

November 1, 2017

RE: CSJ: 0176-02-118; United States (US) 59 Highway Widening and Improvements, Section 106 Consultation; Angelina County, Lufkin District

To: Representatives of Federally-recognized Tribes with Interest in this Project Area

The above referenced transportation project is being considered for construction by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Environmental studies are in the process of being conducted for this project. The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 16, 2014, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

The purpose of this letter is to contact you in order to consult with your Tribe pursuant to stipulations of the Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Highway Administration, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding the Implementation of Transportation Undertakings (PA-TU). The project is located in an area that is of interest to your Tribe.

Undertaking Description

TxDOT's Lufkin District is proposing to improve the segment of United States Highway (US) 59 between State Loop (SL) 287 and Farm-to-Market (FM) 2021, widening the existing highway and including access roads and grade separated interchanges. The proposed project is located north of the City of Lufkin in Angelina County, Texas (Exhibit A).

The proposed project would add travel lanes and create a median divided highway on US 59 with north and south bound access roads and grade-separated interchanges (overpasses) between SL 287 and FM 2021 a distance of approximately 2.5 miles. The proposed project will acquire between 50 and 60 acres of new right of way (Exhibit B).

Area of Potential Effects

The project's area of potential effects (APE) comprises the following area:

- The project limits extend from north of SL 287 to south of FM 2021 along US 59. The total project length is thus 13,000 feet.
- The existing right of way is variable from 200 feet to 360 feet in width.

- The latitude and longitude for the end points of the project are:
 - Begin latitude: +31.41758055 Begin longitude: -94.72213055
 - End latitude: +31.38209099 End longitude: -94.71266416
- The existing right of way comprises an area estimated at 80 acres.
- The preliminary plans identify approximately 50 acres of new right of way (see Attachments A and B for proposed profile).
- The estimated depths of impact would be two feet along the roadway to seven feet for buried utilities and drainage. At the location of overpasses, drilled shafts may be excavated to 80 feet.
- For the purposes of this cultural resources review, the APE also includes an additional 50-foot area around the previously-described horizontal dimensions to account for potential alterations to the proposed APE included in the final project design. Consultation would be continued if potential impacts extend beyond this additional area, based on the final design.

Identification Efforts

For this project, TxDOT has conducted a desktop-based study of available background information, which indicates that further field investigation is warranted. The APE includes areas with potential to contain archeological deposits. The Texas Archeological Sites Atlas depicts a large-area (12 acres) archeological site within 200 meters of the APE.

Findings and Recommendations

Based on the above, TxDOT proposes the following findings and recommendations:

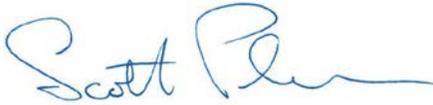
- while archeological sites occur rarely even under favorable circumstances for their presence and preservation, field investigation of the APE to identify potential archeological historic properties (36 CFR 800.16(l)) is warranted to verify that archeological historic properties do not occur within the APE;
- that a zone of 50 feet beyond the horizontal project limits be considered as part of the cultural resources evaluation; and
- if any future changes to the project APE extend beyond the additional 50-foot zone or if archeological deposits are discovered, your Tribe would then be contacted for further consultation.

According to our procedures and agreements currently in place regarding consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are writing to request your comments on historic properties of cultural or religious significance to your Tribe that may be affected by the proposed project APE and the area within the above defined buffer. Any comments you may

have on the TxDOT findings and recommendations should also be provided. Please provide your comments within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Any comments provided after that time will be addressed to the fullest extent possible. If you do not object that the proposed findings and recommendations are appropriate, please sign below to indicate your concurrence. In the event that further work discloses the presence of archeological deposits, we will contact your Tribe to continue consultation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have questions, please contact Eric Oksanen (TxDOT Archeologist) at 512/416-2505 (email: eric.oksanen@txdot.gov) or Laura Cruzada at 512/416-2638 (email: Laura.Cruzada@txdot.gov). When replying to this correspondence by US Mail, please ensure that the envelope address includes reference to the Archeological Studies Branch, Environmental Affairs Division.

Sincerely,



Scott Pletka, Supervisor
Archeological Studies Branch
Environmental Affairs Division

