



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAVANNAH DISTRICT
1025 BUFORD DAM ROAD
BUFORD, GEORGIA 30518

May 13, 2021

Regulatory Division
SAS-2011-00779

PUBLIC NOTICE
Savannah District

The District Engineer has received a request to modify the Georgia-Alabama Land Trust's In-Lieu-Fee (ILF) Instrument as compensatory mitigation for Federal and State permits as described below:

Application Number: SAS-2011-00779

ILF Program Sponsor: Mr. Alex Robertson
Georgia-Alabama Land Trust
226 Old Ladiga Road
Piedmont, Alabama 36272

ILF Project Sponsor: Mr. Gregory Smith
Corblu Ecology Group, LLC
1305 Lakes Parkway, Suite 110
Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043

This public notice does not imply, on the parts of the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) or other agencies, either favorable or unfavorable opinion of the work to be performed, but is issued to solicit comments regarding the factors on which final decisions will be based.

Location of Proposed Work: The 36.62-acre Beaverdam Creek Wetland Site (BCWS) is a proposed ILF mitigation project, located directly southeast of the intersection of US Highway 78/State Route 10 (Lexington Road) and Beaverdam Creek, approximately 2 ¾ miles west of the City of Rayle, in Wilkes County, Georgia (Latitude 33.7971 and Longitude -82.9470). The project is situated within the Broad River Basin (8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 03060105), with Beaverdam Creek flowing along the western boundary of the BCWS. Please refer to the enclosed Location/Vicinity, County Roads, and Parcel Maps (Figures 1 through 3) for more detailed information on the location of the BCWS.

Description of Requested Modification: The Georgia-Alabama Land Trust (GALT) has requested authorization to incorporate the proposed BCWS, through a major modification, into the ILF Program Instrument as compensatory mitigation for 5.59 advance 2018 wetland credits (44.71 legacy wetland credits) previously sold within the

Upper Savannah Primary Service Area (HUCs 03060102, 03060103, 03060104 and 03060105). The proposed mitigation plan for the BCWS consists of the following onsite mitigation prescriptions: (1) 9.45 acres of wetland hydrologic and vegetative restoration; (2) 6.21 acres of wetland hydrologic and vegetative enhancement; (3) 1.59 acres of wetland preservation; and (4) 19.37 acres of wetland upland buffer restoration. Please refer to the enclosed Aerial, Wetland Delineation and Proposed Mitigation Areas Maps (Figures 5, 16 and 18) for more information regarding the existing and proposed conditions of the BCWS.

Oversight: This ILF Program may be considered as one of a number of practicable alternatives available to applicants to compensate for unavoidable impacts associated with permits issued under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for projects located within the prescribed service areas.

Oversight of this ILF program will be by a group of Federal and State agency representatives collectively referred to as the Interagency Review Team (IRT). The IRT is chaired by the Corps and further comprised of representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division.

Authority: A public notice regarding the major modification of the approved ILF Program Instrument is required pursuant to Title 33 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 325 and 332 and Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 230, entitled "Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources, Final Rule", published in the Federal Register on April 10, 2008.

Consideration of Public Comments: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; federal, state, and location agencies and officials; Native American Tribes; and other interested parties to consider and evaluate this proposed modification of the approved ILF Program Instrument. The modification can be seen at the Corps, Regulatory Division, 1025 Buford Dam Road, Buford Georgia, 30518; or, via our Regulatory Information Banking and In-Lieu Fee Tracking System (RIBITS) website (https://ribits.ops.usace.army.mil/ords/f?p=107:378:14627640156331::NO::P378_PROG_RAM_ID:1501). Written comments received will be considered by the Corps in evaluating this proposal. Comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards and flood plain values (in accordance with Executive Order 11988), land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the public.

Preliminary review indicates that: 1) An environmental impact statement will not be required; 2) No species of fish, wildlife, or plant (or their critical habitat) listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (PL 93-205) will be affected; and, 3) No cultural or historical resources considered eligible or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places will be affected according to a website review of known listed properties. Additional information may change any of these preliminary findings.

