



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT  
600 VESTAVIA PARKWAY, SUITE 203  
VESTAVIA HILLS, ALABAMA 35216

CESAM-RD-N  
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2016-00118-JSC

March 11, 2024

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

**DISCHARGE OF FILL MATERIAL IN WATERS OF THE U.S. ASSOCIATED  
WITH WIDENING STATE ROAD – 6 GORDO BYPASS IN PICKENS  
AND TUSCALOOSA COUNTIES, ALABAMA**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This District has received an application for a Department of the Army (DA) permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT:** Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT)  
Attention: Mr. Adam Anderson  
1409 Coliseum Boulevard  
Montgomery, Alabama 36110

**AGENT:** Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT)  
Attention: Mr. Hunter Nobles  
1409 Coliseum Boulevard  
Montgomery, Alabama 36110

**LOCATION:** The proposed project is located in wetlands and unnamed tributaries to Box Creek along State Road (SR)-6/United States (US)-82 in Pickens and Tuscaloosa Counties, Alabama. More specifically, the project is located just west of Sand Springs Road to just east of Fall Drive in Gordo within Sections 25 and 26, Township 20 South, Range 13 West, and Section 30, Township 20 South, Range 12 West. The proposed project commences near Latitude 33.288137° North, Longitude 87.855654° West and terminates at Latitude 33.283879° North, Longitude 87.833573° West. The project corridor is found on the Elrod, Alabama Quadrangles, United States Geological Survey Topographic Map, and is located within the Sipsey (HUC 03160107) and Middle Tombigbee – Lubdub (HUC 03160106) watersheds.

**PURPOSE:** The basic project purpose is transportation. The overall project purpose is to construct a new four-lane highway segment that will connect to existing four-lane

highway segments east and west of the proposed project location. The new four-lane segment will be developed through the addition of a 1-mile bidirectional four-lane segment with a grassed median that will connect the existing SR-6/US-82 to the existing constructed SR-6 bypass.

**PROPOSED WORK:** The applicant is requesting authorization for the discharge of fill material into waters of the U.S. (WOUS) associated with the construction of a four-lane highway segment that will connect to existing four-lane highways east and west of the project area. The proposed project would permanently impact 812 linear feet of intermittent stream and 0.58 acre of wetlands. Activities proposed within WOUS include mechanized land clearing and the discharge of fill material including installation of piping, culverts, and scour protection riprap.

**AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION:** According to the applicant, constraints related to project logistics, location of existing infrastructure, presence of major topographic features, project to watershed orientation, and presence of local communities and residential development caused complete avoidance of impacts to WOUS to be impracticable. Additional information provided by the applicant indicates avoidance and minimization of project impacts to WOUS was achieved through a variety of approaches including alignment shifts and other design elements such as limiting land clearing within the right-of-way. The applicant would also develop and implement a construction best management practices plan and perform monthly inspections of erosion and sediment controls during the construction phase to minimize adverse effects to the aquatic environment. The USACE has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and minimization statement at this time.

**COMPENSATORY MITIGATION:** The applicant proposes to compensate for unavoidable impacts to streams through the purchase of stream mitigation credits from an USACE approved mitigation bank. The applicant proposes to compensate for unavoidable impacts to wetlands through the withdrawal of wetlands credits from an USACE approved ALDOT wetland mitigation bank. The USACE has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's proposed mitigation plan at this time.

**WATER QUALITY:** The applicant will apply for certification from the State of Alabama in accordance with Section 401(a) (1) of the Clean Water Act, and upon completion of the required advertising, a determination relative to certification will be made by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) within an established reasonable period of time.

**SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:** This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the USACE can be based. For accuracy and completeness of the record, all data in support of or in opposition to the proposed work should be submitted in writing setting forth sufficient detail to furnish a clear understanding of the reasons for support or opposition. 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 use 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, cultural values, 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 production, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

Evaluation of the probable impacts involving deposits of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The USACE is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian 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 USACE 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.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

**HISTORIC PROPERTIES:** In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Appendix C of 33 CFR Part 325, the undertaking defined in this notice is being considered for the potential to affect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. The Mobile District has determined the permit area consists of the entire undertaking in waters of the United States, which includes the footprint of the fill areas that would be disturbed by construction of the project. The National Register of Historic Places will be consulted for properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register, which are known to exist and would be affected by the proposed work. The Mobile District is seeking comments regarding the existence, or the potential for existence, of significant cultural and historic properties within the permit area. Copies of this public notice are being distributed to the State Historic Preservation Officer, federally recognized American Indian tribes, and the National Park Service, Division of Archaeological Services for review and comment, and further coordination will be

performed as determined to be appropriate. At this time, the USACE has not made a determination regarding potential effects of the project on historic properties.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior's List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate the following federally listed species have the potential to occur within the project watersheds: Indiana Bat (E), Northern Long-eared Bat (E), Tricolored Bat (PE), Alabama Moccasinshell (T), Inflated Heelsplitter (T), Orangenacre Mucket (T), Ovate Clubshell (E), Southern Clubshell (E), and Georgia Rockcress (T). There is no designated critical habitat within the project action area. An effects determination will be made during the evaluation process, at which time the USACE will initiate consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), if necessary. Copies of this public notice are being sent to the USFWS for review and comment.

