Draft Environmental Assessment

Louisiana National Guard

Camp Villere State Military Pilot

Camp Villere State Military Pilot Reconstruction, Slidell, Louisiana

St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

FEMA Project Number 1603-0261

July 2015



U.S. Department of Homeland Security Region VI Louisiana Recovery Office 1500 Main St Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

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#### LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACM Asbestos Containing Materials BMP Best Management Practices

CAA Clean Air Act

CBRA Coastal Barrier Resources Act
CBRS Coastal Barrier Resources System
CEQ Council of Environmental Quality

CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

CWA Clean Water Act

CZMA Coastal Zone Management Act

dB decibels

DFIRM Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map
DNL day-night average sound level
EA Environmental Assessment

EDMS Electronic Document Management System

EHP Environmental Historic Preservation
EIS Environmental Impact Statement

EO Executive Order

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

ESA Endangered Species Act

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency

FONSI Finding of No Significant Impact
FPPA Farmland Protection Policy Act
FWCA Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

GOHSEP Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

HP Historic Preservation

HMGP Hazard Mitigation Grant Program LAC Louisiana Administrative Code

LDEQ Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
LDNR Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
LDWF Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
LPDES Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

LUST Leaking Underground Storage Tank
NEPA National Environmental Policy Act
NMFS National Marine Fisheries Service

NPDES National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Services

OPA Otherwise Protected Area

OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration

PA Programmatic Agreement

PACM Possible Asbestos Containing Materials

PCBS polychlorinated biphenyls

PL Public Law

RCRA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

RHA Rivers and Harbors Act

R.S. (Louisiana Code) Revised Statute

SDWA Safe Drinking Water Act

SHPO State Historic Preservation Office/Officer

SONRIS Strategic Online Natural Resources Information System

SOV Solicitation of Views

THPO Tribal Historic Preservation Office

SPOC Single-Point-of-Contact
TSCA Toxic Substance Control Act

USACE United States Army Corps of Engineers USFWS United States Fish and Wildlife Service

VRP Voluntary Remediation Program

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Project Authority

In accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Subpart B – Agency Implementing Procedures, Section 10.9, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508). The EA determines if the proposed pilot reconstruction of a new residential structure at Camp Villere, in Slidell, Louisiana would have the potential for significant adverse effects on the quality of the human and natural environment. The results of this EA will be used to make a decision whether to initiate preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or to prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Hurricane Katrina, a Category 4 hurricane with a storm surge above normal high tide levels, moved across the Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama gulf coasts on August 29, 2005. Maximum sustained winds at landfall were estimated at 140 miles per hour. President Bush declared a major disaster for the State of Louisiana due to damages from Hurricane Katrina and signed a disaster declaration (FEMA-1603-DR-LA) on August 29, 2005, authorizing the Department of Homeland Security's FEMA to provide federal assistance in designated areas of Louisiana. FEMA is administering this disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. Section 404 of the Stafford Act authorizes FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to provide funds to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration.

# 1.2 Project Location

St. Tammany Parish is located in the Northshore area of Southeast Louisiana (Figure 1). It measures approximately 854 square miles, bordered to the east by Pearl River, to the south by Lake Pontchartrain, to the west by Tchefuncte River and Tangipahoa Parish, and to the north by Washington Parish. The city of Slidell is located in the southeastern tip of St. Tammany Parish, and is the parish's largest municipality with approximately 27,526 people according to 2013 figures. It is approximately three (3) miles from the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain. Three (3) major highways, I-10, I-12, and I-59, form a "cross roads" in the city of Slidell (Figure 2). Slidell is located approximately 30 miles north from New Orleans, Louisiana and roughly 82 miles east from Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Camp Villere is located at 34845 Grantham College Road, Slidell, LA 70460 (Figure 3). Camp Villere serves as a training installation for the Louisiana National Guard and other federal and state agencies. It is bounded by West Perimeter Road on the north and west, East Perimeter Road on the north and east, and Grantham College Road to the south. Camp Villere is approximately 1,850 acres, with approximately 1,500 acres protected and preserved through an agreement with the Nature Conservancy. Due to the resources and mission located on the installation, oversight on the facility is required 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Figure 1: St. Tammany Parish, LA

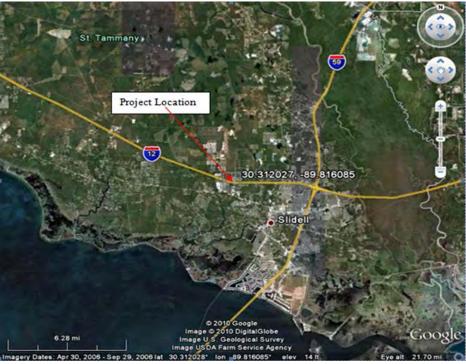


Figure 2: City of Slidell, St. Tammany Parish, LA



Figure 3: Camp Villere Boundaries and Proposed Project Site

## 2.0 PURPOSE AND NEED

The HMGP provides grants to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the HMGP is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. Building 201 serves as the residence of the Post Sergeant Major, who is required to live on the installation to provide necessary oversight. The purpose of this project is to provide housing for the Post Sergeant Major of Camp Villere.

The previous structure served as the residence for the Post Sergeant Major, was constructed in 1978 and has been demolished. The residence was subject to frequent flooding due to its location in a low lying area along with recent commercial and residential development of the surrounding adjacent areas, which dramatically changed the drainage patterns of the installation. Currently, there is a need to provide suitable housing for Post Sergeant Major that is both easily accessible and safe from flooding hazards.

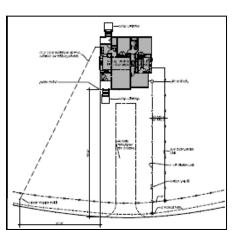
#### 3.0 ALTERNATIVES

## 3.1 Alternative 1 - No Action

Under this alternative, Camp Villere would not replace the demolished building. There would be no suitable residence for the Post Sergeant Major, and the mission of Camp Villere could not be efficiently fulfilled.

# 3.2 Alternative 2 – Pilot Reconstruction Project in the New Location (Proposed Action)

Building 201 serves as the residence of the Post Sergeant Major, who is required to live on the installation to provide necessary oversight. The proposed project involves the pilot reconstruction of Building 201 in a new location outside the floodplain. The new location is currently a vacant, undeveloped lot (30.312636, -89.816989). The proposed structure would measure no greater than 1,912 square feet in size. To comply with St. Tammany Parish Construction Ordinance, Building 201 would be constructed so the finished floor elevations would be no less than 12 inches above the centerline of the street or top of the curb fronting the home, whichever is greater. The proposed action would provide protection against hazards for 30 years. Figure 4 depicts the new proposed home plan view and cross section drawings. More detailed site photographs of the previous project site compared to the new proposed project site are also presented in Appendix A.



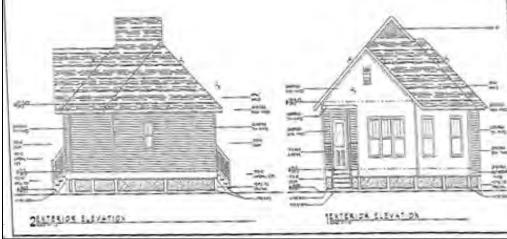


Figure 4: Proposed Home Plan View and Cross Section

# 3.3 Alternatives Eliminated From Further Consideration

One (1) alternative considered was to reconstruct the home on the original location and elevate the new structure 1.5 feet. This would place the home at one (1) foot above the base flood elevation.

A second alternative considered was the demolition and reconstruction of the structure at a location further west along Grantham College Road. This area is located outside the 100-year floodplain on the new preliminary DFIRMs. However, this alternative was eliminated from further consideration as this area is located near the firing range. Based on future planning activities, the applicant has this area reserved for more suitable functions.

#### 4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND IMPACTS

# **4.1 Impact Summary**

FEMA Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) consulted with resource agencies on June 18, 2015. To date, FEMA-EHP has not received responses/concurrence from all of the resource agencies. However, FEMA-EHP has reviewed the proposed action and alternatives and determined that there would be no significant impacts to any natural resources which are documented in the matrix below.

The following resources/areas of concern were not discussed in this EA due to the limited impacts to the resources from the proposed action and alternatives. Resources not addressed are as follows:

• Climate Change – the proposed drainage improvements within the Camp Villere State Military community would not significantly adversely affect climate. The impacts to climate change would be de-minimis.

The following matrix summarizes the results of the environmental review process (Table 1). Potential environmental impacts that were found to be negligible are not evaluated further. Resource areas that have the potential for impacts of minor, moderate, or major intensity are further discussed in the subsequent sections. Definitions of impact intensity are described below:

Negligible: The resource area (e.g., geology) would either not be affected, changes would be non-detectable, or if detected, would have effects that would be slight and local. Impacts would be well below regulatory standards, as applicable. Effects to Cultural Resources would be either non-existent, i.e., a building is less than 50 years old and/or no known archeological sites are present on the site, or the project is determined not likely to affect and State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) concurs. No mitigation is needed.

Minor: Changes to the resource would be measurable, although the changes would be small and localized. Impacts would be within or below regulatory standards, as applicable. Mitigation measures would reduce any potential adverse effects. Effects to Cultural Resources are not likely, i.e., building is at least 50 years old and/or known archeological sites are near the project area, but special conditions/mitigation are sufficient to maintain the "not likely to affect determination."

Moderate: Changes to the resource would be measurable and have both localized and regional scale impacts. Impacts would be within or below regulatory standards, but historical conditions would be altered on a short-term basis. Mitigation measures would be necessary to reduce any potential adverse effects. Effects to Cultural Resources are likely, i.e., building is 50 years old and/or known archeological sites are in the project area. Impacts would have at least local and possibly regional scale impacts.

Major: Changes would be readily measurable and would have substantial consequences on a local and regional level. Impacts would exceed regulatory standards. Mitigation measures to offset the adverse effects would be required to reduce impacts, although long-term changes to the resource would be expected. Effects to Cultural Resources are likely, i.e., building is at least 50 years old and/or known archeological sites are in the project area. Impacts would have substantial consequences on a local and regional level.

Table 1. Potential Environmental Impacts For Alternative Two (2) (Preferred): Pilot Reconstruction of a New House, Building 201, Analyzed and Summarized in the Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences Matrix

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Geology and Soils	X				The Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA: Public Law 97-98, §§ 1539-1549; 7 U.S.C. 4201, et seq.) was enacted in 1981 and is intended to minimize the impact federal actions may have on the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses. It assures that, to the extent possible, federal programs and policies are administered to be compatible with state and local farmland protection policies and programs. There is potential for short-term localized increase in soil erosion during construction.  The soils of the proposed site are in the vicinity of Prime Farmland; however, the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has determined that the proposed project is located within areas designated for national defense purposes. NRCS policy clarifies several activities that are not subject to the rules and regulations of the FPPA-Subtitle I of Title XV, §§ 1539-1549 of PL 97-98, which was published in the Federal Register on June 17, 1994. The fifth exception item is "Construction for national defense purposes." The proposed project is therefore exempt from the rules and regulations of the FPPA. The NRCS has no objection to the proposed project.	FEMA received a Solicitation of Views (SOV) response from Ed Giering, III, P.E. of the NRCS Alexandria, LA office, dated 12/3/2009. (Appendix C)	Implement construction Best Management Practices (BMPs); install silt fences/straw bales to reduce sedimentation. Area soils would be covered and/or wetted during construction. If fill is stored on site as part of house installation or removal, the contractor would be required to appropriately cover it.  Construction contractor would be required to obtain applicable Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permit, and implement stormwater pollution prevention plan. See also Section 6.0.

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Hydrology and Floodplains (Executive Order 11988)	x				Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplain Management) requires Federal agencies to avoid direct or indirect support or development within the 100-year floodplain whenever there is a practicable alternative. FEMA's regulations for complying with EO 11988 are found at 44 CFR Part 9. Per Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) 22103C 0890F, dated 4/30/08 the project site is located within zone X. The proposed project would move the residence from an AE zone to an area outside the 100 year floodplain. The proposed project would not affect any floodplain.	Preliminary DFIRM Panel 22103C 0890F dated 4/30/08	
Wetlands (Executive Order 11990)	X				EO 11990, Protection of Wetlands, directs Federal agencies to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and to preserve and enhance the values of wetlands for federally funded projects. FEMA regulations for complying with EO 11990 are found at 44 CFR Part 9, Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)-National Wetlands Inventory map http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Wetlands-Mapper.html queried on 6/18/2015 shows there are no mapped wetlands present in the proposed project area.  During site visits on August 11, 2009 and June 4, 2015, no wetlands were observed on or adjacent to the project area.  Regulatory agencies responded that their preliminary review did not reveal any jurisdictional waters of the U.S. or adverse effects on the proposed site.	A SOV was prepared and submitted to resource agencies by FEMA on June 18, 2015. FEMA received an SOV response from EPA dated 6/19/2015. FEMA previously sent and SOV on 2/8/10. Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) SOV response dated 2/24/10, (See Appendix C)	Any changes or modifications to the proposed project will require a revised determination. Off-site locations of activities such as borrow, disposals, haul- and detour roads, and work mobilization site developments may be subject to United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulatory requirements.  See also Conditions Section 6.0

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Surface Water and Water Quality	X				The USACE regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, pursuant to §§ 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Section 402 of the CWA, entitled National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), authorizes and sets forth standards for state administered permitting programs regulating the discharge of pollutants into navigable waters within the state's jurisdiction. The USACE also regulates the building of structures in waters of the U.S. pursuant to §§ 9 and 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA). There is potential for short-term localized increase in sedimentation during construction.	A SOV was prepared and submitted to resource agencies by FEMA on June 18, 2015. To date, no updated comments have been received FEMA previously sent an SOV on 2/8/10. LDEQ response dated 2/24/10. (Appendix C)	The project results in a discharge to waters of the State; submittal of a LPDES application is necessary.  The project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system; that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.  All precautions must be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one (1) acre. The applicant must contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371 to determine if the proposed project requires a permit. If the project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit application or Notice of Intent must be submitted. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <a href="http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx">http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx</a> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371. Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. If the applicant's water system improvements include water softeners, the applicant is to required to contact the LDEQ Water Permits Department to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.  Any renovation or remodeling must comply with Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.  If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions m

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Groundwater	X				The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was originally passed by Congress in 1974 to protect public health by regulating the nation's public drinking water supply.  St. Tammany Parish overlies the Southern Hills Aquifer, which is a Sole Source Aquifer. According to the EPA – Region VI, the proposed project is located on the Southern Hills Aquifer System; however the project, as proposed, should not have an effect on the quality of the ground water underlying the project site.  According to the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) Strategic Online Natural Resources Information System (SONRIS) database, there are no recorded drinking water wells located within the project area or groundwater areas of concern.	A SOV was prepared and submitted to resource agencies by FEMA on June 18, 2015 USEPA responded in a letter dated 6/19/15. FEMA previously submitted an SOV on 2/8/10, and received a response from LDEQ by email dated 2/24/10. (See Appendix C)	The contractor must observe all precautions to protect the groundwater of the region.  See also Section 6.0.
Wild and Scenic River	х				The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, [Public Law (P. L.) 90-543 as amended: 16 U.S.C. 1271-1287] established a method for providing federal protection for certain free-flowing rivers, preserving them and their immediate environments for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.  There are no Wild and Scenic Rivers in the vicinity.	National Wild and Scenic Rivers http://www.rivers.gov/louisiana.p hp queried 6/18/2015	
Coastal Resources	X				The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA, or the Act) encourages the management of coastal zone areas and provides grants to be used in maintaining coastal zone areas. It is intended to ensure that federal activities are consistent with state programs for the protection and, where, possible, enhancement of the nation's coastal zones.  The USFWS regulates federal funding in Coastal Barrier Resource System (CBRS) units under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA). This Act protects undeveloped coastal barriers and related areas (i.e., Otherwise Protected Areas [OPAs]) by prohibiting direct or indirect Federal funding of projects that support development in these areas. The project location lies outside the Louisiana Coastal Zone; therefore the proposed project is not subject to the rules and regulations of the CZMA.  The project is not located within the CBRS.	CZMA maps accessed via Google Earth.  Preliminary DFIRM 22103C0480F dated 04/30/08 (for CBRS)	

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Air Quality	X				The Clean Air Act (CAA) requires the State of Louisiana to adopt ambient air quality standards to protect the public from potentially harmful amounts of pollutants. The LDEQ has designated areas meeting the state's ambient air quality standards by their monitoring and modeling program efforts. During construction, there may be potential short-term localized increase in vehicle emissions and dust particles. The St. Tammany Parish airshed is in attainment for all criteria pollutants per the CAA.	A SOV was prepared and submitted to resource agencies by FEMA on June 18, 2015. To date, LDEQ has not responded; however, FEMA previously sent an SOV on 2/8/10. LDEQ email dated 2/24/10 (See Appendix C)	Vehicle operation times would be kept to a minimum. Area soils must be covered and/or wetted during construction to minimize dust.  Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.  See also Section 6.0.
Vegetation and Wildlife	X				The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) provides the basic authority for the USFWS involvement in evaluating impacts to fish and wildlife from proposed water resource development projects. It requires that fish and wildlife resources receive equal consideration to other project features. It also requires Federal agencies that construct, license or permit water resource development projects to first consult with the Service [and the National Marine Fisheries Service(NMFS) in some instances] and State fish and wildlife agency regarding the impacts on fish and wildlife resources and measures to mitigate these impacts.  The proposed project area is a lightly developed area mixed with heavily forested areas. The proposed action would cover only about 2500 square feet. No long-term impacts to existing vegetation and wildlife are anticipated.	A SOV was prepared and submitted to resource agencies by FEMA on June 18, 2015. USFWS concurred with a determination of no effect, dated 6/18/15 from the website http://www.fws.gov/lafayette/pdc/default.aspx FEMA previously submitted an SOV on 2/8/10. Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) responded 2/24/10. (See Appendix C)	
Threatened and Endangered Species (Endangered Species Act Section 7)	X				The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 prohibits the taking of listed, threatened, and endangered species unless specifically authorized by permit from the USFWS or the NMFS.  No rare, threatened, or endangered species are present on the site. No impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species or critical habitats are anticipated for the proposed project. No state or Federal parks, wildlife refuges, or wildlife management areas are known at the site.	A SOV was prepared and submitted to resource agencies by FEMA on June 18, 2015. USFWS concurred with a determination of no effect, dated 6/18/15 from the website http://www.fws.gov/lafayette/pdc/default.aspx FEMA previously sent and SOV on 2/8/10 LDWF responded 2/24/10. (See Appendix C)	If the proposed project has not been initiated within one (1) year, follow-up coordination via this website should be accomplished prior to making expenditures because threatened and endangered species information is updated annually. See also Section 6.0.

