



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Little Rock District

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

CORPS OF ENGINEERS – STATE OF ARKANSAS

Application Number: 2017-00276-2

Date: October 9, 2019

Comments Due: November 4, 2019

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Comments are invited on the work described below. Please see the Public Involvement section for details on submitting comments.

Point of Contact. If additional information is desired, please contact the regulator, Jim Ellis, telephone number: (501) 324-5295, mailing address: Little Rock District Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, PO Box 867, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0867, email address: Jim.D.Ellis@usace.army.mil

Project Information. Pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S. Code 1344), notice is hereby given that

**Mr. Dave Meghreblian
PotlatchDeltic Corporation
7 Chenal Club Boulevard
Little Rock, Arkansas 72223**

has requested authorization for the placement of dredged and fill material in waters of the United States (WOTUS) associated with the construction of a 122-acre single family residential development referred to as Chenal Valley – Phase 30 and 31. Mechanized land clearing, grading, storm water detention, road construction, and residential home construction will take place using suitable equipment (such as excavators, dump trucks, and bulldozers). The project would impact (fill, culvert, and impound) approximately 3,722 linear feet of jurisdictional ephemeral stream; 933 linear feet of jurisdictional intermittent stream; and 0.8 acres of a jurisdictional man-made wetland. Implementation of erosion and sediment controls at the site will minimize or eliminate water quality impacts, other than the planned fills, to receiving streams and wetlands, and will protect water quality in downstream waters. The proposed project is located in streams and an adjacent man-made wetland associated with several unnamed tributaries that flow into Little Maumelle River and ultimately the Arkansas River, in sections 24 and 25, T. 2 N., R. 14 W., Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas.

The purpose of the project is to provide housing by developing a site for a residential subdivision to service Little Rock and surrounding areas. The project is not water dependent.

The site is currently surrounded by urban development in a rapidly expanding portion of west Little Rock off Highway 10. Terrain on the site consists of mostly upland areas with a small low flat area in the west central portion of the property. The majority of the site has been maintained as forest land. A gravel road along a utility right-of-way (ROW) that transects the property and few other gravel roads/trails occur on the property. To accomplish the project, clearing of existing vegetation, grading, filling, relocation, and impoundment of existing stream channels and a man-made wetland would be required. The site would be graded and 0.1 acres of a man-

made wetland and 3,232 linear feet ephemeral and intermittent streams would be permanently filled; 375 linear feet of ephemeral and intermittent streams would be culverted; and 0.7 acres of man-made wetland and 1,048 linear feet of ephemeral and intermittent streams would be impounded for storm water retention purposes. Approximately 250 cubic yards of soil, rock, and concrete would be required for fill material. The filled streams would be rerouted through drainage features placed throughout the residential subdivision and ultimately flow into intermittent streams located off the property. A storm water pollution prevention plan would be implemented to prevent and minimize transport of sediment to downstream waters not receiving fill material. Typical best management practices such as silt fencing and other construction methods would be used to mitigate impacts to water quality and other resources.

The applicant has investigated other alternative project sites in the proximity of the proposed site and stated that the project site is the only property in the area south of highway 10 available for a residential subdivision of this scale. PotlatchDeltic Corporation has owned the current property for many years and the layout of the residential subdivision development has been altered to reduce the amount of streams and man-made wetland that would be permanently lost. The site plan avoids and minimizes permanent impacts to 2,594 linear feet of streams.

Compensatory mitigation requirements for impacts to the streams and the man-made wetland would be assessed utilizing the 2011 Little Rock District Stream Method and the 2002 Charleston Method. The applicant proposes to mitigate for unavoidable impacts by purchasing stream and wetland credits from an approved mitigation bank that services the area.

The location and general plan for the proposed work are shown on the enclosed sheets (Sheets 1-4 of 4).

Water Quality Certification. By copy of this public notice, the applicant is requesting water quality certification from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) in accordance with Section 401(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Upon completion of the comment period and a public hearing, if held, a determination relative to water quality certification will be made. Evidence of this water quality certification or waiver of the right to certify must be submitted prior to the issuance of a Corps of Engineers permit.

Cultural Resources. A Corps staff archeologist will review topographic maps, the National Register of Historic Places, and other data on reported sites in the area. The District Engineer invites responses to this public notice from Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies; historical and archeological societies; and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns with historic properties in the area.

Endangered Species. Our preliminary determination is that the proposed activity will not affect listed Endangered Species or their critical habitat. A copy of this notice is being furnished to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and appropriate state agencies and constitutes a request to those agencies for information on whether any listed or proposed-to-be-listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

Floodplain. We are providing copies of this notice to appropriate floodplain officials in accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 60 (Floodplain Management Regulations Criteria for Land Management and Use) and Executive Order 11988 on Floodplain Management.

Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines. The evaluation of activities to be authorized under this permit, which involves the discharge of dredged or fill material will include application of guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act. These guidelines are contained in 40 Code of Federal CFR 230.

Public Involvement. Any interested party is invited to submit to the above-listed POC written comments or objections relative to the proposed work on or before **November 4, 2019**. Substantive comments, both favorable and unfavorable, will be accepted and made a part of the record and will receive full consideration in determining whether this work would be in the public interest. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Any person may request in writing within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. The District Engineer will determine if the issues raised are substantial and whether a hearing is needed for making a decision.

