

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, MOBILE DISTRICT P.O. BOX 2288 MOBILE, AL 36628-0001

CESAM RD-A
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2021-01216-LML

**January 28, 2022** 

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

## REQUEST TO IMPACT 1.32 ACRE OF WETLANDS AND 740 LINEAR FEET OF STREAM IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EXTENSION OF HONEYSUCKLE ROAD, DOTHAN, HOUSTON COUNTY, ALABAMA

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Please communicate this information to interested parties.

**APPLICANT**: City of Dothan

Attention: Mr. Randall Morris, P.E.

Post Office Box 2128 Dothan, Alabama 36302

**LOCATION**: The proposed project is located at Honeysuckle Road, south of Highway 52 and ends at the intersection of Taylor Road and Campbellton Highway; within Section 34, Township 3 North, Range 26 East; from Latitude 31.192815° North, Longitude 85.428032° West and ending at Latitude 31.186897° North, Longitude 85.408120° West; in Dothan, Houston County, Alabama.

**PROJECT PURPOSE**: The purpose of this project is to provide vital transportation improvements to address current traffic congestion and provide adequate traffic flow for the City.

**PROPOSED WORK**: The applicant proposes to extend Honeysuckle Road by constructing 11,120 linear feet (2.1 miles) of new paved highway with a 120 foot-wide right of way. The project will require fill material to be placed within four (4) separate jurisdictional wetlands located along the project corridor as part of roadway construction, impacting a total of 1.32 acres of jurisdictional wetlands. In addition, concrete culvert pipes will be installed within five (5) stream crossings along the proposed corridor, which will impact a total of 740 linear feet of stream.

**AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION**: The project was designed to minimize impacts to Waters of the U.S. to the maximum extent practicable. The roadway alignment was

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designed to cross the streams at an angle that would have the least amount of impacts. Furthermore, retaining walls will be used at crossings to further minimize the fill footprint. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District, has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and minimization efforts at this time.

**MITIGATION**: The applicant is proposing compensatory mitigation through the purchase of wetland and stream credits from an approved Mitigation Bank. Because there is not currently an approved Mitigation Bank within the local watershed, the Corps of Engineers Proximity Factor Method will be used for calculating the Multiplier Factor for credits outside the watershed. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District, has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's mitigation proposal at this time

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. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR Part 325, the Mobile District has determined the permit area consists of the entire undertaking in waters of the United States as well as portions of the uplands used for staging and access. The National Register of Historic Places will be consulted for properties listed in or eligible for the National Register, which are known to exist and would be affected by the proposed work. The Mobile District is seeking comment from the State Historic Preservation Officer regarding the existence, or the potential for existence, of significant cultural and historic properties within the permit area. The permit area described above is currently under review by District Archaeologists to provide a determination on the potential for existence of significant cultural and 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 proposed activity will have no effect on the following listed endangered or threatened species with the potential to exist within the watershed of the permit area: Wood Stork (T), Eastern Indigo Snake (T), Choctaw Bean (E), Fuzzy Pigtoe (T), Southern Kidneyshell (E), Southern Sandshell (T), Tapered Pigtoe (T), Chipola Slabshell (T), Gulf Moccasinshell (E), Oval Pigtoe (E), and Shinyrayed Pocketbook (E). There is no designated critical habitat within the project action area.

Details of the proposed activity are being provided to federal and state agencies via this Public Notice for receipt of any relevant comments regarding potential effects of the proposed project on the listed species.

**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. The Mobile District 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 below. 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. 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 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, historic properties, 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 and fiber 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 also include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

