

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. PAUL DISTRICT 332 MINNESOTA STREET, SUITE E1500 ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1323

MVP-2024-00123-JMK (SAP 073-612-023)

12 April 2024

# MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Approved Jurisdictional Determination in accordance with the "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States'"; (88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023) as amended by the "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States'; Conforming" (8 September 2023), 1 MVP-2023-01033-JMK MFR 1 of 1

BACKGROUND. An Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) is a Corps document stating the presence or absence of waters of the United States on a parcel or a written statement and map identifying the limits of waters of the United States on a parcel. AJDs are clearly designated appealable actions and will include a basis of JD with the document.<sup>2</sup> AJDs are case-specific and are typically made in response to a request. AJDs are valid for a period of five years unless new information warrants revision of the determination before the expiration date or a District Engineer has identified, after public notice and comment, that specific geographic areas with rapidly changing environmental conditions merit re-verification on a more frequent basis.<sup>3</sup>

On January 18, 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Army ("the agencies") published the "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States," 88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023) ("2023 Rule"). On September 8, 2023, the agencies published the "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States'; Conforming", which amended the 2023 Rule to conform to the 2023 Supreme Court decision in *Sackett v. EPA*, 598 U.S., 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023) ("*Sackett*").

This Memorandum for Record (MFR) constitutes the basis of jurisdiction for a Corps AJD as defined in 33 CFR §331.2. For the purposes of this AJD, we have relied on Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA),<sup>4</sup> the 2023 Rule as amended, as well as other applicable guidance, relevant case law, and longstanding practice in evaluating jurisdiction.

<sup>3</sup> Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> While the Revised Definition of "Waters of the United States"; Conforming had no effect on some categories of waters covered under the CWA, and no effect on any waters covered under RHA, all categories are included in this Memorandum for Record for efficiency.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 33 CFR 331.2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> USACE has authority under both Section 9 and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 but for convenience, in this MFR, jurisdiction under RHA will be referred to as Section 10.

## MVP

SUBJECT: 2023 Rule, as amended, Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of Sackett v. EPA, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), MVP-2024-00123-JMK

## 1. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS.

- a. Provide a list of each individual feature within the review area and the jurisdictional status of each one (i.e., identify whether each feature is/is not a water of the United States and/or a navigable water of the United States).
  - i. Wetland 1, non-jurisdictional
  - ii. Wetland 2, non-jurisdictional
  - iii. Wetland 4, non-jurisdictional
  - iv. Wetland 6, non-jurisdictional
  - v. Wetland 11, non-jurisdictional

## 2. REFERENCES.

- a. "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States," 88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023) ("2023 Rule")
- b. "Revised Definition of 'Waters of the United States'; Conforming" 88 FR 61964 (September 8, 2023))
- c. Sackett v. EPA, 598 U.S. \_, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023)
- 3. REVIEW AREA. The review area for this determination includes 5 roadside ditches, as identified in Section 1(a) of this MFR and on the attached figures labeled 2024-00123-JMK Figures 2, 7, 10 and 13 of 20. The review area is located at 45.4737 N, -94.6095 W in the Cities of St. Martin, Zion and Munson, Stearns County, Minnesota. There are no other JDs associated with the review area.
- 4. NEAREST TRADITIONAL NAVIGABLE WATER (TNW), THE TERRITORIAL SEAS, OR INTERSTATE WATER TO WHICH THE AQUATIC RESOURCE IS CONNECTED. N/A
- 5. FLOWPATH FROM THE SUBJECT AQUATIC RESOURCES TO A TNW, THE TERRITORIAL SEAS, OR INTERSTATE WATER. N/A

