



P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78711-3231, www.twdb.texas.gov
Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As provided by the environmental review process adopted in the rules of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 371.41, for projects to be funded through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program and consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 United States Code § 4321, *et seq.*, the TWDB has determined that the proposed action identified below may be exempted from comprehensive environmental review:

Orange County WCID No. 1, Orange County, Texas
TWDB DWSRF Project No. 62948
Water Well Production and Treatment Project
Test Well Installation and Evaluation
Total Anticipated Financing Amount: \$5,260,000
Loan No. L1001625

The Orange County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (District) is proposing to use \$5,260,000 in financing from the DWSRF program for the Water Well Production and Treatment Project for planning, design, and construction of a new water well site including storage, pumping, and treatment facilities. The acquisition and development of the property and the design and construction of proposed water supply infrastructure will be subject to a full environmental review, including the preparation of an Environmental Information Document and the issuance of a Finding of No Significant Impact.

As part of this project, the District plans to install a test well at a prospective future well site in order to determine its suitability. This preliminary portion of the project has been reviewed and determined to qualify for a Categorical Exclusion. Specifically, the District is proposing to drill a test well on a property located at the intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 1132 (Evangeline Drive) and Douglas Street in unincorporated Orange County, approximately 1.2 miles north of State Highway 12 in the City of Vidor. The water sourced from this well will be tested for total organic carbon levels, which is known to be high in this area and is associated with total trihalomethanes formation.

The test well construction will be performed using a truck-mounted drilling rig. All testing equipment will be self-contained, and no additional equipment will be required. The test well bore will range from a minimum diameter of 8.75 inches to a maximum diameter of 10 inches and will extend to an approximate depth of 1,200 feet. The test well casing will

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consist of either standard dimension ratio (SDR)-17 polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or steel pipe. The test wells will remain open long enough for the entity to receive water sample results and determine the viability of the site, which typically takes six to eight weeks. Once viability has been determined, the surface casing will be removed, and the test well bores will be filled with bentonite clay.

There are no previously recorded significant or potentially significant historical or cultural sites within or adjacent to the project footprint, according to the Texas Historical Commission's Archeological Sites Atlas, nor is the proposed project within a protected area surrounding a historic cemetery, structure, or district. The proposed project will not adversely impact waters of the United States, including wetlands. The proposed project appears to be partially within a 100-year floodplain, as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Projects involving construction in the 100-year floodplain, including replacement or borings, require a floodplain development permit from the local floodplain administrator prior to construction in the 100-year floodplain. In addition, the proposed project is not expected to impact threatened or endangered species or habitat.

The TWDB may not fund testing, remediation, removal, disposal, or related works for contaminated or potentially contaminated materials. However, the project proponent should ensure that, if found, such materials are tested, removed, and disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

The staff of the TWDB recommends issuance of a Categorical Exclusion (CE) for this project. The decision to grant this CE is allowed because the specified project elements will not cause significant adverse impacts to cultural and natural resources. Documentation supporting this determination is on file at the TWDB.

This determination shall be revoked if it is found that

- (1) the project no longer meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion from full environmental review as a result of changes in the project;
- (2) the project involves extraordinary circumstances as described in 31 TAC § 371.42;
or
- (3) the project may violate or has violated federal, state, local, or tribal laws.

The proposed project must comply with the following special and standard environmental conditions:

Special Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004, Flood Disaster Protection Act, Executive Order 11988 as amended by EO 13690, Texas Water Code Section

16.315, and local floodplain development ordinances, the Orange County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (District) must obtain a floodplain development permit issued by the local floodplain administrator of Angelina County prior to construction in a Special Flood Hazard Area and TWDB approval of plans and specifications. Orange County is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Standard Environmental Conditions

