



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT  
218 SUMMIT PARKWAY, SUITE 222  
HOMEWOOD, ALABAMA 35209

CESAM-RD-N  
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2017-00529-JSC

September 29, 2020

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**PROPOSED DISCHARGE OF FILL MATERIAL INTO WETLANDS ADJACENT TO  
UPHAPEE CREEK ASSOCIATED WITH COMMERCIAL VEHICLE ACCESS  
EXPANSION FOR A TRAVEL CENTER IN TUSKEGEE, MACON 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: Utility Board of the City of Tuskegee  
Attention: Gerald B. Long  
101 Fonville Street  
Tuskegee, Alabama 36083  
glong@yourubt.com

AGENT: TTL, Inc.  
Attention: Cindy House-Pearson  
3516 Greensboro Avenue  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401  
chpearson@ttlusa.com

LOCATION: **The proposed project is located in wetlands on a 6.86-acre parcel in Tuskegee, Macon County, Alabama. Specifically, the project boundary is located within Section 7, Township 17 North, Range 24 East. Center coordinates of the project site are latitude 32.471409, longitude -85.690398. The project is located in the Lower Tallapoosa 8-digit hydrologic unit code (HUC 03150110).**

PROJECT PURPOSE: **The basic project purpose is commercial development.**

PROPOSED WORK: **The applicant is requesting authorization to discharge fill material into waters of the United States (U.S.) in association with revising and expanding commercial vehicle access to a truck stop and travel center under development in the southeast quadrant of Exit 38 off Interstate 85 at Notasulga Road. The travel center would include a commercial bus station. The proposed**

**discharge would result in unavoidable permanent impacts to 1.07 acres of forested wetlands. Specifically, the 1.07 acres of wetland would be filled for additional stormwater management infrastructure and the grading and construction of a secondary access road to better accommodate large commercial vehicle access to the truck stop/travel center and to provide greater physical separation between commercial and private passenger vehicles patronizing the facility.**

**PROJECT HISTORY: A Department of the Army Nationwide Permit was issued in 2019 authorizing the discharge of fill material into 0.49-acre of wetlands to build a truck stop, which is currently under construction.**

**AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION: The applicant has indicated the initial design for the expanded truck stop and travel center access would have impacted approximately 1.31 acres of wetland including additional areas extending beyond the project area boundary. Revisions to the access design have reduced the proposed impact to 1.07 acres of wetland fill located entirely within the project area boundary, thereby avoiding impacts to 0.24-acre of wetlands. The access design revisions have avoided 0.11-acre of wetland impacts within the project area boundary. 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 wetland mitigation credits from the McLemore Mitigation Bank.**

**LEAD FEDERAL AGENCY ROLE: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is considered the lead federal agency for the coordination and conduct of environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Pursuant to NEPA and USDA regulations, the USDA prepared an Environmental Report (ER) for the proposed travel center and access construction project in its role as the project funding agency through the USDA Rural Development Community Facility Direct and Guaranteed Loan Programs. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is considering adopting the findings of USDA's ER; 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 the USACE 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 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.

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:** Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the USDA has reviewed the proposed undertakings for potential effects on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, a 5.5-acre portion of the project area was surveyed for historic and archaeological resources (AHC 19-0306). No cultural resources or historic properties were identified as a result of the survey; therefore, a determination of no effect to historic properties was made. The USDA has determined no additional consultation is required for the 1.36-acre project area expansion. 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:** Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), the USDA has reviewed the proposed undertaking's potential to affect threatened or endangered species. Preliminary review of the proposed undertaking and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Species indicates the following species have the potential to occur in the project watershed: Southern clubshell (*Pleurobema decisum*), Finelined pocketbook (*Hamiota altilis*), Ovate clubshell (*Pleurobema perovatum*), Wood stork (*Mycteria americana*). A determination of no effect was made for the proposed project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) provided a clearance statement for the project on November 6, 2018 (2019-TA-0116). 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-2017-00529-JSC** and should be directed to the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District, Birmingham Field Office, Attention: **Mr. Jevon Coleman**, 218 Summit Parkway, Suite 222, Homewood, Alabama 35209, 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 **Jevon.D.Coleman@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.

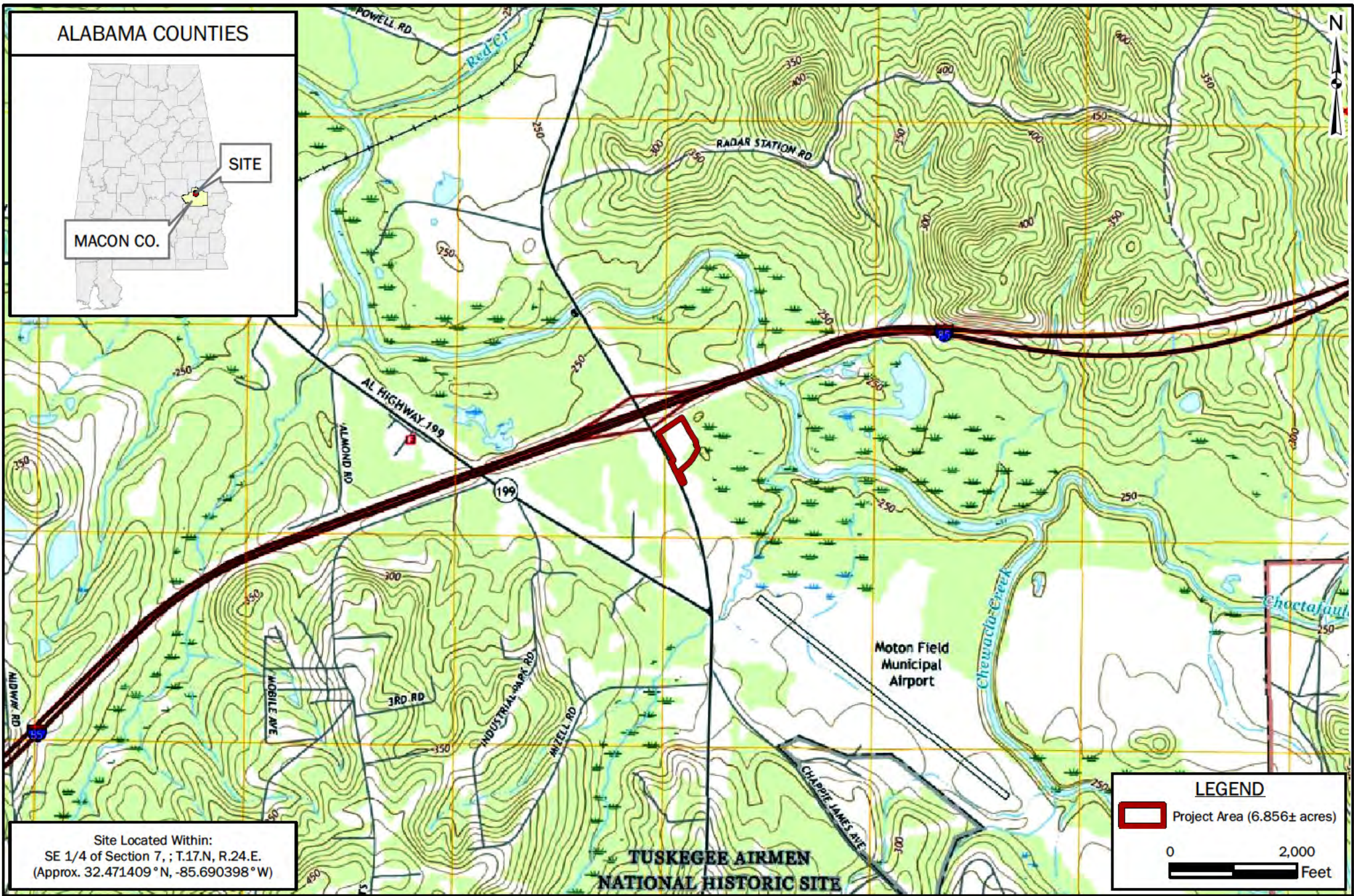
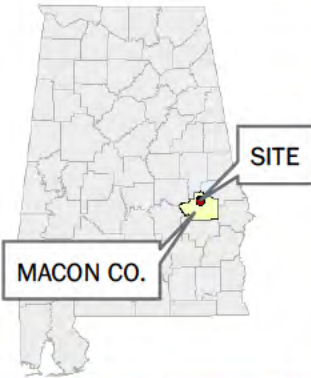
If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager via e-mail at **Jevon.D.Coleman@usace.army.mil** or telephone number **(205) 381-0741**. Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

