

Site: Iso-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 11, 2018

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: CESAM-RD-A, DR Horton - Dawes Lane, SAM-2018-00228-DCH

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: Alabama County/parish/borough: Mobile City: Mobile
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 30.581500° **N**, Long. -88.256461° **W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: UT to Fowl River

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 031602050104 (12-digit, Fowl River)

☒ 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: September 10, 2018

☒ Field Determination. Date(s): September 11, 2018

SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

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

☐ Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

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

B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There **Are no** "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. [Required]

1. Waters of the U.S.

a. Indicate presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply): ¹

- ☐ TNWs, including territorial seas
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs
- ☐ Relatively permanent waters² (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Impoundments of jurisdictional waters
- ☐ Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands

b. Identify (estimate) size of waters of the U.S. in the review area:

Non-wetland waters: linear feet: width (ft) and/or acres.

Wetlands: acres.

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known): .

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: **Review Area is approximately 0.876 acres. Soils in review area wetlands were historically mapped as Bethera**

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.

and Daleville. Review area wetland (Iso-1) is an isolated, depressional wetland bounded on the north by residential lots, and on the east, south, and west by agricultural lands. A ditch feature is present on the east side of Iso-1, running downgradient east to west and appears to divert sheet flow from uplands to the east into the review area wetland. A second ditch feature (approx. 315 ft) is present on the west side of Iso-1, between Iso-1 and Gra-1 (jurisdictional wetland) to the west. Soils were sampled within the second ditch and showed no hydric indicators, no evidence of directional flow or bed/bank features, was overgrown with vegetation, and increased in grade towards the west between Iso-1 and Gra-1. Therefore, the second ditch does not appear to provide a surface connection between Iso-1 and the jurisdictional Gra-1 to the west. Additionally, there are no culverts connecting Iso-1 to Gra-1 or any stormwater management system. Iso-1 is located marginally within the Mobile Bay 8-digit HUC while Gra-1 is within the Escatawpa River 8-digit HUC. In the absence of the ditch feature between Iso-1 and Gra-1, any surface flow from Iso-1 would be expected to be sheet flow to the north into the residential area, eventually to a UT to Fowl River to the east. Therefore, the subject wetlands were determined to be isolated and do not have a significant nexus with a TNW..

SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

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

1. TNW

Identify TNW: _____.

Summarize rationale supporting determination: _____.

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is “adjacent”: _____.

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

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

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

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

If the waterbody⁴ is not an RPW, or a wetland directly abutting an RPW, a JD will require additional data to determine if the waterbody has a significant nexus with a TNW. If the tributary has adjacent wetlands, the significant nexus evaluation must consider the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands. This significant nexus evaluation that combines, for analytical purposes, the tributary and all of its adjacent wetlands is used whether the review area identified in the JD request is the tributary, or its adjacent wetlands, or both. If the JD covers a tributary with adjacent wetlands, complete Section III.B.1 for the tributary, Section III.B.2 for any onsite wetlands, and Section III.B.3 for all wetlands adjacent to that tributary, both onsite and offsite. The determination whether a significant nexus exists is determined in Section III.C below.

1. Characteristics of non-TNWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNW

(i) General Area Conditions:

Watershed size: **Pick List**

Drainage area: **Pick List**

Average annual rainfall: _____ inches

Average annual snowfall: _____ inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

☐ Tributary flows directly into TNW.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: _____.

Tributary stream order, if known: _____.

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.

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

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

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

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

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Silts	<input type="checkbox"/> Sands	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete
<input type="checkbox"/> Cobbles	<input type="checkbox"/> Gravel	<input type="checkbox"/> Muck
<input type="checkbox"/> Bedrock	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation. Type/% cover:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Explain: .		

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

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: .

Tributary geometry: **Pick List**

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Pick List**

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

Describe flow regime: .

Other information on duration and volume: .

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

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

☐ Dye (or other) test performed: .

