



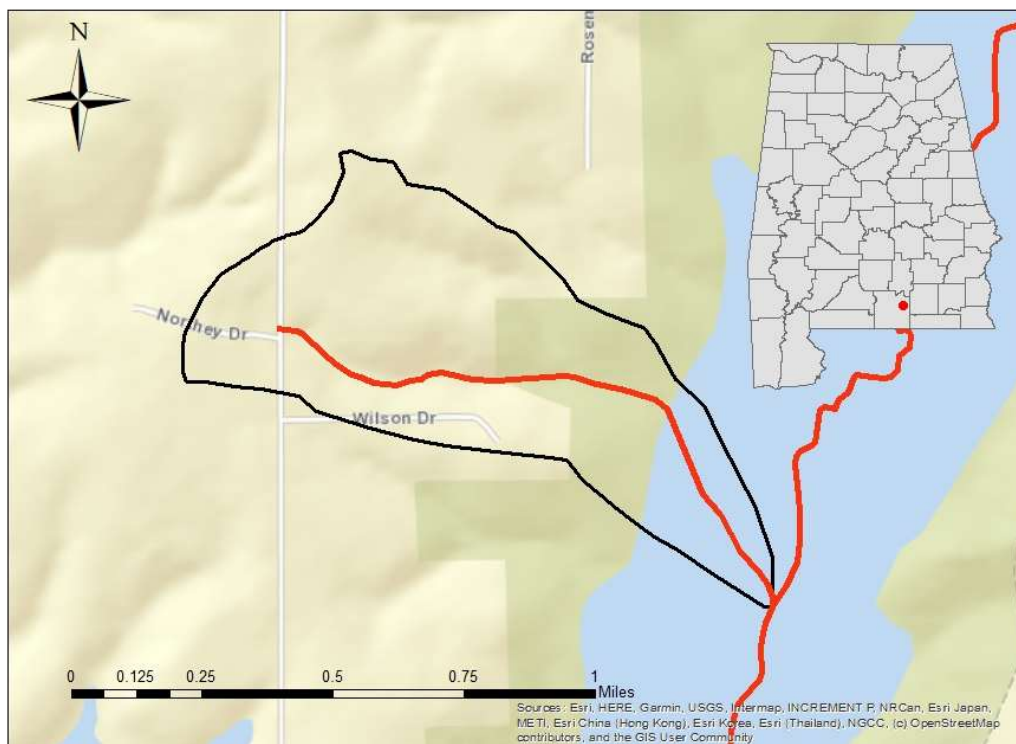
Final
Delisting Decision
for
UT to Lake Frank Jackson
3-C

Assessment Unit ID # AL03140103-0102-700

Organic enrichment (BOD)

Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Water Quality Branch
Water Division
March 2026

Figure 1: UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C Watershed



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1.0 Executive Summary

UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C is located northwest of Opp in Covington County, Alabama in the Yellow River Basin. It has a total drainage area of 0.27 square miles and a use classification of Fish and Wildlife (F&W). The UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C watershed lies within level IV ecoregion 65f.

UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C was added to the State of Alabama's §303(d) list of impaired waters for organic enrichment/dissolved oxygen (OE/DO) and pathogens in 1998. The listing was based on data from 1996-1997 indicating that UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C was not meeting its use classification with respect to OE/DO and pathogens. A total maximum daily load (TMDL) for pathogens was approved in 2012.

UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C has been included on Alabama's §303(d) list of impaired streams for organic enrichment from 1998 through 2024. (The OE/DO listing was changed to organic enrichment (CBOD, NBOD) in 2008 and to organic enrichment (BOD) in 2018.) The impaired segment extends from Lake Frank Jackson to its source. The source of the organic enrichment impairment on the 2024 §303(d) list is listed as animal feeding operations and pasture grazing.

In 2024, ADEM collected dissolved oxygen (DO) data on UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C to further assess the water quality of the stream. All of the DO samples were above the applicable criterion of 5 mg/l.

Based on the assessment of all available water quality data obtained on UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C, ADEM has concluded that a water quality impairment due to organic enrichment does not exist. Accordingly, ADEM will not proceed in developing a TMDL for this stream due to "more recent or accurate data," which is a just cause for delisting a waterbody in conformance with Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 130.7(b)(6)(iv).

