Case No. 22-1028-EL-BLN

Part 1 of 2

Construction Notice for the Howard – Fostoria 138 kV Mid-Span Structure Project

PUCO Case No. 22-1028-EL-BNR

Submitted to:
The Ohio Power Siting Board
Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code
Section 4906-6-05

Submitted by:
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

November 4, 2022

CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

Howard – Fostoria 138 kV Mid-Span Structure Project

4906-6-05 Accelerated Application Requirements

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. (the Company) provides the following information to the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) in accordance with the accelerated application requirements of Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-6-05.

4906-6-05(B) General Information

B(1) Project Description

The name of the project and applicant's reference number, names and reference number(s) of resulting circuits, a brief description of the project, and why the project meets the requirements for a Letter of Notification.

The Company is proposing the Howard – Fostoria 138 kV Mid-Span Structure Project (the Project), in Loudon Township, Seneca County, Ohio. The purpose of the Project is to install a new mid-span structure on the northern Howard – West End Fostoria 138 kV circuit of the existing Howard – Fostoria 138 kV transmission line to accommodate the Iron Triangle Switch – Loudon 138 kV Transmission Line Project (Case No. 22-0919-EL-BLN). The Project will result in a 0.2-mile-long route adjustment of the existing Howard – Fostoria 138 kV transmission line, located entirely within existing ROW. The location of the Project is shown on Figure 1 and 2 in Appendix A.

The Project meets the requirements for a Construction Notice (CN) as defined by Item 2 (a) of Appendix A to Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-1-01, Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission Lines:

> (1) Adding new circuits on existing structures designed for multiple circuit use, replacing conductors on existing structures with larger or bundled conductors, adding structures to an existing transmission line, or replacing structures with a different type of structure, for a distance of:
>
> (a) Two miles or less.

The Project has been assigned Case No. 22-1028-EL-BNR.

B(2) Statement of Need

If the proposed Letter of Notification project is an electric power transmission line or gas or natural gas transmission line, a statement explaining the need for the proposed facility.

Buckeye Power Inc., on behalf of North Central Electric Co-op, requested the Company to provide a new 138kV delivery point off the Howard-Fostoria 138 kV Transmission Line to a new non-jurisdictional substation (the Iron Triangle Switch – Loudon 138 kV Transmission Line Project), see Case No. Case No. 22-0919-EL-BLN. The delivery point will serve a North Central Electric Co-op retail customer with an anticipated load of 6.2 MVA. The Company requires installing a new mid-span structure on the northern Howard – West End Fostoria 138 kV circuit (Howard – Fostoria 138 kV transmission line) for construction of the Iron Triangle Switch – Loudon 138 kV Transmission Line Project (Case No. 22-0919-EL-BLN).

Failure to move forward with the proposed Project will result in the inability to serve the customer's load expectations.

The need and solution for the entire customer project was presented and reviewed with stakeholders at the October 2021 and April 2022 PJM SRRTEP meetings. The project was subsequently assigned PJM project number S2782. The Project was not included in the Company's Long Term Forecast Report, at that time a specific solution had not been identified to serve this interconnection.

B(3) Project Location

The applicant shall provide the location of the project in relation to existing or proposed lines and substations shown on an area system map of sufficient scale and size to show existing and proposed transmission facilities in the Project area.

The location of the Project relative to existing transmission lines and the proposed Iron Triangle Switch – Loudon 138 kV Transmission Line project (currently under review by OPSB) is shown on Figure 1, in Appendix A. Figure 2, in Appendix A, identifies the Project components on a 2021 aerial photograph.

B(4) Alternatives Considered

The applicant shall describe the alternatives considered and reasons why the proposed location or route is best suited for the proposed facility. The discussion shall include, but not be limited to, impacts associated with socioeconomic, ecological, construction, or engineering aspects of the project.

A new steel monopole structure will be installed between two existing structures along the Howard – Fostoria 138 kV transmission line. The proposed structure is located within the existing Howard – Fostoria 138 kV ROW and required for the Iron Triangle Switch – Loudon 138 kV Transmission Line Project (see Case No. 22-0919-EL-BLN). The Project represents the most suitable and least impactful solution as it requires the same new easement already being acquired for the associated Iron Triangle

Switch and Howard – Fostoria 138 kV cut-in (see Case No. 22-0919-EL-BLN), minimizing potential impacts to affected landowners. Therefore, no other alternatives were considered. Socioeconomic, land use, and ecological information is presented in Section B(10).

B(5) Public Information Program

The applicant shall describe its public information program to inform affected property owners and tenants of the nature of the project and the proposed timeframe for project construction and restoration activities.

The Company maintains a website (http://aeptransmission.com/ohio/) on which an electronic copy of this CN is available. An electronic copy of the CN will be served to the public library in each political subdivision affected by this Project. In addition, the Company retains ROW land agents that discuss Project timelines, construction and restoration activities and convey this information to affected owners and tenants.

B(6) Construction Schedule

The applicant shall provide an anticipated construction schedule and proposed in-service date of the project.

Construction of the Project is planned to begin in February 2023 with an anticipated in-service date of March 2023.

B(7) Area Map

The applicant shall provide a map of at least 1:24,000 scale clearly depicting the facility with clearly marked streets, roads, and highways, and an aerial image.

Figure 1, in Appendix A, identifies the location of the Project area on a United States Geological Survey 1:24,000 quadrangle map. Appendix A, Figure 2 shows the Project area on a 2021 aerial photograph.

To visit the Project from downtown Columbus, Ohio, take I-71 N towards Cleveland for approximately 23 miles to the US-36 E/State Route 37 exit. Turn left off the exit to proceed along US-36 E for approximately 8 miles, then take a slight right onto E Central Avenue (State Route 37). Then, turn right onto US-23 toward Marion and continue for approximately 45 miles, proceeding northwest onto State Route 15. Turn Right onto County Road 95/Township Highway 95 and continue north for 1.2 miles, then turn left onto State Route 568 and continue northwest for 3.5 miles. Turn right onto County Road 330 and continue north for approximately 5 miles, then turn right onto US-224 E and continue northeast for two miles. Turn left onto County Road 23 and continue north for 4.3 miles, then turn right onto Township Road 218 and continue east for 0.6 mile. The proposed Project is located approximately 0.2 mile to the south of Township Road 218.

B(8) Property Agreements

The applicant shall provide a list of properties for which the applicant has obtained easements, options, and/or land use agreements necessary to construct and operate the facility and a list of the additional properties for which such agreements have not been obtained.

The Project is located on three Seneca County Parcels (I34000555600600, I33000995000000, and P51040995000100) and within existing ROW. The Project requires the same new easement already being acquired for the associated Iron Triangle Switch and Howard – Fostoria 138 kV cut-in (see Case No. 22-0919-EL-BLN). No other property easements, options, or land use agreements are necessary to construct the Project or operate the transmission line.

B(9) Technical Features

The applicant shall describe the following information regarding the technical features of the project:

B(9)(a) Operating characteristics, estimated number and types of structures required, and right-of-way and/or land requirements.

The Project is anticipated to include the following:

Voltage: 138kV
Conductors: (3) 397.5 kCM LARK ACSR (30/7)
Static Wire: (1) 159 kCM GUINEA ACSR (12/7)
Insulators: Polymer
ROW Width: 100 feet
Structure Type: (1) single circuit, monopole steel braced pole post structures with direct embedded foundation

B(9)(b) Electric and Magnetic Fields

For electric power transmission lines that are within one hundred feet of an occupied residence or institution, the production of electric and magnetic fields during the operation of the proposed electric power transmission line.

B(9)(b)(i) Calculated Electric and Magnetic Field Strength Levels

i) Calculated Electric and Magnetic Field Levels

Not applicable. No occupied residences or institutions are located within 100 feet of the Project.

B(9)(b)(ii) Design Alternatives

A discussion of the applicant's consideration of design alternatives with respect to electric and magnetic fields and their strength levels, including alternate conductor configuration and phasing, tower height, corridor location, and right-of-way width.

Not applicable. No occupied residences or institutions are located within 100 feet of the Project.

B(9)(b)(ii)(c) Project Cost

The estimated capital cost of the project.

The capital costs estimate for the proposed Project, which is comprised of applicable tangible and capital costs, is approximately $523,000 using a Class 4 estimate. Pursuant to the PJM OATT, the costs for this Project will be recovered in the AEP Ohio Transmission Company Inc.'s FERC formula rate (Attachment H-20 to the PJM OATT) and allocated to the AEP Zone.

B(10) Social and Economic Impacts

The applicant shall describe the social and ecological impacts of the project:

B(10)(a) Operating Characteristics

Provide a brief, general description of land use within the vicinity of the proposed project, including a list of municipalities, townships, and counties affected.

The Project is located approximately 0.5 mile southwest of North Township Road 21 and West Township Road 114 in Loudon Township, Seneca County, Ohio. Land use surrounding Project area generally consists of agricultural or residential land, as classified by the Seneca County Auditor. No schools, residences, or commercial buildings are located within 1,000 feet of the Project. No parks, churches, cemeteries, wildlife management areas, or nature preserve lands are located within 1,000 feet of the centerline of the Project.

B(10)(b) Agricultural Land Information

Provide the acreage and a general description of all agricultural land, and separately all agricultural district land, existing at least sixty days prior to submission of the application within the potential disturbance area of the project.

The Project area occupies 0.1 acre, which has historically been used for cultivated cropland. No properties registered as agricultural district land are crossed by the Project, based on email coordination with the Seneca County Auditor's Office on September 16, 2022.

B(10)(c) Archaeological and Cultural Resources

Provide a description of the applicant's investigation concerning the presence or absence of significant archaeological or cultural resources that may be located within the potential disturbance area of the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

In September 2022, the Company's consultant completed Phase I Archaeological and Phase I History/Architectural surveys, which involved literature review, subsurface testing, and visual inspection. No previously identified archaeological sites are located within the Project area and no new

archaeological sites were identified during the survey. Additionally, no historic structures eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) were identified in the Project area.

The Company's consultant coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), recommending that the Project would have no adverse effect on historic properties and no further cultural resource work would be necessary. In their October 17, 2022 response, SHPO agreed with the recommendations (see Appendix C).

B(10)(d) Local, State, and Federal Agency Correspondence

Provide a list of the local, state, and federal governmental agencies known to have requirements that must be met in connection with the construction of the project, and a list of documents that have been or are being filed with those agencies in connection with siting and constructing the project.

A Notice of Intent will be filed with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) for authorization of construction stormwater discharge under NPDES General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activity OHC000005. The Company will also submit a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to Seneca County that adhere to the permit requirements. The Company will implement and maintain best management practices as outlined in the Project-specific SWPPP to minimize erosion sediment to Project surface waters during storm events.

The proposed mid-span structure is not located within any Federal Emergency Management Agency's ("FEMA") 100-year floodplain areas. Therefore, no floodplain permitting is expected to be required for the Project.

There are no other known local, state, or federal requirements that must be met prior to commencement of the Project.

B(10)(e) Threatened, Endangered, and Rare Species

Provide a description of the applicant's investigation concerning the presence or absence of federal and state designated species (including endangered species, threatened species, rare species, species proposed for listing, species under review for listing, and species of special interest) that may be located within the potential disturbance area of the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

On July 27, 2022, the Company's consultant submitted coordination letters to the United State Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Ohio Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) and Division of Wildlife (DOW), seeking an environmental review of the Project area for potential impacts to state and/or federally protected species. ODNR and USFWS provided responses on August 15, 2022 and August 5, 2022, respectively. Copies of the agencies' responses are presented in Appendix C.

ODNR reviewed the ONHP database for historic records of state or federally-listed species for a one-mile radius of the Project. In their response, ODNR indicate that no ONHP records were returned for a one-mile radius of the Project. The ODNR DOW indicated that the Project is located within the range of the following protected bat species: the state endangered and federally endangered Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis), the state endangered and federally threatened northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis), the state endangered little brown bat (Myotis lucifugus), and the state endangered tricolored bat (Perimyotis subflavus). The DOW recommends seasonal tree cutting for trees ≥ 3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) between October 1 and March 31 to avoid adverse impacts to these species. No tree clearing is required for the Project. Additionally, a desktop assessment conducted prior to the field survey identified no potential hibernacula within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project; therefore, adverse impacts to these species are not anticipated.

The ODNR DOW also indicated that the Project lies within the range of the following freshwater aquatic species: the state and federal endangered clubshell (Pleurobema clava), the state and federal endangered rayed bean (Villosa fabalis), the state endangered purple lilliput (Toxolasma lividum), the state threatened pondhorn (Uniomerus tetralasmus), the state threatened salamander mussel (Simpsonaias ambigua), and the western banded killifish (Fundulus diaphanus menona). Potentially suitable habitat was not identified in the Project area and no in-water work is proposed for the Project; therefore, ODNR indicates that no impacts to the above-listed freshwater mussel and fish species are likely.

The ODNR DOW also indicated the Project lies within the range of the state threatened least bittern (Ixobrychus exilis) and the state endangered northern harrier (Circus hudsonis). The least bittern is a secretive marsh species that prefers large dense emergent wetlands with thick stands of cattails, sedges, sawgrass, or other semiaquatic vegetation interspersed with woody vegetation and open water. Northern harriers occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands, nest in loose colonies on top of mounds on the ground, and hunt over grasslands. The Project does not present potentially suitable habitat for the above-listed bird species and therefore no adverse impacts are anticipated for the species.

The USFWS coordination letter indicated that no federal wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, or critical habitat is located within the Project. Additionally, USFWS indicated that the Project is within the range of the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat. The USFWS recommends seasonal tree clearing (October 1 through March 31) if no caves or abandoned mines are present and trees ≥ 3 inches dbh cannot be avoided. If implementation of seasonal tree cutting is not feasible for the Project, the USFWS recommends a summer presence/absence survey be conducted between June 1 and August 15 in coordination with the Ohio Field Office. The USFWS indicated that due to the project type, size, and location, no other adverse effects to any other federally protected species or designated critical habitat are anticipated. No tree clearing is required for the Project. Additionally, a desktop assessment conducted prior to the field survey identified no potential hibernacula within a 0.5-mile radius of the Project.

Based on the nature of the proposed Project activities and habitat characteristics of the surrounding vicinity, construction impacts to protected species are not anticipated.

B(10)(f) Areas of Ecological Concern

Provide a description of the applicant's investigation concerning the presence or absence of areas of ecological concern (including national and state forests and parks, floodplains, wetlands, designated or proposed wilderness areas, national and state wild and scenic rivers, wildlife areas, wildlife refuges, wildlife management areas, and wildlife sanctuaries) that may be located within the potential disturbance area of the project, a statement of the findings of the investigation, and a copy of any document produced as a result of the investigation.

On July 25 and September 14, 2022, wetland and stream delineation surveys were completed by the Company's consultant for an approximately 53-acre Environmental Survey Corridor (ESC), which encompasses the Project (see Appendix D). Within the ESC, no wetlands, streams, or waterbodies were delineated within the Project area.

No in-water work or tree clearing is required for the Project. No other areas of ecological concern were identified within the Project area. Based on a review of the Protected Areas Database of the United States as well as the Conservation Easement Database, no state or national parks, forests, wildlife areas or mapped conservation easements are in the vicinity of the Project.

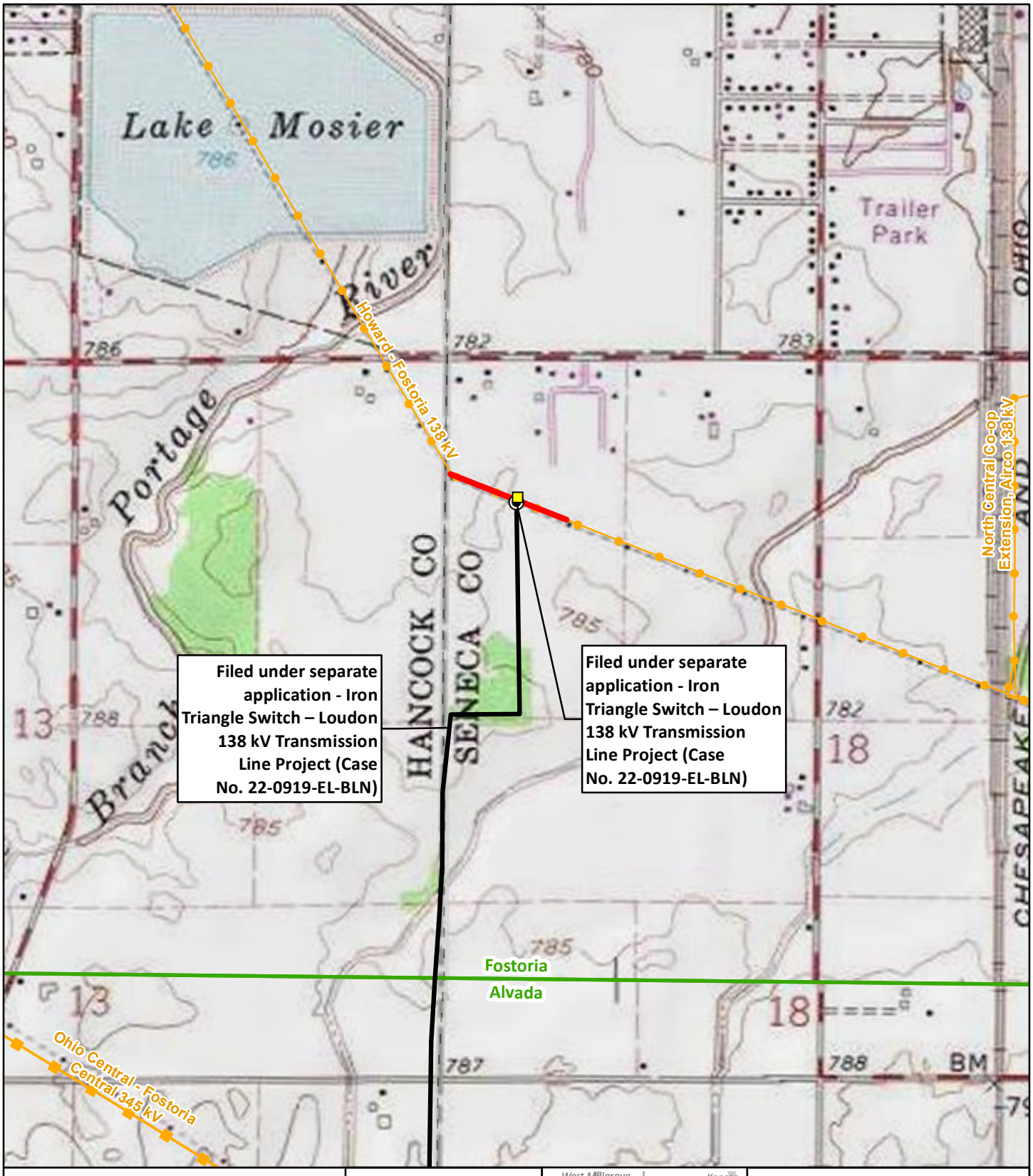
FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panels (39063C0120E and 39063C0275E) were reviewed to identify floodplains/flood hazard areas within the Project area. Based on this mapping, no FEMA 100-year floodplain is located within the Project; therefore, no floodplain permitting is anticipated.

B(10)(g) Unusual Conditions

Provide any known additional information that will describe any unusual conditions resulting in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.

To the best of the Company's knowledge, no unusual conditions exist that would result in significant environmental, social, health, or safety impacts.

Appendix A Project Maps



Proposed Iron Triangle Switch (Case No. 22-0919-EL-BLN)

Proposed Structure

Proposed Route Adjustment

Proposed Iron Triangle - Loudon 138 kV (Case No. 22-0919-EL-BLN)

Existing Transmission Line

138 kV

345 kV

USGS 7.5' Topographic Quad Boundary

County Boundary

Sources:
Topo Quads (USGS 2013)
Hydrology (USGS 2021)
Transportation (ODOT 2021)

State Plane
Ohio North
NAD 83

November 04, 2022

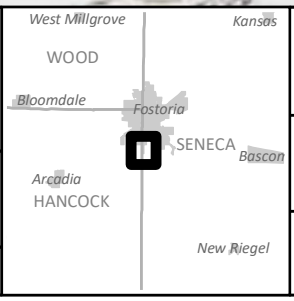
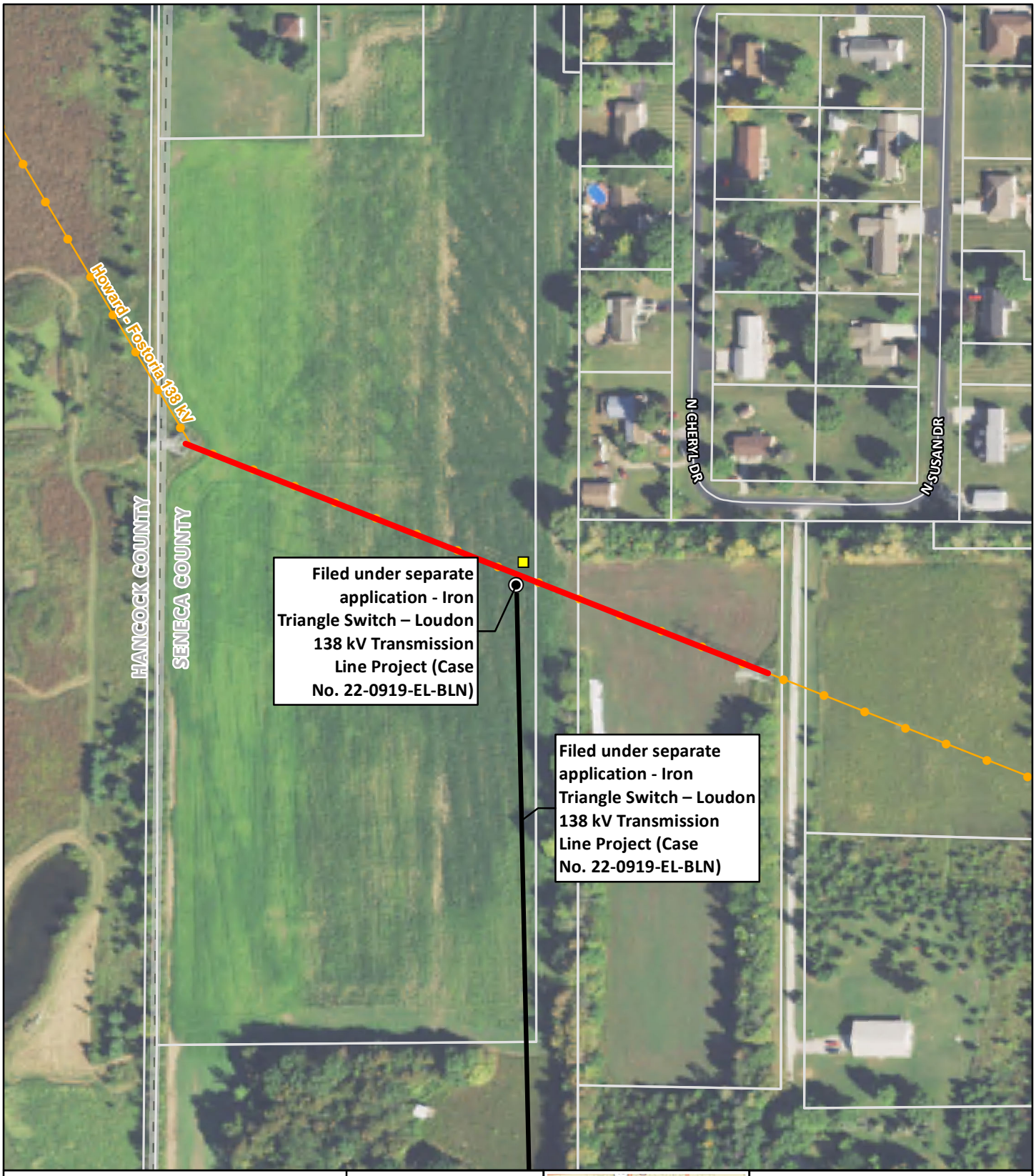


Figure 1
Project Area

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY
An AEP Company
BOUNDLESS ENERGY

Howard-Fostoria 138 kV Mid-Span Structure Project

0 500 1,000 1,500
Feet



Proposed Iron Triangle Switch (Case No. 22-0919-EL -BLN)

Proposed Structure

Proposed Route Adjustment (centerline)

Proposed Iron Triangle - Loudon 138 kV (Case No. 22-0919-EL -BLN)

Existing 138 kV Transmission Line

Parcel Boundary

County Boundary

Sources:
Imagery (NAIP 2021)
Hydrology (USGS 2021)
Transportation (ODOT 2021)

State Plane
Ohio North
NAD 83

November 04, 2022

Figure 2
Aerial Map

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY
An AEP Company
BOUNDLESS ENERGY

Howard-Fostoria 138 kV Mid-Span Structure Project

0 100 200 300
Feet

Appendix B PJM Solution

AEP Transmission Zone M-3 Process
Fostoria, Ohio

Need Number: AEP-2021-OH054

Process Stage: Solution Meeting 4/22/2022

Previously Presented: Need Meeting 10/15/2021

Supplemental Project Driver:

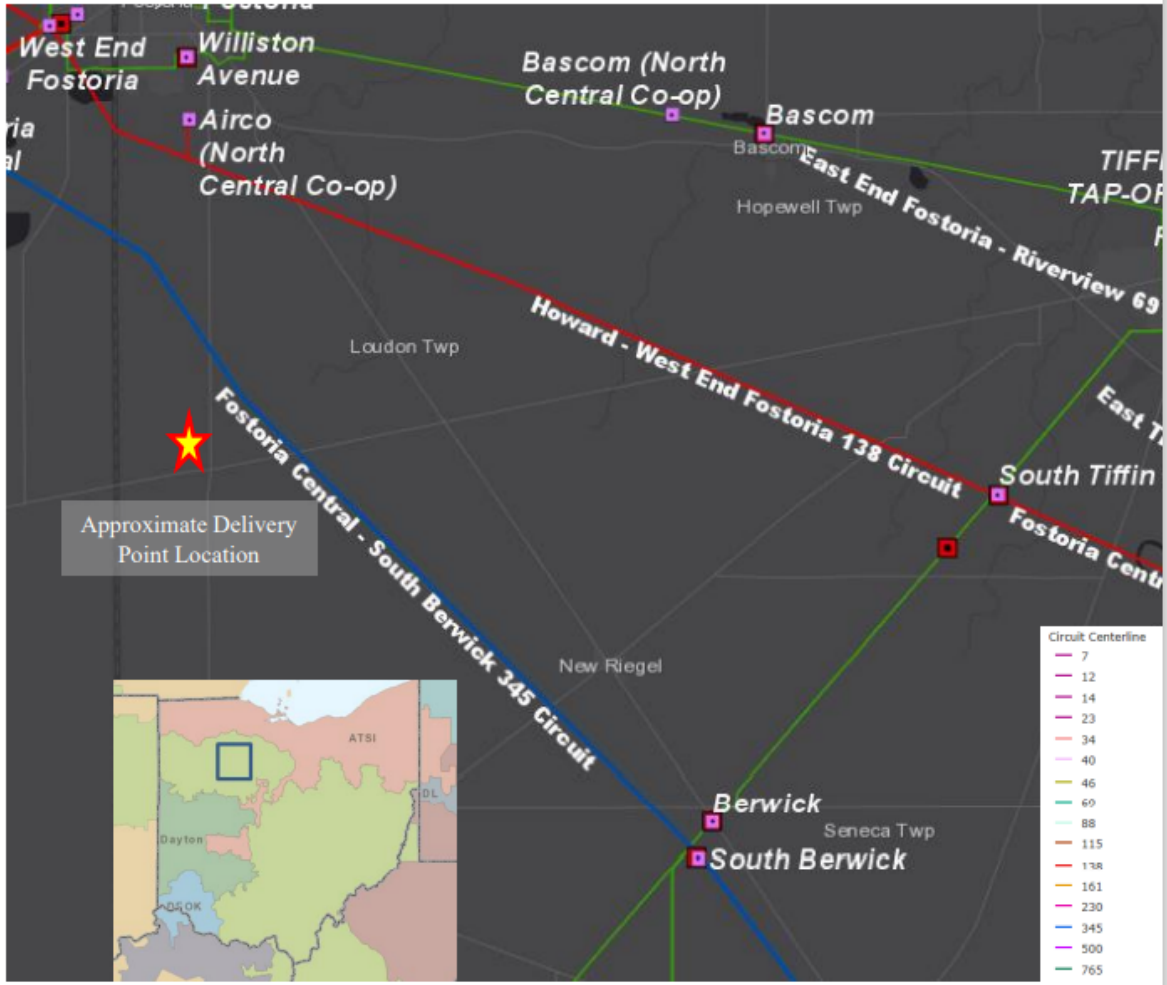
Customer Service

Specific Assumption Reference:

AEP Guidelines for Transmission Owner Identified Needs (AEP Assumptions slide 12)

Problem Statement:

- Buckeye is requesting on behalf of North Central Electric Co-op a new 138kV delivery point tapped off of the Fostoria Central – Melmore 138kV Circuit by August 2022. Anticipated load is about 6.2 MVA.



AEP Transmission Zone M-3 Process
Iron Triangle 138kV Project

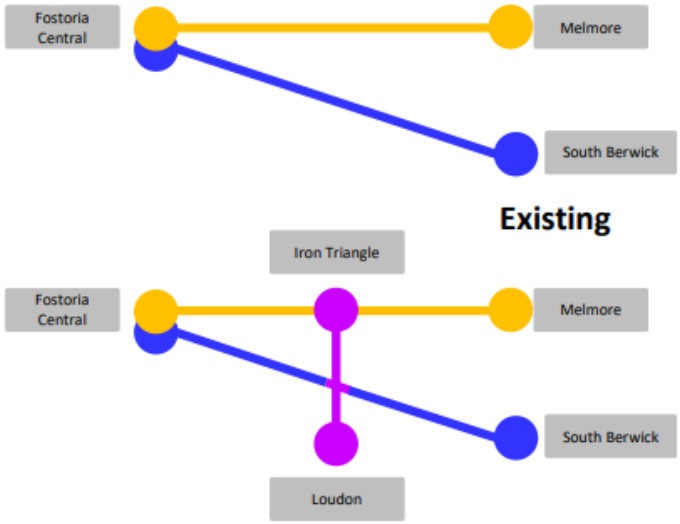
Need Number: AEP-2021-OH054
Process Stage: Solutions Meeting 04/22/2022

Proposed Solution:

- **Iron Triangle Switch 138kV:** Establish a new three way POP switch on the Fostoria Central – Melmore circuit to serve new North Central delivery point. The through-path will include auto-sectionalizing switches. **Estimated Cost $0.866M**
- **Iron Triangle – Loudon 138kV**. Construct ~3.85 miles of single circuit 138 kV line utilizing 795 ACSR conductor between the proposed Iron Triangle Switch and the new NCEC Loudon delivery point **Estimated Cost $8.586M**
- **West End Fostoria – Melmore 138kV:** Cut in work will be required on the Fostoria – Melmore Circuit for the Iron Triangle Switch. **Estimated Cost $0.627M**
- **Ohio Central – Fostoria Central 345kV.** Modify Fostoria Central – South Berwick 345kV for the Iron Triangle – Loudon 138kV line crossing. **Estimated Cost $1.338M**

Total Estimated Cost: $11.432M

Legend	
500 kV	
345 kV	
138 kV	
69 kV	
34.5 kV	
23 kV	
New	



Alternatives:
Considering the location and timing of the customer request, no other viable alternatives were considered.

Projected In-Service: 7/1/2023
Project Status: Scoping
Model: 2026 RTEP

Appendix C SHPO Response

In reply, refer to
2022-HAN-55966

October 17, 2022

Mr. Ryan J. Weller
Weller & Associates, Inc.
1395 West Fifth Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43212

RE: Iron Triangle-Loudon 138kV Greenfield Transmission Line Project, Loudon Township, Seneca County, and Washington Township, Hancock County, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weller:

This letter is in response to the correspondence received September 20, 2022 regarding the proposed Iron Triangle-Loudon 138kV Greenfield Transmission Line Project, Loudon Township, Seneca County, and Washington Township, Hancock County, Ohio. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. The comments of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are made pursuant to Section 149.53 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Power Siting Board rules for siting this project (OAC 4906-5). The comments of the Ohio SHPO are also submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108 [36 CFR 800]).

The following comments pertain to the *Phase I Archaeological Investigations for the 4 km (2.5 mi) Iron Triangle-Loudon 138kV Greenfield Transmission Line Project in Loudon Township, Seneca County and Washington Township, Hancock County, Ohio* by Ryan J. Weller (Weller & Associates, Inc. 2022).

A literature review, visual inspection, surface collection, shovel probe and shovel test unit excavation was completed as part of the investigations. No previously identified archaeological sites are located within the project area and no new archaeological sites were identified during survey. Our office agrees no additional archaeological survey is needed.

The following comments pertain to the *History/Architecture Investigations Iron Triangle-Loudon 138kV Greenfield Transmission Line Project in Loudon Township, Seneca County, and Washington Township, Hancock County, Ohio* by Scott McIntosh (Weller & Associates, Inc. 2022).

A literature review and field survey were completed as part of the investigations. A total of nineteen (19) properties fifty years of age or older were identified within the Area of Potential Effects (APE). Weller recommends these properties are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Our office agrees with Weller's recommendations of eligibility.

Based on the information provided, we agree that the project as proposed will have no effect on historic properties. No further coordination with this office is necessary, unless the project changes or unless new or additional historic properties are discovered during implementation of this project. In such a situation, this office should be contacted. If you have any questions, please contact me at (614) 298-2022, or by e-mail at khorrocks@ohiohistory.org or Joy Williams at jwilliams@ohiohistory.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Krista Horrocks, Project Reviews Manager
Resource Protection and Review

RPR Serial No: 1095085, 1095086

Appendix D Protected Species Agency Responses

Office of Real Estate
John Kessler, Chief
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6621
Fax: (614) 267-4764

August 15, 2022

Brad Rolfes
WSP USA
Suite 2500
312 Elm Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Re: 22-0760; AEP Iron Triangle 138 kV Transmission Line Project

Project: The project proposes to rebuild approximately 3.3 miles of the Iron Triangle 138 kV transmission line.

Location: The proposed project is located in Washington Township, Hancock County, Ohio.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has completed a review of the above referenced project. These comments were generated by an inter-disciplinary review within the Department. These comments have been prepared under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), the National Environmental Policy Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, Ohio Revised Code and other applicable laws and regulations. These comments are also based on ODNR's experience as the state natural resource management agency and do not supersede or replace the regulatory authority of any local, state or federal agency nor relieve the applicant of the obligation to comply with any local, state or federal laws or regulations.

Natural Heritage Database: A review of the Ohio Natural Heritage Database indicates there are no records of state or federally listed plants or animals within one mile of the specified project area. Records searched date from 1980.

Please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed and we rely on receiving information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area.

Fish and Wildlife: The Division of Wildlife (DOW) has the following comments.

The DOW recommends that impacts to streams, wetlands and other water resources be avoided and minimized to the fullest extent possible, and that Best Management Practices be utilized to minimize erosion and sedimentation.

The entire state of Ohio is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally threatened species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer (April 1 through September 30), these species of bats

predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut, the DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH ≥ 20 if possible. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a mist net survey or acoustic survey be conducted from June 1 through August 15, prior to any cutting. Mist net and acoustic surveys should be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of the "*OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING*". If state listed bats are documented, DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31. However, limited summer tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW (contact Eileen Wyza at Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov).

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment is conducted, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if a potential hibernaculum is present within the project area. Direction on how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS "*RANGE-WIDE INDIANA BAT & NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT SURVEY GUIDELINES*." If a habitat assessment finds that a potential hibernaculum is present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Eileen Wyza for project recommendations. If a potential or known hibernaculum is found, the DOW recommends a 0.25-mile tree cutting and subsurface disturbance buffer around the hibernaculum entrance, however, limited summer or winter tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the following listed mussel species.
Federally Endangered
clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)
rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*)

State Endangered
purple lilliput (*Toxolasma lividum*)

State Threatened
pondhorn (*Uniomerus tetralasmus*)
Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*)

Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream of sufficient size, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the western banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus menona*), a state endangered fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact this or other aquatic species.

The project is within the range of the Kirtland's snake (*Clonophis kirtlandii*), a state threatened species. This secretive species prefers wet meadows and other wetlands. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), a state threatened bird. This secretive marsh species prefers dense emergent wetlands with thick stands of cattails, sedges, sawgrass or other semiaquatic vegetation interspersed with woody vegetation and open water. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 through July 31. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonis*), a state endangered bird. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

Due to the potential of impacts to federally listed species, as well as to state listed species, we recommend that this project be coordinated with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

Water Resources: The Division of Water Resources has the following comment.

The local floodplain administrator should be contacted concerning the possible need for any floodplain permits or approvals for this project.

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact Mike Pettegrew at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator

Rolfes, Brad

From:	Ohio, FW3 <ohio@fws.gov>
Sent:	Friday, August 5, 2022 9:13 AM
To:	Rolfes, Brad
Cc:	nathan.reardon@dnr.state.oh.us; Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov
Subject:	AEP Iron Triangle 138 kV Transmission Line Project, Hancock and Seneca Counties, Ohio
Follow Up Flag:	Flag for follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services Office
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230
(614) 416-8993 / Fax (614) 416-8994

Project Code: 2022-0064649

Dear Mr. Rolfes,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your recent correspondence requesting information about the subject proposal. We offer the following comments and recommendations to assist you in minimizing and avoiding adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA).

Federally Threatened and Endangered Species: The endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) occur throughout the State of Ohio. The Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat may be found wherever suitable habitat occurs unless a presence/absence survey has been performed to document absence. Suitable summer habitat for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and breed that may also include adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, woodlots, fallow fields, and pastures. Roost trees for both species include live and standing dead trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) that have any exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, hollows and/or cavities. These roost trees may be located in forested habitats as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet of other forested/wooded habitat. Northern long-eared bats have also been observed roosting in human-made structures, such as buildings, barns, bridges, and bat houses; therefore, these structures should also be considered potential summer habitat. In the winter, Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats hibernate in caves, rock crevices and abandoned mines.

Seasonal Tree Clearing for Federally Listed Bat Species: The proposed project is in the vicinity of one or more confirmed records of Indiana bats. Should the proposed project site contain trees ≥3 inches dbh, we recommend avoiding tree removal wherever possible. If any caves or abandoned mines may be disturbed, further coordination with this office is requested to determine if fall or spring portal surveys are warranted. If no caves or abandoned mines are present and trees ≥3 inches dbh cannot be avoided, we recommend removal of any trees ≥3 inches dbh only occur between November 15 and March 15. Seasonal clearing is recommended to avoid

adverse effects to Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. While incidental take of northern long-eared bats from most tree clearing is exempted by a 4(d) rule (see https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045), incidental take of Indiana bats is still prohibited without a project-specific exemption. Thus, seasonal clearing is recommended where Indiana bats are known or assumed present. Please note that, because Indiana bat presence has already been confirmed in the project vicinity, any additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence surveys for this species.

Section 7 Coordination: If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), then no tree clearing should occur on any portion of the project area until consultation under section 7 of the ESA, between the Service and the federal action agency, is completed. We recommend the federal action agency submit a determination of effects to this office, relative to the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, for our review and concurrence. This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document.

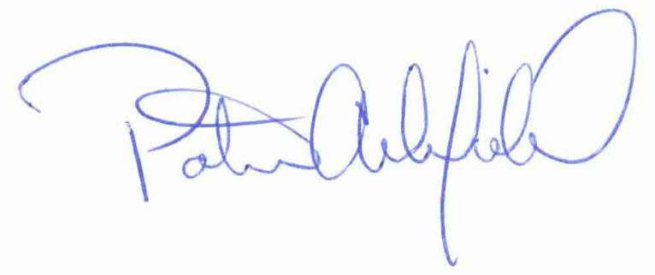
Stream and Wetland Avoidance: Over 90% of the wetlands in Ohio have been drained, filled, or modified by human activities, thus is it important to conserve the functions and values of the remaining wetlands in Ohio (https://epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/facts/ohio_wetlands.pdf). We recommend avoiding and minimizing project impacts to all wetland habitats (e.g., forests, streams, vernal pools) to the maximum extent possible in order to benefit water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Additionally, natural buffers around streams and wetlands should be preserved to enhance beneficial functions. If streams or wetlands will be impacted, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted to determine whether a Clean Water Act section 404 permit is required. Best management practices should be used to minimize erosion, especially on slopes. Disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native plant species. In addition, prevention of non-native, invasive plant establishment is critical in maintaining high quality habitats.

Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or proposed or designated critical habitat. Should the project design change, or additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat become available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, coordination with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

Thank you for your efforts to conserve listed species and sensitive habitats in Ohio. We recommend coordinating with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the proposed project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact Mike Pettegrew, Acting Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at mike.pettegrew@dnr.state.oh.us.

If you have questions, or if we can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact our office at (614) 416-8993 or ohio@fws.gov.

Sincerely,



Patrice Ashfield
Field Office Supervisor

cc: Nathan Reardon, ODNR-DOW
Eileen Wyza, ODNR-DOW

Case No. 22-1028-EL-BLN

Part 2 of 2

Appendix E Wetland Delineation Report

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

ECOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT

PROJECT NO.: 31300107.077
DATE: OCTOBER 2022

AEP Transmission
8500 Smith's Mill Road
New Albany, OH 43054

WSP USA
312 ELM STREET, SUITE 2500
CINCINNATI, OH 45202

WSP.COM

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1 INTRODUCTION

On behalf of American Electric Power (AEP) Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. (AEP Ohio Transco), WSP USA (WSP) conducted environmental surveys for the approximately 4.1-mile-long Iron Triangle 138 kV Transmission Line Project ("Project"), located in Washington Township, in Hancock County, and Loudon Township, in Seneca County, Ohio. The environmental survey included a wetland and water resource delineation and characterization of potential habitat for state and federally listed species. The wetland delineation was performed to determine whether wetlands and streams are present within the vicinity of the Project that would meet the definition of Waters of the United States (WoUS) or be subject to regulations implemented by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), and to document their extents and current conditions if present. The wetland delineation was performed by individuals trained in the three-parameter methodology (hydrophytic vegetation, wetland hydrology, and hydric soils) adopted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as outlined in the USACE *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest Region (Version 2.0)* (USACE, 2010) and in the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory, 1987).

The report presents the results of the ecological considerations and review of the site's existing and reasonably foreseeable site conditions at the time of the environmental surveys. The results cannot apply to site changes occurring after the survey which WSP has not had the opportunity to review. During the course of any survey, site conditions may change over time due to human and/or natural causes; as such, the results presented in this report may be invalidated, either wholly or in part, by changes beyond the control of WSP.

2 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 PROJECT AREA

The approximately 4.1-mile Project (Proposed and Alternate Routes) is located within Washington Township, in Hancock County, and Loudon Township, in Seneca County, Ohio. The Environmental Survey Corridor (ESC) (approximately 100 feet wide) and originates at the proposed Iron Triangle Switch (approximate coordinate: 41.1346°, -83.4193°) and extends generally south to the proposed Loudon Substation (approximate coordinate: (41.0937°, -83.4216°) (Figure 1, Appendix A). The approximately 53-acre ESC also includes proposed access roads, pull pads and potential laydown yards, in addition to the proposed preferred and alternate route options. The ESC is located within the Alvada and Fostoria, Ohio U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic map quadrangle boundaries. Table 2-1 provides an overview of the project location.

TABLE 2-1: GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

COUNTY:	Hancock and Seneca
TOWNSHIP:	Loudon and Washington
END POINT COORDINATES:	Proposed Iron Triangle Switch: 41.1346°, -83.4193° Proposed Loudon Substation: 41.0937°, -83.4216°
USGS QUADRANGLE:	Alvada and Fostoria
ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY CORRIDOR LENGTH (mi.):	4.1
ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY CORRIDOR WIDTH (ft.):	100
ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY CORRIDOR SIZE (ac.):	53
ELEVATION RANGE (ft. above sea level):	872 – 816
8-DIGIT HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE:	04100010 04100011
12-DIGIT HYDROLOGIC UNIT CODE(S) :	04100010-02-02 04100011-10-04
DATE(S) OF SURVEY :	July 25, September 14, and October 27, 2022

2.1.1 DRAINAGE BASINS

All streams in the vicinity of the ESC drain to East Branch Portage River or the Sandusky River, which are traditionally navigable waterways (TNWs). The ESC is located within the Cedar-Portage (Hydrologic Unit Code [HUC] 04100010) and the Sandusky (HUC 04100011) drainage basin. The ESC lies within two 12-digit sub watersheds, as outlined in Table 2-2 (USDA, 2019).

The OEPA *401 Water Quality Certification for the Nationwide Permits Web Mapping Application* indicates that field-assessed streams within both of the 12-digit sub-watersheds are denoted as “Eligible”. Watersheds denoted as

"Eligible" require an individual 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) for all stream impacts, if Ohio general and special limitations and conditions for the nationwide permits are not met (OEPA, 2020).

TABLE 2-2: 12-DIGIT HUC'S CROSSED BY THE PROJECT

8-DIGIT HUC CODE[1]	8-DIGIT HUC CODE NAME[1]	12-DIGIT HUC CODE[1]	12-DIGIT HUC NAME[1]	OHIO EPA SECTION 401 ELIGIBILITY[2]
04100010	Cedar-Portage	04100010-02-02	East Branch Portage River	Eligible
04100011	Sandusky	04100011-10-04	Plum Run-Wolf Creek	Eligible

[1]Source: USDA, 2019
[2]Source: OEPA, 2020

3 METHODOLOGY

On July 25, September 14, and October 26, 2022 a WSP ecologist traversed the approximately 4.1-miles long ESC (approximately 53-acres) to conduct a wetland and waters delineation. The physical boundaries of aquatic resources were recorded using a Trimble Global Positioning System (GPS) unit rated for sub-decimeter accuracy. The GPS data was then geo-corrected using Trimble GPS Pathfinder Office software (version 5.60) and reviewed for quality control.

Prior to conducting field surveys, the WSP ecologist completed a desktop review by analyzing several federal and state documents for the presence of wetland and streams. This review included Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil survey data, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps of Ohio, USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps, and USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) stream and river data as an exercise to identify the occurrence and location of potential wetlands and streams.

3.1 WETLAND AND STREAM DELINEATION

3.1.1 WETLAND DELINEATION

The USACE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) define wetlands as areas inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions (33 CFR, Part 328.3).

Wetlands were delineated according to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Technical Report Y-87-1 *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual ('87 Manual)* (Environmental Laboratory, 1987), and the *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest, (Version 2.0)* (*Regional Supplement*) (USACE, 2010). Representative data points were collected for wetlands and corresponding, adjacent upland areas. Wetland data was recorded on the USACE *Regional Supplement* Wetland Determination Data Forms.

Wetland vegetation communities were classified according to the *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States*, commonly referred to as the Cowardin Classification System (Cowardin et al., 1979). Wetlands within the ESC were assessed using the OEPA *Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands v. 5.0* (ORAM) to determine the ecological quality and level of disturbance (Mack, 2001).

3.1.2 STREAM DELINEATION AND ASSESSMENT

Streams were identified by the presence of a defined bed and bank, and evidence of an ordinary high water mark (OHWM). The OHWM is defined in the USACE *Regulatory Guidance Letter No. 05*-05 (USACE, 2005). Generally, the OHWM is identified by a clearly defined, natural line along the stream bank created by fluctuations and flow of water; this may include changes in contours, substrate, vegetation, and debris (USACE, 2005).

Stream assessments were conducted using the methods described in the OEPA's Methods for Assessing Habitat in Flowing Waters: Using OEPA's *Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index* (Rankin, 2006) and *Field Evaluation Manual for Ohio's Primary Headwater Habitat Streams, Version 3* (Davic, 2012).

4 RESULTS

A WSP ecologist surveyed the Project on July 25, September 14, and October 26, 2022 by walking the approximately 53-acre ESC and evaluating for wetlands and other WoUS. The WSP ecologist identified four wetlands and two streams, within the ESC. Additionally, multiple non-jurisdictional drainages were also identified within the ESC. The identified water resources are depicted on the Delineated Features Map (Figure 3, Appendix A).

4.1 DESKTOP REVIEW

4.1.1 SOILS EVALUATION

According to the NRCS Soil Data for Hancock and Seneca Counties, Ohio, there are 9 soil map units identified within the ESC, as presented in Table 4-1. The soils observed by the WSP ecologist during the reconnaissance of the ESC were consistent with the NRCS soil survey mapping.

TABLE 4-1: SOIL UNITS MAPPED WITHIN THE ESC

SOIL UNIT SYMBOL	SOIL UNIT NAME	PERCENT HYDRIC	HYDRIC RATING[1]	AREA WITHIN ESC (ac.)
Blg1A1	Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes	9	Predominately Non-Hydric	32.3
Blg1B1	Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 2 to 4 percent slopes	9	Predominately Non-Hydric	1.3
BrA	Blount-Houcktown complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	5	Predominately Non-Hydric	0.6
Gwg1B1	Glynwood silt loam, ground moraine, 2 to 6 percent slopes	6	Predominately Non-Hydric	<0.01
HkB	Haskins loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	3	Predominately Non-Hydric	0.1
HnB	Houcktown loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	9	Predominately Non-Hydric	0.8
Le	Lenawee silty clay loam	100	All Hydric	0.4
Pa	Pandora silt loam	92	Predominately Hydric	3.5
Pm*	Pewamo silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	91	Predominately Hydric	14.1
			Total Area of Predominately Non-Hydric Soils	**35.1**
			Total Area of Predominately Hydric Soils	**17.6**
			Total Area of All Hydric Soils	**0.40**

[1]Non-Hydric = 0% hydric soil component; Predominantly Non-Hydric = 1-32%; Partially Hydric =33-65%; Predominantly Hydric = 66-99%; and All Hydric = 100%.
*Soils unit symbols with an asterisk denote map units which had a map unit in both Hancock County and Seneca County; therefore each map unit has a unique symbol.
Source: Soil Survey Staff, NRCS. Web Soil Survey.

4.1.2 NATIONAL WETLAND INVENTORY REVIEW

According to the NWI maps of the Alvada and Fostoria, Ohio quadrangle boundaries, there are two mapped NWI features within the ESC. The documented NWI features within the ESC and associated identified resources are presented in Table 4-2. The location of the NWI mapped wetlands are shown on Figure 2 (Appendix A).

TABLE 4-2: NWI FEATURES MAPPED WITHIN THE ESC

NWI CODE	NWI DESCRIPTION	MAP PAGE	ASSOCIATED DELINEATED RESOURCE
R4SBC	Riverine, Intermittent, Stream Bed, Seasonally Flooded	Pages 3 – 5 of 12	Stream IT 001 (Intermittent)
R4SBC	Riverine, Intermittent, Stream Bed, Seasonally Flooded	Page 6 of 12	Stream IT 002 (Intermittent)
R4SBC	Riverine, Intermittent, Stream Bed, Seasonally Flooded	Page 9 of 12	No Identified Resource

Source: USFWS National Wetlands Inventory Map.

4.1.3 FEMA FLOODPLAIN REVIEW

According to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Hazard Layer, the Project ESC does not lie within any 100-year floodplains or regulated floodways. The location of the documented 100-year floodplain boundaries in relation to the ESC is depicted on Figure 2 (Appendix A).

4.2 DELINEATED WETLANDS

During environmental surveys of the ESC, the WSP ecologist identified four wetlands totaling 0.51 acres, containing a mix of wet-mesic species, dominated by herbaceous plants including *Carex sp*., *Juncus sp*., and I*mpatiens sp*. among others, which were less prevalent. The identified wetlands ranged in size from 0.03 acres to 0.33 acres within the ESC. Two of the delineated wetlands were identified to be palustrine forested (PFO) wetlands, one wetland was identified as palustrine emergent (PEM) wetlands, and the remaining wetland identified as a wetland complex, containing mosaics of PEM and PFO wetland communities. Three of the four identified wetlands were determined to be Category Two, and the remaining wetland was determined to be Category One. No Category Three wetlands were identified within the ESC. All four of the identified wetlands appear to lack a hydrological connection to surface waters and are likely to be considered hydrologically isolated. However, it should be noted that final determination of wetland jurisdiction will be made by the USACE. The identified wetlands in relation to the ESC are shown on Figure 3, Appendix A.

Table 4-3 provides specific wetland habitat types, acreages within the ESC, ORAM category, as well as information regarding jurisdictional status. USACE wetland determination forms are provided in Appendix B. ORAM forms are included in Appendix C. Representative photographs of the wetland as well as the upland verification data point were taken and are provided in Appendix E.

TABLE 4-3: WETLANDS DELINEATED WITHIN THE ESC

WETLAND ID	LOCATION		COWARDIN CLASS.[1]	DELINEATED AREA[2] (acres)	ORAM		HYDROLOGIC CONNECTION	PROXIMAL WATERBODY
	LAT.	LON.			SCORE	CATEGORY		
Wetland IT 001	41.1024	-83.4207	PFO	0.03	33	Category 2	Isolated	N/A
Wetland IT 002	41.1148	-83.4216	PFO	0.11	32	Category 2	Isolated	N/A
Wetland IT 003	41.1156	-83.4215	PFO/PEM	0.33	35	Category 2	Isolated	N/A
Wetland IT 008	41.1319	-83.4191	PEM	0.04	17	Category 1	Isolated	N/A
			Sum of PEM Wetland Areas	0.10				
			Sum of PFO Wetland Areas	0.41				
			Total Wetland Area	**0.51**				

[1]PEM = palustrine emergent, PSS = palustrine scrub/shrub. PFO = palustrine forested;
[2]Acreages reflect the area delineated within the ESC and are approximate based on GPS data and are rounded to the nearest 0.01-acre.

4.3 STREAMS AND RIVERS

During the environmental survey, the WSP ecologist identified two streams totaling 447 linear feet within the ESC. The delineated streams were identified as intermittent and were assessed using the HHEI methodology. No perennial or ephemeral streams were identified within the ESC. The identified streams were determined to be unnamed tributaries to East Branch Portage River. The identified streams drain to East Branch Portage River which flows into the Portage River, a traditionally navigable waterway (TNW.) It should be noted that the USACE will make the final determination of jurisdictional status. The identified streams had defined bed and bank, with substrates containing cobble, gravel, silt, clay, and leaf pack, and had a drainage basin of ranging from 0.60 mi^2 to 0.77 mi^2.

The location of the identified streams within the ESC are shown in Figure 3 (Appendix A). Table 4-4 provides waterbody name, flow regime, stream length within the ESC, field evaluation data and Ohio EPA Section 401 eligibility. OEPA Stream Data Forms are included in Appendix D. Representative photographs were taken of the identified streams during the field survey and are provided in Appendix E.

In addition to the jurisdictional stream identified, all swales, ditches, erosional features, and other surface drainages within the ESC were also evaluated for consideration as jurisdictional Waters of the U.S. with respect to the Clean Water Act. Jurisdictional ditches must meet the definition of tributary, have an OHWM, and flow directly or indirectly through another water to a TNW. Multiple erosional features, roadside ditches, and vegetated swales were observed throughout the ESC, however, none of the identified ditches or drainages would be considered jurisdictional within the ESC. These features were excavated in upland soils to convey upland drainage and had no defined bed and bank or flow regime to constitute a Waters of the U.S. designation. Locations of identified non-jurisdictional drainages identified within the ESC are shown in Figure 3, Appendix A.

TABLE 4-4: STREAMS DELINEATED WITHIN THE ESC

STREAM ID	LOCATION		STREAM NAME	STREAM TYPE	DELINEATED LENGTH (FEET)	BANKFULL WIDTH (FEET)	OHWM WIDTH (FEET)	FIELD EVALUATION			OHIO EPA 401 ELIGIBILITY
	LAT	LONG						METHOD	SCORE	CLASS	
Stream IT 001	41.1202	-83.4245	UNT to East Branch Portage River	Intermittent	351	6	4	HHEI	53	Modified Small Drainage Warmwater Stream	Eligible
Stream IT 002	41.1202	-83.4245	UNT to East Branch Portage River	Intermittent	96	5	2	HHEI	37	Modified Small Drainage Warmwater Stream	Eligible
				Total Stream Length in ESC	**447**						

Notes: UNT = unnamed tributary, WWH = Warmwater Habitat, EWH = Exceptional Warmwater Habitat

Lengths are approximate based on GPS data and are rounded to the nearest foot.

4.4 PONDS AND OPEN WATER

During the July 25, September 14, and October 26, 2022 field surveys, no open water features were identified within the ESC. Representative photographs of the ESC are provided in Appendix E.

4.5 VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES

The WSP ecologist conducted a general habitat survey in conjunction with the stream and wetland field surveys. A variety of woody and herbaceous habitats, as described below in Table 4-5, are present within the ESC. A breakdown of vegetated land cover is provided, overlain on aerial photography in Figure 4 (Appendix A). Representative photographs of the Project ESC are included in Appendix E.

TABLE 4-5: VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE ESC

VEGETATIVE COMMUNITY	DESCRIPTION	ACREAGE WITHIN THE ESC	PERCENTAGE OF ESC
Cultivated Cropland	Agricultural land primarily consisting of soybean fields were present within the ESC.	37.0	69.8%
Developed, High Intensity	These areas consist of developed residential, industrial, and commercial land uses, including roads, buildings, and parking lots. These areas are generally devoid of significant vegetation.	0.3	0.5%
Developed, Medium Intensity	Includes areas with a mixture of constructed materials and vegetation. Impervious surfaces account for the majority of the total cover. These areas most commonly include single-family housing.	0.7	1.4%
Developed, Open Space	Developed areas, including residential and commercial properties, were observed within the ESC. These landscaped areas are frequently mowed or maintained grasses and forbs.	0.21	3.8%
Old Field	Old Field habitats represent the successional stage between Developed, Open Space and Scrub/Shrub habitat. Often times these areas are previously developed areas that have been left fallow, which area maintained (mowed) once or twice a year.	6.0	11.4%
Scrub Shrub	Areas dominated primarily by shrubs (native or disturbance tolerant non-native and/or invasive species); less than 5 meters tall with shrub canopy typically greater than 20% of total vegetation. This class includes true shrubs, and young trees in an early successional stage.	0.1	0.2%
Successional Hardwood Woodland	Upland forested areas dominated primarily by native deciduous hardwood species, including red maple (*Acer rubrum*),American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), and American Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) among others.	6.3	11.9%
Wetlands and Waterbodies	Wetlands, Streams, and Open Water features delineated within the ESC boundaries.	0.5	1.1%
	Total	**53.0**	**100%**

4.6 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES COORDINATION

The first phase of the evaluation involved a review of online lists of federal and state species of concern. In addition to the review of available literature and a request for Environmental Review was submitted to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). A coordination letter was also submitted to the USFWS soliciting comments on the Project. Detailed descriptions of the agency coordination are provided in proceeding sections. Correspondence from the USFWS and ODNR is included as Appendix F.

