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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.

A.	REPORT COMPLETION DATE FOR APPROVED	JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION (JD):
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В.

	DISTRICT OFFICE, FILE NAME, AND NUMBER: ntington District, LRH-2015-00530-GAU-UTs of Smokehouse Branch
C.	PROJECT LOCATION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION: State: West Virginia County/parish/borough: Greenbrier City: Duo Center coordinates of site (lat/long in degree decimal format): Lat. 38.08407° N, Long. 80.56502° W Universal Transverse Mercator: Name of nearest water body: Smokehouse Branch Name of nearest Traditional Navigable Water (TNW) Into which the aquatic resource flows: Gauley River Name of watershed or Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC): (12 digit HUC – 050500050605) Big Clear 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: 18 February 2016 ☐ Field Determination. Date(s): 27 October 2015 and 15 December 2015
<u>SE(</u>	CTION II: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS RHA SECTION 10 DETERMINATION OF JURISDICTION.
	re Are no "navigable waters of the U.S." within Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA) jurisdiction (as defined by 33 CFR part 329) in the ew 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.
The	re 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): TNWs, including territorial seas Wetlands adjacent to TNWs Relatively permanent waters ² (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 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):

Boxes checked below shall be supported by completing the appropriate sections in Section III below.
 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).

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:

On 10 June 2015, this office received a stream and wetland delineation report, Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination Report, Duo Surface Mine No. 1 - dated 9 June 2015, submitted by Decota Consulting Company, Inc (Decota) on behalf of JEP Mining, LLC (JEP). Members from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Decota and JEP participated in an on-site field investigations conducted on 27 October 2015 and 15 December 2015. During this investigation the Corps requested additional information required to accurately describe and delineate waters within the delineation boundary. Final revisions were received by our office 11 February 2016.

Based on a review of the 9 June 2015 report submitted to our office, an on-site field verification conducted on 27 October 2015 and 15 December 2015, final revisions received 11 February 2016, and other data available to us, this office has determined that both jurisdictional and non-jurisdictional waters are present within the study area. The approved JD boundary contains twenty-one (21) isolated non-jurisdictional features. This includes: twenty (20) isolated open water features totaling 2.620 acres; and, one (1) isolated wetland totaling 0.036 acres.

The project area is characterized by past/pre- and post-SMCRA⁴ mining activities, access roads, timbering, along with various forms of utility development. The area has been extensively altered by pre-law mining. Large highwalls, pit impoundments, and overburden piles have severely altered the drainage patterns and topography of the area.

Based on the above referenced information, this office has determined that there are twenty (20) isolated open water features totaling 2.620 acres; and, one (1) isolated wetland totaling 0.036 acres, not subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). These features did not exhibit a hydrologic surface or consolidated subsurface connection to a water of the U.S.

The approved JD follows our 2 December 2008 headquarters guidance entitled "Revised Guidance on Clean Water Act Jurisdiction Following the United States Supreme Court Decision in Rapanos v. United States and Carabell v. United States." Refer to the enclosed: Duo Surface Mine No. 1 – Approved JD Table; and Duo Surface Mine No. 1- Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination Stream Delineation Map (February 2016); for a detailed summary of the non-jurisdictional features.

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.

³ Supporting documentation is presented in Section III.F.

⁴ The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) of 1977 (Public Law 95-87; 30 U.S.C. §1201-1328) establishes a nationwide program to protect society and the environment from the adverse effects of surface coal mining operations, and to set forth reclamation guidelines for surface coal mining areas. SMCRA was developed under the administration of the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement, in the Department of Interior

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)	Wat Drai Ave	teral Area Conditions: ershed size: Pick List inage area: Pick List rage annual rainfall: inches rage annual snowfall: inches
(ii)		sical Characteristics: 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 TNW 6 : 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: 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):

⁵ Note that the Instructional Guidebook contains additional information regarding swales, ditches, washes, and erosional features generally and in the arid West.

⁶ 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.

