APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: Sacramento District, Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area, SPK-

This form should be completed by following the instructions provided in Section IV of the JD Form Instructional Guidebook.

SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2008-475

Α.
REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR AP
PROVED JURISDICTIONAL
DETERMINATION (ID):
August 21, 2008

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This project is located in the upper reaches and northern most portions of the Lower Cosumnes-Lower Mokelumne watershed. This form (#1) includes the main drainage through the site, a branch of Coyote Creek, and associated minor tributaries, wetlands, and ponds. State: California County/parish/borough: Sacramento Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 38.59738 N, Long. 121.15131 W. Universal Transverse Mercator: 10 660991 4273719 Name of nearest waterbody: Covote Creek Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: Cosumnes River Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): Lower Cosumnes-Lower Mokelumne, 18040005 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: Field Determination. Date: May 20, 2008 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. 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.

Indica	te presence of waters of U.S. in review area (check all that apply):
	TNWs, including territorial seas
	Wetlands adjacent to TNWs
	Relatively permanent waters ² (RPWs) that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
\boxtimes	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
\boxtimes	Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs
\boxtimes	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: 6.97 acres

Wetlands: 0.11 acres

c. Limits (boundaries) of jurisdiction based on: Established by OHWM.

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:

SECTION III: CWA ANALYSIS

A. TNWs AND WETLANDS ADJACENT TO TNWs

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).

Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

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 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: Unknown

Drainage area: 950 acres (1.5 square miles)

Average annual rainfall: **19 inches** Average annual snowfall: **0 inches**

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

☐ Tributary flows directly into TNW.

Tributary flows through 3 tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are 25-30 river miles from TNW.

Project waters are 2-5 river miles from RPW.

Project waters are 15-20 aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Project waters are 2-5 aerial (straight) miles from RPW.

Project waters cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: N/A.

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: The creek onsite is a branch of Coyote Creek and flows south from the review area for 0.5 miles to the main stem of Coyote Creek. Coyote creek continues south for 3 miles before connecting to Carson Creek, an RPW. Carson Creek flows into Deer Creek 1.6 miles to the south. Deer Creek flows south and then continues parallel to Cosumnes River to the south west for 20.9 miles before entering the Cosumnes River, a traditionally navigable water, approximately 0.25 miles east of Highway 99, near the tidal gauge at river mile 11. Deer Creek and the Cosumnes River share the floodplain for approximately 14.6 miles

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.

	1 ributary stream order, if known: 2
(b)	General Tributary Characteristics (check all that apply): Tributary is: Natural Artificial (man-made). Explain: Manipulated (man-altered). Explain: The review area is within the Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area. The first 800 feet of the upper creek, the western drainage, and the last 3300 feet before exiting the site, maintain a natural bed and bank. Throughout the remainder of the site many culverts have been placed within the creek to accommodate vehicular traffic. These culverts are occasionally relocated to allow for realignment of the off-road tracks and raceways. There are also a number of impoundments created as sediment control basins to help control the large sediment load as a result of the off-road vehicle use.
	Tributary properties with respect to top of bank (estimate): Average width: 2-5 feet Average depth: 2-5 feet Average side slopes: The slopes range from a gradual bank to 5-foot vertical cuts depending on the substrate and gradient.
	Primary tributary substrate composition (check all that apply): Silts Sands Concrete Cobbles Gravel Muck Bedrock Vegetation. Type/% cover: Other. Explain:
	Tributary condition/stability [e.g., highly eroding, sloughing banks]. Explain: Most of the banks are stable with little to no natural erosion caused by run-off. Some banks appear to be eroding due to motorized vehicles driving through the stream channel. Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: N/A Tributary geometry: Meandering Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): 1 %
(c)	Flow: Tributary provides for: Intermittent but not seasonal flow Estimate average number of flow events in review area/year: 6-10 Describe flow regime: Flows are highly influenced by season and storm events. Based on the available data the flows are more than ephemeral, but not continuous enough to be seasonal. Other information on duration and volume: Portions of the creek are deeply incised, indicating that this system accommodates large volumes during storm events.
	Surface flow is: Discrete and confined. Characteristics: Flows are confined to a defined bed and bank over the majority of the review area. A few minor drainages pass through overland swales between sediment basins.
	Subsurface flow: Unknown . Explain findings: Dye (or other) test performed:
	Tributary has (check all that apply):
	If factors other than the OHWM were used to determine lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that apply): High Tide Line indicated by: Mean High Water Mark indicated by:

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.

