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Appendix A

Project Location Maps

A-1. Project Area Street Maps

A-2. Project Area Aerial Maps



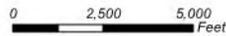
Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Project Area

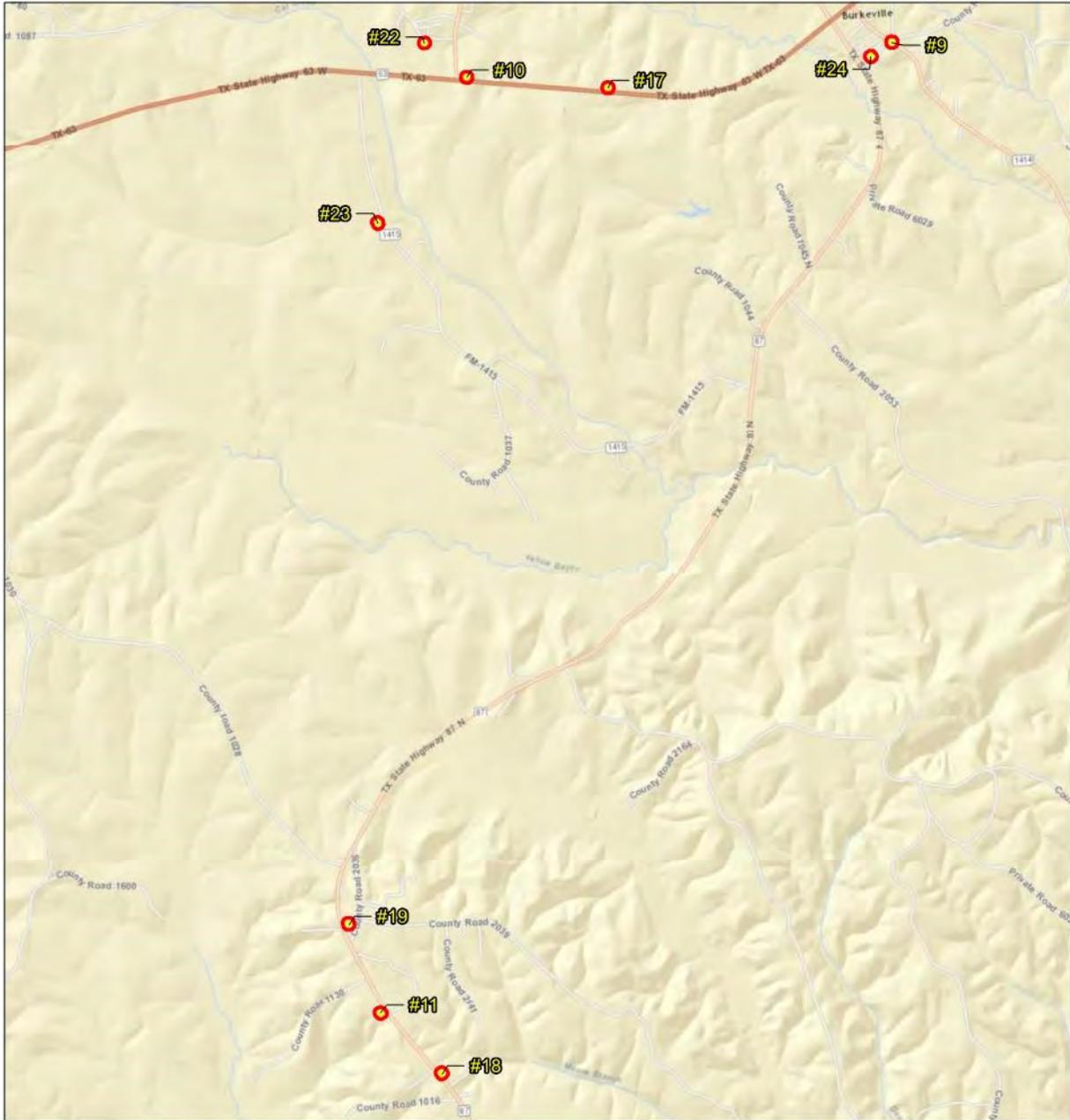
Page 1

Legend

- Work Area
- Property



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

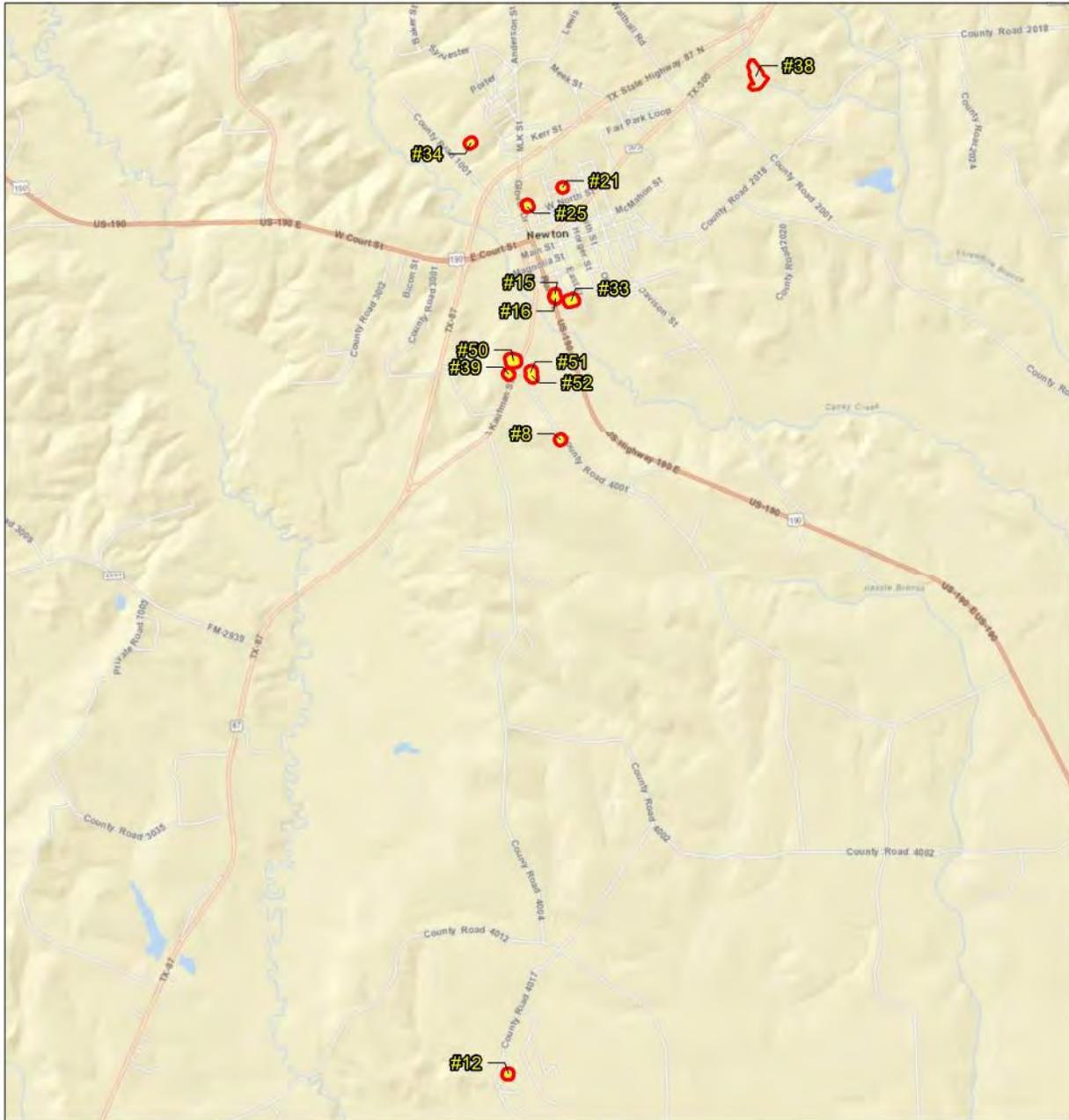
Project Area
Page 2

Legend

- Work Area
- Property

0 2,500 5,000 Feet

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Project Area

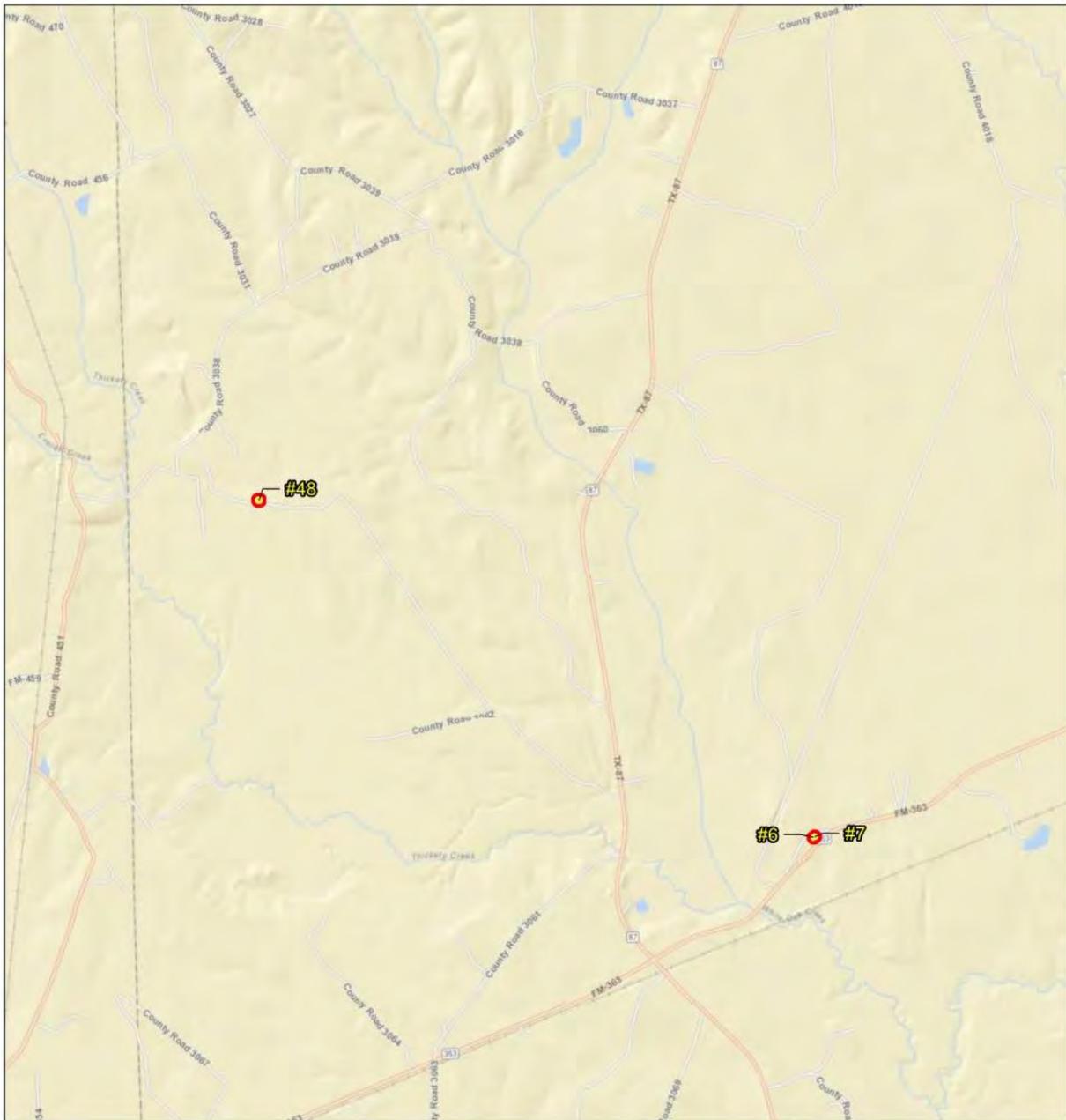
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Legend

- Work Area
- Property



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

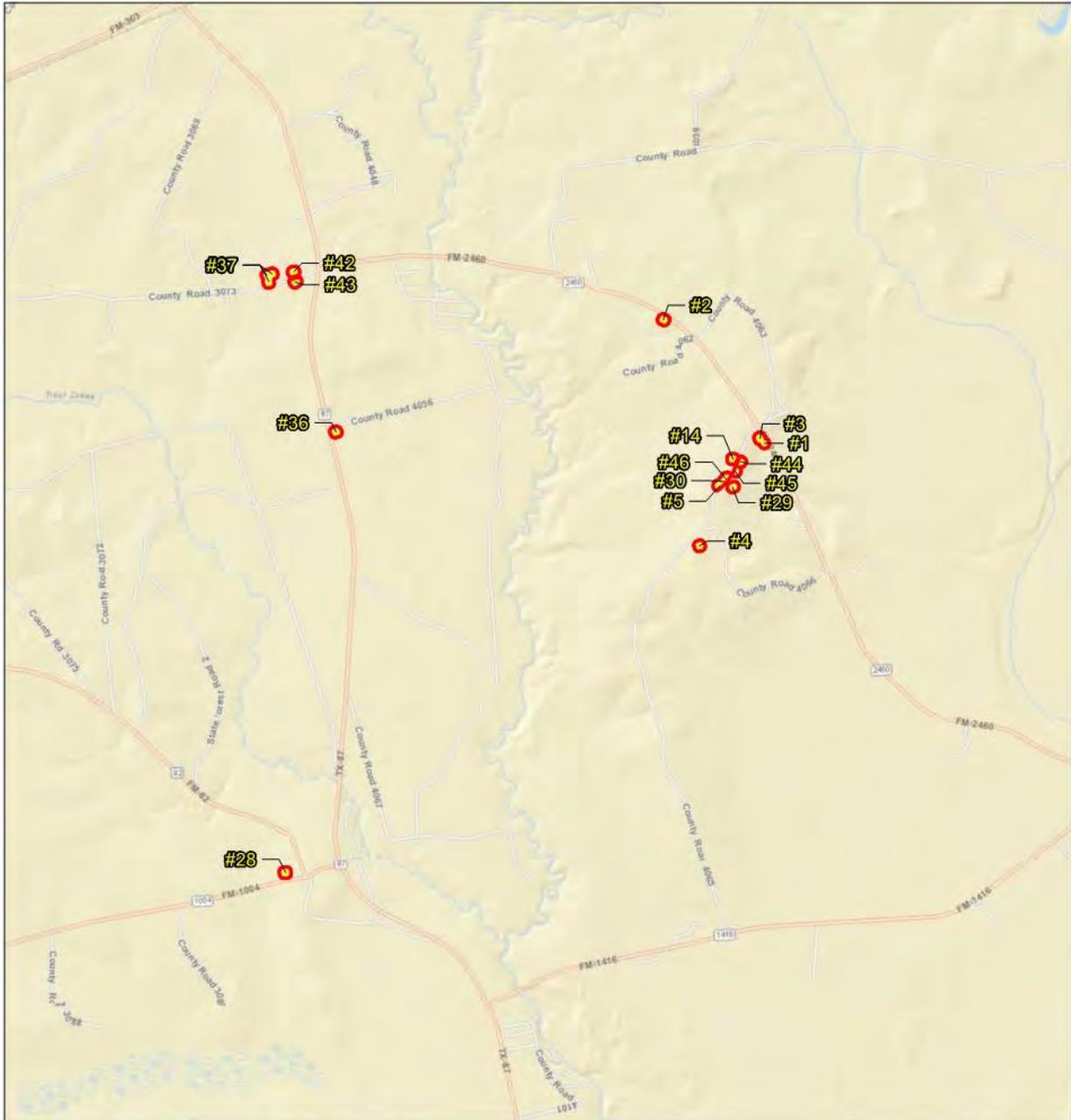
Project Area
Page 4

Legend

-  Work Area
-  Property



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Project Area
Page 5

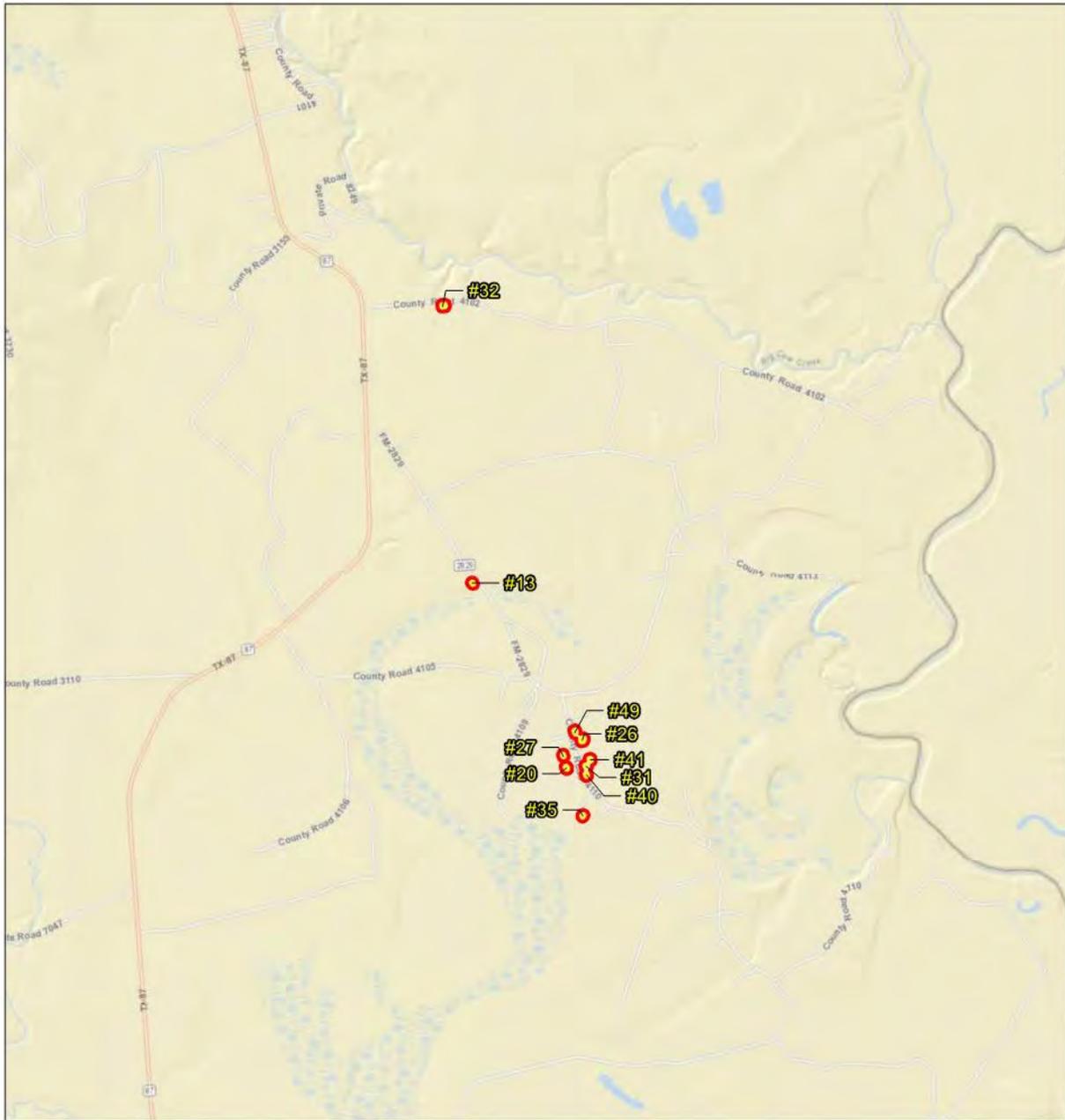
Legend

- Work Area
- Property

0 2,500 5,000
Feet

Newton County

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

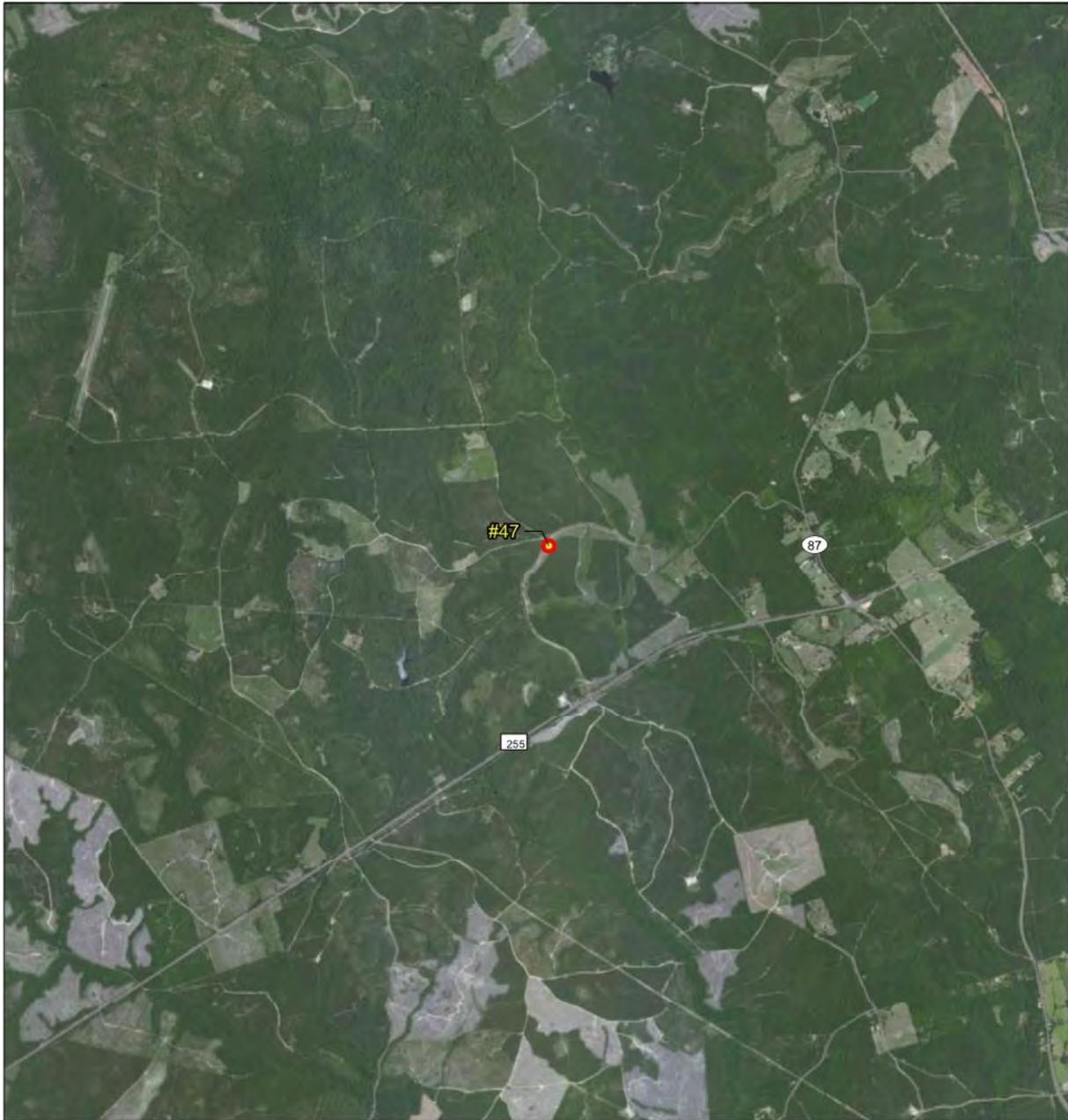
Project Area
Page 6

Legend

- Work Area
- Property



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

-  Work Area
-  Property
-  Road

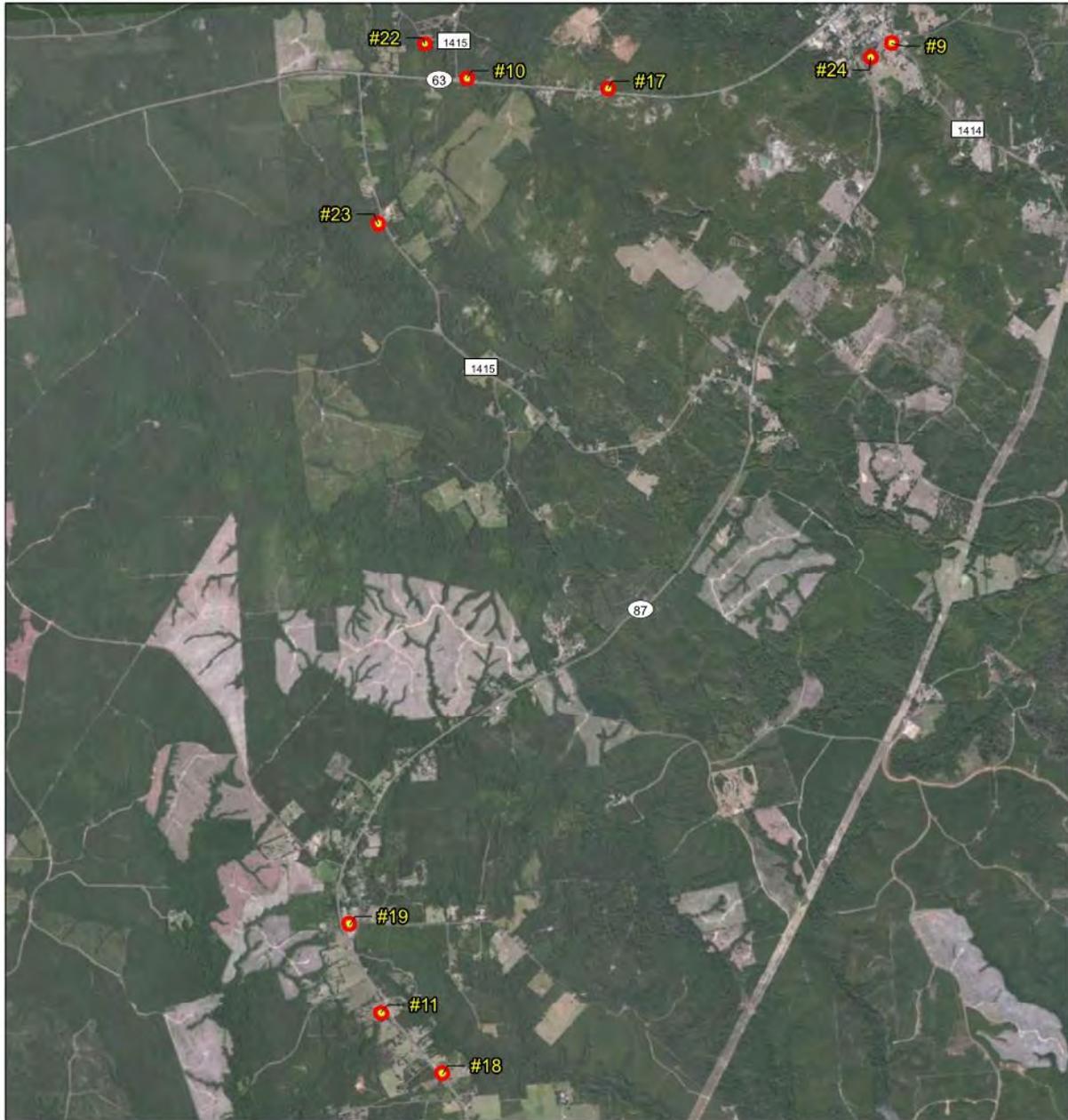


Project Area Aerial

Page 1



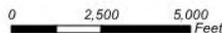
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Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

-  Work Area
-  Property
-  Road

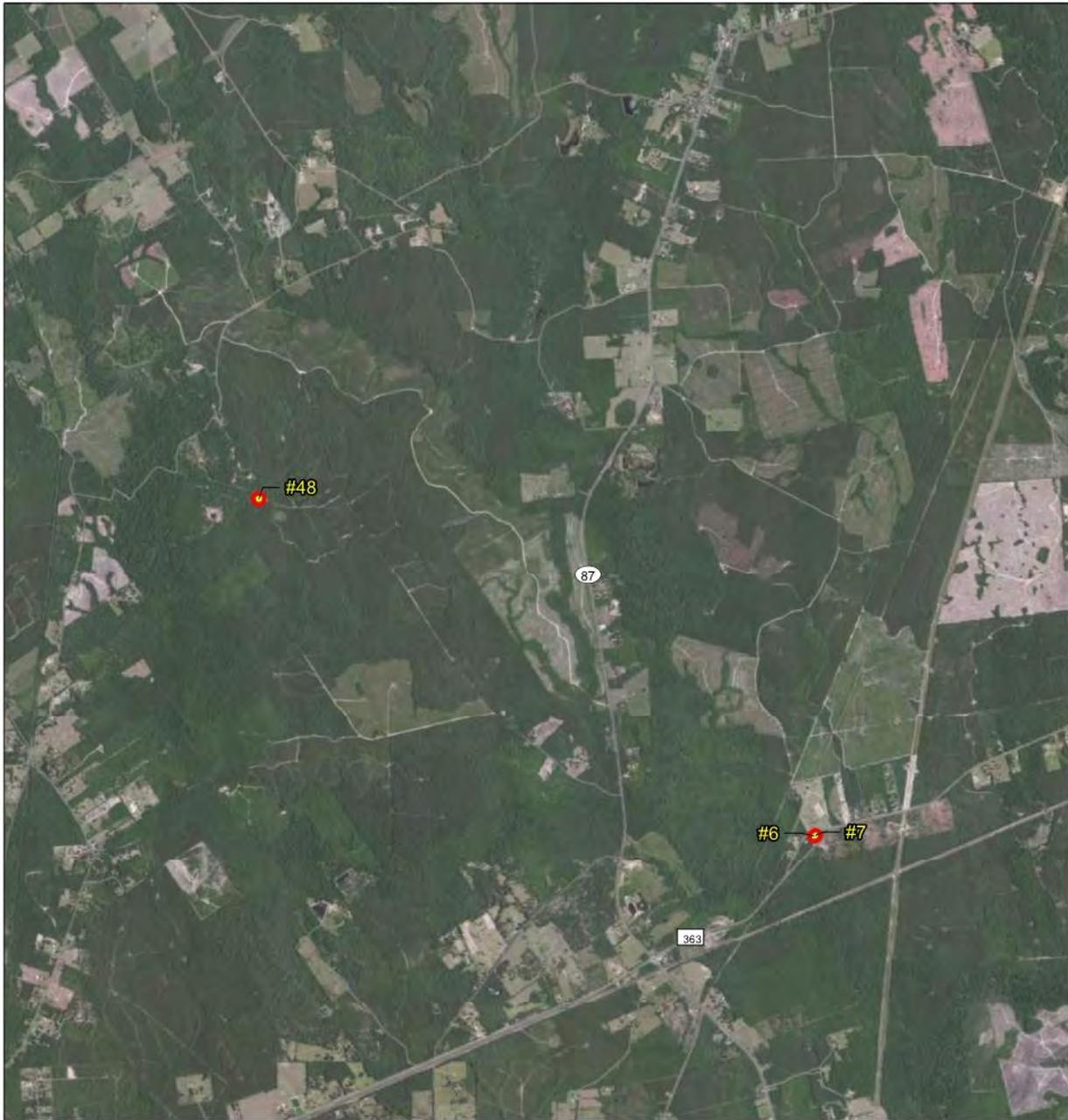


Project Area Aerial

Page 2



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

-  Work Area
-  Property
-  Road

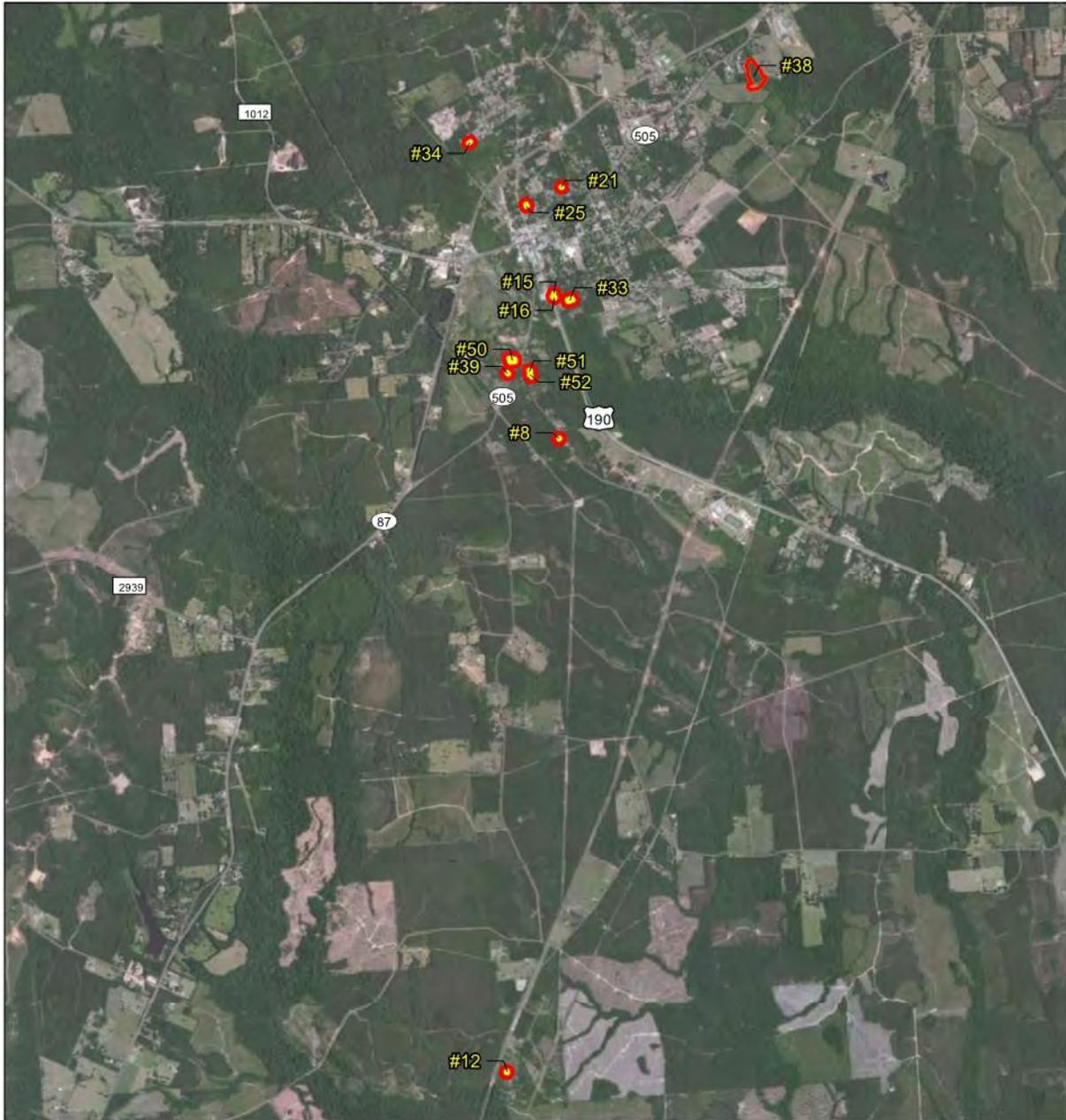


Project Area Aerial

Page 3



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

-  Work Area
-  Property
-  Road



Project Area Aerial

Page 4



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

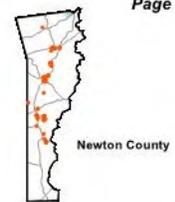
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-  Work Area
-  Property
-  Road

