



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. PAUL DISTRICT
ST. PAUL DISTRICT OFFICE
332 MINNESOTA STREET SUITE E1500
ST. PAUL MINNESOTA 55101

CEMVP-RD

February 10, 2026

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-2025-01307-JST 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.³ 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.⁴

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),⁵ the 2023 Rule as amended, as well as other applicable guidance, relevant case law, and longstanding practice in evaluating jurisdiction.

1. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS.

¹ 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.

³ 33 CFR 331.2.

⁴ Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02.

⁵ 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.

- 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).

Name of Aquatic Resource	JD or Non-JD	Section 404/Section 10
Wetland 1, (0.29 acre)	Non-Jurisdictional	Does not meet (a)(4)
Wetland 2, (0.49 acre)	Non-Jurisdictional	Does not meet (a)(4)
Wetland 7 (0.70 acre)	Non-Jurisdictional	Does not meet (a)(4)

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. 651, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023)
- d. Memorandum To the Field Between the U.S. Department Of The Army, U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers And The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Concerning The Proper Implementation Of ‘Continuous Surface Connection’ Under The Definition Of “Waters Of The United States” Under The Clean Water Act” (March 12, 2025)

3. REVIEW AREA.

The subject aquatic resources are within an approximately 10.5-acre review area identified by the blue polygons on the attached figures labeled MVP-2025-01307-JST AJD Figures – Pages 1-2 of 2. The review area includes a total of three non-jurisdictional wetlands.

- a. Project Area Size (in acres): 10.5
- b. Location Description: The project/review area is located in Section 36, Township 128N, Range 038W, Douglas County, Minnesota.
- c. Center Coordinates of the Project Site (in decimal degrees)
Latitude: 45.846700 Longitude: -95.400890
- d. Nearest City or Town: Alexandria
- e. County: Douglas
- f. State: Minnesota
- g. Other associated Jurisdictional Determinations (including outcomes):

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An approved jurisdictional determination was previously issued for this review area under file number MVP-2024-00584-PJH on March 27, 2025, which determined that Wetlands 1 and 2 are not waters of the United States.

Action ID	Type	Outcome
MVP-2024-00584-PJH	AJD	The aquatic resources identified as Wetland 1 and Wetland 2 were determined to be non-jurisdictional under this AJD

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
6. SECTION 10 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS⁶: 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 10.⁷

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,

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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.

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. N/A

- 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

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).⁸ N/A
- 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).

Wetland 7 is a 0.70-acre depressional seasonally flooded basin surrounded by upland. Wetland 7 is not a traditionally navigable water (TNW), territorial sea, or interstate water and is therefore not an (a)(1) water. Topographic maps, LiDAR imagery, and Google Earth imagery indicate that this wetland is a depressional wetland surrounded entirely by uplands. This wetland does not physically abut a relatively permanent paragraph (a)(2) impoundment or a jurisdictional (a)(3) tributary. A review of the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and National Hydrography Dataset also does not show any features overlapping with this

⁸ 88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023)

