

**CONSTRUCTION NOTICE**

**FOR THE**

**BUTLER COUNTY PHASE I C210 & LP07 PROJECT**

**OPSB Case Number 22-99-GA-BNR**

**Submitted pursuant to O.A.C. 4906-6**

**Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.**

**February 2022**



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This Construction Notice has been prepared by Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., (Duke Energy Ohio) in accordance with the procedures set forth in Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.) Chapter 4906-6 Accelerated Certificate Application Requirements of the Rules and Regulations of the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB or Board).

**4906-6-05 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

**4906-06-05(B)(1)(a): Name of the Project and Applicant's Reference Number**

Duke Energy Ohio is proposing gas line improvements including extensions, relocations, and abandonments at nine locations (BC-1, BC-2, BC-4, BC-5A, BC-5B, BC-6, BC-7, and BC-8) including one temporary laydown yard (BC-7 Laydown Yard). These nine locations are collectively known as the Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project and are located throughout Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships in Butler County, Ohio. However, only seven of the locations (BC-1, BC-2, BC-4, BC-5A, BC-5B, BC-7, and BC-7 Laydown Yard) require review by the OPSB and are addressed by this application (Project). The internal Project reference number is AW2133.

**4906-06-05(B)(1)(b): Brief Description of the Project**

Duke Energy Ohio proposes gas line improvements that are included in the category of "major utility facility" as defined by the OPSB and therefore require OPSB approval prior to construction. The full undertaking includes extensions, relocations, abandonments, and the use of a laydown yard at nine different locations in Butler County, Ohio; however, only the seven locations that are included in the Project are under the jurisdiction of and require review by the OPSB. These locations include all of or select portions of BC-1, BC-2, BC-4, BC-5A, BC-5B, BC-7, and BC-7 Laydown Yard. These OPSB-regulated locations are individually described below:

- BC-1 includes the installation of approximately 12 feet (ft) of new 24-inch diameter gas pipeline located in Liberty Township at 39.389634, -84.447235.
- BC-2 includes the installation of approximately 587 ft of new 6-inch diameter gas pipeline; however, the OPSB review area is associated with the installation of an approximately 10 ft pipe tee that is 24-inch by 24-inch by 6-inch in diameter to connect the new 6-inch diameter gas pipeline to an existing 24-inch diameter gas pipeline (Pipeline C210). BC-2 is located in Liberty Township at 39.403716, -84.447850.
- BC-4 includes the installation of approximately 1,850 ft of new 12-inch diameter gas pipeline located in Madison Township at 39.443954, -84.455973.
- BC-5 includes gas pipeline installation and relocation as described below.
  - BC-5A includes the installation of approximately 513 ft of new 4-inch diameter gas pipeline and the relocation of approximately 223 ft of new 12-inch diameter gas pipeline. However, only the relocation of approximately 223 ft of 12-inch diameter gas pipeline is within the OPSB review area. Approximately 200 ft of 12-inch diameter gas pipeline under Hamilton Middletown Road will be grouted and abandoned in place. BC-

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5A is located in Lemon Township at 39.453446, -84.420355.

- BC-5B includes the relocation of approximately 241 ft of new 12-inch diameter gas pipeline located in Lemon Township at 39.452467, -84.431994. Additionally, approximately 150 ft of 12-inch diameter gas pipeline under a CSX Transportation railroad right-of-way (ROW) will be grouted and abandoned in place.
- BC-7 includes the installation of approximately 1,696 ft of new 12-inch diameter gas pipeline located in Lemon Township at 39.459418, -84.392426. Additionally, approximately 320 ft of existing 12-inch diameter gas pipeline will be removed and approximately 150 ft of existing 12-inch diameter gas pipeline under a Norfolk Southern Corporation railroad ROW will be grouted and abandoned in place.
- BC-7 Laydown Yard includes a proposed temporary laydown yard that will support the gas line improvement activities and is located in Lemon Township at 39.461771, -84.376899.

The Project area locations are shown on Figures 1 and 2, Attachment 1. The new pipelines will be designed for a maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) of 500 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) and will have a normal operating pressure of 150 psig. The proposed easements consist of previously developed and maintained lands, including powerline and road ROWs, as well as residential areas, agricultural fields, fallow fields, industrial use areas, public use areas, forested areas, and streams and riparian areas. Access to the pipeline workspaces will be accomplished from existing public roads and driveways, in addition to the easements obtained for the Project.

The area of interest (AOI) that fully includes the limit of disturbance (LOD) for each of the seven locations under OPSB review is as follows: 3.9 acres for BC-1; 1.2 acres for BC-2; 11.3 acres for BC-4; 68.0 acres for BC-5 (includes BC-5A and BC-5B); 23.1 acres for BC-7; and 5.5 acres for BC-7 Laydown Yard. The overall AOI was utilized for natural resources surveys for threatened and endangered species as well as wetland and water body surveys. The estimated LOD under OPSB review is 0.9 acres for BC-1; 0.2 acres for BC-2; 4.0 acres for BC-4; 9.3 acres for BC-5, which includes 1.1 acres for BC-5A and 8.2 acres for BC-5B; 6.8 acres for BC-7; and 0.9 acres for BC-7 Laydown Yard. The LODs for all seven locations are shown on Figure 3, Attachment 1.

#### **4906-06-05(B)(1)(c): Why the Project Meets the Requirements for a Construction Notice**

The Project qualifies as a Construction Notice as it meets the criteria of O.A.C. Rule 4906-1-01, Appendix B, that provides for (1) new construction, extension, relocation, upgrade, or replacement (except with a like facility) of gas pipelines or pipeline segments (a) not greater than 1 mile in length. The Project LOD locations requiring OPSB review involve new construction of a 24-inch diameter pipe having an approximate length of 12 ft (BC-1), a 24-inch by 24-inch by 6-inch diameter pipe tee installation having an approximate length of 10 ft (BC-2), a 12-inch diameter pipe having an approximate length of 1,850 ft (BC-4), a 12-inch diameter pipe having an approximate length of 223 ft (BC-5A), a 12-inch diameter pipe having an approximate length of 241 ft (BC-5B), a 12-inch diameter pipe having an approximate length of 1,696 ft (BC-7), and a temporary laydown yard to support the gas line improvement activities (BC-7 Laydown

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Yard).

**4906-06-05(B)(2): Statement of Need for the Proposed Facility**

The need for the proposed Project is to connect several of Duke Energy Ohio's isolated natural gas pipelines to increase system reliability. Due to residential, commercial, and industrial growth in the Duke Energy Ohio service area, this Project is intended to bolster pressure in small diameter lines in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships. This will provide increased reliability of the system in a high-growth area.

**4906-06-05(B)(3): Location of the Project**

The Project is located in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships in Butler County, Ohio, as shown on the Figures included as Attachment 1. Figure 1 shows the general Project vicinity on a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle map, and Figure 2 shows the proposed Project location on an aerial map. Figure 3 provides the seven Project locations in greater detail, with the AOI, LOD, and wetland and waterbody field results also shown in relation to the Project areas.

**4906-06-05(B)(4): Alternatives Considered**

As stated previously, Duke Energy Ohio proposes to construct approximately 22 ft of new 24-inch diameter pipe and 4,010 ft of new 12-inch diameter pipe to connect several isolated natural gas pipelines in order to increase the reliability of the system in a high-growth area. Given that the Project's purpose is to enhance system reliability, Duke Energy Ohio's primary siting objective is to utilize the existing infrastructure to the extent practical and to minimize new impacts to surrounding lands. Three alternatives were considered for the Project:

*Alternative 1: Pipeline Retirement*

The first alternative would have been a permanent retirement of the pipelines. This alternative is not practical or feasible since it would not allow Duke Energy Ohio to meet the demands of its customers.

*Alternative 2: Route Iterations*

Multiple route iterations were considered that involved altering the proposed route, but these other options took the route off the properties owned by Duke Energy Ohio at BC-1, BC-4, and BC-7 Laydown Yard. Stakeholders and landowners were considered and engaged with, throughout the design process.

*Alternative 3: Preferred Route*

Once the route iterations were considered and determined to not be feasible, the Preferred Route was selected. The Preferred Route was selected to remain on properties already owned by Duke Energy Ohio (BC-1, BC-4, and BC-7 Laydown Yard), to minimize new impacts to surrounding lands, and to connect existing usable sections of pipeline, while still providing ample workspace to safely execute pipeline construction in areas at BC-2, BC-5A, BC-5B, and BC-7.

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**4906-06-05(B)(5): Description of Public Information Program**

Duke Energy Ohio has had face-to-face meetings with all property owners and tenants listed on the Landowners of Temporary and Permanent Easements (Attachment 2). Duke Energy Ohio has also met the requirements of O.A.C. 4906-6-07 for this accelerated application and will provide proof of compliance within 7 days of this filing, as required.

**4906-06-05(B)(6): Anticipated Construction Schedule and Proposed In-Service Date**

Construction is anticipated to begin on April 18, 2022. The Project is anticipated to be completed and in-service by October 15, 2022.

**4906-06-05(B)(7): Project Area Map with Aerial Image**

Project area maps with an aerial image at 1:36,000 scale, showing roads and major watercourses, are included as Figure 2 in Attachment 1.

**4906-06-05(B)(8): Property Owner List**

Duke Energy Ohio is currently securing easements from all affected property owners, except for the portions of the Project located on properties owned by Duke Energy Ohio. A list of the affected properties for which Duke Energy Ohio will obtain easements, options, and/or land use agreements is included as Attachment 2.

**4906-06-05(B)(9): Technical Features**

**4906-06-05(B)(9)(a): Operating Characteristics, Required Structures, and Right-of-Way and/or Land Requirements**

The operating characteristics and construction specifications for the proposed new 12-inch and 24-inch diameter pipelines are listed below:

- **Pipe Material:** 12-inch and 24-inch diameter steel pipelines
- **Normal Operating Pressure:** 150 psig
- **Pipe Wall Thickness and Yield Strength:**
  - BC-1: 24-inch OD, 0.500 WT, Y65
  - BC-2: 24-inch by 24-inch by 6-inch OD Tee, 0.365 WT, Y65
  - BC-4: 12-inch OD, 0.375 WT, X52
  - BC-5A & B: 12-inch OD, 0.375 WT, X52
  - BC-7: 12-inch OD, 0.375 WT, X52

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- **Coating Type:** Externally coated with 14-16 Mills of Fusion Bonded Epoxy (FBE). For bored crossings, a powercrete coating will also be applied.
- **Cathodic Protection:** Anodes
- **Structures:** No additional structures will be required for the new pipelines.
- **ROW and/or Land Requirement:** New installations will require a permanent easement, typically 50-ft wide.

**4906-06-05(B)(9)(b): Electric and Magnetic Fields**

This Project involves the construction of natural gas pipelines; therefore, this section is not applicable.

**4906-06-05(B)(9)(c): Estimated Capital Cost of the Project**

The capital cost of this Project is estimated to be \$12,777,000.

**4906-06-05(B)(10): Social and Ecological Impacts of the Project**

**4906-06-05(B)(10)(a): Land Use**

The proposed Project is located in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships in Butler County, Ohio. Current land use in the vicinity of the proposed Project includes agricultural, forested, fallow fields, residential, public, commercial, and industrial. The property owners are listed in Attachment 2. The primary land use at BC-1 consists of industrial infrastructure, owned by Duke Energy Ohio; BC-2 consists of residential areas; BC-4 consists of open fields, existing industrial infrastructure, and forested riparian area along the east property line, owned by Duke Energy Ohio; BC-5A consists of agricultural land to the east and residential areas and utility ROW to the west; BC-5B consists of industrial infrastructure owned by the City of Monroe, CSX Transportation railroad ROW to the northwest, and Butler Technology & Career Development Schools to the southeast; BC-7 consists of industrial infrastructure, Norfolk Southern Corporation railroad ROW, and agricultural lands; and BC-7 Laydown Yard consists of recent industrial infrastructure development and agricultural lands owned by Duke Energy Ohio.

**4906-06-05(B)(10)(b): Agricultural Land**

BC-1, BC-2, and BC-4 do not have agricultural land within their easements. At BC-5, BC-7, and BC-7 Laydown Yard, the proposed easements include lands used for agricultural purposes on three parcels. These properties are currently used for agricultural production as defined by Chapter 929 of the Ohio Revised Code and are part of the current agricultural use value (CAUV) program, according to Butler County Auditor records. These properties are identified as Parcel Identifiers (PID) C1800012000011, C1800004000014, and C1800002000001 (additional information regarding the landowners is included in Attachment 2). Impacts from construction activities on these parcels will be temporary in nature with minimal impacts to agricultural production; operation of the underground pipeline will not impact future agricultural use of the parcels. A portion of the proposed easement at BC-5A crosses CAUV program PID



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C1800012000011, which is located on the east side of Hamilton Middletown Road and is currently used as a soybean field. A portion of the proposed easement at BC-7 crosses CAUV program PID C1800004000014, which is located on the south side of Todhunter Road and is currently used as a soybean field. The BC-7 Laydown Yard is located on CAUV program PID C1800002000001, which was previously used as a soybean field. However, due to recent industrial infrastructure development on this parcel, the proposed BC-7 Laydown Yard is currently located entirely within an actively developing industrial area. Therefore, BC-7 Laydown Yard does not propose further impacts to agricultural production. There are no Agricultural District Lands, as defined by Chapter 929 of the Ohio Revised Code within any of the proposed Project areas.

**4906-06-05(B)(10)(c): Archaeological and Cultural Resources**

Apogee Environmental & Archaeological, Inc., (Apogee) conducted a Phase I cultural resource survey of the proposed Project. Before any fieldwork began, Apogee conducted an online records check referencing the Ohio History Connection (OHC) Online Mapping System via the OHC website to determine previous surveys done within the Project area. A Phase I cultural resources survey was initially conducted by Apogee on December 15-18, 2020, and January 26, 2021, which included intensive pedestrian survey supplemented with systematic shovel testing of 12.7 acres of the Area of Potential Effects (APE). Due to Project design changes, Apogee conducted additional Phase I cultural resources surveys on January 10-14, 2022, and January 26-28, 2022, which included intensive pedestrian survey supplemented with systematic shovel testing of areas that changed since the original OHC submission and concurrence. The APE included temporary and permanent easements being obtained for construction and operation of the pipelines. No cultural resources were identified during the surveys. Due to the limited amount of tree clearing and above ground components associated with the Project activities, there were no indirect impacts noted on any potential historic properties. As a result, no cultural resources eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Properties will be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking. No further archaeological investigations are recommended within the permitted APE.

The initial Phase I cultural resources report was submitted to the OHC on February 22, 2021. An OHC letter dated March 16, 2021, indicated that no further archaeological investigations were warranted and that no further coordination was required unless the scope of work were to change. Due to Project design changes, the additional Phase I cultural resources report was submitted to the OHC on February 8, 2022, for concurrence that no further archaeological investigations are warranted and that no further coordination is required. The OHC response is included as Attachment 3. Copies of the initial Phase I cultural resources survey report and addendum to the initial Phase I cultural resources survey report will be provided to Board Staff.

**906-06-05(B)(10)(d): Local, State, and Federal Governmental Agencies Which Have Requirements That Must be Met by the Project**

The following governmental agencies have requirements that must be met at various times by the Project:

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<b>TABLE 1.</b>	
<b>APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS, AUTHORIZATIONS, OR PERMITS</b>	
<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>DOCUMENTATION/PERMIT/APPROVAL</b>
OPSB	Construction Notice
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Huntington District	Nationwide Permit 12 Preconstruction Notification for Stream/Wetland Crossings  Stream and Wetland Delineation Report
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species Consultation Letters  Bat Acoustic Survey Report
Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)	Environmental Review Requests  Bat Acoustic Survey Report
Ohio History Connection (OHC)	Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act Compliance Letters  Phase I Cultural Resources Reports
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OH EPA)	NOI for General Construction Stormwater Permit  Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3)
Norfolk Southern Corporation	Railroad Crossing Permit
CSX Transportation	Railroad Crossing Permit
Butler County Engineering Department	ROW Permit
Butler County Soil and Water Conservation District	Earthwork/Earth Movement Permit
City of Monroe	Encroachment Permit

**4906-06-05(B)(10)(e): Federal and State Designated Species**

According to the USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) resource list that was pulled for the Project, the following species were identified as occurring or potentially occurring in the Project area: Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*, endangered), northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*, threatened), rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*, endangered), and the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*, candidate).

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In addition to reviewing the IPaC, the ODNR Division of Wildlife's County Distribution List of State Listed Wildlife Species was consulted for state-listed endangered or threatened species as occurring or potentially occurring in Butler County. ODNR's County Distribution List identified the Indiana bat, which was also noted by USFWS. ODNR also identified the following state endangered species:

- Blue corporal (*Ladona deplanata*)
- Cave salamander (*Eurycea lucifuga*)
- Lark sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*)
- Plains clubtail (*Gomphus externus*)
- Tonguetied minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*)
- Upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*)
- Snowy campion (*Silene nivea*)

Additionally, ODNR identified the following state threatened species:

- American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*)
- Black-crowned night-heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)
- Black sandshell (*Ligumia recta*)
- Fawnsfoot (*Truncilla donaciformis*)
- Kirtland's snake (*Clonophis kirtlandii*)
- Least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)
- Sloan's crayfish (*Orconectes sloanii*)
- Midland sedge (*Carex mesochorea*)
- Missouri gooseberry (*Ribes missouriense*)
- Soft-leaved arrow-wood (*Viburnum molle*)
- Timid sedge (*Carex timida*)

Between August 12 and 14, 2020 Encarna, LLC, on behalf of Duke Energy Ohio, conducted a presence/absence acoustic survey at BC-1, BC-4, and BC-7 for federally threatened or endangered bat species, based on a USFWS-approved study plan. A report summarizing the survey and results was submitted to USFWS and ODNR for their concurrence with the findings. USFWS responded to the report in August 2020, agreeing that no Indiana bats were detected, which demonstrated probable absence of Indiana bats in the Project area. Currently, USFWS has no known hibernacula or maternity roost records for northern long-eared bat in the vicinity of the Project. USFWS stated that tree clearing on the Project site at any time of the year is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to Indiana bats and will not result in any unauthorized incidental taking of northern long-eared bats. Finally, the USFWS concluded that, due to the project type, size, and location, they do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species. ODNR determined that two state-listed

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endangered bat species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), were likely present. ODNR recommended no side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the Project area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree, and no cutting of any trees with a diameter at breast height (DBH)  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1 or after March 31, in order to limit impacts to tricolored bats. Additionally, to limit impacts to little brown bats, ODNR recommended no clearing trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities.

Kleinfelder, Inc. (Kleinfelder) submitted initial threatened and endangered species technical assistance letters to USFWS and ODNR on February 16, 2021, requesting concurrence that the Project will not adversely affect state or federally listed species. Correspondence from USFWS on February 24, 2021 (TAILS# 03E15000-2021-TA-0862) indicated that, due to the site type, size, and location, USFWS did not anticipate adverse effects to federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or proposed or designated critical habitat.

On April 27, 2021, a response letter was received from ODNR, which requested a desktop habitat assessment for six state-listed species (tonguetied minnow [*Exoglossum laurae*], American eel [*Anguilla rostrata*], black-crowned night heron [*Nycticorax nycticorax*], least bittern [*Ixobrychus exilis*], lark sparrow [*Chondestes grammacus*], and upland sandpiper [*Bartramia longicauda*]) that may occur in or near the Project area.

In addition, four state-species (rayed bean [*Villosa fabalis*], fawnsfoot [*Truncilla donaciformis*], Kirtland's snake [*Clonophis kirtlandii*], and cave salamander [*Eurycea lucifuga*]) were also identified by ODNR as potentially occurring in or near the Project area. For these particular species, the ODNR response letter indicated that due to the location, the type of habitat within the Project area, and the type of work proposed, the Project is not likely to impact these species. Furthermore, ODNR indicated that the Project was in the range of the Indiana bat, the northern long-eared bat, the little brown bat, and the tricolored bat.

Copies of the initial threatened and endangered species technical assistance letters, which included the acoustic survey report and responses from USFWS and ODNR, are included as Attachment 4.

Due to design changes with the Project, a threatened and endangered species technical assistance modification letter was submitted to USFWS on January 31, 2022, and a threatened and endangered species technical assistance modification letter, with a desktop habitat assessment, of six state-listed species listed in ODNR's April 27, 2021 response letter, were provided to ODNR on February 1, 2022. Responses from USFWS and ODNR are currently pending and will be filed with the Board once received. If it is determined that additional surveys are needed by either USFWS or ODNR, those surveys will be performed. Copies of the threatened and endangered species technical assistance modification letters and desktop habitat assessment submitted to USFWS and ODNR are included as Attachment 5.

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#### **4906-06-05(B)(10)(f): Areas of Ecological Concern**

There are no national and state forests and parks, designated or proposed wilderness areas, wildlife areas, refuges, management areas, or sanctuaries in the LODs under OPSB review. Portions of the BC-5B LOD are located within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 100-year floodplain associated with the Great Miami River. Discussions with the Butler County Floodplain Administrator have indicated that floodplain permitting associated with BC-5B area is under the jurisdiction of the City of Monroe. Discussions with the City of Monroe Floodplain Administrator have indicated that a floodplain permit is not required. All other locations, including the BC-7 Laydown Yard, are outside of FEMA floodplains and do not require a floodplain permit.

Kleinfelder conducted stream and wetland delineations within the cumulative AOIs of BC-1, BC-2 BC-4, BC-5, BC-7 and BC-7 Laydown Yard on September 3 and 10, 2020; October 21, 2020; December 15, 2020; May 10-13, 2021; December 17, 2021; January 13, 2022; and January 20, 2022. Wetland delineations were completed in accordance with the wetland delineation methodology outlined in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual (Environmental Laboratory, 1987) and the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest Region (USACE, 2010). Nomenclature and indicator status of vegetative species was identified using the USACE 2018 and 2020 National Wetland Plant List. Stream data was documented according to Ohio Environmental Protection Agency guidance using the Primary Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index and/or the Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index, as applicable (Ohio EPA 2018). Streams were identified by the presence and strength of several criteria. These parameters were evaluated and the stream type was determined based on the criteria presented. Wetlands and streams were classified according to the Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States (Cowardin, et al., 1979) guidelines. Wetlands were also evaluated using the Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetlands V. 5.0 (Mack 2001).

Kleinfelder delineated 0 streams and 0 wetlands in the BC-1 AOI; 1 stream and 0 wetlands in the BC-2 AOI; 4 streams and 4 wetlands in the BC-4 AOI; 10 streams and 16 wetlands in the BC-5 AOI; 1 stream and 2 wetlands in BC-7 AOI, and 2 wetlands in the BC-7 Laydown Yard AOI. A copy of the Stream & Wetland Delineation Results for the Project is included in the Nationwide Permit 12 Preconstruction Notification, included as Attachment 6.

Impacts to wetlands and waters by construction of the Project areas applicable to this Construction Notice (BC-1, BC-2, BC-4, BC-5A, BC-5B, BC-7 and BC-7 Laydown Yard) include temporary impacts of 285 linear ft to streams; this includes 52 linear ft of impact at BC-4, 184 linear ft of impact at BC-5B, and 49 linear ft of impact at BC-7. There are also temporary impacts of 0.0239 acres to wetlands; this includes 0.0165 acres at BC-4 and 0.0073 acres at BC-5A. Each gas pipeline crossing will consist of excavating a trench approximately 5 ft deep by 5 ft wide across the existing wetland or stream channel. Fill will consist of placing one 12-inch diameter gas pipeline into the trench and stabilizing with compacted native material. Timber mats or a temporary culvert will also be utilized at select locations for equipment tracking and necessary workspace associated with gas pipeline installation activities. Temporary discharges of fill material to wetlands and streams from proposed pipeline installation activities will be completed and restored to original contours as soon as practicable to minimize effects to the aquatic resources.

**CASE NO. 22-99-GA-BNR**

**BUTLER COUNTY PHASE I C210 & LP07 PROJECT**

**BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO**

During the design of the Project, efforts were made to route the Project and plan temporary workspaces to minimize unnecessary temporary impacts and avoid permanent impacts to streams and wetlands. The final design has resulted in temporary stream and wetland impacts, which required a Pre-Construction Notification (PCN), requesting authorization for coverage under Nationwide Permit (NWP) 12 from the USACE. A copy of the NWP 12 PCN submitted to USACE on February 2, 2022 is included as Attachment 6.

**4906-06-05(B)(10)(g): Any Unusual Conditions Resulting in Significant Environmental, Social, Health, or Safety Impacts**

A database and records search for the Project corridors was conducted using the Environmental Data Resources LLC Premium Package (EDR). This review package included a comprehensive review of federal, state, and local data resources to identify potential environmental, social, health, or safety concerns within a 1-mile radius of the areas under OPSB review. These data were reviewed and the potential for subsurface contamination that could have environmental, social, health, or safety impacts was evaluated. The Project area has historically had some industrial land use and, as such, the EDR search returned historic records within and along the Project corridors. There were no areas of concern noted within the LOD of BC-1, BC-2, BC-4, BC-5A, BC-5B, BC-7, or BC-7 Laydown Yard. To limit the potential for adverse impacts if subsurface contaminants are encountered during pipeline construction, Duke Energy Ohio and its contractors will closely monitor soil conditions in areas known to have historical industrial use, will stop work immediately upon the discovery of potentially harmful subsurface materials, and will complete the necessary due diligence to properly handle and dispose of potentially impacted materials. If contaminated soil is encountered, clean backfill will be reintroduced to the trench following pipeline installation.

**4906-06-07: Construction Notice Transmittal and Availability for Public Review**

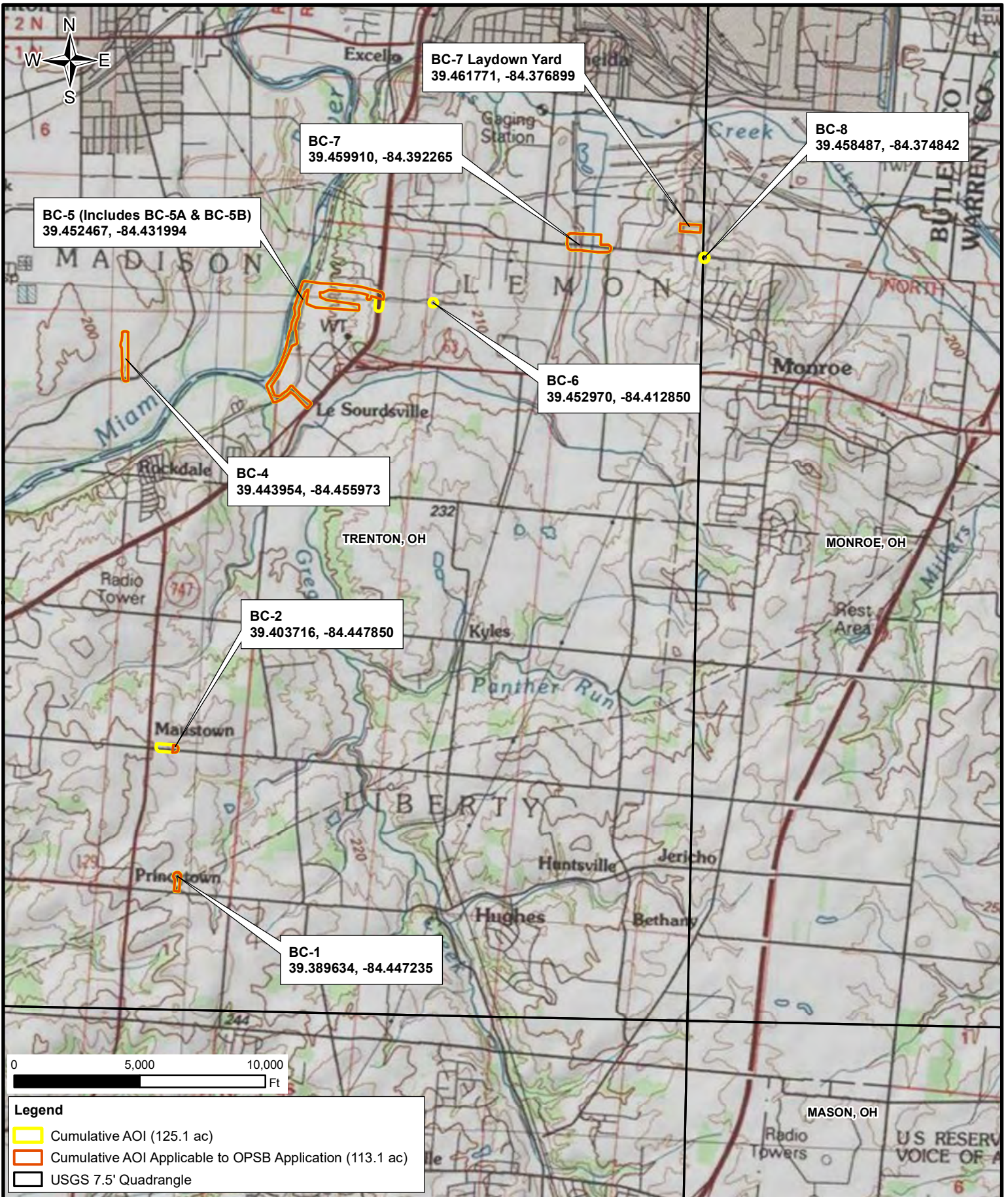
Copies of the Construction Notice have been sent to the appropriate public officials for Butler County; Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships; and MidPointe Library in Monroe. Duke Energy Ohio will maintain on its Project website information as to how to request an electronic or paper copy of the application and will file proof of compliance with this rule within seven days of filing this application.

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**ATTACHMENT 1**

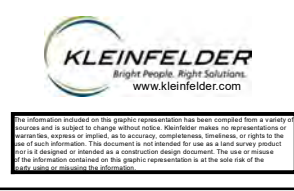
**FIGURES**

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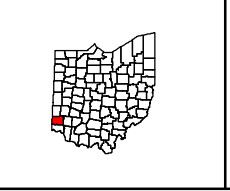
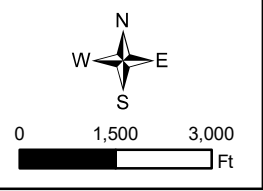


		Monroe & Trenton, OH 7.5' USGS Quadrangle	PROJECT NO. 20211395	Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.	
		Lemon, Liberty & Madison Township, Butler County, Ohio	DRAWN BY: S. Williams	Figure 1 USGS Topographic Map Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project	
		FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI_USGS_Fig1	CHECKED BY: M. Albright		
		The information included on this graphic representation has been compiled from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. Kleinfelder makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information. This document is not intended for use as a land survey product nor is it designed or intended as a construction design document. The use or misuse of the information contained on this graphic representation is at the sole risk of the party using or misusing the information.	Date: 2/4/2022	Version: 1	





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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_24k\_Fig2



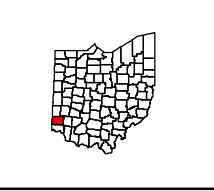
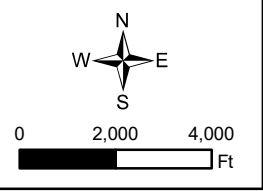
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- Cumulative AOI (125.1 ac)
- Cumulative AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (113.1 ac)
- NHD Stream
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/14/2022      Index Map



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3\_idx



**Butler County  
Ohio**

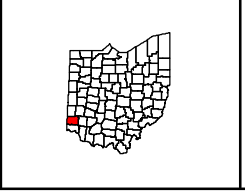
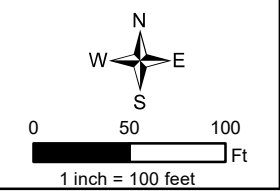
- Cumulative AOI (125.1 ac)
- Cumulative AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (113.1 ac)
- Cumulative LOD (24.1 ac)
- Cumulative LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (22.0 ac)

- Cumulative Pipeline (5,122 ft)
- Cumulative Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (4,032 ft)
- Existing Pipeline
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/10/2022      Index Map



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



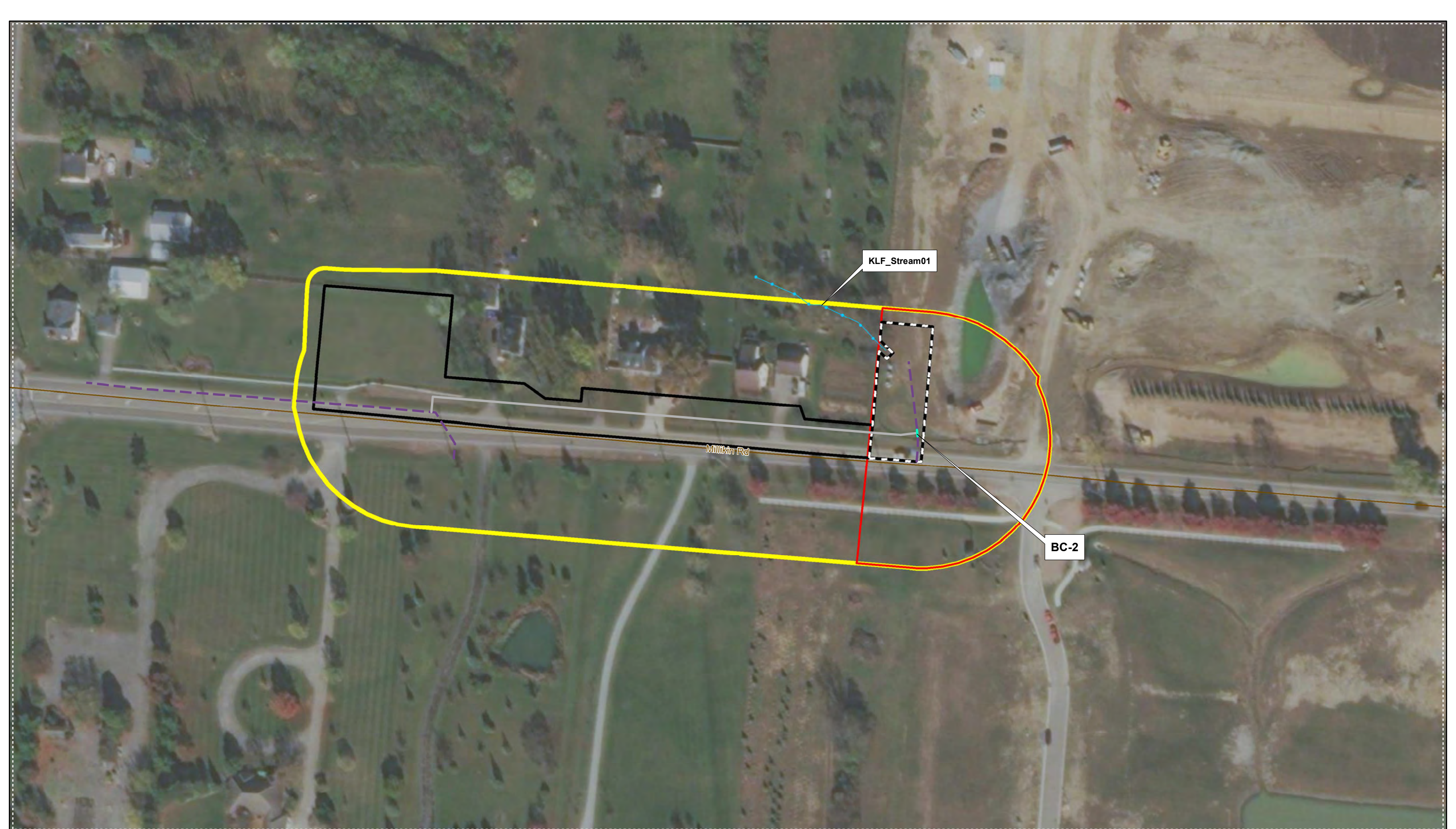
**Butler County Ohio**  
 Aerial Imagery: ESRI

- BC-1 AOI (3.9 ac)
- BC-1 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (3.9 ac)
- BC-1 LOD (0.9 ac)
- BC-1 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (0.9 ac)

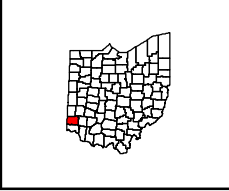
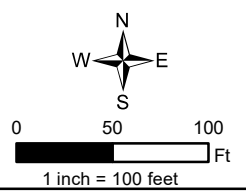
- BC-1 Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (12 ft)
- BC-1 Pipeline (12 ft)
- Existing Pipeline
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- Existing Road
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 1 of 17



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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



**Butler County Ohio**  
 Aerial Imagery: ESRI

- BC-2 AOI (5.7 ac)
- BC-2 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (1.2 ac)
- BC-2 LOD (1.3 ac)
- BC-2 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (0.2 ac)

- BC-2 Pipeline (587 ft)
- BC-2 Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (10 ft)
- Existing Pipeline
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

**Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.**

Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/10/2022 Sheet 2 of 17

KLF\_Stream05

BC-4

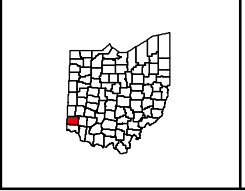
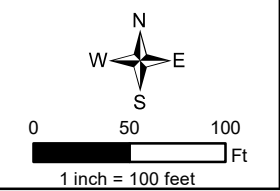
Woodsdale Rd



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CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



**Butler County Ohio**

Aerial Imagery:  
ESRI

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)
- BC-4 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (4.0 ac)

- BC-4 Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (1,850 ft)
- BC-4 Pipeline (1,850 ft)
- Existing Pipeline
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 3  
Watercourse Map  
Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 3 of 17

KLF\_Stream06

KLF\_Stream03

BC-4

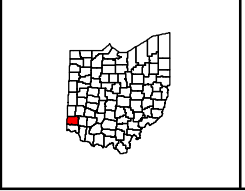
KLF\_Wetland05

KLF\_Stream05

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FILE NAME:	ButlerCountyPhaseI_Aerial_Fig3

0 50 100  
1 inch = 100 feet



**Butler County Ohio**  
Aerial Imagery: ESRI

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)
- BC-4 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (4.0 ac)

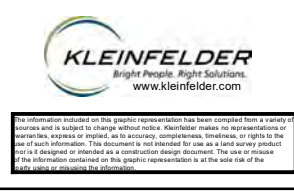
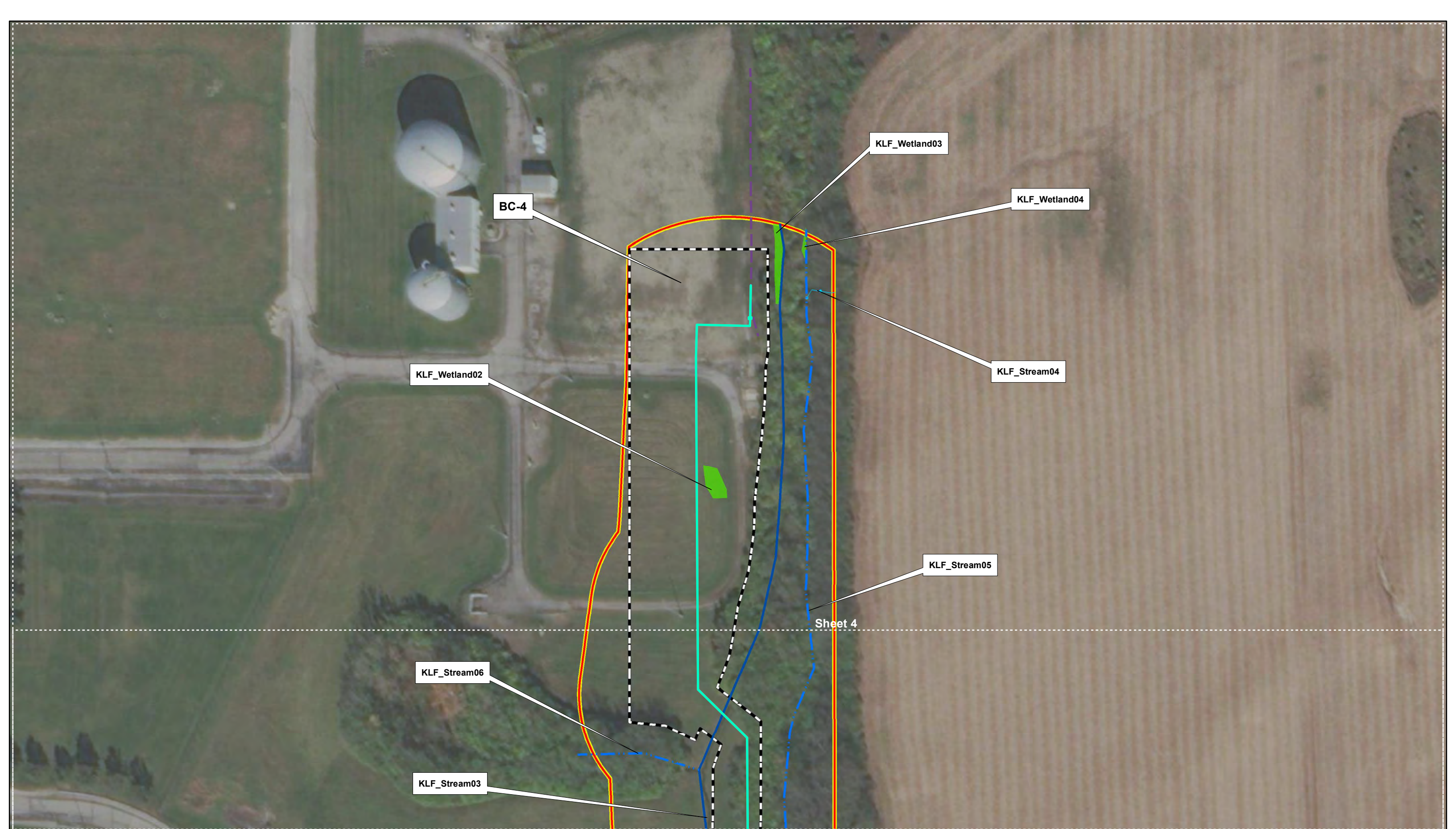
- BC-4 Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (1,850 ft)
- BC-4 Pipeline (1,850 ft)
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream

- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

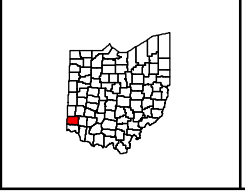
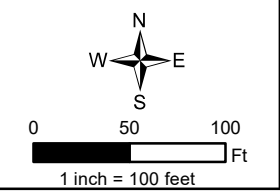
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 3  
Watercourse Map  
Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/10/2022	Sheet 4 of 17
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**Butler County Ohio**  
 Aerial Imagery: ESRI

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)
- BC-4 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (4.0 ac)

- BC-4 Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (1,850 ft)
- BC-4 Pipeline (1,850 ft)
- Existing Pipeline
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

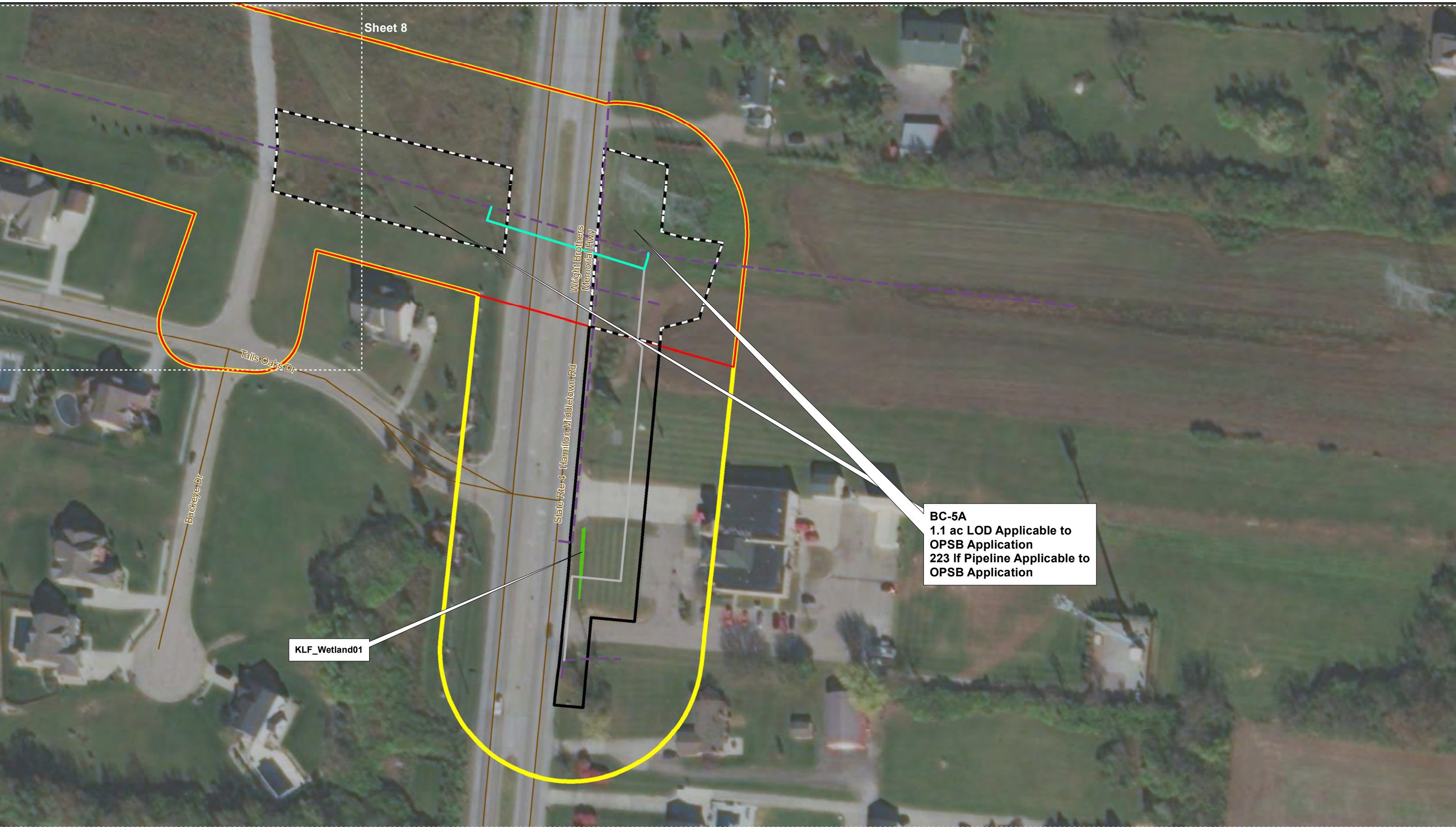
- Perennial Stream
- Existing Road
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland

**Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.**

Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/10/2022 Sheet 5 of 17

Sheet 8



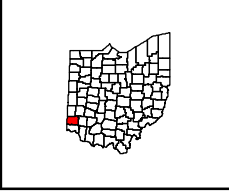
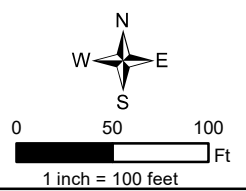
KLF\_Wetland01

**BC-5A**  
 1.1 ac LOD Applicable to  
 OPSB Application  
 223 If Pipeline Applicable to  
 OPSB Application

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**Butler County Ohio**

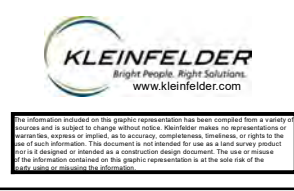
Aerial Imagery:  
 ESRI

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (68.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (9.3 ac)

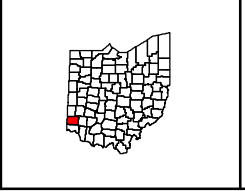
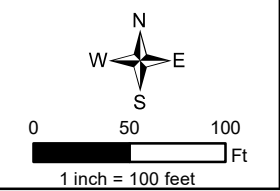
- BC-5 Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (464 ft)
- BC-5 Pipeline (977 ft)
- Existing Pipeline
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- Existing Road
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland





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 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



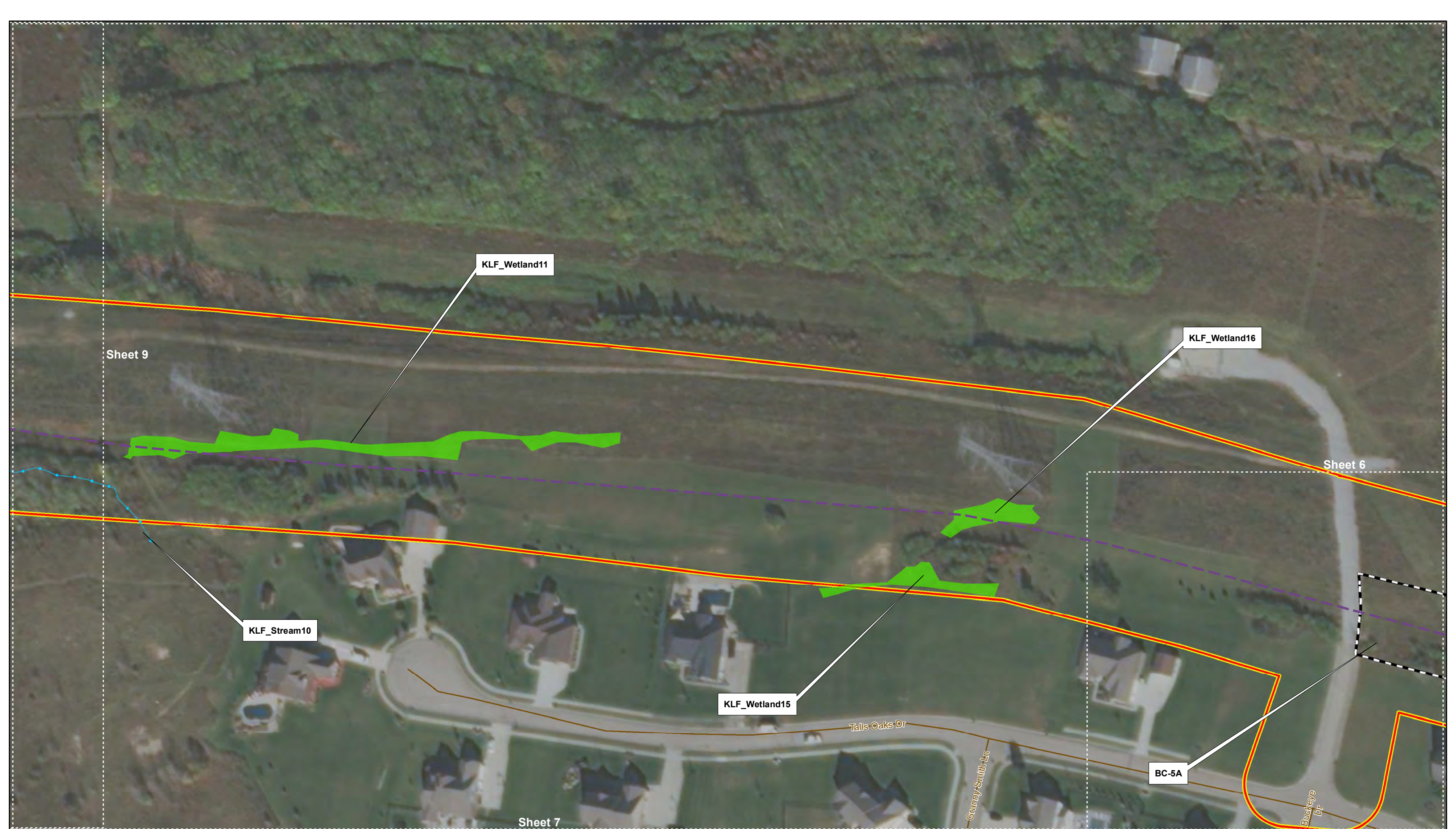
**Butler County  
Ohio**  
  
Aerial Imagery:  
ESRI

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (68.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)

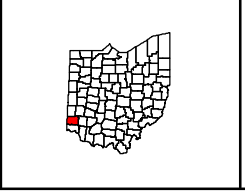
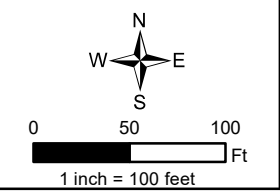
- BC-5 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (9.3 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- - - Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- Existing Road
- PUB Wetland

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 7 of 17



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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
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**Butler County  
Ohio**  
 Aerial Imagery:  
ESRI

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (68.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (9.3 ac)

- Existing Pipeline
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

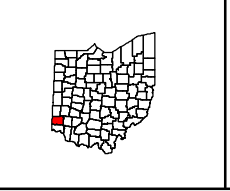
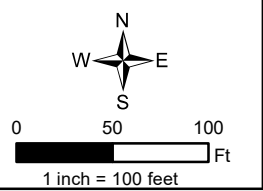
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 8 of 17



**BC-5B**  
 8.2 ac LOD Applicable to  
 OPSB Application  
 241 If Pipeline Applicable to  
 OPSB Application



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 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



**Butler County**  
 Ohio  
 Aerial Imagery:  
 ESRI

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (68.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (9.3 ac)

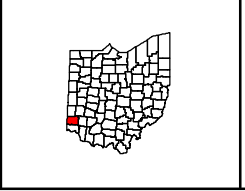
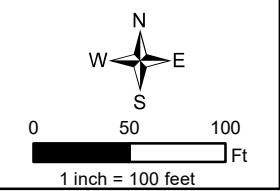
- BC-5 Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (464 ft)
- BC-5 Pipeline (977 ft)
- Existing Pipeline
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 9 of 17



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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



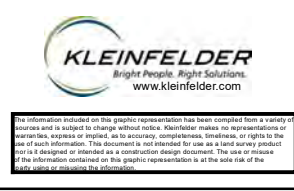
**Butler County Ohio**  
 Aerial Imagery: ESRI

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (68.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)

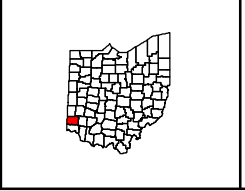
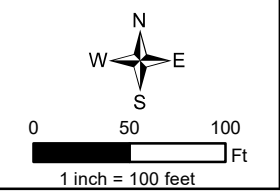
- BC-5 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (9.3 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- Existing Road
- PUB Wetland

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 10 of 17



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CHECKED BY:	M. Albright
FILE NAME:	ButlerCountyPhaseI_Aerial_Fig3



**Butler County Ohio**

Aerial Imagery:  
ESRI

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (68.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)

- BC-5 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (9.3 ac)
- Perennial Stream
- - - Ephemeral Stream
- · · Intermittent Stream

- PUB Wetland
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.	
Figure 3 Watercourse Map Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project	
Date: 2/10/2022	Sheet 11 of 17

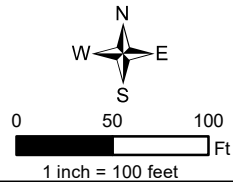
KLF\_Great Miami River

BC-5B

Lakewood Dr



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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



Butler County Ohio

Aerial Imagery: ESRI

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (68.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)

- BC-5 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (9.3 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/10/2022 Sheet 12 of 17

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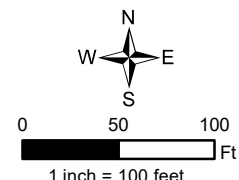
KLF\_Great Miami River

BC-5B

KLF\_Gregory Creek



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



Butler County Ohio

Aerial Imagery: ESRI

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (68.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)

- BC-5 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (9.3 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/10/2022

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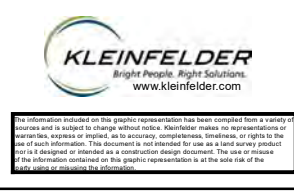
BC-5B

KLF\_Gregory Creek

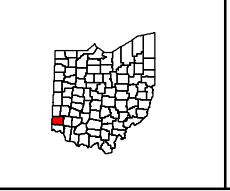
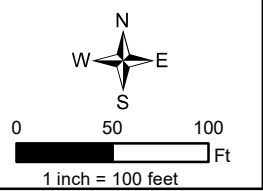
Sheet 13

Canal St

State Rte 4  
Hamilton Middletown Rd  
Wright Brothers Memorial Hwy  
Roden Park Dr



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



**Butler County Ohio**  
 Aerial Imagery: ESRI

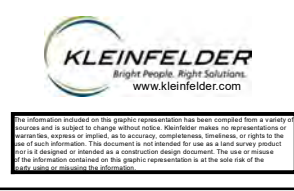
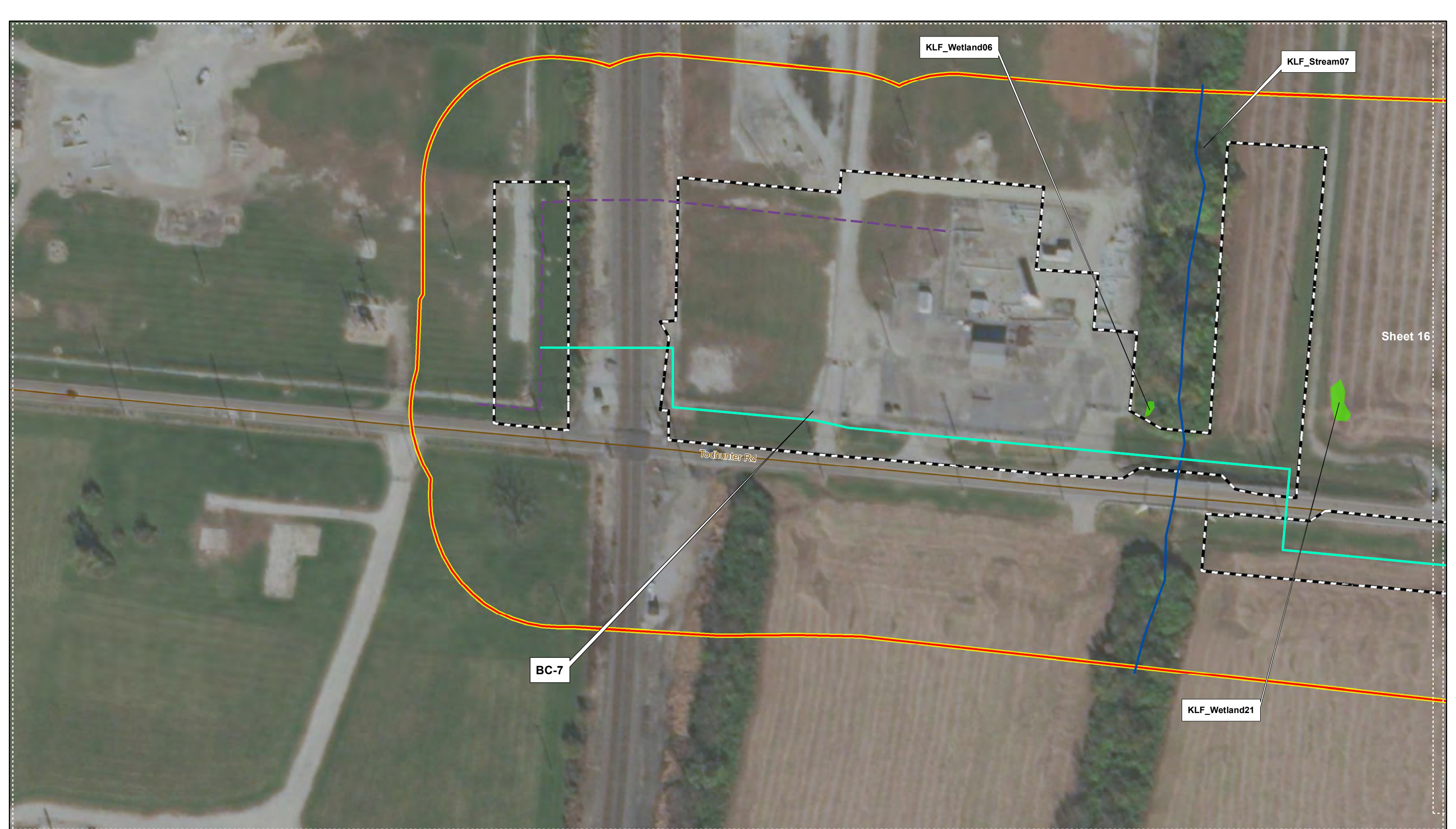
- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 AOI Applicable to OPSP Application (68.0 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)

- BC-5 LOD Applicable to OPSP Application (9.3 ac)
- Perennial Stream
- Ephemeral Stream
- · - · Intermittent Stream

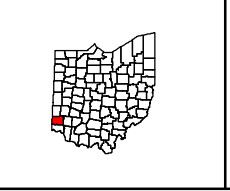
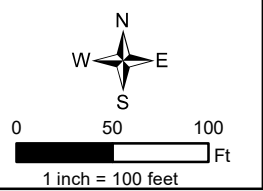
- PUB Wetland
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 14 of 17





PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



**Butler County Ohio**  
 Aerial Imagery: ESRI

- BC-7 AOI (23.1 ac)
- BC-7 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (23.1 ac)
- BC-7 LOD (6.8 ac)
- BC-7 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (6.8 ac)

- BC-7 Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (1,696 ft)
- BC-7 Pipeline (1,696 ft)
- Existing Pipeline
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

**Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.**

Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 15 of 17



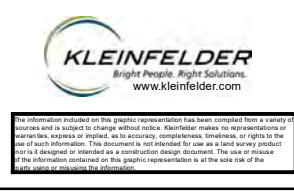
Sheet 15

BC-7

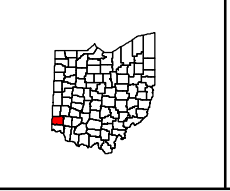
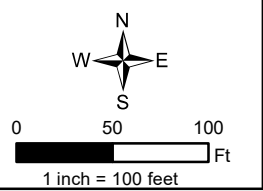
Yankee Rd

Tothunter Rd

Holman Rd - Holman Dr



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



**Butler County Ohio**  
 Aerial Imagery: ESRI

- BC-7 AOI (23.1 ac)
- BC-7 AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (23.1 ac)
- BC-7 LOD (6.8 ac)
- BC-7 LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (6.8 ac)

- BC-7 Pipeline Applicable to OPSB Application (1,696 ft)
- BC-7 Pipeline (1,696 ft)
- Existing Pipeline
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

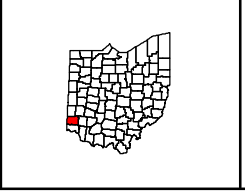
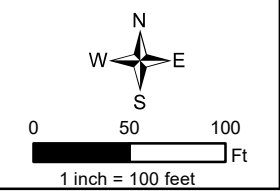
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 3  
 Watercourse Map  
 Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 16 of 17



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Bright People. Right Solutions.  
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PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_Aerial\_Fig3



**Butler County  
Ohio**

Aerial Imagery:  
ESRI

- BC-7 Laydown Yard AOI (5.5 ac)
- BC-7 Laydown Yard AOI Applicable to OPSB Application (5.5 ac)
- BC-7 Laydown (0.9 ac)

- BC-7 Laydown Yard LOD Applicable to OPSB Application (0.9 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- - - Intermittent Stream

- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 3  
Watercourse Map  
Butler County Phase I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/10/2022      Sheet 17 of 17

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**ATTACHMENT 2**

**LANDOWNERS OF PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY EASEMENTS**

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**LANDOWNERS OF PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY EASEMENTS TABLE**

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>PIN</b>	<b>OPINOLD</b>	<b>OWNER</b>	<b>LEGAL1</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>MAILNAM1</b>
BC-1	D2010002000045	D2010002000045	CINCINNATI GAS & ELECTRIC CO	3 2 2 SW COR SE 1/4	5162 PRINCETON RD	DUKE ENERGY OHIO INC
BC-2	D2020313000051	D2020313000051	CARRIAGE MEADOWS LLC	29 ENT CARRIAGE MEADOWS SEC 1	7556 CENTRAL PARKE BLVD	CARRIAGE MEADOWS LLC
BC-4	E2310007000002	E2310007000002	UNION LIGHT HEAT & POWER CO	4 1 17 W SIDE	WOODSDALE RD	DUKE ENERGY KENTUCKY INC
BC-5A	C1800012000011	C1800012000011	TRI STATE IMPROVEMENT CO	2185 ENT	HAMILTON MIDDLETOWN RD	TRI STATE IMPROVEMENT COMPANY
BC-5A	C1800012230004	C1800012230004	TRIMBLE BARBARA TR OF THE WILLIAM H TRIMBLE TRUST	5469 ENT TALL OAKS SUB PH 1	HAMILTON MIDDLETOWN RD	BARBARA TRIMBLE SUCCESSOR TR
BC-5B	C1800012000034	C1800012000034	CITY OF MONROE OHIO	2208 ENT	HAMILTON MIDDLETOWN RD	CITY OF MONROE OHIO
BC-5B	C1800012000035	C1800012000035	CITY OF MONROE OHIO	2209 ENT	HAMILTON MIDDLETOWN RD	CITY OF MONROE OHIO
BC-5B	C1800012000053	C1800012000053	BALTIMORE & OHIO RR CO	3516 ENT	HAMILTON MIDDLETOWN RD	CSX TRANSPORTATION
BC-5B	C1800012000054	C1800012000054	CITY OF MONROE OHIO	3517 ENT	HAMILTON MIDDLETOWN RD	CITY OF MONROE OHIO
BC-5B	C1800012000051	C1800012000051	TRIMBLE WILLIAM H TR ETAL	3514 ENT LESS E PT	HAMILTON MIDDLETOWN RD	WILLIAM H TRIMBLE
BC-5B	C1800016100004	C1800016100004	CITY OF MONROE OHIO	2210 ENT	HAMILTON MIDDLETOWN RD	CITY OF MONROE OHIO
BC-5B	C1800016100005	C1800016100005	CITY OF MONROE OHIO	2211 ENT	250 JERRY COUCH BLVD	CITY OF MONROE OHIO
BC-7	C1800001000007	C1800001000007	TE PRODUCTS PIPELINE COMPANY LLC	720 ENT	TODHUNTER RD	TE PRODUCTS PIPELINE COMPANY LP
BC-7	C1800001000008	C1800001000008	TE PRODUCTS PIPELINE CO LTD PRT	721 ENT LAND & BLDGS	TODHUNTER RD	TE PRODUCTS PIPELINE COMPANY LP
BC-7	C1800004000014	C1800004000014	OAKLAND FARMS INC	1900 ENT	TODHUNTER RD	OAKLAND FARM INC
BC-7 Laydown Yard	C1800002000001	C1800002000001	TRI STATE IMPROVEMENT CO	571 ENT LESS N 650 OF W	598 TODHUNTER RD	TRI STATE IMPROVEMENT COMPANY

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**ATTACHMENT 3**

**OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION RESPONSE**

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In reply refer to:  
2021-BUT-50700

March 16, 2021

Chris Swisher  
Apogee Environmental & Archaeological, Inc.  
143 Wedmore Drive  
Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina 27526

RE: Section 106 Review-Phase I Cultural Resource Survey- Butler CNTY Ph I C210 & LP 07 Project,  
Lemon, Madison, and Liberty Townships, Butler County, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Swisher:

This letter is in response to correspondence received February 19, 2021 regarding the proposed seven (7) planned gas line improvements areas in Lemon, Madison, and Liberty Townships, Butler County, Ohio. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project. The comments of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) are made in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the associated regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.

According to the submitted report, *A Phase I Cultural Resource Survey of the Proposed Butler CNTY PH I C210 & LP07 Project Located near Monroe in Lemon, Madison, and Liberty Townships, Butler County, Ohio* by Apogee Environmental & Archaeological, Inc. (Apogee), no previously recorded archaeological sites, National Register properties, or districts are documented in the direct Area of Potential Effects (APE), as defined by you. The APE, totaling 12.7-acres, is comprised of seven (7) separate areas of various sizes and locales for planned gas line improvements.

The cultural resource survey involved a literature review, visual inspection, and shovel test unit excavations within the defined APEs. The literature review revealed two previously documented archaeological sites, 33BU403 and 33BU404 were located adjacent to one of the proposed APEs. Based on the results of the archaeological field work, no previously undocumented archaeological sites were identified within the APEs. Furthermore, no additional cultural materials were identified within the APE near the aforementioned previously identified sites. After careful review of the survey report, the SHPO concurs with Apogee that no further archaeological investigations are warranted for the seven (7) planned gas line improvement areas, as proposed. No further coordination is required for this project unless the scope of work changes or archaeological remains are discovered during the course of the project. In such a situation, this office should be contacted as required by 36 CFR § 800.13. If you have any questions concerning this review please contact me via email at [sbiehl@ohiohistory.org](mailto:sbiehl@ohiohistory.org). Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephen M. Biehl".

Stephen M. Biehl, Project Reviews Coordinator (archaeology)  
Resource Protection and Review, State Historic Preservation Office

cc: Dr. E. Quent Winterhoff, Apogee Environmental & Archaeological, Inc.

RPR Serial No. 1087464

*"Please be advised that this is a Section 106 decision. This review decision may not extend to other SHPO programs."*

800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, OH 43211-2474 • 614.297.2300 • [ohiohistory.org](http://ohiohistory.org)

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**ATTACHMENT 4**

**INITIAL THREATEANED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE LETTERS TO USFWS AND ODNR (INCLUDES ACOUSTIC  
SURVEY REPORT) & AGENCY RESPONSES**

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## Matthew Albright

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**From:** Ohio, FW3 <ohio@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:42 PM  
**To:** Matthew Albright  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve; Seth Sanders; Jill Vovaris  
**Subject:** Duke Energy, Butler County Phase I, C210 & LP07 Project (Gas Line Improvements)

### External Email

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Services Office  
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104  
Columbus, Ohio 43250  
(614) 416-8993 / Fax (614) 416-8994



TAILS# 03E15000-2021-TA-0862

Dear Mr. Albright,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) 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 effects to threatened and endangered species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA).

Federally Threatened and Endangered Species: Due to the project, type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or proposed or designated critical habitat. If there are any project modifications during the term of this action, or additional information for listed or proposed species or their critical habitat becomes available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, then please contact us for additional project review.

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](mailto:ohio@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrice M. Ashfield". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Patrice M. Ashfield  
Field Office Supervisor



February 16, 2021

Dan Everson  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ohio Field Office  
4625 Morse Rd Suite 104  
Columbus, OH 43230

**Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Assistance Letter**  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07  
Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Dear Mr. Everson:

Kleinfelder, Inc. (Kleinfelder) is submitting this consultation on behalf of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) for the proposed Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project.

Please address any questions or comments regarding this consultation to:

Stephen R. Lane  
Lead Environmental Scientist/Planner - Siting and Licensing Support  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
139 East Fourth Street, Room EM740  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
(513) 287-2379  
steve.lane@duke-energy.com

## 1.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

Duke is proposing gas line improvements including extensions, relocations, and abandonments at 7 different locations in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio (OH) (Figure 1) collectively known as the Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project (Project). Figures 2 and 3 present the Project on an aerial imagery map and natural land cover dataset map, respectively.

The proposed Project includes 7 segments throughout Butler County, OH, which have a cumulative area of investigation (AOI) of approximately 49.7 acres and are individually described below.

- BC-1 has an approximately 3.9-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Liberty Township at 39.389634, -84.447235. Land cover within the AOI consists of industrial use, road right-of-way (ROW), utility ROW, forested and open field areas. Land use is dominated by industrial use.
- BC-2 has an approximately 5.6-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Liberty Township, at 39.4036274, -84.450058. Land cover within the AOI consists of road ROW, utility ROW, and residential areas. Land use is dominated by residential use.



- BC-4 has an approximately 11.3-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Madison Township at 39.443954, -84.455973. Land cover within the AOI consists of industrial use, including two stormwater management facilities, road ROW, forested and open field areas. Land use is dominated by industrial use.
- BC-5 has an approximately 4.9-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Lemon Township, at 39.452186, -84.420642. Land cover within the AOI consists of commercial use, road ROW, utility ROW, residential, and agricultural areas. Land use is dominated by residential, commercial, and agricultural use.
- BC-6 has an approximately 1.9-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Lemon Township, at 39.452907, -84.413036. Land cover within the AOI consists of road ROW, utility ROW, and residential areas. Land use is dominated by residential use.
- BC-7 has an approximately 19.8-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Lemon Township at 39.459418, -84.392426. Land cover within the AOI consists of industrial use, road ROW, utility ROW, and agricultural areas. Land use is dominated by industrial and agricultural use.
- BC-8 has an approximately 2.3-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Lemon Township at 39.458487, -84.374842. Land cover within the AOI consists of industrial use, road ROW, utility ROW, and residential use. Land use is dominated by industrial and residential use.

Kleinfelder biologists conducted stream and wetland investigations on September 3 and 10, 2020, October 21, 2020, and December 15, 2020 to identify streams, wetlands, and potential Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat (NLEB) habitat within a cumulative 49.7-acre AOI. Dominant tree species among the Project locations included Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), red elm (*Ulmus rubra*), and black walnut (*Juglans nigra*). Dominant sapling/shrub species among the Project locations included black willow (*Salix nigra*) and Herder Amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*).

## 2.0 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Project LOD was reviewed through the use of the United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) (<https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>) to generate the initial screening of species listed under the Endangered Species Act that are known or expected to be on or near the Project (Attachment A). The table below summarizes the three species that are federally threatened or endangered and are known or expected to be on or near the Project as identified by IPaC. Kleinfelder understands the information contained within IPaC is routinely updated as new information on species distributions becomes available.



**Table 1: Threatened and Endangered Species Identified by IPaC**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Status
Indiana Bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	There is final critical habitat for this species; however, the location of the critical habitat is not available.	Endangered
Northern Long-Eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	No critical habitat has been designated for this species.	Threatened
Running Buffalo Clover	<i>Trifolium stoloniferum</i>	No critical habitat has been designated for this species.	Endangered

**3.0 POTENTIAL THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT IN THE AOI**

**Indiana Bat and NLEB**

The Indiana bat is identified as an endangered species within Ohio. Summer roosting habitat for the Indiana bat includes living, dead (snags), or decaying trees ≥ 5 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) that contain exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or hollows. The NLEB is identified as a threatened species within Ohio. Summer roosting habitat for the NLEB consists of living, dead, or decaying trees ≥ 3 inches DBH that contain exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or hollows.

In Ohio, presence of the Indiana bat and NLEB is assumed wherever suitable habitat occurs. As a result of this requirement and due to the proposed Project construction schedule, Kleinfelder contracted Encarna, LLC. (Encarna) on behalf of Duke to conduct a summer acoustic survey to determine the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Project during the summer maternity season. Prior to conducting the acoustic survey, a study plan was submitted to the USFWS Ohio Field Office (OHFO) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) on August 9, 2020 proposing an acoustic survey for 4 of the 7 Project segments. The USFWS OHFO and ODNR concurred with the proposal on August 11, 2020 and August 12, 2020, respectively. Between August 12, 2020 and August 14, 2020, acoustic surveys were performed at the BC-1, BC-4, and BC-7. Acoustic surveys were not performed at BC-2 due to land access issues. Data collected from the acoustic surveys were analyzed using the USFWS approved Kaleidoscope Pro Version 5.1.0, which includes a Maximum Likelihood Estimator (MLE) that statistically evaluates the risk of false positives within each individual species result. The MLE generated by Kaleidoscope had confidence in five species: big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), Eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*), and tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). The Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and NLEB (*Myotis septentrionalis*) were found not likely to be present. The results of the acoustic surveys were submitted to USFWS and ODNR on August 24, 2020.



Correspondence from USFWS (TAILS# 03E15000-2020-TA-2218) on August 25, 2020 indicated tree clearing on the project site at any time of the year is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to the Indiana bats and will not result in any unauthorized incidental take of NLEB. In addition, USFWS did not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species due to the Project type, size, and location. Correspondence from ODNR on August 25 and 26, 2020 recommended no side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the Project area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree and no cutting of any trees with a DBH  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> and after March 31<sup>st</sup> in order to limit impacts to tricolored bats. Additionally, in order to limit impacts to little brown bats, ODNR recommended no clearing of trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities. USFWS and ODNR correspondence associated with the acoustic surveys are included as Attachment B.

Due to the recommendation outlined by ODNR, Kleinfelder biologists assessed the onsite habitat within the 49.7-acre AOI to determine suitability for bats (Figures 2 and 3), and recorded GPS coordinates of trees exhibiting  $\geq$ 20-inch DBH. The results of this habitat assessment can be found on Figure 2. The AOI was primarily comprised of agricultural fields, riparian areas, energy infrastructure, fence rows, early successional and secondary growth forests, residential developments, roads, ROWs, and herbaceous openings. The roads, pipeline ROW, and open fields may serve as migratory corridors for both the Indiana bat and NLEB. Forested hillslopes, forested edges, and riparian areas may serve as potential foraging or roosting habitat for both the Indiana bat and the NLEB.

In winter, both the Indiana bat and NLEB hibernate in caves and abandoned mines. A desktop review was conducted within a 1/4-mile radius of the proposed Project using topographic and aerial maps and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Ohio Mines Viewer, which revealed no caves or portals within the AOI. In addition, site visits by Kleinfelder did not identify the presence of caves or portals within the AOI.

### **Running Buffalo Clover**

Running Buffalo Clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*) previously existed in 9 states; however, the current range consists of dispersed fragments likely due to habitat loss or modification. Running buffalo clover occurs in mesic habitats of partial to filtered sunlight, where there is a prolonged pattern of moderate periodic disturbance, such as mowing, trampling, or grazing. It is most often found in regions underlain with limestone or other calcareous bedrock. The primary threat to running buffalo clover is habitat alteration. Factors that contribute to this threat include natural forest succession and subsequent canopy closure, competition by invasive plant species, permanent habitat loss through development or road construction, and may include the elimination of bison and other large herbivores.

According to guidance provided by the USFWS in 2019, the proposed Project is not located in a township or county designated by the USFWS that "may effect" the listed species.



#### 4.0 PROPOSED IMPACTS

The Project proposes an overall LOD of approximately 12.7-acres. Of the 12.7-acres, approximately 1.9 acres are forested, and 10.8-acres are open agricultural fields, scrub shrub habitat, residential property, and existing infrastructure (based on site observations and a GIS review of aerial photography, see Table 2). Photographs providing a representation of habitat are included in Attachment C.

#### Potential Habitat Impacts

Duke proposes to conduct tree clearing of 1.9-acres of suitable forested habitat. Based on site observations, the trees present within the LOD may provide marginal Indiana bat and NLEB roosting habitat, based on the lack of suitable characteristics including loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities. The open fields and existing roads may provide migratory and foraging habitat.

**Table 2: Potential Impacted Habitat in the LOD, AOI and ¼ Mile Buffer**

Cumulative									
Study Area	Total Area (Acres)	Forested Area		Non-Forested Area		Tree Clearing		Forested Area Remaining	
		Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%
<b>LOD</b>	12.7	1.9	14.6%	10.8	85.4%	1.9	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
<b>AOI</b>	49.7	7.5	15.1%	42.2	84.9%		24.8%	5.6	75.2%
<b>Buffer</b>	1279.2	186.5	14.6%	1092.7	85.4%		1.0%	184.6	99.0%

Individual Segments										
Segment	Study Area	Total Area (Acres)	Forested Area		Non-Forested Area		Tree Clearing		Forested Area Remaining	
			Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%
<b>BC-1</b>	<b>LOD</b>	0.9	0.1	11.4%	0.8	88.6%	0.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	<b>AOI</b>	3.9	1.2	29.7%	2.7	70.3%		8.6%	1.9	91.4%
	<b>Buffer</b>	175.7	16.0	9.1%	159.7	90.9%		0.6%	15.89	99.4%
<b>BC-2</b>	<b>LOD</b>	1.3	0.3	22.3%	1.0	77.7%	0.3	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	<b>AOI</b>	5.6	0.4	6.4%	5.2	93.6%		84.0%	0.1	16.0%
	<b>Buffer</b>	184.6	20.6	11.2%	164.0	88.8%		1.5%	20.3	98.5%
<b>BC-4</b>	<b>LOD</b>	3.9	1.1	27.7%	2.8	72.3%	1.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	<b>AOI</b>	11.3	4.8	42.7%	6.5	57.3%		22.1%	3.8	77.9%
	<b>Buffer</b>	249.9	32.1	12.8%	217.8	87.2%		3.3%	31.0	96.7%
<b>BC-5</b>	<b>LOD</b>	0.9	0.1	11.7%	0.8	88.3%	0.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	<b>AOI</b>	4.9	0.1	2.3%	4.8	97.7%		96.2%	0.0	3.8%
	<b>Buffer</b>	172.3	40.7	23.6%	131.6	76.4%		0.3%	40.6	99.7%



Individual Segments										
Segment	Study Area	Total Area (Acres)	Forested Area		Non-Forested Area		Tree Clearing		Forested Area Remaining	
			Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%
BC-6	LOD	0.1	0.0	0.0%	0.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	1.9	0.0	0.0%	1.9	100.0%		0.0%	0.0	0.0%
	Buffer	133.9	14.7	11.0%	119.3	89.1%		0.0%	14.7	100.0%
BC-7	LOD	5.4	0.2	4.3%	5.2	95.7%	0.2	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	19.8	1.4	7.0%	18.4	93.0%		16.5%	1.2	83.5%
	Buffer	241.3	22.3	9.2%	219.0	90.8%		1.0%	22.1	99.0%
BC-8	LOD	0.2	0.1	21.0%	0.2	79.0%	0.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	2.3	0.1	2.2%	2.3	97.8%		91.8%	0.0	8.2%
	Buffer	140.4	39.1	27.9%	101.3	72.2%		0.1%	39.1	99.9%

## 5.0 AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION

Duke has designed the proposed Project to minimize and avoid encroachments to aquatic resources, sensitive species, and forested habitat (Figure 2). Several options for design were evaluated with final plans representing the best possible design for the Project, which minimizes impacts to sensitive species and critical habitat. No impacts to aquatic resources, which may serve as habitat for endangered aquatic species are proposed. Duke proposes to conduct tree clearing of 1.9-acrs of forested habitat. After proposed tree removal has occurred, forested area within the 1/4-mile buffer will remain 99.0% intact (184.6 forested acres remaining). The initial 49.7-acre AOI has been minimized to a 12.7-acre LOD and the amount of forest clearing within the LOD (1.9-acres) has been reduced to the least amount practical to still allow for construction.





## 6.0 SUMMARY

Duke proposes to conduct tree clearing of 1.9-acres of forested habitat. It is Kleinfelder's professional opinion that the Project will not likely adversely affect the running buffalo clover, Indiana bat, or NLEB.

Duke requests concurrence that the site will not adversely affect the running buffalo clover, Indiana bat, NLEB, or other state or federally listed species.

Sincerely,

Kleinfelder, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew J. Albright".

Matthew J. Albright  
Project Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jill M. Vovaris".

Jill M. Vovaris  
Senior Professional

c: John Kessler, Ohio Division of Natural Resources

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Vicinity Map

Figure 2 - Aerial Imagery Map

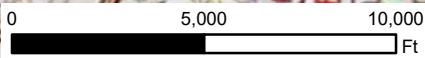
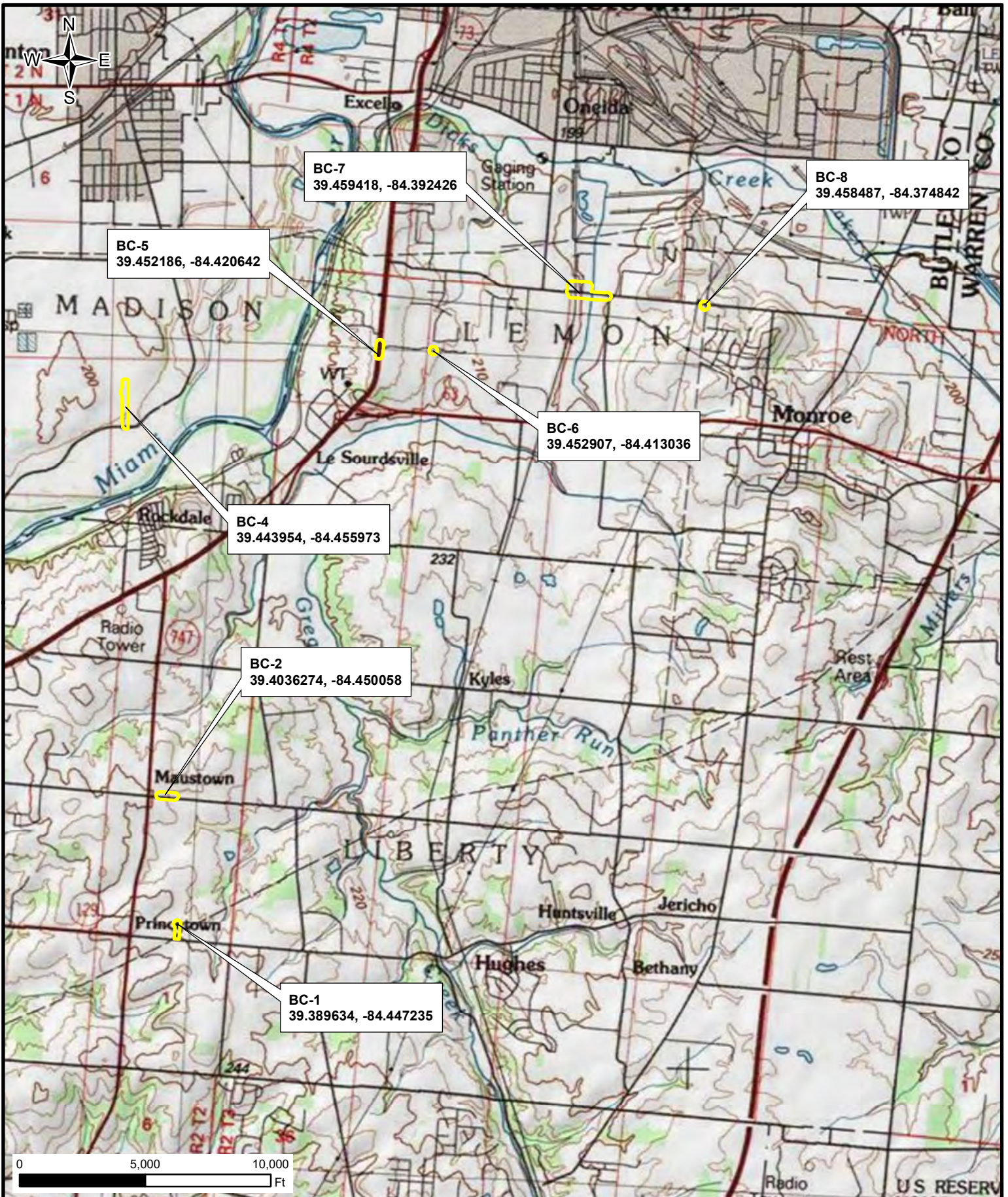
Figure 3 - National Land Cover Dataset 1/4 Mile Buffer Map

Attachment A - Information for Planning and Consultation

Attachment B – Acoustic Survey and USFWS & ODNR Correspondence

Attachment C – Potential Habitat Photographs

**FIGURE 1  
VICINITY MAP**



Monroe & Trenton, OH  
7.5' USGS Quadrangle

Lemon, Liberty &  
Monroe Township,  
Butler County,  
Ohio

PROJECT NO. 20211395

DRAWN BY: S. Williams

CHECKED BY: M. Albright

FILE NAME:  
ButlerCountyPhase1\_RTE\_Fig1

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

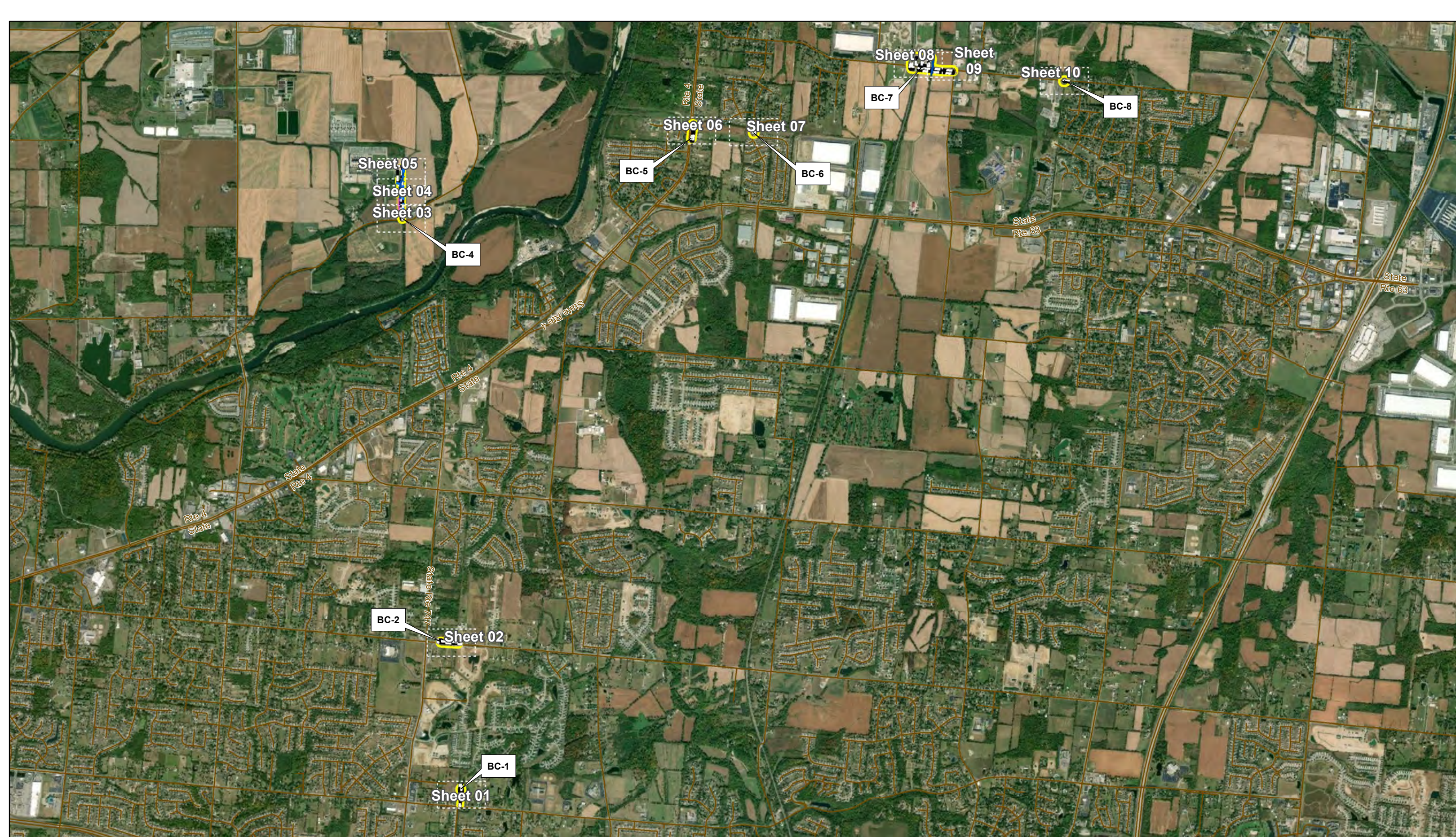
Figure 1  
Vicinity Map  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/12/2021

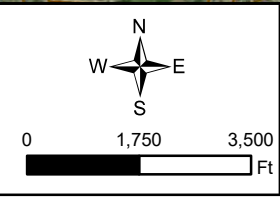
Version: 1

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**FIGURE 2  
AERIAL IMAGERY MAP**



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2\_1dx



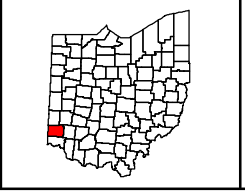
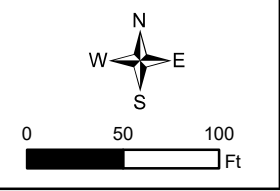
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- Cumulative AOI (49.7 ac)
- Cumulative LOD (12.7 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/12/2021      Index Map



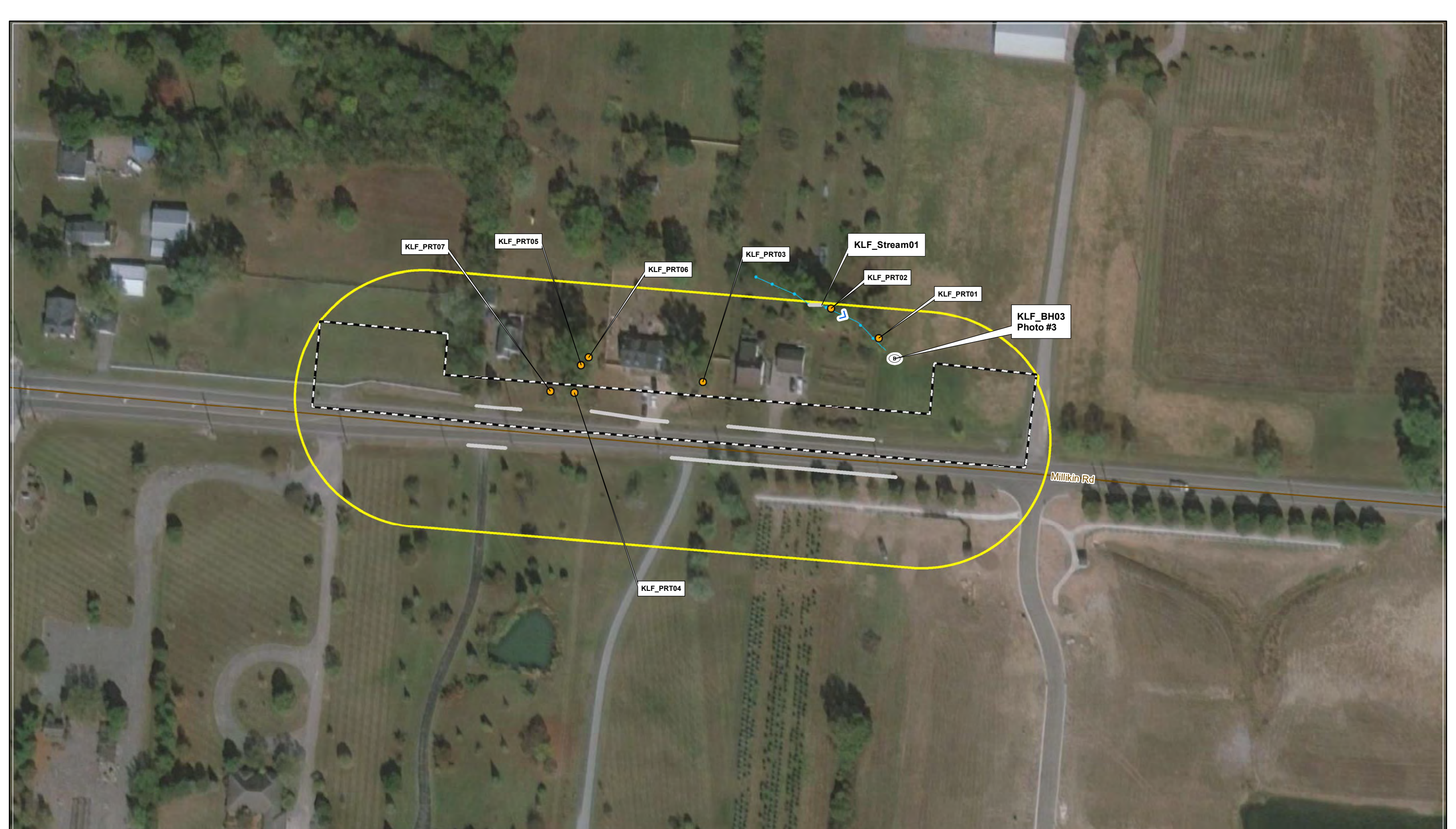
PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



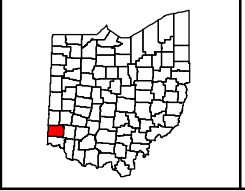
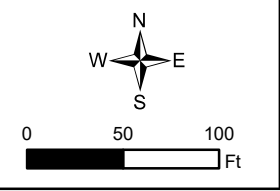
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-1 AOI (3.9 ac)
- BC-1 LOD (0.9 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↗ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/12/2021      Sheet 1 of 10



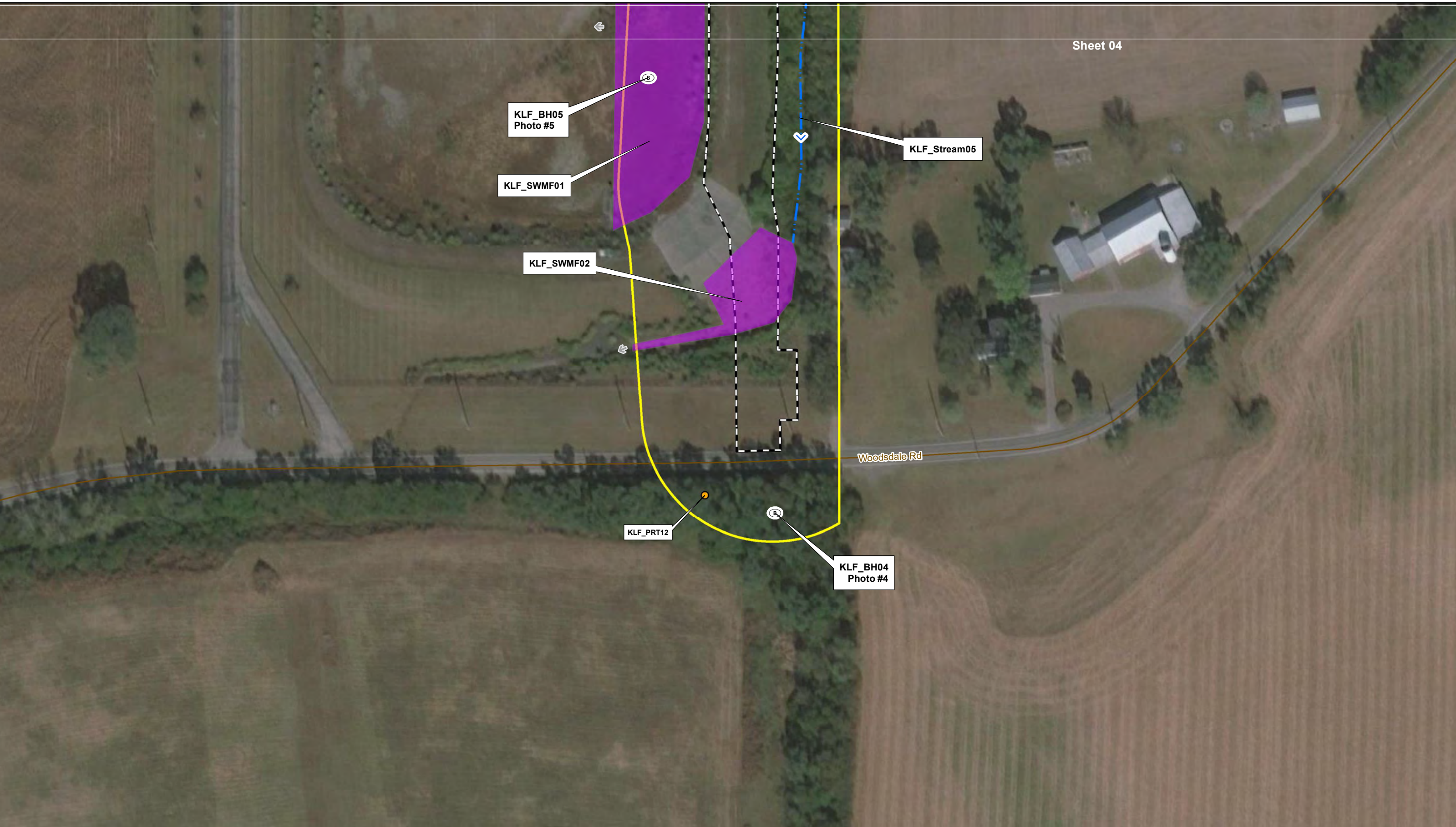
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 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
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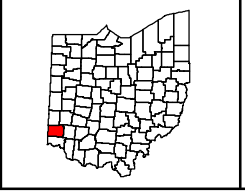
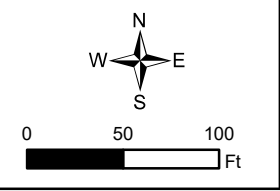
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-2 AOI (5.6 ac)
- BC-2 LOD (1.3 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↗ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/12/2021      Sheet 2 of 10



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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- Bridge
- Stormwater Management Facility
- BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- B Bat Habitat Location
- Intermittent Stream
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Perennial Stream
- Existing Road
- Existing Culvert
- PEM Wetland
- ↘ Stream Flow
- ↘ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 2  
Aerial Imagery Map  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/12/2021 Sheet 3 of 10



Sheet 05

Sheet 03

KLF\_Stream06

KLF\_Stream03

KLF\_Stream05

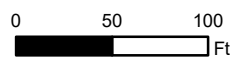
KLF\_BH06  
Photo #6

KLF\_Wetland05

KLF\_SWMF01



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



Butler County  
Ohio

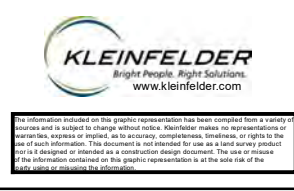
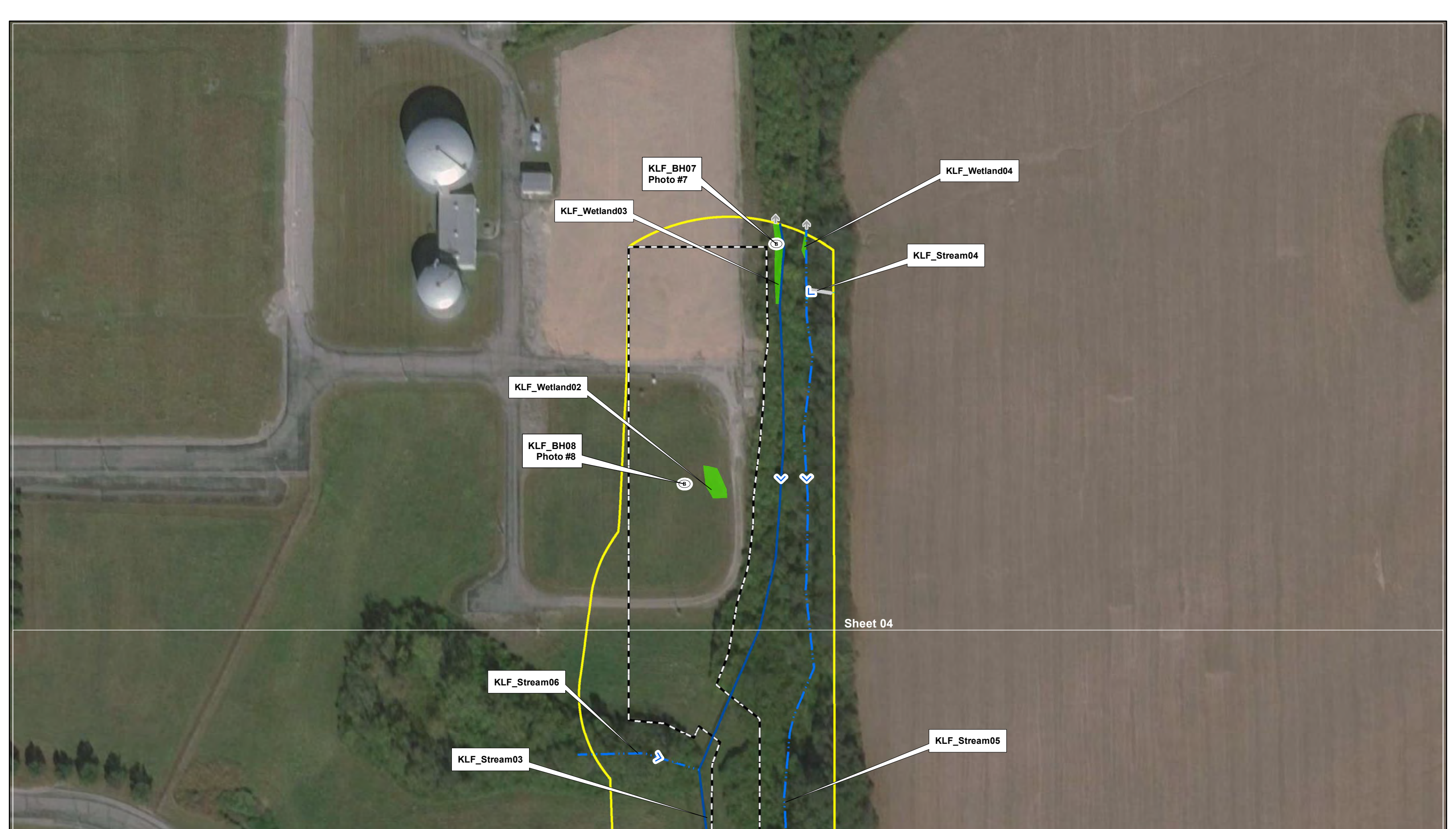
- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- Bridge
- Stormwater Management Facility
- Ephemeral Stream
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Intermittent Stream
- Existing Road
- Bat Habitat Location
- Perennial Stream
- Stream Flow
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- PEM Wetland
- Existing Culvert
- Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

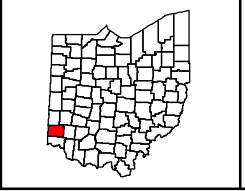
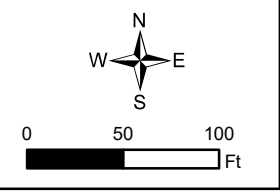
Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/12/2021

Sheet 4 of 10



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



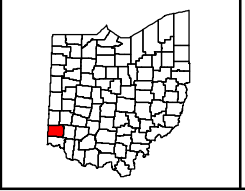
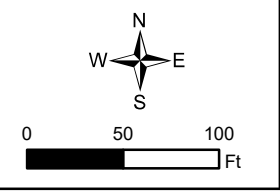
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)
- B Bat Habitat Location
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- - - Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↘ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/12/2021      Sheet 5 of 10



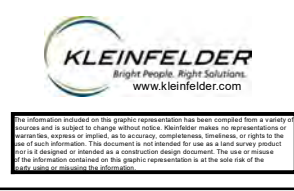
PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



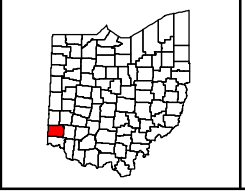
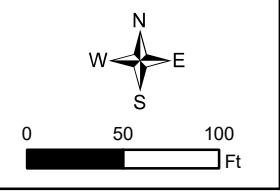
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-5 AOI (4.9 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (0.9 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- PEM Wetland
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- · - · - Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↗ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/12/2021      Sheet 6 of 10



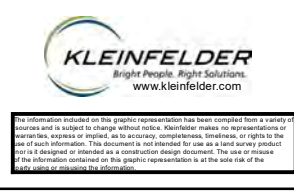
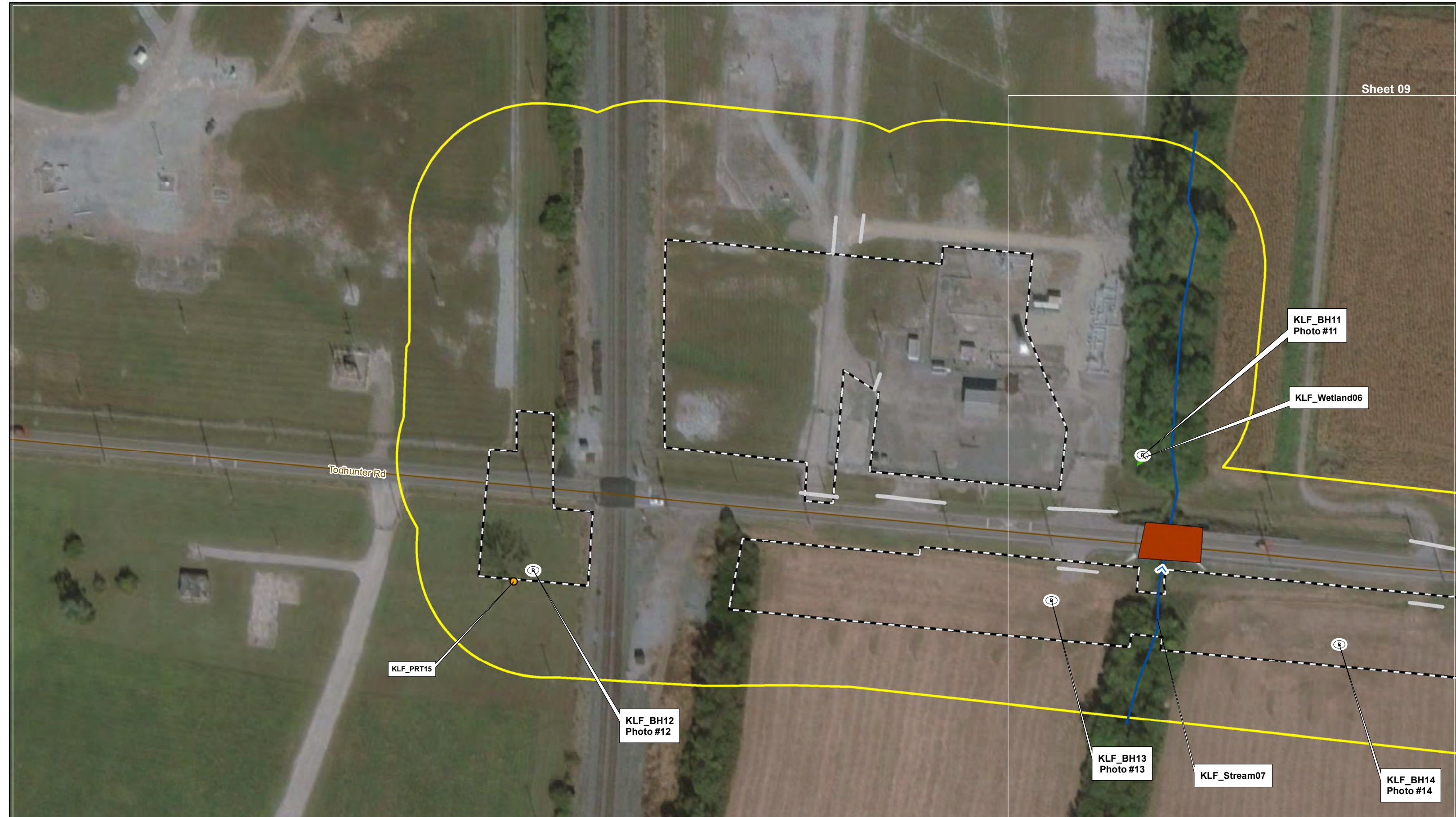
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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
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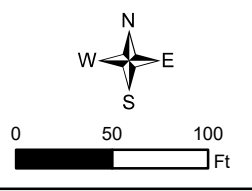
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-6 AOI (1.9 ac)
- BC-6 LOD (0.1 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↗ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/12/2021      Sheet 7 of 10



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-7 AOI (19.8 ac)
- BC-7 LOD (5.4 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↗ Stream Flow
- ↗ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/12/2021      Sheet 8 of 10

Sheet 08

KLF\_BH11  
Photo #11

KLF\_Wetland06

KLF\_PRT14

KLF\_BH15  
Photo #15

KLF\_SWMF03

KLF\_BH13  
Photo #13

KLF\_Stream07

KLF\_BH14  
Photo #14

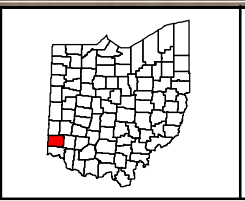
Tochunter Rd

Yankee Rd

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 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2

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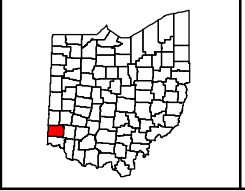
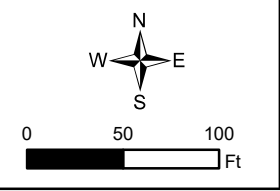
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-7 AOI (19.8 ac)
- Bridge
- Stormwater Management Facility
- BC-7 LOD (5.4 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- B Bat Habitat Location
- Intermittent Stream
- Existing Road
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Perennial Stream
- Stream Flow
- Existing Culvert
- PEM Wetland
- ↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/12/2021      Sheet 9 of 10



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
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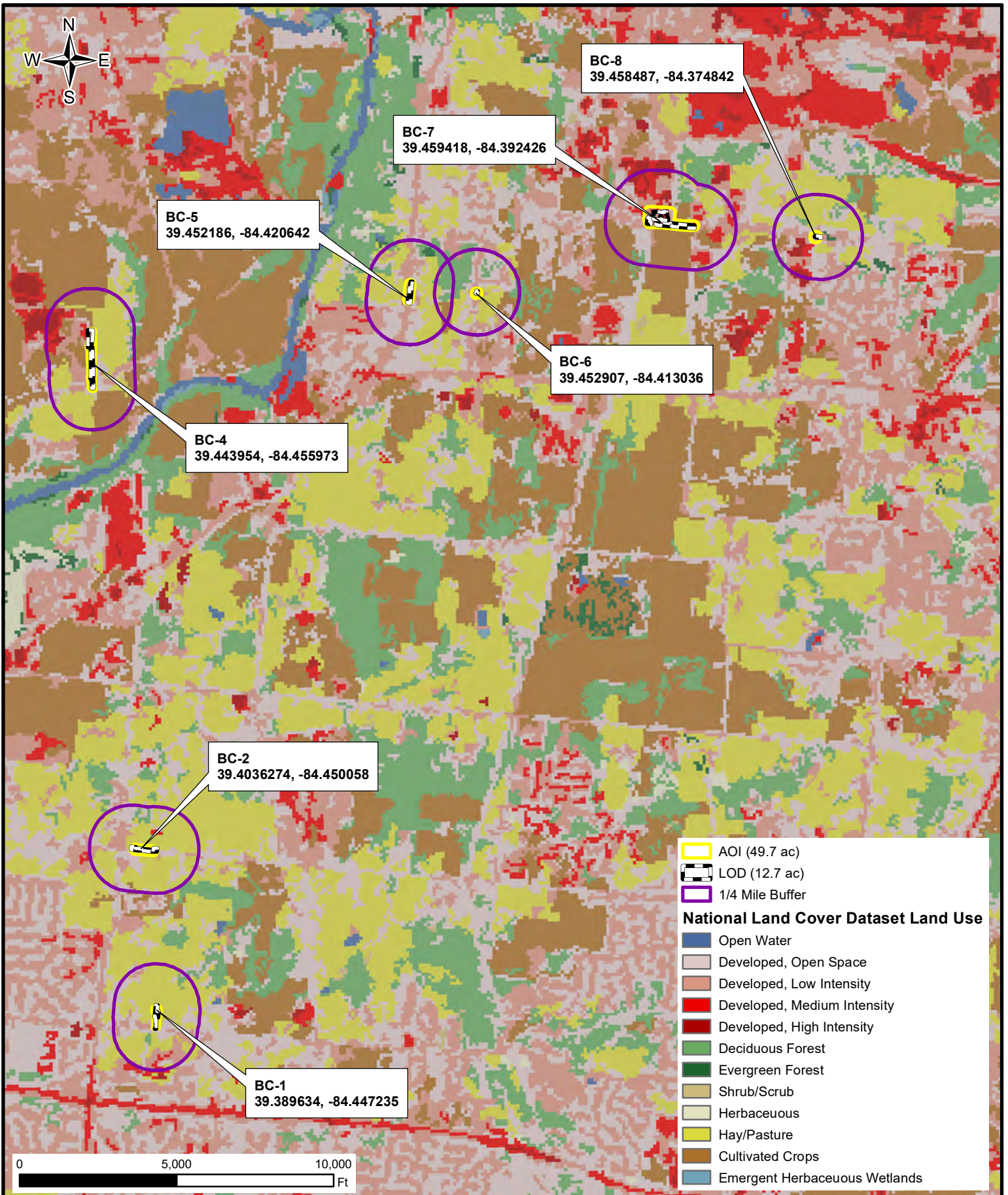
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-8 AOI (2.3 ac)
- BC-8 LOD (0.2 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ^ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/12/2021      Sheet 10 of 10

**FIGURE 3**  
**NATIONAL LAND COVER DATASET 1/4 MILE BUFFER MAP**





BC-5  
39.452186, -84.420642

BC-7  
39.459418, -84.392426

BC-8  
39.458487, -84.374842

BC-6  
39.452907, -84.413036

BC-4  
39.443954, -84.455973

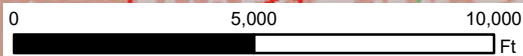
BC-2  
39.4036274, -84.450058

BC-1  
39.389634, -84.447235

AOI (49.7 ac)  
 LOD (12.7 ac)  
 1/4 Mile Buffer

**National Land Cover Dataset Land Use**

- Open Water
- Developed, Open Space
- Developed, Low Intensity
- Developed, Medium Intensity
- Developed, High Intensity
- Deciduous Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Shrub/Scrub
- Herbaceous
- Hay/Pasture
- Cultivated Crops
- Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands



**ATTACHMENT A**  
**INFORMATION FOR PLANNING AND CONSULTATION**

# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

## Location

Butler County, Ohio



## Local office

Ohio Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (614) 416-8993

📅 (614) 416-8994

4625 Morse Road, Suite 104  
Columbus, OH 43230-8355

# Endangered species

**This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.**

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Mammals

NAME

STATUS

Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis*

Endangered

Wherever found

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949>

Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis*

Threatened

Wherever found

This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Incidental take of the northern long-eared bat is not prohibited at this location. Federal action agencies may conclude consultation using the streamlined process described at <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/s7.html>

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045>

## Flowering Plants

NAME

STATUS

Running Buffalo Clover *Trifolium stoloniferum*

Endangered

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2529>

## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME

BREEDING SEASON (IF A BREEDING SEASON IS INDICATED FOR A BIRD ON YOUR LIST, THE BIRD MAY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA SOMETIME WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED, WHICH IS A VERY LIBERAL ESTIMATE OF THE DATES INSIDE WHICH THE BIRD BREEDS ACROSS ITS ENTIRE RANGE. "BREEDS ELSEWHERE" INDICATES THAT THE BIRD DOES NOT LIKELY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA.)

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626>

Henslow's Sparrow *Ammodramus henslowii*

Breeds May 1 to Aug 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941>

Prothonotary Warbler *Protonotaria citrea*

Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Red-headed Woodpecker *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*

Breeds May 10 to Sep 10

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Rusty Blackbird *Euphagus carolinus*

Breeds elsewhere

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina*

Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

## Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

### Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .

3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

#### **Breeding Season (■)**

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

#### **Survey Effort (|)**

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

#### **No Data (—)**

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

#### **Survey Timeframe**

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

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**Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

**What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

**What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**



The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

### **How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

### **What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?**

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

### **Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects**

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

### **What if I have eagles on my list?**

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

### **Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report**

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

## Facilities

### National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

### Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

### Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

WETLAND INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the [NWI map](#) to view wetlands at this location.

### **Data limitations**

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

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

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

### **Data exclusions**

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

### **Data precautions**

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

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**ACOUSTIC SURVEY AND USFWS & ODNR CORRESPONDENCE**

## Spencer Chronister

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**From:** Ohio, FW3 <ohio@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 11:54 AM  
**To:** Jill Vovaris  
**Cc:** Boyer, Angela; nathan.reardon@dnr.state.oh.us; Parsons, Kate; sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us; Hazelton, Erin; Lane, Steve; Seth Sanders; Matthew Albright  
**Subject:** Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Survey #20-042

### External Email.

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



TAILS# 03E15000-2020-TA-2218

Dear Ms. Vovaris,

We have received your summer bat survey report for the subject project. The survey was conducted following current U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) guidelines. No Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*) were detected, demonstrating probable absence of Indiana bats in the project area. Currently, the Service has no known hibernacula or maternity roost records for northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) in the vicinity of the project. Therefore, the 4(d) rule for the northern long-eared bat could be applied (see: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/index.html>). Tree clearing on the project site at any time of the year is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to Indiana bats and will not result in any unauthorized incidental take of northern long-eared bats. Negative Indiana bat summer surveys are valid for five years. Therefore, **no tree clearing should occur on the site after March 31, 2025** without further coordination with this office.

If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), no tree clearing should occur on any portion of the project area until consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, between the Service and the federal action agency, is completed. We recommend that 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.

Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species. Should the project design change, or during the term of this action, 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, consultation with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document. If project plans change, if portions of the proposed project were not evaluated, or if additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat becomes available, it is our recommendation that you reinitiate coordination with this office. We recommend that the project be coordinated with the Ohio

Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact Mike Pettegrew, Acting Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at [mike.pettegrew@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:mike.pettegrew@dnr.state.oh.us).

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

Sincerely,

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

Patrice M. Ashfield  
Field Office Supervisor

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

## Spencer Chronister

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**From:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2020 5:18 PM  
**To:** Matthew Albright  
**Subject:** FW: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

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**From:** Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us <Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 26, 2020 1:54 PM  
**To:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>; Susan\_Zimmermann@fws.gov; angela\_boyer@fws.gov  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com>; Seth Sanders <SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

### External Email.

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ODNR-DOW recommends no side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the project area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree and no cutting of any trees with a DBH  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1 in order to limit impacts to tricolored bats. Additionally, in order to limit impacts to little brown bats, ODNR-DOW recommends no clearing trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sarah

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**From:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 9:51 AM  
**To:** Stankavich, Sarah <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>; [Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov); [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov);  
Hazelton, Erin <[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)>  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

Thanks for the quick response Sarah.

Please provide ODNR recommendations for roost season cutting related to the little brown and the tri-colored species.

Thanks.

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

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**From:** [Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us) <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 8:40 AM  
**To:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>; [Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov); [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov);  
[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

**External Email.**

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Hi Jill –

We received the reports for the Duke Energy Maineville to Morrow and the Butler Phase I projects. Acoustic surveys for both of these sites established the likely presence of two state endangered bat species, *Myotis lucifugus* and *Perimyotis subflavus*. Therefore, DOW recommends that no cutting take place at these sites prior to Oct 1. If tree cutting is necessary before this date, we can provide recommendations for limited cutting upon request.

Sarah



**Sarah Stankavich**  
Wildlife Technician (bats/pollinators)  
ODNR Division of Wildlife  
2045 Morse Road  
Columbus, OH 43229  
Phone: 614-265-6764  
Email: [sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)

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*Please consider the environment before printing this email.*

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**From:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 5:49 PM  
**To:** [Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov); Stankavich, Sarah <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>; [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov);  
[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

Hello,

Please see below for the links to the Duke Energy Maineville to Morrow and the Butler Phase I Acoustic Survey Reports.

Please contact me with any questions.



Thanks,  
Jill

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

## Files Available on the Kleinfelder File Transfer Site

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From: **Matthew Albright**  
Workspace: **Albright\_Matthew**  
Date: **08/24/20 at 12:41 pm PDT**

1. **2020.009 - Butler County Integrity Upgrades Acoustic Survey Report-FINAL.pdf** (58.44 MB) in Albright\_Matthew  
<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/p2131zdxypn3ngg/pmurfukj7bstkep>
2. **2020.008 - Maineville Morrow Loop Line Acoustic Survey Report-FINAL.pdf** (55.34 MB) in Albright\_Matthew  
<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/p68ykfqrzglrvsn/sq8lf4x39iuf03g>

These links will expire on **09/03/20 at 12:41 pm PDT**

This email was sent to the following recipients: **Matthew Albright**, [malbright@kleinfelder.com](mailto:malbright@kleinfelder.com)

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Need Help? Download the **User Quick Start Guide**:  
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A Survey Report Prepared for:



**Kleinfelder, Inc.**

**SURVEY REPORT FOR A PRESENCE/PROBABLE ABSENCE ACOUSTIC  
SURVEY FOR FEDERALLY THREATENED OR ENDANGERED BAT SPECIES  
FOR THE PROPOSED BUTLER COUNTY INTEGRITY UPGRADES – PHASE 1 PROJECT  
IN BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO.**

Prepared by:

Chance Osborne



encarna

**Encarna, LLC.**

August 21, 2020



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## 1 INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 Project Introduction

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines in Liberty Township, Hamilton, and Middletown in Butler County, Ohio, known as the Butler County Integrity Upgrades – Phase 1 Project (Project). Increasing this pressure will better position assets to create a future loop to provide an alternate gas path for alternate supply from Dick’s Creek to south of Huntsville, Ohio. The Project was initially reviewed using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Based upon the information obtained from the IPaC, it was determined that the Project may provide suitable summer habitat for the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). A copy of the IPaC report is available within the USFWS Ohio Field Office (USFWS OHFO) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) approved Study Plan (Study Plan) found in Appendix A. The Project has an area of interest (AOI) of approximately 44.3 acres and a limit of disturbance (LOD) of approximately 15.1 acres, which will result in the removal of less than 1.0 acres of suitable forested habitat (Appendix B, Figure 2).

Kleinfelder, Inc. (Kleinfelder) contracted Encarna, LLC. (Encarna) on behalf of Duke to conduct a summer acoustic survey to determine the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Project area during the summer maternity season. The following survey report details the findings of the approved Study Plan (Appendix A) that was conducted between 12 August 2020 and 14 August 2020. The Project is located on the Trenton 7.5-Minute U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle near Woodsdale, Ohio (Appendix B, Figure 1).

### 1.2 Habitat Present Within Project Area

Land cover types present within and surrounding the proposed Project AOI were comprised of agricultural fields, riparian areas, existing energy infrastructure, fence rows, early successional and secondary growth forests, residential developments, existing roads, existing right-of-ways, and herbaceous openings. Dominant tree species among the site locations included American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), box elder (*Acer negundo*), crabapple tree (*Malus sylvestris*), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*), tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), black willow (*Salix nigra*), and Kentucky coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioica*).



## 2 METHODS

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### 2.1 Acoustic Survey

Prior to conducting the acoustic survey, a study plan was submitted to the USFWS OHFO and ODNR on 9 August 2020 proposing an acoustic survey for the entire alignment of the Project. The USFWS OHFO concurred with the proposal on 11 August 2020 and ODNR provided authorization to proceed on 12 August 2020. Copies of the approved Study Plan and agency correspondence can be found in Appendix A.

To address the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Project survey area during the summer maternity season, Encarna conducted a summer acoustic survey pursuant to the USFWS “2020 Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines” (USFWS 2020) from 12 August 2020 to 14 August 2020. Based upon those guidelines, linear projects in the Indiana Bat Midwest Recovery Unit require a minimum of two detector nights per kilometer (0.6 miles) of suitable forested habitat to determine the presence/probable absence of federally threatened and/or endangered bat species (USFWS 2020). A detector night is defined as the operation and deployment of one acoustic monitoring device from sunset to sunrise for one calendar night. The acoustic survey had an effort of one detector per kilometer block at four different locations for two calendar nights, resulting in a total level of effort of eight detector nights. Acoustic detector locations are depicted on Figures 2 – 7 in Appendix B and in Table 3.

Final acoustic detector locations were determined by USFWS approved bat biologist Chance Osborne (USFWS Native Endangered and Threatened Species Recovery Permit No. TE62778B-1) in the field and their locations were recorded using a Trimble Geo 7x Global Positioning System. Detectors were placed in suitable habitat locations (forest openings, riparian corridors, woodland edges, etc.) within the Project area that were most likely to capture high quality bat call sequences based on available land access. Photographs of the erected detector assemblies at each survey location can be found in Appendix E.

The survey effort was originally proposed for five detectors at five different site locations for a total of 10 detector nights. Due to access issues, site BC-2 was not surveyed and will not be included in the request for concurrence. Additionally, one site location (BC-7) varied from the proposed locations within the study plan due to access issues. Access was only granted at one location within the kilometer block and the detector was placed below a tree line near a small stream.



The acoustic survey was completed using Titley Scientific Anabat SD2 Active Bat Detectors. Field verification of detector functionality was completed by creating ultrasonic sounds (finger rubs, finger snaps) in front of the microphone prior to the start and at the finish of each survey. To provide data in settings where the amount of light may be variable due to the habitat present (deeper/dark forested valleys or corridors, ridge tops, open areas, etc.) and to avoid missing early-flying bats, detectors were set to record from 10 minutes prior to sunset to 10 minutes after sunrise.

To aid in improving recording quality, each detector was deployed at a height greater than three meters above ground level vegetation on an extendable pole and microphones were positioned in the center of the potential flight path/zone in areas with no vegetation within at least 10 meters (33 feet) in front of the microphone. The detector at site BC-7 was deployed on a tripod (approximately 1.5 meters) instead of an extendable pole due to overhead power lines. The stream within the small tree line was very dense, and this allowed the directional microphone to be placed in the optimal potential flight path/zone where an opening for the stream occurred. All acoustic sites were spaced at least 656 feet (200 meters) apart and no weatherproofing equipment was used.

Each detector was equipped with at least an 8-gigabyte compact flash memory card (CF card) to store all data and recorded files for zero-crossing analysis using a division ratio of 16 and at a sensitivity level of six. Recorded data was downloaded daily to ensure data organization and protection and the CF cards were erased and recalibrated before each deployment.

USFWS recommends that if temperatures fall below 50° Fahrenheit (10° Celsius) during the first five hours; precipitation, including rain and/or fog, that does not stop within 30 minutes or continues intermittently; and sustained winds greater than nine miles/hour (four meters/second; 3 on Beaufort scale) for 30 minutes or more, then sampling for that night must be repeated (USFWS 2020). Nightly weather conditions were checked using the nearest NOAA National Weather Service Station, and surveys at all locations were conducted in weather conditions that satisfied USFWS recommendations.

For each night at every survey location, the date, survey start and end time, site description, site coordinates, detector specifics, and weather conditions were recorded. Sunset times were at approximately 20:35 and sunrise times were at approximately 06:49 during the survey effort. Detectors were set to record from 20:25 to 07:00



each night. Weather data can be found in Appendix C and completed acoustic survey datasheets can be found in Appendix D.

## 2.2 Analysis of Recorded Echolocation Calls

Encarna used Kaleidoscope Pro Version 5.1.0, with a classification of North America 5.1.0, sensitivity level set to zero (balanced), and a minimum pulse setting of five to conduct automated acoustic analysis for all site locations. This version of Kaleidoscope is currently approved by USFWS and when using the program for auto-identification, it identifies each file to the species level and filters out noise files to a separate folder. It also includes a Maximum Likelihood Estimator (MLE) that statistically evaluates the risk of false positives within each individual species result. The MLE function generates p-values for the likely presence of each species within a site location by night. A low p-value (p-value  $\leq 0.05$ ) indicates a high confidence level of species presence at the site for the night being evaluated. Conversely, a high p-value would suggest those species are not likely present or could be false positive identifications for each species respectively.

## 3 RESULTS

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During the survey effort over three calendar nights, four acoustic detectors were deployed. Kaleidoscope Pro identified a total of 1,217 bat call files and of those, 1,103 files (90.6%) were identified to the species level. The MLE generated by Kaleidoscope had confidence in five species: big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), Eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*), and tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). The Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) were found not likely to be present.

Surveys were conducted between the nights of 12 August 2020 and 14 August 2020. All detectors functioned properly and surveys at all site locations were conducted in weather conditions that satisfied USFWS recommendations, which yielded eight valid detector nights of survey effort. Table 1 includes a summary of call identifications by site and night. Table 2 provides the MLE p-values for each species identification at each site and night. Both tables can be found in Appendix C.





#### 4 SUMMARY

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Duke is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines which will better position assets to create a future loop to provide alternate gas supply in Butler County, Ohio. The Project has an AOI of approximately 44.3 acres and a LOD of approximately 15.1 acres, which will result in the removal of less than 1.0 acres of suitable forested habitat. A summer acoustic survey was conducted with the appropriate level of effort and under the appropriate conditions to investigate the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species. Five bat species were considered to likely be present within the Project area: big brown bat, Eastern red bat, little brown bat, evening bat and tricolored bat. No sites resulted in a p-value that would suggest Indiana bats or northern long-eared bats are present within the Project area.