Comment Period: Anyone wishing to comment on this proposal should submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Regulatory Division, Attention: Mr. Justin Hammonds, 1025 Buford Dam Road, Buford, Georgia 30518, no later than 30-days from the date of this notice. Please refer to the ILF Program and Project Names (Georgia-Alabama Land Trust's In-Lieu-Fee Program – Beaverdam Creek Wetland Site) and the Regulatory Division file number (SAS-2011-00779) in your comments.

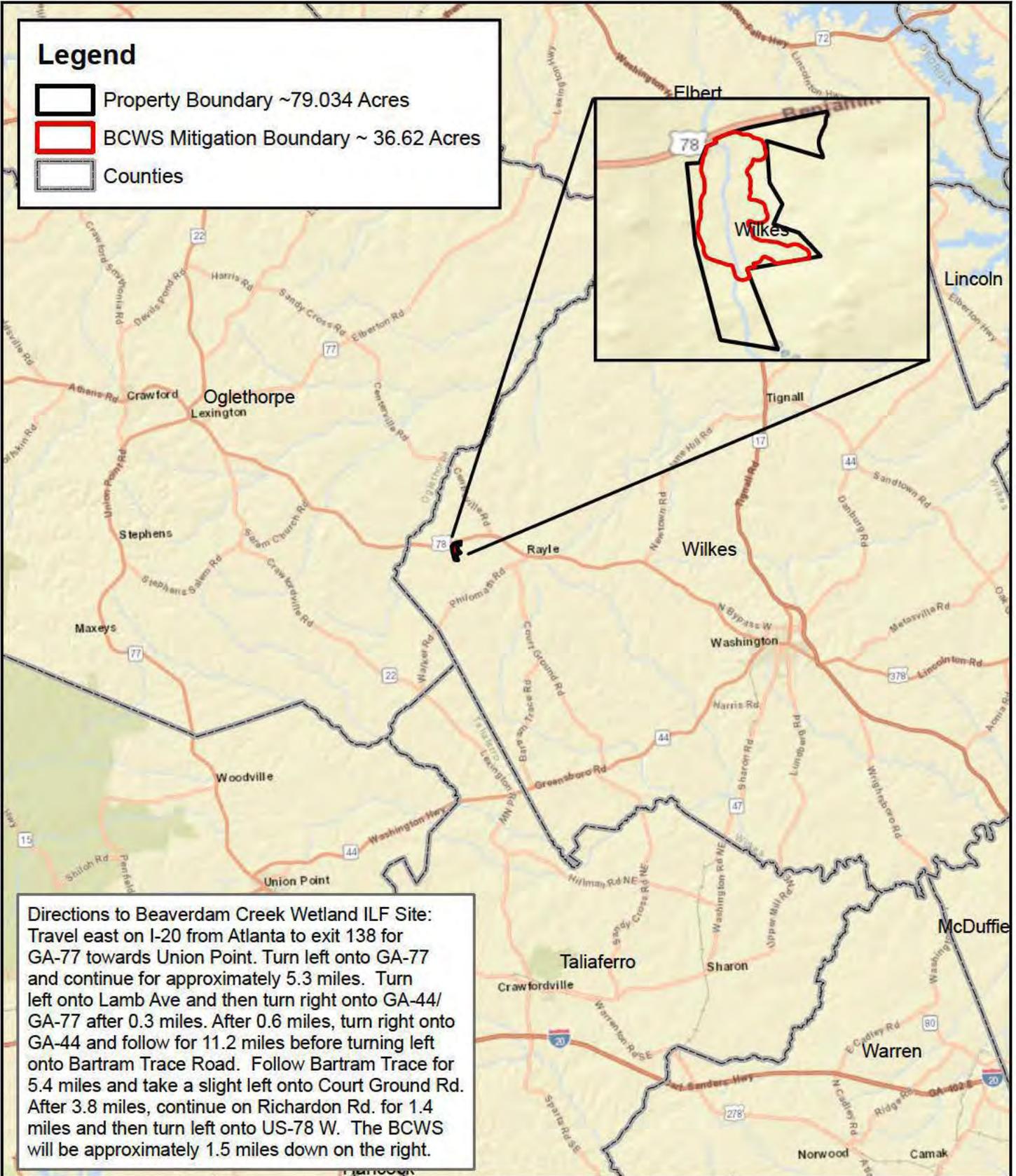
If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Justin Hammonds, at 678-804-5227, or via electronic mail (e-mail) at justin.a.hammonds@usace.army.mil.

