

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Greenville Recreation Park

A conversion of land protected under Section 6(f)3 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, Public Law 108-198

May 13, 2021



On Behalf of:

Meriwether County Georgia
17234 Roosevelt Highway, Building B
Greenville, GA 30222

Submitted to:

Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Antoinette Norfleet
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr, Suite 1352,
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

For:

National Park Service
South Atlantic-Gulf Regional Office
100 Alabama Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), Stateside Assistance grant program, provides funds to states, and through states to local agencies, for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation resources. Lands that have received funding through LWCF are protected by section 6(f)3 of the Act unless a conversion is approved by the Secretary of the Interior as delegated to the National Park Service.

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1.) Purpose, Need, and Background

1.1) Location

Project/Site Name: Greenville Recreation Park

Project/Street Location: Meriwether County-McLaughlin Road

City: Greenville State: GA Zip Code: 30222

County: Meriwether County

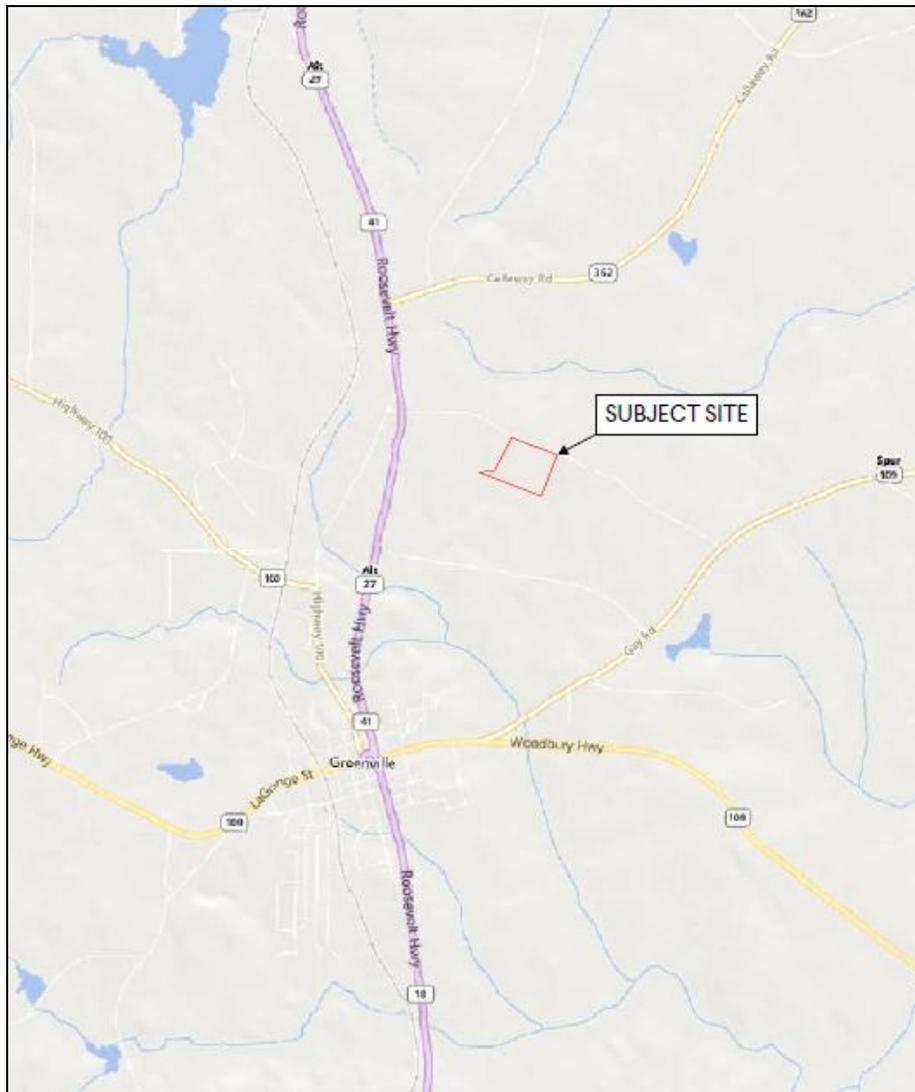
Latitude/Longitude of Facility

Latitude:

33.046467

Longitude:

-84.702359



1.2) Project Summary and Purpose and Need

Meriwether County Georgia proposes to construct a full service recreational park on a 25 acre parcel located along McLaughlin Road in Meriwether County, Georgia (See Figures 1-3). The site is currently completely forested with a mix of planted pine and hardwoods. Approximately 12 acres of the tract will be graded to allow for a grassed play field, ADA walking trail, pavilion, bathrooms, dog park, and adequate parking. The balance of the acreage will remain in its natural forested state, except for nature trails that will be developed within the undisturbed area but will be constructed to minimize disturbance to the land and existing habitat.

The purpose of this project is to provide an outdoor recreation park to provide day to day passive recreation for the residents in Greenville and throughout the county. The need for this project stems from a lack of land devoted to passive recreation for Meriwether County and its surrounding area. This park will provide both active and passive outdoor recreation opportunities for citizens of all ages in a location where these types of recreational facilities are not currently available. In addition, the Greenville Recreation Park will provide much needed recreation opportunities for the local community and is an important step in preparation for future growth.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been requested to help evaluate the environmental consequences of the proposed action on the human environment and allow the affected public to understand the context for the proposed action. Alternatives considered in this EA include Alternative A, which consists of no action and Alternative B, which consists of implementing the full service recreational park described above. Chapters 3 & 4 of this EA discuss in detail the following potential resources that may be affected by the proposed alternatives:

- Geological Resources
- Air Quality
- Noise
- Water Quality/Quantity and Stream Flow
- Floodplains and Wetlands
- Land Use and Planning
- Circulation, Transportation and Accessibility
- Wildlife Habitat and Biological Resources
- Recreation
- Aesthetics
- Historical and Cultural Resources
- Socioeconomics and Minority/Low Income Populations
- Energy Resources
- Other Agency or Tribal Land Use Policies
- Hazardous or Contaminated Materials

2.) Description of Alternatives

2.1) No Action Alternative

Under the 'No Action' Alternative (Alternative A), the park would not be constructed and the property would continue to remain undeveloped and forested.

2.2) Proposed Alternative

The County proposes to construct a full service recreational park on a 25 acre parcel located along McLaughlin Road in Meriwether County, Georgia. Approximately 12 acres of the tract will be graded to allow for a grassed play field, ADA walking trail, pavilion, bathrooms, dog park, and adequate parking. The future use of the property for a recreational park has been planned for several years. The purpose of this project is to provide day to day passive recreation for the residents in Greenville and throughout the county.

3.) Affected Environments

3.1) Geologic Resources

There are no known unique geologic resources at or in the vicinity of the proposed project site. The soils at the project site consist primarily of Lloyd series soils, with a small area of Madison soils in the northeast corner of the site, see Figure 4. The Lloyd soils are gently sloping to steep and are on uplands in the Southern Piedmont and have slopes ranging from 2 to 50 percent. The parent material consists of residuum derived intermediate and mafic, igneous and high-grade metamorphic rocks. The soils are well drained, medium to rapid surface runoff with moderate permeability and do not meet hydric criteria. The Madison series consists of well drained, moderately permeable soils that formed in residuum weathered from felsic or intermediate, high-grade metamorphic or igneous rocks high in mica content. They are very deep to bedrock and moderately deep to saprolite. They are also on gently sloping to steep uplands in the Piedmont. Slopes are mostly between 4 and 15 percent, but range from 2 to 60 percent. The soils are well drained, runoff is medium to rapid with permeability is moderate and do not meet hydric criteria. The majority of the soils found onsite are not considered either prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance. The Lloyd sandy loam, which makes up approximately 9.5% of the property, is the only soil found onsite that is classified as prime farmland. Coordination has been initiated with the Natural Resource Conservation Service requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on important farmland and any recommendations they may have to minimize or avoid effects. The coordination letter is included in Appendix D.

3.2) Air Quality

The proposed project is located in Meriwether County, Georgia. Meriwether County is an attainment area for all criteria pollutants.

3.3) Sound (Noise)

Noise levels are measured on a logarithmic scale of sound pressure level described as a decibel (dB), and the range of sound volumes is covered by the dB scale. The dB scale changes in levels corresponding closely to human perception of relative loudness. This correspondence is more closely paralleled by weighing the frequency response of a sound level meter by means of the standardized A-weighting network. The A-weighted sound level is referred to as the noise level and is referenced in units of dB(A). The proposed project is located in an area of relatively low development, but is within reasonable proximity of several County offices and Greenville High School. There is the potential that the noise resulting from construction may be audible to the school and presents the potential to affect citizens near the construction areas.

3.4) Water Quality

A waters of the U.S. delineation was completed for the subject parcel on May 5, 2021. There are no streams located on or immediately adjacent to the property and no water quality impairments in the proposed project area.

3.5) Stream Flow Characteristics

There are no streams located on or immediately adjacent to the property.

3.6) Marine and Estuaries

No portions of Meriwether County lie within the Coastal Management Program Service Area. The Georgia Coastal Management Program includes the following eleven counties: Brantley, Bryan, Camden, Charlton, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, and Wayne.

3.7) Floodplains and Wetlands

In accordance with Executive Order 11988 of May 24, 1977, the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (42 U.S.C. 40011 et seq.), and the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-234, 87 Stat. 975), "Federal agencies shall provide leadership and shall take action to reduce the risk of flood loss, to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare, and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains in carrying out its responsibilities for (1) acquiring, managing, and disposing of Federal lands, and facilities; (2) providing Federally undertaken, financed, or assisted construction and improvements; and (3) conducting Federal activities and programs affecting land use, including but not limited to water and related land resources planning, regulating, and licensing activities." The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) were reviewed to determine the affected environment of the proposed project. The entire property is located in Zone X. Zone X are areas determined to be outside the 0.2% annual chance flood. The FIRM maps with the proposed project are located in Appendix A of this report.

A waters of the U.S. delineation was completed for the subject parcel on May 5, 2021. There are no wetlands located on or immediately adjacent to the property.

3.8) Land Use and Planning

The proposed project is located on a 25-acre county-owned property along McLaughlin Road in Meriwether County, Georgia. The site is currently completely forested with a mix of planted pine and hardwoods. The future use of the property for a recreational park has been planned for several years and the transition of this parcel into a full service recreational park will provide a location for passive recreation for Greenville and throughout Meriwether County.

3.9) Circulation and Transportation

The project site is currently accessed by McLaughlin Road, a two-lane roadway within the Meriwether County Road System. The road transitions into a one-lane dirt road at the proposed park entrance.

3.10) Wildlife Resources and Biological Habitat

In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA), as amended, a review was conducted to identify the species on the USFWS list of threatened and endangered having ranges in Meriwether County. The following species is listed in the County:

Flowering Plants: Little Amphianthus (*Amphianthus pusillus*)- Threatened

A site reconnaissance was conducted and documentation from the site review was submitted to the USFWS for review and comment. The coordination letter is included in Appendix D.

3.11) Recreation

The proposed park demonstrates and follows the goals of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). The plan states that because outdoor recreation can be engaged through a wide diversity of activities, a single park's ability to provide mixed-offerings of activities and interests will likely increase attractiveness to broader audiences and are likely to enjoy greater attendance and participation¹.

3.12) Accessibility

The project site is currently undeveloped forested land accessed by McLaughlin Road. The site is not accessible to the general public. A cleared access road was noted during a site visit that runs through parts of the property.

3.13) Aesthetics

Aesthetic resources consider the visual appearance of the property based on architectural and site design, plantings, lighting, screening and site amenities. The proposed site is currently an undeveloped, forested area with no substantial site amenities that contribute to desirable aesthetics.

¹ Georgia Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2022-2026

3.14) Historic and Cultural Resources

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the property was reviewed for potential impacts to cultural and historic properties. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires: "a Federal agency head with jurisdiction over a Federal, federally assisted, or federally licensed undertaking to take into account the effects of the agency's undertaking on properties included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and, prior to approval of an undertaking, to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on the undertaking. Section 110(f) of the Act requires that Federal agency heads, to the maximum extent possible, undertake such planning and actions as may be necessary to minimize harm to any National Historic Landmark that may be directly and adversely affected by an undertaking and, prior to approval of such undertaking, afford the Council a reasonable opportunity to comment. These regulations define the process used by a Federal agency to meet these responsibilities, commonly called the section 106 process." The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division (HPD) stated in a letter dated March 24, 2021 that it is their opinion that the subject project, as proposed, will have no adverse effect to historic properties within its area of potential affect (APE), as defined by 36 CFR Part 800.5(b). It was noted that historic and/or archaeological resources may be located within the project's APE, however, at this time it appears that they will not be impacted by the project due to the scope and location of work and previous ground disturbance.

3.15) Socioeconomics

Meriwether County is located in west central Georgia. According to 2019 census data, the population of Meriwether County is 21,167. The estimated median household income between 2015 and 2019 (in 2019 dollars) is \$37,121 with 22.2% below the poverty line. Approximately 58.5 percent of the population is white, 38.5 percent African American, 0.6 percent Asian, 2.5 percent Hispanic of Latino, 0.5 percent American Indian and Alaskan Native alone, and no indication of Pacific Islander. This statistic includes 1.8% percent of people that are two or more races. The area has a population density of approximately 43.9 people per mile.

3.16) Energy Resources

There are no known energy resources within the project area.

3.17) Other Agency or Tribal Land Use Policies

Coordination has been initiated for Tribes with interests in Meriwether County requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on any specific historical properties or important tribal resources within the project area. The coordination letters are included in Appendix D. At this time, there are no known impacts to tribal or other land use policies for this project.

3.18) Hazardous or Contaminated Materials

GMC obtained an Envirosite Corporation Government Records Report for the subject site to assist in identifying potential hazardous or contaminated materials related to the subject site. The report includes a search of federal and state databases that may provide information related to current or previous contamination episodes having occurred within and immediately adjacent to the subject site. The search of available environmental records did not identify any sites indicating the potential for hazardous or contaminated materials associated with the site. In addition, the proposed use of the site would not include the use of potential hazardous materials.

4.) **Environmental Impacts**

4.1) **Geologic Resources**

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE
No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE
No Impacts – No impacts to geological resources anticipated if the project is implemented.

4.2) **Air Quality**

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE
No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE
Negligible Impacts – The main source of potential air quality impacts will be from the construction of the proposed project in the form of fugitive dust and emissions generated from construction equipment. Any construction-generated emissions are temporary but may potentially result in increases in localized particulate matter (PM) concentrations, adverse health effects and nuisance concerns, such as reduced visibility and dusting of exposed surfaces. PM emissions are typically greatest during initial site preparation, including grading and excavation activities. Construction-generated emissions of ozone precursor pollutants are also temporary. Asphalt used in paving emits organic gas for a short time after its application. No long-term impacts on air quality are anticipated.

4.3) **Sound (Noise)**

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE
No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE
Negligible Impacts – There is the potential that the noise resulting from construction may be audible to the surrounding school, and presents the potential to affect citizens that live near the construction areas. However, impacts resulting from construction are expected to be short-term in nature. Post-construction noise impacts are expected, as well. Sporting events held at these locations present the potential for noise resulting from players, coaches, and fans attending the events. The fields are positioned approximately a mile from any neighboring residential development and a forested buffer will remain around the perimeter of the site; therefore, noise impacts are expected to be minimal.

4.4) **Water Quality/Quantity**

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE
No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE
Negligible Impacts – Potential short term impacts from construction to surface water runoff into downgradient streams exist, but appropriate best management practices will be implemented to avoid and minimize impacts.

4.5) Stream Flow Characteristics

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts – No changes in hydrology or stream flow characteristics are anticipated.

4.6) Marine and Estuaries

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

4.7) Floodplains and Wetlands

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

4.8) Land Use and Planning

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

Approximately 12 acres of the tract will be graded to allow for a grassed play field, ADA walking trail, pavilion, bathrooms, dog park, and adequate parking. The balance of the acreage will remain in its natural forested state, except for nature trails that will be developed within the undisturbed area but will be constructed to minimize disturbance to the land and existing habitat. Potential Beneficial Impacts include transitioning the property in to a full service recreational park will provide a location for passive recreation for Greenville and throughout Meriwether County.

4.9) Circulation and Transportation

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

Negligible Impacts – The proposed project is expected to draw additional traffic to the subject site and McLaughlin Road. The proposed project will implement parking within the boundaries of the subject site. The nature of a full service recreational park includes additional traffic headed to and from the property, so a rise in vehicles along McLaughlin Road is expected. The 25-acre tract and surrounding property is owned by the county and fronts a county-maintained road that will help buffer the park and reduce likelihood of development in close proximity.

4.10) Wildlife Resources and Biological Habitat

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts- The site does not contain suitable habitat for the listed species in Meriwether County. A site reconnaissance was conducted and documentation from the site review was submitted to the USFWS for review and comment. The coordination letter is included in Appendix D.

4.11) Recreation

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

Potential Beneficial Impacts – The proposed project will play a role in providing recreational opportunities to the public including open grass fields, playground areas, walking trails, dog parks, and family gathering areas. A safe, convenient, and a sustainable park along with the other proposed amenities will provide a location for a plethora of recreational activities to take place.

4.12) Accessibility

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

Potential Beneficial Impacts – The site is currently undeveloped and not accessible to the general public and the proposed project would create public access. The site will continue to be accessed by McLaughlin Road and will allow for public access. The park will meet all aspects of ADA requirements so that the park is accessible to everyone.

4.13) Aesthetics

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

Potential Beneficial Impacts –By converting this land into a full service park, a boost to site aesthetics is expected as substantial landscaping (including planting, lighting, and paving) will take place. The balance of the acreage will remain in its natural forested state, except for nature trails that will be developed within the undisturbed area. The trails will be constructed to minimize disturbance to the land and existing habitat.

4.14) Historic and Cultural Resources

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

No Adverse Effect – HPD stated that the subject project, as proposed, will have no adverse effect to historic properties within its APE. It was noted that historic and/or archaeological resources may be located within the project’s APE, however, at this time it appears that they will not be impacted by the project due to the scope and location of work and previous ground disturbance.

4.15) Socioeconomics

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts – No negative socio-economic/environmental justice impacts are expected from the proposed projects. Positive impacts for all citizens in the area will be accrued by providing a safe, convenient, sustainable area for passive recreation. The proposed project would be a public access available for everyone regardless of socio-economic status or race.

4.16) Energy Resources

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts – No anticipated impacts to energy resources if the project is implemented.

4.17) Other Agency or Tribal Land Use Policies

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts – No impacts to other agency or tribal land use policies are anticipated if the existing site remains in its current condition.

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts – Coordination has been initiated for Tribes with interests in Meriwether County requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on any specific historical properties or important tribal resources within the project area. At this time, there are no known impacts to tribal or other land use policies for this project.

4.18) Hazardous or Contaminated Materials

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

No Impacts

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE

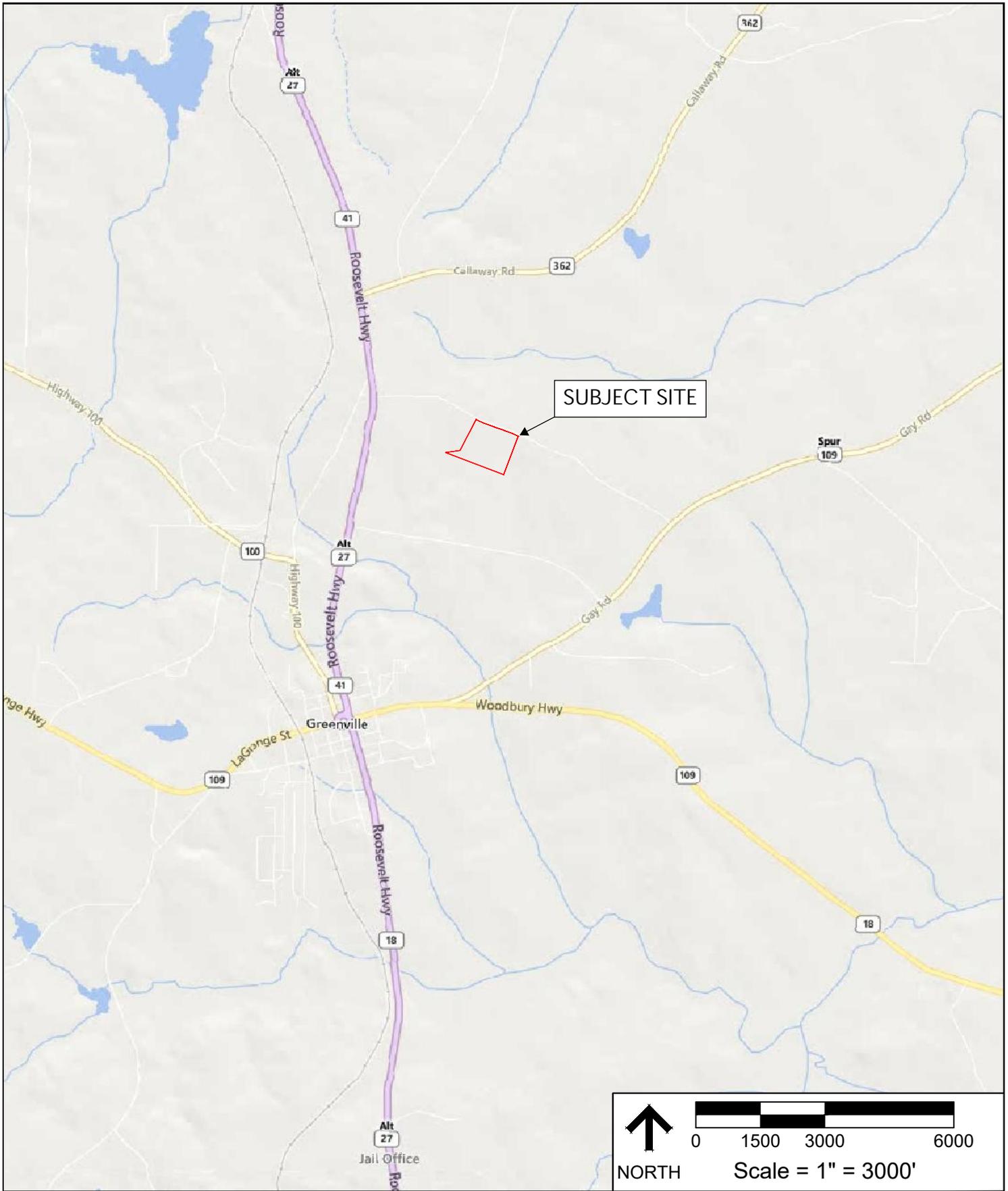
No Impacts – Due to the proposed use of the site, no impacts from hazardous or contaminated materials are anticipated if the proposed project is implemented.

5.0) Coordination and Consultation

Initial correspondence with the following regulatory entities have been conducted for the proposed project. Copies of the correspondence can be found in Appendix D.

- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPO)
- State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

APPENDIX A
FIGURES



REF. SHEET: BING STREET MAPS
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

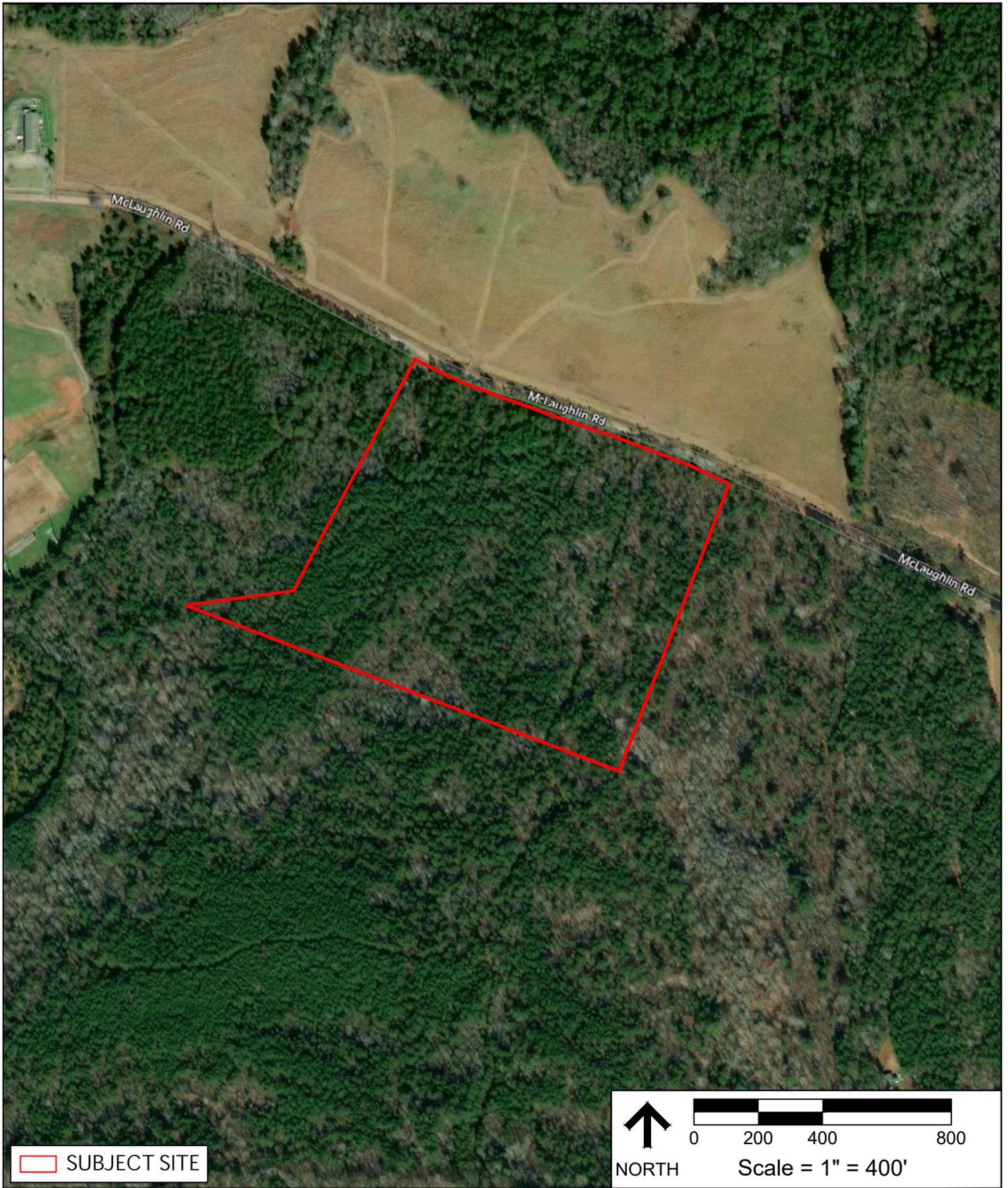
Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 1

GENERAL LOCATION MAP
 GMC # EATL21A004
 DATE: 5/5/21
 DRAWN BY: SMR

2660 East Chase Lane, Suite 200
 Montgomery, AL 36117
 T 334.271.3200
 GMCNETWORK.COM





REF. SHEET: BING HYBRID MAPS
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

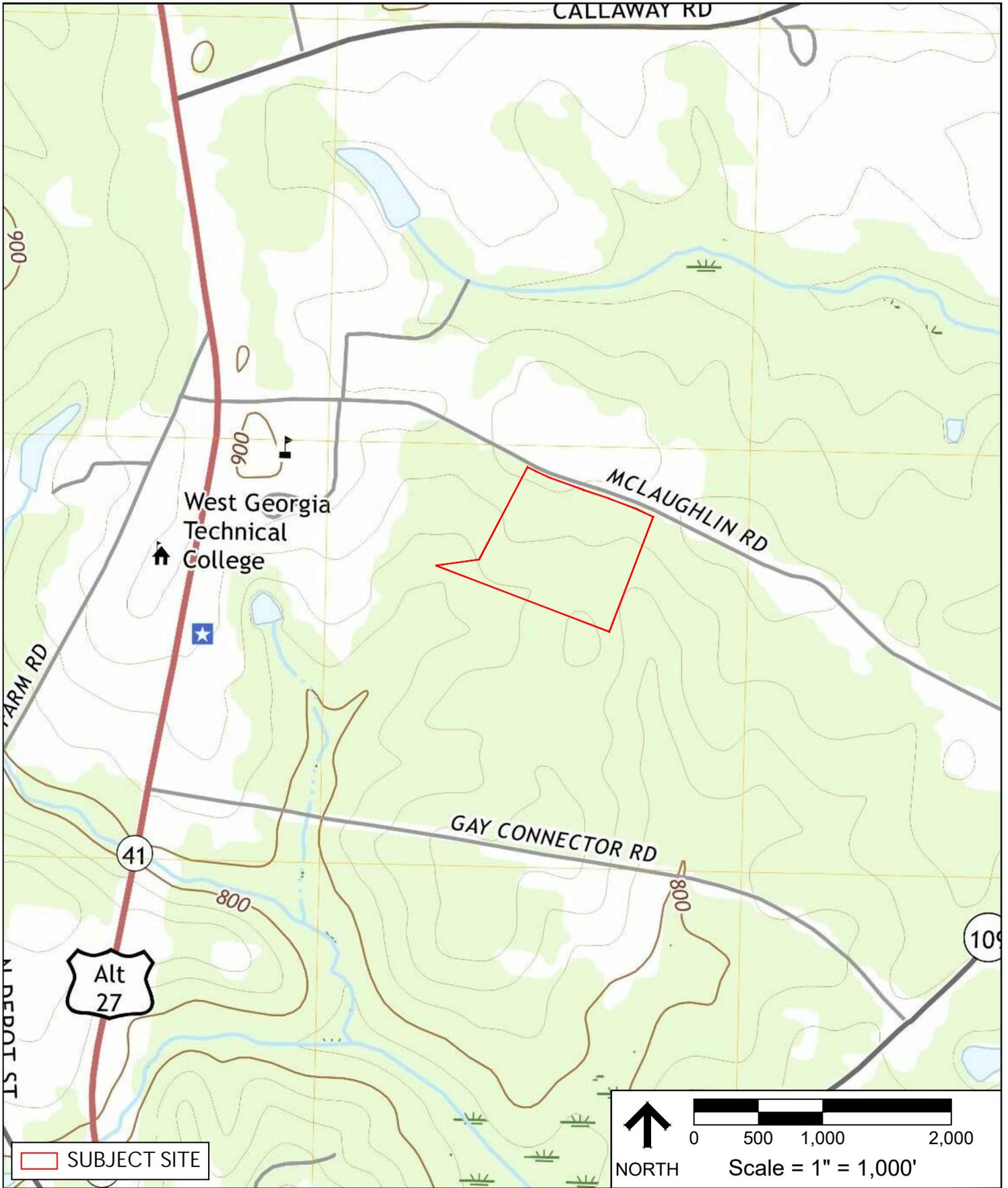
Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 2

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH
 GMC # EATL21A004
 DATE: 5/5/21
 DRAWN BY: SMR

2660 East Chase Lane, Suite 200
 Montgomery, AL 36117
 T 334.271.3200
 GMCNETWORK.COM

GMC



REF. SHEET: 2020, GREENVILLE, GA USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

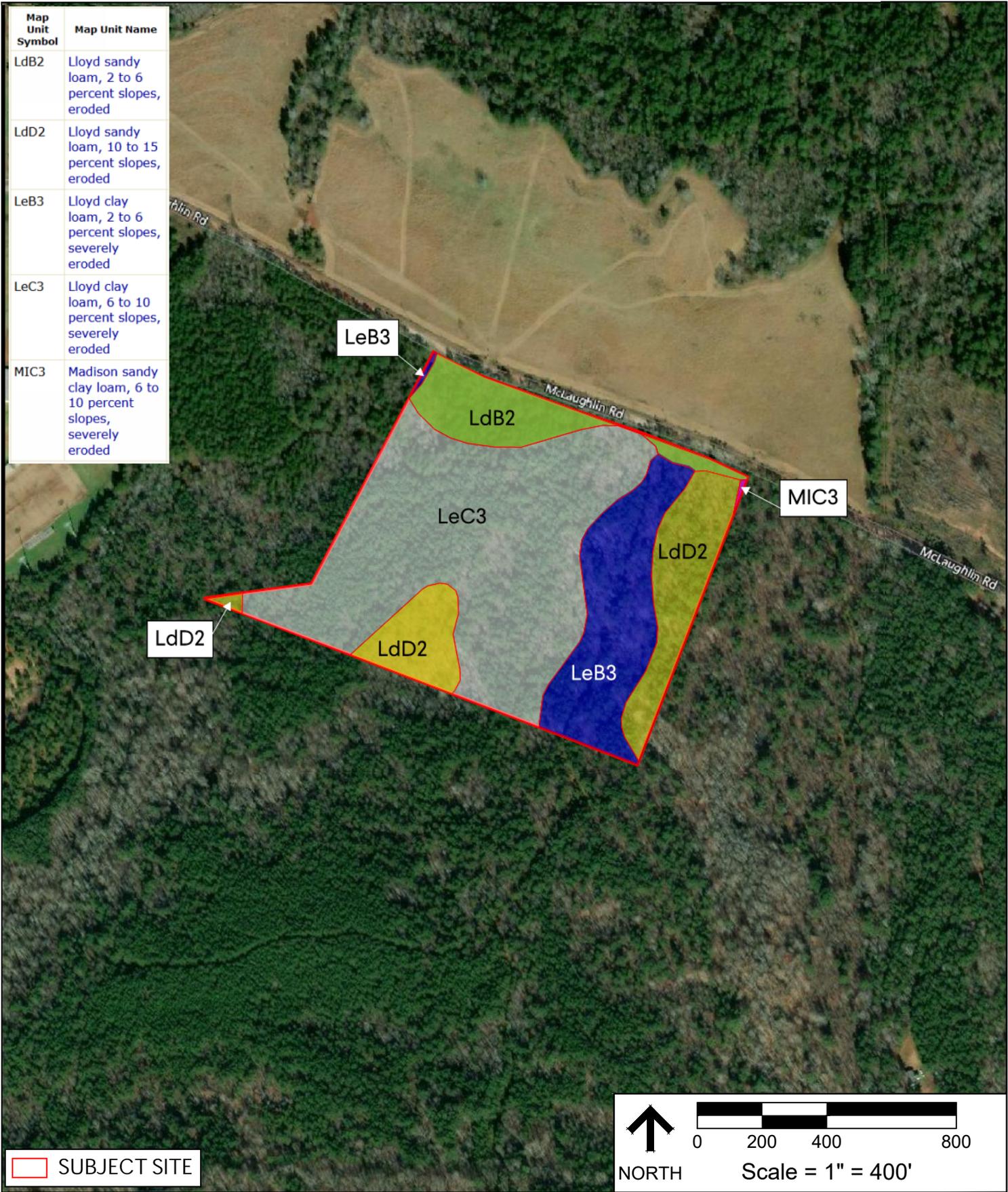
Figure 3

USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
 GMC # EATL21A004
 DATE: 5/5/21
 DRAWN BY: SMR

2660 East Chase Lane, Suite 200
 Montgomery, AL 36117
 T 334.271.3200
 GMCNETWORK.COM



Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name
LdB2	Lloyd sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded
LdD2	Lloyd sandy loam, 10 to 15 percent slopes, eroded
LeB3	Lloyd clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, severely eroded
LeC3	Lloyd clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded
MIC3	Madison sandy clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded

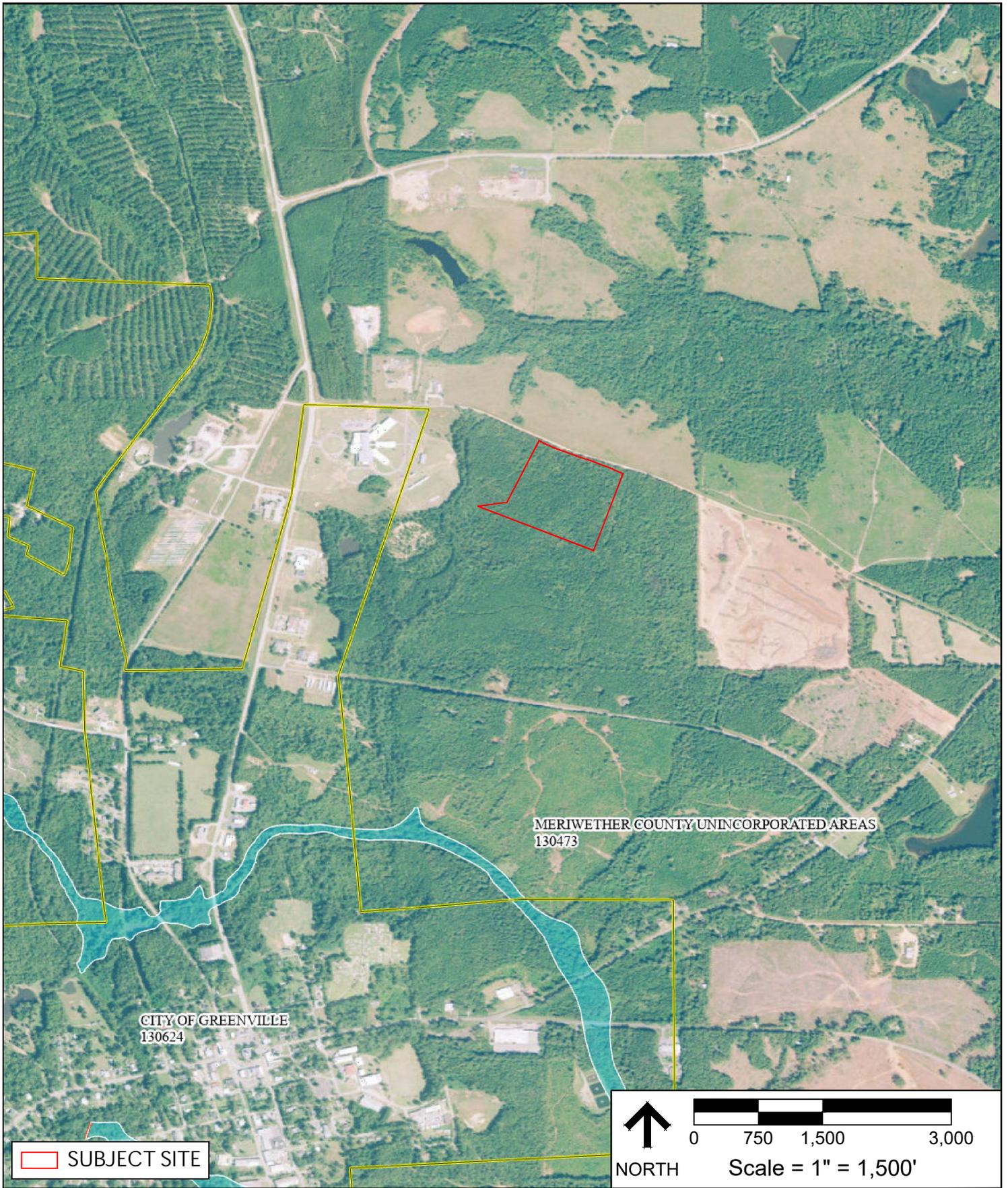


REF. SHEET: MERIWETHER COUNTY SOIL SURVEY
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 4
 SOIL MAP
 GMC # EATL21A004
 DATE: 5/5/21
 DRAWN BY: SMR

