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.

	CTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD): July 2, 2018
В.	DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: Sacramento District, Tralee Property, SPK-2017-00131
C.	PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION: State: Colorado County/parish/borough: Eagle City: Gypsum Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 39.645655° N , Long106.081333° W Name of nearest waterbody: Eagle River Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) into which the aquatic resource flows: NA Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): Spring Creek − Eagle River, 14010003 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: May 30, 2018 ☑ Field Determination. Date(s): April 27, 2018
<u>SE</u> A.	CTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.
	ere Are no "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) he 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:
В.	CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.
	ere Are no "waters of the U.S." within Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 328) in the review area. equired
	 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

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

Non-wetland waters: linear feet, wide, and/or acres.

☐ Isolated (interstate or intrastate) waters, including isolated wetlands

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

Wetlands: acres.

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known):

Impoundments of jurisdictional waters

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: The Gypsum Solar site contains 11 discontinuous ephemeral channels which terminate in uplands, do not contribute tributary flow to a waters of the US, and have no nexus to interstate commerce. See Section IV.B below for further explanation.

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: 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): Silts Sands Concrete Cobbles Gravel Muck Bedrock Vegetation. Type/% cover: 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): Bed and banks OHWM ⁶ (check all indicators that apply): clear, natural line impressed on the bank the presence of litter and debris changes in the character of soil destruction of terrestrial vegetation shelving the presence of wrack line vegetation matted down, bent, or absent sediment sorting leaf litter disturbed or washed away scour sediment deposition multiple observed or predicted flow events water staining abrupt change in plant community other (list): Discontinuous OHWM. Explain:
			If factors other than the OHWM were used to determine lateral extent of CWA jurisdiction (check all that
apply):			 ☐ High Tide Line indicated by: ☐ oil or scum line along shore objects ☐ survey to available datum; ☐ fine shell or debris deposits (foreshore) ☐ physical markings; ☐ physical markings/characteristics ☐ tidal gauges ☐ other (list):
	(iii)	Cha c	emical Characteristics: aracterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed haracteristics, etc.). Explain: ntify specific pollutants, if known:
	(iv)	Bio	logical Characteristics. Channel supports (check all that apply):

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.

		□ '	Riparian corridor. Charac Wetland fringe. Characte Habitat for: ☐ Federally Listed spec ☐ Fish/spawn areas. E	ristics: ies. Explain findings: xplain findings:		
			☐ Other environmentall☐ Aquatic/wildlife divers		κplain findings:	
2.	Ch	arac	·		nt flow directly or indirectly i	nto TNW
۷.			_	acent to non-nivv the	it now unectly of munectly i	IIIO TNW
	(i)		ysical Characteristics: General Wetland Charac	cteristics:		
			Properties: Wetland size:	acres		
			Wetland type. Explai	n:		
			Wetland quality. Exp Project wetlands cross o		aries. Explain:	
		(b)	·		1	
		(D)	General Flow Relationsh Flow is: Pick List . Expla			
			Surface flow is: Pick Lis Characteristics:	t		
			Subsurface flow: Pick Li Dye (or other) test			
		(c)	Wetland Adjacency Dete	rmination with Non-TN	W:	
			☐ Directly abutting☐ Not directly abutting			
			☐ Discrete wetland h	nydrologic connection.	Explain:	
			Separated by berr			
		(d)	Proximity (Relationship)	to TNW		
			Project wetlands are Pic Project waters are Pick			
			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 waters				water quality; general watershed	
			haracteristics; etc.). Explantify specific pollutants, if			
	(iii)		logical Characteristics. Riparian buffer. Characte Vegetation type/percent c	ristics (type, average w		
			Habitat for:	•		
			☐ Federally Listed spec ☐ Fish/spawn areas. Ex			
			☐ Other environmentally ☐ Aquatic/wildlife divers		plain findings:	
3.	Cha	aract	teristics of all wetlands	adjacent to the tributa	ary (if any)	
		All ۱	wetland(s) being consider	ed in the cumulative ar		s.
	For each wetland, specify the following:					
			Directly abuts? (Y/N)	Size (in acres)	Directly abuts? (Y/N)	Size (in acres)

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:

- 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, wide, 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 wide. Other non-wetland waters: acres. 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.

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⁸See Footnote # 3.

	Provide estimates for jurisdictional waters within the review area (check all that apply): Tributary waters: linear feet, wide. 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 jurisidictional. 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).		
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:			
lde	ntify water body and summarize rationale supporting determination:		
	vide estimates for jurisdictional waters in the review area (check all that apply): Tributary waters: linear feet, wide. Other non-wetland waters: acres. Identify type(s) of waters: Wetlands: acres.		
	N-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.		

E.

F.

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.

	an 2001 Supreme "Migratory Bird Ru	Court decision in "SWANCC," the review area would have been regulated based ule" (MBR).	
	et the "Significant	Nexus" standard, where such a finding is required for jurisdiction. Explain:	
Provide acreage esti the MBR factors (i.e. using best profession	mates for non-juris , presence of migr nal judgment (chec	sdictional waters in the review area, where the <u>sole</u> potential basis of jurisdiction is atory birds, presence of endangered species, use of water for irrigated agriculture),	
Feature ID	Length (ft)		
S1AEG001	59.0		
S1AEG002	956.9		
S1AEG002B	53.1		
S1AEG002C	120.3		
S1AEG003	415.4		
S1AEG004	883.2		
S1AEG005	61.2		
S1AEG006	334.7		
S1AEG007	203.5		
S1AEG007B	200.6		
S1AEG008	158.4		
□ Lakes/ponds: acres. □ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: □ Wetlands: Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area that do not meet the "Significant Nexus" standar where such a finding is required for jurisdiction (check all that apply): □ Non-wetland waters (i.e., rivers, streams): □ Lakes/ponds: acres. □ Other non-wetland waters: acres. List type of aquatic resource: □ Wetlands: acres.			
TION IV: DATA SO	<u> </u>		
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: May 7, 2018 updated AR delineation prepared by TRC Environmental Corporation ✓ 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 Gypsum ✓ 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:
	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:
\Box	Other information (please specify):

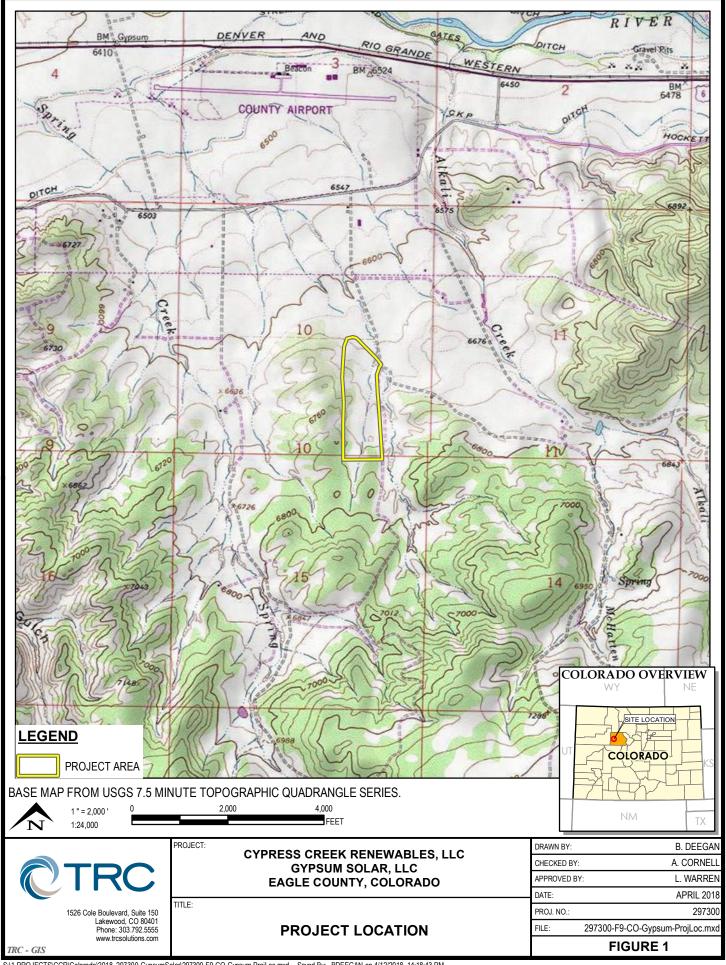
B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD: The Gypsum Solar site is an approximately 41-acre parcel consisting primarly of sagebrush and pinyon-juniper with an erosional swale traversing the site south to north. This erosional swale contains 11 discontinuos features, ranging from approx. 53 feet in length to 883 feet in lenth, that display OHWM physical indicators such as scouring of vegatation and change in sediment texture.

