



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAVANNAH DISTRICT  
4751 BEST ROAD, SUITE 140  
COLLEGE PARK, GEORGIA 30337

November 17, 2022

Regulatory Division  
SAS-2016-00873

**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:

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit application will close 30 days from the date of this public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit, and must be submitted to be received on or before the last day of the comment period. Written comments concerning this Department of the Army Permit application must reference the Applicant's name and the Permit Application Number and be forwarded to the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) at the above address, or via the email listed at the end of this notice.

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

Application Number: SAS-2016-00873

Applicant: Cal Wray  
Augusta Economic Development Authority (AEDA)  
1450 Green Street, Suite 3500  
Augusta, Georgia 30901

Agent: Russell Parr  
Resource & Land Consultants  
41 Park of Commerce Way, Suite 101  
Savannah, Georgia 31405

Location of Proposed Work: The approximately 12,800-linear-foot project corridor extends northwest from the existing Norfolk Southern main line into the approximately 1,725-acre Augusta Corporate Park (ACP) property in Augusta, Richmond County, Georgia (approximately centered at latitude: 33.2654, longitude: -81.9218).

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

The applicant proposes to construct a railroad lead track to provide rail service to the future Purecycle facility, Aurubis facility, and the Den kai America facility within the ACP to provide safe and efficient rail transport of materials into and out of the ACP and to reduce the overall industrial truck traffic within the region. A total of 0.93-acre of wetland would be permanently impacted from the construction of three culverted wetland crossings associated with the railroad.

To offset the loss in aquatic function associated with the proposed impacts to aquatic resources, the applicant would purchase 0.7 wetland (2018) mitigation credits from a Georgia In-lieu Fee Mitigation program. The project is hydrologically connected to the Lower McBean Creek Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code 12 (HUC 12): 030601060604).

**BACKGROUND**

The approximately 1,725-acre ACP site has been certified by the State as a Georgia Ready for Accelerated Development (GRAD) site. Such sites are determined to be “ready for fast-track construction projects through advance due diligence”. We understand that the Applicant (AEDA) has previously installed utility infrastructure to accommodate electric, natural gas, sewer, water and telecom services to support industrial facilities on the site. Purecycle will produce ultra-pure recycled polypropylene (rPP) from waste polypropylene (PP), Aurubis will conduct metal recycling and secondary smelting, and Den kai America will manufacture copper foil used in printed electronics. The existing entrance road (Valencia Way) and the proposed railroad lead track are intended to service the proposed development.

**STATE OF GEORGIA**

Water Quality Certification: The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division will review the proposed project for Water Quality Certification, in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The applicant conducted a pre-filling meeting for a Water Quality Certification with the State of Georgia on November 7, 2022. Prior to issuance of a Department of the Army Permit for a project located in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia, review for Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act is required. A reasonable period of time, which shall not exceed one year, is established under the Clean Water Act for the State to act on a request for Water Quality Certification, after which, issuance of such a Department of the Army Permit may proceed. This public notice serves as notification to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) pursuant to section 401(a)(2) of the Clean Water Act for neighboring jurisdiction review and begins the 30-day clock for USEPA to notify affected states.

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.

## U.S. 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: Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places and the Georgia Natural, Archeological and Historic Resources GIS database, indicates that no registered properties or properties listed as eligible for inclusion are located on the project site. The Applicant has contracted Phase I and II cultural resource surveys of the proposed project site, to assess if potential archaeological sites, historic structures, or cultural resources that may be present within the general vicinity of the proposed work area. The Corps is currently reviewing the reporting to assess the potential for adverse effects to historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places. Consequently, presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical or historical data may also be located at the site and could be affected by the proposed work.

Endangered Species: Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.), we request information from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service; or, any other interested party, on whether any species listed or proposed for listing may be present in the area. A preliminary review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service-Protected Resource Division's (NMFS-PRD) list of Endangered and Threatened Species (IPaC) indicates that candidate monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) and endangered relict trillium (*Trillium reliquum*) may be located within vicinity of this project.

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. The Applicant's current proposal reviewed one (1) onsite alternative for construction of the railroad (as currently proposed). The onsite alternative was considered to be not practicable. Off-site alternatives have not been provided, but have been requested. All alternatives will be further evaluated in conjunction with the application.

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 their written comments by e-mail to [Justin.M.Edwards@usace.army.mil](mailto:Justin.M.Edwards@usace.army.mil) within **30 days** of this notice. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Justin Edwards, Project Manager, 4751 Best Road, Suite 140, College Park, Georgia 30337, no later than 30 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 Justin Edwards, Regulatory Specialist, of the Piedmont Branch, by e-mail at [Justin.M.Edwards@usace.army.mil](mailto:Justin.M.Edwards@usace.army.mil) or at 678-422-2724.

Enclosures:

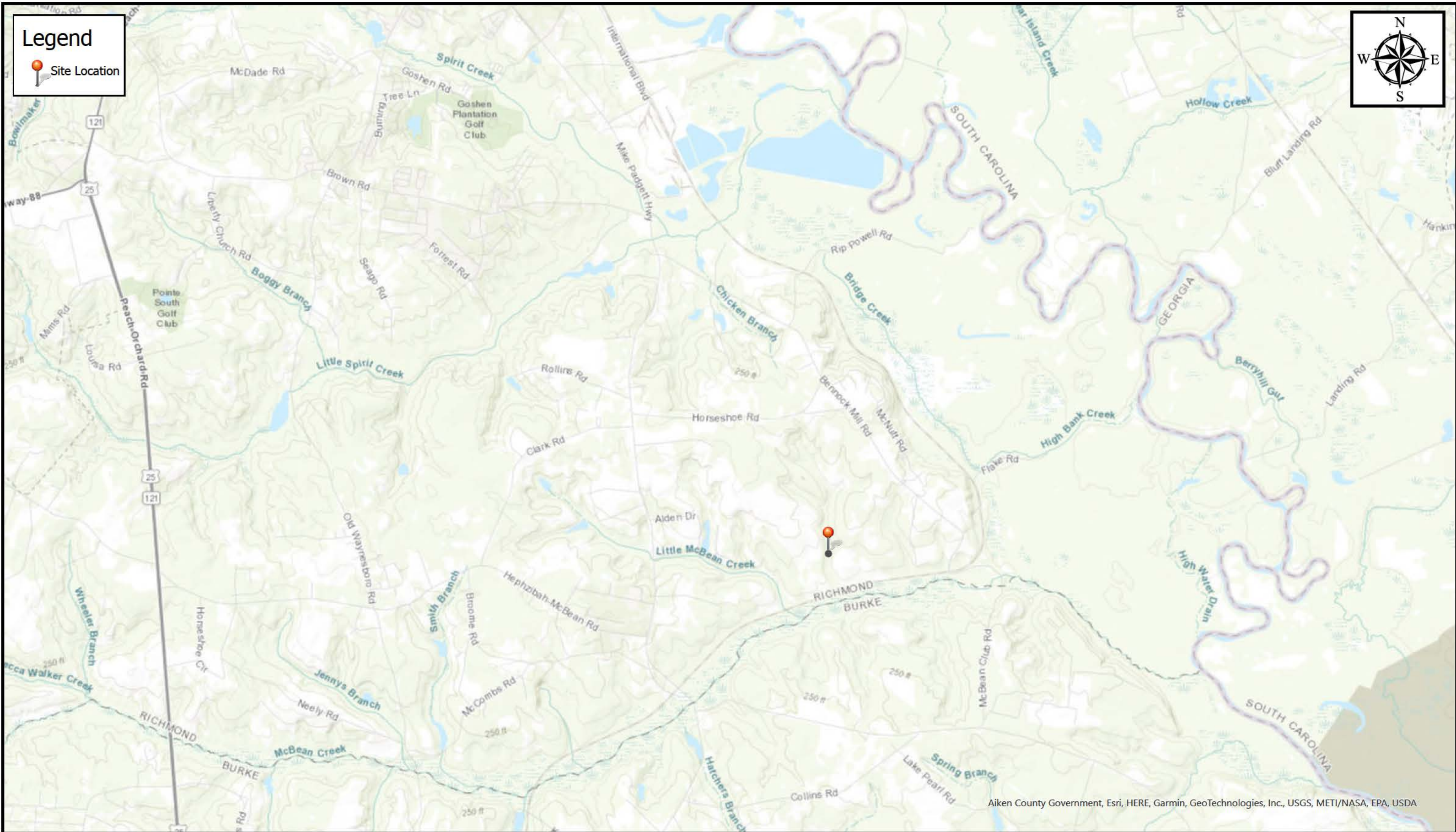
1. Vicinity Map
2. Project Location Map
3. Ortho Aerial
4. USGS Topographic Map
5. Aquatic Resource GPS Exhibit

6. Overall Site Layout
7. Overall Plan, Sheet P01
8. Impact 1 – Plan View, Sheet P02
9. Profiles, Sheet P03
10. Cross Sections at Crossing, Sheet P04
11. Inlet Cross Sections, Sheet P05
12. Out Cross Sections, Sheet P06
13. Impact 2 – Plan View, Sheet P07
14. Impact 3 – Plan View, Sheet P08



**Legend**

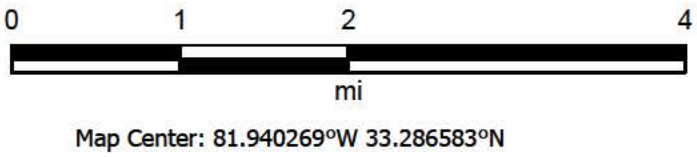
 Site Location



Aiken County Government, Esri, HERE, Garmin, GeoTechnologies, Inc., USGS, METI/NASA, EPA, USDA