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940 (Title 16 United States Code [USC] §§668-668c)	X				The bald eagle is protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, which prohibits anyone, without permission from the Secretary of the Interior, from "taking" bald eagles, including their parts, nests, or eggs. The Act provides criminal penalties for persons who "take, possess, sell, purchase, barter, offer to sell, purchase or barter, transport, export or import, at any time or any manner, any bald eagle [or any golden eagle], alive or dead, or any part, nest, or egg thereof." The Act defines "take" as "pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb." Bald eagles are known to occur in St. Tammany Parish.	Internet Resource: USFWS Bald Eagle Management Guidelines and Conservation Measures – The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	If a bald eagle or its nest is spotted within 1,500 feet of the project site during the months of October through mid-May, the Applicant must cease construction activities and contact LDWF and USFWS immediately. All correspondence must be documented and remain in the project permanent files.  See also Section 6.0.
Cultural Resources (National Historic Preservation Act Section 106)	X				According to the Louisiana Army National Guard Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan, 1,628 acres of Camp Villere have previously been surveyed for archaeological sites; no sites were recorded within the specified project area. The new structure does not meet the 50-year-criterion or Criteria Consideration G of the National Register guidelines to be considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, the scope of work meets the criteria in Appendix C: Programmatic Allowances, Item I of FEMA's Programmatic Agreement (PA) dated January 31, 2011. In accordance with this PA, FEMA is not required to determine the National Register eligibility of properties where work performed meets the Appendix C criteria.	PA dated January 31, 2011	Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act: If human bone or unmarked grave(s) are present within the project area, compliance with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (R.S. 8:671 et seq.) is required. The applicant shall notify the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the remains are located within twenty-four (24) hours of the discovery. The applicant shall also notify FEMA and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology at 225-342-8170 within seventy-two (72) hours of the discovery. Inadvertent Discovery Clause:  If during the course of work, archaeological artifacts (prehistoric or historic) are discovered, the applicant shall stop work in the vicinity of the discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The applicant shall inform their HMGP contacts at FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA Historic Preservation (HP) staff. The applicant will not proceed with work until FEMA HP completes consultation with the SHPO, and others as appropriate. See also Section 6.0.

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Environmental					EO 12898, entitled "Federal Actions to	U.S. Census Bureau, American	
Justice (Executive					Address Environmental Justice in Minority	Fact Finder, Data for Slidell, LA	
Order					Populations and Low-Income Populations,"	http://factfinder2.census.gov/face	
12898)/Socioecono					was signed on February 11, 1994. The EO	s/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml	
mics					directs federal agencies to make achieving	referenced 4/28/2015	
					environmental justice part of their missions by		
					identifying and addressing, as appropriate,		
					disproportionately high and/or adverse human health, environmental, economic, and social		
					effects of its programs, policies and activities		
	X				on minority or low-income populations.		
	Λ				According to the 2010-2013 U.S. Census		
					Demographic Profile of Slidell, LA: the total		
					population is 27,526 with 17% Black, 76%		
					White, 6.3% Hispanic, and 1.6% Asian. The		
					median household income is \$ 48,122 and		
					16.3% of the population is below poverty		
					level. The proposed project is located on State		
					military facility that is not open to the public.		
					The proposed work has no potential to		
					adversely impact any population.		

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Resource Recovery and Conservation Act (RCRA)	X				The objectives of the RCRA are to protect human health and the environment from the potential hazards of waste disposal, to conserve energy and natural resources, to reduce the amount of waste generated, and to ensure that wastes are managed in an environmentally sound manner. RCRA regulates the management of solid waste (e.g., garbage), hazardous waste, and underground storage tanks holding petroleum products or certain chemicals. Project involves excavation of soil and construction of a house which would use household cleaning and lawn chemicals.	A SOV was prepared and submitted to resource agencies by FEMA on June 18, 2015. To date, no response has been received. FEMA previously sent and SOV on 2/8/10.  LDEQ email dated 2/24/10 (See Appendix C)	If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's SPOC at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.  Regardless of the asbestos content, the applicant is responsible for ensuring that renovation or demolition activities are coordinated with the LDEQ. Demolition activities related to possible Asbestos-Containing Materials (PACM) must be inspected for ACM/PACM where it is safe to do so. Should Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM) be present at the project site, the applicant is also responsible for ensuring proper disposal in accordance with the previously referenced administrative orders. ACM/PACM must be handled in accordance with local, state and federal regulations and disposed of at approved facilities that accept ACM. Demolition activity notification must be sent to the LDEQ before work begins.  The applicant is responsible for complying with the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 402(c)(3) requirements as well as to the satisfaction of the governing local, state, and federal agencies to ensure that project activities are managed, administered, and/or handled by certified/accredited technicians, contractors, and providers. The applicant is responsible complying with all local, state, and federal laws and ensuring that project activities are coordinated with the LDEQ for abatement activities  The applicant is responsible for complying with the TSCA requirements at 40 CFR 761 for electrical equipment (including transformers) containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBS).  These provisions address the storage and disposal of equipment containing PCBS, as well as the remediation of any PCB spills.  All required agency coordination pertaining to these activities should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA as part of the permanent project files  See also section 6.0

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Noise	X				Noise is commonly defined as unwanted or unwelcome sound, and most commonly measured in decibels (dB) on the A-weighted scale, which is the scale most similar to the range of sounds that the human ear can hear. Sound is federally regulated by the Noise Control Act of 1972, which charges the EPA with preparing guidelines for acceptable ambient noise levels. EPA guidelines, and those of many other federal agencies, state that outdoor sound levels in excess of 55 dB day-night average sound level (DNL) are "normally unacceptable" for noise-sensitive land uses including residences, schools, or hospitals. During the construction period there would be a short-term increase in noise levels.		Noise levels by receiving land use in residential, public, commercial, and industrial areas should be limited to varying decibel levels during the "daytime" hours of 7 AM to 10 PM. Construction activities should be limited to this schedule on weekdays.  Mitigation and abatement measures will be required to reduce the noise levels to a range that would be considered acceptable. See also Section 6.0.
Public Safety and Access	X				Congress passed the Occupational and Safety Health Act to ensure worker and workplace safety. The goal was to make sure employers provide their workers a place of employment free from recognized hazards to safety and health, such as exposure to toxic chemicals, excessive noise levels, mechanical dangers, heat or cold stress, or unsanitary conditions. During construction heavy equipment would be located in a populated area. Impacts to public safety and security would be minimized with mitigation measures, including following Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations.		The contractor must place fencing around the work area perimeters to protect nearby residents from vehicular traffic. To minimize worker and public health and safety risks from project construction and closure, all construction and closure work must be done using qualified personnel trained in the proper use of construction equipment, including all appropriate safety precautions. Additionally, all activities must be conducted in a safe manner in accordance with the standards specified in OHSA regulations and the USACE safety manual.  The contractor must post appropriate signage and fencing to minimize potential adverse public safety concerns.  See also Section 6.0.
Traffic and Transportation	X				Traffic volumes along Engineer Road and Grantham College Road would increase temporarily during work activities.		Appropriate signage and barriers should be in place prior to construction activities in order to alert pedestrians and motorists of project activities and traffic pattern changes.  The contractor should implement traffic control measures, as necessary.  See also Section 6.0.

Resource Area	Impact Negligible	Impact Minor	Impact Moderate	Impact Major	Impact Summary	Agency Coordination / Permits	Mitigation
Hazardous Materials and Toxic Wastes	X				The management of hazardous materials is regulated under various federal and state environmental and transportation laws and regulations, including the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA); the TSCA; the Emergency Planning and Community Rightto-Know Act; the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act; and the Louisiana Voluntary Investigation and Remedial Action statute. The purpose of the regulatory requirements set forth under these laws is to ensure the protection of human health and the environment through proper management (identification, use, storage, treatment, transport, and disposal) of these materials. Some of these laws provide for the investigation and cleanup of sites already contaminated by releases of hazardous materials, wastes, or substances.  No oil or gas wells or sites of concern were identified by the database search within the proposed project work areas. No environmental conditions of concern observed during field reconnaissance within the project area	EPA Envirofacts Database EPA Enviromapper EPA Brownfields Database LDEQ Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) LDEQ Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) Database LDEQ Louisiana State Brownfields Database LDEQ Louisiana State Brownfields Database LDEQ Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Database LDEQ Authorized Debris Sites Database A SOV was prepared and submitted by FEMA on June 18, 2015. To date, no response has been received. FEMA previously submitted a SOV on 2/8/10. A response was received from LDEQ by email dated 2/24/10. (See Appendix C)	If hazardous materials are unexpectedly encountered in the project area during the proposed construction operations, appropriate measures for the proper assessment, remediation, management and disposal of the contamination would be initiated in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local regulations. The contractor would be required to take appropriate measures to prevent, minimize, and control the spill of hazardous materials in the construction area and any offsite runoff.  See also Section 6.0.

#### **5.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

The CEQ's regulations state that cumulative impacts represent the "impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions." Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time (40 CFR § 1508.7).

In its comprehensive guidance on cumulative impacts analysis under NEPA, the CEQ notes that: "[t]he range of actions that must be considered includes not only the project proposal, but all connected and similar actions that could contribute to cumulative effects" (CEQ, 1997). The term "similar actions" may be defined as "reasonably foreseeable or proposed agency actions [with] similarities that provide a basis for evaluating the environmental consequences together, such as common timing or geography" (40 CFR § 1508.25[a][3]; see also 40 CFR §§ 1508.25[a][2] and [c]).

Not all potential issues identified during cumulative effects scoping need be included in an EA. Because some effects may be irrelevant or inconsequential to decisions about the proposed action and alternatives, the focus of the cumulative effects analysis should be narrowed to important issues of national, regional, or local significance. To assist agencies in this narrowing process, CEQ lists seven (7) basic questions, including: (1) is the proposed action one of several similar past, present, or future actions in the same geographic area; (2) do other activities (governmental or private) in the region have environmental effects similar to those of the proposed action; (3) have any recent or ongoing NEPA analyses of similar actions or nearby actions identified important adverse or beneficial cumulative effect issues; and, (4) has the impact been historically significant, such that the importance of the resource is defined by past loss, past gain, or investments to restore resources (CEQ, 1997).

It is normally insufficient when analyzing the contribution of a proposed action to cumulative effects to merely analyze effects within the immediate area of the proposed action (CEQ, 1997, pg. 12). Geographic boundaries should be expanded for cumulative effects analysis, and conducted on the scale of human communities, landscapes, watersheds, or airsheds. Temporal frames should be extended to encompass additional effects on the resources, ecosystems, and human communities of concern. A useful concept in determining appropriate geographic boundaries for a cumulative effects analysis is the project impact zone; that is, the area (and resources within that area) that could be affected by the proposed action. The area appropriate for analysis of cumulative effects will, in most instances, be a larger geographic area occupied by resources outside of the project impact zone.

The proposed project site is located at Latitude 30.312636, Longitude - 89.816989, within the Camp Villere Louisiana National Guard Base. FEMA has determined that the area within the one (1) mile radius of the site constitutes an appropriate project impact zone, and the larger geographic area consisting of the 70460 zip code constitutes an appropriate boundary for a cumulative impact analysis of the proposed action and alternatives.

In accordance with NEPA, and to the extent reasonable and practicable, this EA considered the combined effects of the Proposed Action Alternative, as well as other actions undertaken by FEMA and other public and private entities that also affect environmental resources the proposed action would affect, and that occur within the considered geographic area and temporal frame(s).

Specifically, a range of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions undertaken by FEMA within the designated geographic boundary area were reviewed: (1) for similarities such as scope of work, common timing, and geography; (2) to determine environmental effects similar to those of the proposed action, if any; and (3) to identify the potential for cumulative impacts. As part of the cumulative effects analysis, FEMA also reviewed known past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects of Federal resource agencies and other parties within the designated geographic boundary. These reviews were performed in order to assess past proposed actions, as well as the effects of completed and ongoing actions in order to determine whether the incremental impacts of the current proposed action, when combined with the effects of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, are cumulatively considerable or significant.

From August 2005 continuing to July 2015, within the 70460 geographic area, numerous Public Assistance and HMGP program funded, and numerous non-FEMA funded, debris removal, protective measures, mitigation, and repair projects have occurred, are occurring, or are reasonably foreseen to occur (developed with enough specificity to provide useful information to a decision maker and the interested public) to buildings, roads and bridges, recreational and educational facilities, public utilities, waterways, and more. All FEMA funded actions are subject to various levels of environmental review as a requirement for the receipt of Federal funding. An applicant's failure to comply with any required environmental permitting or other condition is a serious violation which can result in the loss of Federal assistance, including funding.

FEMA has determined that the incremental effects of the other infrastructure recovery and improvement actions are likely to be similar to the impacts and effects this EA previously described for the present proposed action, in that the effects to socioeconomic resources are expected to be beneficial, and effects to other resources expected to be either non-existent or minimal and temporary. FEMA has further determined that the incremental impact of the present proposed project, when combined with the effects of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, is neither cumulatively considerable nor significant.

These infrastructure actions, some of which have already occurred, and many of which will occur concurrent with and/or subsequent to the proposed action, are necessary as a result of the unprecedented devastation caused by the 2005 hurricanes, both Katrina and Rita, in order to restore pre-disaster conditions. In reviewing impacts, socioeconomic resources were identified as having the most potential to experience cumulative effects. Although devastating, the 2005 storms created an opportunity for the applicant to serve residents in the St. Tammany Parish area and surrounding neighborhoods by enhancing housing facilities, thus attracting more residents to return home. Considered in relation to past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, the cumulative impact of the proposed action to the built and natural environment would be minimal, would be beneficial rather than detrimental, and is not expected to contribute to any adverse effects or to otherwise significantly affect the human environment.

#### 6.0 CONDITIONS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Based upon the studies and consultations undertaken in this environmental assessment, several conditions and mitigation measures must be taken by the applicant prior to and during project implementation. Failure to comply with these conditions may make part or all of these projects ineligible for FEMA funding.

- Implement construction BMPs, install silt fences/straw bales to reduce sedimentation. Area soils would be covered and/or wetted during construction. If fill is stored on site as part of house installation or removal, the contractor would be required to appropriately cover it. Construction contractor would be required to obtain applicable LPDES permit, and implement stormwater pollution prevention plan.
- The project results in a discharge to waters of the State; submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System LPDES application is necessary.
- The applicant is required to comply with all federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and executive orders, failure to do so will jeopardize federal funding.
- The project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system; that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- All precautions must be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one (1) acre. The applicant must contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371 to determine if the proposed project requires a permit.
- If the project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit application or Notice of Intent must be submitted. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <a href="http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx">http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx</a> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 9371.
- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if the applicant's water system improvements include water softeners, the applicant is to contact the LDEQ Water Permits Department to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.

- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions must be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.
- The contractor should observe all precautions to protect the groundwater of the region.
- If the proposed project has not been initiated within one (1) year, follow-up coordination via the U.S. Fish and Wildlife website should be accomplished prior to making expenditures because threatened and endangered species information is updated annually.
- If a bald eagle or its nest is spotted within 1,500 feet of the project site during the months of October through mid-May, the applicant must cease construction activities and contact LDWF and USFWS immediately. All correspondence must be documented and remain in the project permanent files.
- Noise levels by receiving land use in residential, public, commercial, and industrial areas to varying decibel levels during the "daytime" hours of 7 AM to 7 PM. Construction activities should be limited to this schedule on weekdays. Mitigation and abatement measures will be required to reduce the noise levels to a range that would be considered acceptable.
- To minimize worker and public health and safety risks from project construction and closure, all construction and closure work would be done using qualified personnel trained in the proper use of construction equipment, including all appropriate safety precautions. Additionally, all activities would be conducted in a safe manner in accordance with the standards specified in OHSA regulations and the USACE safety manual.
- The contractor would place fencing around the work area perimeters to protect nearby residents from vehicular traffic.
- Appropriate signage and barriers should be in place prior to construction activities in order to alert pedestrians and motorists of project activities and traffic pattern changes. The contractor would implement traffic control measures, as necessary.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's SPOC at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.

- Regardless of the asbestos content, the applicant is responsible for ensuring that renovation or demolition activities are coordinated with the LDEQ. Demolition activities related to possible PACM must be inspected for ACM/PACM where it is safe to do so. Should ACM be present at the project site, the applicant is also responsible for ensuring proper disposal in accordance with the previously referenced administrative orders. ACM/PACM must be handled in accordance with local, state and federal regulations and disposed of at approved facilities that accept ACM. Demolition activity notification must be sent to the LDEQ before work begins.
- The applicant is responsible for complying with the TSCA Section 402(c)(3) requirements as well as to the satisfaction of the governing local, state, and federal agencies to ensure that project activities are managed, administered, and/or handled by certified/accredited technicians, contractors, and providers. The applicant is responsible complying with all local, state, and federal laws and ensuring that project activities are coordinated with the LDEQ for abatement activities
- The applicant is responsible for complying with the TSCA requirements at 40 CFR 761 for electrical equipment (including transformers) containing PCBS. These provisions address the storage and disposal of equipment containing PCBS, as well as the remediation of any PCB spills. All required agency coordination pertaining to these activities should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA as part of the permanent project files
- Any changes or modifications to the proposed project will require a revised determination. Off-site locations of activities such as borrow, disposals, haul- and detour roads, and work mobilization site developments may be subject to USACE regulatory requirements. Applicant is required to coordinate with LDEQ and obtain all necessary permits.
- If human bone or unmarked grave(s) are present within the project area, compliance with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (R.S. 8:671 et seq.) is required. The applicant shall notify the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the remains are located within twenty-four (24) hours of the discovery. The applicant shall also notify FEMA and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology at 225-342-8170 within seventy-two (72) hours of the discovery.
- If during the course of work, archaeological artifacts (prehistoric or historic) are discovered, the applicant shall stop work in the vicinity of the discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The applicant shall inform their HMGP contacts at FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA HP staff. The applicant will not proceed with work until FEMA HP completes consultation with the SHPO, and others as appropriate.

• If hazardous materials are unexpectedly encountered in the project area during the proposed construction operations, appropriate measures for the proper assessment, remediation, management and disposal of the contamination would be initiated in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local regulations. The contractor would be required to take appropriate measures to prevent, minimize, and control the spill of hazardous materials in the construction area and any offsite runoff.

## 7.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

A legal public notice was published in the following newspapers: The Baton Rouge Advocate-New Orleans edition, Monday, July 6 through Friday, July 10, 2015; and in the St. Tammany Farmer on July 9, 2015 and July 16, 2015. Additionally the Environmental Assessment was made available at the St. Tammany Parish Library – Slidell Branch, 555 Robert Blvd. Slidell, LA 70458 Monday – Thursday 9 am – 8pm, Friday – Saturday 9 am–5pm, during a fifteen (15) day comment period, beginning on July 6, 2015 and concluding on July 21, 2015 at 4 pm. The Draft Environmental Assessment was published on FEMA's website. A copy of the Public Notice is attached in Appendix D.

## 8.0 CONCLUSION

Construction of the proposed project at the proposed location was analyzed based on the studies, consultations, and reviews undertaken as reported in this draft EA. The findings of this EA conclude that the proposed action at the proposed site would result in no significant adverse impacts to geology, groundwater, floodplains, public health and safety, hazardous materials, socioeconomic resources, environmental justice, or cultural resources are anticipated under the Proposed Action Alternative.

During project construction, short-term impacts to soils, surface water, transportation, air quality, and noise are anticipated and conditions have been incorporated to mitigate and minimize the effects. Project short-term adverse impacts would be mitigated using BMPs, such as silt fences, proper vehicle and equipment maintenance, and appropriate signage. No long-term adverse impacts are anticipated from the proposed project. Therefore, FEMA presently finds the proposed action meets the requirements for a Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) under NEPA and the preparation of an EIS will not be required. If new information is received that indicates there may be significant adverse effects, then FEMA would revise the findings and issue a second public notice, for additional comments. However, if there are no changes, this Draft EA will become the Final EA.

#### 9.0 AGENCY COORDINATION

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office

Tribal Historic Preservation Office and/or Cultural Offices

#### 10.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

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1&state\_code=LA&zip\_code=&proj\_value=&proj\_search\_type=Beginning+With&rec\_v alue=&rec\_search\_type=Beginning+With&cfda\_type=NULL&CFDA\_ID=&prop\_value =&prop\_search\_type=Beginning+With&propaddr\_name=&propcity\_name=&propstate\_code=LA

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# APPENDIX A SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Demolished original home site, with slab left behind; looking east.



Demolished original home site, with slab left behind; looking east.