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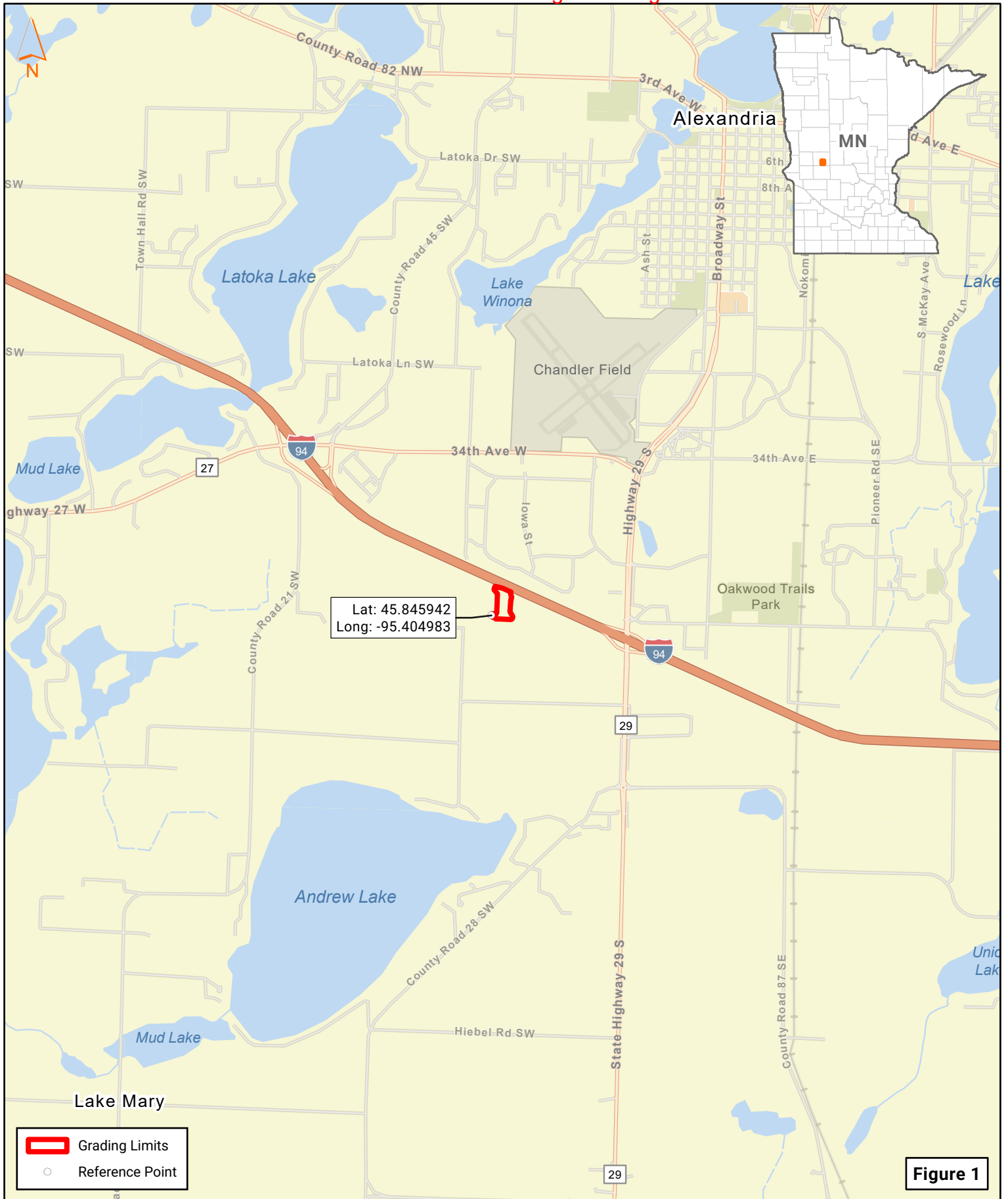
wetland or any potential connections between this wetland and any downstream waters. Wetlands 1 and 2 were previously determined non-jurisdictional under MVP-2024-00584-PJH dated March 27, 2025, and are included in this approved jurisdictional determination. Wetlands 1, 2, and 7 are non-tidal wetlands that do not have a continuous surface connection to a relatively permanent jurisdictional water and as such do not meet the definition of adjacent and cannot be evaluated as (a)(4) adjacent wetlands; therefore, these wetlands are not jurisdictional under the 2023 Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’; Conforming” 88 FR 61964 Final Rule.

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. Great River Energy Alexandria Substation Expansion Wetland Delineation Report prepared by Midwest Natural Resources, Inc., dated October 2024.
- b. Minnesota Regulatory Viewer: 3DEP Hillshade Layer, MNDNR 2-foot contour layer, US Geological Service 3DEP Digital Elevation Model (DEM), National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) layer, USA Soils Hydric Class layer, and USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) layer.
- c. Google Earth Aerial Imagery dated 2008, 2016, 2024.

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.

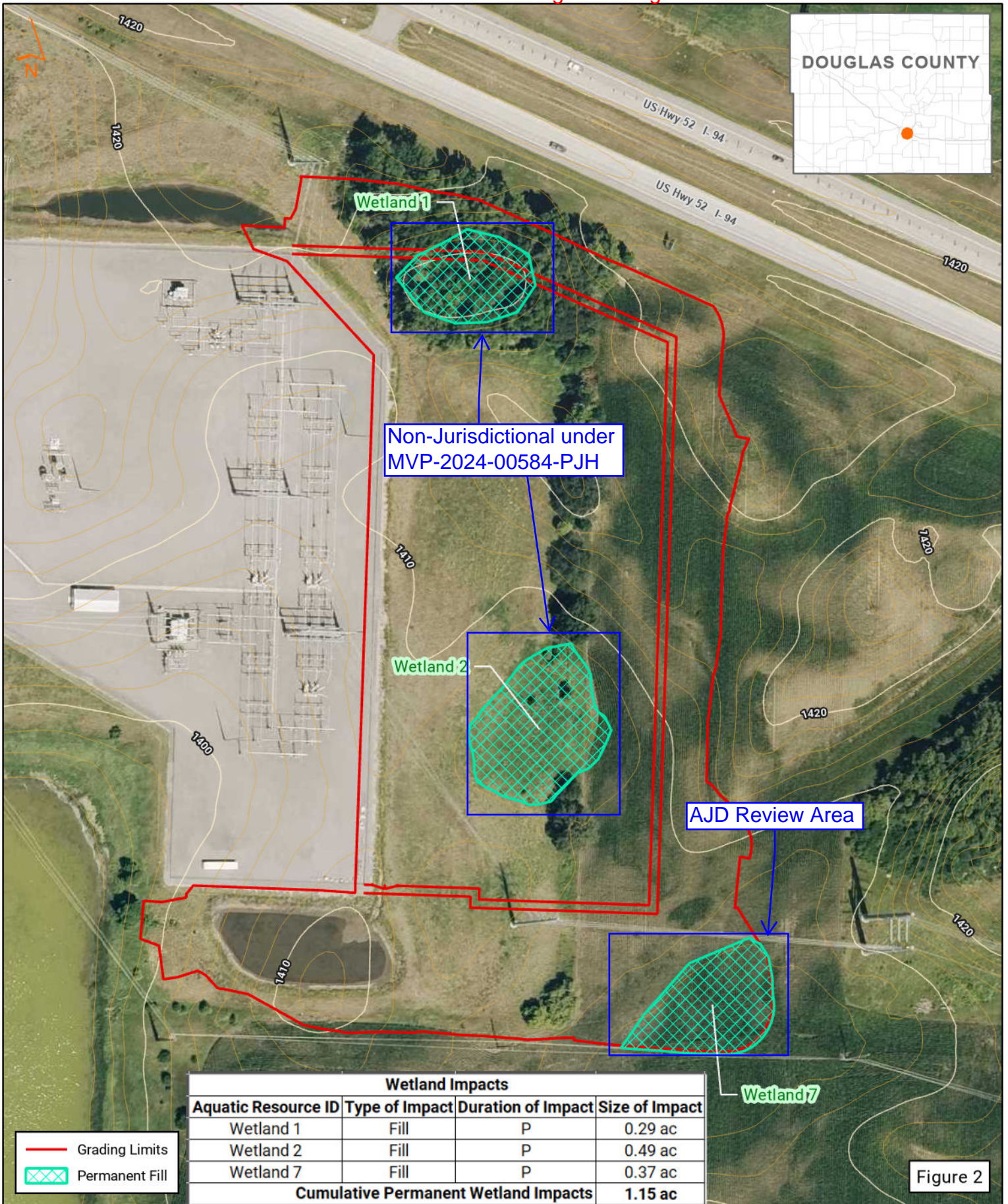


Sources: Esri World Street Map
US Census Bureau, Date: 11/24/2025

Project Overview
Alexandria Substation Expansion
Missouri River Energy Services
Douglas County, Minnesota



0 0.5 1 Miles



Wetland Impacts			
Aquatic Resource ID	Type of Impact	Duration of Impact	Size of Impact
Wetland 1	Fill	P	0.29 ac
Wetland 2	Fill	P	0.49 ac
Wetland 7	Fill	P	0.37 ac
Cumulative Permanent Wetland Impacts			1.15 ac

- Grading Limits
- Permanent Fill

Figure 2

Sources: USDA Farm Service Agency NAIP Imagery, 2023, MnGeo, MN Department of Natural Resources, MNTopo, US Census Bureau, Date: 1/15/2026



Wetland Impacts
 Alexandria Substation Expansion
 Missouri River Energy Services
 Douglas County, Minnesota

