

CEMVP-RD

SUBJECT: 2023 Rule, as amended, Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), MVP-2025-00872-MJC

CEMVP-RD

September 12, 2025

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-2025-00872-MJC [MFR 1 of 1]²

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,

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.

² 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.).

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.

CEMVP-RD

SUBJECT: 2023 Rule, as amended, Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), MVP-2025-00872-MJC

as well as other applicable guidance, relevant case law, and longstanding practice in evaluating jurisdiction.

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
Forested Wetland-1 (0.65 acre)	Non-Jurisdictional	N/A

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.

- a. Project Are Size (in acres): 0.68
- b. Location Description: The project/review area is located in Section 25, Township 25 North, Range 20 East, Brown County, Wisconsin.
- c. Center Coordinates of the Project Site:
- d. Latitude: 44.6115306 Longitude: -88.0232387
- e. Nearest City or Town: Village of Suamico
- f. County: Brown
- g. State: Wisconsin
- h. Other associated Jurisdictional Determinations (including outcomes): N/A

CEMVP-RD

SUBJECT: 2023 Rule, as amended, Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), MVP-2025-00872-MJC

4. NEAREST TRADITIONAL NAVIGABLE WATER (TNW), THE TERRITORIAL SEAS, OR INTERSTATE WATER TO WHICH THE AQUATIC RESOURCE IS CONNECTED. [N/A]⁶
5. FLOWPATH FROM THE SUBJECT AQUATIC RESOURCES TO A TNW, THE TERRITORIAL SEAS, OR INTERSTATE WATER. [N/A]
6. SECTION 10 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS⁷: 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 10.⁸ [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]

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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.

⁸ 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).⁹

[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).

[Review of a 2025 Bay Environmental Strategies Inc. Professionally Assured Wetland Delineation Report, aerial imagery, County GIS mapping, Wisconsin DNR Surface Water Data Viewer, and LiDAR data (hillshade and DEM layers in the Mississippi Valley Division Regulatory Viewer) indicate that Forested Wetland-1 (W-1) lacks continuous surface connection to jurisdictional relatively permanent waters. W-1 is a non-tidal wetland, located on a vacant lot on Wyndrush Drive, in Brown County, Wisconsin. Historic aerial imagery from 1938, 1960, 1967, 1978, 1990, and 1992 shows no evidence of surface water in the project area. The lands have historically been forested or in agriculture use. Aerial photos from 2000 show the first evidence of residential development which includes the construction of the adjacent freshwater pond to collect drainage from the converted uplands. According to the National Wetlands Inventory, there are no wetlands or aquatic resources within the project area. W-1 is a non-tidal wetland that does not abut relatively permanent jurisdictional waters. W-1 is defined by a residential roadway to the north and east, transitions to uplands to the south, and to the

⁹ 88 FR 3004 (January 18, 2023)

west abuts a man-made pond that is not adjacent to a relatively permanent waterway. While wetland indicators were identified in sample points within the delineated wetland (hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology), USDA soil map data indicates soils within the review area are predominately non-hydric and consist of mainly loamy fine sand soils, supporting evidence that the site was historical uplands. Review of the original Wisconsin Public Land Survey Records (1841) also shows no evidence of aquatic resources in the project area.

Review of these resources indicate W-1 is not, and does not physically abut a jurisdictional water. W-1 is not a TNW, territorial sea, or interstate water and therefore is not an (a)(1) water. W-1 does not physically abut a relatively permanent paragraph (a)(2) impoundment or a jurisdictional (a)(3) tributary. W-1 is a non-tidal wetland that does not abut relatively permanent jurisdictional waters and as such does not meet the definition of adjacent and cannot be evaluated as an (a)(4) adjacent wetland. W-1 is not an intrastate lake or pond that meets the relatively permanent standard and cannot be evaluated as an (a)(5) water: lakes and ponds not identified in (a)(1) - (a)(4). Therefore, Wetlands 1 is 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. [No field visit conducted. Desktop review evaluation conducted, September 9, 2025.]
 - b. [Application “2025-00857-MJC-20250902 APP.pdf” in the administrative record, September 9, 2025.]
 - c. [Mississippi Valley Division Regulatory Viewer, September 9, 2025.]
 - d. [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Surface Water Data Viewer, September 9, 2025.]
 - e. [Brown Dog, Brown County GIS Mapping, September 9, 2025.]
 - f. [Google Earth Aerial Imagery, September 9, 2025.]
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

CEMVP-RD

SUBJECT: 2023 Rule, as amended, Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), MVP-2025-00872-MJC

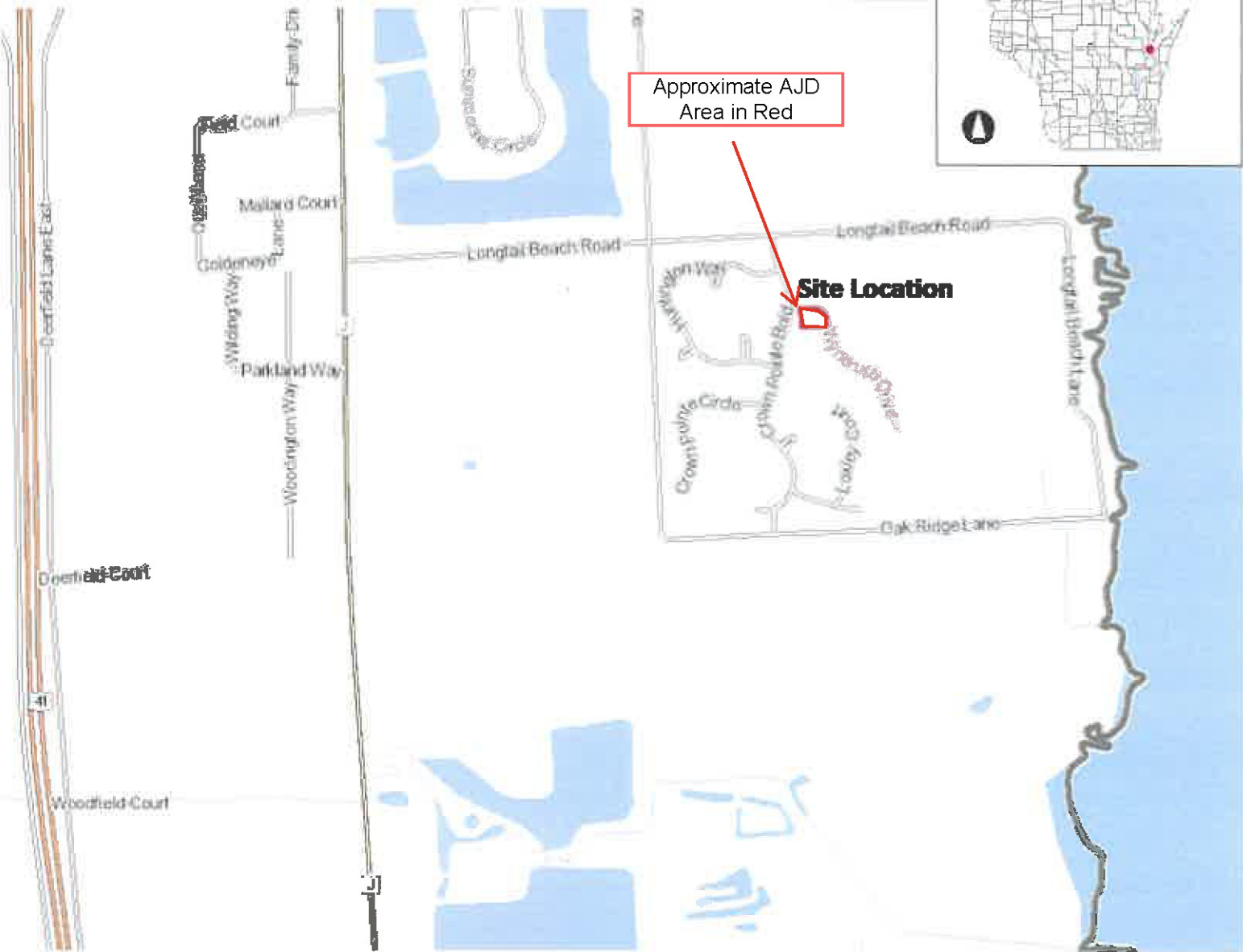
modification or may be rescinded as needed to implement additional guidance from the agencies; however, the approved jurisdictional determination described herein is a final agency action.



Figure 1 - Site Location Map



Approximate AJD Area in Red



Legend

- Municipality
- State Boundaries
- County Boundaries
- Major Roads
 - Interstate Highway
 - State Highway
 - US Highway
- County and Local Roads
 - County HWY
 - Local Road
- Railroads
- Tribal Lands
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- Lakes and Open water



NAD_1983_HARN_Wisconsin_TM

1: 15,840

DISCLAIMER: The information shown on these maps has been obtained from various sources, and are of varying age, reliability and resolution. These maps are not intended to be used for navigation, nor are these maps an authoritative source of information about legal land ownership or public access. No warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding accuracy, applicability for a particular use, completeness, or legality of the information depicted on this map. For more information, see the DNR Legal Notices web page: <http://dnr.wi.gov/legal/>

Notes

Bay Environmental Strategies, Inc.

Land Information:
 Project Area = +/- 29,635 sq ft
 Wetland-1 = +/- 28,326 sq ft
 Upland Area = +/- 1,309 sq ft

- Legend:
- Project Area Boundary
 - Sample Plot
 - Wetland Boundary

Approximate AJD Area in Red

Forested Wetland-1
 28,326 sq ft



Figure 5
 Wetland Delineation Map

Powell Property
 Parcel SU-936-131
 Village of Sturtevant, Wisconsin

Brown County GIS - 2020 Aerial



Client:
 Powell

Date: Oct 2020

Scale: 1" = 44'

Drawn By: TLB

0009

0010

Environmental Systems, Inc. 10/20/20