2.0 Basis for §303(d) Listing

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987 and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Water Quality Planning and Management Regulations (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 130), requires states to identify waterbodies which are not meeting water quality criteria applicable to their designated use classifications. The identified waters are prioritized based on severity of pollution with respect to designated use classifications. TMDLs for all pollutants causing violation of applicable water quality criteria are established for each identified water. Such loads are established at levels necessary to implement the applicable water quality criteria with seasonal variations and margins of safety. The TMDL process establishes the allowable loading of pollutants, or other quantifiable parameters for a waterbody, based on the relationship between pollution sources and in-stream water quality conditions, so that states can establish water-quality based controls to reduce pollution from both point and non-point sources and restore and maintain the quality of their water resources (USEPA, 1991).

UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C was originally added to Alabama's §303(d) list as being impaired for organic enrichment and pathogens in 1998. The listing was based on data from 1996-1997 indicating that UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C was not meeting its use classification with respect to organic enrichment and pathogens. A TMDL for pathogens was approved in 2012.

3.0 Source Assessment

3.1 Point Sources in the UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C Watershed

There are currently no National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)-permitted point sources in the UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C watershed.

3.2 Land Use Assessment

Land use for the UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C watershed was determined using ArcMap with land use datasets derived from the 2021 National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD). Figure 3-1 and Table 3-1 display the land use areas for the UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C watershed. Figure 3-2 is a graph depicting the primary land uses in the UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C watershed.

The majority of the watershed is agriculture at 48.38% and forest/natural at 31.65%. Other land uses within the watershed include 5.90% developed land and 14.08% open water.

Figure 3-1. Land Use Map for the UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C Watershed

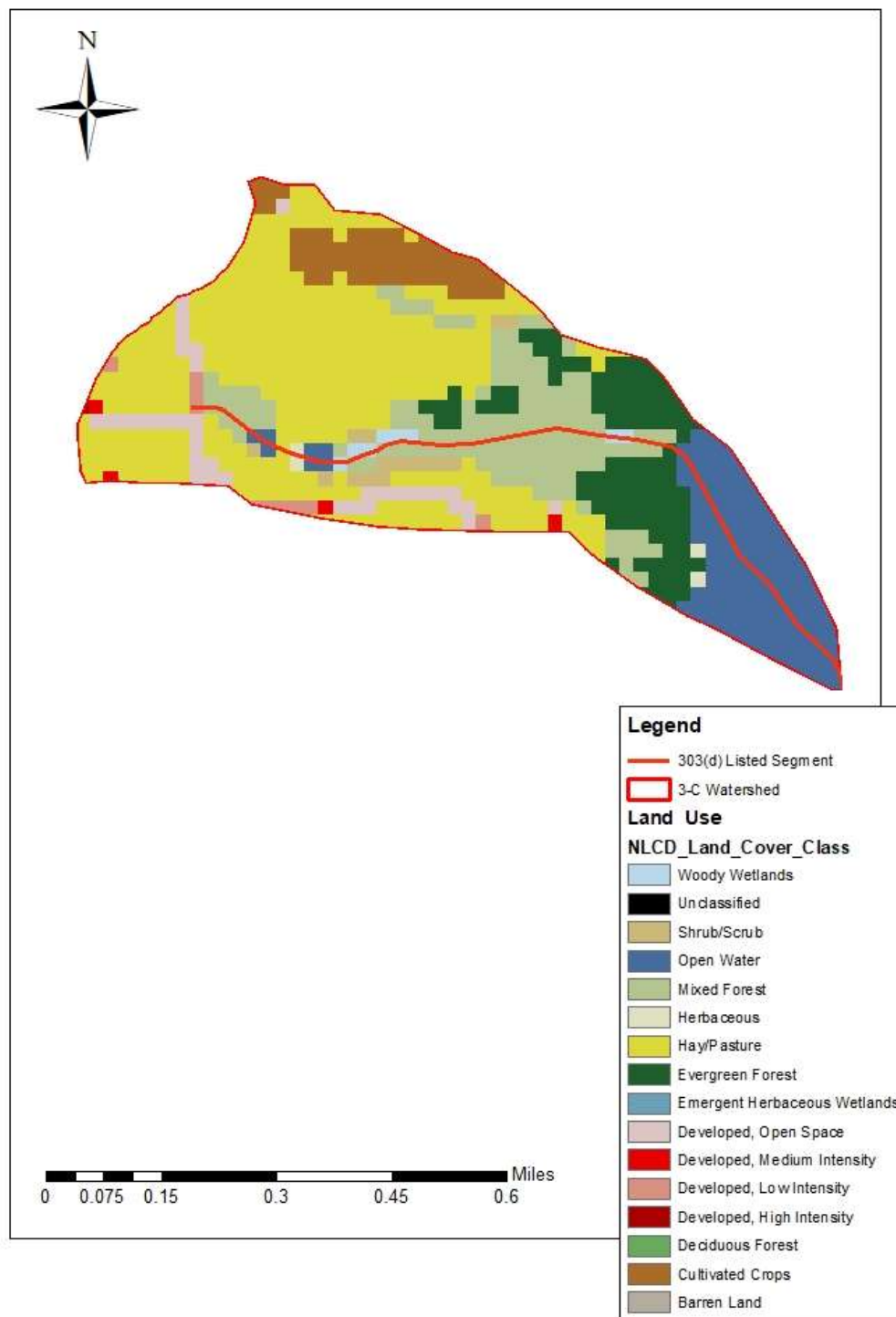
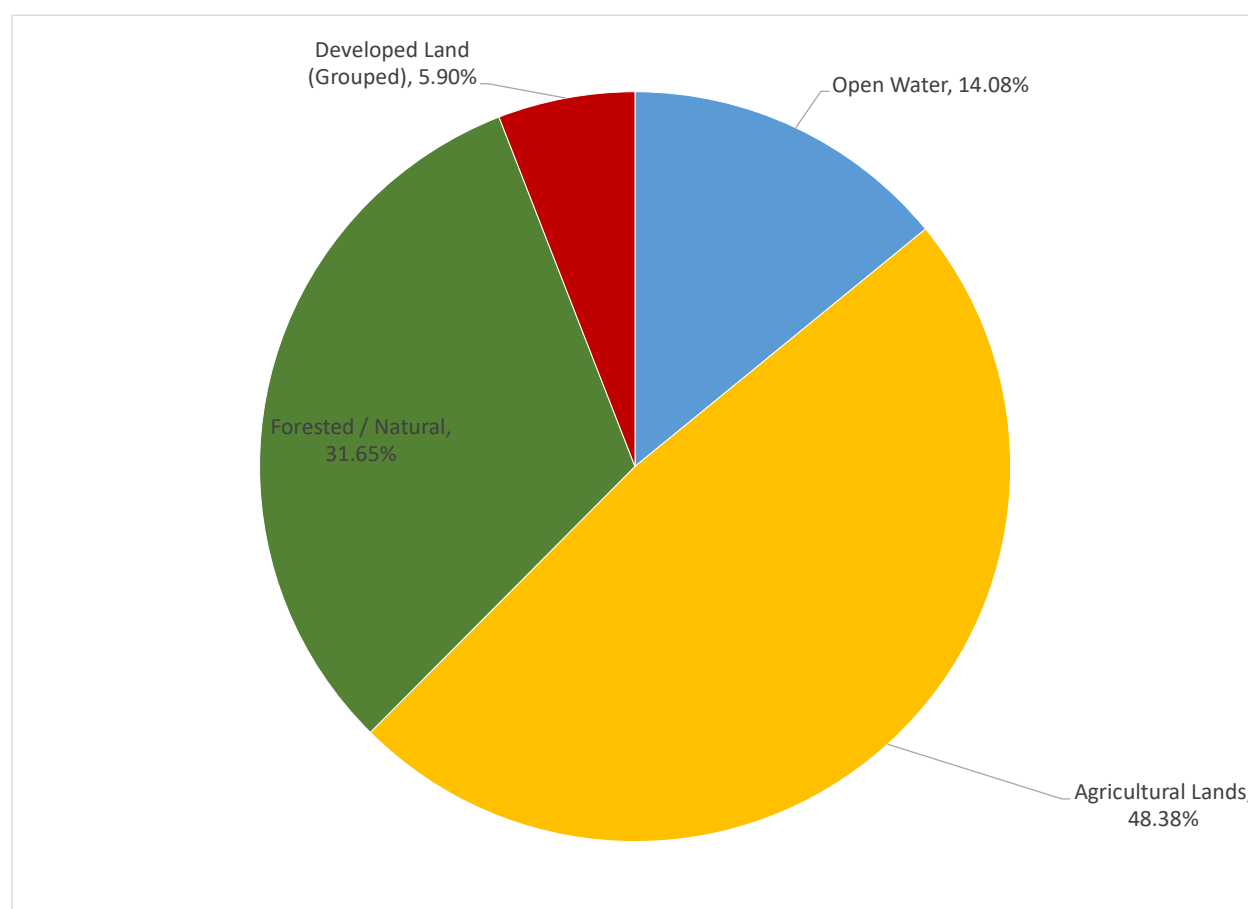


Table 3-1. Land Use Areas for the UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C Watershed