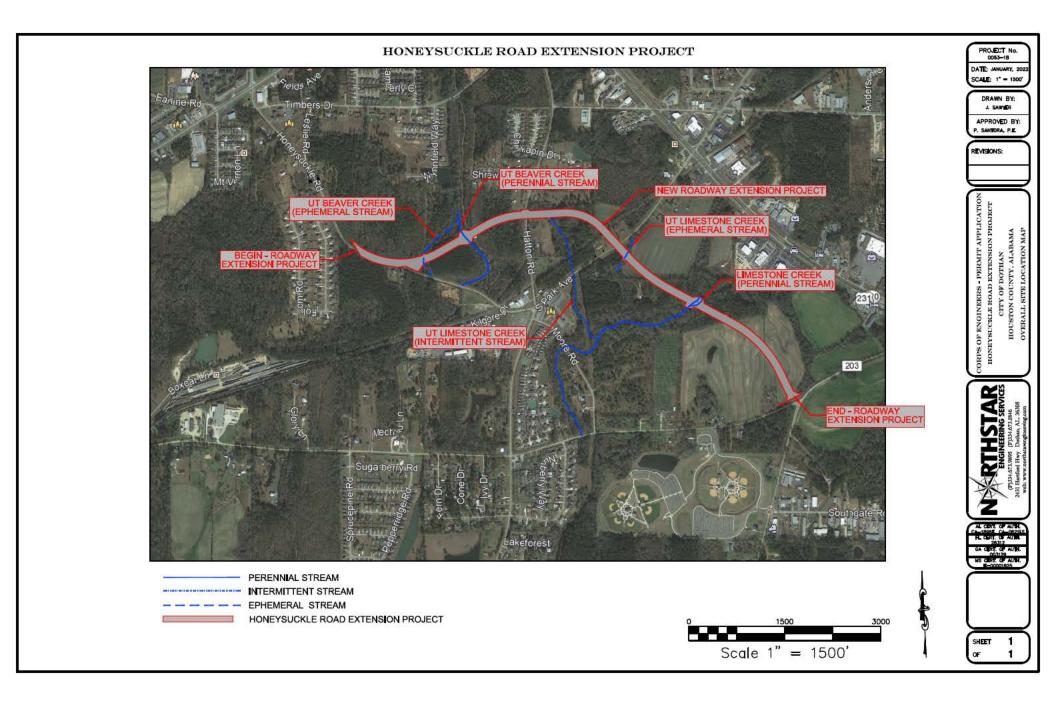
Correspondence concerning this notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2021-01216-LML**, and should be directed to the project manager, Ms. Lacey M. Leaptrott by email at <a href="mailto:lacey.m.leaptrott@usace.army.mil">lacey.m.leaptrott@usace.army.mil</a>, or to the USACE, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Attention: Ms. Lacey M. Leaptrott, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, Alabama 36628-0001. Copies of all comments should be furnished to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Mining and Non-Point Source Section, at <a href="mail@adem.alabama.gov">fieldmail@adem.alabama.gov</a>. All comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this Public Notice.

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

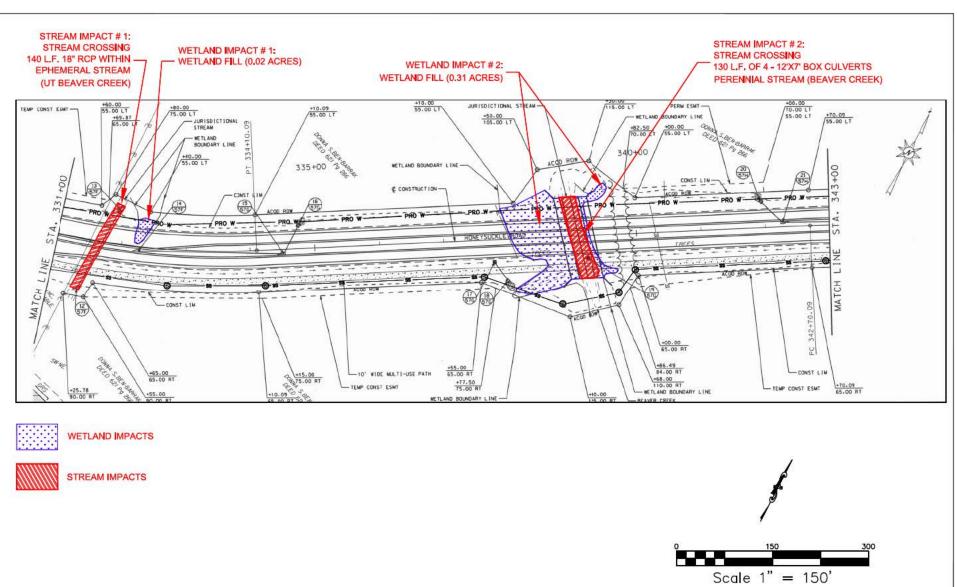
MOBILE DISTRICT
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Attachments** 