Proposed new Pilot Reconstruction site looking east.



**Proposed new Pilot Reconstruction site looking east.** 



Proposed new Pilot Reconstruction site looking southeast.



**Proposed new Pilot Reconstruction site looking southwest.** 



Proposed new Pilot Reconstruction site looking north.

# APPENDIX B FIGURES & DRAWINGS

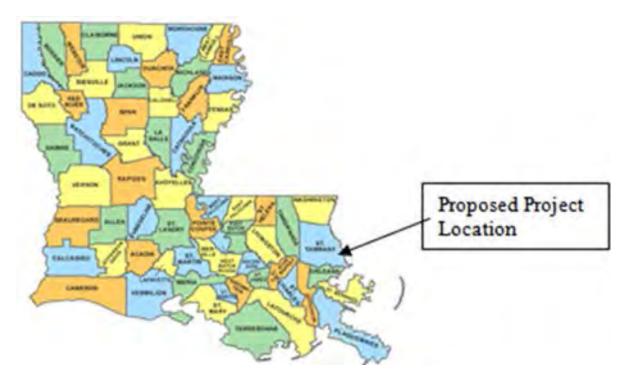
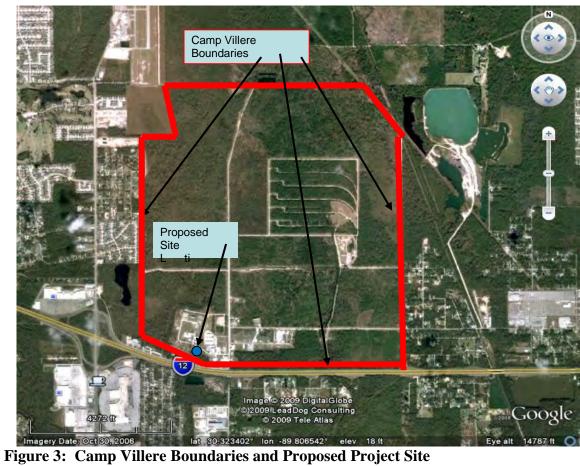
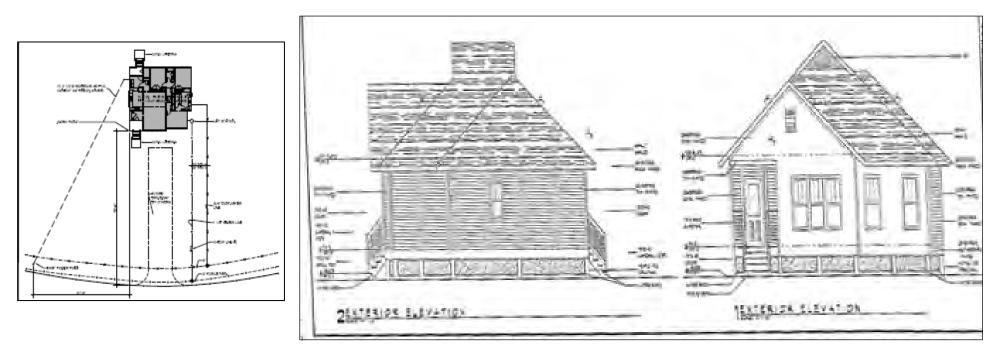


Figure 1: St. Tammany Parish, LA







**Figure 4: Proposed Home Plan View and Cross Section** 

# APPENDIX C AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

From: Christoffersen, Merina

Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2015 11:51 AM

To: Linda.Hardy@la.gov; 'michael.lindsey@la.usda.gov'; 'Powell, Amy E MVN'; 'Gutierrez, Raul'; cmichon@wlf.la.gov

Subject: RE: HMGP 1603-0261 State Military Camp Villere House Reconstruction SOV for (USACE, EPA, NRCS, LDWF, LDEQ,)



U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency FEMA-DR 1603 LA 1500 Main St. Baton Rouge, LA 70802

June 18, 2015

MEMORANDUM TO: See Distribution

SUBJECT: Scoping Notification/Solicitation of Views

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is mandated by the U.S. Congress to administer Federal disaster assistance pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), PL 93-288, as amended. FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Program to provide funds to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. FEMA is considering providing Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding for the attached project in relation to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita (FEMA-1603/1607-DR-LA).

The proposed action consists of replacement housing for the Post Sergeant Major of Camp Villere. The pre-existing structure was constructed in 1978 and has since been demolished. The structure was subject to frequent flooding due to its location within floodplain and recent commercial and residential development of the surrounding area.

Camp Villere consists of 1,850 acres of land occupied by buildings and residences and other training facilities owned by Louisiana National Guard (LNG) and other agencies. The proposed project would reconstruct the residence and gravel driveway outside the floodplain in a vacant, undeveloped lot at approximately Latitude 30.312027, Longitude -89.816085. The new construction, termed Building 201, would serve as the residence of the Post Sergeant Major, who is required to live on the installation to provide necessary oversight for people at the camp.

The purpose of the draft EA is to analyze the potential human health and environmental impacts associated with the preferred action and the alternatives to construct a new Post Sergeant Major residence and driveway access. The draft EA evaluates a No Action Alternative; and the Preferred Action Alternative: Relocate the Post Sergeant Major Residence Outside the Floodplain.

The proposed project can be seen in the attached drawings and photos labeled "HMGP 0261 Camp Villere Draft SOV Scope of Work"

To ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Orders (EOs), and other applicable Federal regulations, FEMA EHP will be preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA). To assist us in preparation of the EA, we request that your office review the attached documents for a determination as to the requirements of any formal consultations, regulatory permits, determinations, or authorizations.

Please respond within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of this scoping notification. If our office receives no comments at the close of this period, we will assume that your agency does not object to the project as proposed.

Comments may be faxed to 225-346-5848 emailed to merina.christoffersen@fema.dhs.gov or mailed to the attention of Merina Christoffersen, Environmental Department, at the address above.

For questions regarding this matter, please contact Merina Christoffersen, Environmental Specialist at (504) 491-0621.

Tiffany Spann-Winnfield Deputy Environmental Liaison Officer

Distribution: USACE, EPA, LDWF, LDEQ

### Merina Christoffersen

Environmental Protection Specialist FEMA Region VI Louisiana Recovery Office 1500 Main St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802 (504) 491-0621 (BB) Menna christoffersen@fema.dhs.gov

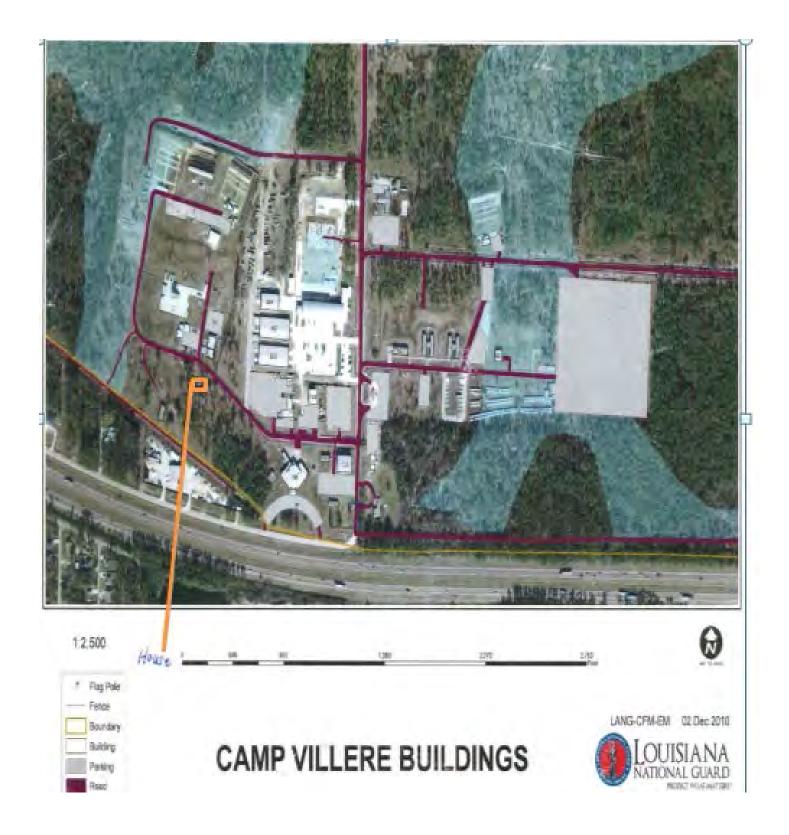


## **Scope of work:**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of the EA of this project is to provide replacement housing for the Post Sergeant Major of Camp Villere in Slidell, LA. The pre-existing structure, which was constructed in 1978 and has since been demolished, was subject to frequent flooding. This was due to its location in a low lying area and recent commercial and residential development of the surrounding area, which dramatically changed the drainage patterns across the camp installation.

Camp Villere consists of 1,850 acres of land occupied by buildings and residences and other training facilities owned by Louisiana National Guard (LNG) and other agencies. The proposed project would reconstruct the residence and gravel driveway in a vacant, undeveloped lot at approximately Latitude 30.312027, Longitude - 89.816085. A small culvert would be installed under the driveway. The new construction, termed Building 201, would serve as the residence of the Post Sergeant Major, who is required to live on the installation to provide necessary oversight for people at the camp. The new structure would be no greater than 1,912 square feet in size. The new structure would be constructed so that finished floor elevations would be no less than twelve (12) inches above the centerline of the street or top of the curb fronting the home, whichever is greater, to comply with St. Tammany Parish Construction Ordinance.

The photos and drawings below depict the proposed project area:



& FEMA

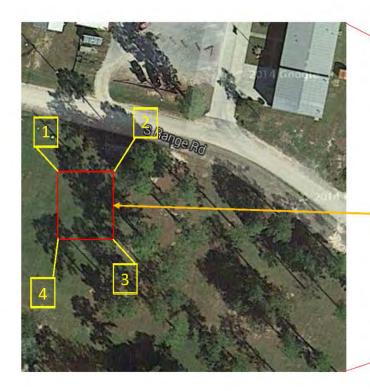
## Site Determination (LiDAR): 34845 Grantham College Rd, Slidell





## Lat/Long's of proposed project site (4 corners):

1: 30°18′45.49″ N 89°49′01.16″ W 2: 30°18′45.42″ N 89°49′00.64″ W 3: 30°18′44.88″ N 89°49′00.71″ W 4: 30°18′44.96″ N 89°49′01.20″ W



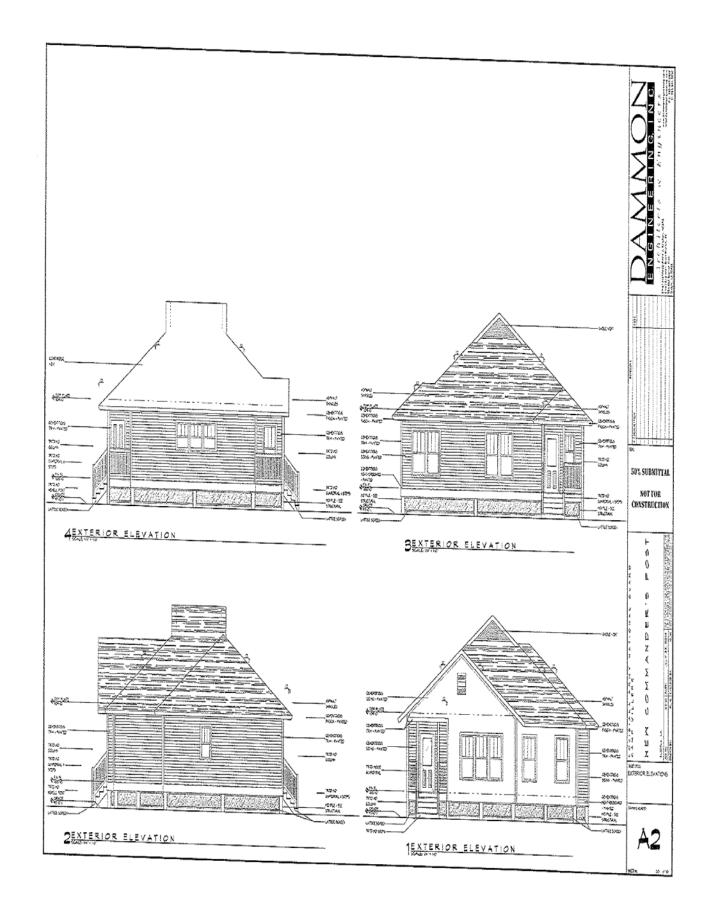
## Structure location @Camp Villere

Lat/Long's of proposed project site (4 corners):

1: 30.312636 89.816989 2: 30.312617 89.816844 3: 30.312467 89.816864 4: 30.312489 89.817000









### United States Department of Agriculture

June 30, 2015

Merina Christoffersen Environmental Protection Specialist FEMA Region VI Louisiana Recovery Office 1500 Main Street Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

RE: HMGP 1603-0261 State Military Camp Villere House Reconstruction SOV

Dear Merina:

I have reviewed the above referenced project for potential requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) and potential impact to Natural Resources Conservation Service projects in the immediate vicinity.

Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a federal agency or with assistance from a federal agency. For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements can be forest land, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

The project map submitted with your request indicates that the proposed construction areas is located within Camp Villere, which is part of the Louisiana Army/Air National Guard. Construction pertaining to national defense purposes is exempt from the rules and regulations of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)—Subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549. Enclosed is our completed for AD-1006. Furthermore, we do not predict impacts to NRCS work in the vicinity.

For specific information about the soils found in the project area, please visit our Web Soil Survey at the following location: http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/

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

Respectfully,

(ACTING FOR)
Kevin D. Norton

State Conservationist

Enclosure

Natural Resources Conservation Service
State Office
3737 Government Street
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302
Voice: (318) 473-7751 Fax: 1-844-325-6947
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

## U.S. Department of Agriculture

## **FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING**

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)  Date Of La			Land Evaluation Request 6/18/15						
			gency Involved	FEM	A				
Proposed Land Use Military Housing		County Ar	ad Ctata		any Parish, LA				
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)  Date Requ			uest Received By						
			Yes No Acres Irrigated Average Farm St			arm Size			
Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland (If no, the FPPA does not apply – do not complete additional parts of this				Z	The op angular process and state				
Major Crop(s)	Aajor Crop(s) Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdicti Acres:			% Acres:			armland As Defined in FPPA %		
Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	Name Of Local Si	Name Of Local Site Assessment System				Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS 6/30/15			
PART III (To be completed by Federal Agend	cy)		Ole A		Alternative Sit		Oit- D		
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	**		Site A	+	Site B	Site C	Site D		
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly	v								
C. Total Acres In Site	,		0.0	0.0	0.	0	0.0		
PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land	Evaluation Information								
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmla				-					
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Impo									
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted			0.001	1					
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction			0.001	1					
PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)			0	0	0		0		
PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agent Site Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explain		Maximum Points							
Area In Nonurban Use									
Perimeter In Nonurban Use									
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed									
<ol> <li>Protection Provided By State And Loc</li> </ol>									
<ol><li>Distance From Urban Builtup Area</li></ol>									
Distance To Urban Support Services									
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average									
Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland									
Availability Of Farm Support Services									
10. On-Farm Investments									
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Suppl	ort Services								
<ol><li>Compatibility With Existing Agricultura</li></ol>	l Use								
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS 160			0	0	0		0		
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agen	ncy)								
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)			0	0	0		0		
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)			0	0	0		0		
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	260	0	0	0		0			
Site Selected:	Date Of Selection		Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Yes □ No □						
			I CO LI NO LI						

Reason For Selection:



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200 DALLAS TX 75202-2733

February 4, 2010

Ms. Cynthia Teeter
Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA 1603/1607-DR-LA
U.S. Department of Homeland
Security
DR-1603-LA
1 Seine Court, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor
New Orleans, LA 70114

Dear Ms. Teeter:

We have received your February4, 2010, email requesting our evaluation of the potential environmental impacts which might result from the following project:

Reconstruction Project Camp Villere Louisiana State Military (National Guard) St. Tammany Parish Slidell, Louisiana

The project, proposed for financial assistance through the United States Department of Home Land Security, FEMA is located on the Southern Hills aquifer system which has been designated a sole source aquifer by the EPA. Based on the information provided for the project, we have determined that the project, as proposed, should not have an adverse effect on the quality of the ground water underlying the project site.

This approval of the proposed project does not relieve the applicant from adhering to other State and Federal requirements, which may apply. This approval is based solely upon the potential impact to the quality of ground water as it relates to the EPA's authority pursuant to Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

If you did not include the Parish/County; a legal description; project location and the latitude and longitude if available, please do so in future Sole Source Aquifer correspondence.

If you have any questions on this letter or the sole source aquifer program please contact me at (214) 665-7133.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Bechdol, Coordinato Sole Source Aquifer Program

Ground Water/UIC Section

From: Diane Hewitt [Diane.Hewitt@LA.GOV]
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 15:03

**To:** 'laurel.rohrer@associates.dhs.gov'

Subject: DEQ SOV: 100209/0275 Camp Villere Resident Reconstruct.

February 24, 2010

Laurel Rohrer, Environ. Spec. FEMA TRO - EHP 1 Seine Ct., 4th Floor New Orleans, LA 70114 laurel.rohrer@associates.dhs.gov

RE:

100209/0275 Camp Villere Resident Reconstruct.

FEMA/HMGP funding St. Tammany Parish

Dear Ms. Rohrer:

The Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Offices of Environmental Assessment and Environmental Services have received your request for comments on the above referenced project. Please take any necessary steps to obtain and/or update all necessary approvals and environmental permits regarding this proposed project.

There were no objections based on the information in the document submitted to us. However, the following comments have been included below. Should you encounter a problem during the implementation of this project, please notify LDEQ's Single-Point-of-contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640.

The Office of Environmental Services/Permits Division recommends that you investigate the following requirements that may influence your proposed project:

- If your project results in a discharge to waters of the state, submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) application may be necessary.
- If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is
  recommended that you contact the LDEQ Water Permit Division at (225) 219-3181 to determine if your
  proposed improvements require one of these permits.
- All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities.
- If any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army
  Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps directly to inquire about the possible necessity for
  permits. If a Corps permit is required, part of the application process may involve a water quality
  certification from LDEQ.
- All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.
- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations
  depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if your water system improvements include
  water softeners, you are advised to contact the LDEQ Water Permits to determine if special water qualitybased limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28.Lead-Based Paint Activities, LAC 33:III.Chapter 27.Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation), and LAC 33:III.5151.Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous

constituents.

## Currently, St. Tammany Parish is classified as an attainment parish with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for all criteria air pollutants.

Please forward all future requests to Ms. Diane Hewitt, LDEQ/Performance Management/ P.O. Box 4301, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301, and your request will be processed as quickly as possible.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (225) 219-4079 or by email at <a href="mailto:diane.hewitt@la.gov">diane.hewitt@la.gov</a>. Permitting questions should be directed to the Office of Environmental Services at (225) 219-3181.

Sincerely,

Diane Hewitt
Performance Management
LDEQ/Community and Industry Relations
Business and Community Outreach Division
Office of the Secretary
P.O. Box 4301 (602 N. 5th Street)
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301

Phone: 225-219-4079 Fx: 225-325-8208

E-mail: diane.hewitt@la.gov

## FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

## Louisiana Ecological Services Office ESA Technical Assistance Form

**General Information** 

Name: DHS/FEMA

Point of Contact: Merina Christoffersen

Address: 1500 Main St

**City:** Baton Rouge **State:** Louisiana **Zip Code:** 70802

**Email Address:** merina.christoffersen@fema.dhs.gov

Proposed Project Information

**Project Reference ID:** 5104

Project Latitude: 30.312027 Project Longitude: -89.816085

Project Parish(es): Saint Tammany

**Project Description:** This project is to provide replacement housing for the Post Sergeant Major of Camp Villere in Slidell, LA. The pre-existing structure, which was constructed in 1978 and has since been demolished, was subject to frequent flooding. This was due to its location in a low lying area and recent commercial and residential development of the surrounding area, which dramatically changed the drainage patterns across the camp installation. Camp Villere consists of 1,850 acres of land occupied by buildings and residences and other training facilities owned by Louisiana National Guard (LNG) and other agencies. The proposed project would reconstruct the residence and gravel driveway in a vacant, undeveloped lot. A small culvert would be installed under the driveway. The new construction, termed Building 201, would serve as the residence of the Post Sergeant Major, who is required to live on the installation to provide necessary oversight for people at the camp. The new structure would be no greater than 1,912 square feet in size. The new structure would be constructed so that finished floor elevations would be no less than twelve (12) inches above the centerline of the street or top of the curb fronting the home, whichever is greater, to comply with St. Tammany Parish Construction Ordinance.

Based on the information provided, the proposed project is not an activity that would affect a federally listed threatened or endangered species; nor is there proposed or designated critical habitat present within this Parish.

Therefore, a "no effect" conclusion is appropriate. No further ESA coordination with the Service is necessary for

## U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

## **Louisiana Ecological Services Office**

## **ESA Technical Assistance Form**

the proposed action, unless there are changes in the scope or location of the proposed project or the project has not been initiated one year from the date of this letter.

If the proposed project has not been initiated within one year, follow-up coordination via this website should be accomplished prior to making expenditures because our threatened and endangered species information is updated annually. If the scope or location of the proposed project is changed, coordination via this website should occur as soon as such changes are made.

This finding completes project review by the Service for effects to Federal trust resources under our jurisdiction and currently protected by the ESA.

Please keep a copy of this pre-development coordination for your records. Do not send it to the Lafayette ES Office.

If you have additional questions, please contact Louisiana ES Office Biological Science Technician at 337/291-3100 for further assistance.

## U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

## **Louisiana Ecological Services Office**

## **ESA Technical Assistance Form**

## **Project Type: Non-Emergency FEMA Project**

Does the project propose to obtain, remodel, refurbish, or rehabilitate existing structures in such a way that does not significantly alter the present capacity or use, and does not alter surrounding land areas that were previously undisturbed? **No** 

Does the project propose to reconstruct, resurface, or enhance infrastructure and/or cityscape (e.g. streets, sewers, sidewalks, etc.) within the current footprint of the infrastructure and in a manner that does not disturb previously undisturbed ground? **No** 

Does the project propose to remove urban blight through the demolition of unwanted and unsightly structures in a manner that does not disturb surrounding plant or animal habitat; including the planned locations for disposal and stockpiling of demolition debris? **No** 

Is the construction project located entirely within the footprint of an established urban/suburban area (incorporated villages, towns, or cities)? **Yes** 

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY National Flood Insurance Program

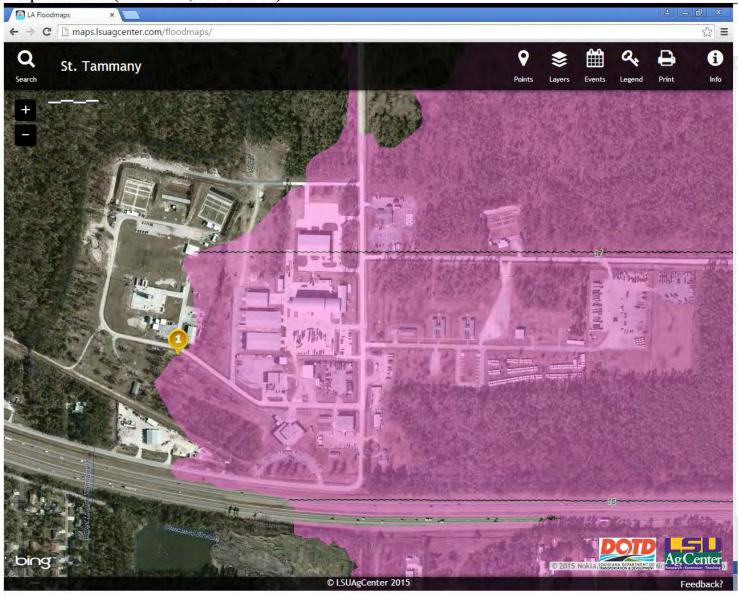
## **ELEVATION CERTIFICATE**

IMPORTANT: Follow the instructions on pages 1-9.

OMB No. 1660-0008 Expiration Date: July 31, 2015

	SECTION A – PROPERTY INFORMATION						FOR INSURANCE COMPANY USE		
A1.	A1. Building Owner's Name State of Louisiana - Facility Planning and Control						Policy Number:		
A2.	<ol> <li>Building Street Address (including Apt., Unit, Suite, and/or Bldg. No.) or PO. Route and Box No. 34781 S. Range Road</li> </ol>					Company NAIC Number:			
	City Slidell			Stat	LA	7	IP Code 704	58	
АЗ.			umbers, Tax Parcel Numb ammany Parish, Louis		n, etc.)				
A4.			esidential, Addition, Acce	ssory, etc.) Residence	ential	Havizantal I	Datum: NA	D 1927 ▼ NAD 1983	
	Latitude/Longitude: Attach at least 2 pho Building Diagram Nu	otographs of the b	ouilding if the Certificate i				Jatum. LINA	D 1927 NAD 1963	
A8.	For a building with a			,495 so ft		building with an att		AI/A	
		anent flood openir	ngs in the crawlspace over adjacent grade		b) Nu	quare footage of att umber of permanen thin 1.0 foot above	t flood openin	gs in the attached garage	
	c) Total net area of		7.0.0	3,517 sq in		tal net area of floor			
	d) Engineered flood	State of the state	(24.24) V-4-24.5			ngineered flood ope		Yes 🛮 No	
Di	NEIS O		TION B - FLOOD INS	The state of the s		M) INFORMATIO	N	DO Chata	
В1.	NFIP Community Nan Slidell Louisiana,		number	B2. County Nam St. Tammany				B3. State Louisiana	
B4.	Map/Panel Number	B5. Suffix	B6, FIRM Index Date	B7. FIRM Panel Revised Dat		B8. Flood Zone(s		Flood Elevation(s) (Zone se base flood depth)	
	22103C0490	F	04/30/2008	04/30/2		AE & X	AO, US	16ft	
310			Elevation (BFE) data or b	ase flood depth en	tered in Iter	m B9: uagcenter.com/fl	nodmans		
R11	☐ FIS Profile ☐ F				/D 1988	Other/Source			
			arrier Resources System					l No	
	Designation Date: _			□ OPA					
-		SECTIO	N C - BUILDING ELE	VATION INFORM	AATION (S	SURVEY REQUIE	PED)		
01.	Building elevations a					onstruction*	☐ Finished C	onstruction	
			quired when construction		omplete.				
C2.		ding to the buildin	(with BFE), VE, V1–V30, g diagram specified in Ite	m A7. In Puerto Ri		er meters.	H, AR/AO. Cor	nplete Items	
			elevations in items a) th				□ Other/Sou	rce.	
			ust be the same as that		11012 202		easurement u		
	a) Top of bottom floor (including basement, crawlspace, or enclosure floor)			losure floor)	19 . 75				
	b) Top of the next higher floor			N/A ,		t meters			
	c) Bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member (V		uctural member (V Zones		N/A	feet	meters	meters	
	d) Attached garage				N/A 20 75	feet			
			quipment servicing the b ocation in Comments)	uilding	20 . 75	Seet	meters		
	f) Lowest adjacent			_	16 . 75	Ifeet	meters		
	g) Highest adjacent	(finished) grade n	ext to building (HAG)	_	16 . 75	Seet	meters		
	<ul> <li>h) Lowest adjacent ;</li> <li>structural support</li> </ul>		levation of deck or stairs	including	16 . 75	Ifeet	meters		
-			ION D - SURVEYOR,	ENGINEED OF	ADCHITE	CT CEDTIEICATI	ON		
nie	certification is to be s		by a land surveyor, engin		The state of the s			1 0000	
una	mation. I certify that the erstand that any false	ne information on statement may be	this Certificate represents e punishable by fine or im	my best efforts to	interpret the	e data available.		TE OF LOUISING	
Ch	neck here if comments neck here if attachmer	Alternative Control of the Property of the Control		latitude and longitued land surveyor?	Yes	⊠ No	**************	BRIAN A MISTICH License No. 30187	
	ifier's Name In A. Mistich				License N 30187	lumber		BRIAN FAMILIE	
Title Pro	fessional Engineer	0		oany Name nmon Engineerin	9			License No. 30187	
Add			City		State LA	ZIP Code 70458	1	300 63	
	ature August	I the	Date	1/9/2015	Telephone (985) 64	No. of the last of		HITTHE ENGINEERS	
_	A Form 086-0-33 (Revi	and 7/12)	Soo r	everse side for con	inuation			laces all previous edition	

## Proposed Site (30.31261, -89.81644)



# APPENDIX D PUBLIC NOTICE AND FONSI

# PUBLIC NOTICE FEMA NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CAMP VILLERE STATE MILITARY PILOT RECONSTRUCTION ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LOUISIANA

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of the EA of this project is to provide replacement housing for the Post Sergeant Major of Camp Villere. The pre-existing structure was constructed in 1978 and has since been demolished. The structure was subject to frequent flooding due to its location within the AE flood zone along with recent commercial and residential development of the surrounding area, which dramatically changed the drainage patterns across the camp installation.

Camp Villere consists of 1,850 acres of land occupied by buildings and residences and other training facilities owned by Louisiana National Guard (LNG) and other agencies. The proposed project would reconstruct the residence and gravel driveway outside the floodplain in a vacant, undeveloped lot at approximately Latitude 30.312027, Longitude -89.816085. The new construction, termed Building 201, would serve as the residence of the Post Sergeant Major, who is required to live on the installation to provide necessary oversight for people at the camp.

