

**JOINT APPLICATION AND NOTIFICATION
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY/OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL**

Applicant: Jackson County Board of Supervisors - Matthew Hosey
Mailing Address: 2915 Canty Street, Suite H
Pascagoula MS, 39568
Phone Number: (228) 769-3088
Email Address: Matthew_Hosey@co.jackson.ms.us

Agent: Covington Civil and Environmental - Jade Martin
Mailing Address: 2300 14th St
Gulfport MS, 39501
Phone Number:
Email Address: jade@ccellc.us

Date Submitted:

01/04/2024

DMR Permit Number:
DMR24-000008

Historic DMR Permit Numbers:

DMR File Number:
24-000007

Project Location:

Bayou Porteaux near Oriole Drive, St. Martin
Jackson County

Latitude: 30.4412
Longitude: -88.8518

Do you still need to enter a Project Location?
How will you identify the project location:

Project Information:

Project Name or Title: Oriole Drive Bayou Dredging



Project Description: The Jackson County Board of Supervisors is proposing a maintenance dredging event within a man-made canal in-between Oriole Drive and Cardinal Drive in St. Martin, Mississippi (See Attachment A of Joint Application and Notification Form). The current depth of the man-made canal ranges from +1.25 to -4.0 feet (ft) NAVD88. The proposed depth to be achieved during maintenance dredging would be -4.5 ft NAVD88. Approximately 4,700 cubic yards of dredge material would be generated by this event. The dredge will be completed along one alignment for a total of 1,544 linear feet. A side slope ratio of 3:1 or flatter will be maintained. The dredge bottom width of the alignment ranges from 10 to 40 ft. Hydraulic and/or mechanical methods would be used. Approximately 3,600 yards of dredge material would be removed from public trust tidelands, and the remaining 1,200 cubic yards of dredge material would be removed from the man-made canal.

Project Purpose and Need: The purpose and need are to increase water depths in order to restore stormwater runoff, provide safe navigation and enhance recreational opportunities.

Intended Use: Public/Government

Will the Proposed Project have a Public Benefit?: Yes

Increased tax base:

Increased employment:

National security benefits:

Improved habitat:

Other:

Does Project area contain any marsh Vegetation?: No

What measures will be taken to reduce detrimental off-site effects to the Coastal Wetlands during and after the proposed activity?: Best Management Practices

Impact Information:

Number of Impact Types	01
Impact Type:	Dredging
New or Maintenance	Maintenance
Purpose (dredging)	Navigation channel - public
Length	1544
Width	10
Current Depth at MLT	1.25 to -4
Proposed Depth at MLT	-4.5
Cubic yards of Material to be Removed (Dredging)	4682.688
Dredge Method	04. Other (Provide method below)
Enter Other Method (Dredge Method)	Both mechanical and hydraulic pump.
Type of Material to be Removed (Boat Ramp, Indented Boat Slip, Intake/Outfall structure)	03. Combination of silt and sand
Dredged Material Placement Location (Boat Ramp,Dredging,Indented Boat Slip)	05. Undetermined
Is this a component of a larger project?	No
Is any portion of this impact complete?	No

Additional information relating to the proposed activity

Have any other federal, state, or local agencies issued permits or other types of approvals for the proposed project?: No

Have any other federal, state, or local agencies denied approval for the proposed project?: No

Additional information about the proposed project.

Project Schedule

Do you know the Proposed Start Date? Yes
04/01/2024

Do you know the Proposed Completion Date? No

Do you know the Estimated Cost of the Project? Yes
\$257,500.00

Adjacent Property Owners:

Application Certified by: Jade Martin

NO.	DATE	REVISION/ISSUE
A	12-14-23	ISSUED FOR PERMITTING

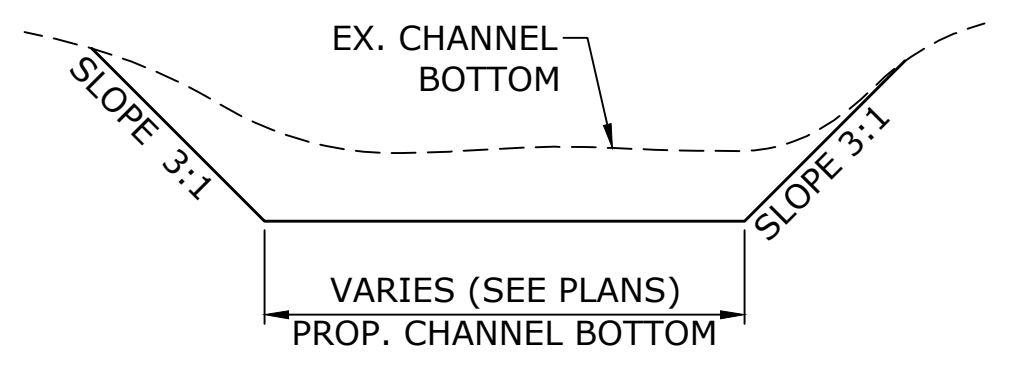
JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 ST. MARTIN OCTAVIA DREDGE PROJECT
 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU
 OVERALL PROPOSED DREDGING PLAN

DATE: 12-14-23	SCALE: AS NOTED
DRAWN BY: T. PARKER	DESIGNER: S. MCLELLAN
CHECKED BY: A. LEVENS	PROJECT NO. 16506
SHEET NO.	

C2.0



1 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU - OVERALL PROPOSED DREDGING PLAN
 C2.0 SCALE: 1" = 40'



2 TYPICAL DREDGE SECTION
 C2.0 SCALE: NTS

LEGEND:

	LIMITS OF DREDGING		DREDGE BOTTOM
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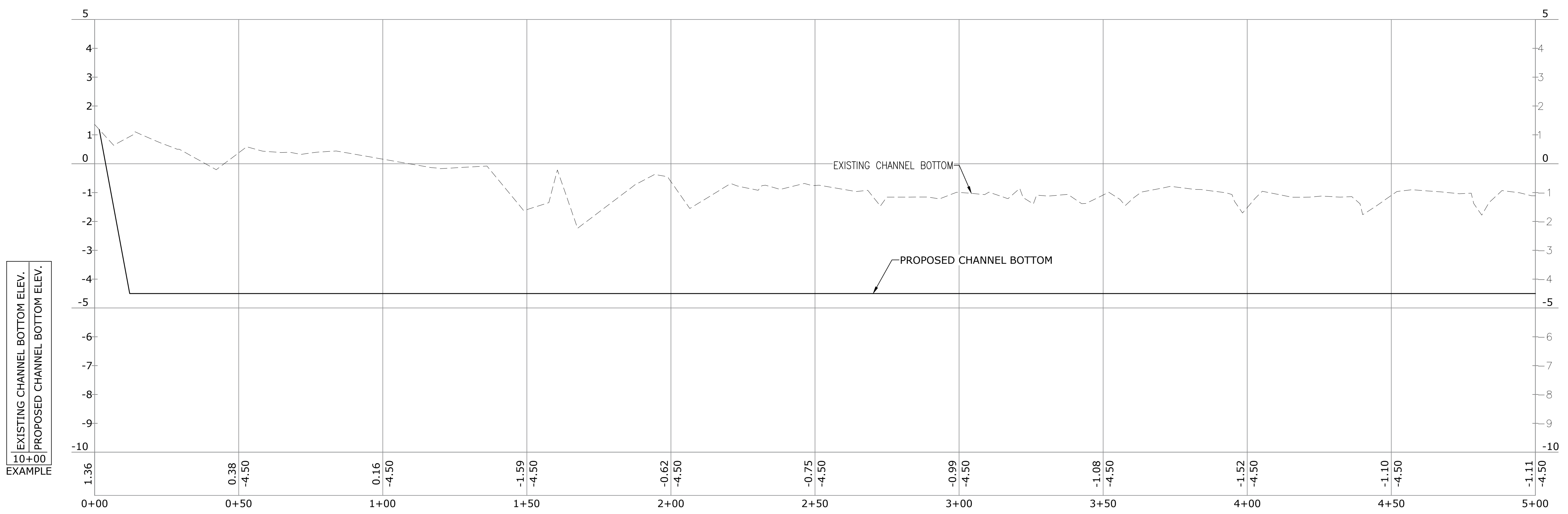


CONTINUED ON C2.2

LEGEND:
 - - - - - LIMITS OF DREDGING
 - - - - - DREDGE BOTTOM

1 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU - PROPOSED DREDGING PLAN
 C2.1 SCALE: 1" = 20'

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2 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU - PROFILE
 C2.1 SCALE: H: 1" = 20' V: 1" = 2'

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 ST. MARTIN OCTAVIA DREDGE PROJECT
 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU
 PROPOSED DREDGING PLAN & PROFILE

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CHECKED BY: A. LEVENS	PROJECT NO. 16506
SHEET NO.	

