United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

OMB No. 0578-0030
NRCS-PDM-20

DAMAGE SURVEY REPORT (DSR)
Emergency Watershed Protection Program – Recovery

Section 1A

Date of Report: 02/18/2006

DSR Number: 103-05-131K Project Number: Abita River Rch

NRCS Entry Only
Eligible: YES [X] NO [ ]
Approved: YES [X] NO [ ]
Funding Priority Number (from Section 4) 1ef
Limited Resource Area: YES [ ] NO [X]

Section 1B Sponsor Information

Sponsor Name: St. Tammany Parish

Address: 21490 Koop Drive

City/State/Zip: Mandeville, LA 70471

Telephone Number: (985) 898-2552 Fax:

Section 1C Site Location Information

County: St. Tammany State: LA Congressional District: 01

Latitude: see comments Longitude: see comments Section: Township: 7S, 6S Range: 11E, 12E

UTM Coordinates: 15

Drainage Name: Abita River Reach: # 1 (12,350 ft)

Damage Description: Debris is reducing the capacity of Channel. Drainage is severely impeded. Debris consists mostly trees. heavy MHK

Section 1D Site Evaluation

All answers in this Section must be YES in order to be eligible for EWP assistance.

Site Eligibility	YES	NO	Remarks
Damage was a result of a natural disaster?*	✓		Hurricane Katrina - August 29, 2005
Recovery measures would be for runoff retardation or soil erosion prevention?*	✓		
Threat to life and/or property?*	✓		
Event caused a sudden impairment in the watershed?*	✓		
Imminent threat was created by this event?**	✓		
For structural repairs, not repaired twice within ten years?**	✓		
Site Defensibility			
Economic, environmental, and social documentation adequate to warrant action (Go to pages 3, 4, 5 and 6 ***)	✓		
Proposed action technically viable? (Go to Page 9 ***)	✓		

Have all the appropriate steps been taken to ensure that all segments of the affected population have been informed of the EWP program and its possible effects? YES [✓] NO [ ]

Comments: start: 30.271507, 90.00610 end : 30.46064, 90.0826\ SECTIONS 1,2,36,31
30.45416 90.173

* Statutory
** Regulation
*** DSR Pages 3 through 5 are required to support the decisions recorded on this summary page. If additional space is needed on this or any other page in this form, add appropriate pages.

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Section 1E Proposed Action

Describe the preferred alternative from Findings: Section 5 A:

Instream debris removal w/ amphibious trackhoe and barge- offsite disposal

Total installation cost identified in this DSR: Section 3: $ 367,000.00

Section 1F NRCS State Office Review and Approval

Reviewed By: _____ Date Reviewed: 3/1/06
State EWP Program Manager

Approved By: Donald W. Gohrsert Date Approved: 3/3/06
State Conservationist

PRIVACY ACT AND PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 7 CFR 624 (EWP) and Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1950, Public Law 81-516, 33 U.S.C. 701b-1; and Section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, Public Law 95334, as amended by Section 382, of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, Public Law 104-127, 16 U.S.C. 2203. EWP, through local sponsors, provides emergency measures for runoff retardation and erosion control to areas where a sudden impairment of a watershed threatens life or property. The Secretary of Agriculture has delegated the administration of EWP to the Chief or NRCS on state, tribal and private lands.

Signing this form indicates the sponsor concurs and agrees to provide the regional cost-share to implement the EWP recovery measure(s) determined eligible by NRCS under the terms and conditions of the program authority. Failure to provide a signature will result in the applicant being unable to apply for or receive a grant the applicable program authorities. Once signed by the sponsor, this information may not be provided to other agencies, IRS, Department of Justice, or other State or Federal Law Enforcement agencies, and in response to a court or administrative tribunal.

The provisions of criminal and civil fraud statutes, including 18 U.S.C. 286, 287, 371, 641, 651, 1001; 15 U.S.C. 714m; and 31 U.S.C. 3729 may also be applicable to the information provided. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0578-0030. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 117/1.96 minutes/hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, field reviews, gathering, designing, and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection information.

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The program or activities conducted under this agreement will be in compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions contained in the Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-259); and other nondiscrimination statutes: namely, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. They will also be in accordance with regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture (7 CFR 15, 15a, and 15b), which provide that no person in the United States shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture or any agency thereof.

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Section 2 Environmental Evaluation

2A Resource Concerns	2B Existing Condition	2C Alternative Designation		
		Proposed Action	No Action	Alternative
		Instream debris removal w/ amphibious trackhoe and barge - offsite disposal	Leave debris in stream	Debris removal with helicopter
		2D Effects of Alternatives		
Soil				
Bank erosion	20 tons/acre	5 tons/acre	20 tons/acre	5 tons/acre
Soil quality	Soil quality reduced	Soil quality improved	Soil quality reduced	Soil quality improved
Water				
Downstream water rights	Will not have to drain River to conduct debris removal.	No Effect	No Effect	No Effect
DO	Low/potential problem	Improved DO	Low /potential problem	Improved DO
BOD	Raised BOD	Lower BOD	Raised BOD	Lower BOD
Petroleum products	attainment	Short-term increase during removal	attainment	Short-term increase during removal
SVAP	SVAP 6.3 fair	SVAP 6.5 fair	SVAP 6.3 fair	SVAP 6.5 fair
Air				
PM-10	attainment	attainment	attainment	attainment
Plant				
Aquatic health/vigor	Poor	Improved	Poor	Improved
Riparian plants	Excessive debris causing shading and long term damage	Increased sunlight will increase growth	Growth limited	Increased growth
Animal				
Fisheries access	Impaired due to blockage	Restore hydrologic flow regime	Access restricted.	Restore hydrologic flow regime
Forest habitat	Forest dynamic shift	No significant change	No significant change	No significant change
Other				
Aesthetics	Poor due to clutter	Improved	Poor due to clutter	Improved
Vector habitat	Mosquito habitat in floodplain	Improve flow will drain areas	Vector habitat will remain	Improve flow will drain areas

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Section 2E Special Environmental Concerns

Resource Consideration	Existing Condition	Alternatives and Effects		
		Proposed Action	No Action	Alternative
Clean Water Act Waters of the U.S.	CWA permit will be required if work is to be done in channel.	CWA permit required	No permit required.	CWA permit required
Coastal Zone Management Areas	Not within CZMA (Site is north of Hwy 12)	N/A	N\A	N/A
Coral Reefs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cultural Resources	(FOTG Sec II) none observed on-site State Level Review needed	(FOTG Sec II) none observed on-site State Level Review needed	(FOTG Sec II) none observed on-site	(FOTG Sec II) none observed on-site State Level Review needed
Endangered and Threatened Species	(FOTG Sec II) USFWS&LDWF review; Louisiana quillwort may exist potential Bald eagle area	(FOTG Sec II) USFWS&LDWF review	N/A	(FOTG Sec II) USFWS&LDWF review
Environmental Justice	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Essential Fish Habitat	(FOTG Sec II) No EFH	(FOTG Sec II) No EFH	N/A	(FOTG Sec II) No EFH
Fish and Wildlife Coordination	State level review by project type with USFWS&LDWF; Consultation required.	State level review by project type with USFWS&LDWF; Consultation required	N/A	State level review by project type with USFWS&LDWF; Consultation required.
Floodplain Management	Abita River is located within 100-year flood plain. Debris in river is increasing flood potential.	100-year floodplain historic range restored.	100-year floodplain is increased in size due to debris.	100-year floodplain historic range restored.
Invasive Species	Privet (Ligrustrum sp.)	No significant impact	No significant impact	No significant impact
Migratory Birds	Food & cover quality for dense canopy cover birds reduced	Food&cover quality improved	Food&cover quality impaired due to debris	Food&cover quality improved
Natural Areas	(FOTG Sec II) None present	(FOTG Sec II) None present	(FOTG Sec II) None present	(FOTG Sec II) None present
Prime and Unique Farmlands	(FOTG Sec II) None present	N/A	N/A	N/A
Riparian Areas	Riparian habitat impacted by flooding due to debris accumulation	Riparian habitat improved by debris removal	Riparian habitat impacted by flooding due to debris accumulation	Riparian habitat improved by debris removal
Scenic Beauty	(FOTG Sec II) None present	(FOTG Sec II) None present	(FOTG Sec II) None present	(FOTG Sec II) None present
Wetlands	Open water containing debris. Emergent/wooded wetlands also littered with debris.	Debris removed from open water and adjacent to stream. Wetlands not adversely impacted.	Open water containing debris. Emergent/wooded wetlands also littered with debris.	Debris removed from open water and adjacent to stream. Wetlands not adversely impact
Wild and Scenic Rivers	(FOTG Sec II) (LDWF scenic streams list) The Abita River is listed	(FOTG Sec II) (LDWF scenic streams list) Listed	N/A	(FOTG Sec II) (LDWF scenic streams list) Listed

Completed By: Gregory Kidd GK 2/22/06 Date: 02/21/2006

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Section 2F Economic

This section must be completed by each alternative considered (attach additional sheets as necessary).

	Future Damages ($)	Damage Factor (%)	Near Term Damage Reduction
Properties Protected (Private):1 set of condos (4) @ $700,000	700,000.00	25	175,000.00
10 homes @ $1,000,000 ea	10,000,000.00	25	2,500,000.00
5 homes @ $850,000 ea	4,250,000.00	25	1,062,500.00
9 homes @ $200,000 ea	1,800,000.00	25	450,000.00
Properties Protected (Public):190 bridge @ $250,000 ea	250,000.00	25	62,500.00
Business Losses:			
Other: 14 powerlines @ $2,000 ea	28,000.00	25	7,000.00
Total Near Term Damage Reduction $			4,257,000.00
Net Benefit (Total Near Term Damage Reduction minus Cost from Section 3)			3,890,000.00

Completed By: HKH/LC Date: 02/21/2006

Section 2G Social Consideration This section must be completed by each alternative considered

(attach additional sheets as necessary).

	YES	NO	Remarks
Has there been a loss of life as a result of the watershed impairment?	☐	☑	Not in the immediate area but several deaths attributable to the storm occurred in the Parish
Is there the potential for loss of life due to damages from the watershed impairment?	☑	☐	
Has access to a hospital or medical facility been impaired by watershed impairment?	☑	☐	Yes - many downed trees blocking access
Has the community as a whole been adversely impacted by the watershed impairment (life and property ceases to operate in a normal capacity)	☑	☐	Impairment increased flooding impacts throughout the community
Is there a lack or has there been a reduction of public safety due to watershed impairment?	☑	☐	

Completed By: HKH/LC Date: 02/20/2006

DSR NO: _____
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Section 2H Group Representation and Disability Information

This section is completed only for the preferred alternative selected.

Group Representation	Number
American Indian/Alaska Native Female Hispanic	
American Indian/Alaska Native Female Non-Hispanic	
American Indian/Alaska Native Male Hispanic	
American Indian/Alaska Native Male Non-Hispanic	
Asian Female Hispanic	
Asian Female Non-Hispanic	
Asian Male Hispanic	
Asian Male Non-Hispanic	
Black or African American Female Hispanic	
Black or African American Female Non-Hispanic	6
Black or African American Male Hispanic	
Black or African American Male Non-Hispanic	6
Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander Female Hispanic	
Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander Female Non-Hispanic	6
Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander Male Hispanic	9
Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander Male Non-Hispanic	
White Female Hispanic	
White Female Non-Hispanic	35
White Male Hispanic	
White Male Non-Hispanic	35
Total Group	97

Census tract(s) T0401.02 BG-2

Completed By: LC/HKH Date: 02/21/2006

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Section 2I. Required consultation or coordination between the lead agency and/or the RFO and another governmental unit including tribes:

Easements, permissions, or permits:

Required: Access permission (St. Tammany has 60' corridor access); CWA permit (COE); Water Quality Certification (LDEQ); Wild and Scenic Stream Permit (LDWF);

Eight State and/or Federal Species are listed in St. Tammany Parish. The only two that may occur in this area are; the Louisiana Quillwort (as indicated on the 'Species of Conservation Concern' Map) and/or the bald eagle (foraging area). USFWS/LDWF consultation is required.

Mitigation Description:

Debris will be removed from the riverbed area with an amphibious trackhoe and barge and taken to an approved landfill. Action will be completed without interruption.

Some existing,water-logged debris left in the channel is preferred/acceptable. Only dead/new debris is to be removed. No live trees within the stream bed should be cut.

Proposed action will reduce stagnant water thus reducing the vector/disease potential in the area.

Agencies, persons, and references consulted, or to be consulted:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
LDEQ
St. Tammany Parish Government
LDWF
USFWS

AK 2/22/06

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Section 3 Engineering Cost Estimate

Completed By: Caroline Clarin Date: 02/21/2006

This section must be completed by each alternative considered (attach additional sheets as necessary).

Proposed Recovery Measure (including mitigation)	Quantity	Units	Unit Cost ($)	Amount ($)
Proposed Action- using amphibius track hoe and barge deposit spoil off site				0.00
Debris removal	12200	LF	29.00	353,800.00
Mobilization and Demobilization	1	LS	12,000.00	12,000.00
Seeding, Sprigging and Fertilization	6	AC	200.00	1,200.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
Total Installation Cost (Enter in Section 1F)$				367,000.00

Unit Abbreviations:

AC	Acre	LS	Lump Sum
CY	Cubic Yard	SF	Square Feet
EA	Each	SY	Square Yard
HR	Hour	TN	Ton
LF	Linear Feet	Other (Specifiy)	

CC 2/22/06

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Section 4 NRCS EWP Funding Priority

Complete the following section to compute the funding priority for the recovery measures in this application (see instructions on page 10).

Priority Ranking Criteria	Yes	No		Ranking Number Plus Modifer
1. Is this an exigency situation?	☑	☐		1 e f
2. Is this a site where there is serious, but not immediate threat to human life?	☐	☐		
3. Is this a site where buildings, utilities, or other important infrastructure components are threatened?	☐	☐		
4. Is this site a funding priority established by the NRCS Chief?	☐	☐		
The following are modifiers for the above criteria			**Modifier**	
a. Will the proposed action or alternatives protect or conserve federally-listed threatened and endangered species or critical habitat?				
b. Will the proposed action or alternatives protect or conserve cultural sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places?				
c. Will the proposed action or alternatives protect or conserve prime or important farmland?				
d. Will the proposed action or alternatives protect or conserve existing wetlands?				
a. Will the proposed action or alternatives maintain or improve current water quality conditions?			e	
f. Will the proposed action or alternatives protect or conserve unique habitat, including but not limited to, areas inhabited by State-listed species, fish and wildlife management area, or State identified sensitive habitats?			f	

Enter priority computation in Section 1A, NRCS Entry, Funding priority number.

Remarks:

Removal of debris will increase flows and conserve unique habitat for Louisiana quillwort. The debris removal will also increase foraging habitat for bald eagles in the lower stretch of the Abita River.

BK 2/22/06

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Section 5A Findings

Finding: Indicate the preferred alternative from Section 2 (Enter to Section 1E):

Instream debris removal w/ amphibious trackhoe - offsite disposal

✓ and barge

I have considered the effects of the action and the alternatives on the Environmental Economic, Social; the Special Environmental Concerns; and the extraordinary circumstances (40 CFR 1508.27). I find for the reasons stated below, that the preferred alternative:

✓ Has been sufficiently analyzed in the EWP PEIS (reference all that apply)
Chapter 5.2.2.1.2
Chapter 5.2.2.2.2
Chapter _____
Chapter _____
Chapter _____

____ May require the preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.
The action will be referred to the NRCS State Office on this date:

NRCS representative of the DSR team

Title: Dist. Cons. Date: 2/22/06.

Section 5B Comments:

Section 5C

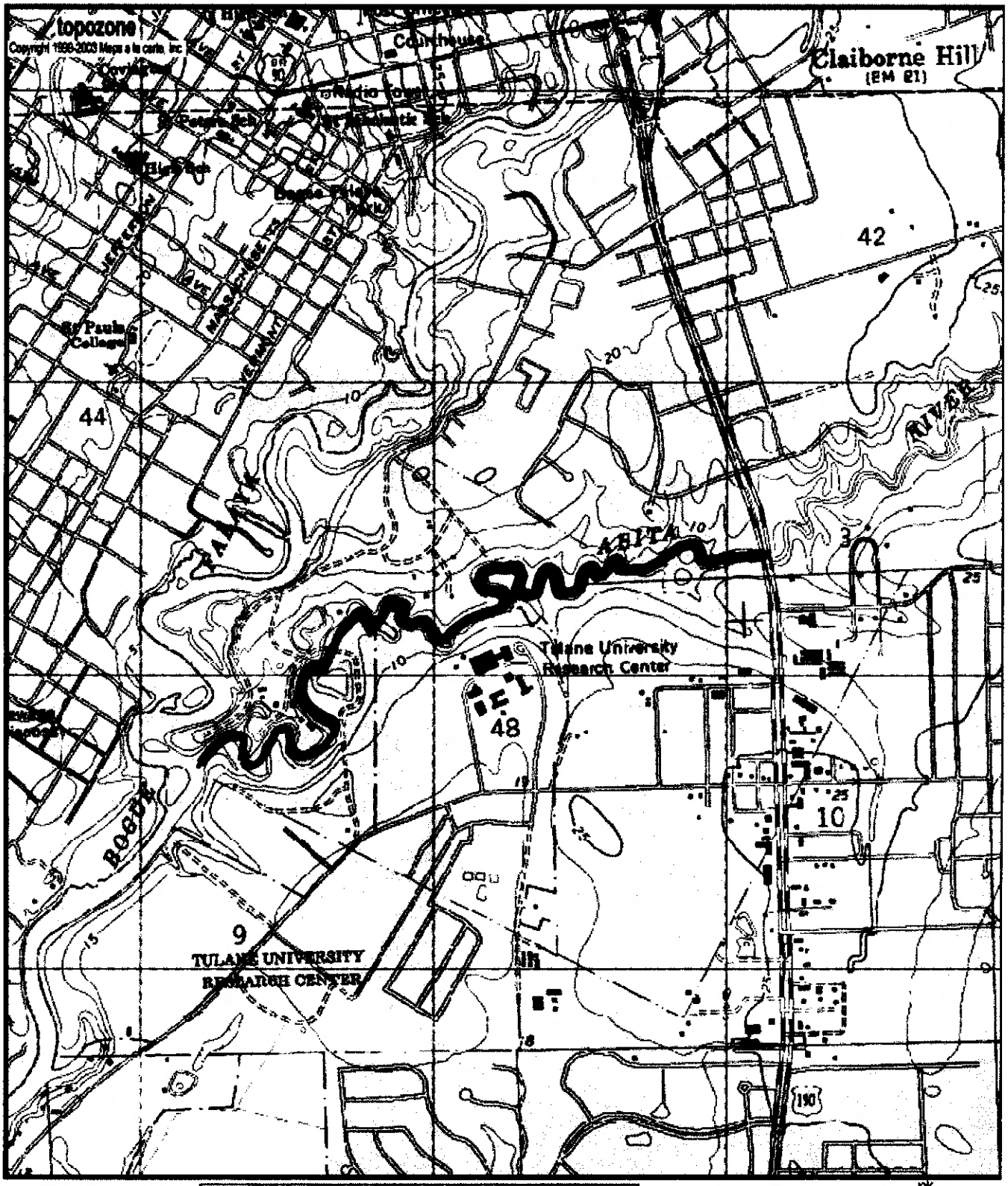
Sponsor Concurrence:

Sponsor Representative

Title: Env. Sp. Date: 2-23-06

Section 6 Attachments:

A. Location Map
B. Site Plan or Sketches
C. Other (explain)



0 0.3 0.6 0.9 1.2 1.5 km

0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1 mi

Map center is 30.4593°N, 90.0918°W (WGS84/NAD83)

Covington quadrangle

Projection is UTM Zone 15 NAD83 Datum

M=0.548

G=1.476