

APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

This form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD): 4/15/15

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: Charleston District, Ed Nine, SAC-2014-00526-2JU

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: South Carolina County/parish/borough: **Dorchester** City:
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 33.12279° **N**, Long. -80.31219° **W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: **Timothy Creek**

Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: **Edisto River**

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 03050205-03

Check if map/diagram of review area and/or potential jurisdictional areas is/are available upon request.

Check if other sites (e.g., offsite mitigation sites, disposal sites, etc...) are associated with this action and are recorded on a different JD form.

D. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

Office (Desk) Determination. Date: **6/16/14, 4/15/15**

Field Determination. Date(s): **6/16/14**

SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There **Are no** "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the review area. [Required]

Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

Waters are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce.

Explain: .

B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There **Are** "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. [Required]

1. Waters of the U.S.

a. Indicate presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply):¹

- TNWs, including territorial seas
- Wetlands adjacent to TNWs
- Relatively permanent waters² (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Wetlands directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- Impoundments of jurisdictional waters
- Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands

b. Identify (estimate) size of waters of the U.S. in the review area:

Non-wetland waters: linear feet: width (ft) and/or acres.

Wetlands: **Wetland A = 5.05 acres, Wetland B = 0.26 acres, Wetland C = 0.17 acres.**

c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: 1987 Delineation Manual

Elevation of established OHWM (if known): .

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³ [Including potentially jurisdictional features that upon assessment are NOT waters or wetlands]

Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional.

Explain: .

¹ Boxes checked below shall be supported by completing the appropriate sections in Section III below.

² For purposes of this form, an RPW is defined as a tributary that is not a TNW and that typically flows year-round or has continuous flow at least "seasonally" (e.g., typically 3 months).

³ Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over TNWs and wetlands adjacent to TNWs. If the aquatic resource is a TNW, complete Section III.A.1 and Section III.D.1. only; if the aquatic resource is a wetland adjacent to a TNW, complete Sections III.A.1 and 2 and Section III.D.1.; otherwise, see Section III.B below.

1. TNW

Identify TNW: _____

Summarize rationale supporting determination: _____

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is “adjacent”: _____

B. CHARACTERISTICS OF TRIBUTARY (THAT IS NOT A TNW) AND ITS ADJACENT WETLANDS (IF ANY):

This section summarizes information regarding characteristics of the tributary and its adjacent wetlands, if any, and it helps determine whether or not the standards for jurisdiction established under *Rapanos* have been met.

The agencies will assert jurisdiction over non-navigable tributaries of TNWs where the tributaries are “relatively permanent waters” (RPWs), i.e. tributaries that typically flow year-round or have continuous flow at least seasonally (e.g., typically 3 months). A wetland that directly abuts an RPW is also jurisdictional. If the aquatic resource is not a TNW, but has year-round (perennial) flow, skip to Section III.D.2. If the aquatic resource is a wetland directly abutting a tributary with perennial flow, skip to Section III.D.4.

A wetland that is adjacent to but that does not directly abut an RPW requires a significant nexus evaluation. Corps districts and EPA regions will include in the record any available information that documents the existence of a significant nexus between a relatively permanent tributary that is not perennial (and its adjacent wetlands if any) and a traditional navigable water, even though a significant nexus finding is not required as a matter of law.

If the waterbody⁴ is not an RPW, or a wetland directly abutting an RPW, a JD will require additional data to determine if the waterbody has a significant nexus with a TNW. If the tributary has adjacent wetlands, the significant nexus evaluation must consider the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands. This significant nexus evaluation that combines, for analytical purposes, the tributary and all of its adjacent wetlands is used whether the review area identified in the JD request is the tributary, or its adjacent wetlands, or both. If the JD covers a tributary with adjacent wetlands, complete Section III.B.1 for the tributary, Section III.B.2 for any onsite wetlands, and Section III.B.3 for all wetlands adjacent to that tributary, both onsite and offsite. The determination whether a significant nexus exists is determined in Section III.C below.

