

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): December 12, 2017

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: CESAC-RD-NE; JD Form 1 of 7; SAC 2017-00109 RDA North Tract

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: South Carolina County/parish/borough: **Williamsburg** City:
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. **33.484767° N**, Long. **-79.635738° W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: **Murray Swamp**

Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: **The aquatic resources remain confined within the project boundary and do not flow into a TNW.**

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): **03040205-09**

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:

Field Determination. Date(s): **March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017**

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 no** "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: acres.

c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: **Pick List, Pick List, Pick List**

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):N/A.

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³

- Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional.
Explain: **Twenty-seven (27) isolated wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be non-jurisdictional. The topographic map depicts these wetlands as forested uplands with the exception of Non-**

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.

Jurisdictional Wetland 25, which is depicted as an isolated open water. According to the topographic map, no blue lines or other potential linear features are depicted within or adjacent to these isolated wetlands. The aerials depict these wetlands as forested. The NWIs depict 10 of the isolated wetlands as palustrine forested wetlands that are surrounded by uplands (U42P). The remaining 17 wetlands are mapped uplands (U42P). Most of the isolated wetlands were viewed during the site visits and determined to be completely surrounded by uplands. With the exception of Non-jurisdictional Wetland 29, the remaining wetlands are located completely on site, and no linear features were observed in or adjacent to these isolated wetlands. Because these wetlands are surrounded by uplands, no surface or shallow subsurface connections from these wetlands to any other Waters of the US (WOUS) were viewed during the site visits. These 27 isolated wetlands were coordinated with EPA and USACE Headquarters on August 14, 2017.

These 27 depressional wetlands exhibited hydric soils, hydrophytic vegetation, and indicators of hydrology, which satisfied the criteria set forth in the 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual and the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Regional Supplement. All water located within or draining toward these wetlands had no discernible or traceable outfall or connection to any WOUS. Additionally, these wetlands were found to be completely surrounded by forested uplands, which further disrupts possible connections to any WOUS. Chemically, these wetlands do not affect any WOUS in the absorption/treatment of nutrients, runoff, or pollutants. Physically, the topographic location of these wetlands is such that water is retained and eventually percolates through the soil to groundwater only, at an unknown depth, providing little if any stormwater attenuation. Biologically, these wetlands are not essential in providing organic carbon in the form of their collective primary productivity to downstream waters, resulting in the nourishment of the downstream food web. Because of the lack of discernible outfall, topography grades and lack of evidence of chemical, physical, or biological connection, these wetlands were determined to be isolated, non-jurisdictional.

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

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

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

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: **Pick List** ;
Drainage area: **Pick List**
Average annual rainfall: inches
Average annual snowfall: inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

- Tributary flows directly into TNW.
- Tributary flows through **Pick List** tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** river miles from TNW.
Project waters are **Pick List** river miles from RPW.
Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.
Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from RPW.
Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: N/A.

Identify flow route to TNW⁵:
Tributary stream order, if known:

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

Tributary is: Natural
 Artificial (man-made). Explain:
 Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

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

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

- Silts
- Sands
- Concrete
- Cobbles
- Gravel
- Muck
- Bedrock
- Vegetation. Type/% cover:
- 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: **Pick List**

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: **Pick List**

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume:

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

Subsurface flow: **Pick List**. Explain findings:

- Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

- Bed and banks
- OHWM⁶ (check all indicators that apply):
 - clear, natural line impressed on the bank
 - the presence of litter and debris
 - changes in the character of soil
 - destruction of terrestrial vegetation

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.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <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 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sediment deposition | <input type="checkbox"/> multiple observed or predicted flow events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> water staining | <input type="checkbox"/> abrupt change in plant community |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (list): | |
- Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain: .

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

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

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

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

Explain: .

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: .

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: acres

Wetland type. Explain: .

Wetland quality. Explain: .

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

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Pick List**. Explain: .

Surface flow is: **Pick List**

Characteristics: .

Subsurface flow: **Pick List**. Explain findings: .

Dye (or other) test performed: .

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

- Directly abutting
- Not directly abutting
 - Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: .
 - Ecological connection. Explain: .
 - Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: .

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **Pick List** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: **Pick List**.

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: .

⁷Ibid.

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:

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **Pick List**

Approximately () 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>	<u>Directly abuts? (Y/N)</u>	<u>Size (in acres)</u>

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed:

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:

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:
- 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: 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.

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).

⁸See Footnote # 3.

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

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: **1.47 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 1) + 2.06 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 2) + 1.51 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 3) + 0.47 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 11) + 0.30 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 12) + 0.36 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 13) + 0.09 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 15) + 0.44 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 17) + 0.03 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 18) + 0.76 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 20) + 0.27 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 21) + 0.07 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 22) + 0.18 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 24) + 1.46 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 25) + 0.10 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 26) + 0.55 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 29) + 0.53 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 30) + 0.44 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 35) + 0.99 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 37) + 11.16 (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 38) + 0.14 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 39) + 0.06 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 40) + 1.40 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 41) + 0.57 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 42) + 0.17 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 43) + 0.33 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 44) + 0.21 a. (Non-jurisdictional Wetland 45) = 26.12 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: **Report by Environs.**
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.

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.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Trio; The topographic map depicts these wetlands as forested.**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **Page 68; The soil survey maps these isolated wetlands as Yemassee, which is partially hydric, and Gourdin and Ogeechee, which are hydric soils .**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **The NWIs map these wetlands as palustrine forested and palustrine scrub-shrub wetlands.**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s):
- FEMA/FIRM maps:
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **SCDNR 2006, 99:11227:221; The aerials depict these wetlands as forested.**
or Other (Name & Date): **Site photographs dated March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017.**
- 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: Twenty-seven (27) isolated wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be non-jurisdictional. The topographic map depicts these wetlands as forested uplands with the exception of Non-Jurisdictional Wetland 25, which is depicted as an isolated open water. According to the topographic map, no blue lines or other potential linear features are depicted within or adjacent to these isolated wetlands. The aerials depict these wetlands as forested. The NWIs depict 10 of the isolated wetlands as palustrine forested wetlands that are surrounded by uplands (U42P). The remaining 17 wetlands are mapped uplands (U42P). Most of the isolated wetlands were viewed during the site visits and determined to be completely surrounded by uplands. With the exception of Non-jurisdictional Wetland 29, the remaining wetlands are located completely on site, and no linear features were observed in or adjacent to these isolated wetlands. Because these wetlands are surrounded by uplands, no surface or shallow subsurface connections from these wetlands to any other Waters of the US (WOUS) were viewed during the site visits. These 27 isolated wetlands were coordinated with EPA and USACE Headquarters on August 14, 2017. .**

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: South Carolina County/parish/borough: **Williamsburg** City:
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. **33.484767° N**, Long. **-79.635738° W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: **Murray Swamp**

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): **03040205-09**

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.

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Office (Desk) Determination. Date:

Field Determination. Date(s): **March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017**

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: **798** ((Jurisdictional Tributary known as **Murray Swamp**, perennial RPW (pRPW)) linear feet:
20width (ft) and/or acres.

Wetlands: **8.21 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 14) + 11.83 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 31) + 10.45 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 32) + 2.64 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 33) + 7.59 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 34) + 0.92 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 36) + 12.07 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 46) + 5.06 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 47) + 0.65 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 48) + 0.96 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 49) + 3.56 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 50) + 1.16 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 51) + 0.21 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 52) = 65.31** acres.

c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: 1987 Delineation Manual, Established by OHWM, Pick List

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):N/A.

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).

2. **Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):**³

- Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional. Explain: **Several linear features were assessed within the review area and determined to be non-jurisdictional. These linear features were located within the project boundaries and adjacent to unpaved roadways. These linear features were determined to have been excavated out of uplands except for their nexus with the onsite wetlands and did not exhibit any characteristics of continuous or intermittent flow. These features are also not depicted on topographic maps as blue lines. However, the features do provide a hydrological connection from the jurisdictional wetlands to the downstream TNW. These features were determined to be non-jurisdictional ditches.**

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: **Black River.**

Summarize rationale supporting determination: **According to the USACE Navigability Study Report No. 6, the Black River's recommended limit of navigability is located at its intersection with the Pocotaligo River, a pRPW, at River Mile (RM) 107.7. The project waters enter the Black River at RM 46 which is located downstream of the recommended limit of navigability.**

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

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: **232,756 acres** ; HUC **03040205-09**
Drainage area: **1,278 acres**
Average annual rainfall: **49.58 inches**
Average annual snowfall: **0.9 inches**

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

³ Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

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

(a) Relationship with TNW:

- Tributary flows directly into TNW.
 Tributary flows through **2** tributaries before entering TNW.

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: **N/A**.

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: **Murray Swamp (onsite pRPW), flows into Johnson Swamp (offsite pRPW), which flows into Horse Pen Swamp (offsite pRPW). Horse Pen Swamp then flows into the Black River (TNW) at River Mile 46.**

Tributary stream order, if known: **This portion of Murray Swamp is a 2nd order stream.**

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

Tributary is: Natural
 Artificial (man-made). Explain: .
 Manipulated (man-altered). Explain: .

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

Average width: **20** feet
Average depth: **6-8** feet
Average side slopes: **Vertical (1:1 or less)**.

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

Silts Sands Concrete
 Cobbles Gravel Muck
 Bedrock Vegetation. Type/% cover:
 Other. Explain: .

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain: This tributary is relatively stable with no erosion or sloughing banks observed.

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: **No run/riffle/pool complexes observed.**

Tributary geometry: **Meandering. The onsite portion of this tributary meanders through forested wetlands**

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): **0-1** %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Perennial flow**

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

Describe flow regime: **Based on site visits and a review of the aeriels and topographic map, this tributary provides year-round flow. This tributary originates west of the project site and flows east into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW.**

Other information on duration and volume: **In addition to being recharged by groundwater, this tributary receives overland sheetflow from abutting wetlands and discrete and confined flow from several non-jurisdictional ditches.**

Surface flow is: **Overland sheetflow**. Characteristics: **During the site visits, the surface flow of this tributary was out of the banks.**

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

Dye (or other) test performed: .

Tributary has (check all that apply):

Bed and banks
 OHWM⁶ (check all indicators that apply):
 clear, natural line impressed on the bank the presence of litter and debris
 changes in the character of soil destruction of terrestrial vegetation
 shelving the presence of wrack line
 vegetation matted down, bent, or absent sediment sorting
 leaf litter disturbed or washed away scour
 sediment deposition multiple observed or predicted flow events
 water staining abrupt change in plant community
 other (list):

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.

Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain: .

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

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

(iii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

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

Explain: **Murray Swamp is typical of a blackwater system with clear, flowing water present. Land use in this watershed is comprised of 46% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% non-forested wetland, and 3.5% urban land. The remaining land uses consist of water and barren land. The SCDHEC Watershed Assessment states that there is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Andrews. The remainder of the watershed is rural with agricultural and silvicultural land uses.**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: **Because a large portion of the watershed is comprised of agricultural land and forested land, the potential exists for herbicides and other pollutants, as well as runoff from land disturbing activities such as plowing and harvesting, to enter the tributary. Because this land use requires regular manipulation of the soils, agricultural activities can create an increase in suspended sediments in the downstream tributaries. According to the SCDHEC Watershed Assessment, the downstream monitoring station on the Black River (PD-170) states that aquatic life uses are not supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions, which are compounded by a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. Also, there are significant increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and fecal coliform. A significant decreasing trend in total nitrogen concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Due to the presence of mercury in this watershed, a fish consumption advisory has been issued for the Black River at this location..**

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

- Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): **This tributary supports a riparian zone approximately 200 linear feet wide that contributes to the health of the aquatic system by filtering out pollutants and preventing erosion.**
- Wetland fringe. Characteristics: **This portion of the 2nd order tributary is located within a wetland system.**
- Habitat for:
- Federally Listed species. Explain findings: .
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: .
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: .
 - Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: **This tributary and the adjacent wetlands provide important aquatic habitat for wildlife and a travel corridor for aquatic fauna.**

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: **8.21 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 14) + 11.83 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 31) + 10.45 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 32) + 2.64 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 33) + 7.59 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 34) + 0.92 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 36) + 12.07 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 46) + 5.06 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 47) + 0.65 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 48) + 0.96 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 49) + 3.56 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 50) + 1.16 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 51) + 0.21 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 52) = 65.31 acres**

Wetland type. Explain: **The majority of the adjacent wetlands are palustrine forested.**

Wetland quality. Explain: **The majority of the adjacent wetlands are fully functional. Although non-jurisdictional ditches exist within and surrounding these wetlands, they do not substantially alter important functions of these wetlands.**

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: **N/A.**

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Ephemeral flow**. Explain: **The non-abutting jurisdictional wetlands in the review area flow into the downstream tributary during and after major storm events..**

Surface flow is: **Discrete and confined**

Characteristics: **Jurisdictional Wetlands 14, 31, 36, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, and 52 flow into Murray Swamp via non-jurisdictional ditches. Jurisdictional Wetlands 32, 33, and 34 flow into Murray Swamp via overland sheetflow.**

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

Dye (or other) test performed: .

⁷Ibid.

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: **Jurisdictional Wetlands 14, 31, 36, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, and 52 have a direct hydrological connection to Murray Swamp via non-jurisdictional ditches.**

Ecological connection. Explain: .

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: .

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **5-10** 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 **100 - 500-year** 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: **No water was observed on the surface of these jurisdictional wetlands. These jurisdictional wetlands in this drainage area are primarily depressional wetlands surrounded by planted pine plantation. Land use in this watershed is comprised of 46% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% non-forested wetland, and 3.5% urban land. The remaining land uses consist of water and barren land. The SCDHEC Watershed Assessment states that there is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Andrews. The remainder of the watershed is rural with agricultural and silvicultural land uses.**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: **Because a large portion of the watershed is comprised of agricultural land and forested land, the potential exists for herbicides and other pollutants, as well as runoff from land disturbing activities such as plowing and harvesting, to enter the tributary. Because this land use requires regular manipulation of the soils, agricultural activities can create an increase in suspended sediments in the downstream tributaries. According to the SCDHEC Watershed Assessment, the downstream monitoring station on the Black River (PD-170) states that aquatic life uses are not supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions, which are compounded by a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. Also, there are significant increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and fecal coliform. A significant decreasing trend in total nitrogen concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Due to the presence of mercury in this watershed, a fish consumption advisory has been issued for the Black River at this location.**

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

Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width): **Jurisdictional Wetlands 33 and 34 comprise a riparian buffer approximately 200 feet wide.**

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: **These wetlands are providing important aquatic habitat and wildlife diversity.**

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **20-25**

Approximately (**196.31**) 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>	<u>Directly abuts? (Y/N)</u>	<u>Size (in acres)</u>
N	8.21	Y	74
N	11.83	Y	33
Y	10.45	N	5
Y	2.64	N	9
Y	7.59	N	6
N	0.92	N	0.6
N	12.07	N	0.4
N	5.06	N	3
N	0.65		
N	0.96		
N	3.56		
N	1.16		
N	0.21		