4.6.1 USFWS COORDINATION

A request for review was submitted to the USFWS on July 27, 2022. In an email dated August 5, 2022 the USFWS provided comments on the Project with regard to federally-listed threatened and endangered species within the Project

vicinity. The USFWS indicated that there are no federal wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, or critical habitat within the vicinity of the Project. Comments from USFWS regarding protected species are provided in Table 4-6. The USFWS review comments have been included in Appendix F.

4.6.2 ODNR COORDINATION

A request for Environmental Review was submitted to the ODNR on July 27, 2022. The ODNR Environmental Review response dated August 15, 2022 included comments from the Ohio Natural Heritage Database Program, Division of Wildlife (DOW), and Division of Water Resources. A review of the Natural Heritage Database did not identify any records of state-listed species, high-quality native communities, or protected natural areas within the one-mile of the Project. However, the ranges of multiple species were identified within a one-mile radius of the ESC. Using this as guidance, WSP has provided observations of threatened and endangered species habitat within the vicinity of the ESC in Table 4-6. The ODNR Environmental Review has been included in Appendix F.

TABLE 4-6: LISTED SPECIES COMMENTED ON BY ODNR AND USFWS

COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATE STATUS	FEDERAL STATUS	HABITAT DESCRIPTION	POTENTIAL HABITAT OBSERVED IN ESC	AGENCY COMMENT	WSP IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Mammals						
Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*)	Endangered	Endangered	Winter hibernacula are provided by caves and mines. Summer roost habitat typically includes live or dead trees with exfoliating bark, crevices, or cavities that can be used for roosting. Open sub-canopy areas and flight corridors are important to allow maneuvering during foraging. Proximity to water sources provides a greater density of insect prey.	Yes (Summer)	USFWS and ODNR comments indicated the Project is within the range of the four bat species and recommended seasonal tree clearing dates (October 1 through March 31) to avoid impacts protected bat species. ODNR also recommended a desktop habitat assessment for potential hibernacula within a 0.25-mile radius of the ESC.	Potentially suitable summer habitat may be provided by forested areas within the ESC. No potential hibernacula were identified within 0.25-miles of the ESC and no potential hibernacula were identified within the ESC during the July 25, 2022 surveys. All tree clearing/trimming should occur within the recommended seasonal clearing window (October 1 – March 31).
northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)	Threatened	Threatened				
tri-colored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)	Endangered	Not Listed				
little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*)	Endangered	Not Listed				

TABLE 4-6: LISTED SPECIES COMMENTED ON BY ODNR AND USFWS

COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATE STATUS	FEDERAL STATUS	HABITAT DESCRIPTION	POTENTIAL HABITAT OBSERVED IN ESC	AGENCY COMMENT	WSP IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Reptiles						
Kirtland's snake (*Clonophis kirtlandii*)	Threatened	Not Listed	This secretive species prefers wet meadows and other wetlands.	No	ODNR indicated that due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.	No impact to this species or its habitat is anticipated to occur.
Mussels						
clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)	Endangered	Endangered	This species is found in small to medium streams with gravel/sand substrate and relatively little silt.	No	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream of sufficient size, this project is not likely to impact these species.	Potentially suitable habitat was not identified within the ESC and no in-water work is anticipated to occur. Therefore, no impacts to these species or their habitat are anticipated to occur.
rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*)	Endangered	Endangered	This species is generally lives in smaller, headwater creeks, but they are sometimes found in large rivers.	No		
purple lilliput (*Toxolasma lividum*)	Endangered	Not Listed	This species occurs in lakes and small to medium streams in gravel substrates.	No		
pondhorn (*Uniomerus tetralasmus*)	Threatened	Not Listed	This species inhabits ponds, small creeks, and the headwaters of larger streams in mud or sand	No		
Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*)	Threatened	Not Listed	This species requires very habitat specific, living only under flat rocks or under ledges of rock walls.	No		

TABLE 4-6: LISTED SPECIES COMMENTED ON BY ODNR AND USFWS

COMMON NAME (SCIENTIFIC NAME)	STATE STATUS	FEDERAL STATUS	HABITAT DESCRIPTION	POTENTIAL HABITAT OBSERVED IN ESC	AGENCY COMMENT	WSP IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Fish						
western banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus menona*)	Endangered	Not Listed	This species is most often found in the shallow and quiet areas of clear lakes, ponds, rivers, and estuaries with sandy gravel or muddy bottoms and with abundant aquatic vegetation.	No	The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact this or other aquatic species.	Potentially suitable habitat was not identified within the ESC and no in-water work is anticipated to occur. Therefore no impacts to these species or its habitat are anticipated to occur.
Birds						
least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)	Threatened	Not Listed	This secretive marsh species prefers large dense emergent wetlands with thick stands of cattails, sedges, sawgrass or other semiaquatic vegetation interspersed with woody vegetation and open water.	No	If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 through July 31. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.	No potentially suitable habitat was identified within the ESC. Therefore, impacts to this species or its habitat are not anticipated to occur.
northern harrier (*Circus hudsonis*)	Endangered	Not Listed	Nests are rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands.	No	If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.	No potentially suitable habitat was identified within the ESC. Therefore, impacts to this species or its habitat are not anticipated to occur.

5 SUMMARY

WSP conducted environmental surveys of the proposed approximately 4.1-mile long Iron Triangle 138 kV Transmission Line Project on July 25, September 14, and October 26, 2022. Four wetlands and two streams were delineated by the WSP ecologist within the approximately 53-acre ESC. No potential hibernacula were identified within 0.25-miles of the ESC and no potential hibernacula were identified within the ESC during the field survey.

The WSP Ecologist delineated four wetlands totaling 0.51 acres, within the ESC. The identified wetlands ranged in size from 0.03 acres to 0.33 acres within the ESC. Two of the delineated wetlands were identified to be PFO wetlands, one was identified as a PEM wetland, and the remaining wetland was identified as a wetland complex, containing mosaics of PEM and PFO communities. Three of the four identified wetlands were determined to be Category Two, and the remaining wetland was determined to be Category One. No Category Three wetlands were identified within the ESC. All four of the identified wetlands lack a hydrological connection to surface waters and are likely to be considered hydrologically isolated.

Two intermittent streams totaling 447 linear feet were identified within the ESC. The delineated streams were assessed using the HHEI methodology. The identified streams drains to East Branch Portage River which flows into the Portage River, which is a TNW. No open water features were identified within the ESC. The results discussed in this report are confined to the ESC limits described in earlier sections and depicted on Figure 3 (Appendix A).

Based on observations within the ESC during environmental surveys, USFWS comments, and ODNR comments, potential impacts to the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat are not anticipated if the recommended seasonal clearing dates are utilized. Forested areas that would typically provide potential summer roost habitat for bat species, were located within the ESC.

WSP performed a desktop review for potential hibernacula within the vicinity of the Project as a result of comments from ODNR relating to state- and federally-listed bat species. Topographic maps did not depict caves, cliffs/ledges, or karst topography within a three-mile radius of the ESC. A review of aerial imagery also did not provide evidence of these habitat types. No abandoned underground mines (AUMs) or potential hibernacula were identified within 0.25-miles of the ESC and no potential hibernacula were identified within the ESC during the field survey. It is recommended that all tree clearing will occur within the clearing window (October 1st – March 31st), to avoid any impacts to these species or their habitat. If any tree clearing will occur outside the recommended clearing window appropriate coordination with USFWS and ODNR will occur to seek permission for out of season tree clearing. Additional information pertaining to the state- and federally-listed bat species is provided in Table 4-6.

It is anticipated that in-stream work is not necessary, therefore no mussel surveys are necessary related to protected mussel species. Additionally, no construction timing windows are required to protect any state- and/or federally-listed fish species.

No potentially suitable habitat was identified within the ESC for either of the two state-listed bird species (northern harrier [*Circus hudsonis*] and least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*]). The ESC predominately consists of Cultivated Cropland (37.0 acres), Old Field habitat (6.0 acres), and Successional Hardwood Forest (6.3 acres), among others which were less prevalent. The identified bird species require grassland habitat and large dense marshes with open water, respectively. No grassland habitat was identified within the ESC; therefore, northern harrier habitat was not observed within the ESC. Identified wetland areas that mimic the prefer habitat for the least bittern lack the size (< 1

acre) and quality requirements for this species. Therefore, no impacts to state-listed bird species or their habitat are anticipated to occur as a result of Project activities.

6 REFERENCES

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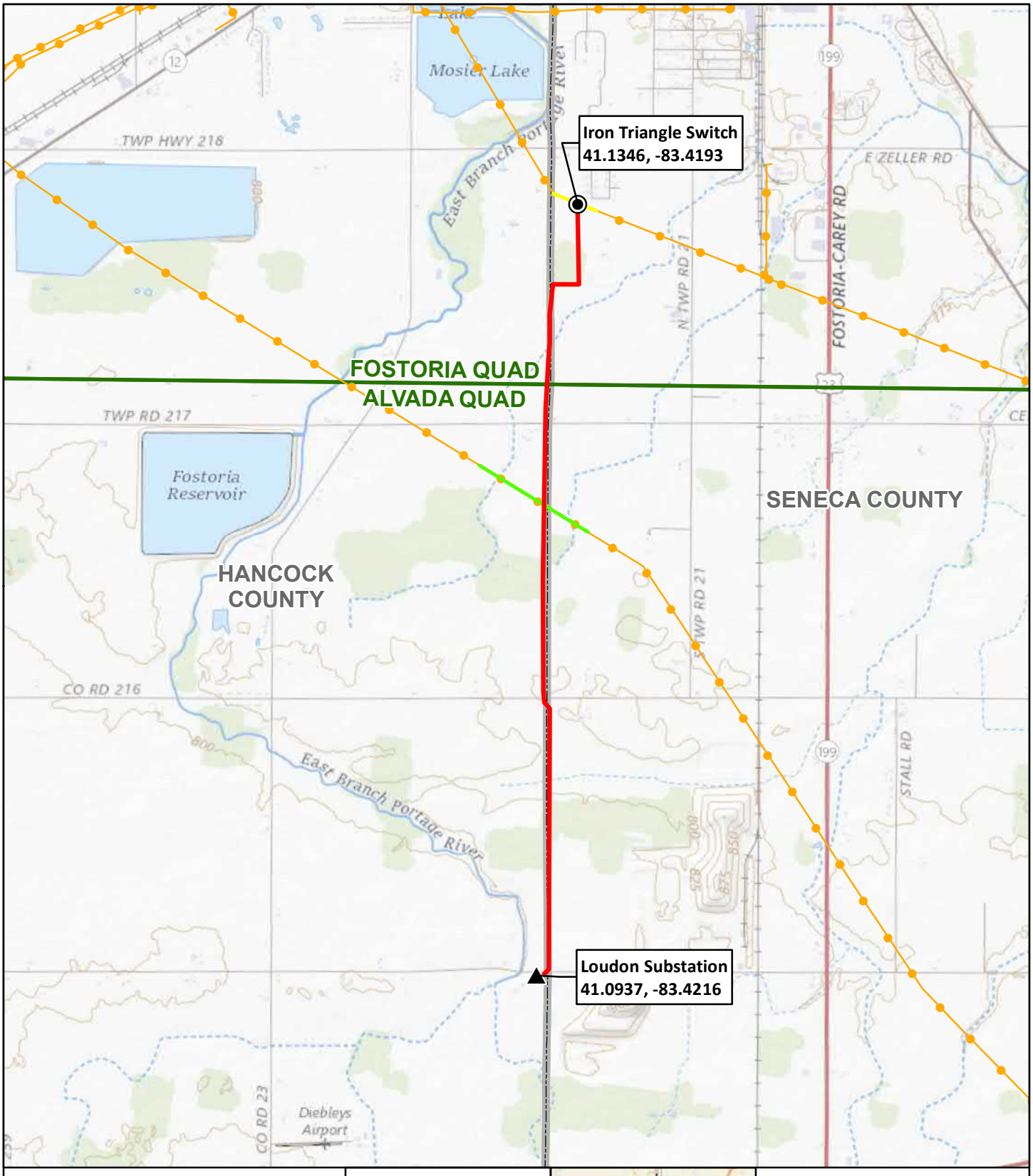
APPENDIX

A FIGURES



Proposed Substation
Proposed Switch
Proposed Iron Triangle 138 kV Transmission Line
Proposed Howard-Fostoria 138 kV Mid-Span Structure Project
Proposed Ohio Central-Fostoria Central 345 kV Line Raise Project
Existing Transmission Line
USGS 24k Topo Quad Boundary
County Boundary

Sources:
Topo (USGS)
Quad Boundaries (USGS)

Coordinate System:
State Plane Ohio North
NAD 1983

October 26, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

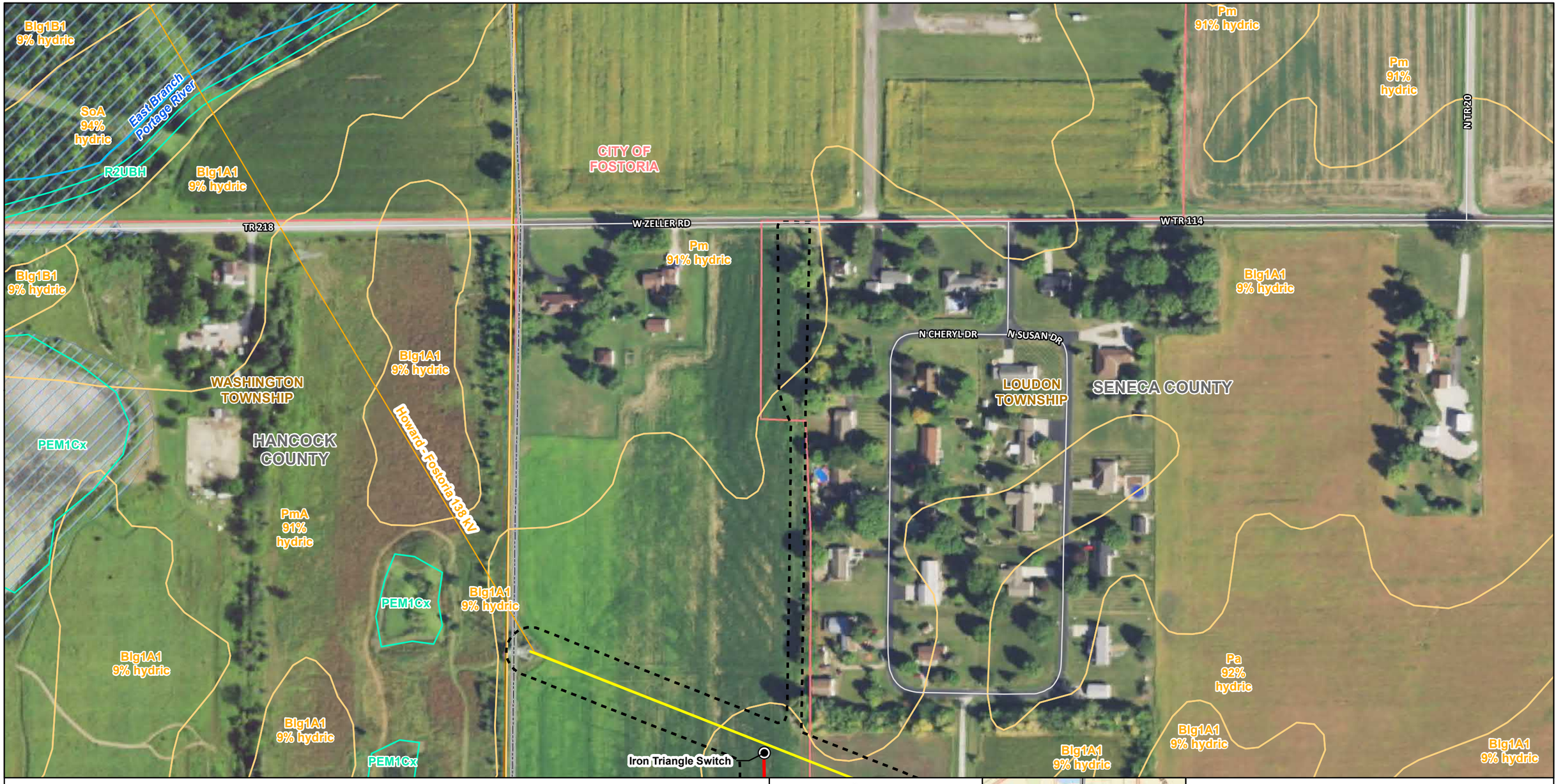
Figure 1. Project Location Map

AEP OHIO

WSP

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

N



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- NHD Waterbody
- Soil Map Unit
- FEMA 100-Yr Floodplain
- FEMA Floodway
- Municipal Boundary
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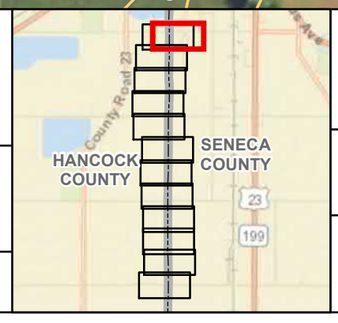
Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 26, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 2. Environmental Basemap

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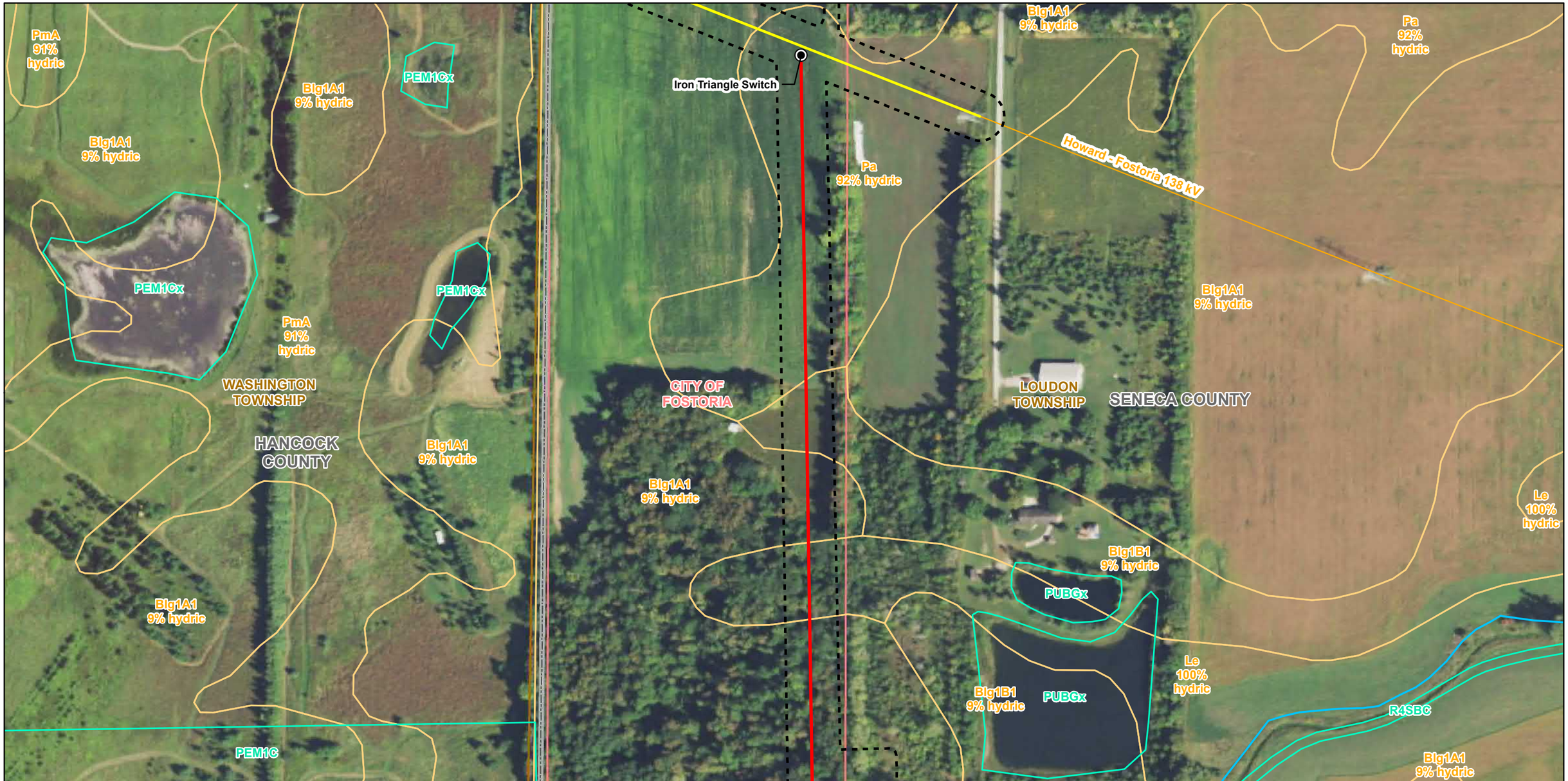
0 200 400 Feet



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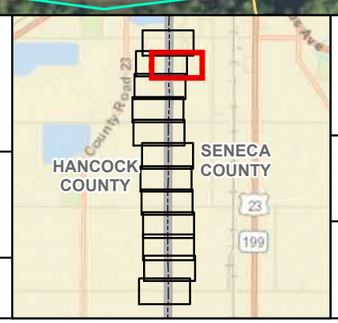
NAD 1983

October 26, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

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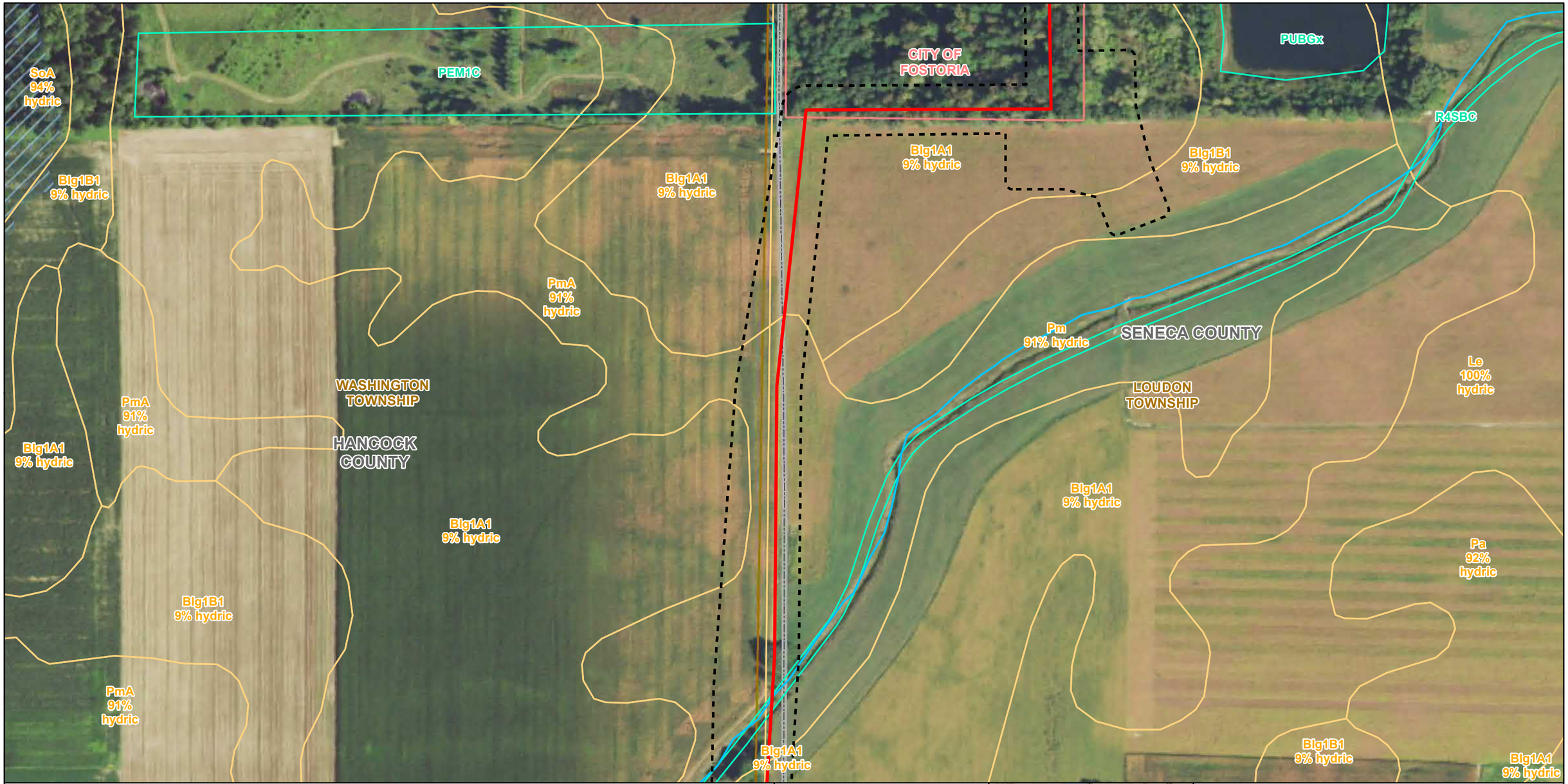

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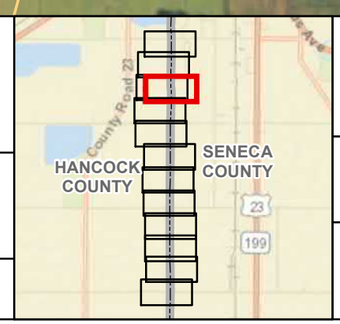

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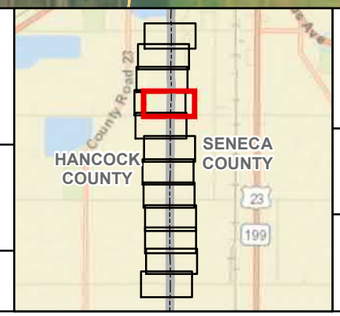

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TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

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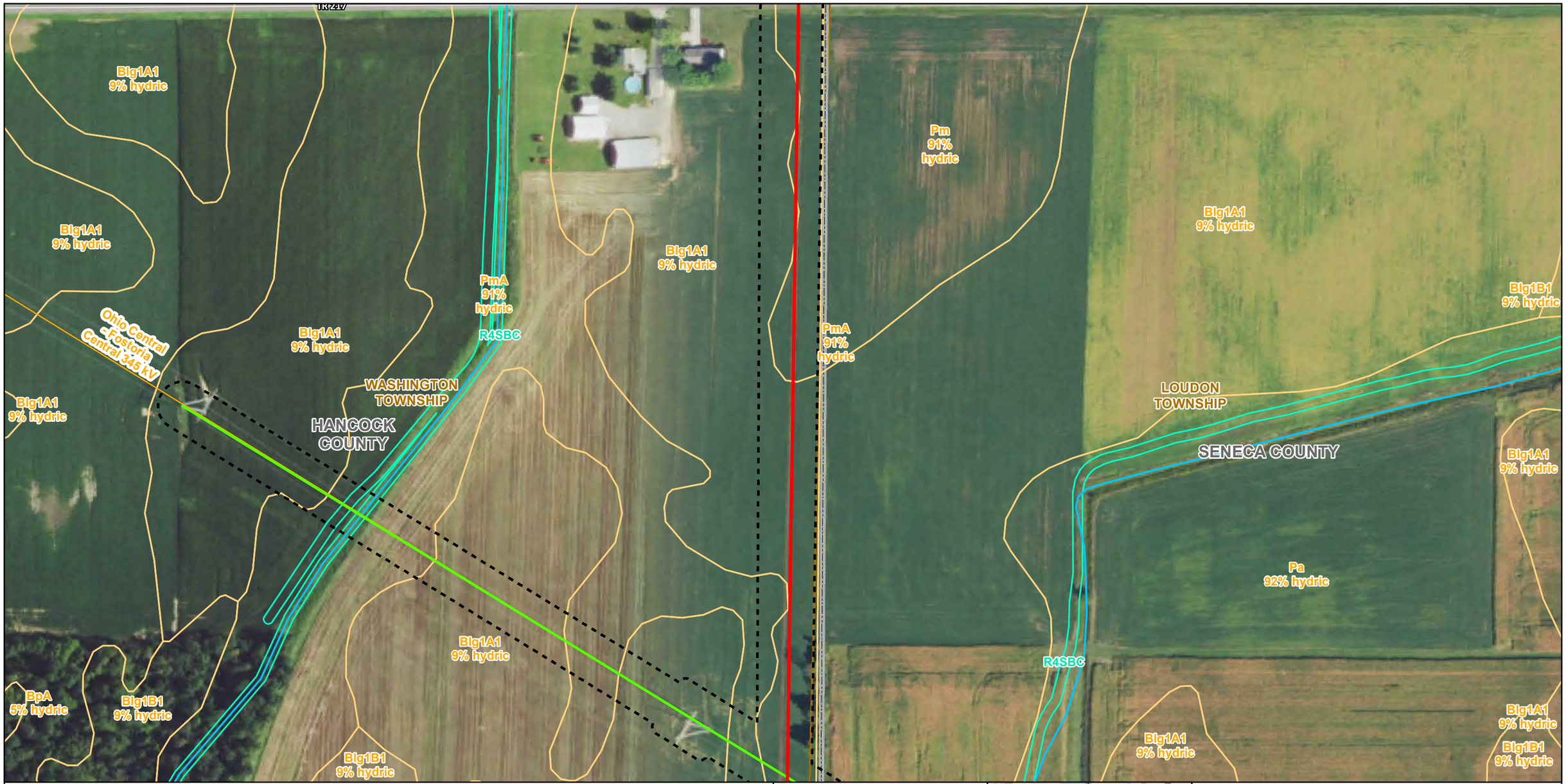

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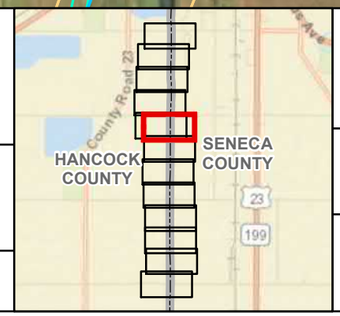

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
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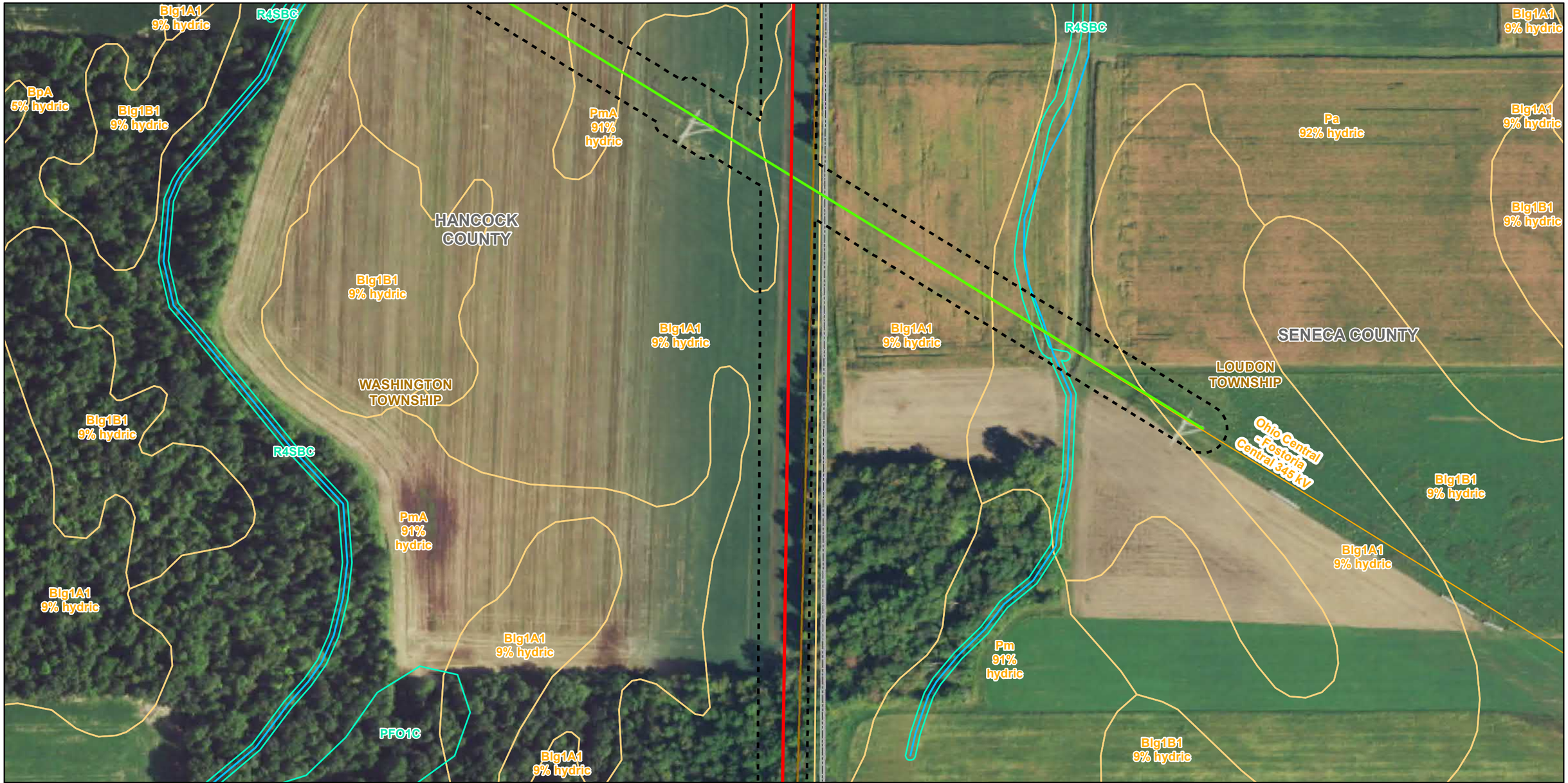

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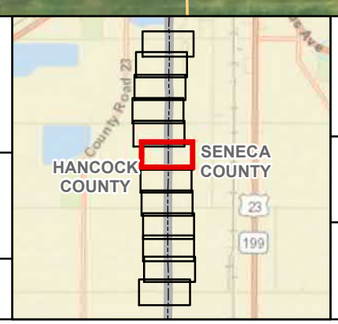

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

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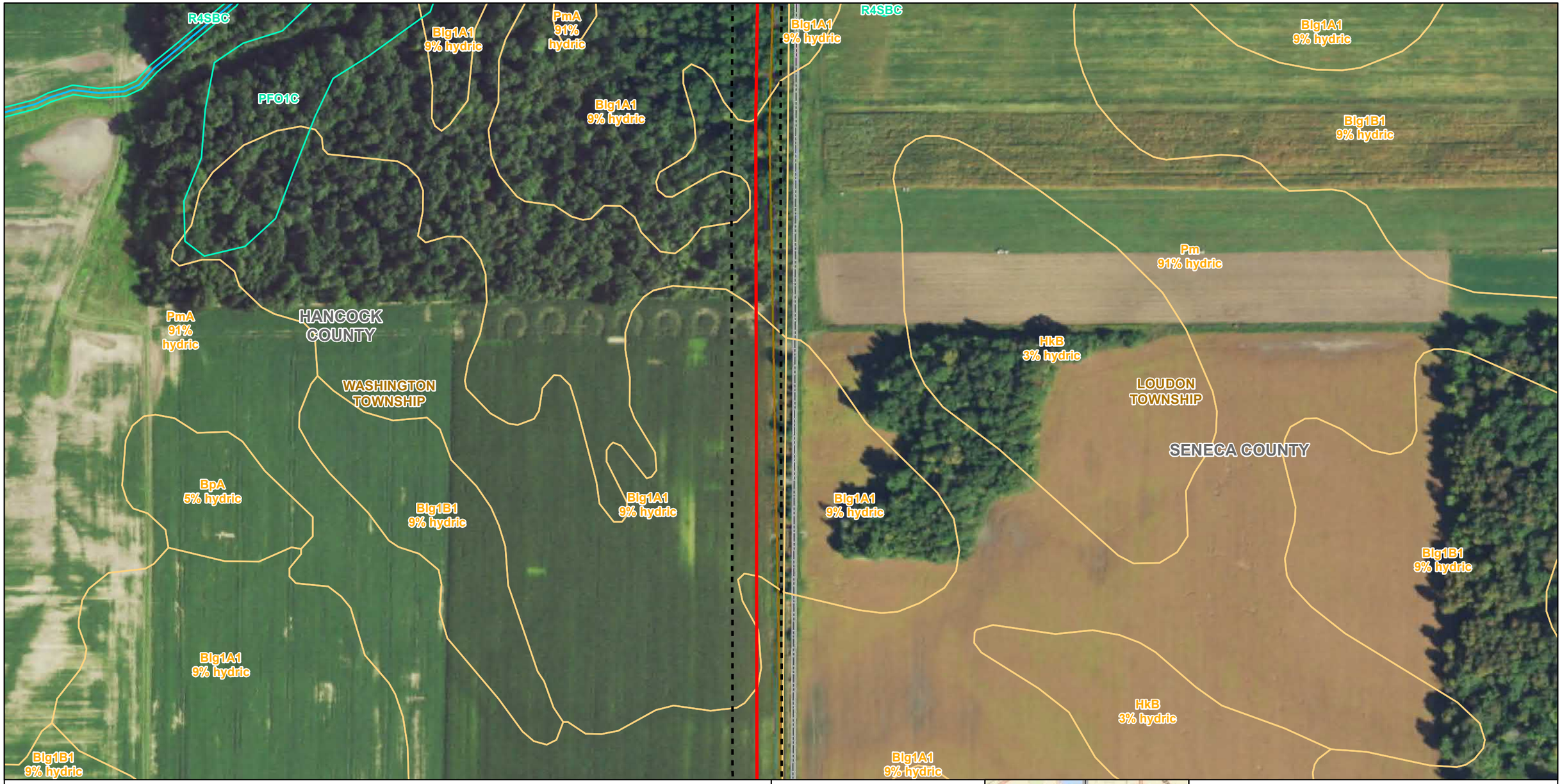

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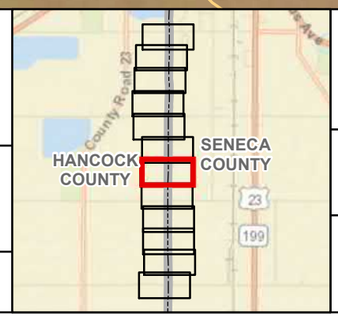

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
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Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 26, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 2. Environmental Basemap

N

0 200 400 Feet

PmA
91%
hydric

PmA
91%
hydric

PmA
91%
hydric

BpA
5% hydric

PmA
91%
hydric

Pm
91%
hydric

BrA
5% hydric

BlgA1
9% hydric

BlgB1
9% hydric

GwgB2
6% hydric

BlgA1
9% hydric

HANCOCK
COUNTY

WASHINGTON
TOWNSHIP

Pa
92% hydric

SENECA COUNTY

LOUDON
TOWNSHIP

BlgA1
9% hydric

Pm
91%
hydric

R4SBC

PmA
91%
hydric

BlgB1
9% hydric

BlgA1
9% hydric

BlgA1
9% hydric

BlgB1
9% hydric

Pa
92% hydric

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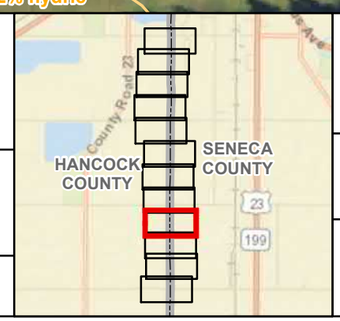

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 2. Environmental Basemap

AEP OHIO

wsp

N

0 200 400 Feet

PmA
91% hydric

BlgB1
9% hydric

HpB
9% hydric

PmA
91%
hydric

BlgB1
9% hydric

WASHINGTON
TOWNSHIP

BlgA1
9% hydric

HANCOCK
COUNTY

SoA
94%
hydric

East Branch
Portage River

R2UBH

Gwg5C2
7% hydric

BlgA1
9% hydric

Pa
92% hydric

SENECA COUNTY

LOUDON
TOWNSHIP

BlgB1
9% hydric

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NAD 1983

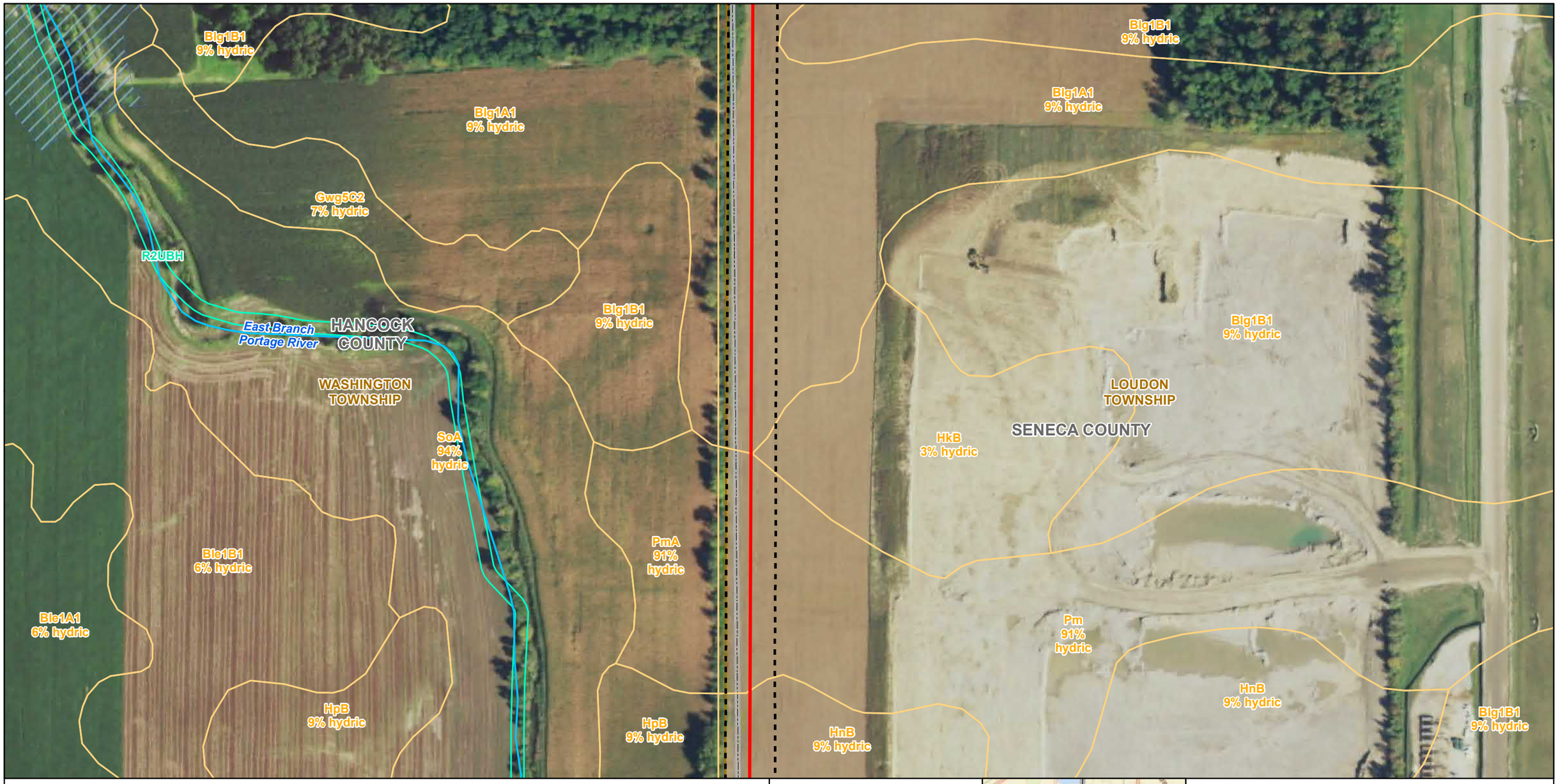
October 26, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 2. Environmental Basemap

N

0 200 400 Feet



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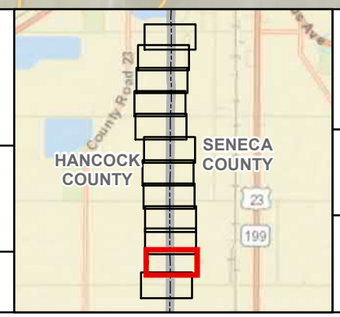
NAD 1983

October 26, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 2. Environmental Basemap

AEP OHIO

WSP

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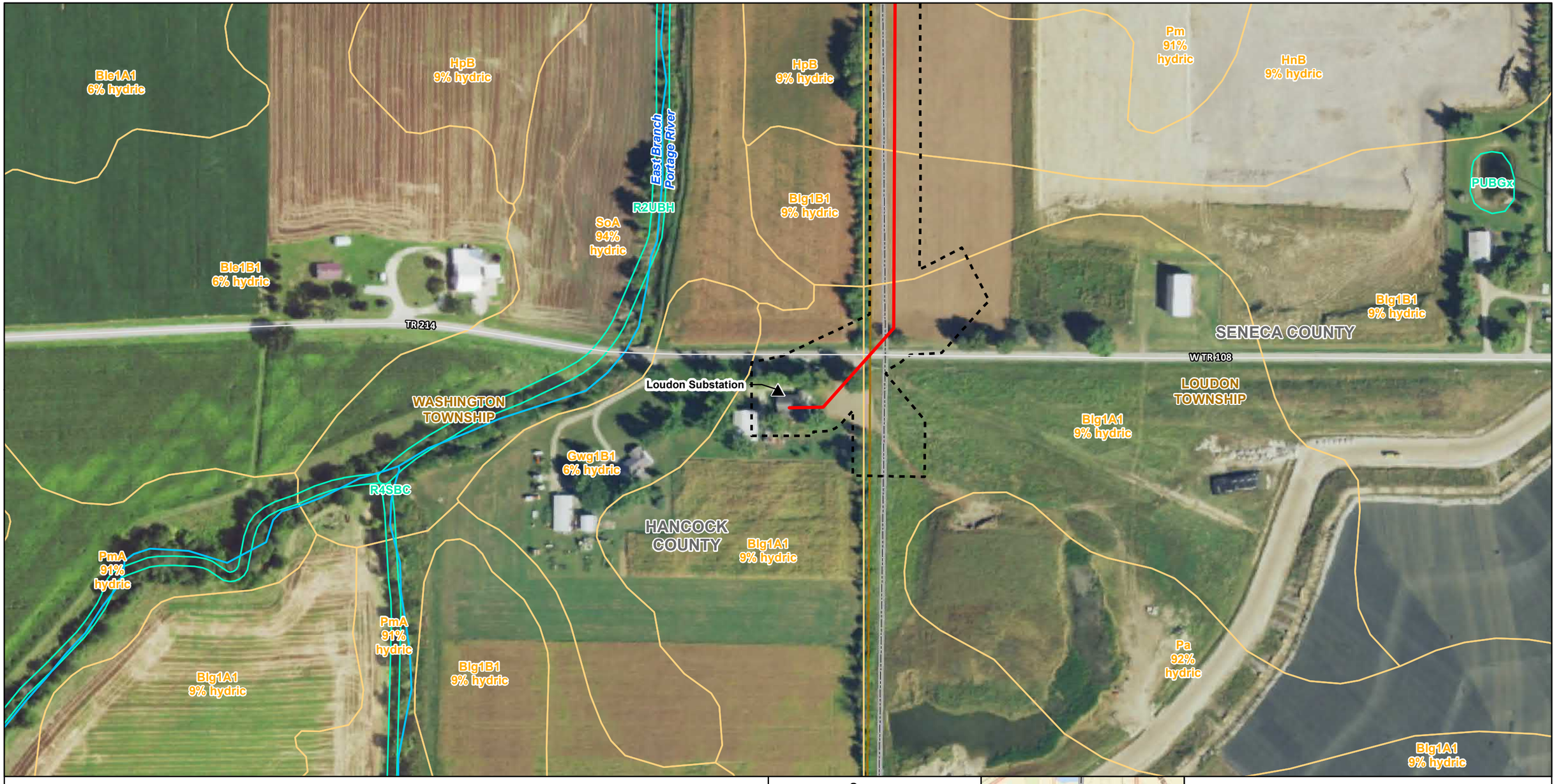
0 200 400 Feet



- Proposed Substation
- Proposed Switch
- Proposed Iron Triangle 138 kV Transmission Line
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- Proposed Ohio Central-Fostoria Central 345 kV Line Raise Project
- Existing Transmission Line
- Railroad
- NHD Stream
- Environmental Survey Corridor
- NWI Wetlands
- NHD Waterbody
- Soil Map Unit
- FEMA 100-Yr Floodplain
- FEMA Floodway
- Municipal Boundary
- Township Boundary
- County Boundary

Sources:
2021 NAIP Imagery (USDA)
Floodplains (FEMA)
Hydrography (USGS)
Soil Units (USDA)
Wetlands (USFWS)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 26, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 2. Environmental Basemap

AEP OHIO

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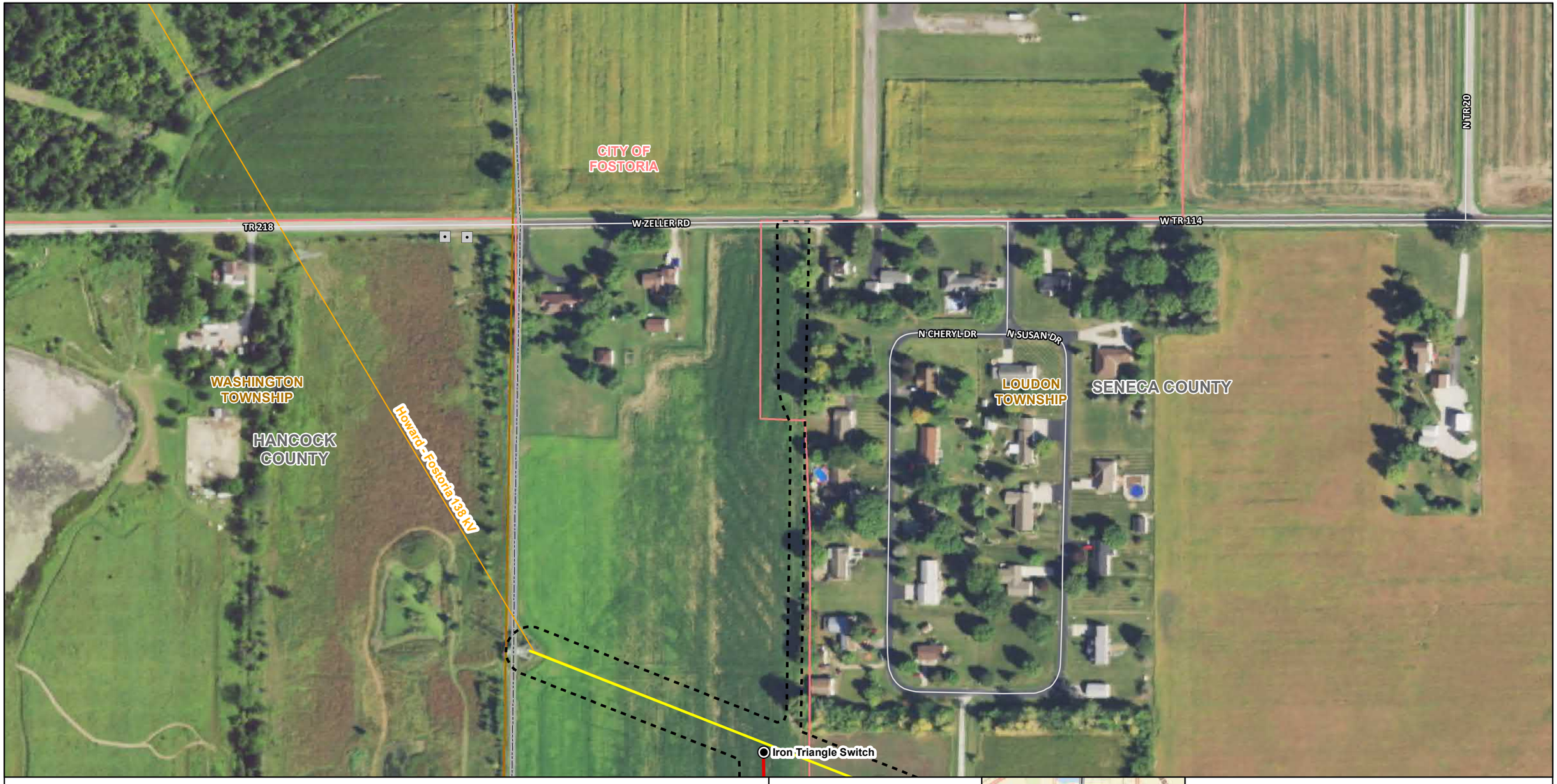

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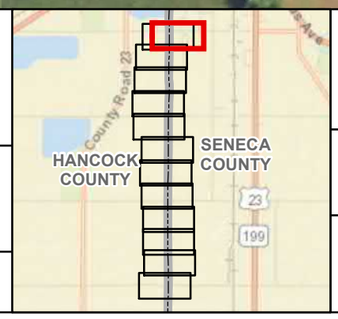
Sources:
2021 NAIP Imagery (USDA)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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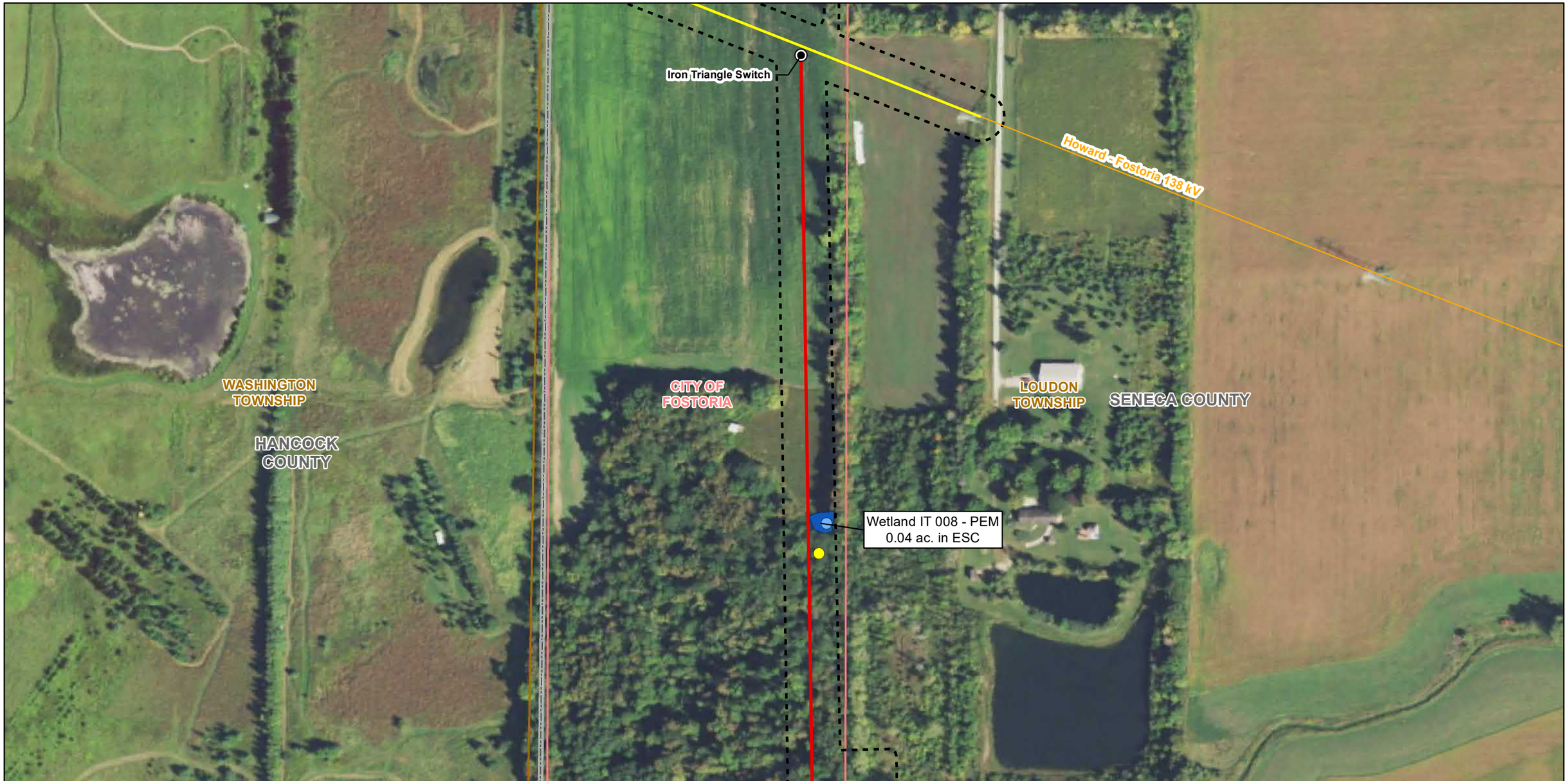

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NAD 1983

October 28, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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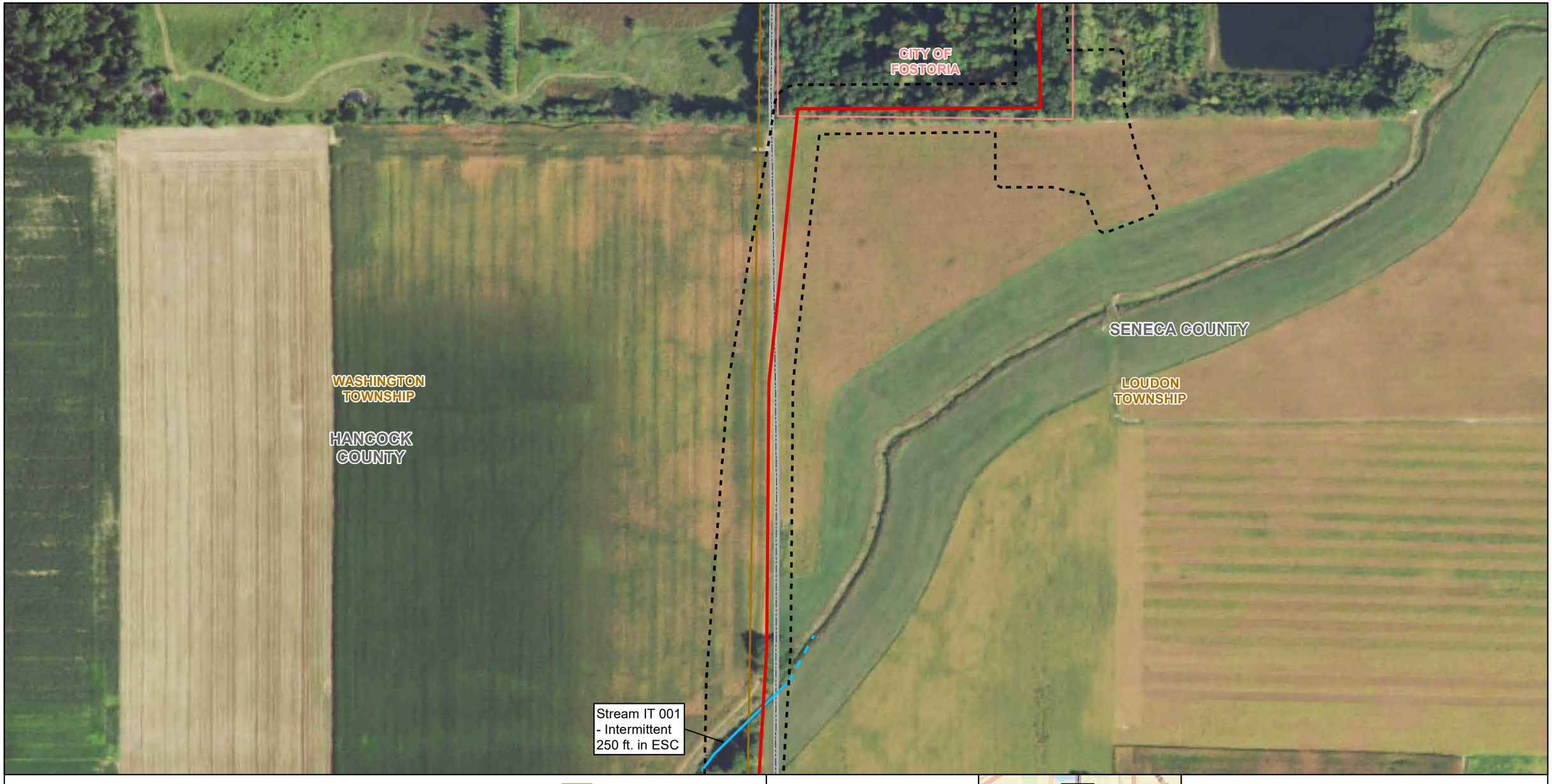

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Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

AEP OHIO

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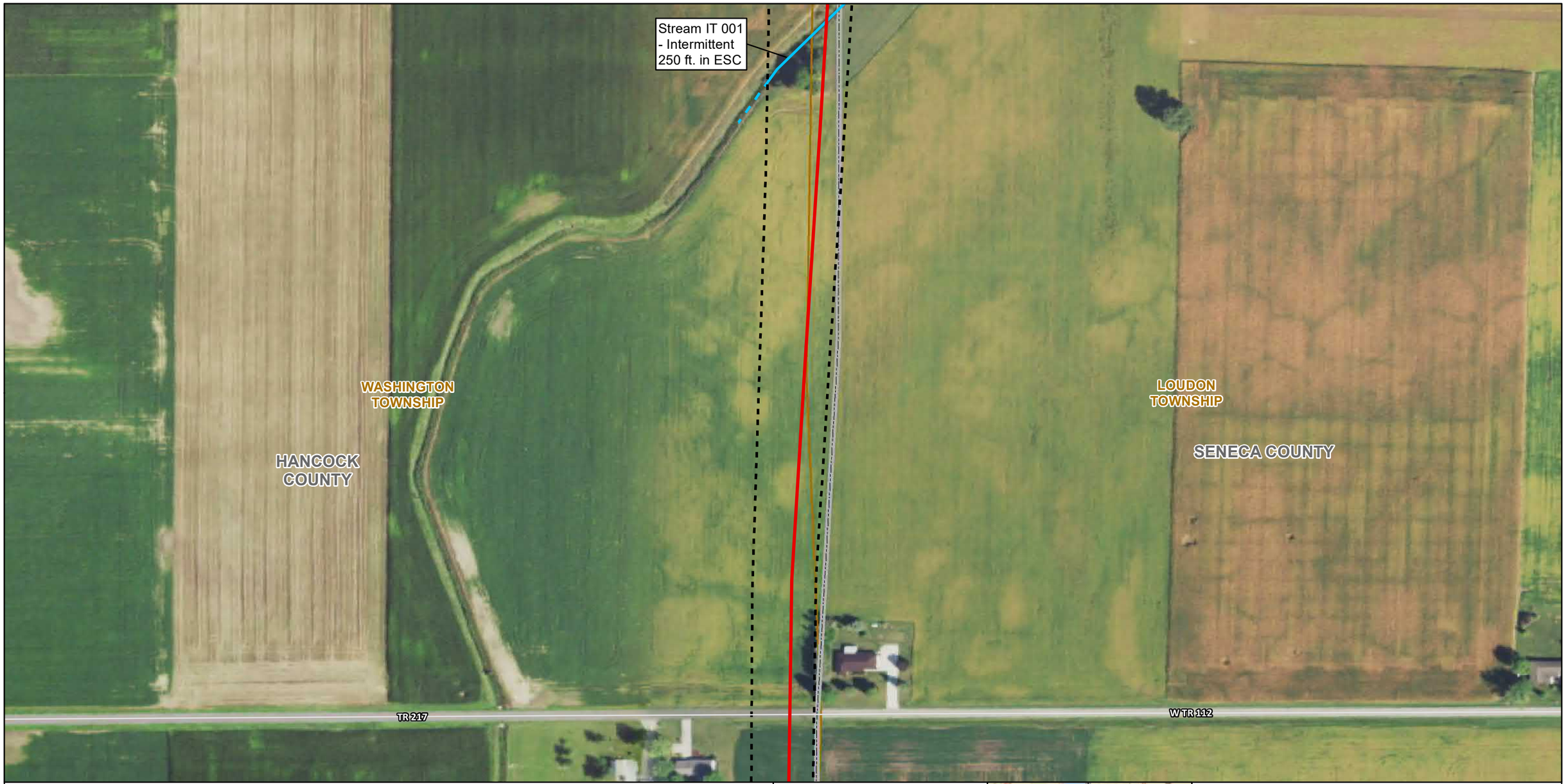

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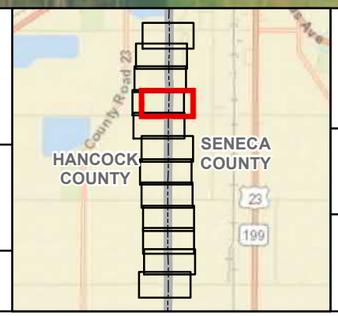
October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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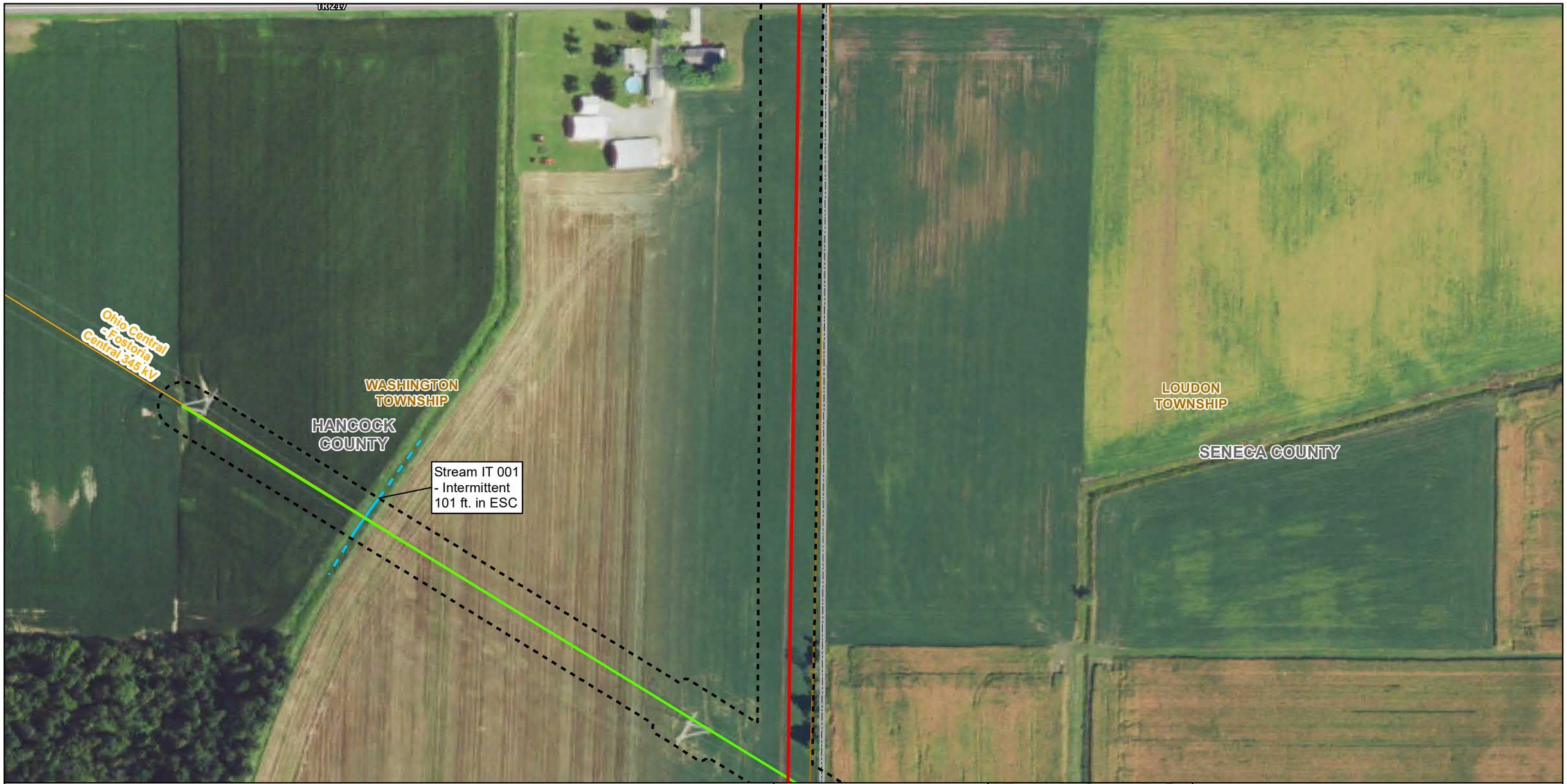

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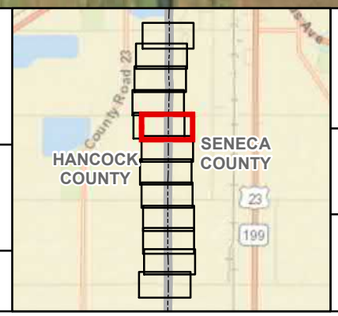
October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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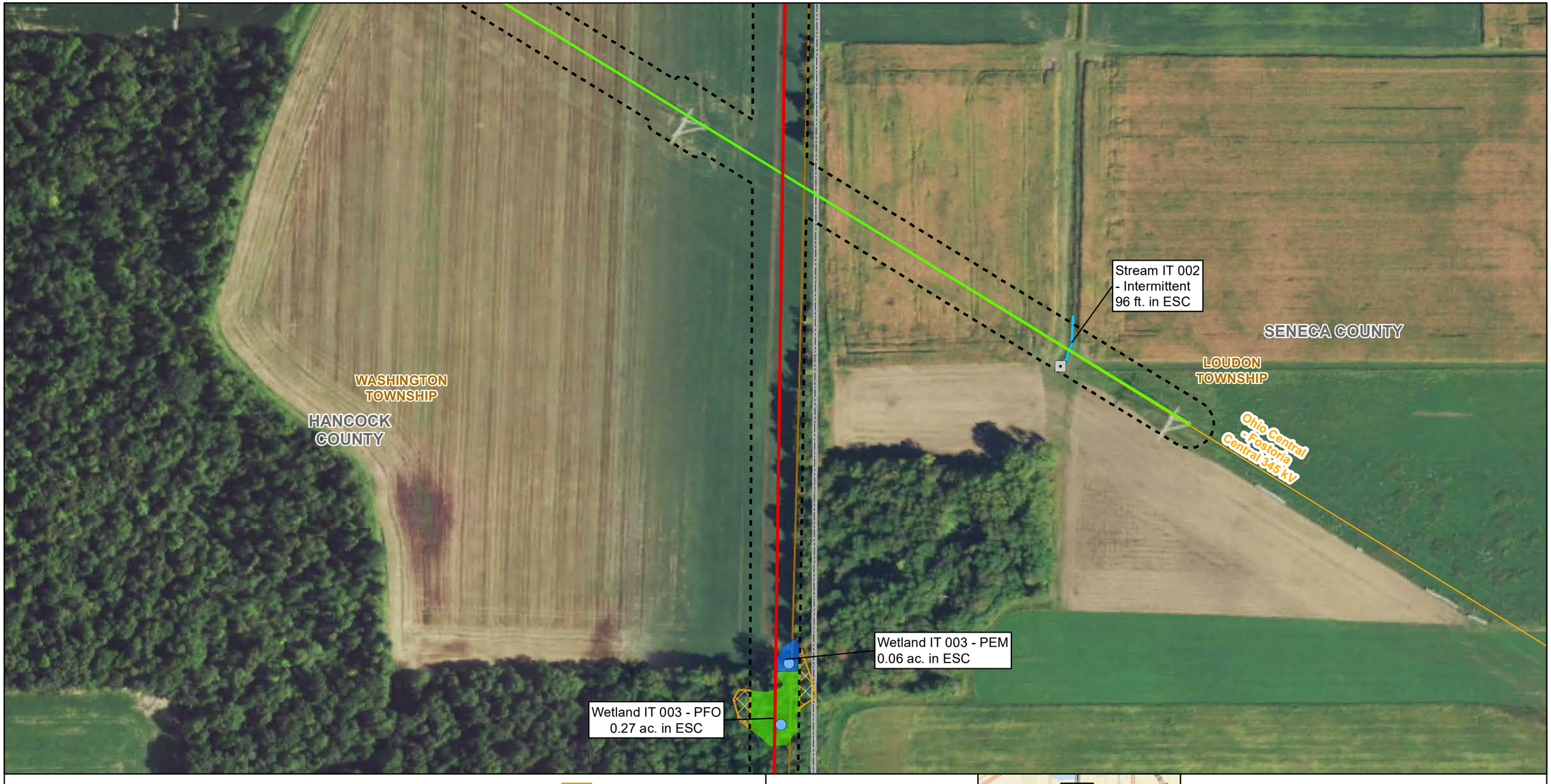

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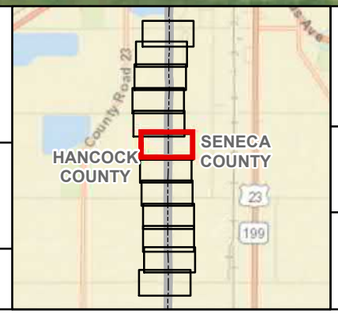
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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October 28, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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NAD 1983

October 28, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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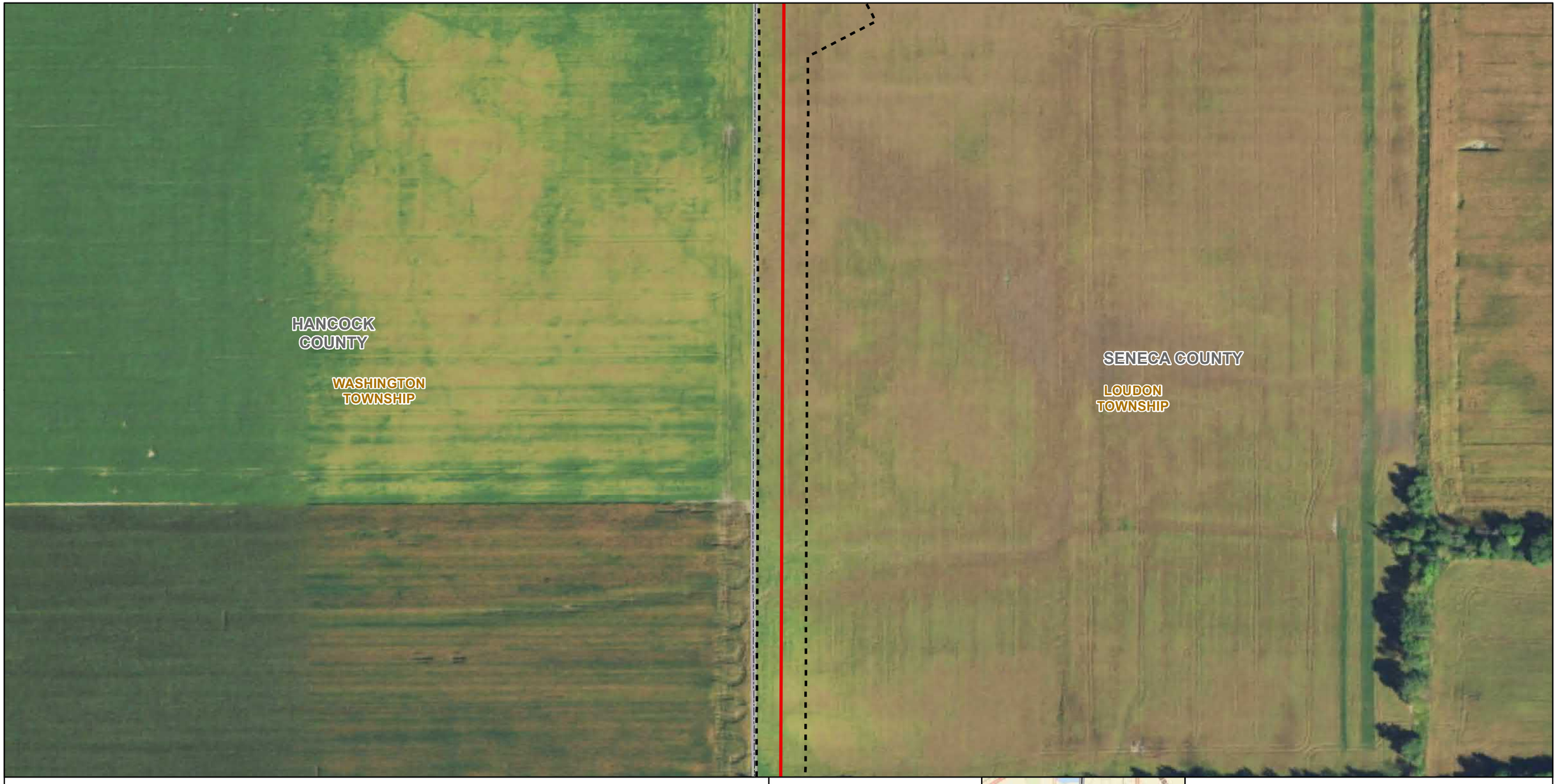

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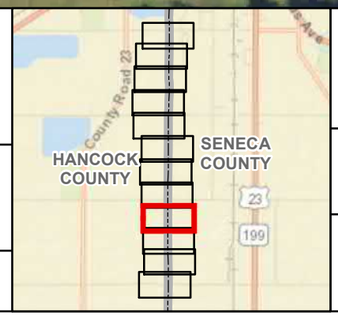
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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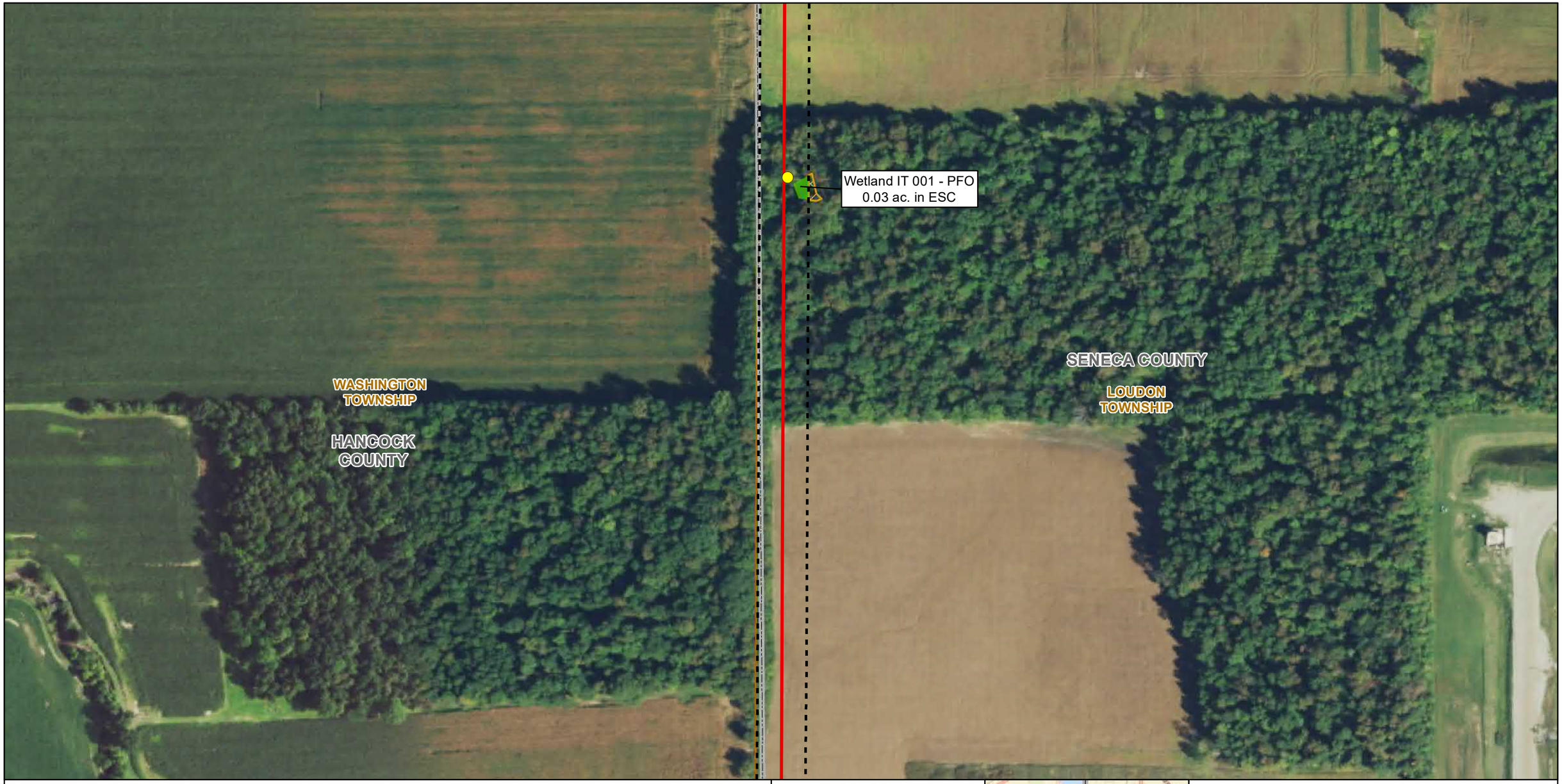

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Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

AEP OHIO

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0 200 400 Feet

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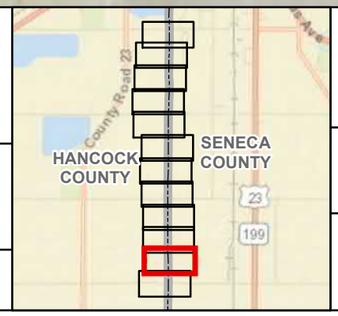
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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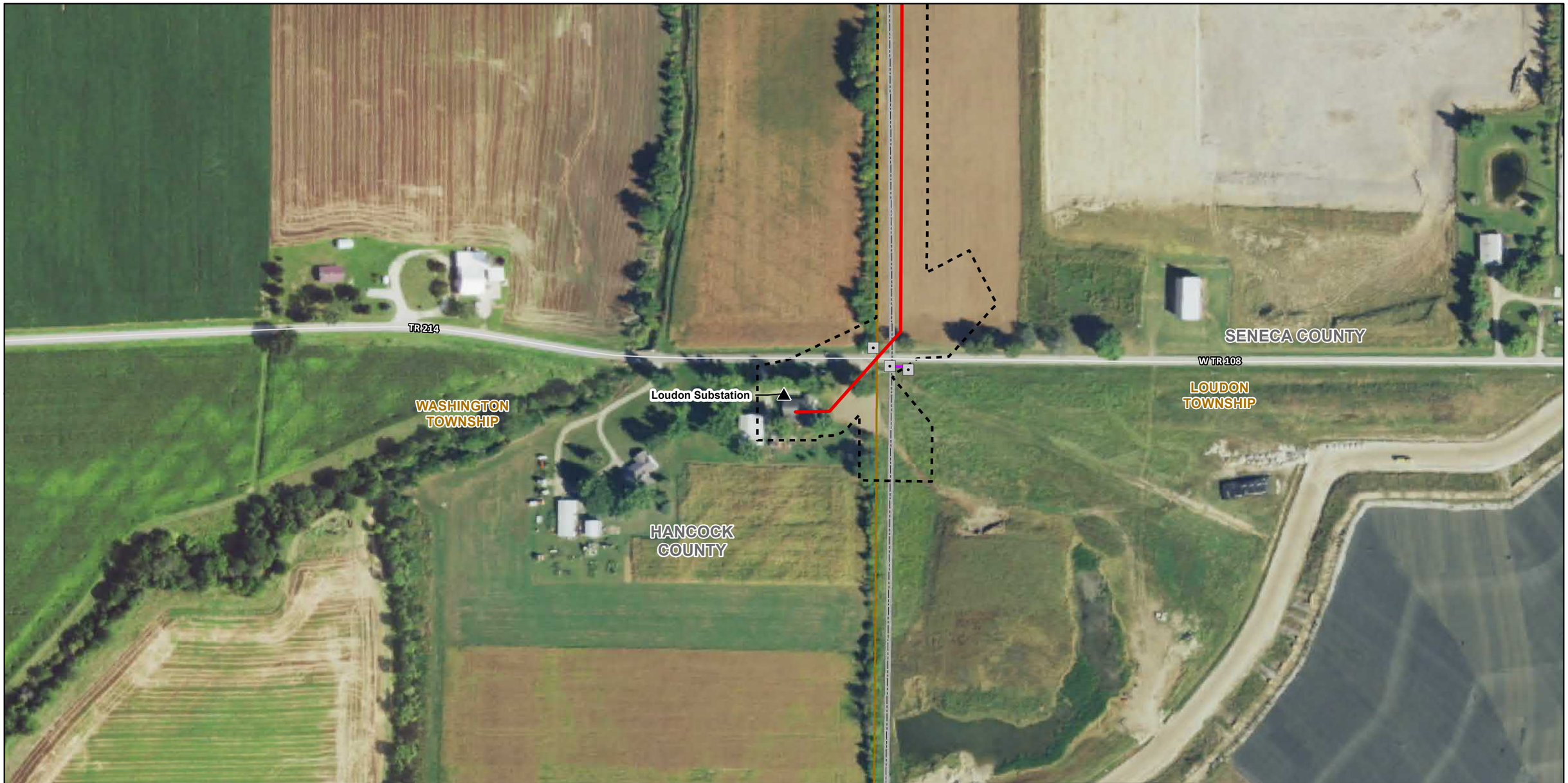

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2021 NAIP Imagery (USDA)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Delineated Features

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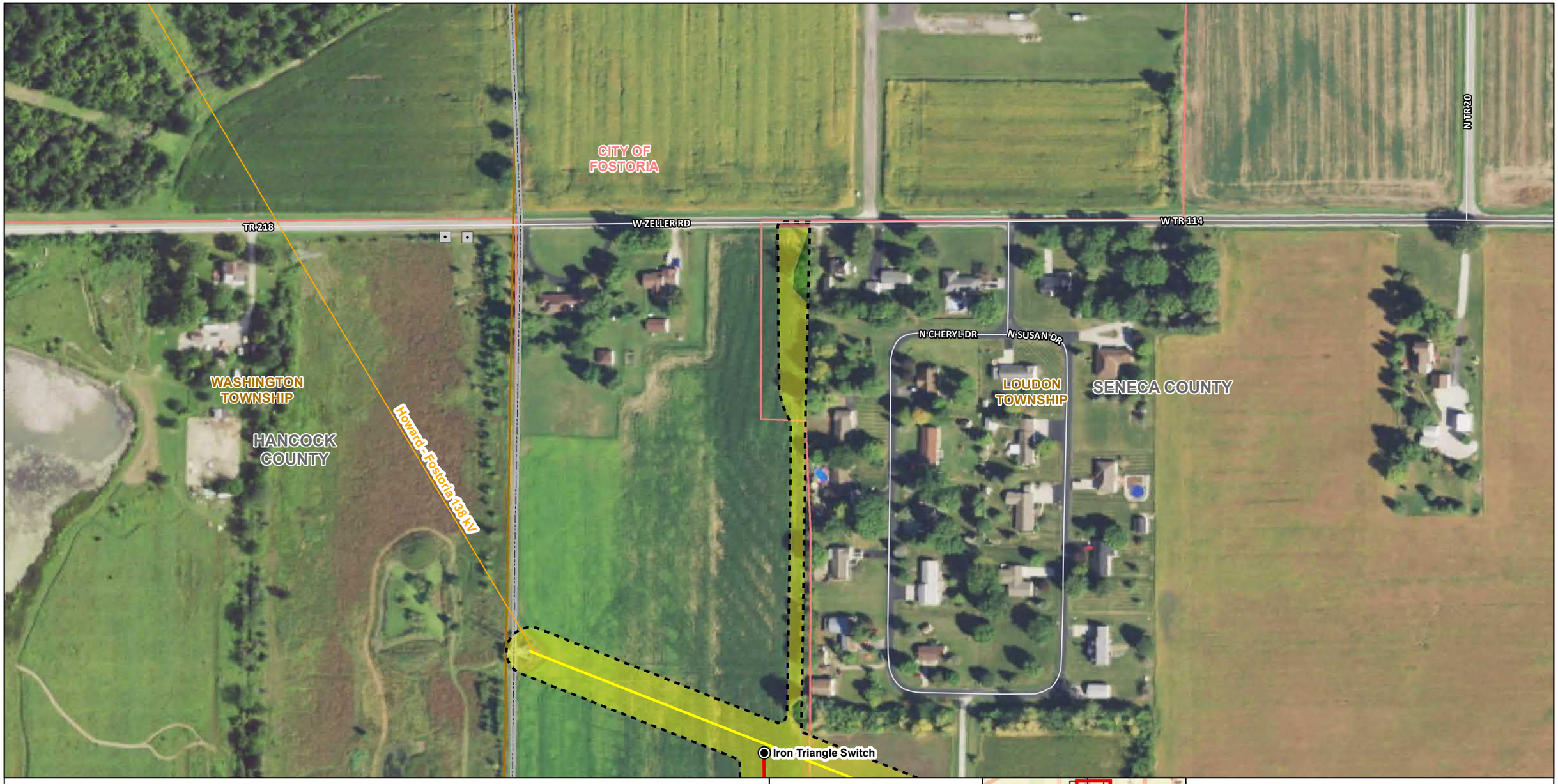