Thid.

			fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore)	survey to available datum; physical markings; vegetation lines/changes in vegetation types.
(Cha	nemical Characteristics: aracterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily Explain: Water was present within ponds during the si and appeared a thick light brown color. Ponds I and J entify specific pollutants, if known: Suspended sediments we	te visit. This water had a high level of suspended sediments were relatively free of sediment.
((iv)		Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): T cottonwoods, around some of the ponds and along co 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:	there is a small riparian corridor, consisting primarily of nnections between adjacent ponds.
2.	Cha	ract	teristics of wetlands adjacent to non-TNW that flow direct	ctly or indirectly into TNW
			overland surface connection. There are 9 water determine of water quality sediment detention and retermine Wetland size: 0.11 acre of wetlands and 3.61 acres of Wetland type. Explain: Seasonal depressional wetland Wetland quality. Explain: The two wetlands located a healthy riparian community. The three adjacents	ention. If ponds Inds and dammed detention ponds. In within the channel are relatively deep with one containing int wetlands are shallow depressional features in the e ponds are relatively deep and contain a high sediment
		(b)	Flow is: Intermittent flow. Explain: Waters flow through enough to top the rim of the wetlands. The flow through culverts through the earthen dams. Surface flow is: Confined	th or from the wetlands seasonally when the water is high ugh the detention ponds are regulated by stand pipes and discreet overland flow between the wetland and the non-
			Subsurface flow: Unknown . Explain findings: Dye (or other) test performed:	
		(c)	 ✓ Directly abutting ✓ Not directly abutting ✓ Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: 	There is a discrete surface connection with the channel. hen water levels are high enough to overtop the rim of the
		(d)	Proximity (Relationship) to TNW Project wetlands are 25-30 river miles from TNW. Project waters are 15-20 aerial (straight) miles from TNW Flow is from: Wetland to navigable waters. Approximate location of wetland to the floodplain: The w	

(ii) Chemical Characteristics:

Characterize wetland system (e.g., water color is clear, brown, oil film on surface; water quality; general watershed characteristics; etc.). Explain: The wetlands were dry during the field visit. The wetlands within the channel are primarily upstream of the majority of the park and do not appear to be within the high sediment/erosion zone. The adjacent wetlands are downstream, but appear to only receive rainwater and other water that has filtered through the grasslands. The detention ponds held water during the site visit. This water was brown with a large amount of suspended sediment.

Identify specific pollutants, if known:

	(iii) Biological Characteristics. Wetland supports (check all that apply):
	Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width): The northern most wetland (upstream) and the majority of
	the ponds have a small riparian buffer of cotton woods and other low bushes or shrubs.
	□ Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain: Wetlands are vegetated by aquatic vegetation and dominated by grasses
	and composites.
	Habitat for: N/A
	☐ 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: 5
	Approximately 0.11 acre 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)
\mathbf{Y}	0.05	${f Y}$	0.03
${f N}$	0.01	${f N}$	0.01
N	0.01		

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: The wetlands within the channel function to regulate flows within the creek while the adjacent wetlands are within the floodplain and filter water entering the system.

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: This non-RPW is a segment of Coyote Creek located upstream of Carson and

Deer Creeks. The creek drains the very northern portions of the Lower Cosumnes-Lower Mokelumne watershed (18040005). Due to the location of this reach of Coyote Creek within the Prairie City State Vehicle Recreation Area, the creek plays a significant role in the supply of sediment to the Cosumnes River, via Carson and Deer Creeks. The remainder of the Deer Creek watershed is predominantly in oak woodlands and oak savannahs with adjacent agriculture in the lower reaches. All on-site wetlands have a surface connection to this branch of Coyote Creek and, along with the detention ponds, retain a large amount of water and sediment, maintaining flows for an extended period of time.