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

ALABAMA COUNTIES



Site Located Within:  
SE 1/4 of Section 7, ; T.17.N, R.24.E.  
(Approx. 32.471409° N, -85.690398° W)

**LEGEND**

 Project Area (6.856± acres)

0 2,000  
Feet



**Drawing 1 Site Locator Map**  
**SAM-2017-00529-JSC**

**FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION & TOPOGRAPHIC MAP**  
**THE UTILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF TUSKEGEE**  
INDIVIDUAL PERMIT APPLICATION  
TUSKEGEE, MACON COUNTY, ALABAMA

BASEMAP: Tuskegee, Alabama USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map, 2018 (10-ft Contour Interval).

|                                |
|--------------------------------|
| DRAWN BY: SG                   |
| CHECKED BY: DEK                |
| DRAWING DATE: 3/2/2020         |
| REVISION DATE: N/A             |
| TTL JOB NO.: 000200200706.00   |
| APPROX. SCALE: 1 in = 2,000 ft |



**LEGEND**

Project Area (6.856± acres)

0 200  
 Feet

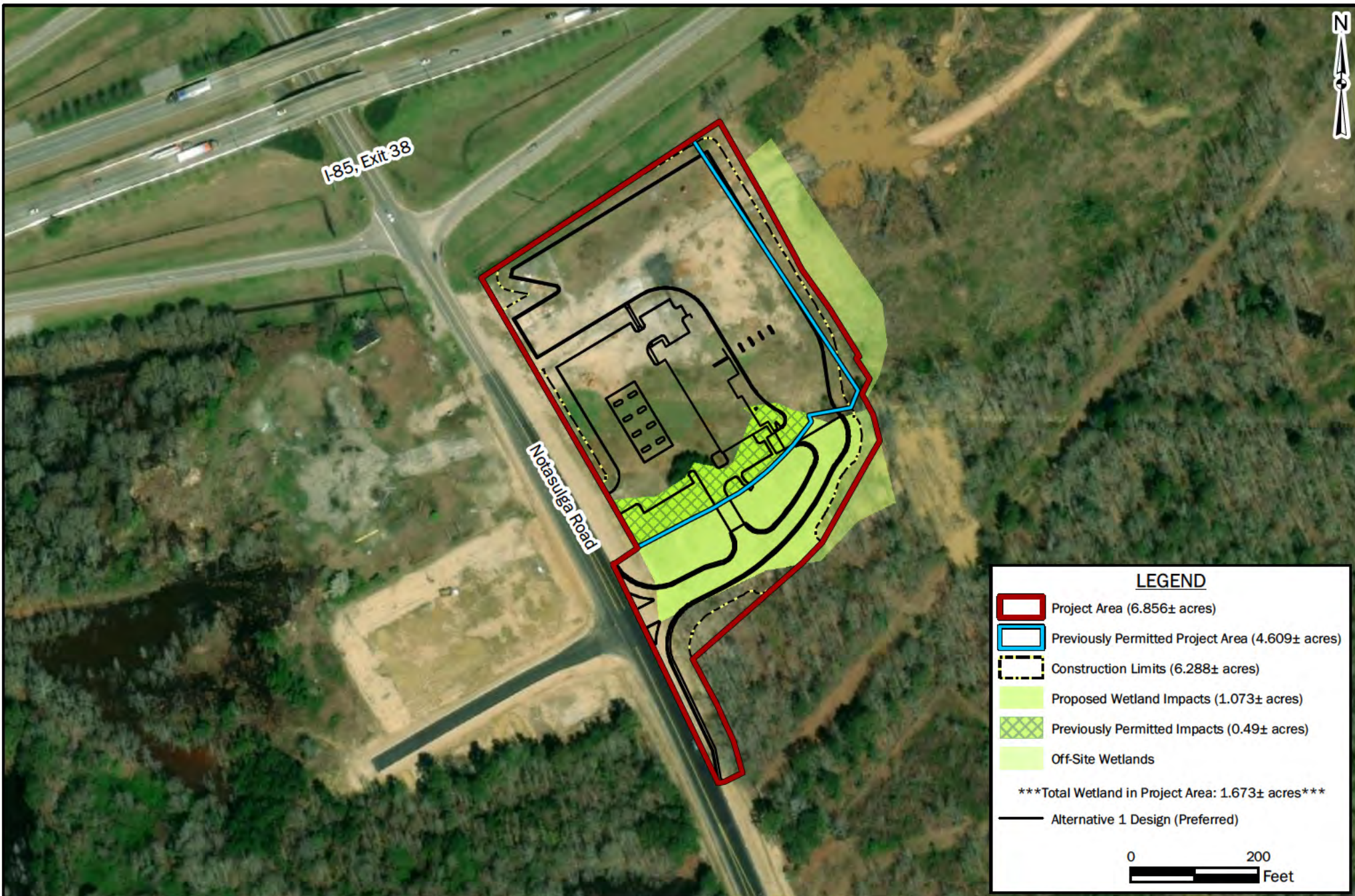


**FIGURE 3: SITE LOCATION & AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH**  
 THE UTILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF TUSKEGEE  
 INDIVIDUAL PERMIT APPLICATION  
 TUSKEGEE, MACON COUNTY, ALABAMA

