



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1104 NORTH WESTOVER BOULEVARD, UNIT 9
ALBANY, GEORGIA 31707

AUGUST 12 2014

Regulatory Division
SAS-2012-00517

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
Savannah District/State of Georgia

The Savannah District has received an application for a Department of the Army Permit, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), as follows:

Application Number: SAS-2012-00517

Applicant: Ms. Deborah Bridges, City Manager
City of Sylvester
101 North Main Street
Sylvester, Georgia 31791

Agent: Mr. Jesse Bearden
Carter and Sloope, Inc.
6310 Peake Road
Macon, Georgia 31210

Location of Proposed Work: The project site is located on the north end of the existing Sylvester Airport, between Pineknoll Road and US Highway 82, in Sylvester, Worth County, Georgia (Latitude 31.5577, Longitude -83.8939).

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: The applicant proposes to improve the capacity and safety of an existing airport. The proposed improvements include an extension of the current 3,293 foot runway to 4,525 feet. The extension would lengthen Runway 1 on the south end by 342 feet and Runway 19 on the north end by 890 feet. Additionally, "teacup" turnaround taxiways would be constructed on each end of the runway to facilitate taxi movements associated with take-off and landing. This runway expansion would require approximately 8.41 acres of fill in wetlands located immediately north of the existing runway. Impacts to wetlands would require 56.76 wetland mitigation credits. Per the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's 2008 Final Mitigation Rule, the City of Sylvester will satisfy their compensatory mitigation requirements through the purchase of required credits from a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approved wetland mitigation bank that services the project area.

BACKGROUND

This project was previously advertised via Joint Public Notice dated July 11, 2012. Initially, the project was to expand the existing runway 1,707 feet to a total length of 5,000. The project as advertised would have impacted 2.15 acres of wetlands and 928 linear feet of an unnamed intermittent stream. The changes to the proposed project are due to a reduction in the total length of the runway, as well as revisions in the jurisdictional delineation provided with the initial application.

This Joint Public Notice announces a request for authorizations from both the Corps and the State of Georgia. The applicant's proposed work may also require local governmental approval.

STATE OF GEORGIA

Water Quality Certification: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, intends to certify this project at the end of 15 days in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, which is required for a Federal Permit to conduct activity in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia. Copies of the application and supporting documents relative to a specific application will be available for review and copying at the office of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, Water Protection Branch, 4220 International Parkway, Suite 101, Atlanta, Georgia 30354, during regular office hours. A copier machine is available for public use at a charge of 25 cents per page. Any person who desires to comment, object, or request a public hearing relative to State Water Quality Certification must do so within 15 days of the State's receipt of application in writing and state the reasons or basis of objections or request for a hearing. The application can be reviewed in the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, 1104 North Westover Boulevard, Unit 9 Albany, Georgia 31707.

State-owned Property and Resources: The applicant may also require assent from the State of Georgia, which may be in the form of a license, easement, lease, permit or other appropriate instrument.

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

The Savannah District must consider the purpose and the impacts of the applicant's proposed work, prior to a decision on issuance of a Department of the Army Permit.

Cultural Resources Assessment: By letter dated August 1, 2012, provided in response to the July 11, 2012 public notice, the Georgia Department of Natural

Resources, Historic Preservation Division, stated, "the proposed project will have no effect on historic structures or archaeological sites that are listed in or eligible for listing in the Nation Register of Historic Places." The foot print of the current proposed runway extension is located within the foot print of the previously advertised project.

Endangered Species: By letter dated August 2, 2012, provided in response to the July 11, 2012 public notice, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) stated a wood stork rookery was located approximately five miles northwest of the project area, within the foraging distances for the species. They recommended protective measures for the species. Additionally, USFWS stated the project does not include habitats for other species protected under the Endangered Species Act.

Public Interest Review: 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, flood plain 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.

Consideration of Public Comments: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Native American 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 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.

Application of Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines: The proposed activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into the waters of the United States. The Savannah District's evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

