



December 9, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE (11-21)

BRIDGE PERMIT APPLICATION TO REMOVE THE BRIDGE PROTECTION SYSTEM ON THE LAVACA BAY CAUSEWAY BRIDGE, AT STATE HIGHWAY (SH) 35, BETWEEN LAVACA BAY AND POINT COMFORT, ACROSS LAVACA BAY IN POINT COMFORT, MILE 8.2, CALHOUN COUNTY, TEXAS

All interested parties are notified that the Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District, has received application materials from the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) for approval of the enclosed location and plans to remove the existing bridge protection system on a bridge over a navigable waterway of the United States.

WATERWAY AND LOCATION: Lavaca Bay, at SH35, Mile 8.2, Point Comfort Calhoun County, Texas.

CHARACTER OF WORK: TXDOT proposes to remove the existing bridge protection system on the causeway bridge over Lavaca Bay at SH 35. The Calhoun Port Authority was very active when the causeway bridge was constructed, but barge traffic decreased over the course of the 1990's and early 2000's and ultimately led to the closure of the port facility. The closure of the port facility has resulted in recreational boat traffic being the only navigational traffic in Lavaca Bay north of the causeway bridge. Further, marine traffic does not routinely navigate through the navigational channel to move from one side of the bridge to the other. Since the fender system is no longer needed for bridge protection, TxDOT has decided to remove it.

The existing bridge protection system consists of dolphins ranging from single to seven pile clusters. The dolphins are connected with 4 - 12' x 12' wales. The bridge protection system is 158ft. long on either side of the navigational channel. The first 35 feet on each end of the bridge protection system is skewed at a 30-degree angle. The center section of the bridge protection system is 88ft. long. The span distance between bridge columns is 100ft. and the clear width between the bridge protection systems is 75 feet. The proposed project would remove the existing bridge protection system. The pilings would be cut at least 2 feet below the mudline.

MINIMUM NAVIGATIONAL CLEARANCES:

Vertical: 41.15' feet above Mean High Water,
North Atlantic Vertical Datum of 1988
(NAVD88)

Horizontal: 75' between the bridge protection systems

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS: TXDOT will act as the lead federal agency for the environmental review as per 23 U.S.C. 327 and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was signed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and TXDOT on December 9, 2019. TXDOT has tentatively determined that a Categorical Exclusion (CE) applies to this action for the purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The TXDOT CE can be accessed by contacting the Yoakum District via email or phone if they would like a copy of the Categorical exclusion. The public can reach Barbara Obelgoner at Barbara.Obelgoner@txdot.gov or 361-293-4371. TXDOT acts on behalf of the USCG for environmental control laws. The Coast Guard's permitting action will be limited to the bridge and its approaches. Documents are available for review electronically or at the above address, Monday through Friday by appointment from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., subject to building rules.

This bridge is located in a floodplain which has a 100 year elevation of 18 feet. The bridge low steel elevation is 45.00 feet. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will issue the Water Quality Certification when the USCG issues a public notice for this project.

SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:

Interested parties are requested to comment on the proposed bridge project, clearance gauges, the need for a bridge protective system, the extent of nighttime navigation on the waterway, the need for bridge lighting, and other navigational safety issues. Interested parties are also requested to express their views on the proposed bridge project's possible environmental impacts, including impacts on minority and/or low income populations. Comments will be received at the office of the Commander (dpb), Eighth Coast Guard District, Hale Boggs Building, 500 Poydras Street, Room 1313, New Orleans, LA 70130-3310, through January 7, 2022.

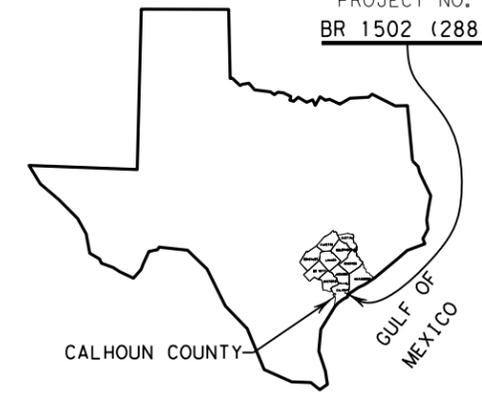
We will forward comments of an environmental nature such as those regarding wild life refuges, water fowl refuges, public parks, historic sites, wetlands, floodplain issues, air, water quality, etc. to TXDOT for appropriate handling.

