



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, MOBILE DISTRICT  
P.O. BOX 2288  
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36628-0001

CESAM-RD-M  
PUBLIC NOTICE NO. SAM-2017-01001-KMN

April 27, 2018

JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES  
DMR-070231

**PROPOSAL FOR MECHANIZED LAND CLEARING AND INSTALLATION OF GRAVITY  
SEWER MAINS FOR FLORENCE GARDENS, WINDSONG SUBDIVISION, AND WHITE  
TRACK SUBDIVISION,  
GULFPORT, HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

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. Please communicate this information to interested parties.

APPLICANT: **Harrison County Utility Authority**  
**10271 Express Drive**  
**Gulfport, Mississippi 39503**

AGENT: **A. Garner Russell & Associates, Inc.**  
**Attention: Bob Escher, P.E.**  
**520 33<sup>rd</sup> Street**  
**Gulfport, Mississippi 39507**

**WATERWAY: Unnamed Tributary to Fritz Creek, Section 2, Township 7 South, Range 11 West, Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi (Latitude 30.4633° North, Longitude - 89.0589° West). The area is depicted on the MS-GULFPORT NORTH Quadrangle, United States Geological Survey Topographic Map, Hydrologic Unit Code 03170009.**

**WORK: The applicant is requesting a DA Permit for impacts to 1.60 acres of jurisdictional wetlands for the installation of a gravity sewer main. The applicant is proposing to mechanize land clear and install 5,540 linear feet of 15" diameter gravity sewer mains through trenching, inclusive of manholes and services to existing structures. The project would provide sanitary sewer service to areas including Florence Gardens, Windsong Subdivision, and the future White Track Subdivision, which is currently under construction. The installation of the gravity sewer would allow for the decommissioning of two (2) existing sewage pump stations and would connect to the existing sewer interceptor which transports sewage waste to the Gulfport North**

**Wastewater Treatment Facility.** The project would alter approximately 4 acres of wooded property along a 50 foot easement and impact approximately 1.6 acres of jurisdictional bottomland hardwood wetlands. The sewer line would impact jurisdictional wetlands along five locations along the proposed route (Station 128+00 to 129+19, 4,153.27 square feet; Station 134+18 to Station 136+64, 5,795.13 square feet; Station 113+31 to Station 113+91, 2,956.66 square feet; Station 98+77 to Station 106+20, 25,829.73 square feet; and Station 81+93 to 90+79, 30,803.87 square feet). The project would cross an un-named tributary to Fritz Creek in two locations.

A portion of the proposed sewer line (Station 98+77 to Station 106+20) would impact a portion of a 7.8 acre mitigation area located west of Preservation Drive near Midland Cove. The mitigation area to be impacted is one of six on-site mitigation areas which have a restrictive covenant in place with Harrison County as a portion of the compensatory mitigation for Florence Gardens DA Permit(s) (SAM-2001-00143 and SAM-2007-00125-JMB).

**EXISTING CONDITIONS:** The site for the proposed line is mostly undeveloped and vegetated with trees. Approximately 500 feet of the line would run along Midland Cove which is a constructed street. The site is located west of Three Rivers Road, north of Dedeaux Road, south of O'Neal Road, and west of Fritz Creek. The proposed line would begin at the eastern edge of Windsong Subdivision, it would run in a westward direction south of the proposed White Track Subdivision and through Florence Gardens. The line would continue to run southwest along Midland Cove and then south to the eastern end of Lake Florance Road. The proposed project line runs along an un-named tributary to Fritz Creek.

**PROJECT PURPOSE:** Installation of gravity sewer mains.

**AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION:** The applicant has stated that the expansion and rehabilitation project was carefully considered in a number of master plans and studies previously completed for the City of Gulfport and the Harrison County Wastewater and Solid Waste Management District (now Harrison County Utility Authority). The only other alternative the applicant provided was the "No Action" alternative. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has not verified the adequacy of the applicant's avoidance and minimization at this time.

**MITIGATION:** The applicant proposes to mitigate for unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional wetlands through the purchase of mitigation credits from a wetlands mitigation bank approved by the Mobile District, USACE. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has not verified the adequacy of this mitigation proposal at this time.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) initially determined the basic project purpose is installation of a gravity sewer line. The project as proposed would not be considered a water dependent activity. Additional reviews will be performed by the USACE and cooperating agencies.

The applicant has applied for certification from the State of Mississippi 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.

The applicant has applied for coastal zone consistency from the State of Mississippi Department of Marine Resources in accordance with Section 57-15-6 of the Mississippi Code Annotated.

