

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM
CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SURVEY UPDATE FOR THE
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT STUDY OF
STATE ROAD 31 FROM STATE ROAD 78 TO COUNTY ROAD 78,
LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CLIENT:	Inwood Consulting Engineers, Inc.
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ETDM#:	9791

This technical memorandum details the results of a cultural resource assessment survey (CRAS) update for a newly proposed alternate alignment associated with the planned improvements to State Road (SR) 31 in Lee County, Florida. The proposed alternate alignment for SR 31 is located east of the City of Fort Myers in rural Lee County. SR 31 is currently a two-lane roadway that extends from SR 80 (Palm Beach Boulevard) north. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District 1, is conducting a Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study for proposed improvements to SR 31 from south of SR 78/Bayshore Road to County Road (CR) 78 (**Figure 1**).

This technical memorandum serves as an addendum to the 2012 SEARCH report titled *Cultural Resource Survey of State Road 31 from State Road 80 (Palm Beach Boulevard) to North of County Road 78 (North River Road), Lee County, Florida*. Information concerning the SR 31 project area related to regional prehistory and history, environment, research design, background research, and field and laboratory methods for this study, as well as the architectural history portion of the survey, are presented in the previous CRAS report and are not repeated in this memorandum (SEARCH 2012a, 2012b).

The current project plans were overlaid with previous survey data to determine which portions of the current project required additional work (**Figure 2**). At the time of the previous survey, project plans involved widening the existing SR 31 corridor. However, the presence of a Florida Gas Transmission (FGT) easement running parallel to the east side of SR 31 impeded the acquisition of right-of-way. As a result, plans were altered to develop a new roadway corridor east of the FGT line. The new roadway ties back into existing SR 31 at Suzan Drive, north of the present project segment in Charlotte County. As the previous CRAS did not include proposed right-of-way east of the FGT easement, this addendum was prepared to address the proposed new roadway corridor. The project also includes three proposed ponds, all of which were subjected to testing during the original CRAS. Thus, the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this

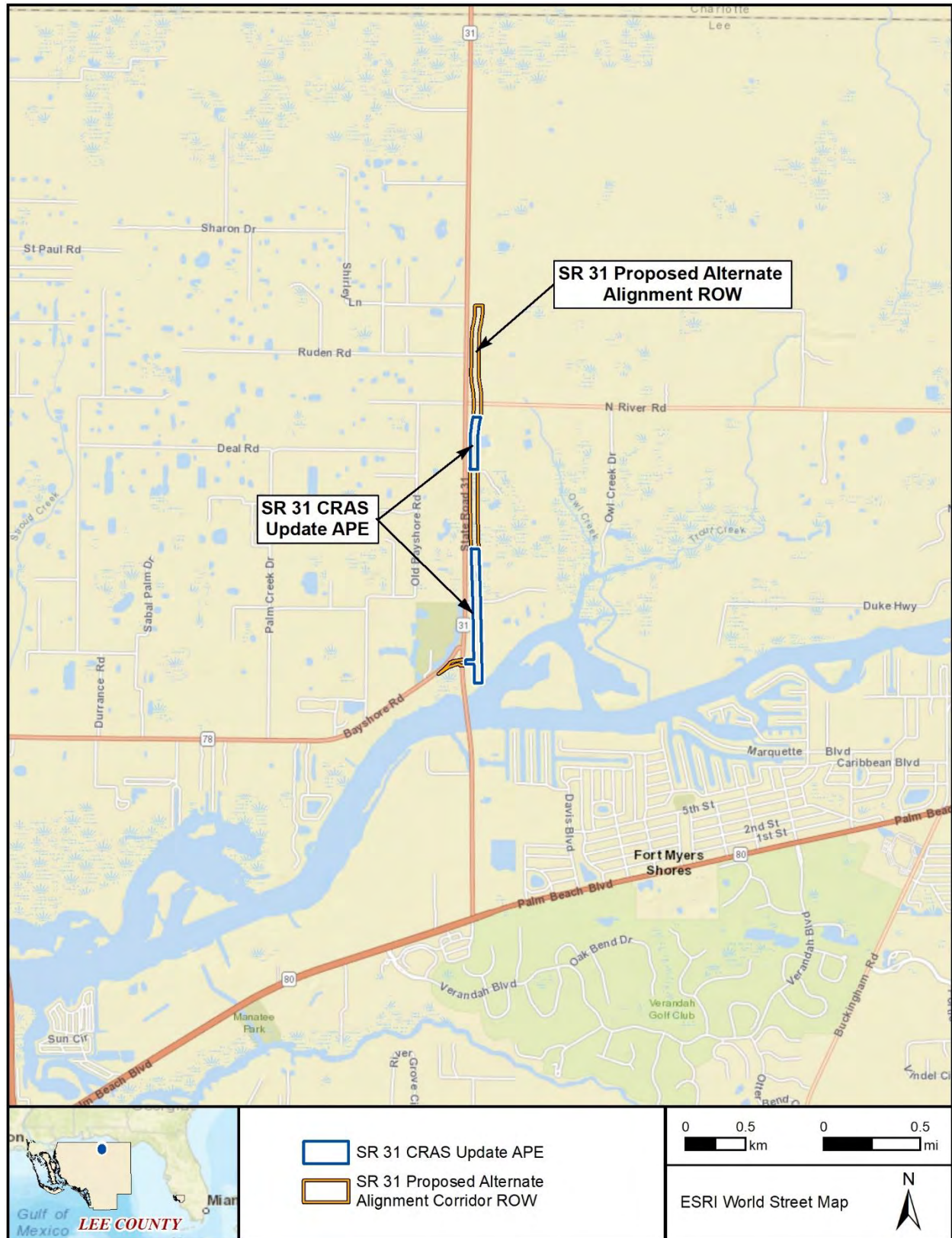


Figure 1. SR 31 PD&E Study project location in Lee County, Florida.

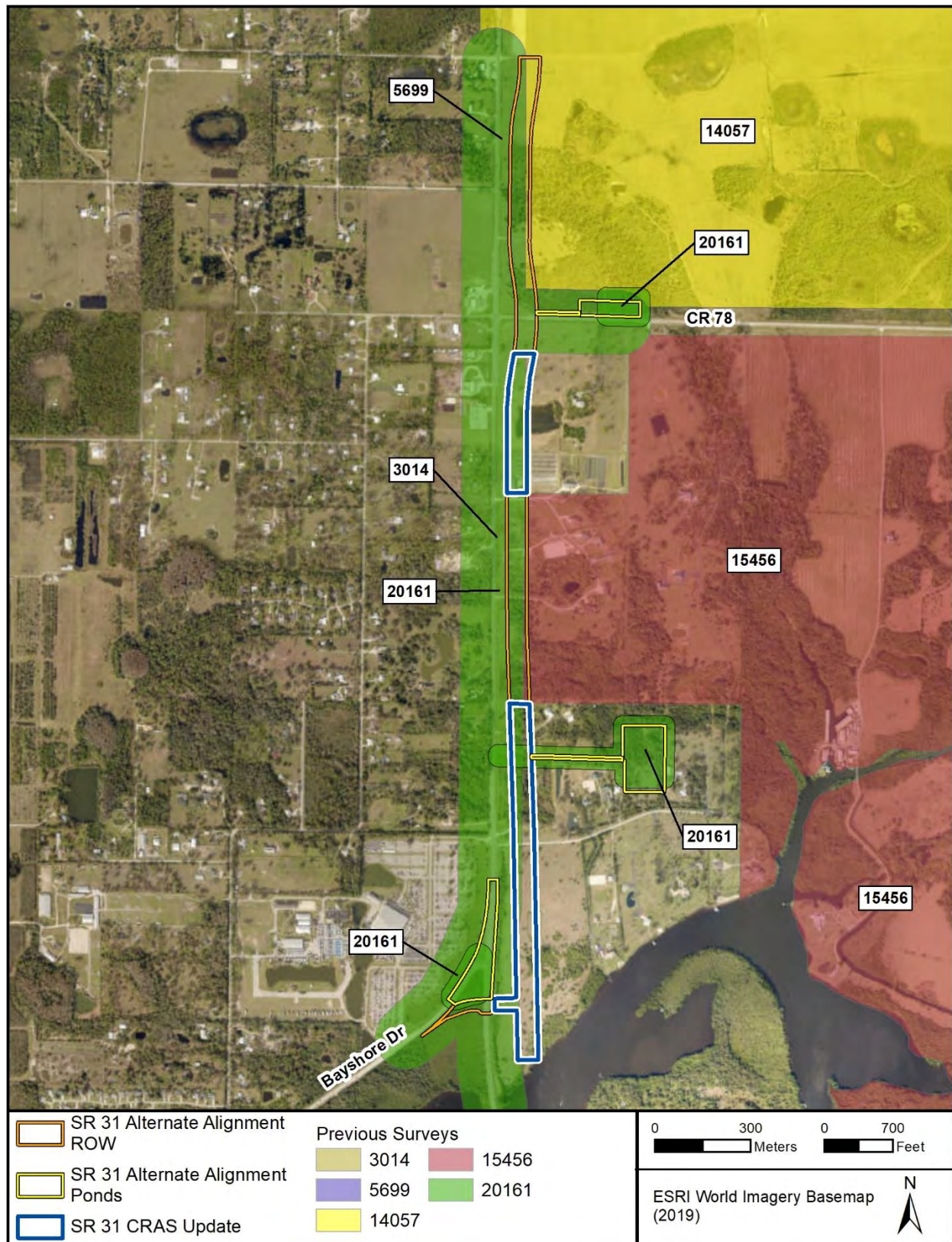


Figure 2. SR 31 Proposed Alternate Alignment overlaid with previous survey coverage.

survey update was limited to two previously untested segments of a new alignment right-of-way (see **Figure 2**).

