



**Stantec Consulting Services Inc.**  
733 Marquette Avenue Suite 1000, Minneapolis MN 55402-2309

July 10, 2026

File: 193806943

Attention: Public Ditch Authority  
c/o Patrick Hughes, Rice Creek Watershed District  
4325 Pheasant Ridge Drive  
Blaine, MN 55449

Reference: Potomac Wetland Bank Petition for Partial Abandonment of Branch 5 of County Ditch  
46

Dear Mr. Hughs:

With this letter and supporting documentation, Jake Jensen the petitioner and property owner formally petitions the Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) as the drainage authority for drainage ditch systems, for permission to partially abandon the upstream portion of Branch 5 of Ditch 46 (See Attached Figure 1). This petition is made pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103E and RCWD Rule I.

### **Background**

The request is made to accommodate the restoration of the wetland within the petitioner's property. This is being done for the purposes of developing a Wetland Bank on the property. A wetland bank application has been through agency review and partial abandonment of the upstream end of Branch 5 of Ditch 46 is one of the requirements before the application can be approved.

### **Existing Conditions**

The upstream end of Branch 5 of Ditch 46 terminates in a wetland that is located within the project site and property (Figure 1). It is located on Anoka County Parcel Identification Numbers 21-32-22-41-0001, 21-32-22-43-0001, and 21-32-22-42-0001 in Section 21, Township 32 North Range 21 West. These parcels are owned by the Wetland Bank Sponsor and petitioner for this abandonment.

The Potomac Wetland Bank project is located in Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) and will restore historic wetland areas within the project site by impounding approximately 2,250 feet of Anoka County Ditch 46, Branch 5 at its most upstream end. The project site is located at the headwaters to Branch 5, which begins at a low-lying wetland area at the far south end of the site, within the proposed Bank Site easement boundary. There are also low-lying areas east and west of Branch 5 at the north end of the site that are drained via swale into the ditch. Branch 5 has four (4)



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outflow points within the project area, including the primary ditch outlet at a 36" CMP culvert at 153rd Ave NE and three "overflow" locations. One of the overflows occurs at a roadside ditch east of the site and two occur at low points along the southernmost end of Branch 5 (see attached Outfall Locations Map, Figure 2).

The existing Potomac Bank Site receives drainage from 91.7 acres (0.14 square miles) of primarily row crop agricultural land cover, with small areas of forested land along its southerly boundary. Existing drainage is directed towards Anoka County Ditch 46, Branch 5 (Branch 5) running south to north through the center of the site. Existing drainage is conveyed to Branch 5 via four smaller "feeder" ditches on the site, as well as an existing culvert under Potomac St NE collecting drainage from a single residential lot east of the roadway. The mainline of Branch 5 is conveyed through a 24" CMP field road crossing in the center of the site before reaching the 36" project site outlet culvert. Existing drainage conditions are depicted on the attached Existing Conditions Drainage Map (Figure 3). Existing site hydraulics are summarized in Tables 1 and 2, below.

