

Appendix Q

SCOPING AND AGENCY COORDINATION

The preferred plan for the riverfront park includes two portals, a river landing, a fishing platform, and an amphitheater and stage. In addition to the features, miscellaneous recreational amenities (e.g., lights, seating areas with benches, trees/vegetation, educational kiosks, and trash receptacles) would be included. Also, the existing access road at the riverside of the levee would be paved.

USACE has distributed copies of the Final SEIS to appropriate members of Congress, State and local government officials, Federal agencies, and other interested parties. Copies are also available at the following locations:

(1) Osterhout Free Library, 71 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

(2) Osterhout Free Library, South Branch, 2 Airy Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702.

(3) D. Leonard Corgan Library, King's College, 14 West Jackson Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711.

You may view the Final SEIS and related information on our Web page at http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/publications/non-reg_pub.htm.

The Final SEIS has been prepared in accordance with (1) The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), (2) regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500–1508), and (3) USACE regulations implementing NEPA (ER–200–2–2).

Jo Ann Grundy,

Biologist.

[FR Doc. 05–13855 Filed 7–13–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–41–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Dredged Material Management Plan for the Calcasieu River and Pass, Louisiana, Federal Navigation Channel

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) is initiating this draft supplemental environmental impact statement (DSEIS) under the authority of the Rivers and Harbors Act of July 24, 1946 (House Document 190, 79th Congress, 2nd Session) and prior Rivers and Harbors acts; the Rivers and

Harbors Act of July 14, 1960 (House Document 436, 86th Congress, 2nd Session); the Rivers and Harbors Act of October 23, 1962 (House Document 582, 87th Congress, 2nd Session); the Senate Public Works committee on December 27, 1970, and the House Public Works committee on December 15, 1970, under the provisions of Section 201 of the Flood Control Act of 1965 (Pub. L. 89–298; S.D. 91–111); and Section 107 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1960, as amended by Section 310 and Section 112 of the Rivers and Harbors Acts of 1965 and 1970, respectively, to investigate dredged material placement for the next 20 years of maintenance dredging of the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA. The Calcasieu River and Pass, LA project does not have adequate dredged material disposal areas for the long-term maintenance of the project. Existing disposal sites are at or near capacity, and some disposal sites have been substantially eroded into adjacent water bodies. Other disposal areas have been lost to commercial developments. As a result, remaining disposal areas cannot accommodate the volume of dredged material needed to maintain the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA navigation channel to project-authorized dimensions, and CEMVN has been forced to reduce channel dimensions in some reaches.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions concerning this DEIS should be addressed to Mr. Casey Rowe at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, PM–RP, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160–0267, phone (504) 862–1583, fax number (504) 862–2572 or by e-mail at Casey.J.Rowe@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. *Proposed Action.* The overall goal of the dredged material management plan is to investigate and develop a long-term management plan to maintain, in an economically and environmentally sound manner, the Federally authorized channel dimensions, and maximize the use of the dredged material as a beneficial resource.

2. *Alternatives.* A number of alternative dredged material disposal sites will be investigated for the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA project, as well as feasible alternatives to maximize the capacity of existing dredged material disposal areas along the channel.

3. *Scoping.* Scoping is the process for determining the scope of alternatives and significant issues to be addressed in the DSEIS. For this analysis, a letter will be sent to all parties believed to have an interest in the analysis, requesting their input on alternative disposal sites and

issues to be evaluated. The letter will also notify interested parties of public scoping meetings that will be held in the local area. Notices will also be sent to local news media. All interested parties are invited to comment at this time, and anyone interested in this study should request to be included in the study mailing list.

Two public scoping meetings will be held in July 2005, in Calcasieu and Cameron Parishes. Depending on public interest, and if further public coordination is warranted, additional meetings may be scheduled.

4. *Significant Issues.* The tentative list of resources and issues to be evaluated in the DSEIS include essential fish habitat, wetlands, aquatic resources, commercial and recreational fisheries, wildlife resources, water quality, air quality, threatened and endangered species, recreation resources, and cultural resources. Socioeconomic impacts will also be evaluated in the DSEIS, including navigation as well as potential noise impacts.

Environmental Consultation and Review. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be assisting in the documentation of existing conditions and assessment of effects of project alternative through Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act consultation procedures. The USFWS will also provide a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act report. The CEMVN will consult with the USFWS and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) concerning threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat. The CEMVN will coordinate with the Advisory Counsel on Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Officer. The CEMVN will coordinate with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources regarding consistency with the Coastal Zone Management Act. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will review the action for consistency with applicable laws regarding the discharge of dredged material as it relates to impacting water quality and will provide the State of Louisiana Water Quality Certification. Coordination may also occur with the following agencies for evaluation of impacts to significant resources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Minerals Management Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Geologic Survey, and Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Estimated Date of Availability. Funding levels and time constraints will dictate the date when the DSEIS will be available for review. The earliest date

that the draft EIS is expected to be available is November 2006.

Dated: June 23, 2005.

Stephen E. Jeselink,
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 05-13872 Filed 7-13-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-84-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Inland Waterways Users Board

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), announcement is made of the forthcoming meeting.

Name of Committee: Inland Waterways Users Board (Board).

Date: July 27, 2005.

Location: Radisson Riverfront Hotel St. Paul, 11 East Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101, (1-651-292-1900).

Time: Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the meeting is scheduled to adjourn at 12:30 p.m.

Agenda: The Board will hear briefings on the status of both the funding for inland navigation projects and studies, and the Inland Waterways Trust Fund. The Board will also consider its priorities for the next fiscal year.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Mr. Norman T. Edwards, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CEMP-POD, 441 G. Street, NW., Washington, DC 20314-1000; Ph: 202-761-1934.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Any interested person may attend, appear before, or file statements with the committee at the time and in the manner permitted by the committee.

Brenda S. Bowen,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-13858 Filed 7-13-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-92-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of proposed information collection requests.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Information Management Case Services Team,

Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: An emergency review has been requested in accordance with the Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 3507 (j)), since public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. Approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has been requested by July 22, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the emergency review should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Carolyn Lovett, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget; 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10222, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or faxed to (202) 395-6974.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Director of OMB provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, *e.g.*, new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. ED invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the

Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: July 11, 2005.

Angela C. Arrington,
Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Type of Review: Revision.

Title: IDEA Part B State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR).

Frequency: SPP—every six years; APR—annually.

Affected Public:

State, local, or tribal gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Federal Government.

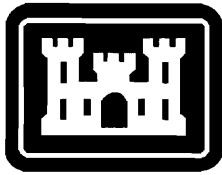
Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 60.

Burden Hours: 19,500.

Abstract: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, signed on December 3, 2004, became Public Law 108-446. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. 1416(b)(1), not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, each State must have in place a performance plan that evaluates the States efforts to implement the requirements and purposes of Part B and describe how the State will improve such implementation. This plan, referenced here-to-after, is called the Part B State Performance Plan (Part B—SPP). In accordance with 20 U.S.C. 1416(b)(C)(ii) the State shall report annually to the public on the performance of each local educational agency located in the State on the targets in the State's performance plan. The State shall report annually to the Secretary on the performance of the State under the State's performance plan. This report, referenced here-to-after, is called the Part B Annual Performance Report (Part B—APR).

Additional Information: In accordance with 20 U.S.C. 1416(b)(1), not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, each State must have in place a performance plan that evaluates the State's efforts to implement the requirements and purposes of Part B and describe how the State will improve such implementation.



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New Orleans District

SCOPING REPORT

December 2005

Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, Dredged Material Management Plan

INTRODUCTION

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 established a nationwide policy to include in every recommendation or report on proposals for major Federal actions significantly affecting the environment, a detailed statement of the environmental impact of the proposed action. Such detailed statements are referred to as environmental impact statements (EIS). A notice of intent to prepare an EIS for the Calcasieu River and Pass Dredged Material Management Plan was published in the *Federal Register* on Thursday, July 14, 2005.

The NEPA also provides for an early and open public process for determining the scope of issues, resources, impacts, and alternatives to be addressed in an EIS. This process is referred to as scoping. A notice of study initiation and EIS scoping meeting announcement was mailed in late-June 2005 to all individuals, organizations, agencies believed to have an interest in the study. One brainstorming meeting with the state and Federal resource agencies and two public scoping meetings were held. The brainstorming meeting was held with the state and Federal agencies in Lafayette, Louisiana on April 5, 2005. The first public scoping meeting was held the evening of July 18, 2005, at the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Building in Lake Charles, Louisiana. The second meeting was held the evening of July 19, 2005, at the Cameron Parish Courthouse in Cameron, Louisiana.

The two public scoping meetings were not well attended, with 18 people attending the first meeting and 16 attending the second meeting. The format for the meetings was for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) study team members to give a presentation on the background of the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, Project and present the condition of the channel and existing disposal areas. Each attendee was allowed the opportunity to express ideas regarding new disposal areas and methods to reduce the need for channel dredging.

The scoping meeting announcement advised the public that comments could be submitted orally or in writing. Several people sent letters and E-mail messages providing ideas for additional disposal areas. Those comments will be given equal consideration with those voiced at the public scoping meetings.

Public scoping comments are requested early in the EIS-preparation process to determine the scope of the EIS. The comments are used to help identify the significant issues and alternatives to be addressed. Summarized public comments and concerns voiced during the scoping meeting, as well as documents, letters and E-mails received during the 10-day period following the second meeting, are presented in this scoping report.

STUDY PURPOSE

The Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, project does not have adequate dredged material disposal areas for the long-term maintenance of the project. Existing disposal sites are at or near capacity, some disposal sites have been substantially eroded into adjacent water bodies, other disposal areas have been lost to commercial developments, or landowners have rescinded permissions for their property to be used for placement of dredged material. As a result, remaining disposal areas cannot accommodate the volume of dredged material needed to maintain the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, navigation channel to project-authorized dimensions, and CEMVN has been forced to reduce channel dimensions in some reaches.

The purpose of the Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) is to develop a long-term strategy for providing viable placement alternatives to meet the dredging needs of the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, project for a minimum of 20 years. The DMMP study will evaluate how the dredged material can be managed in an environmentally and economically acceptable manner, with emphasis on beneficial uses of the material. Beneficial uses may include, but are not limited to, ecosystem and habitat restoration, innovative uses, shoreline stabilization, and upland uses. A Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) will be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to document impacts resulting from implementation of the DMMP. It is anticipated that this study will conclude in late 2006.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

General

The vast majority of comments regarded the proposed Cheniere LNG facility in Cameron Parish. A number of comments were also received concerning the beneficial use of dredged material along the channel, primarily the restoration of degraded wetlands. Other comments involved the non-beneficial use of dredged material, and the need for additional studies.

Documents submitted

A number of documents were received following the scoping meetings. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service resubmitted a letter dated February 14, 2003, containing several recommendations and strategies for the beneficial use of dredged material removed from the Calcasieu River and Pass.

A letter dated July 11, 2005 was submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

A letter dated July 22, 2005 was submitted by Cheniere Energy, Inc.

Calcasieu River and Pass DMMP Consolidation of Ideas from Brainstorm Session and Scoping Meetings

Beneficial Use	Non-Beneficial Use	Study	Miscellaneous
<p>GET DEQ TO APPROVE CLOSURE OF CITGO SURGE POND, CAPPED WITH DREDGE MATERIAL, THIS WOULD OCCUR OVER THE LONG TERM - Location: BELOW I-210, MILE 28, ROSEBLUFF</p>	<p>MINE UPLAND DISPOSAL AREAS (DAS) THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL TO CREATE MARSH TERRACING, OTHER BEN USES - Location: THROUGHOUT THE SYSTEM</p>	<p>STUDY OF CIRCULATION/SALINITY/ETC IN THE LAKE, SEDIMENT TRANSPORT TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS FOR MARSH AND ISLAND CREATION AREAS - Location: CALCASIEU LAKE</p>	<p>EROSION CONTROL, RESTORE BANKS - Location: ALONG GIWW</p>
<p>MARSH CREATION - Location: PONDS IN OIL FIELDS NORTH OF HACKBERRY</p>	<p>UPLAND CONFINED DISPOSAL FACILITIES (CDFS) - Location: LONG POINT</p>		
<p>BEACH NOURISHMENT FROM BAR CHANNEL - Location: BAR CHANNEL, HOLLY BEACH</p>	<p>FORESHORE PROTECTION, EROSION PROTECTION - Location: FROM CHOUPIQUE ISLAND TO LONG POINT</p>	<p>INVESTIGATE HOW GEOTUBES CAN BE USED FOR FORESHORE PROTECTION - Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p>	<p>SHORELINE RESTORATION/ REESTABLISHMENT - Location: RABBIT ISLAND</p>
<p>NARROWING GAP TO 500-1000 FT OPENINGS AT WASHOUT AREA TO A MID 1970's SIZE - Location: MILE 6</p>	<p>PUT MATERIAL IN SALT DOMES - Location: HACKBERRY SALT DOMES</p>		
<p>WETLAND RESTORATION - Location: GARRISON POND, NORTH END OF CALCASIEU LAKE</p>	<p>WETLAND RESTORATION - Locations: BLACK LAKE; MIAMI CORP PROPERTY, EAST SIDE OF CALCASIEU LAKE; FURTHEST DISTANCE AWAY FROM CHANNEL (ENERGY COSTS AND AVAILABILITY OF FEDERAL FUNDS) - THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL; PONDS ON EAST SIDE OF LAKE</p>	<p>WIND/WAVE ANALYSIS OF LAKE, WAKE ANALYSIS IN CHANNEL - Location: CALCASIEU LAKE, CHANNEL</p>	<p>DIKE PARALLEL SOUTH OF HWY 82 - GULF OF MEXICO SHORELINE, WEST OF BAR CHANNEL</p>
<p>UP FOR SALE, BUY OR LEASE PROP FOR BEN USE - Location: PALERMO PROPERTY, BROWN'S LAKE</p>	<p>EXPANDING EXISTING DAS, UPLAND CONFINED - Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p>	<p>CONVERTING THE UPLAND DISPOSAL DREDGED MATERIAL INTO BANK PROTECTION ARMOR BLOCKS VIA A MOBILE MANUFACTURING PROCESS SET UP AT THE SITE - Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p>	<p>REFILL BORROW AREAS - Location: SAND PIT HOLES, THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p>
<p>WETLAND CREATION - Location: DUGAS LANDING, WATER BODY PART OF CALCASIEU LAKE, JOE'S COVE</p>	<p>REESTABLISH - Location: TURNER'S ISLAND</p>		

Calcasieu River and Pass DMMP Consolidation of Ideas from Brainstorm Session and Scoping Meetings

