

November 22, 2017

Mr. Brad Yust
Rocklin Retail Group, LLC
P.O. Box 5349
Santa Rosa, California 95402

Re: Tractor Supply Store, Rocklin, Placer County, California – Preliminary Wetland Assessment

Dear Mr. Yust,

At the request of the Rocklin Retail Group, LLC, ECORP Consulting, Inc. conducted a preliminary wetland assessment of the ±2.6-acre Tractor Supply Store Property located west of Sierra College Boulevard, south and east of Granite Drive, and north of the Rocklin Commons shopping center in Rocklin, Placer County, California (Figure 1. *Project Location and Vicinity*). The site corresponds to a portion of Section 16, Township 11 North, and Range 07 East (Mount Diablo Base and Meridian) of the “Rocklin, California” 7.5-minute quadrangle (U.S. Geological Survey [USGS], photorevised 1980). The approximate center of the site is located at latitude 38.805938° and longitude -121.209121° (NAD83) within the Lower American Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code #18020111, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USGS, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2016).

This letter report generally describes potential Waters of the United States (U.S.), including wetlands, identified within the site that may be regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The information presented in this report is intended for general planning purposes and therefore does not meet the USACE Sacramento District’s Minimum Standards for Acceptance of Aquatic Resource Delineation Reports (USACE 2016).

Waters of the United States

This letter report describes potential Waters of the U.S., including wetlands that may be regulated by the USACE under Section 404 of the CWA.

Wetlands

Wetlands are “those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions” [51 Federal Register (FR) 41250, Nov. 13, 1986, as amended at 58 FR 45036, Aug. 25, 1993]. Wetlands can be perennial or intermittent, and isolated or adjacent to other waters.

Other Waters

Other waters are non-tidal, perennial, and intermittent watercourses and tributaries to such watercourses [51 FR 41250, Nov. 13, 1986, as amended at 58 FR 45036, Aug. 25, 1993]. The limit of USACE jurisdiction for non-tidal watercourses (without adjacent wetlands) is defined in 33 CFR 328.4(c)(1) as the "ordinary high water mark" (OHWM). The OHWM is defined as the "*line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as clear, natural line impressed on the bank, shelving, changes in the character of soil, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, the presence of litter and debris, or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas*" [51 FR 41250, Nov. 13, 1986, as amended at 58 FR 45036, Aug. 25, 1993]. The bank-to-bank extent of the channel that contains the waterflow during a normal rainfall year generally serves as a good first approximation of the lateral limit of USACE jurisdiction. The upstream limits of other waters are defined as the point where the OHWM is no longer perceptible.

Federal Clean Water Act

The USACE regulates discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the U.S. under Section 404 of the CWA. "Discharges of fill material" is defined as the addition of fill material into Waters of the U.S., including, but not limited to the following: placement of fill that is necessary for the construction of any structure, or impoundment requiring rock, sand, dirt, or other material for its construction; site-development fills for recreational, industrial, commercial, residential, and other uses; causeways or road fills; and fill for intake and outfall pipes, and subaqueous utility lines [33 C.F.R. §328.2(f)]. In addition, Section 401 of the CWA (33 U.S. Code 1341) requires any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct any activity that may result in a discharge of a pollutant into Waters of the U.S. to obtain a certification that the discharge will comply with the applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards.

Substantial impacts to wetlands, over 0.5 acre of impact, may require an individual permit. Projects that only minimally affect wetlands, less than 0.5 acre of impact, may meet the conditions of one of the existing Nationwide Permits. A Water Quality Certification or waiver pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA is required for Section 404 permit actions; this certification or waiver is issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

METHODS

This preliminary assessment of potential Waters of the U.S. is intended for general planning purposes and not to support permitting pursuant to the Clean Water Act. Consequently, the field data collection methods and results of this assessment were not conducted in accordance with the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* (Environmental Laboratory 1987) and the *Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region* (Arid West Region Supplement) (USACE 2008). The boundaries of potential Waters of the U.S. were estimated through aerial photograph interpretation and limited field reconnaissance. A color aerial photograph (Google Earth 2017) was used to assist with field mapping.

The field reconnaissance survey was conducted on November 20, 2017 by ECORP biologist Keith Kwan. Mr. Kwan walked meandering transects through the ±2.6-acre Project site to determine the location and extent of potential Waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Potential Waters of the U.S. were located in the field via visual observation of obvious hydrologic and vegetative characteristics; the approximate boundaries were delineated onto an aerial photograph. The boundaries were then digitized using GIS software.

RESULTS

Existing Site Conditions

The Project site is composed of gently rolling terrain at an elevation range of approximately 310 feet to 320 feet above mean sea level. The Project site is currently undeveloped and made up of nonnative annual grassland and oak woodland vegetation communities. The grassland vegetation appears to be periodically mowed, likely to reduce the potential for fires. Surrounding land uses include undeveloped oak woodland to the north and east, the Rocklin Commons shopping center to the south, and residential apartment to the west. Granite Drive lies at the northern and western boundaries of the site.

Potential Waters of the U.S.

Seasonal Wetland

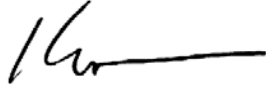
One seasonal wetland totaling ±0.006 acre was mapped in the southwestern corner of the site, adjacent to the Target parking lot and Granite Drive (Figure 2. *Potential Waters of the U.S.*). The seasonal wetland is situated in a topographic low area that drains into a culvert, which flows across Granite Drive to the north, likely through the storm drain system into Sucker Ravine. Seasonal wetlands are ephemerally wet due to accumulation of surface runoff and rainwater within low-lying areas. Inundation periods tend to be relatively short and are commonly dominated by nonnative annual, and sometimes perennial, hydrophytic plants.

CONCLUSION

A total of ±0.006 acre of potential Waters of the U.S. has been mapped onsite. This acreage represents an estimation of the jurisdictional area based on limited field reconnaissance. These results are intended for general planning purposes and not for Section 404 permit compliance, detailed site planning or preserve/impact analyses.

Please feel free to contact me (kkwan@ecorpconsulting.com) or Marin Meza (MMeza@ecorpconsulting.com) at (916) 782-9100 if you have any question regarding this issue.

Sincerely,



Keith Kwan
Senior Biologist

REFERENCES

Environmental Laboratory. 1987. Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual. Technical Report Y-87-1. U. S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station. Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Google Earth. 2017. Available Online at:

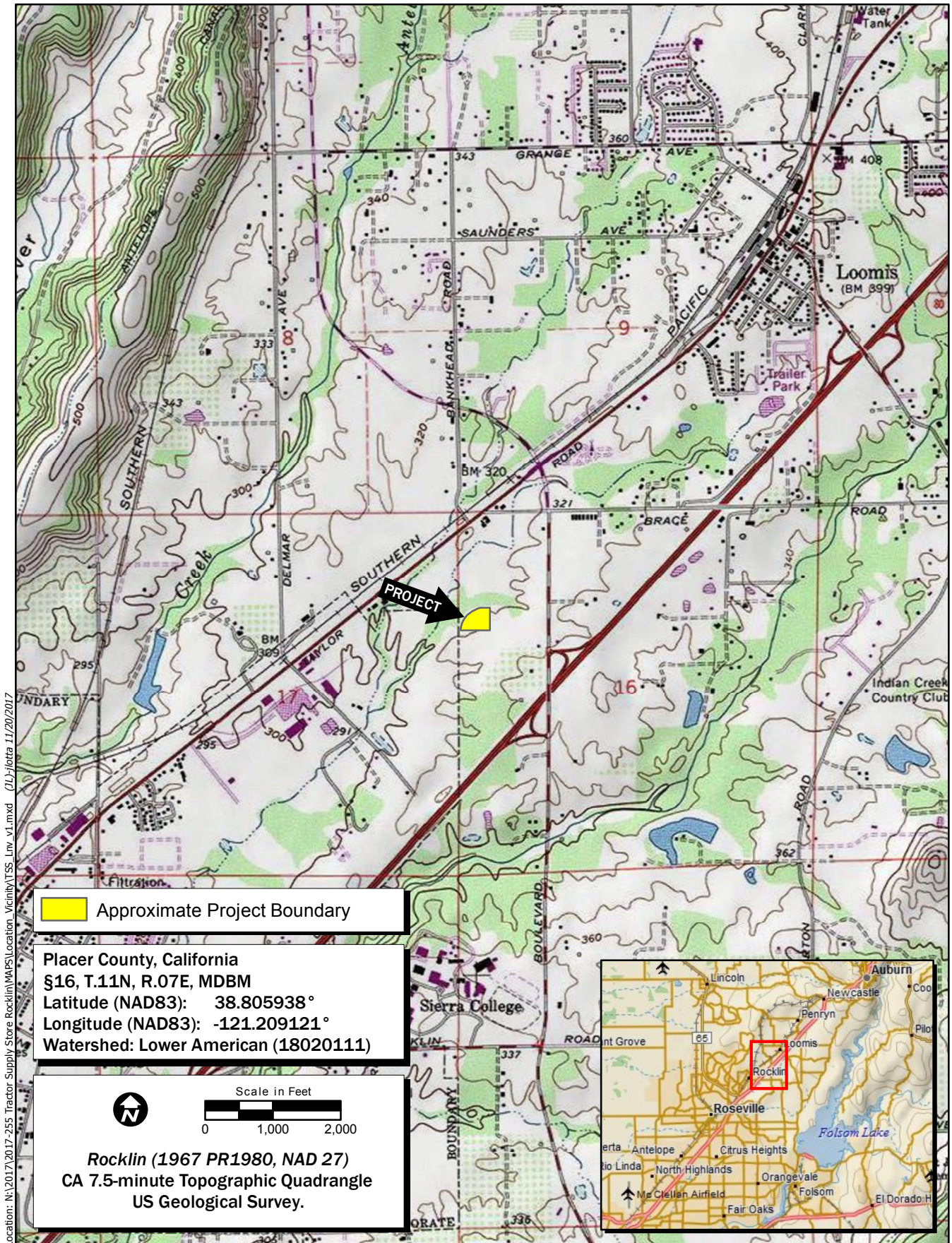
<https://earth.google.com/web/@38.805938,-121.209121,99.07687502a,801.54892654d,35y,0h,45t,0r/data=CjoaOBlyCgAZRE30-ShnQ0AhCfoLPWJNXsAqHDM4wrA0OCcyMS40Ik4gMTIxwrAxMiczM44IlcYAiABKAI>


Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Geological Service, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (2016). Watershed Boundary Dataset for California. <http://datagateway.nrcs.usda.gov>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). 2008. Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Arid West Region. ed. J.S. Wakeley, R.W. Lichvar, and C.V. Noble. ERDC/EL TR-06-16. Vicksburg, MS: U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center.


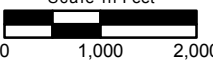
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Sacramento District. 2016. Minimum Standards for Acceptance of Aquatic Resources Delineation Reports. Dated January 2016.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). 1980. "Rocklin, California" 7.5-minute Quadrangle. Geological Survey. Denver, Colorado.



 Approximate Project Boundary

Placer County, California
 §16, T.11N, R.07E, MDBM
 Latitude (NAD83): 38.805938°
 Longitude (NAD83): -121.209121°
 Watershed: Lower American (18020111)

Scale in Feet
 

Rocklin (1967 PR1980, NAD 27)
 CA 7.5-minute Topographic Quadrangle
 US Geological Survey.

Location: N:\2017\2017-255 Tractor Supply Store Rocklin\Map\Location_Vicinity\TSS_Lrv_v1.mxd (LJ) Jlofta 11/20/2017





Map Date: 11/20/2017
 iService Layer Credits: Copyright © 2015 DeLorme
 Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, I-cubed

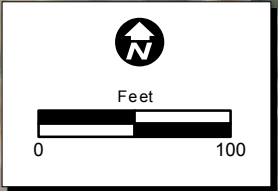
Figure 1. Project Location and Vicinity

Location: N:\2017\2017-255 Tractor Supply Store Rocklin\MAPS\Jurisdictional_Delineation\Prelim_Wetland_Assessment\1\TSS_Prelim_Wetland_Assessment_v1.mxd (LU) - 11/21/2017



Map Features

-  Approximate Project Boundary
-  Waters of the U.S. (0.006 ac.) ^{1*}
-  Wetlands (0.006 ac.)
-  Seasonal Wetland - 0.006 ac.



Feet

0 100

¹ The information depicted on this graphic represents a preliminary wetland assessment. The assessment was not conducted in accordance with the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual and Sacramento District Minimum Standards. The project boundaries, wetland boundaries, and acreage values are approximate.
* The acreage value for each feature has been rounded to the nearest 1/1000 decimal. Summation of these values may not equal the total potential Waters of the U.S. acreage reported.

Map Date: 11/21/2017
Base Source: NAIP 2016

Figure 2. Potential Waters of the U.S.
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