



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs

Drinking Water, Clean Water, Nonpoint Source

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

JEFFERSONVILLE North WRF Expansion Project SRF PROJECT WW22051011

DATE: June 13, 2022

TARGET PROJECT APPROVAL DATE: July 14, 2022

I. INTRODUCTION

The above entity has applied to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program for a loan to finance all or part of the Clean Water project described in the accompanying Environmental Assessment (EA). As part of facilities planning requirements, an environmental review has been completed which addresses the project's impacts on the natural and human environment. This review is summarized in the attached EA, which can also be viewed in color at <http://www.in.gov/ifa/srf/>.

II. PRELIMINARY FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FNSI)

The SRF Clean Water Program has evaluated all pertinent environmental information regarding the proposed project and determined that an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary. Subject to responses received during the 30-day public comment period, and pursuant to Indiana Code 5-1.2-3, it is our preliminary finding that the construction and operation of the proposed facilities will result in no significant adverse environmental impact. In the absence of significant comments, the attached EA shall serve as the final environmental document.

III. COMMENTS

All interested parties may comment upon the EA/FNSI. Comments must be received at the address below by the target approval date above. Significant comments may prompt a reevaluation of the preliminary FNSI; if appropriate, a new FNSI will be issued for another 30-day public comment period. A final decision to proceed, or not to proceed, with the proposed project shall be effected by finalizing, or not finalizing, the FNSI as appropriate. Comments regarding this document should be sent within 30 days to:

**April Douglas
Environmental Review Coordinator
State Revolving Fund
100 N. Senate Ave. IGCN 1275
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-234-7294
adouglas@ifa.in.gov**

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: **North WRF Expansion Project**
City of Jeffersonville
500 Quartermaster Court
Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130

SRF Project Number: WW22051011

Authorized Representative: The Honorable Mike Moore, Mayor

II. PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project located at the North Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) in Clark County, Utica Township on the Jeffersonville 24K USGS Quadrangle map, township 99, range 99 and section 38.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

Wastewater flow rates have been, and are expected to continue, increasing; a facility expansion is needed to address existing and 20-year flow rates and loadings from the North WRF service area.

The North WRF expansion project will increase the average design flow rate from 3.0 MGD to 6.0 MGD, and the peak design flow rate from 9.0 MGD to 18.0 MGD.

IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The expansion of the North WRF is proposed to consist of the following components:

- Expansion of the existing headworks building, including a new fine screen, grit removal system, grit washer, Parshall flume, and odor control system;
- Modifications to the existing oxidation ditch and secondary clarifiers;
- New oxidation ditch with biological nutrient removal, aerators and mixers;
- MLSS splitter box modifications;
- Two new circular clarifiers with RAS/WAS pump stations;
- New UV disinfection system, replacing the existing system;
- Cascade aeration improvements, including replacement flume;
- Non-potable water pump station expansion;
- Sludge digestion improvements, including new sludge holding tank, blowers and diffusers;
- Sludge dewatering improvements, including new centrifuge, conveyors, polymer feed and sludge pumps;
- New plant recycle pump station;
- Chemical feed/storage building;
- New administration building;

- Backup generator; and
- Conveyance piping, electrical, instrumentation and controls.

V. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

A. Selected Plan Estimated Cost Summary

<u>Jeffersonville North WRF Expansion</u>	
Construction Costs	\$32,254,300
Contingency (5%)	<u>\$ 1,612,700</u>
Construction Sub-Total	\$33,867,000
Non-Construction Costs	<u>\$ 4,133,000</u>
Total Estimated Project Cost	\$38,000,000

- B. The total cost of these projects is estimated to be approximately \$38,000,000. Jeffersonville will finance the project with a loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program for a term and annual fixed interest rate to be determined at loan closing. The actual loan amount will depend on the bids received. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

VI. DESCRIPTION OF EVALUATED ALTERNATIVES

The “**No Action**” alternative would result in the North WRF having inadequate capacity to handle future residential, commercial, and industrial flows. This was not considered acceptable and was eliminated from evaluation.

Expand Facility to 6 MGD: This is the selected alternative to expand the North WRF from 3 MGD to 6 MGD average design flow. Due to hydraulics, piping and constructability regarding subsurface rock on the north side of the existing facility, expansion is proposed on the south side of the facility.

Expand Facility to 9 MGD: This alternative would expand the North WRF from 3 MGD to 9 MGD average design flow. This alternative would require expansion to both the north and south of the existing facility. This alternative is cost-prohibitive and was rejected.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

A. Direct Impacts of Construction and Operation

Disturbed/Undisturbed Land: The proposed project will be constructed on ground previously disturbed by construction of the existing facility.

