

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW RECORD
RV CAMPGROUND WATER & SEWER PROJECT
THE WILDS
MUSKINGUM COUNTY, OHIO



JANUARY 12, 2022

Prepared by: Alan Knapp

Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association



Environmental Assessment Worksheet

Grantee	The Wilds
Grant Number	EDA Tourism Grant Application
Activity Name	Waterline to RV Campground
Activity Location	Rich Hill Township, Muskingum County, Ohio
Activity Description: Construction of 4,000 linear feet of waterlines and 4,000 linear feet of sanitary sewer to serve proposed new 75-unit Recreational Vehicle Campground at the Wilds 10,000 acre animal safari park in Muskingum County, Ohio.	
Determination: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)</u> , whereby the Responsible Entity may proceed to Dissemination and publication of the FONSI, per regulations found at 24 CFR Section 58.43(a). <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Finding of Significant Impact</u> , whereby the Responsible Entity must proceed to develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in compliance with 24 CFR Part 58, Subparts F or G.	
Preparer Name: Alan J. Knapp	
Signature	<u>Alan J. Knapp</u> Date: 1/12/2022

List of Attachments

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Location Map
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site Photographs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of other Environmental Analyses (if applicable) List: <input type="text"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Relevant Correspondence and Notifications (if applicable) List: <input type="text"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory Checklist Supporting Documentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Assessment Checklist Supporting Documentation
<input type="checkbox"/> Combined Notice: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds (NOI/RROF) Date: <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Release of Funds (RROF) Date: <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Release of Funds (ROF) Date: <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Documentation Describe: <input type="text"/>

Statutory Checklist Instructions:

For each of the environmental laws and authorities listed below, determine the level of compliance required and provide a narrative explanation and list of supporting documentation. **The narrative must explain decision-making and compliance procedures.** Attach all supporting documentation to this worksheet.

Statutory Checklist

Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
Historic Preservation Resources: State Historic Preservation Office HUD Historic Preservation	Yes	Sent Section 106 Review Forms on October 18, 2021 to the Ohio Historic Preservation Office and five Tribes with an interest in Muskingum County, Ohio to request comments on potential environmental effects of project. Attached 106 Review reports no historic structures within one mile of project site and little archaeological resources available due to forty years of surface coal mining at and around the project site. OHPO responded that they had no comments and concurred with our Findings.
Floodplain Management Resources: Floodplain Maps Floodplain Administrators HUD Floodplain Management	No	Attached is a copy of the floodplain map for the project site in Rich Hill Township. There are no floodplans at or near the project site.
Wetland Protection Resources: NRCS Web Soil Survey National Wetlands Inventory Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water US Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory (Permits) HUD Wetlands Protection	Yes	Attached is a copy of the National Wetlands Inventory Map for the project area. There are no wetlands at the project site and only one small wetland nearby. A request for comments was sent to the US Army Corps of Engineers on October 20, 2021. The November 5, 2021 response from the Corps of Engineers did not identify any issues with impacts to wetlands as part of this project.

Statutory Checklist

Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
<p align="center">Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>Resources: Ohio Office of Coastal Management Ohio Coastal Atlas Map Viewer HUD Coastal Zone Management </p>	No	<p>Attached is a map showing the location of the Ohio Coastal Erosion Area in relation to the Wilds, located in Muskingum County, Ohio. The only Coastal Zone located in Ohio is along Lake Erie in the northern part of the state. The Wilds in Muskingum County, Ohio, is located more than 100 miles away from Lake Erie.</p>
<p align="center">Sole Source Aquifers</p> <p>Resources: Ohio EPA Sole Source Aquifers in Ohio HUD Sole Source Aquifers </p>	No	<p>Attached is a map showing the locations of Sole Source Aquifers in Ohio in relation to the project site in Muskingum County. The closest sole source aquifer is located near Pleasant City in Guernsey County, about 15 miles east of the Wilds. There will be no impacts from this project on that sole source aquifer.</p>
<p align="center">Endangered Species</p> <p>Resources: US Fish & Wildlife Service Section 7 information Endangered Species in Ohio Ohio Natural Heritage Database HUD Endangered Species </p>	Yes	<p>E-mails were sent to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the ODNR Division of Wildlife on October 20, 2021. Responses were received from the US Fish and Wildlife Service on November 3, 2021 and from the ODNR Division of Wildlife on November 12, 2021. Both agencies highlighted the Indiana Bat and the Northern Long-Eared Bat. Recommended mitigation measures include cutting down any trees between October 1 and March 31, in order to not disturb their habitat.</p>
<p align="center">Wild and Scenic Rivers</p> <p>Resources: ODNR Scenic Rivers HUD Wild and Scenic Rivers </p>	No	<p>Attached is a map of Wild and Scenic Rivers in Ohio. This project will have no impacts on any of these rivers, because they are all in different watersheds than the Wilds. The closest Wild and Scenic River is the Mohican River in Holmes County, about 50 miles to the northwest of the Wilds.</p>
<p align="center">Air Quality</p> <p>Resources: Ohio EPA Asbestos Program Ohio EPA Notification of Demolition and Renovation HUD Air Quality </p>	No	<p>Attached is a map showing areas of non-attainment in Ohio for Ozone. These areas are concentrated in northern and eastern Ohio, and the project site is not located in one of these areas. The project will have no impacts on air quality in Ohio.</p>
<p align="center">Farmland Protection</p> <p>Resources: NRCS Farmland Protection Policy Act </p>	No	<p>This project involves construction only on property owned by the Wilds, which is not used for agricultural purposes. This project will have no effects on farmlands near the project site.</p>

Statutory Checklist

Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
HUD Farmlands Protection		
Noise Abatement and Control Resources: HUD Noise Abatement and Control HUD Noise Guidebook HUD Day/Night Noise Level Electronic Assessment Tool HUD Sound Transmission Classification Assessment Tool ODOT Traffic Count Data Ohio Airport Information Airport Master Records and Reports PUCO/ORDC Railroad Information System Federal Railroad Administration Query by Location tool	No	The project will create some noise during construction, but construction will take place only during daylight hours, and there are very few houses in the immediate vicinity because the Wilds owns all of the property.
Airport Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones Resources: Ohio Airport Information HUD Airport Hazards Airport Master Records and Reports	No	Attached is a map showing airports in three counties around the Wilds. The nearest airport is located about ten miles away from the Wilds. There will be no effects on airports or runway clear zones from the RV Campground Project at the Wilds.
Explosive and Flammable Operations Resources: HUD Explosive and Flammable Facilities US EPA NEPAassist US EPA Envirofacts HUD Choosing an Environmentally Safe Site Acceptable Separation Distance Calculator Acceptable Separation Distance Guidebook	No	Attached is the HUD Guidance on Explosives and Flammable Facilities. No explosives will be used in the construction of this project.

Statutory Checklist

Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5	Compliance Required?	Explanation and List of Compliance Documentation
<p align="center">Site Contamination</p> <p>Resources: HUD Site Contamination US EPA NEPAAssist US EPA Envirofacts Ohio Tank Tracking & Environmental Regulations HUD Choosing an Environmentally Safe Site</p>	<p align="center">No</p>	<p>NEPAAssist maps are attached. There are Hazardous Waste Sites in three counties around the Wilds, with the closest about 5 miles away near Cumberland. There are Super Fund Sites in Byesville and Zanesville, about twenty miles from the Wilds. There are Brownfields near Zanesville and in Noble County, about twenty miles from the Wilds. Toxic Releases Sites are located in Muskingum, Guernsey and Noble Counties, with the closest being about fifteen miles away. Toxic Substances Sites are located in Zanesville and Cambridge, about twenty miles away. Water Dischargers are located throughout the area, with closest being about five miles from the Wilds. Air Pollution Sites are located throughout the area, with the closest being about six miles away. The Wilds area is not in a Non-Attainment Zone for Ozone.</p>
<p align="center">Environmental Justice</p> <p>Resources: HUD Environmental Justice US EPA Environmental Justice US EPA EJSCREEN</p>	<p align="center">No</p>	<p>This Project is intended to make improvements at the Wilds that can be enjoyed by all sectors of the population. The project is located in a rural area on land owned by the Wilds, and any new employment opportunities will be available to all sectors of the population. There are no negative effects of this project on any demographic or socio-economic group.</p>

Environmental Assessment Checklist Instructions:

Evaluate the significance of the effects of the proposed activity on the character, features, and resources of the project area. Provide a narrative explanation and list of supporting documentation. **The narrative must explain decision-making and compliance procedures.** Attach all supporting documentation to this worksheet. For technical assistance, see HUD's [Environmental Assessment Factors Guidance](#).

Environmental Assessment Checklist

Land Development		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	No Impact Anticipated	There is no zoning in Rich Hill Township in Muskingum County, Ohio, but if there were, this project would be in conformance. The proposed new campground will be a valuable asset to this area, which was once a surface coal mine.
Soil Suitability / Slope / Erosion / Drainage / Storm Water Runoff	No Impact Anticipated	There are some slopes in the area, but the soil is suitable for this recreational facility. Storm drainage, runoff and erosion will be issues that ODNR will deal with when constructing the campground.
Hazards and Nuisances Including Site Safety and Noise	No Impact Anticipated	There will be some noise during construction, but there are very few residences or businesses in this rural area. Noise will be kept to normal levels, and all construction will take place during daylight hours.
Energy Consumption	No Impact Anticipated	There will be some energy consumption during construction and some energy consumption daily at the RV campground after completed. However, there are no known adverse effects from some additional energy consumption.

Environmental Assessment Checklist

Socioeconomic		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Employment and Income Patterns	Potentially Beneficial	There will be some new job creation as a result of this project that will directly impact the employment or income of several persons. In addition, it is expected that other recreation/hospitality businesses will also create new jobs in the area.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	No Impact Anticipated	This project is not expected to cause major demographic or character changes, and does not involve displacement.

Community Facilities and Services		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Educational and Cultural Facilities	Potentially Beneficial	Any cultural facilities in the area can expect thousands of new visitors in the area each year as a result of this project. It is not known how many Wilds campers will visit these attractions, but there should be an increase.
Commercial Facilities	Potentially Beneficial	One of the major goals of this project is to spur new entrepreneurial development in the Region, including recreation and hospitality businesses that will create new jobs.
Health Care and Social Services	No Impact Anticipated	This project will not have any impacts on these services, except that physical exercise in a recreational setting can be be very beneficial for one's health.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	No Impact Anticipated	There will be solid waste, including recyclables, that will be generated at the new recreation facility. There is ample solid waste collection and disposal capacity and recycling opportunities in this area to remove these items from the campground on a weekly basis.
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	Potentially Beneficial	There is currently no public water or sewers at the site. This project will construct those facilities for the proposed campground. The package plant will only serve the campground, but other users can connect to the new waterline.

Environmental Assessment Checklist

Community Facilities and Services		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Water Supply	Potentially Beneficial	There is no public water at the site, and there is no water body or groundwater at the site proposed to provide water supply for the campground. The water supply for campers will come from Muskingum County through extension of waterlines.
Public Safety – Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	No Impact Anticipated	This project is not expected to have a major impact on emergency services. Since there will be 18,000 new visitors to the area each year, there will likely be an increase in the number of calls to emergency providers, but this won't be a problem.
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	Potentially Beneficial	This project is a recreation and open space project, and also an economic development project. By providing lodging facilities close to the Wilds and other recreation attractions, all will benefit from the projected thousands of new visitors.
Transportation and Accessibility	No Impact Anticipated	It has been noted that the projected 18,000 new visitors per year will also increase the number of vehicles (and large vehicles) in this area. However, the interstates and state routes in this area have ample capacity, and this will not be a problem.

Natural Features		
Impact Category	Impact Code	Explanation and List of Source Documentation
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	No Impact Anticipated	There are no known unique natural features or water resources at the project site. The campground will be constructed on the flat area on top of a hill with no ponds or streams or unique natural features.
Vegetation and Wildlife	Requires Mitigation	ODNR Division of Wildlife and US Fish and Wildlife Service have commented on the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat. Any trees to be cut down must be cut down from October to March to not disturb the bats' habitats.
Other Factors	Potentially Beneficial	This entire area was once a surface coal mine. This project is going to continue progress made in remediating this site and providing new recreational and economic development opportunities in the OMEGA District.

24 CFR Section 58.6 Requirements**Airport Runway Clear Zones and Clear Zones Notification***[24 C.F.R. Part 51.303(a)(3)]*

Does the project involve the sale or acquisition of property located within a Civil Airport Runway Clear Zone or a Military Airfield Clear Zone?

☒ No. **Attach Source Document:**

(Project complies with 24 CFR 51.303(a)(3).)

☐ Yes. **Notice must be provided to buyer.** The notice must advise the buyer that the property is in a Runway Clear Zone or Clear Zone, what the implications of such a location are, and that there is a possibility that the property may, at a later date, be acquired by the airport operator. The buyer must sign a statement acknowledging receipt of this information. (for a sample notice, see the [HUD Exchange](#)) **(attach a copy of the signed notice)**

Coastal Barrier Resources Act*[Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 3501)]*

Is the project located in a [coastal barrier resource area](#)?

☒ No. **Cite or attach Source Document.**

(Proceed with project.)

☐ Yes. Federal assistance may not be used in such an area.

Flood Disaster Protection Act**[Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4001-4128)]*

Does the project involve acquisition, construction or rehabilitation of structures located in a FEMA-identified Special Flood Hazard Area?

☒ No. **Attach copy of [Flood Insurance Rate Map](#) (FIRM)**

☐ Yes. **Attach copy of [Flood Insurance Rate Map](#) (FIRM)**

Is the community participating in the National Insurance Program (or has less than one year passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards)?

☐ Yes. Flood Insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program must be obtained. If HUD assistance is provided as a grant, insurance must be maintained for the economic life of the project and in the amount of the total project cost (or up to the maximum allowable coverage, whichever is less). If HUD assistance is provided as a loan, insurance must be maintained for the term of the loan and in the amount of the loan (or up to the maximum allowable coverage, whichever is less).

(Attach a copy of the flood insurance policy declaration)

☐ No. **Federal assistance may not be used in the Special Flood Hazard Area.**

**Per 24 CFR 58.6(a)(3), this requirement does not apply to State-administered CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs.*



Statement of Process and Status of Environmental Analysis

Instructions:

Provide a brief description of the administrative procedures associated with the construction and presentation of the environmental review record (ERR). List the Responsible Entity, Certifying Officer, the physical location of the ERR, the dates and comment periods associated with any public notices, and contact information for the submission of comments regarding the ERR.

This Environmental Assessment was prepared by the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association on behalf of the Wilds for proposed federal funding from the Economic Development Administration. The Wilds is the applicant for EDA funding and will be the grantee for the EDA funds, and is therefore the Responsible Party. The Certifying Officer is Jan Ramer, Vice President of the Wilds, and the ERR is available for public inspection at the Wilds, 14000 International Road, Cumberland, Ohio 43732 and on the OMEGA website omegadistrict.org. The comment period will start after the third public notice on January 16 2022 and end 15 days later on January 31 2022.

Description of the Site and Environmental Context

Instructions:

Determine existing conditions and describe the character, features, and resources of the project area and its surroundings. Identify the trends that are likely to continue in the absence of the project.

The project site is a remediated former surface coal mine. Six inches of topsoil were added in most places after the mining to allow grasses to grow (not enough soil for new trees to grow). There is very little development around the site, which is part of the 10,000 acre the Wilds property. In the absence of this project, it is likely that the area would continue to be very rural with little new development. Although this project is expected to create new economic opportunities, the other new economic growth is not likely to occur real close to the Wilds site.

Analysis of Alternatives

Instructions:

Examine alternatives to the project, including the alternative of no action.

The Wilds did consider other potential sites for the RV Campground. The selected site north of State Route 146 did not have any obvious environmental issues and is near the existing mountain bike trails, a complementary use. Also, since the Wilds does not have direct access to public water, which is needed for the campground, the Wilds wanted a site closest to the nearest public waterlines. The Muskingum County Water System currently ends in Chandlersville, about one mile from the proposed campground site. The county has agreed to extend their waterlines as part of this project.

Analysis of Impacts and Mitigation Actions

Instructions:

Summarize and evaluate all potential environmental impacts, whether beneficial or adverse, and the conditions that would change as a result of the project. Describe measures to eliminate, minimize, or mitigate adverse environmental impacts.

Most of the identified potential environmental impacts are beneficial, such as providing a new recreational facility with new lodging opportunities to spur new economic growth at the site of a former surface coal mine which has been remediated. This will bring 18,000 new visitors to the area each year, which is expected to be beneficial to the local economy and other hospitality businesses. The only potential negative impact would be on the Indian Bat or the Northern Long-Eared Bat. However, mitigation measures have been recommended regarding the timing of cutting down trees that would prevent any disturbance of the habitat of these species.

Monitoring and Enforcement Procedures

Instructions:

Describe any post-review monitoring or enforcement procedures associated with environmental mitigation actions.

There have been no post-review monitoring or enforcement procedures recommended or required by the state and federal agencies contacted for the Environmental Assessment. Once environmental clearnace has been obtained, this project can proceed as proposed. The only environmental issue remaining would be the timing of any tree cutting, due to the possible habitat of the Indian or the Northern Long-Eared Bat.

List of Sources, Agencies, and Persons Consulted

Ohio History Connection (SHPO)
US Army Corps of Engineers
Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife
US Fish and Wildlife Service
The Wilds
ODNR
EDA
Delaware Nation of Oklahoma
Delaware Tribe of Indians
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
Seneca-Cayuga Nation

List of Site Visits and Important Meetings

[illegible]

Participants in the Review

[illegible]

ATTACHMENT A

Section 106 Review Form

Response from State Historic Preservation Office

E-mail to Tribes with an interest in Muskingum County, Ohio



**OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:
RESOURCE PROTECTION AND REVIEW**

Section 106 Review - Project Summary Form

For projects requiring a license from the Federal Communications Commission, please use FCC Forms 620 or 621. DO NOT USE THIS FORM.