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- Environmental Survey Corridor
- Cultivated Cropland
- Developed Open Space
- Developed, High Intensity
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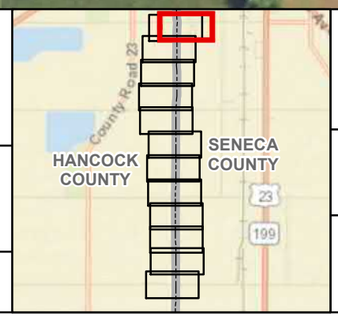
Sources:
2021 NAIP Imagery (USDA)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

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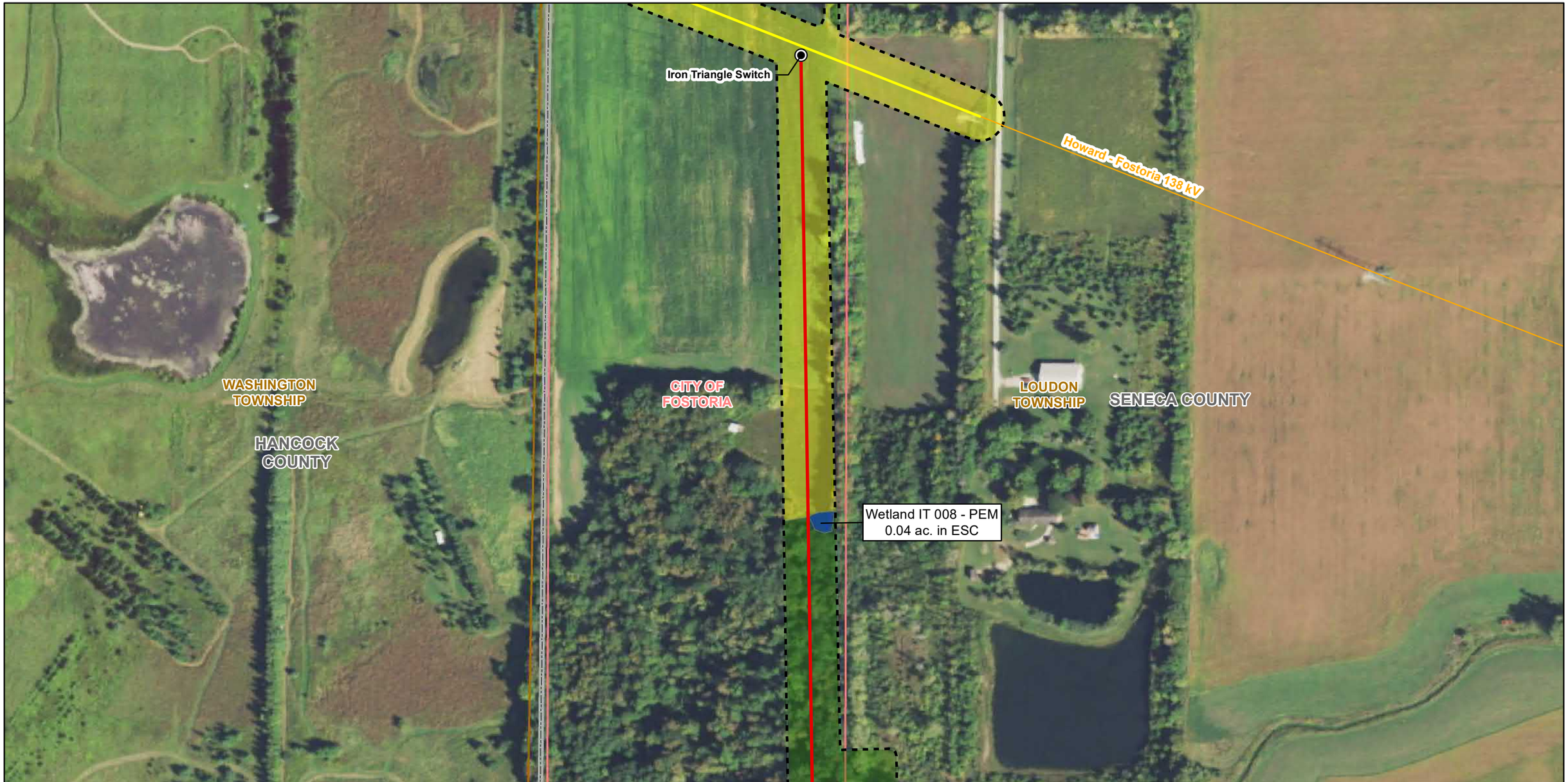

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Ohio State Plane North
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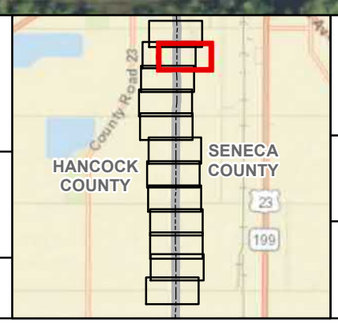
October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

AEP OHIO

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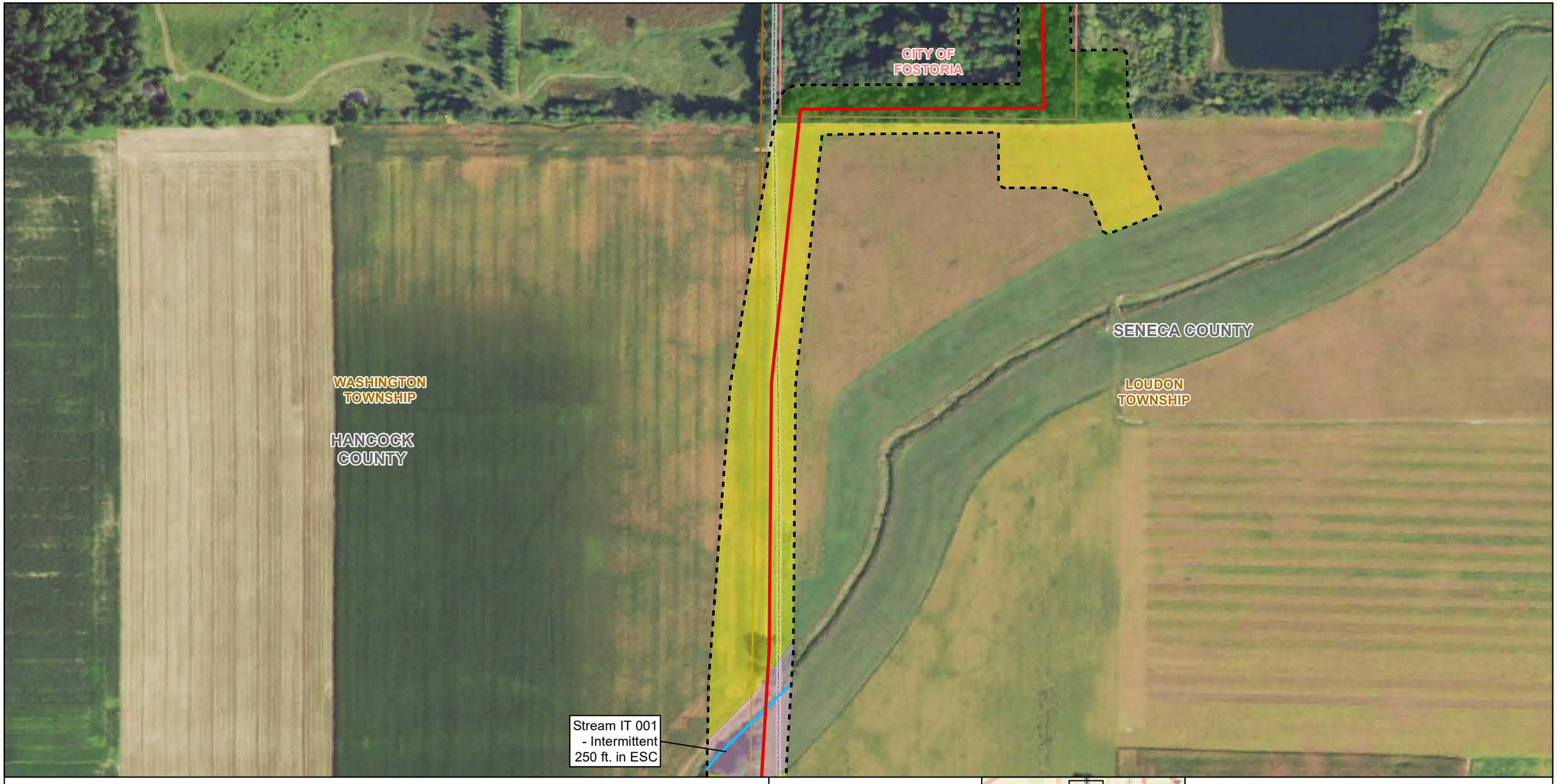

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IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

AEP OHIO

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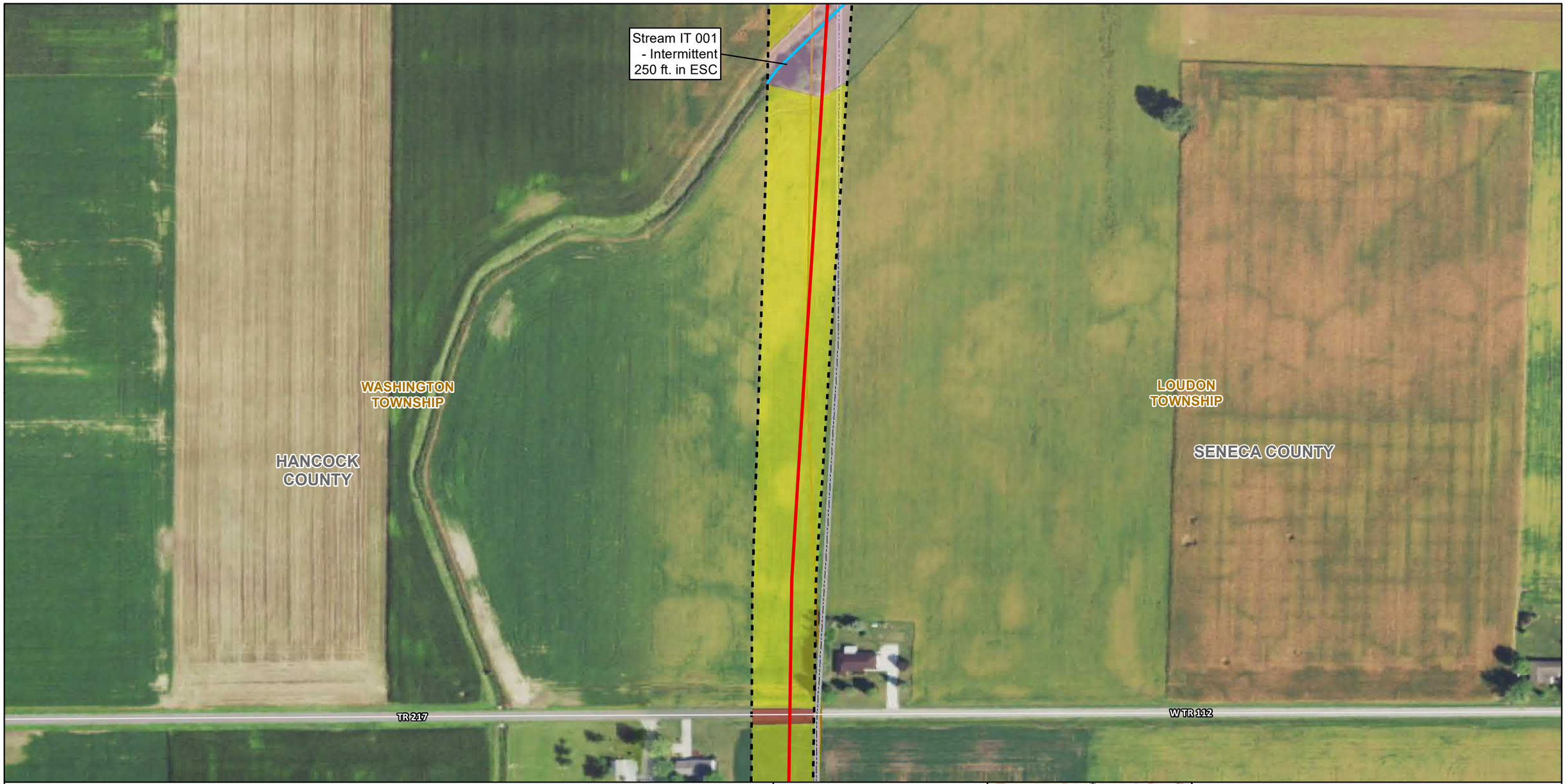

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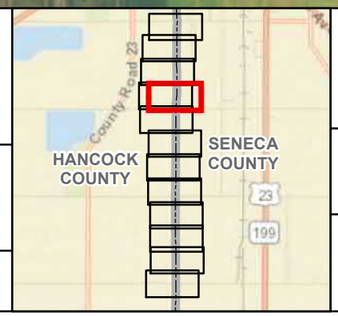

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

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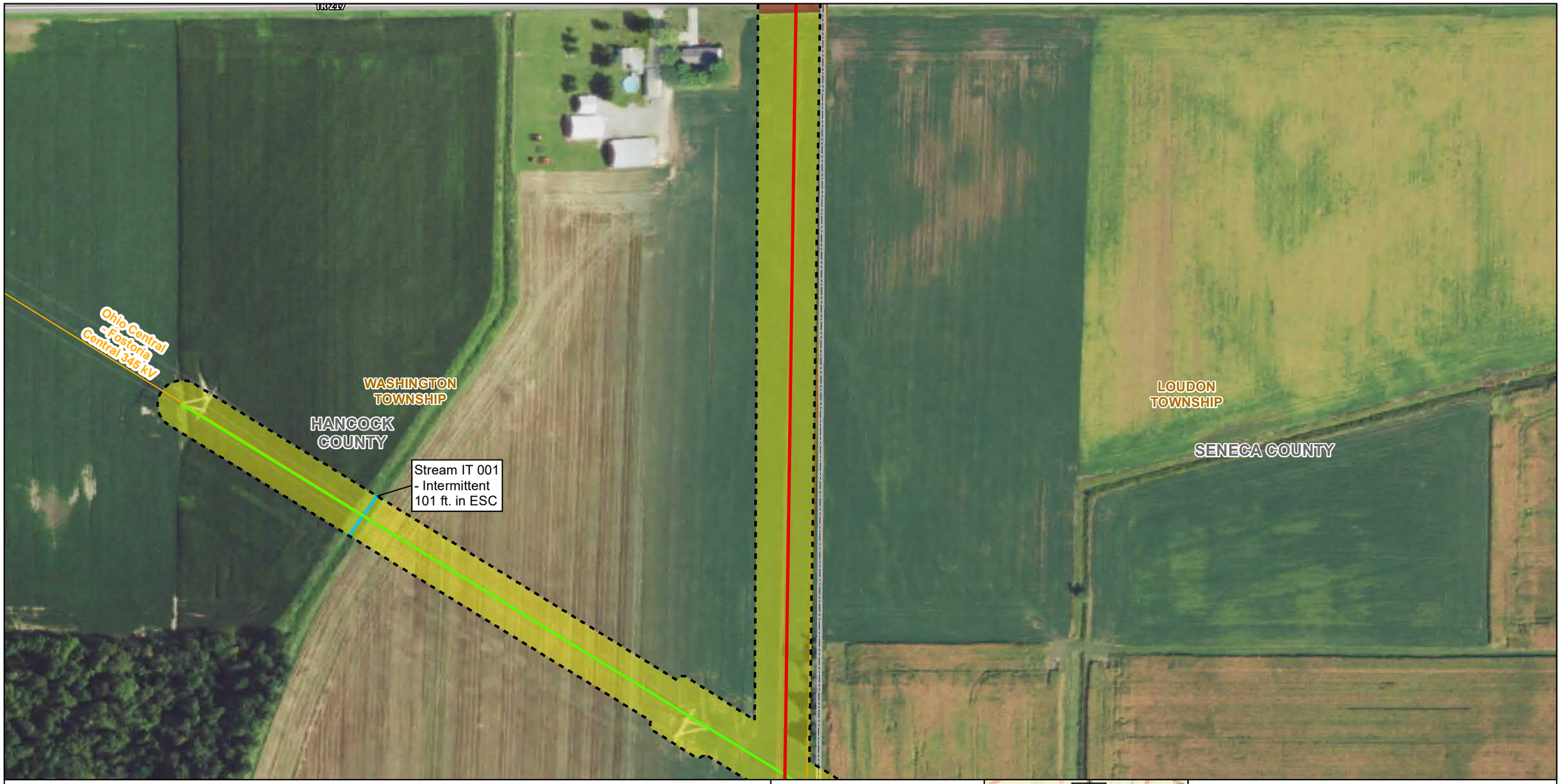

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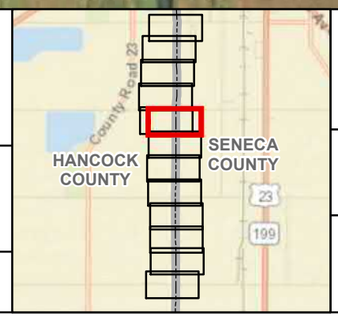

IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

AEP OHIO

WSP

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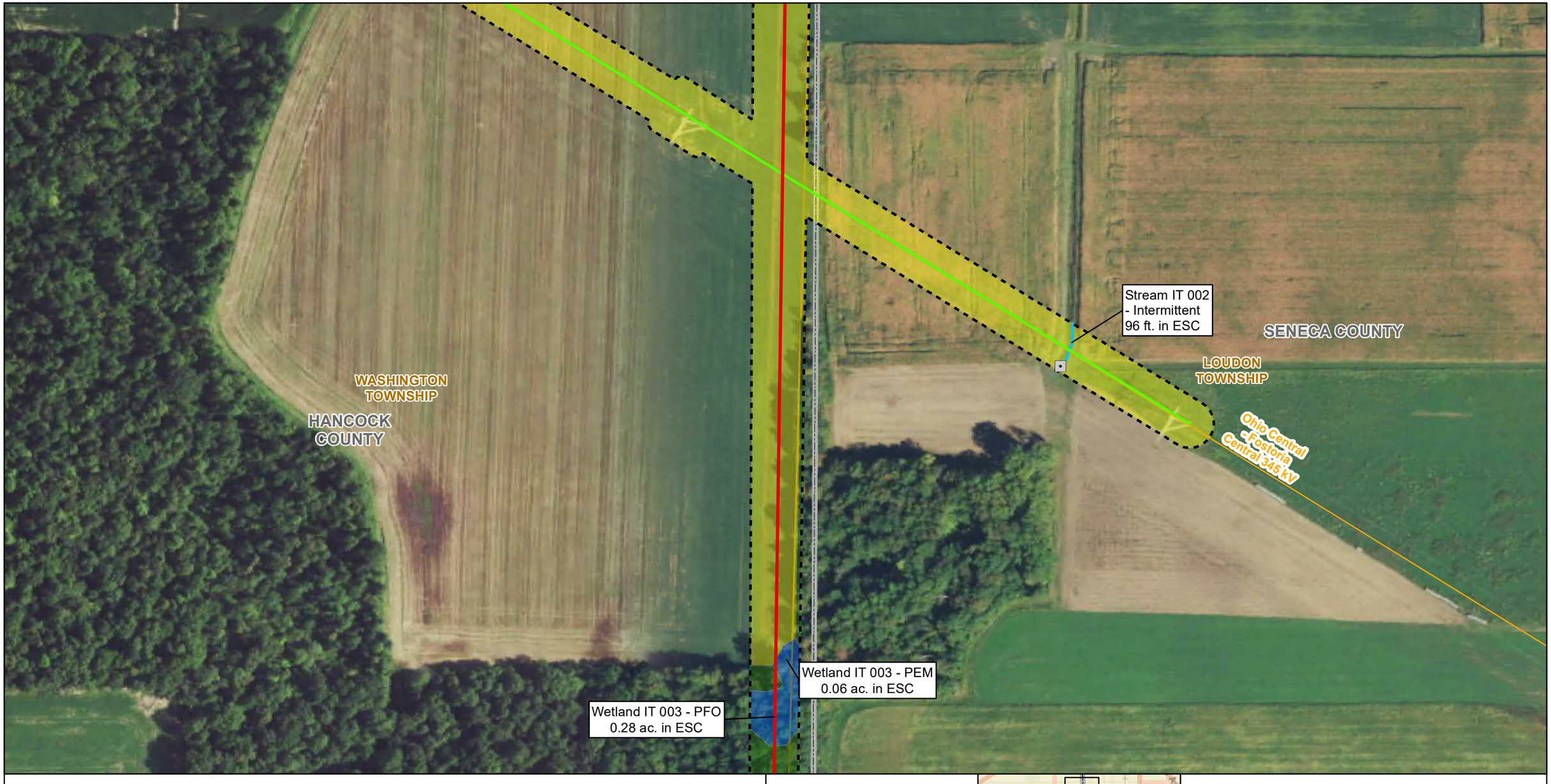

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IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

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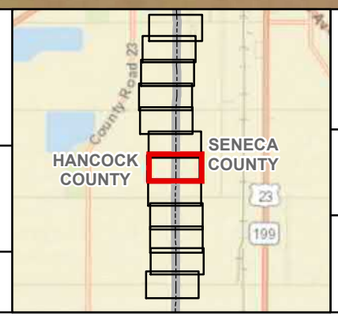
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

AEP OHIO

WSP

N

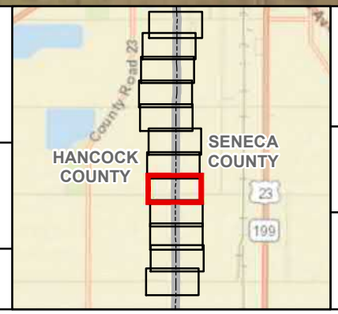
0 200 400 Feet

- Proposed Substation
- Proposed Switch
- Culvert
- Proposed Iron Triangle 138 kV Transmission Line
- Proposed Howard-Fostoria 138 kV Mid-Span Structure Project
- Proposed Ohio Central-Fostoria Central 345 kV Line Raise Project
- Non-Jurisdictional Drainage
- Delineated Stream
- Existing Transmission Line
- Railroad
- Environmental Survey Corridor
- Cultivated Cropland
- Developed Open Space
- Developed, High Intensity
- Developed, Medium Intensity
- Old Field
- Scrub Shrub
- Successional Hardwood Forest
- Wetlands and Waterbodies
- Municipal Boundary
- Township Boundary
- County Boundary

Sources:
2021 NAIP Imagery (USDA)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

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Sources:
2021 NAIP Imagery (USDA)

Coordinate System:
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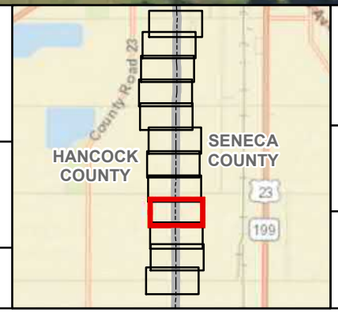
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

AEP OHIO

WSP

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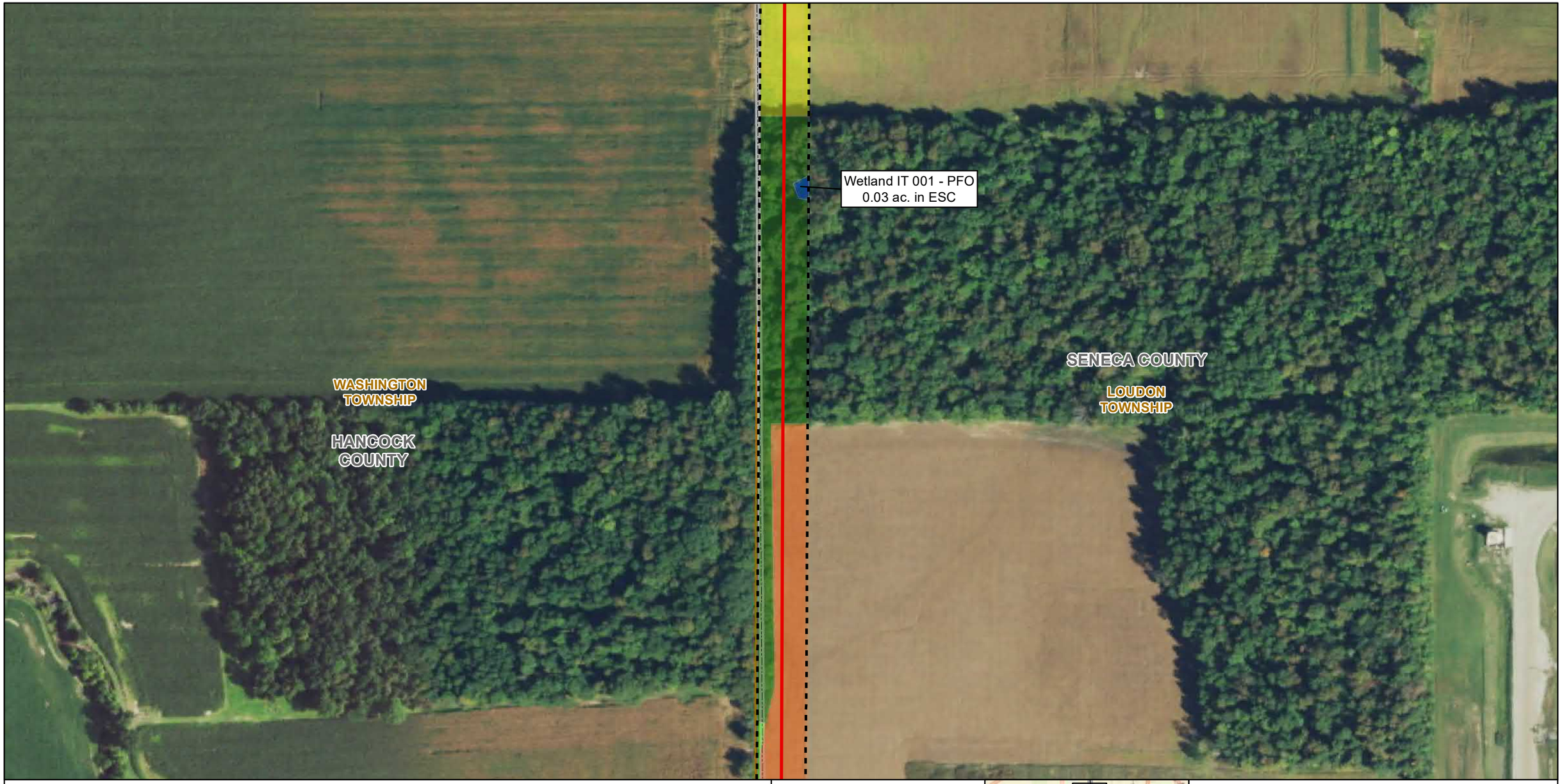

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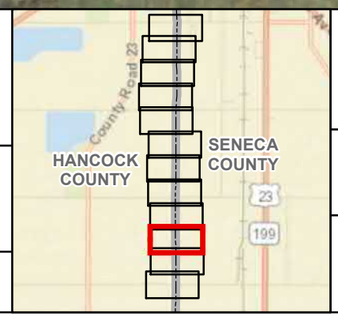
Sources:
2021 NAIP Imagery (USDA)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

AEP OHIO

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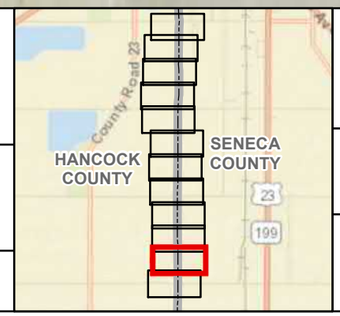
Sources:
2021 NAIP Imagery (USDA)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
NAD 1983

