior to initiating work. The City must comply with all conditions of any required permit(s). All coordination pertaining to these activities should be retained as part of the project file in accordance with the respective grant program instructions.

Project construction may result in temporary and minor water quality impacts to nearby surface waters due to ground disturbance. The project construction plans include a Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control System which would reduce any runoff or overflow from entering the non-wetlands waters. The Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control system coupled with Best Management Practices (BMPs) would deter any runoff from entering the U.S. waters or wetlands. Sedimentation and effects to water quality would be minor.

4.1.2 Floodplains

Executive Order (EO) 11988 Floodplain Management requires federal agencies to avoid to the extent possible the long and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative. Each federal agency shall provide leadership and shall take action to reduce the risk of flood loss, to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare, and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values

served by floodplains in carrying out its responsibilities. FEMA uses the 8-step decision-making process to evaluate potential effects on and mitigate effects to floodplains in compliance with EO 11988 and 44 CFR Part 9.

4.1.2.1 Existing Conditions

The City of Youngsville continues to experience 10-year 24-hour storm events as well as short duration high intensity events closer to 25-year 6-hour events and 50-year 12-hour events. The Highland Ridge Subdivision experiences flood inundation during rainfall events exceeding a 5-year 24-hour volume and intensity. During rain events, stormwater from Lateral 1 backflows from Coulee LaSalle once Coulee LaSalle starts to fill to capacity then flows across Larriviere Road and into the Highland Ridge Subdivision. These areas experience flash flooding on Larriviere Road, the subdivision streets and front yards in addition to flooding of homes within the subdivision. As described previously, 320 homes in this subdivision experienced flooding during the August 2016 storm.

The study area is located within the Coulee LaSalle Watershed which commences north of Griffin Road in Youngsville and continues in a southeasterly direction into St. Martin and northern Iberia Parishes. The existing drainage system of the Highland Ridge Subdivision consists of ditches and driveway culverts along the subdivision streets that drain towards detention ponds within the subdivision. The four detention ponds within the Highland Ridge Subdivision outfall to Lateral 1 which then flows into Coulee LaSalle along the southern boundary of the project site property.

Per the H&H conducted by McBade Engineers and Consultants, LLC, dated August 2021 (available upon request from FEMA at dorothy.cook@fema.dhs.gov), based on the survey of the drainage collection system within the Highland Ridge Subdivision, and along Larriviere Road, the existing drainage ditches and culverts have been recently cleaned and have been maintained since the August 2016 flood event. However, the capacity of the existing drainage ditches and culverts is less than a 5-year 24-hour storm event, which would be reduced with any accumulation of silt within them. The results also indicated that the capacity of Coulee LaSalle, Lateral 1, and the cross drains of Coulee LaSalle and Lateral 1 at Larriviere Road is less than a 10-year 24-hour storm event.

The existing water surface elevations (WSE) at Station 6744.943 of Coulee LaSalle, located directly downstream of the project area, was used to evaluate channel water surface are as follows:

Table 1: Existing Water Surface Elevations at Coulee LaSalle, H&H conducted by McBade Engineers and Consultants, LLC, dated August 2021

STATION 6744.943	Water Surface Elevation
10-Year	24.05
25-Year	24.42
50-Year	24.68
100-Year	24.92
500-year	25.54

Per the H&H, the drainage pipe at the Hill Ridge Road crossing was used in determining the comparison of water surface elevations and flow for the existing conditions verses the proposed conditions.

Table 2: Existing Conditions Highland Ridge Subdivision Water Surface Elevation, H&H conducted by McBade Engineers and Consultants, LLC, dated August 2021

Storm Event	North Hill Ridge Water Surface Elevation	Hill Ridge Crossing Pipe (Q cfs)	South Hill Ridge Water Surface Elevation.
10 - Year	23.392	-372.870	21.638
25 - Year	23.450	-372.399	21.699
100 - Year	23.609	-377.907	21.810

4.1.2.2 Potential Effects and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative:

Under the No Action Alternative, the existing conditions would persist, and the residents located in the Coulee LaSalle watershed would remain at risk of repetitive floods. Coulee LaSalle would continue to lack the capacity to convey stormwater through the watershed and the residents inside the watershed would continue to have minimal flood storage and attenuation capacity.

Alternative #2 Proposed Action:

According to the December 21, 2018, FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (Appendix A-5) for Lafayette Parish (Map Number 22055C0275J), small portions of the project footprint fall within Zone AE and AE Floodway,

areas within the 100-year floodplain, and the remainder of the project lies within Zone X and Shaded Zone X, areas outside the 100-year floodplain.

Based on the model results from the H&H (McBade, 2021), the Proposed Action resulted in the most flood reduction on Coulee LaSalle during all storm events (10-year 24-hour, 25-year 24-hour, 50-year 24-hour, 100-year 24-hour and 500-year 24-hour storm events) and resulted in significant flood reduction to Lateral 1. In addition, the XP Storm model of the Highland Ridge Subdivision resulted in 1.69 ft of water surface elevation reduction in the subdivision outfall during the 10-year 24-hour storm event. According to the H&H, the construction of the Proposed Action would have no negative impacts to the environment, adjacent property, or other infrastructure.

The water surface elevations for the proposed conditions at Station STA 6744.943 of Coulee LaSalle and Highland subdivision are included in the following tables.

Table 3: Proposed Water Surface Elevations of Coulee LaSalle, H&H conducted by McBade Engineers and Consultants, LLC, dated August 2021

STATION 6744.943	Water Surface Elevation
10-Year	23.76
25-Year	24.13
50-Year	24.40
100-Year	24.63
500-year	25.32

Table 4: Proposed Conditions in the Highland Ridge Subdivision, H&H conducted by McBade Engineers and Consultants, LLC, dated August 2021

Storm Event	North Hill Ridge Water Surface Elevation	Hill Ridge Crossing Pipe (Q cfs)	South Hill Ridge Water Surface Elevation.
10 - Year	21.691	-291.055	20.872
25 - Year	21.691	-332.539	21.187
100 - Year	23.154	-353.377	21.568

This project would not expose any segment of the population to new flood hazards and would instead provide the population additional protection from future flood hazards. Reduction in flood risk as a result of the Proposed Action might encourage additional development in the floodplain. The project would lower the Base Flood Elevation of Coulee LaSalle and lower the peak velocity of Coulee LaSalle. The Proposed

Action would reduce the discharge of the channel into St. Martin Parish and reduce the erosion of the banks of Coulee LaSalle. The functions of these detention ponds would provide much needed flood water storage, a conveyance of runoff, a reduction of flood water velocities, a reduction of flood water peaks, and lower the water surface elevation of Coulee LaSalle during storm events. The 8-step decision making process is attached in **Appendix A-4**.

The City of Youngsville must coordinate with the local floodplain administrator and obtain required permits prior to initiating work, including any necessary certifications that encroachments within the adopted regulatory floodway would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge. The City of Youngsville must comply with any conditions of permit and all coordination pertaining to these activities should be retained as part of the project file in accordance with the respective grant program instructions.

4.2 Biological Resources

4.2.1 Threatened and Endangered Species and Critical Habits

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) provides for the conservation of threatened and endangered plants and animals and the habitats in which they are found. The lead Federal agencies for implementing the ESA are the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service. The law requires Federal agencies to ensure that actions they authorize, fund, or carry out are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat of such species. The law also prohibits any action that causes an unauthorized “taking” of any listed species of endangered fish or wildlife. “Take” is defined in regulation (50 CFR. 10.12) as “to pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or any attempt to carry out these activities.”

4.2.2 Existing Conditions

USFWS was contacted in December 2020 and January 2022 to obtain an official list of protected species and critical habitat present in the project area. USFWS indicated that no listed threatened or endangered species are present in the project area, however, there is potential for the candidate species, Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) to be present in the project area. There are no

designated or proposed critical habitat units within the project area. See USFWS official species list in **Appendix A-8**.

4.2.3 Potential Effects and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative:

Under the No Action Alternative, the action would result in no effect to listed species or designated critical habitat.

Alternative #2 Proposed Action:

FEMA has determined, based on the USFWS species list input, that the proposed project would have no effect to listed species or designated critical habitat because none are present in the project area. Candidate species, including the Monarch Butterfly, are not officially protected by the Endangered Species Act because additional analysis is needed to determine whether they warrant listing as either threatened or endangered by the USFWS.

4.3 Cultural Resources

Federal agencies must consider the potential effects of their actions upon cultural resources prior to engaging in any undertaking. Cultural resources are defined as prehistoric and historic sites, structures, districts, buildings, objects, artifacts, or any other physical evidence of human activity considered important to a culture, subculture, or community for scientific, traditional, religious, or other reasons. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) codifies this obligation and is implemented by regulation in 36 CFR Part 800. The NHPA defines a historic property as “any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion on the National Register.” Eligibility criteria for listing a property on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are found at 36 CFR Part 60. While the definition of cultural resource under NEPA can be broader, FEMA regularly uses Section 106 to meet its obligations to consider effects to cultural resources. For this project, FEMA determined that it was appropriate to utilize its NHPA review to fulfill its NEPA obligations.

Cultural resources determined to be potentially significant under NHPA are subject to a higher level of review. Federal agencies must consider the effects of their projects on those resources and consider steps to avoid, minimize, or mitigate those effects. To be considered significant, a cultural resource must meet one or more of the criteria established by the National Park Service (NPS), including all properties that meet the NRHP listing criteria, that are specified in the Department of Interior regulations Title

36, Part 60.4 and NRHP Bulletin 15. Properties and sites that have not been evaluated at the time of the Undertaking may be considered potentially eligible for inclusion in the NRHP and, as such, are afforded the same regulatory consideration as nominated properties.

4.3.1 Identification of APE, Cultural Resources, and Consultation Process

Pursuant to regulation, the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is defined as the “geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist” (36 CFR 800.4 and 800.16). The APE is based upon the “potential” for effect, which may differ for above ground resources (e.g., historic structures and landscapes) and subsurface resources (archaeological sites). Factors with potential to cause effects, indirect and cumulative, include but are not limited to noise, vibration, visual (setting), traffic, atmosphere and construction.