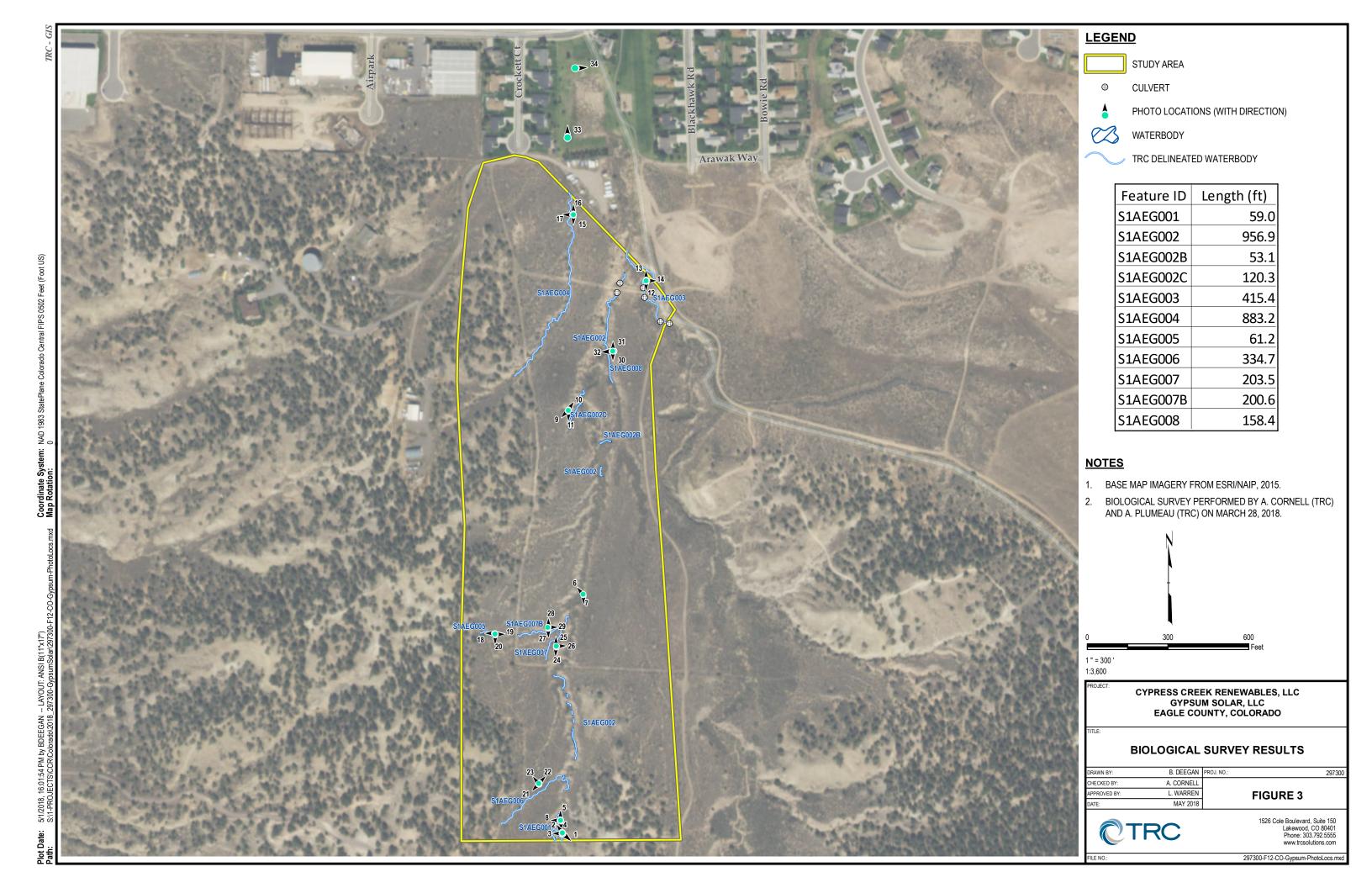
The erosional swale terminates at a man-made detention basin (39.631542, -106.905232) located in a residential subdivision. An elevated drain with a trash rack is located at the north end of the basin. The basin is populated with sagebrush and has a linear feature that appears similar to an OHWM from aerial photography, but was confirmed as a game-trail. No evidence of aquatic features are present within the detention basin. There was no evidence of either flow or ponding during the April 27, 2018 site visit.

The elevated drain outlets to an upland swale north of Spring Buck Road. No OHWM phsyical indicators were present within the swale and it is populated with upland plants. This upland swale terminates approximately 700 feet to the north as the slope flattens transitioning from foothills to flooplain. Any flows generated by precipitation events disappate into the sandy substrate at its terminus.

This erosional swale/drainage feature is separated from the Eagle River, approximately 6,000 feet to the north, by the Eagle County Regional Airport and a gravel mining operation. The 11 ephemeral aquatic features terminate in uplands and are physically isolated with no tributary flow to a waters of the United States.

There is no information available to show that the aquatic resource in review 1) is or could be used by interstate or foreign travlers for recreational or other purposes, 2) produces fish or shellfish which are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce, or 3) is or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in the interstate commerce.



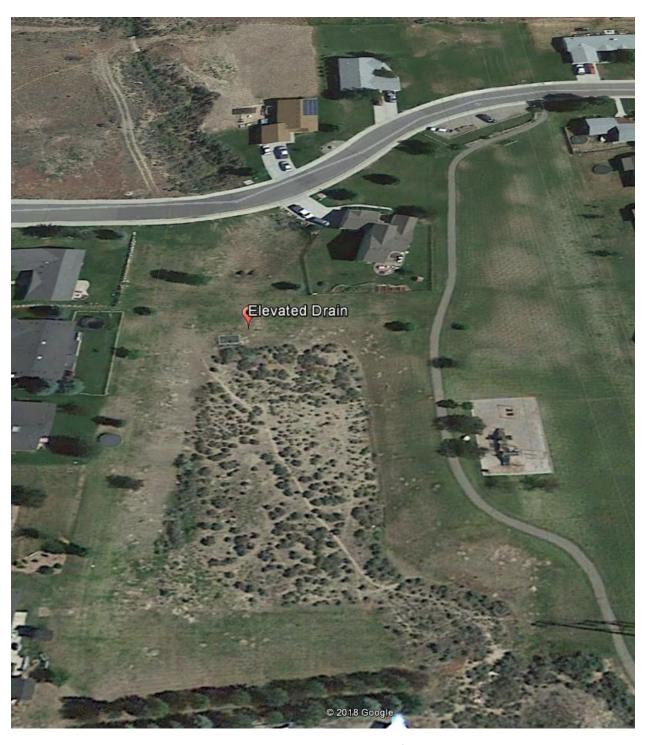




This erosional swale is separated from the Eagle River, approximately 6,000 feet to the north, by the Eagle County Regional Airport and a gravel mining operation.



The elevated drain outlets to an upland swale north of Spring Buck Road, which terminates approximately 700 feet to the north as the slope flattens transitioning from foothills to flooplain.



An elevated drain with a trash rack is located at the north end of the basin. The basin is populated with sagebrush and has a linear feature that appears similar to an OHWM from aerial photography, but was confirmed as a game-trail.



Typical ephemeral channel with OHWM physical indicators



Feature S1AEG003



Feature S1AEG003



Feature S1AEG004



Feature S1AEG005



Feature S1AEG006



Feature S1AEG007



Elevated drain in detention basin

