

APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

This form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD): March 17, 2023

B. ST PAUL, MN DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: CTH B ATV/UTV Route Realignment, 2023-00263-WMS

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: **WI** County/parish/borough: **Douglas** City:

Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. **46.501558° N**, Long. **-91.83553° W**.

Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: ,

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): **04010301**

☐ Check if map/diagram of review area and/or potential jurisdictional areas is/are available upon request.

☐ Check if other sites (e.g., offsite mitigation sites, disposal sites, etc...) are associated with this action and are recorded on a different JD form.

D. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

☐ Office (Desk) Determination. Date: **March 17, 2023**

☐ Field Determination. Date(s):

SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There are no "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the review area.

B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There are no "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area.

1. Waters of the U.S.: N/A

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):¹

- ☒ Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional. Explain: **The preamble for 33 CFR 328, published in Federal Register Volume 51, Number 219, November 13, 1986 (page 41217), states "For clarification, it should be noted that we generally do not consider the following waters to be Waters of the United States.... (a) Non-tidal drainage and irrigation ditches excavated on dry land." Additionally, the USACE Jurisdictional Determination Guidebook 2007 states that (page 16), "in accordance with the Rapanos guidance, certain geographic features generally are not jurisdictional waters: ditches (including roadside ditches) excavated wholly in and draining only uplands and that do not carry a relatively permanent flow of water". The review area contains Wetlands A, B and C located within the USH 53 corridor which was reconstructed from a 2-lane to a 4-lane highway in the 1990s. A review of the construction plans from the WDOT indicates Wetlands A, B, and C are constructed ditches. Specifically, Wetland B is located within the median, while Wetlands A and C are adjacent to the USH 53 northbound and southbound travel lanes, respectively. The site is located within the Lake Superior lacustrine clay plain where it is very common for wetlands to form within ditches that were constructed in uplands in these poorly drained clay soils. A review of historical and current air photos and site photos confirms wetlands A, B and C are roadside ditches constructed in uplands, draining only uplands. Therefore, W-1, W-1A, W-3, and W-4 are not waters of the U.S. and are not jurisdictional under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act as defined by 33 CFR Part 328.3(a)**

SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs: N/A

B. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRIBUTARY (THAT IS NOT A TNW) AND ITS ADJACENT WETLANDS (IF ANY): N/A

C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION: N/A

¹ Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

D. DETERMINATIONS OF JURISDICTIONAL FINDINGS. THE SUBJECT WATERS/WETLANDS ARE (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY): N/A

E. ISOLATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, DEGRADATION OR DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY SUCH WATERS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY): N/A

F. NON-JURISDICTIONAL WATERS, INCLUDING WETLANDS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

- ☐ If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.
- ☐ Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.
 - ☐ Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in "SWANCC," the review area would have been regulated based solely on the "Migratory Bird Rule" (MBR).
- ☐ Waters do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain:
- ☒ Other (explain, if not covered above): **See Section B.2.**

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the sole potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet, width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

SECTION IV: DATA SOURCES.

A. SUPPORTING DATA. Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked and requested, appropriately reference sources below):

- ☒ Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant:
- ☒ Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - ☒ Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - ☐ Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- ☐ Data sheets prepared by the Corps:
- ☐ Corps navigable waters' study:
- ☐ U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas:
 - ☐ USGS NHD data.
 - ☐ USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- ☐ U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name:
- ☒ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **Douglas County Soil Survey**
- ☐ National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name:
- ☒ State/Local wetland inventory map(s): **Wisconsin Wetland Inventory**
- ☐ FEMA/FIRM maps:
- ☐ 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- ☒ Photographs: ☒ Aerial (Name & Date): **1992, 1998, 2005, 20010, 2012**
or ☒ Other (Name & Date): **Site photos 2022**
- ☐ Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter:
- ☐ Applicable/supporting case law:
- ☐ Applicable/supporting scientific literature:
- ☐ Other information (please specify):

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD: Wetlands A, B and C in the review area are roadside ditches within the USH 53 corridor that were constructed in uplands and draining only uplands.