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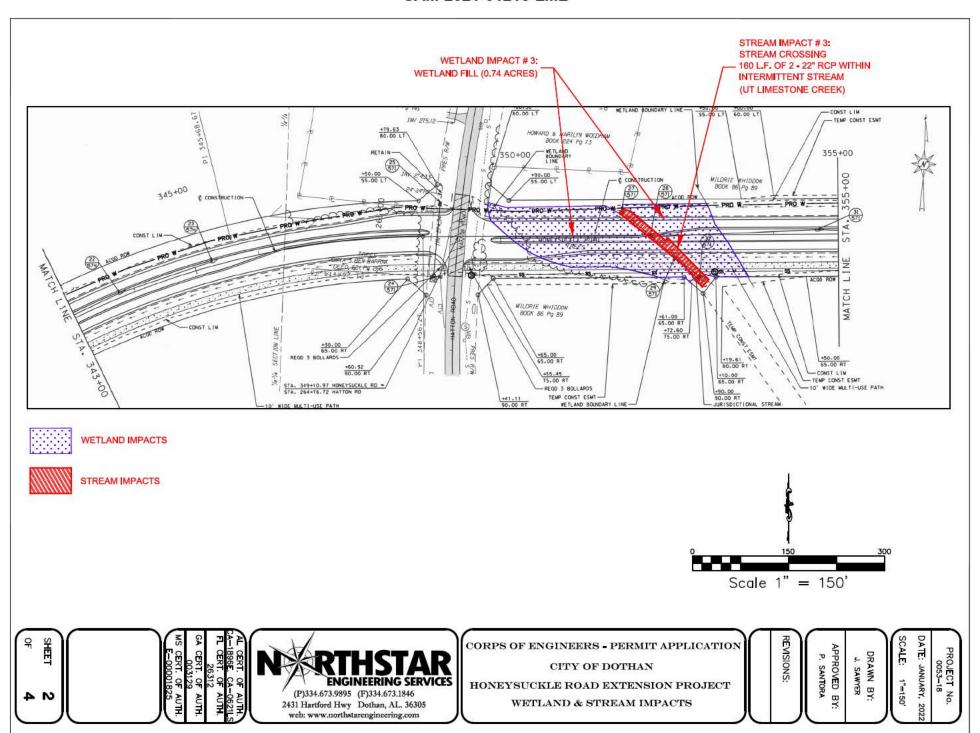


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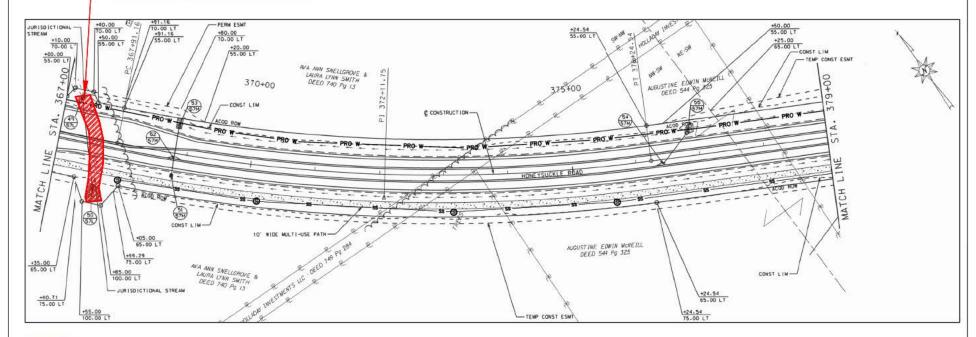




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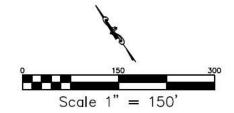


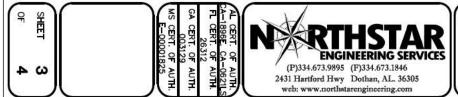




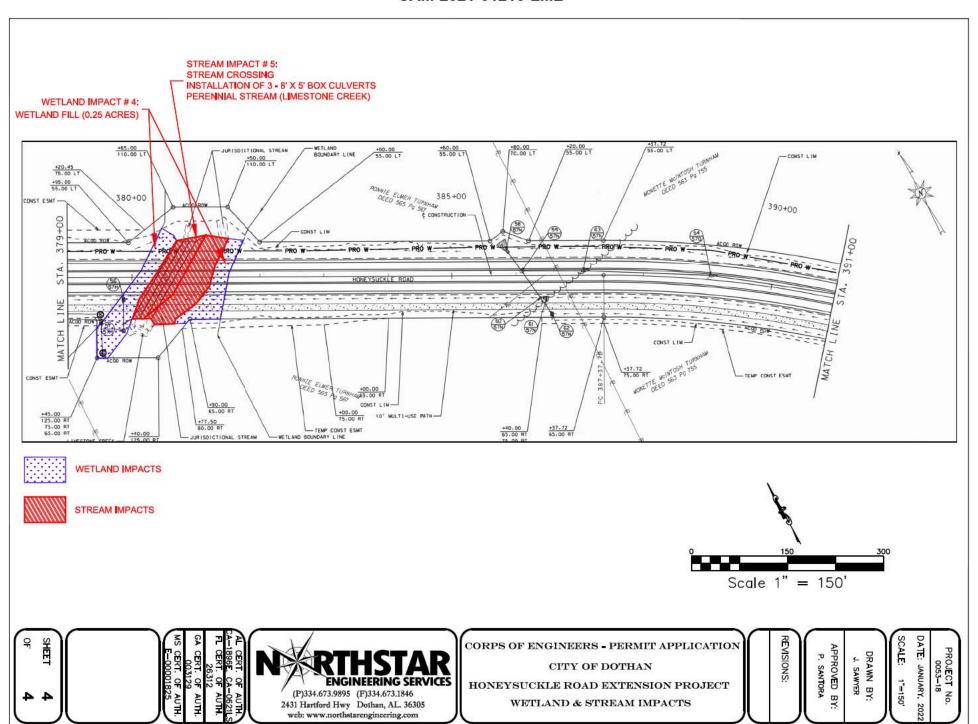
WETLAND IMPACTS

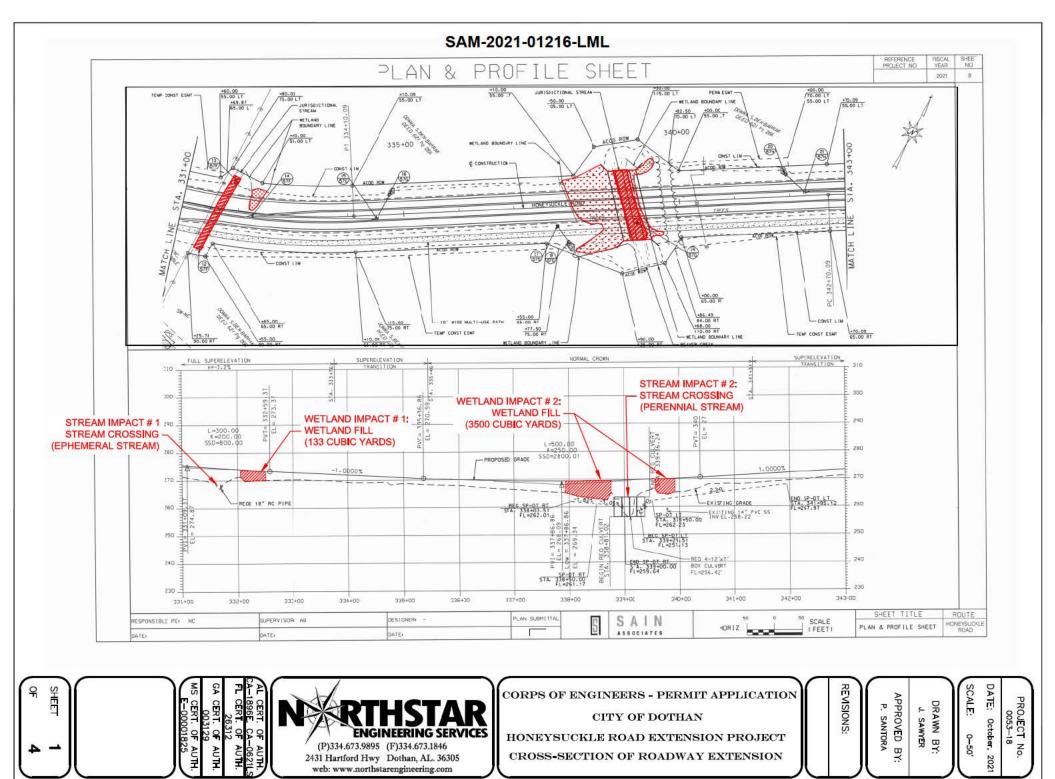


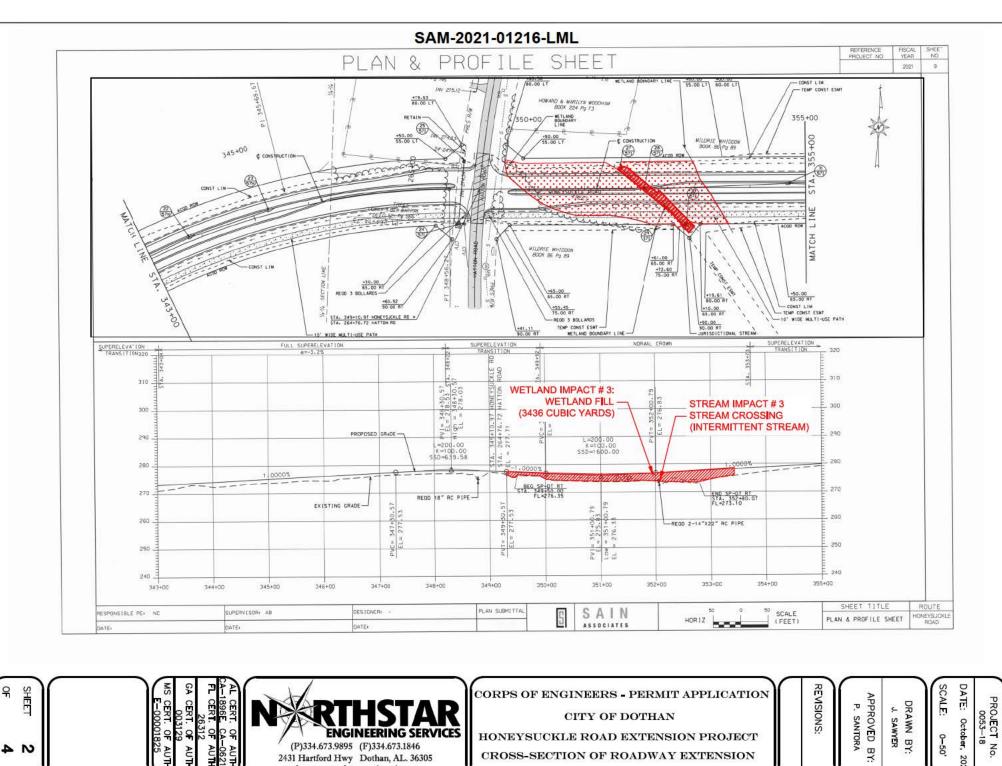




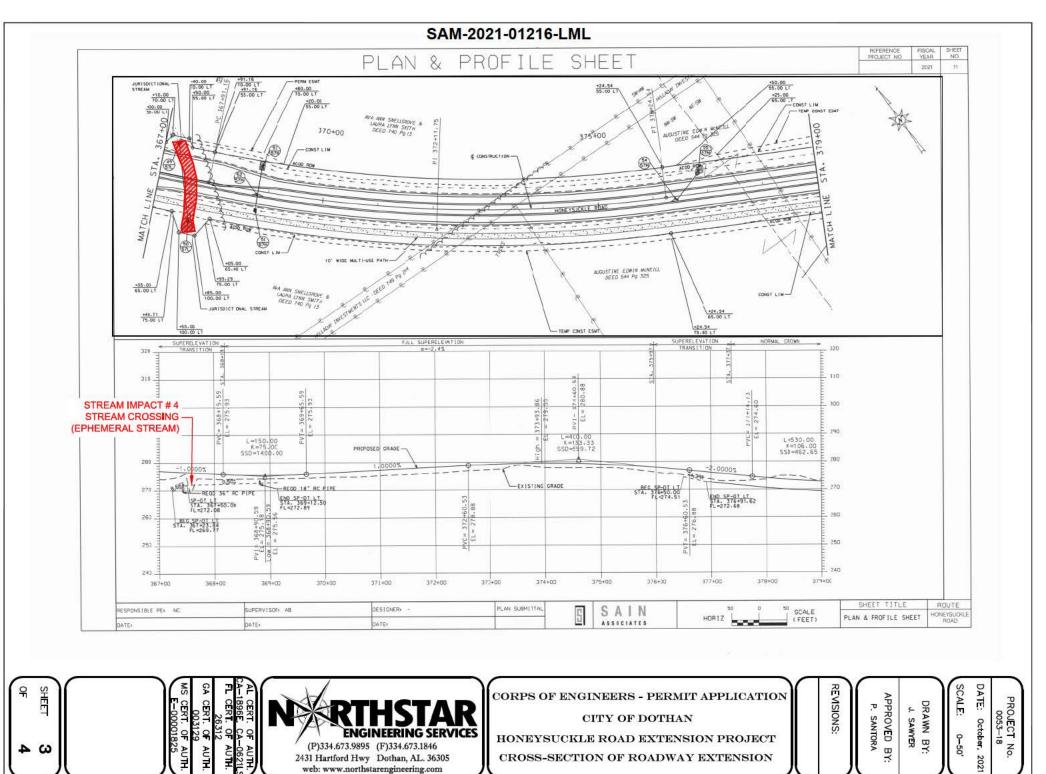


