



STATE AID FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

Cultural, Noise, and Threatened & Endangered Review Request

PLEASE NOTE: Projects should be submitted at least two field seasons (April to November) before the letting date of the project, in order for our units to request or perform surveys necessary to comply with federal regulations. Additionally, please note if this project is part of a larger planning study or part of a phased larger project. All projects should review the noise information starting on page 3. If necessary, forward the requested information to the noise contact listed below.

DATE: August 29, 2022

SEND ALL PROJECTS TO:

Cultural Resource Unit; culturalresources.dot@state.mn.us

Office of Environmental Stewardship, 395 John Ireland Blvd, MS 620, St Paul, MN 55155
(Questions, contact Renee Barnes, 651-366-4291)

AND

Environmental Assessment Unit, Protected Species Program; protectedspecies.dot@state.mn.us;
Office of Environmental Stewardship, 395 John Ireland Blvd, MS 620, St Paul, MN 55155
(Questions, contact Chris Smith, 651-366-3605)

Project Details

SP/SAP No.: SP 027-605-032

Include all tied State &/or State Aid project numbers: _____

Does the project have FHWA funds? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Environmental Document Being Prepared: ☒ PM (CATEX) ☐ EA ☐ EIS ☐ EAW

Letting Date: Summer 2024

MnDOT District No.: Metro County: Ramsey City: St. Paul

Highway No./Street Name: CSAH 49 (Rice Street)

Project Termini:

ROUTE NAME: CSAH 49 (Rice Street)

FROM: Pennsylvania Avenue W

TO: Wheelock Parkway

Road Type: ☐ TH ☒ CSAH ☐ County Road ☐ Township Road ☐ MSAS ☐ City Street ☐ Trail

Legal location: T29N, R22W, Sec 19; T29N, R22W, Sec 30; T29N, R22W, Sec 31; T29N, R23W, Sec 24; T29N, R23W, Sec 25; T29N, R23W, Sec 26.

Does the project require a federal permit? (*e.g., Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit*)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Permitting Agency: _____

Is any part of the project within a reservation/on Tribal lands?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, which one: _____

Plans are: ☐ not yet available ☒ attached

Project Contact Person:

Name Lucas Bulger

Phone 612-270-0928

Title Environmental Planner, Bolton & Menk, Inc.

Email lucas.bulger@bolton-menk.com

Address 111 Washington Avenue South, Suite 650
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Sponsoring Agency (if different from project contact person):

Name Nick Fischer

Phone 651-266-7119

Title Project Manager, Ramsey County

Email nicklaus.fischer@co.ramsey.mn.us

Address 1425 Paul Kirkwold Drive
Arden Hills, MN 55112

Brief, but Complete Project Description (*e.g., changes to horizontal and vertical alignments, the existing vs. proposed R/W, traffic lane width, ditch profiles, etc. For bridge work, indicate whether the project will include filling and/or cutting.*)

The proposed project would involve the final design and reconstruction of Rice Street (CSAH 49) between Wheelock Parkway and Pennsylvania Avenue W. in the City of St. Paul, Ramsey County, MN. The proposed project would provide upgrades for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users throughout the corridor. Aside from sidewalk reconstruction and the installation of landscaping/green infrastructure, this project would be completed within the existing right-of-way with no horizontal or vertical changes to the road alignment. The following additional elements are anticipated to be included within the proposed project: resurfacing, ADA upgrades, curb extensions, signing modifications, traffic signal revisions, sanitary service line relocation, watermain relocation, improved stormwater infrastructure, and bridge rehabilitation.

Additionally, this project would be coordinated with Metro Transit's proposed G-Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. The G-Line corridor would extend along Rice Street between the Little Canada Transit Center and downtown St. Paul. Potential BRT station locations will be identified and integrated into the Rice Street corridor concept, and coordination with Metro Transit will continue throughout the final design process.

The project will likely include:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resurfacing / rehabilitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Realignment	<input type="checkbox"/> Widening of road / shoulder
<input type="checkbox"/> Major grading	<input type="checkbox"/> Grading for curve correction	<input type="checkbox"/> Ditch grading
<input type="checkbox"/> Bridge demolition, rehabilitation or replacement	<input type="checkbox"/> Bypass lane or turn lane construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Wetland fill or excavation
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent stream diversion	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary stream diversion	<input type="checkbox"/> DNR stream / water crossings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work outside existing R/W	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work outside existing shoulder	
<input type="checkbox"/> Culvert replacement	<input type="checkbox"/> Culvert extension or lining	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stormwater pond construction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Right of way acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/> Relocations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary easement
<input type="checkbox"/> Guardrail replacement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guardrail improvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signals / lighting
<input type="checkbox"/> Building demolition / relocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Erosion repair	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction bypass

Northern Long-Eared Bat (Federally Threatened)

All work occurs within 300 feet of the existing road surface? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Includes tree removal within 100 feet of the existing road surface? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Amount of tree removal in acres?

Less than one acre.

Can removal be done in the winter season (Nov 1- March 31)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Includes tree removal 100-300 feet from the existing road surface? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Amount of tree removal in acres? N/A

Can removal be done in the winter season (Nov 1- March 31)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Will the project involve bridge/box culvert work? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Bridge Number(s): 62008, 62627

Scope of Work: Bridge rehabilitation, removal of existing striping on the bridge deck and application of proposed striping on bridge deck, in-kind mill and overlay, in-kind reconstruction of existing sidewalk trails.

Will the project use temporary lighting or install/replace permanent lighting? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Rusty-Patched Bumble Bee (Federally Endangered)

Will the project try to revegetate disturbed soils using native seed mixes, especially in areas that are not proposed for mowed turf grass? ☒ Yes ☐ No

ATTACH THE FOLLOWING

- ☒ Project location map, shapefile or kmz
- ☐ Preliminary layout or project plan, if available showing, construction limits, R/W limits—existing and proposed Temporary Easements, detours

Noise

A determination of whether your project is a Type I or Type III project must be made.
The project is most likely a Type III if:

The scope of work is limited to one or more items of the list below. **A review request does not need to be submitted to a Noise Analysis Specialist if one of the boxes below is checked.** If you are in doubt, please contact SALT or the Noise experts listed below. Select all checkboxes that are applicable to this project.

- ☐ Signing jobs, new or in-kind,* with no change in cross-section
- ☒ Striping, in-kind replacement (e.g. no lanes added)
- ☒ In-kind mill and overlays (aka 'black on black mill and overlay')
- ☒ In-kind reconstruction of roadways, bridges, or trails
- ☒ Construction of trails solely for non-motorized use
- ☐ Vertical construction (i.e. buildings), new or rehabilitated
- ☐ Vegetation management activities (with no changes in cross-section)

*At its most simple, an in-kind project is putting back what was there before the project but with new materials. For example, if the pre-project transportation facility had two 12' lanes, 6' shoulders, 3:1 slopes, and a 36" culvert, that same typical section, same roadway prism, same slopes, same culvert size...is being put back in the same place as before the project. There are no geometric or bridge improvements for current design standards or otherwise. 'Same place' does not mean that anywhere within pre-event right-of-way.

Complete the following and submit a request to a Noise Analysis Specialist if your project appears to be Type I or if your project needs a review to make a determination between Type I or Type III. If an EA/EAW or an EIS is required please contact SALT Environmental Staff.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Noise Analysis Specialist: Please review to determine if this is a Type III project. (Supplemental Info is included below)
Or	
<div data-bbox="126 615 342 816" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Which criteria number applies? _____ </div>	<p>This project appears to meet one of the Type I definition criteria below. To assist with the Type I determination, LPA will forward this form to Environmental Modeling & Testing Unit (see below) for further guidance.</p> <p>Type 1 Definition Criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The construction of a highway on new location; or, (2) The physical alteration of an existing highway where there is either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Substantial Horizontal Alteration. A project that halves the distance between the traffic noise source and the closest receptor between the existing condition to the future build condition; or, (ii) Substantial Vertical Alteration. A project that removes shielding, therefore exposing the line-of-sight between the receptor and the traffic noise source. This is done by either altering the vertical alignment of the highway or by altering the topography (not including the addition or removal of vegetation) between the highway traffic noise source and the receptor; or, (3) Bridge replacement projects that satisfy item (2), above. (4) The addition of a through-traffic lane(s). This includes the addition of a through-traffic lane that functions as a HOV lane, contraflow lane, High-Occupancy Toll (HOT) lane, bus lane, or truck climbing lane; or, (5) The addition of an auxiliary lane, except for when the auxiliary lane is a turn lane. (6) The addition or relocation of interchange lanes or ramps added to a quadrant to complete an existing partial interchange; or, (7) Restriping existing pavement for the purpose of adding a through traffic lane or an auxiliary lane; or, (8) The addition of a new or substantial alteration of a weigh station, rest stop, ride-share lot or toll plaza.

If a portion of the project is determined to be a Type I project as defined above, then the entire project area as defined in the environmental document is a Type I project and a noise analysis will be required.

Please attach the following Critical information for an accurate Noise Type I/III determination to be made.

- A PDF (or other electronic file) Layout (aerial background is preferred) showing all noise sensitive receptor locations in relation to the Build and No-Build alignments (Can be on the same layout if alterations are clearly depicted.)
- Where there is a question on vertical or horizontal alignment changes a PDF (or other electronic file) Profile showing existing and Build roadway profiles and horizontal alignment is required. This should also include depictions of altered and unaltered topography profiles paralleling the subject roadway if grading is included anywhere in the project. (For the purpose of addressing vertical changes and effects on lines-of-sight.)
- Where the layout mapping doesn't depict topographic details it would be helpful to include topographic mapping with planned project alterations and/or new alignment detailed, also, receptor locations clearly pointed out. Include a list of noise sensitive receptor locations.
- If there is a permanent rerouting of a highway onto an in-place alignment.

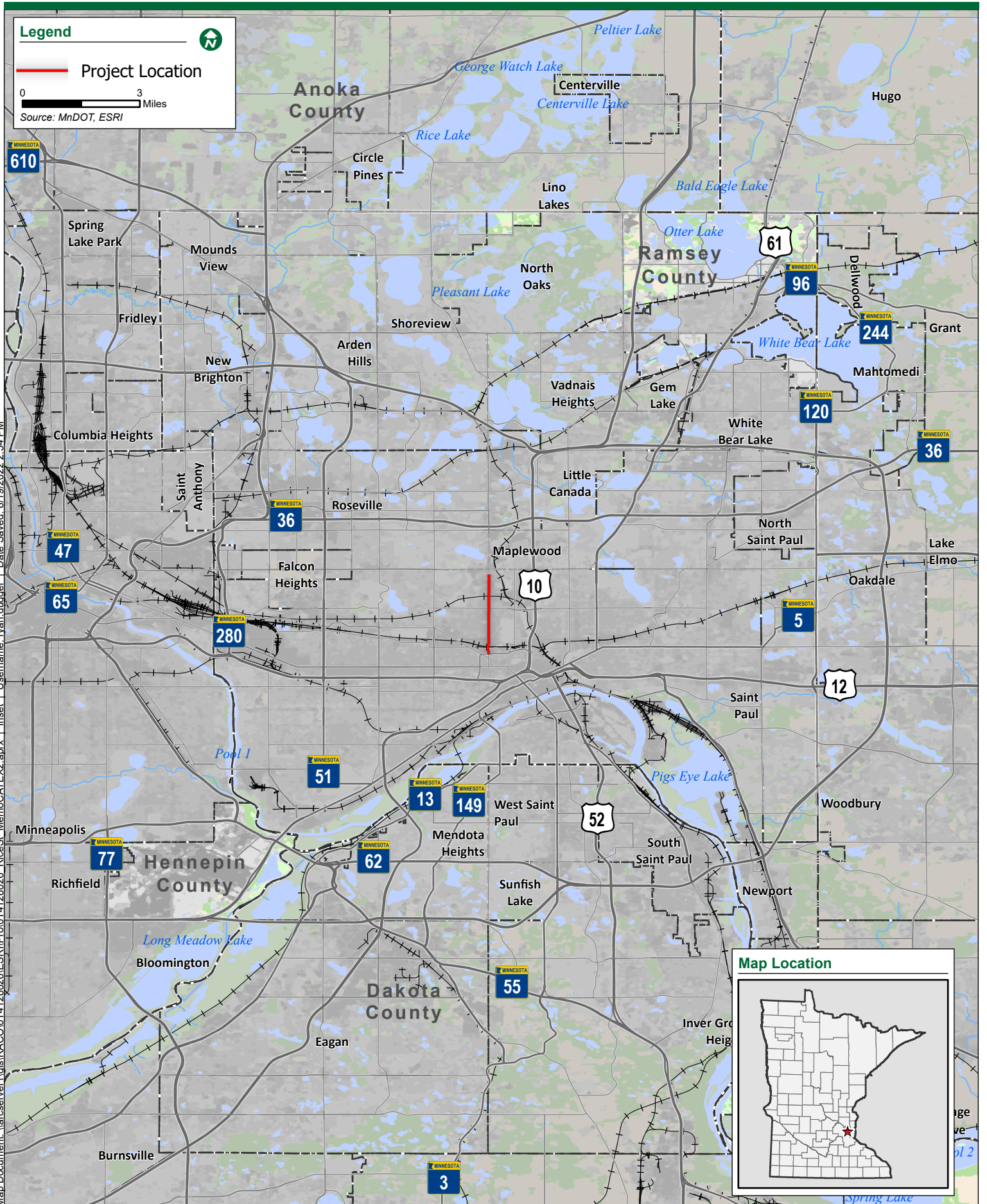
Important: A determination cannot be made if this information is not submitted.

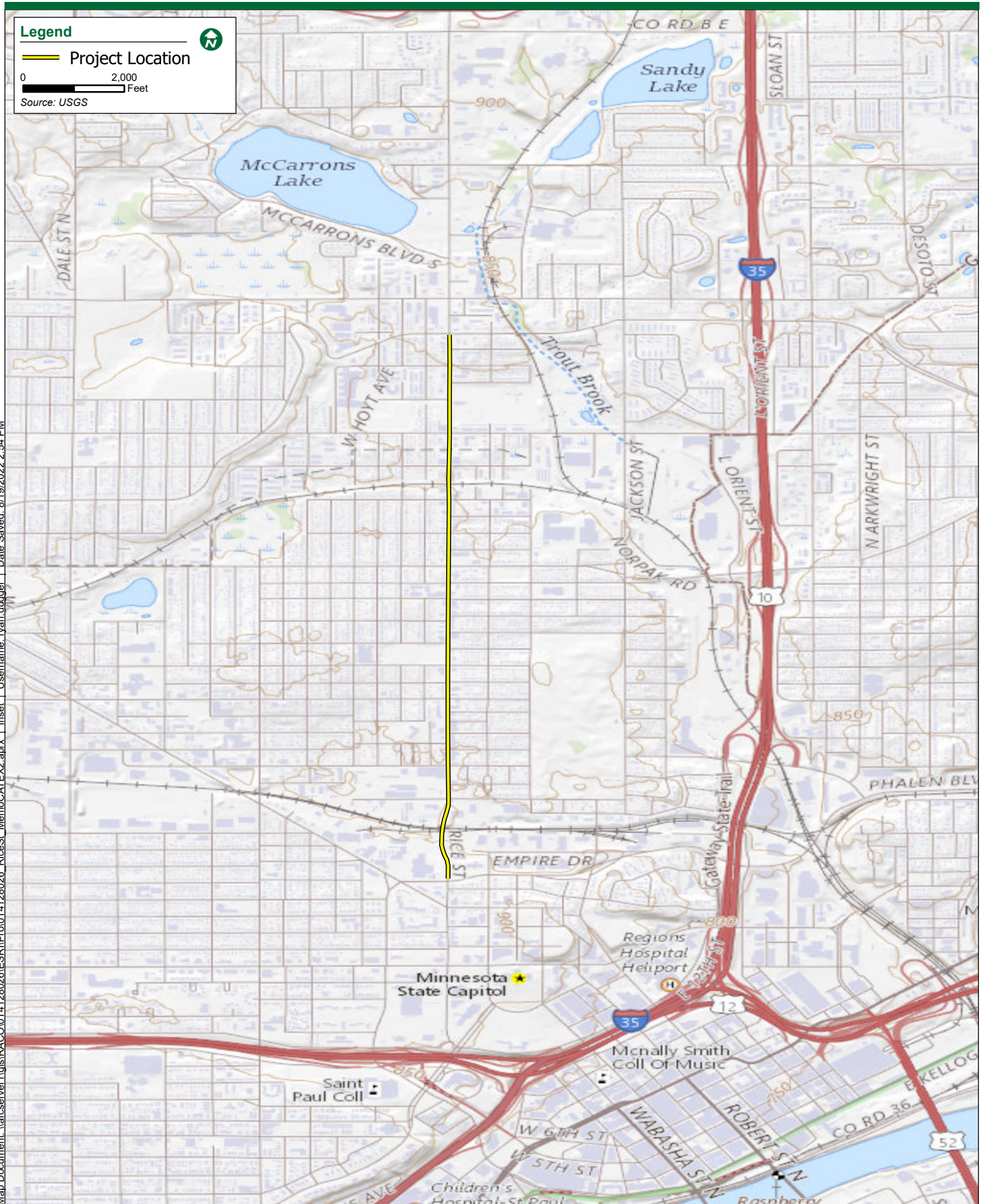
Please submit to:
Greater MN Districts
 Peter Wasko, INCE
peter.wasko@state.mn.us

