



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – MOBILE DISTRICT  
MONTGOMERY FIELD OFFICE  
605 MAPLE STREET  
BUILDING 1429, ROOM 105  
MAXWELL AFB, AL 36112**

CESAM-RD-N  
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2014-00386-JSC

June 23, 2014

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

**PROPOSED DISCHARGE OF FILL MATERIAL ASSOCIATED WITH  
THE WIDENING OF U.S. HIGHWAY 82 IN PICKENS 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 USC 1344). This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons to assist in developing facts on which a decision by the Corps can be based. Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT:** Alabama Department of Transportation  
Attention: Mr. Tony Shaddix  
1409 Coliseum Boulevard  
Montgomery, Alabama 36110

**LOCATION:** The proposed project begins east of Lubbub Creek in Section 28 of Township 19 South and Range 14 West, and terminates west of Bear Creek in Section 6 of Township 20 South Range 13 West. The proposed work is located within a 5.2 mile long corridor having central coordinates of latitude 33.3445° N, and longitude 87.9462° W. The area is depicted on the Carrollton and Gordo, Alabama Quadrangles, United States Geological Survey Topographic Maps. The proposed project is situated within the Middle Tombigbee - Lubbub watershed (HUC 03160106).

**PROPOSED WORK:** The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) is requesting authorization for the discharge of fill material into waters of the U.S. (WOUS) for the widening of U.S. Highway 82 in Pickens County, Alabama. Specifically, the ALDOT proposes to discharge fill material into 25.15 acres of wetlands and 6,927 linear feet of stream in order to construct 5.2 miles of additional lanes between towns of Reform and Gordo. The proposed work involves transitioning east of Lubbub Creek from an existing five lane roadway to a four lane divided high way. Construction of the four lane divided roadway will continue until just west of Bear Creek where the project will merge back into the existing two-lane highway.

The proposed project is the initial phase of an approximately 12 mile long highway improvement project. The larger project will widen U.S. 82 by adding additional lanes from Reform to east of Gordo followed by a bypass of the city of Gordo. Finally, the bypass will transition back to the existing U.S. 82 near the Tuscaloosa County line.

**AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION:** Applicant provided information affirms that minimization efforts, to include choosing an alternative that would impact the least amount of wetlands, were considered in their review process. The applicant has also indicated that impacts to WOUS were minimized to the greatest extent practicable through the site design and layout process. The Corps 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 wetlands by debiting credits from an ALDOT mitigation bank, and to provide compensatory mitigation for authorized stream impacts through the purchase of stream mitigation credits from a Corps approved mitigation bank. The Corps has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's proposed off-site mitigation plan at this time.

**LEAD FEDERAL AGENCY ROLE:** The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is considered the lead federal agency for the coordination and conduct of environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Pursuant to NEPA, FHWA prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed interchange construction project. The EA addressed alternatives that considered various alignments and locations of the proposed interchange location. FHWA approved a Findings of No Significant Impact in October 2011. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is considering adopting FHWA's EA; however, a separate decision document would be prepared prior to a final decision concerning issuance or denial of the requested DA permit. Comments received would be used by Corps in the preparation of any supplemental EA and/or an Environmental Impact Statement, if required, pursuant to NEPA prior to a final decision concerning issuance or denial of the DA permit. The Corps would participate as a cooperating agency in the development of any additional NEPA documentation.

**WATER QUALITY:** The applicant is preparing their application 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.

**PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW/CUMULATIVE EFFECTS:** 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, 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 discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States will include the application of the Section 404(b)(1) guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS:** The Corps 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 Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. 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. 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 EA and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the NEPA.

**PUBLIC HEARING REQUESTS:** 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:** On behalf of FHWA, ALDOT previously provided documentation to the Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) describing the proposed action in January 2000 (AHC 00-385). By letter dated April 30, 2008, the ALDOT requested the SHPO's concurrence that the proposed project would "continue to have no effect on any significant cultural resource." The SHPO's concurrence is dated May 5, 2008. Since the SHPO's previous review the ALDOT has added three additional areas of right-of-way totaling 0.8 acres. Copies of this notice are being sent to the SHPO.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES:** A preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicated that the proposed activity will not affect listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat. In addition to this review, the applicant, on behalf of the FHWA requested project review by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and received an updated response dated August 2, 2011, stating that no federally listed species nor designated critical habitat will be affected as a result of the proposed work if the best management practices outline in the USFWS' August 18, 2006, letter are

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incorporated into project plans (File number: 2006-TA-0648). Copies of this notice are being sent to the USFWS.

**COMMENT PERIOD:** All comments should be received no later than **30 days** from the date of issuance of this Public Notice. Enclosed to assist with your review are: vicinity maps (Figures 1-3), and proposed impacts maps (Figures 4-15). Figures one (1) through three (3) are enclosed to provide a conceptual layout of the proposed projects alignment and location, and should not be used to assess impacts to resource areas (e.g. WOUS). Figures four (4) through fifteen (15) are detailed drawings of the applicant's proposed impacts to WOUS. Any correspondence concerning this publication should refer to this Public Notice **SAM-2014-00386-JSC** and should be directed to the following address:

District Engineer:

U. S. Army Engineer District, Mobile  
Regulatory Division, Montgomery Field Office  
Attention: James S. Cherry, II  
605 Maple Street  
Bldg. 1429, Room 105  
Maxwell, AFB, AL 36112

with a copy to the :

Director  
Alabama Department of Environmental Management  
Post Office Box 301463  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-1463

If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the Project Manager via e-mail at [james.s.cherry@usace.army.mil](mailto:james.s.cherry@usace.army.mil) or telephone number (334) 953-2172. Please refer to the above Public Notice number. For additional information about the Mobile District's Regulatory Program, please take a moment to visit our web site at <http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>, while there please take a moment to complete our customer satisfaction survey. Your responses are appreciated and will allow us to improve our services.

Encls

MOBILE DISTRICT  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

# ALABAMA

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

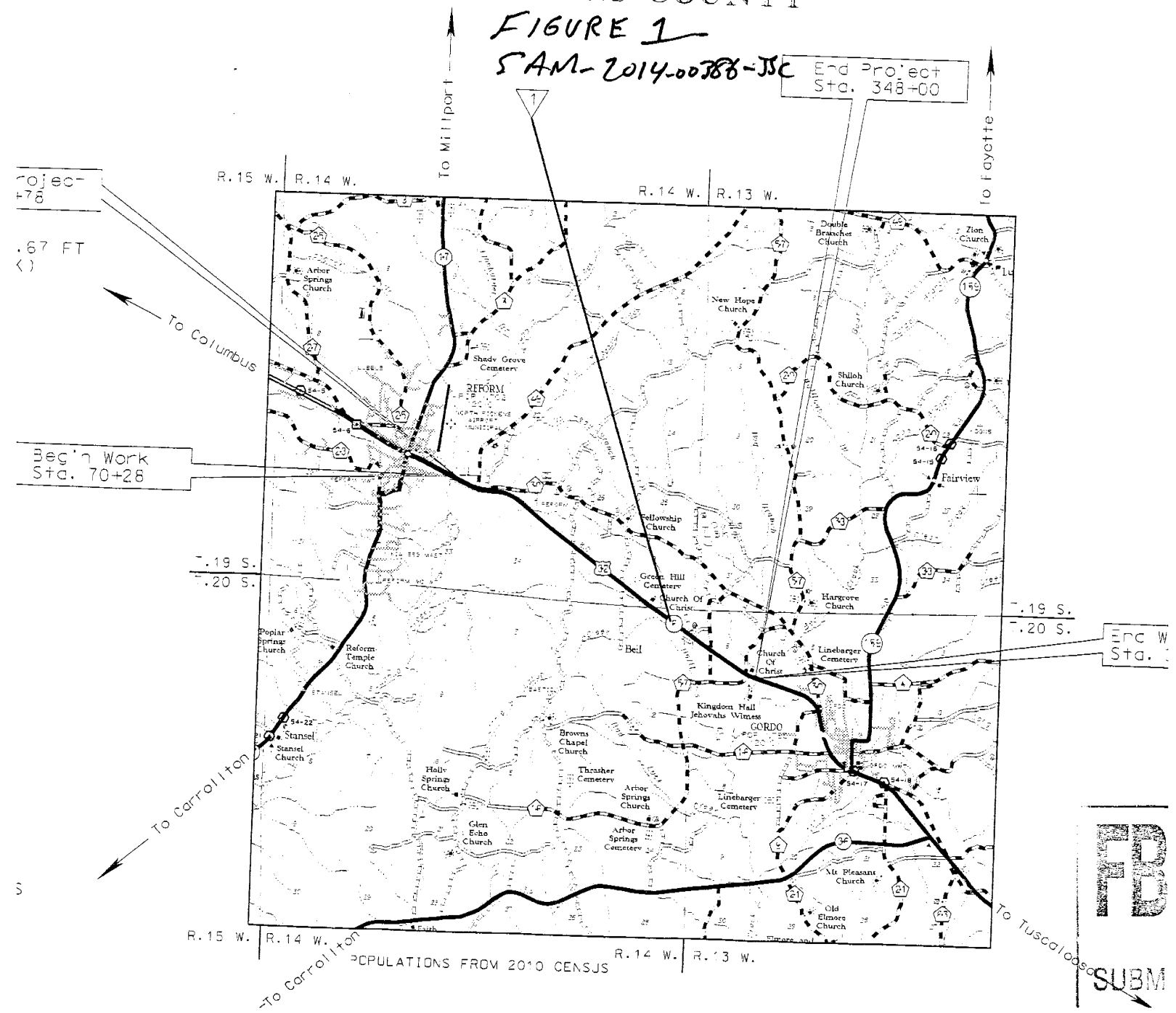
PLANS OF PROPOSED PROJECT  
NO. NHF-0006(521)

SR-6 (US-82) ADDITIONAL LANES FROM THE EAST END OF MILL  
CREEK BRIDGE TO 4-LANE EAST OF REFORM TO WEST OF  
GORDO  
GRADE, DRAIN, BASE, PAVE,  
AND BRIDGE CULVERT EXTENSION  
PICKENS COUNTY

FIGURE 1

SAM-2014-00388-JSC

End Project  
Sta. 348+00



LEGEND	
Existing Roadway	—
Proposed Roadway	—
Proposed R.O.W.	—
Construction Limit	- - - - -
Creek	~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Rail Road	—+—+—+—
Contour Line	—
Wetland / Marsh	—x—

