



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE  
P.O. BOX 2288  
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

CESAM-RD  
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2015-00286-MBM

January 25, 2016

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
AND  
STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**BIG SANDY MITIGATION BANK PHASE II, TUSCALOOSA COUNTY, ALABAMA**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This District has received a complete mitigation banking instrument for the establishment of a mitigation bank referred to as the **Big Sandy Mitigation Bank Phase II**. Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**BANK SPONSOR: Big Sandy Mitigation Bank Phase II  
C/o Westervelt Ecological Services  
Attention: Mr. Sean McGary  
2128 Moores Mill Road, Suite B  
Auburn, Alabama 36830**

**Westervelt Ecological Services is proposing to establish a 73.5-acre commercial stream mitigation bank to generate mitigation credits for purchase by interested Department of Army (DOA) permit applicants in order to fulfill compensatory stream mitigation requirements for various project-related stream impacts subject to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) regulatory authority pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Approval for DOA permittee's to use bank mitigation credits would be determined on a case-by-case basis at the time of permit evaluation. The Big Sandy Mitigation Bank Phase II abuts the approved Big Sandy Mitigation Bank. The site is located on Big Sandy Creek in Section 36 of Township-24-N, Range-6-E, coordinates for the approximate centroid of the property are 33°0'47.01"N 87°31'54.68"W. The proposed project is located in southern Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, approximately 10 miles south of the City of Tuscaloosa, near Duncanville. It lies within the Black Warrior-Tombigbee basin, Lower Black Warrior watershed (USGS Hydrologic Unit Code 03160113). The proposed site is within the East Gulf Coastal Plain physiographic region. The bank's service area will include all portions of the lower Black Warrior Watershed and use of the Mobile District Proximity Factor Method for projects outside the watershed. Use of bank outside of designated service area may be authorized on a case-by-case basis by the Corps.**

**The Big Sandy Mitigation Bank Phase II contains 11,745.5 linear feet of stream channel within 7 streams, three of which are perennial, three are intermittent, and one is an ephemeral stream. The project will generate stream mitigation credits by enhancing riparian buffers along 9,502.9 linear feet of stream channel, and preserving riparian buffer along 2,242.6 linear feet of stream channel. There are 1.2 acres of jurisdictional wetlands located within the riparian buffers. Enhancement activities include removal of pine plantation and planting of target bottomland hardwood trees and vegetation. Stream credit calculations will be determined using the 2012 USACE Mobile District Compensatory Stream Mitigation Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines.**

On 10 April 2008 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued new regulations, in the Federal Register, Vol. 73, No. 70, for governing compensatory mitigation for losses of aquatic resources. The new regulation, 33 CFR 332 – Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources, establishes performance standards and criteria for mitigation projects including mitigation banks. Part 33 CFR 332.8 addresses requirements for establishing, operating, and maintaining mitigation banks that provide credits to satisfy mitigation requirements of the Clean Water Act, Section 404 permit program. Recognizing the potential benefits mitigation banking offers for streamlining the permit evaluation process and providing more effective mitigation for authorized impacts to wetlands, the agencies encourage the establishment and appropriate use of mitigation banks in the Section 404 program. This guidance became effective 9 June 2008.

An interagency group of Federal and State regulatory and resource agency representatives, as appropriate given the projected use for the bank, referred to as the Interagency Review Team (IRT), is signatory to a banking instrument and oversees the establishment, use and operation of a mitigation bank. Information provided in the prospectus will serve as the basis for establishing a banking instrument which will describe in detail the physical and legal characteristics of the bank and how the bank will be established and operated.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties for consideration while evaluating this proposed activity. Copies of all comments received will be distributed to the other members of the IRT and the bank sponsor for full consideration in the development of the mitigation bank.

Comments concerning this Public Notice should be received within 30 days of the date of this public notice and should refer to number **SAM-2015-00286-MBM** and direct your correspondence to the District Commander, U.S. Army Engineer District, Mobile, Post

