

DRY LAND APPROVED JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION FORM¹
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 6, 2021

B. DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: POA-2021-00540

C. PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State: Alaska County/parish/borough: Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area City: Huslia
Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 65.70024°N, Long. 156.36760°W
Name of nearest waterbody: Koyukuk River
Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): HUC 10 - 1909010820

- Check if map/diagram of review area is available upon request. (See associated MFR.)
 Check if other sites (e.g., offsite mitigation sites, disposal sites, etc...) are associated with this action and are recorded on a different JD form.

D. REVIEW PERFORMED FOR SITE EVALUATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

- Office (Desk) Determination. Date: December 6, 2021
 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.

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.

SECTION III: 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: with Pre JD request - DCRA Community Map and NWI map
 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:
 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: 1:25,000 (7.5-minute), Kateel River C-1 NW
 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. Citation: SCS (Swanson) 1992 – Soil Survey Investigation
 National wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: N/A – no coverage within 50 miles
 State/Local wetland inventory map(s): AK Center for Conservation Science – Land Cover and Wetlands
 FEMA/FIRM maps:
 100-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929)
 Photographs: Aerial (Name & Date): Google Earth: June 2019 (accessed Nov 31, 2021)
 or Other (Name & Date):
 Previous determination(s). File no. and date of response letter:
 Applicable/supporting case law:
 Applicable/supporting scientific literature:
 Other information (please specify): Nearby JDs also concluded uplands (e.g., POA-2021-00409, 2020-00168, POA-2020-00170)

¹ This form is for use only in recording approved JDs involving dry land. It extracts the relevant elements of the longer approved JD form in use since 2007 for aquatic areas and adds no new fields.

B. REQUIRED ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO SUPPORT JD. EXPLAIN RATIONALE FOR DETERMINATION THAT THE REVIEW AREA ONLY INCLUDES DRY LAND: The JD Review Area (RA), containing both lots, is situated on a gently sloping area between the airport (highest point in the local area) and the community of Huslia (immediately adjacent to the Koyukuk River). This area is within the Interior Bottomlands Ecoregion of the Yukon River Basin (Brabets et. al., 2000).

No site visit was made to the RA, and the requestor did not provide additional information.

The National Wetland Inventory does not cover the RA, but the RA is within both NLCD and Alaska Center for Conservation Science's Wetlands data coverage areas. Both datasets map the RA and surrounding area as wetlands ("Woody Wetlands" and "Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetlands", respectively). Brabets et. al., 2000 maps the soils in the general Huslia (and surrounding) region as consisting of Gelisols

(underlain with permafrost within 40 inches). These broad scale datasets provide important regional information, but SCS (Swanson) 1992 offers more localized, field based data specific to Huslia and the immediate area.

Swanson maps the soils in the RA as primarily sand with little to no underlying permafrost, and smaller inclusions of related soil types (often in depressions). The soils in the RA have a thin organic layer, are well drained, and have a water table below 60 inches. The vegetative community consists of stunted spruce-birch-aspen forest mixed with low, sparse shrubs and a continuous lichen ground cover. Aerial imagery shows the RA is comprised of a relatively high (~50%) forest cover. Aerial imagery also shows the distinct, narrow sand dune stretching east several miles from the Koyukuk River.

The sandy soils without a restrictive layer, gentle sloping topography, and relatively low annual precipitation are factors that result in hydrology and soils that do not support wetlands. Although the dominant plant, black spruce (*Picea mariana*), is a facultative wetland indicator, it also commonly grows in non-wetland areas. The stunted trees are likely due to limited nutrients available in the sandy soils.

Due to the lack of suitable soils, hydrology and vegetation, there are no jurisdictional waters or wetlands within the RA.



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NORTH Section

December 6, 2021

Date