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| **From:** | Gutierrez, Raul |
| **To:** | Breaux, Brian W MVN |
| **Cc:** | Patti Holland; Kyle Balkum; Jamie Phillippe (jamie.phillippe@la.gov); Kitto, Alison; Ettinger, John |
| **Subject:** | MVN-2012-2553; Grand Swamp Mitigation Bank |
| **Date:** | Friday, June 14, 2013 9:53:42 AM |

Brian,

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Public Notice dated June 3, 2013, concerning Department of the Army Permit Application Number MVN-2012-2553, submitted by Fourth Louisiana Resource, LLC. The applicant is proposing to establish the Grand Swamp Mitigation Bank in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana. The project would rehabilitate 8.8 acres of cypress swamp, and re-establish 5.8 acres of cypress swamp, 177.1 acres of bottomland hardwood forest and 51.0 acres of upland buffer. The comments that follow are being provided for use in reaching a decision relative to compliance with the EPA's 404(b)(1) Guidelines for Specification of Disposal Sites for Dredged or Fill Material (40 CFR Part 230).

The site appears appropriate for use in compensating for unavoidable impacts to waters of the U.S., including wetlands. At this time, the EPA supports the development of the proposed bank. Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the public notice. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Raul Gutierrez, Ph.D.

Wetlands Section (6WQ-EM)

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