Cultural resources investigations were conducted as part of the City of Youngsville’s compliance with the State of Louisiana Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development, which houses the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), recommendation. The City of Youngsville retained SWCA Environmental Consultants to perform a Phase I cultural resources survey of the proposed project site. On April 6-9, 2021, SWCA completed an intensive pedestrian survey with shovel testing and a concurrent historic structure survey throughout the project site. A total of 53 shovel tests were excavated within the site; four were positive for cultural materials, an additional five shovel tests were attempted but not excavated due to an existing pipeline corridor, disturbed ground surface from current construction activity, and a gravel road impasse. The pedestrian survey and shovel testing identified one archaeological site, which was not fully delineated due to reconfiguration of project area boundaries. This site is no longer located within the current project workspace, the delineated portion is recommended NOT ELIGIBLE for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). One isolated find was also identified. One historic structure, LHRI 2804249, was documented outside of the project area. LHRI 28-04249 is recommended NOT ELIGIBLE for the NRHP, and no further work is recommended. Review of historic documents also revealed that a historic-age structure was located inside of the project area. Upon survey, SWCA found that the structure was no longer standing and that no historical elements of the structure were present within the survey area. SWCA recorded two additional features but found they were not of historic-age and were likely associated with the modern additions to the demolished historic structure.

In accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA (36 CFR 8004.4), SWCA made a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the survey area. Based on the results of the current effort and reconfiguration of the project area boundaries, SWCA recommended a determination of NO HISTORIC PROPERTIES AFFECTED (36 CFR 800.4[d][1]). SWCA recommended no further investigation of the project area and that the project be allowed to proceed.

The Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond was submitted to SHPO and SHPO responded, dated May 17, 2021, stating that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places would be affected by this project. SHPO consultation letters can be found in **Appendix A-9**.

In addition to consulting with the SHPO, FEMA is obligated under the NHPA to consult with federally recognized tribes that may have interest in the federal Undertaking. FEMA consulted with Chitimacha, Coushatta, Eastern Shawnee, Jena Band, Mississippi Band and Tunica-Biloxi Tribes regarding the Proposed Action on July 22, 2021. Tribal consultation documentation is located in **Appendix A-10**, including the response from the Eastern Shawnee, dated September 14, 2021, stating that the proposed project will not adversely affect traditional, religious, or culturally significant sites.

4.3.2 Existing Conditions

Historical topographic maps of the project area extending back as early as 1855 to assess the potential for historic structures within the project area and surrounding areas were reviewed. These maps revealed that, in general, the project area appeared to be largely undeveloped throughout the nineteenth century and no structures can be seen within the project area. On the 1855 general land Office map (GLO 1855), beginning in 1939, structures appear along Highway 92 approximately 0.3 mile north of the project area, and within the city limits of the City of Youngsville which is approximately 1 mile west of the project area (USGS 1939). Also shown on the 1939 map are 11 structures 50 meters north of the project boundary, two structures 30 meters south of the project area, and a human-made canal running the extent of the east boundary of the project area (USGS 1939). In the 1957 map, a new structure (identified as Structure 01) is shown west of South Larriviere Road, 30 meters southwest of the project area (USGS 1957). On the same map, the 11 structures north of the project had been pared down to one, located immediately east of North Larriviere Road, approximately 100 meters north of the project area. The two structures south of the project area disappeared between 1939 and 1957 (USGS 1939, 1957). In a 1971 aerial photograph, the structure north of the project area

is surrounded by several ancillary structures: however, most disappear or are moved as indicated by a 1981 aerial photograph of the same location (NETR 2021). The structure north of the project area still exists in current aerial photographs and lies 105 meters outside of the project area (NETR 2021). In a 1998 aerial photograph, Structure 01 continues to stand within the project area and appears to have been renovated, now extending approximately 20 meters east (NETR 2021). Structure 01 is depicted through the 2017 aerial photograph and is also shown in the 2020 Google Earth aerial photograph (Google Earth 2021; NETR 2021). Structure 02 was demolished between 2015 and 2019, but a second structure just south of Structure 02 remains in current aerial photographs (Google Earth 2021).

4.3.3 Potential Effects and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative:

Under the No Action Alternative there is a low but slight chance that historic properties within the vicinity could be affected by the inundation of Coulee LaSalle. Effects would be minor.

Alternative #2 Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action Alternative would have no direct effect to any properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and the indirect effects would be minimal to none citing lack of historic connection of Coulee LaSalle. Additionally, the drainage improvements and proposed landscaping work would visually improve the current project site.

FEMA has determined that there will be No Historic Properties Affected. SHPO concurrence with this determination was received, dated May 17, 2021. Consultation with the Chitimacha, Coushatta, Eastern Shawnee, Jena Band, Mississippi Band and Tunica-Biloxi Tribes was conducted per 36 CFR §800.2(c)(2)(i)(B). Response from the Eastern Shawnee, dated September 14, 2021, states that the proposed project will not adversely affect traditional, religious, or culturally significant sites (see **Appendix A-10**). The Chitimacha, Coushatta, Jena Band, Mississippi Band and Tunica-Biloxi Tribes did not provide comments within 30 days or declined to comment. FEMA has determined that the proposed project will not adversely affect traditional, religious, or culturally significant sites.

The City of Youngsville must monitor ground disturbance and if any potential archaeological resources are discovered, must immediately cease construction in that area and notify the State and FEMA.

4.4 Socioeconomic Resources

4.4.1 Environmental Justice

EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, requires each Federal agency to identify and address, as appropriate, “disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects” its activities may have on minority or low-income populations. Guidance released by the Council on Environmental Quality following publication of the EO makes clear that environmental effects include economic and social effects when considering Environmental Justice during the NEPA process (CEQ 1997).

The CEQ guidance also provides criteria for identifying minority and low-income populations. Specifically, low-income populations are identified based on the annual statistical poverty income thresholds of the U.S. Census Bureau, and minority populations are defined as persons in following population groups: American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander; Black, not of Hispanic origin; or Hispanic. Any area where the minority and/or low-income population exceeds 50 percent is considered to have an environmental justice population, based on the CEQ guidance.

4.4.1.1 Existing Conditions

According to 2019 Census data, the City of Youngsville has an estimated population of 14,705. 11 percent of the population is a low-income group. The City of Youngsville is 81 percent White and 19 percent minority: 12 percent Black, 2 percent Asian, 3 percent two or more races, 3 percent Hispanic or Latino. While the project area contains minority and low-income groups, both the minority and low-income populations are below the 50 percent threshold to be identified as an Environmental Justice Population (EPA 2022a).

4.4.1.2 Potential Effects and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative:

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no Federal action and conditions in the project area would remain unchanged. The community, including minority and low-income populations, would continue to face risk of damage to property and infrastructure and threats to human life and safety during flood events.

Alternative #2 Proposed Action:

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, the community, including minority and low-income populations would experience localized and short-term effects during construction (e.g., noise, traffic, and local access disruptions). However, any effects would not be disproportionate or impact mainly or more strongly on minority or low-income populations compared to the community at large. The Proposed Action would provide flood reduction benefits to the community, including minority and low-income populations.

4.4.2 Hazardous Materials

Hazardous wastes, as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), are “any waste material – solid, liquid, or gaseous – that because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical or infectious characteristic may cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality, serious irreversible illness, or incapacitating reversible illness; or pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported or disposed of, or otherwise managed.” Improper management and disposal of hazardous substances can lead to pollution of natural resources, including air, water, and soil.

Federal regulations governing the assessment and disposal of hazardous wastes include RCRA, the RCRA Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, Solid Waste Act, and Toxic Substances Control Act.

4.4.2.1 Existing Conditions

A search of environmental databases (Toxic Release Inventory (TRI); NEPA Assist; EPA Cleanups in My Community) to identify potential

environmental concerns associated with the project area was conducted within a 1-mile radius of the project site. The database searches included records of facilities, both past and present, that use, generate, store, treat or dispose of hazardous materials and other regulated substances. The review indicated 7 facilities within the 1-mile radius of the project site, the closest being a truck rental company (.38 miles) and a bottling company (.38 miles). Hazardous materials are not expected at the project site as the site is not developed and past uses include a single residential structure and agriculture.

4.4.2.2 Potential Effects and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative:

The No Action Alternative would not disturb or generate any hazardous materials or create any potential hazard to human health.

Alternative #2 Proposed Action:

Hazardous materials are unlikely to be encountered during the implementation of the Proposed Action as there is no evidence of soil contamination at the project site. Unusable equipment, debris and material shall be disposed of in an approved manner and location. In the event significant items (or evidence thereof) are discovered during implementation of the project, the applicant shall handle, manage, and dispose of petroleum products, hazardous materials and toxic waste in accordance with the requirements and to the satisfaction of the governing local, state and federal agencies.

4.5 Physical Resources

4.5.1 Farmland

The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) is intended to minimize the impact federal programs have on unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses. For the purpose of FPPA, the farmland definition includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. These definitions include land such as forestland, pastureland, or other land that is not in current production. Federal agencies are required to fill out and submit an AD-1006 Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for proposed federally funded projects that may convert farmland to nonagricultural uses. For project sites

where the total points equal or exceed 160, the federal agency is encouraged to consider alternative actions, as appropriate, that could reduce adverse impacts to farmland.

4.5.1.1 Existing Conditions

According to the NRCS web soil survey, the proposed detention pond site consists of Coteau silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes and Frost silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes. Both soil units are considered prime farmland (**Appendix A-11**).

4.5.1.2 Potential Effects and Proposed Mitigation

No Action Alternative:

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no Federal action and conditions in the project area would remain unchanged. The prime farmland soils located at the project site would not be converted to other uses and would remain intact. The No Action Alternative would have a negligible effect to the community.