2660 East Chase Lane, Suite 200
 Montgomery, AL 36117
 T 334.271.3200
 GMCNETWORK.COM





REF. SHEET: FEMA FIRM PANEL #140
DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Greenville Recreation Park
Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 5

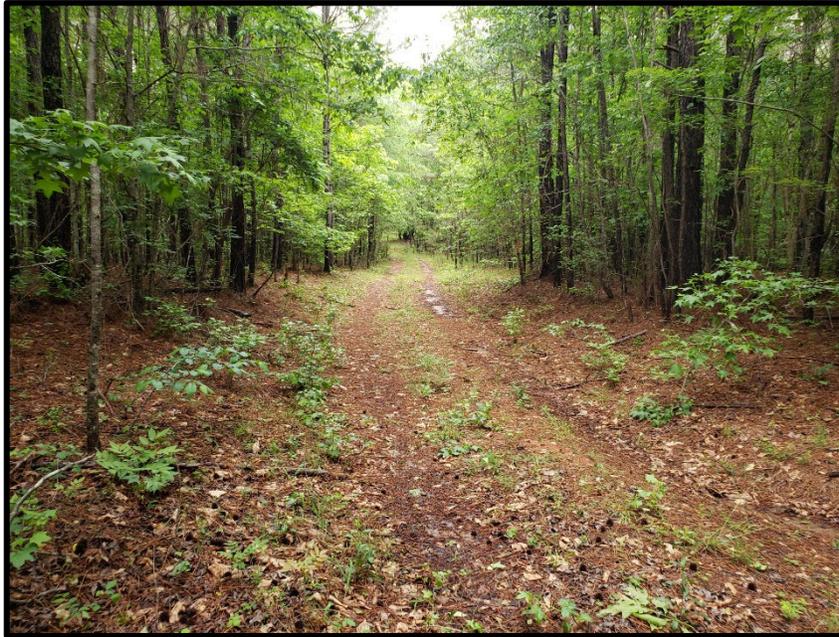
FLOOD MAP
GMC # EATL21A004
DATE: 5/5/21
DRAWN BY: SMR

2660 East Chase Lane, Suite 200
Montgomery, AL 36117
T 334.271.3200
GMCNETWORK.COM



**APPENDIX B
PHOTOS**

P-1



Dirt road noted running through the property.

P-2



Ephemeral drain running through the east side of the property after heavy rain event.

P-3



General view of site, completely forested with a mix of planted pine and hardwoods.

P-4



General view of site, completely forested with a mix of planted pine and hardwoods.

APPENDIX C
ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM

For conversions, complete one ESF for each of the converted and replacement sites.

A. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES Indicate potential for adverse impacts. Use a separate sheet to clarify responses per instructions for Part A on page 9.	Not Applicable- Resource does not exist	No/Negligible Impacts- Exists but no or negligible impacts	Minor Impacts	Impacts Exceed Minor EA/EIS required	More Data Needed to Determine Degree of Impact EA/EIS required
1. Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.		X			
2. Air quality			x		
3. Sound (noise impacts)			x		
4. Water quality/quantity		x			
5. Stream flow characteristics		x			
6. Marine/estuarine	x				
7. Floodplains/wetlands	x				
8. Land use/ownership patterns; property values; community livability		X			
9. Circulation, transportation			x		
10. Plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat; state/federal listed or proposed for listing		X			
11. Unique ecosystems, such as biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, etc.	X				
12. Unique or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat		X			
13. Unique or important fish/habitat	x				
14. Introduce or promote invasive species (plant or animal)		X			
15. Recreation resources, land, parks, open space, conservation areas, rec. trails, facilities, services, opportunities, public access, etc. <i>Most conversions exceed minor impacts. See Step 3.B</i>	X				
16. Accessibility for populations with disabilities		X			
17. Overall aesthetics, special characteristics/features		X			
18. Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc. Attach SHPO/THPO determination.		X			
19. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure		X			
20. Minority and low-income populations		X			
21. Energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.)	X				
22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies		X			
23. Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated		X			
24. Other important environmental resources to address.	X				

B. MANDATORY CRITERIA If your LWCF proposal is approved, would it...	Yes	No	To be determined
1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		x	
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands, wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O. 11990); floodplains (E.O. 11988); and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X	
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)]?		X	
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X	
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		X	
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		X	
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office. (Attach SHPO/THPO Comments)		X	
8. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.			
9. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		X	
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		X	
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		X	
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area, or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		X	

Environmental Reviewers

The following individual(s) provided input in the completion of the environmental screening form. List all reviewers including name, title, agency, field of expertise. Keep all environmental review records and data on this proposal in state compliance file for any future program review and/or audit. The ESF may be completed as part of a LWCF pre-award site inspection if conducted in time to contribute to the environmental review process for the proposal.

1. Brittany Israel, PE, Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, LLC.
2. Gary Brown, CPESC, LEED Green Assoc., Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, LLC.
3. April Henley, PWS, Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, LLC.

The following individuals conducted a site inspection to verify field conditions.

List name of inspector(s), title, agency, and date(s) of inspection.

1. Lauren Barber, Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, LLC.
2. April Henley, PWS, Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, LLC.
- 3.

State may require signature of LWCF sub-recipient applicant here: _



Date May 7, 2021

APPENDIX D
AGENCY CONSULTATION LETTERS



May 7, 2021

U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
Post Office Box 52560
West Georgia Sub-Office
Fort Benning, Georgia 31995-2560

Goodwyn Mills Cawood

6120 Powers Ferry Road NW
Suite 350
Atlanta, GA 30339

T (770) 952-2481
F (770) 955-1064

www.gmcnetwork.com

RE: Request for Concurrence/Potential Impacts
Greenville Recreation Park
Meriwether County, Georgia

To Whom It May Concern:

Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, (GMC), on behalf of Meriwether County, Georgia, is requesting concurrence for the above referenced project as part of their due diligence prior to the construction of a full service recreational park on a 25 acre parcel located along McLaughlin Road in Meriwether County, Georgia (See Figures 1-5). The purpose of this project is to provide a full service recreational park for residents of Greenville and Meriwether County. Approximately 12 acres of the tract will be graded to allow for a grassed play field, ADA walking trail, pavilion, bathrooms, dog park, and parking. GMC conducted a delineation and site assessment on May 5, 2021. The site is currently completely forested with a mix of planted pine and hardwoods. A small dirt road was noted running through the property and an ephemeral drain was also noted running through the east side of the property. Photographs of the site conditions are attached.

The Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) was used to generate the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Listing for the proposed site, and can be found below:

Flowering Plants: Little Amphianthus (Amphianthus pusillus)- Threatened

The Little amphianthus, a small aquatic herb, habitat includes rock-rimmed temporary pools on weathered granite or gneissic outcrops. The outcrops can be large, isolated domes or gently rolling flatrocks. The pools are often referred to as vernal pools and are typically shallow, flat-bottomed, and have intact rims. The intact rims are an important feature in that they restrict drainage and thus allow the pools to hold water required by the species. Ideal conditions within the vernal pools include shallow mineral soils that are sandy-silty and very low in organic material and nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. Pools retaining 1 to 4 inches of water for several weeks following a heavy rain provide sufficient habitat for the species.

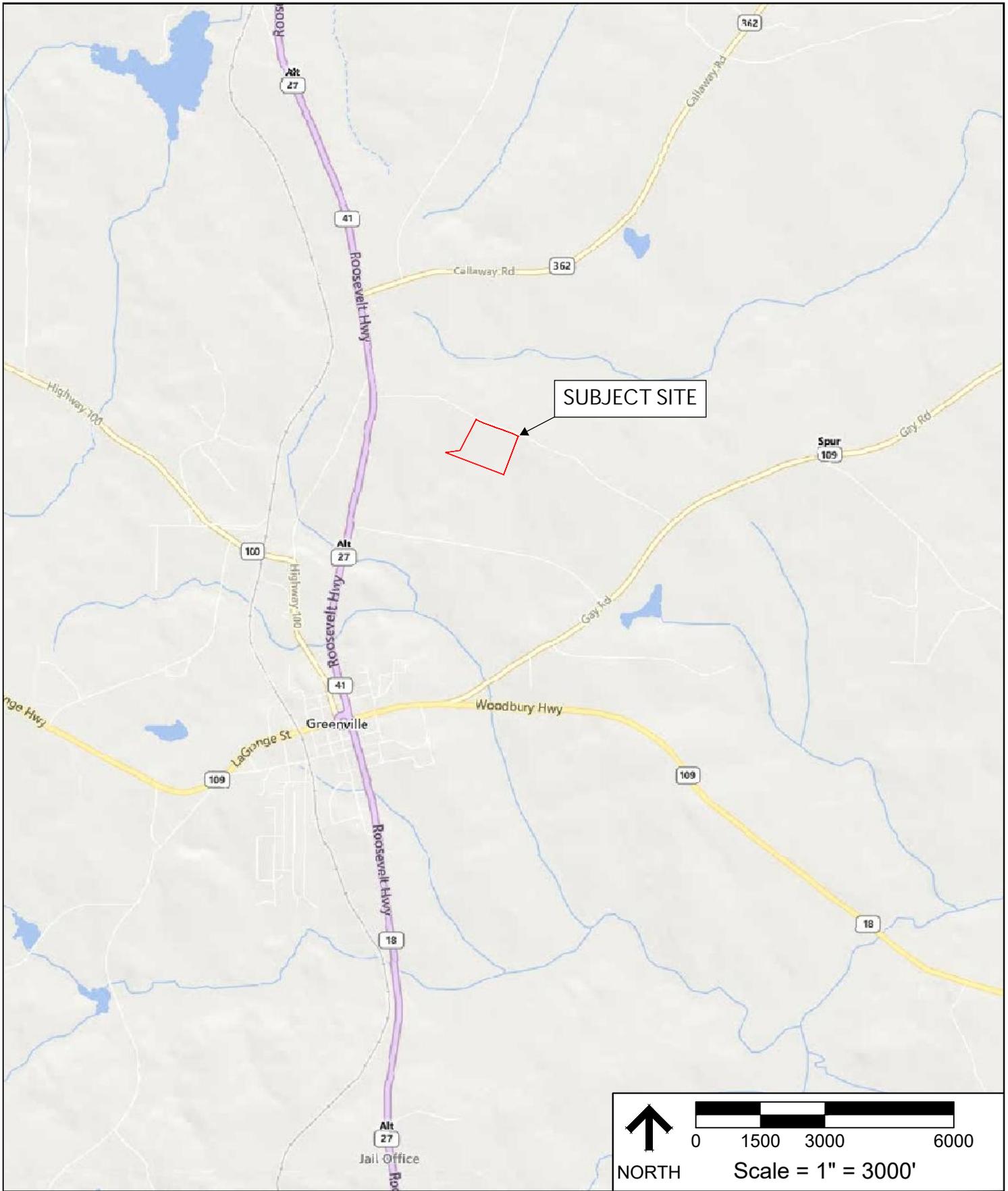
The project site was comprised of uplands and an ephemeral drain; therefore, the site does not contain suitable habitat for the species. Based on the preliminary assessment of endangered and threatened species, including the field inspection and office review, it is GMC's opinion that the subject site does not contain suitable habitat for the listed endangered species in Meriwether County, Georgia.

Please advise us of any present concerns you may have related to possible effects of the proposed project on listed species or critical habitat, as well as any other wildlife concerns. We would appreciate a response as soon as possible. To help expedite the review process, your response can be e-mailed to Brittany.Israel@gmcnetwork.com. If you need any further information or wish to discuss our project, please contact me.

Sincerely,
GOODWYN, MILLS AND CAWOOD,

Brittany Israel, PE
GMC-Environmental

Enclosures



REF. SHEET: BING STREET MAPS
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

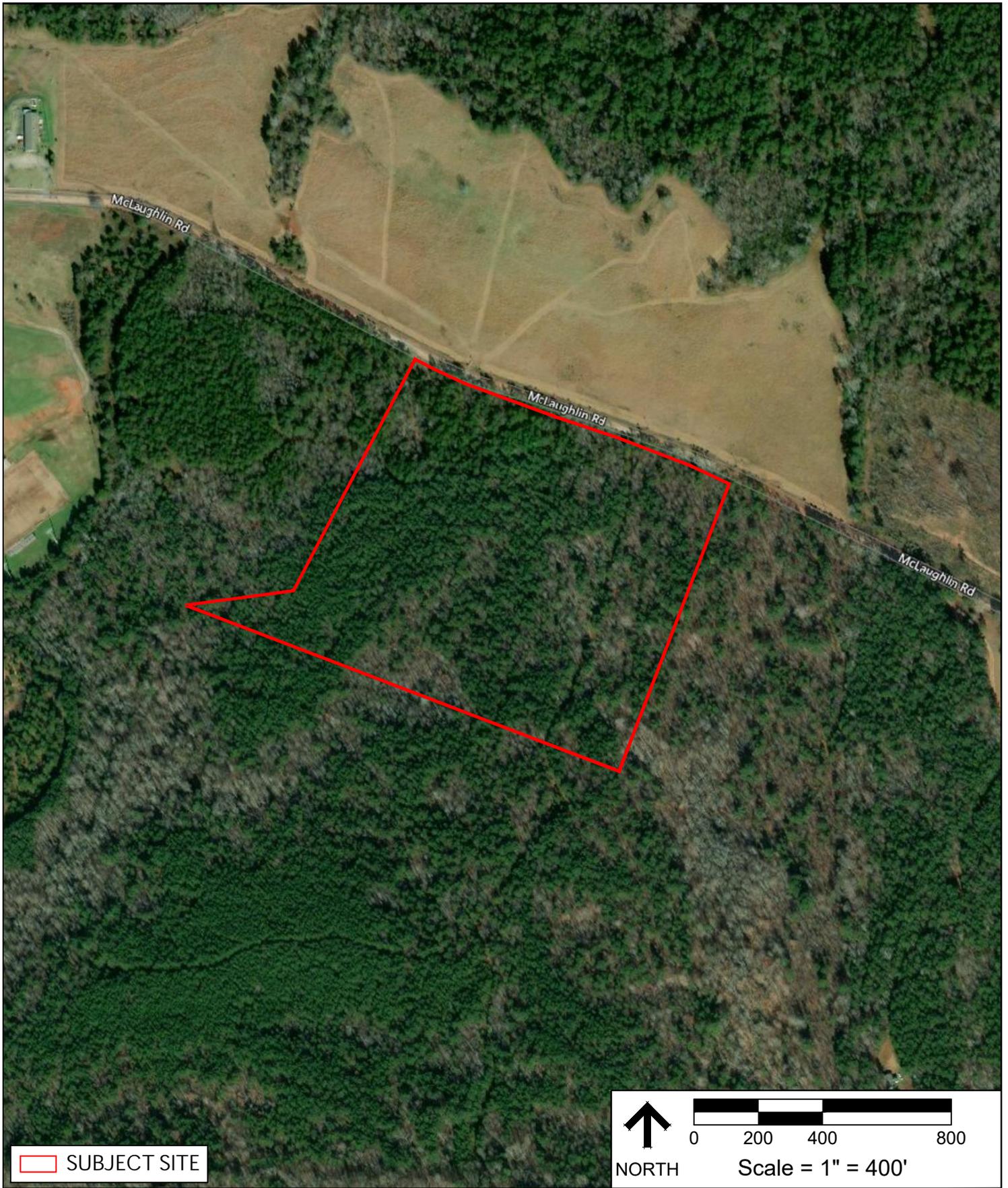
Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 1

GENERAL LOCATION MAP
 GMC # EATL21A004
 DATE: 5/5/21
 DRAWN BY: SMR

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 Montgomery, AL 36117
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REF. SHEET: BING HYBRID MAPS
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

