

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): May 1, 2020

B. ST PAUL, MN DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: MVP-2020-00334-ARC

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: Minnesota County/parish/borough: Itasca County City: Deer River
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 47.35490 ° N, Long. -93.77109 ° W.
Universal Transverse Mercator: UTM Zone 15

Name of nearest waterbody: Deer River

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): Mississippi River Watershed - 07019064

- ☒ 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: April 13, 2020
☐ 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 review area for this determination is limited to the boundaries of one man-made ditch located within the proposed construction limits at the base of the perimeter berm surrounding the northeast wastewater stabilization pond within Deer River's 3 pond system. The ditch extends west beyond the existing stabilization pond before ending in a culvert that conveys hydrology west downslope to the forested wetland complex. The ditch does not carry relatively permanent flow, but conveys precipitation runoff from the pond berm following precipitation events. The ditch is labeled Wetland 3 on the attached figures labeled 2020-00334-ARC Pages 1-5 of 5. The ditch is approximately 0.0848 acre (3,694 square feet) in size within the construction limits.**

The ditch was constructed in uplands, drains only uplands, and does not carry a relatively permanent flow of water into waters of the U.S. (WOUS). This was confirmed by reviewing aerial photography, national hydrography data, and information provided in the November 2019 Wetland Delineation and the March 2020 Pre-Construction Notification. Per the Rapanos decision, the evaluated ditch is not a WOUS because it is not a tributary and does not have a significant nexus to traditionally navigable waters.

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

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

¹ Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

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 II.B.2, above.**

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: **SEH, Inc. 2019 Wetland Delineation, March 2020 Pre-Construction Notification**
- ☐ 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: **NHD - High Resolution - MN, 2015**
 - ☒ USGS NHD data.
 - ☐ USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- ☒ U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **1:24k DRG - Deer River MN, 2015**
- ☐ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation:
- ☐ National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name:
- ☒ State/Local wetland inventory map(s): **DNR NWI Update - MN, 2010-2018**
- ☐ FEMA/FIRM maps:
- ☐ 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- ☒ Photographs: ☒ Aerial (Name & Date): **2017 FSA**
or ☐ Other (Name & Date):
- ☐ 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:** The ditch within the review area is located along the north side of the existing wastewater pond system and was constructed in uplands and only drains uplands. The ditch collects water from the pond berm and the upland rise to the north following precipitation events and does not carry a relatively permanent flow, therefore is not a WOUS.