The results of this acoustic survey indicate that the Project will not likely adversely affect threatened and/or endangered bat species populations within the Project area. On behalf of Duke, Encarna would like to request concurrence that at sites BC-1, BC-3, BC-4 and BC-7, the Project will not adversely affect threatened and/or endangered bat species. In addition, Encarna would also like to request that Duke can remove the proposed acreage of suitable forested habitat outside of the seasonal tree clearing window (October 1 – March 31).



## 5 REFERENCES

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2020. 2020 Range-Wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2020). USFWS Endangered Species Program: Midwest Region.



encarna

## APPENDIX A: Approved Study Plan & Agency Coordination

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A Study Plan Prepared for:



**Kleinfelder, Inc.**

**STUDY PLAN FOR A PRESENCE/ABSENCE ACOUSTIC SURVEY  
FOR FEDERALLY THREATENED OR ENDANGERED BAT SPECIES  
FOR THE PROPOSED BUTLER COUNTY INTEGRITY UPGRADES – PHASE 1 PROJECT  
IN BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO.**

Prepared by:

Chance Osborne



encarna

**Encarna, LLC.**

August 9, 2020



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### APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: United States Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Conservation Report

APPENDIX B: Project Mapping – Figure 1: Project Location Map; Figure 2: Potential Acoustic Site Locations Overview Map; Figures 3 – 7: Potential Acoustic Site Locations Maps



## 1 INTRODUCTION

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Duke Energy (Duke) is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines in Liberty Township, Hamilton, and Middletown in Butler County, Ohio, known as the Butler County Integrity Upgrades – Phase 1 (Project). Increasing this pressure will better position assets to create a future loop to provide an alternate gas path for alternate supply from Dick’s Creek to south of Hunstville, Ohio. The Project has an area of interest (AOI) of approximately 44.3 acres and a limit of disturbance (LOD) of approximately 15.1 acres, which will result in the removal of less than 1.0 acres of suitable forested habitat (Appendix B, Figure 1). The Project was reviewed using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Based upon the information obtained from the IPaC, it was determined that the Project may provide suitable summer habitat for the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). A copy of the IPaC report is available in Appendix A.

Kleinfelder, Inc. (Kleinfelder) contracted Encarna, LLC. (Encarna) on behalf of Duke to develop a study plan to determine if federally threatened or endangered bats are present within the Project area during the summer maternity season. The survey methods within the study plan described herein are in accordance with the current USFWS “2020 Range-Wide Indiana Bat Survey Guidelines” to conduct acoustic surveys for bats (USFWS 2020).

The results from this survey will be used to assess the amount of risk to threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Project area, and to determine if avoidance and minimization efforts are required for the Project. The positive identification of echolocation calls from threatened and/or endangered bat species will be considered evidence that bats are currently occupying the potentially suitable forested habitat within the Project area. The lack of positively identified calls from threatened and/or endangered bat species will be considered sufficient evidence that these species are not present within the Project area during the summer maternity season.

## 2 METHODS

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### 2.1 Acoustic Survey

Encarna will conduct an acoustic survey in order to determine the presence/probable absence of federally threatened or endangered bat species within the Project area during the summer survey season. Acoustic sampling will be conducted between August 13 and August 15, 2020. For linear projects in the Indiana Bat



Midwest Recovery Unit, the current USFWS Guidelines require a minimum of 2 detector nights per kilometer (0.6 miles) of suitable forested habitat to determine the presence/probable absence of federally threatened and/or endangered bat species (USFWS 2020). A detector night is defined as the operation and deployment of one acoustic monitoring device for one night. The proposed acoustic survey will have an effort of one detector at five locations for two nights, resulting in a total level of effort of 10 detector nights. Proposed potential acoustic detector locations are depicted on Figures 2 – 7 in Appendix B.

Acoustic monitoring will begin at sunset and continue until sunrise for each night of sampling, and detectors will be positioned at suitable sites within the Project area where access is permitted. These sites can include forest canopy openings, nearby water sources, forested fence lines, areas where potential roost trees are present, road and/or stream corridors with open canopies, and forest edges. Each detector will be deployed at a height greater than three meters above ground level vegetation, where feasible, to aid in improving recording quality. Omnidirectional microphones will be deployed horizontally in the center of the potential flight path/zone. Additionally, all acoustic sites will be spaced at least 656 feet (200 meters) apart.

In the event that adverse weather conditions occur during the survey period such as temperatures that fall below 50° Fahrenheit (10° Celsius) during the first five hours; precipitation, including rain and/or fog, that does not stop within 30 minutes or continues intermittently; and sustained winds greater than nine miles/hour (four meters/second; 3 on Beaufort scale) for 30 minutes or more, then sampling for that night must be repeated (USFWS 2020).

For each survey night, the date, survey start and end time, site description and coordinates, detector specifics (detector model, detector location, detector orientation, habitat type where detector is deployed), and weather conditions will be recorded.

## 2.2 Analysis of Recorded Echolocation Calls

Coarse screening for high frequency (HF) or myotis calls will take place following the procurement of all data from each site location. In the event a positive detection of HF or myotis calls is found, then automated acoustic analysis of each site that has a positive identification will be conducted. Encarna will review the recorded data from night one at each acoustic site location and then run each night's data through Kaleidoscope, which is an approved acoustic bat ID program from USFWS. If threatened or endangered bat presence is considered likely



at one or more sites, then qualitative analysis of recorded calls to the species level will be conducted. This qualitative analysis will include a comparison of the results from each site and night.

Encarna will provide the results of this acoustic survey to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and the USFWS Ohio Ecological Services Field Office within 10 days of completing the survey.





### 3 REFERENCES

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2020. 2020 Range-Wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2020). USFWS Endangered Species Program: Midwest Region.



**APPENDIX A: U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE INFORMATION FOR PLANNING AND CONSULTATION REPORT**

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Last login August 08, 2020 04:36 PM MDT

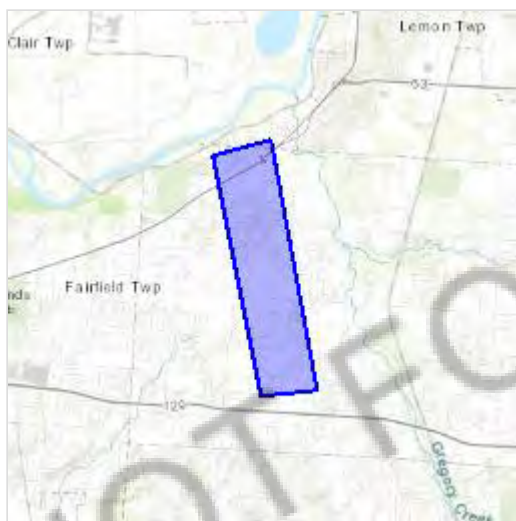
# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

## Location

Butler County, Ohio



# Local office

Ohio Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (614) 416-8993

📅 (614) 416-8994

4625 Morse Road, Suite 104  
Columbus, OH 43230-8355

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

# Endangered species

**This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.**

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population, even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information.
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949</a>	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incidental take of the northern long-eared bat is not prohibited at this location. Federal action agencies may conclude consultation using the streamlined process described at <a href="https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/s7.html">https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/s7.html</a></li> </ul> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Threatened

## Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Running Buffalo Clover <i>Trifolium stoloniferum</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2529">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2529</a>	Endangered

## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME

BREEDING SEASON (IF A BREEDING SEASON IS INDICATED FOR A BIRD ON YOUR LIST, THE BIRD MAY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA SOMETIME WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED, WHICH IS A VERY LIBERAL ESTIMATE OF THE DATES INSIDE WHICH THE BIRD BREEDS ACROSS ITS ENTIRE RANGE. "BREEDS ELSEWHERE" INDICATES THAT THE BIRD DOES NOT LIKELY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA.)

**Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626>

Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31

**Black-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399>

Breeds May 15 to Oct 10

**Bobolink** *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds May 20 to Jul 31

**Henslow's Sparrow** *Ammodramus henslowii*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941>

Breeds May 1 to Aug 31



**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679>

Breeds elsewhere

**Prothonotary Warbler** *Protonotaria citrea*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31

**Red-headed Woodpecker** *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds May 10 to Sep 10

**Rusty Blackbird** *Euphagus carolinus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds elsewhere

**Short-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus griseus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480>

Breeds elsewhere

**Wood Thrush** *Hylocichla mustelina*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

## Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

## Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

## Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

## Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

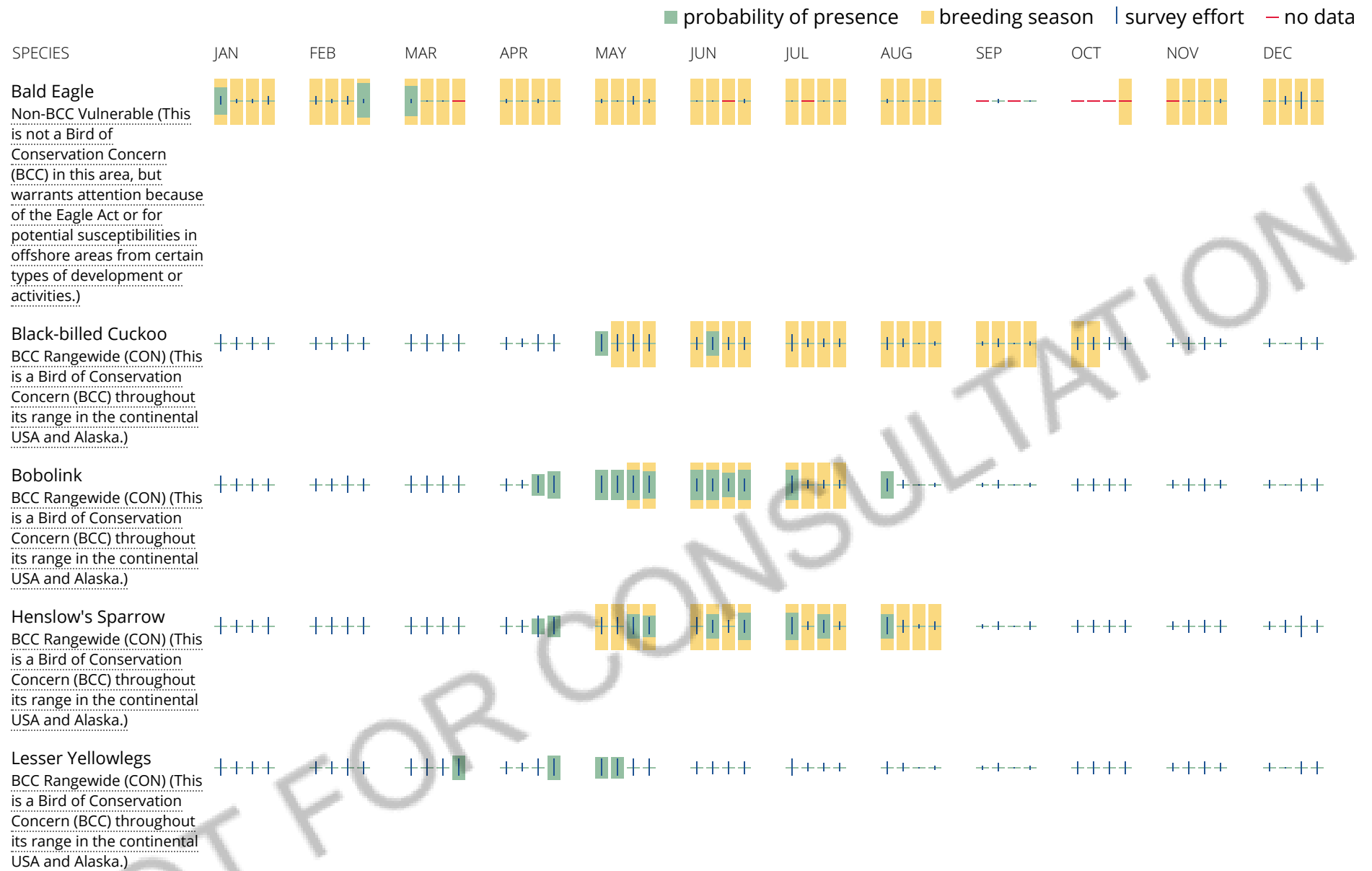
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

## No Data (-)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

## Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.





**Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) and/or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

**What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

### **What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

### **How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

### **What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?**

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

### **Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects**

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

### **What if I have eagles on my list?**

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

### **Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report**

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

# Facilities

## National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

## Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

## Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

WETLAND INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the [NWI map](#) to view wetlands at this location.

### Data limitations

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

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

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

### **Data exclusions**

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

### **Data precautions**

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

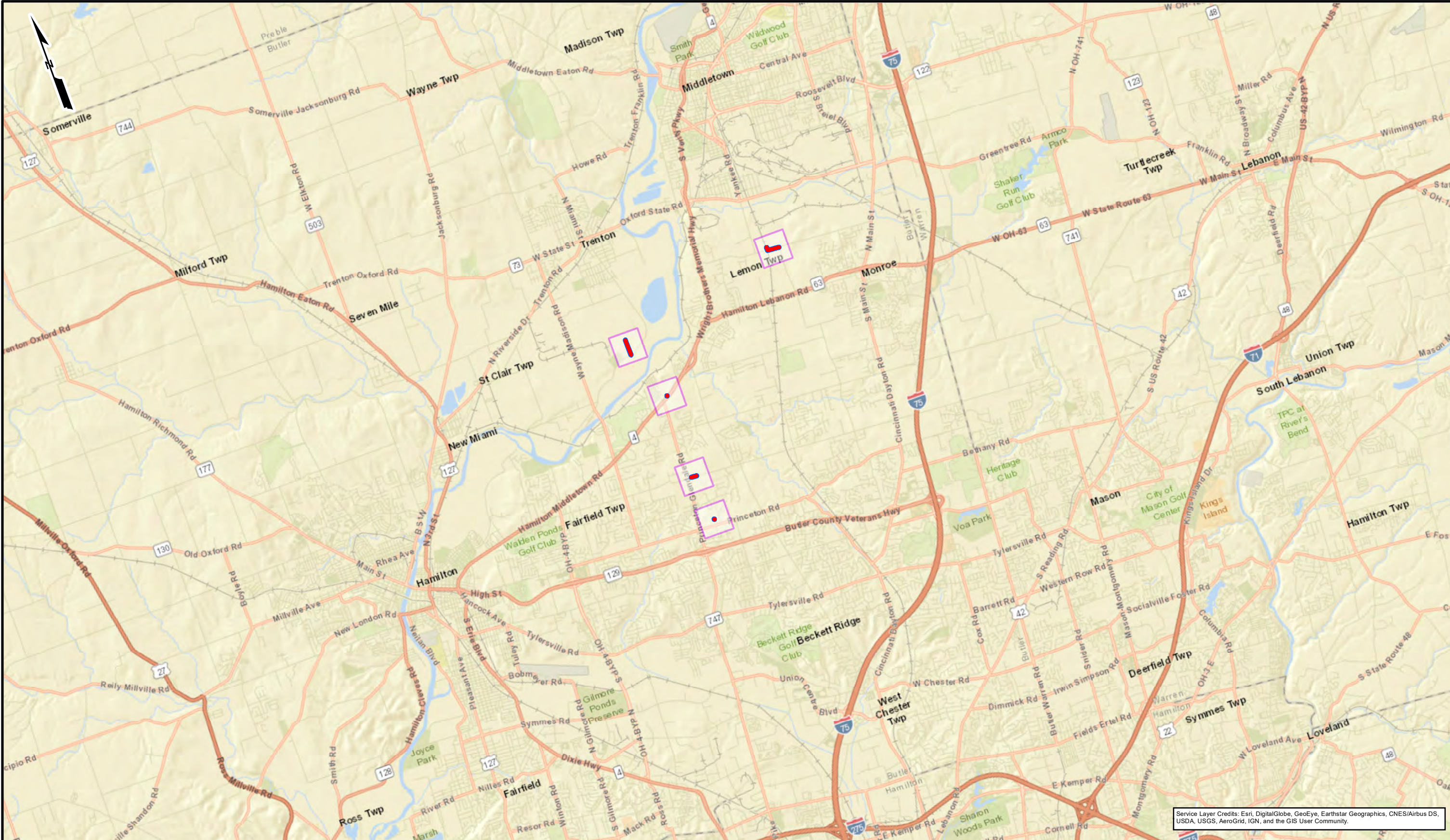




encarna

**APPENDIX B: PROJECT MAPPING**

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Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))

Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))

Proposed Project Alignment

0 5,500 11,000 22,000 Feet

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www.encarnaenv.com

PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

Project Location Map
Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio

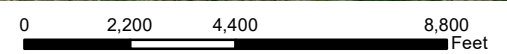
FIGURE  
**1**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Potential Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Kilometer Block



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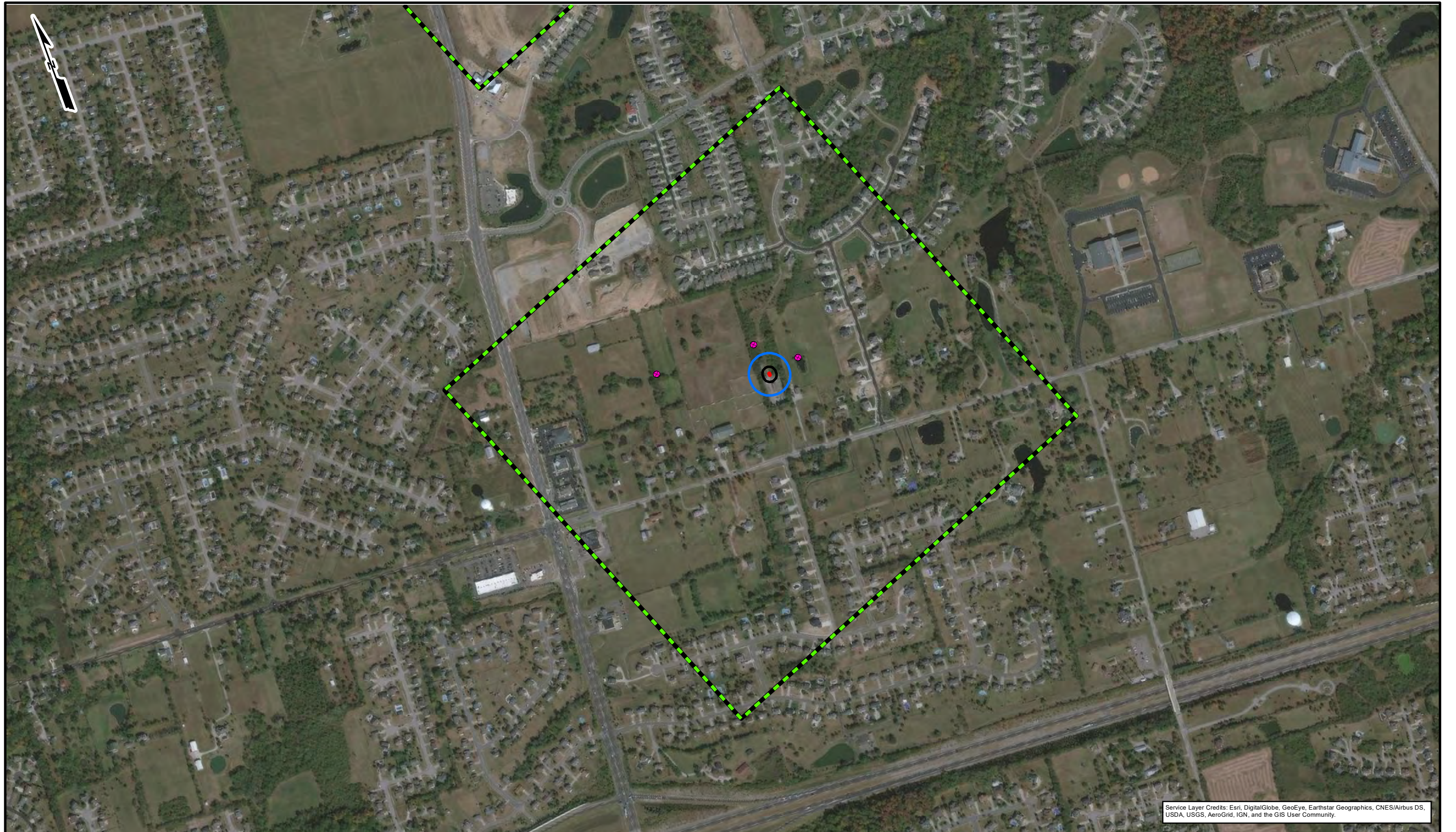


PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

Potential Acoustic  
Site Locations Overview Map

Duke Energy  
Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1  
Butler County, Ohio

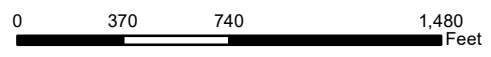
FIGURE  
**2**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Potential Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±4.3 Acres))
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Kilometer Block



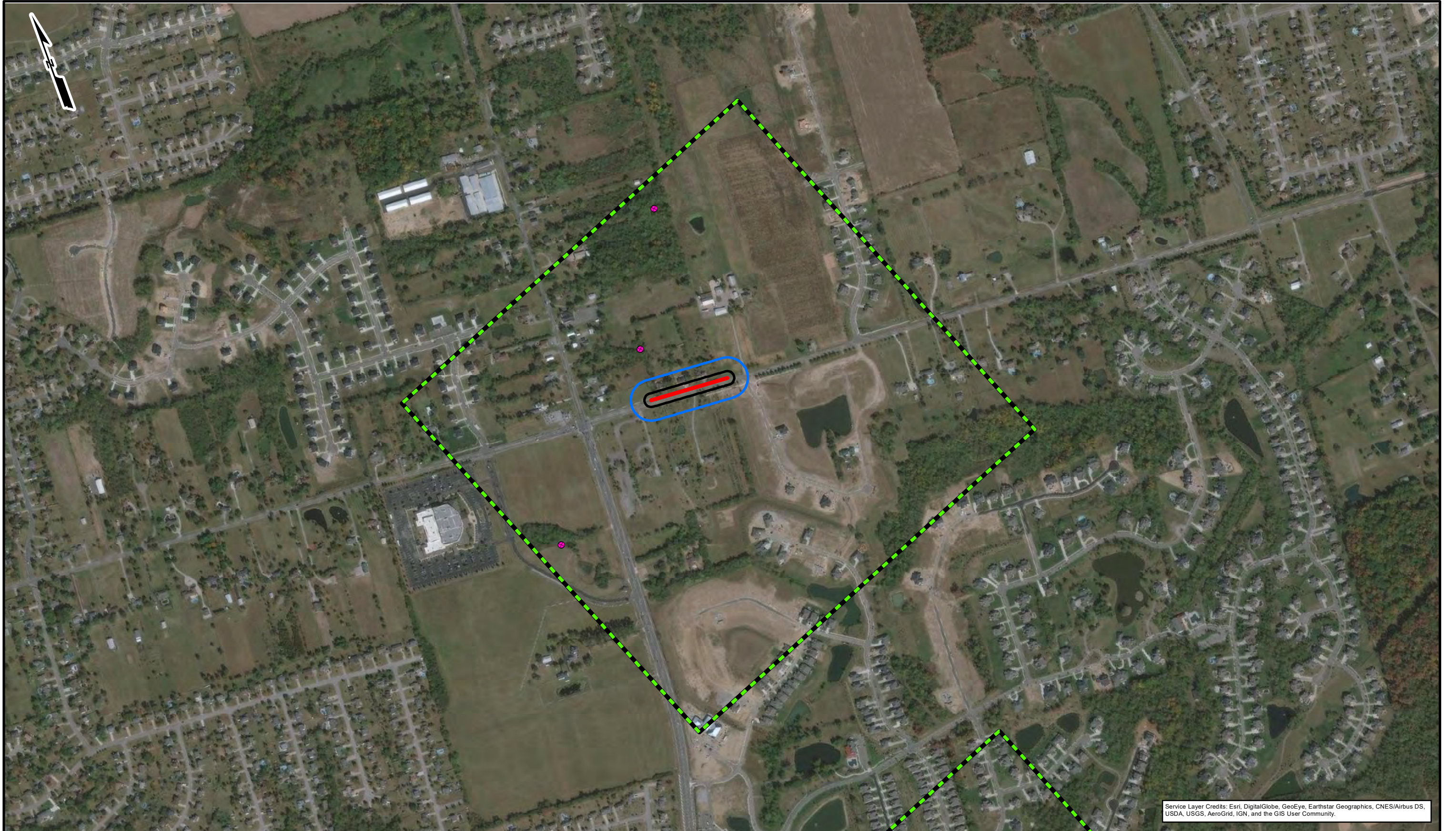
*The information included on this graphic representation has been compiled from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. Encarna, LLC. makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information. This document is not intended for use as a land survey product nor is it designed or intended as a construction design document. The use or misuse of the information contained on this graphic representation is at the sole risk of the party using or misusing the information.*



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BC-1 Potential Acoustic Site Locations Map
Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio

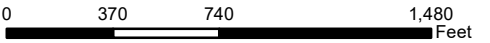
FIGURE	3
--------	---



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

-  Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
-  Potential Acoustic Site Locations
-  Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
-  Proposed Project Alignment
-  Kilometer Block



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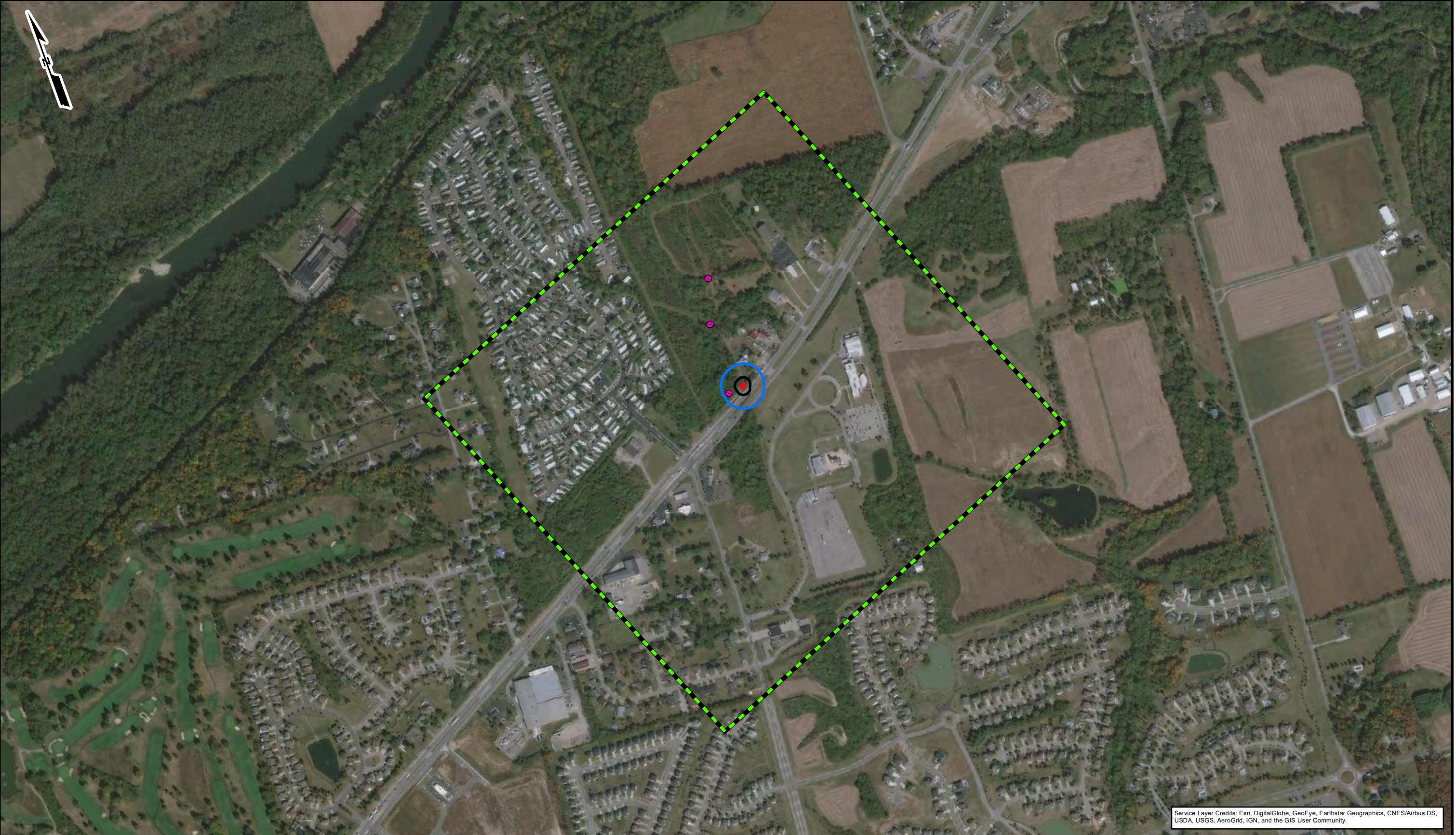


PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

BC-2 Potential Acoustic  
Site Locations Map

Duke Energy  
Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1  
Butler County, Ohio

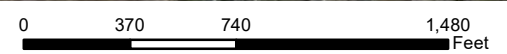
FIGURE  
**4**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Kilometer Block
- Potential Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project Alignment



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DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

BC-3 Potential Acoustic Site Locations Map






Duke Energy  
Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1  
Butler County, Ohio

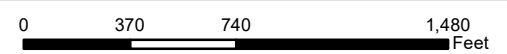
FIGURE  
**5**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

-  Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
-  Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
-  Kilometer Block
-  Potential Acoustic Site Locations
-  Proposed Project Alignment



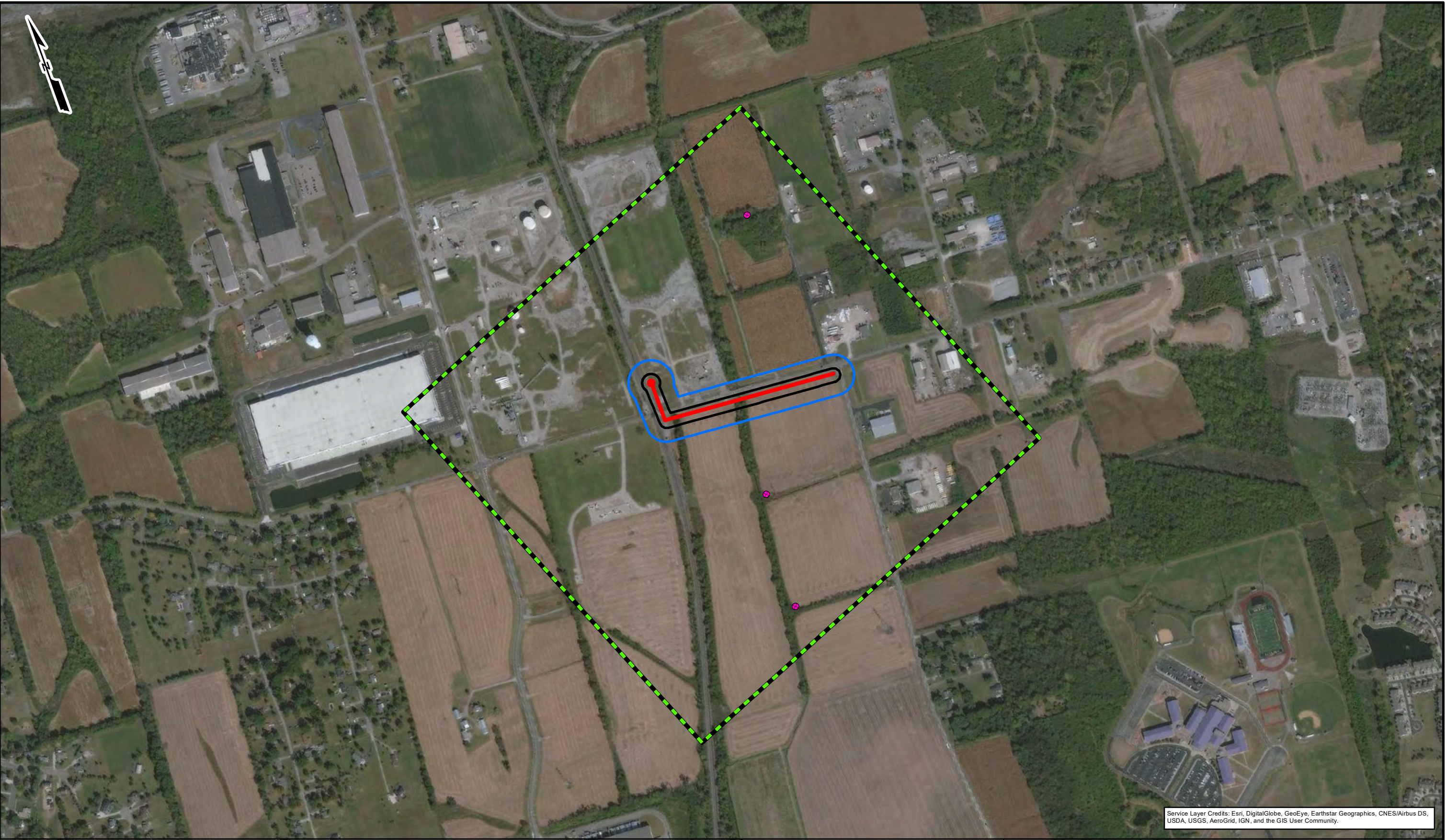
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PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

BC-4 Potential Acoustic Site Locations Map
Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio

FIGURE  
**6**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

<b>Legend</b> Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres)) Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres)) Kilometer Block Potential Acoustic Site Locations Proposed Project Alignment			<p>The information included on this graphic representation has been compiled from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. Encarna, LLC, makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information. This document is not intended for use as a land survey product nor is it designed or intended as a construction design document. The use or misuse of the information contained on this graphic representation is at the sole risk of the party using or misusing the information.</p>	 www.encarnaenv.com	PROJECT NO. 2020.008	BC-7 Potential Acoustic Site Locations Map	FIGURE 7
	DRAWN: 08/08/2020	Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio					
	DRAWN BY: CTO						
	FILE NAME: See File Path						





Chance Osborne &lt;chance@encarnaenv.com&gt;

---

**Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Duke Energy - Maineville to Morrow Pipeline / Phase 1 Butler County Upgrades**

1 message

---

**Jill Vovaris** <JVovaris@kleinfelder.com>

Tue, Aug 11, 2020 at 9:21 AM

To: Chance Osborne &lt;chance@encarnaenv.com&gt;, Matthew Albright &lt;MALbright@kleinfelder.com&gt;

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Boyer, Angela" <angela\_boyer@fws.gov>**Date:** August 11, 2020 at 9:15:21 AM EDT**To:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>**Cc:** "Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com" <Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com>, "Klein, David Anthony" <David.Klein@duke-energy.com>, Seth Sanders <SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com>, "Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us" <Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us>, "Zimmermann, Susan C" <Susan\_Zimmermann@fws.gov>**Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Duke Energy - Maineville to Morrow Pipeline / Phase 1 Butler County Upgrades**

---

**External Email.**

Jill,

This response provides U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval of your proposed acoustic surveys for the Duke Energy – Mainesville to Morrow Pipeline Project and the Phase 1 Butler County Upgrades Project in Warren and Butler Counties, Ohio. Please note that plans must also be reviewed and approved by the Ohio Division of Wildlife (contact Sarah Stankavich) before any surveys take place. This surveys has been assigned the reference numbers **20-041 (Mainesville) and 20-042 (Phase 1)**. Please include this project reference number in all correspondence to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Ohio Division of Wildlife. This surveys will serve as a summer presence/absence survey for the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat.

By January 31, 2021, we request that you submit an annual report of your Ohio acoustic survey work to this office using the Midwestern U.S. Spreadsheet in electronic format. Be sure to include data for the site even if no bats were detected. The 2020 Midwestern U.S. Spreadsheet and

instructions are found here: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/inba/inbasummersurveyguidance.html>.

Please notify me if any surveys are cancelled or otherwise not completed this field season. Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,  
Angela Boyer  
Endangered Species Coordinator for Ohio  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
[4625 Morse Road, Suite 104](#)  
[Columbus, Ohio 43230](#)  
(614) 416-8993, ext. 122  
(614) 416-8994 FAX

---

**From:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, August 9, 2020 9:39 PM

**To:** Boyer, Angela <[angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov)>; Zimmermann, Susan C <[Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** [Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com) <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Klein, David Anthony <[David.Klein@duke-energy.com](mailto:David.Klein@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Duke Energy - Maineville to Morrow Pipeline / Phase 1 Butler County Upgrades

**This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.**

Good evening Angela and Susan,

Our client, Duke Energy, is proposing to construct approximately 4.1 miles of an 8-inch diameter steel gas pipeline from Maineville to Morrow in Warren County, Ohio, known as the Maineville Morrow Loop Line C231 (Project). The proposed project will increase the reliability of the existing system by upgrading the capacity in the surrounding area. And, as a second project, Duke is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines in Liberty Township, Hamilton, and Middletown, Ohio, known as the Butler County Integrity Upgrades – Phase 1 (Project) in Butler County, Ohio. Increasing this pressure will better position assets to create a future loop to provide an alternate gas path for alternate supply from Dick's Creek to south of Hunstville, Ohio.

The proposed design for the projects will likely result in less than 5 acres and less than 1 acre, respectively, for the two projects. Understanding that there remains a moratorium on mist net surveys, we would like to conduct acoustic surveys for both projects. Also knowing that the survey window closes on Saturday, August 15, we are requesting that you review the study plans at the following links. I know that this is an expedited request and that we are asking for extremely quick turn around time. However, with the pandemic this year and budgetary and schedule constraints, I am hoping that you could accommodate this request so that we can get into the field on Wednesday at the very latest.

Please download the study plans at the following links:

1. **2020.008 - Maineville Morrow Loop Line Acoustic Survey Study Plan FINAL.pdf** (5.44 MB)

<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/cd294ntcdlyv5c2/3g6c7cjcfyjazc>

2. **2020.009 - Butler County Integrity Upgrades Acoustic Survey Study Plan FINAL.pdf** (41.93 MB)

<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/gscub8xoc1ewos5/vfzmeph9cxv1814>

I have also attached our bat biologists permits to this email. I will contact you both in the morning to discuss.

Thank you so much in advance for your consideration of this expedited and accelerated request.

Sincerely,

Jill Vovaris

**Jill Vovaris**

Vice President – Ohio River Valley Operations Manager

51 Dutilh Road, Suite 240

Cranberry Township, PA 16066

180 White Oaks Blvd., Suite 110

Bridgeport, WV 26330-9770

o| +724.772.7072

d| +724.200.7501

f| +724.772.7079

m| +724.757.6210

 KLF\_Signature.png

---

**4 attachments**

 **TE 62778B-1 Osborne Signed Permit.pdf**  
121K

 **ATT00001.htm**  
1K

 **Osborne\_ODNR\_Permit.pdf**  
1940K

 **ATT00002.htm**  
1K



Chance Osborne &lt;chance@encarnaenv.com&gt;

---

**Fwd: Request for review from ODNR - Acoustic Surveys**

1 message

**Jill Vovaris** <JVovaris@kleinfelder.com>

Wed, Aug 12, 2020 at 7:52 AM

To: Matthew Albright &lt;MALbright@kleinfelder.com&gt;, Chance Osborne &lt;chance@encarnaenv.com&gt;

Good morning,

See below for approval from ODNR.

Matt,

Can you please pull what Erin is asking?

Thanks.

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us" <Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us>

**Date:** August 12, 2020 at 7:22:31 AM EDT

**To:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>

**Cc:** "angela\_boyer@fws.gov" <angela\_boyer@fws.gov>, "Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us" <Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us>, "Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com" <Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com>, Seth Sanders <SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com>, "Klein, David Anthony" <David.Klein@duke-energy.com>

**Subject:** RE: Request for review from ODNR - Acoustic Surveys

---

**External Email.**

Hi Jill,

I'm going to be out of the office most of today so please consider this an approval to move forward with the acoustics for these two projects. I'm having trouble accessing the study plans via the link—can you please send in PDF? Also, please send me a shapefile of the project boundary (limit of tree cutting) and I'll check our database for any existing state bat buffers and respond with any updated information.

Thank you,

Erin



Erin Hazelton

Wind Energy Administrator

ODNR Division of Wildlife

2045 Morse Rd. Bldg G-3

Columbus, OH 43229

1-800-WILDLIFE

Office: 614-265-6349

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**From:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 9:42 AM  
**To:** Hazelton, Erin <[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)>

**Cc:** [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov); Stankavich, Sarah <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>; [Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com); Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>; Klein, David Anthony <[David.Klein@duke-energy.com](mailto:David.Klein@duke-energy.com)>

**Subject:** Request for review from ODNR - Acoustic Surveys

**Importance:** High

Good morning Erin,

As I understand it Sarah is out of the office until Thursday, so I'm reaching out to you.

Our client, Duke Energy, is proposing to construct approximately 4.1 miles of an 8-inch diameter steel gas pipeline from Maineville to Morrow in Warren County, Ohio, known as the Maineville Morrow Loop Line C231 (Project). The proposed project will increase the reliability of the existing system by upgrading the capacity in the surrounding area. And, as a second project, Duke is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines in Liberty Township, Hamilton, and Middletown, Ohio, known as the Butler County Integrity Upgrades – Phase 1 (Project) in Butler County, Ohio. Increasing this pressure will better position assets to create a future loop to provide an alternate gas path for alternate supply from Dick's Creek to south of Hunstville, Ohio.

The proposed design for the projects will likely result in less than 5 acres and less than 1 acre, respectively, for the two projects. Understanding that there remains a moratorium on mist net surveys, we would like to conduct acoustic surveys for both projects. Also knowing that the survey window closes on Saturday, August 15, we are requesting that you review the study plans at the following links. I know that this is an expedited request and that we are asking for extremely quick turnaround time. However, with the pandemic this year and budgetary and schedule constraints, I am hoping that you could accommodate this request so that we can get into the field on Wednesday at the very latest.

**USFWS provided approval this morning for these two projects. I have attached the email.**

Please download the study plans at the following links:

1. **2020.008 - Maineville Morrow Loop Line Acoustic Survey Study Plan FINAL.pdf** (5.44 MB) in Albright\_Matthew  
<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/cd294ntcdlyv5c2/3g6c7cjffyjazc>

2. **2020.009 - Butler County Integrity Upgrades Acoustic Survey Study Plan FINAL.pdf** (41.93 MB) in Albright\_Matthew  
<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/gscub8xoc1ewos5/vfzmeph9cxv1814>

These links will expire on **08/19/20 at 05:00 pm PDT**

Please let me know if you have any issue downloading the files or have any questions. I really appreciate your attention to this.

Thanks,

**Jill Vovaris**

Vice President – Ohio River Valley Operations Manager

51 Dutilh Road, Suite 240

Cranberry Township, PA 16066

180 White Oaks Blvd., Suite 110  
Bridgeport, WV 26330-9770

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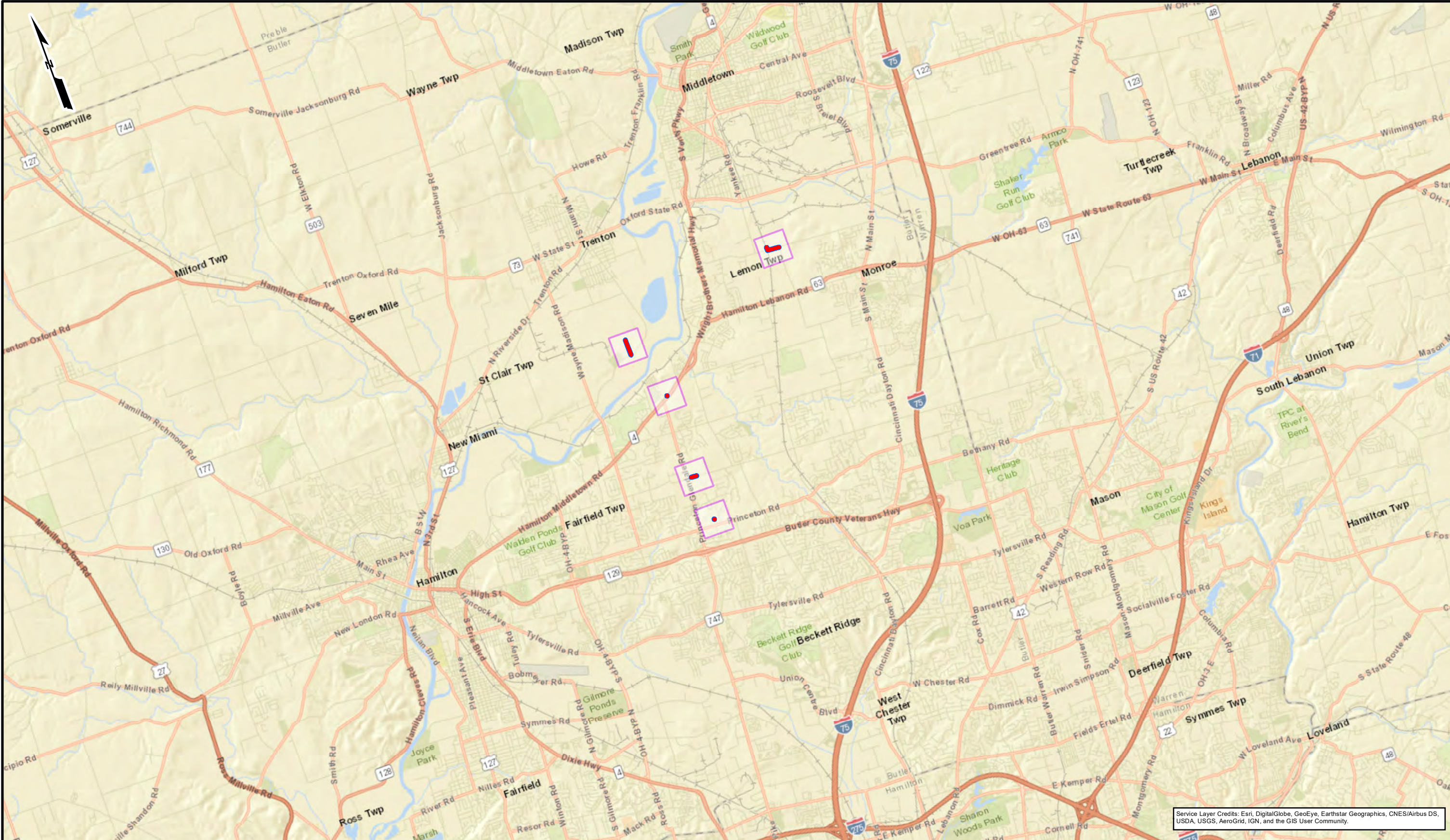




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## APPENDIX B: Project Mapping

---



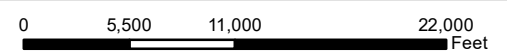
Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))

Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))

Proposed Project Alignment



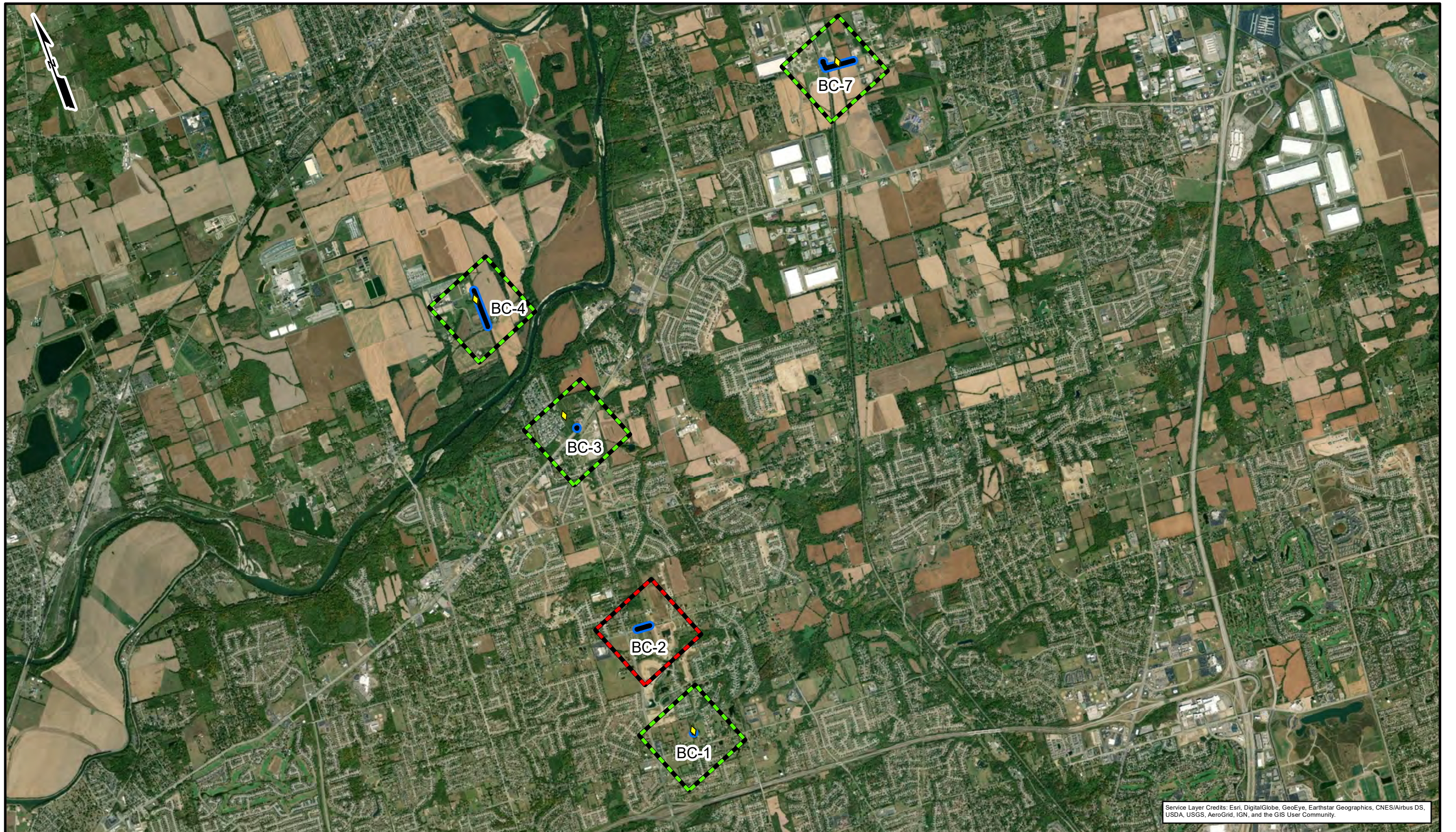
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PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

Project Location Map
Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio

FIGURE  
**1**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
- Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed

0 2,200 4,400 8,800 Feet

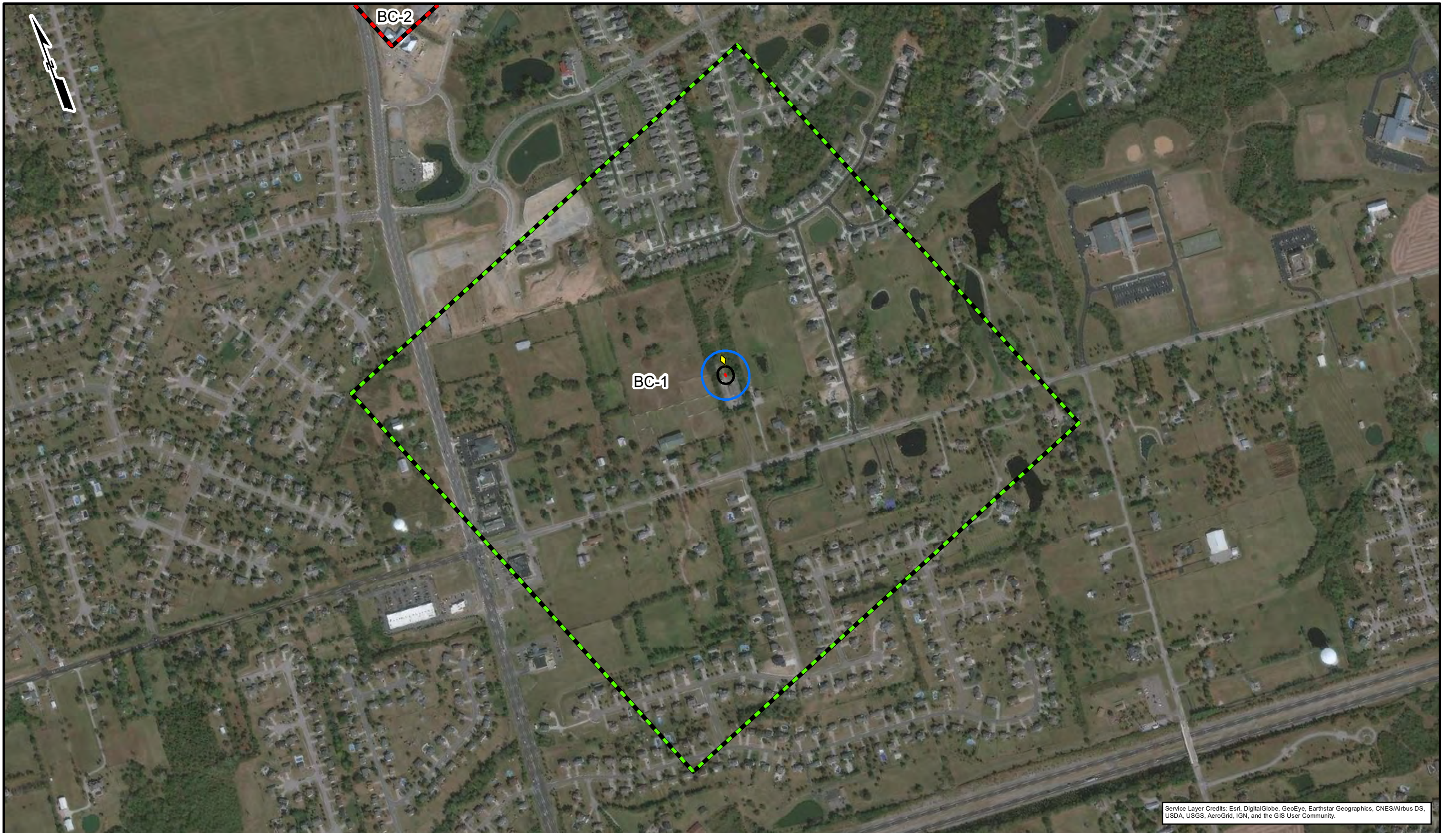
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PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path







<p>Acoustic Site Locations Overview Map</p> <p>Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio</p>
---

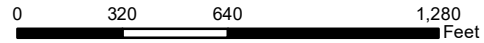
FIGURE  
**2**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

-  Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
-  Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
-  Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
-  Acoustic Site Locations
-  Proposed Project Alignment
-  Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



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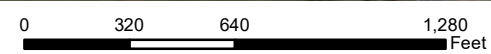
PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

<p>BC-1 Acoustic Site Location Map</p> <p>Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio</p>
--

FIGURE  
**3**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.



- Legend**
- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
  - Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
  - Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
  - ◆ Acoustic Site Locations
  - Proposed Project Alignment
  - Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed

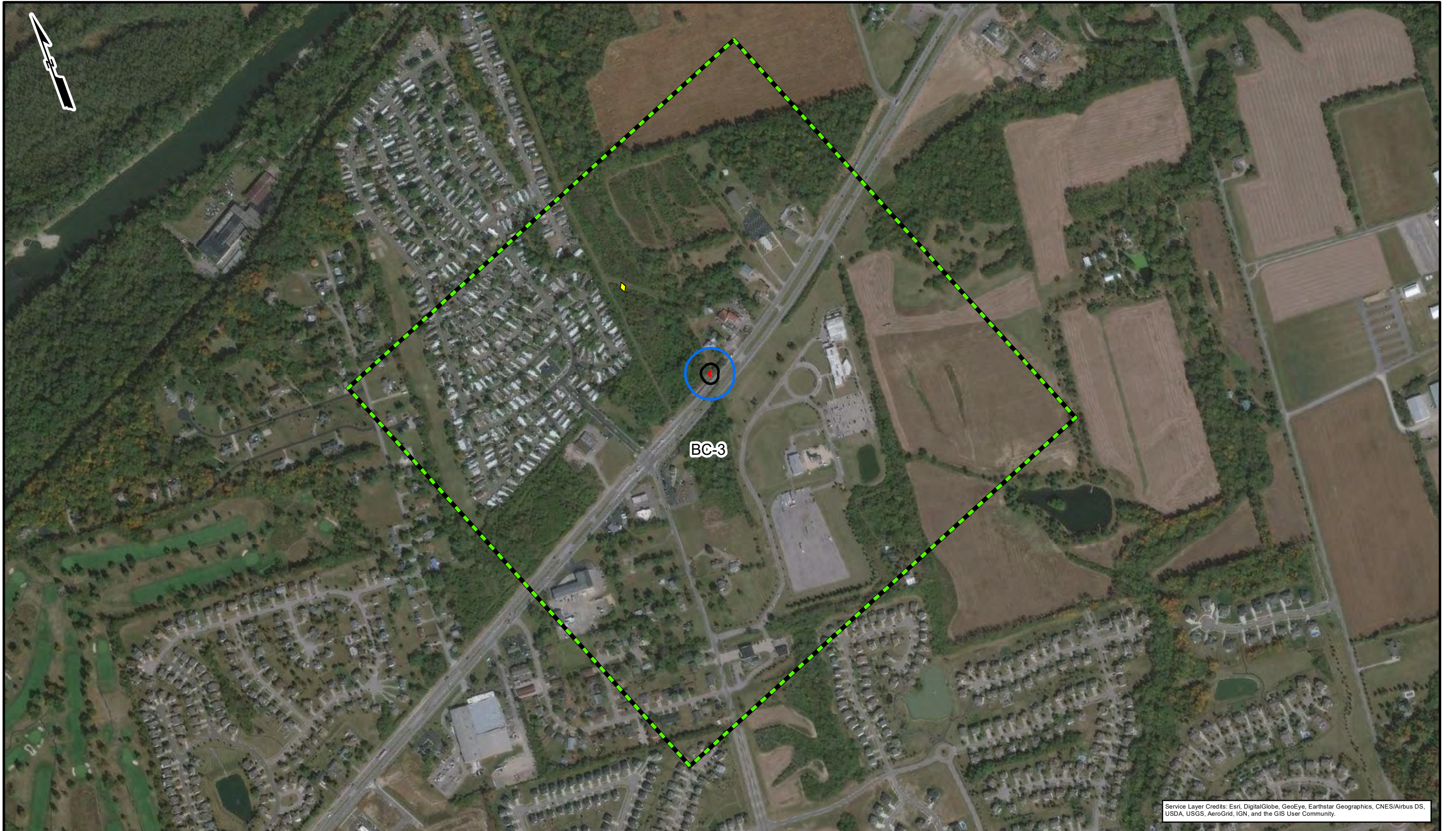
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DRAWN:	08/19/2020
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FILE NAME:	See File Path







BC-2 Acoustic Site Location Map
Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio

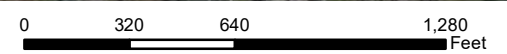
FIGURE  
**4**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

-  Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
-  Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
-  Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
-  Acoustic Site Locations
-  Proposed Project Alignment
-  Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



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PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

<p>BC-3 Acoustic Site Location Map</p> <p>Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio</p>
--

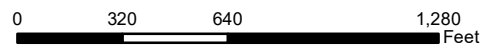
FIGURE  
**5**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
- Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



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PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path







<p>BC-4 Acoustic Site Location Map</p> <p>Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio</p>
--

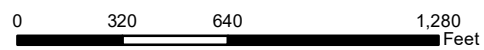
FIGURE  
**6**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

-  Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
-  Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
-  Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
-  Acoustic Site Locations
-  Proposed Project Alignment
-  Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



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PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

**BC-7 Acoustic Site Location Map**

Duke Energy  
Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1  
Butler County, Ohio

FIGURE  
**7**





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## APPENDIX C: Project Data Tables

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Table 1. Kaleidoscope Pro V.5.1.0 Output of Species Identifications by Site and Night.

Site	Date	Big brown bat	Eastern red bat	Hoary bat	Silver-haired bat	Eastern small-footed bat	Little brown bat	Northern long-eared bat	Indiana bat	Evening bat	Tricolored bat
BC-1	08/12/2020	89	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
BC-1	08/13/2020	10	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
BC-3	08/13/2020	134	0	1	15	0	3	0	0	2	1
BC-3	08/14/2020	489	0	17	35	0	5	0	0	23	12
BC-4	08/13/2020	51	2	4	4	0	1	0	0	2	0
BC-4	08/14/2020	119	1	0	8	0	1	0	0	7	1
BC-7	08/12/2020	21	0	2	8	0	2	0	0	0	0
BC-7	08/13/2020	23	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0

Table 2. Kaleidoscope V.5.1.0 Output of P-Values for the Maximum Likelihood Estimator.

Site	Date	Big brown bat	Eastern red bat	Hoary bat	Silver-haired bat	Eastern small-footed bat	Little brown bat	Northern long-eared bat	Indiana bat	Evening bat	Tricolored bat
BC-1	08/12/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
BC-1	08/13/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0001</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
BC-3	08/13/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0031</b>	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0485</b>	0.1820
BC-3	08/14/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0003</b>	1.0000	1.0000	0.0000	<b>0.0000</b>
BC-4	08/13/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	<b>0.0441</b>	0.5664	1.0000	1.0000	0.6404	1.0000	1.0000	0.4148	1.0000
BC-4	08/14/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	0.7041	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	0.4333	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0002</b>	0.4838
BC-7	08/12/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	0.7901	0.0720	1.0000	<b>0.0113</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
BC-7	08/13/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	0.1915	1.0000

Low p-values in bold ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) indicate high confidence level in species presence.

Table 3. Location of Bat Acoustic Sites and Microphone Orientation.

Bat Acoustic Site	Latitude °N	Longitude °W	Microphone Orientation (degrees)
BC-1	39.389899	-84.447180	4
BC-3	39.430799	-84.449430	116
BC-4	39.447505	-84.456275	188
BC-7	39.459603	-84.391006	240



Table 4. Weather Data Through Survey Sampling Period.

Survey Night	Date	Time	Temp (°F)	Dew Point (°F)	Humidity %	Wind Direction	Wind Speed (MPH)	Gust Speed (MPH)	Precipitation (inches)	Events
1	08/12/2020	20:34	79.1	72.0	79	NE	0.5	1.4	0.00	N/A
1	08/12/2020	21:34	76.2	71.0	84	E	0.2	1.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/12/2020	22:34	73.1	69.7	89	WSW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/12/2020	23:34	72.5	70.0	92	SSE	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	00:34	72.1	70.0	93	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	01:34	70.5	69.0	95	ESE	0.0	1.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	02:34	70.3	68.8	95	SW	0.0	1.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	03:34	69.2	68.3	97	S	0.1	0.3	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	04:34	67.4	66.8	98	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	05:34	66.7	66.4	99	NNW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	06:34	66.8	66.5	99	SSW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/13/2020	20:34	80.3	70.9	73	E	1.5	2.5	0.00	N/A
2	08/13/2020	21:34	77.5	70.5	79	ESE	0.1	0.5	0.00	N/A
2	08/13/2020	22:34	73.6	68.9	86	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/13/2020	23:34	71.9	68.8	90	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	00:34	70.7	68.3	92	W	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	01:34	70.2	68.1	93	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	02:34	69.8	67.7	93	E	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	03:34	68.5	66.7	94	W	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	04:34	67.1	66.2	97	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	05:34	67.5	67.2	99	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	06:34	67.1	66.8	99	NNW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
3	08/14/2020	20:34	77.8	71.9	82	SSE	0.0	0.5	0.00	N/A
3	08/14/2020	21:34	75.7	72.2	89	ESE	0.0	0.5	0.00	N/A
3	08/14/2020	22:34	72.7	70.2	92	SE	2.4	3.6	0.00	N/A
3	08/14/2020	23:34	70.9	69.4	95	E	3.7	4.3	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	00:34	70.5	69.3	96	ESE	2.8	4.6	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	01:34	70.3	69.4	97	E	0.6	1.7	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	02:34	69.1	68.8	99	SSW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	03:34	66.9	66.6	99	SSW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	04:34	66.7	66.4	99	E	0.9	1.2	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	05:34	67.8	67.5	99	E	1.6	2.5	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	06:34	67.8	67.5	99	E	2.5	3.5	0.00	N/A



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## APPENDIX D: Completed Acoustic Survey Datasheets

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## Acoustic Survey Datasheet

Site: BC-1 Project: Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Date: 12 August 2020

Latitude: 39.389899 Longitude: -84.447180

County: Butler State: OH Surveyors: Chance Osborne, Anthony Marinelli

Detector Type: Anabat SD2 Active Placement: Forest Edge/Pond Elevated:  or N - Pole

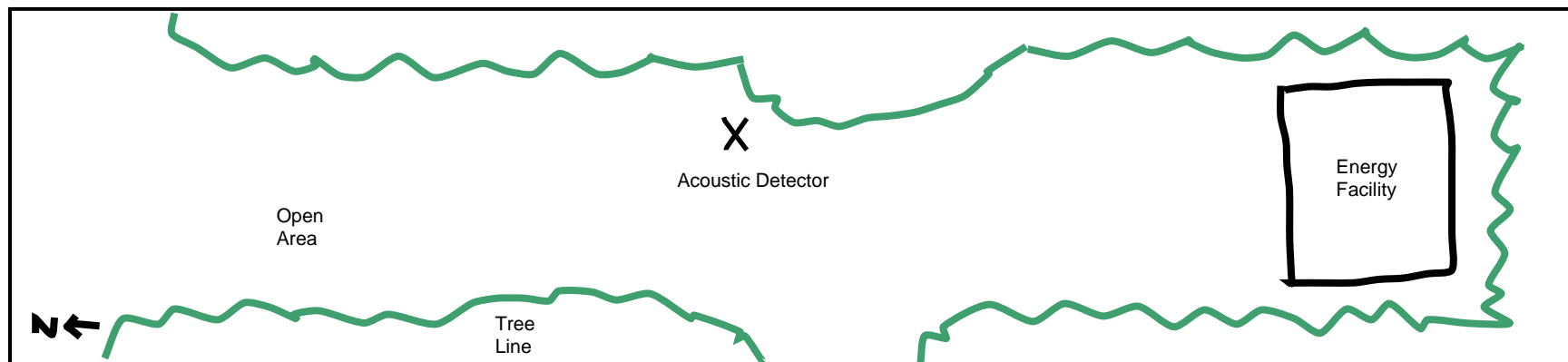
Weatherproofing: None Microphone Height (m): 4.0 Microphone Azimuth: 60

### Habitat Description:

Site is located along a forested tree line facing towards an open foraging area within an existing energy facility.

Dominant tree species present include crabapple tree, tree of heaven, black willow, Eastern red cedar and Kentucky coffeetree.

### Site Drawing:





## Acoustic Survey Datasheet

Site: BC-3 Project: Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Date: 13 August 2020

Latitude: 39.430799 Longitude: -84.449430

County: Butler State: OH Surveyors: Chance Osborne, Anthony Marinelli

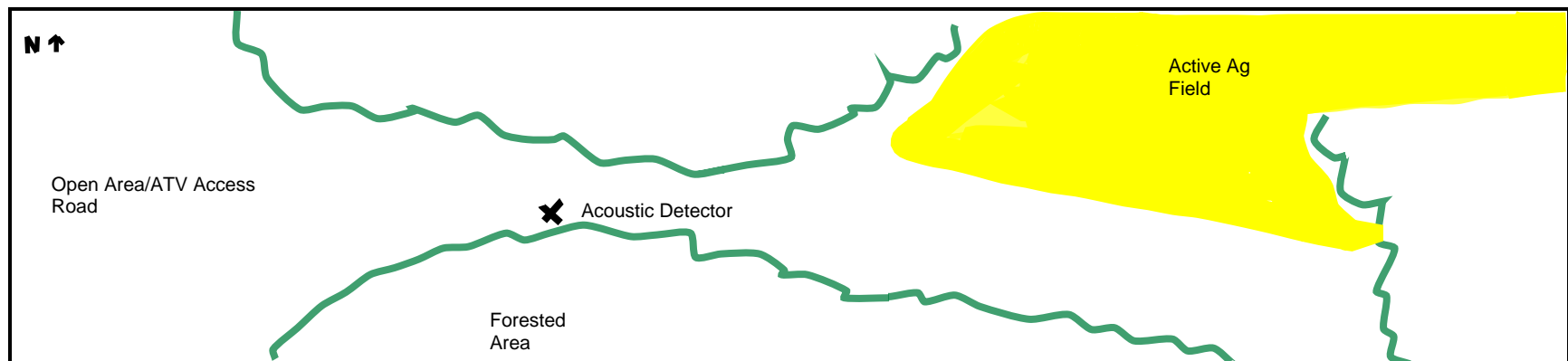
Detector Type: Anabat SD2 Active Placement: Forest Edge/Pond Elevated:  or N - Pole

Weatherproofing: None Microphone Height (m): 4.0 Microphone Azimuth: 116

### Habitat Description:

Site is along edge of tree line in potential foraging corridor and facing towards an open area leading towards a forested block where multiple snags are present. Dominant tree species present include tree of heaven, box elder, black locust, black walnut, and crabapple tree. It should be noted that aerial imagery does not dictate the active ag field present.

### Site Drawing:





## Acoustic Survey Datasheet

Site: BC-4 Project: Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Date: 13 August 2020

Latitude: 39.447505 Longitude: -84.456275

County: Butler State: OH Surveyors: Chance Osborne, Anthony Marinelli

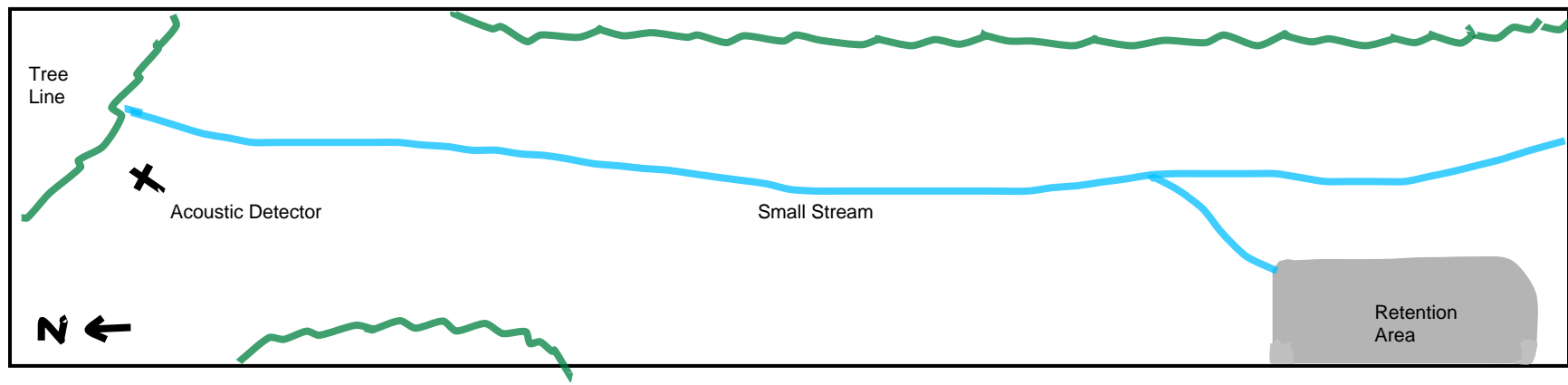
Detector Type: Anabat SD2 Active Placement: Forest Edge/Pond Elevated:  or N - Pole

Weatherproofing: None Microphone Height (m): 4.0 Microphone Azimuth: 60

### Habitat Description:

Site is located on an existing energy facility. Portions of tree lines were accessible within fenced in area where access was granted and detector was placed on edge of tree line facing where a small stream was flowing south in an open maintained field. Dominant tree species present include American sycamore, black walnut, black locust, honey locust and sugar maple.

### Site Drawing:





## Acoustic Survey Datasheet

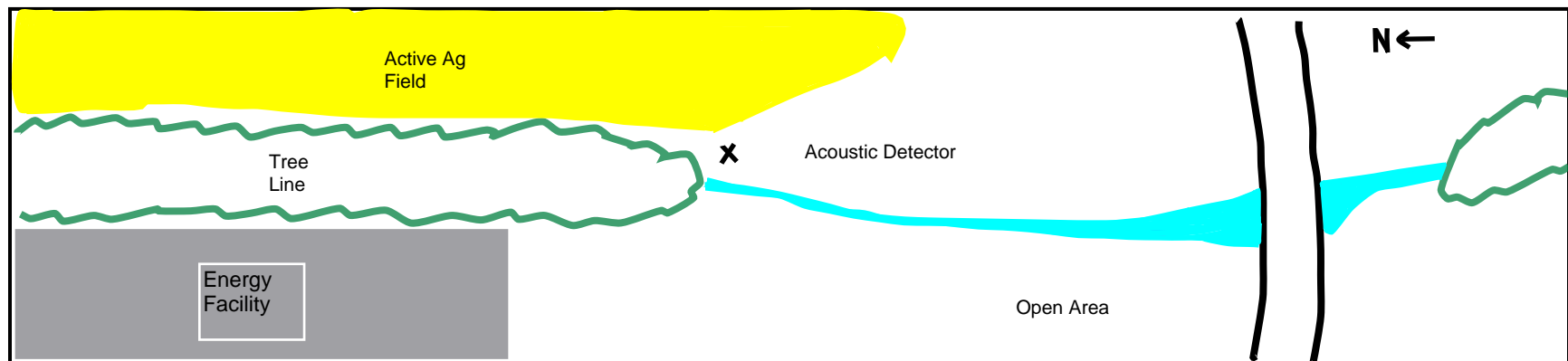
Site: BC-7 Project: Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Date: 12 August 2020  
Latitude: 39.459603 Longitude: -84.391006  
County: Butler State: OH Surveyors: Chance Osborne, Anthony Marinelli  
Detector Type: Anabat SD2 Active Placement: Forest Edge/Pond Elevated:  or N – Pole  
Weatherproofing: None Microphone Height (m): 1.5 Microphone Azimuth: 240

### Habitat Description:

Site is at the bottom of a cluttered tree line where the stream exits the forest and continues under a bridge. An existing energy facility is due west and and active agricultural field is to the east. Only access available within KM block.

Dominant tree species include box elder, green ash, and Kentucky coffeetree. Multiple snags are present within tree line. Detector is facing toward stream.

### Site Drawing:







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## APPENDIX E: Acoustic Site Photographs

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BC-1: Acoustic detector (Hank) along forest edge facing towards open foraging area.



BC-3: Acoustic detector (Q) along edge of potential flight corridor facing towards opening and snags.



BC-4: Acoustic detector (Pele) along forested edge facing towards open area and small stream.



BC-7: Acoustic detector (Tad) along forested edge open area and stream.  
(Power lines are overhead; Tripod deployed instead of extendable pole)

**ATTACHMENT C**  
**POTENTIAL HABITAT PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photograph 1 – KLF\_BH01 view North (BC-1)



Photograph 2 – KLF\_BH02 view South (BC-1)



Photograph 3 – KLF\_BH03 view South (BC-2)



Photograph 4 – KLF\_BH04 view West (BC-4)





Photograph 5 – KLF\_BH05 view West (BC-4)



Photograph 6 – KLF\_BH06 view North (BC-4)



Photograph 7 – KLF\_BH07 view North (BC-4)



Photograph 8 – KLF\_BH08 view West (BC-4)



Photograph 9 – KLF\_BH09 view South (BC-5)



Photograph 10 – KLF\_BH10 view South (BC-6)



Photograph 11 – KLF\_BH11 view North (BC-7)



Photograph 12 – KLF\_BH12 view West (BC-7)



Photograph 13 – KLF\_BH13 view South (BC-7)



Photograph 14 – KLF\_BH14 view West (BC-7)



Photograph 15 – KLF\_BH15 view South (BC-7)



Photograph 16 – KLF\_BH16 view South (BC-8)



# Ohio Department of Natural Resources

MIKE DEWINE, GOVERNOR

MARY MERTZ, DIRECTOR

**Office of Real Estate**  
*John Kessler, Chief*  
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2  
Columbus, OH 43229  
Phone: (614) 265-6621  
Fax: (614) 267-4764

April 27, 2021

Stephen Lane  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
139 East Fourth Street, Room EM740  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

**Re:** 21-0225; Duke Energy - Butler County Ph I C210 & LP07

**Project:** The proposed Project includes 7 segments throughout Butler County

**Location:** The proposed project is located in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler 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 record at or within a one-mile radius of the project area:

Rentschler Forest Preserve – Butler Co. MetroParks

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

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

the entire state of Ohio is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally threatened species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer (April 1 through September 30), these species of bats predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut, the DOW recommends cutting

only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH  $\geq$  20 if possible. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a mist net survey or acoustic survey be conducted from June 1 through August 15, prior to any cutting. Mist net and acoustic surveys should be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of the “OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING”. <https://ohiodnr.gov/static/documents/wildlife/wildlife-management/Bat+Survey+Guidelines.pdf>

If state listed bats are documented, DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, however, limited summer tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with DOW (contact Sarah Stankavich, [sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)).

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment, followed by a field assessment if needed, is conducted to determine if there are potential hibernaculum(a) present within the project area. Information about how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS “Range-wide Indiana Bat Survey Guidelines.” If a habitat assessment finds that potential hibernacula are present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Sarah Stankavich, [sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us) 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 DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species. impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered mussel, and the fawnsfoot (*Truncilla donaciformis*), a state threatened mussel. Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream of sufficient size, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the tonguetied minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*), a state endangered fish, and the American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*), a state threatened fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact these or other aquatic species.

The project is within the range of the Kirtland’s snake (*Clonophis kirtlandii*), a state threatened species. This secretive species prefers wet fields and meadows. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the cave salamander (*Eurycea lucifuga*), a state endangered species. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the black-crowned night-heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), a state-threatened bird. Night-herons are so named because they are nocturnal, conducting most of their foraging in the evening hours or at night, and roost in trees near wetlands and waterbodies during the day. Night herons are migratory and are typically found in Ohio from April 1 through December 1 but can be found in more urbanized areas with reliable food sources year-round.



Black-crowned night-herons primarily forage in wetlands and other shallow aquatic habitats, and roost in trees nearby. These night-herons nest in small trees, saplings, shrubs, or sometimes on the ground, near bodies of water and wetlands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 through July 31. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), a state threatened bird. This secretive marsh species prefers dense emergent wetlands with thick stands of cattails, sedges, sawgrass or other semiaquatic vegetation interspersed with woody vegetation and open water. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 through July 31. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the lark sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*), a state endangered bird. This sparrow nests in grassland habitats with scattered shrub layers, disturbed open areas, as well as patches of bare soil. In the Oak Openings area west of Toledo, lark sparrows occupy open grass and shrubby fields along sandy beach ridges. These summer residents normally migrate out of Ohio shortly after their young fledge or leave the nest. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*), a state endangered bird. Nesting upland sandpipers utilize dry grasslands including native grasslands, seeded grasslands, grazed and ungrazed pasture, hayfields, and grasslands established through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). 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 type of 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 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

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

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

[http://water.ohiodnr.gov/portals/soilwater/pdf/floodplain/Floodplain%20Manager%20Community%20Contact%20List\\_8\\_16.pdf](http://water.ohiodnr.gov/portals/soilwater/pdf/floodplain/Floodplain%20Manager%20Community%20Contact%20List_8_16.pdf)

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact Sarah Tebbe, Environmental Specialist, at [Sarah.Tebbe@dnr.ohio.gov](mailto:Sarah.Tebbe@dnr.ohio.gov) if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

Mike Pettegrew  
Environmental Services Administrator (Acting)



February 16, 2021

John Kessler  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Office of Real Estate  
2045 Morse Road, Building E-2  
Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693

**Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Assistance Letter**  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07  
Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Dear Mr. Kessler:

Kleinfelder, Inc. (Kleinfelder) is submitting this consultation on behalf of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) for the proposed Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project.

Please address any questions or comments regarding this consultation to:

Stephen R. Lane  
Lead Environmental Scientist/Planner - Siting and Licensing Support  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
139 East Fourth Street, Room EM740  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
(513) 287-2379  
steve.lane@duke-energy.com

## 1.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

Duke is proposing gas line improvements including extensions, relocations, and abandonments at 7 different locations in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio (OH) (Figure 1) collectively known as the Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project (Project). Figures 2 and 3 present the Project on an aerial imagery map and natural land cover dataset map, respectively.

The proposed Project includes 7 segments throughout Butler County, OH, which have a cumulative area of investigation (AOI) of approximately 49.7 acres and are individually described below.

- BC-1 has an approximately 3.9-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Liberty Township at 39.389634, -84.447235. Land cover within the AOI consists of industrial use, road right-of-way (ROW), utility ROW, forested and open field areas. Land use is dominated by industrial use.
- BC-2 has an approximately 5.6-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Liberty Township, at 39.4036274, -84.450058. Land cover within the AOI consists of road ROW, utility ROW, and residential areas. Land use is dominated by residential use.



- BC-4 has an approximately 11.3-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Madison Township at 39.443954, -84.455973. Land cover within the AOI consists of industrial use, including two stormwater management facilities, road ROW, forested and open field areas. Land use is dominated by industrial use.
- BC-5 has an approximately 4.9-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Lemon Township, at 39.452186, -84.420642. Land cover within the AOI consists of commercial use, road ROW, utility ROW, residential, and agricultural areas. Land use is dominated by residential, commercial, and agricultural use.
- BC-6 has an approximately 1.9-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Lemon Township, at 39.452907, -84.413036. Land cover within the AOI consists of road ROW, utility ROW, and residential areas. Land use is dominated by residential use.
- BC-7 has an approximately 19.8-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Lemon Township at 39.459418, -84.392426. Land cover within the AOI consists of industrial use, road ROW, utility ROW, and agricultural areas. Land use is dominated by industrial and agricultural use.
- BC-8 has an approximately 2.3-acre AOI. This portion of the AOI is located in Lemon Township at 39.458487, -84.374842. Land cover within the AOI consists of industrial use, road ROW, utility ROW, and residential use. Land use is dominated by industrial and residential use.

Kleinfelder biologists conducted stream and wetland investigations on September 3 and 10, 2020, October 21, 2020, and December 15, 2020 to identify streams, wetlands, and potential Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat (NLEB) habitat within a cumulative 49.7-acre AOI. Dominant tree species among the Project locations included Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*), flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), red elm (*Ulmus rubra*), and black walnut (*Juglans nigra*). Dominant sapling/shrub species among the Project locations included black willow (*Salix nigra*) and Herder Amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*).

## 2.0 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Project LOD was reviewed through the use of the United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) (<https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>) to generate the initial screening of species listed under the Endangered Species Act that are known or expected to be on or near the Project (Attachment A). The table below summarizes the three species that are federally threatened or endangered and are known or expected to be on or near the Project as identified by IPaC. Kleinfelder understands the information contained within IPaC is routinely updated as new information on species distributions becomes available.



**Table 1: Threatened and Endangered Species Identified by IPaC**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Habitat	Status
Indiana Bat	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	There is final critical habitat for this species; however, the location of the critical habitat is not available.	Endangered
Northern Long-Eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	No critical habitat has been designated for this species.	Threatened
Running Buffalo Clover	<i>Trifolium stoloniferum</i>	No critical habitat has been designated for this species.	Endangered

**3.0 POTENTIAL THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES HABITAT IN THE AOI**

**Indiana Bat and NLEB**

The Indiana bat is identified as an endangered species within Ohio. Summer roosting habitat for the Indiana bat includes living, dead (snags), or decaying trees ≥ 5 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) that contain exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or hollows. The NLEB is identified as a threatened species within Ohio. Summer roosting habitat for the NLEB consists of living, dead, or decaying trees ≥ 3 inches DBH that contain exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or hollows.

In Ohio, presence of the Indiana bat and NLEB is assumed wherever suitable habitat occurs. As a result of this requirement and due to the proposed Project construction schedule, Kleinfelder contracted Encarna, LLC. (Encarna) on behalf of Duke to conduct a summer acoustic survey to determine the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Project during the summer maternity season. Prior to conducting the acoustic survey, a study plan was submitted to the USFWS Ohio Field Office (OHFO) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) on August 9, 2020 proposing an acoustic survey for 4 of the 7 Project segments. The USFWS OHFO and ODNR concurred with the proposal on August 11, 2020 and August 12, 2020, respectively. Between August 12, 2020 and August 14, 2020, acoustic surveys were performed at the BC-1, BC-4, and BC-7. Acoustic surveys were not performed at BC-2 due to land access issues. Data collected from the acoustic surveys were analyzed using the USFWS approved Kaleidoscope Pro Version 5.1.0, which includes a Maximum Likelihood Estimator (MLE) that statistically evaluates the risk of false positives within each individual species result. The MLE generated by Kaleidoscope had confidence in five species: big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), Eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*), and tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). The Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and NLEB (*Myotis septentrionalis*) were found not likely to be present. The results of the acoustic surveys were submitted to USFWS and ODNR on August 24, 2020.



Correspondence from USFWS (TAILS# 03E15000-2020-TA-2218) on August 25, 2020 indicated tree clearing on the project site at any time of the year is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to the Indiana bats and will not result in any unauthorized incidental take of NLEB. In addition, USFWS did not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species due to the Project type, size, and location. Correspondence from ODNR on August 25 and 26, 2020 recommended no side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the Project area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree and no cutting of any trees with a DBH  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> and after March 31<sup>st</sup> in order to limit impacts to tricolored bats. Additionally, in order to limit impacts to little brown bats, ODNR recommended no clearing of trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities. USFWS and ODNR correspondence associated with the acoustic surveys are included as Attachment B.

Due to the recommendation outlined by ODNR, Kleinfelder biologists assessed the onsite habitat within the 49.7-acre AOI to determine suitability for bats (Figures 2 and 3), and recorded GPS coordinates of trees exhibiting  $\geq$ 20-inch DBH. The results of this habitat assessment can be found on Figure 2. The AOI was primarily comprised of agricultural fields, riparian areas, energy infrastructure, fence rows, early successional and secondary growth forests, residential developments, roads, ROWs, and herbaceous openings. The roads, pipeline ROW, and open fields may serve as migratory corridors for both the Indiana bat and NLEB. Forested hillslopes, forested edges, and riparian areas may serve as potential foraging or roosting habitat for both the Indiana bat and the NLEB.

In winter, both the Indiana bat and NLEB hibernate in caves and abandoned mines. A desktop review was conducted within a 1/4-mile radius of the proposed Project using topographic and aerial maps and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Ohio Mines Viewer, which revealed no caves or portals within the AOI. In addition, site visits by Kleinfelder did not identify the presence of caves or portals within the AOI.

### **Running Buffalo Clover**

Running Buffalo Clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*) previously existed in 9 states; however, the current range consists of dispersed fragments likely due to habitat loss or modification. Running buffalo clover occurs in mesic habitats of partial to filtered sunlight, where there is a prolonged pattern of moderate periodic disturbance, such as mowing, trampling, or grazing. It is most often found in regions underlain with limestone or other calcareous bedrock. The primary threat to running buffalo clover is habitat alteration. Factors that contribute to this threat include natural forest succession and subsequent canopy closure, competition by invasive plant species, permanent habitat loss through development or road construction, and may include the elimination of bison and other large herbivores.

According to guidance provided by the USFWS in 2019, the proposed Project is not located in a township or county designated by the USFWS that "may effect" the listed species.



#### 4.0 PROPOSED IMPACTS

The Project proposes an overall LOD of approximately 12.7-acres. Of the 12.7-acres, approximately 1.9 acres are forested, and 10.8-acres are open agricultural fields, scrub shrub habitat, residential property, and existing infrastructure (based on site observations and a GIS review of aerial photography, see Table 2). Photographs providing a representation of habitat are included in Attachment C.

#### Potential Habitat Impacts

Duke proposes to conduct tree clearing of 1.9-acres of suitable forested habitat. Based on site observations, the trees present within the LOD may provide marginal Indiana bat and NLEB roosting habitat, based on the lack of suitable characteristics including loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities. The open fields and existing roads may provide migratory and foraging habitat.

**Table 2: Potential Impacted Habitat in the LOD, AOI and ¼ Mile Buffer**

Cumulative									
Study Area	Total Area (Acres)	Forested Area		Non-Forested Area		Tree Clearing		Forested Area Remaining	
		Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%
LOD	12.7	1.9	14.6%	10.8	85.4%	1.9	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
AOI	49.7	7.5	15.1%	42.2	84.9%		24.8%	5.6	75.2%
Buffer	1279.2	186.5	14.6%	1092.7	85.4%		1.0%	184.6	99.0%

Individual Segments										
Segment	Study Area	Total Area (Acres)	Forested Area		Non-Forested Area		Tree Clearing		Forested Area Remaining	
			Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%
BC-1	LOD	0.9	0.1	11.4%	0.8	88.6%	0.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	3.9	1.2	29.7%	2.7	70.3%		8.6%	1.9	91.4%
	Buffer	175.7	16.0	9.1%	159.7	90.9%		0.6%	15.89	99.4%
BC-2	LOD	1.3	0.3	22.3%	1.0	77.7%	0.3	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	5.6	0.4	6.4%	5.2	93.6%		84.0%	0.1	16.0%
	Buffer	184.6	20.6	11.2%	164.0	88.8%		1.5%	20.3	98.5%
BC-4	LOD	3.9	1.1	27.7%	2.8	72.3%	1.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	11.3	4.8	42.7%	6.5	57.3%		22.1%	3.8	77.9%
	Buffer	249.9	32.1	12.8%	217.8	87.2%		3.3%	31.0	96.7%
BC-5	LOD	0.9	0.1	11.7%	0.8	88.3%	0.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	4.9	0.1	2.3%	4.8	97.7%		96.2%	0.0	3.8%
	Buffer	172.3	40.7	23.6%	131.6	76.4%		0.3%	40.6	99.7%



Individual Segments										
Segment	Study Area	Total Area (Acres)	Forested Area		Non-Forested Area		Tree Clearing		Forested Area Remaining	
			Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%	Acres	%
BC-6	LOD	0.1	0.0	0.0%	0.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	1.9	0.0	0.0%	1.9	100.0%		0.0%	0.0	0.0%
	Buffer	133.9	14.7	11.0%	119.3	89.1%		0.0%	14.7	100.0%
BC-7	LOD	5.4	0.2	4.3%	5.2	95.7%	0.2	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	19.8	1.4	7.0%	18.4	93.0%		16.5%	1.2	83.5%
	Buffer	241.3	22.3	9.2%	219.0	90.8%		1.0%	22.1	99.0%
BC-8	LOD	0.2	0.1	21.0%	0.2	79.0%	0.1	100.0%	0.0	0.0%
	AOI	2.3	0.1	2.2%	2.3	97.8%		91.8%	0.0	8.2%
	Buffer	140.4	39.1	27.9%	101.3	72.2%		0.1%	39.1	99.9%

## 5.0 AVOIDANCE & MINIMIZATION

Duke has designed the proposed Project to minimize and avoid encroachments to aquatic resources, sensitive species, and forested habitat (Figure 2). Several options for design were evaluated with final plans representing the best possible design for the Project, which minimizes impacts to sensitive species and critical habitat. No impacts to aquatic resources, which may serve as habitat for endangered aquatic species are proposed. Duke proposes to conduct tree clearing of 1.9-acrs of forested habitat. After proposed tree removal has occurred, forested area within the 1/4-mile buffer will remain 99.0% intact (184.6 forested acres remaining). The initial 49.7-acre AOI has been minimized to a 12.7-acre LOD and the amount of forest clearing within the LOD (1.9-acres) has been reduced to the least amount practical to still allow for construction.



## 6.0 SUMMARY

Duke proposes to conduct tree clearing of 1.9-acres of forested habitat. It is Kleinfelder's professional opinion that the Project will not likely adversely affect the running buffalo clover, Indiana bat, or NLEB.

Duke requests concurrence that the site will not adversely affect the running buffalo clover, Indiana bat, NLEB, or other state or federally listed species.

Sincerely,

Kleinfelder, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew J. Albright".

Matthew J. Albright  
Project Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jill M. Vovaris".

Jill M. Vovaris  
Senior Professional

c: Dan Everson, USFWS

Enclosures:

Figure 1 – Vicinity Map

Figure 2 - Aerial Imagery Map

Figure 3 - National Land Cover Dataset 1/4 Mile Buffer Map

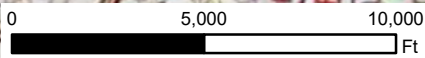
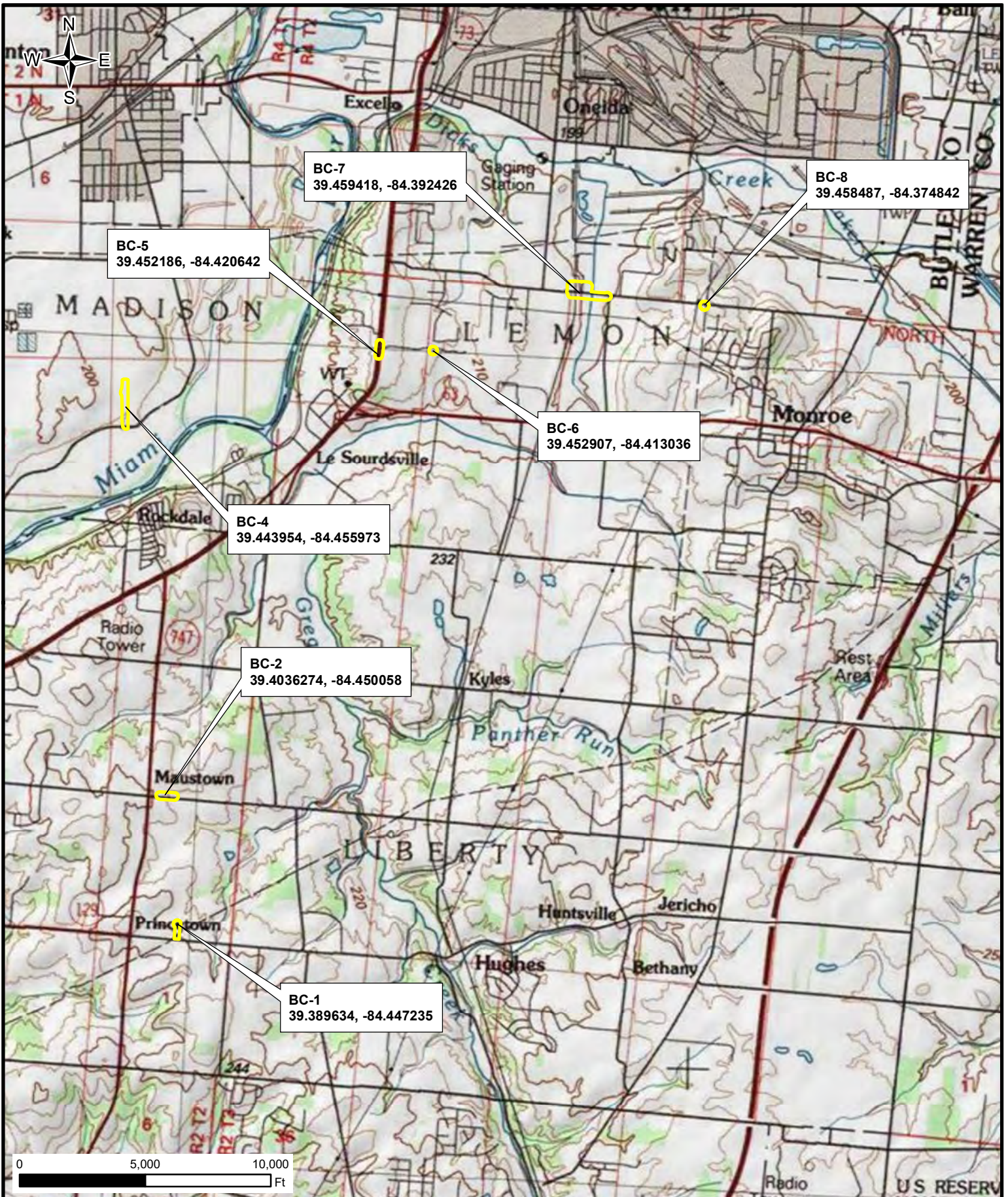
Attachment A - Information for Planning and Consultation

Attachment B – Acoustic Survey and USFWS & ODNR Correspondence

Attachment C – Potential Habitat Photographs



**FIGURE 1  
VICINITY MAP**



Monroe & Trenton, OH  
7.5' USGS Quadrangle

Lemon, Liberty &  
Monroe Township,  
Butler County,  
Ohio

PROJECT NO. 20211395

DRAWN BY: S. Williams

CHECKED BY: M. Albright

FILE NAME:  
ButlerCountyPhase1\_RTE\_Fig1

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

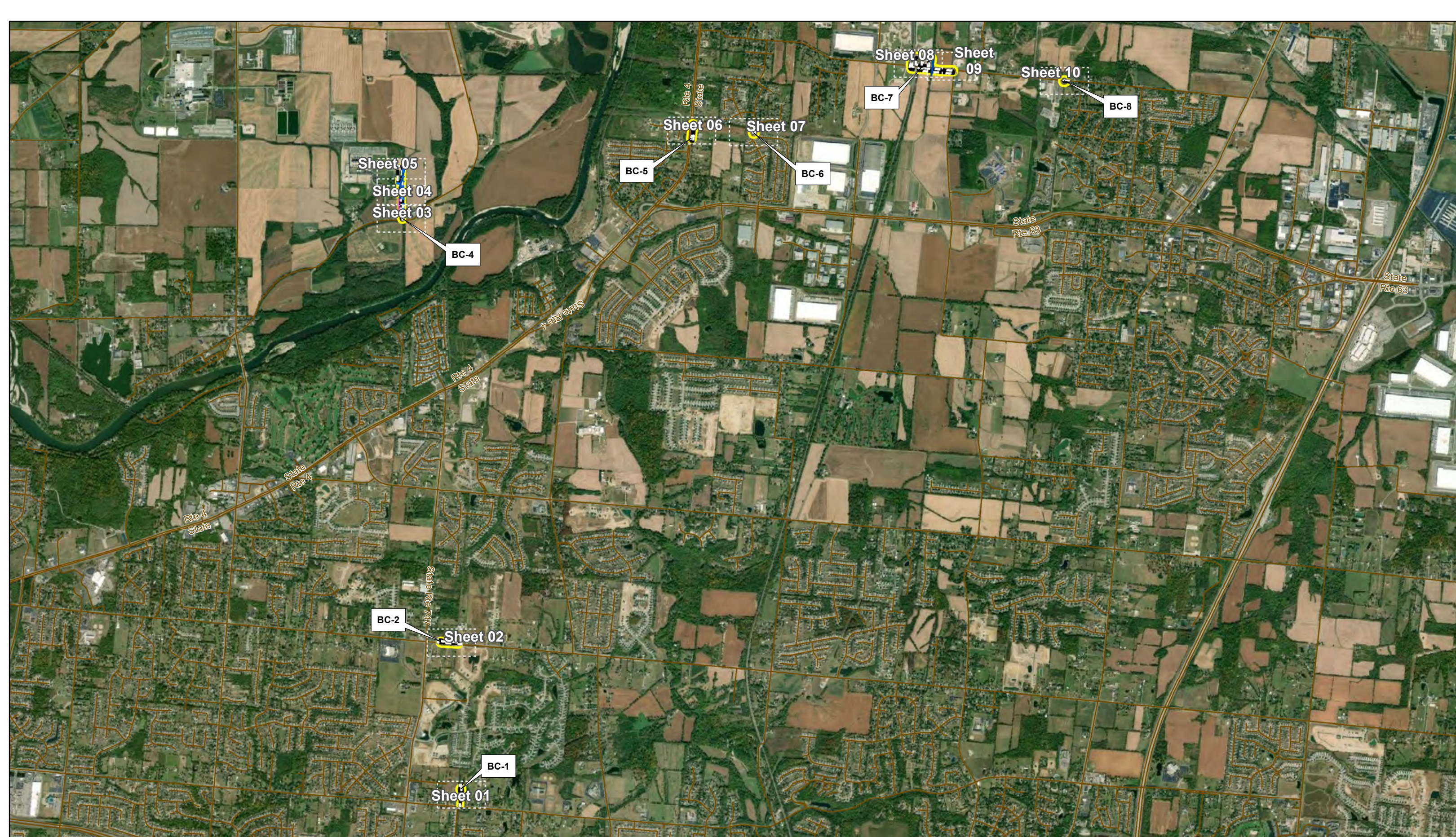
Figure 1  
Vicinity Map  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/12/2021

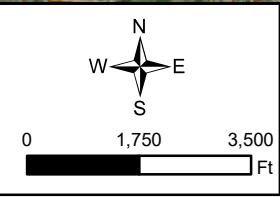
Version: 1

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**FIGURE 2  
AERIAL IMAGERY MAP**



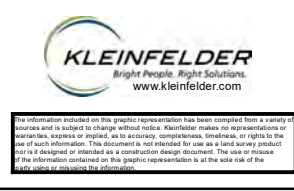
PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2\_Idx



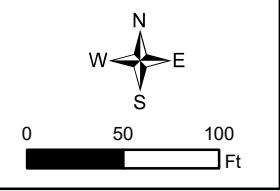
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- Cumulative AOI (49.7 ac)
- Cumulative LOD (12.7 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

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 Date: 2/12/2021      Index Map



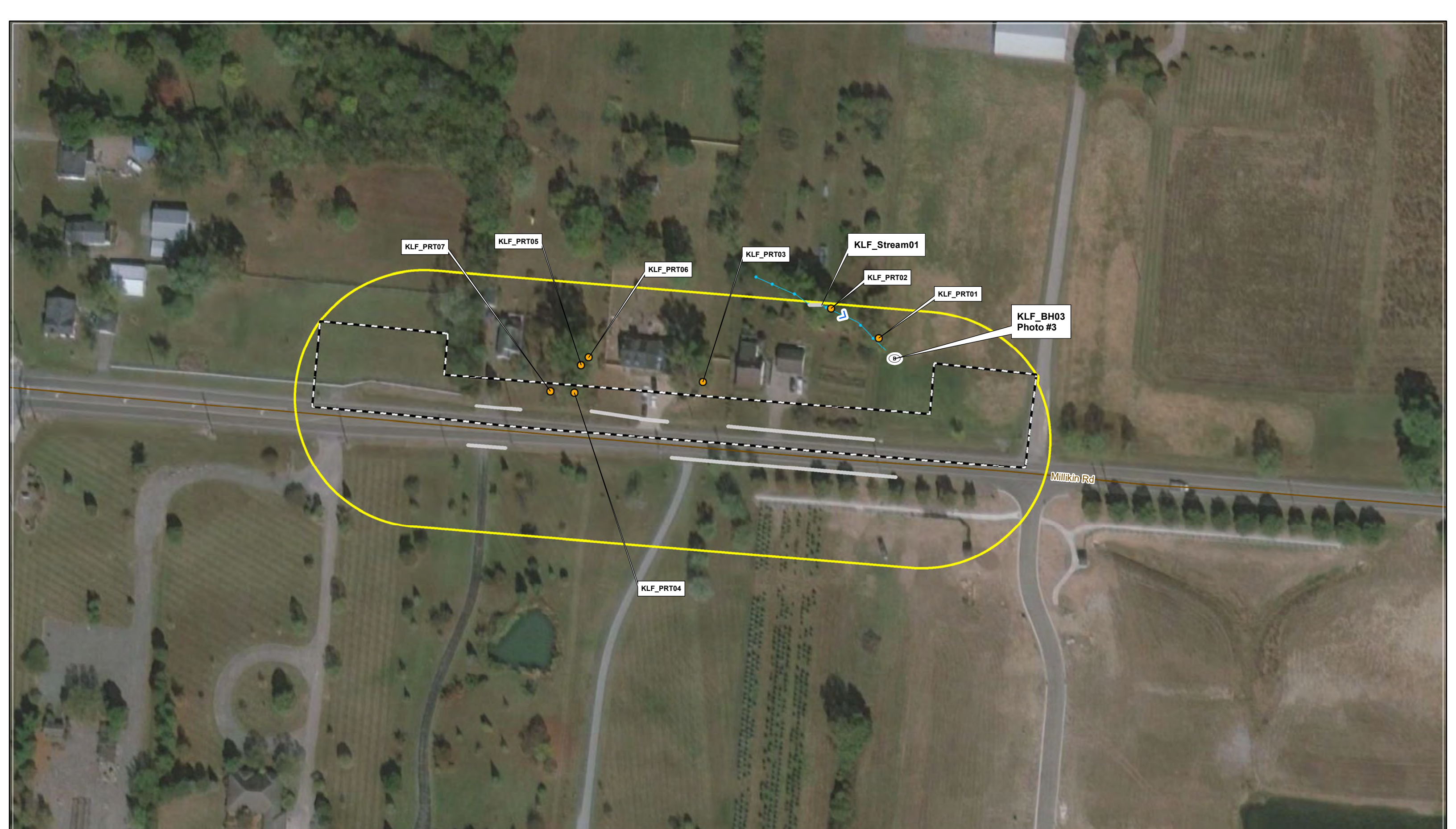
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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
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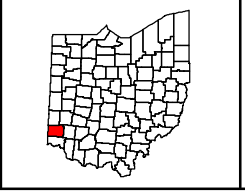
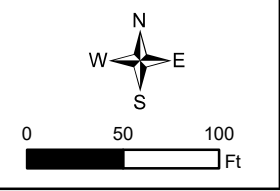
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-1 AOI (3.9 ac)
- BC-1 LOD (0.9 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↗ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
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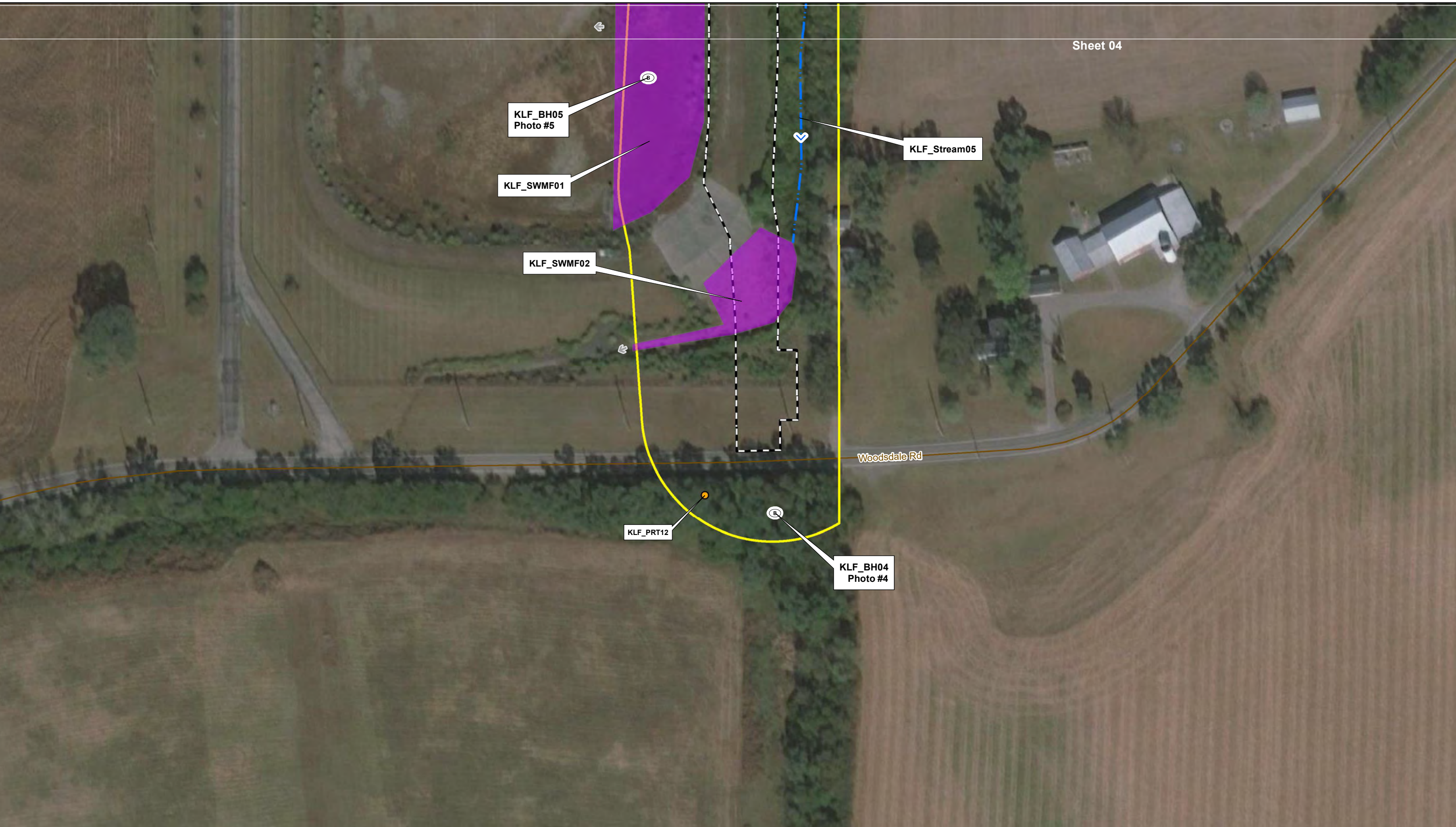
PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-2 AOI (5.6 ac)
- BC-2 LOD (1.3 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↗ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

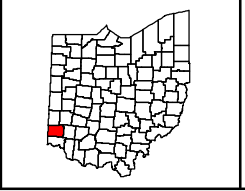
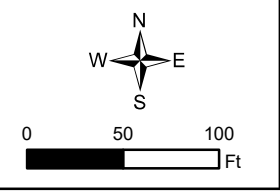
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**Butler County  
Ohio**

BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)	Bridge	Stormwater Management Facility
BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)	Ephemeral Stream	USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
Bat Habitat Location	Intermittent Stream	Existing Road
Trees >= 20" DBH*	Perennial Stream	Stream Flow
Existing Culvert	PEM Wetland	Feature Continues

<b>Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.</b>	
Figure 2 Aerial Imagery Map Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project	
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Sheet 05

Sheet 03

KLF\_Stream06

KLF\_Stream03

KLF\_Stream05

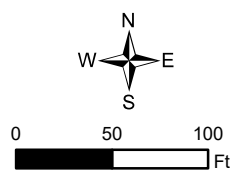
KLF\_BH06  
Photo #6

KLF\_Wetland05

KLF\_SWMF01



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 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



Butler County  
Ohio

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- Bridge
- Stormwater Management Facility
- BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Intermittent Stream
- Existing Road
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Perennial Stream
- Stream Flow
- Existing Culvert
- PEM Wetland
- Feature Continues

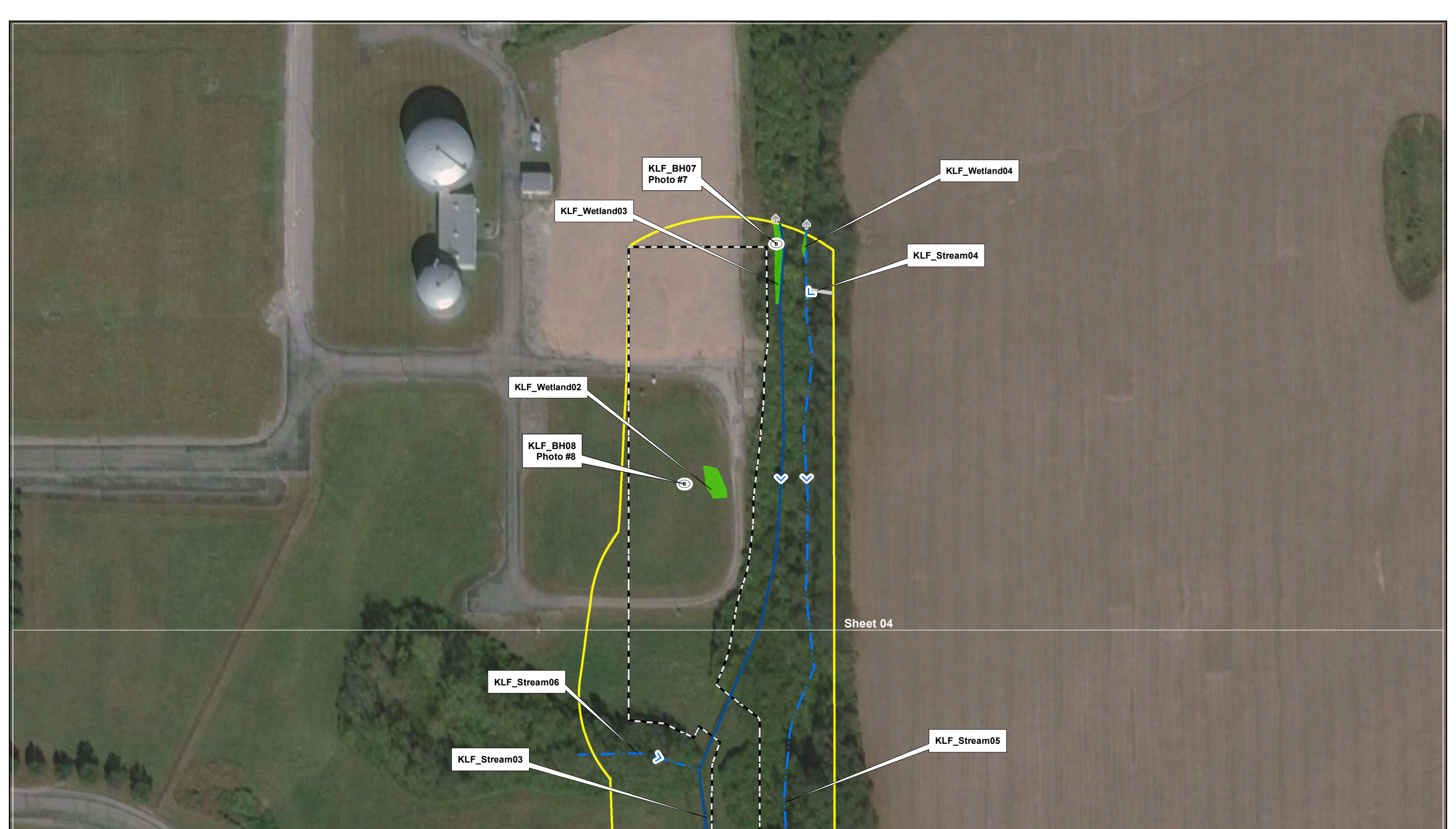
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

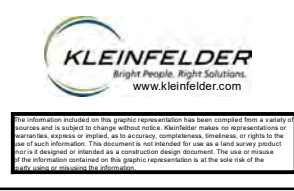
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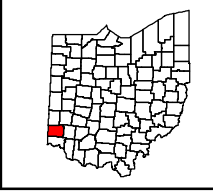
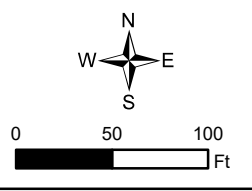




Sheet 04



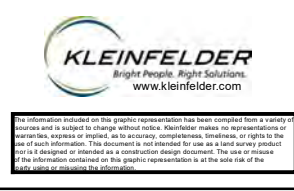
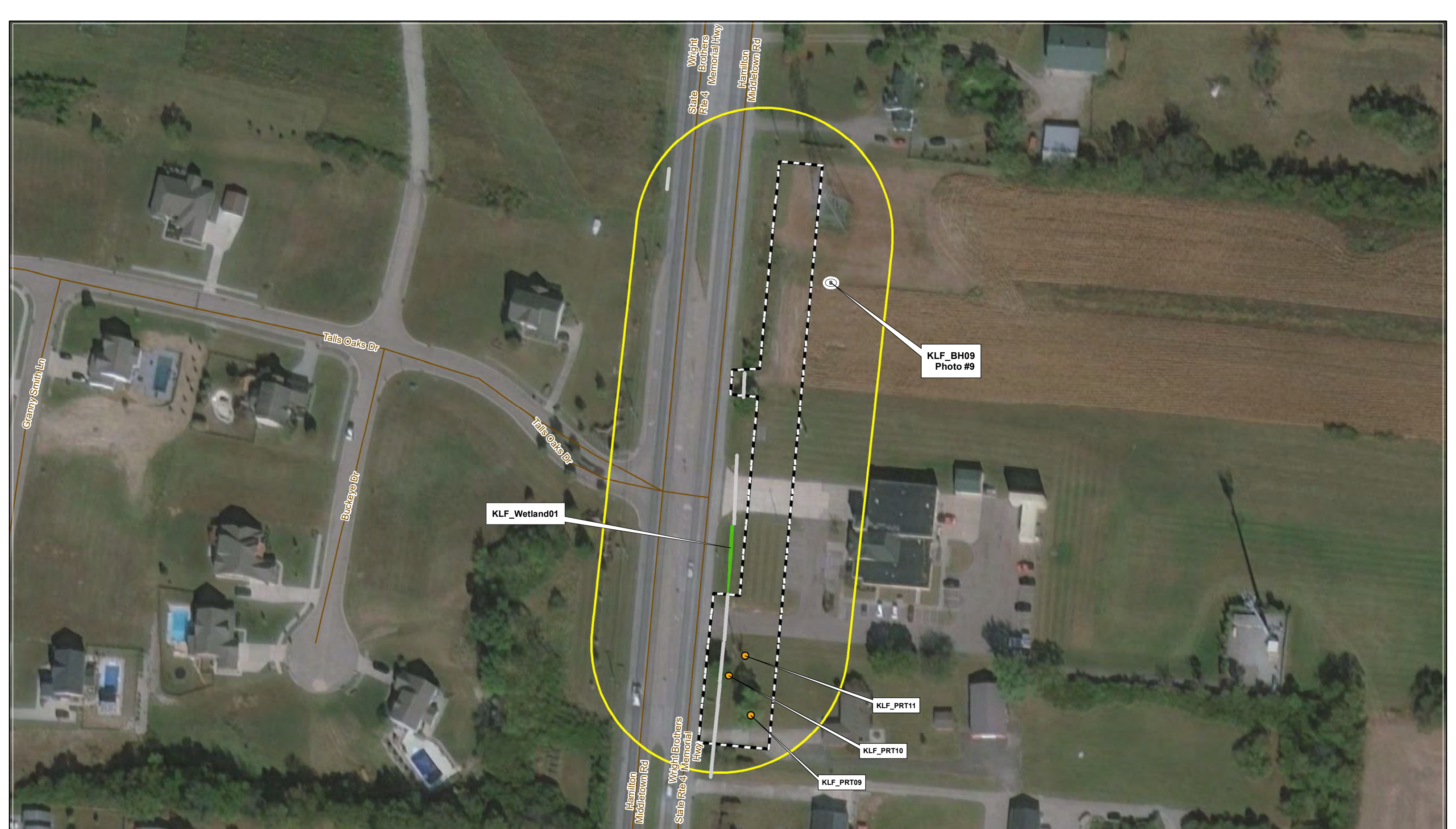
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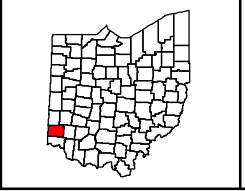
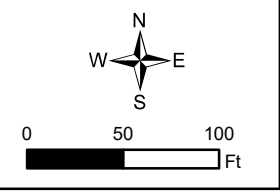
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)
- B Bat Habitat Location
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- - - Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↘ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

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 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



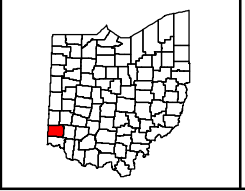
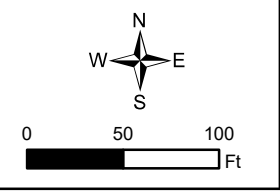
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-5 AOI (4.9 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (0.9 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- PEM Wetland
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- - - Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- > Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

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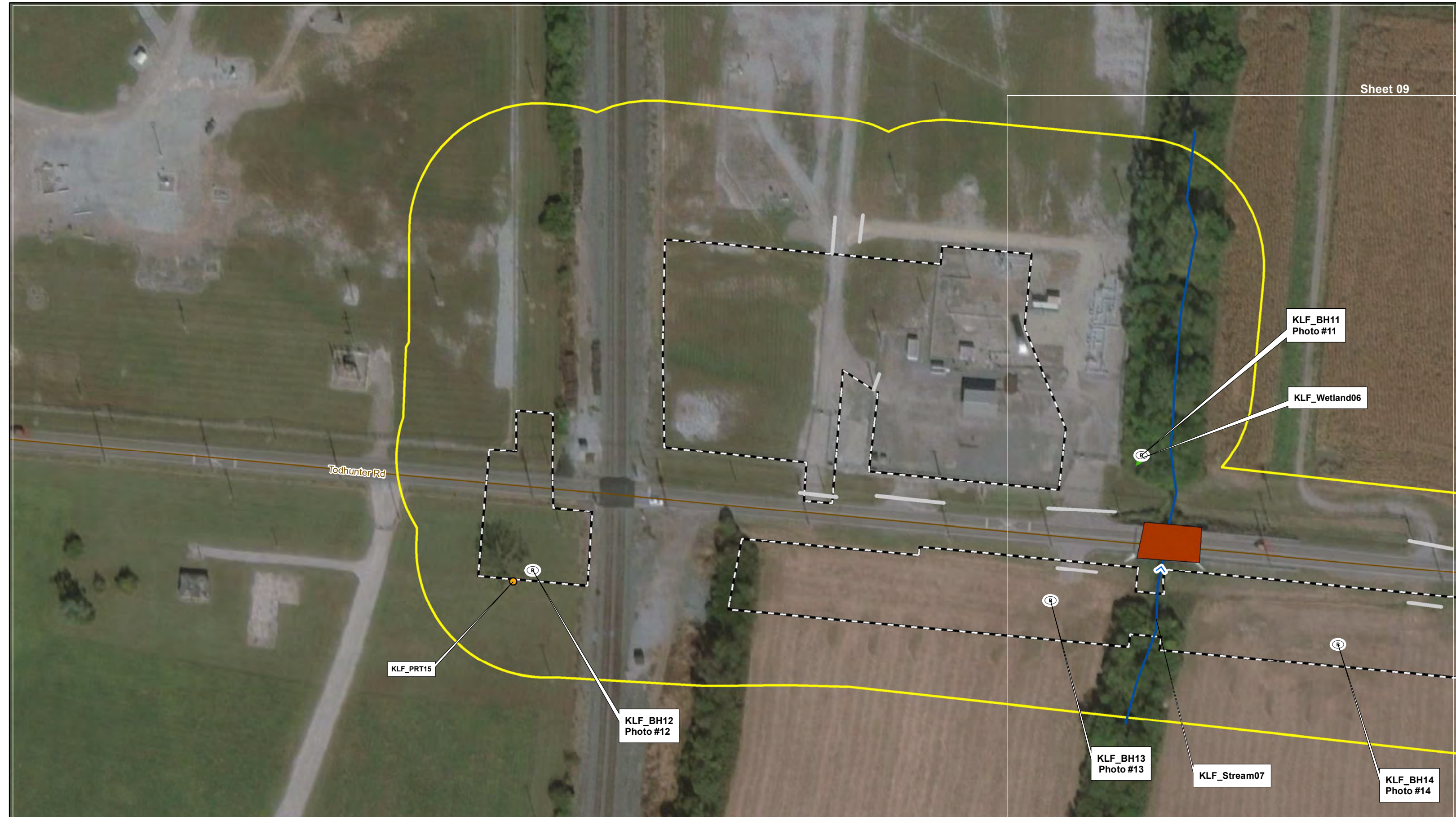
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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
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**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-6 AOI (1.9 ac)
- BC-6 LOD (0.1 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↗ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

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Todhunter Rd

KLF\_PRT15

KLF\_BH12  
Photo #12

KLF\_BH11  
Photo #11

KLF\_Wetland06

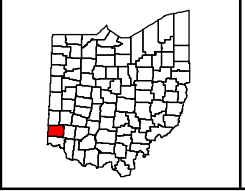
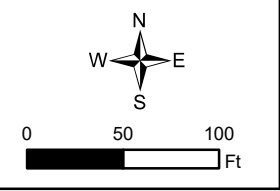
KLF\_BH13  
Photo #13

KLF\_Stream07

KLF\_BH14  
Photo #14

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**Butler County  
Ohio**

BC-7 AOI (19.8 ac)	Bridge	Stormwater Management Facility
BC-7 LOD (5.4 ac)	Ephemeral Stream	USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
Bat Habitat Location	Intermittent Stream	Existing Road
Trees >= 20" DBH*	Perennial Stream	Stream Flow
Existing Culvert	PEM Wetland	Feature Continues

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Sheet 08

KLF\_BH11  
Photo #11

KLF\_Wetland06

KLF\_PRT14

KLF\_BH15  
Photo #15

KLF\_SWMF03

KLF\_BH13  
Photo #13

KLF\_Stream07

KLF\_BH14  
Photo #14

Tochunter Rd

Yankee Rd

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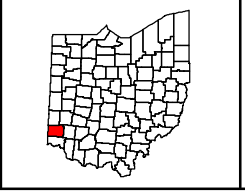
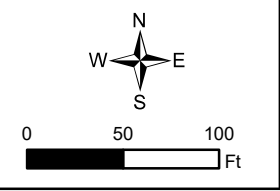
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-7 AOI (19.8 ac)
- Bridge
- Stormwater Management Facility
- BC-7 LOD (5.4 ac)
- Ephemeral Stream
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Intermittent Stream
- Existing Road
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Perennial Stream
- Stream Flow
- Existing Culvert
- PEM Wetland
- ↑ Feature Continues

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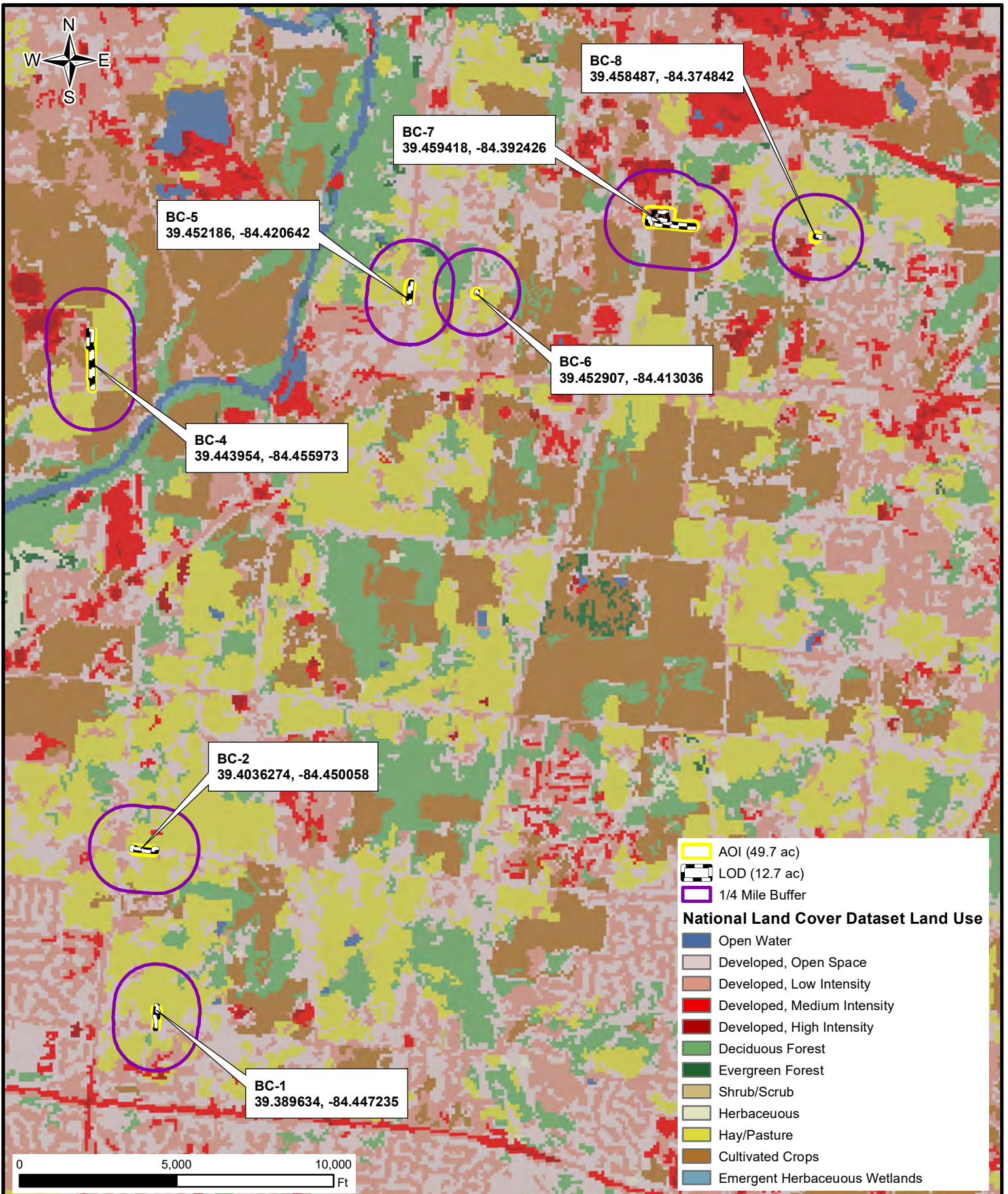


**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-8 AOI (2.3 ac)
- BC-8 LOD (0.2 ac)
- Bat Habitat Location
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ^ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

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**FIGURE 3**  
**NATIONAL LAND COVER DATASET 1/4 MILE BUFFER MAP**





**ATTACHMENT A**  
**INFORMATION FOR PLANNING AND CONSULTATION**

# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

## Location

Butler County, Ohio



## Local office

Ohio Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (614) 416-8993

📅 (614) 416-8994

4625 Morse Road, Suite 104  
Columbus, OH 43230-8355

# Endangered species

**This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.**

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Mammals

NAME

STATUS

Indiana Bat *Myotis sodalis*

Endangered

Wherever found

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949>

Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis*

Threatened

Wherever found

This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies:

- Incidental take of the northern long-eared bat is not prohibited at this location. Federal action agencies may conclude consultation using the streamlined process described at <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/s7.html>

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045>

## Flowering Plants

NAME

STATUS

Running Buffalo Clover *Trifolium stoloniferum*

Endangered

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2529>

## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME

BREEDING SEASON (IF A BREEDING SEASON IS INDICATED FOR A BIRD ON YOUR LIST, THE BIRD MAY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA SOMETIME WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED, WHICH IS A VERY LIBERAL ESTIMATE OF THE DATES INSIDE WHICH THE BIRD BREEDS ACROSS ITS ENTIRE RANGE. "BREEDS ELSEWHERE" INDICATES THAT THE BIRD DOES NOT LIKELY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA.)

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626>

Henslow's Sparrow *Ammodramus henslowii*

Breeds May 1 to Aug 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941>

Prothonotary Warbler *Protonotaria citrea*

Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Red-headed Woodpecker *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*

Breeds May 10 to Sep 10

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Rusty Blackbird *Euphagus carolinus*

Breeds elsewhere

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina*

Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

## Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

### Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .

3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

#### **Breeding Season (■)**

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

#### **Survey Effort (|)**

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

#### **No Data (—)**

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

#### **Survey Timeframe**

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.

---

#### **Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

#### **What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

#### **What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

### **How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

### **What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?**

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

### **Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects**

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

### **What if I have eagles on my list?**

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

### **Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report**



The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

## Facilities

### National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

### Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

### Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

WETLAND INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the [NWI map](#) to view wetlands at this location.

### **Data limitations**

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

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

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

### **Data exclusions**

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

### **Data precautions**

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

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**ACOUSTIC SURVEY AND USFWS & ODNR CORRESPONDENCE**

## Spencer Chronister

---

**From:** Ohio, FW3 <ohio@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 11:54 AM  
**To:** Jill Vovaris  
**Cc:** Boyer, Angela; nathan.reardon@dnr.state.oh.us; Parsons, Kate; sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us; Hazelton, Erin; Lane, Steve; Seth Sanders; Matthew Albright  
**Subject:** Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Survey #20-042

### External Email.

---



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



TAILS# 03E15000-2020-TA-2218

Dear Ms. Vovaris,

We have received your summer bat survey report for the subject project. The survey was conducted following current U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) guidelines. No Indiana bats (*Myotis sodalis*) were detected, demonstrating probable absence of Indiana bats in the project area. Currently, the Service has no known hibernacula or maternity roost records for northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) in the vicinity of the project. Therefore, the 4(d) rule for the northern long-eared bat could be applied (see: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/index.html>). Tree clearing on the project site at any time of the year is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to Indiana bats and will not result in any unauthorized incidental take of northern long-eared bats. Negative Indiana bat summer surveys are valid for five years. Therefore, **no tree clearing should occur on the site after March 31, 2025** without further coordination with this office.

If there is a federal nexus for the project (e.g., federal funding provided, federal permits required to construct), no tree clearing should occur on any portion of the project area until consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, between the Service and the federal action agency, is completed. We recommend that 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.

Due to the project type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species. Should the project design change, or during the term of this action, 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, consultation with the Service should be initiated to assess any potential impacts.

This letter provides technical assistance only and does not serve as a completed section 7 consultation document. If project plans change, if portions of the proposed project were not evaluated, or if additional information on listed or proposed species or their critical habitat becomes available, it is our recommendation that you reinstate coordination with this office. We recommend that the project be coordinated with the Ohio

Department of Natural Resources due to the potential for the project to affect state listed species and/or state lands. Contact Mike Pettegrew, Acting Environmental Services Administrator, at (614) 265-6387 or at [mike.pettegrew@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:mike.pettegrew@dnr.state.oh.us).

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

Sincerely,

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

Patrice M. Ashfield  
Field Office Supervisor

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

## Spencer Chronister

---

**From:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2020 5:18 PM  
**To:** Matthew Albright  
**Subject:** FW: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

---

**From:** Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us <Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 26, 2020 1:54 PM  
**To:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>; Susan\_Zimmermann@fws.gov; angela\_boyer@fws.gov  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com>; Seth Sanders <SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

### External Email.

---

ODNR-DOW recommends no side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the project area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree and no cutting of any trees with a DBH  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1 in order to limit impacts to tricolored bats. Additionally, in order to limit impacts to little brown bats, ODNR-DOW recommends no clearing trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sarah

---

**From:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 9:51 AM  
**To:** Stankavich, Sarah <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>; [Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov); [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov); Hazelton, Erin <[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)>  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

Thanks for the quick response Sarah.

Please provide ODNR recommendations for roost season cutting related to the little brown and the tri-colored species.

Thanks.

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

---

**From:** [Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us) <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 8:40 AM  
**To:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>; [Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov); [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov);  
[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

**External Email.**

---

Hi Jill –

We received the reports for the Duke Energy Maineville to Morrow and the Butler Phase I projects. Acoustic surveys for both of these sites established the likely presence of two state endangered bat species, *Myotis lucifugus* and *Perimyotis subflavus*. Therefore, DOW recommends that no cutting take place at these sites prior to Oct 1. If tree cutting is necessary before this date, we can provide recommendations for limited cutting upon request.

Sarah



**Sarah Stankavich**  
Wildlife Technician (bats/pollinators)  
ODNR Division of Wildlife  
2045 Morse Road  
Columbus, OH 43229  
Phone: 614-265-6764  
Email: [sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)

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**From:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 5:49 PM  
**To:** [Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov); Stankavich, Sarah <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>; [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov);  
Hazelton, Erin <[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)>  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

Hello,

Please see below for the links to the Duke Energy Maineville to Morrow and the Butler Phase I Acoustic Survey Reports.

Please contact me with any questions.

Thanks,  
Jill

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

## Files Available on the Kleinfelder File Transfer Site

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From: **Matthew Albright**  
Workspace: **Albright\_Matthew**  
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<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/p2131zdxypn3ngg/pmurfukj7bstkep>
2. **2020.008 - Maineville Morrow Loop Line Acoustic Survey Report-FINAL.pdf** (55.34 MB) in Albright\_Matthew  
<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/p68ykfqrzglrvsn/sq8lf4x39iuf03g>

These links will expire on **09/03/20 at 12:41 pm PDT**

This email was sent to the following recipients: **Matthew Albright**, [malbright@kleinfelder.com](mailto:malbright@kleinfelder.com)

---

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A Survey Report Prepared for:



**Kleinfelder, Inc.**

**SURVEY REPORT FOR A PRESENCE/PROBABLE ABSENCE ACOUSTIC  
SURVEY FOR FEDERALLY THREATENED OR ENDANGERED BAT SPECIES  
FOR THE PROPOSED BUTLER COUNTY INTEGRITY UPGRADES – PHASE 1 PROJECT  
IN BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO.**

Prepared by:

Chance Osborne



encarna

**Encarna, LLC.**

August 21, 2020



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### APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: Approved Study Plan & Agency Coordination

APPENDIX B: Project Mapping

APPENDIX C: Project Data Tables

APPENDIX D: Completed Acoustic Survey Datasheets

APPENDIX E: Acoustic Site Photographs

### TABLES

TABLE 1: Kaleidoscope Pro V.5.1.0 Output of Species Identifications by Site and Night.

TABLE 2: Kaleidoscope V.5.1.0 Output of P-Values for the Maximum Likelihood Estimator.

TABLE 3: Location of Bat Acoustic Sites and Microphone Orientation.

TABLE 4: Weather Data Through Survey Sampling Period.



## 1 INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 Project Introduction

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines in Liberty Township, Hamilton, and Middletown in Butler County, Ohio, known as the Butler County Integrity Upgrades – Phase 1 Project (Project). Increasing this pressure will better position assets to create a future loop to provide an alternate gas path for alternate supply from Dick’s Creek to south of Huntsville, Ohio. The Project was initially reviewed using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Based upon the information obtained from the IPaC, it was determined that the Project may provide suitable summer habitat for the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). A copy of the IPaC report is available within the USFWS Ohio Field Office (USFWS OHFO) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) approved Study Plan (Study Plan) found in Appendix A. The Project has an area of interest (AOI) of approximately 44.3 acres and a limit of disturbance (LOD) of approximately 15.1 acres, which will result in the removal of less than 1.0 acres of suitable forested habitat (Appendix B, Figure 2).

Kleinfelder, Inc. (Kleinfelder) contracted Encarna, LLC. (Encarna) on behalf of Duke to conduct a summer acoustic survey to determine the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Project area during the summer maternity season. The following survey report details the findings of the approved Study Plan (Appendix A) that was conducted between 12 August 2020 and 14 August 2020. The Project is located on the Trenton 7.5-Minute U.S. Geological Survey topographic quadrangle near Woodsdale, Ohio (Appendix B, Figure 1).

### 1.2 Habitat Present Within Project Area

Land cover types present within and surrounding the proposed Project AOI were comprised of agricultural fields, riparian areas, existing energy infrastructure, fence rows, early successional and secondary growth forests, residential developments, existing roads, existing right-of-ways, and herbaceous openings. Dominant tree species among the site locations included American sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), box elder (*Acer negundo*), crabapple tree (*Malus sylvestris*), black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*), tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), black walnut (*Juglans nigra*), black willow (*Salix nigra*), and Kentucky coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioica*).



## 2 METHODS

---

### 2.1 Acoustic Survey

Prior to conducting the acoustic survey, a study plan was submitted to the USFWS OHFO and ODNR on 9 August 2020 proposing an acoustic survey for the entire alignment of the Project. The USFWS OHFO concurred with the proposal on 11 August 2020 and ODNR provided authorization to proceed on 12 August 2020. Copies of the approved Study Plan and agency correspondence can be found in Appendix A.

To address the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Project survey area during the summer maternity season, Encarna conducted a summer acoustic survey pursuant to the USFWS “2020 Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines” (USFWS 2020) from 12 August 2020 to 14 August 2020. Based upon those guidelines, linear projects in the Indiana Bat Midwest Recovery Unit require a minimum of two detector nights per kilometer (0.6 miles) of suitable forested habitat to determine the presence/probable absence of federally threatened and/or endangered bat species (USFWS 2020). A detector night is defined as the operation and deployment of one acoustic monitoring device from sunset to sunrise for one calendar night. The acoustic survey had an effort of one detector per kilometer block at four different locations for two calendar nights, resulting in a total level of effort of eight detector nights. Acoustic detector locations are depicted on Figures 2 – 7 in Appendix B and in Table 3.

Final acoustic detector locations were determined by USFWS approved bat biologist Chance Osborne (USFWS Native Endangered and Threatened Species Recovery Permit No. TE62778B-1) in the field and their locations were recorded using a Trimble Geo 7x Global Positioning System. Detectors were placed in suitable habitat locations (forest openings, riparian corridors, woodland edges, etc.) within the Project area that were most likely to capture high quality bat call sequences based on available land access. Photographs of the erected detector assemblies at each survey location can be found in Appendix E.

The survey effort was originally proposed for five detectors at five different site locations for a total of 10 detector nights. Due to access issues, site BC-2 was not surveyed and will not be included in the request for concurrence. Additionally, one site location (BC-7) varied from the proposed locations within the study plan due to access issues. Access was only granted at one location within the kilometer block and the detector was placed below a tree line near a small stream.



The acoustic survey was completed using Titley Scientific Anabat SD2 Active Bat Detectors. Field verification of detector functionality was completed by creating ultrasonic sounds (finger rubs, finger snaps) in front of the microphone prior to the start and at the finish of each survey. To provide data in settings where the amount of light may be variable due to the habitat present (deeper/dark forested valleys or corridors, ridge tops, open areas, etc.) and to avoid missing early-flying bats, detectors were set to record from 10 minutes prior to sunset to 10 minutes after sunrise.

To aid in improving recording quality, each detector was deployed at a height greater than three meters above ground level vegetation on an extendable pole and microphones were positioned in the center of the potential flight path/zone in areas with no vegetation within at least 10 meters (33 feet) in front of the microphone. The detector at site BC-7 was deployed on a tripod (approximately 1.5 meters) instead of an extendable pole due to overhead power lines. The stream within the small tree line was very dense, and this allowed the directional microphone to be placed in the optimal potential flight path/zone where an opening for the stream occurred. All acoustic sites were spaced at least 656 feet (200 meters) apart and no weatherproofing equipment was used.

Each detector was equipped with at least an 8-gigabyte compact flash memory card (CF card) to store all data and recorded files for zero-crossing analysis using a division ratio of 16 and at a sensitivity level of six. Recorded data was downloaded daily to ensure data organization and protection and the CF cards were erased and recalibrated before each deployment.

USFWS recommends that if temperatures fall below 50° Fahrenheit (10° Celsius) during the first five hours; precipitation, including rain and/or fog, that does not stop within 30 minutes or continues intermittently; and sustained winds greater than nine miles/hour (four meters/second; 3 on Beaufort scale) for 30 minutes or more, then sampling for that night must be repeated (USFWS 2020). Nightly weather conditions were checked using the nearest NOAA National Weather Service Station, and surveys at all locations were conducted in weather conditions that satisfied USFWS recommendations.

For each night at every survey location, the date, survey start and end time, site description, site coordinates, detector specifics, and weather conditions were recorded. Sunset times were at approximately 20:35 and sunrise times were at approximately 06:49 during the survey effort. Detectors were set to record from 20:25 to 07:00



each night. Weather data can be found in Appendix C and completed acoustic survey datasheets can be found in Appendix D.

## 2.2 Analysis of Recorded Echolocation Calls

Encarna used Kaleidoscope Pro Version 5.1.0, with a classification of North America 5.1.0, sensitivity level set to zero (balanced), and a minimum pulse setting of five to conduct automated acoustic analysis for all site locations. This version of Kaleidoscope is currently approved by USFWS and when using the program for auto-identification, it identifies each file to the species level and filters out noise files to a separate folder. It also includes a Maximum Likelihood Estimator (MLE) that statistically evaluates the risk of false positives within each individual species result. The MLE function generates p-values for the likely presence of each species within a site location by night. A low p-value (p-value  $\leq 0.05$ ) indicates a high confidence level of species presence at the site for the night being evaluated. Conversely, a high p-value would suggest those species are not likely present or could be false positive identifications for each species respectively.

## 3 RESULTS

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During the survey effort over three calendar nights, four acoustic detectors were deployed. Kaleidoscope Pro identified a total of 1,217 bat call files and of those, 1,103 files (90.6%) were identified to the species level. The MLE generated by Kaleidoscope had confidence in five species: big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), Eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*), and tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). The Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) were found not likely to be present.

Surveys were conducted between the nights of 12 August 2020 and 14 August 2020. All detectors functioned properly and surveys at all site locations were conducted in weather conditions that satisfied USFWS recommendations, which yielded eight valid detector nights of survey effort. Table 1 includes a summary of call identifications by site and night. Table 2 provides the MLE p-values for each species identification at each site and night. Both tables can be found in Appendix C.



#### 4 SUMMARY

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Duke is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines which will better position assets to create a future loop to provide alternate gas supply in Butler County, Ohio. The Project has an AOI of approximately 44.3 acres and a LOD of approximately 15.1 acres, which will result in the removal of less than 1.0 acres of suitable forested habitat. A summer acoustic survey was conducted with the appropriate level of effort and under the appropriate conditions to investigate the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species. Five bat species were considered to likely be present within the Project area: big brown bat, Eastern red bat, little brown bat, evening bat and tricolored bat. No sites resulted in a p-value that would suggest Indiana bats or northern long-eared bats are present within the Project area.

The results of this acoustic survey indicate that the Project will not likely adversely affect threatened and/or endangered bat species populations within the Project area. On behalf of Duke, Encarna would like to request concurrence that at sites BC-1, BC-3, BC-4 and BC-7, the Project will not adversely affect threatened and/or endangered bat species. In addition, Encarna would also like to request that Duke can remove the proposed acreage of suitable forested habitat outside of the seasonal tree clearing window (October 1 – March 31).





## 5 REFERENCES

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2020. 2020 Range-Wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2020). USFWS Endangered Species Program: Midwest Region.



encarna

## APPENDIX A: Approved Study Plan & Agency Coordination

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A Study Plan Prepared for:



**Kleinfelder, Inc.**

**STUDY PLAN FOR A PRESENCE/ABSENCE ACOUSTIC SURVEY  
FOR FEDERALLY THREATENED OR ENDANGERED BAT SPECIES  
FOR THE PROPOSED BUTLER COUNTY INTEGRITY UPGRADES – PHASE 1 PROJECT  
IN BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO.**

Prepared by:

Chance Osborne



encarna

**Encarna, LLC.**

August 9, 2020



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### APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: United States Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Conservation Report

APPENDIX B: Project Mapping – Figure 1: Project Location Map; Figure 2: Potential Acoustic Site Locations Overview Map; Figures 3 – 7: Potential Acoustic Site Locations Maps



## 1 INTRODUCTION

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Duke Energy (Duke) is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines in Liberty Township, Hamilton, and Middletown in Butler County, Ohio, known as the Butler County Integrity Upgrades – Phase 1 (Project). Increasing this pressure will better position assets to create a future loop to provide an alternate gas path for alternate supply from Dick’s Creek to south of Hunstville, Ohio. The Project has an area of interest (AOI) of approximately 44.3 acres and a limit of disturbance (LOD) of approximately 15.1 acres, which will result in the removal of less than 1.0 acres of suitable forested habitat (Appendix B, Figure 1). The Project was reviewed using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC). Based upon the information obtained from the IPaC, it was determined that the Project may provide suitable summer habitat for the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). A copy of the IPaC report is available in Appendix A.

Kleinfelder, Inc. (Kleinfelder) contracted Encarna, LLC. (Encarna) on behalf of Duke to develop a study plan to determine if federally threatened or endangered bats are present within the Project area during the summer maternity season. The survey methods within the study plan described herein are in accordance with the current USFWS “2020 Range-Wide Indiana Bat Survey Guidelines” to conduct acoustic surveys for bats (USFWS 2020).

The results from this survey will be used to assess the amount of risk to threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Project area, and to determine if avoidance and minimization efforts are required for the Project. The positive identification of echolocation calls from threatened and/or endangered bat species will be considered evidence that bats are currently occupying the potentially suitable forested habitat within the Project area. The lack of positively identified calls from threatened and/or endangered bat species will be considered sufficient evidence that these species are not present within the Project area during the summer maternity season.

## 2 METHODS

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### 2.1 Acoustic Survey

Encarna will conduct an acoustic survey in order to determine the presence/probable absence of federally threatened or endangered bat species within the Project area during the summer survey season. Acoustic sampling will be conducted between August 13 and August 15, 2020. For linear projects in the Indiana Bat



Midwest Recovery Unit, the current USFWS Guidelines require a minimum of 2 detector nights per kilometer (0.6 miles) of suitable forested habitat to determine the presence/probable absence of federally threatened and/or endangered bat species (USFWS 2020). A detector night is defined as the operation and deployment of one acoustic monitoring device for one night. The proposed acoustic survey will have an effort of one detector at five locations for two nights, resulting in a total level of effort of 10 detector nights. Proposed potential acoustic detector locations are depicted on Figures 2 – 7 in Appendix B.

Acoustic monitoring will begin at sunset and continue until sunrise for each night of sampling, and detectors will be positioned at suitable sites within the Project area where access is permitted. These sites can include forest canopy openings, nearby water sources, forested fence lines, areas where potential roost trees are present, road and/or stream corridors with open canopies, and forest edges. Each detector will be deployed at a height greater than three meters above ground level vegetation, where feasible, to aid in improving recording quality. Omnidirectional microphones will be deployed horizontally in the center of the potential flight path/zone. Additionally, all acoustic sites will be spaced at least 656 feet (200 meters) apart.

In the event that adverse weather conditions occur during the survey period such as temperatures that fall below 50° Fahrenheit (10° Celsius) during the first five hours; precipitation, including rain and/or fog, that does not stop within 30 minutes or continues intermittently; and sustained winds greater than nine miles/hour (four meters/second; 3 on Beaufort scale) for 30 minutes or more, then sampling for that night must be repeated (USFWS 2020).

For each survey night, the date, survey start and end time, site description and coordinates, detector specifics (detector model, detector location, detector orientation, habitat type where detector is deployed), and weather conditions will be recorded.

## 2.2 Analysis of Recorded Echolocation Calls

Coarse screening for high frequency (HF) or myotis calls will take place following the procurement of all data from each site location. In the event a positive detection of HF or myotis calls is found, then automated acoustic analysis of each site that has a positive identification will be conducted. Encarna will review the recorded data from night one at each acoustic site location and then run each night's data through Kaleidoscope, which is an approved acoustic bat ID program from USFWS. If threatened or endangered bat presence is considered likely



at one or more sites, then qualitative analysis of recorded calls to the species level will be conducted. This qualitative analysis will include a comparison of the results from each site and night.

Encarna will provide the results of this acoustic survey to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and the USFWS Ohio Ecological Services Field Office within 10 days of completing the survey.



### 3 REFERENCES

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2020. 2020 Range-Wide Indiana Bat Summer Survey Guidelines (March 2020). USFWS Endangered Species Program: Midwest Region.





**APPENDIX A: U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE INFORMATION FOR PLANNING AND CONSULTATION REPORT**

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Last login August 08, 2020 04:36 PM MDT

# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

## Location

Butler County, Ohio



# Local office

Ohio Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (614) 416-8993

📅 (614) 416-8994

4625 Morse Road, Suite 104  
Columbus, OH 43230-8355

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

# Endangered species

**This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.**

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population, even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

1. Species listed under the Endangered Species Act are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information.
2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location is outside the critical habitat. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949</a>	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> This species only needs to be considered if the following condition applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incidental take of the northern long-eared bat is not prohibited at this location. Federal action agencies may conclude consultation using the streamlined process described at <a href="https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/s7.html">https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/s7.html</a></li> </ul> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Threatened

## Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Running Buffalo Clover <i>Trifolium stoloniferum</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2529">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2529</a>	Endangered

## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS AT THIS LOCATION.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/managed-species/birds-of-conservation-concern.php>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <http://www.fws.gov/birds/management/project-assessment-tools-and-guidance/conservation-measures.php>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/nationwidestandardconservationmeasures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON (IF A BREEDING SEASON IS INDICATED FOR A BIRD ON YOUR LIST, THE BIRD MAY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA SOMETIME WITHIN THE TIMEFRAME SPECIFIED, WHICH IS A VERY LIBERAL ESTIMATE OF THE DATES INSIDE WHICH THE BIRD BREEDS ACROSS ITS ENTIRE RANGE. "BREEDS ELSEWHERE" INDICATES THAT THE BIRD DOES NOT LIKELY BREED IN YOUR PROJECT AREA.)
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**Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626>

Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31

**Black-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399>

Breeds May 15 to Oct 10

**Bobolink** *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds May 20 to Jul 31

**Henslow's Sparrow** *Ammodramus henslowii*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941>

Breeds May 1 to Aug 31

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679>

Breeds elsewhere

**Prothonotary Warbler** *Protonotaria citrea*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31

**Red-headed Woodpecker** *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds May 10 to Sep 10

**Rusty Blackbird** *Euphagus carolinus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds elsewhere

**Short-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus griseus*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9480>

Breeds elsewhere

**Wood Thrush** *Hylocichla mustelina*

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

## Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.



## Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

## Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

## Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

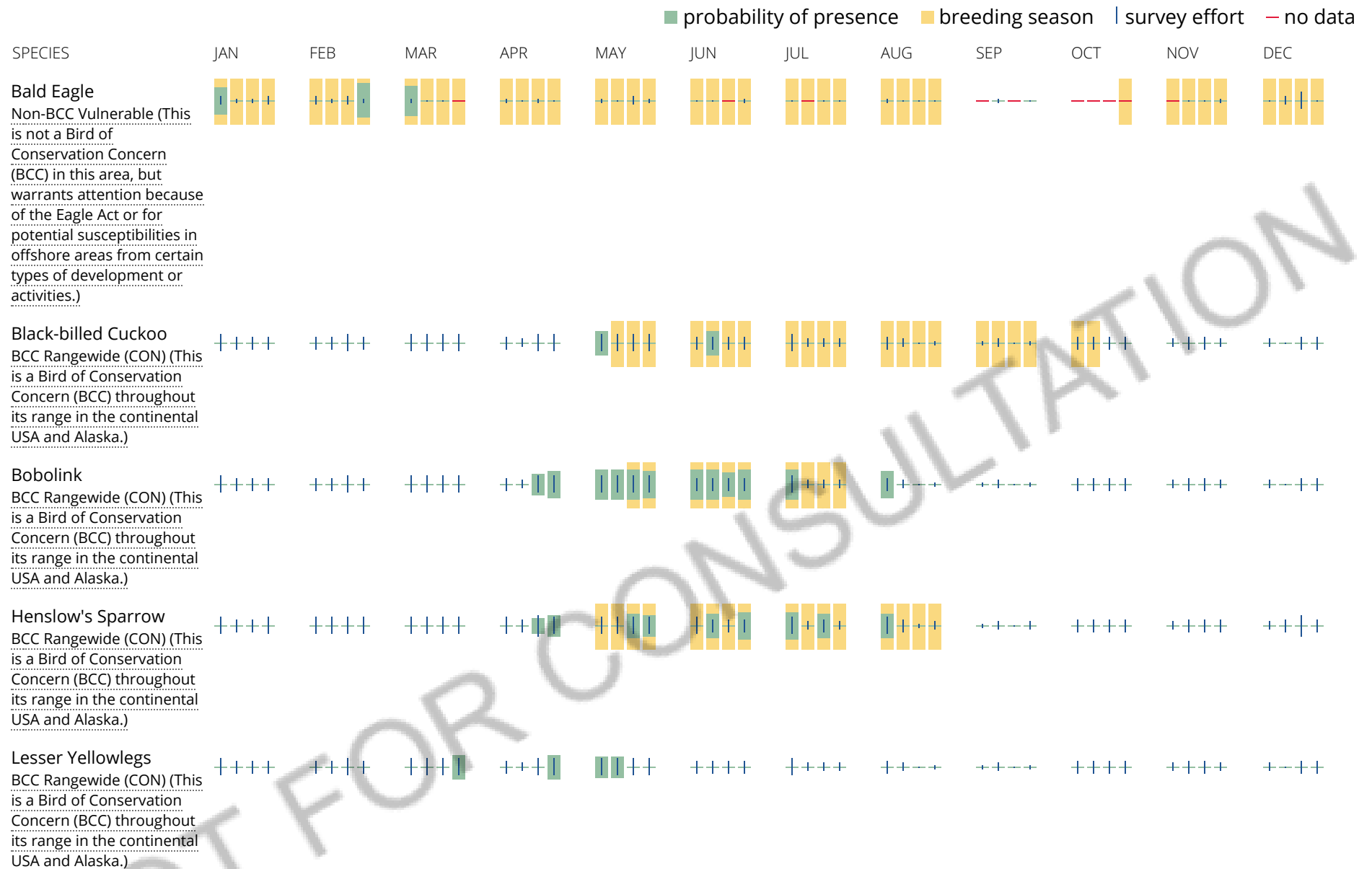
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

## No Data (-)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

## Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.





Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) and/or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [AKN Phenology Tool](#).

### **What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

### **How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Birds Bird Guide](#), or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide](#). If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

### **What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?**

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

### **Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects**

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

### **What if I have eagles on my list?**

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

### **Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report**

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

# Facilities

## National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS AT THIS LOCATION.

## Fish hatcheries

THERE ARE NO FISH HATCHERIES AT THIS LOCATION.

## Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

WETLAND INFORMATION IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the [NWI map](#) to view wetlands at this location.

### Data limitations

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

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

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

### **Data exclusions**

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

### **Data precautions**

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

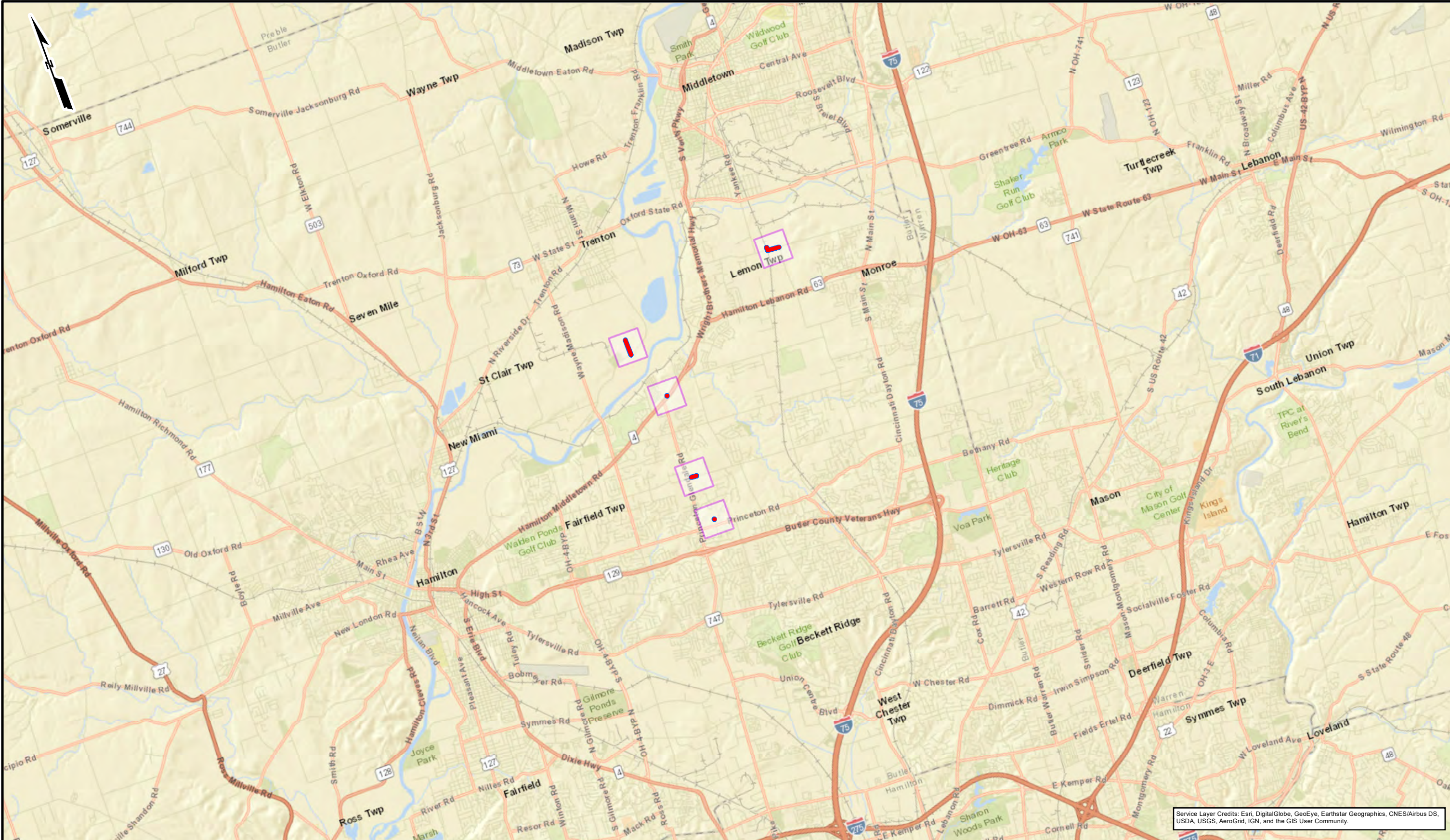


encarna

**APPENDIX B: PROJECT MAPPING**

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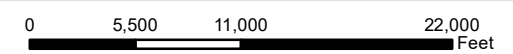
Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))

Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))

Proposed Project Alignment



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PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

Project Location Map
Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio

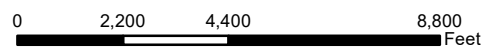
FIGURE  
**1**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Potential Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Kilometer Block



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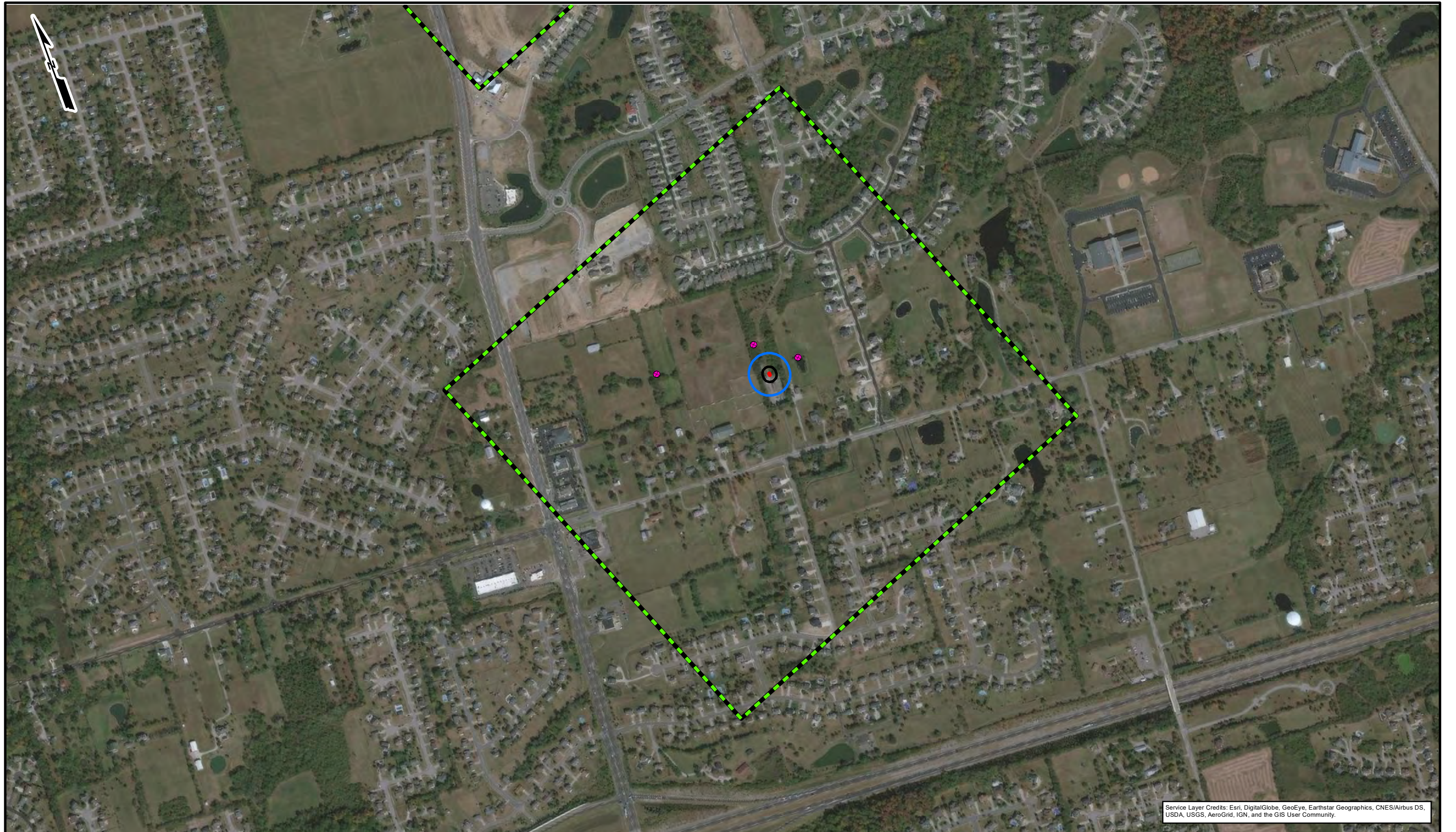


PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

Potential Acoustic  
Site Locations Overview Map

Duke Energy  
Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1  
Butler County, Ohio

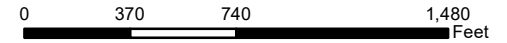
FIGURE  
**2**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Potential Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±4.3 Acres))
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Kilometer Block



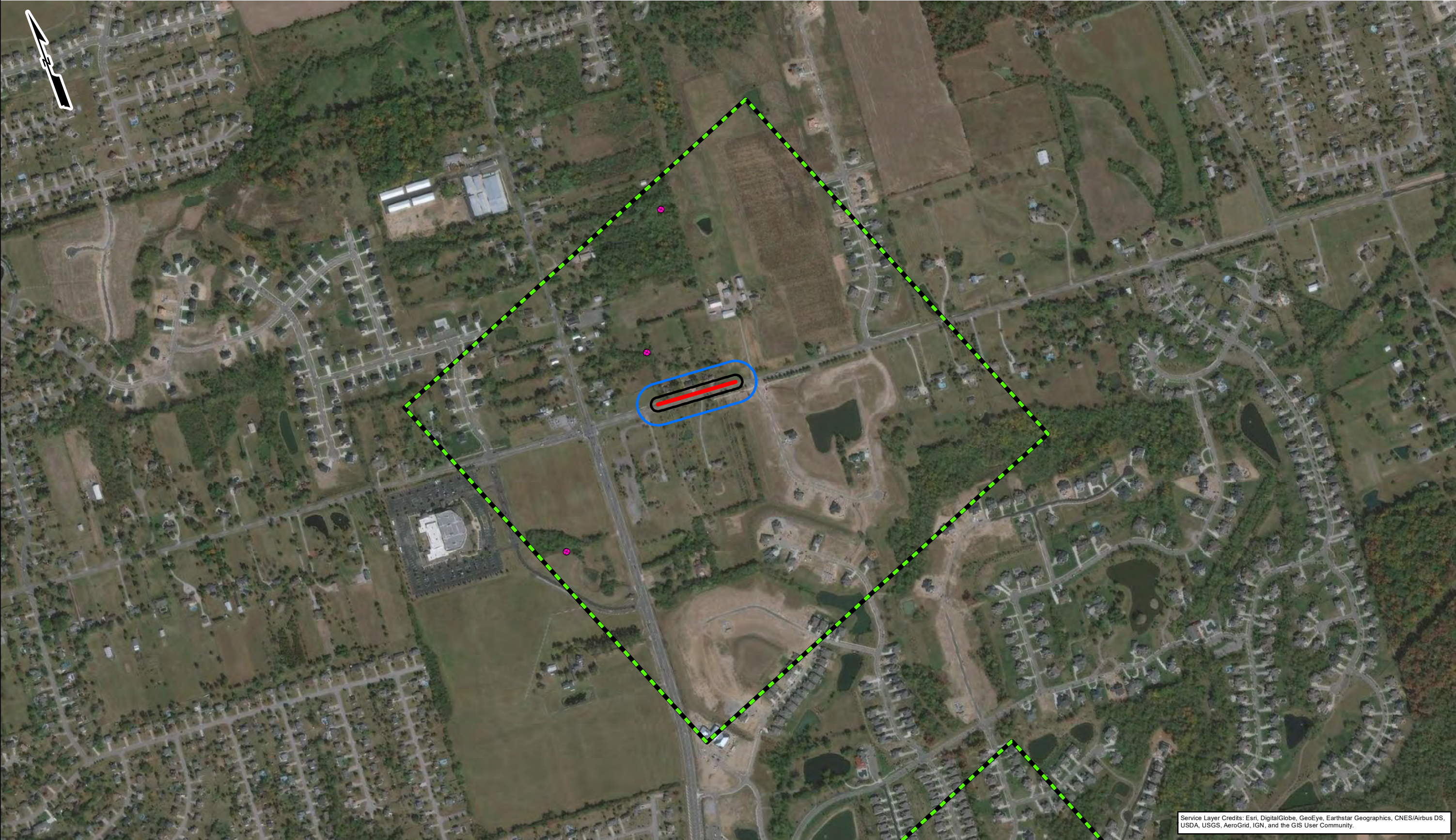
*The information included on this graphic representation has been compiled from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. Encarna, LLC. makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information. This document is not intended for use as a land survey product nor is it designed or intended as a construction design document. The use or misuse of the information contained on this graphic representation is at the sole risk of the party using or misusing the information.*



PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

BC-1 Potential Acoustic Site Locations Map
Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio

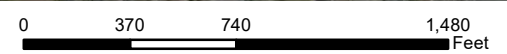
FIGURE	3
--------	---



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Potential Acoustic Site Locations
- Kilometer Block



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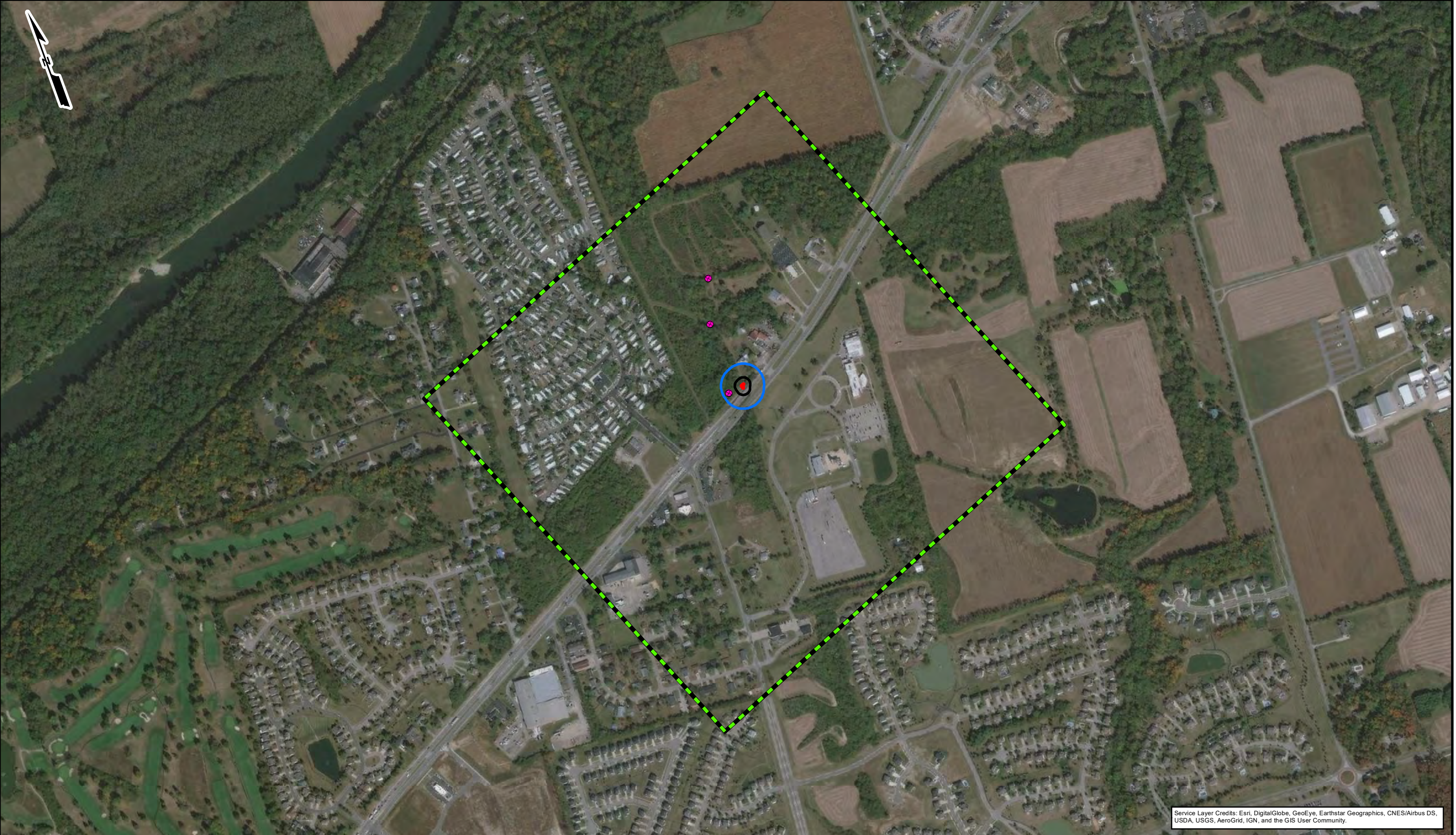


PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

BC-2 Potential Acoustic  
Site Locations Map

Duke Energy  
Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1  
Butler County, Ohio

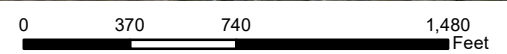
FIGURE  
**4**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Kilometer Block
- Potential Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project Alignment



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PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

**BC-3 Potential Acoustic Site Locations Map**

Duke Energy  
Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1  
Butler County, Ohio

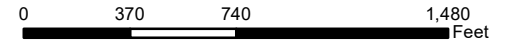
FIGURE  
**5**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Kilometer Block
- Potential Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project Alignment



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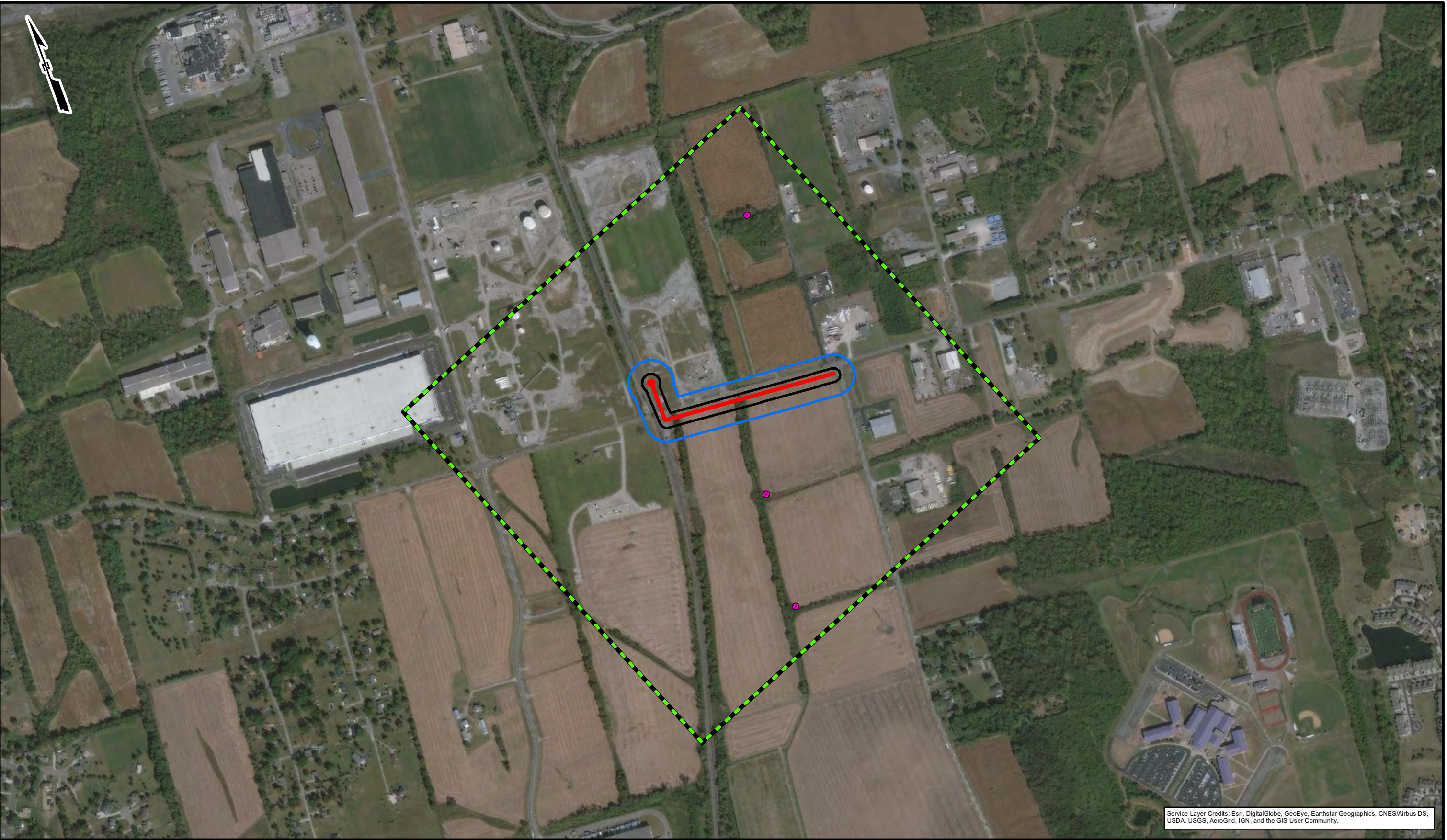


PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

**BC-4 Potential Acoustic Site Locations Map**

Duke Energy  
Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1  
Butler County, Ohio

FIGURE  
**6**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

<b>Legend</b> Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres)) Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres)) Kilometer Block Potential Acoustic Site Locations Proposed Project Alignment			<p>The information included on this graphic representation has been compiled from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. Encarna, LLC, makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information. This document is not intended for use as a land survey product nor is it designed or intended as a construction design document. The use or misuse of the information contained on this graphic representation is at the sole risk of the party using or misusing the information.</p>	 www.encarnaenv.com	PROJECT NO. 2020.008	BC-7 Potential Acoustic Site Locations Map	FIGURE 7
	DRAWN: 08/08/2020	Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio					
	DRAWN BY: CTO						
	FILE NAME: See File Path						



Chance Osborne &lt;chance@encarnaenv.com&gt;

---

**Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Duke Energy - Maineville to Morrow Pipeline / Phase 1 Butler County Upgrades**

1 message

---

**Jill Vovaris** <JVovaris@kleinfelder.com>

Tue, Aug 11, 2020 at 9:21 AM

To: Chance Osborne &lt;chance@encarnaenv.com&gt;, Matthew Albright &lt;MALbright@kleinfelder.com&gt;

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Boyer, Angela" <angela\_boyer@fws.gov>**Date:** August 11, 2020 at 9:15:21 AM EDT**To:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>**Cc:** "Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com" <Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com>, "Klein, David Anthony" <David.Klein@duke-energy.com>, Seth Sanders <SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com>, "Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us" <Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us>, "Zimmermann, Susan C" <Susan\_Zimmermann@fws.gov>**Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Duke Energy - Maineville to Morrow Pipeline / Phase 1 Butler County Upgrades**

---

**External Email.**

Jill,

This response provides U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval of your proposed acoustic surveys for the Duke Energy – Mainesville to Morrow Pipeline Project and the Phase 1 Butler County Upgrades Project in Warren and Butler Counties, Ohio. Please note that plans must also be reviewed and approved by the Ohio Division of Wildlife (contact Sarah Stankavich) before any surveys take place. This surveys has been assigned the reference numbers **20-041 (Mainesville) and 20-042 (Phase 1)**. Please include this project reference number in all correspondence to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Ohio Division of Wildlife. This surveys will serve as a summer presence/absence survey for the Indiana bat and northern long-eared bat.

By January 31, 2021, we request that you submit an annual report of your Ohio acoustic survey work to this office using the Midwestern U.S. Spreadsheet in electronic format. Be sure to include data for the site even if no bats were detected. The 2020 Midwestern U.S. Spreadsheet and



instructions are found here: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/inba/inbasummersurveyguidance.html>.

Please notify me if any surveys are cancelled or otherwise not completed this field season. Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,  
Angela Boyer  
Endangered Species Coordinator for Ohio  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
[4625 Morse Road, Suite 104](#)  
[Columbus, Ohio 43230](#)  
(614) 416-8993, ext. 122  
(614) 416-8994 FAX

---

**From:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, August 9, 2020 9:39 PM

**To:** Boyer, Angela <[angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov)>; Zimmermann, Susan C <[Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov)>

**Cc:** [Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com) <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Klein, David Anthony <[David.Klein@duke-energy.com](mailto:David.Klein@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Duke Energy - Maineville to Morrow Pipeline / Phase 1 Butler County Upgrades

**This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.**

Good evening Angela and Susan,

Our client, Duke Energy, is proposing to construct approximately 4.1 miles of an 8-inch diameter steel gas pipeline from Maineville to Morrow in Warren County, Ohio, known as the Maineville Morrow Loop Line C231 (Project). The proposed project will increase the reliability of the existing system by upgrading the capacity in the surrounding area. And, as a second project, Duke is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines in Liberty Township, Hamilton, and Middletown, Ohio, known as the Butler County Integrity Upgrades – Phase 1 (Project) in Butler County, Ohio. Increasing this pressure will better position assets to create a future loop to provide an alternate gas path for alternate supply from Dick's Creek to south of Hunstville, Ohio.

The proposed design for the projects will likely result in less than 5 acres and less than 1 acre, respectively, for the two projects. Understanding that there remains a moratorium on mist net surveys, we would like to conduct acoustic surveys for both projects. Also knowing that the survey window closes on Saturday, August 15, we are requesting that you review the study plans at the following links. I know that this is an expedited request and that we are asking for extremely quick turn around time. However, with the pandemic this year and budgetary and schedule constraints, I am hoping that you could accommodate this request so that we can get into the field on Wednesday at the very latest.

Please download the study plans at the following links:

1. **2020.008 - Maineville Morrow Loop Line Acoustic Survey Study Plan FINAL.pdf** (5.44 MB)

<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/cd294ntcdlyv5c2/3g6c7cjcfyjazc>

2. **2020.009 - Butler County Integrity Upgrades Acoustic Survey Study Plan FINAL.pdf** (41.93 MB)

<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/gscub8xoc1ewos5/vfzmeph9cxv1814>

I have also attached our bat biologists permits to this email. I will contact you both in the morning to discuss.

Thank you so much in advance for your consideration of this expedited and accelerated request.

Sincerely,

Jill Vovaris

**Jill Vovaris**

Vice President – Ohio River Valley Operations Manager

51 Dutilh Road, Suite 240

Cranberry Township, PA 16066

180 White Oaks Blvd., Suite 110

Bridgeport, WV 26330-9770

o| +724.772.7072

d| +724.200.7501

f| +724.772.7079

m| +724.757.6210

 KLF\_Signature.png

---

**4 attachments**

 **TE 62778B-1 Osborne Signed Permit.pdf**  
121K

 **ATT00001.htm**  
1K

 **Osborne\_ODNR\_Permit.pdf**  
1940K

 **ATT00002.htm**  
1K



Chance Osborne &lt;chance@encarnaenv.com&gt;

---

**Fwd: Request for review from ODNR - Acoustic Surveys**

1 message

**Jill Vovaris** <JVovaris@kleinfelder.com>

Wed, Aug 12, 2020 at 7:52 AM

To: Matthew Albright &lt;MALbright@kleinfelder.com&gt;, Chance Osborne &lt;chance@encarnaenv.com&gt;

Good morning,

See below for approval from ODNR.

Matt,

Can you please pull what Erin is asking?

Thanks.

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us" <Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us>

**Date:** August 12, 2020 at 7:22:31 AM EDT

**To:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>

**Cc:** "angela\_boyer@fws.gov" <angela\_boyer@fws.gov>, "Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us" <Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us>, "Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com" <Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com>, Seth Sanders <SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com>, "Klein, David Anthony" <David.Klein@duke-energy.com>

**Subject:** RE: Request for review from ODNR - Acoustic Surveys

---

**External Email.**

Hi Jill,

I'm going to be out of the office most of today so please consider this an approval to move forward with the acoustics for these two projects. I'm having trouble accessing the study plans via the link—can you please send in PDF? Also, please send me a shapefile of the project boundary (limit of tree cutting) and I'll check our database for any existing state bat buffers and respond with any updated information.

Thank you,

Erin



Erin Hazelton

Wind Energy Administrator

ODNR Division of Wildlife

2045 Morse Rd. Bldg G-3

Columbus, OH 43229

1-800-WILDLIFE

Office: 614-265-6349

Email: [erin.hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:erin.hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)



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*Please consider the environment before printing this email.*

---

**From:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 9:42 AM  
**To:** Hazelton, Erin <[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)>

**Cc:** [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov); Stankavich, Sarah <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>; [Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com); Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>; Klein, David Anthony <[David.Klein@duke-energy.com](mailto:David.Klein@duke-energy.com)>

**Subject:** Request for review from ODNR - Acoustic Surveys

**Importance:** High

Good morning Erin,

As I understand it Sarah is out of the office until Thursday, so I'm reaching out to you.

Our client, Duke Energy, is proposing to construct approximately 4.1 miles of an 8-inch diameter steel gas pipeline from Maineville to Morrow in Warren County, Ohio, known as the Maineville Morrow Loop Line C231 (Project). The proposed project will increase the reliability of the existing system by upgrading the capacity in the surrounding area. And, as a second project, Duke is proposing to bolster pressure in small diameter feeder lines in Liberty Township, Hamilton, and Middletown, Ohio, known as the Butler County Integrity Upgrades – Phase 1 (Project) in Butler County, Ohio. Increasing this pressure will better position assets to create a future loop to provide an alternate gas path for alternate supply from Dick's Creek to south of Hunstville, Ohio.

The proposed design for the projects will likely result in less than 5 acres and less than 1 acre, respectively, for the two projects. Understanding that there remains a moratorium on mist net surveys, we would like to conduct acoustic surveys for both projects. Also knowing that the survey window closes on Saturday, August 15, we are requesting that you review the study plans at the following links. I know that this is an expedited request and that we are asking for extremely quick turnaround time. However, with the pandemic this year and budgetary and schedule constraints, I am hoping that you could accommodate this request so that we can get into the field on Wednesday at the very latest.

**USFWS provided approval this morning for these two projects. I have attached the email.**

Please download the study plans at the following links:

1. **2020.008 - Maineville Morrow Loop Line Acoustic Survey Study Plan FINAL.pdf** (5.44 MB) in Albright\_Matthew  
<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/cd294ntcdlyv5c2/3g6c7cjffjyjazc>

2. **2020.009 - Butler County Integrity Upgrades Acoustic Survey Study Plan FINAL.pdf** (41.93 MB) in Albright\_Matthew  
<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/gscub8xoc1ewos5/vfzmeph9cxv1814>

These links will expire on **08/19/20 at 05:00 pm PDT**

Please let me know if you have any issue downloading the files or have any questions. I really appreciate your attention to this.

Thanks,

**Jill Vovaris**

Vice President – Ohio River Valley Operations Manager

51 Dutilh Road, Suite 240

Cranberry Township, PA 16066

180 White Oaks Blvd., Suite 110  
Bridgeport, WV 26330-9770

o| +724.772.7072

d| +724.200.7501

f| +724.772.7079

m| +724.757.6210



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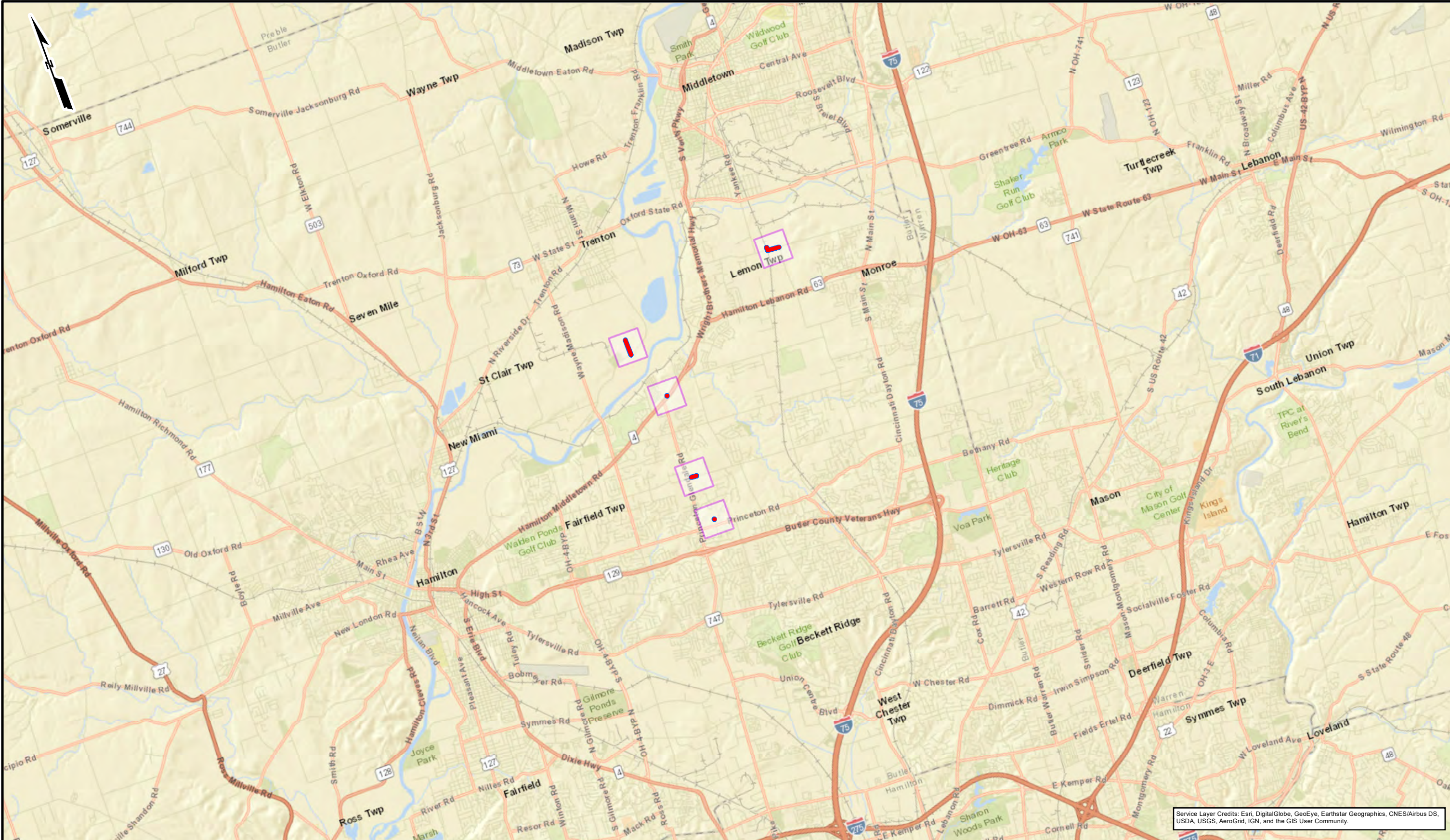


encarna

## APPENDIX B: Project Mapping

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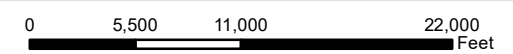
Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))

Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))

Proposed Project Alignment



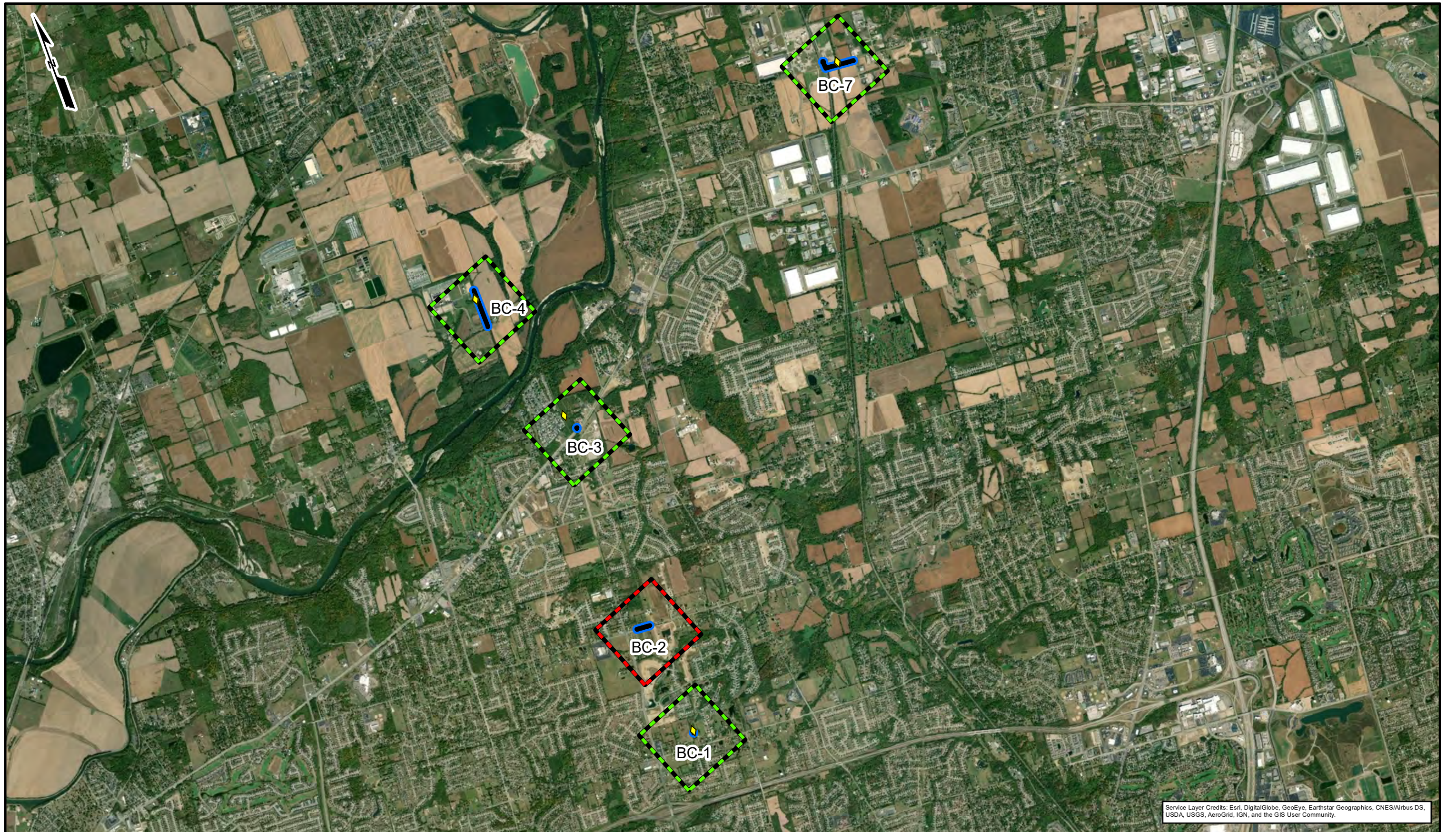
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PROJECT NO.	2020.008
DRAWN:	08/08/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path







Project Location Map
Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio

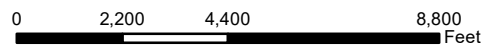
FIGURE  
**1**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

-  Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
-  Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
-  Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
-  Acoustic Site Locations
-  Proposed Project Alignment
-  Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



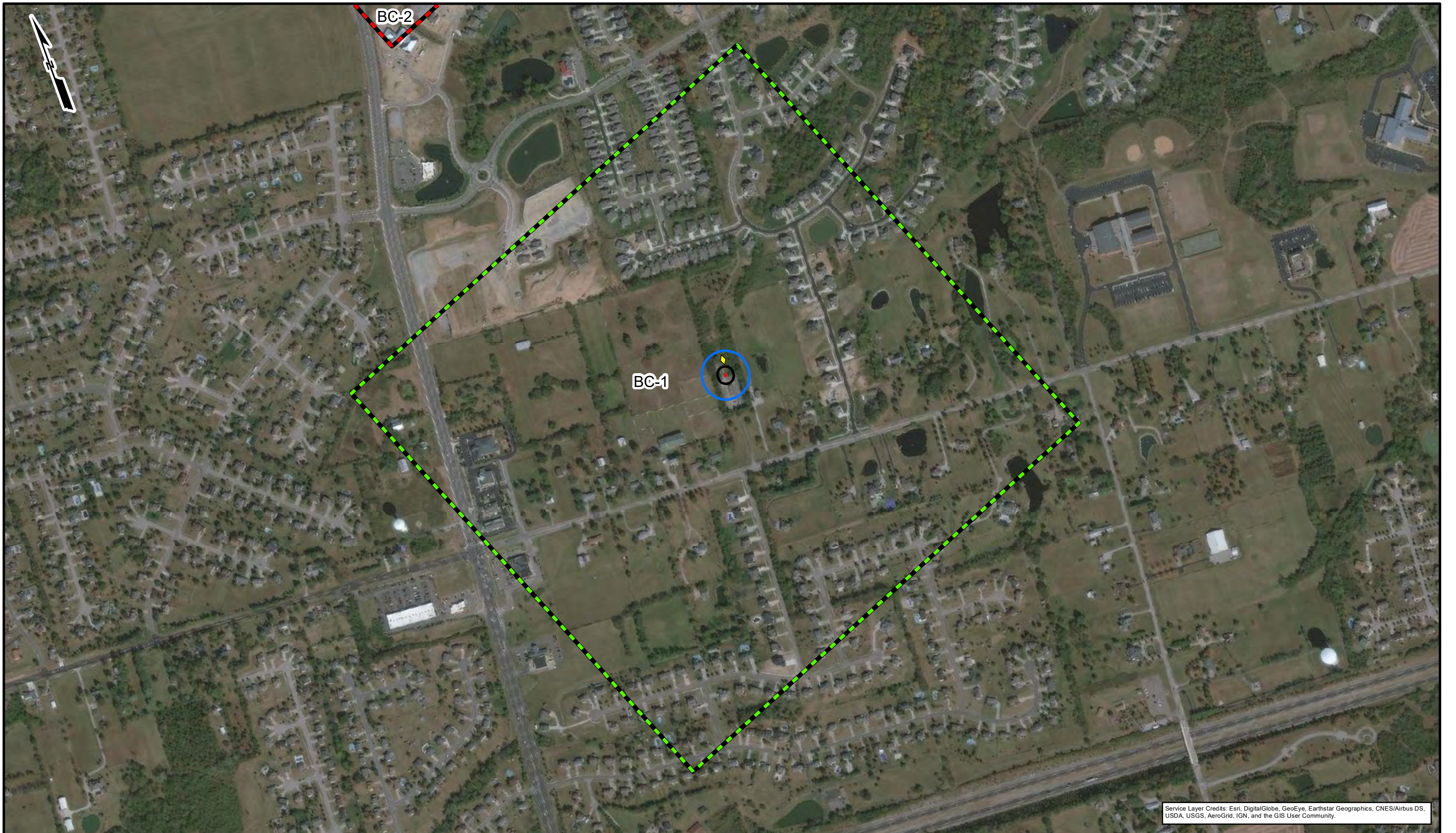
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PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

<p>Acoustic Site Locations Overview Map</p> <p>Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio</p>
---

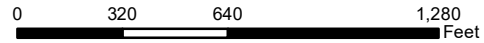
FIGURE  
**2**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
- Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



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PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

<p>BC-1 Acoustic Site Location Map</p> <p>Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio</p>
--

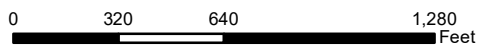
FIGURE  
**3**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
- Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



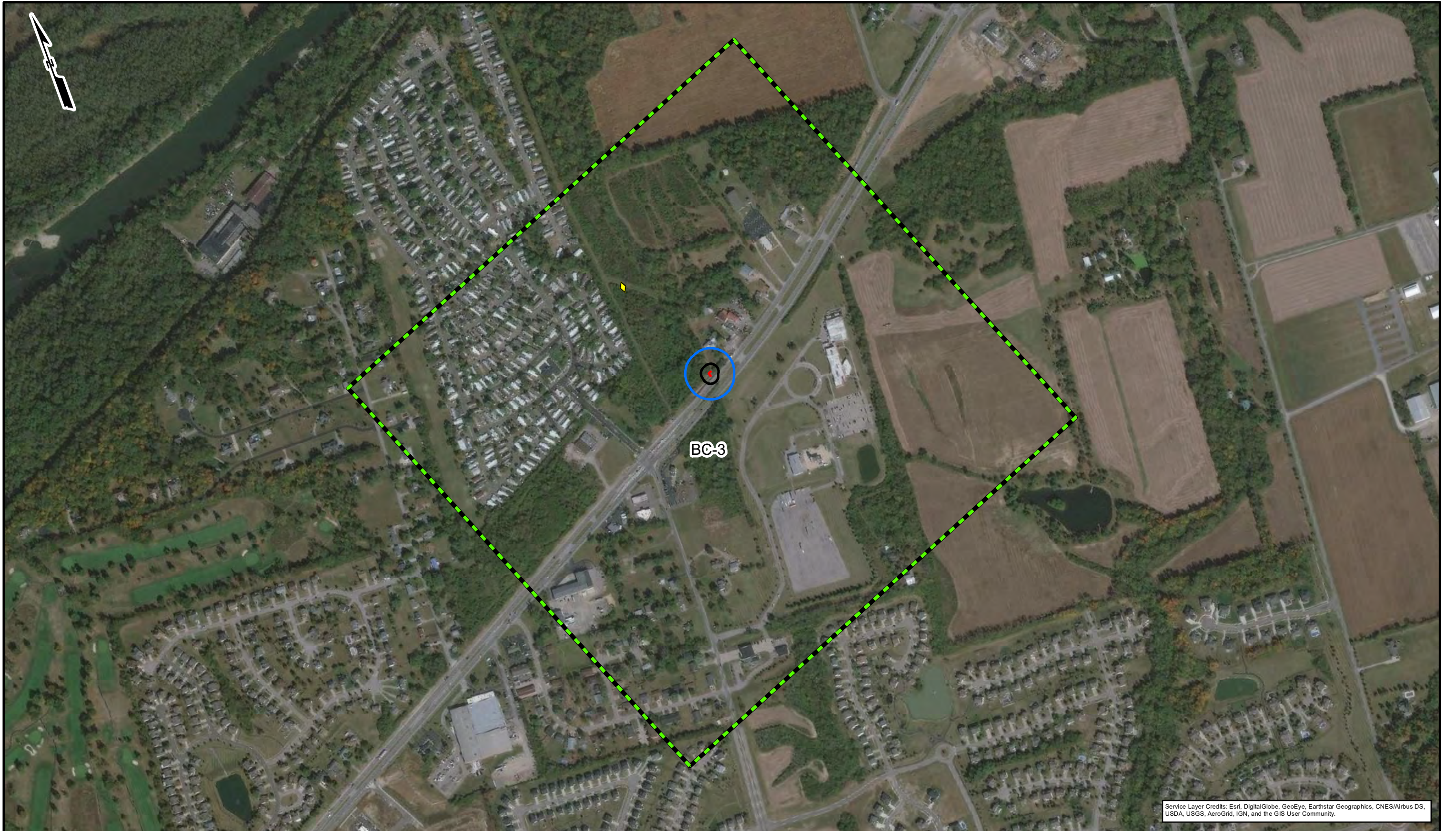
*The information included on this graphic representation has been compiled from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. Encarna, LLC, makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information. This document is not intended for use as a land survey product nor is it designed or intended as a construction design document. The use or misuse of the information contained on this graphic representation is at the sole risk of the party using or misusing the information.*



PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path







<p>BC-2 Acoustic Site Location Map</p> <p>Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio</p>
--

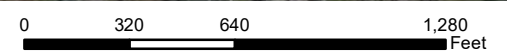
FIGURE  
**4**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

-  Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
-  Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
-  Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
-  Acoustic Site Locations
-  Proposed Project Alignment
-  Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



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PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

<p>BC-3 Acoustic Site Location Map</p> <p>Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio</p>
--

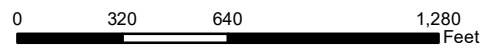
FIGURE  
**5**



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

- Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
- Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
- Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
- Acoustic Site Locations
- Proposed Project Alignment
- Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



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PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

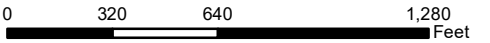
<p>BC-4 Acoustic Site Location Map</p> <p>Duke Energy Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Butler County, Ohio</p>
--



Service Layer Credits: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGrid, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

**Legend**

-  Proposed Project LOD (Proposed Project LOD (±15.1 Acres))
-  Proposed Project AOI (Proposed Project LOD (±44.3 Acres))
-  Kilometer Blocks Surveyed
-  Acoustic Site Locations
-  Proposed Project Alignment
-  Kilometer Blocks Not Surveyed



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PROJECT NO.	2020.009
DRAWN:	08/19/2020
DRAWN BY:	CTO
FILE NAME:	See File Path

**BC-7 Acoustic  
Site Location Map**

Duke Energy  
Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1  
Butler County, Ohio

FIGURE  
**7**



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## APPENDIX C: Project Data Tables

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Table 1. Kaleidoscope Pro V.5.1.0 Output of Species Identifications by Site and Night.

Site	Date	Big brown bat	Eastern red bat	Hoary bat	Silver-haired bat	Eastern small-footed bat	Little brown bat	Northern long-eared bat	Indiana bat	Evening bat	Tricolored bat
BC-1	08/12/2020	89	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
BC-1	08/13/2020	10	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
BC-3	08/13/2020	134	0	1	15	0	3	0	0	2	1
BC-3	08/14/2020	489	0	17	35	0	5	0	0	23	12
BC-4	08/13/2020	51	2	4	4	0	1	0	0	2	0
BC-4	08/14/2020	119	1	0	8	0	1	0	0	7	1
BC-7	08/12/2020	21	0	2	8	0	2	0	0	0	0
BC-7	08/13/2020	23	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0

Table 2. Kaleidoscope V.5.1.0 Output of P-Values for the Maximum Likelihood Estimator.

Site	Date	Big brown bat	Eastern red bat	Hoary bat	Silver-haired bat	Eastern small-footed bat	Little brown bat	Northern long-eared bat	Indiana bat	Evening bat	Tricolored bat
BC-1	08/12/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
BC-1	08/13/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0001</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
BC-3	08/13/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0031</b>	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0485</b>	0.1820
BC-3	08/14/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0003</b>	1.0000	1.0000	0.0000	<b>0.0000</b>
BC-4	08/13/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	<b>0.0441</b>	0.5664	1.0000	1.0000	0.6404	1.0000	1.0000	0.4148	1.0000
BC-4	08/14/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	0.7041	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	0.4333	1.0000	1.0000	<b>0.0002</b>	0.4838
BC-7	08/12/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	0.7901	0.0720	1.0000	<b>0.0113</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000
BC-7	08/13/2020	<b>0.0000</b>	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	0.1915	1.0000

Low p-values in bold ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) indicate high confidence level in species presence.

Table 3. Location of Bat Acoustic Sites and Microphone Orientation.

Bat Acoustic Site	Latitude °N	Longitude °W	Microphone Orientation (degrees)
BC-1	39.389899	-84.447180	4
BC-3	39.430799	-84.449430	116
BC-4	39.447505	-84.456275	188
BC-7	39.459603	-84.391006	240



Table 4. Weather Data Through Survey Sampling Period.

Survey Night	Date	Time	Temp (°F)	Dew Point (°F)	Humidity %	Wind Direction	Wind Speed (MPH)	Gust Speed (MPH)	Precipitation (inches)	Events
1	08/12/2020	20:34	79.1	72.0	79	NE	0.5	1.4	0.00	N/A
1	08/12/2020	21:34	76.2	71.0	84	E	0.2	1.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/12/2020	22:34	73.1	69.7	89	WSW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/12/2020	23:34	72.5	70.0	92	SSE	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	00:34	72.1	70.0	93	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	01:34	70.5	69.0	95	ESE	0.0	1.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	02:34	70.3	68.8	95	SW	0.0	1.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	03:34	69.2	68.3	97	S	0.1	0.3	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	04:34	67.4	66.8	98	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	05:34	66.7	66.4	99	NNW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
1	08/13/2020	06:34	66.8	66.5	99	SSW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/13/2020	20:34	80.3	70.9	73	E	1.5	2.5	0.00	N/A
2	08/13/2020	21:34	77.5	70.5	79	ESE	0.1	0.5	0.00	N/A
2	08/13/2020	22:34	73.6	68.9	86	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/13/2020	23:34	71.9	68.8	90	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	00:34	70.7	68.3	92	W	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	01:34	70.2	68.1	93	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	02:34	69.8	67.7	93	E	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	03:34	68.5	66.7	94	W	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	04:34	67.1	66.2	97	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	05:34	67.5	67.2	99	SW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
2	08/14/2020	06:34	67.1	66.8	99	NNW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
3	08/14/2020	20:34	77.8	71.9	82	SSE	0.0	0.5	0.00	N/A
3	08/14/2020	21:34	75.7	72.2	89	ESE	0.0	0.5	0.00	N/A
3	08/14/2020	22:34	72.7	70.2	92	SE	2.4	3.6	0.00	N/A
3	08/14/2020	23:34	70.9	69.4	95	E	3.7	4.3	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	00:34	70.5	69.3	96	ESE	2.8	4.6	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	01:34	70.3	69.4	97	E	0.6	1.7	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	02:34	69.1	68.8	99	SSW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	03:34	66.9	66.6	99	SSW	0.0	0.0	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	04:34	66.7	66.4	99	E	0.9	1.2	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	05:34	67.8	67.5	99	E	1.6	2.5	0.00	N/A
3	08/15/2020	06:34	67.8	67.5	99	E	2.5	3.5	0.00	N/A



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## APPENDIX D: Completed Acoustic Survey Datasheets

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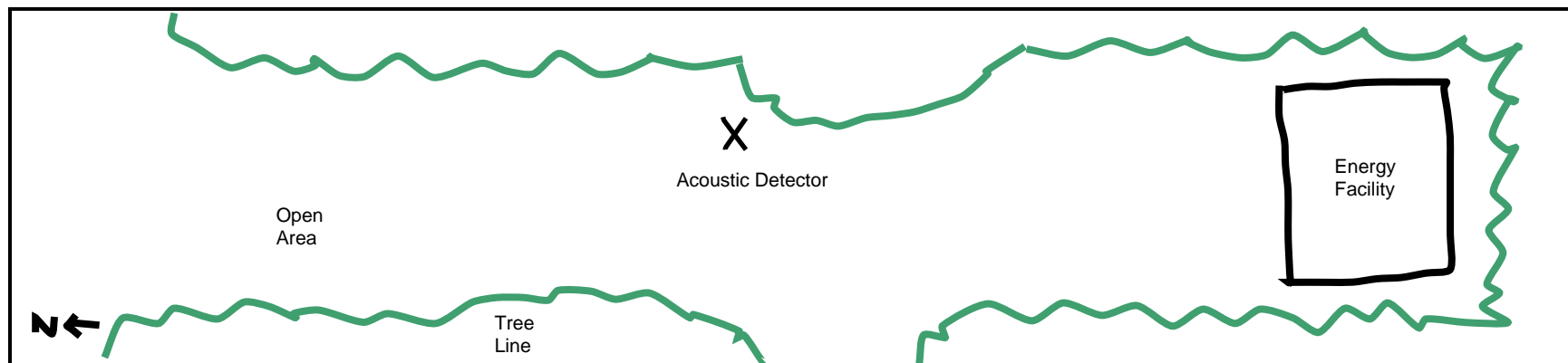
### Acoustic Survey Datasheet

Site: BC-1 Project: Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Date: 12 August 2020  
Latitude: 39.389899 Longitude: -84.447180  
County: Butler State: OH Surveyors: Chance Osborne, Anthony Marinelli  
Detector Type: Anabat SD2 Active Placement: Forest Edge/Pond Elevated:  or N - Pole  
Weatherproofing: None Microphone Height (m): 4.0 Microphone Azimuth: 60

#### Habitat Description:

Site is located along a forested tree line facing towards an open foraging area within an existing energy facility.  
Dominant tree species present include crabapple tree, tree of heaven, black willow, Eastern red cedar and Kentucky coffeetree.

#### Site Drawing:





## Acoustic Survey Datasheet

Site: BC-3 Project: Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Date: 13 August 2020

Latitude: 39.430799 Longitude: -84.449430

County: Butler State: OH Surveyors: Chance Osborne, Anthony Marinelli

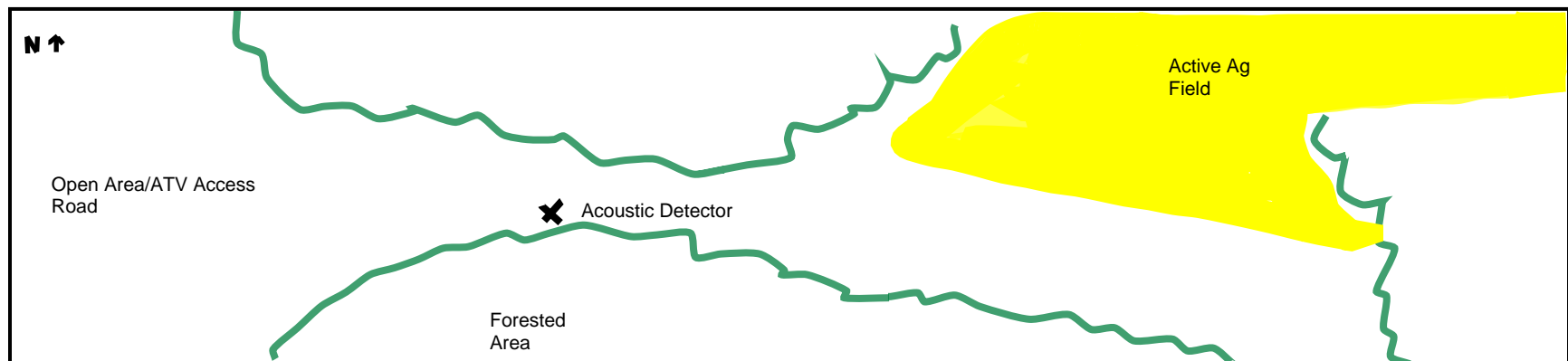
Detector Type: Anabat SD2 Active Placement: Forest Edge/Pond Elevated:  or N - Pole

Weatherproofing: None Microphone Height (m): 4.0 Microphone Azimuth: 116

### Habitat Description:

Site is along edge of tree line in potential foraging corridor and facing towards an open area leading towards a forested block where multiple snags are present. Dominant tree species present include tree of heaven, box elder, black locust, black walnut, and crabapple tree. It should be noted that aerial imagery does not dictate the active ag field present.

### Site Drawing:





## Acoustic Survey Datasheet

Site: BC-4 Project: Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Date: 13 August 2020

Latitude: 39.447505 Longitude: -84.456275

County: Butler State: OH Surveyors: Chance Osborne, Anthony Marinelli

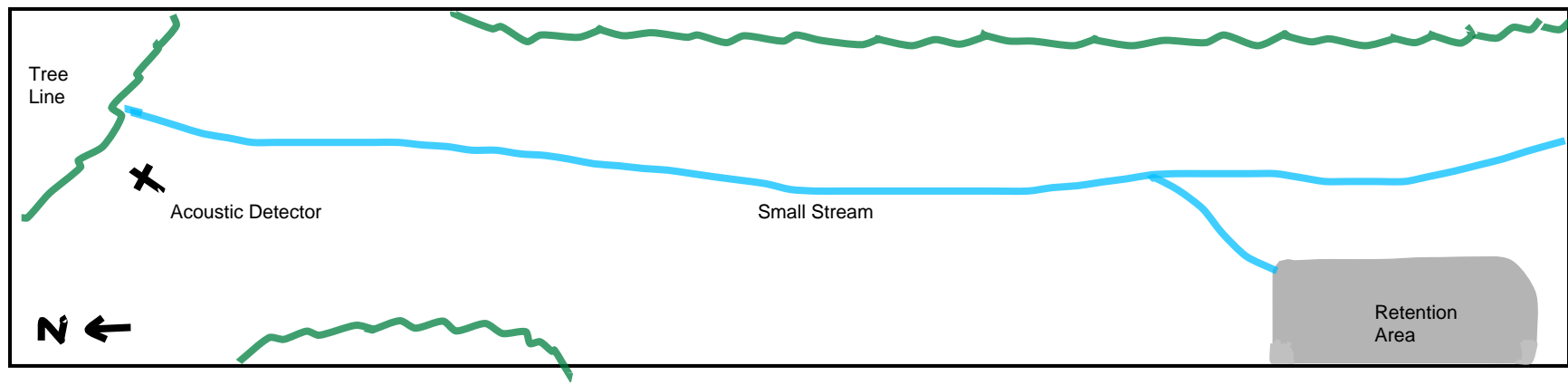
Detector Type: Anabat SD2 Active Placement: Forest Edge/Pond Elevated:  or N - Pole

Weatherproofing: None Microphone Height (m): 4.0 Microphone Azimuth: 60

### Habitat Description:

Site is located on an existing energy facility. Portions of tree lines were accessible within fenced in area where access was granted and detector was placed on edge of tree line facing where a small stream was flowing south in an open maintained field. Dominant tree species present include American sycamore, black walnut, black locust, honey locust and sugar maple.

### Site Drawing:





## Acoustic Survey Datasheet

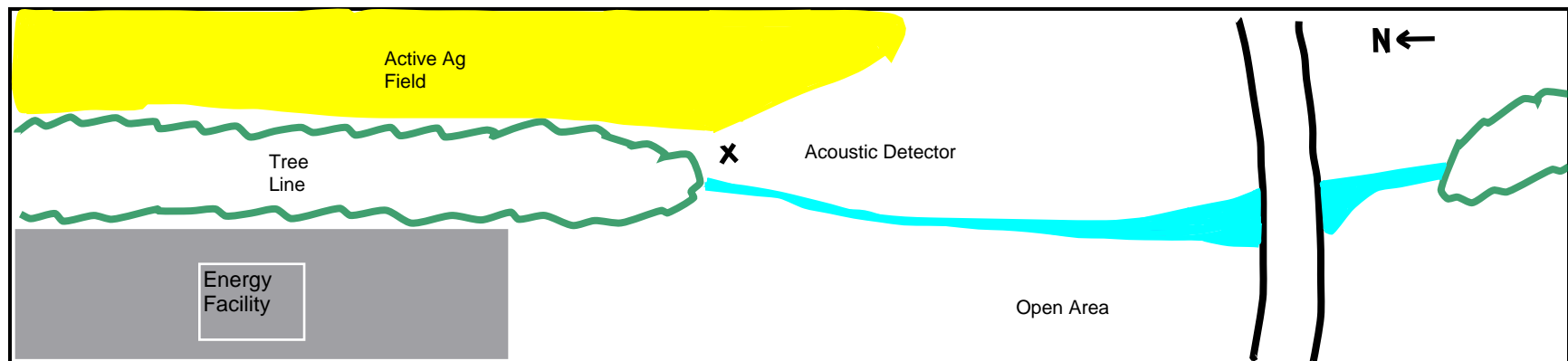
Site: BC-7 Project: Butler County Integrity Upgrades - Phase 1 Date: 12 August 2020  
Latitude: 39.459603 Longitude: -84.391006  
County: Butler State: OH Surveyors: Chance Osborne, Anthony Marinelli  
Detector Type: Anabat SD2 Active Placement: Forest Edge/Pond Elevated:  or N – Pole  
Weatherproofing: None Microphone Height (m): 1.5 Microphone Azimuth: 240

### Habitat Description:

Site is at the bottom of a cluttered tree line where the stream exits the forest and continues under a bridge. An existing energy facility is due west and and active agricultural field is to the east. Only access available within KM block.

Dominant tree species include box elder, green ash, and Kentucky coffeetree. Multiple snags are present within tree line. Detector is facing toward stream.

### Site Drawing:





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## APPENDIX E: Acoustic Site Photographs

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BC-1: Acoustic detector (Hank) along forest edge facing towards open foraging area.



BC-3: Acoustic detector (Q) along edge of potential flight corridor facing towards opening and snags.



BC-4: Acoustic detector (Pele) along forested edge facing towards open area and small stream.



BC-7: Acoustic detector (Tad) along forested edge open area and stream.  
(Power lines are overhead; Tripod deployed instead of extendable pole)

**ATTACHMENT C**  
**POTENTIAL HABITAT PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photograph 1 – KLF\_BH01 view North (BC-1)



Photograph 2 – KLF\_BH02 view South (BC-1)



Photograph 3 – KLF\_BH03 view South (BC-2)



Photograph 4 – KLF\_BH04 view West (BC-4)



Photograph 5 – KLF\_BH05 view West (BC-4)



Photograph 6 – KLF\_BH06 view North (BC-4)





Photograph 7 – KLF\_BH07 view North (BC-4)



Photograph 8 – KLF\_BH08 view West (BC-4)



Photograph 9 – KLF\_BH09 view South (BC-5)



Photograph 10 – KLF\_BH10 view South (BC-6)



Photograph 11 – KLF\_BH11 view North (BC-7)



Photograph 12 – KLF\_BH12 view West (BC-7)



Photograph 13 – KLF\_BH13 view South (BC-7)



Photograph 14 – KLF\_BH14 view West (BC-7)



Photograph 15 – KLF\_BH15 view South (BC-7)



Photograph 16 – KLF\_BH16 view South (BC-8)

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**ATTACHMENT 5**

**THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE MODIFICATION LETTERS AND DESKTOP HABITAT  
ASSESSMENT TO USFWS & ODNR**

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## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Ohio Ecological Services Field Office  
4625 Morse Road, Suite 104  
Columbus, OH 43230-8355  
Phone: (614) 416-8993 Fax: (614) 416-8994

In Reply Refer To:

January 31, 2022

Project Code: 2022-0001024

Project Name: Kleinfelder, Inc.-Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.-Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

**Migratory Birds:** In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/RegulationsandPolicies.html>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
-



## **Official Species List**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**Ohio Ecological Services Field Office**

4625 Morse Road, Suite 104

Columbus, OH 43230-8355

(614) 416-8993

---

## Project Summary

Project Code: 2022-0001024  
Event Code: None  
Project Name: Kleinfelder, Inc.-Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.-Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
Project Type: Natural Gas Distribution  
Project Description: On behalf of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke), Kleinfelder, Inc. is submitting this threatened and endangered (T&E) species technical assistance modification request to notify the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) of changes that have occurred to the proposed limits-of-disturbance (LOD) since receipt of USFWS correspondence TAILS# 03E15000-2021-TA-0862 on February 24, 2021 (Attachment A).

Duke is proposing gas line improvements including extensions, relocations, and abandonments at 7 segments (BC-1, BC-2, BC-4, BC-5, BC-6, BC-7, and BC-8) and utilizing 1 laydown yard (BC-7 Laydown Yard) in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio (OH) (Figure 1) collectively known as the Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project (Project). Since receipt of the February 24, 2021 USFWS correspondence, design changes have occurred to the LODs at BC-2, BC-4, BC-5, BC-7, and BC-8 along with the addition of the BC-7 Laydown Yard, which have increased the area of interest (AOI) from 49.7 acres to 125.1 acres and increased the LOD from 12.7 acres to 24.1 acres (Figure 2). Specifically, the following changes have occurred:

- The BC-2 AOI has increased from 5.6 acres to 5.7 acres and the LOD has been modified but remains 1.3 acres with no additional tree clearing required;
- The BC-4 LOD has increased from 3.9 acres to 4.0 acres with no additional tree clearing required;
- The BC-5 AOI has increased from 4.9 acres to 71.4 acres and the LOD has increased from 0.9 acres to 10.0 acres, which has increased tree clearing from 0.1 acres to 4.1 acres;
- The BC-7 AOI has increased from 19.8 acres to 23.1 acres and the LOD has increased from 5.4 acres to 6.8 acres which has reduced tree clearing so that it is no longer required;
- The BC-8 LOD has been modified but remains 0.2 acres with no additional tree clearing required; and
- The BC-7 Laydown Yard has been added to the Project and consists of a 5.5-acre AOI and a 0.9-acre LOD, which will require no tree clearing.

Based on the above Project changes, Duke is requesting revised information regarding T&E species, or their habitats that may be impacted by the proposed Project.

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Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@39.46006375,-84.39181030461681,14z>



Counties: Butler County, Ohio

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## Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 4 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Note that 1 of these species should be considered only under certain conditions.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

- 
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

### Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949</a>	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. This species only needs to be considered under the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Incidental take of the northern long-eared bat is not prohibited at this location. Federal action agencies may conclude consultation using the streamlined process described at <a href="https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/s7.html">https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nleb/s7.html</a></li> </ul> Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>	Threatened

### Clams

NAME	STATUS
Rayed Bean <i>Villosa fabalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5862">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5862</a>	Endangered

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## Insects

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Candidate

## Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.



January 31, 2022

Dan Everson  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ohio Field Office  
4625 Morse Rd Suite 104  
Columbus, OH 43230

**Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Assistance Modification Request**  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project (TAILS# 03E15000-2021-TA-0862)  
Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Dear Mr. Everson:

On behalf of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke), Kleinfelder, Inc. is submitting this threatened and endangered (T&E) species technical assistance modification request to notify the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) of changes that have occurred to the proposed limits-of-disturbance (LOD) since receipt of USFWS correspondence TAILS# 03E15000-2021-TA-0862 on February 24, 2021 (Attachment A).

Duke is proposing gas line improvements including extensions, relocations, and abandonments at 7 segments (BC-1, BC-2, BC-4, BC-5, BC-6, BC-7, and BC-8) and utilizing 1 laydown yard (BC-7 Laydown Yard) in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio (OH) (Figure 1) collectively known as the Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project (Project). Since receipt of the February 24, 2021 USFWS correspondence, design changes have occurred to the LODs at BC-2, BC-4, BC-5, BC-7, and BC-8 along with the addition of the BC-7 Laydown Yard, which have increased the area of interest (AOI) from 49.7 acres to 125.1 acres and increased the LOD from 12.7 acres to 24.1 acres (Figure 2). Specifically, the following changes have occurred:

- The BC-2 AOI has increased from 5.6 acres to 5.7 acres and the LOD has been modified but remains 1.3 acres with no additional tree clearing required;
- The BC-4 LOD has increased from 3.9 acres to 4.0 acres with no additional tree clearing required;
- The BC-5 AOI has increased from 4.9 acres to 71.4 acres and the LOD has increased from 0.9 acres to 10.0 acres, which has increased tree clearing from 0.1 acres to 4.1 acres;
- The BC-7 AOI has increased from 19.8 acres to 23.1 acres and the LOD has increased from 5.4 acres to 6.8 acres which has reduced tree clearing so that it is no longer required;
- The BC-8 LOD has been modified but remains 0.2 acres with no additional tree clearing required and
- The BC-7 Laydown Yard has been added to the Project and consists of a 5.5-acre AOI and a 0.9-acre LOD, which will require no tree clearing.

Based on the above Project changes, Duke is requesting revised information regarding T&E species, or their habitats that may be impacted by the proposed Project.



Please address any questions or comments regarding this modification to:

Stephen R. Lane  
Lead Environmental Scientist/Planner - Siting and Licensing Support  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
139 East Fourth Street, Room EM740  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
(513) 287-2379  
[steve.lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:steve.lane@duke-energy.com)

Sincerely,

Kleinfelder, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew J. Albright". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Matthew J. Albright  
Project Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John A. Lewis". The signature is written in a cursive style.

John A. Lewis  
Project Professional

cc: Stephen R. Lane, Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Enclosures:

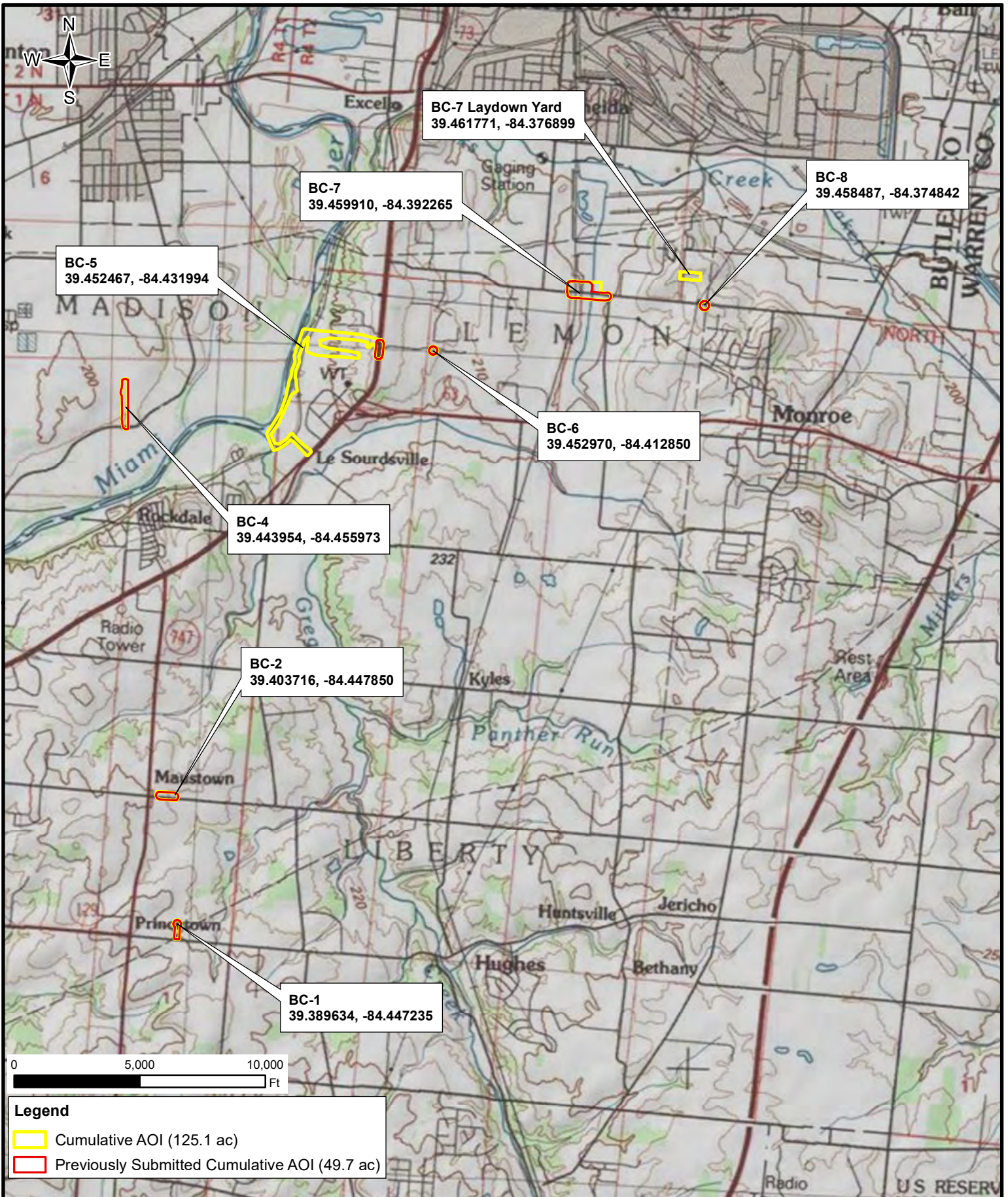
Figure 1 – Vicinity Map

Figure 2 - Aerial Imagery Map

Attachment A - Agency Correspondence

**FIGURE 1  
VICINITY MAP**

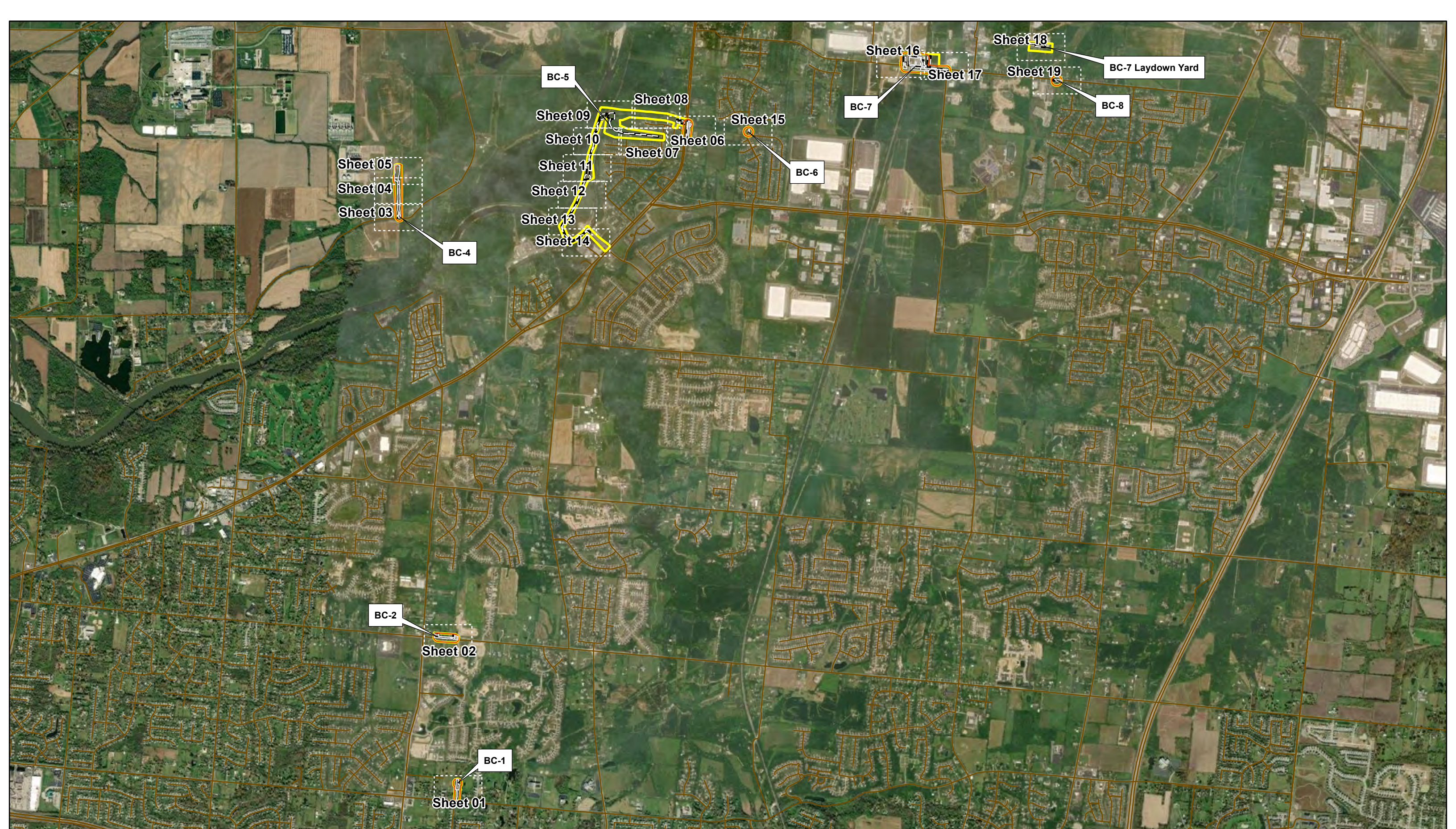




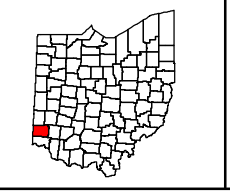
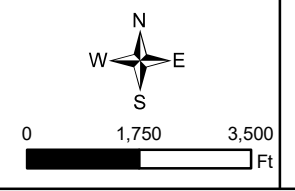
		Monroe & Trenton, OH 7.5' USGS Quadrangle		PROJECT NO. 20211395		Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.	
		Lemon, Liberty & Madison Township, Butler County, Ohio		DRAWN BY: S. Williams		Figure 1 Vicinity Map Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project	
				CHECKED BY: M. Albright			
				FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI_USFWS_Fig1		Date: 1/31/2022	

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**FIGURE 2  
AERIAL IMAGERY MAP**



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2\_idx

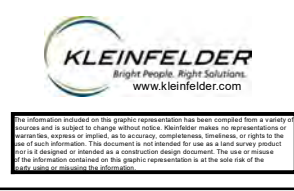


**Butler County  
Ohio**

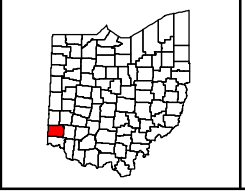
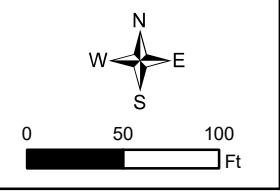
- Cumulative AOI (125.1 ac)
- Cumulative LOD (24.1 ac)
- Previously Submitted Cumulative AOI (49.7 ac)
- Previously Submitted Cumulative LOD (12.7 ac)

- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Index Map



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2

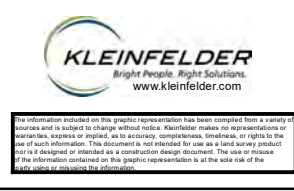


**Butler County  
Ohio**

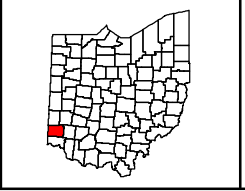
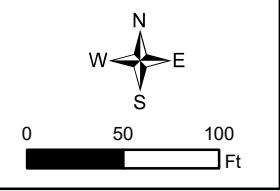
- BC-1 AOI (3.9 ac)
- BC-1 LOD (0.9 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-1 AOI (3.9 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-1 LOD (0.9 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow

↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 1 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-2 AOI (5.7 ac)
- BC-2 LOD (1.3 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-2 AOI (5.6 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-2 LOD (1.3 ac)
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ↘ Stream Flow

↑ Feature Continues

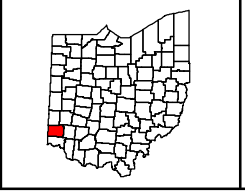
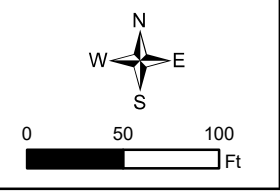
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 2 of 19

KLF\_Stream05

Woodsdale Rd



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow

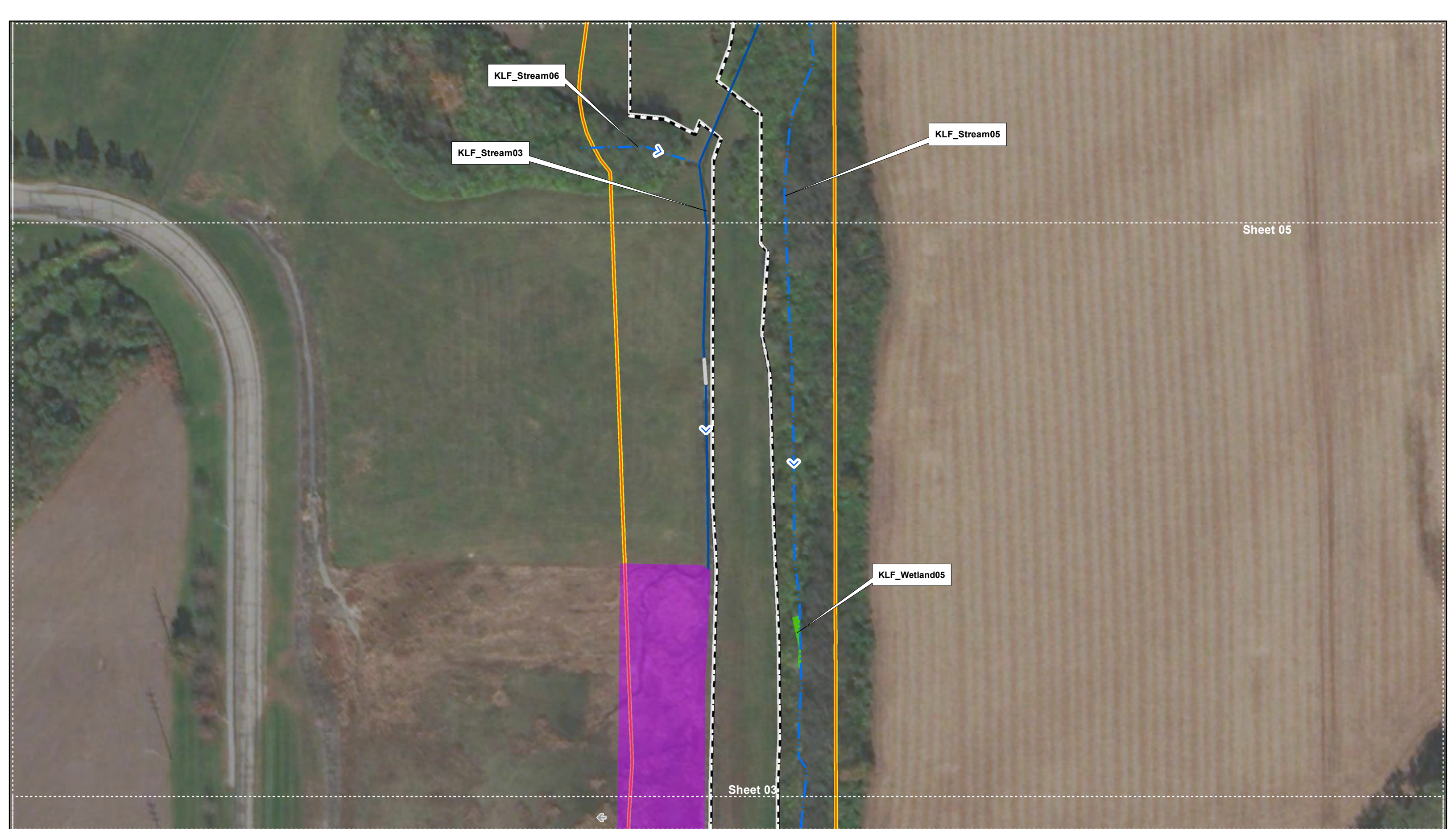
↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 2  
Aerial Imagery Map  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 1/31/2022

Sheet 3 of 19

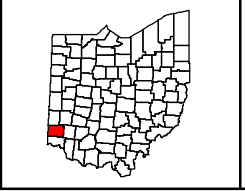
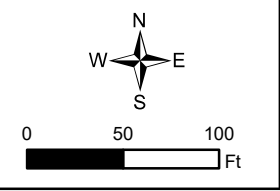


Sheet 05

Sheet 03



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2

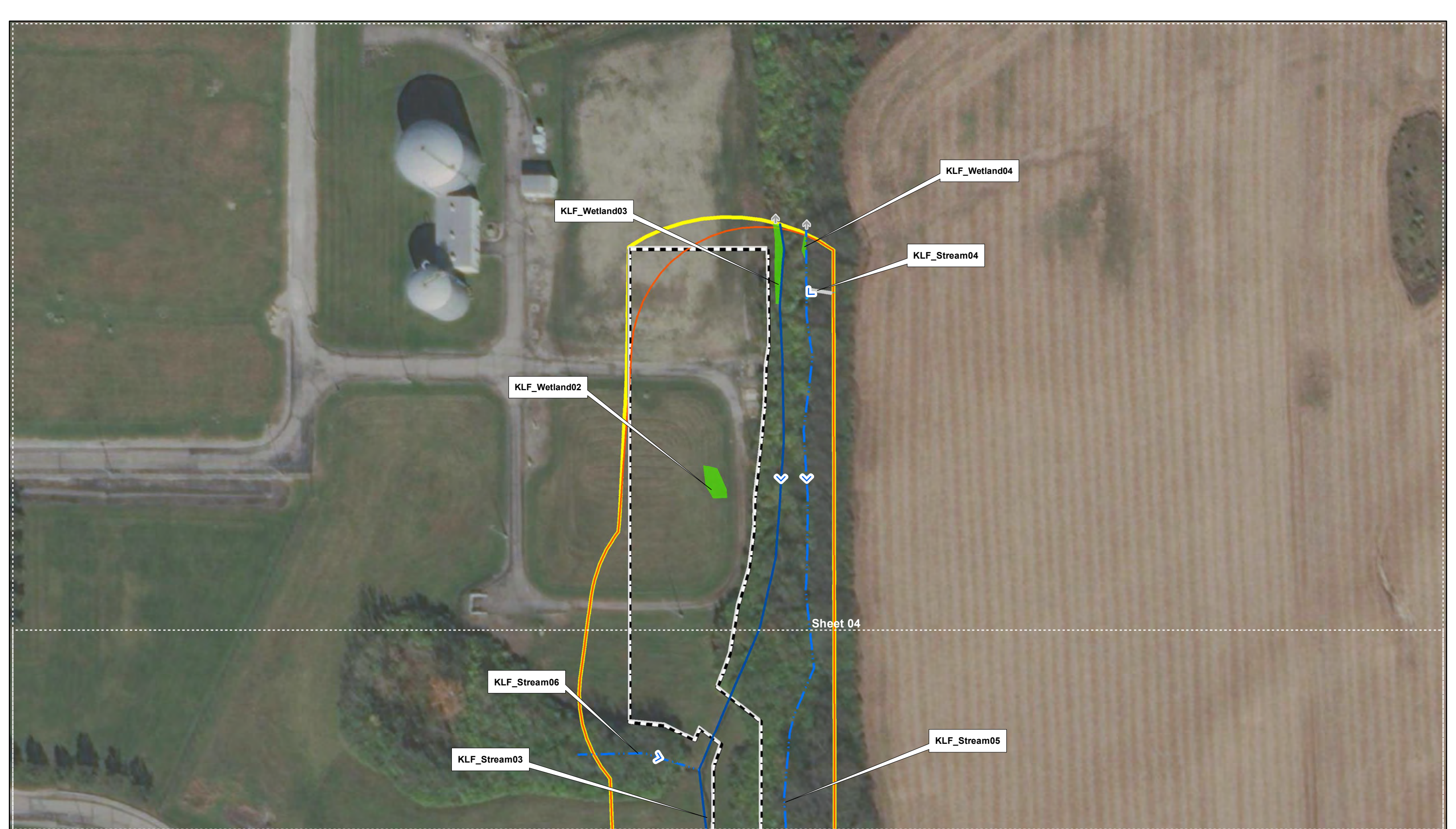


**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow

↑ Feature Continues

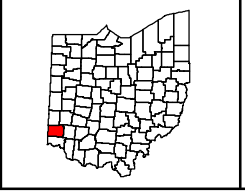
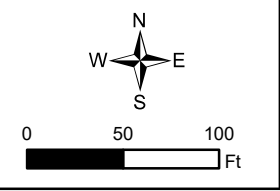
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 4 of 19



Sheet 04



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhase1\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- - - Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ^ Stream Flow

↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 5 of 19

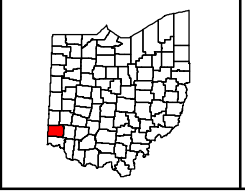
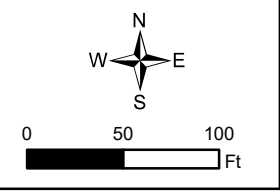


Sheet 08



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PROJECT NO.	20211395
DRAWN BY:	S. Williams
CHECKED BY:	M. Albright
FILE NAME:	ButlerCountyPhaseI_USFWS_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

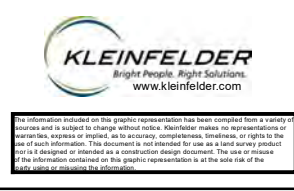
BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)	Bridge	PSS Wetland
BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)	Ephemeral Stream	PUB Wetland
Previously Submitted BC-5 AOI (4.9 ac)	Intermittent Stream	Stormwater Management Facility
Previously Submitted BC-5 LOD (0.9 ac)	Perennial Stream	USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
Trees >= 20" DBH*	PEM Wetland	Existing Road
Existing Culvert	PFO Wetland	Stream Flow

↑ Feature Continues

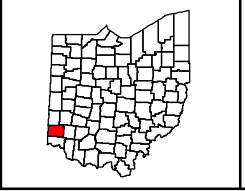
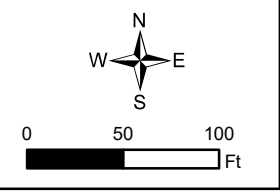
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 2  
Aerial Imagery Map  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 6 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhase1\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

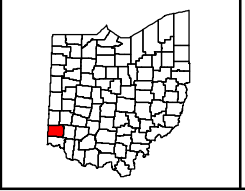
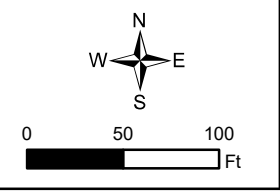
- |                    |                     |                                |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac) | Ephemeral Stream    | PSS Wetland                    |
| BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac) | Intermittent Stream | PUB Wetland                    |
| Trees >= 20" DBH*  | Perennial Stream    | Stormwater Management Facility |
| Existing Culvert   | PEM Wetland         | USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)   |
| Bridge             | PFO Wetland         | Existing Road                  |

- |                   |
|-------------------|
| Stream Flow       |
| Feature Continues |

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 7 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhase1\_USFWS\_Fig2

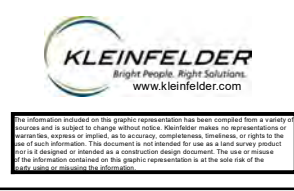
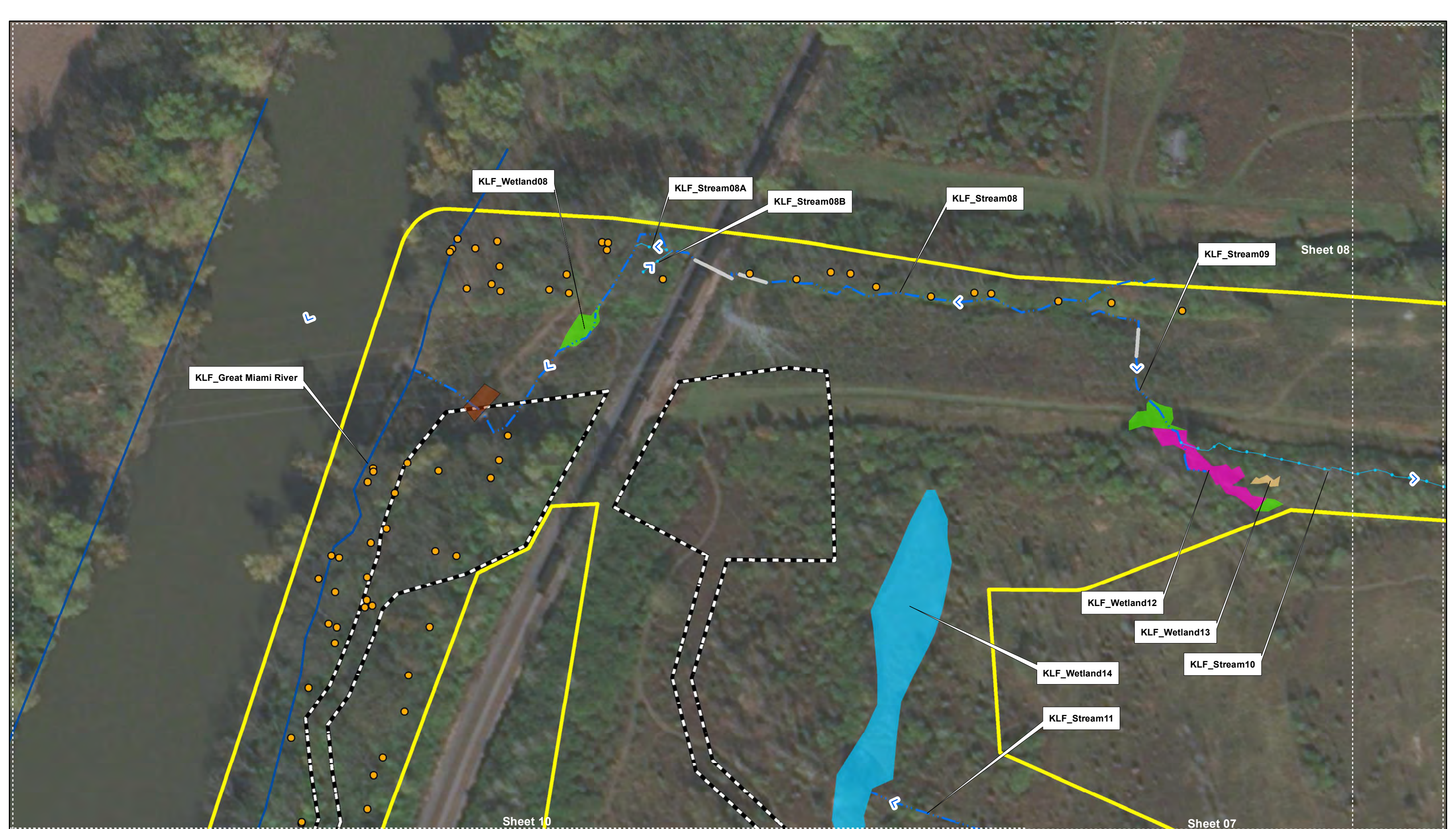


**Butler County  
Ohio**

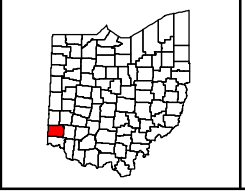
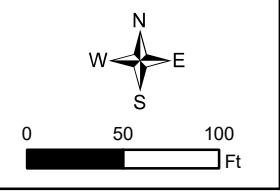
- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 8 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 9 of 19

Sheet 09

Sheet 07

Sheet 11

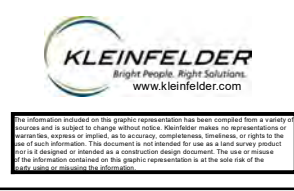
KLF\_Wetland14

KLF\_Wetland07

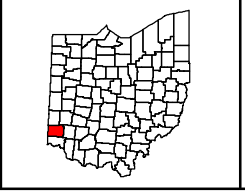
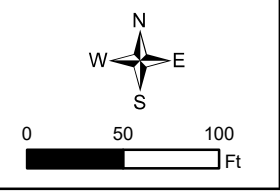
KLF\_Great Miami River

Apple Knoll Ln

Macintosh Ln



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhase1\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 10 of 19

KLF\_Great Miami River

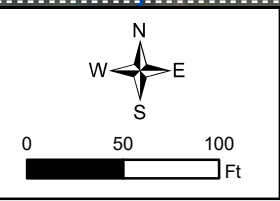
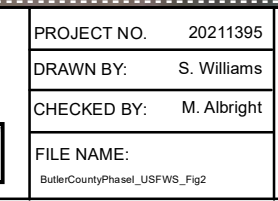
KLF\_Wetland09

KLF\_Wetland10

Granny Smith Ln

Apple Ridge Ct

Sheet 12



**Butler County  
Ohio**

BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)  
BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)  
Trees >= 20" DBH\*  
Existing Culvert  
Bridge

Ephemeral Stream  
Intermittent Stream  
Perennial Stream  
PEM Wetland  
PFO Wetland

PSS Wetland  
PUB Wetland  
Stormwater Management Facility  
USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)  
Existing Road

Stream Flow  
Feature Continues

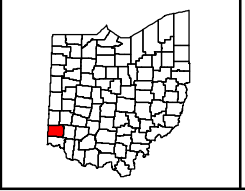
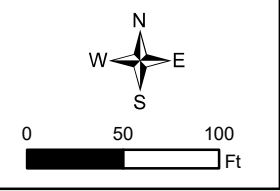
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
Figure 2  
Aerial Imagery Map  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
Date: 1/31/2022 Sheet 11 of 19

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KLF\_Great Miami River



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

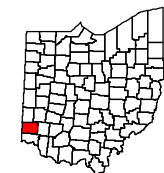
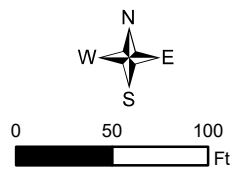
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 12 of 19

KLF\_Great Miami River

KLF\_Gregory Creek



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhase1\_USFWS\_Fig2



Butler County Ohio

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland

- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 1/31/2022

Sheet 13 of 19





KLF\_Gregory Creek

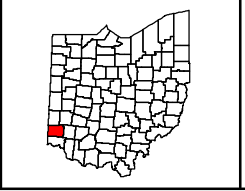
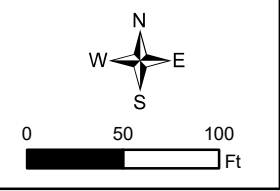
Sheet 13

Canal St

State Rte 4  
Hamilton Middletown Rd  
Wright Brothers Memorial Hwy  
Roden Park Dr  
Parker Dr



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2

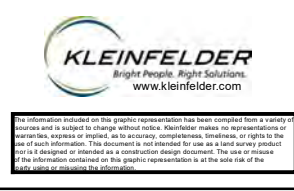


**Butler County  
Ohio**

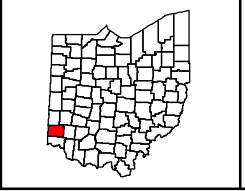
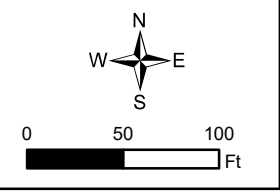
- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 14 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

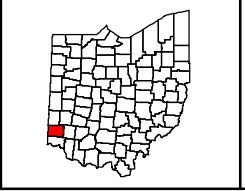
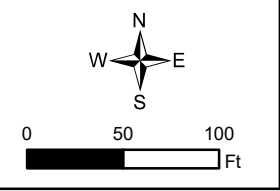
- BC-6 AOI (1.9 ac)
- BC-6 LOD (0.1 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-6 AOI (1.9 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-6 LOD (0.1 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow

↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 15 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2

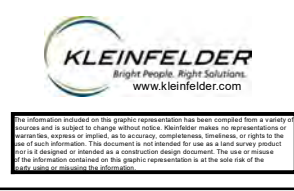
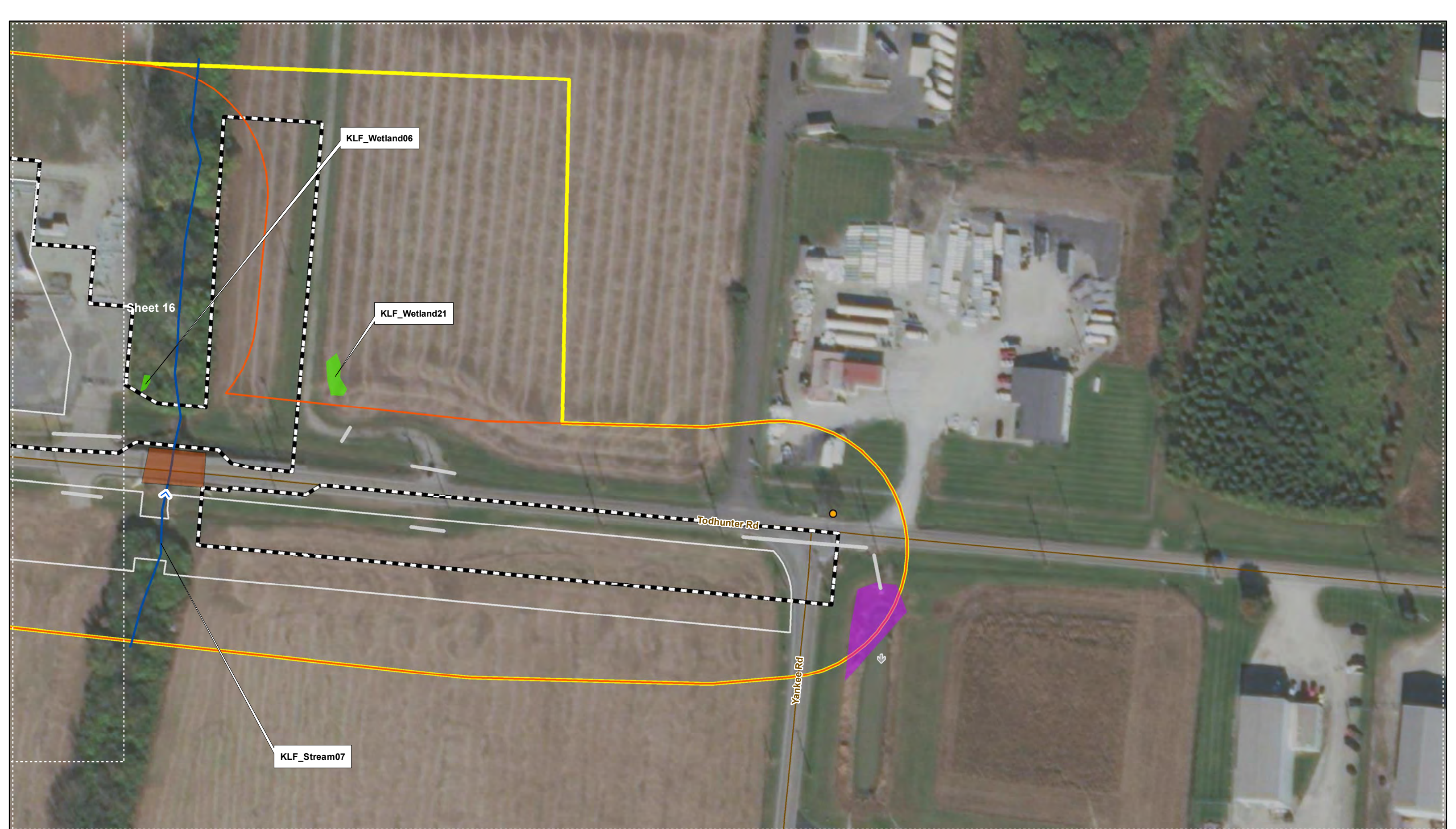


**Butler County  
Ohio**

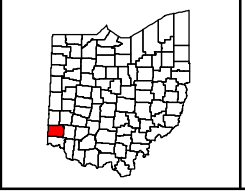
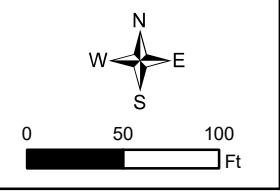
- BC-7 AOI (23.1 ac)
- BC-7 LOD (6.8 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-7 AOI (19.8 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-7 LOD (5.4 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow

↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 16 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2

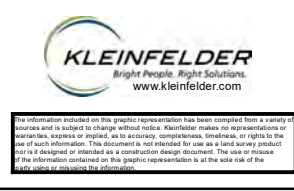


**Butler County  
Ohio**

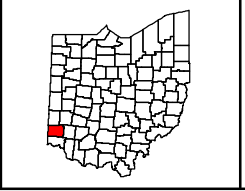
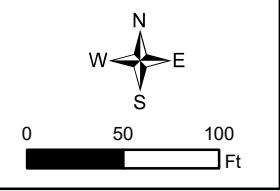
- BC-7 AOI (23.1 ac)
- BC-7 LOD (6.8 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-7 AOI (19.8 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-7 LOD (5.4 ac)
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow

Feature Continues ↑

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 17 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-7 Laydown Yard AOI (5.5 ac)
- BC-7 Laydown Yard LOD (0.9 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream

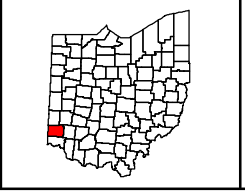
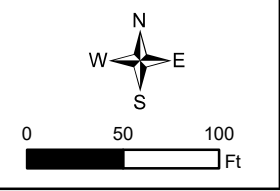
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland

- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 18 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_USFWS\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-8 AOI (2.3 ac)
- BC-8 LOD (0.2 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-8 (2.3 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-8 LOD (0.2 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow

↑ Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 19 of 19

**ATTACHMENT A  
AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE**

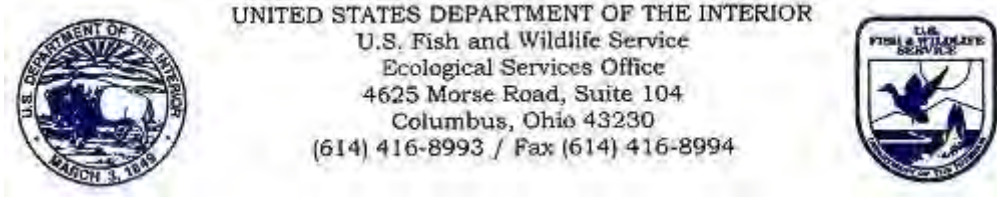
## Matthew Albright

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**From:** Ohio, FW3 <ohio@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:42 PM  
**To:** Matthew Albright  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve; Seth Sanders; Jill Vovaris  
**Subject:** Duke Energy, Butler County Phase I, C210 & LP07 Project (Gas Line Improvements)

### External Email

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TAILS# 03E15000-2021-TA-0862

Dear Mr. Albright,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) 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 effects to threatened and endangered species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA).

Federally Threatened and Endangered Species: Due to the project, type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or proposed or designated critical habitat. If there are any project modifications during the term of this action, or additional information for listed or proposed species or their critical habitat becomes available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, then please contact us for additional project review.

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](mailto:ohio@fws.gov).

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrice M. Ashfield". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "P" and a long, vertical tail on the final "f".

Patrice M. Ashfield  
Field Office Supervisor



February 1, 2022

Ms. Sarah Tebbe  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources-Office of Real Estate  
2045 Morse Road, Building E-2  
Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693

**Re: Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Assistance Modification Request & Desktop Habitat Assessment (ODNR Docket #21-0225)**  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Dear Ms. Tebbe:

On behalf of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke), Kleinfelder, Inc. (Kleinfelder) is submitting this combined threatened and endangered (T&E) species technical assistance modification request and desktop habitat assessment to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

## **PROJECT CHANGES**

Duke is proposing gas line improvements including extensions, relocations, and abandonments at 7 segments (BC-1, BC-2, BC-4, BC-5, BC-6, BC-7, and BC-8) and 1 laydown yard (BC-7 Laydown Yard) in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio (OH) (Figure 1) collectively known as the Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project (Project). Since receipt of the April 27, 2021 ODNR technical assistance comments (Attachment A; Docket #21-0225), design changes have occurred at BC-2, BC-4, BC-5, BC-7, and BC-8 along with the addition of the BC-7 Laydown Yard, which have increased the area of interest (AOI) from 49.7 acres to 125.1 acres and increased the limits-of-disturbance (LOD) from 12.7 acres to 24.1 acres (Figure 2). Specifically, the following changes have occurred:

- The BC-2 AOI has increased from 5.6 acres to 5.7 acres and the LOD has been modified but remains 1.3 acres with no additional tree clearing required;
- The BC-4 LOD has increased from 3.9 acres to 4.0 acres with no additional tree clearing required;
- The BC-5 AOI has increased from 4.9 acres to 71.4 acres and the LOD has increased from 0.9 acres to 10.0 acres, which has increased tree clearing from 0.1 acres to 4.1 acres;
- The BC-7 AOI has increased from 19.8 acres to 23.1 acres and the LOD has increased from 5.4 acres to 6.8 acres, which has reduced tree clearing so that it is no longer required;
- The BC-8 LOD has been modified but remains 0.2 acres with no additional tree clearing required; and
- The BC-7 Laydown Yard has been added to the Project and consists of a 5.5-acre AOI and a 0.9-acre LOD, which will require no tree clearing.

Based on the above Project changes, Duke is requesting revised information regarding T&E species, or their habitats that may be impacted by the proposed Project. In addition, Duke has developed the following desktop habitat assessment to address recommendations provided in ODNR's April 27, 2021 correspondence.



Winter tree clearing (between October 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>) associated with the Project is currently anticipated with the exception to BC-1, BC-4, and BC-7. Acoustic surveys were performed at these segments between August 12, 2020 and August 14, 2020 and will avoid side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the Project area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree and no cutting of any trees with a diameter at breast height (DBH)  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> and after March 31<sup>st</sup> to limit impacts to tricolored bats as recommended in ODNR's August 25 and 26, 2020 correspondence (Attachment B). Additionally, in order to limit impacts to little brown bats, ODNR recommended no clearing of trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities.

## DESKTOP HABITAT ASSESSMENT BACKGROUND

Select segments of the Project are under the jurisdiction of the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB). As such, an application will be filed with the OPSB for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need in February 2022. The desktop habitat assessment included in this document addresses only those segments of the Project that are under OPSB jurisdiction, which include all of or select portions of BC-1, BC-2, BC-4, BC-5, BC-7, and BC-7 Laydown Yard as shown on Figure 2.

Kleinfelder submitted a T&E species technical assistance letter for the Project to ODNR on February 16, 2021. A response letter was received on April 27, 2021, which requested a desktop habitat assessment for six state-listed species (tonguetied minnow [*Exoglossum laurae*], American eel [*Anguilla rostrata*], black-crowned night heron [*Nycticorax nycticorax*], least bittern [*Ixobrychus exilis*], lark sparrow [*Chondestes grammacus*], and upland sandpiper [*Bartramia longicauda*]) that may occur within the Project area.

In addition, four state-species (rayed bean [*Villosa fabalis*], fawnsfoot [*Truncilla donaciformis*], Kirtland's snake [*Clonophis kirtlandii*], and cave salamander [*Eurycea lucifuga*]) were also identified by ODNR as potentially occurring within the Project area. For these particular species, the ODNR response letter indicated that due to the location, the type of habitat within the Project area, and the type of work proposed, the Project is not likely to impact these species; therefore, a desktop habitat assessment was not completed for these species.

Furthermore, ODNR indicated that the Project was within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). ODNR recommended limiting tree clearing to October 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>. If unable to comply, ODNR recommended a mist net survey or acoustic survey be conducted from June 1 through August 15. ODNR also recommended a desktop review, and potentially subsequent field review, of potential hibernacula.

In response to the ODNR technical assistance comments, Kleinfelder performed a desktop evaluation for T&E species habitat that may exist specifically within the OPSB jurisdictional areas of the Project. The sections below summarize the methodologies undertaken to identify areas of potential habitat.



## DESKTOP HABITAT ASSESSMENT AND METHODOLOGY

Duke is proposing gas line improvements including extensions, relocations, and abandonments to bolster pressure in lines at different locations throughout Butler County, OH (Figure 1). The proposed improvements will result in an overall LOD of approximately 24.1 acres and will be accessed via existing and proposed access roads. A description of the existing land cover and land use within the LOD of the OPSB jurisdictional areas are provided below.

- BC-1 has an approximately 0.9-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Liberty Township at 39.389634, -84.447235. Land cover within the LOD consists of industrial use, road right-of-way (ROW), utility ROW, and open field areas. Land use is dominated by industrial use.
- BC-2 has an approximately 1.3-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Liberty Township at 39.403716, -84.447850. Land cover within the LOD consists of road ROW, utility ROW, and residential areas. Land use is dominated by residential use.
- BC-4 has an approximately 4.0-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Madison Township at 39.443954, -84.455973. Land cover within the LOD consists of industrial use, including one stormwater management facility, road ROW, forested and open field areas. Land use is dominated by industrial use and open fields.
- BC-5 has an approximately 10.0-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Lemon Township at 39.452467, -84.431994. Land cover within the LOD consists of commercial use, road ROW, utility ROW, railroad ROW, and early successional forest habitat. Land use is dominated by early successional forest habitat, road ROW, and utility ROW.
- BC-7 has an approximately 6.8-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Lemon Township at 39.459910, -84.392265. Land cover within the LOD consists of industrial use, road ROW, utility ROW, and agricultural areas. Land use is dominated by industrial and agricultural use.
- BC-7 Laydown Yard has an approximately 0.9-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Lemon Township at 39.461771, -84.376899. Land cover within the LOD consists of industrial use, road ROW, utility ROW, and agricultural areas. Land use is dominated by industrial and agricultural use.

To identify potential suitable habitat for the species via a desktop review, a variety of readily available digital data was reviewed from various sources, which includes, but was not limited to the following:

- Project specific data
- Aerial imagery
- eBird data (Cornell Lab of Ornithology)
- National Wetland Inventory (NWI)
- National Hydrography Dataset (NHD)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain data
- ODNR karst feature and mine data



In addition to these data sources, environmental data collected as part of the field delineations of each segment (September, October and December 2020; May and December 2021; and January 2022) were also utilized in this review. Each of these data sets were reviewed to identify and categorize habitats for each species based on their habitat requirements. Desktop evaluated habitat areas are shown on Figure 2. The following habitat descriptions and desktop assessment categories were used to assess the Project for potential species habitat:

### **Tonguetied Minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*)**

Listing: State Endangered Species

Morphology: This is a relatively small (approximately 3-5 inches) fish, which is part of the *Cyprinidae* (carps and minnows) family. The tonguetied minnow is unique in that it has a bony sheath that projects forward from the center of the lower jaw.

Habitat: Habitat for the tonguetied minnow includes forested and undercut perennial stream banks with alternating riffle-pool habitats. This species is very intolerant of turbid waters and requires clean gravel and pebble substrate types.

Range: According to ODNR, this species is only found in the Great Miami and Little Miami river systems in southwest Ohio. This species historically occurred in the upper portion of both river systems but is only located in the Mad River and associated tributaries present day. However, there may be some tonguetied minnows in the extreme upper portion of the Little Miami River.

Habitat Ratings: Habitat types for the tonguetied minnow were divided into the following qualifying categories in order to quantify the amount of potential habitat that may be present within the OPSB jurisdictional areas.

- No habitat – non-stream habitats, ephemeral streams, intermittent streams, and perennial streams that are separated from a downstream waterbody by a physical barrier and/or are susceptible to high levels of turbidity.
- Marginal habitat – streams with perennial flow but lack forested and undercut banks, consist of poor-quality riffle-pool habitat, and are susceptible to moderate levels of turbidity.
- Good habitat – streams with perennial flow, low levels of turbidity (stable stream channels), forested and undercut stream banks, and contain substrate types consisting of gravel and pebbles.

Habitat Result: Based on the desktop assessment to identify potential habitat for the tonguetied minnow, one area of marginal habitat (approximately 49-feet) was identified within the BC-7 LOD at the KLF\_Stream07 crossing. The marginal habitat consisted of a perennial stream within an existing herbaceous underground utility ROW situated immediately adjacent to Todhunter Road. This stream reach lacked undercut banks and is likely susceptible to increased turbidity from the surrounding commercial, industrial, and agricultural land use. The remainder of the OPSB jurisdictional areas did not contain habitat suitable to the species. The potential habitat area is depicted on Figure 2.



## **American Eel (*Anguilla rostrata*)**

Listing: State Threatened Species

Morphology: This fish has a long snake like body (approximately 15-40 inches in length) and is part of the *Anguillidae* (freshwater eels) family. The American eel is brown in color and has a long dorsal fin running more than half the length of the body. When threatened, adult eels can secrete a slimy substance.

Habitat: American eel habitat commonly includes semi-large to large rivers with perennial flow and moderately low turbidity. Eels are lucrative and will seek deep pools with cover until they come out at night to feed.

Range: According to ODNR, this species can be found throughout the state of Ohio.

Habitat Rating: Habitat types for the American eel were divided into the following qualifying categories in order to quantify the amount of potential habitat that may be present within the OPSB jurisdictional areas.

- No habitat – non-stream habitats, ephemeral streams, intermittent streams, perennial streams that are separated from a downstream waterbody by a physical barrier and/or are susceptible to high levels of turbidity.
- Marginal habitat – small perennial streams with occasional deep pools and are moderately susceptible to increased turbidity.
- Good habitat – semi-large to large rivers with perennial flow, deep pools, and moderately low turbidity.

Habitat Result: Based on the desktop assessment to identify potential habitat for the American eel, one area of moderate habitat (approximately 49-feet) was identified within the BC-7 LOD at the KLF\_Stream07 crossing. The marginal habitat consisted of a perennial stream within an existing herbaceous underground utility ROW situated immediately adjacent to Todhunter Road. This stream reach lacked deep pools and is likely susceptible to increased turbidity from the surrounding commercial, industrial, and agricultural land use. The remainder of the OPSB jurisdictional areas did not contain habitat suitable to the species. The potential habitat area is depicted on Figure 2.

## **Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)**

Listing: State Threatened Species

Morphology: The black-crowned night-heron (night-heron) is relatively small, ranging in length from approximately 23-26 inches and having a wingspan of approximately 45-46 inches. The night-heron has red eyes, a pale gray body, and a black crown and back.

Feeding: The night-heron is appropriately named for its nocturnal and crepuscular feeding habits. The night-heron forages on a variety of terrestrial and aquatic insects, but its diet consists primarily of fish, frogs, leeches, and worms.

Habitat: The night-heron is often found roosting in trees with dense vegetation located near streams, lakes, and wetlands during the day. The night-heron will nest close to bodies of water in small trees, saplings, shrubs and occasionally on the ground.



**Range:** The night-heron once occurred in wetlands throughout Ohio. The majority of nesting night herons are located north of the Project on islands in Lake Erie; however, breeding colonies have been reported near Cincinnati, Youngstown, Bucyrus, and Grand Lake St. Mary's, Ohio.

According to eBird data, a night-heron was observed on April 21, 2021 at the edge of a residential subdivision along the Villages of Providence Trail, approximately 2.9 miles southwest of the BC-1 LOD; the nearest OPSB jurisdictional area. However, the credibility of the sighting may be compromised due to review of readily available aerial imagery appearing to show further subdivision development of the area. Furthermore, due to the time of year, it is likely that the night-heron was migrating through the area and not nesting.

**Habitat Rating:** Habitat types for the night-heron were divided into the following qualifying categories in order to quantify the amount of potential habitat that may be present within the OPSB jurisdictional areas.

- No habitat – developed areas, uplands, small wetlands that do not regularly support surface water throughout the summer months, and ephemeral and intermittent streams.
- Marginal habitat – disturbed perennial stream and riparian corridors, residential ponds and lake edges, stormwater ponds that support wetland vegetation, and wetlands that may support little surface water during the summer months.
- Good habitat – undisturbed large wetlands with tall dense vegetation, stable perennial surface waters, and riparian areas with small trees and saplings/shrubs for nesting.

**Habitat Result:** Based on the desktop assessment to identify potential habitat for the night-heron, two areas of marginal stream and/or wetland habitat (approximately 0.11 acres) were identified within the BC-4 and BC-7 LOD segments. The marginal habitat within the BC-4 LOD of approximately 0.1 acres includes a stormwater management facility comprised of herbaceous hydrophytes less than 3.28 feet in height and appears to be predominantly dry during the summer months. Regular disturbances to the stormwater management facility are highly likely from the industrial complex mowing/ maintaining adjacent fields, motor vehicles regularly passing by on Woodsdale Road, and disruptions from the nearby residential dwelling. The marginal habitat within the BC-7 LOD of approximately 0.01 acres consisted of a perennial stream (KLF\_Stream07), which appeared to have stable perennial surface water and bait fish present for foraging; however, the habitat is located immediately adjacent to Todhunter Road and is located within an existing herbaceous ROW, surrounded by industrial development and agricultural fields. The remainder of the OPSB jurisdictional areas did not contain habitat suitable to the species. The potential habitat areas are depicted on Figure 2.

### **Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)**

**Listing:** State Threatened Species

**Morphology:** The least bittern is the smallest heron found in the Americas, ranging from 11-14 inches in length, and having a wingspan of 16-18 inches. The back of the least bittern is black while the underside of the bird is pale. Males have two distinct white stripes on their back.

**Feeding:** The least bittern uses their long toes to grasp tall emergent vegetation while hunting for small fish and invertebrates.



**Habitat:** Habitat consists of larger fresh or brackish cattail wetlands (5-10 acres) comprised of tall dense vegetation. Least bitterns need stable wetlands where water levels do not vary considerably or become dry. They tend to be found in wetlands with low to moderate water depths (2-4 inches). The least bittern may use smaller wetlands and narrow strips of cattails bordering ponds and lakes during migration.

**Range:** The least bittern can be found throughout large wetlands in Ohio during the summer months to breed and raise young.

According to eBird data, a least bittern was observed on August 7, 2021 in the Ellis Lake Wetlands, approximately 3.5 miles southwest of the BC-1 LOD; the nearest OPSB jurisdictional area to a species siting.

**Habitat Rating:** Habitat types for the least bittern were divided into the following qualifying categories in order to quantify the amount of potential habitat that may be present within the OPSB jurisdictional areas.

- No habitat – uplands, developed areas, wetlands that lack stands of dense emergent vegetation, and small wetlands that do not offer stable perennial surface water.
- Marginal habitat – residential ponds and stormwater facilities with surface water that supports emergent vegetation.
- Good habitat – large undisturbed wetlands with tall dense emergent vegetation and a stable perennial surface water.

**Habitat Result:** Based on the desktop assessment to identify potential habitat for the least bittern, one area of marginal habitat (approximately 0.1 acre) was identified within the BC-4 LOD due to the presence of a stormwater management facility. The marginal habitat within the BC-4 LOD includes a stormwater management facility comprised of herbaceous hydrophytes less than 3.28 feet in height and appears to be predominantly dry during the summer months. Regular disturbances to the stormwater management facility are highly likely from the industrial complex mowing/maintaining adjacent fields, motor vehicles regularly passing by on Woodsdale Road, and disruptions from the nearby residential dwelling. The remainder of the OPSB jurisdictional areas did not contain habitat suitable to the species. The potential habitat area is depicted on Figure 2.

### **Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*)**

**Listing:** State Endangered Species

**Morphology:** The lark sparrow ranges from approximately 6-7 inches in length and has a wingspan of approximately 11 inches. The lark sparrow has a distinct head pattern consisting of dark, light, and chestnut-colored stripes. The lark sparrow has a broad beak and a noticeable black spot in the center of its white chest.

**Feeding:** The lark sparrow feeds primarily from the ground, consuming grass seeds and insects such as grasshoppers.

**Habitat:** The lark sparrow's habitat consists of grasslands, prairies, pasture fields, and fallow fields with sporadic bushes and trees.





**Range:** Lark sparrows are known to occur in the West and the Great Plains; including the central and western portions of Ohio.

According to eBird data, a Lark Sparrow was observed on June 18, 2012, approximately 3.7 miles southwest of the BC-1 LOD; the nearest OPSB jurisdictional area to a species siting.

**Habitat Rating:** Habitat types for the lark sparrow were divided into the following qualifying categories in order to quantify the amount of potential habitat that may be present within the OPSB jurisdictional areas.

- No habitat – waterbodies (stream and wetlands), active agriculture fields comprised of row crops, roads, and developed areas.
- Marginal habitat – cleared utility ROW and early successional habitat.
- Good habitat – grasslands, prairies, pasture fields, and fallow fields, with sporadic bushes and trees.

**Habitat Result:** Based on the desktop assessment to identify potential habitat for the lark sparrow, areas of marginal habitat (approximately 2.1 acres) were identified within the BC-1 and BC-5 LODs. Marginal habitat within the BC-1 LOD of approximately 0.2 acres included existing underground utility ROW comprised of herbaceous species and early successional habitat. It is likely that this habitat is routinely disturbed from the surrounding industrial infrastructure, adjacent residential and agricultural properties, and routine maintenance of the ROW. The marginal habitat at BC-5 of approximately 1.9 acres consisted of herbaceous fields and early successional habitat within a highly urbanized area. It is likely that these areas are routinely disturbed by recreational users hiking trails to access the Great Miami River as well as routine ROW maintenance and disturbances from the adjacent residential and agricultural parcels. The remainder of the OPSB jurisdictional areas did not contain habitat suitable to the species. The potential habitat areas are depicted on Figure 2.

### **Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*)**

**Listing:** State Endangered Species

**Morphology:** The adult upland sandpiper has a marbled golden brown to blackish back and a white breast with dark streaks on the chest and sides.

**Feeding:** Upland sandpipers consume mostly insects from the ground or low vegetation which can include grasshoppers, crickets, weevils, ants, centipedes, millipedes, snails, spiders, ticks, and earthworms. Upland sandpipers also eat grass, weed seeds, and berries.

**Habitat:** Upland sandpipers are most numerous in native prairies in the great plains. Their habitat consists of low, relatively flat, grassy fields, fallow fields, ungrazed meadows, hayfields, and pastures where the vegetation is normally 1–2 feet high with little woody vegetation and bare ground. Their preferred breeding habitats contain fence posts, telephone poles, and other types of tall structures, which are used for territorial lookouts.

**Range:** Upland sandpipers can be found throughout most of Ohio but are less common in southeast Ohio.

According to eBird data, an upland sandpiper was observed on April 29, 2018, approximately 3.5 miles southwest of the BC-1 LOD; the nearest OPSB jurisdictional area to a species siting.



**Habitat Rating:** Habitat types for the upland sandpiper were divided into the following qualifying categories in order to quantify the amount of potential habitat that may be present within the OPSB jurisdictional areas.

- No habitat – waterbodies (stream and wetlands), active agriculture fields comprised of row crops, roads, and developed areas.
- Marginal habitat – mostly herbaceous utility ROW with sporadic early successional habitat.
- Good habitat – low, relatively flat, grassy fields, fallow fields, ungrazed meadows, hayfields, and pastures where the vegetation is normally 1–2 feet high with little woody vegetation and bare ground.

**Habitat Result:** Based on the desktop assessment to identify potential habitat for the upland sandpiper, areas of marginal habitat (approximately 1.8 acres) were identified within the BC-1 and BC-5 LODs. Marginal habitat within the BC-1 LOD of approximately 0.2 acres included existing underground utility ROW comprised of mostly herbaceous species and early successional habitat. It is likely that this habitat is routinely disturbed from the surrounding industrial infrastructure, adjacent residential and agricultural properties, and routine maintenance of the ROW. The marginal habitat within the BC-5 LOD of approximately 1.6 acres consisted of herbaceous fields and early successional habitat within a highly urbanized area. It is likely that these areas are routinely disturbed by recreational users hiking trails to access the Great Miami River as well as routine ROW maintenance and disturbances from the adjacent residential and agricultural parcels. The remainder of the OPSB jurisdictional areas did not contain habitat suitable to the species. The potential habitat areas are depicted on Figure 2.

### **Bat Habitat**

ODNR indicated that the Project was in the range of the Indiana bat, a state endangered and federally endangered species; the northern long-eared bat (NLEB), a state endangered and federally threatened species; the little brown bat, a state endangered species; and the tricolored bat, a state endangered species.

In Ohio, presence of the Indiana bat and NLEB is assumed wherever suitable habitat occurs. As a result of this requirement and due to the proposed Project construction schedule, Kleinfelder contracted Encarna, LLC. on behalf of Duke to conduct a summer acoustic survey to determine the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Project during the summer maternity season. Prior to conducting the acoustic survey, a study plan was submitted to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and ODNR on August 9, 2020 proposing an acoustic survey for 4 of the 8 Project locations. The USFWS and ODNR concurred with the proposal on August 11, 2020 and August 12, 2020, respectively. Between August 12, 2020 and August 14, 2020, acoustic surveys were performed at BC-1, BC-4, and BC-7. Data collected from the acoustic surveys were analyzed using the USFWS approved Kaleidoscope Pro Version 5.1.0, which includes a Maximum Likelihood Estimator (MLE) that statistically evaluates the risk of false positives within each individual species result. The MLE generated by Kaleidoscope had confidence in five species: big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), Eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*), and tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). The Indiana bat and NLEB were found not likely to be present. The results of the acoustic surveys were submitted to USFWS and ODNR on August 24, 2020.



Correspondence from USFWS (TAILS# 03E15000-2020-TA-2218) on August 25, 2020 indicated tree clearing on the project site at any time of the year is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to Indiana bats and will not result in any unauthorized incidental take of NLEB. In addition, USFWS did not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species due to the Project type, size, and location. Correspondence from ODNR on August 25 and 26, 2020 recommended no side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the Project area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree and no cutting of any trees with a DBH  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> and after March 31<sup>st</sup> in order to limit impacts to tricolored bats. Additionally, in order to limit impacts to little brown bats, ODNR recommended no clearing of trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities. USFWS and ODNR correspondence associated with the acoustic surveys are included as Attachment B.

Due to the recommendation outlined by ODNR, Kleinfelder biologists assessed the on-site habitat within the overall 125.1-acre AOI to determine suitability for bats and recorded geographic positioning system (GPS) coordinates of trees exhibiting  $\geq$ 20-inch DBH. The results of this habitat assessment found the following number of trees with a  $\geq$ 20-inch DBH inside the AOI: 0 trees at BC-1, 7 trees at BC-2, 1 tree at BC-4, 143 trees at BC-5, 0 trees at BC-6, 2 trees at BC-7, 0 trees at BC-8, and 1 tree at BC-7 Laydown Yard (Figure 2). Of the 154 trees with  $\geq$ 20-inch DBH, 32 trees are located within the LOD, all of which are in the BC-5 LOD. Within the BC-5 LOD, 31 trees are located within the OPSB jurisdictional area. All other OPSB jurisdictional areas of the Project avoid impacts to trees  $\geq$ 20-inch DBH.

In winter, the Indiana bat, NLEB, little brown bat, and tricolored bat hibernate in caves and abandoned mines. A desktop review was conducted within a ¼-mile radius of the proposed Project using topographic and aerial maps and the ODNR Ohio Mines Viewer, which revealed 8 abandoned underground mines exist within a ¼-mile radius of the BC-7 LOD; two of which overlap with the LOD. These abandoned mines appear to be underground caverns associated with past facility operations that used them for propane and butane storage. Site visits by Kleinfelder did not identify the presence of mines, caves, or portals within the Project LOD. Furthermore, since southwest Ohio is an area known to contain karst features, which is conducive to cave formation, Kleinfelder performed a desktop review of Ohio's Karst Interactive Map Viewer and determined that no karst features or probable karst features are located within a ¼-mile radius of the Project (Figure 3).

## **FIELD ASSESSMENT**

This desktop habitat assessment is being provided to ODNR for review and comment to determine if a field assessment is required. Based on this desktop habitat assessment, it is not anticipated that a field assessment would be required since 'good' habitat for any of the species indicated above was not identified. Likewise, no karst features were identified within a 1/4-mile radius of the OPSB jurisdictional areas.

However, if ODNR determines 'good' habitat may exist within an OPSB jurisdictional area, the habitat will be ground truthed and field verified as landowner permissions allow to determine if the presence of suitable habitat for each species exists. Potential habitat areas will be assessed for the preferred characteristics of each species, delineated with a GPS unit, and photographed. Furthermore, if ODNR determines presence/absence surveys for the relevant species are



required within an OPSB jurisdictional area, the surveys would be conducted during the appropriate time of year for each species according to ODNR guidance and a report would be provided to ODNR for review.

## CONCLUSION

Duke has designed the proposed Project to minimize and avoid encroachments to aquatic resources, sensitive species, and forested habitat (Figure 2). Based on the results of the desktop habitat assessment, impacts to T&E species are not anticipated. The overall AOI of 125.1 acres has been reduced to an overall LOD of 24.1 acres and the amount of forest clearing within the overall LOD (5.6 acres) has been reduced to the least amount practical to still allow for construction. Duke proposes winter tree clearing (between October 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>) with the exception to BC-1, BC-4, and BC-7. Acoustic surveys were performed at these segments between August 12, 2020 and August 14, 2020 and will avoid side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the Project area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree and no cutting of any trees with a DBH  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> and after March 31<sup>st</sup> to limit impacts to tricolored bats as recommended in ODNR's August 25 and 26, 2020 correspondence. Additionally, in order to limit impacts to little brown bats, Duke will avoid clearing trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities.

Please address any questions or comments regarding this submission to:

Stephen R. Lane  
Lead Environmental Scientist/Planner - Siting and Licensing Support  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
139 East Fourth Street, Room EM740  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
(513) 287-2379  
[steve.lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:steve.lane@duke-energy.com)

Sincerely,  
Kleinfelder, Inc.

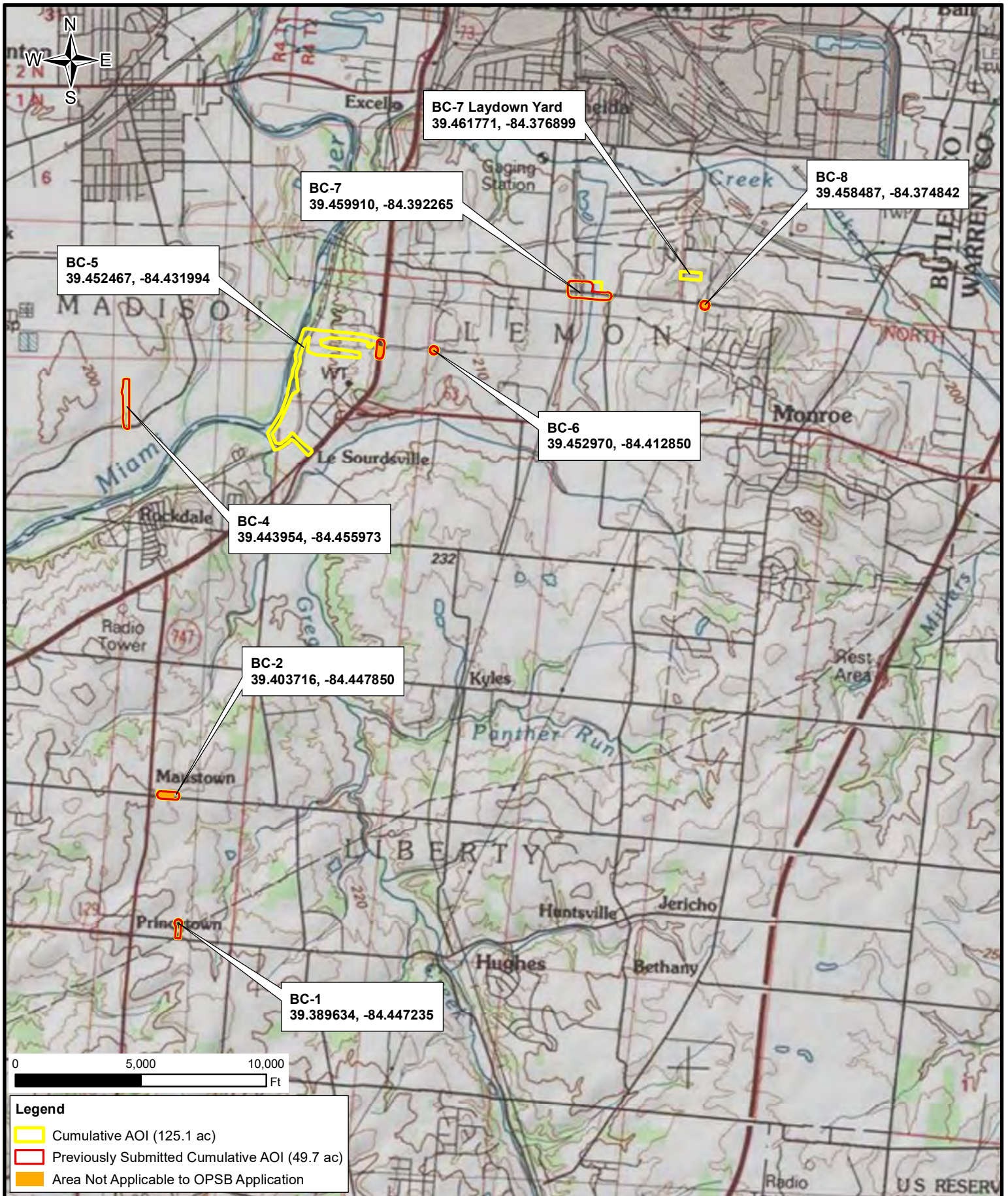
Matthew J. Albright  
Project Manager

John A. Lewis  
Project Professional

cc: Stephen R. Lane, Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Enclosures:  
Figure 1 – USGS Topographic Map  
Figure 2 – Desktop Delineated Habitat Map  
Figure 3 – Desktop Hibernacula Assessment Map  
Attachment A – ODNR Correspondence from Technical Assistance  
Attachment B – ODNR & USFWS Correspondence from Acoustic Survey

**FIGURE 1**  
**USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP**



**BC-7 Laydown Yard**  
39.461771, -84.376899

**BC-7**  
39.459910, -84.392265

**BC-8**  
39.458487, -84.374842

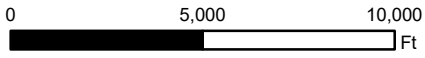
**BC-5**  
39.452467, -84.431994

**BC-6**  
39.452970, -84.412850

**BC-4**  
39.443954, -84.455973

**BC-2**  
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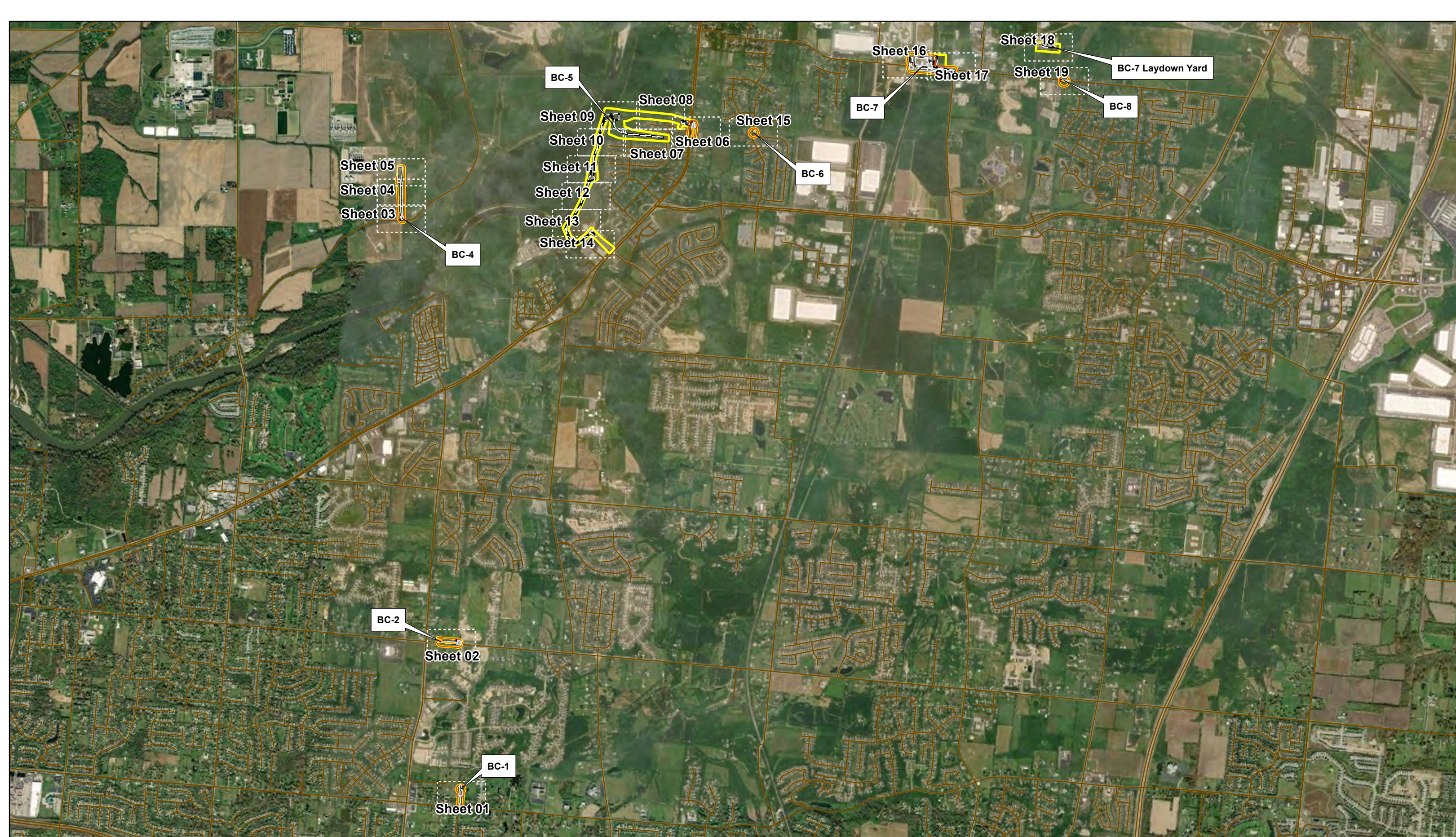
**BC-1**  
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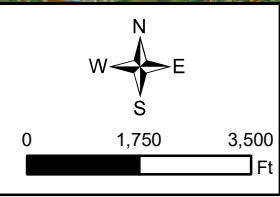
Legend	
	Cumulative AOI (125.1 ac)
	Previously Submitted Cumulative AOI (49.7 ac)
	Area Not Applicable to OPSB Application

		Monroe & Trenton, OH 7.5' USGS Quadrangle	PROJECT NO. 20211395	Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  <b>Figure 1</b> USGS Topographic Map Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project	
		Lemon, Liberty & Madison Township, Butler County, Ohio	DRAWN BY: S. Williams CHECKED BY: M. Albright		
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**FIGURE 2**  
**DESKTOP DELINEATED HABITAT MAP**



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 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2\_Idx



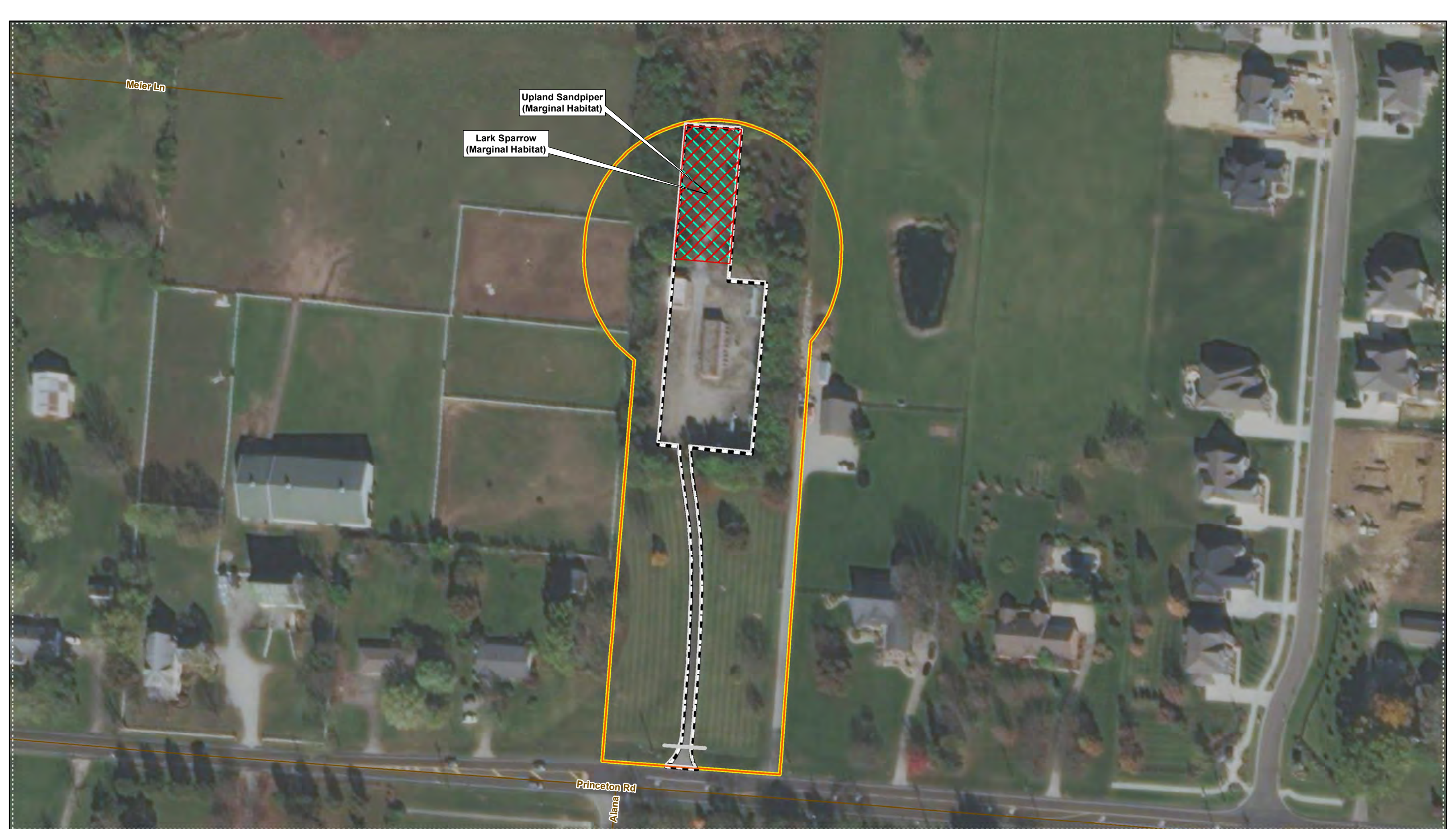
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- Cumulative AOI (125.1 ac)
- Cumulative LOD (24.1 ac)
- Previously Submitted Cumulative AOI (49.7 ac)
- Previously Submitted Cumulative LOD (12.7 ac)

- Area Not Applicable to OPSB Application
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Desktop Delineated Habitat Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/1/2022      Index Map





Upland Sandpiper  
(Marginal Habitat)

Lark Sparrow  
(Marginal Habitat)

Meier Ln

Princeton Rd

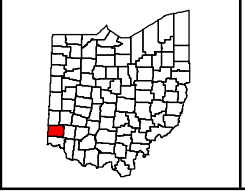
Alana

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DRAWN BY:	S. Williams
CHECKED BY:	M. Albright
FILE NAME:	ButlerCountyPhaseI_RTE_Fig2

0 50 100  
Ft



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-1 AOI (3.9 ac)
- BC-1 LOD (0.9 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-1 AOI (3.9 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-1 LOD (0.9 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge

- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland

- Stormwater Management Facility
- Lark Sparrow, Marginal Habitat (0.2 ac)
- Upland Sandpiper, Marginal Habitat (0.2 ac)
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

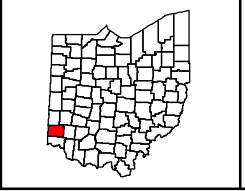
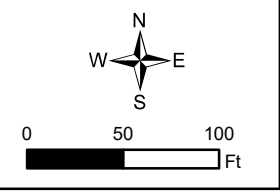
Figure 2  
Desktop Delineated Habitat Map  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project

Date: 2/1/2022

Sheet 1 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-2 AOI (5.7 ac)
- BC-2 LOD (1.3 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-2 AOI (5.6 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-2 LOD (1.3 ac)
- Area Not Applicable to OPSB
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Desktop Delineated Habitat Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/1/2022      Sheet 2 of 19

KLF\_Stream05

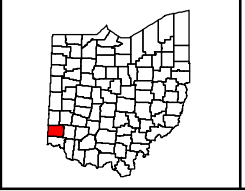
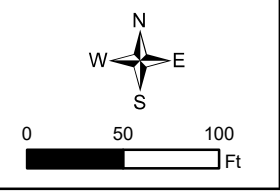
Black-Crowned Night Heron (Marginal Habitat)

Least Bittern (Marginal Habitat)

Woodsdale Rd



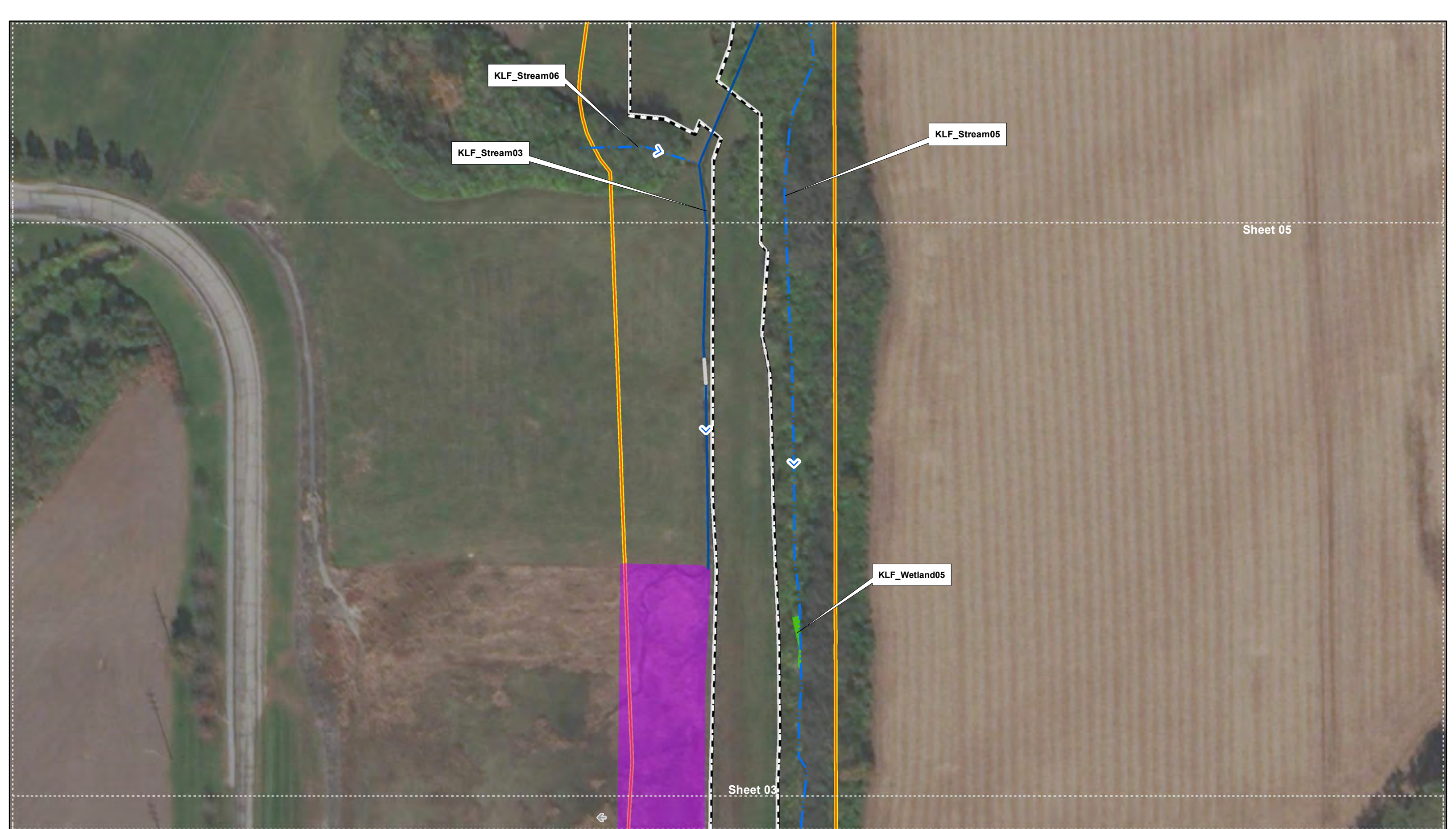
PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County Ohio**

BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)	Bridge	PSS Wetland
BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)	Ephemeral Stream	PUB Wetland
Previously Submitted BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)	Intermittent Stream	Stormwater Management Facility
Previously Submitted BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)	Perennial Stream	Black-Crowned Night Heron, Marginal Habitat (0.1 ac)
Trees >= 20" DBH*	PEM Wetland	Least Bittern, Marginal Habitat (0.1 ac)
Existing Culvert	PFO Wetland	USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
		Existing Road
		Stream Flow
		Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

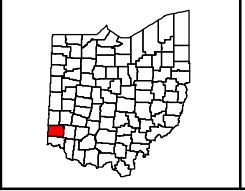
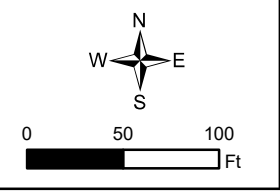


Sheet 05

Sheet 03



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- |   |                     |                                |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)                      | Bridge              | PSS Wetland                    |
| BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)                       | Ephemeral Stream    | PUB Wetland                    |
| Previously Submitted BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac) | Intermittent Stream | Stormwater Management Facility |
| Previously Submitted BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)  | Perennial Stream    | USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)   |
| Trees >= 20" DBH*                       | PEM Wetland         | Existing Road                  |
| Existing Culvert                        | PFO Wetland         | Stream Flow                    |

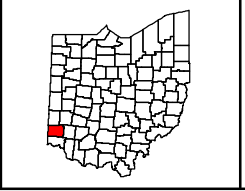
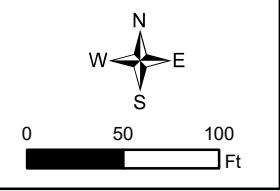
Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Desktop Delineated Habitat Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project  
 Date: 2/1/2022      Sheet 4 of 19



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 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



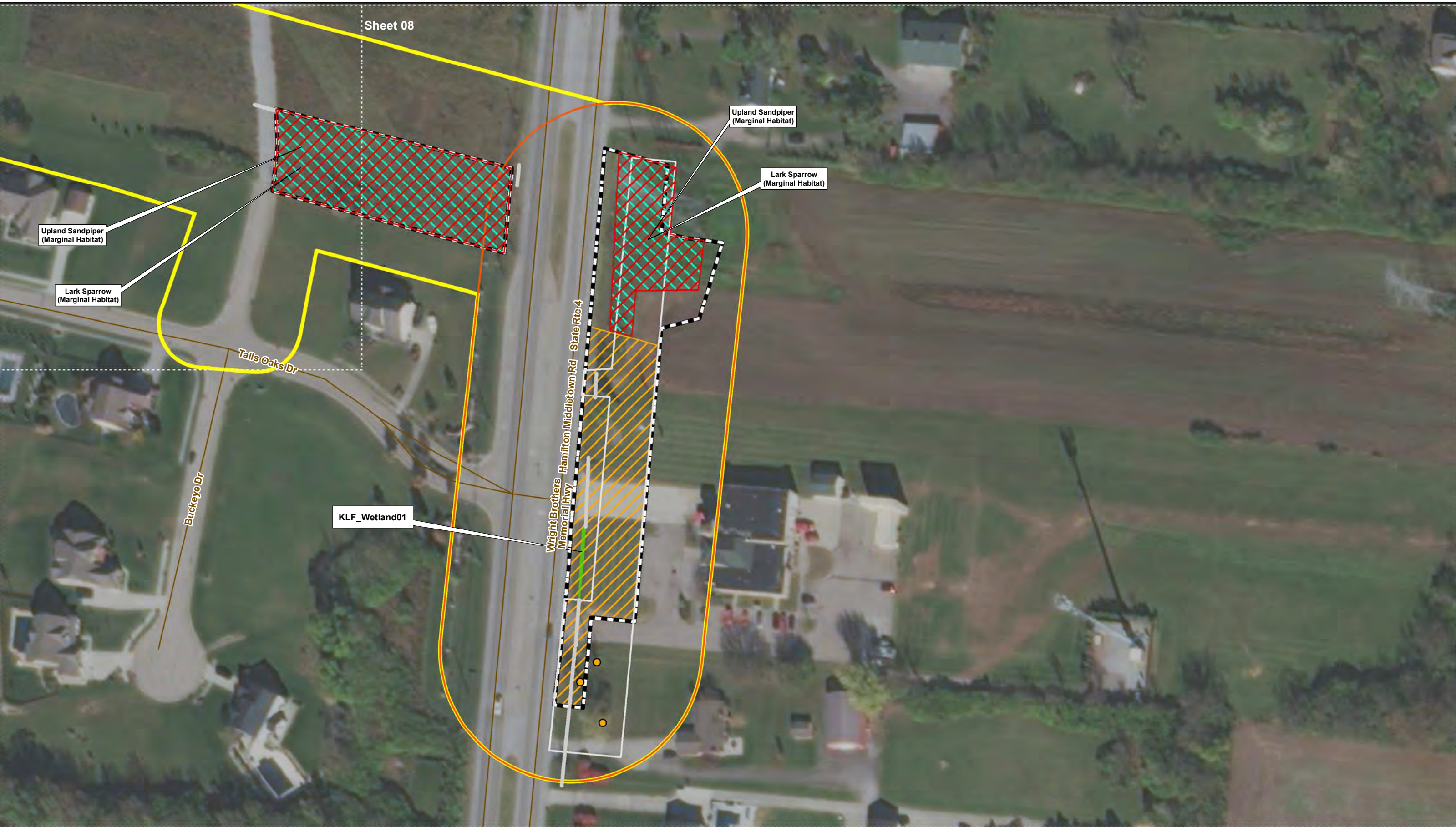
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-4 LOD (3.9 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow

↑ Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

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 Figure 2  
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Upland Sandpiper  
(Marginal Habitat)

Lark Sparrow  
(Marginal Habitat)

Talls Oaks Dr

Buckeye Dr

KLF\_Wetland01

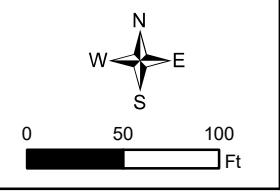
Wright Brothers  
Memorial Hwy  
Hamilton Middletown Rd - State Rte 4

Upland Sandpiper  
(Marginal Habitat)

Lark Sparrow  
(Marginal Habitat)



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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



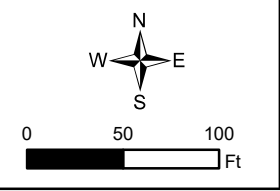
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-5 AOI (4.9 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-5 LOD (0.9 ac)
- Area Not Applicable to OPSB
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- Lark Sparrow, Marginal Habitat (1.9 ac)
- Upland Sandpiper, Marginal Habitat (1.6 ac)
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

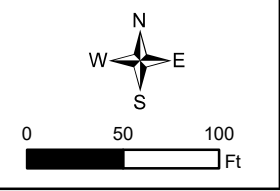
BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)	Intermittent Stream	Stormwater Management Facility	Feature Continues
BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)	Perennial Stream	Lark Sparrow, Marginal Habitat (1.9 ac)	
Trees >= 20" DBH*	PEM Wetland	Upland Sandpiper, Marginal Habitat (1.6 ac)	
Existing Culvert	PFO Wetland	USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)	
Bridge	PSS Wetland	Existing Road	
Ephemeral Stream	PUB Wetland	Stream Flow	

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)	Intermittent Stream	Stormwater Management Facility	Feature Continues
BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)	Perennial Stream	Lark Sparrow, Marginal Habitat (1.9 ac)	
Trees >= 20" DBH*	PEM Wetland	Upland Sandpiper, Marginal Habitat (1.6 ac)	
Existing Culvert	PFO Wetland	USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)	
Bridge	PSS Wetland	Existing Road	
Ephemeral Stream	PUB Wetland	Stream Flow	

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\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

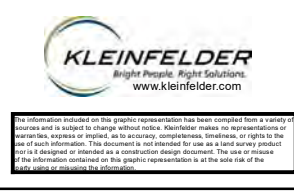




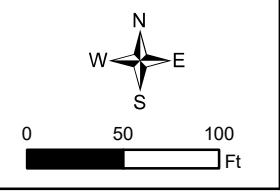
Sheet 08

Sheet 10

Sheet 07



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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)	Intermittent Stream	Stormwater Management Facility	Feature Continues
BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)	Perennial Stream	Lark Sparrow, Marginal Habitat (1.9 ac)	
Trees >= 20" DBH*	PEM Wetland	Upland Sandpiper, Marginal Habitat (1.6 ac)	
Existing Culvert	PFO Wetland	USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)	
Bridge	PSS Wetland	Existing Road	
Ephemeral Stream	PUB Wetland	Stream Flow	

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

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Sheet 09

Sheet 07

Sheet 11

KLF\_Wetland14

KLF\_Wetland07

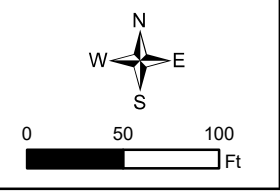
KLF\_Great Miami River

Apple Knoll Ln

Macintosh Ln



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 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



Butler County Ohio

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

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\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

KLF\_Great Miami River

KLF\_Wetland09

KLF\_Wetland10

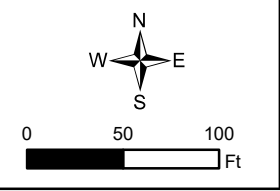
Granny Smith Ln

Apple Ridge Ct

Sheet 12



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



Butler County Ohio

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 2  
 Desktop Delineated Habitat Map  
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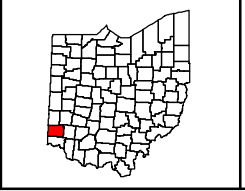
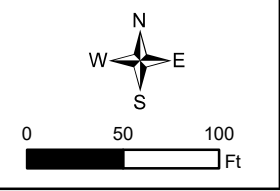
\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

R

KLF\_Great Miami River



PROJECT NO.	20211395
DRAWN BY:	S. Williams
CHECKED BY:	M. Albright
FILE NAME:	ButlerCountyPhaseI_RTE_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)	Ephemeral Stream	PSS Wetland
BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)	Intermittent Stream	PUB Wetland
Trees >= 20" DBH*	Perennial Stream	Stormwater Management Facility
Existing Culvert	PEM Wetland	USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
Bridge	PFO Wetland	Existing Road

Stream Flow
Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

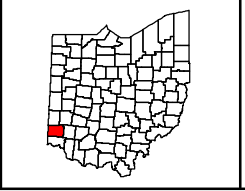
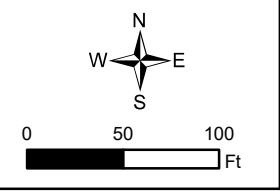
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.	
Figure 2 Desktop Delineated Habitat Map Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 Project	
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KLF\_Great Miami River

KLF\_Gregory Creek



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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



Butler County  
Ohio

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

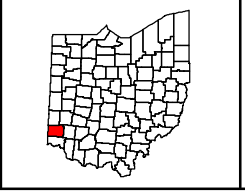
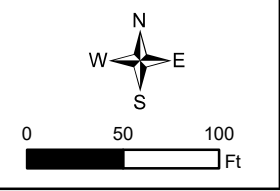
- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Figure 2  
 Desktop Delineated Habitat Map  
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 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
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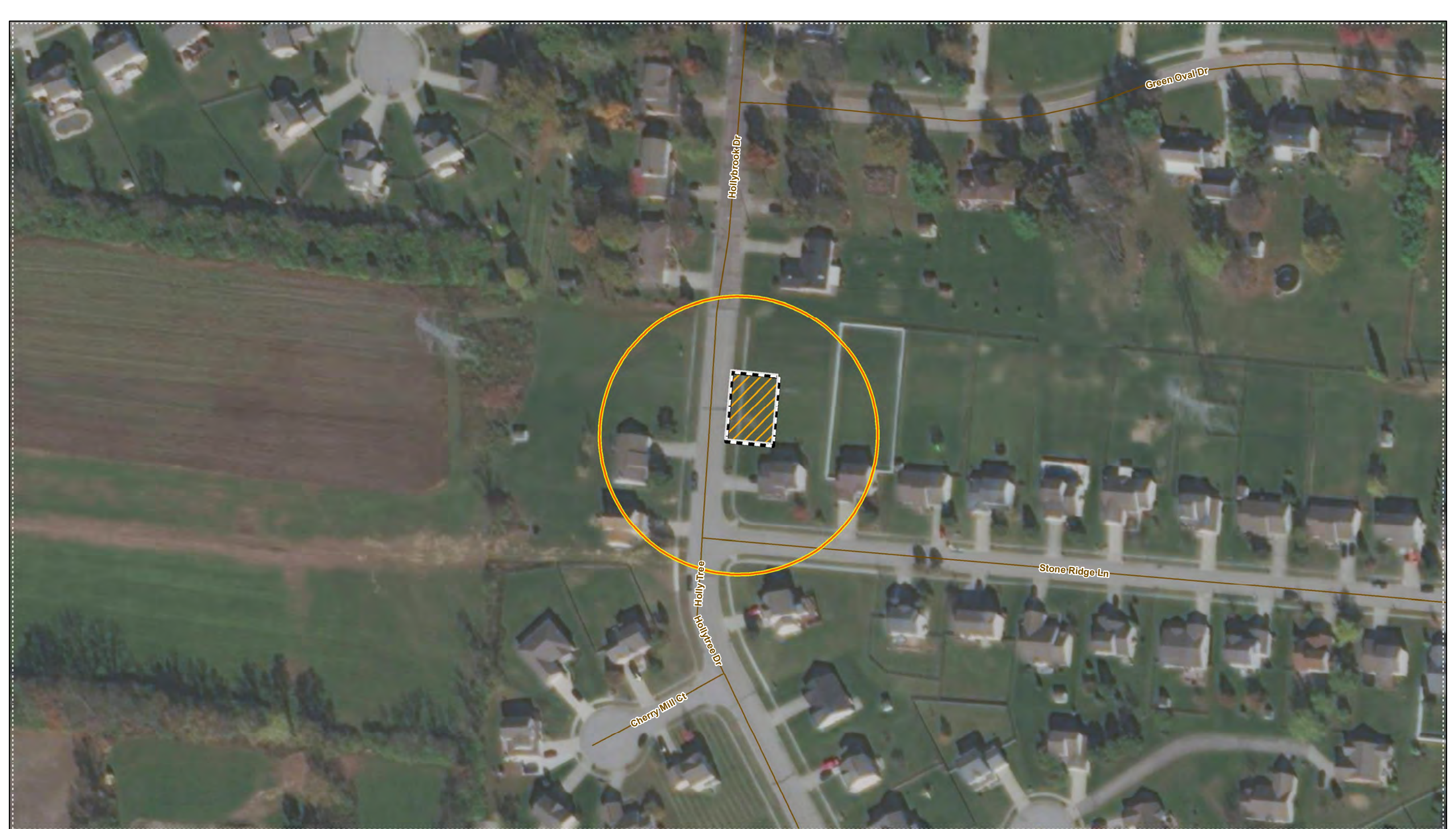
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road

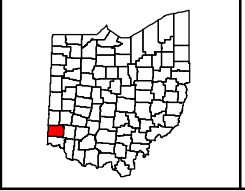
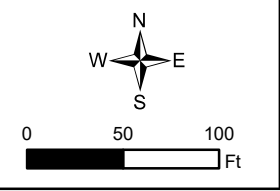
- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

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 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhase1 RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

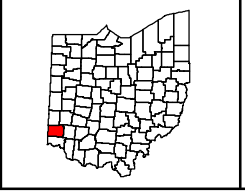
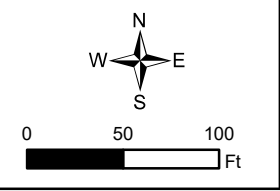
- BC-6 AOI (1.9 ac)
- BC-6 LOD (0.1 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-6 AOI (1.9 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-6 LOD (0.1 ac)
- Area Not Applicable to OPSB
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
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PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI RTE\_Fig2



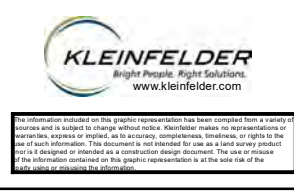
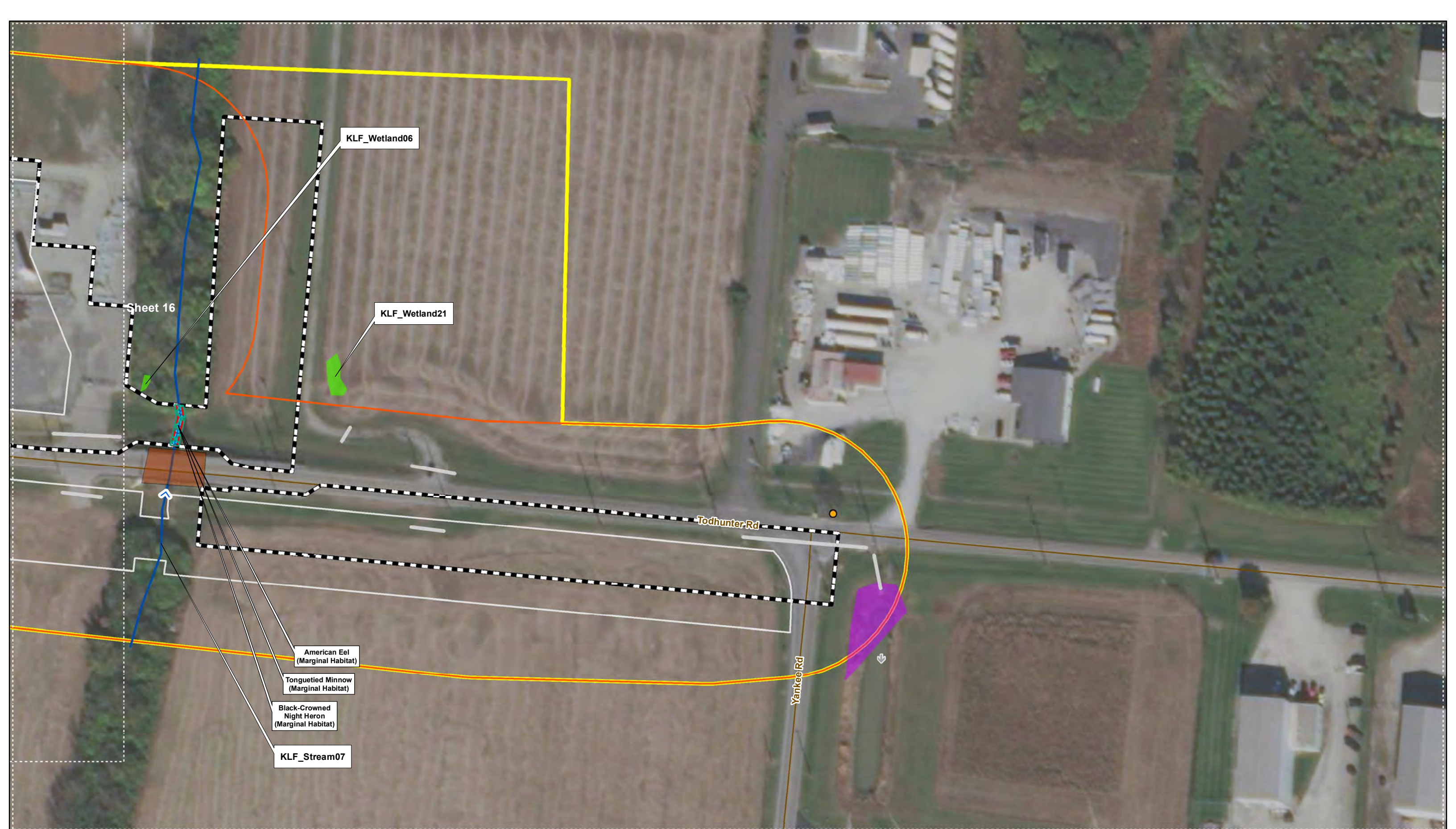
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-7 AOI (23.1 ac)
- BC-7 LOD (6.8 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-7 AOI (19.8 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-7 LOD (5.4 ac)
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)

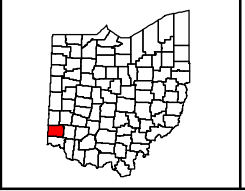
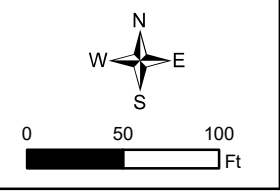
↑ Feature Continues  
 \* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

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 Figure 2  
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 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_RTE\_Fig2



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-7 AOI (23.1 ac)
- BC-7 LOD (6.8 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-7 AOI (19.8 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-7 LOD (5.4 ac)
- Trees  $\geq$  20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert

- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland

- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- American Eel, Marginal Habitat (49 lf)
- Black-Crowned Night Heron, Marginal Habitat (0.01 ac)

- Tonguetied Minnow, Marginal Habitat (49 lf)
  - USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
  - Existing Road
  - Stream Flow
  - Feature Continues
- \* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

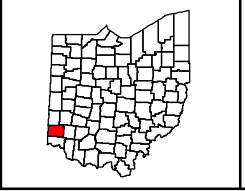
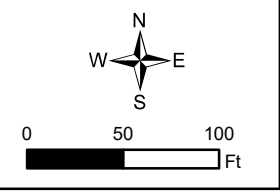
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

Figure 2  
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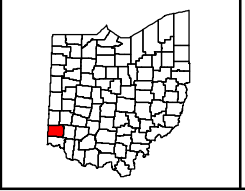
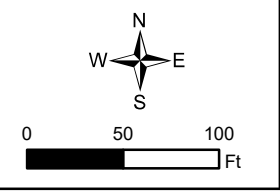
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-7 Laydown Yard AOI (5.5 ac)
- BC-7 Laydown Yard LOD (0.9 ac)
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- · — · — · Intermittent Stream
- — — — — Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- ^ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
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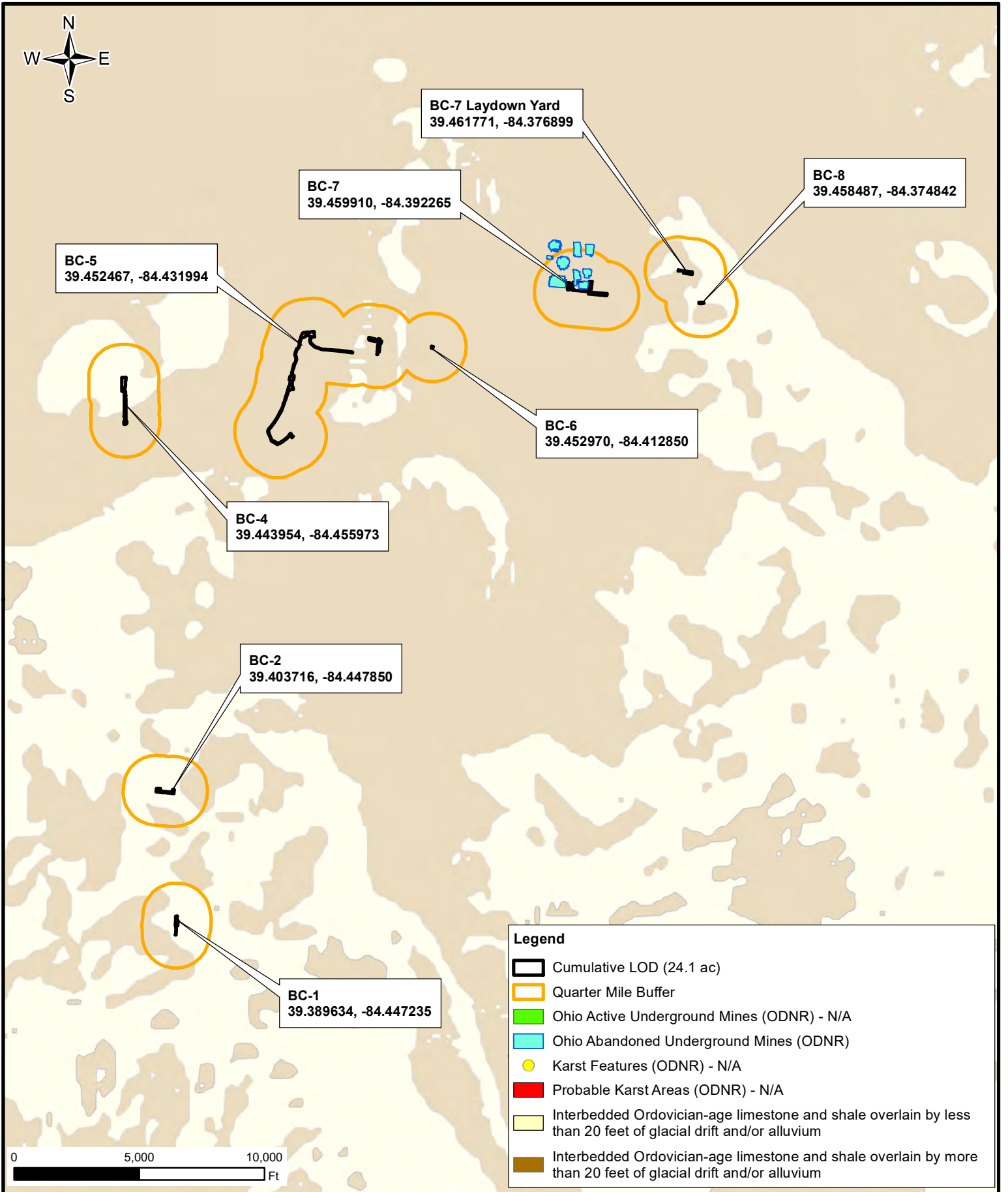
**Butler County  
Ohio**

- BC-8 AOI (2.3 ac)
- BC-8 LOD (0.2 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-8 (2.3 ac)
- Previously Submitted BC-8 LOD (0.2 ac)
- Area Not Applicable to OPSB
- Trees >= 20" DBH\*
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- USFWS Critical Habitat (N/A)
- Existing Road
- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

\* DBH refers to the tree diameter measured at 4.5' above the ground.

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**FIGURE 3**  
**DESKTOP HIBERNACULA ASSESSMENT MAP**



**BC-7 Laydown Yard**  
39.461771, -84.376899

**BC-7**  
39.459910, -84.392265

**BC-8**  
39.458487, -84.374842

**BC-5**  
39.452467, -84.431994

**BC-6**  
39.452970, -84.412850

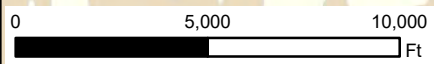
**BC-4**  
39.443954, -84.455973

**BC-2**  
39.403716, -84.447850

**BC-1**  
39.389634, -84.447235

**Legend**

- Cumulative LOD (24.1 ac)
- Quarter Mile Buffer
- Ohio Active Underground Mines (ODNR) - N/A
- Ohio Abandoned Underground Mines (ODNR)
- Karst Features (ODNR) - N/A
- Probable Karst Areas (ODNR) - N/A
- Interbedded Ordovician-age limestone and shale overlain by less than 20 feet of glacial drift and/or alluvium
- Interbedded Ordovician-age limestone and shale overlain by more than 20 feet of glacial drift and/or alluvium



**ATTACHMENT A**  
**ODNR CORRESPONDENCE FROM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**



# Ohio Department of Natural Resources

MIKE DEWINE, GOVERNOR

MARY MERTZ, DIRECTOR

**Office of Real Estate**  
*John Kessler, Chief*  
2045 Morse Road – Bldg. E-2  
Columbus, OH 43229  
Phone: (614) 265-6621  
Fax: (614) 267-4764

April 27, 2021

Stephen Lane  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
139 East Fourth Street, Room EM740  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

**Re:** 21-0225; Duke Energy - Butler County Ph I C210 & LP07

**Project:** The proposed Project includes 7 segments throughout Butler County

**Location:** The proposed project is located in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler 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 record at or within a one-mile radius of the project area:

Rentschler Forest Preserve – Butler Co. MetroParks

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

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

the entire state of Ohio is within the range of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a state endangered and federally threatened species, the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), a state endangered species, and the tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*), a state endangered species. During the spring and summer (April 1 through September 30), these species of bats predominately roost in trees behind loose, exfoliating bark, in crevices and cavities, or in the leaves. However, these species are also dependent on the forest structure surrounding roost trees. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut, the DOW recommends cutting

only occur from October 1 through March 31, conserving trees with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities, as well as trees with DBH  $\geq$  20 if possible. If trees are present within the project area, and trees must be cut during the summer months, the DOW recommends a mist net survey or acoustic survey be conducted from June 1 through August 15, prior to any cutting. Mist net and acoustic surveys should be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of the “OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE GUIDANCE FOR BAT SURVEYS AND TREE CLEARING”. <https://ohiodnr.gov/static/documents/wildlife/wildlife-management/Bat+Survey+Guidelines.pdf>

If state listed bats are documented, DOW recommends cutting only occur from October 1 through March 31, however, limited summer tree cutting may be acceptable after consultation with DOW (contact Sarah Stankavich, [sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)).

The DOW also recommends that a desktop habitat assessment, followed by a field assessment if needed, is conducted to determine if there are potential hibernaculum(a) present within the project area. Information about how to conduct habitat assessments can be found in the current USFWS “Range-wide Indiana Bat Survey Guidelines.” If a habitat assessment finds that potential hibernacula are present within 0.25 miles of the project area, please send this information to Sarah Stankavich, [sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us) 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 DOW. If no tree cutting or subsurface impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species. impacts to a hibernaculum are proposed, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*), a state endangered and federally endangered mussel, and the fawnsfoot (*Truncilla donaciformis*), a state threatened mussel. Due to the location, and that there is no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream of sufficient size, this project is not likely to impact these species.

The project is within the range of the tonguetied minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*), a state endangered fish, and the American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*), a state threatened fish. The DOW recommends no in-water work in perennial streams from March 15 through June 30 to reduce impacts to indigenous aquatic species and their habitat. If no in-water work is proposed in a perennial stream, this project is not likely to impact these or other aquatic species.

The project is within the range of the Kirtland’s snake (*Clonophis kirtlandii*), a state threatened species. This secretive species prefers wet fields and meadows. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the cave salamander (*Eurycea lucifuga*), a state endangered species. Due to the location, the type of habitat within the project area, and the type of work proposed, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the black-crowned night-heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), a state-threatened bird. Night-herons are so named because they are nocturnal, conducting most of their foraging in the evening hours or at night, and roost in trees near wetlands and waterbodies during the day. Night herons are migratory and are typically found in Ohio from April 1 through December 1 but can be found in more urbanized areas with reliable food sources year-round.



Black-crowned night-herons primarily forage in wetlands and other shallow aquatic habitats, and roost in trees nearby. These night-herons nest in small trees, saplings, shrubs, or sometimes on the ground, near bodies of water and wetlands. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 through July 31. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*), a state threatened bird. This secretive marsh species prefers dense emergent wetlands with thick stands of cattails, sedges, sawgrass or other semiaquatic vegetation interspersed with woody vegetation and open water. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 through July 31. If this type of habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the lark sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*), a state endangered bird. This sparrow nests in grassland habitats with scattered shrub layers, disturbed open areas, as well as patches of bare soil. In the Oak Openings area west of Toledo, lark sparrows occupy open grass and shrubby fields along sandy beach ridges. These summer residents normally migrate out of Ohio shortly after their young fledge or leave the nest. If this type of habitat will be impacted, construction should be avoided in this habitat during the species' nesting period of May 1 through July 31. If this habitat will not be impacted, this project is not likely to impact this species.

The project is within the range of the upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*), a state endangered bird. Nesting upland sandpipers utilize dry grasslands including native grasslands, seeded grasslands, grazed and ungrazed pasture, hayfields, and grasslands established through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). 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 type of 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 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

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

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

[http://water.ohiodnr.gov/portals/soilwater/pdf/floodplain/Floodplain%20Manager%20Community%20Contact%20List\\_8\\_16.pdf](http://water.ohiodnr.gov/portals/soilwater/pdf/floodplain/Floodplain%20Manager%20Community%20Contact%20List_8_16.pdf)

ODNR appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Please contact Sarah Tebbe, Environmental Specialist, at [Sarah.Tebbe@dnr.ohio.gov](mailto:Sarah.Tebbe@dnr.ohio.gov) if you have questions about these comments or need additional information.

Mike Pettegrew  
Environmental Services Administrator (Acting)

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**ODNR & USFWS CORRESPONDENCE FROM ACOUSTIC SURVEY**

## Spencer Chronister

---

**From:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2020 5:18 PM  
**To:** Matthew Albright  
**Subject:** FW: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

---

**From:** Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us <Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 26, 2020 1:54 PM  
**To:** Jill Vovaris <JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com>; Susan\_Zimmermann@fws.gov; angela\_boyer@fws.gov  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com>; Seth Sanders <SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

### External Email.

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ODNR-DOW recommends no side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the project area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree and no cutting of any trees with a DBH  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1 in order to limit impacts to tricolored bats. Additionally, in order to limit impacts to little brown bats, ODNR-DOW recommends no clearing trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sarah

---

**From:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 9:51 AM  
**To:** Stankavich, Sarah <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>; [Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov); [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov);  
Hazelton, Erin <[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)>  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

Thanks for the quick response Sarah.

Please provide ODNR recommendations for roost season cutting related to the little brown and the tri-colored species.

Thanks.

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

---

**From:** [Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us) <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 8:40 AM  
**To:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>; [Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov); [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov);  
[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

**External Email.**

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Hi Jill –

We received the reports for the Duke Energy Maineville to Morrow and the Butler Phase I projects. Acoustic surveys for both of these sites established the likely presence of two state endangered bat species, *Myotis lucifugus* and *Perimyotis subflavus*. Therefore, DOW recommends that no cutting take place at these sites prior to Oct 1. If tree cutting is necessary before this date, we can provide recommendations for limited cutting upon request.

Sarah



**Sarah Stankavich**  
Wildlife Technician (bats/pollinators)  
ODNR Division of Wildlife  
2045 Morse Road  
Columbus, OH 43229  
Phone: 614-265-6764  
Email: [sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:sarah.stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)

Support Ohio's wildlife. Buy a license or stamp at [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov)

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*Please consider the environment before printing this email.*

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**From:** Jill Vovaris <[JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:JVovaris@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 5:49 PM  
**To:** [Susan\\_Zimmermann@fws.gov](mailto:Susan_Zimmermann@fws.gov); Stankavich, Sarah <[Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Sarah.Stankavich@dnr.state.oh.us)>; [angela\\_boyer@fws.gov](mailto:angela_boyer@fws.gov);  
Hazelton, Erin <[Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Erin.Hazelton@dnr.state.oh.us)>  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve <[Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:Steve.Lane@duke-energy.com)>; Seth Sanders <[SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com](mailto:SDSanders@Kleinfelder.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: Duke Acoustic Survey Report Links

Hello,

Please see below for the links to the Duke Energy Maineville to Morrow and the Butler Phase I Acoustic Survey Reports.

Please contact me with any questions.

Thanks,  
Jill

Jill Vovaris  
Kleinfelder  
VP- Ohio River Valley Operations  
724.757.6210

## Files Available on the Kleinfelder File Transfer Site

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From: **Matthew Albright**  
Workspace: **Albright\_Matthew**  
Date: **08/24/20 at 12:41 pm PDT**

1. **2020.009 - Butler County Integrity Upgrades Acoustic Survey Report-FINAL.pdf** (58.44 MB) in Albright\_Matthew  
<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/p2131zdxypn3ngg/pmurfukj7bstkep>
2. **2020.008 - Maineville Morrow Loop Line Acoustic Survey Report-FINAL.pdf** (55.34 MB) in Albright\_Matthew  
<https://kleinfelder.filegenius.com/downloadPublic/p68ykfqrzglrvsn/sq8lf4x39iuf03g>

These links will expire on **09/03/20 at 12:41 pm PDT**

This email was sent to the following recipients: **Matthew Albright**, [malbright@kleinfelder.com](mailto:malbright@kleinfelder.com)

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## Matthew Albright

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**From:** Ohio, FW3 <ohio@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:42 PM  
**To:** Matthew Albright  
**Cc:** Lane, Steve; Seth Sanders; Jill Vovaris  
**Subject:** Duke Energy, Butler County Phase I, C210 & LP07 Project (Gas Line Improvements)

### External Email

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



TAILS# 03E15000-2021-TA-0862

Dear Mr. Albright,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) 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 effects to threatened and endangered species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq), as amended (ESA).

Federally Threatened and Endangered Species: Due to the project, type, size, and location, we do not anticipate adverse effects to federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or proposed or designated critical habitat. If there are any project modifications during the term of this action, or additional information for listed or proposed species or their critical habitat becomes available, or if new information reveals effects of the action that were not previously considered, then please contact us for additional project review.

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](mailto:ohio@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrice M. Ashfield". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "P" and a long, vertical descender on the final "f".

Patrice M. Ashfield  
Field Office Supervisor



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**ATTACHMENT 6**

**NATIONWIDE PERMIT 12 PRECONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION TO  
USACE INCLUDING STREAM AND WETLAND DELINEATION  
REPORT**

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February 2, 2022

Ms. Lee Robinette  
Chief, Energy Resource Branch  
Huntington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
502 Eighth Street  
Huntington, West Virginia 25701

Re: Nationwide Permit 12 Preconstruction Notification  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07  
Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio

Dear Ms. Robinette:

On behalf of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke), Kleinfelder, Inc. is submitting this preconstruction notification (PCN) requesting authorization for coverage under Nationwide Permit (NWP) 12 for the proposed Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 (Site). Duke is proposing gas pipeline improvements including extensions, relocations, and abandonments at 7 segments and utilizing 1 laydown yard in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships, Butler County, Ohio. The purpose and need of the Site is to connect several isolated natural gas pipelines to increase the reliability of the system in a high-growth area.

Duke is requesting a preliminary jurisdictional determination as recognized in the United States Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Guidance Letter 16-01 for the aquatic features located within the proposed Site limit of disturbance and has attached a completed preliminary jurisdictional determination form (Request for Corps Jurisdictional Determination) to document this request.

Please address any questions or comments regarding this submission to:

Stephen R. Lane  
Lead Environmental Scientist/Planner - Siting and Licensing Support  
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
139 East Fourth Street, Room EM740  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
(513) 287-2379  
[steve.lane@duke-energy.com](mailto:steve.lane@duke-energy.com)

PGH21R133920



Documentation supporting this NWP 12 PCN includes the following attachments:

- Attachment A: Site Description and Discharge of Fill Material Identification
- Attachment B: USGS Topographic Map
- Attachment C: Aerial Imagery Map
- Attachment D: Discharge of Fill Material Photos
- Attachment E: Crossing Details
- Attachment F: Agency Correspondence
- Attachment G: Stream and Wetland Delineation Report
- Attachment H: Request for Corps Jurisdictional Determination
- Attachment I: Electronic Data

Respectfully submitted,  
Kleinfelder, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John A. Lewis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John A. Lewis  
Project Professional

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew J. Albright". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matthew J. Albright  
Project Manager

**ATTACHMENT A**

*Site Description and Discharge of Fill Material Identification*

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Description**

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) is proposing gas pipeline improvements including extensions, relocations, and abandonments at 7 segments and utilizing 1 laydown yard in Lemon, Liberty, and Madison Townships in Butler County, Ohio (OH), known as the Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07 (Site). The proposed Site has an overall area of interest (AOI) of approximately 125.1 acres and will result in an overall limit of disturbance (LOD) of approximately 24.1 acres.

### **1.2 Landowner Information**

Detailed landowner information can be provided upon request. Access to the Site can be granted through Duke.

### **1.3 Site Information**

The proposed Site includes 7 segments and 1 laydown yard throughout Butler County, OH, which have an overall LOD of approximately 24.1 acres and are individually described below.

- BC-1 has an approximately 0.9-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Liberty Township at 39.389634, -84.447235. Land cover within the LOD consists of industrial use, road right-of-way (ROW), utility ROW, and open field areas. Land use is dominated by industrial use.
- BC-2 has an approximately 1.3-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Liberty Township, at 39.403627, -84.450058. Land cover within the LOD consists of road ROW, utility ROW, and residential areas. Land use is dominated by residential use.
- BC-4 has an approximately 4.0-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Madison Township at 39.443954, -84.455973. Land cover within the LOD consists of industrial use, including one stormwater management facility, road ROW, forested and open field areas. Land use is dominated by industrial use and open fields.
- BC-5 has an approximately 10.0-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Lemon Township, at 39.452467, -84.431994. Land cover within the LOD consists of commercial use, road ROW, utility ROW, railroad ROW, and early successional forest habitat. Land use is dominated by early successional forest habitat, road ROW, and utility ROW.
- BC-6 has an approximately 0.1-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Lemon Township, at 39.452970, -84.412850. Land cover within the LOD consists of road ROW, utility ROW, and residential areas. Land use is dominated by residential use.
- BC-7 has an approximately 6.8-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Lemon Township at 39.459910, -84.392265. Land cover within the LOD consists of industrial use, road ROW, utility ROW, and agricultural areas. Land use is dominated by industrial and agricultural use.
- BC-7 Laydown Yard has an approximately 0.9-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Lemon Township at 39.461771, -84.376899. Land cover within the LOD consists of industrial use, road ROW, utility ROW, and agricultural areas. Land use is dominated by industrial and agricultural use.

- BC-8 has an approximately 0.2-acre LOD. This portion of the LOD is located in Lemon Township at 39.458487, -84.374842. Land cover within the LOD consists of industrial use, road ROW, utility ROW, and residential use. Land use is dominated by industrial and residential use.

Existing and proposed access roads will be utilized to construct the proposed Site.

#### **1.4 Location**

The Site is located in Butler County, OH on the Monroe and Trenton, OH 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangles as illustrated on the USGS Topographic Map (Attachment B). Discharge of fill material is proposed at 3 of the 7 segments (BC-4, BC-5, and BC-7). As such, directions to each of these 3 segments from Cincinnati, OH are provided below:

##### BC-4 Segment

- Head north on Interstate 75 from East 6<sup>th</sup> Street for approximately 1.1 miles.
- Follow Interstate 75 north for approximately 22.4 miles.
- Take Exit 24 for Ohio 129 west and travel approximately 1.2 miles.
- Continue onto Ohio 129 west and travel for approximately 4.2 miles.
- Take Exit 21 for Ohio 747 towards Middletown / Springdale and travel for approximately 0.4 miles.
- Turn right onto Ohio 747 north / Princeton Glendale Road and travel for approximately 1.5 miles.
- Turn left onto Millikin Road and travel for approximately 1.3 miles.
- Turn right onto Liberty Fairfield Road and travel for approximately 1.8 miles.
- Continue onto Wayne Madison Road and travel for approximately 0.1 miles.
- Turn right onto Woodsdale Road and travel for approximately 1.3 miles to reach the BC-4 segment on the left.

##### BC-5 Segment

- Head north on Interstate 75 from East 6<sup>th</sup> Street for approximately 1.1 miles.
- Follow Interstate 75 north for approximately 27.1 miles.
- Take Exit 29 towards Ohio 63 west and travel approximately 0.8 miles.
- Continue onto Ohio 63 west and travel for approximately 4.6 miles.
- Keep right at the fork and follow signs for Ohio 4 north and travel for approximately 0.2 miles.
- Turn right onto Ohio 4 north / Hamilton Middletown Road and travel for approximately 0.5 miles to reach the BC-5 segment on the right.

##### BC-7 Segment

- Head north on Interstate 75 from East 6<sup>th</sup> Street for approximately 1.1 miles.
- Follow Interstate 75 north for approximately 27.1 miles.
- Take Exit 29 towards Ohio 63 west and travel approximately 0.8 miles.
- Continue onto Ohio 63 west and travel for approximately 2.9 miles.
- Turn right onto Yankee Road and travel for approximately 1.0 miles.

- Turn left onto Todhunter Road and travel for approximately 0.2 miles to reach the BC-7 segment on the left.

## **2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD REVIEW**

Forty aquatic resources were identified within the overall AOI, including 4 perennial streams, 5 intermittent streams, 7 ephemeral streams, 18 palustrine emergent (PEM) wetlands, 1 palustrine forested wetland, 2 palustrine unconsolidated bottom wetlands, and 3 palustrine scrub-shrub wetlands. Streams and wetlands identified within the overall AOI are described in the Stream and Wetland Delineation Report in Attachment G.

A Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination from the United States Army Corps of Engineers is requested for aquatic resources located within the proposed overall LOD. The Request for Corps Jurisdictional Determination form is included in Attachment H.

## **3.0 DISCHARGE OF FILL MATERIAL TO POTENTIALLY JURISDICTIONAL WATERS**

This section describes proposed discharges of fill material to potentially jurisdictional waters in the overall LOD. Refer to Table 1 and supporting documents in Attachment C, Attachment D, and Attachment E as necessary.

### **3.1 Temporary Discharge of Fill Material to Potentially Jurisdictional Waters**

Temporary discharge of fill material is proposed at 2 perennial stream crossings, 1 intermittent stream crossing, 2 ephemeral stream crossings, and 2 PEM wetland crossings. Refer to Table 1 for a summary of proposed discharges of fill material to potentially jurisdictional waters. Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be installed to ensure soils are stabilized and sediment discharges do not occur.

### **3.2 Permanent Discharge of Fill Material to Potentially Jurisdictional Waters**

Permanent discharge of fill material to potentially jurisdictional waters is not proposed at the Site.

**Table 1: Discharge of Fill Material to Jurisdictional Waters in the Overall LOD**

Feature Label	Segment Location	Pre-Construction Notification Required <sup>5</sup> (Yes/No)	Centerpoint of Feature within LOD <sup>1</sup>		OHWM <sup>3</sup> Width (FT.)	OHWM <sup>3</sup> Depth (IN.)	Discharge of Fill Material					Description of Discharge <sup>2</sup>
			Latitude	Longitude			Temporary (T) or Permanent (P)	Length (FT.)	Area (SQ. FT.)	Area (AC.)	Quantity <sup>4</sup> (CY.)	
<b>Streams</b>												
KLF_Stream03 (PER)	BC-4	No	39.447449	-84.456226	4.0	12	T	52	207	0.0047	7.7	12-inch diameter gas pipeline, native backfill, temporary structure (dam and flume or equivalent) crossing materials, and necessary workspace for construction.
KLF_Stream07 (PER)	BC-7	Yes	39.459570	-84.391021	13.0	12	T	49	637	0.0146	23.6	12-inch diameter gas pipeline, native backfill, temporary structure (dam and flume or equivalent) crossing materials, and necessary workspace for construction.
KLF_Stream08 (INT)	BC-5	Yes	39.454232	-84.430918	4.0	6	T	86	344	0.0079	6.4	12-inch diameter gas pipeline, native backfill, temporary structure (dam and flume or equivalent) crossing materials, and necessary workspace for construction.
KLF_Stream13 (EPH) - Crossing 1	BC-5	Yes	39.452399	-84.426175	1.5	3	T	50	75	0.0017	0.7	Timber mats or temporary culvert ranging from 10-inches to 36-inches in diameter by 30 feet for equipment tracking on an access road and necessary workspace associated with gas pipeline installation activities.
KLF_Stream13 (EPH) - Crossing 2	BC-5	Yes	39.452401	-84.426652	1.5	3	T	48	72	0.0017	0.7	Timber mats or temporary culvert ranging from 10-inches to 36-inches in diameter by 30 feet for equipment tracking on an access road and necessary workspace associated with gas pipeline installation activities.
<b>Wetlands</b>												
KLF_Wetland01 (PEM)	BC-5	Yes	39.452513	-84.420537	N/A	N/A	T	N/A	320	0.0073	N/A	4-inch diameter gas pipeline, native backfill, installation of timber mats for equipment tracking and necessary workspace for construction.
KLF_Wetland02 (PEM)	BC-4	No	39.448202	-84.456273	N/A	N/A	T	N/A	720	0.0165	N/A	12-inch diameter gas pipeline, native backfill, installation of timber mats for equipment tracking, and necessary workspace for construction.

**NOTES:**

- 1 - Centerpoint coordinates are in NAD83 and calculated in ESRI ArcGIS.
- 2 - Gas pipeline crossings will consist of excavating a trench across each existing wetland or stream channel. Exact trench locations will be identified during construction and entirely within the permitted limits of disturbance (LOD).
- 3 - Ordinary High Water Mark (determined at the time of delineation)
- 4 - Discharge of Fill Material Quantity calculations reported above for each temporary stream crossing calculated by multiplying the OHWM Width (Feet) by OHWM Depth (Feet) by Discharge of Fill Material Length (Feet) by 0.037037 (Cubic Feet Conversion to Cubic Yards).
- 5 - Segment BC-4 pre-construction notification not required since the regulated activities do not occur in a waterway or township of the corresponding counties listed in Appendix 1 of Regional General Condition 5(a), Section 7 and Section 106 consultations resulted in no effects to resources protected under these sections, and meets the regional and general conditions of the NWP 12.



#### 4.0 AVOIDANCE AND MINIMIZATION

The Site was designed to avoid and minimize effects to potentially jurisdictional waters to the maximum extent possible. The Site proposes a discharge of fill material at 2 perennial stream crossings, 1 intermittent stream crossing, 2 ephemeral stream crossings, and 2 PEM wetland crossings. Table 1 summarizes the proposed discharge of fill material numbers. Attachment E illustrates the cross sections for the proposed fill material discharges.

The proposed Site was developed to result in minimal impacts to aquatic resources. Routing and desktop reviews were performed prior to design activities. Review processes included an analysis of Site accessibility, landowner constraints, existing utilities, constructability, environmental concerns, and safety concerns. Kleinfelder biologists then performed detailed wetland and stream delineations to characterize potentially jurisdictional areas on the Site. The proposed design represents the best alternative with the least environmental impacts that still meets the Site's purpose and need, which is to connect several isolated natural gas pipelines to increase the reliability of the system in a high-growth area. Proposed wetland and stream crossings will not result in the loss of hydrology to downstream aquatic resources, as existing hydrology will be maintained. Temporarily impacted streams and wetlands will be restored to original contours and crossings will be completed within 72 hours or as soon as practicable after completion of the crossing to minimize impacts to the aquatic resources.

#### 5.0 PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS

- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

This Site meets the requirements of the Nationwide Permit (NWP) 12, which are detailed within this submission.

- United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) – Office of Real Estate

In Ohio, presence of the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and northern long-eared bat (NLEB) (*Myotis septentrionalis*) is assumed wherever suitable habitat occurs. As a result of this requirement and due to the proposed Site construction schedule, Kleinfelder contracted Encarna, LLC. on behalf of Duke to conduct a summer acoustic survey to determine the presence/probable absence of threatened and/or endangered bat species within the Site during the summer maternity season. Prior to conducting the acoustic survey, a study plan was submitted to USFWS and ODNR on August 9, 2020 proposing an acoustic survey for 4 of the 7 segments. The USFWS and ODNR concurred with the proposal on August 11, 2020 and August 12, 2020, respectively. Between August 12, 2020 and August 14, 2020, acoustic surveys were performed at the BC-1, BC-4, and BC-7 segments. Acoustic surveys were not performed at the BC-2 segment due to land access issues. Data collected from the acoustic surveys were analyzed using the USFWS approved Kaleidoscope Pro Version 5.1.0, which includes a Maximum Likelihood Estimator (MLE) that statistically evaluates the risk of false positives within each individual species result. The MLE generated by Kaleidoscope had confidence in five species: big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), Eastern red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*), evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*), and tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*). The Indiana bat and NLEB were found not likely to be present. The results of the acoustic surveys were submitted to USFWS and ODNR on August 24, 2020.

Correspondence from USFWS (TAILS# 03E15000-2020-TA-2218) on August 25, 2020 indicated tree clearing on the Site at any time of the year is unlikely to result in adverse impacts to the Indiana bats and will not result in any unauthorized incidental take of NLEB. In addition, USFWS did not anticipate adverse effects to any other federally endangered, threatened, proposed, or candidate species due to the Site type, size, and location. Correspondence from ODNR on August 25 and 26, 2020 recommended no side-trimming or cutting of any trees in the Site area that have clusters of dead leaves in the upper third of the tree and no cutting of any trees with a DBH  $\geq$  20 inches prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> and after March 31<sup>st</sup> in order to limit impacts to tricolored bats. Additionally, in order to limit impacts to little brown bats, ODNR recommended no clearing of trees with the following characteristics unless they pose a hazard: dead or live trees of any size with loose, shaggy bark and/or crevices, holes, or cavities. The results of the acoustic survey along with the USFWS and ODNR correspondence are included in Attachment F.

Kleinfelder submitted Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Assistance Letters to the USFWS and ODNR on February 12, 2021 requesting concurrence that the Site will not adversely affect the Indiana bat, NLEB, running buffalo clover or other state or federally listed species. Correspondence from USFWS on February 24, 2021 (TAILS# 03E15000-2021-TA-0862) indicated that due to the Site type, size, and location, they did not anticipate adverse effects to federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or proposed or designated critical habitat. Correspondence from ODNR on April 27, 2021 (ODNR Docket #21-0225) provided guidance for the protection of the Indian bat, NLEB, little brown bat, and tricolored bat. ODNR also indicated that the Site is within the range of the state and federally endangered rayed bean (*Villosa fabalis*); however, due to the location and no in-water work proposed in a perennial stream of sufficient size, the Site is not likely to impact the species. In addition, ODNR provided threatened and endangered species recommendations for the following state listed species:

- fawnsfoot (*Trucilla donaciformis*);
- tonguetied minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*);
- American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*);
- Kirkland's snake (*Clonophis kirklandii*);
- cave salamander (*Eurycea lucifuga*);
- black-crowned night-heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*);
- least bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*);
- lark sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*); and
- upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*).

USFWS and ODNR correspondence associated with the Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Assistance Letters are included in Attachment F.

Due to Site design changes with the overall LOD, Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Assistance Modification letters were submitted to USFWS on January 31, 2022 and ODNR on February 1, 2022. Responses from USFWS and ODNR are currently pending. Copies of the Threatened and Endangered Species Technical Assistance Modification letters are included in Attachment F.

- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) – Division of Surface Water (DSW)

- 401 Water Quality Certification

The State of Ohio Section 401 Water Quality Certification has been waived for the 2021 NWP, which includes this NWP 12. Therefore, 401 Water Quality Certification from OEPA-DSW is not required.

- Stormwater Pollution Prevention

A General Permit Authorization for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity Under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System is required by OEPA–DSW for construction activities resulting in the ground disturbance of one or more acres. A Notice of Intent will be submitted electronically, and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan will be maintained on-site during construction.

- Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (OHC)

Due to discharge of fill material to aquatic resources and as part of Duke's due diligence, a Phase I archaeological survey of the overall LOD was performed by Apogee Environmental & Archaeological, Inc. (Apogee) from December 15, 2020 to December 18, 2020 and January 26, 2021. The results of the Phase I archaeological survey were provided to OHC on February 22, 2021. An OHC letter dated March 16, 2021 indicated no further archaeological investigations were warranted and that no further coordination was required unless the scope of work changes. A copy of the Phase I archaeological survey and OHC correspondence are included in Attachment F.

Due to Site design changes with the overall LOD, additional Phase I archaeological survey activities were performed by Apogee. The results of the additional Phase I archaeological survey will be provided to OHC. A copy of the OHC response letter will be provided to USACE when received.

- Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB)

The Site qualifies as a Construction Notice with the OPSB as it meets the criteria of O.A.C. Rule 4906-1-01, Appendix B, that provides for (1) new construction, extension, relocation, upgrade, or replacement (except with a like facility) of gas pipelines or pipeline segments (a) not greater than 1 mile in length. The Site involves new construction of a 24-inch diameter pipe having an approximate length of 12 feet (BC-1), a 24-inch by 24-inch by 6-inch diameter pipe tee having an approximate length of 10 feet (BC-2), a 12-inch diameter pipe having an approximate length of 1,850 feet (BC-4), two 12-inch diameter pipes at separate locations having an approximate combined length of 464 feet (BC-5), a 12-inch diameter pipe having an approximate length of 1,696 feet (BC-7), and the construction of a temporary laydown yard to support construction activities (BC-7 Laydown Yard). A Construction Notice will be submitted to the OPSB.

- City of Monroe Floodplain Administrator

The proposed BC-5 segment crosses a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain associated with Great Miami River. Discussions with the City of Monroe Floodplain Administrator has indicated a floodplain permit is not required. In addition, discussions with the Butler County Floodplain Administrator has indicated that floodplain permitting associated

with the proposed BC-5 segment is under the jurisdictional of the City of Monroe. All other segments including the BC-7 Laydown Yard are located outside a FEMA floodplain and do not require a floodplain permit.

## **6.0 MITIGATION**

- Discharge of fill material to wetlands and streams has been minimized by considering alternative locations and selecting those that reduced wetland and stream crossings to the greatest extent practicable.
- Proposed discharge of fill material to wetlands and streams are below nationwide permit mitigation acreage thresholds. All streams and wetlands will be returned to approximate original contours following construction.
- Substrate from each stream channel crossing will be removed and stockpiled separately from other excavated material and will be reused in the restoration of the stream channel following the installation of the proposed pipelines.
- Existing wetland soils will be segregated and reused to maintain existing native seed bank.
- Wetland and stream banks will be reseeded with designated native seed mixtures.

## **7.0 CONCLUSION**

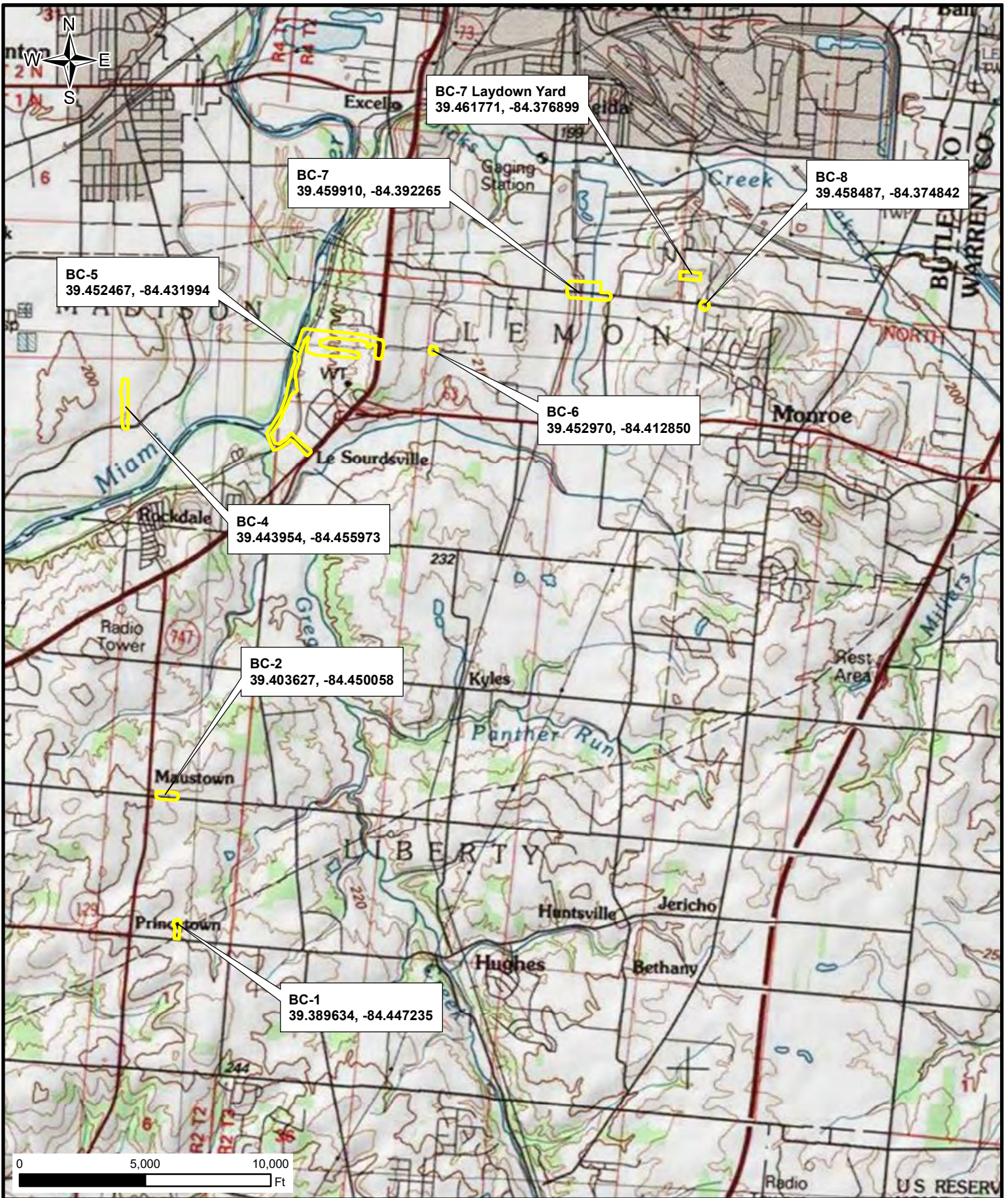
Kleinfelder was retained by Duke to prepare this environmental permit application that summarizes the environmental field reviews within an overall AOI of approximately 125.1 acres and discharges of fill material within an overall LOD of approximately 24.1-acres for the Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07. Forty aquatic resources were identified within the overall AOI (Refer to Attachment G, Stream and Wetland Delineation Report for detailed information of all identified aquatic resources).

Discharge of fill material is proposed at 4 stream crossings and 2 wetland crossings due to gas pipeline improvements to increase the reliability of the system in a high-growth area.

The proposed Site was developed to result in minimal impacts to streams and wetlands. Following construction, all streams and wetlands will be returned to approximate original contours.

**ATTACHMENT B**

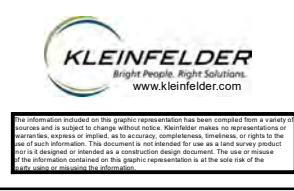
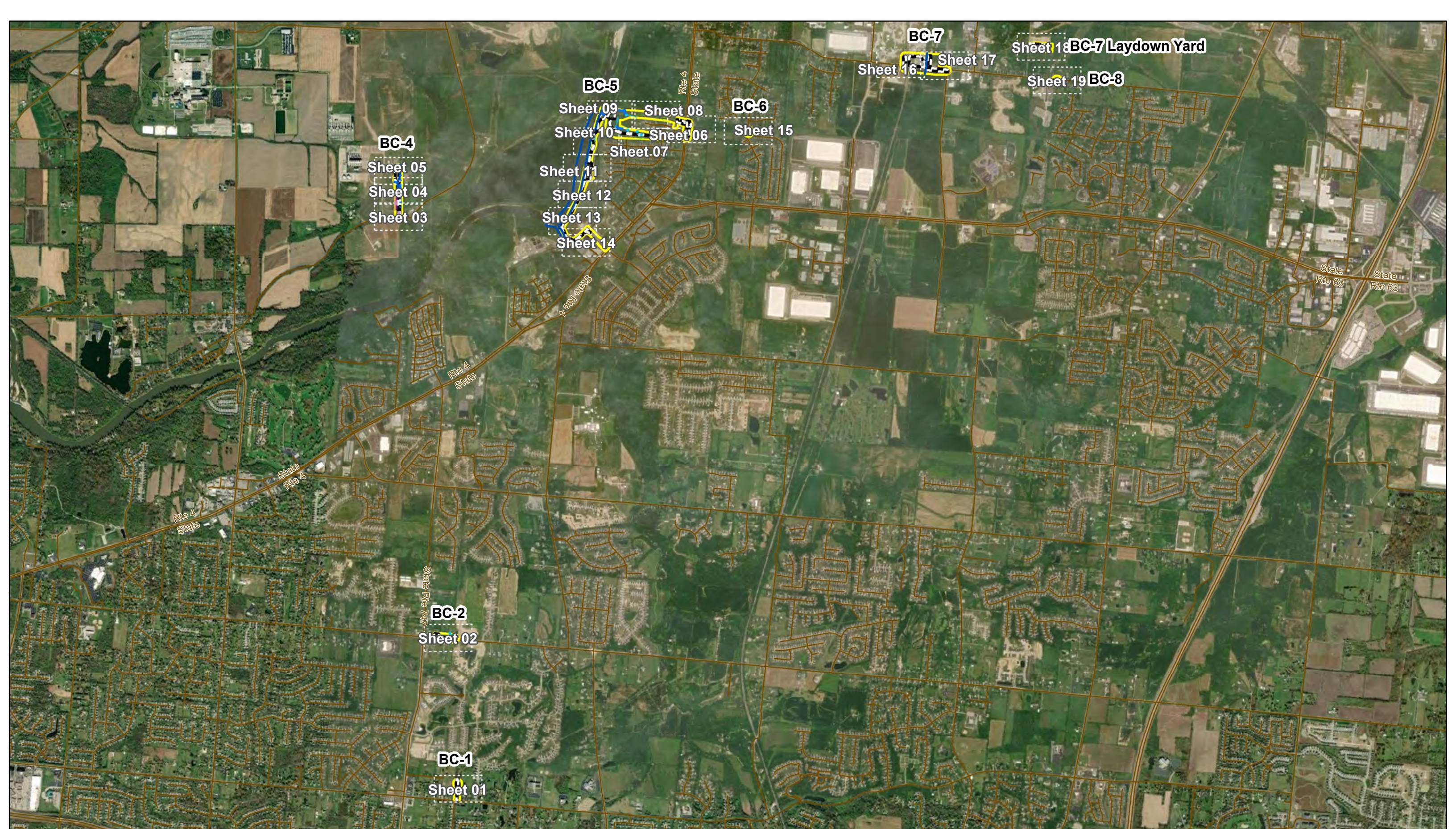
*USGS Topographic Map*



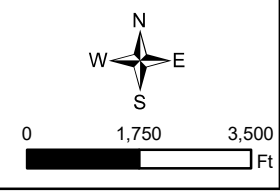
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		Lemon, Liberty & Madison Township, Butler County, Ohio	DRAWN BY: S. Williams	Attachment B USGS Topographic Map Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07	
			CHECKED BY: M. Albright		
			FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI_NWP_AttB	Date: 1/28/2022	Version: 1

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**ATTACHMENT C**  
*Aerial Imagery Map*



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_NWP\_AirC\_idx

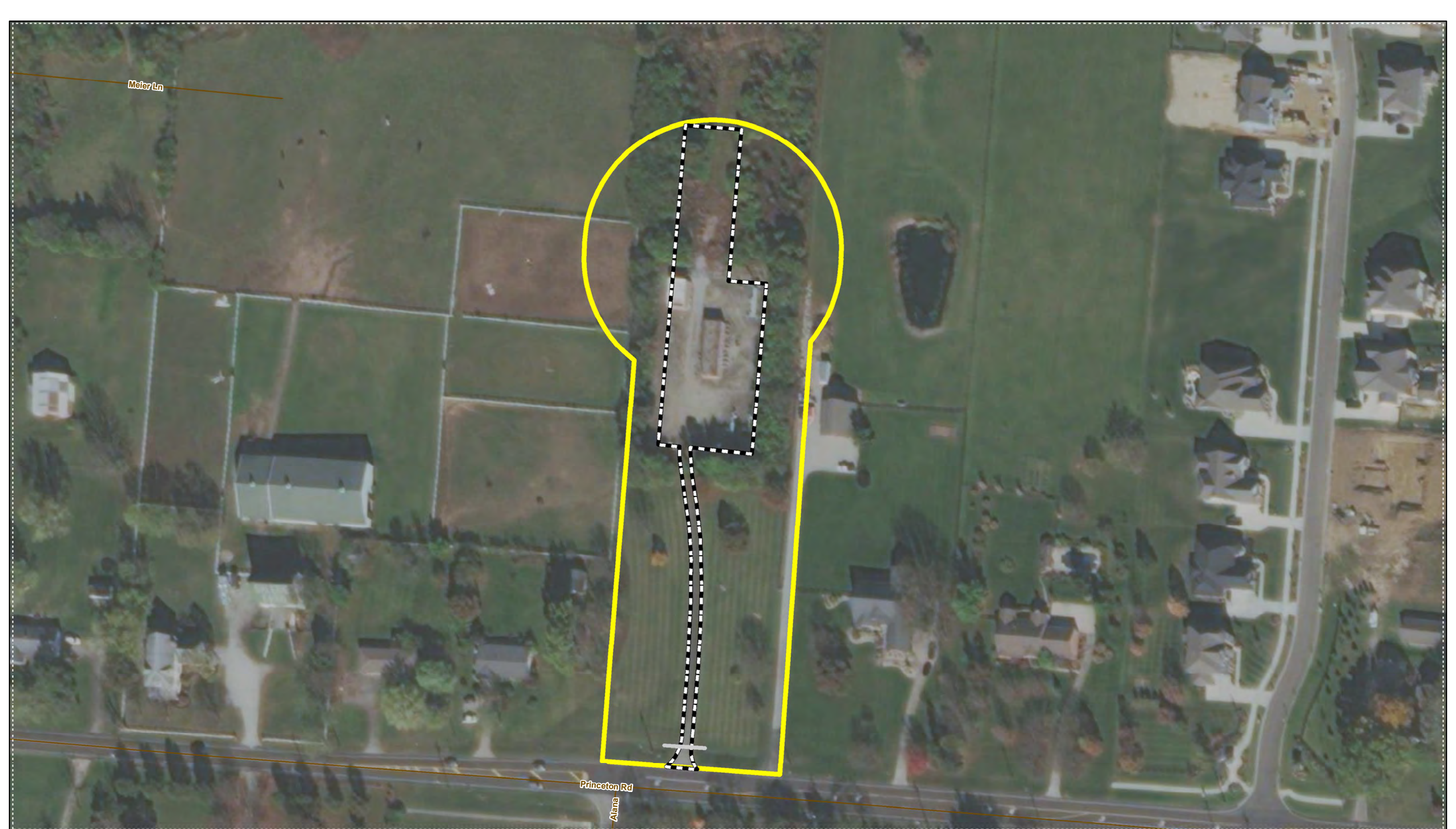


**Butler County  
Ohio**

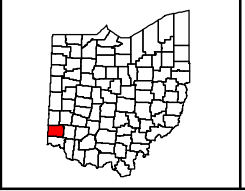
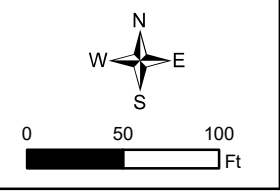
- Cumulative AOI (125.1 ac)
- Perennial Stream
- PUB Wetland
- Cumulative LOD (24.1 ac)
- PEM Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- Ephemeral Stream
- PFO Wetland
- Existing Road
- Intermittent Stream
- PSS Wetland

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Attachment C  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Index Map





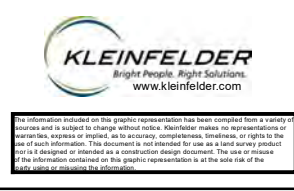
PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_NWP\_A1C



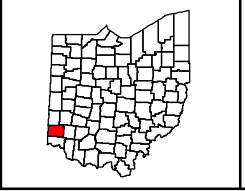
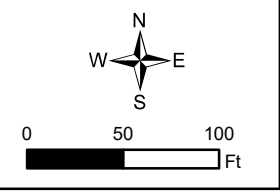
**Butler County  
Ohio**

BC-1 AOI (3.9 ac)	Ephemeral Stream	PFO Wetland	Existing Road
BC-1 LOD (0.9 ac)	Intermittent Stream	PSS Wetland	Stream Flow
Existing Culvert	Perennial Stream	PUB Wetland	Feature Continues
Bridge	PEM Wetland	Stormwater Management Facility	

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Attachment C  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07  
 Date: 1/31/2022 Sheet 1 of 19



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_NWP\_A1C



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- |                   |                     |                                |                   |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| BC-2 AOI (5.7 ac) | Ephemeral Stream    | PFO Wetland                    | Existing Road     |
| BC-2 LOD (1.3 ac) | Intermittent Stream | PSS Wetland                    | Stream Flow       |
| Existing Culvert  | Perennial Stream    | PUB Wetland                    | Feature Continues |
| Bridge            | PEM Wetland         | Stormwater Management Facility |                   |

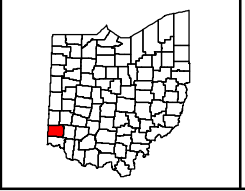
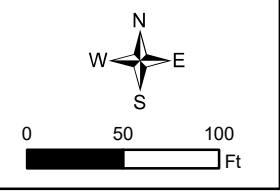
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Attachment C  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07  
 Date: 1/31/2022

KLF\_Stream05

Woodsdale Rd



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_NWP\_A1C



**Butler County  
Ohio**

- |                    |                     |                                |                   |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac) | Ephemeral Stream    | PFO Wetland                    | Existing Road     |
| BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)  | Intermittent Stream | PSS Wetland                    | Stream Flow       |
| Existing Culvert   | Perennial Stream    | PUB Wetland                    | Feature Continues |
| Bridge             | PEM Wetland         | Stormwater Management Facility |                   |

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Attachment C  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 3 of 19

**KLF\_Stream03 (PER)**  
 52 lf of fill material (Temporary) for a 12-inch diameter gas pipeline, native backfill, temporary structure (dam and flume or equivalent) crossing materials, and necessary workspace for construction.

KLF\_Stream06

KLF\_Stream05

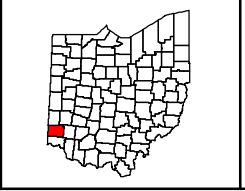
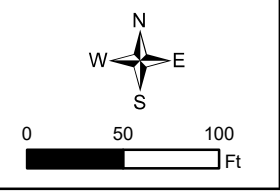
Sheet 05

KLF\_Wetland05

Sheet 03



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_NWP\_A1C



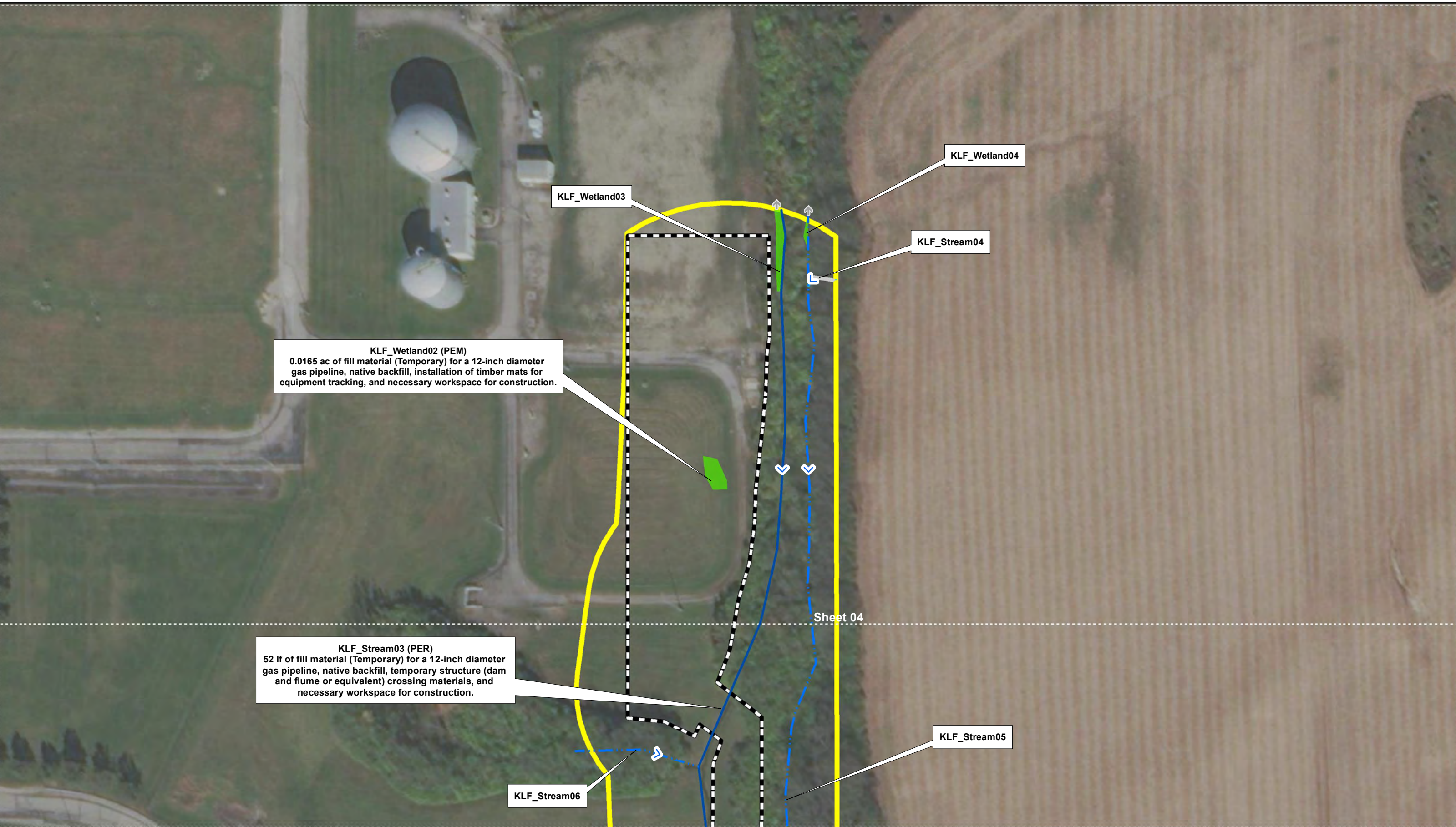
**Butler County Ohio**

- |                    |                     |                                |                   |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac) | Ephemeral Stream    | PFO Wetland                    | Existing Road     |
| BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)  | Intermittent Stream | PSS Wetland                    | Stream Flow       |
| Existing Culvert   | Perennial Stream    | PUB Wetland                    | Feature Continues |
| Bridge             | PEM Wetland         | Stormwater Management Facility |                   |

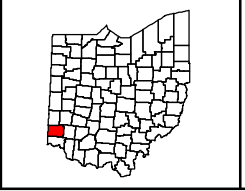
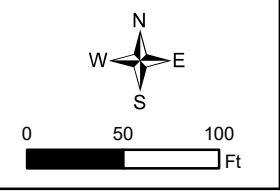
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Attachment C  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 4 of 19

**KLF\_Wetland02 (PEM)**  
 0.0165 ac of fill material (Temporary) for a 12-inch diameter gas pipeline, native backfill, installation of timber mats for equipment tracking, and necessary workspace for construction.

**KLF\_Stream03 (PER)**  
 52 lf of fill material (Temporary) for a 12-inch diameter gas pipeline, native backfill, temporary structure (dam and flume or equivalent) crossing materials, and necessary workspace for construction.



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_NWP\_A1C



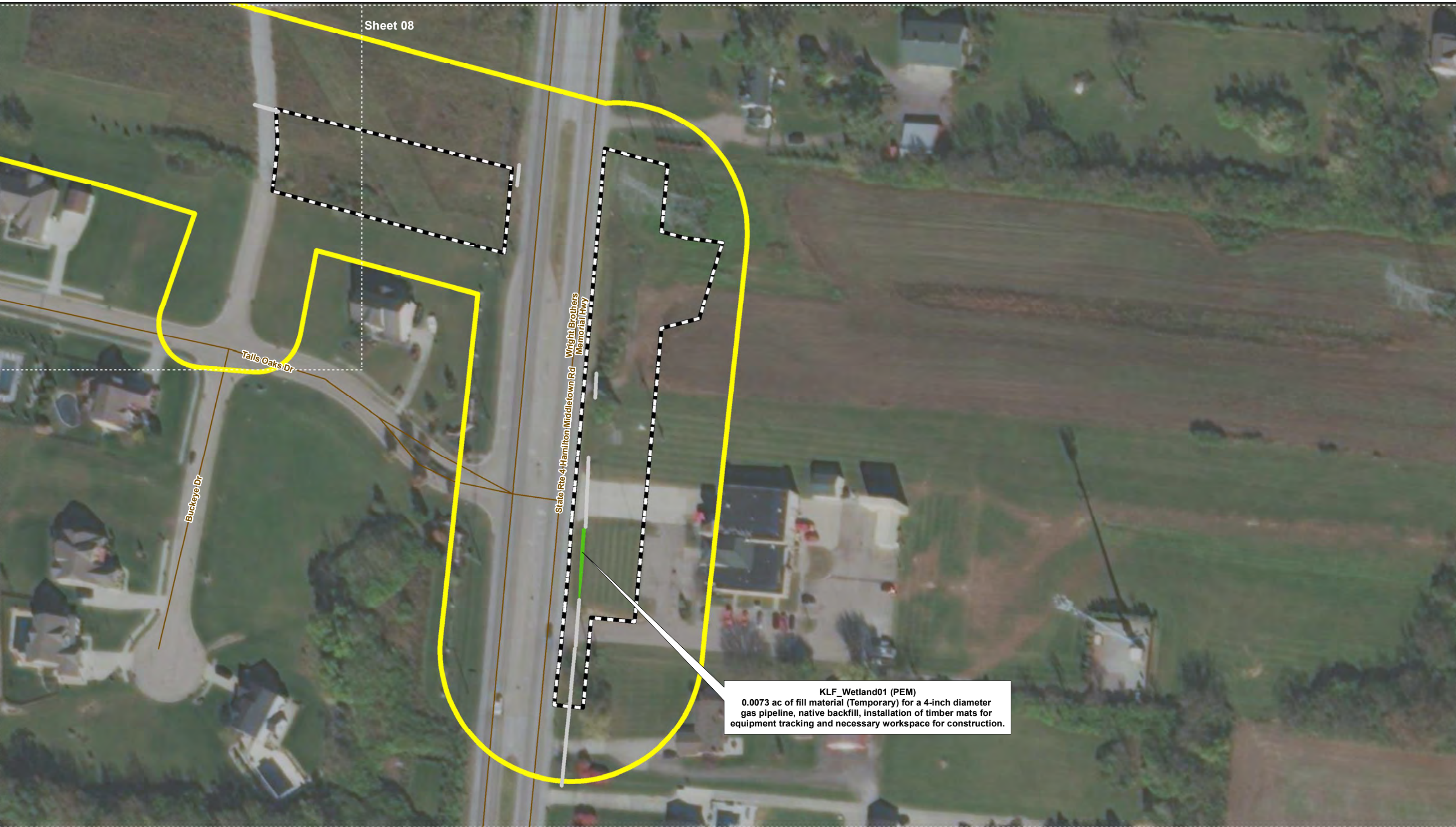
**Butler County  
 Ohio**

- BC-4 AOI (11.3 ac)
- BC-4 LOD (4.0 ac)
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland

- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility

- Existing Road
- Stream Flow
- Feature Continues

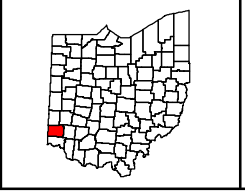
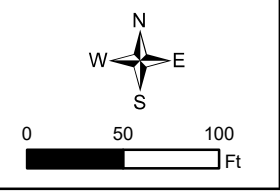
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.  
 Attachment C  
 Aerial Imagery Map  
 Butler Cnty Ph I C210 & LP07  
 Date: 1/31/2022      Sheet 5 of 19



**KLF\_Wetland01 (PEM)**  
 0.0073 ac of fill material (Temporary) for a 4-inch diameter gas pipeline, native backfill, installation of timber mats for equipment tracking and necessary workspace for construction.



PROJECT NO. 20211395  
 DRAWN BY: S. Williams  
 CHECKED BY: M. Albright  
 FILE NAME: ButlerCountyPhaseI\_NWP\_A1C



**Butler County Ohio**

- BC-5 AOI (71.4 ac)
- BC-5 LOD (10.0 ac)
- Existing Culvert
- Bridge
- Ephemeral Stream
- - - Intermittent Stream
- Perennial Stream
- PEM Wetland
- PFO Wetland
- PSS Wetland
- PUB Wetland
- Stormwater Management Facility
- Existing Road
- ^ Stream Flow
- ↑ Feature Continues