



R. L. Harris Hydroelectric Project

FERC No. 2628

HAT 2 (Water Quality & Erosion/Sedimentation)

Stakeholder Meeting Summary

September 11, 2019
11:00 am to 11:45 am
Oxford Civic Center, Oxford, AL

Participants:

See Attachment A

Participants by Phone:

Maria Clark – Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Atlanta

Chuck Denman – Downstream Property Owner

Sarah Salazar – Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

Action Items:

- Alabama Power will post the HAT 2 meeting summary and all meeting materials to the Harris Relicensing website (www.harrisrelicensing.com)
- Alabama Power will make a link to the Google Earth files of identified erosion and sedimentation sites, as well as identified water quality hotspots, available on Harris Relicensing website

Summary

The Harris Action Team (HAT) 2 (Water Quality & Erosion/Sedimentation) met on September 11, 2019. The meeting presentation is included in Attachment B; therefore, this meeting summary focuses on the overall meeting purpose, highlights of the presentation, and stakeholders' questions/comments and Alabama Power's responses.

Introduction – Angie Anderegg (Alabama Power)

Angie reviewed the HAT 2 meeting purpose, safety procedures, and introduced the participants in the meeting room and on the phone via Skype. The purpose of the HAT 2 meeting was to finalize the erosion and sedimentation sites and to provide an update on the water quality data collection.

Erosion and Sedimentation Study – Jason Moak (Kleinschmidt)

Jason reviewed the study plan goal and scope and reminded HAT 2 stakeholders that Alabama Power, on May 1, 2019, distributed a map (see Attachment C) and request for input to the erosion and sedimentation sites. Jason noted that Alabama Power didn't receive any additional erosion and sedimentation sites other than those sites previously identified by stakeholders, Alabama Power surveillance contractors, and agencies. Jason stated that Alabama Power's next step is to assess each site with certified erosion specialists and record the assessment results on the survey form (attached to the May 2019 Final Study Plan). Alabama Power will complete the Lake Harris erosion and sedimentation assessment once Lake Harris reaches winter pool in fall/winter 2019.

Jason explained that Trutta Environmental Solutions completed the downstream soils and erosion survey from Harris Dam to Jaybird Landing and that Trutta's report will be available in first quarter (Q1) 2020. Barry Morris (Lake Wedowee Property Owners Association -LWPOA) noted there were no sites on the Big Tallapoosa and asked if stakeholders could provide

additional erosion/sedimentation sites for Alabama Power to consider. Jason responded yes but that stakeholders should do so in today's meeting or very soon after, because Alabama Power is gearing up for the field work on Lake Harris in October. During the discussion, Barry realized the site he was going to request be added was already in the sedimentation and erosion site list. Harry Merrill (LWPOA) indicated that there is a lot of sedimentation at Fosters Bridge. Jason noted that Fosters Bridge is part of the erosion and sedimentation evaluation. Jason provided a Google Earth "tour" of all the erosion and sedimentation sites that are part of this study. Angie Anderegg told the group that the Google Earth "tour" would be available on the Harris Relicensing website (Note: Rather than place the Google Earth file on the website, the data can be viewed in a web browser here:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1mv1mUDi6CSUbFV5K38fCZmWuOxJDwLcW&usp=sharing>. The data can also be downloaded from this link for use in Google Earth).

Albert Eiland (Downstream property owner) explained that the pulsing – river going up and down "like a washboard" - is causing a lot of erosion downstream. Jason noted there are many causes of erosion and that the erosion/sedimentation assessment form has an area for the assessor to indicate possible causes of the erosion. Angie noted that this study serves to collect baseline information that will inform the other operations studies, for example, to determine if a change in the winter pool would affect the frequency or magnitude of downstream flooding, which may cause additional erosion. Albert prefers continuous flows where what is coming into the reservoir is going out. Jason explained that the Harris Project was not designed to be "run-of-river" but that he recognizes the desire for a steady flow.

Barry Morris asked Jason what Alabama Power will do with the assessment when completed. In other words, what types of mitigation/enhancement measures will Alabama Power implement? Jason noted that Alabama Power will determine if the erosion/sedimentation site has reached equilibrium, is worsening, is vegetated, or needs additional monitoring before determining next steps. Sarah Salazar (FERC) stated that the current assessment form doesn't have anywhere to note the width of the vegetative/riparian zone. She asked if Alabama Power could include this on the assessment form. Alabama Power agreed to add the riparian/vegetative zone width to the assessment form to ensure that all assessors consistently report this feature. Angie and Jason also noted that Alabama Power will upload the map (and associated Google Earth files) to the Harris Relicensing website. Barry also asked Jason to explain #7 on the assessment form ("Description of Exposed Soils including Types and Depths"). Jason responded that sometimes you can see a layer of sand, silt, and/or rock, and the assessors would include this description on the form. Jason also noted that aerial and water observations will inform Alabama Power of the adjacent land activities.

Water Quality Study – Jason Moak (Kleinschmidt)

Jason reviewed the study goal, geographic scope, and the components of this study. He noted that ADEM agreed to a generation monitoring site about 800 feet downstream of Harris Dam. Alabama Power has also installed a continuous monitor about ½ mile downstream of Harris Dam. Jason reviewed some of the existing data and other monitoring locations (i.e., Malone gage). Jason Carlee (Alabama Power) noted that Alabama Power maintains the monitors about every 10 days. On May 1, 2019, Alabama Power asked HAT 2 stakeholders to send in any areas of water quality concern; Alabama Power did not receive additional areas of water quality concern. Jason noted that Fosters Bridge is the one area that had been previously identified as having potential water quality concerns. Barry Morris asked that if the chicken processing plant was reopened in the future, would that activity be under the Alabama Department of

Environmental Management's (ADEM) regulatory authority. Jason responded yes, and there would likely be a public comment period. Harry Merrill noted that a big cattle operation was creating a lot of pollution on the Big Tallapoosa where it crosses the 431 Bridge (below Hollis Crossroads). Sheila Smith (Alabama Power) noted this area is near the existing canoe put in site. Harry believes that fish are not in this area. He also noted that the chicken litter on the pastures combined with the cows entering the water at this location has resulted in a very polluted site. Jason noted that this site is one that was identified for further water quality evaluation.

Barry Morris asked if temperature is going to be addressed in a different HAT. Jason responded that Alabama Power is collecting temperature data at all 20 level logger sites on the Tallapoosa River below Harris Dam. Auburn University and ADEM are also collecting temperature data. Sarah Salazar noted that there are a couple of freshwater mussels on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) list and advised Alabama Power to check area water quality if any of these species were found within the Harris Project Boundary. Jason commented that there is at least one threatened and endangered (T&E) that occurs upstream of the Harris Project Boundary. The HAT 3 (T&E) is aware of the presence of this mussel upstream of the Harris Project and is planning accordingly.

Maria Clark (EPA) noted that the EPA recommends year-round monitoring for at least one full year and also noted that one year of monitoring water quality may not be enough data. She indicated that EPA will send an official request on the monitoring. Maria added that EPA had previously made this comment, and it had not been incorporated into the Harris Water Quality Study Plan. Jason responded that the comment period for the Harris study plans was extensive and that FERC approved the study plans in April 2019. Alabama Power is not planning to monitor year-round. Jason indicated that based on years of experience, studies from other projects, and water quality experts, it is atypical for dissolved oxygen to be adversely affected during the winter months in the southeast, USA. Maria indicated that EPA would send their comments to Angie on the need for long-term, year-round water quality monitoring during the Harris relicensing process.

Donna Matthews asked how far north Alabama Power would look to see if the endangered mussel exists around the Highway 431 Bridge and the Harris Project Boundary. Jason noted that Alabama Power does not control the water quality or quantity coming into Lake Harris. If there are non-point source water quality issues above the Harris Project, the regulating entities would be responsible for addressing effects on mussel populations outside of the Harris Project Boundary.

Albert Eiland noted that his cousin, Chuck Denman, has commented that, if you have an open wound (i.e., cut), you should not get into the Tallapoosa River. He stated it is likely to get infected.

The meeting concluded at 11:50 am.

