

# JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

August 8, 2016

United States Army  
Corps of Engineers  
New Orleans District  
Regulatory Branch  
Post Office Box 60267  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

State of Louisiana  
Department of Environmental Quality  
ATTN: Water Quality Certifications  
Post Office Box 4313  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

(504) 862-2041  
[Benjamin.C.Sherman@usace.army.mil](mailto:Benjamin.C.Sherman@usace.army.mil)  
Project Manager  
Benjamin Sherman  
Permit Application Number  
MVN 2016-00957-ES

(225) 219-3225  
  
Project Manager  
Elizabeth Hill  
WQC Application Number  
WQC 160801-01

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: [ ] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Certifications, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2047 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

## **CANAL MAINTENANCE IN SELSER CANAL, TANGIPAHOA PARISH**

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Tangipahoa Parish Consolidated Gravity Drainage District No. 1, % ELOS Environmental, LLC, Attn: Rob Van Vrancken, 43177 E. Pleasant Ridge Road, Hammond, Louisiana 70403.

**LOCATION OF WORK:** Project site is located in Selser Creek from US Hwy 190 to Weinberger Road and from Highway 22 to its confluence with Selser's Creek in Hammond and Ponchatoula, Tangipahoa Parish, Louisiana.

Latitude: 30.43307/Longitude: -90.40837 Hydrologic Unit Codes: 08070204 Lower Mississippi Region-Lake Maurepas.

**CHARACTER OF WORK:** The applicant proposes to access the project area to remove and chip fallen and dead trees for drainage improvements. Work in the subject canals would extend 53,832 linear feet removing woody material obstructing drainage flow. All organic and woody material is proposed to be sprayed/broadcasted within 100 feet of the bank, not to exceed 4 inches in depth. The jurisdictional impacts include spraying/broadcasting the material within 26.79 acres of forested wetlands. The applicant anticipates impacts associated with the disposal to be temporary; therefore, no compensatory mitigation measures have been proposed at this time.

The comment period for the Department of the Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WQC will close **20 days** from the date of this joint public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit and/or this WQC request and must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, **ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH. Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing or e-mailing the Corps of Engineers Project Manager listed above. Any request must be specific and substantively supportive of the requested extension, and received by this office prior to the end of the initial comment period. The Section Chief will review the request and the requestor will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous to the initial comment period and, inclusive of the initial comment period, will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days.** Similar letters concerning the Water Quality Certification must reference the applicant's name and the WQC Application number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above.

The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined during weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

### **Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria**

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal 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, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 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 proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and 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 proposed activity.

The New Orleans District is unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places near the proposed work at this time. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Issuance of this public notice solicits input from the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer regarding potential impacts to cultural resources.

The New Orleans District has determined that the proposed project will not affect any endangered species based on the Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species of Louisiana (SLOPES), dated October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Department of Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of those species.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of 0 acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Certifications, before a permit is issued.

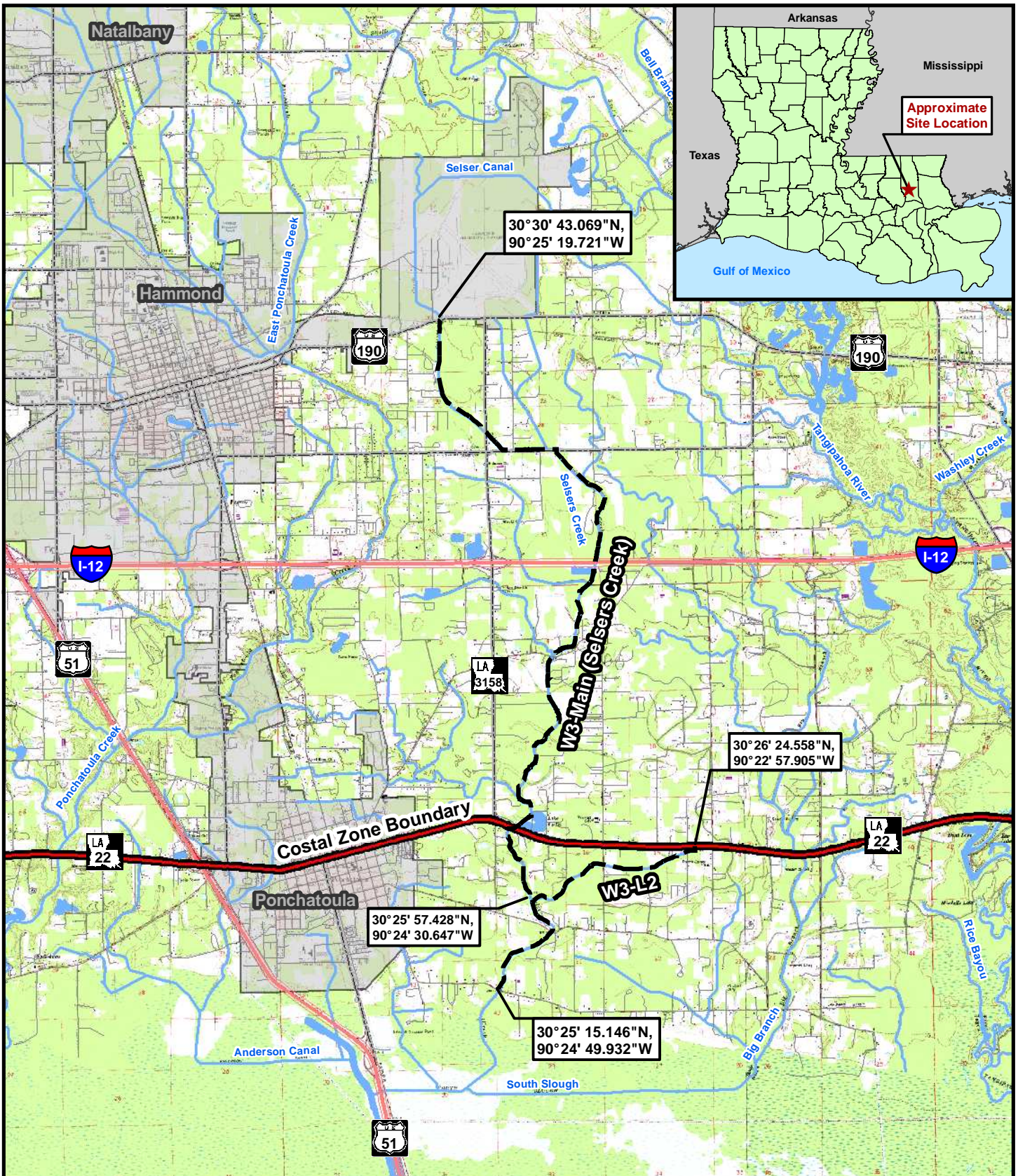
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

Michael V. Farabee  
Chief, Eastern Evaluation Section

Enclosure



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environmental  
<http://elosenv.com/>  
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P. 985-662-5501, F. 985-662-5504

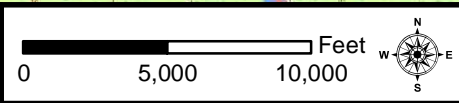


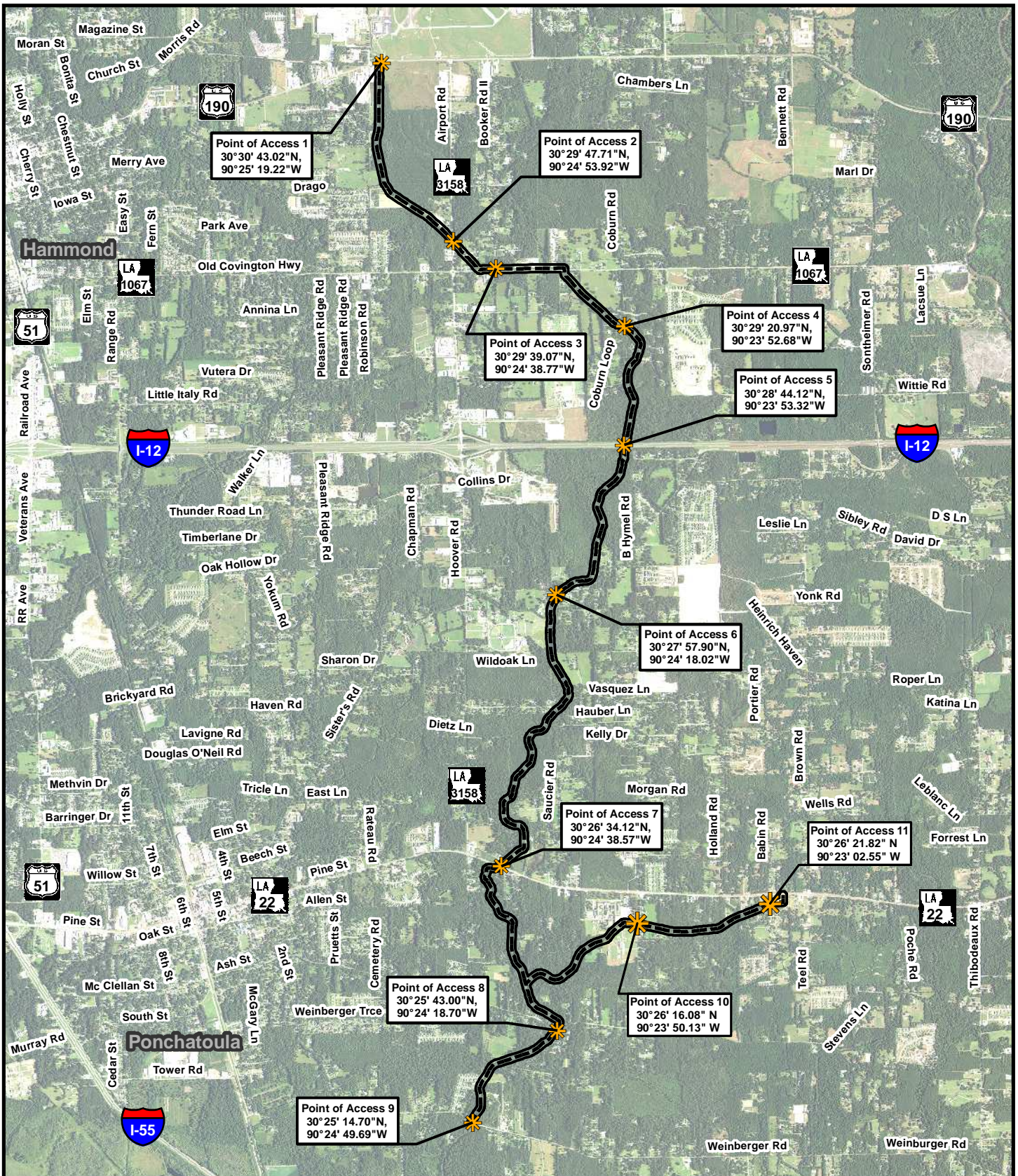
Figure 1\_TopoVicinity Map

**W3 Main (Selsers Creek)  
W3-L2**

**Legend:**

Canal Centerline	Stream/River
Interstate	Waterbody
Highway	City/Town
Roadway	Coastal Zone Boundary

Map prepared from public and proprietary spatial data. ELOS Environmental, LLC does not warrant its accuracy or completeness. This map should not be used to establish legal boundaries or specific locations.



