

## **Information for File #2012-02988-BGO**

**Applicant:** Chippewa Valley Ethanol Company (CVEC)

**Corps Contact:** Benjamin Orne

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**Phone:** (651) 290-5280

**Primary County:** Swift County

**Section:** 36

**Township:** 122N.

**Range:** 40W.

**Information Complete On:** May 3, 2013

**Posting Expires On:** May 13, 2013

**Authorization Type:** LOP-05-MN

This application is being reviewed in accordance with the practices for documenting Corps jurisdiction under Sections 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act identified in Regulatory Guidance Letter 07-01. We have made a preliminary determination that the aquatic resources that would be impacted by the proposed project are regulated by the Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Our jurisdictional review and final jurisdictional determination could result in modifications to the scope of the project's regulated waterbody/wetland impacts and compensatory mitigation requirements identified above.

### **Project Description**

The applicant proposes to discharge dredged and fill material into 0.53 acre of fresh (wet) meadow (Type 2) wetlands and 0.17 acre of shallow marsh (Type 3) wetlands adjacent to County Ditch No. 7 and below the plane of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) along 545 linear feet of County Ditch No. 7. The work would be conducted in association with the construction of a grain (corn) storage addition located adjacently north of the current CVEC facility. Currently, CVEC does not own any corn storage and all corn is received and delivered to the ethanol plant by Glacial Plains Co-op. The proposed corn storage addition would allow CVEC to purchase and store large volumes of corn when the markets present opportunity which would maximize process efficiency

and promote the competitive viability of CVEC. A road to access the corn storage area will also be constructed. The road will be built up approximately 6 feet above current grade and will be 28 feet wide, with 4-foot-wide shoulders and 3:1 (horizontal:vertical) sideslopes.

## **Alternatives Considered**

### Alternative 1 – No Build

A no-build alternative would prevent CVEC from being able to purchase and store large volumes of corn when the markets present opportunity.

### Alternative 2 – Change the location of the proposed corn storage addition

The applicant discussed changing the location of the proposed corn storage addition. The current proposed location was chosen to maximize process efficiency and minimize wetland impacts. Changing the location of the proposed corn storage addition would decrease process efficiency, increase project costs, and increase wetland impacts. The proposed corn storage addition could not be moved to the east due to the presence of overhead power lines. Moving north or west would impact an additional 0.47 acre of fresh meadow wetlands. Also, due to the height of the bins and proximity of the Benson Airport, the project cannot be moved west.

## **Federally-listed Threatened and Endangered Species**

According to the USFWS Midwest Region website, which was checked on April 22, 2013, the Dakota skipper (candidate) and Poweshiek skipperling (candidate) are found in Swift County, Minnesota.

## **Historic Properties**

The latest version of the National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and no listed properties (known to be eligible for inclusion, or included in the Register) are located in the project area.

## **State Listed Impaired (Section 303(d)) Waters**

The proposed project would not impact any state listed impaired water resources.

## **Compensatory Mitigation**

The applicant proposes to satisfy wetland compensatory mitigation requirements by debiting bank credits from the McCue Wetland Bank located in LeSueur County, Minnesota.

