



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Little Rock District

PUBLIC NOTICE

CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Application Number: SWL 1985-05079-6

Date: September 30, 2021

Comments Due: October 25, 2021

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, Gerald Dickson, telephone number: (501) 340-1372, mailing address: Little Rock District Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, PO Box 867, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-0867, email address: Gerald.W.Dickson@usace.army.mil

Project Information. Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S. Code 403), notice is hereby given that

**Mr. Ronnie Duffield
Ronnie Duffield Gravel Company
PO Box 10160
Russellville, Arkansas 72812**

has requested a time extension of an existing permit that would authorize the commercial excavation of sand and gravel. The project is located on the left descending bank of the Arkansas River, Navigation Mile 201.8, in the SW 1/4 of section 33, T. 7 N., R. 20 W., south of Russellville, Pope County, Arkansas.

The project purpose is to remove sand and gravel for processing and subsequent individual and commercial use. The overall purpose of the project is to remove the material historically deposited by the Arkansas River with a front-end loader and transport by dump truck for processing and sale.

Excavation operations have been permitted in this area since 1985. Approval of the current request would extend the excavation period for the previously permitted site for five years. The top of the cut shall be no closer than 400 feet landward of Revetment 254.4L and no closer than 300 feet of any part of a dike. The material shall be removed no lower than elevation 284.0 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929. Side slopes of the excavated area shall be 1V:3H or flatter. Visible markings to identify the restricted areas during the time excavation activities are underway will be clearly marked.

The Little Rock Regulatory Division does not typically require mitigation for Standard Permits specific to Section 10 activities, such as excavation. Due to this established standard operating procedure and the minor impacts of the project, no mitigation will be required if the project is permitted.

The existing subject site is located adjacent to the Arkansas River in a currently fallow field in

which excavation has not yet occurred.

The location and general plan for the proposed work are shown on the enclosed sheets.

Cultural Resources. A Corps staff archeologist will evaluate the proposal for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, including identification and evaluation of cultural resources potentially impacted by the proposal's implementation in waters of the United States. 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.

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 **October 25, 2021**. 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

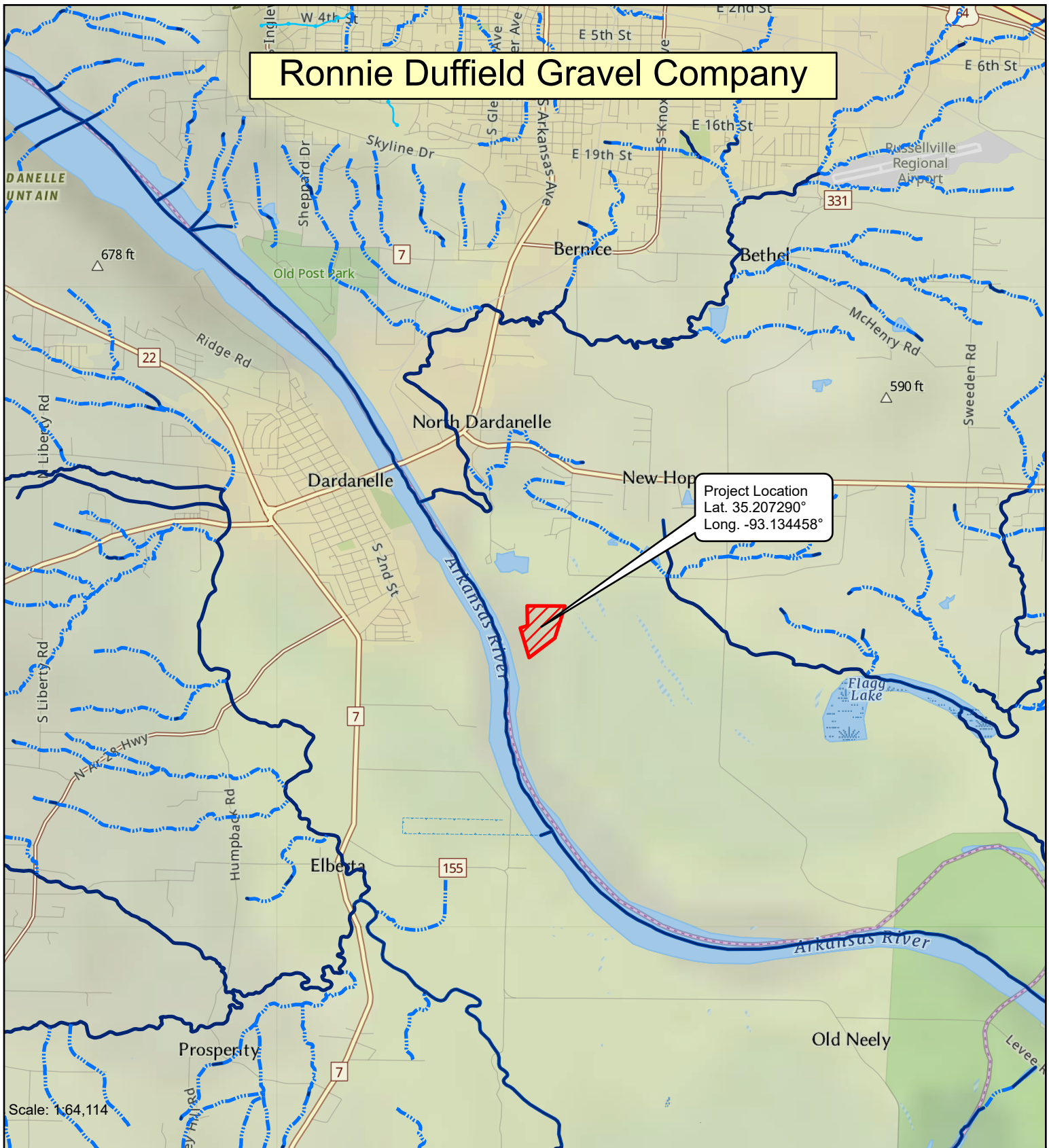
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Longitude: **-93.134458°**