It is requested that this information be brought to the attention of any person having an interest in this, who may not have received a copy of this public notice.

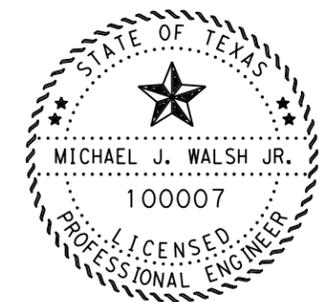
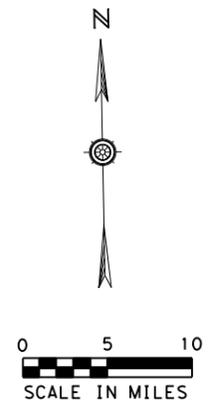
Plans of the proposed project are included in this public notice.

/Doug Blakemore/
DOUG BLAKEMORE
Chief, Bridge Administration Branch
Eighth Coast Guard District
By direction of the District Commander

This is a Web-searchable copy and is not the official, signed version; however, other than the signature being omitted, it is a duplicate of the official version.



VICINITY MAP



APPROVED FOR LETTING: 11/22/2021
Michael J. Walsh Jr., P.E.
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

STATE OF TEXAS TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PLANS OF PROPOSED STATE HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT

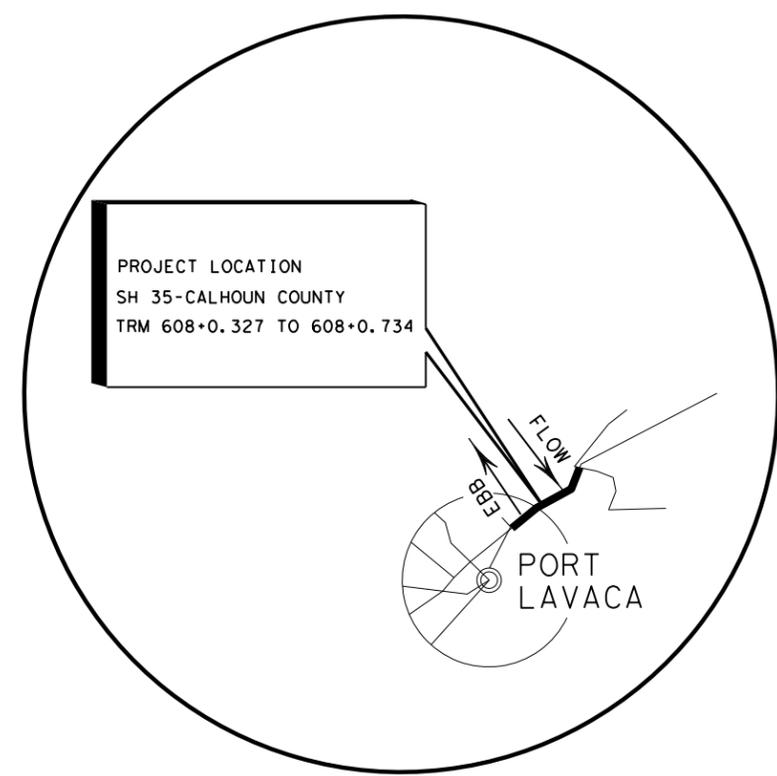
WORK CONSISTING OF FENDER REMOVAL
AT LAVACA BAY CAUSEWAY

INDEX OF SHEETS

