



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAVANNAH DISTRICT
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3604

SAS-RD-C

18 June 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Pre-2015 Regulatory Regime
Approved Jurisdictional Determination in Light of *Sackett v. EPA*, 143 S. Ct. 1322
(2023),¹ SAS-2023-00895 (MFR 1 of 1)²

BACKGROUND. An Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) is a Corps document stating the presence or absence of waters of the United States on a parcel or a written statement and map identifying the limits of waters of the United States on a parcel. AJDs are clearly designated appealable actions and will include a basis of JD with the document.³ AJDs are case-specific and are typically made in response to a request. AJDs are valid for a period of five years unless new information warrants revision of the determination before the expiration date or a District Engineer has identified, after public notice and comment, that specific geographic areas with rapidly changing environmental conditions merit re-verification on a more frequent basis.⁴ For the purposes of this AJD, we have relied on section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (RHA),⁵ the Clean Water Act (CWA) implementing regulations published by the Department of the Army in 1986 and amended in 1993 (references 2.a. and 2.b. respectively), the 2008 *Rapanos-Carabell* guidance (reference 2.c.), and other applicable guidance, relevant case law and longstanding practice, (collectively the pre-2015 regulatory regime), and the *Sackett* decision (reference 2.d.) in evaluating jurisdiction.

This Memorandum for Record (MFR) constitutes the basis of jurisdiction for a Corps AJD as defined in 33 CFR §331.2. The features addressed in this AJD were evaluated consistent with the definition of “waters of the United States” found in the pre-2015 regulatory regime and consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett*. This AJD did not rely on the 2023 “Revised Definition of ‘Waters of the United States,’” as

¹ While the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett* had no effect on some categories of waters covered under the CWA, and no effect on any waters covered under RHA, all categories are included in this Memorandum for Record for efficiency.

² When documenting aquatic resources within the review area that are jurisdictional under the Clean Water Act (CWA), use an additional MFR and group the aquatic resources on each MFR based on the TNW, interstate water, or territorial seas that they are connected to. Be sure to provide an identifier to indicate when there are multiple MFRs associated with a single AJD request (i.e., number them 1, 2, 3, etc.).

³ 33 CFR 331.2.

⁴ Regulatory Guidance Letter 05-02.

⁵ USACE has authority under both Section 9 and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 but for convenience, in this MFR, jurisdiction under RHA will be referred to as Section 10.

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amended on 8 September 2023 (Amended 2023 Rule) because, as of the date of this decision, the Amended 2023 Rule is not applicable in this state due to litigation.

1. SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS.

- a. Provide a list of each individual feature within the review area and the jurisdictional status of each one (i.e., identify whether each feature is/is not a water of the United States and/or a navigable water of the United States).

Name of Aquatic Resource	JD or Non-JD	Section 404/Section 10
Wetland 1	Non-JD	N/A
Wetland 2	Non-JD	N/A
Wetland 3	Non-JD	N/A

2. REFERENCES.

- a. Final Rule for Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers, 51 FR 41206 (November 13, 1986).
- b. Clean Water Act Regulatory Programs, 58 FR 45008 (August 25, 1993).
- c. U.S. EPA & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Clean Water Act Jurisdiction Following the U.S. Supreme Court's Decision in *Rapanos v. United States & Carabell v. United States* (December 2, 2008)
- d. *Sackett v. EPA*, 598 U.S. 651, 143 S. Ct. 1322 (2023)

3. REVIEW AREA.

- a. Project Area Size (in acres): 21.5
- b. Center Coordinates of the Project Site (in decimal degrees)
Latitude: 31.86919 Longitude: -81.32223
- c. Nearest City or Town: Richmond Hill
- d. County: Bryan
- e. State: Georgia
- f. Other associated Jurisdictional Determinations:

Regulatory File No.	Type	Outcome
SAS-2023-00895	ARDR	By letter dated January 2, 2025, an Aquatic Resource Delineation Review was issued for a larger review area that included the wetlands under review in this AJD. The ARDR only addressed the wetland delineation and not the jurisdictional status.

