

JOINT
PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
150 Executive Center Drive, Suite 205
Greenville, South Carolina 29615

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N SAC-2019-00621

March 17, 2021

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1341), a prospectus for Lower Broad Mitigation Bank has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the South Carolina Interagency Review Team by

Palustrine Group, LLC
Attn: Mr. Chris Carter
P.O. Box 16091
Greenville, South Carolina 29606

for a proposed stream and wetland mitigation bank that is adjacent to the

Broad River

at a location approximately twelve miles east of Whitmire and three miles north of the Town of Blair, Fairfield County, South Carolina (Latitude: 34.461184°N, Longitude: 81.410463°W), Blair U.S. Geological Service Quadrangle sheet.

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by the **Corps** until

30 Days from the Date of this Notice

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed project consists of establishing a freshwater stream and wetland mitigation bank in the Lower Broad watershed (8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code 03050106) located in the Southern Piedmont Ecoregion. The proposed 259.78-acre mitigation bank includes approximately 28,876 linear feet of stream channels and 2.37 acres of wetlands.

The proposal is to preserve 11,167 linear feet of stream. In addition, 442 linear feet of stream will be enhanced by improving stability and hydraulics within the reach, improving the longitudinal connectivity of the reach, promoting the exchange of surface waters and providing filtration of floodwaters within the basin, and implementing bioengineering techniques using natural material and vegetative cover where appropriate. Approximately 8,994 linear feet of stream will be restored by raising streambed elevations, stabilizing stream channels, grading streambanks and lower the floodplain, reconnecting streams to their floodplain, installing log vanes and brush toe

protection for streambank treatments, installing constructed riffles with rock and wood materials, installing log steps/sills for grade control, and creating new channels where needed. Buffers will be enhanced by planting a mix of native trees to improve vegetative diversity.

Approximately 2.37 acres of wetlands will be preserved on site. Once the mitigation work is complete, the bank sponsor proposes to monitor the mitigation site to ensure that the restoration areas are performing as expected and meeting the necessary performance standards. The bank sponsor, using a conservation easement, will protect the mitigation bank site. The bank sponsor is working with the landowner to place a secondary easement on the remaining portion of the property.

NOTE: This public notice and associated plans are available on the Corps' website at:
<http://www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices> .

Also, according to the Prospectus, the proposed mitigation bank will provide in-kind compensatory mitigation for authorized impacts to aquatic resources located within the Lower Broad, Upper Broad, Tyger, and Enoree, as shown on the attached Service Area Map. The work required to complete the proposed activities on the mitigation site may be authorized under Nationwide Permit #27 after reviews by the Corps, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and the Interagency Review Team.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Implementation of the proposed project would not impact estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. The District Engineer's initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The District Engineer's final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

Pursuant to the Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended), the Corps has reviewed the project area, examined all information provided by the applicant, and the District Engineer has determined that the project is not likely to adversely affect any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request for written concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service on this determination.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), this public notice also constitutes a request to Indian Tribes to notify the District Engineer of any historic properties of religious and cultural significance to them that may be affected by the proposed undertaking.

In accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the District Engineer has consulted South Carolina ArchSite (GIS), for the presence or absence of historic properties (as defined in 36 C.F.R. 800.16)(f)(1)), and has initially determined that historic properties, may be present; moreover, these historic properties may be affected by the undertaking. This public notice serves to notify the State Historic Preservation Office that the Corps plans to initiate Section 106 consultation on these historic properties. Individuals or groups who would like to be consulting parties for the purposes of the NHPA should make such a request to the Corps in writing within 30 days of this public notice. To ensure that other historic properties that the District Engineer is

not aware of are not overlooked, this public notice also serves as a request to the State Historic Preservation Office and other interested parties to provide any information they may have with regard to historic properties.

The District Engineer's final eligibility and effect determination will be based upon coordination with the SHPO and/or THPO, as appropriate and required and with full consideration given to the proposed undertaking's potential direct and indirect effects on historic properties within the Corps-identified permit area.

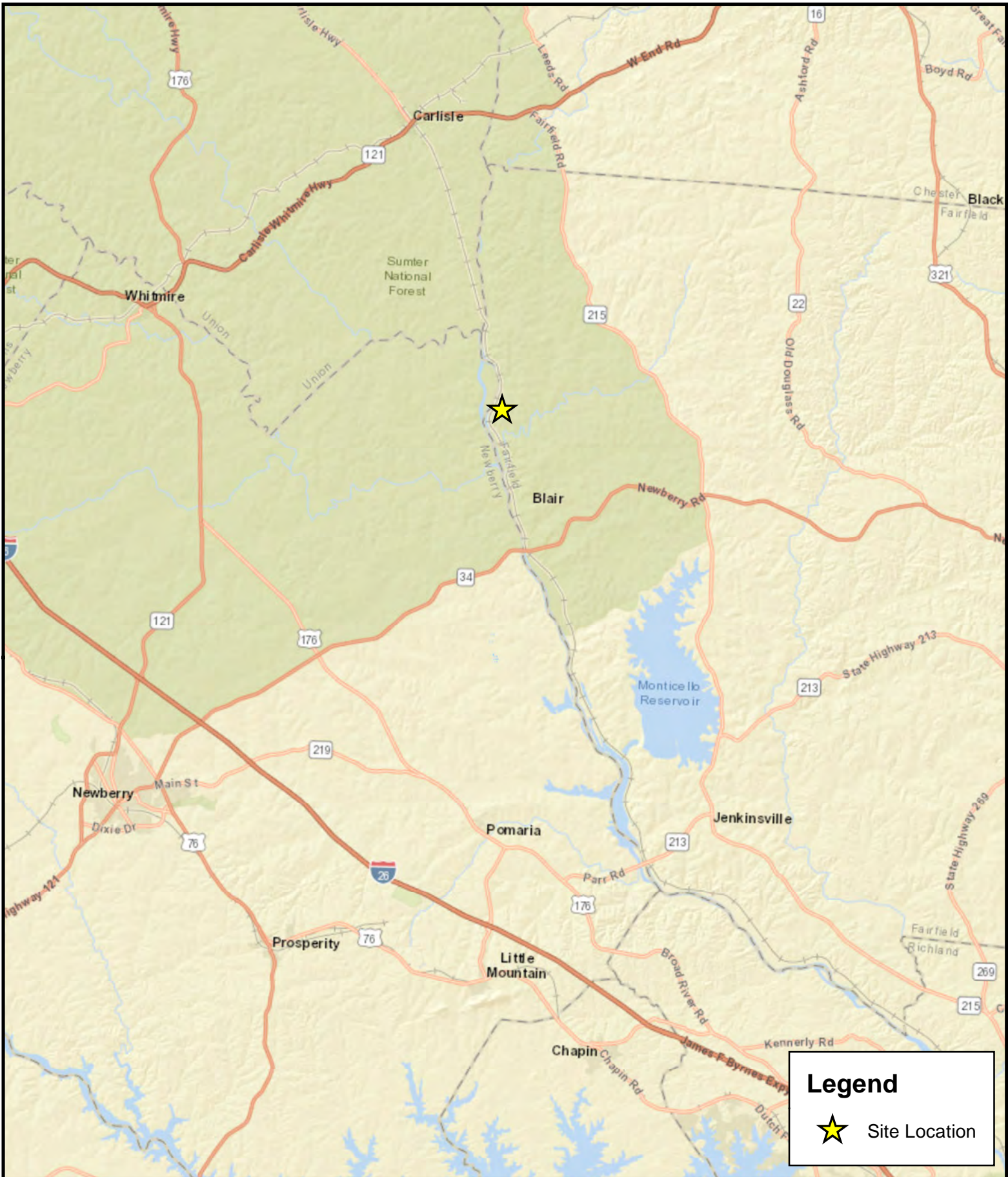
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to approve or deny the proposed mitigation bank will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity. **Please submit comments in writing, identifying the project of interest by public notice number, to the following address:**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION
150 Executive Center Drive, Suite 205
Greenville, South Carolina 29615**

The prospectus is available for viewing upon request. If there are any questions concerning the proposed mitigation bank or the information included in this public notice, please contact Adrianna Krzywicka, Project Manager, at (864) 609-4325, or by email at Adrianna.E.Krzywicka@usace.army.mil.



Legend

★ Site Location

Lower Broad Mitigation Bank
 Fairfield County, South Carolina

Figure 1: Site Location
 Source: ESRI
 Date: September 2020





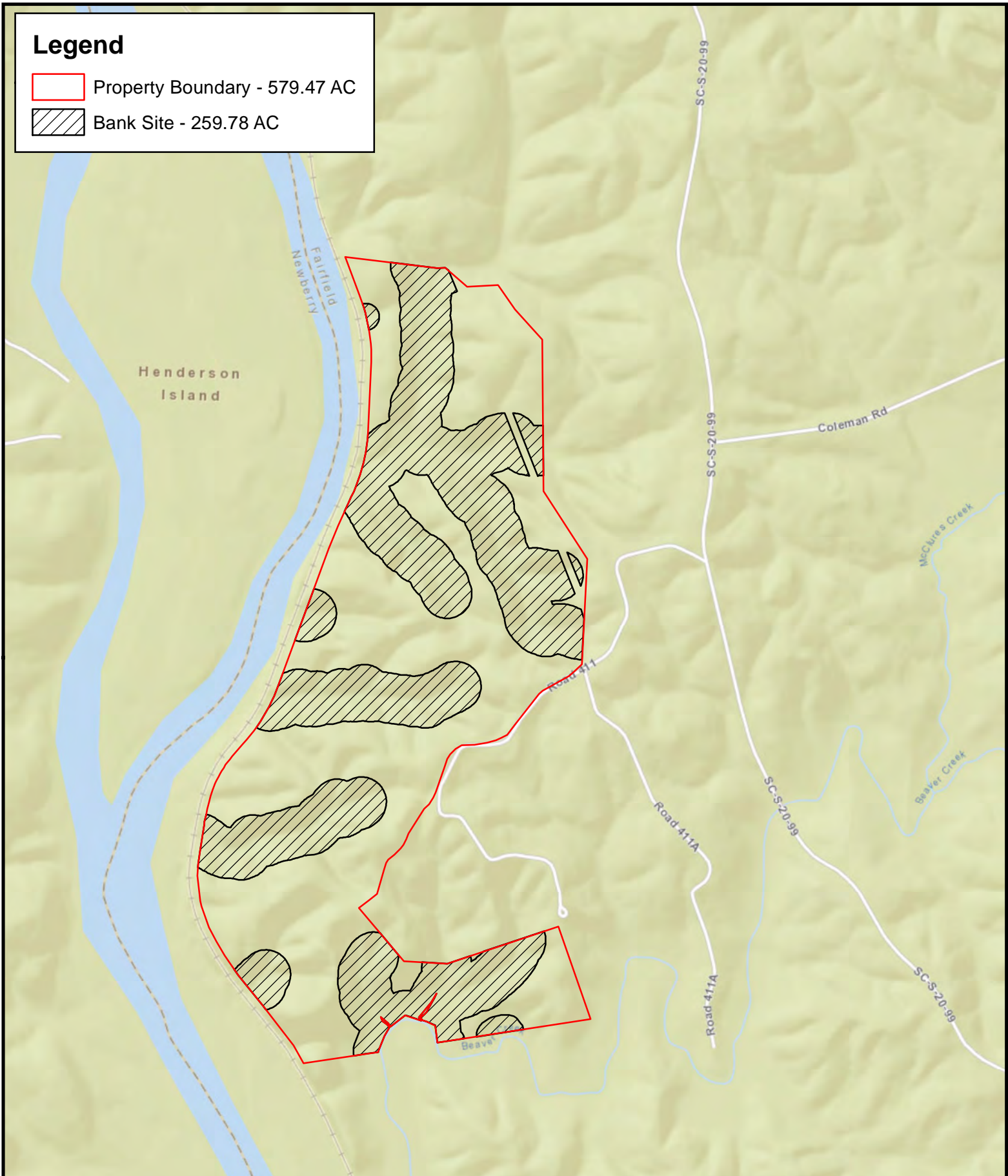
Notes:

1 inch = 4 miles

0 4 8 Miles

Legend

-  Property Boundary - 579.47 AC
-  Bank Site - 259.78 AC



Lower Broad Mitigation Bank

Fairfield County, South Carolina

Figure 2: Site Vicinity

Source: ESRI
Date: September 2020



Notes:




1 inch = 1,500 feet

0 1,500 3,000 Feet


Legend

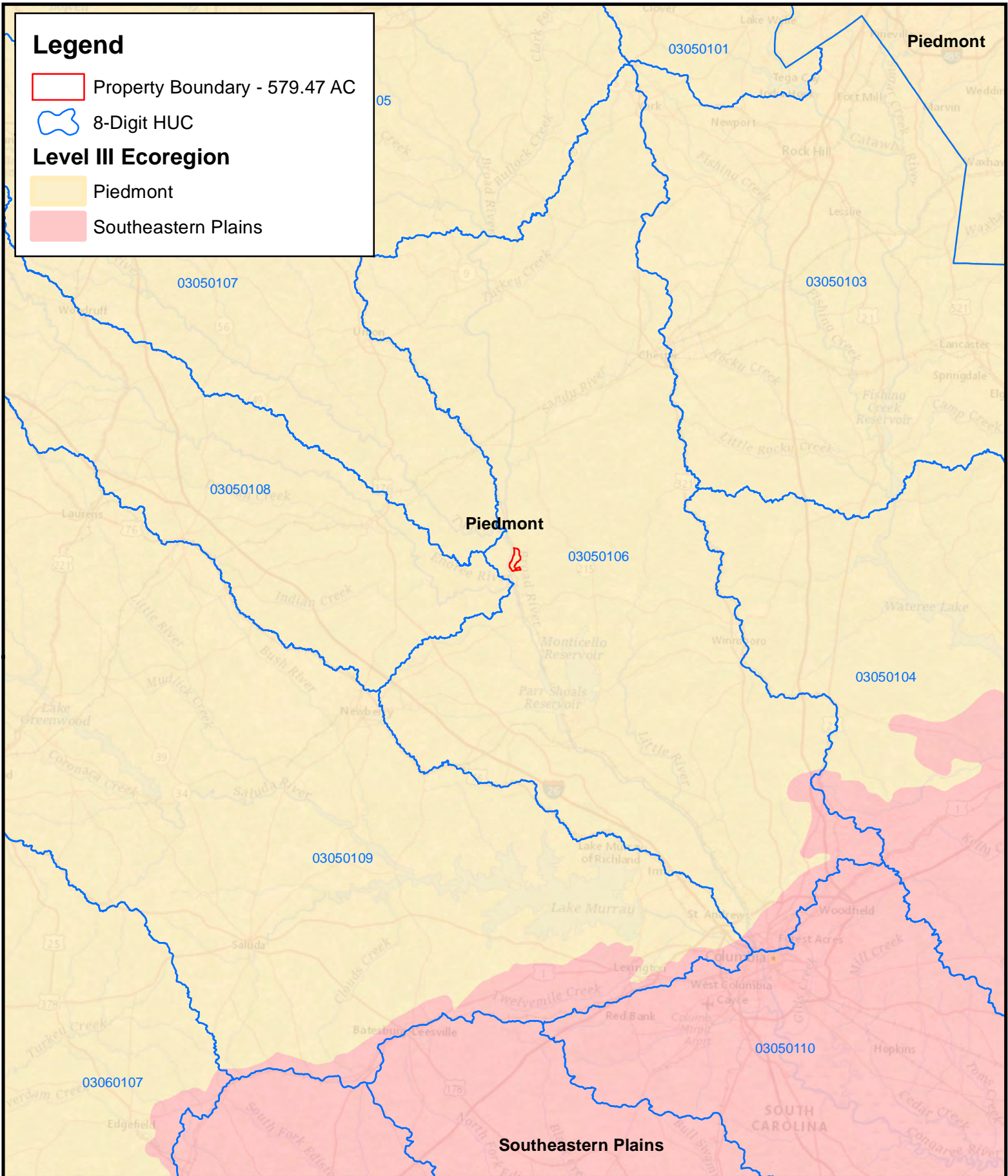
 Property Boundary - 579.47 AC

 8-Digit HUC

Level III Ecoregion

 Piedmont

 Southeastern Plains



Lower Broad Mitigation Bank

Fairfield County, South Carolina

Figure 3: 8-Digit HUC and Level III Ecoregion

Source: ESRI, USGS, EPA
Date: September 2020






Notes:



1 inch = 10 miles

0 10 20 Miles



 Property Boundary - 579.47 AC
 Bank Site - 259.78
 U.S. Forest Service Lands

**Lower Broad
Mitigation Bank**


Fairfield County, South Carolina






**Figure 4:
Proximity to
Protected Lands**

Source: ESRI, USFS
Date: September 2020



Notes:

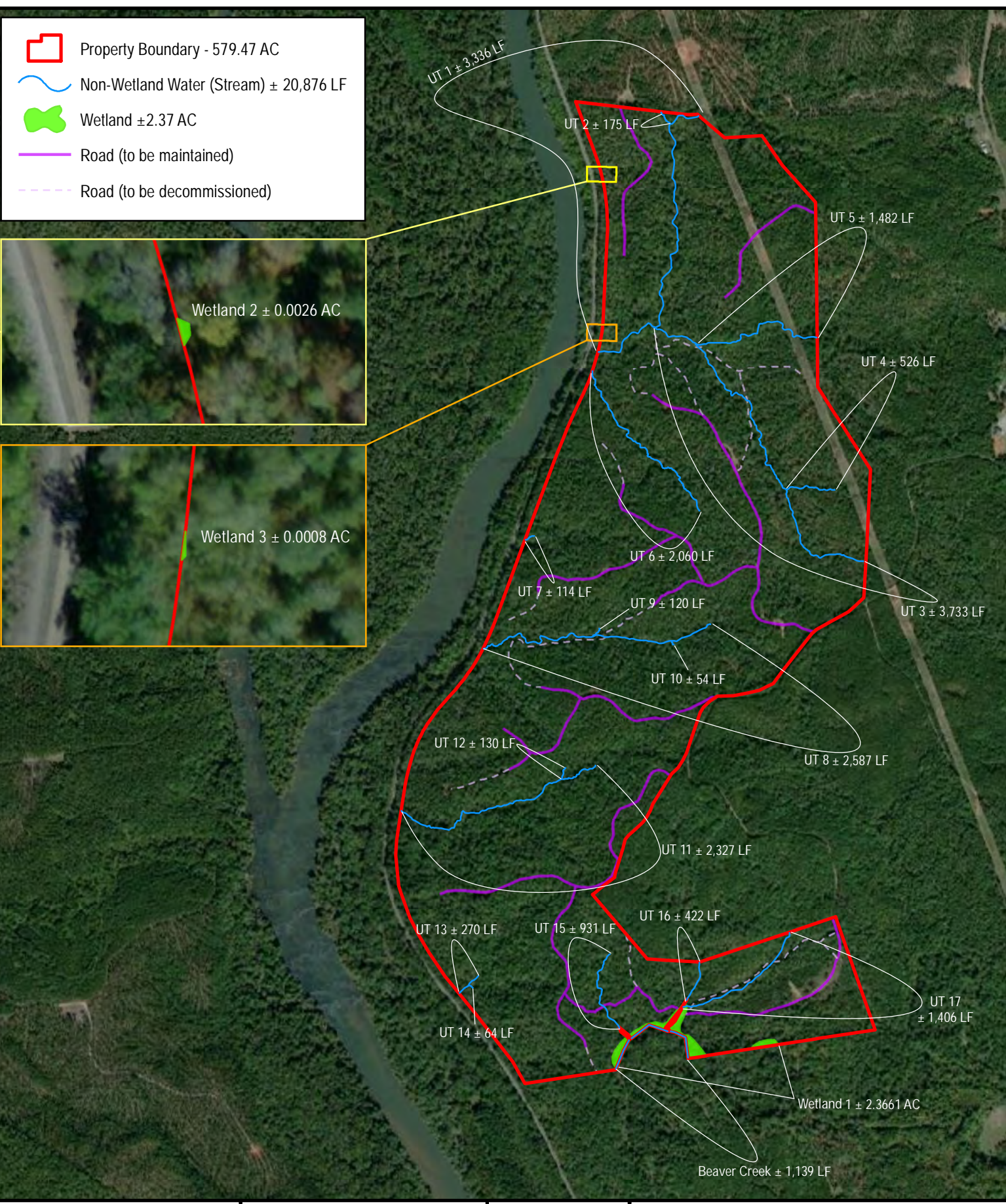

1 inch = 5,000 feet
0 5,000 10,000 Feet

-  Property Boundary - 579.47 AC
-  Non-Wetland Water (Stream) ± 20,876 LF
-  Wetland ±2.37 AC
-  Road (to be maintained)
-  Road (to be decommissioned)

Wetland 2 ± 0.0026 AC



Wetland 3 ± 0.0008 AC

Lower Broad Mitigation Bank
Fairfield County, South Carolina

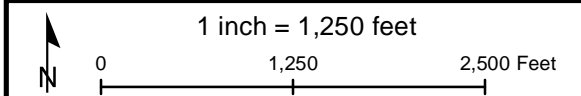
Figure 5:
Waters of the United States
Source: ESRI, USACE
Date: September 2020



Notes:


1 inch = 1,250 feet

0 1,250 2,500 Feet




Legend

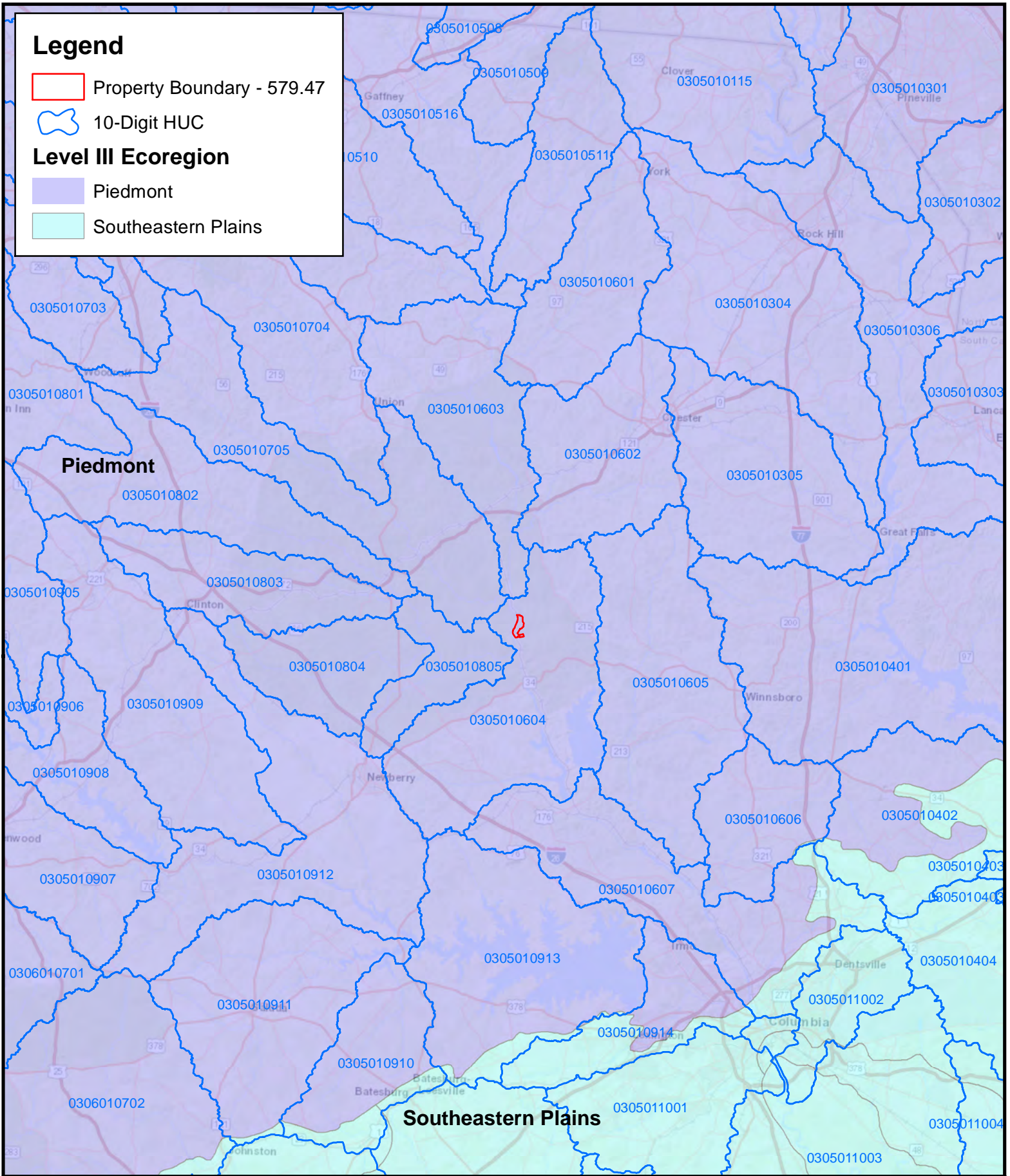
 Property Boundary - 579.47

 10-Digit HUC

Level III Ecoregion

 Piedmont

 Southeastern Plains



Lower Broad Mitigation Bank

Fairfield County, South Carolina

Figure 6:
10-Digit HUC

Source: ESRI, USGS, EPA
Date: September 2020




Notes:



1 inch = 10 miles

0 10 20 Miles

Legend

 Property Boundary - 579.47 AC



**Lower Broad
Mitigation Bank**

Fairfield County, South Carolina

**Figure 7A:
1938 Historical Aerial**

Source: ESRI, USDA,
University of South Carolina
Date: September 2020




Notes:



1 inch = 1,500 feet

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

Legend

 Property Boundary - 579.47 AC



**Lower Broad
Mitigation Bank**

Fairfield County, South Carolina

**Figure 7B:
1944 Historical Aerial**

Source: ESRI, USDA,
University of South Carolina
Date: September 2020




Notes:

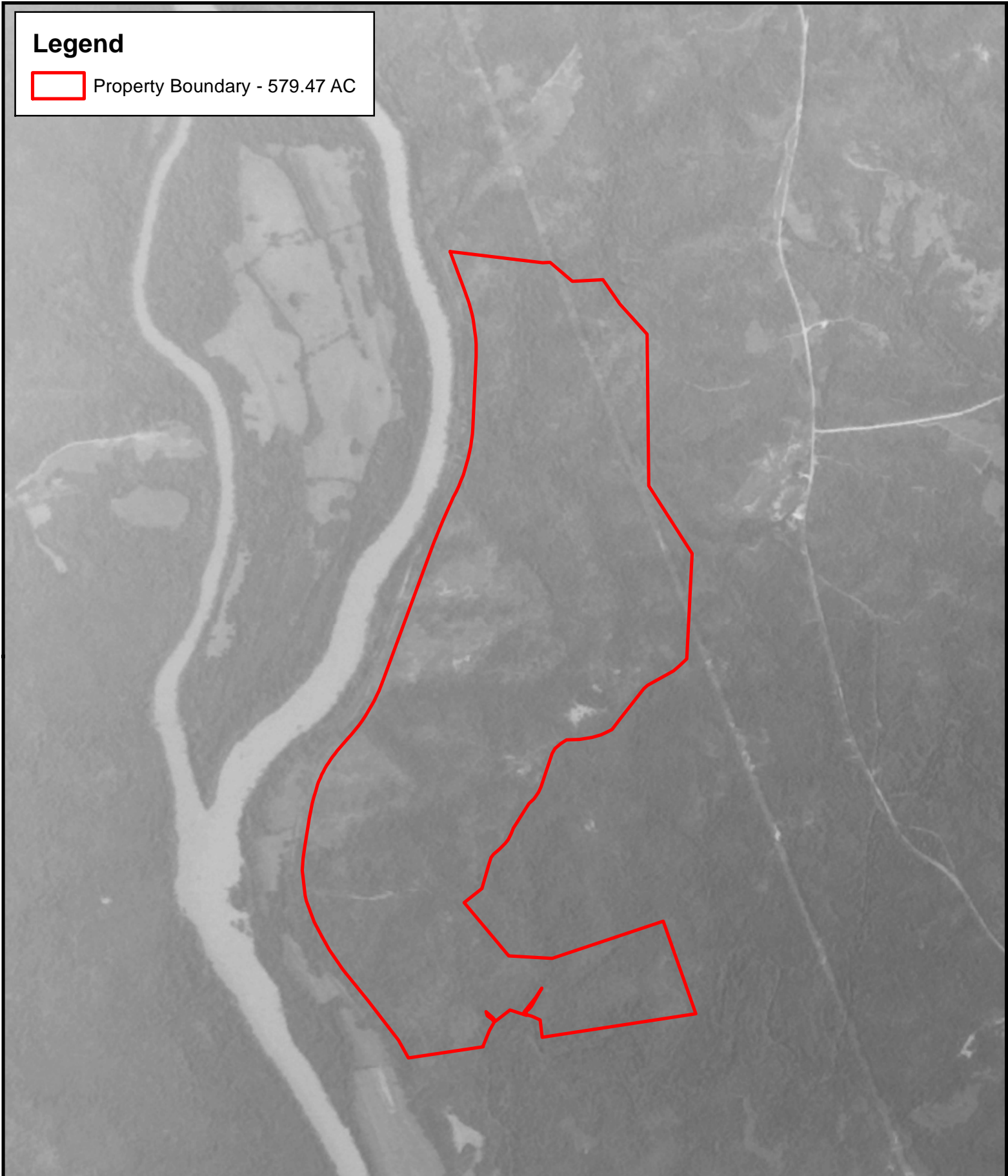


1 inch = 1,500 feet

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

Legend

 Property Boundary - 579.47 AC



**Lower Broad
Mitigation Bank**

Fairfield County, South Carolina

**Figure 7C:
1961 Historical Aerial**

Source: ESRI, USDA,
University of South Carolina
Date: September 2020




Notes:

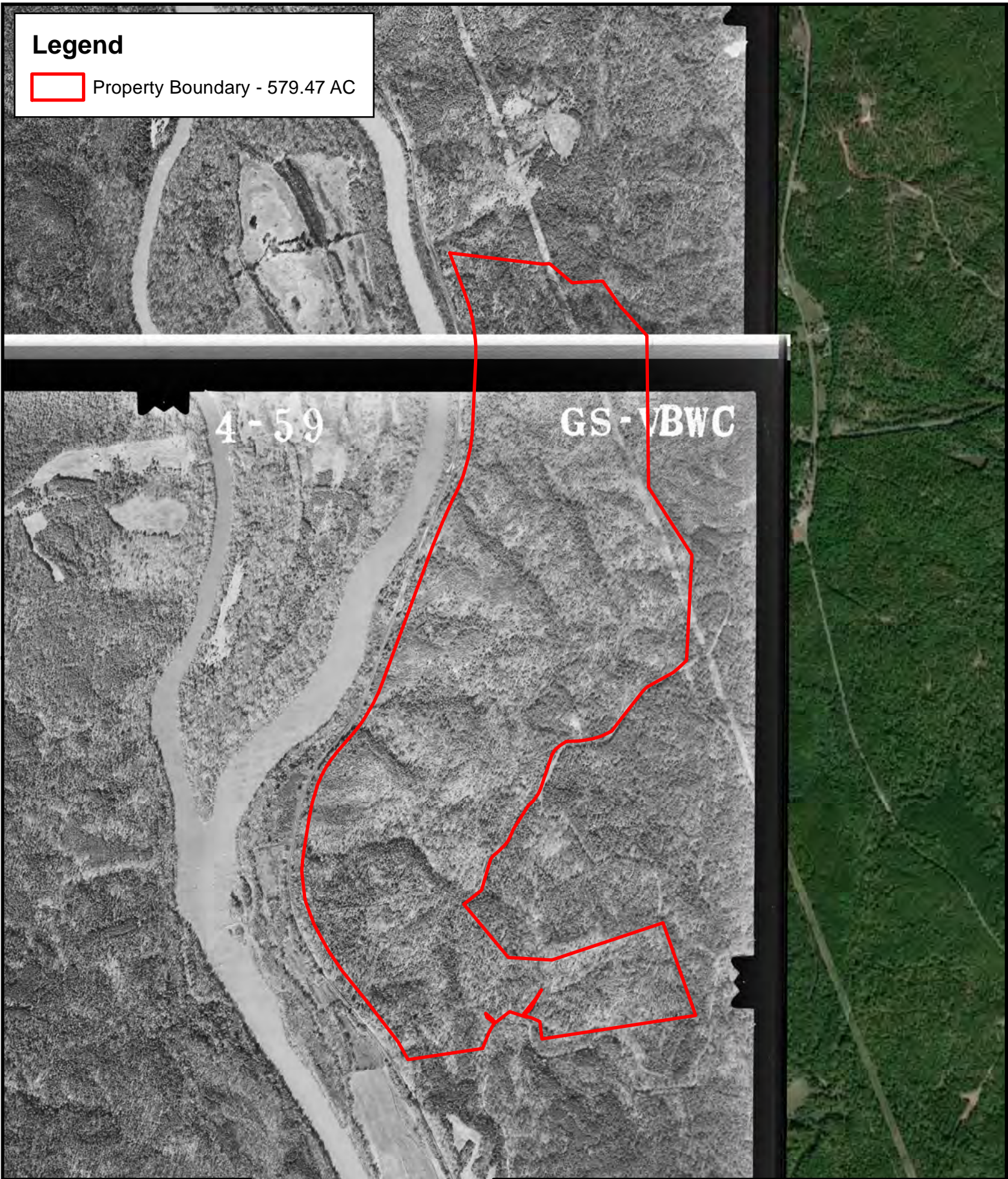


1 inch = 1,500 feet

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

Legend

 Property Boundary - 579.47 AC



**Lower Broad
Mitigation Bank**

Fairfield County, South Carolina

**Figure 7D:
1968 Historical Aerial**

Source: ESRI, USGS,
University of South Carolina
Date: September 2020




Notes:



1 inch = 1,500 feet

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

Legend

 Property Boundary - 579.47 AC



**Lower Broad
Mitigation Bank**

Fairfield County, South Carolina

**Figure 7E:
1974 Historical Aerial**

Source: ESRI, USGS,
University of South Carolina
Date: September 2020













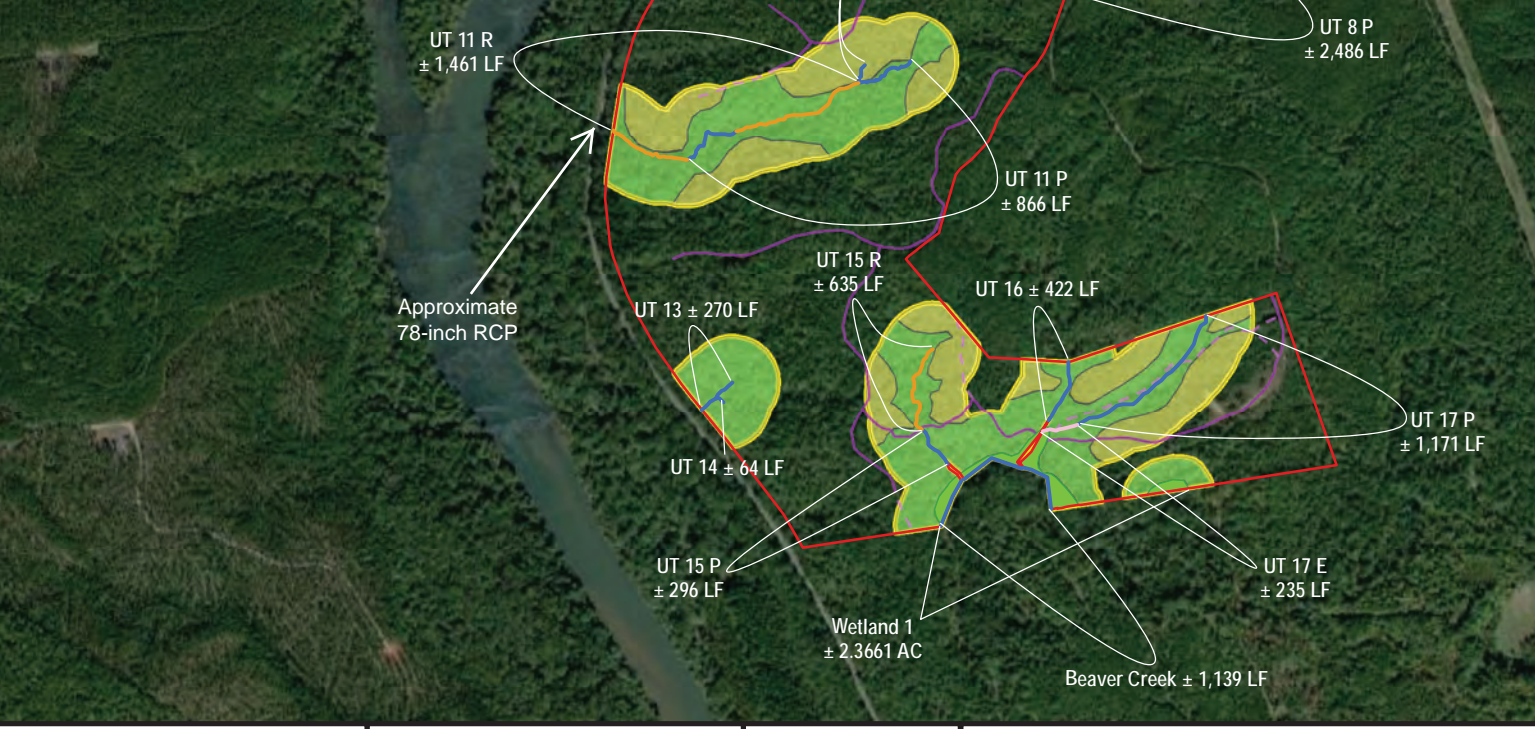
Notes:



1 inch = 1,500 feet

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

-  Unit 1: Stream Preservation ± 11,167 LF
-  Unit 2: Stream Enhancement ± 442 LF
-  Unit 3: Stream Restoration ± 8,994 LF
-  Property Boundary (579.47 AC)
-  Unit 4: Wetland Preservation ± 2.37 AC
-  Aquatic Resource Buffer Enhancement ± 124.43 AC
-  Aquatic Resource Buffer Preservation ± 132.98 AC
-  Bank Site - 259.78 AC
-  Road (to be maintained)
-  Road (to be decommissioned)



Lower Broad Mitigation Bank

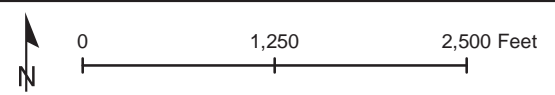
Fairfield County
South Carolina

Figure 8:
Mitigation Unit Map


Source: ESRI
Date: September 2020









1 inch = 1,250 feet

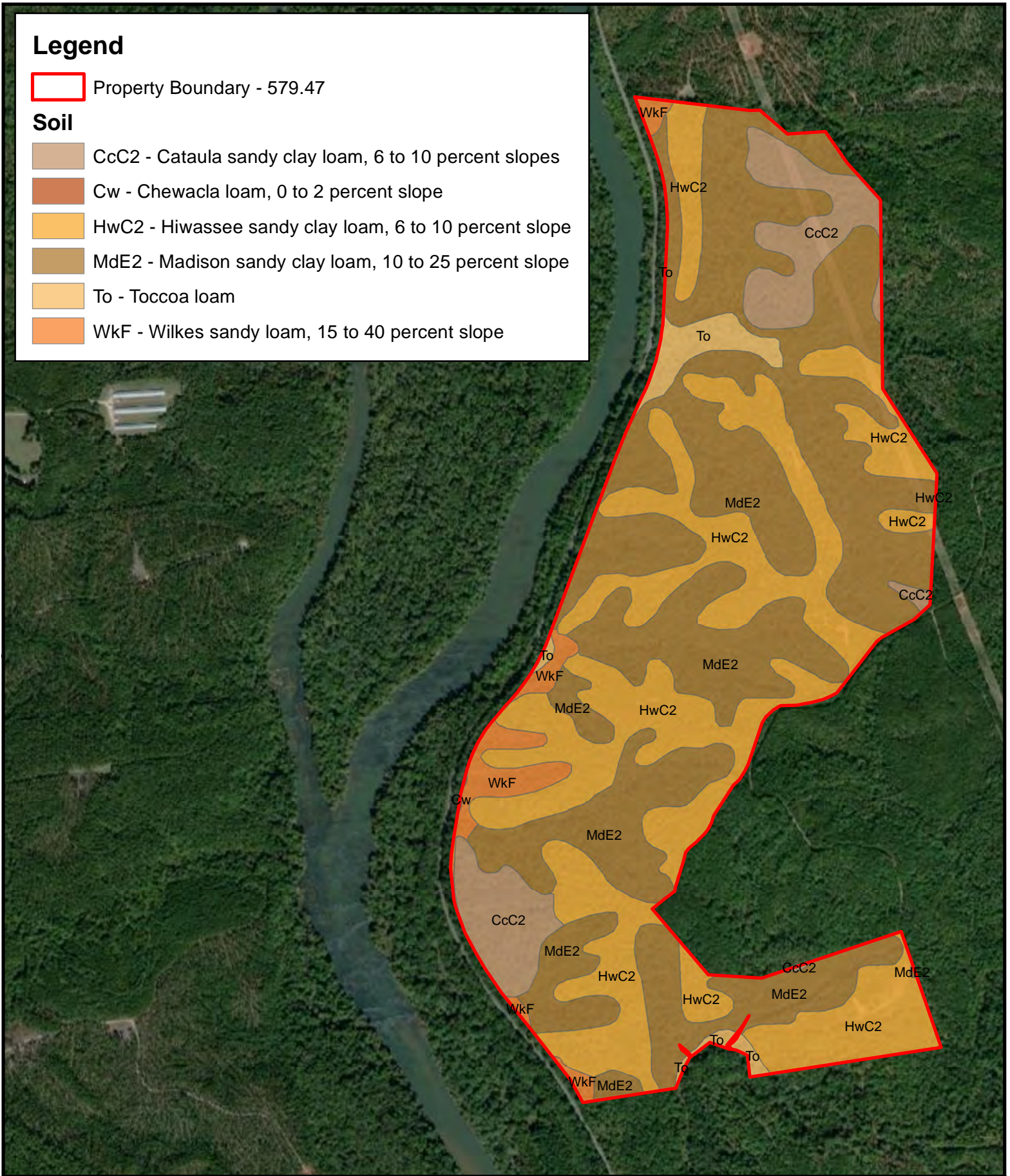


Legend

 Property Boundary - 579.47

Soil

-  CcC2 - Cataula sandy clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes
-  Cw - Chewacla loam, 0 to 2 percent slope
-  HwC2 - Hiwassee sandy clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slope
-  MdE2 - Madison sandy clay loam, 10 to 25 percent slope
-  To - Toccoa loam
-  WkF - Wilkes sandy loam, 15 to 40 percent slope



Lower Broad Mitigation Bank

Fairfield County, South Carolina

Figure 9: Soils

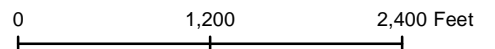
Source: ESRI, NRCS
Date: September 2020




Notes:



1 inch = 1,200 feet

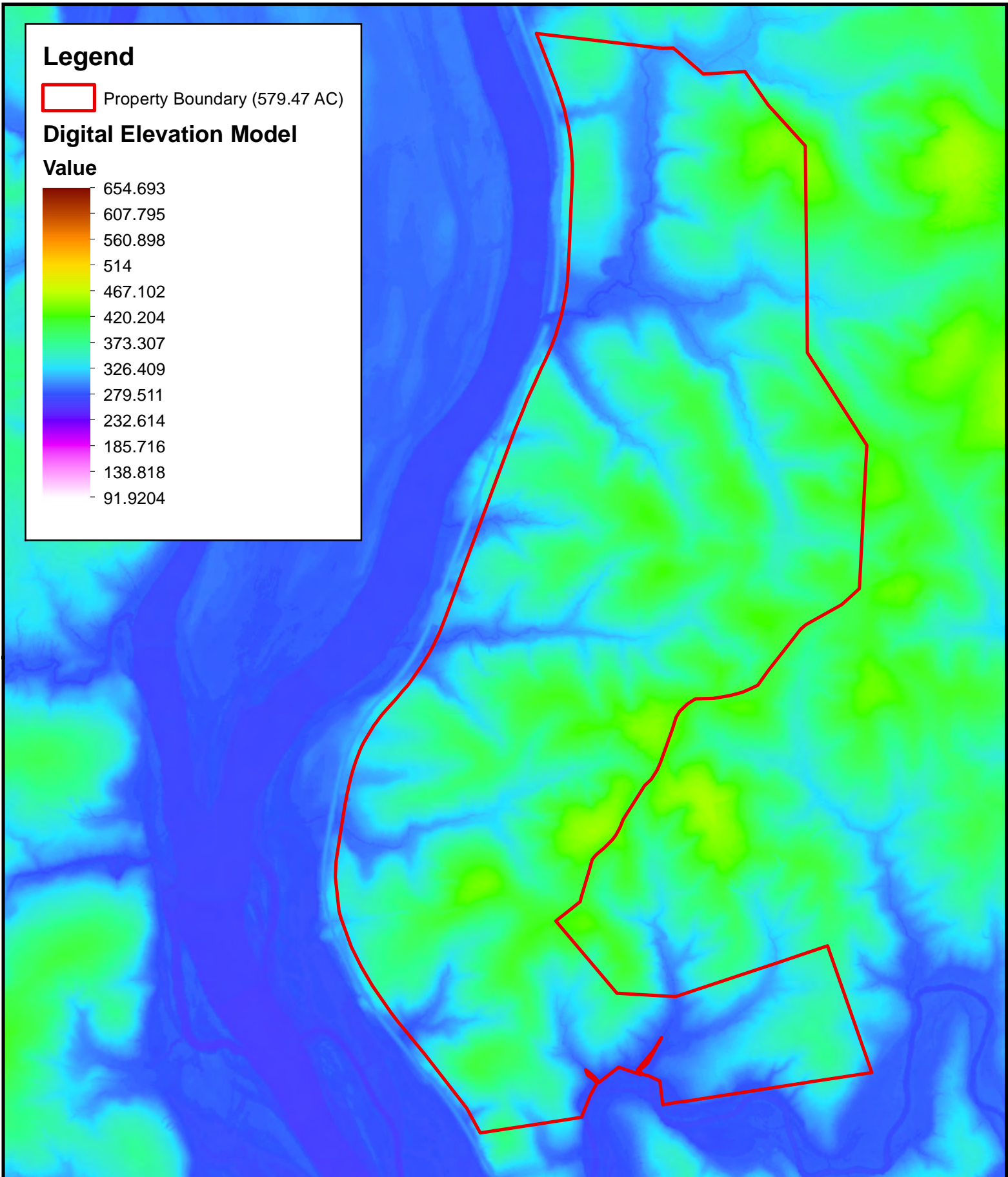
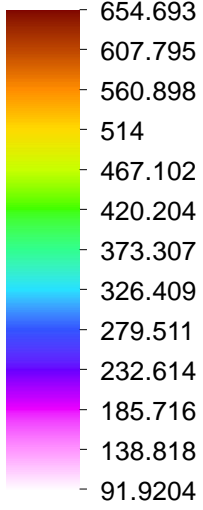


Legend

 Property Boundary (579.47 AC)

Digital Elevation Model

Value



Lower Broad Mitigation Bank

Fairfield County
South Carolina

Figure 10: LiDAR Digital Elevation Model









Source: SCDNR
Date: March 10, 2021

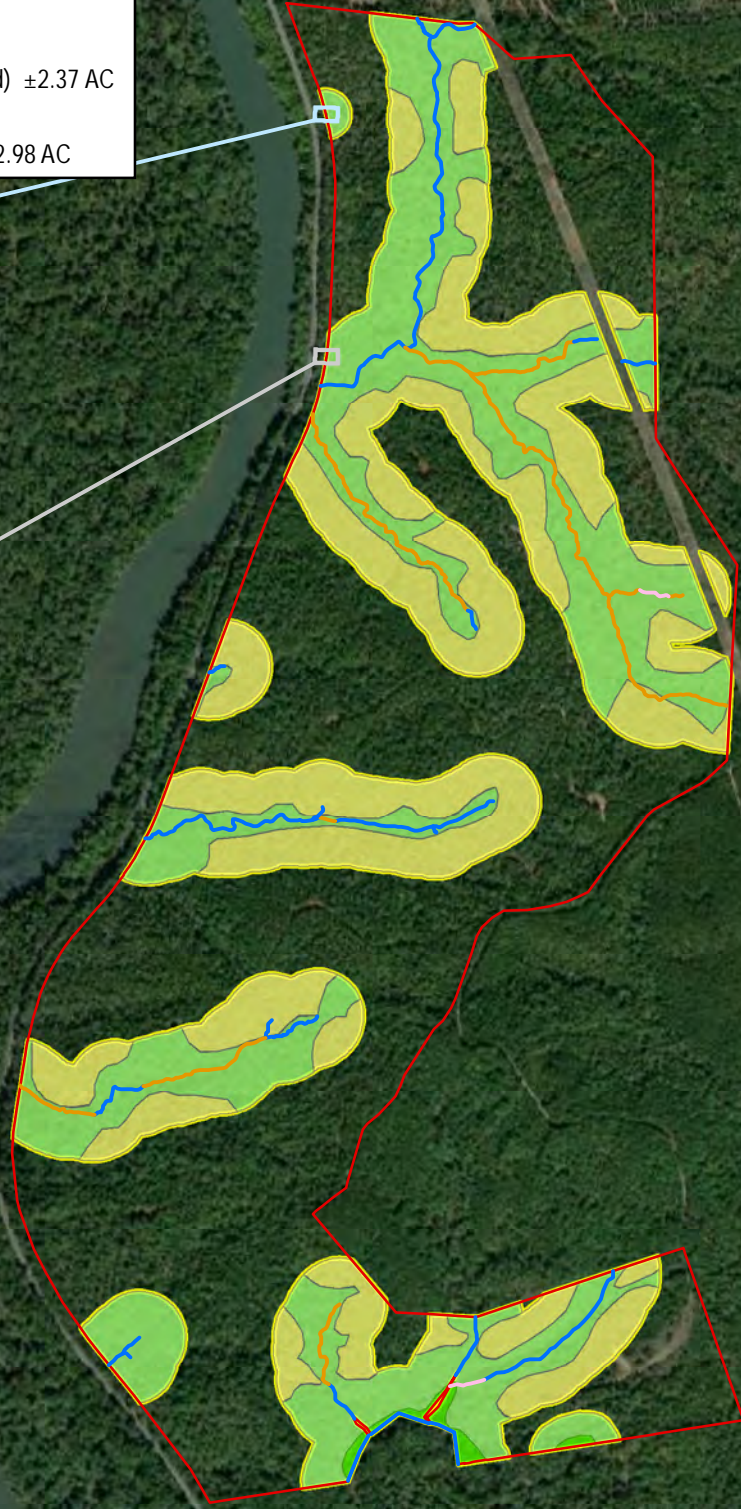
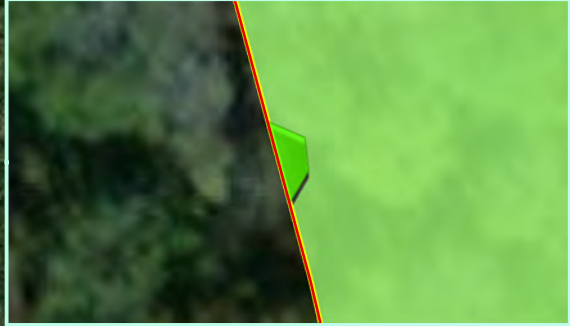


1 inch = 1,100 feet



0 1,100 2,200 Feet

-  Property Boundary (579.47 AC)
-  Bank Site - 259.78 AC
-  Unit 1: Stream Preservation ± 11,167 LF
-  Unit 2: Stream Enhancement ± 442 LF
-  Unit 3: Stream Restoration ± 8,994 LF
-  Palustrine Forested Wetland (Hardwood Tree Dominated) ± 2.37 AC
-  Pine Predominant Mixed Upland Forest ± 124.43 AC
-  Small Stream Forest (Hardwood Tree Dominated) ± 132.98 AC



**Lower Broad
Mitigation Bank**

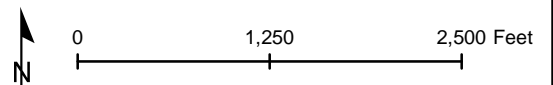
Fairfield County
South Carolina

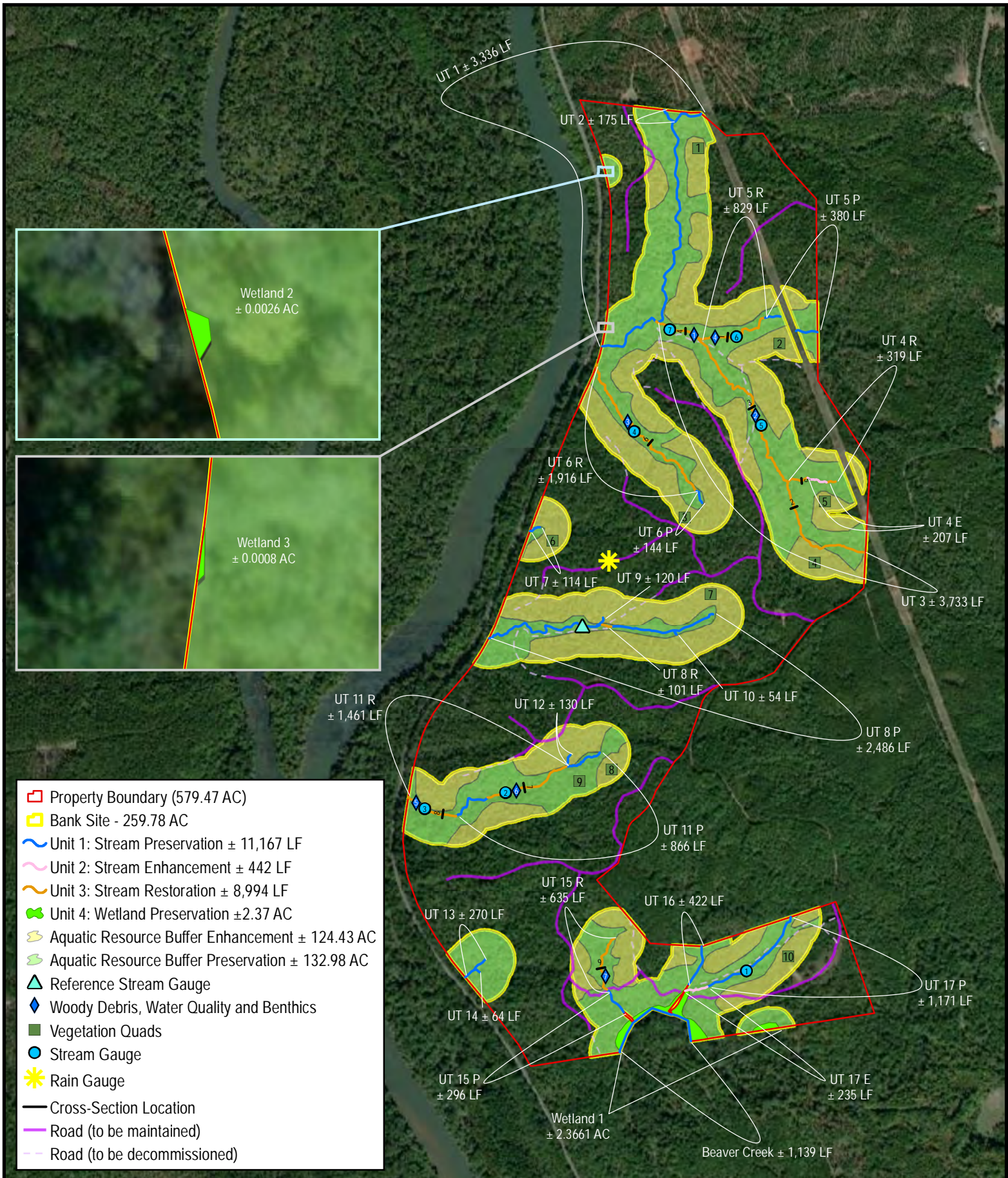
Figure 11:
Vegetation Community Map

Source: ESRI
Date: September 2020



1 inch = 1,250 feet





Lower Broad Mitigation Bank

Fairfield County
South Carolina

Figure 13:
Baseline Monitoring Map

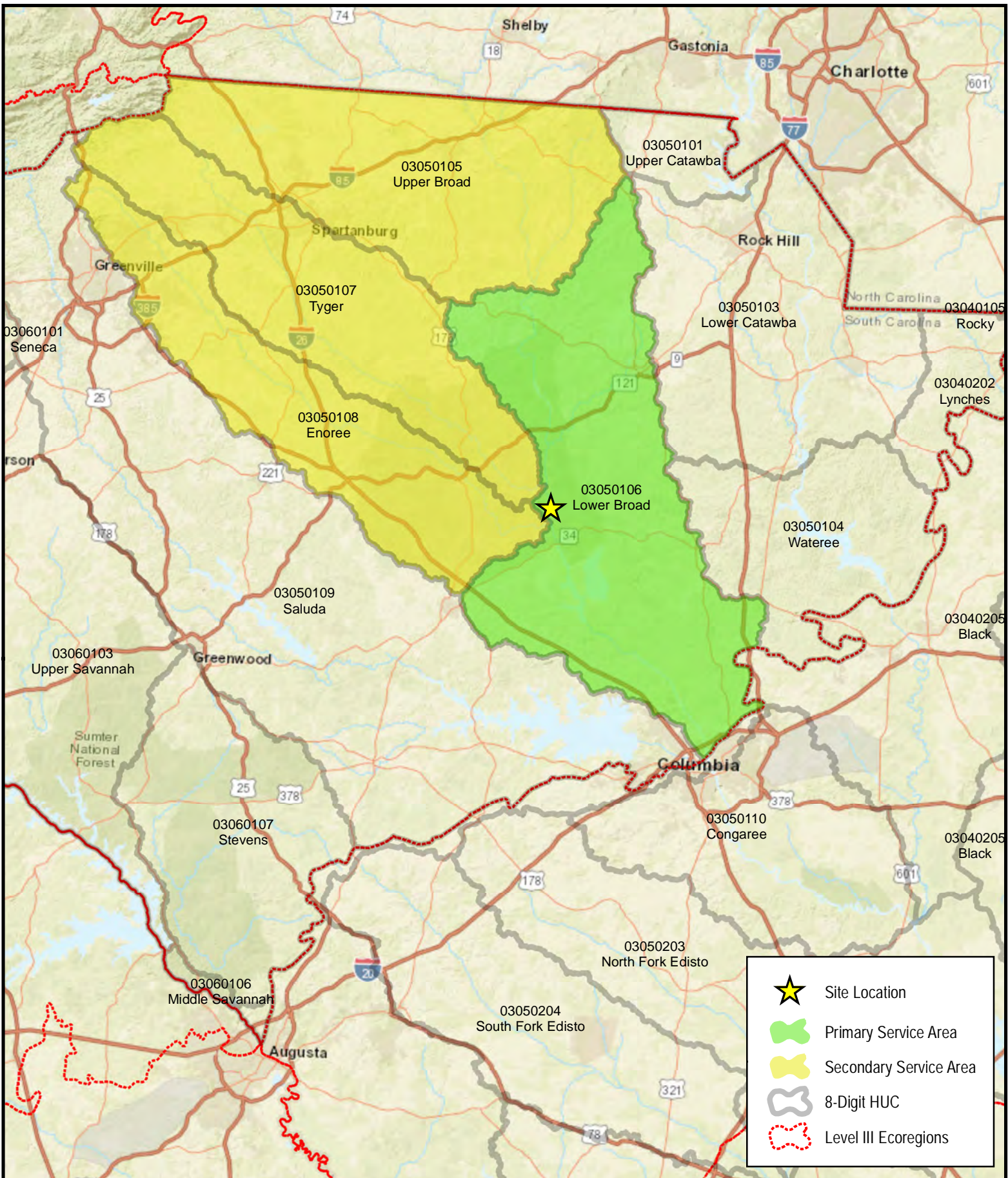
Source: ESRI
Date: September 2020








1 inch = 1,250 feet



0 1,200 2,400 Feet



-  Site Location
-  Primary Service Area
-  Secondary Service Area
-  8-Digit HUC
-  Level III Ecoregions

Lower Broad Mitigation Bank
Fairfield County, South Carolina

Figure 14: Service Area Map
Source: EPA, USGS, USACE
Date: September 2020



Notes:

1 inch = 15 miles

0 15 30 Miles