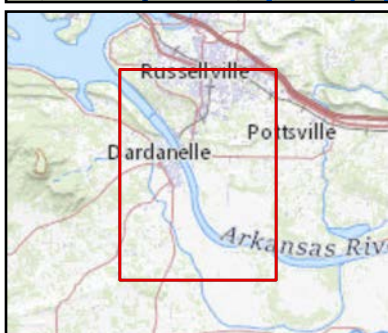
UTM Zone: **15N** North: **3896039.41**

East: **487761.50**

Ronnie Duffield Gravel Company

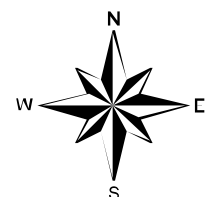


Scale: 1:64,114



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Sand & Gravel Excavation
Sec 33, T. 7 N., R. 20 W
September 2021

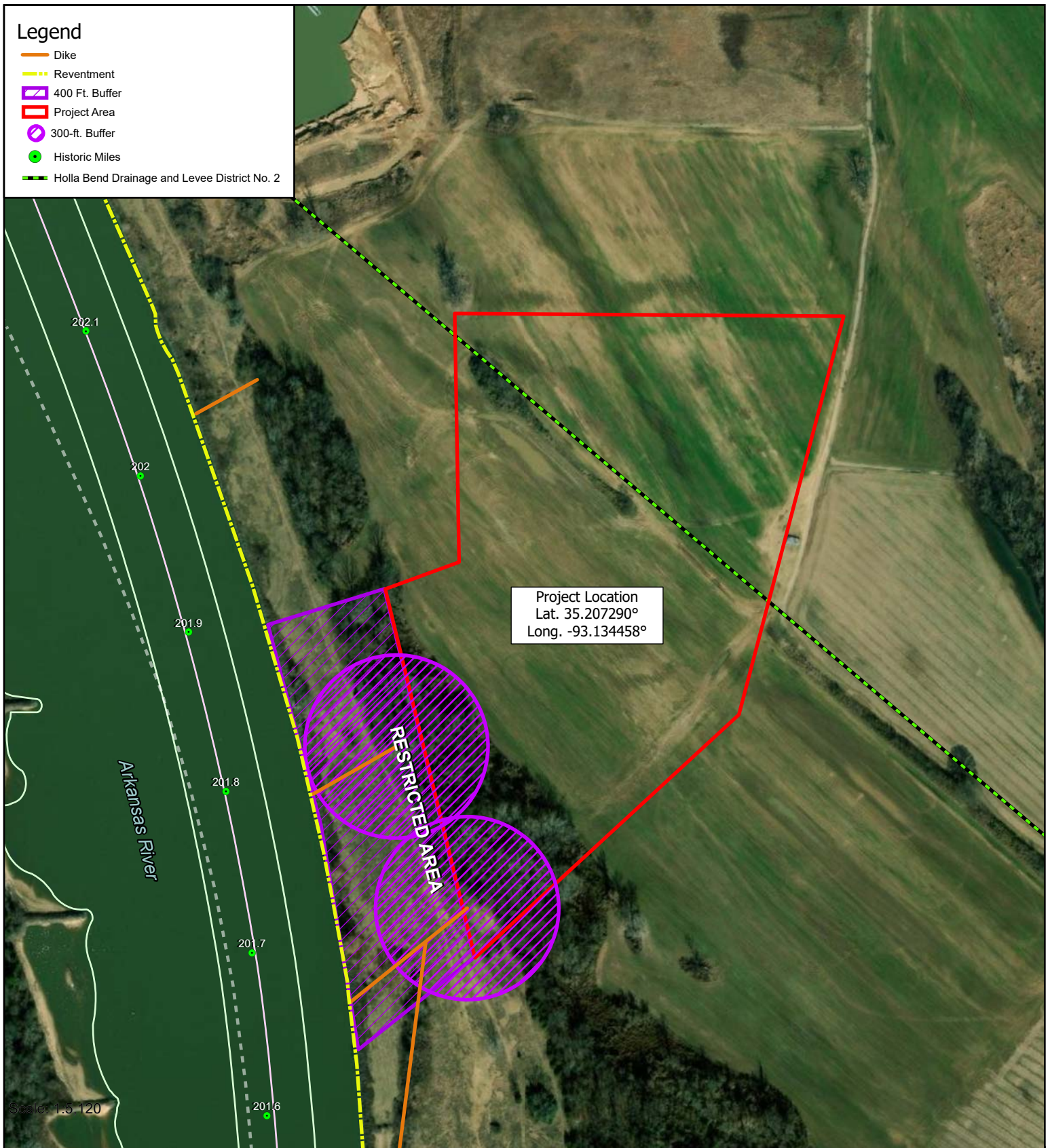
Coordinate System: GCS WGS 1984



0 0.68 1.35 Mi

Legend

- Dike
- - - Reventment
- ▨ 400 Ft. Buffer
- ▭ Project Area
- 300-ft. Buffer
- Historic Miles
- - - Holla Bend Drainage and Levee District No. 2



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Coordinate System: NAD 1983 2011 UTM Zone 15N