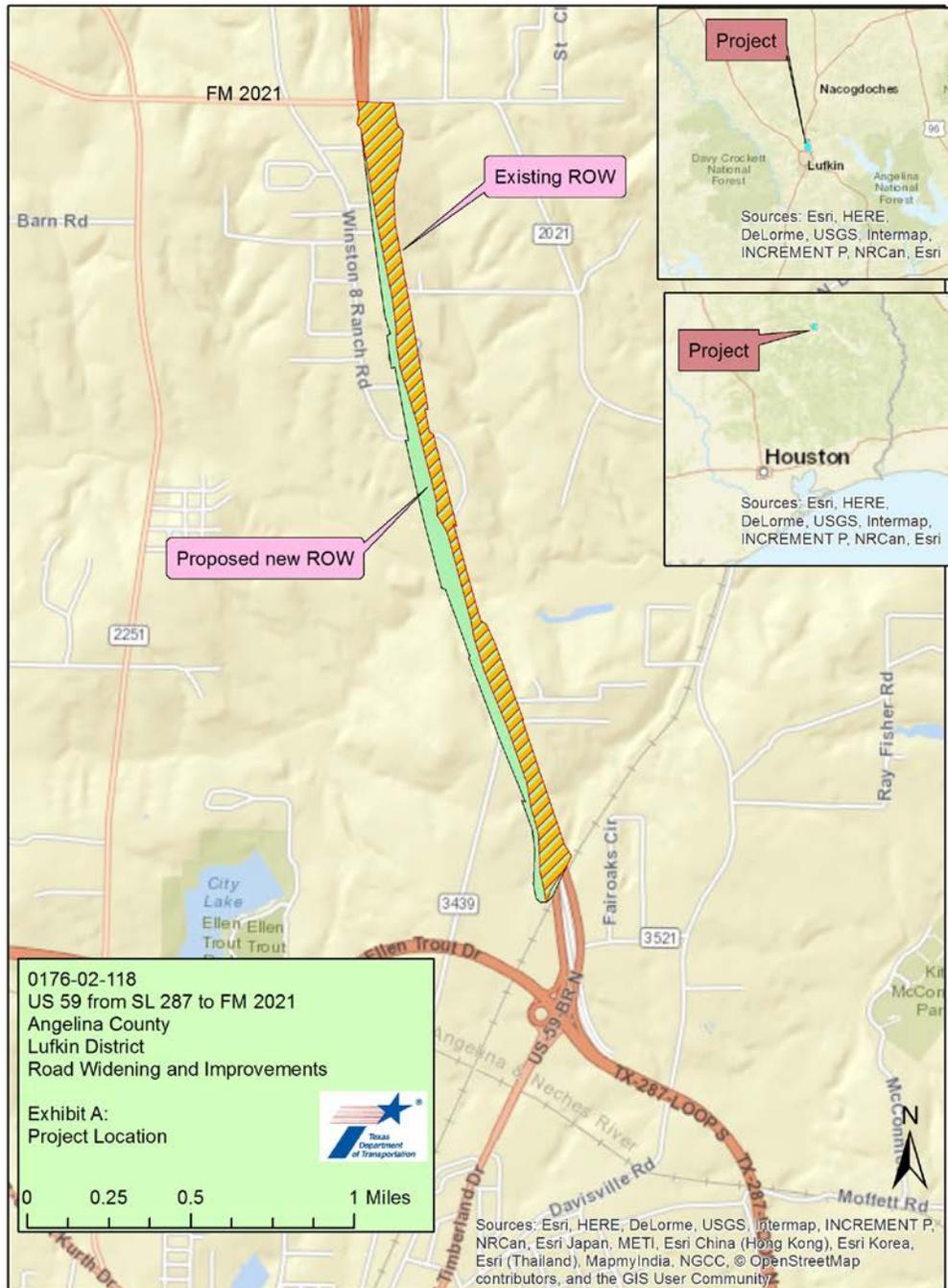
Concurrence by:

Date:

Attachments

cc w/attachments: ENV-ARCH ECOS

Exhibit A: Project location and APE.



Sarah Stroman

From: Sarah Stroman
Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2017 2:15 PM
To: 'khenry@coushattatribela.org'; 'llangley@mcneese.edu'; 'kokua.aina57@gmail.com'; 'kellie@tribaladminsivices.org'; 'Ivy@tribaladminsivices.org'; 'thpo@tttown.org'; 'earlii@tunica.org'; 'bbordelon@tunica.org'; 'AQhpo@mail.com'; 'chief@alabama-quassarte.org'; 'pcross@caddonation.org'; 'ashively@jenachoctaw.org'; 'isham.t@sno-nnsn.gov'; 'Celestine.bryant@actribe.org'
Cc: Laura Cruzada
Subject: Section 106 Consultation, Texas Department of Transportation, CSJ: 0176-02-118; United States (US) 59 Highway Widening and Improvements; Angelina County, Lufkin District
Attachments: 017602118_Consultation_Request_01-Nov-2017.pdf

Sec. 106 Consultation

NOVEMBER 2, 2017

We kindly request your comments regarding a proposed undertaking. Please see the attached info for project details and information. A summary is provided below.

Summary:

<i>Project ID (CSJ), County and TxDOT District</i>	<i>CSJ: 0176-02-118; United States (US) 59 Highway Widening and Improvements; Angelina County, Lufkin District</i>
<i>Project Sponsor:</i>	<i>TxDOT</i>
<i>Short Description:</i>	<i>Road widening and improvements</i>
<i>New Right of Way:</i>	<i>50 – 60 acres</i>
<i>Depth of Impacts:</i>	<i>1 – 80 ft.</i>
<i>Known Archeological Sites or Properties in project area:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Identification Efforts:</i>	<i>Desktop Review</i>
<i>Recommendations:</i>	<i>Field investigation of the APE to identify potential archeological historic properties (36 CFR 800.16(l)) is warranted to verify that archeological historic properties do not occur within the APE</i>

Contacts:

[Chantal McKenzie](#)
512-416-2770
[Laura Cruzada](#)
512-416-2638

Sarah G. Stroman

Texas Department of Transportation
Environmental Affairs Division
118 E. Riverside Drive
Austin, TX 78704

512/416-2608 Office
512/550-9306 Mobile
512/416-2746 Fax

Mailing Address:
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Sarah.Stroman@txdot.gov



THLOPTHLOCCO TRIBAL TOWN

Tribal Historic Preservation Office

Terry Clouthier, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

P.O. Box 188
Okemah, OK 74859
(918) 560-6113
thpo@tttown.org

December 1, 2017

THPO File Number: 2017-206

Scott Pletka
Supervisor
Archaeology Studies Branch
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Department of Transportation
125 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

RE: CSJ: 0176-02-118; United States (US) 59 Highway Widening and Improvements, Section 106 Consultation; Angelina County, Texas

Dear Mr. Pletka,

Thank you for contacting the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) soliciting comments on the undertaking to improve the segment of United States Highway (US) 59 between State Loop (SL) 287 and Farm-to-Market (FM) 2021 which entails widening the existing highway and including access roads and grade separated interchanges. Our office has reviewed the documents provided and offers the following comment.

The THPO agrees with the recommended course of action requiring additional survey for this undertaking. The THPO looks forward to reviewing the cultural survey report once it is finalized.

Please feel free to contact the THPO at thpo@tttown.org or (918) 560-6113 if you have any questions.

Please refer to THPO file number 2017-206 in all correspondence for this proposed undertaking.