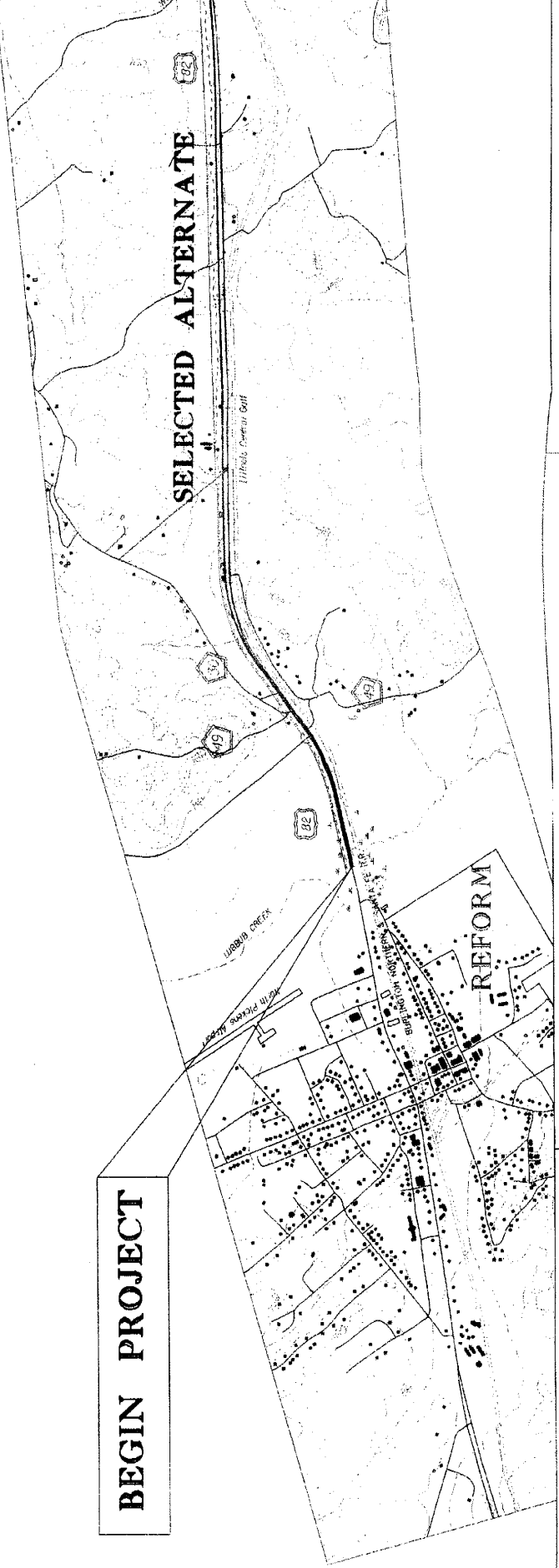
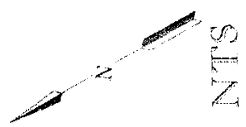


FIGURE 2  
SAM-2014-00386-JSC

FIGURE F-1a

SELECTED ALTERNATE

PROJECT NO. F-PE91(6)

# LEGEND

Existing Roadway	————
Proposed Roadway	————
Proposed R.O.W.	————
Construction Limit	- - - - -
Creek	- - - - -
Rail Road	
Contour Line	————
Wetland / Marsh	↘

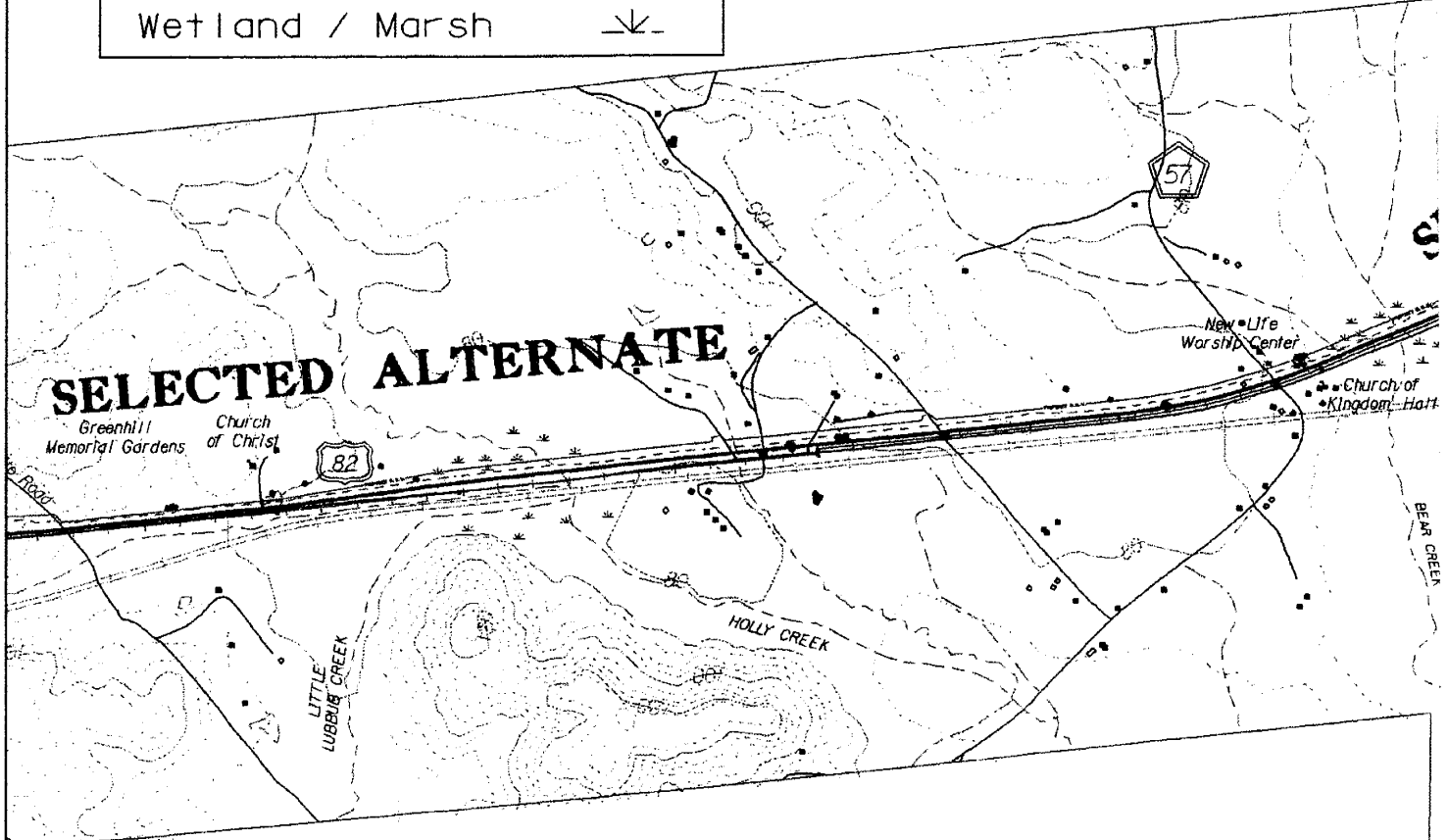
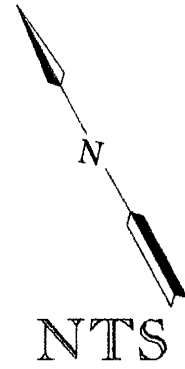
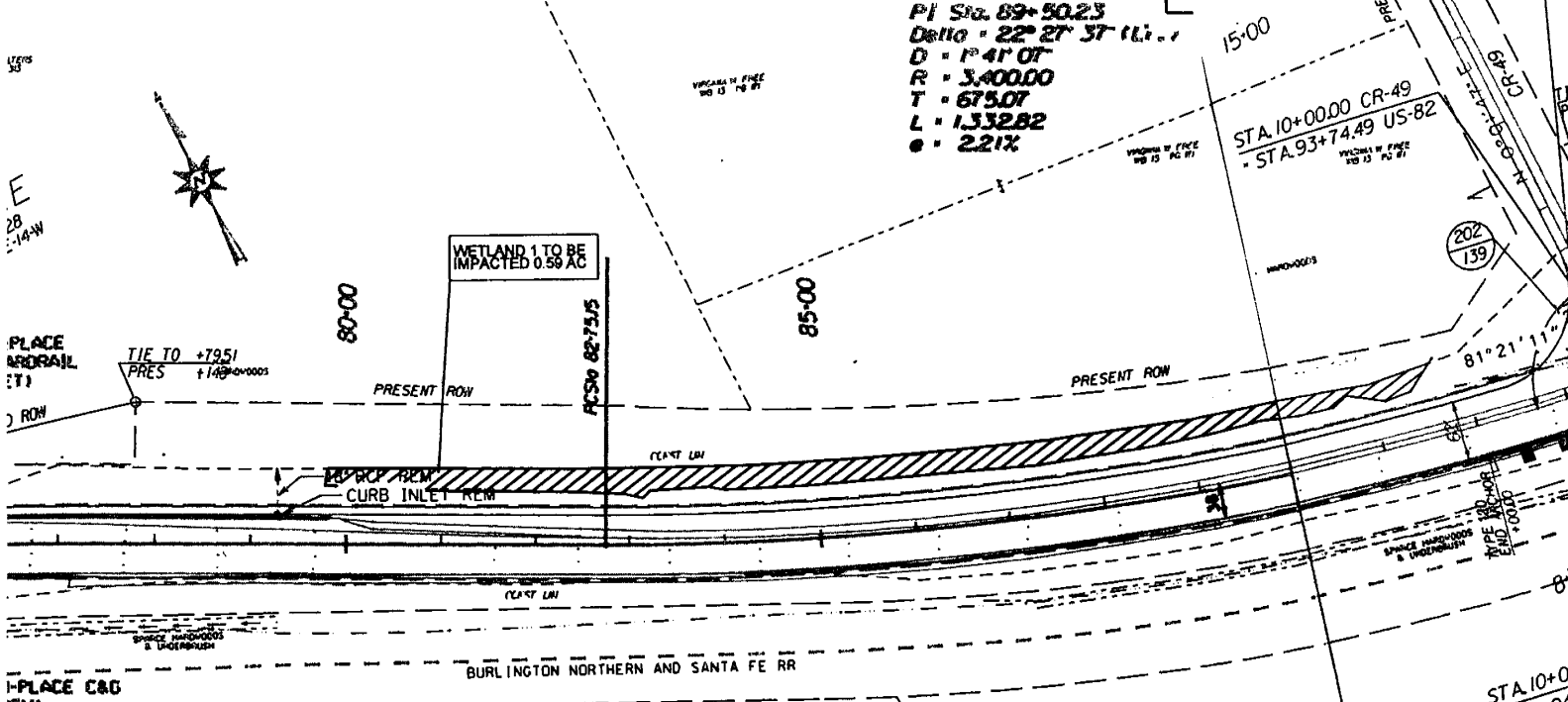


