



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

CEMVS-R

15 January 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),¹ [MVS-2024-689](#)

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.² 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.³ For the purposes of this AJD, we have relied on section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA),⁴ 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. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS.

¹ While the Supreme Court’s decision in *Sackett* 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 33 CFR 331.2.

³ Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02.

⁴ 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.

CEMVS-R

SUBJECT: Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), [MVS-2024-689](#)

- 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. **Tributary A: Jurisdictional. Section 404.**
 - ii. **Drainage Feature A: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - iii. **Drainage Feature B: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - iv. **Drainage Feature C: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - v. **Drainage Feature D: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - vi. **Drainage Feature E: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - vii. **Drainage Feature F: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - viii. **Drainage Feature G: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - ix. **Pond A: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - x. **Pond B: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - xi. **Pond C: Non-Jurisdictional.**
 - xii. **Pond D: Jurisdictional. Section 404.**

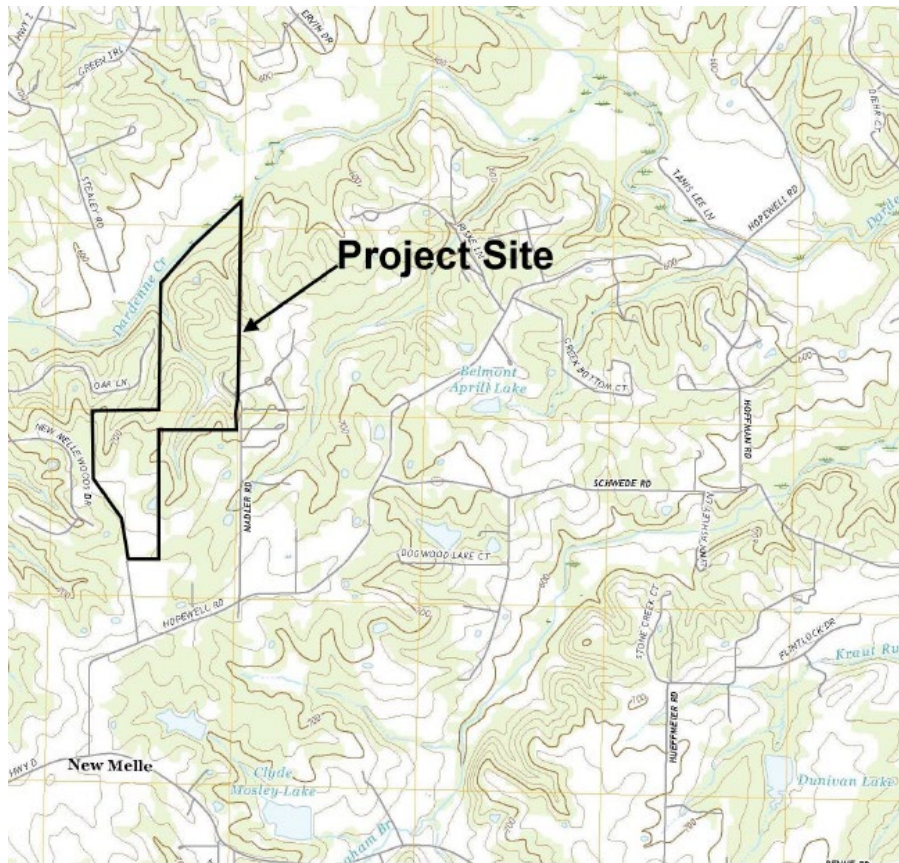
2. REFERENCES.

- 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)

CEMVS-R

SUBJECT: Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), [MVS-2024-689](#)

3. REVIEW AREA. The entire project site is approximately 165.65-acres, composed of an undeveloped property, containing drainages, adjacent wooded areas and open uplands. The site is located at Latitude 38.7319, Longitude -90.8623., St. Charles County, Missouri.



3724 Nadler Road

Wentzville, Missouri

Figure 1

USGS Map



4. NEAREST TRADITIONAL NAVIGABLE WATER (TNW), INTERSTATE WATER, OR THE TERRITORIAL SEAS TO WHICH THE AQUATIC RESOURCE IS CONNECTED. Mississippi River (TNW)
5. FLOWPATH FROM THE SUBJECT AQUATIC RESOURCES TO A TNW, INTERSTATE WATER, OR THE TERRITORIAL SEAS Tributary A flows into Dardenne Creek, which is a primary tributary to the Mississippi River. The Mississippi River is a Section 10 water within the St. Louis District from mile 0, Cairo Illinois to mile 300, Saverton, Missouri.