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0 3,000 6,000 Feet

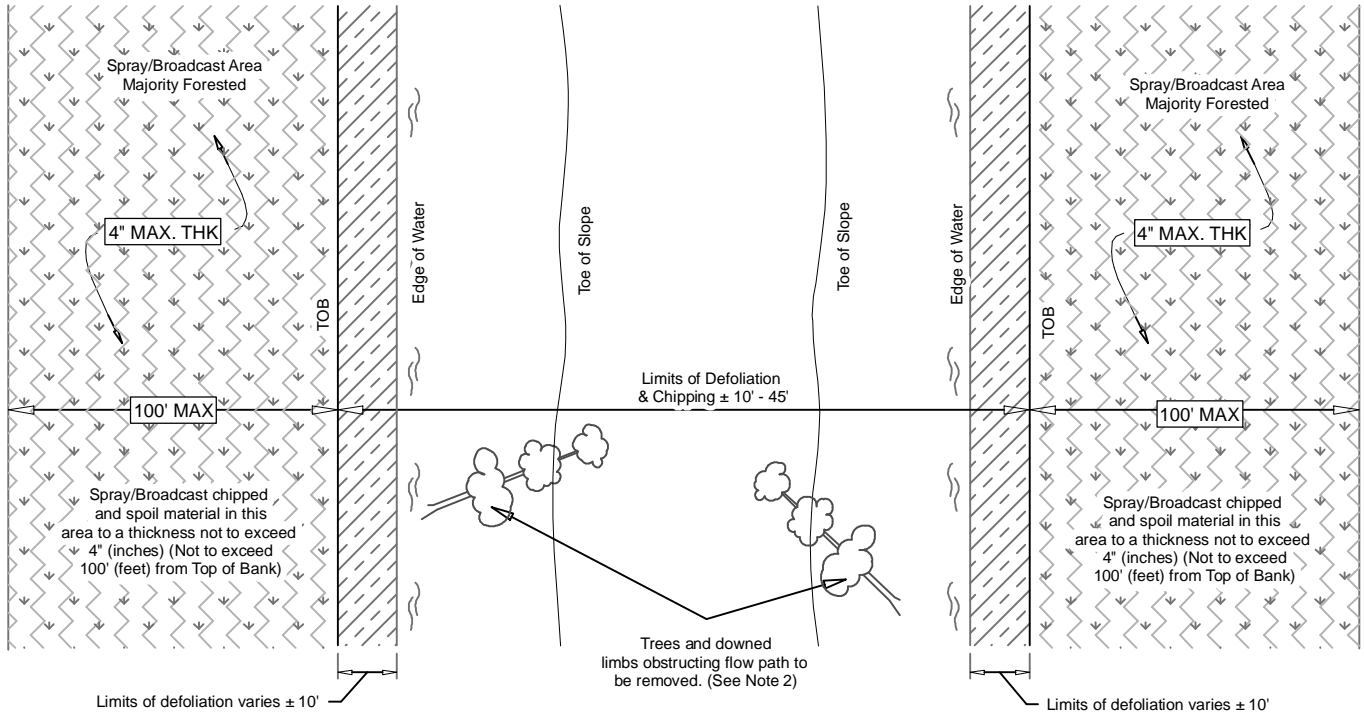
Figure 2: Plan View

**W3-Main (Selsers Creek)**  
**W3-L2**

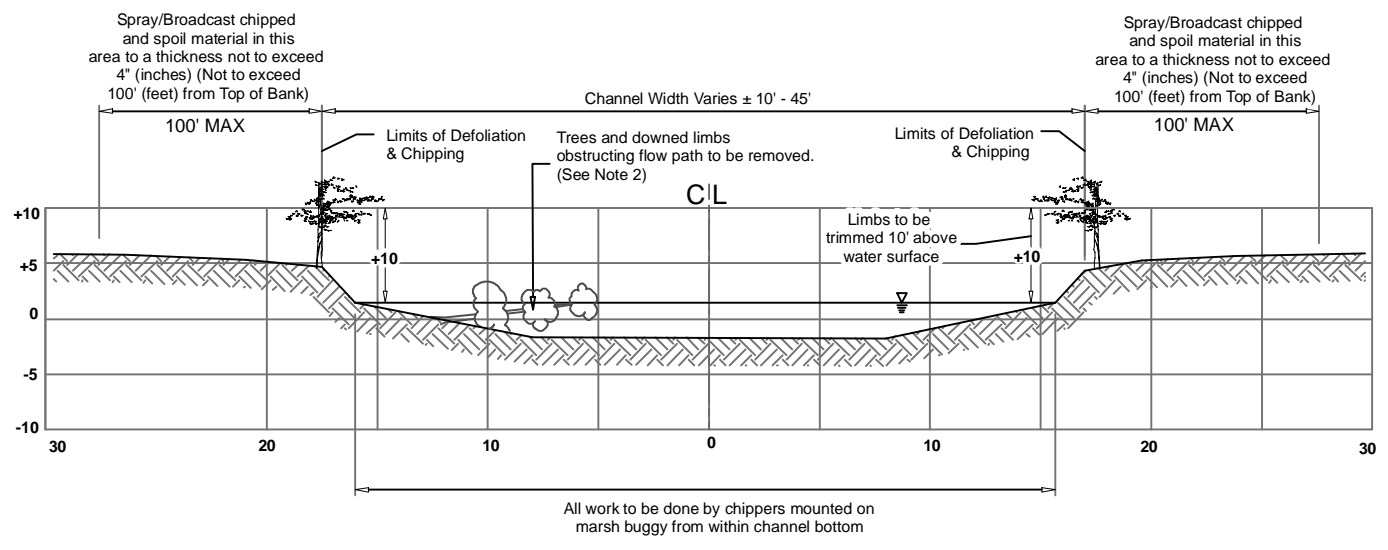
**Legend:**

- Project Outline
- Chipping and Debris Removal ± 53,854 LF
- Point of Access
- Interstate
- Highway
- Roadway
- Stream/River
- Waterbody
- City/Town

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Scale = Not to Scale



Scale = Not to Scale

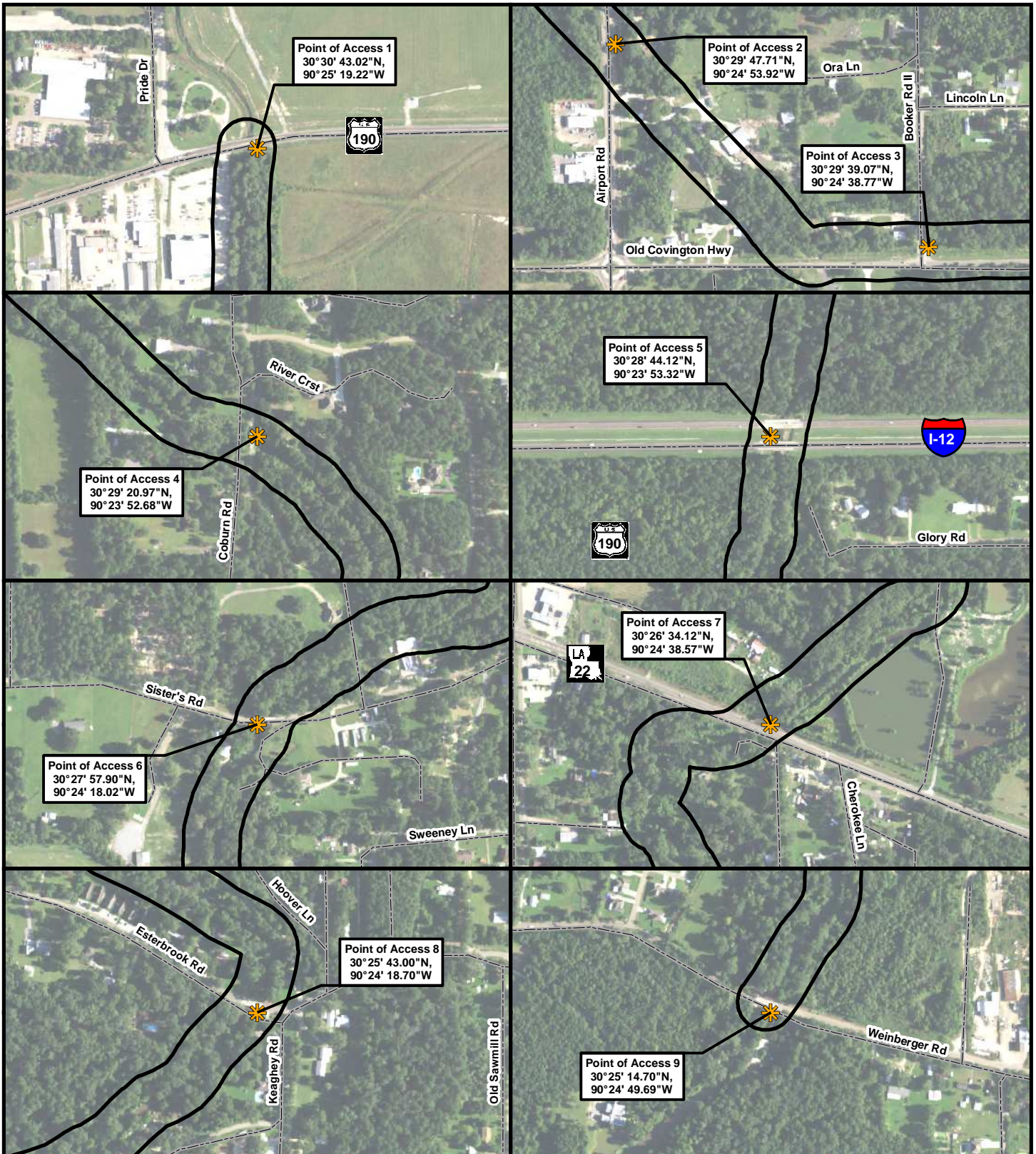
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**W3-Main (Selsers Creek)  
W3-L2**

**Figure 3: Typical Chipping**

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- Notes:**
- 1) No work to be done along Top of Bank.
  - 2) Trees and downed limbs obstructing flow (within Top of Bank) shall be removed.
  - 3) Overhanging tree limbs shall be trimmed to a distance of 10' above the water surface of the channel.
  - 4) Grinding and mulching of removed vegetation will be allowed, stumps and root systems shall remain in place less than 6" high to retain bank stability.
  - 5) Contractor is to make certain that no bank is to be damaged or disturbed.
  - 6) No living trees greater than 6" DBH shall be cut.



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0 400 800 Feet

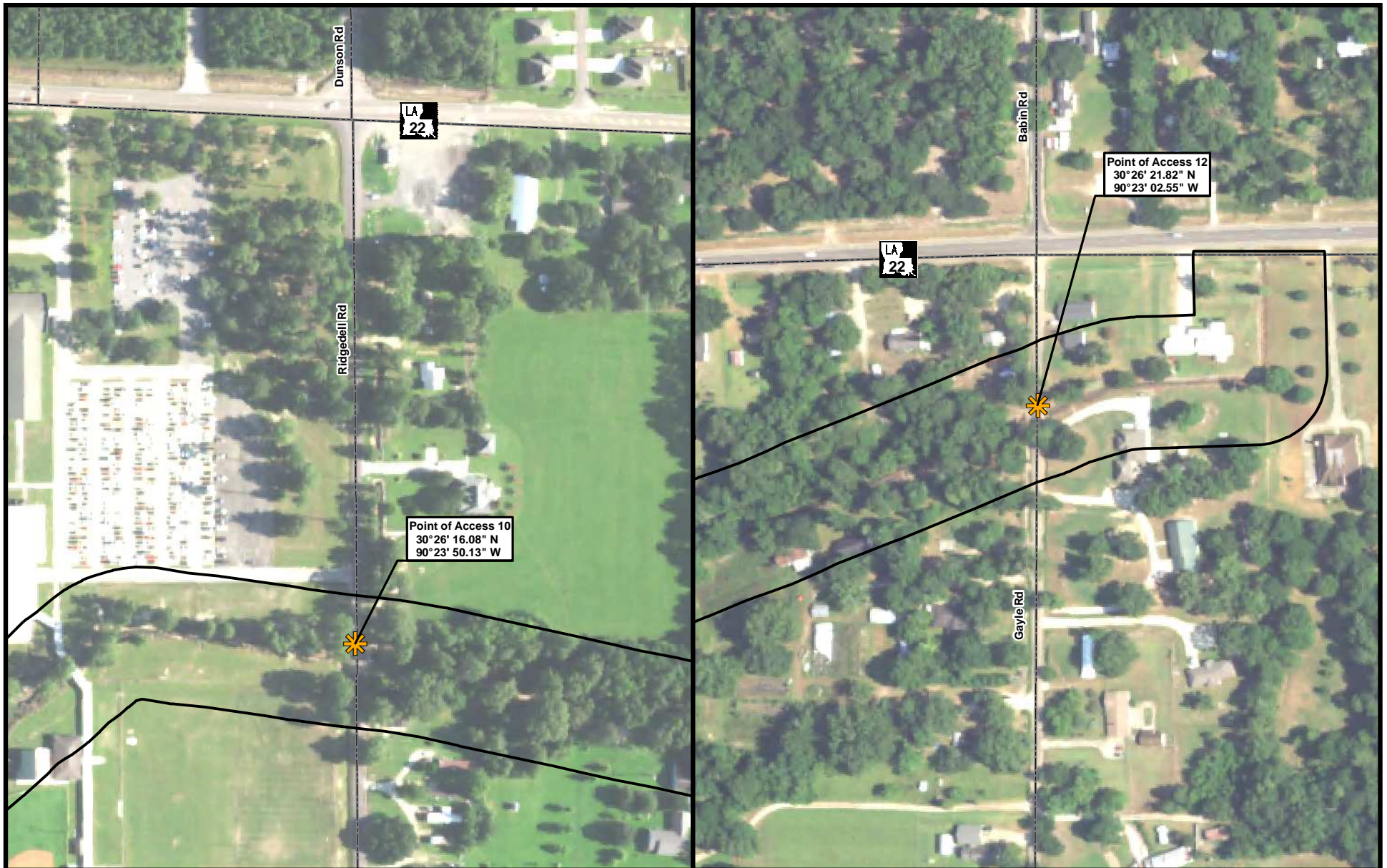
**Figure 4: Point of Access**

**W3-Main (Selsers Creek)**

**Legend:**

- Project Outline
- Point of Access
- Roadway

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**Figure 5: Point of Access**

**W3-Main (Selsers Creek)**  
**W3-L2**

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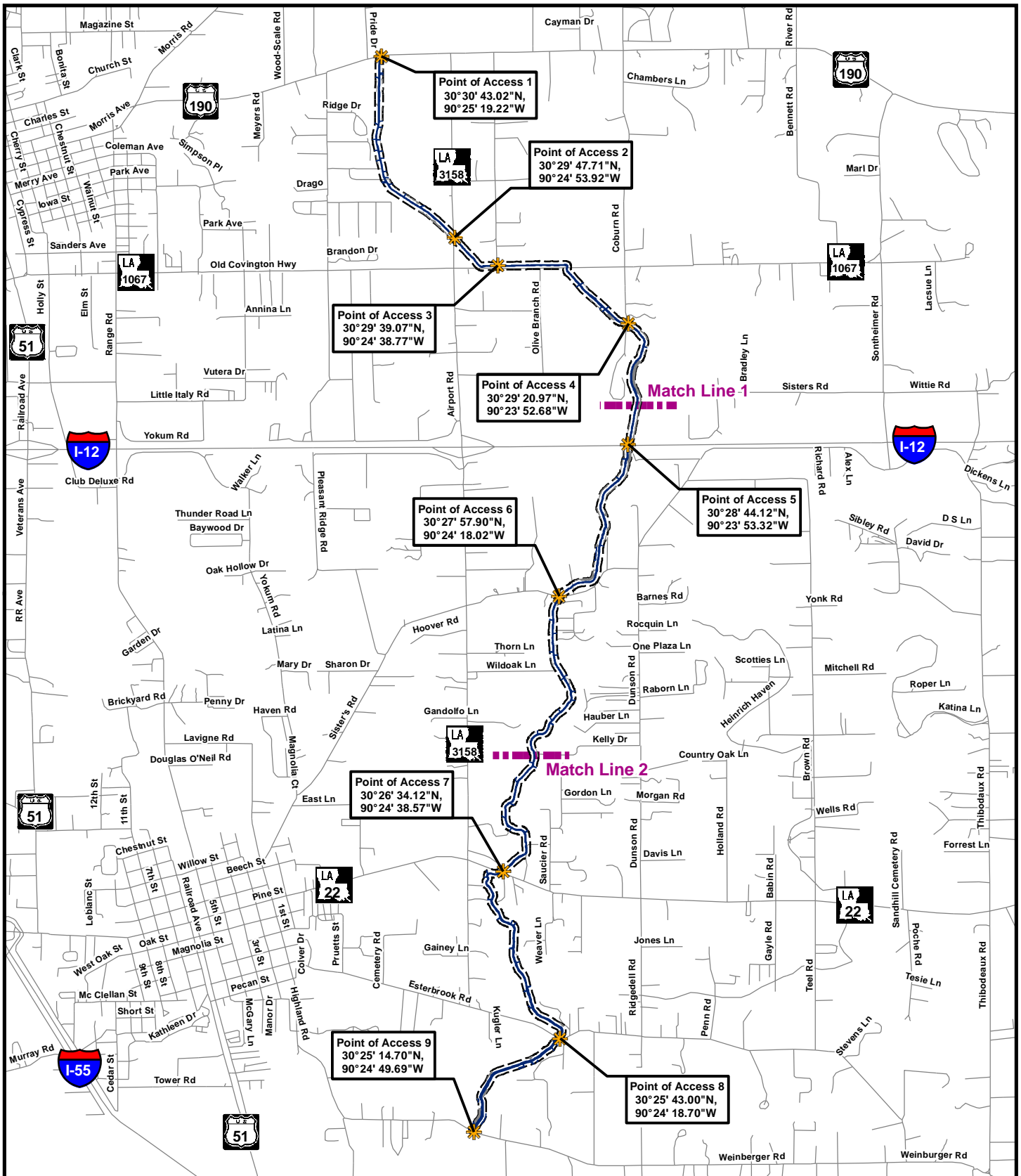
**Legend:**

- Project Outline
- Point of Access
- Roadway

Compass rose showing North (N), South (S), East (E), and West (W).

Scale bar: 0, 150, 300 Feet





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0 2,500 5,000 Feet

**JD Overlay W3-Main**

**W3-Main (Selsers Creek)**

**W3-L2**

**Legend:**

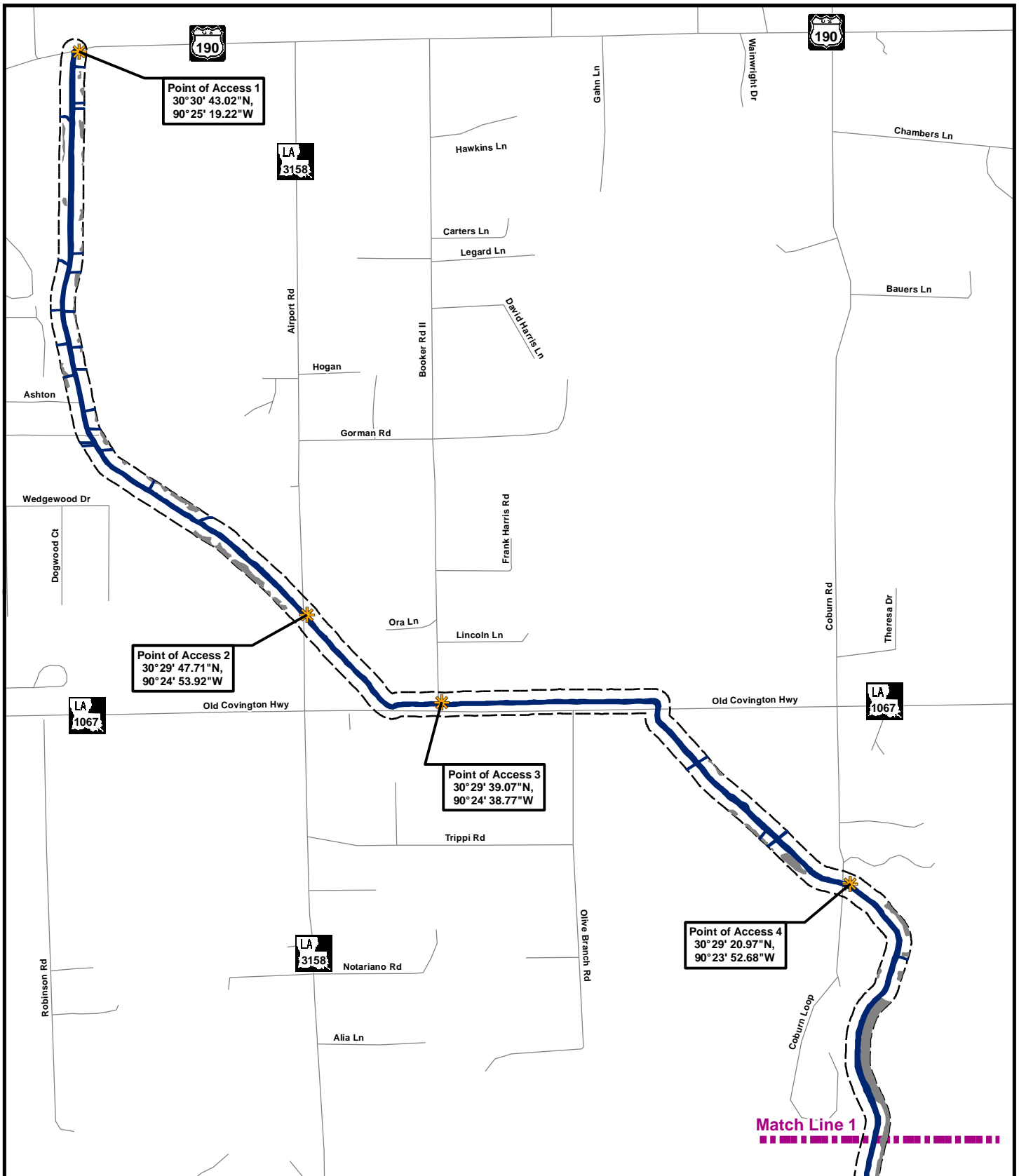
- Project Outline
- Point of Access
- Other Waters/Work Area
- Proposed Wetlands
- Match Line

**Acres:**

- Project Outline ± 245.48 Acres
- Wetlands ± 17.42 Acres
- Other Waters ± 46.92 Acres

**Proposed Delineation Submitted 6/27/16**

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0 750 1,500 Feet

JD Overlay 1 W3-Main

**W3-Main (Selsers Creek)  
W3-L2**

**Legend:**

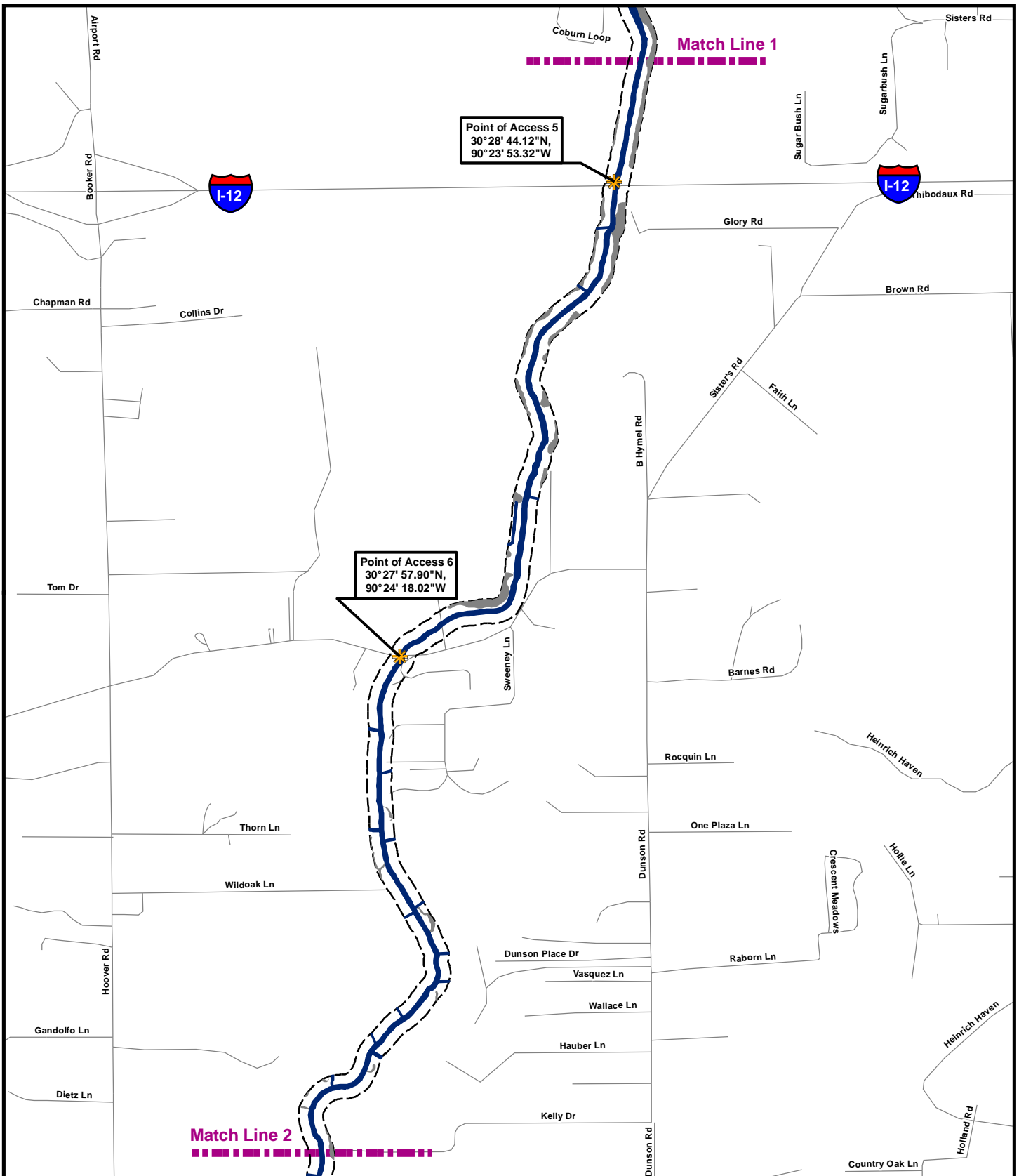
- Project Outline
- Point of Access
- Other Waters/Work Area
- Proposed Wetlands
- Match Line

**Acres:**

- Project Outline ± 245.48 Acres
- Wetlands ± 17.42 Acres
- Other Waters ± 46.92 Acres

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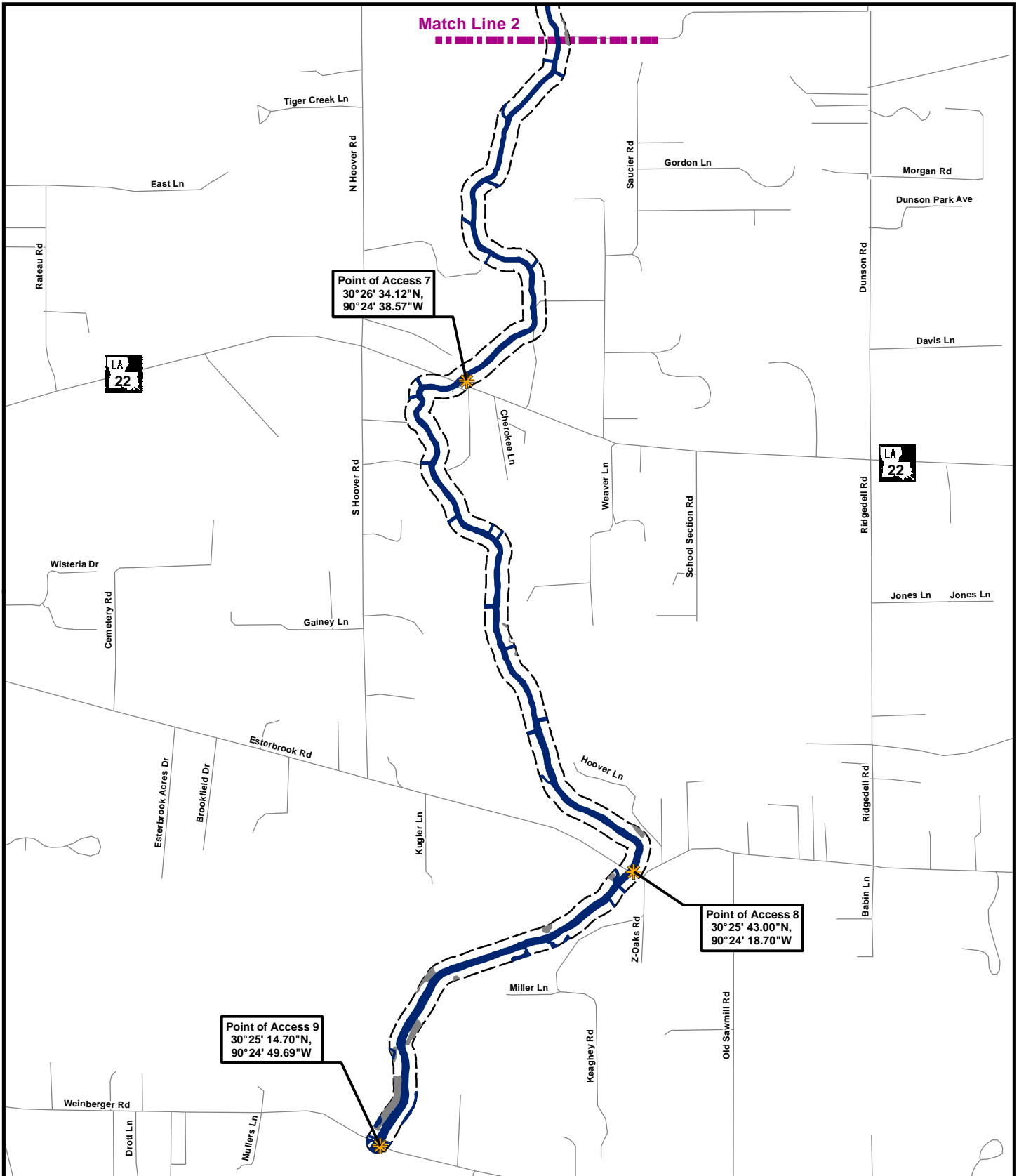
JD Overlay 2 W3-Main  
**W3-Main (Selsers Creek)  
 W3-L2**

**Legend:**  
 [ ] Project Outline  
 \* Point of Access  
 [Blue] Other Waters/Work Area  
 [Grey] Proposed Wetlands  
 [Pink Dashed] Match Line

**Acres:**  
 Project Outline ± 245.48 Acres  
 Wetlands ± 17.42 Acres  
 Other Waters ± 46.92 Acres


**Proposed Delineation Submitted 6/27/16**

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0 750 1,500 Feet



JD Overlay 3 W3-Main

**W3-Main (Selsers Creek)  
W3-L2**

**Legend:**

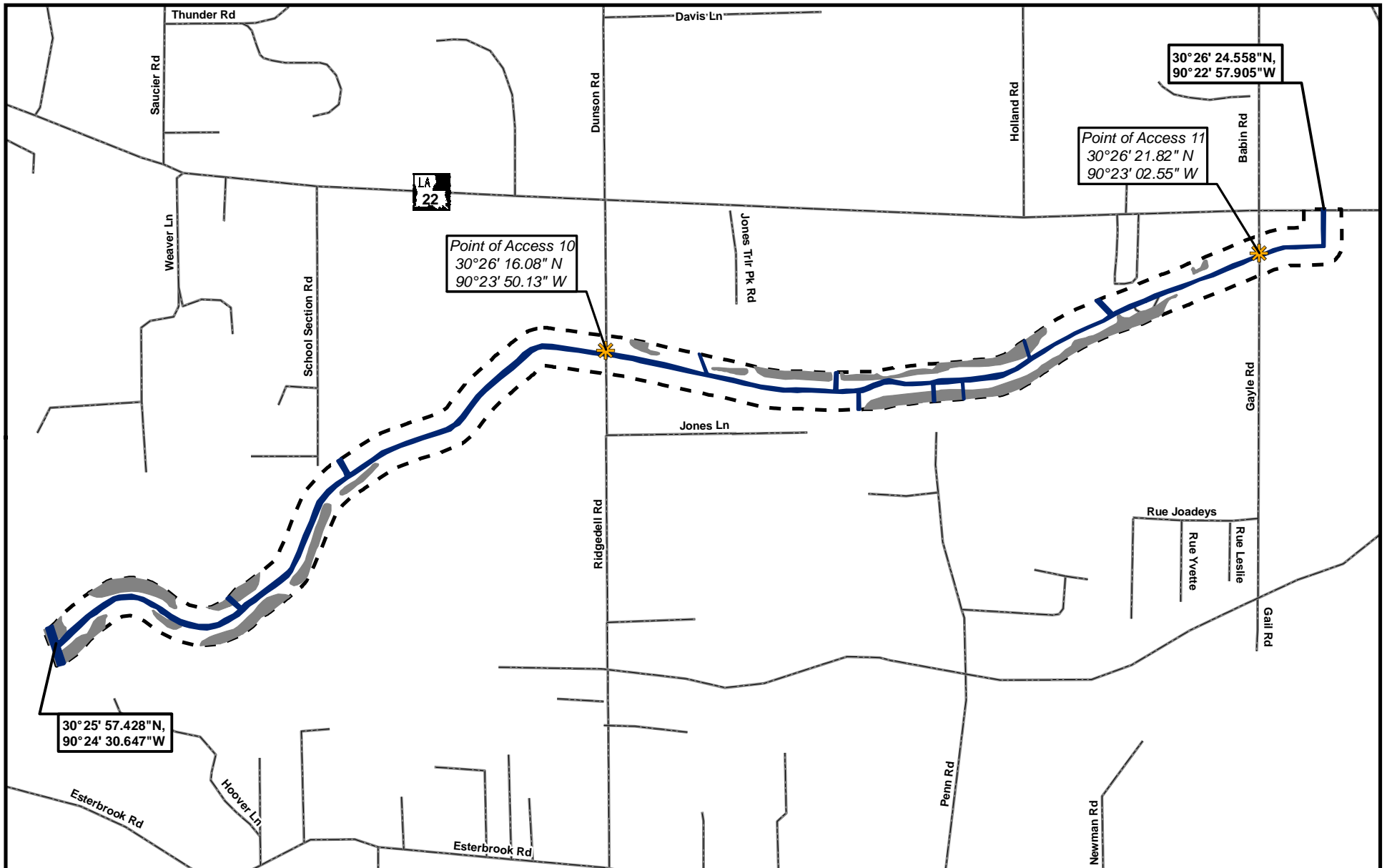
- Project Outline
- Point of Access
- Other Waters/Work Area
- Proposed Wetlands
- Match Line

**Acres:**

- Project Outline ± 245.48 Acres
- Wetlands ± 17.42 Acres
- Other Waters ± 46.92 Acres

**Proposed Delineation Submitted 6/27/16**

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30°26' 24.558"N,  
90°22' 57.905"W

Point of Access 11  
30°26' 21.82" N  
90°23' 02.55" W

Point of Access 10  
30°26' 16.08" N  
90°23' 50.13" W

30°25' 57.428"N,  
90°24' 30.647"W

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**JD Overlay W3-L2**

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**W3-Main (Selsers Creek)  
W3-L2**

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**Legend:**

- Project Outline
- Point of Access
- Other Waters/Work Area
- Wetlands
- Roadway

**Acreages**

Project Outline ± 52.08 Acres  
Wetlands ± 09.37 Acres  
Other Waters ± 04.47 Acres

**Refer to MVN-2015-00913-ST**

N  
W — E  
S

0      500      1,000      Feet