FIGURE 3 (SAM-2014-00386-JSC)

**PROJECT NO. F-PE91(6)**

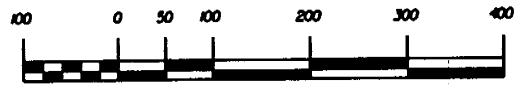
**SELECTED**

MATCH LINE SEE FIGURE



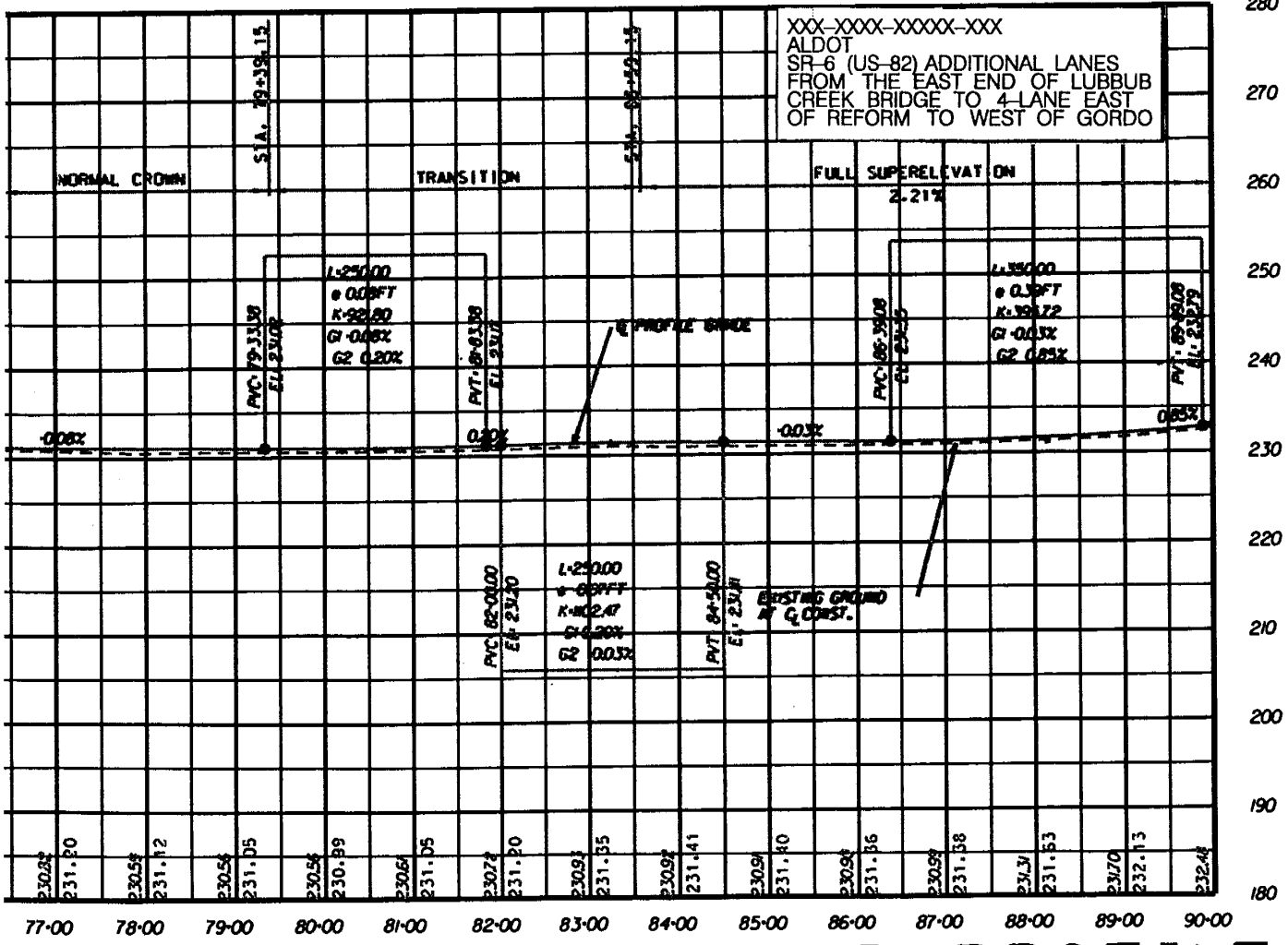
**FIGURE 4**  
SAM-2014-00386-J5C

GRAPHIC SCALE  
(FEET)



- GN-2 Notes**
- 124
  - 125
  - 128 (a) 4%
  - 128 (b) 3%
  - 128 (c) 65 mph
  - 130
  - 131
  - 139-A

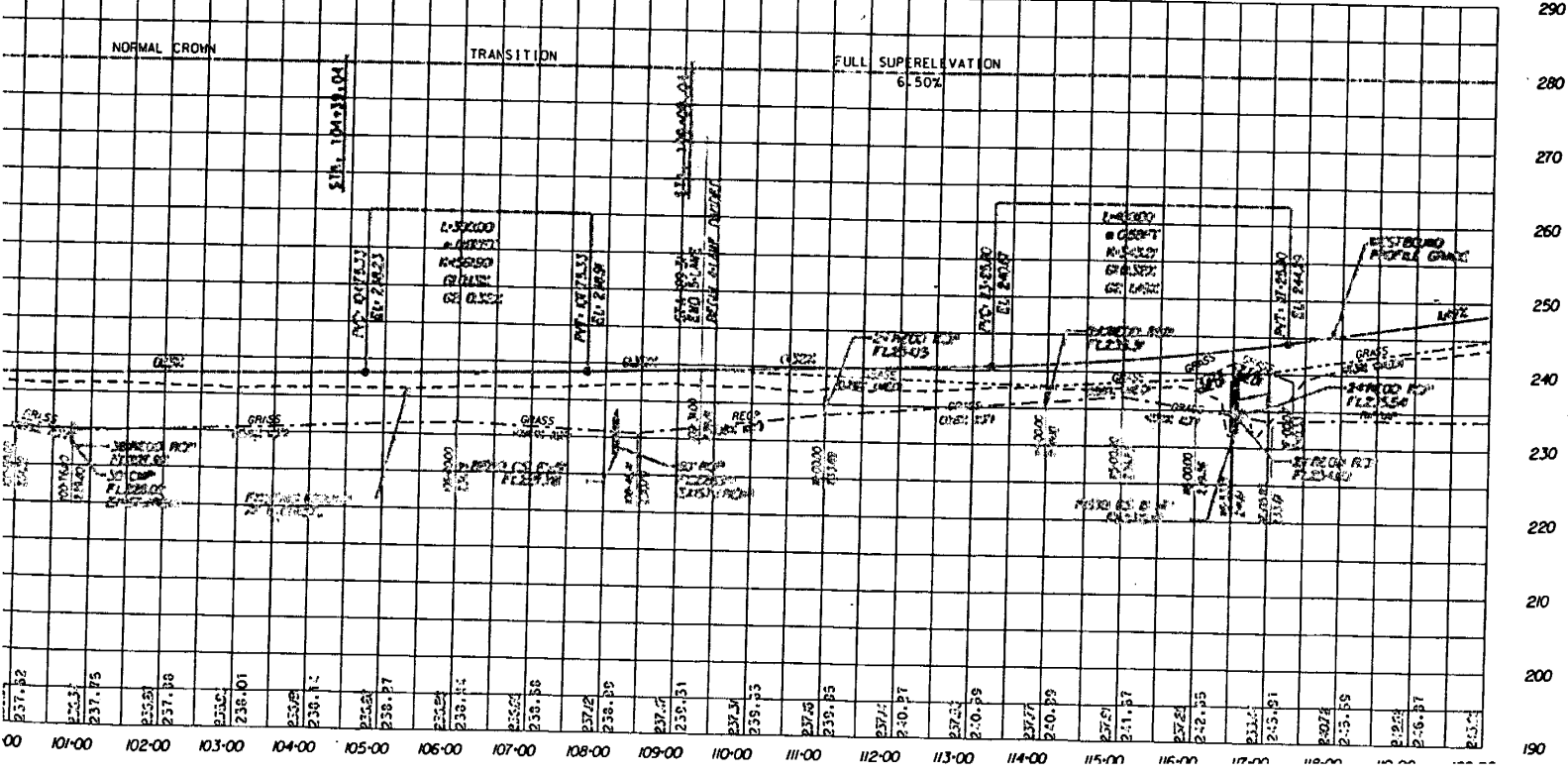
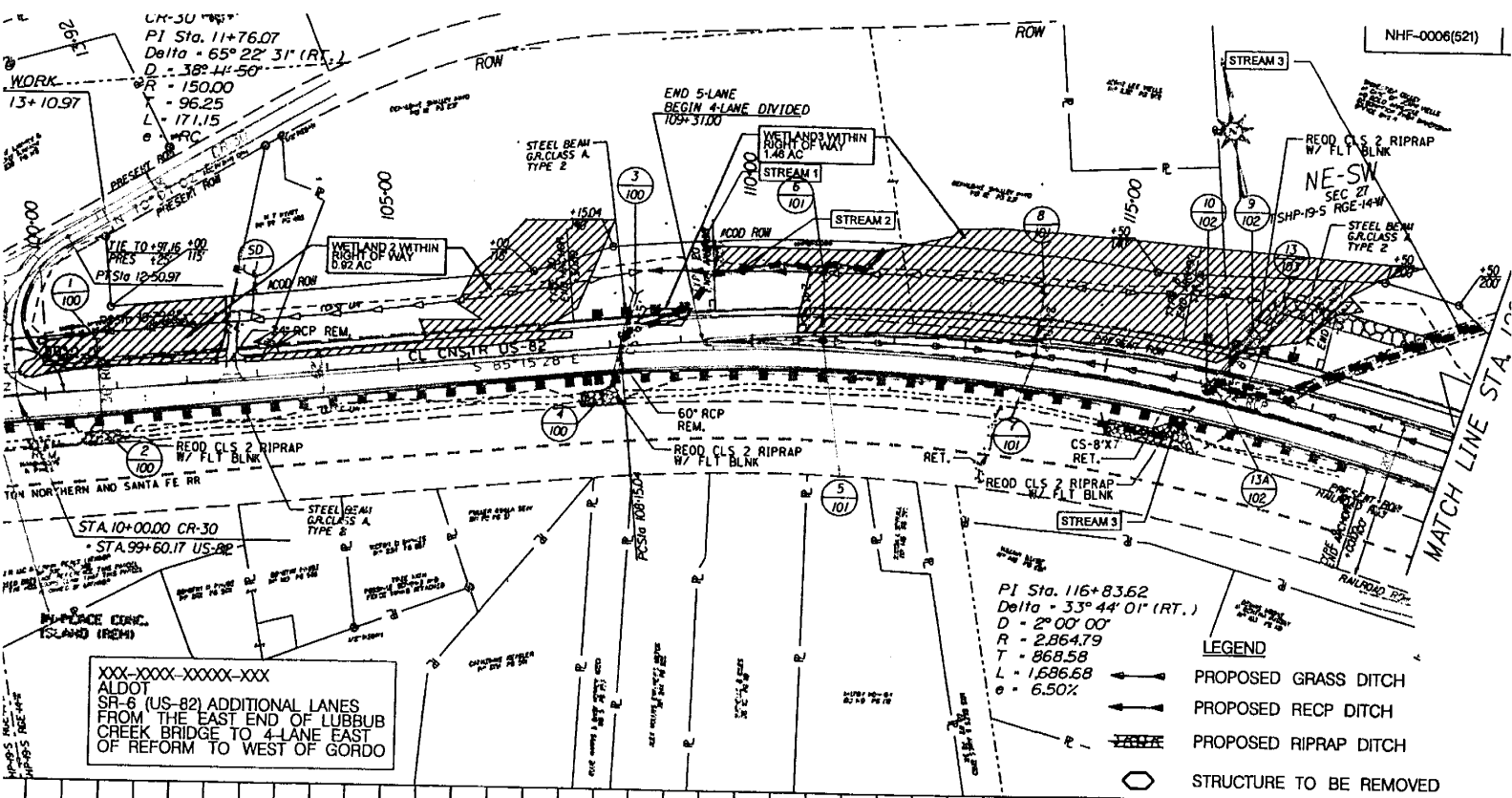
BURLINGTON NORTHERN AND SANTA FE R.R.  
CROSSINGS WERE TAKEN ON THE RAIL  
ROAD HIGHWAY

