



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Mississippi Advisory Commission on Marine Resources

March 16, 2021



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Employment, Contracts and Procurement Updates March 16, 2021

Employment Updates

- Joshua Waters – DMR Marine Fisheries Scientist, III – 02.16.21
- Katherine Ramon – Grants Administrator I – 02.16.21
- Chris Pickering – DMR Biological Program Coordinator – 02.16.21
- Jennifer Wilder – Permitter V – 03.01.21
- Matt Kasovich – Senior Master Sergeant – 03.01.21
- Dylan Kessen – Corporal – 03.01.21
- Kaitlyn Payne – Dispatcher III – 03.01.21
- Debbie Griffin – Dispatch Supervisor – 03.08.21
- Erin Smyth – Permitter II – 03.16.21



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Actions Update March 16, 2021

Discussed at the February 2021 meeting:

- Jackson County Board of Supervisors' request for 2-yr extension of previously permitted maintenance dredging of Davis and Stark Bayous in Ocean Springs, MS.
- MDMR's request for Permit and Use Plan Change contingent upon water quality certification from MDEQ, to allow for commercial off-bottom oyster aquaculture, South of Deer Island, in Harrison County, MS.
- Commission recommended approval of the requests.
- Director approved the requests.

**Request for Permit Modification by:
MS Department of Environmental Quality
File: DMR21-000121**

- **Location:** Western shoreline of Point Aux Chenes Bay and the banks of Bangs Bayou east of Pascagoula, Jackson County
- **Use District:** (P) Preservation and (G) General Use Districts
- **Project Purpose/Need:**
 - **NRDA Early Restoration Project**
 - Support secondary productivity
- **Agent:** Alane Young, Covington Civil and Environmental, LLC

Project Description

- **Subtidal reef creation:**
 - Approximately 6.5 acres in Point Aux Chenes Bay
 - Relocation proposed due to Hurricane Zeta
- **Intertidal reef creation:**
 - Approximately 3 acres in Bangs Bayou
 - Currently under construction

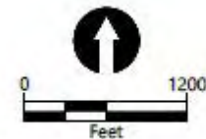
Originally permitted
footprint



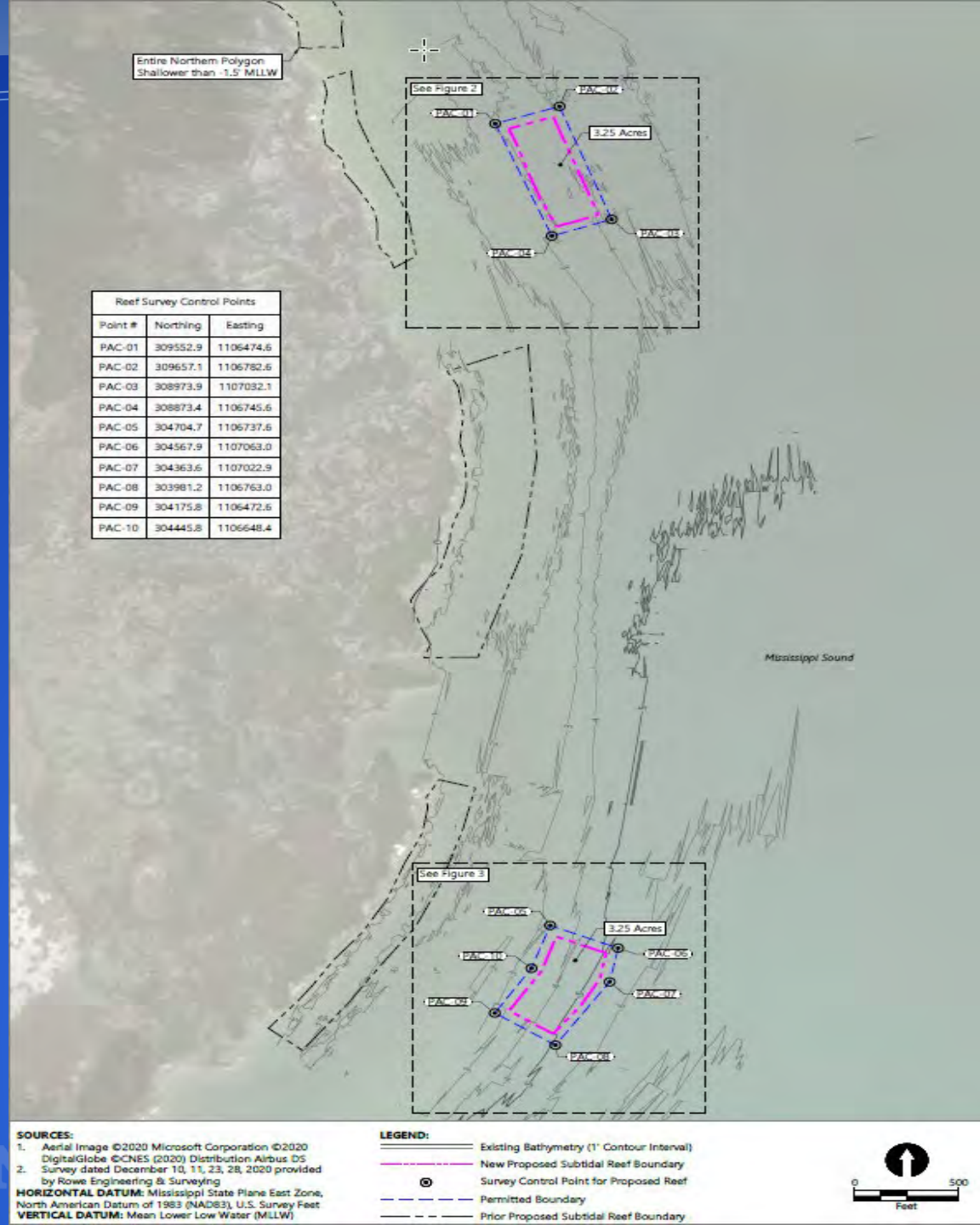
SOURCE: ©2018 Microsoft Corporation ©2018
DigitalGlobe ©CNES (2018) Distribution Airbus DS
HORIZONTAL DATUM: Mississippi State Plane East,
NAD83, U.S. Feet
VERTICAL DATUM: Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW)