4. NEAREST TRADITIONAL NAVIGABLE WATER (TNW), INTERSTATE WATER, OR THE TERRITORIAL SEAS TO WHICH THE AQUATIC RESOURCE IS CONNECTED. N/A. All aquatic resources within the review area lack a connection to a Waters of the U.S.
5. FLOWPATH FROM THE SUBJECT AQUATIC RESOURCES TO A TNW, INTERSTATE WATER, OR THE TERRITORIAL SEAS. N/A. All aquatic resources within the review area lack a connection to a Waters of the U.S.
6. SECTION 10 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS⁶: Describe aquatic resources or other features within the review area determined to be jurisdictional in accordance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Include the size of each aquatic resource or other feature within the review area and how it was determined to be jurisdictional in accordance with Section 10.⁷ N/A
7. SECTION 404 JURISDICTIONAL WATERS: Describe the aquatic resources within the review area that were found to meet the definition of waters of the United States in accordance with the pre-2015 regulatory regime and consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett*. List each aquatic resource separately, by name, consistent with the naming convention used in section 1, above. Include a rationale for each aquatic resource, supporting that the aquatic resource meets the relevant category of "waters of the United States" in the pre-2015 regulatory regime. The rationale should also include a written description of, or reference to a map in the administrative record that shows, the lateral limits of jurisdiction for each aquatic resource, including how that limit was determined, and incorporate relevant references used. Include the size of each aquatic resource in acres or linear feet and attach and reference related figures as needed.
 - a. TNWs (a)(1): N/A
 - b. Interstate Waters (a)(2): N/A
 - c. Other Waters (a)(3): N/A

⁶ 33 CFR 329.9(a) A waterbody which was navigable in its natural or improved state, or which was susceptible of reasonable improvement (as discussed in § 329.8(b) of this part) retains its character as "navigable in law" even though it is not presently used for commerce, or is presently incapable of such use because of changed conditions or the presence of obstructions.

⁷ This MFR is not to be used to make a report of findings to support a determination that the water is a navigable water of the United States. The district must follow the procedures outlined in 33 CFR part 329.14 to make a determination that water is a navigable water of the United States subject to Section 10 of the RHA.

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- d. Impoundments (a)(4): N/A
- e. Tributaries (a)(5): N/A
- f. The territorial seas (a)(6): N/A
- g. Adjacent wetlands (a)(7): N/A

8. NON-JURISDICTIONAL AQUATIC RESOURCES AND FEATURES

- a. Describe aquatic resources and other features within the review area identified as “generally non-jurisdictional” in the preamble to the 1986 regulations (referred to as “preamble waters”).⁸ Include size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to be non-jurisdictional under the CWA as a preamble water. N/A
- b. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area identified as “generally not jurisdictional” in the *Rapanos* guidance. Include size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to be non-jurisdictional under the CWA based on the criteria listed in the guidance. N/A
- c. Describe aquatic resources and features identified within the review area as waste treatment systems, including treatment ponds or lagoons designed to meet the requirements of CWA. Include the size of the waste treatment system within the review area and describe how it was determined to be a waste treatment system. N/A
- d. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area determined to be prior converted cropland in accordance with the 1993 regulations (reference 2.b.). Include the size of the aquatic resource or feature within the review area and describe how it was determined to be prior converted cropland. N/A
- e. Describe aquatic resources (i.e. lakes and ponds) within the review area, which do not have a nexus to interstate or foreign commerce, and prior to the January 2001 Supreme Court decision in “*SWANCC*,” would have been jurisdictional based solely on the “Migratory Bird Rule.” Include the size of the aquatic resource or feature, and how it was determined to be an “isolated water” in accordance with *SWANCC*. N/A

⁸ 51 FR 41217, November 13, 1986.

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- f. Describe aquatic resources and features within the review area that were determined to be non-jurisdictional because they do not meet one or more categories of waters of the United States under the pre-2015 regulatory regime consistent with the Supreme Court's decision in *Sackett* (e.g., tributaries that are non-relatively permanent waters; non-tidal wetlands that do not have a continuous surface connection to a jurisdictional water).