CEMVS-R

SUBJECT: Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), [MVS-2024-689](#)

6. SECTION 10 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS⁵: 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 10.⁶ [NA](#)

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): [NA](#)

 - b. Interstate Waters (a)(2): [NA](#)

 - c. Other Waters (a)(3): [NA](#)

 - d. Impoundments (a)(4):
 - a. [Pond D](#): The pond is approximately 2.51-acres and located in the central portion of the site. A dam was constructed in Tributary A to create Pond D. The pond is considered to be connected to an intermittent stream source and is considered jurisdictional.

 - e. Tributaries (a)(5):

⁵ 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.

⁶ 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.

CEMVS-R

SUBJECT: Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), [MVS-2024-689](#)

- **Tributary A:** This stream channel flows from south to north through the central portion of the site and is 7-9 feet wide and exists within the site for approximately 1,317 linear feet. Tributary A is mapped on the NWI maps as a riverine feature and is identified on the NHD as an intermittent feature. Downstream of this site, Tributary A flows directly into Dardenne Creek, a perennial stream source. Tributary A is a 2nd order stream and contained waterflow during the consultant site visits conducted on November 11 and December 11, 2024. Tributary A is considered a Relatively Permanent Waterbody and has a 204.8-acre watershed. Tributary A is determined to be a Relatively Permanent Waterbody and would be considered Jurisdictional.

f. The territorial seas (a)(6): [NA](#)

g. Adjacent wetlands (a)(7): [NA](#)

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”).⁷ 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.

Pond A. The pond is approximately 0.67-acres and is located within the southern section of the site. The pond does not have a defined drainage flowing into or out of it. The pond is considered a preamble water (c), since it is an artificial pond created in dry land to collect and retain water. Due to a lack of connection to a waters of the U.S., this feature is considered non-jurisdictional.

Pond B. The pond is approximately 0.35-acres and is located within the southwestern section of the site. The pond does not have a defined drainage flowing into or out of it. The pond is considered a preamble water (c), since it is an artificial pond created in dry land to collect and retain water. Due to a lack of connection to a waters of the U.S., this feature is considered non-jurisdictional.

Pond C. The pond is approximately 0.14-acres and is located within the northern section of the site. The pond does not have a defined drainage flowing into or out of it. The pond is considered a preamble water (c), since it is an artificial pond

⁷ 51 FR 41217, November 13, 1986.

CEMVS-R

SUBJECT: Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), [MVS-2024-689](#)

created in dry land to collect and retain water. Due to a lack of connection to a waters of the U.S., this feature is considered non-jurisdictional.

- 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. [NA](#)
- 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. [NA](#)
- 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. [NA](#)
- 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*. [NA](#)
- 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).
 - a. **Drainage Feature A.** The drainage exists within the site for approximately 624 linear feet and is 2-3 feet wide and flows into Tributary A. The drainage feature has a 27.8-acre watershed and is a 1st order stream channel. The drainage is not identified on the NWI maps, nor is it mapped on the NHD layer. The drainage did not have flowing water during the consultant site visits and is considered a Non-Relatively Permanent Waterbody and is non-jurisdictional.

- b. **Drainage Feature B.** The drainage exists within the site for approximately 1,110 linear feet and is 4-6 feet wide. The drainage feature has a 70.14-acre watershed and is a 1st order stream channel. The drainage is not identified on the NWI maps, nor is it mapped on the NHD layer. The drainage did not have flowing water during the consultant site visits and is considered a Non-Relatively Permanent Waterbody and is non-jurisdictional.
- c. **Drainage Feature C.** The drainage exists within the site for approximately 534 linear feet and is 3-4 feet wide. Drainage Features C and D have a combined 50-acre watershed and are both 1st order stream channels. The drainage is not identified on the NWI maps, nor is it mapped on the NHD layer. The drainage did not have flowing water during the consultant site visits and is considered a Non-Relatively Permanent Waterbody and is non-jurisdictional.
- d. **Drainage Feature D.** The drainage exists within the site for approximately 737 linear feet and is 4-6 feet wide. Drainage Features C and D have a combined 50-acre watershed and are both 1st order stream channels. The drainage is not identified on the NWI maps, nor is it mapped on the NHD layer. The drainage did not have flowing water during the consultant site visits and is considered a Non-Relatively Permanent Waterbody and is non-jurisdictional.
- e. **Drainage Feature E.** The drainage exists within the site for approximately 337 linear feet and is 2-3 feet wide. This drainage is minimal and does not have a mapped watershed and is a 1st order drainage. The drainage is not identified on the NWI maps, nor is it mapped on the NHD layer. The drainage did not have flowing water during the consultant site visits and is considered a Non-Relatively Permanent Waterbody and is non-jurisdictional.
- f. **Drainage Feature F.** The drainage exists within the site for approximately 668 linear feet and is 2-4 feet wide. This drainage is minimal and does not have a mapped watershed and is a 1st order drainage. The drainage is not identified on the NWI maps, nor is it mapped on the NHD layer. The drainage did not have flowing water during the consultant site visits and is considered a Non-Relatively Permanent Waterbody and is non-jurisdictional.
- g. **Drainage Feature G.** The drainage exists within the site for approximately 761 linear feet and is 3-4 feet wide. The drainage feature has a 26.62-acre

CEMVS-R

SUBJECT: Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), [MVS-2024-689](#)

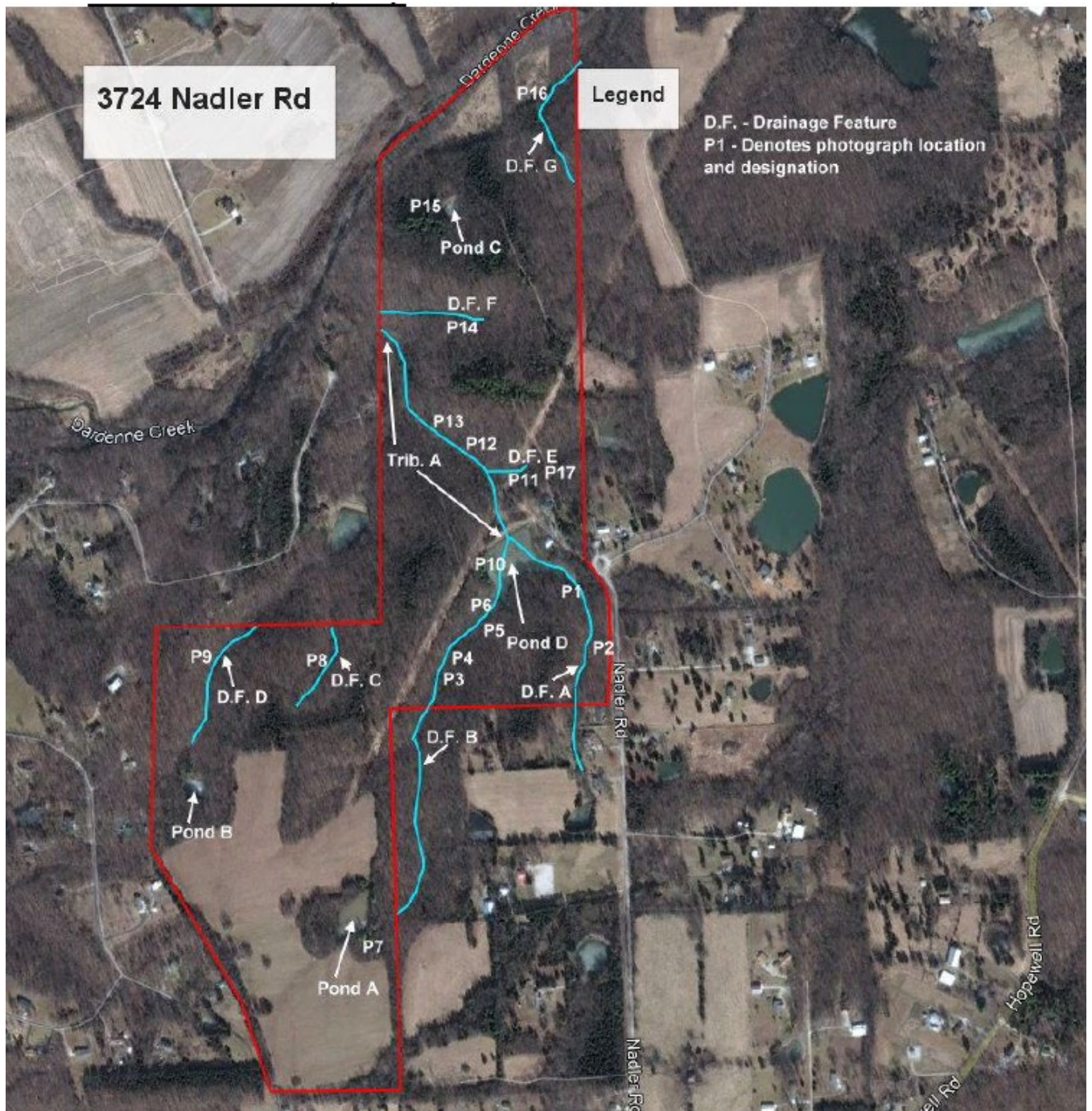
watershed and is a 1st order drainage. The drainage is not identified on the NWI maps, nor is it mapped on the NHD layer. The drainage did not have flowing water during the consultant site visits and is considered a Non-Relatively Permanent Waterbody and is non-jurisdictional.

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. [Consultant Site Visits: November 11 and December 11, 2024.](#)
 - b. [National Hydrography Dataset \(NHD\)](#)
 - c. [StreamStats for watershed data](#)
 - d. [Digital Elevation Model \(LIDAR\)](#)
 - e. [FEMA Maps](#)
 - f. [National Wetland Inventory Map \(NWI\)](#)
 - g. [APT data](#)

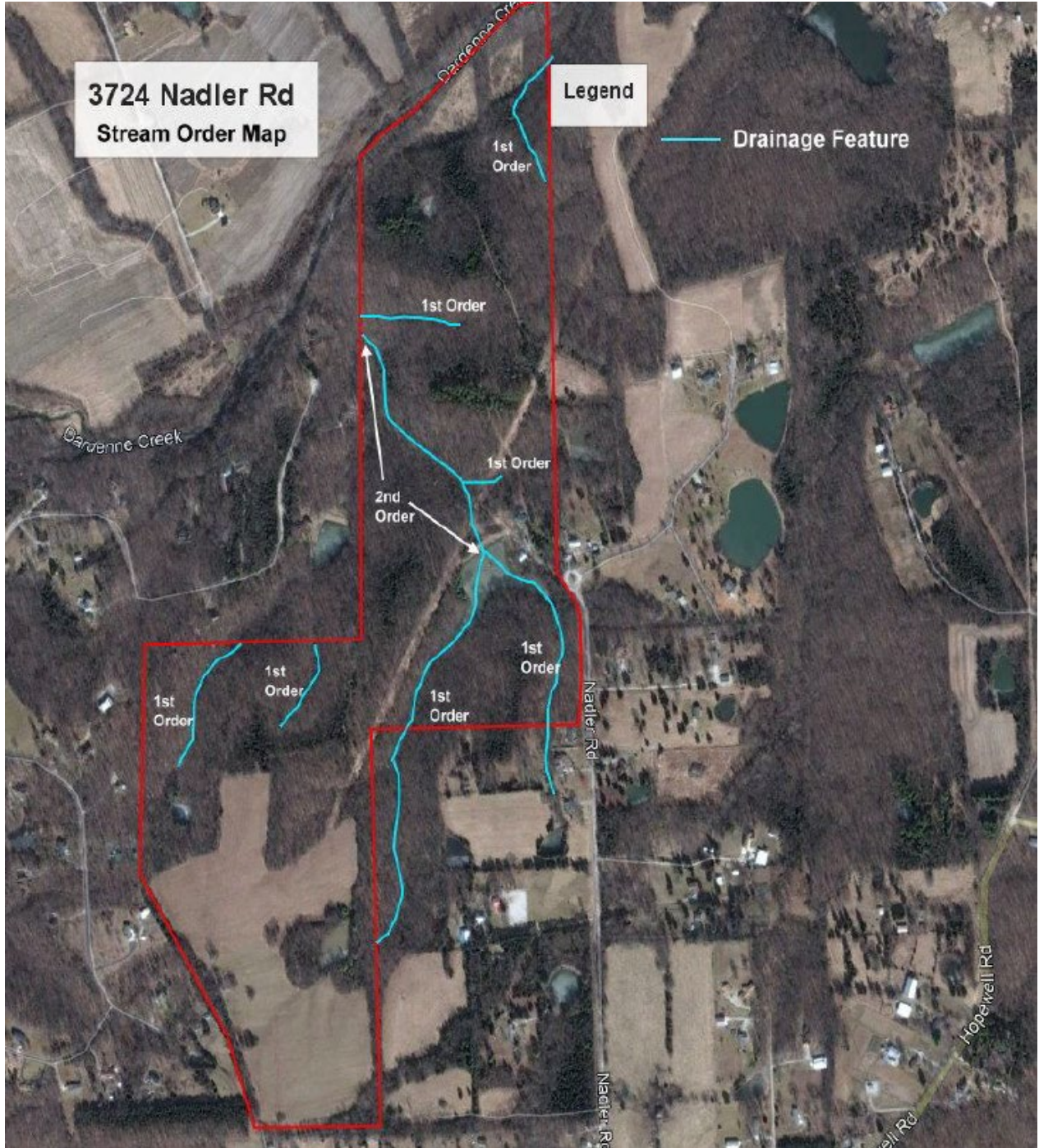
10. OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION. [A review of the APT data indicated the following:](#)
 - a. [November 11, 2024: The date is located within the wet season. The site is in wetter than normal conditions.](#)
 - b. [December 11, 2024: The date is located within the wet season. The site is in normal conditions.](#)

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.

CEMVS-R
SUBJECT: Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light
of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), [MVS-2024-689](#)



CEMVS-R
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CEMVS-R
SUBJECT: Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light
of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023), [MVS-2024-689](#)

Photo Id: P13

Description:
Overview of Tributary A, facing
downstream.



Photo Id: P10

Description:
Overview of Pond D, facing east.