Sincerely,

Terry Clouthier
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

HOME (/) ATLAS MAP (/ MAP) ADVANCED SEARCH (/ ADVANCEDSEARCH) ABOUT ATLAS (/ ABOUT) DOWNLOADS (/ DATA / DATADOWNLOAD) ACCOUNT (/ ACCOUNT / MANAGE)

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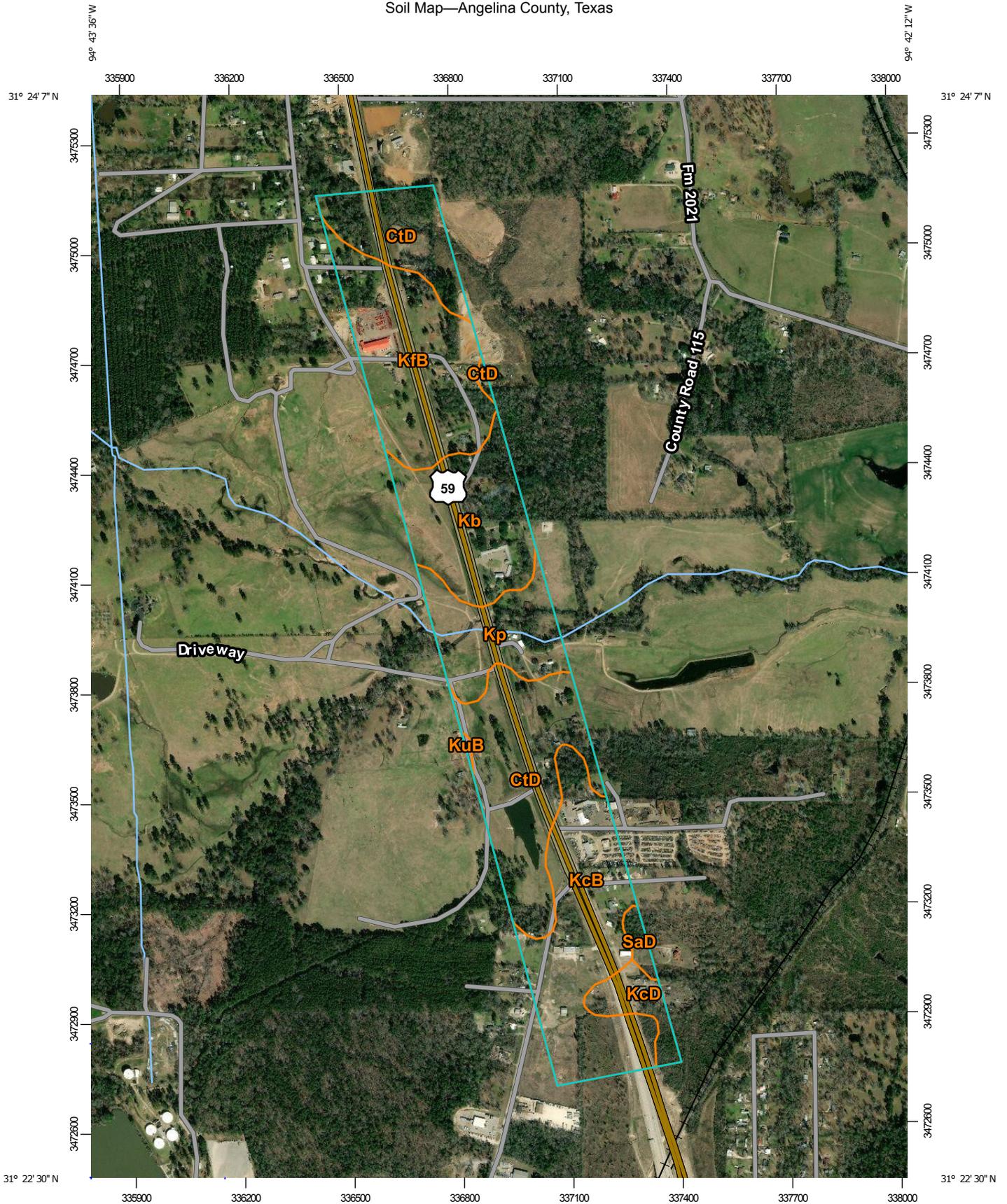
Details for Site 41AG12

Archeological Site Form — Atlas Number 9005001201

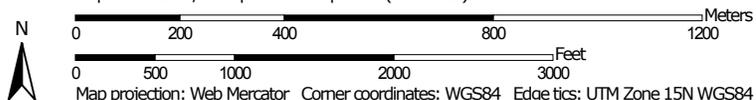
Form THSA20 (../SiteForms/THSA20.gif) Data

Site No.	41AG12
County	Angelina
Date	
Geographical Location	E Texas, site no. 617. Southern limit of Redland Community on W side of Route 35.
Name and Address of Owner	Mr. Julius Carl Morgan, Route 3, Lufkin
Attitude towards excavation	
Permission to excavate	
Type of Site	Village
Dimensions and Description	Ca. 12 acres in area. Extensive bottom land with gradual rise to the N and NW. Remarks: large quantities of artifacts have been found on this site immediately after a flood several years ago when top soil was washed away. Owner of material: Percy Higdon. Entries in pencil made at I.A. Lab.
Previous excavation	
Mapped by	
Cultivation	Formerly
Erosion	Deep in some portions. Large part washed out during flood.
Vegetation	Weeds
Type of Soil	Sand
Buildings on or near site	House and barns to N
Relation of site to nearby sites	None at time of this survey
Proximity to a stream or spring	Adjacent to Mill Creek on N side
Local topography	Undulating terrain
Evidences of food	Fragments of bone
Surface Materials Gathered	61 potsherds, 2 quartzite projectile points, 4 fragments petrified wood artifacts, 9 petrified wood projectile points, 4 petrified wood knife blades, 1 of which is an excellently made double pointed end knife, 1 flint side scraper. Total- 77.

Soil Map—Angelina County, Texas



Map Scale: 1:14,400 if printed on A portrait (8.5" x 11") sheet.



Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 15N WGS84



Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

9/20/2018
Page 1 of 3

MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons

 Soil Map Unit Lines

 Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features

-  Blowout
-  Borrow Pit
-  Clay Spot
-  Closed Depression
-  Gravel Pit
-  Gravelly Spot
-  Landfill
-  Lava Flow
-  Marsh or swamp
-  Mine or Quarry
-  Miscellaneous Water
-  Perennial Water
-  Rock Outcrop
-  Saline Spot
-  Sandy Spot
-  Severely Eroded Spot
-  Sinkhole
-  Slide or Slip
-  Sodic Spot

-  Spoil Area
-  Stony Spot
-  Very Stony Spot
-  Wet Spot
-  Other
-  Special Line Features

Water Features

 Streams and Canals

Transportation

-  Rails
-  Interstate Highways
-  US Routes
-  Major Roads
-  Local Roads

Background

 Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Web Soil Survey URL:
 Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Angelina County, Texas
 Survey Area Data: Version 16, Nov 7, 2017

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Nov 21, 2015—Oct 22, 2017

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
CtD	Cuthbert fine sandy loam, 5 to 15 percent slopes	56.9	27.6%
Kb	Keithville-Sawtown complex, gently undulating	31.1	15.1%
KcB	Keltys fine sandy loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	45.6	22.1%
KcD	Keltys fine sandy loam, 5 to 15 percent slopes	7.4	3.6%
KfB	Kirvin fine sandy loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	41.1	19.9%
Kp	Koury loam, frequently flooded	21.7	10.5%
KuB	Kurth fine sandy loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes	0.3	0.1%
SaD	Sacul fine sandy loam, 5 to 15 percent slopes	2.2	1.1%
Totals for Area of Interest		206.2	100.0%

Surface material reported as belonging to site

Grooved and polished stone axe. Flint and petrified wood projectile points. Metate. Investigators: Higdon and Perkins

Recorder

G.E. Arnold

Owner of material

Culture type

Depth of culture

Investigator

Remarks

TRINOMIAL='41AG12'

Location Map

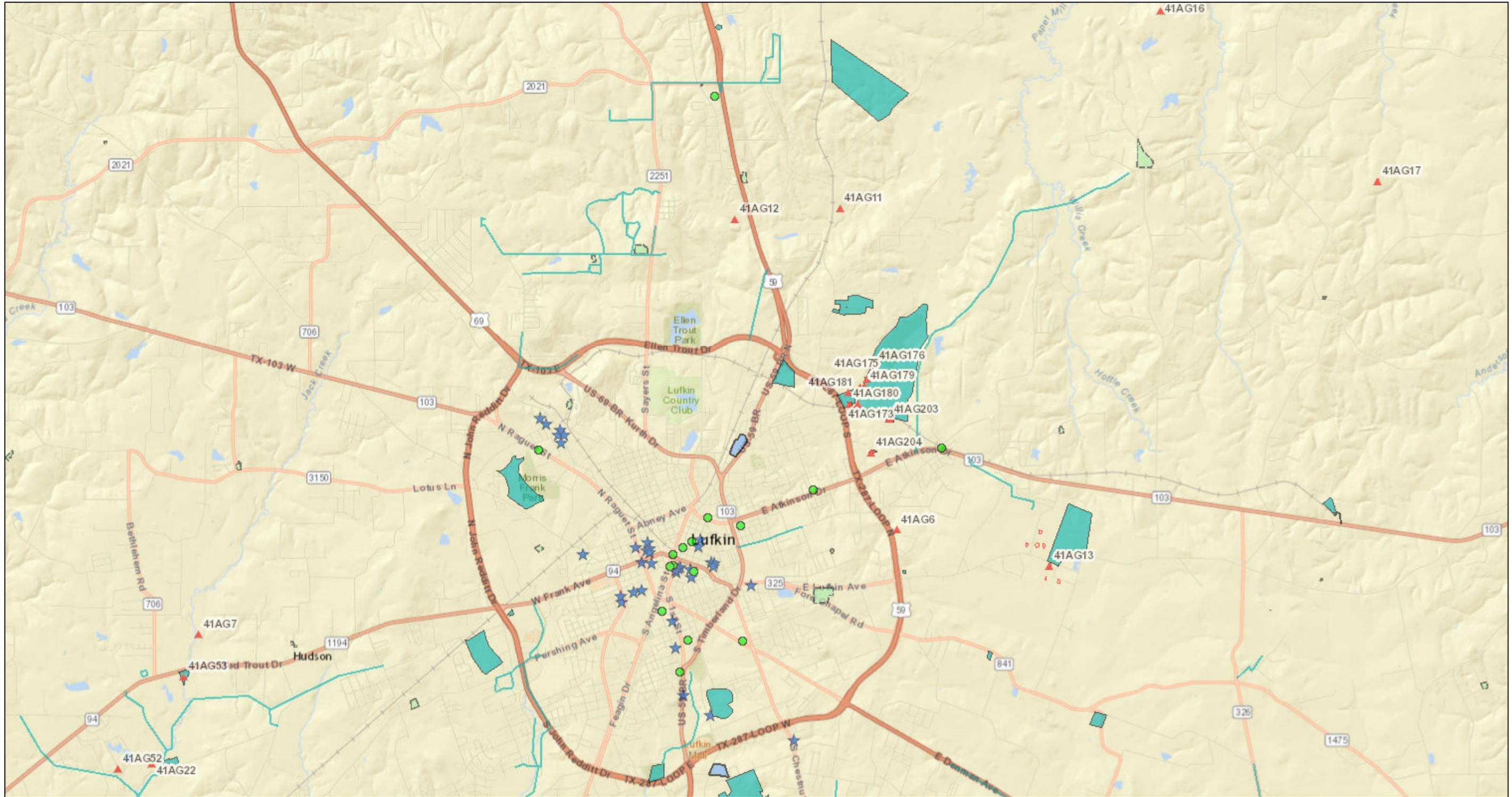




(//thc.state.tx.us)

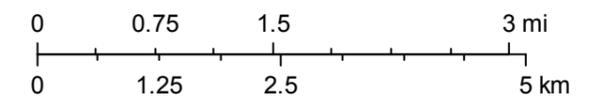
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Policies (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/policies>) | Archeological Log In (</Account/Login?Length=5>)
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Texas Archeological Sites Atlas