This public notice is being distributed to all known interested persons in order to assist in developing facts on which a decision by 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 utilization of important resources.

The benefits, 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, protected species, 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.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (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 for consideration of 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.

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 effect cultural and historic properties within the permit area. We are 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. In accordance with Appendix C of 33 CFR Part 325, USACE has determined that the project as proposed would have "no effect". In a letter dated September 22, 2017, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (Project Log #08-154-17) stated that no cultural resources are likely to be affected by the proposed project. **The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer to make a final determination based upon this review unless comment to this notice is received documenting that significant sites or properties exist which may be affected by this work or that adequately documents that a potential exists for the location of significant sites or properties within the permit area.**

Preliminary review of this application and the U.S. Department of the Interior List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants indicate that the proposed activity "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" the Black Pine Snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus lodingi*) and the Louisiana Quillwort (*Isoetes louisianensis*). The proposed activity should have "no effect" on the remainder of endangered or threatened species listed for Hydrologic Unit Code 12 – Fritz Creek-Biloxi River.

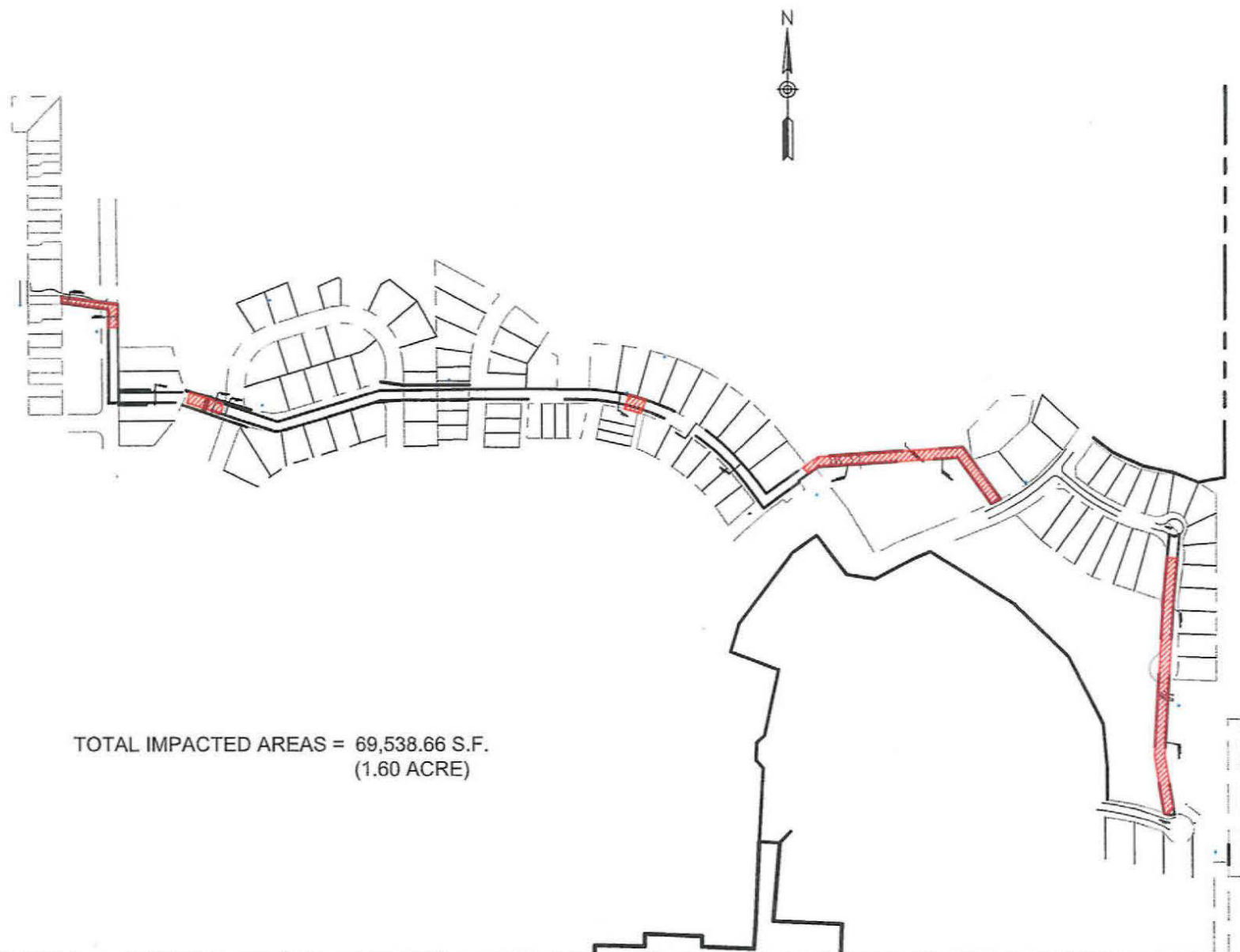
Correspondence concerning this Public Notice should refer to Public Notice Number **SAM-2017-01001-KMN** and should be directed to USACE, Mobile District, Regulatory Division, Attention: **Ms. Kaaren M. Neumann**, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530, Attention: USACE Biloxi field Office, with a copy to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Pollution Control, **Attention: Ms. Florance Bass, P.E.**, Post Office Box 2261, Jackson, Mississippi 39225 and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, **Attention: Ms. Jennifer Wilder**, 1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530.

