



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT
105 SOUTH TURNER BOULEVARD
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36114

CESAM-RD-N
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2014-00260-JSC

January 12, 2022

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PROPOSED DISCHARGE OF FILL MATERIAL INTO WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR AUBURN HIGH SCHOOL IN AUBURN, LEE COUNTY, 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 U.S.C. 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: City of Auburn Board of Education
Attention: Dr. Dennis Veronese
855 East Samford Avenue
Auburn, Alabama 36830
dveronese@auburnschools.org

AGENT: Wildland Services, LLC
Attention: Mr. Will Neighbors
Post Office Box 469
Auburn, Alabama 36831
will@wildland-services.com

LOCATION: The proposed project is unnamed tributaries to Moores Mill Creek in Auburn, Lee County, Alabama. Specifically, the project boundary is located within Section 28, Township 19 North, and Range 26 East. Approximate coordinates of the project site are latitude 32.6036, longitude -85.4440. The project is in the Lower Tallapoosa 8-digit hydrologic unit code (HUC 03150110).

PROJECT PURPOSE: The basic project purpose is institutional development.

PROPOSED WORK: The applicant is requesting authorization to discharge fill material into waters of the United States (U.S.) in conjunction with the construction of a new parking lot at Auburn High School. Although only 11th and 12th graders are permitted to park on campus, current parking spot availability is inadequate and has resulted in an existing "wait list" of 88 eligible 11th graders. The proposed project creates 175 new

parking places to provide sufficient parking for eligible 11th and 12 graders and would increase the safety of students driving to and from the high school. The proposed parking lot project would also satisfy the expected annual increase in enrollment until another school campus can be constructed. The proposed discharge would result in unavoidable impacts to 315 linear feet of intermittent stream and 54 linear feet of ephemeral stream.

AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION: Information provided by the Applicant, states that initially three sites were considered as potential locations for the proposed parking lot. After reviewing prospective site plans, two sites were eliminated based on potential levels of impacts to waters of the U.S. Specifically, projected impacts to waters of the U.S. at Option 1 would have included 0.02 acre of wetland and 346 linear feet of perennial stream while projected impacts at Option 2 would have totaled 0.17 acre of wetland, 231 linear feet of perennial stream, and 113 linear feet of intermittent stream.

Once the applicant selected the preferred site (Option 3), two additional on-site design layouts were evaluated for potential impacts to waters of the U.S. The initial design would have included impacts to 330 linear feet of intermittent stream and 54 linear feet of ephemeral stream. However, additional site layout revisions reduced the proposed intermittent stream impacts by 15 linear feet. The proposed project plan would involve the discharge of fill material in 315 linear feet of intermittent stream and 54 linear feet of ephemeral stream. The proposed discharge locations would be located in streams evaluated as partially unstable. (The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and minimization efforts at this time.)

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: The applicant proposes to purchase in-kind compensatory mitigation credits from an USACE approved mitigation bank.

The applicant will apply for certification from the State of Alabama in accordance with Section 401(a) (1) of the Clean Water Act. Upon completion of the required advertising and public comment review, a determination relative to water quality certification will be made by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

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.

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.

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.

HISTORIC PROPERTIES: In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Appendix C of 33 CFR 325, the undertaking defined in this notice is being considered for the potential to affect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. The USACE has not made a determination of effects to historic properties at this time. 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.

ENDANGERED/THREATENED SPECIES: Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Species indicates the following listed or candidate species have the potential to occur in the project watershed: southern clubshell (*Pleurobema decisum*) and Wood stork (*Mycteria americana*), Finelined pocketbook (*Lampsilis altilis*), Ovate clubshell (*Pleurobema perovatum*), Southern clubshell (*Pleurobema decisum*), and Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). 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.

Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number

SAM-2014-00260-JSC and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District, Montgomery Field Office, Attention: **Mr. James Cherry**, 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. Richard Hulcher, Post Office Box 301463, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463. Comments may also be submitted via e-mail to USACE at **James.S.Cherry@usace.army.mil** and to ADEM at **fieldmail@adem.alabama.gov**.

Comments should be received no later than **30 days** from the date of this Public Notice. If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager via e-mail at **James.S.Cherry@usace.army.mil** or telephone number **(334) 462-2611**. 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>.