Enclosures

1. Location/Vicinity Map (Figure 1)
2. County Roads Map (Figure 2)
3. Parcel Map (Figure 3)
4. Aerial Map (Figure 5)
5. Wetland Delineation Map (Figure 16)
6. Proposed Mitigation Areas Map (Figure 18)

Legend

-  Property Boundary ~79.034 Acres
-  BCWS Mitigation Boundary ~ 36.62 Acres
-  Counties

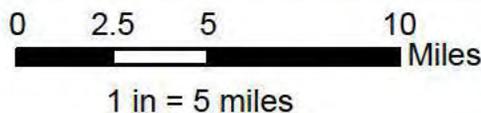


Directions to Beaverdam Creek Wetland ILF Site:
 Travel east on I-20 from Atlanta to exit 138 for GA-77 towards Union Point. Turn left onto GA-77 and continue for approximately 5.3 miles. Turn left onto Lamb Ave and then turn right onto GA-44/ GA-77 after 0.3 miles. After 0.6 miles, turn right onto GA-44 and follow for 11.2 miles before turning left onto Bartram Trace Road. Follow Bartram Trace for 5.4 miles and take a slight left onto Court Ground Rd. After 3.8 miles, continue on Richardson Rd. for 1.4 miles and then turn left onto US-78 W. The BCWS will be approximately 1.5 miles down on the right.