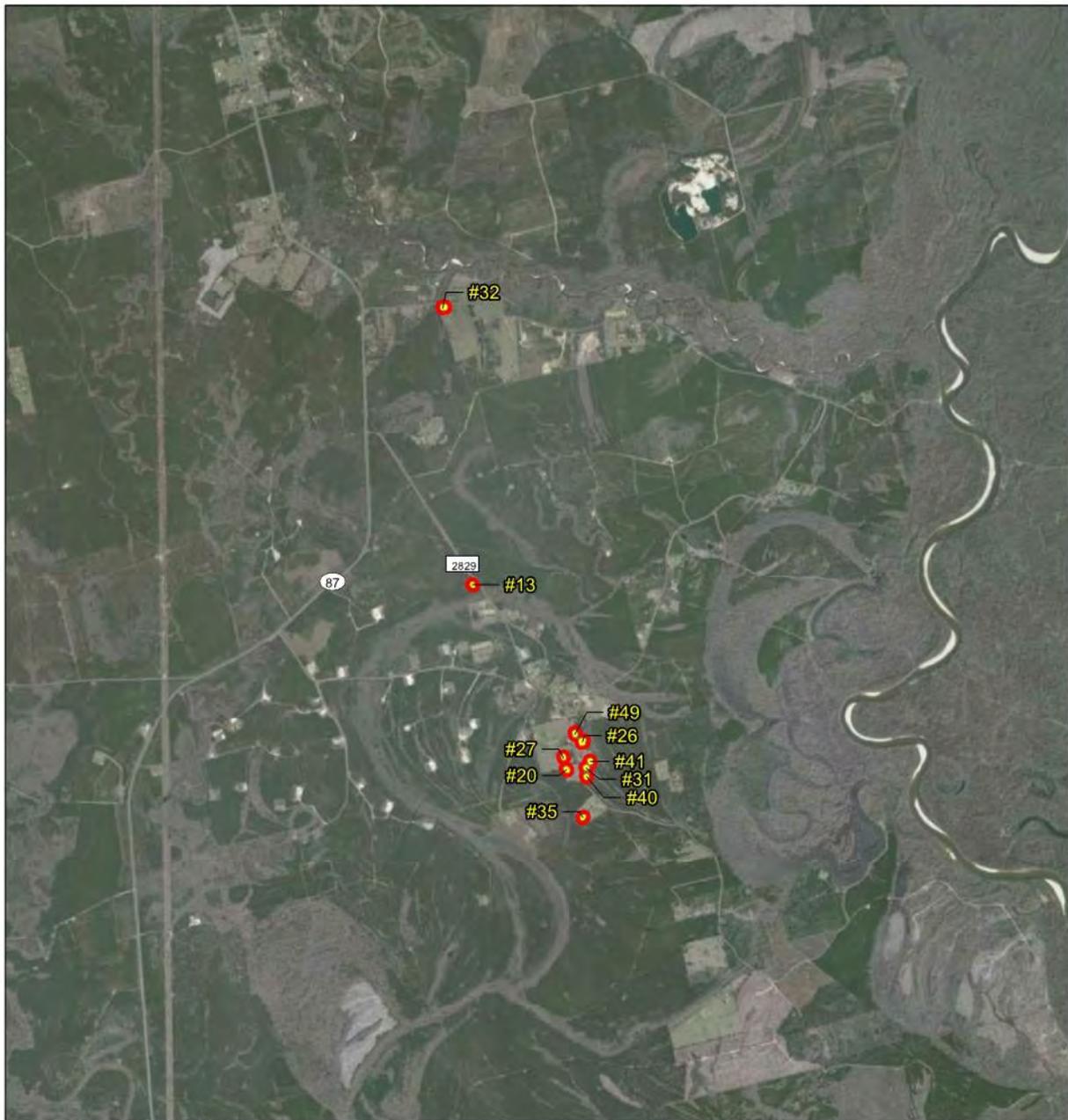


Project Area Aerial

Page 5



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- Work Area
- Property
- Road

Project Area Aerial
Page 6

Newton County

A north arrow pointing up, with 'N' at the top, 'S' at the bottom, 'E' on the right, and 'W' on the left. Below it is a scale bar with markings at 0, 2,500, and 5,000 feet.

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,

Appendix B

Physical Resources Data

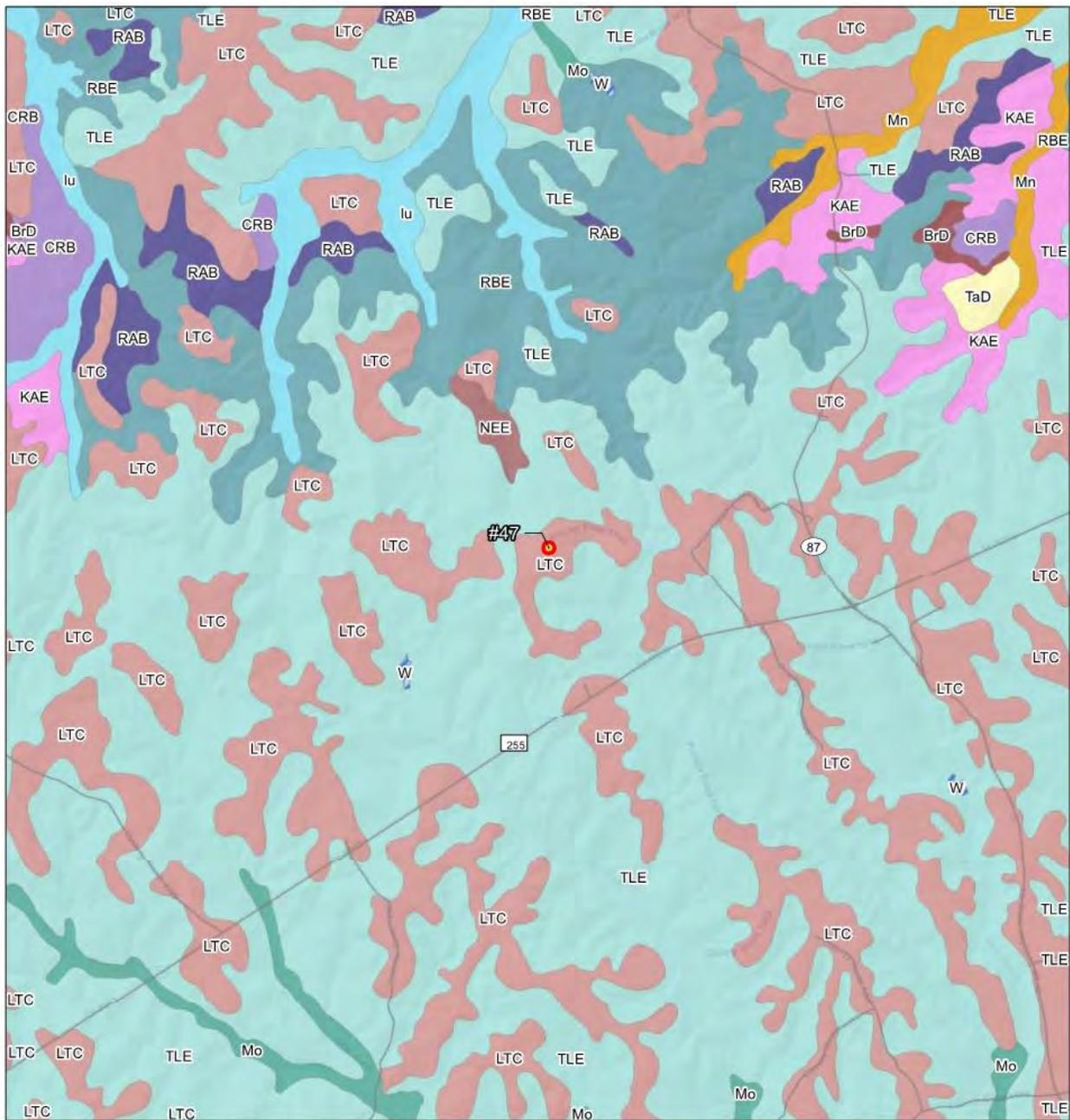
B-1. Soils Maps

B-2. Topography Maps

Table B-1 provides the soil type codes and descriptors used on the maps in **Appendix B-1**.

Table B-1. Soil Survey Unit Codes

Code	Description	Code	Description
BiB	Bienville-Alaga association, 0 to 5 percent slopes, gently undulating	NEE	Newco-Urland association, 5 to 20 percent, hilly
BuD	Burkeville clay, 3 to 12 percent	PIC	Pinetucky-Doucette association, 1 to 8 percent, undulating
DUB	Doucette-Boykin association, 1 to 8 percent, undulating	REB	Redco-Woodville association, 0 to 5 percent, gently undulating
lu	Luka soils, 0 to 2 percent, frequently flooded	SBE	Shankler-Boykin association, 8 to 20 percent, hilly
KWB	Kirbyville-Waller association, 0 to 4 percent, gently undulating	SMB	Spurger-Mollville association, 0 to 3 percent
LTC	Letney-Tehran association, 1 to 8 percent, undulating	TLE	Tehran-Letney association, 8 to 20 percent, hilly
MKB	Malbis-Kirbyville association, 1 to 5 percent, gently undulating	Um	Urbo and Mantachie soils, 0 to 1 percent, frequently flooded
MaB	Malbis fine sandy loam, 1 to 5 percent	W	Water
Mn	Mantachie and Bleakwood soils, 0 to 2 percent, frequently flooded	WTB	Woodville-Redco association, 1 to 5 percent, gently undulating
Mo	Melhomes soils, 0 to 5 percent, frequently flooded		



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

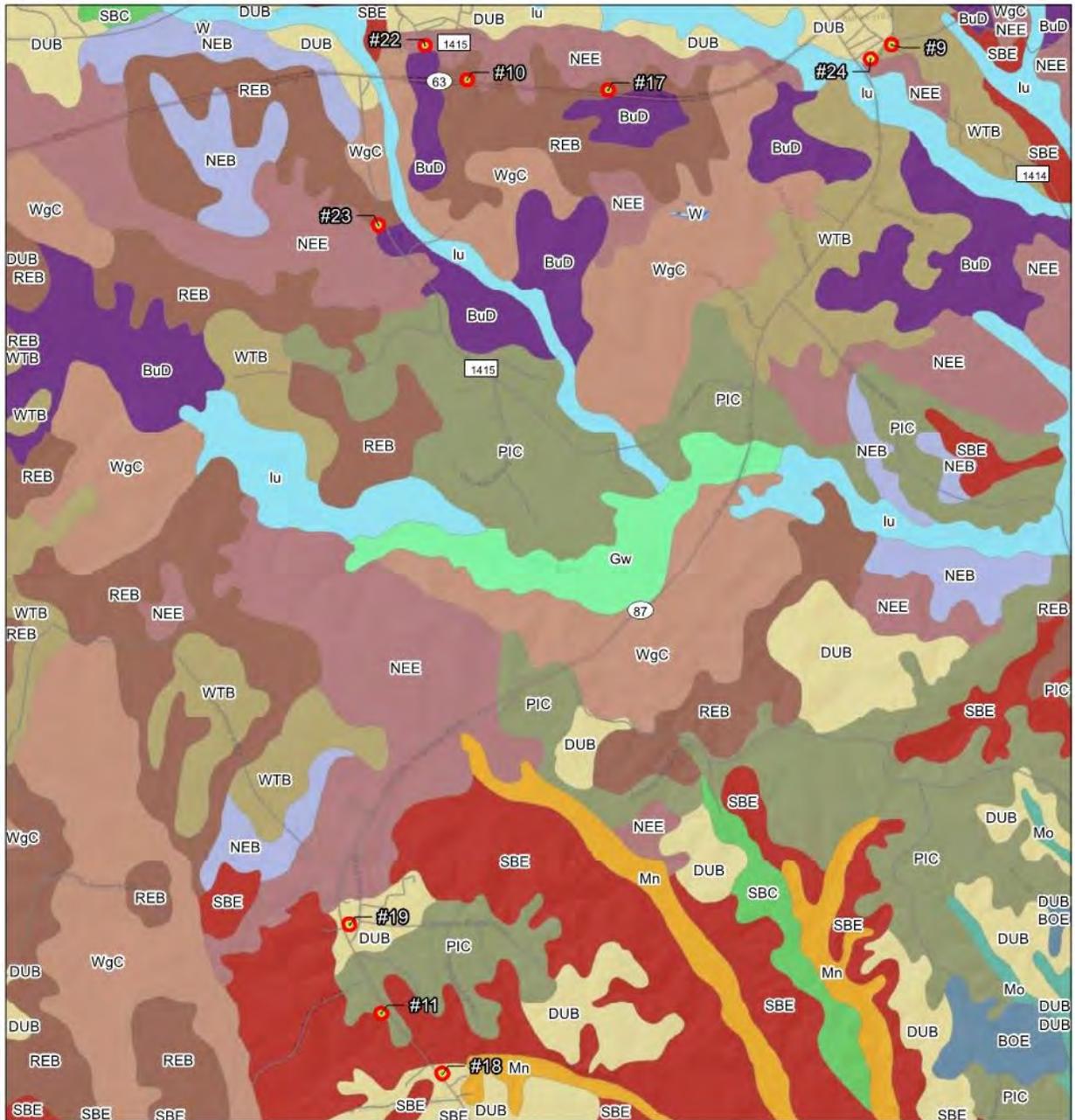
Soils
Page 1

Legend

- Work Area
- Property
- Road



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

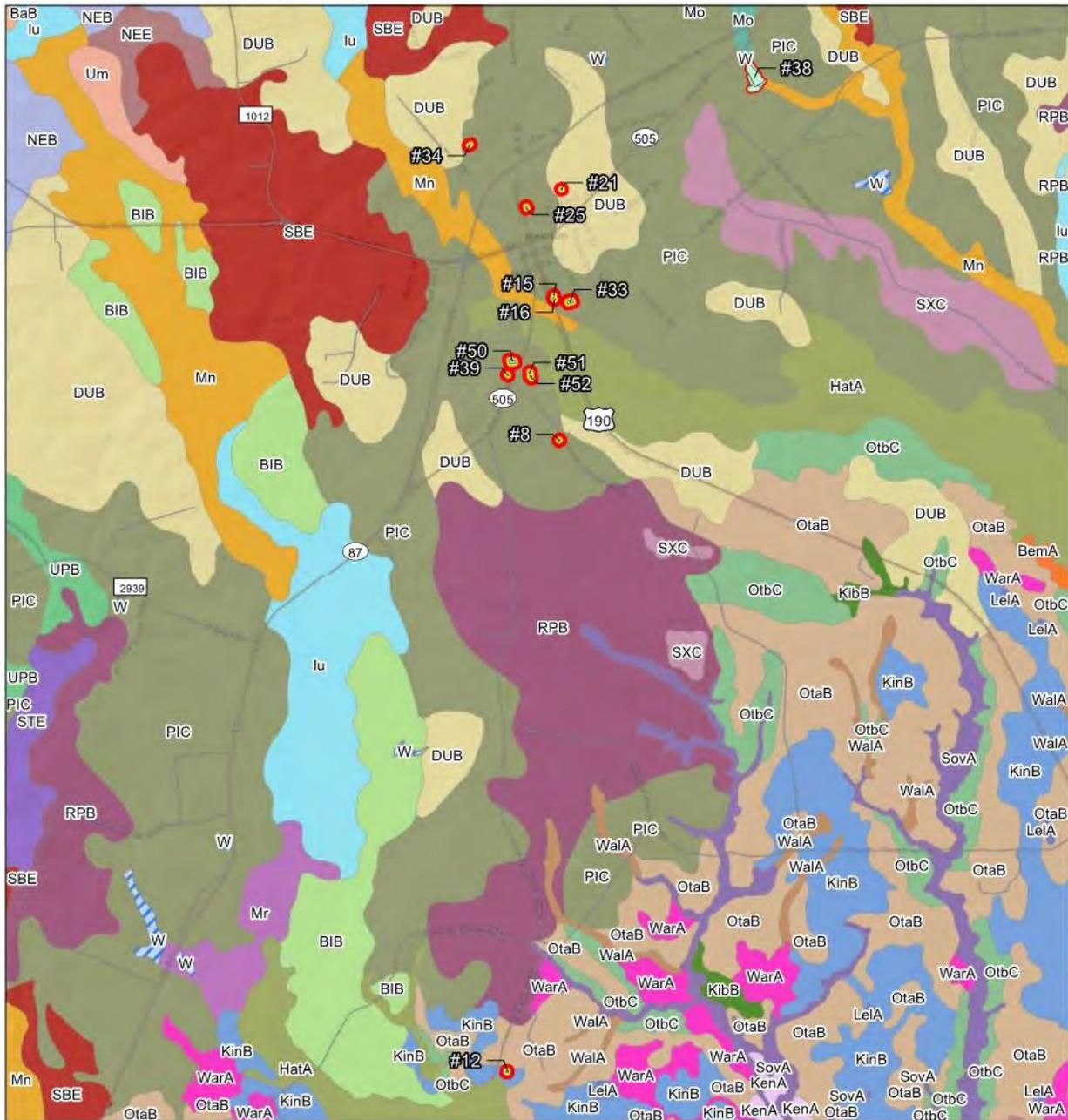
Soils
Page 2

Legend

- Work Area
- Property
- Road



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Soils
Page 3

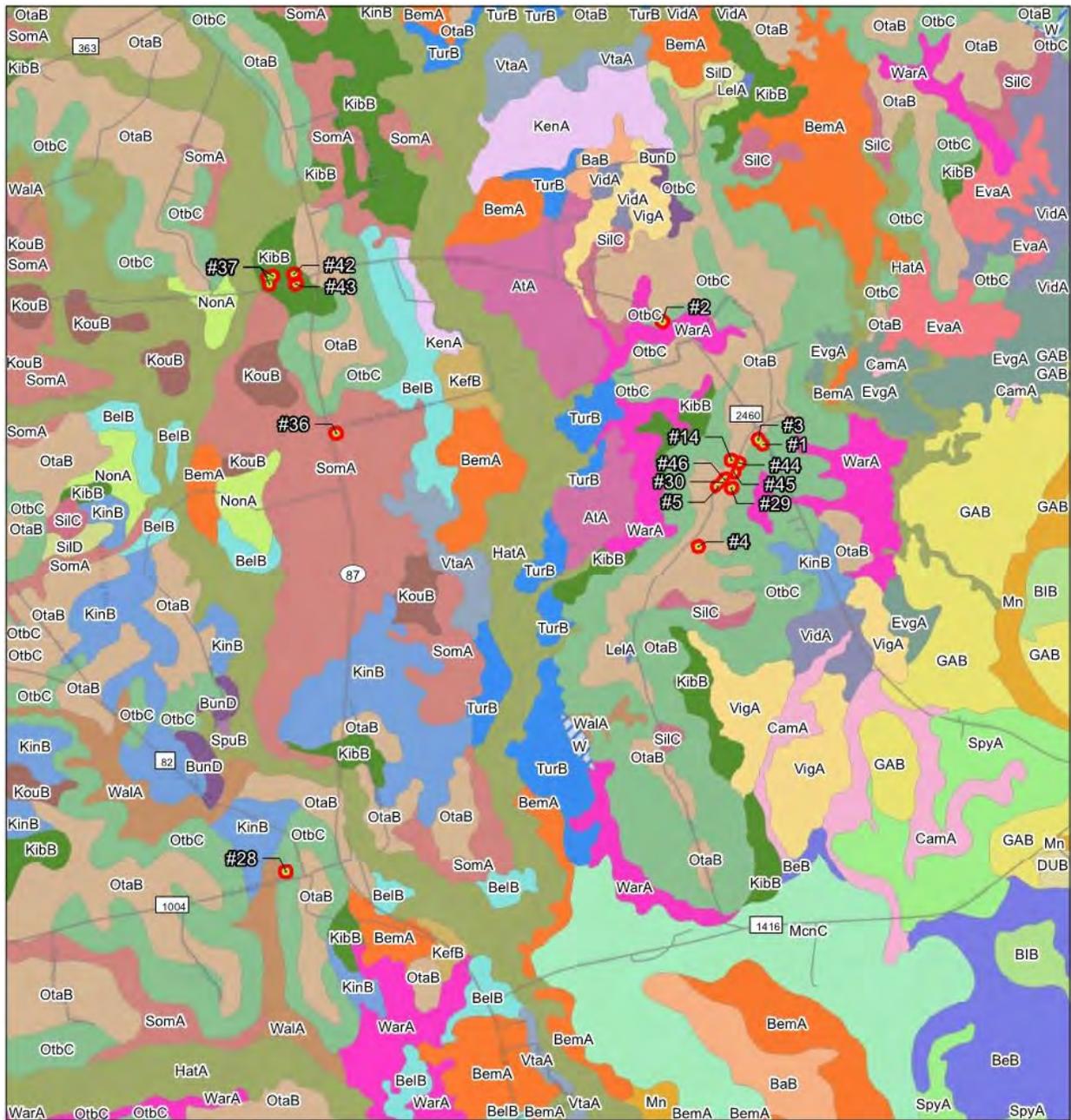
Legend

- Work Area
- Property
- Road

Newton County

0 2,500 5,000 Feet

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom,



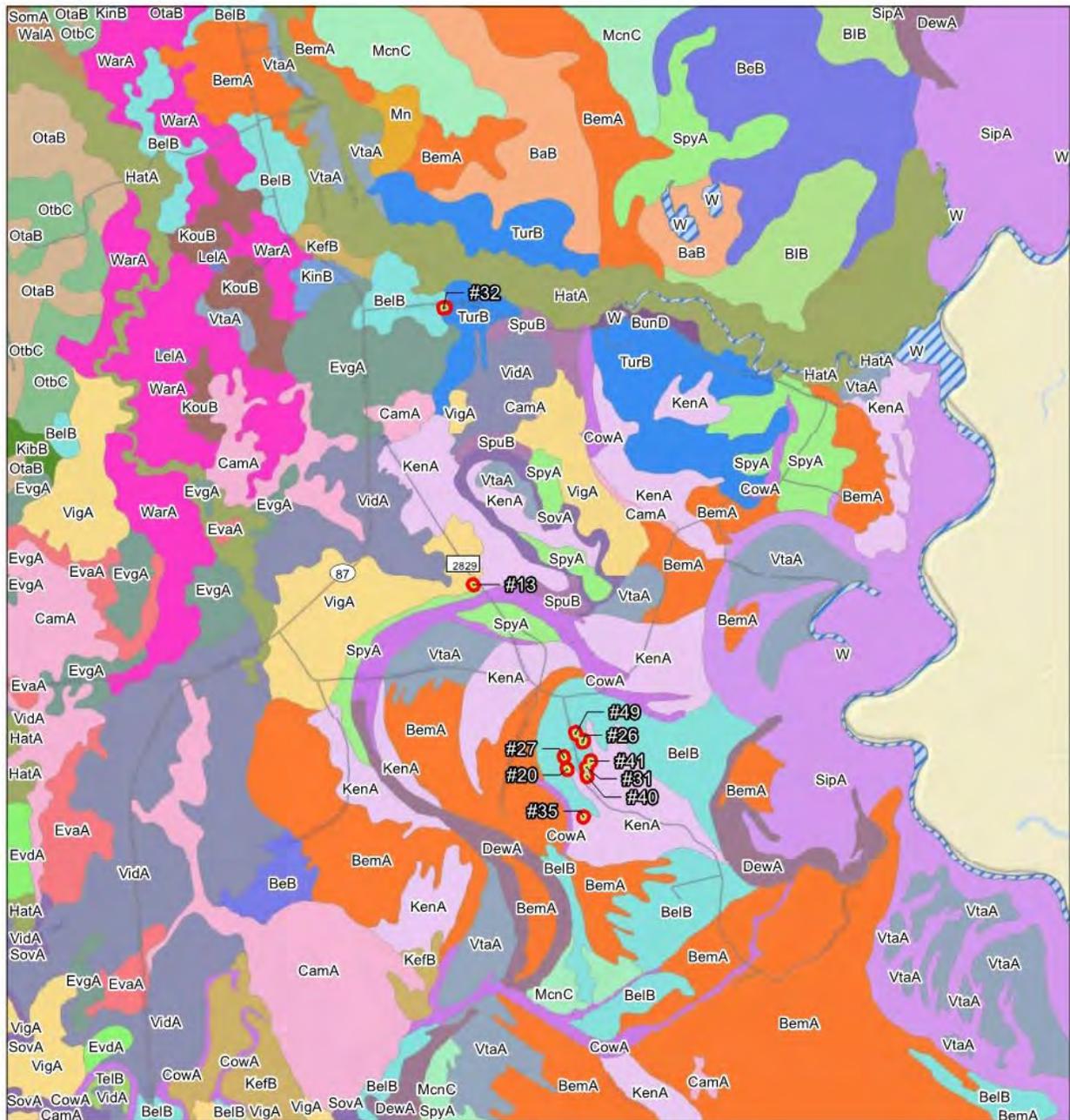
Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- Work Area
- Property
- Road

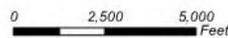
Soils
Page 5

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
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Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

- Legend**
- Work Area
 - Property
 - Road

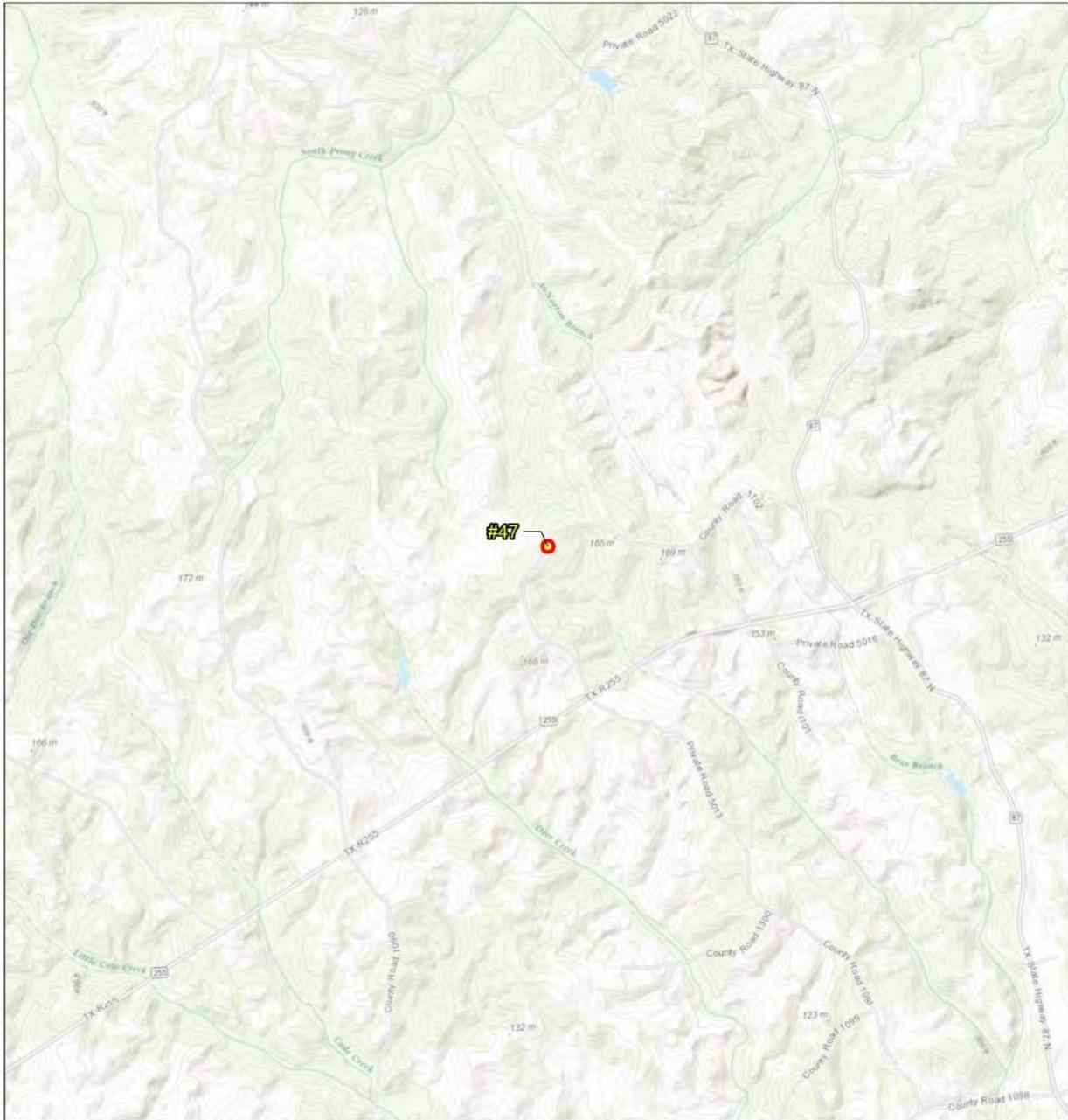


Soils

Page 6



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
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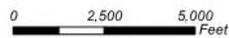


Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

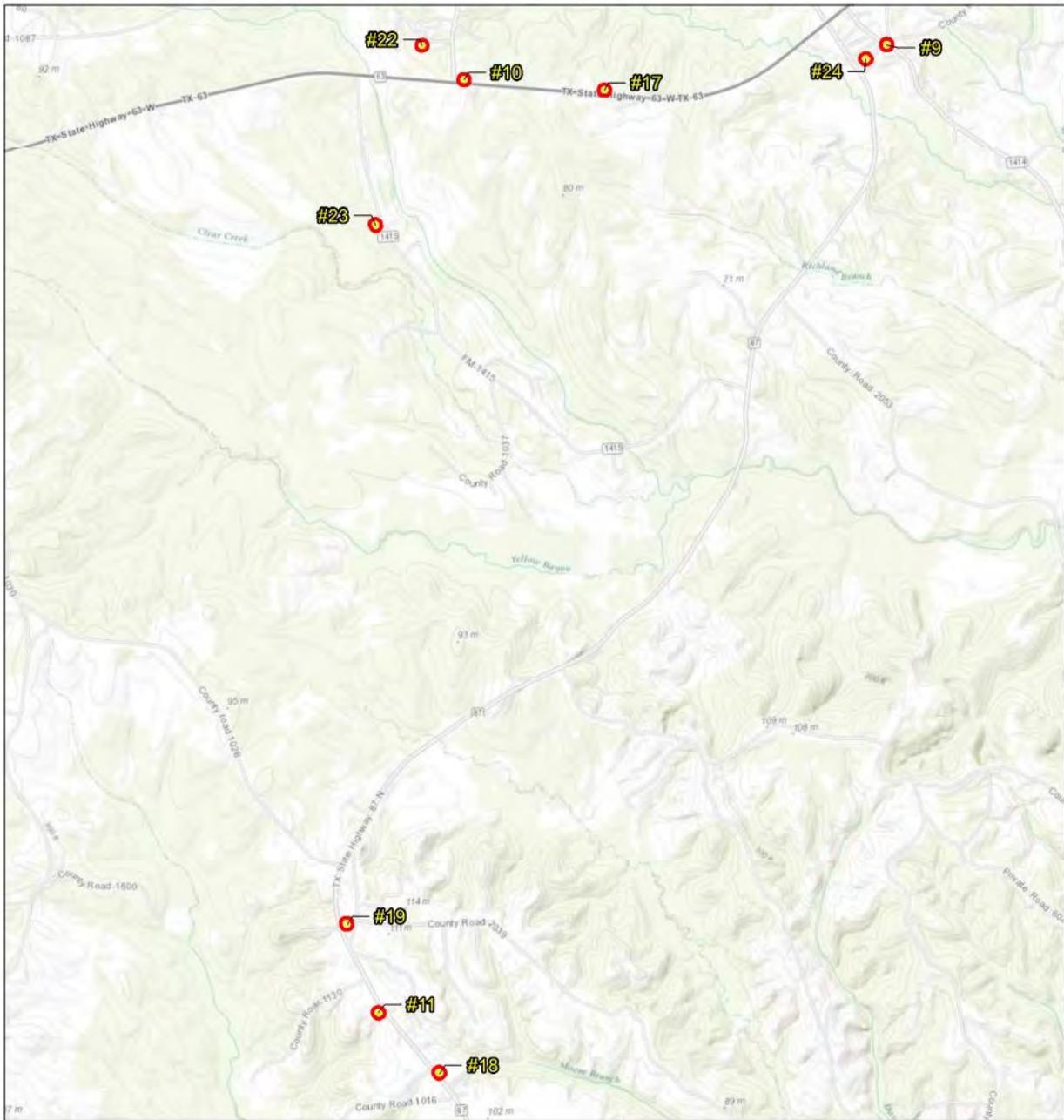
Topography
Page 1

Legend

- Work Area
- Property



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance

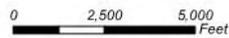


Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

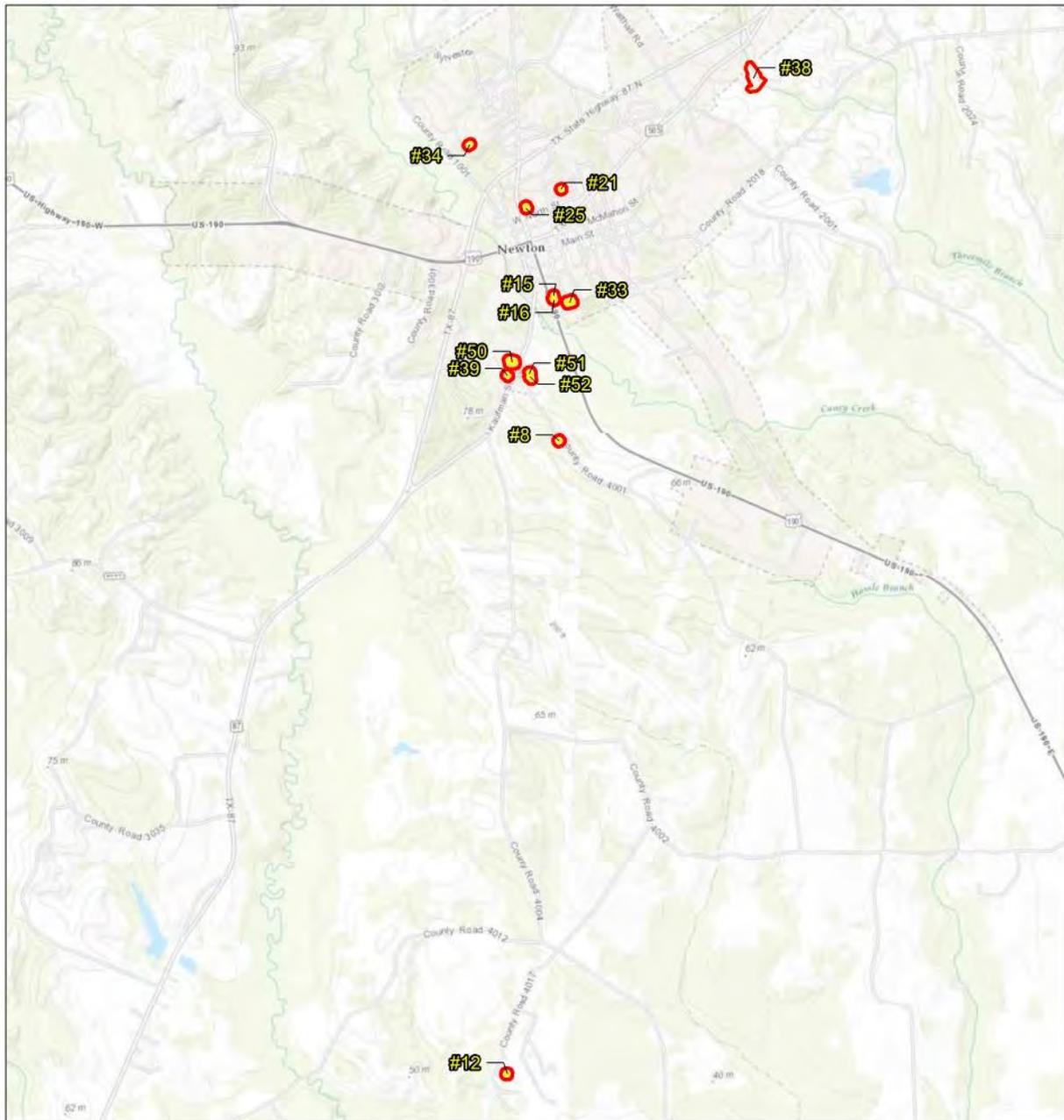
Topography
Page 2

Legend

- Work Area
- Property



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

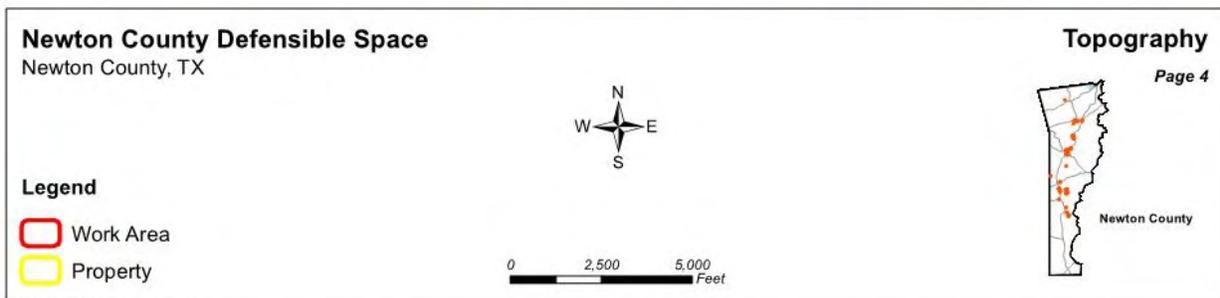
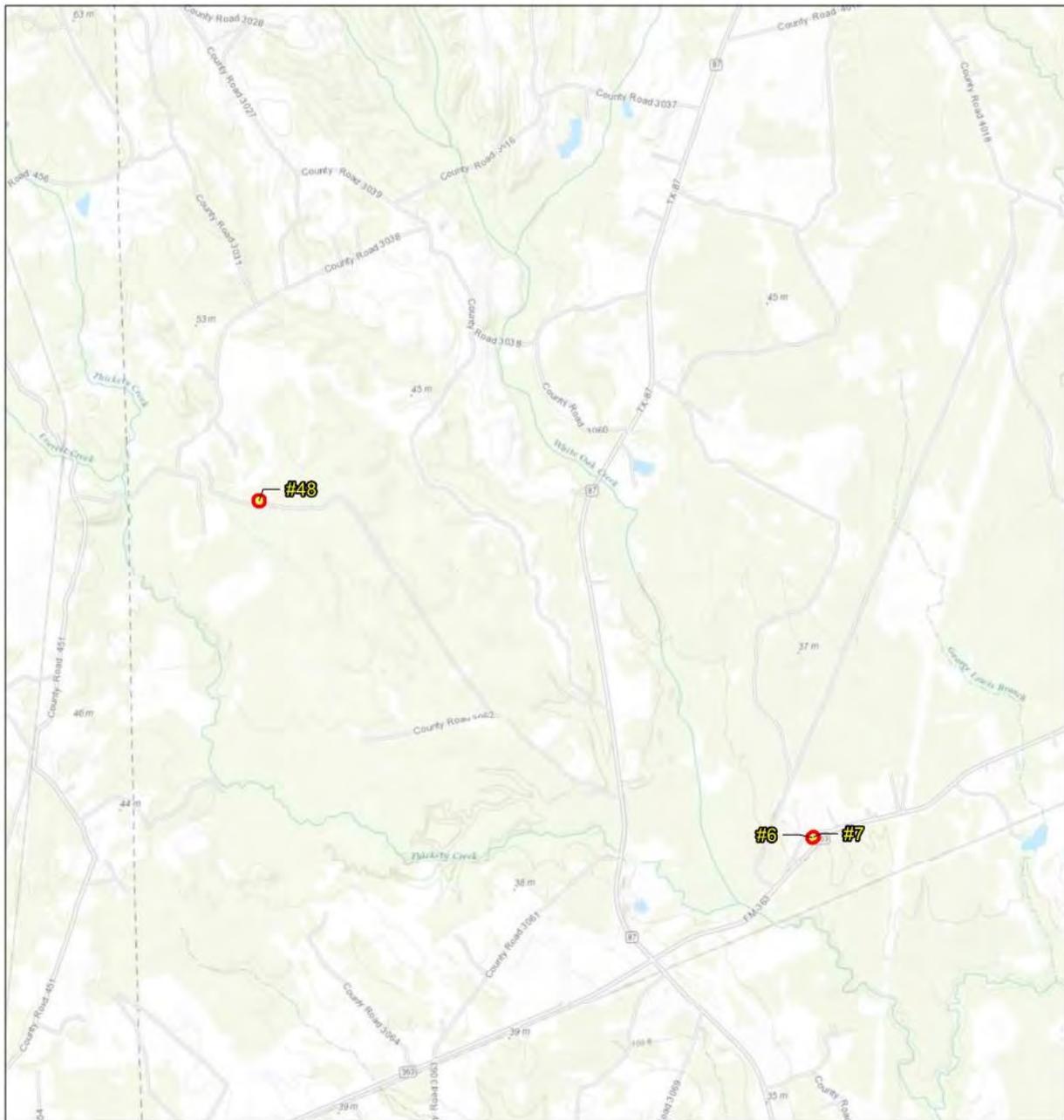
Topography
Page 3

Legend

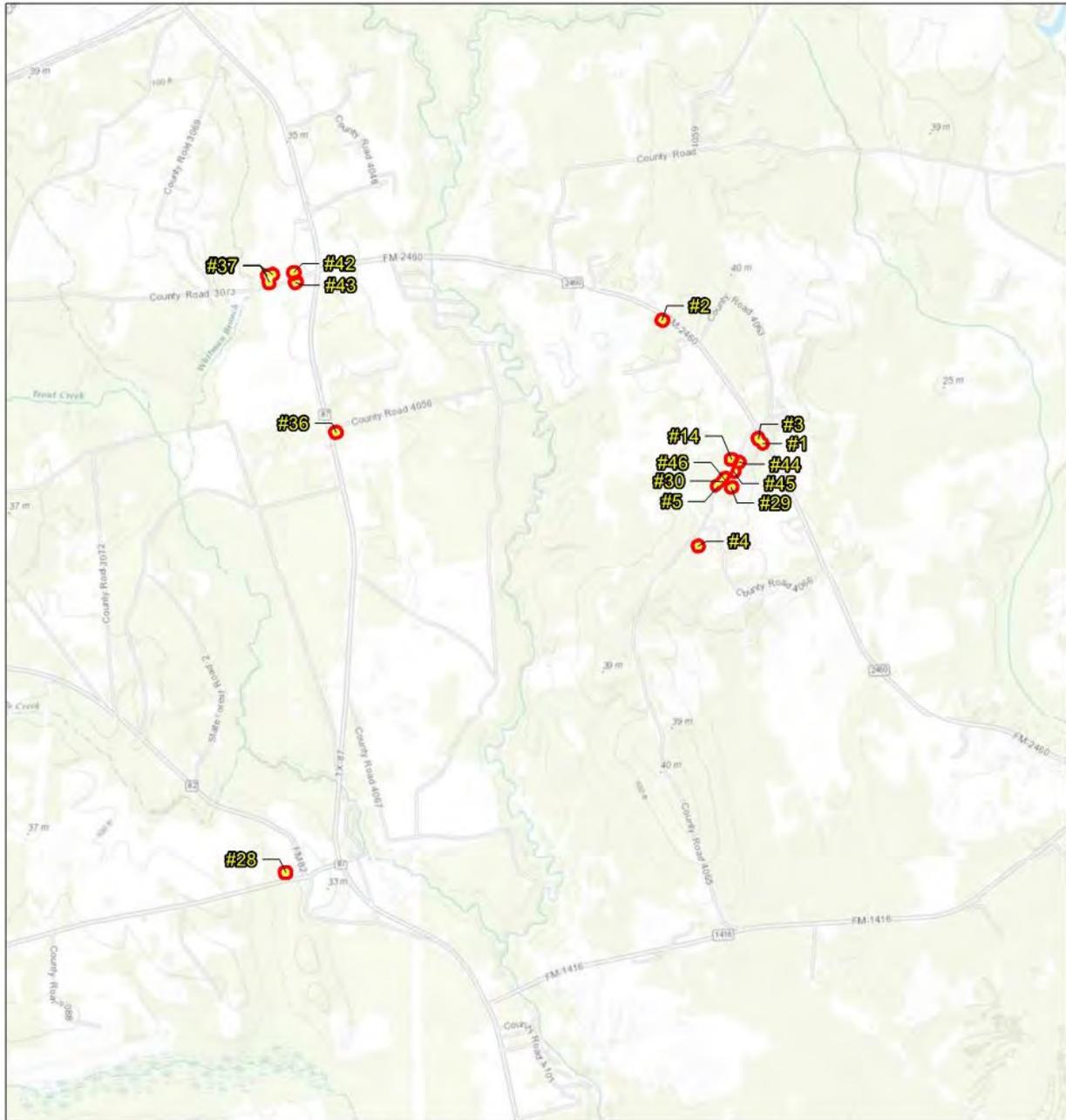
- Work Area
- Property



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Topography

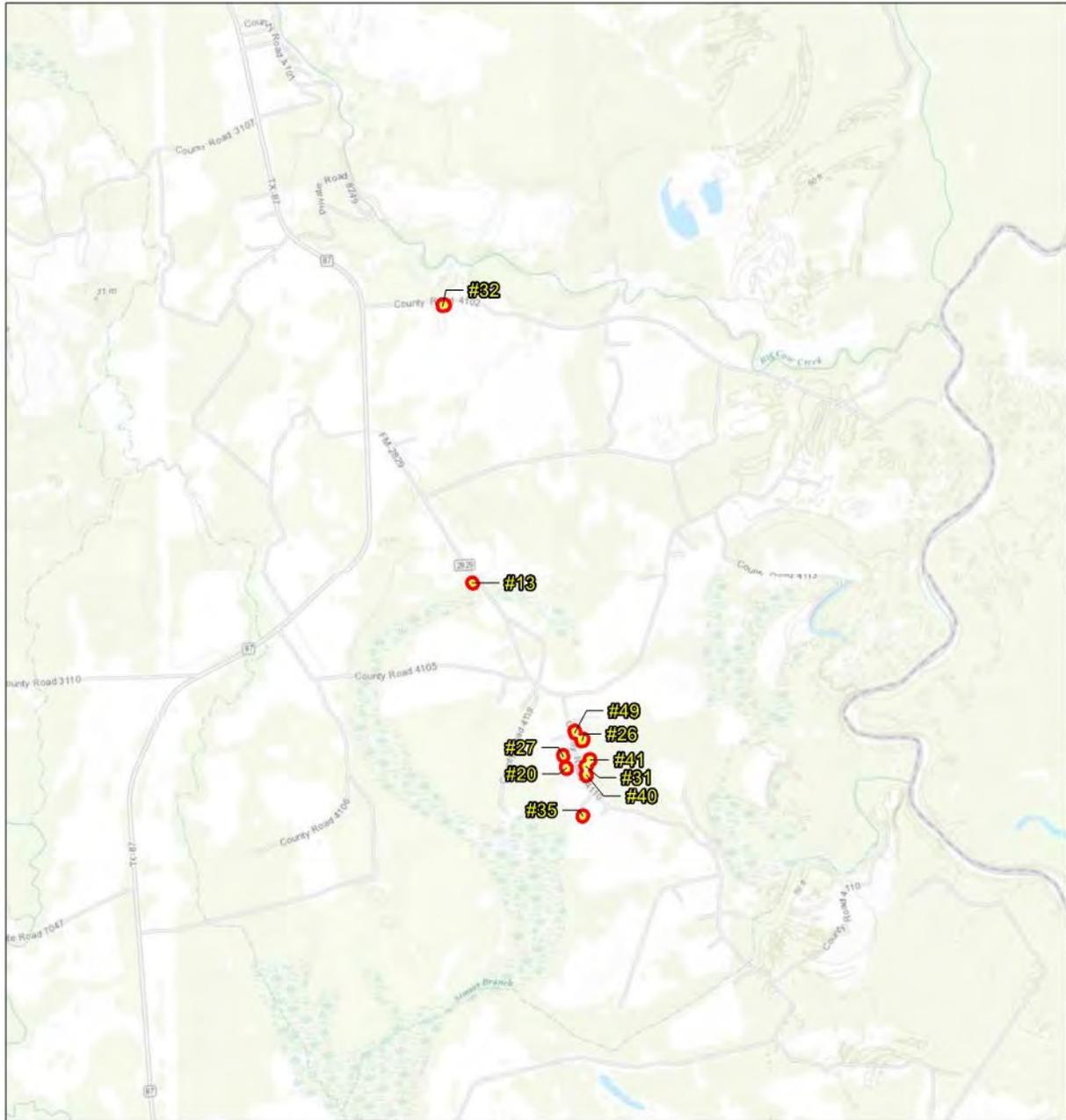
Page 5

Legend

-  Work Area
-  Property



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
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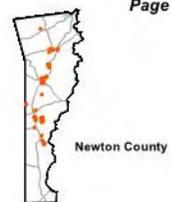


Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Topography
Page 6

Legend

-  Work Area
-  Property



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance

Appendix C

Water Resources Data

C-1. Wild and Scenic Rivers Map

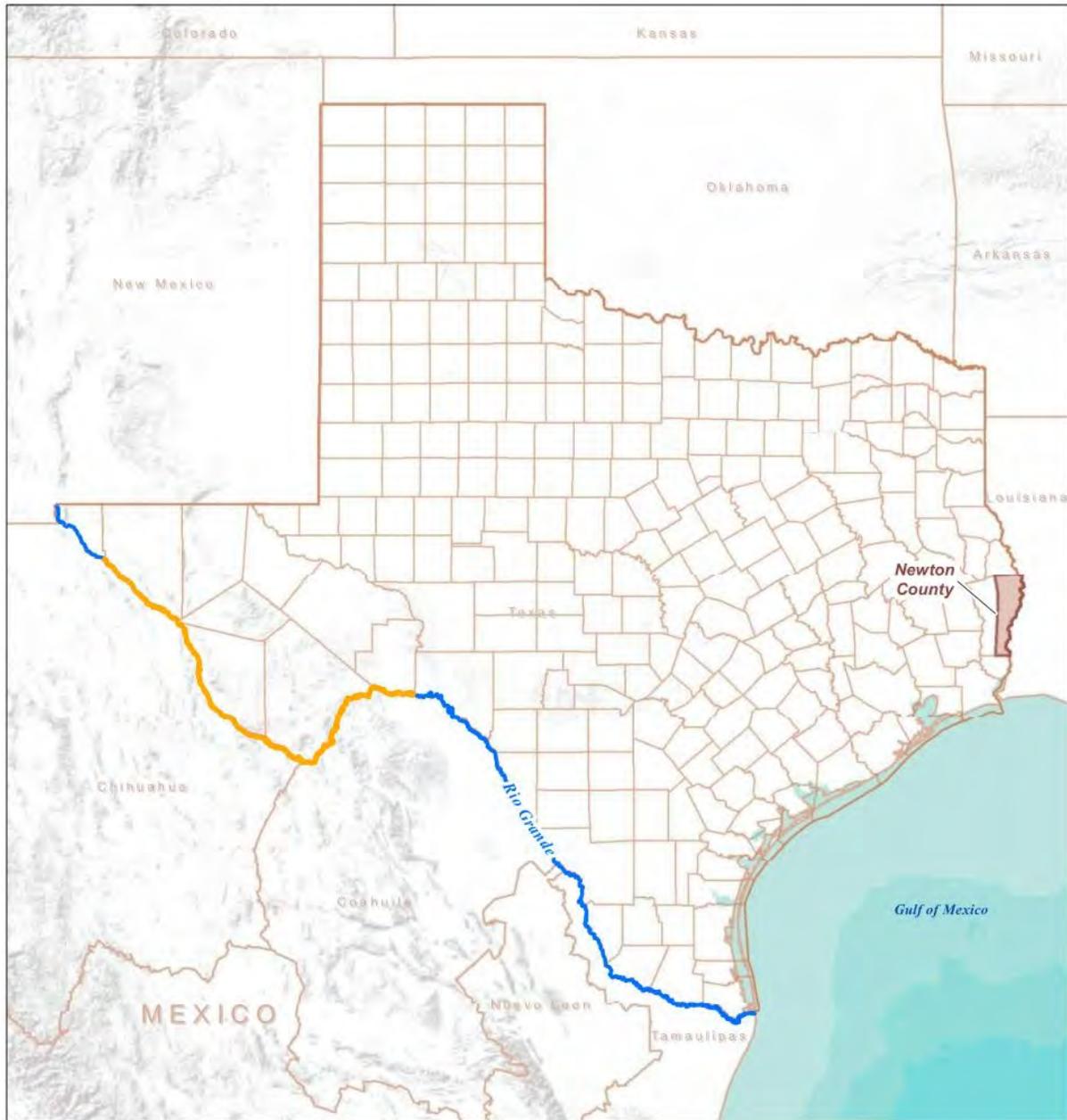
C-2. Sole Source Aquifer Map

C-3. Project Area Water Resources Maps

C-4. Project Area Wetland Maps

C-5. FEMA Floodplain Maps

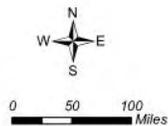
C-6. Executive Order 11988 - Floodplain Management Eight-Step Decision Making Process



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

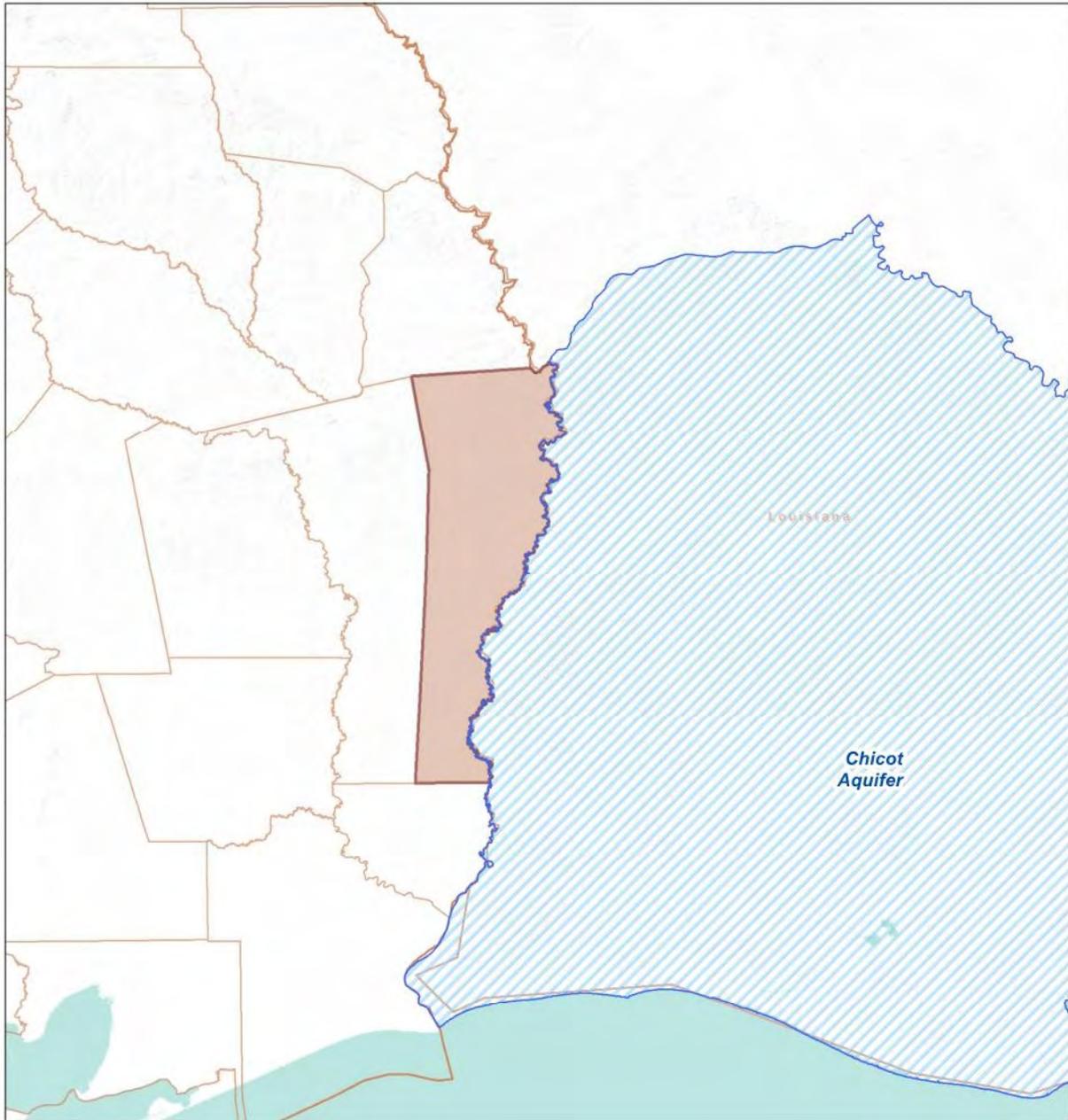
- Designated River Segment
- Nondesignated River Segment
- Area of Interest



Designated Wild and Scenic Rivers of Texas



Data Sources: EPA; TNRIS
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA



**Newton County
Defensible Space**

Newton County, TX

Legend

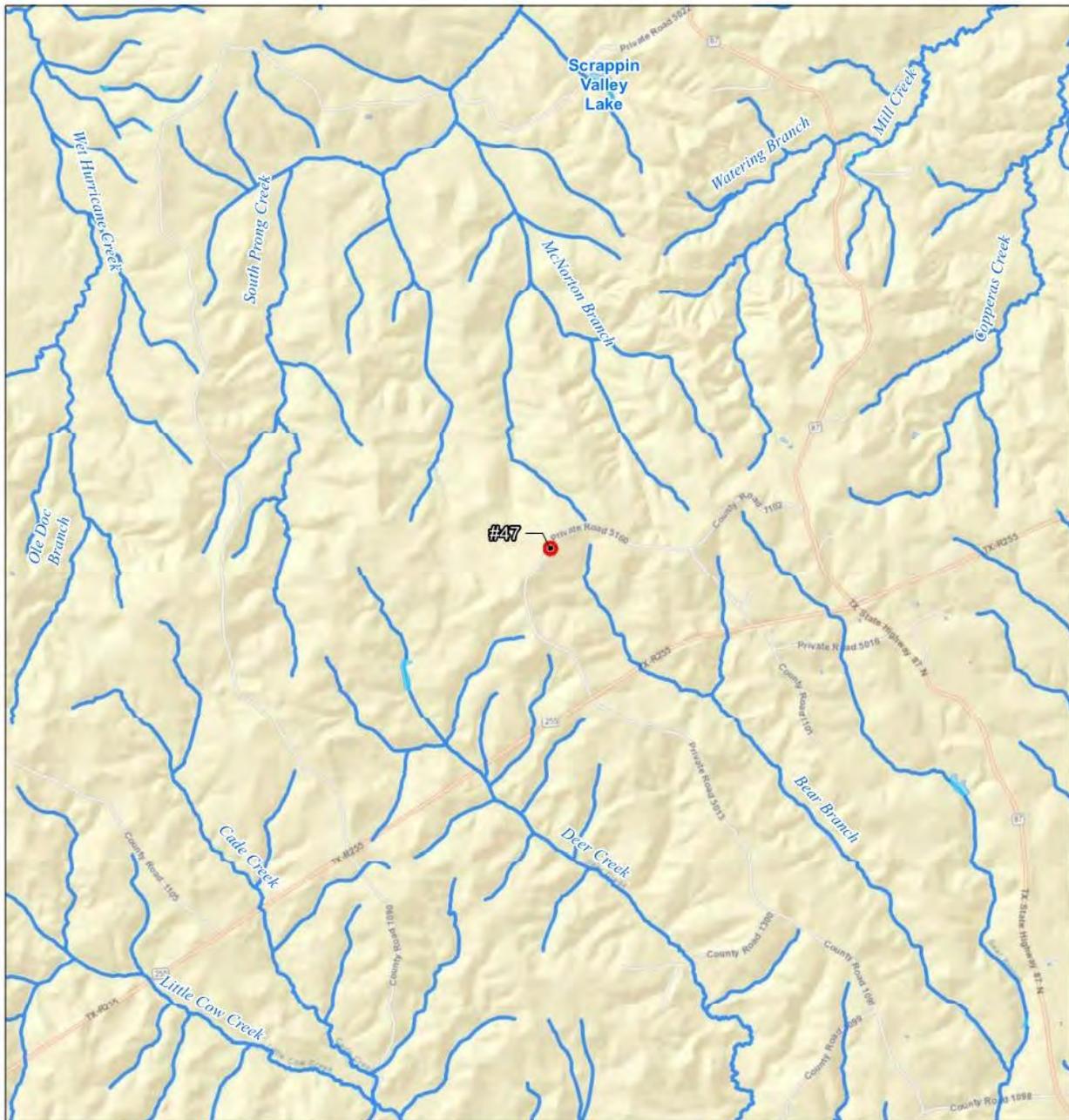
-  Sole Source Aquifer
-  Newton County



Sole Source Aquifers

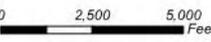


Data Sources: EPA, TNRS
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA



<p>Newton County Defensible Space Newton County, TX</p>		<p>Water Resources Page 1</p>	
<p>Legend</p>			
	Property		Lake/Pond
	Work Area		Swamp/Marsh
	Stream/River		
	Artificial Path		