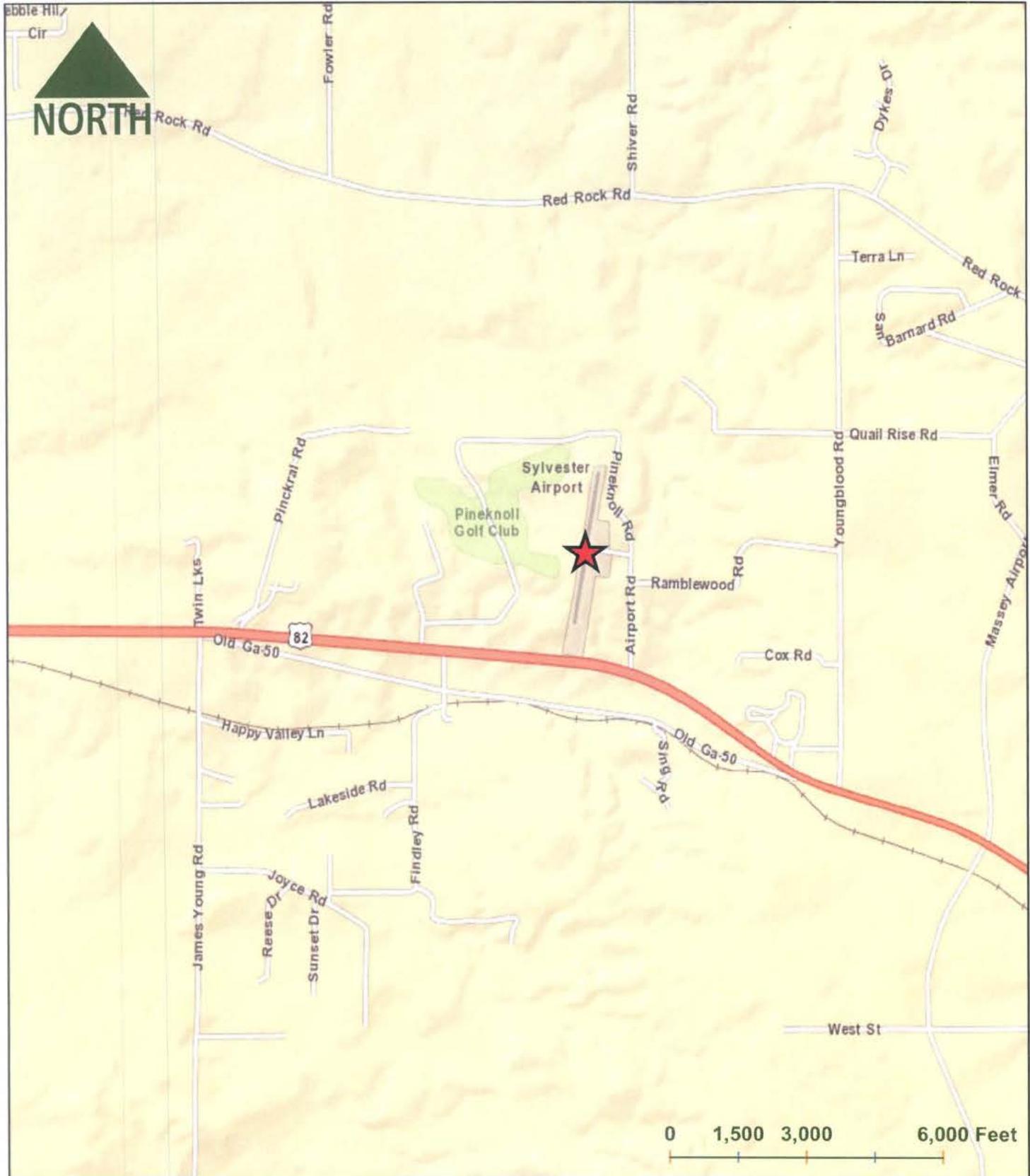
Public Hearing: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application for a Department of the Army Permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. The decision whether to hold a public hearing is at the discretion of the District Engineer, or his designated appointee, based on the need for additional substantial information necessary in evaluating the proposed project.

Comment Period: Anyone wishing to comment on this application for a Department of the Army Permit should submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Mr. Terry C. Kobs, 1104 North Westover Boulevard, Unit 9 Albany, Georgia 31707, no later than 15 days from the date of this notice. Please refer to the applicant's name and the application number in your comments.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Terry C. Kobs, Project Manager, Coastal Branch at 229-430-8567.

Enclosures:

1. Location Map
2. Existing Conditions Map
3. Proposed Conditions Map
4. Impacts From Proposed Conditions Map



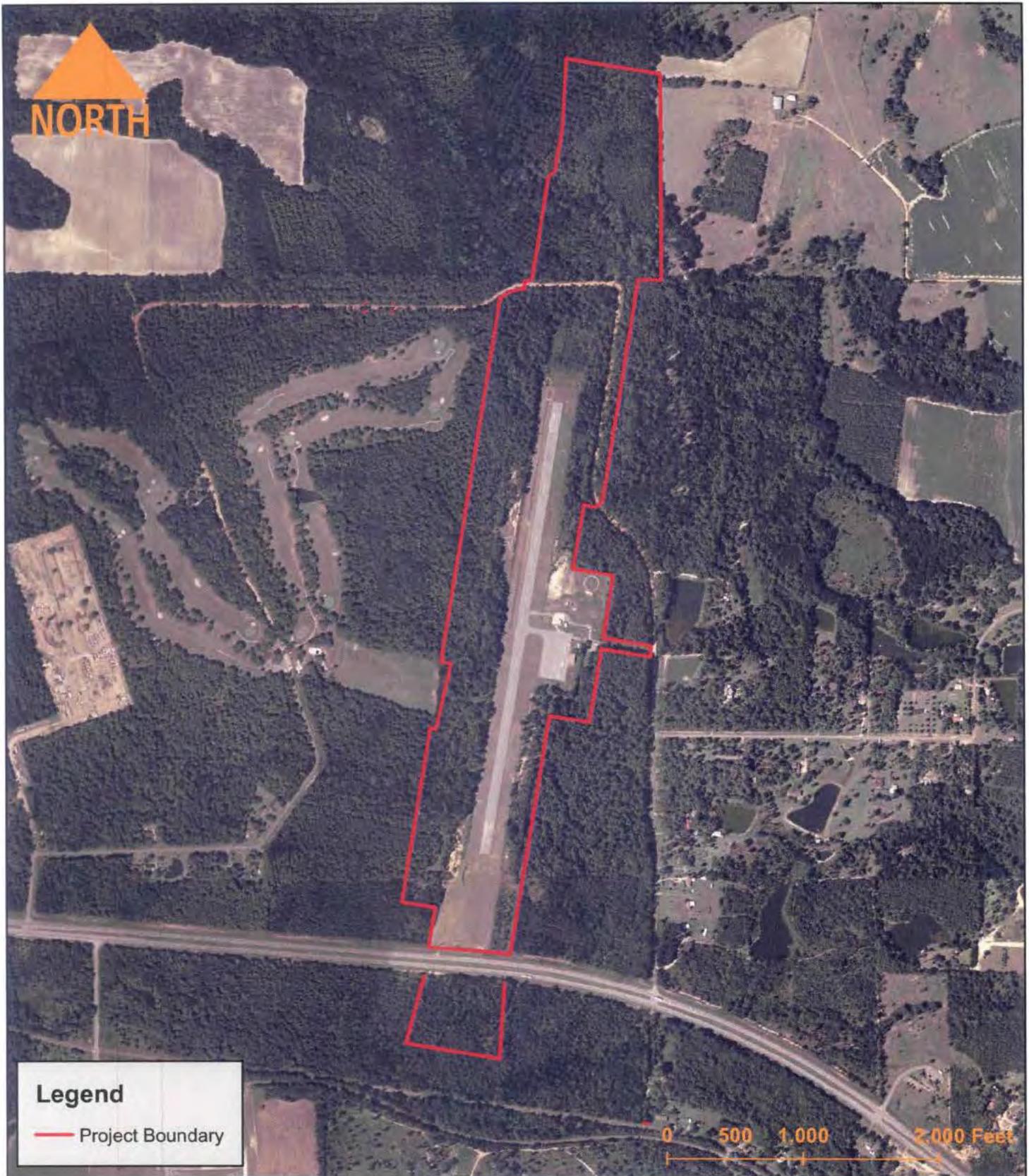
**PROPOSED SYLVESTER
AIRPORT EXPANSION
WORTH COUNTY, GEORGIA
FOR
ROBERT AND COMPANY**

CREATED: 06/02/14

**FIGURE 2: LOCATION MAP
PREPARED BY**



Carter & Sloope
CONSULTING ENGINEERS



Legend

— Project Boundary

**PROPOSED SYLVESTER
AIRPORT EXPANSION
WORTH COUNTY, GEORGIA
FOR
ROBERT AND COMPANY
CREATED: 06/02/14**

**FIGURE 4: AERIAL EXISTING
CONDITIONS MAP (NAIP 2010)
PREPARED BY**



Carter & Sloope
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

NORTH

Section of closed dirt road removed to facilitate appropriate drainage of road side ditch. Dimensions would be 12' bottom with 3 to 1 side slopes.

Runway 19 (North):
Extended by 890 LF

Proposed road turn-arounds

Temporary Dention Facility

Runway 1 (South):
Extended by 342 LF

Permanent Dention Facility

Legend

- Project Boundary
- Limits of Construction
- Streams
- Wetlands

0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet

**PROPOSED SYLVESTER
AIRPORT EXPANSION
WORTH COUNTY, GEORGIA
FOR
ROBERT AND COMPANY**

CREATED: 07/09/14

FIGURE 14: PROPOSED
CONDITIONS MAP
PREPARED BY



Carter & Sloope
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

NORTH

Impacts to Wetland C:
1.203 acres

Impacts to Wetland A:
0.045 acres

Impacts to Wetland D:
7.163 acres

No Impacts

Legend

- Project Boundary
- Limits of Construction
- Streams
- Wetlands**
- Impacts**
- Impacted Wetland
- Non-Impacted Wetland



**PROPOSED SYLVESTER
AIRPORT EXPANSION
WORTH COUNTY, GEORGIA
FOR
ROBERT AND COMPANY**

CREATED: 07/09/14

FIGURE 15: IMPACTS FROM
PROPOSED CONDITIONS MAP
PREPARED BY