Structural Resources (Figure 1): Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish or remove historic properties. If any visual or audible impacts to historic properties occur, they will be temporary and will not alter the characteristics that qualify such properties for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The SRF’s finding pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is: “*no historic properties affected.*”

Surface Waters: The project will not adversely affect outstanding state resource waters listed in 327 IAC 2-1.3-3(d), exceptional use streams listed in 327 IAC 2-1-11(b), Natural, Scenic and Recreational Rivers and Streams listed in 312 IAC 7-(2), or Salmonid Streams listed in (327 IAC 2-1.5-5(a)(3) or streams on the Outstanding River List for Indiana.

Wetlands (Figure 2): Wetlands will not be impacted by the construction of this project.

Floodplain (Figure 3): Construction will not occur in a floodway.

Groundwater: The project will not impact a drinking water supply or sole source aquifer.

Plants and Animals: The Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) states: *The proposed improvements will be completed on property presently owned by the City. No wooded areas or wetlands will be affected. The project will be implemented to minimize impact to non-endangered species and their habitat. If necessary, mitigation measures required by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be implemented.*

Prime Farmland: The project will not convert prime farmland.

Air Quality: Construction activities may generate some noise, fumes and dust, but should not significantly affect air quality.

Open Space and Recreational Opportunities: The project will neither create nor destroy open space or recreational opportunities.

Lake Michigan Coastal Program: The project will not affect the Lake Michigan Coastal Zone.

National Natural Landmarks: Construction and operation of the proposed project will not affect National Natural Landmarks.

B. Indirect Impacts

The PER states: *The City through the authority of its council, planning commission or sewer and drainage boards, will ensure that future development, as well as future wastewater infrastructure projects connecting to SRF-funded facilities will not adversely affect wetlands, wooded areas, steep slopes, archaeological/historical/structural resources or other sensitive environmental resources. The City will require new development and infrastructure projects to be constructed within the guidelines of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, IDNR, IDEM, and other environmental review authorities.*

C. Comments from Environmental Review Authorities

In correspondence dated January 19, 2022, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology stated:

Pursuant to Indiana Code 5-1.2-10, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. § 306108), and 36 C.F.R. Part 800, the Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer (“Indiana SHPO”) is conducting an analysis of the materials dated for and received by the Indiana SHPO on December 21, 2021, for the above indicated project in Jeffersonville, Clark County, Indiana.

Based on our analysis, it has been determined that no historic properties will be altered, demolished, or removed by the proposed project. No archaeological investigations appear

necessary provided that all project activities remain within areas disturbed by previous construction.

If any prehistoric or historic archaeological artifacts or human remains are uncovered during construction, demolition, or earthmoving activities, state law (Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29) requires that the discovery must be reported to the Department of Natural Resources within two (2) business days. In that event, please call (317) 232-1646. Be advised that adherence to Indiana Code 14-21-1-27 and 29 does not obviate the need to adhere to applicable federal statutes and regulations, including but not limited to 36 C.F.R. 800.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service did not respond, so it is assumed that there are no comments.

In correspondence dated January 19, 2022, the Department of Natural Resources Environmental Unit stated:

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the above referenced project per your request. Our agency offers the following comments for your information and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

If our agency has regulatory jurisdiction over the project, the recommendations contained in this letter may become requirements of any permit issued. If we do not have permitting authority, all recommendations are voluntary.

Regulatory Agency: This proposal may require the formal approval of our agency pursuant to the Flood Control Act (IC 14-28-1) for any proposal to construct, excavate, or fill in or on the floodway of Lentzier Creek. Please submit more detailed plans to the Division of Water's Technical Services Section if you are unsure whether or not a permit will be required.

Natural Heritage Database: The Natural Heritage Program's data have been checked.

To date, no plant or animal species listed as state or federally threatened, endangered, or rare have been reported to occur in the project vicinity.

Fish & Wildlife Comments: The measures below should be implemented to avoid, minimize, or compensate for impacts to fish, wildlife, and botanical resources:

- 1. Revegetate all bare and disturbed areas with a mixture of grasses (excluding all varieties of tall fescue) and legumes as soon as possible upon completion; low endophyte tall fescue may be used in the ditch bottom and side slopes only.*
- 2. Appropriately designed measures for controlling erosion and sediment must be implemented to prevent sediment from entering the stream or leaving the construction site; maintain these measures until construction is complete and all disturbed areas are stabilized.*

As of the publication of this document, there hasn't been a response received from the Natural Resources Conservation Service stated.

VIII. MITIGATION MEASURES

The PER states:

The following measures are recommended to mitigate potential adverse environmental impacts:

- 1. Implement appropriate temporary erosion control measures (straw bale barriers, silt fencing, etc.) to prevent soil runoff leaving the construction site.*
- 2. Implement all applicable water pollution control measures specified in the Indiana State Highway Standard Specifications (latest version). Appropriate measures will be taken to prevent siltation of nearby surface and underground water resources with dewatering flows or construction related runoff.*
- 3. Maintain all equipment to manufactures specifications to minimize construction noise, and where appropriate utilize temporary noise barriers to reduce noise levels.*
- 4. Minimize fugitive dust from construction activities by wetting the construction area periodically and constructing wind barriers or treating with chemical stabilizers if necessary.*
- 5. The open burning of debris (i.e., trees and shrubs) shall not be allowed unless a permit is obtained from the Indiana State Air Pollution Control Division for such activities.*
- 6. Cutback asphalt or asphalt emulsion containing more than seven percent oil distillable shall not be used during the months April through October pursuant to 326 IAC 805 Asphalt Paving Rule.*
- 7. The contactor shall abide by the rules governing asbestos notification, handling, disposal and contractor licensing should such material be encountered.*
- 8. Construction waste shall be disposed of by the contractor at an acceptable waste disposal landfill. If contaminated soils (including PCB's) are discovered during the project, they may be subject to disposal as either special or hazardous waste as determined by the Office of Solid and Hazardous Waste Management.*

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A properly noticed public hearing was held on May 12, 2022 at 3:00 pm at the Jeffersonville City Hall to discuss the PER. No written comments were received during the 5-day comment period following the hearing.

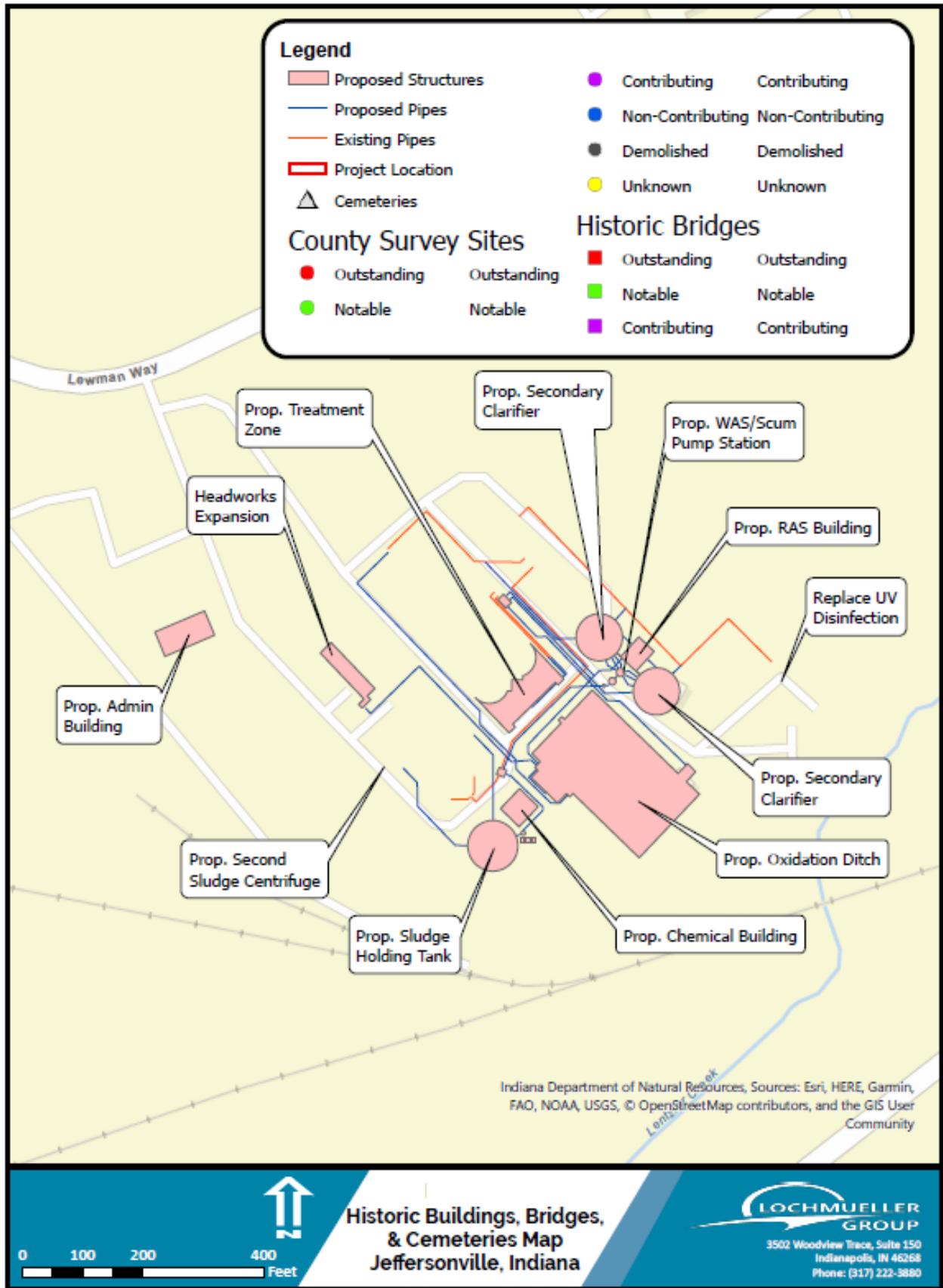


Figure 1 – IHBBC map of the proposed projects at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

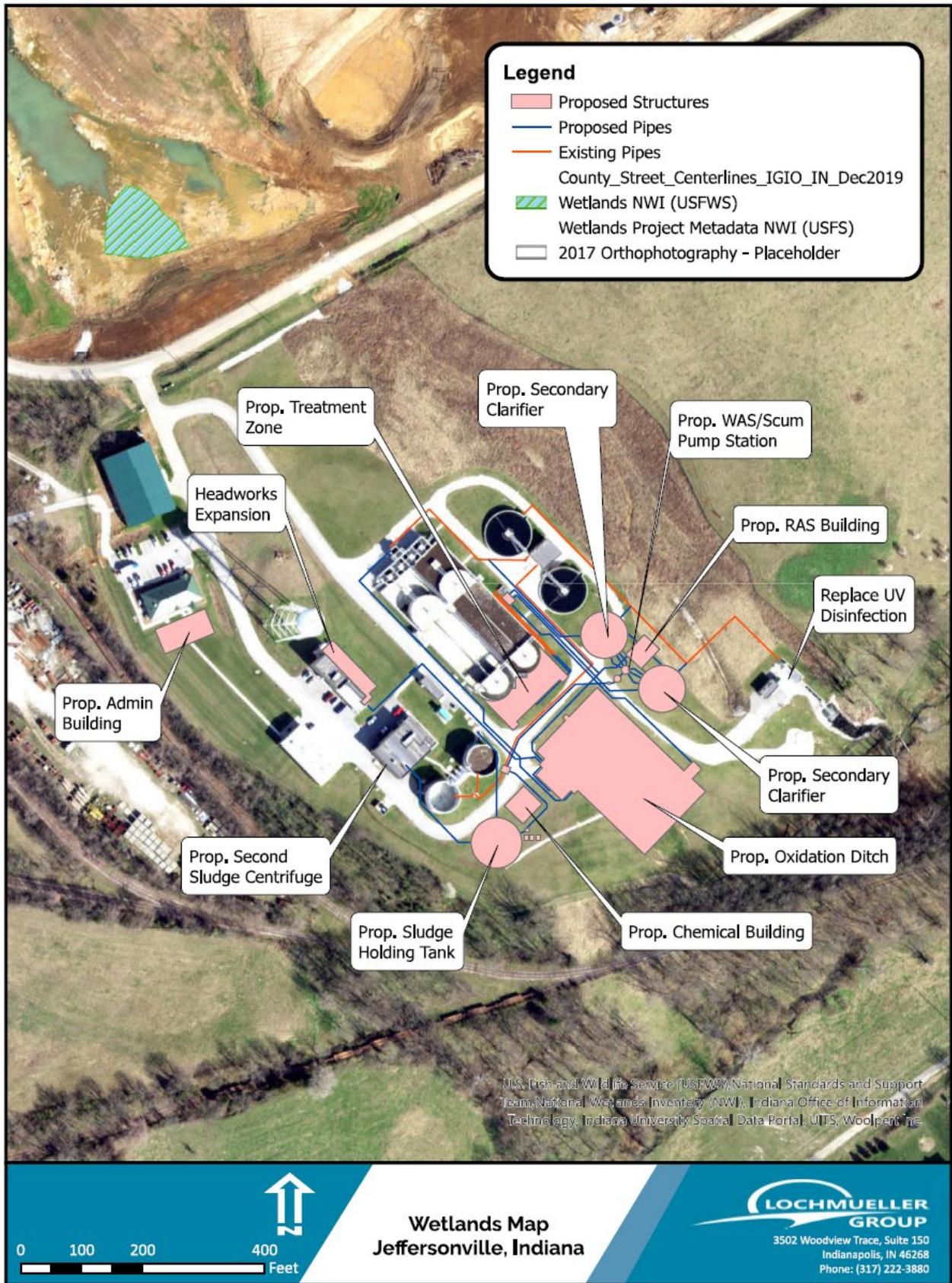


Figure 2 – Wetland map of the proposed projects at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

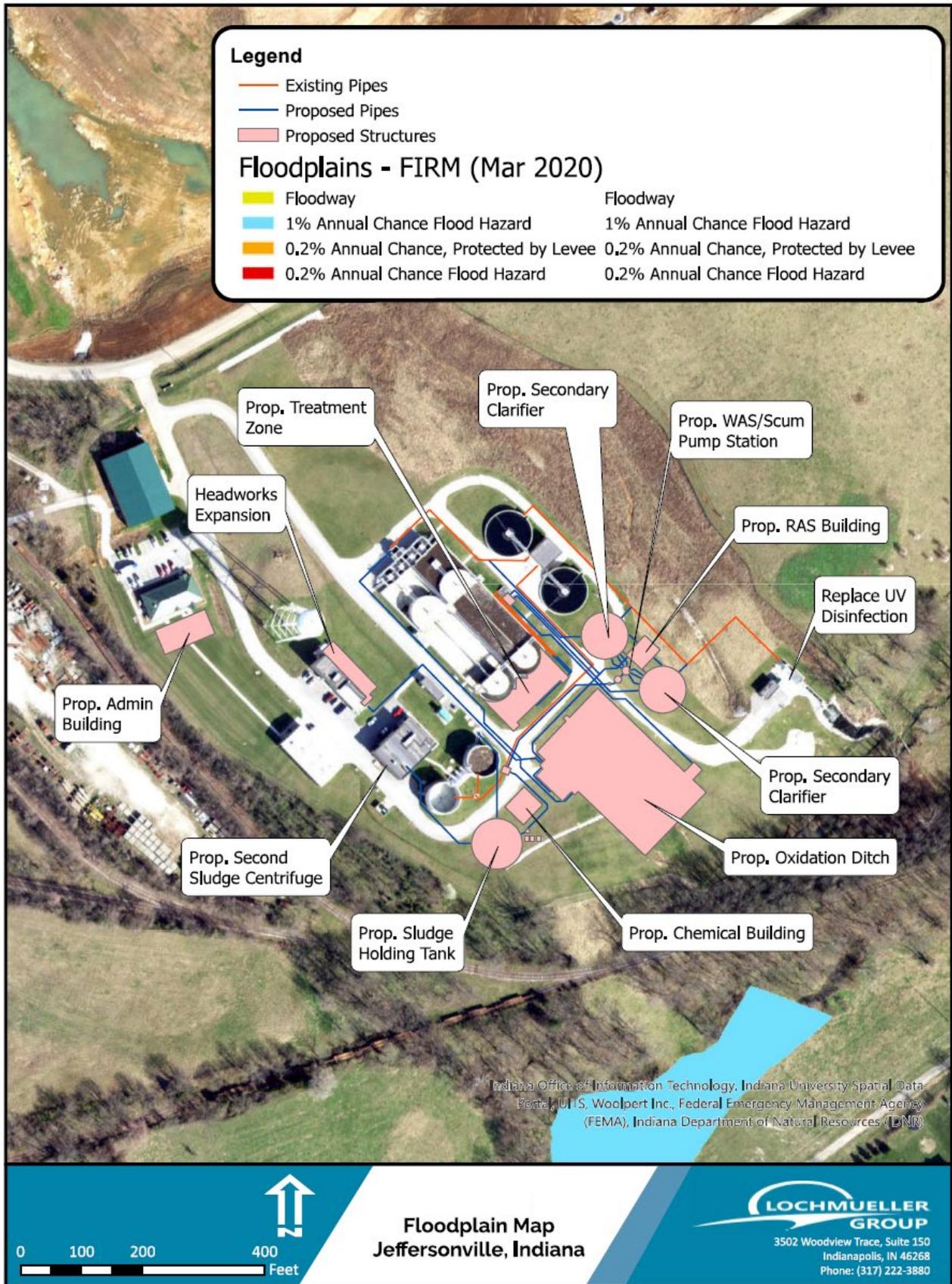


Figure 3 – Floodplain Map of the proposed projects at the Wastewater Treatment Plant