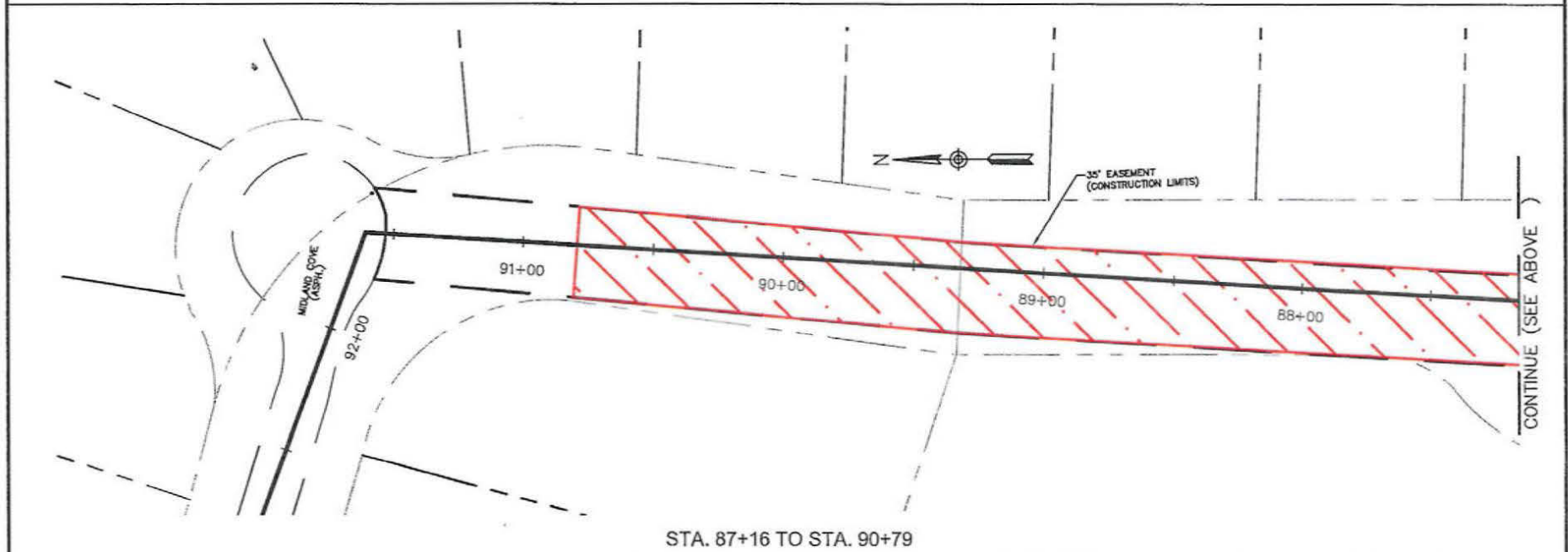
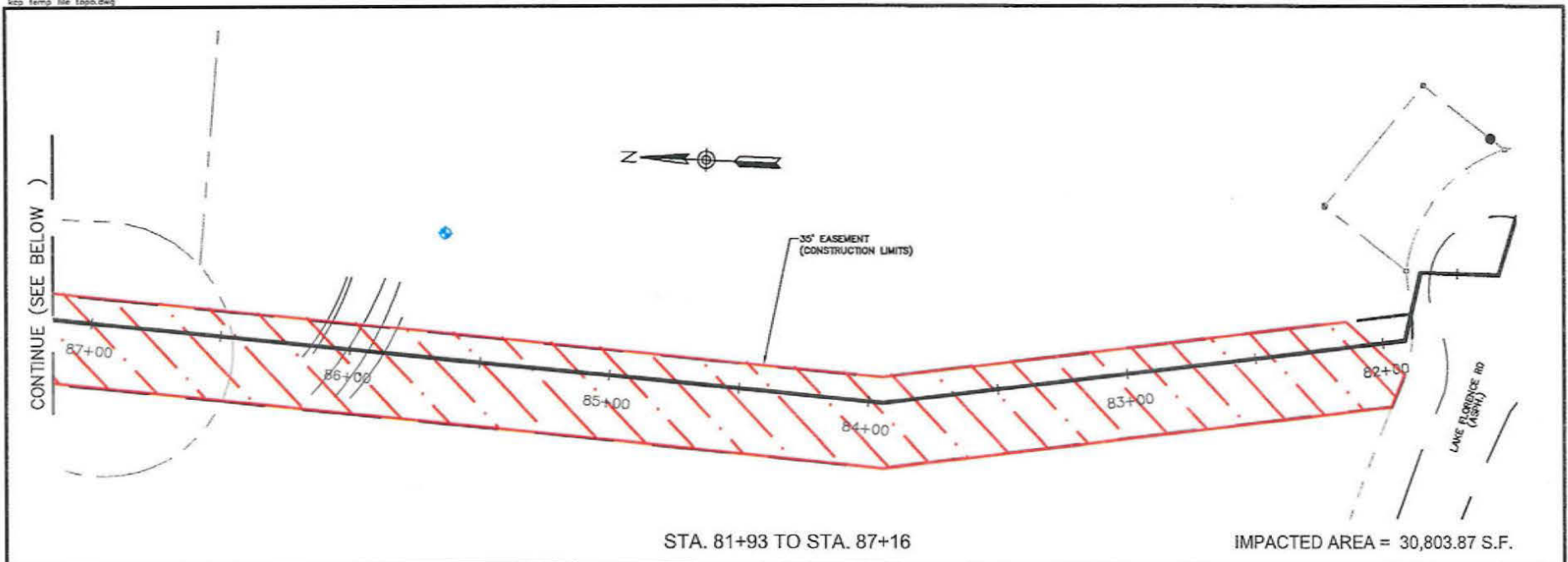
**All Comments should be received no later than 30 days from the date of this Public Notice.** If you have any questions concerning this publication, you may contact the project manager at (228) 523-4024 or email at [kaaren.m.neumann@usace.army.mil](mailto:kaaren.m.neumann@usace.army.mil). Please refer to the above Public Notice number.

For additional information about our Regulatory Program, please visit our web site at [www.sam.usace.army.mil/Mission/Regulatory.aspx](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Mission/Regulatory.aspx).

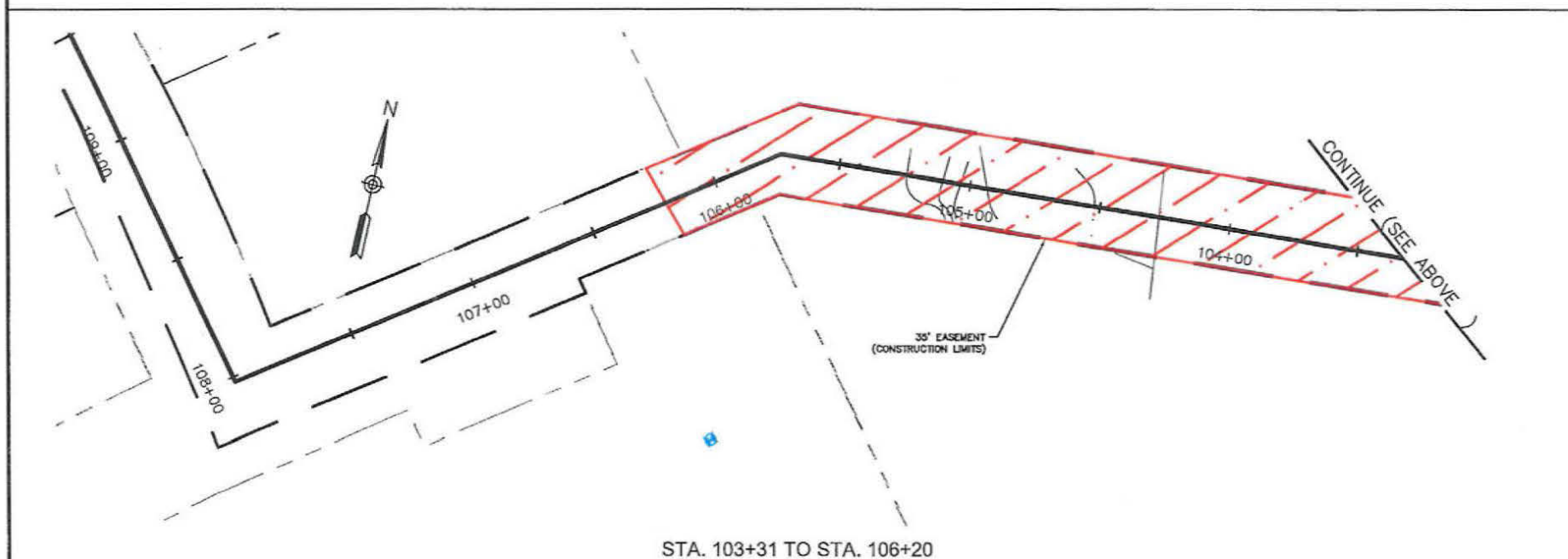
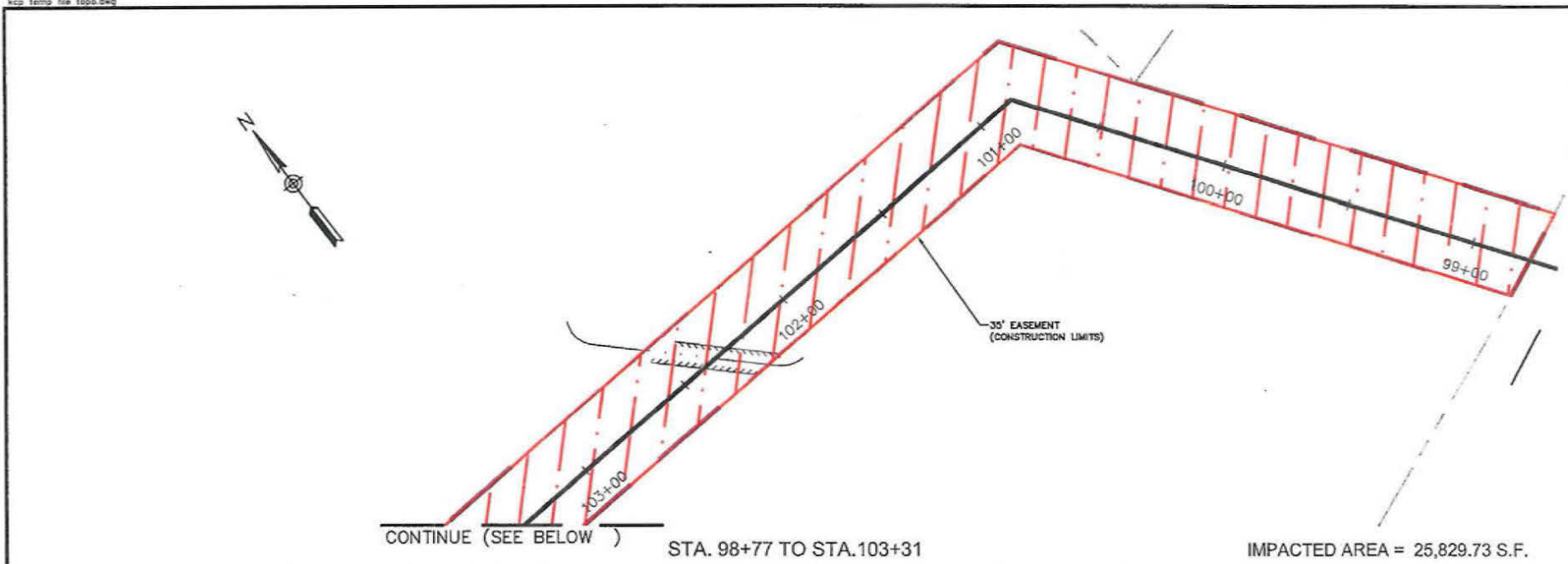
MOBILE DISTRICT  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