**Table 1: Existing Ditch System High-Water Levels (HWLs)**

| Location         | Description                         | XP Node       | HWL (ft) |        |        |        |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|
|                  |                                     |               | 2yr      | 10yr   | 25yr   | 100yr  |
| Mainline Ditch   | 153rd Ave Culvert (Primary Outfall) | AC46B5_005    | 900.14   | 900.84 | 901.09 | 901.50 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1A)                     | AC46B5_006    | 900.15   | 900.84 | 901.09 | 901.50 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1A)                     | AC46B5_007.1  | 900.16   | 900.85 | 901.09 | 901.48 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1A)                     | AC46B5_007.2  | 900.17   | 900.86 | 901.10 | 901.48 |
|                  | 24" Field Road Culvert Outlet       | AC46B5_008    | 900.18   | 900.86 | 901.10 | 901.49 |
|                  | 24" Field Road Culvert Inlet        | AC46B5_009    | 900.83   | 901.41 | 901.65 | 901.91 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1B)                     | AC46B5_010    | 900.83   | 901.41 | 901.65 | 901.91 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1B)                     | AC46B5_011    | 900.83   | 901.41 | 901.65 | 901.91 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1B)                     | AC46B5_012.1  | 900.83   | 901.41 | 901.65 | 901.91 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1B)                     | AC46B5_012.2  | 900.83   | 901.41 | 901.65 | 901.91 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1B)                     | AC46B5_013.1  | 900.83   | 901.41 | 901.65 | 901.91 |
|                  | Ditch Headwater Wetland (Site 1C)   | AC46B5_014.1  | 900.83   | 901.41 | 901.65 | 901.88 |
| Feeder Ditch     | Ditch #4 (Site 1A)                  | AC46B5_007.3  | 902.16   | 902.21 | 902.23 | 902.27 |
| Upland Low Areas | Site 4                              | AC46B5_006.3A | 902.40   | 902.45 | 902.49 | 902.54 |
|                  | Site 2                              | AC46B5_006.3B | 900.34   | 901.12 | 901.31 | 901.66 |



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|                  |                              |              |        |        |        |        |
|------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                  | Site 3                       | AC46B5_010.3 | 902.45 | 902.62 | 902.72 | 902.88 |
|                  | Site 5                       | AC46B5_012.4 | 902.19 | 902.44 | 902.60 | 902.83 |
| Offsite<br>Areas | Potomac St NE Culvert Outlet | AC46B5_007.4 | 902.79 | 902.99 | 903.08 | 903.19 |
|                  | Potomac St NE Culvert Inlet  | AC46B5_007.5 | 902.84 | 903.07 | 903.18 | 903.32 |

*Table 2: Site Outfalls and Existing Discharge Rates*

| Name       | Type                  | Elevation (ft) | Discharge Rate (cfs) |      |      |       |
|------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------|------|------|-------|
|            |                       |                | 2yr                  | 10yr | 25yr | 100yr |
| Outfall 1  | Primary               | 896.53         | 29.9                 | 36.3 | 37.5 | 38.8  |
| Outfall 2  | Secondary<br>Overflow | 902.84         | 0.0                  | 0.8  | 1.9  | 4.1   |
| Outfall 3A | Secondary<br>Overflow | 901.27         | 0.0                  | 0.1  | 1.4  | 5.2   |
| Outfall 3B | Secondary<br>Overflow | 901.39         | 0.0                  | 0.0  | 3.6  | 19.0  |

### Proposed Conditions

Wetland hydrology will be re-established in the project area through partial filling and/or impoundment of the onsite feeder ditches via ditch blocks, filling of Branch 5 and construction of an armored spillway at the primary site outfall culvert, and construction of a separating berm at the south end of the project site (see attached Credit Allocation and Proposed Community Map - Figure 4). Additionally, a new field road/driveway is proposed along the south edge of Wetland Site 3 to provide access to upland areas outside of the proposed wetland easement and will also serve as a barrier between wetland HWLs and an adjacent property to the southeast. The proposed activities will foster wetland hydrology by mitigating the lateral scope and effect of the current drainage ditch system and will lead to the creation of six (6) distinct wetland basins, which are summarized in Table 3 below. Proposed site modeling results for HWL and peak discharge rate are summarized in Table 4 and 5 below and the proposed drainage map is provided as Figure 5.