October 27, 2017

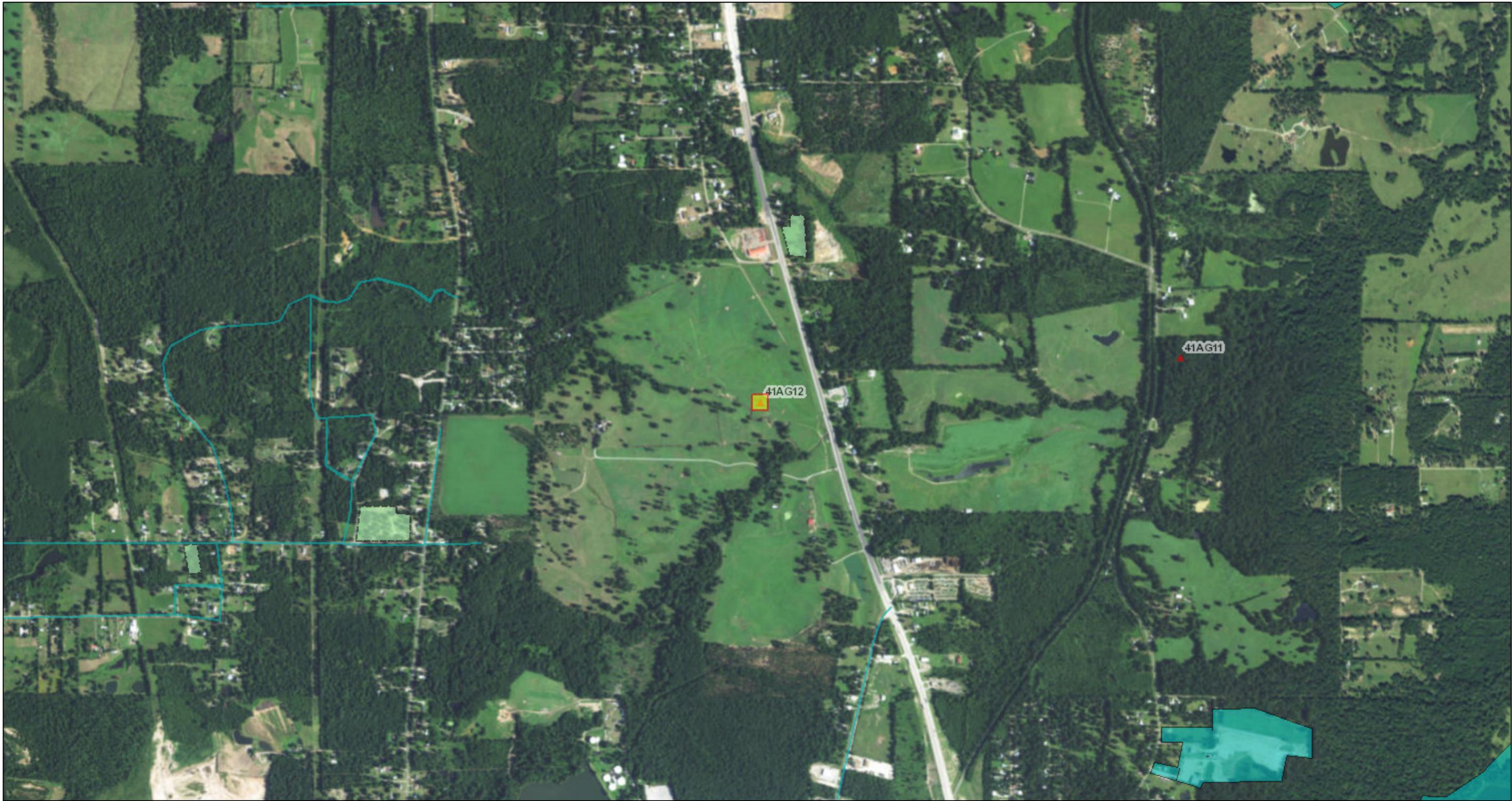
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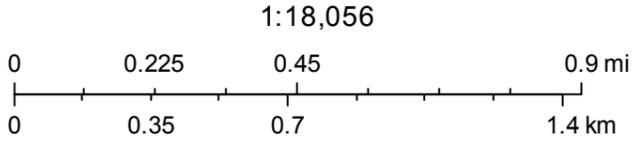
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THC provides this information with the understanding that it is not guaranteed to be accurate, correct or complete.
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Texas Archeological Sites Atlas

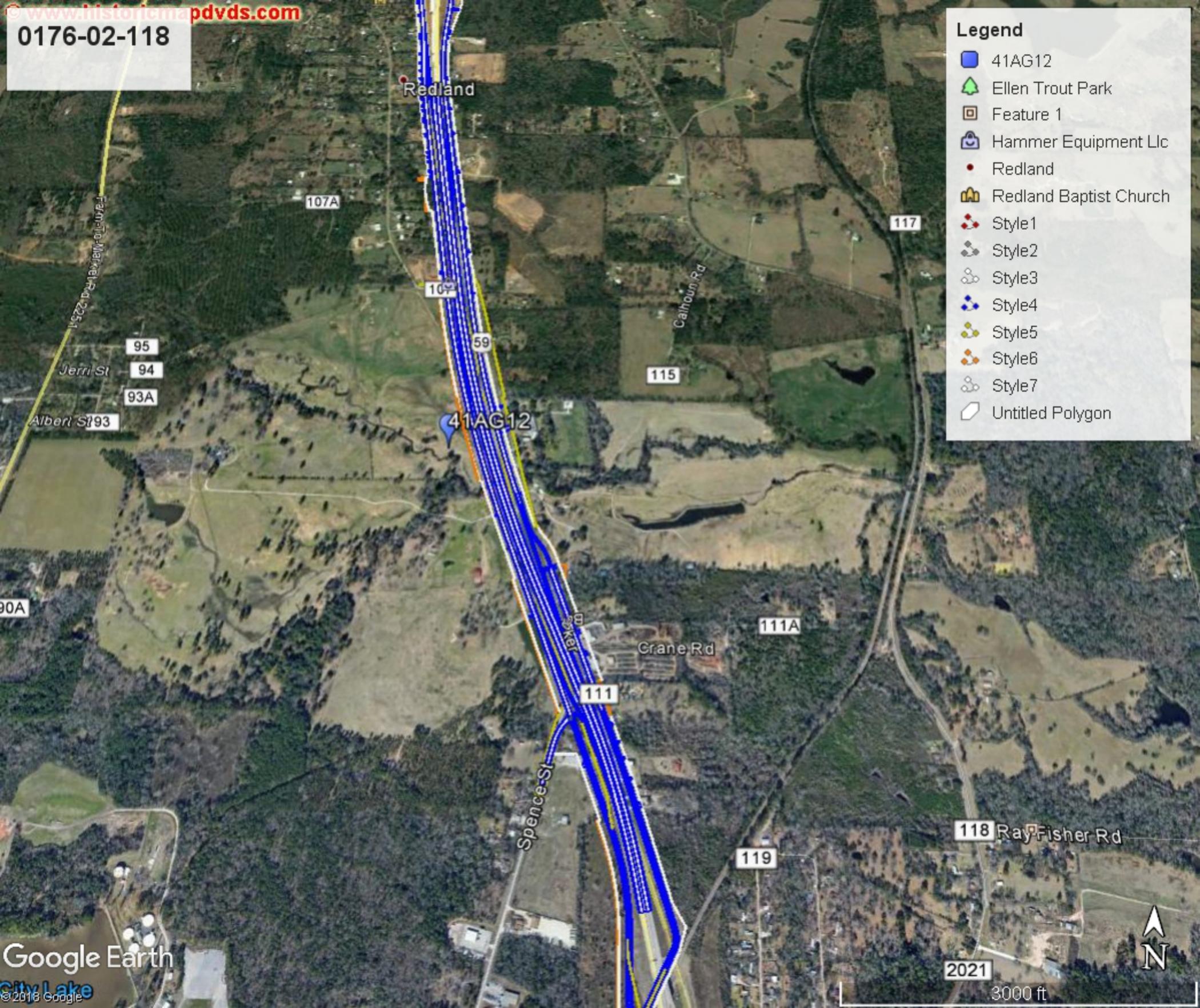


October 30, 2017



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0176-02-118



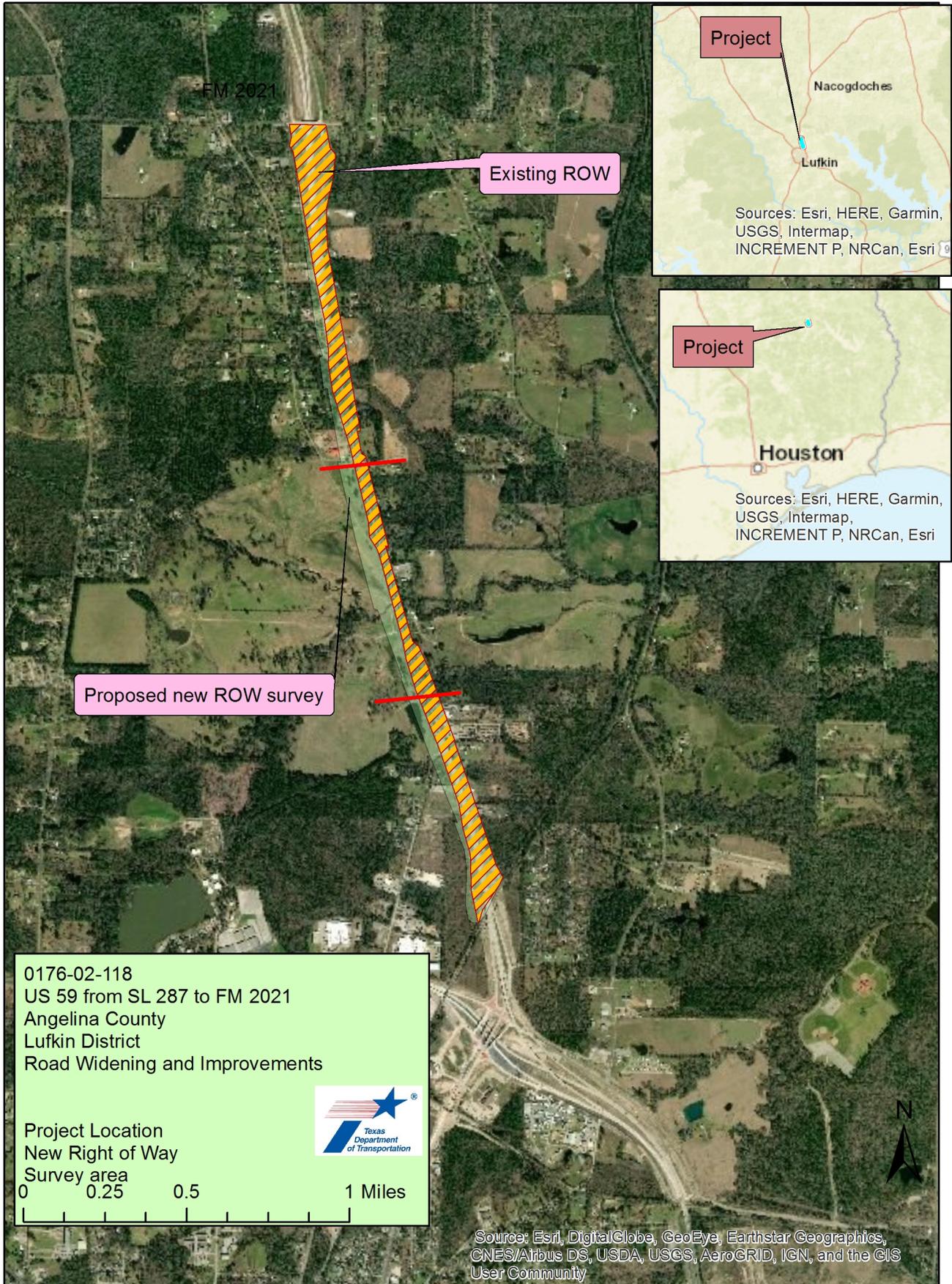
Legend

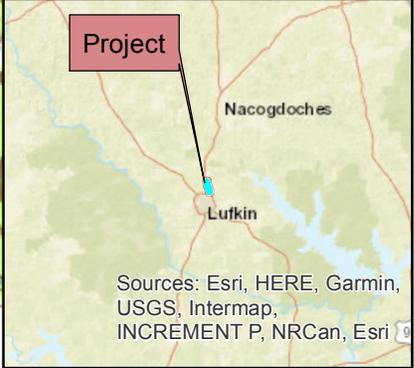
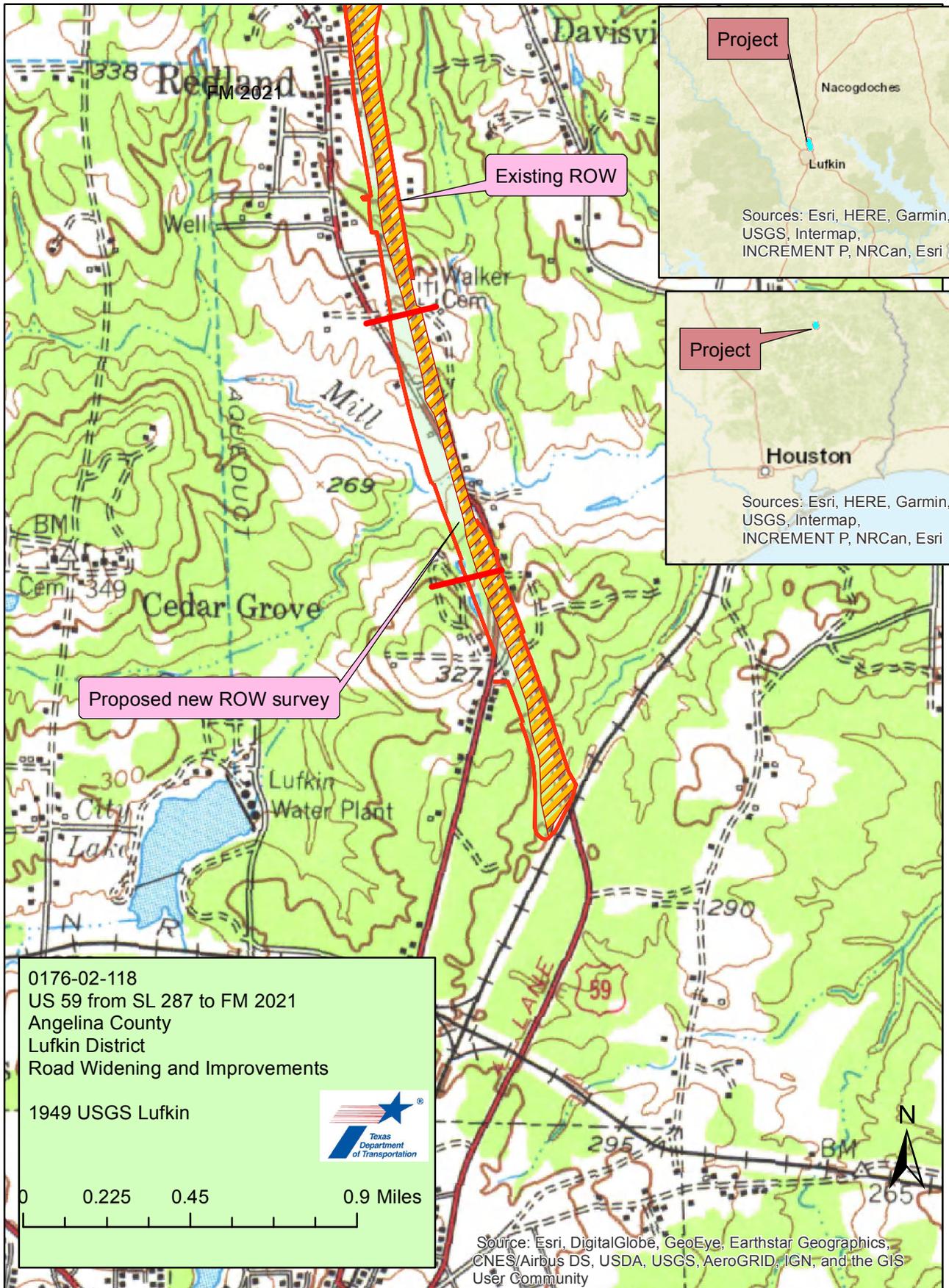
-  41AG12
-  Ellen Trout Park
-  Feature 1
-  Hammer Equipment Llc
-  Redland
-  Redland Baptist Church
-  Style1
-  Style2
-  Style3
-  Style4
-  Style5
-  Style6
-  Style7
-  Untitled Polygon

2021

3000 ft







0176-02-118
 US 59 from SL 287 to FM 2021
 Angelina County
 Lufkin District
 Road Widening and Improvements