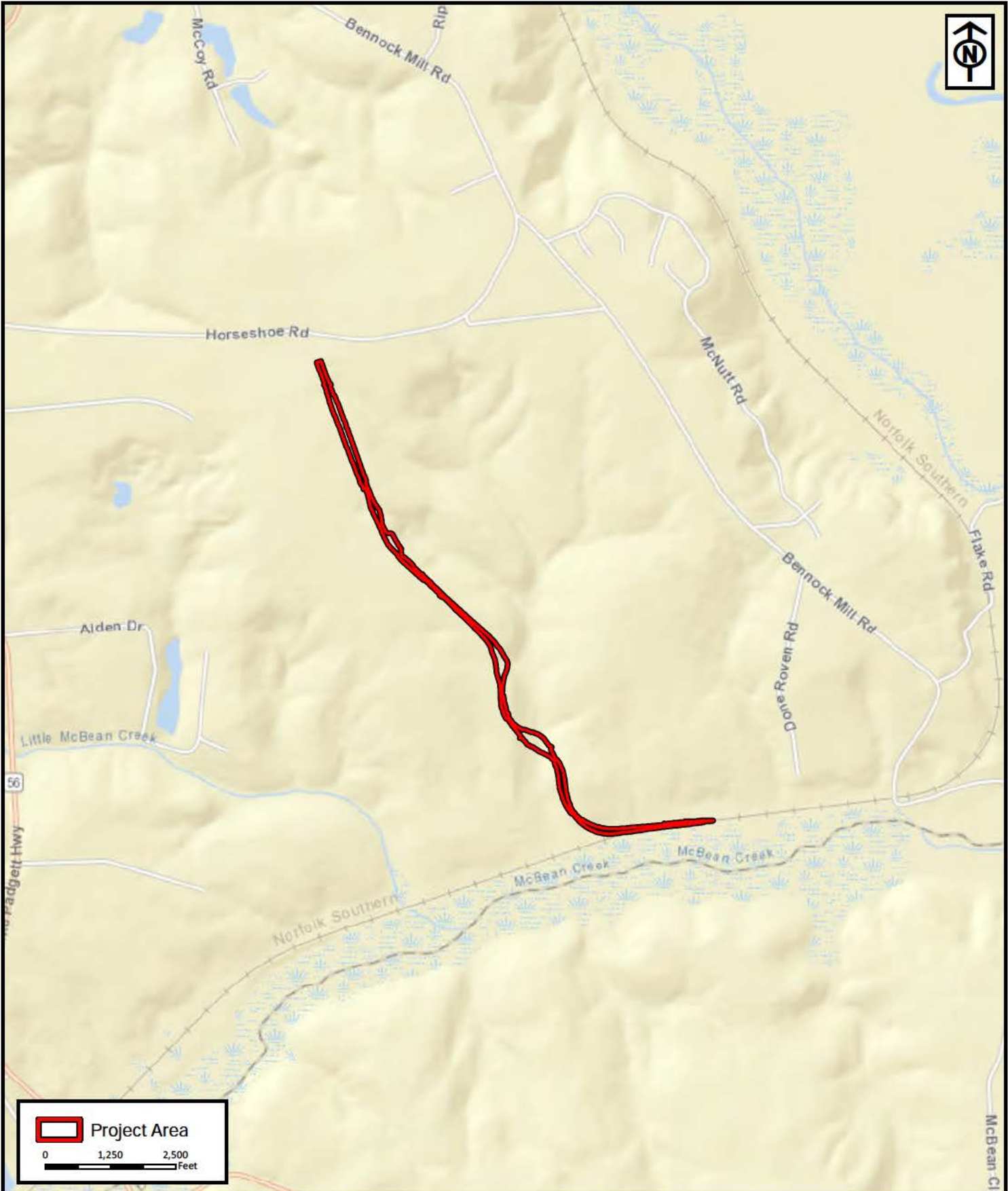


**Vicinity Map**  
**SAS-2016-00873**  
**Augusta Corporate Park - Industrial Lead Track**  
**Augusta, Richmond County, Georgia**



Map Created by: Justin M. Edwards, Regulatory Specialist  
 Date: 11/15/2022  
 Coordinate System: WGS 1984 Web Mercator Auxiliary Sphere  
 Projection: Mercator Auxiliary Sphere





RLC Project No.:	14-182.3
Figure No.:	1
Prepared By:	MW
Sketch Date:	8/9/2022
Map Scale :	1 inch = 2,500 feet

**Augusta Corporate Park  
Industrial Lead Tract**  
Richmond County, Georgia

**Project Location Map**  
Prepared For: Augusta Economic  
Development Authority

**RLC**  
RESOURCE+LAND  
CONSULTANTS  
41 Park of Commerce Way, Ste. 101  
Savannah, Georgia 31405  
912.443.9196 www.rlcinc.com





 Project Area

0      600      1,200  
Feet

RLC Project No.:	14-182.3
Figure No.:	5
Prepared By:	MW
Sketch Date:	8/9/2022
Map Scale :	1 inch = 1,200 feet

**Augusta Corporate Park  
Industrial Lead Tract**

Richmond County, Georgia

**Ortho Aerial**

Prepared For: Augusta Economic  
Development Authority

**RLC**

**RESOURCE+LAND  
CONSULTANTS**

41 Park of Commensal Way, Ste. 101  
Savannah, Georgia 31405  
912-44-55996 www.rlc.com





**Project Area**

0 1,250 2,500 Feet

RLC Project No.:	14-182.3
Figure No.:	2
Prepared By:	MW
Sketch Date:	8/9/2022
Map Scale :	1 inch = 2,500 feet

**Augusta Corporate Park  
Industrial Lead Tract**

Richmond County, Georgia

**USGS Topographic Map**

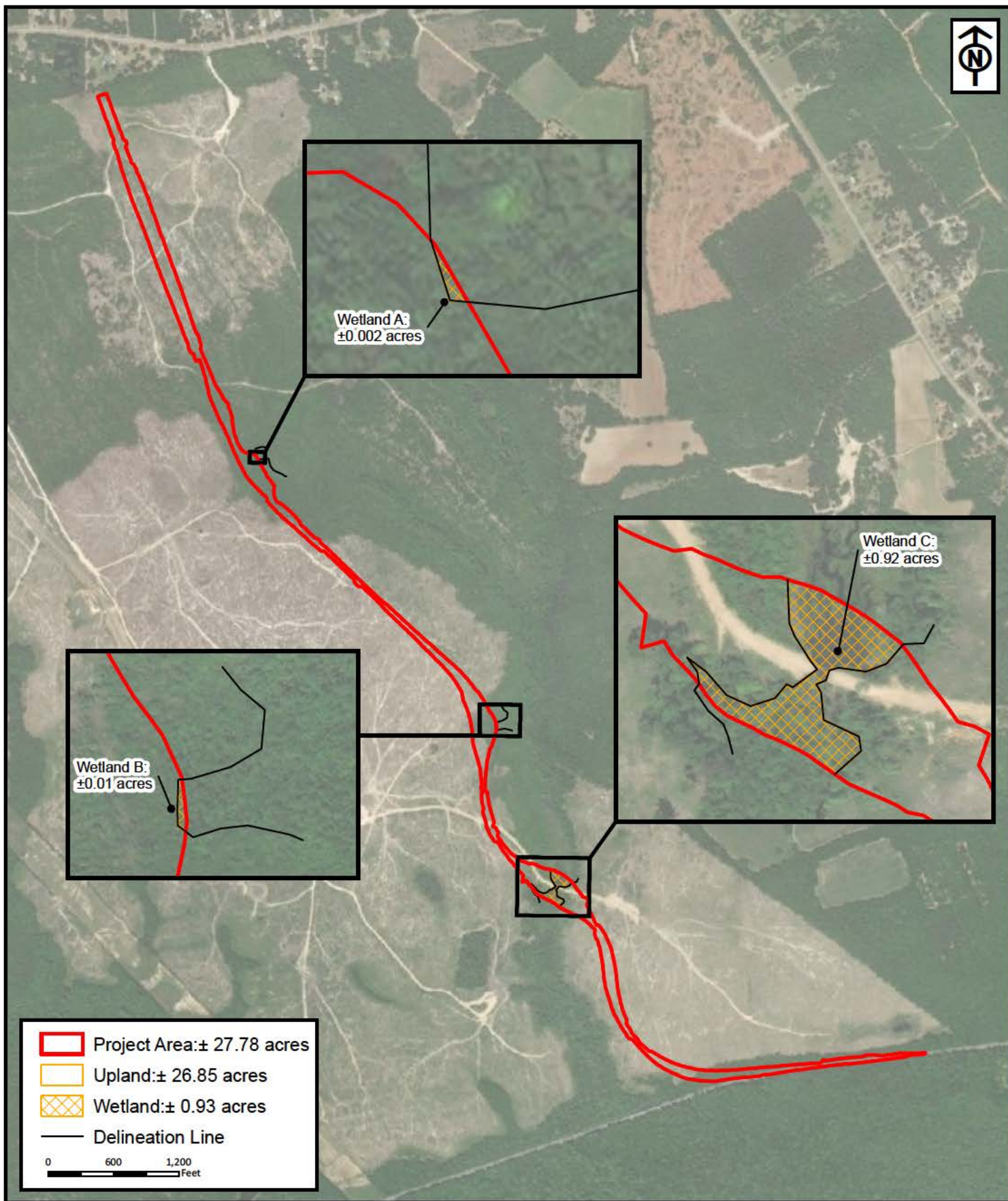
Prepared For: Augusta Economic  
Development Authority

