

# Information for File #2015-00067-RMM

**Applicant:** New Ulm Public Schools

**Corps Contact:** Ryan Malterud

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**Phone:** (651) 290-5286

**Project Location:** Section 19, Township 110N, Range 36W, Brown County, Minnesota

**Information Complete On:** August 20, 2015

**Posting Expires On:** September 21, 2015

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

This application is being reviewed in accordance with current practices for documenting Corps jurisdiction under Section(s) 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

We have made a preliminary determination that the aquatic resources that would be impacted by the proposed project are subject to Corps of Engineers jurisdiction under Section(s) 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and/or Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. If an approved jurisdictional determination is completed as part of the review process for this application, a copy will be posted on the St. Paul District web page at the following link:  
<http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>.

## **Project Description (as described by the applicant)**

New Ulm Public Schools is proposing to construct a new high school located south of North Highland Avenue and west of 11<sup>th</sup> Street North. The purpose of the project is to provide a new high school that can accommodate the future growth of the community. The facility layout and infrastructure for the high school, football fields, soccer fields, and track and field activities are avoiding all wetland impacts. The addition of on-site practice fields are required to accommodate the anticipated types of sports and volume of student participants.

The proposed wetland impacts are the result two baseball fields. The baseball fields will result in the filling of 1.76 acres of wetland. The applicant has stated the following, "field size is dictated by the Minnesota State High School league rules; therefore, the footprint of the proposed fields meets these requirements. The proposed plan also includes concessions, restrooms, and American Disability Act (ADA) compliant trails for access to each field. The structures, fields, and all other necessary features were designed in an arrangement so that they impact less than 30% of the current wetland. Additionally, the impacts have been kept to the periphery of the wetland; therefore, no further minimization is feasible."

## **Alternatives as Described by Applicant**

### **1. No Build Alternative**

The anticipated student involvement in extra circular athletics has resulted in four proposed softball/baseball fields and 3 soccer fields that are sized and designed to the State High School

league requirements. Sufficient off-site athletic facilities that meet the needs of the student athletes do not exist near the project site.

## 2. Construct Two Ball Fields

Eliminating the western two proposed ball fields would result in no wetland impacts; however, the anticipated volume of student athletes dictated that a minimum of four ball fields would be needed. This was not a feasible alternative due to the size and number of student athlete users.

## 3. Proximity to ancillary facilities

The layout of the ball fields are within reasonable walking distance to restroom facilities and parking areas. Reconfiguring the ball fields in a linear layout to North Highland Avenue (outside of the delineated wetland) would eliminate the available upland area proposed for three soccer fields. Alternative layout were considered but deemed not feasible due to these issues.

## **Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species**

According to the USFWS Midwest Region website, which was checked on September 9, 2015, the Northern long-eared bat (threatened) and Prairie bush clover (threatened) are found in Brown 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**