SECTION 1: GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

All contact information provided must include the name, address and phone number of the person listed. Email addresses should also be included, if available. Please refer to the Instructions or contact an OHPO reviewer (mailto:Section106@ohiohistory.org) if you need help completing this Form. Unless otherwise requested, we will contact the person submitting this Form with questions or comments about this project.

Date: **October 15, 2021**

Name/Affiliation of person submitting form: **Alan Knapp, OMEGA**

Mailing Address: **326 Highland Avenue Suite B, Cambridge, Ohio 43725**

Phone/Fax/Email: **740-439-4471 ext. 211**

A. Project Info:

1. This Form provides information about:

New Project Submittal:

YES NO

Additional information relating to previously submitted project:

YES NO

OHPO/RPR Serial Number from previous submission:

2. Project Name (if applicable): The Wilds RV Campground Project

3. Internal tracking or reference number used by Federal Agency, consultant, and/or applicant to identify this project (if applicable): Not Applicable

B. Project Address or vicinity: **14000 International Drive, Cumberland, Ohio 43732**

C. City/Township: **Rich Hill Township**

D. County: **Muskingum County, Ohio**

E. Federal Agency and Agency Contact. *If you do not know the federal agency involved in your project, please contact the party asking you to apply for Section 106 Review, not OHPO, for this information. HUD Entitlement Communities acting under delegated environmental review authority should list their own contact information.*

Ellen Heinz, Economic Development Representative, EDA

F. Type of Federal Assistance. *List all known federal sources of federal funding, approvals, and permits to avoid repeated reviews.*

The Wilds is applying for a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Grant approval is still required, along with construction permits (PTI from Ohio EPA) for waterlines, sewers, and package treatment plant.

G. State Agency and Contact Person (if applicable):

Not Applicable

H. Type of State Assistance:

The Wilds does have a \$500,000 grant from the State Capital Budget

I. Is this project being submitted at the direction of a state agency **solely** under Ohio Revised Code 149.53 or at the direction of a State Agency? *Answering yes to this question means that you are sure that no federal funding, permits or approvals will be used for any part of your project, and that you are seeking comments only under ORC 149.53.*

YES **NO**

J. Public Involvement- Describe how the public has been/will be informed about this project and its potential to affect historic properties. Please summarize how they will have an opportunity to provide comments about any effects to historic properties. (This step is required for all projects under 36 CFR § 800.2):

This project has been discussed for more than two years, with the Wilds applying for two ARC POWER grants, and now applying for an EDA Tourism Grant. The public is also aware of the project from the \$1,500,000 ODNR Abandoned Mine Land Project at the new campground, which will start in the Spring, 2022. The Findings from the Environmental Review will be published in the local newspaper.

K. Please list other consulting parties that you have contacted/will contact about this

project, such as Indian Tribes, Certified Local Governments, local officials, property owners, or preservation groups. (See 36 CFR § 800.2 for more information about involving other consulting parties). Please summarize how they will have an opportunity to provide comments:

Ohio Historic Preservation Office'
Tribes with an interest in Muskingum County, Ohio
US Army Corps of Engineers
US Fish and Wildlife
ODNR Division of Wildlife

SECTION 2: PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)

Provide a description of your project, its site, and geographical information. You will also describe your project's Area of Potential Effects (APE). Please refer to the Instructions or contact an OHPO reviewer if you need help with developing the APE or completing this form.

For challenging projects, provide as much information as possible in all sections, and then check the box in Section 5.A. to ask OHPO to offer preliminary comments or make recommendations about how to proceed with your project consultation. This is recommended if your project involves effects to significant historic properties or if there may be challenging procedural issues related to your project. Please note that providing information to complete all Sections will still be required and that asking OHPO for preliminary comments may tend to delay completion of the review process for some projects.

A. Does this project involve any Ground-Disturbing activity: **YES** **NO**
(If **Yes**, you must complete all of Section 2.A. If **No**, proceed directly to Section 2. B.)

1. General description of width, length and depth of proposed ground disturbing activity:

Construction of:

2,500 lf. of 6" waterline

1,500 lf. of 4" waterline

7,000 lf. of 1" water service lines

One Water Booster Pumping Station

3,910 lf. of 8" sanitary sewer

7,000 lf. of 6" sanitary sewer

One on-site sewage package treatment plant and lift station

Restroom/Shower House

2. Narrative description of previous land use and past ground disturbances, if known:

The most recent previous use of the project site was surface coal mining, from the 1940's to the 1970's. Most of southeastern Muskingum County, and parts of other surrounding counties have been surface-mined, leaving little topsoil on the compacted ground. However, 90% of the landscape has been reclaimed at the 10,000 acre the Wilds, which includes grasslands, forests, lakes and ponds, wetlands and animal pastures. The Wilds operates tours for its visitors to the animal safari park, as well as research, education and conservation activities.

3. Narrative description of current land use and conditions:

Most of the 10,000 acres owned by the Wilds is used for pasture areas for the animals and other open space uses. There are several buildings located near the center of the property, including an Overlook, Cafeteria for visitors, pavilions, and structures for overnight accommodations. The project site for the Recreational Vehicle Campground is currently not in use, although there are several mountain bike trails and a parking lot nearby. The project site is an abandoned surface coal mine that has been reclaimed, mainly as a grassland due to the shallow depth of the topsoil.

4. Does the landowner know of any archaeological resources found on the property?
YES **NO** If yes, please describe:

B. Submit the exact project site location on a USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map for all projects. Map sections, photocopies of map sections, and online versions of USGS

maps are acceptable as long as the location is clearly marked. Show the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE). It should be clearly distinguished from other features shown on the map:

1. USGS Quad Map Name: Cumberland, Ohio
2. Township/City/Village Name: **Rich Hill Township, Muskingum County, Ohio**

- C. Provide a street-level map indicating the location of the project site; road names must be identified and legible. Your map must show the exact location of the boundaries for the project site. Show the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE). It should be clearly distinguished from other features shown on the map:

Attached are maps showing the location of the project site, with road names, and topographic contours and the Area of Potential Effects.

- D. Provide a verbal description of the APE, including a discussion of how the APE will include areas with the potential for direct and indirect effects from the project. Explain the steps taken to identify the project's APE, and your justification for the specific boundaries chosen:

Attached is a map showing the layout of the Recreational Vehicle Campground. The new campground will be located on property owned by the Wilds north of State Route 146, just north of the terminus of Zion Ridge Road. There is an existing parking lot located just north of State Route 146, that is currently used by bicyclists for the nearby mountain bike trails. The waterline to be connected to the County Water System will be constructed in the road right of way of State Route 146, and the Booster Pumping Station will be located near the state route in this area. The waterline will be extended northward to the campground site, along a new road to be constructed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. At the top of the hill, the waterlines will be extended to individual campsites along roads also to be constructed by ODNR (through the Abandoned Mine Land program). Other improvements through the EDA grant will include a package treatment plant for sewage and sanitary sewers to campsites in this area. All improvements except the waterline and booster pumping station near State Route 146 will be constructed on the flat area on top of the hill (campground site).

- E. Provide a detailed description of the project. This is a critical part of your submission. Your description should be prepared for a cold reader who may not be an expert in this type of project. The information provided must help support your analysis of effects to historic properties, not other types of project impacts. Do not simply include copies of environmental documents or other types of specialized project reports. If there are multiple project alternatives, you should include information about all alternatives that are still under active consideration:

This project is intended to provide water and sewage treatment to the proposed new Recreational Vehicle Campground at the Wilds in their 10,000 acre animal safari park in Muskingum County, Ohio. It is projected that the 50 RV campsites and 25 primitive campsites will attract 18,000 new visitors to the region each year. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources is constructing the roads and the campground through the Abandoned Mine Land Program. The Wilds is seeking federal EDA funding to construct the waterlines and sewage treatment facilities for the campground. Major components include:

**2,500 linear feet of 6" waterline
1,500 linear feet of 4" waterline**

7,000 linear feet of 1" service lines
Water Booster Pumping Station
Package Sewage Treatment Plant
3,910 linear feet of 8" sanitary sewer
7,000 linear feet of 6" sanitary sewer

SECTION 3: IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Describe whether there are historic properties located within your project APE. To make that determination, use information generated from your own Background Research and Field Survey. Then choose one of the following options to report your findings. Please refer to the Instructions and/or contact an OHPO reviewer if you are unsure about how to identify historic properties for your project.

If you read the Instructions and you're still confused as to which reporting option best fits your project, or you are not sure if your project needs a survey, you may choose to skip this section, but provide as much supporting documentation as possible in all other Sections, then check the box in Section 5.A. to request preliminary comments from OHPO. After reviewing the information provided, OHPO will then offer comments as to which reporting option is best suited to document historic properties for your project. Please note that providing information to complete this Section will still be required and that asking OHPO for preliminary comments may tend to delay completion of the review process for some projects.

Recording the Results of Background Research and Field Survey:

- A. **Summary of discussions and/or consultation with OHPO** about this project that demonstrates how the Agency Official and OHPO have agreed that no Field Survey was necessary for this project (typically due to extreme ground disturbance or other special circumstances). Please **attach copies** of emails/correspondence that document this agreement. You must explain how the project's potential to affect both archaeological and historic resources were considered.

On behalf of the Wilds, the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA) has prepared a Section 106 Review Form for the environmental review for the proposed EDA grant application and sent it to the Ohio Historic Preservation Office and Tribes with and interest in Muskingum County in October 2021.

- B. **A table that includes the minimum information** listed in the OHPO Section 106 Documentation Table (which is generally equivalent to the information found on an inventory form). This information must be printed and mailed with the Project Summary Form. To provide sufficient information to complete this Section, you must also include summary observations from your field survey, background research and eligibility determinations for each property that was evaluated in the project APE.

A map is attached showing the location of historic and potentially historic structures in relation to the proposed RV Campground at the Wilds. The nearest historic structures are located over one mile away from the project site in the Village of Cumberland in Guernsey County and Chandlersville to the west in Muskingum County. There are very few housing units or other building in this area due to the extensive surface mining of coal from the 1940's to the 1980's. Closer to population centers, like Cumberland and Chandlersville, there are more houses and commercial buildings, and some of these have been identified as historic or potentially historic. The construction of waterlines and sanitary sewers at the Wilds RV Campground will have no impacts on any of these structures.

- C. **OHI (Ohio Historic Inventory) or OAI (Ohio Archaeological Inventory) forms-** New or updated inventory forms may be prepared using the OHI pdf form with data population capabilities, the Internet IForm, or typed on archival quality inventory forms. To provide

sufficient information to complete this Section, you must include summary observations from your field survey and background research. You must also include eligibility determinations for each property that was evaluated in the project APE

Not Applicable. There are no structures located in the Area of Potential Effects, and any potential archaeological resources have previously been disturbed through 40 years of surface coal mining.

- D. **A historic or archaeological survey report** prepared by a qualified consultant that meets professional standards. The survey report should meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification and OHPO Archaeological Guidelines. You may also include new inventory forms with your survey, or update previous inventory forms. To complete this section, your survey report must include summary observations from your field survey, background research and eligibility determinations for each property that was evaluated within the APE.

Not Applicable. There are no historic or potentially historic structures in the APE, and no known archaeological or cultural resources, beyond the coal mining history for this region (ie. Big Muskie Bucket Attraction in Noble County).

- E. **Project Findings.** Based on the conclusions you reached in completing Section 3, please choose one finding for your project. There are (mark one):
Historic Properties Present in the APE:
No Historic Properties Present in the APE:

SECTION 4: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

This information must be provided for all projects.

- A. Photographs must be keyed to a street-level map, and should be included as attachments to this application. Please label all forms, tables and CDs with the date of your submission and project name, as identified in Section 1. You must present enough documentation to clearly show existing conditions at your project site and convey details about the buildings, structures or sites that are described in your submission. Faxed or photocopied photographs are not acceptable. See Instructions for more info about photo submissions or 36 CFR § 800.11 for federal documentation standards.
1. Provide photos of the entire project site and take photos to/from historic properties from/towards your project site to support your determination of effect in Section 5.
 2. Provide current photos of all buildings/structures/sites described.
- B. Project plan, specifications, site drawings and any other media presentation that conveys detailed information about your project and its potential to affect historic properties.
- C. Copies or summaries of any comments provided by consulting parties or the public.

Photographs have been attached showing the location of the improvements north of State Route 146 for water and sewer to the RV Campground.

SECTION 5: DETERMINATION OF EFFECT

- A. **Request Preliminary Comments.** For challenging projects, provide as much information as possible in previous sections and ask OHPO to offer preliminary comments or make recommendations about how to proceed with your project

consultation. This is recommended if your project involves effects to significant historic properties, if the public has concerns about your project's potential to affect historic properties, or if there may be challenging procedural issues related to your project. Please be aware that providing information in all Sections will still be required and that asking OHPO for preliminary comments may tend to delay completion of the review process for some projects.

1. We request preliminary comments from OHPO about this project:
YES **NO**
2. Please specify as clearly as possible the particular issues that you would like OHPO to examine for your project (for example- help with developing an APE, addressing the concerns of consulting parties, survey methodology, etc.):

B. Determination of Effect. If you believe that you have gathered enough information to conclude the Section 106 process, you may be ready to make a determination of effect and ask OHPO for concurrence, while considering public comments. Please select and mark one of the following determinations, then explain the basis for your decision on an attached sheet of paper:

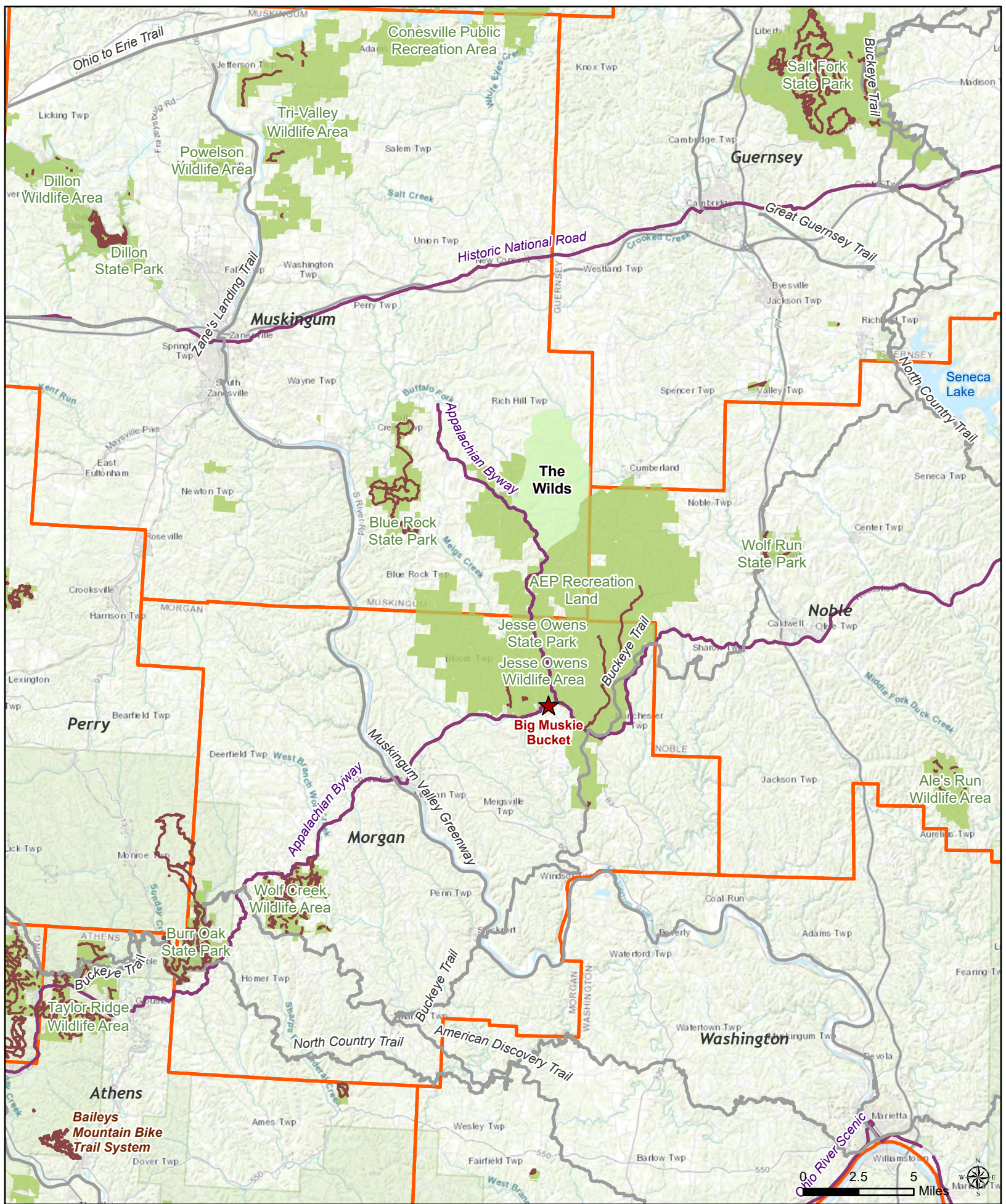
No historic properties will be affected based on 36 CFR § 800.4(d) (1).
Please explain how you made this determination:

Based on a review of Historic Structures through the On-Line Mapping Tool of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office, there are no historic or potentially historic structures within a mile of the proposed project. The entire 10,000 acres owned by the Wilds was surface coal mined between 1940 and 1980, and there are few houses or other buildings on the property, and none are historic. Also, due to the surface coal mining, there are very few archaeological or cultural resources from prior to the coal mining that could have survived the process. There is only about six inches of topsoil covering much of the Wilds, with the ground beneath it compacted from the surface coal mining process.

No Adverse Effect [36 CFR § 800.5(b)] on historic properties. This finding cannot be used if there are no historic properties present in your project APE. Please explain why the Criteria of Adverse Effect, [36 CFR Part 800.5(a) (1)], were found not to be applicable for your project:

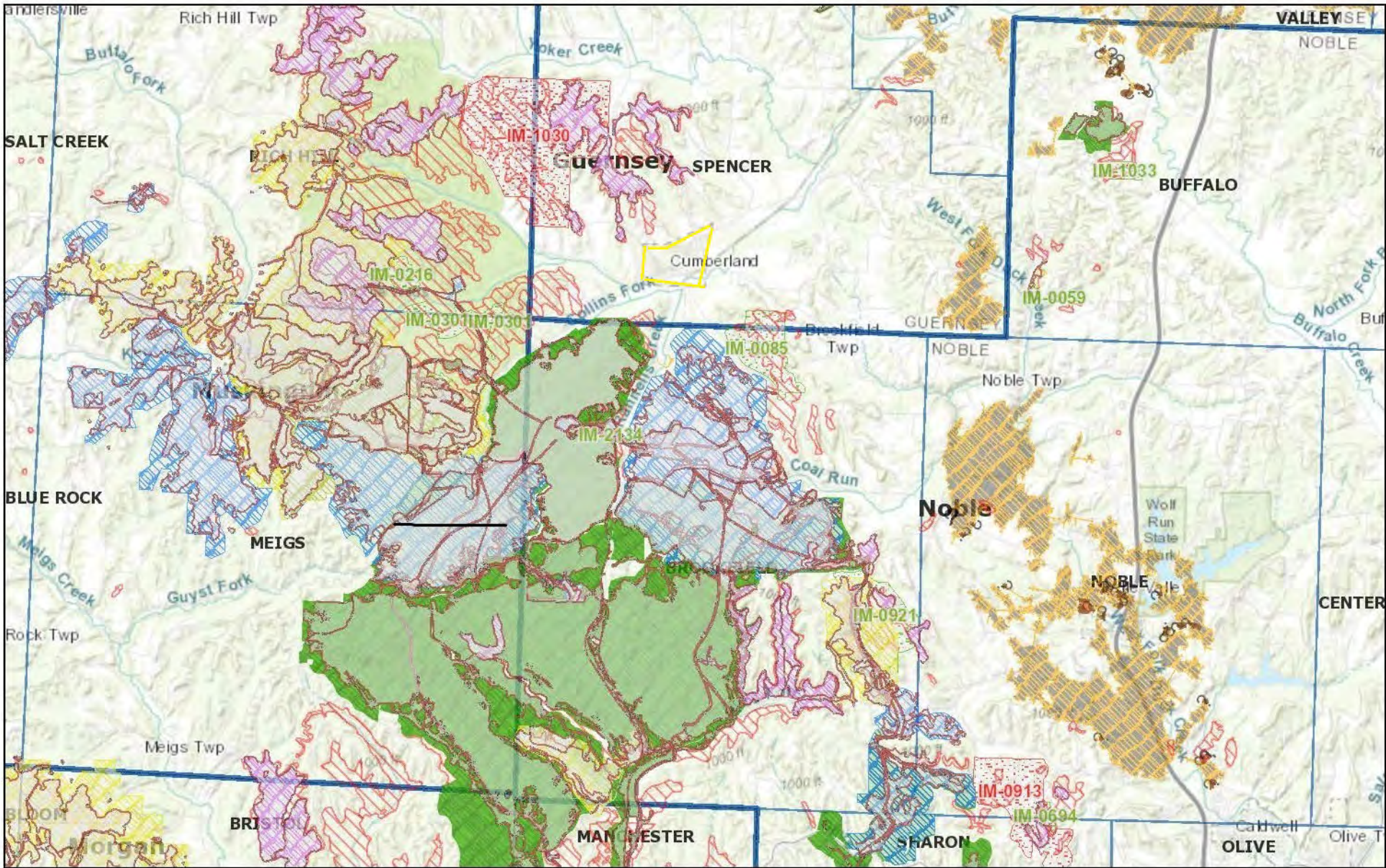
Adverse Effect [36 CFR § 800.5(d) (2)] on historic properties. Please explain why the criteria of adverse effect, [36 CFR Part 800.5(a) (1)], were found to be applicable to your project. You may also include an explanation of how these adverse effects might be avoided, reduced or mitigated:

Please send completed form and supporting documentation to our office through the section106@ohiohistory.org e-mail address. Note that file size is limited to 30 MB. The Ohio SHPO has a federally mandated review time of 30 calendar day. To check your submission was received and logged in for our review, please visit <https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserve/state-historic-preservation-office/hpreviews/section-106-project-status>.



The Wilds Regional Recreation Areas

Mines of Ohio



February 22, 2021

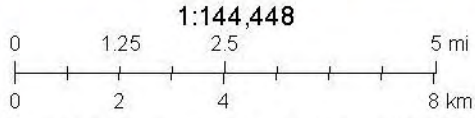
Locations - From Geologic Maps

- Abandoned pit
- Abandoned quarry
- Quarry area

- Sand, gravel, or barrow pit
- Surface Affected Area
- Proposed
- Original Application

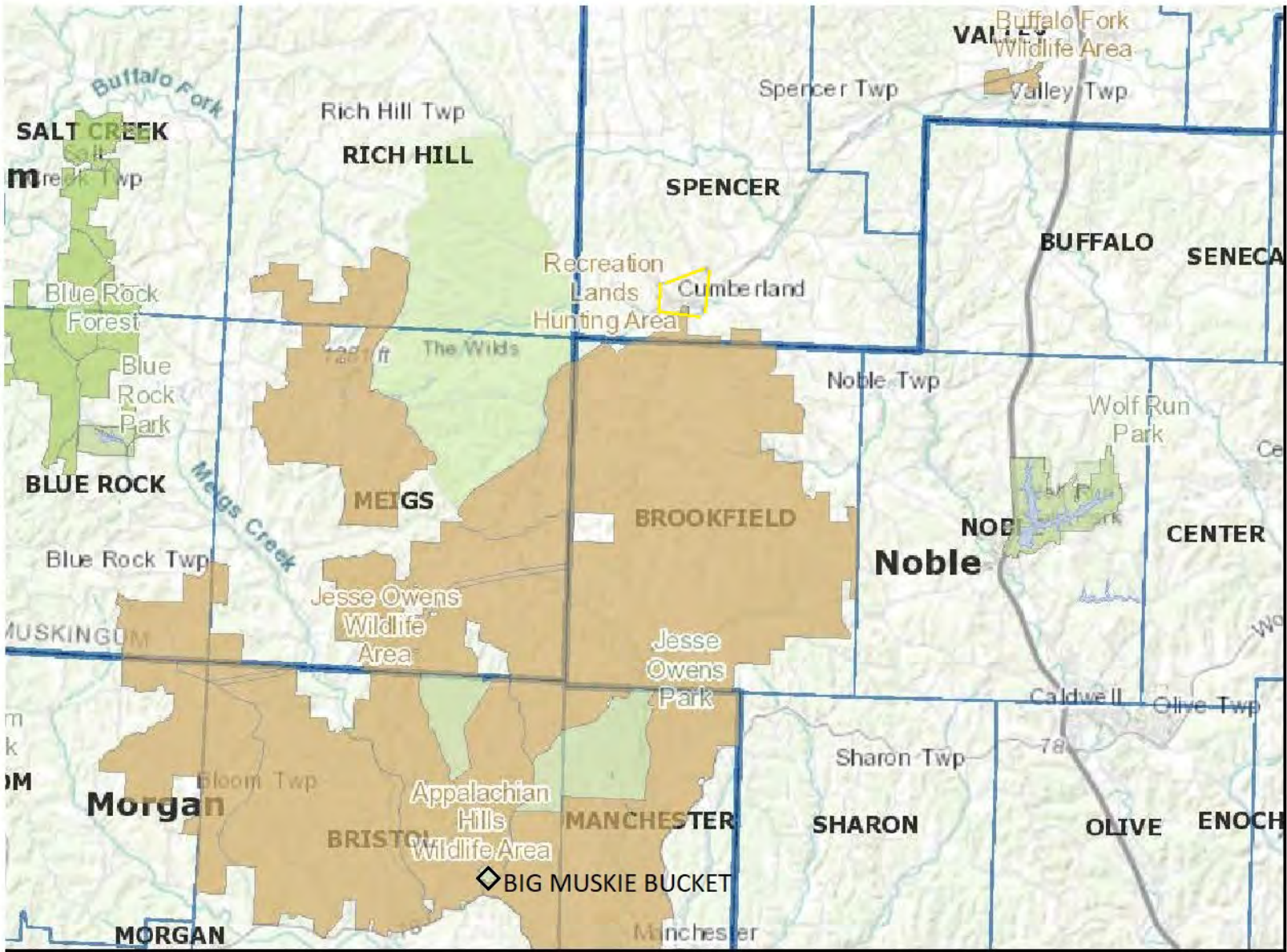
- Adjacent Area Application
- Current
- Past
- A Law (1965 - 1972)

- B Law (1972 - 1975)
- C Law (1976 - 1981)
- D Law (1982 - Present)

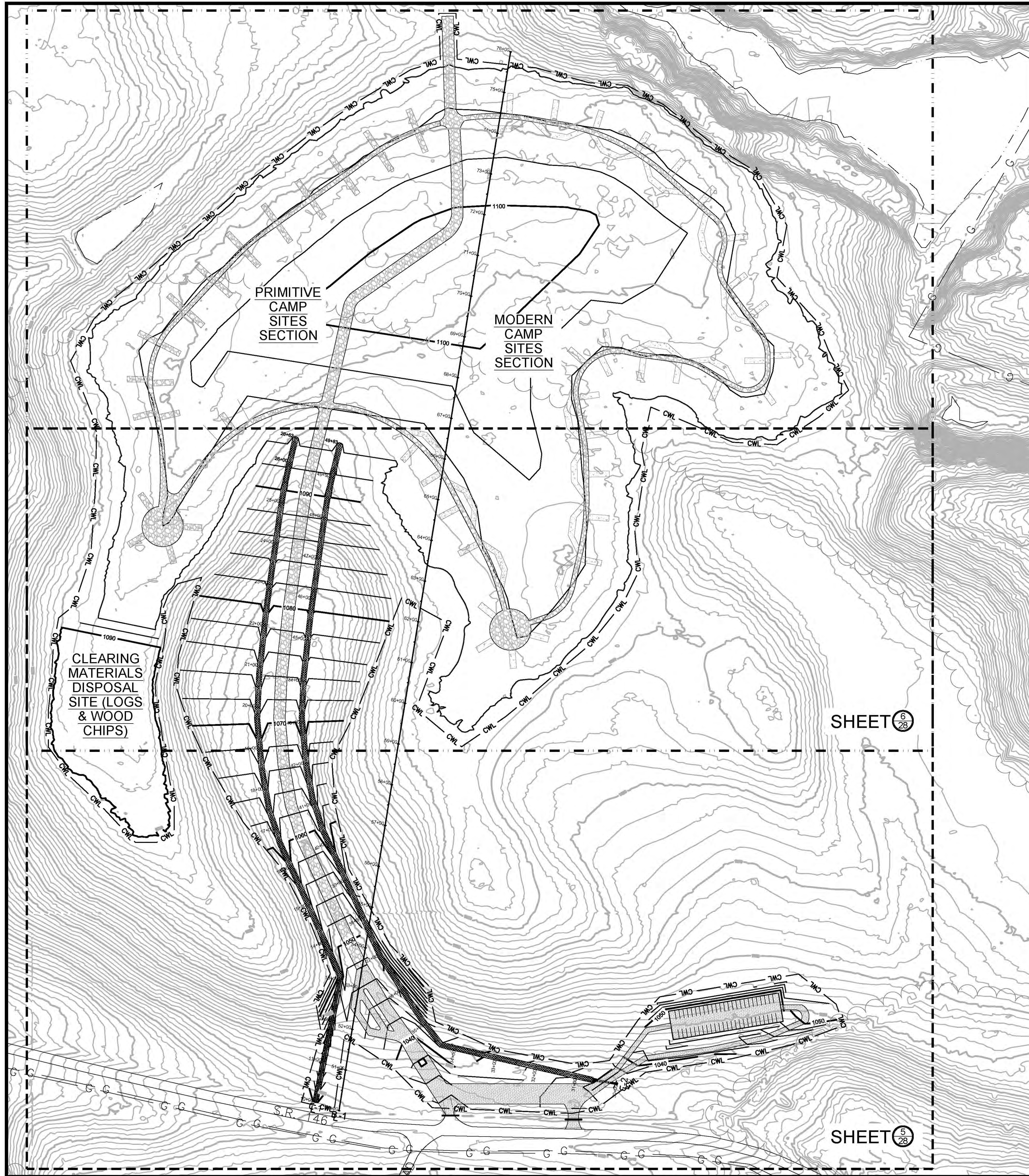


Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri

Recreation Areas



In the Wilds POWER Service Area, abandoned surface coal mines have been converted into recreation areas and natural resource conservation, including the 10,000 acre the Wilds, where a proposed 50-unit RV Campground is expected to increase tourism and visitors to this area. In addition to Blue Rock State Park, a new State Park has been created in Morgan County named after Jesse Owens, including Miner's Memorial Park, and the Big Muskie Bucket attraction. A much larger area of abandoned surface coal mines in Muskingum and Morgan Counties has been designated as the state Appalachian Hills Wildlife Area.



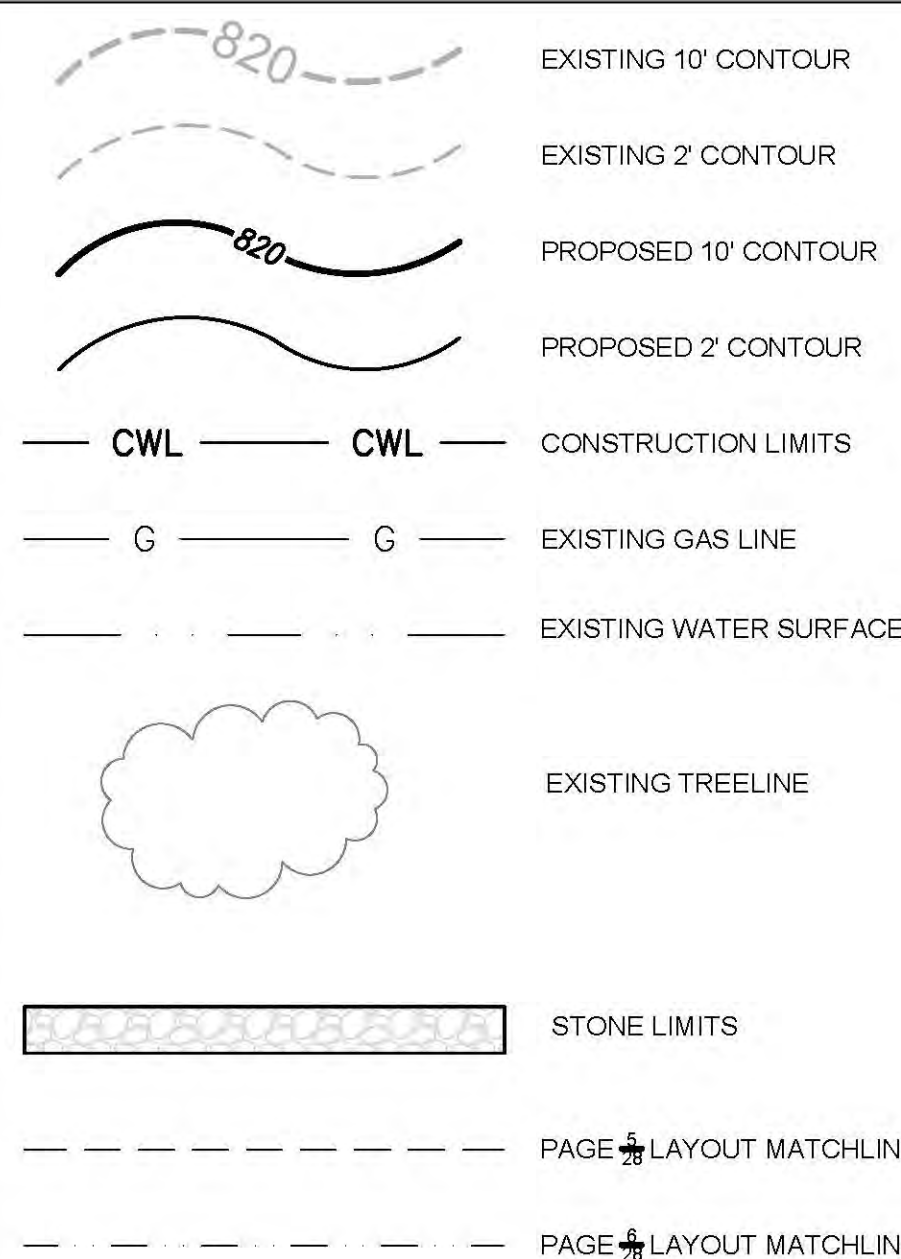
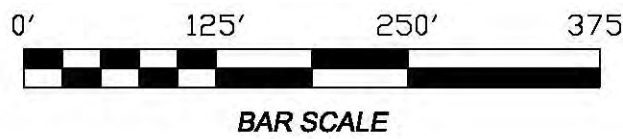
BASELINE #1 (E - 1) COORDINATES			
STATION	NORTHING	EASTING	DESCRIPTION
50+00	684,521.13	2,180,742.78	B.L. ENDPOINT
76+00	687,087.64	2,181,158.77	B.L. ENDPOINT

CHANNEL #1 COORDINATES					
STATION	NORTHING	EASTING	STATION	NORTHING	EASTING
10+00	684,542.35	2,180,687.58	19+00	685,398.15	2,180,553.01
10+50	684,591.34	2,180,697.56	19+50	685,447.95	2,180,548.47
11+00	684,640.33	2,180,707.54	19+72.71	685,470.56	2,180,546.41
11+50	684,689.33	2,180,717.52	20+00	685,497.82	2,180,547.65
12+00	684,738.46	2,180,727.57	20+50	685,547.77	2,180,549.94
12+50	684,787.32	2,180,737.48	20+80.62	685,578.36	2,180,551.34
13+00	684,836.31	2,180,747.46	21+00	685,597.62	2,180,553.46
13+08.56	684,844.70	2,180,749.17	21+50	685,647.32	2,180,558.94
13+50	684,882.50	2,180,732.20	22+00	685,697.02	2,180,564.42
14+00	684,928.12	2,180,711.72	22+41.75	685,735.52	2,180,568.00
14+50	684,973.74	2,180,691.25	22+50	685,746.68	2,180,570.16
14+83.98	685,004.74	2,180,677.34	23+00	685,796.18	2,180,577.24
15+00	685,019.28	2,180,670.62	23+29.66	685,825.55	2,180,581.44
15+50	685,064.67	2,180,649.65	23+50	685,845.68	2,180,584.31
16+00	685,110.06	2,180,628.68	24+00	685,895.18	2,180,591.39
16+50	685,155.46	2,180,607.72	24+50	685,944.67	2,180,598.46
16+64.59	685,168.70	2,180,601.60	24+81.43	685,975.78	2,180,602.91
17+00	685,202.64	2,180,591.49	25+00	685,994.13	2,180,605.80
17+03.75	685,206.23	2,180,590.42	25+30.87	686,024.62	2,180,610.60
17+46.03	685,246.08	2,180,576.27	25+50	686,043.33	2,180,614.63
17+50	685,249.98	2,180,575.57	25+80.57	686,073.22	2,180,621.05
18+00	685,299.19	2,180,566.71	26+00	686,092.10	2,180,625.80
18+50	685,348.40	2,180,557.85	26+50	686,140.72	2,180,637.28
18+53.41	685,351.76	2,180,557.24	26+61.93	686,152.30	2,180,640.12

CHANNEL #2 COORDINATES					
STATION	NORTHING	EASTING	STATION	NORTHING	EASTING
30+00	684,585.99	2,181,418.54	41+00	685,264.12	2,180,684.47
30+50	684,593.78	2,181,369.15	41+10.38	685,273.90	2,180,681.00
30+60	684,595.33	2,181,359.28	41+50	685,312.89	2,180,673.98
31+00	684,604.36	2,181,320.31	42+00	685,362.10	2,180,665.12
31+50	684,615.65	2,181,271.60	42+04.23	685,366.26	2,180,664.37
32+00	684,626.94	2,181,222.89	42+50	685,411.85	2,180,660.21
32+50	684,638.23	2,181,174.18	43+00	685,461.64	2,180,655.67
33+00	684,649.51	2,181,125.47	43+11.42	685,473.01	2,180,654.63
33+50	684,680.80	2,181,076.76	43+50	685,511.63	2,180,656.38
34+00	684,672.09	2,181,028.05	44+00	685,561.50	2,180,658.68
34+36.29	684,680.28	2,180,992.70	44+08.48	685,569.97	2,180,659.06
34+50	684,691.12	2,180,984.30	44+50	685,611.24	2,180,663.62
35+00	684,730.63	2,180,953.66	45+00	685,660.94	2,180,669.10
35+12.53	684,740.47	2,180,946.09	45+50	685,710.64	2,180,674.58
35+50	684,771.92	2,180,925.51	45+64.40	685,724.95	2,180,676.15
36+00	684,813.79	2,180,898.19	46+00	685,780.19	2,180,681.19
36+50	684,855.66	2,180,870.86	46+50	685,809.69	2,180,688.26
36+61.32	684,865.14	2,180,864.68	46+50.58	685,810.27	2,180,688.35
36+96.32	684,894.28	2,180,845.29	47+00	685,859.19	2,180,695.34
37+00	684,897.64	2,180,843.78	47+50	685,908.68	2,180,702.42
37+50	684,943.26	2,180,823.31	48+00	685,958.18	2,180,709.49
38+00	684,988.87	2,180,802.84	48+01.57	685,959.74	2,180,709.71
38+50	685,034.49	2,180,782.36	48+47.24	686,004.85	2,180,716.82
38+66.57	685,049.61	2,180,775.58	48+50	686,007.55	2,180,717.40
39+00	685,079.92	2,180,761.49	48+92.65	686,049.24	2,180,726.36
39+50	685,125.27	2,180,740.43	49+00	686,056.39	2,180,728.08
40+00	685,170.62	2,180,719.36	49+50	686,105.01	2,180,739.77
40+37.35	685,204.49	2,180,703.63	49+72.78	686,127.16	2,180,745.09
40+50	685,216.61	2,180,700.02	49+83.20	686,137.29	2,180,747.53
40+74.13	685,239.74	2,180,693.13			

ESTIMATED QUANTITIES

2100 MOBILIZATION/ACCESS	1	LUMP SUM
2112 MAINTAINING TRAFFIC	1	LUMP SUM
2121 CLEARING AND GRUBBING	57.5	ACRES
2200 EARTHWORK (167,000 C.Y.)	1	LUMP SUM
2702 SPECIFIC WORK ALLOWANCE	10,000	EACH
3211 FILTER FABRIC	400	S.Y.
3231 PREFAB CHANNEL BLOCK LINING	1,256	S.F.
3332 18" PE CULVERT	80	L.F.
3337 30" PE CULVERT	60	L.F.
3410 SILT FENCE/STRAW BALE DIKES	14,000	L.F.
3435 GRASS LINED CHANNEL	3,277	L.F.
3451 NO. 3 & NO. 4 STONE	4,700	TONS
3454 NO. 57 STONE	2,700	TONS
3541 NO. 3/4 STONE	2,600	TONS
6100 STANDARD REVEGETATION	57.5	ACRES
6310 LIME	300	TONS
6321 NITROGEN FERTILIZER	4,000	LBS
6322 PHOSPHORUS FERTILIZER	17,100	LBS
6323 POTASSIUM FERTILIZER	11,000	LBS
6340 MULCH	40	TONS
7112 CONCRETE	975	C.Y.
8127 AGGREGATE DRAINS	300	L.F.
8154 ASPHALT PAVEMENT	1,700	TONS
9991 SURVEYING	1	LUMP SUM



NOTES

- THIS MAP DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A BOUNDARY SURVEY PER OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 4733-37. MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR BOUNDARY SURVEYS. ALL PROPERTY LINES SHOWN ARE FROM THE MUSKINGUM COUNTY TAX MAPS AND ARE SUBJECT TO ERROR AND OMISSION.
- UTILITY LINES AND APPURTENANCES ARE SHOWN AS LOCATED IN THE FIELD AND/OR AS REPORTED BY THE RESPECTIVE OWNERS. NEITHER THE NUMBER, TYPE, SIZE, OR LOCATION CAN BE GUARANTEED, AND IT IS THEREFORE, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR TO VERIFY ALL UTILITY LOCATIONS.
- ELEVATION INFORMATION WITHIN THE PROJECT LIMITS ON THE MAP SHOWN HEREIN IS BASED ON LIDAR DATA PROVIDED BY THE STATE OF OHIO AND HAS BEEN FIELD VERIFIED WITH AN ACTUAL FIELD SURVEY OF EXISTING CONDITIONS PERFORMED BY JOSHUA R. SIMMERMAN P.S. THE FIELD SURVEY WAS COMPLETED ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2020. ELEVATION DATA GATHERED USING LIDAR AND AERIAL IMAGERY WAS MAPPED SPRING OF 2007 BY THE OHIO STATE WIDE IMAGERY PROGRAM.
- ALL DISTURBED AREAS WILL BE PROTECTED FROM EROSION AND WILL BE RECLAIMED IN A CONTEMPORANEOUS FASHION.



NON-EMERGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY
ABANDONED MINE LAND PROGRAM
minerals.ohiodnr.gov/



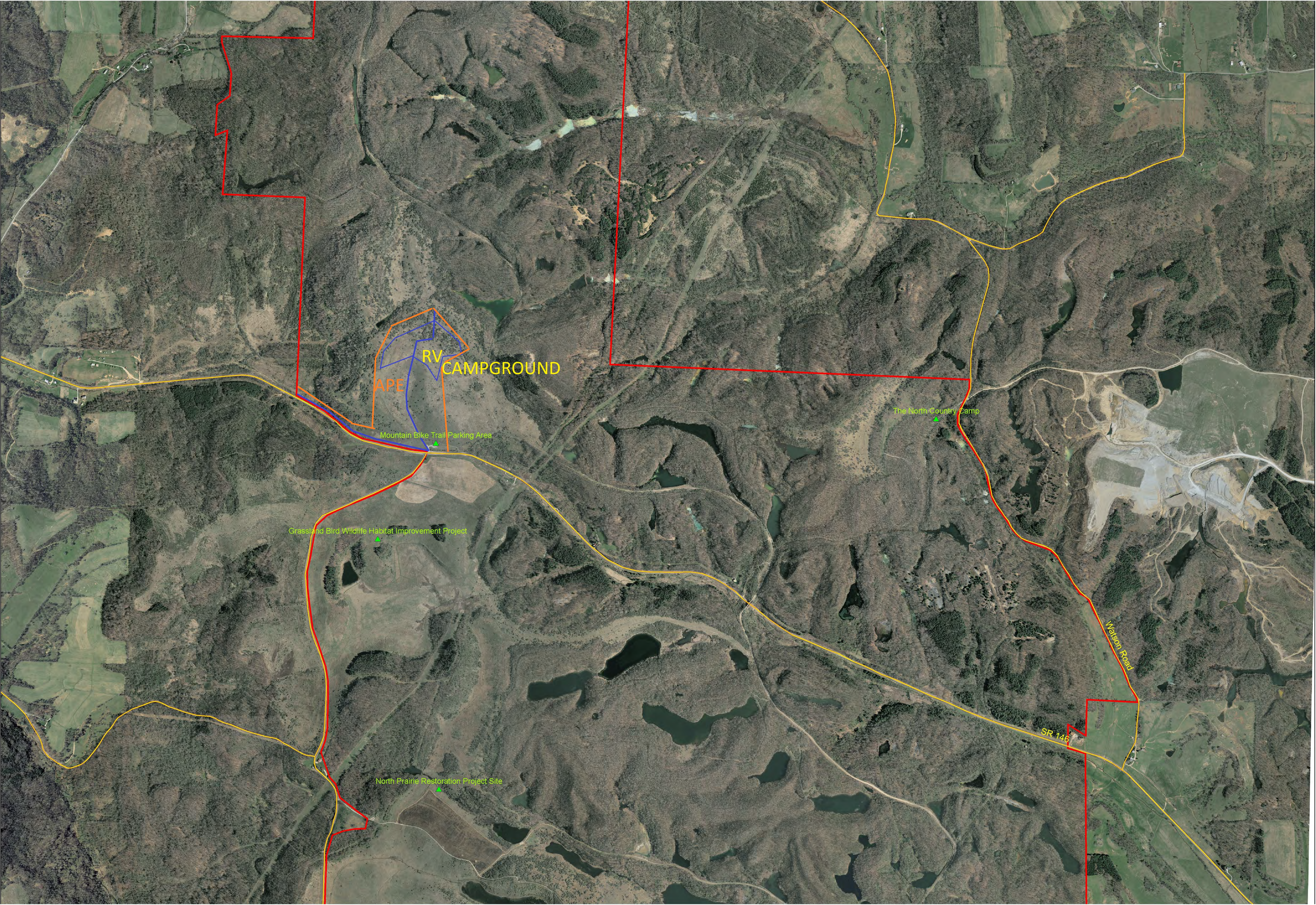
THE WILDS CAMPGROUND/ RECREATION PROJECT
MUSKINGUM COUNTY RECLAMATION PROJECT NUMBER: MK-Rh-01
PROPOSED SITE PLAN

DATE:	OCTOBER 2020
REVISIONS	
DESIGN UNIT	BLUE ROCK
N.R.E.3 R. WARNER	
P.O. B. JONARD	
4	28



AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

LOCATION OF AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE) NORTH OF STATE ROUTE 146

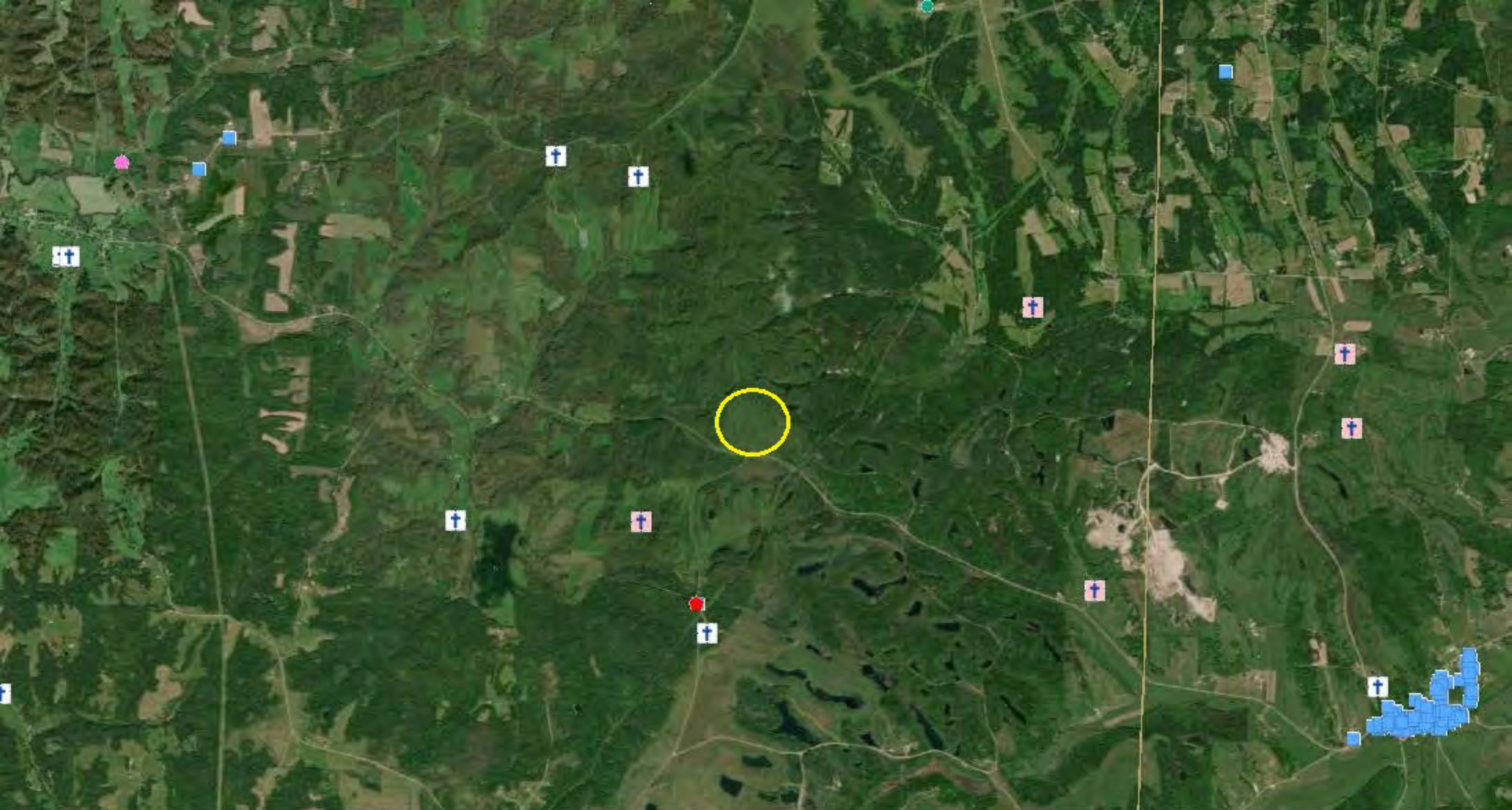



BOUNDARY OF THE WILDS


WATERLINES TO BE CONSTRUCTED



AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS (APE)



 LOCATION OF RV CAMPGROUND

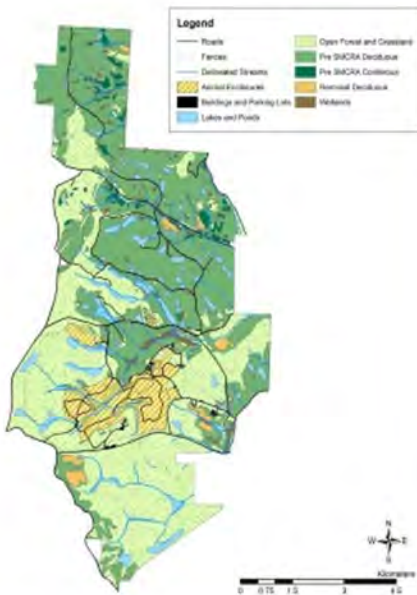
 HISTORIC STRUCTURES

Wilds Topography

Over 90% of the landscape was mined & reclaimed

- **Grassland 4,655 ac**
 - **Prairie 672 acres**
- **Forests 3,832 ac**
- **Lakes / Ponds 497 ac**
 - (125 on site)
- **Wetlands 165 ac**
- **Animal Pastures 2,000 ac**

Habitat Types at The Wilds



The Wilds Mining Legacy ~ 1940-1984 ~



The Wilds Past



**The Big Muskie –
Largest Dragline
on EARTH
During Operation**





Prairie 10 + years post-restoration

PHOTOGRAPHS OF PROPOSED

RV CAMPGROUND

AT THE WILDS



















In reply refer to
2020-MUS-49169-2

October 27, 2021

Alan Knapp
OMEGA
326 Highland Avenue Suite B
Cambridge, Ohio 43725

Dear Mr. Knapp:

Re: The Wilds RV Campground Recreation Project, 14000 International Drive, Rich Hill Township, Muskingum County, Ohio

This is in response to your correspondence, received on October 18, 2021, regarding this project. My comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the associated regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.

This project will involve a RV campground construction in Rich Hill Township, Muskingum County, Ohio. Based on the information submitted, it is my opinion that the proposed activity will not affect properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. No further coordination with this office is necessary, unless the projects change.

Please be advised that this is a Section 106 decision. This review decision may not extend to other SHPO programs. If you have any questions, please contact me at (614) 298-2000, or by email at nyoung@ohiohistory.org. Please note the Ohio SHPO now accepts electronic-only submissions for state and/or federal review under Section 106 and ORC 149.53. Please send your submissions to section106@ohiohistory.org. We have also updated our [Survey Report Submission Standards](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nathan J. Young".

Nathan J. Young, Project Reviews Manager
Resource Protection and Review

800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43211-2474 • 614.297.2300 • ohiohistory.org

Alan Knapp

From: Alan Knapp
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 3:20 PM
To: epaden@delawarenation.com; ddotson@delawarenation.com; gwallace@estoo.net; PBarton@estoo.net; dlankford@miamination.com; dhunter@miamination.com; wfisher@sctribe.com; wtarrant@sctribe.com; Sbachor@delawaretribe.org; bobermeyer@delawaretribe.org; cbrooks@delawaretribe.org
Subject: Section 106 Review The Wilds RV Campground Project
Attachments: 106_ProjectSummary Wilds RV Campground.pdf

Attached is a Section 106 Review Report Form for the Wilds RV Campground Project. The Wilds is applying for a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to construct water and sanitary sewer lines for the proposed Recreational Vehicle Campground at their animal safari park in Muskingum County, Ohio. We are contacting Tribes with an interest in Muskingum County, Ohio to request any comments you may have for the environmental review required for the EDA grant application. As per our review, the closest historic or potentially historic structures are located over one mile away from the project site. The entire 10,000 acre site owned by the Wilds is a former surface coal mine, and there is very little ground at the site that has not been disturbed (compacted) by heavy machinery, including the Big Muskie Bucket. There was only about six inches of topsoil added to the surface during the reclamation process. Please let us know if you have any comments or questions or require additional information. Thanks.



OHIO MID-EASTERN GOVERNMENTS ASSOCIATION

Connecting Communities to Resources

Alan J. Knapp
ARC Program Manager
Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
326 Highland Avenue, Suite B
Cambridge, Ohio 43725
(740) 439-4471, ext. 211
alank@omegadistrict.org / www.omegadistrict.us

ATTACHMENT B

MAPS

FEMA Flood Map Service Center

FIRM Floodplain Insurance Map

National Wetland Inventory Map

Ohio Coastal Zone Map

Sole Source Aquifer Map

Ohio Scenic Rivers Map

NEPAssist Maps:

Hazardous Waste Sites

Toxic Substances

Toxic Releases

Brownfield Sites

Superfund Sites

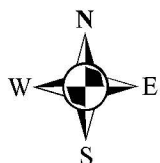
Air Pollution

OZONE Attainment

Airports

Water Dischargers

1:24,000



The Wilds Campground / Recreation Project - PILOT, MK-Rh-01
Muskingum County / Rich Hill Township / Section 22

Area of Potential Effects

National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette

81°44'56"W 39°53'3"N



0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet 1:6,000 81°44'19"W 39°52'36"N
Basemap: USGS National Map: Orthoimagery: Data refreshed October, 2020

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) <i>Zone A, V, A99</i>
		With BFE or Depth <i>Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR</i>
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile <i>Zone X</i>
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i>
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. <i>Zone X</i>
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee <i>Zone D</i>
OTHER AREAS	NO SCREEN	Area of Minimal Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i>
		Effective LOMRs
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard <i>Zone D</i>
		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance
		Water Surface Elevation
		Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary
MAP PANELS		Coastal Transect Baseline
		Profile Baseline
		Hydrographic Feature
		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped
		The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on **11/2/2021 at 2:06 PM** and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

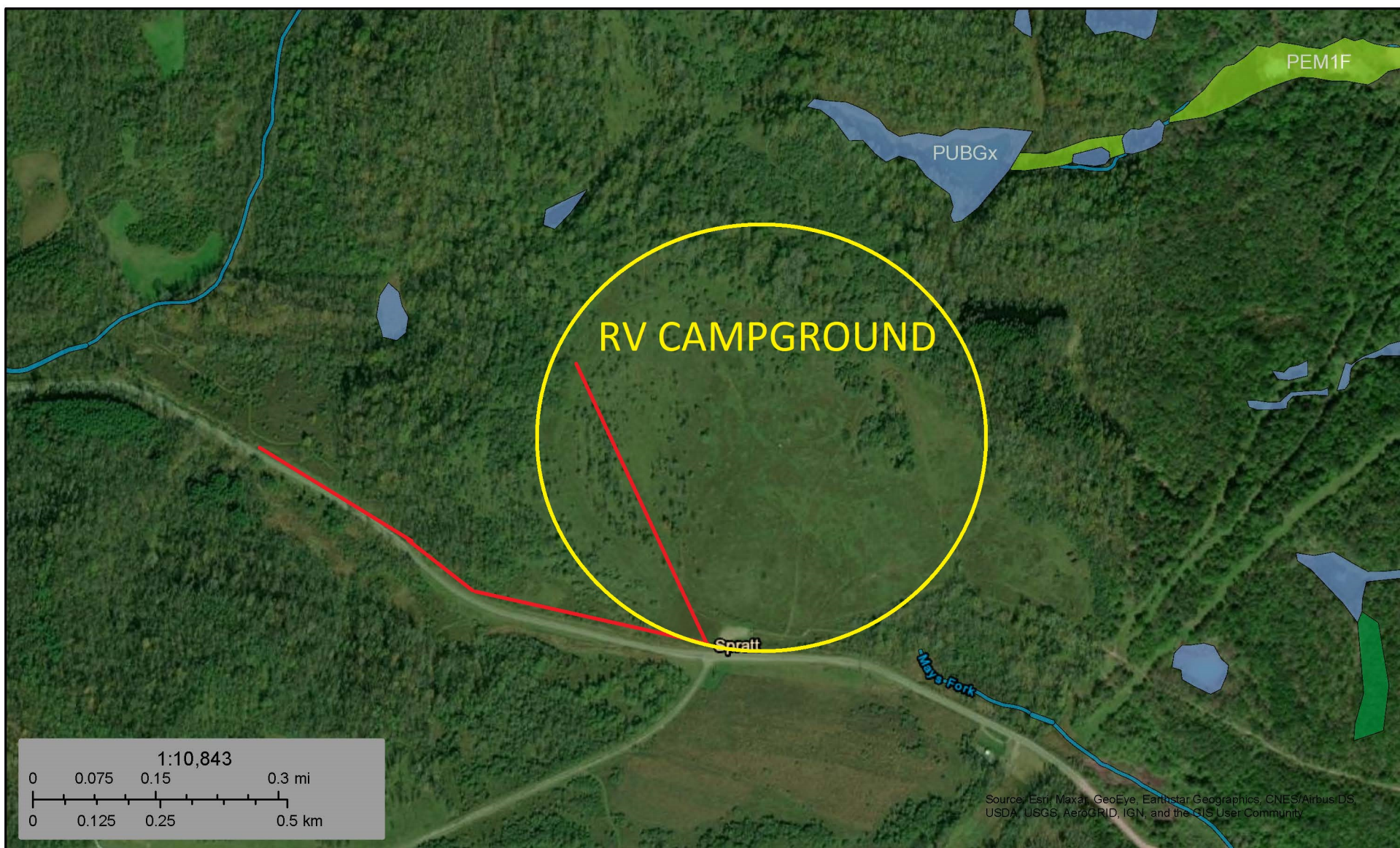
This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

National Wetlands Inventory Map



October 19, 2021

Wetlands

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland

- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond

- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

PROPOSED NEW WATERLINE



PROPOSED RV CAMPGROUND

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.



Ohio Coastal Erosion Area

ODNR



Legend & Layers

☒ Coastal Erosion Area

County Bookmarks

Other Tools

Print

Title: Ohio Coastal Erosion Area

Format: PDF

Layout: Letter ANSI A Landscape

Settings

Print

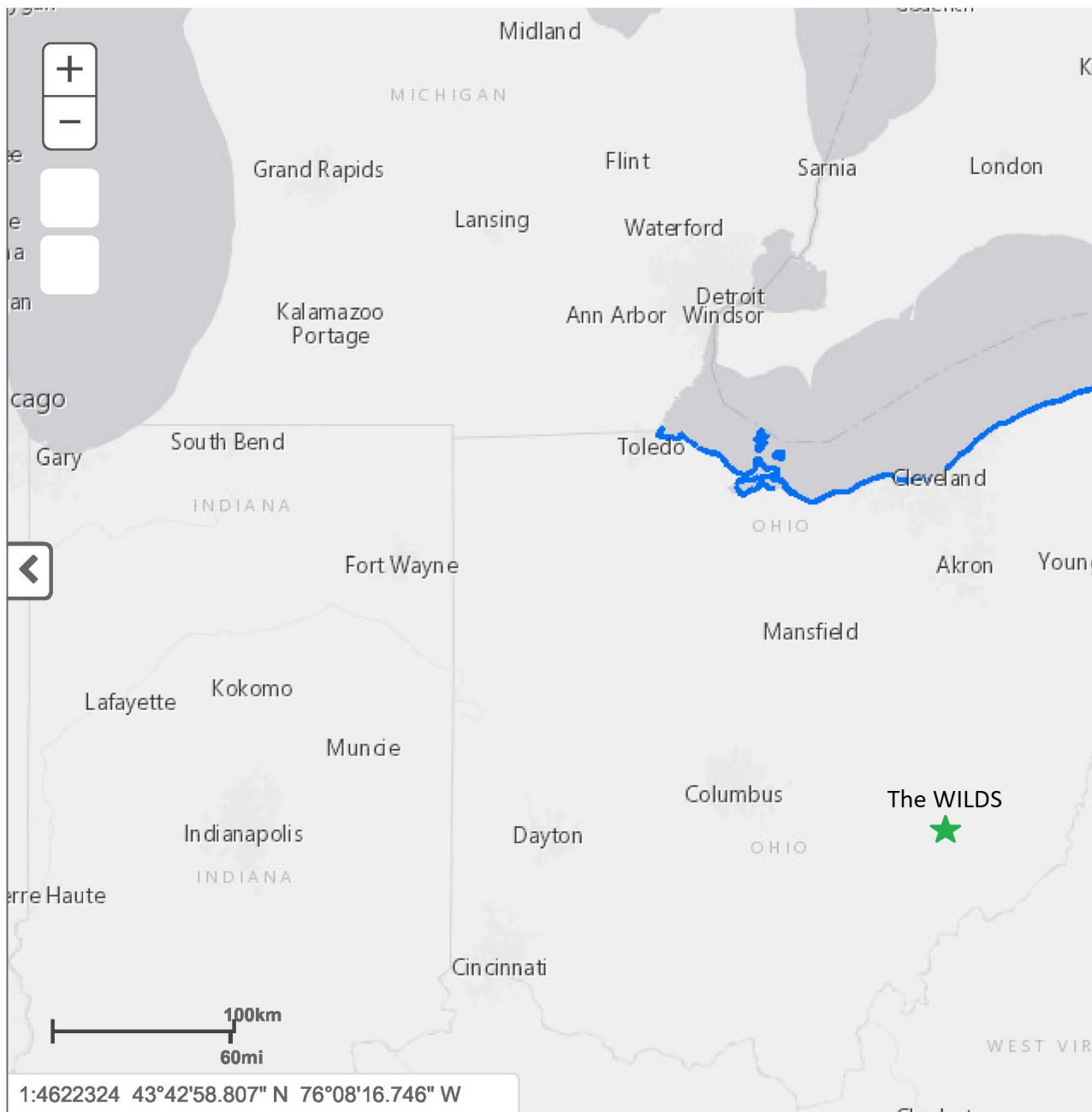
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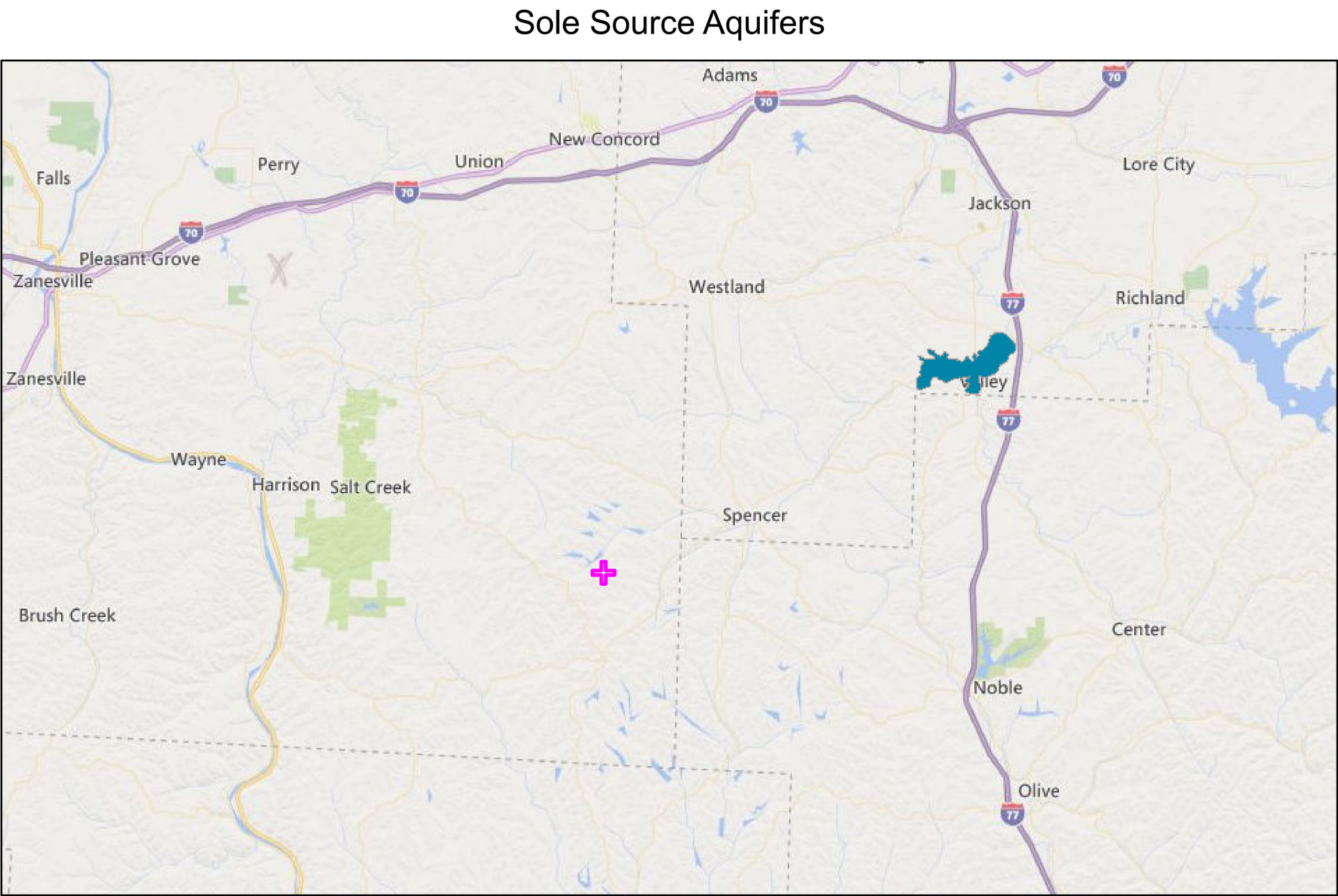
Creating Print

Clear Print History





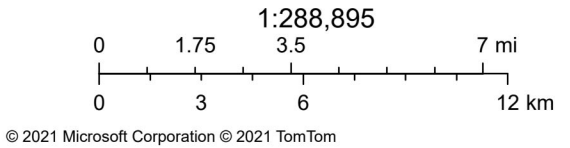
Division of Geological Survey
2045 Morse Rd





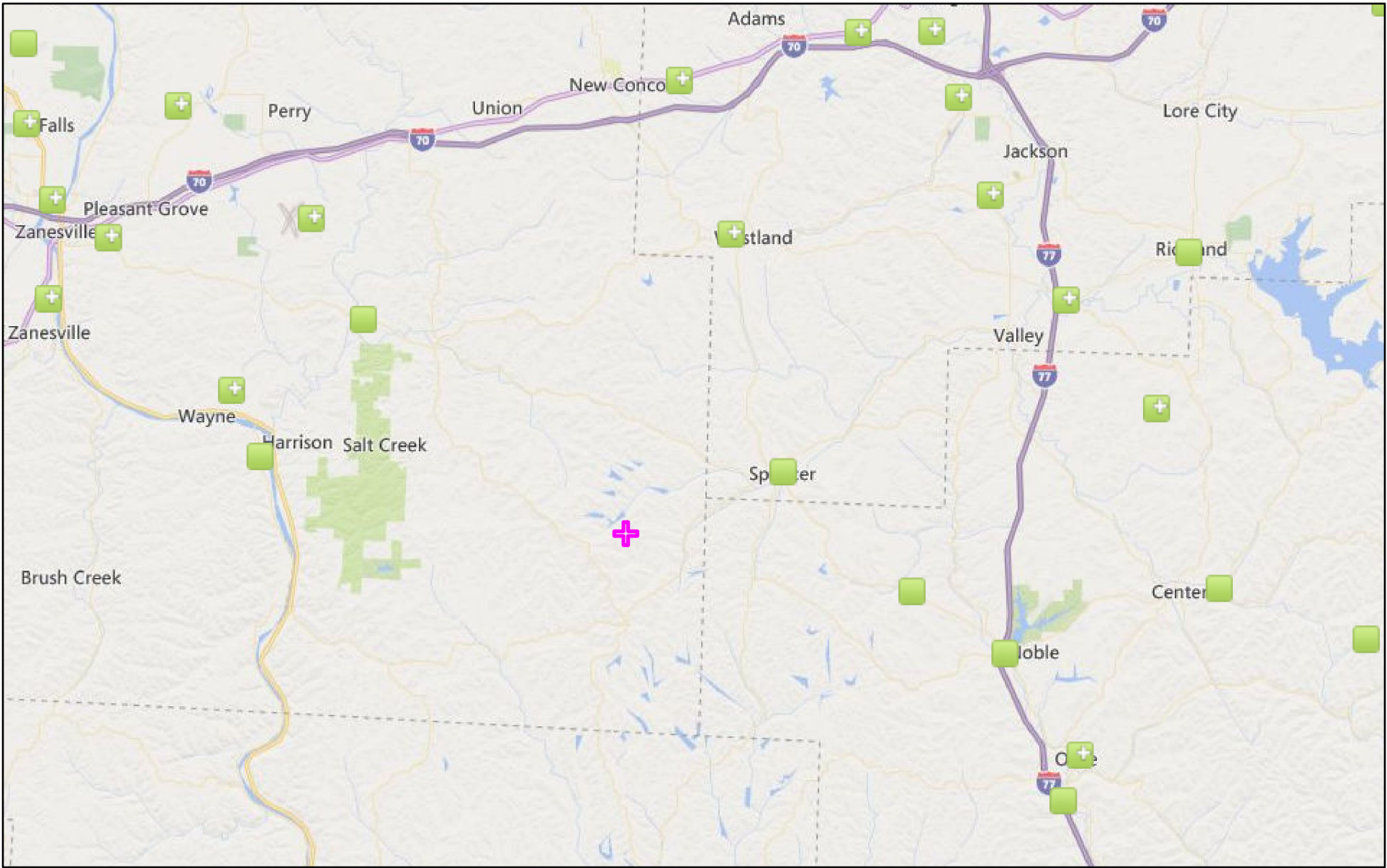
October 19, 2021

-  Search Result (point)
-  Sole Source Aquifers



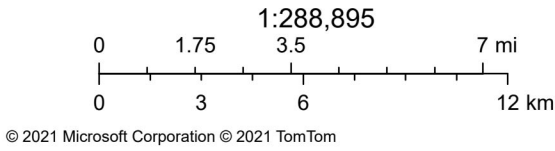


Hazardous Waste Sites

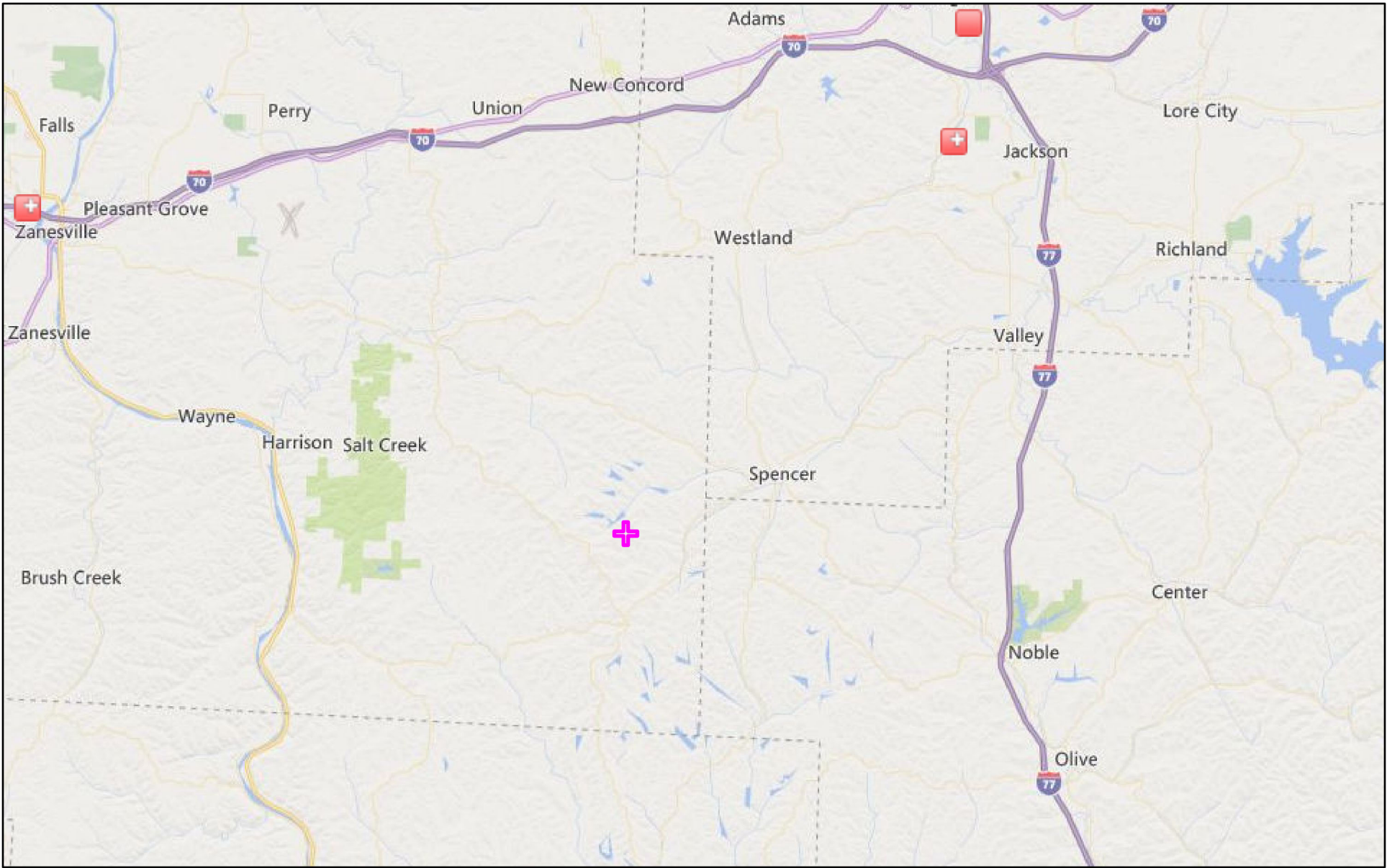


October 19, 2021


- Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo)
- Search Result (point)
- Hazardous Waste (RCRAInfo)





Toxic Substances



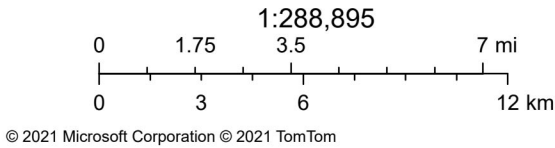
October 19, 2021

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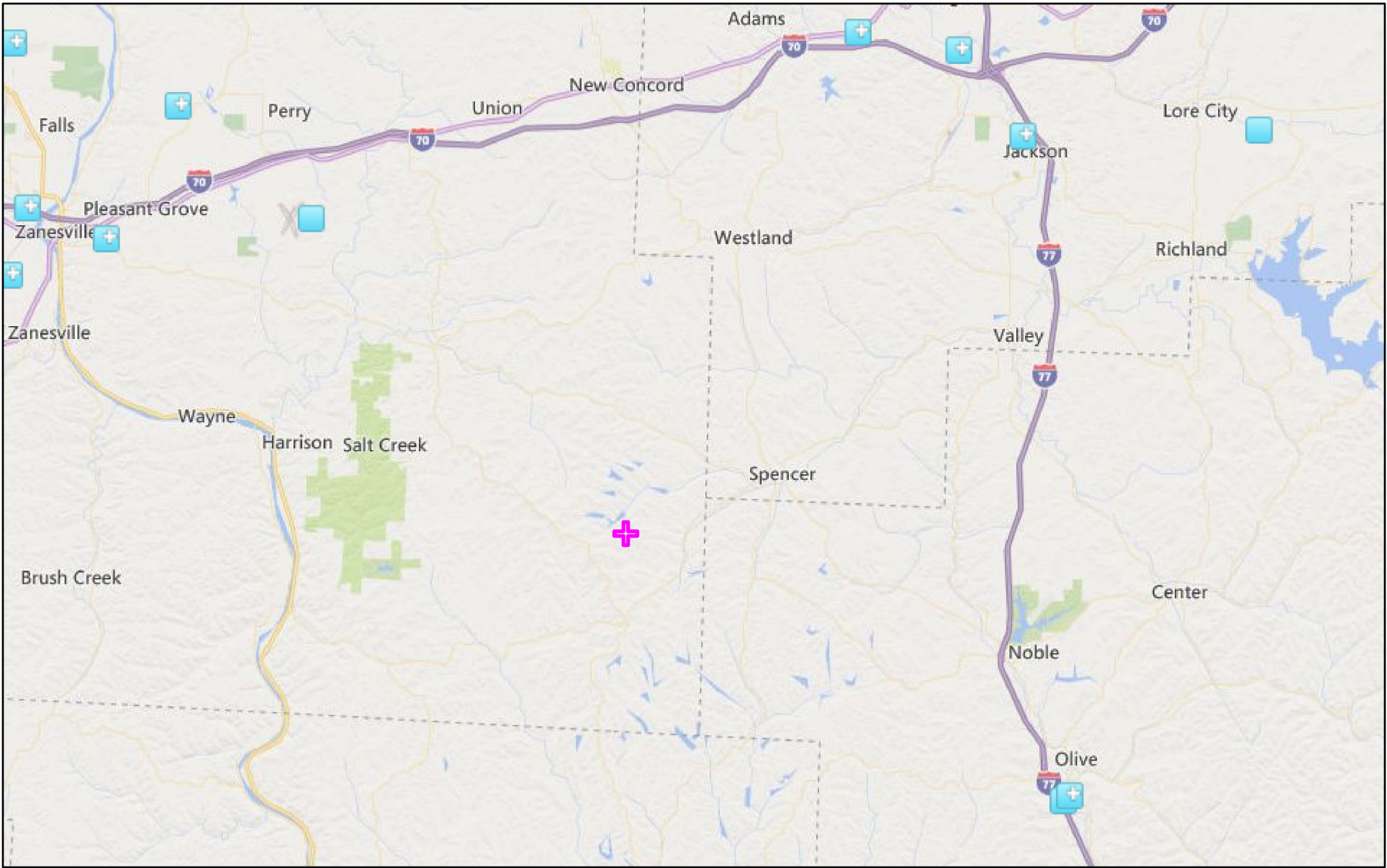
Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
- 

Search Result (point)
- 




Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

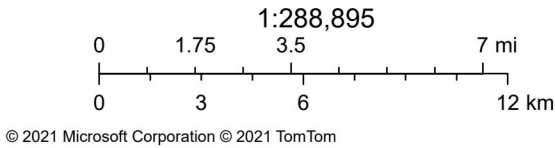


Toxic Releases

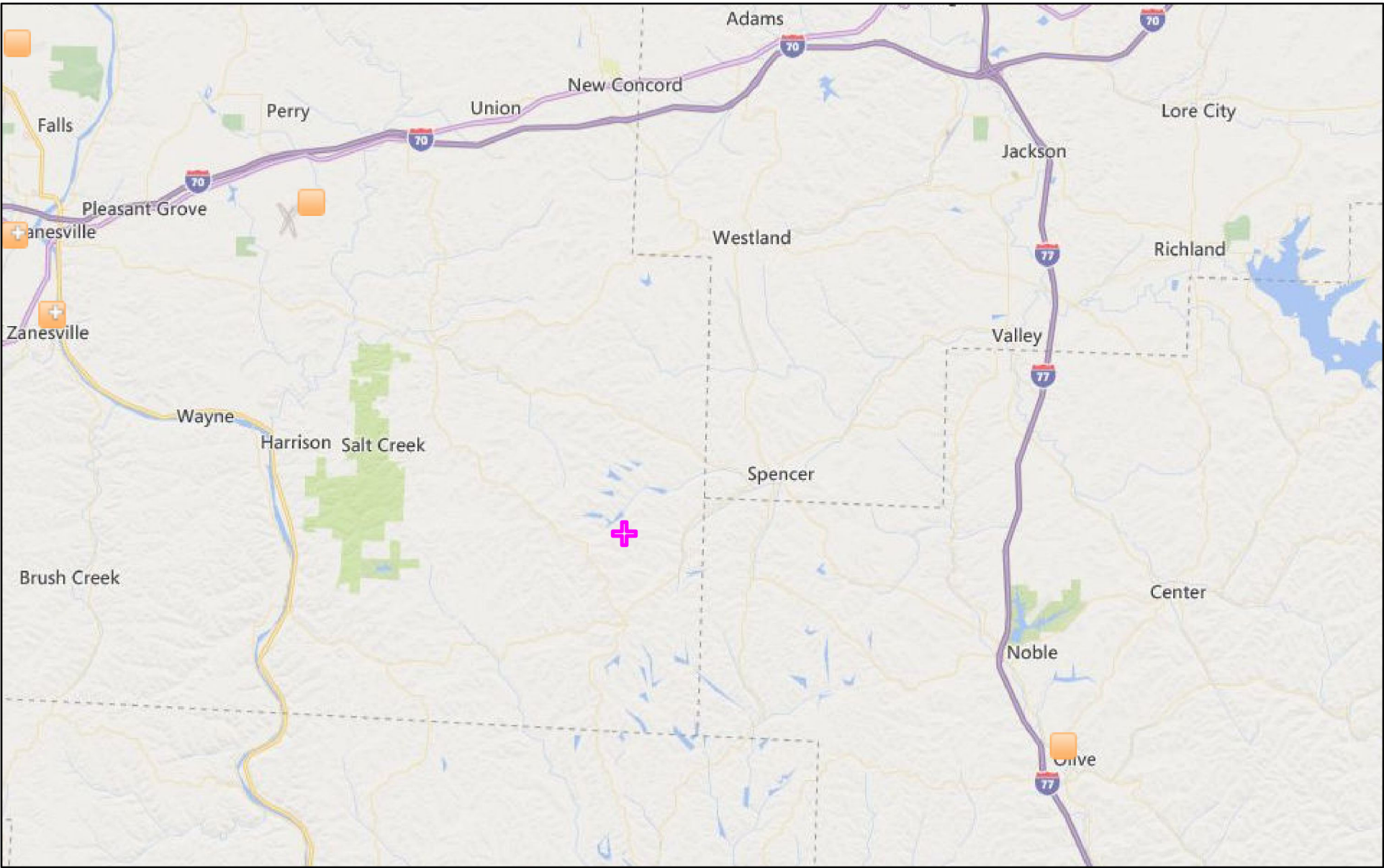


October 19, 2021

-  Toxic Releases (TRI)
-  Search Result (point)
-  Toxic Releases (TRI)

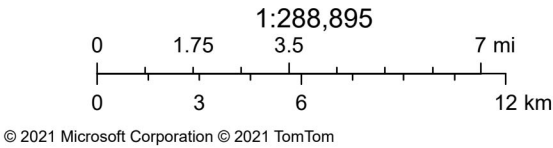


Brownfields

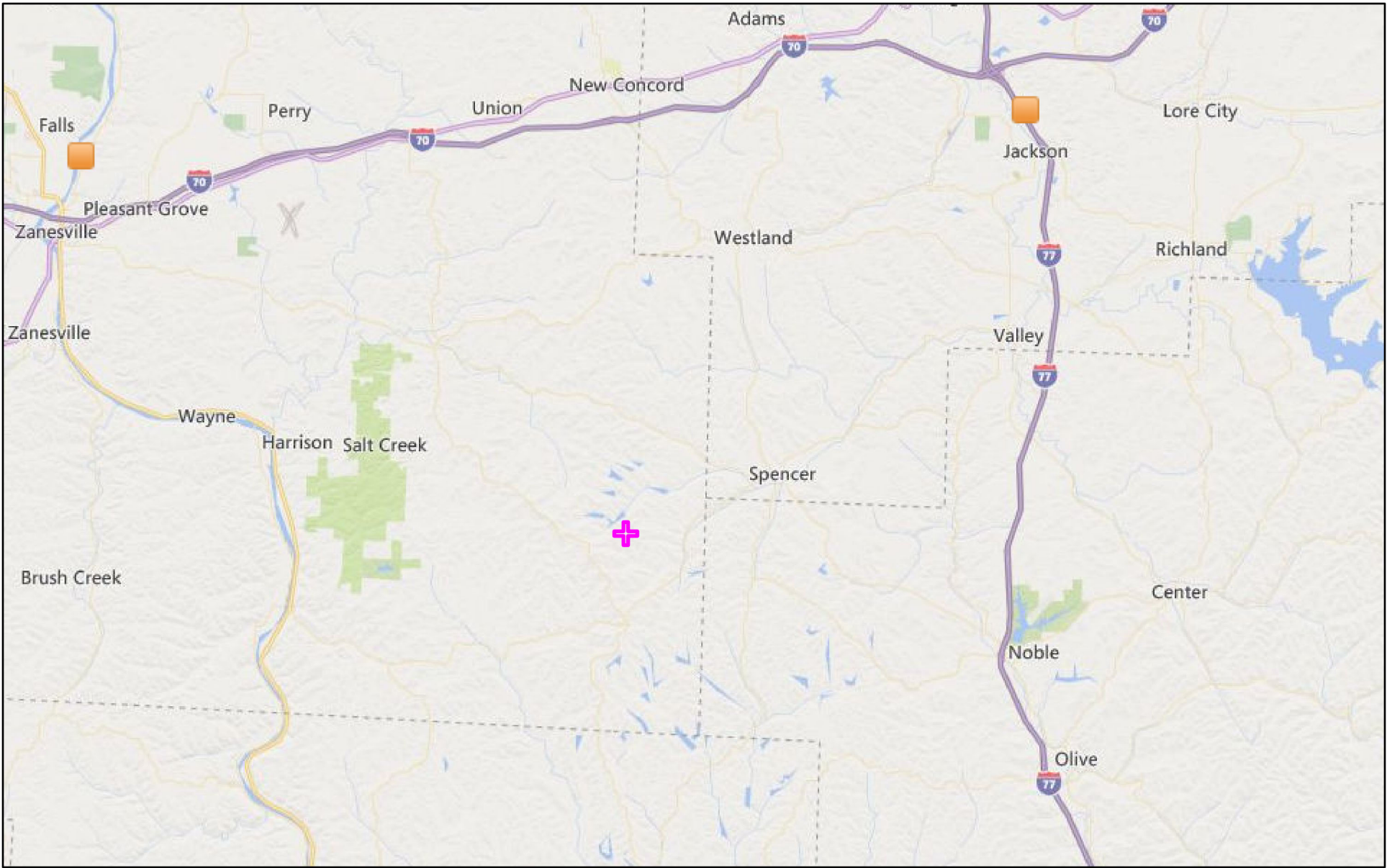


October 19, 2021



-  Brownfields (ACRES)
-  Search Result (point)
-  Brownfields (ACRES)

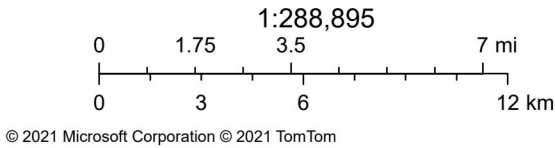


Super Fund Sites

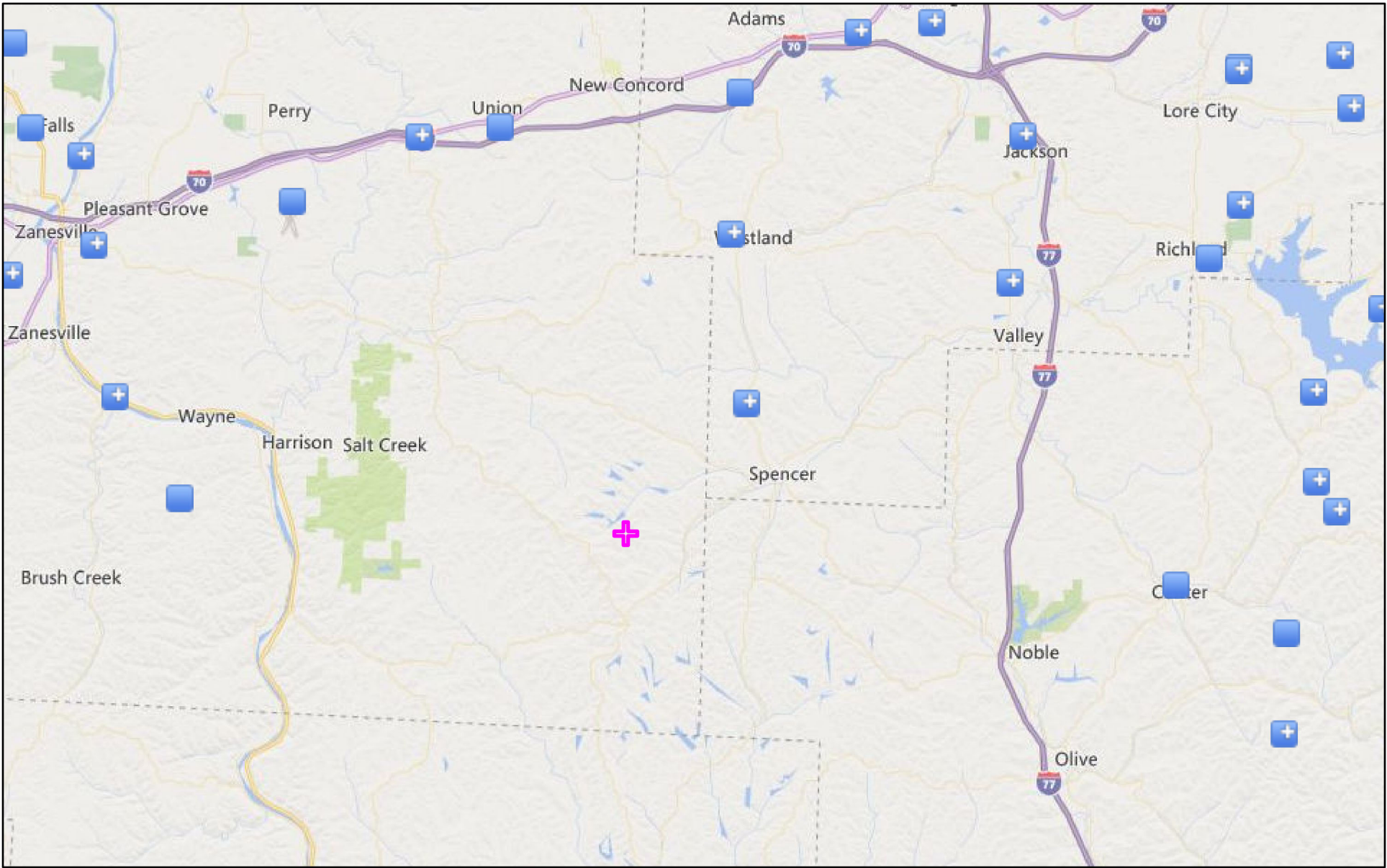


October 19, 2021

-  Superfund (NPL)
-  Search Result (point)



Air Pollution Sites



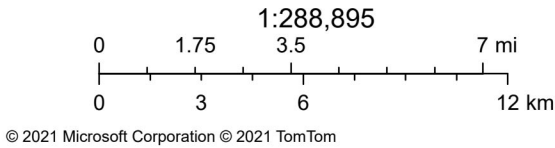
October 19, 2021

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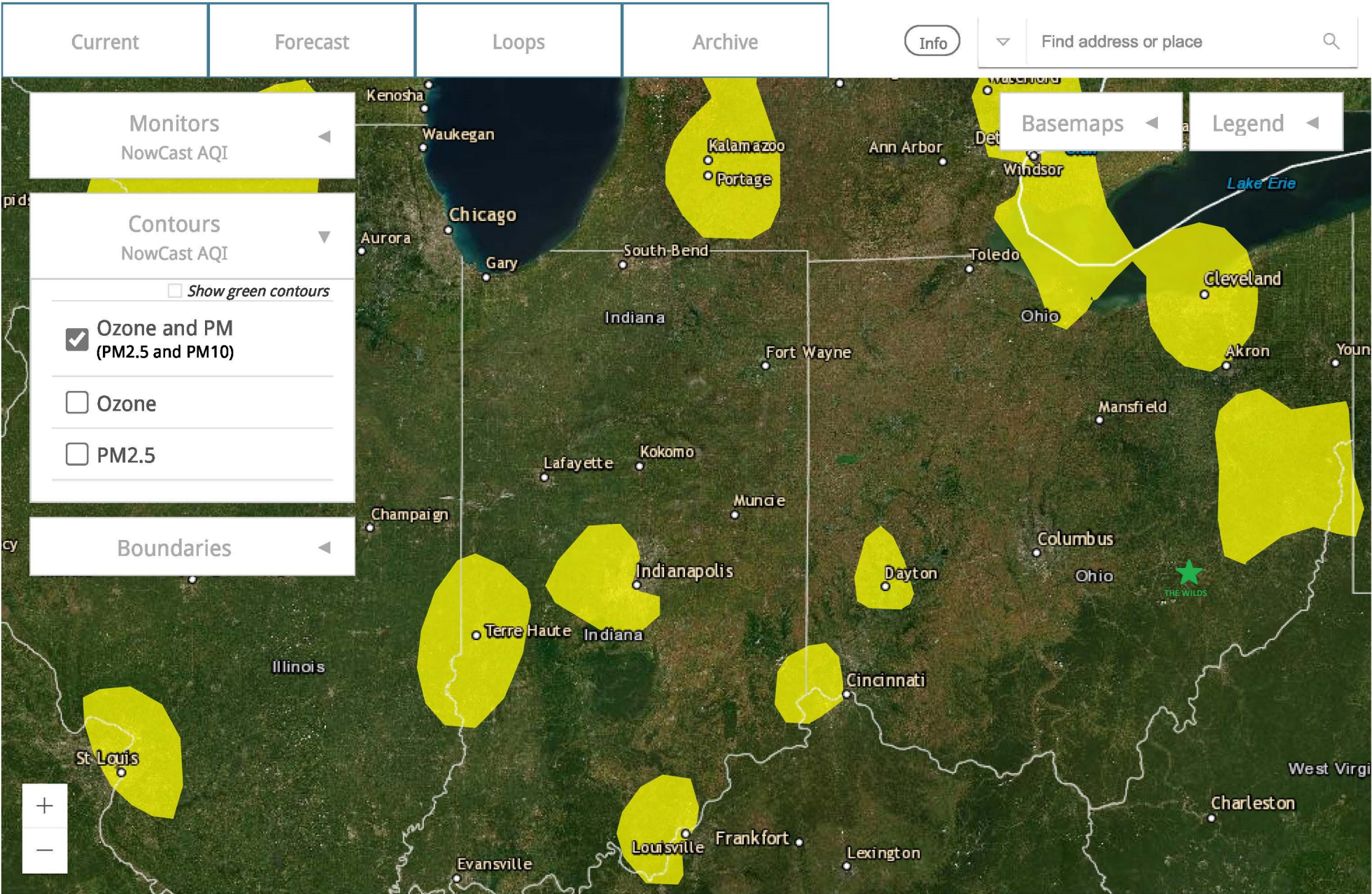
Air Pollution (ICIS-AIR)
- 

Search Result (point)
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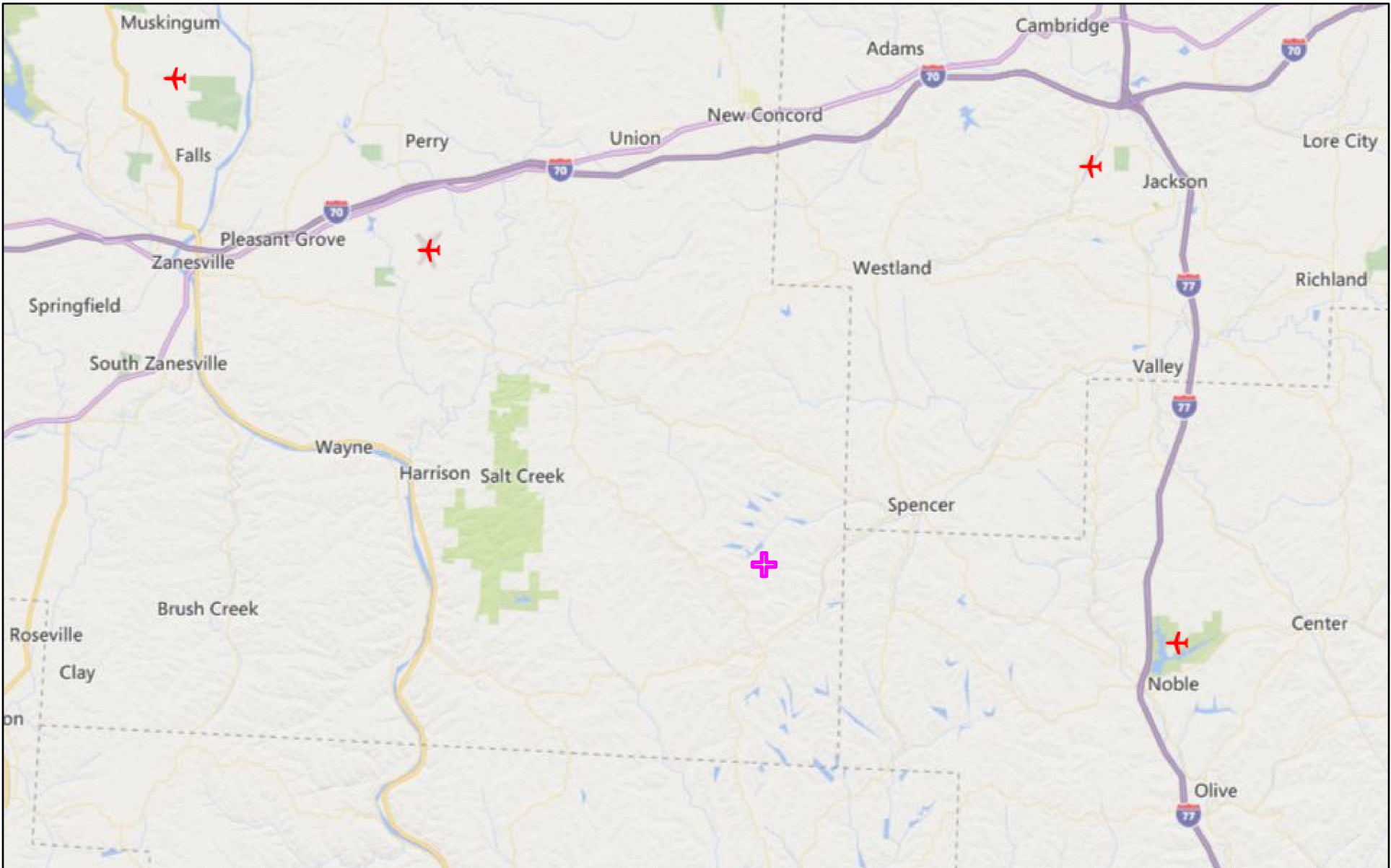
Air Pollution (ICIS-AIR)





Interactive Map of Air Quality

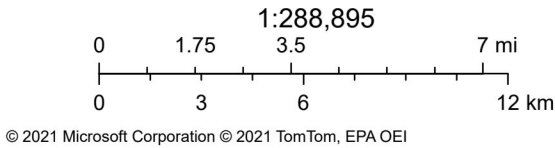


Airports

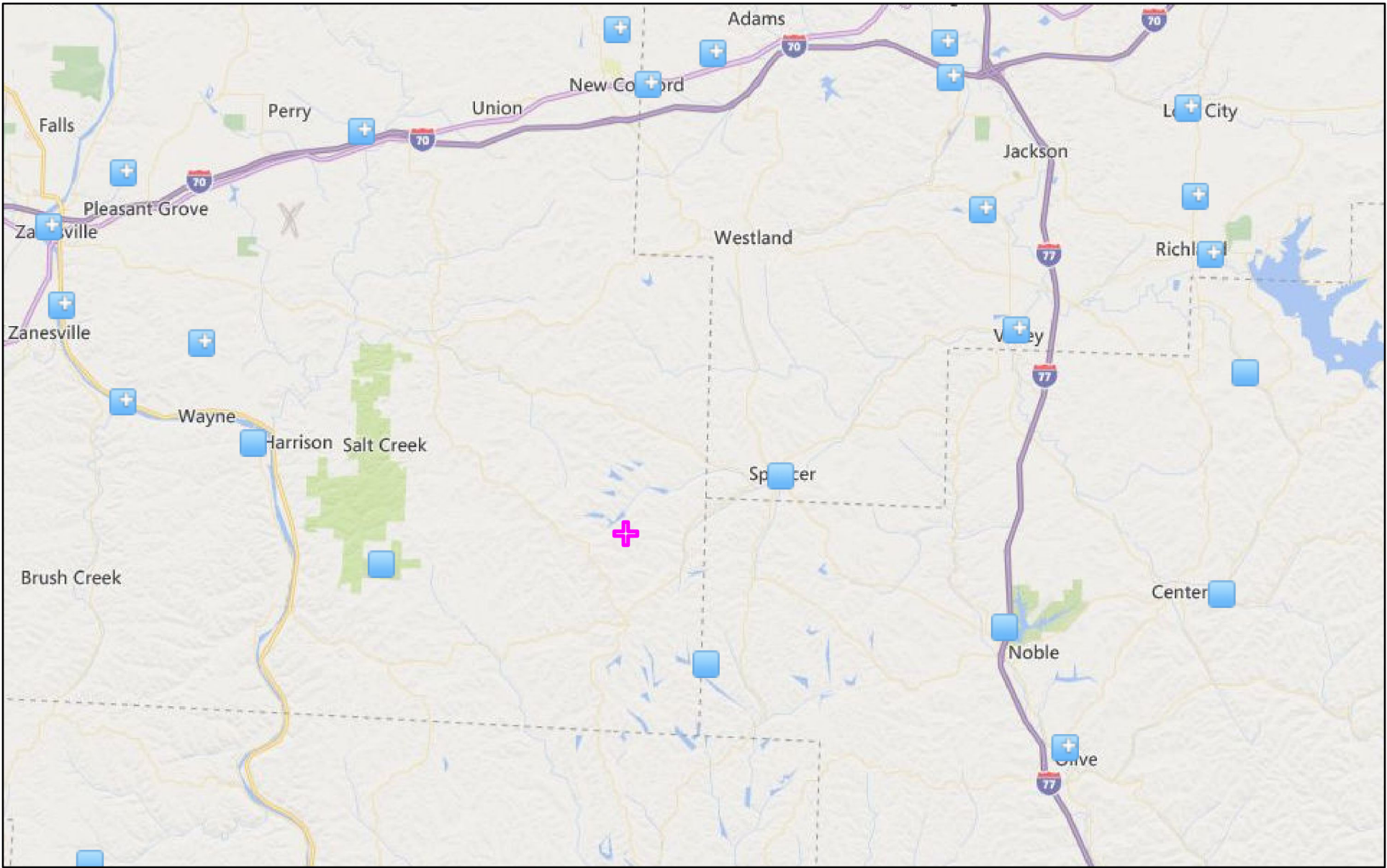


October 19, 2021




-  Search Result (point)
-  Airport Points

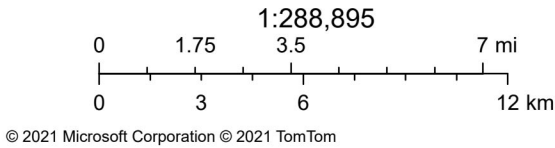


Water Dischargers



October 19, 2021

-  Water Dischargers (NPDES)
-  Search Result (point)
-  Water Dischargers (NPDES)



ATTACHMENT C

CORRESPONDENCE

E-mail to ODNR Division of Wildlife

E-mail to US Army Corps of Engineers

E-mail to US Fish and Wildlife Service

Response Letter from ODNR Division of Wildlife

Response Letter from US Army Corps of Engineers

Response from US Fish and Wildlife Service

From: [Alan Knapp](#)
To: sarah.tebbe@dnr.ohio.gov
Subject: RE: Environmental Review for the Wilds RV Campground Project
Date: Thursday, October 21, 2021 9:14:00 AM

Thanks a lot.

From: sarah.tebbe@dnr.ohio.gov <sarah.tebbe@dnr.ohio.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 21, 2021 9:13 AM
To: Alan Knapp <alank@omegadistrict.org>
Subject: RE: Environmental Review for the Wilds RV Campground Project

Good morning Alan,

We have received your request and will begin our review. Comments will be returned in approximately 30 days.

Also, to ensure the project does not get lost in the mix, please send future review requests to our designated Environmental Review request inbox at Environmentalreviewrequest@dnr.ohio.gov. You should get an automatic response letting you know you have the correct email and your project in queue.

Thanks, and have a nice day,

Sarah Tebbe
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
REALM Office of Environmental Services
2045 Morse Road
Columbus, Ohio 43229



From: Alan Knapp <alank@omegadistrict.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 11:41 AM
To: Tebbe, Sarah <sarah.tebbe@dnr.ohio.gov>
Subject: Environmental Review for the Wilds RV Campground Project

Sarah-

Am contacting you because OMEGA is assisting the Wilds with an Environmental Review required for an EDA grant application for their Recreational Vehicle Campground Project. The Wilds is seeking federal funding to construct water and sanitary sewer lines to the proposed 75-unit campground on their property north of State Route 146 in Rich Hill Township in Muskingum County, Ohio. The Wilds

is a 10,000 acre animal safari park located on a former surface coal mine. Another phase of the project is being implemented by ODNR through the Abandoned Mine Land Program to construct the campground. We are requesting any comments that the ODNR Division of Wildlife may have on the environmental effects of the proposed EDA grant project on wildlife in this area. Please let me know if you have any questions or require additional information.



Alan J. Knapp

ARC Program Manager

Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association

326 Highland Avenue, Suite B

Cambridge, Ohio 43725

(740) 439-4471, ext. 211

alank@omegadistrict.org / www.omegadistrict.us

CAUTION: This is an external email and may not be safe. If the email looks suspicious, please do not click links or open attachments and forward the email to csc@ohio.gov or click the Phish Alert Button if available.

From: [Alan Knapp](#)
To: [Black, Rebecca L CIV USARMY CELRH \(USA\)](#)
Subject: RE: Environmental Review, The Wilds RV Campground Project
Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 11:45:00 AM

Rebecca-

Thanks a lot. Appreciate that.



Connecting Communities to Resources

Alan J. Knapp

ARC Program Manager

Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association

326 Highland Avenue, Suite B

Cambridge, Ohio 43725

(740) 439-4471, ext. 211

alank@omegadistrict.org / www.omegadistrict.us

From: Black, Rebecca L CIV USARMY CELRH (USA) <Rebecca.L.Black@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 11:43 AM
To: Alan Knapp <alank@omegadistrict.org>
Subject: RE: Environmental Review, The Wilds RV Campground Project

Good Morning Mr. Knapp.

I wanted to let you know that I am no longer working for the Regulatory Division and I have forwarded your request on to the Chief (Teresa Spagna) of the Ohio Regulatory Branch.

A project manager should be contacting you soon.

Have a great day.

Thank you,

Rebecca Black

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Environmental Compliance Coordinator

Scioto Area Office

21937 Deer Creek Road

Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43143

Office: 740-869-2056

Cell: 740-552-1040

From: Alan Knapp <alank@omegadistrict.org>

Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 11:05 AM

To: Black, Rebecca L CIV USARMY CELRH (USA) <Rebecca.L.Black@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Environmental Review, The Wilds RV Campground Project

Rebecca-

OMEGA is assisting the Wilds with an Environmental Review required for their grant application to the Economic Development Administration (EDA). The Wilds is requesting federal funding to construct water and sanitary sewer facilities for a proposed 75-unit Recreational Vehicle Campground north of State Route 146 in Rich Hill Township in Muskingum County, Ohio. The site, like much of the remainder of the 10,000 acre animal safari park, is a former surface coal mine, and all of the ground has been previously disturbed. However, as shown on the National Wetland Inventory map, there are ponds and some wetlands nearby. The construction of this grant project will have no impact on the ponds or wetland near the campground site. We are providing this project description and maps to the US Army Corps of Engineers, to provide an opportunity to comment on potential environmental impacts of this project. Please let us know if you have any questions or require additional information. Thank you very much.



Alan J. Knapp

ARC Program Manager

Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association

326 Highland Avenue, Suite B

Cambridge, Ohio 43725

(740) 439-4471, ext. 211

alank@omegadistrict.org / www.omegadistrict.us

Alan Knapp

From: Alan Knapp
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 11:24 AM
To: Ohio, FW3
Subject: Environmental Review, the Wilds RV Campground
Attachments: The Wilds Campgrounds overview sheet Water.jpg; 3Quad map location_24000_page 3.pdf; National Wetland Inventory Map.jpg; FIRMETTE_39028f1 Wilds Flood Plain Map.pdf

OMEGA is assisting the Wilds with an Environmental Review required for an EDA grant application for federal funding to construct water and sanitary sewer facilities for the proposed 75-unit Recreational Vehicle Campground to be constructed just north of State Route 146 in Rich Hill Township in Muskingum County, on property owned by the Wilds. The Wilds operates a 10,000 acre animal safari park in southeastern Muskingum County, Ohio on land that was a surface coal mine between 1940 and 1980. Due to the compaction of the surface mining process and reclamation following the mining, there is only about six inches of topsoil covering the ground in this area. We are contacting the US Fish and Wildlife Service to request any comments you may have related to any environmental impacts of this project on wildlife in the area. Attached are maps showing the locations of the proposed waterlines and the RV Campground. Please let us know if you have any questions or require additional information. Thanks.



OMEGA
OHIO MID-EASTERN GOVERNMENTS ASSOCIATION

Connecting Communities to Resources

Alan J. Knapp
ARC Program Manager
Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
326 Highland Avenue, Suite B
Cambridge, Ohio 43725
(740) 439-4471, ext. 211
alank@omegadistrict.org / www.omegadistrict.us

From: [Ohio, FW3](#)
To: [Alan Knapp](#)
Cc: [nathan.reardon@dnr.state.oh.us](#); [Parsons, Kate](#)
Subject: Water & Sewer Facilities Project for "The Wilds" New RV Campground, Muskingum County, Ohio
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 8:40:18 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)



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



TAILS# 03E15000-2022-TA-0181

Dear Mr. Knapp,

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

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

Seasonal Tree Clearing for Federally Listed Bat Species: Should the proposed project site contain trees ≥ 3 inches dbh, we recommend avoiding tree removal wherever possible. If any caves or abandoned mines may be disturbed, further coordination with this office is requested to determine if fall or spring portal surveys are warranted. If no caves or abandoned mines are present and trees ≥ 3 inches dbh cannot be avoided, we recommend removal of any trees ≥ 3 inches dbh only occur between October 1 and March 31. Seasonal clearing is recommended to avoid adverse effects to Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. While incidental take of northern long-eared bats from most tree clearing is exempted by a 4(d) rule (see <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/index.html>), incidental take of Indiana bats is still prohibited without a project-specific exemption. Thus, seasonal clearing is

recommended where Indiana bats are assumed present. If implementation of this seasonal tree cutting recommendation is not possible, a summer presence/absence survey may be conducted for Indiana bats. If Indiana bats are not detected during the survey, then tree clearing may occur at any time of the year. Surveys must be conducted by an approved surveyor and be designed and conducted in coordination with the Ohio Field Office. Surveyors must have a valid federal permit. Please note that in Ohio summer mist net surveys may only be conducted between June 1 and August 15.

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrice Ashfield". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "A".

Patrice Ashfield
Field Office Supervisor

cc: Nathan Reardon, ODNR-DOW
Kate Parsons, ODNR-DOW



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HUNTINGTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
502 EIGHTH STREET
HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25701-2070

November 5, 2021

Regulatory Division
North Branch
LRH-2021-905-MUS

Alan J. Knapp
ARC Program Manager
Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
326 Highland Avenue, Suite B
Cambridge, Ohio 43725

Mr. Knapp:

I refer to the *Wilds RV Campground Project* request sent to our office, dated October 25, 2021, with a request for comment on the proposed project. The proposed project is located at 14301 Chandlersville Road in the City of Chandlersville, Ohio at approximately 39.878659 latitude and -81.742616 longitude. We have assigned the following file number to your inquiry: LRH-2021-905-MUS. Please reference this file number on all future correspondence related to the subject project.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) authority to regulate waters of the United States is based on the definitions and limits of jurisdiction contained in 33 CFR 328 and 33 CFR 329. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (Section 404) requires a Department of the Army (DA) permit be obtained prior to discharging dredged and/or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (Section 10) requires a DA permit be obtained for any work in, on, over or under a navigable water.

Activities subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 may be authorized by a General Permit or an Individual Permit (IP). General Permits are issued nationwide or regionally for a category or categories of activities that are either similar in nature and cause only minimal individual and cumulative adverse impacts (Nationwide and Regional General Permits). There are currently 58 Nationwide Permits (NWP) with 32 general conditions used by the Corps to authorize projects resulting in minimal individual and cumulative adverse impacts. There are 42 NWPs that are valid until March 18, 2022 and can be found at:

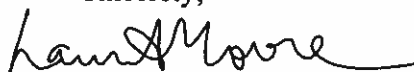
<http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Public-Notices/Article/1126355/lrh-2016-0006-oh/>. There are 16 NWPs that are valid until March 15, 2026 and can be found at: <https://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Public-Notices/Article/2527006/nationwide-permits-for-the-state-of-ohio/>.

Under the NWP, pre-construction notification (PCN) to the Corps for authorization is required in many cases and resource agency coordination (Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and Ohio State Historic Preservation Office) is required in some cases. Additionally, if threatened or endangered species or its critical habitat might be affected by the activity or is in the vicinity of the project; or if the activity may have the potential to cause effects to any historic properties listed, determined to be eligible for listing in, or potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, including previously unidentified properties, the applicant may not begin the activity until notified by the Corps that the requirements of the Endangered Species Act and/or the National Historic Preservation Act have been satisfied and that the activity is authorized. Further, if the proposed activity requires a written waiver to exceed specified limits of certain NWPs the applicant cannot begin the activity until the Corps approves a waiver (case-by-case basis). NWP General Condition 32(b) and (c) and Regional Condition 6 outline the information that must be included in a PCN.

Activities that do not qualify for authorization under the General Permit program may qualify for authorization by a Standard IP. Authorization under an IP may be obtained only through application (ENG Form 4345) with the Corps. These permits are issued for activities that have more than minimal adverse impacts to waters of the United States and evaluation of each permit application involves more thorough review of the potential environmental effects of the proposed activity upon the public interest. The Corps may not issue a permit if the proposed project is not in the public interest, is not in compliance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Section 404(b)(1) guidelines (this does not apply to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 only activities), is not in compliance with other laws (such as Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act), would result in significant degradation of the aquatic environment (net after mitigation), or if the proposed mitigation is not determined to be adequate.

Enclosed are checklists for: applications for individual DA permits; preparing a PCN; and preparing a compensatory mitigation plan. We appreciate your concern for our nation's aquatic resources. We are available for pre-application consultation. If you have any questions regarding the information in this letter or the enclosures, please contact Andrew Wendt by phone at (513) 825-4518 or via email at andrew.j.wendt@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,



Laurie A. Moore
Regulatory Project Manager
North Branch

Enclosures

Alan Knapp

From: Alan Knapp
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 11:05 AM
To: Black, Rebecca L CIV USARMY CELRH (US)
Subject: Environmental Review, The Wilds RV Campground Project
Attachments: National Wetland Inventory Map.jpg; FIRMETTE_39028f1 Wilds Flood Plain Map.pdf; The Wilds Campgrounds overview sheet Water.jpg; Surface Mines of Ohio Map.pdf

Rebecca-

OMEGA is assisting the Wilds with an Environmental Review required for their grant application to the Economic Development Administration (EDA). The Wilds is requesting federal funding to construct water and sanitary sewer facilities for a proposed 75-unit Recreational Vehicle Campground north of State Route 146 in Rich Hill Township in Muskingum County, Ohio. The site, like much of the remainder of the 10,000 acre animal safari park, is a former surface coal mine, and all of the ground has been previously disturbed. However, as shown on the National Wetland Inventory map, there are ponds and some wetlands nearby. The construction of this grant project will have no impact on the ponds or wetland near the campground site. We are providing this project description and maps to the US Army Corps of Engineers, to provide an opportunity to comment on potential environmental impacts of this project. Please let us know if you have any questions or require additional information. Thank you very much.



OMEGA
OHIO MID-EASTERN GOVERNMENTS ASSOCIATION

Connecting Communities to Resources

Alan J. Knapp
ARC Program Manager
Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
326 Highland Avenue, Suite B
Cambridge, Ohio 43725
(740) 439-4471, ext. 211
alank@omegadistrict.org / www.omegadistrict.us



Ohio Department of Natural Resources

MIKE DeWINE, GOVERNOR

MARY MERTZ, DIRECTOR

Office of Real Estate

John Kessler, Chief

2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2

Columbus, OH 43229

Phone: (614) 265-6621

Fax: (614) 267-4764

November 12, 2021

Alan Knapp
Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association
326 Highland Avenue, Suite B
Cambridge, Ohio 43725

Re: 21-0967; The Wilds RV Campground Project

Project: The proposed project involves the construction of water and sanitary sewer lines to the proposed 75-unit campground at the Wilds.

Location: The proposed project is located in Rich Hill Township, Muskingum County, Ohio.

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

Natural Heritage Database: The Natural Heritage Database has the following data at or within a one mile radius of the project area:

Eastern box turtle (*Terrapene carolina*), SC
Barn owl (*Tyto alba*), T

The review was performed on the project area specified in the request as well as an additional one mile radius. Records searched date from 1980. This information is provided to inform you of features present within your project area and vicinity. Additional comments on some of the features may be found in pertinent sections below.

Please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed and we rely on receiving information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for any particular area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area. Although all types of plant communities have been surveyed, we only maintain records on the highest quality areas.

Statuses are defined as: E = state endangered; T = state threatened; P = state potentially threatened; SC = state species of concern; SI = state special interest; U = state status under review; X = presumed extirpated in Ohio; FE = federal endangered, and FT = federal threatened.

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

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

The entire state of Ohio is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally threatened species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer (April 1 through September 30), these species of bats predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut, the DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH ≥ 20 if possible. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a mist net survey or acoustic survey be conducted from June 1 through August 15, prior to any cutting. Mist net and acoustic surveys should be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of the “OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING”. If state listed bats are documented, DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31. However, limited summer tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW (contact Erin Hazelton at Erin.hazelton@dnr.ohio.gov).

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment is conducted, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if a potential hibernaculum is present within the project area. Direction on how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS “Range-wide Indiana Bat Survey Guidelines.” If a habitat assessment finds that a potential hibernaculum is present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Erin Hazelton for project recommendations. If a potential or known hibernaculum is found, the DOW recommends a 0.25-mile tree cutting and subsurface disturbance buffer around the hibernaculum entrance, however, limited summer or winter tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the following listed mussel species.

Federally Endangered

fanshell (*Cyprogenia stegaria*)
sheepnose (*Plethobasus cyphus*)
snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*)

Federally Threatened

rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*)

State Endangered

long-solid (*Fusconaia maculata maculata*)
Ohio pigtoe (*Pleurobema cordatum*)
sharp-ridged pocketbook (*Lampsilis ovata*)
wartyback (*Quadrula nodulata*),

State Threatened

black sandshell (*Ligumia recta*)

fawnsfoot (*Truncilla donaciformis*)
threehorn wartyback (*Obliquaria reflexa*)

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

The project is within the range of the following listed fish species.

State Endangered

northern madtom (*Noturus stigmosus*)

State Threatened

American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*)
blue sucker (*Cycleptus elongatus*)
channel darter (*Percina copelandi*)
mountain madtom (*Noturus eleutherus*)
paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*)

The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact these or other aquatic species.

The project is within the range of the eastern hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*), a state endangered species and a federal species of concern. This long-lived, entirely aquatic salamander inhabits perennial streams with large flat rocks. In-water work in hellbender streams can reduce availability of large cover rocks and can destroy hellbender nests and/or kill adults and juveniles. The contribution of additional sediment to hellbender streams can smother large cover rocks and gravel/cobble substrate (used by juveniles), making them unsuitable for refuge and nesting. Projects that contribute to altered flow regimes (e.g., by increasing areas of impervious surfaces or modifying the floodplain) can also adversely affect hellbender habitat. Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream of sufficient size to provide suitable habitat, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is also within the range of the eastern spadefoot toad (*Scaphiopus holbrookii*), a state endangered species. This species is found in areas of sandy soils that are associated with river valleys. Breeding habitats may include flooded agricultural fields or other water holding depressions. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the black tern (*Chlidonias niger*), a state endangered bird. The black tern prefers large, undisturbed inland marshes with fairly dense vegetation and pockets of open water. They nest in various kinds of marsh vegetation but cattail marshes are generally favored. Nests are built on top of muskrat houses or on top of floating vegetation. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat from April 1 through June 30 to reduce impacts to this species. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonis*), a state endangered bird. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species'

nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis*), a state threatened species. Sandhill cranes are primarily a wetland-dependent species. On their wintering grounds, they will utilize agricultural fields; however, they roost in shallow, standing water or moist bottomlands. On breeding grounds they require a rather large tract of wet meadow, shallow marsh, or bog for nesting. If grassland, prairie, or wetland habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 1 through August 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to have an impact on this species.

The project is within the range of the trumpeter swan (*Cygnus buccinator*), a state threatened bird. Trumpeter swans prefer large marshes and lakes ranging in size from 40 to 150 acres. They like shallow wetlands one to three feet deep with a diverse mix of plenty of emergent and submergent vegetation and open water. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through June 15. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to have an impact on this species.

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

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

The local floodplain administrator should be contacted concerning the possible need for any floodplain permits or approvals for this project. Your local floodplain administrator contact information can be found at the website below.

http://water.ohiodnr.gov/portals/soilwater/pdf/floodplain/Floodplain%20Manager%20Community%20Contact%20List_8_16.pdf

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

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator (Acting)