

EPD Director's Office

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Suite 1456, East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-656-4713

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Dugdown Corridor Conservation
The Nature Conservancy
(Haralson, Paulding, and Polk Counties)
GEFA Loan No. LC-2021-003

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above project in accordance with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP). EPD has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, no further environmental review is planned.

The proposed project consists of the acquisition of two non-contiguous tracts, the Dugdown Mountain Tract and the Tallapoosa Tract, totaling approximately 2,351 acres within the Dugdown Corridor. The area will be maintained for habitat and water quality protection downstream in the Etowah and Tallapoosa River watersheds.

This project is eligible for a categorical exclusion because it meets the following specific eligibility criteria: habitat protection/restoration and surface water protection/restoration. Furthermore: the project will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters; the project will not substantially increase the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants; the project will not provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population; the project will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment; the action will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, habitats of endangered or threatened species, or environmentally important natural resource areas; and the action is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy.

This determination becomes effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD. This exclusion may be revoked at any time if: 1) the project is altered and no longer meets the requirements of a categorical exclusion, 2) new evidence shows that serious environmental issues exist, or 3) a local, State or Federal law is being or may be violated.

The information which supports this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public review upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review with The Nature Conservancy.

All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit comments within thirty (30) days of the publish date of this notice via email to kelli-ann.sottile@dnr.ga.gov or to the following address:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
Watershed Protection Branch
Wastewater Regulatory Program
ATTN: Kelli-Ann Sottile
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 1152 East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

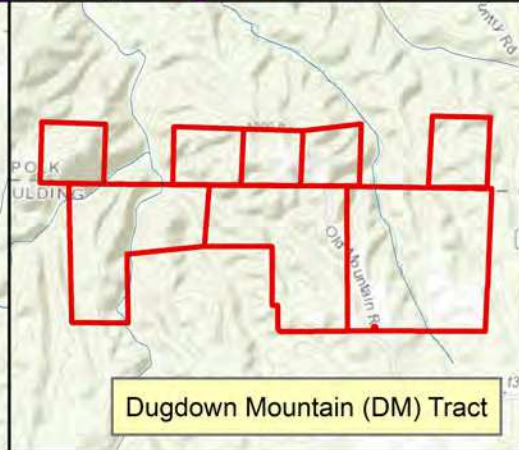
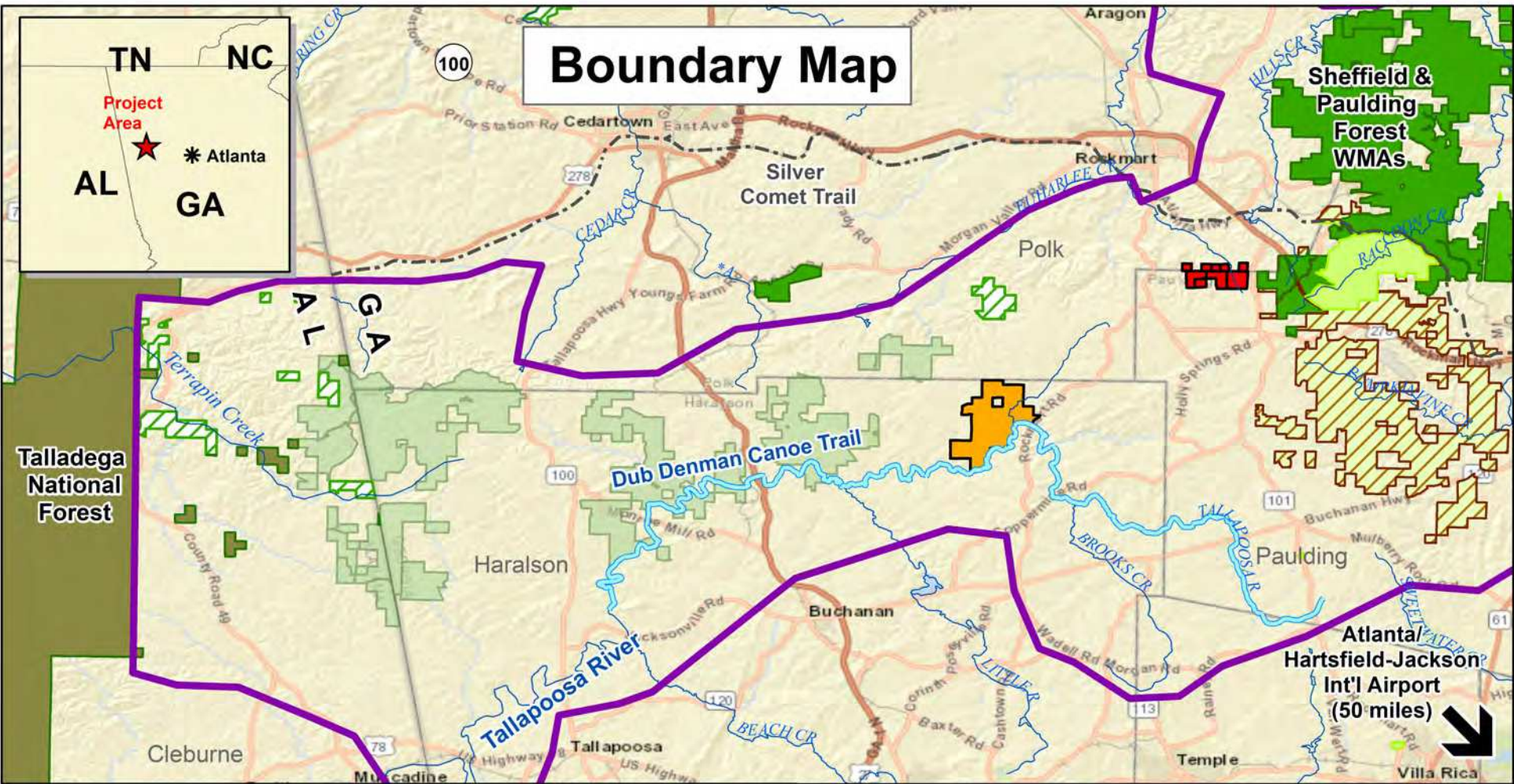
After evaluating the comments received, EPD will make a final decision regarding approval of the project. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after publication of this Notice.



Publish Date: June 22, 2021

Richard E. Dunn, Director
Environmental Protection Division

Boundary Map



Jones Co Tracts	Managed Land	
Tallapoosa (TA) Tract	State Owned	
Dugdown Mountain (DM) Tract	State Leased	
Dugdown Corridor	Local Owned	
Counties	Conservation Easement	
Silver Comet Trail	Federal Owned	
Dub Denman Canoe Trail	Priority Future Protection	

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