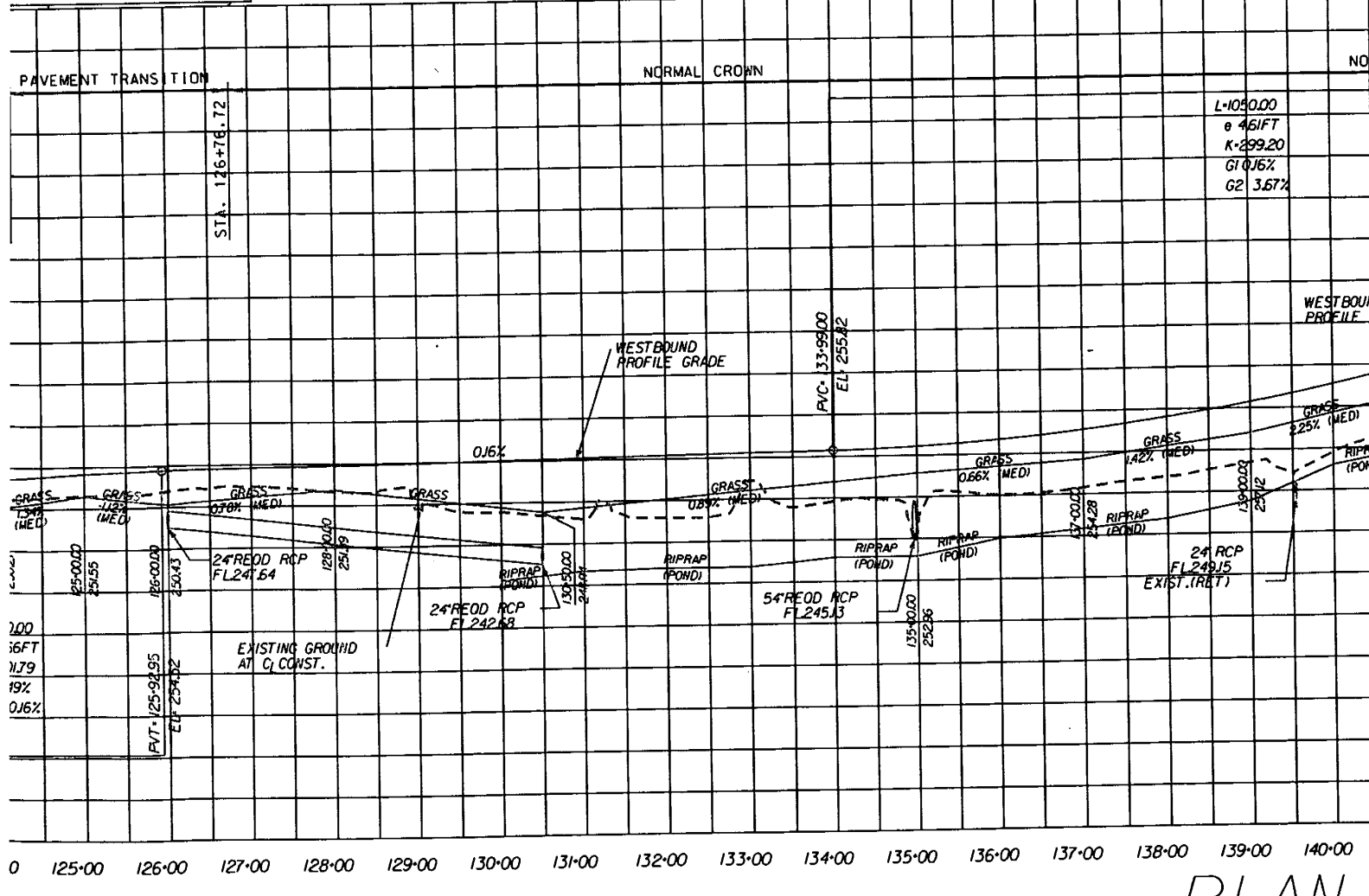
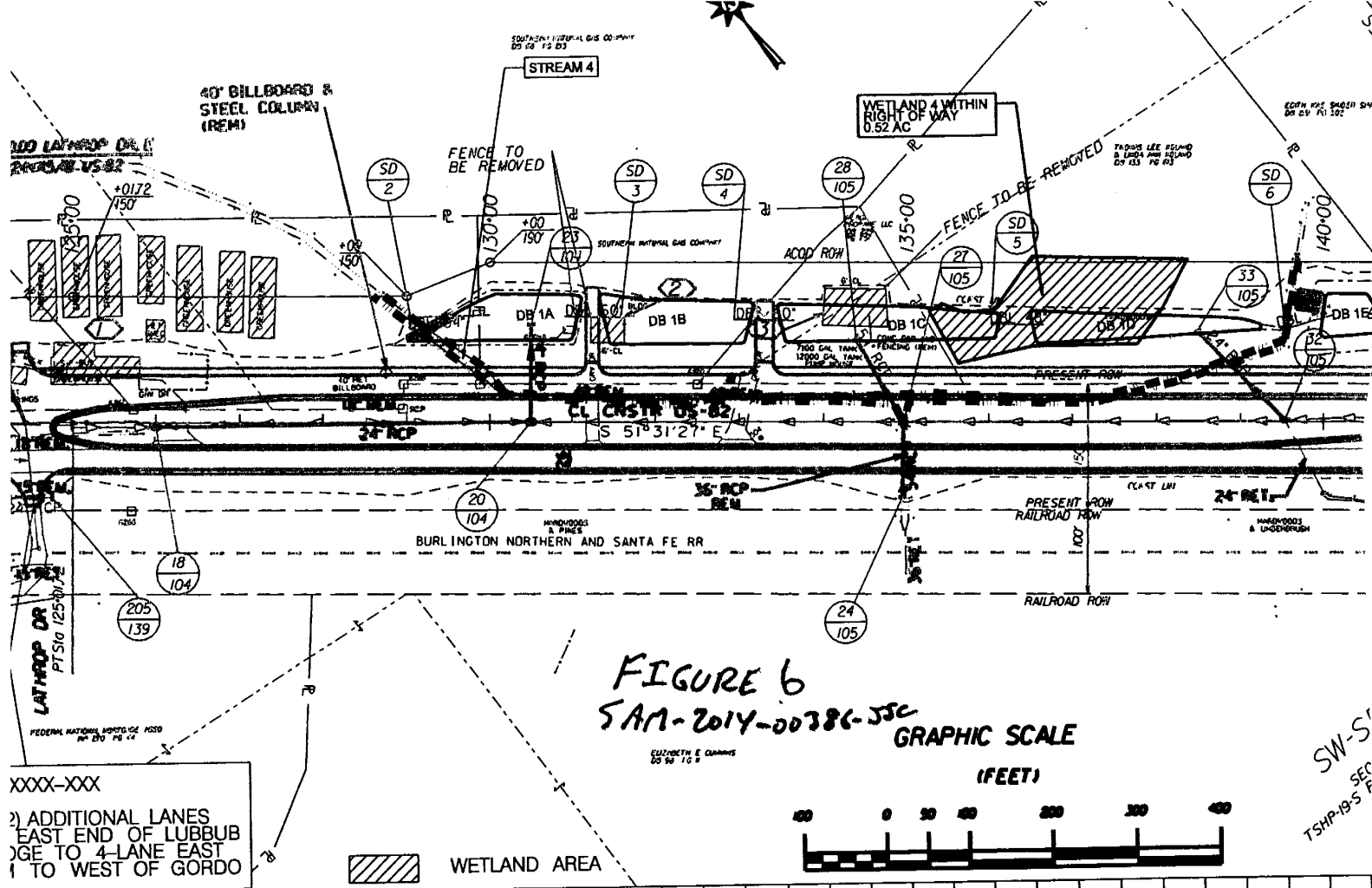




# FIGURE 5

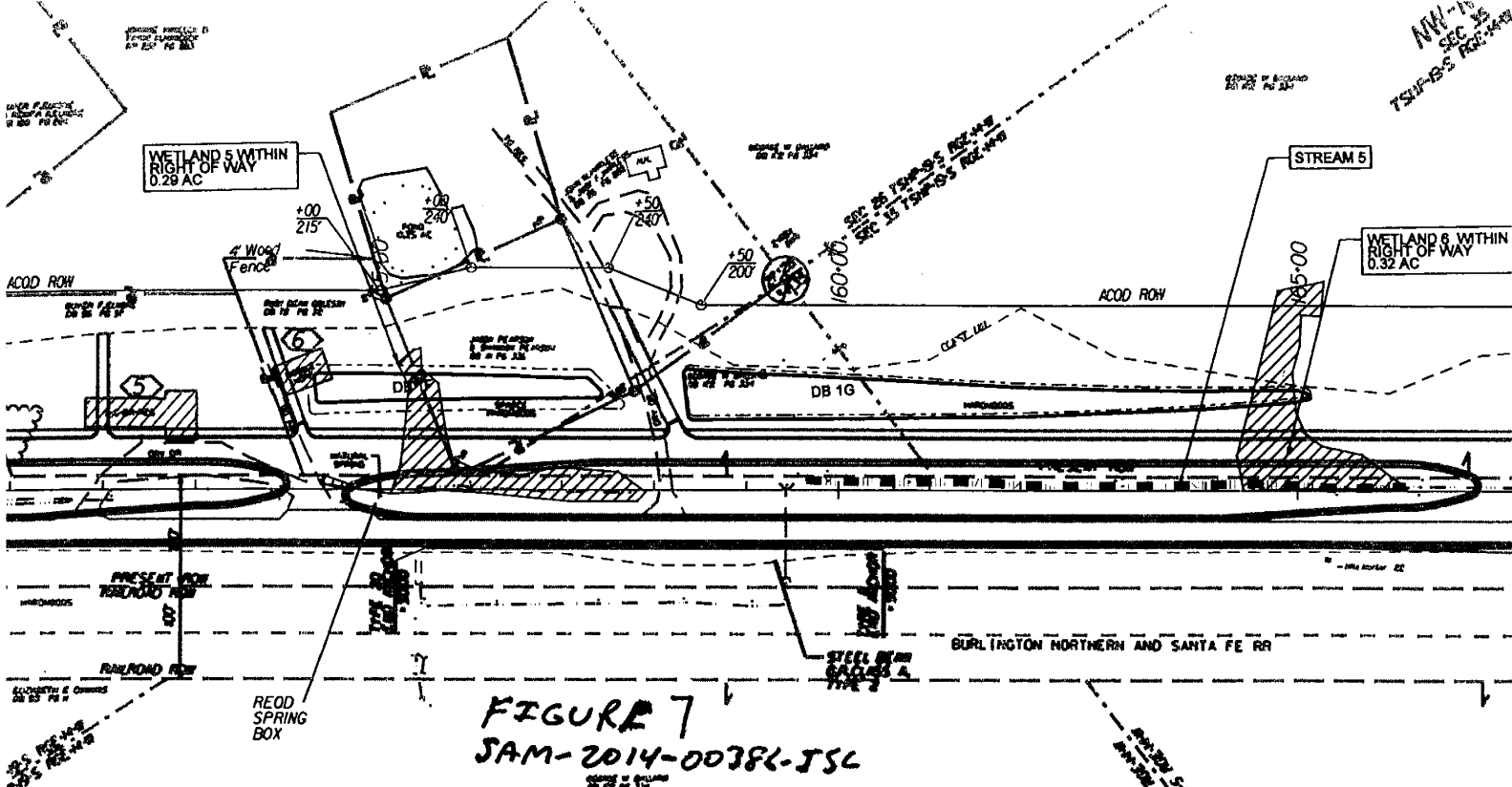
## SAM-2014-00386-JSC





DIAM

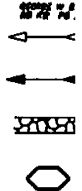
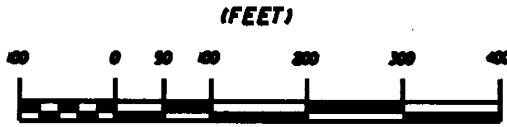
NW 1/4  
SEC 35  
T54R-E5S RGE. 44E



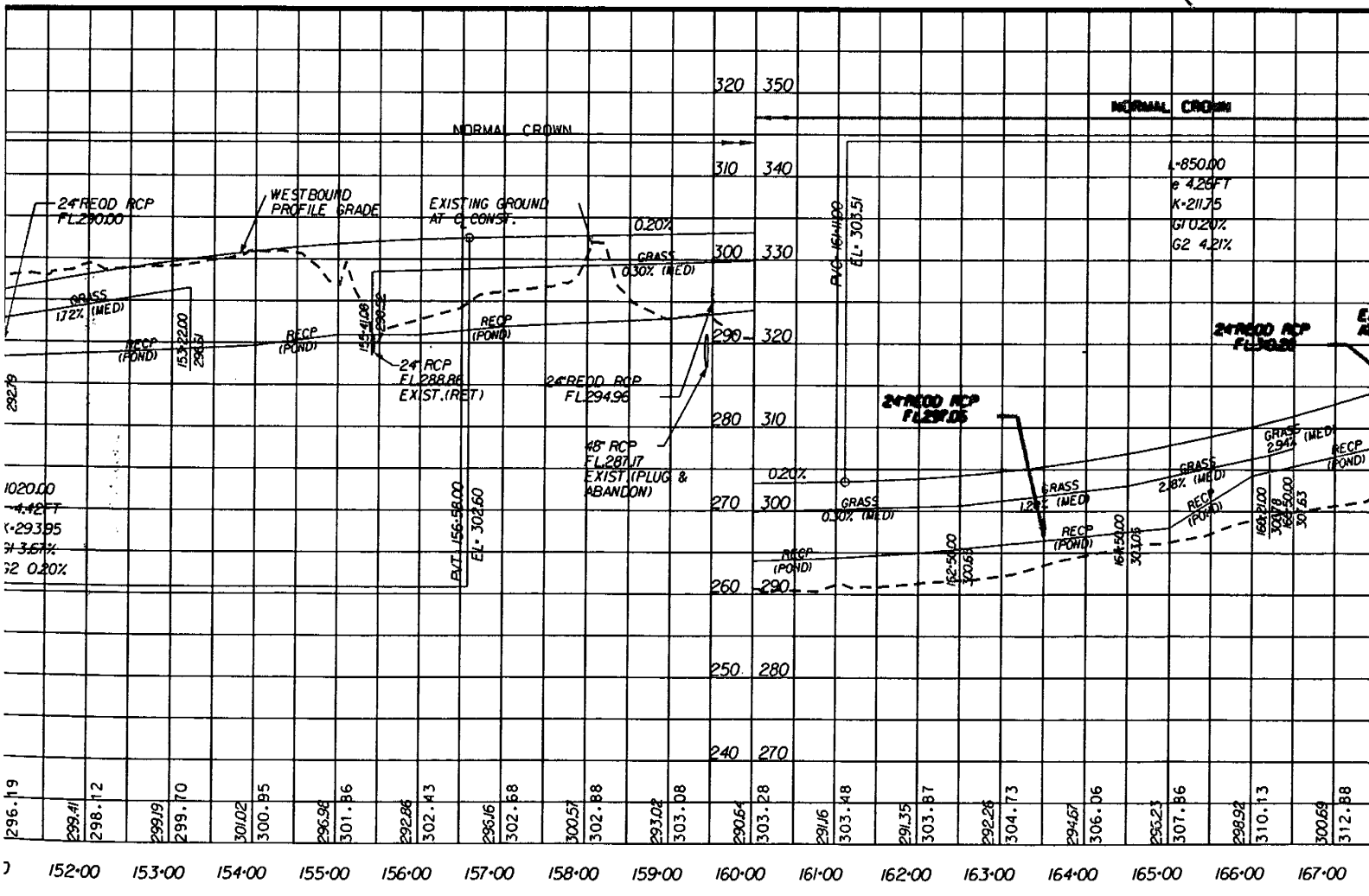
**FIGURE 7**  
SAM-2014-00386-JSC

XXX-XXX-XXXX-XXX  
ALDOT  
SR-6 (US-82) ADDITIONAL LANES  
FROM THE EAST END OF LUBBUB  
CREEK BRIDGE TO 4-LANE EAST  
OF REFORM TO WEST OF GORDO