1. Characteristics of non-TNWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

Tributary Located Off-Site

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: HUC 03050205-03 = 183,907 acres

Drainage area: >9,700 acres

Drainage area was approximated for the tributary that was evaluated as part of the Significant Nexus Determination performed for this Jurisdictional Determination. This area was drawn based on apparent flow pathways and drainage areas associated with the subject relevant reach using USGS quadrangle mapping, USGS National Hydrography Dataset mapping, aerial photography, and observations of connectivity and direction of flow made in the field. The intended value of the drainage area map is to document the full collection of wetlands adjacent to the relevant reach and not to assert that the mapping represents more than an approximation with respect to actual area.

Average annual rainfall: 51 inches

Average annual snowfall: 0.5 inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

Tributary flows directly into TNW.

Tributary flows through one tributary before entering TNW.

⁴ Note that the Instructional Guidebook contains additional information regarding swales, ditches, washes, and erosional features generally and in the arid West.

Project waters are **5-10** river miles from TNW.
 Project waters are **1 (or less)** river miles from RPW.
 Project waters are **5-10** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.
 Project waters are **1 (or less)** aerial (straight) miles from RPW.
 Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: **Wetlands on site flow through a culvert under Highway 27 and associated roadside drainage ditches for less than a mile to Timothy Creek (pRPW), which flows to Four Hole Swamp (pRPW and large wetland system), which flows to the Edisto River (TNW), which flows to the Atlantic Ocean.**
 Tributary stream order, if known: .

(b) General Tributary Characteristics (check all that apply):

Tributary is: Natural
 Artificial (man-made). Explain:
 Manipulated (man-altered). Explain: **The majority of the tributary is in natural form, however portions have been excavated and straightened particularly in the upper reaches where it passes through an area managed for silviculture.**

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate): **The only publicly viewable portion of the tributary is where it passes under Highway 78. At this location, the tributary appeared to be approximately 12 feet wide. The depth and composition of substrate was not apparent from this location. Flow has been observed from this location multiple times over several years during different seasons when passing through the area.**

Average width: feet
 Average depth: feet
 Average side slopes: **Pick List.**

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

- | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silts | <input type="checkbox"/> Sands | <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cobbles | <input type="checkbox"/> Gravel | <input type="checkbox"/> Muck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bedrock | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation. Type/% cover: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explain: | | |

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain:
 Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain:
 Tributary geometry: **Pick List.**
 Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Perennial flow**
 Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: **20 (or greater)**

Describe flow regime: **Flow has been observed from Highway 78 multiple times over several years during different seasons when passing through the area. The tributary has an approximate drainage area of over 9,700 acres which includes uplands and a substantial acreage of wetlands. It is depicted as a perennial blue line stream on the USGS map. In addition, the National Hydrography Data Set map depicts Timothy Creek to have a hydrographic category as perennial.**

Other information on duration and volume:

Surface flow is: **Pick List.** Characteristics: **Unknown.**

Subsurface flow: **Pick List.** Explain findings: **Unknown.**
 Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bed and banks | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OHWM ⁶ (check all indicators that apply): | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> clear, natural line impressed on the bank | <input type="checkbox"/> the presence of litter and debris |
| <input type="checkbox"/> changes in the character of soil | <input type="checkbox"/> destruction of terrestrial vegetation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shelving | <input type="checkbox"/> the presence of wrack line |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vegetation matted down, bent, or absent | <input type="checkbox"/> sediment sorting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> leaf litter disturbed or washed away | <input type="checkbox"/> scour |

⁵ Flow route can be described by identifying, e.g., tributary a, which flows through the review area, to flow into tributary b, which then flows into TNW.

⁶A natural or man-made discontinuity in the OHWM does not necessarily sever jurisdiction (e.g., where the stream temporarily flows underground, or where the OHWM has been removed by development or agricultural practices). Where there is a break in the OHWM that is unrelated to the waterbody's flow regime (e.g., flow over a rock outcrop or through a culvert), the agencies will look for indicators of flow above and below the break.