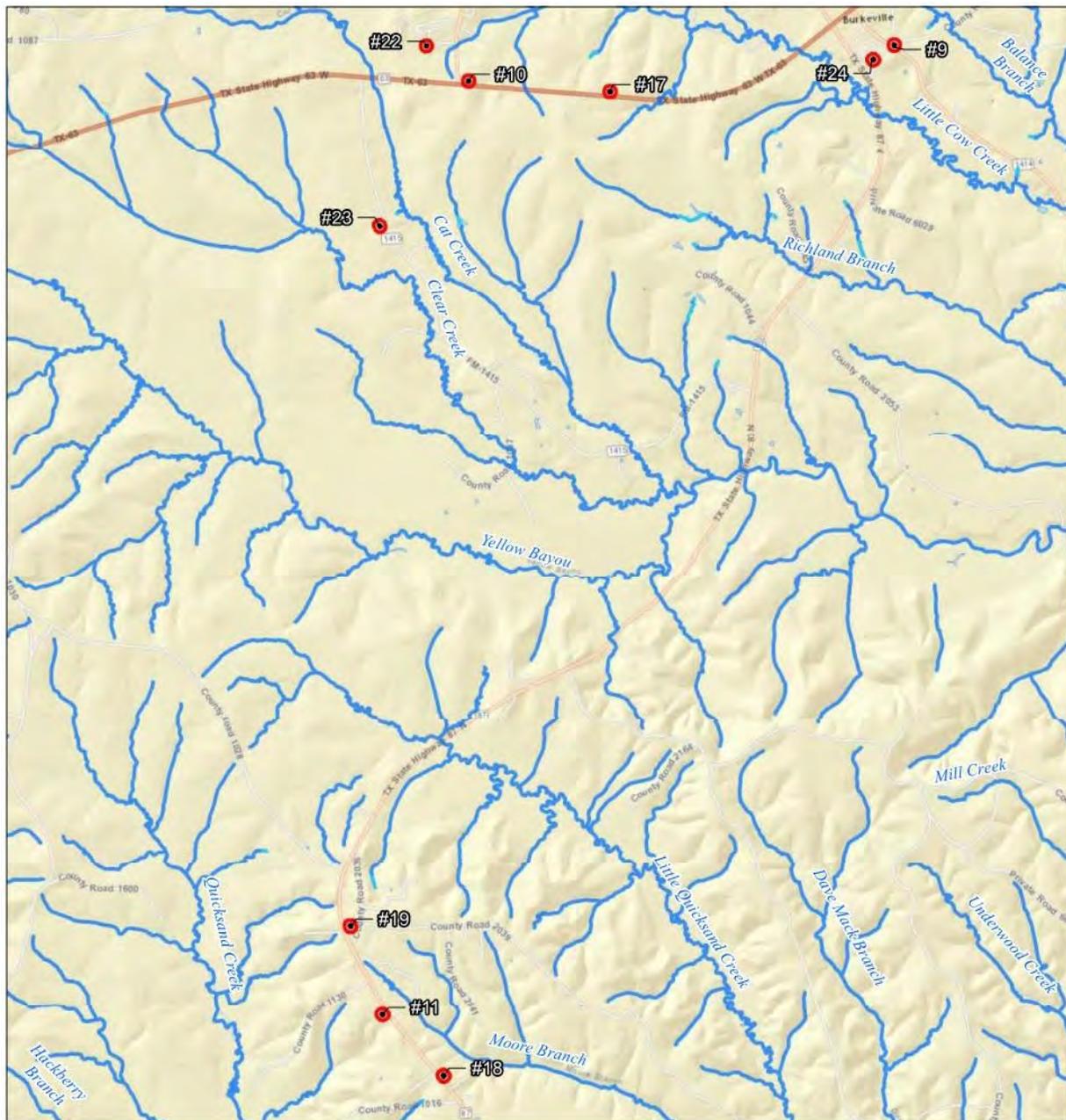






Newton County

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
 Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

-  Property
-  Work Area
-  Stream/River
-  Artificial Path
-  Lake/Pond
-  Swamp/Marsh

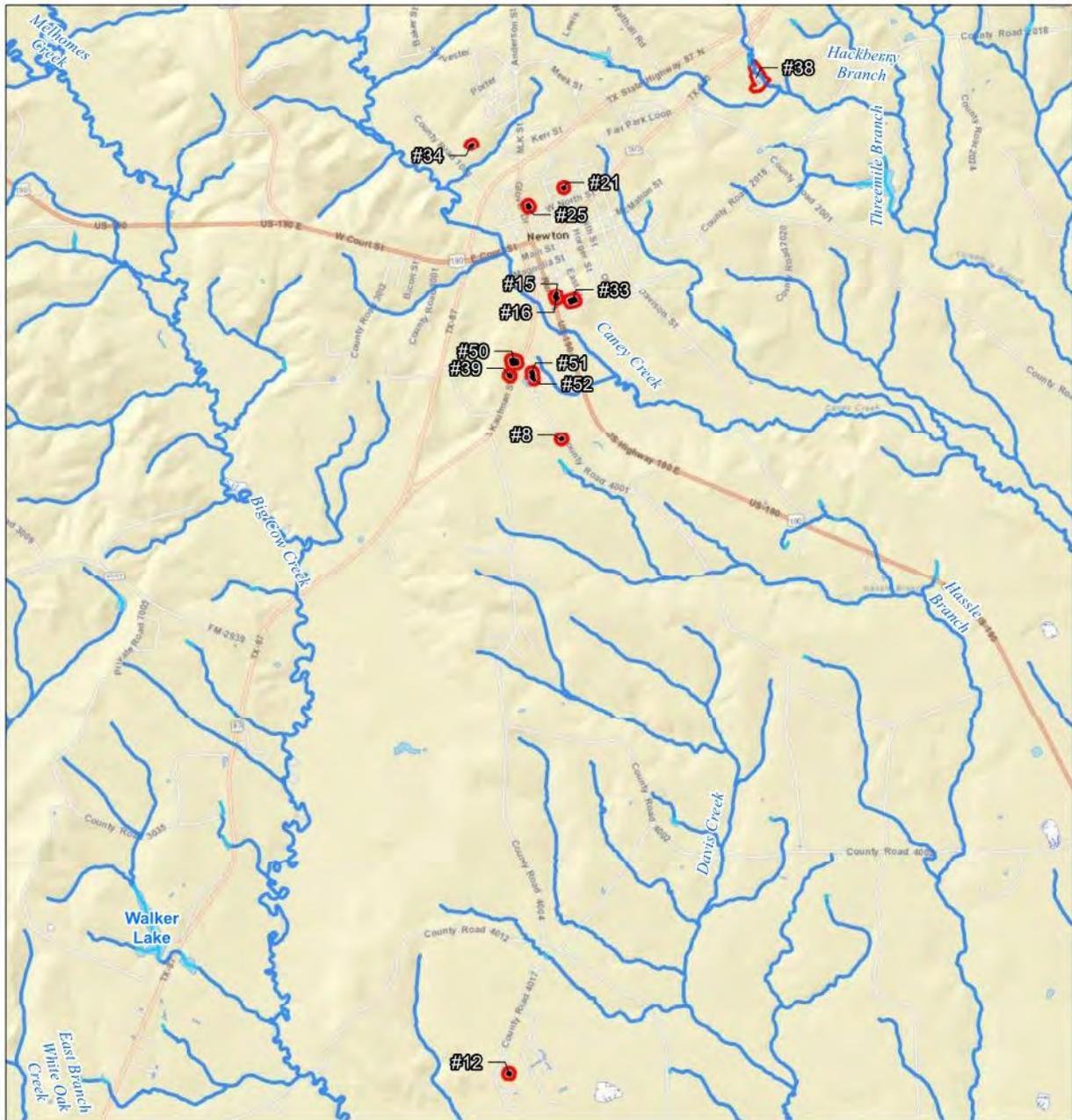


Water Resources

Page 2



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- Property
- Work Area
- Stream/River
- Artificial Path
- Lake/Pond
- Swamp/Marsh

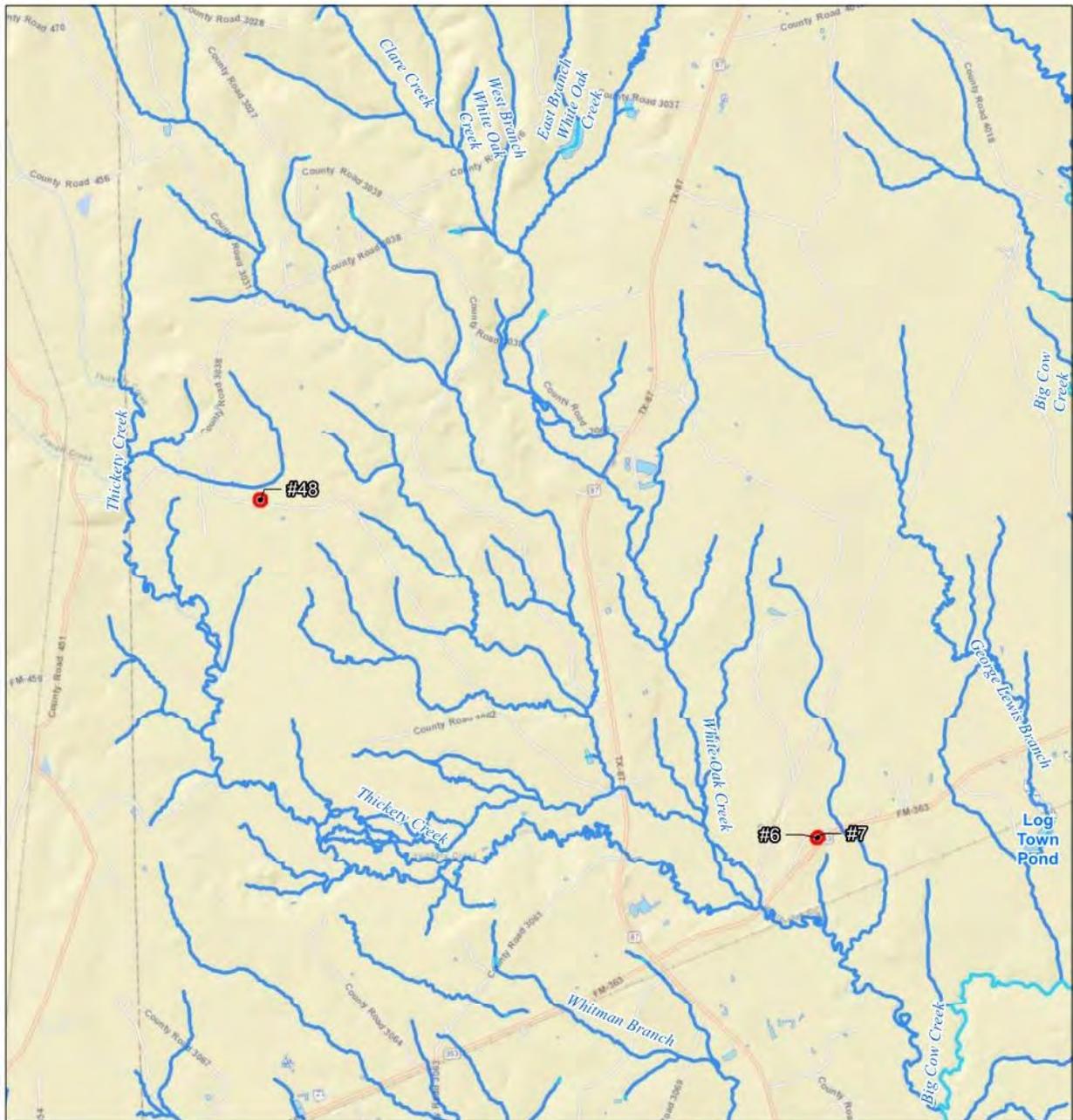


Water Resources

Page 3



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

-  Property
-  Work Area
-  Stream/River
-  Artificial Path
-  Lake/Pond
-  Swamp/Marsh

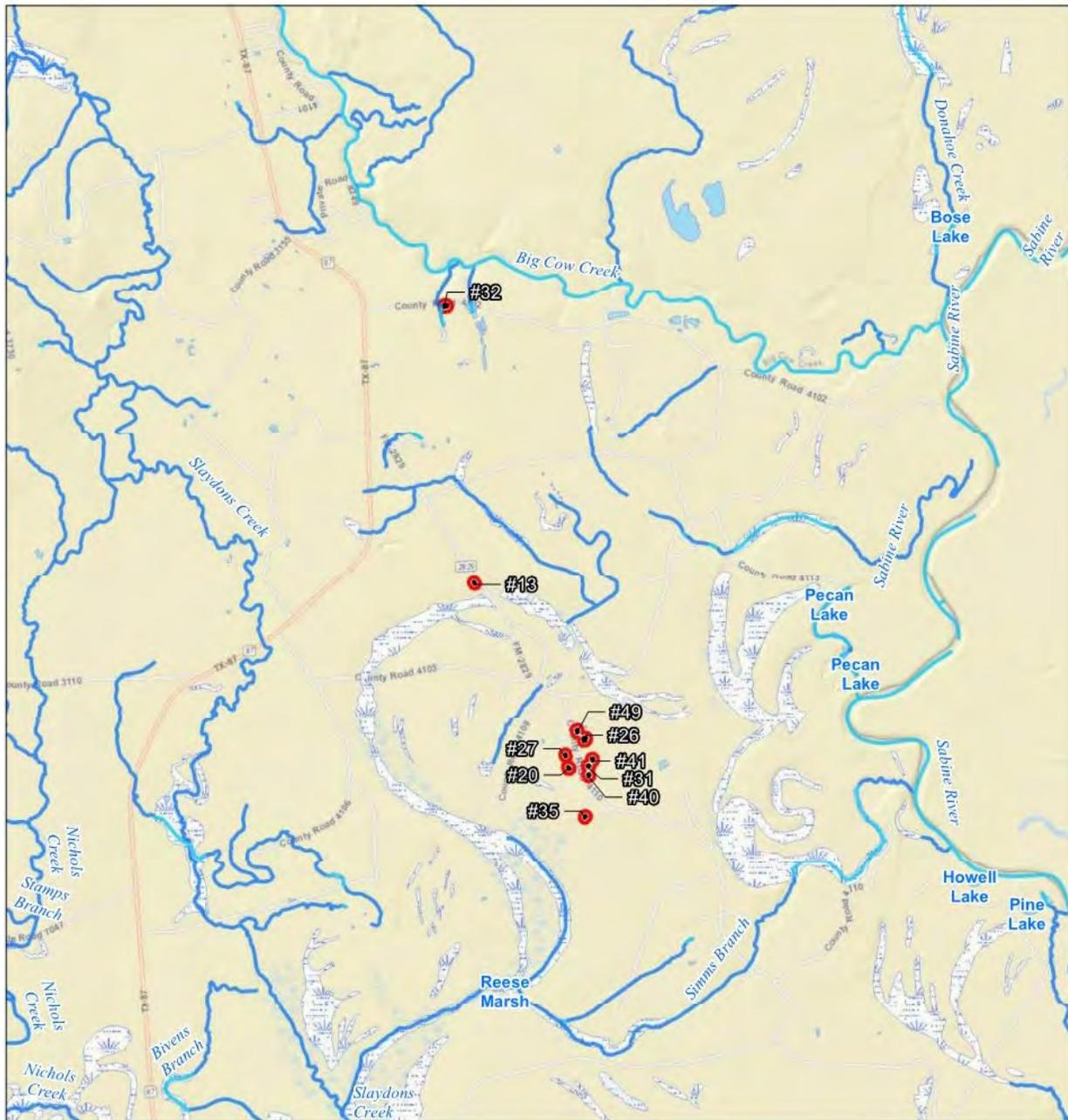


Water Resources

Page 4



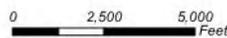
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Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- Property
- Work Area
- Stream/River
- Artificial Path
- Lake/Pond
- Swamp/Marsh

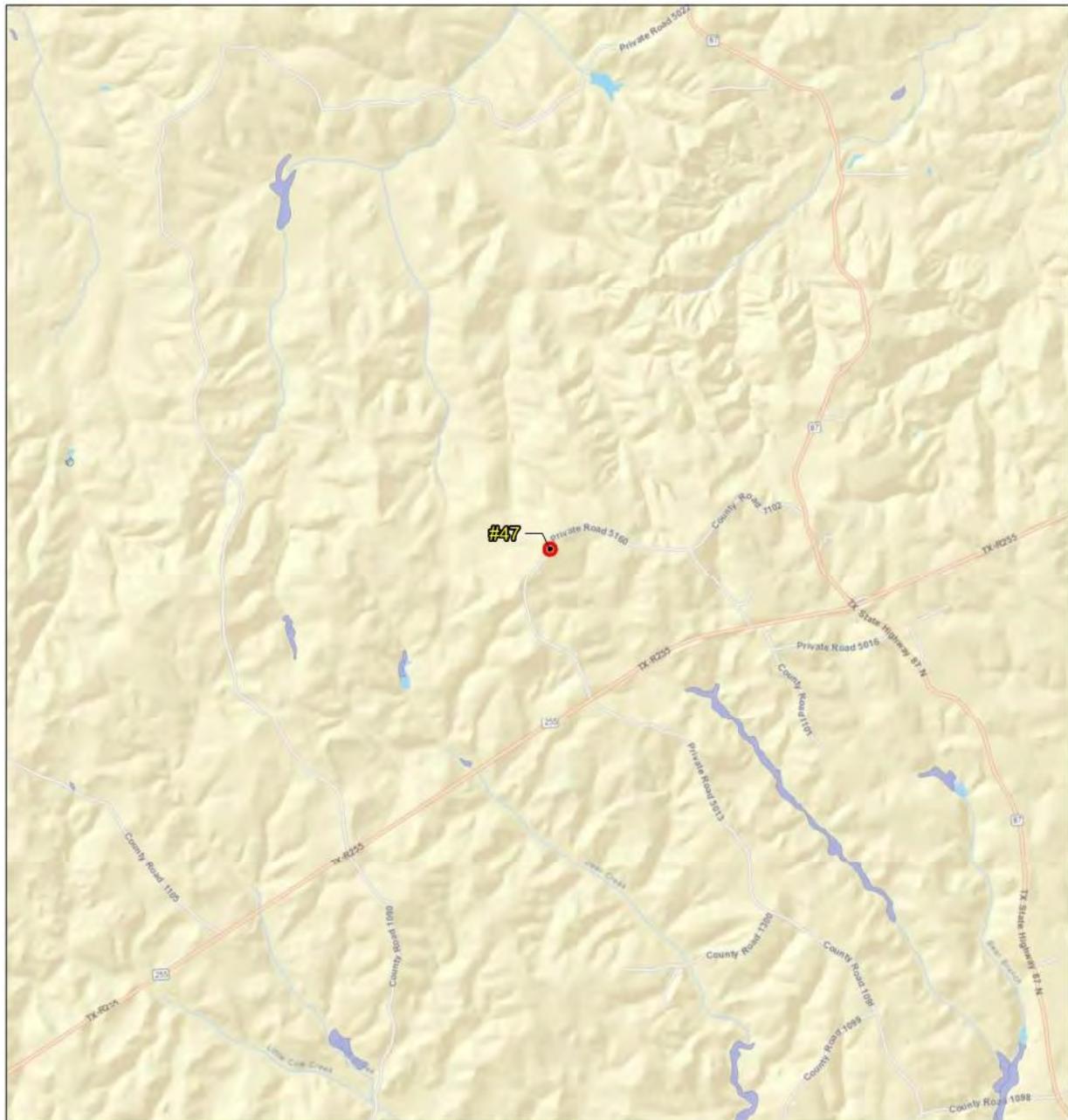


Water Resources

Page 6



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space

Newton County, TX

Legend

- Property
- Work Area
- Wetlands by Type**
- Freshwater Emergent
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

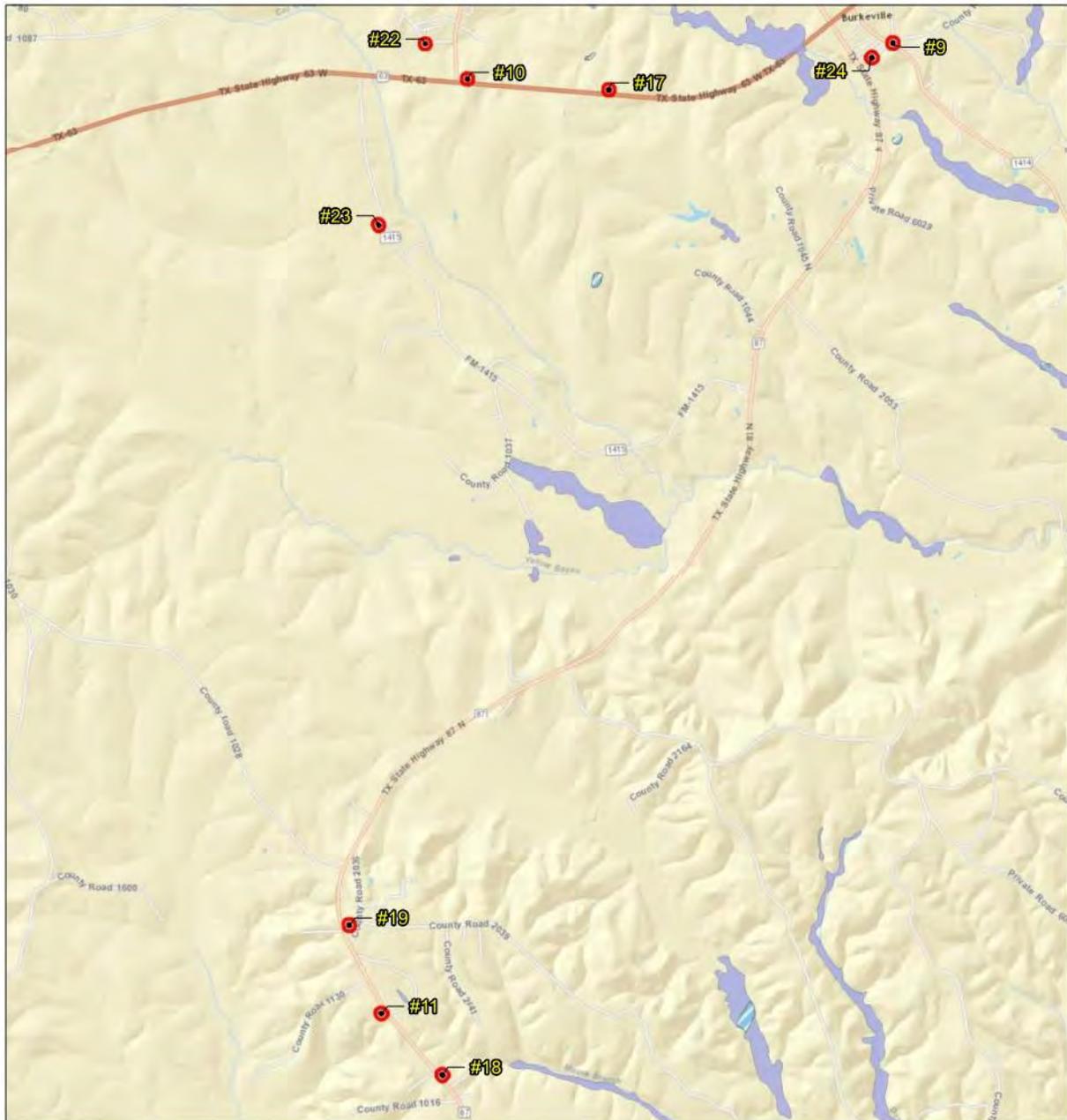


Wetlands

Page 1



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, USFWS NWI
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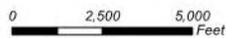


Newton County Defensible Space

Newton County, TX

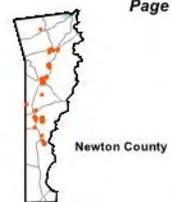
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- Property
- Work Area
- Wetlands by Type**
- Freshwater Emergent
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

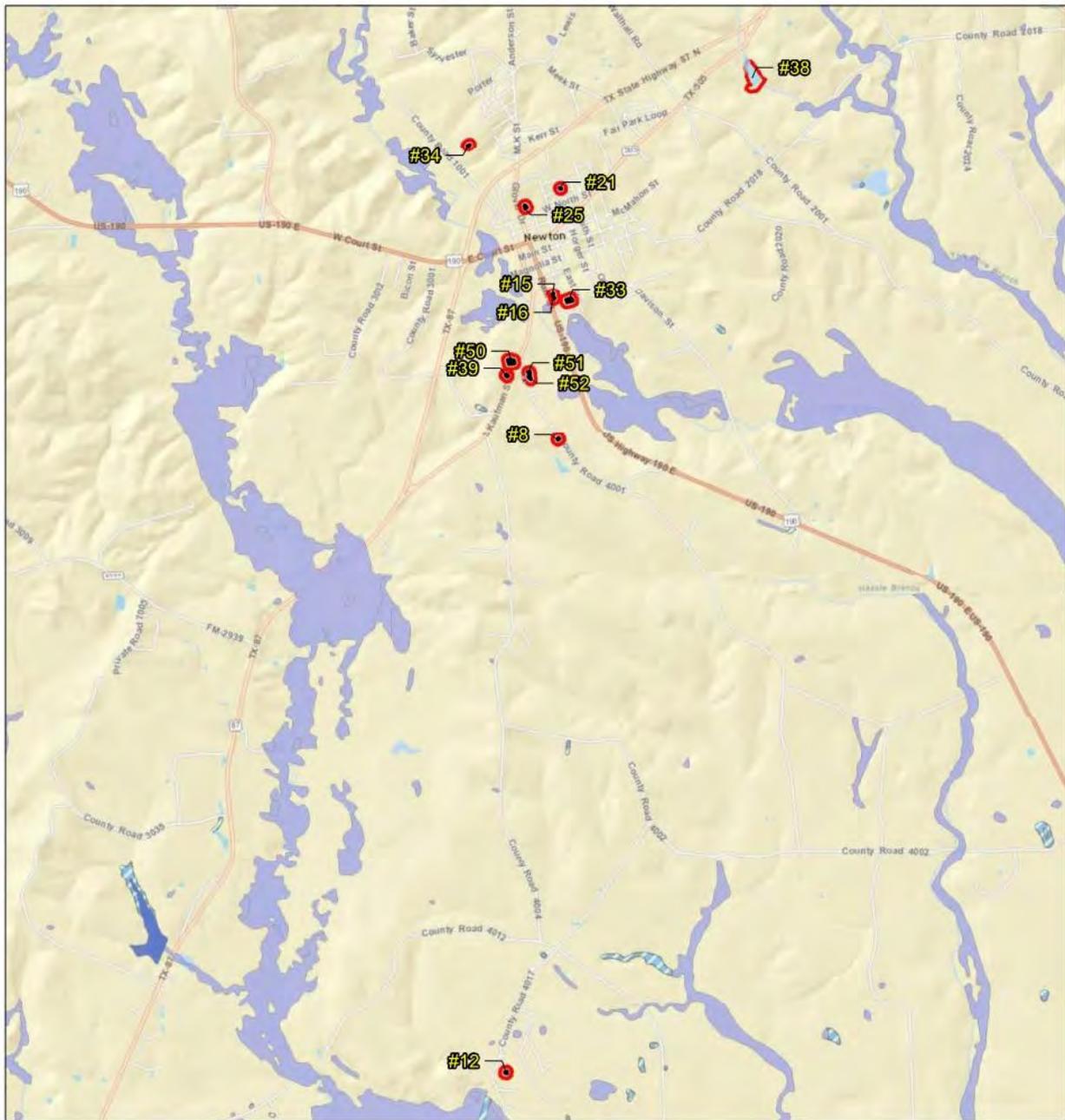


Wetlands

Page 2



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, USFWS NWI
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.

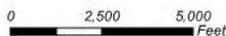


Newton County Defensible Space

Newton County, TX

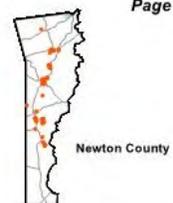
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- Property
- Work Area
- Wetlands by Type**
- Freshwater Emergent
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

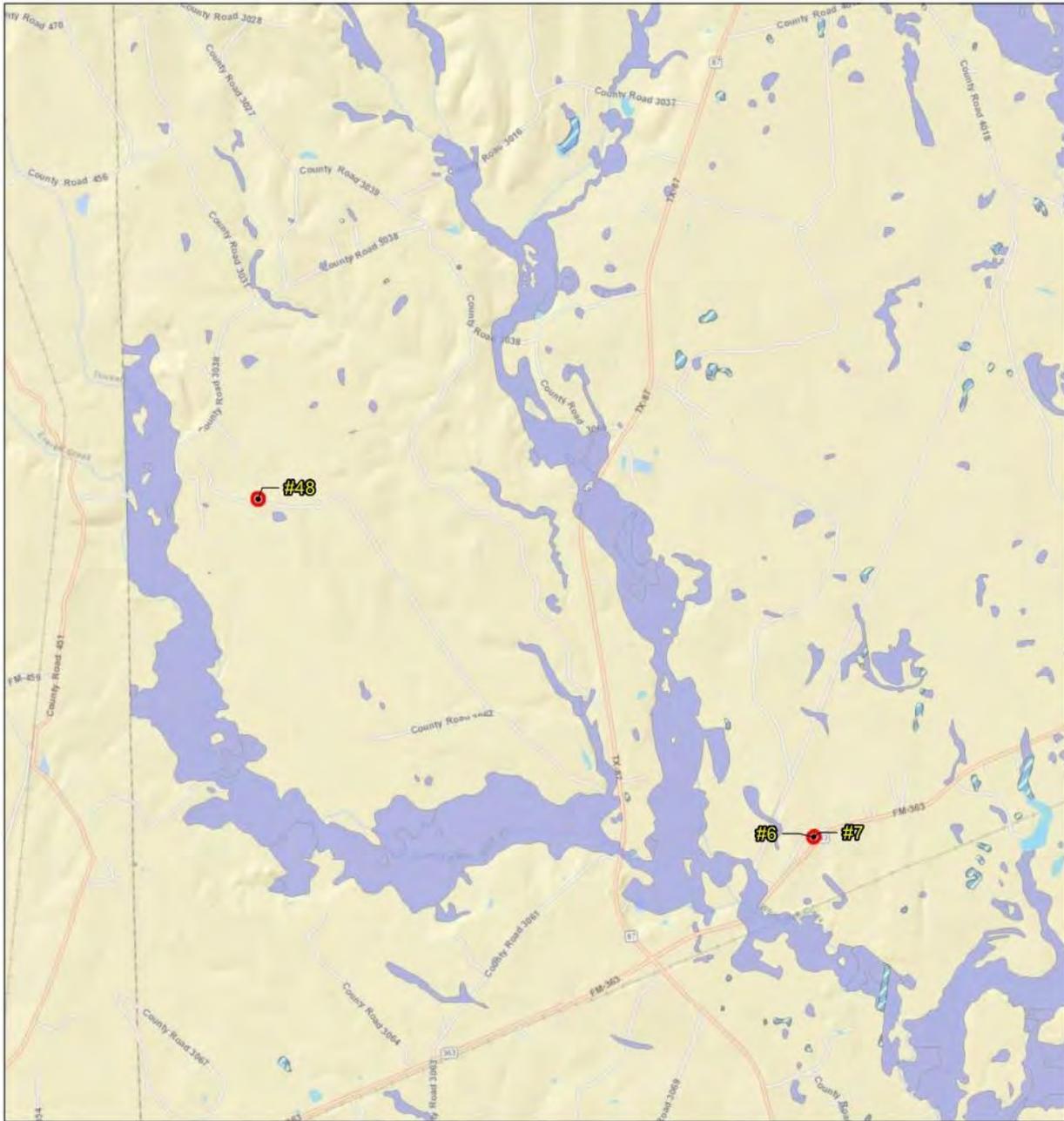


Wetlands

Page 3



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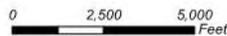


Newton County Defensible Space

Newton County, TX

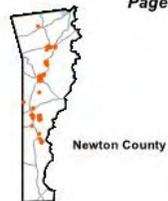
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- Wetlands by Type**
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- Freshwater Forested/Shrub
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

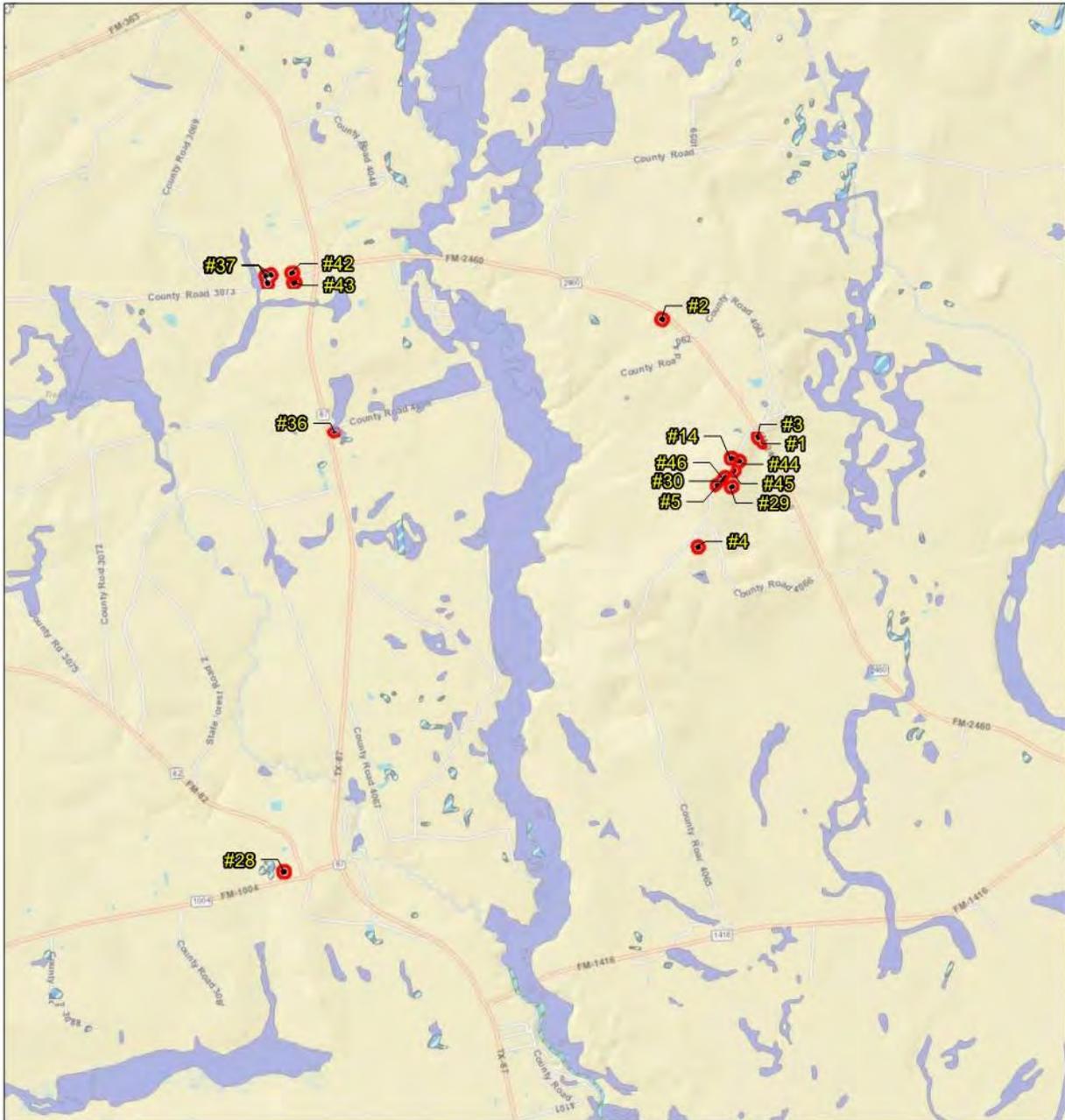


Wetlands

Page 4



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, USFWS NWI
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Newton County Defensible Space
 Newton County, TX

Legend

Property	Freshwater Pond
Work Area	Lake
<i>Wetlands by Type</i>	
Freshwater Emergent	Other
Freshwater Forested/Shrub	Riverine

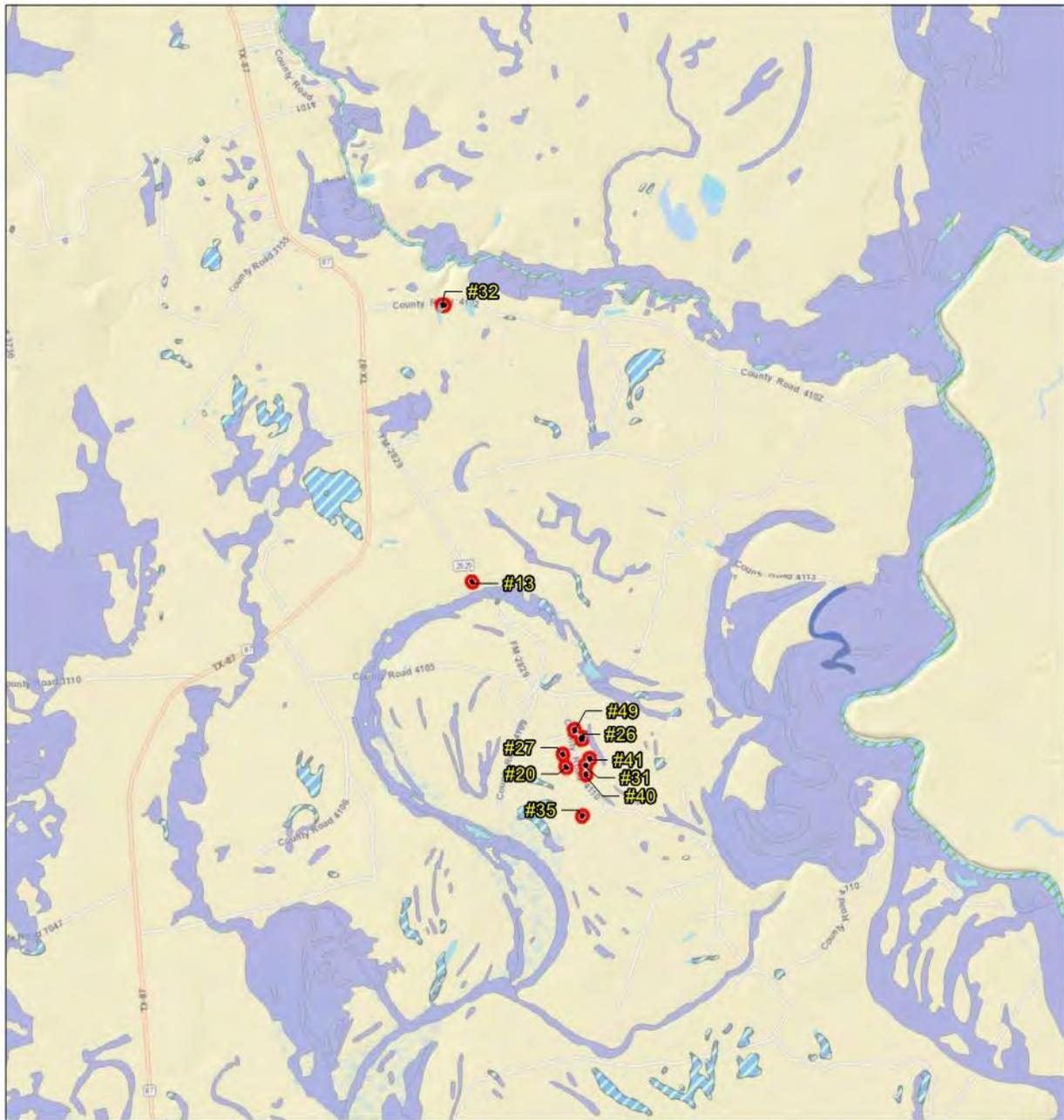
W N E S

0 2,500 5,000 Feet

Wetlands
Page 5

Newton County

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, USFWS NWI
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Newton County Defensible Space

Newton County, TX

Legend

- Property
- Work Area
- Wetlands by Type**
- Freshwater Emergent
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine



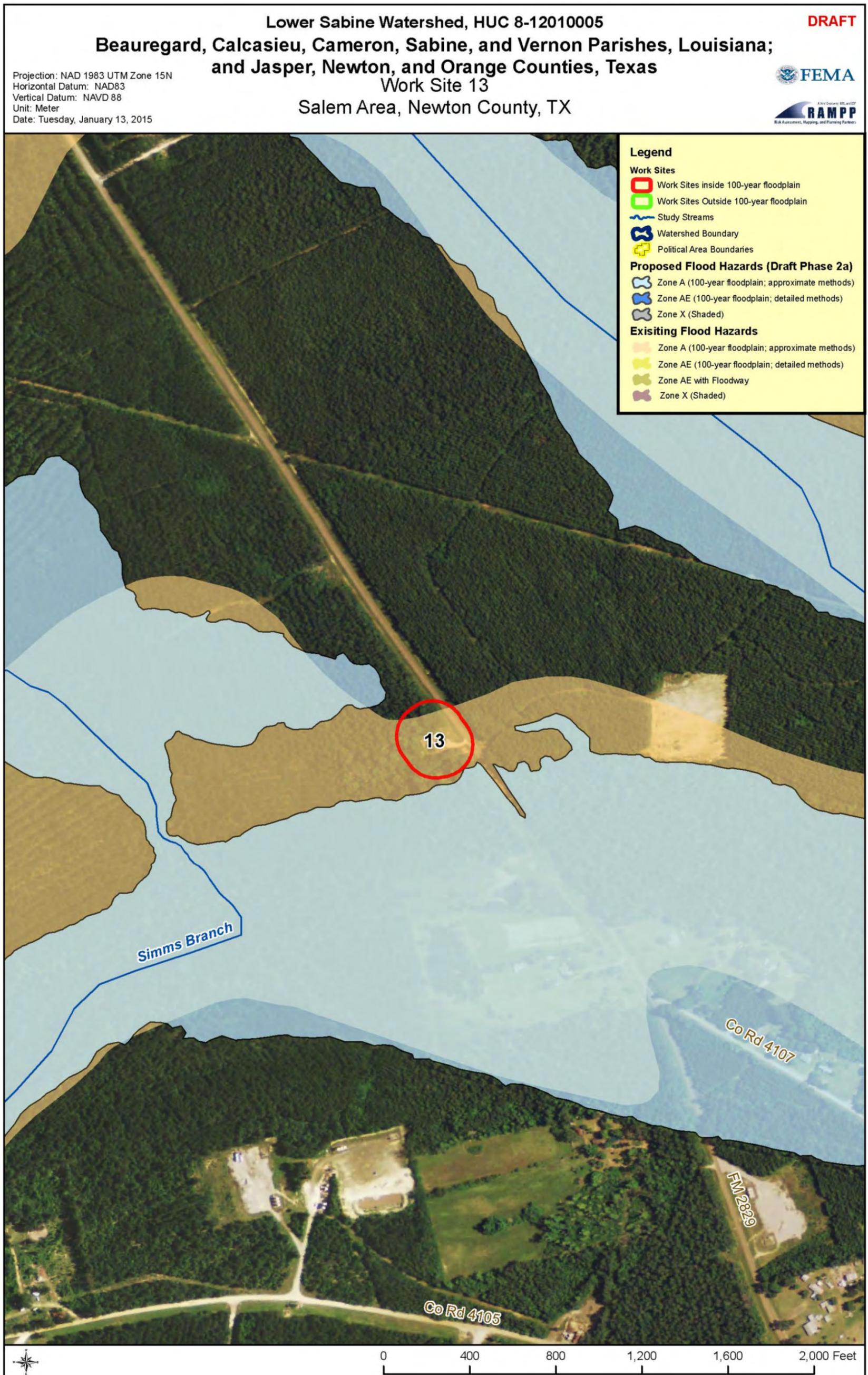
Wetlands

Page 6

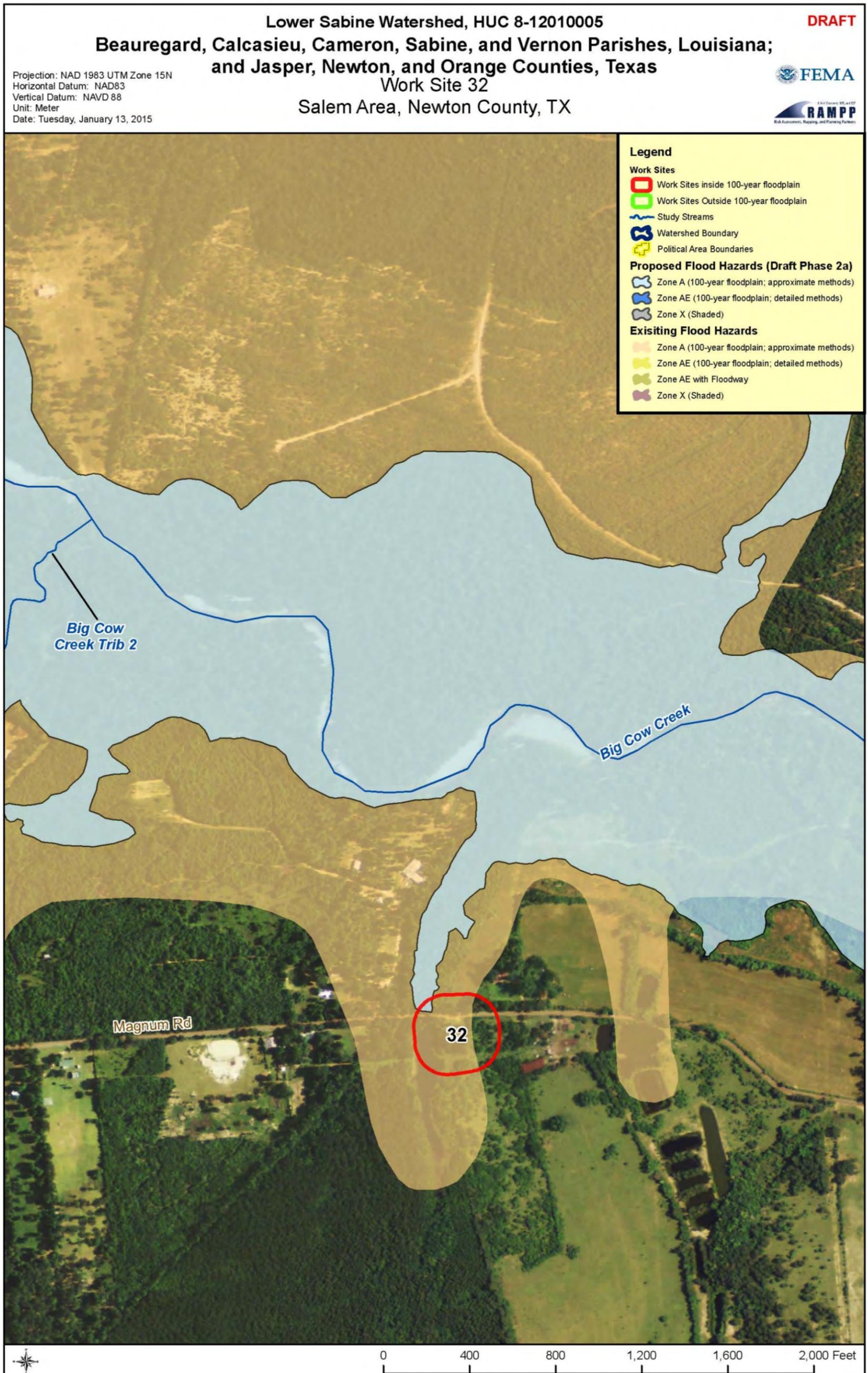


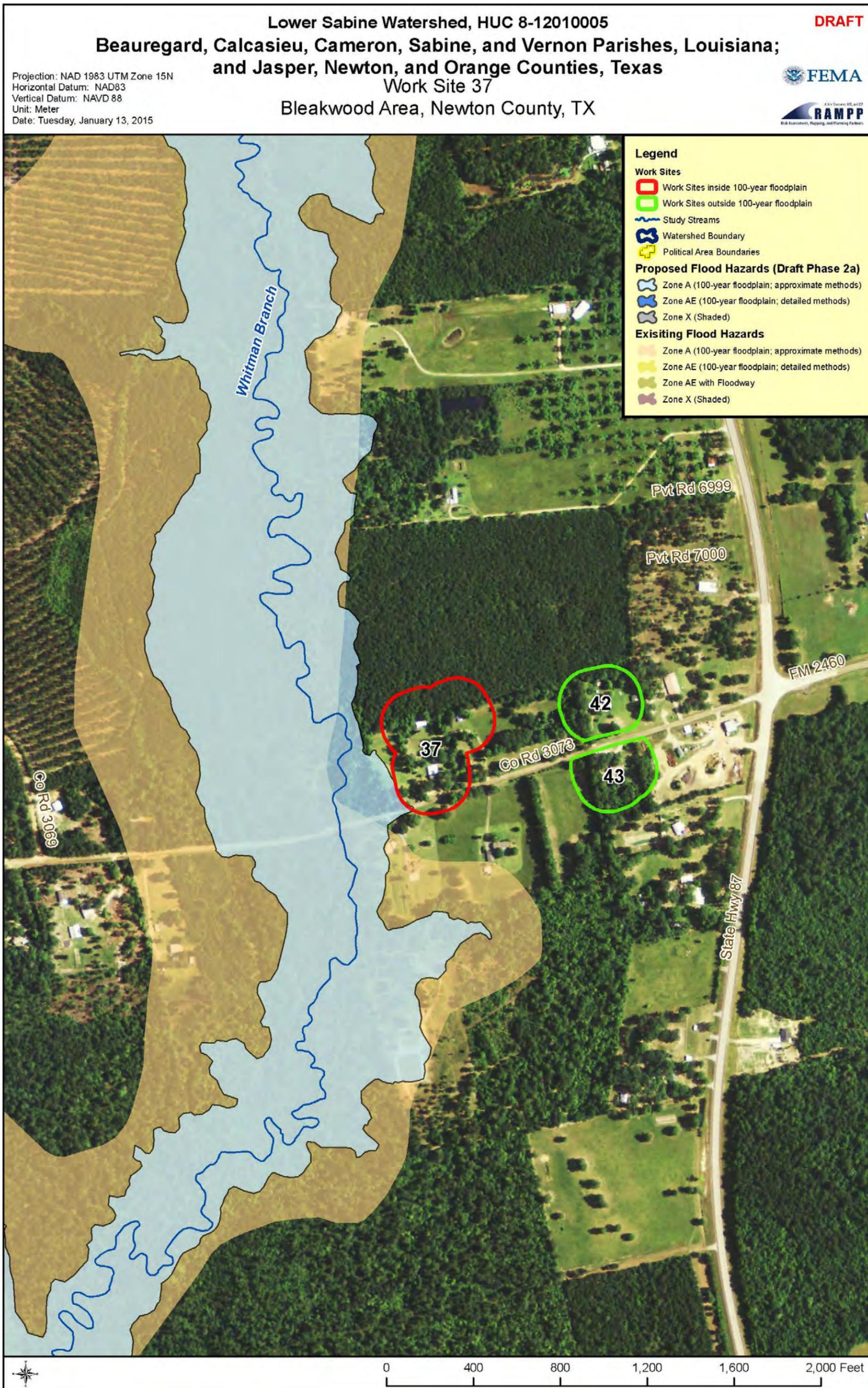
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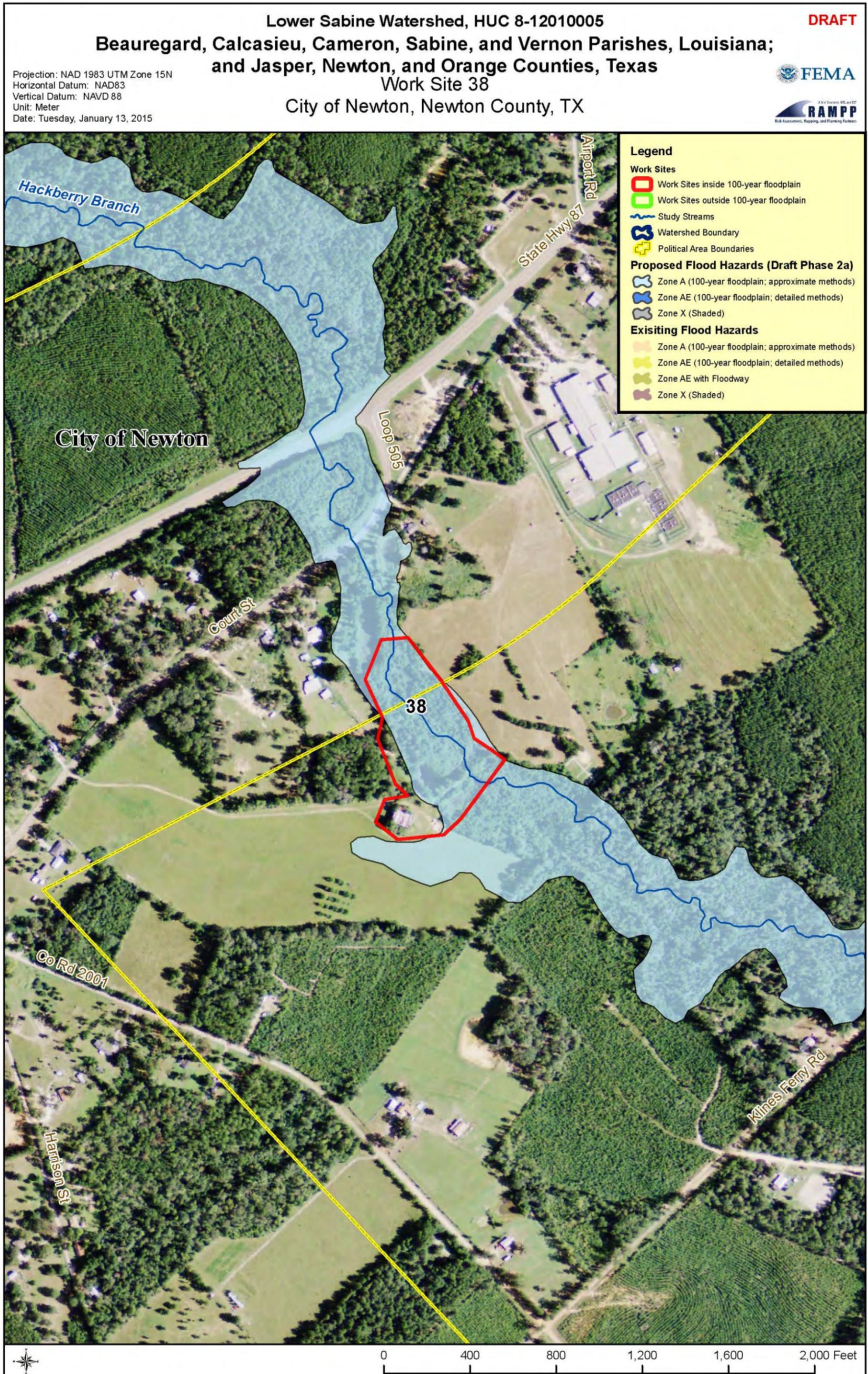














Executive Order (EO) 11988 – Floodplain Management

Eight-Step Decision Making Process

EO 11988 (Floodplain Management) requires federal agencies “to avoid to the extent possible the long and short term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of the floodplain and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development whenever there is a practical alternative.”

This eight-step process is applied to the proposed Newton County Defensible Space project. The proposed project involves vegetation management in project areas around structures near Big Cow Creek, Whitman Branch, White Oak Tributary No. 1, Simms Branch, Caney Creek, and Hackberry Branch in order to reduce the risk of damage to structures from wildfire. Portions of the proposed project areas are located within the 100-year floodplains of Big Cow Creek, Whitman Branch, White Oak Tributary No. 1, Simms Branch, Caney Creek, and Hackberry Branch.

The steps in the decision-making process are as follows:

Step 1 Determine if the proposed action is located in the Base Floodplain

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is in the process of updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) (panel number 48351C0375C and 48351C0450C) for Newton County; therefore, this analysis considers the proposed FIRMs for the project areas as they are the best available science. The proposed FIRMs are depicted in **Figure 4.9** and **Appendix C-5** of the environmental assessment (EA),

Floodplains are present within 6 of the proposed project areas. The proposed floodplain maps show project areas 32, 7, 37, 51, 52, and 38 are located within the 100-year floodplains of Big Cow Creek, White Oak Tributary No. 1, and Whitman Branch, Caney Creek, and Hackberry Gully, respectively. The proposed project would not result in the construction of any structures within the 100-year floodplain nor would it involve any fill or excavation within the floodplain.

Step 2 Early public notice (Preliminary Notice)

A public notice concerning the proposed defensible space project will be published in the *Newton County News* newspaper along with the Notice of Availability of the draft EA document. The *Newton County News* is the local newspaper for Newton County, including the floodplain areas of Big Cow Creek, Whitman Branch, White Oak Tributary No. 1, Simms Branch, Caney Creek, and Hackberry Branch where portions of the proposed action are located.

Step 3 Identify and evaluate alternatives to locating in the base floodplain

The no action alternative is described in **Section 3** of the EA. The no action alternative would not meet the purpose and need for the project and is not a practicable alternative.

An alternative that would relocate the project out of the floodplain is described here. A portion of the proposed project is located within the 100-year floodplains of Cow Creek, Whitman Branch,

White Oak Tributary No. 1, Simms Branch, Caney Creek, and Hackberry Branch. In order to protect homes in the project areas, defensible space is needed along the borders of these structures. Relocating the proposed project area to avoid the floodplain would require that in some locations the project area would not include as much vegetation around the structures to be treated. This alternative was considered but rejected because it would not adequately protect these structures. An alternative that would relocate the project outside of the floodplain would not meet the project purpose and need and is not a practicable alternative.

Step 4 Identify impacts of proposed action associated with occupancy or modification of the floodplain

Impact on natural function of the floodplain

The proposed action would not affect the functions and values of the 100-year floodplain. The proposed action would not place any structures or fill within the floodplain that would impede or redirect flood flows nor would it result in any excavation. No structures would be constructed within the floodplain, and no soil disturbance would occur within the floodplain. Although the proposed action would reduce risk to homes and other structures in the project areas, the proposed action would not facilitate any development within the floodplain.

The functions of the floodplain to provide flood storage and conveyance, filter nutrients and impurities from runoff, reduce flood velocities, reduce flood peaks, moderate temperature of water, reduce sedimentation, promote infiltration and aquifer recharge, and reduce frequency and duration of low surface flows will remain intact after the implementation of this project. There will be minor short-term impacts to water quality during the implementation phase of the project including sedimentation of nearby waters due to runoff. Floodplains also provide services in the form of providing fish and wildlife habitat, breeding, and feeding grounds. These floodplain values will not be significantly adversely impacted and the overall integrity of the ecosystem will not be impacted. FEMA has determined that the project will have no effect on federally listed threatened or endangered species. There is one endangered species with the potential to occur in Newton County, but based on a field survey, suitable habitat for the Red-cockaded woodpecker was not found in any of the project areas. The proposed action would have negligible impacts to native species and their habitats and population levels of native species would not be affected. There is the potential for adverse impacts to migratory bird species if vegetation removal activities are conducted during the breeding season. The proposed action will not adversely affect the societal and recreational benefits provided by the floodplain in these natural areas.

Impact of the flood water on the proposed facilities

The proposed action does not include any structures or facilities within the floodplain; therefore, no facilities would be affected by flood water in the floodplain of Big Cow Creek, Whitman Branch, White Oak Tributary No. 1, Simms Branch, Caney Creek, and Hackberry Branch. The proposed action also does not include any fill, excavation, or ground disturbance that could affect flood flows or elevations. Cut vegetation and mulch will not be placed within the floodplain. Potential floodwaters will not affect the project.

Step 5 Design or modify the proposed action to minimize threats to life and property and preserve its natural and beneficial floodplain values

The objective of the proposed action is to reduce the risk of wildfires impacting homes and other structures. No structures are or would be located in the floodplain as a result of the proposed project. The proposed defensible space project would result in removal of dead and dying trees, thinning of small trees and underbrush, and trimming of the lower branches of large trees. The proposed action would have no effect on the natural and beneficial values of the floodplain. As a condition of the project, no mulch or debris would be placed within the floodplain.

Many of the impacts discussed above are considered insignificant or beneficial to the floodplain. The proposed defensible space action contributes to the conservation of the floodplain and its natural and beneficial values. Short-term water quality impacts will be mitigated by the implementation of BMPs.

As a condition of the project, no mulch or debris would be placed within the floodplain. Impacts to migratory bird species will be minimized by seasonal restrictions such that work is conducted outside of nesting season or by the deployment of a biological monitor if work must take place during nesting season. Newton County must comply with the appropriate local floodplain management ordinance or best available data as defined by the Proposed FIRMs, whichever is more restrictive. Newton County will be required to coordinate with the local floodplain administrator and obtain any required permits prior to initiating work. All coordination pertaining to these activities and applicant compliance with any conditions should be documented and copies forwarded to the state and FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files.

Step 6 Determine if proposed action is practicable and re-evaluate alternatives

The proposed action would not expose any segment of the population to flood hazards because it does not include a housing component and will not facilitate development in the floodplain. The proposed action would not change the current flood hazard because it would not impede or redirect flood flows. The project would not disrupt floodplain values because it would not change water levels in the floodplain. Therefore, it is practicable to implement the proposed action within the floodplain. Alternatives consisting of locating the project outside of the floodplain or taking no action are not practicable because these alternatives would not reduce wildfire risks to people and homes within the project areas. FEMA maintains that the proposed action alternative is the only practicable alternative to meet the purpose and need of the project. This section may be revised following public comment on the EA and this 8-step evaluation if significant comments are received regarding floodplain impacts.

Step 7 Findings and public explanation (Final Notification)

Step 7 requires that the public be provided with an explanation of any final decision that the floodplain is the only practicable alternative. In accordance with 44 CFR §9.12, Newton County must prepare and provide a final public notice 15 days prior to the start of any defensible space activities in the floodplain. Documentation of the final public notice is to be forwarded to FEMA for inclusion in the permanent project files.

Step 8 Implement the action

Step 8 is the review of the implementation and post-implementation phases of the proposed action to ensure that the requirements stated in 44 CFR Part 9.11 are fully implemented. The proposed defensible space project will be conducted in accordance with applicable floodplain development requirements.

Conditions identified in Step 5 would be implemented.

Appendix D

Biological Site Visit Field Notes

Appendix D. Table D-1. Habitat Type Summary

Habitat Type	Dominant Plant Species	Animal Species Observed
Non-Maintained Residential	<p>Ground Cover: 80-100 percent cover; tall goldenrod, big bluestem, eastern daisy fleabane, annual marsh-elder, common greenbrier, southern dewberry and muscadine grape.</p> <p>Shrub: 0-20 percent cover; shining sumac, common persimmon, and cedar elm, water, and willow oak saplings.</p> <p>Canopy: 0-20 percent cover; water oak, willow oak, black willow, and loblolly pine.</p>	northern cardinal
Maintained Lawn	<p>Ground Cover: 80-100 percent cover; various upland grasses (e.g. bermudagrass).</p> <p>Shrub: 0-20 percent cover; various pruned ornamental shrubs.</p> <p>Canopy: 0-20 percent cover; water oak, willow oak, loblolly pine, sweet-gum and eastern red cedar.</p>	northern mockingbird
Residential Lot-Mixed Forest	<p>Ground Cover: 50-80 percent cover; various upland grasses (e.g. bermudagrass).</p> <p>Shrub: 0-20 percent cover; various pruned ornamental shrubs including mimosa.</p> <p>Canopy: 50-80 percent cover; water oak, willow oak, loblolly pine, sweet-gum, post oak, white oak, magnolia, and pecan.</p>	northern cardinal, red-bellied woodpecker
Mixed Shrubland	<p>Ground Cover: 40-80 percent cover; goldenrod, annual marsh-elder, common greenbrier, southern dewberry, Japanese honeysuckle, and peppervine.</p> <p>Shrub: 80-100 percent cover; loblolly pine, sweet-gum, mimosa, yaupon, eastern baccharis, water oak, green alder, common persimmon, and wax myrtle .</p> <p>Canopy: 0-20 percent cover; loblolly pine.</p>	northern cardinal, American robin, American crow
Pine Plantation	<p>Ground Cover: 0 percent cover; None.</p> <p>Shrub: 0-10 percent cover; yaupon, sweet-gum, and American beautyberry.</p> <p>Canopy: 100 percent cover; loblolly pine.</p>	None

Appendix D

Habitat Type	Dominant Plant Species	Animal Species Observed
Mixed Forest	<p>Ground Cover: 0-20 percent cover; common greenbrier, eastern poison ivy and long-leaf wood-oats.</p> <p>Shrub: 40-60 percent cover; green alder, red mulberry, blackjack oak, American elm, yaupon, Japanese privet, and mimosa.</p> <p>Canopy: 80-100 percent cover; loblolly pine, sweet-gum, post oak, water oak, common persimmon, and cherry-bark oak.</p>	American crow, yellow-bellied sapsucker, grey squirrel, coyote
Pine Shrubland	<p>Ground Cover: 20-50 percent cover; tall goldenrod, big bluestem, southern dewberry, Japanese honeysuckle, and dogfennel.</p> <p>Shrub: 80-100 percent cover; loblolly pine, sweet-gum, yaupon, wax myrtle, Japanese privet, and shining sumac.</p> <p>Canopy: 0-10 percent cover; loblolly pine and pecan.</p>	northern mockingbird

Appendix D. Table D-2. Listed Species Summary

Species (Common Name) ¹	Species (Scientific Name)	Federal Status	State Status	Habitat Description	Habitat Present in Survey Areas (Field Assessment)
American Peregrine falcon	Falco peregrinus anatum	DL	T	Year-round resident and local breeder in west Texas; nests in tall cliff eyries; migrant across state from more northern breeding areas in US and Canada; winters along coast and farther south; occupies wide range of habitats during migration, including urban, concentrations along coast and barrier islands; low-altitude migrant; stopovers at leading landscape edges such as lake shores, coastlines, and barrier islands	Unlikely; potential stopover habitat only
Bachman's Sparrow	Aimophila aestivalis	None	T	Open pine woods with scattered bushes and grassy understory in Pineywoods region, brushy or overgrown grassy hillsides, overgrown fields with thickets and brambles, grassy orchards; remnant grasslands in Post Oak Savannah region; nests on ground against grass tuft or under low shrub.	Low potential; due to residential disturbance; typical understory is too dense or is maintained.
Bald eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	DL	T	Found primarily near rivers and large lakes; nests in tall trees or on cliffs near water; communally roosts, especially in winter; hunts live prey, scavenges, and pirates food from other birds	Moderate Potential; in each of the forested habitat types
Interior Least Tern	Sterna antillarum athalassos	LE	E	Subspecies is listed only when inland (more than 50 miles from a coastline); nests along sand and gravel bars within braided streams, rivers; also know to nest on man-made structures (inland beaches, wastewater treatment plants, gravel mines, etc); eats small fish and crustaceans, when breeding forages within a few hundred feet of colony.	Unlikely; no nesting or foraging habitat present.

Appendix D

Species (Common Name) ¹	Species (Scientific Name)	Federal Status	State Status	Habitat Description	Habitat Present in Survey Areas (Field Assessment)
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	DL	T	Both subspecies migrate across the state from more northern breeding areas in US and Canada to winter along coast and farther south; subspecies (F. p. anatum) is also a resident breeder in west Texas; the two subspecies' listing statuses differ, F.p. tundrius is no longer listed in Texas; but because the subspecies are not easily distinguishable at a distance, reference is generally made only to the species level; see subspecies for habitat.	Unlikely; no nesting or foraging habitat present.
Piping Plover	Charadrius melodus	LT	T	Wintering migrant along the Texas Gulf Coast; beaches and bayside mud or salt flats.	Unlikely; no nesting or foraging habitat present.
Red-Cockaded Woodpecker	Picoides borealis	LE	E	Cavity nests in older pine (60+ years); forages in younger pine (30+ years); prefers longleaf, shortleaf, and loblolly.	Low potential; transients only, no nesting or foraging habitat
Red Knot	Calidris canutus	Proposed Threatened	None	Tidal flats, sandy beaches, shores, tundra when breeding. Only winters on the coast of Texas.	Unlikely; no nesting or foraging habitat present.
Sprague's Pipit	Anthus spragueii	Candidate	None	Only in Texas during migration and winter, mid September to early April; short to medium distance, diurnal migrant; strongly tied to native upland prairie, can be locally common in coastal grasslands, uncommon to rare further west; sensitive to patch size and avoids edges.	Unlikely; no native upland prairie habitats
Swallow-tailed Kite	Elanoides forficatus	None	T	Lowland forested regions, especially swampy areas, ranging into open woodland; marshes, along rivers, lakes, and ponds; nests high in tall tree in clearing or on forest woodland edge, usually in pine, cypress, or various deciduous trees.	Moderate potential; near floodplains in all forested habitats.
White-faced Ibis	Plegadis chihi	None	T	Prefers freshwater marshes, sloughs, and irrigated rice fields, but will attend brackish and saltwater habitats; nests in marshes, in low trees, on the ground in bulrushes or reeds, or on floating mats.	Low Potential; only in surface water habitats identified on project area 38.

Appendix D

Species (Common Name) ¹	Species (Scientific Name)	Federal Status	State Status	Habitat Description	Habitat Present in Survey Areas (Field Assessment)
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	None	T	Forages in prairie ponds, flooded pastures or fields, ditches, and other shallow standing water, including salt-water; usually roosts communally in tall snags, sometimes in association with other wading birds (<i>i.e.</i> active heronries); breeds in Mexico and birds move into Gulf States in search of mud flats and other wetlands, even those associated with forested areas; formerly nested in Texas, but no breeding records since 1960.	Low Potential; only in surface water habitats identified on project area 38.
Blue sucker	<i>Cyprinella elongatus</i>	None	T	Larger portions of major rivers in Texas; usually in channels and flowing pools with a moderate current; bottom type usually of exposed bedrock, perhaps in combination with hard clay, sand, and gravel; adults winter in deep pools and move upstream in spring to spawn on riffles.	Unlikely; no perennial river systems identified.
Creek chubsucker	<i>Erimyzon oblongus</i>	None	T	Tributaries of the Red, Sabine, Neches, Trinity, and San Jacinto rivers; small rivers and creeks of various types; seldom in impoundments; prefers headwaters, but seldom occurs in springs; young typically in headwater rivulets or marshes; spawns in river mouths or pools, riffles, lake outlets, upstream creeks.	Unlikely; no perennial river systems identified.
Paddlefish	<i>Polyodon spathula</i>	None	T	Prefers large, free-flowing rivers, but will frequent impoundments with access to spawning sites; spawns in fast, shallow water over gravel bars; larvae may drift from reservoir to reservoir.	Unlikely; no perennial river systems identified.
Black bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	T/SA;NL	T	Bottomland hardwoods and large tracts of inaccessible forested areas; due to field characteristics similar to Louisiana Black Bear (LT, T), treat all east Texas black bears as federal and state listed Threatened.	Unlikely; no large tracts of bottomland hardwood forest identified
Louisiana black bear	<i>Ursus americanus luteolus</i>	LT	T	Possible as transient; bottomland hardwoods and large tracts of inaccessible forested areas.	Unlikely; no large tracts of bottomland hardwood forest identified

Appendix D

Species (Common Name) ¹	Species (Scientific Name)	Federal Status	State Status	Habitat Description	Habitat Present in Survey Areas (Field Assessment)
Rafinesque's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>	None	T	Roosts in cavity trees of bottomland hardwoods, concrete culverts, and abandoned man-made structures.	Moderate potential; in abandoned structures located within the project survey area.
Red wolf	<i>Canis rufus</i>	LE	E	Extirpated; formerly known throughout eastern half of Texas in brushy and forested areas, as well as coastal prairies.	Unlikely; extirpated species
Louisiana pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema riddellii</i>	None	T	Streams and moderate-size rivers, usually flowing water on substrates of mud, sand, and gravel; not generally known from impoundments; Sabine, Neches, and Trinity (historic) River basins.	Unlikely; no perennial river systems identified.
Sandbank pocketbook	<i>Lampsilis satura</i>	None	T	Small to large rivers with moderate flows and swift current on gravel, gravel-sand, and sand bottoms; east Texas, Sulfur south through San Jacinto River basins; Neches River.	Unlikely; no perennial river systems identified.
Southern hickorynut	<i>Obovaria jacksoniana</i>	None	T	Medium sized gravel substrates with low to moderate current; Neches, Sabine, and Cypress river basins.	Unlikely; no perennial river systems identified.
Texas heelsplitter	<i>Potamilus amphichaenus</i>	None	T	Quiet waters in mud or sand and also in reservoirs. Sabine, Neches, and Trinity River basins.	Unlikely; no perennial river systems identified.
Texas pigtoe	<i>Fusconaia askewi</i>	None	T	Rivers with mixed mud, sand, and fine gravel in protected areas associated with fallen trees or other structures; east Texas River basins, Sabine through Trinity rivers as well as San Jacinto River.	Unlikely; no perennial river systems identified.
Alligator snapping turtle	<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i>	None	T	Perennial water bodies; deep water of rivers, canals, lakes, and oxbows; also swamps, bayous, and ponds near deep running water; sometimes enters brackish coastal waters; usually in water with mud bottom and abundant aquatic vegetation; may migrate several miles along rivers; active March-October; breeds April-October.	Unlikely; no perennial river deep water systems identified.

Appendix D

Species (Common Name) ¹	Species (Scientific Name)	Federal Status	State Status	Habitat Description	Habitat Present in Survey Areas (Field Assessment)
Louisiana pine snake	<i>Pituophis ruthveni</i>	Candidate	T	Mixed deciduous-longleaf pine woodlands; breeds April-September.	Low potential; no longleaf pine woodlands identified
Northern scarlet snake	<i>Cemophora coccinea copei</i>	None	T	Mixed hardwood scrub on sandy soils; feeds on reptile eggs; semi-fossorial; active April-September.	Moderate potential; in all forested habitats
Timber rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>	None	T	Swamps, floodplains, upland pine and deciduous woodlands, riparian zones, abandoned farmland; limestone bluffs, sandy soil or black clay; prefers dense ground cover, <i>i.e.</i> grapevines or palmetto.	Moderate potential; in all forested habitats

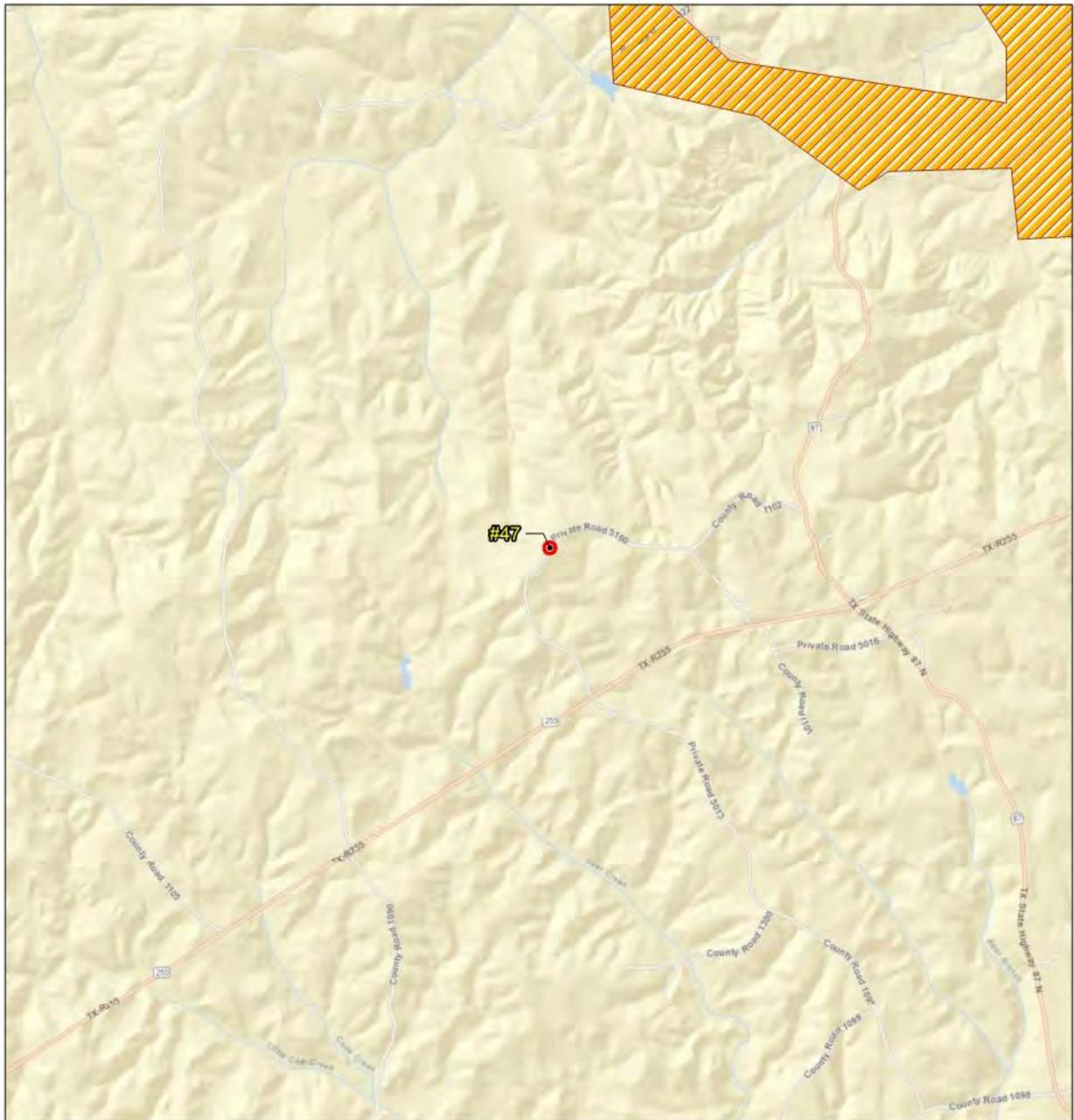
Appendix E

Cultural Resources and Socioeconomic Resources Data

E-1. Cultural Resources Maps

E-2. Census Tract Maps

E-3. EnviroFacts Maps



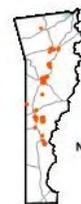
Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Cultural Resources

Page 1

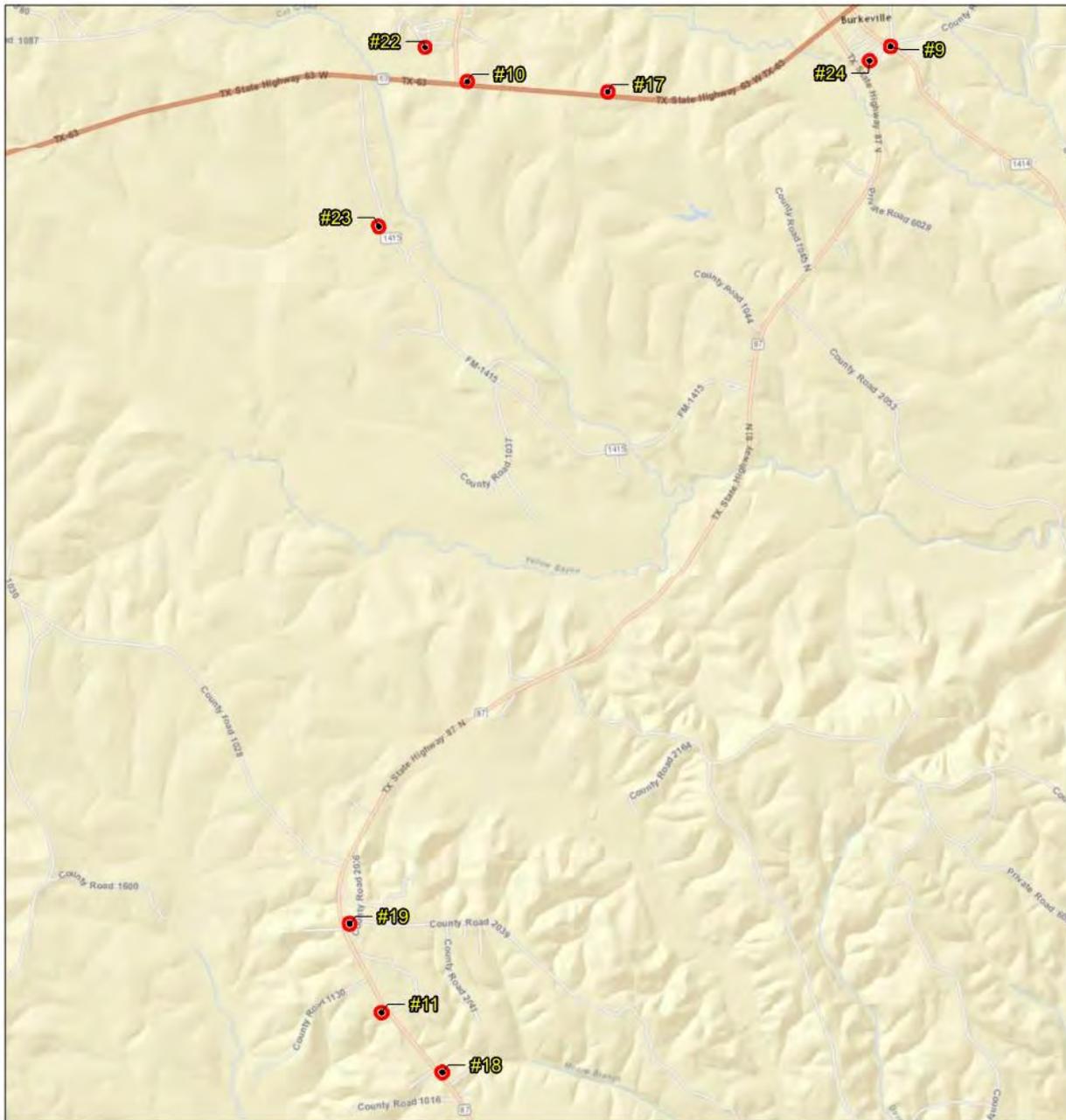
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-  Work Area
-  Area Surveyed for Archeological Purposes



Newton County

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, SHPO THC
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

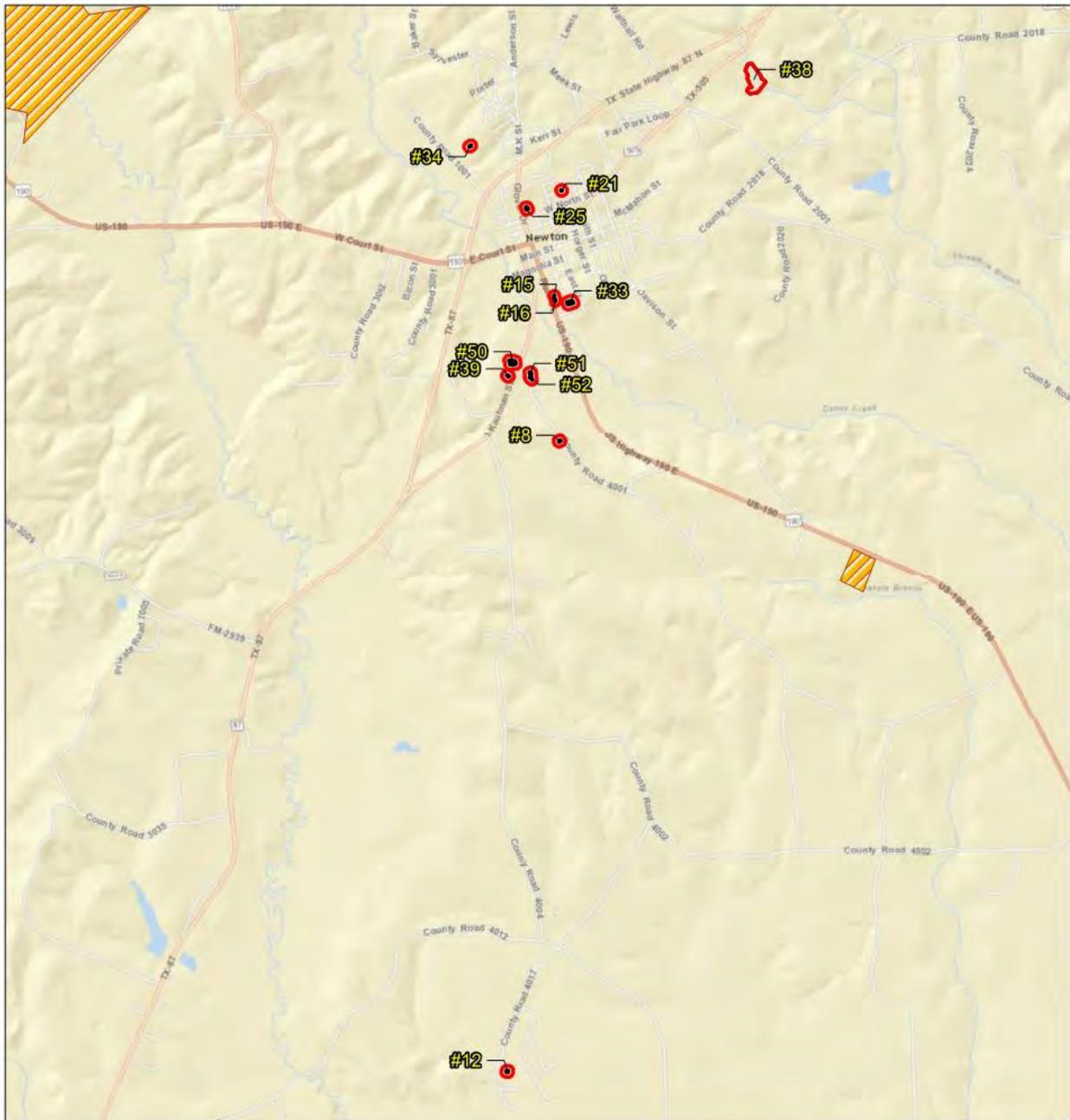
Cultural Resources
Page 2

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-  Property
-  Work Area
-  Area Surveyed for Archeological Purposes



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Newton County Defensible Space

Newton County, TX

Cultural Resources

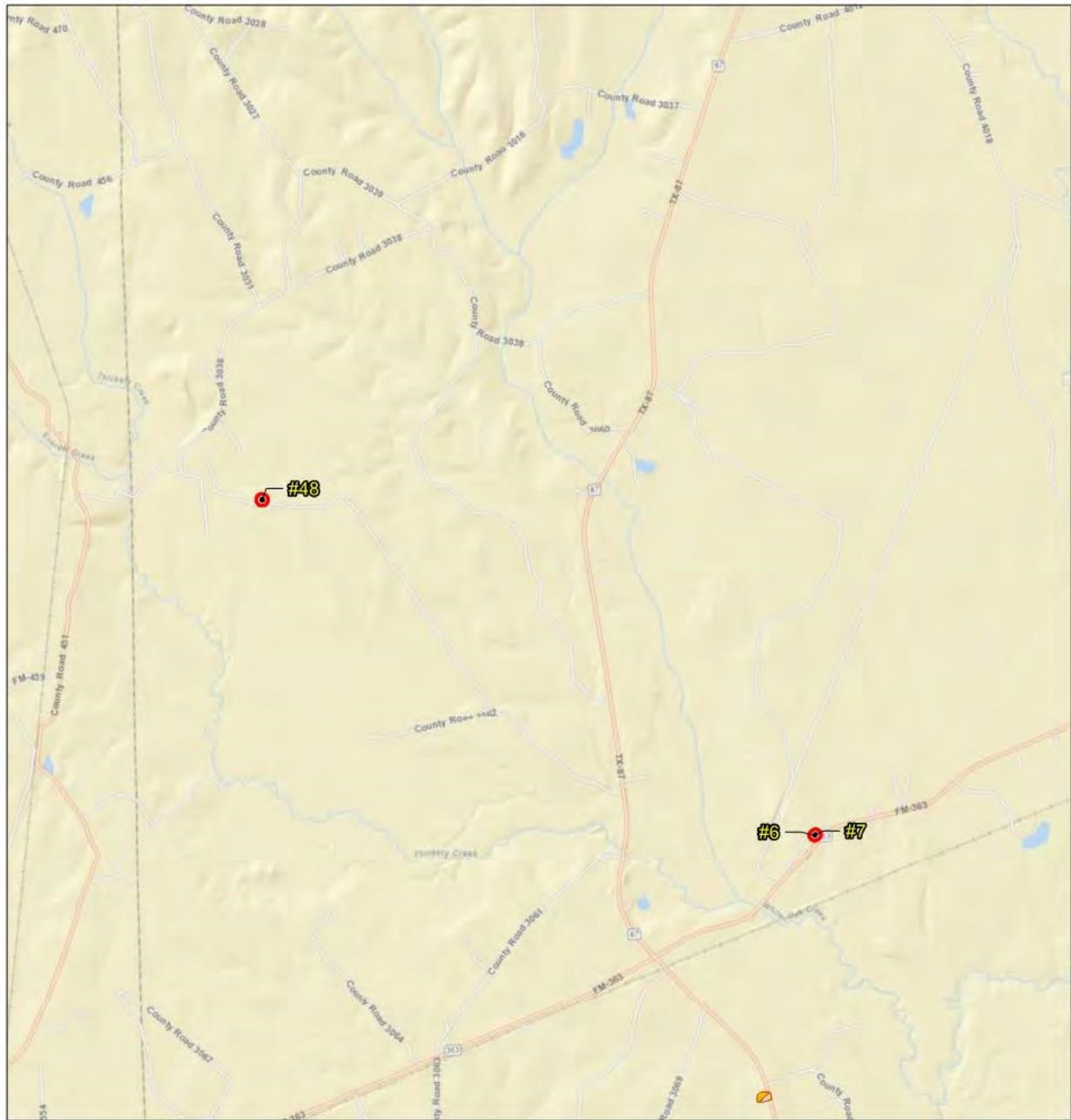
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-  Property
-  Work Area
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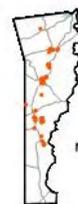
Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Cultural Resources

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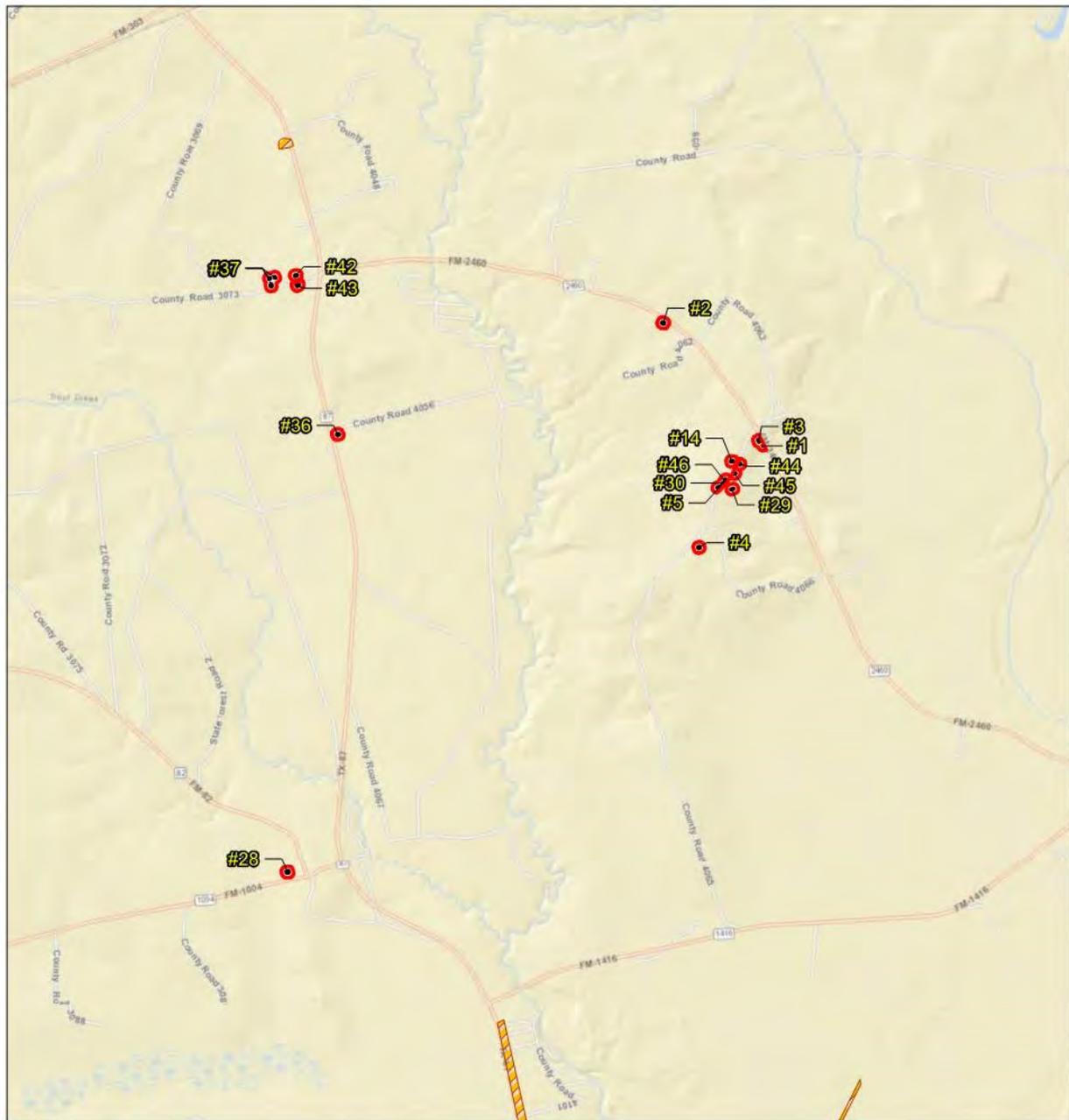
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-  Work Area
-  Area Surveyed for Archeological Purposes



Newton County

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, SHPO THC
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Cultural Resources

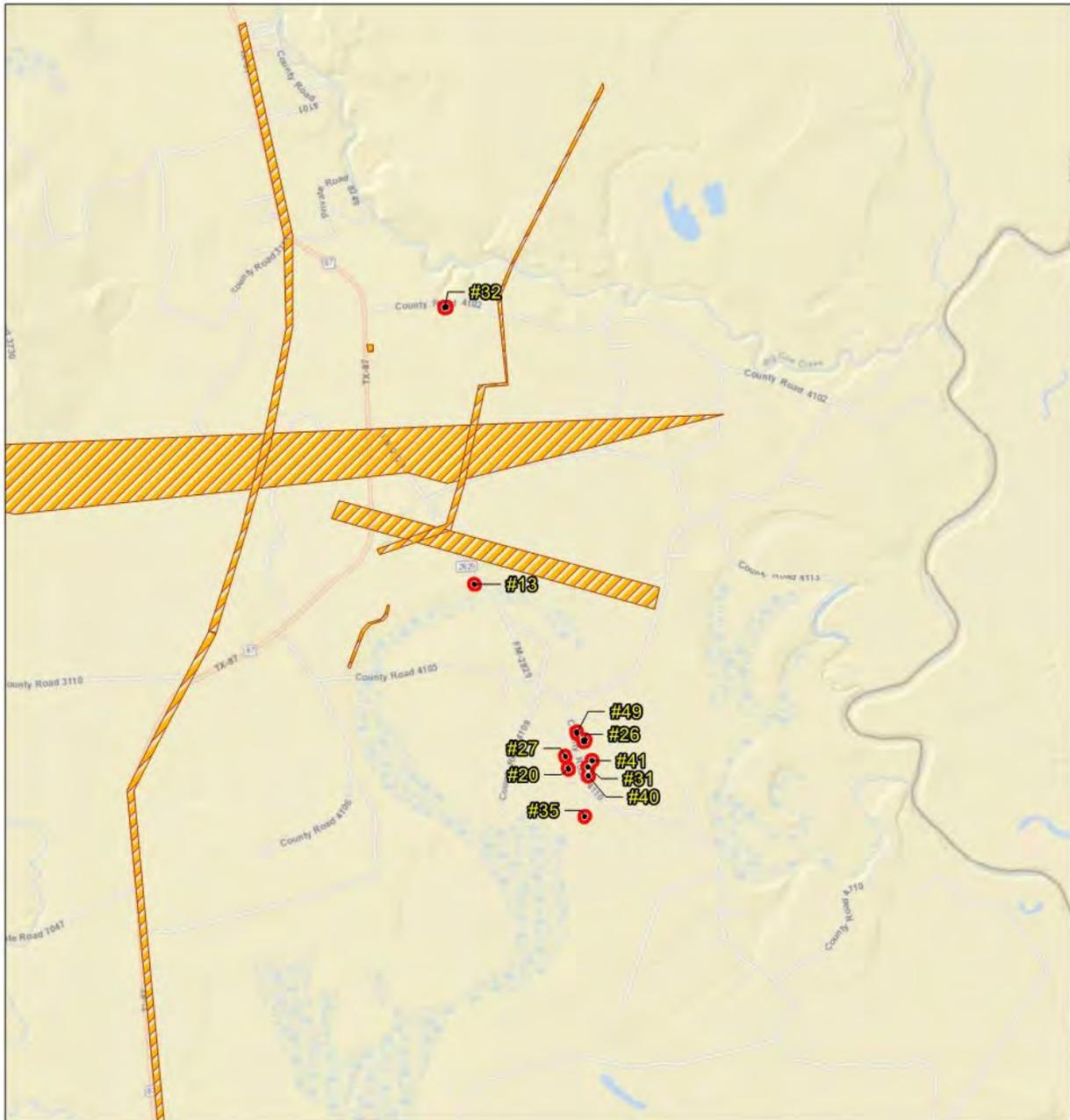
Page 5

Legend

-  Property
-  Work Area
-  Area Surveyed for Archeological Purposes



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, SHPO THC
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Cultural Resources

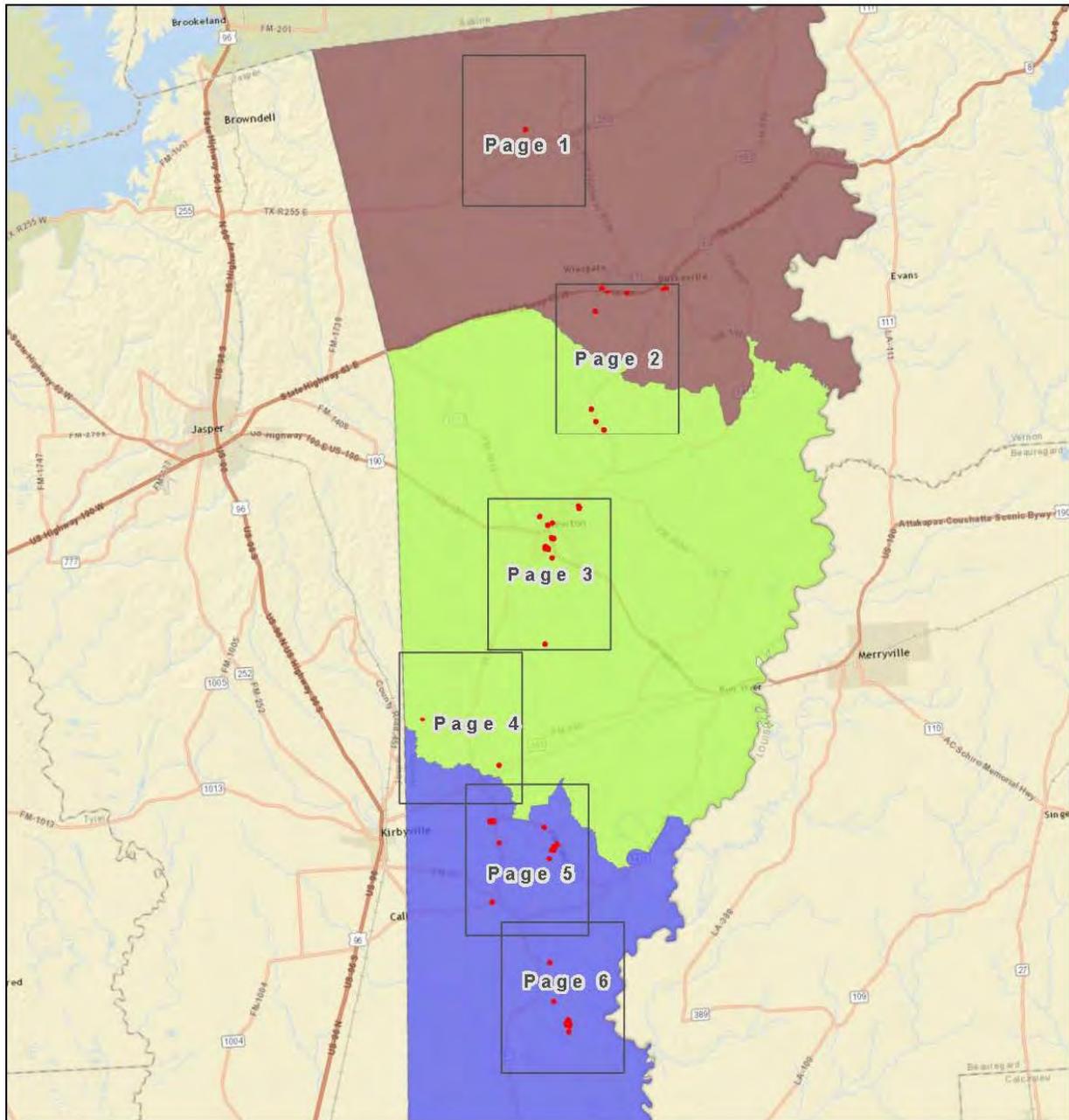
Page 6

Legend

-  Property
-  Work Area
-  Area Surveyed for Archeological Purposes



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, SHPO THC
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- Work Area
- Census Tract 9501
- Census Tract 9502
- Census Tract 9503



0 15,000 30,000 Feet

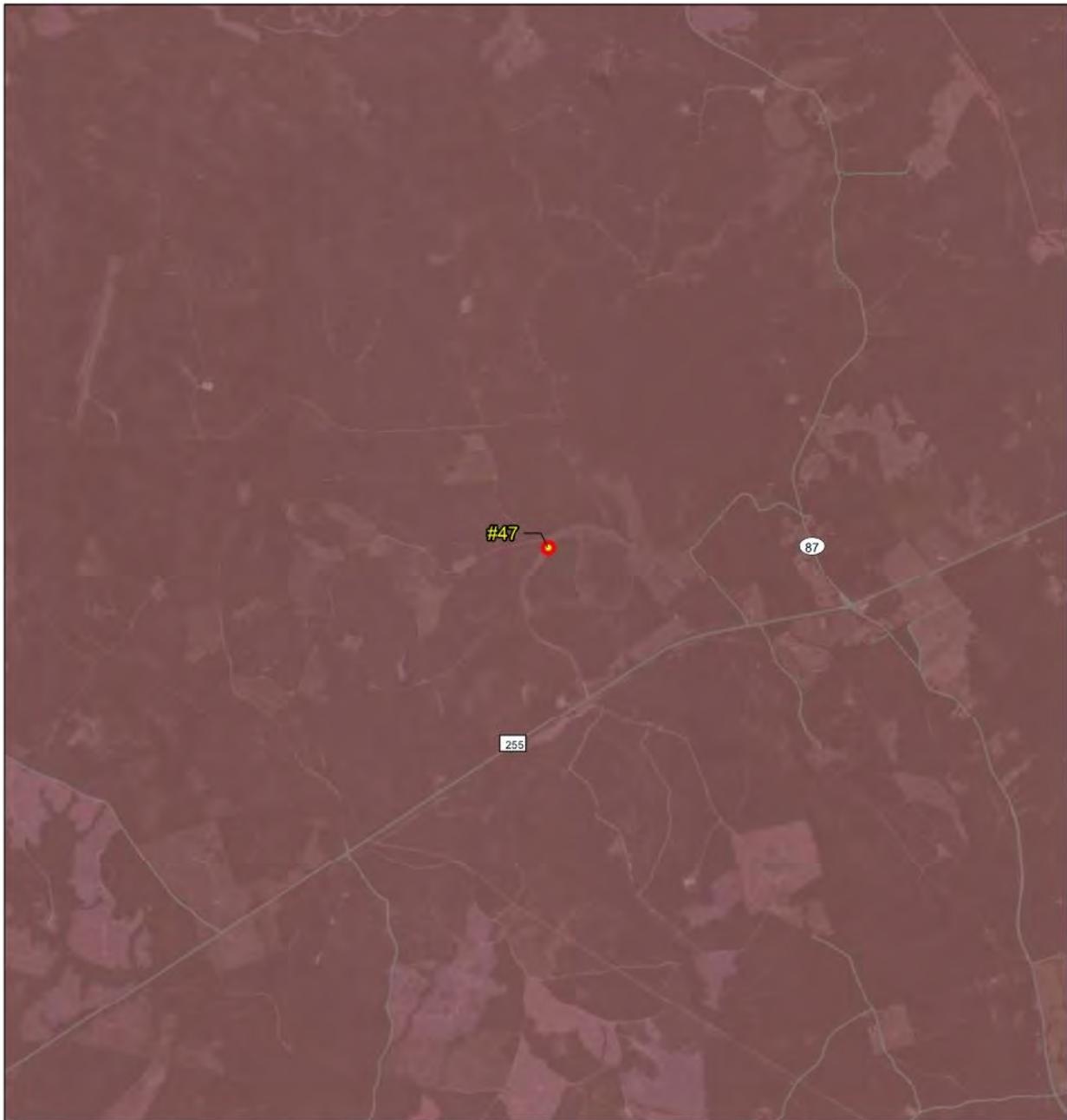
Census Tracts

Index



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, US Census Bureau

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
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|  Property |  Census Tract 9502 |
|  Road |  Census Tract 9503 |

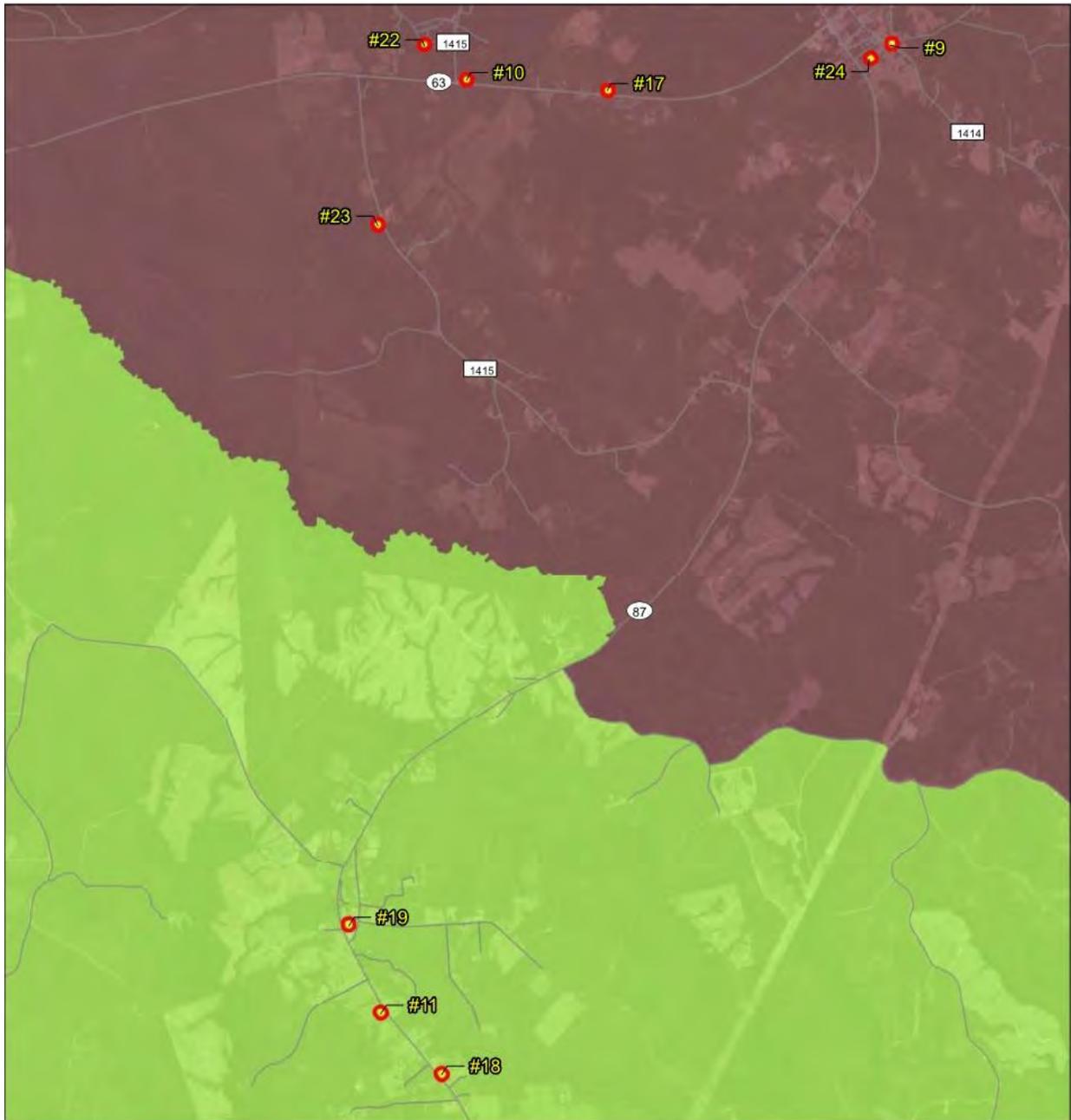


Census Tracts

Page 1



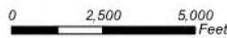
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Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

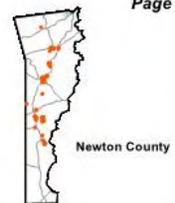
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- Work Area
- Census Tract 9501
- Property
- Census Tract 9502
- Road
- Census Tract 9503

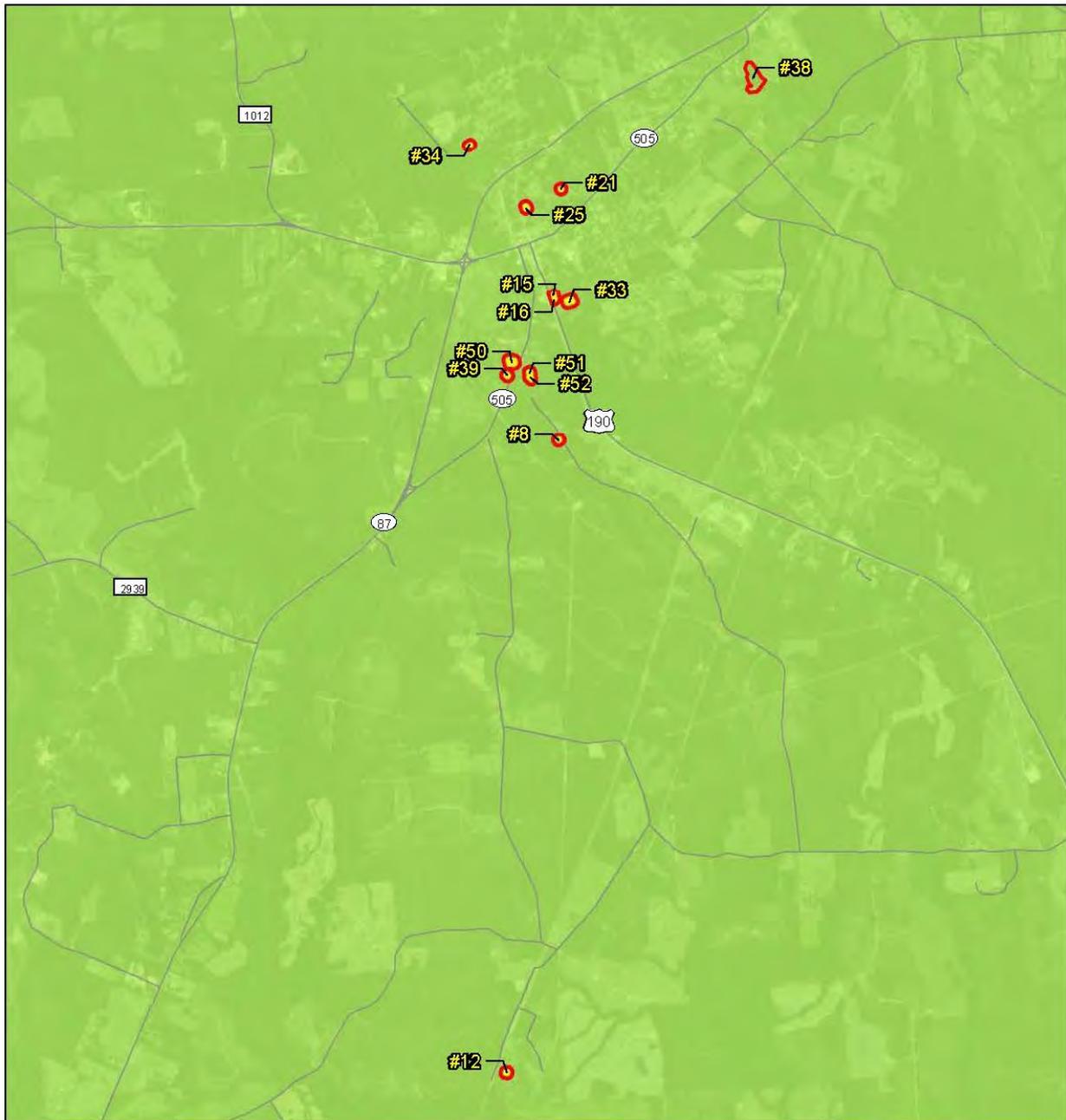


Census Tracts

Page 2



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, US Census Bureau
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

-  Work Area
-  Property
-  Road
-  Census Tract 9501
-  Census Tract 9502
-  Census Tract 9503

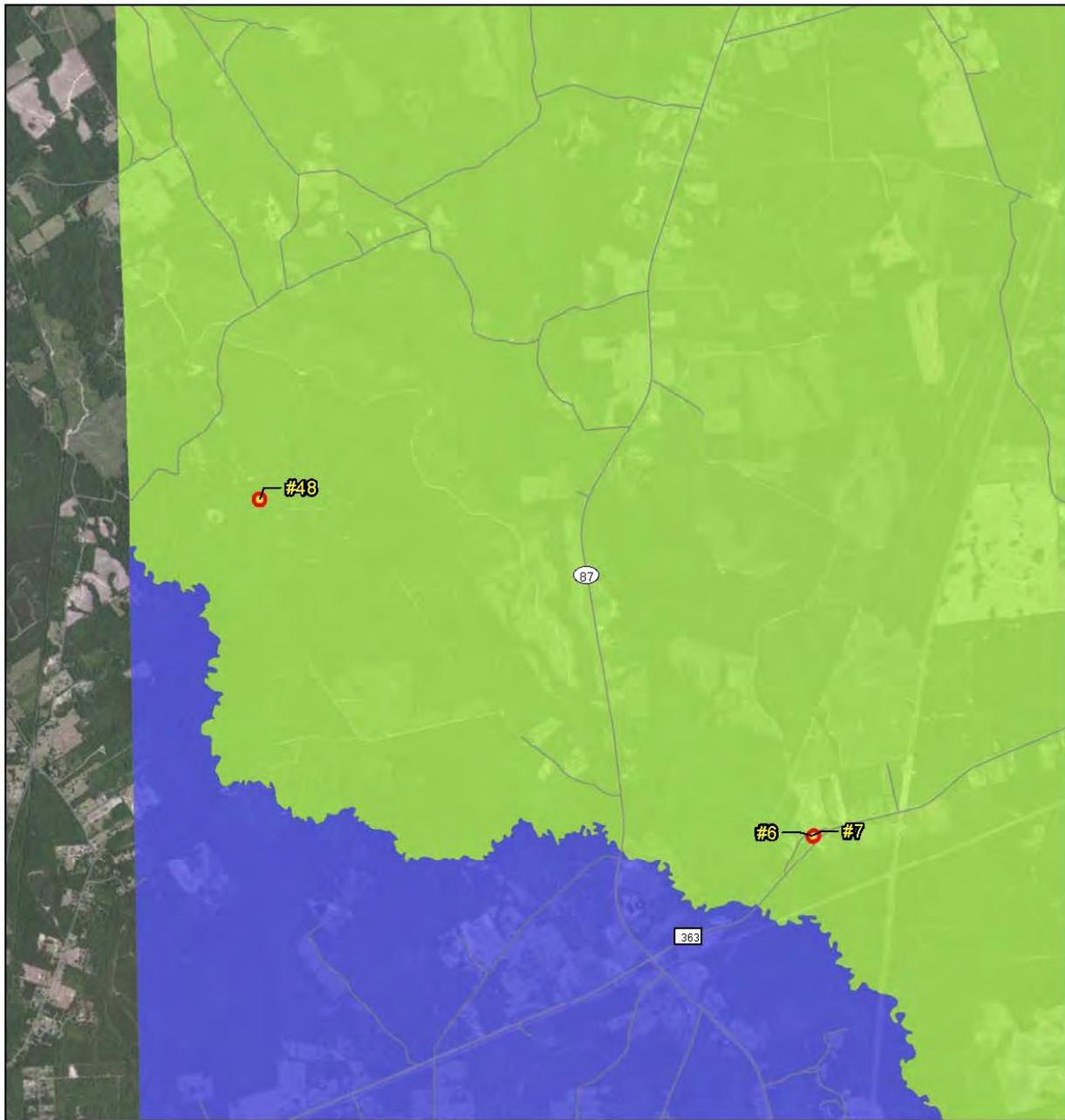


Census Tracts

Page 3



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, US Census Bureau
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

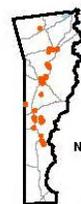
Legend

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Work Area |  Census Tract 9501 |
|  Property |  Census Tract 9502 |
|  Road |  Census Tract 9503 |



Census Tracts

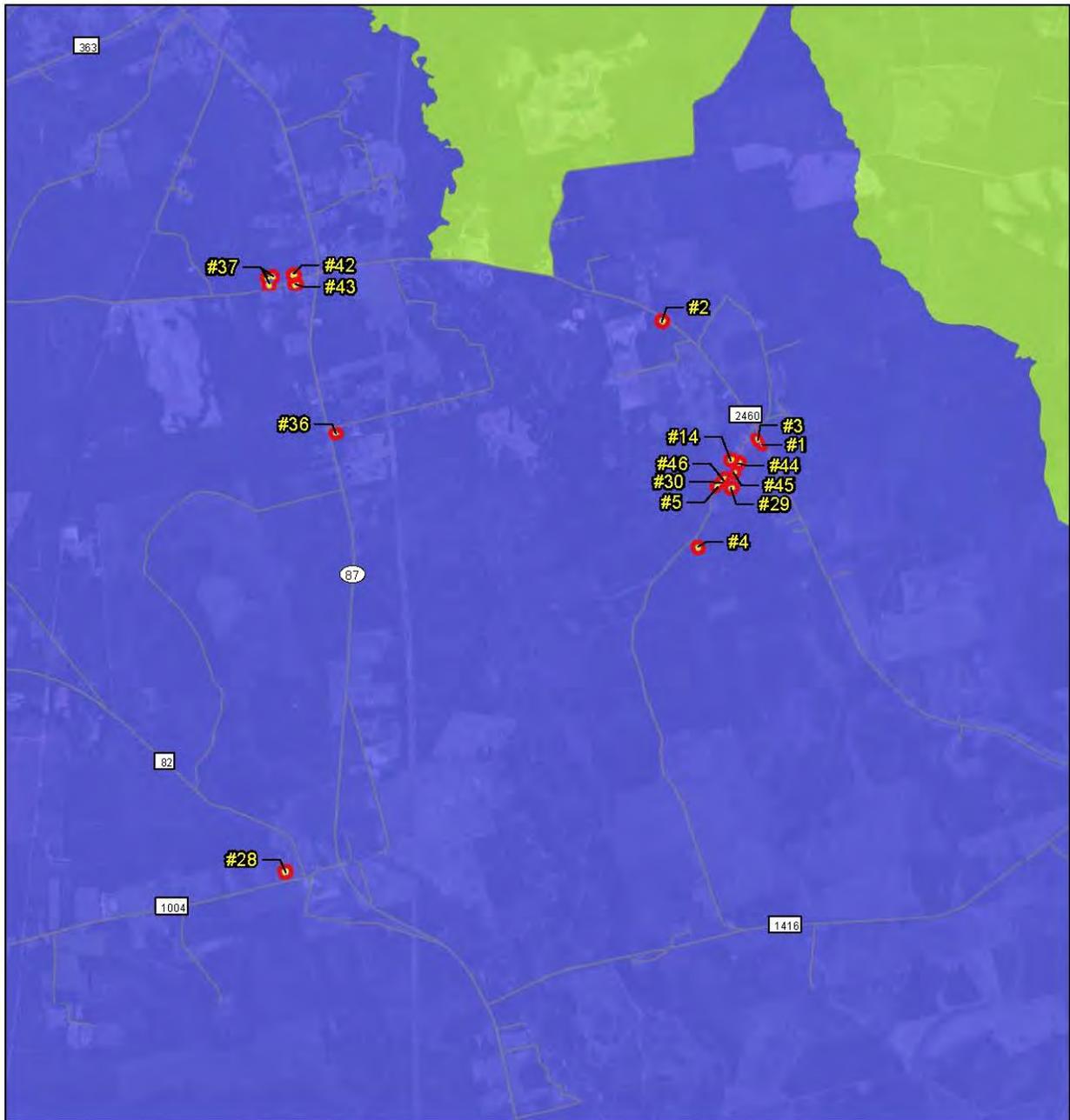
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Newton County

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, US Census Bureau

Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- Work Area
- Property
- Road
- Census Tract 9501
- Census Tract 9502
- Census Tract 9503

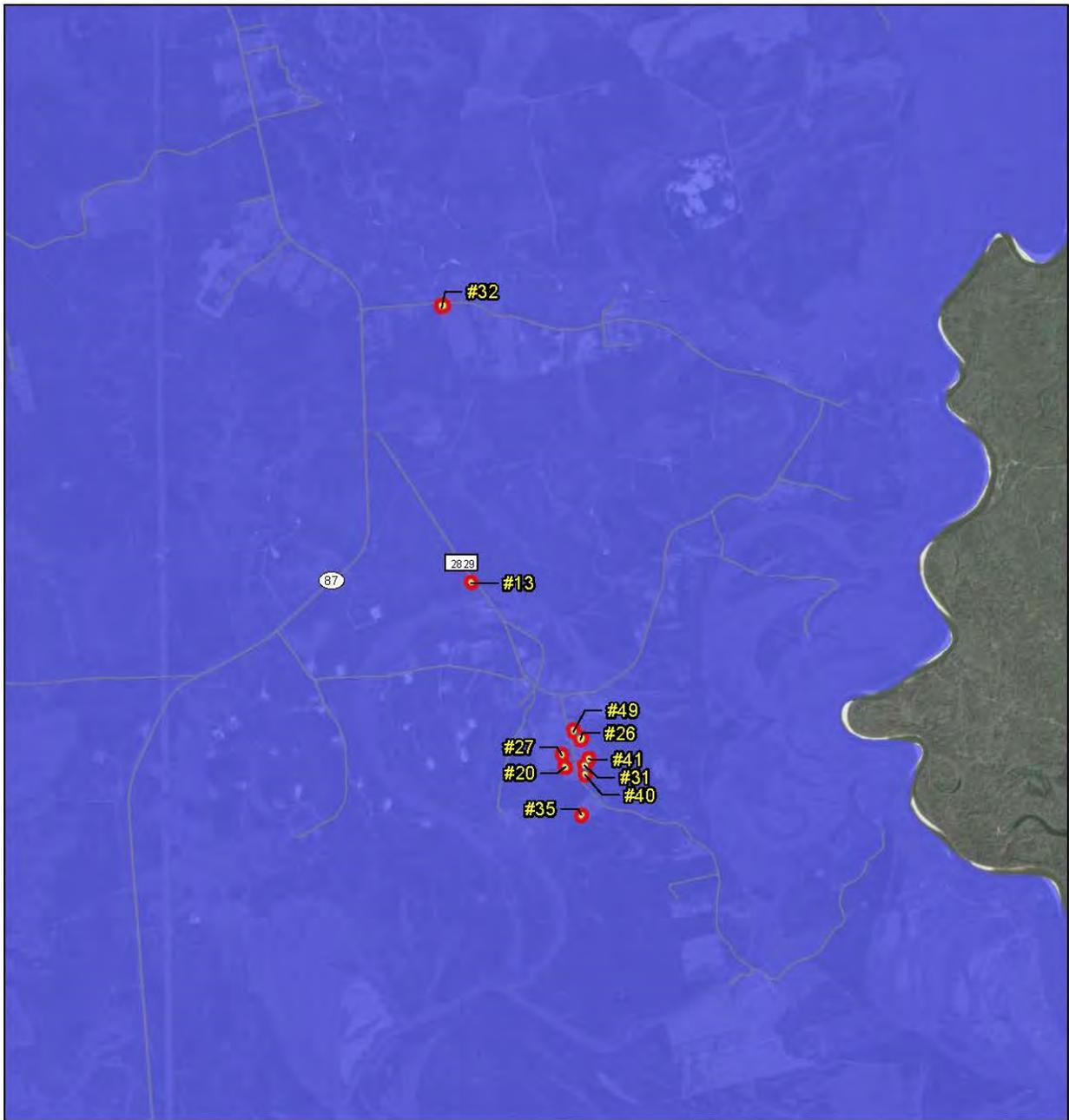


Census Tracts

Page 5



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, US Census Bureau
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- Work Area
- Property
- Road
- Census Tract 9501
- Census Tract 9502
- Census Tract 9503

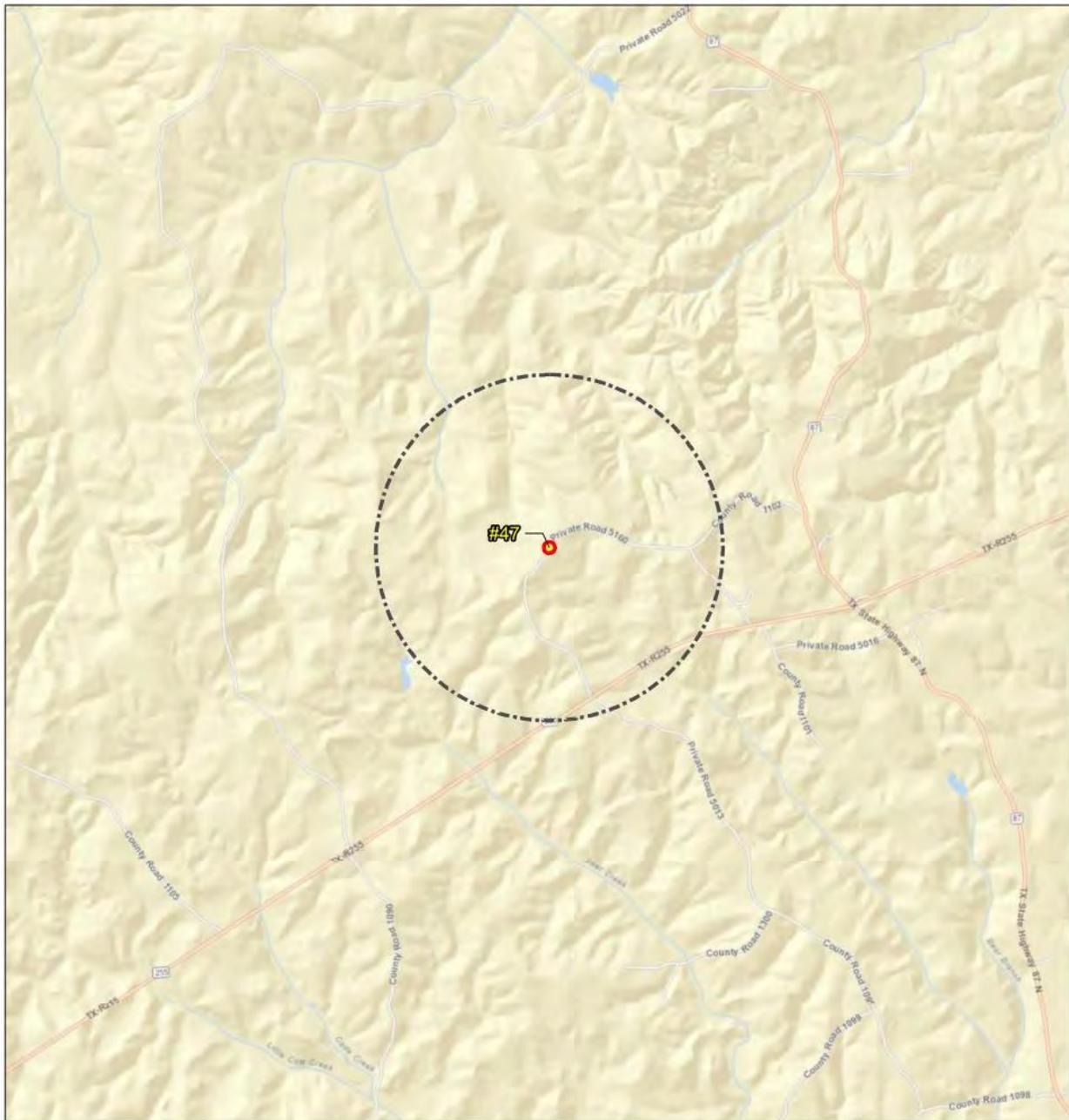


Census Tracts

Page 6



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, US Census Bureau
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Work Area 1mi Buffer | Envirofact Category |
|  Work Area |  Toxic, Waste |
|  Property |  Waste |
| |  Water |



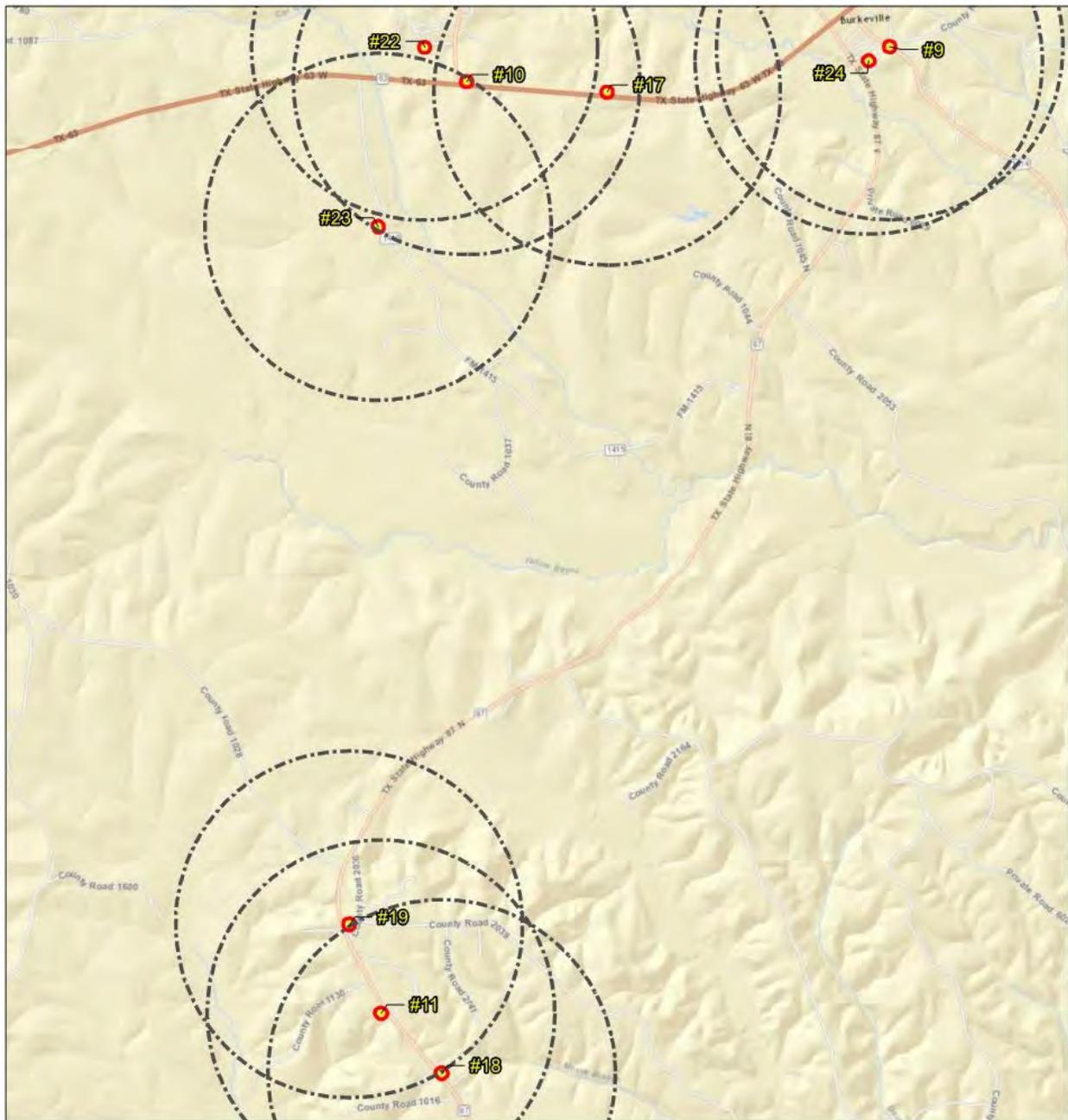
Envirofacts

Page 1



Newton County

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, EPA
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Work Area 1mi Buffer | Envirofact Category |
|  Work Area |  Toxic, Waste |
|  Property |  Waste |
| |  Water |

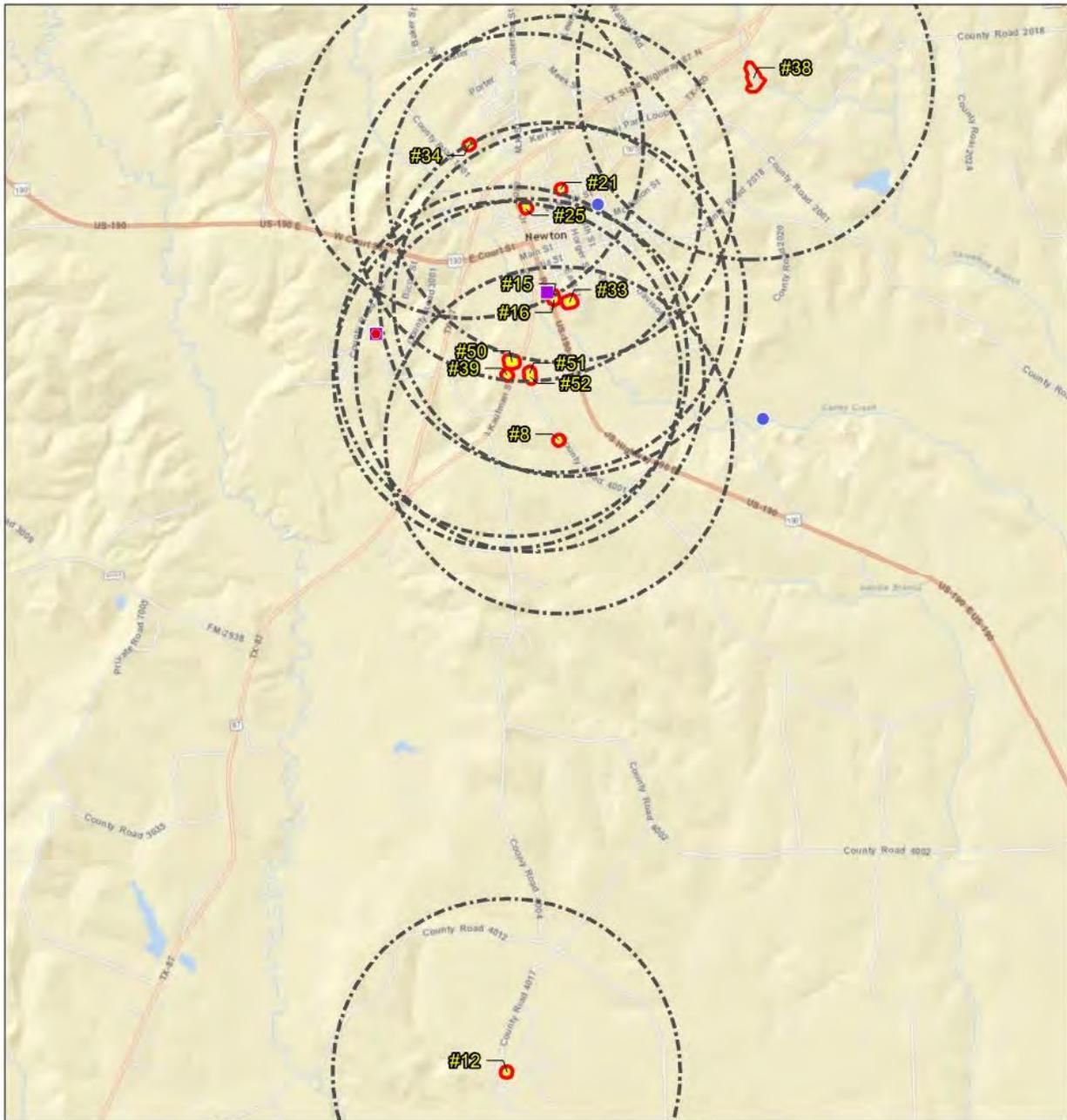


Envirofacts

Page 2



Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, EPA
Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom,



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

Work Area 1mi Buffer	Envirofact Category
Work Area	Toxic, Waste
Property	Waste
	Water

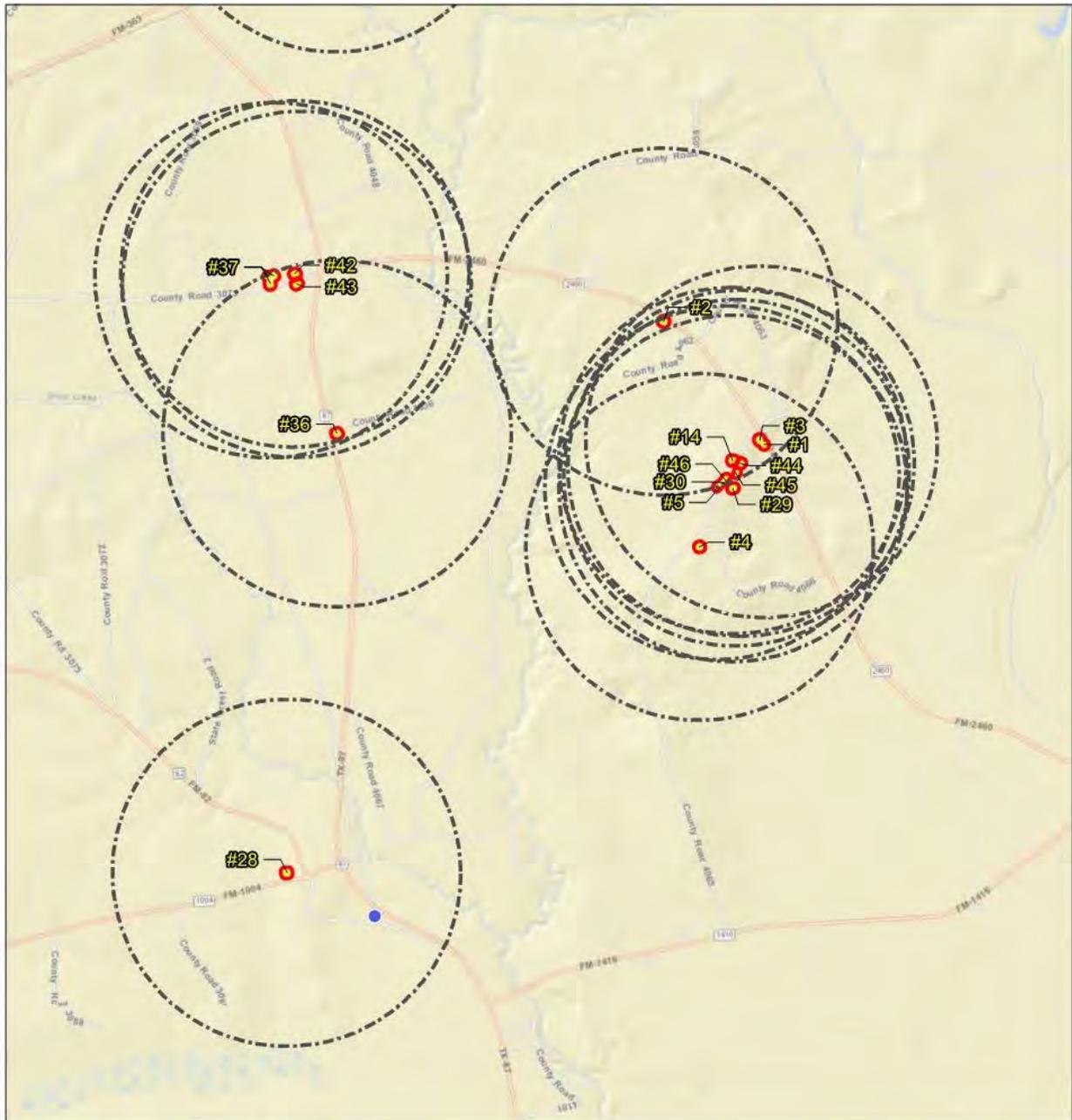
W N E
 S

0 2,500 5,000 Feet

Envirofacts
Page 3

Newton County

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, EPA
 Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.



Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Work Area 1mi Buffer | Envirofact Category |
| Work Area | Toxic, Waste |
| Property | Waste |
| | Water |



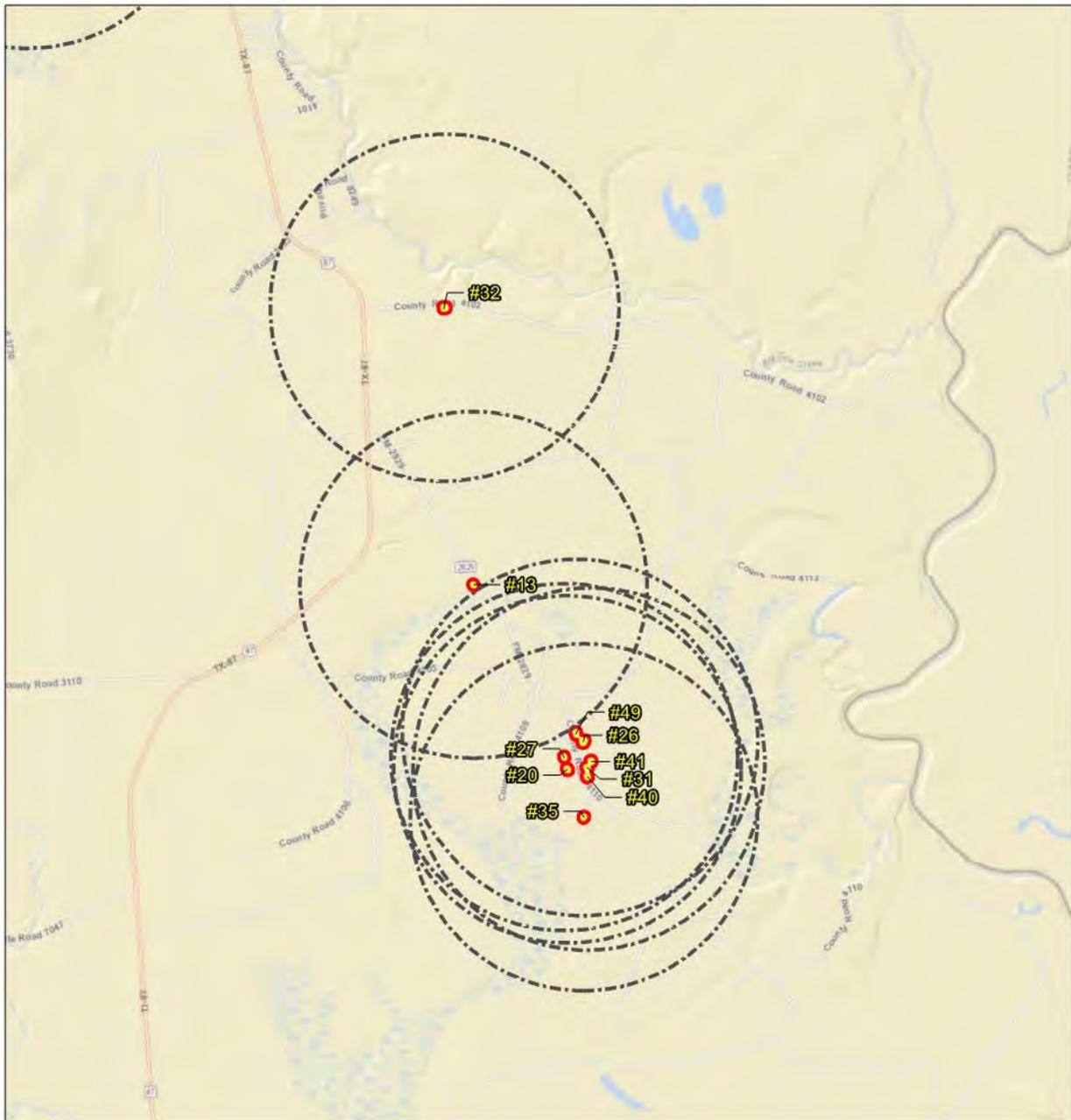
Envirofacts

Page 5



Newton County

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Newton County Defensible Space
Newton County, TX

Legend

Work Area 1mi Buffer	Envirofact Category
Work Area	Toxic, Waste
Property	Waste
	Water

W N E
 S

0 2,500 5,000
 Feet

Envirofacts
Page 6

Data Sources: CH2M Hill, CDM Smith, EPA
 Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom.

Appendix F
Agency Coordination Letters

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

REQUEST FOR SHPO CONSULTATION:

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the Antiquities Code of Texas

Please see instructions for completing this form and additional information on Section 106 and Antiquities Code consultation on the Texas Historical Commission website at <http://www.thc.state.tx.us/crm/crmsend.shtml>.

- This is a new submission.
 This is additional information relating to THC tracking number(s): _____

Project Information		
PROJECT NAME Newton County Wildfire Mitigation		
PROJECT ADDRESS 110 Court Street	PROJECT CITY Newton, TX	PROJECT ZIP CODE(S) 75966
PROJECT COUNTY OR COUNTIES Newton		
PROJECT TYPE (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Road/Highway Construction or Improvement	<input type="checkbox"/> Repair, Rehabilitation, or Renovation of Structure(s)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Site Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Addition to Existing Structure(s)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities and Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Demolition or Relocation of Existing Structure(s)	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Construction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None of these	
BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Please explain the project in one or two sentences. More details should be included as an attachment to this form. Clearing flammable fuels (brush, vines, small trees, tall grass, leaves, pine needles, down limbs, etc) away from homes, infrastructure and right-of-way to a variable perimeter within a range of 30-100 feet. Manual power tools and brush chipper will be used, no sub-surface disturbance.		

Project Contact Information			
PROJECT CONTACT NAME Greg J. Wobbe, CFM	TITLE Mitigation Director	ORGANIZATION Metro Planning, Inc.	
ADDRESS 103 Court Street	CITY Newton	STATE TX	ZIP CODE 75966
PHONE 541-743-3806 (cell); 409-379-2790 (office)	EMAIL greg@metroplanning.com		

Federal Involvement (Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act)	
Does this project involve approval, funding, permit, or license from a federal agency? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please complete this section) <input type="checkbox"/> No (Skip to next section)	
FEDERAL AGENCY FEMA	FEDERAL PROGRAM, FUNDING, OR PERMIT TYPE Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (97-039)
CONTACT PERSON	PHONE
ADDRESS	EMAIL

State Involvement (Antiquities Code of Texas)	
Does this project occur on land or property owned by the State of Texas or a political subdivision of the state? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Please complete this section) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (Skip to next section)	
CURRENT OR FUTURE OWNER OF THE PUBLIC LAND	
CONTACT PERSON	PHONE
ADDRESS	EMAIL

Identification of Historic Properties: Archeology

Does this project involve ground-disturbing activity?

- Yes (Please complete this section) No (Skip to next section)

Describe the nature of the ground-disturbing activity, including but not limited to depth, width, and length.

Describe the previous and current land use, conditions, and disturbances.

Current land use is residential, public infrastructure, and county road right-of-way. Identified properties have build-up of hazardous fuels in general vicinity. Previous disturbances occurred during original construction.

Identification of Historic Properties: Structures

Does the project area or area of potential effects include buildings, structures, or designed landscape features (such as parks or cemeteries) that are 45 years of age or older?

- Yes (Please complete this section) No (Skip to next section)

Is the project area or area of potential effects within or adjacent to a property or district that is listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places?

- Yes, name of property or district: No Unknown

In the space below or as an attachment, describe each building, structure, or landscape feature within the project area or area of potential effect that is 45 years of age or older.

ADDRESS	DATE OF CONSTRUCTION	SOURCE FOR CONSTRUCTION DATE

Attachments

[Please see detailed instructions regarding attachments.](#)

Include the following with each submission:

- Project Work Description
- Maps
- Identification of Historic Properties
- Photographs

For Section 106 reviews only, also include:

- Consulting Parties/Public Notification
- Area of Potential Effects
- Determination of Eligibility
- Determination of Effect

Submit completed form and attachments to the address below. Faxes and email are not acceptable.

Mark Wolfe
 State Historic Preservation Officer
 Texas Historical Commission
 P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276 (mail service)
 108 W. 16th Street, Austin, TX 78701 (courier service)

For SHPO Use Only

NO HISTORIC
 PROPERTIES AFFECTED
 PROJECT MAY PROCEED

by William A. Mark
 for Mark Wolfe
 State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date 8/28/12
 Track# 2012/2268

AUG 30 2012

Wildlife Habitat Assessment Program



TEXAS

103 COURT STREET
NEWTON, TX 75966
OFFICE: 409-379-2790

LOUISIANA

212 SECOND STREET
NATCHITOCHES, LA 71457
OFFICE: 318-238-6811

OREGON

370 Q STREET
SPRINGFIELD, OR 97477
OFFICE: 541-302-9830

WWW.METROPLANNING.COM

August 23, 2012

Texas Parks and Wildlife
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744

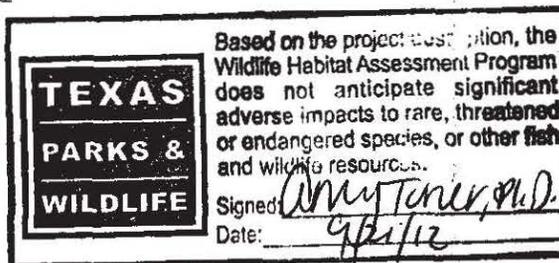
To whom it may concern,

This is a follow up to a previous correspondence dated July 23, 2012 with regard to a proposed wildfire mitigation project in Newton County, Texas. The previous correspondence requested your agency's review of the proposed project. Due to an oversight on our part, a project area map and photos were not enclosed with the submitted cover letter.

The project area map and photos are enclosed, along with a copy of the original correspondence signed by County Judge Truman Dougharty, and a detailed scope of work. If additional materials are needed for your review of this project, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will see to it the necessary information is delivered.

Regards,

Greg J. Wobbe, CFM
Mitigation Director
Metro Planning, Inc.
103 Court Street
Newton, TX 75966
office: (409) 379-2790
mobile: (541) 743-3806
email: greg@metroplanning.com



Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., *Chairman*
Buddy Garcia, *Commissioner*
Carlos Rubinstein, *Commissioner*
Mark R. Vickery, P.G., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

August 6, 2012

Mr. Truman Dougharty
Newton County Courthouse
110 Court St.
P. O. Drawer J.
Newton, TX. 75966

Re: TCEQ Grant and Texas Review and Comment System (TRACS) #2012-300, City of Newton, Newton County – Wildfire Mitigation project consisting of the removal of flammable fuels from the proximity of structures

Dear Mr. Dougharty:

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has reviewed the above-referenced project and offers following comments:

A review of the project for General Conformity impact in accordance with 40 CFR Part 93 indicates that the proposed action is located in the City of Newton, Newton County, which is currently unclassified or in attainment of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for all six criteria air pollutants. Therefore, General Conformity does not apply.

Although any demolition, construction, rehabilitation or repair project will produce dust and particulate emissions, these actions should pose no significant impact upon air quality standards. Any and particulate emissions should be easily controlled by using standard dust mitigation techniques.

We do not anticipate significant long term environmental impacts from this project as long as construction and waste disposal activities associated with it are completed in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal environmental permits and regulations. We recommend that the applicant take necessary steps to insure that best management practices are utilized to control runoff from construction sites to prevent detrimental impact to surface and ground water.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Janie Roman at (512) 239-0604 or Janie.roman@tceq.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Harrison".

Jim Harrison, Director
Intergovernmental Relations Division

COMMISSIONERS COURT

Truman Dougharty, County Judge
William L. Fuller, Comm. Pct. 1
Thomas T. Gill, Comm. Pct. 2
Prentiss L. Hopson, Comm. Pct. 3
Leanord E. Powell, Comm. Pct. 4
Mary Cobb, County Clerk



Joe Walker, County Sheriff
Robert J. Choate, Criminal District Attorney
Bree Allen, District Clerk
Ginger Arnold, County Treasurer
Melissa J. Burks, Tax Assessor-Collector
Elizabeth A. Holloway, County Auditor

July 23, 2012

Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711-2276

Mr. Wolfe:

Through a grant with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Newton County is to conduct a wildfire mitigation project consisting of the removal of flammable fuels from the proximity of structures.

Our project will have no adverse affects on cultural, environmental or historical aspects of the community. A detailed environmental report will be prepared for each site where work is to be conducted including inspection and survey of environmental conditions or habitat considerations that should be protected, and/or hazardous conditions that the work crews should be aware of.

According to the guidelines for this project, a Section 106 Review by the Texas Historical Commission is necessary for an environmental assessment. We are asking for a review from the Texas Historical Commission declaring the land as not being a historical site. Included are pictures and a map of the current location.

If you have any comments or questions please feel free to contact us:

1. Truman Dougharty, County Judge
Phone: (409)-379-5691, or email: Truman.dougharty@co.newton.tx.us
2. Greg J. Wobbe, CFM
Phone: (541) 743-3806 or email: greg@metroplanning.com

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Truman Dougharty".

Truman Dougharty
County Judge
Newton County, Texas

Newton County Courthouse

110 Court St. • P. O. Drawer J, Newton, TX 75966 • Office: (409) 379-5691 • Fax: (409) 379-2107
truman.dougharty@co.newton.tx.us



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Trust Resources List

This resource list is to be used for planning purposes only — it is not an official species list.

Endangered Species Act species list information for your project is available online and listed below for the following FWS Field Offices:

Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
17629 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 211
HOUSTON, TX 77058
(281) 286-8282
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/TexasCoastal/>
http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/ES_Lists_Main2.html

Project Name:

Newton County

Project Counties:

Newton, TX

Project Type:

Fire

Endangered Species Act Species List ([USFWS Endangered Species Program](#))

There are a total of 5 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fishes may appear on the species list because a project could cause downstream effects on the species. Note that 3 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions. See the second table below for a list of these species and the conditions under which effects should be considered. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section below for critical habitat that lies within your project area. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Species that should be considered in an effects analysis for your project:



Trust Resources List

Birds	Status		Has Critical Habitat	Contact
Red-Cockaded woodpecker (<i>Picoides borealis</i>) Population: Entire	Endangered	species info		Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
Louisiana Pine snake (<i>Pituophis ruthveni</i>)	Candidate	species info		Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office

Species that should be considered in an effects analysis for your project under specified conditions:

Least tern (<i>Sterna antillarum</i>) Population: interior pop.	Endangered	species info	condition info		Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>) Population: except Great Lakes watershed	Threatened	species info	condition info	Final designated critical habitat Final designated critical habitat	Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) Population:	Threatened	species info	condition info		Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office

Critical habitats within your project area:

There are no critical habitats within your project area.

FWS National Wildlife Refuges ([USFWS National Wildlife Refuges Program](#)).

There are no refuges found within the vicinity of your project.



Trust Resources List

FWS Migratory Birds (USFWS Migratory Bird Program).

The protection of birds is regulated by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA). Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. For more information regarding these Acts see: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/RegulationsandPolicies.html>.

All project proponents are responsible for complying with the appropriate regulations protecting birds when planning and developing a project. To meet these conservation obligations, proponents should identify potential or existing project-related impacts to migratory birds and their habitat and develop and implement conservation measures that avoid, minimize, or compensate for these impacts. The Service's Birds of Conservation Concern (2008) report identifies species, subspecies, and populations of all migratory nongame birds that, without additional conservation actions, are likely to become listed under the Endangered Species Act as amended (16 U.S.C 1531 et seq.).

For information about Birds of Conservation Concern, go to: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Management/BCC.html>.

To search and view summaries of year-round bird occurrence data within your project area, go to the Avian Knowledge Network Histogram Tool links in the Bird Conservation Tools section at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CCMB2.htm>.

For information about conservation measures that help avoid or minimize impacts to birds, please visit: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CCMB2.htm>.

Migratory birds of concern that may be affected by your project:

There are **39** birds on your Migratory birds of concern list. The underlying data layers used to generate the migratory bird list of concern will continue to be updated regularly as new and better information is obtained. User feedback is one method of identifying any needed improvements. Therefore, users are encouraged to submit comments about any questions regarding species ranges (e.g., a bird on the USFWS BCC list you know does not occur in the specified location appears on the list, or a BCC species that you know does occur there is not appearing on the list). Comments should be sent to [the ECOS Help Desk](#).

Species Name	Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC)	Species Profile	Seasonal Occurrence in Project Area
American Kestrel (<i>Falco sparverius ssp. paulus</i>)	Yes	species info	Year-round



Trust Resources List

American bittern (<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Bachman's sparrow (<i>Aimophila aestivalis</i>)	Yes	species info	Year-round
Bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	Yes	species info	Year-round
Bewick's Wren (<i>Thryomanes bewickii ssp. bewickii</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Black Skimmer (<i>Rynchops niger</i>)	Yes	species info	Year-round
Black rail (<i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i>)	Yes	species info	Year-round
Brown-headed Nuthatch (<i>Sitta pusilla</i>)	Yes	species info	Year-round
Chuck-will's-widow (<i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Dickcissel (<i>Spiza americana</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Fox Sparrow (<i>Passerella liaca</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Henslow's sparrow (<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Hudsonian Godwit (<i>Limosa haemastica</i>)	Yes	species info	Migrating
Kentucky Warbler (<i>Oporornis formosus</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Le Conte's Sparrow (<i>Ammodramus leconteii</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Least Bittern (<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Lesser Yellowlegs (<i>Tringa flavipes</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Little Blue Heron (<i>Egretta caerulea</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Loggerhead Shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>)	Yes	species info	Year-round
Louisiana Waterthrush (<i>Parkesia motacilla</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Marbled Godwit (<i>Limosa fedoa</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering



Trust Resources List

Mississippi Kite (<i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Orchard Oriole (<i>Icterus spurius</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Painted Bunting (<i>Passerina ciris</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Prairie Warbler (<i>Dendroica discolor</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Prothonotary Warbler (<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Red-headed Woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>)	Yes	species info	Year-round
Rusty Blackbird (<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Sedge Wren (<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Short-eared Owl (<i>Asio flammeus</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Snowy Plover (<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Swainson's Warbler (<i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Swallow-Tailed Kite (<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Whimbrel (<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering
Wood Thrush (<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding
Worm eating Warbler (<i>Helmitheros vermivorum</i>)	Yes	species info	Breeding, Migrating
Yellow Rail (<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>)	Yes	species info	Wintering



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NWI Wetlands ([USFWS National Wetlands Inventory](#)).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency that provides information on the extent and status of wetlands in the U.S., via the National Wetlands Inventory Program (NWI). In addition to impacts to wetlands within your immediate project area, wetlands outside of your project area may need to be considered in any evaluation of project impacts, due to the hydrologic nature of wetlands (for example, project activities may affect local hydrology within, and outside of, your immediate project area). It may be helpful to refer to the USFWS National Wetland Inventory website. The designated FWS office can also assist you. Impacts to wetlands and other aquatic habitats from your project may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal Statutes. Project Proponents should discuss the relationship of these requirements to their project with the Regulatory Program of the appropriate [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Data Limitations, Exclusions and Precautions

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery and/or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Exclusions - Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Precautions - Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the



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advice of appropriate federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

The following wetland types intersect your project area in one or more locations:

Wetland Types	NWI Classification Code	Total Acres
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Cx	34.999
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Ax	0.4193
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1F	3.454
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1C	198.6589
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1A	369.0052
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Fx	7.4622
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Ch	0.1081
Freshwater Emergent Wetland	PEM1Ad	1.7004
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO2/1F	198.7564
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1Ch	0.9001
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO4A	46.0384
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS1Cx	0.3407
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1/2F	866.07
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1/4A	47.6385
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS1A	400.8318
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1C	2058.1676
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS1/2F	77.8812
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS4A	8.4759
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS1C	97.3777
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1A	3246.5605
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO1F	28.0649
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PSS1F	0.2257



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Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland	PFO4/1A	7.9256
Freshwater Pond	PAB4Fh	3.6916
Freshwater Pond	PUBEx	8.5051
Freshwater Pond	PUBHx	13.8125
Freshwater Pond	PAB4Fx	9.9345
Freshwater Pond	PUBH	21.705
Freshwater Pond	PUBF	0.7854
Freshwater Pond	PAB4H	0.5188
Freshwater Pond	PAB4F	5.5042
Freshwater Pond	PUBHh	4.2452
Other	PUSC	0.5082
Other	PUSCx	1.5138
Riverine	R2UBH	1186.7325
Riverine	R2USA	6.9319