Information for File # 2015-04355-MMJ; Meadowbrook Golf Course Restoration and Minnehaha Creek Stream Restoration Project

Applicant: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

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Primary County: Hennepin

Section: 20

Township: 117 North

Range: 21 West

Information Complete On: April 12, 2016

Posting Expires On: April 21, 2016

Authorization Type: LOP-05-MN

We have reviewed this project 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 completed an approved jurisdictional determination (AJD) for numerous waterbodies located within the boundaries of the Meadowbrook Golf Course Restoration Project. We have determined that Wetlands 1-3, 5, 6a and 7-13, as shown on the attached figures, are not waters of the United States and are not subject to Corps of Engineers jurisdiction. This AJD is posted on the St. Paul District web page at http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/. We have also completed a preliminary jurisdictional determination (PJD) for Wetlands 4 (Meadowbrook Lake), 6 & 14. This PJD presumes that Wetlands 4, 6 & 14 are subject to Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE:

The stream restoration work associated with the Meadowbrook Golf Course Restoration project is a downstream extension of two stream restoration projects (completed in 2008 and 2013) that restored sinuosity, in-stream habitat and riparian vegetation features to segments of Minnehaha Creek. These restorations occurred on the Methodist Hospital segment from Excelsior Boulevard to Louisiana Avenue, and the Minnehaha Preserve segment (Reach 20) from Louisiana Avenue to Meadowbrook Road.

The stream restoration work associated with the current golf course restoration project involves realigning Minnehaha Creek through Meadowbrook Golf Course as a more natural, sinuous channel, similar to the historic alignment that would have traversed this area pre-development. The project is intended to reduce stream flow velocity, minimize streambank erosion, and create

a more diverse aquatic habitat including an enhanced riparian corridor and stream buffer. Stream channel length would be increased nearly 1,000 linear feet, from approximately 1,165 linear feet to just over 2,000 linear feet.

Stream restoration activities would include: removal of some trees and vegetation, excavation of a new stream channel through a mostly upland area, backfilling the abandoned stream channel and re-vegetating the area, installation of a variety of stream stabilization measures to limit potential future erosion and sedimentation problems, and establishment of new vegetation on areas disturbed by construction. Proposed stream stabilization measures include root wads, biologs, cross vanes, j-vanes and vegetated reinforced slope stabilization (VRSS).

NAME, AREA AND TYPES OF WATERS (INCLUDING WETLANDS) SUBJECT TO LOSS: The project as proposed would involve realigning and backfilling approximately 1,165 linear feet of Minnehaha Creek, resulting in the discharge of fill material into approximately 1.6 acres (44,940 square feet) of streambed below the Ordinary High Water Mark of the creek. The majority of the creek realignment would be through upland, but a portion of this work would cross Wetland 14, as shown on the enclosed figures, resulting in the discharge of fill material into approximately 0.07 acre of wet meadow type wetland. The project would also include excavation activities within Wetland 4 (Meadowbrook Lake), resulting in the disturbance of 0.33 acre of shallow open water type wetland. These impacts would be associated with dredging activities required to complete the stream restoration work, required to connect the newly aligned stream channel with the present day confluence at Meadowbrook Lake. The project would also include excavation activities within Wetland 6, resulting in the disturbance of approximately 0.70 acre of wetland. This excavation activity would convert approximately 0.70 acre of seasonally flooded and wet meadow type wetland to a shallow marsh and deep marsh wetland.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