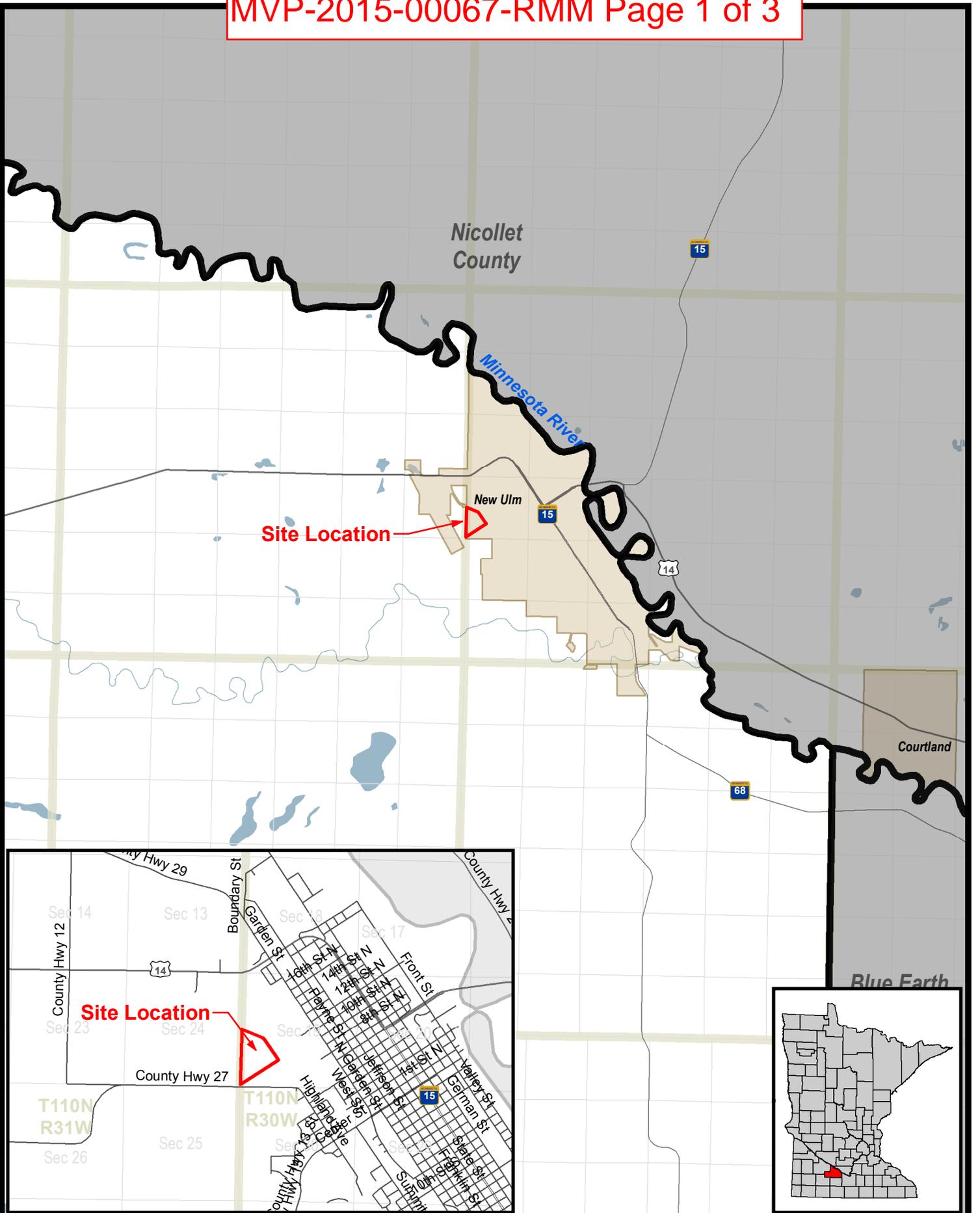
According to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Impaired Waters Viewer, which was checked on September 9, 2015, there are no known impaired waters in the project location.

## **Mitigation**

The applicant proposes to satisfy compensatory mitigation requirements by restoring a 4.15 acre area adjacent to the proposed impact site. The area will be restored by breaking an existing tile line to restore the hydrology to the basin. Minimal grading is proposed to ensure an undulating bottom with high and low spots. Native vegetation is proposed in the wetland area with state seed mix #34-271.

## **Drawings**

See attached MVP-2015-00067-RMM, Page 1 of 3 through Page 3 of 3.



S:\Projects\118000 PROJ\118100-18199\118129 New Ulm HS Wetland Replacement Monitoring\118129 NRM\Maps-Figures\Figure 1 Project Location.mxd

DATE: 8/19/2015

**ISG** Architecture  
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Environmental  
Planning | **+S GROUP**  
www.isg.com

PN: 15-18129

Scale:  
0 2 Miles  
1 inch = 2 miles

**Figure 1**  
**Project Location Map**  
New Ulm High School  
City of New Ulm, Brown County, MN



NORTH HIGH SCHOOL  
NEW ULM, MINNESOTA

**wendel**  
ARCHITECTURE  
PLANNING  
INTERIOR DESIGN  
111 Washington Avenue North, Suite 300  
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WEG022015001

**KRAUS-ANDERSON**  
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

**ISG**  
Infrastructure  
Sustainability  
Planning  
**I+S GROUP**

DESIGNED BY: **Brian M. Wipac**  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ LC: 101 - 01.002