LEGEND:

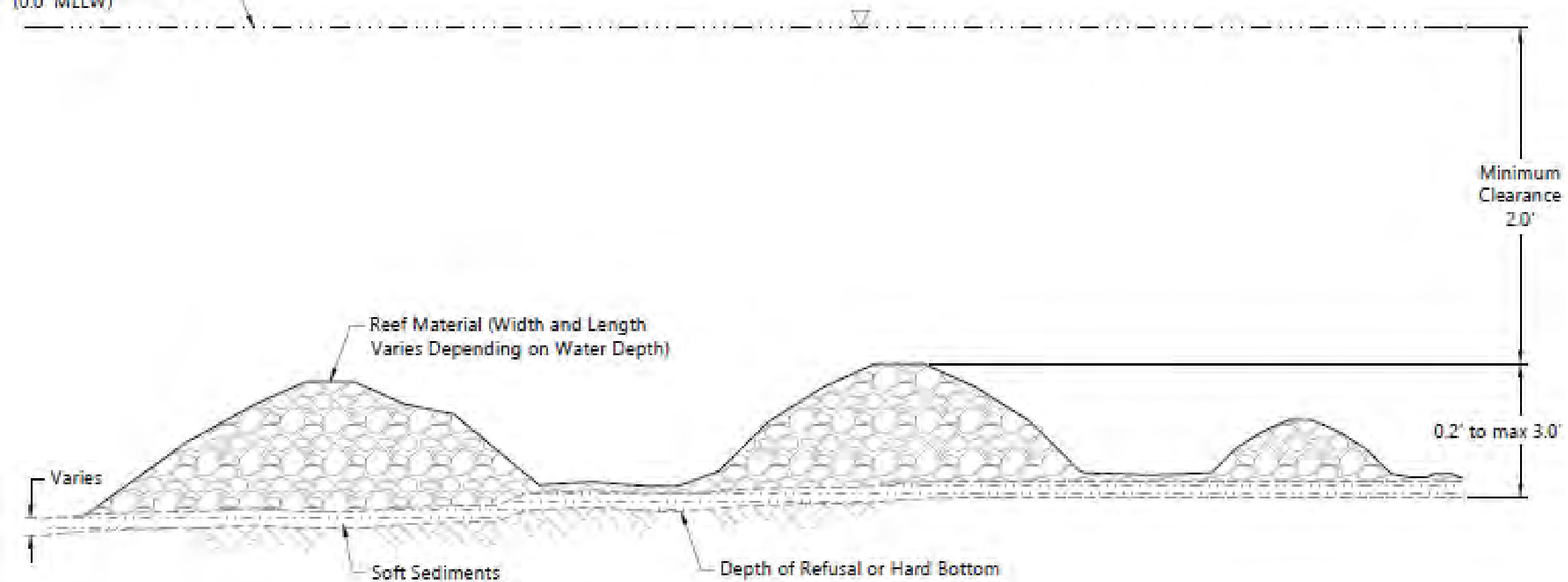
— — — — —
Proposed Subtidal Reef Polygons
(total 35 acres) in which 6.5 acres
(maximum) will be located and
constructed in water depths between
the 2.0 and 5.0 foot MLLW contours.