**Drawings**      See attached.

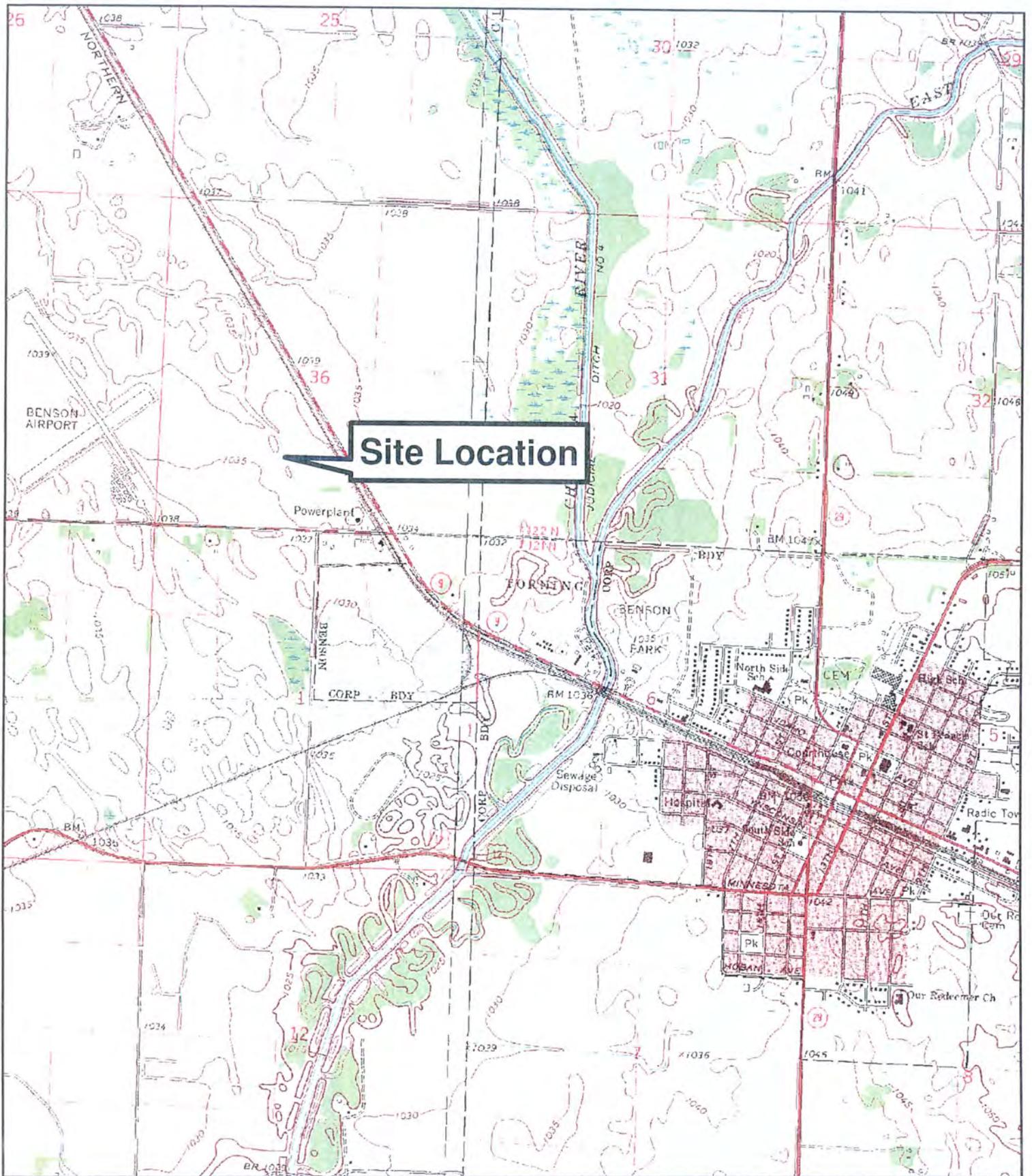
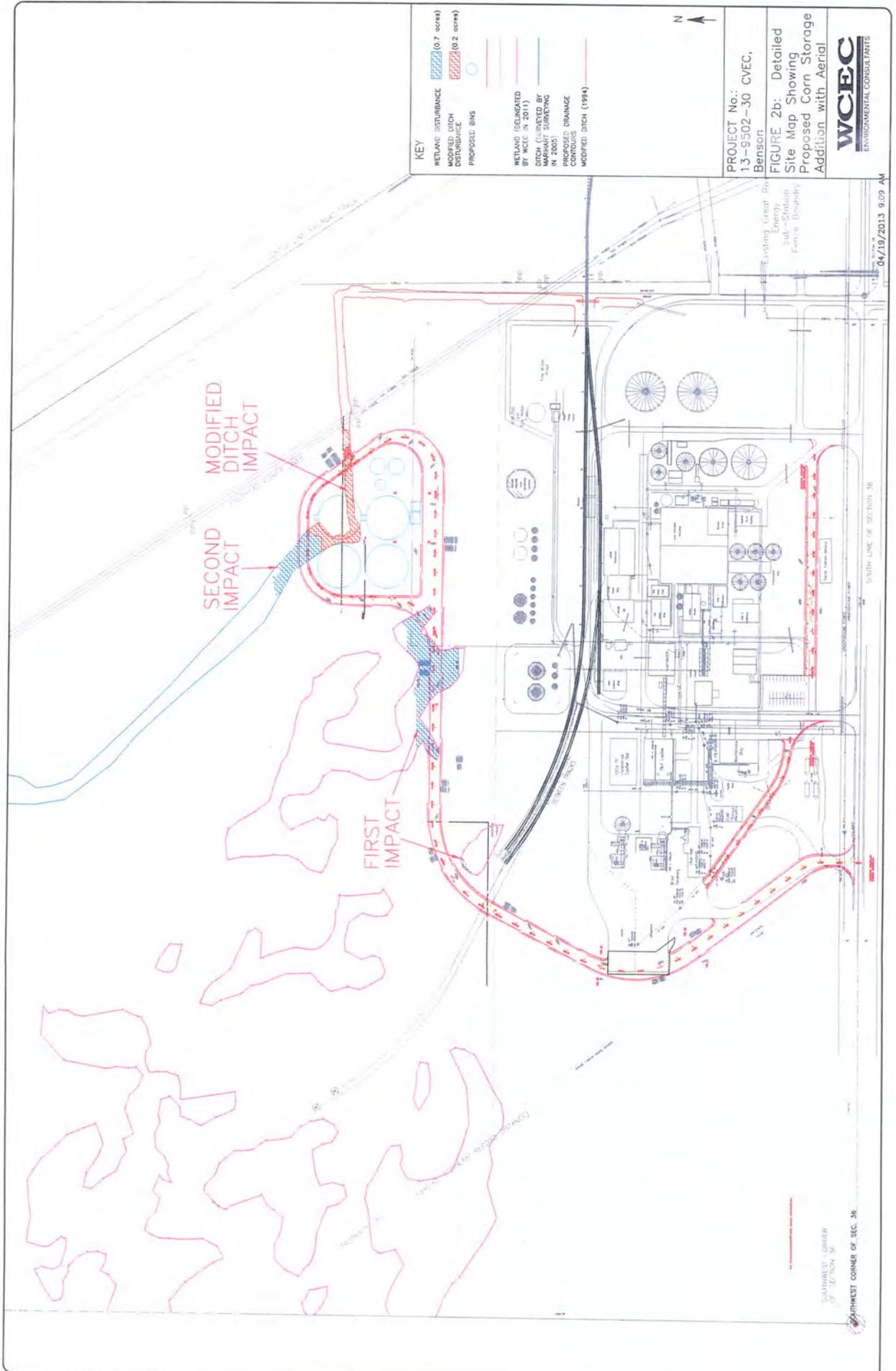


Figure 1: Site Location Map (USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Topographic Base Map)  
 WCEC Project No.: 13-9502-30 CVEC Corn Storage Project, Benson, MN



**WCEC, Inc.**  
 Environmental Consultants  
 1-800-455-8855



**KEY**

WETLAND DISTURBANCE (0.7 acres)	
MODIFIED DITCH DISTURBANCE (0.2 acres)	
PROPOSED BINS	
WETLAND DELINEATED BY WCEC IN 2011	
DITCH (SURVEYED BY WCEC) SURVEYING	
PROPOSED DRAINAGE CONTIGUOUS	
MODIFIED DITCH (1994)	

PROJECT No.:  
13-9502-30 CVEC,  
Benson

FIGURE 2b: Detailed  
Site Map Showing  
Proposed Corn Storage  
Addition with Aerial



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SOUTH LINE OF SECTION 36

SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SEC. 36