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:

DETERMINATIONS OF JURISDICTIONAL FINDINGS. THE SUBJECT WATERS/WETLANDS ARE (CHECK ALL

1 11	AT AFFLI);
1.	TNWs and Adjacent Wetlands. Check all that apply and provide size estimates in review area: ☐ TNWs: ☐ Wetlands adjacent to TNWs:
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: Other non-wetland waters: Identify type(s) of waters:
3.	Non-RPWs ⁸ 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: 3.54 acres Other non-wetland waters: 3.43 acres Identify type(s) of waters: pond, open water
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:
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 jurisidictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.
	Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area:
6.	Wetlands adjacent to non-RPWs that flow directly or indirectly into TNWs. Wetlands adjacent to such waters, and have when considered in combination with the tributary to which they are adjacent and with similarly situated adjacent wetlands, have a significant nexus with a TNW are jurisdictional. Data supporting this conclusion is provided at Section III.C.

⁸See Footnote # 3.

]	Provide estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: 0.11 acre
		Impoundments of jurisdictional waters. 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.	W W W W W W W W W W	LATED [INTERSTATE OR INTRA-STATE] WATERS, INCLUDING ISOLATED WETLANDS, THE USE, RADATION OR DESTRUCTION OF WHICH COULD AFFECT INTERSTATE COMMERCE, INCLUDING ANY H 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:
	Ident	tify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:
		ide 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.		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):
	factor judgn	ide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the <u>sole</u> potential basis of jurisdiction is the MBR rs (i.e., presence of migratory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture), using best professional ment (check all that apply): Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet width (ft). Lakes/ponds:
		Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: Wetlands:
	a find	ide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standard, where such ding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply): Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): linear feet, width (ft). Lakes/ponds: Other non-wetland waters: List type of aquatic resource: Wetlands:
SE	CTION	NIV: DATA SOURCES.
А,	and re	ORTING DATA. Data reviewed for JD (check all that apply - checked items shall be included in case file and, where checked equested, appropriately reference sources below):
	, 1	Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant: Draft Delineation of the Geographic Extent of Waters of the United States, created by ARCADIS BBL, received February 28, 2008. Revised delineation maps submitted by TRA, received July 21, 2008. Data sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
		☐ Office concurs with data sheets. ☐ Office does not concur with data sheets.

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

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

L	Data sheets prepared by the Corps:
	Corps navigable waters' study:
\geq	U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas: Lower Cosumnes-Lower Mokelumne, 18040005
	USGS NHD data.
	☑ USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
\triangleright	U.S. Geological Survey map(s). Cite scale & quad name: 1:24,000, Murphys 7.5 minute USGS quadrangle, 1940
	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation:
	National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name:
	State/Local wetland inventory map(s):
	FEMA/FIRM maps:
	100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodectic Vertical Datum of 1929)
	Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date):
	or Other (Name & Date):
	Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter:
	Applicable/supporting case law:
	Applicable/supporting scientific literature:
Г	Other information (please specify):

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD:

This non-RPW is a segment of Coyote Creek located upstream of Carson and Deer Creeks. The creek drains the very northern portions of the Lower Cosumnes-Lower Mokelumne watershed (18040005). Due to the location of this reach of Coyote Creek within the Prairie City State Vehicle Recreation Area, the creek plays a significant role in the supply of sediment to the Cosumnes River, via Carson and Deer Creeks. The remainder of the Deer Creek watershed is predominantly in oak woodlands and oak savannahs with adjacent agriculture in the lower reaches. All on-site wetlands have a surface connection to this branch of Coyote Creek and, along with the detention ponds, retain a large amount of water and sediment, maintaining flows for an extended period of time.