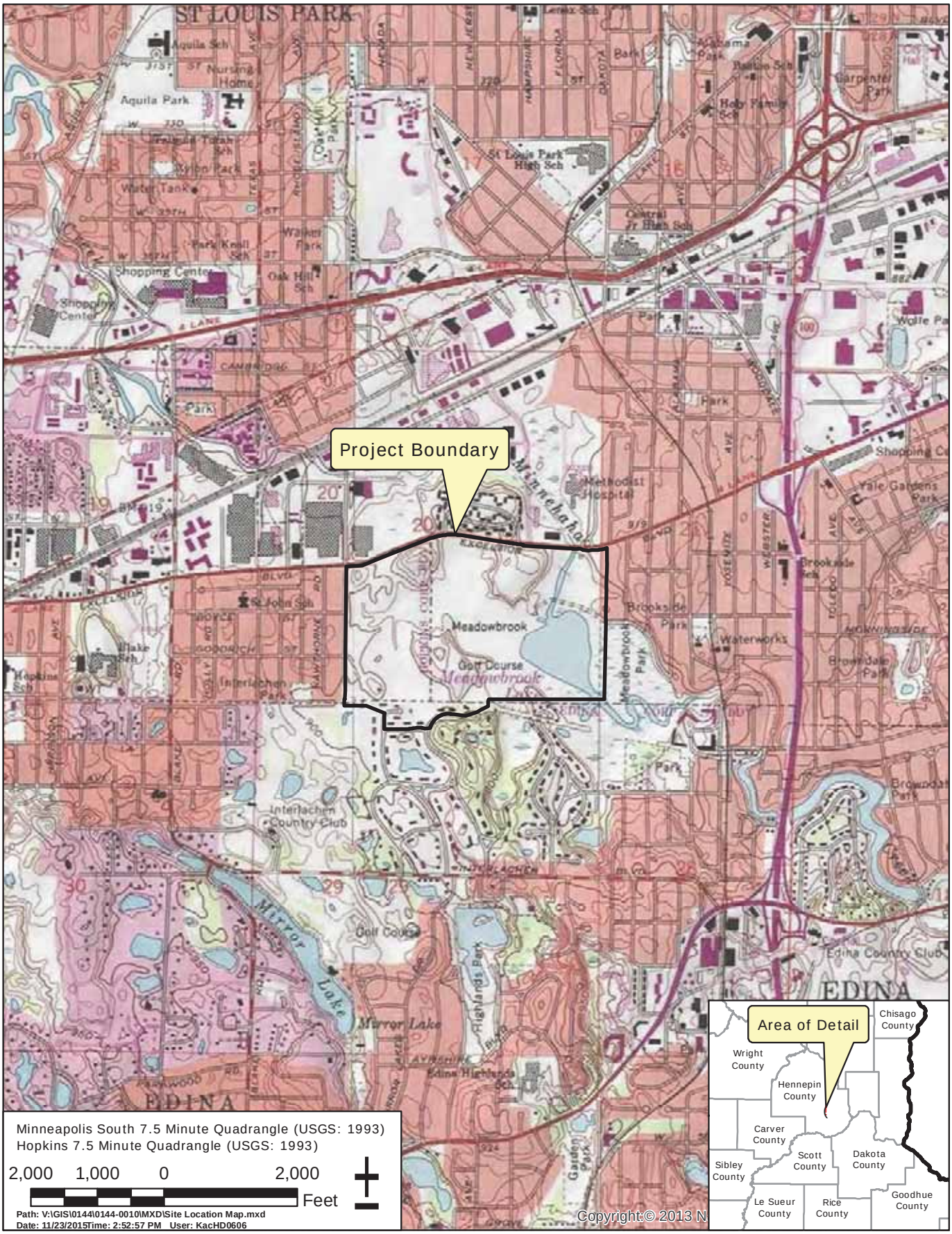
1) The no action alternative has essentially been in place since the straightening of this segment of stream in the early 1900's. The reach within Meadowbrook Golf Course has limited riparian shading, eroding stream banks, homogenous channel form and minimal habitat complexity.

2) Channel relocation is the applicant's preferred option. The applicant has stated that mitigation measures to minimize adverse impacts to adjacent aquatic resources are built into their design. The project as proposed would reduce stream flow velocity, minimize streambank erosion, and create a more diverse aquatic habitat including an enhanced riparian corridor and stream buffer.

3) In addition, the applicant has stated that the impact of the stream realignment has been designed to impact the smallest portion of wetland area possible based on feasible alternatives. The bridge crossing associated with the wetland impacts at Wetland 14 would utilize an existing levee for most of the trail alignment leading up to the bridge but would have minor impact within the wetland, in close proximity to the stream, to ensure that the bridge design would meet standards for safety and creek navigation. Through modifications in design the total permanent wetland impacts associated with this project has been minimized to approximately 0.07 acre.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: The applicant has proposed to construct multiple permittee-responsible wetland mitigation sites, throughout the Meadowbrook Golf Course, to generate wetland credits to offset unavoidable adverse impacts to aquatic resources associated with this project.

Drawings: See enclosed figures labeled as 2015-04355-MMJ, Posting figures 1-5.



MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD	WENCK ASSOCIATES Responsive partner. Exceptional outcomes.	NOV 2015
Site Location Map		Figure 1

2015-04355-MMJ; Posting figure 2

Meadowbrook Golf Course Revised Wetland Boundary

0 500 Feet

KJOLHAUG ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMPANY

Source: MnGeo, ESRI Imagery Basemap

Creek Channel

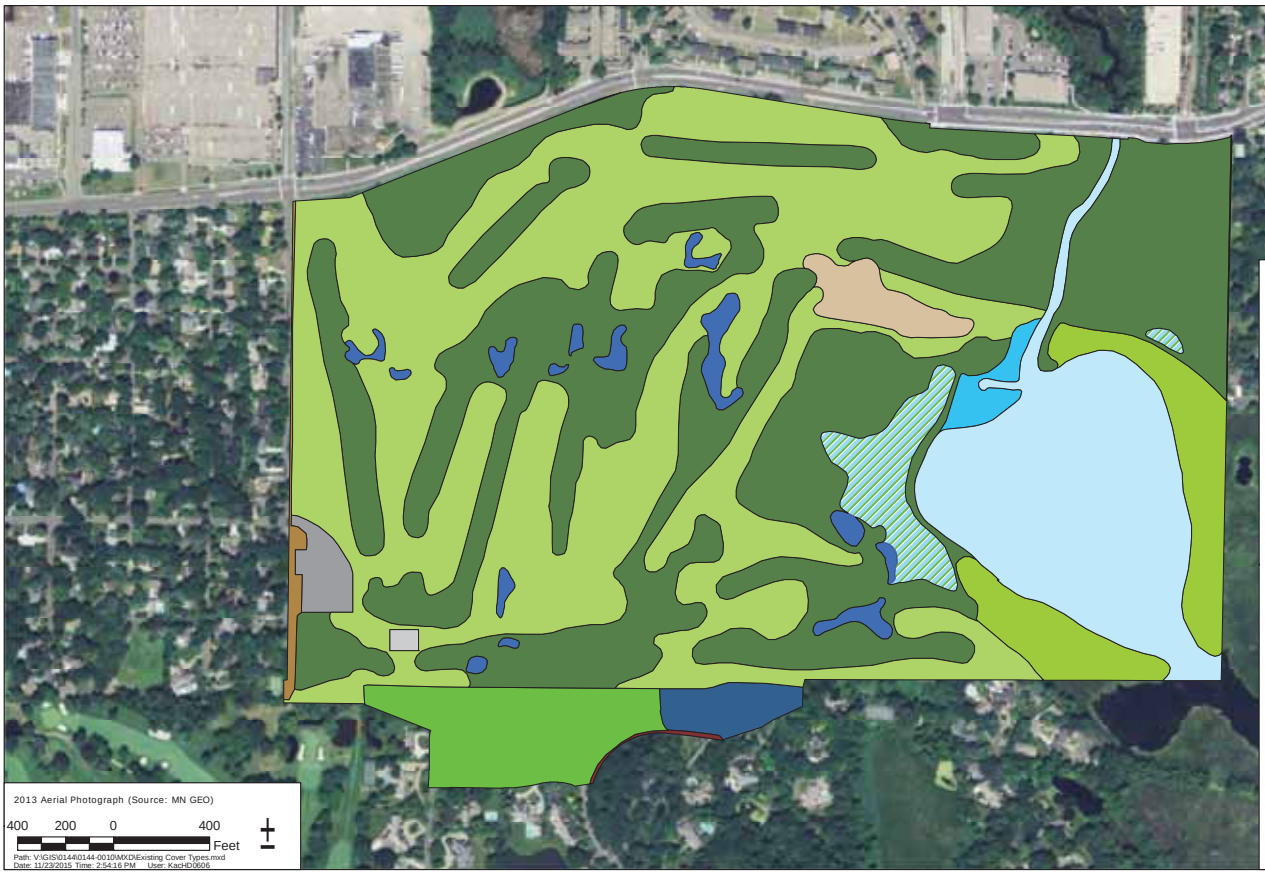
Revised Wetland Boundary

Property Boundary

Meadowbrook Golf Course (KES 2014-221)
Hopkins, Minnesota

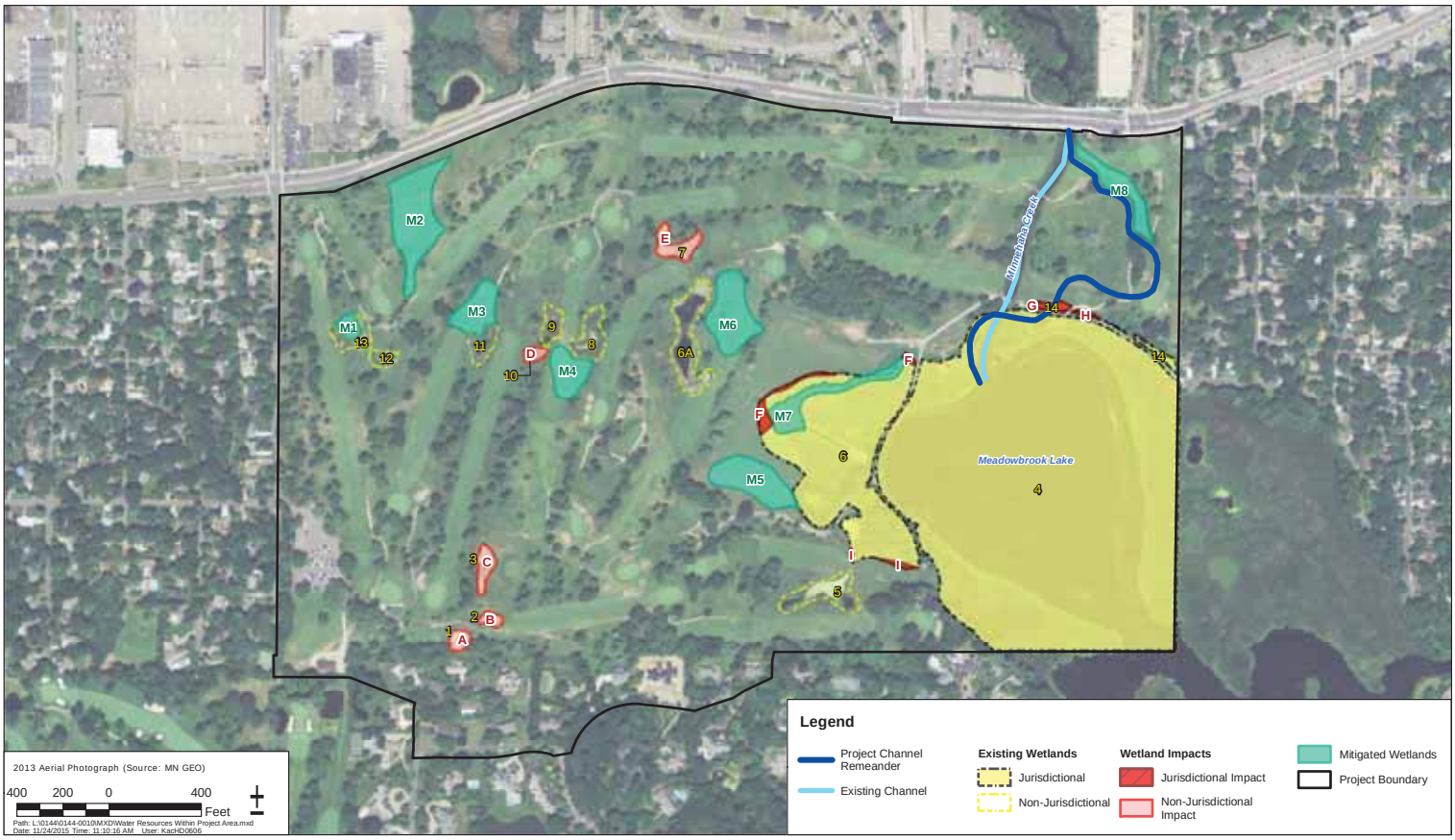
Note: Boundaries indicated on this figureare approximate and do not constitute an official survey product.

2015-04355-MMJ; Posting figure 3



MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD	WENCK ASSOCIATES Responsive partner. Exceptional outcomes.	NOV 2015
Existing Cover Types within the Project Area		Figure 2

2015-04355-MMJ; Posting figure 4



MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD	WENCK ASSOCIATES Responsive partner. Exceptional outcomes.	NOV 2015
Affected Water Resources within Project Area		Figure 7

2015-04355-MMJ; Posting figure 5
Excelsior Blvd
Minnehaha Creek
Trail
Meadowbrook Lake
Driving Range
Clubhouse, Maintenance, and Parking Lot Redevelopment
1
2
3
4
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