Tributary has (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Bed and banks	
<input type="checkbox"/> OHWM ⁶ (check all indicators that apply):	
<input type="checkbox"/> clear, natural line impressed on the bank	<input type="checkbox"/> the presence of litter and debris
<input type="checkbox"/> changes in the character of soil	<input type="checkbox"/> destruction of terrestrial vegetation
<input type="checkbox"/> shelving	<input type="checkbox"/> the presence of wrack line
<input type="checkbox"/> vegetation matted down, bent, or absent	<input type="checkbox"/> sediment sorting
<input type="checkbox"/> leaf litter disturbed or washed away	<input type="checkbox"/> scour
<input type="checkbox"/> sediment deposition	<input type="checkbox"/> multiple observed or predicted flow events
<input type="checkbox"/> water staining	<input type="checkbox"/> abrupt change in plant community
<input type="checkbox"/> other (list):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Discontinuous OHWM. ⁷ Explain: .	

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

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

(iii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

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

Explain: .

Identify specific pollutants, if known: .

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: .
 - ☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: .
 - ☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: .
 - ☐ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: .

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

(i) **Physical Characteristics:**

(a) General Wetland Characteristics:

Properties:

Wetland size: acres

Wetland type. Explain: .

Wetland quality. Explain: .

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

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

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

Surface flow is: **Pick List**

Characteristics: .

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

☐ Dye (or other) test performed: .

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

☐ Directly abutting

☐ Not directly abutting

☐ Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: .

☐ Ecological connection. Explain: .

☐ Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: .

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

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

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

Flow is from: **Pick List**.

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the **Pick List** floodplain.

(ii) **Chemical Characteristics:**

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

Identify specific pollutants, if known: .

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

- ☐ Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width): .
- ☐ Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain: .
- ☐ Habitat for:
 - ☐ Federally Listed species. Explain findings: .
 - ☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: .
 - ☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: .
 - ☐ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: .

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

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

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

For each wetland, specify the following:

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Directly abuts? (Y/N)

Size (in acres)

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: .

C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. **TNWs and Adjacent Wetlands.** Check all that apply and provide size estimates in review area:

- ☐ TNWs: linear feet width (ft), Or, acres.
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs: acres.

2. **RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

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

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

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.
Identify type(s) of waters: .

3. Non-RPWs⁸ that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- ☐ Waterbody that is not a TNW or an RPW, but flows directly or indirectly into a TNW, and it has a significant nexus with a TNW is jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

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

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.
Identify type(s) of waters: .

4. Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- ☐ Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands.
☐ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow year-round. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: .
☐ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow “seasonally.” Provide data indicating that tributary is seasonal in Section III.B and rationale in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: .

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

5. Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.

- ☐ Wetlands that do not directly abut an RPW, but when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

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

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

- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to such waters, and have when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

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

7. Impoundments of jurisdictional waters.⁹

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

- ☐ Demonstrate that impoundment was created from “waters of the U.S.,” or
☐ Demonstrate that water meets the criteria for one of the categories presented above (1-6), or
☐ Demonstrate that water is isolated with a nexus to commerce (see E below).

E. ISOLATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, DEGRADATION OR DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY SUCH WATERS (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):¹⁰

- ☐ which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes.
☐ from which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce.
☐ which are or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce.
☐ Interstate isolated waters. Explain: .
☐ Other factors. Explain: .

Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination: .

⁸See Footnote # 3.

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

¹⁰ Prior to asserting or declining CWA jurisdiction based solely on this category, Corps Districts will elevate the action to Corps and EPA HQ for review consistent with the process described in the Corps/EPA Memorandum Regarding CWA Act Jurisdiction Following Rapanos.

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

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.
Identify type(s) of waters: .
☐ Wetlands: acres.

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

- ☐ If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.
☒ Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.
☐ Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in "SWANCC," the review area would have been regulated based solely on the "Migratory Bird Rule" (MBR).
☒ Waters do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain: **Although a ditch feature is present between the review area wetlands (Iso-1) and jurisdictional wetlands (Gra-1) to the west, the grade of the ditch increases in the direction of jurisdictional waters and there is no evidence of consistent and/or frequent flow from the review area wetlands to jurisdictional waters. Accordingly, there is insufficient evidence of surface connection between the review area wetland (Iso-1) to jurisdictional waters of the U.S. to meet the Significant Nexus standard.**
☐ Other: (explain, if not covered above): .