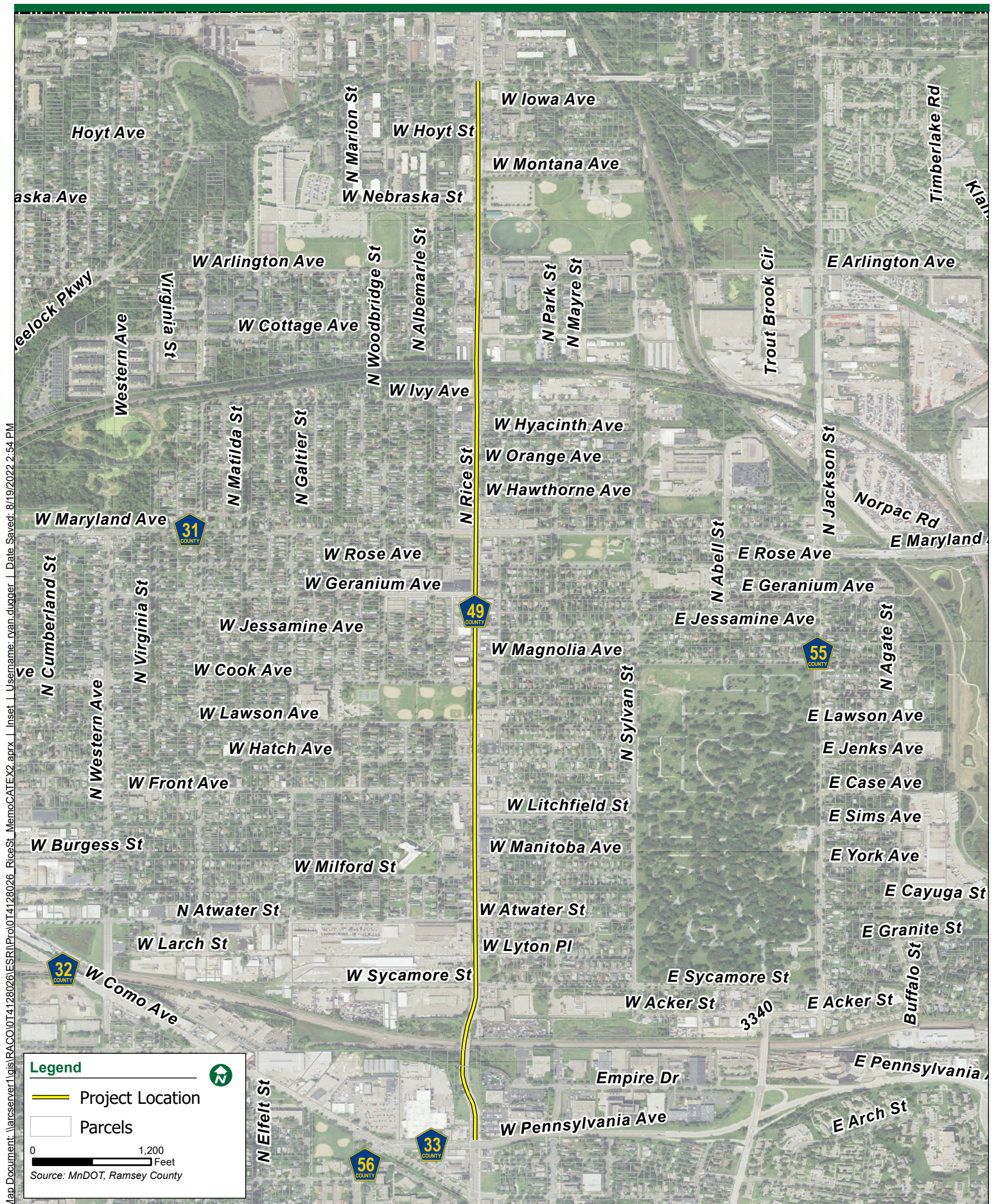
Environmental Modeling and Testing Unit Office of Environmental Stewardship (OES)
MnDOT Central Services Building
6000 Minnehaha Avenue South, MS 660
Saint Paul, MN 55111
Phone: (651) 366-5801

Metro District

Natalie Ries
natalie.ries@state.mn.us
Project Documentation Section
MnDOT Water's Edge Building
1500 W. Co. Rd. B2, MS 050
Roseville, MN 55113
Phone: (651) 234-7681









Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Ecological & Water Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

September 20, 2022

Correspondence # MCE 2022-00570

Lucas Bulger
Bolton & Menk, Inc.

RE: Natural Heritage Review of the proposed Rice Street Final Design,
T29N R22W Sections 19, 30-31, T29N R23W Sections 24-25, 36; Ramsey County

Dear Lucas Bulger,

As requested, the [Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System](#) has been reviewed to determine if the proposed project has the potential to impact any rare species or other significant natural features. Based on the project details provided with the request, the following rare features may be impacted by the proposed project:

Federally Protected Species

- The area of interest overlaps with a Rusty Patched Bumble Bee *High Potential Zone*. The rusty patched bumble bee (*Bombus affinis*) is federally listed as endangered and is likely to be present in suitable habitat within *High Potential Zones*. From April through October this species uses underground nests in upland grasslands, shrublands, and forest edges, and forages where nectar and pollen are available. From October through April the species overwinters under tree litter in upland forests and woodlands. The rusty patched bumble bee may be impacted by a variety of land management activities including, but not limited to, prescribed fire, tree-removal, haying, grazing, herbicide use, pesticide use, land-clearing, soil disturbance or compaction, or use of non-native bees. The [USFWS rusty patched bumble bee guidance](#) provides guidance on avoiding impacts to rusty patched bumble bee and a key for determining if actions are likely to affect the species; the determination key can be found in the appendix. If applicable, the DNR also recommends reseeding disturbed soils with native species of grasses and forbs using [BWSR Seed Mixes](#) or [MnDOT Seed Mixes](#). Please visit the [USFWS Rusty Patched Bumble Bee Map](#) for the most current locations of *High Potential Zones*.

- To ensure compliance with federal law, conduct a federal regulatory review using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) online [Information for Planning and Consultation \(IPaC\) tool](#).

Environmental Review and Permitting

- Please include a copy of this letter and the MCE-generated Final Project Report in any state or local license or permit application. Please note that measures to avoid or minimize disturbance to the above rare features may be included as restrictions or conditions in any required permits or licenses.

The Natural Heritage Information System (NHIS), a collection of databases that contains information about Minnesota's rare natural features, is maintained by the Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources. The NHIS is continually updated as new information becomes available, and is the most complete source of data on Minnesota's rare or otherwise significant species, native plant communities, and other natural features. However, the NHIS is not an exhaustive inventory and thus does not represent all of the occurrences of rare features within the state. Therefore, ecologically significant features for which we have no records may exist within the project area. If additional information becomes available regarding rare features in the vicinity of the project, further review may be necessary.

For environmental review purposes, the results of this Natural Heritage Review are valid for one year; the results are only valid for the project location and project description provided with the request. If project details change or the project has not occurred within one year, please resubmit the project for review within one year of initiating project activities.

The Natural Heritage Review does not constitute project approval by the Department of Natural Resources. Instead, it identifies issues regarding known occurrences of rare features and potential impacts to these rare features. Visit the [Natural Heritage Review website](#) for additional information regarding this process, survey guidance, and other related information. For information on the environmental review process or other natural resource concerns, you may contact your [DNR Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist](#).

Thank you for consulting us on this matter and for your interest in preserving Minnesota's rare natural resources.

Sincerely,



James Drake
Natural Heritage Review Specialist
James.F.Drake@state.mn.us



Rice Street Final Design

No Wetlands Memo

Ramsey County
October 3rd, 2022

Submitted by:
Bolton & Menk, Inc.
1960 Premier Drive
Mankato, MN 56001
P: (507) 625-4171
F: (507) 625-4177



**BOLTON
& MENK**

Real People. Real Solutions.





Real People. Real Solutions.

12224 Nicollet Avenue
Burnsville, MN 55337-1649

Ph: (952) 890-0509

Fax: (952) 890-8065

Bolton-Menk.com

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 3rd, 2022
From: Brandon Bohks, Senior Natural Resources Specialist
Subject: Rice Street Final Design
BMI Project No.: 0T4.128026

Ramsey County is proposing to reconstruct Rice Street (CSAH 49) between Wheelock Parkway and Pennsylvania Avenue West in the City of St. Paul, MN. As part of the planning process, there are several primary and secondary locations for off-site BMP treatment areas. These areas, which are currently developed land, were included in the desktop review. One of these locations (Study Area) is not developed currently. This area is within Section 26, Township 29 North, Range 23 West. As part of the proposed construction process, Bolton & Menk recently completed a field investigation to determine the existence of any wetlands within the study area. This assessment included the review of the following items:

- Climate Data and Findings
- Location Map (Exhibit A)
- Two-Foot LiDAR Contours Map (Exhibits B1, B2, and B3)
- National Wetland Inventory Map (Exhibits C1 and C2)
- Public Waters Inventory Map (Exhibit D)
- Ramsey County Soil Survey Map (Exhibits E1 and E2)
- Wetland Delineation Map (Exhibit F)
- U.S. ACOE APT Output

A site visit was conducted on September 30th to verify the existence of wetlands throughout the study area. No wetlands were found within the sites identified. Pictures were taken to document the field investigation findings and are described below the climate data. No sample points were taken due to the lack of wetland indicators and the location within a highly developed area. The attached exhibits illustrate the findings of this study.

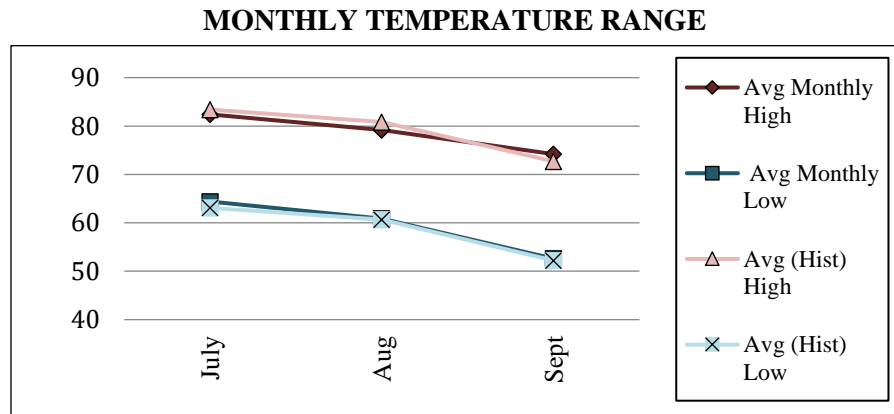
Sincerely,
BOLTON & MENK, INC.

Brandon Bohks
Certified Wetland Delineator (Certified Wetland Delineator), No. 1341

I. CLIMATE DATA

This climatic data was gathered using the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Antecedent Precipitation Tool (APT) and the NOAA NOWData Website, <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=mpx>. The temperature information for the investigation was retrieved from UNIVERSITY OF MN ST. PAUL.

The monthly temperature table below shows the average high and low temperatures for the three months prior to the field delineation, along with the historical averages for these months. The monthly high and low temperatures were within normal ranges for the prior three months.



The USACE APT was used to determine precipitation conditions 90 days prior to the delineation. The resulting APT product was 8, indicating drier than normal conditions. The APT output is included as Exhibit H.

II. FINDINGS

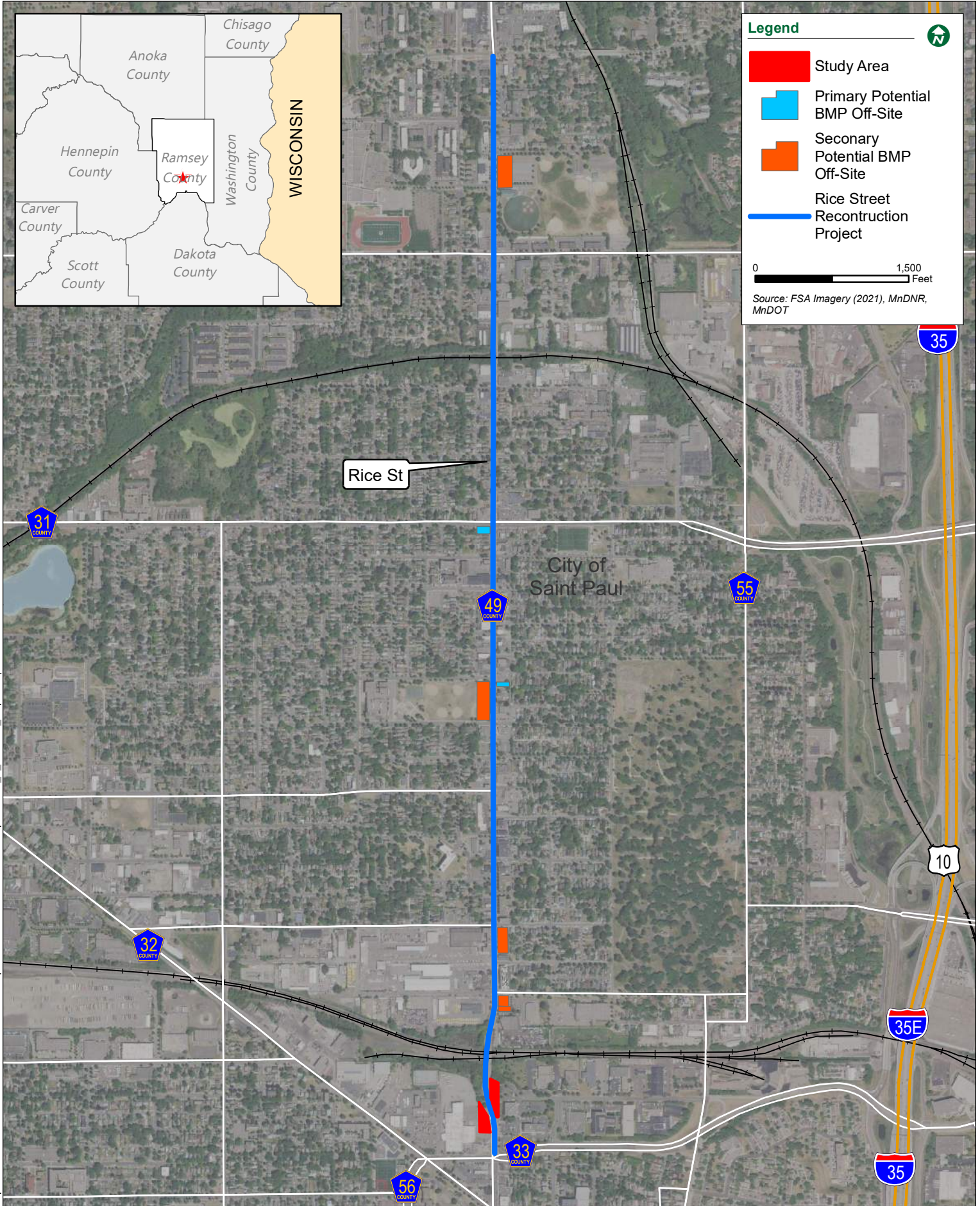
On September 30th, 2022, a field investigation was performed to evaluate and verify the existence and boundary of any aquatic resources located within the study area. The field investigation did not find any wetlands to exist within the study area. The following are pictures taken with a brief description of observations me during the field investigation.

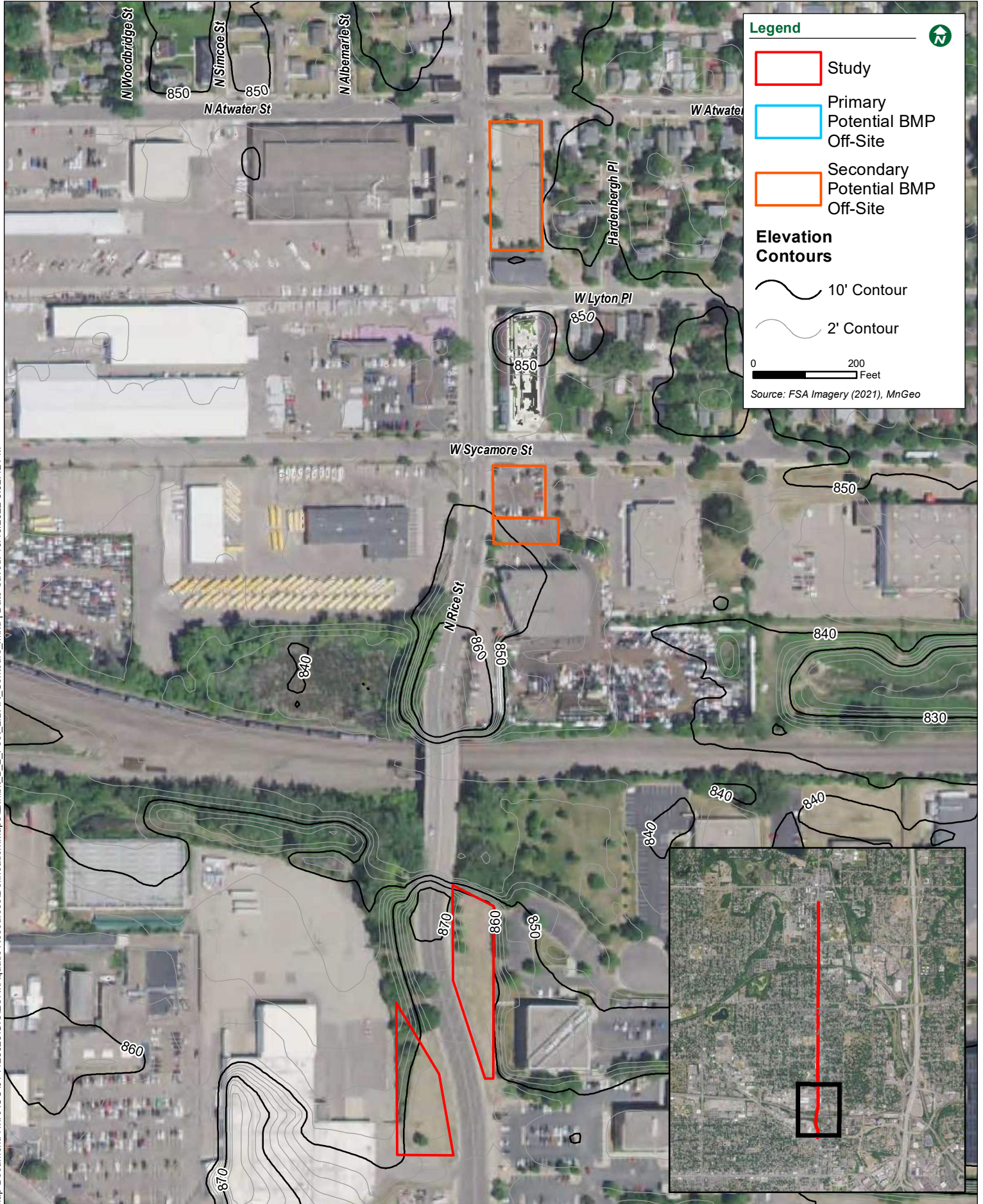


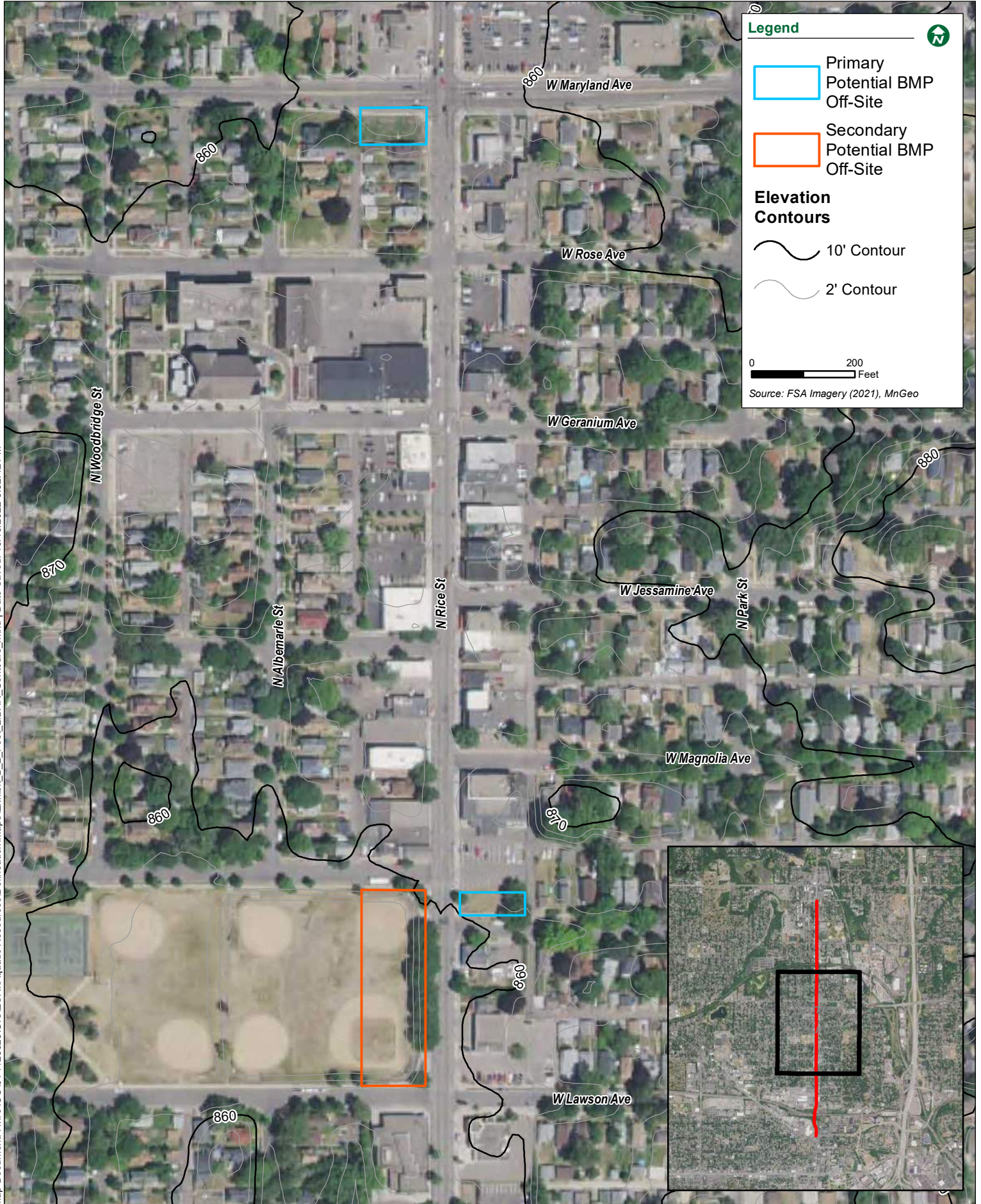
Photos of study area on the West side of Rice Street. Field investigation found a vacant lot with mowed vegetation and no wetland indicators present.

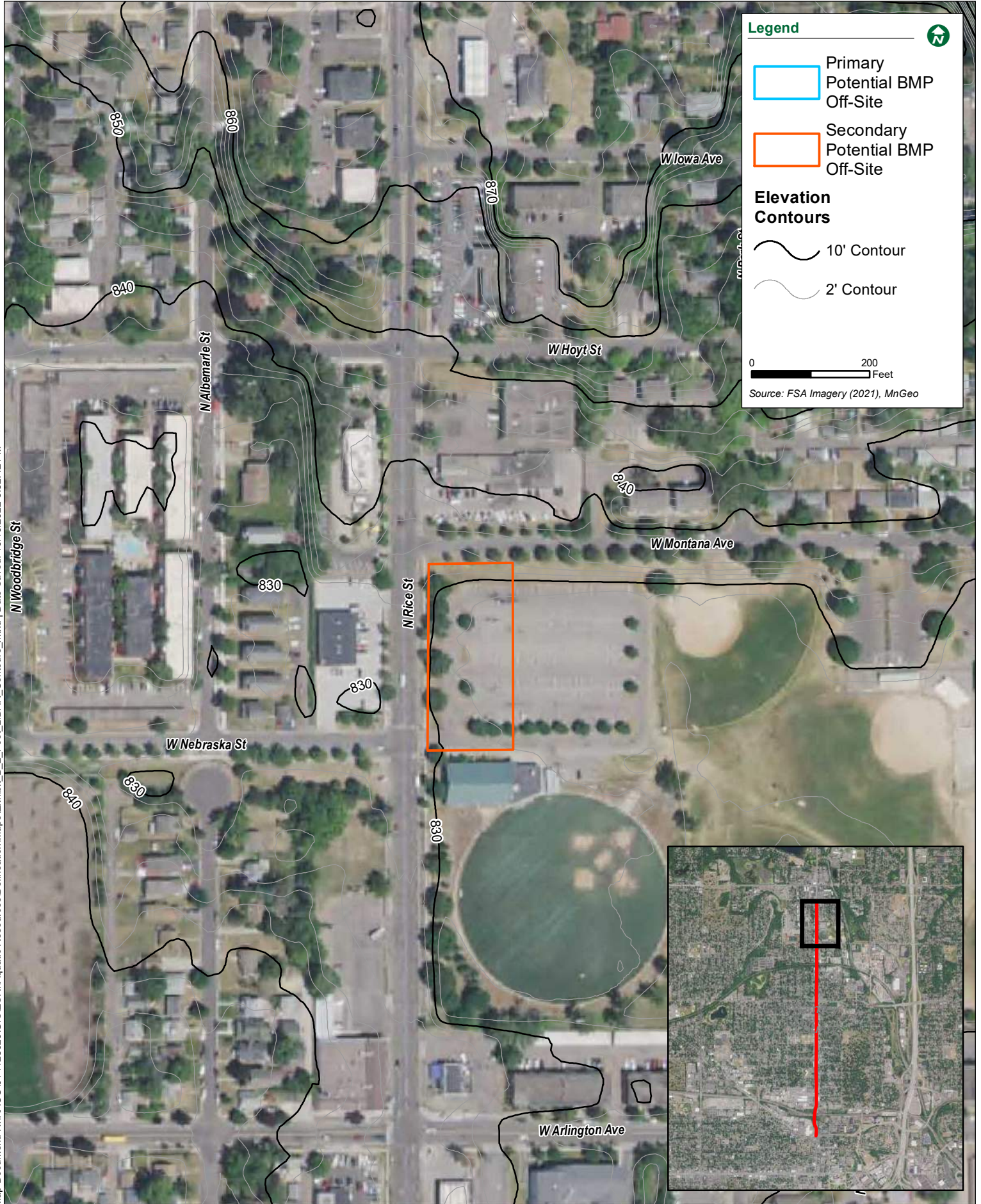


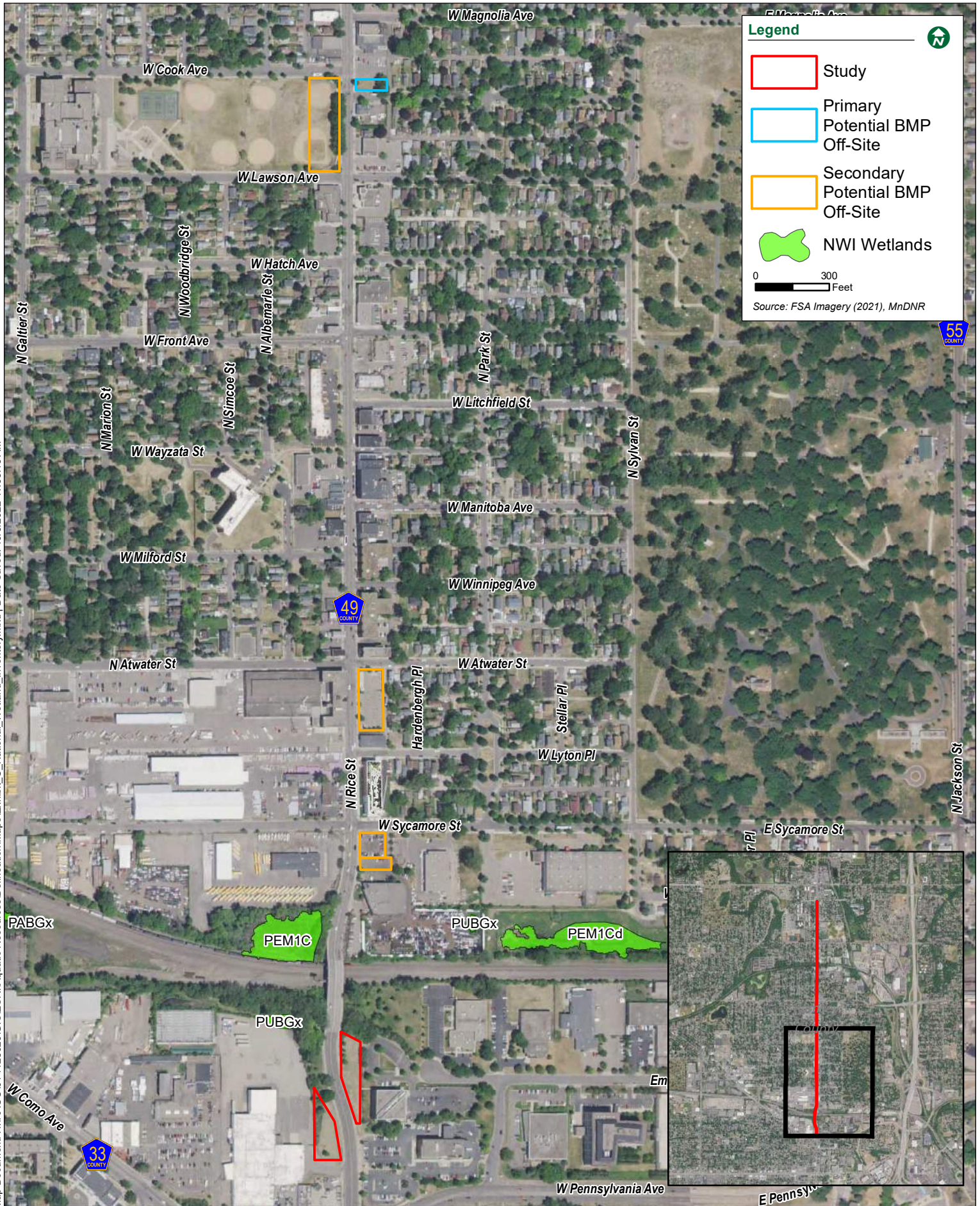
Photos of study area on the East side of Rice Street. Field investigation found a vacant lot with mowed vegetation and no wetland indicators present.

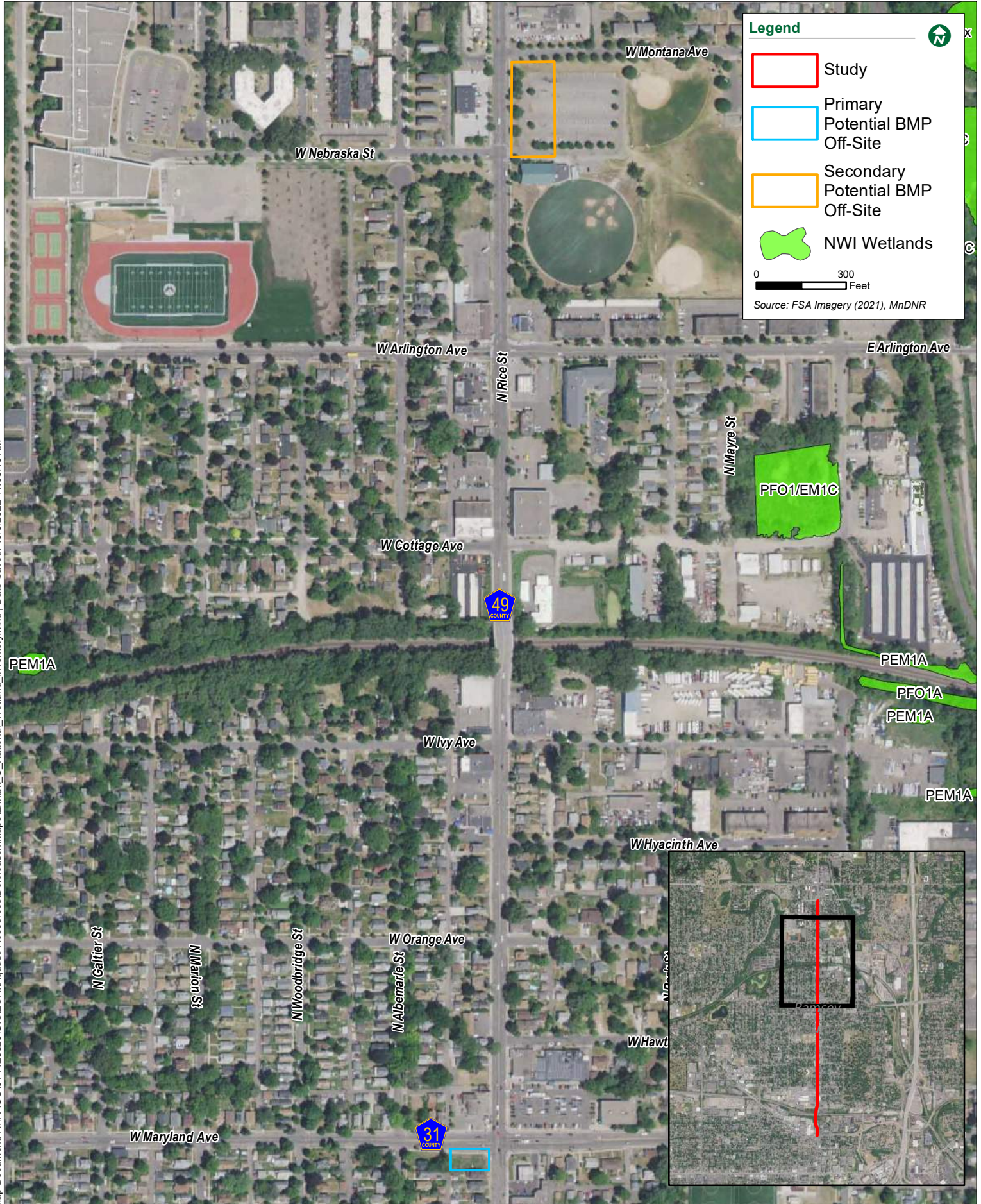


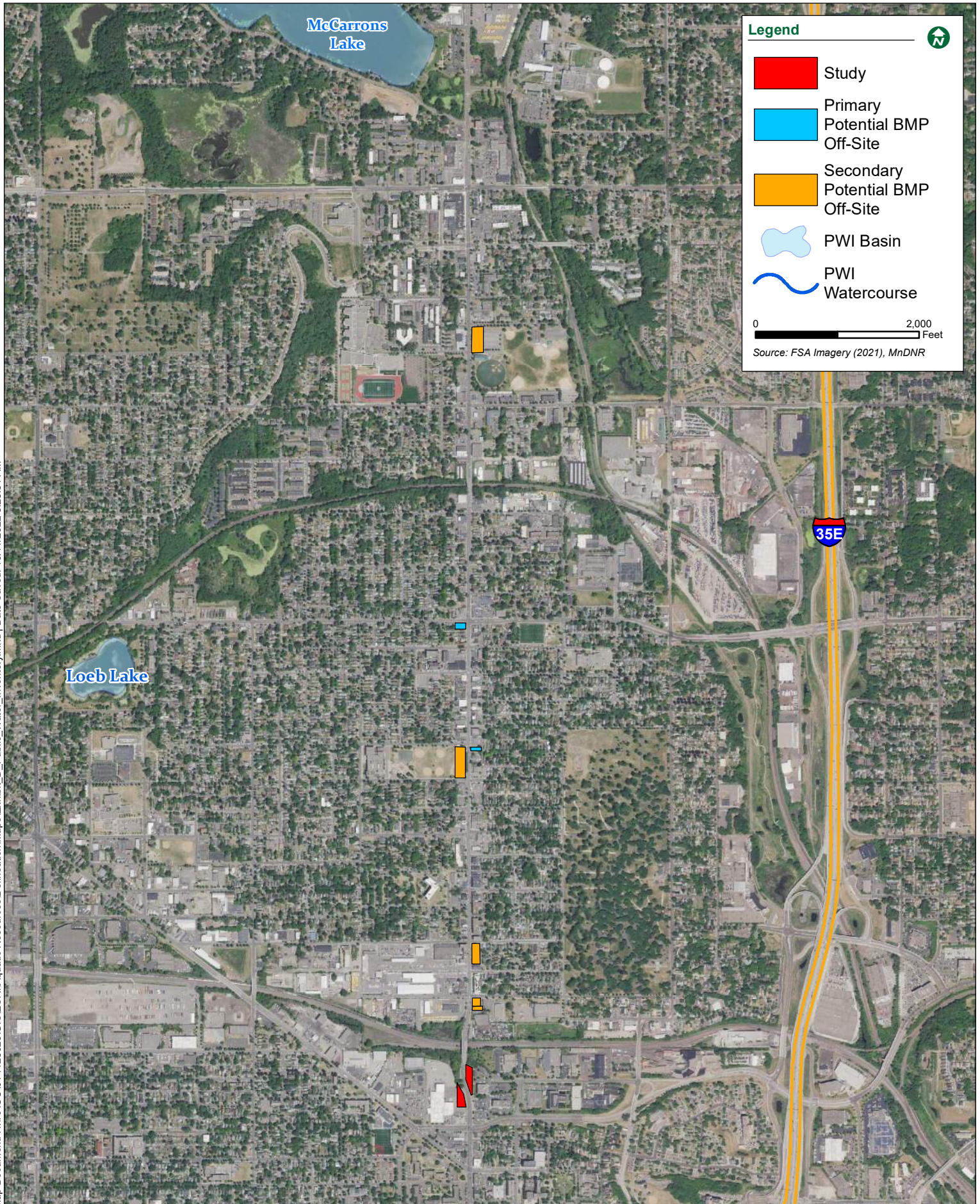


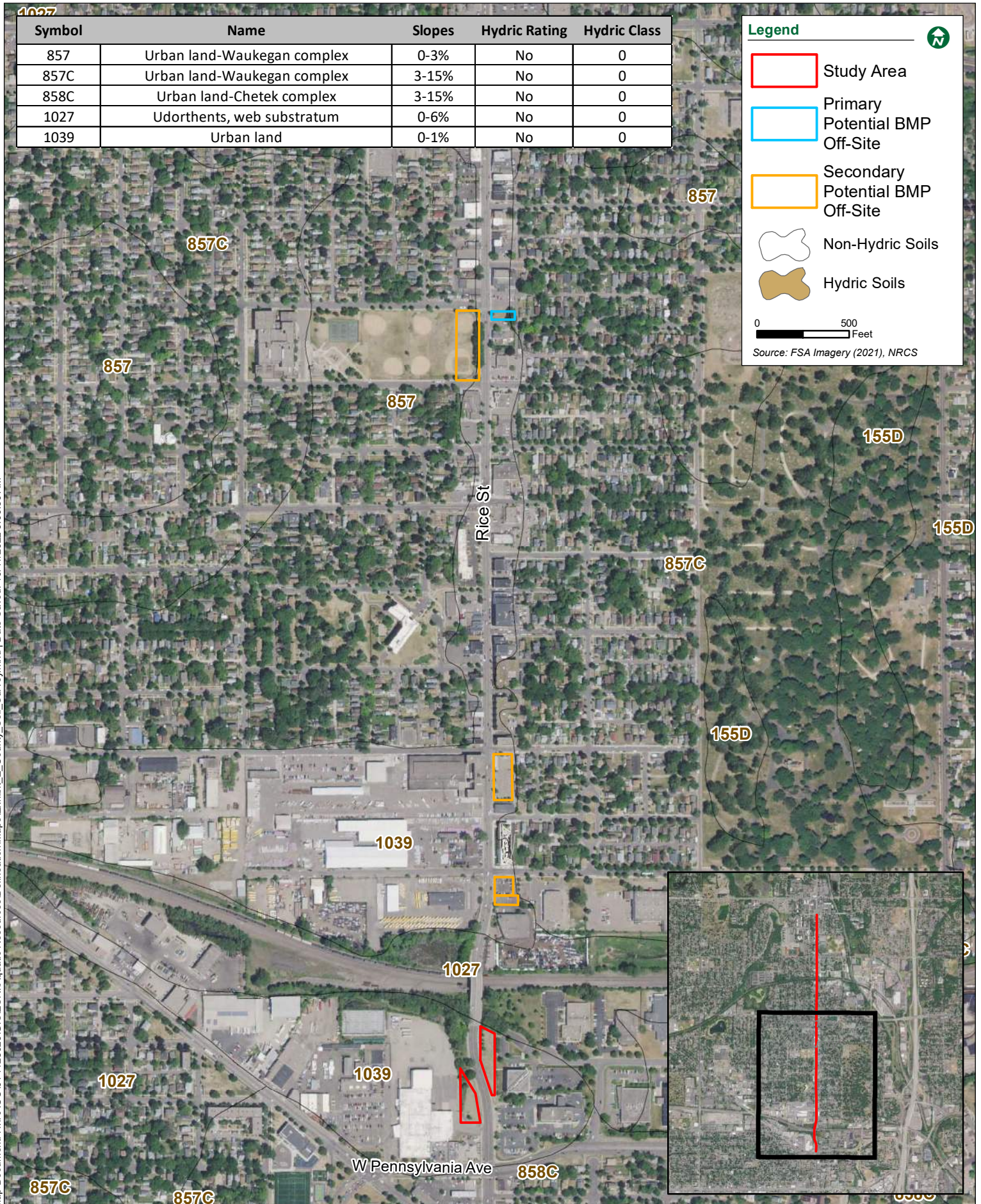

















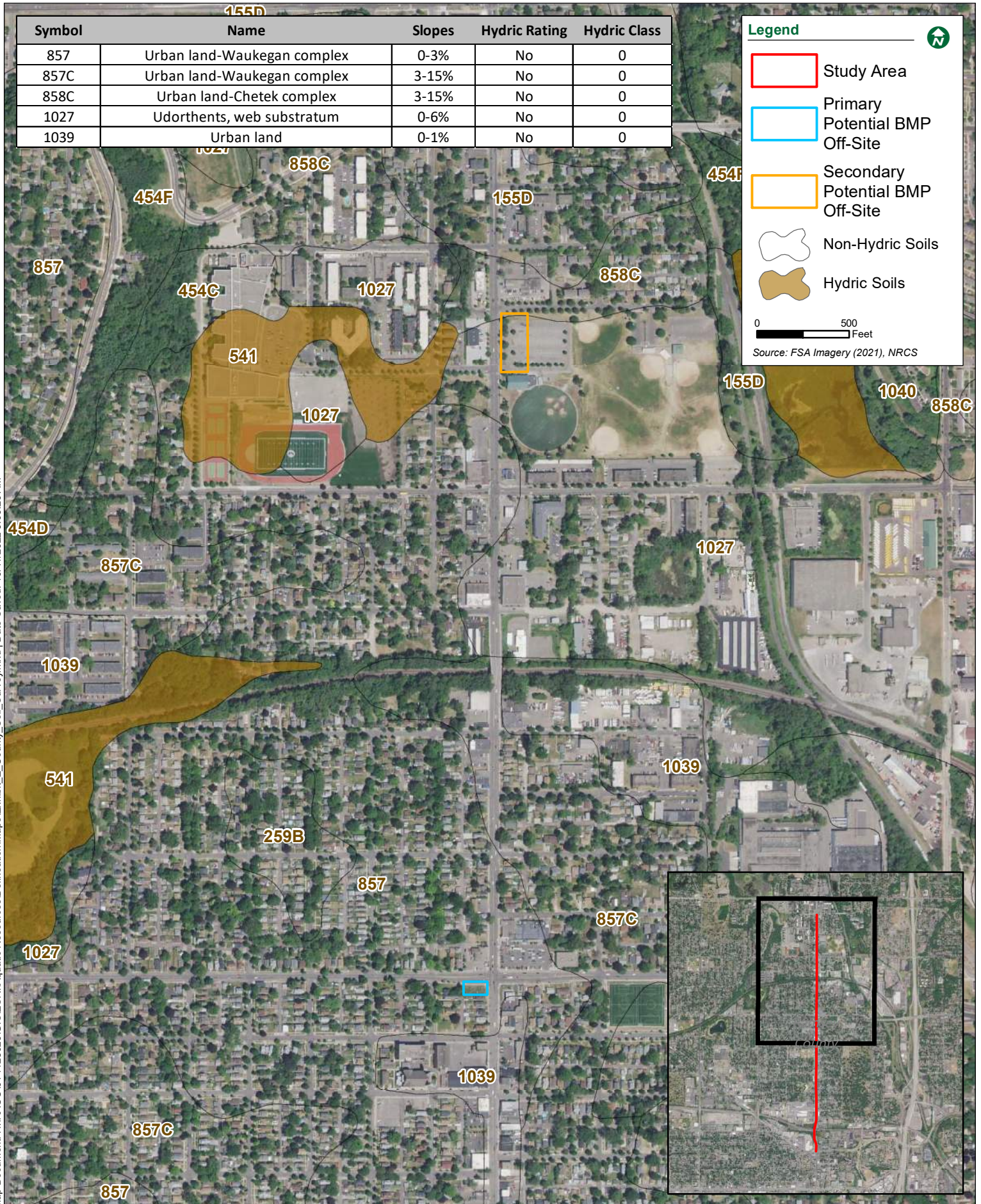
Symbol	Name	Slopes	Hydric Rating	Hydric Class
857	Urban land-Waukegan complex	0-3%	No	0
857C	Urban land-Waukegan complex	3-15%	No	0
858C	Urban land-Chetek complex	3-15%	No	0
1027	Udorthents, web substratum	0-6%	No	0
1039	Urban land	0-1%	No	0

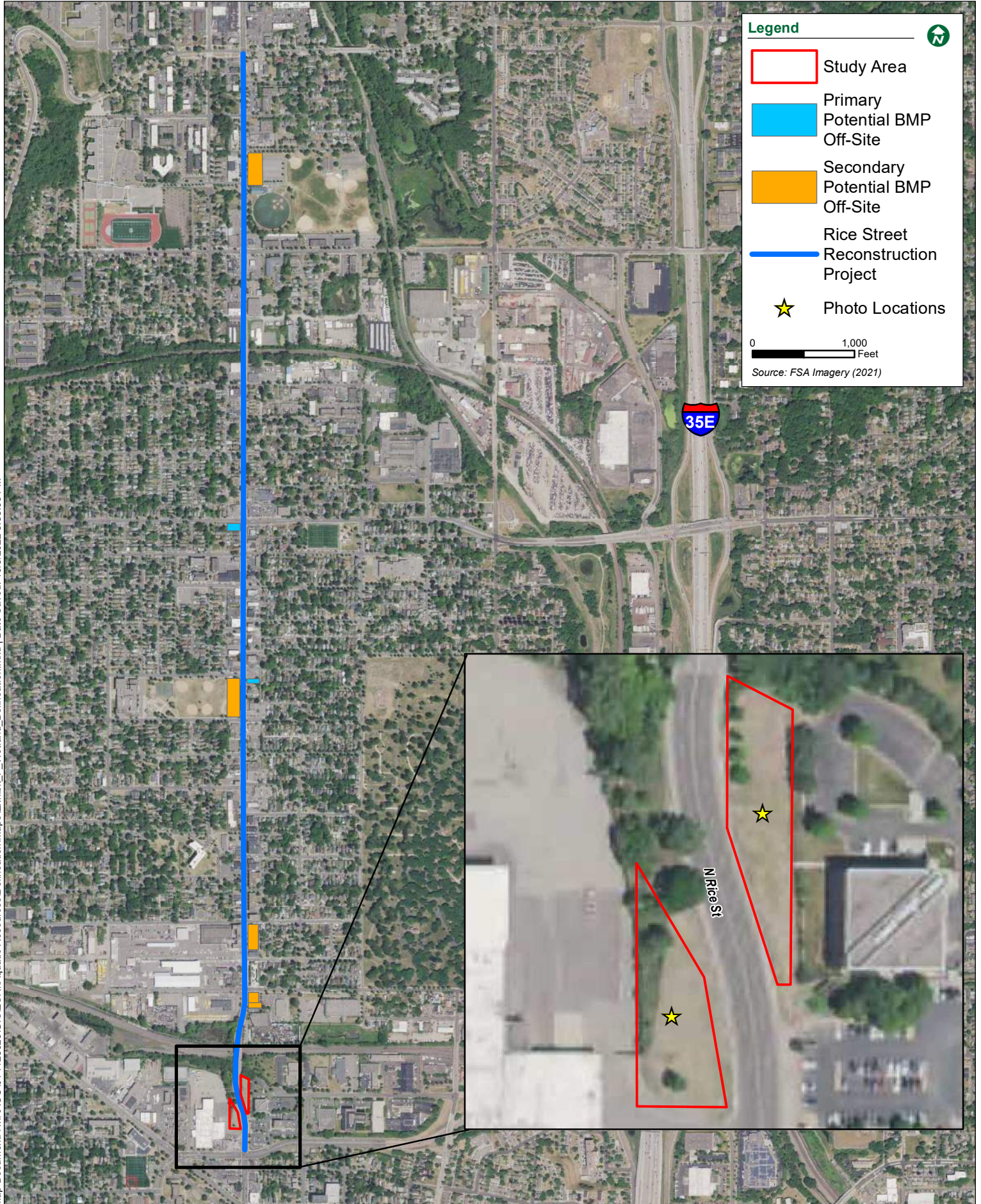
Legend

-  Study Area
-  Primary Potential BMP Off-Site
-  Secondary Potential BMP Off-Site
-  Non-Hydric Soils
-  Hydric Soils

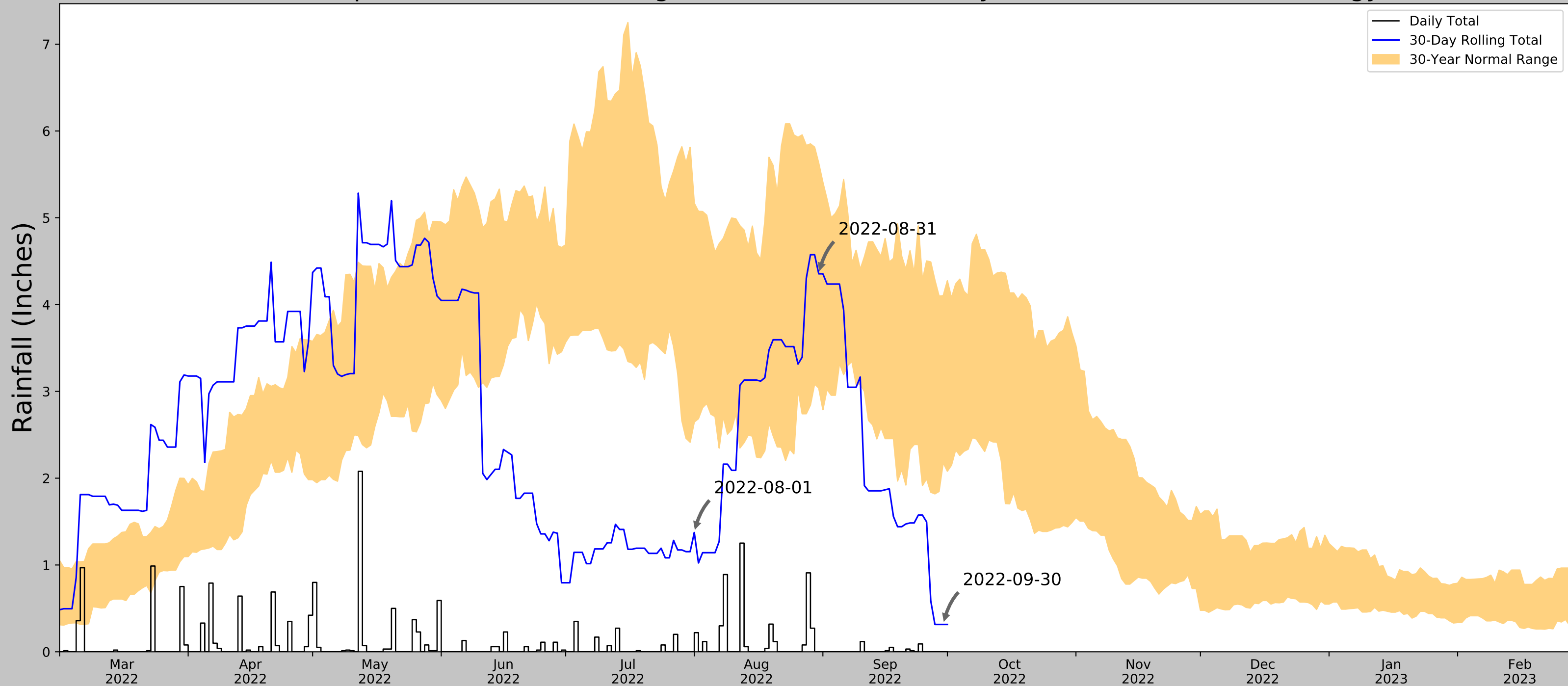
0 500 Feet

Source: FSA Imagery (2021), NRCS





Antecedent Precipitation vs Normal Range based on NOAA's Daily Global Historical Climatology Network



Coordinates	44.96197, -93.10667
Observation Date	2022-09-30
Elevation (ft)	852.18
Drought Index (PDSI)	Mild drought (2022-08)
WebWIMP H ₂ O Balance	Dry Season

30 Days Ending	30 th %ile (in)	70 th %ile (in)	Observed (in)	Wetness Condition	Condition Value	Month Weight	Product
2022-09-30	2.178347	4.101969	0.314961	Dry	1	3	3
2022-08-31	3.037402	5.628347	4.354331	Normal	2	2	4
2022-08-01	2.647244	5.166929	1.374016	Dry	1	1	1
Result							Drier than Normal - 8




Figure and tables made by the
Antecedent Precipitation Tool
Version 1.0

Written by Jason Deters
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Weather Station Name	Coordinates	Elevation (ft)	Distance (mi)	Elevation Δ	Weighted Δ	Days Normal	Days Antecedent
U OF MN ST PAUL	44.9903, -93.18	970.144	4.084	117.964	2.319	11308	77
FALCON HEIGHTS 0.4 NNW	44.9956, -93.1793	979.003	0.368	8.859	0.169	2	6
FALCON HEIGHTS 0.8 NE	44.9965, -93.1633	969.16	0.922	0.984	0.416	0	7
ST PAUL 3SW	44.9311, -93.1539	924.869	4.285	45.275	2.122	31	0
LOWER ST ANTHONY FALLS	44.9783, -93.2469	753.937	3.373	216.207	2.247	12	0

From: [Bob Rogers](#)
To: [Ashley Hudson](#)
Subject: FW: SAP 062-649-055
Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2022 9:42:20 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

FYI

Bob Rogers AICP

Sr. Transportation Planner

[Bolton-Menk, Inc.](#)

3507 High Point Drive North

Bldg. 1 Suite E130

Oakdale MN 55128

Phone: 651-704-9970 ext. 3933

Mobile: 651-276-7136

bob.rogers@bolton-menk.com

[Bolton-Menk.com](#)

From: Kurth, Andrew (DOT) <andrew.kurth@state.mn.us>

Sent: Friday, October 7, 2022 9:30 AM

To: Renee Barnes <renee.barnes@bolton-menk.com>

Subject: RE: SAP 062-649-055

Hi Renee,

MnDOT CRU is in the process of completing our consultation for the project. No immediate concerns were identified based on the project information provided in the C,NT&E (attached). The need for additional inventory or survey is not anticipated at this time. Please let us know if the project has changed since the review request was submitted or if all elements of the project were not captured in the description.

Sincerely,

Andrew Kurth (he/him/his)

T: 612-263-5188

mndot-email-signature



From: Renee Barnes <renee.barnes@bolton-menk.com>

Sent: Friday, October 7, 2022 8:50 AM

To: Kurth, Andrew (DOT) <andrew.kurth@state.mn.us>

Subject: SAP 062-649-055

This message may be from an external email source.

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

Hi Andrew,

I believe someone (not me) from Bolton and Menk submitted a review request form a few weeks ago for a project along Rice Street in St. Paul. They reached out to me to inquiry the status, even though its early stages and funding is unknown though believed to be fed funding. The main question Ramsey county has is if a survey is needed. If yes it sounds like Ramsey would go ahead and pay for it to get the ball rolling and not do the 80/20 split. Sounds like they might want me to work on a scope here soon. So if CRU has determined a survey is needed please let me know, and I can work with the AH person to discuss an APE and get that moving for the county.

If you haven't even gotten to it yet, let me know, and I will pass that info along too.

Renée

Renée Barnes

(She, her, hers)

Cultural Resources Project Manager

Bolton & Menk, Inc.

Phone: 952-890-0509 ext. 3970

Mobile: 612-463-5529

Bolton-Menk.com

[Newforma - Send a File Transfer](#)