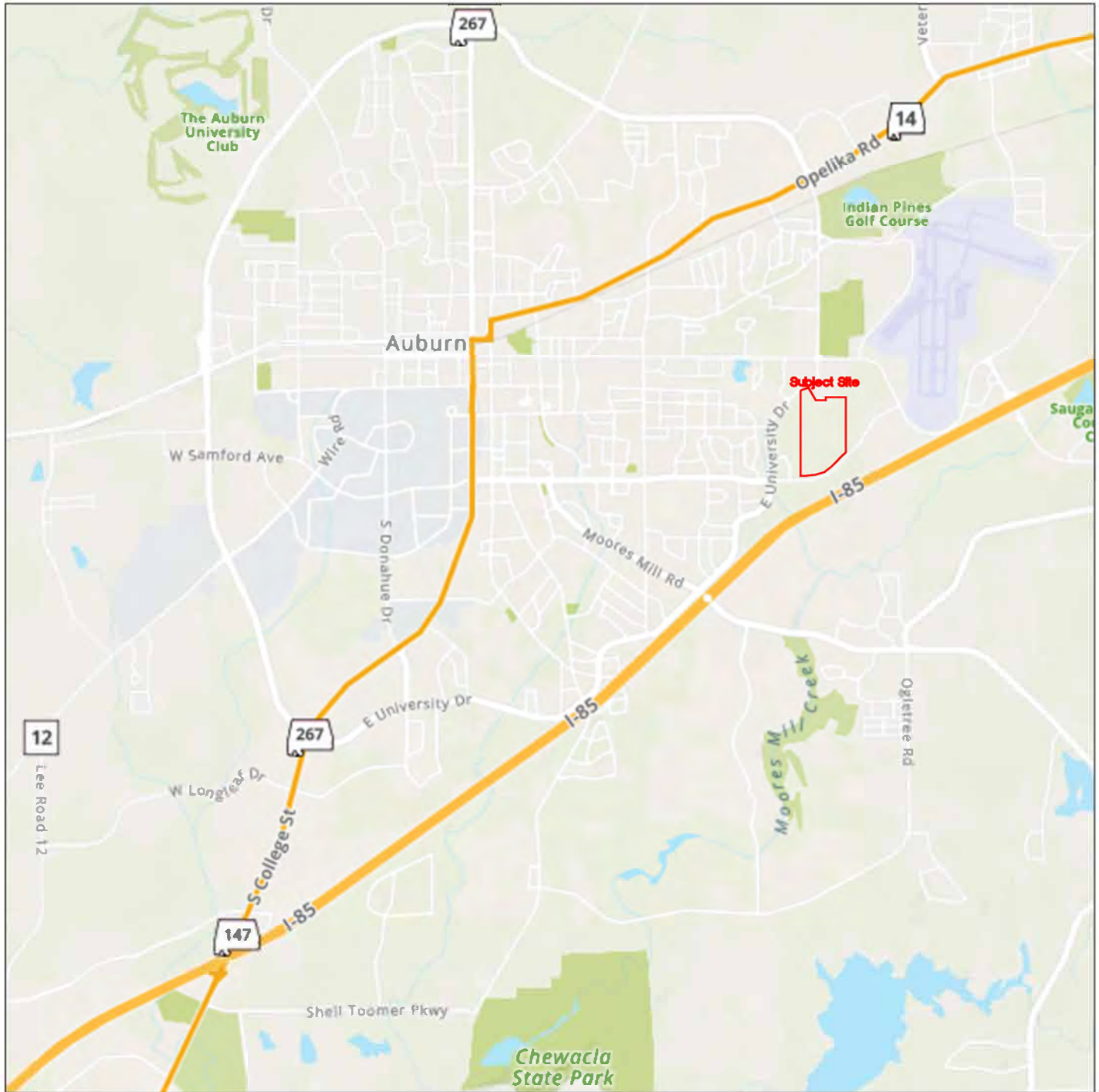
MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Attachments