Beaverdam Creek Wetland ILF Site
 Wilkes County, Georgia

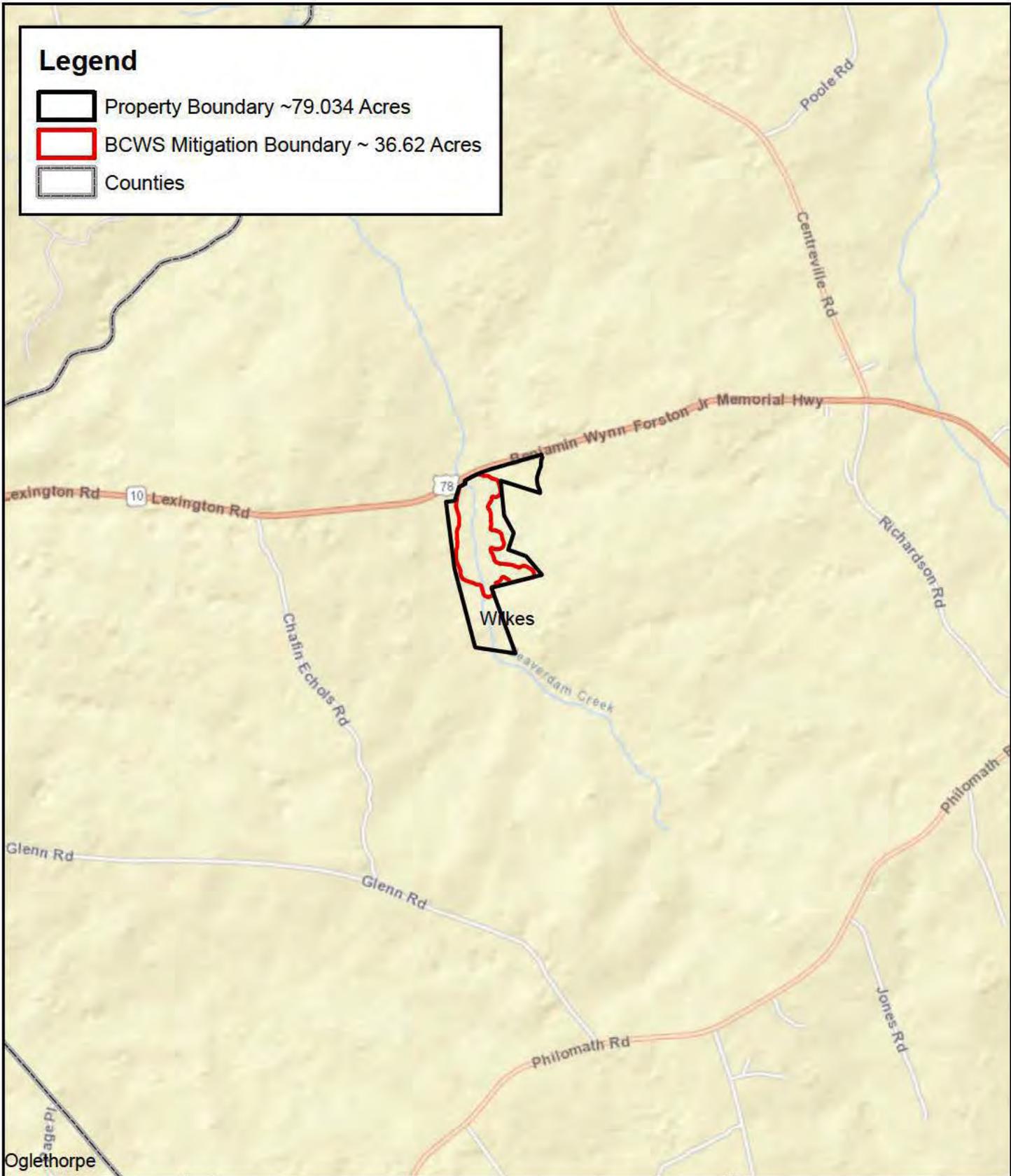
Figure 1
 Location/Vicinity Map



March 2021

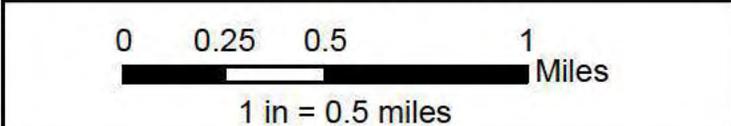
Legend

-  Property Boundary ~79.034 Acres
-  BCWS Mitigation Boundary ~ 36.62 Acres
-  Counties

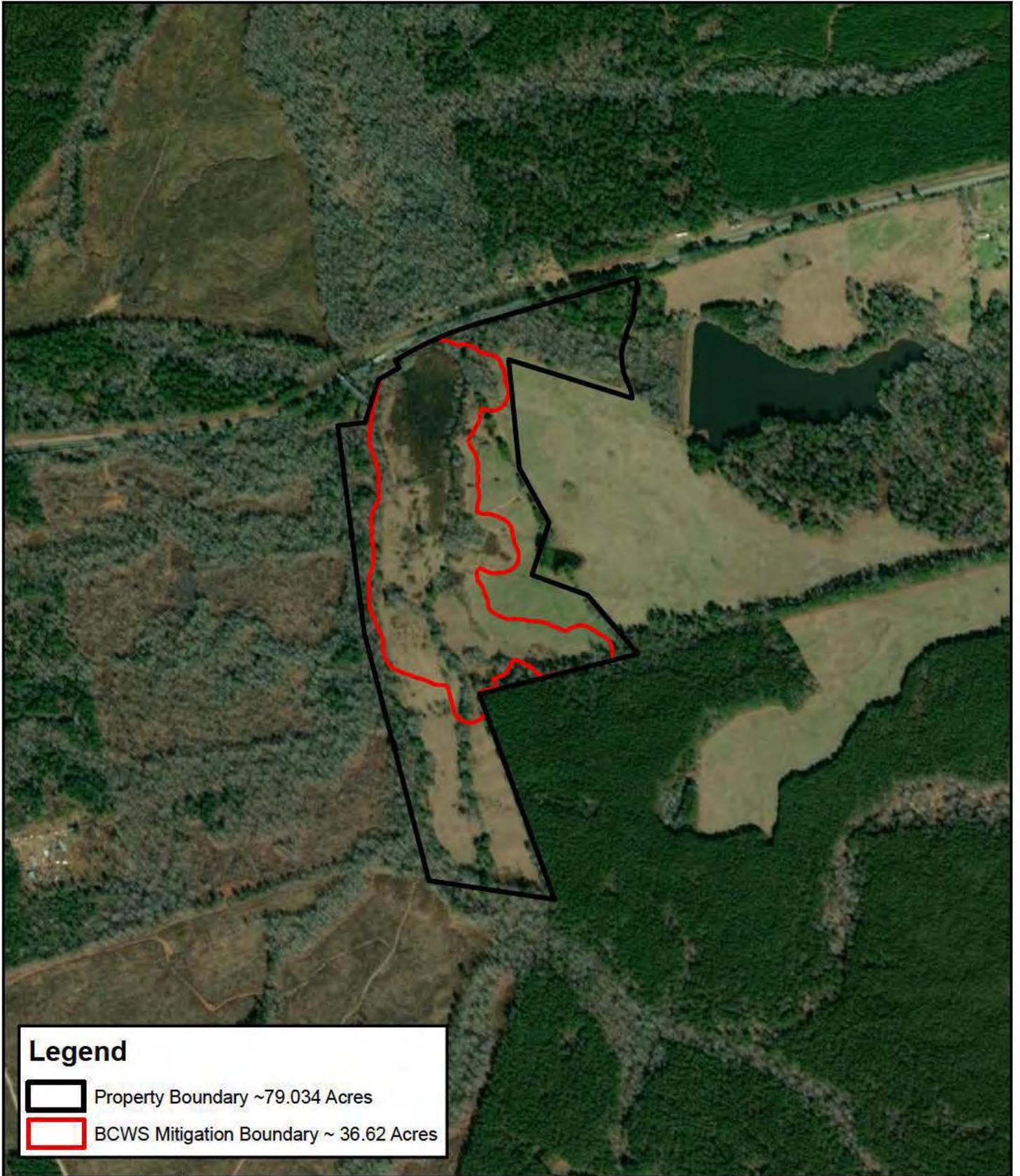


Beaverdam Creel Wetland ILF Site
Wilkes County, Georgia

Figure 2
County Roads Map