ATTACHMENT A
HARRIS ACTION TEAM 2 MEETING ATTENDEES



HARRIS PROJECT RELICENSING

HAT 2 SIGN-IN SHEET

September 11, 2019 9:00 AM

Name/ Affiliation or Organization	Email
1 John Smith/ Stakeholder	jsmith@email.com
2 Thomas H. Jones / APC	twstjohn@southernco.com
3 Fred Leslie	fal@adem.alabama.gov
4 Jennifer Raspberry	
5 Jason Carlee	
6 Jennifer Haslbauer	jhaslbauer@adem.alabama.gov
7 David Moore	
8 Nathan Aycock	
9 Mike Holley	
10 David Smith	
11 Glenell Smith	
12 Kristie Coffman	



HARRIS PROJECT RELICENSING

HAT 2 SIGN-IN SHEET

September 11, 2019 9:00 AM

Name/ Affiliation or Organization		Email
13	Josh Verby APC	
14	Tacanya Goar ADCNR	
15	Mitch Red TNC	
16	Kelly Yates, Env. Affairs	kyates@southernco.com
17	Tom GARLAND	
18	Donna Matthews	
19	ALBERT EILAND	
20	Stan Nelson, Nelson & Co	s nelson
21	Joe Stevens	
22	Tracy Stevens	
23	Tina Freeman	
24	Sheila Smith	



HARRIS PROJECT RELICENSING

HAT 2 SIGN-IN SHEET

September 11, 2019 9:00 AM

	Name/ Affiliation or Organization	Email
25	Stacy Thompson APC	
26	Barry Morris	
27	Stacey Graham	
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ATTACHMENT B
SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 HAT 2 PRESENTATION

R.L. Harris Project Relicensing

HAT 2 Meeting

September 11, 2019



Erosion and Sedimentation Study



Goal

Identify any problematic erosion sites and sedimentation areas and determine the likely causes

Geographic Scope

Little Coon Creek and Crow Creek Watersheds at Skyline, Lake Harris, and the Tallapoosa River from Harris Dam downstream through Horseshoe Bend.

Study Components

- Identify erosion and sedimentation sites
- Assess sites using a qualified Erosion and Sediment Control Professional
- Assess bank erosion susceptibility in Tallapoosa River from Harris Dam through Horseshoe Bend
- Assess sedimentation sites by examining available lake photography and data (LIDAR) and analyzing with Geographic Information System (GIS)

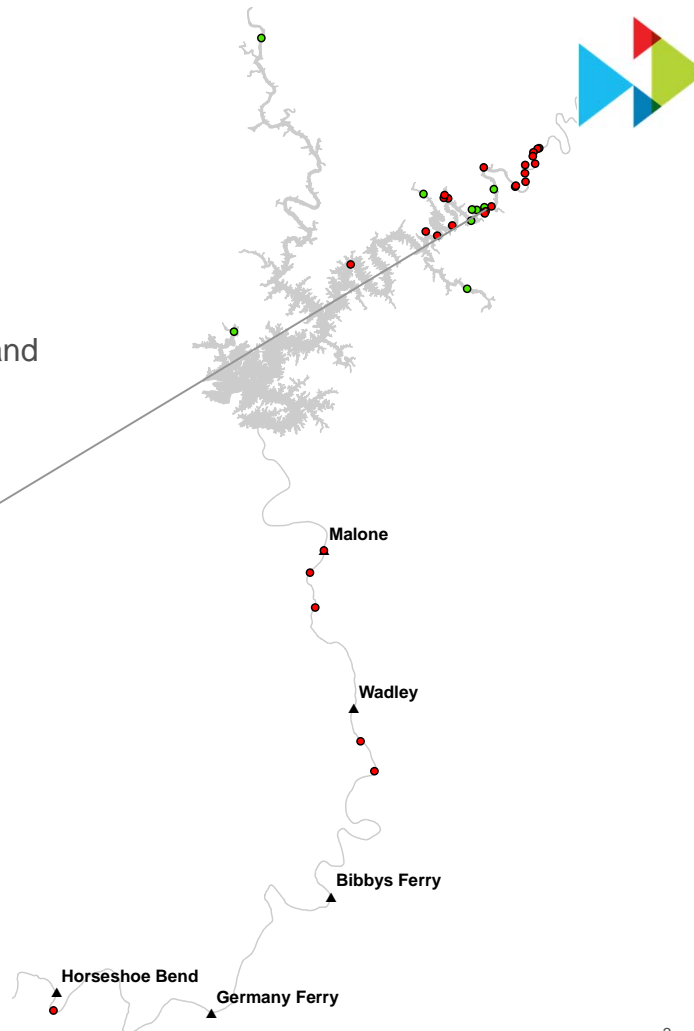
Study Sites

Erosion (red dots)

- 21 sites on Lake Harris
 - All on Little Tallapoosa arm of lake
 - 17 sites upstream of 431
- 6 sites on Tallapoosa between Harris Dam and Horseshoe Bend

Sedimentation (green dots)

- 9 sites on Lake Harris



E & S Study Schedule



Task/Milestone	2019												2020												2021			
	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR			
Downstream Bank Erosion Assessment	■																											
Develop GIS Overlays and Maps			■		■																							
Meet to Review Final Site List						■																						
Progress Update							■																					
Field Assessments							■																					
Draft Study Report													■															
Initial Study Report & Meeting													■															
Meetings as needed													■												■			
Final Study Report													■												■			
Updated Study Report & Meeting													■												■			

Water Quality Study



Goal

Supplement the 2018 Baseline Water Quality Report; identify and assess potential areas of water quality concern.

Geographic Scope

Lake Harris and its tributaries; Tallapoosa River from Harris Dam through Horseshoe Bend; Little Coon Creek and Crow Creek watersheds at Skyline.

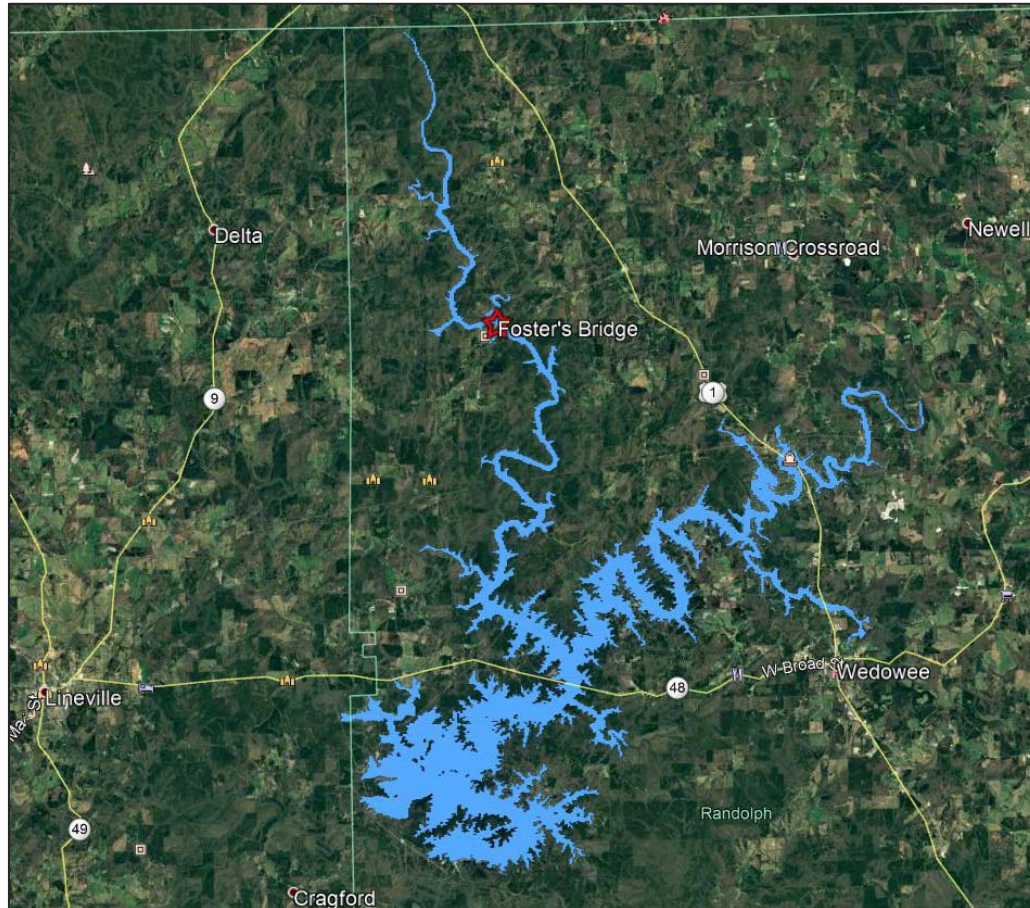
Study Components

- Monitor dissolved oxygen and temperature during generation at the existing site 800 ft downstream of Harris Dam (June 1 – October 31)
- Monitor dissolved oxygen and temperature continuously at new location 0.5 miles downstream of Dam (March 1 – October 31)
- Collect monthly vertical profiles of dissolved oxygen and temperature in reservoir forebay (March – October)
- Identify and assess areas in reservoir where water quality may be degraded
- Compile new data from other credible sources (e.g., USGS, ADEM, AWW)

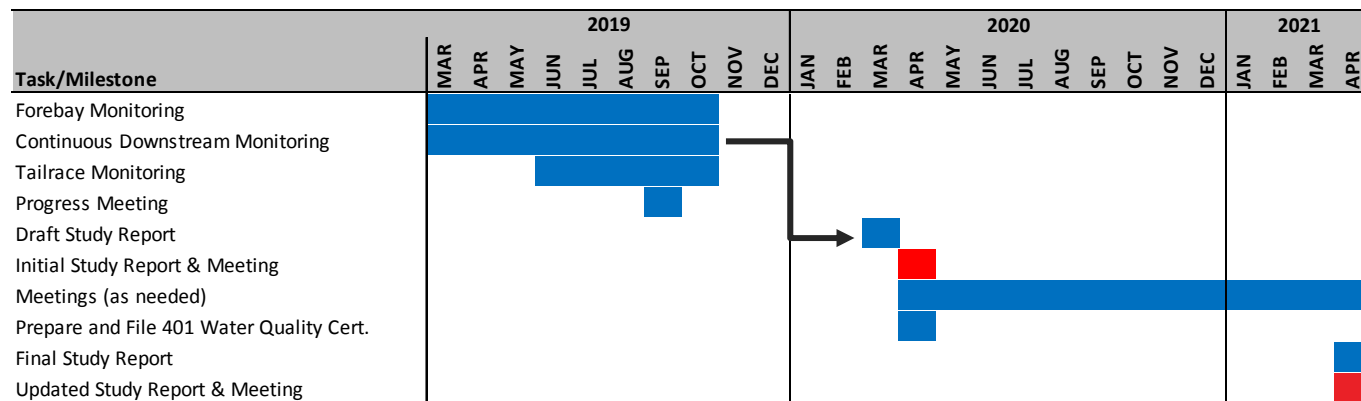
Monitoring Locations



Areas of Concern

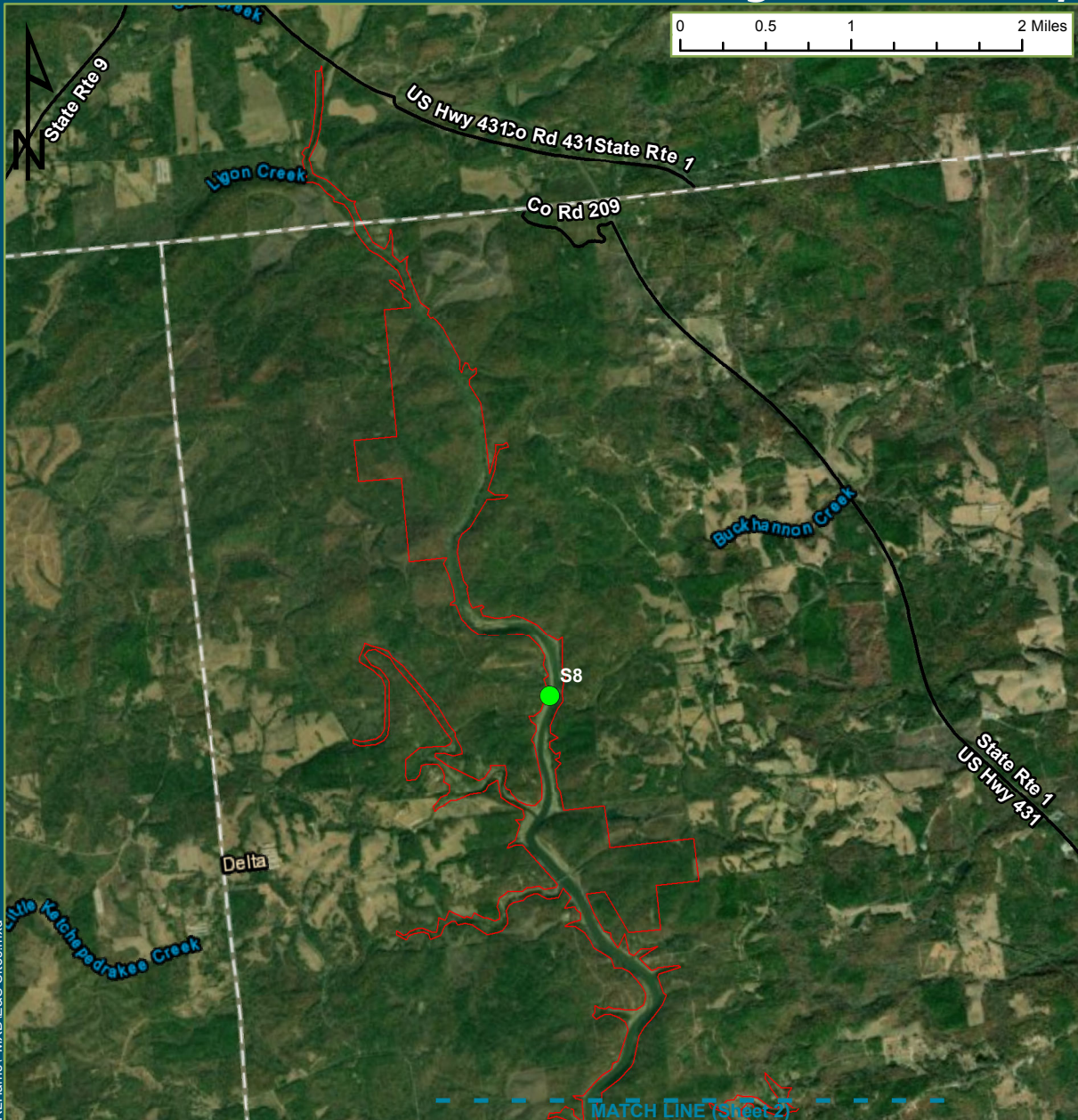


Study Schedule

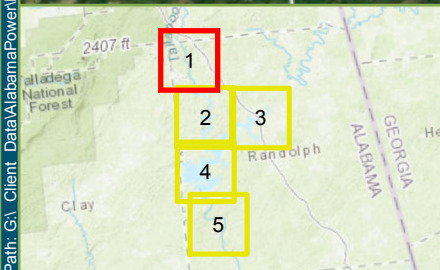


ATTACHMENT C
HAT 2 MAP OF EROSION/SEDIMENTATION STUDY SITES

Monitoring Location Map



Path: G:\Client Data\AlabamaPower\RL Harris\1 MXD\IE&S Sites.mxd



Legend

- Sedimentation
- Erosion
- Match Line
- Road
- Project Boundary

Alabama Power Company
Birmingham, AL

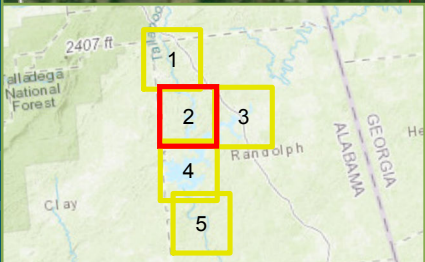
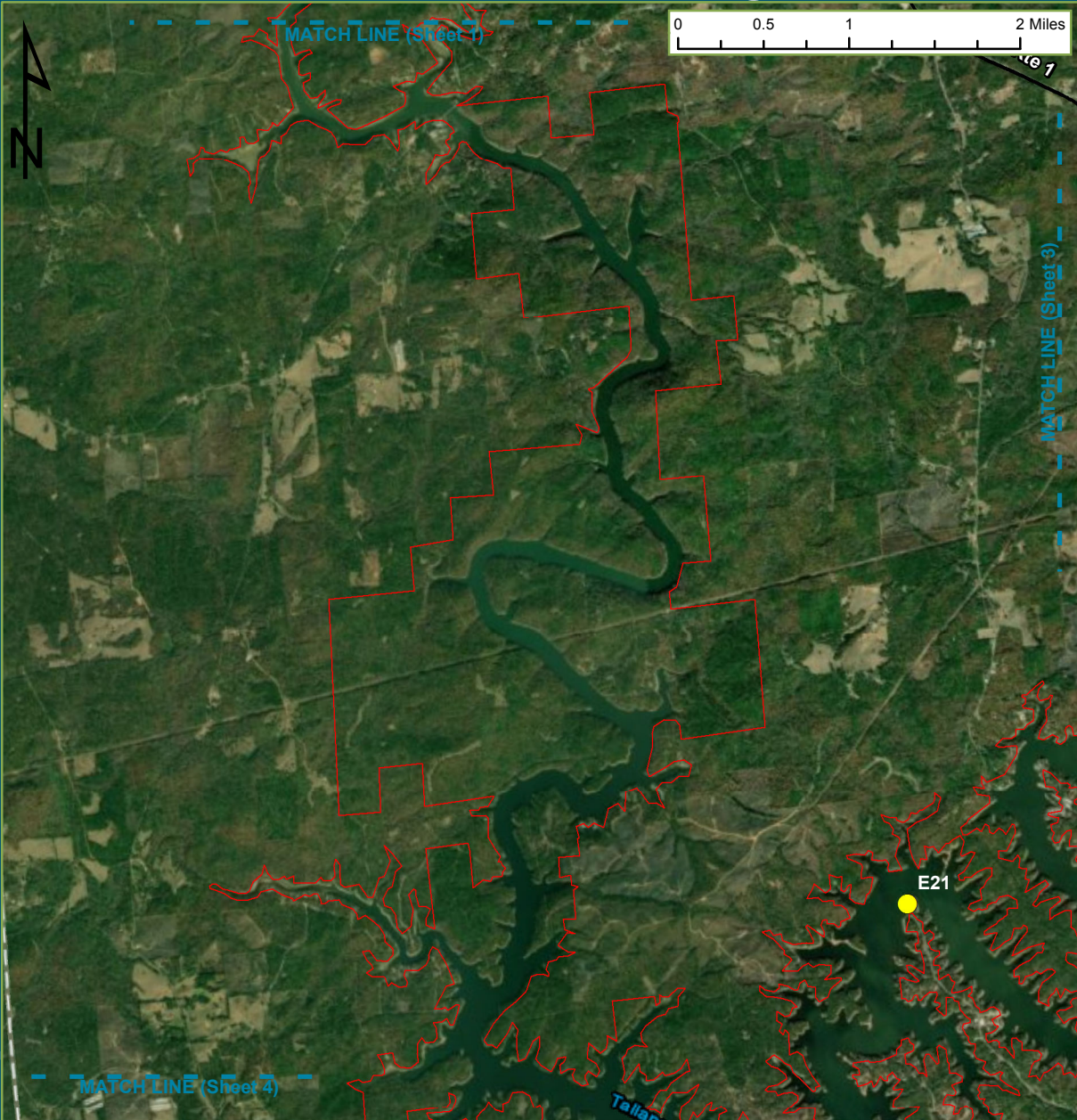
R.L. Harris Project
FERC Project No. 2628

Drawn By: JJJ	Date Drawn: 4/24/19	Checked By: XXX	Date Checked: 4/24/2019
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Kleinschmidt

141 Main St., PO Box 650
Pittsfield, Maine 04967
Telephone: (207) 487-3328
Fax: (207) 487-3124
www.KleinschmidtGroup.com

Monitoring Location Map



Legend

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Birmingham, AL

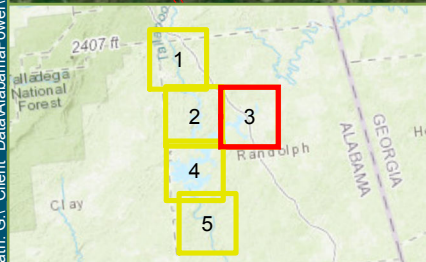
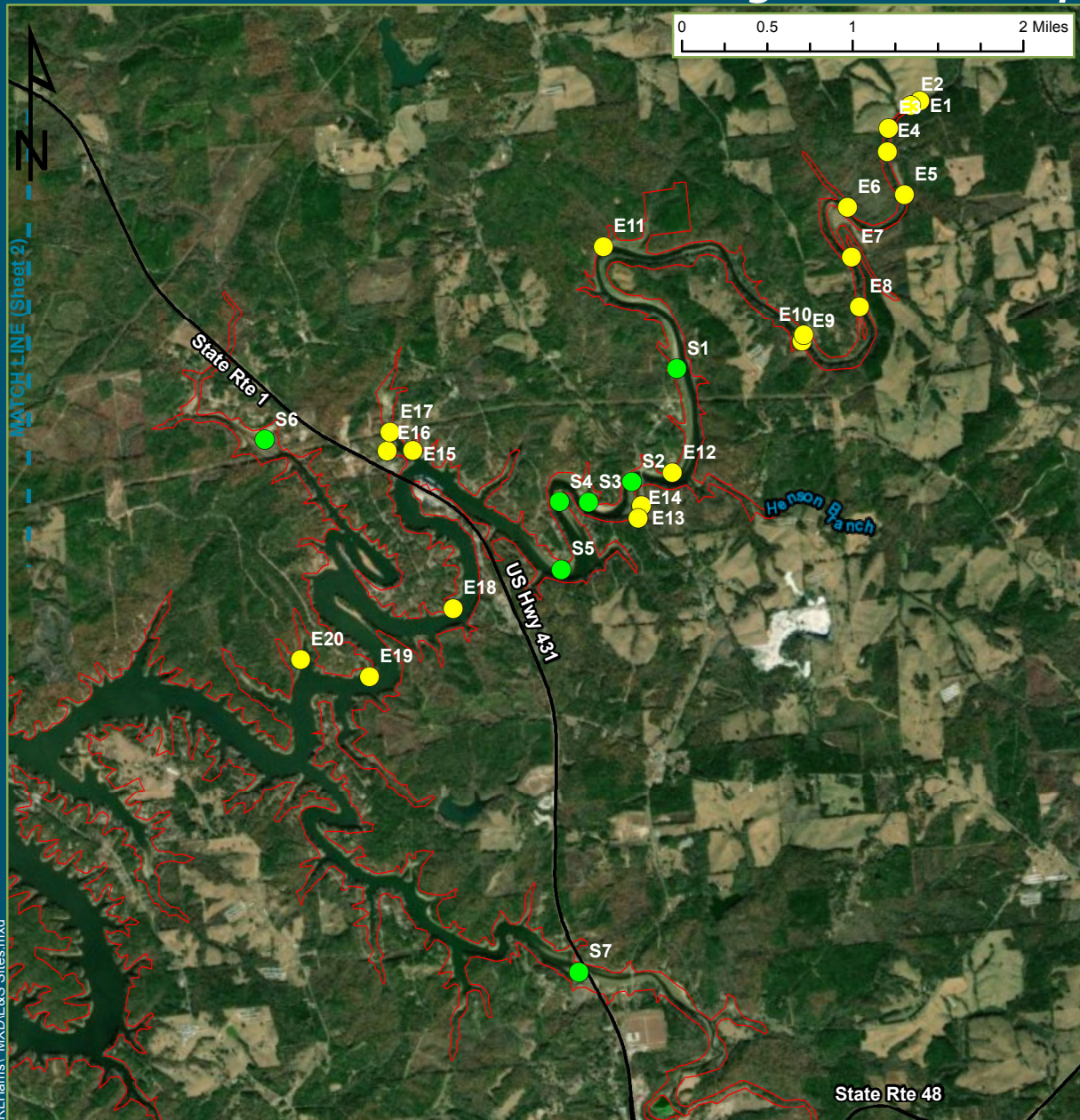
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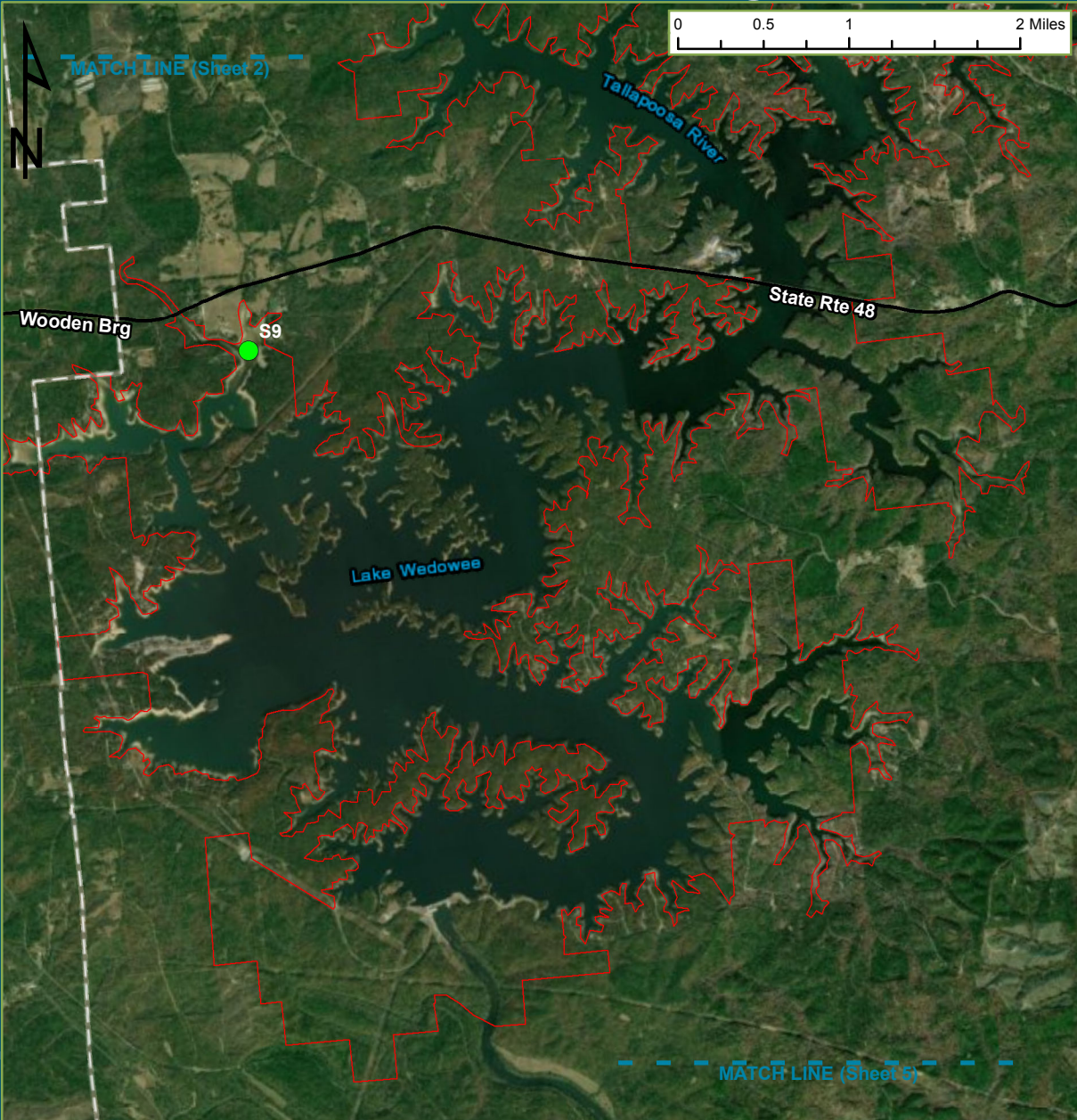
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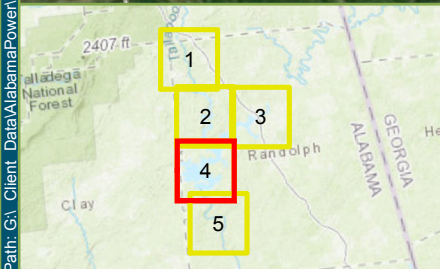
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Birmingham, AL

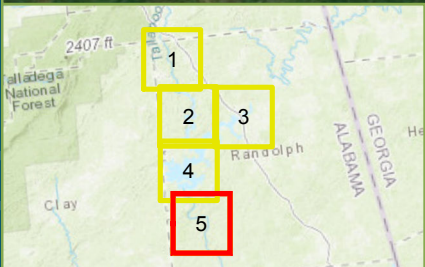
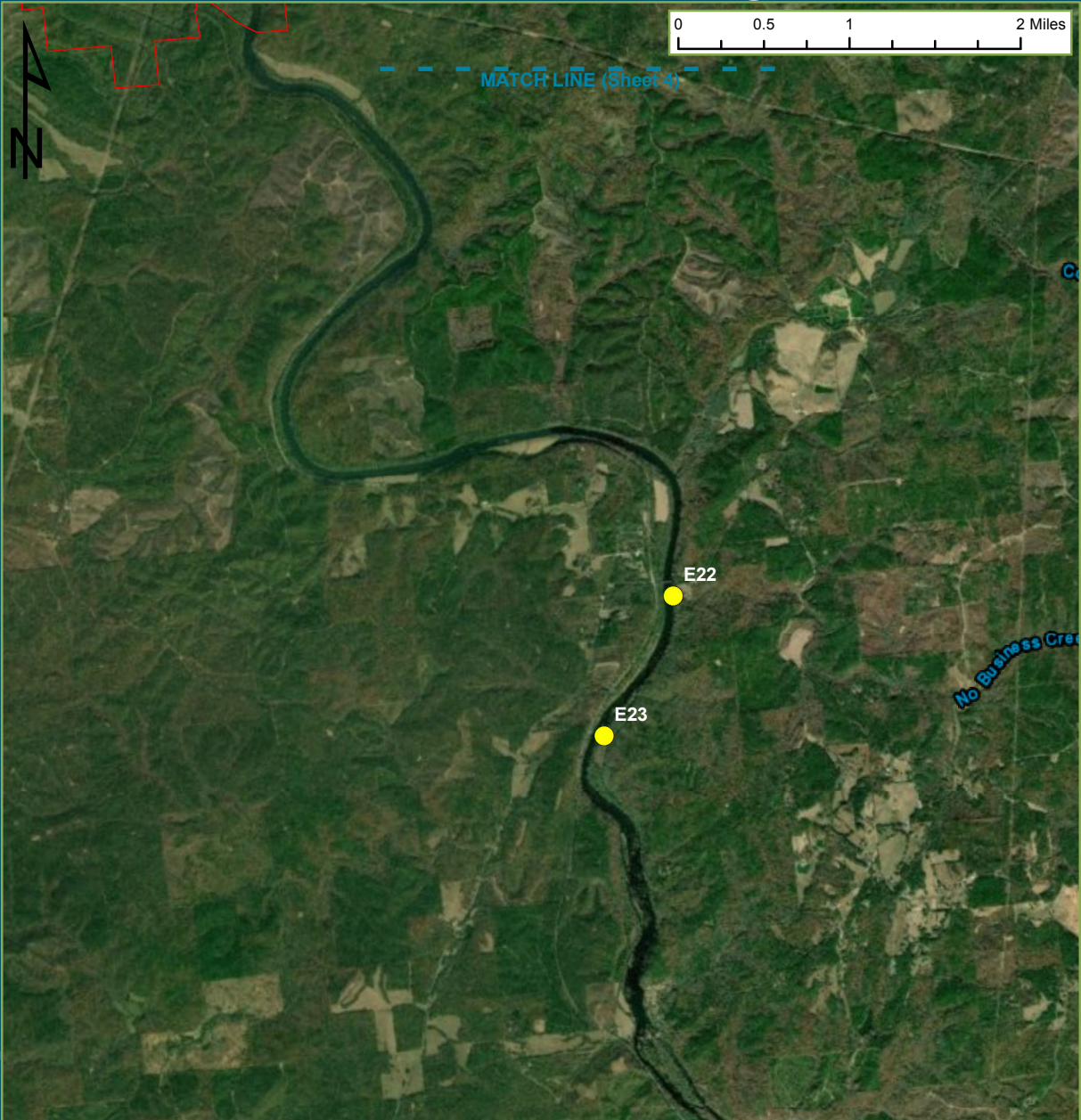
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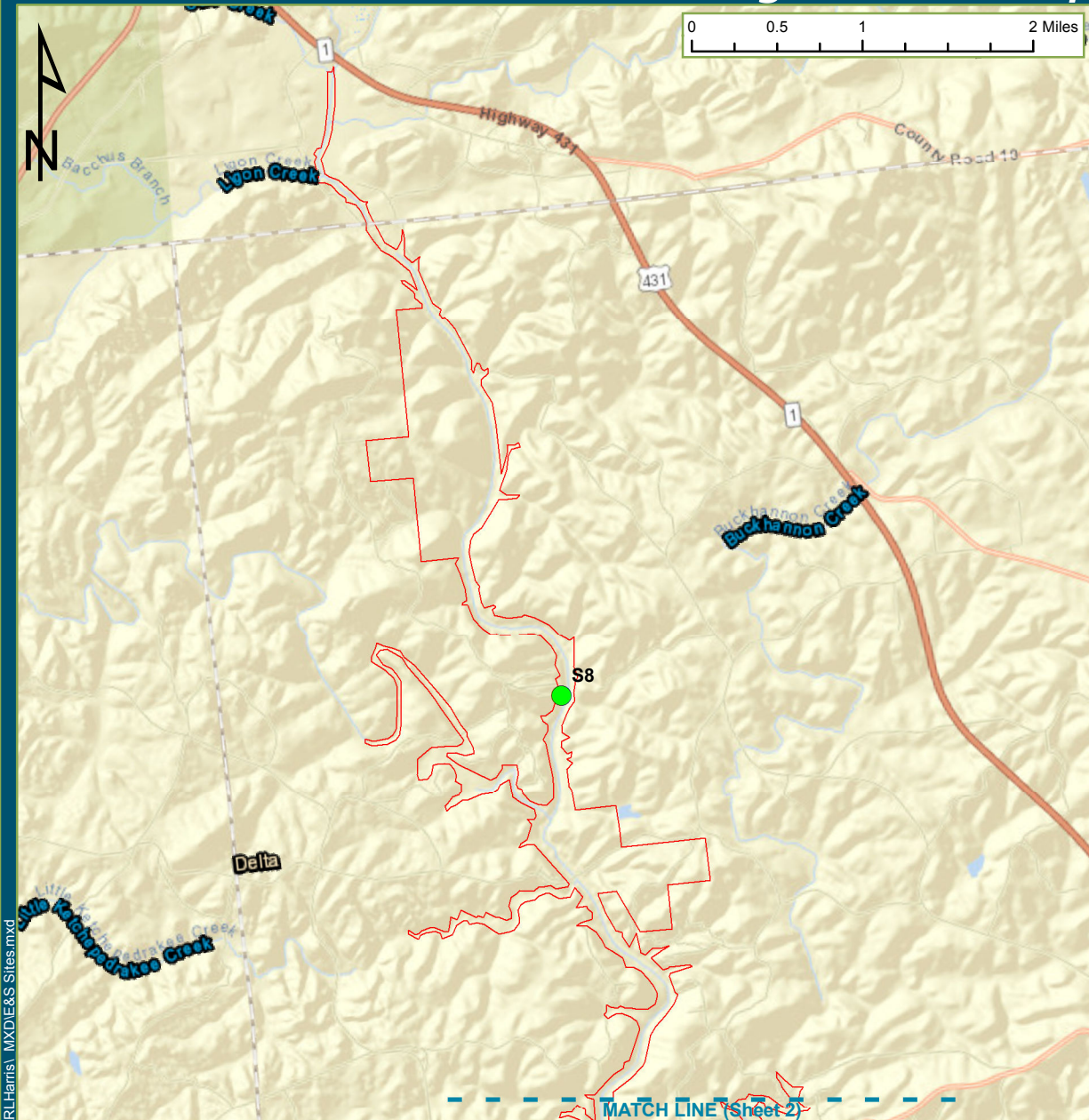
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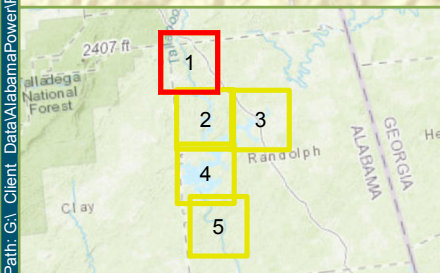
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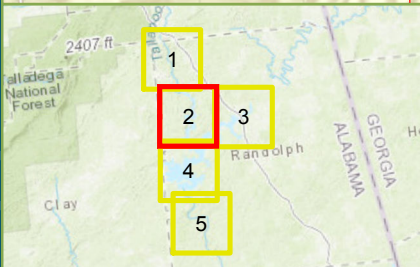
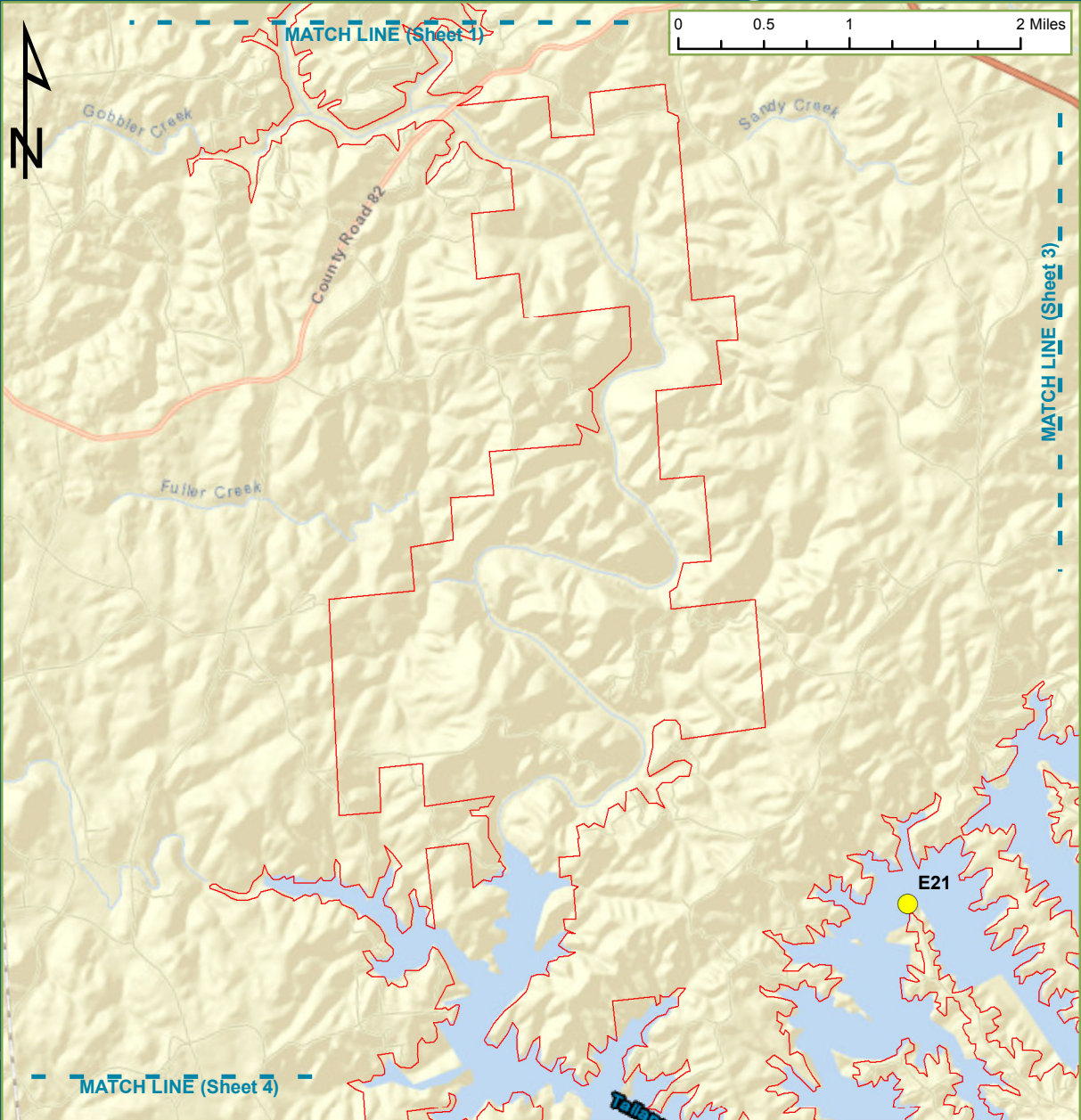
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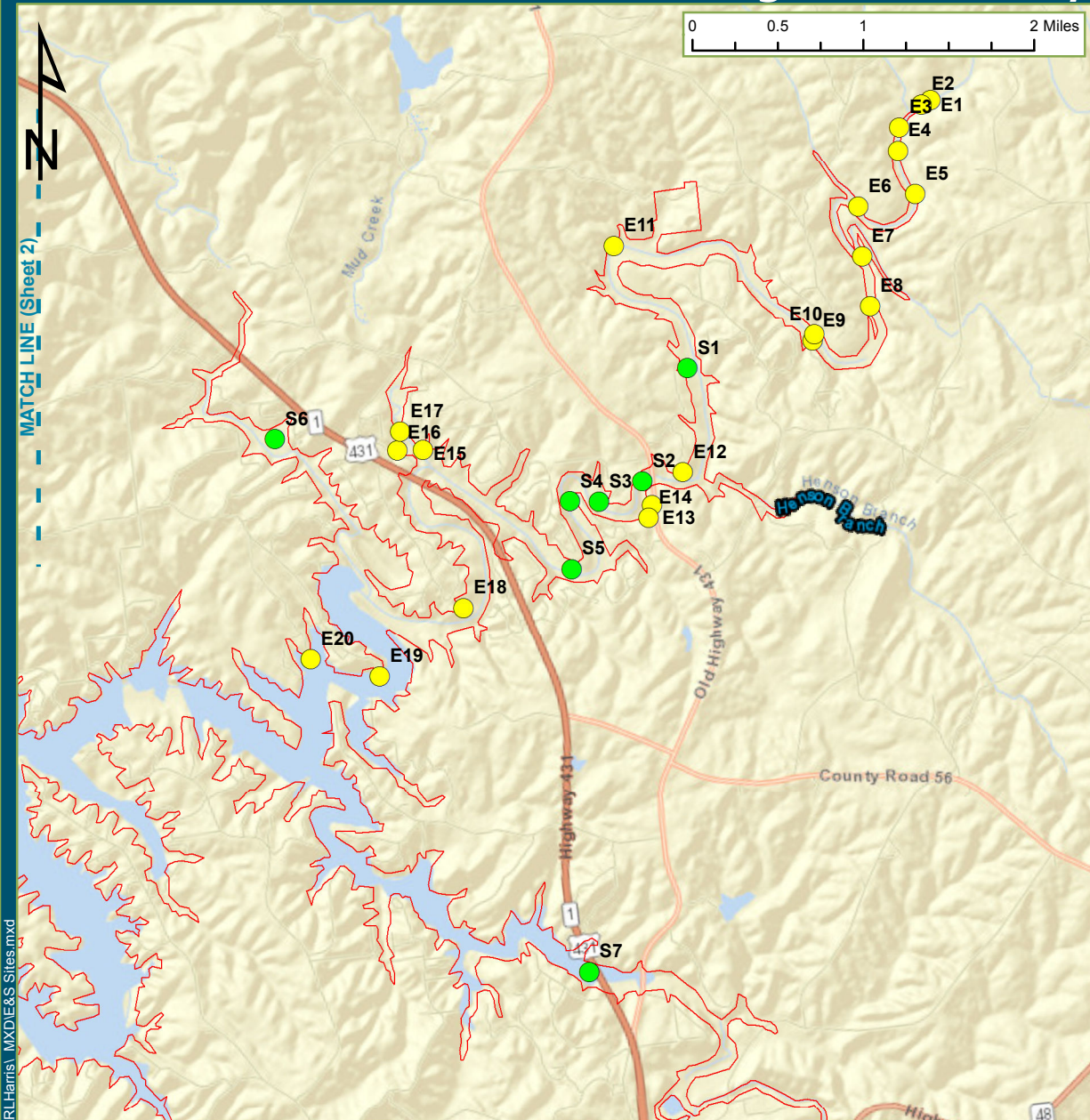
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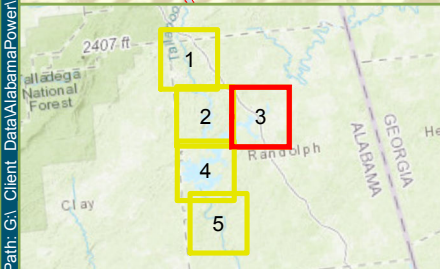
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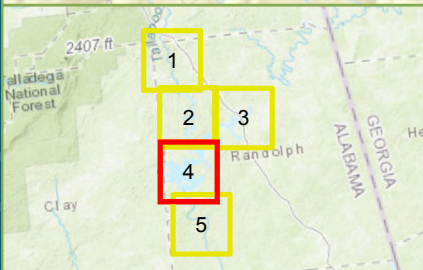
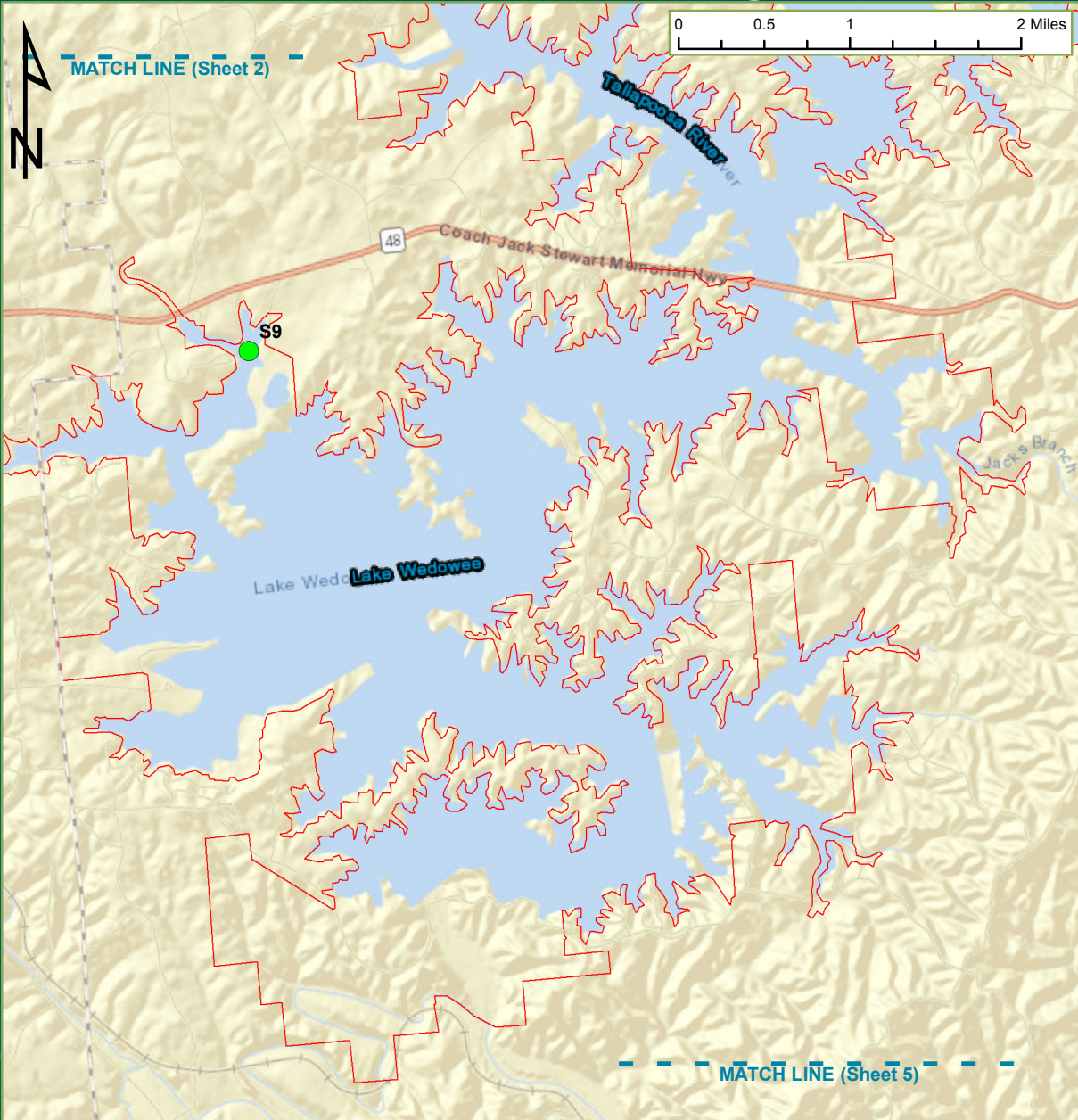
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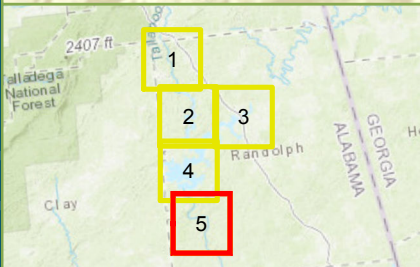
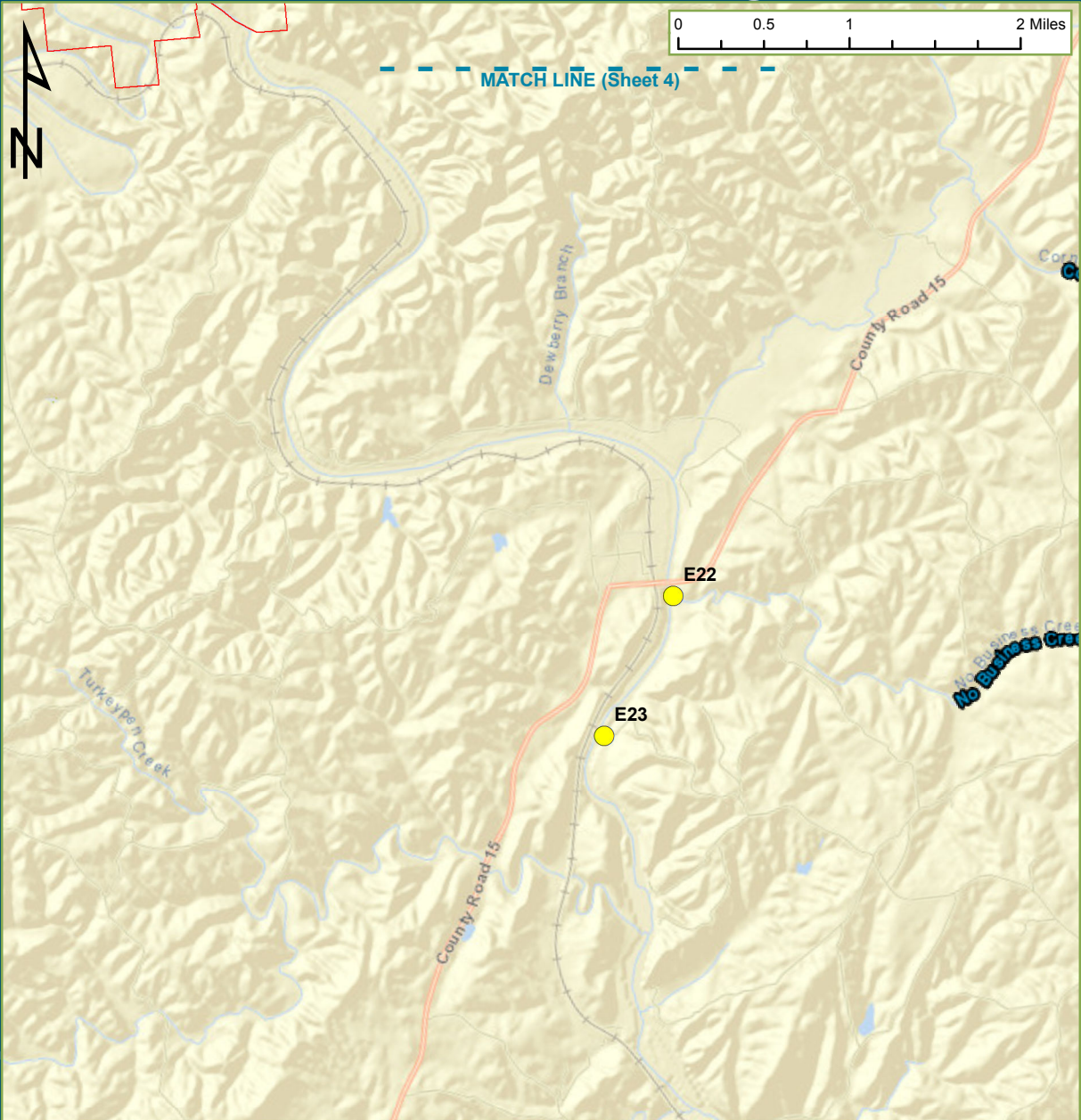
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R.L. Harris Project
Erosion Sedimentation Study
Draft Site List
May 1, 2019

Name	Type	Latitude	Longitude
S1	Sedimentation	33.37624948	-85.47166235
S2	Sedimentation	33.36719999	-85.47747307
S3	Sedimentation	33.36590337	-85.48206374
S4	Sedimentation	33.36621704	-85.48497203
S5	Sedimentation	33.36051157	-85.48560019
S6	Sedimentation	33.37431997	-85.5138457
S7	Sedimentation	33.3264078	-85.4885445
S8	Sedimentation	33.45383479	-85.60980855
S9	Sedimentation	33.30647091	-85.62855097
E1	Erosion	33.39648716	-85.44412236
E2	Erosion	33.39618116	-85.44512448
E3	Erosion	33.39447905	-85.44762594
E4	Erosion	33.39252729	-85.44796667
E5	Erosion	33.38869558	-85.44676742
E6	Erosion	33.38816557	-85.4526412
E7	Erosion	33.38399233	-85.45284646
E8	Erosion	33.3797199	-85.45259528
E9	Erosion	33.37732425	-85.45878731
E10	Erosion	33.37784798	-85.45851087
E11	Erosion	33.38726919	-85.47760635
E12	Erosion	33.36758594	-85.47330665
E13	Erosion	33.36508776	-85.47680031
E14	Erosion	33.36406619	-85.47728423
E15	Erosion	33.37197386	-85.49913637
E16	Erosion	33.37216342	-85.50173268
E17	Erosion	33.37371456	-85.50122349
E18	Erosion	33.35832713	-85.4969299
E19	Erosion	33.3533428	-85.50610579
E20	Erosion	33.35544286	-85.51280286
E21	Erosion	33.33941479	-85.5581353
E22	Erosion	33.1960328	-85.57649228
E23	Erosion	33.18490256	-85.58503087