



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
SAVANNAH DISTRICT
1104 NORTH WESTOVER BOULEVARD
ALBANY, GEORGIA 31707

July 7, 2022

Regulatory Division
SAS-2022-00626

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:

Application Number: SAS-2022-00626

Applicant: Mr. Matthew Adkins, CHMM
CSX Transportation, Inc.
1590 Marietta Boulevard, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30318

Agent: Mr. Jonathan Allen
Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.
180A Market Place Boulevard
Knoxville, Tennessee 37922

Project Purpose as Proposed by Applicant: The applicant's stated project purpose is to establish connection between the Brunswick Subdivision (AO line) and Nahunta Subdivision (A line) via construction of approximately 1,350 linear foot (LF) of new railroad track.

Location of Proposed Work: The project site is located in the northwest quadrant of the intersection of the Brunswick Subdivision (AO Line) and the Nahunta Subdivision (A Line), in Nahunta, Brantley County, Georgia (Latitude 31.2043 and Longitude -81.9856). The aquatic resources located on-site drain to the Satilla River, a Traditional Navigable Waterway (TNW).

Description of Work Subject to the Jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:
The applicant is proposing to permanently fill/impact 0.7 acres of wetland and temporarily impact 0.45 acres of wetland. Specifically, the applicant would permanently fill 0.68 acres of wetland and temporarily impact 0.35 acres of wetland to construct a railbed for the connection track. Additionally, the applicant proposes to permanently fill 0.02 acres of wetland and temporarily impact 0.10 acres of wetland during the construction of an access road along the existing track to access a signal box. To offset

the loss in aquatic function associated with the above impacts, the applicant has proposed the purchase of 7.36 wetland mitigation credits from Hog Creek and Offerman mitigation banks. The project is hydrologically connected to the Satilla River.

BACKGROUND

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

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. Prior to issuance of a Department of the Army permit for a project location in, on, or adjacent to the waters of the State of Georgia, review for Water Quality Certification 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. The applicant did not request a pre-certification meeting with Georgia EPD prior to submitting their application for a permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The applicant must still request a meeting with EPD at least 30 days prior to any request they make for 401 Water Quality Certification.

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.

Georgia Coastal Management Program: Prior to the Savannah District Corps of Engineers making a final permit decision on this application, the project must be certified by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division, to be consistent with applicable provisions of the State of Georgia Coastal Management Program (15 CFR 930). Anyone wishing to comment on Coastal Management Program certification of this project should submit comments in writing within 30 days of the date of this notice to the Federal Consistency Coordinator, Coastal Management Program, Coastal Resources Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, One Conservation Way, Brunswick, Georgia 31523-8600 (Telephone 912-264-7218).

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: The applicant has stated they are conducting a cultural resources review of the project area and will provide a copy to the Corps once complete. The Corps will review and distribute the report once received.

Endangered Species: A preliminary review the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service's Protected Resource Divisions (NMFSPRD)'s list of Endangered and Threatened Species (IPaC) indicates the following listed species may occur in the project area: Eastern Black Rail, *Laterallus jamaicensis*; Wood Stork, *Mycteria americana*; and Eastern Indigo Snake, *Drymarchon couperi*.

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. In addition, we are requesting information from the USFWS whether the project is within 2,500 feet of an active wood stork nesting colony.

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.

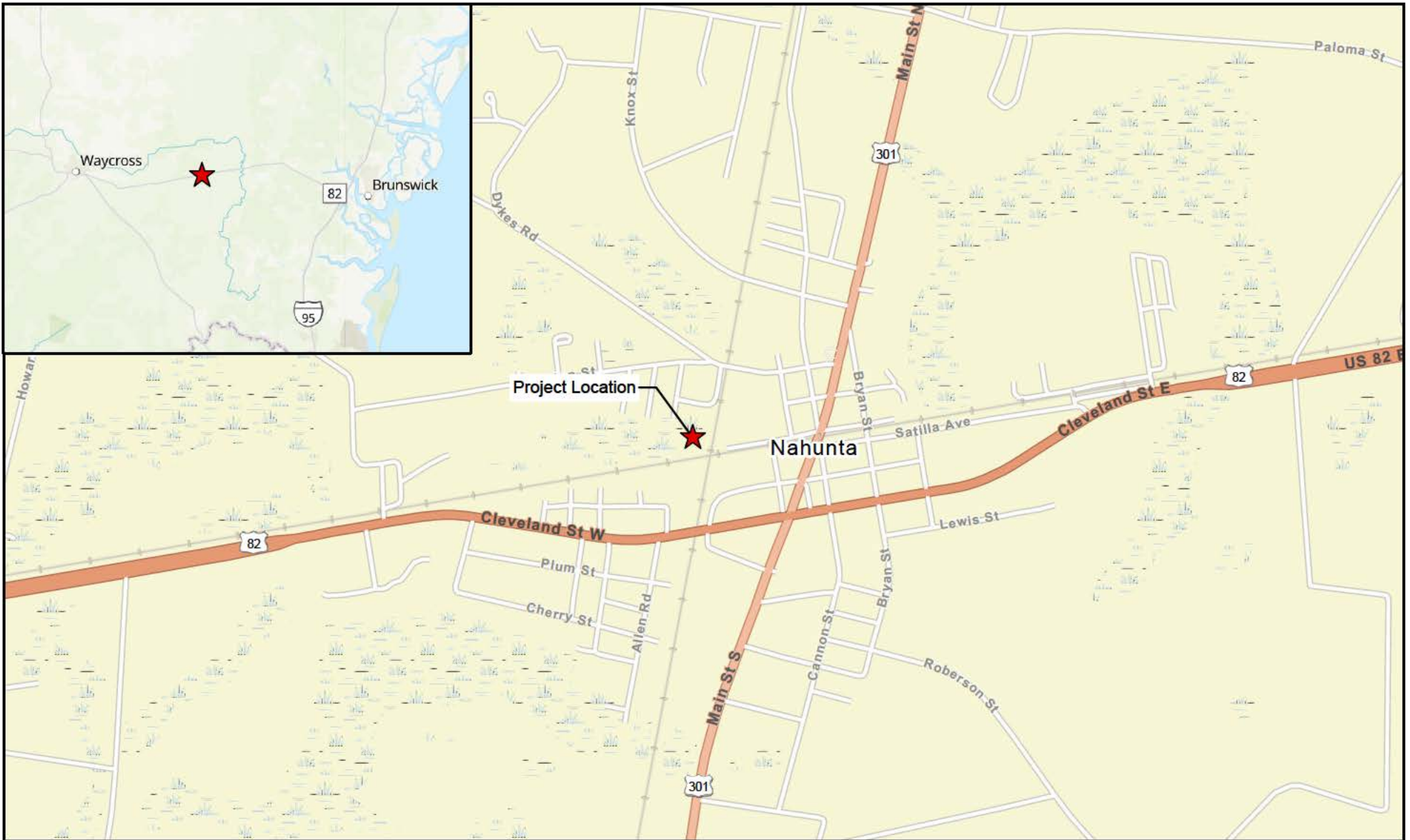
Public Hearing: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application for a Department of the Army permit. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for requesting a public hearing. 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 comments by email to terry.c.kobs@usace.army.mil. Alternatively, you may submit comments in writing to the Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, Attention: Mr. Terry Kobs, 1104 North Westover Boulevard, unit 109, Albany, Georgia, 31707, 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 Mr. Terry Kobs, Project Manager, Coastal Branch.

Enclosures:

1. Vicinity Map
2. Plan and Profile Drawing



Legend
 ★ Project Location



0 1,700 Feet

Vicinity Map

Nahunta Connection
 CSX Transportation Inc.
 MP AO 609.9 Brunswick Sub. to A 576.6 Nahunta Sub.
 Brantley County, Georgia

Geosyntec
 consultants

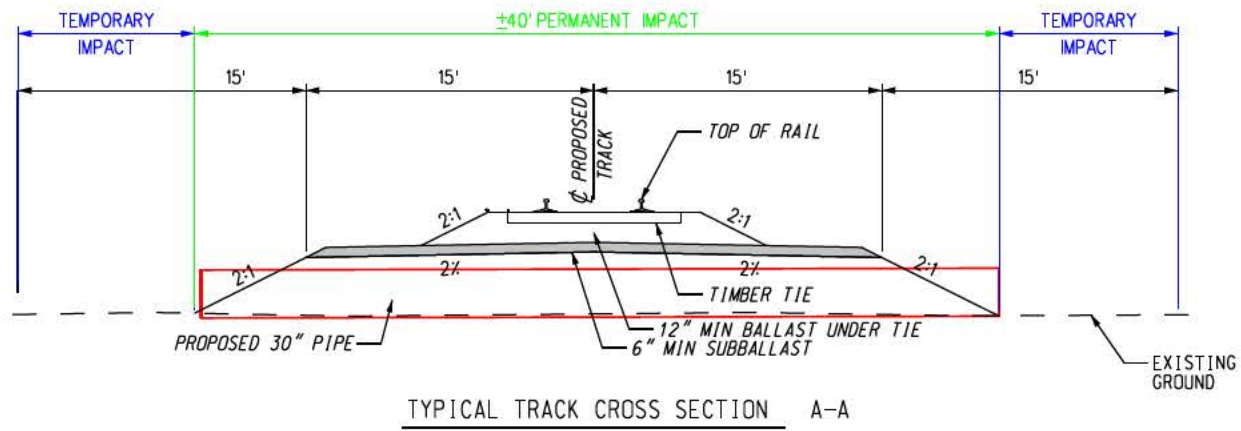
KX8908

June 2022

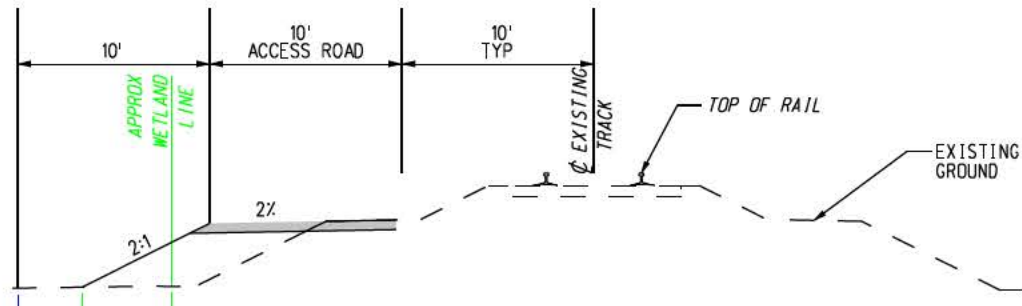
Figure

1

R:\Projects\2388-CSX\3168 - GA Nahunta - NW Connection Trk\000_CADD\001_MODEL\23883168-SHT-ACOE_Plan01.dgn
 6/17/2022 9:43:36 AM



TYPICAL TRACK CROSS SECTION A-A



TYPICAL ACCESS ROAD SECTION B-B

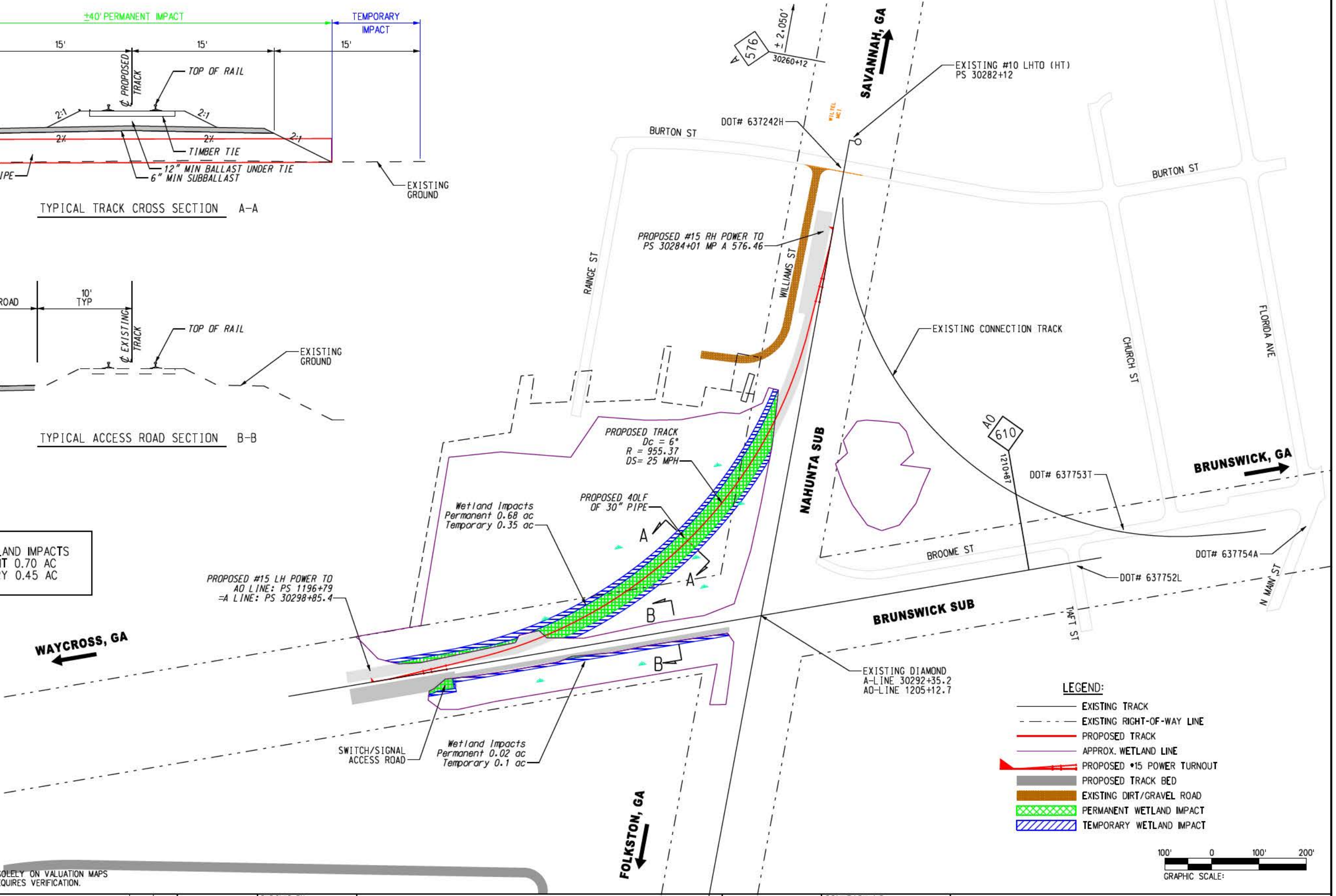
TOTAL WETLAND IMPACTS
 PERMANENT 0.70 AC
 TEMPORARY 0.45 AC

PROPOSED #15 LH POWER TO
 AO LINE: PS 1196+79
 -A LINE: PS 30298+85.4

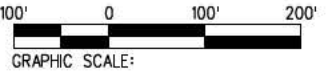
Wetland Impacts
 Permanent 0.68 ac
 Temporary 0.35 ac

PROPOSED 40LF
 OF 30" PIPE

Wetland Impacts
 Permanent 0.02 ac
 Temporary 0.1 ac



- LEGEND:**
- EXISTING TRACK
 - - - EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE
 - PROPOSED TRACK
 - - - APPROX. WETLAND LINE
 - ▲ PROPOSED #15 POWER TURNOUT
 - PROPOSED TRACK BED
 - EXISTING DIRT/GRAVEL ROAD
 - PERMANENT WETLAND IMPACT
 - TEMPORARY WETLAND IMPACT



NOTES:
 1. RIGHT-OF-WAY BOUNDARIES ARE BASED SOLELY ON VALUATION MAPS AND THEREFORE ARE APPROXIMATIONS. REQUIRES VERIFICATION.

PROJECT NUMBER	6-17-2022	UPDATED WITH DESIGN	BY	APP
LINE ITEM				
CONTRACT DESIGNATOR				
PHYSICAL ENTITY				
WORK ELEMENT				

LEVEL 2
 NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Information confidential all plans, drawings, specifications, and/or information furnished herein shall remain the property of the CSX Transportation and shall be held confidential and shall not be used for any purpose not provided for in agreements with the CSX Transportation.

DESIGNED BY	M. WILSON
DRAWN BY	M. WILSON
CHECKED BY	B. ELIAS
APPROVED BY	M. BELL
DATE	JUNE 17, 2022

CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC. ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
 DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION
 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

[CSX]

LJA Rail, LLC
 3600 W Sam Houston Parkway S Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77042
 Phone 713.953.5200 Fax 713.953.5026 FRN - F-1386

VAL. SEC.	V3GA/S20 V00370	CONTRACT NO.	
DRAWING NO.	ACOE-01	REVISION	0
SHEET NO.	1	SCALE	AS SHOWN

PROPOSED NW CONNECTION TRACK
 SUB: BRUNSWICK ZONE: JACKSONVILLE
 NAHUNTA, BRANTLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA

CONCEPT PLAN