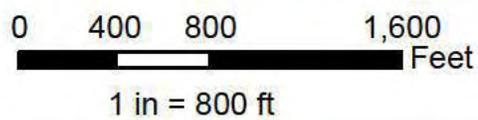


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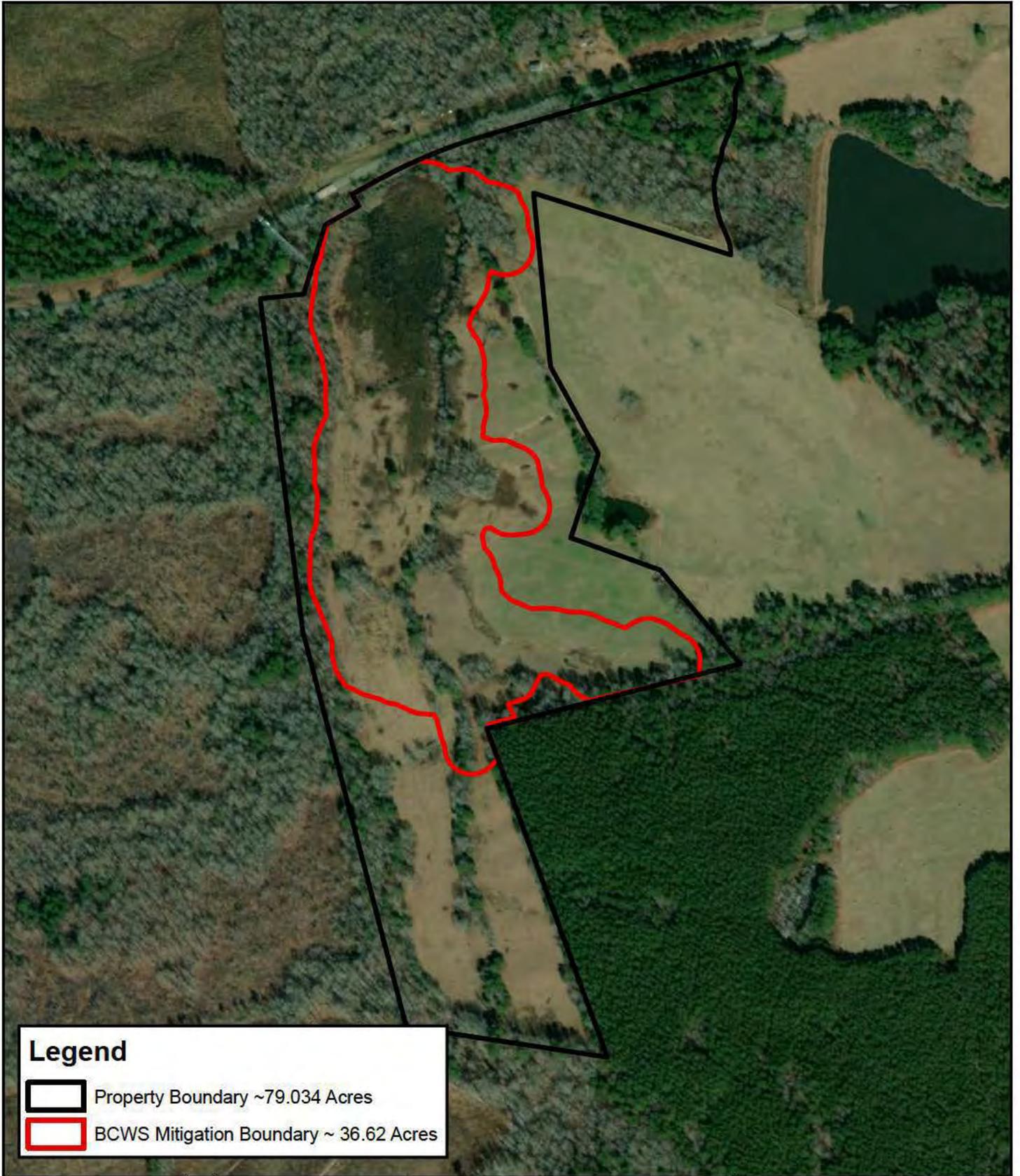