Proposed modified locations

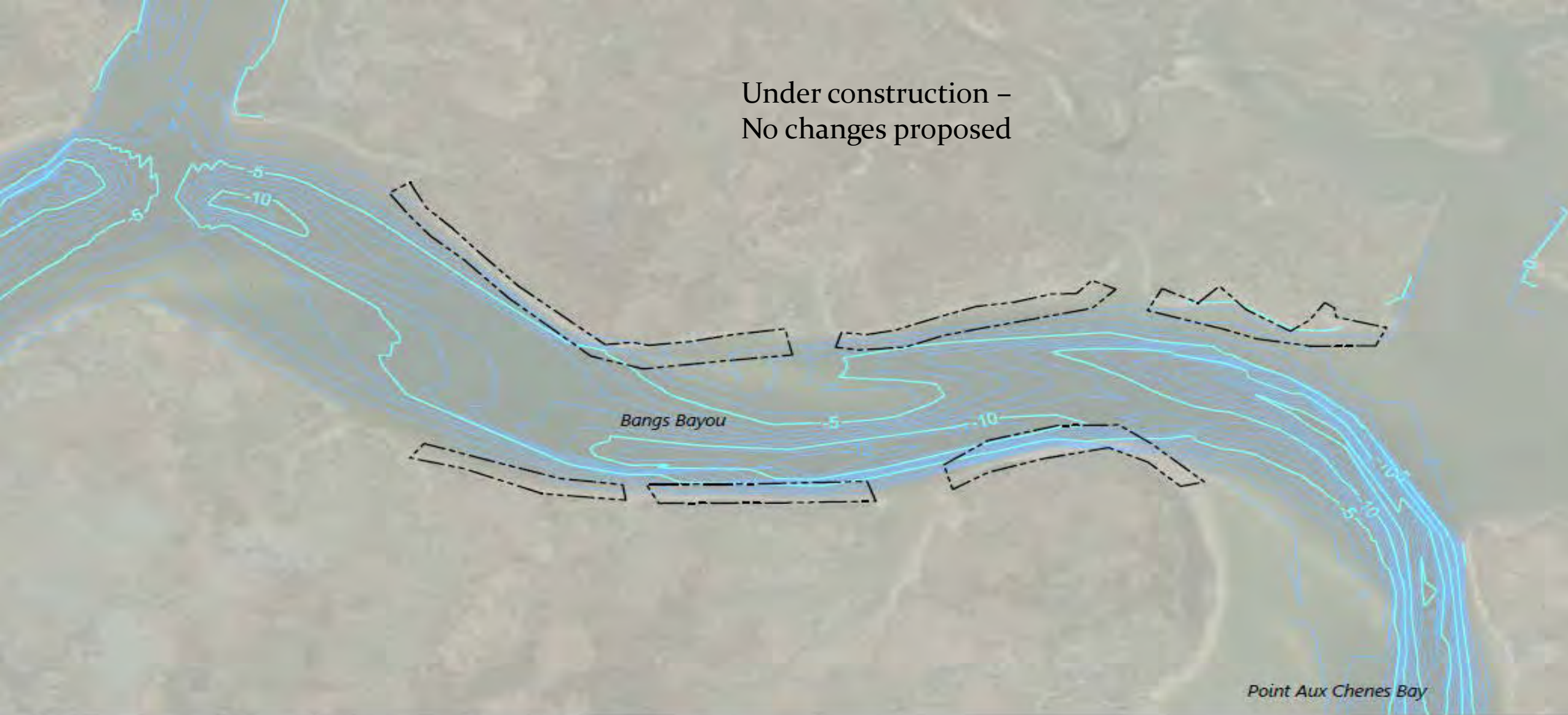


Mean Lower Low Water
(0.0' MLLW)



Typical Subtidal Reef Detail
Not to Scale

Under construction –
No changes proposed



AERIAL SOURCE: ©2018 Microsoft Corporation ©2018 DigitalGlobe
©CNES (2018) Distribution Airbus DS

SURVEY SOURCE: DIMCO drawing titled "Hydrographic Survey and
Push Sampling Grids" dated July 12, 2016.