The purpose of the survey was to locate, identify, and bound any archaeological resources, historic structures, and potential districts within the project's APE and assess their potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). This study was conducted to comply with Chapter 267 of the Florida Statutes and Rule Chapter 1A-46, Florida Administrative Code. All work was performed in accordance with Part 2, Chapter 8 of the FDOT's PD&E Manual (revised July 2020), as well as the Florida Division of Historical Resources' (FDHR) recommendations for such projects, as stipulated in the FDHR's *Cultural Resource Management Standards & Operations Manual, Module Three: Guidelines for Use by Historic Preservation Professionals*. The Principal Investigator for this project meets the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation* (48 FR 44716-42). This study complies with Public Law 113-287 (Title 54 U.S.C.), which incorporates the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1979, as amended. The study also complies with the regulations for implementing NHPA Section 106 found in 36 CFR Part 800 (*Protection of Historic Properties*).

ENVIRONMENT AND MODERN CONDITIONS

Soils in the SR 31 CRAS Update APE are generally poorly drained (**Figure 3**). The setting is rural, and the land use consists of agricultural pastureland. The current APE for the new proposed alignment represents two previously untested segments of right-of-way corridor parallel to the extant SR 31 (**Figures 4-6**). The two small areas were designated Testing Area North (approximately 12 acres) and Testing Area South (approximately 40 acres). They are located 290 feet (88.5 meters) east of the current SR 31 right-of-way.

FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE REVIEW

SEARCH conducted a review of the Florida Master Site File (FMSF) database (updated October 2020) to ascertain if previous CRAS studies overlapped or intersected the right-of-way for the proposed alternate alignment, and SEARCH determined that the majority of the proposed right-of-way had been previously tested (**Table 1**). Five previous investigations (Archaeological Consultants, Inc. [ACI] 2007 [FMSF Survey No. 14057], Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc. [AHC] 2007 [FMSF Survey No. 15456], Janus Research/Piper Archaeology 1991 [FMSF Survey No. 3014], SEARCH 1999 [FMSF Survey No. 5699], and SEARCH 2012 [FMSF Survey No. 20161]) have previously surveyed the majority of the right-of-way and land within the project current corridor, including three proposed ponds associated with the project (see **Figure 2**).

The earliest cultural resource survey within the APE dates to 1991 for the SW Florida Pipeline Company project (FMSF Survey No. 3014, Janus Research/Piper Archaeology 1991). Another

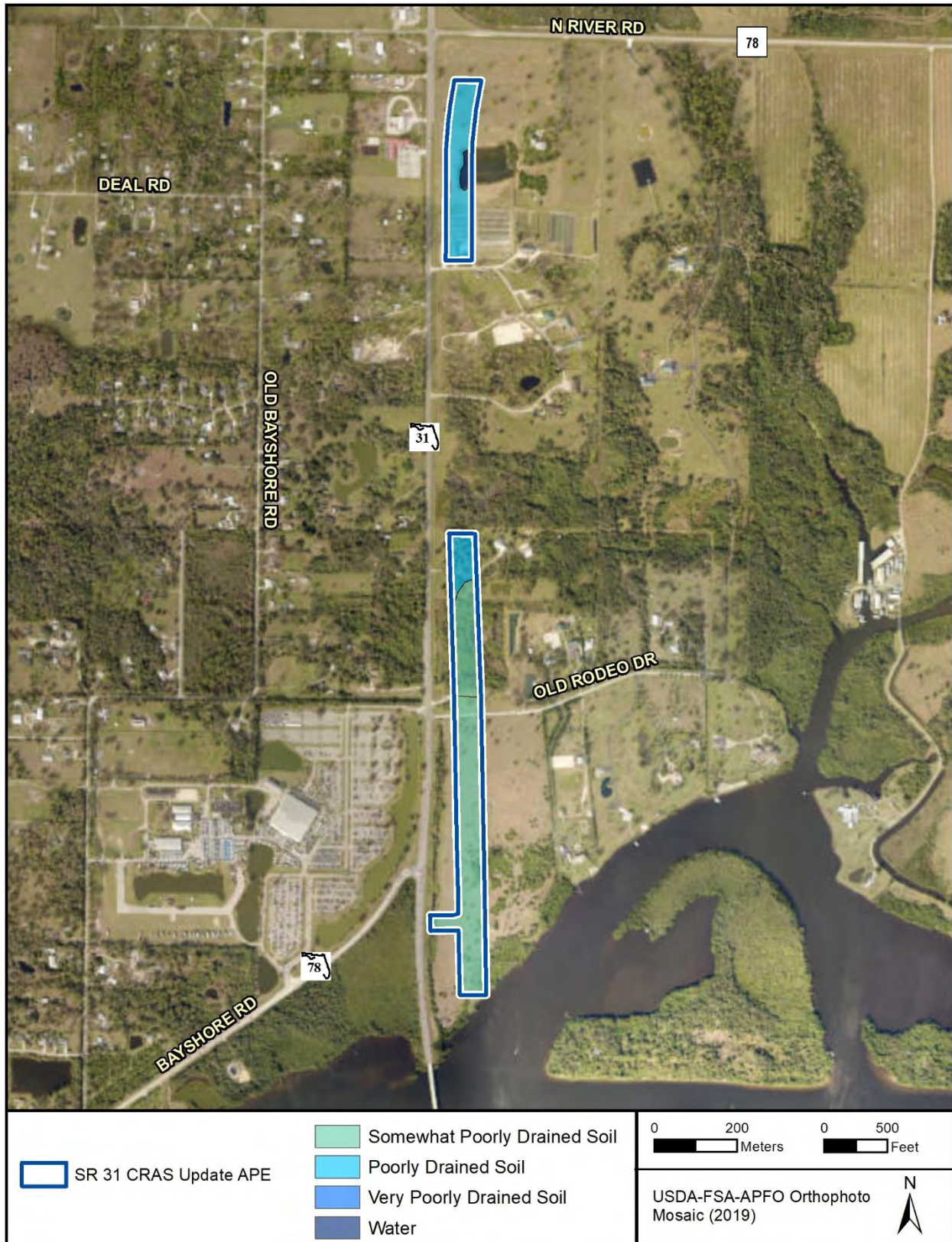


Figure 3. Soil drainage in the SR 31 CRAS Update APE.



Figure 4. Representative view of the SR 31 CRAS Update APE, facing south.



Figure 5. Representative view of the SR 31 CRAS Update APE, facing north.



Figure 6. Representative view of the SR 31 CRAS Update APE, facing east.

Table 1. Previous Cultural Resource Surveys Intersecting the SR 31 Alternate Alignment Right-of-Way.

FMSF No.	Title	Year	Reference
3014	Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Southwest Florida Pipeline Company Corridor, Hillsborough, Polk, DeSoto, Charlotte, and Lee Counties, Florida	1991	Janus Research/Piper Archaeology
5699	Cultural Resource Survey and Evaluation Report of the Florida Gas Transmission Company Phase IV Expansion	1999	SEARCH
14057	An Addendum to the Cultural Resource Predictive Model, The Babcock Ranch Community, Charlotte, and Lee Counties	2007	ACI
15456	A Phase I Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the North River Assemblage Parcels, Lee County, Florida	2007	AHC
20161	Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of State Road 31 from State Road 80 (Palm Beach Boulevard) to North of County Road 78 (North River Road), Lee County, Florida	2012	SEARCH

pipeline project in 1999 ran the length of the current APE; however, it was limited to a narrow corridor to the east of SR 31 and did not include the current proposed alignment right-of-way in its entirety (FMSF Survey No. 5699, SEARCH 1999). ACI conducted a survey in 2007 for the proposed Babcock Ranch Community. This survey covered 17,942 acres of land abutting the northeast part of the current right-of-way (FMSF Survey No. 14057, ACI 2007a). A similar survey was conducted by AHC in 2007 for the North River Assemblage Parcels project (FMSF Survey

No. 15456, AHC 2007). This survey abutted the current APE to the east and covered a 1,280-square-acre area between North River Road and the Caloosahatchee River (FMSF Survey No. 15456).

The most recent survey, conducted in 2012 by SEARCH (FMSF Survey No. 20161), was conducted in support of the original SR 31 project and included both archaeological testing and architectural history survey within an APE defined to include existing and proposed right-of-way centered on the existing SR 31 corridor. The present memorandum serves as addendum to the 2012 SEARCH survey (SEARCH 2012a, 2012b) and addresses newly proposed right-of-way not included in that previous work.

Four historic structures, five archaeological sites, one resource group, and one historic bridge have been recorded within 1.0 mile (1.6 kilometers) of the SR 31 CRAS Update APE (**Table 2; Figure 7**). Of these resources, none are located within the current APE.

Table 2. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within One Mile of the SR 31 CRAS Update APE.

Historic Structures				
FMSF No.	Address	Year Built	Surveyor Evaluation	SHPO Determination
8LL01596	11831 Bayshore Road	ca. 1918	Likely NRHP Eligible	Not Evaluated by SHPO
8LL02583	19731 SR 31	1962	Ineligible for NRHP	Ineligible for NRHP
8LL02584	19321 SR 31	1962	Ineligible for NRHP	Ineligible for NRHP
8LL02582	11950 Shirley Lane	ca. 1950	Ineligible for NRHP	Ineligible for NRHP
Archaeological Sites				
FMSF No.	Name	Time Period	Surveyor Evaluation	SHPO Determination
8LL01763	SWFPL Realignment 1	Prehistoric	Ineligible for NRHP	Ineligible for NRHP
8LL01764	SWFPL Realignment 2	Prehistoric	Ineligible for NRHP	Ineligible for NRHP
8LL02397	Trout Creek Hunt Camp	Late Archaic	Insufficient Information	Potentially Eligible for NRHP
8LL02398	Intrigue Site	Late Archaic	Insufficient Information	Potentially Eligible for NRHP
8LL02399	Majestic Gumbo Limbo Site	Prehistoric	Insufficient Information	Potentially Eligible for NRHP
Resource Groups				
FMSF No.	Name	Period of Significance	SHPO Determination	
8LL02586	Caloosahatchee River Canal	19 th -20 th Century American	Eligible for NRHP	
Historic Bridge				
FMSF No.	Name	Period of Significance	SHPO Determination	
8LL02615	Wilson Pigott Bridge	ca. 1960	Ineligible for NRHP	

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS

Due to the low-lying landform, poorly drained soils, and the lack of archaeological resources documented by previous and nearby surveys, the APE was determined to have low potential for containing archaeological sites. The archaeological survey included the excavation of 18 shovel tests within the proposed new alignment, four in the north testing area and 14 in the south (**Figures 8 and 9**). The soils within the APE consisted of poorly drained fine sand at 0 to 2 percent slopes (see **Figure 3**). Shovel tests presented signs of previous disturbance related to agriculture



and alterations associated with drainage, including dredge materials from adjacent farm ponds used as fill. One quarter of the testing locations were inundated at or near the surface. Other shovel tests encountered water from between 20 and 50 centimeters below grade (see **Figure 8**). None of the shovel tests locations could be excavated below 50 centimeters due to ground water.

No artifacts were recovered, and no archaeological sites or occurrences were identified within the SR 31 CRAS Update APE. No further archaeological fieldwork is recommended.



Figure 8. Representative soil profile of a shovel test in the SR 31 CRAS Update APE.

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY RESULTS

No historic resources are located within the project APE, and no architectural history survey or documentation was conducted during the present survey update.

CONCLUSIONS

This technical memorandum details the results of a CRAS limited to the proposed new alignment right-of-way along SR 31 in Lee County, Florida. The FDOT, District 1, is evaluating the development of a road alignment east of existing SR 31. The APE for the present CRAS update was limited to areas not surveyed during the original project CRAS.

No artifacts were recovered, and no archaeological sites or occurrences were identified within the SR 31 CRAS Update APE. No NRHP-eligible or -listed resources were identified within the APE, and no further work is recommended. The FDHR survey log sheet is included as **Attachment 1**.

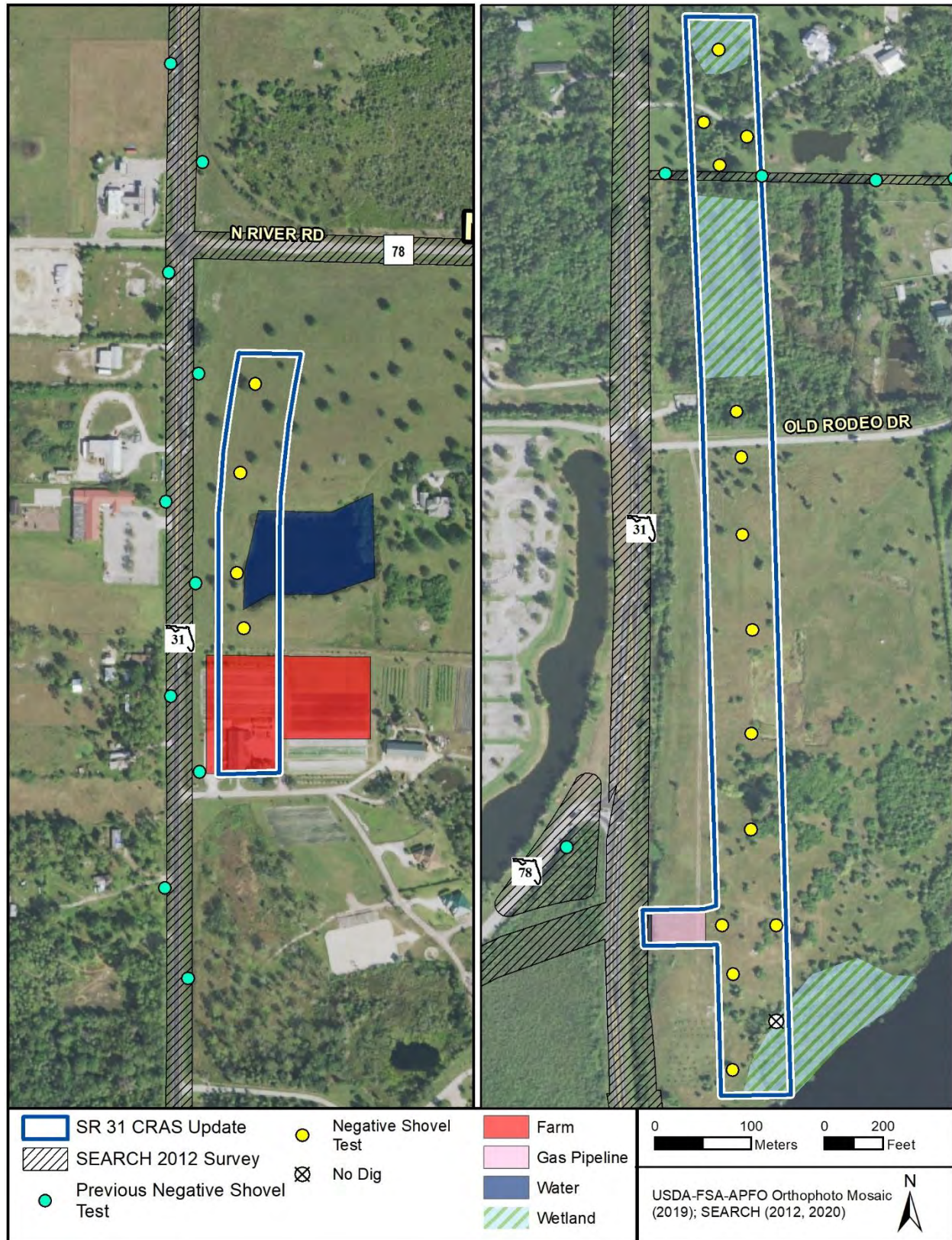


Figure 9. Results of archaeological testing in the SR 31 CRAS Update APE.

REFERENCES CITED

Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc. (AHC)

2007 *A Phase I Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the North River Assemblage Parcels, Lee County, Florida*. FMSF Survey No. 15456. On file, Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI)

2007 *An Addendum to the Cultural Resource Predictive Model. The Babcock Ranch Community. Charlotte and Lee Counties, Florida*. FMSF Survey No. 14057. Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

Janus Research/Piper Archaeology

1991 *Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Southwest Florida Pipeline Company Corridor, Hillsborough, Polk, DeSoto, Charlotte, and Lee Counties, Florida*. FMSF Survey No. 3014. On file, Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

SEARCH

1999 *Cultural Resource Assessment Survey and Evaluation Report of the Florida Gas Transmission Company Phase IV Expansion*. FMSF Survey No. 5699. On file, Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

2012a *Cultural Resource Survey of State Road 31 from State Road 80 (Palm Beach Boulevard) to North of County Road 78 (North River Road), Lee County, Florida*. FMSF Survey No. 20161. On file, Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

2012b *Technical Memorandum: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of Four Proposed Ponds Along State Road 31 from State Road 80 (Palm Beach Boulevard) to North of County Road 78 (North River Road) Lee County, Florida*. FMSF Survey No. 20161. On file, Florida Division of Historical Resources, Tallahassee.

ATTACHMENT 1:

FDHR SURVEY LOG SHEET

Ent D (FMSF only) _____



Survey Log Sheet

Florida Master Site File
Version 5.0 3/19

Survey # (FMSF only) _____

Consult *Guide to the Survey Log Sheet* for detailed instructions.

Manuscript Information

Survey Project (name and project phase)

CRAS Update for SR 31 from SR 78 to CR 78, Lee County, Florida

Report Title (exactly as on title page)

Technical Memorandum: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey Update for the Project Development and Environment Study of State Road 31 from State Road 78 to County Road 78, Lee County, Florida

Report Authors (as on title page)

1. Mechelle Kerns

3. _____

2. Robin Gallagher

4. _____

Publication Year 2020

Number of Pages in Report (do not include site forms) 12

Publication Information (Give series, number in series, publisher and city. For article or chapter, cite page numbers. Use the style of *American Antiquity*.)

Report on file, SEARCH, Hollywood, Florida. SEARCH Project No. 2628-11024T. Financial Management No. 428917-1-22-1.

Supervisors of Fieldwork (even if same as author) Names

Mechelle Kerns

Affiliation of Fieldworkers: Organization

Southeastern Archaeological Research

City Hollywood, FL

Key Words/Phrases (Don't use county name, or common words like *archaeology, structure, survey, architecture, etc.*)

1. State Road 31

3. _____

5. _____

7. _____

2. _____

4. _____

6. _____

8. _____

Survey Sponsors (corporation, government unit, organization, or person funding fieldwork)

Name Inwood Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Organization _____

Address/Phone/E-mail 3000 Dovera Drive Ste 200, Oviedo, Florida, 32765, 407-971-8850

Recorder of Log Sheet

Robin Gallagher

Date Log Sheet Completed 11-12-2020

Is this survey or project a continuation of a previous project? ☐ No ☒ Yes:

☐ No

☒ Yes:

Previous survey #s (FMSF only) 20161

Project Area Mapping

Counties (select every county in which field survey was done; attach additional sheet if necessary)

1. Lee

3. _____

5. _____

2. _____

4. _____

6. _____

USGS 1:24,000 Map Names/Year of Latest Revision (attach additional sheet if necessary)

1. Name FORT MYERS

Year 2018

4. Name _____

Year _____

2. Name _____

Year _____

5. Name _____

Year _____

3. Name _____

Year _____

6. Name _____

Year _____

Field Dates and Project Area Description

Fieldwork Dates: Start 10-26-2020 End 10-27-2020 Total Area Surveyed (fill in one) _____ hectares 51.40 acres

Number of Distinct Tracts or Areas Surveyed 2

If Corridor (fill in one for each) Width: _____ meters _____ feet Length: _____ kilometers _____ miles

Research and Field Methods

Types of Survey (select all that apply): ☒ archaeological ☐ architectural ☐ historical/archival ☐ underwater
☐ damage assessment ☐ monitoring report ☐ other(describe): _____

Scope/Intensity/Procedures

Limited addendum for a Phase I testing of previously untested areas for a proposed alternate alignment right-of-way along SR 31.

Preliminary Methods (select as many as apply to the project as a whole)

☐ Florida Archives (Gray Building) ☐ library research- *local public* ☒ local property or tax records ☒ other historic maps ☐ LIDAR
☐ Florida Photo Archives (Gray Building) ☐ library-special collection ☐ newspaper files ☒ soils maps or data ☐ other remote sensing
☒ Site File property search ☐ Public Lands Survey (maps at DEP) ☐ literature search ☐ windshield survey
☒ Site File survey search ☐ local informant(s) ☐ Sanborn Insurance maps ☒ aerial photography
☐ other (describe): _____

Archaeological Methods (select as many as apply to the project as a whole)

☐ Check here if **NO** archaeological methods were used.
☐ surface collection, controlled ☐ shovel test-other screen size ☐ block excavation (at least 2x2 m) ☐ metal detector
☐ surface collection, uncontrolled ☐ water screen ☐ soil resistivity ☐ other remote sensing
☒ shovel test-1/4" screen ☐ posthole tests ☐ magnetometer ☒ pedestrian survey
☐ shovel test-1/8" screen ☐ auger tests ☐ side scan sonar ☐ unknown
☐ shovel test 1/16" screen ☐ coring ☐ ground penetrating radar (GPR)
☐ shovel test-unscreened ☐ test excavation (at least 1x2 m) ☐ LIDAR
☐ other (describe): _____

Historical/Architectural Methods (select as many as apply to the project as a whole)

☒ Check here if **NO** historical/architectural methods were used.
☐ building permits ☐ demolition permits ☐ neighbor interview ☐ subdivision maps
☐ commercial permits ☐ windshield survey ☐ occupant interview ☐ tax records
☐ interior documentation ☐ local property records ☐ occupation permits ☐ unknown
☐ other (describe): _____

Survey Results

Resource Significance Evaluated? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Count of Previously Recorded Resources _____ 0 Count of Newly Recorded Resources _____ 0

List Previously Recorded Site ID#s with Site File Forms Completed (attach additional pages if necessary)

List Newly Recorded Site ID#s (attach additional pages if necessary)

Site Forms Used: ☐ Site File Paper Forms ☐ Site File PDF Forms

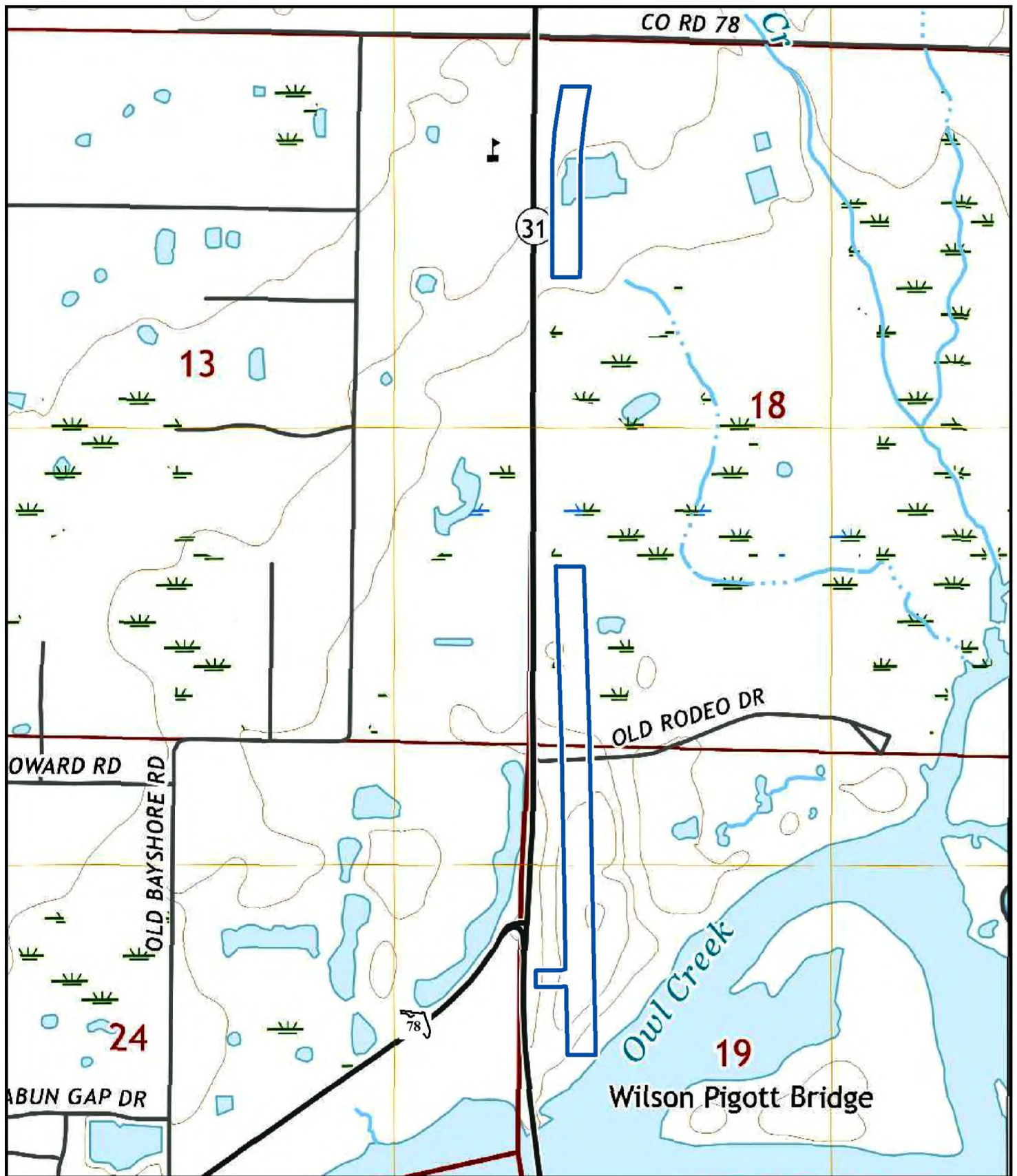
REQUIRED: Attach Map of Survey or Project Area Boundary

SHPO USE ONLY

SHPO USE ONLY

SHPO USE ONLY

Origin of Report: ☐ 872 ☐ Public Lands ☐ UW ☐ 1A32 # _____ ☐ Academic ☐ Contract ☐ Avocational
☐ Grant Project # _____ ☐ Compliance Review: CRAT # _____
Type of Document: ☐ Archaeological Survey ☐ Historical/Architectural Survey ☐ Marine Survey ☐ Cell Tower CRAS ☐ Monitoring Report
☐ Overview ☐ Excavation Report ☐ Multi-Site Excavation Report ☐ Structure Detailed Report ☐ Library, Hist. or Archival Doc
☐ Desktop Analysis ☐ MPS ☐ MRA ☐ TG ☐ Other: _____
Document Destination: Plottable Projects Plotability: _____



 SR 31 CRAS Update APE

0 200 0 500
Meters Feet

USGS 7.5' Quadrangle Map -
Fort Meyers (2018)