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the sole potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet width (ft).
☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
☐ Wetlands: acres.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet, width (ft).
☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
☒ Wetlands: 0.867 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: .
☒ Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
☒ Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
☐ Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
☐ Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .
☐ Corps navigable waters' study: .
☒ U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .
☒ USGS NHD data.
☒ USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
☒ U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: 1:24,000 St. Elmo, Ala.
☒ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: Web Soil Survey, National Cooperative Soil Survey Version 10 Sept. 17, 2018, Mobile County, Alabama. Available online at <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>.
☐ National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: .
☐ State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
☒ FEMA/FIRM maps: Map 01097C0650K.
☐ 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
☒ Photographs: ☒ Aerial (Name & Date): 1997, 2002, 2006, 2013, and 2017 aerial photos obtained from GoogleEarth.
or ☒ Other (Name & Date): Site specific photographs taken by CESAM-RD-A project manager during September 11, 2018 field visit.
☐ Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: .
☐ Applicable/supporting case law: .
☐ Applicable/supporting scientific literature: .
☐ Other information (please specify): .

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD:

Site: Gra-1

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 11, 2018

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: CESAM-RD-A, DR Horton - Dawes Lane, SAM-2018-00228-DCH

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: Alabama County/parish/borough: Mobile City: Mobile
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 30.581299° **N**, Long. -88.258204° **W**.
Universal Transverse Mercator:

Name of nearest waterbody: UT to Baker Creek

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): 031700080602 (12-digit, Miller Creek)

☒ 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: September 10, 2018

☒ Field Determination. Date(s): September 11, 2018

SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There **Are** "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the review area. [Required]

☐ Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

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

B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There **Are** "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. [Required]

1. Waters of the U.S.

a. Indicate presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply): ¹

- ☐ TNWs, including territorial seas
- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs
- ☒ Relatively permanent waters² (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
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- ☐ Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
- ☐ Impoundments of jurisdictional waters
- ☐ Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands

b. Identify (estimate) size of waters of the U.S. in the review area:

Non-wetland waters: linear feet: width (ft) and/or acres.

Wetlands: 0.60 acres.

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known): .

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: .

Summarize rationale supporting determination: .

2. Wetland adjacent to TNW

Summarize rationale supporting conclusion that wetland is “adjacent”: .

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

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

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

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

If the waterbody⁴ is not an RPW, or a wetland directly abutting an RPW, a JD will require additional data to determine if the waterbody has a significant nexus with a TNW. If the tributary has adjacent wetlands, the significant nexus evaluation must consider the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands. This significant nexus evaluation that combines, for analytical purposes, the tributary and all of its adjacent wetlands is used whether the review area identified in the JD request is the tributary, or its adjacent wetlands, or both. If the JD covers a tributary with adjacent wetlands, complete Section III.B.1 for 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: 30,042.9 acres

Drainage area: 474 acres

Average annual rainfall: 67 inches

Average annual snowfall: inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

☐ Tributary flows directly into TNW.

☒ Tributary flows through 6 tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are 25-30 river miles from TNW.

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

Project waters are 10-15 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: The project waters do not cross over state boundaries.

However, downstream tributary Big Creek crosses from Mobile County, Alabama to Jackson County, MS before entering the TNW (Escatawpa River).

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

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: The manmade ditch flows to the UT to Baker Creek (perennial), UT to Baker Creek flows to Baker Creek, which flows to Deakle Creek, which flows to Miller Creek, which flows to Big Creek, which flows to the TNW (Escatawpa River).

Tributary stream order, if known: 1st Order.

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

Tributary is: ☒ Natural

☒ Artificial (man-made). Explain: Tributary begins as a man-made ditch for 1,800 feet from its confluence with the review wetlands, then flows southwest on the east side of Ben Hamilton Road to the UT to Baker Creek.

☒ Manipulated (man-altered). Explain: UT to Baker Creek is slightly channelized and straightened for 800 ft. portion from Ben Hamilton Road to the west. Natural, undisturbed stream continuing for 2,220 ft. west to confluence with another RPW to the north.

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

Average width: 3 feet

Average depth: .5 feet

Average side slopes: **3:1**.

Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply):

☒ Silts

☐ Cobbles

☐ Bedrock

☐ Other. Explain: .

☒ Sands

☐ Gravel

☐ Vegetation. Type/% cover:

☐ Concrete

☐ Muck

Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain: Partially stable to unstable along roadway and in homestead area west of Ben Hamilton Road. Stable further west of Ben Hamilton Road where riparian corridor returns. Small UT to Baker Creek is a headwater stream that originates from the review area bayhead wetland system on the east side of Ben Hamilton Road, and from an upland drainage area in silviculture production on the east side of Ben Hamilton Road, directly to the south. The tributary has a partially stable to unstable channel directly west of Ben Hamilton Road where the channel has been modified and de-vegetated, but becomes stable where the riparian corridor returns approximately 800 feet to the west, but has been slightly channelized, straightened, and cleared of riparian vegetation on the west side of Ben Hamilton Road..

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: None observed.

Tributary geometry: **Relatively straight**

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): Unknown %

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Seasonal flow**

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

Describe flow regime: Drainage ditch on east side of Ben Hamilton Road and UT to Baker Creek appears to be a seasonally flowing stream which contained flowing water at the time of the field evaluation, and appears to maintain the most consistent flow during late winter through early spring.

Other information on duration and volume: Mean annual flow volume is 1.42 cfs. Stream time of travel is 0.08 days.

Surface flow is: **Discrete and confined**. Characteristics: Drainage ditch carries discrete and confined flow. UT to Baker Creek is discrete flow. UT to Baker Creek exhibits bed and bank morphology within a hardwood forested riparian corridor 800 feet from the west side of Ben Hamilton Road.

Subsurface flow: **Pick List**. Explain findings: No evaluation of subsurface flow was conducted.

☐ Dye (or other) test performed: .

Tributary has (check all that apply):

☒ Bed and banks

☒ OHWM⁶ (check all indicators that apply):

☒ clear, natural line impressed on the bank

☐ changes in the character of soil

☐ shelving

☒ vegetation matted down, bent, or absent

☒ leaf litter disturbed or washed away

☐ sediment deposition

☒ water staining

☐ other (list):

☐ the presence of litter and debris

☒ destruction of terrestrial vegetation

☐ the presence of wrack line

☐ sediment sorting

☒ scour

☐ multiple observed or predicted flow events

☐ abrupt change in plant community

⁵ Flow route can be described by identifying, e.g., tributary a, which flows through the review area, to flow into tributary b, which then flows into TNW.

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

☐ Discontinuous OHWM.⁷ Explain: .

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

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

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

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

Explain: Water observed flowing in the drainage ditch along the east side of Ben Hamilton Road and in the UT to Baker Creek at the time of field review was mostly clear, with minimal to no tannic discoloration. No oily sheen, film, turbidity, or other discoloration of the water was observed.

Identify specific pollutants, if known: No known chemical pollutants were identified within the UT to Baker Creek, and neither the tributary nor its receiving waters are listed on the Alabama 303(d) list of impaired waterways.

⁷Ibid.

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

☒ Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): Approximately 1,800 feet of cleared, vegetated ditch is present on the east side of Ben Hamilton Road. Approximately 800 feet of cleared, riparian corridor on the west side of Ben Hamilton Road due to residential landscaping. Riparian corridor continues for 2,200 feet until confluence with RPW to the north. Riparian corridor appears to be approximately 200 feet wide.

☐ Wetland fringe. Characteristics: .

☐ Habitat for:

☐ Federally Listed species. Explain findings: .

☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: .

☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: .

☒ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: The tributary conveys organic carbon and nutrients from decaying riparian plant material downstream to the resident amphibians and aquatic invertebrates, and provides areas for foraging and shelter from predators for aquatic and terrestrial vertebrates. Having seasonal flow, this tributary also provides a seasonally consistent water source for drinking and other life needs for terrestrial species in surrounding riparian corridor and undeveloped forest areas.

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: 35.4 acres

Wetland type. Explain: Bayhead Drain.

Wetland quality. Explain: Review area wetlands (Gra-1) and all contiguous wetland areas to the west are medium to high quality. Buffers consist of agricultural and undeveloped lands to the north, south, and east, residential development to the northeast and northwest. Hydrology may be affected by roadside drainage ditches along Ben Hamilton Road to the northwest. WQ inputs are sheet flow from agricultural lands to the north, east, and south. Vegetation is mostly appropriate hardwood species, with some evidence of invasive exotics along the margins (*Triadica sebiferum*, *Ligustrum sinense*). Wildlife usage is expected to be minimal to moderate, due to influence of buffers.

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: Project wetlands do not cross or serve as State boundaries.

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Intermittent flow**. Explain: Wetland exhibits typical hydrology of bayhead drain, with intermittent to perennial flow as a result of the high water table and flat topography.

Surface flow is: **Overland sheetflow**

Characteristics: Flow through the wetlands is overland flow from groundwater saturation and seepage, forming shallow downgradient flow from the review area wetlands (Gra-1) to the man-made ditch along Ben Hamilton Road to the northwest.

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: Connection between wetlands and Non-TNW (Baker Creek) occurs via overland flow to the west to a roadside ditch along Ben Hamilton Road, then via roadside ditch to Baker Creek. Review area wetland (Gra-1) flows to the west through a culvert under Airport Road and into a larger bayhead complex to the west, which then flows 2,000 feet west-northwest through the 34 acre bayhead wetland complex to a roadside ditch along the southeast side of Ben Hamilton Road, then southwest 1,800 feet in the man-made ditch to the tributary of Baker Creek.

☐ Ecological connection. Explain: .

☐ Separated by berm/barrier. Explain: .

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **25-30** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **10-15** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: **Wetland to navigable waters**.

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the **500-year or greater** 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 within review wetlands is brown/tannic, with some surface sheen from iron reduction.

Identify specific pollutants, if known: Review area wetlands are potential recipient of nutrient and pesticide/herbicide runoff from adjacent upland agricultural areas to the east and west. However, no water quality data was collected or provided to confirm pollutant inputs.

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

☐ Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width): .

☒ Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain: Dominant wetland plant species are FAC to OBL species including: *Nyssa sylvatica* (60%), *Lyonia lucida* (40%), *Morella cerifera* (15%), *Woodwardia areolata* (20%), *Woodwardia virginica* (10%), and *Osmunda cinnamomea* (10%).

☐ Habitat for:

☐ Federally Listed species. Explain findings: .

☐ Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings: .

☐ Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings: .

☒ Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: Wetlands provide resting, nesting, refuge from predators, foraging habitat for birds, small amphibians, reptiles, and small to medium sized mammals that utilize the area.

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **2**

Approximately (35.4) acres in total are being considered in the cumulative analysis.

For each wetland, specify the following:

<u>Directly abuts? (Y/N)</u>	<u>Size (in acres)</u>	<u>Directly abuts? (Y/N)</u>	<u>Size (in acres)</u>
N	0.60		
N	34.8		

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: The 0.60 acre review area wetlands (Gra-1) and the similarly situated 34.8 acre wetland complex to the west provide the following functions and services to the downstream TNW: 1) groundwater discharge source or area of water recharge to the relevant reach of the UT to Baker Creek; 2) water purification functions (i.e. removal of nutrients associated with agricultural runoff) to the relevant reach and downstream waters to the TNW; 3) habitat for resting, nesting, refuge from predators, and foraging, as well as a source of nutrients and detritus that contribute to the downstream food web; 4) retention and prevention of downstream sediment deposition. The relevant reach of the UT to Baker Creek provides the additional services to the downstream TNW: 1) conveyance of organic carbon and nutrients from decaying riparian plant material to incumbent and downstream amphibians and aquatic invertebrates; 2) areas for foraging and shelter from predators for aquatic and terrestrial vertebrates.

C. SIGNIFICANT NEXUS DETERMINATION

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

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

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

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

1. **Significant nexus findings for non-RPW that has no adjacent wetlands and flows directly or indirectly into TNWs.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary itself, then go to Section III.D: .
2. **Significant nexus findings for non-RPW and its adjacent wetlands, where the non-RPW flows directly or indirectly into TNWs.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D: .
3. **Significant nexus findings for wetlands adjacent to an RPW but that do not directly abut the RPW.** Explain findings of presence or absence of significant nexus below, based on the tributary in combination with all of its adjacent wetlands, then go to Section III.D: The review area wetlands receive and naturally remove pollutants from runoff water from adjacent agricultural lands and roadways surrounding the review area. The relevant reach of the UT to Baker Creek, in combination with the adjacent non-abutting wetlands in the JD review area have a significant nexus to the downstream TNW by providing: 1) a groundwater discharge source that contributes recharge of the UT and all its connected downstream and other downstream waterbodies; 2) capacity to receive, retain and treat rainfall run-off, and provides removal of sediment, agricultural nutrients, pesticides, herbicides, animal wastes, etc. that may be picked up in stormwater run-off from undeveloped lands and roadways prior to entering the downstream tributary system and TNW; 3) detritus, nutrients, and organic carbon conveyance to downstream waters used by downstream aquatic food webs; and, 4) habitat for amphibians, reptiles, birds, and small to medium mammals that reside permanently in or periodically utilize the stream and wetland system access to sources of water, resting, nesting, refuge, and foraging habitat.

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: The UT to Baker Creek is shown on USGS topographic maps as a blue-line stream, and it is coded as R2UBH (Lower Perennial) in the National Wetlands Inventory. The stream is consistently shown to have surface flow in areal imagery during winter months. Furthermore, the man-made ditch and UT to Baker Creek had surface flow during the JD field review on September 11, 2018.

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

- ☒ Tributary waters: **3,000** linear feet **approximately 3** width (ft).
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.
Identify type(s) of waters: .

- 3. Non-RPWs⁸ that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Waterbody that is not a TNW or an RPW, but flows directly or indirectly into a TNW, and it has a significant nexus with a TNW is jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

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

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.
Identify type(s) of waters: .

- 4. Wetlands directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☐ Wetlands directly abut RPW and thus are jurisdictional as adjacent wetlands.
☐ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow year-round. Provide data and rationale indicating that tributary is perennial in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: .
☐ Wetlands directly abutting an RPW where tributaries typically flow “seasonally.” Provide data indicating that tributary is seasonal in Section III.B and rationale in Section III.D.2, above. Provide rationale indicating that wetland is directly abutting an RPW: .

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

- 5. Wetlands adjacent to but not directly abutting an RPW that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs.**

- ☒ Wetlands that do not directly abut an RPW, but when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: **0.60** 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**

⁸See Footnote # 3.

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

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: .
- ☐ Other factors. Explain: .

Identify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination: .

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

- ☐ Tributary waters: linear feet width (ft).
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres.
Identify type(s) of waters: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

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

- ☐ If potential wetlands were assessed within the review area, these areas did not meet the criteria in the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and/or appropriate Regional Supplements.
- ☐ Review area included isolated waters with no substantial nexus to interstate (or foreign) commerce.
 - ☐ Prior to the Jan 2001 Supreme Court decision in “SWANCC,” the review area would have been regulated based solely on the “Migratory Bird Rule” (MBR).
- ☐ Waters do not meet the “Significant Nexus” standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain: .
- ☐ Other: (explain, if not covered above): .

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the sole potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR factors (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional judgment (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the “Significant Nexus” standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply):

- ☐ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet, width (ft).
- ☐ Lakes/ponds: acres.
- ☐ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: .
- ☐ Wetlands: acres.

SECTION IV: DATA SOURCES.

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

- ☒ Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant: .
- ☒ Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
 - ☒ Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
 - ☐ Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
- ☐ Data sheets prepared by the Corps: .
- ☐ Corps navigable waters’ study: .
- ☐ U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: .

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.

- ☒ USGS NHD data.
- ☒ USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
- ☒ U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: 1:24,000 St. Elmo, Ala.
- ☒ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: Web Soil Survey, National Cooperative Soil Survey Version 10 Sept. 17, 2018, Mobile County, Alabama. Available online at <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>.
- ☒ National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name:NWI data viewer, last modified Oct 15, 2018. Available online at: <https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>.
- ☐ State/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
- ☒ FEMA/FIRM maps: Map 01097C0650K.
- ☐ 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- ☒ Photographs: ☒ Aerial (Name & Date):1997, 2002, 2006, 2013, and 2017 aerial photos obtained from GoogleEarth.
or ☒ Other (Name & Date):Site specific photographs taken by CESAM-RD-A project manager during September 11, 2018 field visit.
- ☐ Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter: .
- ☐ Applicable/supporting case law: .
- ☐ Applicable/supporting scientific literature: .
- ☐ Other information (please specify): .

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD: Minor modification to form for Alabama to address SN discussion required for perennial and seasonal RPWs and wetlands adjacent and abutting perennial and seasonal RPWs resulting from 11th Circuit Court of Appeals decision in U.S. v. Robison et.al. (October 24, 2007). The US v. Robison decision concluded that Justice Kennedy's "significant nexus" test provides the governing rule of Rapanos and Clean Water Act jurisdiction for all waters that are not TNWs or wetlands adjacent to TNWs .