

July 25, 2016

DETERMINATION OF NO EFFECT

TO ALL POTENTIALLY INTERESTED AGENCIES:

Pursuant to the environmental assessment requirements of 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §363.14 of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) rules, the Executive Administrator of the TWDB has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from formal environmental review requirements:

Upper Trinity Regional Water District, Denton County, Texas
Riverbend Water Reclamation Plant Expansion Project
Texas Water Development Fund Project No. 21757
Total Estimated Project Cost: \$46,000,000

The Upper Trinity Regional Water District (District) is proposing to use funding from a Texas Water Development Fund (WDF) loan to expand the Riverbend Water Reclamation Plant (WRP). The WRP treatment capacity will increase from 2.0 to 4.0 million gallons per day (MGD) by converting the existing facilities to conventional activated sludge with enhanced biological phosphorus removal. The expanded facility will include:

- Improvements to the existing influent pump station
- Improvements to the existing aeration basin
- New headworks screening with two channels
- New grit removal system with two grit basins
- New secondary influent splitter structure
- New aeration basin
- Two new 90-foot secondary clarifiers
- New aeration blower facility with two 200-hp aeration blowers
- New chemical feed system
- New filter basins with two 12-disc cloth-media filter units
- New ultraviolet (UV) disinfection channel
- New centrate equalization tank
- New administrative building
- Additional roads within the property

The capacity increase is necessary to meet the increasing population in the service area. Although the new facilities will be located on the existing property, the footprint will increase significantly. The new facilities will be located to avoid clearing vegetation in the undeveloped part of the property, specifically the riparian woodland in the northeast corner of the site.

The existing WRP is adjacent to a residential area in the community of Paloma Creek and near public schools, Paloma Creek Elementary and Navo Middle School. These areas are served by the Riverbend WRP. The proposed expansion of the WRP has been discussed at public meetings for the Board of Directors' Meetings of Denton County Fresh Water Supply Districts 8-A and 8-B.

The project is not located within the 100 or 500-year floodplain, therefore coordination with the local Floodplain Administrator was not required. Also, the proposed roads were located to

avoid or minimize activities in streams or any potential waters of the U.S. The new road work will cross the upper reaches of two drainages that might be waters of the U.S. These may require culverts, but the District will perform all activities in compliance with a non-reporting Nationwide Permit 14 - Linear Transportation Projects. The project activities will be limited to upland areas of the property that cleared and developed or maintained by regular mowing, so no impacts to protected species are anticipated.

An archeological report, prepared in April 2015, identified one archeological site within the property; however, it is not located within the proposed footprint of the expanded facilities. In a letter dated January 15, 2016, the Texas Historical Commission (THC, Consultation Number 201603267), confirmed that the archeological site is not within the currently proposed expansion footprint and concluded that the project will not adversely affect sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP) or State Antiquities Landmarks (SAL). The THC further stated that the District shall submit a letter to the THC stating that the site area will be avoided and that additional contact would be necessary if plans were made to expand into the site. The THC stated that the project may proceed without further consultation, but that if buried archeological deposits were discovered, all work must be suspended and the THC notified immediately.

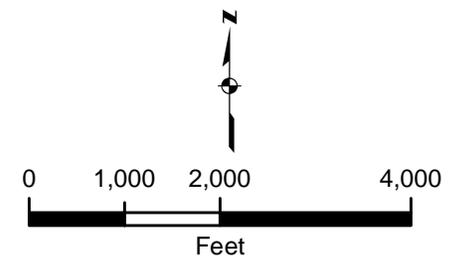
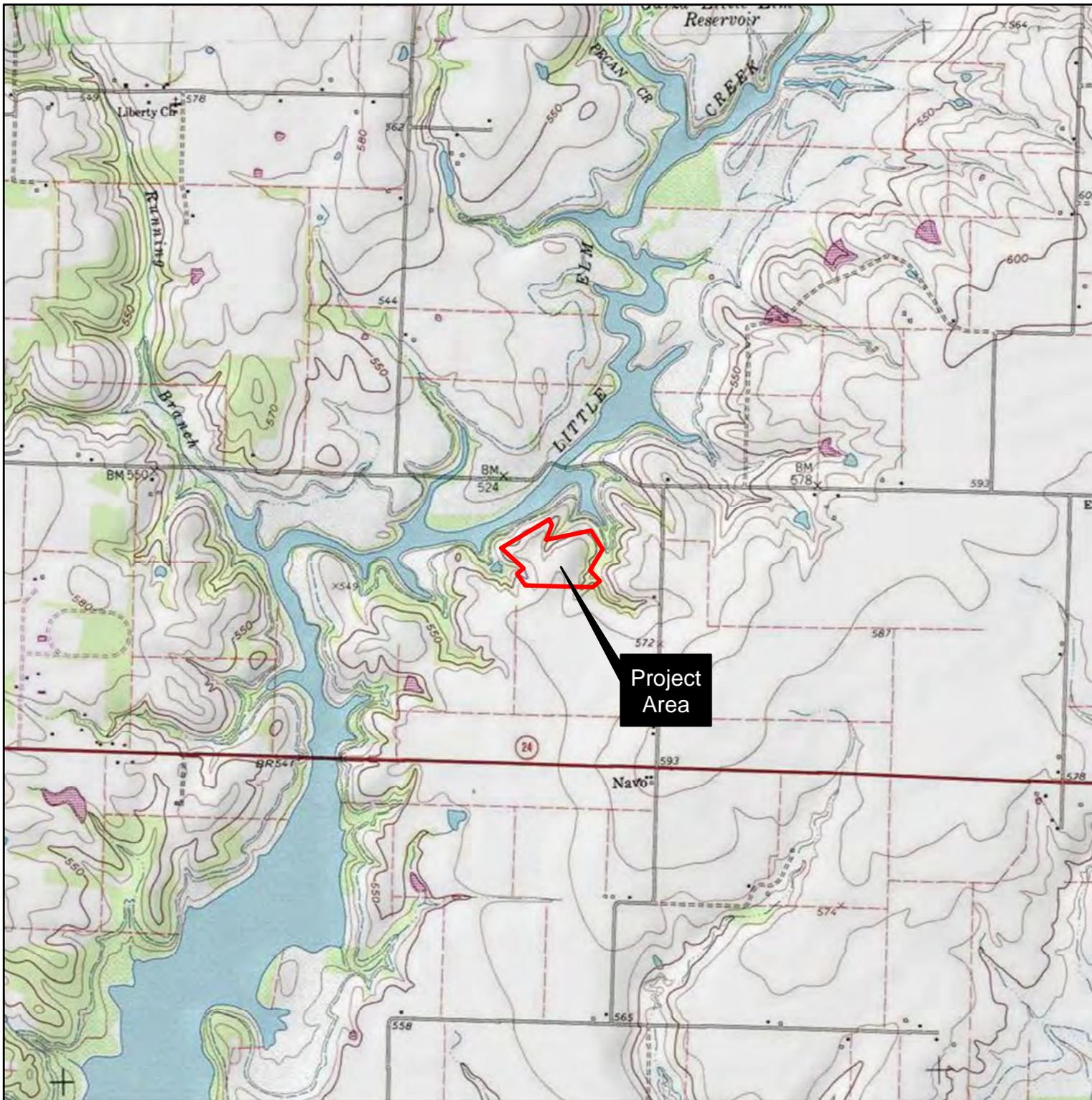
A Determination of No Effect for the project is allowable under existing TWDB Rules because the specified activity should not result in significant adverse impacts to environmental quality or human activities and welfare. Documentation supporting this determination is on file at the TWDB.

This environmental determination may be revoked if it is found that the project does not meet the requirements of 31 TAC Section 363.14. Circumstances warranting revocation may be based on, but are not limited to, changes in the project; new evidence; or potential violations of federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The project also must comply with the following conditions:

- As per agreement with the Texas Historic Commission (Consultation No. 201603267), the archeological site on the Riverbend Water Reclamation Plant, as referenced in that consultation, shall be avoided;
- All road work within potential waters of the U.S., shall be performed in compliance with Nationwide Permit 14 for Linear Transportation Projects;
- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources; and,
- Standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Planning and Development, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231.



Legend

 Project Area

FIGURE 2:
USGS 24K TOPO Map
DATE: 04/2015 AVO: 30889
RIVERBEND WRP EXPANSION
SOURCE CREDIT: National
Geographic Society TOPO 2013



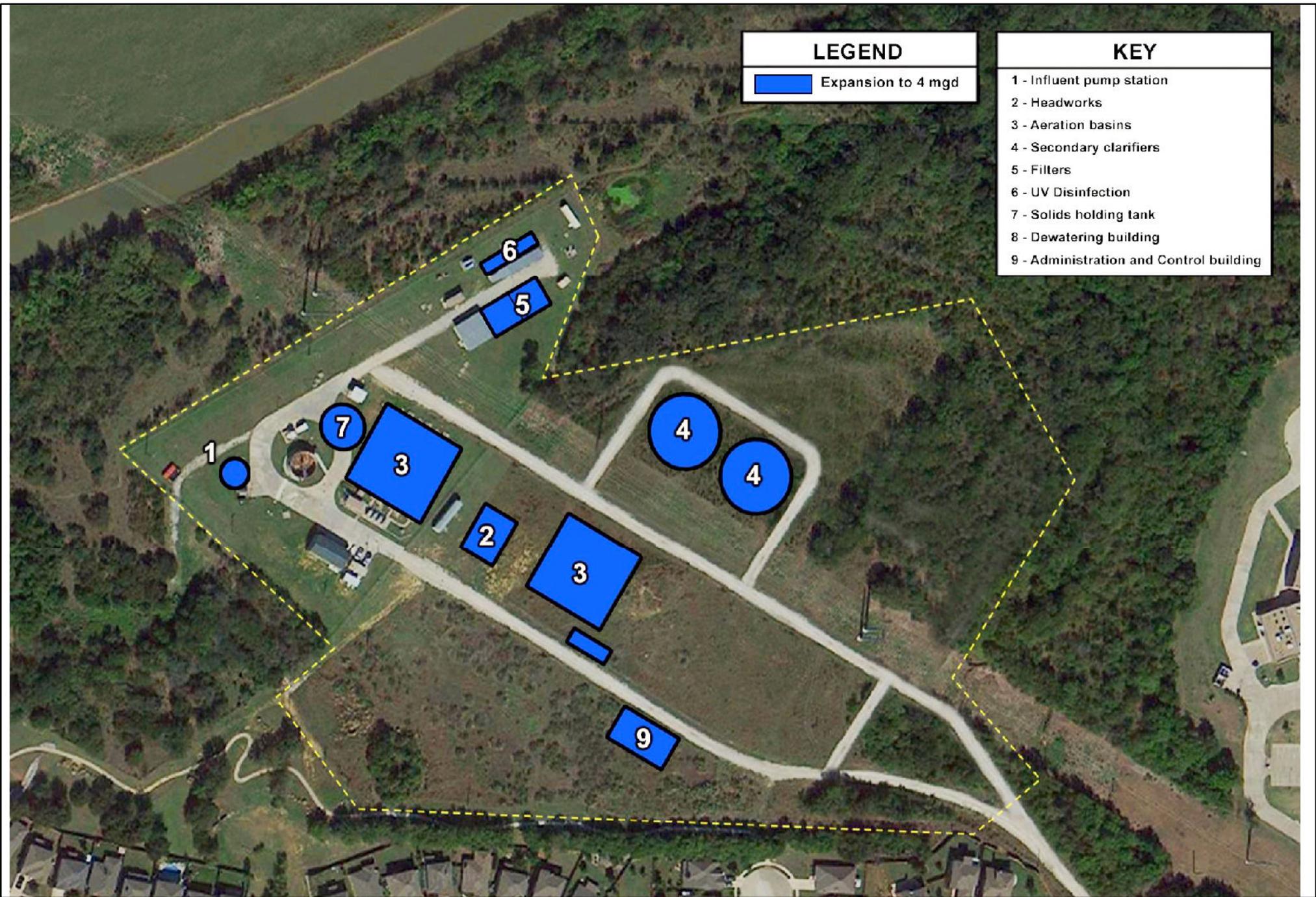


Figure not drawn to scale

FIGURE 5:
PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN