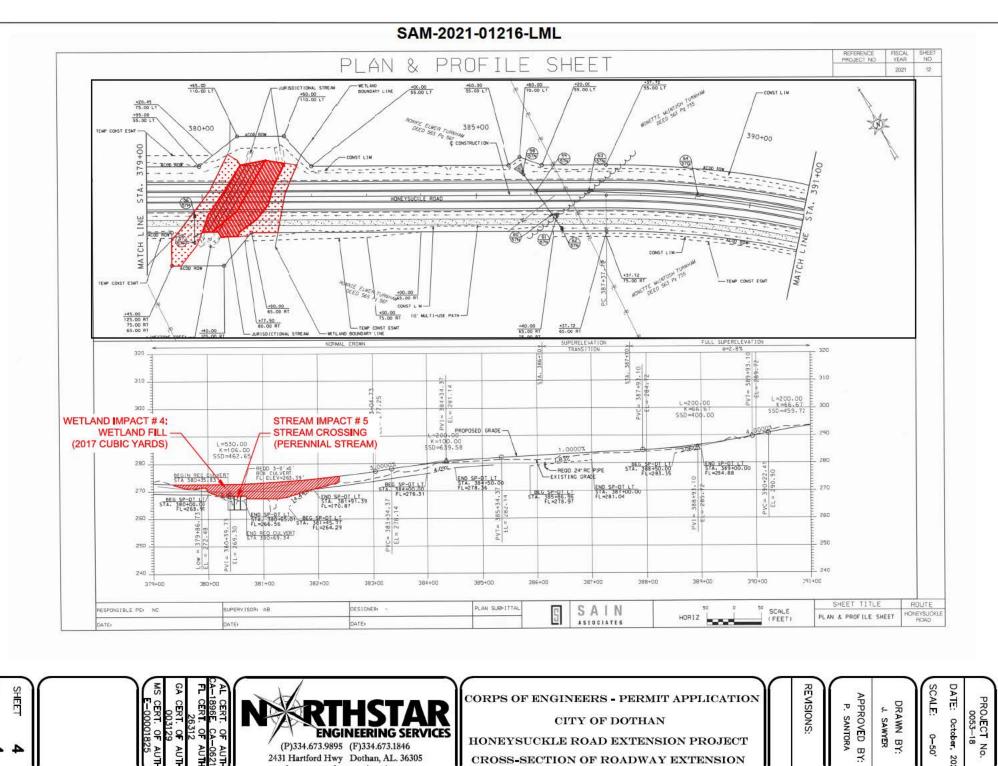






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