

MVP

October 17, 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),<sup>1</sup> MVP-2024-01048-TKO MFR 1 of 1.<sup>2</sup>

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>3</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>4</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>5</sup> the 2023 Rule as amended, as well as other applicable guidance, relevant case law, and longstanding practice in evaluating jurisdiction.

<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> When documenting aquatic resources within the review area that are jurisdictional under the Clean Water Act (CWA), use an additional MFR and group the aquatic resources on each MFR based on the TNW, the territorial seas, or interstate water that they are connected to. Be sure to provide an identifier to indicate when there are multiple MFRs associated with a single AJD request (i.e., number them 1, 2, 3, etc.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 33 CFR 331.2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</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.

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#### 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).

Name of Aquatic Resource	JD or Non-JD	Section 404/Section 10
W-3 (0.05-acre) Lat/Long: 43.1082, -88.3587	Non-Jurisdictional	None

#### 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 is a 0.30-acre portion of the proposed 53-acre Hartland Senior Living project site, located directly across Campus Dr. from Lake County Lutheran High School, approximately 1,100 feet northeast of the intersection of Highway 83 and Campus Dr., in the Village of Hartland. The review area sits within the southwest portion of the proposed project site and is identified by a red circle on the attached figures. There are no other JDs associated with the review area. The review area is located in Section 34, Township 08 N, Range 18 E, Village of Hartland, Waukesha County, WI. See attached figures, labeled 2024-01048-TKO Figure 1-2 of 4. HUC 0709000203 Bark River.]
  - a. Project Area Size (in acres): 53.32
  - b. Location Description: The project/review area is located in Section 34, Township 008N, Range 018E, Waukesha County, Wisconsin.
  - c. Center Coordinates of the Project Site (in decimal degrees) Latitude: 43.1082 Longitude: -88.3587
  - d. Nearest City or Town: Hartland
  - e. County: Waukesha
  - f. State: Wisconsin
  - g. Other associated Jurisdictional Determinations (including outcomes): N/A

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- NEAREST TRADITIONAL NAVIGABLE WATER (TNW), THE TERRITORIAL SEAS, OR INTERSTATE WATER TO WHICH THE AQUATIC RESOURCE IS CONNECTED. [N/A.]<sup>6</sup>
- 5. FLOWPATH FROM THE SUBJECT AQUATIC RESOURCES TO A TNW, THE TERRITORIAL SEAS, OR INTERSTATE WATER. [N/A.]
- 6. SECTION 10 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS<sup>7</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>8</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.]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This MFR should not be used to complete a new stand-alone TNW determination. A stand-alone TNW determination for a water that is not subject to Section 9 or 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA) is completed independently of a request for an AJD. A stand-alone TNW determination is conducted for a specific segment of river or stream or other type of waterbody, such as a lake, where upstream or downstream limits or lake borders are established.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</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>8</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.

- 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

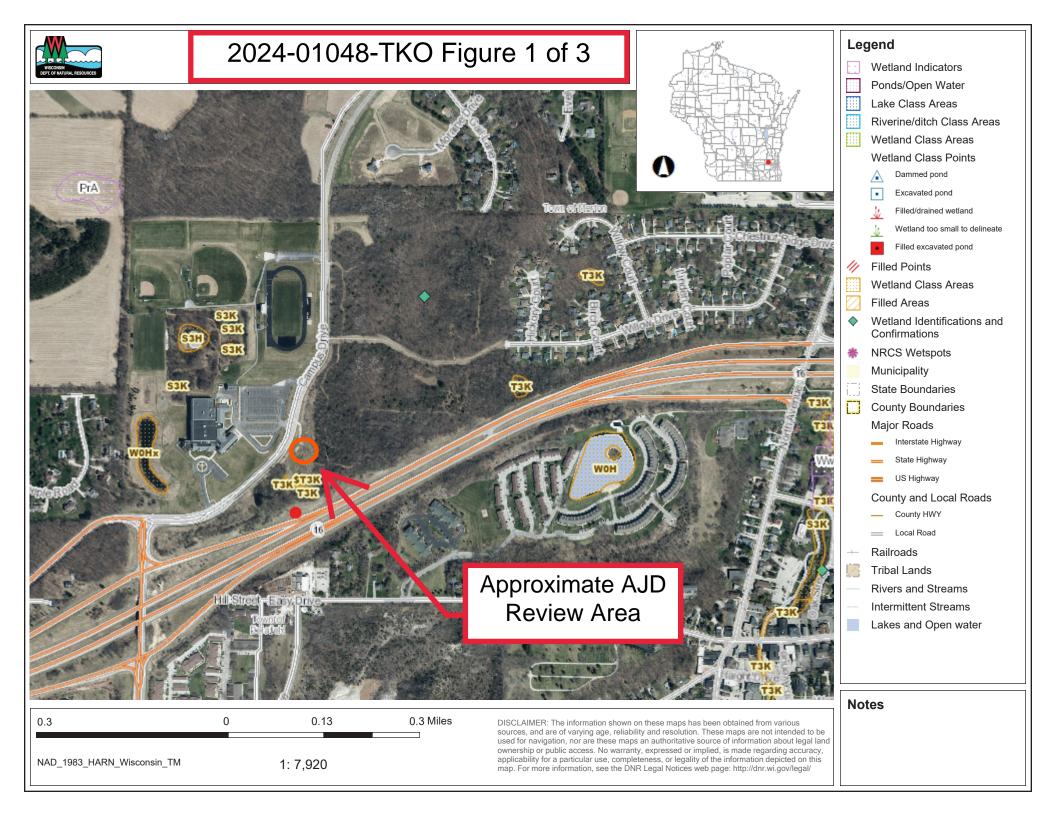
a. Describe aquatic resources and other features within the review area identified in the 2023 Rule as amended as not "waters of the United States" even where they otherwise meet the terms of paragraphs (a)(2) through (5). Include the type of excluded aquatic resource or feature, the size of the aquatic 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).<sup>9</sup> [Wetland 3 is not a water of the U.S. as it is a wetland created in dry land incidental to construction activities. This aquatic feature fits under the definition of a b(7) water, from 33 CFR 328.3(b), as it is a water-filled depression created in dry land incidental to construction activities. This is evident following review of the January 14, 2020, Heartland Ecological Group's wetland delineation report, and supported by a desktop review.

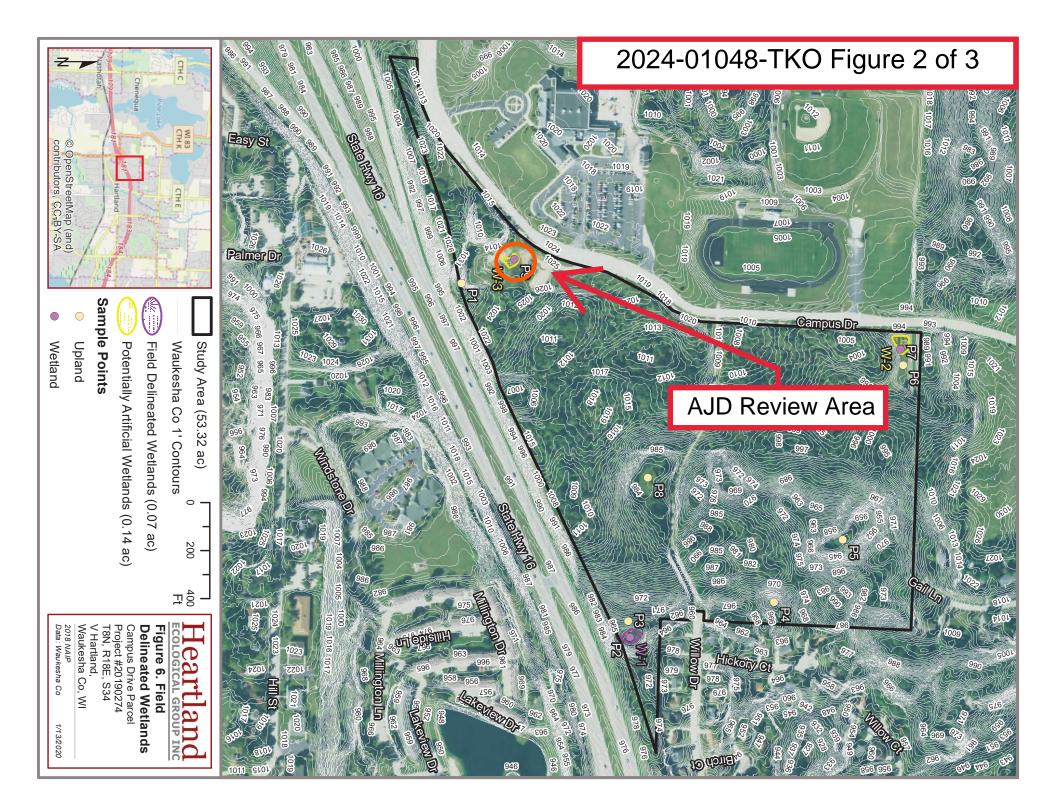
Wetland 3 sits in the southwest corner of the proposed Hartland Senior Living site. Review of historic aerial imagery shows the area containing Wetland 3 to be dry land prior to extensive, and ongoing, site disturbances. Review of more recent aerial imagery shows earthmoving activities occurring as recently as 2022. First signs of disturbance can be seen in the Waukesha County 2007 Historic Aerial showing earthmoving work for the adjacent Lake County Lutheran High School and Campus Drive. Following this initial disturbance, the area containing Wetland 3 appears to have been used as a staging/storage area for fill material. Piles of material are visible on current Google Earth Street View imagery. Review of additional years of aerial images show continued disturbances in the area. Prior to site disturbance, this area sat within an actively cropped agricultural field. Sporadic wetness signatures (2 of 9 years) can be seen throughout the review area however, no persistent wetness signature or any other indication of wetland presence (standing water, repeated crop/vegetation stress, distinct variation of vegetation) was observed. Additionally, USDA soil map data indicates the review

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023)

area consists of entirely non-hydric soils, further supporting the waterfilled feature was excavated in uplands.]

- 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. No field visits were conducted. Desktop review evaluation was conducted on 10/09/2024.
  - b. Permit Application "2024-01048-TKO 20240923 APP.pdf" in the administrative record.
  - c. Mississippi Valley Division Regulatory Viewer, 10/09/2024.
  - d. Wisconsin DNR Surface Water Data Viewer, 10/09/2024.
  - e. Waukesha County GIS Interactive Mapping, 10/09/2024.
- 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.





# 2024-01048-TKO Figure 3 of 3