Beneficial Use	Non-Beneficial Use	Study	Miscellaneous
<p>IDEAS IN 2003 LETTER SENT BY U.S. MARSH CREATION OR ENHANCEMENT FOR BIRD HABITAT - Location: MUD LAKE</p> <p>WETLAND CREATION - Location: NORTH OF SABINE, PRIVATE (BELL) PROP</p> <p>WETLAND CREATION - Location: WEST OF SABINE</p> <p>WETLAND CREATION - Location: LOCKPORT MARSH AREA AROUND I-210, MOUTH OF BAYOU D'INDE</p>	<p>NOURISHMENT NORTH OF BEACH BEYOND DUNES - Location: AREA WEST OF THE CHANNEL</p> <p>US F&WL Proposed Beneficial Use Site "A" submitted via e-mail dated 8 Apr 05. Location: Open water area immediately west of Calcasieu Saltwater Barrier structure.</p> <p>US F&WL Proposed Beneficial Use Site "A" submitted via e-mail dated 8 Apr 05. Location: Open water area immediately north of Calcasieu Saltwater Barrier structure.</p> <p>NOURISHMENT NORTH OF BEACH BEYOND DUNES - Location: AREA EAST OF THE JETTIES</p>	<p>FLATTENING SIDE SLOPE TO PREVENT ADDITIONAL SHOALING, REVETTING, AND/OR ROCK DIKE - Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p> <p>RAISING HEIGHT OF DIKED AREAS ON EXISTING DAS - Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p> <p>ROCK CHANNEL FIRST, RECLAIM ORIGINAL CHANNEL DIMENSIONS TO REDUCE DREDGING CYCLES - Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p> <p>ALLOW COMMERCIAL MINING OF DAS - Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p>	<p>FORM BENEFICIAL USES GROUP (BUG) COMPRISED OF FOLKS WITH AUTHORITY TO MAKE DECISIONS FOR THEIR AGENCIES IN ORDER FOR THE BUG GROUP TO MAKE AGREEMENTS FOR LONG TERM (20-25 YEARS) - Location: N/A</p> <p>MITIGATION BANKING FOR INCREMENTAL COSTS FOR BENEFICIAL USE OF MATERIAL - Location: N/A</p> <p>RECREATE HISTORIC HYDROLOGIC FLOW PATTERN BY FILLING IN BORROW AREA USED FOR CREATING THE LEVEE - RECREATE NATURAL RIDGE LINE - Location: N/A</p>

Calcasieu River and Pass DMMP Consolidation of Ideas from Brainstorm Session and Scoping Meetings

Beneficial Use	Non-Beneficial Use	Study	Miscellaneous
<p>EXPANDING INTO CALCASIEU LAKE, CREATION OF WETLANDS & MARSH CREATION ON BACK SIDE OF EXISTING SITES ADJACENT TO LAKE, ON BOTH SIDES OF CHANNEL - Location: CALCASIEU LAKE, OLD RIGHT OF WAY FOOTPRINT</p> <p>MARSH CREATION - Location: SCHOOL BOARD PROPERTY, SECT. 16</p> <p>MARSH CREATION - Location: UPLAND CDFS</p> <p>Location: OLIN TAILINGS POND, COON ISLAND</p>	<p>BUILD A WETLAND CELL - Location: PRIEN LAKE</p> <p>US F&WL Proposed Beneficial Use Site "A" submitted via e-mail dated 8 Apr 05. Location: Open water area immediately south of Calcasieu Saltwater Barrier structure.</p> <p>EXISTING UPLAND SITE Location: MONKEY ISLAND</p>		<p>SEEK AUTHORITY TO MODIFY THE CALCASIEU RIVER & PASS MAINTENANCE DREDGING FEDERAL STANDARD FOR MAXIMUM USE OF MATERIAL FOR BENEFICIAL USE (MARSH CREATION). Location: N/A</p>
<p>PLASTIC OR STEEL BULKHEADS - ALONG THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE CHANNEL, ADJACENT TO DAS, ALSO LAKE SIDE</p> <p>REESTABLISHING BOUNDARY AREA AT WESTERN EDGE OF LAKE - Location: WEST COVE AREA, SABINE</p>	<p>MARSH CREATION - Location: PROPERTY IN CAMERON PARISH</p> <p>MARSH CREATION - Location: WEST OF HWY 27, EASTERN PORTION OF PALERMO</p>		<p>MANAGE PROPERLY DAS TO OBTAIN THE MAXIMUM DEWATERING OF THE AREA AND CONSOLIDATION OF THE DREDGED MATERIAL Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p>
<p>WETLAND CREATION - Location: FRESHWATER AREA, IMPOUNDMENT 1A ON SABINE -</p>	<p>MARSH CREATION - Location: AROUND OYSTER BAYOU/ LAKE, SITE 2 (CHENIERE)</p>		<p>EVALUATE BANK RESHAPING AND PLANT BANKS - Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p>
<p>US F&WL Proposed Beneficial Use Site "A" submitted via e-mail dated 8 Apr 05. Location: Open water area immediately north of and adjacent to the I-10 Bridge and east of the Calcasieu River.</p>	<p>PLANTING VERMILLION BAY ALTERNIFLORA TO REDUCE EROSION - Location: THROUGHOUT THE CHANNEL</p>		<p>INSTALL PERMANENT PIPELINE FOR MATERIAL DISPOSAL ON SABINE NWR OCEAN DISPOSAL - Location: SABINE NWR AND NEARBY PRIVATE LAND</p>

Calcasieu River and Pass DMMP Consolidation of Ideas from Brainstorm Session and Scoping Meetings

Miscellaneous

Non-Beneficial Use

Study

Beneficial Use

WETLAND CREATION - Location:
 250,000 ACRES LOCATED EAST OF
 THE CALCASIEU SHIP CHANNEL IN
 CAMERON PARISH COMMUNITY(
 ALONG SHORE OF CALCASIEU LAKE,
 NORTH OF CAMERON/PRAIRIE
 REFUGE ROGER VINCENT FOR MIAMI
 CORPORATION).
 OCEAN DISPOSAL - Location: N/A

MINE MATERIAL OUT OF CDFS AND
 FILL GEOTUBE AND CAP WITH HARD
 MATERIAL TO MAKE HABITAT FOR
 OYSTERS - Location: CALCASIEU LAKE
 BOTTOM

WETLAND CREATION - Location: CAM
 NWR, SOUTH OF CALCASIEU LAKE

MARSH CREATION - Location:
 GEERTOLBERT PROPERTIES
 AVAILABLE NEAR THE SHIP CHANNEL
 AND EAST & SOUTH OF THE GIWW
 (BUBBA WHEAT FOR GEERTOLBERT
 PROPERTIES)

MARSH CREATION - Location: 160 ACRES
 ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE CALCASIEU
 LAKE NEAR THE COMMUNITY OF GRAND
 LAKE

Calcasieu River & Pass Dredged Material Management Plan
 Public Scoping Meeting Monday, July 18, 2005,
 7:00 p.m.

Calcasieu Parish Policy Jury Building
 1015 Pithon St, Lake Charles, LA 70601
 Policy Jury Conference Room

NAME	AFFILIATION		STREET ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E-MAIL ADDRESS	COPY OF REPORT	
	(e.g., agency, organization, self)					YES	NO
Charlie Afferton	CITIZEN		122 Vine St	Sulphur, La. 70663	Charlie@structurex.com	Yes	
William Kuchel III	Wetlands Corp		P.O. Box 515 24	Lafayette, La. 70505	wk3@beehunt.net	Yes	
GREG VOORHIES	WETLANDS CORP		P.O. Box 52787	LAFAYETTE, LA 70105	EGV5217@AOL.COM	Yes	
DAVID BUFORD	PTG		P.O. Box 1000	LAKE CHARLES, LA	dbuford@ppg.com	Yes	
David Richard	Steam		P.O. Box 40	Lake Charles, La	d.richard@steamcompany.com	Yes	
"R.A." Bob Dewey	Congressman Bonstans		700 Lyon St.	Lake Charles, LA 70601	bob.dewey@usind.house.gov	Yes	
DAN MORRIS	L.C. PILOTS		4902 IHLES RD	" " " 70605	dmorris@lakecharlespilots.com	Yes	
Herb Whitney	CITIZEN	PENG	193 Eldridge May	HOUSTON, TX 77077	hwhitne@citi.ga.la.us	Yes	
BILL RANKINE	CITIZEN	PEIR.	" " "	HOUSTON, TX 77077	WRANKIN@CITGO.COM	Yes	
Andee Guin	Port Aggregate		1 Lakeshore Dr	Lake Charles, 70629	AGUIN@portaggregate.com	Yes	
ROBERT GAUDER	SEN. MARY LANDRIEU		(LAKEHUR	LC 70629	roddy_gauder@landrien.senate.gov	Yes	
KEN ROZICKS	CITIZEN		P.O. Box 1424	LC 70602	KROZICK@CITGO.COM	Yes	
PETE PAUVY	Family Corp		751 E. Bayou Park "Q" E	LC 70601	LPAUVY@CCIM,NET	Yes	
JACK ROBINSON	Robinson, Milet & Warrick		1355 COMMONS	LC 70601	JFR@RMILLETWARL.COM	Yes	
Sean Dufley	Steamship Assoc		2 Canal St Suite 2217	NOLA 70130	sean@sshpa.org	Yes	

DATA REQUIRED BY PRIVACY ACT OF 1974

The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that each individual asked to furnish personal information be advised of the following:

AUTHORITY: National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190, Section 101(b)), 1 January 1970, and appropriate Corps of Engineers regulations.

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: To aid in promoting public involvement in Corps of Engineers civil works activities.

ROUTINE USES: Information collected is used to record public participation.

DISCLOSURE IS VOLUNTARY. However, failure to provide the requested information will preclude recording your attendance at this open house and adding your name to the study's mailing list.

Calcasieu River & Pass Dredged Material Management Plan
Public Scoping Meeting Monday, July 18, 2005,
7:00 p.m.

Calcasieu Parish Policy Jury Building
1015 Pithon St, Lake Charles, LA 70601
Policy Jury Conference Room

NAME	AFFILIATION <small>(e.g., agency, organization, self)</small>	STREET ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E-MAIL ADDRESS		COPY OF REPORT	
						YES	NO
Jim Robinson	Port of Lake Charles			JRobinson@portlc.com		Yes	
Charles Stachowich	RSDA - NRCS	1400 - Hwy 14	Lake Charles LA 70601	Charles.Stachowich@La.usDA.gov		Yes	
Michael Harrison	LDFW-LC	1213 N LAKE SHORE DR	LAFAYETTE LA	MHARRISON@WF.Louisiana.gov		Yes	

DATA REQUIRED BY PRIVACY ACT OF 1974
The Privacy Act of 1974 requires that each individual asked to furnish personal information be advised of the following:
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PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: To aid in promoting public involvement in Corps of Engineers civil works activities.
ROUTINE USES: Information collected is used to record public participation.
DISCLOSURE IS VOLUNTARY. However, failure to provide the requested information will preclude recording your attendance at this open house and adding your name to the study's mailing list.

Calcasieu River & Pass Dredged Material Management Plan

Public Scoping Meeting Monday, July 19, 2005,

7:00 p.m.

Cameron Parish Courthouse

119 Smith Circle, Cameron, LA 70631

Policy Jury Conference Room

NAME	AFFILIATION (e.g., agency, organization, self)	STREET ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E-MAIL ADDRESS	COPY OF REPORT	
					YES	NO
Steven Reagan	US Fish + Wildl Service	1428 Hwy 27	Bell City LA 70630	Steve-Reagan@fws.gov		YES
Tina Hill	Cameron Blue Jay	PO Box 1280	Cameron 70631	cpj@camtel.net		YES
Shonda Husley	PB&T	1501 N. Causeway Blvd Suite 125	New Orleans, LA 70002	shunda@psbj.com		YES
Cindy McCree	Cheniere	5582 Gurbach	Cameron, LA 70631	cmagge@cheniere.com		YES
Duff Tojus	Cameron Parish Police Jury		Cameron LA 70631			YES
Magnus Meber	Cam Police Jury	121 Alvin Ln	Cameron LA 70631	Sonny.Meber@williams.com		YES
Jim Robinson	Port of Lake Charles	150 Marie St	Lake Charles, LA 70602	JRobinson@PORTLC.COM		YES
Charles Starkovich	USDA-NRCS	1400 - Hwy 14	Lake Charles, LA 70602	Charles.Starkovich@La.usda.gov		YES
Scott Trahan	Cam. Par. Police Jury	P.O. Box 235	Creole, LA 70632	so-trahan@camtel.net		YES
Dwight St. Aubine	West Cameron Port	PO Box 476	Cameron LA 70631	D.StAubine@MidstreamFuel.com		YES
Michael Harrison	WWF - LC			MHARRISON@WLF.LOUISIANA.GOV		YES
Charles T. Hebert		PO Box 1168	Cameron LA 70631			
Cyndi Sellers	Cameron Pilot	PO Box 44	Cameron LA 70631	cyndisell@camtel.net		YES
Carol Parsons	LPNR - CRP		Bayou Rouge LA	carita.parsons@la.gov		YES, a please
Stenn W. Alexander	Attorney for Cheniere Energy	P.O. Box 1550	Cameron LA 70631	galexander@camtel.net		Yes

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Calcasieu River & Pass Dredged Material Management Plan

Public Scoping Meeting Monday, July 19, 2005,

7:00 p.m.

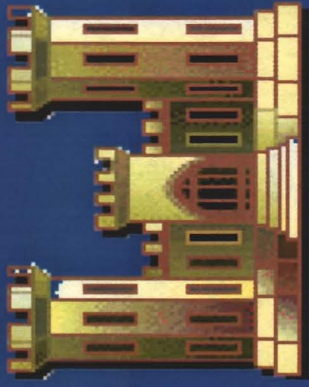
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119 Smith Circle, Cameron, LA 70631

Policy Jury Conference Room

NAME	AFFILIATION <small>(e.g., agency, organization, self)</small>	STREET ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E-MAIL ADDRESS	COPY OF REPORT	
					YES	NO
George Melancon	LA Dept. of Wildlife + Fish.	5476 Grand Chenier Hwy.	Grand Chenier, LA 70643		Yes	

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*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District*

*Calcasieu River and Pass, LA
Dredged Material Management Plan
(DMMP)*

Public Scoping Meeting

Scoping Meeting

*July 18, 2005
Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Building*

Environmental Manager

Casey Rowe

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN)

Phone: 504-862-1583

e-mail: Casey.J.Rowe@mvn02.usace.army.mil

Background of Project

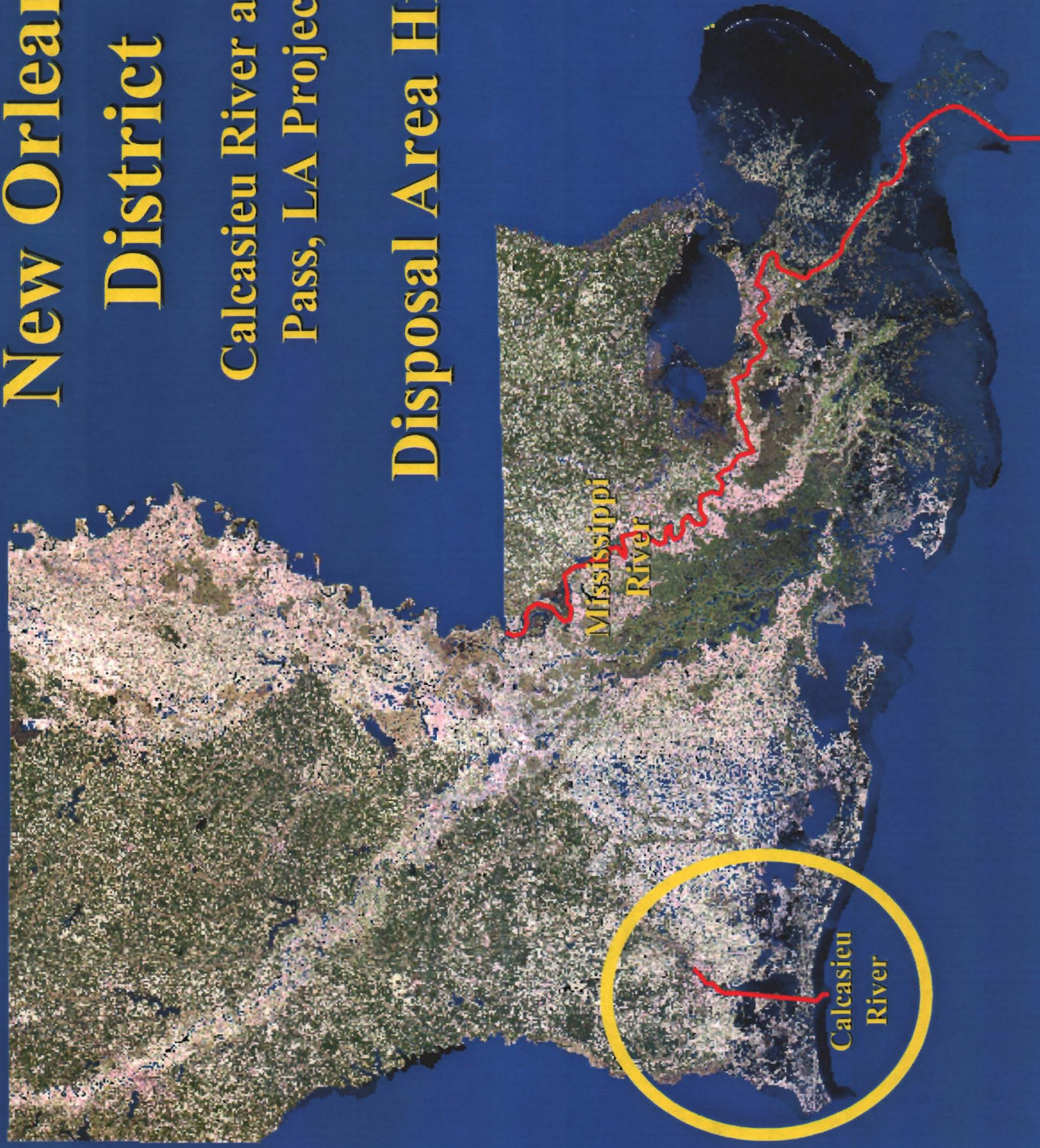
- *The area of the project is the Calcasieu River and Pass mile 5.0 to 36.0 reach*
- *Dredging Cycle:
Mile 0 – 5 dredging not required (project dimensions maintained naturally)
Mile 5 – 14 and Mile 14 – 28 and Devil’s Elbow alternating years
Mile 28 – 36 once every five years.
Project ends at Mile 36*
- *Over 4 million cubic yards of sediment is dredged annually from sub-reaches of the area. The dredged material is placed in a series of Confined Disposal Facilities (CDFs) adjacent to the river, and occasionally used for creation of wetlands when paired with CWPPRA or CAP Section 204*

*CWPPRA = Water Resources Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection Restoration Act (1990 Breaux Act).
CAP = Continuing Authority Program. Section 204 of the 1992 Water Resources Development Act, beneficial uses of dredged material to protect, restore, or create aquatic and ecologically related habitats, including wetlands.*

New Orleans District

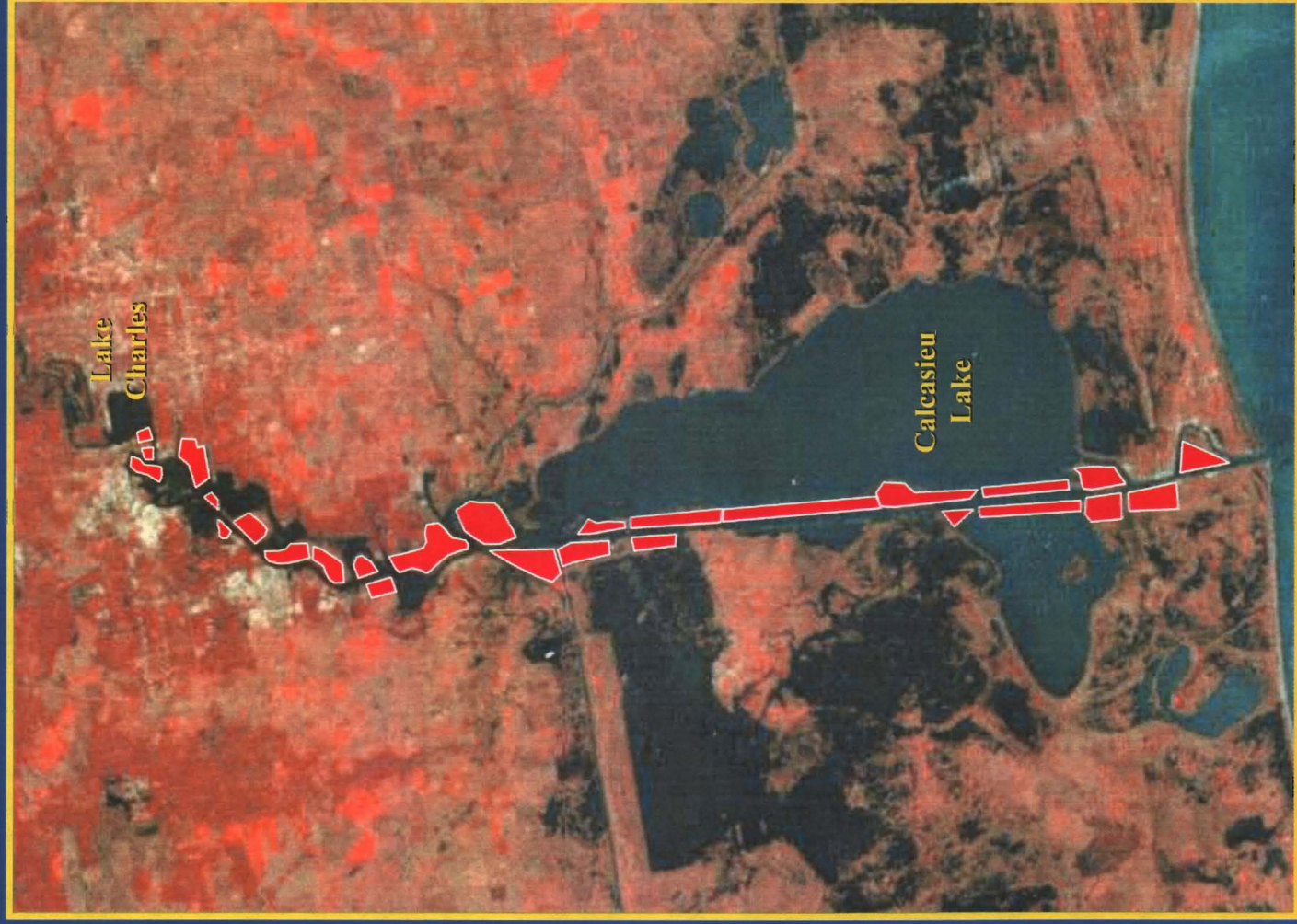
Calcasieu River and
Pass, LA Project

Disposal Area History



Upland Confined Disposal Areas

1. In use since construction of the ship channel.
2. Not all disposal areas used since construction.



CALCASIEU RIVER DISPOSAL AREAS

Mile 35 to Mile 31

Historically
Used Portion



Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary

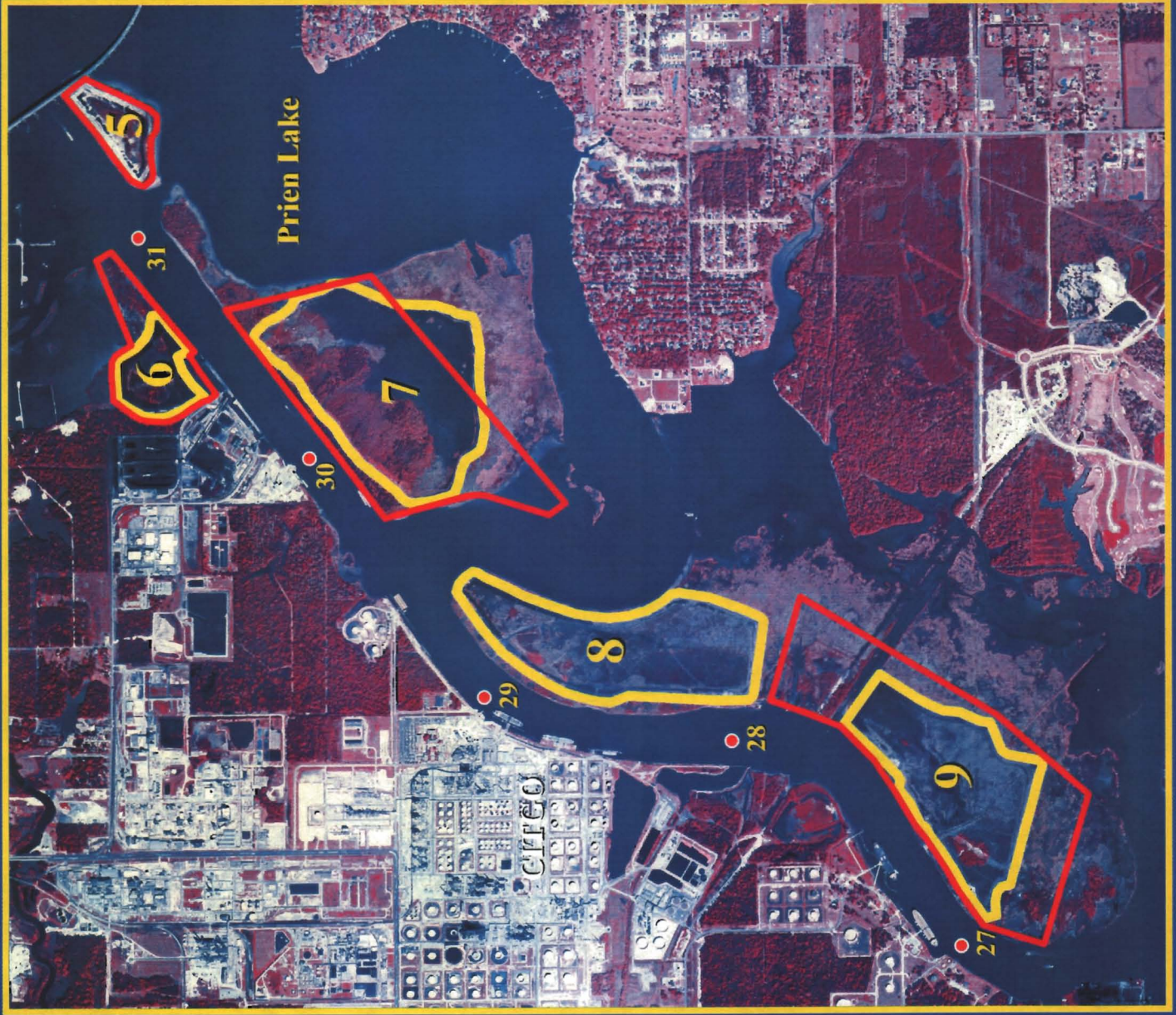


Mile 31 to Mile 27

Historically
Used Portion



Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary

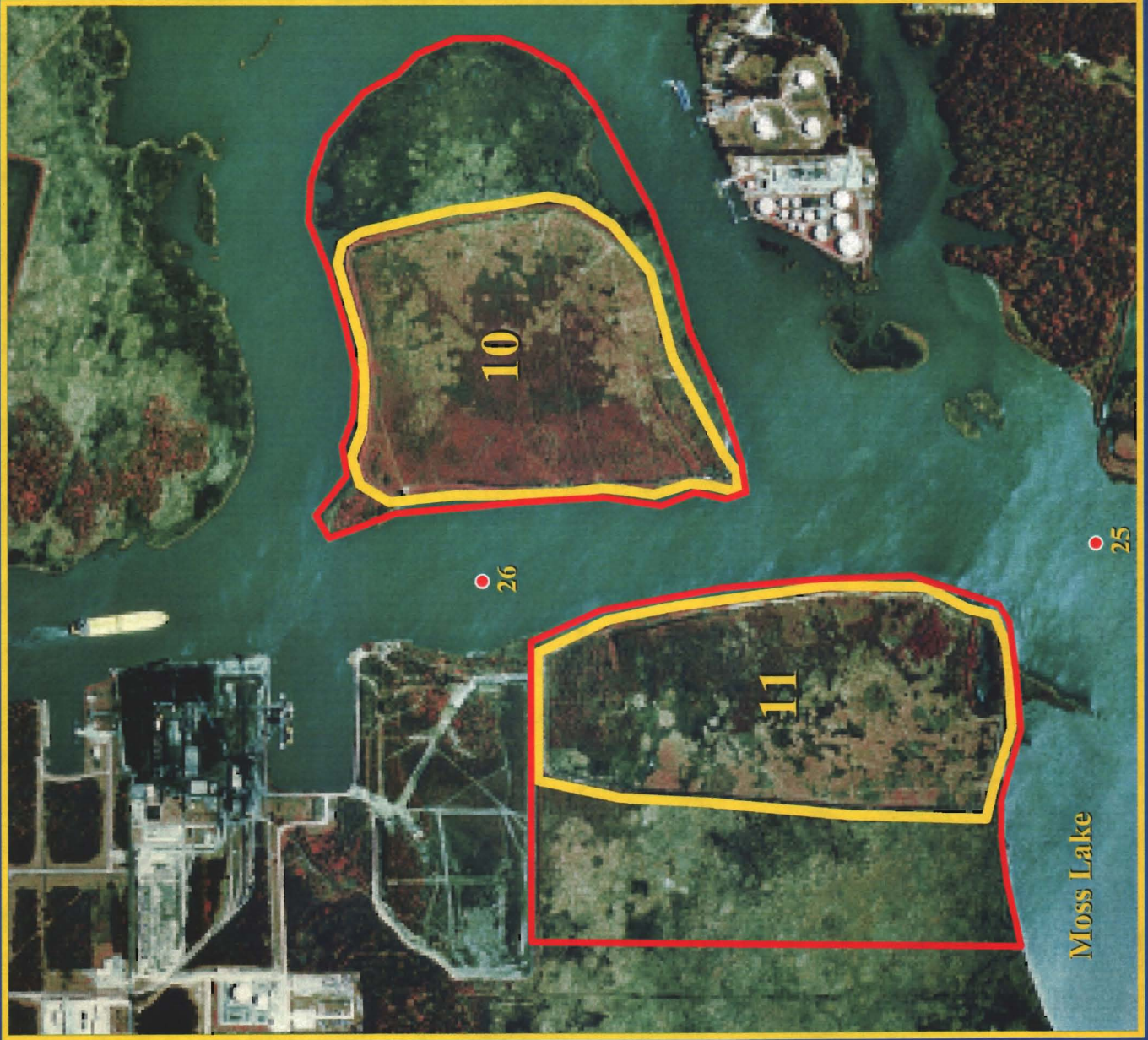


Mile 26 to Mile 25

Historically
Used Portion



Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



Mile 25 to Mile 23

Historically
Used Portion



Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



Mile 24 to Mile 21

Historically
Used Portion



Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



Mile 21 to Mile 19

Historically
Used Portion

Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary

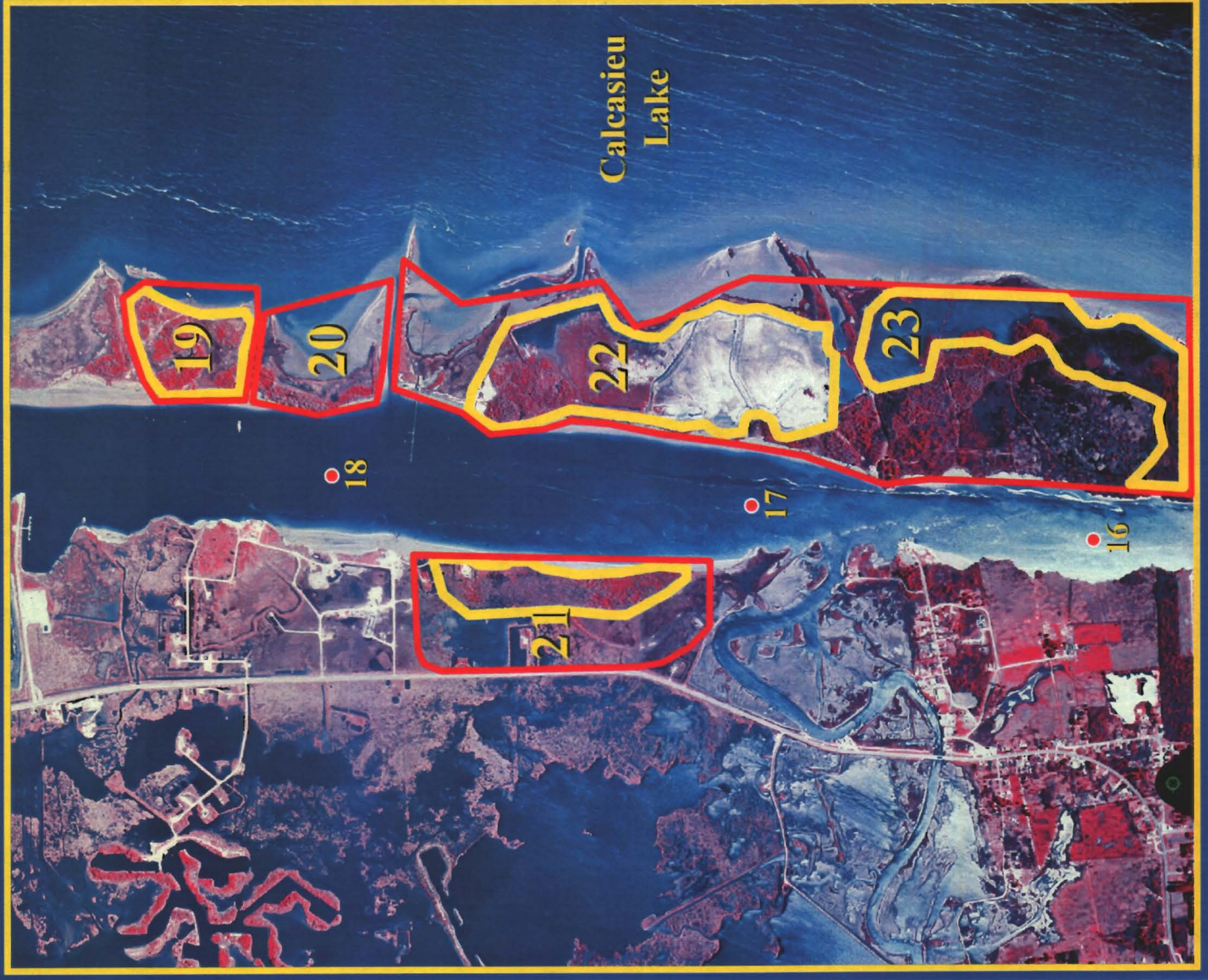


Mile 19 to Mile 16

Historically
Used Portion



Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



Mile 16 to Mile 12

Historically
Used Portion



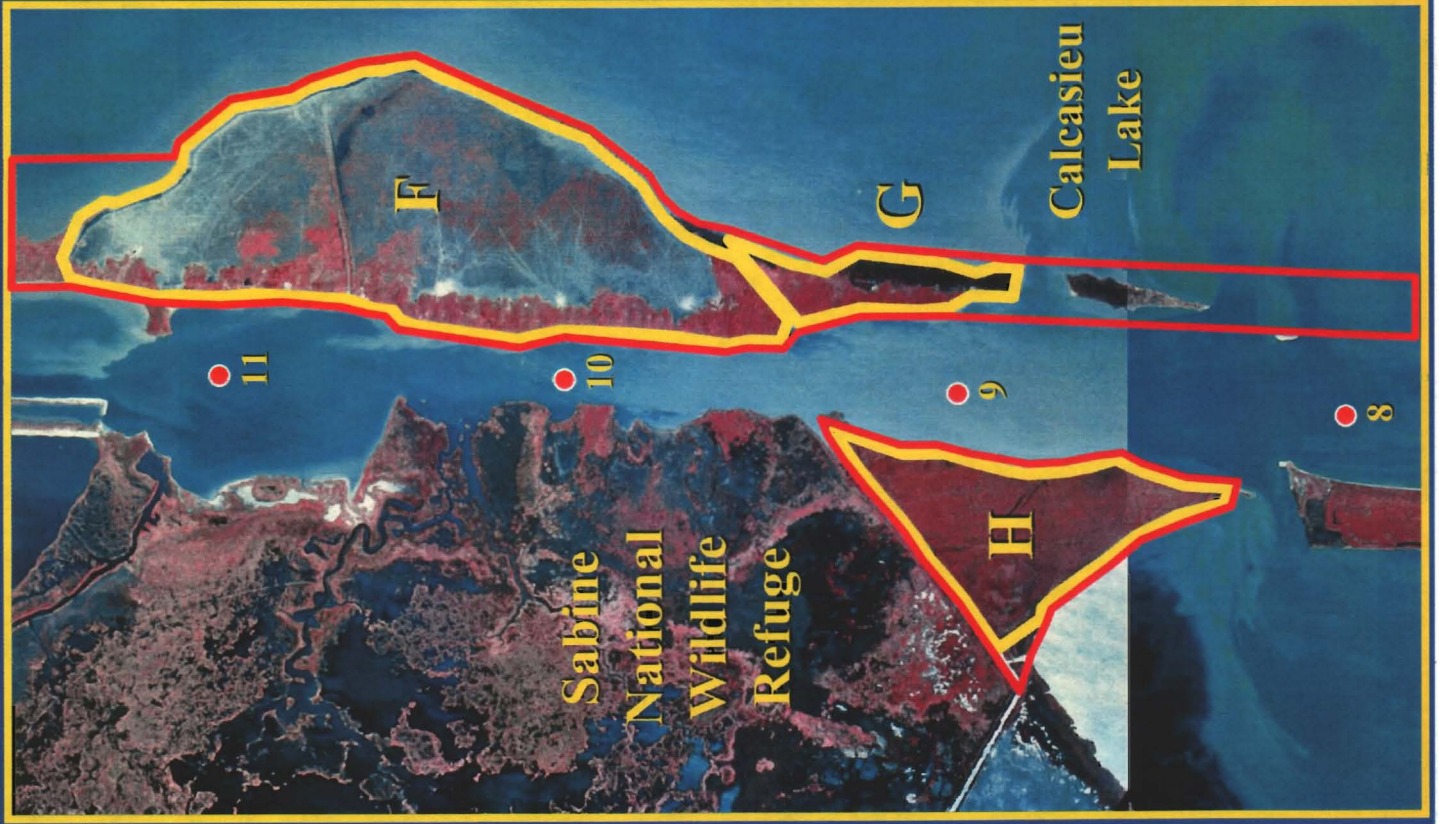
Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



Mile 11 to Mile 8

Historically
Used Portion

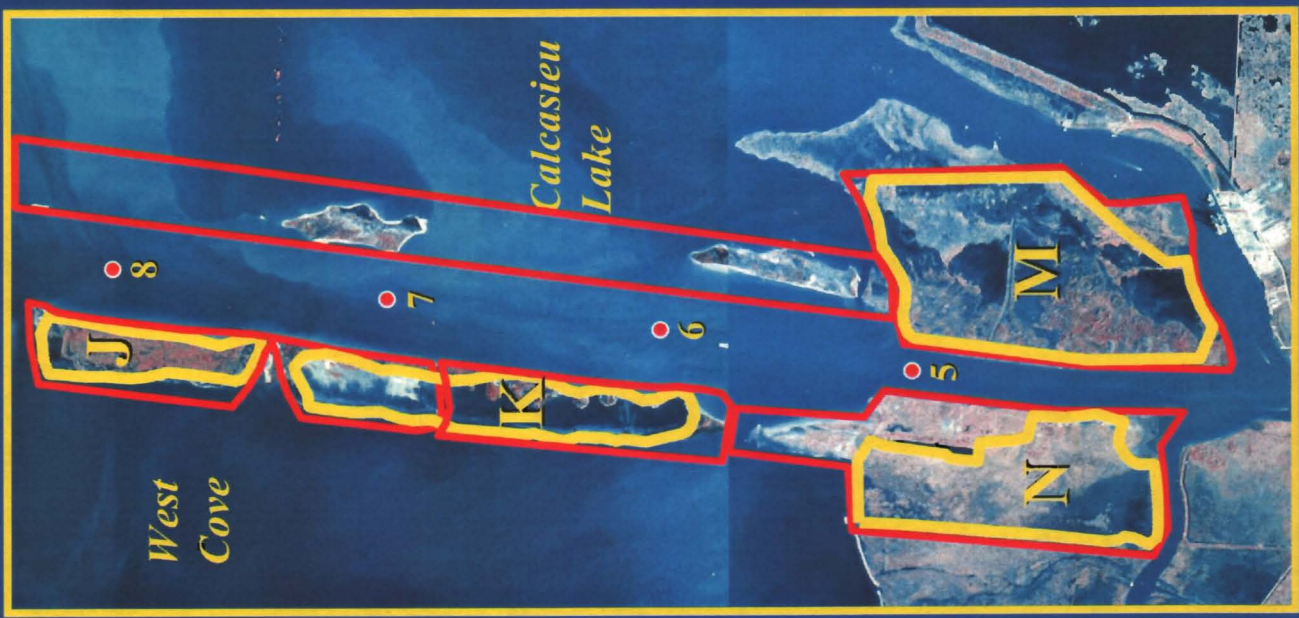
Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



Mile 8 to Mile 4


Historically
Used Portion

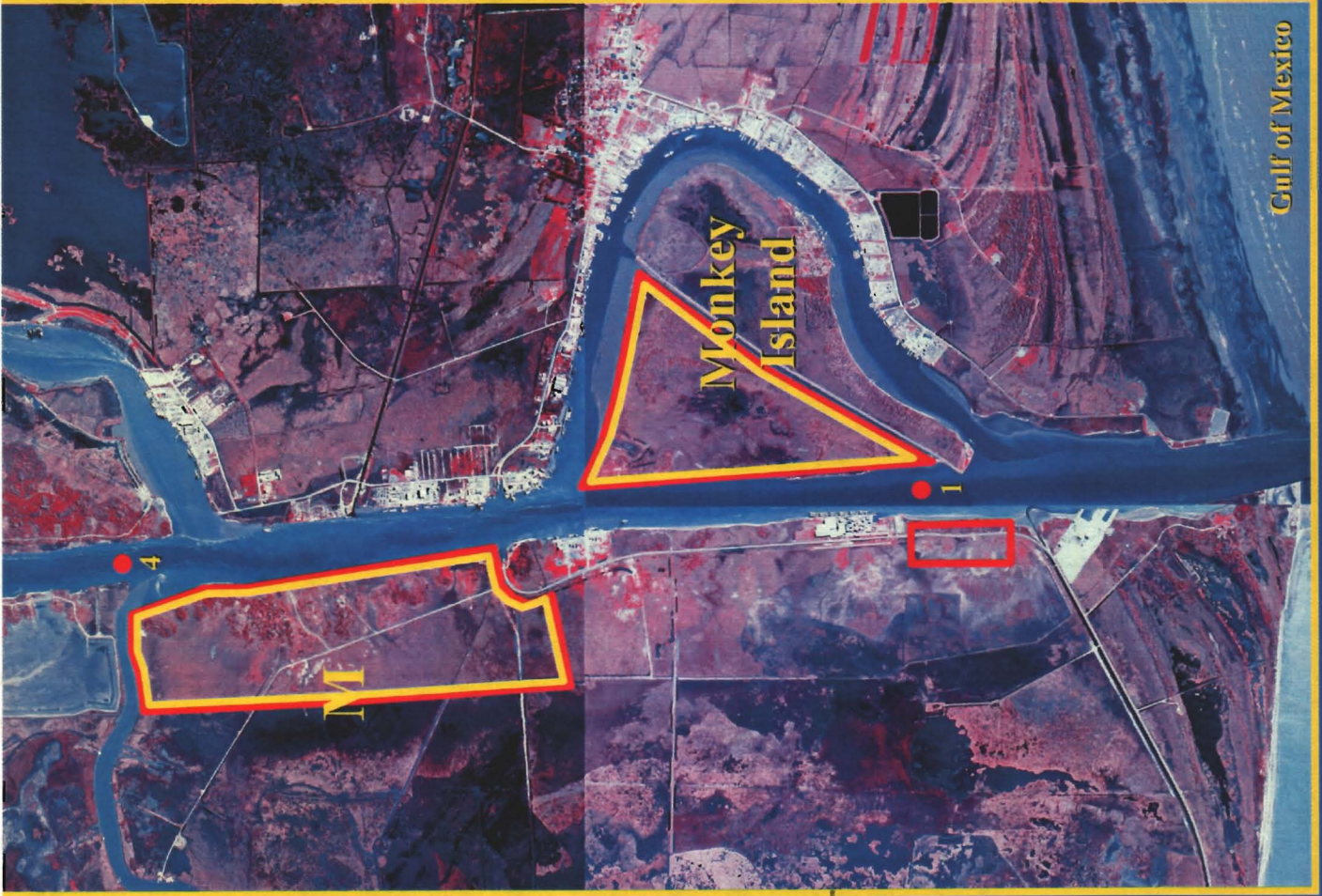
Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



Mile 4 to Mile 1

 Historically
Used Portion

 Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



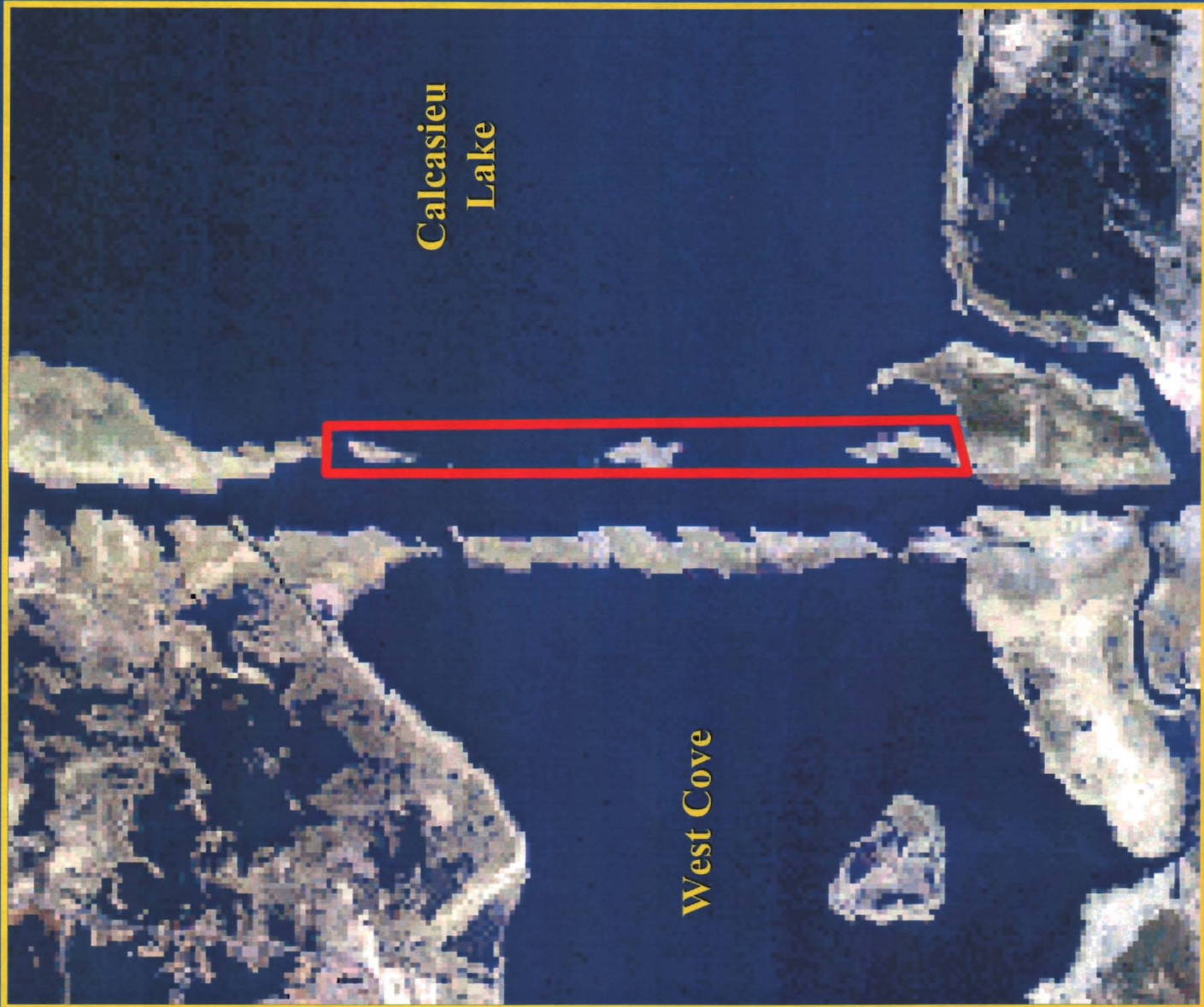
Gulf of Mexico

Calcasieu River Disposal Area Events

- **1970s – New Orleans District abandons use of confined DA's on the left descending bank between Mile 9 and Mile 5 at the request of local fish and wildlife interests. The lakeside dikes kept eroding and allowed DMI to escape into Calcasieu Lake and the channel.**

**Calcasieu
Lake**

West Cove



Calcasieu River Disposal Areas

• 1970s – New Orleans District abandons use of confined DA's on the left descending bank between Mile 9 and Mile 5 at the request of local fish and wildlife interests. The lakeside dikes kept eroding and allowed DVI to escape into Calcasieu Lake and the channel.

- **1970s - Placement of dredged material in the shallow open water component of the lakeside DA's was discontinued because of recurring failure of the lakeside retaining dikes due to wave erosion effects from the lake.**



Calcasieu River Disposal Areas

- 1970s - New Orleans District abandons use of confined DA's on the left descending bank between Mile 9 and Mile 5 at the request of local fish and wildlife interests. The lakeside dikes kept eroding and allowed DVI to escape into Calcasieu Lake and the channel.
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- **1996 - Failure of several lakeside DA retention dikes.**



Calcasieu River Disposal Areas

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- **2001 – loss of portion of DA 16S as landowner reclaimed.**



Calcasieu River Disposal Areas

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- 1996 – Failure of several lakeside DA retention dikes.
- 2001 – loss of portion of DA 16S as landowner reclaimed.
- **31 Dec 2001 - USFWS revokes permission to use DA F.**

Mile 11 to Mile 8

Historically
Used Portion



Calcasieu River Disposal Areas

- 1970s – New Orleans District abandons use of confined DA's on left descending bank between Mile 9 and Mile 5 at the request of local fish and wildlife interests. The lakeside dikes kept eroding and allowed DVI to escape into Calcasieu Lake and the channel.
- 1970s - Placement of dredged material in the shallow open water component of the lakeside DA's was discontinued because of recurring failure of the lakeside retaining dikes due to wave erosion effects from the lake.
- 1996 - Failure of several lakeside DA retention dikes.
- 2001 - Loss of portion of DA 16S as landowner reclaimed.
- 31 Dec 2001 - USFVYS revokes permission to use DA F.
- **2002 – Port of Lake Charles reclaims portion of DA 4.**

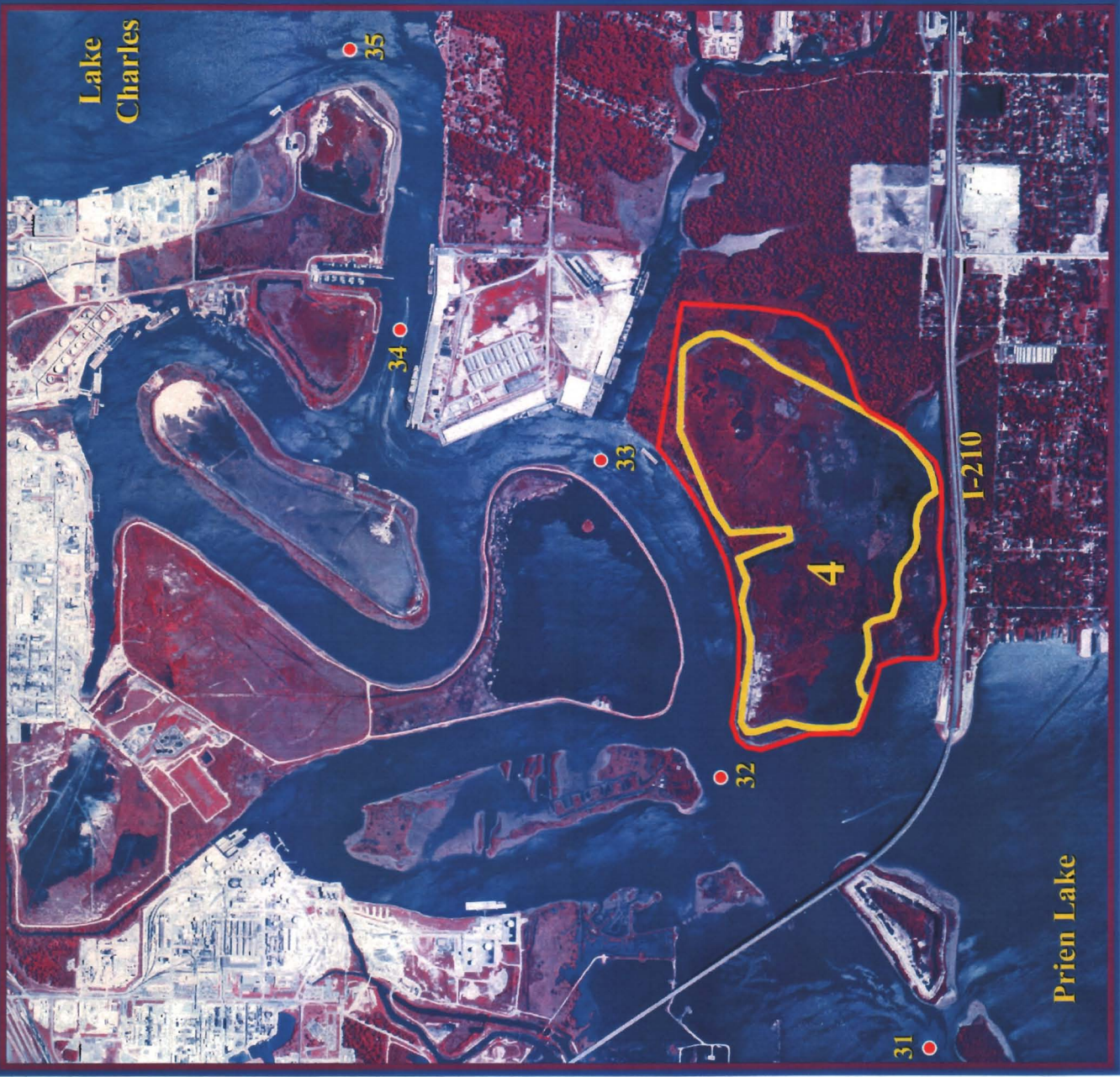
CALCASIEU RIVER DISPOSAL AREAS

Mile 35 to Mile 31

Historically
Used Portion



Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



CALCASIEU RIVER DISPOSAL AREAS

Mile 35 to Mile 31

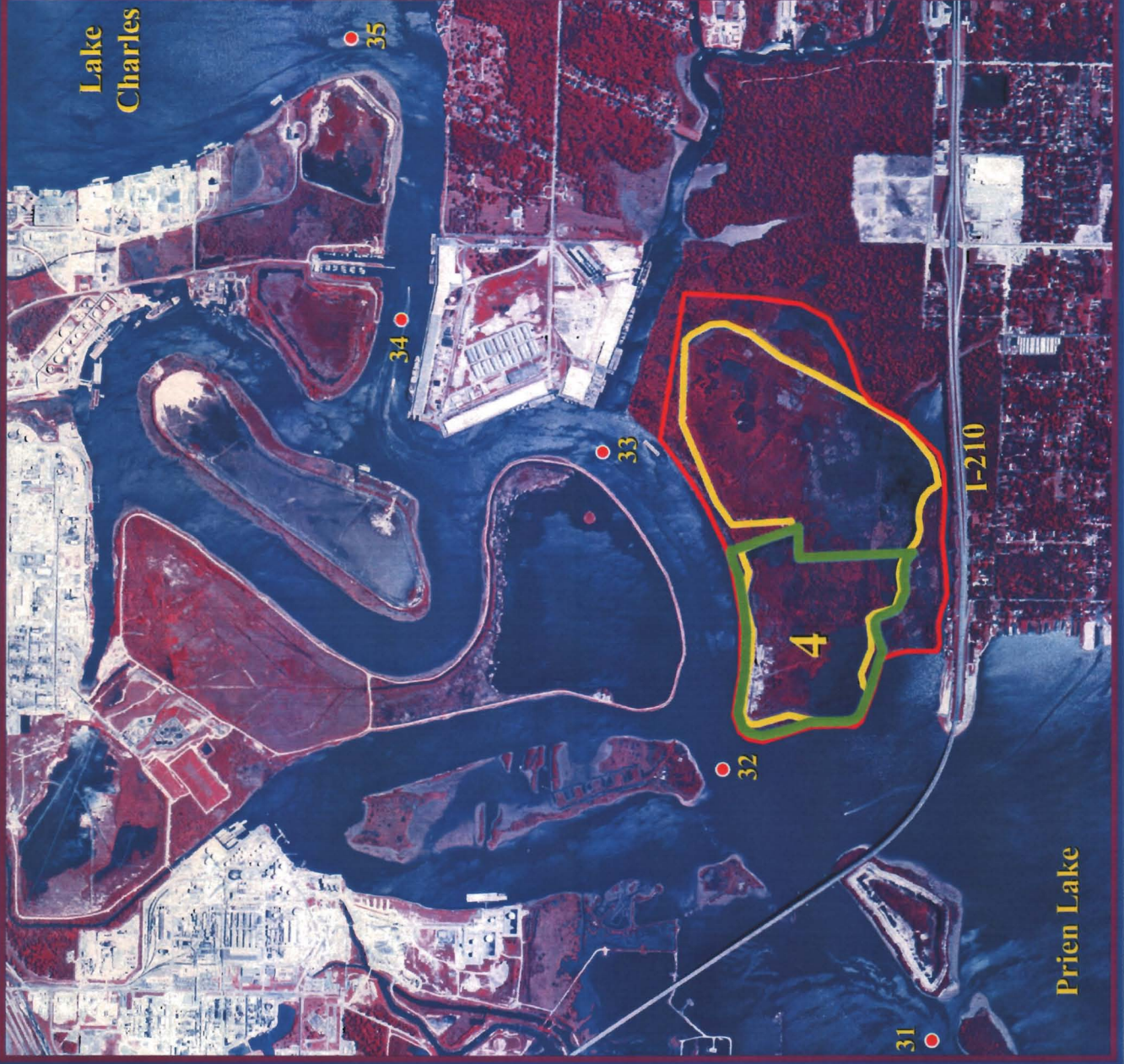
Historically
Used Portion



Environmentally
Cleared Disposal
Area Boundary



Currently
Available
Portion



Efforts to Identify New Disposal Areas

- **1997 – Interagency meetings propose 12 new disposal areas (only use of lakeside DA's is agreeable to all, but with reservations).**

Efforts to Identify New Disposal Areas

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- **2000 – interagency meeting to discuss 6 proposed beneficial use disposal areas.**

Efforts to Identify New Disposal Areas

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- **8 Nov 2001 – Scoping Public Notice describing proposed reclamation/expansion of lakeside DA's.**

Efforts to Identify New Disposal Areas

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- 2000 – Interagency meeting to discuss 6 proposed beneficial use disposal areas.
- Nov 2001 – Scoping Public Notice describing proposed reclamation/expansion of Lakeside DA's.
- **26 Feb 2002 – public meeting to discuss Nov 2001 Public Notice proposed disposal plan.**

Efforts to Identify New Disposal Areas

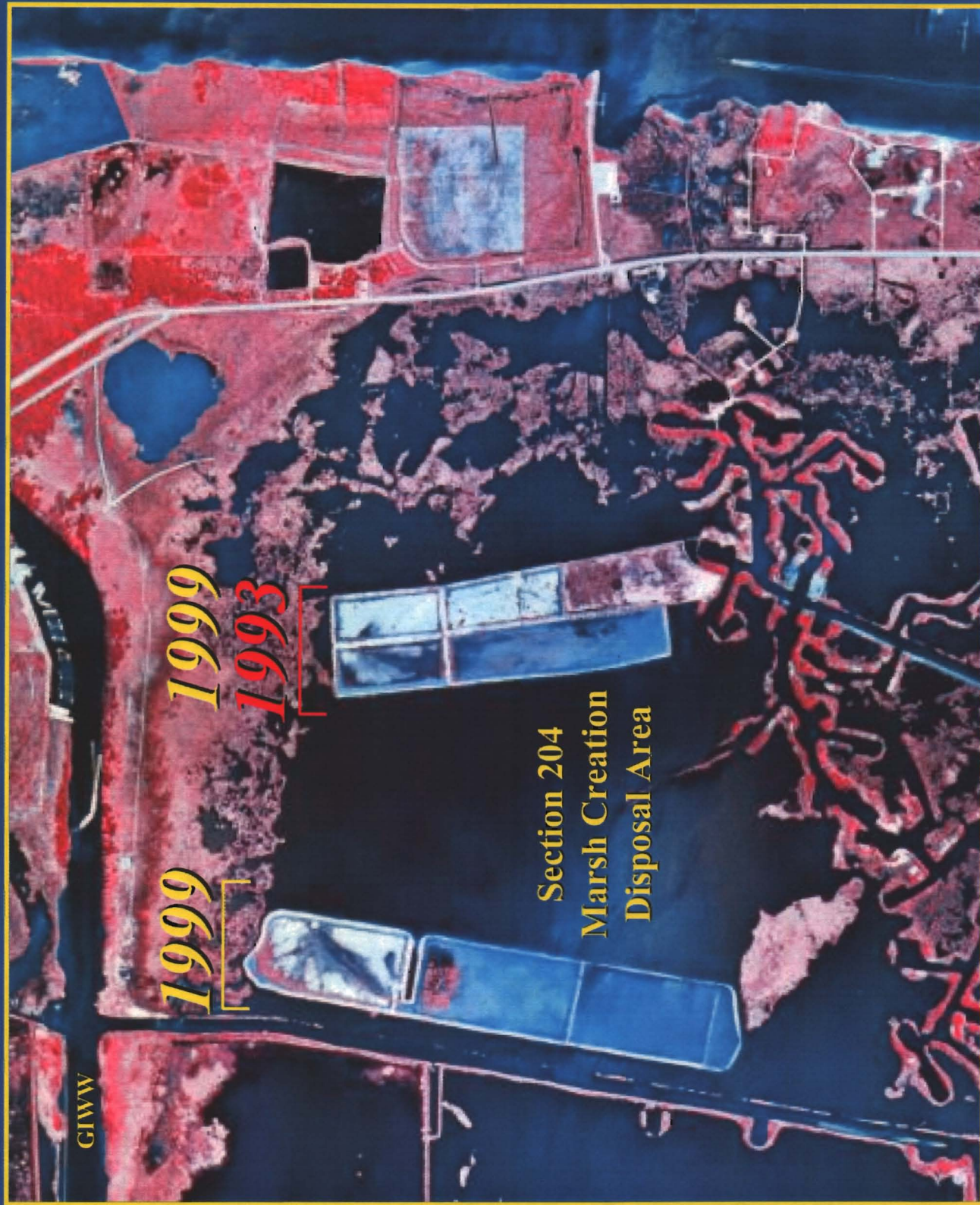
- 1997 – Interagency meetings propose 12 new disposal areas (only use of lakeside DA's is agreeable to all, but with reservations).
- 2000 – interagency meeting to discuss 6 proposed beneficial use disposal areas.
- Nov 2001 – Scoping Public Notice describing proposed reclamation/expansion of lakeside DA's.
- 26 Feb 2002 – public meeting to discuss Nov 2001 Public Notice proposed disposal plan.
- **27 Feb 2002 – 1st Task Force meeting with agencies and local interests discussing proposed disposal plans for the Calcasieu River project.**

Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Disposal Areas

1. Brown's Lake

2. Sabine National Wildlife Refuge

Brown's Lake



GIWW

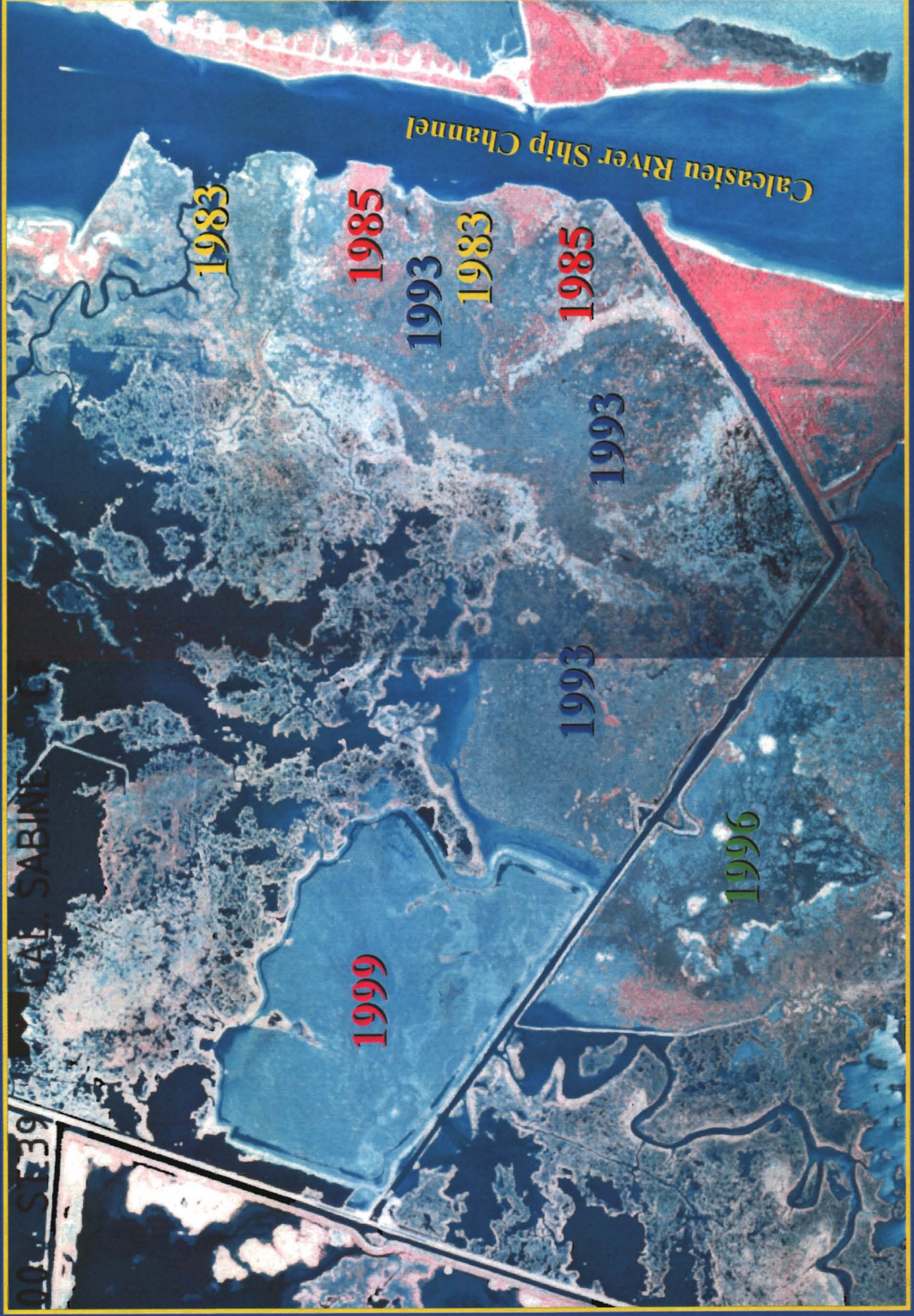
1999

1999

1993

Section 204
Marsh Creation
Disposal Area

Calcasieu River and Pass
Sabine National Wildlife Refuge
Beneficial Use of Dredged Material



Calcasieu River and Pass

CWPPRA: PPL8
Sabine Refuge Marsh
Creation Project

SNWR Boundary

Cycle 1

Calcasieu Ship Channel

Calcasieu Lake

Secondary

Primary



A legend box with a blue background and yellow border. It contains two entries: a red square followed by the text 'Cycle 2 Placement Area' and a green square followed by the text 'FY 2001 Placement Area (Cycle 1)'. The text is white and bold.

- Cycle 2 Placement Area
- FY 2001 Placement Area (Cycle 1)



**Beneficial Use Disposal Areas
Environmentally Cleared
But Not Yet Used**

GARRISON SITE



NOTES:
 DOQ imagery from Jan. 1998.
 Island disposal outline based on
 1975 USGS Moss Lake quadrangle



U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT NEW ORLEANS
 CORPS OF ENGINEERS
 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

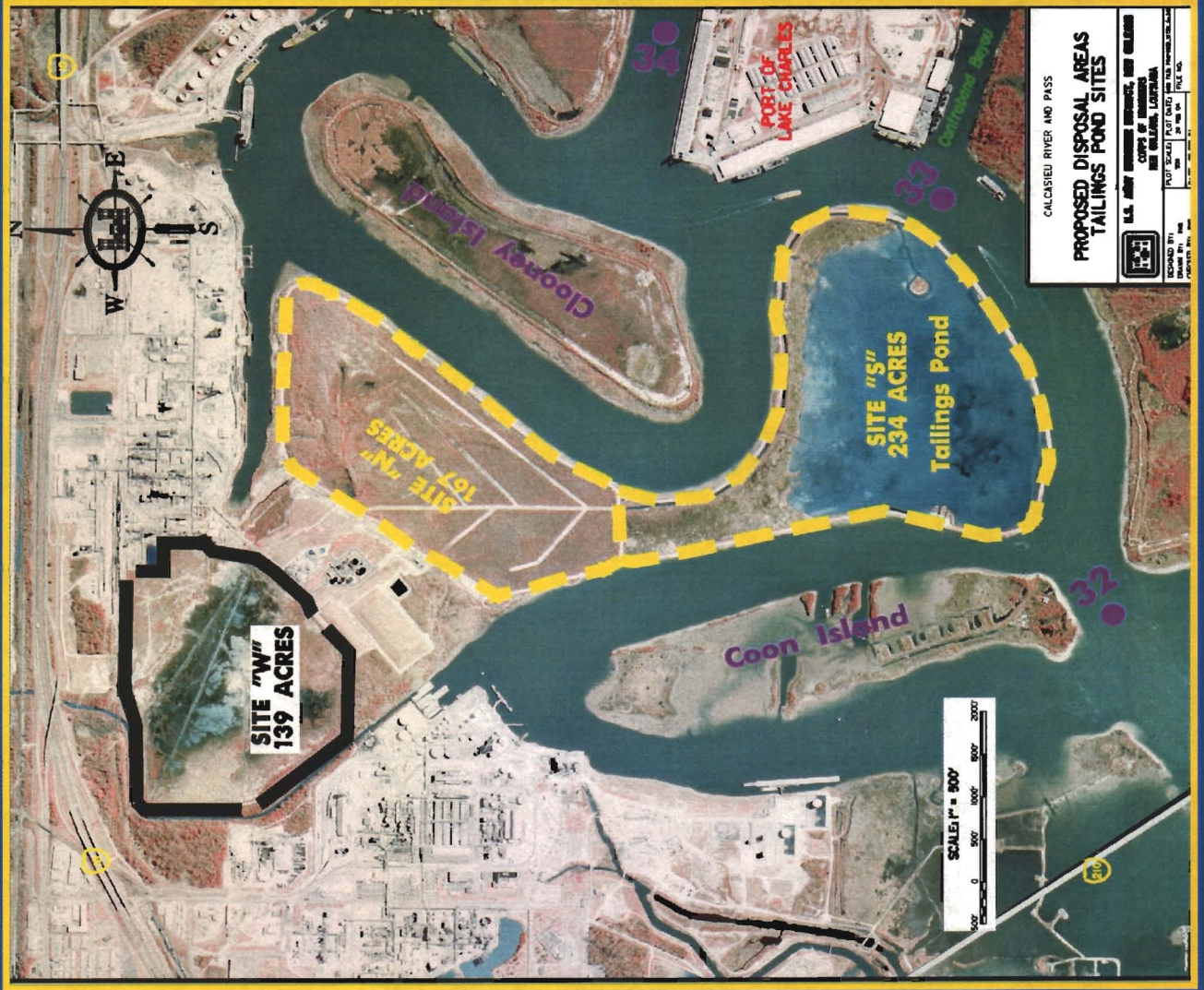
CALCASIEU RIVER & PASS		PROJECT DATE (DD-MY-YY)	08-10-00
PROPOSED DISPOSAL AREA		PROJECT NO.	
TURNER BAY		DATE PLOTTED (DD-MY-YY)	
SCALE BY:	DATE:	DESIGNED BY:	
CHECKED BY:		APPROVED BY:	
DRAWN BY:		DATE:	1 OF 1

Hilcorp Beneficial Use Disposal Area



2004 Scoping Effort to Locate Additional Disposal Areas

OLIN TAILINGS POND



What is a Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP)?

A Dredged Material Management Plan is a comprehensive, long-term plan for management of dredged material removed from federal navigational channels for at least 20 years.

Purpose of DMMP

- *The goal is to accomplish the disposal of dredged material from the Calcasieu River and Pass in the least costly manner and meet all Federal environmental standards.*
- *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) policy (Engineering Regulation 1105-2-100) requires each of its districts to prepare a DMMP to maintain federal navigation channels for at least 20 years.*

DMMP Plan Formulation

It will identify:

the amount of material that needs to be dredged to maintain the federal channel

the manner in which the dredged material will be managed/disposed using cost effective and environmentally accepted methods

specific measures necessary to manage the volume of material likely to be dredged over a minimum 20-year period for maintenance dredging

*What brings us
here?*

WORLD

*National
Environmental
Policy
Act*

How does NEPA work?

- *Understand that NEPA is a planning tool.*
- *A framework for effective decision making.*
- *It is not better documents, but better decisions that count.*
- *NEPA's purpose is not to generate paperwork--even excellent paperwork--but to foster excellent action.*

SECTION 1501.7, SCOPING

What is Scoping?

- *A requirement of NEPA.*
- *An early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed.*
- *Identification of significant issues related to a proposed action.*

SCOPING cont'd:

- All interested parties are invited to participate.
- Determine the scope and the significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the environmental impact statement.
- Identify and eliminate from detailed study the issues which are not significant or which have been covered by prior environmental review.

Scoping Questions

QUESTION #1: *What are the most important issues affected by the proposed project?*

QUESTION #2: *What are the significant resources that may be impacted by the disposal of dredged material?*

Scoping Questions cont.

QUESTION #3: Where are suitable locations to deposit dredged material?

QUESTION #4: How can we deposit dredged material in the most cost effective and most beneficial manner?

TONIGHT'S MEETING PLAN:

- *At the conclusion of the presentations, meeting attendees will have the opportunity to present ideas.*
- *A Facilitator and a Recorder will work with attendees to solicit and record ideas. Each attendee will have one minute to present ideas, but may be granted opportunity to provide additional ideas, should time permit.*

Scoping Report

- *A Scoping Report will be written that summarizes the significant issues, alternatives and concerns of the public.*
- *Report is used to focus the study on the significant issues and to inform the public.*
- *A copy of report will be mailed to interested parties who sign up to be on mailing list.*
- *Written comments will be accepted until July 29, 2005.*

*Questions regarding the public scoping
meeting and NEPA compliance should be
addressed to:*

Casey Rowe

CEMVN-PM-RP

P.O. Box 60267

New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Telephone: 504-862-1583

E-mail: Casey.J.Rowe@mvn02.usace.army.mil

July 26, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SUBJECT: Scoping comment from Jimmy Affolder

On July 21, 2005 I spoke to Jimmy Affolder, a contractor that routinely works on dredged material disposal areas in the Lake Charles area. The conversation centered on the existing disposal areas and methods to protect the areas from erosion and actions to extend the life of some disposal areas.

One suggestion involved decreasing the slope of the banks of the disposal areas to about 3:1 and overlaying the slope with cement mats. The mats he referred to are a commercially available product (failure mats) from Industrial Fabrics, Inc. These mats would be secured together with clamps and anchored into the river bottom and sloped disposal area. He also suggested placing rock along the border of disposal areas D and E because of severe erosion of the disposal areas.

Mr. Affolder also suggested that property be purchased further away from the river and used for disposal. We also discussed a potential meeting with the dredging contractors to gather any new ideas of managing existing disposal area to increase the life span of the disposal areas. A meeting was held with the contractors several years ago regarding the location of spill boxes and outflow pipes and he stated that it was a very productive meeting.

Casey J. Rowe
Environmental Resources Specialist

Jimmy Affolder
(337) 938-3837

Industrial Fabrics
(failure mats?)
Kerry Goss
(225) 273-9600



July 22, 2005

Mr. Casey Rowe
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
7400 Leake Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana 70118

Re: Dredged Material Management Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) for the Calcasieu Ship Channel. Cheniere Energy, Inc is an energy company focused on bringing natural gas from foreign markets to the domestic market in the U.S. To support the business objectives of Cheniere, four LNG regasification plants have been proposed in the Gulf of Mexico including Texas and Louisiana. Of the LNG terminals proposed in Louisiana, Cheniere has the Creole Trail LNG Terminal proposed approximately 3 miles north of Calcasieu Pass on the Calcasieu Ship Channel. As a stakeholder of the Calcasieu Ship Channel, Cheniere is interested in being a corporate partner to assist the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers find a long term, sustainable dredged material placement solution and assist in the development of the DMMP.

Cheniere submits the following suggestions as options for the DMMP.