Beaverdam Creek Wetland ILF Site
Wilkes County, Georgia

Figure 3
Parcel Map



March 2021



Legend

-  Property Boundary ~79.034 Acres
-  BCWS Mitigation Boundary ~ 36.62 Acres



N



Beaverdam Creek Wetland ILF Site
Wilkes County, Georgia

0 250 500 1,000
Feet

1 in = 500 ft

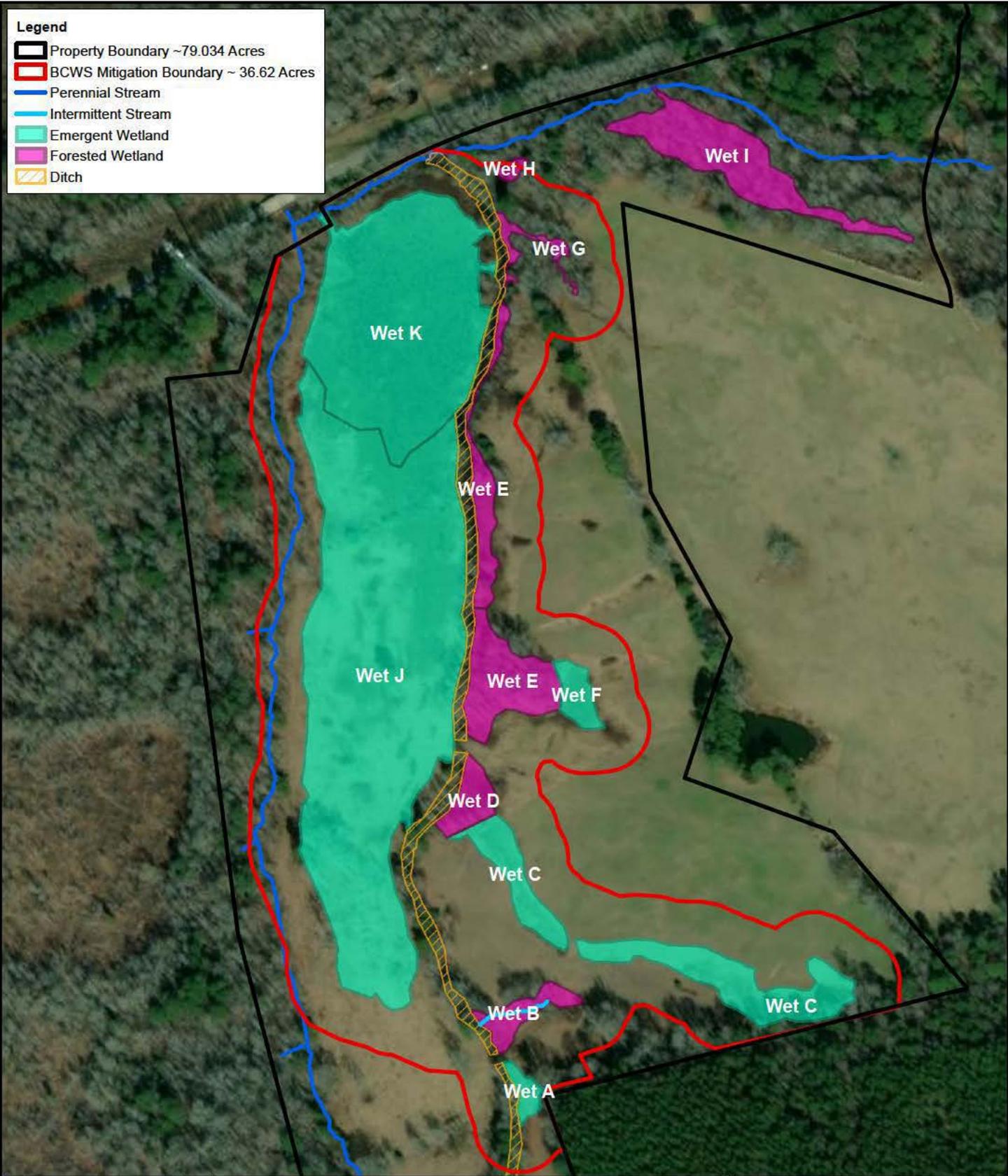
Figure 5
Aerial Map



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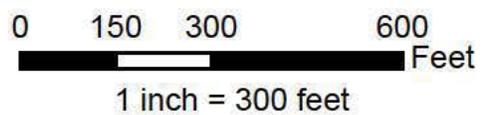
Legend

-  Property Boundary ~79.034 Acres
-  BCWS Mitigation Boundary ~ 36.62 Acres
-  Perennial Stream
-  Intermittent Stream
-  Emergent Wetland
-  Forested Wetland
-  Ditch