**Drawing 2 Project Area Boundary**  
**aerial - SAM-2017-00529-JSC**

BASEMAP: DigitalGlobe, 12/12/2017 (0.5 m Resolution).

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| DRAWN BY: SG                 |
| CHECKED BY: DEK              |
| DRAWING DATE: 3/2/2020       |
| REVISION DATE: N/A           |
| TTL JOB NO.: 000200200706.00 |
| APPROX. SCALE: 1 in = 200 ft |



**LEGEND**

- Project Area (6.856± acres)
- Previously Permitted Project Area (4.609± acres)
- Construction Limits (6.288± acres)
- Proposed Wetland Impacts (1.073± acres)
- Previously Permitted Impacts (0.49± acres)
- Off-Site Wetlands

\*\*\*Total Wetland in Project Area: 1.673± acres\*\*\*

Alternative 1 Design (Preferred)

0 200  
 Feet



**FIGURE 4a: AQUATIC RESOURCES IMPACT & ALTERNATIVE 1 SITE PLAN MAP**  
 THE UTILITY BOARD OF THE CITY OF TUSKEGEE  
**Drawing 3 Proposed Development Expansion Plan & Impacts to Waters of the U.S. - SAM-2017-00529-JSC**  
 INDIVIDUAL PERMIT APPLICATION  
 TUSKEGEE, MACON COUNTY, ALABAMA  
BASEMAP: DigitalGlobe, 12/12/2017 (0.5 m Resolution).

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| DRAWN BY: SG                 |
| CHECKED BY: DEK              |
| DRAWING DATE: 3/3/2020       |
| REVISION DATE: N/A           |
| TTL JOB NO.: 000200200706.00 |
| APPROX. SCALE: 1 in = 200 ft |