October 28, 2022

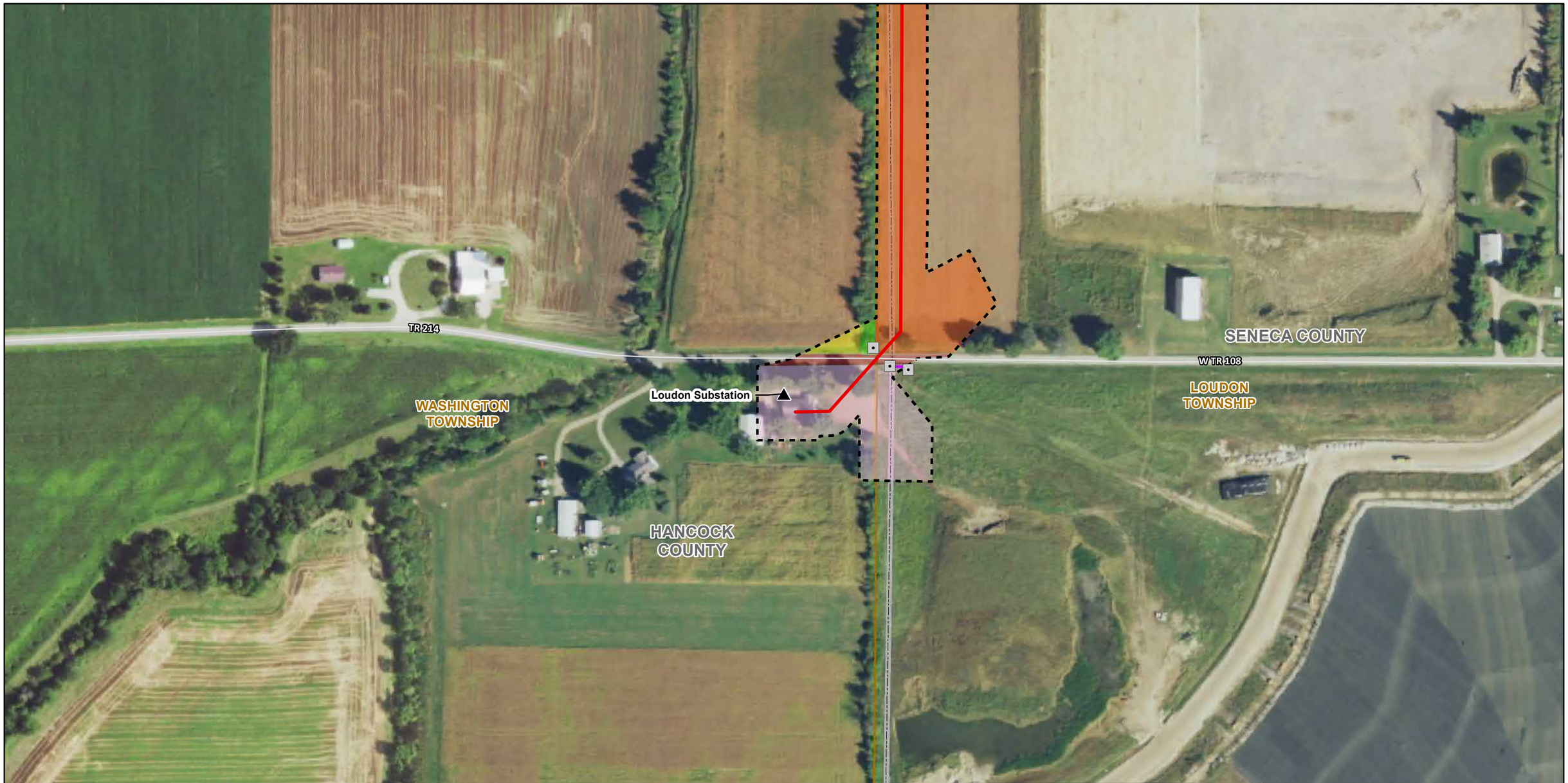


IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

N

0 200 400 Feet



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Sources:
2021 NAIP Imagery (USDA)

Coordinate System:
Ohio State Plane North
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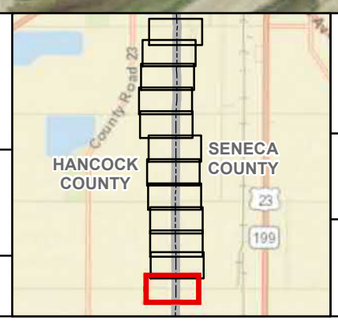
October 28, 2022



IRON TRIANGLE 138 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Figure 3. Vegetation Coverage

N

0 200 400 Feet

APPENDIX

B USACE WETLAND DETERMINATION FORMS – MIDWEST REGION

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Midwest Region
See ERDC/EL TR-10-16; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp:11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Iron Triangle Project City/County: Seneca Sampling Date: 7/25/2022
Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio State: OH Sampling Point: WDP 001
Investigator(s): B. Rolfes Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): none
Slope (%): 0 Lat: 41.1024 Long: -83.4207 Datum: WGS 84
Soil Map Unit Name: Blg1A1 - Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A
Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No
Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No
Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No

Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? **Yes** X **No**

Remarks:
Depressional PFO wetland in remnant treelot.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 20)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Acer rubrum*	25	Yes	FAC
2. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	10	Yes	FACW
3. *Tilia americana*	5	No	FACU
4. *Fagus grandifolia*	5	No	FACU
5.			
	45	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	15	Yes	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	15	=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Carex grayi*	25	Yes	FACW
2. *Trifolium repens*	15	Yes	FAC
3. *Carex squarrosa*	10	No	OBL
4. *Bidens frondosa*	5	No	FACW
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	55	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Toxicodendron radicans*	10	Yes	FAC
2.			
	10	=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:
Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 6 (A)
Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 6 (B)
Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:
OBL species	x 1 =
FACW species	x 2 =
FAC species	x 3 =
FACU species	x 4 =
UPL species	x 5 =
Column Totals: (A)	(B)

Prevalence Index = B/A =

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
- 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
- X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
- 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
- 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
- Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No**

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: WDP 001

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0 - 4	10YR 3/2	100					Loamy/Clayey	
4 - 16	10YR 5/2	90	7.5YR 5/6	10	C	M		Prominent redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- X Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: ___

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- X Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Water Table Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Midwest Region
See ERDC/EL TR-10-16; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp:11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Iron Triangle Project City/County: Seneca Sampling Date: 7/25/2022
Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio State: OH Sampling Point: UDP 001
Investigator(s): B. Rolfes Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): plain Local relief (concave, convex, none): none
Slope (%): 0 Lat: 41.1025 Long: -83.4208 Datum: WGS 84
Soil Map Unit Name: Blg1A1 - Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A
Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No
Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes No X
Hydric Soil Present? Yes No X
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes No X

Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? **Yes** **No** X

Remarks:
Upland data point corresponding to Depressional PFO wetland IT 001 in remnant treelot.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 20)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Acer rubrum*	20	Yes	FAC
2. *Fagus grandifolia*	15	Yes	FACU
3. *Tilia americana*	10	Yes	FACU
4. *Carya ovata*	5	No	FACU
5.			
	50	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Rubus allegheniensis*	15	Yes	FACU
2. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	5	Yes	FACW
3.			
4.			
5.			
	20	=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*	25	Yes	FACU
2. *Trifolium repens*	15	Yes	FAC
3. *Geum canadense*	10	No	FAC
4. *Viola sororia*	5	No	FAC
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	55	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Toxicodendron radicans*	10	Yes	FAC
2.			
	10	=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:
Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 4 (A)
Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 8 (B)
Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 50.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	5	x 2 =	10
FAC species	60	x 3 =	180
FACU species	70	x 4 =	280
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	135 (A)		470 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.48

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
___ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** **No** X

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: UDP 001

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0 - 16	10YR 5/3	100					Loamy/Clayey	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- ___ Depleted Matrix (F3)
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- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
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- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Water Table Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Midwest Region
See ERDC/EL TR-10-16; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp:11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Iron Triangle Project City/County: Hancock Sampling Date: 7/25/2022
Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio State: OH Sampling Point: WDP 002
Investigator(s): B. Rolfes Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): none
Slope (%): 0 Lat: 41.1149 Long: -83.4215 Datum: WGS 84
Soil Map Unit Name: Blg1A1 - Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A
Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No
Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No
Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No

Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? **Yes** X **No**

Remarks:
Depressional PFO wetland in remnant treelot.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 20)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Acer rubrum*	25	Yes	FAC
2. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	10	Yes	FACW
3. *Quercus bicolor*	10	Yes	FACW
4. *Fagus grandifolia*	5	No	FACU
5. *Tilia americana*	5	No	FACU
	55	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	20	Yes	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	20	=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Carex grayi*	25	Yes	FACW
2. *Carex grayi*	10	Yes	FACW
3. *Impatiens capensis*	10	Yes	FACW
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	45	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Toxicodendron radicans*	10	Yes	FAC
2.			
	10	=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:
Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 8 (A)
Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 8 (B)
Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	
OBL species	x 1 =	
FACW species	x 2 =	
FAC species	x 3 =	
FACU species	x 4 =	
UPL species	x 5 =	
Column Totals: (A)		(B)

Prevalence Index = B/A =

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
- 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
- X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
- 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
- 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
- Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No**

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: WDP 002

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0 - 4	10YR 3/3	100					Loamy/Clayey	
4 - 12	10YR 5/2	95	10YR 5/8	5	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Prominent redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: ___

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- X Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- X Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Water Table Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Saturation Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 12

(includes capillary fringe)

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Midwest Region
See ERDC/EL TR-10-16; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp:11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Iron Triangle Project City/County: Hancock Sampling Date: 7/25/2022
Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio State: OH Sampling Point: UDP 002-003
Investigator(s): B. Rolfes Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): plain Local relief (concave, convex, none): none
Slope (%): 0 Lat: 41.1152 Long: -83.4214 Datum: WGS 84
Soil Map Unit Name: Blg1A1 - Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A
Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____
Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ____ No X
Hydric Soil Present? Yes ____ No X
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ____ No X

Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Remarks:
Upland data point corresponding to Depressional PFO wetland IT 002 and PEM/PFO wetland IT 003 in remnant treelot.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 20)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Acer rubrum*	15	Yes	FAC
2. *Fagus grandifolia*	15	Yes	FACU
3. *Tilia americana*	10	No	FACU
4. *Carya ovata*	10	No	FACU
5. *Asimina triloba*	5	No	FAC
	55	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Rubus allegheniensis*	15	Yes	FACU
2. *Lonicera maackii*	15	Yes	UPL
3. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	5	No	FACW
4.			
5.			
	35	=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*	25	Yes	FACU
2. *Trifolium repens*	15	Yes	FAC
3. *Geum canadense*	10	No	FAC
4. *Podophyllum peltatum*	10	No	FACU
5. *Viola sororia*	5	No	FAC
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	65	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Toxicodendron radicans*	10	Yes	FAC
2.			
	10	=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:
Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)
Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 7 (B)
Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 42.9% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	5	x 2 =	10
FAC species	60	x 3 =	180
FACU species	85	x 4 =	340
UPL species	15	x 5 =	75
Column Totals:	165 (A)		605 (B)
Prevalence Index = B/A =			3.67

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
___ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: UDP 002-003

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0 - 16	10YR 5/4	100					Loamy/Clayey	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- ___ Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Water Table Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Midwest Region
See ERDC/EL TR-10-16; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp:11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Iron Triangle Project City/County: Hancock Sampling Date: 7/25/2022
Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio State: OH Sampling Point: WDP 003a
Investigator(s): B. Rolfes Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): none
Slope (%): 0 Lat: 41.1155 Long: -83.4214 Datum: WGS 84
Soil Map Unit Name: Blg1A1 - Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A
Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____
Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ____
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ____

Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? **Yes** X **No** ____

Remarks:
Depressional PFO wetland in remnant treelot.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 20)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Acer rubrum*	25	Yes	FAC
2. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	10	Yes	FACW
3. *Quercus bicolor*	10	Yes	FACW
4. *Fagus grandifolia*	5	No	FACU
5. *Populus deltoides*	5	No	FAC
	55	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	10	Yes	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	10	=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Carex grayi*	3	No	FACW
2. *Persicaria virginiana*	1	No	FAC
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	4	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: ____)			
1.			
2.			
		=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:
Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 4 (A)
Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 4 (B)
Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	
OBL species	x 1 =	
FACW species	x 2 =	
FAC species	x 3 =	
FACU species	x 4 =	
UPL species	x 5 =	
Column Totals: (A)		(B)
Prevalence Index = B/A =		

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
____ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
____ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No** ____

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: WDP 003a

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0 - 4	10YR 2/1	100					Loamy/Clayey	
4 - 12	10YR 5/2	90	10YR 5/8	10	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Prominent redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- X Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: ___

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- X Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- X Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- X Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Water Table Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Saturation Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 12

(includes capillary fringe)

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Midwest Region
See ERDC/EL TR-10-16; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp:11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Iron Triangle Project City/County: Hancock Sampling Date: 7/25/2022
Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio State: OH Sampling Point: WDP 003b
Investigator(s): B. Rolfes Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): none
Slope (%): 0 Lat: 41.1158 Long: -83.4214 Datum: WGS 84
Soil Map Unit Name: Blg1A1 - Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A
Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No
Are Vegetation , Soil , or Hydrology naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No
Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No

Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? **Yes** X **No**

Remarks:
Depressional PEM wetland adjacent to remnant treelot.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 20)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Acer rubrum*	10	Yes	FAC
2. *Populus deltoides*	5	Yes	FAC
3. *Fagus grandifolia*	5	Yes	FACU
4.			
5.			
	20	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size:)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
		=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Echinochloa crus-galli*	35	Yes	FACW
2. *Eleocharis obtusa*	20	Yes	OBL
3. *Penthorum sedoides*	10	No	FAC
4. *Salix nigra*	10	No	OBL
5. *Juncus effusus*	5	No	OBL
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	80	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size:)			
1.			
2.			
		=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:
Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 4 (A)
Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 5 (B)
Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 80.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	
OBL species	x 1 =	
FACW species	x 2 =	
FAC species	x 3 =	
FACU species	x 4 =	
UPL species	x 5 =	
Column Totals: (A)		(B)

Prevalence Index = B/A =

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No**

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: WDP 003b

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0 - 16	10YR 5/2	90	7.5YR 5/6	10	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Prominent redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains.

[2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- X Surface Water (A1)
- X High Water Table (A2)
- X Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 4

Water Table Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 8

Saturation Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 12

(includes capillary fringe)

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Midwest Region
See ERDC/EL TR-10-16; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp:11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Iron Triangle Project City/County: Senea Sampling Date: 9/14/2022
Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio State: OH Sampling Point: WDP 008
Investigator(s): B. Rolfes Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): depression Local relief (concave, convex, none): none
Slope (%): 1 Lat: 41.1319 Long: -83.4191 Datum: WGS 84
Soil Map Unit Name: Blg1A1 - Blount silt loam, ground moraine, 0 to 2 percent slopes NWI classification: N/A
Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation____, Soil____, or Hydrology____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____
Are Vegetation____, Soil____, or Hydrology____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ____
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ____

Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? **Yes** X **No** ____

Remarks:
Seemingly isolated depressional emergent wetland at the edge of a remnant woodlot.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: ____)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	=Total Cover		
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: ____)			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	=Total Cover		
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Impatiens capensis*	45	Yes	FACW
2. *Microstegium vimineum*	15	Yes	FAC
3. *Euthamia graminifolia*	10	No	FACW
4. *Solidago rugosa*	5	No	FAC
5. *Carex vulpinoidea*	5	No	FACW
6. *Lycopus americanus*	5	No	OBL
7. *Persicaria pensylvanica*	5	No	FACW
8.			
9.			
10.			
	90 =Total Cover		
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: ____)			
1.			
2.			
	=Total Cover		

Dominance Test worksheet:
Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)
Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)
Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:
OBL species ____	x 1 = ____
FACW species ____	x 2 = ____
FAC species ____	x 3 = ____
FACU species ____	x 4 = ____
UPL species ____	x 5 = ____
Column Totals: ____ (A)	____ (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** X **No** ____

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)

SOIL

Sampling Point: WDP 008

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0 - 16	10YR 5/2	85	10YR 5/8	15	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Prominent redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains.

[2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- X Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- X Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- X Geomorphic Position (D2)
- X FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Water Table Present?	Yes ___	No X	Depth (inches): ___
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes X	No ___	Depth (inches): 6

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA SHEET – Midwest Region
See ERDC/EL TR-10-16; the proponent agency is CECW-CO-R

OMB Control #: 0710-0024, Exp:11/30/2024
Requirement Control Symbol EXEMPT:
(Authority: AR 335-15, paragraph 5-2a)

Project/Site: Iron Triangle Project City/County: Seneca Sampling Date: 7/25/2022
Applicant/Owner: AEP Ohio State: OH Sampling Point: UDP 008
Investigator(s): B. Rolfes Section, Township, Range:
Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): plain Local relief (concave, convex, none): none
Slope (%): 0 Lat: 41.1318 Long: -83.4192 Datum: WGS 84
Soil Map Unit Name: Le - Lenawee silty clay loam NWI classification: N/A
Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)
Are Vegetation____, Soil____, or Hydrology____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____
Are Vegetation____, Soil____, or Hydrology____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – Attach site map showing sampling point locations, transects, important features, etc.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ____ No X
Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ____
Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ____ No X

Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Remarks:
Depressional forested area - lacking indicators of wetland hydrology or hydrophytic vegetation present.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 20)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Carya ovata*	25	Yes	FACU
2. *Tilia americana*	15	Yes	FACU
3. *Tilia americana*	15	Yes	FACU
4. *Ulmus americana*	5	No	FACW
5. *Gleditsia triacanthos*	5	No	FACU
	65	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 10)			
1. *Lonicera maackii*	15	Yes	UPL
2. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	10	Yes	FACW
3.			
4.			
5.			
	25	=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5)			
1. *Cinna arundinacea*	25	Yes	FACW
2. *Toxicodendron radicans*	15	Yes	FAC
3. *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*	15	Yes	FACU
4. *Carex grayi*	10	No	FACW
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	65	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: ____)			
1.			
2.			
		=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:
Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)
Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 8 (B)
Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 37.5% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	50	x 2 =	100
FAC species	15	x 3 =	45
FACU species	75	x 4 =	300
UPL species	15	x 5 =	75
Column Totals:	155 (A)		520 (B)
Prevalence Index = B/A =			3.35

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:
___ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation
___ 2 - Dominance Test is >50%
___ 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]
___ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)
___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)
[1]Indicators of hydric soil and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? **Yes** ____ **No** X

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)
Lacking any indicator of hyrdophytic vegetation

SOIL

Sampling Point: UDP 008

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth	Matrix		Redox Features					
(inches)	Color (moist)	%	Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0 - 4	10YR 2/1	100					Loamy/Clayey	
4 - 12	10YR 5/2	90	10YR 5/8	10	C	M	Loamy/Clayey	Prominent redox concentrations

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, MS=Masked Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ 2 cm Muck (A10)
- X Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- X Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- X Redox Depressions (F8)

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (F22)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

[3]Indicators of hydrophytic vegetation and wetland hydrology must be present, unless disturbed or problematic.

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

Hydric Soil Present? **Yes** X **No** ___

Remarks:

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

- ___ Surface Water (A1)
- ___ High Water Table (A2)
- ___ Saturation (A3)
- ___ Water Marks (B1)
- ___ Sediment Deposits (B2)
- ___ Drift Deposits (B3)
- ___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)
- ___ Iron Deposits (B5)
- ___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)
- ___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)
- ___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
- ___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
- ___ True Aquatic Plants (B14)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
- ___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Living Roots (C3)
- ___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C4)
- ___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tilled Soils (C6)
- ___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
- ___ Gauge or Well Data (D9)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

- ___ Surface Soil Cracks (B6)
- ___ Drainage Patterns (B10)
- ___ Dry-Season Water Table (C2)
- ___ Crayfish Burrows (C8)
- ___ Saturation Visible on Aerial Imagery (C9)
- ___ Stunted or Stressed Plants (D1)
- ___ Geomorphic Position (D2)
- ___ FAC-Neutral Test (D5)

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Water Table Present? Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes ___ No X Depth (inches): ___

Wetland Hydrology Present? **Yes** ___ **No** X

Describe Recorded Data (stream gauge, monitoring well, aerial photos, previous inspections), if available:

Remarks: Lacking any indicators of Wetland Hydrology.

APPENDIX

C OEPA ORAM DATA FORMS

Background Information

Name:	Brad Rolfes
Date:	7/25/2022
Affiliation:	WSP USA
Address:	312 Elm Street; Cincinnati, OH
Phone Number:	859-321-1058
e-mail address:	brad.rolfes@wsp.com
Name of Wetland:	Wetland IT 001
Vegetation Communit(ies):	PFO
HGM Class(es):	Depression

Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.

Please refer to attached mapping.

Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate	41.1024, -83.4207
USGS Quad Name	Alvada
County	Seneca
Township	Loudon
Section and Subsection	
Hydrologic Unit Code	
Site Visit	X
National Wetland Inventory Map	X
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map	
Soil Survey	X
Delineation report/map	

Name of Wetland: Wetland IT 001	
Wetland Size (acres, hectares):	0.04

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.

See Attached Mapping

Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score : 33 **Category:**	2

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. *Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland*. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.	✔	
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human-induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.	✔	
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.	✔	
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.	✔	
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.	✔	
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.	✔	

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature *and* by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO ✔ Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	NO ✔ Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO ✔ Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	NO ✔ Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis*, or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	NO ✔ Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	NO ✔ Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	NO ✔ Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	NO ✔ Go to Question 8b

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES ✔ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	NO Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES Go to Question 9b	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES Go to Question 9d	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	NO ✔ Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	NO ✔ Complete Quantitative Rating

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	0ak Opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Site: Iron Triangle 138 kv Project	**Rater(s):** B. Rolfes	**Date:** 7/25/2022

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

0 (max 6 pts.) | 0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [ ] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [x] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

8 (max 14 pts.) | 8 (subtotal)

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [x] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [ ] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [x] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- [ ] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [x] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

8 (max 30 pts.) | 16 (subtotal)

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [x] Recovered (7)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [x] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [x] other_____

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

9 (max 20 pts.) | 25 (subtotal)

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [x] Recovered (3)
- [ ] Recovering (2)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [x] Fair (3)
- [ ] Poor to fair (2)
- [ ] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [x] clearcutting
- [x] selective cutting
- [ ] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [ ] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [x] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

25 (subtotal this page)

last revised 1 February 2001 jjm

Site: Iron Triangle 138 kv Project	**Rater(s):** B. Rolfes	**Date:** 7/25/2022

25
subtotal first page

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

5 (max 10 pts.) | 30 (subtotal)

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [x] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

3 (max 20 pts.) | 33 (subtotal)

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [1] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [1] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.
Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [ ] Low (1)
- [x] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [ ] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [x] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [1] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [0] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

33

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		circle answer or insert score	Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES ✔ NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	0	
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	8	
	Metric 3. Hydrology	8	
	Metric 4. Habitat	9	
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	5	
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	3	
	TOTAL SCORE	33	Category based on score breakpoints 2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	NO ✔	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over-categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	NO ✔	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	NO ✔	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	YES Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO ✔	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES ✔ Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	NO	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1-54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO ✔ Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	Category 2 ✔	Category 3

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Background Information

Name:	Brad Rolfes
Date:	7/25/2022
Affiliation:	WSP USA
Address:	312 Elm Street; Cincinnati, OH
Phone Number:	859-321-1058
e-mail address:	brad.rolfes@wsp.com
Name of Wetland:	Wetland IT 002
Vegetation Communit(ies):	PFO
HGM Class(es):	Depression

Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.

Please refer to attached mapping.

Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate	41.1148, -83.4216
USGS Quad Name	Alvada
County	Hancock
Township	Washington
Section and Subsection	
Hydrologic Unit Code	
Site Visit	X
National Wetland Inventory Map	X
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map	
Soil Survey	X
Delineation report/map	

Name of Wetland: Wetland IT 002	
Wetland Size (acres, hectares):	0.12

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.

See Attached Mapping

Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score : 32 **Category:**	2

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. *Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland*. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.	✔	
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human-induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.	✔	
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.	✔	
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.	✔	
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.	✔	
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.	✔	

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature *and* by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO ✔ Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	NO ✔ Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO ✔ Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	NO ✔ Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis*, or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	NO ✔ Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	NO ✔ Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	NO ✔ Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	NO ✔ Go to Question 8b

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES ✔ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	NO Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES Go to Question 9b	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES Go to Question 9d	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	NO ✔ Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	NO ✔ Complete Quantitative Rating

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	0ak Opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Site: Iron Triangle 138 kv Project	**Rater(s):** B. Rolfes	**Date:** 7/25/2022

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

1	1
max 6 pts.	subtotal

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [x] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [ ] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

8	9
max 14 pts.	subtotal

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [x] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [ ] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [x] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- [ ] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [x] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

8	17
max 30 pts.	subtotal

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [x] Recovered (7)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [x] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [x] other_____

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

8	25
max 20 pts.	subtotal

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [x] Recovered (3)
- [ ] Recovering (2)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [x] Poor to fair (2)
- [ ] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [x] clearcutting
- [x] selective cutting
- [ ] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [ ] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [x] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

25
subtotal this page

last revised 1 February 2001 jjm

Site: Iron Triangle 138 kv Project	**Rater(s):** B. Rolfes	**Date:** 7/25/2022

25
subtotal first page

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

5 (max 10 pts.) | 30 (subtotal)

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [x] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

2 (max 20 pts.) | 32 (subtotal)

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [1] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [1] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.
Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [ ] Low (1)
- [x] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [x] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [ ] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [1] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [0] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

32

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		circle answer or insert score	Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES ✔ NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	1	
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	8	
	Metric 3. Hydrology	8	
	Metric 4. Habitat	8	
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	5	
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	2	
	TOTAL SCORE	32	Category based on score breakpoints 2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	NO ✔	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over-categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	NO ✔	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	NO ✔	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	YES Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO ✔	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES ✔ Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	NO	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1-54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO ✔ Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	Category 2 ✔	Category 3

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Background Information

Name:	Brad Rolfes
Date:	7/25/2022
Affiliation:	WSP USA
Address:	312 Elm Street; Cincinnati, OH
Phone Number:	859-321-1058
e-mail address:	brad.rolfes@wsp.com
Name of Wetland:	Wetland IT 003
Vegetation Communit(ies):	PFO/PEM
HGM Class(es):	Depression

Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.

Please refer to attached mapping.

Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate	41.1156, -83.4215
USGS Quad Name	Alvada
County	Hancock
Township	Washington
Section and Subsection	
Hydrologic Unit Code	
Site Visit	X
National Wetland Inventory Map	X
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map	
Soil Survey	X
Delineation report/map	

Name of Wetland: Wetland IT 003	
Wetland Size (acres, hectares):	0.43

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.

See Attached Mapping

Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score : 35 **Category:**	2

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. *Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland*. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.	✔	
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human-induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.	✔	
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.	✔	
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.	✔	
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.	✔	
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.	✔	

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature *and* by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO ✔ Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	NO ✔ Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO ✔ Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	NO ✔ Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis*, or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	NO ✔ Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	NO ✔ Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	NO ✔ Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	NO ✔ Go to Question 8b

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES ✔ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	NO Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES Go to Question 9b	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES Go to Question 9d	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	NO ✔ Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	NO ✔ Complete Quantitative Rating

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	0ak Opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Site: Iron Triangle 138 kv Project	**Rater(s):** B. Rolfes	**Date:** 7/25/2022

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

2	2
max 6 pts.	subtotal

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [x] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [ ] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [ ] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

5	7
max 14 pts.	subtotal

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [ ] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [x] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [ ] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [x] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- [ ] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [x] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

9	16
max 30 pts.	subtotal

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [x] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [ ] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [x] Recovered (7)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [x] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [x] other_____

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

9	25
max 20 pts.	subtotal

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [x] Recovered (3)
- [ ] Recovering (2)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [x] Fair (3)
- [ ] Poor to fair (2)
- [ ] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [x] clearcutting
- [x] selective cutting
- [ ] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [x] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [x] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

25
subtotal this page

last revised 1 February 2001 jjm

Site: Iron Triangle 138 kv Project	**Rater(s):** B. Rolfes	**Date:** 7/25/2022

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subtotal first page

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

5 max 10 pts. | 30 subtotal

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [x] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

5 max 20 pts. | 35 subtotal

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [1] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [1] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.
Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [x] Low (1)
- [ ] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [ ] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [x] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [2] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [0] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

35

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		circle answer or insert score	Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES ✔ NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	2	
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	5	
	Metric 3. Hydrology	9	
	Metric 4. Habitat	9	
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	5	
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	5	
	TOTAL SCORE	35	Category based on score breakpoints 2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	NO ✔	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over-categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	NO ✔	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	NO ✔	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	YES Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO ✔	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES ✔ Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	NO	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1-54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO ✔ Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	Category 2 ✔	Category 3

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Background Information

Name:	Brad Rolfes
Date:	9/14/2022
Affiliation:	WSP USA
Address:	312 Elm Street; Cincinnati, OH
Phone Number:	859-321-1058
e-mail address:	brad.rolfes@wsp.com
Name of Wetland:	Wetland IT 008
Vegetation Communit(ies):	PEM
HGM Class(es):	Depression

Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.

Please refer to attached mapping.

Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate	41.1319, -83.4191
USGS Quad Name	Fostoria
County	Seneca
Township	Loudon
Section and Subsection	
Hydrologic Unit Code	
Site Visit	X
National Wetland Inventory Map	X
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map	
Soil Survey	X
Delineation report/map	

Name of Wetland: Wetland IT 008	
Wetland Size (acres, hectares):	0.04

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.

See Attached Mapping

Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score : 17 **Category:**	1

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. *Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland*. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.	✔	
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human-induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.	✔	
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.	✔	
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.	✔	
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.	✔	
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.	✔	

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature *and* by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO ✔ Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	NO ✔ Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO ✔ Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	NO ✔ Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis*, or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	NO ✔ Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	NO ✔ Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	NO ✔ Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	NO ✔ Go to Question 8b

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES ✔ Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	NO Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES Go to Question 9b	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES Go to Question 9d	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO ✔ Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	NO ✔ Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	NO ✔ Complete Quantitative Rating

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	0ak Opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Site: Iron Triangle 138 kv Project	**Rater(s):** B. Rolfes	**Date:** 9/14/2022

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

0 (max 6 pts.) | 0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [ ] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [x] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

6 (max 14 pts.) | 6 (subtotal)

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [ ] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [x] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [ ] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [x] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrub land, young second growth forest. (5)
- [x] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [ ] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

7 (max 30 pts.) | 13 (subtotal)

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [x] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [ ] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [ ] Recovered (7)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [ ] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [x] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [x] dredging
- [ ] other_____

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

3 (max 20 pts.) | 16 (subtotal)

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [ ] Recovered (3)
- [ ] Recovering (2)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [ ] Poor to fair (2)
- [x] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [x] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [x] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [ ] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [x] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [x] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [ ] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

16 (subtotal this page)

last revised 1 February 2001 jjm

Site: Iron Triangle 138 kv Project	**Rater(s):** B. Rolfes	**Date:** 9/14/2022

16
subtotal first page

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

0 max 10 pts. | 16 subtotal

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [ ] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Prairies (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 1 Qualitative Rating (-10)

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

1 max 20 pts. | 17 subtotal

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [1] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [ ] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.
Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [✔] Low (1)
- [ ] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer to Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [✔] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [ ] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.
Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [0] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [0] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

low	Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or disturbance tolerant native species
mod	Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generally w/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp
high	A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

17

End of Quantitative Rating. Complete Categorization Worksheets.

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		circle answer or insert score	Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES ✔ NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES NO ✔	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES NO ✔	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	0	
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	6	
	Metric 3. Hydrology	7	
	Metric 4. Habitat	3	
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	0	
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	1	
	TOTAL SCORE	17	Category based on score breakpoints 1

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	NO ✔	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over-categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	NO ✔	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	NO ✔	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	YES Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO ✔	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES ✔ Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	NO	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1-54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO ✔ Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1 ✔	Category 2	Category 3

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

APPENDIX

D OEPA STREAM DATA FORMS

Primary Headwater Habitat Evaluation Form

HHEI Score (sum of metrics 1, 2, 3) : **53**

SITE NAME/LOCATION: **AEP Iron Triangle Project**

SITE NUMBER: **IT 001** RIVER BASIN: _____ DRAINAGE AREA (mi²): **0.77**

LENGTH OF STREAM REACH (ft): **459** LAT.: **41.12020** LONG.: **-83.42450** RIVER CODE: _____ RIVER MILE: _____

DATE: **07/25/22** SCORER: **BJR** COMMENTS: **Intermittent Stream (high water - recent rainfall)**

NOTE: Complete All Items On This Form - Refer to "Field Evaluation Manual for Ohio's PHWH Streams" for Instructions

STREAM CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS: ☐ NONE / NATURAL CHANNEL ☐ RECOVERED ☑ RECOVERING ☐ RECENT OR NO RECOVERY

1. SUBSTRATE (Estimate percent of every type of substrate present. Check *ONLY* two predominant substrate *TYPE* boxes (Max of 32). Add total number of significant substrate types found (Max of 8). Final metric score is sum of boxes A & B.

TYPE		PERCENT	TYPE		PERCENT
☐	BLDR SLABS [16 pts]	0%	☑	SILT [3 pt]	60%
☐	BOULDER (>256 mm) [16 pts]	0%	☐	LEAF PACK/WOODY DEBRIS [3 pts]	0%
☐	BEDROCK [16 pt]	0%	☐	FINE DETRITUS [3 pts]	10%
☐	COBBLE (65-256 mm) [12 pts]	5%	☑	CLAY or HARDPAN [0 pt]	20%
☐	GRAVEL (2-64 mm) [9 pts]	5%	☐	MUCK [0 pts]	0%
☐	SAND (<2 mm) [6 pts]	0%	☐	ARTIFICIAL [3 pts]	0%

Total of Percentages of Bldr Slabs, Boulder, Cobble, Bedrock: **5.00%** (A) Substrate Percentage Check (B)

SCORE OF TWO MOST PREDOMINATE SUBSTRATE TYPES: **3** **TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBSTRATE TYPES:** **5**

HHEI Metric Points

Substrate Max = 40

8

A + B

2. Maximum Pool Depth ***(Measure the maximum pool depth within the 61 meter (200 ft)*** evaluation reach at the time of evaluation. Avoid plunge pools from road culverts or storm water pipes) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐	> 30 centimeters [20 pts]	☐	> 5 cm - 10 cm [15 pts]
☐	> 22.5 - 30 cm [30 pts]	☐	< 5 cm [5 pts]
☑	> 10 - 22.5 cm [25 pts]	☐	NO WATER OR MOIST CHANNEL [0 pts]

COMMENTS: High Water - Typical pool ~10 - 22.5 cm **MAXIMUM POOL DEPTH (centimeters):** **50**

Pool Depth Max = 30

25

3. BANK FULL WIDTH (Measured as the average of 3-4 measurements) **(Check *ONLY* one box):**

☐	> 4.0 meters (> 13') [30 pts]	☐	> 1.0 m - 1.5 m (> 3' 3" - 4' 8") [15 pts]
☐	> 3.0 m - 4.0 m (> 9' 7" - 13') [25 pts]	☐	≤ 1.0 m (<=3' 3") [5 pts]
☑	> 1.5 m - 3.0 m (> 9' 7" - 4' 8") [20 pts]		

COMMENTS: _____ **AVERAGE BANKFULL WIDTH (meters):** **2.25**

Bankfull Width Max=30

20

This information must also be completed

RIPARIAN ZONE AND FLOODPLAIN QUALITY ☆NOTE: River Left (L) and Right (R) as looking downstream☆

RIPARIAN WIDTH (Per Bank) L	R	FLOODPLAIN QUALITY (Most Predominant per Bank) L	R		L	R	
☐	☐	Wide >10m	☐	☐	Mature Forest, Wetland	☐	☐	Conservation Tillage
☐	☐	Moderate 5-10m	☐	☐	Immature Forest, Shrub or Old Field	☐	☐	Urban or Industrial
☐	☐	Narrow <5m	☐	☐	Residential, Park, New Field	☑	☑	Open Pasture, Row Crop
☑	☑	None	☐	☐	Fenced Pasture	☐	☐	Mining or Construction

COMMENTS: _____

FLOW REGIME *(At Time of Evaluation)* (Check *ONLY* one box):

☑	Stream Flowing	☐	Moist Channel, isolated pools, no flow (Intermittent)
☐	Subsurface flow with isolated pools (Interstitial)	☐	Dry channel, no water (Ephemeral)

COMMENTS: Typicaly Intermittent Stream, draining adjacent Agricultural fields

SINUOSITY (Number of bends per 61 m (200 ft) of channel) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☑	None	☐	1.0	☐	2.0	☐	3.0
☐	0.5	☐	1.5	☐	2.5	☐	>3

STREAM GRADIENT ESTIMATE

☑ Flat (0.5 ft/100 ft) ☐ Flat to Moderate ☐ Moderate (2 ft/100 ft) ☐ Moderate to Severe ☐ Severe (10 ft/100 ft)

ADDITIONAL STREAM INFORMATION (This Information Must Also be Completed):

QHEI PERFORMED? - ☐ Yes ☑ No QHEI Score _____ (If Yes, Attach Completed QHEI Form)

DOWNSTREAM DESIGNATED USE(S)

☑ WWH Name: **East Branch Portage River** Distance from Evaluated Stream **2.00**

☐ CWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

☐ EWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

MAPPING: ATTACH COPIES OF MAPS, INCLUDING THE ENTIRE WATERSHED AREA. CLEARLY MARK THE SITE LOCATION

USGS Quadrangle Name: **Alvada** NRCS Soil Map Page: _____ NRCS Soil Map Stream Order _____

County: **Hancock** Township / City: **Washington**

MISCELLANEOUS

Base Flow Conditions? (Y/N): **N** Date of last precipitation: **07/25/22** Quantity: **0.19**

Photograph Information: _____

Elevated Turbidity? (Y/N): **Y** Canopy (% open): **100%**

Were samples collected for water chemistry? (Y/N): **N** (Note lab sample no. or id. and attach results) Lab Number: _____

Field Measures: Temp (°C) _____ Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l) _____ pH (S.U.) _____ Conductivity (µmhos/cm) _____

Is the sampling reach representative of the stream (Y/N) **N** If not, please explain: _____

Additional comments/description of pollution impacts: _____

BIOTIC EVALUATION

Performed? (Y/N): **N** (If Yes, Record all observations. Voucher collections optional. NOTE: all voucher samples must be labeled with the site ID number. Include appropriate field data sheets from the Primary Headwater Habitat Assessment Manual)

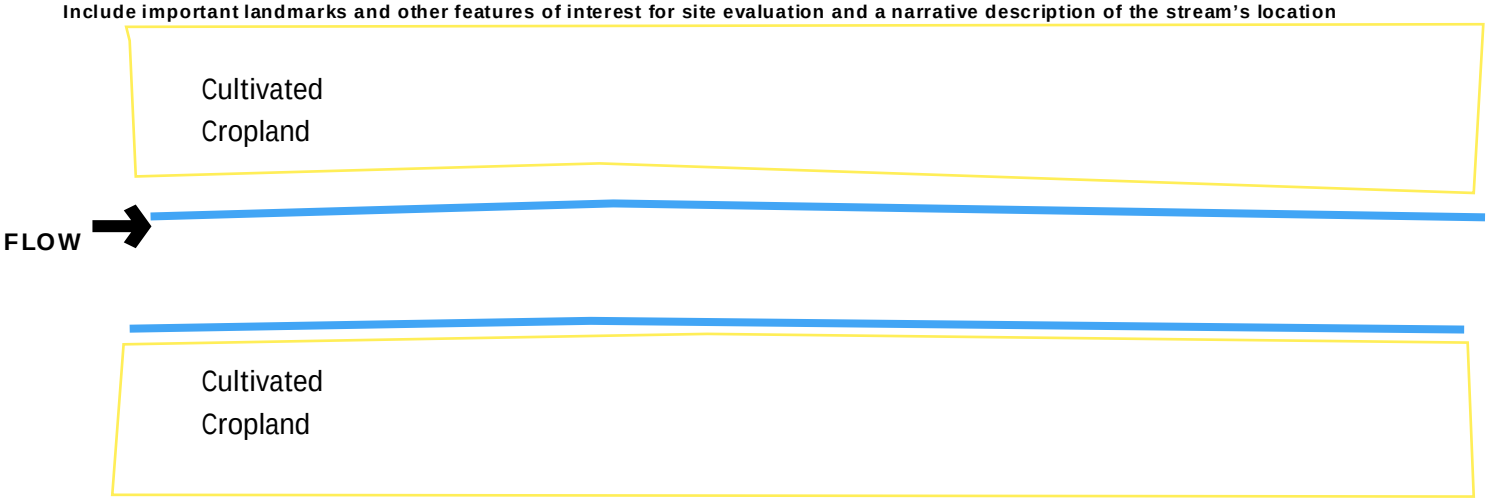
Fish Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Salamanders Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Frogs or Tadpoles Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Aquatic Macroinvertebrates Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Comments Regarding Biology: _____

DRAWING AND NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF STREAM REACH (This must be completed):

Include important landmarks and other features of interest for site evaluation and a narrative description of the stream's location



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Primary Headwater Habitat Evaluation Form

HHEI Score (sum of metrics 1, 2, 3) : **37**

SITE NAME/LOCATION: **AEP Iron Triangle Project**

SITE NUMBER: **IT 002** RIVER BASIN: _____ DRAINAGE AREA (mi²): **0.60**

LENGTH OF STREAM REACH (ft): **125** LAT.: **41.11762** LONG.: **-83.41933** RIVER CODE: _____ RIVER MILE: _____

DATE: **10/27/22** SCORER: **BJR** COMMENTS: **Intermittent Stream**

NOTE: Complete All Items On This Form - Refer to "Field Evaluation Manual for Ohio's PHWH Streams" for Instructions

STREAM CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS: ☐ NONE / NATURAL CHANNEL ☐ RECOVERED ☑ RECOVERING ☐ RECENT OR NO RECOVERY

1. SUBSTRATE (Estimate percent of every type of substrate present. Check *ONLY* two predominant substrate *TYPE* boxes (Max of 32). Add total number of significant substrate types found (Max of 8). Final metric score is sum of boxes A & B.

TYPE		PERCENT	TYPE		PERCENT
☐	BLDR SLABS [16 pts]	0%	☑	SILT [3 pt]	60%
☐	BOULDER (>256 mm) [16 pts]	0%	☐	LEAF PACK/WOODY DEBRIS [3 pts]	0%
☐	BEDROCK [16 pt]	0%	☐	FINE DETRITUS [3 pts]	10%
☐	COBBLE (65-256 mm) [12 pts]	5%	☑	CLAY or HARDPAN [0 pt]	25%
☐	GRAVEL (2-64 mm) [9 pts]	0%	☐	MUCK [0 pts]	0%
☐	SAND (<2 mm) [6 pts]	0%	☐	ARTIFICIAL [3 pts]	0%

Total of Percentages of Bldr Slabs, Boulder, Cobble, Bedrock: **5.00%** (A) Substrate Percentage Check (B)

SCORE OF TWO MOST PREDOMINATE SUBSTRATE TYPES: **3** **TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBSTRATE TYPES:** **4**

HHEI Metric Points

Substrate Max = 40

7

A + B

2. Maximum Pool Depth ***(Measure the maximum pool depth within the 61 meter (200 ft)*** evaluation reach at the time of evaluation. Avoid plunge pools from road culverts or storm water pipes) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐	> 30 centimeters [20 pts]	☑	> 5 cm - 10 cm [15 pts]
☐	> 22.5 - 30 cm [30 pts]	☐	< 5 cm [5 pts]
☐	> 10 - 22.5 cm [25 pts]	☐	NO WATER OR MOIST CHANNEL [0 pts]

COMMENTS: _____ **MAXIMUM POOL DEPTH (centimeters):** **8**

Pool Depth Max = 30

15

3. BANK FULL WIDTH (Measured as the average of 3-4 measurements) **(Check *ONLY* one box):**

☐	> 4.0 meters (> 13') [30 pts]	☑	> 1.0 m - 1.5 m (> 3' 3" - 4' 8") [15 pts]
☐	> 3.0 m - 4.0 m (> 9' 7" - 13') [25 pts]	☐	≤ 1.0 m (<=3' 3") [5 pts]
☐	> 1.5 m - 3.0 m (> 9' 7" - 4' 8") [20 pts]		

COMMENTS: _____ **AVERAGE BANKFULL WIDTH (meters):** **1.25**

Bankfull Width Max=30

15

This information must also be completed

RIPARIAN ZONE AND FLOODPLAIN QUALITY ☆NOTE: River Left (L) and Right (R) as looking downstream☆

RIPARIAN WIDTH (Per Bank) L	R	FLOODPLAIN QUALITY (Most Predominant per Bank) L	R		L	R	
☐	☐	Wide >10m	☐	☐	Mature Forest, Wetland	☐	☐	Conservation Tillage
☐	☐	Moderate 5-10m	☐	☐	Immature Forest, Shrub or Old Field	☐	☐	Urban or Industrial
☐	☐	Narrow <5m	☐	☐	Residential, Park, New Field	☑	☑	Open Pasture, Row Crop
☑	☑	None	☐	☐	Fenced Pasture	☐	☐	Mining or Construction

COMMENTS: _____

FLOW REGIME *(At Time of Evaluation)* (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐ Stream Flowing
☐ Subsurface flow with isolated pools (Interstitial)
☑ Moist Channel, isolated pools, no flow (Intermittent)
☐ Dry channel, no water (Ephemeral)

COMMENTS: _____

SINUOSITY (Number of bends per 61 m (200 ft) of channel) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☑ None ☐ 0.5 ☐ 1.0 ☐ 1.5 ☐ 2.0 ☐ 2.5 ☐ 3.0 ☐ >3

STREAM GRADIENT ESTIMATE

☑ Flat (0.5 ft/100 ft) ☐ Flat to Moderate ☐ Moderate (2 ft/100 ft) ☐ Moderate to Severe ☐ Severe (10 ft/100 ft)

ADDITIONAL STREAM INFORMATION (This Information Must Also be Completed):

QHEI PERFORMED? - ☐ Yes ☑ No QHEI Score _____ (If Yes, Attach Completed QHEI Form)

DOWNSTREAM DESIGNATED USE(S)

☑ WWH Name: **East Branch Portage River** Distance from Evaluated Stream **2.10**

☐ CWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

☐ EWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

MAPPING: ATTACH COPIES OF MAPS, INCLUDING THE ENTIRE WATERSHED AREA. CLEARLY MARK THE SITE LOCATION

USGS Quadrangle Name: **Alvada** NRCS Soil Map Page: _____ NRCS Soil Map Stream Order _____

County: **Seneca** Township / City: **Loudon**

MISCELLANEOUS

Base Flow Conditions? (Y/N): **N** Date of last precipitation: **10/24/22** Quantity: **0.05**

Photograph Information: _____

Elevated Turbidity? (Y/N): **N** Canopy (% open): **100%**

Were samples collected for water chemistry? (Y/N): **N** (Note lab sample no. or id. and attach results) Lab Number: _____

Field Measures: Temp (°C) _____ Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l) _____ pH (S.U.) _____ Conductivity (µmhos/cm) _____

Is the sampling reach representative of the stream (Y/N) **N** If not, please explain: _____

Additional comments/description of pollution impacts: _____

BIOTIC EVALUATION

Performed? (Y/N): **N** (If Yes, Record all observations. Voucher collections optional. NOTE: all voucher samples must be labeled with the site ID number. Include appropriate field data sheets from the Primary Headwater Habitat Assessment Manual)

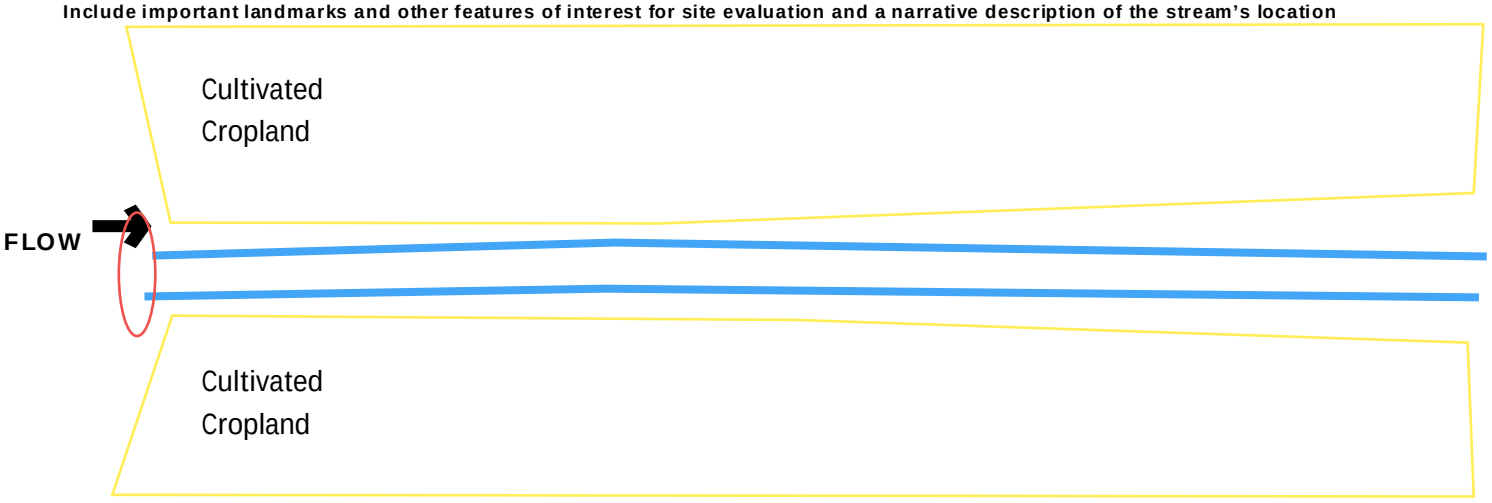
Fish Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Salamanders Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Frogs or Tadpoles Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Aquatic Macroinvertebrates Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Comments Regarding Biology: _____

DRAWING AND NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF STREAM REACH (This must be completed):

Include important landmarks and other features of interest for site evaluation and a narrative description of the stream's location



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APPENDIX

E REPRESENTATIVE PHOTOGRAPHS

IRON TRIANGLE 138KV PROJECT

PHOTOGRAPH 1

Wetland IT 001 (PFO), facing north on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 2

Wetland IT 001 (PFO), facing south on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 3

Wetland IT 001 (PFO), facing east on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 4

Wetland IT 001 (PFO), facing west on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 5

Upland IT 001, facing north on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 6

Upland IT 001, facing south on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 7

Wetland IT 002 (PFO), facing north on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 8

Wetland IT 002 (PFO), facing south on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 9

Wetland IT 002 (PFO), facing east on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 10

Wetland IT 002 (PFO), facing west on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 11

Upland IT 002/003, facing north on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 12

Upland IT 002/003, facing south on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 13

Wetland IT 003 (PFO), facing north on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 14

Wetland IT 003 (PFO), facing south on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 15

Wetland IT 003 (PFO), facing east on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 16

Wetland IT 003 (PFO), facing west on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 17

Wetland IT 003 (PEM), facing north on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 18

Wetland IT 003 (PEM), facing south on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 19

Wetland IT 003 (PEM), facing east on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 20

Wetland IT 003 (PEM), facing west on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 21

Wetland IT 008 (PEM), facing north on September 14, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 22

Wetland IT 008 (PEM), facing south on September 14, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 23

Wetland IT 008 (PEM), facing east on September 14, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 24

Wetland IT 008 (PEM), facing west on September 14, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 25

Upland IT 008, facing north on September 14, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 26

Upland IT 008, facing south on September 14, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 27

Upland IT 008, facing east on September 14, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 28

Upland IT 008, facing west on September 14, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 29

Stream IT 001 (Intermittent), facing upstream on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 30

Stream IT 001 (Intermittent), facing downstream on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 31

Stream IT 001 (Intermittent), substrate on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 32

Stream IT 002 (Intermittent), facing upstream on October 27, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 33

Stream IT 002 (Intermittent), facing downstream on October 27, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 34

Stream IT 002 (Intermittent), substrate on October 27, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 35

Representative Developed, Cultivated Cropland, facing north on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 36

Representative Developed, Medium-Intensity land use, facing north on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 37

Representative Developed, Open-Space, facing west on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 38

Representative Old Field, facing north on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 39

Representative Scrub Shrub habitat, facing west on July 25, 2022.

PHOTOGRAPH 40

Representative Successional Hardwood Forest, facing north on July 25, 2022.

APPENDIX

F AGENCY COORDINATION

Office of Real Estate
John Kessler, Chief
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6621
Fax: (614) 267-4764

August 15, 2022

Brad Rolfes
WSP USA
Suite 2500
312 Elm Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Re: 22-0760; AEP Iron Triangle 138 kV Transmission Line Project

Project: The project proposes to rebuild approximately 3.3 miles of the Iron Triangle 138 kV transmission line.

Location: The proposed project is located in Washington Township, Hancock County, Ohio.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has completed a review of the above referenced project. These comments were generated by an inter-disciplinary review within the Department. These comments have been prepared under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), the National Environmental Policy Act, the Coastal Zone Management Act, Ohio Revised Code and other applicable laws and regulations. These comments are also based on ODNR's experience as the state natural resource management agency and do not supersede or replace the regulatory authority of any local, state or federal agency nor relieve the applicant of the obligation to comply with any local, state or federal laws or regulations.

Natural Heritage Database: A review of the Ohio Natural Heritage Database indicates there are no records of state or federally listed plants or animals within one mile of the specified project area. Records searched date from 1980.

Please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed and we rely on receiving information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area.

Fish and Wildlife: The Division of Wildlife (DOW) has the following comments.

The DOW recommends that impacts to streams, wetlands and other water resources be avoided and minimized to the fullest extent possible, and that Best Management Practices be utilized to minimize erosion and sedimentation.

The entire state of Ohio is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally threatened species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer (April 1 through September 30), these species of bats

predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut, the DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH ≥ 20 if possible. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a mist net survey or acoustic survey be conducted from June 1 through August 15, prior to any cutting. Mist net and acoustic surveys should be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of the "*OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING*". If state listed bats are documented, DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31. However, limited summer tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW (contact Eileen Wyza at Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov).

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment is conducted, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if a potential hibernaculum is present within the project area. Direction on how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS "*RANGE-WIDE INDIANA BAT & NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT SURVEY GUIDELINES*." If a habitat assessment finds that a potential hibernaculum is present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Eileen Wyza for project recommendations. If a potential or known hibernaculum is found, the DOW recommends a 0.25-mile tree cutting and subsurface disturbance buffer around the hibernaculum entrance, however, limited summer or winter tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the following listed mussel species.
Federally Endangered
clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)
rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*)

State Endangered
purple lilliput (*Toxolasma lividum*)

State Threatened
pondhorn (*Uniomerus tetralasmus*)
Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*)

Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream of sufficient size, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the western banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus menona*), a state endangered fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact this or other aquatic species.

The project is within the range of the Kirtland's snake (*Clonophis kirtlandii*), a state threatened species. This secretive species prefers wet meadows and other wetlands. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), a state threatened bird. This secretive marsh species prefers dense emergent wetlands with thick stands of cattails, sedges, sawgrass or other semiaquatic vegetation interspersed with woody vegetation and open water. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 through July 31. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonis*), a state endangered bird. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

Due to the potential of impacts to federally listed species, as well as to state listed species, we recommend that this project be coordinated with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

Water Resources: The Division of Water Resources has the following comment.

The local floodplain administrator should be contacted concerning the possible need for any floodplain permits or approvals for this project.

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact Mike Pettegrew at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator

Rolfes, Brad

From:	Ohio, FW3 <ohio@fws.gov>
Sent:	Friday, August 5, 2022 9:13 AM
To:	Rolfes, Brad
Cc:	nathan.reardon@dnr.state.oh.us; Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov
Subject:	AEP Iron Triangle 138 kV Transmission Line Project, Hancock and Seneca Counties, Ohio
Follow Up Flag:	Flag for follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services Office
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230
(614) 416-8993 / Fax (614) 416-8994

Project Code: 2022-0064649

Dear Mr. Rolfes,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has received your recent correspondence requesting information about the subject proposal. We offer the following comments and recommendations to assist you in minimizing and avoiding adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA).

Federally Threatened and Endangered Species: The endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and threatened northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) occur throughout the State of Ohio. The Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat may be found wherever suitable habitat occurs unless a presence/absence survey has been performed to document absence. Suitable summer habitat for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and breed that may also include adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, woodlots, fallow fields, and pastures. Roost trees for both species include live and standing dead trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height (dbh) that have any exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, hollows and/or cavities. These roost trees may be located in forested habitats as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet of other forested/wooded habitat. Northern long-eared bats have also been observed roosting in human-made structures, such as buildings, barns, bridges, and bat houses; therefore, these structures should also be considered potential summer habitat. In the winter, Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats hibernate in caves, rock crevices and abandoned mines.

Seasonal Tree Clearing for Federally Listed Bat Species: The proposed project is in the vicinity of one or more confirmed records of Indiana bats. Should the proposed project site contain trees ≥3 inches dbh, we recommend avoiding tree removal wherever possible. If any caves or abandoned mines may be disturbed, further coordination with this office is requested to determine if fall or spring portal surveys are warranted. If no caves or abandoned mines are present and trees ≥3 inches dbh cannot be avoided, we recommend removal of any trees ≥3 inches dbh only occur between November 15 and March 15. Seasonal clearing is recommended to avoid

adverse effects to Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. While incidental take of northern long-eared bats from most tree clearing is exempted by a 4(d) rule (see https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045), incidental take of Indiana bats is still prohibited without a project-specific exemption. Thus, seasonal clearing is recommended where Indiana bats are known or assumed present. Please note that, because Indiana bat presence has already been confirmed in the project vicinity, any additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence surveys for this species.

Section 7 Coordination: If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), then no tree clearing should occur on any portion of the project area until consultation under section 7 of the ESA, between the Service and the federal action agency, is completed. We recommend the federal action agency submit a determination of effects to this office, relative to the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat, for our review and concurrence. This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document.

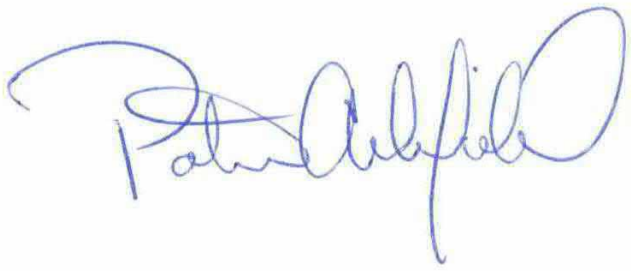
Stream and Wetland Avoidance: Over 90% of the wetlands in Ohio have been drained, filled, or modified by human activities, thus is it important to conserve the functions and values of the remaining wetlands in Ohio (https://epa.ohio.gov/portals/47/facts/ohio_wetlands.pdf). We recommend avoiding and minimizing project impacts to all wetland habitats (e.g., forests, streams, vernal pools) to the maximum extent possible in order to benefit water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Additionally, natural buffers around streams and wetlands should be preserved to enhance beneficial functions. If streams or wetlands will be impacted, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted to determine whether a Clean Water Act section 404 permit is required. Best management practices should be used to minimize erosion, especially on slopes. Disturbed areas should be mulched and revegetated with native plant species. In addition, prevention of non-native, invasive plant establishment is critical in maintaining high quality habitats.

Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or proposed or designated critical habitat. Should the project design change, or additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat become available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, coordination with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

Thank you for your efforts to conserve listed species and sensitive habitats in Ohio. We recommend coordinating with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the proposed project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact Mike Pettegrew, Acting Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at mike.pettegrew@dnr.state.oh.us.

If you have questions, or if we can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact our office at (614) 416-8993 or ohio@fws.gov.

Sincerely,



Patrice Ashfield
Field Office Supervisor

cc: Nathan Reardon, ODNR-DOW
Eileen Wyza, ODNR-DOW