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: **The on-site 2nd order tributary named Murray Swamp, and its adjacent wetlands, are providing important biological, chemical, and physical functions. According to the SCDHEC Watershed Assessment, this watershed is comprised of 46% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% non-forested wetland, and 3.5% urban land. Due to the predominance of agricultural land use and silvicultural land use in the watershed, herbicides and other pesticides as well as sediment from soil manipulation activities are likely to enter the tributary and downstream TNW. This tributary, together with its adjacent wetlands, act as a catch basin to help filter out pollutants from the neighboring uplands and to hold runoff prior to it flowing downstream into the TNW. These wetlands, in conjunction with other off-site wetlands and the perennial RPW named Murray Swamp, collectively have a significant nexus to the downstream Black River .**

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 tributary named Murray Swamp and the adjacent wetlands are collectively performing important biological, chemical, and physical functions within a watershed largely comprised of silvicultural and agricultural land uses. The biological functions being performed include providing breeding grounds and shelter for aquatic animals and diversifying the plant life within the watershed. As a result, these wetlands supply food sources for a variety of wetland dependent species, such as invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals. These wetlands and tributary are essential in providing organic carbons in the form of their collective primary productivity to downstream waters, resulting in the nourishment of the downstream food web. The chemical functions being performed consist of the removal of excess pollutants, which are contributed by runoff from the surrounding uplands, from the downstream TNW. This reduces nitrogen and phosphorus loading downstream and effectively prevents oxygen depletion that can result from eutrophication. Physically, the adjacent wetlands help reduce stormwater flow, and the landscape position of these wetlands and their vegetation prevent soil from eroding and traveling downstream. Not only does this prevent the accumulation of sediment downstream, which can smother fish and other aquatic wildlife, but it also reduces the amount of pollutants downstream because these pollutants are usually transported by sediment particles. These wetlands temporarily store flood waters and reduce downstream peak flows by retaining large amounts of water within the soil and through evapo-transpiration. This helps to maintain seasonal flow volumes. Based on the collective functions described above and their importance to the biological, chemical, and physical integrity of the traditional navigable waters of the Black River, it has been determined that there is a significant nexus between the relevant reach of the tributary and adjacent wetlands to 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 tributary located near the southern portion of the site was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, NWIs and information obtained during the site visit. The aerials depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and the topo map depicts it as a solid blue line. The soil survey maps this tributary as Mouzon & Hobcaw soils, which are hydric. The NWIs map this tributary as PFO1C, or palustrine forested wetlands. During the site visits, this tributary was observed as having flowing water, an OHWM, a lack of terrestrial vegetation, and a sandy bottom within the channel. Based on the topographic map and aerials, this tributary was determined to be a 2nd order stream that continues east and flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW, which flows into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp continues east/southeast where it enters the Black River, a TNW.**

- 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: **798** linear feet **20** 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: **Jurisdictional Wetlands 32, 33, and 34 were determined to directly abut the 2nd order stream named Murray Swamp (pRPW) based on information obtained during the site visit as well as a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The pRPW flows within the boundaries of Wetlands 32 and 34. During the site visit, Wetlands 33 and 32 were determined to be portions of the same wetland system that is separated by a 404(f) exempt road with a culvert present. Although the NWIs map Jurisdictional Wetland 33 as uplands (U42P), the soil survey maps these three wetlands as Ogeechee, a hydric soil. Jurisdictional Wetlands 32 and 34 are mapped palustrine forested wetlands (PFO1C) and Mouzon & Hobcaw - hydric soils.**
- 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: **10.45 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 32) + 2.64 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 33) + 7.59 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 34) = 20.68 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.

⁸See Footnote # 3.

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: **8.21 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 14) + 11.83 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 31) + 0.92 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 36) + 12.07 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 46) + 5.06 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 47) + 0.65 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 48) + 0.96 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 49) + 3.56 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 50) + 1.16 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 51) + 0.21 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 52) = 44.63 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.

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): **Several linear features were assessed within the review area and determined to be non-jurisdictional. These linear features were located within the project boundaries and adjacent to unpaved roadways. These linear features were determined to have been excavated out of uplands except for their nexus with the onsite wetlands and did not exhibit any characteristics of continuous or intermittent flow. These features are also not depicted on topographic maps as blue lines. However, the features do provide a hydrological connection from the jurisdictional wetlands to the downstream TNW. These features were determined to be non-jurisdictional ditches..**

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):

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.

- 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: **Report by Environs.**
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .
- Corps navigable waters' study: .
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Trio; The topographic map depicts these wetlands as forested. Jurisdictional Wetlands 32 and 34 are depicted as wetlands abutting a solid blue line named Murray Swamp.**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **Page 68; The soil survey maps these wetlands as Gourdin, Cape Fear, Mouzon & Hobcaw and Ogeechee, which are hydric soils .**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **The NWIs map these wetlands as palustrine forested wetlands.**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- FEMA/FIRM maps: .
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **SCDNR 2006, 99:11227:221; The aerials depict these wetlands as forested.**
or Other (Name & Date): **Site photographs dated March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017.**
- 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: The tributary located near the southern portion of the site was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, NWIs and information obtained during the site visit. The aerials depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and the topo map depicts it as a solid blue line. The soil survey maps this tributary as Mouzon & Hobcaw soils, which are hydric. The NWIs map this tributary as PFO1C, or palustrine forested wetlands. During the site visits, this tributary was observed as having flowing water, an OHWM, a lack of terrestrial vegetation, and a sandy bottom within the channel. Based on the topographic map and aerials, this tributary was determined to be a 2nd order stream that continues east and flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW, which flows into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp continues east/southeast where it enters the Black River, a TNW. Jurisdictional Wetlands 32, 33, and 34 were determined to directly abut the tributary named Murray Swamp. The non-abutting wetlands, listed above, were determined to have a significant nexus to the downstream TNW in Section III C above .

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): December 12, 2017

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: CESAC-RD-NE; JD Form 3 of 7; SAC 2017-00109 RDA North Tract

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: South Carolina County/parish/borough: **Williamsburg** City:
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. **33.484767° N**, Long. **-79.635738° W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: **Unnamed tributary of Murray Swamp**

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): **03040205-09**

- 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:
 Field Determination. Date(s): **March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017**

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: **0.11 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 5) + 0.03 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 27) = 0.14 acres.**

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):N/A.

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³

- Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional.
Explain: **Two linear features were assessed within the review area and determined to be non-jurisdictional. These linear features are located within the project boundaries and adjacent to an unpaved roadway. These linear features were determined to have been excavated out of uplands and are not depicted on the topographic map. Although these**

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.

features provide a hydrological connection from Jurisdictional Wetlands 5 and 27 to the downstream TNW, they lack flow indicators such as an OHWM and a channel within bed and banks. They both were determined to be non-jurisdictional ditches.

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: **Black River.**

Summarize rationale supporting determination: **According to the USACE Navigability Study Report No. 6, the Black River's recommended limit of navigability is located at its intersection with the Pocotaligo River, a pRPW, at River Mile (RM) 107.7. The project waters enter the Black River at RM 46 which is located downstream of the recommended limit of navigability.**

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

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: **232,756 acres** ; HUC **03040205-09**

Drainage area: **48.5 acres**

Average annual rainfall: **49.58 inches**

Average annual snowfall: **0.9 inches**

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

Tributary flows directly into TNW.

Tributary flows through **4** tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are **5-10** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **1 (or less)** river miles from RPW.

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** 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: N/A.

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: **The unnamed 1st order tributary (offsite) flows into a 2nd order tributary (offsite) of Murray Swamp, a perennial RPW. Murray Swamp flows into Johnson Swamp, (offsite pRPW), which flows into Horse Pen Swamp (offsite pRPW). Horse Pen Swamp then flows into the Black River (TNW) approximately at River Mile 46.**

Tributary stream order, if known: **This tributary is a 1st order stream.**

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

Tributary is: Natural
 Artificial (man-made). Explain: .
 Manipulated (man-altered). Explain: .

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

Average width: **6** feet
Average depth: **2-4** feet
Average side slopes: **Vertical (1:1 or less).**

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Silts	<input checked="" 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: This tributary is relatively stable with no erosion or sloughing banks observed.

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: **No run/riffle/pool complexes observed.**

Tributary geometry: **Relatively straight. Per the topographic map, the off-site tributary is relatively straight**

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): **0-1** %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Perennial flow**

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

Describe flow regime: **Based on a review of the aeriels and topographic map, which depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and a solid blue line respectively, this tributary provides year-round flow. This tributary originates south of the project site and flows southeast into Murray Swamp, which was determined to be a pRPW in JD Form 2 of 7.**

Other information on duration and volume: **In addition to being recharged by groundwater, this tributary receives discrete and confined flow from the upstream non-jurisdictional ditch, which provides a connection for the upstream non-abutting wetlands.**

Surface flow is: **Discrete and confined.** Characteristics: **The flow is confined within the bed and banks of the tributary.**

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

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> vegetation matted down, bent, or absent	<input type="checkbox"/> sediment sorting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> leaf litter disturbed or washed away	<input type="checkbox"/> scour
<input type="checkbox"/> sediment deposition	<input type="checkbox"/> multiple observed or predicted flow events
<input type="checkbox"/> water staining	<input type="checkbox"/> abrupt change in plant community
<input type="checkbox"/> other (list):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Discontinuous OHWM. ⁷ Explain: .	

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.

⁷Ibid.

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

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

(iii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

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

Explain: **The tributary is typical of blackwater systems in this area. Land use in this watershed is comprised of 46% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% non-forested wetland, and 3.5% urban land. The remaining land uses consist of water and barren land. The SCDHEC Watershed Assessment states that there is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Andrews. The remainder of the watershed is rural with agricultural and silvicultural land uses.**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: **Because a large portion of the watershed is comprised of agricultural land and forested land, the potential exists for herbicides and other pollutants, as well as runoff from land disturbing activities such as plowing and harvesting, to enter the tributary. Because this land use requires regular manipulation of the soils, agricultural activities can create an increase in suspended sediments in the downstream tributaries. According to the SCDHEC Watershed Assessment, the downstream monitoring station on the Black River (PD-170) states that aquatic life uses are not supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions, which are compounded by a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. Also, there are significant increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and fecal coliform. A significant decreasing trend in total nitrogen concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Due to the presence of mercury in this watershed, a fish consumption advisory has been issued for the Black River at this location.**

(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: **This tributary and the adjacent wetlands provide important aquatic**

habitat for wildlife and a travel corridor for aquatic fauna.

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: **0.11 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 5) + 0.03 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 27) = 0.14 acres**

Wetland type. Explain: **The adjacent wetlands are palustrine forested.**

Wetland quality. Explain: **The adjacent wetlands are fully functional. Although a non-jurisdictional ditch exists within these wetlands, it does not substantially alter the hydrology within these wetlands.**

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: **N/A.**

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Ephemeral flow**. Explain: **The non-abutting jurisdictional wetlands in the review area flow into the downstream tributary during and after major storm events.**

Surface flow is: **Discrete and confined**

Characteristics: **Jurisdictional Wetlands 5 and 27 flow into the unnamed tributary via a non-jurisdictional ditch.**

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: **Jurisdictional Wetlands 5 and 27 flow into the unnamed tributary via a non-jurisdictional ditch.**

Ecological connection. Explain:

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain:

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **5-10** 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 **100 - 500-year** 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: **No water was observed on the surface of these jurisdictional wetlands. These jurisdictional wetlands in this drainage area are primarily depressional wetlands surrounded by planted pine plantation. Land use in this watershed is comprised of 46% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% non-forested wetland, and 3.5% urban land. The remaining land uses consist of water and barren land. The SCDHEC Watershed Assessment states that there is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Andrews. The remainder of the watershed is rural with agricultural and silvicultural land uses.**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: **Because a large portion of the watershed is comprised of agricultural land and forested land, the potential exists for herbicides and other pollutants, as well as runoff from land disturbing activities such as plowing and harvesting, to enter the tributary. Because this land use requires regular manipulation of the soils, agricultural activities can create an increase in suspended sediments in the downstream tributaries. According to the SCDHEC Watershed Assessment, the downstream monitoring station on the Black River (PD-170) states that aquatic life uses are not supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions, which are compounded by a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. Also, there are significant increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and fecal coliform. A significant decreasing trend in total nitrogen concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Due to the presence of mercury in this watershed, a fish consumption advisory has been issued for the Black River at this location..**

(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: **These wetlands are providing important aquatic habitat and wildlife**

diversity.

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **2**
 Approximately (**0.14**) 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>	<u>Directly abuts? (Y/N)</u>	<u>Size (in acres)</u>
N	0.11		
N	0.03		

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: **The off-site 1st order tributary and its adjacent wetlands are providing important biological, chemical, and physical functions. According to the SCDHEC Watershed Assessment, this watershed is comprised of 46% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% non-forested wetland, and 3.5% urban land. Due to the predominance of agricultural land use and silvicultural land use in the watershed, herbicides and other pesticides as well as sediment from soil manipulation activities are likely to enter the tributary and downstream TNW. This tributary, together with its adjacent wetlands, act as a catch basin to help filter out pollutants from the neighboring uplands and to hold runoff prior to it flowing downstream into the TNW. These wetlands and the off-site tributary collectively have a significant nexus to the downstream Black River (TNW).**

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 tributary and the adjacent wetlands are collectively performing important biological, chemical, and physical functions within a watershed largely comprised of silvicultural and agricultural land uses. The biological functions being performed include providing breeding grounds and shelter for aquatic animals and diversifying the plant life within the watershed. As a result, these wetlands supply food sources for a variety of wetland dependent species, such as invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals. These wetlands and tributary are essential in providing organic carbons in the form of their collective primary productivity to downstream waters, resulting in the nourishment of the downstream food web. The chemical functions being performed consist of the removal of excess pollutants, which are contributed by runoff from the surrounding uplands, from the downstream TNW. This reduces nitrogen and phosphorus loading downstream and effectively prevents oxygen depletion that can result from eutrophication. Physically, the adjacent wetlands help reduce stormwater flow, and the landscape position of these wetlands and their vegetation prevent soil from eroding and traveling downstream. Not only does this prevent the accumulation of sediment downstream, which can smother fish and other aquatic wildlife, but it also reduces the amount of pollutants downstream because these pollutants are usually transported by sediment particles. These wetlands temporarily store flood waters and reduce downstream peak flows by retaining large amounts of water within the soil and through evapo-transpiration. This helps to maintain seasonal flow volumes. Based on the collective functions described above and their importance to the biological, chemical, and physical integrity of the traditional navigable waters of the Black River, it has been determined that there is a significant nexus between the relevant reach of the tributary and adjacent wetlands to 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 tributary located south of the site was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The aerials depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and**

the topo map depicts it as a blue line. The soil survey maps this tributary as Gourdin, which is hydric, and Wahee, which is partially hydric. The NWIs map this tributary as PFO1C, or palustrine forested wetlands. Based on the topographic map and aeriels, this tributary was determined to be a 1st order stream that continues south and flows into Murray Swamp, a pRPW, which flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW. Johnson Swamp flows into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp continues east/southeast where it enters the Black River, a TNW.

- 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: **0.11 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 5) + 0.03 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 27) = 0.14** 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.

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

⁸See Footnote # 3.

⁹To 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.

- 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): **Two linear features, which provide a hydrological connection from Jurisdictional Wetlands 5 and 27 to the downstream perennial RPW, were assessed within the review area and determined to be non-jurisdictional ditches.**

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: **Report by Environs.**
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .
- Corps navigable waters' study: .
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Trio; The topographic map depicts these wetlands as forested. A blue line is depicted south of the project site that continues south into Murray Swamp.**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **Page 68; The soil survey maps these wetlands as Yemassee, which is partially hydric.**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **The NWIs map these wetlands as uplands (U42P).**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- FEMA/FIRM maps: .
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **SCDNR 2006, 99:11227:221; The aerials depict these wetlands as forested.**

or Other (Name & Date): **Site photographs dated March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017.**

- 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:** The tributary located south of the site was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aeriels, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The aeriels depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and the topo map depicts it as a blue line. The soil survey maps this tributary as Gourdin, which is hydric, and Wahee, which is partially hydric. The NWIs map this tributary as PFO1C, or palustrine forested wetlands. Based on the topographic map and aeriels, this tributary was determined to be a 1st order stream that continues south and flows into Murray Swamp, a pRPW, which flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW. Johnson Swamp flows into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp continues east/southeast where it enters the Black River, a TNW. The non-abutting wetlands labeled Jurisdictional Wetlands 5 and 27 on the drawing were determined to have a significant nexus to the downstream TNW in Section IIIC above .

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): December 12, 2017

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: CESAC-RD-NE; JD Form 4 of 7; SAC 2017-00109 RDA North Tract

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: South Carolina County/parish/borough: **Williamsburg** City:
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. **33.484767° N**, Long. **-79.635738° W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: **Unnamed tributary of Murray Swamp**

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): **03040205-09**

- 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:
 Field Determination. Date(s): **March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017**

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: **2.18 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 10)** acres.

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):N/A.

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³

- 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: **Black River.**

Summarize rationale supporting determination: **According to the USACE Navigability Study Report No. 6, the Black River's recommended limit of navigability is located at its intersection with the Pocotaligo River, a pRPW, at River Mile (RM) 107.7. The project waters enter the Black River at RM 46 which is located downstream of the recommended limit of navigability.**

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

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: **Pick List** ;
Drainage area: **Pick List**
Average annual rainfall: inches
Average annual snowfall: inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

- Tributary flows directly into TNW.
- Tributary flows through **Pick List** tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** river miles from TNW.
Project waters are **Pick List** river miles from RPW.
Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.
Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from RPW.
Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: **N/A.**

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

Identify flow route to TNW⁵:
Tributary stream order, if known:

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

Tributary is: Natural
 Artificial (man-made). Explain:
 Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

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

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

Silts Sands Concrete
 Cobbles Gravel Muck
 Bedrock Vegetation. Type/% cover:
 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: Pick List

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: Pick List

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume:

Surface flow is: Pick List. Characteristics:

Subsurface flow: Pick List. Explain findings:

Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

Bed and banks
 OHWM⁶ (check all indicators that apply):
 clear, natural line impressed on the bank the presence of litter and debris
 changes in the character of soil destruction of terrestrial vegetation
 shelving the presence of wrack line
 vegetation matted down, bent, or absent sediment sorting
 leaf litter disturbed or washed away scour
 sediment deposition multiple observed or predicted flow events
 water staining abrupt change in plant community
 other (list):
 Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain:

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

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

(iii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

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

Explain:

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

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.

⁶ A 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.

⁷Ibid.

(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: .

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: acres

Wetland type. Explain: .

Wetland quality. Explain: .

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

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Pick List**. Explain: .

Surface flow is: **Pick List**

Characteristics: .

Subsurface flow: **Pick List**. Explain findings: .

Dye (or other) test performed: .

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: .

Ecological connection. Explain: .

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: .

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **Pick List** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: **Pick List**.

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: .

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: .

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **Pick List**

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

For each wetland, specify the following:

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed:

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:

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 off-site tributary, an unnamed 1st order stream, was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The aerials and topographic map depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and a blue line, respectively. The soil survey maps this tributary as Gourdin, a hydric soil. The NWIs map this tributary as palustrine forested wetlands (PFO1C). This tributary joins together with another 1st order tributary (Discussed on JD Form 3 of 7) and becomes a 2nd order tributary. The tributary then flows into Murray Swamp, a pRPW (Discussed on JD Form 2 of 7). Murray Swamp continues east where it flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW. Johnson Swamp flows southeast into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp enters the Black River (TNW) at approximately RM 46..**

- 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: **Jurisdictional Wetland 10 was determined to directly abut the off-site tributary based on a review of the aeriels, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The topographic map depicts a blue line at the southern property boundary where Jurisdictional Wetland 10 is located. The aeriels depict a shaded linear feature exiting the jurisdictional wetland. Soil surveys map this wetland and tributary as Gourdin, a hydric soil, and the NWIs map this wetland as palustrine forested (PFO1/2F).**

- 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: **2.18 (Jurisdictional Wetland 10)** 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: 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.

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.

⁸See Footnote # 3.

⁹To 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.

- 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: **Report by Environs.**
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .
- Corps navigable waters' study: .
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Trio; The topographic map depicts this wetland as forested. A blue line is located south of this wetland and the property boundary that continues south into Murray Swamp.**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **Page 68; The soil survey maps this wetland and tributary as Gourdin, a hydric soil.**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **The NWIs map this wetland as palustrine forested wetlands (PFO1/2F).**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- FEMA/FIRM maps: .
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **SCDNR 2006, 99:11227:221; The aerials depict this wetland as forested.**
or Other (Name & Date): **Site photographs dated March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017.**
- 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:** Jurisdictional Wetland 10 was determined to directly abut the off-site tributary based on a review of the aeriels, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The topographic map depicts a blue line at the southern property boundary where Jurisdictional Wetland 10 is located. The aeriels depict a shaded linear feature exiting the jurisdictional wetland. Soil surveys map this wetland and tributary as Gourdin, a hydric soil, and the NWIs map this wetland as palustrine forested (PFO1/2F). The off-site tributary, an unnamed 1st order stream, was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aeriels, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The aeriels and topographic map depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and a blue line, respectively. The soil survey maps this tributary as Gourdin, a hydric soil. The NWIs map this tributary as palustrine forested wetlands (PFO1C). This tributary joins together with another 1st order tributary (Discussed on JD Form 3 of 7) and becomes a 2nd order tributary. The tributary then flows into Murray Swamp, a pRPW (Discussed on JD Form 2 of 7). Murray Swamp continues east where it flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW. Johnson Swamp flows southeast into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp enters the Black River (TNW) at approximately RM 46.

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): December 12, 2017

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: CESAC-RD-NE; JD Form 5 of 7; SAC 2017-00109 RDA North Tract

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: South Carolina County/parish/borough: **Williamsburg** City:
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. **33.484767° N**, Long. **-79.635738° W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: **Unnamed tributary of Murray Swamp**

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): **03040205-09**

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:

Field Determination. Date(s): **March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017**

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: **0.17 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 7) + 1.07 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 8) + 0.20 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 9) =**

1.44 acres.

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):N/A.

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³

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: **Black River.**

Summarize rationale supporting determination: **According to the USACE Navigability Study Report No. 6, the Black River's recommended limit of navigability is located at its intersection with the Pocatigo River, a pRPW, at River Mile (RM) 107.7. The project waters enter the Black River at RM 46 which is located downstream of the recommended limit of navigability.**

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

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: **Pick List** ;

Drainage area: **Pick List**

Average annual rainfall: inches

Average annual snowfall: inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

Tributary flows directly into TNW.

Tributary flows through **Pick List** tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** river miles from RPW.

Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from RPW.

Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: **N/A.**

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

Identify flow route to TNW⁵:
Tributary stream order, if known:

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

Tributary is: Natural
 Artificial (man-made). Explain:
 Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

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

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

Silts Sands Concrete
 Cobbles Gravel Muck
 Bedrock Vegetation. Type/% cover:
 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: **Pick List**

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: **Pick List**

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume:

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

Subsurface flow: **Pick List.** Explain findings:

Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

Bed and banks
 OHWM⁶ (check all indicators that apply):
 clear, natural line impressed on the bank the presence of litter and debris
 changes in the character of soil destruction of terrestrial vegetation
 shelving the presence of wrack line
 vegetation matted down, bent, or absent sediment sorting
 leaf litter disturbed or washed away scour
 sediment deposition multiple observed or predicted flow events
 water staining abrupt change in plant community
 other (list):
 Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain:

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

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

(iii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

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

Explain:

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

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.

⁶ A 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.

⁷Ibid.

(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:

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: _____ acres

Wetland type. Explain: _____

Wetland quality. Explain: _____

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

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Pick List**. Explain: _____

Surface flow is: **Pick List**

Characteristics: _____

Subsurface flow: **Pick List**. Explain findings: _____

Dye (or other) test performed: _____

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: _____

Ecological connection. Explain: _____

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: _____

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **Pick List** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: **Pick List**.

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: _____

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: _____

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **Pick List**

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

For each wetland, specify the following:

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

█

█

█

█

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed:

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:

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 off-site tributary, an unnamed 1st order stream, was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The aerials and topographic map depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and a blue line, respectively. The soil survey maps the downstream portion of this tributary as Gourdin, a hydric soil. The upstream portion of the tributary is mapped Hornsville, a partially hydric soil. The NWIs map this tributary as uplands (U42P). This tributary joins together with a 2nd order tributary. The tributary then flows into Murray Swamp, a pRPW (Discussed on JD Form 2 of 7). Murray Swamp continues east where it flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW. Johnson Swamp flows southeast into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp enters the Black River at approximately RM 46..**

- 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: **Jurisdictional Wetlands 7, 8, and 9 were determined to be portions of the same wetland system that directly abuts the off-site tributary based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The topographic map depicts a blue line at the southern property boundary where Jurisdictional Wetlands 7, 8, and 9 are located. The aerials depict a shaded linear feature exiting the jurisdictional wetlands. Soil surveys map these wetlands as Eunola, a partially hydric soil, and the NWIs map these wetlands as uplands (U42P).**
- 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: **0.17 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 7) + 1.07 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 8) + 0.20 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 9) = 1.44 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: 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.

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

⁸See Footnote # 3.

⁹To 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.

- 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: **Report by Environs.**
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .
- Corps navigable waters' study: .
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Trio; The topographic map depicts these wetlands as forested. A blue line is located south of this wetland and the property boundary that continues south into Murray Swamp.**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **Page 68; The soil survey maps these wetlands as Eunola, a partially hydric soil.**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **The NWIs map these wetlands as uplands (U42P). However, during field observations, these areas exhibited all three parameters set forth in the 1987 Corps Manual for delineating wetlands.**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- FEMA/FIRM maps: .
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **SCDNR 2006, 99:11227:221; The aerials depict this wetland as forested.**
or Other (Name & Date): **Site photographs dated March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017.**
- 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:** Jurisdictional Wetlands 7, 8, and 9 were determined to be portions of the same wetland system that directly abuts the off-site tributary based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The topographic map depicts a blue line at the southern property boundary where Jurisdictional Wetlands 7, 8, and 9 are located. The aerials depict a shaded linear feature exiting the jurisdictional wetlands. Soil surveys map these wetlands as Eunola, a partially hydric soil, and the NWIs map these wetlands as uplands (U42P). However, during field observations, these areas exhibited all three parameters set forth in the 1987 Corps Manual for delineating wetlands. The off-site tributary, an unnamed 1st order stream, was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The aerials and topographic map depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and a blue line, respectively. The soil survey maps the downstream portion of this tributary as Gourdin, a hydric soil. The upstream portion of the tributary is mapped Hornsville, a partially hydric soil. The NWIs map this tributary as uplands (U42P). This tributary joins together with a 2nd order tributary. The tributary then flows into Murray Swamp, a pRPW (Discussed on JD Form 2 of 7). Murray Swamp continues east where it flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW. Johnson Swamp flows southeast into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp enters the Black River (TNW) at approximately RM 46..

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): December 12, 2017

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: CESAC-RD-NE; JD Form 6 of 7; SAC 2017-00109 RDA North Tract

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: South Carolina County/parish/borough: **Williamsburg** City:
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. **33.484767° N**, Long. **-79.635738° W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: **Unnamed tributary of Murray Swamp**

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): **03040205-09**

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:

Field Determination. Date(s): **March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017**

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: **5.68 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 4) + 6.43 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 6) + 2.27 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 16) + 7.76 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 19) + 0.85 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 28) = 22.99 acres.**

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):N/A.

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³

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

Explain: **Several linear features were assessed within the review area and determined to be non-jurisdictional. These linear features were located within the project boundaries and adjacent to unpaved roadways. These linear features**

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.

were determined to have been excavated out of uplands and are not depicted on the topographic map. These linear features also lacked indicators of flow such as an OHWM and a channel within bed and banks. Although these features provide a hydrological connection from the jurisdictional wetlands to the downstream TNW, they were determined to be non-jurisdictional ditches.

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: **Black River.**

Summarize rationale supporting determination: **According to the USACE Navigability Study Report No. 6, the Black River's recommended limit of navigability is located at its intersection with the Pocotaligo River, a pRPW, at River Mile (RM) 107.7. The project waters enter the Black River at RM 46 which is located downstream of the recommended limit of navigability.**

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

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: **232,756 acres** ; HUC **03040205-09**

Drainage area: **444 acres**

Average annual rainfall: **49.58 inches**

Average annual snowfall: **0.9 inches**

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

Tributary flows directly into TNW.

Tributary flows through **3** tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are **5-10** river miles from 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 **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: *N/A*.

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: **The unnamed tributary (offsite) flows into Murray Swamp, a perennial RPW, which flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW. Johnson Swamp flows into Horse Pen Swamp. Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW, flows into the Black River at River Mile 46.**

Tributary stream order, if known: **The unnamed tributary is a 1st order stream.**

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

Tributary is: Natural
 Artificial (man-made). Explain: .
 Manipulated (man-altered). Explain: .

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

Average width: **6-8** feet
Average depth: **4-6** feet
Average side slopes: **Vertical (1:1 or less).**

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Silts	<input checked="" 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: This tributary is relatively stable with no erosion or sloughing banks observed.

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: **No run/riffle/pool complexes observed.**

Tributary geometry: **Meandering. The tributary meanders through offsite forested wetlands and uplands.**

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): **0-1** %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Perennial flow**

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

Describe flow regime: **Based on a review of the aeriels and topographic maps, this tributary provides year-round flow. This tributary originates east of the project site and flows southeast into Murray Swamp, a pRPW.**

Other information on duration and volume: **In addition to being recharged by groundwater, this tributary receives overland sheetflow from abutting wetlands and discrete and confined flow from several non-jurisdictional ditches.**

Surface flow is: **Discrete and confined.** Characteristics: **During normal annual rainfall, water remains confined within the bed and banks of the tributary.**

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

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> vegetation matted down, bent, or absent	<input type="checkbox"/> sediment sorting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> leaf litter disturbed or washed away	<input type="checkbox"/> scour
<input type="checkbox"/> sediment deposition	<input type="checkbox"/> multiple observed or predicted flow events
<input type="checkbox"/> water staining	<input type="checkbox"/> abrupt change in plant community
<input type="checkbox"/> other (list):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Discontinuous OHWM. ⁷ Explain: .	

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

High Tide Line indicated by: Mean High Water Mark indicated by:

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.

⁶ A 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.

⁷Ibid.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> oil or scum line along shore objects | <input type="checkbox"/> survey to available datum; |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore) | <input type="checkbox"/> physical markings; |
| <input type="checkbox"/> physical markings/characteristics | <input type="checkbox"/> vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tidal gauges | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (list): | |

(iii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

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

Explain: **This 1st order tributary is typical of a blackwater system with clear, flowing water present. Land use in this watershed is comprised of 46% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% non-forested wetland, and 3.5% urban land. The remaining land uses consist of water and barren land. The SCDHEC Watershed Assessment states that there is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Andrews. The remainder of the watershed is rural with agricultural and silvicultural land uses.**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: **Because a large portion of the watershed is comprised of agricultural land and forested land, the potential exists for herbicides and other pollutants, as well as runoff from land disturbing activities such as plowing and harvesting, to enter the tributary. Because this land use requires regular manipulation of the soils, agricultural activities can create an increase in suspended sediments in the downstream tributaries. According to the SCDHEC Watershed Assessment, the downstream monitoring station on the Black River (PD-170) states that aquatic life uses are not supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions, which are compounded by a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. Also, there are significant increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and fecal coliform. A significant decreasing trend in total nitrogen concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Due to the presence of mercury in this watershed, a fish consumption advisory has been issued for the Black River at this location..**

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

Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): **This tributary supports a riparian zone approximately 200 linear feet wide that contributes to the health of the aquatic system by filtering out pollutants and preventing erosion.**

Wetland fringe. Characteristics: **A large portion of this tributary is located within a wetland system.**

Habitat for:

Federally Listed species. Explain findings: .

Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: .

Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: .

Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: **This tributary and the adjacent wetlands provide important aquatic**

habitat for wildlife and a travel corridor for aquatic fauna.

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: **5.68 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 4) + 6.43 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 6) + 2.27 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 16) + 7.76 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 19) + 0.85 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 28) = 22.99 acres**

Wetland type. Explain: **The wetlands are palustrine forested and palustrine scrub-shrub.**

Wetland quality. Explain: **The majority of the adjacent wetlands are fully functional. Although non-jurisdictional ditches exist within and surrounding these wetlands, they do not substantially alter important functions of these wetlands. However, Jurisdictional Wetlands 4 and 6 are slightly impaired due to the removal of vegetation off of these wetlands.**

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: **N/A.**

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Ephemeral flow**. Explain: **The non-abutting jurisdictional wetlands in the review area flow into the downstream tributary during and after major storm events..**

Surface flow is: **Discrete and confined**

Characteristics: **Jurisdictional Wetlands 4, 6, 16, and 28 flow into the offsite unnamed tributary via non-jurisdictional ditches. Jurisdictional Wetland 19 flows directly into the offsite unnamed tributary via overland sheetflow.**

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: **Jurisdictional Wetlands 4, 6, 16, and 28 flow into the offsite unnamed tributary via non-jurisdictional ditches..**

Ecological connection. Explain: .

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: .

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **5-10** 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 **100 - 500-year** 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: **No water was observed on the surface of these jurisdictional wetlands. These jurisdictional wetlands in this drainage area are primarily depressional wetlands surrounded by planted pine plantation. Land use in this watershed is comprised of 46% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% non-forested wetland, and 3.5% urban land. The remaining land uses consist of water and barren land. The SCDHEC Watershed Assessment states that there is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which contains the Town of Andrews. The remainder of the watershed is rural with agricultural and silvicultural land uses.**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: **Because a large portion of the watershed is comprised of agricultural land and forested land, the potential exists for herbicides and other pollutants, as well as runoff from land disturbing activities such as plowing and harvesting, to enter the tributary. Because this land use requires regular manipulation of the soils, agricultural activities can create an increase in suspended sediments in the downstream tributaries. According to the SCDHEC Watershed Assessment, the downstream monitoring station on the Black River (PD-170) states that aquatic life uses are not supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions, which are compounded by a significant decreasing trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. Also, there are significant increasing trends in five-day biochemical oxygen demand and fecal coliform. A significant decreasing trend in total nitrogen concentration suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Due to the presence of mercury in this watershed, a fish consumption advisory has been issued for the Black River at this location..**

(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: **These wetlands are providing important aquatic habitat and wildlife**

diversity.

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **8**
 Approximately (**99.19**) 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>	<u>Directly abuts? (Y/N)</u>	<u>Size (in acres)</u>
N	5.68	Y	64
N	6.43	N	11
N	2.27	N	1.2
Y	7.76		
N	0.85		

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: **The off-site 1st order tributary and its adjacent wetlands, are providing important biological, chemical, and physical functions. According to the SCDHEC Watershed Assessment, this watershed is comprised of 46% forested land, 32.9% forested wetland, 11.7% agricultural land, 4.1% non-forested wetland, and 3.5% urban land. Due to the predominance of agricultural land use and silvicultural land use in the watershed, herbicides and other pesticides as well as sediment from soil manipulation activities are likely to enter the tributary and downstream TNW. This tributary, together with its adjacent wetlands, act as a catch basin to help filter out pollutants from the neighboring uplands and to hold runoff prior to it flowing downstream into the TNW. These wetlands, in conjunction with other off-site wetlands and the perennial RPW collectively have a significant nexus to the downstream Black River .**

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 offsite, unnamed 1st order tributary and the adjacent wetlands are collectively performing important biological, chemical, and physical functions within a watershed largely comprised of silvicultural and agricultural land uses. The biological functions being performed include providing breeding grounds and shelter for aquatic animals and diversifying the plant life within the watershed. As a result, these wetlands supply food sources for a variety of wetland dependent species, such as invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals. These wetlands and tributary are essential in providing organic carbons in the form of their collective primary productivity to downstream waters, resulting in the nourishment of the downstream food web. The chemical functions being performed consist of the removal of excess pollutants, which are contributed by runoff from the surrounding uplands, from the downstream TNW. This reduces nitrogen and phosphorus loading downstream and effectively prevents oxygen depletion that can result from eutrophication. Physically, the adjacent wetlands help reduce stormwater flow, and the landscape position of these wetlands and their vegetation prevent soil from eroding and traveling downstream. Not only does this prevent the accumulation of sediment downstream, which can smother fish and other aquatic wildlife, but it also reduces the amount of pollutants downstream because these pollutants are usually transported by sediment particles. These wetlands temporarily store flood waters and reduce downstream peak flows by retaining large amounts of water within the soil and through evapo-transpiration. This helps to maintain seasonal flow volumes. Based on the collective functions described above and their importance to the biological, chemical, and physical integrity of the traditional navigable waters of the Black River, it has been determined that there is a significant nexus between the relevant reach of the tributary and adjacent wetlands to 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 tributary located east of the site was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The aerials depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and the topo map depicts it as a blue line. The soil survey maps the upstream portion of this tributary Yemassee and Hornsville, which are partially hydric. The downstream portion of the tributary is mapped as Mouzon & Hobcaw soils, which are hydric. The NWIs map the majority of this tributary as PFO1/4B, or palustrine forested wetlands. Based on the topographic map and aerials, this tributary was determined to be a 1st order stream that continues southeast and flows into Murray Swamp, a pRPW. Murray Swamp flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW, which flows into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp continues east/southeast where it enters the Black River, a TNW.**

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: **Jurisdictional Wetland 19 was determined to directly abut the 1st order stream based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The topographic map and aerials depict a linear feature located immediately east of the project site and Jurisdictional Wetland 19. The soil survey maps this wetland as U42P and PFO1/2F. The soil survey maps this wetland as Gourdin, which is hydric.**

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: **7.76 (Jurisdictional Wetland 19)** 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: **5.68 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 4) + 6.43 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 6) + 2.27 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 16) + 0.85 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 28) = 15.23** 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.

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:

⁸See Footnote # 3.

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

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): **Several linear features were assessed within the review area and determined to be non-jurisdictional. These linear features were located within the project boundaries and adjacent to unpaved roadways. These linear features were determined to have been excavated out of uplands and are not depicted on the topographic map. These linear features also lacked indicators of flow such as an OHWM and a channel within bed and banks. Although these features provide a hydrological connection from the jurisdictional wetlands to the downstream TNW, they were determined to be non-jurisdictional ditches..**

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: **Report by Environs.**
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .
- Corps navigable waters' study: .
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.

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.

- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Trio; The topographic map depicts these wetlands as forested. Jurisdictional Wetland 19 directly abuts the offsite linear feature, depicted as a blue line.**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **Page 68; The soil survey maps these wetlands as Gourdin, which is a hydric soil .**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **The NWIs map these wetlands as palustrine forested wetlands (PFO1C) and palustrine scrub-shrub wetlands (PSS1C).**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- FEMA/FIRM maps: .
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **SCDNR 2006, 99:11227:221; The aerials depict these wetlands as forested.**
or Other (Name & Date): **Site photographs dated March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017.**
- 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: The tributary located east of the site was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the aerials, topographic map, soil survey, and NWIs. The aerials depict this tributary as a shaded linear feature and the topo map depicts it as a blue line. The soil survey maps the upstream portion of this tributary Yemassee and Hornsville, which are partially hydric. The downstream portion of the tributary is mapped as Mouzon & Hobcaw soils, which are hydric. The NWIs map the majority of this tributary as PFO1/4B, or palustrine forested wetlands. Based on the topographic map and aerials, this tributary was determined to be a 1st order stream that continues southeast and flows into Murray Swamp, a pRPW. Murray Swamp flows into Johnson Swamp, a pRPW, which flows into Horse Pen Swamp, a pRPW. Horse Pen Swamp continues east/southeast where it enters the Black River, a TNW. Jurisdictional Wetland 19 was determined to directly abut this tributary. The non-abutting wetlands, listed above, were determined to have a significant nexus to the downstream TNW in Section IIIC above .

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): December 12, 2017

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: CESAC-RD-NE; JD Form 7 of 7; SAC 2017-00109 RDA North Tract

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: South Carolina County/parish/borough: **Williamsburg** City:
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. **33.484767° N**, Long. **-79.635738° W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: **Unnamed tributary of Black River**

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): **03040205-09**

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:

Field Determination. Date(s): **March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017**

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: **0.49 a. (Jurisdictional Wetland 23)** acres.

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):N/A.

2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):³

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: **Black River.**

Summarize rationale supporting determination: **According to the USACE Navigability Study Report No. 6, the Black River's recommended limit of navigability is located at its intersection with the Pocotaligo River, a pRPW, at River Mile (RM) 107.7. The project waters enter the Black River at RM 46 which is located downstream of the recommended limit of navigability.**

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

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: **Pick List** ;
Drainage area: **Pick List**
Average annual rainfall: inches
Average annual snowfall: inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

- Tributary flows directly into TNW.
- Tributary flows through **Pick List** tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** river miles from TNW.
Project waters are **Pick List** river miles from RPW.
Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.
Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from RPW.
Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: **N/A.**

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

Identify flow route to TNW⁵:
Tributary stream order, if known:

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

Tributary is: Natural
 Artificial (man-made). Explain:
 Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate):

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

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

Silts Sands Concrete
 Cobbles Gravel Muck
 Bedrock Vegetation. Type/% cover:
 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: **Pick List**

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: **Pick List**

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume:

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

Subsurface flow: **Pick List.** Explain findings:

Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

Bed and banks
 OHWM⁶ (check all indicators that apply):
 clear, natural line impressed on the bank the presence of litter and debris
 changes in the character of soil destruction of terrestrial vegetation
 shelving the presence of wrack line
 vegetation matted down, bent, or absent sediment sorting
 leaf litter disturbed or washed away scour
 sediment deposition multiple observed or predicted flow events
 water staining abrupt change in plant community
 other (list):
 Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain:

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

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

(iii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

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

Explain:

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

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.

⁶ A 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.

⁷Ibid.

(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: .

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: acres

Wetland type. Explain: .

Wetland quality. Explain: .

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

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Pick List**. Explain: .

Surface flow is: **Pick List**

Characteristics: .

Subsurface flow: **Pick List**. Explain findings: .

Dye (or other) test performed: .

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: .

Ecological connection. Explain: .

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: .

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **Pick List** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: **Pick List**.

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: .

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: .

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **Pick List**

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

For each wetland, specify the following:

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)



Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed:

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:

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 off-site tributary was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the Williamsburg County Hillshade, soil survey, and NWIs. The Williamsburg County LIDAR with Hillshade overlay depicts this tributary as a shaded linear feature that flows northeast into the Black River. The soil survey maps this tributary as Hobcaw and Paxville, hydric soils. The NWIs map this tributary as uplands (U42P) and palustrine forested wetlands (PFO1B). This tributary enters the Black River at approximately RM 56..**
 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: **Jurisdictional Wetland 23 was determined to directly abut the off-site tributary based on a review of the aeriels, Williamsburg Co. Hillshade, soil survey, and NWIs. The aeriels depict this wetland as a portion of a larger wetland system that continues northeast off of the project boundary. The Williamsburg Co. Hillshade depicts this wetland system as directly abutting the offsite tributary, which is depicted as a shaded linear feature. Soil surveys map this wetland and tributary as Paxville, a hydric soil, and the NWIs map this wetland as palustrine forested (PFO1C).**
- 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: **2.18 (Jurisdictional Wetland 10)** 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: 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.

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: .

⁸See Footnote # 3.

⁹To 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.

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: **Report by Environs.**
- Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .
- Corps navigable waters' study: .
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Trio; The topographic map depicts this wetland as forested.** .
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **Page 68; The soil survey maps this wetland and the upstream portion of the tributary as Paxville, a hydric soil.**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **The NWIs map this wetland as palustrine forested wetlands (PFO1C).**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- FEMA/FIRM maps: .
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **SCDNR 2006, 99:11227:221; The aerials depict this wetland as forested.**
or Other (Name & Date): **Site photographs dated March 10, 2017 and July 28, 2017.**
- 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: Jurisdictional Wetland 23 was determined to directly abut the off-site tributary based on a review of the aerials, Williamsburg Co. Hillshade, soil survey, and NWIs. The aerials depict this wetland as a portion of a larger wetland system that continues northeast off of the project boundary. The Williamsburg

Co. Hillshade depicts this wetland system as directly abutting the offsite tributary, which is depicted as a shaded linear feature. Soil surveys map this wetland and tributary as Paxville, a hydric soil, and the NWIs map this wetland as palustrine forested (PFO1C). The off-site tributary was determined to have perennial flow based on a review of the Williamsburg County Hillshade, soil survey, and NWIs. The Williamsburg County LIDAR with Hillshade overlay depicts this tributary as a shaded linear feature that flows northeast into the Black River. The soil survey maps this tributary as Hobcaw and Paxville, hydric soils. The NWIs map this tributary as uplands (U42P) and palustrine forested wetlands (PFO1B). This tributary enters the Black River at approximately RM 56..