

Wetlands Desktop Study



City of Natchitoches

Wetlands Desktop Study

Natchitoches Business Park II



October 11, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

cgsprojects@att.net

Ms. Julianne Smoak
Cothren, Graff, Smoak Engineering
6305 Westport Avenue
Shreveport, Louisiana 71107

Re: Wetlands Desktop Survey
Proposed Natchitoches Business Park II Project
Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana
Providence Project No. 1345-001

Dear Ms. Smoak:

As requested, Providence's GIS specialist conducted a wetland's desktop survey associated with the referenced project (hereinafter referred to as Site) in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. The 18.51-acre Site is at Latitude 31.728254°, Longitude -93.082349°. The purpose of this analysis is to determine the likelihood of the presence of federally-regulated jurisdictional wetlands and/or other waters of the United States (OW).

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) may exert jurisdiction over wetlands, defined by the presence of all three diagnostic wetland criteria – hydric soils, wetland hydrology, and a dominant hydrophytic plant community which exhibits a connection to a Traditional Navigable Water of the United States. The USACE also claims jurisdiction over OWs, such as rivers, certain creeks and canals, and in some instances drainage ditches.

Providence reviewed available data from various resource agencies to determine the likelihood of the presence of potentially jurisdictional wetlands and/or OW, including: Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) StreetMap Data (**Figure 1**); U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) topographic maps (**Figure 2**); ESRI World Imagery (**Figure 3**); United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory maps (**Figure 4**); U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service soils maps (**Figure 5**); USGS National Elevation Database Light Detection and Ranging data (**Figure 6**); USDA Farm Service Agency National Agriculture Imagery Program data (**Figure 7**); Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Insurance Rate Maps data (**Figure 8**); and USGS historic aerial imagery (**Figure 9**).

Based on the available data, the following is a brief discussion outlining the findings of the desktop survey. The Site does not appear to feature prominent characteristics consistent with wetland indicators; it is not underlain by hydric soils, the elevation appears uniform with consistent drainage to adjacent ditches which

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1345-001-001NG Natchitoches Desktop Review