Class Description	Mi²	Acres	Percent
Open Water	0.04	24.19	14.08%
Agricultural Lands	0.13	83.11	48.38%
Forested / Natural	0.08	54.37	31.65%
Developed Land (Grouped)	0.02	10.13	5.90%
TOTALS →	0.27	171.80	100.00%

Figure 3-2. Graph of Primary Land Uses in the UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C Watershed



4.0 Technical Basis for Delisting Decision

4.1 Water Quality Target Identification

Alabama's dissolved oxygen criteria (ADEM Admin. Code R. 335-6-10-.09) are as follows for segments classified as Fish and Wildlife:

For a diversified warm water biota, including game fish, daily dissolved oxygen concentrations shall not be less than 5 mg/l at all times; except under extreme conditions due to natural causes, it may range between 5 mg/l and 4 mg/l, provided that the water quality is favorable in all other parameters. The normal seasonal and daily fluctuations shall be maintained above these levels. In no event shall the dissolved oxygen level be less than 4 mg/l due to discharges from existing hydroelectric generation impoundments. All new hydroelectric generation impoundments, including addition of new hydroelectric generation units to existing impoundments, shall be designed so that the discharge will contain at least 5 mg/l dissolved oxygen where practicable and technologically possible. The Environmental Protection Agency, in cooperation with the State of Alabama and parties responsible for impoundments, shall develop a program to improve the design of existing facilities.

4.2 Data Availability and Analysis

It should be noted that even though UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C was sampled prior to 2024, only the data that is approximately six years in age or less will be used in this analysis, which is consistent with *Alabama's Water Quality Assessment and Listing Methodology* (ADEM, 2024). In 2024, ADEM collected DO data on UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C at station 3-C. During 2024, none of the DO concentrations at this station were below 5.0 mg/L, as shown in Tables 4-2 and 7-1. Given the DO values, it is not believed that there are significant contributions of oxygen demanding pollutants to UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C.

Table 4-1. UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C Sampling Station Description

Station ID	Data Source	Station Location	Latitude	Longitude
3-C	ADEM	Unnamed Tributary to Lake Frank Jackson on Private Property	31.31729	-86.27991

Figure 4-1. Map of ADEM Sampling Station on UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C

