

## U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGULATORY PROGRAM APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM (INTERIM) NAVIGABLE WATERS PROTECTION RULE

### I. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Completion Date of Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD): 10-NOV-2020

ORM Number: SAS-2017-00496

Associated JDs: N/A Review Area Location1:

> County/Parish/Borough: Newton County State/Territory: Georgia City: Covington

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N/A

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|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| FINDINGS                              |                              |   |   |
|                                       |                              |   | n the following list MUST be selected. Com  |
| •                                     | •                            | tables and summarize dat                      |   |
| including                             | wetlands, of a               | any kind in the entire revie                  | (i.e., there are no waters or water features w area). Rationale: N/A or describe rational |
|                                       |                              |   | " within Rivers and Harbors Act jurisdiction  |
|                                       |                              | (complete table in section                    | ,   |
| ☐ There ar                            | e "waters of th              | e United States" within Cle                   | ean Water Act jurisdiction within the review  |
| area (coi                             | mplete approp                | riate tables in section II.C)                 |   |
|                                       |                              |   | n Clean Water Act jurisdiction within the rev   |
|                                       | mplete table in              |   | ,   |
| 4,54 (00)                             |                              | ,       |   |
| Rivers and H                          | larbors Act o                | f 1899 Section 10 (§ 10) <sup>2</sup>         |   |
| § 10 Name                             | § 10 Size                    | § 10 Criteria                                 | Rationale for § 10 Determination  |
| N/A                                   | N/A                          | N/A   | N/A   |
|                                       |                              |   |   |
| Territorial Sea                       |                              | onal Navigable Waters ((a)                    | <u> </u>  |
| Territorial Sea<br>(a)(1) Name        | as and Traditio              | onal Navigable Waters ((a)<br>(a)(1) Criteria | Rationale for (a)(1) Determination  |
| Territorial Sea                       | as and Tradition             | onal Navigable Waters ((a)                    | <u> </u>  |
| Territorial Sea<br>(a)(1) Name<br>N/A | as and Traditio              | onal Navigable Waters ((a)<br>(a)(1) Criteria | Rationale for (a)(1) Determination  |
| Territorial Sea<br>(a)(1) Name<br>N/A | as and Tradition (a)(1) Size | onal Navigable Waters ((a)<br>(a)(1) Criteria | Rationale for (a)(1) Determination  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Map(s)/Figure(s) are attached to the AJD provided to the requestor.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> If the navigable water is not subject to the ebb and flow of the tide or included on the District's list of Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 navigable waters list, do NOT use this document to make the determination. The District must continue to follow the procedure outlined in 33 CFR part 329.14 to make a Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 navigability determination.

<sup>3</sup> A stand-alone TNW determination is completed independently of a request for an AJD. A stand-alone TNW determination is conducted for a specific segment of river or stream or other type of waterbody, such as a lake, where independent upstream or downstream limits or lake borders are established. A stand-alone TNW determination should be completed following applicable guidance and should NOT be documented on the AJD form. <sup>4</sup> Some excluded waters, such as (b)(2) and (b)(4), may not be specifically identified on the AJD form unless a requestor specifically asks a Corps district

to do so. Corps Districts may, in case-by-case instances, choose to identify some or all of these waters within the review area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Because of the broad nature of the (b)(1) exclusion and in an effort to collect data on specific types of waters that would be covered by the (b)(1) exclusion, four sub-categories of (b)(1) exclusions were administratively created for the purposes of the AJD Form. These four sub-categories are not new exclusions, but are simply administrative distinctions and remain (b)(1) exclusions as defined by the NWPR.



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## D. Excluded Waters or Features

Excluded waters  $((b)(1) - (b)(12))^4$ :

| <b>Exclusion Name</b> | Exclusion Size | Exclusion <sup>5</sup> | Rationale for Exclusion Determination   |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------|---|
| Isolated Wetland      | 0.59 acres     |                        | 475 feet of uplands separate the easternmost end of the wetland from the nearest downstream resource. No evidence of surface water connection or bed-and-bank features exist between resources. |

### III. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- **A. Select/enter all resources** that were used to aid in this determination and attach data/maps to this document and/or references/citations in the administrative record, as appropriate.
  - X Information submitted by, or on behalf of, the applicant/consultant: Location Map, . This information (is/is not/is and is not) sufficient for purposes of this AJD.

Rationale: N/A or describe rationale for insufficiency (including partial insufficiency).

Data sheets prepared by the Corps:

- X Photographs: Digital photographs of isolated wetland, dated Jun. 26, 2020 and Aug. 18, 2020. Corps Site visit(s) conducted on:
- X Previous Jurisdictional Determinations (AJDs or PJDs): SAS-2017-00496 (previous ARDR for same project), dated July 24, 2017.
- X Antecedent Precipitation Tool: <u>provide detailed discussion in Section III.B.</u>
- X USDA NRCS Soil Survey: Via USDA Google Earth .kmz data layer, dated Feb. 12, 1988.
- X USFWS NWI maps: Via USFWS Google Earth .kmz data layer, dated Sept. 22, 2019.
- X USGS topographic maps: Via USGS, prepared by consultant on Sept. 4, 2020.

### Other data sources used to aid in this determination:

| Data Source (select)       | Name and/or date and other relevant information                                |
|----------------------------|--|
| USGS Sources               | N/A.   |
| USDA Sources               | Covington, GA Station.   |
| NOAA Sources               | N/A.   |
| USACE Sources              | N/A.   |
| State/Local/Tribal Sources | N/A.   |
| Other Sources              | COVINGTON 2.4 SW, GA (CoCoRaHS) weather station, via National Weather Service. |

**B.** Typical year assessment(s): At the time of the applicant's field delineation on June 26, 2020, the weather was sunny and approximately 85 degrees Fahrenheit. Antecedent precipitation was reviewed to evaluate whether a normal periodic range occurred for the geographical area of this aquatic resource, based on the evaluation of a rolling thirty-year period. The study area as a result was normal for the three month period prior to this delineation. According to the National Drought Monitor, the study area was also not suffering from any level of drought.

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C. Additional comments to support AJD: The natural valley (down-valley of the isolated wetland) becomes less apparent as the surrounding slope is less than one percent. No evidence of surface water or bed-and-bank could be identified. Approximately 475 feet of uplands exist between this feature and the nearest aquatic resource. Soils appear to be well-drained and non-hydric, and the predominant vegetation coverage in the down-valley area is Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) and loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*). Additional support, provided by the consultant on November 5, 2020, specified that the tails (straightened features) at each end of the wetland exhibit ditch characteristics indicative of linear wetlands (with the presence of hydric soils, saturation and hydrophytic vegetation). These 'tails' have naturalized into the landscape and enter the isolated wetland from both sides.

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