Alternative #2 Proposed Action:

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, approximately 16 acres of prime farmland soils would be directly converted to non-agricultural uses. FEMA submitted an AD-1006 Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form to the NRCS on January 7, 2022, and determined a value of 28/160 points for the land to be converted. In a response dated January 28, 2022, the NRCS assigned a point value of 88 as the value of the farmland. In total, the farmland to be converted is assigned a value of 116/260 points based on the outcome of the AD-1006 review (**Appendix A- 11**). As this value falls beneath the 160 total point threshold for significance, FEMA has determined to proceed with final site selection for the Proposed Action. While prime farmland would be converted as a result of the Proposed Action, effects to the community would not be significant. The conversion of the selected site would not adversely affect farming operations in the remainder of the surrounding community.

4.6 Summary Table

Affected Environment	Impacts	Agency Coordination\Permits	Mitigation
Waters of the U.S. including Wetlands	Proposed Action: No jurisdictional impacts are anticipated to occur during construction. Temporary and minor water quality impacts.	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jurisdiction Determination	The Proposed Action construction would follow the requirements of the Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Plan included on the construction plans. The construction would include BMPs for storm water management which would be implemented to minimize detrimental effects to water quality of the water bodies in the project area during construction.
Floodplains	Proposed Action: No adverse impacts to the floodplain are anticipated. Additional development in the floodplain may be encouraged.	Local Floodplain Manager	The City of Youngsville must coordinate with the local floodplain administrator and obtain required permits prior to initiating work, including any necessary certifications that encroachments within the adopted regulatory floodway would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge. Applicant must comply with any conditions of permit.

Biological Resources	Proposed Action: No effect to state- or federally- protected species or habitats are anticipated.	USFWS	None
Cultural Resources	Proposed Action: No historic properties affected by the project.	SHPO; Chitimacha, Coushatta, Eastern Shawnee, Jena Band, Mississippi Band and Tunica-Biloxi Tribes.	The City of Youngsville must monitor ground disturbance and if any potential archaeological resources are discovered, must immediately cease construction in that area and notify the State and FEMA.
Environmental Justice	Proposed Action: No disproportionately high and adverse impacts on minority or low-income populations are anticipated.		None
Hazardous Materials	Proposed Action: No adverse impacts are anticipated.	EPA	Unusable equipment, debris and material shall be disposed of in an approved manner and location. In the event significant items (or evidence thereof) are discovered during implementation of the project, the applicant shall handle, manage, and dispose of petroleum products, hazardous materials and toxic waste in accordance with the requirements and to the satisfaction of the

			governing local, state and federal agencies
Farmland	Proposed Action: No significant adverse effects are anticipated.	NRCS	None

5.0 Cumulative Impacts

According to the FEMA, cumulative impacts represent the “impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of the time (40 CFR 1508.7)”. In accordance with NEPA, and to the extent reasonable and practical, this EA considered the combined effect of the Proposed Action and other actions occurring or proposed near the project site.

The Proposed Action is located in an area that is currently developed with several residences, commercial and government buildings, public parks, and public schools. Because of the highly developed setting there would be roadway expansions and drainage projects to support the tremendous growth that is occurring in the City of Youngsville.

The City of Youngsville currently has other projects in development to address flooding mitigation needs:

- \$6,666,667 drainage project named the HGMP 4277-35 Bailey Grove Regional Detention Pond – at the 85% design phase- involving the construction of 5 detention ponds along Bayou Parc Perdu
- \$3,500,000 roadway expansion named the Larriviere Expansion- at 15% design phase- involving the expansion and elevation of the adjacent 2 lane highway that will include cross drain, subsurface drainage and bridge crossing improvements.

The Proposed Action and the above referenced projects would have a permanent impact considered to be positive for the general public health and safety for several residents throughout the City of Youngsville. These projects would collectively contribute to the overall flooding mitigation design to aid the community and make the community more resilient to flooding during severe rainfall events. These combined projects would reduce the hazards of flooding and may reduce response times for emergency services during severe rain events which would directly benefit the general public health and safety.

The construction of the Proposed Action might have temporary impacts on air quality by increasing criteria pollutants (dust) during construction activities and traffic. No other cumulative impacts are anticipated. The construction of the proposed project would have little or no negative cumulative impact on the surrounding community and environment.

6.0 Agency Coordination, Public Involvement and Permits

6.1 Agency Coordination

The following agencies were contacted as part of the environmental investigation of the Proposed Action.

1. State of Louisiana Office of the Lieutenant Governor Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Office of Cultural Development Division of Archaeology (SHPO)

The SHPO office was contacted regarding the Proposed Action and SHPO responded with the requirement of a Phase 1 Cultural Resources Survey in January of 2021. SWCA Environmental Consultants completed the Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the project area in April 2021. SHPO issued a letter that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by the project in May 2021. See **Appendix A-9** for the SHPO consultation letters.

2. United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE), New Orleans District

The USACE New Orleans District was contacted regarding the Proposed Action and the USACE issued a Jurisdictional Determination of the project area and determined that part of the property contains non-wetlands waters that may be subject to Corps' jurisdiction. A Department of the Army permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act will be required prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredge or fill materials into water of the U.S in June 2021. The City of Youngsville will prohibit/forbid any construction outside of the limits of the project site which would include the deposition or redistribution of dredge or fill materials into the water of the U.S. See **Appendix A-3** for USACE Jurisdictional Determination.

3. United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

The USFWS was contacted regarding the Proposed Action in December 2020 and again in January 2022. The USFWS identified one candidate species with potential to be present in the project area, the Monarch butterfly. No designated or proposed critical habitats occur within the boundary of proposed project area per the USFWS response. See **Appendix A-8**.

4. The City of Youngsville Floodplain Administrator

The City of Youngsville Floodplain Administrator was contacted regarding the Proposed Action. A response was received that the project would not impact base flood elevations, floodway elevations and floodway widths of published sections or unpublished sections within the vicinity of the project. See **Appendix A-6** for the letter from the Floodplain Administrator and **Appendix A-7** for the No-Rise Certification from the Engineer.

5. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

The Proposed Action will result in the conversion of prime farmland soils. FEMA completed an AD-1006 Farmland Conversion Impact Rating Form and submitted it to NRCS with a final site selection for Alternative #2 Proposed Action on January 7, 2022. The NRCS responded with a completed form on January 28, 2022. See **Appendix A-11**.

6.2 Public Involvement

A public comment period will be advertised regarding the availability of the Draft EA and Draft FONSI. A copy of this Draft EA and Draft FONSI will be made available on FEMA's website and at City Hall of Youngsville, 305 Iberia Street, Youngsville, LA 70592, for a 30-day public comment period. Two public notices, one at the beginning and one 15 days into the public comment period, will be published in the Daily Advertiser to inform the public of the report availability. Comments received during this public comment period will be given proper consideration prior to FEMA approval of the final report. If no substantive comments are received, then the Draft EA will become final. Any substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in FEMA's final documents.

The Public Notice, Draft EA, and Draft FONSI are also published at FEMA's website at <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/region/6>.

8.0 References

Braun Intertek Corporation. 2020. Geotechnical Evaluation Report – Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond, Youngsville, Louisiana. Project Number B2007092, December 2020.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). 1997. Environmental Justice: Guidance Under the National Environmental Policy Act. Website address:
https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/nepapub/nepa_documents/RedDont/G-CEQ-EJGuidance.pdf

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 2022a. EJ Screen: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool. Website address: <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>.

EPA. 2022b. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Federal Facilities. Website address: <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/resource-conservation-and-recovery-act-rcra-and-federal-facilities#Basics%20of%20RCRA>.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). 2018. Flood Insurance Rate Map, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana. Community Panel Number 275 of 275 Map Number 22055C0275J. Website address: <http://www.msc.fema.gov>.

Google Earth, Google Earth Pro. Version 7.3.3 Accessed January 2021.

McBade Engineers and Consultants, LLC. 2021. Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analysis Report for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP 4277-36) Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond Project. Lafayette Parish, Louisiana. Available upon request from FEMA at dorothy.cook@fema.dhs.gov.

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). 2022. Web Soil Survey online database. Website address: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

SWCA Environmental Consultants. 2021. Phase 1 Cultural Resources Survey of the LaSalle Coulee Detention Pond in Lafayette Parish, Louisiana. Project Number 65109, April 2021.

U.S. Census Bureau (USCB). 2021. American FactFinder online database. 2019 Census Summary File 1. Website address: <http://factfinder.census.gov>.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2022. Environmental Conservation Online System – Information for Planning and Consultation (ECOS-IPaC). List of Threatened and Endangered Species. Website address: <http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac>.

9.0 List of Preparers and Reviewers

Lucas Hudspeth P.E.
McBade Engineers and Consultants, LLC
Youngsville, Louisiana

Kevin Jaynes, Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region 6
Denton, Texas