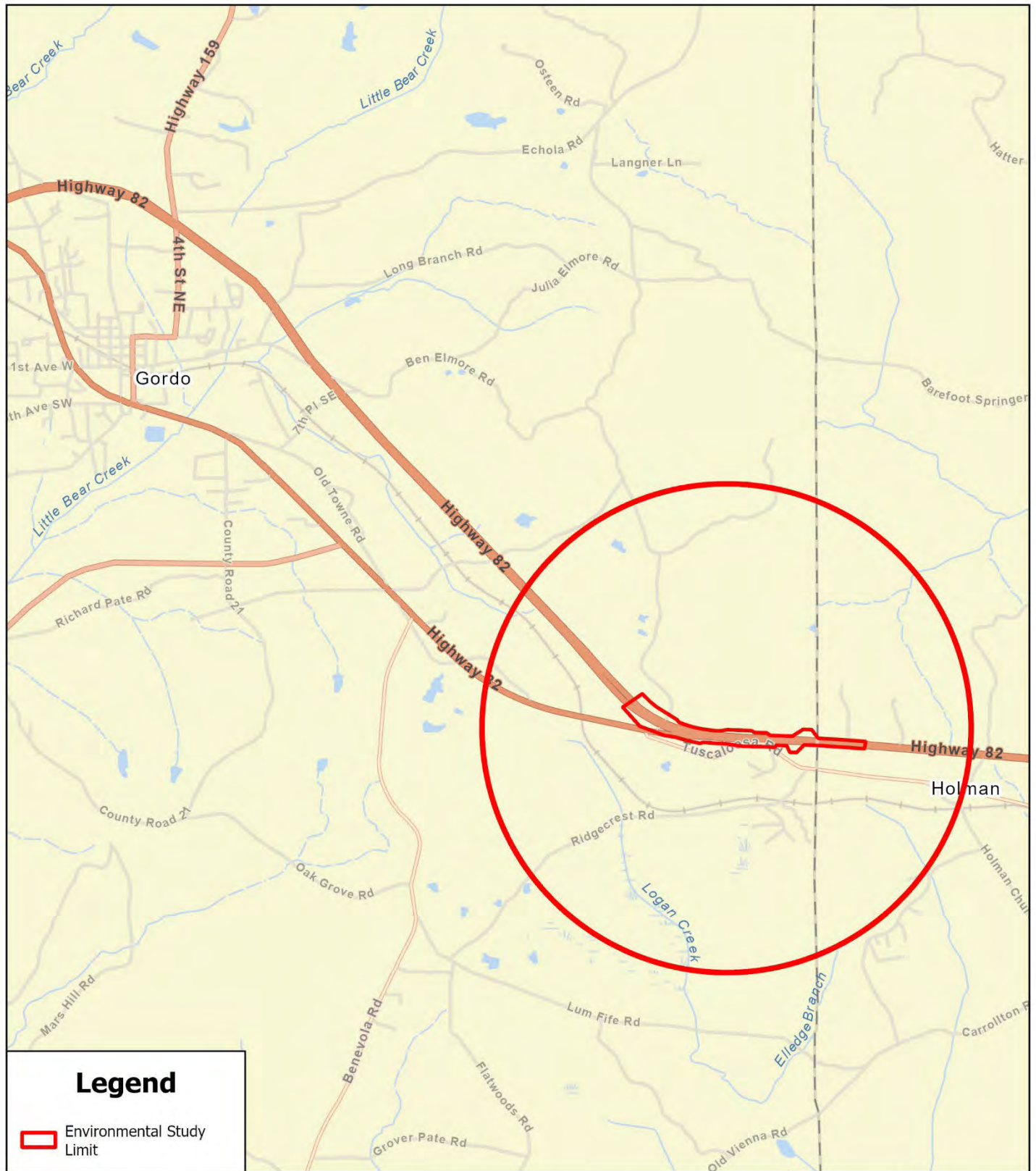
**COMMENT PERIOD:** All comments should be received no later than **30 days** from the date of issuance of this Public Notice. Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2016-00118-JSC** and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District, Montgomery Field Office, Attention: Ms. Amy Gavin, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama, 36628-0001, with a copy to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Field Operations Division, Office of Field Services, Attention: Mr. Ryan Cooper, Post Office Box 301463, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463. Comments may also be submitted via e-mail to USACE at **Amy.K.Gavin@usace.army.mil** and to ADEM at **fieldmail@adem.alabama.gov**.

If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the Project Manager via e-mail at Amy.K.Gavin@usace.army.mil or telephone number (334) 467-8779. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at <http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>.

MOBILE DISTRICT  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Enclosures



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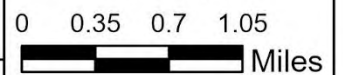
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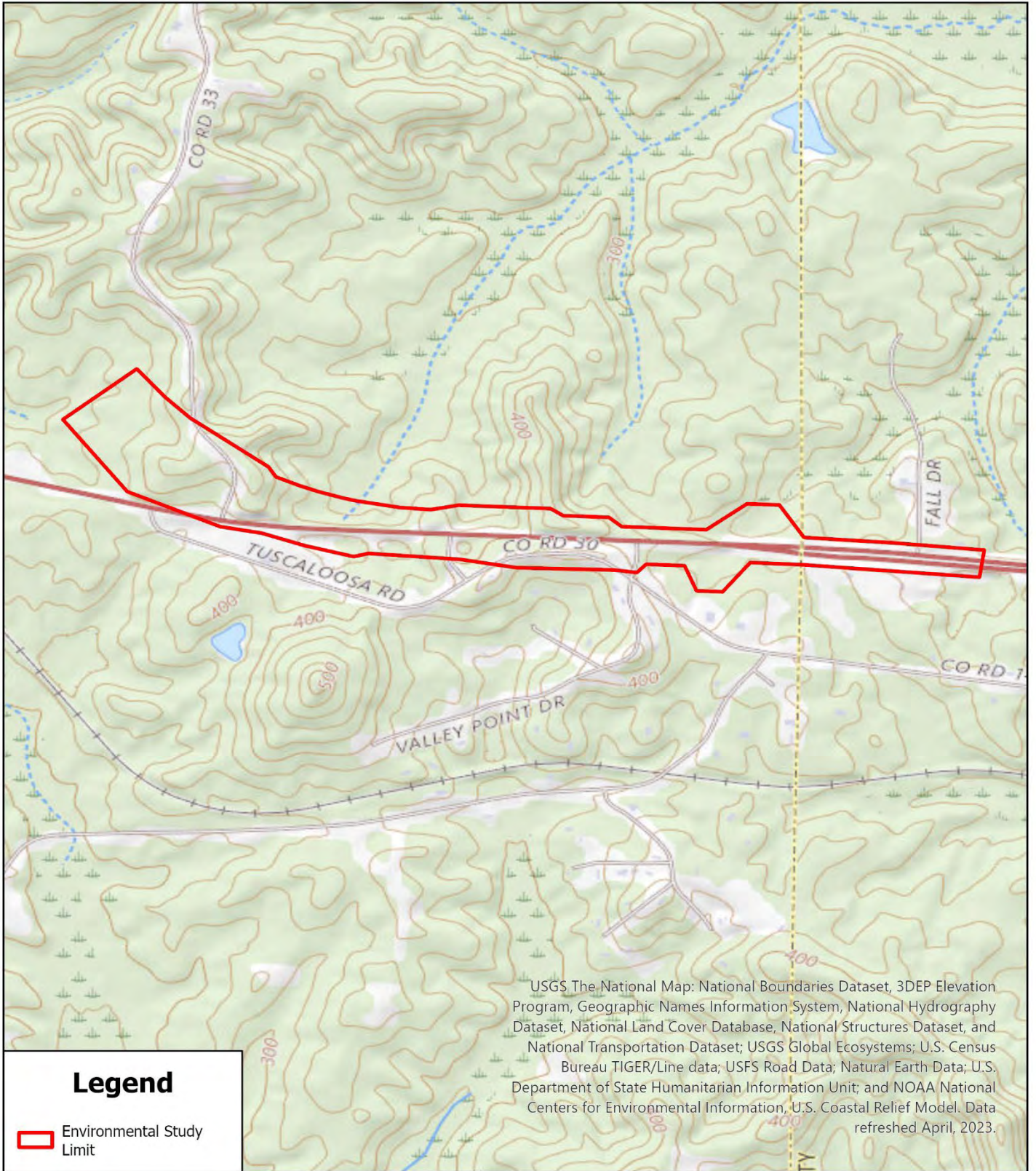


**Project Location Map**

Project No. NHF-0006(576)  
 US-82 Improvements from West of Gordo  
 to Tuscaloosa County Line  
 Pickens County


Figure No.  
**1**





USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, 3DEP Elevation Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; USGS Global Ecosystems; U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line data; USFS Road Data; Natural Earth Data; U.S. Department of State Humanitarian Information Unit; and NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, U.S. Coastal Relief Model. Data refreshed April, 2023.

