Letter of Notification for the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project – Supplemental Routing Adjustment

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY℠

An AEP Company

BOUNDLESS ENERGY℠

PUCO Case No. 25-0704-EL-BLN

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

Submitted by:
AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

October 7, 2025

LETTER OF NOTIFICATION

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.

Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project – Supplemental Routing Adjustment

4906-6-05 Accelerated Application Requirements

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

4906-6-05(B) General Information

B(1) Project Description

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

The Company is proposing the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project (the "Project"), located within the City of New Albany and Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio. The Project involves cutting into the 138 kV circuit of the existing double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line and constructing ~~1.2~~ 1.3 miles of new 138 kV transmission line with steel monopoles to the new non-jurisdictional Souder distribution station.

As a result of continued coordination with impacted stakeholders and landowners, the Company is proposing to adjust the previously filed Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project. This application involves adjusting approximately 0.6 mile of the 1.2-mile alignment previously filed on August 4, 2025. New information in this application is identified via underlined text and inaccurate existing information is identified via ~~strikethrough~~ text. Figures 1 and 2 in **Appendix A** have been updated to reflect the adjusted Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project. In Figure 1, the adjusted centerline is shown as a red dashed line, and the previously filed centerline is shown as a solid blue line. In Figure 2, the adjusted centerline is shown as a solid blue line, and the previously filed centerline is shown as a gray line.

The Project will support customer development in the area. The entire Project will require new easements for the 100-foot-wide right-of-way (ROW). The location of the Project is shown on Figures 1 and 2 in **Appendix A**. Additionally, no new property owners are impacted by the proposed shift.

The Project meets the requirements for a Letter of Notification (LON) as defined by Item 1(d)(ii) of Appendix A to Ohio Administrative Code Section 4906-1-01, *Application Requirement Matrix for Electric Power Transmission Lines*:

> *(1) New construction, extension, or relocation of single or multiple circuit electric power transmission line(s), or upgrading existing transmission or distribution line(s) for operation at a higher transmission voltage, as follows:*
>
> > *(d) Line(s) primarily needed to attract or meet the requirements of a specific customer or customers as follows:*
> >
> > > *(ii) Any portion of the line is on property owned by someone other than the specific customer or applicant.*

The Project has been assigned Case No. 25-0704-EL-BLN.

B(2) Statement of Need

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

AEP Ohio has requested a new 138 kV to service to their new facility requiring 51 MW of initial load, with growth up to 111 MW of peak demand. To meet AEP Ohio's needs, the Company will be required to build a greenfield 138 kV double circuit transmission line to AEP Ohio's new Souder Station. The projected in-service date is on Feb 01, 2027, for the initial load.

Failure to move forward with the proposed project will result in the inability to serve the AEP Ohio's load expectations and thereby jeopardize the AEP Ohio's plans in the New Albany area (potentially 111 MW peak).

The original need (24 MW of initial load) was presented and reviewed with stakeholders at the February 17, 2023, PJM SRRTEP Western Meeting. The solution was presented and reviewed with stakeholders at the May 9, 2023, PJM TEAC Meeting. PJM has assigned a supplemental ID as s3442.9. An updated need & solution requesting additional capacity (51 MW of initial load) was presented and reviewed with stakeholders at the April 19, 2024 and Dec 13, 2024 PJM SRRTEP Western Meeting, respectively. The Project was included in the Company's 2025 Long Term Forecast Report on Pages 63 and 64 (see **Appendix B**).

B(3) Project Location

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

The location of the Project in relation to existing transmission lines and substations is shown on **Figure 1**, in **Appendix A**. **Figure 2**, in **Appendix A**, identifies the Project components on a 2022 aerial photograph.

B(4) Alternatives Considered

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

The Company conducted a siting study for the Project, which evaluated suitable routes for connecting the new, non-jurisdictional Souder Substation to the existing double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line (Project endpoints) as presented in **Appendix F**. The Company considered two Alternative Routes for the Project, which are shown in **Appendix A, Figure 3**.

The goal of selecting a suitable route for the Project was to minimize impacts on land use, proximity to residences, and natural and cultural resources while avoiding circuitous routes, significantly higher costs, and non-standard design requirements. Overall, considering the existing and proposed development in the area as well as discussions with key stakeholders helped determine the proposed transmission line route. Based on the information gathered, the location of the proposed Souder 138 kV Extension was determined to be the most suitable location for the Project.

With its proposed adjustment, the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line crosses through vacant portions of existing agricultural, residential, or recreational properties adjacent to Walnut Street. Additionally, the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line continues to maximize distances from residences, while further reducing tree clearing impacts in the Project area ~~to the best extent practicable~~ (shown in Figures 1 and 2 in **Appendix A**). The proposed Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line also avoids interference with proposed industrial, residential, and recreational development in the surrounding area. Additionally, no new property owners are impacted by the proposed shift.

Based on desktop and field examinations as well as continued stakeholder coordination, the Company concluded that construction of the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line within the 200-foot-wide Route Corridor is the most suitable option for connecting the Project endpoints. Ecological and cultural surveys were conducted within the Project Route Corridor. Based on the proposed shift, ~~approximately 0.5 acre of~~ no wetlands will be permanently impacted by the Project. Two wetlands, totaling 0.12 acres, will be temporarily impacted by timber matting to facilitate construction activities. No impacts to streams are anticipated as a result of the Project.

B(5) Public Information Program

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

The Company will inform affected property owners and tenants about this Project through several different mediums. Within seven days of filing this LON, the Company will issue a public notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the Project area. The notice will comply with all requirements of OAC Section 4906-6-08(A)(1-6). Further, the Company will mail a letter, via first class mail, to affected landowners, tenants, contiguous owners and any other landowner the Company may approach for an easement necessary for the construction, operation, or maintenance of the Project. The letter will comply with all requirements of OAC Section 4906-6-08(B). The Company maintains a website (http://aeptransmission.com/ohio/) which hosts an electronic copy of this LON and the public notice of this LON. An electronic copy of the LON will be served to the public library in each political subdivision affected by this Project. In addition, the Company retains ROW land agents that discuss Project timelines, construction and restoration activities and convey this information to affected owners and tenants.

B(6) Construction Schedule

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

Construction of the Project is planned to begin in October 2025 with an anticipated in-service date of July 2026.

B(7) Area Map

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

Figure 1, in **Appendix A**, identifies the location of the Project area on the New Albany United States Geological Survey 1:24,000 quadrangle figure. **Appendix A**, Figure 2 presents the Project area on a 2022 aerial photograph.

B(8) Property Agreements

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

A list of properties required for the Project are provided in **Table 1** below.

Table 1 – Properties Required for the Project

Property Parcel Number	Agreement Type	Easement or Option Obtained (Yes/No)
220-001355	New Easement Agreement	No
220-000205	New Easement Agreement	No
220-002250	New Easement Agreement	No
~~222-004360~~	~~New Easement Agreement~~	~~No~~
222-004359	New Easement Agreement	~~No~~ Yes
222-004355	New Easement Agreement	No
222-005106	New Easement Agreement	No
222-004464	New Easement Agreement	No
222-004891	New Easement Agreement	Yes

The easement form exhibit provided in **Appendix C** represents the minimum rights the Company would require in order to construct, operate, and maintain these facilities. No new property owners are impacted by the proposed shift.

B(9) Technical Features

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

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

The Project will include the following:

Voltage: 138 kV
Conductors: 2x(3), (2-Bundle) 1590 KCM 54/17 ACSR
Static Wire: (1) 159.0 KCM 12/7 EHS ACSR
(1) 144 Ct 0.646" OPGW
Insulators: Polymer
ROW Width: 100 feet
Structure Type: Eight (8), double circuit, steel two-pole dead-end~~/Running corner~~,
Four (4), double circuit, Tangent steel custom pole suspension

B(9)(b) Electric and Magnetic Fields

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

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

i) Calculated Electric and Magnetic Field Levels

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

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

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

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

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

The estimated capital cost of the project.

The cost estimate for the Project, which is comprised of applicable tangible and capital costs, is approximately $17,846,000 using a Class 4 estimate. The entire Project cost, pursuant to the PJM Open Access Transmission Tariff ("OATT"), will be recovered in the Company's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") formula rate (Attachment H-14 to the PJM OATT) and allocated to the AEP Zone.

B(10) Social and Ecological Impacts

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

B(10)(a) Operating Characteristics

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

The Project is located within the City of New Albany and Plain Township in Franklin County, Ohio. Land use in the Project area is predominantly vacant commercial, industrial, or residential land as classified by the Franklin County Auditor. Approximately 3.4 acres of the Project are located on vacant commercial or industrial property that is owned by either the Company or the Customer. The remaining portions of the Project are located on existing agricultural, recreational, or residential land.

Existing residential and recreational development is primarily located along Walnut Street and Bevelhymer Road, while existing commercial and industrial is primarily located along the New Albany and State Route 605 (New Albany Condit Road) corridors. Two residential subdivisions, Upper Clarenton and Woodhaven, are located adjacent southwest of the Walnut Street and Bevelhymer Road intersection. The Souder 138 kV Transmission Line crosses 2.3 acres of Metro Parks land (Rocky Fork Park) and is located within 1,000 feet of the City of New Albany Bevelhymer Park.

No schools, churches, cemeteries, wildlife management areas, or nature preserves are within 1,000 feet of the centerline of the Project.

B(10)(b) Agricultural Land Information

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

No properties registered as agricultural district land are located in the Project area based on email coordination with the Franklin County Auditor's Office on ~~June 30, 2025~~ September 16, 2025. The Project occupies ~~16~~ 15.5 acres; of which, approximately 10 acres have been historically used for agriculture. However, none of these areas remain classified as agricultural land use.

B(10)(c) Archaeological and Cultural Resources

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

The Company's consultant completed a literature review, visual inspection, Phase I Archaeological and Phase I History/Architectural surveys and coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office

("SHPO") for the Project. The Company's consultant recommended that the Project would have no adverse effect on historic properties and no further cultural resource work would be necessary. In their November 1, 2023 and July 11, 2024 responses, SHPO concurred with the consultant's recommendation (see **Appendix D**).

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

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

A summary of anticipated permits and authorizations for the Project is provided in **Table 2**, below. There are no other known local, state, or federal requirements that must be met prior to commencement of the Project.

Table 2 – Anticipated Permits

Permit/Authorization/Coordination	Agency	Date
NPDES Notice of Intent (NOI)	Ohio Environmental Protection Agency	Approved on 9/25/25
Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan	Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Franklin County	Expected October 2025
Notice Criteria	Federal Aviation Administration	Submitted through Criteria Tool on 2/21/2025, no further action required
Clean Water Act Section 404/401	United States Army Corps of Engineers Ohio Environmental Protection Agency	Anticipated based on wetland impacts
Archaeology/Architectural	Ohio Historic Preservation Office	Coordination complete 7/11/2024, no additional work required
Threatened and Endangered Species	United States Fish and Wildlife Service	Consultation complete 7/6/2023
Threatened and Endangered Species	Ohio Department of Natural Resources	Consultation complete 8/4/2023

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

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

On June 5, 2023, coordination letters were submitted to the United State Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Ohio Natural Heritage Program (ONHP) and Division of Wildlife (DOW), seeking an environmental review of the Project for potential impacts to state and/or federally protected species. ODNR and USFWS provided responses on August 4, 2023 and July 6, 2023, respectively. Copies of the agencies' responses are presented in **Appendix C**.

Table 5, in **Appendix E** lists the federal and state threatened or endangered species in the Project area.

Potential summer roosting habitat for the state and federal endangered Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), as well as the state endangered little brown bat and tricolored bat is present within the Project area. The supplemental routing adjustment reduces tree clearing within the ROW to approximately ~~two acres~~ one acre ~~of tree clearing is required in the proposed ROW~~. However, potential impacts to these protected bat species will be minimized by adhering to seasonal tree clearing (occurs between October 1 and March 31) during construction.

Potentially suitable habitat (perennial stream) for protected mussel species was identified within the No other potentially suitable habitat for protected species was identified within the Project Survey Area. Based on the nature of the proposed Project activities and habitat characteristics of the surrounding vicinity, construction impacts to protected species are not anticipated.

B(10)(f) Areas of Ecological Concern

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

The Company's consultant conducted wetland and stream delineation surveys in June and September 2024 as well as May and June 2025 for the Project Study Area, which encompasses the proposed route corridor. The results of the wetland and stream delineation surveys are presented in **Appendix E**.

Within the Project Survey Area, the Company's consultant identified one perennial stream, one intermittent stream, three palustrine emergent (PEM) wetlands, one palustrine forested (PFO) wetland, two PEM/PFO wetland complexes, and one PEM/PFO/palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS) wetland complex. ~~Approximately 0.4 acre of PFO~~ No wetlands will be permanently impacted by the Project. Two wetlands, totaling 0.12 acres, will be temporarily impacted by timber matting to facilitate construction activities. Streams will either be avoided by aerially spanning or bridges, in which no work below the ordinary high water mark is required.

Based on a review of the Protected Areas Database of the United States as well as the Conservation Easement Database, there are no state or national parks, forests, wildlife areas or mapped conservation easements in the vicinity of the Project.

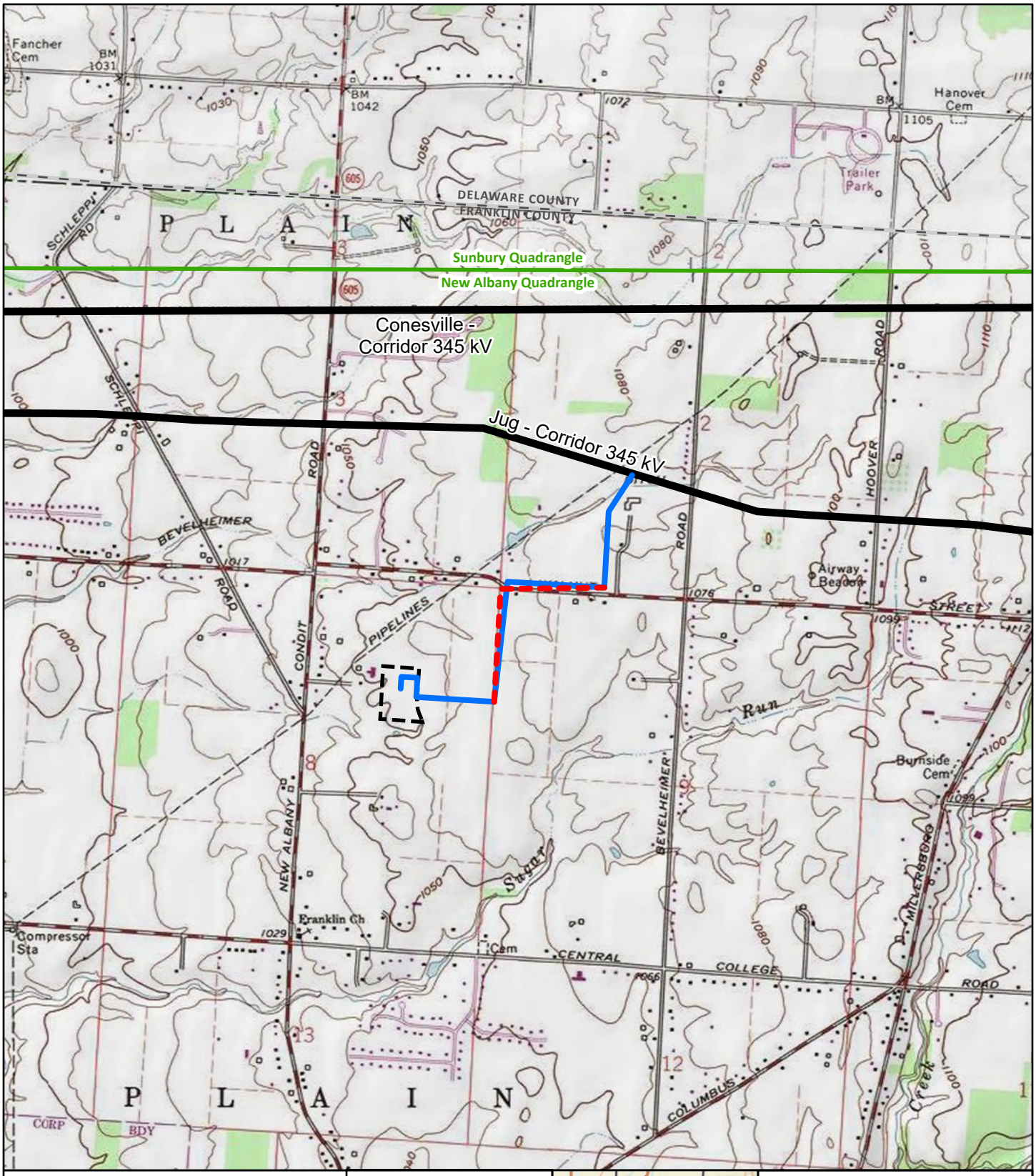
The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map ("FIRM") was reviewed to identify any floodplains/flood hazard areas that have been mapped within the Project Area (specifically, map number 39049C0206K). Based on this mapping, no FEMA-designated 100-year floodplains are crossed by the Project.

B(10)(g) Unusual Conditions

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

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

Appendix A Project Maps



- New Souder Station Property (Non-Jurisdictional)
- Proposed Adjustment
- Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line (filed on 8/4/25)
- Existing AEP Transmission Line
- USGS 7.5' Topographic Quad Boundary
- County Boundary

Sources:
USGS (2021)

StatePlane
Ohio North
NAD 83

September 17, 2025

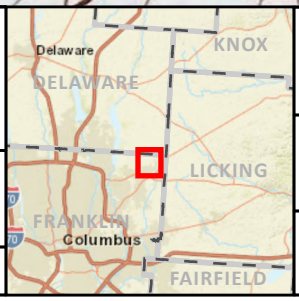
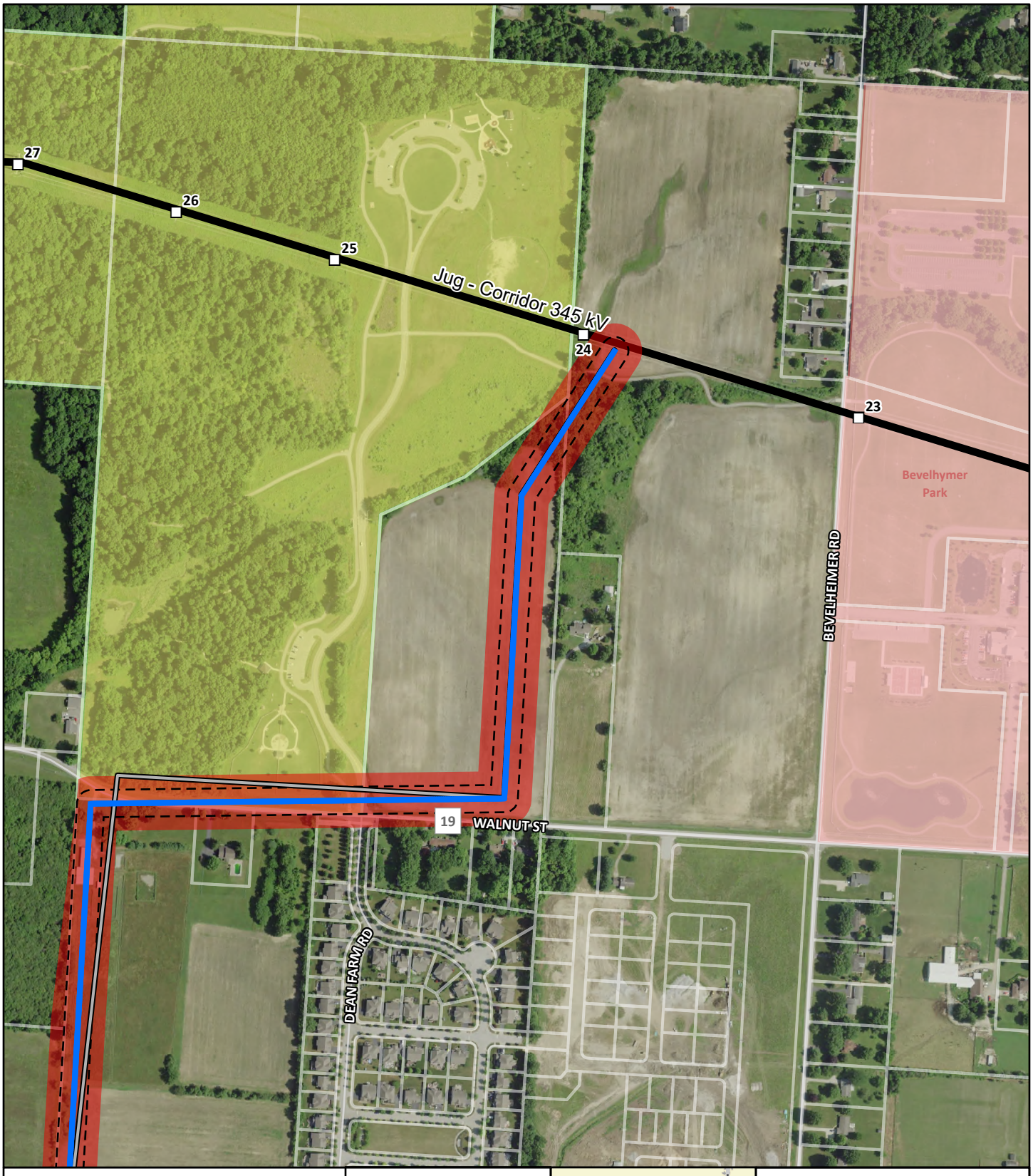


Figure 1
Project Area

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY
An AEP Company
BOUNDLESS ENERGY

Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project

0 1,000 2,000
Feet



Adjusted Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line

Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line (filed 8/4/25)

Proposed 100' ROW

Proposed Route Corridor

Existing AEP Transmission Line

Parcel Boundary

Rocky Fork Park

Local Land

Sources:
NAIP Imagery (USDA 2022)

Page 1 of 2

StatePlane
Ohio North
NAD 83

September 23, 2025

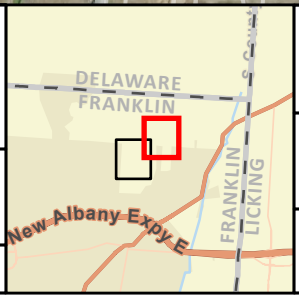


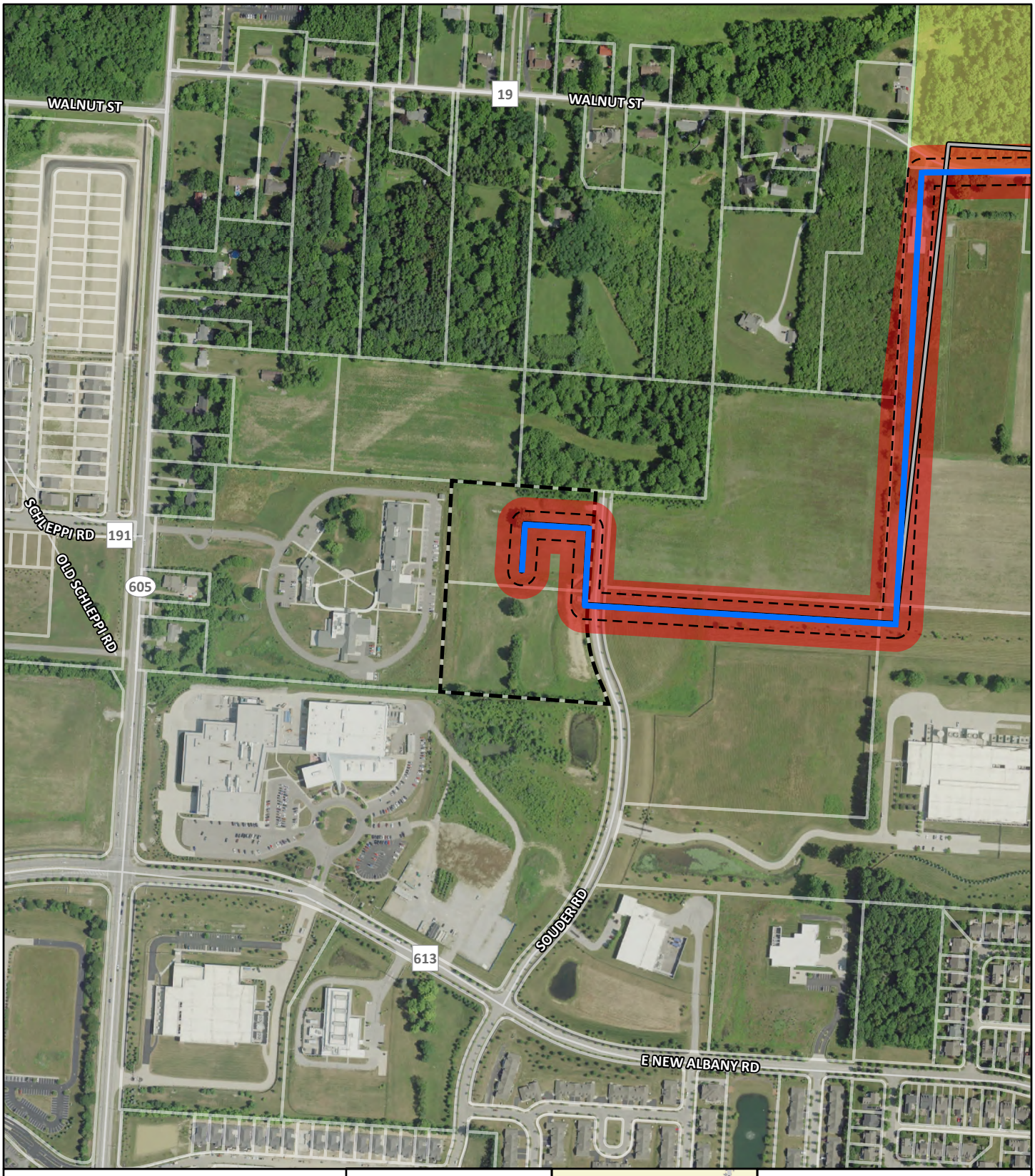
Figure 2
Aerial Map

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY

Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project

0 300 600

Feet



Adjusted Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line

New Souder Station Property (Non-Jurisdictional)

Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line (filed 8/4/25)

Proposed 100' ROW

Proposed Route Corridor

Parcel Boundary

Rocky Fork Park

Sources:
NAIP Imagery (USDA 2022)

Page 2 of 2

StatePlane
Ohio North
NAD 83

September 23, 2025

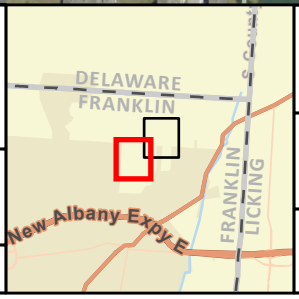


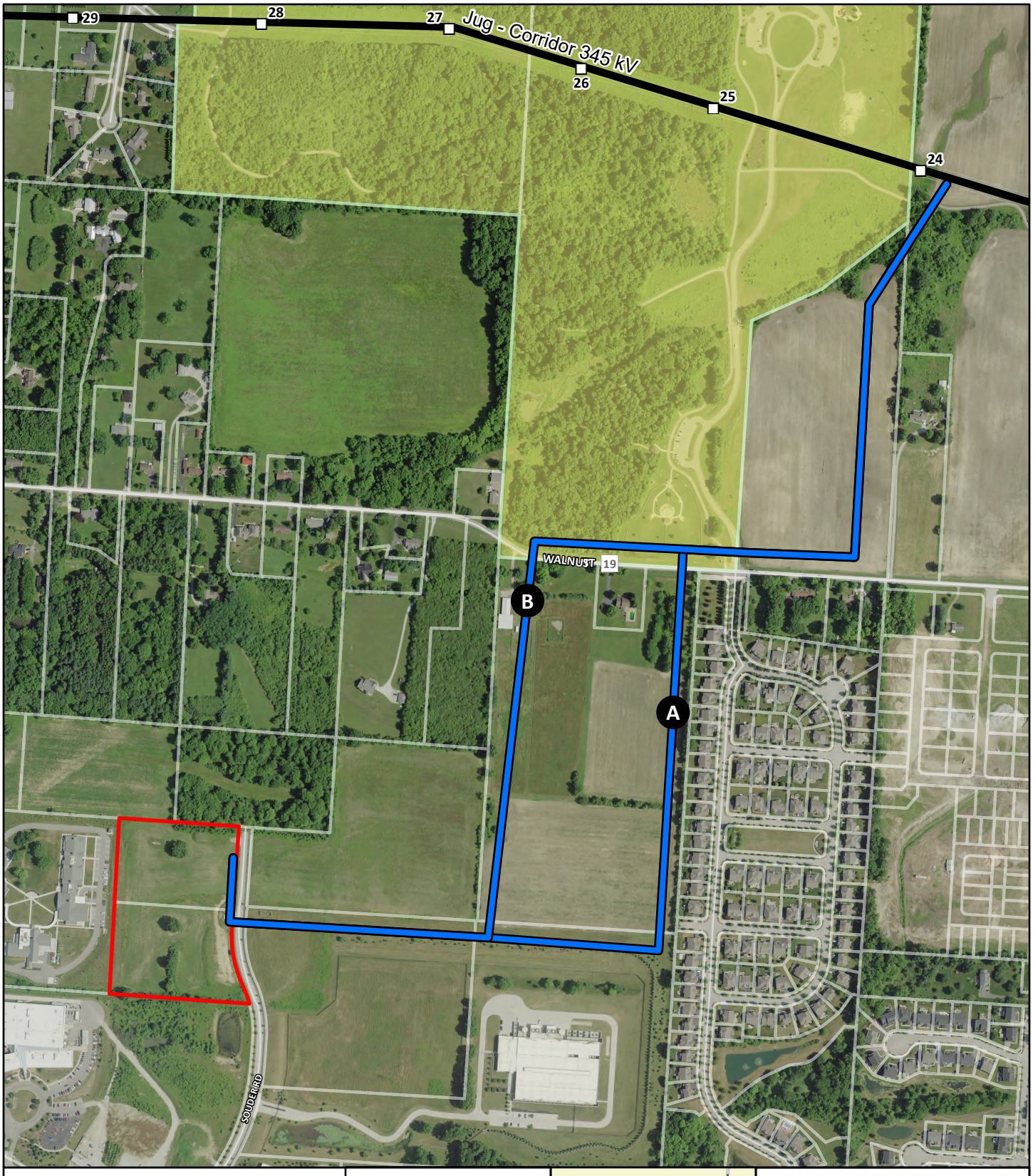
Figure 2
Aerial Map

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY

Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project

0 300 600

Feet



New Souder Station Property (Non-Jurisdictional)
Alternative Route
Existing AEP Transmission Line
Parcel Boundary
Rocky Fork Park

Sources:
NAIP Imagery (USDA 2022)

StatePlane
Ohio North
NAD 83

August 04, 2025

Figure 3
Alternative Routes

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY

Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project

0 300 600
Feet

Appendix B Long Term Forecast Report and PJM Solution

AEP Transmission Zone M-3 Process
Souder

Need Number: AEP-2023-OH016

Process Stage: Submission of Supplemental Project for inclusion in the Local Plan TBD

Previously Presented:

Solutions Meeting 5/9/2023, 12/5/2023

Need Meeting 2/17/2023

Supplemental Project Driver: Customer Service

Specific Assumption Reference: AEP Guidelines for Transmission Owner Identified Needs (AEP Assumptions Slide 8)

Problem Statement:

AEP Ohio is requesting a new 138kV delivery point near the Corridor - Jug 138kV circuit by June 2025 to support continued growth in and around the New Albany, Ohio area. Initial load is anticipated to be approximately 24.0 MVA with a future projected load of approximately 100 MVA.

Need Number: AEP-2023-OH016

Process Stage: Submission of Supplemental Project for inclusion in the Local Plan TBD

Solution:

The following work is all direct connect substations to physically connect demand to the grid.

- **Souder 138 kV:** Cut into the Corridor – Green Chapel 138 kV circuit and extend ~1.0 mile of new double circuit line, utilizing 2-bundled ACSR Falcon 1590 (54/19) conductor, SE rating 1118 MVA , to the greenfield Souder station with (5) 80 kA, 4000 A breakers laid out as 5-CB ring bus for future expansion to 6-CB ring. Cost: **$14.31 M (s3442.9)**

2	**POINTS OF ORIGIN AND TERMINATION**	Green Chappel - Horizon & Badger - Horizon INTERMEDIATE STATIONS - N/A
3	**RIGHTS-OF-WAY: LENGTH / WIDTH / CIRCUITS**	~3.35 mi / 100ft / 2 circuit (~0.05 mi double circuit line work)
4	**VOLTAGE: DESIGN / OPERATE**	138 / 138 kV
5	**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE:**	2024
6	**CONSTRUCTION:**	2024 - 2025
7	**CAPITAL INVESTMENT:**	$2.12 M
8	**PLANNED SUBSTATION:**	Horizon
9	**SUPPORTING STRUCTURES:**	Steel
10	**PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER UTILITIES**	N/A
11	**PURPOSE OF THE PLANNED TRANSMISSION LINE**	Service to new customer
12	**CONSEQUENCES OF LINE CONSTRUCTION DEFERMENT OR TERMINATION**	Unable to serve new customer
13	**MISCELLANEOUS:**	
1	**LINE NAME AND NUMBER:**	Souder Extension 138 kV (s3442.9 DP22C0018)
2	**POINTS OF ORIGIN AND TERMINATION**	Corridor - Souder & Souder - Green Chapel INTERMEDIATE STATIONS - N/A
3	**RIGHTS-OF-WAY: LENGTH / WIDTH / CIRCUITS**	~11.43 mi / 100ft / 2 circuit (~1.0 mi double circuit line work)
4	**VOLTAGE: DESIGN / OPERATE**	138 / 138 kV
5	**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE:**	2024
6	**CONSTRUCTION:**	2024 - 2025
7	**CAPITAL INVESTMENT:**	$20.33 M
8	**PLANNED SUBSTATION:**	Souder
9	**SUPPORTING STRUCTURES:**	Steel
10	**PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER UTILITIES**	N/A
11	**PURPOSE OF THE PLANNED TRANSMISSION LINE**	Service to new customer

12	**CONSEQUENCES OF LINE CONSTRUCTION DEFERMENT OR TERMINATION**	Unable to serve new customer
13	**MISCELLANEOUS:**	
1	**LINE NAME AND NUMBER:**	Coolville - East Bashan 69 kV (s2911 TP2020092)
2	**POINTS OF ORIGIN AND TERMINATION**	Coolville - Ravenswood INTERMEDIATE STATIONS - East Bashan
3	**RIGHTS-OF-WAY: LENGTH / WIDTH / CIRCUITS**	~24.3 mi / 60 ft / 1 circuit (12.6 mi single circuit line work)
4	**VOLTAGE: DESIGN / OPERATE**	69 / 69 kV
5	**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE:**	N/A (69 kV)
6	**CONSTRUCTION:**	2028 - 2030
7	**CAPITAL INVESTMENT:**	$29.61 M
8	**PLANNED SUBSTATION:**	N/A
9	**SUPPORTING STRUCTURES:**	Steel
10	**PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER UTILITIES**	N/A
11	**PURPOSE OF THE PLANNED TRANSMISSION LINE**	Rebuild of existing 69 kV line/ Providing looped service to existing radial
12	**CONSEQUENCES OF LINE CONSTRUCTION DEFERMENT OR TERMINATION**	Continued poor reliability and outages to customers
13	**MISCELLANEOUS:**	
1	**LINE NAME AND NUMBER:**	Ralston - North Logan 69 kV (s3133 TP2020252)
2	**POINTS OF ORIGIN AND TERMINATION**	Geneva Switch - STR. 70 INTERMEDIATE STATIONS - N/A
3	**RIGHTS-OF-WAY: LENGTH / WIDTH / CIRCUITS**	~1.15 mi / 60 ft / 2 circuit
4	**VOLTAGE: DESIGN / OPERATE**	69 / 69 kV
5	**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE:**	N/A (69 kV)
6	**CONSTRUCTION:**	2024 - 2027
7	**CAPITAL INVESTMENT:**	$9.67 M
8	**PLANNED SUBSTATION:**	N/A
9	**SUPPORTING STRUCTURES:**	Steel

Appendix C Easement Form

Line Name: Souder Extension
Line No.: TLN380:OH446 **Easement No.:**

EASEMENT AND RIGHT OF WAY

On this ___ day of_____, 2025, in consideration of Ten and NO/100 Dollars ($10.00), and other valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and the covenants hereinafter set forth, __ , whose address is __ , ("Grantor"), whether one or more persons, hereby grants, sells, conveys, and warrants to **AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc.**, a(n) Ohio corporation, a unit of American Electric Power, whose principal business address is 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215, (“AEP”) and its successors, assigns, lessees and tenants a permanent easement and right of way ("Easement"), for electric transmission, distribution, and communication lines and appurtenant equipment and fixtures, being, in, on, over, under, through and across the following described lands of the Grantor, situated in the State of Ohio, Franklin County, Quarter Township __ , Section __ , Township No. __ , Range No. __ , United States Military Lands, City of New Albany, Tax Parcel Number __ .

Grantor claims title by__, recorded on __; in the Franklin County Recorder's Office.

Auditor/Key/Tax Number: __

The Easement Area is more fully described and depicted on Exhibit "A", a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof ("Easement Area").

GRANTOR FURTHER GRANTS AEP THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS:

The right, now or in the future, to construct, reconstruct, operate, maintain, alter, improve, extend, inspect and patrol (by ground or air), protect, repair, remove, replace, upgrade and relocate within the Easement Area, poles, towers, and structures, made of wood, metal, concrete or other materials, and crossarms, guys, anchors, grounding systems, and all other appurtenant equipment and fixtures, and to string conductors, wires and cables; together with the right to add to said facilities from time to time, and the right to do anything necessary, useful or convenient for the enjoyment of the Easement herein granted.

The right, in AEP’s discretion, now or in the future, to cut down, trim, remove, and otherwise control, using herbicides or tree growth regulators or other means, any and all trees, overhanging branches, vegetation or brush situated within the Easement Area. AEP shall also have the right to

cut down, trim or remove trees situated on lands of Grantor which adjoin the Easement Area when in the opinion of AEP those trees may endanger the safety of, or interfere with the construction, operation or maintenance of AEP's facilities or ingress or egress to, from or along the Easement Area.

The right of unobstructed ingress and egress, at any and all times, over, across and along and upon the Easement Area, and across the adjoining lands of Grantor as may be necessary for access to and from the Easement Area for the above referenced purposes.

THIS GRANT IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

The Grantor reserves the right to cultivate annual crops, pasture, construct fences (provided gates are installed that adequately provide AEP the access rights conveyed herein) and roads or otherwise use the lands encumbered by this Easement in any way not inconsistent with the rights herein granted. In no event, however, shall Grantor, its heirs, successors, and assigns plant or cultivate any trees or place, construct, install, erect or permit any temporary or permanent building, structure, improvement or obstruction including but not limited to, storage tanks, billboards, signs, sheds, dumpsters, light poles, water impoundments, above ground irrigation systems, swimming pools or wells, or permit any alteration of the ground elevation, over, or within the Easement Area. AEP may, at Grantor's cost, remove any structure or obstruction if placed within the Easement Area, and may re-grade any alterations of the ground elevation within the Easement Area.

AEP agrees to repair or pay the Grantor for actual damages sustained by Grantor to crops, fences, gates, irrigation and drainage systems, drives, or lawns that are permitted herein, when such damages arise out of AEP's exercise of the rights herein granted.

The failure of AEP to exercise any of the rights granted herein, or the removal of any facilities from the Easement, shall not be deemed to constitute an abandonment or waiver of the rights granted herein.

This instrument contains the complete agreement, expressed or implied between the parties herein and shall inure to the benefit of and be binding on their respective successors, assigns, heirs, executors, administrators, lessees, tenants, and licensees.

This Easement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which, taken together, shall constitute one and the same instrument.

Any remaining space on this page left intentionally blank. See next page for signatures.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantor has executed this Easement effective the day, month and year first above written.

GRANTOR

_____
By: _____
Title: Authorized Signer

State of §
§
County of §

This instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 2025, by _____.

_____
Notary Public
Print Name: _____
My Commission Expires:_____

This instrument prepared by Marland L. Turner, Senior Counsel - Real Estate, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, OH 43215 for and on behalf of AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc., a unit of American Electric Power.

When recorded return to: American Electric Power - Transmission Right of Way, 8600 Smiths Mill Road, New Albany, OH 43054.

Appendix D Agency Correspondence

In reply, refer to
2023-FRA-59299

November 1, 2023

Ryan Weller
Weller & Associates, Inc.
1395 W. Fifth Ave.
Columbus, OH 43212
rweller@wellercrm.com

RE: Souder 138kV Extension Project, Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weller:

This letter is in response to the correspondence received October 2, 2023 regarding the proposed Souder 138kV Extension Project, Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. The comments of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are made pursuant to Section 149.53 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Power Siting Board rules for siting this project (OAC 4906-4 & 4906-5). The comments of the Ohio SHPO are also submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108 [36 CFR 800]).

The following comments pertain to the *Phase I Cultural Resource Management Investigations for the 2.22 km (1.38 mi) Souder 138kV Extension Project in Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio* by Ryan J. Weller and Scott McIntosh (Weller & Associates, Inc. 2023).

A literature review, visual inspection, surface collection, shovel probe, and shovel test unit excavation was completed as part of the investigations. One (1) previously identified archaeological site is located within the project area, Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) #33FR1413. OAI#33FR1413 was previously determined not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the site was not reidentified during survey. Our office continues to agree with this eligibility recommendation. One (1) new site was identified during survey, OAI#33FR3576. The site is recommended not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Our office agrees with this recommendation and no additional archaeological survey is needed.

A literature review and field survey were conducted as part of the investigations. A total of sixteen (16) extant resources fifty years of age or older were identified in the Area of Potential Effects (APE). It is Weller's recommendation that none of the resources are eligible for listing in the NRHP. Our office agrees with Weller's recommendations of eligibility.

Based on the information provided, we agree the project as proposed will have no effect on historic properties. No further coordination with this office is necessary, unless the project changes or unless new or additional historic properties are discovered during implementation of this project. In such a situation, this office should be contacted. Our office is currently experiencing network issues that do not allow consultants to access our IForm software for the completion of archaeological inventory forms. Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) forms can now be completed using SHPO's ArcGIS Survey 123, information can be found on our website here: https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserving-ohio/survey-inventory/i-form/. Please notify our office when the form for OAI#33FR3576 is complete. If you have any questions, please contact me at (614) 298-2022, or by e-mail at khorrocks@ohiohistory.org or Joy Williams at jwilliams@ohiohistory.org. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Krista Horrocks, Project Reviews Manager
Resource Protection and Review

RPR Serial No: 1100061

In reply, refer to
2023-FRA-59299

July 11, 2024

Ryan J. Weller
Weller & Associates, Inc.
1395 West Fifth Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43212
rweller@wellercrm.com

RE: Souder 138kV Extension Project, Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weller:

This letter is in response to the correspondence received on June 17, 2024, regarding the proposed Souder 138kV Extension Project in Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. The comments of the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are made pursuant to Section 149.53 of the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) rules for siting this project (OAC 4906-4 & 4906-5). The comments of the Ohio SHPO are also submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108 [36 CFR 800]).

The following comments pertain to the *Addendum Phase I Cultural Resource Management Investigations for the Souder 138kV Extension Project in Plain Township, Franklin County, Ohio* by Ryan J. Weller and Scott McIntosh (Weller & Associates, Inc. 2024). This project is related to the Souder 138kV transmission line extension and will include the removal of existing transmission line structures, as well as greenfield transmission line installation work. The corridor is approximately 2.0 km (1.25 mi) long and 91.4 m (300 ft) wide.

A literature review, visual inspection, surface collection, shovel probes, and shovel test excavations were completed as part of the investigations. Portions of the project corridor have been previously investigated for cultural resources through three prior surveys. One of these surveys identified two Ohio Archaeological Inventory (OAI) sites within the current project corridor, 33FR1413 and 33FR1414, while another survey identified one OAI site, 33FR3576, within the current project corridor. These three OAI sites were not reidentified during the current investigations. Visual inspection and shovel probes identified several areas of disturbance within the project corridor. These investigations also identified three new OAI sites (33FR3599-33FR3601). All three sites were prehistoric isolated find spots and none were recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Our office agrees with these recommendations and no additional archaeological survey is needed. Architectural resources in the Area of Potential Effect (APE) were previously addressed.

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

Sincerely,

Catherine Gullett, Project Reviews Coordinator - Archaeology
Resource Protection and Review
State Historic Preservation Office

RPR Serial No: 1103653

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230
(614) 416-8993 / FAX (614) 416-8994

July 6, 2023

Project Code: 2023-0098666

Dear Ms. Anna Findish:

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, endangered, and proposed 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 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.

Federally Proposed Species: On September 14, 2022, the Service proposed to list the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) as endangered under the ESA. The bat faces extinction due to the impacts of white-nose syndrome, a deadly disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent. During spring, summer, and fall, this species roosts primarily among leaf clusters of live or recently dead trees, emerging at dusk to hunt for insects over waterways and forest edges. While white-nose syndrome is by far the most serious threat to the tricolored bat, other threats now have an increased significance due to the dramatic decline in the species' population. These threats include disturbance to bats in roosting, foraging, commuting, and over-wintering habitats. Mortality due to collision with wind turbines, especially during migration, has also been documented across their range. Conservation measures for the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat will also help to conserve the tricolored bat.

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.

If implementation of this seasonal tree cutting recommendation is not possible, a summer presence/absence survey may be conducted for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. If Indiana bats and northern long-eared 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, Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov.

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

Sincerely,

Patrice Ashfield
Field Office Supervisor

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

Office of Real Estate
Tara Paciorek, Chief
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6661
Fax: (614) 267-4764

August 4, 2023

Anna Findish
AECOM
707 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Re: 23-0780; Souder 138kV Extension Jug - Corridor Project

Project: The proposed project involves the construction of an approximately 1.32-mile double circuit 138kV transmission line.

Location: The proposed project is located in Plain Township, Franklin 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 within one mile of the project area:

Iowa Darter (*Etheostoma exile*), E
Lake Chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*), T
Blacknose Shiner (*Notropis heterolepis*), E

The review was performed on the specified project area as well as an additional one-mile radius. Records searched date from 1980. Conservation status abbreviations are as follows: 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 = federally endangered, and FT = federally threatened.

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

Location records for the species listed above are provided in a shapefile attachment to this letter. Species location information will not be published or distributed beyond the scope of the project description on the signed data request form.

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 project is within the vicinity of records for the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species. Because presence of state endangered bat species has been established in the area, summer tree cutting is not recommended, and additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence in the area. However, limited summer tree cutting inside this buffer may be acceptable after further consultation with DOW (contact Eileen Wyza at Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov).

In addition, 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 endangered 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 bat species 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. The DOW recommends tree 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.

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

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

Federally Endangered
clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)
rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*)
northern riffleshell (*Epioblasma torulosa rangiana*)
snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*)
purple cat's paw (*Epioblasma o. obliquata*)

Federally Threatened
rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*)

State Endangered
elephant-ear (*Elliptio crassidens crassidens*)
pocketbook (*Lampsilis ovata*)
long solid (*Fusconaia maculata maculate*)

washboard (*Megalonaias nervosa*)
Ohio pigtoe (*Pleurobema cordatum*)

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

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

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

State Endangered
goldeye (*Hiodon alosoides*)
shortnose gar (*Lepisosteus platostomus*)
Iowa darter (*Etheostoma exile*)
spotted darter (*Etheostoma maculatum*)
northern brook lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon fossor*)
tonguetied minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*)
popeye shiner (*Notropis ariommus*)

State Threatened
lake chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*)
paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator

Appendix E Wetland Delineation Report

SOUDER EXTENSION 138KV PROJECT

FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

ECOLOGICAL REPORT

Prepared for:
American Electric Power Ohio Transmission Company
8600 Smiths Mill Road
New Albany, Ohio 43054

Prepared by:

525 Vine Street, Suite 1900
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Project #: 60706505

July 2025

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APPENDICES

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. (AEP), is proposing to construct the Souder 138kV Extension Jug – Corridor 138kV Cut In and Removal (Project) in Franklin County, Ohio (OH). The Project consists of construction of an approximately 1.32-mile double circuit 138kV transmission line that will be underbuilt capable for 34kV distribution circuits between the proposed Souder Station and the existing structure 24 of the Bixby - Corridor (Kirk - Corridor) 345kV Existing Transmission Line in Franklin County, OH. The Project Survey Area associated with this Ecological Report is located on New Albany, OH United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographical quadrangle as displayed on the Project Overview (**Figure 1**).

The purpose of the field survey was to assess the presence of wetlands and possible “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) that occur within the proposed Project Survey Area. Secondarily, land uses were also recorded to classify and characterize potential habitat for threatened and endangered species. This report will be used to assist AEP Ohio Transco’s efforts to identify potential WOTUS as well as threatened and endangered species habitat present within the proposed Project Survey Area to avoid or minimize impacts during construction activities.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

The field survey was completed within the Project Survey Area totaling approximately 62.7 acres, which encompasses the proposed work area. Prior to conducting field surveys, digital United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil survey data, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data, USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year floodplain data, and USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps were reviewed to identify the occurrence and location of potential wetland areas and/or streams.

Field survey activities included recording the physical boundaries of observed water features using sub-meter capable EOS Arrow Global Positioning System (GPS) units in conjunction with the ArcGIS Field Maps application on iPad tablets. The GPS data was imported into ArcMap Geographic Information System (GIS) software, where the data was reviewed, edited for accuracy, and compiled in a format suitable for transfer and use by AEP Ohio Transco. Water features were delineated and assessed based upon the appropriate procedures detailed below. Land uses observed within the Project Survey Area were assigned a general classification based upon the principal land characteristics and vegetative cover of the location.

2.1 WETLAND DELINEATION

The Project Survey Area was evaluated according to the procedures outlined in the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) *Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory,

1987) and *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest Region (Version 2.0)* (USACE, 2010).

During field survey activities, AECOM utilized the routine on-site delineation method described in the 1987 manual and supplement that consisted of a pedestrian site reconnaissance, including identifying the vegetative communities, soils identification, a geomorphologic assessment of hydrology, and notation of disturbance. If a wetland was identified, AECOM completed a USACE Wetland Determination Data Form (USACE Data Form) within each unique wetland habitat to serve as a representative of the wetland hydrology, vegetative community, and soil characteristics. Adjacent to each wetland complex, AECOM completed an additional USACE Data Form as a representative of the upland community.

2.1.1 WETLAND CLASSIFICATION

Wetlands identified in the field were classified based on the naming convention found in *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States* (Cowardin *et al.*, 1979). The unique wetland habitats were classified as palustrine emergent (PEM), palustrine forested (PFO), palustrine unconsolidated bottom (PUB), palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS), or other classifications for some wetlands. Multiple Cowardin classifications may be present where more than one classification's vegetation is dominant (vegetation type covers 30 percent or more of the substrate). Where multiple Cowardin classifications are present, the Cowardin classification of the plants that constitute the uppermost layer of vegetation having 30% or greater coverage is used for the classification.

2.1.2 WETLAND ASSESSMENT

Each delineated wetland was assessed following the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) *Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands v. 5.0* (ORAM) (Mack, 2001). Wetland assessments utilized the 10-page ORAM form, providing a final Category rating for each wetland.

2.2 STREAM ASSESSMENT

Streams were identified by the presence of a defined bed and bank, and evidence of an ordinary high-water mark (OHWM). The USACE defines the OHWM as "that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas" (USACE, 2005).

2.2.1 OEPA PRIMARY HEADWATER HABITAT ASSESSMENT

Stream assessments were conducted using the methods described in the OEPA's *Methods for Assessing Habitat in Flowing Waters*: *Using OEPA's Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI)* (Rankin, 2006) and

in the OEPA's *Field Methods for Evaluating Primary Headwater Streams in Ohio* (OEPA, 2020). Streams associated with watershed area less than or equal to 1.0 square mile (259 hectares), and a maximum depth of water pools equal to, or less than 15.75 inches were evaluated utilizing the Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index (HHEI) methodology and all other streams assessed using the QHEI methodology. Flow regime (ephemeral, intermittent, perennial) was determined by the appropriate stream assessment score per OEPA manuals (OEPA, 2020) and by AECOM's professional opinion.

Streams assessed in the Project Survey Area were reviewed for existing OEPA Aquatic Life Use Designations per OEPA's Water Quality Standards (OAC Chapter 3745-1). Those without an existing use designation were assigned a provisional aquatic life use designation based upon habitat assessment results (Rankin, 1989; OEPA, 2020).

2.2.2 OEPA 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR NATIONWIDE PERMIT ELIGIBILITY

The OEPA has designated each watershed in the state on based on whether it may be ineligible for coverage under the OEPA's 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) for Nationwide Permits (OEPA, 2017). Mapping provided by the OEPA illustrates the eligibility of streams in the area to fall under a Nationwide Permit for 401 certification or if an individual state WQC needs to be applied for. Impacts to streams within each watershed would then have eligibility for 401 WQC determined by the watershed category. The three categories are defined as:

Eligible: Streams within the watershed are eligible for coverage under the OEPA's water quality certification for the Nationwide Permits if all other general and regional special terms and conditions are met.

Ineligible: Activities affecting high quality streams and undesignated streams draining directly to high quality streams, as represented in the map, must undergo an individual 401 Water Quality Certification review process.

Possibly Eligible: Additional field screening procedures are required for streams in the watershed to determine appropriate eligibility. Activities affecting undesignated streams within those HUC12 watersheds that do not directly but eventually drain into high quality waters, might be eligible for coverage under the OEPA's 401 Water Quality Certification for Nationwide Permits depending on the results of a field screening assessment. The procedures for determining individual stream eligibility in this scenario are specified in Appendix C "Stream Eligibility Determination Process" of the OEPA Ohio State Water Quality Certification of the 2017 Nationwide Permit Reauthorization.

2.2.3 UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURES

An upland drainage feature (UDF) is a non-jurisdictional drainage that does not meet the criteria of either a jurisdictional stream or a wetland. A UDF generally lacks an OHWM (USACE, 2005) and are equivalent to

a swale or an erosional feature as described by the USACE: “generally shallow features in the landscape that may convey water across upland areas during and following storm events. Swales usually occur on nearly flat slopes and typically have grass or other low-lying vegetation throughout the swale” (USACE, 2005).

A roadside ditch may also be documented as a UDF if it meets the “not potentially jurisdictional” characterization as described in the Office of Environmental Services *Roadway Ditch Characterization Flowchart* (Ohio Department of Transportation, 2014). This would include a ditch that originates entirely within the roadway right-of-way, has a seasonal flow regime, was not constructed to drain a wetland, and does not have hydrophytic vegetation extending more than an insignificant amount beyond its original configuration.

In addition, UDF’s (including swales, ditches, and other erosional features) are generally not WOTUS except in certain circumstances, such as relocated streams.

2.3 RARE, THREATENED, AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

AECOM conducted a threatened and endangered species review and general field habitat surveys within the Project Survey Area. AECOM submitted requests to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Office of Real Estate – Environmental Review Section and the USFWS Ohio Ecological Services Field Office soliciting comments on the proposed Project. Agency-identified species of concern and available species-specific information was reviewed to identify the various habitat types that listed species are known to inhabit.

AECOM field ecologists conducted a general habitat survey in conjunction with the stream and wetland field surveys as part of assessing potential impacts to threatened and endangered species. Land uses within the Project Survey Area were assigned a general classification based upon the principal land characteristics and vegetative cover as observed during the field surveys.

AECOM conducted a desktop assessment of the Project Survey Area and a quarter-mile buffer around it to identify potentially occurring winter bat hibernaculum that may be present near the Project which is in **Figure 6**. This assessment was conducted by reviewing data on mining activity and karst geology from the ODNR Division of Mineral Resources and USGS websites.

3.0 RESULTS

AECOM ecologists walked the Project Survey Area to conduct the wetland delineation, stream assessment and habitat survey on June 10, 2024, September 6, 2024 and May 13 and 22, 2025. During the delineation within the Project Survey Area, AECOM delineated a total of seven wetlands (three PEM, one PFO, two

PEM/PFO, and one PEM/PFO/PSS) and two streams (one perennial, and one intermittent). The delineated features are discussed in detail in the following section.

3.1 WETLAND DELINEATION

3.1.1 PRELIMINARY SOILS EVALUATION

According to the USDA/NRCS Web Soil Survey, a total of 4 soil map units were identified within the Project Survey Area. Of those, two soil map units are hydric and two contain hydric inclusions. Soils indicated as hydric inclusions are not predominately hydric soils and hydric soils are more likely to be found in topographic settings. **Table 1** below provides a detailed overview of all soil series and soil map units present within the Project Survey Area. Soil map units located in the Project Survey Area and vicinity are shown on **Figure 2**.

TABLE 1: SOIL MAP UNITS AND DESCRIPTIONS WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Soil Series	Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Description	Topographic Setting	Hydric	Hydric Component (%)
Bennington	BeA	Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Drainageways, depressions	Yes*	Condit 5% Pewamo 3%
	BeB	Bennington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes		Yes*	Pewamo 3% Condit 3%
Pewamo	Pm	Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes		Yes	Pewamo 3% Condit 3%
Condit	Cn	Condit silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	End Moraines, ground moraines	Yes	Condit 3% Pewamo 3%

Yes* = Hydric inclusion present

3.1.2 NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY MAP REVIEW

According to NWI data covering the Project location, the Project Survey Area contains two NWI mapped wetlands identified as Riverine, Surface Flooding, Seasonal, (R4SBC) and Palustrine Emergent, Persistent, Seasonally Flooded (PEM1C), which were field verified as S-AGS-001 and W-AGS-007, respectively. The location of NWI mapped features identified within the vicinity of the Project are provided on **Figure 2**.

3.1.3 DELINEATED WETLANDS

During the field survey, AECOM identified seven wetlands (three PEM, one PFO, two PEM/PFO, and one PEM/PFO/PSS) within the Project Survey Area. Three wetlands were assigned ORAM Category 1, and four wetlands were assigned ORAM Category 2 within the Project Survey Area. No Category 3 wetlands were identified within the Project Survey Area. A summary of the delineated features is provided in **Table 2**. The AECOM delineation boundaries are provided on **Figure 3**.

Final jurisdictional status can only be determined by the USACE, and AECOM assessments are provisional. The completed USACE data forms and photographs of each wetland are provided in **Appendix A.**

TABLE 2: SUMMARY OF DELINEATED WETLANDS WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Wetland ID	Location		Isolated?	Habitat Type	Delineated Area (acre)	ORAM		Nearest Structure # (Existing / Proposed)	Existing Structure # in Wetland	Proposed Structure # in Wetland	Structure Installation Method	Proposed Impacts	
	Latitude	Longitude				Score	Category					Temporary Matting Area (acre)	Permanent Impact Area (acre)
W-AGS-001	40.107839	-82.803751	Yes	PEM	0.73	28	1	TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-002	40.111863	-82.801144	Yes	PEM	0.03	20	1	TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-003	40.11159	-82.798545	Yes	PEM	0.25	29	2	TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
	40.111331	-82.7989		PFO	0.53			TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-004	40.112346	-82.799429	No	PEM	0.27	41.5	Modified 2	TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
	40.112488	-82.800014		PFO	1.32			TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-005	40.112435	-82.798296	No	PEM	0.04	24	1	TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-006	40.115623	-82.796016	No	PFO	0.26	47.5	2	TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-007	40.116962	-82.79485	No	PEM	0.40	47.5	2	TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
	40.116699	-82.795021		PFO	0.10			TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
	40.117014	-82.795206		PSS	0.19			TBD	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
Total:					**4.12**							**TBD**	**TBD**

Please note that the information presented in this table may not be verified by applicable regulatory agencies.

3.2 STREAM DELINATION

During the field survey, AECOM delineated two streams (one perennial, one intermittent). Of these delineated streams, both were classified using HHEI evaluations that identified both as Modified Class II PHW.

AECOM has provided a provisional determination that all delineated streams within the Project Survey Area appear to be jurisdictional (i.e., WOTUS), based on their observed or presumed confluence with downstream waters. Final jurisdictional status can only be determined by the USACE, and AECOM assessments are provisional. A summary of the delineated features is provided in **Table 3**. Stream data forms and photographs of each delineated stream resource are provided in **Appendix B**. Stream delineations can be found on **Figure 3**.

TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF DELINEATED STREAMS WTIHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Stream ID	Location		Stream Type	Stream Name	Delineated Length (feet)	Bankfull Width (feet)	OHWM Width (feet)	Field Evaluation			Ohio EPA 401 Eligibility	Stream Crossing?	Proposed Impacts	
	Latitude	Longitude						Method	Score	Category / Rating / OAC Designation			Fill Type	Area (acre)
S-AGS-001	40.116207	-82.795463	Perennial	Bevelheimer Ditch	595	8	7	HHEI	63	Modified Class II PHW	Possibly Eligible	TBD	TBD	TBD
S-AGS-001(2)	40.11638	-82.792501	Perennial	Bevelheimer Ditch	505	8	7	HHEI	58	Modified Class II PHW	Possibly Eligible	TBD	TBD	TBD
S-AGS-002	40.116642	-82.794982	Intermittent	UNT to Bevelheimer Ditch	199	4	4	HHEI	49	Modified Class II PHW	Possibly Eligible	TBD	TBD	TBD
				Total:	**1,299**									**0**

Please note that the information presented in this table may not be verified by applicable regulatory agencies.

3.2.1 OEPA STREAM ELIGIBILITY

OEPA stream eligibility for 401 WQC mapping was reviewed for the Project Survey Area. The Project occurs within one watershed, Rocky Fork Creek (050600011501), that is designated by 401 WQC eligibility as "possibly eligible". The OEPA stream eligibility mapping for the Project Survey Area is provided on **Figure 4**.

3.3 FEMA 100 YEAR FLOODPLAINS

No FEMA regulated floodways, or 100-year floodplains are located within the Project Survey Area (FEMA, 2011).

3.4 PONDS

During the field survey, AECOM identified no ponds within the Project Survey Area.

3.5 UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURES

During the field surveys, AECOM identified six upland drainage features within the Project Survey Area. The extent of the upland drainage features is displayed on **Figures 2 and 3**. Photographs of all delineated upland drainage features are provided in **Appendix C**.

3.6 VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES

AECOM ecologists conducted a general habitat survey in conjunction with the stream and wetland field surveys. As described in **Table 4** below, the Project Survey Area contained Agriculture Row-Crop, Old Field, Woodlands, Pasture/Hayfield, Streams/Wetlands, Urban, and Landscaped Areas. Vegetative communities are depicted visually on aerial photography in **Figure 5**. Representative photographs of the vegetative communities in the Project Survey Area are provided as **Appendix D**.

TABLE 4 - VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Vegetative Community	Description	Approximate Acreage Within the Project Survey Area	Approximate Percentage Within the Project Survey Area
Landscaped Areas	Landscaped areas, including residential properties and commercial properties, were observed within the Project vicinity. These landscaped areas within the Project Survey Area and adjacent areas are frequently mowed grasses and forbs.	6.5	10.4%
Agriculture Row-Crop	Agricultural lands being utilized for row-crop production and associated activities, typically devoid of vegetation outside of the target crop and opportunistic/invasive species.	10.2	16.3%
Streams/Wetlands	Streams and wetlands were observed both within and beyond the survey area for the Project.	4.1	6.5%
Old Field	Herbaceous cover exists alongside roads, field borders, and abandoned fields within the survey area of the Project in the form of successional old-field communities. These communities are the earliest stages of recolonization by plants following disturbance. This community type is typically short-lived, giving way progressively to shrub and forest communities unless periodically re-disturbed, in which case they remain as old fields. The old-field areas within the study corridors and adjacent areas are infrequently mowed areas of grasses, forbs, and occasional shrubs.	23.0	36.7%
Woodlands (Deciduous)	Woodlands (floodplain, upland, successional-mixed, etc.) are present along the Project Survey Area	5.9	9.%
Urban	Urban areas are areas developed with residential and commercial land uses, including roads, buildings, and parking lots. These areas are generally devoid of significant woody and herbaceous vegetation.	6.7	10.7%
Pasture / Hayfield	Cattle and/or horse pasture, and hay fields, dominated by seasonally mowed and grazed areas of grasses and forbs.	4.5	7.2%
Scrub / Shrub	Scrub-shrub habitats represent the successional stage between old-field and second growth forest, and often emerge in recently harvested forests responding to the lightness of the remaining canopy. Dominant species consist of herbaceous communities similar to that of old field habitat with 30% or greater coverage of woody species that are not trees (including sapling trees generally <3” dbh and <20’ in height).	1.8	2.9%
	Totals:	**62.7**	**100%**

3.7 RARE, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES AGENCY COORDINATION

Protected Species Agency Consultation –

On June 5, 2023, coordination letters were sent to United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Ohio Natural heritage Program (ONHP) and Division of Wildlife (DOW), seeking an environmental review for the Project for potential impacts to threatened and endangered species.

Responses were received from the USFWS on July 6, 2023, and from the ODNR on August 4, 2023. According to a response letter received from the USFWS, two federal endangered and one federal proposed bat species was identified within range of the Project Area. Regarding state threatened and endangered species that may occur within the Project vicinity, 27 species were listed by the ODNR.

Correspondence letters from the USFWS and ODNR for Souder Extension 138kV Project are included as **Appendix E. Table 5** provides a list of species of concern identified by the agencies as potentially occurring within the vicinity of the Project. Photographs of the habitat within the Project Area are provided as **Appendix D**.

TABLE 5
ODNR AND USFWS LISTED SPECIES WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Common Name (Scientific Name)	State Status	Federal Status	Typical Habitat	Habitat Observed	Avoidance Dates	Agency Comments	Potential Impacts
Mammals							
Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*)	Endangered	Endangered	Summer habitat During spring/summer, this bat species roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in leaves. Hibernaculum(a) During winter, this species hibernates in humid mines, caves, and occasionally man-made structures.	Summer habitat Within the Project survey trees were identified that may be suitable roosting trees. Hibernaculum(a) No mine openings and/or known caves are located within 0.25 miles of Project area and USFWS did not identify known hibernacula within 5-miles of the Project. Field evaluations did not identify any potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project area (2024 Joint Guidance)*.	April 1 – September 30	Summer habitat ODNR and USFWS recommends adherence to Avoidance Dates for Tree Clearing Activities (April 1 – September 30). Hibernaculum(a) The ODNR DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment to be conducted to identify potential hibernacula within 0.25 miles of the Project area. If habitat assessment finds potential hibernaculum within 0.25 miles, a revised seasonal tree clearing restriction (March 15 to November 15) is recommended (2024 Joint Guidance)*. If absence or no tree cutting or subsurface impacts are proposed, the Project is not likely to impact this species.	Summer habitat Potential summer roosting habitat is present within the Project area and seasonal tree clearing, between October 1 and March 31, is recommended. Hibernaculum(a) No impacts to winter hibernacula were identified due to absence of caves, mines, or portals within 0.25-miles of the Project.
Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)	Endangered	Endangered	Summer habitat During spring/summer, this bat species roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in leaves. Hibernaculum(a) During winter, this species hibernates in humid mines, caves, and occasionally man-made structures.	Summer habitat Within the Project survey trees were identified that may be suitable roosting trees. Hibernaculum(a) No mine openings and/or known caves are located within 0.25 miles of Project area and USFWS did not identify known hibernacula within 5-miles of the Project. Field evaluations did not identify any potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project area (2024 Joint Guidance)*.	April 1 – September 30	Summer habitat ODNR and USFWS recommends adherence to Avoidance Dates for Tree Clearing Activities (April 1 – September 30). Additionally, the ODNR indicated that there is a known presence of this species within the Project area and summer surveys would not constitute a presence or absence of this species. Hibernaculum(a) The ODNR DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment to be conducted to identify potential hibernacula within 0.25 miles of the Project area. If habitat assessment finds potential hibernaculum within 0.25 miles, a revised seasonal tree clearing restriction (March 15 to November 15) is recommended (2024 Joint Guidance)*. If absence or no tree cutting or subsurface impacts are proposed, the Project is not likely to impact this species.	Summer habitat Potential summer roosting habitat is present within the Project area and seasonal tree clearing, between October 1 and March 31, is recommended. Additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence within the Project area for the northern long-eared bat. Hibernaculum(a) No impacts to winter hibernacula were identified due to absence of caves, mines, or portals within 0.25-miles of the Project.
Little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*)	Endangered	NA	Summer habitat During spring/summer, this bat species roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in leaves. Hibernaculum(a) During winter, this species hibernates in humid mines, caves, and occasionally man-made structures.	Summer habitat Within the Project survey trees were identified that may be suitable roosting trees. Hibernaculum(a) No mine openings and/or known caves are located within 0.25 miles of Project area and USFWS did not identify known hibernacula within 5-miles of the Project. Field evaluations did not identify any potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project area (2024 Joint Guidance)*.	April 1 – September 30	Summer habitat ODNR and USFWS recommends adherence to Avoidance Dates for Tree Clearing Activities (April 1 – September 30). Hibernaculum(a) The ODNR DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment to be conducted to identify potential hibernacula within 0.25 miles of the Project area. If habitat assessment finds potential hibernaculum within 0.25 miles, a revised seasonal tree clearing restriction (March 15 to November 15) is recommended (2024 Joint Guidance)*. If absence or no tree cutting or subsurface impacts are proposed, the Project is not likely to impact this species.	Summer habitat Potential summer roosting habitat is present within the Project area and seasonal tree clearing, between October 1 and March 31, is recommended. Hibernaculum(a) No impacts to winter hibernacula were identified due to absence of caves, mines, or portals within 0.25-miles of the Project.
Tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)	Endangered	Proposed	Summer habitat During spring/summer, this bat species roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in leaves. Hibernaculum(a) During winter, this species hibernates in humid mines, caves, and occasionally man-made structures.	Summer habitat Within the Project survey trees were identified that may be suitable roosting trees. Hibernaculum(a) No mine openings and/or known caves are located within 0.25 miles of Project area and USFWS did not identify known hibernacula within 5-miles of the Project. Field evaluations did not identify any potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project area (2024 Joint Guidance)*.	April 1 – September 30	Summer habitat ODNR and USFWS recommends adherence to Avoidance Dates for Tree Clearing Activities (April 1 – September 30). Hibernaculum(a) The ODNR DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment to be conducted to identify potential hibernacula within 0.25 miles of the Project area. If habitat assessment finds potential hibernaculum within 0.25 miles, a revised seasonal tree clearing restriction (March 15 to November 15) is recommended (2024 Joint Guidance)*. If absence or no tree cutting or subsurface impacts are proposed, the Project is not likely to impact this species.	Summer habitat Potential summer roosting habitat is present within the Project area and seasonal tree clearing, between October 1 and March 31, is recommended. Hibernaculum(a) No impacts to winter hibernacula were identified due to absence of caves, mines, or portals within 0.25-miles of the Project.

TABLE 5
ODNR AND USFWS LISTED SPECIES WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Common Name (Scientific Name)	State Status	Federal Status	Typical Habitat	Habitat Observed	Avoidance Dates	Agency Comments	Potential Impacts
Fish							
Northern brook lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon fossori*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Spotted darter (*Etheostoma maculatum*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Goldeye (*Hiodon alosoides*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Shortnose gar (*Lepisosteus platostomus*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Iowa darter (*Etheostoma exile*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Popeye shiner (*Notropis ariommus*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Tonguetied minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Lake chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*)	Threatened	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*)	Threatened	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Mussels							
Elephant-ear (*Elliptio crassidens crassidens*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Long solid (*Fusconaia maculata maculate*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Northern riffleshell (*Epioblasma torulosa rangiana*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Ohio pigtoe (*Pleurobema cordatum*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Pocketbook (*Lampsilis ovata*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.

TABLE 5
ODNR AND USFWS LISTED SPECIES WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Common Name (Scientific Name)	State Status	Federal Status	Typical Habitat	Habitat Observed	Avoidance Dates	Agency Comments	Potential Impacts
Pondhorn (*Uniomerus tetralasmus*)	Threatened	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*)	Threatened	Threatened	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*)	Threatened	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Washboard (*Megalonaias nervosa*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Purple cat's paw (*Epioblasma o. obliquata*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Birds							
Northern Harrier (*Circus hudsonius*)	Endangered	None	This species hunts over grasslands and nests can be found in large marshes and grasslands.	**No** – Based on desktop and field reviews, the Project area does not contain suitable nesting habitat.	April 15 to July 31	Habitat should be avoided during the bird's nesting period between April 15 through July 31. Due to the absence of suitable habitat this Project will not likely impact this species.	No – Based on desktop and field reviews, the Project area does not contain suitable nesting habitat.

2024 Joint Guidance – Refers to the 2024 ODNR DOW and USFWS Joint Guidance for Bat Surveys and Tree Clearing, a copy of the guidance is provided within **Appendix F of this memo.*

Protected Species Agency Summary

Based on general observations during the ecological field survey, forested areas were identified within the Project Survey Area and tree clearing is proposed as part of the Project. The ODNR and the USFWS recommend implementations of seasonal tree clearing between October 1 and March 31 to avoid adverse effects to Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, little brown bat, and tricolored bat. ODNR confirmed a known presence in the vicinity of the Project Area for the northern long-eared bat. If trees must be cut during the summer months, the ODNR recommends that a mist net survey could be completed for the Indiana bat, little brown bat, and the tricolored bat between June 1 and August 15. However, additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence within the Project Survey Area for the northern long-eared bat. If summer tree clearing is needed, additional coordination would be completed with ODNR and the USFWS.

Regarding potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project Area, a desktop hibernaculum(a) review was completed in accordance with the 2024 Ohio ODNR DOW and USFWS Joint Guidance for Bat Surveys and Tree Clearing within 0.25 miles of the Project survey (**Figure 6**). No karst features, mining activities, and/or sink holes were identified within a 0.25-miles radius of the Project Area that are anticipated to provide suitable hibernacula for cave-dwelling bats. As per the 2024 Joint Guidance, if potential hibernacula are found and it is assumed bats are present, the ODNR/USFWS suggest refraining from clearing of tree between March 15 and November 15. However, if impacts cannot be avoided, further evaluation and coordination with the ODNR and USFWS is warranted.

No impacts are anticipated to occur to any fish, or mussel species as no in-water work is proposed as part of the Project.

The ODNR noted that the Project is within the range of the northern harrier; however, AECOM ecologist and approved avian specialist concluded an absence of this species nesting habitat within the Project Survey Area. According to ODNR, open grasslands and wet meadow marshes, of at least 2-acres, is considered nesting habitat for the northern harrier. Based on field and desktop review, the Project Survey Area is a proposed transmission line corridor that traverses agricultural fields and old field habitat within an urban/residential landscape just North of the City of New Albany. The Project Area does intersect three larger fields, ranging from 15 to 17 acres in size and comprised of old field habitat, which meet the ODNR requirement for size (>2-acres). However, these areas possess factors that exclude them from the consideration of potential habitat. Those factors include tight borders of forested and residential properties, which is considered to be less attractive to nesting; the fields are situated amongst a highly urbanized and residential landscape; and lack of expansive contiguous habitat. Therefore, there is no suitable nesting habitat within the Project Survey Area and no further coordination regarding this listed species is necessary concerning this Project.

4.0 SUMMARY

The ecological field survey of the Project Survey Area identified a total of seven wetlands (three PEM, one PFO, two PEM/PFO, and one PEM/PFO/PSS) within the Project Survey Area. Three wetlands were assigned ORAM Category 1, and four wetlands were assigned ORAM Category 2 within the Project Survey Area. No Category 3 wetlands were identified within the Project Survey Area. Boundaries of wetlands are provided on **Figure 3**.

Of the two streams identified within the Project Survey Area, both streams were classified using HHEI evaluations that identified both streams as Modified Class II PHW.

AECOM has preliminarily determined that the assessed streams within the Project Survey Area appear to be jurisdictional (i.e., WOTUS). The reported results of the ecological survey conducted by AECOM on this Project are limited to the areas within the Project Survey Area provided on **Figure 3**. Areas that fall outside of the Project Survey Area were not evaluated in the field and are not included in the reporting of this survey.

Of the 27 state and/or federal listed threatened or endangered species within range of the Project Survey Area, no habitat for any of the listed aquatic or bird species were identified within the Project Survey Area. However, four bat species were identified as having potential summer roosting habitat and no hibernacula within the Project Survey Area. If tree clearing cannot be completed during the seasonal tree clearing restriction (October 1 to March 31), further coordination with the ODNR/USFWS is warranted. Additionally, the northern long-eared bat was identified as a known occurrence and additional summary surveys would not constitute a presence/absence for this species.

The field survey results presented herein apply to the existing and reasonably foreseeable site conditions at the time of our assessment. They cannot apply to site changes of which AECOM is unaware and has not had the opportunity to review. Changes in the condition of a property may occur with time due to natural processes or human impacts at the Project site or on adjacent properties. Changes in applicable standards may also occur as a result of legislation or the expansion of knowledge over time. Accordingly, the findings of this report may be invalidated, wholly or in part, by changes beyond the control of AECOM.

5.0 REFERENCES

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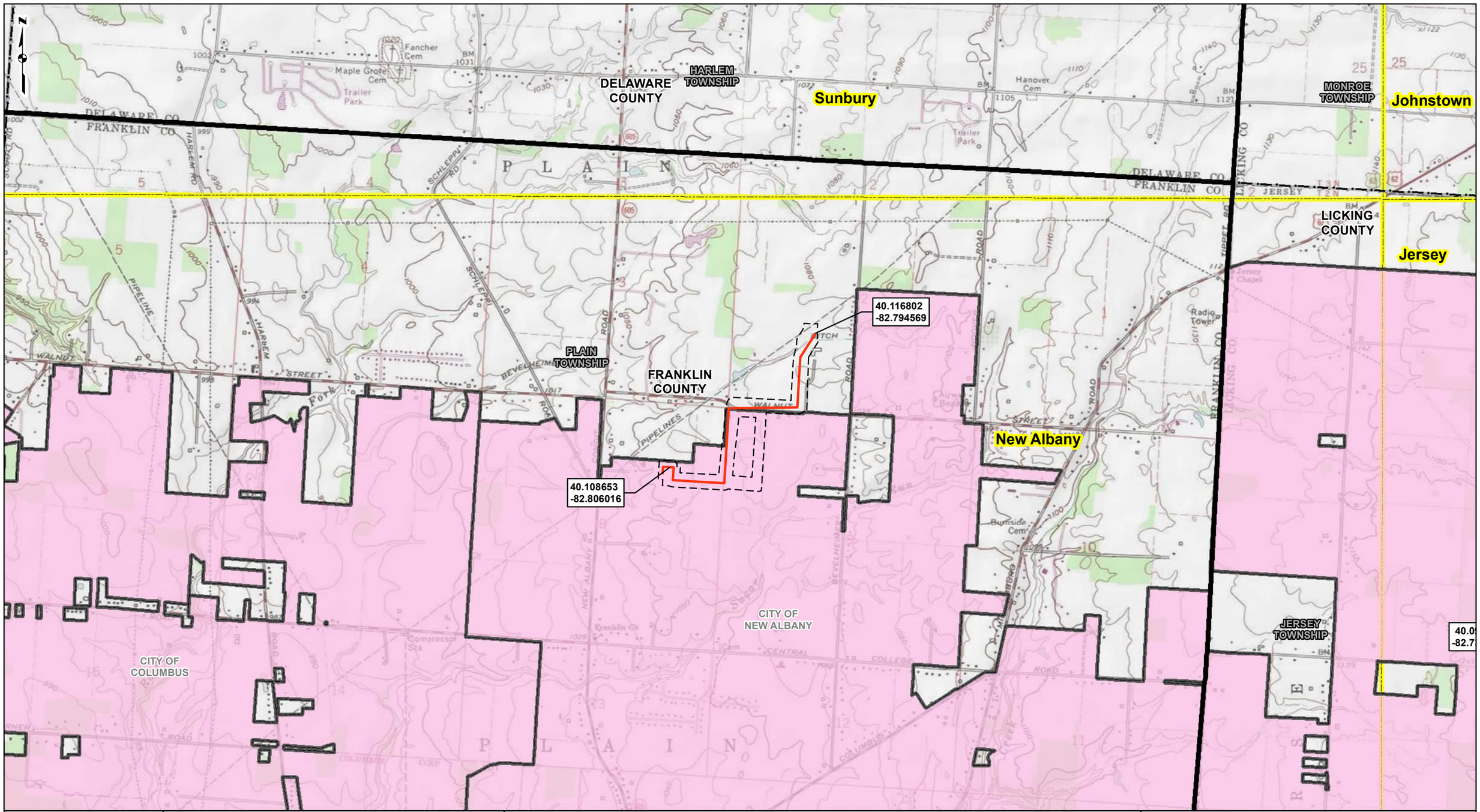

PROJECT LOCATION

FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

REFERENCE: USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLES: NEW ALBANY, OHIO, OBTAINED THROUGH ESRI USA TOPO MAPS, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TOPO AND USGS, ACCESSED 07/2025.

7/15/2025

LEGEND

- SOUDER 138kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION
- MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- OHIO USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet

FIGURE 1
PROJECT LOCATION MAP

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION
LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

AECOM

DRAWN BY: CJT
CHECKED: JH

DATE: 7/15/2025
APPROVED:

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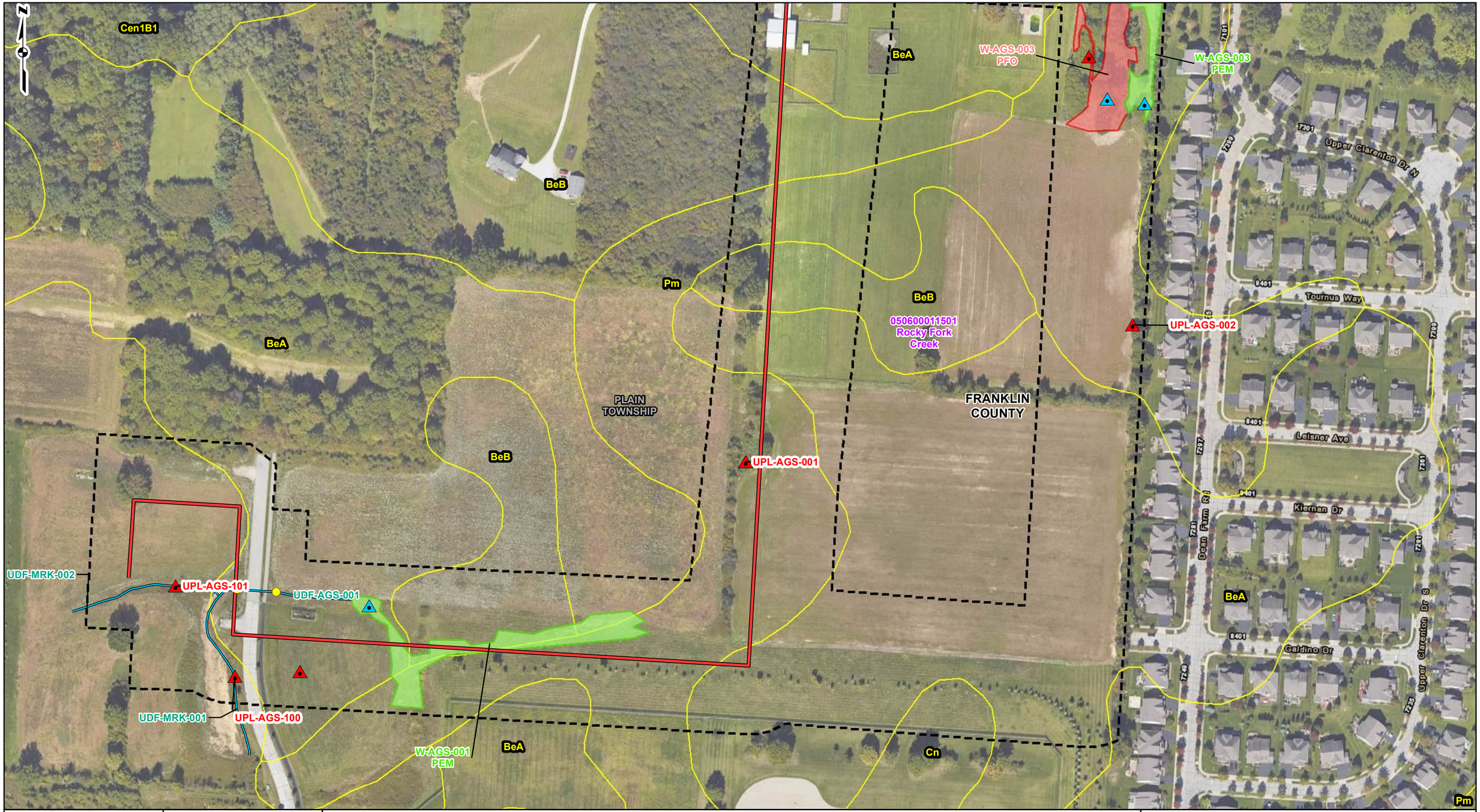

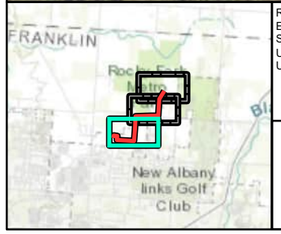

REFERENCE: WORLD IMAGERY (CLARITY), ESRI, ARCGIS ONLINE, ACCESSED 07/2025. SOIL SURVEY GEOGRAPHIC (SSURGO), USDA/NRCS, 2024. NHD, USGS 2024. NWI, USFWS 2024. HUC 12, USGS 2024.

7/15/2025

LEGEND

- WETLAND DATA POINT
- UPLAND DATA POINT
- CULVERT
- DELINEATED UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE
- SOUDER 138kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION
- DELINEATED PFO WETLAND
- DELINEATED PEM WETLAND
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA
- NWI WETLAND (USFWS)
- HUC 12 WATERSHED BOUNDARY
- SOIL MAP UNIT

SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

BeA: BENNINGTON SILT LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
BeB: BENNINGTON SILT LOAM, 2 TO 6 PERCENT SLOPES
Cn: CONDIT SILT LOAM, 0 TO 1 PERCENT SLOPES
Pm: PEWAMO SILTY CLAY LOAM, LOW CARBONATE TILL, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 2
SOIL MAP AND NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY MAP SHEET 1 OF 3

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 7/15/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

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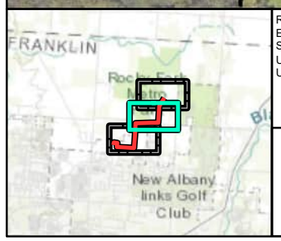
N

BeA
PEM1C
BeA
W-AGS-006
PFO
UDF-AGS-006
Bevelheimer Ditch
R4SBC
R5UBH
BeB
Pm
PABGh
BeA
Cen1B1
050600011501
Rocky Fork
Creek
BeA
PLAIN
TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN
COUNTY
R4SBC
W-AGS-004
PFO
Pm
BeB
Cen1B1
W-AGS-004
PEM
BeB
UDF-AGS-004
W-AGS-005
PEM
UDF-AGS-002
UDF-AGS-003
UDF-AGS-005
Walnut St
PUBGx
W-AGS-002
PEM
W-AGS-003
PEM
BeA
W-AGS-003
PFO
BeB



REFERENCE: WORLD IMAGERY (CLARITY), ESRI, ARCGIS ONLINE, ACCESSED 07/2025. SOIL SURVEY GEOGRAPHIC (SSURGO), USDA/NRCS, 2024. NHD, USGS 2024. NWI, USFWS 2024. HUC 12, USGS 2024.

7/15/2025

LEGEND

- WETLAND DATA POINT
- UPLAND DATA POINT
- CULVERT
- DELINEATED UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE
- DELINEATED PERENNIAL STREAM
- SOUDER 138kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION
- DELINEATED PFO WETLAND
- DELINEATED PEM WETLAND
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA
- NHD STREAM (USGS)
- NWI WETLAND (USFWS)
- NHD WATERBODY (USGS)
- HUC 12 WATERSHED BOUNDARY
- SOIL MAP UNIT

SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

BeA: BENNINGTON SILT LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
BeB: BENNINGTON SILT LOAM, 2 TO 6 PERCENT SLOPES
Pm: PEWAMO SILTY CLAY LOAM, LOW CARBONATE TILL, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 2
SOIL MAP AND
NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY MAP
SHEET 2 OF 3

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION
LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 7/15/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

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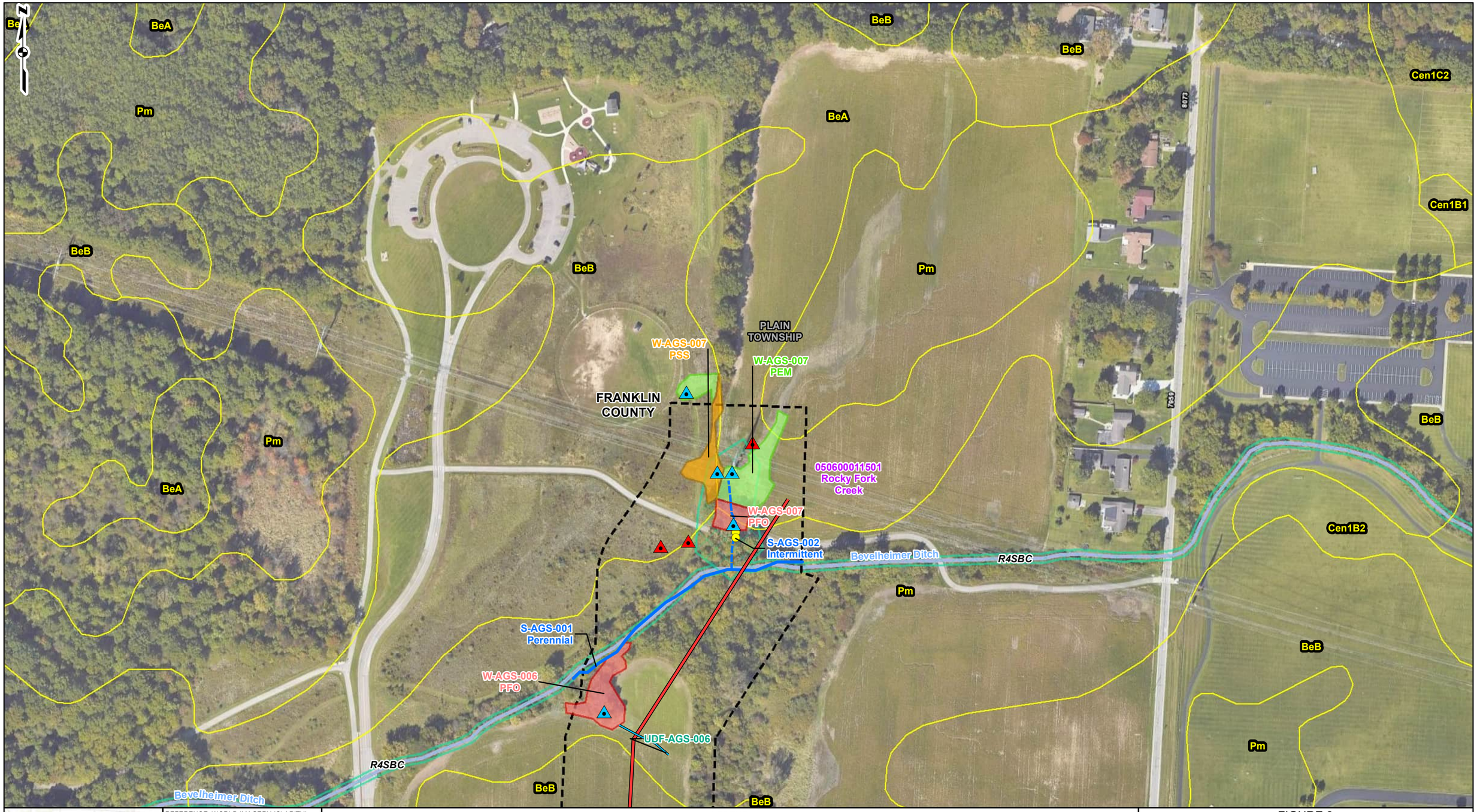

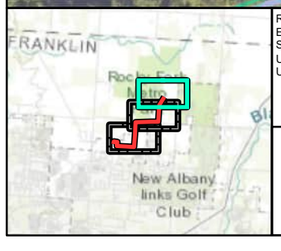

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7/15/2025

LEGEND

- WETLAND DATA POINT
- UPLAND DATA POINT
- CULVERT
- DELINEATED UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE
- DELINEATED INTERMITTENT STREAM
- DELINEATED PERENNIAL STREAM
- SOUDER 138kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION
- DELINEATED PSS WETLAND
- DELINEATED PFO WETLAND
- DELINEATED PEM WETLAND
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA
- NHD STREAM (USGS)
- NWI WETLAND (USFWS)
- HUC 12 WATERSHED BOUNDARY
- SOIL MAP UNIT

SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

- BeA: BENNINGTON SILT LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
- BeB: BENNINGTON SILT LOAM, 2 TO 6 PERCENT SLOPES
- Pm: PEWAMO SILTY CLAY LOAM, LOW CARBONATE TILL, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 2
SOIL MAP AND
NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY MAP
SHEET 3 OF 3

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION
LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

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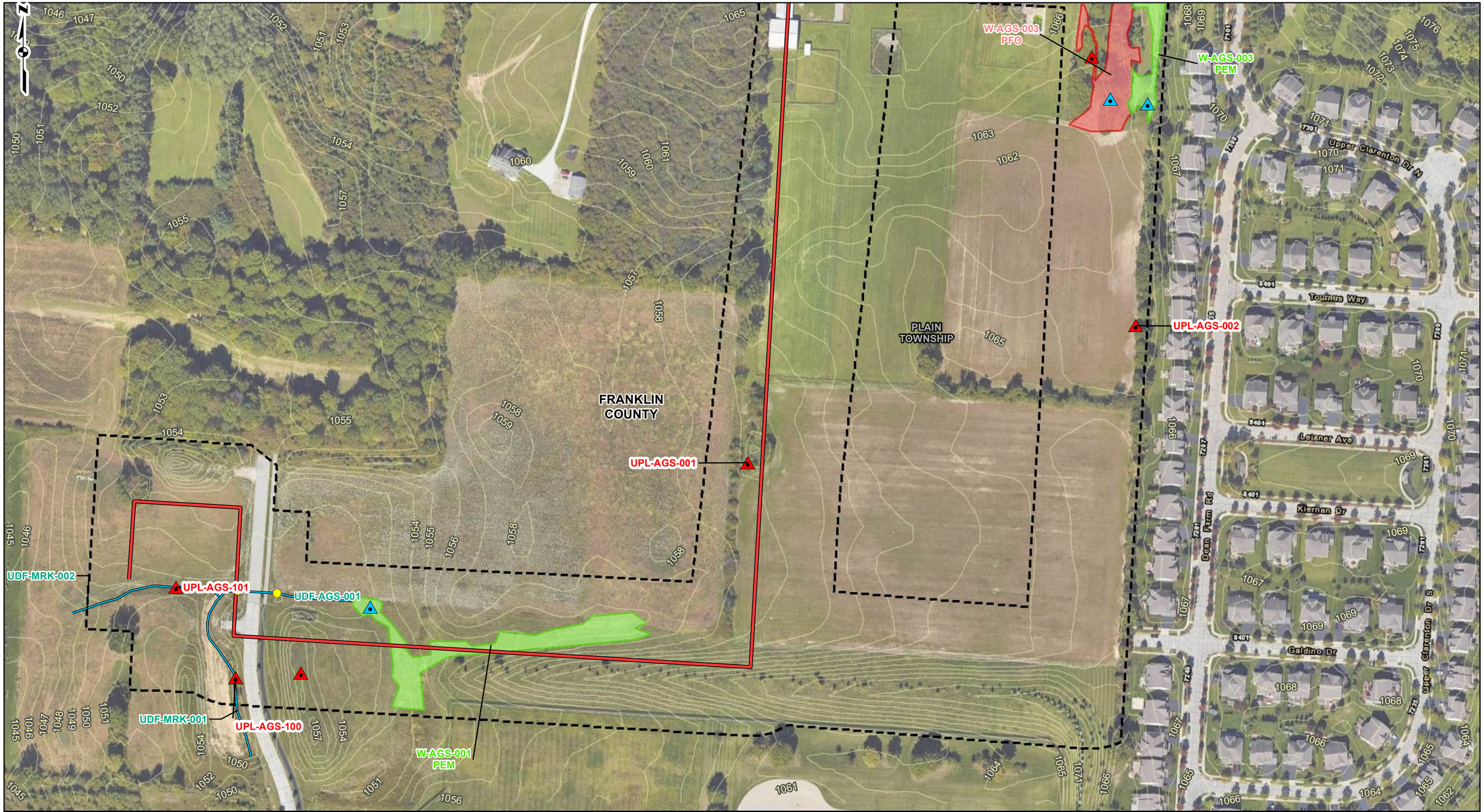

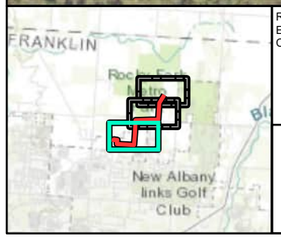

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7/15/2025

LEGEND

- WETLAND DATA POINT
- UPLAND DATA POINT
- CULVERT
- DELINEATED UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE
- SOUDER 138kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION
- DELINEATED PFO WETLAND
- DELINEATED PEM WETLAND
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA
- CONTOUR (1FT)

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 3
WETLAND DELINEATION AND
STREAM ASSESSMENT MAP
SHEET 1 OF 3

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION
LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 7/15/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

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7/15/2025

LEGEND

- WETLAND DATA POINT
- UPLAND DATA POINT
- CULVERT
- DELINEATED UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE
- DELINEATED PERENNIAL STREAM
- SOUDER 138kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION
- DELINEATED PFO WETLAND
- DELINEATED PEM WETLAND
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA
- NHD STREAM (USGS)
- CONTOUR (1FT)

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 3
WETLAND DELINEATION AND
STREAM ASSESSMENT MAP
SHEET 2 OF 3

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION
LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 7/15/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

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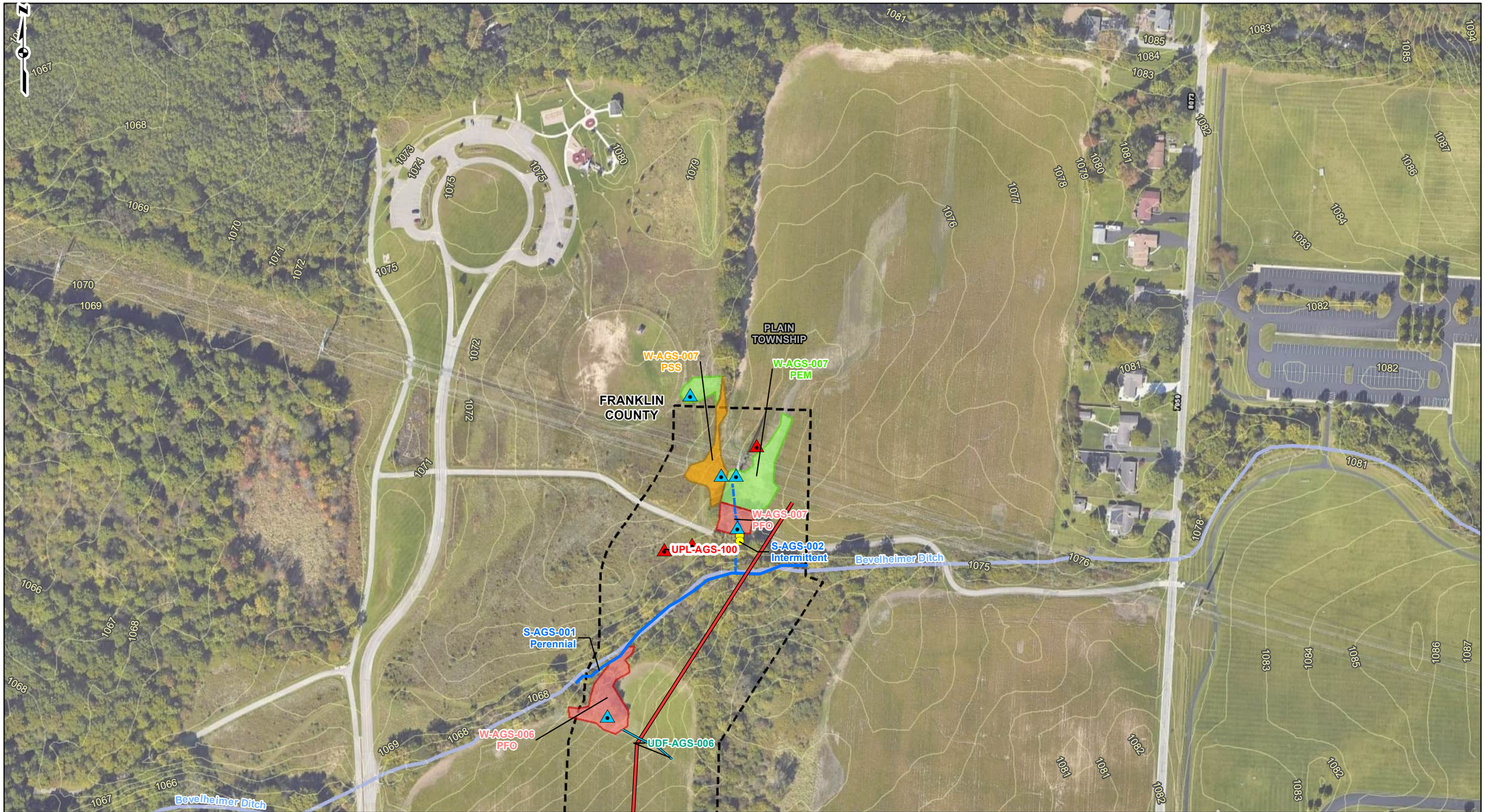

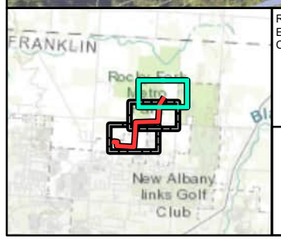

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7/15/2025

LEGEND

- WETLAND DATA POINT
- UPLAND DATA POINT
- CULVERT
- DELINEATED UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE
- DELINEATED INTERMITTENT STREAM
- DELINEATED PERENNIAL STREAM
- SOUDER 138kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION
- DELINEATED PSS WETLAND
- DELINEATED PFO WETLAND
- DELINEATED PEM WETLAND
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA
- NHD STREAM (USGS)
- CONTOUR (1FT)

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 3
WETLAND DELINEATION AND STREAM ASSESSMENT MAP
SHEET 3 OF 3

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT
CHECKED: JH
DATE: 7/15/2025
APPROVED:

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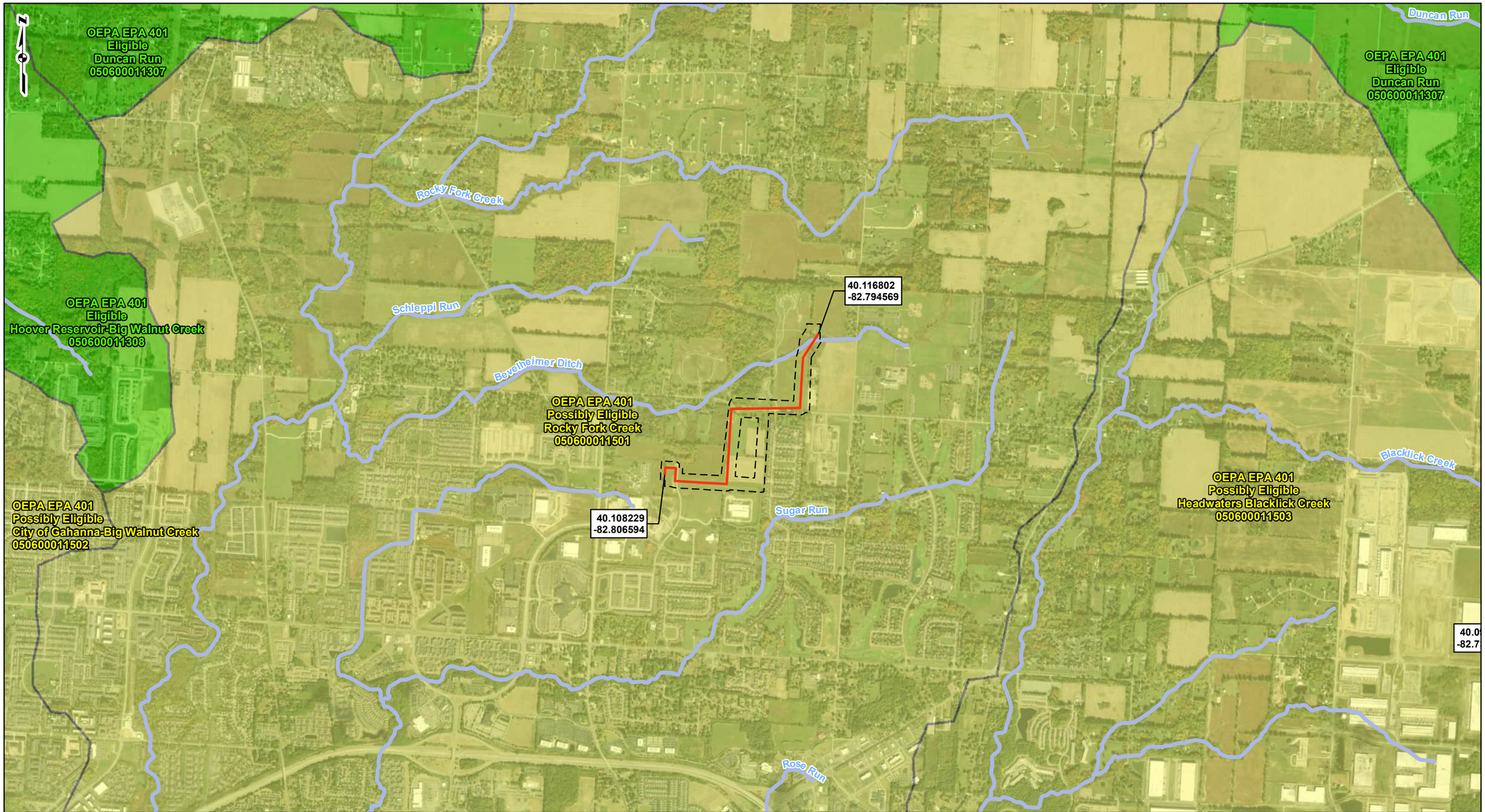

PROJECT LOCATION

FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

REFERENCE: USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLES: NEW ALBANY, OHIO, OBTAINED THROUGH ESRI USA TOPO MAPS, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TOPO AND USGS, ACCESSED 07/2025. OEPA ELIGIBLE WATERSHEDS, OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, 2024.

7/15/2025

LEGEND

- SOUDER 138kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION
- NHD STREAM (USGS)
- PROJECT SURVEY

OEPA ELIGIBILITY:

- ELIGIBLE
- INELIGIBLE
- POSSIBLY ELIGIBLE

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet

FIGURE 4
STREAM ELIGIBILTY MAP

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION
LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 7/15/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

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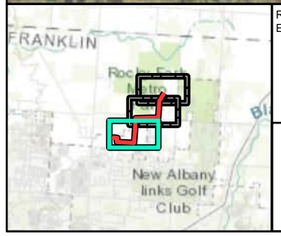

REFERENCE: WORLD IMAGERY (CLARITY), ESRI, ARCGIS ONLINE, ACCESSED 07/2025.

7/15/2025

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION POINT
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA

VEGETATIVE COMMUNITY TYPE

- Agriculture Row Crop
- Landscaped
- Old Field
- Pasture/Hay Field
- Scrub/Shrub
- Steams/Wetlands
- Urban
- Woodlands

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 5
VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES ASSESSMENT MAP
SHEET 1 OF 3

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 7/15/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

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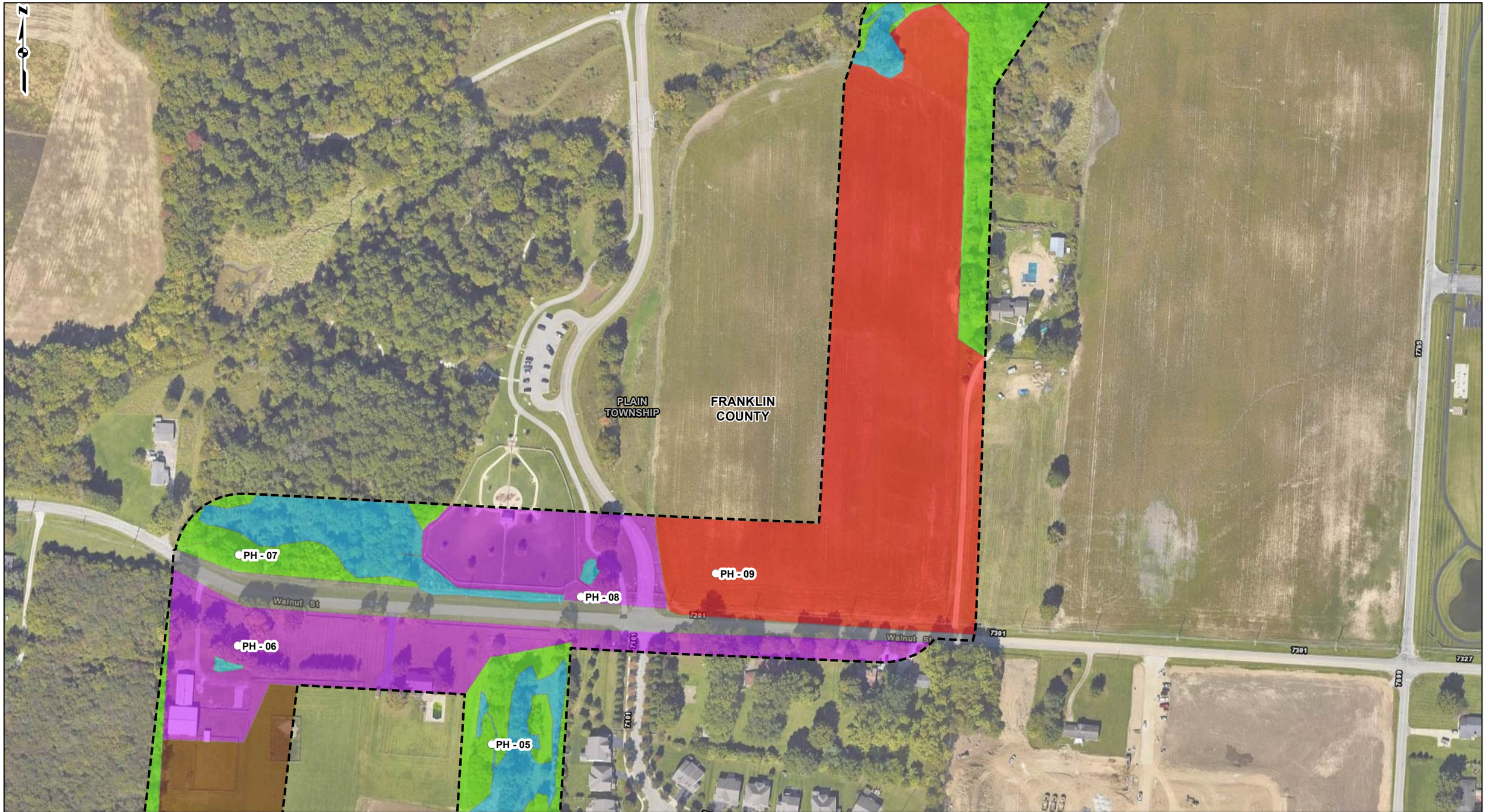

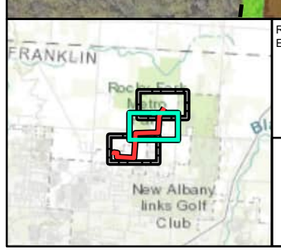

REFERENCE: WORLD IMAGERY (CLARITY), ESRI, ARCGIS ONLINE, ACCESSED 07/2025.

7/15/2025

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION POINT
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA

VEGETATIVE COMMUNITY TYPE

- Agriculture Row Crop
- Landscaped
- Old Field
- Pasture/Hay Field
- Steams/Wetlands
- Urban
- Woodlands

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 5
VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES
ASSESSMENT MAP
SHEET 2 OF 3

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION
LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 7/15/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

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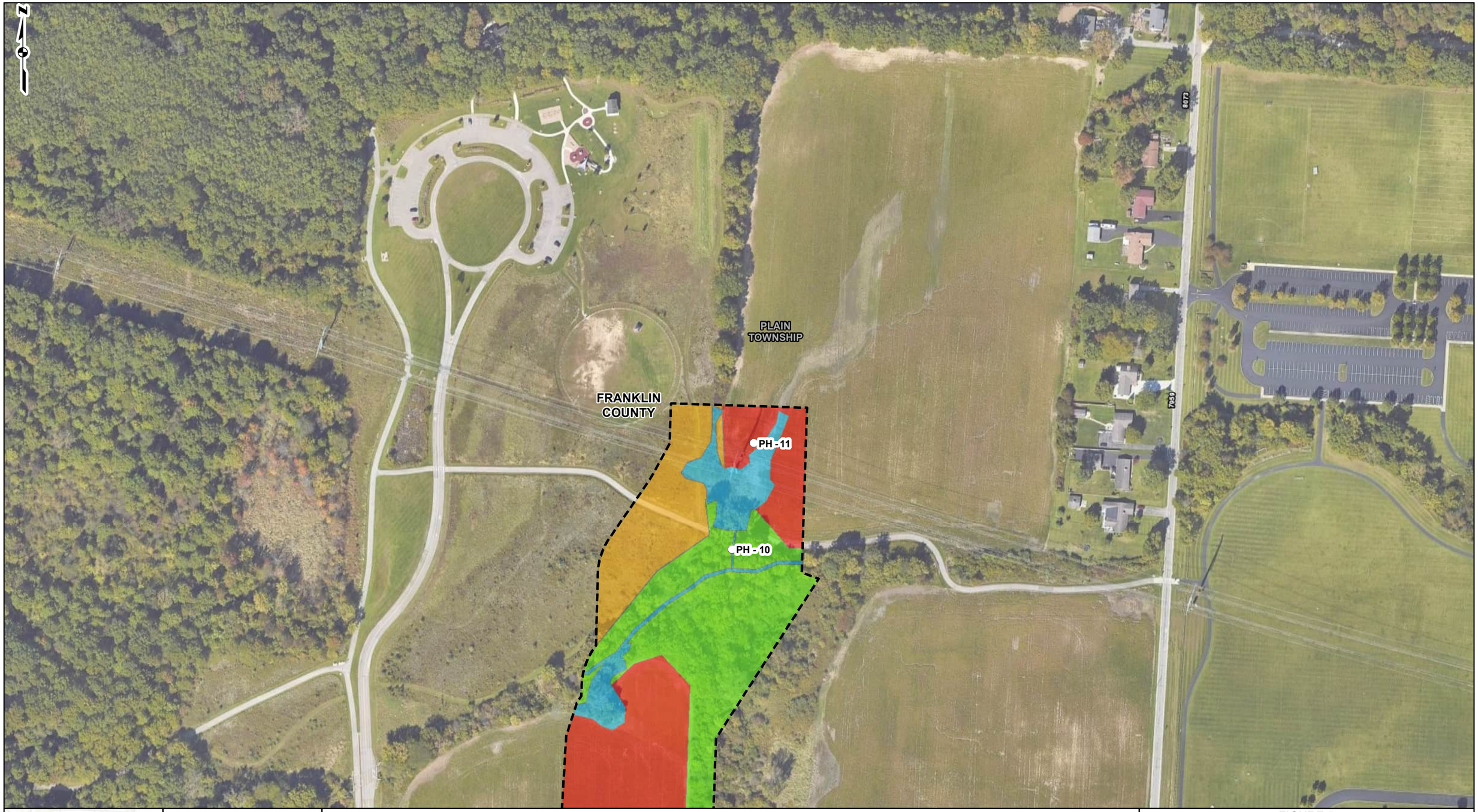

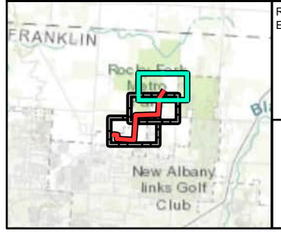

REFERENCE: WORLD IMAGERY (CLARITY), ESRI, ARCGIS ONLINE, ACCESSED 07/2025.

7/15/2025

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION POINT
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA

VEGETATIVE COMMUNITY TYPE

- Old Field
- Scrub/Shrub
- Steams/Wetlands
- Woodlands

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 5
VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES ASSESSMENT MAP
SHEET 3 OF 3

AECOM

SOUDER 138 kV TRANSMISSION LINE EXTENSION PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 7/15/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

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Sunbury

New Albany

FRANKLIN COUNTY

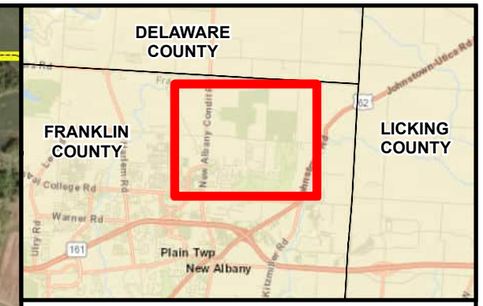
PLAIN TOWNSHIP

Bixby - Corridor (Kirk - Corridor) 345kV Existing Transmission Line

Structure 23
40.116144
-82.791383

Souder Station
40.108049
-82.805916

No mining activities, karst features, and/or sink holes are within the extent of the map frame. The closest feature is 0.77 miles north of the Project area.



Legend

- Souder 138kV Extension Jug - Corridor 138kV Cut In and Removal
- Existing Transmission Line
- Quater Mile Review Area
- Ohio USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle
- Township Boundary
- County Boundary

N

0 1,000 2,000

Feet

AEP

Souder 138kV Extension Jug - Corridor 138kV Cut In and Removal Project

FIGURE 6
DESKTOP BAT ASSESSMENT MAP

DATE: 6/27/2023	1 INCH = 1,000 FEET
CREATED BY: CJT	CHECKED BY: JH
JOB NO.: 60706505	AECOM

Date Saved: 6/27/2023
Document Path: X:\DCS\GIS\ArcMap_GeoDB_Projects\ENV\60706505_AEP_Souder_138kV_Ext_Tline\2_MXDs\0_TE\Souder_Ext_ODNRFigure2_Aerial_Overview_.mxd

APPENDIX A

USACE WETLAND DATA FORMS, ORAM FORMS, AND PHOTOGRPHIC RECORD

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-001-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S8, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.108072 | Long: -82.804703 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-001 is a PEM, isolated wetland. The primary water source to this location is precipitation.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Juncus effusus*	20	X	OBL
2. *Scirpus cyperinus*	20	X	OBL
3. *Carex vulpinoidea*	20	X	OBL
4. *Carex scoparia*	10		FACW
5. *Scirpus atrovirens*	10		OBL
6. *Poa pratensis*	10		FAC
7. *Soldago rugosa*	10		FAC
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 3 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-001-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 3/1	95	10YR 6/6	5	C	PL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-001-UPL

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S8, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Hillslope | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Convex

Slope (%): 3 | Lat: 40.107674 | Long: -82.805248 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes ____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes ____ No X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes ____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____	No X	

Remarks:

W-AGS-001 is an upland data point located on the convex region of a hillslope. The only source of hydrology to this location is precipitation.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Achillea millefolium*	20	X	FACU
2. *Poa pratensis*	20	X	FAC
3. *Cirsium arvense*	20	X	FACU
4. *Trifolium pratense*	10		FACU
5. *Apocynum cannabinum*	10		FAC
6. *Melilotus officinalis*	10		FACU
7. *Leucanthemum vulgare*	10		UPL
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 1 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 3 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 33 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	0	x 2 =	0
FAC species	30	x 3 =	90
FACU species	60	x 4 =	240
UPL species	10	x 5 =	50
Column Totals:	100 (A)		380 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.80

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ____ No X

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is not present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-001-UPL

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-15	10YR 3/2	100					CL	
15-20	10YR 5/4	100					C	Some sand throughout strata

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ____

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ____ No X

Remarks:

Hydric soil is not present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ____ No X

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is not present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-002-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S9, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.111851 | Long: -82.801174 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation X, Soil X, or Hydrology X significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-002 is a PEM, isolated wetland. The source of hydrology to this area is precipitation. The vegetation is mowed and the soils are rocky and compacted.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Eleocharis obtusa*	60	X	OBL
2. *Ludwigia palustris*	20	X	OBL
3. *Rumex crispus*	10		FAC
4. *Lysimachia nummularia*	10		FACW
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-002-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	%	Redox Features Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-2	10YR 3/1	95	10YR 5/6	5	C	MPL	SiCL	
2-6	10YR 4/1	90	10YR 6/6	10	C	MPL	C	
6+	Clay							Refusal layer

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: Compact clay

Depth (inches): 6+

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 1

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

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present. Shallow aquitard at 6 inches.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-002-UPL

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S9, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): None

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.111915 | Long: -82.801240 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation X, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes ____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes ____ No X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes ____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-002-UPL is an upland data point located in a landscaped area. This location receives water from precipitation. The vegetation in this area is disturbed and occasionally mowed.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Catalpa speciosa*	60	X	FACU
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	60	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Trifolium repens*	30	X	FACU
2. *Glechoma hederacea*	10	X	FACU
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	40	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 3 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	0	x 2 =	0
FAC species	0	x 3 =	0
FACU species	100	x 4 =	400
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	100 (A)		400 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 4.00

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ____ No X

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is not present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-002-UPL

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-14	10YR 2/1	100					CL	
14-20	10YR 3/2	90	10YR 4/6	10	C	MPL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ___ No X

Remarks:

Hydric soil is not present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-003-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S9, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain/Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.111117 | Long: -82.798618 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-003 is a PEM, isolated wetland that is part of a PEM/PFO complex. The source of water to this location is precipitation.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Poa palustris*	25	X	FACW
2. *Phalaris arundinacea*	25	X	FACW
3. *Lysimachia nummularia*	20	X	FACW
4. *Solidago canadensis*	10		FACU
5. *Carex scoparia*	10		FACW
6. *Scirpus atrovirens*	5		OBL
7. *Vernonia noveboracensis*	5		FACW
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 3 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-003-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-10	10YR 4/2	95	10YR 6/6	5	C	MPL	CL	
10+	Clay/Rock							

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present. Micro-topographic relief present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-003-PFO

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S9, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain/Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.111160 | Long: -82.798909 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-003 is a PFO, isolated wetland that is part of a PEM/PFO complex. The source of water to this location is precipitation.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Quercus palustris*	40	X	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	40	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Pyrus calleryana*	10	X	UPL
2. *Rosa multiflora*	5	X	FACU
3. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	5	X	FACW
4.			
5.			
	20	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Phalaris arundinacea*	20	X	FACW
2. *Poa palustris*	20	X	FACW
3. *Carex stipata*	5		OBL
4. *Scirpus atrovirens*	5		OBL
5. *Solidago canadensis*	5		FACU
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	55	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 4 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 6 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 67 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-003-PFO

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 3/2	95	10YR 6/6	5	C	PL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present. Micro-topographic relief present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-003-UPL

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S9, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): None

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.111397 | Long: -82.799056 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes ____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes ____ No X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes ____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____	No X	

Remarks:

W-AGS-003-UPL is an upland data point located in a wooded area adjacent to an agricultural field. Precipitation is the source of hydrology to this area.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Robinia pseudoacacia*	40	X	FACU
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	40	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Frangula alnus*	20	X	FACW
2. *Rosa multiflora*	15	X	FACU
3.			
4.			
5.			
	35	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Allium canadense*	10	X	FACU
2. *Poa pratensis*	5	X	FAC
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	15	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1. *Toxicodendron radicans*	10	X	FAC
2. *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*	5	X	FACU
	15	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 7 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 43 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	20	x 2 =	40
FAC species	15	x 3 =	45
FACU species	70	x 4 =	280
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	105 (A)		365 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.48

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ____ No X

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is not present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-003-UPL

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Redox Features Type[1]	Redox Features Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 3/2	100					CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ___ No X

Remarks:

Hydric soil is not present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ___ No X

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is not present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-004-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.112391 | Long: -82.799672 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-004 is a PEM, abutting wetland with an assumed stream connection outside of the study area, based on aerial imagery. The source of hydrology to this area is groundwater and precipitation. This PEM wetland is part of a PEM/PFO complex.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Typha angustifolia*	60	X	OBL
2. *Typha latifolia*	20	X	OBL
3. *Carex vulpinoidea*	10		FACW
4. *Alisma subcordatum*	10		OBL
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-004-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	5Y 4/1	95	10YR 6/6	5	C	PL	SiCL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 2

Water Table Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-004-PFO

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain/Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.112510 | Long: -82.799929 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-004 is a PFO, abutting wetland with an assumed stream connection outside of the study area, based on aerial imagery. The source of hydrology to this area is precipitation and occasional flooding. This PFO wetland is part of a PEM/PFO complex.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Quercus palustris*	10	X	FACW
2. *Acer rubrum*	10	X	FAC
3. *Acer saccharinum*	10	X	FACW
4. *Catalpa speciosa*	10	X	FACU
5.			
	40	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Rosa multiflora*	10	X	FACU
2. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	10	X	FACW
3.			
4.			
5.			
	20	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Glyceria striata*	20	X	OBL
2. *Carex scoparia*	5		FACW
3. *Impatiens capensis*	5		FACW
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	30	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1. *Toxicodendron radicans*	10	X	FAC
2.			
	10	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 6 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 8 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 75 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-004-PFO

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 4/2	85	7.5YR 5/4	15	C	MPL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present. Micro-topographic relief present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-005-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.112458 | Long: -82.798313 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil X, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-005 is a PEM, abutting wetland with a hydrologic connection (via UDF) to W-AGS-004. The primary source of hydrology to this area is precipitation. The soil is disturbed, with compacted clay and rocky substrate.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Carex vulpinoidea*	30	X	FACW
2. *Juncus tenuis*	10	X	FAC
3. *Carex granularis*	10	X	FACW
4. *Carex scoparia*	10	X	FACW
5. *Solidago canadensis*	10	X	FACU
6. *Poa pratensis*	10	X	FAC
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	80	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 5 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 6 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 83 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present. 20% of coverage is bare ground.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-005-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-6	2.5Y 4/2	85	10YR 6/8	15	C	MPL	CL	
6-9	2.5Y 4/2	60	10YR 6/8	40	C	MPL	C	
9+	Clay/Rock							

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-004-005-UPL

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S9, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Convex

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.112280 | Long: -82.798338 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation X, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes ____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes ____ No X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes ____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____	No X	

Remarks:

W-AGS-004-005-UPL is an upland data point located in a landscaped area adjacent to a paved road. Precipitation is the source of hydrology to this area. The vegetation is disturbed due to mowing.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Glechoma hederacea*	50	X	FACU
2. *Trifolium repens*	40	X	FACU
3. *Plantago lanceolata*	10		FACU
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 0 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	0	x 2 =	0
FAC species	0	x 3 =	0
FACU species	100	x 4 =	400
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	100 (A)		400 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 4.00

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ____ No X

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is not present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-004-005-UPL

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-18	10YR 4/3	100					CL	
18+	Rock/Clay							

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ___ No X

Remarks:

Hydric soil is not present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ___ No X

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is not present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-006-PFO

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression/Floodplain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 2 | Lat: 40.115518 | Long: -82.796017 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-006 is a PFO, abutting wetland within a floodplain. This area collects water from precipitation and stream flooding.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Salix nigra*	15	X	OBL
2. *Catalpa speciosa*	15	X	FACU
3.			
4.			
5.			
	30	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Quercus palustris*	10	X	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	10	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Phalaris arundinacea*	40	X	FACW
2. *Carex stipata*	10		OBL
3. *Agrimonia parviflora*	5		FACW
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	55	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1. *Toxicodendron radicans*	10	X	FAC
2.			
	10	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 4 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 5 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 80 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-006-PFO

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 2/2	95	10YR 6/6	5	C	PL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present. Micro-topographic relief present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-006-UPL

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Convex

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.116550 | Long: -82.795358 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes ____ No X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes ____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____	No X	

Remarks:

W-AGS-006-UPL is an upland data point located along a convex plain. Precipitation is the source of hydrology to this area.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Solidago canadensis*	40	X	FACU
2. *Poa pratensis*	20	X	FAC
3. *Apocynum cannabinum*	10		FAC
4. *Trifolium repens*	10		FACU
5. *Agrimonia parviflora*	10		FACW
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	90	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1. *Toxicodendron radicans*	10	X	FAC
2.			
	10	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 3 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 67 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-006-UPL

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Redox Features Type[1]	Redox Features Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 4/2	100					CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ___ No X

Remarks:

Hydric soil is not present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ___ No X

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is not present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.116969 | Long: -82.795016 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-007 is a PEM, abutting wetland. This area collects water from precipitation, stream flooding, and groundwater. This PEM wetland is part of a PFO/PSS/PEM wetland complex.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Leersia oryzoides*	60	X	OBL
2. *Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani*	10		OBL
3. *Typha latifolia*	10		OBL
4. *Phalaris arundinacea*	10		FACW
5. *Juncus effusus*	10		OBL
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 1 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 1 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	%	Redox Features Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 4/1	90	7.5YR 5/4	5	C	MPL	CL	
			7.5YR 4/4	5	C	MPL		

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

Water Table Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PFO

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Floodplain/Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.116655 | Long: -82.795005 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-007 is a PFO, abutting wetland within a floodplain. This area collects water from precipitation, stream flooding, and groundwater. This PFO wetland is part of a PFO/PSS/PEM wetland complex.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Ulmus americana*	30	X	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	30	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Cornus amomum*	10	X	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	10	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Lysimachia nummularia*	15	X	FACW
2. *Glyceria striata*	10	X	OBL
3. *Solidago rugosa*	10	X	FAC
4. *Apocynum cannabinum*	10	X	FAC
5. *Carex scoparia*	10	X	FACW
6. *Poa palustris*	5		FACW
7. *Phalaris arundinacea*	5		FACW
8.			
9.			
10.			
	65	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 7 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 7 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PFO

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 2/2	95	7.5YR 5/4	5	C	MPL	SiCL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

Water Table Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 3

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 5

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PSS

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.116967 | Long: -82.795126 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-007 is a PSS, abutting wetland. This area collects water from precipitation. This PSS wetland is part of a PFO/PSS/PEM wetland complex.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Cornus amomum*	35	X	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	35	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Leersia oryzoides*	15	X	OBL
2. *Carex vulpinoidea*	10	X	FACW
3. *Juncus effusus*	10	X	OBL
4. *Juncus tenuis*	10	X	FAC
5. *Apocynum cannabinum*	10	X	FAC
6. *Carex lurida*	5		OBL
7. *Carex scoparia*	5		FACW
8.			
9.			
10.			
	65	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 6 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 6 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PSS

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-2	10YR 3/2	100					L	
2-20	10YR 6/1	70	10YR 6/6	30	C	MPL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-008-UPL

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.117148 | Long: -82.794859 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No _____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No _____

Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes _____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes _____ No X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes _____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes _____	No X	

Remarks:

W-AGS-007-008-UPL is an upland data point located along a concave plain. Precipitation is the source of hydrology to this area.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Trifolium repens*	40	X	FACU
2. *Solidago canadensis*	20	X	FACU
3. *Poa pratensis*	20	X	FAC
4. *Panicum capillare*	20	X	FAC
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 4 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 50 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	0	x 2 =	0
FAC species	40	x 3 =	120
FACU species	60	x 4 =	240
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	100 (A)		360 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.60

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes _____ No X

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is not present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-008-UPL

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Redox Features Type[1]	Redox Features Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	2.5Y 4/3	100					CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ___ No X

Remarks:

Hydric soil is not present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ___ No X

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is not present.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

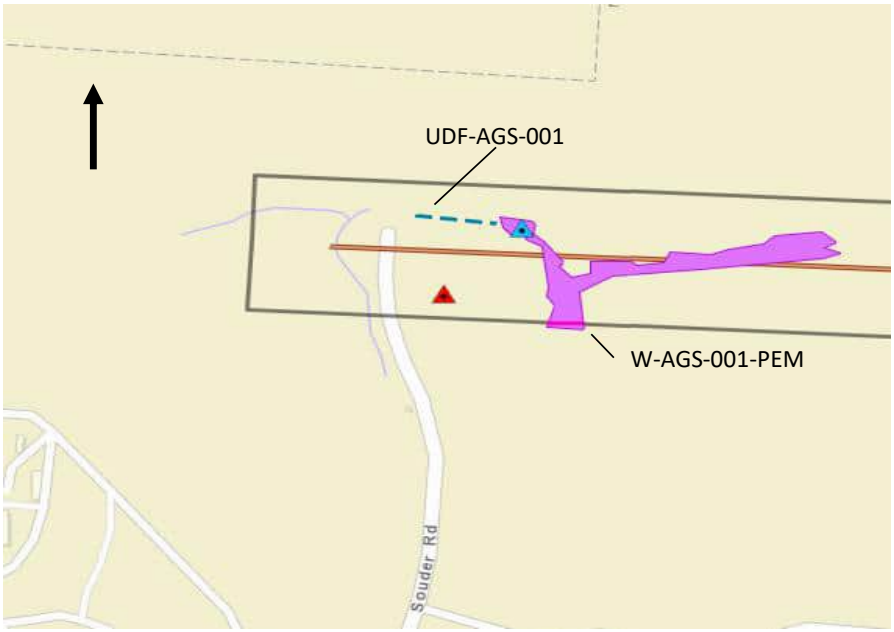
The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information	
Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-001**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional**

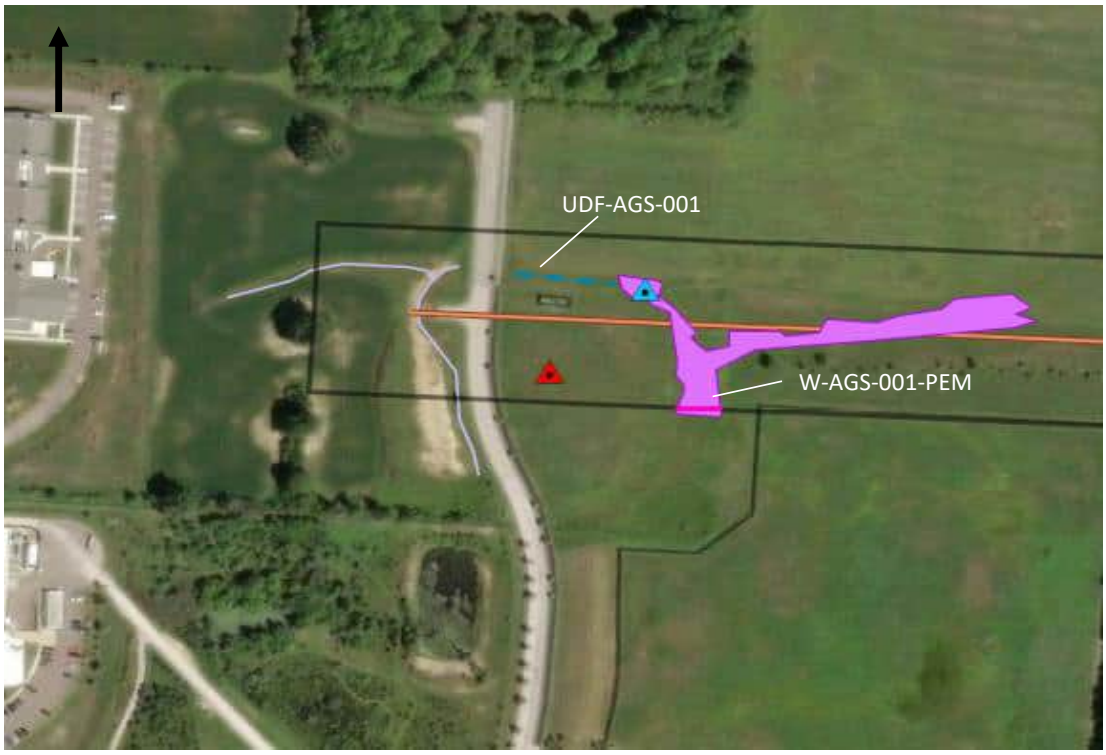
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**40.108072, -82.804703**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S8**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/10/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-001		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.73	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	1.50

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



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	28	Category:	1

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-001

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

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

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-001

Narrative Rating

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-001

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-001

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-001

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-001

Delineated acres:	0.73
Total acres:	1.50

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

2.0 (max 6 pts) | 2.0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

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

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

4.0 (max 14 pts.) | 6.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

Metric 3. Hydrology.

10.0 (max 30 pts.) | 16.0 (subtotal)

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

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

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

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

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

8.0 (max 20 pts.) | 24.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

24.0 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-001

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-001

24.0 subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. **24.0** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

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

4.0 max 20pts. **28.0** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

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

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer

Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

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

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

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

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

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

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

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

Microtopography Cover Scale

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

28.0 **TOTAL (Max 100 pts)**

1 **Category**

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-001

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**2**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**4**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**10**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**8**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**4**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**28**		Category 1

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-001

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

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

Final Category

Choose one	***Category 1**	Category 2	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

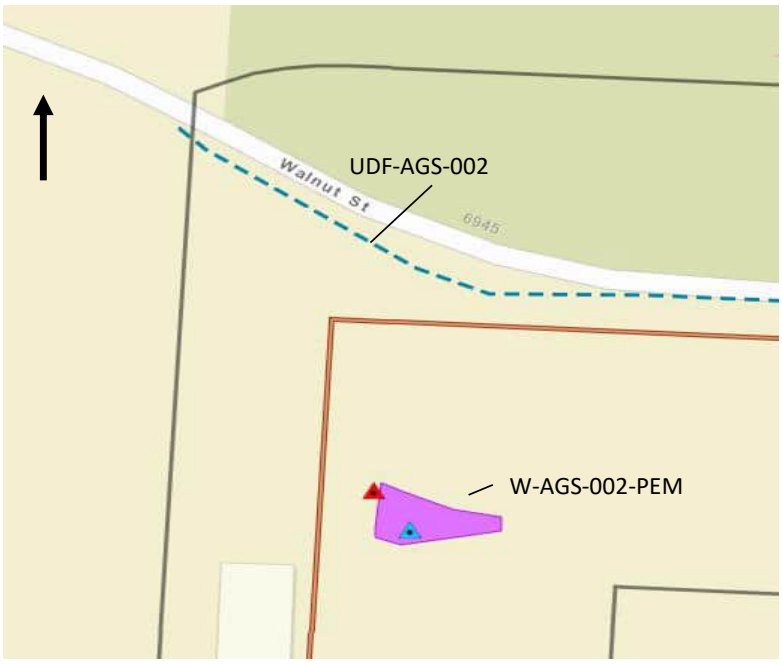
The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

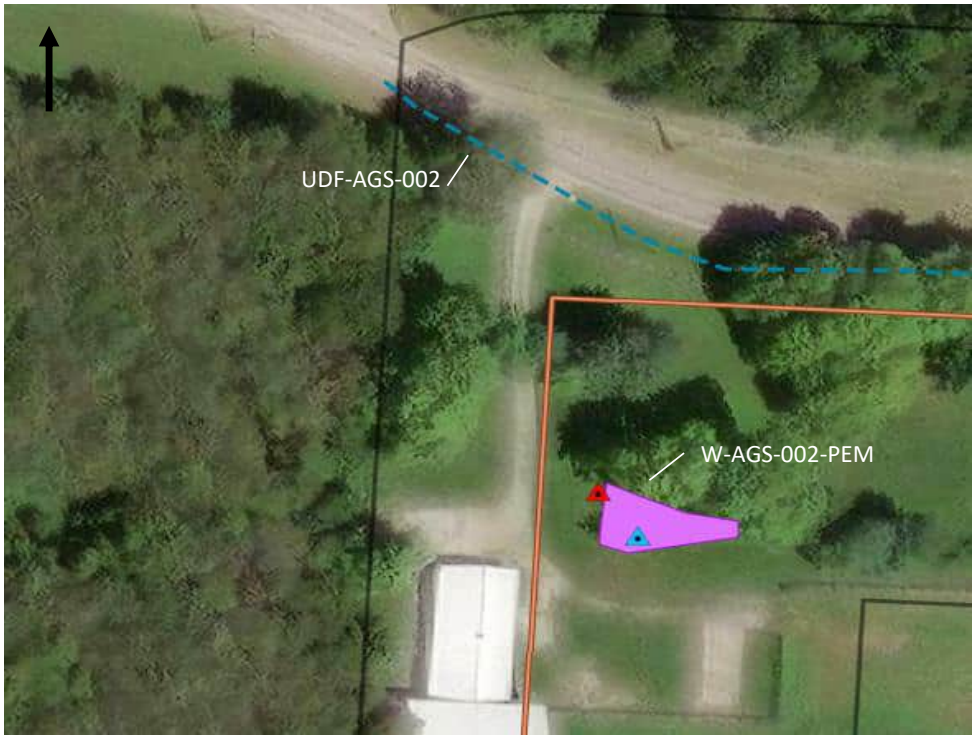
Background Information	
Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-002**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional**
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.	



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**40.111851, -82.801174**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S9**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/10/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-002		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.03	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	0.03

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



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	20	Category:	1

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-002

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

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

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-002

Narrative Rating

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-002

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-002

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-002

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-002

Delineated acres:	0.03
Total acres:	0.03

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

0.0 (max 6 pts) | 0.0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

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

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

3.0 (max 14 pts.) | 3.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

Metric 3. Hydrology.

8.0 (max 30 pts.) | 11.0 (subtotal)

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

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

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

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

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [ ] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [x] Other: Mowing/Agricultural activity

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

5.0 (max 20 pts.) | 16.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

16.0 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-002

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-002

16.0
subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. **16.0** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

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

4.0 max 20pts. **20.0** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

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

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer

Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

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

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

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

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

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

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

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

Microtopography Cover Scale

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

20.0 **TOTAL (Max 100 pts)**

1 **Category**

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-002

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**0**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**3**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**8**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**5**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**4**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**20**		Category 1

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-002

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

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

Final Category

Choose one	***Category 1**	Category 2	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

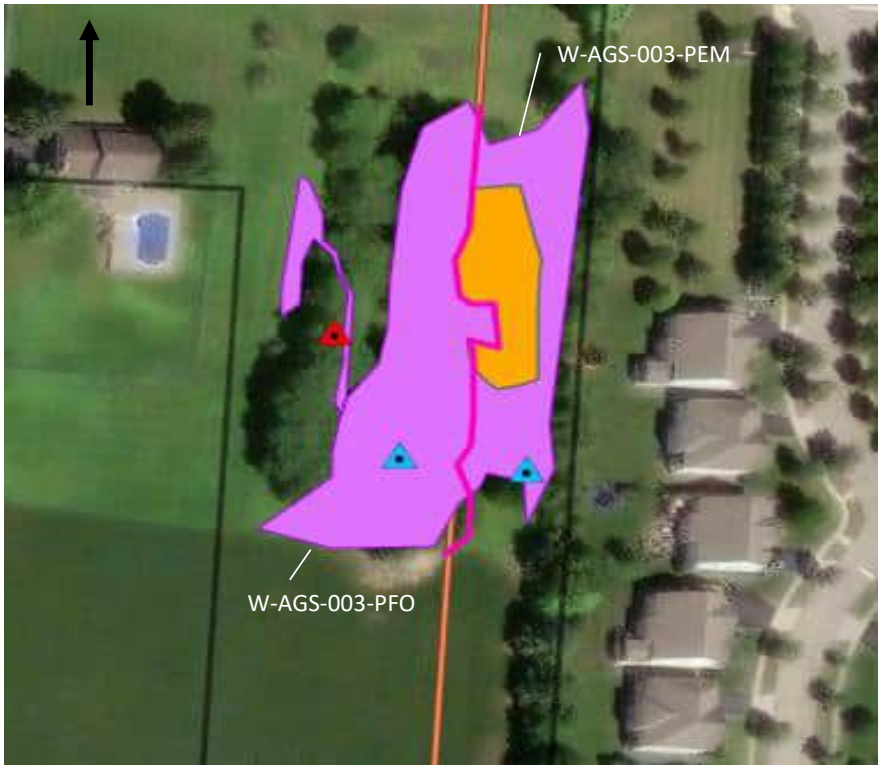
Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information	
Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-003**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM/PFO**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional**
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.	

Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**PEM (40.111117, -82.798618) PFO (40.111160, -82.798909)**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S9**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/10/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-003		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.78	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	0.78

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



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	29	Category:	2

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-003

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

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

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-003

Narrative Rating

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-003

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-003

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-003

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-003

Delineated acres:	0.78
Total acres:	0.78

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

2.0 (max 6 pts) | 2.0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

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

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

2.0 (max 14 pts.) | 4.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

Metric 3. Hydrology.

11.0 (max 30 pts.) | 15.0 (subtotal)

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

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

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

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

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

14.0 (max 20 pts.) | 29.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

29.0 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-003

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-003

29.0
subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. | **29.0** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

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

0.0 max 20pts. | **29.0** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

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

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer

Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

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

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

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

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

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

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

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

Microtopography Cover Scale

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

29.0 **TOTAL (Max 100 pts)**

2 **Category**

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-003

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**2**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**2**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**11**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**14**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**0**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**29**		2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-003

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

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

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	***Category 2**	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

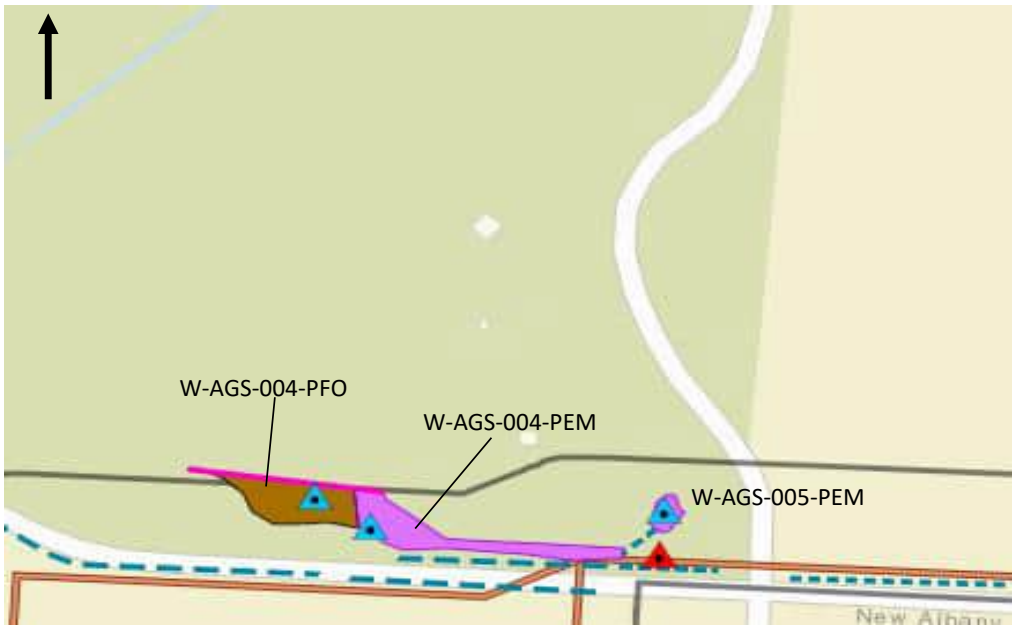
It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information

Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-004**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM/PFO**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional**

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



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**PEM (40.112391, -82.799672) PFO (40.112510, -82.799929)**		
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**		
County:	**Franklin**		
Township:	**T2N**		
Section and Subsection:	**S2**		
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**		
Site Visit:	**6/10/2024**		
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**		
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**		
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**		
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**		

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-004		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.43	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	3.00

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

Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	41.5	Category:	Modified 2

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-004

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

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

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-004

Narrative Rating

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-004

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-004

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-004

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-004

Delineated acres:	0.43
Total acres:	3.00

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

3.0 (max 6 pts) | 3.0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

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

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

4.0 (max 14 pts.) | 7.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

Metric 3. Hydrology.

17.0 (max 30 pts.) | 24.0 (subtotal)

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

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

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

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

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

15.5 (max 20 pts.) | 39.5 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

x Habitat/Substrate disturbance from constructed ditch

39.5 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-004

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

39.5
subtotal this page

Field ID:
W-AGS-004

0.0 max 10 pts. **39.5** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

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

2.0 max 20pts. **41.5** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

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

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

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

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

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

Microtopography Cover Scale

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

41.5 **TOTAL (Max 100 pts)**

Modified 2 **Category**

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-004

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**3**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**4**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**17**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**15.5**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**2**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**41.5**		Modified 2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-004

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

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

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	***Category 2**	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

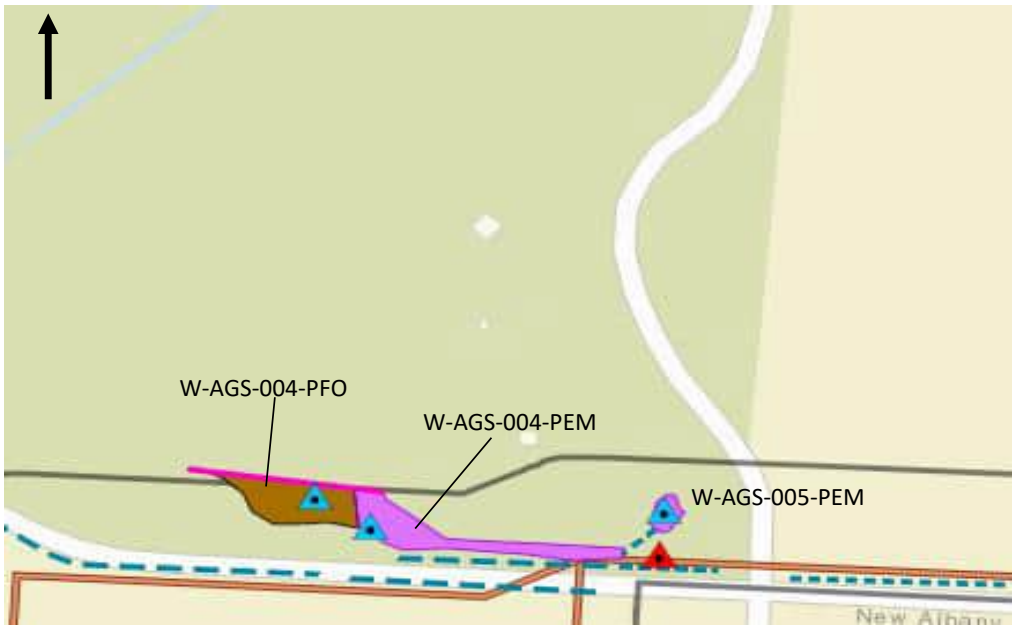
The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information	
Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-005**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional**

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



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**40.112458, -82.798313**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S2**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/10/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-005		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.04	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	0.04

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

Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	24	Category:	1

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-005

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

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

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-005

Narrative Rating

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-005

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-005

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-005

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-005

Delineated acres:	0.04
Total acres:	0.04

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

0.0 (max 6 pts) | 0.0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

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

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

3.0 (max 14 pts.) | 3.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

Metric 3. Hydrology.

10.0 (max 30 pts.) | 13.0 (subtotal)

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

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

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

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

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

8.0 (max 20 pts.) | 21.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

x Habitat/Substrate disturbance from constructed ditch

21.0 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-005

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-005

21.0
subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. | **21.0** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

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

3.0 max 20pts. | **24.0** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

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

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer

Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

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

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

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

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

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

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

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

Microtopography Cover Scale

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

24.0 TOTAL (Max 100 pts)

1 Category

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-005

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**0**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**3**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**10**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**8**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**3**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**24**		Category 1

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-005

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

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

Final Category

Choose one	***Category 1**	Category 2	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information

Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/10/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-006**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PFO**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional/Riverine**

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

Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**40.1156227, -82.79601608**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S2**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/10/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-006		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):		Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	

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

Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	51	Category:	Category 2

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-006

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

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

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-006

Narrative Rating

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-006

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-006

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-006

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/10/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-006

Delineated acres:	0.26
Total acres:	0.36

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

1.0 (max 6 pts) | 1.0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

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

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

7.0 (max 14 pts.) | 8.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

Metric 3. Hydrology.

22.0 (max 30 pts.) | 30.0 (subtotal)

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

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

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

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

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

18.0 (max 20 pts.) | 48.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

48.0 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-006

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/10/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-006

48.0 subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. **48.0** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

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

3.0 max 20pts. **51.0** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

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

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer

Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

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

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

51.0 **TOTAL (Max 100 pts)**

2 **Category**

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

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

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

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

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

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

Microtopography Cover Scale

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-006

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**1**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**7**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**22**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**18**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**3**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**51**		Category 2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-006

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

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

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	***Category 2**	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

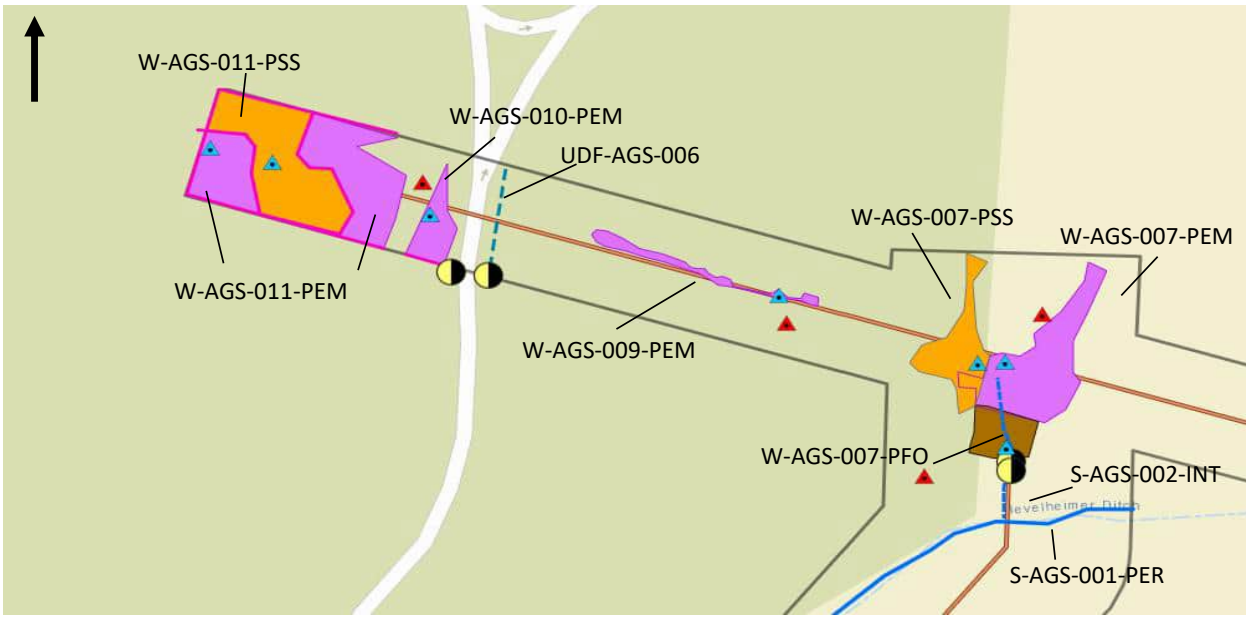
The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information	
Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-007**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM/PSS/PFO**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional/Riverine**

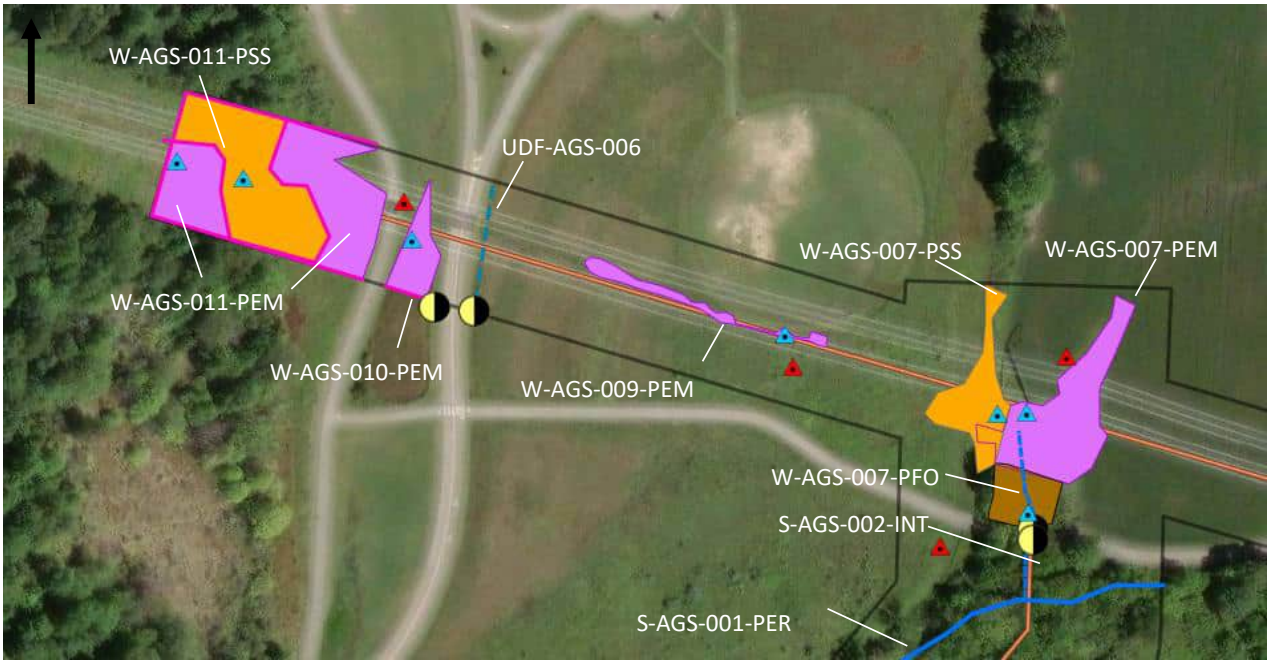
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**PEM (40.116969, -82.795016), PSS (40.116967, -82.795126), PFO (40.116655, -82.795005)**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S2**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/10/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-007		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.57	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	0.57

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



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	47.5	Category:	2

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

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

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Narrative Rating

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-007

Delineated acres:	0.57
Total acres:	0.57

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

2.0 (max 6 pts) | 2.0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

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

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

7.0 (max 14 pts.) | 9.0 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

Metric 3. Hydrology.

16.0 (max 30 pts.) | 25.0 (subtotal)

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

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

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

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

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

14.5 (max 20 pts.) | 39.5 (subtotal)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

39.5 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

39.5
subtotal this page

Field ID:
W-AGS-007

0.0 max 10 pts. | **39.5** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

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

8.0 max 20pts. | **47.5** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

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

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer

Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

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

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

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

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

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

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

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

Microtopography Cover Scale

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

47.5 TOTAL (Max 100 pts)

2 Category

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**2**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**7**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**16**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**14.5**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**8**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**47.5**		Category 2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

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

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	***Category 2**	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-001 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing North	

W-AGS-001 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing East	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-001 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing South	

W-AGS-001 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing West	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-001

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing Soil

W-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing North

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing East

W-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing South

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing West

W-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing Soil

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-003

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 2

Facing North

W-AGS-003

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 2

Facing East

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-003
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing South

W-AGS-003
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing West

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-003
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing Soil

W-AGS-003
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PFO Wetland Category 2 Facing North

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-003

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing East

W-AGS-003

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing South

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-003

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing West

W-AGS-003

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-004
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing North

W-AGS-004
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing East

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-004 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing South	

W-AGS-004 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing West	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-004

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

W-AGS-004

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing North

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-004

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing East

W-AGS-004

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing South

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-004

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing West

W-AGS-004

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-005

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing North

W-AGS-005

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing East

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-005

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing South

W-AGS-005

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing West

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-005

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing Soil

W-AGS-006

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing North

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-006 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PFO Wetland Category 2 Facing East	

W-AGS-006 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PFO Wetland Category 2 Facing South	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-006

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing West

W-AGS-006

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing North	

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing East	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing South	

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing West	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing North

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing East

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing South

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing West

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PSS Wetland

Category 2

Facing North

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PSS Wetland

Category 2

Facing East

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PSS Wetland Category 2 Facing South	

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PSS Wetland Category 2 Facing West	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PSS Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

APPENDIX B

OEPA STREAM DATA FORMS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Modified Class II PHW

Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index Field Form

HHEI Score (sum of metrics 1+2+3) **63**

SITE NAME/LOCATION: AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline

SITE NUMBER: S-001 RIVER BASIN: Scioto River DRAINAGE AREA (mi²): 0.29

LENGTH OF STREAM REACH (ft): 595 LAT.: 40.11621 LONG.: -82.79546 RIVER CODE: NA RIVER MILE: NA

DATE: 06/10/24 SCORER: AGS, EAC COMMENTS: S-AGS-001-PER

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

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

Culverted below dog park

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

TYPE		PERCENT	TYPE		PERCENT
☐	BLDR SLABS [16 pts]	0	☐	SILT [3 pt]	70
☐	BOULDER (>256 mm) [16 pts]	0	☐	LEAF PACK/WOODY DEBRIS [3 pts]	10
☐	BEDROCK [16 pt]	0	☐	FINE DETRITUS [3 pts]	0
☐	COBBLE (65-256 mm) [12 pts]	20	☐	CLAY or HARDPAN [0 pt]	0
☐	GRAVEL (2-64 mm) [9 pts]	0	☐	MUCK [0 pts]	0
☐	SAND (<2 mm) [6 pts]	0	☐	ARTIFICIAL [3 pts]	0

Total of Percentages of Bldr Slabs, Boulder, Cobble, Bedrock: 20 (A)

Substrate Percentage Check: 100 (B)

SCORE OF TWO MOST PREDOMINATE SUBSTRATE TYPES: 15 **TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBSTRATE TYPES:** 3

HHEI Metric Points

Substrate Max = 40

18

A + B

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

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

COMMENTS **MAXIMUM POOL DEPTH** (Inches): 6.00

Pool Depth Max = 30

25

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

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

COMMENTS **AVERAGE BANKFULL WIDTH** (Feet): 8.00

Bankfull Width Max=30

20

This information must also be completed

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

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

COMMENTS

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

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

COMMENTS

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

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

STREAM GRADIENT ESTIMATE

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

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

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

DOWNSTREAM DESIGNATED USE(S)

☑ WWH Name: **Rocky Fork Creek** Distance from Evaluated Stream **1.92**

☐ CWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

☐ EWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

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

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

County: **Franklin** Township / City: **Plain Township**

MISCELLANEOUS

Base Flow Conditions? (Y/N): **Y** Date of last precipitation: **06/09/24** Quantity: **0.05**

Photograph Information: **Upstream, downstream, substrate**

Elevated Turbidity? (Y/N): **N** Canopy (% open): **20** **Overall Stability of BOTH Stream Banks (check one)**: Stable ☐ Moderately Stable ☑ Unstable ☐

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

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

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

Additional comments/description of pollution impacts: _____

BIOTIC EVALUATION

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

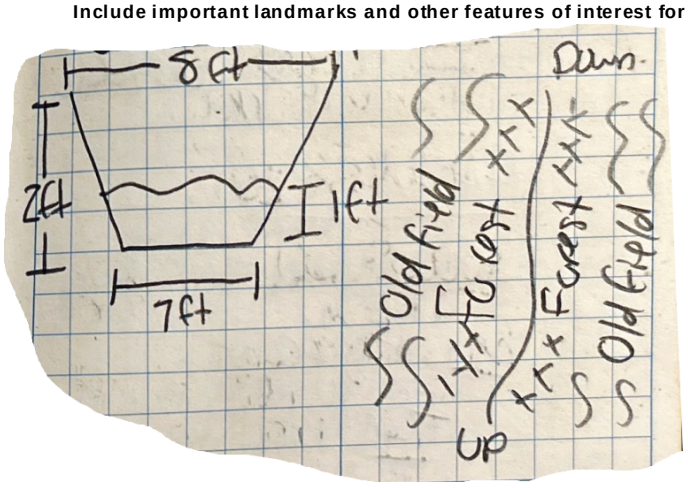
Fish Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Salamanders Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

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

Comments Regarding Biology: **No biology observed in the area of data collection, but stream quality suggests that the presence of biology in other areas is likely.**

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

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



Save as pdf Reset Form

Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index Field Form

HHEI Score (sum of metrics 1+2+3) **63**

SITE NAME/LOCATION **AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline**

SITE NUMBER **S-001** RIVER BASIN **Scioto River** DRAINAGE AREA (mi²) **0.29**

LENGTH OF STREAM REACH (ft) **595** LAT. **40.116206** LONG. **-82.795462** RIVER CODE **NA** RIVER MILE **NA**

DATE **06/10/24** SCORER **AGS, EAC** COMMENTS **S-AGS-001-PER**

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

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

Culverted below dog park

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

TYPE		PERCENT	TYPE		PERCENT
☐	BLDR SLABS [16 pts]	0	☐	SILT [3 pt]	70
☐	BOULDER (>256 mm) [16 pts]	0	☐	LEAF PACK/WOODY DEBRIS [3 pts]	10
☐	BEDROCK [16 pt]	0	☐	FINE DETRITUS [3 pts]	0
☑	COBBLE (65-256 mm) [12 pts]	20	☐	CLAY or HARDPAN [0 pt]	0
☐	GRAVEL (2-64 mm) [9 pts]	0	☐	MUCK [0 pts]	0
☐	SAND (<2 mm) [6 pts]	0	☐	ARTIFICIAL [3 pts]	0

Total of Percentages of Bldr Slabs, Boulder, Cobble, Bedrock **20** **(A)**

Substrate Percentage Check **100** **(B)**

SCORE OF TWO MOST PREDOMINATE SUBSTRATE TYPES: **15** **TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBSTRATE TYPES:** **3**

HHEI Metric Points

Substrate Max = 40

18

A + B

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

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

COMMENTS **MAXIMUM POOL DEPTH** (Inches): **6.00**

Pool Depth Max = 30

25

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

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

COMMENTS **AVERAGE BANKFULL WIDTH** (Feet): **8**

Bankfull Width Max=30

20

This information must also be completed

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

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

COMMENTS

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

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

COMMENTS

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

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

STREAM GRADIENT ESTIMATE

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

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

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

DOWNSTREAM DESIGNATED USE(S)

☑ WWH Name: **Rocky Fork Creek** Distance from Evaluated Stream **1.92**

☐ CWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

☐ EWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

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

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

County: **Franklin** Township / City: **Plain Township**

MISCELLANEOUS

Base Flow Conditions? (Y/N): **Y** Date of last precipitation: **06/09/24** Quantity: **0.05**

Photograph Information: **Upstream, downstream, substrate**

Elevated Turbidity? (Y/N): **N** Canopy (% open): **20** **Overall Stability of BOTH Stream Banks (check one)**: Stable ☐ Moderately Stable ☑ Unstable ☐

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

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

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

Additional comments/description of pollution impacts: _____

BIOTIC EVALUATION

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

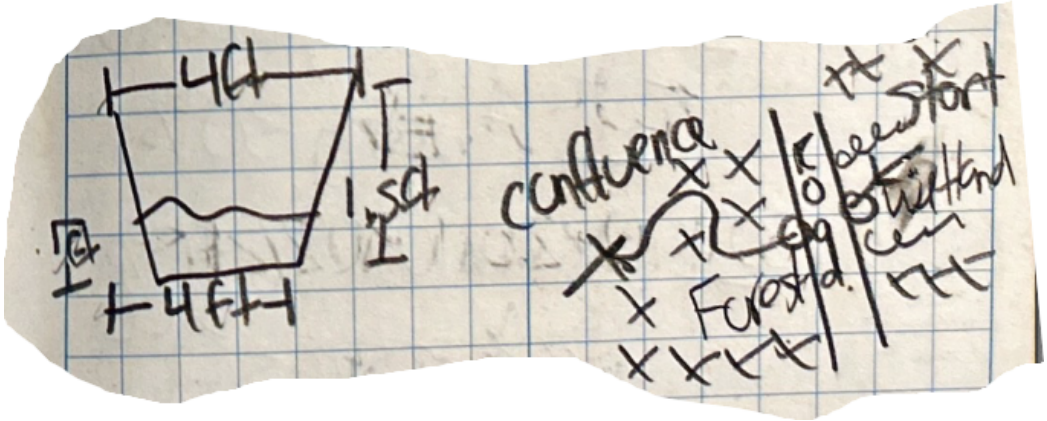
Fish Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Salamanders Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

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

Comments Regarding Biology: **No biology observed in the area of data collection, but stream quality suggests that the presence of biology in other areas is likely.**

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

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



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AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Streams Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

S-AGS-001

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Perennial Stream

Facing Upstream

S-AGS-001

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Perennial Stream

Facing Downstream

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Streams Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

S-AGS-001

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Perennial Stream

Facing Substrate

S-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Intermittent Stream

Facing Upstream

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Streams Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

S-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Intermittent Stream

Facing Downstream

S-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Intermittent Stream

Facing Substrate

APPENDIX C

UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

UDF-AGS-001 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Up	

UDF-AGS-001 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Down	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

UDF-AGS-001 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Substrate	

UDF-AGS-002 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Up	

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

UDF-AGS-002	
Date: June 10, 2024	
Description: Upland Drainage Feature Facing Down	

UDF-AGS-002	
Date: June 10, 2024	
Description: Upland Drainage Feature Facing Substrate	

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

UDF-AGS-003 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Up	

UDF-AGS-003 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Down	

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

UDF-AGS-003 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Substrate	

UDF-AGS-004 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Up	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

UDF-AGS-004

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Upland Drainage Feature

Facing Down

UDF-AGS-004

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Upland Drainage Feature

Facing Substrate

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

UDF-AGS-005 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Up	

UDF-AGS-005 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Down	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

UDF-AGS-005

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Upland Drainage Feature

Facing Substrate

APPENDIX D

HABITAT PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

PH-1 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Old Field Facing East	

PH-2 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Agriculture Row Crop Facing East	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

PH-3

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Scrub / Shrub

Facing East

PH-4

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Pasture / Hay Field

Facing South

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

PH-5

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Woodlands

Facing North

PH-6

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Landscaped

Facing West

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

PH-7 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Woodlands Facing South	

PH-8 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Landscaped Facing East	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

PH-9 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Old Field Facing North	

PH-10 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** Woodlands Facing South	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Souder Extension 138kV	60706505

PH-11

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Old Field

Facing South

APPENDIX E

AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230
(614) 416-8993 / FAX (614) 416-8994

July 6, 2023

Project Code: 2023-0098666

Dear Ms. Anna Findish:

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, endangered, and proposed 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 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.

Federally Proposed Species: On September 14, 2022, the Service proposed to list the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) as endangered under the ESA. The bat faces extinction due to the impacts of white-nose syndrome, a deadly disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent. During spring, summer, and fall, this species roosts primarily among leaf clusters of live or recently dead trees, emerging at dusk to hunt for insects over waterways and forest edges. While white-nose syndrome is by far the most serious threat to the tricolored bat, other threats now have an increased significance due to the dramatic decline in the species' population. These threats include disturbance to bats in roosting, foraging, commuting, and over-wintering habitats. Mortality due to collision with wind turbines, especially during migration, has also been documented across their range. Conservation measures for the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat will also help to conserve the tricolored bat.

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.

If implementation of this seasonal tree cutting recommendation is not possible, a summer presence/absence survey may be conducted for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. If Indiana bats and northern long-eared 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, Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov.

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

Sincerely,

Patrice Ashfield
Field Office Supervisor

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

Office of Real Estate
Tara Paciorek, Chief
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6661
Fax: (614) 267-4764

August 4, 2023

Anna Findish
AECOM
707 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Re: 23-0780; Souder 138kV Extension Jug - Corridor Project

Project: The proposed project involves the construction of an approximately 1.32-mile double circuit 138kV transmission line.

Location: The proposed project is located in Plain Township, Franklin 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 within one mile of the project area:

Iowa Darter (*Etheostoma exile*), E
Lake Chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*), T
Blacknose Shiner (*Notropis heterolepis*), E

The review was performed on the specified project area as well as an additional one-mile radius. Records searched date from 1980. Conservation status abbreviations are as follows: 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 = federally endangered, and FT = federally threatened.

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

Location records for the species listed above are provided in a shapefile attachment to this letter. Species location information will not be published or distributed beyond the scope of the project description on the signed data request form.

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 project is within the vicinity of records for the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species. Because presence of state endangered bat species has been established in the area, summer tree cutting is not recommended, and additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence in the area. However, limited summer tree cutting inside this buffer may be acceptable after further consultation with DOW (contact Eileen Wyza at Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov).

In addition, 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 endangered 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 bat species 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. The DOW recommends tree 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.

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

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

Federally Endangered
clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)
rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*)
northern riffleshell (*Epioblasma torulosa rangiana*)
snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*)
purple cat's paw (*Epioblasma o. obliquata*)

Federally Threatened
rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*)

State Endangered
elephant-ear (*Elliptio crassidens crassidens*)
pocketbook (*Lampsilis ovata*)
long solid (*Fusconaia maculata maculate*)

washboard (*Megalonaias nervosa*)
Ohio pigtoe (*Pleurobema cordatum*)

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

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

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

State Endangered
goldeye (*Hiodon alosoides*)
shortnose gar (*Lepisosteus platostomus*)
Iowa darter (*Etheostoma exile*)
spotted darter (*Etheostoma maculatum*)
northern brook lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon fossor*)
tonguetied minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*)
popeye shiner (*Notropis ariommus*)

State Threatened
lake chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*)
paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator

APPENDIX F

2024 JOINT GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEY AND TREE CLEARING

OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE AND U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (OH-FIELD OFFICE) JOINT GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING MAY 2024

This document has been updated with new state guidance for the 2024 field season.

This guidance applies to state recommendations only. Contact the USFWS to determine if federal consultation is also necessary to comply with federal law.

Agency Contacts:

ODNR-DOW Permit Coordinator: Wildlife.Permits@dnr.ohio.gov, (614) 265-6315
ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator: Eileen Wyza, Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov, (614) 265-6764
USFWS OHFO Endangered Species: Angela Boyer, angela_boyer@fws.gov, (614) 416-8993, ext.122

Covid-19 Guidance:

Surveyors should follow all covid protocols put in place by their agency. All surveyors should wear masks when handling bats and anyone exhibiting symptoms of covid-19 should not participate in bat surveys.

Ohio Mist-net Surveys:

This document serves as guidance for bat mist netting activities in Ohio and does not supersede any requirements listed on your permits or facility certificate. All permit conditions must be strictly adhered to for permits to be valid and for renewal of permits beyond the existing year.

Due to the presence of White-nose Syndrome (WNS), mist-netting in Ohio must be conducted between June 1 and August 15 unless stated otherwise in your state permit. The ODNR Division of Wildlife (ODNR-DOW) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Ohio Field Office (OHFO) have determined that delaying netting activities until June 1 will provide additional recovery time for bats affected by WNS. For presence/probable absence surveys, netting will not be accepted outside of the June 1 - August 15 timeframe.

To assess project areas for presence or probable absence of the state and federally listed Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) during summer residency, the USFWS developed the USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2024). This protocol may also be used for the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) which is state endangered and proposed to be federally endangered. **With minor modifications referenced below**, it can also be used in Ohio for the 2024 field season and includes surveying for the state-listed little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*).

According to the updated federal range-wide guidelines, presence/probable absence net surveys for northern long-eared bats or federally-proposed tricolored bats shall incorporate either 10 net nights per square 0.5 kilometer (123

acres) of project area, or four net nights per kilometer for linear projects. Presence/probable absence net surveys for Indiana bats shall incorporate six net nights per square 0.5 kilometer (123 acres) of project area, or two net nights per kilometer for linear projects. If a project area is eligible for a presence/probable absence survey for both Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats or tricolored bat, following the northern long-eared/tricolored bat level of effort will qualify as a presence/ probable absence survey for the three species. However, if a project area is eligible for a presence/absence survey for the three species, following the Indiana bat level of effort will not qualify the survey for a northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat presence/probable absence survey. Please note that the USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2024) requires that a minimum of two (2) biologists (e.g., one permitted and one technician) must be on-site for every four (4) net-sets being operated. Exceptions to on-site minimum staffing levels may be allowed under extenuating circumstances, provided written justification is included in the proposed survey study plan and subsequently approved by the OHFO and ODNR-DOW.

Due to the reclassification of the northern long-eared bat to federally endangered on March 31, 2023, the northern long-eared bat 4(d) rule has been nullified. There is a new online tool in the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website that allows project proponents to utilize the optional Northern Long-eared Bat Rangewide Determination Key (Dkey). **The Dkey cannot be used to replace consultation with ODNR-DOW.** Project proponents should coordinate directly with the ODNR-DOW for project technical assistance for all federally listed species, including the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat. **OHFO discourages the use of the Dkey for Ohio projects.** Contacting OHFO directly (ohio@fws.gov) for technical assistance for both the northern long-eared bat and Indiana bat is the more efficient process.

The tricolored bat is listed as endangered by ODNR-DOW and has been officially proposed for federal listing as endangered. The USFWS is scheduled to publish a final rule on the tricolored bat's status by the end of September 2024. Therefore, in addition to coordinating with ODNR-DOW regarding the tricolored bat, we recommend that project proponents also coordinate with the OHFO. The USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2024) allows presence/absence surveys for the tricolored bat that use the northern long-eared bat level of effort.

Exception for Ohio mist-net surveys: All presence/absence surveys conducted for state listed bat species (Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, tricolored) should follow the highest minimum net nights set forth in the federal guidance to be considered valid by ODNR-DOW. Any modifications to this position will be communicated at the time of the site authorization approval.

Ohio Acoustic Surveys:

Acoustic bat surveys for presence/absence will be accepted by ODNR-DOW for the 2024 season. Surveys should follow guidelines laid out in the USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2024) with the following exceptions:

- Ohio survey dates are June 1 – August 15
- After conducting automated analyses using one or more of the currently available 'approved' acoustic bat ID programs[1], qualitative analysis (i.e., manual vetting) of any calls recorded from state-endangered species (*M. sodalis, M. septentrionalis*[2]*, M. lucifugus*[2]*,* and *P. subflavus*[2]) must be completed.
- **All presence/absence acoustic surveys conducted for state listed bat species (Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, tricolored) should follow the highest minimum acoustic nights set forth in the federal guidance to be considered valid by ODNR-DOW. Any modifications to this position will be communicated at the time of the site authorization approval.**

[1] https://www.fws.gov/media/indiana-bat-summer-survey-guidance

[2] State listing as endangered effective July 1, 2020

At a minimum, for each detector site/night a program considered presence of state-listed bats likely, review all files (including no IDs) from that site/night. If more than one acoustic bat ID program is used, qualitative analysis must also include a comparison of the results of each program by site and night.

Combined Mist-netting and Acoustic Surveys:
ODNR-DOW will accept the USFWS pilot survey option of combining mist-netting and acoustic surveys for traditional survey sites (e.g., 123-acre area) detailed in Appendix I of the USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (2024). All presence/absence combined mist-net and acoustic surveys conducted for state listed bat species should follow the highest minimum level of effort set forth by the federal guidance to be considered valid by ODNR-DOW. Any modifications to this position will be communicated at the time of the site authorization approval.

Before Field Season:

- Anyone surveying bats using mist-nets in the state of Ohio must obtain a federal permit as well as a state scientific collection permit. The federal permit should include both the Indiana bat and the northern long-eared bat.
- Your ODNR-DOW permit consists of two documents: a Scientific Collector (Wild Animal) Permit and an endangered species letter signed by the Chief of the Division of Wildlife (in addition to your federal permit). Both ODNR-DOW documents must be obtained prior to field work and kept with you and any sub-permittees during field work.

During Field Season:

- Prior to initiation of field work (a minimum of two weeks in advance), permittees must provide proposed mist netting plans to USFWS and ODNR-DOW in the form of an e-mail letter to the USFWS OHFO and copy to the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator. Plans must be reviewed and approved by USFWS OHFO and ODNR-DOW before ANY surveys take place. Study plans must specify objectives, location details, dates of proposed work, and all other relevant details. **Study plans must also include a USFWS Project Code. Project Codes can only be obtained by requesting an official species list through the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website: (https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/).** When handling bats, you must strictly adhere to the current WNS Decontamination Protocol (current version can be found at https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/topics/decontamination). Clothing, boots, gear, and equipment should all be thoroughly decontaminated between nights, as well as between netting sites.
- Request bat bands at least two weeks in advance of needing them. Bat bands can be obtained by e-mailing the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator with how many bands are needed, current permit number, sizes, and a mailing address. Bands will not be issued until your permits are valid. We have three sizes of bands—2.4 mm, 2.9 mm, and 4.2 mm. The 2.4 mm split metal bat ring made of aluminum alloy is suitable for banding tricolored bats. 2.9 mm bands are suitable for Indiana, northern long-eared, and little brown bats. The larger 4.2 mm band is suitable for silver-haired (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*), big brown (*Eptesicus fuscus*), and hoary (*Lasiurus cinereus*) bats. You must band all Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, and tricolored bats with ODNR-DOW bands; therefore, you should not be in the field without the 2.4 mm and 2.9 mm sized bands.
  NOTE: While ODNR-DOW obtains 2.9 mm bands per new 2024 USFWS guidelines, banding of endangered *Myotis* species should not be done until 2.9 mm bands are received. Please watch for updates from the Wildlife Permits email and request 2.9 mm bands when they become available.
- Only individuals who are named on the ODNR-DOW endangered species letter portion of the permit and on the corresponding federal bat permit may conduct and oversee mist-net surveys. Trained assistants may work on permitted bat activities under the direct and on-site supervision of a named permittee. All bat IDs must be verified by a named permittee. If an Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, and/or tricolored bat is captured, the permittee shall notify the USFWS and the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator referenced

above within 48 hours via email. If a little brown bat is captured, notify the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator only within 48 hours via email. Reports of listed bat captures should include specific information such as spatial location of capture, band information, radio-transmitter frequency information, sex, reproductive status, and age of individual.

- For presence/absence surveys, ODNR-DOW requires all female and juvenile state endangered and threatened bat species (Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, and tricolored bat) be radio-tracked if caught, in accordance with methods outlined in Appendix D of USFWS 2024 Range-wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines.

If you are taking any biological samples (tissue, fur, blood, etc.), this must be specifically authorized in your state and federal permits and noted in your survey proposal.

After Field Season:

By March 15, you must submit your final ODNR-DOW report(s) from the previous summer. You are not required to fill out the ODNR-DOW Wildlife Diversity Bat Excel Spreadsheet; instead, please forward your USFWS Midwestern US Spreadsheet (found here: https://www.fws.gov/media/bat-reporting-spreadsheets) to the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator and ODNR-DOW Permit Coordinator and include your state permit number along with an electronic copy of the project report. Electronic summaries emailed during the field season are NOT considered as full compliance of this reporting requirement.

Ohio Environmental Review Recommendations for projects involving disturbance near potential/known bat hibernacula (cliffs, caves, mines) or tree cutting:

Step 1: Coordinate with Ohio Division of Wildlife regarding existing records for state-listed endangered bat summer and/or winter occurrence information. Potential hibernacula found during a habitat assessment must address possible suitability for Indiana bats, northern long-eared bats, tricolored bats, and little brown bats.

If project site contains a known bat hibernaculum(a) –

- Both the DOW and USFWS should be contacted for guidance on projects occurring:
  - Within 5 miles of known or potential Indiana bat and/or northern long-eared bat hibernacula.
  - Within 3 miles of known or potential tricolored bat hibernacula
- Only ODNR-DOW should be contacted if a project occurs within 5 miles of known or potential little brown bat hibernacula.

If a project site does not contain known bat hibernaculum(a) –

- Conduct a desktop habitat assessment of the project area. Tools such as the ODNR Mines of Ohio Viewer, Karst Interactive Map, topographic maps, aerial photos, historical records, etc. should be used to determine if there are any potential caves, mines, karst features, rock ledges, or other features that may serve as potential hibernacula.
- If no such features are found, proceed to **Step 2**.
- If potential hibernacula are found during the desktop assessment:
  - Assume bats are using these hibernacula and refrain from clearing trees from March 15 - Nov 15

    OR

  - Conduct a field habitat assessment to determine if a potential hibernaculum(a) is present within the action area. We encourage impacts to ledges and rock outcroppings be avoided. If impacts cannot be avoided, features should be evaluated for potential roosting characteristics such as recesses, overhangs, and crevices.

- **NOTE**: The USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat Guidelines, Appendix H, contains instructions for completing a habitat assessment for Indiana bat, but can be applied to other bat species.

Step 2: Conduct, a presence/absence survey following current ODNR-DOW guidelines, where applicable.

Step 3: <u>If a state-listed endangered bat is captured or recorded during the survey:</u>

- Recommendation of no summer tree cutting, or limited cutting following guidelines detailed below, within 5 miles of an Indiana bat or little brown bat capture or 3 miles of a northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat capture if a roost is not located.
- Recommendation of no summer tree cutting, or limited cutting following guidelines detailed below, within a minimum of 2.5 miles of an Indiana bat or little brown bat roost or 1.5 miles of a northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat roost tree if located.
- Recommended tree clearing dates within capture record buffers are October 1 – March 31

<u>If no state-listed endangered bat is captured or recorded during the survey:</u>

- Summer tree cutting may proceed for 5 years before a new survey is needed under state guidance.

<u>Limited summer tree cutting guidance for little brown bats:</u> Limited tree cutting in summer may be permitted after consultation with ODNR-DOW, but clearing trees with the following characteristics should be avoided unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark; crevices, holes, or cavities; clusters of dead leaves; live trees of any species with DBH ≥ 20".

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When does the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey protocol have to be used?

This protocol should be used anytime Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, little brown bat, or tricolored bat summer presence/probable absence surveys are conducted in the state of Ohio.

How many detector nights are required for presence/probable absence acoustic surveys?

As described in the current USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines:

Level of effort for all state-listed endangered bat species: follow highest minimum detector nights as outlined in the federal guidance for northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat.

Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Level of Effort:
Linear projects: a minimum of 4 detector nights per km (0.6 miles) of suitable summer habitat
Non-linear projects: a minimum of 10 detector nights per 123 acres (0.5 km^2) of suitable summer habitat.
At least 2 detector locations per 123 acre "site" shall be sampled until at least 10 detector nights has been completed over the course of at least 2 calendar nights (may be consecutive). For example:

- 5 detectors for 2 nights each (can sample the same location or move within the site)
- 2 detectors for 5 nights each (can sample the same location or move within the site)
- 1 detector for 10 nights (must sample at least 2 locations and move within the site – we recommend evenly distributing LOE among locations)

Indiana Bat Level of Effort:
Linear projects: a minimum of 2 detector nights per km (0.6 miles) of suitable summer habitat
Non-linear projects: a minimum of 6 detector nights per 123 acres (0.5 km^2) of suitable summer habitat.
At least 2 detector locations per 123 acre "site" shall be sampled until at least 6 detector nights has been completed over the course of at least 2 calendar nights (may be consecutive). For example:

- 3 detectors for 2 nights each (can sample the same location or move within the site)
- 2 detectors for 3 nights each (can sample the same location or move within the site)
- 1 detector for 6 nights (must sample at least 2 locations and move within the site – we recommend evenly distributing LOE among locations)

How many net surveys are required for presence/probable absence?

Level of effort for all state-listed endangered bat species including Indiana bat and northern long-eared bats: Follow highest minimum net nights as outlined in the federal guidance for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat.

Net surveys for northern long-eared bat presence/probable absence shall incorporate, at a minimum, either 10 net nights per square 0.5 kilometer (123 acres) of project area, or four net nights per kilometer for linear projects. For linear projects, there must be at least one net night of survey on two different nights (minimum of two nights). This does not allow for two net nights on a single night for surveys.

Net surveys for Indiana bat presence/probable absence shall incorporate, at a minimum, either six net nights net nights per square 0.5 kilometer (123 acres) of project area, or two net nights per kilometer for linear projects. For

linear projects, there must be at least one net night of survey on two different nights (minimum of two nights). This does not allow for two net nights on a single night for surveys.

How long are the results of the surveys valid for an assessment of an area?

Mist-net or acoustic surveys documenting probable absence of state-listed endangered bats are valid for five years.

When can acoustic or net surveys occur in Ohio?

In Ohio, acoustic or net surveys may only be conducted from June 1 through August 15 unless indicated otherwise in your state permit. Any surveys outside of the June 1 - August 15 timeframe cannot be used in Ohio to assess the presence/probable absence of state-listed bats.

Can a presence/probable absence survey be conducted within a known bat capture/detection buffer?

Surveys generally cannot be used to document presence/probable absence of state-listed endangered bats where presence of the species has already been confirmed by prior surveys.

What if a project is proposing to clear trees between April 1 and September 30 when bats may be present but no bat records exist in the project area?

Any Ohio project that is not within a known bat record buffer, and tree clearing between April 1 and September 31 is being proposed, may have a presence/probable absence survey conducted between June 1 and August 15 following the range-wide guidance. If a presence/probable absence survey is not performed, presence of listed bats is assumed.

Where do I get bands?

If you need bands, email the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator at least two weeks in advance with your current ODNR permit number, how many bands in each size (2.4 mm, 2.9 mm, and 4.2 mm) you will need this season, and a current address to ship the bands.

Do I have to band every bat?
No, currently this is optional. However, you are required as per your state permit to band all Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, and tricolored bats.
NOTE: While ODNR-DOW obtains 2.9 mm bands per new 2024 USFWS guidelines, banding of endangered *Myotis* species should not be done until 2.9 mm bands are received. Please watch for updates from the Wildlife Permits email and request 2.9 mm bands when they become available.

JUG CORRIDOR TAP (SOUDER)

FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

ECOLOGICAL REPORT

Prepared for:
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Project #: 60706508

July 2025

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

AEP Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. (AEP), is proposing to construct the Jug Corridor Tap (Souder) Project (Project) in Franklin County, Ohio (OH). The Project consists of the installation of one structure on each side of the tie-in of the proposed Souder 138 kV transmission line (structures 22 and 23), along the existing Bixby - Corridor (Kirk-Corridor) 345 kV transmission line in Franklin County, OH. The Project Survey Area associated with this Ecological Report is located on New Albany, OH United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographical quadrangle as displayed on the Project Overview (**Figure 1**).

The purpose of the field survey was to assess the presence of wetlands and possible "waters of the United States" (WOTUS) that occur within the proposed Project Survey Area. Secondarily, land uses were also recorded to classify and characterize potential habitat for threatened and endangered species. This report will be used to assist AEP Ohio Transco's efforts to identify potential WOTUS as well as threatened and endangered species habitat present within the proposed Project Survey Area to avoid or minimize impacts during construction activities.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

The field survey was completed within the Project Survey Area totaling approximately 14.91 acres, which encompasses the proposed work area. Prior to conducting field surveys, digital United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soil survey data, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data, USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year floodplain data, and USGS 7.5-minute topographic maps were reviewed to identify the occurrence and location of potential wetland areas and/or streams.

Field survey activities included recording the physical boundaries of observed water features using sub-meter capable EOS Arrow Global Positioning System (GPS) units in conjunction with the ArcGIS Field Maps application on iPad tablets. The GPS data was imported into ArcMap Geographic Information System (GIS) software, where the data was reviewed, edited for accuracy, and compiled in a format suitable for transfer and use by AEP Ohio Transco. Water features were delineated and assessed based upon the appropriate procedures detailed below. Land uses observed within the Project Survey Area were assigned a general classification based upon the principal land characteristics and vegetative cover of the location.

2.1 WETLAND DELINEATION

The Project Survey Area was evaluated according to the procedures outlined in the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) *Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory, 1987) and *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest Region (Version 2.0)* (USACE, 2010).

During field survey activities, AECOM utilized the routine on-site delineation method described in the 1987 manual and supplement that consisted of a pedestrian site reconnaissance, including identifying the vegetative communities, soils identification, a geomorphologic assessment of hydrology, and notation of disturbance. If a wetland was identified, AECOM completed a USACE Wetland Determination Data Form (USACE Data Form) within each unique wetland habitat to serve as a representative of the wetland hydrology, vegetative community, and soil characteristics. Adjacent to each wetland complex, AECOM completed an additional USACE Data Form as a representative of the upland community.

2.1.1 WETLAND CLASSIFICATION

Wetlands identified in the field were classified based on the naming convention found in *Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States* (Cowardin *et al.*, 1979). The unique wetland habitats were classified as palustrine emergent (PEM), palustrine forested (PFO), palustrine unconsolidated bottom (PUB), palustrine scrub-shrub (PSS), or other classifications for some wetlands. Multiple Cowardin classifications may be present where more than one classification's vegetation is dominant (vegetation type covers 30 percent or more of the substrate). Where multiple Cowardin classifications are present, the Cowardin classification of the plants that constitute the uppermost layer of vegetation having 30% or greater coverage is used for the classification.

2.1.2 WETLAND ASSESSMENT

Each delineated wetland was assessed following the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) *Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands v. 5.0* (ORAM) (Mack, 2001). Wetland assessments utilized the 10-page ORAM form, providing a final Category rating for each wetland.

2.2 STREAM ASSESSMENT

Streams were identified by the presence of a defined bed and bank, and evidence of an ordinary high-water mark (OHWM). The USACE defines the OHWM as "that line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas" (USACE, 2005).

2.2.1 OEPA PRIMARY HEADWATER HABITAT ASSESSMENT

Stream assessments were conducted using the methods described in the OEPA's *Methods for Assessing Habitat in Flowing Waters*: *Using OEPA's Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index (QHEI)* (Rankin, 2006) and in the OEPA's *Field Methods for Evaluating Primary Headwater Streams in Ohio* (OEPA, 2020). Streams associated with watershed area less than or equal to 1.0 square mile (259 hectares), and a maximum depth of water pools equal to, or less than 15.75 inches were evaluated utilizing the Headwater Habitat Evaluation

Index (HHEI) methodology and all other streams assessed using the QHEI methodology. Flow regime (ephemeral, intermittent, perennial) was determined by the appropriate stream assessment score per OEPA manuals (OEPA, 2020) and by AECOM's professional opinion.

Streams assessed in the Project Survey Area were reviewed for existing OEPA Aquatic Life Use Designations per OEPA's Water Quality Standards (OAC Chapter 3745-1). Those without an existing use designation were assigned a provisional aquatic life use designation based upon habitat assessment results (Rankin, 1989; OEPA, 2020).

2.2.2 OEPA 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR NATIONWIDE PERMIT ELIGIBILITY

The OEPA has designated each watershed in the state on based on whether it may be ineligible for coverage under the OEPA's 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) for Nationwide Permits (OEPA, 2017). Mapping provided by the OEPA illustrates the eligibility of streams in the area to fall under a Nationwide Permit for 401 certification or if an individual state WQC needs to be applied for. Impacts to streams within each watershed would then have eligibility for 401 WQC determined by the watershed category. The three categories are defined as:

Eligible: Streams within the watershed are eligible for coverage under the OEPA's water quality certification for the Nationwide Permits if all other general and regional special terms and conditions are met.

Ineligible: Activities affecting high quality streams and undesignated streams draining directly to high quality streams, as represented in the map, must undergo an individual 401 Water Quality Certification review process.

Possibly Eligible: Additional field screening procedures are required for streams in the watershed to determine appropriate eligibility. Activities affecting undesignated streams within those HUC12 watersheds that do not directly but eventually drain into high quality waters, might be eligible for coverage under the OEPA's 401 Water Quality Certification for Nationwide Permits depending on the results of a field screening assessment. The procedures for determining individual stream eligibility in this scenario are specified in Appendix C "Stream Eligibility Determination Process" of the OEPA Ohio State Water Quality Certification of the 2017 Nationwide Permit Reauthorization.

2.2.3 UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURES

An upland drainage feature (UDF) is a non-jurisdictional drainage that does not meet the criteria of either a jurisdictional stream or a wetland. A UDF generally lacks an OHWM (USACE, 2005) and are equivalent to a swale or an erosional feature as described by the USACE: "generally shallow features in the landscape that may convey water across upland areas during and following storm events. Swales usually occur on

nearly flat slopes and typically have grass or other low-lying vegetation throughout the swale" (USACE, 2005).

A roadside ditch may also be documented as a UDF if it meets the "not potentially jurisdictional" characterization as described in the Office of Environmental Services *Roadway Ditch Characterization Flowchart* (Ohio Department of Transportation, 2014). This would include a ditch that originates entirely within the roadway right-of-way, has a seasonal flow regime, was not constructed to drain a wetland, and does not have hydrophytic vegetation extending more than an insignificant amount beyond its original configuration.

In addition, UDF's (including swales, ditches, and other erosional features) are generally not WOTUS except in certain circumstances, such as relocated streams.

2.3 RARE, THREATENED, AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

AECOM conducted a threatened and endangered species review and general field habitat surveys within the Project Survey Area. AECOM submitted requests to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Office of Real Estate – Environmental Review Section and the USFWS Ohio Ecological Services Field Office soliciting comments on the proposed Project. Agency-identified species of concern and available species-specific information was reviewed to identify the various habitat types that listed species are known to inhabit.

AECOM field ecologists conducted a general habitat survey in conjunction with the stream and wetland field surveys as part of assessing potential impacts to threatened and endangered species. Land uses within the Project Survey Area were assigned a general classification based upon the principal land characteristics and vegetative cover as observed during the field surveys.

AECOM conducted a desktop assessment of the Project Survey Area and a quarter-mile buffer around it to identify potentially occurring winter bat hibernaculum that may be present near the Project which is in **Figure 6**. This assessment was conducted by reviewing data on mining activity and karst geology from the ODNR Division of Mineral Resources and USGS websites.

3.0 RESULTS

AECOM ecologists walked the Project Survey Area to conduct the wetland delineation, stream assessment and habitat survey on June 10, and June 11, 2024, May 13 and 22, 2025. During the delineation within the Project Survey Area, AECOM delineated a total of five wetlands (three PEM, one PEM/PSS, and one PEM/PFO/PSS) and two streams (one perennial, and one intermittent). The delineated features are discussed in detail in the following section.

3.1 WETLAND DELINEATION

3.1.1 PRELIMINARY SOILS EVALUATION

According to the USDA/NRCS Web Soil Survey, a total of three soil map units were identified within the Project Survey Area. Of those, one soil map unit is hydric and two contain hydric inclusions. Soils indicated as hydric inclusions are not predominately hydric soils and hydric soils are more likely to be found in topographic settings. **Table 1** below provides a detailed overview of all soil series and soil map units present within the Project Survey Area. Soil map units located in the Project Survey Area and vicinity are shown on **Figure 2**.

TABLE 1: SOIL MAP UNITS AND DESCRIPTIONS WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Soil Series	Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Description	Topographic Setting	Hydric	Hydric Component (%)
Bennington	BeA	Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Drainageways, depressions	Yes*	Condit 5% Pewamo 3%
	BeB	Bennington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes		Yes*	Pewamo 3% Condit 3%
Pewamo	Pm	Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes		Yes	Condit 9%

Yes* = Hydric inclusion present

3.1.2 NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY MAP REVIEW

According to NWI data covering the Project location, the Project Survey Area contains two NWI mapped wetlands identified as Riverine, Surface Flooding, Seasonal, (R4SBC) and Palustrine, Emergent, Persistent, Seasonally Flooded (PEM1C), which were field verified as S-AGS-001 and W-AGS-007, respectively. The location of NWI mapped features identified within the vicinity of the Project are provided on **Figure 2**.

3.1.3 DELINEATED WETLANDS

During the field survey, AECOM identified five wetlands (three PEM, and two PEM/PFO/PSS) within the Project Survey Area. Three wetlands were assigned ORAM Category 1, and two wetlands were assigned ORAM Category 2 within the Project Survey Area. No Category 3 wetlands were identified within the Project Survey Area. A summary of the delineated features is provided in **Table 2**. The AECOM delineation boundaries are provided on **Figure 3**.

Final jurisdictional status can only be determined by the USACE, and AECOM assessments are provisional. The completed USACE data forms and photographs of each wetland are provided in **Appendix A.**

TABLE 2: SUMMARY OF DELINEATED WETLANDS WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Wetland ID	Location		Isolated?	Habitat Type	Delineated Area (acre)	ORAM		Nearest Structure # (Existing / Proposed)	Existing Structure # in Wetland	Proposed Structure # in Wetland	Structure Installation Method	Proposed Impacts	
	Latitude	Longitude				Score	Category					Temporary Matting Area (acre)	Permanent Impact Area (acre)
W-AGS-007	40.1169622	-82.79485039	No	PEM	0.40	47.5	2	24	24	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
	40.1166993	-82.7950212		PFO	0.10				None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
	40.11701444	-82.79520581		PSS	0.18				None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-008	40.116738	-82.792960	Yes	PEM	0.04	28.5	1	23	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-009	40.117329	-82.796401	No	PEM	0.06	26	1	24	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-010	40.117466	-82.797470	No	PEM	0.31	29	1	25	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
W-AGS-011	40.117656	-82.797810	No	PEM	0.51	40	2	25	None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
	40.117704	-82.798126		PSS	0.44				25	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
	40.117517	-82.798261		PFO	0.53				None	None	TBD	TBD	TBD
Total:					**2.57**							**TBD**	**TBD**

Please note that the information presented in this table may not be verified by applicable regulatory agencies.

3.2 STREAM DELINATION

During the field survey, AECOM delineated two streams (one perennial, one intermittent). Of these delineated streams, both were classified using HHEI evaluations that identified both as Modified Class II PHW.

AECOM has provided a provisional determination that all delineated streams within the Project Survey Area appear to be jurisdictional (i.e., WOTUS), based on their observed or presumed confluence with downstream waters. Final jurisdictional status can only be determined by the USACE, and AECOM assessments are provisional. A summary of the delineated features is provided in **Table 3**. Stream data forms and photographs of each delineated stream resource are provided in **Appendix B**. The locations of the streams identified within the Project Survey Area are shown on **Figure 3**.

TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF DELINEATED STREAMS WTIHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Stream ID	Location		Stream Type	Stream Name	Delineated Length (feet)	Bankfull Width (feet)	OHWM Width (feet)	Field Evaluation			Ohio EPA 401 Eligibility	Stream Crossing?	Proposed Impacts	
	Latitude	Longitude						Method	Score	Category / Rating / OAC Designation			Fill Type	Area (acre)
S-AGS-001	40.11638	-82.792501	Perennial	Bevelheimer Ditch	870	8	7	HHEI	58	Modified Class II PHW	Possibly Eligible	TBD	TBD	TBD
S-AGS-002	40.116642	-82.794982	Intermittent	UNT to Bevelheimer Ditch	199	4	4	HHEI	49	Modified Class II PHW	Possibly Eligible	TBD	TBD	TBD
				Total:	**1,069**									**TBD**

Please note that the information presented in this table may not be verified by applicable regulatory agencies.

3.2.1 OEPA STREAM ELIGIBILITY

OEPA stream eligibility for 401 WQC mapping was reviewed for the Project Survey Area. The Project occurs within one watershed, Rocky Fork Creek (050600011501), that is designated by 401 WQC eligibility as "possibly eligible". The OEPA stream eligibility mapping for the Project Survey Area is provided on **Figure 4**.

3.3 FEMA 100 YEAR FLOODPLAINS

No FEMA regulated floodways, or 100-year floodplains are located within the Project Survey Area (FEMA, 2011).

3.4 PONDS

During the field survey, AECOM identified no ponds within the Project Survey Area.

3.5 UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURES

During the field surveys, AECOM identified two upland drainage features within the Project Survey Area. The extent of the upland drainage features is displayed on **Figures 2 and 3**. Photographs of all delineated upland drainage features are provided in **Appendix C**.

3.6 VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES

AECOM ecologists conducted a general habitat survey in conjunction with the stream and wetland field surveys. As described in **Table 4** below, the Project Survey Area contained Woodlands, Scrub/Shrub, Old Field, Streams/Wetlands, Urban, and Landscaped Areas. Vegetative communities are depicted visually on aerial photography in **Figure 5**. Representative photographs of the vegetative communities in the Project Survey Area are provided as **Appendix D**.

TABLE 4 - VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Vegetative Community	Description	Approximate Acreage Within the Project Survey Area	Approximate Percentage Within the Project Survey Area
Landscaped Areas	Landscaped areas, including residential properties and commercial properties, were observed within the Project vicinity. These landscaped areas within the Project Survey Area and adjacent areas are frequently mowed grasses and forbs.	1	13.5%
Streams/Wetlands	Streams and wetlands were observed both within and beyond the survey area for the Project.	1.5	20.2%
Old Field	Herbaceous cover exists alongside roads, field borders, and abandoned fields within the survey area of the Project in the form of successional old-field communities. These communities are the earliest stages of recolonization by plants following disturbance. This community type is typically short-lived, giving way progressively to shrub and forest communities unless periodically re-disturbed, in which case they remain as old fields. The old-field areas within the study corridors and adjacent areas are infrequently mowed areas of grasses, forbs, and occasional shrubs.	3.1	42%
Woodlands (Deciduous)	Woodlands (floodplain, upland, successional-mixed, etc.) are present along the Project Survey Area	0.1	1.3%
Urban	Urban areas are areas developed with residential and commercial land uses, including roads, buildings, and parking lots. These areas are generally devoid of significant woody and herbaceous vegetation.	0.3	4%
Scrub / Shrub	Scrub-shrub habitats represent the successional stage between old-field and second growth forest, and often emerge in recently harvested forests responding to the lightness of the remaining canopy. Dominant species consist of herbaceous communities similar to that of old field habitat with 30% or greater coverage of woody species that are not trees (including sapling trees generally <3" dbh and <20' in height).	1.4	19%
	Totals:	**7.4**	**100%**

3.7 RARE, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES AGENCY COORDINATION

Protected Species Agency Consultation –

On July 5, 2023, coordination letters were sent to United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Ohio Natural heritage Program (ONHP) and Division of Wildlife (DOW), seeking an environmental review for the Project for potential impacts to threatened and endangered species.

Responses were received from the USFWS on July 6, 2023, and from the ODNR on August 4, 2023. According to a response letter received from the USFWS, two federally endangered and one federally proposed bat species were identified within range of the Project Area. Regarding state threatened and endangered species that may occur within the Project vicinity, 27 species were listed by the ODNR.

Correspondence letters from the USFWS and ODNR for Jug Corridor Tap are included as **Appendix E. Table 5** provides a list of species of concern identified by the agencies as potentially occurring within the vicinity of the Project. Photographs of the habitat within the Project Area are provided as **Appendix D**.

TABLE 5
ODNR AND USFWS LISTED SPECIES WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Common Name (Scientific Name)	State Status	Federal Status	Typical Habitat	Habitat Observed	Avoidance Dates	Agency Comments	Potential Impacts
Mammals							
Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*)	Endangered	Endangered	Summer habitat During spring/summer, this bat species roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in leaves. Hibernaculum(a) During winter, this species hibernates in humid mines, caves, and occasionally man-made structures.	Summer habitat Within the Project survey trees were identified that may be suitable roosting trees. Hibernaculum(a) No mine openings and/or known caves are located within 0.25 miles of Project area and USFWS did not identify known hibernacula within 5-miles of the Project. Field evaluations did not identify any potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project area (2024 Joint Guidance)*.	April 1 – September 30	Summer habitat ODNR and USFWS recommends adherence to Avoidance Dates for Tree Clearing Activities (April 1 – September 30). Hibernaculum(a) The ODNR DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment to be conducted to identify potential hibernacula within 0.25 miles of the Project area. If habitat assessment finds potential hibernaculum within 0.25 miles, a revised seasonal tree clearing restriction (March 15 to November 15) is recommended (2024 Joint Guidance)*. If absence or no tree cutting or subsurface impacts are proposed, the Project is not likely to impact this species.	Summer habitat Potential summer roosting habitat is present within the Project area and seasonal tree clearing, between October 1 and March 31, is recommended. Hibernaculum(a) No impacts to winter hibernacula were identified due to absence of caves, mines, or portals within 0.25-miles of the Project.
Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)	Endangered	Endangered	Summer habitat During spring/summer, this bat species roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in leaves. Hibernaculum(a) During winter, this species hibernates in humid mines, caves, and occasionally man-made structures.	Summer habitat Within the Project survey trees were identified that may be suitable roosting trees. Hibernaculum(a) No mine openings and/or known caves are located within 0.25 miles of Project area and USFWS did not identify known hibernacula within 5-miles of the Project. Field evaluations did not identify any potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project area (2024 Joint Guidance)*.	April 1 – September 30	Summer habitat ODNR and USFWS recommends adherence to Avoidance Dates for Tree Clearing Activities (April 1 – September 30). Additionally, the ODNR indicated that there is a known presence of this species within the Project area and summer surveys would not constitute a presence or absence of this species. Hibernaculum(a) The ODNR DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment to be conducted to identify potential hibernacula within 0.25 miles of the Project area. If habitat assessment finds potential hibernaculum within 0.25 miles, a revised seasonal tree clearing restriction (March 15 to November 15) is recommended (2024 Joint Guidance)*. If absence or no tree cutting or subsurface impacts are proposed, the Project is not likely to impact this species.	Summer habitat Potential summer roosting habitat is present within the Project area and seasonal tree clearing, between October 1 and March 31, is recommended. Additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence within the Project area for the northern long-eared bat. Hibernaculum(a) No impacts to winter hibernacula were identified due to absence of caves, mines, or portals within 0.25-miles of the Project.
Little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*)	Endangered	NA	Summer habitat During spring/summer, this bat species roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in leaves. Hibernaculum(a) During winter, this species hibernates in humid mines, caves, and occasionally man-made structures.	Summer habitat Within the Project survey trees were identified that may be suitable roosting trees. Hibernaculum(a) No mine openings and/or known caves are located within 0.25 miles of Project area and USFWS did not identify known hibernacula within 5-miles of the Project. Field evaluations did not identify any potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project area (2024 Joint Guidance)*.	April 1 – September 30	Summer habitat ODNR and USFWS recommends adherence to Avoidance Dates for Tree Clearing Activities (April 1 – September 30). Hibernaculum(a) The ODNR DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment to be conducted to identify potential hibernacula within 0.25 miles of the Project area. If habitat assessment finds potential hibernaculum within 0.25 miles, a revised seasonal tree clearing restriction (March 15 to November 15) is recommended (2024 Joint Guidance)*. If absence or no tree cutting or subsurface impacts are proposed, the Project is not likely to impact this species.	Summer habitat Potential summer roosting habitat is present within the Project area and seasonal tree clearing, between October 1 and March 31, is recommended. Hibernaculum(a) No impacts to winter hibernacula were identified due to absence of caves, mines, or portals within 0.25-miles of the Project.
Tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)	Endangered	Proposed	Summer habitat During spring/summer, this bat species roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in leaves. Hibernaculum(a) During winter, this species hibernates in humid mines, caves, and occasionally man-made structures.	Summer habitat Within the Project survey trees were identified that may be suitable roosting trees. Hibernaculum(a) No mine openings and/or known caves are located within 0.25 miles of Project area and USFWS did not identify known hibernacula within 5-miles of the Project. Field evaluations did not identify any potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project area (2024 Joint Guidance)*.	April 1 – September 30	Summer habitat ODNR and USFWS recommends adherence to Avoidance Dates for Tree Clearing Activities (April 1 – September 30). Hibernaculum(a) The ODNR DOW recommends a desktop habitat assessment to be conducted to identify potential hibernacula within 0.25 miles of the Project area. If habitat assessment finds potential hibernaculum within 0.25 miles, a revised seasonal tree clearing restriction (March 15 to November 15) is recommended (2024 Joint Guidance)*. If absence or no tree cutting or subsurface impacts are proposed, the Project is not likely to impact this species.	Summer habitat Potential summer roosting habitat is present within the Project area and seasonal tree clearing, between October 1 and March 31, is recommended. Hibernaculum(a) No impacts to winter hibernacula were identified due to absence of caves, mines, or portals within 0.25-miles of the Project.

TABLE 5
ODNR AND USFWS LISTED SPECIES WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Common Name (Scientific Name)	State Status	Federal Status	Typical Habitat	Habitat Observed	Avoidance Dates	Agency Comments	Potential Impacts
Fish							
Northern brook lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon fossori*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Spotted darter (*Etheostoma maculatum*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Goldeye (*Hiodon alosoides*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Shortnose gar (*Lepisosteus platostomus*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Iowa darter (*Etheostoma exile*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Popeye shiner (*Notropis ariommus*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Tonguetied minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Lake chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*)	Threatened	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*)	Threatened	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Mussels							
Elephant-ear (*Elliptio crassidens crassidens*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Long solid (*Fusconaia maculata maculate*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Northern riffleshell (*Epioblasma torulosa rangiana*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Ohio pigtoe (*Pleurobema cordatum*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Pocketbook (*Lampsilis ovata*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.

TABLE 5
ODNR AND USFWS LISTED SPECIES WITHIN THE PROJECT SURVEY AREA

Common Name (Scientific Name)	State Status	Federal Status	Typical Habitat	Habitat Observed	Avoidance Dates	Agency Comments	Potential Impacts
Pondhorn (*Uniomerus tetralasmus*)	Threatened	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*)	Threatened	Threatened	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*)	Threatened	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Washboard (*Megalonaias nervosa*)	Endangered	None	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Purple cat's paw (*Epioblasma o. obliquata*)	Endangered	Endangered	Perennial Streams	Yes, a perennial stream was identified within the Project Survey Area.	N/A	Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this Project is not likely to impact this species.	No in-water work is proposed; therefore, no further coordination required.
Birds							
Northern Harrier (*Circus hudsonius*)	Endangered	None	This species hunts over grasslands and nests can be found in large marshes and grasslands	**No** – Based on desktop and field reviews, the Project area does not contain suitable nesting habitat.	April 15 to July 31	Habitat should be avoided during the bird's nesting period between April 15 through July 31. Due to the absence of suitable this Project will not likely impact this species.	No – Based on desktop and field reviews, the Project area does not contain suitable nesting habitat.

2024 Joint Guidance – Refers to the 2024 ODNR DOW and USFWS Joint Guidance for Bat Surveys and Tree Clearing, a copy of the guidance is provided within **Appendix F of this memo.*

Protected Species Agency Summary

Based on general observations during the ecological field survey, forested areas were identified within the Project Survey Area and no tree clearing is proposed as part of the Project. If tree clearing were to become part of the Project scope of work, the ODNR and the USFWS recommend implementations of seasonal tree clearing between October 1 and March 31 to avoid adverse effects to Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, little brown bat, and tricolored bat. ODNR confirmed a known presence in the vicinity of the Project Area for the northern long-eared bat. If trees must be cut during the summer months, the ODNR recommends that a mist net survey could be completed for the Indiana bat, little brown bat, and the tricolored bat between June 1 and August 15. However, additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence within the Project Survey Area for the northern long-eared bat. If summer tree clearing is needed, additional coordination would be completed with ODNR and the USFWS.

Regarding potential hibernaculum(a) within the Project Area, a desktop hibernaculum(a) review was completed in accordance with the 2024 Ohio ODNR DOW and USFWS Joint Guidance for Bat Surveys and Tree Clearing within 0.25 miles of the Project survey (**Figure 6)** No karst features, mining activities, and/or sink holes were identified within a 0.25-miles radius of the Project Area that are anticipated to provide suitable hibernacula for cave-dwelling bats. As per the 2024 Joint Guidance, if potential hibernacula are found and it is assumed bats are present, the ODNR/USFWS suggest refraining from clearing of tree between March 15 and November 15. However, if impacts cannot be avoided, further evaluation and coordination with the ODNR and USFWS is warranted.

No impacts are anticipated to occur to any fish, or mussel species as no in-water work is proposed as part of the Project.

The ODNR noted that the Project is within the range of the northern harrier; however, AECOM ecologist and approved avian specialist concluded an absence of this species nesting habitat within the Project Survey Area. According to ODNR, open grasslands and wet meadow marshes, of at least 2-acres, is considered nesting habitat for the northern harrier. Based on field and desktop review, the Project Survey Area is an existing transmission line corridor that traverses a portion of the Rocky Fork Metro Park and is situated within an urban/residential landscape just North of the City of New Albany. The land cover within the Project Survey Area is primarily composed of old field and scrub/shrub habitat. The Project Area does intersect one larger field, approximately 15 acres in size and comprised of old field habitat, which meets the ODNR requirement for size (>2-acres). However, this area possesses factors that exclude it from the consideration of potential habitat. Those factors include tight borders of forested and residential properties, which is considered to be less attractive to nesting; the field is situated amongst a highly urbanized and residential landscape; and lack of expansive contiguous habitat. Therefore, there is no suitable nesting

habitat within the Project Survey Area and no further coordination regarding this listed species is necessary concerning this Project.

4.0 SUMMARY

The ecological field survey of the Project Survey Area identified a total of five wetlands (three PEM, one and two PEM/PFO/PSS) within the Project Survey Area. Three wetlands were assigned ORAM Category 1, and two wetlands were assigned ORAM Category 2 within the Project Survey Area. No Category 3 wetlands were identified within the Project Survey Area. Boundaries of wetlands are provided on **Figure 3**.

Of the two streams identified within the Project Survey Area, both streams were classified using HHEI evaluations that identified both streams as Modified Class II PHW.

AECOM has preliminarily determined that the assessed streams within the Project Survey Area appear to be jurisdictional (i.e., WOTUS). The reported results of the ecological survey conducted by AECOM on this Project are limited to the areas within the Project Survey Area provided on **Figure 3**. Areas that fall outside of the Project Survey Area were not evaluated in the field and are not included in the reporting of this survey.

Of the 27 state and/or federal listed threatened or endangered species within range of the Project Survey Area, no habitat for any of the listed aquatic or bird species were identified within the Project Survey Area. However, four bat species were identified as having potential summer roosting habitat and no hibernacula within the Project Survey Area. If tree clearing cannot be completed during the seasonal tree clearing restriction (October 1 to March 31), further coordination with the ODNR/USFWS is warranted. Additionally, the northern long-eared bat was identified as a known occurrence and additional summary surveys would not constitute a presence/absence for this species.

The field survey results presented herein apply to the existing and reasonably foreseeable site conditions at the time of our assessment. They cannot apply to site changes of which AECOM is unaware and has not had the opportunity to review. Changes in the condition of a property may occur with time due to natural processes or human impacts at the Project site or on adjacent properties. Changes in applicable standards may also occur as a result of legislation or the expansion of knowledge over time. Accordingly, the findings of this report may be invalidated, wholly or in part, by changes beyond the control of AECOM.

5.0 REFERENCES

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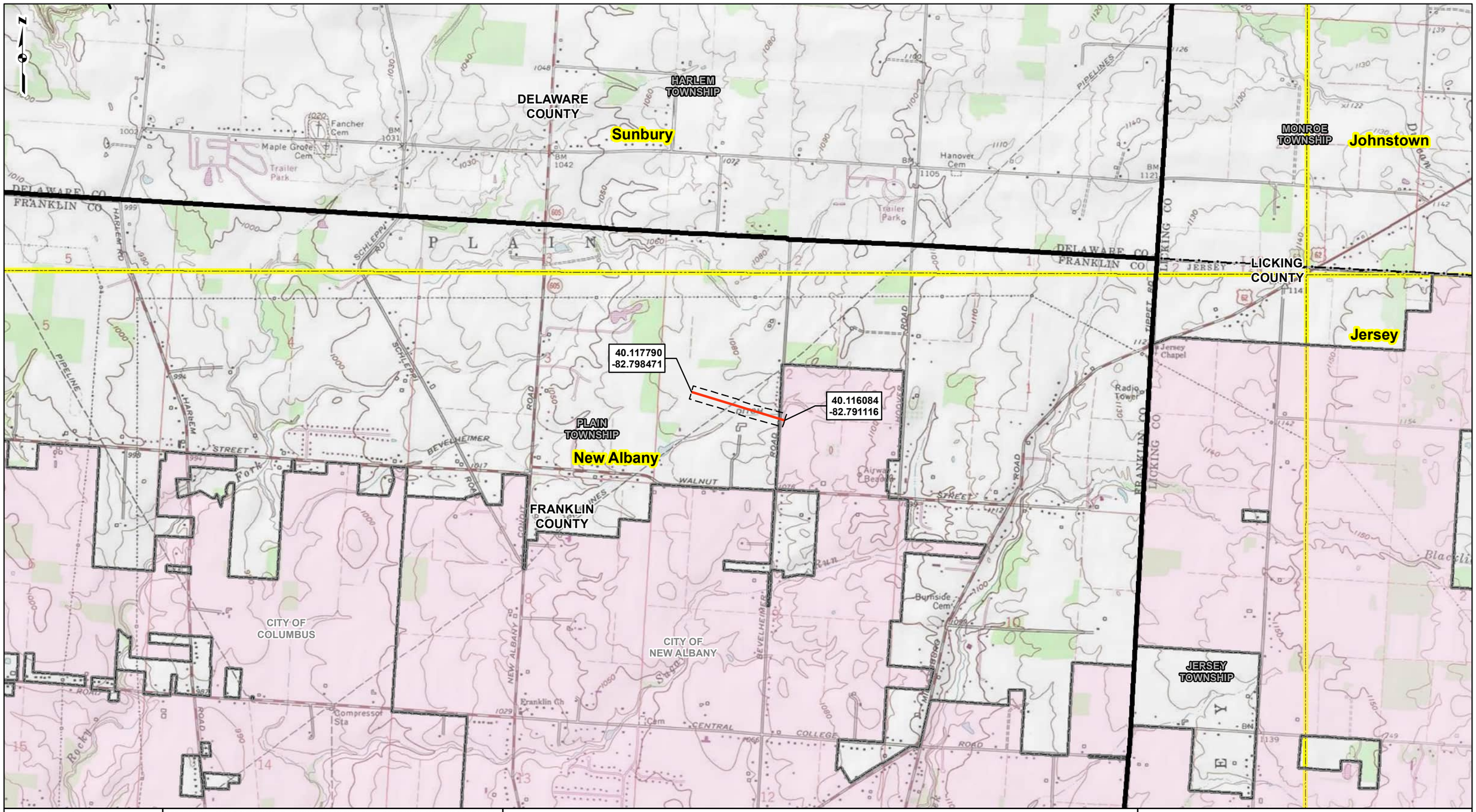

PROJECT LOCATION

FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

REFERENCE: USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLES: NEW ALBANY, OHIO, OBTAINED THROUGH ESRI USA TOPO MAPS, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TOPO AND USGS, ACCESSED 06/2025.

6/17/2025

LEGEND

- JUG CORRIDOR TAP
- PROJECT SURVEY
- MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- OHIO USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet

FIGURE 1
PROJECT LOCATION MAP

AECOM

JUG CORRIDOR TAP (SOUDER) PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 6/17/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

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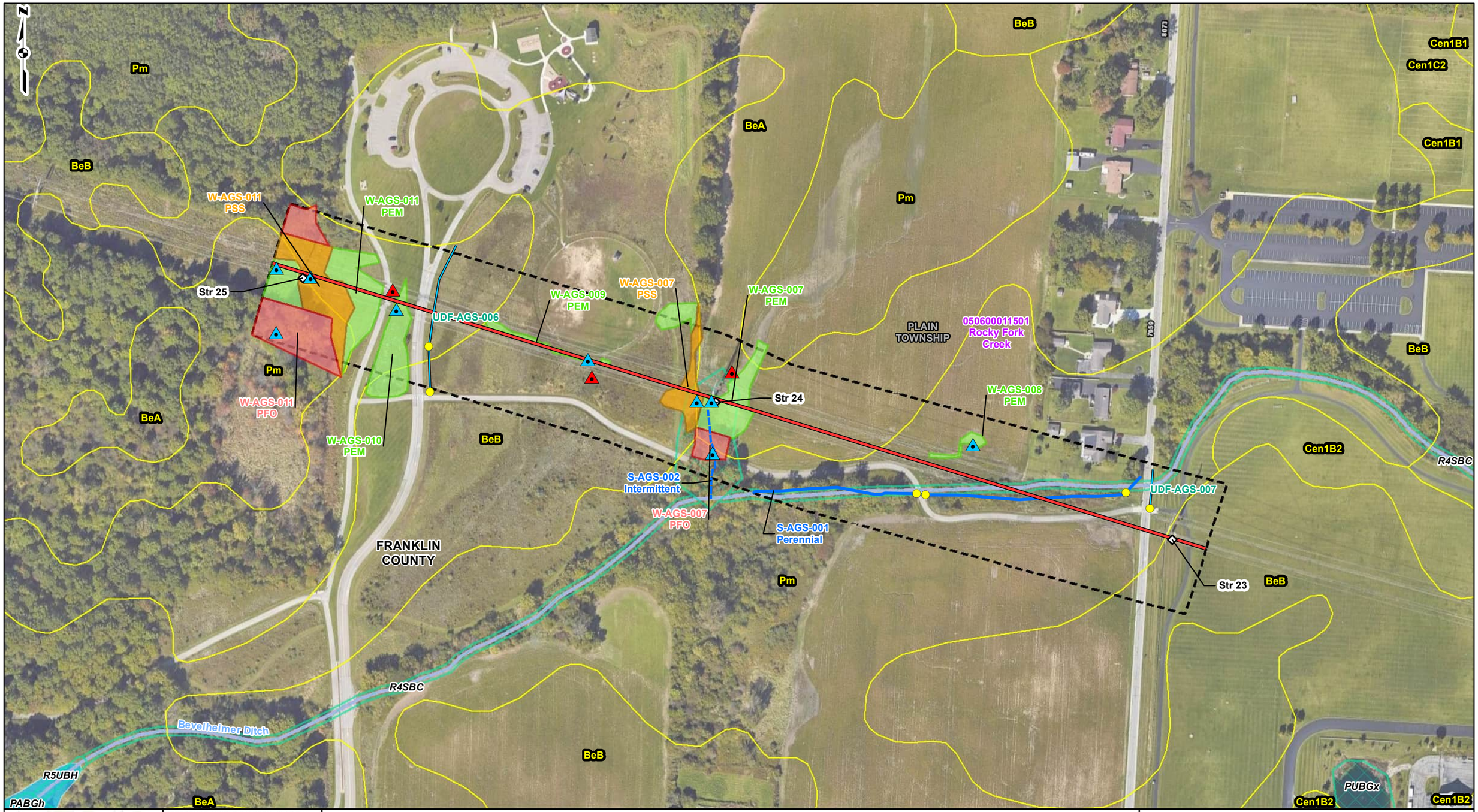

REFERENCE: WORLD IMAGERY (CLARITY), ESRI, ARCGIS ONLINE, ACCESSED 06/2025. SOIL SURVEY GEOGRAPHIC (SSURGO), USDA/NRCS, 2024. NHD, USGS 2024. NWI, USFWS 2024. HUC 12, USGS 2024.

6/17/2025

LEGEND

- WETLAND DATA POINT
- UPLAND DATA POINT
- CULVERT
- PROPOSED STRUCTURE
- DELINEATED UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE
- DELINEATED INTERMITTENT STREAM
- DELINEATED PERENNIAL STREAM
- JUG CORRIDOR TAP
- DELINEATED PSS WETLAND
- DELINEATED PFO WETLAND
- DELINEATED PEM WETLAND
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA
- NHD STREAM (USGS)
- NWI WETLAND (USFWS)
- NHD WATERBODY (USGS)
- HUC 12 WATERSHED BOUNDARY
- SOIL MAP UNIT

SOIL MAP UNIT DESCRIPTION

BeA: BENNINGTON SILT LOAM, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES
BeB: BENNINGTON SILT LOAM, 2 TO 6 PERCENT SLOPES
Pm: PEWAMO SILTY CLAY LOAM, LOW CARBONATE TILL, 0 TO 2 PERCENT SLOPES

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 2
SOIL MAP AND NATIONAL WETLANDS INVENTORY MAP

AECOM

JUG CORRIDOR TAP (SOUDER) PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT
CHECKED: JH
DATE: 6/17/2025
APPROVED:

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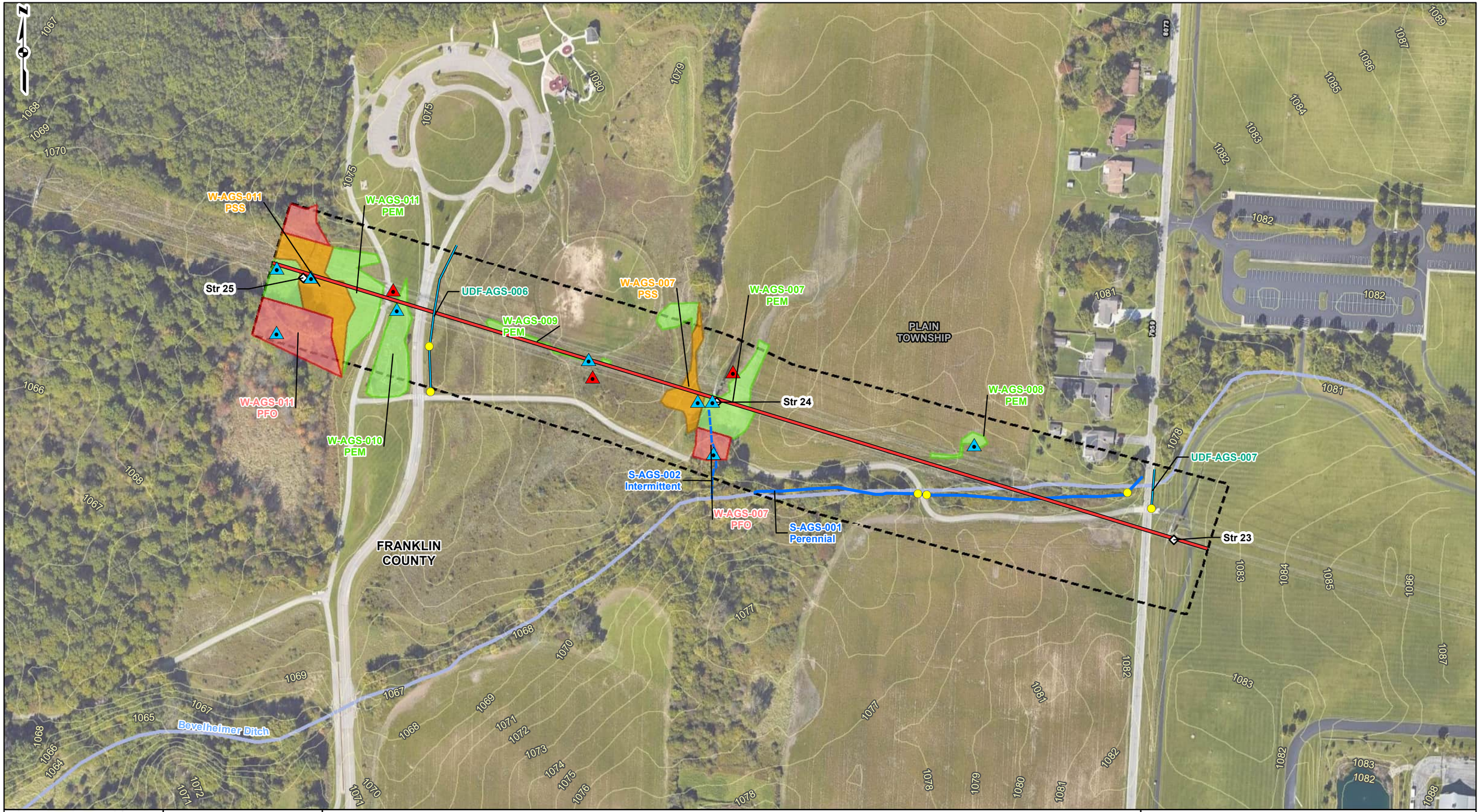

REFERENCE: WORLD IMAGERY (CLARITY), ESRI, ARCGIS ONLINE, ACCESSED 06/2025. CONTOURS 1FT, USGS 2024.

6/17/2025

LEGEND

- WETLAND DATA POINT
- UPLAND DATA POINT
- CULVERT
- PROPOSED STRUCTURE
- DELINEATED UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE
- DELINEATED INTERMITTENT STREAM
- DELINEATED PERENNIAL STREAM
- JUG CORRIDOR TAP
- DELINEATED PSS WETLAND
- DELINEATED PFO WETLAND
- DELINEATED PEM WETLAND
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA
- NHD STREAM (USGS)
- CONTOUR (1FT)

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 3
WETLAND DELINEATION AND STREAM ASSESSMENT MAP

AECOM

JUG CORRIDOR TAP (SOUDER) PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT
CHECKED: JH

DATE: 6/17/2025
APPROVED:

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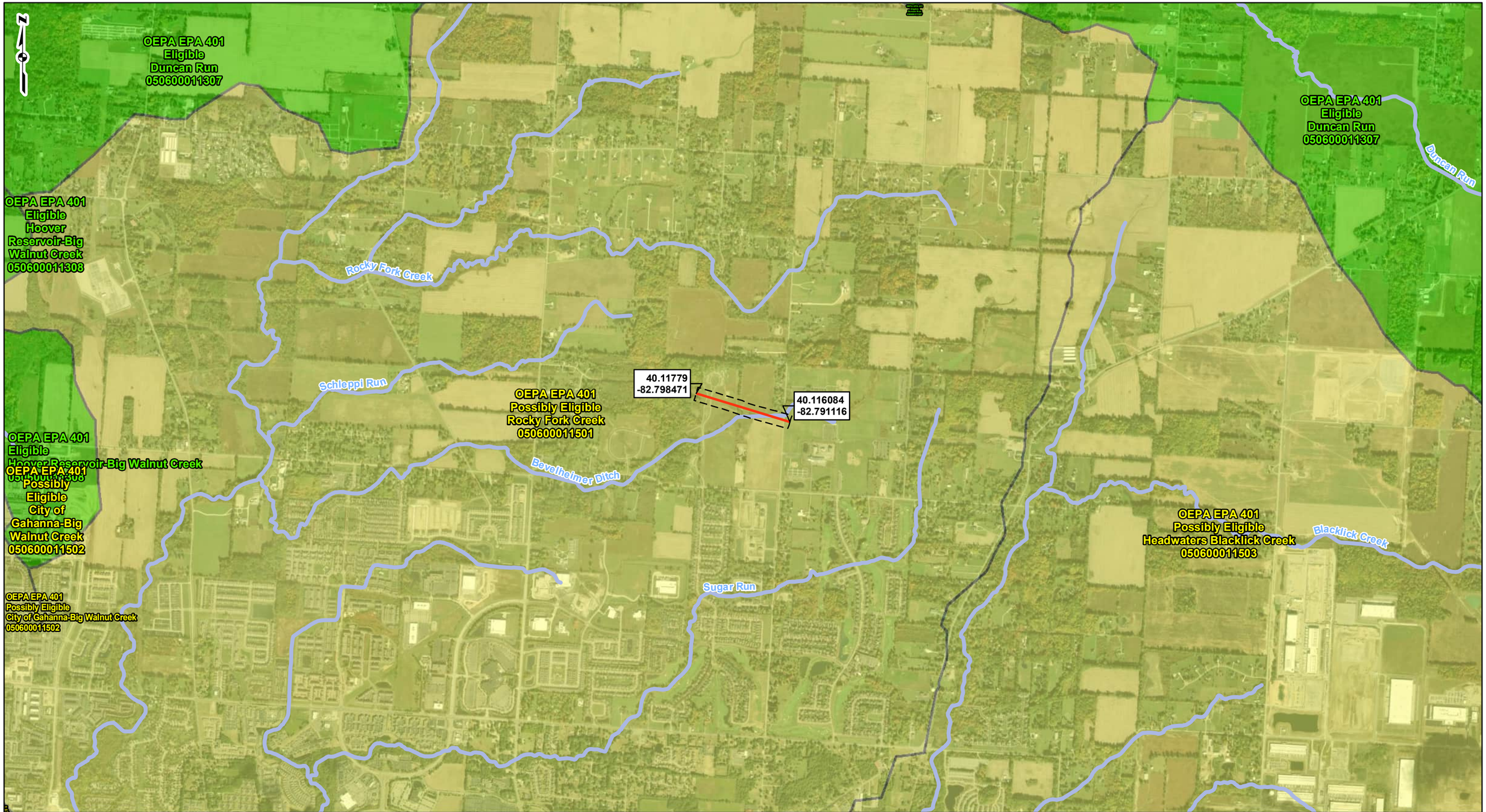


PROJECT LOCATION

FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

REFERENCE: USGS 7.5' TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLES: NEW ALBANY, OHIO, OBTAINED THROUGH ESRI USA TOPO MAPS, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TOPO AND USGS, ACCESSED 06/2025. OEPA ELIGIBLE WATERSHEDS, OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, 2024.

6/17/2025

LEGEND

- JUG CORRIDOR TAP
- NHD STREAM (USGS)
- PROJECT SURVEY

OEPA ELIGIBILITY:

- ELIGIBLE
- INELIGIBLE
- POSSIBLY ELIGIBLE

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 Feet

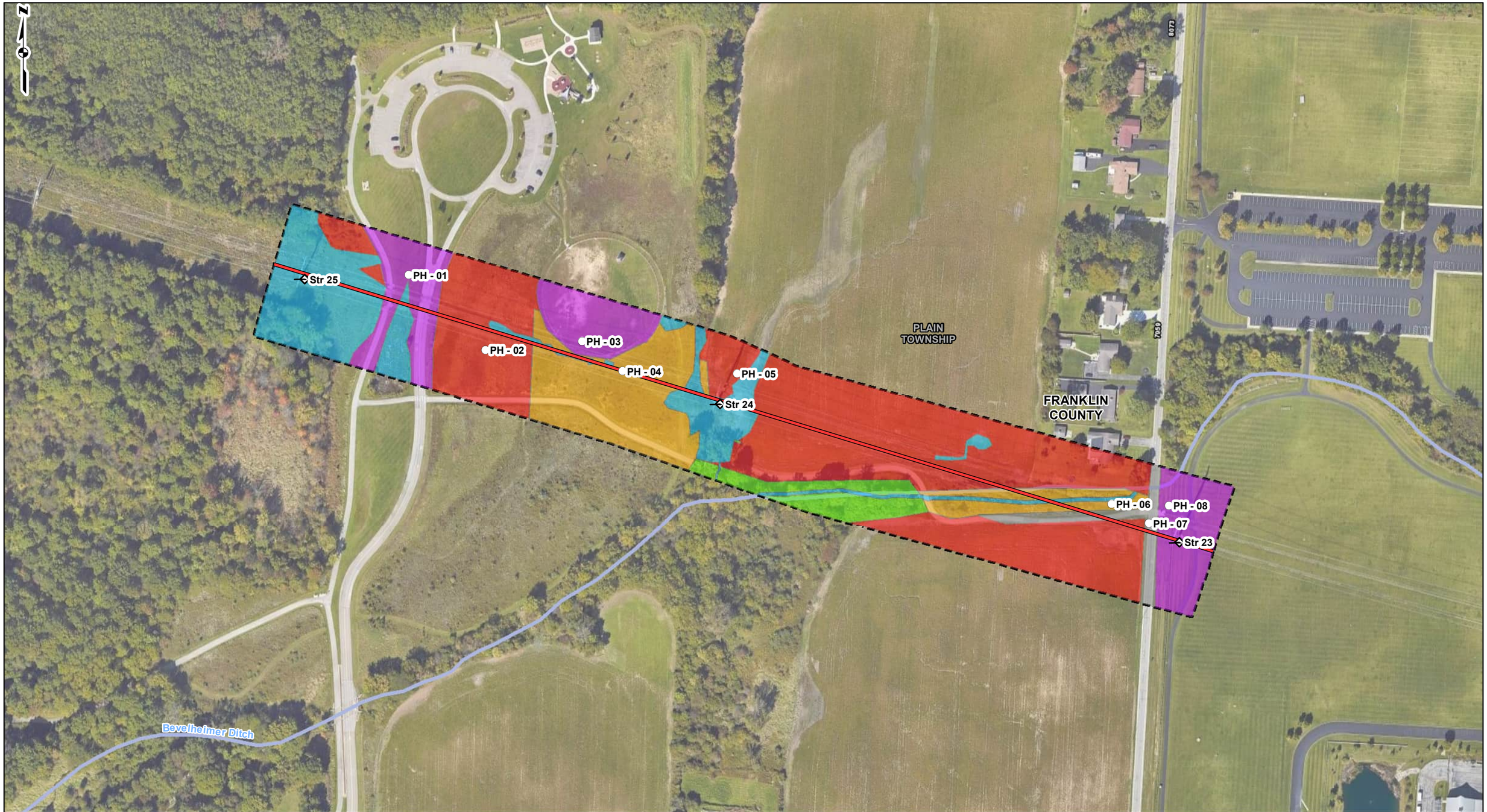
FIGURE 4
STREAM ELIGIBILTY MAP

AECOM

JUG CORRIDOR TAP (SOUDER) PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT DATE: 6/17/2025
CHECKED: JH APPROVED:

X:\DCS\GIS\ArcMap_GeoDB_Projects\ENV\60706508_AEP_Jug_Corridor_Tap_(Souder)\2_MXDs\1_WDR\WDR_Fig_4.mxd



REFERENCE: WORLD IMAGERY (CLARITY), ESRI, ARCGIS ONLINE, ACCESSED 06/2025.

6/17/2025

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION POINT
- PROPOSED STRUCTURE
- JUG CORRIDOR TAP
- PROJECT SURVEY AREA

VEGETATIVE COMMUNITY TYPE

- LANDSCAPED
- OLD FIELD
- SCRUB/SHRUB
- STREAMS/WETALNDS
- URBAN
- WOODLANDS

0 100 200 400 Feet

FIGURE 5
VEGETATIVE COMMUNITIES ASSESSMENT MAP

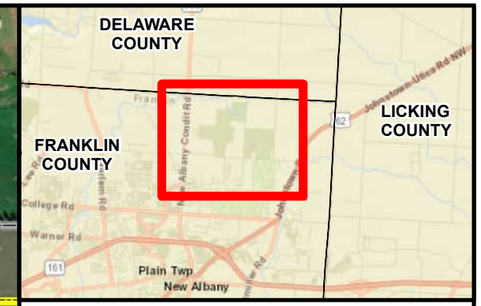
AECOM

JUG CORRIDOR TAP (SOUDER) PROJECT
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

DRAWN BY: CJT
CHECKED: JH
DATE: 6/17/2025
APPROVED:

X:\DCS\GIS\ArcMap_GeoDB_Projects\ENV\60706508_AEP_Jug_Corridor_Tap_(Souder)\2_MXDs\1_WDR\WDR_Fig_5_.mxd

HARLEM TOWNSHIP
DELAWARE COUNTY
PLAIN TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN COUNTY
Sunbury
New Albany
Structure 24
40.11779
-82.798471
Structure 22
40.116084
-82.791116
Bixby - Corridor (Kirk - Corridor)
345kV Existing Transmission Line



Legend

- Jug Corridor Tap
- Existing Transmission Line
- Quater Mile Review Area
- Ohio USGS 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle
- Township Boundary
- County Boundary

N

0 1,000 2,000

Feet

No mining activities, karst features, and/or sink holes are within the extent of the map frame. The closest feature is 0.73 miles north of the Project area.

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER
BOUNDLESS ENERGY

Jug Corridor
Tap (Souder) Project

FIGURE 6
DESKTOP BAT ASSESSMENT MAP

DATE: 8/14/2024	1 INCH = 1,000 FEET
CREATED BY: CJT	CHECKED BY: JH
JOB NO.: 60706508	AECOM

Date Saved: 8/14/2024
Document Path: X:\DCS\GIS\ArcMap_GeoDB_Projects\ENV\60706508_AEP_Jug_Corridor_Tap_(Souder)\2_MXDs\1_WDR\WDR_Fig_6_.mxd

APPENDIX A

USACE WETLAND DATA FORMS, ORAM FORMS, AND PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.116969 | Long: -82.795016 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-007 is a PEM, abutting wetland. This area collects water from precipitation, stream flooding, and groundwater. This PEM wetland is part of a PFO/PSS/PEM wetland complex.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Leersia oryzoides*	60	X	OBL
2. *Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani*	10		OBL
3. *Typha latifolia*	10		OBL
4. *Phalaris arundinacea*	10		FACW
5. *Juncus effusus*	10		OBL
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 1 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 1 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	%	Redox Features Color (moist)	%	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 4/1	90	7.5YR 5/4	5	C	MPL	CL	
			7.5YR 4/4	5	C	MPL		

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

Water Table Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PFO

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Floodplain/Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.116655 | Long: -82.795005 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No _____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No _____

Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No _____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No _____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No _____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No _____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-007 is a PFO, abutting wetland within a floodplain. This area collects water from precipitation, stream flooding, and groundwater. This PFO wetland is part of a PFO/PSS/PEM wetland complex.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Ulmus americana*	30	X	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	30	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Cornus amomum*	10	X	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	10	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Lysimachia nummularia*	15	X	FACW
2. *Glyceria striata*	10	X	OBL
3. *Solidago rugosa*	10	X	FAC
4. *Apocynum cannabinum*	10	X	FAC
5. *Carex scoparia*	10	X	FACW
6. *Poa palustris*	5		FACW
7. *Phalaris arundinacea*	5		FACW
8.			
9.			
10.			
	65	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 7 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 7 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = _____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No _____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PFO

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 2/2	95	7.5YR 5/4	5	C	MPL	SiCL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

Water Table Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 3

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 5

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PSS

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.116967 | Long: -82.795126 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-007 is a PSS, abutting wetland. This area collects water from precipitation. This PSS wetland is part of a PFO/PSS/PEM wetland complex.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Cornus amomum*	35	X	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	35	= Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Leersia oryzoides*	15	X	OBL
2. *Carex vulpinoidea*	10	X	FACW
3. *Juncus effusus*	10	X	OBL
4. *Juncus tenuis*	10	X	FAC
5. *Apocynum cannabinum*	10	X	FAC
6. *Carex lurida*	5		OBL
7. *Carex scoparia*	5		FACW
8.			
9.			
10.			
	65	= Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 6 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 6 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:	Multiply by:	
OBL species ____	x 1 =	0
FACW species ____	x 2 =	0
FAC species ____	x 3 =	0
FACU species ____	x 4 =	0
UPL species ____	x 5 =	0
Column Totals: 0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-PSS

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-2	10YR 3/2	100					L	
2-20	10YR 6/1	70	10YR 6/6	30	C	MPL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-008-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.116710 | Long: -82.792951 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-008 is a PEM, isolated wetland located in a depression within an old field. This area collects water from precipitation.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Leersia oryzoides*	30	X	OBL
2. *Typha latifolia*	20	X	OBL
3. *Juncus effusus*	20	X	OBL
4. *Trifolium repens*	20	X	FACU
5. *Juncus tenuis*	20	X	FAC
6. *Eleocharis obtusa*	5		OBL
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	115	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 4 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 5 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 80 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-008-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 2/1	95	10YR 6/6	5	C	MPL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/10/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-008-UPL

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.117148 | Long: -82.794859 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No _____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No _____

Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes _____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes _____ No X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes _____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes _____	No X	

Remarks:

W-AGS-007-008-UPL is an upland data point located along a concave plain. Precipitation is the source of hydrology to this area.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Trifolium repens*	40	X	FACU
2. *Solidago canadensis*	20	X	FACU
3. *Poa pratensis*	20	X	FAC
4. *Panicum capillare*	20	X	FAC
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 4 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 50 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	0	x 2 =	0
FAC species	40	x 3 =	120
FACU species	60	x 4 =	240
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	100 (A)		360 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.60

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes _____ No X

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is not present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-007-008-UPL

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Redox Features Type[1]	Redox Features Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	2.5Y 4/3	100					CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ___ No X

Remarks:

Hydric soil is not present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ___ No X

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is not present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/11/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-009-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.117222 | Long: -82.795987 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeB: Bennington silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-009 is a PEM, isolated wetland that collects water from precipitation.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Juncus tenuis*	25	X	FAC
2. *Lythrum salicaria*	15	X	OBL
3. *Juncus effusus*	10	X	OBL
4. *Scirpus cyperinus*	10	X	OBL
5. *Apocynum cannabinum*	10	X	FAC
6. *Carex vulpinoidea*	10	X	FACW
7. *Poa pratensis*	10	X	FAC
8. *Penstemon digitalis*	10	X	FAC
9. *Phalaris arundinacea*	5		FACW
10.			
	105	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 8 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 8 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-009-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-11	2.5Y 4/2	70	10YR 5/6	15	C	MPL	CL	
			7.5YR 4/4	15	C	M		
11+	Clay/Rock							

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/11/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-009-UPL

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): None

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.117116 | Long: -82.795954 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No _____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No _____

Are Vegetation _____, Soil _____, or Hydrology _____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes _____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes _____ No X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes _____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes _____	No X	

Remarks:

W-AGS-009-UPL is an upland data point located along a flat plain. Precipitation is the source of hydrology to this area.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Cornus amomum*	20	X	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	20	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Solidago canadensis*	25	X	FACU
2. *Poa pratensis*	20	X	FAC
3. *Dipsacus fullonum*	20	X	FACU
4. *Anthoxanthum odoratum*	15		FACU
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	80	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 4 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 50 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	20	x 2 =	40
FAC species	20	x 3 =	60
FACU species	60	x 4 =	240
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	100 (A)		340 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.40

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes _____ No X

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is not present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-009-UPL

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Redox Features Type[1]	Redox Features Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	2.5Y 4/3	100					CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ___ No X

Remarks:

Hydric soil is not present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ___ No X

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is not present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/11/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-010-11-UPL

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): None

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.117637 | Long: -82.797528 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation X, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes ____	No X	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes ____ No X
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes ____	No X	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes ____	No X	

Remarks:

W-AGS-010-011-UPL is an upland data point located along a flat plain and between two paved roads. Precipitation is the source of hydrology to this area. The vegetation is disturbed due to mowing.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Poa pratensis*	50	X	FAC
2. *Trifolium repens*	40	X	FACU
3. *Plantago lanceolata*	10		FACU
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 1 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 50 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	0	x 2 =	0
FAC species	50	x 3 =	150
FACU species	50	x 4 =	200
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	100 (A)		350 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 3.50

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

___ Dominance Test is >50%

___ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

___ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

___ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes ____ No X

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is not present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-010-11-UPL

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Redox Features Type[1]	Redox Features Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-15	10YR 4/2	100					CL	
15+	Clay/Rock							

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ____

Hydric Soil Present? Yes ____ No X

Remarks:

Hydric soil is not present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes ____ No X

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is not present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/11/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-010-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.117515 | Long: -82.797492 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeB: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation X, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-010 is a PEM, isolated wetland that collects water from precipitation. Vegetation is disturbed on the fringe of the wetland due to mowing.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Populus deltoides*	10	X	FAC
2. *Salix nigra*	5	X	OBL
3.			
4.			
5.			
	15	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Typha angustifolia*	70	X	OBL
2. *Scirpus cyperinus*	10		OBL
3. *Juncus effusus*	5		OBL
4. *Carex vulpinoidea*	5		FACW
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	90	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 3 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-010-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-1	10YR 3/2	100					L	
1-20	10YR 5/1	90	10YR 6/6	10	C	MPL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0.5

Water Table Present? Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0

Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe) Yes X No ___ Depth (inches): 0

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/11/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-011-PEM

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression/Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.117759 | Long: -82.798444 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-011 is a PEM, abutting wetland with an assumed stream connection outside of the study area due to the size of the wetland complex. This PEM wetland is part of a PEM/PSS complex that continues outside of the study area into PFO sections. The source of hydrology is precipitation.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Phalaris arundinacea*	40	X	FACW
2. *Juncus effusus*	20	X	OBL
3. *Dichanthelium clandestinum*	10		FACW
4. *Apocynum cannabinum*	10		FAC
5. *Carex vulpinoidea*	10		FACW
6. *Carex scoparia*	5		FACW
7. *Carex squarrosa*	5		OBL
8.			
9.			
10.			
	100	= Total Cover	

Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 2 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 2 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 100 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-011-PEM

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 3/2	95	7.5YR 5/4	5	C	MPL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present. Micro-topographic relief present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin County | Sampling Date: 06/11/2024

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-011-PSS

Investigator(s): Austin Sige, Adam Crowe | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillslope, terrace, etc.): Depression/Plain | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.117711 | Long: -82.798177 | Datum: NAD 83

Soil Map Unit Name: BeA: Bennington silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: None

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes X No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes X No ____

Are Vegetation ____, Soil ____, or Hydrology ____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** Yes X No ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:

W-AGS-011 is a PSS, abutting wetland with an assumed stream connection outside of the study area due to the size of the wetland complex. This PSS wetland is part of a PEM/PSS complex that continues outside of the study area into PFO sections. The source of hydrology is precipitation.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30')	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	0	= Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15')			
1. *Rosa multiflora*	10	X	FACU
2. *Cornus amomum*	10	X	FACW
3. *Rubus allegheniensis*	5		FACU
4. *Elaeagnus umbellata*	5		UPL
5.			
	30	= Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5')			
1. *Phalaris arundinacea*	30	X	FACW
2. *Solidago rugosa*	10	X	FAC
3. *Carex vulpinoidea*	10	X	FACW
4. *Juncus tenuis*	10	X	FAC
5. *Agrimonia parviflora*	5		FACW
6. *Carex scoparia*	5		FACW
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	70	= Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30')			
1.			
2.			
	0	= Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 5 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 6 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 83 (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species		x 1 =	0
FACW species		x 2 =	0
FAC species		x 3 =	0
FACU species		x 4 =	0
UPL species		x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	0 (A)		0 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = ____

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

X Dominance Test is >50%

__ Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

__ Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

__ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present? Yes X No ____

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

Hydrophytic vegetation is present.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-011-PSS

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-20	10YR 4/2	90	10YR 5/6	10	C	MPL	CL	

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion, RM=Reduced Matrix, CS=Covered or Coated Sand Grains. [2]Location: PL=Pore Lining, M=Matrix.

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

- ___ Coast Prairie Redox (A16)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: None

Depth (inches): ___

Hydric Soil Present? Yes X No ___

Remarks:

Hydric soil is present.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

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

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

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

Wetland Hydrology Present? Yes X No ___

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

N/A

Remarks:

Wetland hydrology is present. Micro-topographic relief present.

WETLAND DETERMINATION DATA FORM – Midwest Region

Project/Site: Souder 138kV Ext Tline | City/County: Franklin | Sampling Date: 5-13-25

Applicant/Owner: AEP | State: OH | Sampling Point: W-AGS-011

Investigator(s): MRK, RAK | Section, Township, Range: S2, T2N, R16W

Landform (hillside, terrace, etc.): Flat | Local relief (concave, convex, none): Concave

Slope (%): 1 | Lat: 40.117380 | Long: -82.798444 | Datum: NAD83

Soil Map Unit Name: Pm: Pewamo silty clay loam, low carbonate till, 0 to 2 percent slopes | NWI classification: NA

Are climatic / hydrologic conditions on the site typical for this time of year? Yes x No ____ (If no, explain in Remarks.)

Are Vegetation____, Soil____, or Hydrology____ significantly disturbed? Are "Normal Circumstances" present? Yes x No ____

Are Vegetation____, Soil____, or Hydrology____ naturally problematic? (If needed, explain any answers in Remarks.)

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

Hydrophytic Vegetation Present?	Yes X	No ____	**Is the Sampled Area within a Wetland?** **Yes** X **No** ____
Hydric Soil Present?	Yes X	No ____	
Wetland Hydrology Present?	Yes X	No ____	

Remarks:
This PFO section of a wetland complex is located in a forested depression that is collecting surface runoff. The wetland continues outside of the current study area and water drains to the south. The wetland boundary follows edge of depression.

VEGETATION – Use scientific names of plants.

Tree Stratum (Plot size: 30' radius)	Absolute % Cover	Dominant Species?	Indicator Status
1. *Quercus palustris*	50	Yes	FACW
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
	50	=Total Cover	
Sapling/Shrub Stratum (Plot size: 15' radius)			
1. *Crataegus crus-galli*	20	Yes	FAC
2. *Prunus virginiana*	10	Yes	FACU
3.			
4.			
5.			
	30	=Total Cover	
Herb Stratum (Plot size: 5' radius)			
1. *Impatiens capensis*	75	Yes	FACW
2. *Phalaris arundinacea*	20	No	FACW
3. *Agrimonia parviflora*	10	No	FACW
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
	105	=Total Cover	
Woody Vine Stratum (Plot size: 30' radius)			
1.			
2.			
		=Total Cover	

Dominance Test worksheet:

Number of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 3 (A)

Total Number of Dominant Species Across All Strata: 4 (B)

Percent of Dominant Species That Are OBL, FACW, or FAC: 75.0% (A/B)

Prevalence Index worksheet:

Total % Cover of:		Multiply by:	
OBL species	0	x 1 =	0
FACW species	155	x 2 =	310
FAC species	20	x 3 =	60
FACU species	10	x 4 =	40
UPL species	0	x 5 =	0
Column Totals:	185 (A)		410 (B)

Prevalence Index = B/A = 2.22

Hydrophytic Vegetation Indicators:

____ 1 - Rapid Test for Hydrophytic Vegetation

X 2 - Dominance Test is >50%

X 3 - Prevalence Index is ≤3.0[1]

____ 4 - Morphological Adaptations[1] (Provide supporting data in Remarks or on a separate sheet)

____ Problematic Hydrophytic Vegetation[1] (Explain)

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

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

Remarks: (Include photo numbers here or on a separate sheet.)
Vegetation does meet the requirements of hydrophytic vegetation.

SOIL

Sampling Point: W-AGS-011

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

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks
0-16	2.5Y 3/2	80	10YR 5/6	20	C	M		Prominent redox concentrations

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

Hydric Soil Indicators:

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

Indicators for Problematic Hydric Soils[3]:

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

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

Restrictive Layer (if observed):

Type: _____

Depth (inches): _____

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

Remarks:

Soil does meet hydric criteria.

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

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

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

Secondary Indicators (minimum of two required)

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

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes ___	No x	Depth (inches): ___
Water Table Present?	Yes x	No ___	Depth (inches): 0
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes x	No ___	Depth (inches): 0

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

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

NA

Remarks:

The source of hydrology is surface runoff and a high water table.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

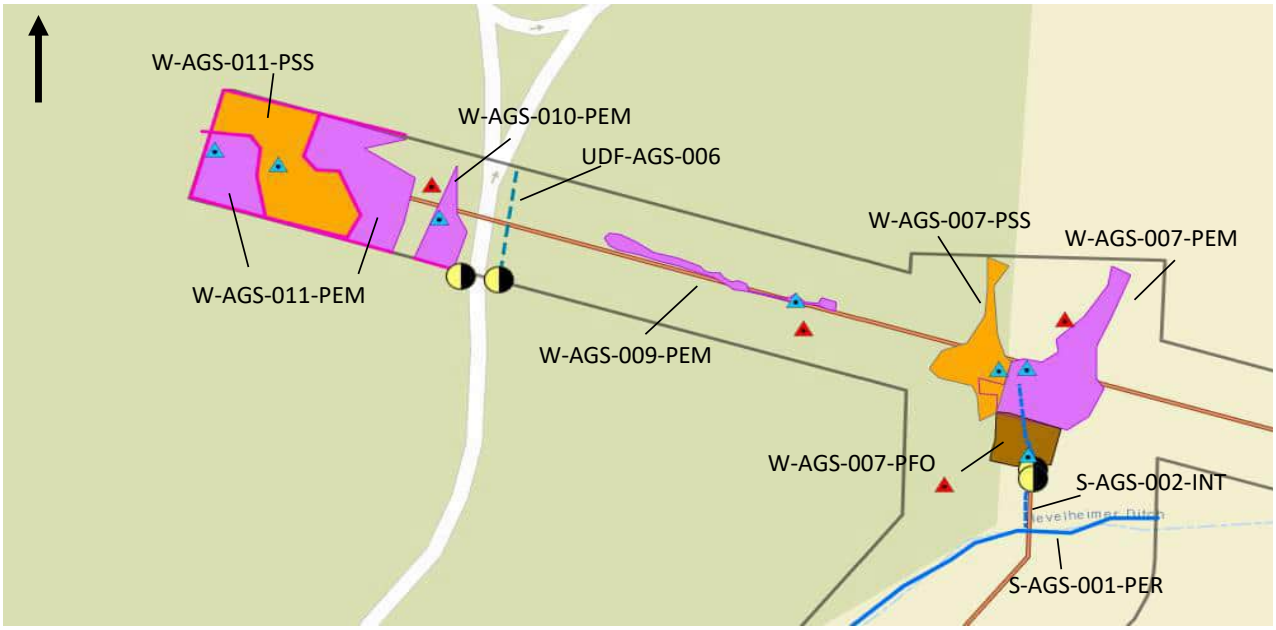
The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information	
Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-007**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM/PSS/PFO**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional/Riverine**

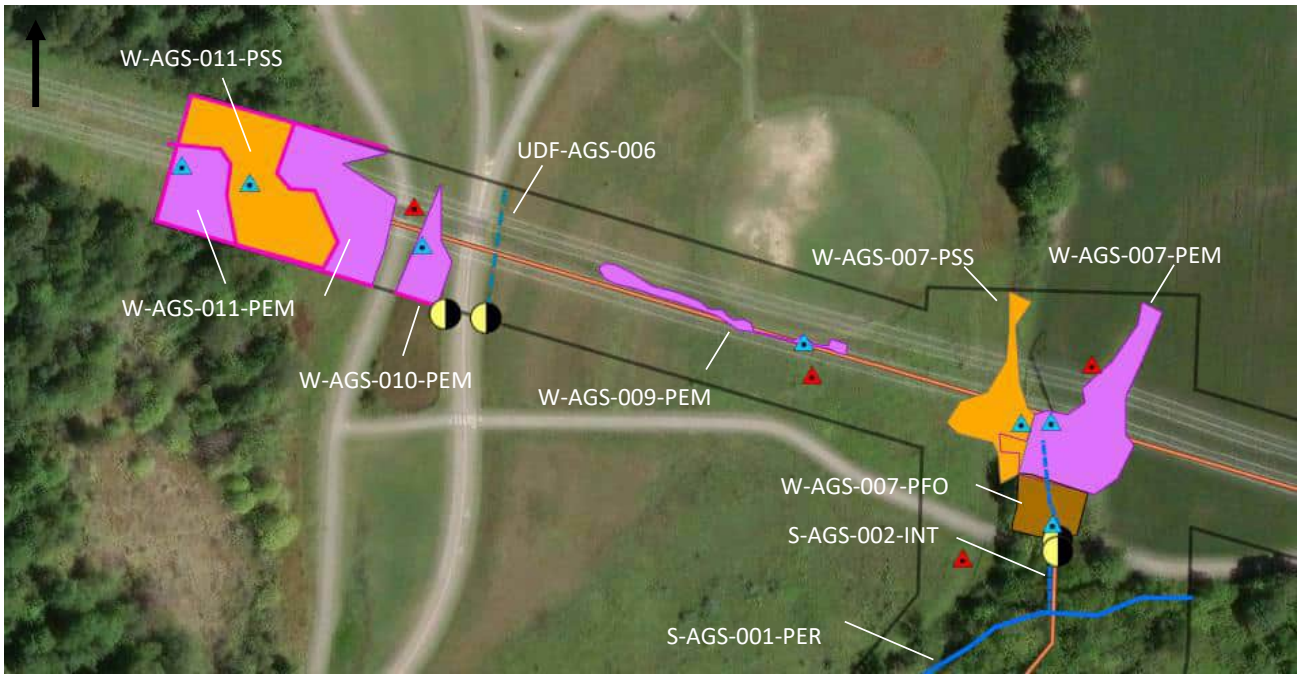
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**PEM (40.116969, -82.795016), PSS (40.116967, -82.795126), PFO (40.116655, -82.795005)**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S2**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/10/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-007		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.57	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	0.57

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



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	47.5	Category:	2

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

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

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Narrative Rating

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

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

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

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-007

Delineated acres:	0.57
Total acres:	0.57

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

2.0 / 2.0 (max 6 pts / subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

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

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

7.0 / 9.0 (max 14 pts. / subtotal)

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

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

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

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

Metric 3. Hydrology.

16.0 / 25.0 (max 30 pts. / subtotal)

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

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

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

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

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

14.5 / 39.5 (max 20 pts. / subtotal)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Check all disturbances observed

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

39.5 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-007

39.5
subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. | **39.5** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

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

8.0 max 20pts. | **47.5** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

	Aquatic bed
2	Emergent
2	Shrub
2	Forest
	Mudflats
	Open water
	Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

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

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

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

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

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

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

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

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

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

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

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

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

47.5 **TOTAL (Max 100 pts)**

2 **Category**

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**2**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**7**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**16**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**14.5**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**8**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**47.5**		Category 2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-007

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over- categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	***NO**	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	***YES** Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	***NO**	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1- 54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	***Category 2**	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

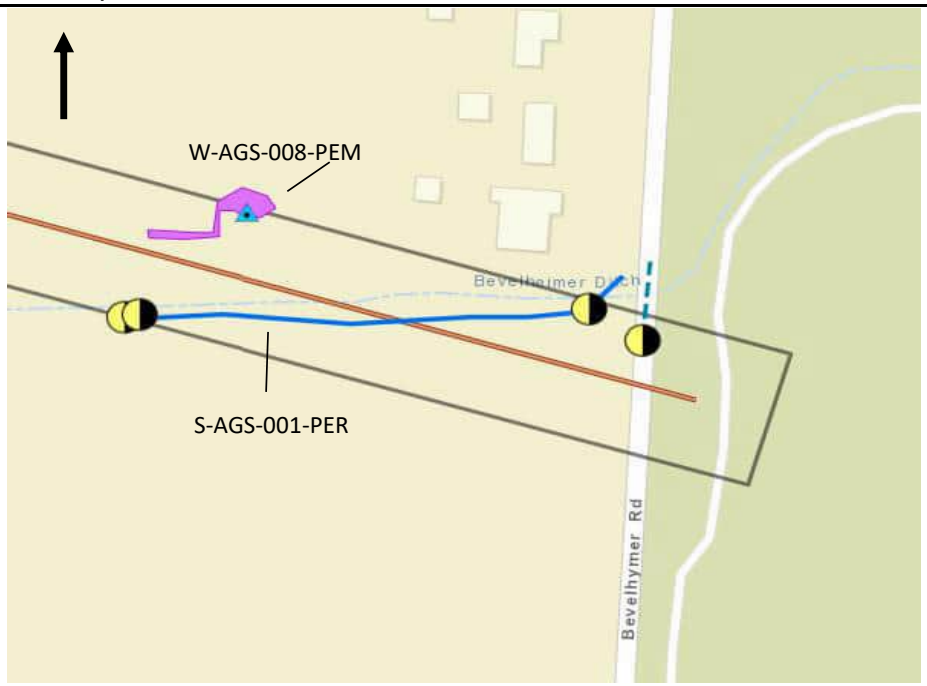
It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information

Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-008**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional**

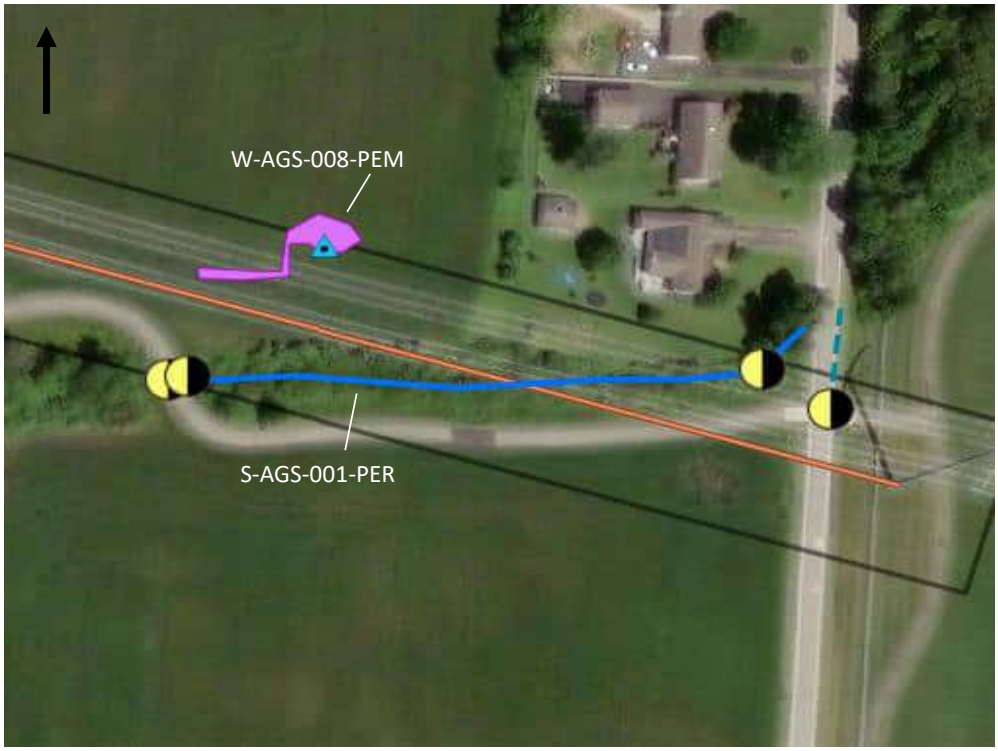
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**40.116710, -82.792951**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**0.04**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S2**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/10/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-008		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.04	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	0.04

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	28.5	Category:	1

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-008

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.		
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human- induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.		
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.		
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.		
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.		
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.		

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-008

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature and by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	***NO** Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	***NO** Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis* , or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	***NO** Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	***NO** Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	***NO** Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	***NO** Go to Question 8b

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-008

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	***NO** Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES Go to Question 9b	***NO** Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES Go to Question 9d	NO Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	***NO** Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	***NO** Complete Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-008

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	oak opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-008

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-008

Delineated acres:	0.04
Total acres:	0.04

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

0.0 (max 6 pts) | 0.0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [ ] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [x] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

7.0 (max 14 pts.) | 7.0 (subtotal)

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [x] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [ ] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [ ] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrubland, young second growth forest. (5)
- [x] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [ ] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

10.0 (max 30 pts.) | 17.0 (subtotal)

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [x] Recovered (7)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [ ] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [x] Other: ROW work

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

7.5 (max 20 pts.) | 24.5 (subtotal)

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [x] Recovered (3)
- [x] Recovering (2)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [x] Poor to fair (2)
- [ ] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [ ] Recovered (6)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [x] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [ ] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [ ] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [x] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

24.5 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-008

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-008

24.5 subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. | **24.5** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [ ] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Praires (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 5 Qualitative Rating (-10)

4.0 max 20pts. | **28.5** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [2] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [ ] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [x] Low (1)
- [ ] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer

Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [ ] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [ ] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [x] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [0] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [0] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's 1 vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's 2 vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's 3 vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or low disturbance tolerant native species
Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, mod although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generallyw/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp to
A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp high and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

28.5 TOTAL (Max 100 pts)

1 Category

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-008

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**0**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**7**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**10**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**7.5**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**4**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**28.5**		Category 1

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-008

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over- categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	***NO**	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	***YES** Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	***NO**	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1- 54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	***Category 1**	Category 2	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

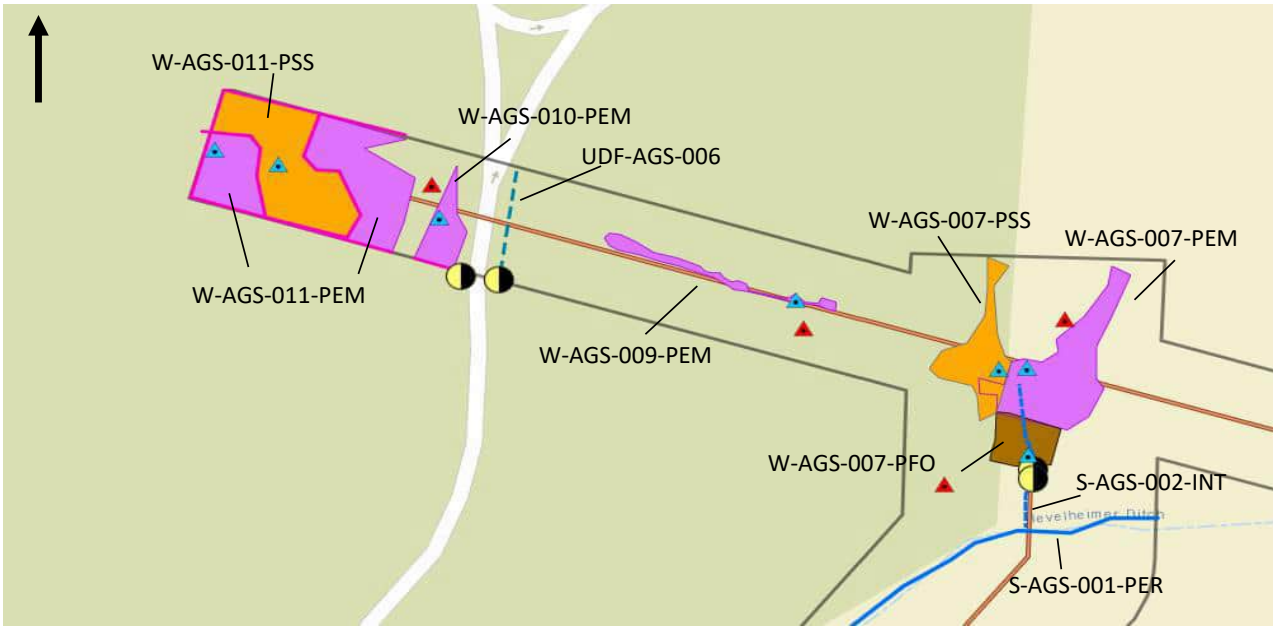
It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information

Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-009**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional**

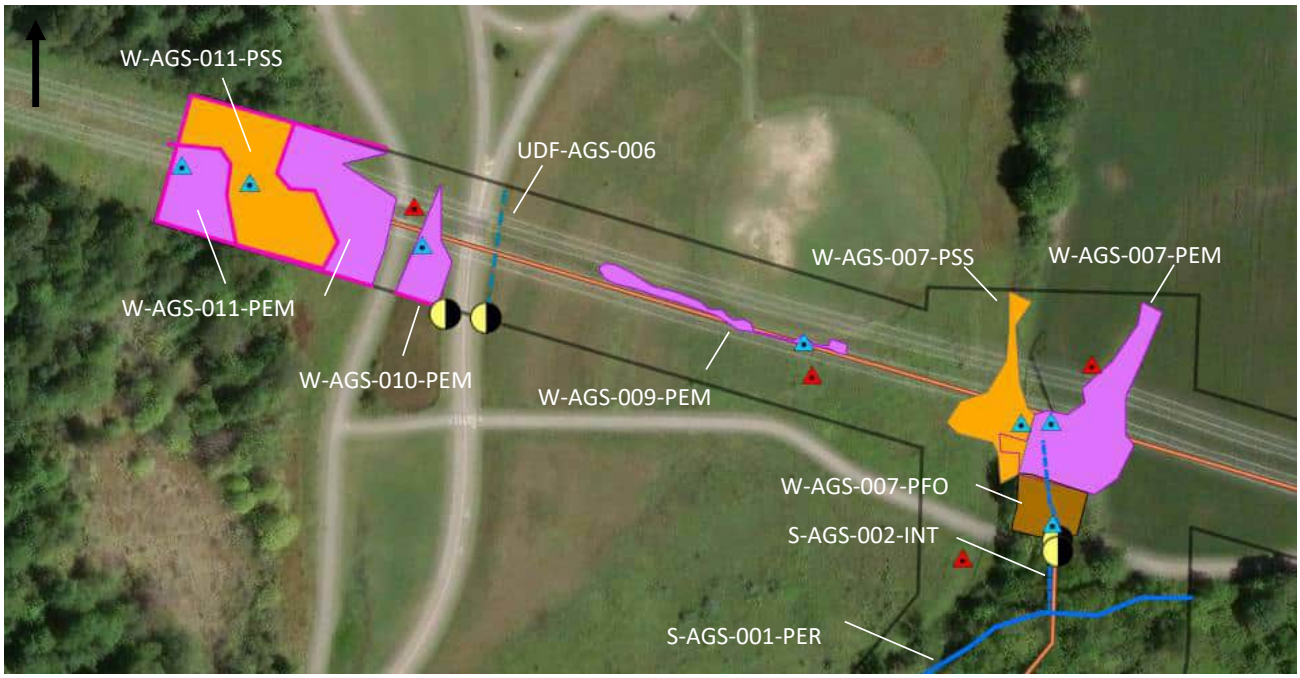
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**40.117222, -82.795987**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S2**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/11/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-009		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.06	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	0.06

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	26	Category:	1

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-009

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.		
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human- induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.		
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.		
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.		
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.		
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.		

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-009

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature and by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	***NO** Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	***NO** Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis* , or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	***NO** Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	***NO** Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	***NO** Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	***NO** Go to Question 8b

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-009

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	***NO** Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES Go to Question 9b	***NO** Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES Go to Question 9d	NO Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	***NO** Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	***NO** Complete Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-009

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	oak opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-009

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-009

Delineated acres:	0.06
Total acres:	0.06

0.0 / 0.0 Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

max 6 pts | subtotal

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [ ] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [x] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

4.0 / 4.0 Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

max 14 pts. | subtotal

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [ ] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [x] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [ ] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [ ] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrubland, young second growth forest. (5)
- [x] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [ ] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

10.0 / 14.0 Metric 3. Hydrology.

max 30 pts. | subtotal

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [x] Recovered (7)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [ ] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [x] Other: ROW work/man-made drainage

10.0 / 24.0 Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

max 20 pts. | subtotal

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (4)
- [x] Recovered (3)
- [x] Recovering (2)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [x] Fair (3)
- [ ] Poor to fair (2)
- [ ] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [x] Recovered (6)
- [x] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [x] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [ ] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [ ] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [ ] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

x Wetland appears constructed

24.0

subtotal this page

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-009

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-009

24.0 subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. **24.0** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [ ] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Praires (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 5 Qualitative Rating (-10)

2.0 max 20pts. **26.0** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [2] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [ ] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [x] Low (1)
- [ ] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [ ] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [x] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [ ] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [0] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [0] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's 1 vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's 2 vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's 3 vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or low disturbance tolerant native species
Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, mod although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generallyw/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp to
A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp high and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

26.0 **TOTAL (Max 100 pts)**

1 **Category**

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-009

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**0**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**4**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**10**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**10**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**2**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**26**		Category 1

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-009

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over- categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	***NO**	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	***YES** Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	***NO**	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1- 54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	***Category 1**	Category 2	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

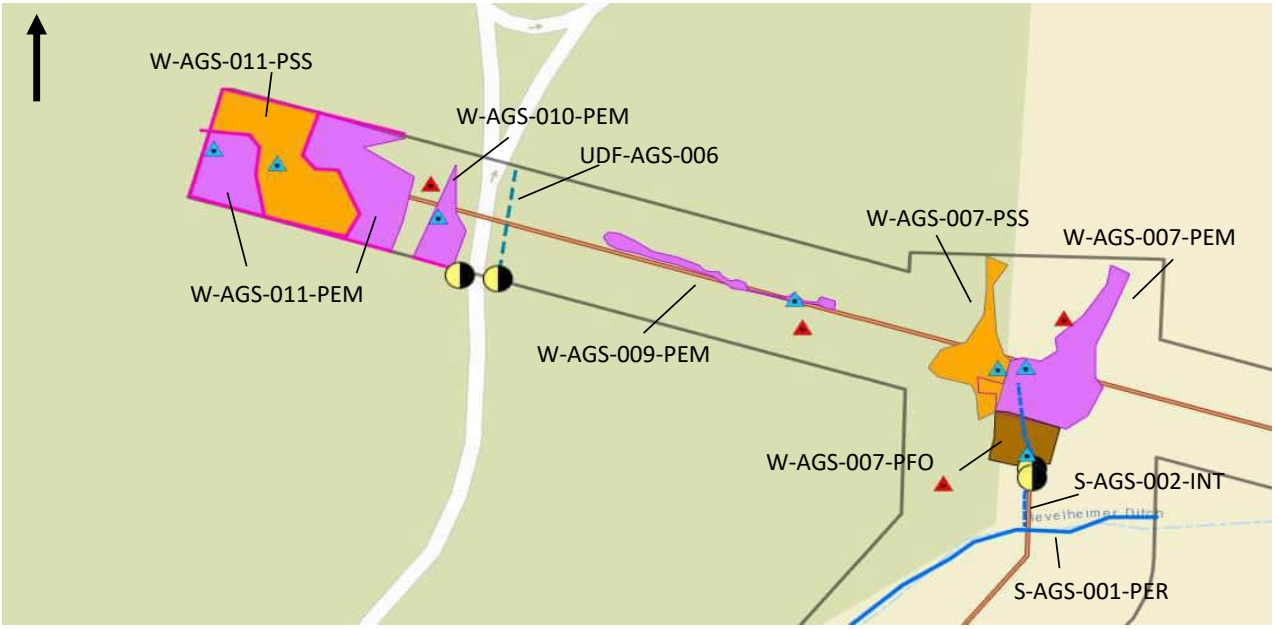
It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information

Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/11/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-010**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional**

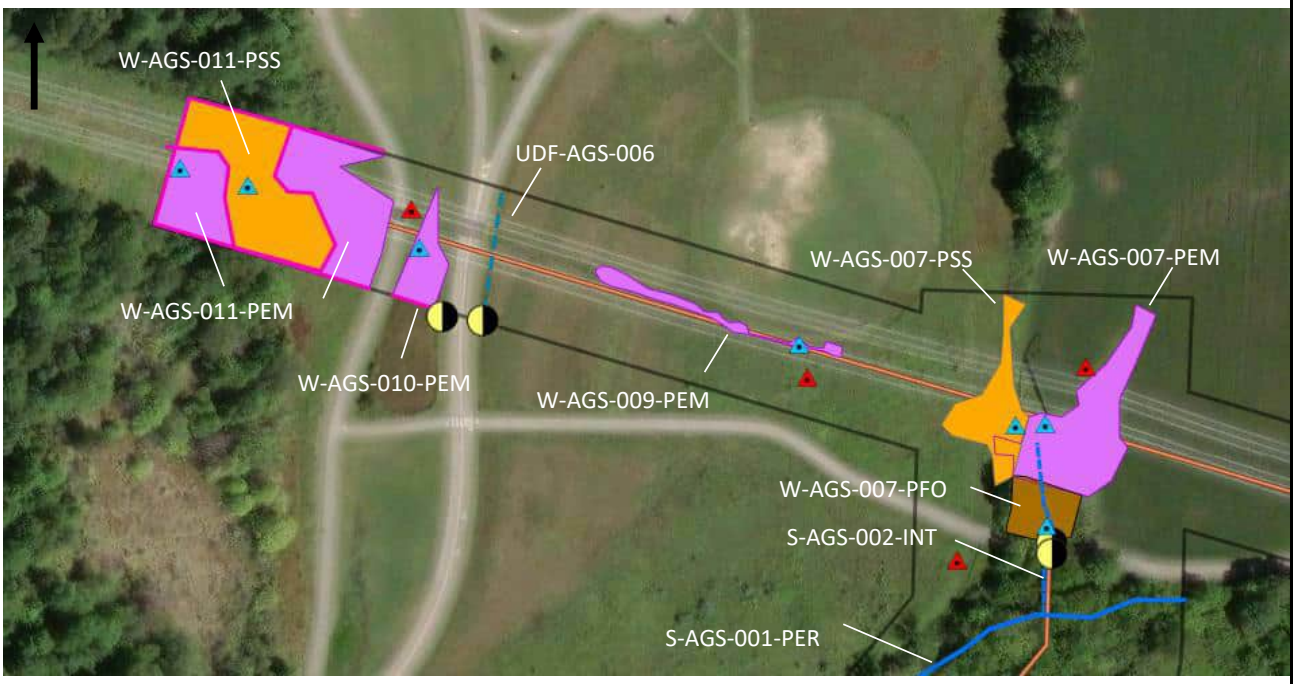
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**40.11746608, -82.79747003**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S2**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/11/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	W-AGS-010		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	0.09	Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):	0.30

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

PFO section was not delineated as it was outside of study area.

Final score:	29	Category:	Category 1

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-010

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.		
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human- induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.		
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.		
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.		
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.		
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.		

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-010

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature and by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	***NO** Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	***NO** Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis* , or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	***NO** Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	***NO** Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	***NO** Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	***NO** Go to Question 8b

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-010

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	***NO** Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES Go to Question 9b	***NO** Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES Go to Question 9d	NO Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	***NO** Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	***NO** Complete Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-010

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	oak opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-010

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/11/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-010

Delineated acres:	0.09
Total acres:	0.30

Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

1.0 (max 6 pts) | 1.0 (subtotal)

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [ ] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [x] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [ ] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

3.0 (max 14 pts.) | 4.0 (subtotal)

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [ ] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [x] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [ ] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrubland, young second growth forest. (5)
- [x] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [ ] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

Metric 3. Hydrology.

12.0 (max 30 pts.) | 16.0 (subtotal)

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [ ] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [x] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [ ] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [x] Recovered (7)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [x] ditch
- [ ] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [ ] Other:

Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

12.0 (max 20 pts.) | 28.0 (subtotal)

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [x] None or none apparent (4)
- [ ] Recovered (3)
- [ ] Recovering (2)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [ ] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [x] Poor to fair (2)
- [ ] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [x] Recovered (6)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [x] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [ ] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [ ] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [ ] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [ ] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

28.0 (subtotal this page)

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-010

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/11/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-010

28.0 subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. **28.0** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

- [ ] Bog (10)
- [ ] Fen (10)
- [ ] Old growth forest (10)
- [ ] Mature forested wetland (5)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
- [ ] Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
- [ ] Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
- [ ] Relict Wet Praires (10)
- [ ] Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
- [ ] Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
- [ ] Category 1 Wetland. See Question 5 Qualitative Rating (-10)

1.0 max 20pts. **29.0** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [ ] Aquatic bed
- [2] Emergent
- [ ] Shrub
- [ ] Forest
- [ ] Mudflats
- [ ] Open water
- [ ] Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

- [ ] High (5)
- [ ] Moderately high(4)
- [ ] Moderate (3)
- [ ] Moderately low (2)
- [x] Low (1)
- [ ] None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

- [ ] Extensive >75% cover (-5)
- [x] Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
- [ ] Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
- [ ] Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
- [ ] Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

- [0] Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
- [0] Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
- [0] Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
- [1] Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's 1 vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's 2 vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's 3 vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or low disturbance tolerant native species
Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, mod although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generallyw/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp to
A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp high and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

29.0 **TOTAL (Max 100 pts)**

2 **Category**

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-010

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**1**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**3**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**12**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**12**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**1**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**29**		Category 1

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-010

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over- categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	***NO**	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	***YES** Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	NO	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	YES Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	***NO**	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1- 54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	***Category 1**	Category 2	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

Version 5.0	**Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands 10 Page Form for Wetland Categorization**
	Background Information Scoring **Boundary Worksheet Narrative Rating** **Field Form Quantitative Rating** **ORAM Summary Worksheet** **Wetland Categorization Worksheet** Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water Final: February 1, 2001

Instructions

The investigator is *STRONGLY URGED* to read the Manual for Using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands for further elaboration and discussion of the questions below prior to using the rating forms.

The Narrative Rating is designed to categorize a wetland or to provide alerts to the Rater based on the presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as presence or possible presence of threatened or endangered species. The presence or proximity of such species is often an indicator of the quality and lack of disturbance of the wetland being evaluated. In addition, it is designed to categorize certain wetlands as very low quality (Category 1) or very high quality (Category 3) regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating. In addition, the Narrative Rating also alerts the investigator that a particular wetland may be a Category 3 wetland, again, regardless of the wetland's score on the Quantitative Rating.

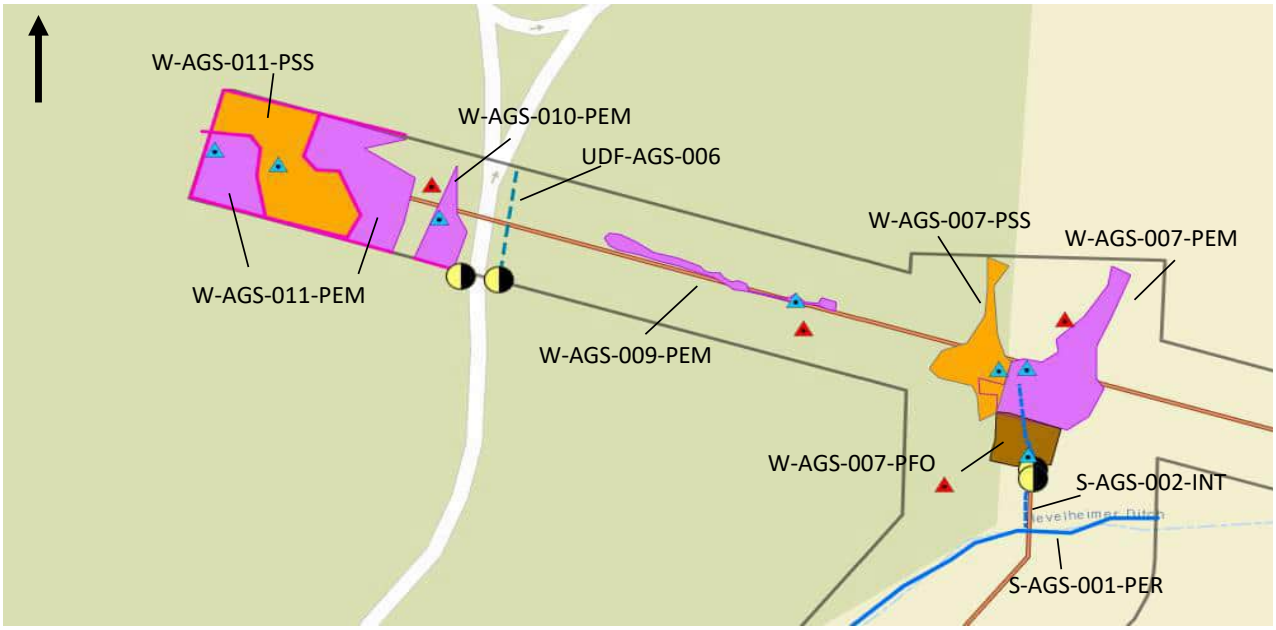
It is *VERY IMPORTANT* to properly and thoroughly answer each of the questions in the ORAM in order to properly categorize a wetland. To properly answer all the questions, the boundaries of the wetland being assessed must be correctly identified. Refer to Scoring Boundary worksheet and the User's Manual for a discussion of how to determine the "scoring boundaries." In some instances, the scoring boundaries may differ from the "jurisdictional boundaries."

Refer to the most recent ORAM Score Calibration Report for the scoring breakpoints between wetland categories. The most recent version of this document is posted on Ohio EPA's Division of Surface Water web page at: http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/wetlands/WetlandEcologySection.aspx

Background Information

Name:	**Austin Sige**
Date:	**6/18/2024**
Affiliation:	**AECOM**
Address:	**707 Grant Street, 5th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219**
Phone Number:	**412-395-8888**
e-mail address:	austin.sige@aecom.com
Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-011**
Vegetation Communit(ies):	**PEM/PSS**
HGM Class(es):	**Depressional**

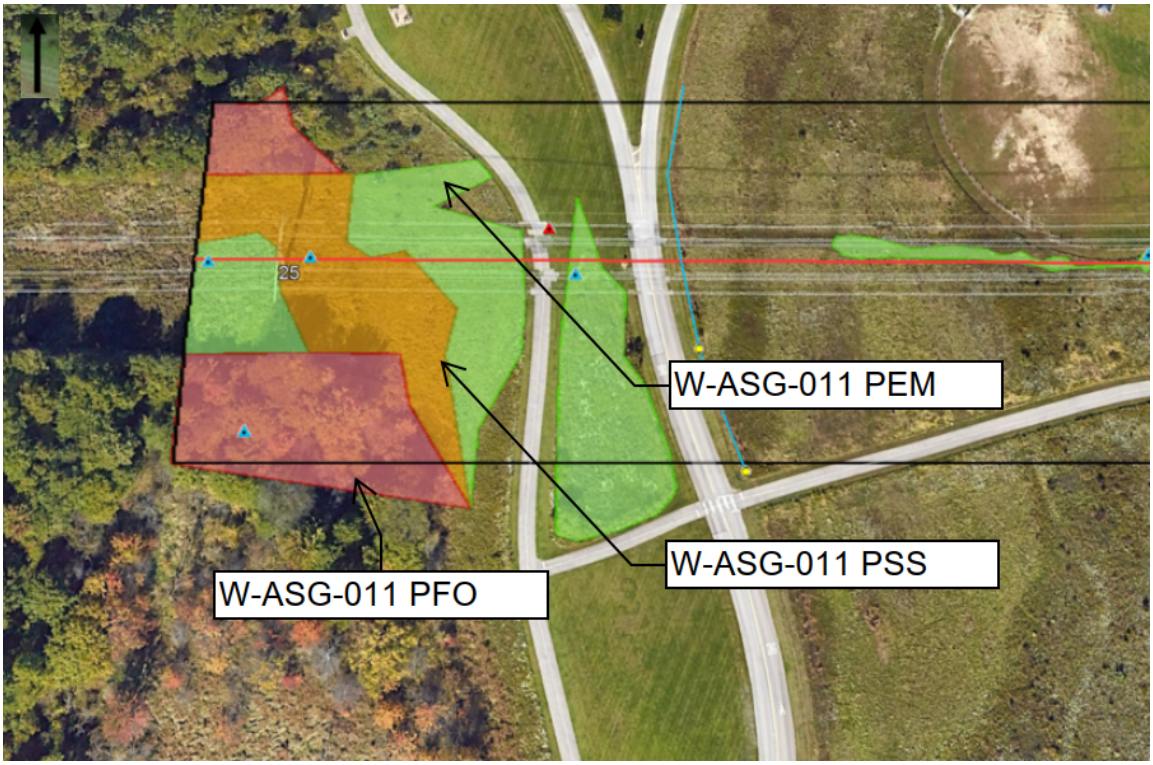
Location of Wetland: include map, address, north arrow, landmarks, distances, roads, etc.



Lat/Long or UTM Coordinate:	**PEM (40.117759, -82.798444), PSS (40.117711, -82.798177)**
USGS Quad Name:	**New Albany**
County:	**Franklin**
Township:	**T2N**
Section and Subsection:	**S2**
Hydrologic Unit Code:	**50600011501**
Site Visit:	**6/11/2024**
National Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Ohio Wetland Inventory Map:	**See Figure 2**
Soil Survey:	**See Figure 2**
Delineation report/map:	**See Figure 3**

Name of Wetland:	**W-AGS-011**		
Wetland Size (delineated acres):	**0.81**	**Wetland Size (Estimated total acres):**	**4.02**

Sketch: Include north arrow, relationship with other surface waters, vegetation zones, etc.



Comments, Narrative Discussion, Justification of Category Changes:

Final score:	**40**	**Category:**	**Modified 2**

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-011

Scoring Boundary Worksheet

INSTRUCTIONS. The initial step in completing the ORAM is to identify the "scoring boundaries" of the wetland being rated. In many instances this determination will be relatively easy and the scoring boundaries will coincide with the "jurisdictional boundaries." For example, the scoring boundary of an isolated cattail marsh located in the middle of a farm field will likely be the same as that wetland's jurisdictional boundaries. In other instances, however, the scoring boundary will not be as easily determined. Wetlands that are small or isolated from other surface waters often form large contiguous areas or heterogeneous complexes of wetland and upland. In separating wetlands for scoring purposes, the hydrologic regime of the wetland is the main criterion that should be used. Boundaries between contiguous or connected wetlands should be established where the volume, flow, or velocity of water moving through the wetland changes significantly. Areas with a high degree of hydrologic interaction should be scored as a single wetland. In determining a wetland's scoring boundaries, use the guidelines in the ORAM Manual Section 5.0. In certain instances, it may be difficult to establish the scoring boundary for the wetland being rated. These problem situations include wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, wetlands divided by artificial boundaries like property fences, roads, or railroad embankments, wetlands that are contiguous with streams, lakes, or rivers, and estuarine or coastal wetlands. These situations are discussed below, however, it is recommended that Rater contact Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water, 401/Wetlands Section if there are additional questions or a need for further clarification of the appropriate scoring boundaries of a particular wetland.

#	Steps in properly establishing scoring boundaries	done?	not applicable
Step 1	Identify the wetland area of interest. This may be the site of a proposed impact, a reference site, conservation site, etc.		
Step 2	Identify the locations where there is physical evidence that hydrology changes rapidly. Such evidence includes both natural and human- induced changes including, constrictions caused by berms or dikes, points where the water velocity changes rapidly at rapids or falls, points where significant inflows occur at the confluence of rivers, or other factors that may restrict hydrologic interaction between the wetlands or parts of a single wetland.		
Step 3	Delineate the boundary of the wetland to be rated such that all areas of interest that are contiguous to and within the areas where the hydrology does not change significantly, i.e. areas that have a high degree of hydrologic interaction are included within the scoring boundary.		
Step 4	Determine if artificial boundaries, such as property lines, state lines, roads, railroad embankments, etc., are present. These should not be used to establish scoring boundaries unless they coincide with areas where the hydrologic regime changes.		
Step 5	In all instances, the Rater may enlarge the minimum scoring boundaries discussed here to score together wetlands that could be scored separately.		
Step 6	Consult ORAM Manual Section 5.0 for how to establish scoring boundaries for wetlands that form a patchwork on the landscape, divided by artificial boundaries, contiguous to streams, lakes or rivers, or for dual classifications.		

End of Scoring Boundary Determination. Begin Narrative Rating on next page.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-011

Narrative Rating

INSTRUCTIONS. Answer each of the following questions. Questions 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be answered based on information obtained from the site visit or the literature and by submitting a Data Services Request to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, Natural Heritage Data Services, 1889 Fountain Square Court, Building F-1, Columbus, Ohio 43224, 614-265-6453 (phone), 614-265-3096 (fax), http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/dnap . The remaining questions are designed to be answered primarily by the results of the site visit. Refer to the User's Manual for descriptions of these wetland types. Note: "Critical habitat" is legally defined in the Endangered Species Act and is the geographic area containing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of a listed species or as an area that may require special management considerations or protection. The Rater should contact the Region 3 Headquarters or the Columbus Ecological Services Office for updates as to whether critical habitat has been designated for other federally listed threatened or endangered species. "Documented" means the wetland is listed in the appropriate State of Ohio database.

#	Question	Circle one	
1	**Critical Habitat.** Is the wetland in a township, section, or subsection of a United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute Quadrangle that has been designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "critical habitat" for any threatened or endangered plant or animal species? Note: as of January 1, 2001, of the federally listed endangered or threatened species which can be found in Ohio, the Indiana Bat has had critical habitat designated (50 CFR 17.95(a)) and the piping plover has had critical habitat proposed (65 FR 41812 July 6, 2000).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 2	NO Go to Question 2
2	**Threatened or Endangered Species.** Is the wetland known to contain an individual of, or documented occurrences of federal or state-listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 3	***NO** Go to Question 3
3	**Documented High Quality Wetland.** Is the wetland on record in Natural Heritage Database as a high quality wetland?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 4	NO Go to Question 4
4	**Significant Breeding or Concentration Area.** Does the wetland contain documented regionally significant breeding or nonbreeding waterfowl, neotropical songbird, or shorebird concentration areas?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 5	***NO** Go to Question 5
5	**Category 1 Wetlands.** Is the wetland less than 0.5 hectares (1 acre) in size and **hydrologically isolated** and either 1) comprised of vegetation that is dominated (greater than eighty per cent areal cover) by *Phalaris arundinacea, Lythrum salicaria,* or *Phragmites australis* , or 2) an acidic pond created or excavated on mined lands that has little or no vegetation?	YES Wetland is a Category 1 wetland Go to Question 6	***NO** Go to Question 6
6	**Bogs.** Is the wetland a peat-accumulating wetland that 1) has no significant inflows or outflows, 2) supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum* spp., 3) the acidophilic mosses have >30% cover, 4) at least one species from Table 1 is present, and 5) the cover of invasive species (see Table 1) is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 7	***NO** Go to Question 7
7	**Fens.** Is the wetland a carbon accumulating (peat, muck) wetland that is saturated during most of the year, primarily by a discharge of free flowing, mineral rich, ground water with a circumneutral ph (5.5-9.0) and with one or more plant species listed in Table 1 and the cover of invasive species listed in Table 1 is <25%?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 8a	***NO** Go to Question 8a
8a	**"Old Growth Forest."** Is the wetland a forested wetland and is the forest characterized by, but not limited to, the following characteristics: overstory canopy trees of great age (exceeding at least 50% of a projected maximum attainable age for a species); little or no evidence of human-caused understory disturbance during the past 80 to 100 years; an all-aged structure and multilayered canopies; aggregations of canopy trees interspersed with canopy gaps; and significant numbers of standing dead snags and downed logs?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 8b	***NO** Go to Question 8b

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-011

8b	**Mature forested wetlands**. Is the wetland a forested wetland with 50% or more of the cover of upper forest canopy consisting of deciduous trees with large diameters at breast height (dbh), generally diameters greater than 45cm (17.7in) dbh?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status. Go to Question 9a	***NO** Go to Question 9a
9a	**Lake Erie coastal and tributary wetlands**. Is the wetland located at an elevation less than 575 feet on the USGS map, adjacent to this elevation, or along a tributary to Lake Erie that is accessible to fish?	YES Go to Question 9b	***NO** Go to Question 10
9b	Does the wetland's hydrology result from measures designed to prevent erosion and the loss of aquatic plants, i.e. the wetland is partially hydrologically restricted from Lake Erie due to lakeward or landward dikes or other hydrological controls?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9c
9c	Are Lake Erie water levels the wetland's primary hydrological influence, i.e. the wetland is hydrologically unrestricted (no lakeward or upland border alterations), or the wetland can be characterized as an "estuarine" wetland with lake and river influenced hydrology. These include sandbar deposition wetlands, estuarine wetlands, river mouth wetlands, or those dominated by submersed aquatic vegetation.	YES Go to Question 9d	NO Go to Question 10
9d	Does the wetland have a predominance of native species within its vegetation communities, although non-native or disturbance tolerant native species can also be present?	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 9e
9e	Does the wetland have a predominance of non-native or disturbance tolerant native plant species within its vegetation communities?	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Go to Question 10	NO Go to Question 10
10	**Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings)** Is the wetland located in Lucas, Fulton, Henry, or Wood Counties and can the wetland be characterized by the following description: the wetland has a sandy substrate with interspersed organic matter, a water table often within several inches of the surface, and often with a dominance of the gramineous vegetation listed in Table 1 (woody species may also be present). The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Areas and Preserves can provide assistance in confirming this type of wetland and its quality.	YES Wetland is a Category 3 wetland. Go to Question 11	***NO** Go to Question 11
11	**Relict Wet Prairies**. Is the wetland a relict wet prairie community dominated by some or all of the species in Table 1. Extensive prairies were formerly located in the Darby Plains (Madison and Union Counties), Sandusky Plains (Wyandot, Crawford, and Marion Counties), northwest Ohio (e.g. Erie, Huron, Lucas, Wood Counties), and portions of western Ohio Counties (e.g. Darke, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Van Wert etc.).	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status Complete Quantitative Rating	***NO** Complete Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-011

Table 1. Characteristic plant species.

invasive/exotic spp	fen species	bog species	oak opening species	wet prairie species
Lythrum salicaria	*Zygadenus elegans var. glaucus*	*Calla palustris*	*Carex cryptolepis*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*
Myriophyllum spicatum	*Cacalia plantaginea*	*Carex atlantica var. capillacea*	*Carex lasiocarpa*	*Calamogrostis stricta*
Najas minor	*Carex flava*	*Carex echinata*	*Carex stricta*	*Carex atherodes*
Phalaris arundinacea	*Carex sterilis*	*Carex oligosperma*	*Cladium mariscoides*	*Carex buxbaumii*
Phragmites australis	*Carex stricta*	*Carex trisperma*	*Calamagrostis stricta*	*Carex pellita*
Potamogeton crispus	*Deschampsia caespitosa*	*Chamaedaphne calyculata*	*Calamagrostis canadensis*	*Carex sartwellii*
Ranunculus ficaria	*Eleocharis rostellata*	*Decodon verticillatus*	*Quercus palustris*	*Gentiana andrewsii*
Rhamnus frangula	*Eriophorum viridicarinatum*	*Eriophorum virginicum*		*Helianthus grosseserratus*
Typha angustifolia	*Gentianopsis spp.*	*Larix laricina*		*Liatris spicata*
Typha xglauca	*Lobelia kalmii*	*Nemopanthus mucronatus*		*Lysimachia quadriflora*
	Parnassia glauca	*Schechzeria palustris*		*Lythrum alatum*
	Potentilla fruticosa	*Sphagnum spp.*		*Pycnanthemum virginianum*
	Rhamnus alnifolia	*Vaccinium macrocarpon*		*Silphium terebinthinaceum*
	Rhynchospora capillacea	*Vaccinium corymbosum*		*Sorghastrum nutans*
	Salix candida	*Vaccinium oxycoccos*		*Spartina pectinata*
	Salix myricoides	*Woodwardia virginica*		*Solidago riddellii*
	Salix serissima	*Xyris difformis*		
	Solidago ohioensis			
	Tofieldia glutinosa			
	Triglochin maritimum			
	Triglochin palustre			

End of Narrative Rating. Begin Quantitative Rating on next page.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-011

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-011

Delineated acres:	0.81
Total acres:	4.02

3.0 / 3.0 Metric 1. Wetland Area (size).

max 6 pts | subtotal

Select one size class and assign score.

- [ ] >50 acres (>20.2ha) (6 pts)
- [ ] 25 to <50 acres (10.1 to <20.2ha) (5 pts)
- [ ] 10 to <25 acres (4 to <10.1ha) (4 pts)
- [x] 3 to <10 acres (1.2 to <4ha) (3 pts)
- [ ] 0.3 to <3 acres (0.12 to <1.2ha) (2pts)
- [ ] 0.1 to <0.3 acres (0.04 to <0.12ha) (1 pt)
- [ ] <0.1 acres (0.04ha) (0 pts)

7.0 / 10.0 Metric 2. Upland buffers and surrounding land use.

max 14 pts. | subtotal

2a. Calculate average buffer width. Select only one and assign score. Do not double check.

- [ ] WIDE. Buffers average 50m (164ft) or more around wetland perimeter (7)
- [x] MEDIUM. Buffers average 25m to <50m (82 to <164ft) around wetland perimeter (4)
- [ ] NARROW. Buffers average 10m to <25m (32ft to <82ft) around wetland perimeter (1)
- [ ] VERY NARROW. Buffers average <10m (<32ft) around wetland perimeter (0)

2b. Intensity of surrounding land use. Select one or double check and average.

- [ ] VERY LOW. 2nd growth or older forest, prairie, savannah, wildlife area, etc. (7)
- [ ] LOW. Old field (>10 years), shrubland, young second growth forest. (5)
- [x] MODERATELY HIGH. Residential, fenced pasture, park, conservation tillage, new fallow field. (3)
- [ ] HIGH. Urban, industrial, open pasture, row cropping, mining, construction. (1)

11.0 / 21.0 Metric 3. Hydrology.

max 30 pts. | subtotal

3a. Sources of Water. Score all that apply.

- [ ] High pH groundwater (5)
- [ ] Other groundwater (3)
- [x] Precipitation (1)
- [ ] Seasonal/Intermittent surface water (3)
- [ ] Perennial surface water (lake or stream) (5)

3b. Connectivity. Score all that apply.

- [ ] 100 year floodplain (1)
- [ ] Between stream/lake and other human use (1)
- [x] Part of wetland/upland (e.g. forest), complex (1)
- [ ] Part of riparian or upland corridor (1)

3c. Maximum water depth. Select one.

- [ ] >0.7 (27.6in) (3)
- [ ] 0.4 to 0.7m (15.7 to 27.6in) (2)
- [x] <0.4m (<15.7in) (1)

3d. Duration inundation/saturation. Score one or dbl check.

- [ ] Semi- to permanently inundated/saturated (4)
- [ ] Regularly inundated/saturated (3)
- [ ] Seasonally inundated (2)
- [x] Seasonally saturated in upper 30cm (12in) (1)

3e. Modifications to natural hydrologic regime. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (12)
- [x] Recovered (7)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] ditch
- [ ] tile
- [ ] dike
- [ ] weir
- [ ] stormwater input
- [ ] point source (nonstormwater)
- [ ] filling/grading
- [ ] road bed/RR track
- [ ] dredging
- [x] Other: ROW work

14.0 / 35.0 Metric 4. Habitat Alteration and Development.

max 20 pts. | subtotal

4a. Substrate disturbance. Score one or double check and average.

- [x] None or none apparent (4)
- [ ] Recovered (3)
- [ ] Recovering (2)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

4b. Habitat development. Select only one and assign score.

- [ ] Excellent (7)
- [ ] Very good (6)
- [ ] Good (5)
- [x] Moderately good (4)
- [ ] Fair (3)
- [ ] Poor to fair (2)
- [ ] Poor (1)

4c. Habitat alteration. Score one or double check and average.

- [ ] None or none apparent (9)
- [x] Recovered (6)
- [ ] Recovering (3)
- [ ] Recent or no recovery (1)

Check all disturbances observed

- [ ] mowing
- [ ] grazing
- [x] clearcutting
- [ ] selective cutting
- [ ] woody debris removal
- [ ] toxic pollutants
- [ ] shrub/sapling removal
- [ ] herbaceous/aquatic bed removal
- [ ] sedimentation
- [ ] dredging
- [ ] farming
- [ ] nutrient enrichment

35.0

subtotal this page

ORAM v. 5.0 Field Form Quantitative Rating

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-011

Site:	AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline	Rater(s):	Austin Sige, Adam Crowe	Date:	6/18/2024

Field ID:

W-AGS-011

35.0
subtotal this page

0.0 max 10 pts. | **35.0** subtotal

Metric 5. Special Wetlands.

Check all that apply and score as indicated.

	Bog (10)
	Fen (10)
	Old growth forest (10)
	Mature forested wetland (5)
	Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-unrestricted hydrology (10)
	Lake Erie coastal/tributary wetland-restricted hydrology (5)
	Lake Plain Sand Prairies (Oak Openings) (10)
	Relict Wet Praires (10)
	Known occurrence state/federal threatened or endangered species (10)
	Significant migratory songbird/water fowl habitat or usage (10)
	Category 1 Wetland. See Question 5 Qualitative Rating (-10)

5.0 max 20pts. | **40.0** subtotal

Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography.

6a. Wetland Vegetation Communities.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

	Aquatic bed
2	Emergent
2	Shrub
1	Forest
	Mudflats
	Open water
	Other_____

6b. horizontal (plan view) Interspersion.

Select only one.

	High (5)
	Moderately high(4)
	Moderate (3)
x	Moderately low (2)
	Low (1)
	None (0)

6c. Coverage of invasive plants. Refer Table 1 ORAM long form for list. Add or deduct points for coverage

	Extensive >75% cover (-5)
x	Moderate 25-75% cover (-3)
	Sparse 5-25% cover (-1)
	Nearly absent <5% cover (0)
	Absent (1)

6d. Microtopography.

Score all present using 0 to 3 scale.

1	Vegetated hummucks/tussucks
0	Coarse woody debris >15cm (6in)
0	Standing dead >25cm (10in) dbh
0	Amphibian breeding pools

Vegetation Community Cover Scale

0	Absent or comprises <0.1ha (0.2471 acres) contiguous area
1	Present and either comprises small part of wetland's 1 vegetation and is of moderate quality, or comprises a significant part but is of low quality
2	Present and either comprises significant part of wetland's 2 vegetation and is of moderate quality or comprises a small part and is of high quality
3	Present and comprises significant part, or more, of wetland's 3 vegetation and is of high quality

Narrative Description of Vegetation Quality

Low spp diversity and/or predominance of nonnative or low disturbance tolerant native species
Native spp are dominant component of the vegetation, mod although nonnative and/or disturbance tolerant native spp can also be present, and species diversity moderate to moderately high, but generallyw/o presence of rare threatened or endangered spp to
A predominance of native species, with nonnative spp high and/or disturbance tolerant native spp absent or virtually absent, and high spp diversity and often, but not always, the presence of rare, threatened, or endangered spp

Mudflat and Open Water Class Quality

0	Absent <0.1ha (0.247 acres)
1	Low 0.1 to <1ha (0.247 to 2.47 acres)
2	Moderate 1 to <4ha (2.47 to 9.88 acres)
3	High 4ha (9.88 acres) or more

Microtopography Cover Scale

0	Absent
1	Present very small amounts or if more common of marginal quality
2	Present in moderate amounts, but not of highest quality or in small amounts of highest quality
3	Present in moderate or greater amounts and of highest quality

40.0 **TOTAL (Max 100 pts)**

Modified 2 **Category**

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-011

ORAM Summary Worksheet

		Circle answer or insert score		Result
Narrative Rating	Question 1 Critical Habitat	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 2. Threatened or Endangered Species	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 3. High Quality Natural Wetland	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 4. Significant bird habitat	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 5. Category 1 Wetlands	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 1.
	Question 6. Bogs	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 7. Fens	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8a. Old Growth Forest	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3.
	Question 8b. Mature Forested Wetland	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9b. Lake Erie Wetlands - Restricted	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 9d. Lake Erie Wetlands – Unrestricted with native plants	YES	NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 9e. Lake Erie Wetlands - Unrestricted with invasive plants	YES	NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
	Question 10. Oak Openings	YES	*NO	If yes, Category 3
	Question 11. Relict Wet Prairies	YES	*NO	If yes, evaluate for Category 3; may also be 1 or 2.
Quantitative Rating	Metric 1. Size	**3**		
	Metric 2. Buffers and surrounding land use	**7**		
	Metric 3. Hydrology	**11**		
	Metric 4. Habitat	**14**		
	Metric 5. Special Wetland Communities	**0**		
	Metric 6. Plant communities, interspersion, microtopography	**5**		
	TOTAL SCORE	**40**		Modified 2

Complete Wetland Categorization Worksheet.

Wetland ID:	W-AGS-011

Wetland Categorization Worksheet

Choices	Circle one		Evaluation of Categorization Result of ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8a, 9d, 10	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 3 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *less* than the Category 2 scoring threshold (*excluding* gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been over- categorized by the ORAM
Did you answer "Yes" to any of the following questions: Narrative Rating Nos. 1, 8b, 9b, 9e, 11	YES Wetland should be evaluated for possible Category 3 status	***NO**	Evaluate the wetland using the 1) narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and 2) the quantitative rating score. If the wetland is determined to be a Category 3 wetland using either of these, it should be categorized as a Category 3 wetland. Detailed biological and/or functional assessments may also be used to determine the wetland's category.
Did you answer "Yes" to Narrative Rating No. 5	YES Wetland is categorized as a Category 1 wetland	***NO**	Is quantitative rating score *greater* than the Category 2 scoring threshold *(including* any gray zone)? If yes, reevaluate the category of the wetland using the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) and biological and/or functional assessments to determine if the wetland has been under-categorized by the ORAM
Does the quantitative score fall within the scoring range of a Category 1, 2, or 3 wetland?	YES Wetland is assigned to the appropriate category based on the scoring range	***NO**	If the score of the wetland is located within the scoring range for a particular category, the wetland should be assigned to that category. In all instances however, the narrative criteria described in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C) can be used to clarify or change a categorization based on a quantitative score.
Does the quantitative score fall with the *"gray zone"* for Category 1 or 2 or Category 2 or 3 wetlands?	***YES** Wetland is assigned to the higher of the two categories or assigned to a category based on detailed assessments and the narrative criteria	NO	Rater has the option of assigning the wetland to the higher of the two categories or to assign a category based on the results of a nonrapid wetland assessment method, e.g. functional assessment, biological assessment, etc, and a consideration of the narrative criteria in OAC rule 3745-1- 54(C).
Does the wetland otherwise exhibit *moderate OR superior* hydrologic OR habitat, OR recreational functions AND the wetland was *not* categorized as a Category 2 wetland (in the case of moderate functions) or a Category 3 wetland (in the case of superior functions) by this method?	YES Wetland was undercategorized by this method. A written justification for recategorization should be provided on Background Information Form	NO Wetland is assigned to category as determined by the ORAM.	A wetland may be undercategorized using this method, but still exhibit one or more superior functions, e.g. a wetland's biotic communities may be degraded by human activities, but the wetland may still exhibit superior hydrologic functions because of its type, landscape position, size, local or regional significance, etc. In this circumstance, the narrative criteria in OAC Rule 3745-1-54(C)(2) and (3) are controlling, and the under-categorization should be corrected. A written justification with supporting reasons or information for this determination should be provided.

Final Category

Choose one	Category 1	***Category 2**	Category 3	

End of Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 2

Facing North

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 2

Facing East

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-007
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing South

W-AGS-007
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing West

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-007
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing Soil

W-AGS-007
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PSS Wetland Category 2 Facing North

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PSS Wetland Category 2 Facing East	

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PSS Wetland Category 2 Facing South	

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-007
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PSS Wetland Category 2 Facing West

W-AGS-007
Date: June 10, 2024
Description: PSS Wetland Category 2 Facing Soil

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing North

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing East

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PFO Wetland Category 2 Facing South	

W-AGS-007 **Date:** June 10, 2024 **Description:** PFO Wetland Category 2 Facing West	

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-007

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

W-AGS-008

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing North

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-008	
Date: June 10, 2024	
Description: PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing East	

W-AGS-008	
Date: June 10, 2024	
Description: PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing South	

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-008

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing West

W-AGS-008

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing Soil

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-009

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing North

W-AGS-009

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing East

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-009

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing South

W-AGS-009

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing West

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-009	
Date: June 11, 2024	
Description: PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing Soil	

W-AGS-010	
Date: June 11, 2024	
Description: PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing North	

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-010
Date: June 11, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing East

W-AGS-010
Date: June 11, 2024
Description: PEM Wetland Category 1 Facing South

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-010

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing West

W-AGS-010

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 1

Facing Soil

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-011

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 2

Facing North

W-AGS-011

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 2

Facing East

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-011 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing South	

W-AGS-011 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** PEM Wetland Category 2 Facing West	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-011

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PEM Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

W-AGS-011

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PSS Wetland

Category 2

Facing North

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-011 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** PSS Wetland Category 2 Facing East	

W-AGS-011 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** PSS Wetland Category 2 Facing South	

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-011

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PSS Wetland

Category 2

Facing West

W-AGS-0011

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

PSS Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-011
Date:
May 13, 2025
Description:
PFO Wetland
Category 2
Facing North

W-AGS-011
Date:
May 13, 2025
Description:
PFO Wetland
Category 2
Facing East

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-011

Date:

May 13, 2025

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing South

W-AGS-011

Date:

May 13, 2025

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing West

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Wetland Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

W-AGS-0011

Date:

May 13, 2025

Description:

PFO Wetland

Category 2

Facing Soil

APPENDIX B

OEPA STREAM DATA FORMS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index Field Form

HHEI Score (sum of metrics 1+2+3) **63**

SITE NAME/LOCATION: AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline

SITE NUMBER: S-001 RIVER BASIN: Scioto River DRAINAGE AREA (mi²): 0.29

LENGTH OF STREAM REACH (ft): 595 LAT.: 40.116206 LONG.: -82.795462 RIVER CODE: NA RIVER MILE: NA

DATE: 06/10/24 SCORER: AGS, EAC COMMENTS: S-AGS-001-PER

NOTE: Complete All Items On This Form - Refer to "Field Evaluation Manual for Ohio's PHWH Streams" for Instructions

STREAM CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS: ☐ NONE / NATURAL CHANNEL ☑ RECOVERED ☐ RECOVERING ☐ RECENT OR NO RECOVERY

Culverted below dog park

1. SUBSTRATE (Estimate percent of every type of substrate present. Check *ONLY* two predominant substrate *TYPE* boxes (Max of 32). Add total number of significant substrate types found (Max of 8). Final metric score is sum of boxes A & B.

TYPE		PERCENT	TYPE		PERCENT
☐	BLDR SLABS [16 pts]	0	☐	SILT [3 pt]	70
☐	BOULDER (>256 mm) [16 pts]	0	☐	LEAF PACK/WOODY DEBRIS [3 pts]	10
☐	BEDROCK [16 pt]	0	☐	FINE DETRITUS [3 pts]	0
☐	COBBLE (65-256 mm) [12 pts]	20	☐	CLAY or HARDPAN [0 pt]	0
☐	GRAVEL (2-64 mm) [9 pts]	0	☐	MUCK [0 pts]	0
☐	SAND (<2 mm) [6 pts]	0	☐	ARTIFICIAL [3 pts]	0

Total of Percentages of Bldr Slabs, Boulder, Cobble, Bedrock: 20 (A)

Substrate Percentage Check: 100 (B)

SCORE OF TWO MOST PREDOMINATE SUBSTRATE TYPES: 15 **TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBSTRATE TYPES:** 3

HHEI Metric Points

Substrate Max = 40

18

A + B

2. Maximum Pool Depth ***(Measure the maximum pool depth within the 61 meter (200 ft)*** evaluation reach at the time of evaluation. Avoid plunge pools from road culverts or storm water pipes) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐	> 30 centimeters [20 pts]	☐	> 5 cm - 10 cm [15 pts]
☐	> 22.5 - 30 cm [30 pts]	☐	< 5 cm [5 pts]
☑	> 10 - 22.5 cm [25 pts]	☐	NO WATER OR MOIST CHANNEL [0 pts]

COMMENTS **MAXIMUM POOL DEPTH** (Inches): 6.00

Pool Depth Max = 30

25

3. BANK FULL WIDTH (Measured as the average of 3-4 measurements) **(Check *ONLY* one box):**

☐	> 4.0 meters (> 13') [30 pts]	☐	> 1.0 m - 1.5 m (> 3' 3" - 4' 8") [15 pts]
☐	> 3.0 m - 4.0 m (> 9' 7" - 13') [25 pts]	☐	≤ 1.0 m (<=3' 3") [5 pts]
☑	> 1.5 m - 3.0 m (> 9' 7" - 4' 8") [20 pts]		

COMMENTS **AVERAGE BANKFULL WIDTH** (Feet): 8

Bankfull Width Max=30

20

This information must also be completed

RIPARIAN ZONE AND FLOODPLAIN QUALITY ☆NOTE: River Left (L) and Right (R) as looking downstream☆

RIPARIAN WIDTH (Per Bank) L	R	FLOODPLAIN QUALITY (Most Predominant per Bank) L	R		L	R	
☐	☐	Wide >10m	☐	☐	Mature Forest, Wetland	☐	☐	Conservation Tillage
☐	☐	Moderate 5-10m	☑	☑	Immature Forest, Shrub or Old Field	☐	☐	Urban or Industrial
☑	☑	Narrow <5m	☐	☐	Residential, Park, New Field	☐	☐	Open Pasture, Row Crop
☐	☐	None	☐	☐	Fenced Pasture	☐	☐	Mining or Construction

COMMENTS

FLOW REGIME *(At Time of Evaluation)* (Check *ONLY* one box):

☑ Stream Flowing
☐ Subsurface flow with isolated pools (Interstitial)
☐ Moist Channel, isolated pools, no flow (Intermittent)
☐ Dry channel, no water (Ephemeral)

COMMENTS

SINUOSITY (Number of bends per 61 m (200 ft) of channel) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐ None	☐ 1.0	☐ 2.0	☐ 3.0
☑ 0.5	☐ 1.5	☐ 2.5	☐ >3

STREAM GRADIENT ESTIMATE

☑ Flat (0.5 ft/100 ft) ☐ Flat to Moderate ☐ Moderate (2 ft/100 ft) ☐ Moderate to Severe ☐ Severe (10 ft/100 ft)

ADDITIONAL STREAM INFORMATION (This Information Must Also be Completed):

QHEI PERFORMED? - ☐ Yes ☑ No QHEI Score _____ (If Yes, Attach Completed QHEI Form)

DOWNSTREAM DESIGNATED USE(S)

☑ WWH Name: **Rocky Fork Creek** Distance from Evaluated Stream **1.92**

☐ CWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

☐ EWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

MAPPING: ATTACH COPIES OF MAPS, INCLUDING THE ENTIRE WATERSHED AREA. CLEARLY MARK THE SITE LOCATION

USGS Quadrangle Name: **New Albany** NRCS Soil Map Page: _____ NRCS Soil Map Stream Order _____

County: **Franklin** Township / City: **Plain Township**

MISCELLANEOUS

Base Flow Conditions? (Y/N): **Y** Date of last precipitation: **06/09/24** Quantity: **0.05**

Photograph Information: **Upstream, downstream, substrate**

Elevated Turbidity? (Y/N): **N** Canopy (% open): **20** **Overall Stability of BOTH Stream Banks (check one)**: Stable ☐ Moderately Stable ☑ Unstable ☐

Were samples collected for water chemistry? (Y/N): **N** (Note lab sample no. or id. and attach results) Lab Number: _____

Field Measures: Temp (°C) _____ Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l) _____ pH (S.U.) _____ Conductivity (µmhos/cm) _____

Is the sampling reach representative of the stream (Y/N) **Y** If not, please explain: _____

Additional comments/description of pollution impacts: _____

BIOTIC EVALUATION

Performed? (Y/N): **Y** (If Yes, Record all observations. Voucher collections optional. NOTE: all voucher samples must be labeled with the site ID number. Include appropriate field data sheets from the Primary Headwater Habitat Assessment Manual)

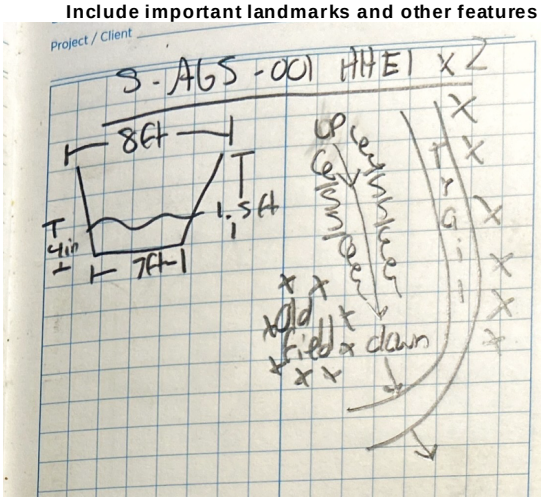
Fish Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Salamanders Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Frogs or Tadpoles Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Aquatic Macroinvertebrates Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Comments Regarding Biology: **No biology observed in the area of data collection, but stream quality suggests that the presence of biology in other areas is likely.**

DRAWING AND NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF STREAM REACH (This must be completed):

Include important landmarks and other features of interest for site evaluation and a narrative description of the stream's location



Save as pdf Reset Form

Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index Field Form

HHEI Score (sum of metrics 1+2+3) **63**

SITE NAME/LOCATION **AEP Souder 138kV Ext Tline**

SITE NUMBER **S-001** RIVER BASIN **Scioto River** DRAINAGE AREA (mi²) **0.29**

LENGTH OF STREAM REACH (ft) **595** LAT. **40.116206** LONG. **-82.795462** RIVER CODE **NA** RIVER MILE **NA**

DATE **06/10/24** SCORER **AGS, EAC** COMMENTS **S-AGS-001-PER**

NOTE: Complete All Items On This Form - Refer to "Field Evaluation Manual for Ohio's PHWH Streams" for Instructions

STREAM CHANNEL MODIFICATIONS: ☐ NONE / NATURAL CHANNEL ☑ RECOVERED ☐ RECOVERING ☐ RECENT OR NO RECOVERY

Culverted below dog park

1. SUBSTRATE (Estimate percent of every type of substrate present. Check *ONLY* two predominant substrate *TYPE* boxes (Max of 32). Add total number of significant substrate types found (Max of 8). Final metric score is sum of boxes A & B.

TYPE		PERCENT	TYPE		PERCENT
☐	BLDR SLABS [16 pts]	0	☐	SILT [3 pt]	70
☐	BOULDER (>256 mm) [16 pts]	0	☐	LEAF PACK/WOODY DEBRIS [3 pts]	10
☐	BEDROCK [16 pt]	0	☐	FINE DETRITUS [3 pts]	0
☑	COBBLE (65-256 mm) [12 pts]	20	☐	CLAY or HARDPAN [0 pt]	0
☐	GRAVEL (2-64 mm) [9 pts]	0	☐	MUCK [0 pts]	0
☐	SAND (<2 mm) [6 pts]	0	☐	ARTIFICIAL [3 pts]	0

Total of Percentages of Bldr Slabs, Boulder, Cobble, Bedrock **20** **(A)**

Substrate Percentage Check **100** **(B)**

SCORE OF TWO MOST PREDOMINATE SUBSTRATE TYPES: **15** **TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBSTRATE TYPES:** **3**

HHEI Metric Points

Substrate Max = 40

18

A + B

2. Maximum Pool Depth ***(Measure the maximum pool depth within the 61 meter (200 ft)*** evaluation reach at the time of evaluation. Avoid plunge pools from road culverts or storm water pipes) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐	> 30 centimeters [20 pts]	☑	> 5 cm - 10 cm [15 pts]
☐	> 22.5 - 30 cm [30 pts]	☐	< 5 cm [5 pts]
☐	> 10 - 22.5 cm [25 pts]	☐	NO WATER OR MOIST CHANNEL [0 pts]

COMMENTS **MAXIMUM POOL DEPTH** (Inches): **6.00**

Pool Depth Max = 30

25

3. BANK FULL WIDTH (Measured as the average of 3-4 measurements) **(Check *ONLY* one box):**

☐	> 4.0 meters (> 13') [30 pts]	☑	> 1.0 m - 1.5 m (> 3' 3" - 4' 8") [15 pts]
☐	> 3.0 m - 4.0 m (> 9' 7" - 13') [25 pts]	☐	≤ 1.0 m (<=3' 3") [5 pts]
☐	> 1.5 m - 3.0 m (> 9' 7" - 4' 8") [20 pts]		

COMMENTS **AVERAGE BANKFULL WIDTH** (Feet): **8**

Bankfull Width Max=30

20

This information must also be completed

RIPARIAN ZONE AND FLOODPLAIN QUALITY ☆NOTE: River Left (L) and Right (R) as looking downstream☆

RIPARIAN WIDTH (Per Bank) L	R	FLOODPLAIN QUALITY (Most Predominant per Bank) L	R		L	R	
☑	☑	Wide >10m	☑	☑	Mature Forest, Wetland	☐	☐	Conservation Tillage
☐	☐	Moderate 5-10m	☐	☐	Immature Forest, Shrub or Old Field	☐	☐	Urban or Industrial
☐	☐	Narrow <5m	☐	☐	Residential, Park, New Field	☐	☐	Open Pasture, Row Crop
☐	☐	None	☐	☐	Fenced Pasture	☐	☐	Mining or Construction

COMMENTS

FLOW REGIME *(At Time of Evaluation)* (Check *ONLY* one box):

☑ Stream Flowing
☐ Subsurface flow with isolated pools (Interstitial)
☐ Moist Channel, isolated pools, no flow (Intermittent)
☐ Dry channel, no water (Ephemeral)

COMMENTS

SINUOSITY (Number of bends per 61 m (200 ft) of channel) (Check *ONLY* one box):

☐	None	☐	1.0	☐	2.0	☐	3.0
☑	0.5	☐	1.5	☐	2.5	☐	>3

STREAM GRADIENT ESTIMATE

☑ Flat (0.5 ft/100 ft) ☐ Flat to Moderate ☐ Moderate (2 ft/100 ft) ☐ Moderate to Severe ☐ Severe (10 ft/100 ft)

ADDITIONAL STREAM INFORMATION (This Information Must Also be Completed):

QHEI PERFORMED? - ☐ Yes ☑ No QHEI Score _____ (If Yes, Attach Completed QHEI Form)

DOWNSTREAM DESIGNATED USE(S)

☑ WWH Name: **Rocky Fork Creek** Distance from Evaluated Stream **1.92**

☐ CWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

☐ EWH Name: _____ Distance from Evaluated Stream _____

MAPPING: ATTACH COPIES OF MAPS, INCLUDING THE ENTIRE WATERSHED AREA. CLEARLY MARK THE SITE LOCATION

USGS Quadrangle Name: **New Albany** NRCS Soil Map Page: _____ NRCS Soil Map Stream Order _____

County: **Franklin** Township / City: **Plain Township**

MISCELLANEOUS

Base Flow Conditions? (Y/N): **Y** Date of last precipitation: **06/09/24** Quantity: **0.05**

Photograph Information: **Upstream, downstream, substrate**

Elevated Turbidity? (Y/N): **N** Canopy (% open): **20** **Overall Stability of BOTH Stream Banks (check one)**: Stable ☐ Moderately Stable ☑ Unstable ☐

Were samples collected for water chemistry? (Y/N): **N** (Note lab sample no. or id. and attach results) Lab Number: _____

Field Measures: Temp (°C) _____ Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l) _____ pH (S.U.) _____ Conductivity (µmhos/cm) _____

Is the sampling reach representative of the stream (Y/N) **Y** If not, please explain: _____

Additional comments/description of pollution impacts: _____

BIOTIC EVALUATION

Performed? (Y/N): **Y** (If Yes, Record all observations. Voucher collections optional. NOTE: all voucher samples must be labeled with the site ID number. Include appropriate field data sheets from the Primary Headwater Habitat Assessment Manual)

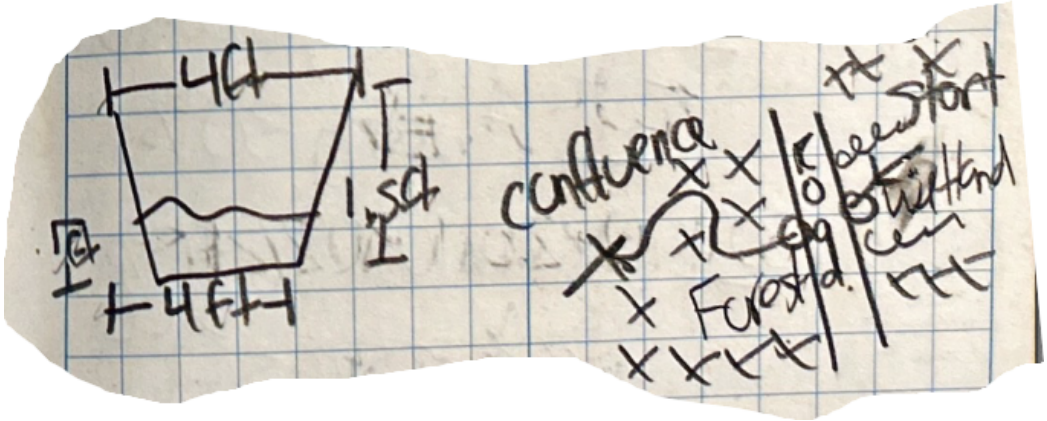
Fish Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Salamanders Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Frogs or Tadpoles Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N** Aquatic Macroinvertebrates Observed? (Y/N) **N** Voucher? (Y/N) **N**

Comments Regarding Biology: **No biology observed in the area of data collection, but stream quality suggests that the presence of biology in other areas is likely.**

DRAWING AND NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF STREAM REACH (This must be completed):

Include important landmarks and other features of interest for site evaluation and a narrative description of the stream's location



Save as pdf Reset Form

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Streams Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

S-AGS-001

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Perennial Stream

Facing Upstream

S-AGS-001

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Perennial Stream

Facing Downstream

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Streams Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

S-AGS-001

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Perennial Stream

Facing Substrate

S-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Intermittent Stream

Facing Upstream

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Streams Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

S-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Intermittent Stream

Facing Downstream

S-AGS-002

Date:

June 10, 2024

Description:

Intermittent Stream

Facing Substrate

APPENDIX C

UPLAND DRAINAGE FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

UDF-AGS-006	
Date: June 11, 2024	
Description: Upland Drainage Feature Facing Up	

UDF-AGS-006	
Date: June 11, 2024	
Description: Upland Drainage Feature Facing Down	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

UDF-AGS-006 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Substrate	

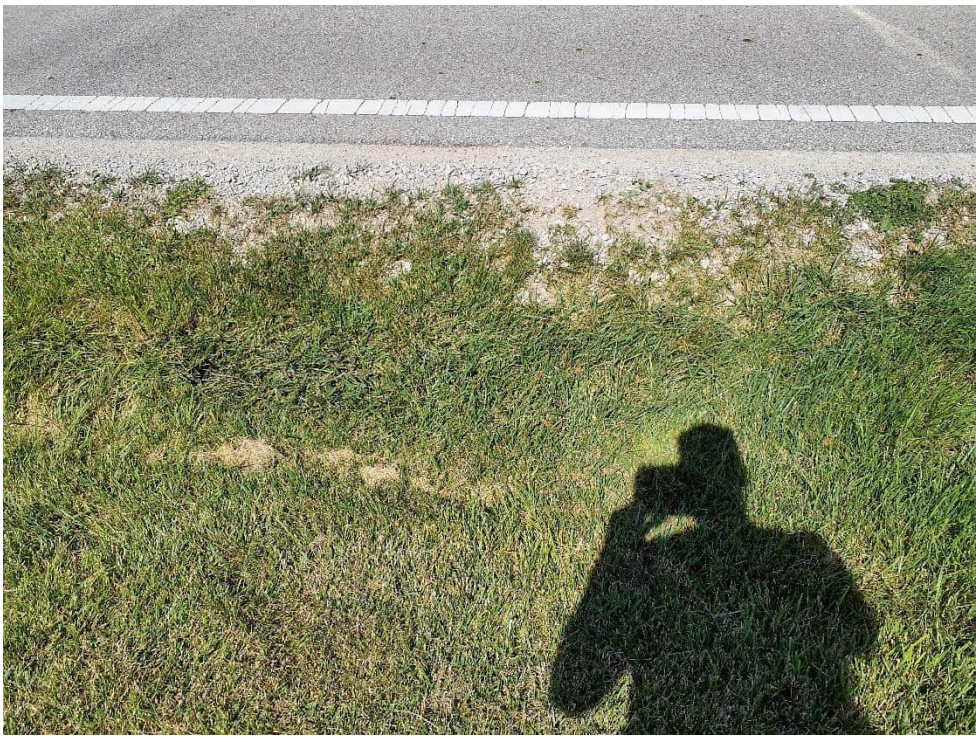
UDF-AGS-007 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Up	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Upland Drainage Feature (UDF) Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

UDF-AGS-007 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Down	

UDF-AGS-007 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Upland Drainage Feature Facing Substrate	

APPENDIX D

HABITAT PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

PH-1 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Landscaped Facing East	

PH-2 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Old Field Facing North	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

PH-3

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

Landscaped

Facing East

PH-4

Date:

June 11, 2024

Description:

Scrub / Shrub

Facing South

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

PH-5 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Old Field Facing East	

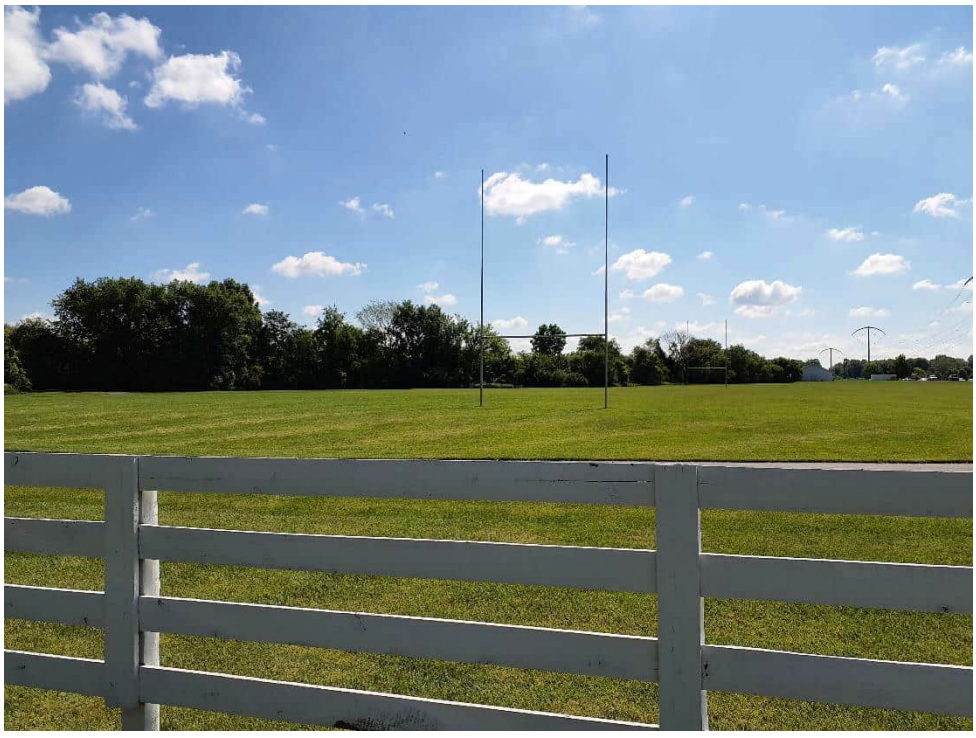
PH-6 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Scrub / Shrub Facing North	

AECOM Imagine it. Delivered.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
Habitat Photograph Record

Client Name:	Site Location:	Project No.
AEP	Jug Corridor Tap (Souder)	60706508

PH-7 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Urban Facing West	

PH-8 **Date:** June 11, 2024 **Description:** Landscaped Facing East	

APPENDIX E

AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104
Columbus, Ohio 43230
(614) 416-8993 / FAX (614) 416-8994

July 6, 2023

Project Code: 2023-0098666

Dear Ms. Anna Findish:

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, endangered, and proposed 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 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.

Federally Proposed Species: On September 14, 2022, the Service proposed to list the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) as endangered under the ESA. The bat faces extinction due to the impacts of white-nose syndrome, a deadly disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent. During spring, summer, and fall, this species roosts primarily among leaf clusters of live or recently dead trees, emerging at dusk to hunt for insects over waterways and forest edges. While white-nose syndrome is by far the most serious threat to the tricolored bat, other threats now have an increased significance due to the dramatic decline in the species' population. These threats include disturbance to bats in roosting, foraging, commuting, and over-wintering habitats. Mortality due to collision with wind turbines, especially during migration, has also been documented across their range. Conservation measures for the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat will also help to conserve the tricolored bat.

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.

If implementation of this seasonal tree cutting recommendation is not possible, a summer presence/absence survey may be conducted for Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats. If Indiana bats and northern long-eared 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, Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov.

If you have questions, or if we can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact our office at (614) 416-8993 or ohio@fws.gov.

Sincerely,

Patrice Ashfield
Field Office Supervisor

cc: Nathan Reardon, ODNR-DOW
Eileen Wyza, ODNR-DOW

Office of Real Estate
Tara Paciorek, Chief
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2
Columbus, OH 43229
Phone: (614) 265-6661
Fax: (614) 267-4764

August 4, 2023

Anna Findish
AECOM
707 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Re: 23-0780; Souder 138kV Extension Jug - Corridor Project

Project: The proposed project involves the construction of an approximately 1.32-mile double circuit 138kV transmission line.

Location: The proposed project is located in Plain Township, Franklin 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 within one mile of the project area:

Iowa Darter (*Etheostoma exile*), E
Lake Chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*), T
Blacknose Shiner (*Notropis heterolepis*), E

The review was performed on the specified project area as well as an additional one-mile radius. Records searched date from 1980. Conservation status abbreviations are as follows: 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 = federally endangered, and FT = federally threatened.

Please note that Ohio has not been completely surveyed and we rely on receiving information from many sources. Therefore, a lack of records for an area is not a statement that rare species or unique features are absent from that area.

Location records for the species listed above are provided in a shapefile attachment to this letter. Species location information will not be published or distributed beyond the scope of the project description on the signed data request form.

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 project is within the vicinity of records for the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species. Because presence of state endangered bat species has been established in the area, summer tree cutting is not recommended, and additional summer surveys would not constitute presence/absence in the area. However, limited summer tree cutting inside this buffer may be acceptable after further consultation with DOW (contact Eileen Wyza at Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov).

In addition, 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 endangered 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 bat species 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. The DOW recommends tree 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.

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment is conducted, followed by a field assessment if needed, to determine if a potential hibernaculum is present within the project area. Direction on how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS "*RANGE-WIDE INDIANA BAT & NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT SURVEY GUIDELINES*." If a habitat assessment finds that a potential hibernaculum is present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Eileen Wyza for project recommendations. If a potential or known hibernaculum is found, the DOW recommends a 0.25-mile tree cutting and subsurface disturbance buffer around the hibernaculum entrance, however, limited summer or winter tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with the DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the following listed mussel species.

Federally Endangered
clubshell (*Pleurobema clava*)
rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*)
northern riffleshell (*Epioblasma torulosa rangiana*)
snuffbox (*Epioblasma triquetra*)
purple cat's paw (*Epioblasma o. obliquata*)

Federally Threatened
rabbitsfoot (*Quadrula cylindrica cylindrica*)

State Endangered
elephant-ear (*Elliptio crassidens crassidens*)
pocketbook (*Lampsilis ovata*)
long solid (*Fusconaia maculata maculate*)

washboard (*Megalonaias nervosa*)
Ohio pigtoe (*Pleurobema cordatum*)

State Threatened
pondhorn (*Uniomerus tetralasmus*)
Salamander Mussel (*Simpsonaias ambigua*)

Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the following listed fish species.

State Endangered
goldeye (*Hiodon alosoides*)
shortnose gar (*Lepisosteus platostomus*)
Iowa darter (*Etheostoma exile*)
spotted darter (*Etheostoma maculatum*)
northern brook lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon fossor*)
tonguetied minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*)
popeye shiner (*Notropis ariommus*)

State Threatened
lake chubsucker (*Erimyzon sucetta*)
paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*)

Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the northern harrier (*Circus hudsonius*), a state endangered bird. This is a common migrant and winter species. Nesters are much rarer, although they occasionally breed in large marshes and grasslands. Harriers often nest in loose colonies. The female builds a nest out of sticks on the ground, often on top of a mound. Harriers hunt over grasslands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of April 15 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

Due to the potential of impacts to federally listed species, as well as to state listed species, we recommend that this project be coordinated with the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

Water Resources: The Division of Water Resources has the following comment.

The local floodplain administrator should be contacted concerning the possible need for any floodplain permits or approvals for this project.

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact Mike Pettegrew at mike.pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator

APPENDIX F

2024 JOINT GUIDANCE, FOR BAT SURVEY AND TREE CLEARING

OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE AND U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (OH-FIELD OFFICE) JOINT GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING MAY 2024

This document has been updated with new state guidance for the 2024 field season.

This guidance applies to state recommendations only. Contact the USFWS to determine if federal consultation is also necessary to comply with federal law.

Agency Contacts:

ODNR-DOW Permit Coordinator: Wildlife.Permits@dnr.ohio.gov, (614) 265-6315
ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator: Eileen Wyza, Eileen.Wyza@dnr.ohio.gov, (614) 265-6764
USFWS OHFO Endangered Species: Angela Boyer, angela_boyer@fws.gov, (614) 416-8993, ext.122

Covid-19 Guidance:

Surveyors should follow all covid protocols put in place by their agency. All surveyors should wear masks when handling bats and anyone exhibiting symptoms of covid-19 should not participate in bat surveys.

Ohio Mist-net Surveys:

This document serves as guidance for bat mist netting activities in Ohio and does not supersede any requirements listed on your permits or facility certificate. All permit conditions must be strictly adhered to for permits to be valid and for renewal of permits beyond the existing year.

Due to the presence of White-nose Syndrome (WNS), mist-netting in Ohio must be conducted between June 1 and August 15 unless stated otherwise in your state permit. The ODNR Division of Wildlife (ODNR-DOW) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Ohio Field Office (OHFO) have determined that delaying netting activities until June 1 will provide additional recovery time for bats affected by WNS. For presence/probable absence surveys, netting will not be accepted outside of the June 1 - August 15 timeframe.

To assess project areas for presence or probable absence of the state and federally listed Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) during summer residency, the USFWS developed the USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2024). This protocol may also be used for the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) which is state endangered and proposed to be federally endangered. **With minor modifications referenced below**, it can also be used in Ohio for the 2024 field season and includes surveying for the state-listed little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*).

According to the updated federal range-wide guidelines, presence/probable absence net surveys for northern long-eared bats or federally-proposed tricolored bats shall incorporate either 10 net nights per square 0.5 kilometer (123

acres) of project area, or four net nights per kilometer for linear projects. Presence/probable absence net surveys for Indiana bats shall incorporate six net nights per square 0.5 kilometer (123 acres) of project area, or two net nights per kilometer for linear projects. If a project area is eligible for a presence/probable absence survey for both Indiana bats and northern long-eared bats or tricolored bat, following the northern long-eared/tricolored bat level of effort will qualify as a presence/ probable absence survey for the three species. However, if a project area is eligible for a presence/absence survey for the three species, following the Indiana bat level of effort will not qualify the survey for a northern long-eared bat or tricolored bat presence/probable absence survey. Please note that the USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2024) requires that a minimum of two (2) biologists (e.g., one permitted and one technician) must be on-site for every four (4) net-sets being operated. Exceptions to on-site minimum staffing levels may be allowed under extenuating circumstances, provided written justification is included in the proposed survey study plan and subsequently approved by the OHFO and ODNR-DOW.

Due to the reclassification of the northern long-eared bat to federally endangered on March 31, 2023, the northern long-eared bat 4(d) rule has been nullified. There is a new online tool in the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website that allows project proponents to utilize the optional Northern Long-eared Bat Rangewide Determination Key (Dkey). **The Dkey cannot be used to replace consultation with ODNR-DOW.** Project proponents should coordinate directly with the ODNR-DOW for project technical assistance for all federally listed species, including the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat. **OHFO discourages the use of the Dkey for Ohio projects.** Contacting OHFO directly (ohio@fws.gov) for technical assistance for both the northern long-eared bat and Indiana bat is the more efficient process.

The tricolored bat is listed as endangered by ODNR-DOW and has been officially proposed for federal listing as endangered. The USFWS is scheduled to publish a final rule on the tricolored bat's status by the end of September 2024. Therefore, in addition to coordinating with ODNR-DOW regarding the tricolored bat, we recommend that project proponents also coordinate with the OHFO. The USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2024) allows presence/absence surveys for the tricolored bat that use the northern long-eared bat level of effort.

Exception for Ohio mist-net surveys: All presence/absence surveys conducted for state listed bat species (Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, tricolored) should follow the highest minimum net nights set forth in the federal guidance to be considered valid by ODNR-DOW. Any modifications to this position will be communicated at the time of the site authorization approval.

Ohio Acoustic Surveys:

Acoustic bat surveys for presence/absence will be accepted by ODNR-DOW for the 2024 season. Surveys should follow guidelines laid out in the USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2024) with the following exceptions:

- Ohio survey dates are June 1 – August 15
- After conducting automated analyses using one or more of the currently available 'approved' acoustic bat ID programs[1], qualitative analysis (i.e., manual vetting) of any calls recorded from state-endangered species (*M. sodalis, M. septentrionalis*[2]*, M. lucifugus*[2]*,* and *P. subflavus*[2]) must be completed.
- **All presence/absence acoustic surveys conducted for state listed bat species (Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, tricolored) should follow the highest minimum acoustic nights set forth in the federal guidance to be considered valid by ODNR-DOW. Any modifications to this position will be communicated at the time of the site authorization approval.**

[1] https://www.fws.gov/media/indiana-bat-summer-survey-guidance

[2] State listing as endangered effective July 1, 2020

At a minimum, for each detector site/night a program considered presence of state-listed bats likely, review all files (including no IDs) from that site/night. If more than one acoustic bat ID program is used, qualitative analysis must also include a comparison of the results of each program by site and night.

Combined Mist-netting and Acoustic Surveys:
ODNR-DOW will accept the USFWS pilot survey option of combining mist-netting and acoustic surveys for traditional survey sites (e.g., 123-acre area) detailed in Appendix I of the USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (2024). All presence/absence combined mist-net and acoustic surveys conducted for state listed bat species should follow the highest minimum level of effort set forth by the federal guidance to be considered valid by ODNR-DOW. Any modifications to this position will be communicated at the time of the site authorization approval.

Before Field Season:

- Anyone surveying bats using mist-nets in the state of Ohio must obtain a federal permit as well as a state scientific collection permit. The federal permit should include both the Indiana bat and the northern long-eared bat.
- Your ODNR-DOW permit consists of two documents: a Scientific Collector (Wild Animal) Permit and an endangered species letter signed by the Chief of the Division of Wildlife (in addition to your federal permit). Both ODNR-DOW documents must be obtained prior to field work and kept with you and any sub-permittees during field work.

During Field Season:

- Prior to initiation of field work (a minimum of two weeks in advance), permittees must provide proposed mist netting plans to USFWS and ODNR-DOW in the form of an e-mail letter to the USFWS OHFO and copy to the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator. Plans must be reviewed and approved by USFWS OHFO and ODNR-DOW before ANY surveys take place. Study plans must specify objectives, location details, dates of proposed work, and all other relevant details. **Study plans must also include a USFWS Project Code. Project Codes can only be obtained by requesting an official species list through the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website: (https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/).** When handling bats, you must strictly adhere to the current WNS Decontamination Protocol (current version can be found at https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/topics/decontamination). Clothing, boots, gear, and equipment should all be thoroughly decontaminated between nights, as well as between netting sites.
- Request bat bands at least two weeks in advance of needing them. Bat bands can be obtained by e-mailing the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator with how many bands are needed, current permit number, sizes, and a mailing address. Bands will not be issued until your permits are valid. We have three sizes of bands—2.4 mm, 2.9 mm, and 4.2 mm. The 2.4 mm split metal bat ring made of aluminum alloy is suitable for banding tricolored bats. 2.9 mm bands are suitable for Indiana, northern long-eared, and little brown bats. The larger 4.2 mm band is suitable for silver-haired (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*), big brown (*Eptesicus fuscus*), and hoary (*Lasiurus cinereus*) bats. You must band all Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, and tricolored bats with ODNR-DOW bands; therefore, you should not be in the field without the 2.4 mm and 2.9 mm sized bands.
  NOTE: While ODNR-DOW obtains 2.9 mm bands per new 2024 USFWS guidelines, banding of endangered *Myotis* species should not be done until 2.9 mm bands are received. Please watch for updates from the Wildlife Permits email and request 2.9 mm bands when they become available.
- Only individuals who are named on the ODNR-DOW endangered species letter portion of the permit and on the corresponding federal bat permit may conduct and oversee mist-net surveys. Trained assistants may work on permitted bat activities under the direct and on-site supervision of a named permittee. All bat IDs must be verified by a named permittee. If an Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, and/or tricolored bat is captured, the permittee shall notify the USFWS and the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator referenced

above within 48 hours via email. If a little brown bat is captured, notify the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator only within 48 hours via email. Reports of listed bat captures should include specific information such as spatial location of capture, band information, radio-transmitter frequency information, sex, reproductive status, and age of individual.

- For presence/absence surveys, ODNR-DOW requires all female and juvenile state endangered and threatened bat species (Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, and tricolored bat) be radio-tracked if caught, in accordance with methods outlined in Appendix D of USFWS 2024 Range-wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines.

If you are taking any biological samples (tissue, fur, blood, etc.), this must be specifically authorized in your state and federal permits and noted in your survey proposal.

After Field Season:

By March 15, you must submit your final ODNR-DOW report(s) from the previous summer. You are not required to fill out the ODNR-DOW Wildlife Diversity Bat Excel Spreadsheet; instead, please forward your USFWS Midwestern US Spreadsheet (found here: https://www.fws.gov/media/bat-reporting-spreadsheets) to the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator and ODNR-DOW Permit Coordinator and include your state permit number along with an electronic copy of the project report. Electronic summaries emailed during the field season are NOT considered as full compliance of this reporting requirement.

Ohio Environmental Review Recommendations for projects involving disturbance near potential/known bat hibernacula (cliffs, caves, mines) or tree cutting:

Step 1: Coordinate with Ohio Division of Wildlife regarding existing records for state-listed endangered bat summer and/or winter occurrence information. Potential hibernacula found during a habitat assessment must address possible suitability for Indiana bats, northern long-eared bats, tricolored bats, and little brown bats.

If project site contains a known bat hibernaculum(a) –

- Both the DOW and USFWS should be contacted for guidance on projects occurring:
  - Within 5 miles of known or potential Indiana bat and/or northern long-eared bat hibernacula.
  - Within 3 miles of known or potential tricolored bat hibernacula
- Only ODNR-DOW should be contacted if a project occurs within 5 miles of known or potential little brown bat hibernacula.

If a project site does not contain known bat hibernaculum(a) –

- Conduct a desktop habitat assessment of the project area. Tools such as the ODNR Mines of Ohio Viewer, Karst Interactive Map, topographic maps, aerial photos, historical records, etc. should be used to determine if there are any potential caves, mines, karst features, rock ledges, or other features that may serve as potential hibernacula.
- If no such features are found, proceed to **Step 2**.
- If potential hibernacula are found during the desktop assessment:
  - Assume bats are using these hibernacula and refrain from clearing trees from March 15 - Nov 15

    OR

  - Conduct a field habitat assessment to determine if a potential hibernaculum(a) is present within the action area. We encourage impacts to ledges and rock outcroppings be avoided. If impacts cannot be avoided, features should be evaluated for potential roosting characteristics such as recesses, overhangs, and crevices.

- **NOTE**: The USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat Guidelines, Appendix H, contains instructions for completing a habitat assessment for Indiana bat, but can be applied to other bat species.

Step 2: Conduct, a presence/absence survey following current ODNR-DOW guidelines, where applicable.

Step 3: <u>If a state-listed endangered bat is captured or recorded during the survey:</u>

- Recommendation of no summer tree cutting, or limited cutting following guidelines detailed below, within 5 miles of an Indiana bat or little brown bat capture or 3 miles of a northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat capture if a roost is not located.
- Recommendation of no summer tree cutting, or limited cutting following guidelines detailed below, within a minimum of 2.5 miles of an Indiana bat or little brown bat roost or 1.5 miles of a northern long-eared bat and/or tricolored bat roost tree if located.
- Recommended tree clearing dates within capture record buffers are October 1 – March 31

<u>If no state-listed endangered bat is captured or recorded during the survey:</u>

- Summer tree cutting may proceed for 5 years before a new survey is needed under state guidance.

<u>Limited summer tree cutting guidance for little brown bats:</u> Limited tree cutting in summer may be permitted after consultation with ODNR-DOW, but clearing trees with the following characteristics should be avoided unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark; crevices, holes, or cavities; clusters of dead leaves; live trees of any species with DBH ≥ 20".

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When does the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey protocol have to be used?

This protocol should be used anytime Indiana bat, northern long-eared bat, little brown bat, or tricolored bat summer presence/probable absence surveys are conducted in the state of Ohio.

How many detector nights are required for presence/probable absence acoustic surveys?

As described in the current USFWS Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Summer Survey Guidelines:

Level of effort for all state-listed endangered bat species: follow highest minimum detector nights as outlined in the federal guidance for northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat.

Northern Long-eared Bat and Tricolored Bat Level of Effort:
Linear projects: a minimum of 4 detector nights per km (0.6 miles) of suitable summer habitat
Non-linear projects: a minimum of 10 detector nights per 123 acres (0.5 km^2) of suitable summer habitat.
At least 2 detector locations per 123 acre "site" shall be sampled until at least 10 detector nights has been completed over the course of at least 2 calendar nights (may be consecutive). For example:

- 5 detectors for 2 nights each (can sample the same location or move within the site)
- 2 detectors for 5 nights each (can sample the same location or move within the site)
- 1 detector for 10 nights (must sample at least 2 locations and move within the site – we recommend evenly distributing LOE among locations)

Indiana Bat Level of Effort:
Linear projects: a minimum of 2 detector nights per km (0.6 miles) of suitable summer habitat
Non-linear projects: a minimum of 6 detector nights per 123 acres (0.5 km^2) of suitable summer habitat.
At least 2 detector locations per 123 acre "site" shall be sampled until at least 6 detector nights has been completed over the course of at least 2 calendar nights (may be consecutive). For example:

- 3 detectors for 2 nights each (can sample the same location or move within the site)
- 2 detectors for 3 nights each (can sample the same location or move within the site)
- 1 detector for 6 nights (must sample at least 2 locations and move within the site – we recommend evenly distributing LOE among locations)

How many net surveys are required for presence/probable absence?

Level of effort for all state-listed endangered bat species including Indiana bat and northern long-eared bats: Follow highest minimum net nights as outlined in the federal guidance for the northern long-eared bat and tricolored bat.

Net surveys for northern long-eared bat presence/probable absence shall incorporate, at a minimum, either 10 net nights per square 0.5 kilometer (123 acres) of project area, or four net nights per kilometer for linear projects. For linear projects, there must be at least one net night of survey on two different nights (minimum of two nights). This does not allow for two net nights on a single night for surveys.

Net surveys for Indiana bat presence/probable absence shall incorporate, at a minimum, either six net nights net nights per square 0.5 kilometer (123 acres) of project area, or two net nights per kilometer for linear projects. For

linear projects, there must be at least one net night of survey on two different nights (minimum of two nights). This does not allow for two net nights on a single night for surveys.

How long are the results of the surveys valid for an assessment of an area?

Mist-net or acoustic surveys documenting probable absence of state-listed endangered bats are valid for five years.

When can acoustic or net surveys occur in Ohio?

In Ohio, acoustic or net surveys may only be conducted from June 1 through August 15 unless indicated otherwise in your state permit. Any surveys outside of the June 1 - August 15 timeframe cannot be used in Ohio to assess the presence/probable absence of state-listed bats.

Can a presence/probable absence survey be conducted within a known bat capture/detection buffer?

Surveys generally cannot be used to document presence/probable absence of state-listed endangered bats where presence of the species has already been confirmed by prior surveys.

What if a project is proposing to clear trees between April 1 and September 30 when bats may be present but no bat records exist in the project area?

Any Ohio project that is not within a known bat record buffer, and tree clearing between April 1 and September 31 is being proposed, may have a presence/probable absence survey conducted between June 1 and August 15 following the range-wide guidance. If a presence/probable absence survey is not performed, presence of listed bats is assumed.

Where do I get bands?

If you need bands, email the ODNR-DOW Bat Survey Coordinator at least two weeks in advance with your current ODNR permit number, how many bands in each size (2.4 mm, 2.9 mm, and 4.2 mm) you will need this season, and a current address to ship the bands.

Do I have to band every bat?
No, currently this is optional. However, you are required as per your state permit to band all Indiana, northern long-eared, little brown, and tricolored bats.
NOTE: While ODNR-DOW obtains 2.9 mm bands per new 2024 USFWS guidelines, banding of endangered *Myotis* species should not be done until 2.9 mm bands are received. Please watch for updates from the Wildlife Permits email and request 2.9 mm bands when they become available.

Appendix F Siting Study

Siting Memo

Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project

Ohio Power Siting Board
Case No. 25-0704-EL-BLN

Prepared for:

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY
An AEP Company
BOUNDLESS ENERGY™

Submitted to:

American Electric Power

Prepared by:

WSP USA
312 Elm Street
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Cincinnati, OH 45202

August 2025

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ATTACHMENTS

1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

American Electric Power Ohio Transmission Company, Inc. ("AEP Ohio Transco" or the "Company"), proposes the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project (the "Project"). The Project is located in New Albany and unincorporated areas of Plain Township in Franklin County, Ohio. The Project involves tapping into the 138 kV circuit of the double circuit Corridor – Jug Street 138/345 kV Transmission Line at an existing structure and building approximately one mile of new 138 kV transmission line to the new Souder Substation, as shown in **Map 1** in **Attachment A**.

The Project is planned to satisfy the needs of a customer (the "Customer") and will support electric demand in the surrounding area. The location of the new non-jurisdictional Souder Substation was selected based on customer needs within the immediate surrounding area. This Siting Memo documents the process of developing Alternative Routes and subsequent selection of the Proposed Route for the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line.

The Project will primarily be built using steel monopole structures; however, final structure types will be dependent on engineering design and terrain. The typical height of the structures will be approximately 120 to 165 feet but will vary along the route depending on topography and constraints. To meet long-term maintenance and safety criteria, the Project will use a typical right-of-way (ROW) width of approximately 100 feet; however, this may vary along the route depending on Project needs, topography, and specific parcel uses and configurations.

The Project is needed to meet customer needs and therefore requires a Letter of Notification (4906-6-05) to be filed with the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB). Construction is anticipated to begin in October 2025 to meet a summer 2026 in-service date. The Project will require tree trimming and/or clearing within the right-of-way (ROW), access roads, foundation installation, structure assembly and erection, conductor and shield wire installation, and restoration upon completion of construction activities. Construction will be conducted with attention to the preservation and conservation of the natural habitat and natural resources. Construction activities will be conducted in accordance with local, state, and/or federal permits necessary for the Project.

The Company started transmission line siting activities in early 2023 to develop Alternative Routes for the Project. During the route development process, Company representatives met frequently with local stakeholders to inform and gain insight and feedback on potential development in the area. Based on landowner and community members' feedback, in addition to a multi-disciplinary comparative analysis of the Alternative Routes, the Company announced the Proposed Route to the public in July 2025.

2.0 ROUTE DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

The route development process was initiated in early 2023 when a siting team was assembled. It included AEP employees and external consultants with diverse expertise including transmission line and substation siting, transmission planning, impact assessment for natural and human environments, impact mitigation, engineering, construction management, project management, ROW, and public relations (the "**Siting Team**").

The Siting Team developed siting criteria; identified siting constraints and opportunity features; collected, and analyzed environmental and design data; solicited stakeholder input; and coordinated with resource and permitting agencies. The Siting Team utilized this information to develop and revise Study Segments and Alternative Routes, analyze the Alternative Routes, and report on the selection of a Proposed Route. This report documents the Siting Team's process that led to identification of the Proposed Route for the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project.

2.1 Study Area

The Project requires tapping into the Company's existing double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line[1] and looping into the new Souder Substation. Thus, the Siting Team defined the **Project Endpoints**, which includes the existing double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line, roughly between structures 23 and 36, and the new Souder Substation.

Next, the Siting Team defined the **Study Area** to develop feasible transmission line routes. The Study Area encompasses the Project endpoints and the logical area in between (see **Map 1** in **Attachment A**). The Study Area, approximately 1.6 square miles, is generally bounded by the Company's existing double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line and Columbus Metro Parks (Rocky Fork) properties to the north; Bevelhymer Park and Bevelhymer Road to the east; the new Souder Substation and residential development to the south; and Rocky Fork Creek to the west.

2.2 Data Collection

The following sources of information were used to develop data for the Siting Study. Data was reviewed and collected for existing and historic land uses, natural resources, cultural resources, transportation facilities, and existing utility and linear features. A detailed table of data sources used for this study is provided in **Attachment B** (GIS Data Sources). The Siting Team collected and reviewed the data, as described in the following sections, to support the siting process.

[1] Tapping into the existing 138 kV circuit at an existing structure is preferred.

2.2.1 Geographic Information System (GIS) Data Collection

Digital aerial photography and georeferenced topographic maps are both important tools for route selection and serve as essential base maps and information sources. The primary sources of aerial imagery and topography mapping include:

- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) 2022
- ESRI World Imagery map service and Bing Imagery map service (dates vary)
- United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7 ½ minute quadrangles: New Albany

Initial review of the project area by the Siting Team identified likely opportunities and constraints. As additional data was collected, siting opportunities and constraints were modified, as needed. Existing GIS data sets obtained from many sources including federal, state, and local governments were used extensively during the siting study. Much of this information was obtained through official agency GIS data access websites, some was provided directly by government agencies, and the Siting Team created some by digitizing information from paper-based maps, aerial photo interpretation, interviews with stakeholders, and field inspections. The team's geographers, natural resource scientists, and siting experts interpreted the vegetation and land use of the area to supplement and enhance that available data from the state/federal agencies. The Project Study area is located on predominantly flat terrain characterized by agricultural, residential, and mixed commercial/industrial land uses; therefore, no concerns were identified regarding the physiography and geology of the area.

GIS data sources vary with respect to their accuracy and precision. For this reason, GIS-based calculations and maps presented throughout this study should be considered reasonable approximations of the resource or geographic feature they represent and not absolute measures or counts. The data and calculations presented in this study allow for relative comparisons among project alternatives. Field reconnaissance is conducted to verify certain features (e.g., locations of residential, commercial and industrial buildings).

2.2.2 Field Reconnaissance

Siting Team members conducted field reconnaissance within the Study Area via a windshield survey in June and August 2023. Drive-by observations were primarily conducted along SR 605 and Walnut Street and at Rocky Fork Park and Bevelhymer Park.

2.2.3 Federal, State, and Local Government Coordination

The Siting Team obtained information from or contacted various federal, state, and local agencies and/or officials to inform them about the Project and request data for the route development

process. The agencies contacted are listed below. Copies of agency correspondence are included as **Attachment C**.

Federal Agencies

- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

State Agencies

- Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)
- State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

Local Agencies and/or Officials

- Columbus Metro Parks
- City of New Albany
- New Albany Parks

2.3 Constraints and Opportunity Features

During the data collection process, the Siting Team identified and mapped siting constraints and opportunity features within the Study Area as described below and shown on **Attachment A, Map 1**.

Constraints

Constraints are specific areas that should be minimized or avoided to the extent practical during route development. Using readily available public data sources, the Siting Team initially identified large constraints during the beginning of the route development process. Major constraints that influenced route development are discussed below.

Developed Land Use

Existing and proposed developed land uses were identified as a primary constraint for the Study Area. The southern portion of Study Area is primarily located within the City of New Albany and the northern portion of the Study Area is located within unincorporated areas of Plain Township in Franklin County. Existing commercial and industrial developed land use within the Study Area is primarily located along New Albany Road and the State Route (SR) 605 corridor. The Siting Team was aware of additional proposed industrial land development within this area prior to the route development process.

Residential development is the prominent existing developed land use within the Project area, with most single-family residences located along SR 605, Walnut Street, Bevelhymer Road, and Schleppi Road. Three larger existing subdivided residential neighborhoods were identified within the Study Area: one located approximately 0.4 mile northwest of Schleppi Road and Walnut Street; Nottingham Trace, located adjacent southwest of Walnut Street and SR 605; and Upper Clarenton, located approximately 0.2 mile southwest of Bevelhymer Road and Walnut Street. No places of worship, cemeteries, or schools were identified within the Study Area.

During field reconnaissance for the Project, the Siting Team observed active construction at a large property along Walnut Street and adjacent to Rocky Fork Park. Upon further research, it was determined that this property was under development for multi-family residential buildings. Additionally, a new residential subdivision is under development on the former agricultural property adjacent southwest to Walnut Street and Bevelhymer Road.

To accommodate ongoing and future residential, commercial, and recreational development within the surrounding area, the city will be improving Walnut Street and SR 605 in addition to constructing a roundabout at the Walnut Street and Bevelhymer Road intersection. The Siting Team minimized interference with existing and future developed land use to the greatest extent practicable by developing Study Segments that predominately parallel local streets outside of existing road right-of-way (ROW) or follow property boundaries within the Study Area. The known development areas are shown on **Map 1** in **Attachment A**.

Parks and Recreational Areas

During the early stages of route development, the Siting Team identified existing Metro Parks (Rocky Fork) properties along the northern portion of the Study Area, located east of Schleppi Road, and it was deemed that the Siting Team should conduct stakeholder conversations with Metro Parks. As a result of the August 10, 2023 meeting with Metro Parks (see **Section 2.2.3**), the Siting Team was informed about an additional Columbus Metro Parks Rocky Fork property within the northern portion of the Study Area, located 0.2 northwest of Schleppi Road and Walnut Street (see **Attachment A, Map 1**). Much of the Company's existing double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line traverses through Rocky Fork Park properties; thus, several Study Segments cross existing park properties in order to reach that Project endpoint. Still, the Siting Team attempted to reduce impacts by placing Study Segments along Rocky Fork property boundaries to the best extent practicable in efforts to minimize bisecting the park with a new 138 kV transmission line corridor.

Additional recreational resources within the Study Area were identified from a review of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Protected Areas Database of the US (PADUS). These locally managed lands include the New Albany Nature Preserve to the northwest and Bevelhymer

Park and New Albany Links (residential golf course) to the east. In addition to existing parkland within the Study Area, the City of New Albany is planning to build a field house and community center on the property adjacent west of Bevelhymer Park. The existing and future recreational development along Bevelhymer Road was acknowledged during route development by prioritizing road ROW alignments to the best extent practicable.

Opportunity Features

Opportunity features are typically existing corridors, areas, or edges where a transmission line would be compatible land use, or its presence would be reduced by an existing linear feature. Opportunity features typically considered include other linear infrastructure and utility corridors, rail lines, and roads, but may also include land cover edges, unused portions of industrial or commercial areas, or parcel boundaries. Key siting opportunities are presented in the Study Area are described below.

Road Right-of-Way

Local roads (Bevelhymer Road, Walnut Street, and Schleppi Road) and SR 605 were identified as suitable siting opportunities for the Project. The WSP Siting Team attempted to develop Study Segments that parallel existing road right-of-way (ROW) for the best extent practicable, using angles and diagonal crossings where necessary to address residential encroachment concerns.

Property Boundaries

Following property boundaries is generally considered a siting opportunity as this can minimize impacts to property owners by potentially reducing impacts to more usable, central portions of the property. The Siting Team identified a few agricultural and vacant properties within the Project area as compatible adjacent land uses for siting alignments parallel to parcel boundaries. However, some diagonal alignments were developed within the Study Segment Network in attempts to reduce the overall length of the new 138 kV transmission line and meet the technical requirements of the Project (tapping into an existing structure along the double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line).

2.4 Study Segment Network

Study Segments are partial alignments connecting the Project Endpoints within the Study Area. The Study Segments are developed to meet the Project's functional requirements (engineering and construction) and, at the same time, minimize environmental and socioeconomic impacts and project costs.

A total of 36 Study Segments were developed for the Project, as shown in **Attachment A, Map 2**. As previously discussed above in **Section 2.3**, most alignments within the Study Area illustrate

attempts to parallel road ROW and property boundaries, which were identified as the primary routing opportunities for the Project. Still, some diagonal alignments were required to address ROW encroachment concerns, reduce overall length of the greenfield transmission line, or to meet the technical requirements defined for the Project (tapping into an existing structure along the double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line).

At an initial glance, a central corridor along SR 605 appears favorable for minimizing Project costs (length and angle structures) while reducing impacts to Rocky Fork Park. However, upon detailed evaluation, the Siting Team noted major concerns with a central transmission line corridor along SR 605 due to proximity of residents along the road. Landscaped trees would need to be removed within the 100-foot-wide ROW and many landowners would have a visual impact of new transmission poles in front of their homes. As previously stated above, major road improvements are either ongoing or planned for Walnut Street and SR 605, including a roundabout at their intersection. Additionally, a new 138 kV transmission line along SR 605 would require extensive distribution underbuild, which is electrically feasible but would require larger (in both height and diameter), significantly increase costs, and lengthen the schedule of the Project.

Most of the Study Segments developed north of the new Souder Substation traverse vacant or forested portions of residential properties along Walnut Street or SR 605. While these alignments were developed in an attempt to cross behind residences and thereby reduce visual impacts, a transmission line route through this area would require a larger number of angle structures to effectively address ROW encroachment concerns. Robust angle structures usually require a larger footprint with increased land use impacts to property owners.

While the Study Segments within the northwest portion of the Study Area are primarily cross-country and traverse agricultural land, several have diagonal alignments and could limit future development opportunities in these areas. Overall, the Study Segments in the northwestern portion of the Study Area would increase the total length of the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line with no additional outstanding benefits to otherwise offset increased length and schedule impacts that are associated with a longer transmission line.

During the evaluation of the Study Segment Network, the Siting Team acknowledged that building the Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line to the east of the new Souder Substation would keep the greenfield corridor within a surrounding area of compatible land uses since it is known that future industrial development will occur along the northside of New Albany Road. Additionally, approaching the existing double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line between Structure 23 and Structure 24 reduces impacts to Rocky Fork Park properties when compared to Study Segments 8 and 9, where significantly more ROW tree clearing would be

required. With this rationale, the Siting Team retained Study Segments 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 35, and 36 for the compilation of Alternative Routes for the Project.

2.5 Alternative Routes

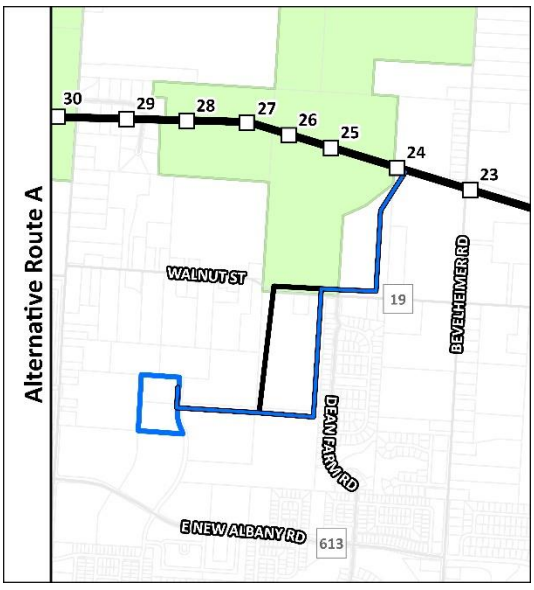
2.5.1 Description of the Alternative Routes

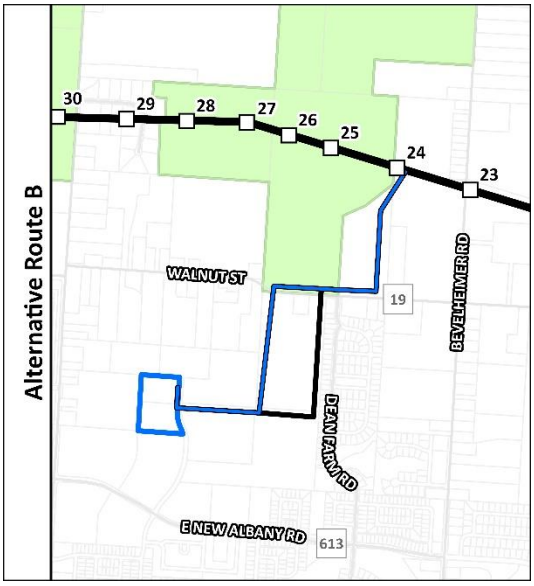
The **Alternative Routes** represent the potential alignments, which attempt to minimize constraints and maximize opportunity features, evaluated for the greenfield 138 kV transmission line between the Project Endpoints.

The Siting Team met and communicated frequently throughout the route development process, continually reviewing the Study Segments based on field observations, analysis, engineering and constructability considerations, and stakeholder input. At the end of the process, the Siting Team identified two Alternative Routes (Routes A and B) for analysis and comparison.

As shown in **Attachment A, Map 3**, the Study Segments that were retained for compiling the Alternative Routes were slightly modified based on stakeholder input gathered for the Project. For example, the City of New Albany is donating the parcel crossed by Study Segment 36 to Metro Parks, and Metro Parks subsequently plans to reforest the majority of the property. Study Segment 36 was diverted to the east of the property, which better suits Metro Parks' reforestation plan.

Additionally, Study Segments 2 and 4 were shifted eastward to reduce tree clearing within the ROW based on discussions with the property owner. Lastly, Study Segments 1 and 3 were adjusted slightly south to shift the 100-foot-wide ROW onto customer-owned property.





Alternative Routes A and B share approximately 50% commonality with each other, differing only by the length crossed through Rocky Fork Park and south of Walnut Street as it traverses through a large rural homestead property. Alternative Route A represents the eastern option, measuring 1.5 miles in length, and Alternative Route B represents the western option, measuring 1.2 miles in length. Both Alternative Routes propose tapping into the existing double circuit Jug – Corridor 138/345 kV Transmission Line at Structure 24.

3.0 PROPOSED ROUTE

The goal in selecting a suitable route for the Project is to minimize impacts on land use and natural and cultural resources while avoiding circuitous routes, extreme costs, and non-standard design requirements. However, in practice, it is not usually possible to minimize all potential impacts simultaneously. There are often tradeoffs in potential impacts to every siting decision. For example, in heavily forested areas, the route that avoids the most developed areas will likely have the greatest amount of forest clearing, while the route that has the least impact on vegetation and wildlife habitats often impacts more residences or commercial development. Thus, an underlying goal is to reach a reasonable balance between minimizing potential impacts on one resource versus increasing the potential impacts on another.

The experienced, multi-disciplinary Siting Team selected a Proposed Route from two Alternative Routes based on the evaluation of information obtained from GIS data, field reconnaissance and surveys, public outreach, and engineering and constructability consideration for this Project. As such, the Siting Team selected **Alternative Route B as the Proposed Route** (see **Attachment A, Map 4**).[2] Collectively, the Siting Team believes that the Proposed Route meets the goal of minimizing impacts on land use, while avoiding circuitous routes, extreme costs, and non-standard design requirements.

Although both options are constructible and minimize impacts to existing and future recreational properties to the best extent practicable, Alternative Route B is more favorable from a land use perspective. The Proposed Route reduces visual impacts to existing residential properties by paralleling existing road ROW to the greatest extent practicable. Additionally, by paralleling the western boundary of a large rural homestead property, Alternative Route B maximizes the distance between existing residential properties along Walnut Street and Dean Farm Road. The Proposed Route is shorter, more direct and will require less ROW acquisition when compared to Alternative Route A.

Through discussions with property owners and key stakeholders, the Company compiled feedback to select and adjust the Proposed Route to reasonably address those concerns.

[2] The Proposed Route shown in Map 4 represents the final line route, in which some angle structures have been relocated per engineering and/or field survey results.

Alternative Route B can preserve existing structures and allow for the properties to maximize potential future development and avoid environmental impacts that would be associated with Alternative Route A.

Attachment A: Maps

- Existing Structure
- FCC Communications Tower
- Known Development Area
- Park
- Existing Transmission Line
- NHD Stream/River
- New Souder Substation
- Project Study Area
- NHD Lake/Waterbody
- NWI Wetland
- FEMA Regulatory Floodway
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain
- Parcel Boundary
- Rocky Fork Park
- Local Land

Sources:
FAA (2022), FCC (2022),
FEMA (2021),
NAIP Imagery (USDA 2022),
NRHP (NPS 2021), NWI (USFWS 2021),
Parcels (Franklin County 2023),
PADUS & NHD (USGS 2021),
Transportation (ODOT 2021)

NAD 83
State Plane Ohio North

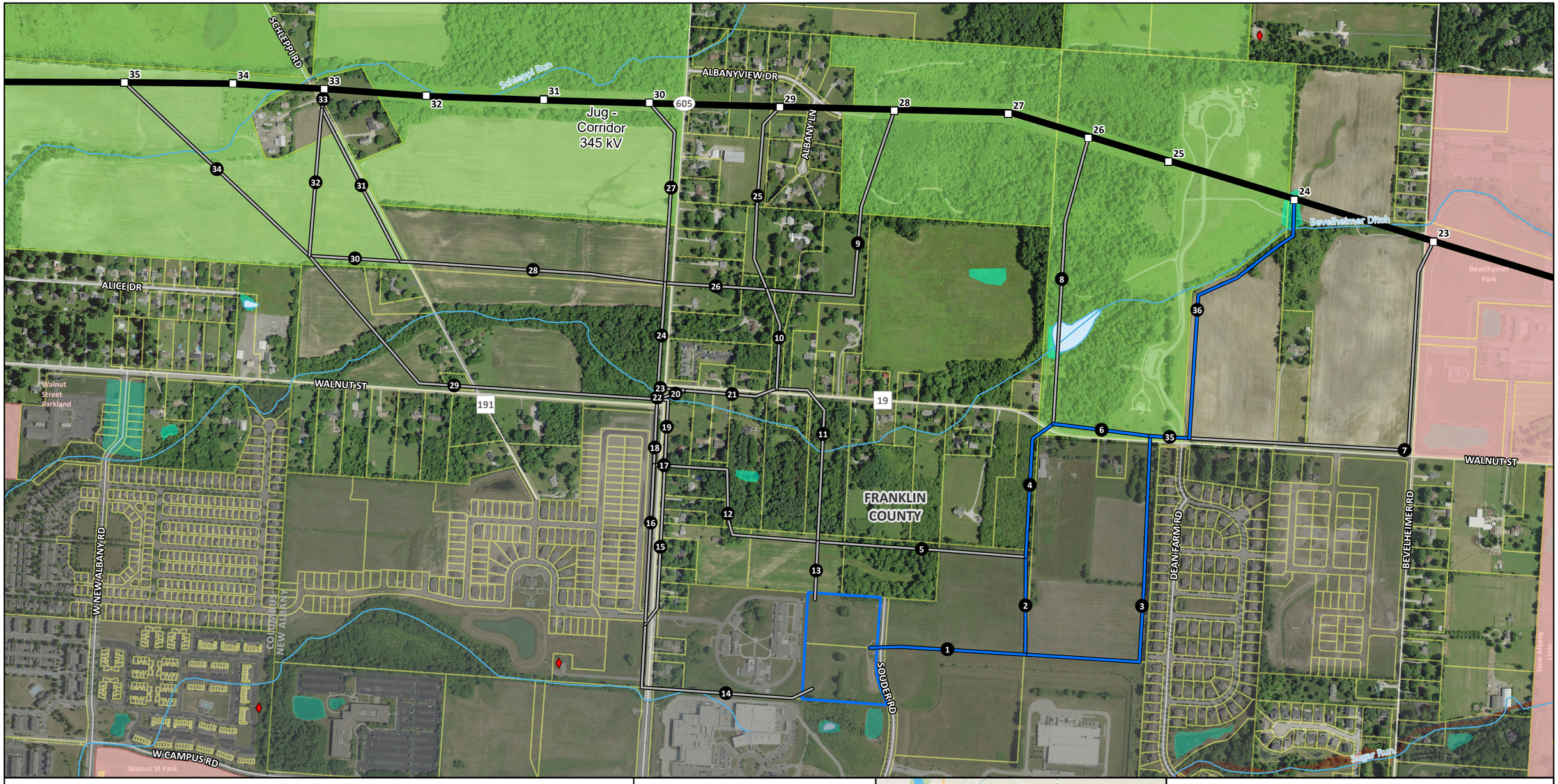
Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project

Map 1. Study Area

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY
An AEP Company
BOUNDLESS ENERGY

wsp

0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet
1 inch = 1,000 feet when printed at 11x17



- Existing Structure
- FCC Communications Tower

Study Segments

- Dismissed
- Retained
- Existing Transmission Line
- NHD Stream/River
- New Souder Substation
- Project Study Area
- NHD Lake/Waterbody
- NWI Wetland
- FEMA Regulatory Floodway
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain
- Parcel Boundary
- Rocky Fork Park
- Local Land

Sources:
FAA (2022), FCC (2022),
FEMA (2021),
NAIP Imagery (USDA 2022),
NRHP (NPS 2021), NWI (USFWS 2021),
Parcels (Franklin County 2023),
PADUS & NHD (USGS 2021),
Transportation (ODOT 2021)

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Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project

Map 2. Study Segment Network

AEP OHIO TRANSMISSION COMPANY
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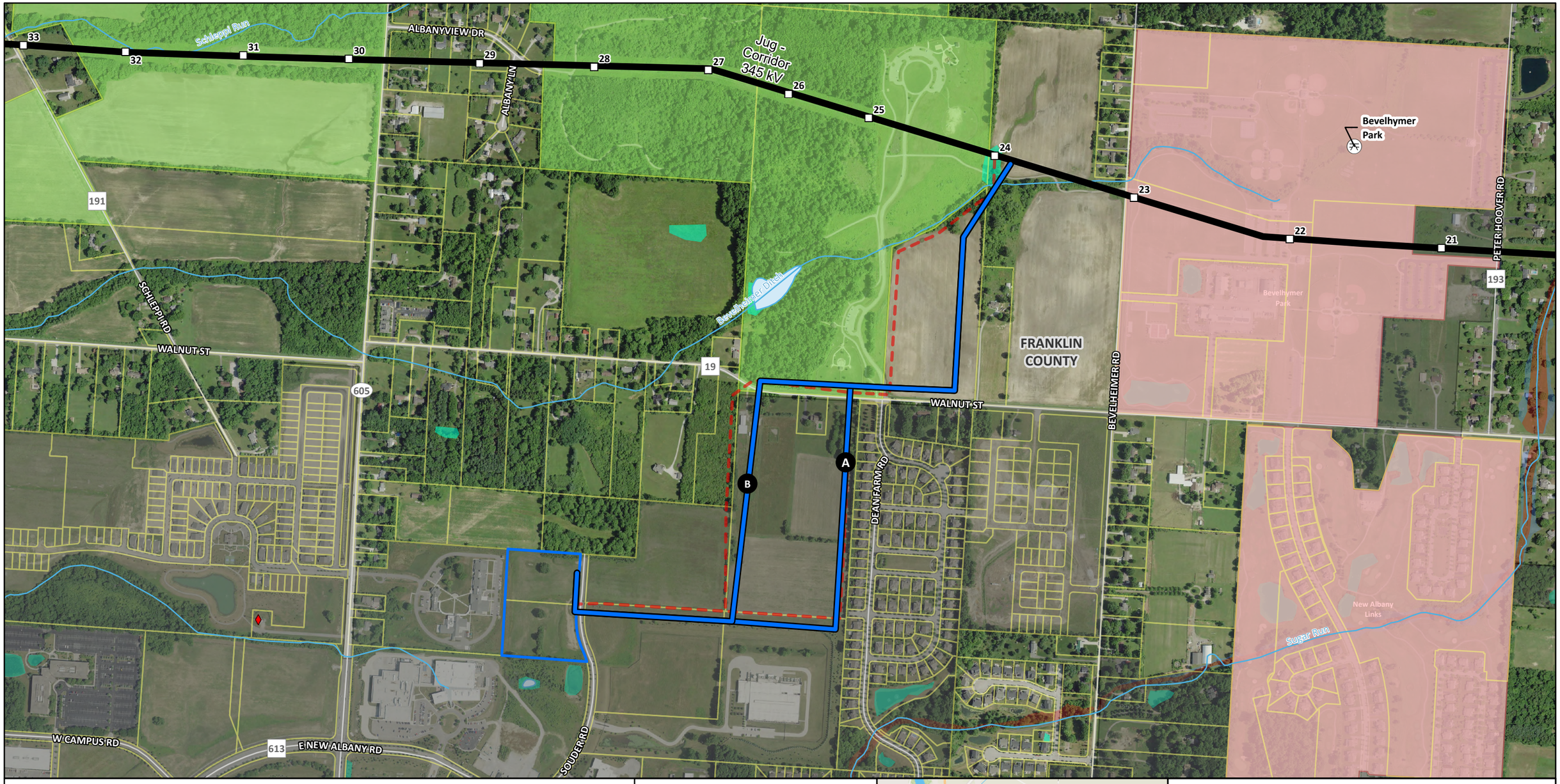
wsp

0 350 700 1,400 Feet

1 inch = 1000 feet when printed at 11x17



- Existing Structure
- FCC Communications Tower
- Park
- Modified Study Segment
- Alternative Route
- Existing Transmission Line
- NHD Stream/River
- New Souder Substation
- NHD Lake/Waterbody
- NWI Wetland
- FEMA Regulatory Floodway
- FEMA 100-year Floodplain
- Parcel Boundary
- Rocky Fork Park
- Local Land

Sources:
FAA (2022), FCC (2022),
FEMA (2021),
NAIP Imagery (USDA 2022),
NRHP (NPS 2021), NWI (USFWS 2021),
Parcels (Franklin County 2023),
PADUS & NHD (USGS 2021),
Transportation (ODOT 2021)

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Map 3. Alternative Routes

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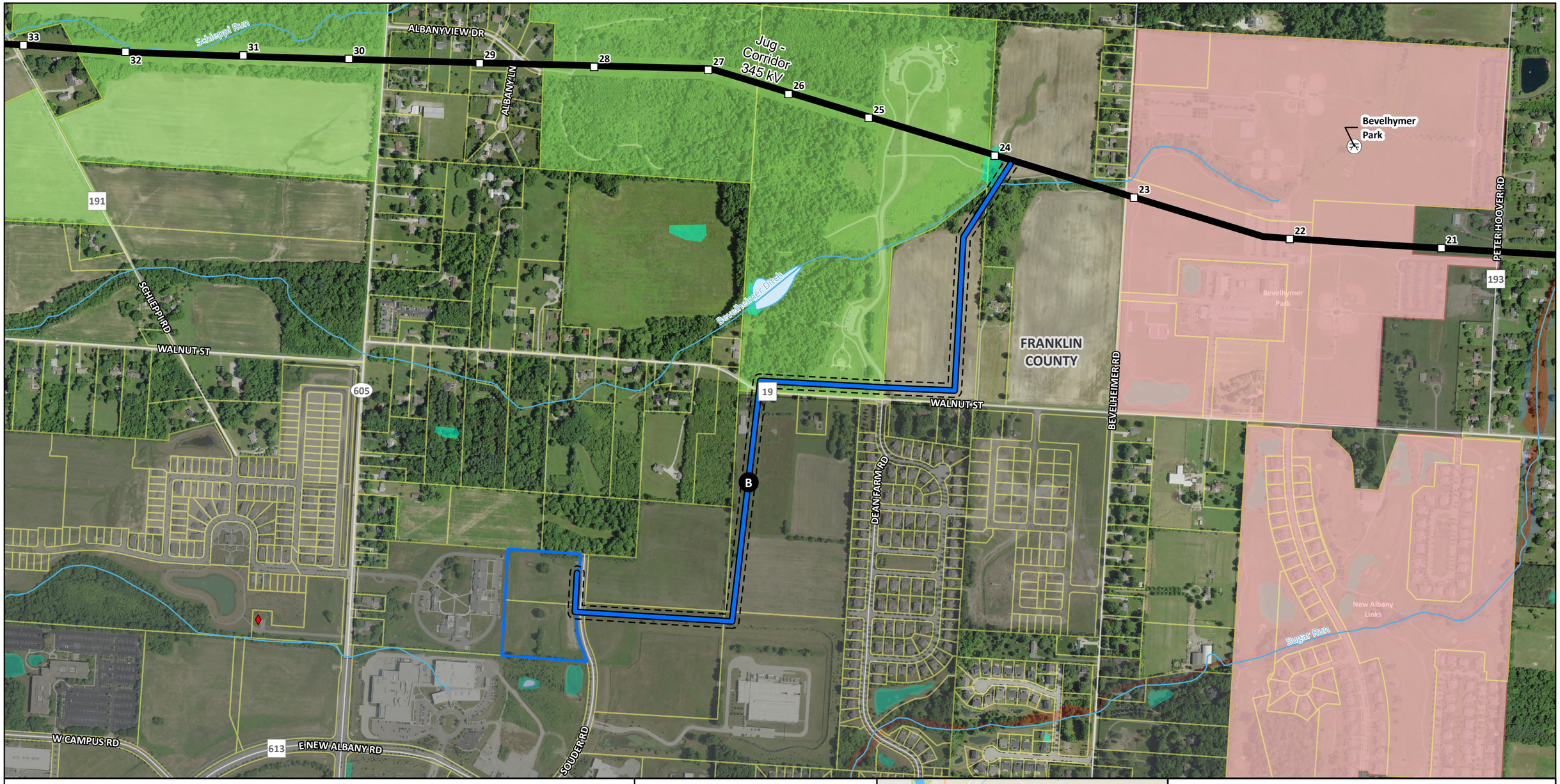
0 350 700 1,400 Feet

1 inch = 700 feet when printed at 11x17



Existing Structure
FCC Communications Tower
Park
Proposed Route
Existing Transmission Line
NHD Stream/River
100-foot ROW
New Souder Station
NHD Lake/Waterbody
NWI Wetland
FEMA Regulatory Floodway
FEMA 100-year Floodplain
Parcel Boundary
Rocky Fork Park
Local Land

Sources:
FAA (2022), FCC (2022),
FEMA (2021),
NAIP Imagery (USDA 2022),
NRHP (NPS 2021), NWI (USFWS 2021),
Parcels (Franklin County 2023),
PADUS & NHD (USGS 2021),
Transportation (ODOT 2021)

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Souder 138 kV Extension Transmission Line Project

Map 4. Proposed Route

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0 350 700 1,400 Feet

1 inch = 700 feet when printed at 11x17

Attachment B: GIS Data Sources

Attachment A. GIS Data Sources			
Siting Criteria	**Source**	**Opportunity (O) or Constraint (C)**	**Rationale for Siting**
Land Use			
Number of parcels and landowners crossed by the ROW	Franklin County (2023)	C	More parcels crossed increases the number of negotiations, title work, owner disruption, ROW team time, and compensation to the landowners. It is an advantage to minimize parcels crossed and landowners affected.
Number of residences within 500 feet of the route centerline	Microsoft "US Building Footprints" (2019) downloaded and field verified from points of public access.	C	Residences and neighborhoods experience real and perceived impacts from being close to an overhead transmission line. It can be an emotive issue, so it is prudent to minimize the number of residences close to transmission. Other effects can be the need to trim landscaping, potential aesthetic effects, and access for maintenance and construction.
Number of commercial/industrial buildings within 500 feet of the route centerline	Microsoft "US Building Footprints" (2019) downloaded and field verified from points of public access.	O/C	Unless a commercial or industrial building is encroaching on the ROW, it is typically not considered a significant routing constraint. In most cases it is preferable to route through an industrial area than a residential or ecologically sensitive area. This is due to reduced potential for aesthetic impacts, already disturbed nature of the land, and more potential space in otherwise congested urban areas (large parking lots, spaces between businesses etc.).
Number of historic architectural resources, historic places, and historic districts within the ROW and within 1 mile	National Register of Historic Places (2021)	C	Previously identified historic architectural resource sites and districts listed or eligible on the NRHP.
Institutional uses (schools, places of worship and cemeteries) within 500 feet of the route centerline	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) (2021) and field verified from points of public access	C	Emotive public opinion issue.

Attachment A. GIS Data Sources			
Siting Criteria	**Source**	**Opportunity (O) or Constraint (C)**	**Rationale for Siting**
Protected lands in the ROW	The Protected Areas Database of the United States (PADUS) (2021)	C	Crossing public lands triggers NEPA or state equivalent, adding to overall Project and cost.
Airfield and heliports within 1 mile of the route centerline	GNIS (2021) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) database (2020)	C	Building within the FAA obstruction buffer requires permits/agreements and adds to overall Project cost and schedule.
Natural Environment			
ROW Tree Clearing/Forestry Resources in the ROW	Digitized based on 2021 NAIP Imagery	C	Tree clearing is a potential T&E habitat issue and may be restricted to clearing periods based on sensitive life stages. Otherwise, tree clearing adds to overall cost of the Project. Wooded areas along streams are also considered riparian habitat and are typically sensitive.
Streams and waterbodies crossed	USGS National Hydrology Dataset (NHD) (2021)	C	The NHD is a comprehensive set of digital spatial data prepared by the USGS that contains information about surface water features such as lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, springs and wells. Streams and waterbodies can present potential access issues. For transmission line projects, direct impacts to streams and waterbodies are not typical because the resources can be spanned.
Wetlands in the ROW	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI) (2021)	C	The NWI produces information on the characteristics, extent, and status of the Nation's wetlands and deepwater habitats. Variety of wetland impacts require different USACE and/or State permits, adding to overall Project schedule and cost.
Acres of 100-year floodplain and regulatory floodway within the ROW	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Hazard Layer (NFHL) (2019)	C	Floodplain permitting and floodway modeling generally add to overall Project schedule and cost.

Attachment A. GIS Data Sources			
Siting Criteria	**Source**	**Opportunity (O) or Constraint (C)**	**Rationale for Siting**
Technical			
Route length	Measured in GIS	C	Project costs increase in correlation to length.
Number and severity of angled structures	Developed in GIS	C	Heavy angles require more expensive structures. Overall, fewer angle structures are better.
Number of road crossings	Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) (2021)	C	Permits/agreements add to Project cost and schedule.
Length of road and railroad corridor parallel	ODOT (2021)	O/C	Local roads are typically residential and vegetated, even in rural areas. Still, existing corridors may be unfavorable to adjacent or nearby landowners and can also conflict with existing aboveground and underground utilities, bridges, and building clearances.