1949 USGS Lufkin

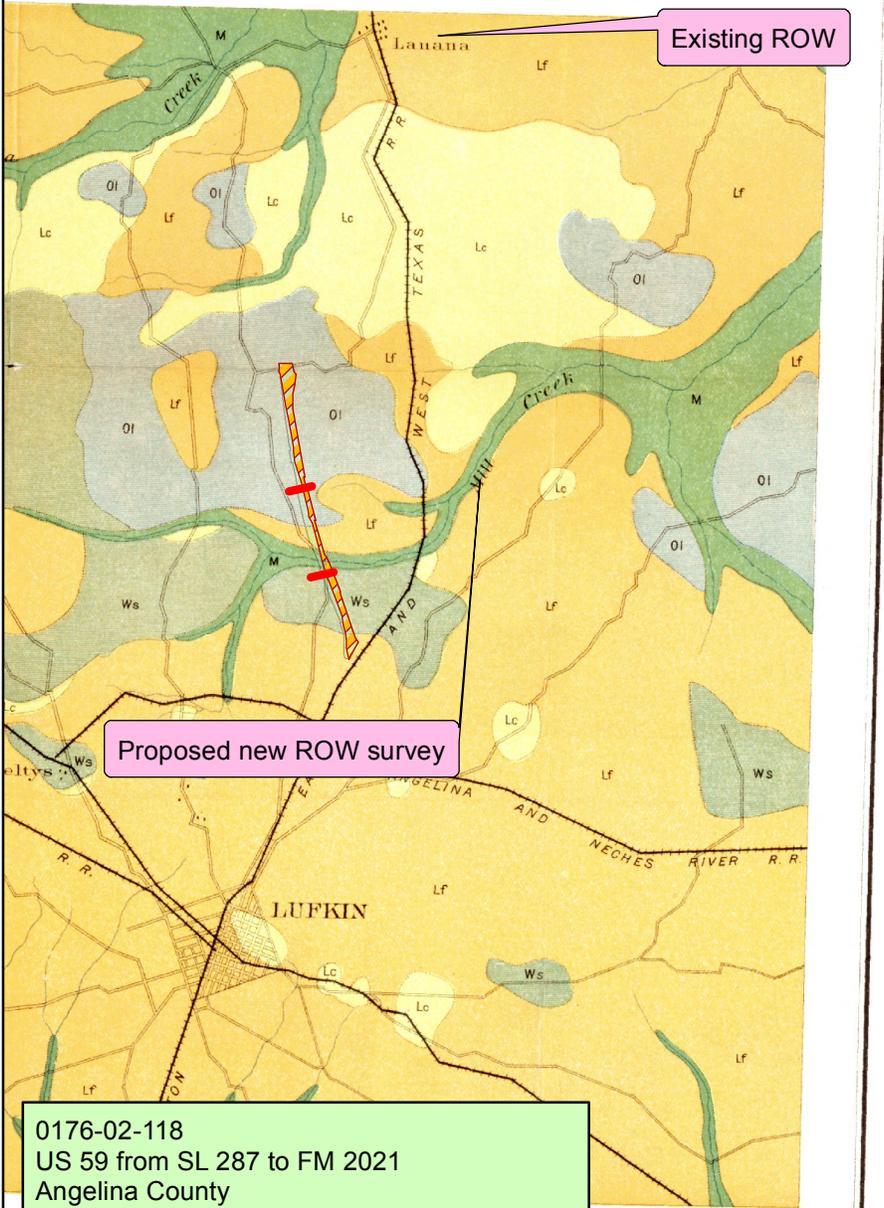


0 0.225 0.45 0.9 Miles

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

SOIL MAP
FM 2021

TEXAS
LUFKIN SHEET

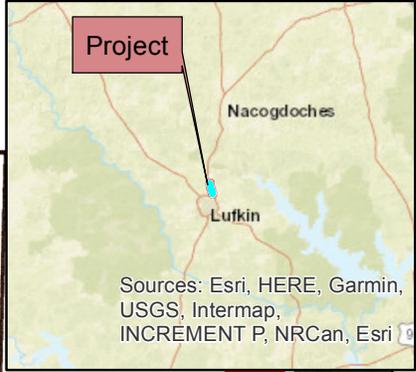
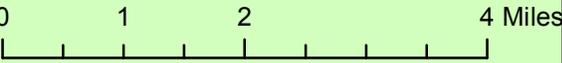


Existing ROW

Proposed new ROW survey

0176-02-118
US 59 from SL 287 to FM 2021
Angelina County
Lufkin District
Road Widening and Improvements

1913 Lufkin Soils Map

Legend

Orangeburg fine sandy loam

Lufkin clay

Meadow

Field Operations
Bureau of Soils
1903.

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NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service
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Eric Oksanen

From: David Bowers <beepy@consolidated.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 16, 2018 9:46 AM
To: Eric Oksanen
Cc: Jennifer Adams
Subject: RE: Walker Cemetery US 59 Redland Upgrade (Future I-69)

This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Eric,

I have consulted with other members of the Walker Cemetery Board of Directors and we agree on the following statement. Walker Cemetery has never performed any burials within the I69 right of way. No burials have been performed outside the Cemetery boundary which is delineated by the existing chain link and wood fence. Any burials you might encounter within the right of way would be ancient or pre-historic and are NOT associated with Walker Cemetery. In agreement with these statements are Board members Orren Schmidt, president, and Rodney Brazil, grounds maintenance supervisor. The Bowers family owns a small section in the northwest corner of the Cemetery which is also within the fenced area. I can state with certainty that the Bowers family has never conducted any burials within the I69 right of way. You should be good to go and I hope you do not have to incur the expense involved in excavation. We appreciate the consideration the Cemetery is being given in this project. Please feel free to contact me again if you need more information. I have taken the liberty of copying Jennifer Adams with this reply.

David Bowers
Board member, Tom Walker Cemetery Association

From: Eric Oksanen <Eric.Oksanen@txdot.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 2, 2018 3:54 PM
To: beepy@consolidated.net
Subject: Walker Cemetery US 59 Redland Upgrade (Future I-69)

Dear Mr. Bowers,

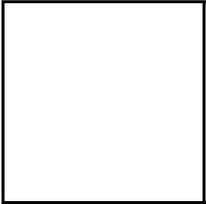
I am the project archeologist supervising the Redland Upgrade project and I am contacting you regarding the Walker Cemetery. I was given your email by Jennifer Adams with TxDOT's Lufkin office. We are always concerned about the possibility of burials extending into our right of way and we try to verify their presence or absence through document searches, contacting cemetery associations, or as a final step, excavating in the right of way. As you can imagine, I prefer to leave excavation as the last method. As Jennifer informed you, there is no additional right of way required near the cemetery. I am seeking confirmation that there are no burials in the right of way and this can be in the form of a cemetery map or email response.

I would appreciate your assistance in this matter, if it is possible to avoid scraping and trenching. Please contact me at your convenience.

Regards,

Eric Oksanen

District Archeologist
Archeological Studies Program
Environmental Affairs Division
Texas Dept. of Transportation
125 E. 11th Street
Austin, TX 78701
512/416-2505
Eric.Oksanen@txdot.gov



In 2017, alcohol-related traffic crash fatalities represented 28 percent of total traffic crash fatalities in Texas.



Virus-free. www.avg.com