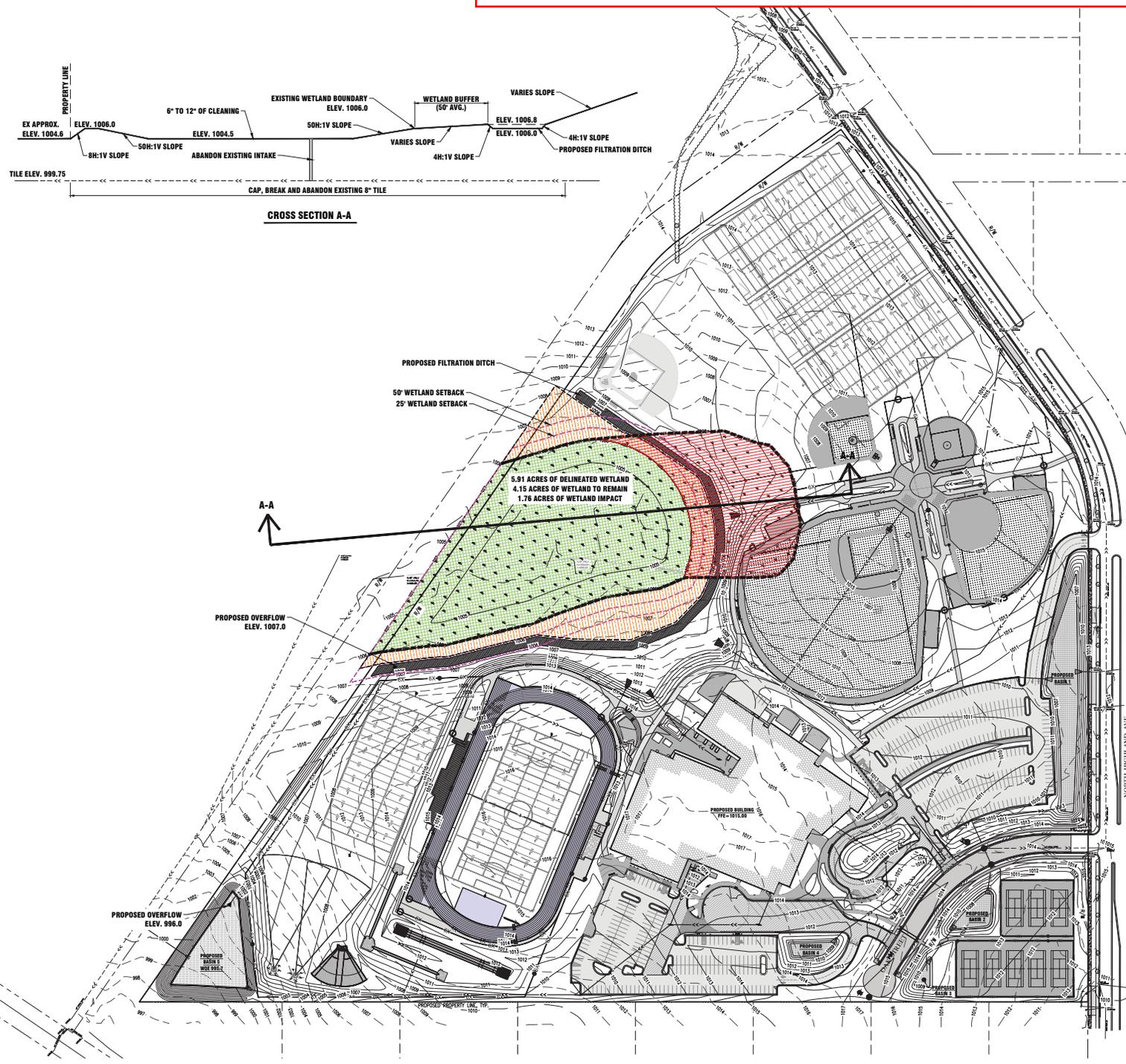
REVISIONS

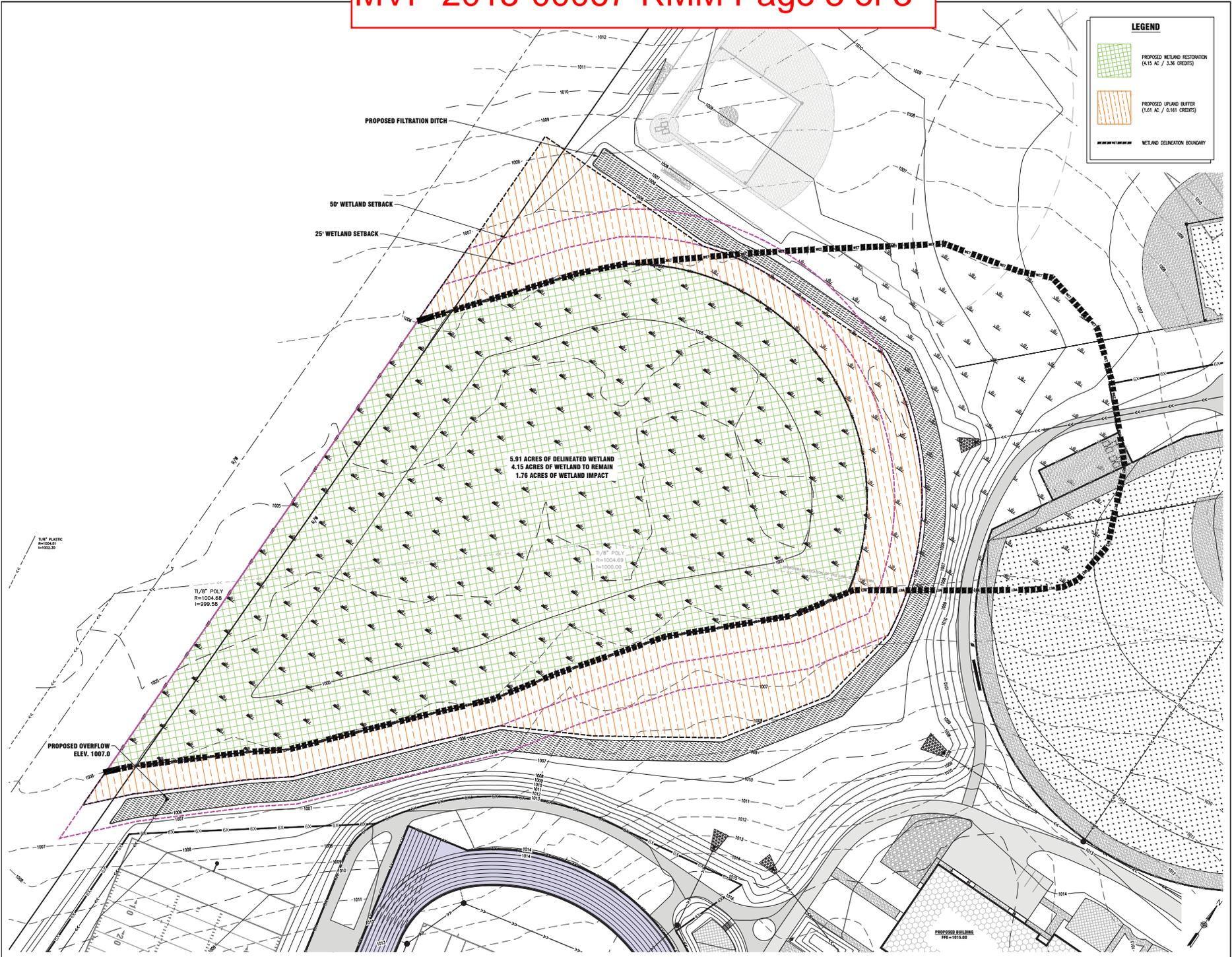
DWG TITLE  
**WETLAND  
MITIGATION PLAN**

DATE: 07-09-15  
SCALE: 1"=50'  
DWG: NJH CHK: BMM  
PROJECT: No. 14-10032  
DWG No.

**LEGEND**

-  WETLAND FILL (1.76 ACRES)
-  PROPOSED WETLAND RESTORATION (4.15 AC / 3.36 CREDITS)
-  PROPOSED UPLAND BUFFER (1.81 AC / 0.141 CREDITS)
-  WETLAND DELINEATION BOUNDARY





NEW HIGH SCHOOL  
NEW ULM, MINNESOTA



DESIGNED BY: Brian M. Walsh  
DATE: 07-09-15

REVISIONS

THIS TITLE  
**WETLAND MITIGATION PLANTING PLAN**

DATE: 07-09-15  
SCALE: 1"=50'  
DWG: NJLH CHK: BMM  
PROJECT: 14-10022  
DWG NO: