## 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 22, 2022

# B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: NWP-2022-504, Oregon Department of Administrative Services, 1100 Airport Road SE, Salem, Oregon

## C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

 State: Oregon
 County/parish/borough: Marion
 City: Salem

 Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format):
 Lat. 44.92107° N, Long. -123.000964° W.

 Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: Mill Creek

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): Croisan Creek-Willamette River (170900070301)

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: December 2, 2022
  - Field Determination. Date(s):

## SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

## A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

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

Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

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

# B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There are and are not "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): <sup>1</sup>
  - TNWs, including territorial seas
  - Wetlands adjacent to TNWs
  - Relatively permanent waters<sup>2</sup> (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 Excavated Ditch
  - 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 . Wetlands: 0.02 acres.
- **c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction** based on: **Pick List** Elevation of established OHWM (if known):
- 2. Non-regulated waters/wetlands (check if applicable):<sup>3</sup>
  - Potentially jurisdictional waters and/or wetlands were assessed within the review area and determined to be not jurisdictional. Explain: Stormwater Management Swale, Created Wetland Ditch, Wetland A, Wetland B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Boxes checked below shall be supported by completing the appropriate sections in Section III below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 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).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

## SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

## A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

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

1. TNW

Identify TNW:

Summarize rationale supporting determination:

## 2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is "adjacent":

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

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

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

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

If the waterbody<sup>4</sup> 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: 18,043 acres Drainage area: 18,043 acres Average annual rainfall: 40 inches Average annual snowfall: 1 inches

# (ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) <u>Relationship with TNW:</u>
 ☑ Tributary flows directly into TNW.
 ☑ Tributary flows through **0** tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are 2-5 river miles from TNW.
Project waters are 1 (or less) river miles from RPW.
Project waters are 2-5 aerial (straight) miles from TNW.
Project waters are 1 (or less) aerial (straight) miles from RPW.
Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

Identify flow route to TNW<sup>5</sup>: The Excavated Ditch is palustrine emergent (PEM) wetland that possesses a hydrologic surface connection to Mill Creek north, and outside of the Review Area. Mill Creek flows northwest through the City of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Note that the Instructional Guidebook contains additional information regarding swales, ditches, washes, and erosional features generally and in the arid West.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 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.

Salem, Oregon where it maintains a hydrologic surface connection with the Willamette River at river mile (RM) 84. The Willamette River is recognized by the Corps Portland District as a navigable water to RM 183.2. Tributary stream order, if known:

- (b) <u>General Tributary Characteristics (check all that apply):</u> Tributary is:
  - Natural
    - Artificial (man-made). Explain:

Manipulated (man-altered). Explain: Mill Creek has been anthropogenically modified over time

through relocation.

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

Average width: 40 feet Average depth: 10 feet Average side slopes: 2:1.

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply): Sands

Gravel

Х	Silts
	Cobbles
	Bedrock
	Other Explain

Concrete Muck

Other. Explain:

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

□ Vegetation. Type/% cover:

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: Mill Creek is located in a highly urbanized environment and lacks riffle and pool complex structure.

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### Tributary geometry: Meandering

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): 1 %

(c) Flow:

Tributary p	rovides fo	or: <b>Seasonal</b>	flow
Estimate or	orogo nu	mbor of flou	, avanta in

Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: 20 (or greater) Describe flow regime: Mill Creek is a perennial waterway.

Other information on duration and volume:

Surface flow is:	Confined.	Characteristics:
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Subsurface flow: **Unknown**. Explain findings: Dye (or other) test performed:

Tributary has (check all that apply):

Thouary has (check an that apply).	
Bed and banks	
OHWM <sup>6</sup> (check all indicators that apply):	
$\boxtimes$ clear, natural line impressed on the bank	the presence of litter and debris
changes in the character of soil	destruction of terrestrial vegetation
shelving	the presence of wrack line
vegetation matted down, bent, or absent	sediment sorting
leaf litter disturbed or washed away	scour
sediment deposition	multiple observed or predicted flow events
water staining	abrupt change in plant community
other (list):	
Discontinuous OHWM. <sup>7</sup> Explain: .	
If factors other than the OHWM were used to determin High Tide Line indicated by: oil or scum line along shore objects fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore) physical markings/characteristics tidal gauges other (list):	<ul> <li>lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that apply):</li> <li>Mean High Water Mark indicated by:</li> <li>survey to available datum;</li> <li>physical markings;</li> <li>vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types.</li> </ul>

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>A natural or man-made discontinuity in the OHWM does not necessarily sever jurisdiction (e.g., where the stream temporarily flows underground, or where the OHWM has been removed by development or agricultural practices). Where there is a break in the OHWM that is unrelated to the waterbody's flow regime (e.g., flow over a rock outcrop or through a culvert), the agencies will look for indicators of flow above and below the break. 7Ibid.

Characterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed characteristics, etc.). Explain: Mill Creek receives stormwater and agricultural contamination input from the surrounding urbanized and agricultural landscape. The water color of Mill Creek is clear but potentially darkened by tannins from leaf litter at certain times of the calendar year.

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

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

- Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): 10-20 feet, vegetated.
- $\boxtimes$ Wetland fringe. Characteristics: A wetland fringe exists at locations where the Mill Creek floodplain exists.  $\square$ 
  - Habitat for:

Federally Listed species. Explain findings: Mill Creek supports chinook salmon (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) and steelhead trout (Onchorhynchus mykiss), both of these species and their designated critical habitat are protected under the Endangered Species Act.

Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:

Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: Pacific lamprey (Entosphenus tridentatus) and coastal cutthroat trout (Onchorhyncus clarkii clarkii) utilize Mill Creek during their life history.

Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: Small mammals, fish, amphibians, insects, and avian speices all use Mill Creek during their life history.

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

#### (i) **Physical Characteristics:**

(a) General Wetland Characteristics: Properties: Wetland size: acres Wetland type. Explain: Wetland quality. Explain:

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain:

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW: Flow is: **Pick List**. Explain:

Surface flow is: Pick List Characteristics:

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

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

Directly abutting

□ Not directly abutting Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain:

- Ecological connection. Explain:
- Separated by berm/barrier. Explain:
- (d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW
- Project wetlands are **Pick List** river miles from TNW. Project waters are **Pick List** aerial (straight) miles from TNW. Flow is from: Pick List. Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the **Pick List** floodplain.

### (ii) Chemical Characteristics:

Characterize wetland system (e.g., water color is clear, brown, oil film on surface; water quality; general watershed characteristics; etc.). Explain: Identify specific pollutants, if known:

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

- Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width):
- Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain:
- Habitat for:

Federally Listed species. Explain findings:

Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:

- Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:
- Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings:
- Characteristics of all wetlands adjacent to the tributary (if any) 3.

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **1** Approximately (0.02) acres in total are being considered in the cumulative analysis.

For each wetland, specify the following:

Directly abuts? (Y/N)	Size (in acres)	Directly abuts? (Y/N)	Size (in acres)
Y	0.02	-	

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed:

# C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

- **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. <u>RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.</u>
  - Tributaries of TNWs where tributaries typically flow year-round are jurisdictional. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial:
  - Tributaries of TNW where tributaries have continuous flow "seasonally" (e.g., typically three months each year) are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.B. Provide rationale indicating that tributary flows seasonally:

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

- Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
- Other non-wetland waters: acres.
  - Identify type(s) of waters:
- 3 Non-RPWs<sup>8</sup> 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). acres.
- Other non-wetland waters:
  - Identify type(s) of waters:
- Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. 4.
  - Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands.  $\square$ 
    - Ketlands 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:

The Excavated Ditch is a north-south oriented PEM, seasonally flooded wetland located along the eastern boundary of the Review Area. The Excavated Ditch is 0.02 acre in size and does not exhibit ordinary high water mark indicators. The hydrology source for the Excavated Ditch is precipitation and overland runoff. The Excavated Ditch is mostly unvegetated but supports Oregon Ash (Fraxinus latifolia, facultative wet (FACW) plant species.

Per Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) Lidar imagery, the Excavated Ditch maintains its depressional shape draining north, approximately 460 feet where it directly connects to Mill Creek, a RPW located outside of the Review Area.

The Excavated Ditch transports surface water, organic nutrients, pollutants, and physical debris north, to Mill Creek in response to precipitation events. The Excavated Ditch possesses the capacity to capture pollutants to reduce the amount of pollutants, sediments or flood waters from reaching Mill Creek, a RPW. The Excavated Ditch provides detention for water and reduces the velocity of surface water entering Mill Creek. The Excavated Ditch provides habitat for small mammals, amphibians, insects, and avian species. The Excavated Ditch creates and transfers organic carbon to the downstream RPW which supports the downstream food web of the RPW and the Willamette River (TNW). The Excavated Ditch possesses a physical, chemical, and biological connection to the downstream RPW (Mill Creek) and TNW (Willamette 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: acres.

- Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. 5.
  - 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 jurisidictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: 0.02 acres.

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

#### Impoundments of jurisdictional waters.<sup>9</sup> 7.

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

Demonstrate that impoundment was created from "waters of the U.S.," or

<sup>8</sup>See Footnote # 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> To complete the analysis refer to the key in Section III.D.6 of the Instructional Guidebook.

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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):<sup>10</sup>

which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes.

from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce.

which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce.

Interstate isolated waters. Explain:

Other factors. Explain:

### Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:

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

Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).

Other non-wetland waters: acres.

Identify type(s) of waters:

Wetlands: acres.

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

- If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.
- Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.

Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in "SWANCC," the review area would have been regulated based <u>solely</u> 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 <u>sole</u> potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply):

Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet width (ft).

Lakes/ponds: acres.

Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource:

Wetlands: 0.273 acres.

## Stormwater Management Swale:

The Stormwater Management Swale is located in the northwest portion of the Review Area. Historic aerial imagery obtained through Google Earth Pro indicates the Stormwater Management Swale was constructed sometime after July 2000. The Stormwater Management Swale is approximately 0.003 acre in size and appears to have been constructed in uplands. The Local Wetland Inventory (LWI) for the area completed in 1999 includes the Review Area and does not identify this surface water feature on the landscape at the time of its creation. The hydrologic inputs to the stormwater ditch are precipitation, upgradient runoff, and water from the culvert pipe that drains water from the Created Wetland Ditch. The Created Wetland Ditch is described below and is not a water of the U.S. The Cowardin classification of the Created Wetland Ditch is PEM seasonally flooded surface water feature.

Surface water within the swale drains west where it enters a north-south oriented stormwater ditch located northwest of the Review Area; this ditch is part of the City of Salem's stormwater system and directs stormwater flow north along the east side of Ryan Drive SE. Surface water flow within this ditch drains north for approximately 750 linear feet where it enters a culvert. This culvert runs under Ryan Drive SE and an existing parking lot for approximately 390 linear feet where it enters a swale feature north of the parking lot. The swale feature is oriented north-south for 90 linear feet before it enters Pringle Creek, a RPW.

The Stormwater Management Swale lacks an interstate commerce connection, is not used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational purposes, and lacks habitat, resources, birds, wildlife of special significance which would attract interstate travelers. The Corps determined the Stormwater Management Swale meets the definition of "Preamble Waters" defined in the November 13, 1986 Federal Register (51 FR, Page 41217), Part 328; non-tidal drainage and irrigation ditches excavated on dry land.

The Corps has determined the Stormwater Management Swale is not a water of the U.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 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*.

## **Created Wetland Ditch:**

The Created Wetland Ditch is located in the northwest portion of the Review Area. Historic aerial imagery obtained through Google Earth Pro indicates the Created Wetland Ditch was constructed sometime after May 1994. The Created Wetland Ditch is approximately 0.02 acre in size and appears to have been constructed in uplands. The LWI for the area completed in 1999 includes the Review Area and does not identify this surface water feature on the landscape at the time of its creation.

The Cowardin classification of the Created Wetland Ditch is PEM seasonally flooded surface water feature. The hydrology source for the Created Wetland Ditch is direct precipitation and limited upgradient runoff, and as such, the feature drains only uplands. Soils within the ditch exhibited hydric soil indicators that appear to be induced by prolonged saturation by stormwater inundation. The ditch is

dominated by Oregon Ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*, FACW), Garden Bird's-Foot-Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*, facultative, (FAC)), and Lesser Poverty Rush (*Juncus tenuis*, FAC).

Per the wetland delineation for the Review Area, surface water within the ditch drains to the Stormwater Management Swale, and then to the City of Salem's stormwater system. A culvert measuring approximately 26 feet long connects the Created Wetland Ditch and the Stormwater Management Swale. As with the Stormwater Management Swale above, stormwater ultimately drains north to Pringle Creek, a RPW.

The Created Wetland Ditch lacks an interstate commerce connection, is not used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational purposes, and lacks habitat, resources, birds, wildlife of special significance which would attract interstate travelers. The Corps determined the Created Wetland Ditch meets the definition of "Preamble Waters" defined in the November 13, 1986 Federal Register (51 FR, Page 41217), Part 328; non-tidal drainage and irrigation ditches excavated on dry land.

The Corps has determined the Created Wetland Ditch is not a water of the U.S.

## Wetland A:

Wetland A is located in the north-central portion of the Review Area. Wetland A is a 0.21-acre depressional PEM seasonally flooded wetland which continues north, outside of the Review Area; the entire boundary of Wetland A is unknown. Wetland A is located approximately 515 feet west of the Excavated Ditch and approximately 735 feet west of Mill Creek. Wetland A is located within the Zone AE of the Mill Creek floodplain as mapped by FEMA.

The hydrology source for Wetland A is direct precipitation. Soils within the Wetland A exhibited hydric soil indicators. The wetlands were dominated by Oregon Ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*, FACW), Balsam Poplar (*Populus balsamifera*, (FAC), California Rose (*Rosa californica*, FAC), Lesser Poverty Rush (*Juncus tenuis*, FAC), Pennyroyal (*Mentha pulegium*, obligate (OBL)), Lamp Rush (*Juncus effusus*, FACW), and sedge (*Carex sp.*, FACW).

There is no information to indicate Wetland A exhibits a shallow subsurface connection to the nearest waterways, the Excavated Ditch or Mill Creek. Wetland A would not overflow or connect to the nearest waterway during extreme flood events. Wetland A lacks an interstate commerce connection, is not used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational purposes, and lacks habitat, resources, birds, wildlife of special significance which would attract interstate travelers.

The Corps has determined Wetland A is not a water of the U.S.

## Wetland B:

Wetland B is located in the southwest portion of the Review Area. Wetland B is a 0.04-acre depressional PEM wetland that was created from surface water being impounded against a fill embankment along the southern Review Area boundary. Wetland B is located approximately 880 feet west of the Excavated Ditch and approximately 1,120 feet west of Mill Creek. Wetland B is located within the Zone AE of the Mill Creek floodplain as mapped by FEMA.

The hydrology source for Wetland B is direct precipitation. Soils within the Wetland B exhibited hydric soil indicators. The wetlands were dominated by Oregon Ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*, (FACW), Balsam Poplar (*Populus balsamifera*, (FAC), California Rose (*Rosa californica*, FAC), Lesser Poverty Rush (*Juncus tenuis*, FAC), Pennyroyal (*Mentha pulegium*, (OBL), Lamp Rush (*Juncus effusus*, FACW), and sedge (*Carex sp.*, FACW).

There is no information to indicate Wetland B exhibits a shallow subsurface connection to the nearest waterways, the Excavated Ditch or Mill Creek. Wetland B would not overflow or connect to the nearest waterway during extreme flood events. Wetland B lacks an interstate commerce connection, is not used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational purposes, and lacks habitat, resources, birds, wildlife of special significance which would attract interstate travelers.

The Corps has determined Wetland B is not a water of the U.S.

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:

## SECTION IV: DATA SOURCES.

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

   Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant: Wetland delineation for the Review Area titled Oregon DAS Solar Arrays Wetland Delineation dated October 21, 2022 received by the Corps on November 7, 2022.
  - Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
    - Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
    - Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
  - Data sheets prepared by the Corps:
  - Corps navigable waters' study: Corps Portland District 1993 list of Navigable Riverways within the State of Oregon.
    - U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas:
      - USGS NHD data.
      - USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
    - U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name:
    - USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation:
  - National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name:
  - **State/Local wetland inventory map(s):**
  - FEMA/FIRM maps: Federal Emergency Management Agency interactive Floodrate Insurance Map review by Corps staff on November 9, 2022 (map 41047C0342H).
  - November 9,  $2022 \pmod{4104}$  (0.0542 H).
  - 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
  - Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): Aerial photography as contained in the wetland delineation for the Review Area. or Other (Name & Date): Site photography as contained in the wetland delineation for the Review Area.
    - Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter:
    - Applicable/supporting case law:
    - Applicable/supporting scientific literature:

Other information (please specify): Google Earth Pro aerial imagery accessed by Corps staff on November 9, 2022. City of Salem utility mapping accessed by Corps staff on November 9, 2022. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries mapping accessed by Corps staff on November 9, 2022. Local wetland inventory map accessed from the Oregon Department of State Lands website by Corps staff on November 9, 2022.

**B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD:** The Review Area is 8.44 acres in size. On December 2, 2022, the Corps coordinated this JD with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10 and Corps Headquarters (HQ). On December 13, 2022, Corps HQ concurred with our determination. On December 21, 2022, EPA concurred with our determination.