- sediment deposition
- water staining
- other (list):
- Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain: .
- multiple observed or predicted flow events
- abrupt change in plant community

If factors other than the OHWM were used to determine lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that apply):

- High Tide Line indicated by:
 - oil or scum line along shore objects
 - fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore)
 - physical markings/characteristics
 - tidal gauges
 - other (list):
- Mean High Water Mark indicated by:
 - survey to available datum;
 - physical markings;
 - vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types.

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

Characterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed characteristics, etc.).

Explain: **There was no apparent evidence of poor or degraded water quality in the tributary during the site visit.**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: .

(iv) Biological Characteristics. Channel supports (check all that apply):

- Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): .
- Wetland fringe. Characteristics: .
- Habitat for:
 - Federally Listed species. Explain findings: .
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: .
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: .

Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: **The tributary provides support for water dependent species, including native fish communities that move within the relative reach and downstream between the tributary, Four Hole Swamp, the TNW and between the tributaries and their adjacent wetlands, in addition to amphibians during breeding periods, numerous wading birds, and small mammals that feed on the aquatic species, including numerous categories of macroinvertebrates.**

2. Characteristics of wetlands adjacent to non-TNW that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

(i) Physical Characteristics:

(a) General Wetland Characteristics:

Properties:

Wetland size: **Wetland A = 5.05 acres, Wetland B = 0.26 acres, Wetland C = 0.17 acres.**

Wetland type. Explain: **Forested.**

Wetland quality. Explain: **Wetlands appear to be of high quality providing water quality and habitat functions..**

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: .

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Ephemeral flow**. Explain: **Wetland A, B, and C extend off site and are actually one contiguous wetland.**

Flow for the on-site wetlands would be in response to precipitation events when the soils within the wetlands become saturated and reach storage capacity. Water would then be transported via an abutting roadside ditch, through a culvert under Highway 27 and associated ditching along Highway 78 to the RPW and ultimately the TNW.

Surface flow is: **Discrete and confined**

Characteristics: **Surface flow is discrete within the wetlands and confined when it reaches the culvert and roadside drainage ditches that provide the hydrologic connection to the RPW.**

Subsurface flow: **Unknown**. Explain findings: .

- Dye (or other) test performed: .

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: **Wetland A, B, and C extend off site and are actually one contiguous wetland. Flow for the on-site wetlands would be in response to precipitation events when the soils within the wetlands become saturated and reach storage capacity. Water would then be transported via an abutting roadside ditch, through a culvert under Highway 27 and associated ditching along Highway 78 to the RPW and ultimately the TNW.**

Ecological connection. Explain: .

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: .

⁷Ibid.

- (d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW
 Project wetlands are **Pick List** river miles from TNW.
 Project waters are **5-10** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.
 Flow is from: **Wetland to navigable waters.**
 Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the **Pick List** floodplain.

(ii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

Characterize wetland system (e.g., water color is clear, brown, oil film on surface; water quality; general watershed characteristics; etc.). Explain: **There was no apparent evidence of poor or degraded water quality in the wetlands during the site visit.**

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

(iii) **Biological Characteristics. Wetland supports (check all that apply):**

Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width):

Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain:

Habitat for:

Federally Listed species. Explain findings:

Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:

Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:

Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: **The wetlands provide support for wetland dependent species,**

including amphibians during breeding periods, and numerous wading birds and small mammals that feed on the aquatic species, including numerous categories of macroinvertebrates.

3. **Characteristics of all wetlands adjacent to the tributary (if any)**

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **30 (or more)**

Approximately (**>500**) acres in total are being considered in the cumulative analysis.

For each wetland, specify the following:

<u>Directly abuts? (Y/N)</u>	<u>Size (in acres)</u>
Wetland A (N)	5.05
Wetland B (N)	0.26
Wetland C (N)	0.26
PFO1A (Y)	>500

Wetlands A, B, and C are on site wetlands that extend off site with an approximate total acreage greater than 20 acres.

Wetlands A, B, and C are on site wetlands that extend off site with an approximate total acreage of greater than 20 acres. PFO1A is a wetland system that is identified on the NWI map directly abutting Timothy Creek and part of its associated flood plain. Based on site visits on other parcels in the area and a review of aerial imagery, this wetland is more expansive than what is represented on the NWI map with an approximate acreage of over 500 acres. In addition, there are numerous wetlands identified on the NWI map and also ones not identified that are within the relative reach and a determination of adjacency is likely but unknown at this time without site specific information.

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed:

Wetlands A, B, C, and PFO1A within the drainage area encompassed by the relevant reach tributary intercept runoff from the surrounding uplands. This water helps to concentrate and route detritus from the uplands, as well as that produced by the wetland vegetation itself, to the waters and TNW further down the landscape. Specifically, large quantities of decomposing biomass are conveyed to the RPW and TNW thereby providing important primary productivity toward the biological maintenance of the food web supported by the TNW. The residence time of water may be relatively short during periods of peak flow when water levels are highest, and therefore would favor rapid delivery of pollutants, including both dissolved and particulate chemicals typically found in roadside runoff as well as those typically found in moderately developed suburban to rural landscapes. However, during much of the year flow volumes are much lower and residence times are substantially increased, allowing dissolved and suspended pollutants to interact with sediments and vegetation, thus likely ameliorating the poorer water quality conditions present during higher flow periods. Additional important chemical and physical water quality functions such as denitrification, carbon storage, and sediment and phosphorous retention are also provided by Wetlands A, B, C, and PFO1A.

C. **SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION**

A significant nexus analysis will assess the flow characteristics and functions of the tributary itself and the functions performed by any wetlands adjacent to the tributary to determine if they significantly affect the chemical, physical, and biological integrity

of a TNW. For each of the following situations, a significant nexus exists if the tributary, in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, has more than a speculative or insubstantial effect on the chemical, physical and/or biological integrity of a TNW. Considerations when evaluating significant nexus include, but are not limited to the volume, duration, and frequency of the flow of water in the tributary and its proximity to a TNW, and the functions performed by the tributary and all its adjacent wetlands. It is not appropriate to determine significant nexus based solely on any specific threshold of distance (e.g. between a tributary and its adjacent wetland or between a tributary and the TNW). Similarly, the fact an adjacent wetland lies within or outside of a floodplain is not solely determinative of significant nexus.

Draw connections between the features documented and the effects on the TNW, as identified in the *Rapanos* Guidance and discussed in the Instructional Guidebook. Factors to consider include, for example:

- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to carry pollutants or flood waters to TNWs, or to reduce the amount of pollutants or flood waters reaching a TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), provide habitat and lifecycle support functions for fish and other species, such as feeding, nesting, spawning, or rearing young for species that are present in the TNW?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have the capacity to transfer nutrients and organic carbon that support downstream foodwebs?
- Does the tributary, in combination with its adjacent wetlands (if any), have other relationships to the physical, chemical, or biological integrity of the TNW?

Note: the above list of considerations is not inclusive and other functions observed or known to occur should be documented below:

1. **Significant nexus findings for non-RPW that has no adjacent wetlands and flows directly or indirectly into TNWs.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary itself, then go to Section III.D:
2. **Significant nexus findings for non-RPW and its adjacent wetlands, where the non-RPW flows directly or indirectly into TNWs.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:
3. **Significant nexus findings for wetlands adjacent to an RPW but that do not directly abut the RPW.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D:

The project area is located in watershed 03050205-03 and consists primarily of Four Hole Swamp and its tributaries from Cow Castle Creek to its confluence with the Edisto River. The watershed occupies 183,907 acres of the Upper and Lower Coastal Plain regions of South Carolina. This lowest section of Four Hole Swamp receives drainage from Providence Swamp (White Cane Branch, Cantey Branch, Ball Branch, Buck Branch, Jack Branch, Horse Range Swamp, Kettle Branch, Bachelor Branch), Target Swamp, Spring Branch, and Mill Branch. Further downstream, Home Branch drains into the swamp followed by Mill Run, Dam Branch, the Dean Swamp Watershed, Merkel Branch (Lake Merkel), Santee Branch (Rock Branch), Walnut Branch (Coldwater Branch, Little Walnut Branch, Cane Branch, Crawford Branch, Lang Branch, Deep Branch, Marshall Branch), Halfway Gut Creek, Timothy Creek, and Powder Horn Creek. There are numerous mines and landfills located in this watershed. According to SCDHEC there is potential for major growth in the upper portion of the watershed in the Santee/eastern Orangeburg area associated with the major intermodal port (Jafza). An estimated 7,000 to 10,000 jobs could be created within 10 years. A new full access diamond interchange is planned for I-95 near Santee and US 301 will be extended from its current end at I-95 to SC 6 east of Santee. Traffic counts, especially freight traffic counts, are expected to increase greatly. The Lower Savannah Council of Government is currently working on a Sustainable Growth Study for this area. The I-95, I-26, and US 301 area are called the Global Logistics Triangle, and is planned for major infrastructure improvements to support economic development in that region.

Wetlands A, B, C, and PFO1A within the drainage area encompassed by the relevant reach tributary intercept runoff from the surrounding uplands. This water helps to concentrate and route detritus from the uplands, as well as that produced by the wetland vegetation itself, to the waters and TNW further down the landscape. Specifically, large quantities of decomposing biomass are conveyed to the RPW and TNW thereby providing important primary productivity toward the biological maintenance of the food web supported by the TNW. The residence time of water may be relatively short during periods of peak flow when water levels are highest, and therefore would favor rapid delivery of pollutants, including both dissolved and particulate chemicals typically found in roadside runoff as well as those typically found in moderately developed suburban to rural landscapes. However, during much of the year flow volumes are much lower and residence times are substantially increased, allowing dissolved and suspended pollutants to interact with sediments and vegetation, thus likely ameliorating the poorer water quality conditions present during higher flow periods. Additional important chemical and physical water quality functions such as denitrification, carbon storage, and sediment and phosphorous retention are also provided by Wetlands A, B, C, and PFO1A.

Considering the development potential within this watershed, the functions of the wetlands in the project area play an important role relating to downstream water quality. Based on the biological, chemical, and physical functions described above, this office has concluded that a Significant Nexus exists between this relevant reach, its similarly situated adjacent wetlands and the downstream TNW.

Documentation for the Record only: Significant nexus findings for seasonal RPWs and/or wetlands abutting seasonal RPWs:

D. DETERMINATIONS OF JURISDICTIONAL FINDINGS. THE SUBJECT WATERS/WETLANDS ARE (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

1. TNWs and Adjacent Wetlands. Check all that apply and provide size estimates in review area:

- TNWs: linear feet width (ft), Or, acres.
- Wetlands adjacent to TNWs: acres.

2. RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- Tributaries of TNWs where tributaries typically flow year-round are jurisdictional. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial: **The RPW is located off-site and the only publicly viewable portion of the tributary is where it passes under Highway 78. At this location, the tributary appeared to be approximately 12 feet wide and contained a bed and bank. The depth and composition of substrate was not apparent from this location. Flow has been observed from this location multiple times over several years during different seasons when passing through the area. The tributary has an approximate drainage area of over 9,700 acres which includes uplands and a substantial acreage of wetlands visible on aerial imagery and the NWI map. It is depicted as a perennial blue line stream on the USGS map and named Timothy Creek. In addition, the National Hydrography Data Set map depicts Timothy Creek to have a hydrographic category as perennial.**

- Tributaries of TNW where tributaries have continuous flow “seasonally” (e.g., typically three months each year) are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.B. Provide rationale indicating that tributary flows seasonally:

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

- Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
 - Other non-wetland waters: acres.
- Identify type(s) of waters:

3. Non-RPWs⁸ that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- Waterbody that is not a TNW or an RPW, but flows directly or indirectly into a TNW, and it has a significant nexus with a TNW is jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters within the review area (check all that apply):

- Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
 - Other non-wetland waters: acres.
- Identify type(s) of waters:

4. Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands.
 - Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow year-round. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW:
 - Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow “seasonally.” Provide data indicating that tributary is seasonal in Section III.B and rationale in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW:

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: acres.

5. Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- Wetlands that do not directly abut an RPW, but when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: **Wetland A = 5.05 acres, Wetland B = 0.26 acres, Wetland C = 0.17 acres.**

6. Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- Wetlands adjacent to such waters, and have when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

⁸See Footnote # 3.

Provide estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: _____ acres.

7. Impoundments of jurisdictional waters.⁹

As a general rule, the impoundment of a jurisdictional tributary remains jurisdictional.

- Demonstrate that impoundment was created from “waters of the U.S.,” or
- Demonstrate that water meets the criteria for one of the categories presented above (1-6), or
- Demonstrate that water is isolated with a nexus to commerce (see E below).

Explain:

E. ISOLATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, DEGRADATION OR DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY SUCH WATERS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):¹⁰

- which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes.
- from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce.
- which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce.
- Interstate isolated waters. Explain: _____
- Other factors. Explain: _____

Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:

Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply):

- Tributary waters: _____ linear feet _____ width (ft).
- Other non-wetland waters: _____ acres.
Identify type(s) of waters: _____
- Wetlands: _____ acres.

F. NON-JURISDICTIONAL WATERS, INCLUDING WETLANDS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

- If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.
- Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.
 - Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in “SWANCC,” the review area would have been regulated based solely on the “Migratory Bird Rule” (MBR).
- Waters do not meet the “Significant Nexus” standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain: _____
- Other: (explain, if not covered above): _____

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the sole potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply):

- Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): _____ linear feet _____ width (ft).
- Lakes/ponds: _____ acres.
- Other non-wetland waters: _____ acres. List type of aquatic resource: _____
- Wetlands: _____ acres.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the “Significant Nexus” standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply):

- Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): _____ linear feet, _____ width (ft).
- Lakes/ponds: _____ acres.
- Other non-wetland waters: _____ acres. List type of aquatic resource: _____
- Wetlands: _____ acres.

SECTION IV: DATA SOURCES.

A. SUPPORTING DATA. Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked and requested, appropriately reference sources below):

- Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant: **Wetland Delineation Submittal, Sabine & Waters.**
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report. Office concurs with determination.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.

⁹ To complete the analysis refer to the key in Section III.D.6 of the Instructional Guidebook.

¹⁰ **Prior to asserting or declining CWA jurisdiction based solely on this category, Corps Districts will elevate the action to Corps and EPA HQ for review consistent with the process described in the Corps/EPA Memorandum Regarding CWA Act Jurisdiction Following Rapanos.**

- Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .
- Corps navigable waters' study: .
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .
 - USGS NHD data. **NHDS Maps**
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Ridgeville Quadrangle.**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **NRCS Web Soil Survey.**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **NWI Wetlands Mapper.**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- FEMA/FIRM maps: .
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: . (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **Google Earth 1994-2014.**
 or Other (Name & Date): .
- Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: .
- Applicable/supporting case law: .
- Applicable/supporting scientific literature: .
- Other information (please specify): .

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD: .

Based on the biological, chemical, and physical functions described above, this office has concluded that a Significant Nexus exists between Wetlands A, B, C, the relevant reach, its similarly situated adjacent wetlands and the downstream TNW (Edisto River). Therefore Wetlands A, B, and C have been determined to be jurisdictional and subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.