Drawing by: Will Neighbors: CPESC, PWS
334-391-2005 / www.wildlandservices.com

AHS PARKING EXPANSION SEC 28&33 T17N R30E AUBURN, ALABAMA



12/10/2021

SAM-2014-00260-JSC Vicinity Map

LEGEND

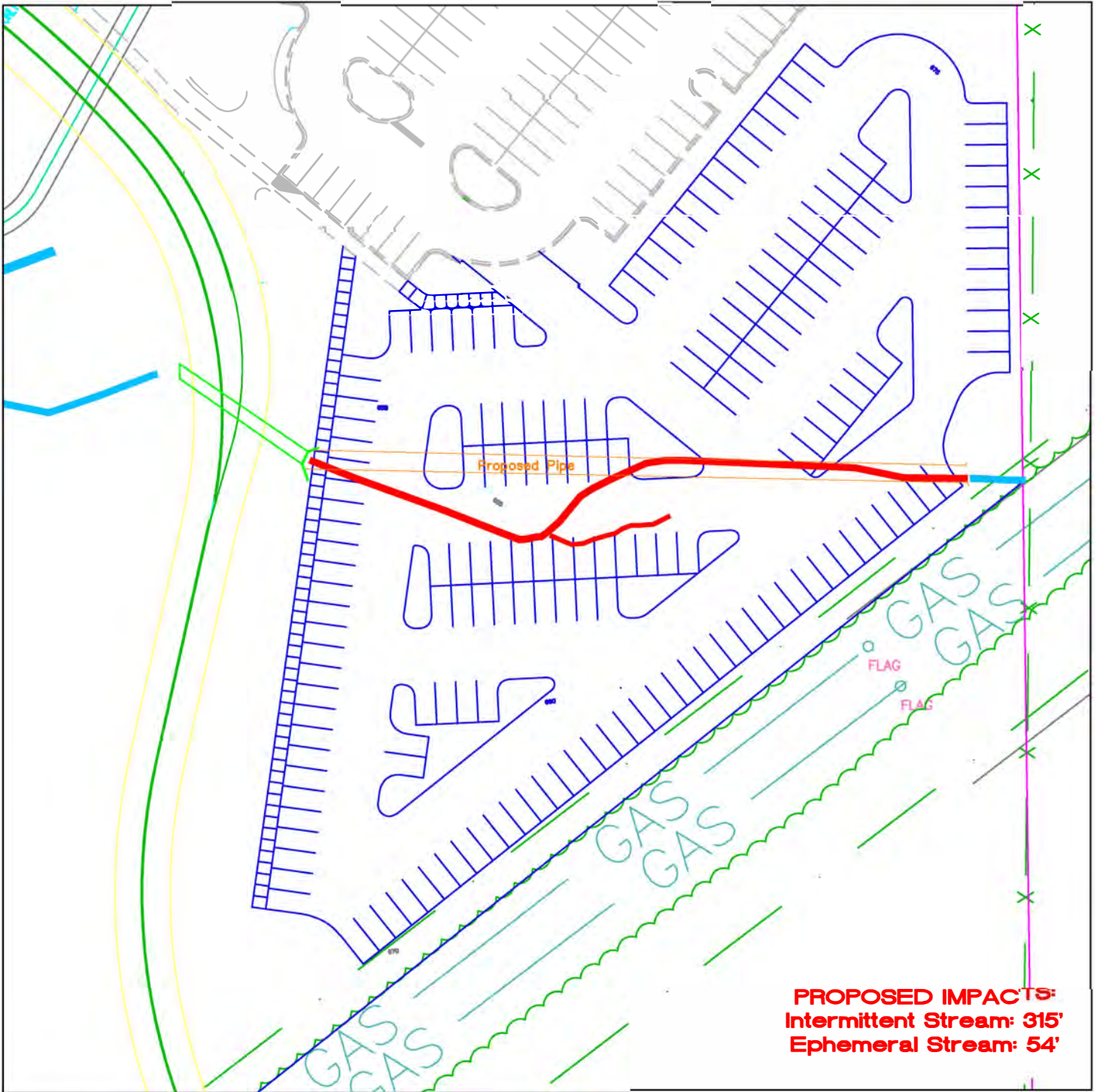
Drawing Symbols

— Site Boundary



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AHS PARKING EXPANSION SEC 28&33 T17N R30E AUBURN, ALABAMA



PROPOSED IMPACTS:
Intermittent Stream: 315'
Ephemeral Stream: 54'



1/10/2022

SAM-2014-00260-SC
Proposed Impacts

LEGEND

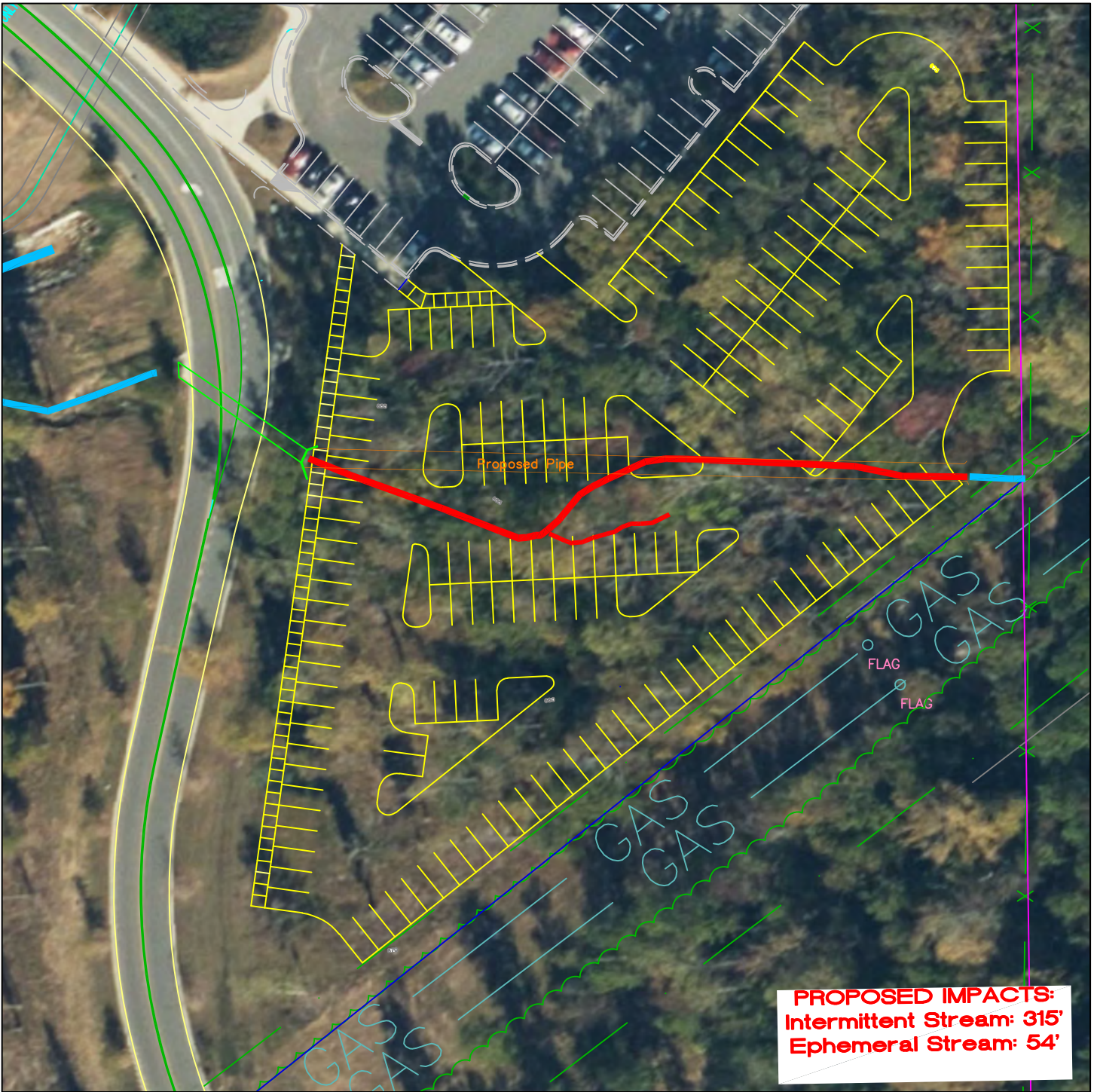
Drawing Symbols

- Proposed Impacts
- Proposed Parking Project



Drawing by: Will Neighbors: CPESC, PWS
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AHS PARKING EXPANSION SEC 28&33 T17N R30E AUBURN, ALABAMA