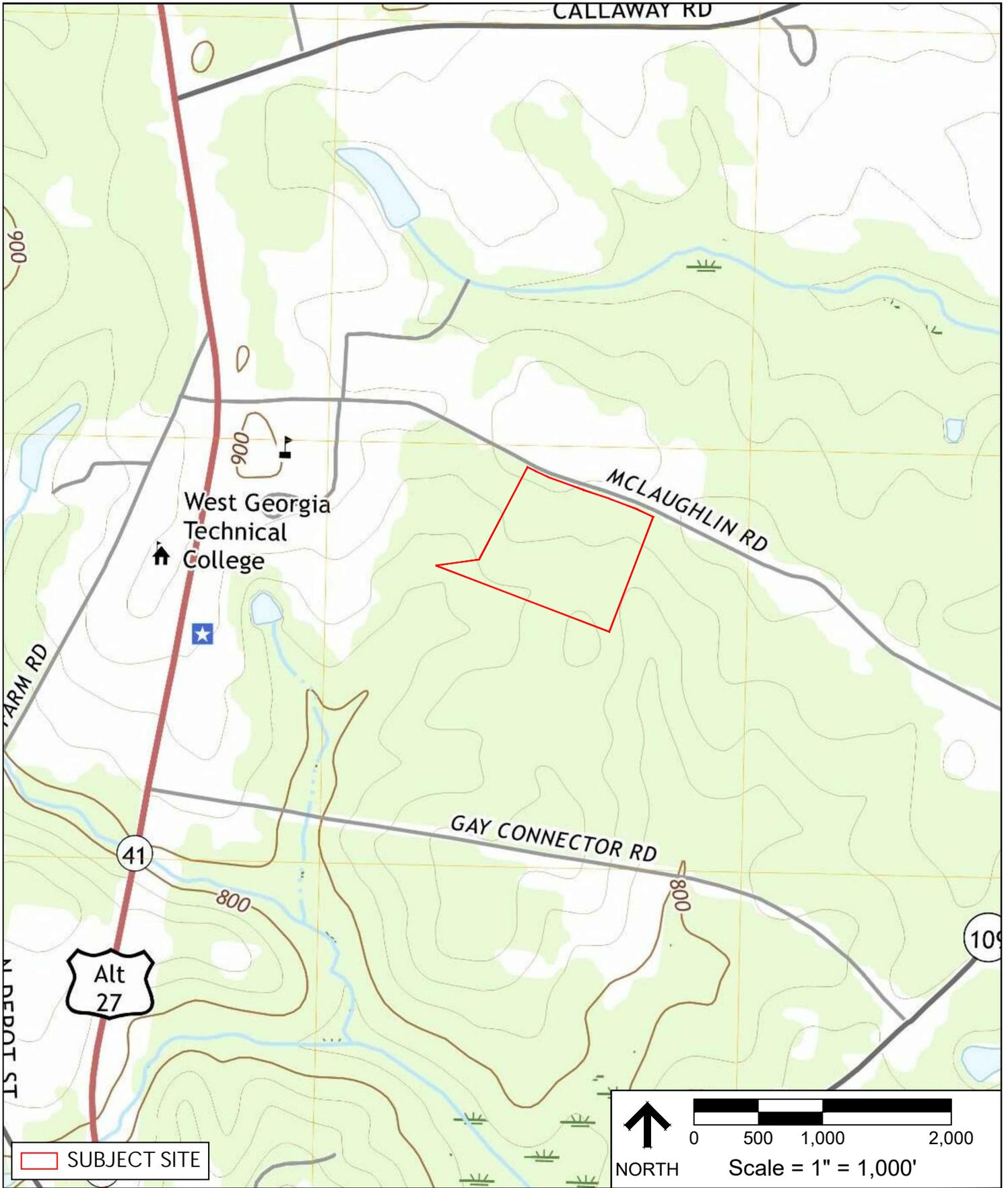
Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 2

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH
 GMC # EATL21A004
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GMC



REF. SHEET: 2020, GREENVILLE, GA USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

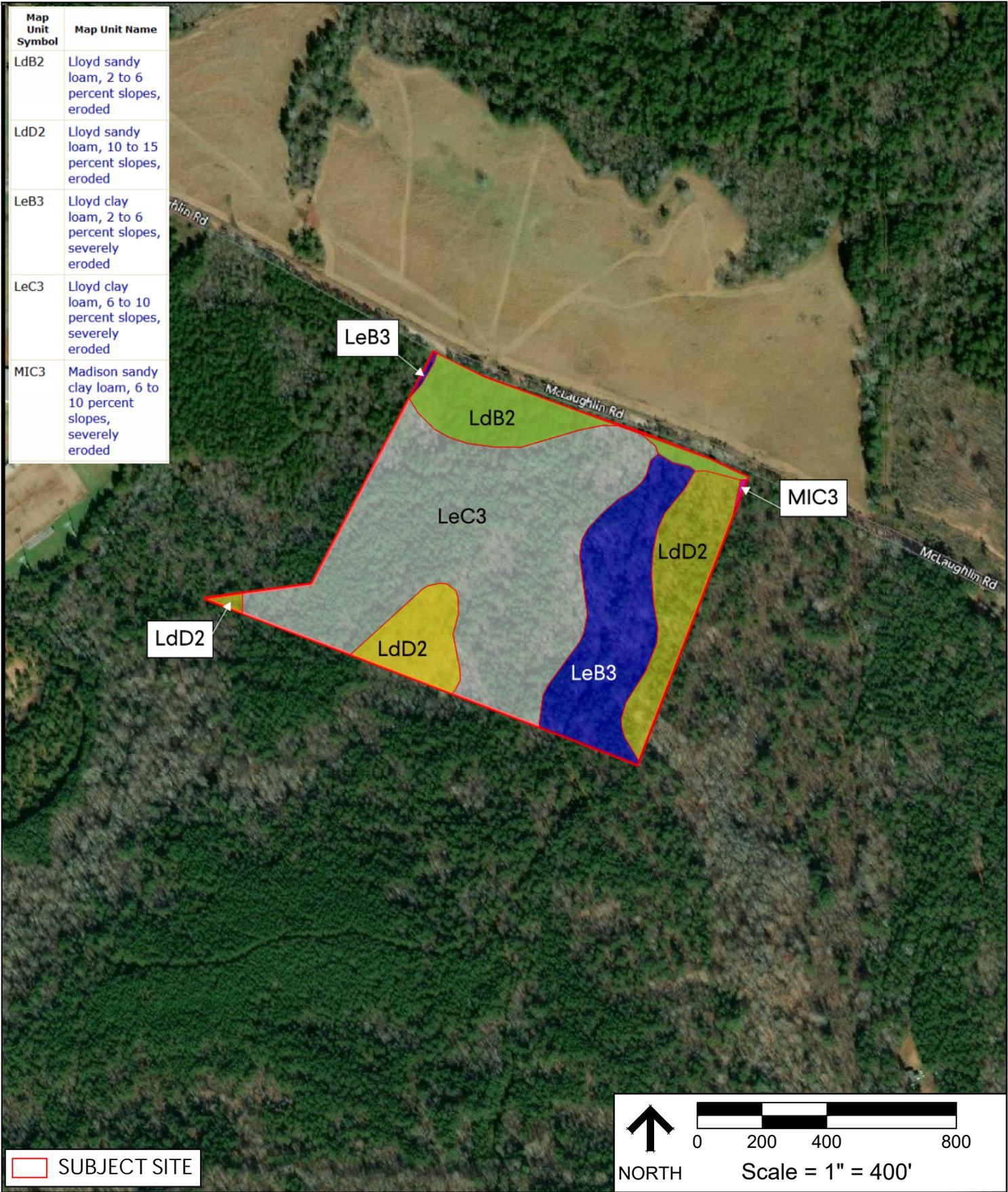
Figure 3

USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
 GMC # EATL21A004
 DATE: 5/5/21
 DRAWN BY: SMR

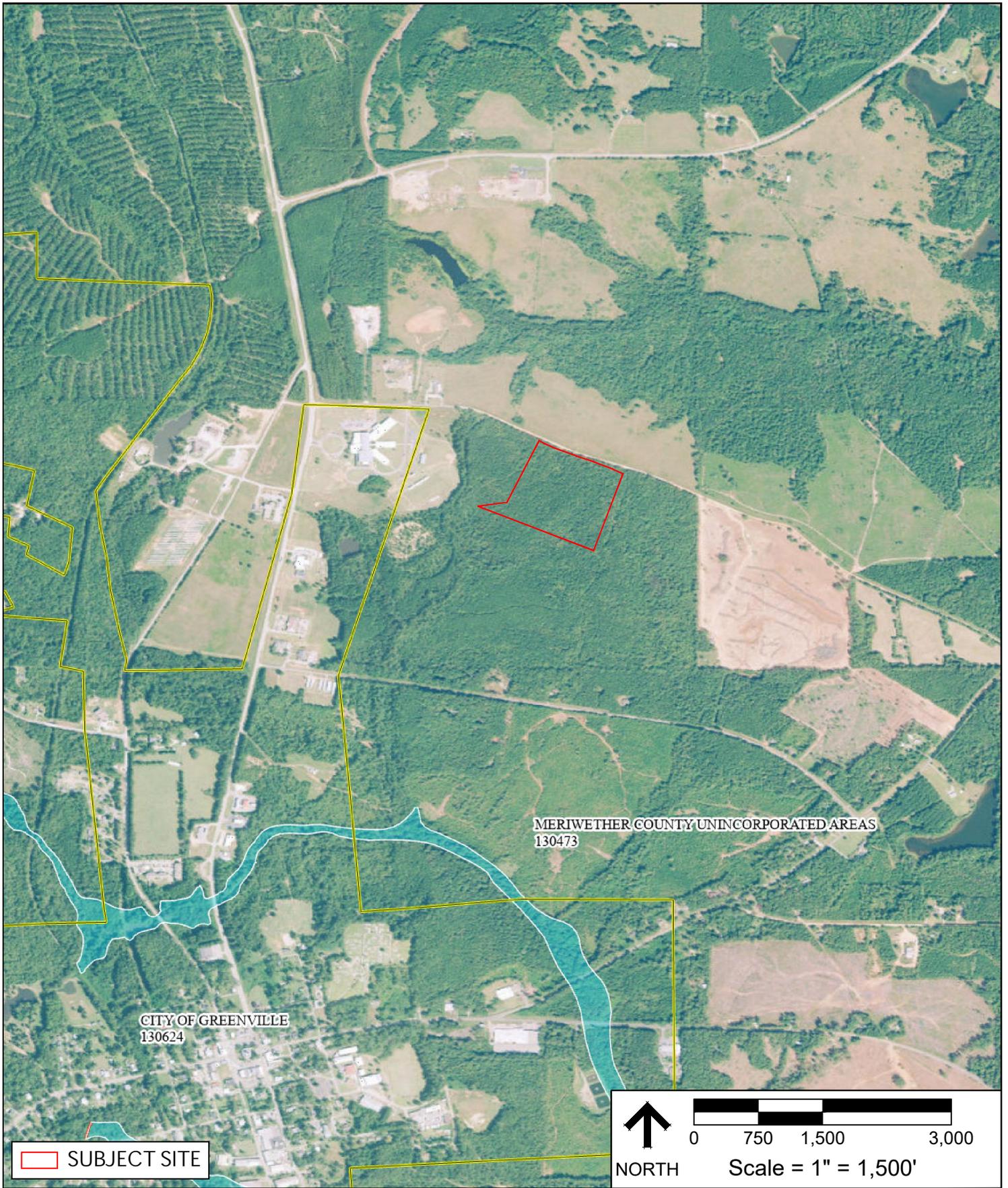
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Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name
LdB2	Lloyd sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded
LdD2	Lloyd sandy loam, 10 to 15 percent slopes, eroded
LeB3	Lloyd clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, severely eroded
LeC3	Lloyd clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded
MIC3	Madison sandy clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded



<p>REF. SHEET: MERIWETHER COUNTY SOIL SURVEY DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT</p> <p>Greenville Recreation Park Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia</p>	<p>FIGURE 4</p> <p>SOIL MAP GMC # EATL21A004 DATE: 5/5/21 DRAWN BY: SMR</p>	<p>2660 East Chase Lane, Suite 200 Montgomery, AL 36117 T 334.271.3200 GMCNETWORK.COM</p>	
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REF. SHEET: FEMA FIRM PANEL #140
DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Greenville Recreation Park
Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

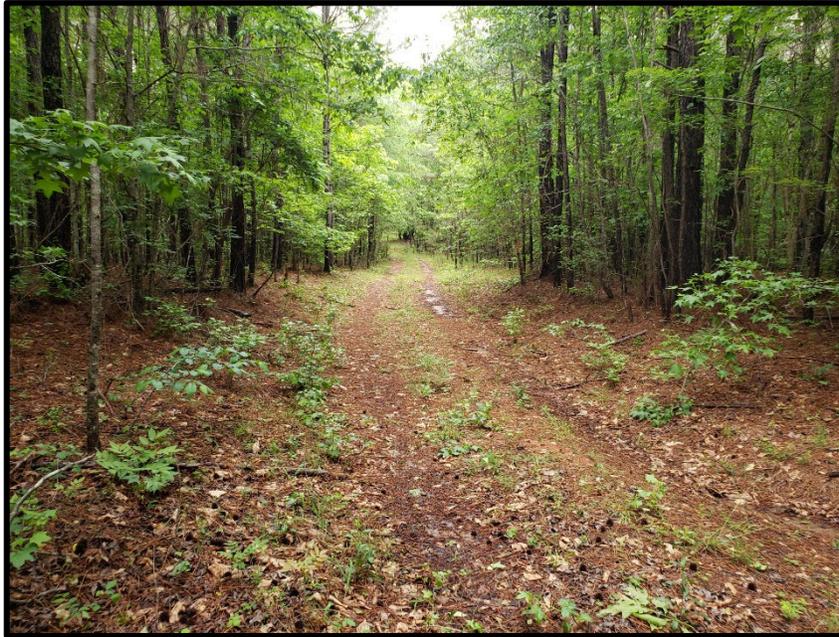
FIGURE 5

FLOOD MAP
GMC # EATL21A004
DATE: 5/5/21
DRAWN BY: SMR

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Montgomery, AL 36117
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P-1



Dirt road noted running through the property.

P-2



Ephemeral drain running through the east side of the property after heavy rain event.

P-3



General view of site, completely forested with a mix of planted pine and hardwoods.

P-4



General view of site, completely forested with a mix of planted pine and hardwoods.



May 6, 2021

Goodwyn Mills Cawood

6120 Powers Ferry Road NW
Suite 350
Atlanta, GA 30339

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F (770) 955-1064

www.gmcnetwork.com

Mr. Bryant Celestine, THPO
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
571 State Park Road 56
Livingston, TX 77351

via email: Celestine.Bryant@actribe.org

**RE: Greenville Recreation Park
Meriwether County, Georgia**

Mr. Celestine:

Meriwether County, Georgia, with the help of Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood (GMC), is in the process of performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a proposed full service recreational park project that plans to apply for funding through the National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program. The project is located within the City of Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia. The center coordinates of the site are latitude 33.046467° and longitude -84.702359°. Please refer to the attached street, USGS quadrangle, and aerial maps (Figures 1-3) to view the proposed project location.

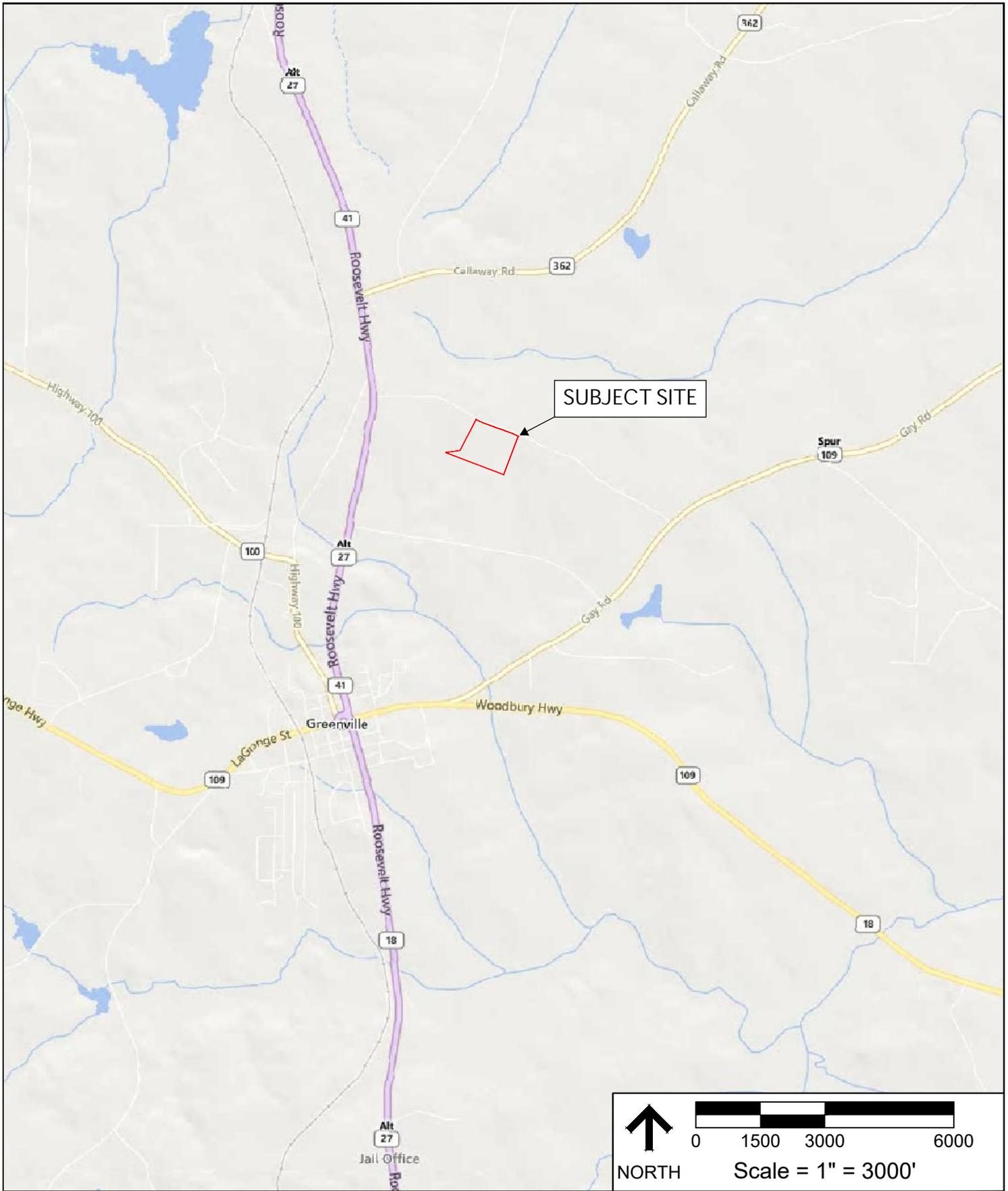
This project proposes to construct a full service recreational park including amenities such as utilities, trails, fields, playground, restrooms, a pavilion, a dog park plus adequate parking for these areas on county-owned property off of McLaughlin Road. The property is a 25-acre parcel, owned by the county, that is currently wooded except for a portion along the road frontage where the trees have been cleared.

Please advise us of any specific historical properties or important tribal resources within the project area. A response is requested within thirty (30) days of the e-mail receipt or delivery of this letter based on standard United States Post Office delivery schedules not to exceed 5 days from the post mark. If we do not hear from you within the specified time frame it will be assumed that you are in agreement and have no further interest in this matter.

If you need any further information or wish to discuss the project, please don't hesitate to contact me at Brittany.Israel@gmcnetwork.com or 334-221-3944.

Sincerely,
GOODWYN, MILLS AND CAWOOD,

Brittany Israel, PE
GMC-Environmental



REF. SHEET: BING STREET MAPS
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

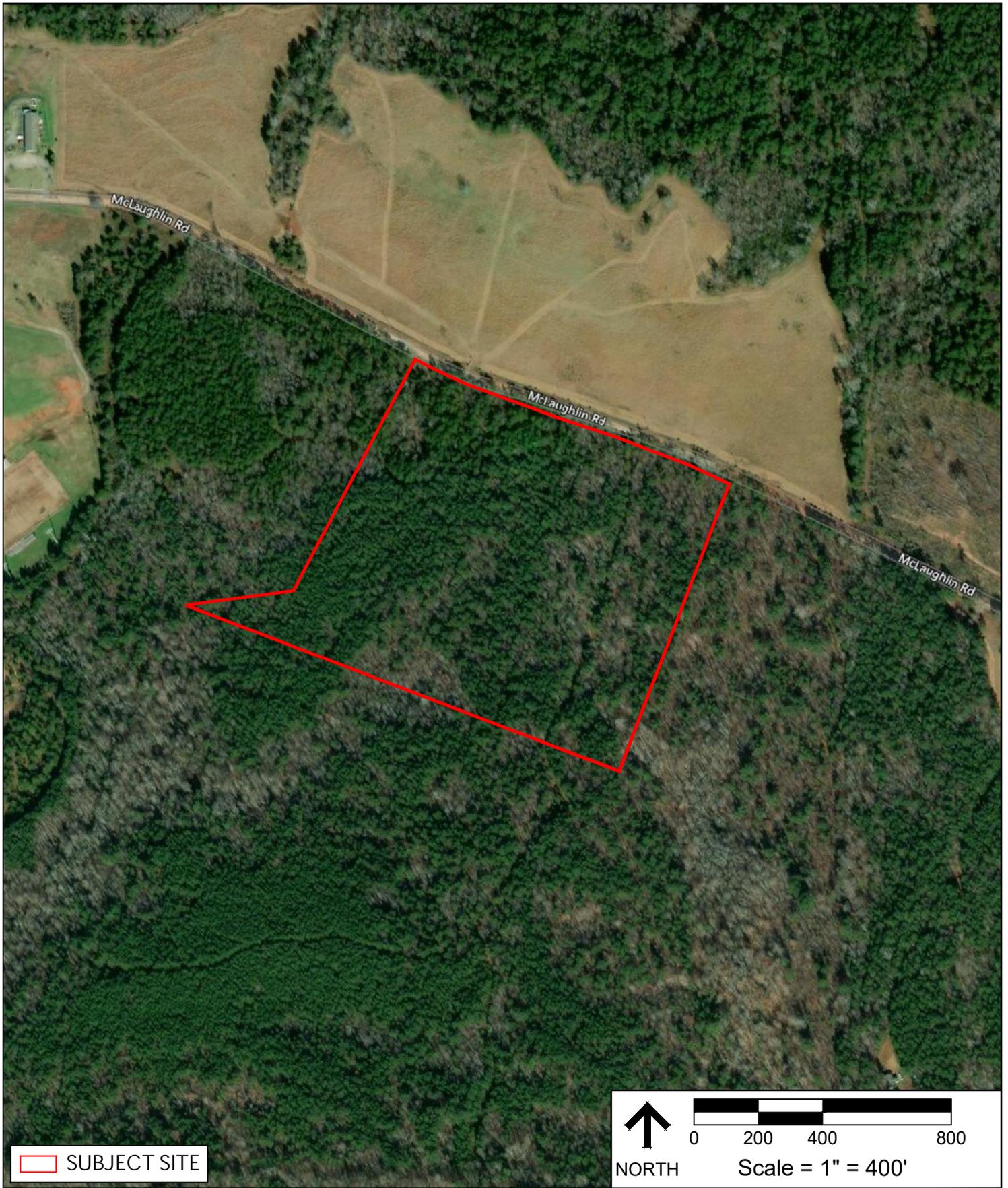
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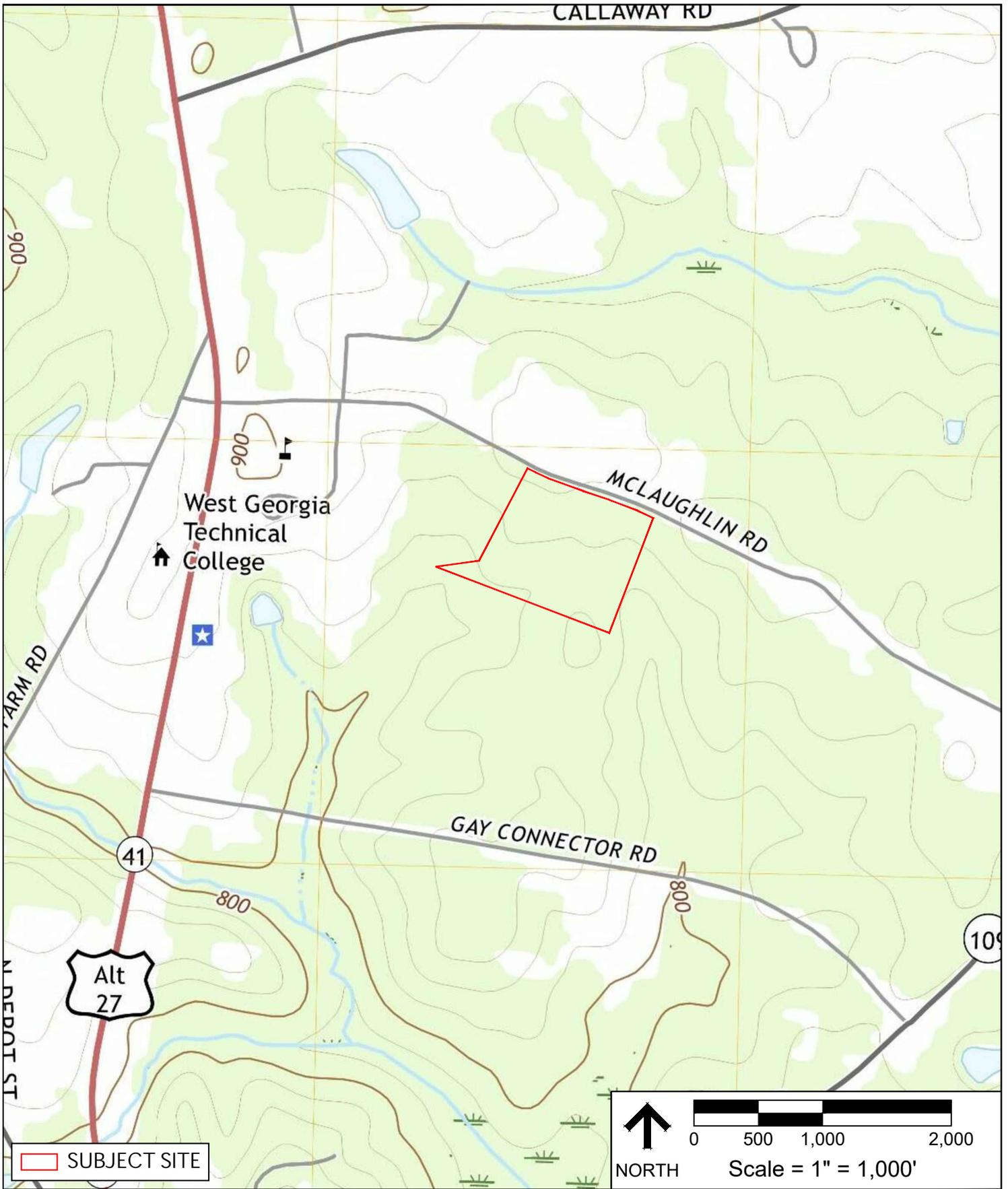
Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 2

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH
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REF. SHEET: 2020, GREENVILLE, GA USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

Figure 3

USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
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May 6, 2021

Goodwyn Mills Cawood

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www.gmcnetwork.com

Ms. Samantha Robison, THPO
Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town
PO Box 187
Wetumka, OK 74883

via email: aqhpo@mail.com

**RE: Greenville Recreation Park
Meriwether County, Georgia**

Ms. Robison:

Meriwether County, Georgia, with the help of Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood (GMC), is in the process of performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a proposed full service recreational park project that plans to apply for funding through the National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program. The project is located within the City of Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia. The center coordinates of the site are latitude 33.046467° and longitude -84.702359°. Please refer to the attached street, USGS quadrangle, and aerial maps (Figures 1-3) to view the proposed project location.

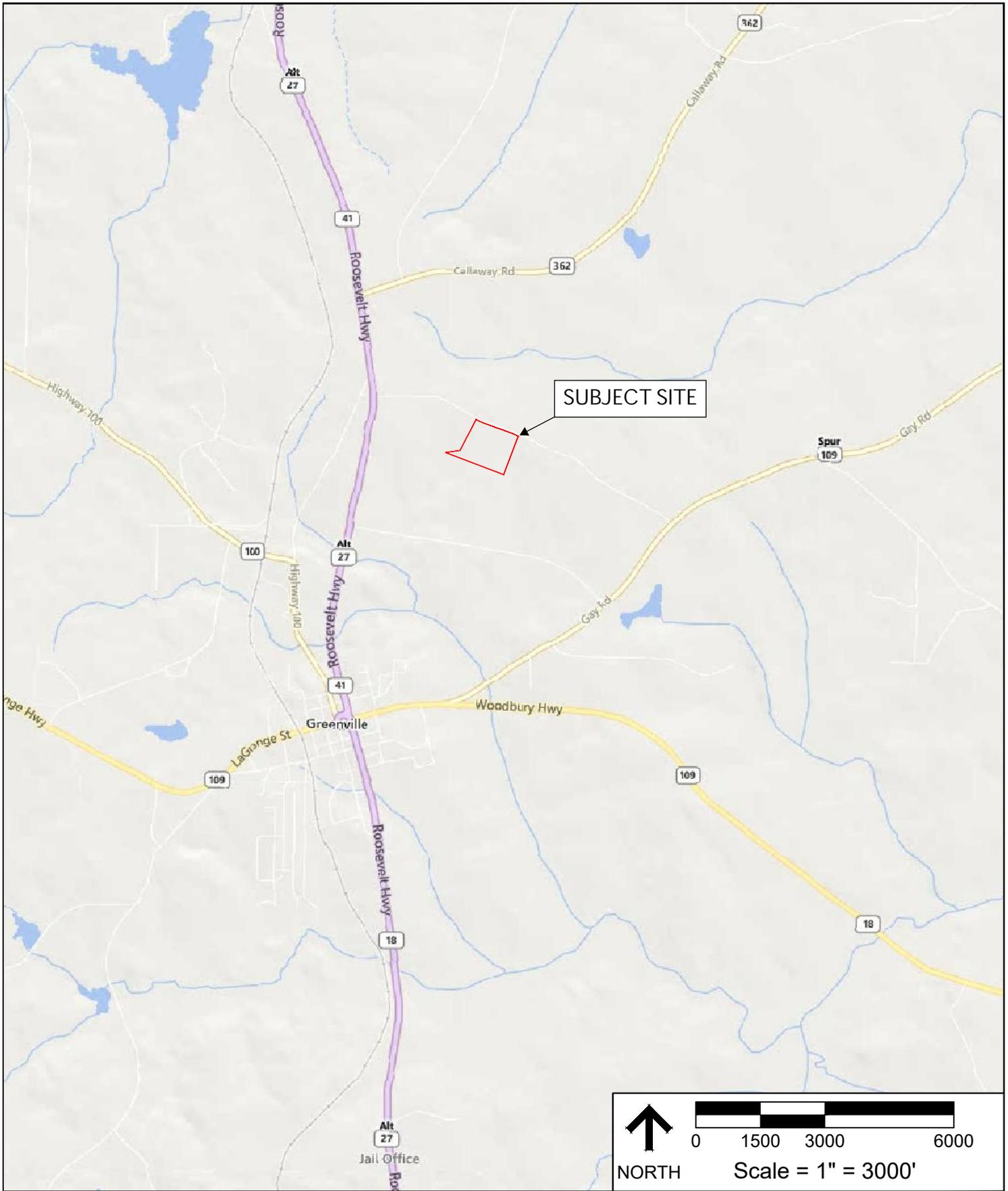
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Please advise us of any specific historical properties or important tribal resources within the project area. A response is requested within thirty (30) days of the e-mail receipt or delivery of this letter based on standard United States Post Office delivery schedules not to exceed 5 days from the post mark. If we do not hear from you within the specified time frame it will be assumed that you are in agreement and have no further interest in this matter.

If you need any further information or wish to discuss the project, please don't hesitate to contact me at Brittany.Israel@gmcnetwork.com or 334-221-3944.

Sincerely,
GOODWYN, MILLS AND CAWOOD,

Brittany Israel, PE
GMC-Environmental



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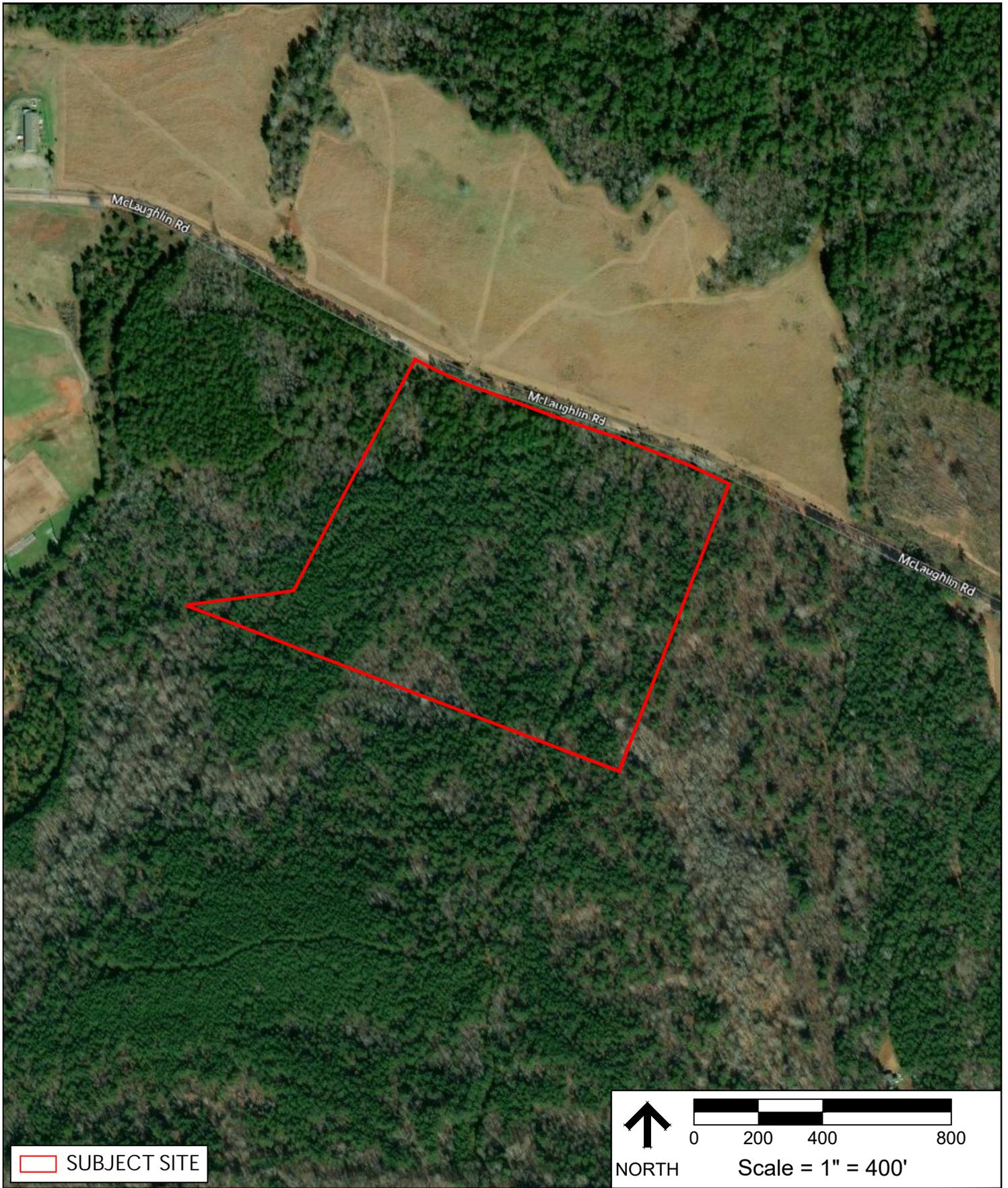
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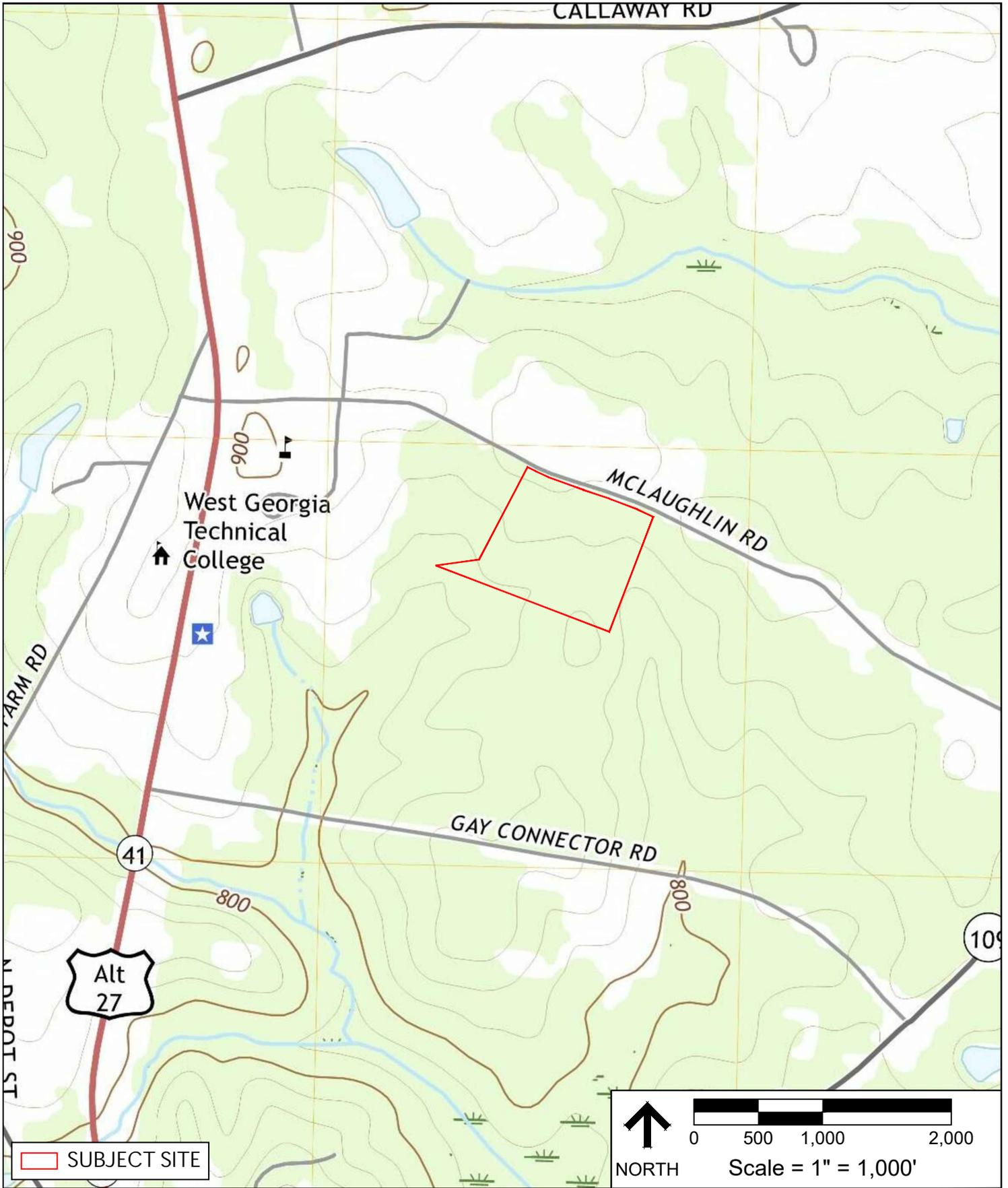
Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

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Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

Figure 3

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May 6, 2021

Goodwyn Mills Cawood

6120 Powers Ferry Road NW
Suite 350
Atlanta, GA 30339

T (770) 952-2481
F (770) 955-1064

www.gmcnetwork.com

Ms. Linda Langley, THPO
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana
PO Box 10
Elton, LA 70532

via email: llangley@mcneese.edu

**RE: Greenville Recreation Park
Meriwether County, Georgia**

Ms. Langley:

Meriwether County, Georgia, with the help of Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood (GMC), is in the process of performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a proposed full service recreational park project that plans to apply for funding through the National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program. The project is located within the City of Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia. The center coordinates of the site are latitude 33.046467° and longitude -84.702359°. Please refer to the attached street, USGS quadrangle, and aerial maps (Figures 1-3) to view the proposed project location.

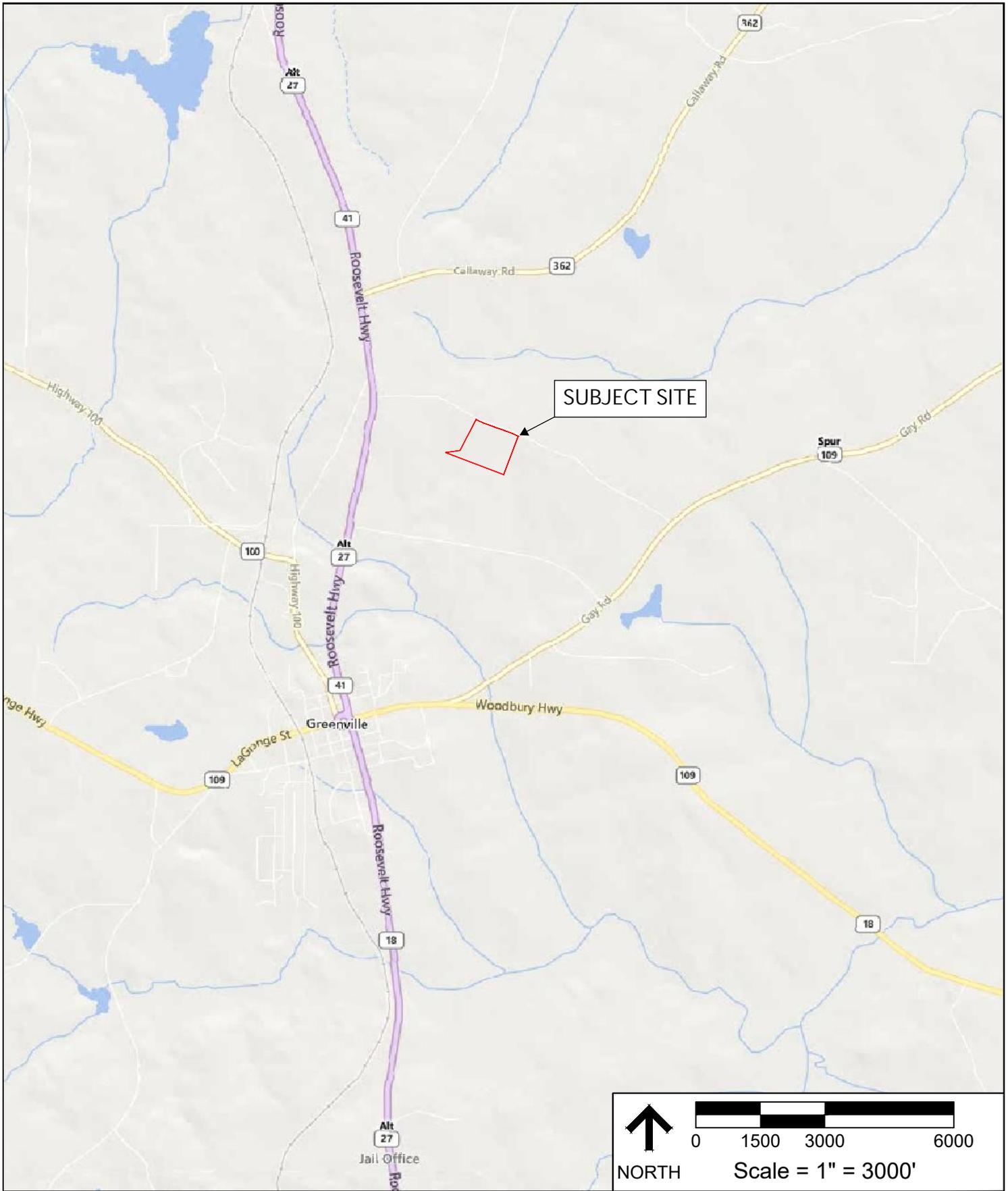
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Please advise us of any specific historical properties or important tribal resources within the project area. A response is requested within thirty (30) days of the e-mail receipt or delivery of this letter based on standard United States Post Office delivery schedules not to exceed 5 days from the post mark. If we do not hear from you within the specified time frame it will be assumed that you are in agreement and have no further interest in this matter.

If you need any further information or wish to discuss the project, please don't hesitate to contact me at Brittany.Israel@gmcnetwork.com or 334-221-3944.

Sincerely,
GOODWYN, MILLS AND CAWOOD,

Brittany Israel, PE
GMC-Environmental



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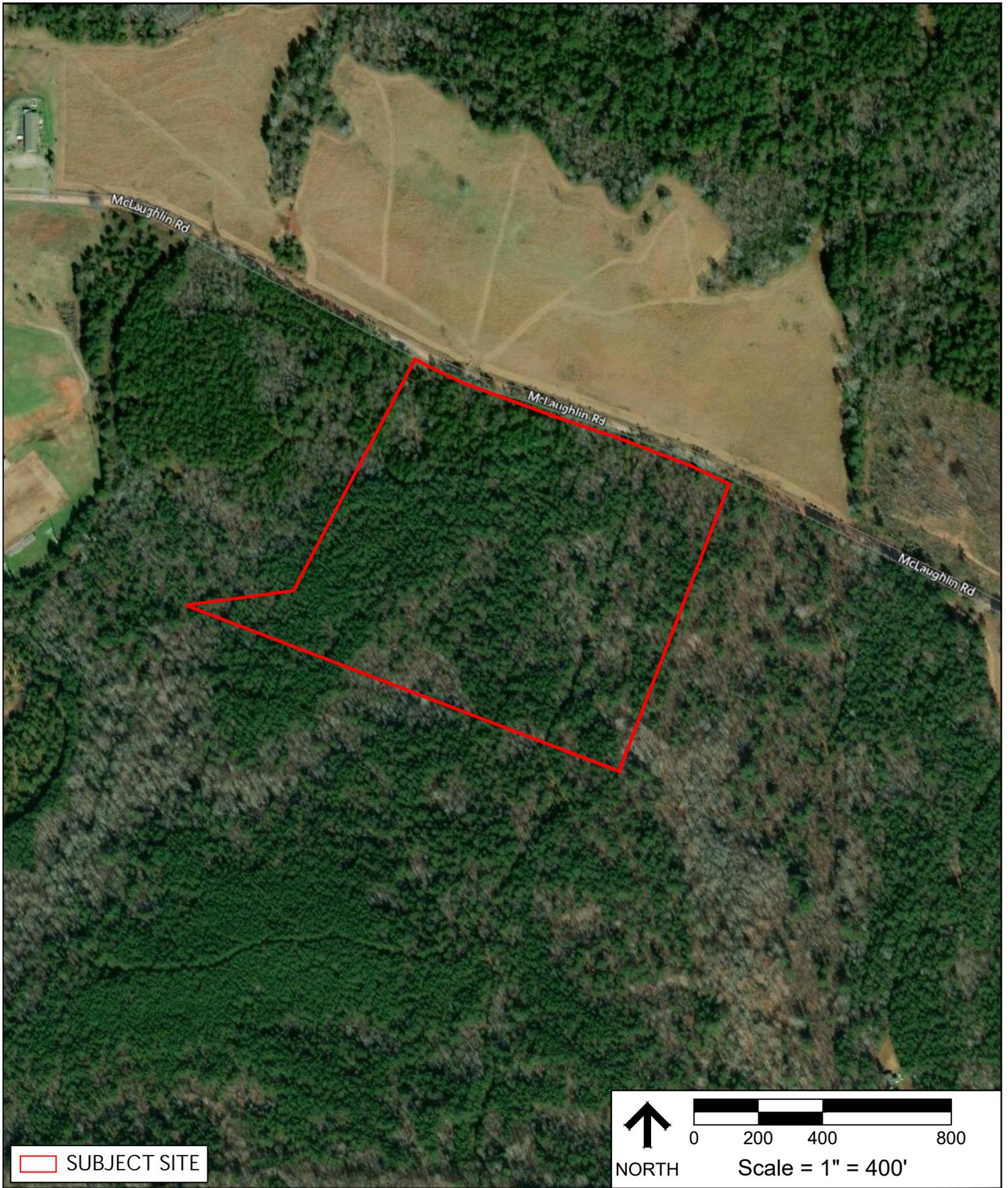
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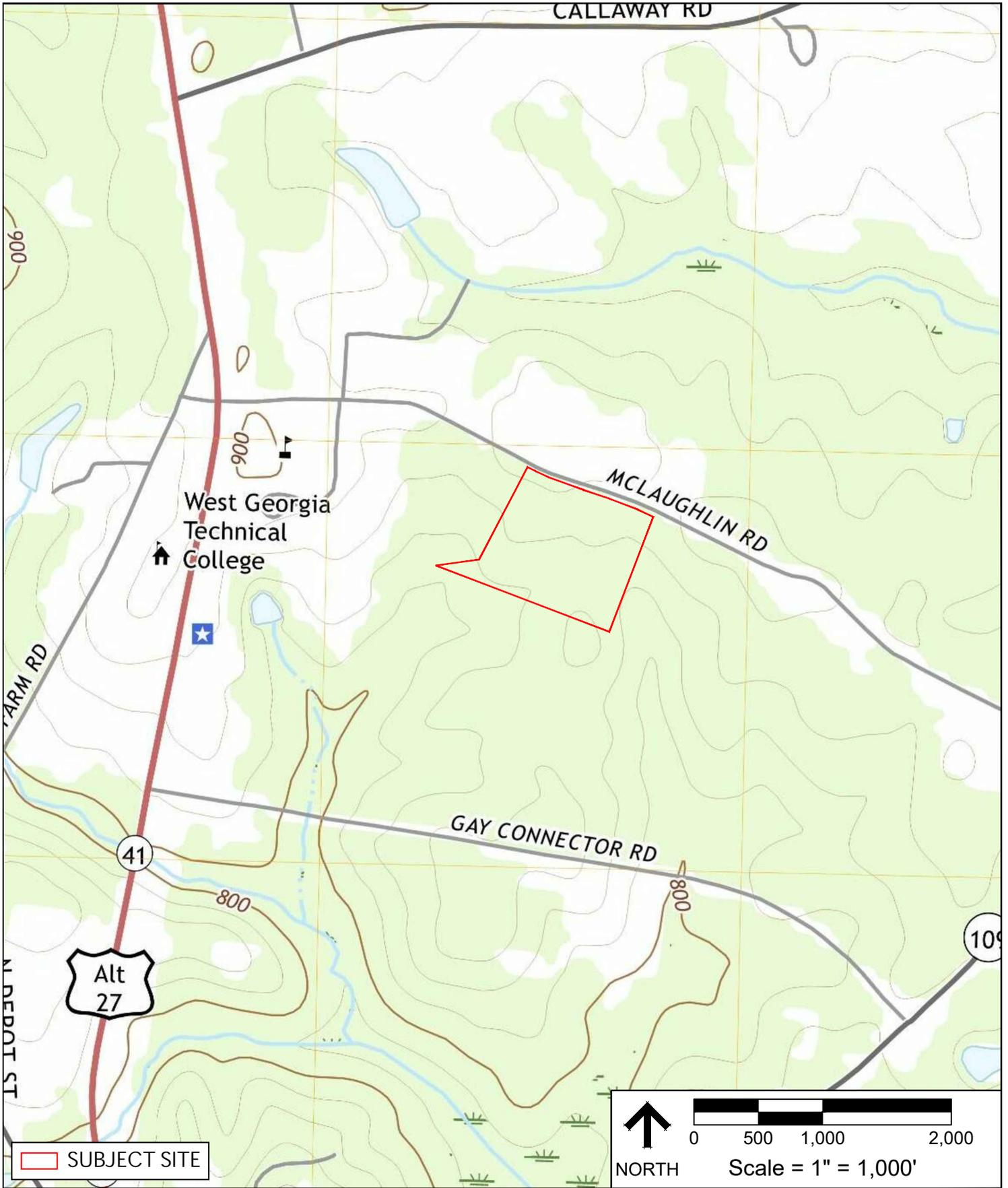
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Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

Figure 3

USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
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May 6, 2021

Goodwyn Mills Cawood

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Suite 350
Atlanta, GA 30339

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F (770) 955-1064

www.gmcnetwork.com

Ms. Corain Lowe-Zepeda, THPO
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
PO Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

via email: section106@mcn-nsn.gov

**RE: Greenville Recreation Park
Meriwether County, Georgia**

Ms. Lowe-Zepeda:

Meriwether County, Georgia, with the help of Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood (GMC), is in the process of performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a proposed full service recreational park project that plans to apply for funding through the National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program. The project is located within the City of Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia. The center coordinates of the site are latitude 33.046467° and longitude -84.702359°. Please refer to the attached USGS quadrangle, street, and aerial maps (Figures 1-3) to view the proposed project location.

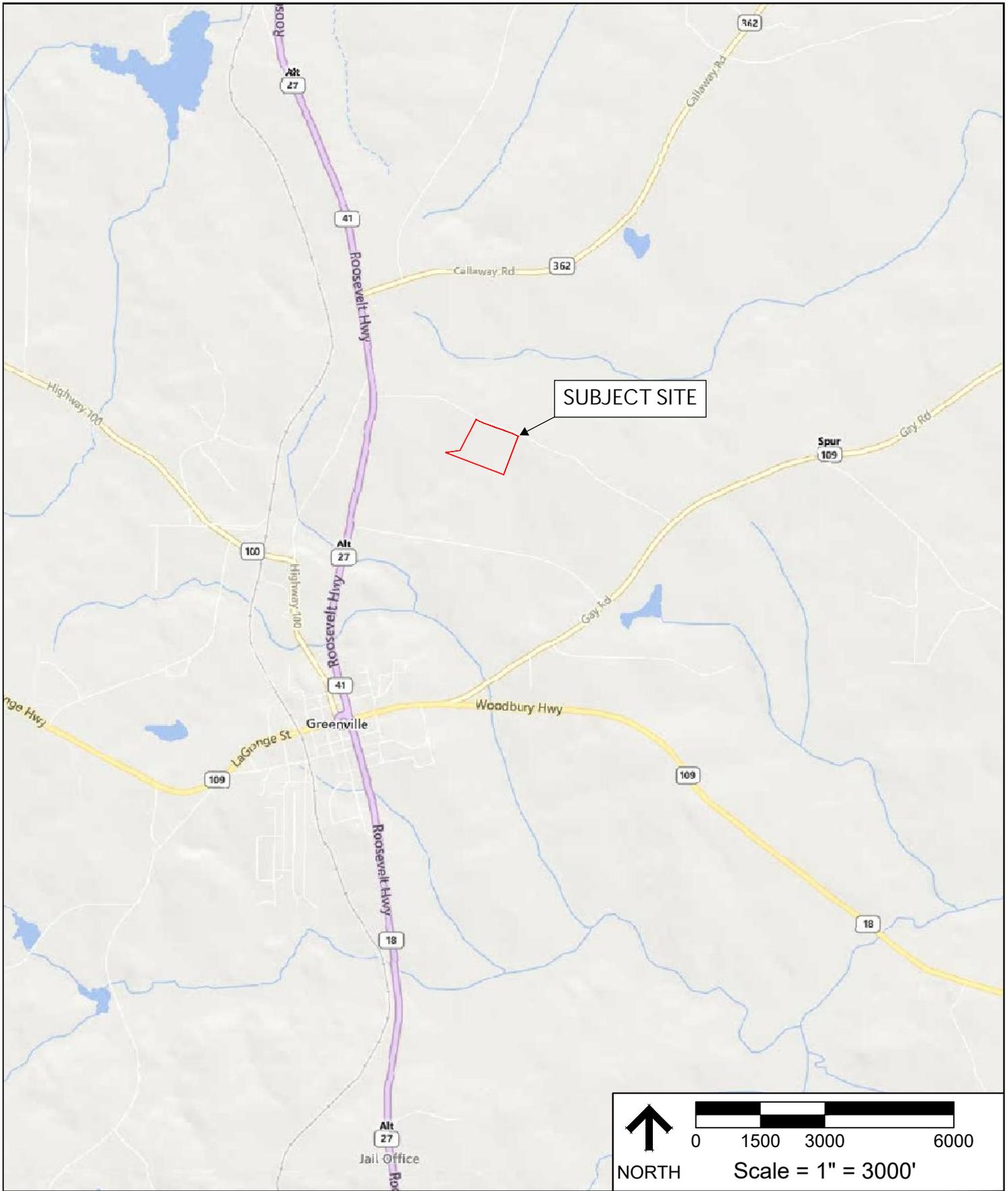
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If you need any further information or wish to discuss the project, please don't hesitate to contact me at Brittany.Israel@gmcnetwork.com or 334-221-3944.

Sincerely,
GOODWYN, MILLS AND CAWOOD,

Brittany Israel, PE
GMC-Environmental



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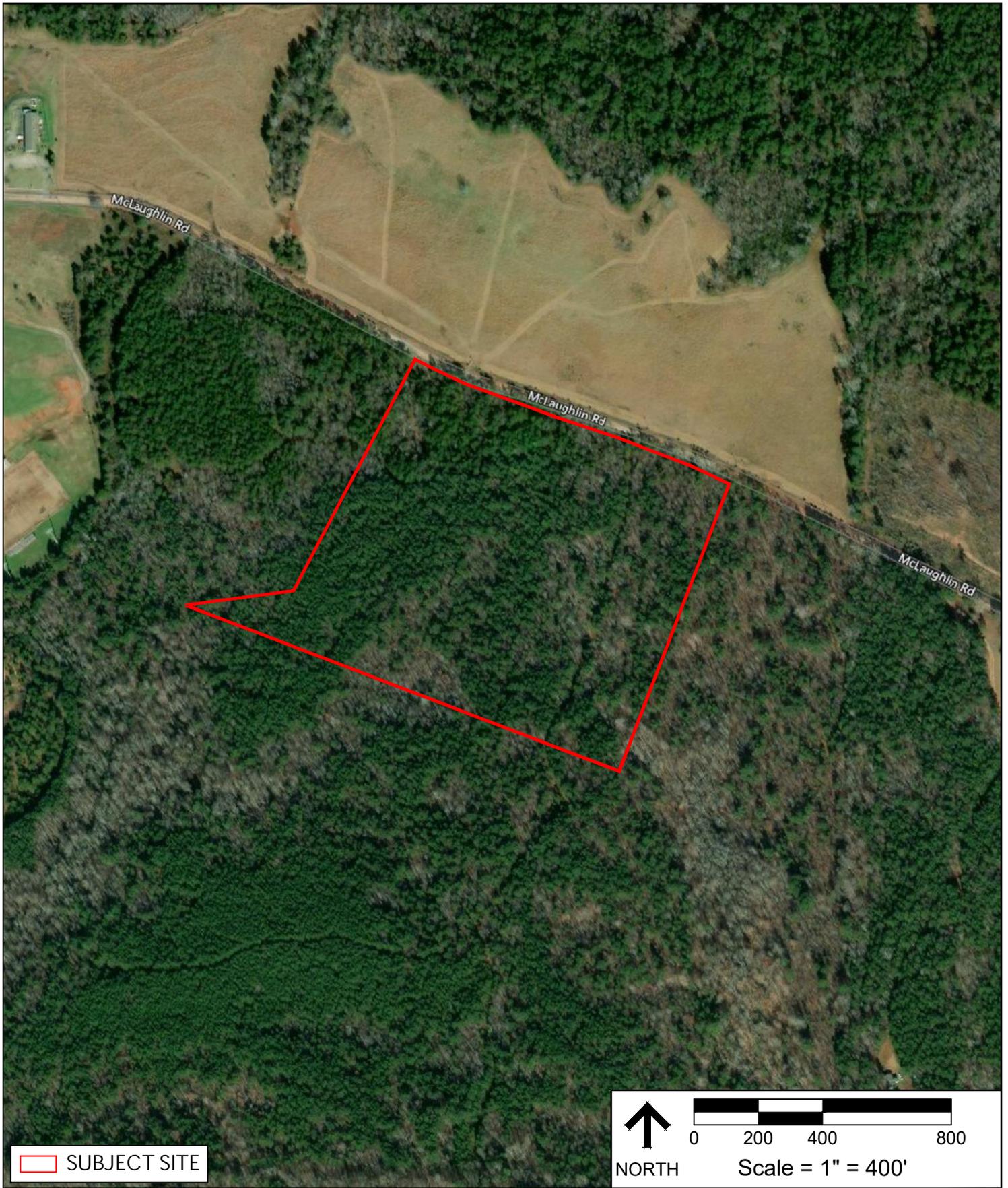
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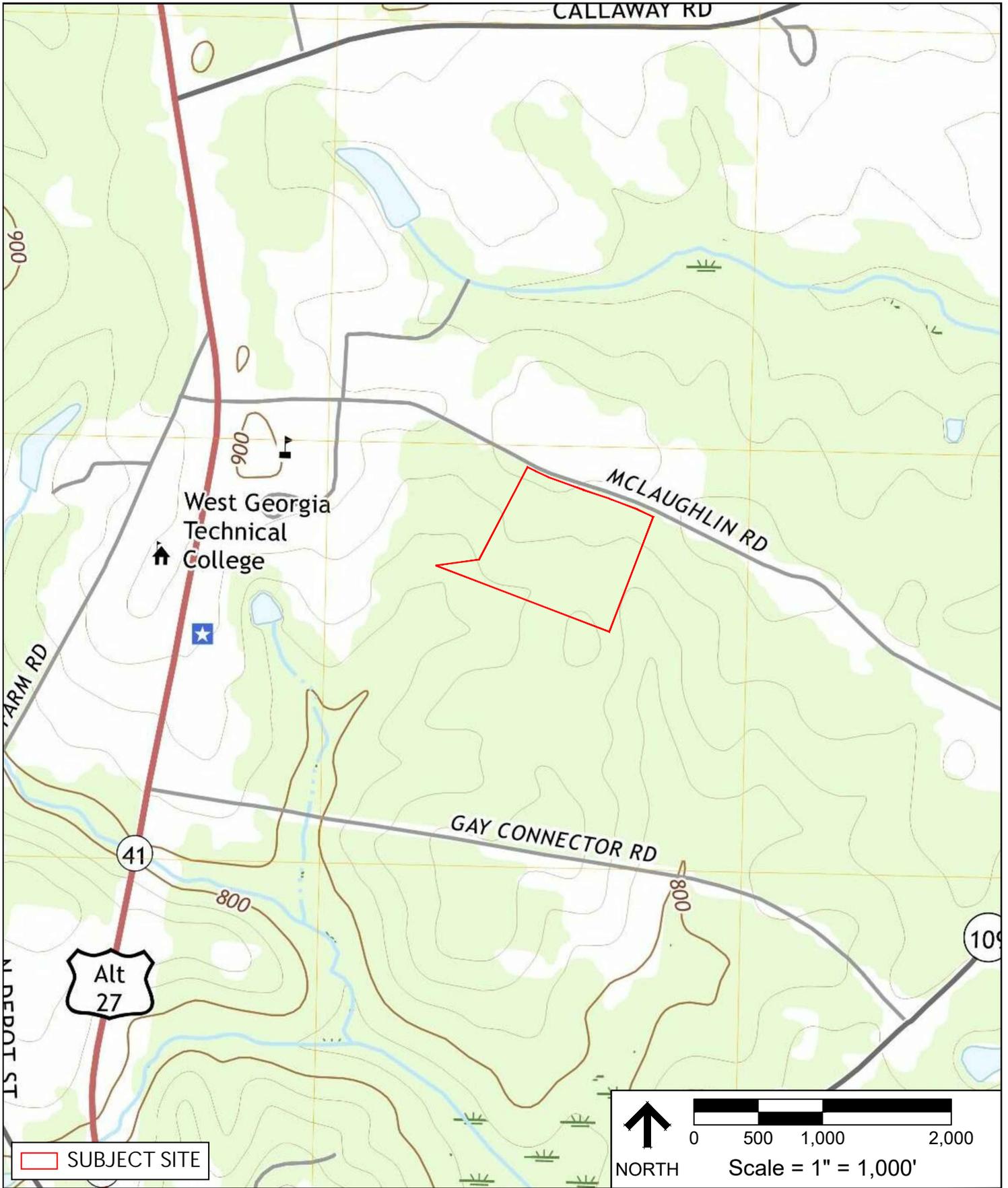
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 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 2

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Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

Figure 3

USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
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May 6, 2021

Goodwyn Mills Cawood

6120 Powers Ferry Road NW
Suite 350
Atlanta, GA 30339

T (770) 952-2481
F (770) 955-1064

www.gmcnetwork.com

Mr. Rory Richardson
District Conservationist
USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service

via email: Rory.Richardson@usda.gov

RE: Request for Concurrence/Potential Impacts
Greenville Recreation Park
Meriwether County, Georgia

Dear Mr. Richardson:

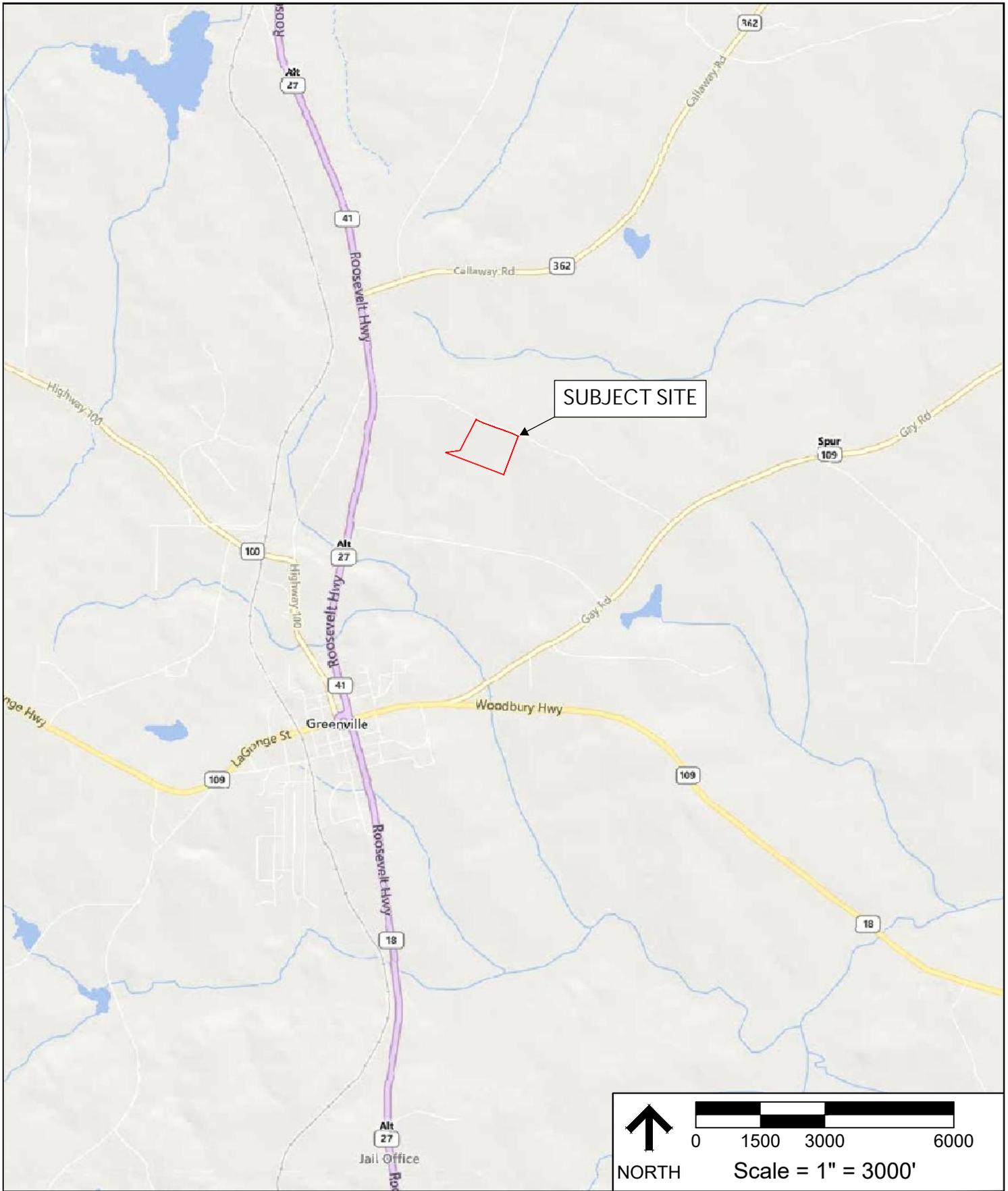
Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, (GMC), on behalf of Meriwether County, Georgia, is in the process of performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a proposed full service recreational park project that plans to apply for funding through the National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program. The proposed plans include a full service recreational park on a 25 acre parcel located along McLaughlin Road in Meriwether County, Georgia. The purpose of this project is to provide a full service recreational park for residents of Greenville and Meriwether County. Approximately 12 acres of the tract will be graded to allow for a grassed play field, ADA walking trail, pavilion, bathrooms, dog park, and parking. The site is currently wooded except for a portion along the road frontage where the trees have been cleared. The extents of the proposed project are depicted on the attached maps. In addition, a Web Soil Survey Farm Classification report and an AD-1006 form for the subject site are attached.

GMC conducted a Farmland Classification Rating review utilizing Web Soil Survey. Portions of the site include land rated as prime farmland and farmland of statewide importance.

We are requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on important farmland and any recommendations you may have to minimize or avoid these effects. We would appreciate a response as soon as possible. If you need any further information, please contact me at (334) 221-3944.

Sincerely,

Brittany Israel, PE
GMC-Environmental



REF. SHEET: BING STREET MAPS
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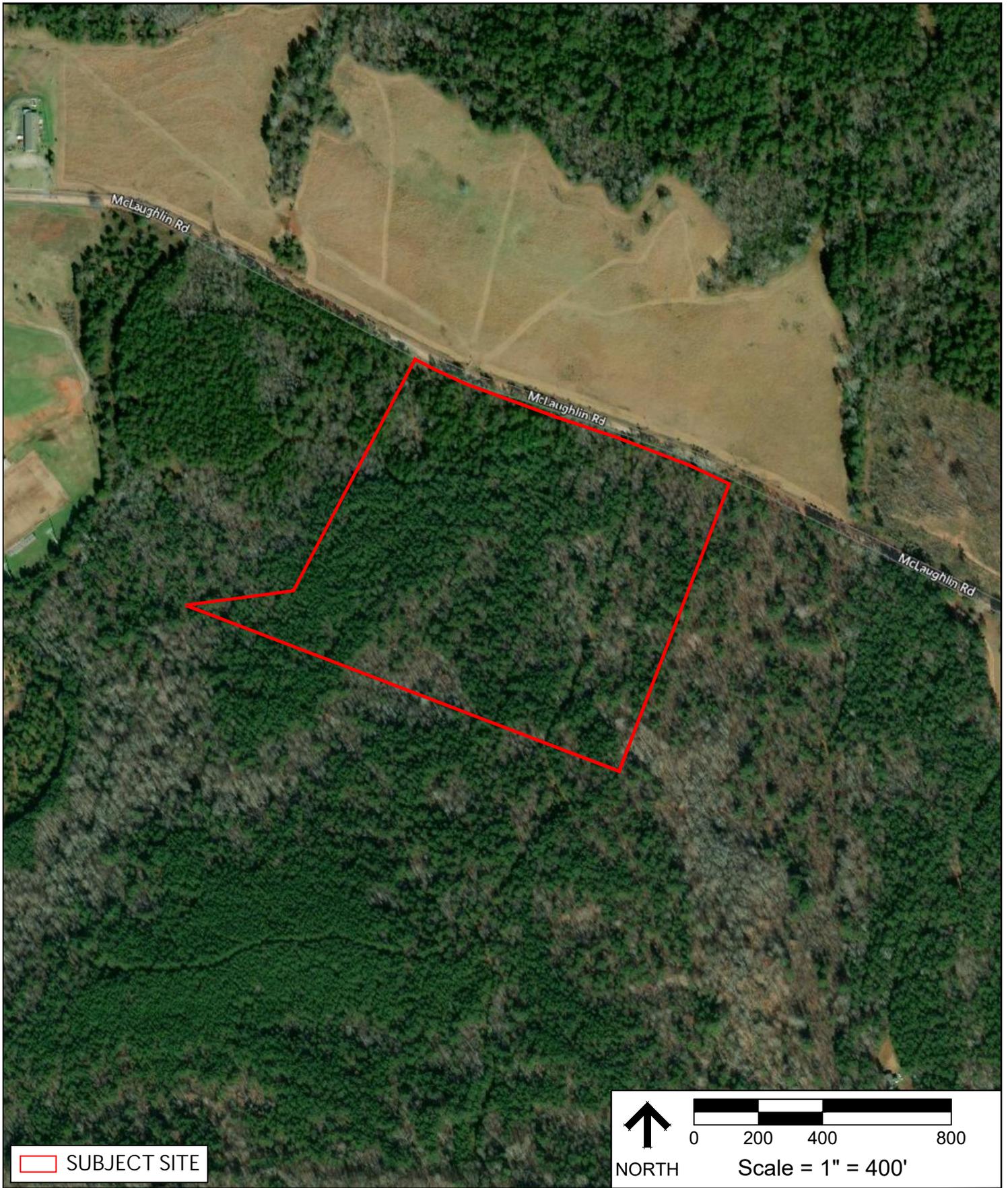
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REF. SHEET: BING HYBRID MAPS
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

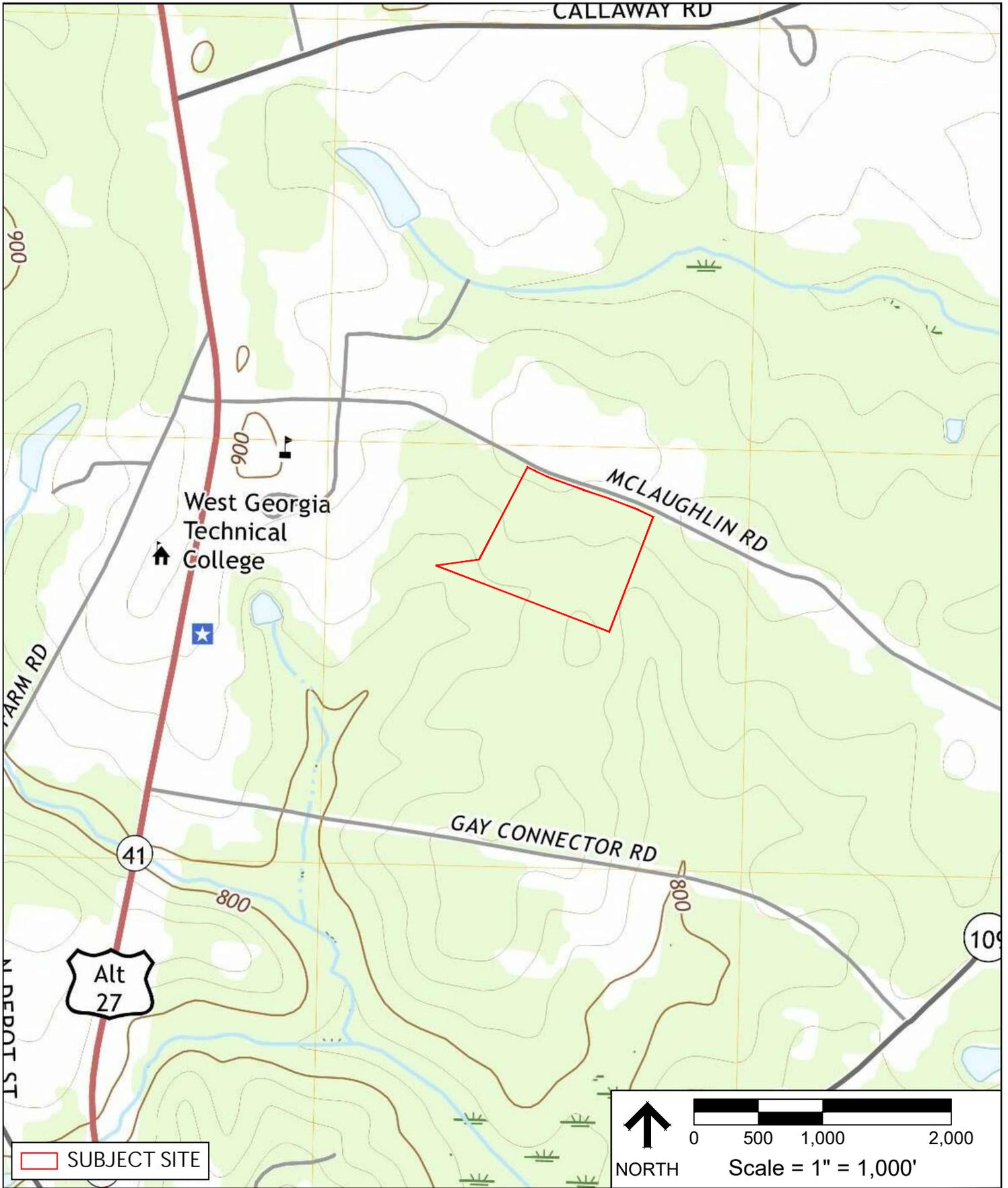
Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 2

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH
 GMC # EATL21A004
 DATE: 5/5/21
 DRAWN BY: SMR

2660 East Chase Lane, Suite 200
 Montgomery, AL 36117
 T 334.271.3200
 GMCNETWORK.COM

GMC



REF. SHEET: 2020, GREENVILLE, GA USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

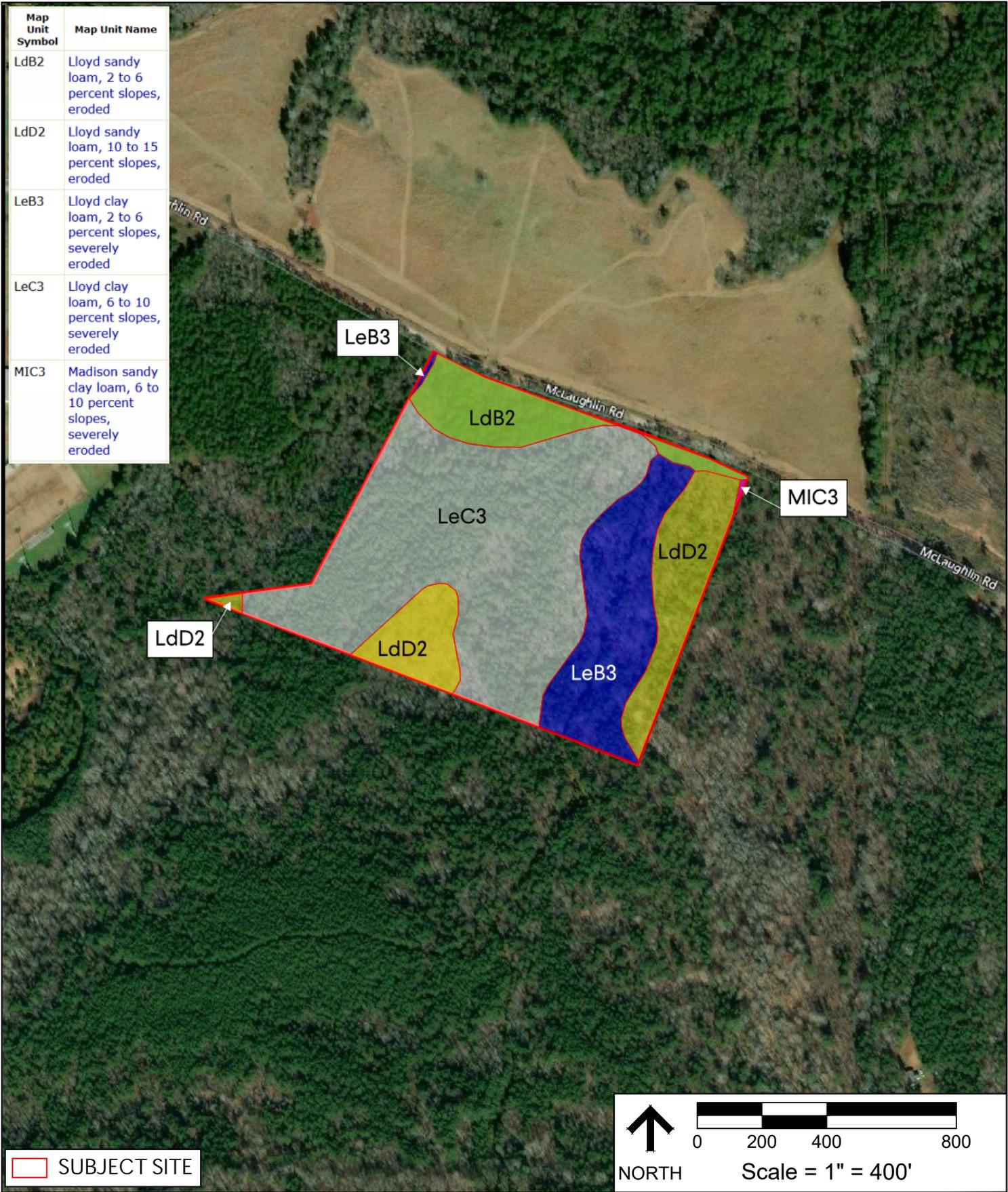
Figure 3

USGS QUADRANGLE MAP
 GMC # EATL21A004
 DATE: 5/5/21
 DRAWN BY: SMR

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Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name
LdB2	Lloyd sandy loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded
LdD2	Lloyd sandy loam, 10 to 15 percent slopes, eroded
LeB3	Lloyd clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, severely eroded
LeC3	Lloyd clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded
MIC3	Madison sandy clay loam, 6 to 10 percent slopes, severely eroded



REF. SHEET: MERIWETHER COUNTY SOIL SURVEY
DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

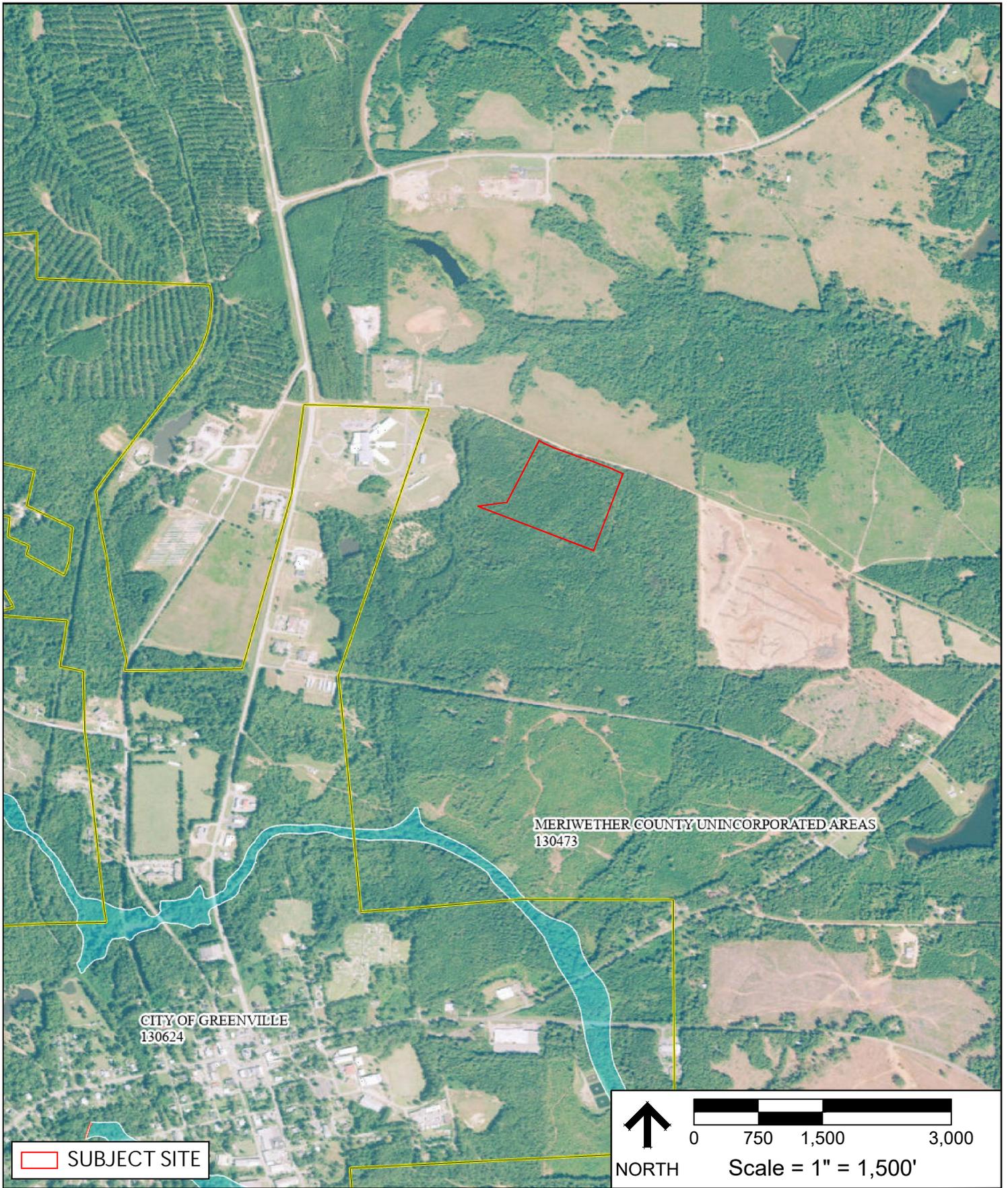
Greenville Recreation Park
Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 4

SOIL MAP
GMC # EATL21A004
DATE: 5/5/21
DRAWN BY: SMR

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Montgomery, AL 36117
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REF. SHEET: FEMA FIRM PANEL #140
 DESCRIPTION: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Greenville Recreation Park
 Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia

FIGURE 5

FLOOD MAP
 GMC # EATL21A004
 DATE: 5/5/21
 DRAWN BY: SMR

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Theron Gay
Administrator
Meriwether County
17234 Roosevelt Highway, Building B
Greenville, Georgia 30222

FROM: Jennifer Dixon 
Environmental Review Program Manager
Historic Preservation Division

RE: Finding of "No Historic Properties Affected"

PROJECT: **LWCF: Create Park, McLaughlin Road, Greenville**
Federal Agency: NPS
HP-210301-006

COUNTY: Meriwether

DATE: March 24, 2021

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has reviewed the information received concerning the above-referenced project. Our comments are offered to assist federal agencies and their project applicants in complying with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

The subject project consists of creating a park on approximately 10-12 acres of a 25-acre parcel along McLaughlin Road near Roosevelt Highway in Greenville, including clearing, utilities, trails, fields, playground, restrooms, pavilion, parking, and dog park. Based on the information submitted and desktop research, it appears to HPD that no historic properties that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this undertaking, as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1). Please note that historic and/or archaeological resources may be located within the project's area of potential effect. However, at this time it appears that they will not be impacted by the above-referenced project, due to the scope and location of work and previous ground disturbance. Furthermore, any changes to this project as proposed will require further review by our office for compliance with Section 106.

Please refer to the project number assigned above in any future correspondence regarding this project. If we may be of further assistance, please contact me at (404) 486-6376 or Jennifer.dixon@dca.ga.gov.

cc: Antoinette Norfleet, DNR
Paul Jarrell, Three Rivers Regional Commission



MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

TED WILL
DIRECTOR

March 15, 2021

Allyson Stephens
Deputy Clerk
Meriwether County Board of Commissioners
17234 Roosevelt Highway
Building B
Greenville, GA 30222

Subject: Known occurrences of natural communities, plants, and animals of highest priority conservation status on or near LWCF - Meriwether County-Greenville Recreation Project in Meriwether County, GA

Dear Allyson Stephens:

This is in response to your request on February 19, 2021. The following Georgia natural heritage database element occurrences (EOs) were selected for the current site using the local Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 10 watershed for elements whose range distribution is limited by aquatic systems (AQ) and within 3 miles for all other EOs (TR).

Meriwether County-Greenville Recreation Project Site (-84.702359, 33.046467, WGS84)

Cyclonaias infucata (Sculptured Pigtoe) in Walnut Creek (AQ), approx. 4.6 mi E of site

Cyclonaias infucata (Sculptured Pigtoe) in Walnut Creek (AQ), approx. 2.6 mi SE of site

GA *Cyprinella callitaenia* (Bluestripe Shiner) in Big Red Oak Creek (AQ), approx. 7.6 mi E of site

Lythrurus atrapiculus (Blacktip Shiner) in Red Oak Creek (AQ), approx. 4.3 mi NE of site

Lythrurus atrapiculus (Blacktip Shiner) in Brittens Creek (AQ), approx. 5.0 mi N of site

Micropterus cataractae (Shoal Bass) in Big Red Oak Creek (AQ), approx. 7.7 mi E of site

GA *Notropis hypsilepis* (Highscale Shiner) in Walnut Creek (AQ), approx. 2.6 mi SE of site

GA *Notropis hypsilepis* (Highscale Shiner) in Brittens Creek (AQ), approx. 5.0 mi N of site

GA *Notropis hypsilepis* (Highscale Shiner) in Red Oak Creek (AQ), approx. 8.5 mi E of site

GA *Notropis hypsilepis* (Highscale Shiner) [Historic] in unnamed tributary to Red Oak Creek (AQ), approx. 6.6 mi NE of site

US *Pleurobema pyriforme* (Oval Pigtoe) in Red Oak Creek (AQ), approx. 4.4 mi NE of site

GA *Strophitus radiatus* (Rayed Creekshell) in Big Red Oak Creek (AQ), approx. 4.4 mi NE of site

GA *Strophitus radiatus* (Rayed Creekshell) [Historic] in Flint River (AQ), approx. 9.6 mi E of site

Xyris scabrifolia (Harper's Yellow-eyed Grass) (TR), approx. 2.0 mi SE of site

Georgia Forestry Commission (TR), approx. 1.9 mi NE of site

Athens Land Trust Easement [Athens Land Trust] (TR), approx. 1.9 mi SE of site

Bates [Oconee River Land Trust] (TR), approx. 2.1 mi SE of site

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SECTION

2065 U.S. HIGHWAY 278 S.E. | SOCIAL CIRCLE, GEORGIA 30025-4743
770.918.6411 | FAX 706.557.3033 | WWW.GEORGIAWILDLIFE.COM

Meriwether Agg [Oconee River Land Trust] (TR), approx. 2.5 mi SE of site
Rock Bottom [OCONEE RIVER LAND TRUST] (TR), approx. 2.1 mi S of site
Top Rock [OCONEE RIVER LAND TRUST] (TR), approx. 2.7 mi S of site
House Creek, Chattahoochee River Lower North (0313000210) [SWAP High Priority
Watershed] (TR), approx. 3.0 mi W of site
**Red Oak Creek (0313000505) [SWAP High Priority Watershed] (TR), on or within
immediate vicinity of site**

Recommendations:

Federally listed species have been documented near the proposed project. To minimize potential impacts to federally listed species, we recommend consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Please email GAES_Assistance@fws.gov for project consultation and survey recommendations.

Please be aware that state protected species have been documented near the proposed project. For information about these species, including survey recommendations, please visit our webpage at <http://georgiawildlife.com/conservation/species-of-concern#rare-locations>.

The following biologists can provide additional recommendations and assistance regarding the following groups:

Plants: Lisa Kruse (Lisa.Kruse@dnr.ga.gov)

Fish: Paula Marcinek (Paula.Marcinek@dnr.ga.gov)

Crayfish: Brett Albanese (Brett.Albanese@dnr.ga.gov)

Mussels: Matt Rowe (Matt.Rowe@dnr.ga.gov)

Reptiles & Amphibians: Daniel Sollenberger (Daniel.Sollenberger@dnr.ga.gov)

Mammals: Trina Morris (Katrina.Morris@dnr.ga.gov)

Birds: Nathan Klaus (Nathan.Klaus@dnr.ga.gov) or Tim Keyes (Tim.Keyes@dnr.ga.gov)

Species listed on our website that have no “GA” or “US” status are considered species of concern. Locations of these species are tracked until enough information is gathered to determine if they should be added to the state list or if their populations do not warrant tracking. It is important to consider these species when planning projects. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding Georgia species of concern.

We are glad to see park development, which will add to the recreation opportunities in the community. Development at the recreational park should occur at least 100 feet away from sensitive environmental resources, such as streams and wetlands. We also recommend that construction be geared toward areas that have been disturbed in the past. Please keep erosion to a minimum during construction and leave as much vegetation intact as possible. In wet areas, use boardwalks if possible to prevent degradation and destruction of these sensitive habitats. If paths are paved, we strongly recommend using a porous pavement that will allow water to soak through instead of running off the surface and into the watershed. Place paths carefully and provide for adequate parking and access areas. Please consider constructing parking lots of porous asphalt, which can have economic and environmental benefits by aiding in storm-water

management. These measures will help protect water quality, protect sensitive habitats and native species, and provide for a more enjoyable recreational experience for the users.

This project occurs within a high priority watershed(s). As part of Georgia's State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), high priority watersheds were identified to protect populations of high priority aquatic species, important coastal habitats, and migratory corridors for anadromous species. Please refer to Appendix F of Georgia's SWAP to find out more specific information about the listed high priority watershed(s) (<https://georgiawildlife.com/wildlifeactionplan>).

Disclaimer:

Please keep in mind the limitations of our database. The data collected by the Wildlife Conservation Section comes from a variety of sources, including museum and herbarium records, literature, and reports from individuals and organizations, as well as field surveys by our staff biologists. In most cases the information is not the result of a recent on-site survey by our staff. Many areas of Georgia have never been surveyed thoroughly. Therefore, the Wildlife Conservation Section can only occasionally provide definitive information on the presence or absence of rare species on a given site. Our files are updated constantly as new information is received. **Thus, information provided by our program represents the existing data in our files at the time of the request and should not be considered a final statement on the species or area under consideration.**

If you know of populations of highest priority species that are not in our database, please fill out the appropriate data collection form and send it to our office. Forms can be obtained through our web site (<http://georgiawildlife.com/conservation/species-of-concern#rare-locations>) or by contacting our office. If we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Maggie Aduddell Hunt, Wildlife Biologist
maggie.hunt@dnr.ga.gov, (706) 557-3228

Data Available on the Wildlife Conservation Section Website

- Georgia protected plant and animal species profiles are available on our website. These profiles cover basics such as species physical descriptions, preferred habitat, and life history, as well as threats, management recommendations, and conservation status. To view these profiles, visit: <http://georgiawildlife.com/conservation/species-of-concern#rare-locations>
- Rare species and natural community information can be viewed by Quarter Quad, County, and HUC 8 Watershed. To access this information, please visit our GA Rare Species and Natural Community Information page at: <http://georgiabiodiversity.org/>
- Downloadable files of rare species and natural community data by Quarter Quad and County are also available. These can be downloaded at: <http://georgiabiodiversity.org/natels/natural-element-locations.html>