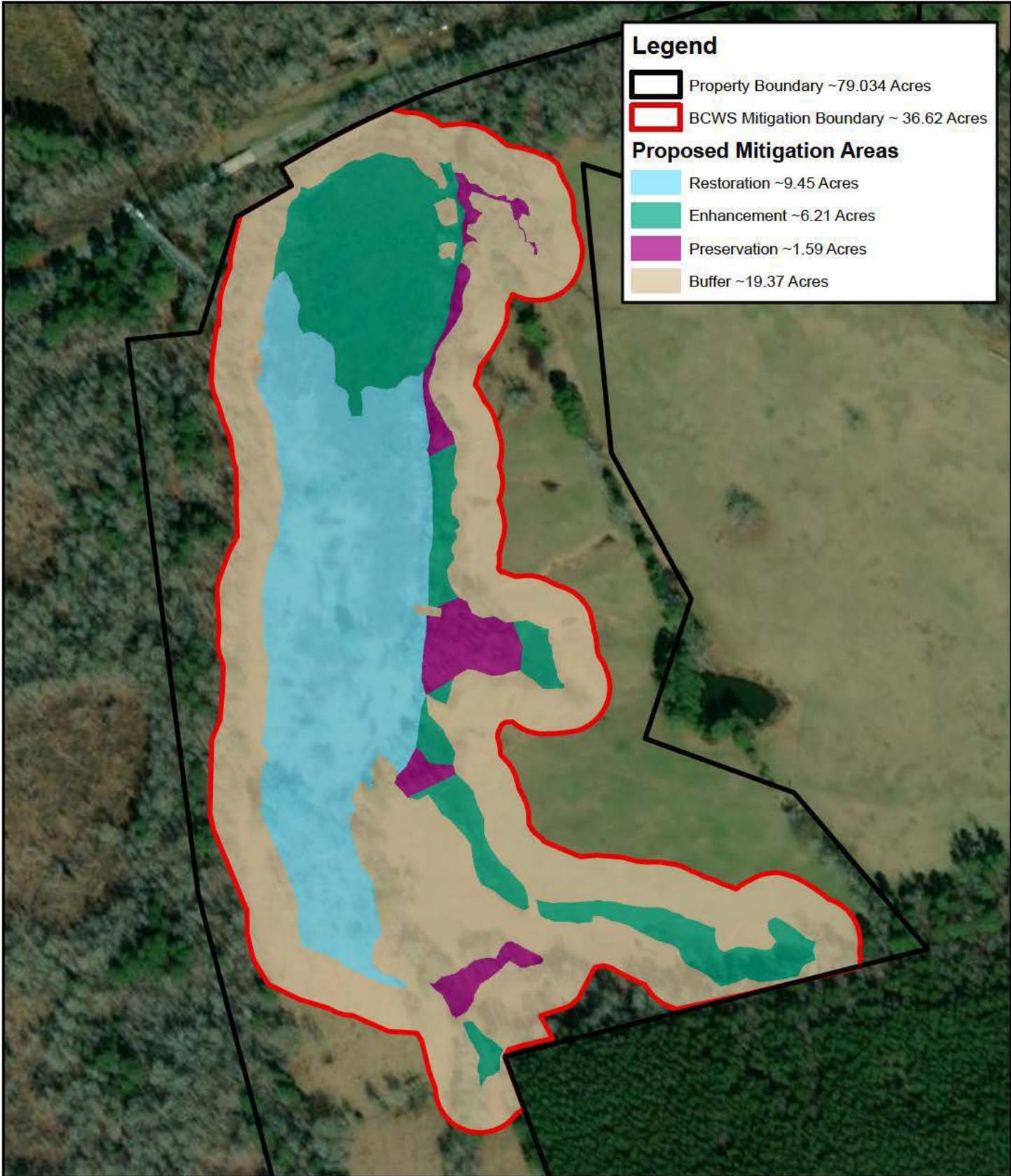


Beaverdam Creek Wetland ILF Site
Wilkes County, Georgia

Figure 16
Wetland Delineation Map



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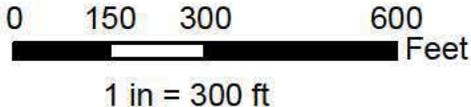
Legend

- Property Boundary ~79.034 Acres
 - BCWS Mitigation Boundary ~ 36.62 Acres
- Proposed Mitigation Areas**
- Restoration ~9.45 Acres
 - Enhancement ~6.21 Acres
 - Preservation ~1.59 Acres
 - Buffer ~19.37 Acres



Beaverdam Creek Wetland ILF Site
Wilkes County, Georgia

Figure 18
Proposed Mitigation
Areas Map



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