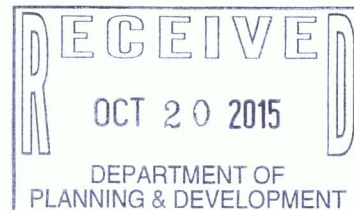


1041 2008-002

200 S. Santa Fe Av., 4th Floor
Pueblo, CO 81003

October 19, 2015



Pueblo County Commissioners
10th Court
Pueblo, CO 81003

Re: Noxious Weed Management Associated with the SDS Pipeline Easement

Beth Campbell and I toured the S1 and S2 SDS pipeline construction sites on Oct 16, 2015 accompanied by Colorado Springs Utilities Representatives and their lead contractors.

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Integration Manager
Colorado Springs Utilities - SDS Program

Michelynn Hollister
Environmental Specialist
Colorado Springs Utilities

Kevin Binkley, PMP
Permitting and Compliance Specialist
Principal Environmental Scientist
MWH - SDS Program

Kevin Shrewsbury, PMP
Environmental Specialist
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David Buckner, Ph.D.
Senior Plant Ecologist
ESCO Associates, Inc.

Our tour was a “windshield” tour and we looked at most of the easement in S1 and S2.

Impressions and findings:

The re-vegetation was robust and growing on all parts of the easement observed and should resist drought and erosion during normal years and through moderate drought periods.

The native grasses were thicker and more evident on the south side of Highway 50 than on the north side. I attribute this to different soil conditions. A land owner on the north side had 10 or more horses grazing on the easement and they had completely eradicated the grass. Several landowners had mowed the easement but grasses there should recover normally.

We looked at the control of tamarisk at several locations in both S1 and S2 where it had been physically removed within the easement and probably will not return. However, there is substantial growth of this species on both sides of the easement at all locations will likely spread back onto the easement in future years.

We observed that the pipeline construction had crossed a colony of Russian knapweed in one location north of Purcell Blvd and that the weed was no longer on the easement except for the extreme outer edges. These small patches could be treated, when or if, the land owner adjacent to the easement treats them. Untreated, there is a significant risk that this species will migrate on to the easement at some future time.

We learned from Colorado Springs Utilities personnel that the construction easement for the entire structure has expired and land returned to land owners.

A map, provided by COS Utilities shows where noxious weeds were found.

The power company is replacing power poles bordering the easement across Pueblo West. This construction is disrupting the soil under the power line and if left without re-vegetation this long stretch (18 miles) will be easily filled with noxious or other un-wanted weeds which will spread to the pipeline easement and other adjoining properties.

Recommendations:

1. Based upon my limited knowledge of the 1041 permit, consider the noxious weed management of the easement in areas we had access to, and visited, completed IAW requirements of the 1041 permit.
2. Ask Colorado Springs Utilities to send one last information flyer to land owners advising them that noxious weeds and other undesirable plants (like tumble weeds) can invade the easement if it is not properly maintained or is abused by grazing or other activities disturbing the rooting of the grasses now planted in the easement.
3. Request COS utilities to include in their flyer information on the Turkey Creek Noxious Weed Cost Share program. Data for this program can be found on the Turkey Creek Web site, puebloweeds.com. Turkey Creek should review a draft prior to distribution.

Bill Alt


President Turkey Creek Conservation District



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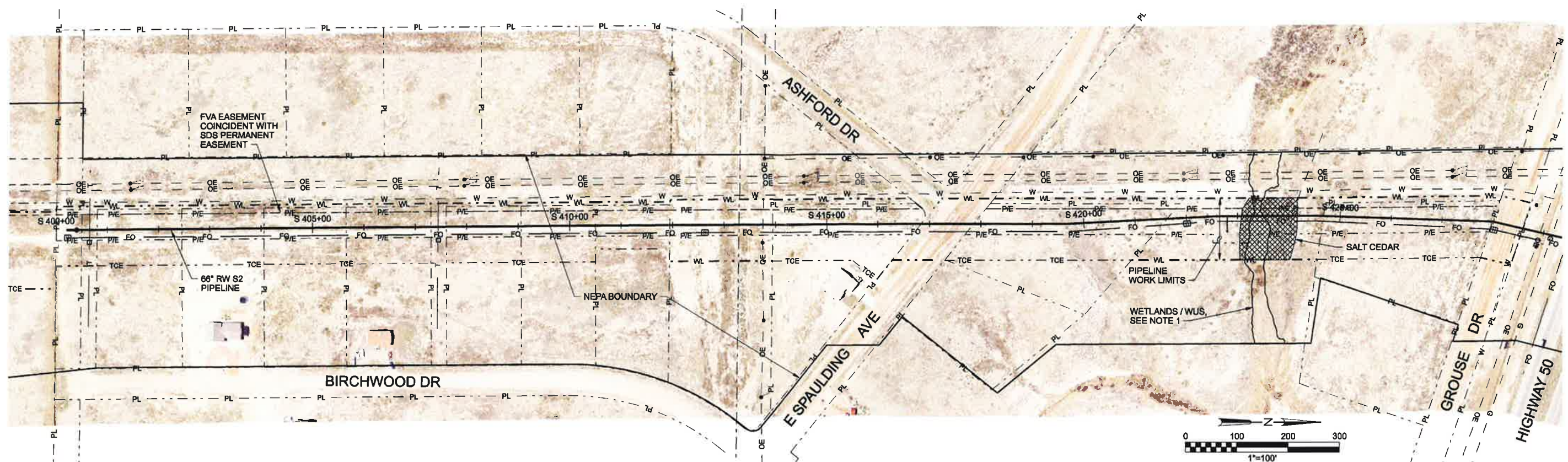
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CIVIL LEGEND

EXISTING FEATURES

— OE — — — OE — —	OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL
— E — — — E — —	UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC
— LP — — — LP — —	UNDERGROUND LIQUID PETROLEUM
— T — — — T — —	UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE
— FO — — — FO — —	FIBER OPTICS LINE
— G — — — G — —	GAS PIPELINE
— W — — — W — —	WATER PIPELINE
— SS — — — SS — —	SANITARY SEWER OR SANITARY SEWER FORCE MAIN
⊕ 28	SURVEY CONTROL POINT W/ POINT NUMBER
●	POWER POLE
=====	FEMA 100 YEAR FLOOD PLAIN BOUNDARY
— x — — — x — —	FENCE
— // — — — // — —	WIRE MESH FENCE
— • — — — • — —	WOOD FENCE
— ◊ — — — ◊ — —	CHAIN LINK FECE
— — — — —	NON SDS PROJECT UTILITY EASEMENT
◊	SECTION CORNER
◊	1/4 SECTION CORNER
•	MANHOLE
●	FIRE HYDRANT
□	TELEPHONE PEDESTAL

NEW FEATURES

S 400+00	NEW PIPELINE W/ STATIONING
⊙ FDS-XXX OR PL-XXX	BORE HOLE LOCATION WITH NUMBER
▲	COMBINATION AIR RELEASE VALVE (PLAN)
●	BLOW OFF ASSEMBLY (PLAN)
----- TCE	TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT
----- P/E	CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS PERMANENT EASEMENT
----- DC	DEDICATED CORRIDOR
----- WL	WORK LIMITS
— FO — — — FO — —	FIBER OPTIC CONDUIT
— — — — —	ACCESS MANWAY
⊗ PS2-XX	POTHOLE
⊠	HANDHOLE

NOTES:
UTILITY LINE TYPE QUALITY LEVEL "B" SHOWN IN LEGEND. LINE TYPES FOR EXISTING UTILITY FEATURES MAY VARY. SEE NOTES ON DWG S2-G-16.