Dorothy Cook, Senior Environmental Specialist
FEMA Region 6
Denton, Texas

Robert Moyer, Historic Preservation Specialist
FEMA Region 6
Denton, Texas

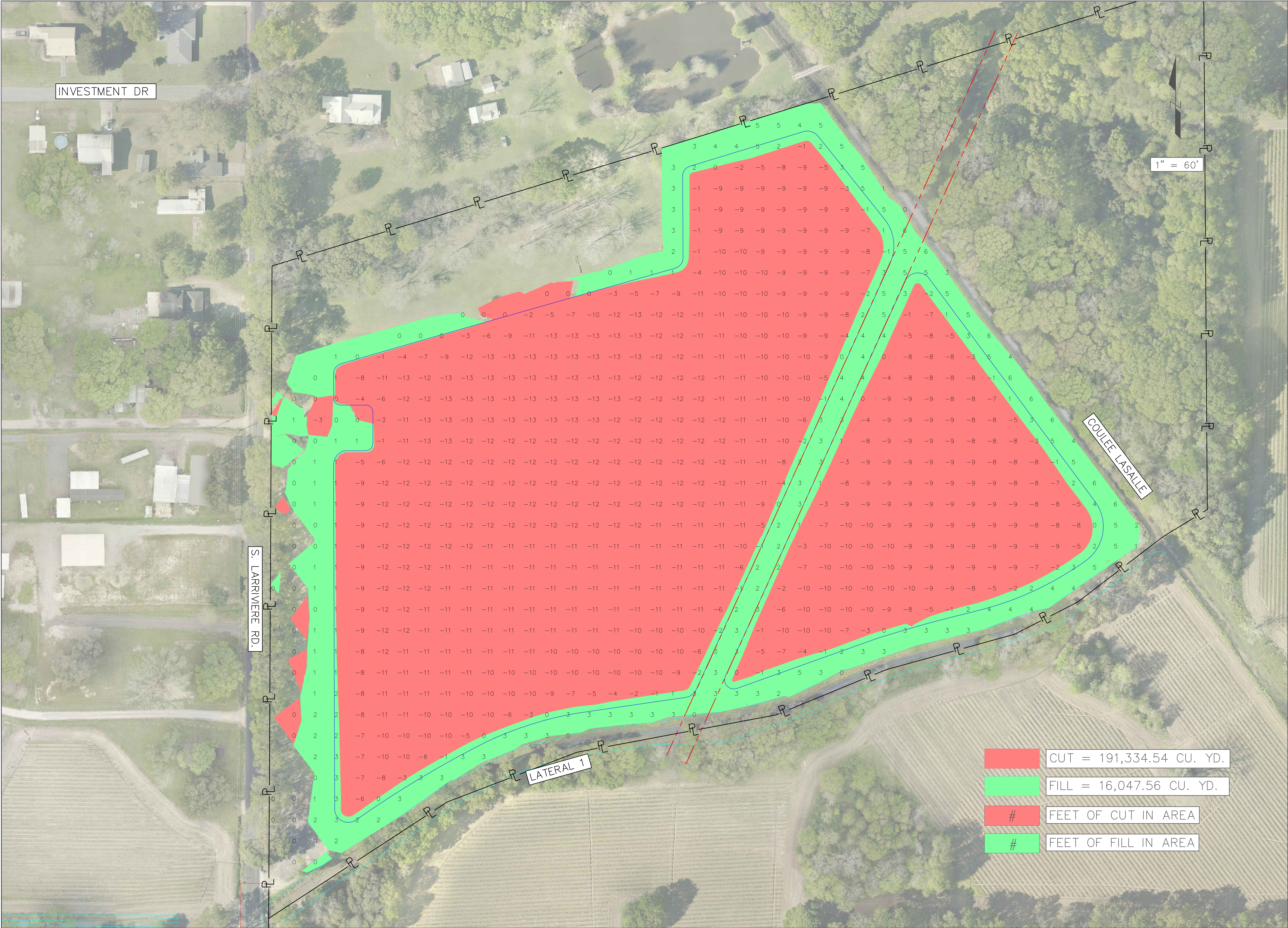
10.0 Appendices

- A-1 Project Map
- A-2 Alternates Map
- A-3 U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Jurisdictional Determination
- A-4 8-Step Decision Making Process
- A-5 FEMA FIRM Number #22055C0275J
- A-6 Letter of No-Rise from Local Floodplain Manger
- A-7 No-Rise Certificate from Engineer
- A-8 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Species List
- A-9 SHPO Consultation Letters
- A-10 Tribal Consultation Letters

A-11 Farmland Conversion Consultation

A-12 Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

A-1 PROJECT MAPS



CUT = 191,334.54 CU. YD.
FILL = 16,047.56 CU. YD.
FEET OF CUT IN AREA
FEET OF FILL IN AREA



NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY

CITY OF YOUNGVILLE
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT
PROGRAM (HMGP 4277-36)
COULEE LASALE REGIONAL
DETENTION POND

PROPOSED SITE
CUT/FILL PLAN

A-2 ALTERNATESSMAP

A-3 U.S. ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS
–JURISDICTIONL DETERMINATION



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

June 11, 2021

Operations Division
Surveillance and Enforcement Section

Mr. Lucas Hudspeth
McBade Engineers
327 Iberia St., Suite 5
Youngsville, La 70592

Dear Mr. Hudspeth:

Reference is made to your request, on behalf of the City of Youngsville, for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) jurisdictional determination on property located in Section 9, Township 11 South, Range 5 East, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana (enclosed map). Specifically, this property is identified as a 23.8 acre site east of S Larriviere Road located in Youngsville.

Based on review of recent maps, aerial photography, and soils data, we have determined that part of the property contains non-wetland waters that may be subject to Corps' jurisdiction. The approximate limits of the non-wetland waters are designated in blue on the map. A Department of the Army 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 resource boundaries and/or the jurisdictional status of aquatic resources for purposes of the Clean Water Act for the particular site identified in this request. This delineation and/or jurisdictional determination 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 a 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 Dr. Rosie Schwamenfeld at (337) 291-3045 and reference our Account No. MVN-2021-00593-SR. If you have specific questions regarding the permit process or permit applications, please contact our Western Evaluation Section at (504) 862-2261.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Oberlies

for Martin S. Mayer
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Digitally signed by Brian M.
Oberlies
Date: 2021.06.11 10:59:07 -05'00'

Enclosures

USACE

FSV IH

Date: 6-1-21

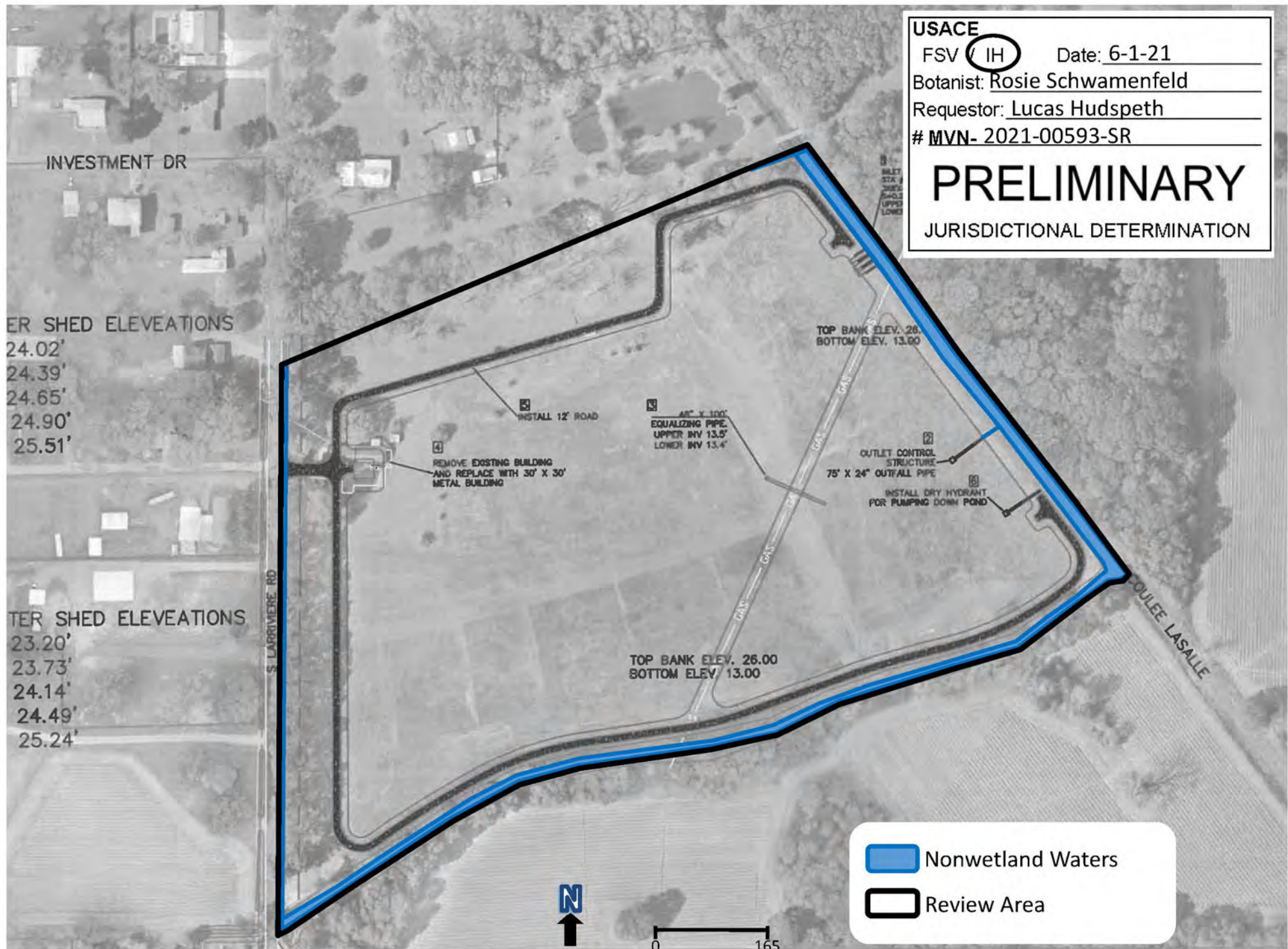
Botanist: Rosie Schwamenfeld

Requestor: Lucas Hudspeth

MVN- 2021-00593-SR

PRELIMINARY

JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION



PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (PJD) FORM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR PJD: 6/11/2021

B. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON REQUESTING PJD:

Lucas Hudspeth, McBade Engineers
327 Iberia St, Suite 5, Youngsville, LA 70592

C. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: MVN-2021-00593-SR

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: Lafayette City:

Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal

format): Lat.:30.0695 Long.: -97.9722 Universal

Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: Coulee LaSalle

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

☒ Office (Desk) Determination. Date: 6-1-21

☐ 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)
			1385 feet	nonwetland waters	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: _1:24000 Youngsville
- ☒ Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: NRCS WSS
- ☒ National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: ____USFWS NWI____.
- ☐ State/local wetland inventory map(s):
- ☐ FEMA/FIRM maps
- ☐ 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- ☒ Photographs: ☒ Aerial (Name & Date): CIR 98, 08, 13, 16
or ☒ Other (Name & Date): IDAR.
- ☒ Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter:
- ☐ Other information (please specify):

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.

Rosie
Schwamenfeld

Digitally signed by Rosie
Schwamenfeld
Date: 2021.06.01 21:40:50
-05'00'

Signature and date of
Regulatory staff member
completing PJD

requested by email

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: City of Youngsville	File Number: MVN-2021-00593-SR	Date: 6/11/2021
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	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	D
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION	E

SECTION I - The following identifies your rights and options regarding an administrative appeal of the above decision. Additional information may be found at <http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/RegulatoryProgramandPermits/appeals.aspx> 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. Your objections must be received by the district engineer within 60 days of the date of this notice, or you will forfeit your right to appeal the permit in the future. 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: 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.

D: APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: You may accept or appeal the approved JD or provide new information.

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.

E: PRELIMINARY JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION: 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.

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. 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.

POINT OF CONTACT FOR QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION:

If you have questions regarding this decision and/or the appeal process you may contact:

Brad Guarisco
Chief, Surveillance & Enforcement
Section U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70118
504-862-2274

If you only have questions regarding the appeal process you may also contact:

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

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:

Telephone number:

A-4 8-Step Decision Making Process

**CITY OF YOUNGSVILLE
HIGHLAND RIDGE SUBDIVISION &
COULEE LASALLE REGIONAL DETENTION POND PROJECT
LAFAYETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA
HMGP-4277-0036-LA**

**Executive Order 11988 and 11990 – Floodplain Management and Wetland Protection
Eight-Step Decision Making Process**

Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplain Management) requires federal agencies “to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of the floodplain and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative.” Similarly, EO 11990 requires federal agencies “to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands and to avoid direct or indirect support of new construction in wetlands wherever there is a practicable alternative.” FEMA’s implementing regulations are codified under Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 9, which includes an 8-step decision making process for compliance with this part.

This 8-step process is applied to the proposed Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond. The proposed project area is within the 100-year floodplain of Coulee LaSalle Watershed. The steps in the decision-making process are as follows:

Step 1 Determine if the proposed action is located in the Base Floodplain and Wetland.

The project site is located at 333 S Larriviere Road, Youngsville, LA 70592. The project site is nestled between Coulee LaSalle and Lateral 1 of Coulee LaSalle. Per FEMA effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panel 22055C0275J, dated 12/21/2018, construction will take place within a small portion of the AE Floodway and a small portion of Zone AE (**Appendix A-5**). The remainder of the construction will take place in Zone X and Shaded Zone X, areas outside the 100-year floodplain, including the construction of the pump storage building.

No construction will take place in wetlands and wetlands will not be indirectly affected, therefore the remainder of the 8-step process is not carried out for wetlands considerations.

Step 2 Early public notice (Preliminary Notice).

FEMA issued an initial disaster public notice for major disaster declaration FEMA-4277-DR-LA Severe Storms and Flooding on September 1, 2016 in the Lafayette Daily Advertiser. The public notice included an explanation of EO 11988 requirements and that FEMA would potentially be funding HMGP projects in the floodplain, such as the Proposed Action, to mitigate future disaster damages.

Step 3 Identify and evaluate alternatives to locating in the base floodplain and wetland.

Four alternatives were identified and evaluated as part of the Phase 1 process. The three alternatives outside of the No Action alternatives all include a portion of the property within the AE Floodway and Flood Zone AE. Due to the nature of the Proposed Action being a

detention pond to reduce the base flood elevation of Coulee LaSalle, the locations identified and evaluated require locating in close proximity to provide the most hydraulic benefit. Projects in close proximity to intake and outfall to the channel will consist of a portion of the project being located partially in the adjacent Floodway and Flood Zone AE.

The alternatives identified and evaluated consisted of the No Action Alternative as well as 3 alternative locations for the proposed action. The alternatives are listed and described below:

1. No Action Alternative:

If no action is to take place, the immediate project area as well as the watershed area within Lafayette Parish along with downstream areas within St. Martin and northern Iberia Parishes will continue to experience flooding in high-intensity storms resulting in continued losses and damages to lives, property, and businesses. The losses and damages will continue to negatively impact the economy in the area. In addition, the floodplain water surface elevations will continue to increase and the floodplains will continue to expand.

2. Alternative 1:

Construct a single 22- acre pond on the parcel of land owned by the Lafayette Parish School Board north of the Southside High School.

This alternative included wetlands within a portion of the property that would need to be mitigated. This alternative provided water surface elevation benefit for the Coulee LaSalle and the nearby flooded homes. While this alternative provided significant benefit, it did not provide the greatest hydraulic benefit to the homes that experience repetitive flooding. In addition, during early property negotiations with the landowner, the property was going to be available for purchase. However, the property owner subsequently revised the property conditions to 10-year leases at one tenth of the purchase cost each year. For a 30-year lease, the City of Youngsville would be required to pay 3 times the purchase price for the parcel of land. The current land use of the property is agricultural and there would be additional costs for the agricultural losses to be paid to the farmer currently leasing the property. Therefore, this alternative was eliminated due to right of way costs and wetland Mitigation requirements.

3. Alternative 2 (Preferred Alternative/Proposed Action)

Construct 2 detention ponds consisting of a total of 16 acres on a 22-acre parcel of land located adjacent to both Coulee LaSalle and Lateral 1 of Coulee LaSalle.

This alternative provided the greatest hydraulic benefit as the ponds provide water surface elevation reduction to both the channels. Its close proximity to the channels and the most recent floods provides for water surface elevation reduction and flow reduction benefits to the impacted area. This property is currently vacant land that is not used for agriculture so this property would not be subject to payments to farmers for agricultural losses. The property is also located adjacent to a major collector road that is frequently inundated during high intensity rain events. Its close proximity to the proposed action will provide benefit to the roadway by reducing the frequent inundation and resulting road closures.

4. Alternative 3

Construct a 25-acre pond on a parcel of land east of Coulee LaSalle and east of the Highland Ridge Subdivision that consists of a borrow pit that could be modified for use as a detention pond.

After evaluation it was determined that this site would provide the least hydraulic benefit for the recently flooded homes. In addition, the existing borrow pit consisted of side slopes that would need to be reinforced with sheet pile walls around the perimeter of the pond. The site would also require large pumps and generators to be installed to regulate the water within the pond. This alternative would be more expensive than the other two alternatives with the least amount of hydraulic benefit, therefore, it was eliminated.

Step 4 Identify impacts of proposed action associated with occupancy or modification of the floodplain and wetland.

Per 44 CFR 9.10 FEMA must consider whether the proposed action will result in an increase in the useful life of any structure or facility in question, maintain the investment at risk and exposure of lives to the flood hazard, or forego an opportunity to restore the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains or wetlands. FEMA should specifically consider and evaluate impacts associated with modification of floodplains; additional impacts which may occur when certain types of actions may support subsequent action which have additional impacts of their own; adverse impacts of the proposed actions on lives and property and on natural and beneficial floodplain values; and these three categories of factors: flood hazard-related factors, natural values-related factors, and factors relevant to a proposed action's effects on the survival and quality of wetlands.

Per 44 CFR, natural values-related factors include water resource values (natural moderation of floods, water quality maintenance, and ground water recharge); living resource values (fish and wildlife and biological productivity); cultural resource values (archaeological and historic sites, and open space recreation and green belts); and agricultural, aqua cultural and forestry resource values. These floodplain values will remain intact as a result of the Proposed Action.

Based on the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdictional determination, the project site contains non-wetlands waters that may be subject to USACE jurisdiction. The City does not intend to deposit or redistribute dredged or fill materials in the jurisdictional waters of Coulee LaSalle. The Proposed Action does however include an outfall into and a crossing of jurisdictional waters, and the City of Youngsville is responsible for coordinating with and obtaining any required Section 404 Permit(s) from USACE and/or any Section 401/402 Permit(s) from the state prior to initiating work. The City must comply with all conditions of any required permit(s). Project construction may result in temporary and minor water quality impacts to nearby surface waters due to ground disturbance.

Threatened and endangered species are not present at the project site and will not be impacted by the Proposed Action. Based on cultural resource surveys and consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and federally recognized tribes, FEMA has determined the Proposed Action will have No Effect to Historic Properties. While the project area does contain prime farmland that will be converted to non-agricultural uses, the parcel was not being farmed at the time of purchase and the conversion falls beneath the threshold for significance identified by NRCS. The conversion of the selected site will not adversely affect farming operations in the remainder of the surrounding community.

A Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analysis (H&H) for the Proposed Project was conducted by McBade Engineers and Consultants, LLC and a report was issued in August 20, 2021. Based on the model results, the Proposed Action resulted in the most flood reduction on Coulee LaSalle during all storm events (10-year 24-hour, 25-year 24-hour, 50-year 24-hour, 100-year 24-hour and 500-year 24-hour storm events) and resulted in significant flood reduction to Lateral 1. In addition, the XP Storm model of the Highland Ridge Subdivision resulted in 1.69 ft of water surface elevation reduction in the subdivision outfall during the 10-year 24-hour storm event. According to the H&H, the construction of the Proposed Action will have no negative impacts to the environment, adjacent property, or other infrastructure. The functions of these detention ponds will provide much needed flood water storage, conveyance of runoff, reduction in flood water velocities, reduction of flood water peak flows, and a decrease in the water surface elevation of Coulee LaSalle during storm events. See **Appendix A-6** and **A-7** which indicate no rise or adverse effects to the floodplain as a result of implementation of the Proposed Action. (The H&H is available upon request from Dorothy Cook, FEMA Region 6 at dorothy.cook@fema.dhs.gov)

Reduction in flood risk as a result of the Proposed Action might encourage additional development in the floodplain.

Step 5 Design or modify the proposed action to minimize threats to life and property and preserve its natural and beneficial floodplain and wetland values.

In order to reduce any impacts to the channel and designated waters of the US and wetlands, the project will prohibit any deposition or redistribution of dredge or fill material in the waters of Coulee LaSalle. The Proposed Action construction will follow the requirements of the Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Plan included on the construction plans. The construction will include BMPs for storm water management which will be implemented to minimize detrimental effects to water quality of the water bodies in the project area during construction.

In addition, though it is located in Zone X and outside of the 100-year floodplain, the storage building to be constructed as part of the Proposed Action will be constructed with a Finish Floor Elevation of 28' which is currently 2 feet above the 500-year 24-hour storm water surface elevation of Coulee LaSalle. The top bank of the detention ponds will be constructed at an elevation of 26 which is a 1.5' above the 100-year storm. These preventative actions will

minimize threats to life and property and help preserve the natural and beneficial floodplain and wetland values.

The City of Youngsville must coordinate with the local floodplain administrator and obtain required permits prior to initiating work, including any necessary certifications that encroachments within the adopted regulatory floodway would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge. Applicant must comply with any conditions of permit and all coordination pertaining to these activities should be retained as part of the project file in accordance with the respective grant program instructions.

Step 6 Re-evaluate the proposed action.

This project will not expose any segment of the population to flood hazards and will instead provide the population with risk reduction from future flood hazards. Reduction in flood risk as a result of the Proposed Action might encourage additional development in the floodplain. The project will lower the Base Flood Elevation of Coulee LaSalle, lower the peak velocity of Coulee LaSalle, reduce the discharge of the channel downstream into adjacent Parishes and reduce the erosion of the banks of Coulee LaSalle. The construction of these regional detention ponds will help the area in the watershed to become more resilient to the horrific inundation of Coulee LaSalle that has plagued the City of Youngsville for generations and will increase the protection of life, safety, and infrastructure during flood events.

Step 7 Final Notification

In accordance with 44 CFR Part 9.12, final notice will be accomplished through the publication of the Notice of Availability for the Draft Environmental Assessment that will be posted on FEMA's website at <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/region/6> and in The Daily Advertiser regional newspaper.

Step 8 Implement the action

The proposed Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond will be constructed in accordance with applicable floodplain development requirements, USACE conditions, and adhere to the grant conditions outlined in this decision document and the Environmental Assessment.

A-5 FEMA FIRM NUMBER #22055C0275J

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



91°58'34"W 30°6'3"N



0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet 1:6,000

Basemap: USGS National Map: Orthoimagery: Data refreshed October, 2020

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
		With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
		Effective LOMRs
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D
		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
		17.5 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
MAP PANELS		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped



The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 1/20/2022 at 9:36 AM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

A-6 LETTER OF NO-RISE FROM
LOCAL FLOODPLAIN MANAGER



MAYOR
Ken Ritter

CITY CLERK
Sally M. Angers, MMC

CITY TREASURER
Benjamin Burley

City of Youngsville
P.O. Box 592
305 Iberia Street
Youngsville, LA 70592
(337) 856-4181 * Fax (337) 856-8863

CITY COUNCIL

Lindy Bolgiano
Simone Champagne
Matt Romero
Kenneth Stansbury
Gary Williams

August 18, 2021

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Engineering Library
3601 Eisenhower Ave. Ste. 500
Alexandria, VA 22304-6246


Subject: HMGP 4277-36 Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond
333 S Larriviere Rd., Youngsville, LA 70592

To whom it may concern,

The City of Youngsville recognizes that the proposed project Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond located at 333 S Larriviere Rd. in Youngsville, LA 70592 will not impact the base flood elevations, floodway elevations, or floodway widths on Coulee LaSalle at the published sections in the Flood Insurance Study for Lafayette Parish released in December 2018. This project will also not impact the base flood elevations, floodway elevations, and floodway widths of unpublished cross sections within the vicinity of this proposed development.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (337) 573-4125.

Sincerely,


Garrett Noel, EI, CFM
Engineer Intern/Floodplain Manager
City of Youngsville
305 Iberia St.
Youngsville, LA 70592
(337) 573-4125

A-7 NO-RISE CERTIFICATE FROM ENGINEER

ENGINEER "NO-RISE" CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that I am a duly qualified registered professional engineer licensed to practice in the State of Louisiana.

It is further to certify that the fact that all technical data supports the fact that proposed

Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond

(Name of Project)

Will not impact (-0.29foot rise) the base (100-year) flood elevations, floodway elevations or floodway widths on

Coulee LaSalle

(Name of Stream)

at published sections in the Flood Insurance Study for Lafayette, Louisiana

(Name of Community)

dated December 2018 and will not impact (-0.29 foot rise) the base (100-year) flood elevations, floodway elevations, and floodway widths at unpublished cross sections in the vicinity of the proposed development.

8/2/2021

(Date)

Lucas Hudspeth

(Signature)



Civil Engineer

(Title)

327 Iberia St, Suite 5, Youngsville, LA 70592

(Address)

44222

(License Number)

SEAL:

A-8 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Species
List



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:

January 07, 2022

Consultation Code: 04EL1000-2022-SLI-0727

Event Code: 04EL1000-2022-E-01996

Project Name: City of Youngsville Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

***Due to the Louisiana Governor's mandatory quarantine order for the coronavirus (COVID-19), and in order to keep our staff and the public safe, we are unable to accept or respond in a timely manner to consultation request or project review/concurrence that we receive through the U.S. Mail. Please submit your request electronically to lafayette@fws.gov or call 337-291-3100.**

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered and candidate species, as well as designated and proposed critical habitat that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and may be affected by your proposed project. The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is providing this list under section 7 (c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Changes in this species list may occur due to new information from updated surveys, changes in species habitat, new listed species and other factors. Because of these possible changes, feel free to contact our office (337/291-3126) for more information or assistance regarding impacts to federally listed species. The Service recommends visiting the ECOS-IPaC site or the Louisiana Ecological Services website (www.fws.gov/lafayette) at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updated species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the habitats upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of Federal trust resources and to determine whether projects may affect Federally listed species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected (e.g. adverse, beneficial, insignificant or discountable) by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the “Endangered Species Consultation Handbook” at <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF> or by contacting our office at the number above.

Bald eagles have recovered and were removed from the List of Endangered and Threatened Species as of August 8, 2007. Although no longer listed, please be aware that bald eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*). The Service developed the National Bald Eagle Management (NBEM) Guidelines to provide landowners, land managers, and others with information and recommendations to minimize potential project impacts to bald eagles, particularly where such impacts may constitute “disturbance,” which is prohibited by the BGEPA. A copy of the NBEM Guidelines is available at: <http://www.fws.gov/southeast/es/baldeagle/NationalBaldEagleManagementGuidelines.pdf>. Those guidelines recommend: (1) maintaining a specified distance between the activity and the nest (buffer area); (2) maintaining natural areas (preferably forested) between the activity and nest trees (landscape buffers); and (3) avoiding certain activities during the breeding season. On-site personnel should be informed of the possible presence of nesting bald eagles within the project boundary, and should identify, avoid, and immediately report any such nests to this office. If a bald eagle nest occurs or is discovered within or adjacent to the proposed project area, then an evaluation must be performed to determine whether the project is likely to disturb nesting bald eagles. That evaluation may be conducted on-line at: <http://www.fws.gov/southeast/es/baldeagle>. Following completion of the evaluation, that website will provide a determination of whether additional consultation is necessary. The Division of Migratory Birds for the Southeast Region of the Service (phone: 404/679-7051, e-mail: SEmigratorybirds@fws.gov) has the lead role in conducting any necessary consultation. Should you need further assistance interpreting the guidelines or performing an on-line project evaluation, please contact this office.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g. cellular, digital television, radio and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm> ; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

Activities that involve State-designated scenic streams and/or wetlands are regulated by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, respectively. We, therefore, recommend that you contact those agencies to determine their interest in proposed projects in these areas.

Activities that would be located within a National Wildlife Refuge are regulated by the refuge staff. We, therefore, recommend that you contact them to determine their interest in proposed projects in these areas.

Additional information on Federal trust species in Louisiana can be obtained from the Louisiana Ecological Services website at: www.fws.gov/lafayette or by calling 337/291-3100.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Louisiana Ecological Services Field Office

200 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506
(337) 291-3100

Project Summary

Consultation Code: 04EL1000-2022-SLI-0727

Event Code: Some(04EL1000-2022-E-01996)

Project Name: City of Youngsville Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Pond

Project Type: DREDGE / EXCAVATION

Project Description: The Proposed Action, consists of constructing two detention ponds to serve as a reservoir for Coulee LaSalle during high intensity storms to reduce the risk of flooding in the surrounding areas. The project will require the excavation of 16 acres to an average depth of 13 feet. The detention ponds will require two inlet control structures, two outlet control structures, pond lining, two dry hydrants, and a dewatering pump for added water level control. The Proposed Action also includes the construction of a 900 square foot building that will be used to store the pump and other materials for pond maintenance. An entrance drive and service road will be constructed. Excavated soils will be utilized to construct perimeter berms.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@30.0962766,-91.97134754894111,14z>



Counties: Lafayette County, Louisiana

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 1 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Insects

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

A-9 SHPO CONSULTATION



BILLY NUNGESSER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

KRISTIN P. SANDERS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

January 19, 2021

Mr. Lucas Hudspeth, E.I.
McBade Engineers & Consultants, LLC
307 Iberia Street
Youngsville, LA 70592

Re: HMGP 4277-36
Coulee LaSalle Detention Ponds, New Location
Youngsville, Lafayette Parish, LA

Dear Mr. Hudspeth,

This is in reference to your updated letter received January 6 2021, concerning the above-referenced project. The proposed property has not been surveyed for cultural resources. There is a known archaeological site located just south of Pond 1. Given the geographic setting of the property and the lack of systematic survey, our office is recommending a Phase I Cultural Resources Survey. We understand that the property is currently in agriculture. However, our experience is that this does not preclude the existence on intact archaeological deposits.

Therefore, we are recommending a Phase I cultural resources survey of the project area. A copy of our contracting archaeologist list can be found on our website at: <https://www.crt.state.la.us/cultural-development/archaeology/CRM/databases/contracting-archaeologists/index>

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Watson at rwatson@crt.la.gov or Abigail Bleichner at ableichner@crt.la.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristin P. Sanders".

