

December 1, 2015

STATEMENT OF FINDINGS

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As provided for by the Permanent Rules of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) 31 Texas Administrative Code §375.61, for projects funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S. Code §4321, et seq., the Board's Executive Administrator issues this Statement of Findings (SOF) for the following project:

Nueces River Authority, Real County, Texas
Leakey Wastewater System
CWSRF Project No. 72045
Total CWSRF Loan Amount: \$9,961,460

The Nueces River Authority (Authority) is proposing to use funding from the CWSRF program to add a new sewer line along Leakey Springs Road, and change the location of gravity sewer lines due to title issues. Specifically, the addition of Leakey Springs Road consists of a 4,107 linear feet of 8-inch gravity sewer lines and the second addition is a 919 linear feet section of 8-inch gravity sewer lines between U.S. 83 and Evergreen Street along the northern side of FM 1120. The project has been planned for two phases; the first phase consists of a first-time wastewater collection system, and the second phase will involve the expansion of the existing wastewater treatment facility. The proposed changes are specifically related to the first phase. The Authority has received TWDB funding commitments for the above referenced CWSRF project. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) was issued for both phases of the project on August 29, 2014.

The proposed location of the 4,107 linear feet of 8-inch sewer line along Leakey Springs Road was not considered on the previous archeological surveys performed for the project. Coordination with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) was requested to avoid potential effects to cultural resources. On June 30, 2015, an archeological investigation was performed under Antiquities Permit #5174. Based on the results of the survey, no archeological or historical properties or state antiquities landmarks will be affected by the proposed addition to the project and no further archeological investigations are recommended prior to construction. The THC indicated concurrence with the assessment on August 25, 2015. The proposed change of the project is in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as well as the Antiquities Code of Texas.

In order to avoid a roadway easement with title issues, the Authority is proposing to change the direction of the flow in the sewers from South to North. This change requires adding the proposed 919 linear feet section of 8-inch gravity sewer lines and eliminating approximately 3,700 linear feet of gravity sewer line and 12 manholes from the scope of the project. The change will be an overall cost-saving measure to the project. The change of direction of the flow in the sewers would only reduce 3 residential connections and two commercial connections from the

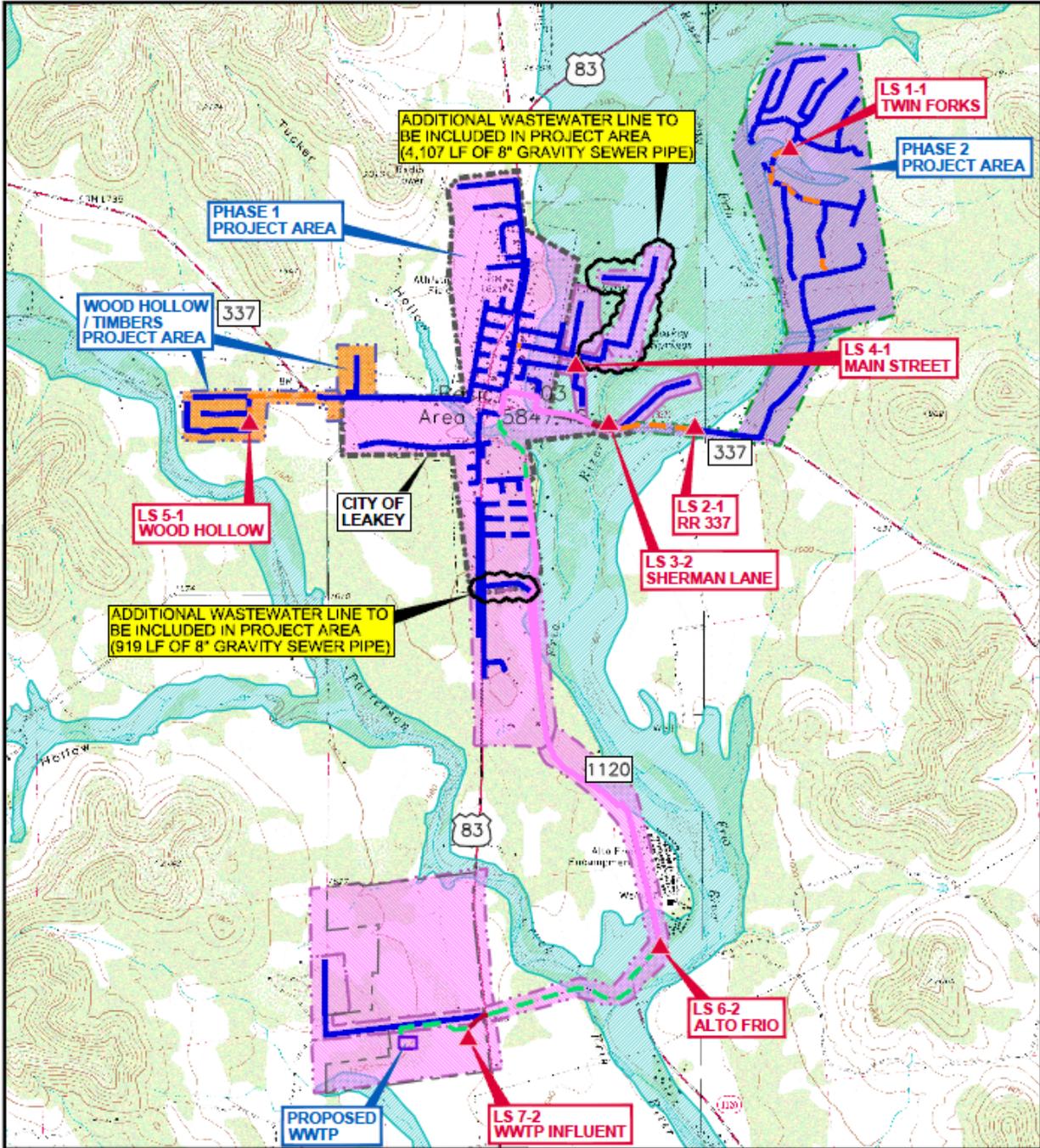
original plan. These changes are located within the project area previously reviewed with a Finding of No Significant Impact.

Based upon a detailed review of the proposed changes location and the Environmental Assessment section of the FNSI issued, the proposed changes are consistent with the environmental determination for the project.

The conditions in the FNSI issued on August 29, 2014, shall remain in full force and effect for the proposed project changes. As stated in the issued FNSI, the proposed project is considered to be environmentally sound with the following conditions:

- Prior to construction for projects elements located in the floodplain, the Authority shall apply for floodplain elevation certificates in accordance with the Real County floodplain ordinance;
- To ensure project compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act and Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, the Authority will: 1) establish and maintain an approximately 27-acre protection area for the federally listed endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler (GCWA) -- to be known as the Habitat Preserve for the GCWA—in woodlands located within the 194-acre tract that was acquired for construction of the wastewater treatment plant and effluent disposal area; and 2) avoid activities during construction of the treatment facility that would adversely affect the GCWA or its potential habitat;
- Standard emergency conditions for the discovery of cultural resources; and
- Standard emergency conditions 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, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231.



FEMA MAPS: 480980 A&B (5/13/77); 480978 02506 & 480978 0175B (6/5/85)
 USGS MAPS: LEAKEY & RIO FRIO, REAL COUNTY, TEXAS

LEGEND

	SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA		US HIGHWAY 83
	PROPOSED 4 INCH WASTEWATER LINE (PRESSURE)		F.M. HIGHWAY 337
	PROPOSED 6 INCH WASTEWATER LINE (PRESSURE)		F.M. HIGHWAY 1120
	PROPOSED 8 INCH WASTEWATER LINE (GRAVITY)		PROP. LIFT STATION
	PROPOSED 12 INCH WASTEWATER LINE (PRESSURE)		
	PROPOSED 12 INCH WASTEWATER LINE (GRAVITY)		0 2600 SCALE IN FEET

NEI **NaismithEngineeringInc**
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 TBPE REGISTERED FIRM NO. F-355

FIGURE 1
 NEW WASTEWATER ALIGNMENTS TO BE ADDED TO THE PROJECT AREA
 NUECES RIVER AUTHORITY & CITY OF LEAKEY
 REAL COUNTY, TEXAS

Drawn By: RPS	Appr. By: AML	Scale: 1" = 2600'	Dep. NO.: 7514-02A32	Sheet
Checked By: AML	Project No.: 7514-02	Date: 10/28/15	Rev.: 10/29/15	of