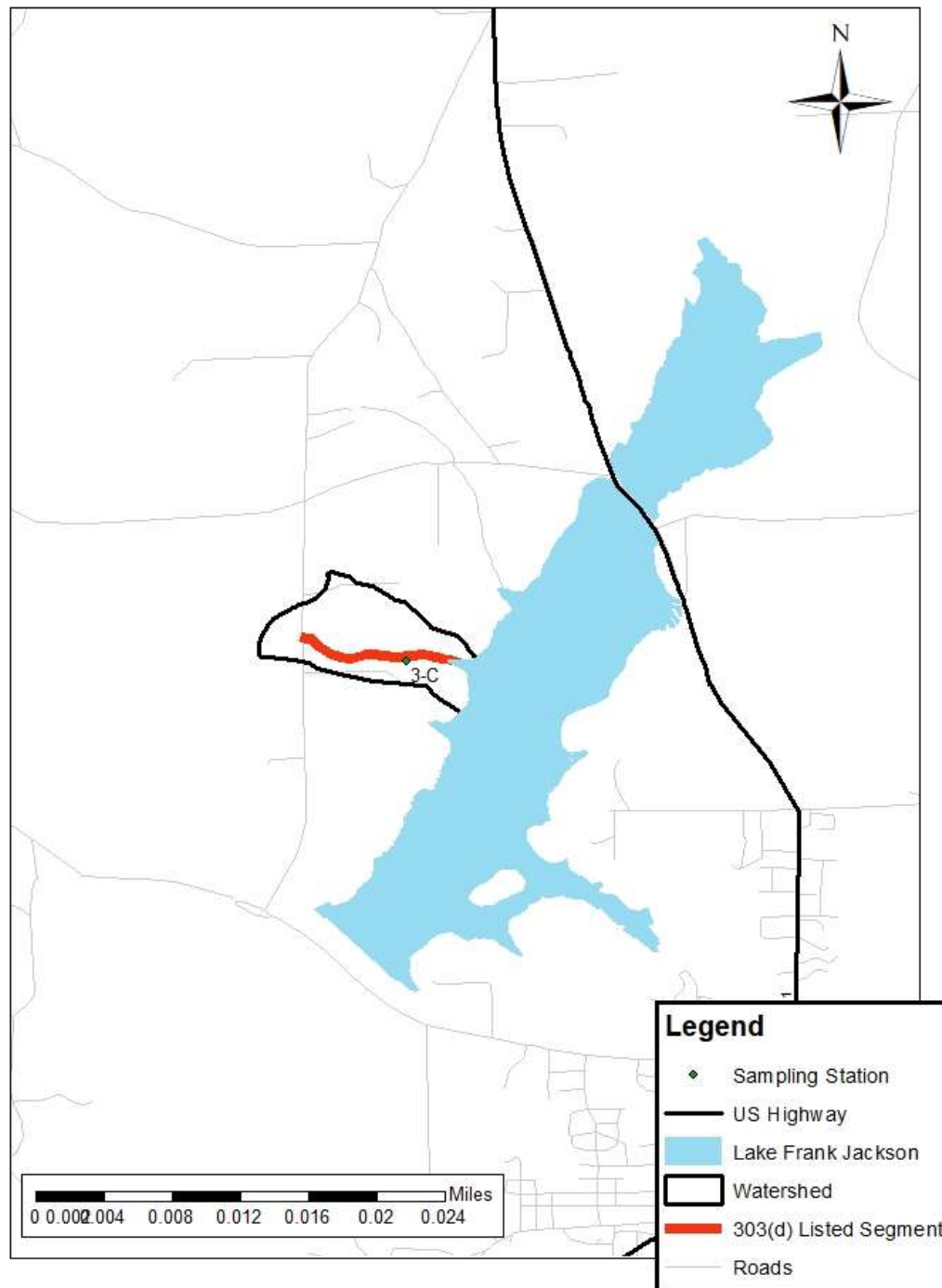


Table 4-2.
2024 Summary of Dissolved Oxygen Data for UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C

Dates	Number of DO samples	Number of DO violations	Percent violations
1/11/24 – 4/24/24	8	0	0%

5.0 Conclusion

From an examination of all available data, ADEM has determined that a water quality impairment due to organic enrichment does not currently exist within UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C. No low dissolved oxygen values were observed during sampling conducted during 2024. Therefore, ADEM will not proceed in developing a TMDL for this stream due to “more recent or accurate data,” which is a just cause for delisting a waterbody in conformance with Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 130.7(b)(6)(iv).

6.0 Public Participation

As part of the public participation process, this Delisting Decision (DD) was placed on public notice and made available for review and comment. The public notice was prepared and published in newspapers in Montgomery, Huntsville, Birmingham, and Mobile, as well as submitted to persons who requested to be on ADEM’s postal and electronic mailing distributions. In addition, the public notice and subject DD were made available on ADEM’s Website: www.adem.alabama.gov. The public could also request paper or electronic copies of the DD by contacting Ms. Kimberly Minton at 334-271-7826 or kminton@adem.alabama.gov. The public was given an opportunity to review the DD and submit comments to the Department in writing. No written comments were received during the public notice period.

7.0 Appendices

7.1 References

ADEM Administrative Code, 2021. Water Division - Water Quality Program, Chapter 335-6-10, Water Quality Criteria.

ADEM Administrative Code, 2021. Water Division - Water Quality Program, Chapter 335-6-11, Use Classifications for Interstate and Intrastate Waters.

Alabama's Monitoring Program. 2024. ADEM.

Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), *Alabama's Water Quality Assessment and Listing Methodology*, January 2024.

Alabama Department of Environmental Management, 1998 – 2024 §303(d) Lists and Fact Sheets. ADEM.

Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Laboratory Data Qualification SOP #4910 Revision 7.2, 2022.

United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1991. *Guidance for Water Quality-Based Decisions: The TMDL Process*. Office of Water. EPA 440/4-91-001.

United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1986. *Quality Criteria for Water*. Office of Water. EPA 440/4-91-001.

7.2 *Water Quality Data*

Table 7-1. ADEM 2024 DO Data Collected on UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C

Station ID	Date	Flow (cfs)	DO (mg/L)
3-C	1/11/2024	0.048	7.6275
3-C	1/30/2024	0.01	7.3383
3-C	2/13/2024	0.112	7.773
3-C	2/28/2024	0.03	7.9149
3-C	3/12/2024	0.161	6.3163
3-C	3/25/2024	0.075	5.9191
3-C	4/11/2024	0.91	6.9095
3-C	4/24/2024	0.045	6.7521

7.3 UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C Photographs

Figure 7-1. UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C at 3-C, looking upstream (2/28/2024)



Figure 7-2. UT to Lake Frank Jackson 3-C at 3-C, looking downstream (2/28/2024)

