

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

SECTION I: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD): September 14, 2020

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: Sacramento District, Axial Basin Solar Project, SPK-2020-00542

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: **Colorado** County/parish/borough: **Moffat County** City: **Axial**
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. **40.3255°**, Long. **-107.7887°**
Universal Transverse Mercator: **13 263080.36 4467617.01**

Name of nearest waterbody: **Milk Creek**

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

Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): **Lower Yampa, 13**

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 12, 2020**

Field Determination. Date(s):

SECTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

A. RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

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

Waters subject to the ebb and flow of the tide.

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

B. CWA SECTION 404 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.

There **are** "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: 5.62 acres/6,750 linear feet of perennial stream, 1.44 acres/17,095 linear feet of intermittent stream, and .04 acre of open water.

Wetlands: 202.2 acres (Palustrine Emergent)

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

Elevation of established OHWM (if known): N/A

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 0.25 acre of aquatic resources identified as "o-kl-001" and "o-kl-003" on the submitted drawings are intrastate isolated aquatic resources with no apparent interstate or foreign commerce connection. As such, these aquatic resource(s) are not currently regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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).

³ 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: No TNW's within survey area.

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: **13,100 Square Miles**
Drainage area: **3,383 Square Miles**
Average annual rainfall: 18 inches
Average annual snowfall: 64 inches

(ii) Physical Characteristics:

(a) Relationship with TNW:

- Tributary flows directly into TNW.
 Tributary flows through **1** tributaries before entering TNW.

Project waters are **3** river miles from TNW.

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

Project waters are **2** 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: No. The waters within the project area are located entirely within the State of Colorado.

Identify flow route to TNW⁵: Several named drainages flow through the Study Area including Wilson Creek, Jubb Creek, Stinking Gulch, and Milk Creek. Jubb Creek is a tributary to Wilson Creek. Wilson Creek and Stinking Gulch are tributaries to Milk Creek, which is a perennial tributary to the Yampa River, approximately

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.

three miles north of the Project boundary. Yampa River is tributary to the Green River which is a traditional navigable water.

Tributary stream order, if known:

(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: 3-24 feet
Average depth: less than 1 foot
Average side slopes: **N/A**

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: Stream channel incised and eroding in areas where channel is constricted. Some unnatural flow regimes due to irrigation.

Presence of run/riffle/pool complexes. Explain: No.

Tributary geometry: **Sinuuous**

Tributary gradient (approximate average slope): Low.

(c) Flow:

Tributary provides for: **Perennial to Intermittent**

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

Describe flow regime:

Other information on duration and volume:

Surface flow is: **Confined** Characteristics:

Subsurface flow: **Unknown**. Explain findings:

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 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.⁷ Explain:

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

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

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.

(iii) Chemical Characteristics:

Characterize tributary (e.g., water color is clear, discolored, oily film; water quality; general watershed characteristics, etc.). Explain: Generally silty water, characteristic of the region.
Identify specific pollutants, if known:

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

- Riparian corridor. Characteristics (type, average width): PEM, Varies.
- Wetland fringe. Characteristics: PEM
- Habitat for:
 - Federally Listed species. Explain findings:
 - Fish/spawn areas. Explain findings:
 - Other environmentally-sensitive species. Explain findings:
 - Aquatic/wildlife diversity. Explain findings: Water source in somewhat arid region providing habitat to area mammals, birds, and other wildlife and aquatic species.

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: **202** acres

Wetland type. Explain: PEM

Wetland quality. Explain: Good, portions of the historic wetlands have been converted to agriculture use.
The remaining wetlands provide groundwater recharge and stream flow maintenance and flood protection.

Project wetlands cross or serve as state boundaries. Explain: No. The waters within the project area are located entirely within the State of Colorado.

(b) General Flow Relationship with Non-TNW:

Flow is: **Perennial**. Explain: Wetlands receive and store water most of the year.

Surface flow is: **discreet and confined**

Characteristics:

Subsurface flow: **Unknown**. Explain findings:

- Dye (or other) test performed:

(c) Wetland Adjacency Determination with Non-TNW:

- Directly abutting
- Not directly abutting
 - Discrete wetland hydrologic connection. Explain: Wetlands are connected via direct connection, as well as swales and shallow, unconfined groundwater movement through underlying permeable sediments.
 - Ecological connection. Explain:
 - Separated by berm/barrier. Explain:

(d) Proximity (Relationship) to TNW

Project wetlands are **3** river miles from TNW.

Project waters are **1** aerial (straight) miles from TNW.

Flow is from: **RPW and wetland to navigable waters**.