*Table 3: Proposed Wetland Basins/Sites*

| Wetland Basin | XPSWMM<br>Node | Direct Drainage<br>Area (ac) | Total Drainage<br>Area (ac) | Outlet Elevation<br>(ft) |
|---------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Site 1A       | AC46B5_005.W   | 25.4                         | 77.3                        | 901.5                    |
| Site 1B       | AC46B5_009     | 29.6                         | 43.0                        | 902.0                    |



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|         |               |      |      |       |
|---------|---------------|------|------|-------|
| Site 1C | AC46B5_014.1  | 14.3 | 14.3 | 901.3 |
| Site 2  | AC46B5_006.3B | 7.5  | 7.5  | 903.0 |
| Site 3  | AC46B5_010.3  | 9.1  | 9.1  | 902.5 |
| Site 4  | AC46B5_006.3A | 1.4  | 1.4  | 903.0 |
| Site 5  | AC46B5_012.4  | 4.3  | 4.3  | 905.0 |

*Table 4: Proposed Potomac Bank Site High-Water Levels (HWLs)*

| Location         | Description                            | XP Node       | HWL (ft) |        |        |        |
|------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|
|                  |                                        |               | 2yr      | 10yr   | 25yr   | 100yr  |
| Mainline Ditch   | 153rd Ave NE Culvert (Primary Outfall) | AC46B5_005    | 899.27   | 899.62 | 900.53 | 902.82 |
|                  | Primary Outlet Spillway                | AC46B5_005.W  | 901.66   | 901.75 | 901.81 | 902.96 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1A)                        | AC46B5_006.1  | 901.77   | 901.93 | 902.07 | 902.70 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1A)                        | AC46B5_006.2  | 901.95   | 902.20 | 902.39 | 902.73 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1A)                        | AC46B5_007.1  | 901.95   | 902.20 | 902.39 | 902.73 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1A)                        | AC46B5_007.2  | 901.95   | 902.20 | 902.39 | 902.73 |
|                  | 24" Field Road Culvert Outlet          | AC46B5_008    | 902.08   | 902.21 | 902.39 | 902.73 |
|                  | 24" Field Road Culvert Inlet           | AC46B5_009    | 902.34   | 902.53 | 902.66 | 902.85 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1B)                        | AC46B5_011    | 902.34   | 902.53 | 902.66 | 902.86 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1B)                        | AC46B5_012.1  | 902.34   | 902.53 | 902.66 | 902.86 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1B)                        | AC46B5_012.2  | 902.34   | 902.53 | 902.67 | 902.86 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 1B)                        | AC46B5_013.1  | 902.34   | 902.53 | 902.67 | 902.86 |
|                  | Ditch Headwater Wetland (Site 1C)      | AC46B5_014.1  | 901.63   | 901.77 | 901.86 | 902.00 |
| Feeder Ditch     | Ditch #4 (Site 1A)                     | AC46B5_007.3  | 902.40   | 902.52 | 902.58 | 902.73 |
|                  | Ditch (Site 3 Outlet)                  | AC46B5_010.2A | 902.35   | 902.57 | 902.70 | 902.91 |
|                  | Ditch #1 (Site 5 Outlet)               | AC46B5_012.3  | 903.00   | 903.29 | 903.58 | 904.02 |
| Upland Low Areas | Site 4                                 | AC46B5_006.3A | 903.08   | 903.14 | 903.17 | 903.21 |
|                  | Site 2                                 | AC46B5_006.3B | 902.94   | 903.09 | 903.17 | 903.31 |
|                  | Site 3                                 | AC46B5_010.3  | 902.63   | 902.70 | 902.74 | 902.91 |
|                  | Site 5                                 | AC46B5_012.4  | 904.99   | 905.15 | 905.26 | 905.46 |
| Offsite Areas    | Potomac St NE Culvert Outlet           | AC46B5_007.4  | 902.85   | 903.05 | 903.13 | 903.22 |
|                  | Potomac St NE Culvert Inlet            | AC46B5_007.5  | 902.89   | 903.12 | 903.21 | 903.33 |



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Model results show increases in proposed HWLs along the mainline and feeder ditches of ACD46 Branch 5 at nodes within the proposed wetland easement (Sites 1A-1C), as well as at proposed upland area wetland pools (Sites 2-5). The modeled increases in HWL are contained entirely within the proposed project site parcels and will not impact adjacent structures or properties. Negligible increases in HWL of 0.06 feet or less are shown at offsite culverts to the east (Nodes 007.4-007.5), with 100-year event being less than 0.01 feet.