**RLC**

RESOURCE-LAND  
CONSULTANTS

41 Park of Commerce Way, Ste. 101  
Savannah, Georgia 31405  
912.443.9796 www.rlc.com





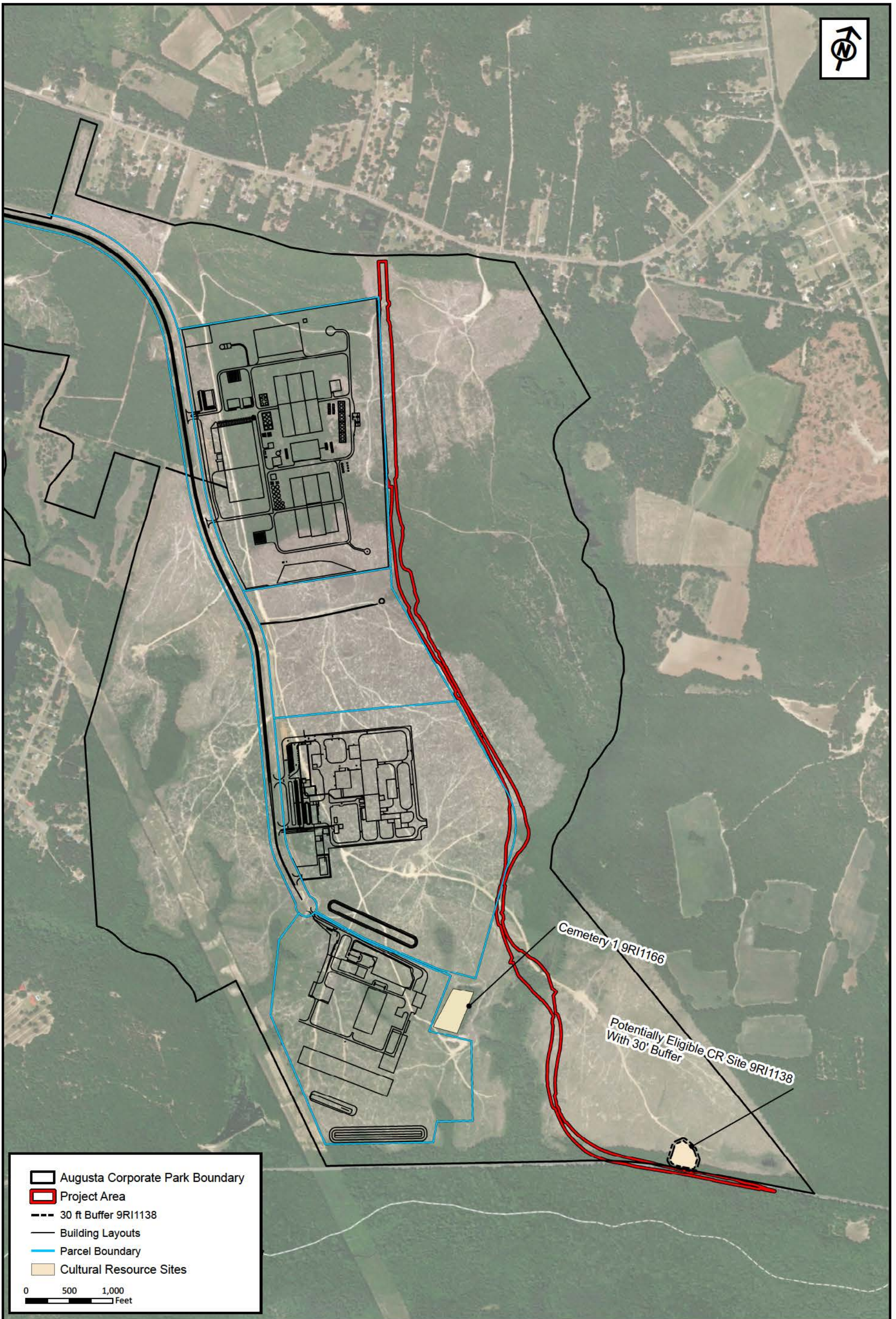
RLC Project No.:	14-182.3
Figure No.:	8
Prepared By:	MW
Sketch Date:	8/12/2022
Map Scale :	1 inch = 1,200 feet

**Augusta Corporate Park  
Industrial Lead Tract**  
Richmond County, Georgia

**Aquatic Resource  
GPS Exhibit**  
Prepared For: Augusta Economic  
Development Authority

**RLC**  
RESOURCE+LAND  
CONSULTANTS  
41 Park of Commerce Way, Ste. 101  
Savannah, Georgia 31405  
912.44.5796 www.rlcinc.com





- Augusta Corporate Park Boundary
- Project Area
- 30 ft Buffer 9RI1138
- Building Layouts
- Parcel Boundary
- Cultural Resource Sites

0 500 1,000  
Feet

RLC Project No.: 14-182.3  
 Figure No.: 9  
 Prepared By: RP  
 Sketch Date: 8/12/2022  
 Map Scale: 1 inch = 1,000 feet

**Augusta Corporate Park  
 Industrial Lead Track**  
 Richmond County, Georgia

**Overall Site Layout**  
 Prepared For: Augusta Economic  
 Development Authority

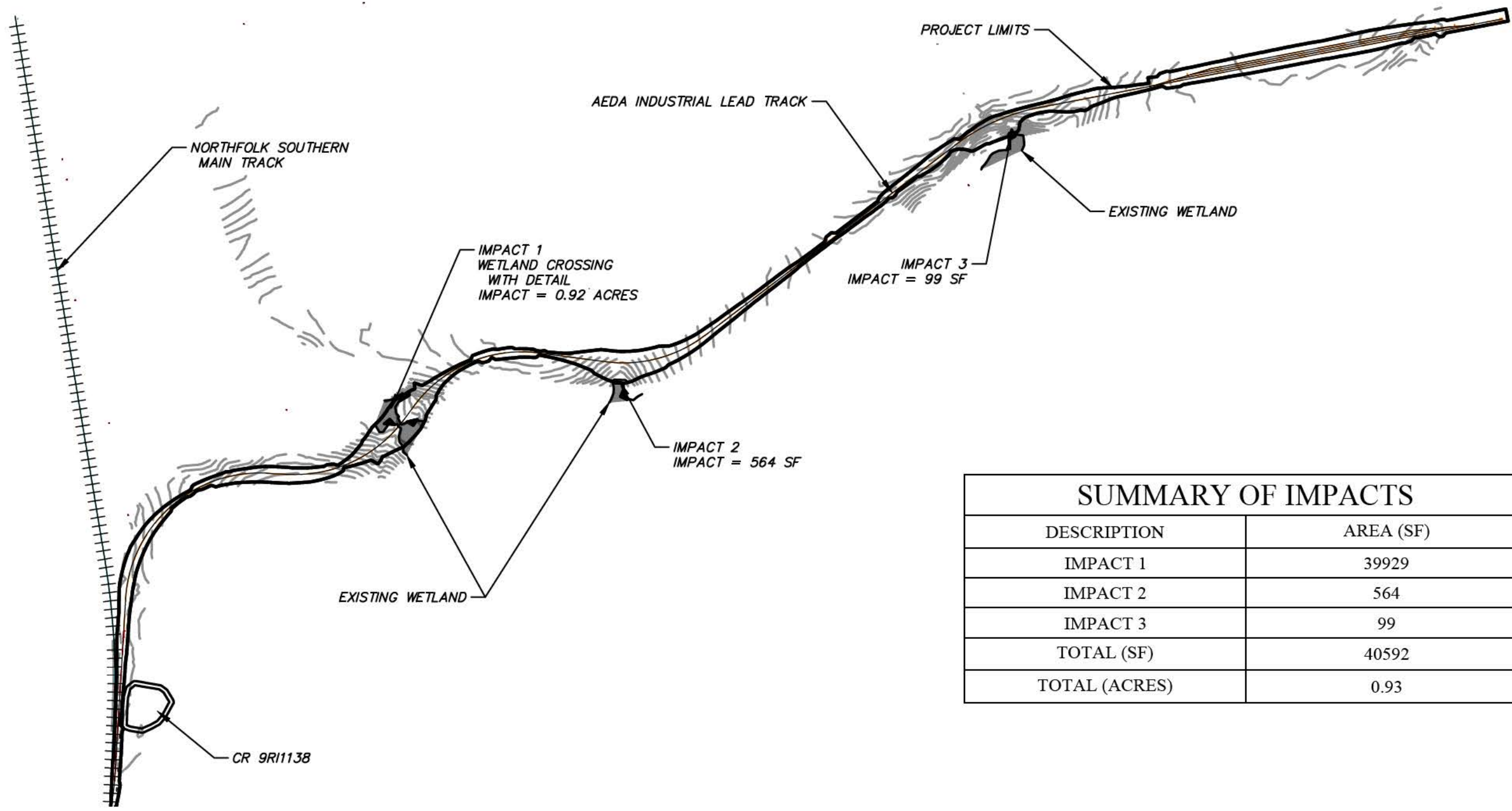


**RESOURCE+LAND  
 CONSULTANTS**

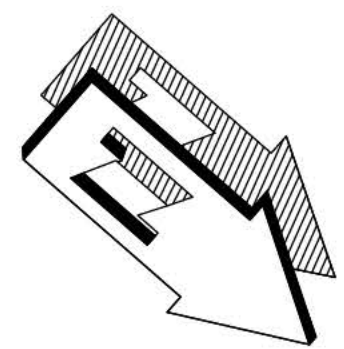
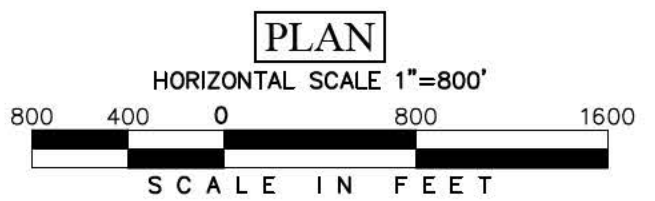
41 Park of Commerce Way, Ste 101  
 Savannah, GA 31405  
 tel 912.443.5896 fax 912.443.5898



G:\PROJECTS\2019\0024\_AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK - RAIL SPUR SURVEY\AC-DRAWINGS\CIVIL\2019-0024\_OV\_PERMIT.DWG 8/8/2022 4:56 PM



SUMMARY OF IMPACTS	
DESCRIPTION	AREA (SF)
IMPACT 1	39929
IMPACT 2	564
IMPACT 3	99
TOTAL (SF)	40592
TOTAL (ACRES)	0.93



**PRELIMINARY**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD TRACK

Overall Plan

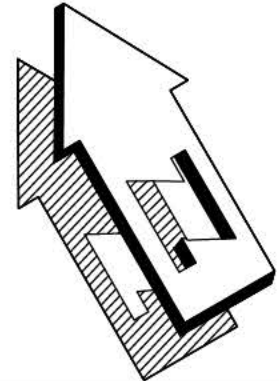
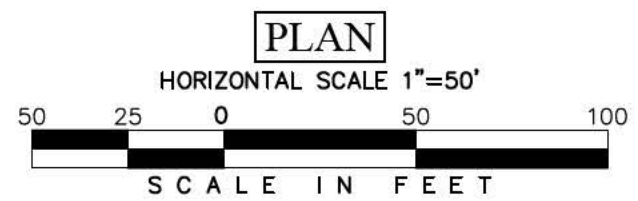
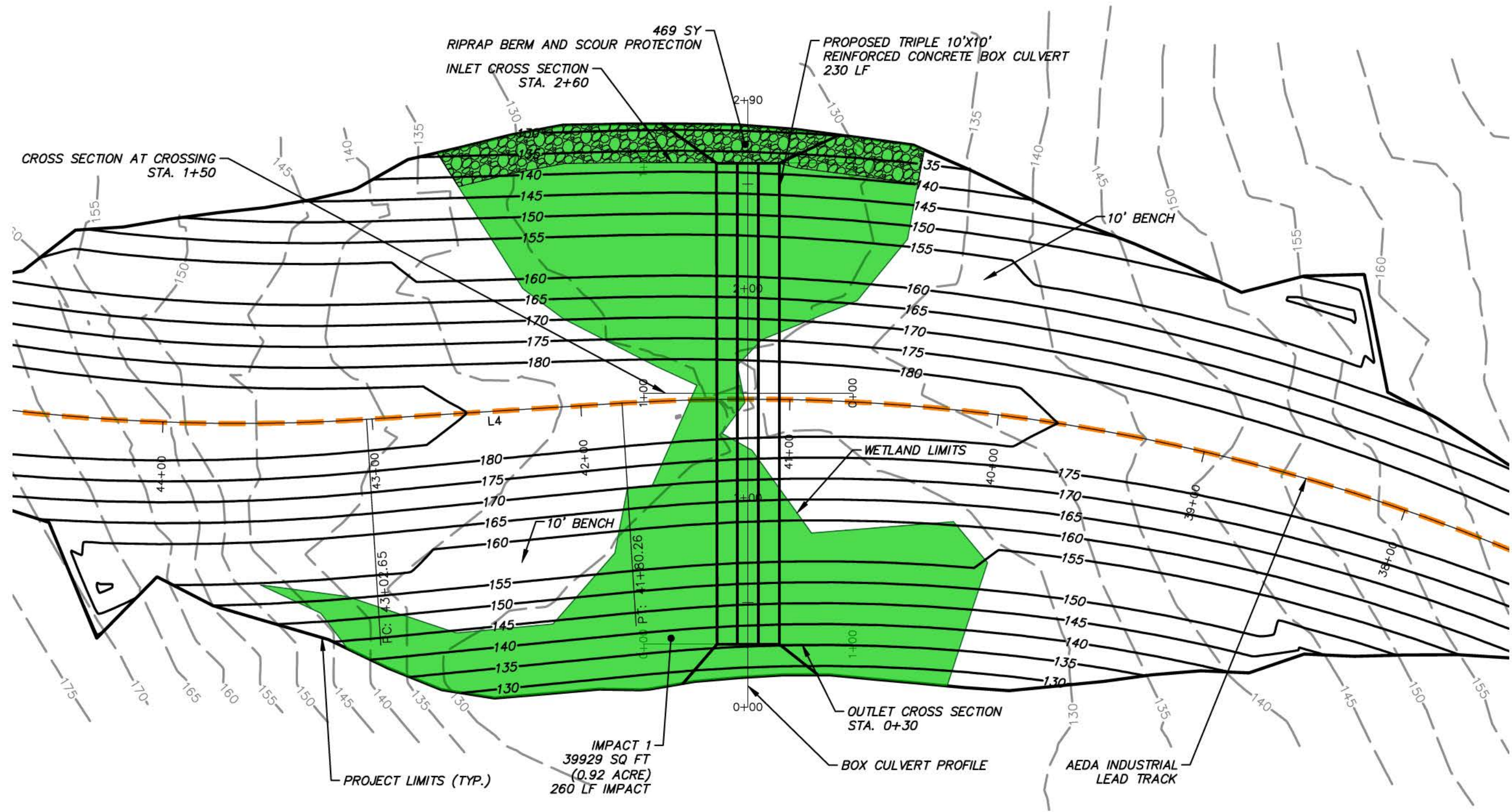
JOB NO. 2019-0024 DATE 8/8/2022

DRAWN MRS CHECKED RDS APPROVED MBM

SHEET  
**P01**



G:\PROJECTS\2019\0024\_AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK - RAIL SPUR SURVEY\AC-DRAWINGS\CIVIL\2019-0024\_PLAN\_PERMIT.DWG 8/8/2022 4:57 PM



**PRELIMINARY**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



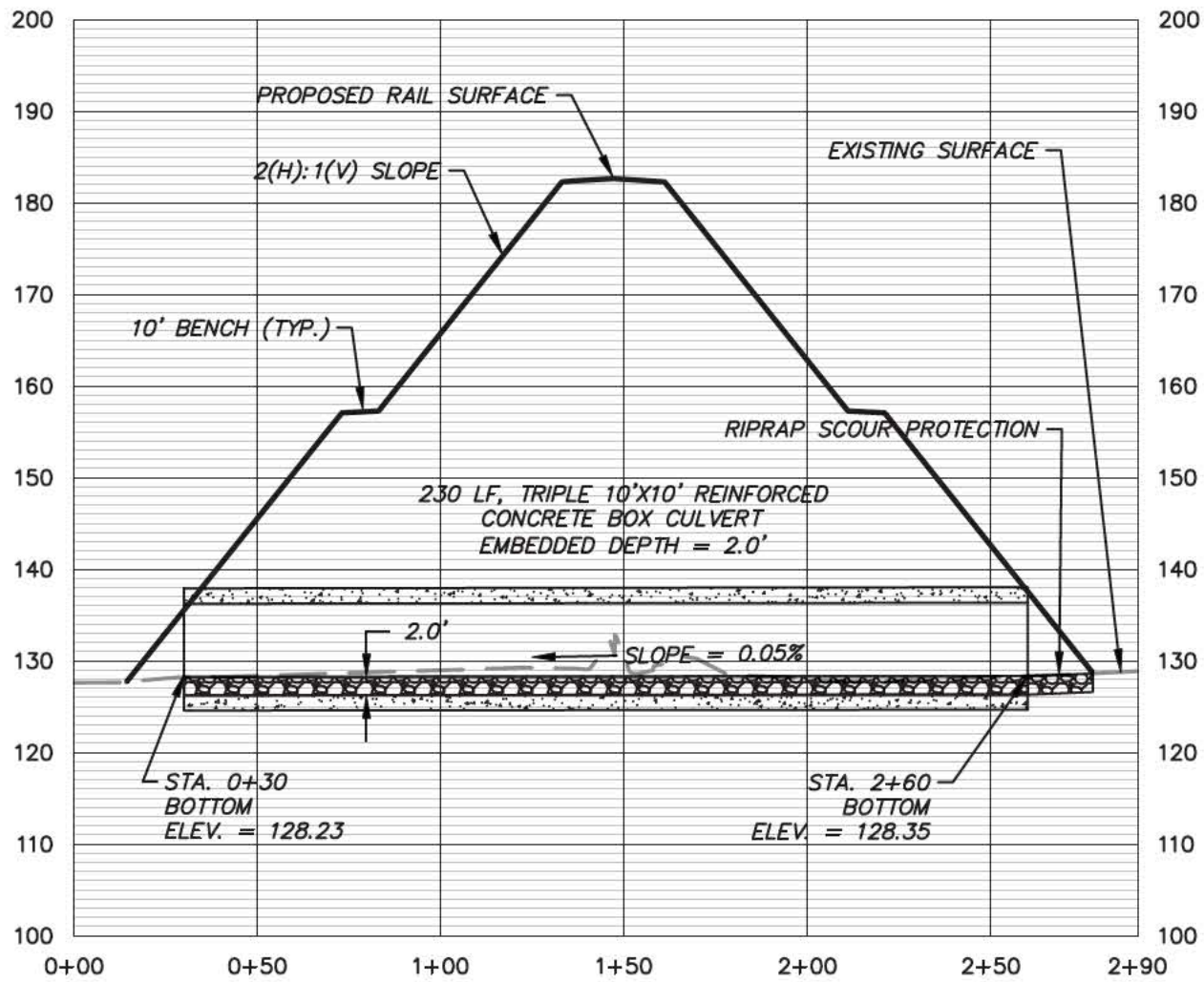
AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD TRACK

Impact 1 - Plan View

JOB NO.	DATE	DRAWN	CHECKED	APPROVED
2019-0024	8/8/2022	MRS	RDS	MBM

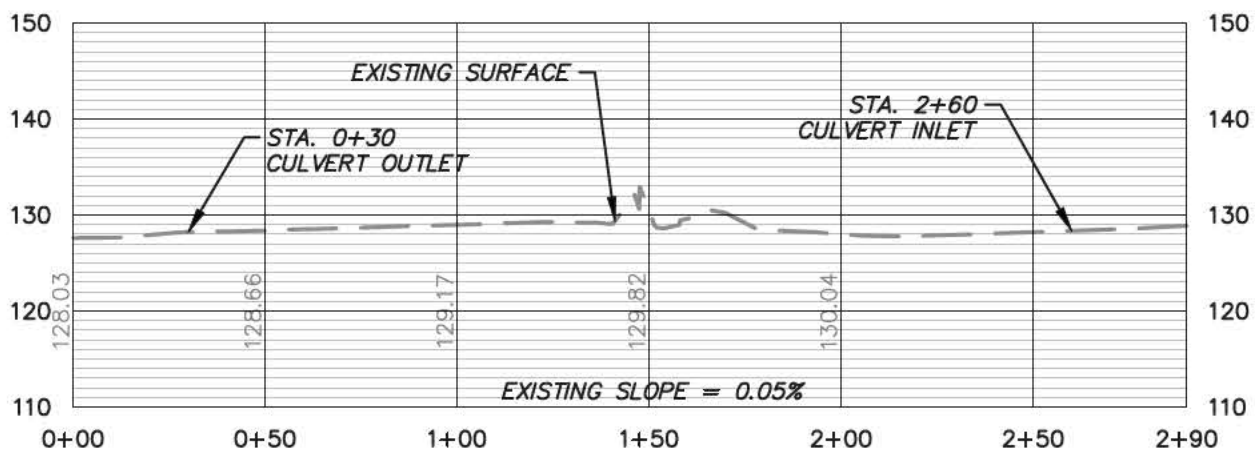
SHEET  
**P02**





**BOX CULVERT RAIL CROSSING**

HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=50'  
VERTICAL SCALE: 1"=20'



**EXISTING BOX CULVERT RAIL CROSSING**

HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=50'  
VERTICAL SCALE: 1"=20'

**PRELIMINARY**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

**P03**  
SHEET

AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD TRACK

Profiles



**CRANSTON**

JOB NO.

2019-0024

DATE

8/8/2022

DRAWN

MRS

CHECKED

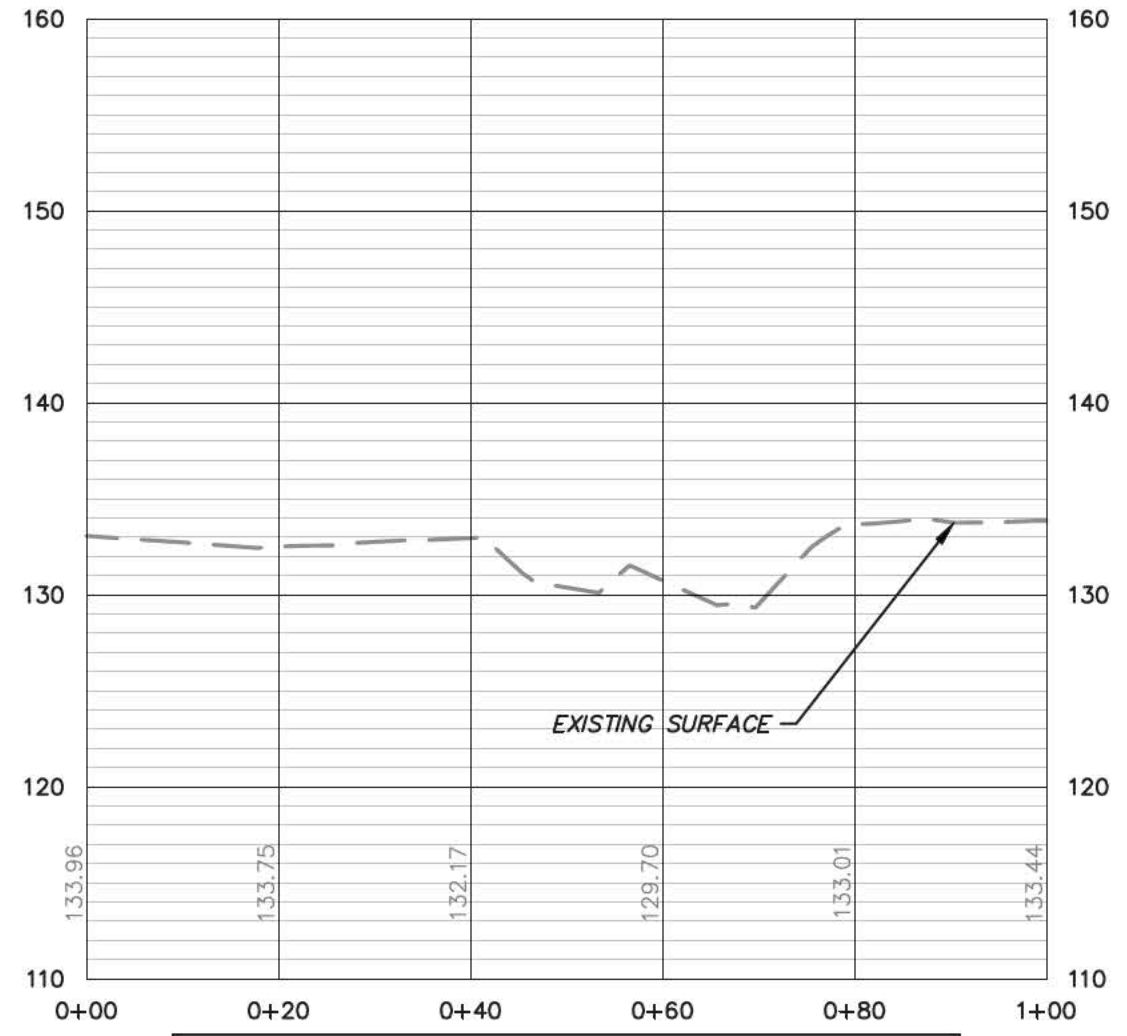
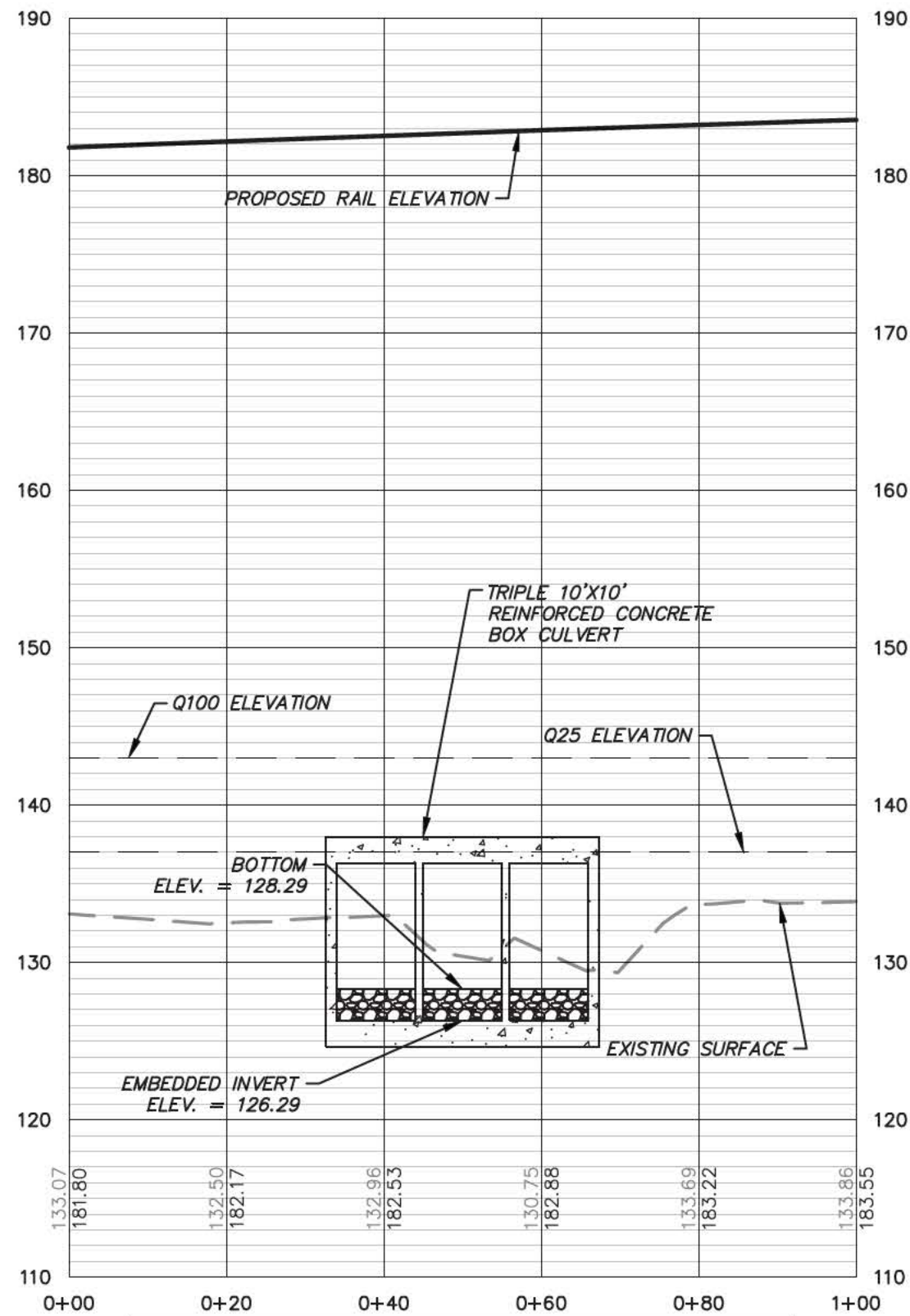
RDS

APPROVED

MBM



G:\PROJECTS\2019\0024\_AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK - RAIL SPUR SURVEY\AC-DRAWINGS\CIVIL\2019-0024\_XS\_PERMIT.DWG 8/15/2022 11:55 AM



**PRELIMINARY**  
 NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

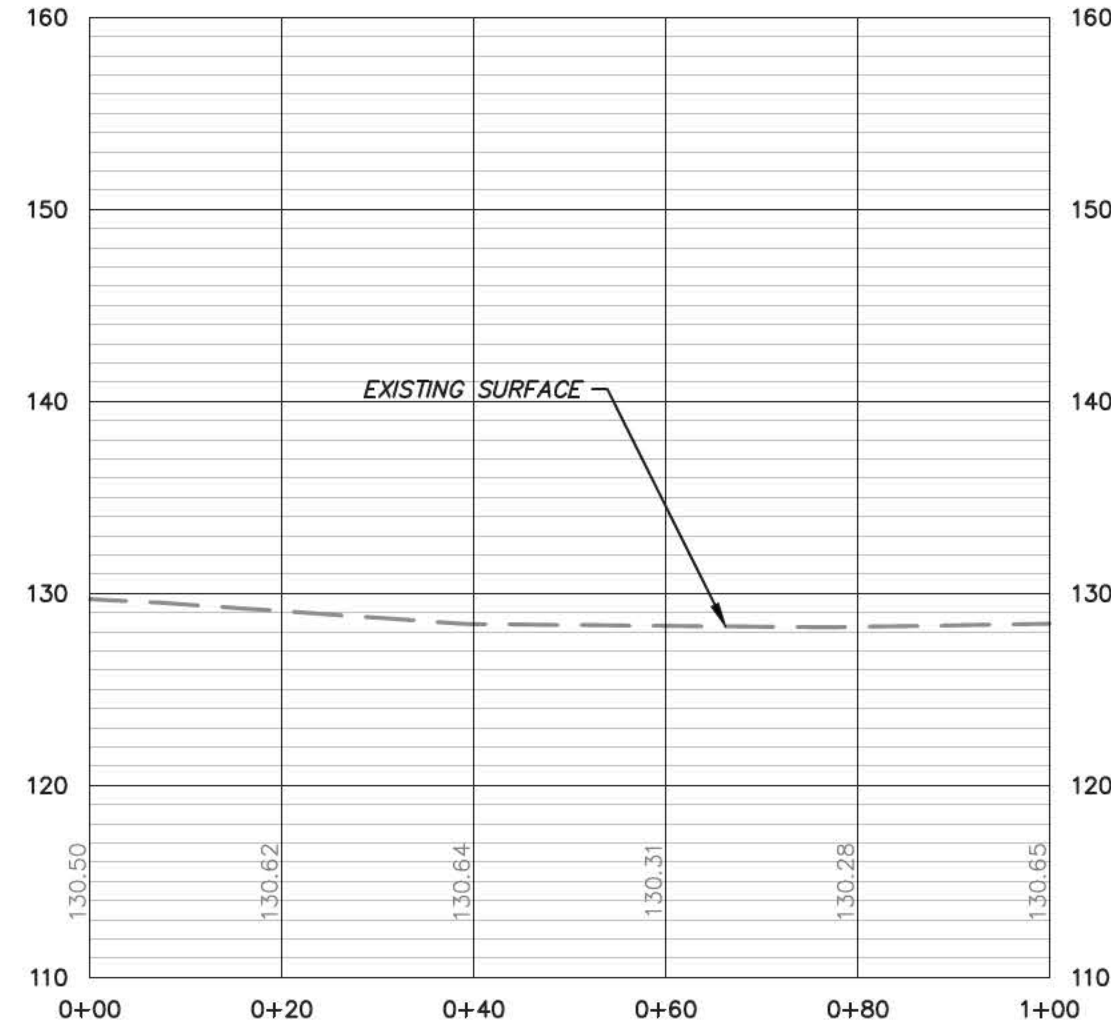
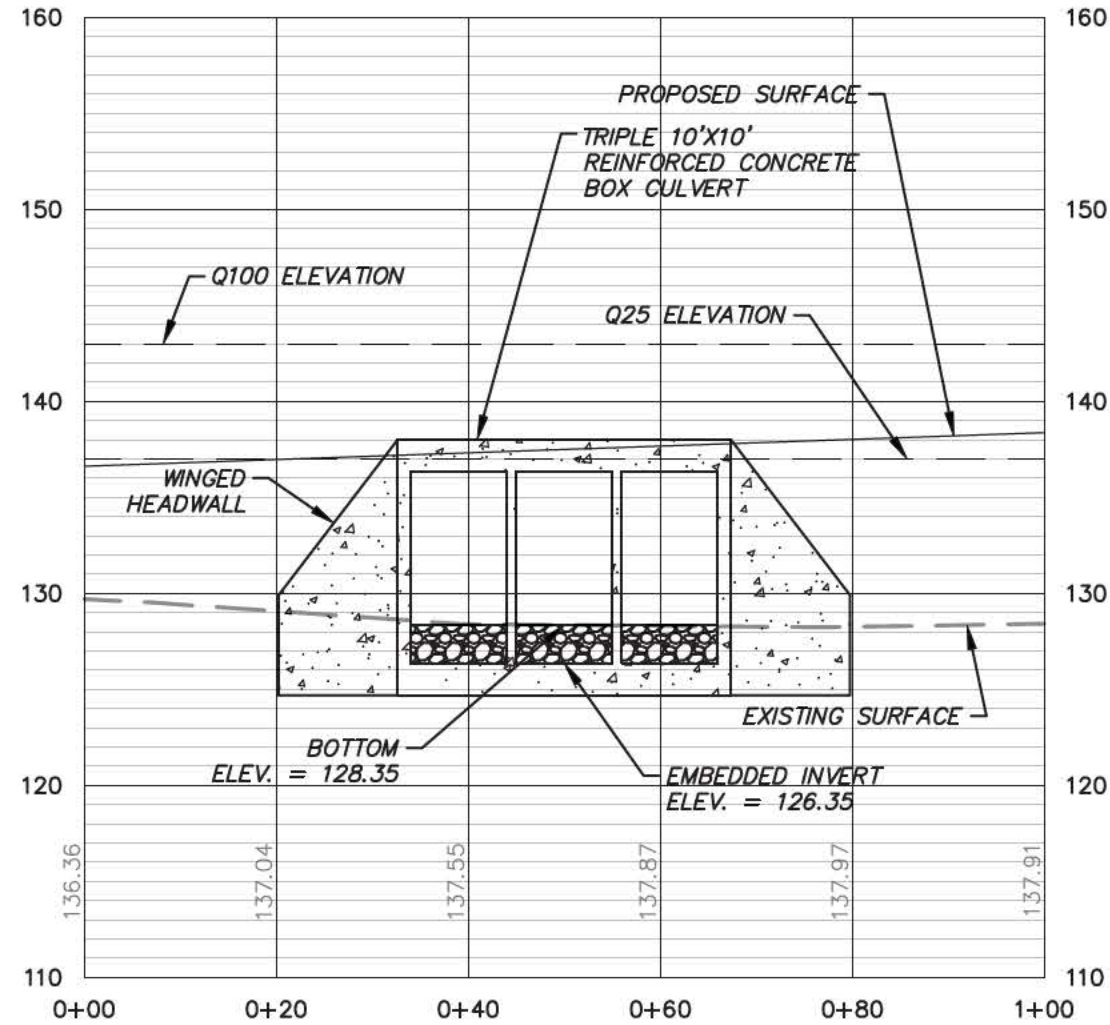


**AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD TRACK**

Cross Sections at Crossing	DATE	8/8/2022
	JOB NO.	2019-0024
APPROVED	CHECKED	RDS
	DRAWN	MRS
APPROVED		MBM

SHEET  
**P04**

G:\PROJECTS\2019\2019-0024\_AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK - RAIL SPUR SURVEY\AC-DRAWINGS\CIVIL\2019-0024\_XS\_PERMIT.DWG 8/15/2022 11:56 AM



**PRELIMINARY**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

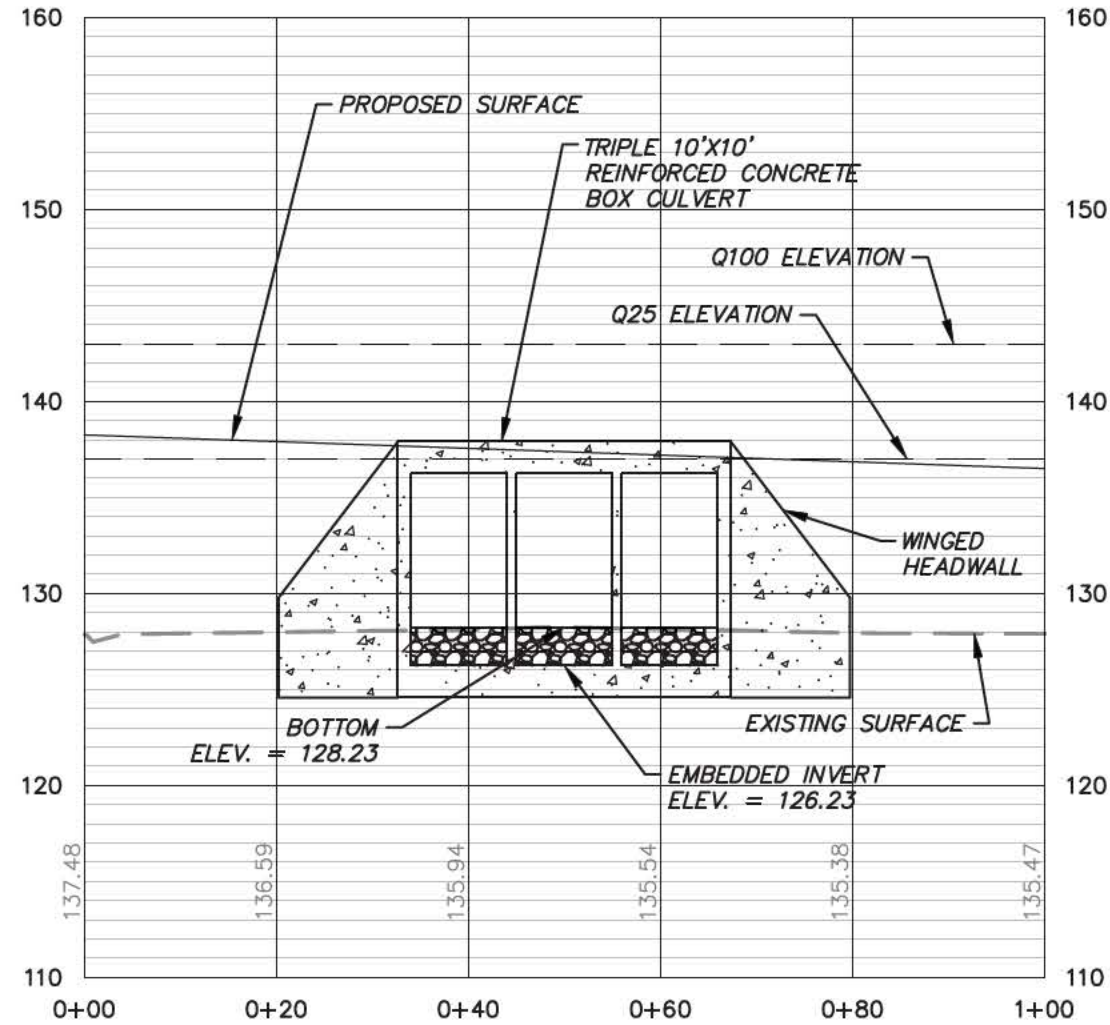


**AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD TRACK**

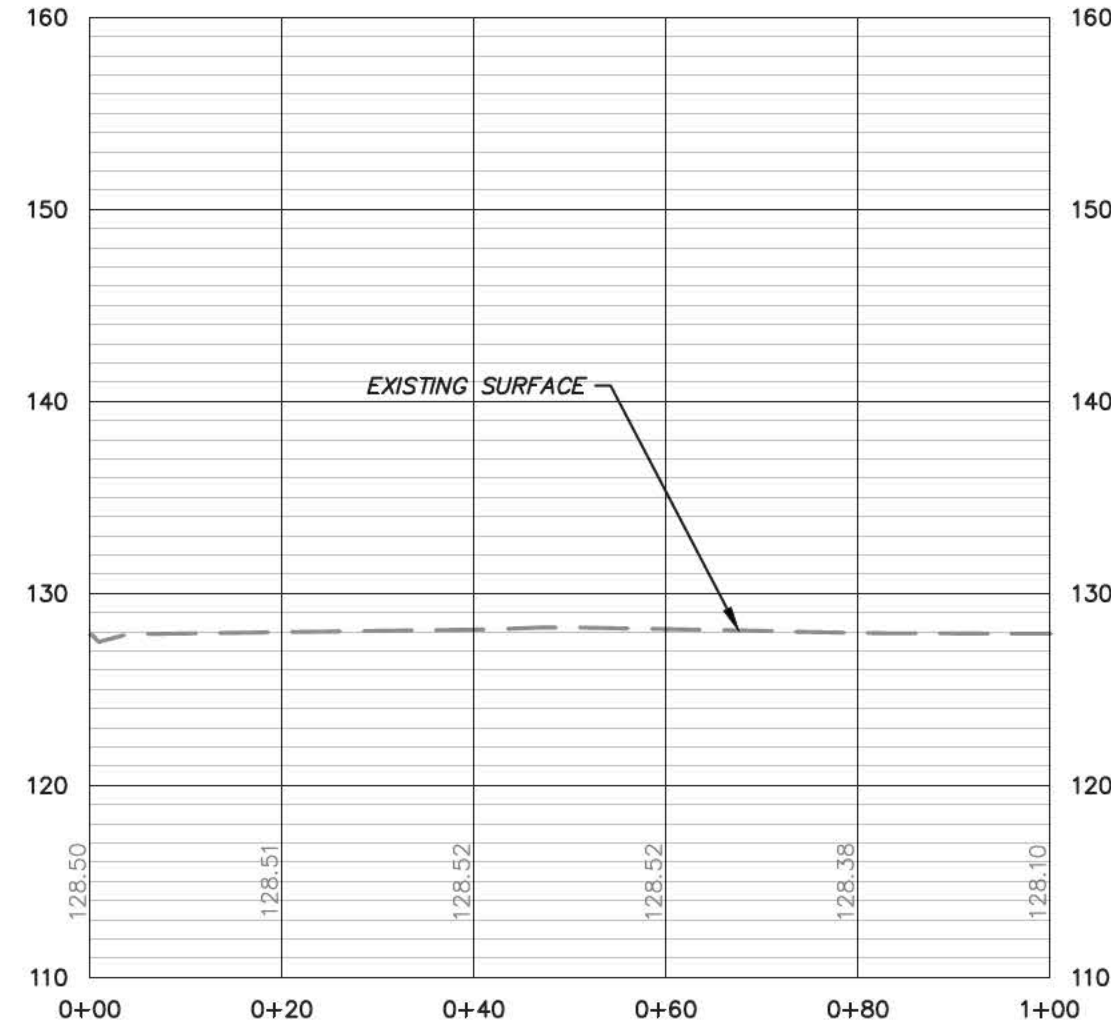
Inlet Cross Sections	DATE	8/8/2022
	JOB NO.	2019-0024
APPROVED	DRAWN	MRS
	CHECKED	RDS
	APPROVED	MBM

SHEET  
**P05**

G:\PROJECTS\2019\2019-0024\_AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK - RAIL SPUR SURVEY\AC-DRAWINGS\CIVIL\2019-0024\_XS\_PERMIT.DWG 8/15/2022 11:56 AM



**PROPOSED OUTLET CROSS SECTION**  
 HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=20'  
 VERTICAL SCALE: 1"=10'



**EXISTING OUTLET CROSS SECTION**  
 HORIZONTAL SCALE: 1"=20'  
 VERTICAL SCALE: 1"=10'

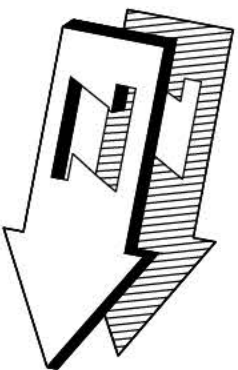
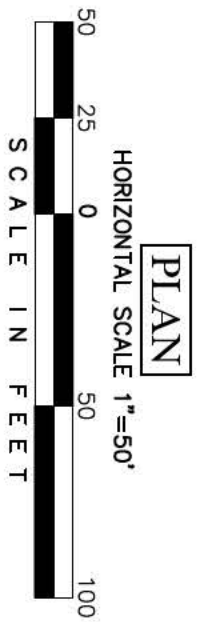
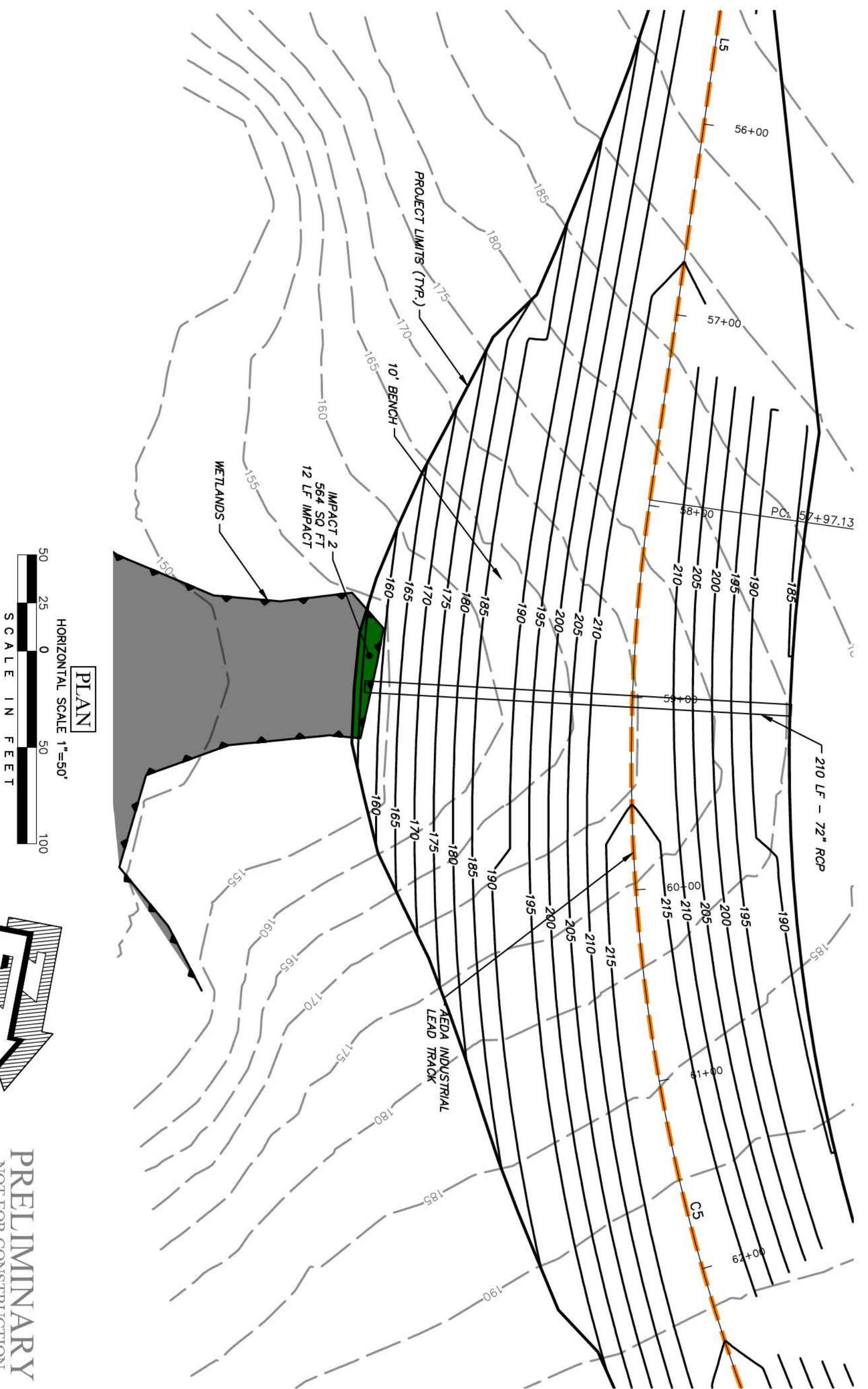
**PRELIMINARY**  
 NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD TRACK	
Outlet Cross Sections	
JOB NO.	2019-0024
DATE	8/8/2022
DRAWN	MRS
CHECKED	RDS
APPROVED	MBM

SHEET  
**P06**





**PRELIMINARY**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

**AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD TRACK**

**Impact 2 - Plan View**

**P07**

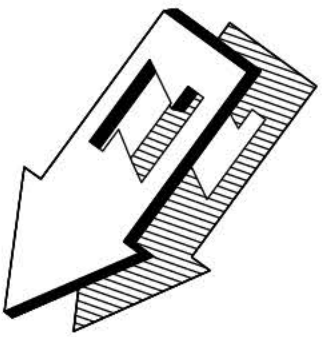
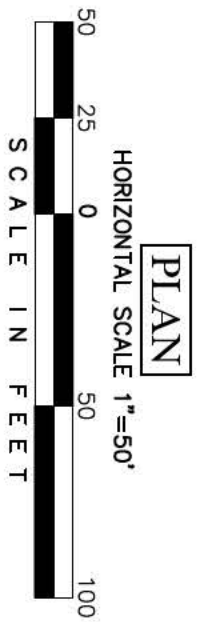
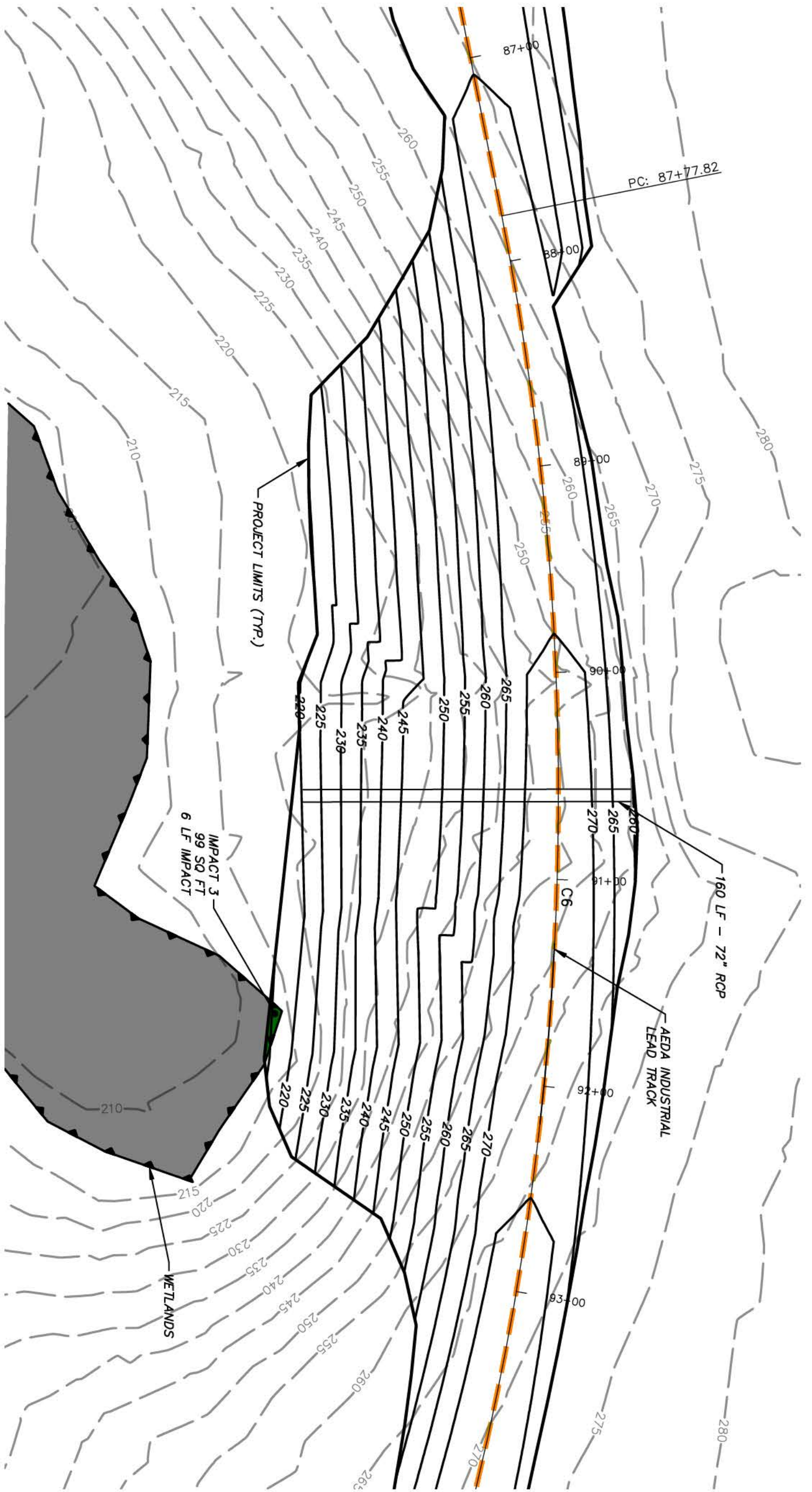
SHEET

JOB NO. 2019-0024	DATE 8/8/2022	DRAWN MRS	CHECKED RDS	APPROVED MBM
----------------------	------------------	--------------	----------------	-----------------



**CRANSTON**





**PRELIMINARY**  
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

**AUGUSTA CORPORATE PARK INDUSTRIAL LEAD TRACK**

**Impact 3 - Plan View**

**P08**

SHEET

JOB NO. 2019-0024	DATE 8/8/2022	DRAWN MRS	CHECKED RDS	APPROVED MBM
----------------------	------------------	--------------	----------------	-----------------



**CRANSTON**