Name of excluded feature	Size (in acres)	Type of resource generally not jurisdictional
Wetland 1	4.0	These wetlands are surrounded by uplands and lack a continuous surface connection to a relatively permanent water or a jurisdictional wetland. Wetland 1 has a ditch connecting it to another wetland, however the ditch does not carry relatively permanent water. Due to lack of connectivity, these wetlands are non-jurisdictional.
Wetland 2	0.5	
Wetland 3	0.6	

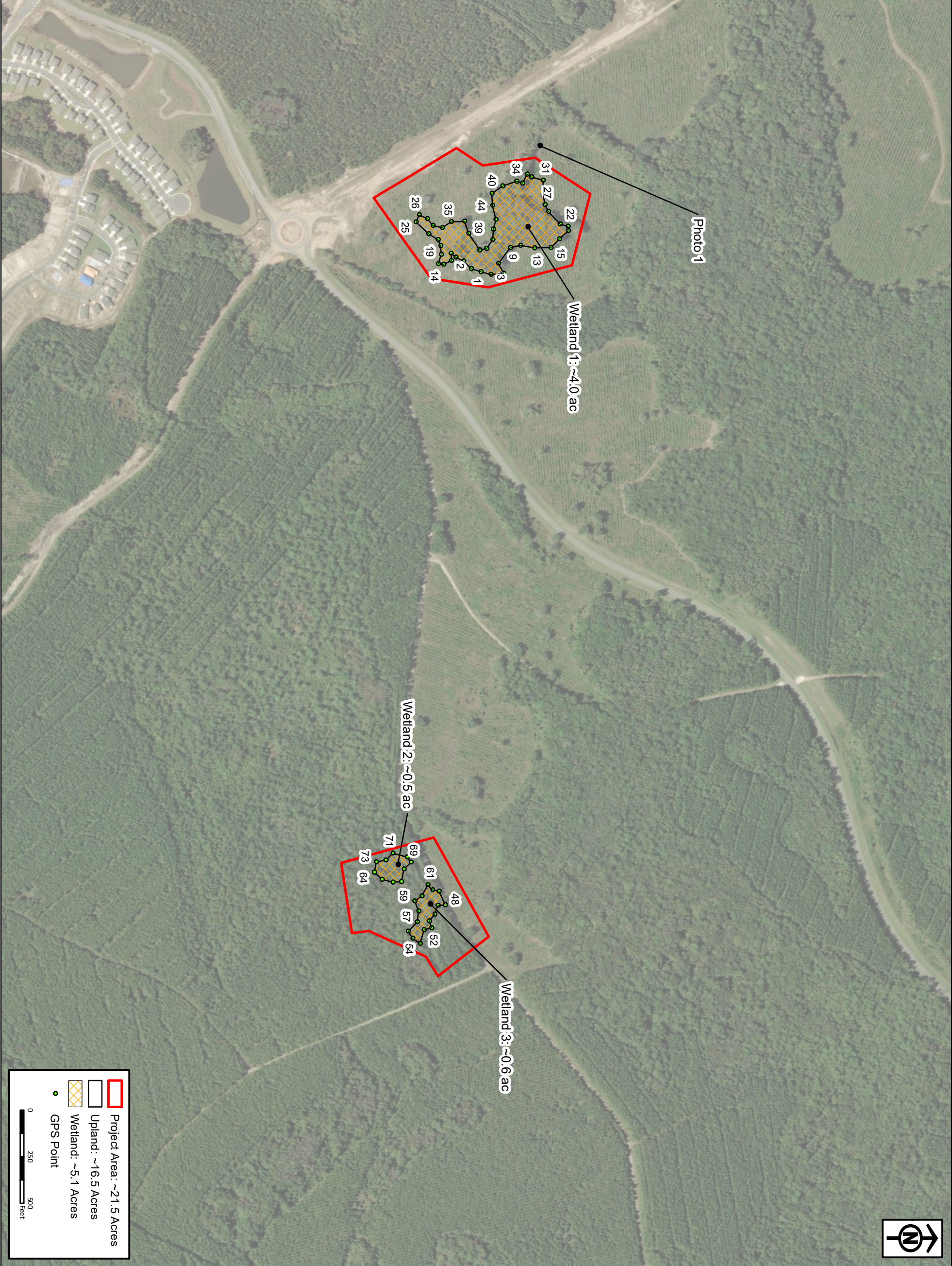
9. DATA SOURCES. List sources of data/information used in making determination. Include titles and dates of sources used and ensure that information referenced is available in the administrative record.

- a. 1. Date of Office (desktop review): June 18, 2025
- b. Data sources used to support this determination (included in the administrative record).
- ☒ Aquatic Resources delineation submitted by, or on behalf of, the requestor: Titled "Pod 8" and dated April 17, 2025
 - ☒ Aerial Imagery: Source: Google Earth
 - ☒ LIDAR: Source: NOAA; Titled "LIDAR"; and dated April 22, 2025
 - ☒ USDA NRCS Soil Survey: Titled "Custom Soil Resource Report"
 - ☒ USFWS NWI maps: Titled "NWI" and dated April 22, 2025
 - ☒ USGS NHD data/maps: Titled "NHD" and dated April 22, 2025
 - ☒ Antecedent Precipitation Tool Analysis: September 11, 2023

10. OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION. N/A

11. NOTE: The structure and format of this MFR were developed in coordination with the EPA and Department of the Army. The MFR's structure and format may be subject to future modification or may be rescinded as needed to implement additional guidance from the agencies; however, the approved jurisdictional determination described herein is a final agency action.

Label	Latitude	Longitude
1	31.868859	-81.320764
2	31.868717	-81.320818
3	31.869008	-81.320715
4	31.868606	-81.320949
5	31.869192	-81.320732
6	31.868489	-81.321016
7	31.869115	-81.320904
8	31.868423	-81.321085
9	31.869298	-81.321178
10	31.868424	-81.320960
11	31.869445	-81.321212
12	31.868312	-81.320897
13	31.869590	-81.321167
14	31.868231	-81.320908
15	31.869895	-81.321173
16	31.870021	-81.321321
17	31.868273	-81.321067
18	31.870153	-81.321460
19	31.868268	-81.321222
20	31.868232	-81.321321
21	31.868096	-81.321423
22	31.870147	-81.321534
23	31.870034	-81.321574
24	31.869862	-81.321793
25	31.867908	-81.321633
26	31.867952	-81.321755
27	31.869812	-81.321916
28	31.868073	-81.321687
29	31.869783	-81.322084
30	31.868156	-81.321569
31	31.869787	-81.322335
32	31.869619	-81.322392
33	31.868290	-81.321529
34	31.869552	-81.322442
35	31.868432	-81.321632
36	31.869484	-81.322289
37	31.869397	-81.322322
38	31.868622	-81.321635
39	31.868680	-81.321427
40	31.869191	-81.322239
41	31.868844	-81.321136
42	31.868943	-81.321162
43	31.869028	-81.322115
44	31.869035	-81.321906
45	31.869038	-81.321313
46	31.869086	-81.321661
47	31.869047	-81.321497
48	31.868260	-81.309832
49	31.868153	-81.309822
50	31.868104	-81.309673
51	31.868023	-81.309554
52	31.868054	-81.309439
53	31.867946	-81.309407
54	31.867885	-81.309169
55	31.867773	-81.309258
56	31.867709	-81.309379
57	31.867846	-81.309541
58	31.867867	-81.309729
59	31.867810	-81.309902
60	31.867916	-81.309933
61	31.868004	-81.310180
62	31.868072	-81.310090
63	31.868169	-81.310071
64	31.867218	-81.310408
65	31.867333	-81.310280
66	31.867491	-81.310232
67	31.867618	-81.310239
68	31.867652	-81.310455
69	31.867760	-81.310574
70	31.867706	-81.310662
71	31.867494	-81.310733
72	31.867391	-81.310611
73	31.867245	-81.310581



RLC Project No.:	23-159
Figure No.:	8
Prepared By:	MW
Sketch Date:	4/17/2025
Map Scale :	1 inch = 500 feet

Pod 8

Bryan County, Georgia

**Aquatic Resource
Delineation Exhibit**

Prepared For: Raydient, LLC

RLC

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