

Information for File # MVP-2015-03825-SJW

Applicant: Jack Mitchell-WI Proppants RR LLC

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Primary County: Jackson

Location S/T/R: Sec. 35, T. 22N., R. 6W

Information Complete On: February 25, 2016

Posting Expires On: April 7, 2016

Authorization Type: LOP-06-WI

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 AND PURPOSE: WI Proppants has submitted a Department of the Army permit application for the discharge of fill material into 1.21 acres (52,708 square feet) of wetlands adjacent to Curran Coulee Creek for the construction of an access road and a manifest rail yard component track in association with a newly proposed trans load facility along the Canadian National (CN) main line. The purpose of the proposed project, as stated by the applicant, is to increase the operational efficiency of the WI Proppants sand processing facility by creating infrastructure that would allow for large volumes of sand to be shipped directly from the site to customers by rail. Currently, sand product is hauled via truck approximately 20 miles to the nearest loading facility along the CN main line. The operational costs associated with the constant use of large trucks to haul sand is stated to be substantial. In addition, the constant truck traffic creates additional safety concerns along the haul route for other motor vehicles utilizing the roadway. The proposed project would include the construction of two truck loadout pits and an access loop from N. Davis Road, an overland conveyor and conveyor tube spanning Curran Coulee Creek, four 10,000 ton sand storage silos, a train loadout area, a manifest rail yard, and an associated industry track access road (see attached project plans). The construction of the proposed facility would address the aforementioned issues.

NAME, AREA AND TYPES OF WATERS (INCLUDING WETLANDS) SUBJECT TO LOSS:

The project would result in the permanent discharge of fill material into 1.21 acres of wetlands adjacent to Curran Coulee Creek. The wetlands that would be impacted are identified as Wetland 3 (0.75 acres of impact) and Wetland 4 (0.46 acres of impact) on the attached project

plans. Wetland 3 consists of consists of a Fresh (wet) Meadow/Farmed wetland community type which is dominated by reed canary grass and spotted ladythumb. Wetland 4 consists of a Hardwood Swamp community type dominated by boxelder, reed canary grass, and white panicked aster.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: The applicant has evaluated a number of on-site and off-site alternatives and configurations. Off-site alternatives were explored and dismissed due to the presence of greater amounts of wetlands than the preferred parcel, inadequate parcel size, safety concerns from Wisconsin Department of Transportation, grading challenges, and/or the inability to acquire additional property within close proximity to the mine site. Additional on-site configurations were dismissed as it was determined that they would result in increased wetland impacts when compared to the preferred alternative. Lastly, the no-build alternative was dismissed as this alternative would fail to meet the overall project purpose and need.

The applicant's preferred alternative would utilize a manifest train option with rail siding tracks adjacent to the existing CN main line which would provide ample storage space for rail cars during the operational phase of the facility. This alternative has been configured to fit a rail yard, load out area, storage silos, and storm water ponds on a relatively small (68 acre) parcel within close proximity to the existing sand reserve. This alternative completely avoids impacts to Curran Coulee Creek, Wetland 1, and Wetland 2, and significantly reduces the overall impacts to Wetland 3, and Wetland 4 while still meeting the applicant's purpose and need.

COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: As compensation for the unavoidable loss of wetland functions and values resulting from this project, the applicant proposes to purchase wetland mitigation credits from a federally-approved wetland mitigation bank within the same Bank Service Area (BSA) as the proposed impacts. In the event that no mitigation bank credits are available, the applicant proposes to purchase advanced wetland credits from the Wisconsin Wetland Conservation Trust (WWCT) in-lieu fee compensatory mitigation program.

DRAWINGS: See attached drawings labeled MVP-2015-03825-SJW: Figures 1 of 4 through 4 of 4.



Legend

Notes

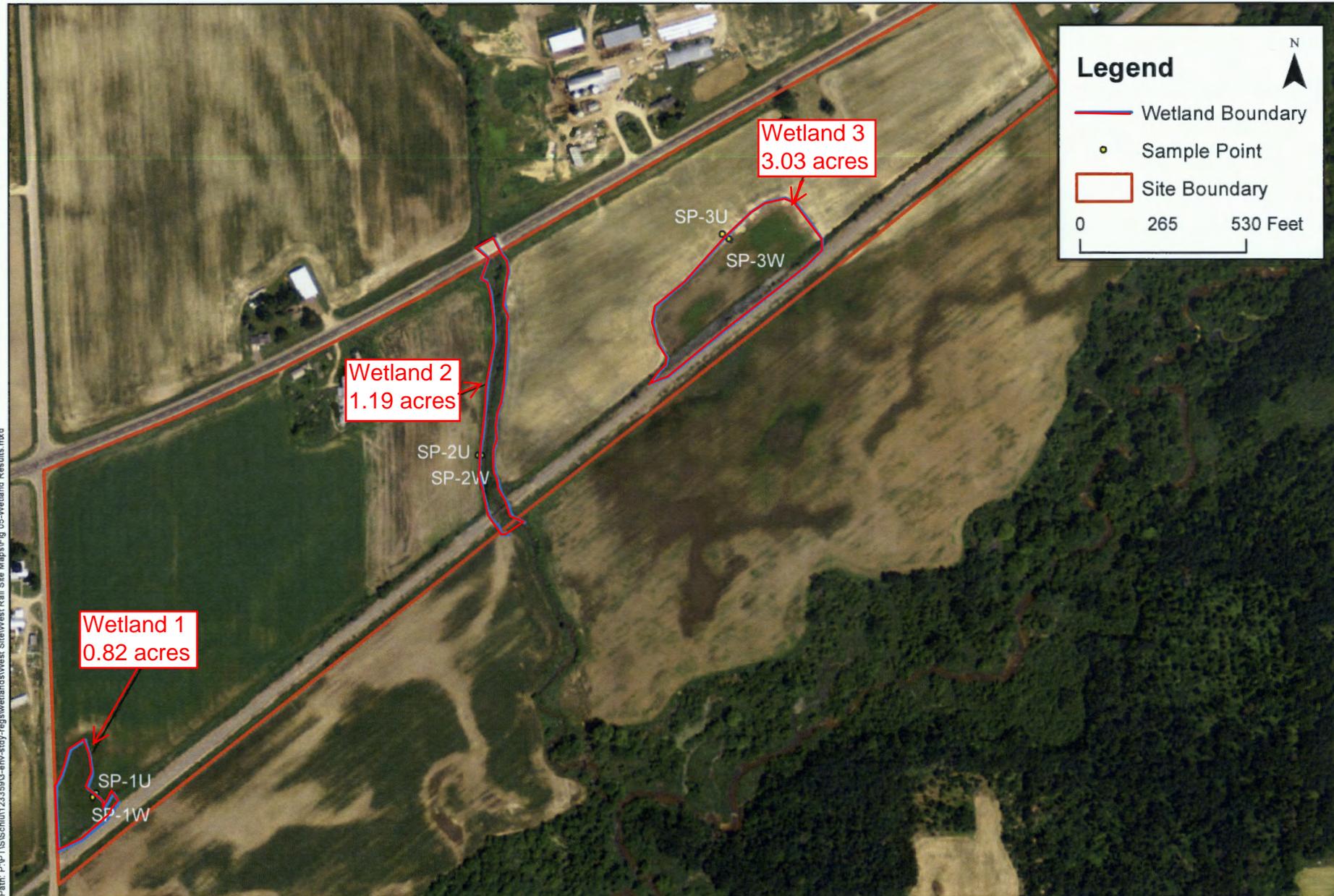
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Project: WIPRO 127809
Print Date: 8/15/2013

Map by: rbeduhn
Projection: UTM NAD 83
Source: LMIC, SEH

Wetland Delineation Results

Hixton West Site
Jackson County, Wisconsin

Figure
5

This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey map and is not intended to be used as one. This map is a compilation of records, information, and data gathered from various sources listed on this map and is to be used for reference purposes only. SEH does not warrant that the Geographic Information System (GIS) Data used to prepare this map are error free, and SEH does not represent that the GIS Data can be used for navigational, tracking, or any other purpose requiring exacting measurement of distance or direction or precision in the depiction of geographic features. The user of this map acknowledges that SEH shall not be liable for any damages which arise out of the user's access or use of data provided.

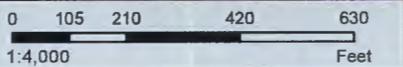
Legend



- Area of Investigation
- Upland Sample Points
- Wetland Sample Points
- Culvert
- Watercourses

Wetland Type

- Deep Marsh
- Fresh (Wet) Meadow
- Hardwood Swamp




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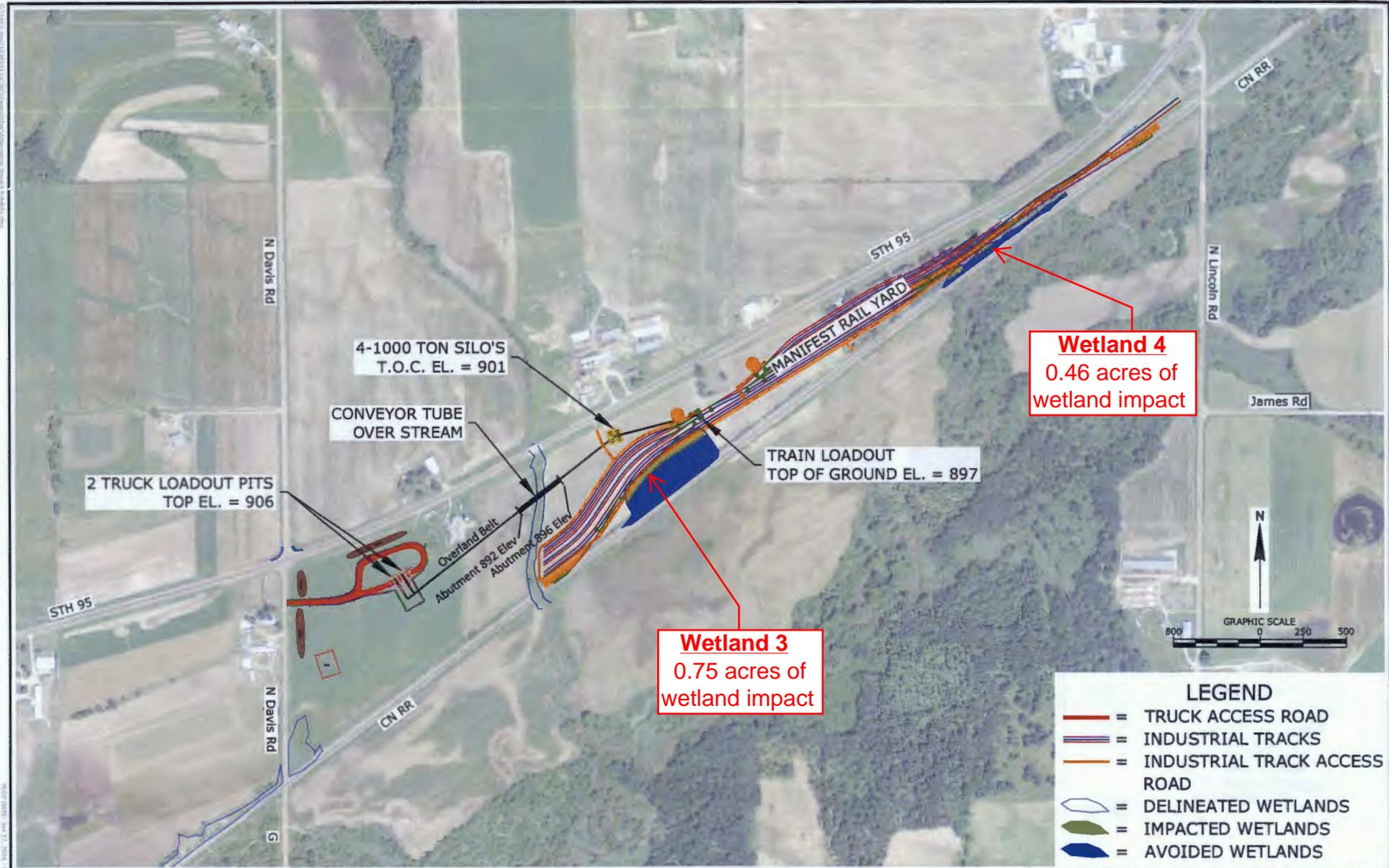
Project: WPRO 127809
Print Date: 9/15/2015

Map by: nhaus
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Source: USGA Earthstar
Geographics SIO © 2015

Wetlands (2, 6, and 9) Type Map
CN Rail Site
Town of Curran, Jackson County, Wisconsin

Figure 7B

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Wetland 4
0.46 acres of wetland impact

Wetland 3
0.75 acres of wetland impact

LEGEND

- = TRUCK ACCESS ROAD
- = INDUSTRIAL TRACKS
- = INDUSTRIAL TRACK ACCESS ROAD
- = DELINEATED WETLANDS
- = IMPACTED WETLANDS
- = AVOIDED WETLANDS

DEL. PROJECT NO. 15365151		PROJECT MANAGER B. MARKGREN			2800 COLLEGE DRIVE, P.O. BOX 230 RICE LAKE, WISCONSIN 54886-0230 TELEPHONE (715) 234-7000 FAX (715) 234-1025		WI PROPPANTS RR LLC HIXTON - CN RAIL SITE		PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE		FIGURE 3.1 SHEET 3	
DRAWN BY B.R.M.	CHECKED BY	ISSUE DATE 01/27/16	APPROVED BY									