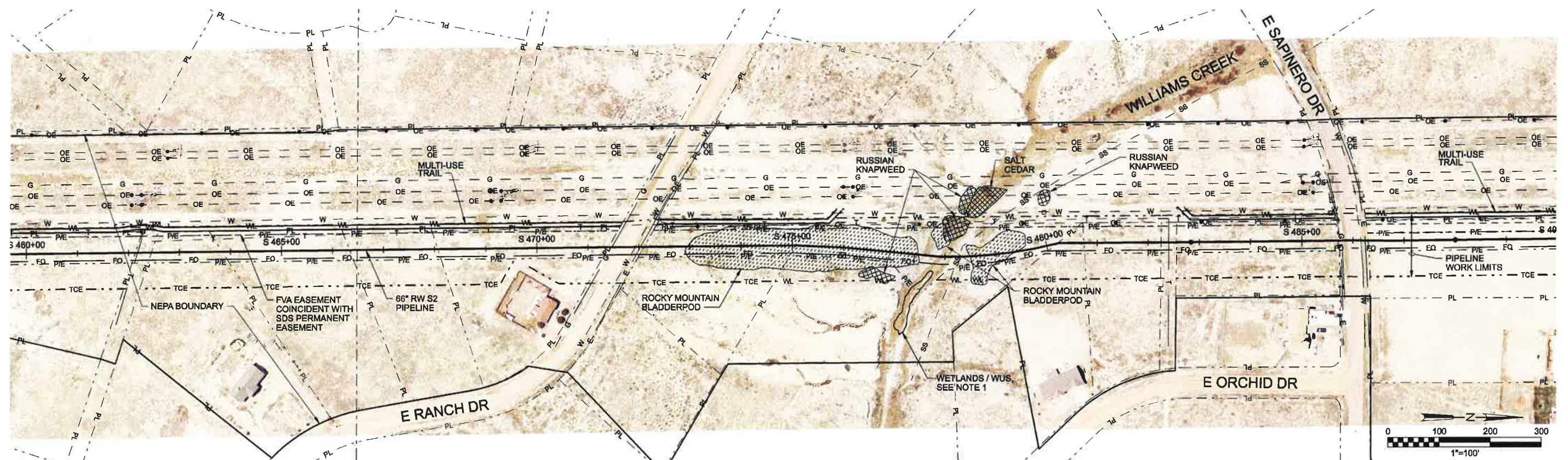
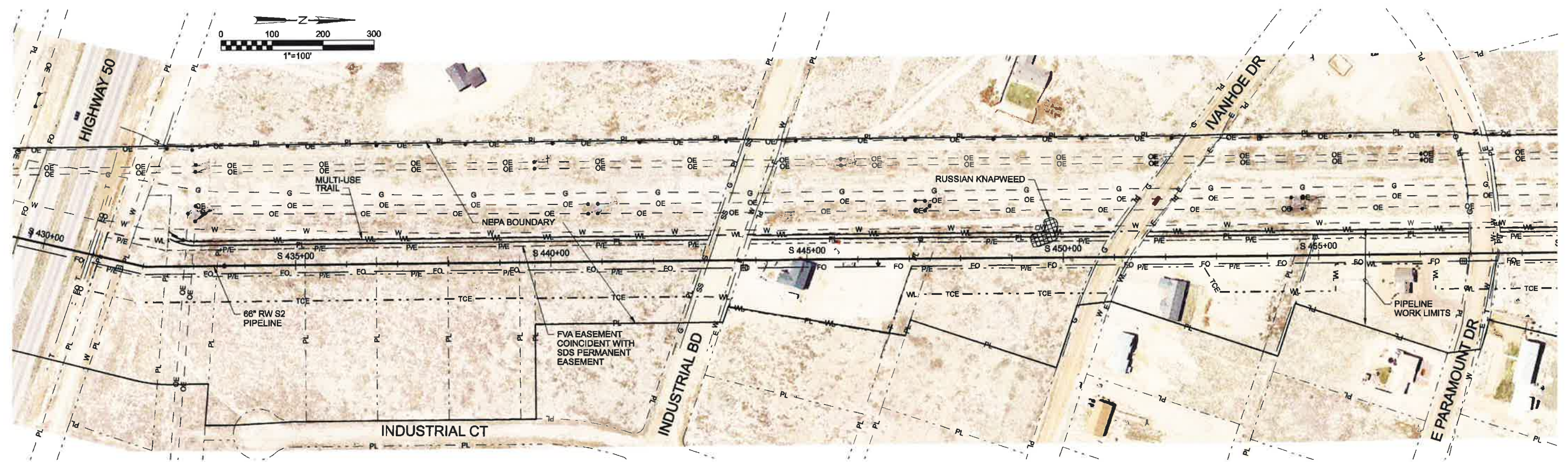
LEGEND

	CANADA THISTLE (NOXIOUS WEED)
	RUSSIAN KNAPWEED (NOXIOUS WEED)
	SALT CEDAR (NOXIOUS WEED)
	ROCKY MOUNTAIN BLADDERPOD (PLANT SPECIES OF CONCERN)

NOTES:

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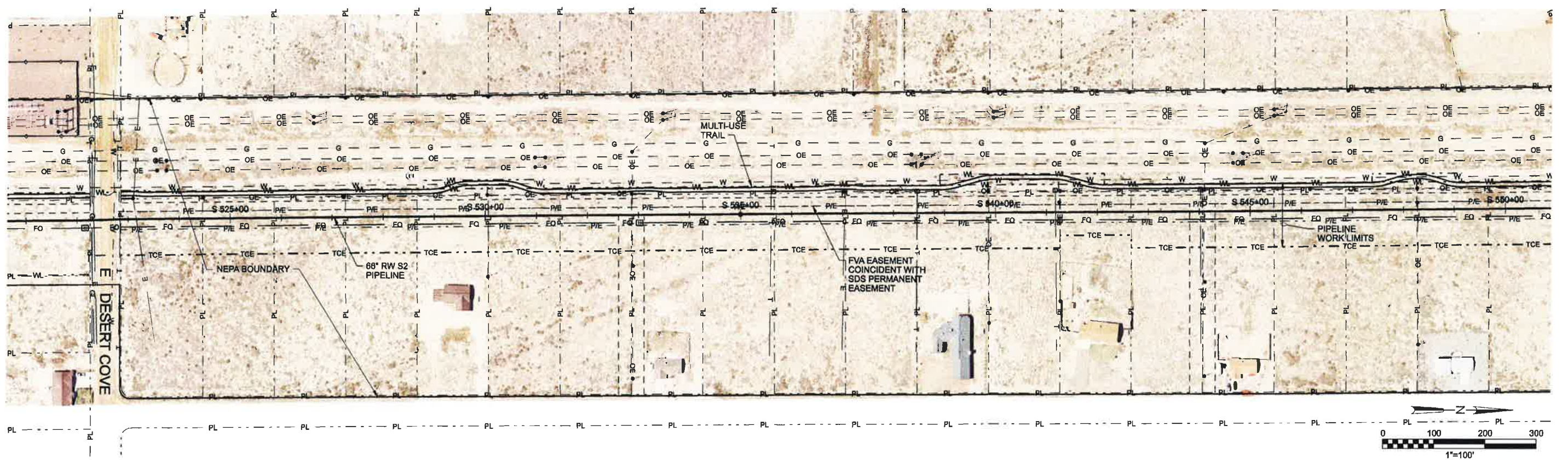
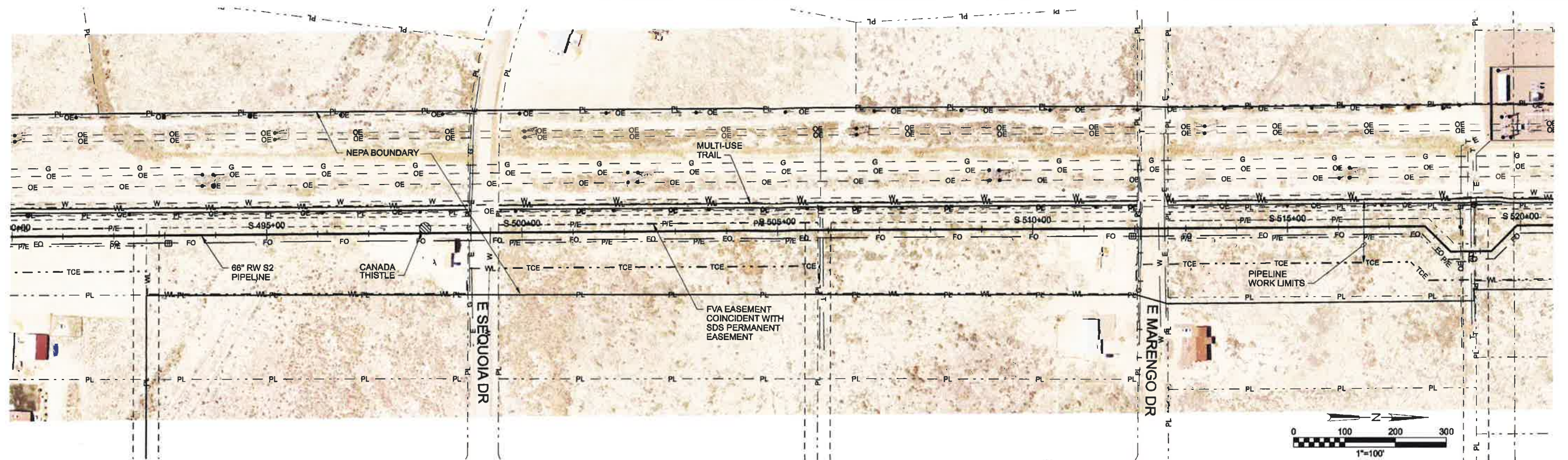
SOUTH SECTION S2 PIPELINE
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS MAP
SOUTHERN DELIVERY SYSTEM
RAW WATER PIPELINE
SHEET 1 OF 7



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**SOUTH SECTION S2 PIPELINE
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS MAP**
SOUTHERN DELIVERY SYSTEM
RAW WATER PIPELINE
SHEET 2 OF 7



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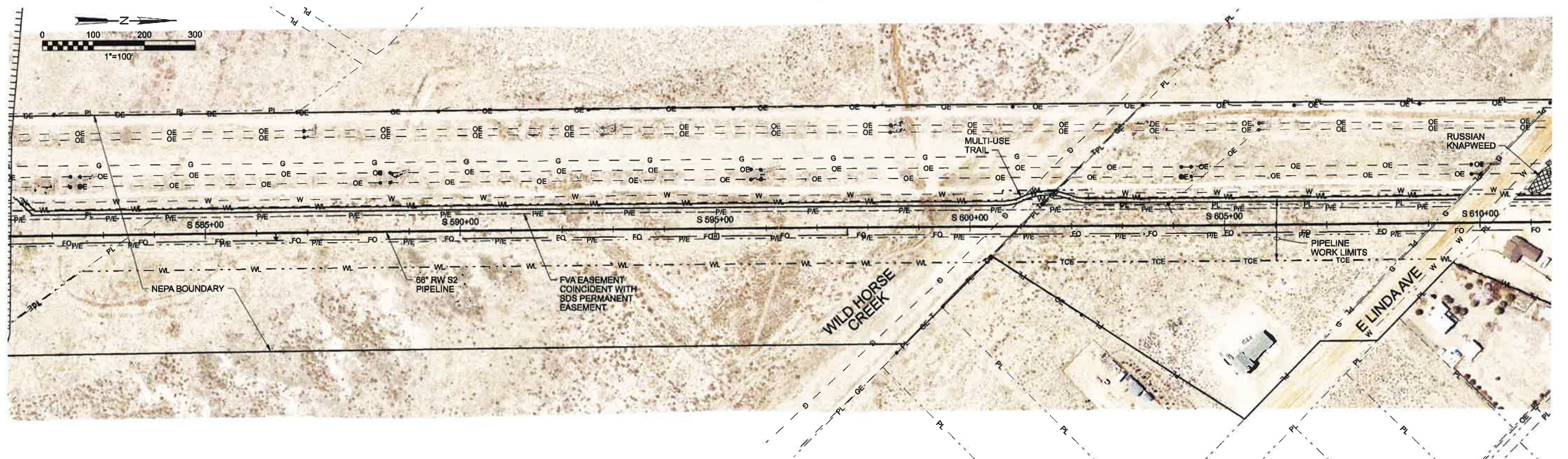
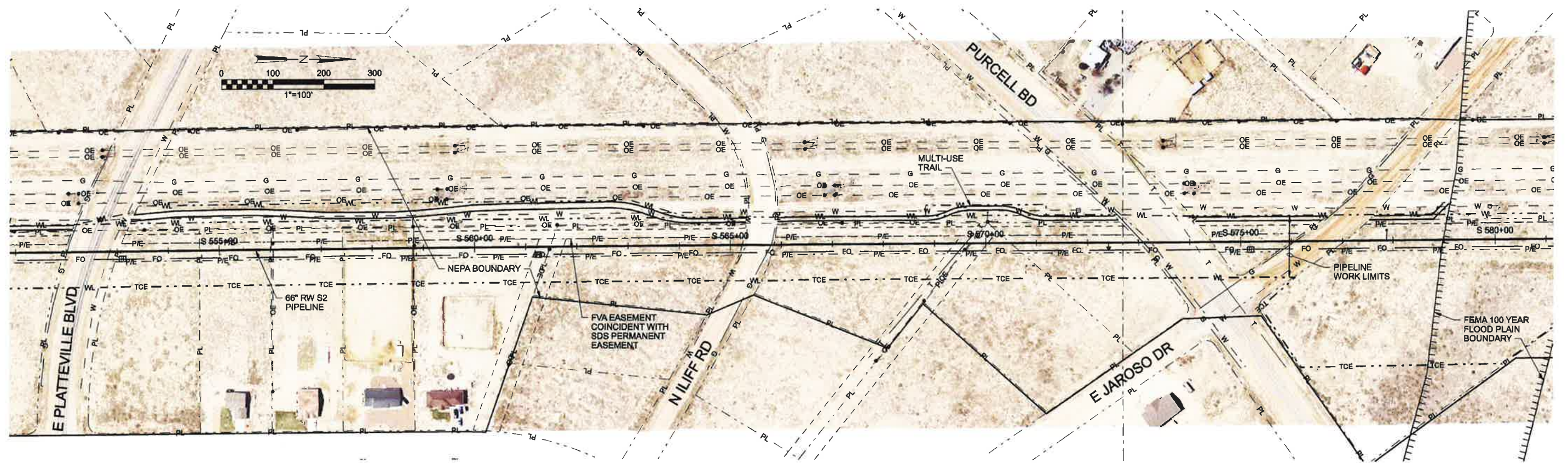
Colorado Springs Utilities Project Number: SDS-002 CSU Work Order Number: 1146977

**SOUTH SECTION S2 PIPELINE
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS MAP**
SOUTHERN DELIVERY SYSTEM
RAW WATER PIPELINE
SHEET 3 OF 7

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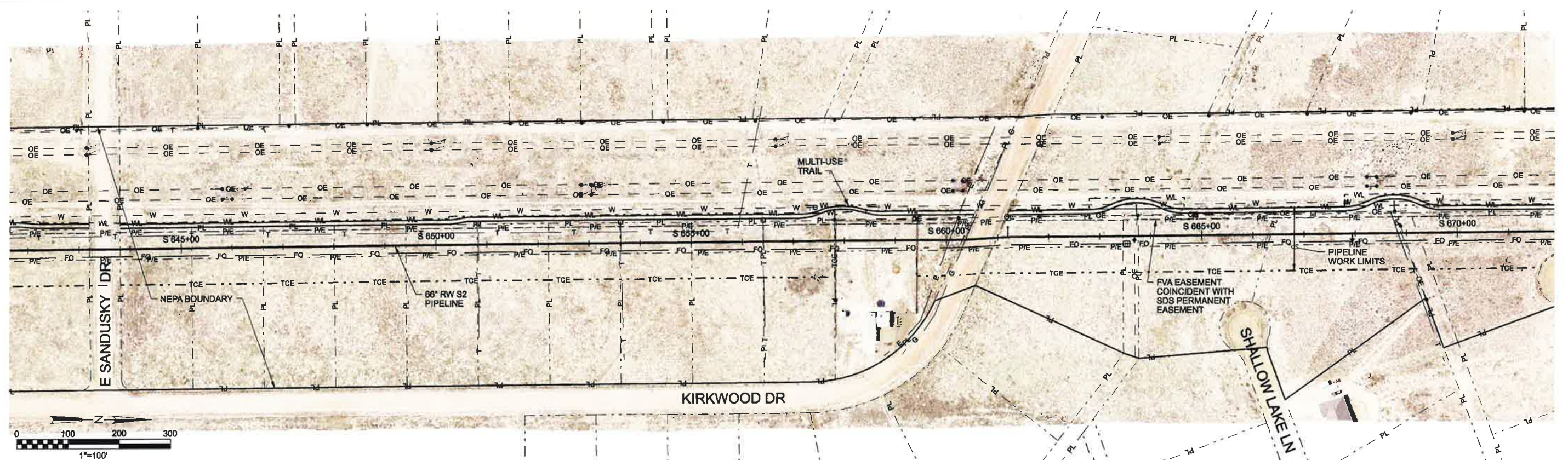
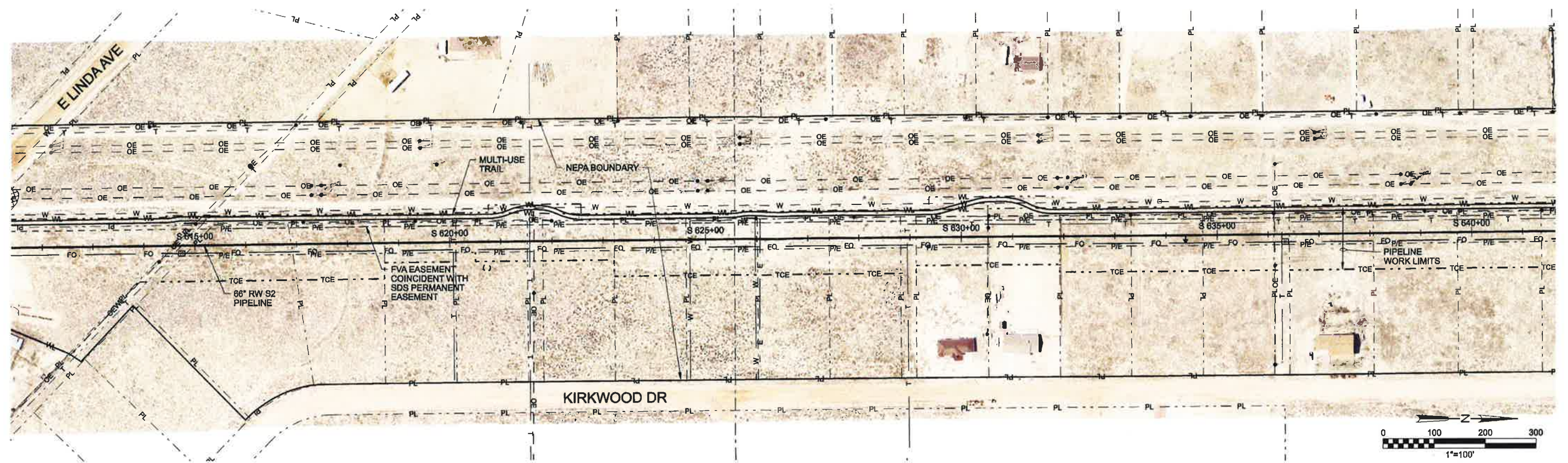
PLOT TIME: 6:35:04 AM



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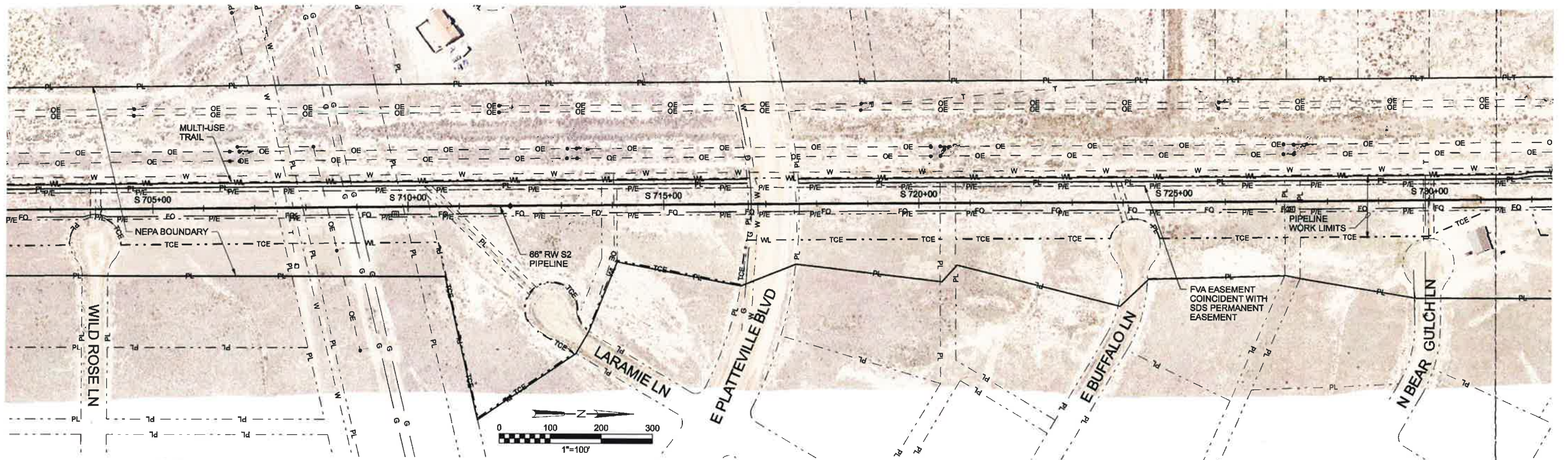
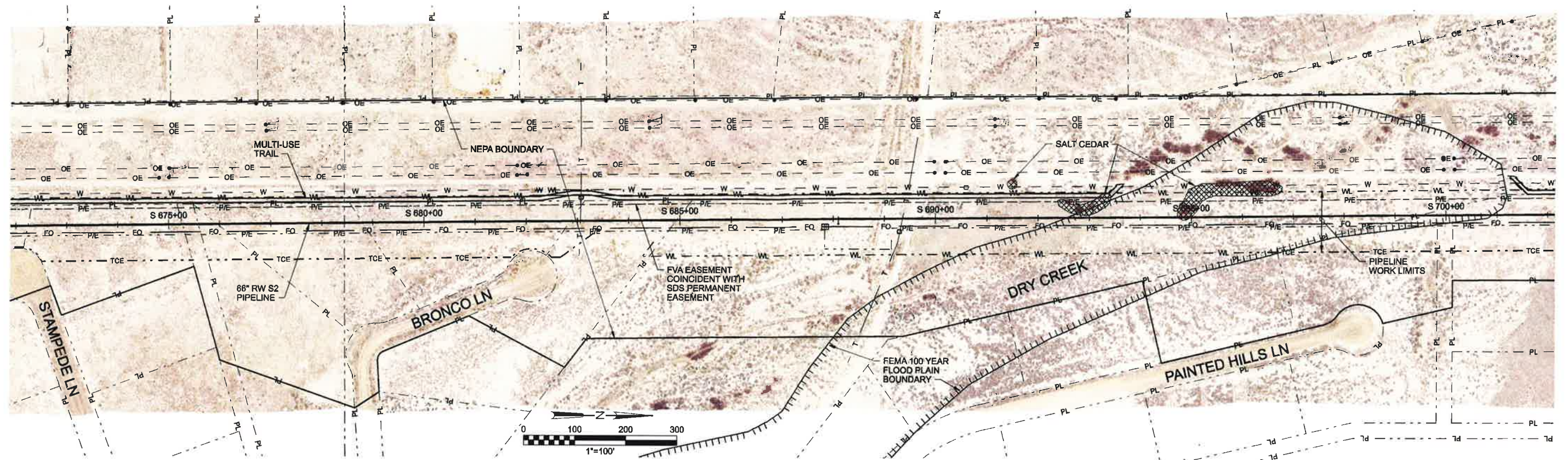
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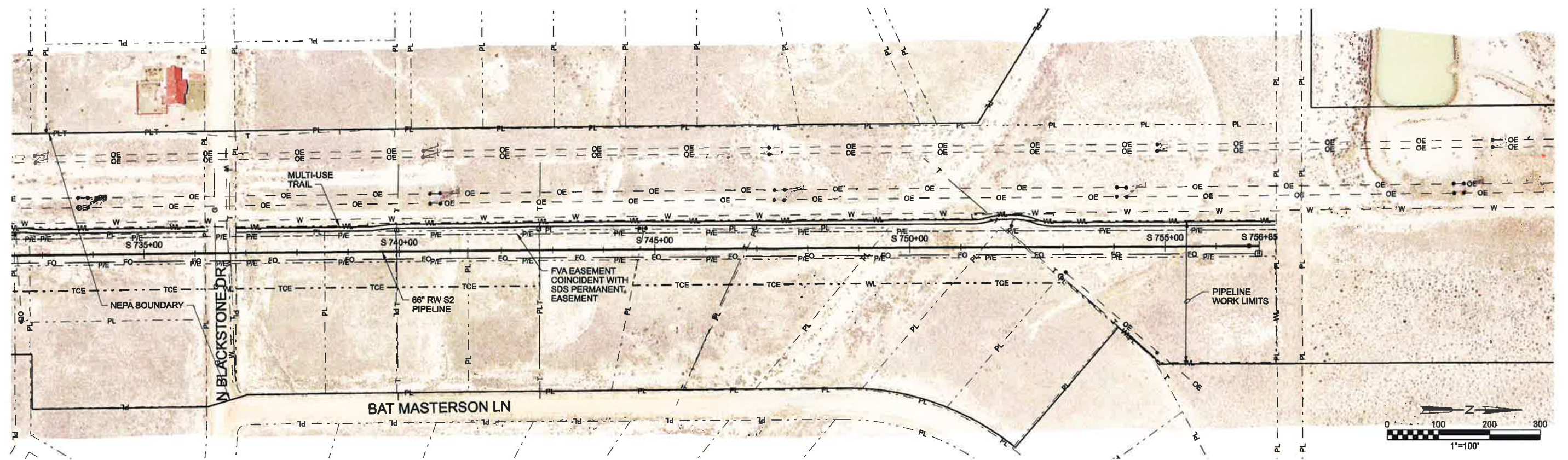
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