PROPOSED IMPACTS:
Intermittent Stream: 315'
Ephemeral Stream: 54'



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Aerial with Proposed Impacts

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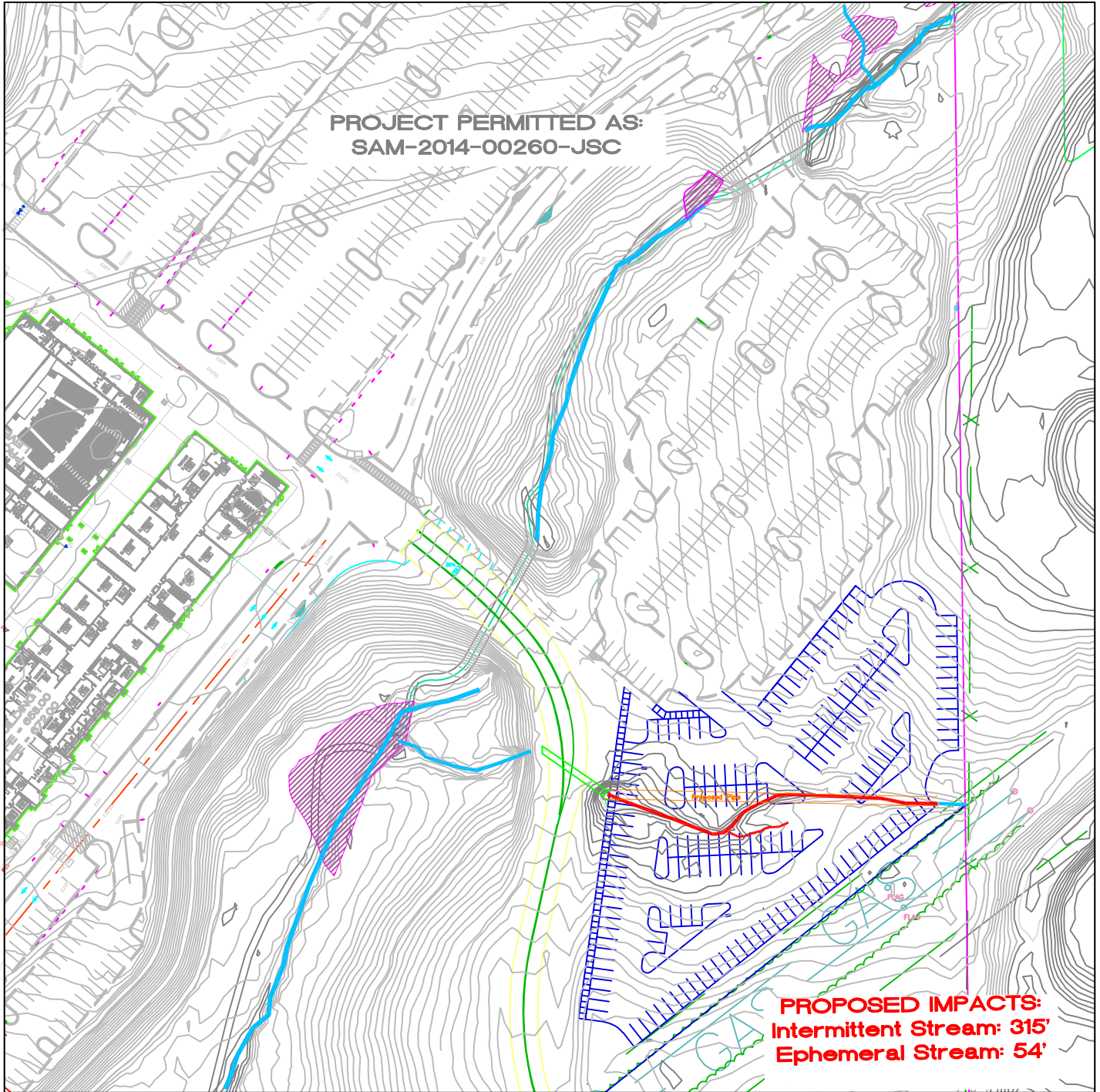
Drawing Symbols

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Topo with Proposed Impacts

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Drawing Symbols

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- Proposed Parking Project