

Reach 1: Wetland A; Open Water 1
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 2, 2022

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: Savannah District, Sandersville Solar, SAS-2022-00621

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: Georgia County/parish/borough: Washington City: Sandersville
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 32.986395°N, Long. -82.752454°W
Universal Transverse Mercator: NAD 1983
Name of nearest waterbody: North Fork Sun Hill Creek
Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: Ogeechee River
Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 03060201

- 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: July 27, 2022 by USACE.
- Field Determination. Date(s): April 13 & 20, 2022 by Consultant.

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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:

c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: *Choose an item.*

Elevation of established OHWM (if known): [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: **Wetland A (2.39-acres) and Open Water 1 (1.02-acres) do not drain into WOTUS, nor do these resources provide any connection between WOTUS. A roadway (New Road) and a perched culvert drainage feature prohibit this wetland and open water feature from draining across the roadway and into other downstream waters. During the USACE site visit, conducted in**

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.

July 2022, no evident connection was located across the roadway from Wetland A/Open Water 1 to any downstream waters. The surrounding landscape consists of agricultural fields, residential properties and upland forested areas to the south. No connection to downstream waters is evident, including no ordinary high water mark, no channels, and no other wetlands. Wetland A and Open Water 1 are located approximately 1,500 feet north of North Fork Sun Hill Creek.

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Summarize rationale supporting determination: [Click here to enter text.](#)

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is “adjacent”: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: square miles

Drainage area: acres

Average annual rainfall: inches

Average annual snowfall: # inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

Tributary flows directly into TNW.

Tributary flows through [Choose an item.](#) tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) river miles from TNW.

Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) river miles from RPW.

Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) aerial (straight) miles from RPW.

Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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:

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

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.

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

Average width: feet

Average depth: inches

Average side slopes: [Choose an item.](#)

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

Silts Sands Concrete

Cobbles Gravel Muck

Bedrock Vegetation. Type/% cover: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Other. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain:

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Tributary geometry: [Choose an item.](#)

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope):

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: [Choose an item.](#)

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: [Choose an item.](#)

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Surface flow is: [Choose an item.](#) Characteristics: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Subsurface flow: No Explain findings:

Dye (or other) test performed: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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 [Click here to enter text.](#)

other (list): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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): [Click here to enter text.](#)

(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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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.

(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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - 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:

Wetland type. Explain:

Wetland quality. Explain:

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: [Choose an item.](#) Explain:

Surface flow is: [Choose an item.](#)

Characteristics: **Drainage features going north**

Subsurface flow: [Choose an item.](#) Explain findings:

- Dye (or other) test performed: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain:

Ecological connection. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are [Choose an item.](#) river miles from TNW.

Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: [Choose an item.](#)

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the [Choose an item.](#) 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: [Choose an item.](#)

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>
Y/N	#	Y/N	#
Y/N	#	Y/N	#
Y/N	#	Y/N	#
Y/N	#	Y/N	#

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
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:

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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:

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).

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 Other factors. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 Wetlands: # acres.

⁸See Footnote # 3.

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

¹⁰Prior 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*.

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): Wetland A (2.39-acres) and Open Water 1 (1.02-acres) do not drain into WOTUS, nor do these resources provide any connection between WOTUS. A roadway (New Road) and a perched culvert drainage feature prohibit this wetland and open water feature from draining across the roadway and into other downstream waters. During the USACE site visit, conducted in July 2022, no evident connection was located across the roadway from Wetland A/Open Water 1 to any downstream waters. The surrounding landscape consists of agricultural fields, residential properties and upland forested areas to the south. No connection to downstream waters is evident, including no ordinary high water mark, no channels, and no other wetlands. Wetland A and Open Water 1 are located approximately 1,500 feet north of North Fork Sun Hill Creek.

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:
- Other non-wetland waters: # acres. List type of aquatic resource: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Wetlands:

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Corps navigable waters’ study: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: **NWI/NHD Map: Figure 4**
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Riddleville 7.5 Min Quads: Figure 3**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **NRCS Web Soil Survey: Figure 5**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **NWI/NHD Map: Figure 4**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): [Click here to enter text.](#)
- FEMA/FIRM maps: **Figure 8**
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: [Click here to enter text.](#) (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **ArcGIS Aerial Basemap**
 - or Other (Name & Date): **Field Photos, 2022**
- Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Applicable/supporting case law: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Applicable/supporting scientific literature: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Other information (please specify): **LiDAR Map: Figure 6; StreamStats Imagery; Antecedent Precipitation Tool data.**

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD: Our initial desktop review of StreamStats and LiDAR, along with all other available drawings, indicated that other non-delineated subject waters (besides Wetland B) could be found within relevant Reach #1. A July 26, 2022 site visit was conducted to evaluate the jurisdictional status of Wetland A and Open Water 1. The APT indicates that site conditions during the day of this visit were Normal. During our site visit, a perched culvert was located under New Road and within vicinity of Wetland A/Open Water 1, which has apparently prevented long-term continuous drainage from Wetland A and Open Water 1 towards other downgradient waters and within vicinity of the unnamed tributary to North Fork Sun Hill Creek. The group walked the extent of delineated areas surrounding Wetland A and Open Water 1 along the northern and southern portions of the roadway crossing. Based on our site inspection, no evident signs of connectivity to

other adjacent wetlands or RPWs were observed, including OHWM, bed and bank, soils, vegetation, etc. No obvious surface connections were identified between the wetland/open water feature and downslope jurisdictional waters. We determined that the 2.39-acre Wetland A and 1.02-acre Open Water 1 are non-jurisdictional, isolated features which would not connect by surface water connection to any other adjacent aquatic features.

Reach 2: Wetland B
APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD): December 2, 2022

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: Savannah District, Sandersville Solar, SAS-2022-00621

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: Georgia County/parish/borough: Washington City: Sandersville
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 32.986395°N, Long. -82.752454°W
Universal Transverse Mercator: NAD 1983
Name of nearest waterbody: North Fork Sun Hill Creek
Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: Ogeechee River
Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 03060201

- 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: July 27, 2022 by USACE.
- Field Determination. Date(s): April 13 & 20, 2022 by Consultant.

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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
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- 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:

c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: *Choose an item.*

Elevation of established OHWM (if known): [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: **Wetland B (6.10-acres) does not drain to WOTUS, nor does it provide any connection between WOTUS. The depressional wetland and the area to the south of Wetland B displayed no evident connection to downstream waters, including no ordinary high water mark, no channels, and no other wetlands. The surrounding area consists of agricultural fields, residential**

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.

properties, and a roadway (New Road) at a higher elevation than the wetland, with no culverts observed in proximity of this feature. Wetland B is located approximately 1,600 feet north of an RPW (an unnamed tributary of North Fork Sun Hill Creek) and approximately 3,544 feet south of another RPW and wetlands (an unnamed tributary to Inman Branch).

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Summarize rationale supporting determination: [Click here to enter text.](#)

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is “adjacent”: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: square miles
Drainage area: acres

Average annual rainfall: inches
Average annual snowfall: # inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

- Tributary flows directly into TNW.
 Tributary flows through [Choose an item.](#) tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) river miles from TNW.
Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) river miles from RPW.
Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) aerial (straight) miles from TNW.
Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) aerial (straight) miles from RPW.
Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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:

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

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.

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

Average width: feet

Average depth: inches

Average side slopes: [Choose an item](#).

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

Silts Sands Concrete

Cobbles Gravel Muck

Bedrock Vegetation. Type/% cover: [Click here to enter text](#).

Other. Explain: [Click here to enter text](#).

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain:

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: [Click here to enter text](#).

Tributary geometry: [Choose an item](#).

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope):

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: [Choose an item](#).

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: [Choose an item](#).

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume: [Click here to enter text](#).

Surface flow is: [Choose an item](#). Characteristics: [Click here to enter text](#).

Subsurface flow: No Explain findings:

Dye (or other) test performed: [Click here to enter text](#).

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 [Click here to enter text](#).

other (list): [Click here to enter text](#).

Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain: [Click here to enter text](#).

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): [Click here to enter text](#).

(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: [Click here to enter text](#).

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.

(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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - 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:

Wetland type. Explain:

Wetland quality. Explain:

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: [Choose an item.](#) Explain:

Surface flow is: [Choose an item.](#)

Characteristics: **Drainage features going north**

Subsurface flow: [Choose an item.](#) Explain findings:

Dye (or other) test performed: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain:

Ecological connection. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are [Choose an item.](#) river miles from TNW.

Project waters are [Choose an item.](#) aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: [Choose an item.](#)

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the [Choose an item.](#) 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: [Choose an item.](#)

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>
Y/N	#	Y/N	#
Y/N	#	Y/N	#
Y/N	#	Y/N	#
Y/N	#	Y/N	#

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
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:

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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:

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).

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 Other factors. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 Wetlands: # acres.

⁸See Footnote # 3.

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

¹⁰Prior 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*.

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): Wetland B (6.10-acres) does not drain to WOTUS, nor does it provide any connection between WOTUS. The depressional wetland and the area to the south of Wetland B displayed no evident connection to downstream waters, including no ordinary high water mark, no channels, and no other wetlands. The surrounding area consists of agricultural fields, residential properties, and a roadway (New Road) at a higher elevation than the wetland, with no culverts observed in proximity of this feature. Wetland B is located approximately 1,600 feet north of an RPW (an unnamed tributary of North Fork Sun Hill Creek) and approximately 3,544 feet south of another RPW and wetlands (an unnamed tributary to Inman Branch).

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Corps navigable waters’ study: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: **NWI/NHD Map: Figure 4**
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Riddleville 7.5 Min Quads: Figure 3**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **NRCS Web Soil Survey: Figure 5**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **NWI/NHD Map: Figure 4**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): [Click here to enter text.](#)
- FEMA/FIRM maps: **Figure 8**
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: [Click here to enter text.](#) (National Geodectic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **ArcGIS Aerial Basemap**
 - or Other (Name & Date): **Field Photos, 2022**
- Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Applicable/supporting case law: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Applicable/supporting scientific literature: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Other information (please specify): **LiDAR Map: Figure 6; StreamStats Imagery; Antecedent Precipitation Tool data.**

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD: Our initial desktop review of StreamStats and LiDAR, along with all other available drawings, indicated that other non-delineated subject waters could be found within relevant Reach #2. A July 26, 2022 site visit was conducted to evaluate the jurisdictional status of Wetland B and to determine whether this feature would connect to other subject aquatic resources to the north or south. The APT indicates that site conditions during the day of this visit were Normal. During our site visit, the extent of delineated areas surrounding Wetland B were examined. No evident signs of connectivity to any adjacent wetlands or RPWs were observed, including signs of OHWM, bed and bank, soils, vegetation, etc. The landscape to the south contained uplands (agricultural use & forested) with no culverts underneath the roadway to the south. Based on our site inspection, no evident signs of connectivity to other adjacent wetlands or RPWs were observed within any other surrounding areas of Wetland B. No obvious surface connections were identified between Wetland B and any

downslope jurisdictional waters. We determined that the 6.10-acre Wetland B is a non-jurisdictional, isolated feature which would not connect by surface water connection to any other adjacent aquatic features.

Reach 3: Stream 1, 2, 3, 4; Wetlands C, D, E, F
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): January 19, 2023

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: Savannah District, Sandersville Solar, SAS-2022-00621

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: Georgia County/parish/borough: Washington City: Sandersville
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 32.986395°N, Long. -82.752454°W
Universal Transverse Mercator: NAD 1983
Name of nearest waterbody: North Fork Sun Hill Creek
Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: Ogeechee River
Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 03060201

- 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: **By USACE on January 19, 2023**
- Field Determination. Date(s): **By Consultant on April 13 & 20, 2022. By USACE on July 27, 2022.**

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: **3,936 linear feet: 3-8 width (ft) and/or 0.325 acres.**

Wetlands: **35.6 acres (total)**

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known): [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Summarize rationale supporting determination: [Click here to enter text.](#)

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is “adjacent”: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: **5930.5 acres**

Drainage area: **1482.6 acres**

Average annual rainfall: **47 inches**

Average annual snowfall: # inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

Tributary flows directly into TNW.

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

Project waters are **30 (or more)** 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: **Streams 1-4 flow to North Fork Sun Hill Creek, which drains into Williamson Swamp Creek, which confluences with the Ogeechee River.**

Tributary stream order, if known: **1st order**

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

Tributary is: Natural

Artificial (man-made). Explain:

Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

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

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.

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

Average width: 3-8 feet

Average depth: 1-12 inches

Average side slopes: 2:1 (or greater)

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

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

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain:

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Tributary geometry: **Relatively Straight**

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): **0-2%**

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Perennial Flow and Ephemeral Flow**

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: [Choose an item.](#)

Describe flow regime: **Streams 1-3 are perennial, Stream 4 is ephemeral**

Other information on duration and volume: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Surface flow is: **Confined** Characteristics: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Subsurface flow: No Explain findings:

- Dye (or other) test performed: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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 type="checkbox"/> clear, natural line impressed on the bank | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the presence of litter and debris |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> changes in the character of soil | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> destruction of terrestrial vegetation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shelving | <input type="checkbox"/> the presence of wrack line |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vegetation matted down, bent, or absent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sediment sorting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> leaf litter disturbed or washed away | <input type="checkbox"/> scour |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sediment deposition | <input type="checkbox"/> multiple observed or predicted flow events |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> water staining | <input type="checkbox"/> abrupt change in plant community Click here to enter text. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (list): Click here to enter text. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinuous OHWM. ⁷ Explain: Click here to enter text. | |

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): Click here to enter text. | |

(iii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

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

Explain: **Clear water**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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.

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

- Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): **Forested – 25 feet**
- Wetland fringe. Characteristics: **Forested**
- Habitat for:
 - Federally Listed species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: **Presence of baseflow and substrate provide habitat for species diversity**

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: **35.6 acres (total)**

Wetland type. Explain: **Forested**

Wetland quality. Explain: **Moderate**

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Perennial Flow** Explain: **Developed channel bed and bank, hydric soil in channel beds**

Surface flow is: **Confined**

Characteristics: **Baseflow observed in channel**

Subsurface flow: **Unknown** Explain findings:

- Dye (or other) test performed: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting.

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: **Wetlands C, D, E and F drain off-site and into North Fork Sun Hill Creek and then Williamson Swamp Creek, which confluences into the Ogeechee River, located approximately 28.7 miles east of the site.**

Ecological connection. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **30 (or more)** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **25-30** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: **Wetland to Navigable Waters**

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the **2-year or less** 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: **Water is clear**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width): **Forested, 25+ feet**

Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain: **Forested / 80%**

Habitat for:

Federally Listed species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **4**

Approximately **(35.6)** 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>
Wetland C (Y)	0.366	Y/N	
Wetland D (Y)	22.37	Y/N	
Wetland E (Y)	4.16	Y/N	
Wetland F (N)	8.67	Y/N	

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: Wetlands C, D, E and F are each located within a minor floodplain setting along North Fork Sun Hill Creek and are sited within forested habitat. Based on their settings within the landscape, these wetlands would likely contribute to the overall biological, chemical and physical integrity of downstream waters and TNWs by providing protections for wildlife habitat (terrestrial and aquatic); the retention of any chemical factors (water quality and/or pollutants); and maintaining the general physical characteristics of these aquatic resources (flow regime; integrity of Wetlands C, D, E and F).

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: Ephemeral Stream 4
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: Wetland F drains off-site (to the east) and into Ephemeral Stream 4 (ES4) (non-RPW), prior to reaching North Fork Sun Hill Creek. The (forested) ES4 abuts (scrub-shrub) Wetland D towards the eastern-central portion of property. The stream begins off-site and to the west of these parcels and is a 1st order channel; ES4 is located within the delineated Reach 3 on the subject property. Approximately 1,822 linear feet of ephemeral stream flows west-to-east through the property. The stream has been prior-disturbed by the addition of two vehicular traffic crossings (one culverted and one non-culverted crossing). During the site visit, the group observed that the lower (non-culverted) crossing, closest to Wetland D, may have inhibited the stream from maturing into an intermittent/perennial flow regime and limiting the stream channel to ephemeral flow characteristics (the site visit occurred during (abnormally low) drought conditions, according to the US Drought Monitor. The stream flows through North Fork Sun Hill Creek, drains into Williamson Swamp Creek, and eventually confluences into the Ogeechee River. The significant nexus between ES4 and the TNW does not have a more than speculative or insubstantial effect on the integrity of the TNW and would not affect/impair those subject downstream resources.
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:

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: **Streams 1-3 consists of a defined bed and bank, ordinary high-water mark, presence of riffle-pools, strong presence of baseflow, and strong biological indicators.**
 - 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: **1822 linear feet 3-5 width (ft)**
 - Stream 4 consists of a weak channel and bank and presence of flow during the site visit in April 2022. Presence of flow was not observed during the site visit in July 2022.**
 - 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: **Wetland C abuts Stream 1. Stream 1 is an unnamed tributary of North Fork Sun Hill Creek. Wetlands D and E abut Streams 2 and 3. Wetlands C, D and E drain into North Fork Sun Hill Creek, which drains into Williamson Swamp Creek, and confluences into the Ogeechee River.**
 - 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: **26.9 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: .

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: **8.67** 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).

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Other factors. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Wetlands: # acres.

⁸See Footnote # 3.

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*.

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Wetlands:

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: **Figure 1: Location Map.**
- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Corps navigable waters’ study: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: **National Hydrologic Data Map: Figure 4**
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Riddleville 7.5 Min Quads: Figure 3**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: Figure 5: **NRCS Web Soil Survey: Figure 5**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: Figure 4: **USFWS National Wetlands Inventory: Figure 4**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): [Click here to enter text.](#)
- FEMA/FIRM maps: **National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette Maps: Figures 8a-8b**
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: [Click here to enter text.](#) (National Geodectic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **ArcGIS Aerial Basemap: Figure 2**
 - or Other (Name & Date): **Field Photos, 2022**
- Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Applicable/supporting case law: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Applicable/supporting scientific literature: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Other information (please specify): **Fig. 6: LiDAR Map. Fig. 7a-7b: Delineation Maps. Historic aerials (Jan 2000-Sept 2021).**

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD: N/A.

Reach 4: Streams 5, 6, 7, 8; Wetlands G, H, I, J, K, L
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): January 19, 2023

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: Savannah District, Sandersville Solar, SAS-2022-00621

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: Georgia County/parish/borough: Washington City: Sandersville
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 32.986395°N, Long. -82.752454°W
Universal Transverse Mercator: NAD 1983
Name of nearest waterbody: North Fork Sun Hill Creek
Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: Ogeechee River
Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 03060201

- 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: **By USACE on January 19, 2023.**
- Field Determination. Date(s): **By Consultant on April 13 & 20, 2022. By USACE on July 27, 2022.**

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: **1,914 linear feet: 2-6 width (ft) and/or 0.343 acres.**

Wetlands: **21.6 acres (total)**

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known): [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Summarize rationale supporting determination: [Click here to enter text.](#)

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is “adjacent”: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: **5930.5 acres**

Drainage area: **1482.6 acres**

Average annual rainfall: **47 inches**

Average annual snowfall: # inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

Tributary flows directly into TNW.

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

Project waters are **30 (or more)** 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: **Streams 5-8 drain into North Fork Sun Hill Creek, which drains into Williamson Swamp Creek, which drains to Ogeechee River.**

Tributary stream order, if known: **1st order**

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

Tributary is: Natural

Artificial (man-made). Explain:

Manipulated (man-altered). Explain:

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

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.

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

Average width: 4-8 feet

Average depth: 1-12 inches

Average side slopes: 2:1 (or greater)

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

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

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain:

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Tributary geometry: **Relatively Straight**

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): **0-2%**

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Seasonal Flow and Perennial Flow**

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: [Choose an item.](#)

Describe flow regime: **Streams 5, 6, and 8 are perennial, Stream 7 is intermittent**

Other information on duration and volume: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Surface flow is: **Confined** Characteristics: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Subsurface flow: No Explain findings:

- Dye (or other) test performed: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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 type="checkbox"/> clear, natural line impressed on the bank | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the presence of litter and debris |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> changes in the character of soil | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> destruction of terrestrial vegetation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shelving | <input type="checkbox"/> the presence of wrack line |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vegetation matted down, bent, or absent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sediment sorting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> leaf litter disturbed or washed away | <input type="checkbox"/> scour |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sediment deposition | <input type="checkbox"/> multiple observed or predicted flow events |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> water staining | <input type="checkbox"/> abrupt change in plant community Click here to enter text. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (list): Click here to enter text. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinuous OHWM. ⁷ Explain: Click here to enter text. | |

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): Click here to enter text. | |

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

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

Explain: **Clear water**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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.

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

- Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): **Forested – 25 feet**
- Wetland fringe. Characteristics: **Forested**
- Habitat for:
 - Federally Listed species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 - Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: **Presence of baseflow and substrate provide habitat for species diversity**

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: **21.6 acres (total)**

Wetland type. Explain: **Forested**

Wetland quality. Explain: **Moderate**

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Perennial Flow** Explain: **Developed channel bed and bank, hydric soil in channel beds**

Surface flow is: **Confined**

Characteristics: **Baseflow observed in channel**

Subsurface flow: **Unknown** Explain findings:

Dye (or other) test performed: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

Not directly abutting

Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain:

Ecological connection. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **30 (or more)** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **25-30** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: **Wetland to Navigable Waters**

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the **2-year or less** 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: **Water is clear**

Identify specific pollutants, if known: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width): **Forested, 25+ feet**

Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain: **Forested / 80%**

Habitat for:

Federally Listed species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **6**

Approximately **(21.6)** 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>
Wetland G (Y)	20.52	Wetland L (N)	0.0965
Wetland H (N)	0.139		
Wetland I (Y)	0.167		
Wetland J (N)	0.0342		
Wetland K (N)	0.663		

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: Wetlands G, H, I, J, K and L are each located within an agricultural landscape along the floodplain limits of North Fork Sun Hill Creek and are sited within cleared pasture and forested habitat. Based on their settings within the landscape, these wetlands would likely contribute to the overall biological, chemical and physical integrity of downstream waters and TNWs by providing protections for wildlife habitat (terrestrial and aquatic); the retention of any chemical factors (water quality and/or pollutants); and maintaining the general physical characteristics of these aquatic resources (flow regime; integrity of Wetlands G, H, I, J, K and L).

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
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.

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: **Streams 5-8 consist of a defined bed and bank, ordinary high-water mark, presence of riffle-pools, strong presence of baseflow, and strong biological indicators.**

- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: **Wetland G drains into Wetland H. Wetlands H, J, K, and L drain into Open Water 2. Open Water 2 and Wetland I drain into Stream 8, which drains off-site and flows towards North Fork Sun Hill Creek, flows into Williamson Swamp Creek, and then reaches its confluence into the Ogeechee River (TNW), located approximately 28.7 miles east of the site.**
 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: **21.6 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: **0.9 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).

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 Other factors. Explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
 Wetlands: # acres.

⁸See Footnote # 3.

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*.

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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Wetlands:

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: **Figure 1: Location Map.**
- 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: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Corps navigable waters’ study: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: **National Hydrologic Data Map: Figure 4.**
 - USGS NHD data.
 - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: **Riddleville 7.5 Min Quads: Figure 3**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: **NRCS Web Soil Survey: Figure 5**
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: **USFWS National Wetlands Inventory: Figure 4**
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s): [Click here to enter text.](#)
- FEMA/FIRM maps: National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette Maps: **Figure 8a-8b**
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: [Click here to enter text.](#) (National Geodectic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): **ArcGIS Aerial Basemap: Figure 2**
 - or Other (Name & Date): **Field Photos, 2022**
- Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Applicable/supporting case law: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Applicable/supporting scientific literature: [Click here to enter text.](#)
- Other information (please specify): **Fig. 6: LiDAR Map. Fig. 7a-7b: Delineation Maps. Historic aerials (Jan 2000-Sept 2021).**

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD: Wetland G, Perennial Stream 6 and Intermittent Stream 7 flow through Wetland H by surface water connection. Wetlands J, K, and L abut Open Water 2. All upslope aquatic resources continuously drain through Wetland I and Stream 8, prior to flowing off-site and towards North Fork Sun Hill Creek (RPW), Williamson Swamp Creek (RPW), which then confluences with the Ogeechee River (TNW), located approximately 28.7 miles east of the site.