DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. LOUIS DISTRICT
1222 SPRUCE STREET
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103

CEMVSOD-F 03 April 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023) ,MVS-2025-144

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.[1] 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.[2] For the purposes of this AJD, we have relied on section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA),[3] the Clean Water Act (CWA) implementing regulations published by the Department of the Army in 1986 and amended in 1993 (references 2.a. and 2.b. respectively), the 2008 *Rapanos-Carabell* guidance (reference 2.c.), and other applicable guidance, relevant case law and longstanding practice, (collectively the pre-2015 regulatory regime), and the *Sackett* decision (reference 2.d.) in evaluating jurisdiction.

This Memorandum for Record (MFR) constitutes the basis of jurisdiction for a Corps AJD as defined in 33 CFR §331.2. The features addressed in this AJD were evaluated consistent with the definition of “waters of the United States” found in the pre-2015 regulatory regime and consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett*. This AJD did not rely on the 2023 “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States,’” as amended on 8 September 2023 (Amended 2023 Rule) because, as of the date of this decision, the Amended 2023 Rule is not applicable Missouri due to litigation.

[1] 33 CFR 331.2.
[2] Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02.
[3] 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).

      1) Unnamed Tributary A (243 linear feet), jurisdictional, Section 404 - WOTUS
      2) Drainage Feature A (75 linear feet), non-jurisdictional
      3) Drainage Feature B (100 linear feet), non-jurisdictional

2. REFERENCES.

   a. Final Rule for Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers, 51 FR 41206 (November 13, 1986).

   b. Clean Water Act Regulatory Programs, 58 FR 45008 (August 25, 1993).

   c. U.S. EPA & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Clean Water Act Jurisdiction Following the U.S. Supreme Court's Decision in *Rapanos v. United States & Carabell v. United States* (December 2, 2008)

   d. *Sackett v. EPA*, 598 U.S. _, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023)

3. REVIEW AREA.

   The Review Area (10+/-ac) is comprised of partially forested ground that contains two existing homes and outbuildings. The site is bordered on the eastern property line by Interstate 270 and the western property line by Des Peres Road. An unnamed tributary is located along the east property line. The remainder of the site is comprised of an upland landscape position. Approximate coordinates for the center of the Review Area are Latitude 38.5899° and Longitude -90.4514° within Section 4, T44N, R5E, St. Louis County, Missouri.

4. NEAREST TRADITIONAL NAVIGABLE WATER (TNW), INTERSTATE WATER, OR THE TERRITORIAL SEAS TO WHICH THE AQUATIC RESOURCE IS CONNECTED. Meramec River

5. FLOWPATH FROM THE SUBJECT AQUATIC RESOURCES TO A TNW, INTERSTATE WATER, OR THE TERRITORIAL SEAS. The unnamed tributary (a)(5) water flows into Sugar Creek (a)(5) water and then into Grand Glaize Creek (a)(5) water, a tributary to the Meramec River (a)(1) water.

6. SECTION 10 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS[4]: 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. 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 pre-2015 regulatory regime and 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 pre-2015 regulatory regime. 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. TNWs (a)(1): N/A
    b. Interstate Waters (a)(2): N/A
    c. Other Waters (a)(3): N/A
    d. Impoundments (a)(4): N/A
    e. Tributaries (a)(5):

    Unnamed Tributary A meets the Relatively Permanent Standard (RPS). The 2nd order stream flow regime and morphology characteristics are consistent with relatively permanent flow based on visual observations of flow, presence of an OHWM, in addition to presence of a bed, bank and channel per the submitted delineation report. The stream flow present within the tributary is captured on site by an approximate 192-acre watershed. Streamflow characteristics of Unnamed

[4] 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.

Tributary A were consistent throughout the stream reach to the downstream confluence with another 2nd order stream approximately 1,800 linear feet downstream from the review area.

f. The territorial seas (a)(6): N/A

g. Adjacent wetlands (a)(7): N/A

8. NON-JURISDICTIONAL AQUATIC RESOURCES AND FEATURES

a. Describe aquatic resources and other features within the review area identified as "generally non-jurisdictional" in the preamble to the 1986 regulations (referred to as "preamble waters").[5] Include size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to be non-jurisdictional under the CWA as a preamble water. N/A

b. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area identified as "generally not jurisdictional" in the *Rapanos* guidance. Include size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to be non-jurisdictional under the CWA based on the criteria listed in the guidance.

Drainage Features A and B on the attached AJD Figure do not exhibit characteristics of streamflow nor do they have a defined bed, bank or ordinary high-water mark. As such, these erosional features do not satisfy the definition of an (a)(5) tributary. Therefore, these features are determined to be non-jurisdictional.

c. Describe aquatic resources and features identified within the review area as waste treatment systems, including treatment ponds or lagoons designed to meet the requirements of CWA. Include the size of the waste treatment system within the review area and describe how it was determined to be a waste treatment system. N/A

d. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area determined to be prior converted cropland in accordance with the 1993 regulations (reference 2.b.). Include the size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to be prior converted cropland. N/A

[5] 51 FR 41217, November 13, 1986.

e. Describe aquatic resources (i.e. lakes and ponds) within the review area, which do not have a nexus to interstate or foreign commerce, and prior to the January 2001 Supreme Court decision in "*SWANCC*," would have been jurisdictional based solely on the "Migratory Bird Rule." Include the size of the aquatic resource or feature, and how it was determined to be an "isolated water" in accordance with *SWANCC*. N/A

f. 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 pre-2015 regulatory regime consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett* (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. Wetland Delineation Report dated March 6, 2025

b. USGS Topographic Maps, 1:24,000 Scale, Kirkwood Quadrangle

c. USGS NHDPlus, Accessed March 28, 2025

d. USGS Stream Stats

e. USDA-NRCS Soil Survey for St. Louis County

f. USFWS National Wetlands Inventory

g. LiDAR Data- Regulatory Viewer

h. Various Aerial Images

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.


740 Des Peres Road - Exhibit A
Legend
P1 - Denotes photograph location and designation
Drainage Feature A
P1
Drainage Feature B
P2
P4
P3
Tributary A
Des Peres Rd
Des Peres Rd
Wyndham Crossings Ct
270