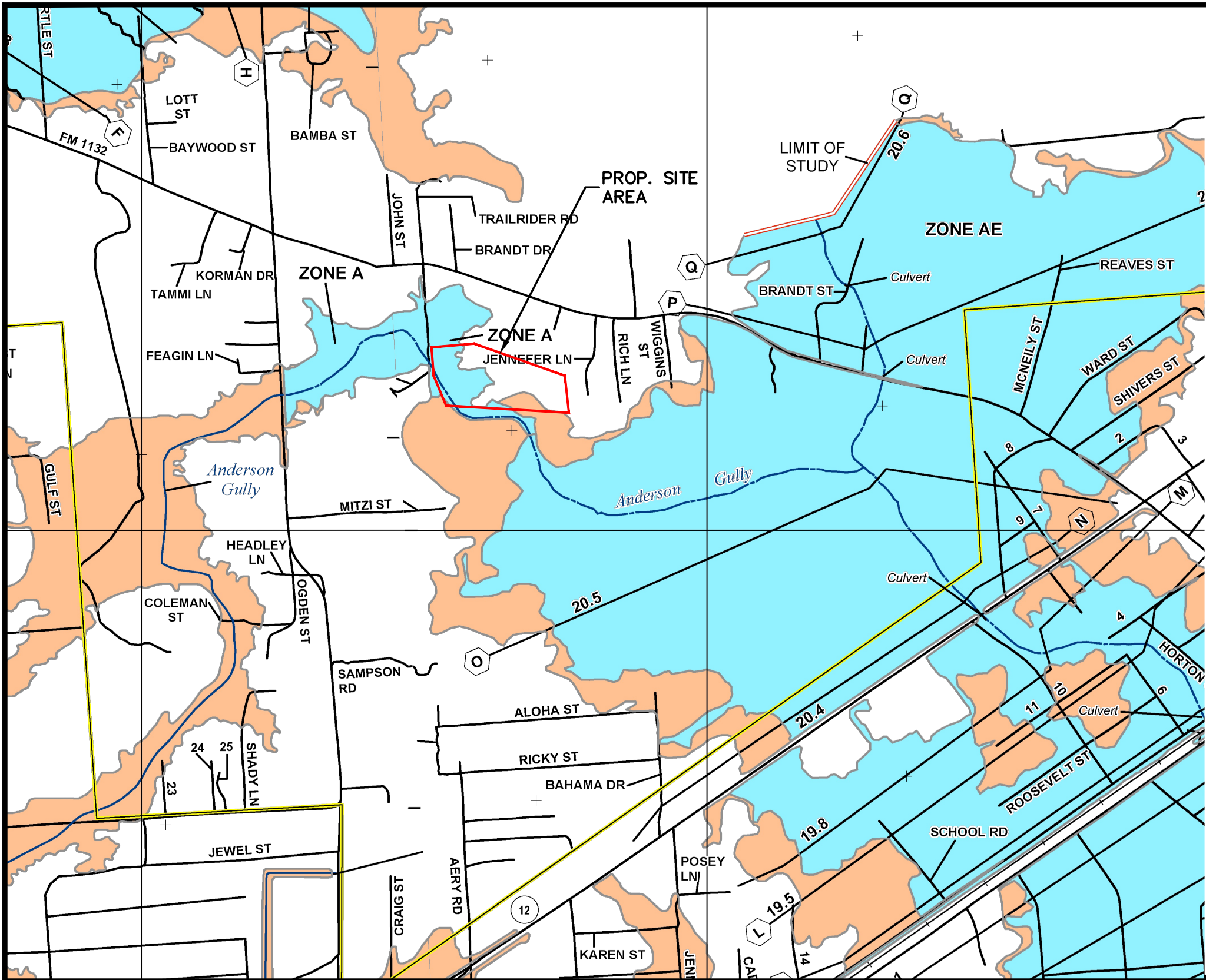
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0551), the District will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.
- Consistent with the TWDB Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0551), the District will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

Comments regarding this determination may be submitted to the Director of Regional Water Project Development, Texas Water Development Board, P.O. Box 13231, Austin, Texas 78711-3231 or via email at RWPD-Environmental@twdb.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

T. Clay Schultz, Ph.D., Director
Regional Water Project Development

Enclosures



SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT
THE INFORMATION DEPICTED ON THIS MAP AND SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTATION ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN DIGITAL FORMAT AT
[HTTPS://MSC.FEMA.GOV](https://MSC.FEMA.GOV)

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE)
Zone A, V, A99

With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR

Regulatory Floodway

0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X

Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X

Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee See Notes. Zone X

Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D

OTHER AREAS

NO SCREEN

Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X

Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D

GENERAL STRUCTURES

Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer

Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

OTHER FEATURES

E

18.2

17.5

Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation

8

Coastal Transect

Coastal Transect Baseline

Profile Baseline

Hydrographic Feature

Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)

Limit of Study

Jurisdiction Boundary

Date : 4/26

File Name :

File Drawer No. : B877-1010

LJA Engineering, Inc.

2615 Calder Avenue, Suite 500

Beaumont, Texas 77702

LJA

Phone 409.833.3363

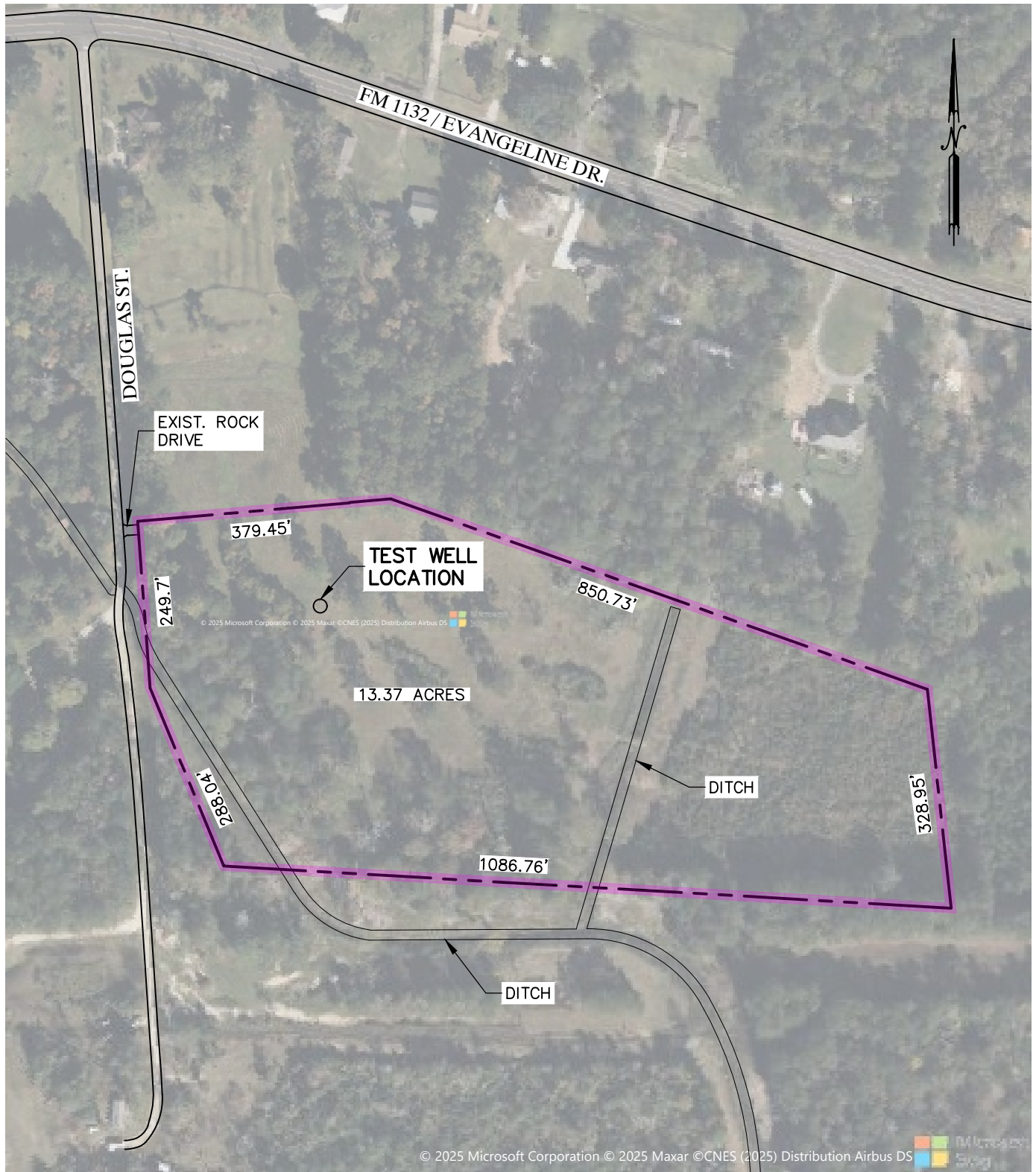
Fax 409.833.0317

FRN - F-1386

ORANGE COUNTY WATER CONTROL & IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1

FLOOD ZONE MAP

Action	Name	Date
Design	JBS	4/26
Drawn	REC	4/26
Checked	JBS	4/26
Approved	JBS	4/26
Scale	1" = 1,000'	
Sheet	1	Of 1



LJA Engineering, Inc.

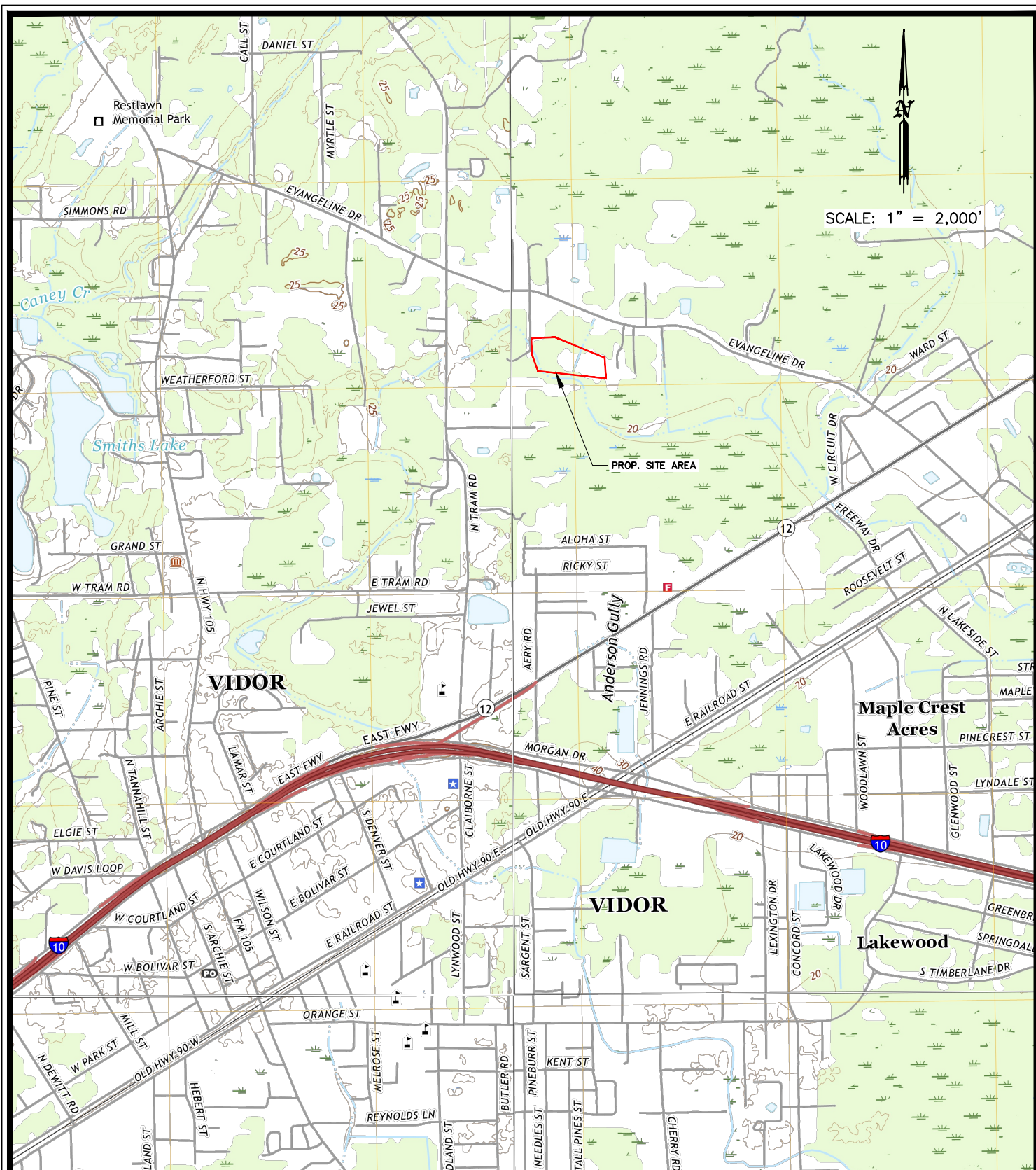
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Action	Name	Date
Design	JBS	4/26
Drawn	REC	4/26
Checked	JBS	4/26
Approved	TMA	4/26
Scale	N.T.S.	

SITE PLAN



LJA Engineering, Inc.

2615 Calder Avenue, Suite 500
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Fax 409.833.0317
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Action	Name	Date
Design	JBS	4/26
Drawn	REC	4/26
Checked	JBS	4/26
Approved	TMA	4/26
Scale	1" = 2,000'	

USGS TOPO MAP