**Legend**

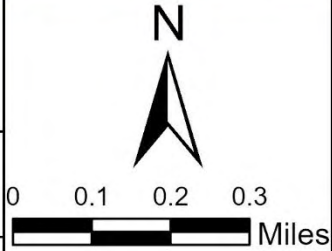
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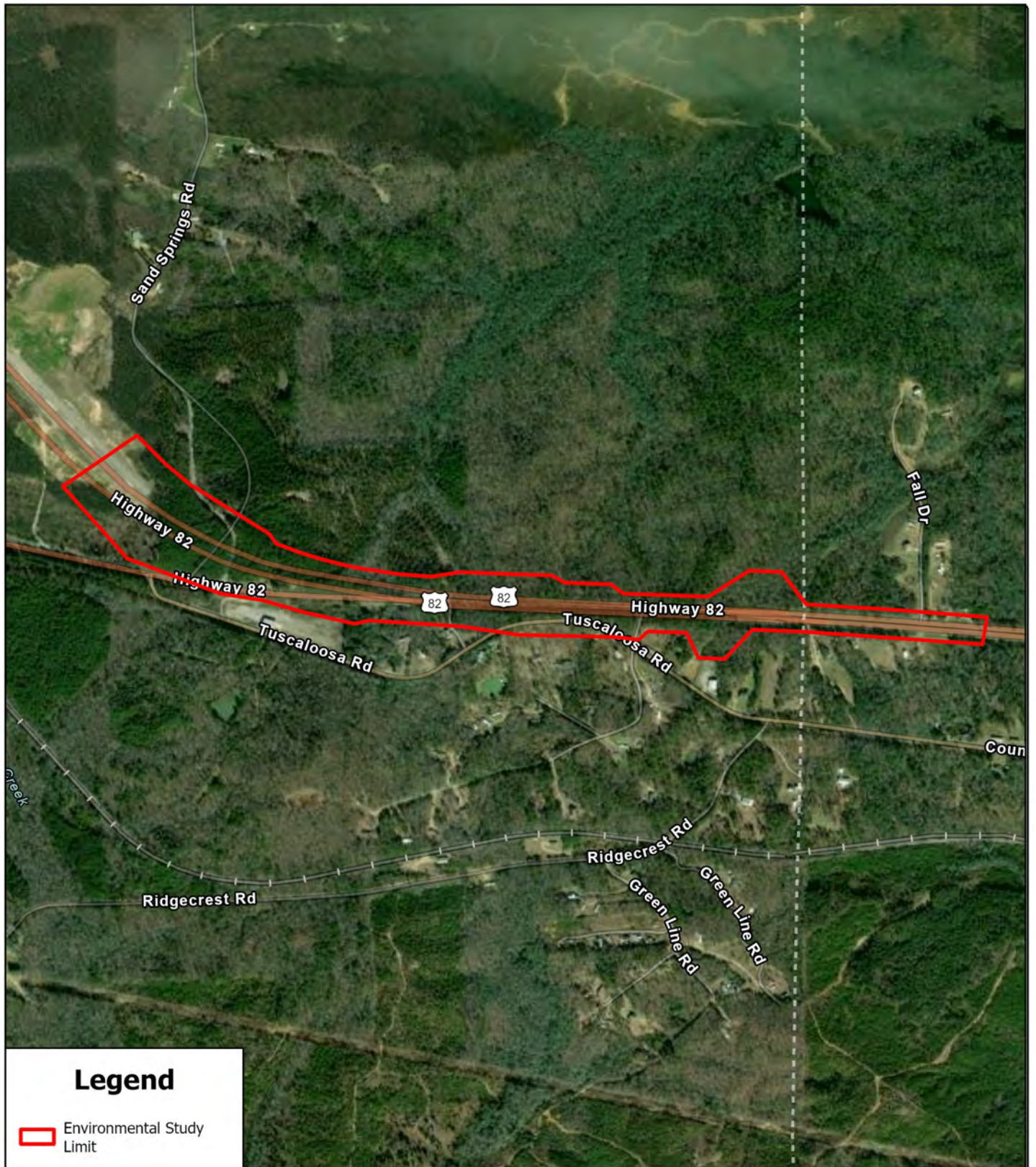


**USGS Topographic Map**


Project No. NHF-0006(576)  
 US-82 Improvements from West of Gordo  
 to Tuscaloosa County Line  
 Pickens County

Figure No.  
**5**





**Legend**

 Environmental Study Limit



## Project Vicinity Map

Project No. NHF-0006(576)  
 US-82 Improvements from West of Gordo  
 to Tuscaloosa County Line  
 Pickens County

Figure No.  
**2**

N



0 0.09 0.18 0.28  
 Miles



Esri Community Maps Contributors, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, Maxar

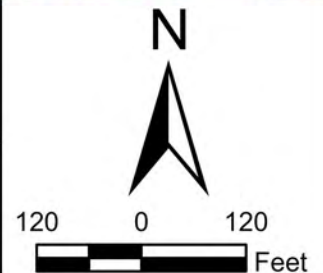


Wetland Fill = 0.26 ac.  
 Wetland Clear = 0.32 ac.  
 Stream Impacts = 0.08 ac.  
 Total Impacts = 0.66 ac.



### Resource Map

Project No. NHF-0006(576)  
 Gordo By-Pass  
 Pickens/Tuscaloosa County



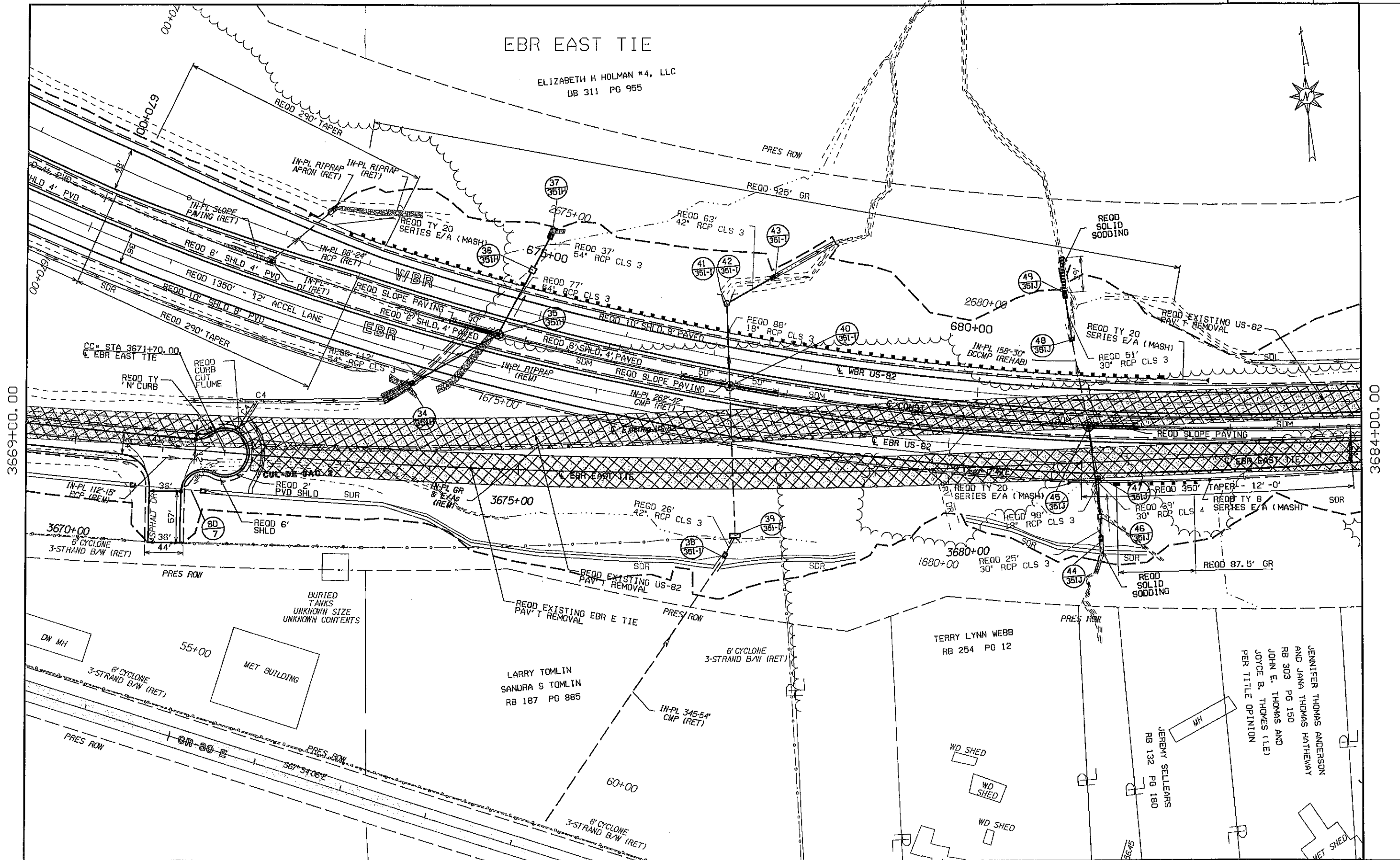


# PLAN SHEET

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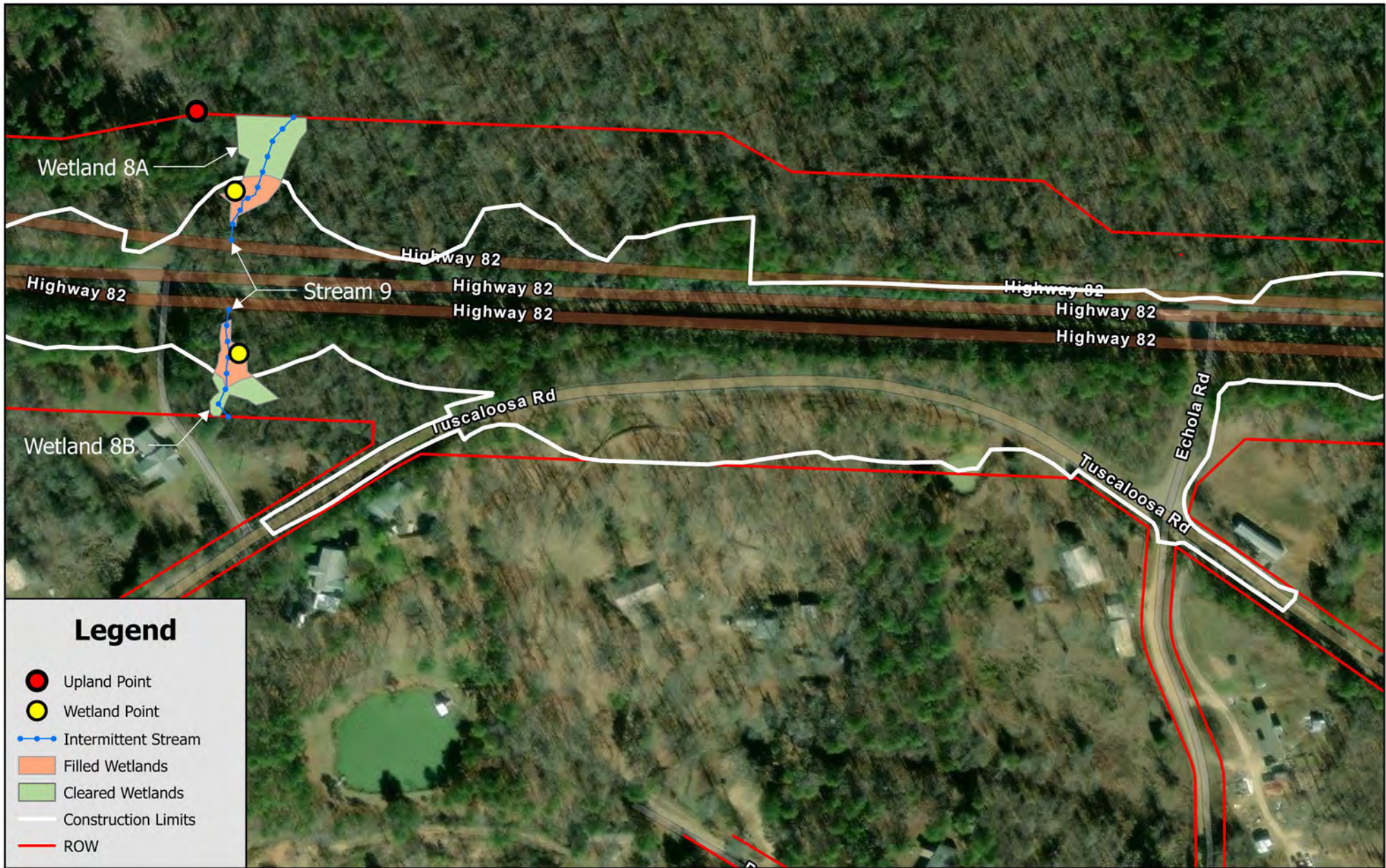
## EBR EAST TIE

ELIZABETH H HOLMAN #4, LLC  
DB 311 PG 955



12/29/2024 12:41:03 PM bazinet  
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RESPONSIBLE PE: KATHRYN ANDERSON	SUPERVISOR: KATHRYN ANDERSON	DESIGNER: CHRISTOPHER BAZINET	PLAN SUBMITTAL	ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WEST CENTRAL REGION	50 0 50 SCALE (FEET) HORIZ	SHEET TITLE	ROUTE
DATE:	DATE:	DATE:	FBC			PLAN SHEET	US-82



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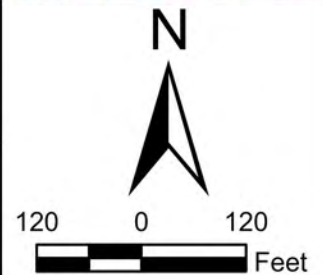
- Upland Point
- Wetland Point
- Intermittent Stream
- Filled Wetlands
- Cleared Wetlands
- Construction Limits
- ROW

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**Resource Map**

Project No. NHF-0006(576)  
 Gordo By-Pass  
 Pickens/Tuscaloosa County

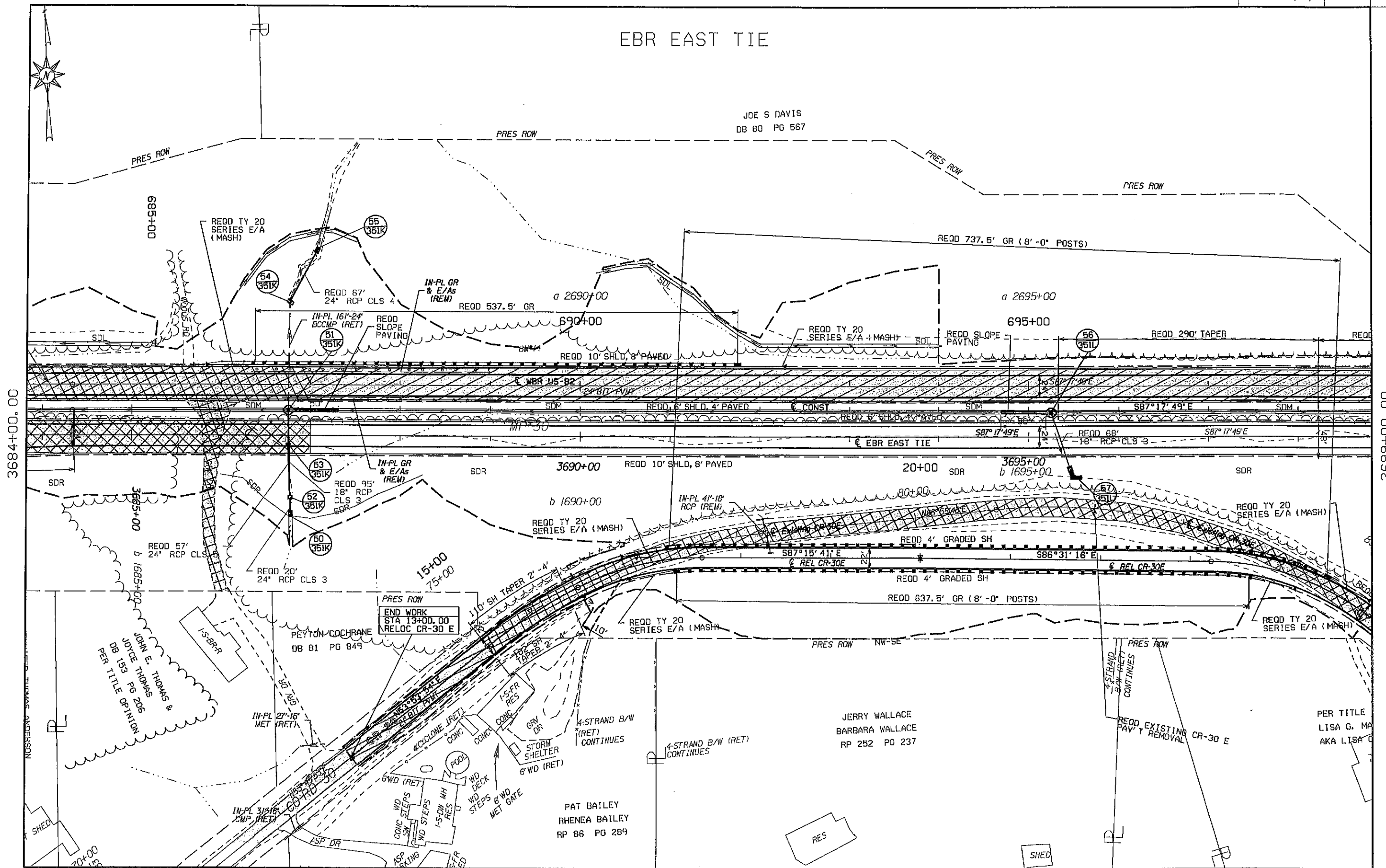


# PLAN SHEET

REFERENCE PROJECT NO	FISCAL YEAR	SHEET NO
NHF-0006(576)	2024	46

## EBR EAST TIE

JOE S DAVIS  
DB 80 PG 567



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RESPONSIBLE PE: KATHRYN ANDERSON	SUPERVISOR: KATHRYN ANDERSON	DESIGNER: CHRISTOPHER BAZINET	PLAN SUBMITTAL	ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WEST CENTRAL REGION	50 0 50 SCALE (FEET) HORIZ	SHEET TITLE	ROUTE
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**Legend**

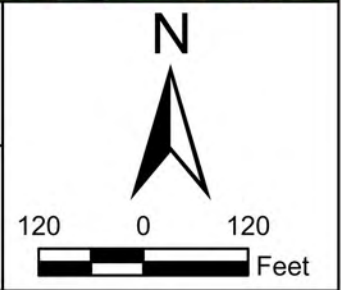
- Intermittent Stream
- - - Ephemeral Stream
- Construction Limits
- ROW

Wetland Fill = 0.26 ac.  
 Wetland Clear = 0.32 ac.  
 Stream Impacts = 0.08 ac.  
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**Resource Map**

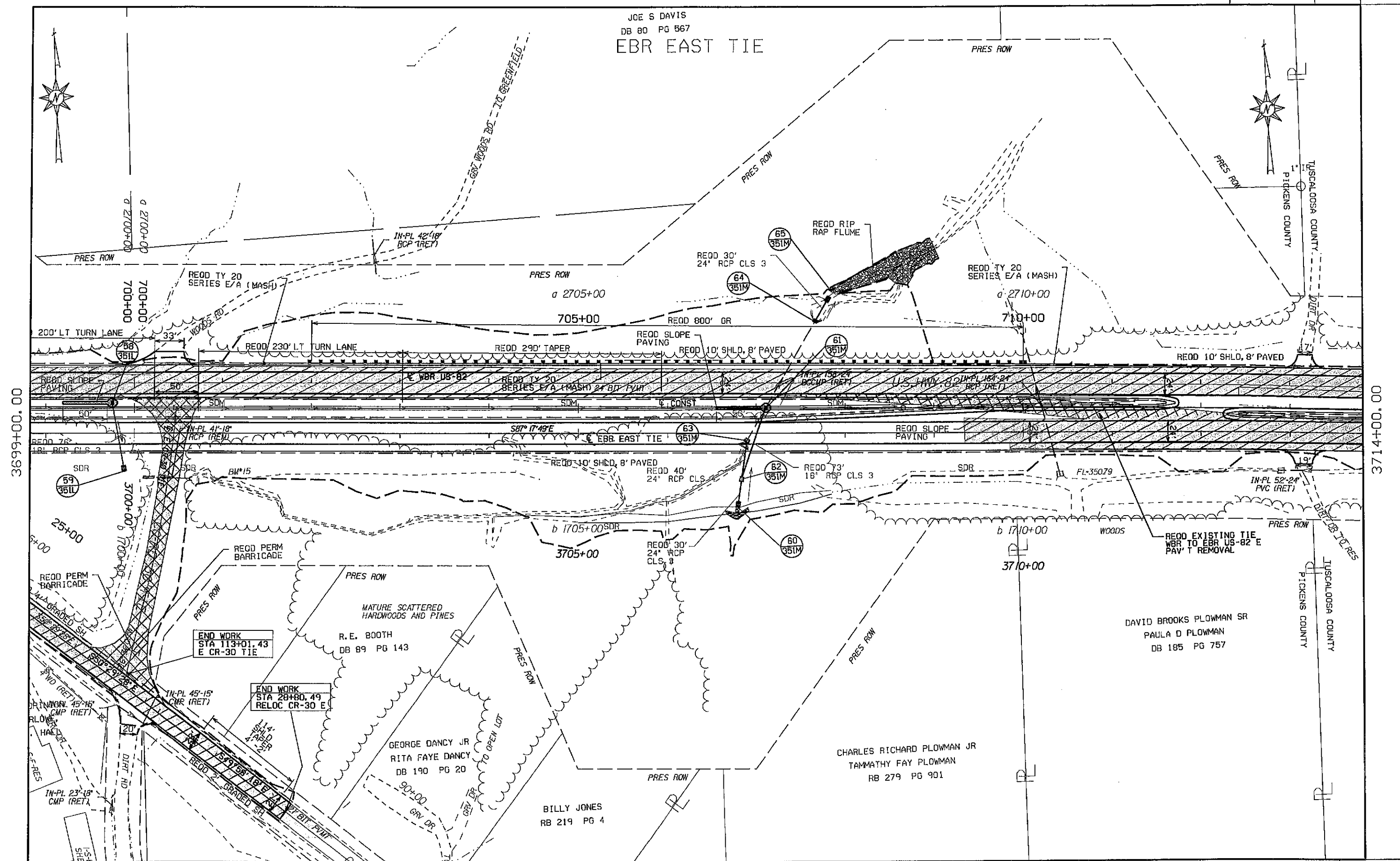
Project No. NHF-0006(576)  
 Gordo By-Pass  
 Pickens/Tuscaloosa County



# PLAN SHEET

REFERENCE PROJECT NO	FISCAL YEAR	SHEET NO
NHF-0006(576)	2024	47

JOE S DAVIS  
DB 80 PG 567  
**EBR EAST TIE**



3699+00.00



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RESPONSIBLE PE: KATHRYN ANDERSON	SUPERVISOR: KATHRYN ANDERSON	DESIGNER: CHRISTOPHER BAZINET	PLAN SUBMITTAL: FBC	<b>ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</b> WEST CENTRAL REGION	SCALE (FEET) 50 0 50 HORIZ	SHEET TITLE: PLAN SHEET	ROUTE: US-82
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### Legend

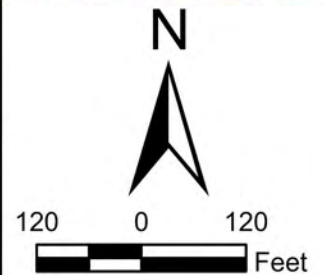
-  Construction Limits
-  ROW

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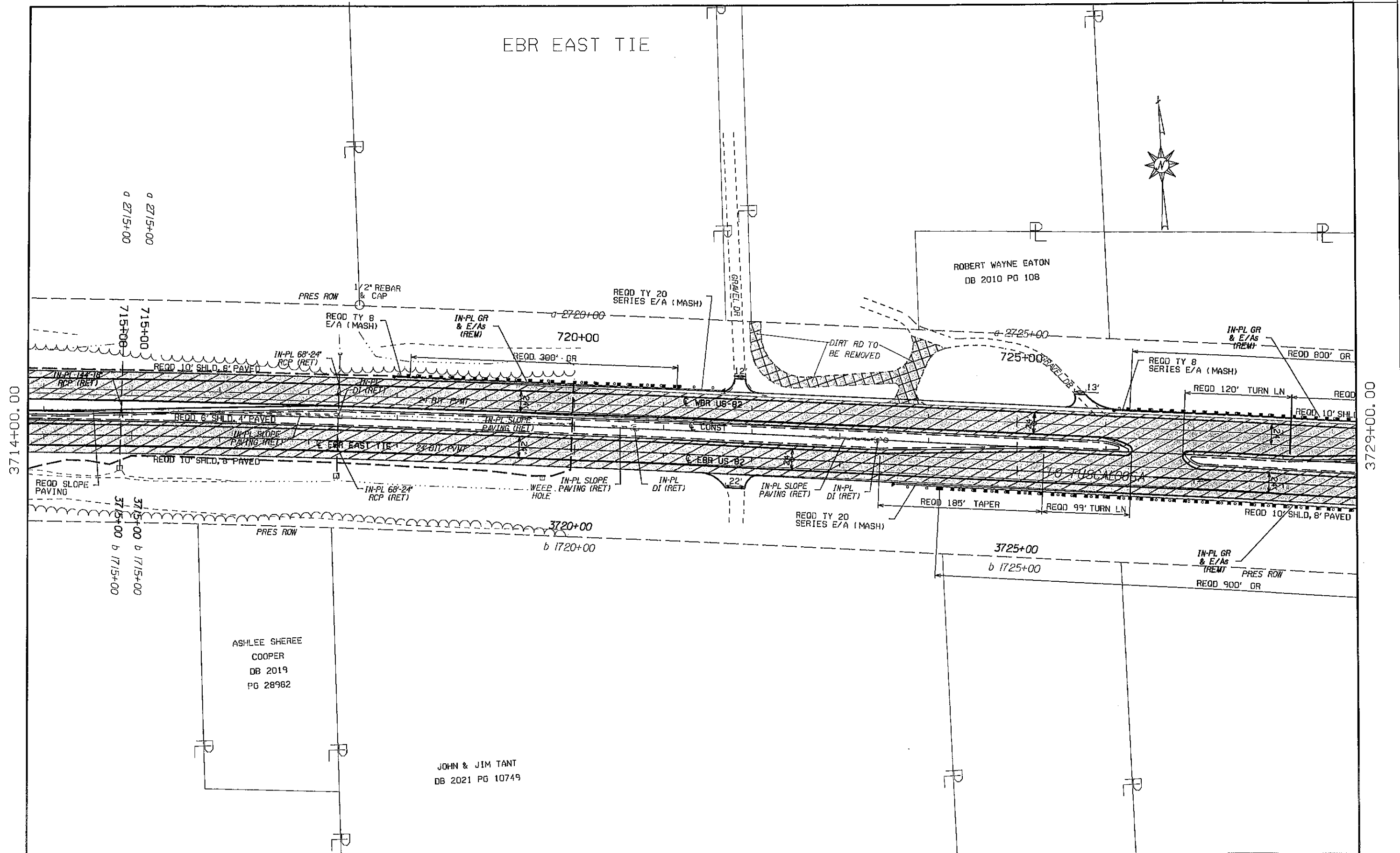
### Resource Map

Project No. NHF-0006(576)  
 Gordo By-Pass  
 Pickens/Tuscaloosa County



# PLAN SHEET

REFERENCE PROJECT NO	FISCAL YEAR	SHEET NO
NHF-0006(576)	2024	48



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RESPONSIBLE PE: KATHRYN ANDERSON	SUPERVISOR: KATHRYN ANDERSON	DESIGNER: CHRISTOPHER BAZINET	PLAN SUBMITTAL	ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WEST CENTRAL REGION	HORIZ  SCALE (FEET)	SHEET TITLE	ROUTE
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