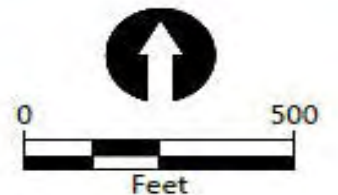
HORIZONTAL DATUM: Mississippi State Plane East, NAD83, U.S. Feet

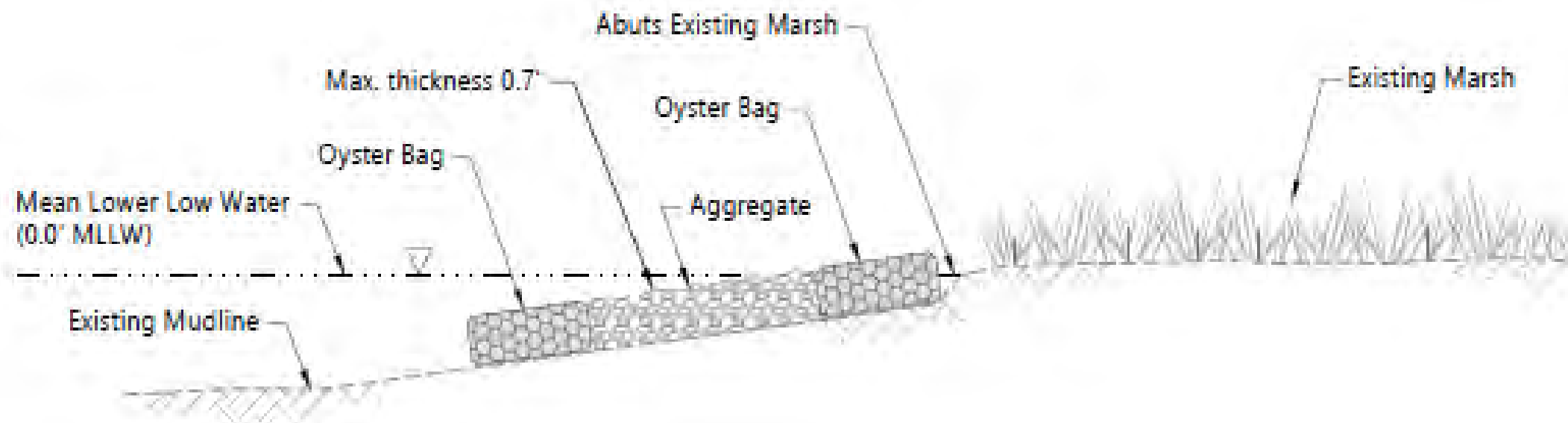
VERTICAL DATUM: Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW)

LEGEND:

----- Proposed Intertidal Reef Polygons (total 8.5 acres) in which
3 acres (maximum) will be located and constructed in water
depths between the -0.5 and +1.5 foot MLLW contours.

Existing Bathymetric Contours (1' Interval)





Typical Intertidal Reef Detail
Not to Scale





Project Description

continued

- **The applicant was granted variances:**
 - **Chapter VIII, Section 2, Part III.O.1. of the MCP.**
 - Permanent filling of Coastal Wetlands because of potential adverse and cumulative environmental impacts is discouraged.
 - **Miss. Admin. Code Title 22, Part 23, Chapter 8, Section 114.01**
 - Permanent filling of coastal wetlands below the mean high tide line because of potential adverse and cumulative environmental impacts is not authorized
- **These variance requests were justified under Ch. VIII, Sect. 2, Part I.E.2.c.i. and Miss. Admin. Code Title 22, Part 23, Chapter 8, Section 118.01**
 - The Impacts on Coastal Wetlands would be no worse than if the guidelines were followed.

Public and Agency Notification

- Notification of this project appeared in *The Sun Herald* on February 28, March 7, and March 14, 2021.
 - One public comment has been received to date
 - Not deep enough to achieve 2' clearance at extreme low winter tides
 - Relocation to achieve the clearance would be ½ mile east of the shoreline and in a legal shrimping area
 - Proposed project will create an extreme hazard to navigation and present an unacceptable high risk to life and limb
 - Who will inspect and repair the markers that will be placed at completion of construction?
 - Should construct a breakwater instead, to reduce erosion of the marsh shoreline

Public and Agency Notification

continued

- **MDMR Office of Marine Fisheries:**
 - This project will create essential habitat for both recreational and commercially viable species.
 - Moving the footprint further from the shoreline into the main water access for this area poses a greater potential conflict with fishermen.
 - Serious consideration should be made for potential damage to vessels, restriction in area use by the public, and potential human injury.
 - Concerns were raised about the clearance not being enough during all tidal cycles and weather conditions.
 - These reefs will need to be clearly marked in order to prevent damage or injury.
 - Overall the project provides a resource benefit, but safety measures (marking and maintaining) need to be clearly outlined before the project proceeds.

ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Public and Agency Notification

continued

- **MDMR NERR:** Stated no comments
- **MDEQ:** 401 Water Quality Certification was issued on August 19, 2019, modification not required
- **MDAH:** No objections, new survey not required
- **MS SOS:** The project will require a rent exempt lease
- **MDWFP:** No comments to date

ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Recommendation

- Based upon departmental review and evaluation based on the decision factors in the MCP, it has been determined that the project will have a significant public benefit. Therefore, staff recommends that the CMR approve the request for modification with the following additional condition:
 - Marking of the reefs and the plan for maintaining the markings must be approved by MDMR prior to completion of the project



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

Mississippi

Department of Marine Resources

Agency Financial Results
as of February 28, 2021

Key Metrics:

- State Revenue of \$4.1M
- Agency Revenue of \$14.7M
- State Net Income of \$22K
- Agency Net Income of -\$387K

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES Income Statement - Fiscal Year 2021 As of February 28, 2021

	State	Federal : GOMESA PHII: NFWF:	Operating Subtotal	Tidelands	Total DMR
Revenue:					
Transfer in from Other Governments	-	-	-	-	-
Off-road Fuel Tax	3,050,000	-	3,050,000	-	3,050,000
Federal/NonFederal Grants	-	2,223,029	2,223,029	-	2,223,029
Sales Revenue	673,441	-	673,441	-	673,441
Indirect Cost Recovery	316,225	-	316,225	-	316,225
Other Revenue	60,581	975,400	1,035,980	7,456,901	8,492,881
Current Budget Year Revenue:	4,100,246	3,198,429	7,298,675	7,456,901	14,755,575
Expenditures:					
Salaries, Wages, Fringe	3,439,133	1,942,817	5,381,950	616,747	5,998,697
Travel	3,403	-	3,403	-	3,403
Contractual Services	435,418	882,297	1,317,715	278,182	1,595,897
Commodities	190,976	137,987	328,963	17,182	346,145
Other than Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment	7,390	113,030	120,420	-	120,420
Vehicles	-	34,734	34,734	-	34,734
Wireless Devices	-	-	-	-	-
Subsidies, Loans, and Grants	1,074	3,780,763	3,781,837	3,261,754	7,043,591
STATEXP	-	-	-	-	-
Current Budget Year Expenditures:	4,077,393	6,891,628	10,969,021	4,173,864	15,142,886
Current Budget Year Net Income/(Loss):	\$ 22,853	\$ (3,693,199)	\$ (3,670,347)	\$ 3,283,036	\$ (387,310)

Financial Budget Comparison

- After eight months of Fiscal Year 2021:

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

2021 Budget Comparison

As of February 28, 2021

	Actual Year to Date Expenditures			Budget Year Totals			Percent Remaining		
	Operating	Tidelands	Total	Operating	Tidelands	Total	Operating	Tidelands	Total
Expenditures:									
Salaries, Wages, Fringe	\$ 5,381,950	\$ 616,747	\$ 5,998,697	\$ 10,608,904	\$ 1,259,291	\$ 11,868,195	49.3%	51.0%	49.5%
Travel	3,403	-	3,403	164,806	25,000	189,806	97.9%	100.0%	98.2%
Contractual Services	1,317,715	278,182	1,595,897	7,332,714	1,251,000	8,583,714	82.0%	77.8%	81.4%
Commodities	328,963	17,182	346,145	2,966,274	360,000	3,326,274	88.9%	95.2%	89.6%
Other than Equipment	-	-	-	-	75,000	75,000	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Equipment	120,420	-	120,420	527,729	-	527,729	77.2%	0.0%	77.2%
Vehicles	34,734	-	34,734	155,000	-	155,000	77.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Wireless Devices	-	-	-	3,750	-	3,750	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Subsidies, Loans, and Grants	3,781,837	3,261,754	7,043,591	30,040,854	4,378,986	34,419,840	87.4%	25.5%	79.5%
Total Expenditures:	\$ 10,969,021	\$ 4,173,864	\$ 15,142,886	\$ 51,800,031	\$ 7,349,277	\$ 59,149,308	78.8%	43.2%	74.4%

- Operating Funds have 78.8% of Budget remaining
- Tidelands Trust Fund has 43.2% of Budget remaining