(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:
Cha	Tributary has (check all that apply): Bed and banks OHWM7 (check all indicators that apply): clear, natural line impressed on the bank destruction of terrestrial vegetation destruction of terrestrial
Phy	eristics of wetlands adjacent to non-TNW that flow directly or indirectly into TNW vsical Characteristics: 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:

2.

⁷A 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.

8Ibid.

			Directly abutting			
			☐ Not directly abutting			
				drologic connection. Explai	n: .	
			Ecological connection			
			☐ Separated by berm/b	parrier. Explain: .		
		(d)	Proximity (Relationship) to	TNW		
		(4)	Project wetlands are Pick Li			
			Project waters are Pick List		TNW.	
			Flow is from: Pick List.	(, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
			Estimate approximate location	on of wetland as within the l	Pick List floodplain.	
	(ii)		Chemical Characteristics:		•	
		Cha	aracterize wetland system (e.g	., water color is clear, brown	i, oil film on surface; water qua	ality; general watershed
			characteristics; etc.). Explai	n: .	-	
			ntify specific pollutants, if kno			
	(iii)	Bio	logical Characteristics. Wet		nat apply):	
			Riparian buffer. Characteris			
		\sqcup	Vegetation type/percent cov	er. Explain: .		
		Ш	Habitat for:			
			Federally Listed species.			
			Fish/spawn areas. Explai			
				ensitive species. Explain fin	dings: .	
			Aquatic/wildlife diversit	y. Explain findings: .		
•	CI.					
3.	Cha		eristics of all wetlands adjac			
			wetland(s) being considered i			
		App	proximately () acres in	total are being considered in	i the cumulative analysis.	
		For	each wetland, specify the foll	owing:		
		1 01	each wettand, speerly the for	wing.		
			Directly abuts? (Y/N)	Size (in acres)	Directly abuts? (Y/N)	Size (in acres)
				<u></u>		<u></u>
			Summarize overall biologica	al, chemical and physical fur	nctions 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):

TH	IAT 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-RPWs ⁹ 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 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.

⁹See Footnote # 3.

	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. 10 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): 11 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): Refer to Section II.B.2 for a detailed description of non-jurisdictional features.
	Provide acreage estimates for non-jurisdictional waters in the review area, where the <u>sole</u> 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.
SEC	CTION 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: Decota Consulting Company, Inc., on behalf of JEP Mining LLC, submitted the following information: 1) 9 June 2015, Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination Report, Duo Surface Mine No. 1;

¹⁰ To complete the analysis refer to the key in Section III.D.6 of the Instructional Guidebook.
11 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.

2) 22 December 2015, Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination Report Addendum, Duo Surface Mine No. 1; and, 3) February 2016 revised delineation mapping, Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination Stream Delineation Map (February 2016).

⊠ Da	ata sheets prepared/submitted by or on behalf of the applicant/consultant.
\boxtimes	Office concurs with data sheets/delineation report.
	Office does not concur with data sheets/delineation report.
☐ Da	ata sheets prepared by the Corps:
☐ Co	orps navigable waters' study:
□ U.:	S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Atlas:
] USGS NHD data.
	USGS 8 and 12 digit HUC maps.
∪.	S. Geological Survey map(s).: USGS WV- Duo- 24K Quad.
⊠ US	SDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey. 9 June 2015 report.
☐ Na	ational wetlands inventory map(s). Cite name: USACE ORM NWI dataset.
☐ Sta	ate/Local wetland inventory map(s): .
☐ FE	EMA/FIRM maps: .
□ 10	00-year Floodplain Elevation is: (National Geodectic Vertical Datum of 1929)
Ph	notographs: Aerial (Name & Date):
	or ☑ Other (Name & Date): 9 June 2015 report and 22 December 2015 report addendum.
☐ Pre	evious determination(s). File no. and date of response letter:
☐ Ap	pplicable/supporting case law:
☐ Ap	opplicable/supporting scientific literature: .
Ot	ther information (please specify):

B. Additional Comments to Support JD: