

From: [Environmental Analysis](#)
To: [Blodgett, Kenneth](#)
Subject: FW: NGS Response, STB Docket No. AB-463(Sub No. 2x)
Date: Friday, August 09, 2019 10:26:20 AM
Attachments: [AB-463 - NGS Marks - 080619.kml](#)
[AB-463 Marks List - FINAL - Datasheets - 080819.docx](#)
[STB RR Docket AB-463 - Map-Marks List - 080619.pdf](#)

Dave Navecky

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From: Denis Riordan@noaa.gov <denis.riordan@noaa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 08, 2019 5:11 PM
To: CZorbaugh@bakerandmiller.com
Cc: Surface Transportation Board <sea@stb.dot.gov>; Brooks, Deborah <deborah.brooks@noaa.gov>; Christine Gallagher - NOAA Federal <christine.gallagher@noaa.gov>
Subject: Re: NGS Response, STB Docket No. AB-463(Sub No. 2x)

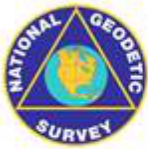
Ms. Zorbaugh,

I have finished a search of the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) database for possible NGS control marks that might be disturbed or destroyed during the various activities related to this abandonment effort (AB-463 (Sub-No.2X)) by the Alabama Railroad Company. Attached are several documents of information including maps of the area and marks, a KML file of the marks, and the NGS data sheets for those marks. I believe that this list is accurate according to what information is available from the NGS database, but it is not meant to be an all inclusive.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to help you in moving this abandonment project forward. Thanks.

Denis Riordan

Denis Riordan, PSM
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Views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of NGS.

On 6/13/2019 4:09 PM, Deborah Brooks - NOAA Federal wrote:

Thank you for informing the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) of the Alabama Railroad Co. (ALAB)'s decision to abandon and salvage an approximately 47.5 mile rail line between Flomaton and Tunnel Springs, in Escambia, Conecuh and Monroe Counties, Alabama.

There could be geodetic survey marks located in the area described, and any marks still present could be disturbed by the abandonment. While it is illegal to disturb or destroy a mark, sometimes disturbing or destroying a mark is unavoidable. In such cases, the mark can often be preserved or reset with advanced planning. NGS provides the public with tools to search for and locate survey marks, see the NGS Data Explorer (<https://geodesy.noaa.gov/NGSDDataExplorer/>).

If a mark will be disturbed by the abandonment, ALAB should consult with NGS at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb, or destroy any geodetic marks identified nearby. Information is available online to help reset marks or report disturbed/destroyed marks: <https://geodesy.noaa.gov/surveys/mark-recovery/index.shtml>.

This notice is also being shared with Denis Riordan, (denis.riordan@noaa.gov, 240-678-2107) the Regional Geodetic Advisor, so he may work with any interested local agencies or stakeholders.

If you have additional questions, email NGS.Infocenter@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Deborah M. Brooks
Geodesist
deborah.brooks@noaa.gov

More information on preserving marks, mark resets, and destroyed marks.

Preserving Marks

Significant resources were invested to create an extensive geodetic network across the United States by establishing precise coordinates at physical survey marks. Disturbing or destroying these marks reduces geodetic control available to local surveyors, so please make every effort to preserve this valuable network.

Mark Resets

If a mark is about to be destroyed (e.g., due to planned construction), it may be possible to reset the mark and retain the geodetic control. Review the Bench Mark Reset Procedures (https://geodesy.noaa.gov/PUBS_LIB/Benchmark_4_1_2011.pdf) or contact your closest geodetic advisor (<https://geodesy.noaa.gov/ADVISORS/index.shtml>). Please do not attempt to reset a mark that has been separated from the base. Any remnants of destroyed marks must be properly discarded and not reused in any manner, as this is a violation of Federal law.

Destroyed Marks

If it is determined that a mark has been destroyed, please provide enough photo evidence to show how this determination was made. To submit this information to NGS, follow the instructions regarding “destroyed marks” on the Mark Recovery Entry web page (https://geodesy.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/recvy_entry_www.prl)