COMPLETION REPORT

CELMN-CD-NO-Q

29 Apr 94

MEMORANDUM THRU Area Engineer, New Orleans Area Office
C/Const Div ATTN: Contr Admin Br

FOR C/Engr Div

SUBJECT: Narrative Completion Report for Contract Number DACW29-94-C-0014, Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act, Labranche Wetlands Restoration Project, St. Charles Parish, Louisiana

1. The subject contract dated 10 Nov 93 was awarded to T.L. James and Company, Inc., Marine Group, P.O. Box 20116, New Orleans, LA 70141-0116. The Notice to Proceed was issued 14 Dec 93 with construction to commence not later than 21 Dec 93. The date set for completion was 10 Oct 94. The original contract amount was $2,489,000.00. The contractor began operations at the site 6 Jan 94.

2. The contract involved pumping 2,500,000 cubic yards of material from the bottom of Lake Pontchartrain into the Labranche Wetlands restoration area. The first 1,800,000 cubic yards of material were paid for at a rate of $0.86/CY, with the remaining material being paid for at a rate of $0.55/CY. The final quantity of material pumped into the restoration area was 2,851,133 cubic yards.

3. T.L. James and Company had one subcontractor; Wilco Marsh Buggies and Draglines, Incorporated, P.O. Box 710, Marrero, LA 70073. Payments for work performed by the subcontractor were made under pay item 0002, Retention Structures.

4. The preconstruction conference was held 14 Dec 94 at the New Orleans Area Office. The Preconstruction Safety Meeting and the Coordination Meeting were held at the job site 11 Jan 94.

5. The project was comprised of two major construction phases – retention structures and wetland restoration. Item 0003, Wetland Restoration, was divided as follows:

0003AA. First 1,800,000 Cubic Yards
0003AB. All over 1,800,000 Cubic Yards
0003AC. Discharge Locations – 6 each

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6. The contractor began mobilizing equipment and personnel to the job site 6 Jan 94. Equipment was inspected, initial surveys performed, and the retention structures were constructed in the time period January 1994 to March 1994. Our field office was opened on the dredge "Tom James" when it was brought to the job site 6 Mar 94.

7. The first phase of work involved the retention structures. This item of work provided for the retention dikes which were constructed around the perimeter of two areas designated as A and B, waste weirs placed at three locations as shown on the contract drawings, and plastic sheet piles driven to reinforce the closures at designated points. The flotation canal used for equipment access was also built during this operation. The subcontractor built the dikes during the period 6 Jan 94 to 28 Feb 94. The dikes were built to an elevation of 5 feet above the existing marsh. Equipment used during this phase of the work included a Caterpillar 330 Marsh Buggy Backhoe, a Komatsu 200 Marsh Buggy Backhoe, and a 200W Monighan Bucket Dredge. The retention structures were continuously monitored while the contract was being performed to avoid breaks, and any weak spots noticed were recapped with material from within the restoration area.

8. The wetland restoration operation began at 0600 hours 7 Mar 94. On average, 3500' of shoreline pipe, 4600' of submerged pipe, and 1400' of pontoon pipe was used for material transport. Each section of pipe was 40' to 50' in length and 30" in diameter. The length of pipe used varied day to day. Other dredge support included a derrick barge, pipe barge, fuel barge, water barge, two anchor barges, the tug "Kathy Pawg", the tender boat "Shai James", the tender boat "Miss Jean", the tender boat "Capt. Eddie", the survey/crew boat "Chesapeake", and a Caterpillar 330 marsh buggy backhoe. Material was pumped from the 573 acre Lake Pontchartrain borrow pit into the sectioned 370 acre wetland restoration area. The size of the first area, area A, is roughly 250 acres. Area B is roughly 120 acres. The restoration area is located between foreshore B/L station 45+65 and 102+50. The 30" cutter head dredge "Tom James" excavated approximately 2,800,000 cubic yards in a contract which called for the excavation of 2,500,00 cubic yards. Its swing cut was 250', totaling approximately 1500' in width and 12.5' in depth.

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The dredge made six cuts and travelled a distance of 21,755 feet. In the end, only a portion of the 7,000,000 cubic yard borrow pit was used. The dredge "Tom James" pumped 24 hours a day for most of the 25 day period, decreasing the pumping time to 12 hours a day towards the end of the contract to allow the restoration area to drain. The restoration area reached its fill capacity at approximately 1000 hours 2 Apr 94, at which time the dredging stopped.

9. The dredge and attendant plant were checked daily to insure proper housekeeping, avoid unsafe conditions, prevent fires, and insure that contractor personnel were wearing hard hats, life jackets, eye, and ear protection as needed. There were no lost time accidents during the contract.

10. There were 4 modifications to the contract. P00001 was a no cost mod to allow for additional discharge area. P00002, P00003, and P00004 increased the funds available for the contract by $654,250.00, $234,750.00, and $193,124.25 respectively.

11. The required preparatory meetings were conducted by the contractor for each definable feature of work with government representatives present.

12. The personnel working on this project were skilled and performed their respective duties in a professional manner. All equipment used on the project was in good working condition and more than adequate to complete the working performed. The crew/survey boat "Chesapeake" was used to transport contractor and government personnel to and from the dredge and wetland restoration areas.

13. The layout of work for horizontal and vertical control, preliminary cross sections, original and final cross sections, and profiles of the borrow pit before, during, and after dredging was complete and legible.

14. The contract was substantially complete 2 Apr 94. Final inspection of the site was made 7 Apr 94, at which time all work appeared acceptable. Final surveys of the borrow area were submitted by the contractor 8 Apr 94, confirmed in-house by 11 Apr 94, and the work was accepted as complete in accordance with the contract plans and specifications 11 April 94.

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15. As-built drawings from the contractor for the project are included.

16. No Notices of Contract Deficiency were issued, and no claims appear to be filed against the government.

17. The final project cost, with the overrun of 351,133 cubic yards of material, will be $2,682,123.15.

18. Point of contact is Leroy Smith, Project Inspector, or Tony Lauto, Project Engineer, of the New Orleans Area Office.

TONY LAUTO
Project Engineer
New Orleans Area Office

CF:
Supv Civ Engr (Tilly)
Proj Engr (Lauto)
Proj Insp (L. Smith)
Ofc Engr (Thurmond) w/ as-built
CELMN-CD-Q w/ as-built
CELMN-CD-CC
CELMN-PA
CELMN-CT
CELMN-ED-C
CELMN-CD-B
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