Kristin Sanders
State Historic Preservation Officer



BILLY NUNGESSER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY

KRISTIN P. SANDERS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

17 May 2021

C. Wesley Mattox
Principal Investigator
SWCA
1651 Lobdell Ave, Bldg A
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Re: Draft Report

La Division of Archaeology Report No. 22-6760

Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the LaSalle Coulee Detention Pond in Lafayette, Parish, Louisiana

Dear Wes Mattox:

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 7 May 2021, and one copy of the above-referenced report.

Based on the description of the Area of Potential Effect (APE), the proposed ground-disturbing activities, and the identification of historic properties within the APE, our office concurs with the assessment that no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this project. We concur that the portion of site 16LY157 within the surveyed tract is not eligible for listing in the National Register, and that Resource number 28-04249 is also not eligible for listing. Our office has no further concerns for this project.

Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office does not constitute consultation with Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, other Native American tribes, local governments, or the public. If archaeological materials are encountered during construction, the procedures codified at 36 CFR 800.13(b) will apply. Archaeological materials consist of any items, fifty years old or older, which were made or used by man. These items include but are not limited to, stone projectile points (arrowheads), ceramic sherds, bricks, worked wood, bone and stone, metal, and glass objects. The federal agency or the applicant receiving federal assistance should contact our office immediately. If human remains are encountered, the provisions of the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (Revised Statute 8:671-681) should be followed.

We are accepting the report as final; no further submissions are necessary. If you have any questions, please contact Chip McGimsey at cmcgimsey@crt.la.gov or 225-219-4598.

Sincerely,


Kristin Sanders
State Historic Preservation Officer

A-1010 TRIBAL CONSULTATION



July 21, 2021

RE: Section 106 Review Consultation, FEMA-4277-DR-LA, HMGP #36
City of Youngsville – Coulee LaSalle Detention Ponds, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana
(30.09646, -91.97184)

To: Representatives of Federally recognized Tribes with Interest in this Project Area

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 major Disaster Declaration for FEMA-DR-4277-LA, Louisiana Severe Storms and Flooding, dated August 14, 2016. FEMA is initiating Section 106 review for the above referenced project based on your Tribe's ancestral interest in the project area.

Through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, FEMA proposes to fund the City of Youngsville's (Applicant) construction of two (2) detention ponds to reduce the reoccurring flooding problems caused by the inundation of Coulee LaSalle (Undertaking). The project area is bounded to west by Larriviere Road, the east by Coulee LaSalle, the south by Lateral 1 and north by private property just south of Young Street (LA Hwy 92).

Ground disturbing work involves excavation to construct the ponds, as well as construction of an asphalt entrance way and 12 ft. wide access road around the perimeter of the ponds and a 30 ft. x 30 ft. storage building. Pond 1 measures at approximately 11 acres and will have a depth of 13 feet. Pond 1 will have an Inlet Control Structure consisting of a concrete headwall with four (4) 48-inch diameter openings and four (4) flap gates that will eliminate any negative flows into the channel and allow the pond to store water properly. The openings of the inlet structure will have bottom invert elevations of 19.5 and 20.0 ft. The outlet control structure for Pond 1 consists of an 8 ft. x 6 ft. box with a 24 in. reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) outlet pipe with a flap gate. Pond 2 measures at approximately 3.5 acres and will have a depth of 13 ft. Pond 2 will have an Inlet Control Structure consisting of a concrete headwall with one (1) 48-inch diameter opening and a flap gate. The outlet control structure for Pond 2 will consist of an 8 ft. x 6 ft. box with a 24-in. RCP outlet pipe with a flap gate. The City will install a dry hydrant on each pond so that the ponds can be mechanically pumped out to maximize the storage volume. Removed soils will be utilized to construct perimeter berms to an approximate crown at Elevation 26. The ponds will have 3H:1V (horizontal: vertical) side slopes which will intersect natural grades on the landside/protected side.

Portions of the mitigation work will take place in undisturbed ground.

FEMA has determined that the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the proposed Undertaking shall include the footprint of the project based on the scale and nature of the undertaking, as well as the area reasonably required to stage materials.

We are writing to request your comments on historic properties of cultural or religious significance to your Tribe that may be affected by the proposed Undertaking. Any comments you may have on FEMA's findings and recommendations should also be provided.

In April 2021, SWCA Environmental Consultants completed a Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the Project Area. Although the survey did reveal one (1) archaeological site (16LY157) within the survey area, the site was determined by SWCA to not be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the site lies outside of the APE. No historic properties were identified within the APE, and SWCA recommended that the project be allowed to proceed with no further investigation of the project area. On July 21, 2021, a FEMA Historic Preservation Specialist performed a cultural records search using the Louisiana Office of Cultural Development's Cultural Resources National Register database, the Louisiana Cultural Resources Map and associated site files (LDOA website), photographs, maps, and FEMA's internal files in order to identify historic properties and districts in the area. The records search revealed no historic properties or previously recorded archaeological sites within the APE.

Based on the available information gathered to date through this review process, there are no previously recorded archeological sites within the project area, and it is unlikely that the Undertaking would impact any intact archeological deposits, if present. FEMA has determined that there will be **No Historic Properties Affected** as a result of the Undertaking.

Please provide your comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Any comments provided after 30 days may be taken into consideration. If you concur with FEMA's determination, please sign below. If you notify us that your review identifies cultural properties within the APE, or project work discloses the presence of archeological deposits, FEMA will contact your Tribe to continue consultation.

An aerial view, a topographic map, and a copy of the SWCA Cultural Resources Survey Report are attached. Your prompt review of this project is greatly appreciated. Should you need additional information please contact Robert Scoggin, EHP Tribal Liaison at Robert.w.scoggin@fema.dhs.gov (202) 716-4139.

Sincerely,

Jeramé J. Cramer
EHP Program Lead Louisiana
FEMA Region 6
Louisiana Integration & Recovery Office
Baton Rouge, LA

Concurrence by:

Date:

Tribe

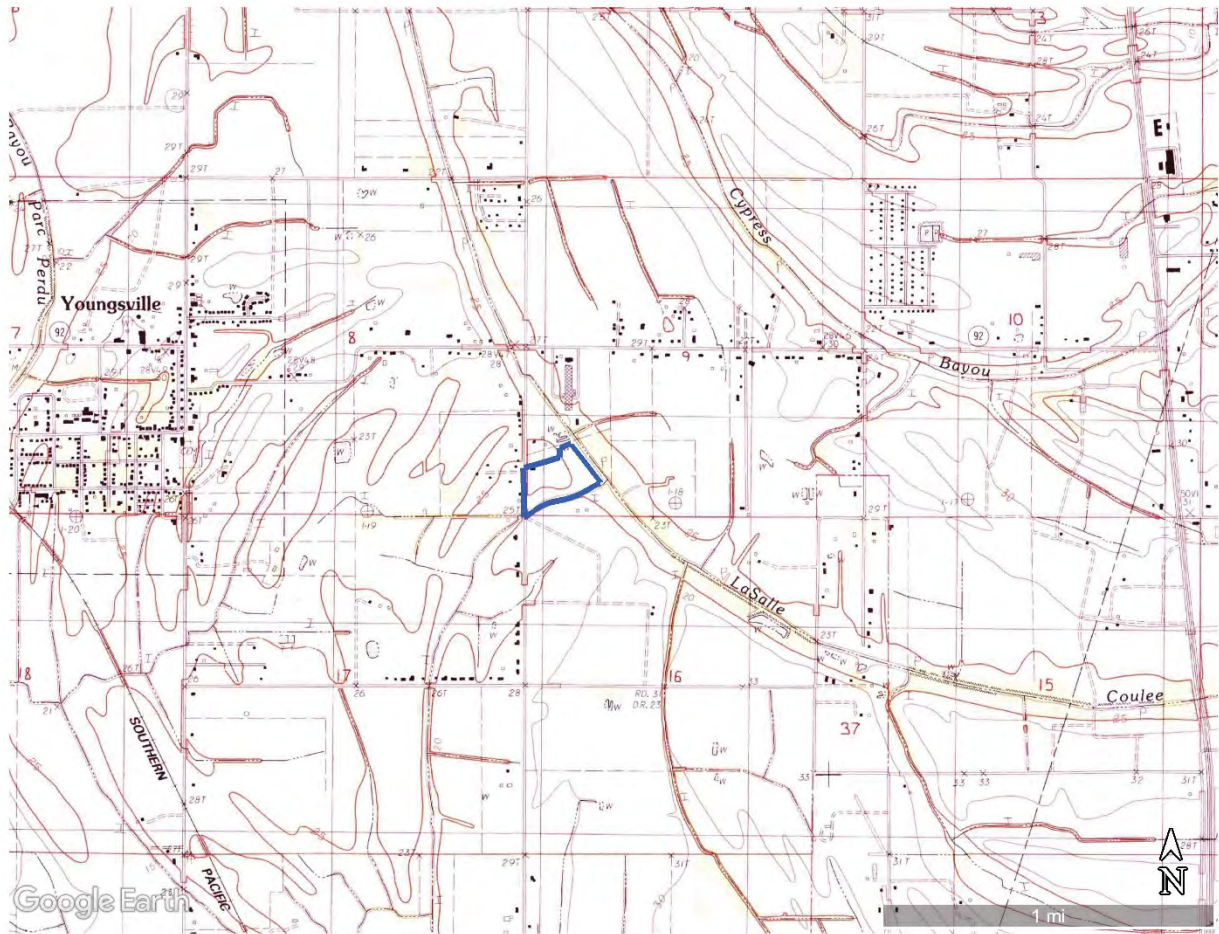


Figure 1. USGS quad map showing project APE in blue (Youngsville, LA 1983).



EASTERN SHAWNEE CULTURAL PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT

70500 East 128 Road, Wyandotte, OK 74370

September 14, 2021

FEMA

1500 Main ST

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RE: FEMA-4277-DR-LA, HMGP#36 City of Youngsville, Lafayette County, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Scoggin,

The Eastern Shawnee Tribe has received your letter regarding the above referenced project(s) within Lafayette County, Louisiana. The Eastern Shawnee Tribe is committed to protecting sites important to Tribal Heritage, Culture and Religion. Furthermore, the Tribe is particularly concerned with historical sites that may contain but not limited to the burial(s) of human remains and associated funerary objects.