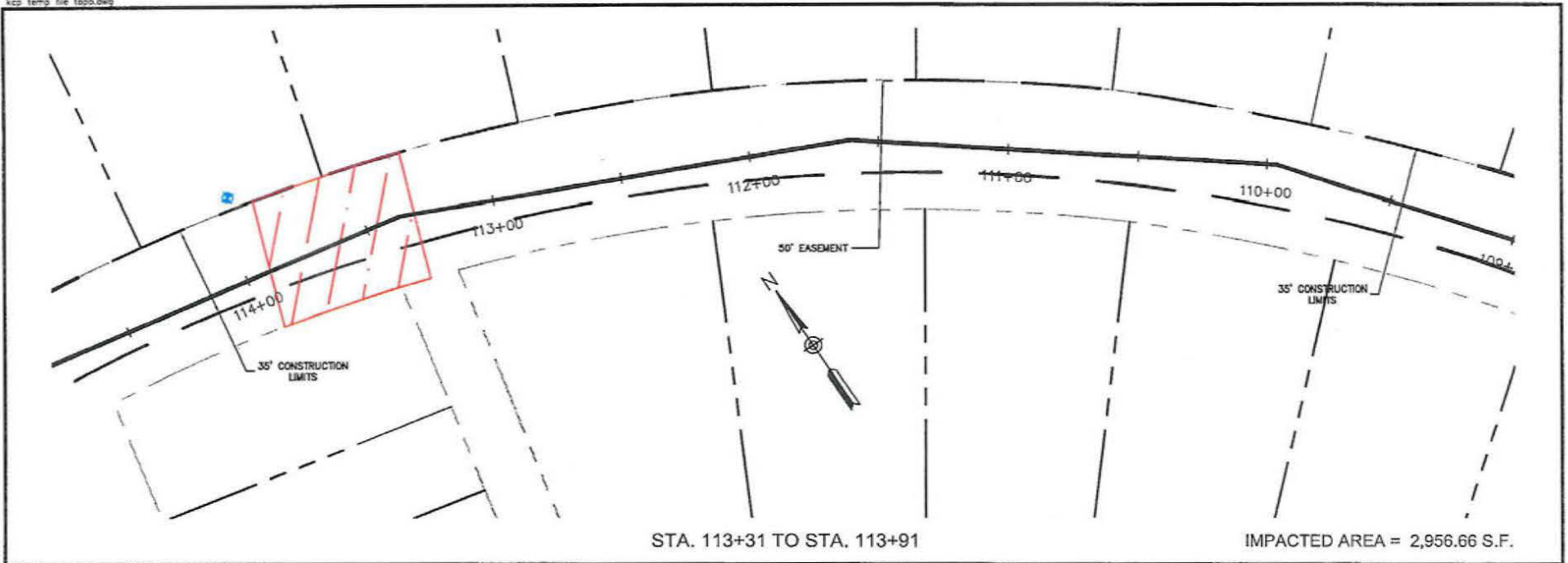
Enclosures



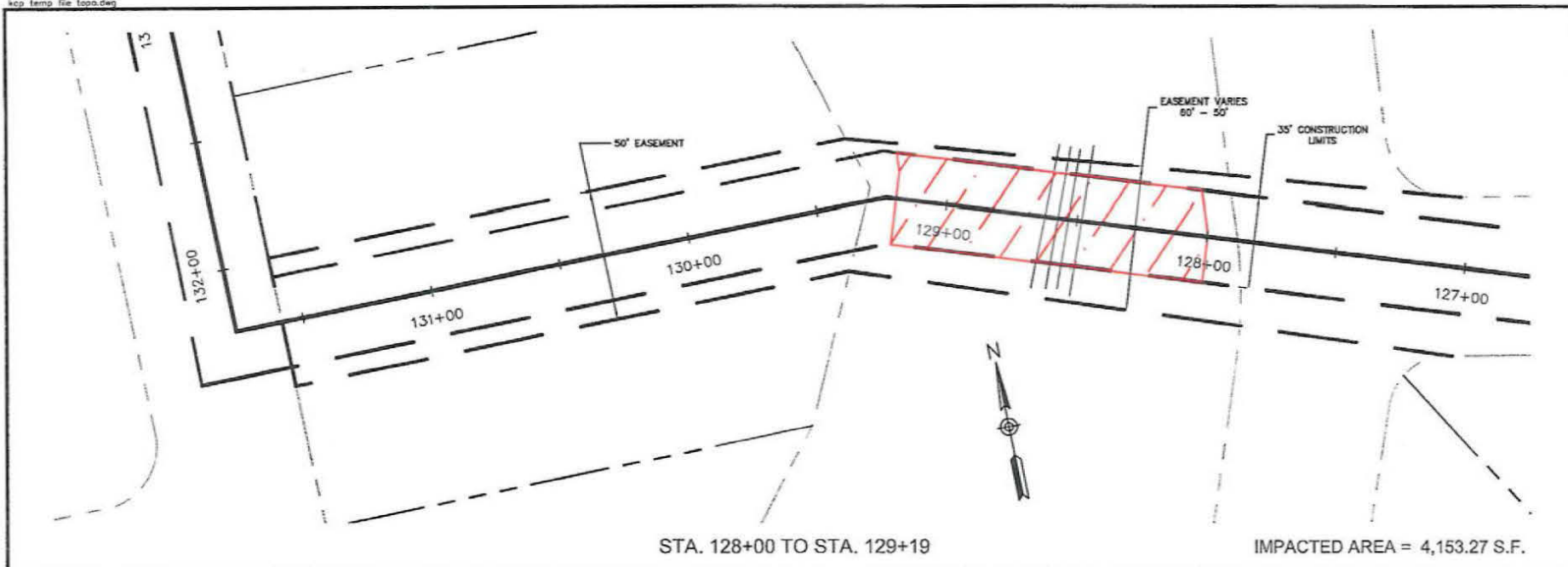


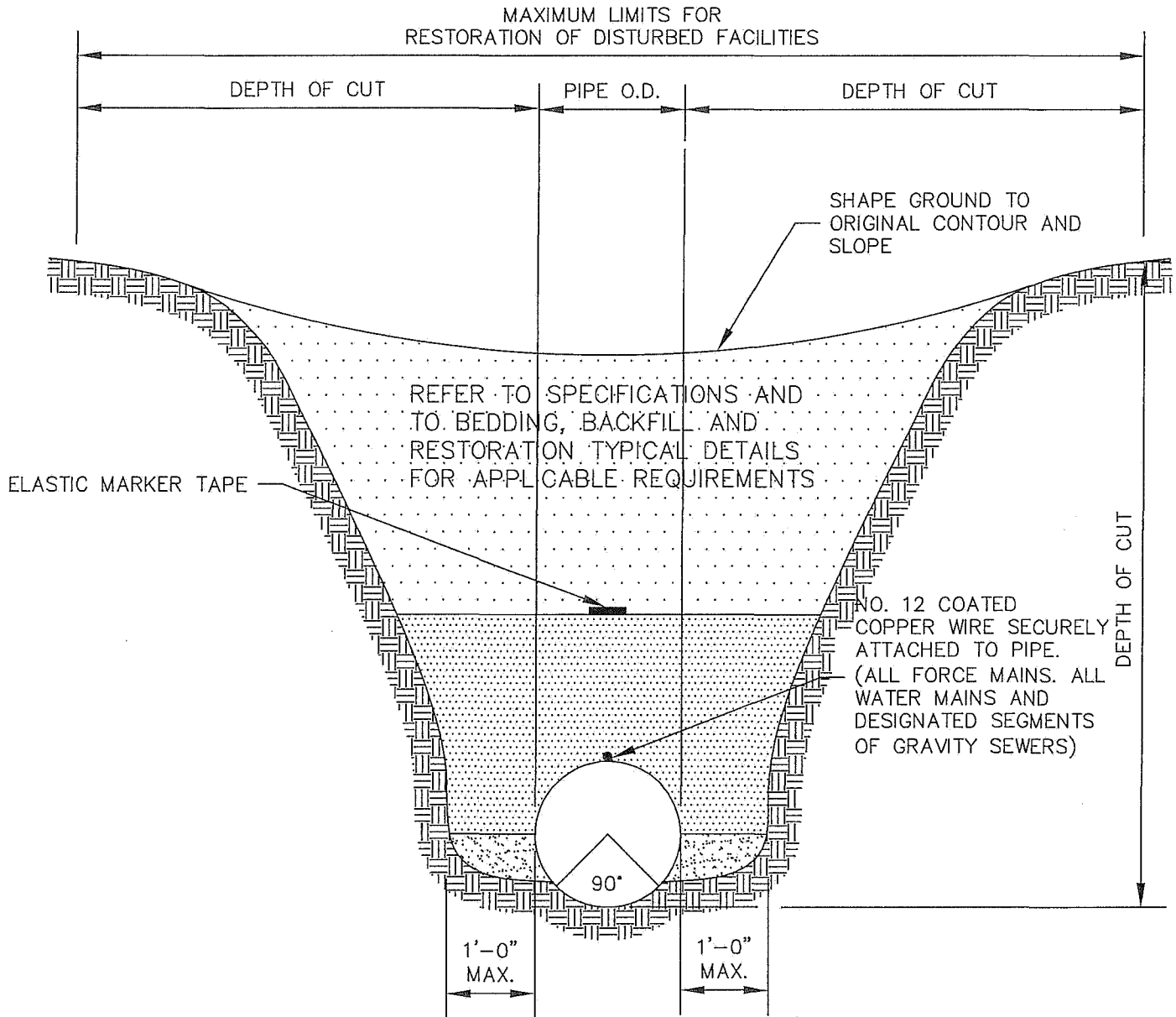












## TYPICAL WETLANDS AREA TRENCHING DETAIL

N.T.S.

Harrison County Utility Authority  
West Fritz Creek Interceptor Phase 2  
Section 2-T7S-11W  
Harrison County, Mississippi  
Aerial Photo

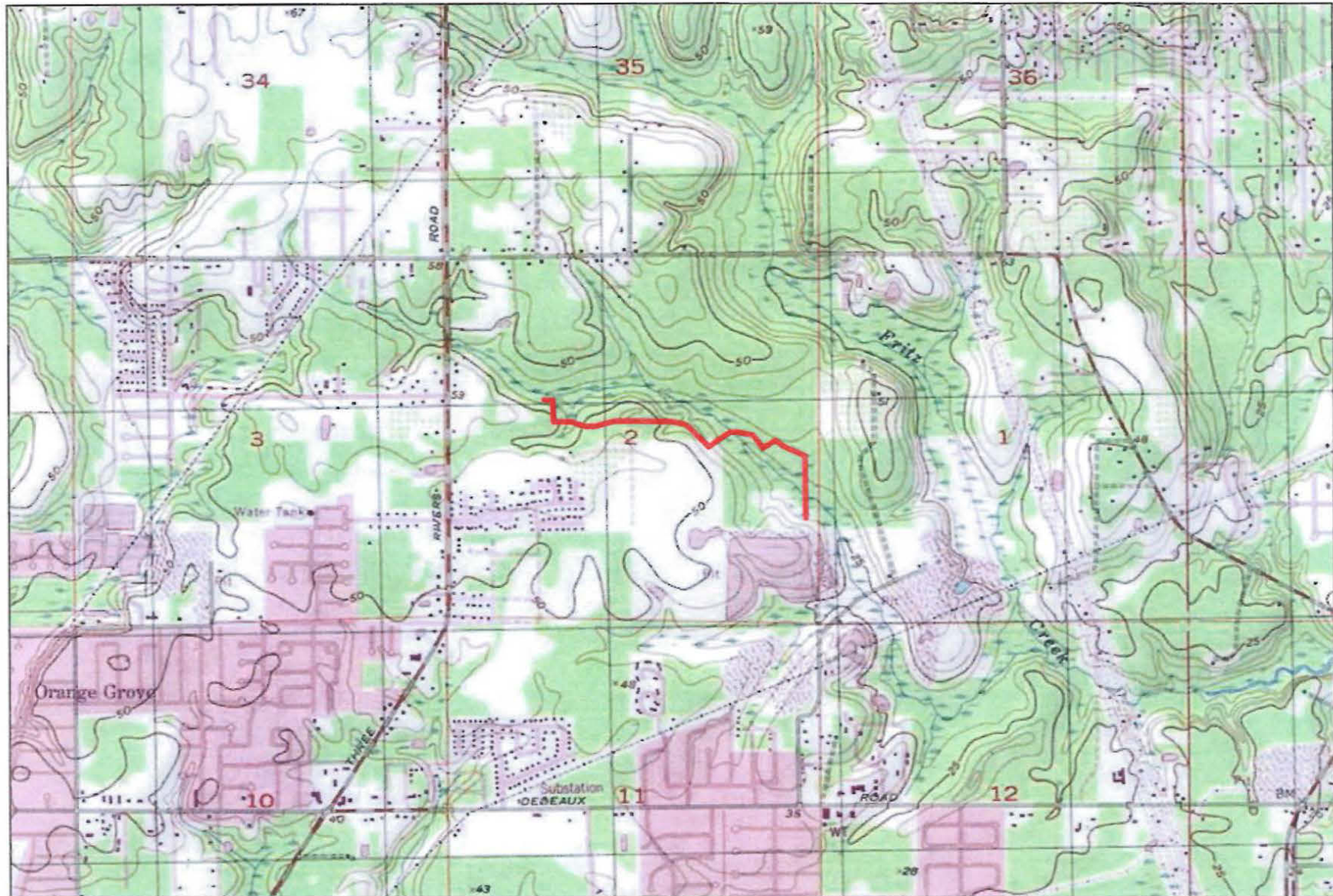


Prepared by: PAC Services LLC

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Harrison County Utility Authority  
West Fritz Creek Interceptor Phase 2  
Section 2-T7S-11W  
Harrison County, Mississippi  
USGS Quad: GULFPORT NORTH 1:24K



Prepared by: PAC Services LLC

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