Estimate approximate location of wetland as within the **5 year** 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: N/A
Identify specific pollutants, if known: N/A

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

- Riparian buffer. Characteristics (type, average width): PEM with high variability of width adjacent to stream.
- Vegetation type/percent cover. Explain: PEM of mostly 100% cover
- 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 habitat to local mammals, birds, and other wildlife and aquatic species.

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

All wetland(s) being considered in the cumulative analysis: **9**

Approximately **202.2** 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>
w-kl-001e-a	Y	.07	w-kl-004e	Y	.35
w-kl-001e-b	Y	.01	w-kl-005e	Y	159.81
w-kl-002e	Y	2.94	w-kl-006e	Y	25.4
w-kl-003e	Y	.49	w-kl-007e	Y	12.71
			w-kl-008e	Y	.48

Summarize overall biological, chemical and physical functions being performed: Groundwater recharge and streamflow maintenance, fish and wildlife habitat, water quality improvement through sediment removal and flood protection through runoff detention.

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: The named drainages each provide water and life cycle support functions for fish species present in the downstream TNW. Each provides water and gravel to perennial tributaries to the Yampa River thereby providing spawning and rearing habitat for fish species. This process, which occurs in each of these tributaries, transfers nutrients and organic carbon from the headwaters to the downstream TNW and supports downstream food webs. The drainages have a significant effect on the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Yampa River that is more than speculative or insubstantial.
- 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: Wetlands in the survey area are directly abutting and/or adjacent to one another and are connected through shallow, unconfined groundwater movement through underlying permeable sediments, or via surface flow. As such, they can be thought of as a wetland complex connected by the local water table that flow into Milk Creek and ultimately the Yampa River.

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: N/A

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: Wilson Creek, Milk Creek
- 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: Jubb Creek, Stinking Gulch

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

Tributary waters: **5.62 acres/6,750 linear feet of perennial stream, 1.44 acres/17,095 linear feet of intermittent stream**

- 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, 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: All wetlands in survey area are located in floodplains or swale associated with 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: All wetlands in survey area are located in floodplains or swale associated with RPW.

Provide acreage estimates for jurisdictional wetlands in the review area: **202.2** 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.

⁸See Footnote # 3.

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:

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:
- 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:
Investigation and analysis performed by Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc. demonstrated that aquatic resources identified as “o-kl-001” and “o-kl-003” do not have a chemical, physical or biological connection and do not cross or serve as a state boundary. “o-kl-001” and “o-kl-003” are located in depressed areas surrounded by uplands isolating them from jurisdictional waters. These non-jurisdictional waters are stock ponds.
- 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, wide.
- 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, wide.
- Lakes/ponds: acres.
- Other non-wetland waters: **.25** acres. List type of aquatic resource: Stock Pond constructed in uplands.
- 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):

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.

- Maps, plans, plots or plat submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant: Aquatic Resource Inventory Report, submitted by Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc.
- 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: **1:24K; Axial**
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United State Department of Agriculture. Web Soil Survey. Available online at <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/>
- National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2020. National Wetlands Inventory. Available online at: <https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/Mapper.html>
- State/Local wetland inventory map(s):
- FEMA/FIRM maps:
- 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodectic Vertical Datum of 1929)
- Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): Google Earth Pro July 4, 2014
or Other (Name & Date): Aquatic Resource Inventory Report, submitted by Western EcoSystems Technology, Inc.
- Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter:
- Applicable/supporting case law:
- Applicable/supporting scientific literature: Lichvar, R.W. and McColley, S.M. 2008. A Field Guide to the Identification of the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) in the Arid West Region of the Western United States.ERDC/CRREL
- Other information (please specify):

B. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD:

Several named drainages flow through the Study Area including Wilson Creek, Jubb Creek, Stinking Gulch, and Milk Creek (Figure 2). Jubb Creek is a tributary to Wilson Creek. Wilson Creek and Stinking Gulch are tributaries to Milk Creek, which is a perennial tributary to the Yampa River, approximately three miles north of the Project boundary. The Yampa River is a tributary to the Green River which is a traditional navigable water. Approximately 209.3 acres of aquatic resources, consisting of 202.2 acres of palustrine wetlands, 5.62 acres/6,750 linear feet of perennial stream, 1.44 acres/17,095 linear feet of intermittent stream, and .04 acre of open water are present within the survey area. These aquatic resources ("waters of the United States") are regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, since they are relatively permanent waters, or contain biological nexus to relatively permanent waters.

The 0.25 acre of aquatic resources identified as "o-kl-001" and "o-kl-003" on the above drawing are intrastate isolated aquatic resources (i.e., stock ponds) with no apparent interstate or foreign commerce connection. As such, these aquatic resource(s) are not currently regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.