As described in your correspondence, and upon research of our database(s) and files, we find our people occupied these areas historically and/or prehistorically. However, the project proposes **NO Adverse Effect** or endangerment to known sites of interest to the Eastern Shawnee Tribe. Please continue project as planned. However, should this project inadvertently discover an archeological site or object(s) we request that you immediately contact the Eastern Shawnee Tribe, as well as the appropriate state agencies (within 24 hours). We also ask that all ground disturbing activity stop until the Tribe and State agencies are consulted. Please note that any future changes to this project will require additional consultation.

In accordance with the NHPA of 1966 (16 U.S.C. § 470-470w-6), federally funded, licensed, or permitted undertakings that are subject to the Section 106 review process must determine effects to significant historic properties. As clarified in Section 101(d)(6)(A-B), historic properties may have religious and/or cultural significance to Indian Tribes. Section 106 of NHPA requires Federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on all significant historic properties (36 CFR Part 800) as does the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (43 U.S.C. § 4321-4347 and 40 CFR § 1501.7(a)). This letter evidences NHPA and NEPA historic properties compliance pertaining to consultation with this Tribe regarding the referenced proposed projects.

Thank you, for contacting the Eastern Shawnee Tribe, we appreciate your cooperation. Should you have any further questions or comments please contact our Office.

Sincerely,

Paul Barton, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO)

Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

(918) 666-5151 Ext:1833

A-11 FARMLAND CONVERSION CONSULTATION

January 28, 2022

Dorothy Cook, Senior Environmental Specialist
Federal Emergency Management Agency
800 N Loop 288
Denton, TX 76209

RE: Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Project – Youngsville, LA

Dear Ms. Cook:

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.

Based on the project map and narrative submitted with your request, the location of the detention ponds will potentially impact the following prime or unique farmland soils:

Soil Mapunit Symbol and Name	Acres	RV
CoA – Coteau silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	10.9	92
FoA – Frost silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	5.1	81
Total Acres 16.0		Weighted Avg. RV 88

Please find attached an 'AD-1006 Farmland Conversion Impact Rating' form with our agency's information completed. 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/>

For more information on FPPA requirements or the process to receive a Farmland Conversion Impact Rating (Form AD-1006 or CPA-106) please visit the following location:
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/landuse/fppa/>

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



Natural Resources Conservation Service
State Office
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302
Voice: (318) 473-7751 Fax: (844) 325-6947

Helping People Help the Land

Respectfully,

Michael R. Lindsey

Dr. Michael Lindsey
State Soil Scientist

Attachment

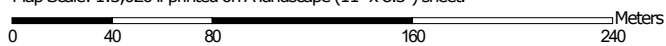
FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Date Of Land Evaluation Request: 1/7/2022				
Name of Project: Coulee LaSalle Regional Detention Project		Federal Agency Involved: FEMA				
Proposed Land Use: Stormwater detention ponds		County and State: Lafayette Parish, LA				
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Request Received By NRCS: 1/7/2022		Person Completing Form: M. Mouton		
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: 3,102	Average Farm Size: 95	
Major Crop(s): Sugar Cane, Home Gardens, Hay	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: 165,176% 95.7	Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: 160,266% 92.9				
Name of Land Evaluation System Used: Lafayette Parish LESA	Name of State or Local Site Assessment System: n/a	Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS: 1/28/2022				
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		16				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly		0				
C. Total Acres In Site		22				
PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information						
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland		16.0				
B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local Important Farmland						
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted		.0001				
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value		94				
PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)		88				
PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria (Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5 b. For Corridor project use form NRCS-CPA-106)		Maximum Points	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
1. Area In Non-urban Use		(15)	9			
2. Perimeter In Non-urban Use		(10)	9			
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed		(20)	0			
4. Protection Provided By State and Local Government		(20)	0			
5. Distance From Urban Built-up 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 Non-farmable Farmland		(10)	0			
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services		(5)	5			
10. On-Farm Investments		(20)	4			
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services		(10)	0			
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use		(10)	0			
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS		180	28	0	0	0
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)						
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)		100	88	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or local site assessment)		180	28	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)		260	116	0	0	0
Site Selected: Site A		Date Of Selection: 1/7/2022		Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Reason For Selection: Alternative #1 is to construct a single 22-acre pond on the parcel of land owned by the Lafayette Parish School Board north of the Southside High School. Alternative #3 is to construct a 25-acre pond on a parcel of land located east of Coulee LaSalle and east of the Highland Ridge subdivision that consists of						
Name of Federal agency representative completing this form: Dorothy Cook					Date: 1/7/2022	

Farmland Classification—Lafayette Parish, Louisiana
(Youngsville Coulee LaSalle)



Map Scale: 1:3,020 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.



Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 15N WGS84



**Natural Resources
Conservation Service**

Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

1/7/2022
Page 1 of 5

Farmland Classification

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
CoA	Coteau silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	11.9	67.7%
FoA	Frost silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	5.6	31.8%
W	Water	Not prime farmland	0.1	0.5%
Totals for Area of Interest			17.5	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

A-12 DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT
IMPACT (FONSI)



FEMA

DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

CITY OF YOUNGSVILLE HIGHLAND RIDGE SUBDIVISION & COULEE LASALLE REGIONAL DETENTION POND PROJECT LAFAYETTE PARISH, LOUISIANA HMGP-4277-0036-LA

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Instruction 108-1-1, an 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). The purpose of the proposed project is to improve inundation in the Coulee LaSalle watershed and to provide flooding relief to the Highland Ridge Subdivision in Youngsville, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana. This EA informed FEMA's decision on whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The City of Youngsville has applied for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding, through the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) under HMGP-4277-0036-LA. Through HMGP, FEMA provides grants to state, local, tribal and territorial governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures, including wildfire mitigation. The purpose of HMGP is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. HMGP is authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act).

Two project alternatives were considered in this EA: 1) No Action; and 2) Alternative #2: Construct two detention ponds consisting of a total of approximately 16 acres on a 22-acre parcel of land located adjacent to both Coulee LaSalle and Lateral 1 of Coulee LaSalle (Proposed Action). Two additional action alternatives, construction of a 22-acre pond on the parcel of land owned by the Lafayette Parish School Board north of the Southside High School and construction of a 25-acre detention pond at the site of an existing borrow pit, were considered but dismissed from further analysis in the EA because they did not provide the necessary hydraulic benefit.

Under the No Action alternative, no additional work would be conducted by the City of Youngsville to reduce the water surface elevation the Coulee La Salle watershed.

Under the Proposed Action, the City of Youngsville proposes to construct two detention ponds (Pond 1 (30.09661, -91.97266) and Pond 2 (30.096470, -91.9708729)) and to serve as a reservoir for Coulee LaSalle during high intensity storms to reduce the risk of flooding in the surrounding areas. The project would require the excavation of approximately 16 acres to an average depth of 13 feet. The detention ponds would require two inlet control structures, two outlet control structures, pond lining, two dry hydrants, and a dewatering pump for added water level control. The Proposed Action also includes the construction of a 900 square foot building that would be used to store the pump and other materials for pond maintenance; service road and driveway, and a flap gate on the pipe located under South Larriviere Road.

A public notice was posted in the local newspaper of record, The Daily Advertiser, and on FEMA's website. The draft EA was made available for public comment at the City Hall of Youngsville, 305 Iberia Street, Youngsville, LA and on FEMA's website. No comments were received from the public during the comment period.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Proposed Action as described in the EA would not significantly adversely impact wetlands, floodplains, threatened or endangered species, historic properties, minority and low-income populations, hazardous materials, or farmlands. During construction, short-term, minor impacts to surface water quality are anticipated. Long-term beneficial impacts to are expected to floodplains. No long-term adverse impacts are anticipated. All adverse impacts require conditions to minimize and mitigate impacts to the proposed project site and surrounding areas.

CONDITIONS

The following conditions must be met as part of this project. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize the receipt of federal funding.

1. This review does not address all federal, state, and local requirements. Acceptance of federal funding requires recipient to comply with all federal, state and local laws. Failure to obtain all appropriate federal, state and local environmental permits and clearances may jeopardize federal funding.
2. Any change to the approved scope of work will require re-evaluation for compliance with NEPA and other Laws and Executive Orders.
3. The City of Youngsville must monitor ground disturbance and if any potential archaeological resources are discovered, must immediately cease construction in that area and notify the State and FEMA.

4. The City of Youngsville is responsible for coordinating with and obtaining any required Section 404 Permit(s) from USACE and/or any Section 401/402 Permit(s) from the state prior to initiating work. The City must comply with all conditions of any required permit(s). All coordination pertaining to these activities should be retained as part of the project file in accordance with the respective grant program instructions.
5. The City of Youngsville must follow the requirements of the Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Plan included on the construction plans. The construction must include best management practices (BMPs) for storm water management.
6. The City of Youngsville must coordinate with the local floodplain administrator and obtain required permits prior to initiating work, including any necessary certifications that encroachments within the adopted regulatory floodway would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge. The City of Youngsville must comply with any conditions of permit and all coordination pertaining to these activities should be retained as part of the project file in accordance with the respective grant program instructions.
7. Unusable equipment, debris and material shall be disposed of in an approved manner and location. In the event significant items (or evidence thereof) are discovered during implementation of the project, the applicant shall handle, manage, and dispose of petroleum products, hazardous materials and toxic waste in accordance with the requirements and to the satisfaction of the governing local, state and federal agencies.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the EA, coordination with the appropriate agencies, comments from the public, and adherence to the project conditions set forth in this FONSI, FEMA has determined that the proposed project qualifies as a major federal action that would not significantly affect the quality of the natural and human environment, nor does it have the potential for significant cumulative effects. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared (FEMA Instruction 108-1-1) and the proposed project as described in the attached EA may proceed.

APPROVAL AND ENDORSEMENT

Kevin Jaynes
Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region 6

Date _____

Brienne Schmidtke
Hazard Mitigation Assistance Branch Chief
FEMA Region 6

Date _____