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- 6. SECTION 10 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS<sup>5</sup>: Describe aquatic resources or other features within the review area determined to be jurisdictional in accordance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Include the size of each aquatic resource or other feature within the review area and how it was determined to be jurisdictional in accordance with Section 10.<sup>6</sup> N/A
- 7. SECTION 404 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS: Describe the aquatic resources within the review area that were found to meet the definition of waters of the United States in accordance with the 2023 Rule as amended, consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in Sackett. List each aquatic resource separately, by name, consistent with the naming convention used in section 1, above. Include a rationale for each aquatic resource, supporting that the aquatic resource meets the relevant category of "waters of the United States" in the 2023 Rule as amended. The rationale should also include a written description of, or reference to a map in the administrative record that shows, the lateral limits of jurisdiction for each aquatic resource, including how that limit was determined, and incorporate relevant references used. Include the size of each aquatic resource in acres or linear feet and attach and reference related figures as needed.
  - a. Traditional Navigable Waters (TNWs) (a)(1)(i): N/A
  - b. The Territorial Seas (a)(1)(ii): N/A
  - c. Interstate Waters (a)(1)(iii): N/A
  - d. Impoundments (a)(2): N/A
  - e. Tributaries (a)(3): N/A
  - f. Adjacent Wetlands (a)(4): N/A
  - g. Additional Waters (a)(5): N/A

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 33 CFR 329.9(a) A waterbody which was navigable in its natural or improved state, or which was susceptible of reasonable improvement (as discussed in § 329.8(b) of this part) retains its character as "navigable in law" even though it is not presently used for commerce, or is presently incapable of such use because of changed conditions or the presence of obstructions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This MFR is not to be used to make a report of findings to support a determination that the water is a navigable water of the United States. The district must follow the procedures outlined in 33 CFR part 329.14 to make a determination that water is a navigable water of the United States subject to Section 10 of the RHA.

## 8. NON-JURISDICTIONAL AQUATIC RESOURCES AND FEATURES

- a. Describe aquatic resources and other features within the review area identified in the 2023 Rule as amended as not "waters of the United States" even where they otherwise meet the terms of paragraphs (a)(2) through (5). Include the type of excluded aquatic resource or feature, the size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to meet one of the exclusions listed in 33 CFR 328.3(b).<sup>7</sup>
  - Wetland 1 (0.05 acre), Wetland 2 (0.03 acre), Wetland 4 (420 square feet) Wetland 6 (287 square feet) and Wetland 11 (223 square feet) within the review area are linear roadside drainage ditches constructed in upland and drain only upland based on a review of the US Geological Service 3DEP DEM and Hillshade maps; 2016 MNDNR HIllshade map; MNDNR 2-foot contour maps; NWI maps; and NHD data. Recent aerial photos do not show relatively permanent flow in the aforementioned aquatic resources. Based on the desktop resources reviewed Wetland 1, 2, 4, 6, and 11 are linear roadside drainage ditches constructed in upland, drain only upland, and do not carry a relatively permanent flow of water. Therefore, Wetland 1, 2, 4, 6, and 11 have been determined to be Paragraph (b)(3) excluded ditches and not subject to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).
- b. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area that were determined to be non-jurisdictional because they do not meet one or more categories of waters of the United States under the 2023 Rule as amended (e.g., tributaries that are non-relatively permanent waters; non-tidal wetlands that do not have a continuous surface connection to a jurisdictional water). N/A
- 9. DATA SOURCES. List sources of data/information used in making determination. Include titles and dates of sources used and ensure that information referenced is available in the administrative record.
  - a. Joint Application Form for Activities Affecting Water Resources in Minnesota, Project CSAH 12 SAP 073-612-023 dated January 22, 2024.
  - b. Minnesota Regulatory Viewer: 2016 MNDNR Hillshade layer, MNDNR 2-foot contour layer, US Geological Service 3DEP Digital Elevation Model (DEM) and Hillshade layers, NHD layers, and USFWS NWI layer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023)

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# 10. OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION. N/A

11. NOTE: The structure and format of this MFR were developed in coordination with the EPA and Department of the Army. The MFR's structure and format may be subject to future modification or may be rescinded as needed to implement additional guidance from the agencies; however, the approved jurisdictional determination described herein is a final agency action.

#### MN PROJ. NO. MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GOVERNING SPECIFICATIONS COUNTY OF STEARNS The 2020 edition of the Minnesota Department of Transportation "Standard Specifications for Construction" Shall Govern CONSTRUCTION PLAN FOR GRADING, AGG. BASE, MILLING, PM BITUMINOUS, CURB & GUTTER, SIDEWALK, STRIPING, TOPSOIL & TURF EST, INDEX LOCATED ON \_\_CSAH 12 \_\_\_\_ BETWEEN SOUTHEAST CITY LIM. ST. MARTIN AND 2260' S. OF CR 111 NEAR RICHMOND (GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION) SHEET NO. 1 TITLE SHEET FROM A PT. 2353' NE OF THE E1/4 COR. SEC. 35,T124N,R32W TO A PT. 1023' SW OF THE SE COR. SEC. 35, T124N, R32W (LEGAL DESCRIPTION) SHEET NO. 2-3 ESTIMATED QUANTITIES SHEET NO. 4 CONSTRUCTION NOTE & STANDARD PLATES SHEET NO. 5-7 TABULATION OF QUANTITIES SHEET NO 8-14 TYPICAL SECTIONS STATE AID PROJECT NO. 073-612-023 SHEET NO. 15 STRIPING DETAILS GROSS LENGTH 34810 FEET MILES SHEET NO. 16 STRIPING TABULATIONS BRIDGES-LENGTH FEET MILES SHEET NO 17-27 **EXISTING UTILITIES** EXCEPTIONS-LENGTH FEET MILES SHEET NO. 28-32 PLANS SYMBOLS SWPPP NET LENGTH 34810 FEET SHEET NO. 33-41 EROSION CONTROL DETAILS STATE LINE COUNTY LINE TOWNSHIP OR RANGE LINE STORMSHIP OR RANGE LINE STATEMENT STATEM STATE LINE SHEET NO. 42-44 **EROSION TABULATIONS** SHEET NO. 45-68 EROSION CONTROL PLAN BEGIN RECONSTRUCT DETOUR LAYOUT SHEET NO. 69-71 SAP 073-612-023 SHEET NO. 72 DETOUR LAYOUT SIGN TABULATIONS 80+50 SHEET NO. 73 TEMP. SQ. TUBE GR. MOUNTED SIGN PL. SHEET NO. 74 LIGHTING 0 INFILTRATION DETAILS SHEET NO. 75 10 SHEET NO. 76-102 PLAN AND PROFILE (42) SHEET NO. 103-118 EARTHWORK QUANTITIES (23) 161 TRUNK HIGHWAY CENTER LINE. SHEET NO. 119-191 CROSS SECTIONS ST. MARTIN RETAINING WALL. 195 RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE THIS PLAN CONTAINS 191 SHEETS RIVER OF CREEK BUILDING (One Story Frome) F-FRAME C-CONCRETE S-STONE T-TLE B-BRICK ST-STUCKO IRON PIPE OR ROD. MCNUMENT (Stone, Concrete, or Metol)... WOODEN HUB. DESIGN DESIGNATION 1-S-F 2 (195) 10 CSAH 12 SIGMA N18 = 340,871 161 R-VALUE = 20 (32 AADT (YR. 2024) = 1368 (6) GRAVEL PIT. AADT (YR. 2044) = SAND PIT. (3) HCADT = 5.9% TON DESIGN = (B) 10 PARKING LANES (R) SHOULDER WIDTH = UTILITIES SYMBOLS LANES = 2-12 END RECONSTRUCT FUNC. CLASS. = MAJOR COLLECTOR STA 406+00 REQUIRED GE. = 20.0 SAP 073-612-023 DESIGN G.E. = MUNSO BEGIN RESURFACE STA 0+00 Design Speed 55 M.P.H. STA. 80+50 TO 406+00 (RURAL) RECONSTRUCTION END RESURFACE SAP 073-612-023 STA. 0+00 TO 22+60 (RURAL) RECONDITIONING Based On Stopping Sight Distance 22+60 Height Of Eye 3.5' Height Of Object 2.0' PEDESTAL (Telephone Cable Terminal) I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED BY ME WATER MAIN.... WATER MAIN CONDUIT. TELEPHONE CABLE IN CONDUIT. TELEPHONE CABLE IN CONDUIT. TELEPHONE MANNOLE ELECTRIC WANNOLE BURRICH TELEPHONE CABLE AFRIAL TELEPHONE CABLE SEWER (Sonitory or Storm)... SEWER MANNOLE .:::: OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY ..... \*\*\*\*\* LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA. STEARNS COUNTY, MN. \*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* ..... \*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\* .... LIC. NO. 41633 DATE \*\*\*\* JODI L. TEICH .... STEARNS COUNTY ENGINEER \*\*\*\*\* .... \*\*\*\* .... \*\*\*\* REVIEWED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AID RULES/POLICY \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\* ..... \*\*\*\* ...... DATE DISTRICT STATE AID ENGINEER: \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* :::: APPROVED FOR STATE AID FUNDING: PLAN DATE PROFILE VERT. FOR STATE AID ENGINEER VERT. CROSSECTIONS HOR. I INDEX MAP STATE AID PROJ. NO. 073-612-023 SHEET NO. 1 OF 191 SHEETS



PERMANENT WETLAND IMPACTS (FILL)



TEMPORARY WETLAND IMPACTS

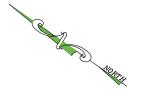


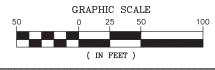
WETLAND #1 - TYPE 2 FWM/WET DITCH WITH RCG AND SMART WEED PERMANENT IMPACTS: 2435 SQFT (.05 ACRES) INCIDENTAL (WET DITCH)

WETLAND #2 - TYPE 2 FWM WITH RCG AND SEDGE PERMANENT IMPACTS: 1347 SQFT (.03 ACRES) TEMPORARY IMPACTS: 1895 SQFT (.04 ACRES)

WETLAND #12 - TYPE 2 FWM SEDGE AND RCG

PERMANENT IMPACTS: 176 SQFT TEMPORARY IMPACTS: 1402 SQFT (.03 ACRES)





AQUATIC RESOURCE

CERTIFIED BY \_\_\_\_\_ LIC. NO. 41633 DATE \_\_\_\_ STEARNS COUNTY, MN STATE AID PROJECT NO. 073-612-023 SHEET NO. 01 OF 10 SHEETS



PERMANENT WETLAND IMPACTS (FILL)

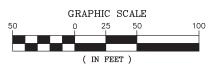


TEMPORARY WETLAND IMPACTS



WETLAND #4 - TYPE 1 CROP STRESS PERMANENT IMPACTS: 28 SQFT TEMPORARY IMPACTS: 392 SQFT





AQUATIC RESOURCE

CERTIFIED BY LIC. NO. 41633 DATE STEARNS COUNTY, MN STATE AID PROJECT NO. 073-612-023

SHEET NO. 03 OF 10 SHEETS



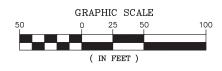
PERMANENT WETLAND IMPACTS (FILL)



TEMPORARY WETLAND IMPACTS

WETLAND #6 - TYPE 2 FWM WITH RCG WET DITCH PERMANENT IMPACTS: 287 SQFT INCIDENTAL WET DITCH





AQUATIC RESOURCE

CERTIFIED BY LIC. NO. 41633 DATE STEARNS COUNTY, MN STATE AID PROJECT NO. 073-612-023

SHEET NO. 05 OF 10 SHEETS



PERMANENT WETLAND IMPACTS (FILL)

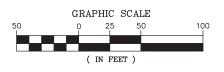


TEMPORARY WETLAND IMPACTS



WETLAND #11 - TYPE 2 FWM WITH RCG WET DITCH DRAIN TILE SUPPLIES WATER PERMANENT IMPACTS: 46 SQFT INCIDENTAL WET DITCH PERMANENT IMPACTS: 177 SQFT INCIDENTAL WET DITCH





AQUATIC RESOURCE

CERTIFIED BY LIC. NO. 41633 DATE STEARNS COUNTY, MN STATE AID PROJECT NO. 073-612-023

023 SH

SHEET NO. 07 OF 10 SHEETS