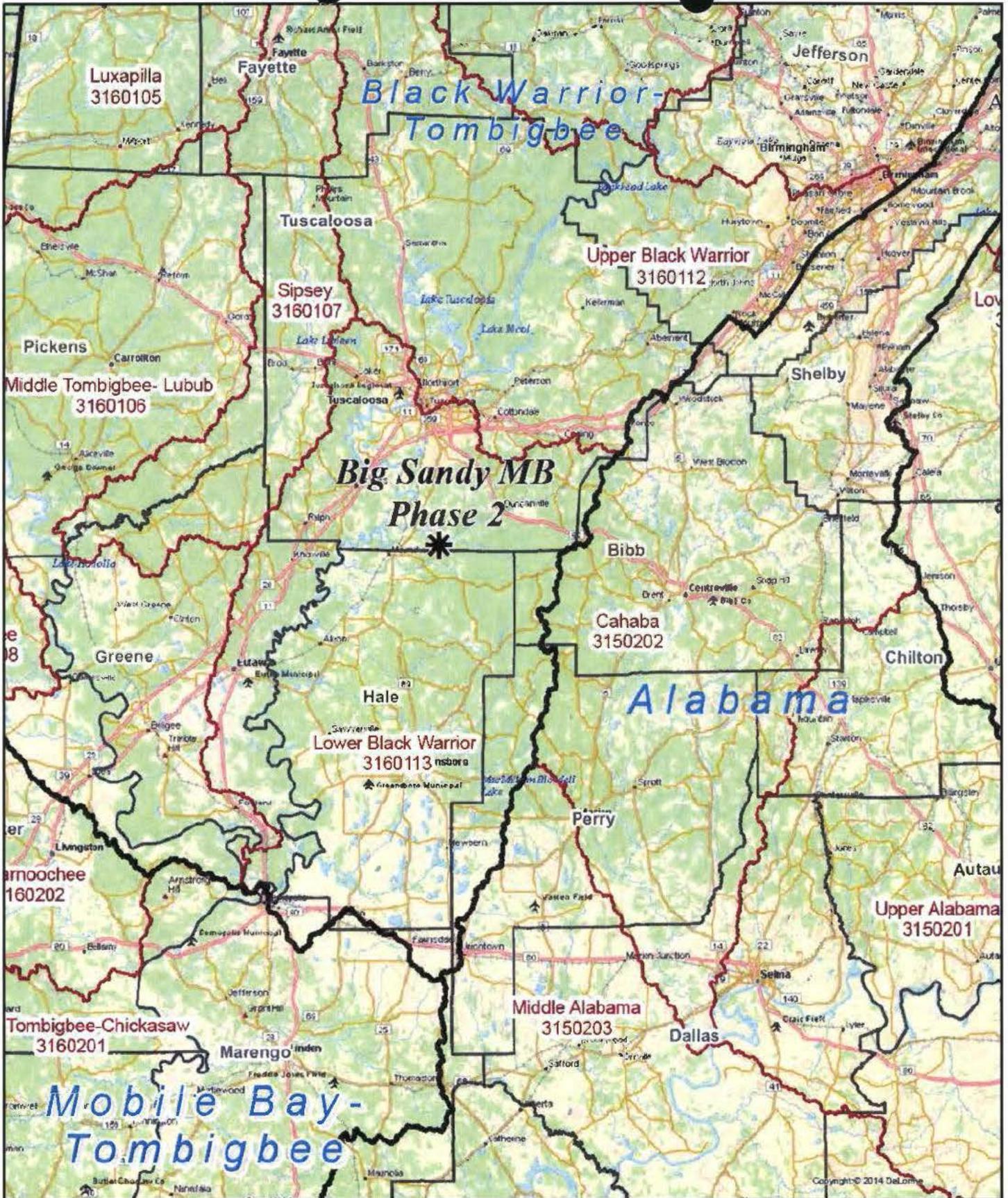
CESAM-RD-C  
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Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001, Attention: Regulatory Division; and a copy to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Coastal Branch, 3664 Dauphin Street, Suite B, Mobile, Alabama 36608. If you have any questions concerning this publication, please contact Mr. Michael Moxey, Special Project Manager, via e-mail at [michael.b.moxey@usace.army.mil](mailto:michael.b.moxey@usace.army.mil) or telephone number (251) 690-2658.

MOBILE DISTRICT  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures



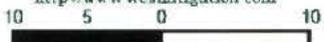
- Watersheds
- Basins

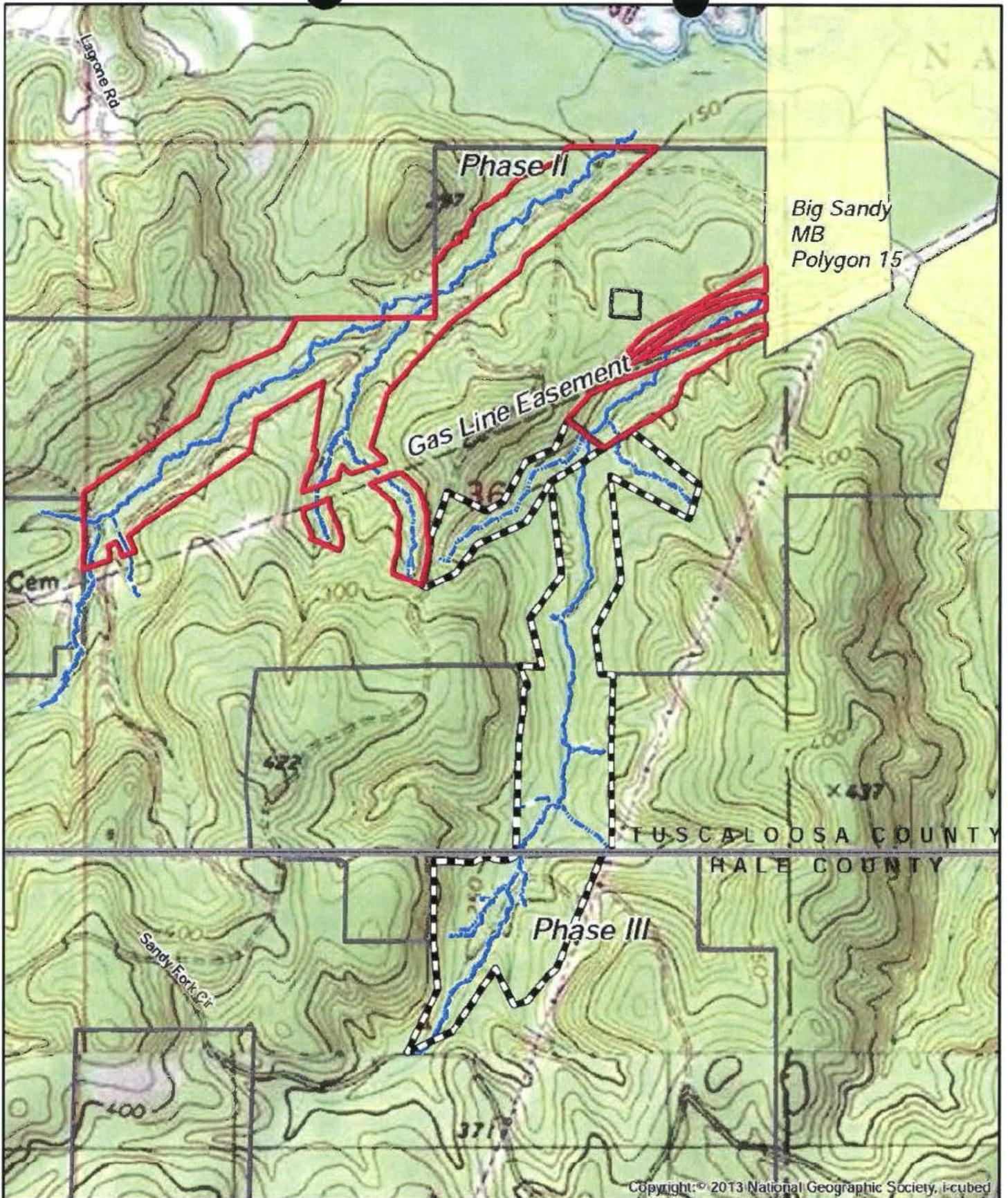
Big Sandy Mitigation Bank  
Phase II

Site Location  
Figure 1.

03/01/2015

  
 2195 Moores Mill Road, Suite B  
 Auburn, Alabama 36830  
<http://www.westervelt.com>

  
 10 5 0 10  
 Miles



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09/09/2015

- |   |  |   |                      |
|---|--|---|----------------------|
|  | Potential Bank Boundaries +/- 76.6 Acres |  | Ephemeral Streams    |
|  | TWC Boundaries                           |  | Intermittent Streams |
|  | Potential Phase III Boundaries (Future)  |  | Perennial Streams    |

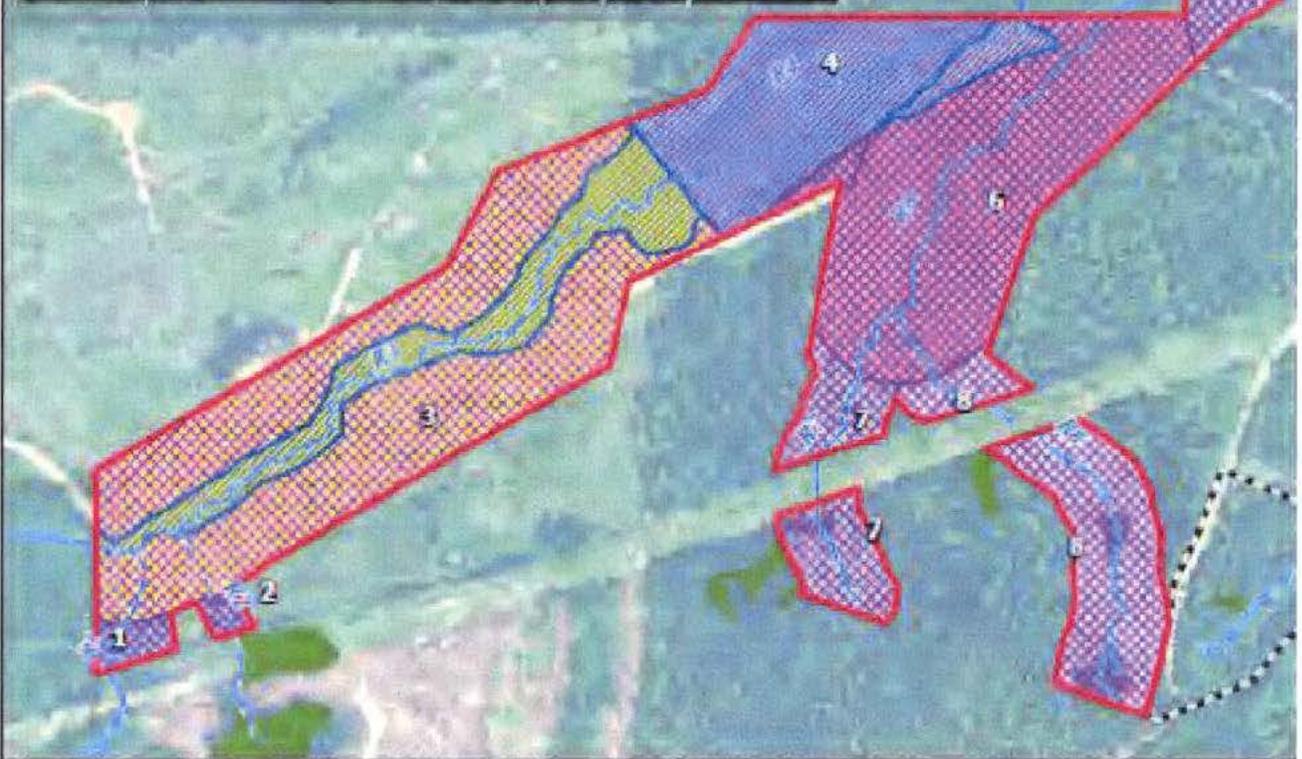
### Big Sandy Mitigation Bank Phase II

Topographic Map  
USGS Englewood Quad  
Figure 3.


  
 2128 Moores Mill Road, Suite B  
 Auburn, Alabama 36830  
<http://www.westervelt.com>

1,000 500 0 1,000 Feet

Management Polygon	Management Type	Total Stream LF	Total Acres	Existing Stream Buffer Acreage	Riparian Buffer Enhancement Acreage
1	Riparian Buffer Enhancement	163.5	0.8		0.8
2	Riparian Buffer Enhancement	114.2	0.3		0.3
3	Existing Stream Buffer/Riparian Buffer Enhancement	2594.0	18.4	4.6	13.8
4	Riparian Buffer Preservation	1157.4	8.5	8.2	0.3
5	Existing Stream Buffer/Riparian Buffer Enhancement	2677.6	18.4	7.5	10.9
6	Riparian Buffer Enhancement	1340.6	11.8	0.8	11.0
7	Riparian Buffer Enhancement	643.6	2.8		2.8
8	Riparian Buffer Enhancement	1046.8	5.0		5.0
9	Existing Stream Buffer/Riparian Buffer Enhancement	922.6	6.4	2.8	2.6
10	Riparian Buffer Preservation	481.0	1.5	1.5	
11	Riparian Buffer Preservation	604.2	1.8	1.8	
<b>Total</b>		<b>11945.5</b>	<b>73.5</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>47.3</b>



10-00-2018

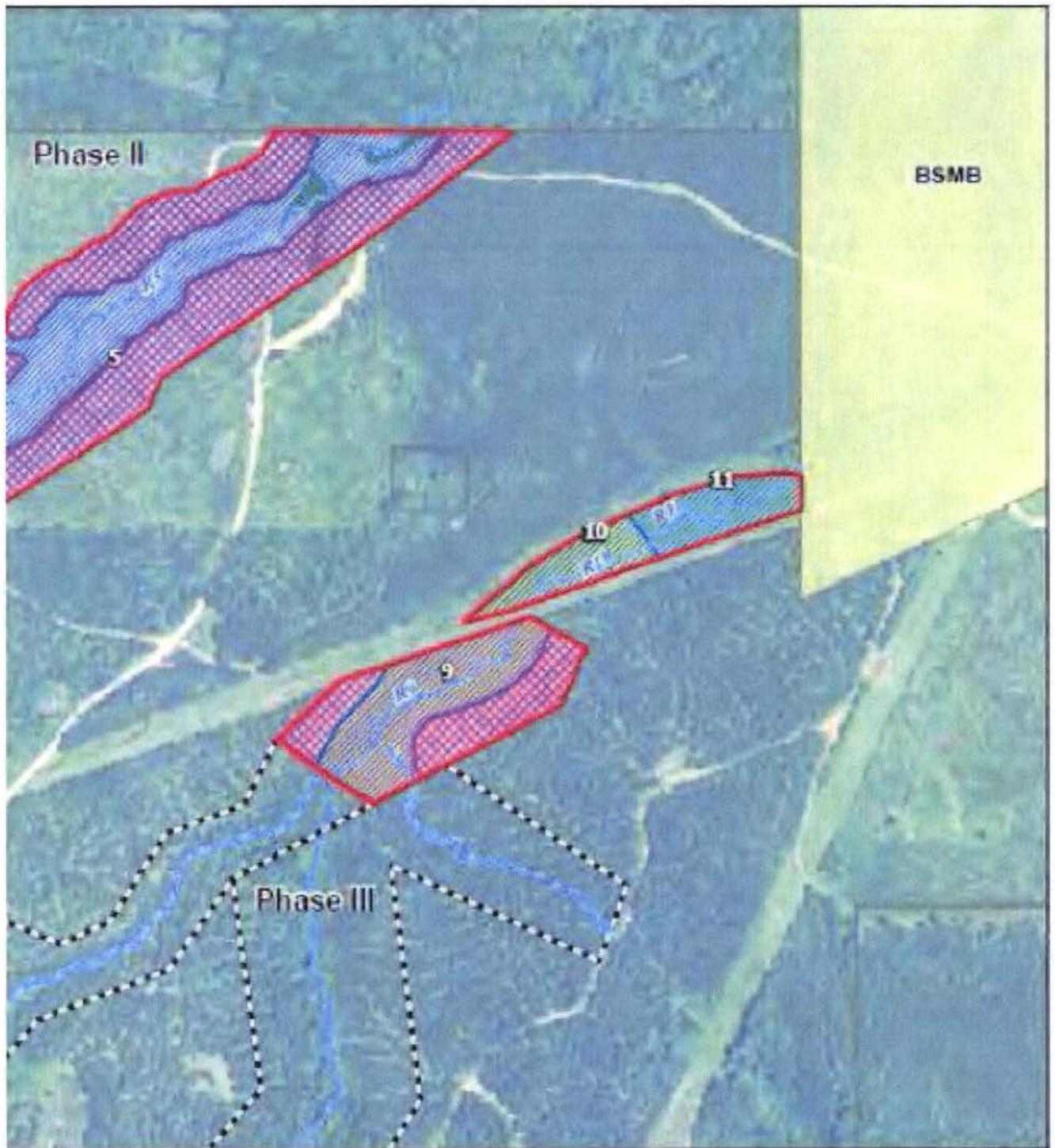
2125 Monroe Mill Road, Suite H  
Auburn, Alabama 36830  
<http://www.westermilt.com>

**Management Type**

- Existing Stream Buffer +/- 36.4 Acres
- Riparian Buffer Enhancement +/- 33.1 Acres

**Management Polygons**

1	5	9
2	6	10
3	7	11
4	8	



- |   |   |   |                      |
|---|---|---|----------------------|
|  | Potential Bank Boundaries - 73.5 Acres  |  | Ephemeral Streams    |
|  | TWC Boundaries                          |  | Intermittent Streams |
|  | Potential Phase III Boundaries (Future) |  | Perennial Streams    |
|   |   |  | Wetlands             |

**Big Sandy Mitigation Bank  
Phase II**

**Management Plan  
Figure 6.**