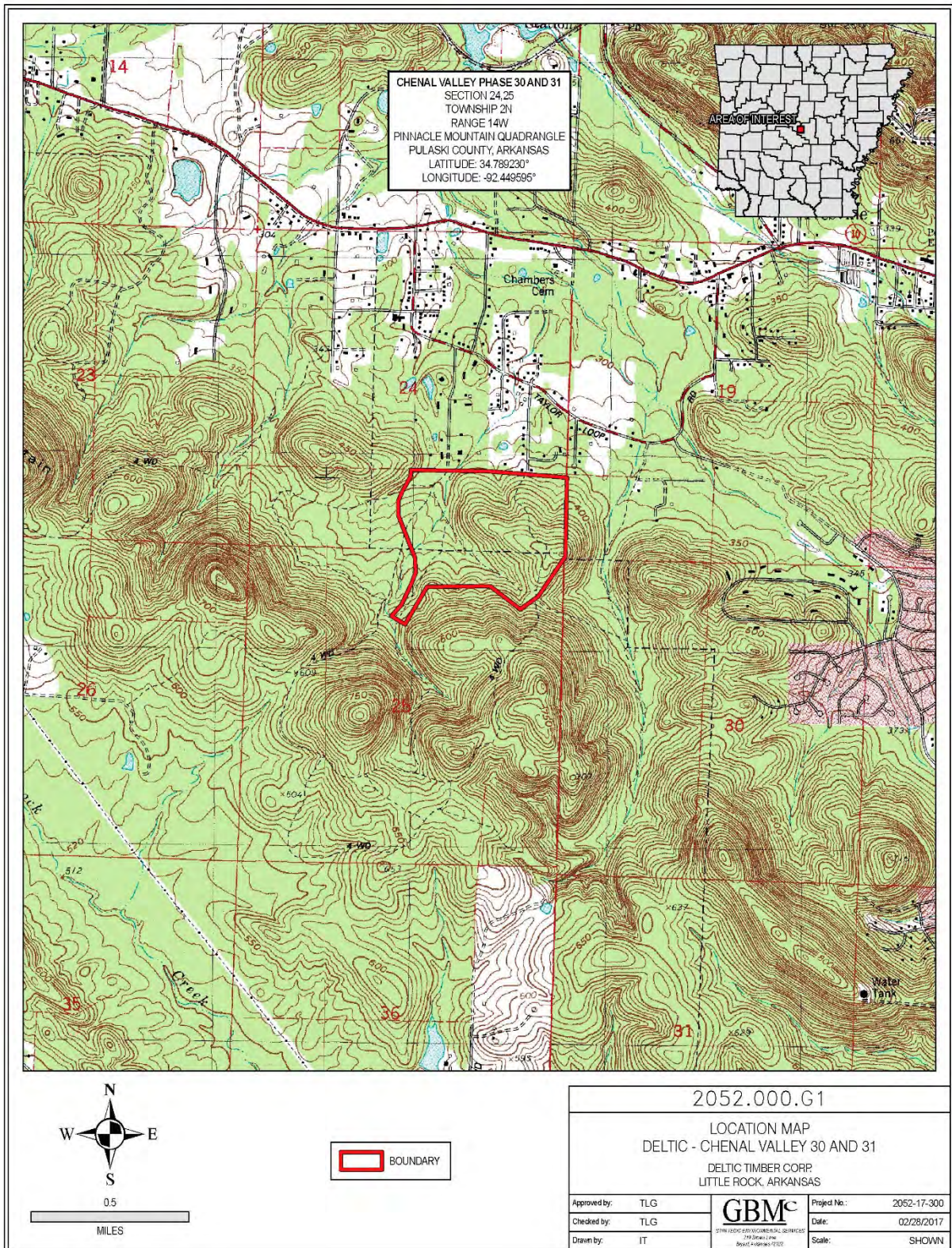
NOTE: The mailing list for this Public Notice is arranged by state and county(s) where the project is located, and includes any addressees who have asked to receive copies of all public notices. Please discard notices that are not of interest to you. If you have no need for any of these notices, please advise us so that your name can be removed from the mailing list.

Enclosures

Approximate Coordinates of Project Center

Latitude: **34.78923°** Longitude: **-92.4496°**

UTM Zone: **15** North: **3849807.9** East: **550353.6**



ACTION NO.: SWL-2017-00276-2

Chenal Valley Subdivision, Phases 30 & 31

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Unnamed Tributaries and Wetlands to Little Maumelle River

Sections 24 and 25, T. 2 N., R. 14 W.

September 2019

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Chenal Valley Subdivision, Phases 30 & 31

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Unnamed Tributaries and Wetlands to Little Maumelle River

Sections 24 and 25, T. 2 N., R. 14 W.

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Summary of impacted stream characteristics.

Map ID	Latitude	Longitude	OHWW (ft)	OHWD (ft)	Stream Type	Length Impacted (ft)
S-1	34.791608°	-92.453187°	4.3	0.4	Ephemeral	380
S-2	34.787911°	-92.453126°	8.4	0.7	Intermittent	933*
S-3	34.789751°	-92.453455°	4.7	0.5	Ephemeral	629
S-4	34.788281°	-92.450382°	2.9	0.2	Ephemeral	1659
S-5	34.790766°	-92.445825°	1.4	0.2	Ephemeral	514
S-6	34.791569°	-92.448852°	1.0	0.2	Ephemeral	432
S-7	34.791328°	-92.453917°	2.8	0.8	Ephemeral	108

*Includes secondary channel impacts

Summary of Wetland Characteristics.

Map ID	Latitude	Longitude	Wetland Hydrology	Hydric Soils	Hydrophytic Vegetation	Wetland Type	Acres
W-1	34.789947°	-92.452283°	Yes	Yes	Yes	PFO	0.8

*PFO – Palustrine Forested Wetland

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