- The DMMP should focus on using maintenance dredged material for beneficial uses such as marsh restoration. Focus should include:
 - Joint ventures with private companies, private landowners or public land management agencies to identify and develop additional dredge placement areas for beneficial uses (marsh restoration in subsiding and eroding marsh areas or beach nourishment).
 - Private marsh restoration efforts
 - Eroding and subsiding marsh located west of the Cameron Ferry and east of Mud Lake
 - Eroding and subsiding marsh west of Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge and east of the East Fork
 - Public lands
 - CWPPRA opportunities
 - Sabine Prairie National Wildlife Refuge
 - Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge
 - Beach nourishment east and west of Calcasieu Pass
- The DMMP should focus on restoring existing dredged placement areas and updating easement agreements along the Calcasieu Ship Channel.
 - Rehab existing levees
 - Increase height of levees
 - Reclaim lost or eroded DMPAs along ship channel
 - Solidify easement agreements for minimum of 25 years

CHENIERE ENERGY, INC.

717 Texas Avenue, Suite 3100 • Houston, Texas 77002 • (713) 659-1361 • Fax (713) 659-5459

Cheniere, through the development of the Creole Trail LNG Terminal Project, is interested in teaming with the USACE and other interested dredge management agencies to identify and create additional dredged placement locations. The Creole Trail LNG Project provides an opportunity to test the partnering of private and public stakeholders to identify and find a solution for dredged material management. As such, Cheniere has a proposal to provide dredge placement areas as well as the rehabilitation of exiting dredged placement areas for use to maintain the Calcasieu Chip Channel. Copies of the proposals have been provided to the USACE previously. If interested, these options could become part of the DMMP for the Calcasieu Ship Channel.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Outtrim". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "O".

Pat Outtrim
VP, Government Affairs



FEMA

**Region VI
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration**

Public Notice Review

Re: Calcasieu River & Pass DMMP

- We offer the following comments:

Please contact the Cameron Parish Floodplain Administrator (phone number 337-775-5718) for a determination as to whether a Floodplain Development Permit is needed at any proposed fill sites.

David Hegel

Reviewer

July 20, 2005

Date

If further information is required, please write to the address above or call (940) 898-5127.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

**DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT**

**CALCASIEU RIVER AND PASS, LA
FEDERAL NAVIGATION CHANNEL
DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will conduct two public scoping meetings for the initiation of a dredged material management plan (DMMP) study to investigate dredged material placement for the next 20 years of maintenance dredging of the Calcasieu River and Pass, Louisiana, Federal navigation channel.

The scoping meetings have been scheduled as follows:

<p>Monday July 18, 2005 7:00 p.m. Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Building 1015 Pithon Street Lake Charles, LA 70601</p>	<p>Tuesday July 19, 2005 7:00 p.m. Cameron Parish Courthouse 119 Smith Circle Cameron, LA 70631</p>
--	--

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) invites all interested parties to attend one of two public scoping meetings. The purpose of the scoping meetings is to solicit input to the DMMP from any and all interested parties. The input generated at these meetings will be used to help establish the range of actions and alternatives of the DMMP and the significant resources that may be impacted during implementation of the DMMP.

The Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, project does not have adequate dredged material disposal areas for the long-term maintenance of the project. Existing disposal sites are at or near capacity, some disposal sites have been substantially eroded into adjacent water bodies, other disposal areas have been lost to commercial developments, or landowners have rescinded permissions for their property to be used for placement of dredged material. As a result, remaining disposal areas cannot accommodate the volume of dredged material needed to maintain the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, navigation channel to project-authorized dimensions, and CEMVN has been forced to reduce channel dimensions in some reaches.

The purpose of the DMMP is to develop a long-term strategy for providing viable placement alternatives to meet the dredging needs of the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, project for a minimum of 20 years. The DMMP study will evaluate how the dredged material can be managed in an environmentally and economically acceptable manner, with emphasis on beneficial uses of the material. Beneficial uses may include, but are not limited to, ecosystem and habitat restoration, innovative uses, shoreline stabilization,

and upland uses. A Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) will be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to document impacts resulting from implementation of the DMMP. It is anticipated that this study will conclude in late 2006.


A map of the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, project area will be available for review at 6:00 p.m., approximately one hour prior to the scoping meetings. The meetings will also include a presentation by the CEMVN and allow for public input on the DMMP study. Information regarding the DMMP may be obtained prior to the meeting via the CEMVN website at:

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pd/projectsList/projectList.asp?projectType=OM>

Oral or written comments may be provided at the public scoping meetings. Written comments may also be submitted up to July 29, 2005. Written comments may be mailed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, CEMVN-PM-RP, Attn: Casey J. Rowe, Post Office Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267, or e-mailed to: Casey.J.Rowe@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

If you have any questions concerning the scoping meetings, please contact Mr. Casey Rowe at (504) 862-1583 or e-mail at the above address.

Date: 28 Jun 05



Stephen E. Jeselnak
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
District Engineer



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

646 Cajundome Blvd.
Suite 400
Lafayette, Louisiana 70506

February 14, 2003

Colonel Peter J. Rowan
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Colonel Rowan:

The Corps of Engineers (Corps) has requested recommendations from Federal, state and local agencies, the Port of Lake Charles (Port), and various user groups regarding Calcasieu Ship Channel dredged material disposal. The interagency Calcasieu Ship Channel Dredged Material Disposal Task Force (Task Force) has met five times to develop a Calcasieu Ship Channel 20-year dredged material disposal plan. Disposal areas are needed to accommodate 80 million (M) cubic yards (cu yds) of material over a 20-year period. Your staff has proposed three alternatives for dredged material placement in Calcasieu Lake. Those alternatives include: 1) placement in the previously approved right-of-way (ROW), with a capacity of 6 M cu yds; 2) placement beyond the ROW to the minus 3-foot depth contour, with a capacity of 17 M cu yds; and 3) placement beyond the ROW to the 5-foot depth contour, with a capacity of 39 M cu yds. Those options would cover 285 acres, 755 acres, and 1,630 acres of lake bottom, respectively. Alternatives 2 and 3 are preferred by the Corps as being the most cost-effective. The following comments are provided under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

The Service and other natural resource agencies have expressed concern about the possible adverse impacts that the current alternatives (involving conversion of shallow open water to upland disposal areas) may have on the fish and wildlife resources of the Calcasieu estuary. The Calcasieu Lake marshes support an important sport and commercial fishery, including trophy-sized spotted sea trout, as well as Atlantic croaker, red drum, black drum, Southern flounder, sheepshead, blue crab, white shrimp, brown shrimp, and American oyster. That estuary also supports extensive populations of waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds, rails, gallinules, fur animals, alligators and other wildlife. Therefore, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) does not support disposal in Calcasieu Lake as a long-term solution. Instead, we believe that a comprehensive, long-term disposal plan should be developed by State and Federal agencies, the Port, local governments and user groups working together to develop an approach that includes beneficial use, upland disposal, and a reduction in dredging needs when appropriate.

Tidal marshes are essential to the long-term productivity of the Calcasieu estuary. Considering the extensive loss of those marshes that has occurred in that estuary, beneficial use (i.e., marsh creation) rather than use of upland disposal sites should be the first choice for spoil placement. We, therefore, recommend that the Corps implement a fourth alternative for disposal of dredged material. That alternative includes upland disposal within the original ROW as described in Alternative 1, and wetland creation/restoration on Sabine National Wildlife Refuge (Sabine NWR) and suitable adjacent lands to contain future dredged material for beneficial use. We also recommend that the Corps construct rock revetment along the channel banks if hydraulic modeling indicates such features would substantially reduce channel shoaling and associated maintenance dredging needs.

Extensive opportunities exist to place dredged material to restore marsh on Sabine NWR and property near the Calcasieu Ship Channel. The Corps, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, and Service have sponsored an approved Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) marsh creation/restoration project using maintenance dredged material from that channel. That project would create/restore 1,161 acres of marsh using approximately 4 million cubic yards dredged material in five phases. Phase 1 was completed January 2002 and approximately 685,000 cu yds were deposited on Sabine NWR to restore 200 acres of brackish marsh; another 150,000 cu yds were allowed to overflow the retention dikes to reduce open water depths to less than 12 inches and create intertidal mudflats. Additional disposal areas exist west of and north of the CWPPRA-funded marsh creation project. The additional disposal areas are described in the attached draft USFWS Beneficial Use Plan (Plan), which was presented to the Corps during the January 10, 2002, Task Force meeting and revised November 13, 2002. Potential beneficial use sites are also available on Sabine NWR and adjacent property east of the Calcasieu Ship Channel. The above-referenced beneficial use areas contain approximately 7,000 acres with a potential combined capacity estimated at 33 M cu yds. The Service is willing to enter into long-term agreements (i.e., Special Use Permits) with the Corps to facilitate marsh creation/restoration on Sabine NWR.

The Service recommends that the Corps revise, if possible, its current Calcasieu River and Pass maintenance dredging Federal Standard to facilitate maximum use of dredged material in this reach for restoring marsh in shallow open water. According to the Corps' February 14, 2002, Draft Completion Report for maintenance dredging of the Calcasieu Ship Channel from Mile 14 to Mile 5, the estimated total cost without the CWPPRA project was about \$2.00 per cu yd, including discharge pipeline installation and removal, mobilization and demobilization, and associated dike work. The actual cost with the CWPPRA project was approximately \$3.25 per cu yd. During the June 25, 2002, Task Force meeting, the Corps presented cost estimates for beneficial use of all the material on Sabine NWR (and adjacent lands) for both the Mile 14 to Mile 5 and the Mile 28 to Mile 14 reaches. The estimates were \$4.16 per cu yd and \$6.23 per cu yd, respectively, and included construction and removal of a 14-mile pipeline to the refuge, mobilization, demobilization, and associated dike work. It appears that the majority of the increased cost can be attributed to the construction and removal of the discharge pipeline for each disposal event. Accordingly, we recommend that the Corps install a permanent disposal pipeline, following the 4-mile access route used by the contractor during Phase 1 of the Sabine Marsh Creation CWPPRA project. Initial construction costs would be higher, but that initial investment

would substantially reduce the cost of future beneficial use disposal operations in the vicinity, and would likely be similar to the above-mentioned Corps Alternatives 1, 2 and 3; those alternatives would require initially high costs of installing rock revetment in water up to five feet deep.

More specific elements of our proposed alternative and potential funding sources follow:

Specific Plan Elements:

1. We recommend that the Corps use material to create marsh on Sabine NWR and adjacent lands, as indicated in the Service's enclosed draft Beneficial Use Plan (revised November 13, 2002). As discussed at the November 14, 2002, Task Force meeting, that plan could be expanded to include 640 acres of Cameron Parish School Board property east of Browns Lake and additional private property east of Calcasieu Lake, to increase the area available for marsh creation with dredged material.
2. The Corps recently installed 9,000 feet of revetment at the Devil's Elbow of Calcasieu River. Plans are underway to install another mile of revetment from Mile 16 to Mile 15. We encourage the Corps to evaluate the effectiveness of placing rock along the left descending bank of that channel reach as a means of reducing sedimentation and providing an additional 250 to 300 acres (6 M cu yds) of upland disposal area behind the rock. Those features may significantly reduce the need for maintenance dredging in the channel and, therefore, reduce the area needed for future dredged material disposal. We encourage the Corps to evaluate the potential reduction in maintenance dredging needs that would result from revetment construction and/or rock placement prior to developing/implementing a 20-year disposal plan.
3. We recommend that the Corps and the Port install a permanent pipeline for dredged material disposal on Sabine NWR and nearby private land, including acquisition of the necessary long-term land rights for that pipeline.

Potential Funding Strategies:

1. Seek authority to modify the Calcasieu Ship Channel Federal Standard to facilitate use of dredged material for marsh creation purposes.
2. Continue to seek funds for marsh creation projects via Section 204 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992, as amended.
3. Recommend beneficial use and associated funding as a key strategy in the Louisiana Coastal Area Coastwide Comprehensive Study Report.
4. Explore the potential for applying some of the "user fees" proposed by the Corps and approved by the Port (to help fund the non-federal share of operation and maintenance expenditures) for funding beneficial use and additional dredged material disposal areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on long-term dredged material disposal options for the Calcasieu Ship Channel. If your staff has any questions regarding our recommendations, please have them contact Darryl Clark (337/291-3111) or Joyce Mazourek (337/291-3112).

Sincerely,



David W. Frugé
Supervisor
Louisiana Field Office

Enclosure

cc: Sabine NWR, Hackberry, LA
NMFS, Baton Rouge, LA
EPA, Baton Rouge, LA
LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
LA Department of Natural Resources (CMD), Baton Rouge, LA
LA Department of Natural Resources (CRD), Baton Rouge, LA
Port of Lake Charles, Lake Charles, LA
Cameron Parish Police Jury, Lake Charles LA (Attn: Tina Horn)
Coastal Conservation Association (Attn: Rusty Vincent)
Steamship Association of Louisiana, (Attn: Channing Hayden)
Stream Property Management (Attn: David Richard)

Calcasieu Ship Channel Maintenance Dredging Long Term Plan

Revised November 13, 2002

Presented by the USFWS

At the Calcasieu Ship Channel Interagency Task Force Meeting

LA Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA, January 10, 2002

- The Corps NOD recommended a Calcasieu Ship Channel Long Term Dredged Material Plan in November 8, 2001 Scoping Public Notice CEMVN-OD-T (Calcasieu River and Pass, LA) to expand the existing upland disposal areas into Calcasieu Lake to convert 5,000 acres of estuarine lake to uplands. The Corps is in need of disposal areas for approximately 4 M cy/year (80 M cy for 20 yrs).
- The Service and other natural resource agencies and the public is concerned about the possible adverse impacts of the current proposal on the fish and wildlife resources of the Calcasieu estuary.
- The Service recommends that the Corps NOD revise its current Calcasieu River and Pass maintenance dredging Federal Standard to facilitate maximum beneficial use of dredged material in this reach for restoring marsh in shallow open waters on Sabine NWR and adjacent areas. Beneficial use areas, rather than upland disposal sites, should be the first choice for spoil material disposal.
- The Service presented the Corps with a plan in March 2000, that included placement of dredged material for marsh creation in over 5,000 acres of shallow open water disposal areas located north and west of the Browns Lake area on the Sabine NWR, as part of the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Sabine Marsh Creation project and westward expansion thereof. The Corps placed material beneficially on Sabine NWR at least four times from 1988 to 1999, and has recently completed Cycle 1 (150 acres) of the Sabine Refuge Marsh Creation project.
- The Service is willing to enter into long-term (> 10-20 years) easements (Special Use Permits) with the Corps of Engineers concerning long-term marsh creation on Sabine National Wildlife Refuge.
- The Service is concerned that significant adverse impacts will occur within Calcasieu Lake to fish and wildlife resources if the dredged material is placed in upland confined areas, thereby converting thousands of acres of shallow estuarine water to uplands. We recommend that the Corps avoid creating uplands via spoil placement on existing fringe wetlands and shallow water areas, and that instead the Corps place the material beneficially to restore or create wetlands.

A Possible Beneficial Use Plan for the Calcasieu Ship Channel
(Recommended by the USFWS, January 10, 2002; Revised 11-13-02)

The Corps should place the dredged material beneficially to restore and create emergent wetlands on Sabine National Wildlife Refuge north and west of Browns Lake, East Cove of Sabine NWR, and adjacent willing landowners north of Sabine NWR. The Corps may also place some dredged material within the approved upland disposal area "footprint" along the left descending bank of the existing Calcasieu Ship Channel. Table 1 depicts acreages and capacities of dredged material that may be placed within Sabine NWR (see attached map) and adjacent private lands for marsh restoration.