The purpose of the draft EA is to analyze the potential human health and environmental impacts associated with the preferred action and the alternatives to construct a new Post Sergeant Major residence and driveway access. The draft EA evaluates a No Action Alternative; and the Preferred Action Alternative: Relocate the Post Sergeant Major Residence Outside the Floodplain.

The draft FONSI is FEMA's finding that the preferred action would not have a significant effect on the human and natural environment.

The draft EA and draft FONSI can be viewed at the St. Tammany Parish Library – Slidell Branch, 555 Robert Blvd. Slidell, LA 70458 Monday – Thursday 9 am – 8pm, Friday – Saturday 9 am-5pm, closed Sundays and Holidays. This public notice will run in the local newspaper, The Advocate- New Orleans edition, Monday July 6, through Friday July 10, 2015; and in the St. Tammany Farmer on Thursday July 9, and Thursday July 16, 2015. An electronic version of the draft EA can be requested from viewed at FEMA's website at <a href="http://www.fema.gov/resource-document-library">http://www.fema.gov/resource-document-library</a>. There will be a 15 day comment period, beginning on July 6, 2015 and concluding on July 21, 2015 at 4 p.m. Comments may be mailed to: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY-FEMA EHP-CAMP VILLERE, 1500 MAIN STREET, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802. Comments may be emailed to: <a href="mailto:FEMA-NOMA@dhs.gov">FEMA-NOMA@dhs.gov</a> or faxed to 225-346-5848. Verbal comments will be accepted or recorded at 504-427-8000. If no substantive comments are received, the draft EA and associated FONSI will become final.



U.S. Department of Homeland Security Louisiana Recovery Office 1500 Main St. Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

# FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR THE STATE MILITARY CAMP VILLERE PILOT HOUSE RECONSTRUCTION SLIDELL, LOUISIANA HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM PROJECT NUMBER 1603-0261 FEMA-1603-DR-LA

## **BACKGROUND**

The project area, located in Slidell, Louisiana is described as Camp Villere Pilot Reconstruction. The purpose of this project is to provide replacement housing for the Post Sergeant Major of Camp Villere. The new construction, termed Building 201, would serve as the residence of the Post Sergeant Major, who is required to live on the installation to provide necessary oversight for people at the camp. The pre-existing structure was constructed in 1978 and has since been demolished. The structure was subject to frequent flooding due to its location within the AE flood zone which is a special flood hazard area along with recent commercial and residential development in the surrounding area, which dramatically changed the drainage patterns across the camp installation.

Camp Villere consists of 1,850 acres of land occupied by buildings and residences and other training facilities owned by Louisiana National Guard (LNG) and other agencies. The proposed project would reconstruct the residence and gravel driveway outside the floodplain in a vacant, undeveloped lot at approximately Latitude 30.312636, Longitude -89.816989.

In accordance with 44 CFR Part 10, FEMA regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared. The purpose of the EA was to analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction of the new structure and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The need for the proposed action is to provide suitable housing for Post Sergeant Major that is both easily accessible and safe from flooding hazards. The alternatives considered include 1) No Action, 2) Pilot Reconstruction of Building 201 in a New Location Outside the Floodplain. (Proposed Action), 3) Alternatives Eliminated From Further Consideration. These alternatives consisted of reconstructing an elevated structure at the original location, and the construction of a new structure in an alternate location.

The applicant proposes to construct a new structure approximately 1,912 square feet in size. The new structure would be constructed so the finished floor elevations would be no less than twelve (12) inches above the centerline of the street or top of the curb fronting the home, whichever is greater, to comply with St. Tammany Parish Construction Ordinance.

## **FINDINGS**

FEMA has evaluated the proposed project for significant adverse impacts to geology, soils, water resources (surface water, groundwater, and wetlands), floodplains, coastal resources, air quality, biological resources (vegetation, fish and wildlife, Federally-listed threatened or endangered species and critical habitats), cultural resources, socioeconomics (including minority and low income populations), safety, noise, and hazardous materials. The results of these evaluations as well as consultations and input from other federal and state agencies are presented in the EA.

During project construction, short-term impacts to soils, surface water, transportation, air quality, and noise are anticipated and conditions have been incorporated to mitigate and minimize the effects. Project short-term adverse impacts would be mitigated using BMPs, such as silt fences, proper vehicle and equipment maintenance, and appropriate signage. No long-term adverse impacts are anticipated from the proposed project.

The applicant opted to implement the proposed project as it decreases flooding damage to the structure by moving it out of the floodplain.

## **CONDITIONS**

The following conditions must be met as part of the implementation of the project. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize federal funds:

- Implement construction BMPs, install silt fences/straw bales to reduce sedimentation. Area soils would be covered and/or wetted during construction. If fill is stored on site as part of house installation or removal, the contractor would be required to appropriately cover it. Construction contractor would be required to obtain applicable LPDES permit, and implement stormwater pollution prevention plan.
- The project results in a discharge to waters of the State; submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System LPDES application is necessary.
- The applicant is required to comply with all federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and executive orders, failure to do so will jeopardize federal funding.
- The project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system; that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- All precautions must be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one (1) acre. The applicant must contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371 to determine if the proposed project requires a permit.

- If the project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit application or Notice of Intent must be submitted. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <a href="http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx">http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx</a> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 9371.
- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if the applicant's water system improvements include water softeners, the applicant is to contact the LDEQ Water Permits Department to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions must be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.
- The contractor should observe all precautions to protect the groundwater of the region.
- If the proposed project has not been initiated within one (1) year, follow-up coordination via the U.S. Fish and Wildlife website should be accomplished prior to making expenditures because threatened and endangered species information is updated annually.
- If a bald eagle or its nest is spotted within 1,500 feet of the project site during the months of October through mid-May, the applicant must cease construction activities and contact LDWF and USFWS immediately. All correspondence must be documented and remain in the project permanent files.
- Noise levels by receiving land use in residential, public, commercial, and industrial areas to varying decibel levels during the "daytime" hours of 7 AM to 7 PM. Construction activities should be limited to this schedule on weekdays. Mitigation and abatement measures will be required to reduce the noise levels to a range that would be considered acceptable.
- To minimize worker and public health and safety risks from project construction and closure, all construction and closure work would be done using qualified personnel trained in the proper use of construction equipment, including all appropriate safety precautions. Additionally, all activities would be conducted in a safe manner in accordance with the standards specified in OHSA regulations and the USACE safety manual.

- The contractor would place fencing around the work area perimeters to protect nearby residents from vehicular traffic.
- Appropriate signage and barriers should be in place prior to construction activities in order to alert pedestrians and motorists of project activities and traffic pattern changes. The contractor would implement traffic control measures, as necessary.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's SPOC at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.
- Regardless of the asbestos content, the applicant is responsible for ensuring that renovation or demolition activities are coordinated with the LDEQ. Demolition activities related to possible PACM must be inspected for ACM/PACM where it is safe to do so. Should ACM be present at the project site, the applicant is also responsible for ensuring proper disposal in accordance with the previously referenced administrative orders. ACM/PACM must be handled in accordance with local, state and federal regulations and disposed of at approved facilities that accept ACM. Demolition activity notification must be sent to the LDEQ before work begins.
- The applicant is responsible for complying with the TSCA Section 402(c)(3) requirements as well as to the satisfaction of the governing local, state, and federal agencies to ensure that project activities are managed, administered, and/or handled by certified/accredited technicians, contractors, and providers. The applicant is responsible complying with all local, state, and federal laws and ensuring that project activities are coordinated with the LDEQ for abatement activities
- The applicant is responsible for complying with the TSCA requirements at 40 CFR 761 for electrical equipment (including transformers) containing PCBS. These provisions address the storage and disposal of equipment containing PCBS, as well as the remediation of any PCB spills. All required agency coordination pertaining to these activities should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA as part of the permanent project files
- Any changes or modifications to the proposed project will require a revised determination. Off-site locations of activities such as borrow, disposals, haul- and detour roads, and work mobilization site developments may be subject to USACE regulatory requirements. Applicant is required to coordinate with LDEQ and obtain all necessary permits.
- If human bone or unmarked grave(s) are present within the project area, compliance with the Louisiana Unmarked Human Burial Sites Preservation Act (R.S. 8:671 et seq.) is required. The applicant shall notify the law enforcement agency of the jurisdiction where the remains are located within twenty-four (24) hours of the discovery. The applicant shall also notify FEMA and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology at 225-342-8170 within seventy-two (72) hours of the discovery.

- If during the course of work, archaeological artifacts (prehistoric or historic) are discovered, the applicant shall stop work in the vicinity of the discovery and take all reasonable measures to avoid or minimize harm to the finds. The applicant shall inform their HMGP contacts at FEMA, who will in turn contact FEMA HP staff. The applicant will not proceed with work until FEMA HP completes consultation with the SHPO, and others as appropriate.
- If hazardous materials are unexpectedly encountered in the project area during the proposed construction operations, appropriate measures for the proper assessment, remediation, management and disposal of the contamination would be initiated in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local regulations. The contractor would be required to take appropriate measures to prevent, minimize, and control the spill of hazardous materials in the construction area and any offsite runoff.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

Based upon the incorporated EA, and in accordance with Presidential Executive Orders 12898 (Environmental Justice), 11988 (Floodplain Management), and 11990 (Wetland Protection), FEMA has determined that the proposed action implemented with the conditions and mitigation measures outlined above and in the EA will not have any significant adverse effects on the quality of the natural and human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared (44 CFR Part 10.8) and the proposed action alternative as described in the EA may proceed.

## **APPROVALS**

Kevin Jaynes	Date
Regional Environmental Officer	
Region VI	
Thomas "Mike" Womack	Date
Director of the Louisiana Recovery Office	
FEMA 1603-1607-DR-LA	