C2.1

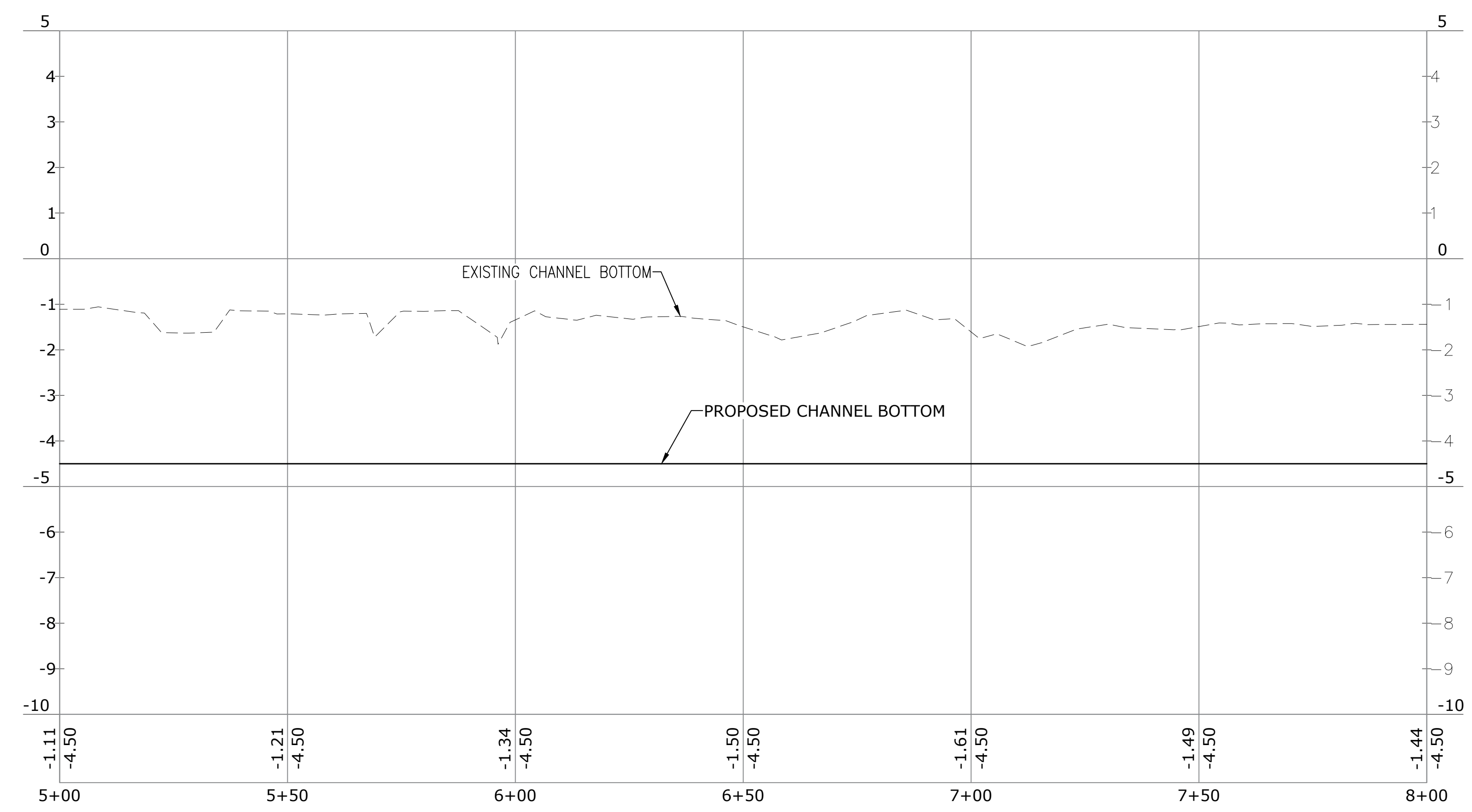
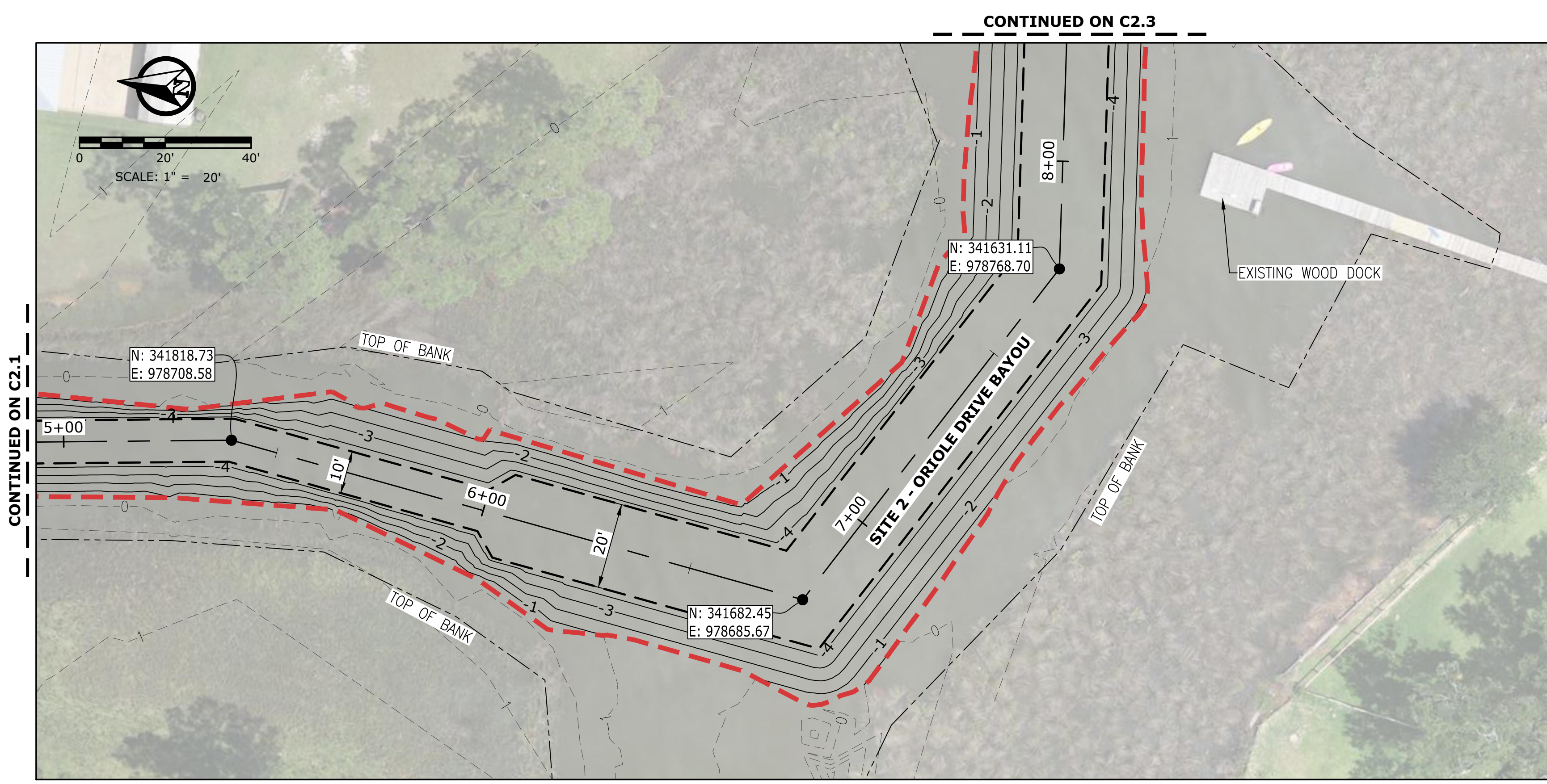
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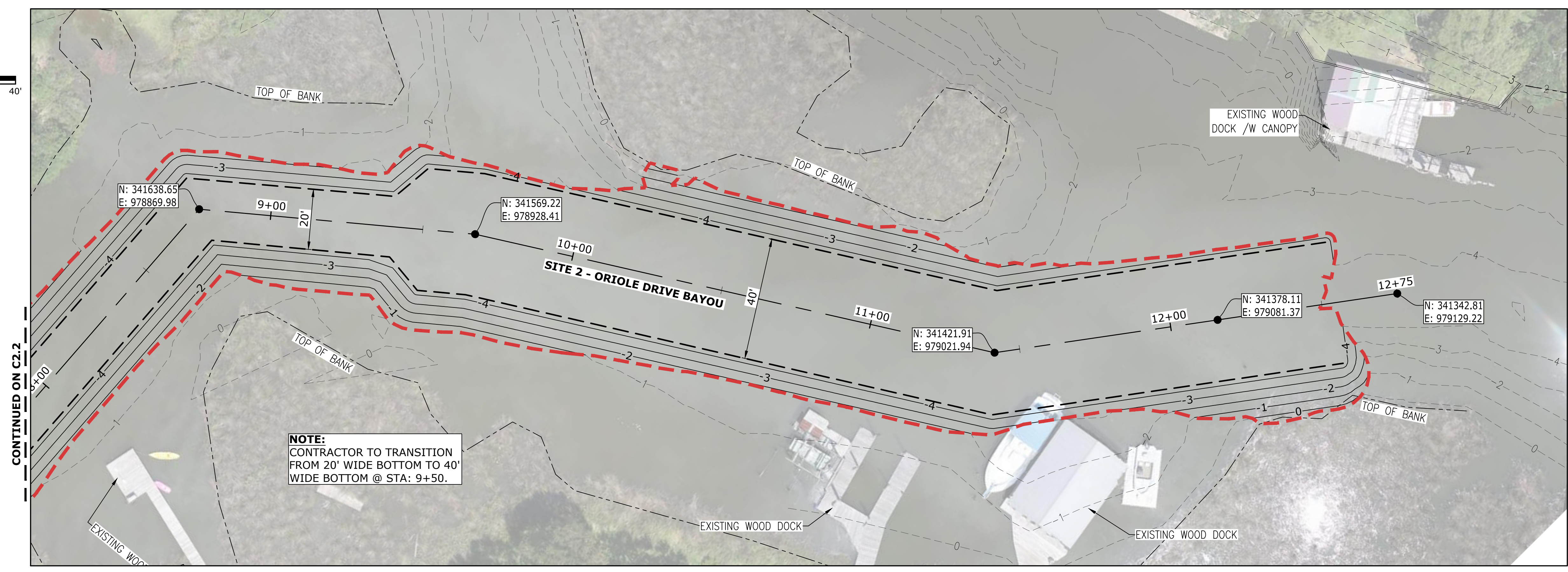
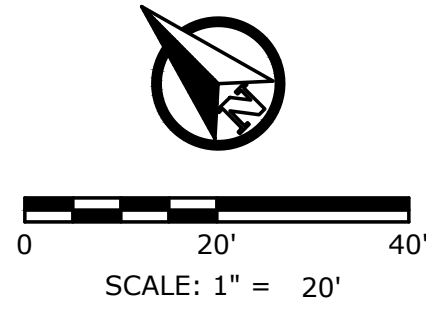
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C2.2

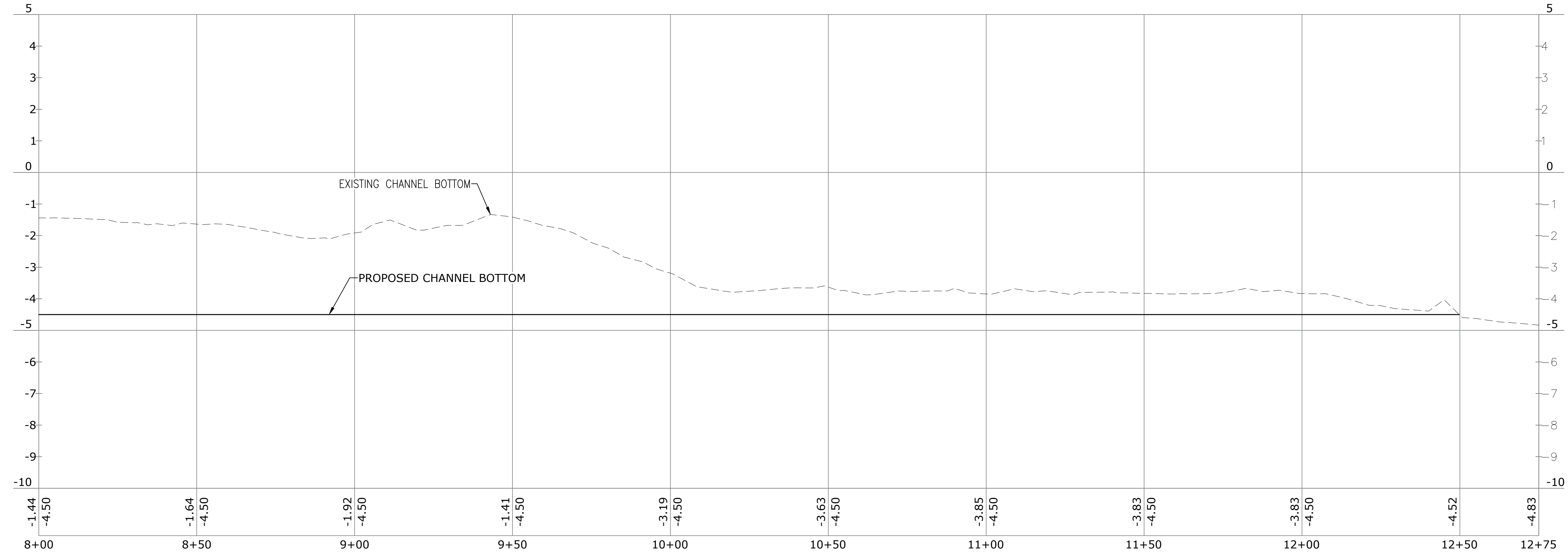


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1 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU - PROPOSED DREDGING PLAN
 C2.3 SCALE: 1" = 20'

LEGEND:
 - - - - - LIMITS OF DREDGING
 - - - - - DREDGE BOTTOM



2 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU - PROFILE
 C2.3 SCALE: H: 1" = 20' V: 1" = 2'

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 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU
 PROPOSED DREDGING PLAN & PROFILE

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CHECKED BY: A. LEVENS	PROJECT NO. 16506
SHEET NO.	