Table 1: Possible Calcasieu Ship Channel Beneficial Use Dredged Material Disposal Areas

Area	Location	Dimensions (ft.)/ Acres	Possible Cubic Yard Capacity
Sabine NWR Sabine Marsh Creation CWPPRA Project Cycles 2 to 5 (Note funding not guaranteed)	North of Browns Lake area on Sabine NWR, SW of Hackberry, LA	4 "cells" approximately 250 ac each; total 1,000 acres (1000 X 3,374 cyds = 3.4 M cyds)	3.4 M cy
Sabine NWR west expansion area	Expansion area west of Browns Lake		
	Cell No. 6	2,000 X 2,000 = 100	
	Cell No. 7	3,000 X 4,000 = 275	
	Cell No. 8	3,000 X 1,000 = 80	
	Cell No. 9	5,000 X 1,000 = 115	
	Cell No. 10	3,000 X 1,500 = 100	
	Cell No. 11	6,000 X 2,400 = 330	
	Cell No. 12	8,000 X 4,000 = 750 ac	
Total Sabine Westward Section		1,750 acres (1,750 ac X 3,374 cy)	5.9 M cy
Sabine NWR Cameron-Creole East Cove	East Cove Calcasieu Lake	500 ac (500 ac X 3,374 cy/ac = 1.7 M cyds)	1.7 M cy

Area	Location	Dimensions (ft.)/ Acres	Possible Cubic Yard Capacity
Total Sabine NWR Brown Lake + Westward Section + Cameron-Creole		3,250 acres (3,250 ac X 3,374 ac/cyd = 10.96 M cyds)	11 M cy
Private Property Area North of Cycle 1		500 ac (500 ac X 6,000 cy/ac= 3 M cyds)	3 M cy
Private Pro. North of Sabine West		13,626 X 10,200 = 3,200 ac (3,200 ac X 6,000 cy./ac = 19.2 M cyds)	19.2 M cy
Total Estimated Capacity		6,950 ac	32.2 M cy (42%)
Total needed By Corps in 20 years			80 M cyds
Possible shortfall covered by existing upland sites or other beneficial use sites			47.5 (59%)

Note cubic yard capacity was determined by multiplying the area by 3,374 cy per acre except for private property areas north of Sabine NWR (6,000 cy/ac used). 3,374 cy/ac was the capacity of Cycle 1 of the Sabine Marsh Creation Project that restored 203 acres of marsh with 685,000 cy of dredged material (685,000 cy /203 ac = 3,325 cy/ac). Total Cycle 1 volume was 835,000 cyds, but approximately 150,000 cyds of "overflow" was allowed to create shallow water and mudflat habitat, not emergent marsh.

Possible Funding Mechanisms:

- Expand the existing Calcasieu Ship Channel Federal Standard to include beneficial use.
- Fund that amount greater than the existing federal standard through CWPPRA. The CWPPRA Sabine Marsh Creation Project Cycle 1 was completed in January 2002. Cycles 2 through 5 are tentatively approved by the CWPPRA Task Force, but construction must be approved separately.
- Section 204's can be used to fund these and other beneficial use areas
- The portion not funded by any of the above can be included in the new Corps-DNR Louisiana Coastal Area Coastwide Feasibility Study for possible Comprehensive Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Congressional authorization in 2004.

Darryl Clark, Joyce Mazourek; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Revised 11/13/02

Sabine Marsh Creation CWPRA Project
Possible Calcasieu Ship Channel
Marsh Creation Areas



CORPS
CWPRA



0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

July 11, 2005

F/SER46/RH:jk
225/389-0508

Mr. Casey J Rowe.
CEMVN-PM-RP
New Orleans District, Army Corps of Engineers
Post Office Box 60267
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

Dear Mr. Rowe:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has received the undated Public Notice (PN) announcing scoping meetings regarding the development of a supplemental environmental impact statement (EIS) for the **Calcasieu River and Pass, LA; Federal Navigation Channel Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP)**. According to the PN, the purpose of the DMMP is to develop a long-term strategy for providing viable dredged material placement alternatives to meet the dredging needs of the Calcasieu River and Pass project for a minimum of 20 years.

The New Orleans District (NOD) is requesting public and natural resource agency comments on resources and issues to be addressed in the supplemental EIS for this proposed action. According to the PN, the DMMP and supplemental EIS will evaluate how the dredged material can be disposed of in an environmental and economically acceptable manner, with emphasis on beneficial uses of material.

It should be noted that aquatic and tidally influenced wetland habitats in the project area, including the Calcasieu Ship Channel and Calcasieu Lake, and potential spoil placement sites along the Gulf of Mexico shoreline, consist of essential fish habitat (EFH) for the species and life stages listed in the table below.

Species	Life Stage(s)
White shrimp	Eggs, larvae, postlarvae/juvenile, subadult, adult
Brown shrimp	Eggs, larvae, postlarvae/juvenile, subadult, adult
Red drum	Eggs, larvae, postlarvae/juvenile, subadult, adult
Spanish mackerel	Juvenile
Bluefish	Postlarvae/juvenile, adult
Bonnethead shark	Juvenile, adult



Primary categories of EFH in the project area include estuarine emergent wetlands; mud, sand and shell substrates; and estuarine water column. Detailed information on federally managed fisheries and their EFH is provided in the 1998 generic amendment of the Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) for the Gulf of Mexico prepared by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC). The generic amendment was prepared as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act, P.L. 104-297).

To fully address EFH and dependent fisheries in the project area, NMFS recommends the EIS include sections titled "Essential Fish Habitat" and "Marine Fishery Resources" that describe the potential adverse impacts and benefits of undertaking the various alternatives to be described in the document. The EFH section of the document should describe and quantify the potential impacts of the proposed alternatives on the sub-categories (e.g., marsh edge, marsh ponds, mud bottoms, tidal creeks, oyster reefs, estuarine water column, beaches, inlets, etc.) of EFH within the project area. In addition, this section should describe the potential impacts of the proposed project on the utilization of these sub-categories of EFH by each fishery species and life stage included in the above table.

In addition to being designated as EFH for the species listed above, waterbodies and wetlands in the project area provide nursery and foraging habitats supportive of a variety of economically important marine fishery species, such as striped mullet, Atlantic croaker, gulf menhaden, spotted and sand seatrout, southern flounder, black drum, and blue crab. Some of these species also serve as prey for other fish species managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act by the GMFMC (e.g., mackerels, snappers, and groupers) and highly migratory species managed by NMFS (e.g., billfishes and sharks). We recommend the EIS fully describe the use of the project area by these species and evaluate the potential impacts and benefits of each alternative on marine fishery utilization of wetlands, water bottoms and water column within the project area.

NMFS recommends the supplemental EIS consider alternatives to reduce shoaling and thereby minimize dredging and the need for future disposal sites. To do so, the NOD should attempt to identify the various sources of sediment that are causing shoaling and to quantify the relative contribution of each source. Once sediment sources are determined, alternatives to prevent the erosion of those sediments should be thoroughly evaluated in the supplemental EIS.

Some environmental assessments for past maintenance dredging events in the Calcasieu Ship Channel have suggested under the "Future Conditions With No Action" alternatives that failure to designate additional beneficial use disposal areas would result in the destruction of intertidal wetlands previously designated for upland confined disposal. This often is based on dated environmental documents that designate such areas as disposal sites. NMFS strongly disagrees with the supposition that intertidal wetlands in areas previously designated as disposal sites would be allowed to be filled under laws and regulations passed since the 1970s. As indicated above, the 1998 generic amendment of the Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf of Mexico prepared by the GMFMC designated most intertidal habitats as EFH and any proposal to fill such wetlands would be contrary to its provisions. Additionally, it is unlikely that use of those designated disposal sites located in intertidal wetlands would be consistent with provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Act, or allowable under Clean Water Act 404(b)(1) guidelines.

Therefore, NMFS recommends the supplemental EIS not consider intertidal wetlands that had historically been designated as spoil disposal sites to be available for the placement of dredged material without a full consideration of the environmental impacts associated with that disposal effort.

The NMFS is supportive of the beneficial use of dredged material. However, dredged material used to create marsh elevations should be placed in a manner to avoid creating continuous unbroken tracts of marsh or to elevations that would be supratidal for an extended period of time. We believe that dredged material disposal areas should be designed such that the maximum amount of marsh edge is created and tidal exchange is provided throughout the areas. Design and construction of future disposal areas should incorporate measures to ensure that dredged material is not placed on existing marsh or allowed to block water courses that have developed within or adjacent to previously used disposal areas. Low cost methods that should be considered for achieving these goals include the placement of hay bales and/or hay rolls within disposal areas to displace dredged material, post-construction breaching of external containment dikes and internal guide dikes, and use of mechanized equipment to construct meandering tidal creeks and shallow ponds prior to or after completion of construction. Therefore, NMFS recommends that the supplemental EIS evaluate all methods to maximize the ecological productivity and functions of beneficial use areas.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide scoping comments on this project. If you have any questions regarding our recommendations, please contact Richard Hartman at (225) 389-0508, ext. 203.

Sincerely,



for Miles M. Croom
Assistant Regional Administrator
Habitat Conservation Division

cc:
FWS, Lafayette
EPA, Dallas, Lawrence
LA DNR, Consistency
F/SER46, Ruebsamen
Files

Rowe, Casey J MVN

Distribution List Name: Calcasieu River DMMP Interested Parties

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

**DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT**

**CALCASIEU RIVER AND PASS, LA
FEDERAL NAVIGATION CHANNEL
DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will conduct two public scoping meetings for the initiation of a dredged material management plan (DMMP) study to investigate dredged material placement for the next 20 years of maintenance dredging of the Calcasieu River and Pass, Louisiana, Federal navigation channel.

The scoping meetings have been scheduled as follows:

Monday July 18, 2005 7:00 p.m. Calcasieu Parish Police Jury Building 1015 Pithon Street Lake Charles, LA 70601	Tuesday July 19, 2005 7:00 p.m. Cameron Parish Courthouse 119 Smith Circle Cameron, LA 70631
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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District (CEMVN) invites all interested parties to attend one of two public scoping meetings. The purpose of the scoping meetings is to solicit input to the DMMP from any and all interested parties. The input generated at these meetings will be used to help establish the range of actions and alternatives of the DMMP and the significant resources that may be impacted during implementation of the DMMP.

The Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, project does not have adequate dredged material disposal areas for the long-term maintenance of the project. Existing disposal sites are at or near capacity, some disposal sites have been substantially eroded into adjacent water bodies, other disposal areas have been lost to commercial developments, or landowners have rescinded permissions for their property to be used for placement of dredged material. As a result, remaining disposal areas cannot accommodate the volume of dredged material needed to maintain the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, navigation channel to project-authorized dimensions, and CEMVN has been forced to reduce channel dimensions in some reaches.

The purpose of the DMMP is to develop a long-term strategy for providing viable placement alternatives to meet the dredging needs of the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, project for a minimum of 20 years. The DMMP study will evaluate how the dredged material can be managed in an environmentally and economically acceptable manner, with emphasis on beneficial uses of the material. Beneficial uses may include, but are not limited to, ecosystem and habitat restoration, innovative uses, shoreline stabilization,

and upland uses. A Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) will be prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to document impacts resulting from implementation of the DMMP. It is anticipated that this study will conclude in late 2006.

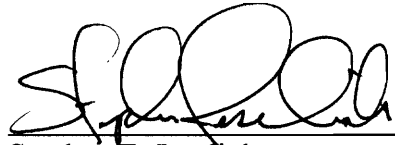
A map of the Calcasieu River and Pass, LA, project area will be available for review at 6:00 p.m., approximately one hour prior to the scoping meetings. The meetings will also include a presentation by the CEMVN and allow for public input on the DMMP study. Information regarding the DMMP may be obtained prior to the meeting via the CEMVN website at:

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pd/projectsList/projectList.asp?projectType=OM>

Oral or written comments may be provided at the public scoping meetings. Written comments may also be submitted up to July 29, 2005. Written comments may be mailed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, CEMVN-PM-RP, Attn: Casey J. Rowe, Post Office Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267, or e-mailed to: Casey.J.Rowe@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

If you have any questions concerning the scoping meetings, please contact Mr. Casey Rowe at (504) 862-1583 or e-mail at the above address.

Date: 28 Jun 05



Stephen E. Jeselnak
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
District Engineer

June 1, 2007

Ms. Sandra Stiles
Environmental Resources Specialist
Environmental Branch
US Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
PO Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267

Re: Calcasieu River and Pass Dredged Material Disposal

Dear Ms. Stiles:

This letter is in confirmation of our conversation of May 4, 2007. On this date during a conference call with Mr. Mark Wingate, Mr. Mike Loden, yourself and myself, we discussed the use of the EPA's Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site (ODMDS) to dispose of dredged material from the Calcasieu River and Pass Project maintenance dredging. In that discussion, EPA noted that the ODMDS is not restricted to dredged material originating from the bar channel, but is authorized for disposal of material dredged from the Calcasieu River and Pass Project.

Based on the results of the Corps' Evaluation of Dredged Material Proposed for Ocean Disposal (Greenbook Testing Manual) there appears to be no reason the material dredged from the Project site cannot be disposed in the ODMDS. EPA does, however, reserve final determination of the material's acceptability for disposal in the ODMDS until the Agency can review the test results independently.

EPA received your recent undated letter regarding the Corps' plans to prepare a Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) and Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Calcasieu River and Pass. You explained that one of the alternatives to be analyzed would be to place all the material dredged from south of the GIWW at the Calcasieu Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site (ODMDS). This would represent the least costly alternative and one which you acknowledge will probably be eliminated from detailed evaluation in the SEIS. Nevertheless, EPA would like to take this opportunity to provide initial and brief scoping comments on that alternative.

As you are aware, there is an enormous need for sediment resources for a host of coastal protection, restoration, and enhancement projects throughout the Louisiana coastal zone. This is abundantly documented. The challenge is to support economic development in the post-Rita/Katrina era in a fashion that maximizes opportunities for sustaining the very basis of that economy, i.e. the coastal environment. It is imperative, therefore, that the federal government make the highest and best use of the sediments

dredged while maintaining navigable waterways. This will probably not often translate into selecting the least costly alternative for sediment disposal. It may, more likely, mean that sediment management should be evaluated on a par with the needs for dredging navigation channels.

There are numerous Louisiana coastal restoration projects currently underway or under consideration, for which sediment sources are in demand. In addition, there are also a number of sediment management planning efforts underway for the area: the New Orleans Corps District's "Louisiana Coastal Area -- Beneficial Use of Dredged Material Study" (BUDMAT); the New Orleans Corps District's Regional Sediment Management Plan; and the Gulf of Mexico Alliance's Gulf of Mexico Regional Sediment Management Master Plan. Therefore, any decision on sediment management for the Calcasieu River and Pass should be made with these and similar sources of information in mind.

Prior to opting to place the subject material at the ODMDS, it would be advisable that the NEPA review and the detailed DMMP planning process for this project factor in the opportunities for financing and utilizing this material in a beneficial way. EPA has a long history of promoting comprehensive planning and consistency with coastal restoration goals. Nationally, EPA has been a leader in advancing the watershed protection approach, which involves looking at all the activities occurring in a watershed and planning holistically. EPA also has a record of promoting thorough coordination between coastal development and coastal restoration activities. As statutory support for its position, EPA has often relied on the National Environmental Protection Act, which requires a review of cumulative environmental impacts, project purpose and need, and alternatives. Therefore, EPA advises that the SEIS for this action dedicate a thorough evaluation, consistent with current coastal restoration objectives of the State, local, and federal governments, to the alternatives for sediment management.

We look forward to reviewing the sediment data and your analysis of alternative sediment uses.

Sincerely,

Signed by Stephen F. Bainter

Stephen F. Bainter
Environmental Scientist
Marine and Wetlands Section (6WQ-EM)