**GRAPHIC SCALE**

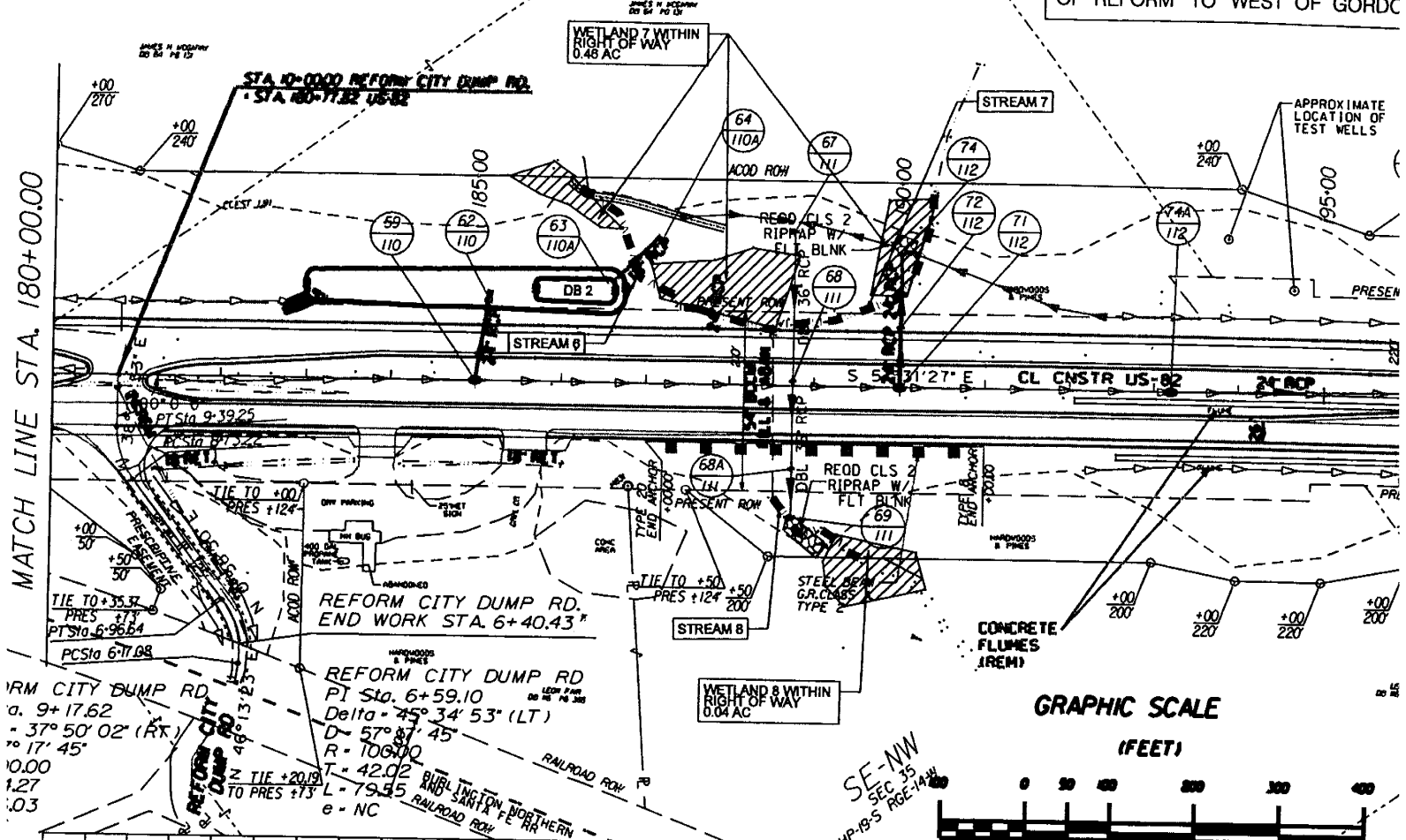


WETLAND AREA

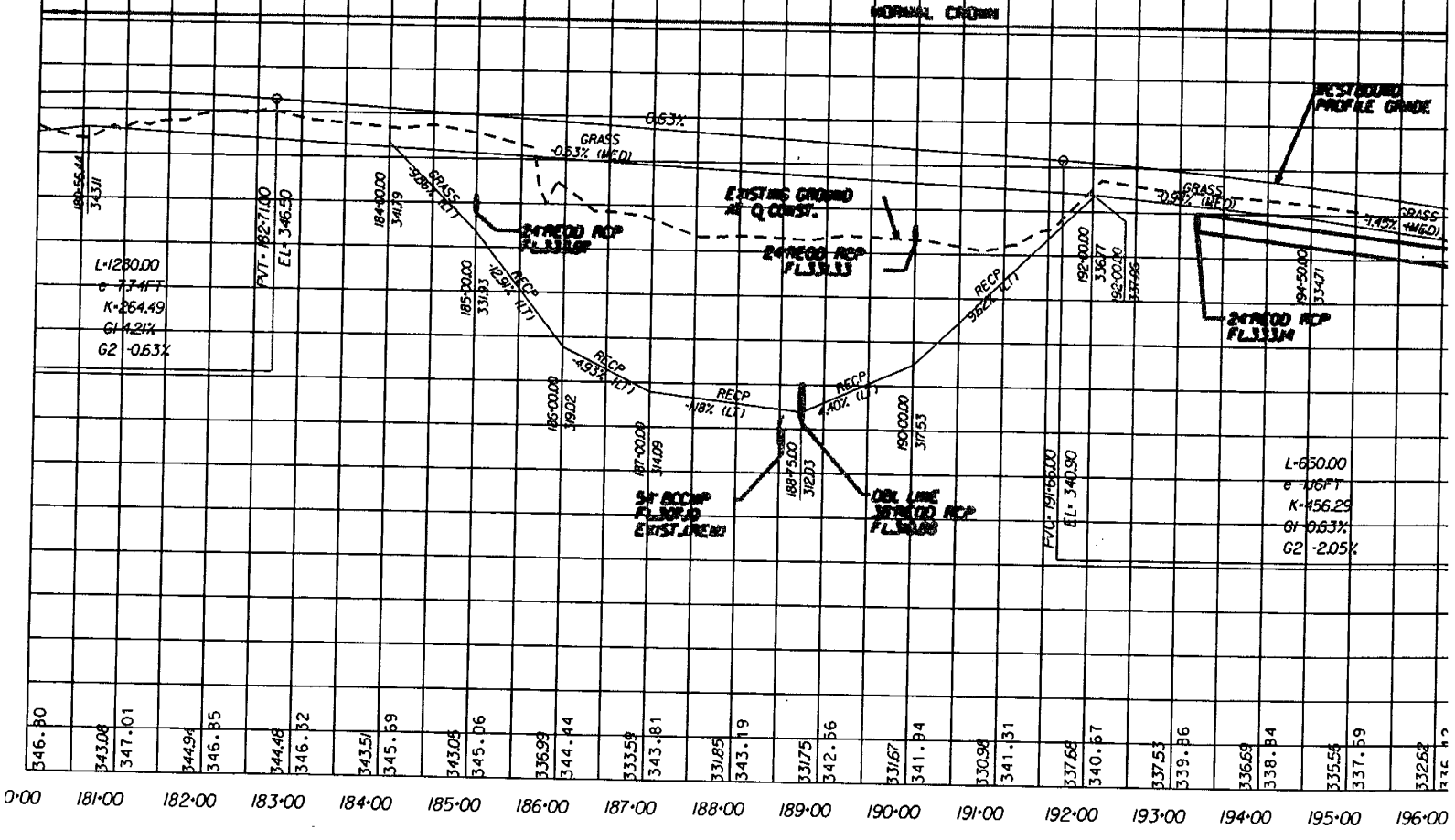


SR-6 (US-82) ADDITIONAL LANES FROM THE EAST END OF LUBBE CREEK BRIDGE TO 4-LANE EAST OF REFORM TO WEST OF GORDC

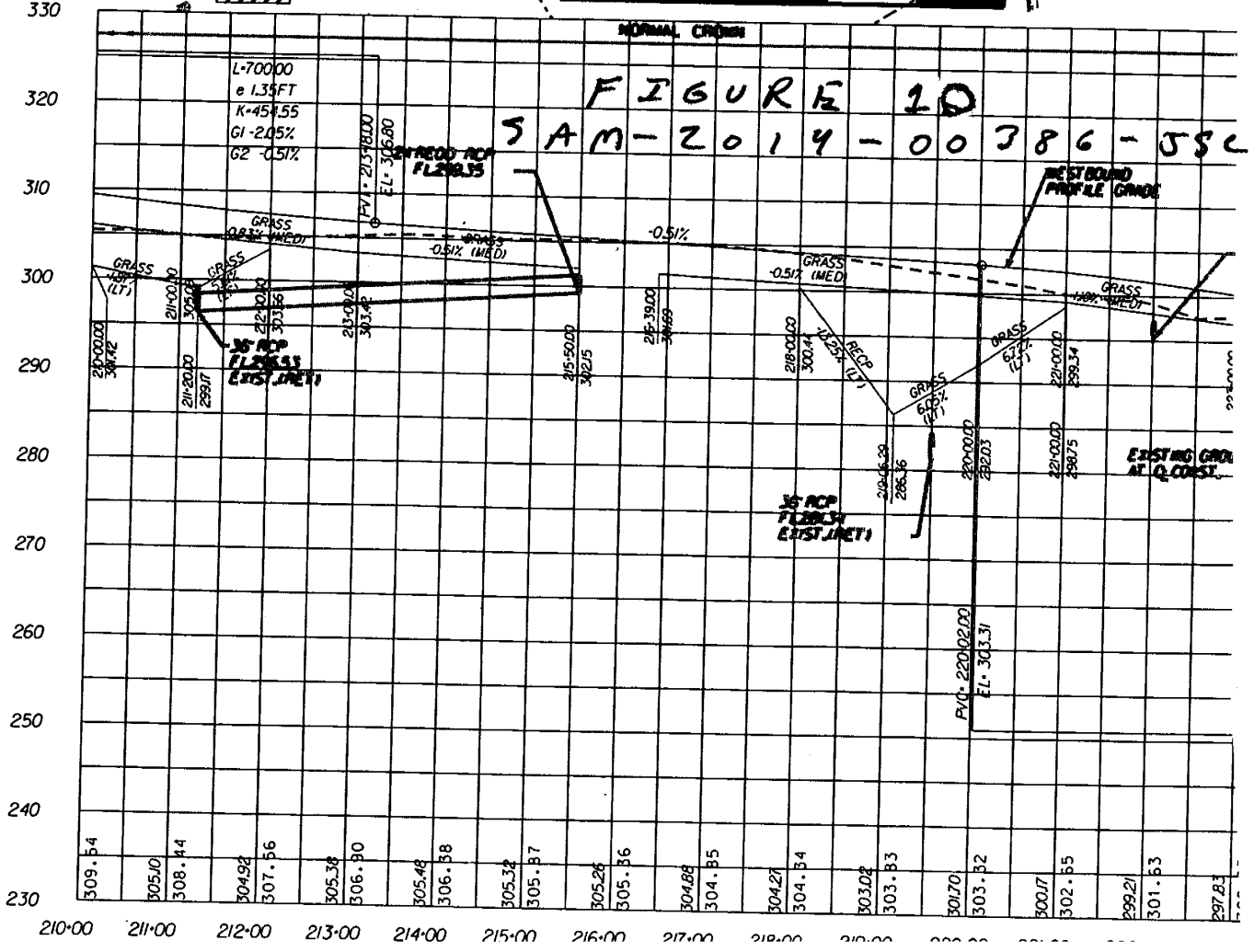
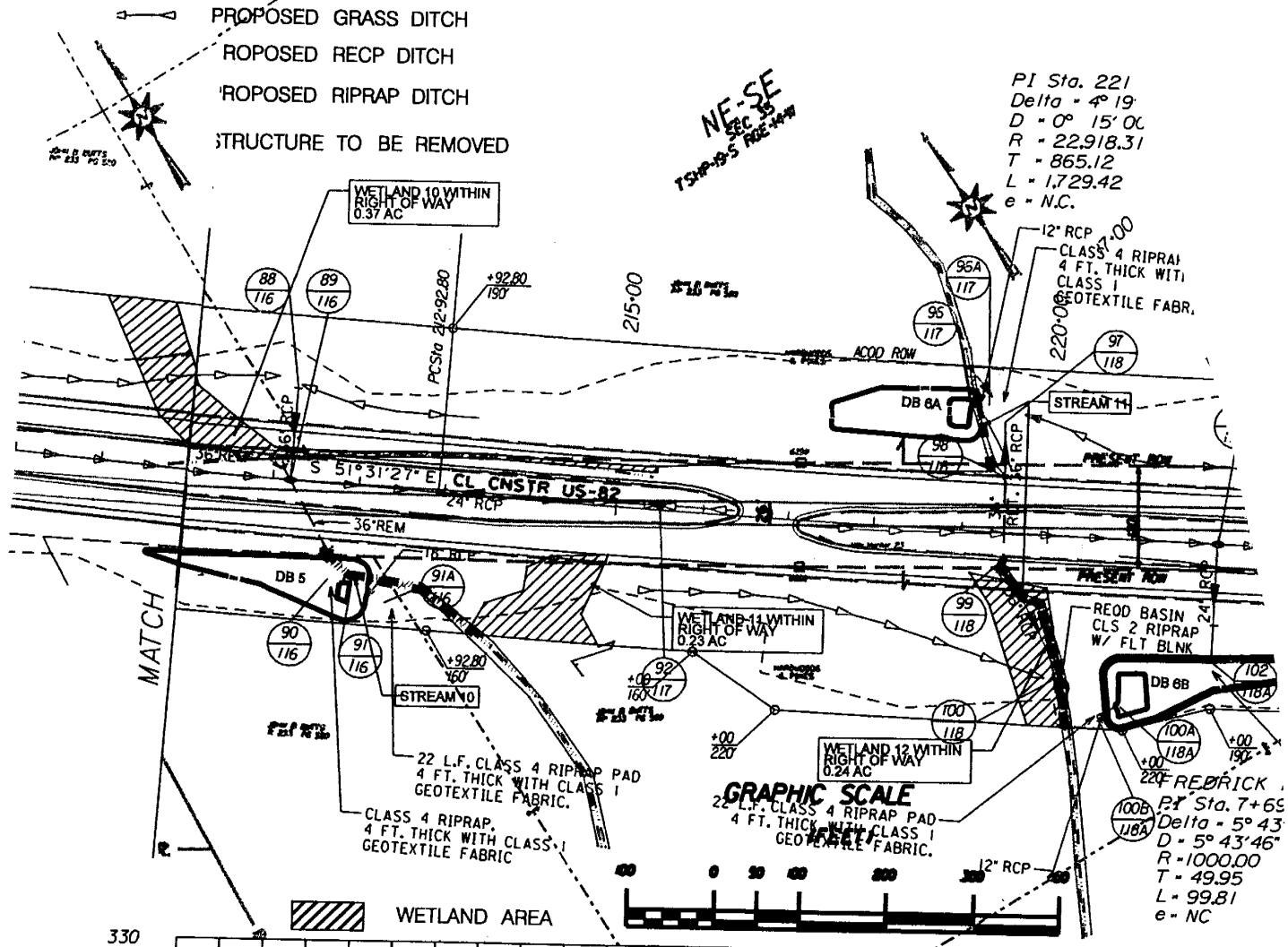
MATCH LINE STA 180+00.00



**FIGURE 8**  
SAM-2014-00386-JJC

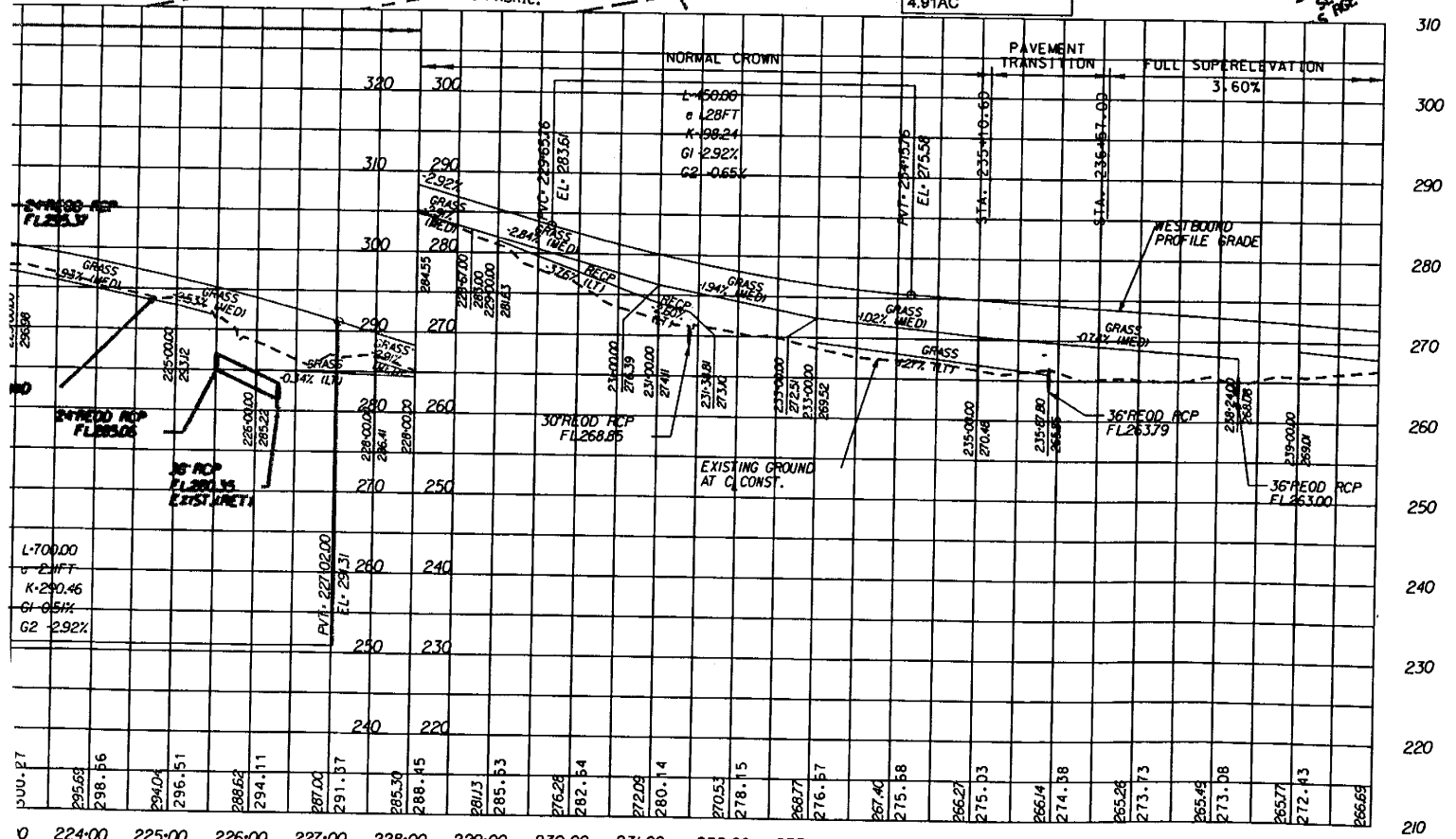
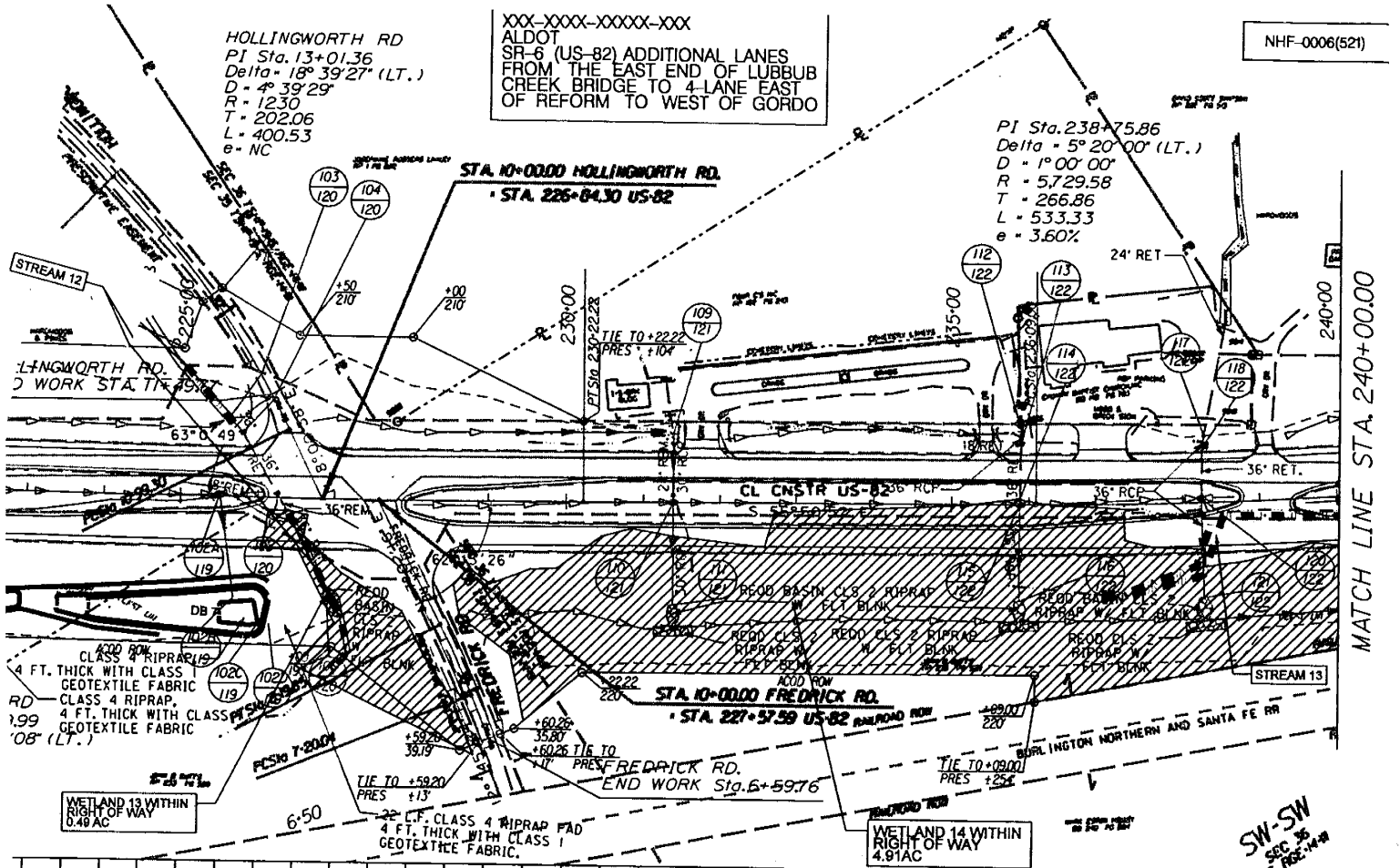






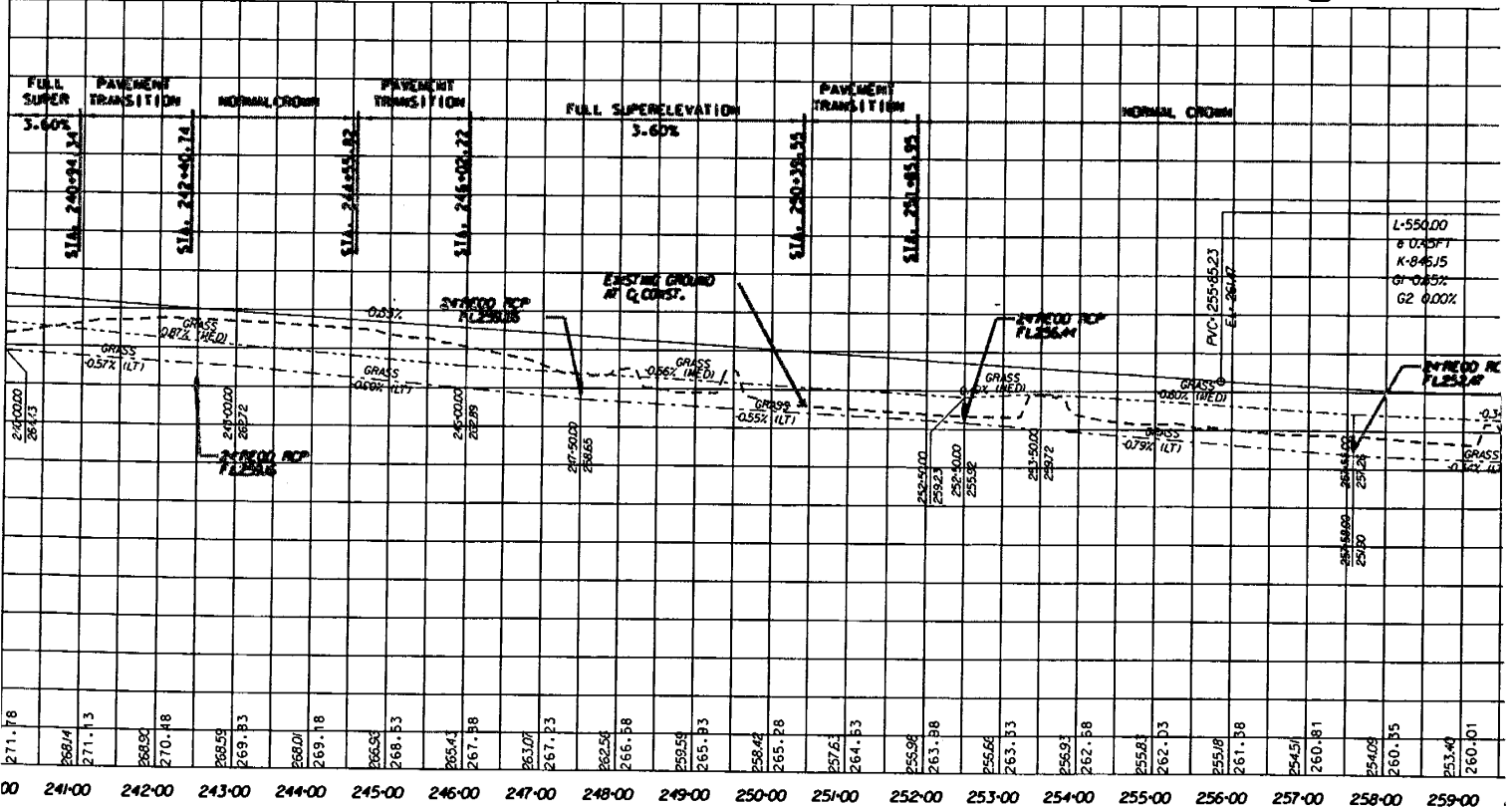
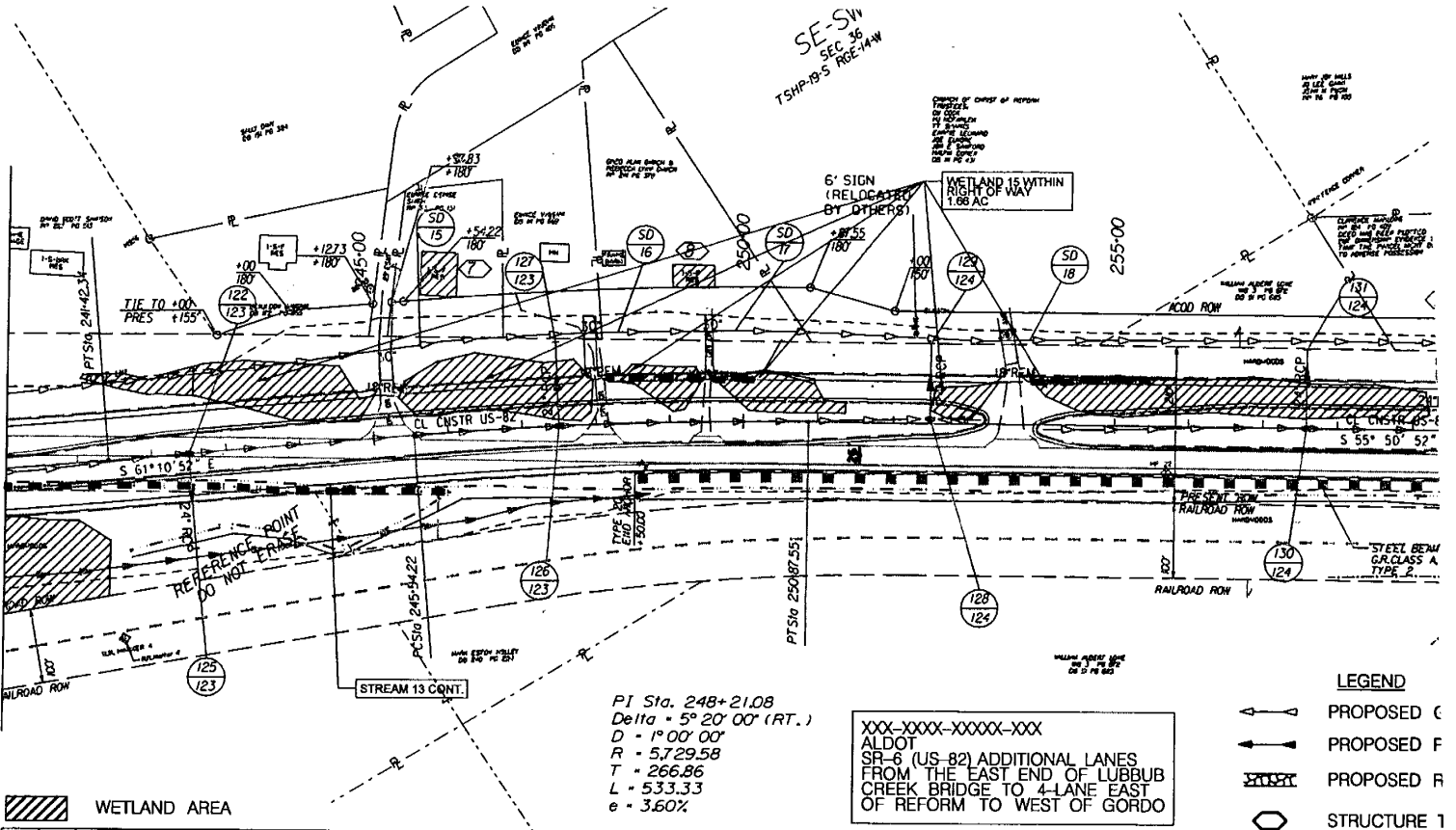
# FIGURE 11

## SAM-2014-00386-JSC



# FIGURE 12

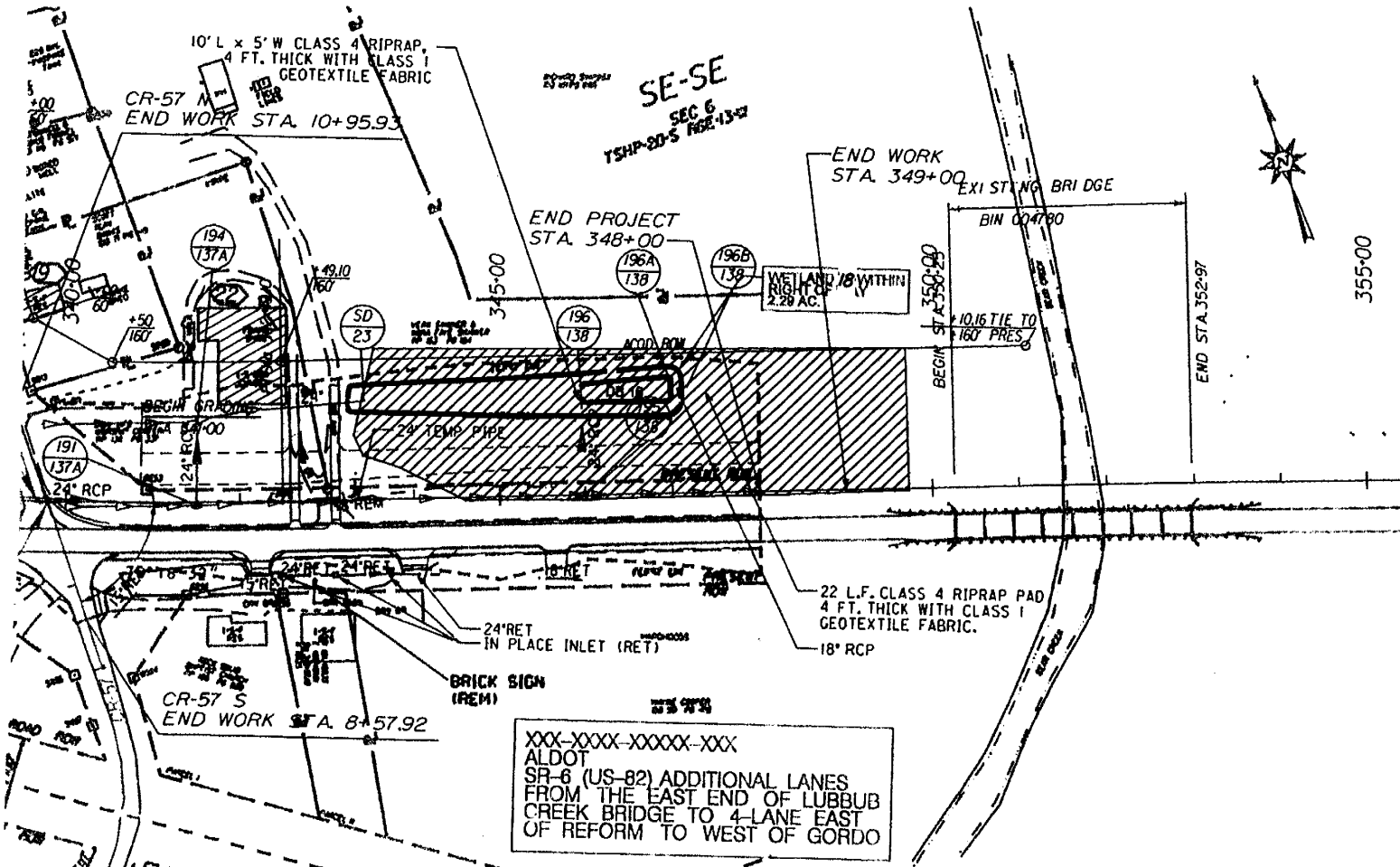
## SAM-2014-00386-JSC











XXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXX  
 ALDOT  
 SR-6 (US-82) ADDITIONAL LANES  
 FROM THE EAST END OF LUBBUB  
 CREEK BRIDGE TO 4-LANE EAST  
 OF REFORM TO WEST OF GORDO

FIGURE 15

SAM-2014-008PC-08C