C2.3

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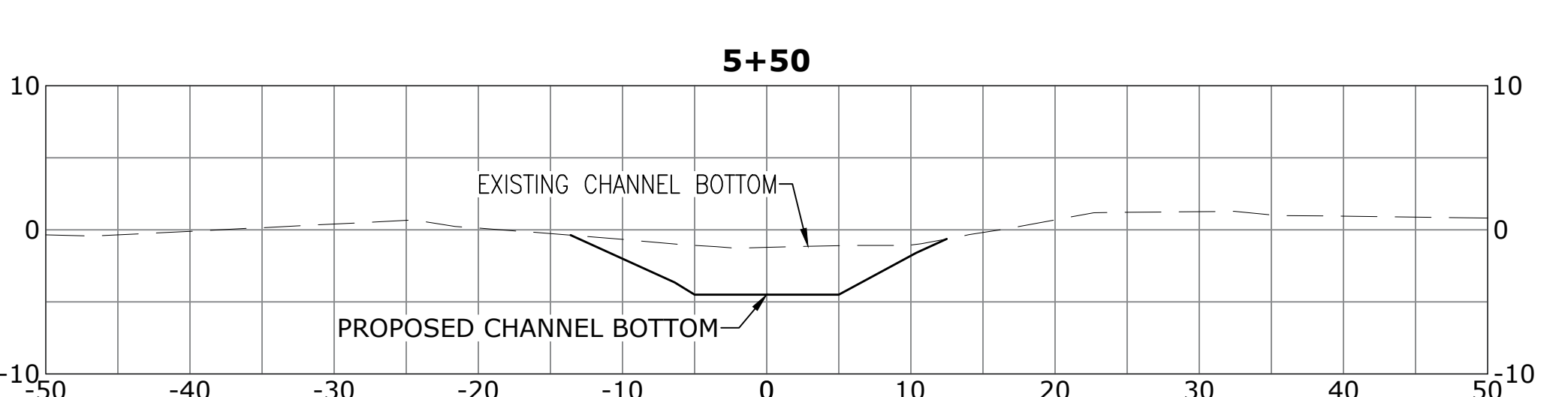
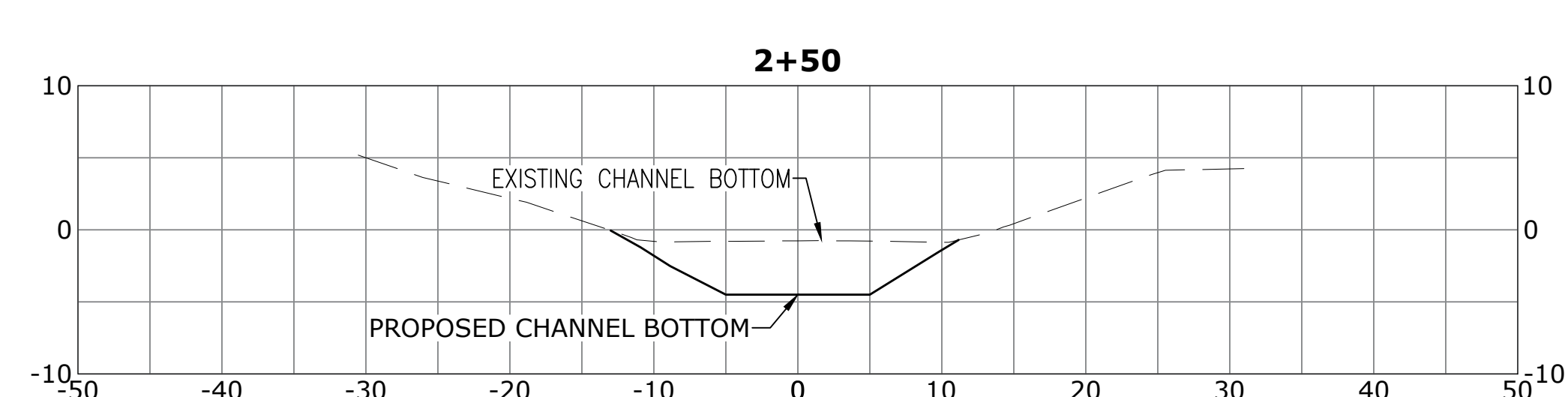
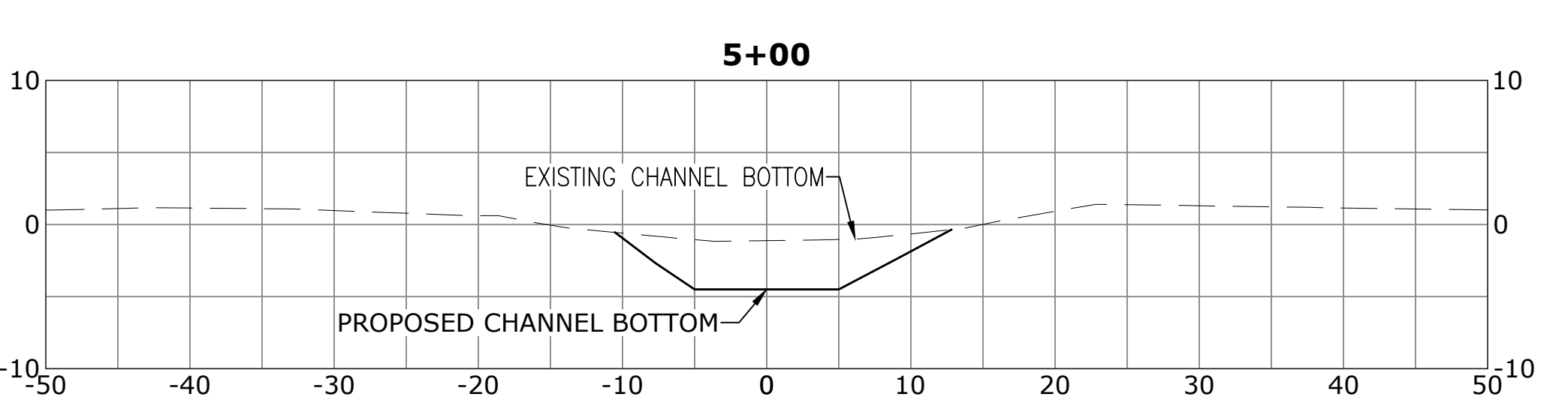
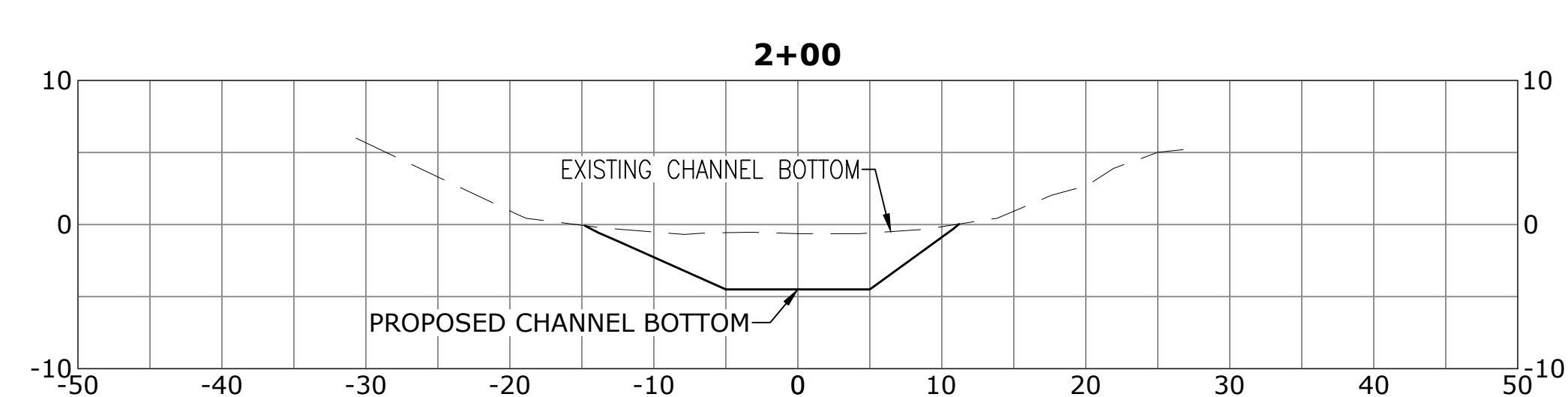
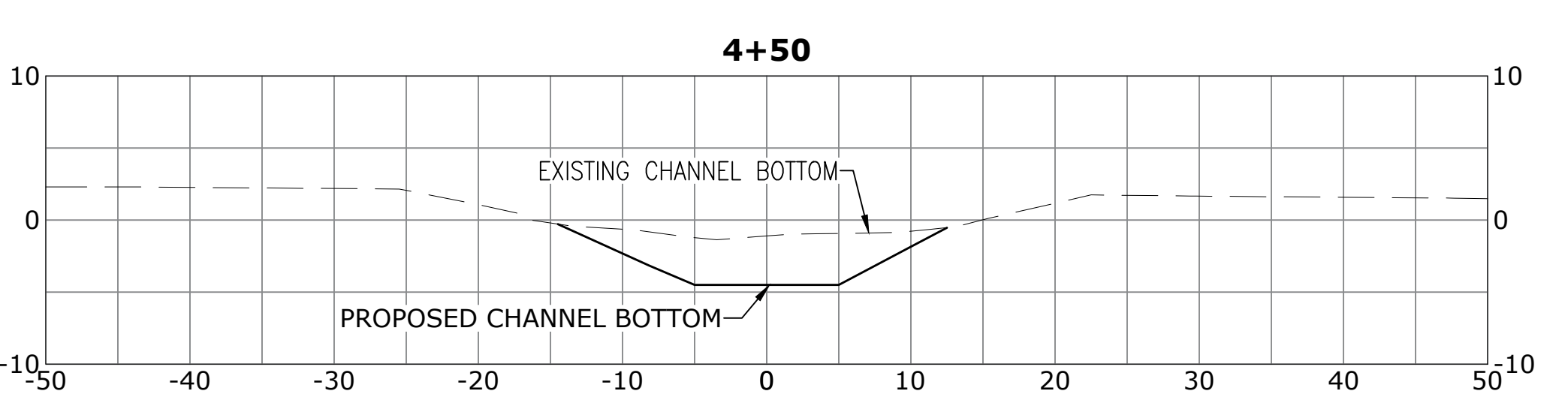
