

April 6, 2021

CDA Engineering, Inc. 6 Larch Avenue, Suite 401 Wilmington, DE 19804

Attention: Mr. Colm DeAscanis, P.E.

Subject: Wetland Investigation Summary Letter

Riveredge Industrial Park

150 Lukens Drive New Castle, DE 19720 Tax Parcel: 21-022.00-002

Dear Colm:

Watershed Eco, LLC. investigated the above referenced property on April 2, 2021 for the purpose of verifying wetland boundaries previously delineated by Watershed Eco, LLC., in 2012 and confirming the wetlands mapped conform to the Navigable Water Protection Rule (NWPR). The wetland delineation followed the criteria in the 1987 Corps Delineation Manual (Y-87-1) and the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Region (Version 2.0). Additionally, I have reviewed the National Wetland Inventory Map, historic aerial photographs, State Wetland Mapping, U.S. Geological Survey mapping, and USDA Soil Survey mapping.

The review of historical aerial imagery revealed that the subject property and surrounding land have been disturbed at some time in the past (Figures 1-7). The site consists primarily of maintained field areas with young forest cover in the northeast, and extensive area of marshland in the north. The subject property is bordered to the north by marshland and industrial and commercial properties, the east by the Delaware River, the south by Pencader Charter School, and the west by Lukens Drive, commercial properties, and a railroad line.



Figure 1: 1954 Aerial Photo.



Figure 2: 1961 Aerial Photo.



Figure 3: 1992 Aerial Photo.



Figure 4: 1997 Aerial Photo.



Figure 5: 2002 Aerial Photo.



Figure 6: 2007 Aerial Photo.



Figure 7: 2019 Aerial Photo.

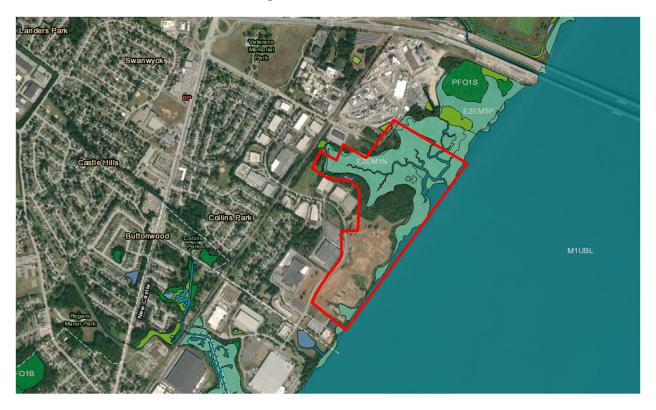


Figure 8: NWI Map



Figure 9: USGS Map.



Figure 10: USDA Soil Map

The current USDA Soil Survey Mapping (Figure 13) depicts the western portion of the site as underlain primarily with well-drained Reybold silt loam (ReB), Nassawango silt loam (NsA), Udorthents (UzC), and Urban land (Up). Areas of poorly-drained, frequently flooded Transquaking and Mispillion soils (TP) soils are depicted in the north-central and northeastern portions. Open water (W) is depicted along the entire eastern border of the property.

Dominant hydrophytic plant communities were observed within the tidal wetlands in the southeastern and northern portions of the property. Shrub/herbaceous species observed along the wetland edge in these areas included boxelder, northern arrowwood, and common reed. Upland forest areas and scrub-shrub areas within the property consisted of sweetgum, black cherry, eastern red cedar, black locust, Bradford pear, multiflora rose, blackberry, and Japanese Knotweed. The maintained field area was dominated by orchard grass, meadow onion, Japanese honeysuckle, Virginia broomsedge, and dogbane.

Hydrology to wetlands within the subject property is a combination of sheet flow run off from impervious areas within the surrounding industrial park, spring seeps, and daily tidal inundation of the Delaware River.

In conclusion and based on all of the evidence above and attached, Watershed Eco, LLC. validates the jurisdictional limits of wetlands and waterways as previously delineated in 2012. It is the professional opinion of Watershed Eco, LLC. that federal and state regulated wetlands and waterways are located within the subject property as depicted on the Wetland Delineation Plan. The limits of State regulated wetlands are depicted on DNR398 attached to this document.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

James C. McCulley IV, PWS (#000471)

**Environmental Scientist** 



**Wetland Delineation Map** 



**DNREC Tidal Wetland Map 398** 

# **Site Photographs:**



Photo 1: Mowed field area in the southern portion of the property, facing east.



Photo 2: Stormwater drainage swale from Lukens Drive in the southern portion of the property, facing west.



Photo 3: Tidal emergent wetland in the southeastern portion of the property, facing south.



Photo 4: Tidal water boundary along the eastern property boundary, facing northeast.



Photo 5: Mowed field area in the central portion of the property, facing southeast.



Photo 6: Tidal emergent wetlands in the north-central portion of the property, facing north.



Photo 7: Tidal wetlands in the northwestern portion of the property, facing east.



Photo 8: Emergent wetland area abutting railroad line along the northwestern property boundary, facing west.