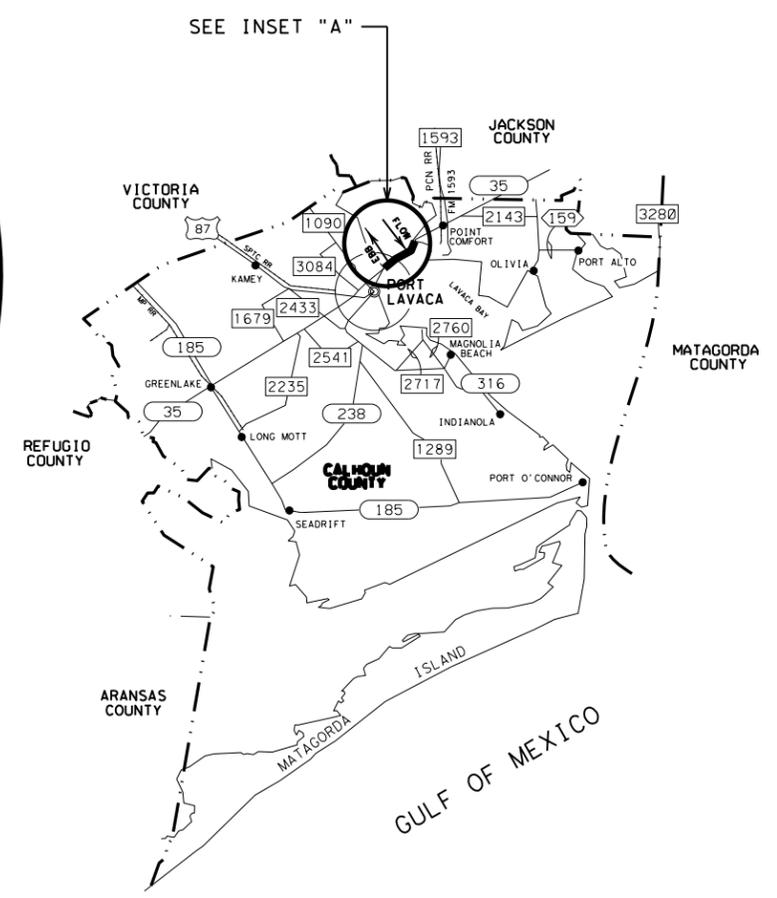
SHEET NO. DESCRIPTION

GENERAL

- 1 TITLE SHEET
- 2 BRIDGE LAYOUT- PLAN VIEW
- 3 BRIDGE LAYOUT - ELEVATION VIEW
- 4 TYPICAL SECTION



INSET "A"



NOTE:
PILINGS WILL BE REMOVED
AT LEAST 2' BELOW MUDLINE
ELEVATION BASED ON NAVD 1988



THE STANDARD SHEETS SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED ABOVE
HAVE BEEN SELECTED BY ME OR UNDER MY RESPONSIBLE
SUPERVISION AS BEING APPLICABLE TO THIS PROJECT.

Mark C. Netardus, P.E.
MAINTENANCE ENGINEER

11-22-21
DATE

CALHOUN COUNTY
YOAKUM DISTRICT

EXCEPTIONS: NONE
EQUATIONS: NONE
RAILROAD CROSSING: NONE

SPECIFICATIONS ADOPTED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
NOVEMBER 1, 2014 AND SPECIFICATION ITEMS LISTED AND DATED AS FOLLOWS,
SHALL GOVERN ON THIS PROJECT:

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

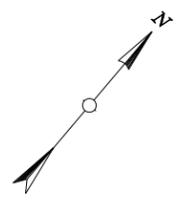
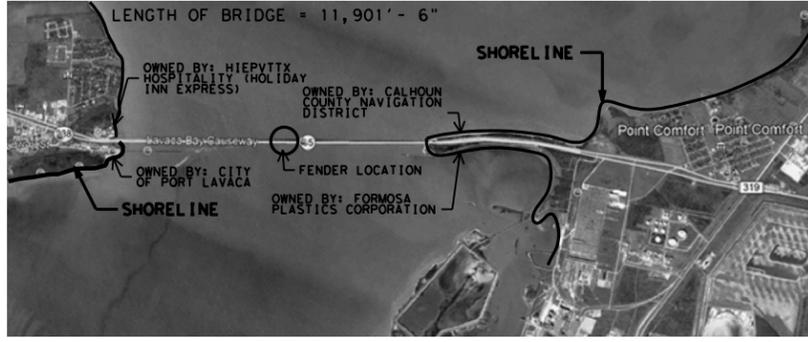
STATE PROJECT BR 1502 (288)
LAVACA BAY BRIDGE
CALHOUN COUNTY STATE HWY. 35

CONSULTING AGENT: YOAKUM DISTRICT
WATERWAY: LAVACA BAY
MILE: 22.5
DATE: 7/25/19
CITY: POINT COMFORT
STATE: TEXAS

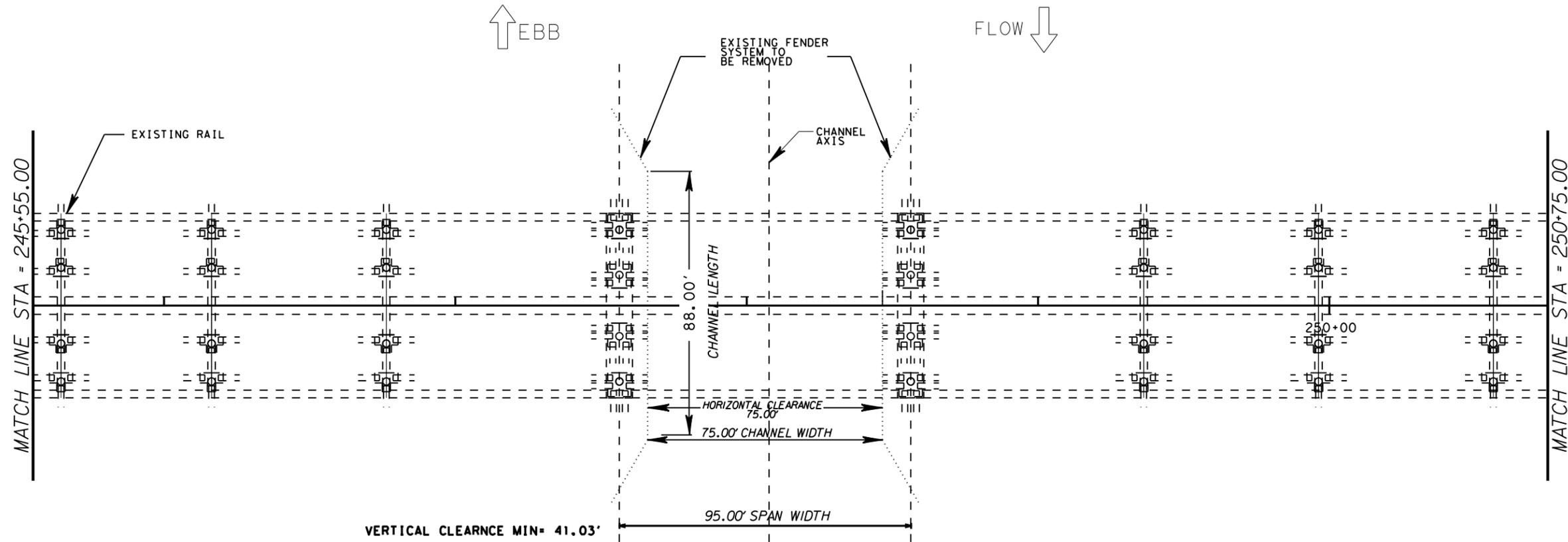
SHEET: 1 OF 4

YOAKUM DISTRICT

CKE: _____
 DWF: _____
 CKE: _____
 DWF: _____



0 5 10
 SCALE IN MILES



0 20 40
 SCALE IN FEET

NOTE 1:
 PILINGS WILL BE REMOVED
 AT LEAST 2' BELOW MUDLINE
 ELEVATION BASED ON NAVD 1988

NOTE 2:
 ALL PARTS OF THE BRIDGE OTHER
 THAN THE BRIDGE PROTECTIVE
 SYSTEM WILL REMAIN IN PLACE

LAVACA BAY

BRIDGE LAYOUT PLAN VIEW

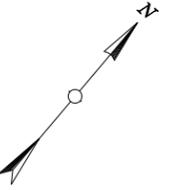


Mark C. Netardus P.E.
 MAINTENANCE ENGINEER
 11-22-21
 DATE

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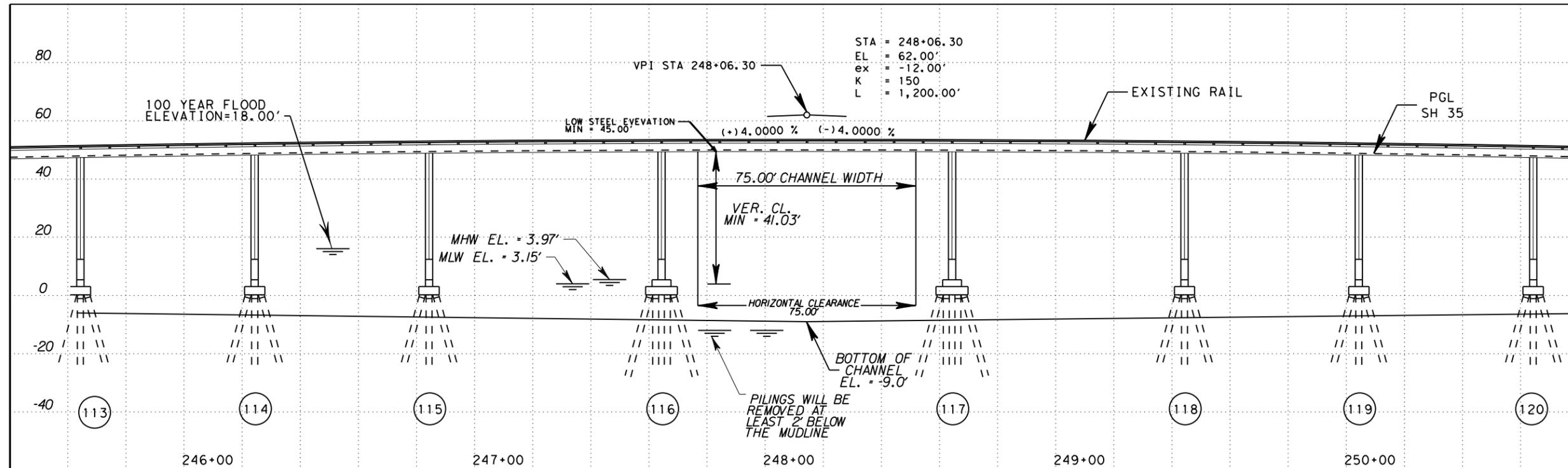
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NOTE:
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↑ EBB

FLOW ↓



BRIDGE
 LAYOUT
 ELEVATION VIEW



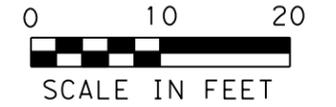
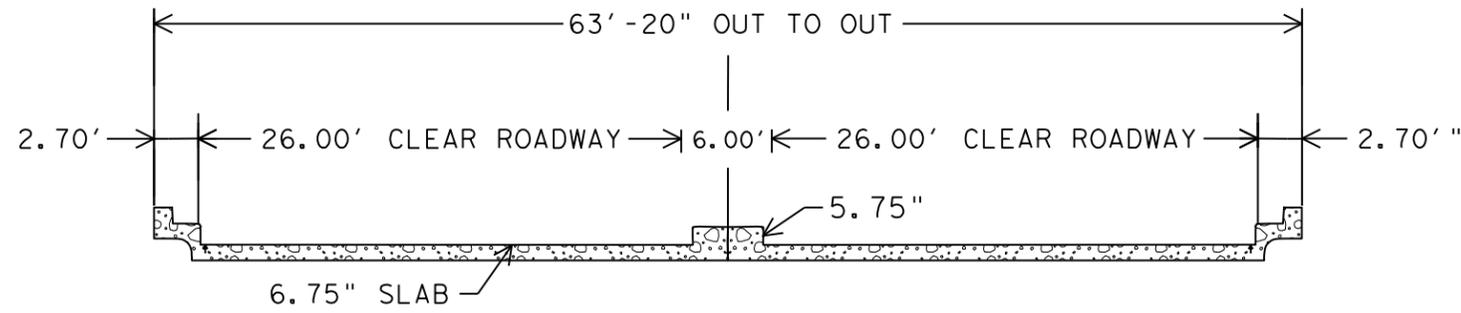
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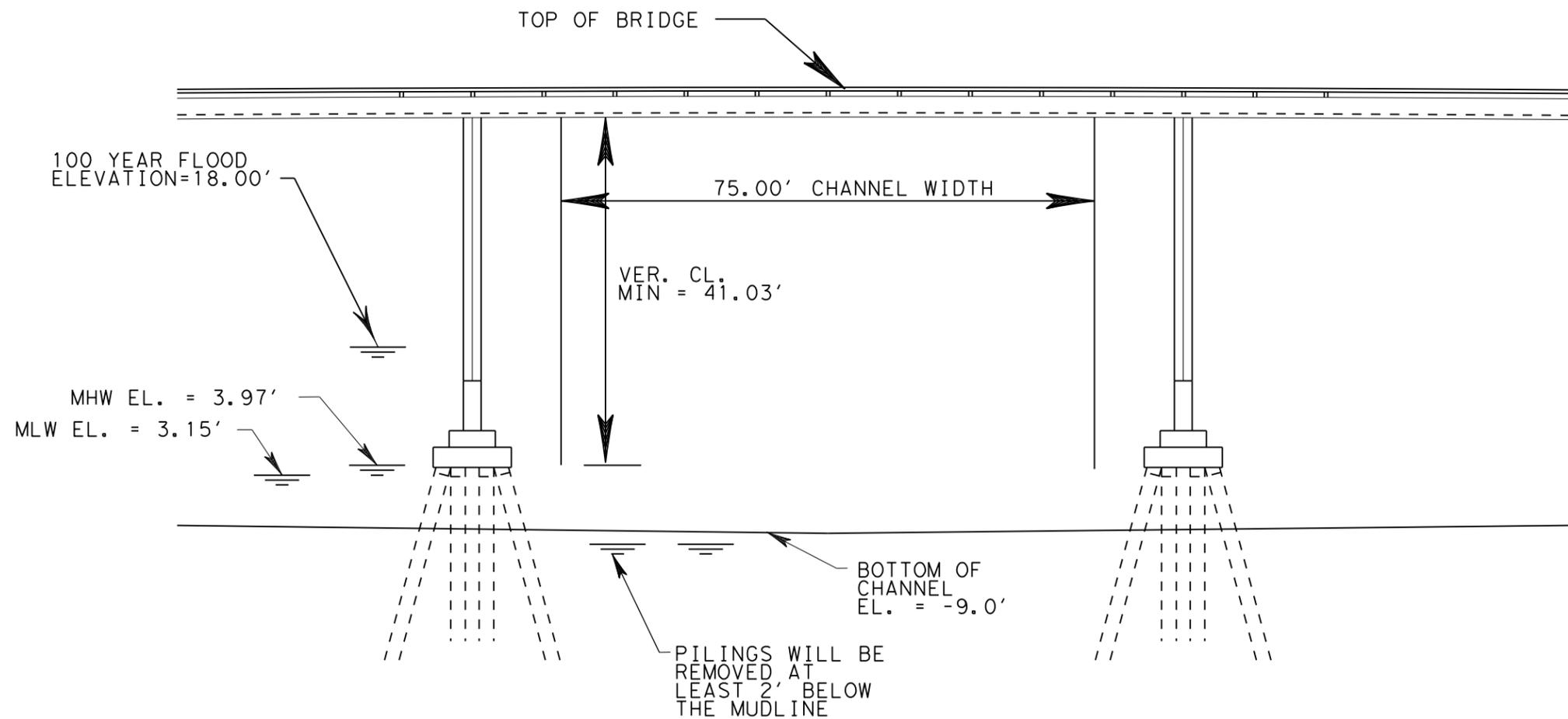
LAVACA BAY

ELEVATION BASED ON NAVD 1988

100 YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION=18.00'



TYPICAL SECTION OF ROAD
STA 178+85.55 TO STA 297+37.05



Mark C. Netardus P.E.
MAINTENANCE ENGINEER
11-22-21
DATE

TYPICAL SECTIONS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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TYPICAL SECTION OF CHANNEL
STA 247+60 TO STA 248+40

LAVACA BAY