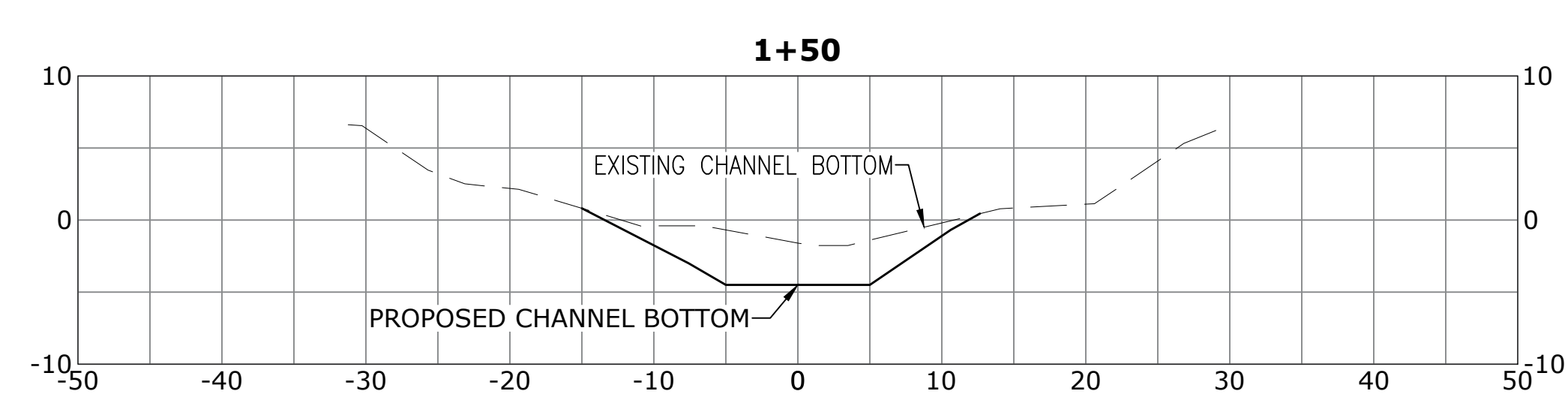
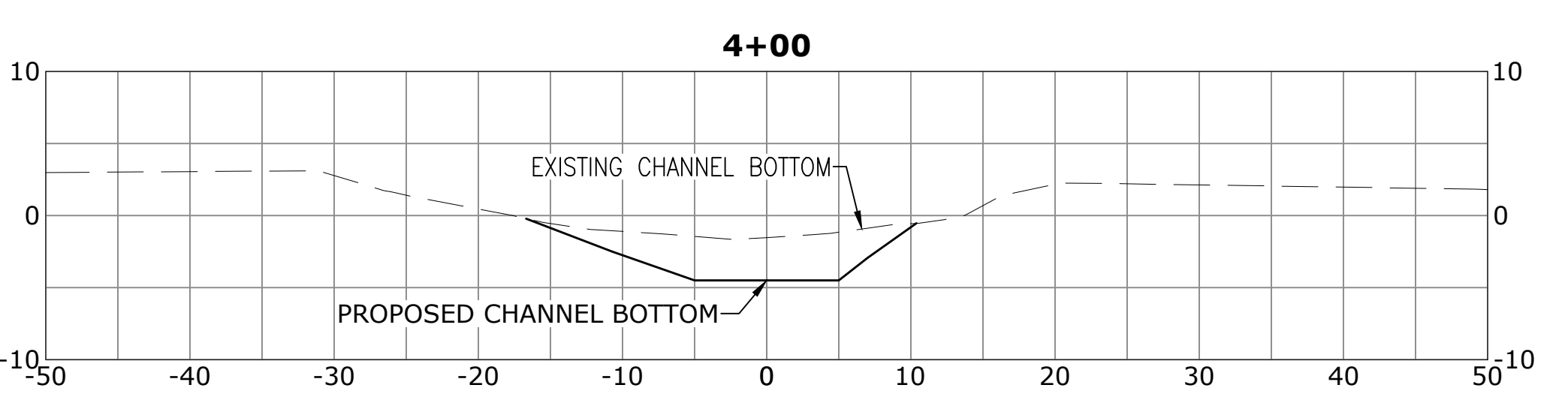
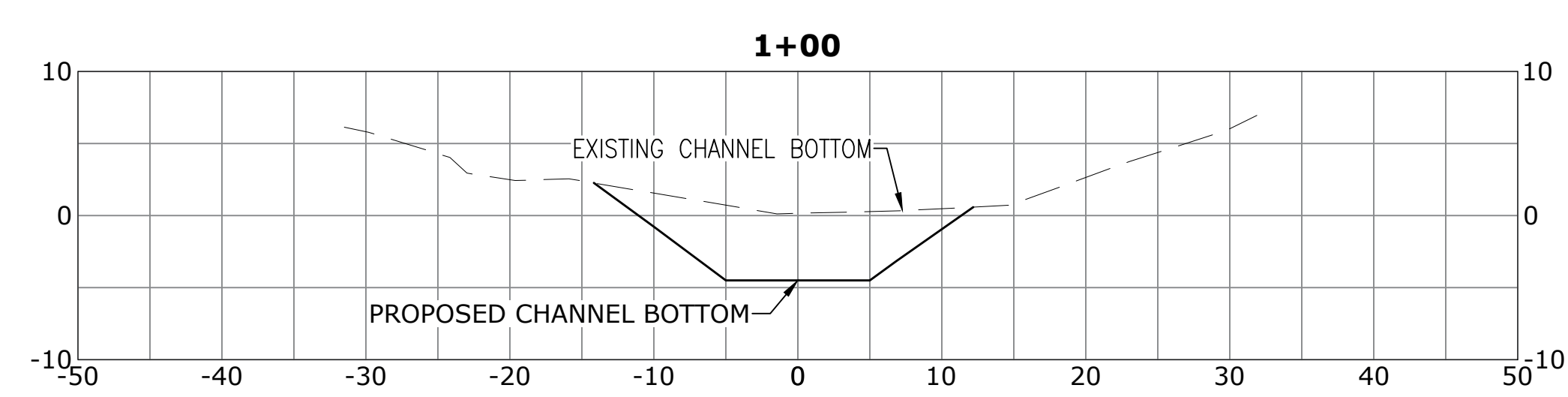
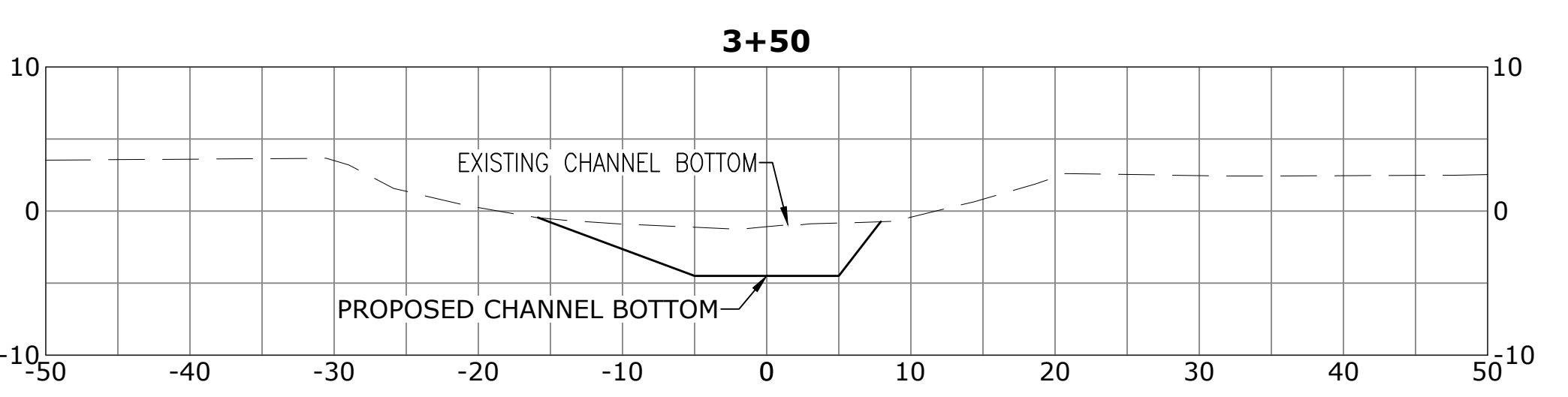
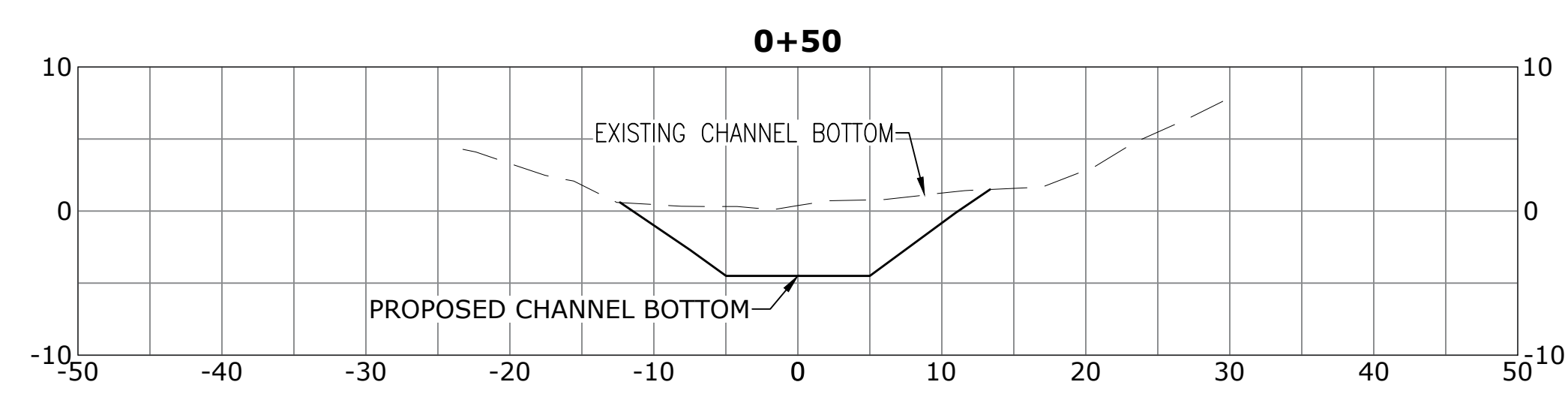
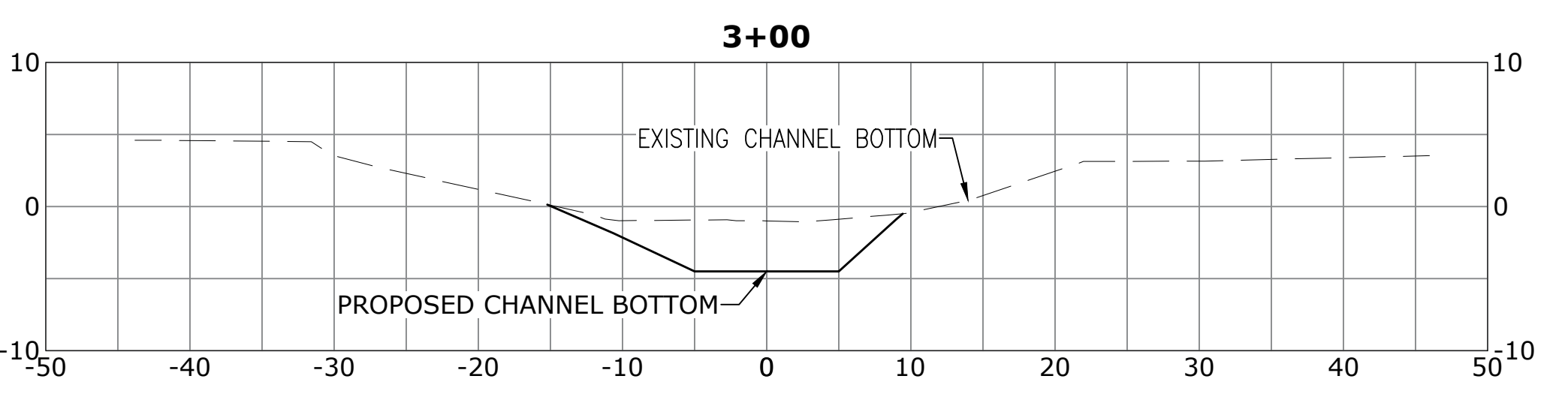
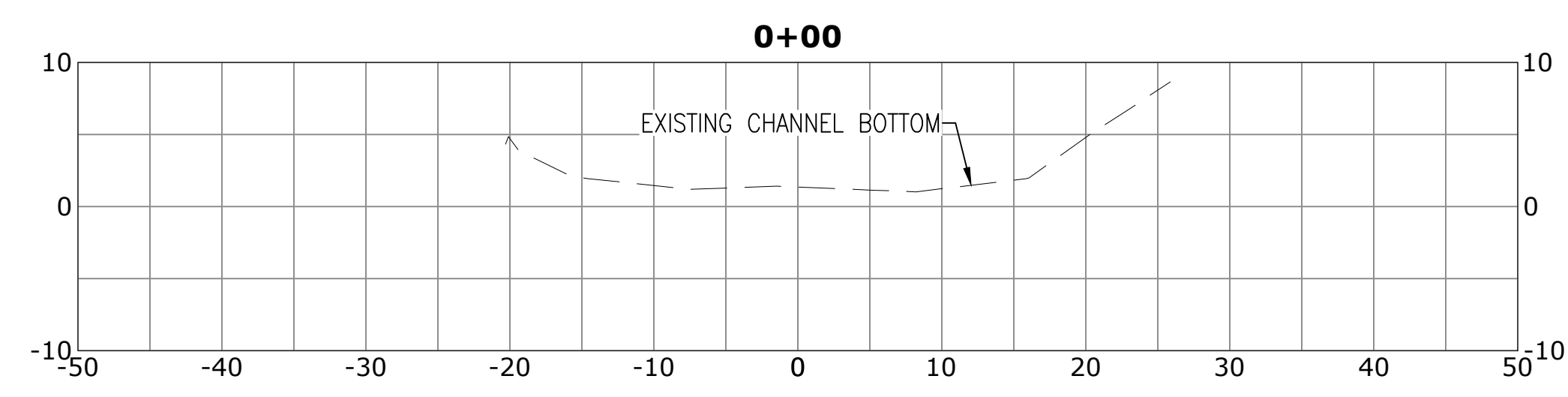


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JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ST. MARTIN OCTAVIA DREDGE PROJECT
SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU
SECTIONS

DATE: 12-14-23	SCALE: AS NOTED
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CHECKED BY: A. LEVENS	PROJECT NO. 16506
SHEET NO.	

C2.4



1 **SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU - SECTIONS**
C2.4 SCALE: 1" = 10'

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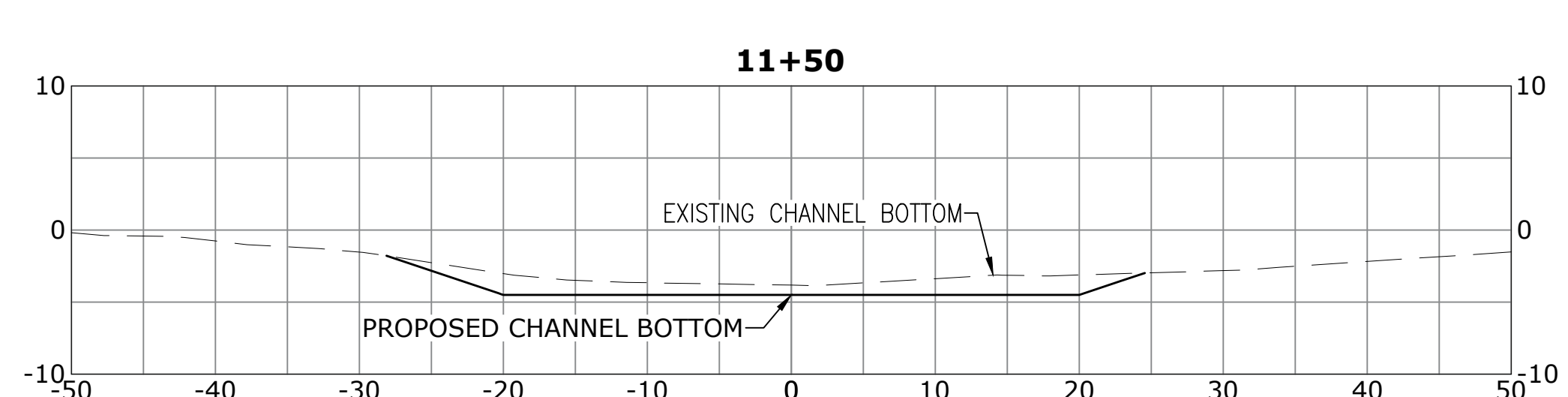
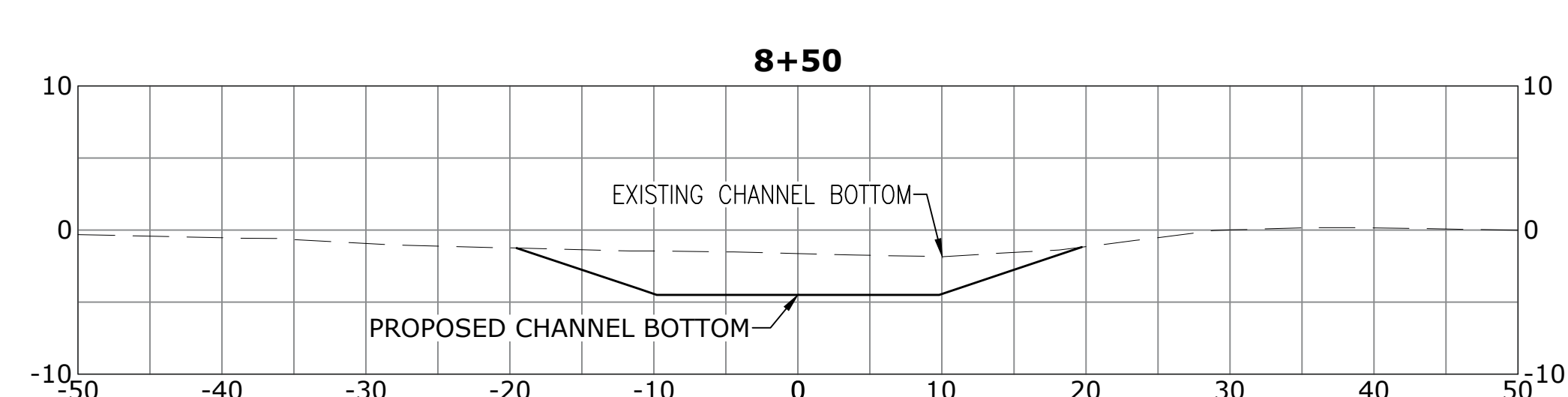
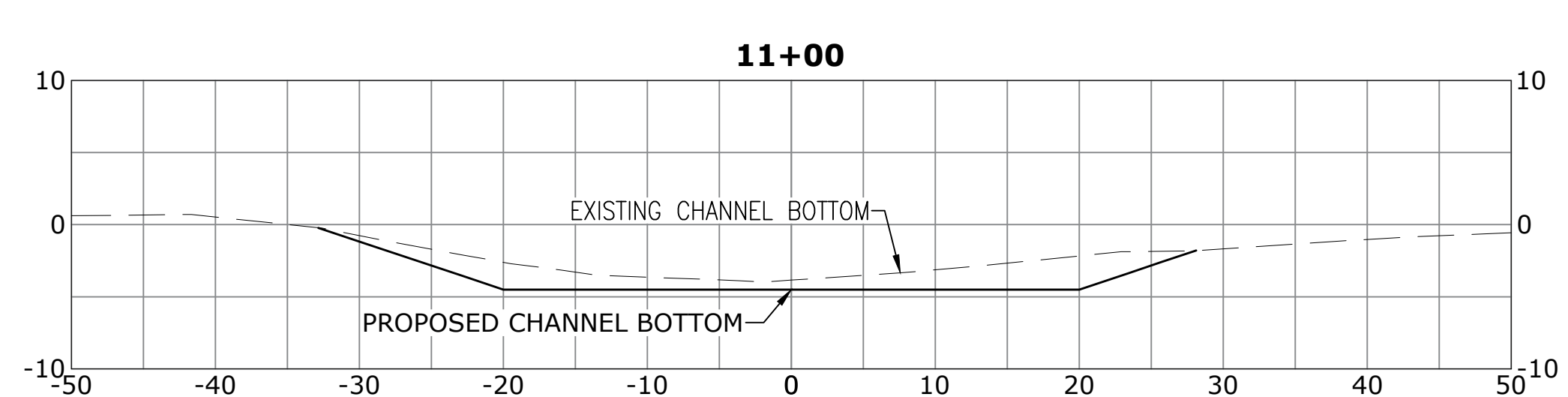
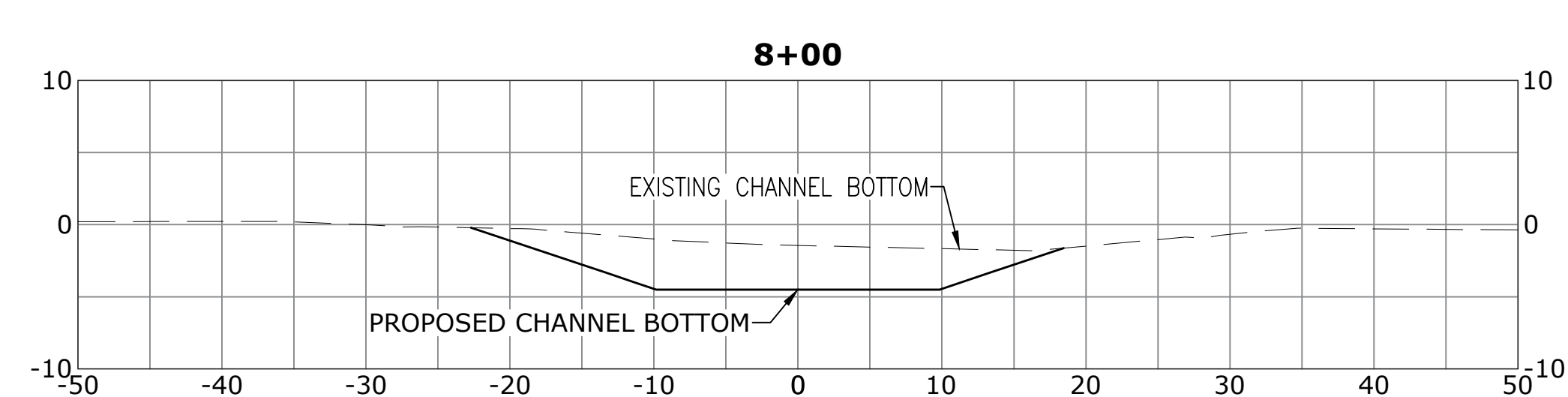
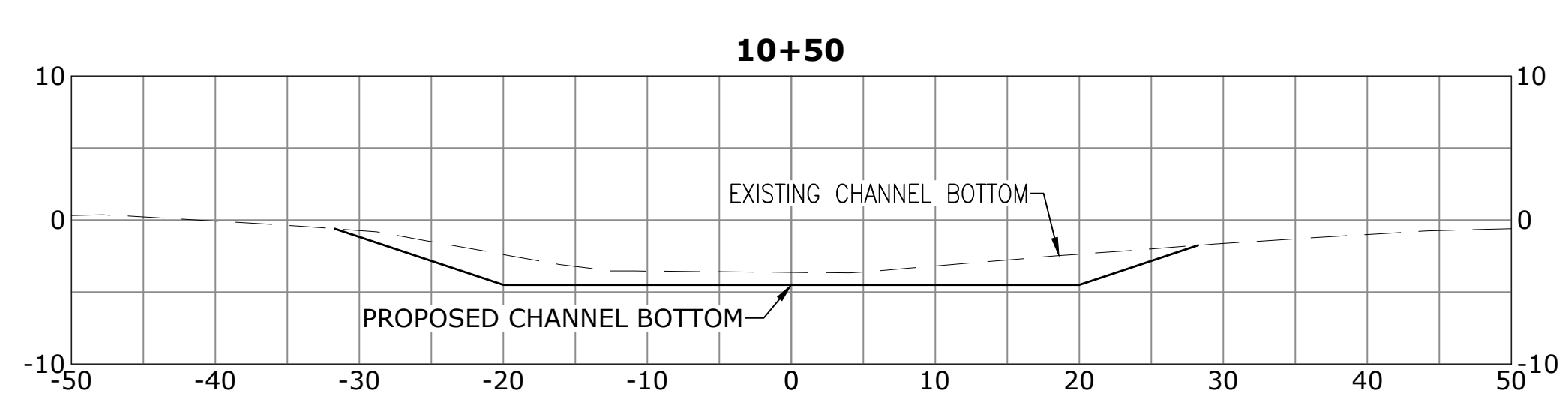
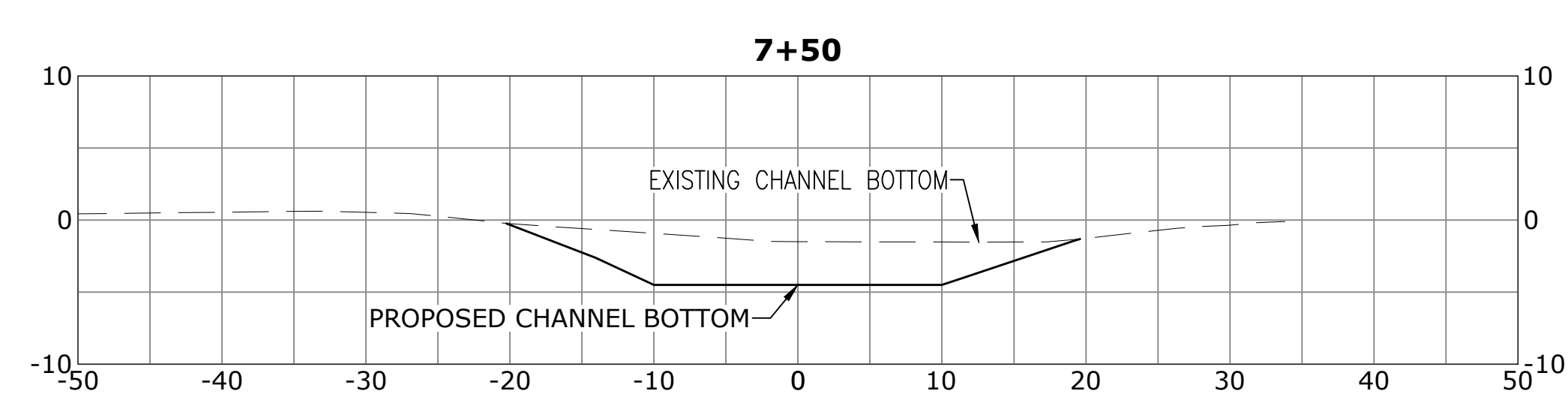
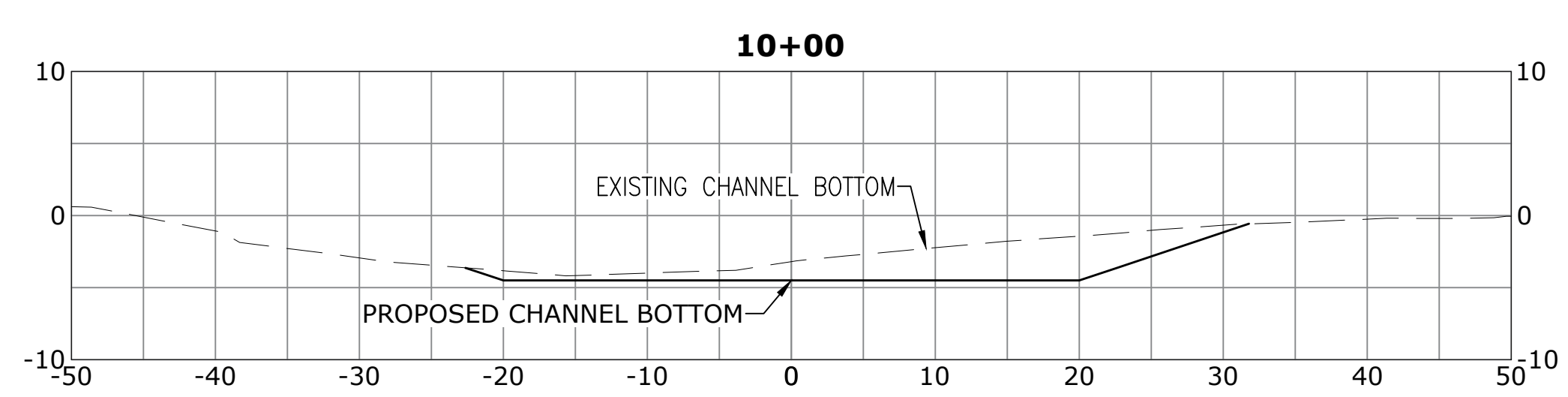
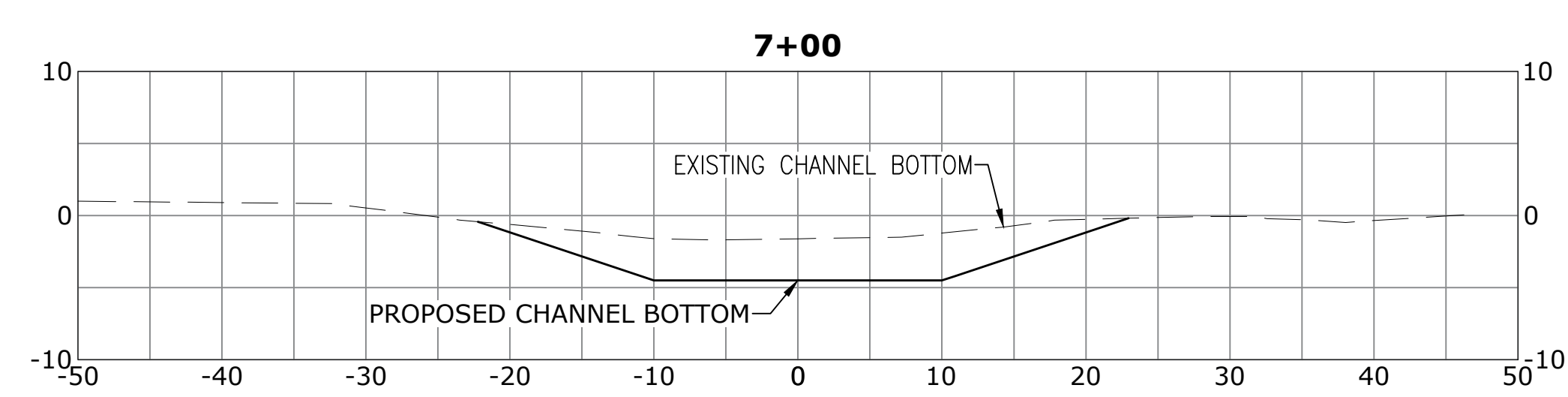
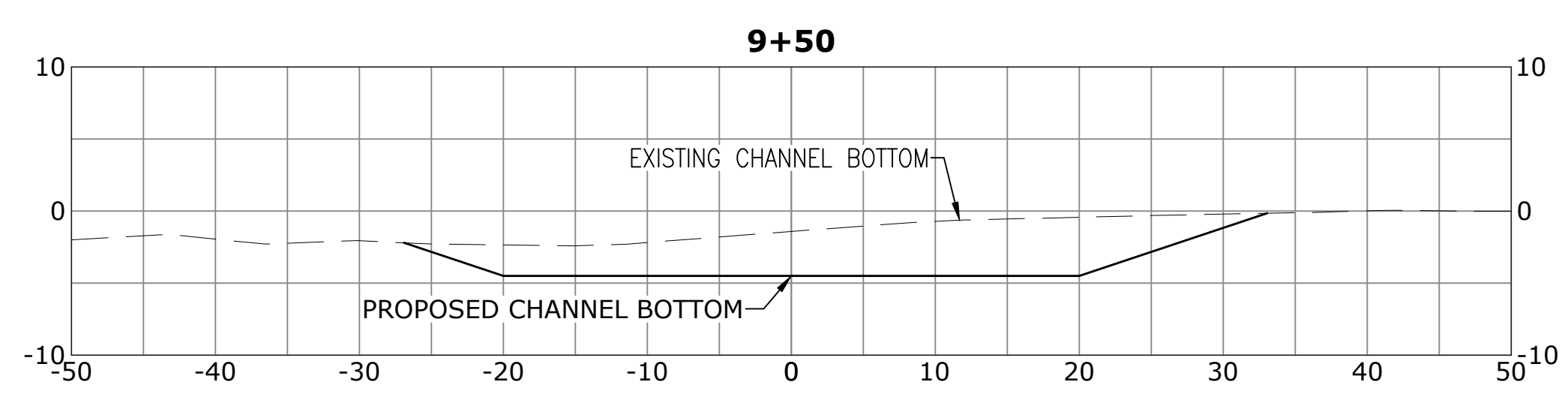
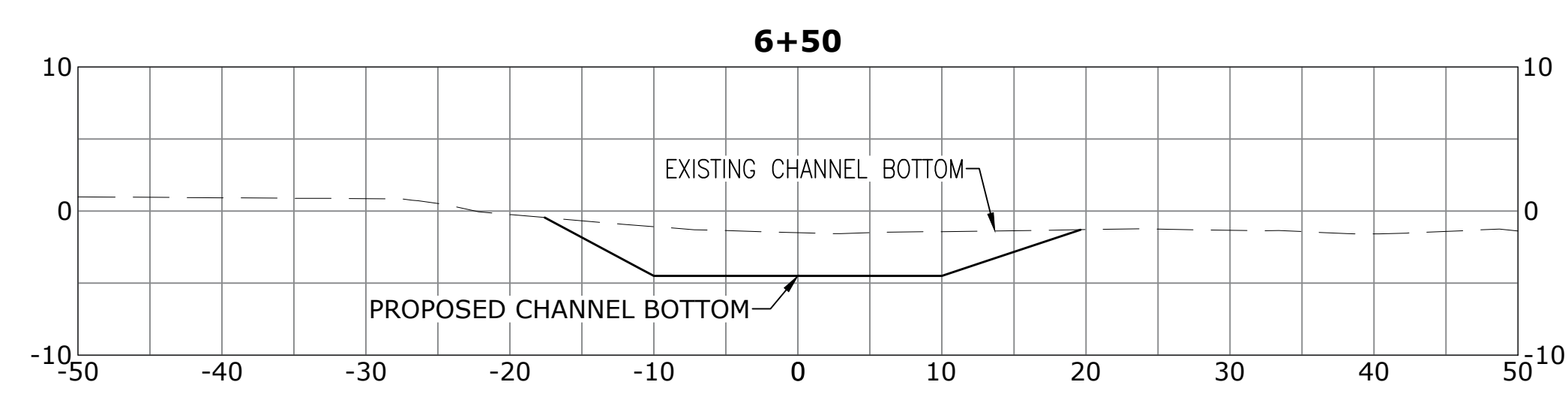
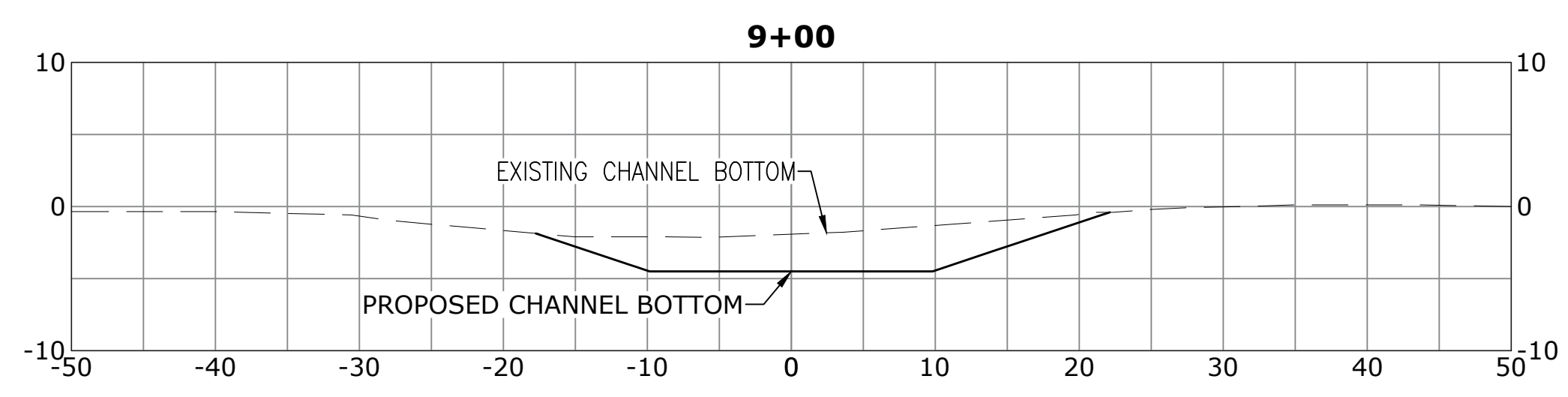
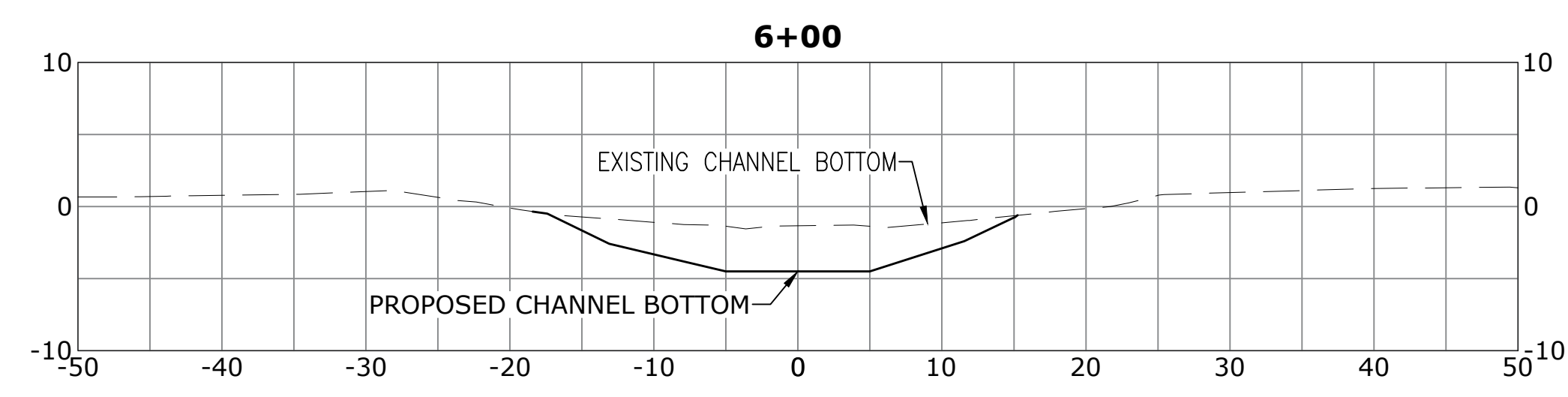


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 ST. MARTIN OCTAVIA DREDGE PROJECT
 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU
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SHEET NO.	

C2.5



1 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU - SECTIONS
 C2.5 SCALE: 1" = 10'

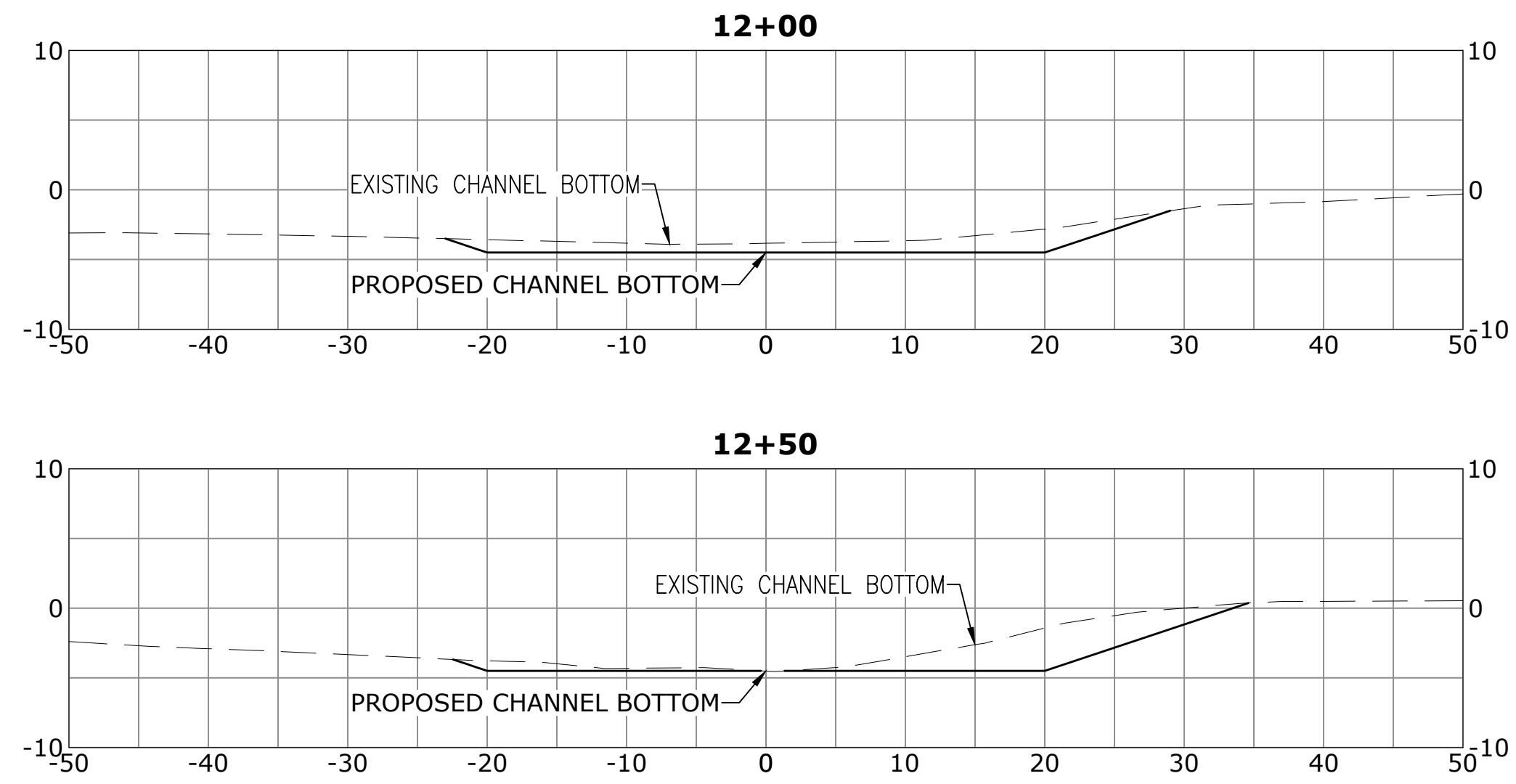
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JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 ST. MARTIN OCTAVIA DREDGE PROJECT
 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU
 SECTIONS

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CHECKED BY: A. LEVENS	PROJECT NO. 16506

SHEET NO.
C2.6



1 SITE 2 - ORIOLE DRIVE BAYOU - SECTIONS
C2.6 SCALE: 1" = 10'

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Oriole Drive Maintenance Dredging Project
Jackson County, Mississippi
Environmental Assessment – February 2024

This document provides a project description and background, purpose, description of alternatives, description of the affected environments, and a discussion of expected project impacts.

Project Description and Background

The Jackson County Board of Supervisors is proposing to dredge public waterways within Bayou Porteaux in the vicinity of Oriole Drive, St. Martin. (See Attachment A of Joint Application and Notification Form). The proposed dredge area consists of a man-made canal that services residential areas.

The current depth of the man-made canal is approximately +1.25 to -4.0 feet (ft) NAVD88. The proposed depths achieved during maintenance dredging would be -4.5 ft NAVD88. Approximately 4,200 cubic yards of dredge material would be generated by this event. The dredge will be completed along one alignment for a total of 1,544 linear feet. A slope ratio of 3:1 or flatter will be maintained. The width of water and dredging widths vary per alignment, as noted in the following table:

	Width of Waterway	Dredge Bottom Width
Alignment 2A	50 – 150 ft	10 – 40 ft

Dredging methodology includes mechanical dredging by excavator (either on land or by barge) and hauling trucks to move material. Hydraulic pumping would be used to remove sediment via a pump and pipeline. The proposed dredging will maintain a 10-foot buffer between wetlands, marsh grass, and identified subaquatic vegetation. The proposed activities would not dredge under existing structures or piers. A minimum 5-foot buffer would be maintained from existing structures. Approximately 3,000 cubic yards of dredge material will be removed from public trust tidelands, and the remaining 1,200 cubic yards of dredge material will be removed from man-made canals. The applicant proposes the dredged sediments be placed at a Beneficial Use (BU) site. The proposed project is projected to commence in April 2024.

Project Purpose and Need

Factors such as storm events, natural tidal flow, stormwater drainage flows, lack of bulkheads along the majority of property boundaries, and lack of regular maintenance over approximately the last 20 years have caused mild-to-moderate siltation of the canals. The purpose and need are to increase water depths in order to provide safe navigation and enhance recreational opportunities.

Alternatives

Three on-site alternatives, including the No Action alternative, were considered. Due to the nature of this dredging event being needed in a specific canal system, no off-site alternatives were considered.

- Alternative 1: Project as proposed, in which BMPs such as turbidity curtains and 10-ft offsets to coastal wetlands, will be implemented.

- Alternative 2: Dredging the full length of the canal without offsets and BMPs.
- No Action Alternative: No dredging would occur. Public access to waterways would continue to lessen over time.

Description of the Affected Environment

Hydrology and Water Resources

The proposed project site consists of a shallow man-made canal within Bayou Porteaux. Current water depths vary from +1.25 to -4.0 feet (ft) NAVD88. Survey of the proposed project area indicates the sediments are primarily unconsolidated. Adjacent areas include a combination of maintained grass, marsh vegetation, forested wetlands and uplands, and few bulkheads.

Wildlife Resources

Currently, the project area is an open, shallow water habitat. Wildlife such as fish (hardhead catfish, sailfin molly, sheepshead minnow, frillfin goby, to name a few) would temporarily move from the area or avoid the area and return once dredging is complete.

Habitat and Endangered Species Environment

A submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) and shellfish survey was performed on September 28, 2023, and the final SAV and shellfish survey is included in Attachment E of the Joint Application and Notification Form. No species of SAV or shellfish were identified within the survey area.

Several species of threatened species and endangered species of marine mammals, turtles, and fish are present in Mississippi coastal waters. Neither the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Section 7 Endangered Species Act (ESA) mapper nor the NOAA Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) mapper indicated that protected species occur within the boundaries of the project area. However, protected species, such as Kemp's ridley, green, leatherback, and loggerhead sea turtles; Gulf sturgeon; and West Indian manatee may be present in the Back Bay of Biloxi just south of the project area. Therefore, it is possible these species may occasionally be present in the project area, although highly unlikely. The US Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool indicated certain species such as the West Indian Manatee may be present within or near the project area; however, no suitable habitat exists for these species in the water where dredging activities may occur.

Description of Project Impacts

Hydrology and Water Quality Impacts

Dredging activities would result in short-term, minor adverse impacts to water quality because of sediment removal and re-suspension of sediment by vessels (barges, tugs, skiffs, ect.) moving in and out of the project area. During the dredging process, sediment on the canal bed will be disturbed, thus temporarily increasing turbidity. The Contractor will be required to minimize turbidity at the dredge site by staked filter cloth and/or the use of turbidity screens around the immediate project area if needed. If biologically sensitive areas are found in the bayou and are located close to the dredging path, sediment silt curtains will be placed to protect the areas from siltation during dredging. If present, sensitive areas will be located and clearly marked before work commences. This project should have no direct or indirect effect on the biological integrity and productivity of coastal wetlands communities and ecosystems. Since this is a dredging project where activity will remain away from all shorelines, the activity will not affect characteristics of coastal wetlands, such as natural supply of sediment and nutrients, temperature or

salinity regimes, sediment transport, water flow and natural circulation, and long-term biological productivity of the coastal wetlands' ecosystem.

Wildlife Resource Impacts

Common fish species and non-motile benthic populations may experience short-term minor adverse impacts from dredging activities. Normal behavior patterns of fish or aquatic mammals are not likely to be disrupted because of the short-term localized nature of the activities and the species' abilities to avoid the immediate area. Long-term, direct benefits would result from increasing wildlife habitat for fish in the project area.

Impacts to Habitat and Protected Species

Adverse impacts to benthic habitat during dredging activities are expected to be short-term and minor. In order to minimize coastal wetland impacts, a minimum 10-ft distance will be maintained.

Although sea turtles, Gulf sturgeon, and West Indian manatees are unlikely to present within the project area, a brief discussion of impacts is included due to the proximity of known habitat to the project area.

- Gulf Sturgeon: Benthic habitat in the project area is not preferred foraging habitat for Gulf sturgeon. Well oxygenated, clear water with sandy substrates is primarily used for feeding by the species. Benthic habitat in the project footprint is largely composed of soft, silty substrates with turbid waters. Bayou Porteaux and its tributaries are not categorized as Critical Habitat for the species; therefore, no impacts to migratory pathways are anticipated as a result of this project.
- Sea Turtles: These species do not typically use the project area for nesting, foraging, or movement. All activities will take place in shallow waters near the shoreline allowing sufficient area for passage of individuals. Additionally, sea turtles are highly mobile and will likely avoid the area due to project activity and noise.
- West Indian Manatee: All activity will take place in shallow waters near the shoreline allowing sufficient area for passage of individuals. Manatees are highly mobile and will likely avoid the area due to project activity and noise. Normal behavior patterns are not likely to be disrupted by the project activity because of the short-term localized nature of the activity and the ability of the species to avoid the immediate area.

October 31, 2023

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation and Shellfish Survey Report

Octavia Dredging Project

Site #2 – Oriole Dr. Bayou

St. Martin, Mississippi

Permitting Applicant: Jackson County Board of Supervisors



Project Description and Background

The Jackson County Board of Supervisors is proposing to dredge public waterways within Bayou Porteaux in the vicinity of Oriole Drive, St. Martin. The following report outlines the methods, results, and conclusions of the submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) survey and shellfish survey performed concurrently by Covington Civil & Environmental (CCE) personnel on September 28, 2023. **Figure 1**, below, shows the survey area and vicinity.



Figure 1: Initial Project Area and Vicinity

Methods

A preliminary desktop survey was performed using aerial imagery prior to the field survey. Images were reviewed for any visible signs of SAV within the project area to prepare for field surveys. The preliminary desktop survey was unable to discern if SAV was present, due to the turbidity of the project area. Sampling points were determined in the field by visual inspection or within a 200-foot (ft) distance of the previous sampling point. The position of each sampling point was collected using ArcGIS Field Maps via Android GPS. Due to turbidity in the survey area, sampling was conducted by using a 10-ft pole attached to a rake head and dragging the rake head along the water bottom and observing any SAV or shellfish collected by rake tines.

Field Survey

A field survey was conducted to document SAV and shellfish presence on September 28, 2023, at approximately 10:15 AM (CDT). Site conditions for the day included cloudy skies with a light wind out of the east northeast. The Pascagoula National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Lab tidal gauge (NOAA Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System #8741533) reported tidal height at 10:12 AM as 2.13 ft above mean lower low water (MLLW). Points collected along the center of the canals were investigated for the presence of SAV and shellfish.

Results

No species of SAV or shellfish were found within the survey area. See **Figure 2** for sampling point locations.

Conclusion

The objective of the survey was to identify the presence of SAV and shellfish within the footprint of the project area. Based on the observations from the field survey performed by CCE on September 28, 2023, no species of SAV or shellfish were found within the survey area. See **Attachment 1** for site photographs.



Figure 2: Site 2 Sampling Locations

**Attachment 1
Site Photographs**



View of SAV rake at Site 2 located at (30.440030, -88.850244)



Example of sample taken at Site 2 located at (30.438266, -88.850510)

Katie Nelson

From: Jade Martin <jade@ccellc.us>
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 1:03 PM
To: Alyssa Timbs
Cc: Katie Nelson; Kaitlyn Payne; Tyler Williams
Subject: RE: Request for Additional Information; Jackson County maintenance dredging

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon All,

After speaking with the JCBOS and Jared Harris, we would like to include Round Island and Deer Island for our dredge material disposal sites. I think they would like to include both BU sites in the permitting, in case Deer Island is not ready to receive material once dredging is complete. If including both BU sites in the permit is not possible, please let me know and we can figure something out.

Also, I think I forgot to include this in my individual emails, but the JCBOS is requesting a 10-year maintenance dredging permit for all sites.

Thank y'all for your work on this!

From: Alyssa Timbs <alyssa.timbs@dmr.ms.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 4:44 PM
To: Jade Martin <jade@ccellc.us>
Cc: Katie Nelson <katie.nelson@dmr.ms.gov>; Kaitlyn Payne <kaitlyn.payne@dmr.ms.gov>; Tyler Williams <tyler.williams@dmr.ms.gov>
Subject: Request for Additional Information; Jackson County maintenance dredging

Good afternoon Jade,

I am requesting additional information for the following permit applications for Jackson County dredging projects: DMR24-000008, DMR24-000009, DMR24-000010, and DMR24-000011.

For each project, you will need to provide an environmental assessment. Please see the attached guidelines. This will need to include information about best management practices that will be implemented during the work, such as turbidity screens, staked hay bales, etc. Also, please address how you will maintain the minimum 10-foot buffer between the dredging activities and coastal wetlands.

Each project will also need information about the disposal method for the dredge material. For any project that is removing greater than 2,500 cubic yards of material within public trust tidelands (PTT), the material must be utilized for beneficial use, unless you receive a letter of exception from our Beneficial Use director, Jared Harris. It appears that at least a portion of DMR24-000008 (Oriole) is in PTT, most of DMR24-000009 (La Cala) is PTT, all of DMR24-000010 (OFB) is PTT, and DMR24-000011 (Octavia) only has a very small portion of PTT at the mouth of Octavia St. Attached is a document about dredge material for beneficial use. Please reach out to Jared Harris at jared.harris@dmr.ms.gov if you have more questions about beneficial use.

Please address how you will be treating existing structures along the dredging path- will you be avoiding all private piers or will there be any dredging underneath piers?

Was a shellfish survey conducted concurrently with the SAV survey at each dredge location? If there was, please send us the results of that survey or you can add it into the SAV survey document and we can attach the new survey to each file. If a shellfish survey was not conducted, one will need to be completed for each proposed dredging area. There are no seasonal constraints to shellfish surveys so they can be conducted any time.

For DMR24-000008 and DMR24-000010, additional areas were added after the SAV survey. The new sections will also need to be surveyed. Since SAV growth season is June 1- September 30, your option to satisfy this request in the near future is to do a rhizome survey. Otherwise, the survey will have to wait until the summer or those additional sections can be removed from the current project and permitted at a later date.

If JCBOs would like to request a 10-year permit for maintenance dredging, please request it in writing for each location.

Lastly, can we add Matthew Hosey as our point of contact for Jackson County? We usually work with him on the dredging projects and know we can get help from him if we ever need to reach out.

There are different project managers for each proposed project. DMR24-000008 is Katie Nelson, DMR24-000009 is Kaitlyn Payne, DMR24-000010 is Tyler Williams, and DMR24-000011 is me, Alyssa Timbs. We would be happy to all jump on a call or teams meeting with you if you need more clarification- I know this is a lot of information! Or don't hesitate to reach out to any one of us.

Best regards,



ENHANCE * PROTECT * CONSERVE

Alyssa Timbs

Coastal Resources Mgmt. Specialist, Team Lead
Bureau of Wetlands Permitting / Office of Coastal Resource Management
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources | dmr.ms.gov
1141 Bayview Avenue | Biloxi, MS 39530
Office: 228-523-4121



February 12, 2024

Ms. Jade Martin
Covington Civil and Environmental
2300 14th Street
Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

RE: Proposed Dredging of Waterways at Oriole Drive, St. Martin,
(DMR) MDAH Project Log #01-083-24, Jackson County

Dear Ms. Martin:

We have reviewed the request for a cultural resources assessment for the above referenced project, received on January 22, 2024, in accordance with our responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR Part 800. After reviewing the information provided, it is our determination that no cultural resources are likely to be affected. Therefore, we have no objection with the proposed undertaking.

Should there be additional work in connection with the project, or any changes in the scope of work, please let us know in order that we may provide you with appropriate comments in compliance with the above referenced regulations. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (601) 576-6940.

Sincerely,



Hal Bell
Review and Compliance Officer

FOR: Katie Blount
State Historic Preservation Officer