*Table 5: Site Outfalls and Proposed Discharge Rates*

| Name       | Type               | Elevation (ft) | Discharge Rate (cfs) |      |      |       |
|------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------|------|------|-------|
|            |                    |                | 2yr                  | 10yr | 25yr | 100yr |
| Outfall 1  | Primary            | 896.53         | 13.9                 | 17.0 | 23.8 | 47.3  |
| Outfall 2  | Secondary Overflow | 902.84         | 0.0                  | 1.2  | 2.3  | 4.3   |
| Outfall 3A | Secondary Overflow | 901.27         | 1.3                  | 3.1  | 4.7  | 8.1   |
| Outfall 3B | Secondary Overflow | 901.39         | 0.5                  | 1.6  | 2.7  | 5.3   |

Modeling results show that peak discharge rate from the primary site outfall at 153rd Ave NE will be reduced for the 2-year, 10-year, and 25-year storm events, but will increase by 8.5 cfs for the 100-year event. This increased rate translates to a 0.1-foot increase in 100-year WSEL in ACD46, Branch 5 downstream of the existing 153rd Ave NE culvert down to its confluence with ACD46 Main Trunk, approximately 1,200 lineal feet downstream. This increase in downstream 100-year WSEL is contained within the existing downstream ditch channel and will not adversely impact downstream buildings, roadway crossings, or adjacent properties. Additionally, modeling results show negligible increase in secondary overflow to the east from Outfall 2 (0.2-0.4 cfs), and significant decrease in 100-year overflow to the south from Outfall 3A/3B (-10.8 cfs).

Proposed ponding elevations and corresponding volumes are given in Table 6, below. Note that stage-storage information was not developed or utilized for XPSWMM modeling of the two mainline ditch wetland basins (1A and 1B), which were modeled using natural channel links modified to match



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proposed grading conditions. For proposed conditions, a starting water level equal to each basins' respective outlet was modeled.

*Table6: Modeled Stage-Storage Data*

| Ponding Elevation (ft)        | Surface Area (ac) | Volume (ac-ft) |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| <b>Site 1C (AC46B5_014.1)</b> |                   |                |
| 899.0                         | 0.001             | 0.000          |
| 900.5                         | 0.010             | 0.008          |
| 901.0                         | 0.465             | 0.127          |
| 901.5                         | 1.447             | 0.605          |
| 902.0                         | 2.827             | 1.673          |
| 903.0                         | 2.827             | 4.500          |
| <b>Site 2 (AC46B5_006.3B)</b> |                   |                |
| 901.0                         | 0.051             | 0.000          |
| 902.0                         | 0.369             | 0.210          |
| 903.0                         | 2.412             | 1.601          |
| 904.0                         | 4.804             | 5.209          |
| <b>Site 3 (AC46B5_010.3)</b>  |                   |                |
| 902.0                         | 0.000             | 0.000          |
| 902.5                         | 1.245             | 0.311          |
| 903.0                         | 3.539             | 1.507          |
| 903.5                         | 5.140             | 3.677          |
| <b>Site 4 (AC46B5_006.3A)</b> |                   |                |
| 902.3                         | 0.001             | 0.000          |
| 902.5                         | 0.039             | 0.005          |
| 903.0                         | 0.349             | 0.102          |
| 903.5                         | 0.714             | 0.367          |
| <b>Site 5 (AC46B5_012.4)</b>  |                   |                |
| 904.0                         | 0.132             | 0.000          |
| 905.0                         | 0.852             | 0.492          |



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|       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 905.5 | 1.265 | 1.021 |
| 906.0 | 1.701 | 1.763 |

In summary, no adverse upstream or downstream impacts are expected as a result of the proposed wetland bank project because ponded HWLs stay within the proposed easement boundary or discharge at current site outfalls, and proposed peak outflows are safely managed by in-place stormwater conveyance infrastructure.

#### **Funding**

Petitioner will provide 100% funding for design, construction, and oversight costs associated with the project. Petitioner is not requesting any funding from the RCWD or other public entities for this project.

#### **Terms of Funds**

The following language in the petition served as the "terms" of the funds. This is taken directly from state statute.

1. Accompanying this petition is the Petitioner's escrow deposit of \$10,000. Petitioner acknowledges and agrees that additional deposit may be required as additional costs are incurred in the proceedings. Petitioner agrees to pay all cost and expenses that may be incurred if the proceedings are dismissed.
2. Petitioner acknowledges that the costs incurred before the proposed drainage system modification is established may not exceed the amount of the Petitioner's deposit.
3. Petitioner acknowledges that a claim for expenses greater than the amount of the deposit may not be paid unless an additional deposit is filed.
4. Petitioner acknowledges that if the drainage authority determines that the cost of the proceedings will be greater than the Petitioner's deposit before the proposed drainage system modification is established, the drainage authority must require an additional deposit to cover all cost to be filed within a prescribed time.
5. Petitioner acknowledges that the proceeding will be stopped until the additional deposit prescribed by the drainage authority is filed.
6. Petitioner acknowledges that if the additional deposit is not filed within the time prescribed, the proceedings must be dismissed.
7. Petitioner acknowledges that the cost of the Rice Creek Watershed District in the proceeding will be paid from the deposit.



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### **Maintenance**

The abandoned portion of the ditch within the project site will not require maintenance.

### **Request**

We request that the RCWD set a time and location for a public hearing on this petition and give notice of the hearing by mail to owners of all property benefiting by the drainage system either in a newspaper of general circulation within the affected drainage area or by publication on the RCWD web site pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 103E.806.

Please contact me at (651) 775-5104 or [john.smyth@statnec.com](mailto:john.smyth@statnec.com) if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

**STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC.**

John Smyth, CWD  
Senior Associate

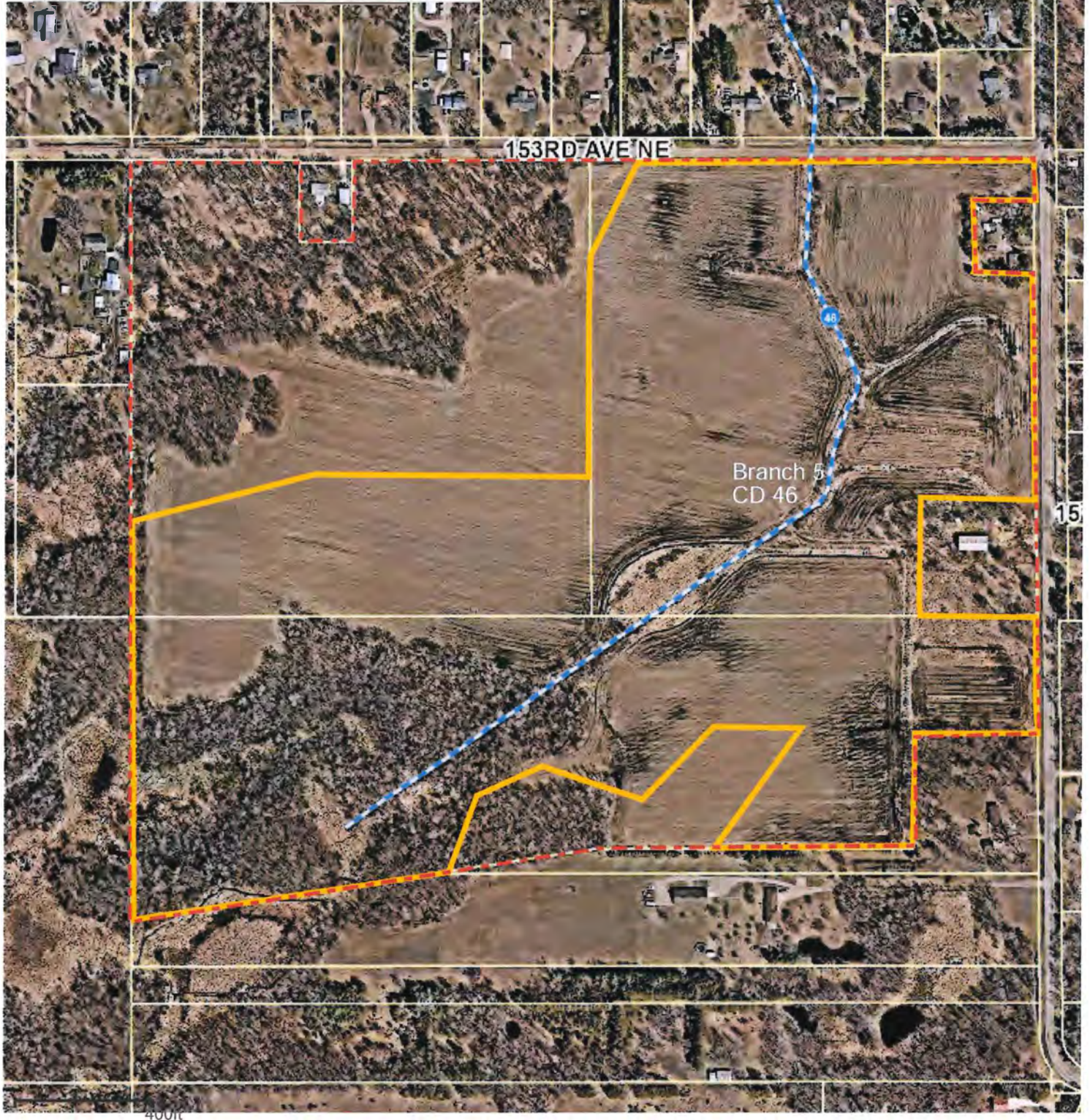
**PETITIONER AND PROPERTY OWNER**

Jake Jensen



Potomac Wetland Bank  
Branch 5 County Ditch 46  
Client: Jake Jensen

Figure 1. Project Location



546,804.799 176,533.837 Feet

- Project Boundary
- Wetland Bank Sponsor Parcels

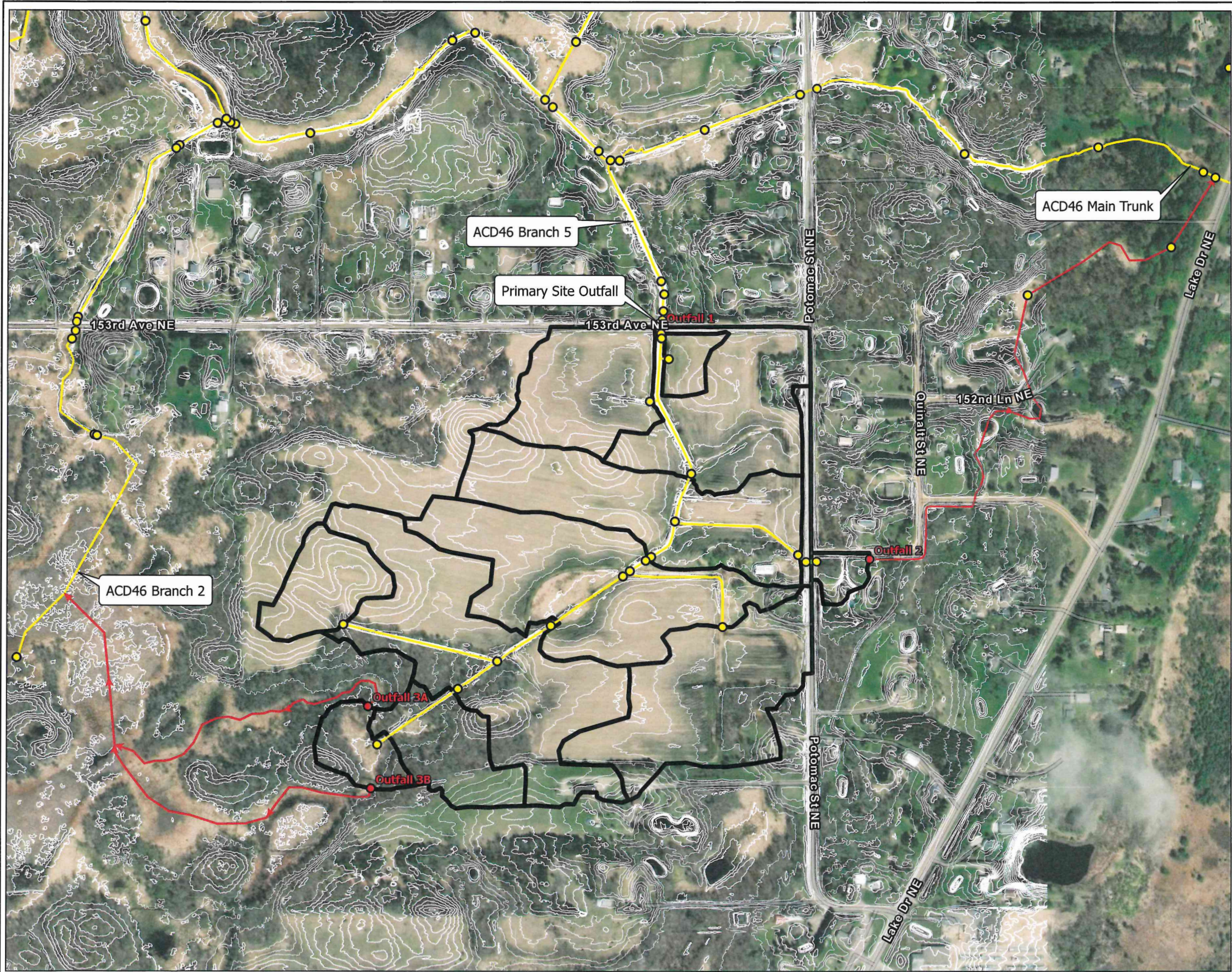
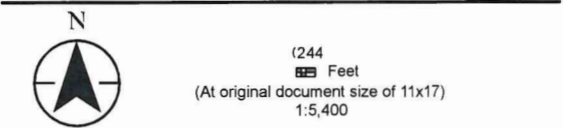


Figure No.  
**2**  
Title  
**Potomac Wetland Bank  
Outfall Locations Map**  
Client/Project 193806943

Project Location Forest Lake, MN Prepared by AJN on 2026-04-13



- Legend
- Drainage Area
  - XPSWMM Link
  - XPSWMM Node
  - Culvert
  - Overflow Route
  - Overflow Point
  - 1-ft LiDAR Contour

Notes  
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 HARN Adj MN Anoka Feet  
2. Data Sources:  
3. Background:



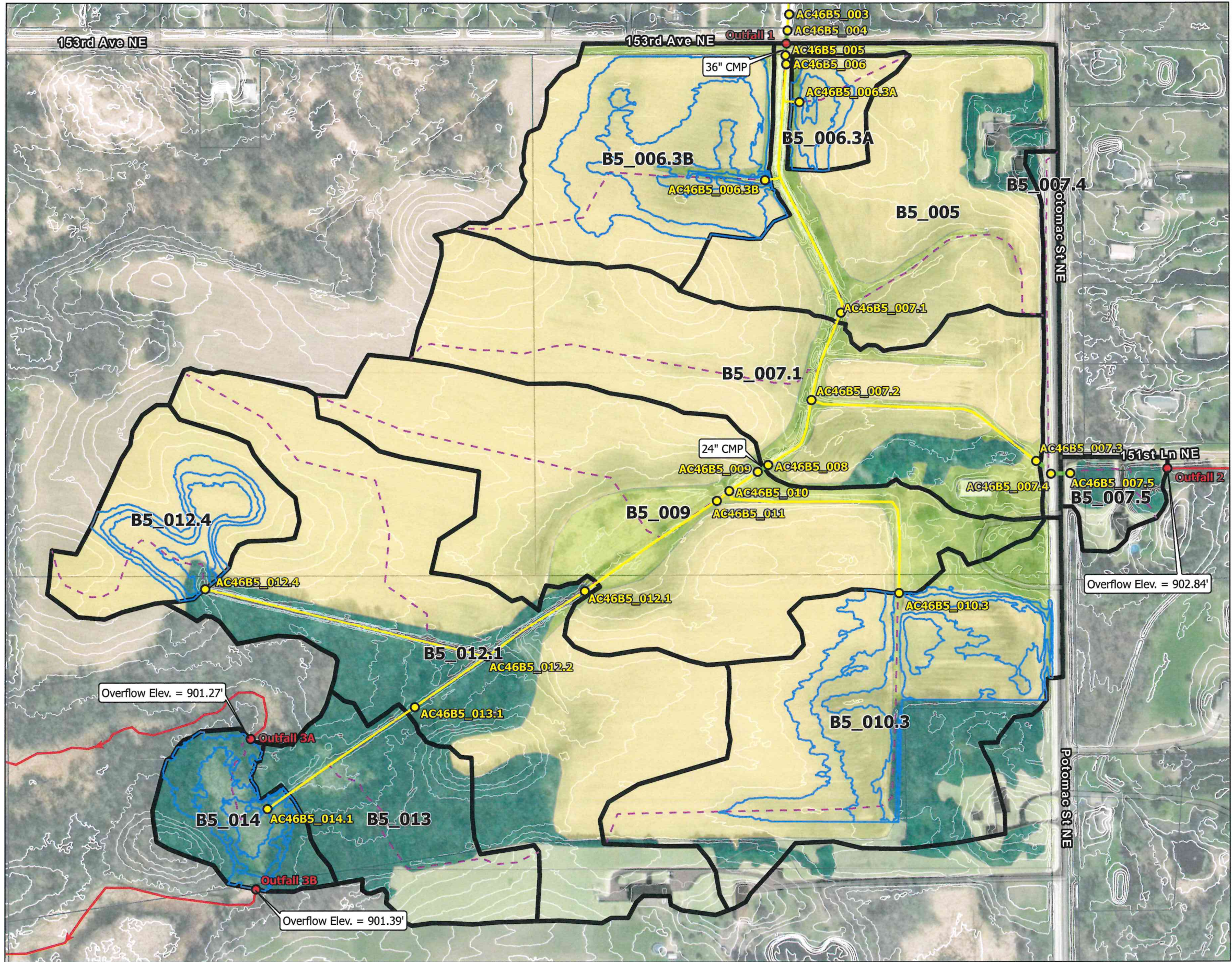


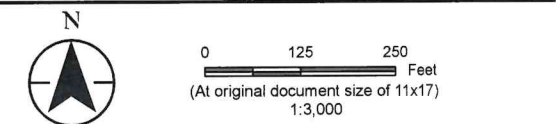
Figure No.  
**3**

Title  
**Potomac Wetland Bank  
Existing Drainage Map**

Client/Project  
193806943

Project Location  
Forest Lake, MN

Prepared by AJN on 2026-04-13



- Legend**
- Parcels
  - Drainage Area
  - Storage
  - Culvert
  - XPSWMM Link
  - XPSWMM Node
  - Overflow Route
  - Overflow Point
  - Time of Concentration Line
  - 1-ft LiDAR Contour
- Existing Land Cover**
- Row Crop
  - Turf Grass
  - Woods/Grass
  - Woods
  - Impervious

**Notes**

1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 HARN Adj MN Anoka Feet

2. Data Sources:

3. Background:



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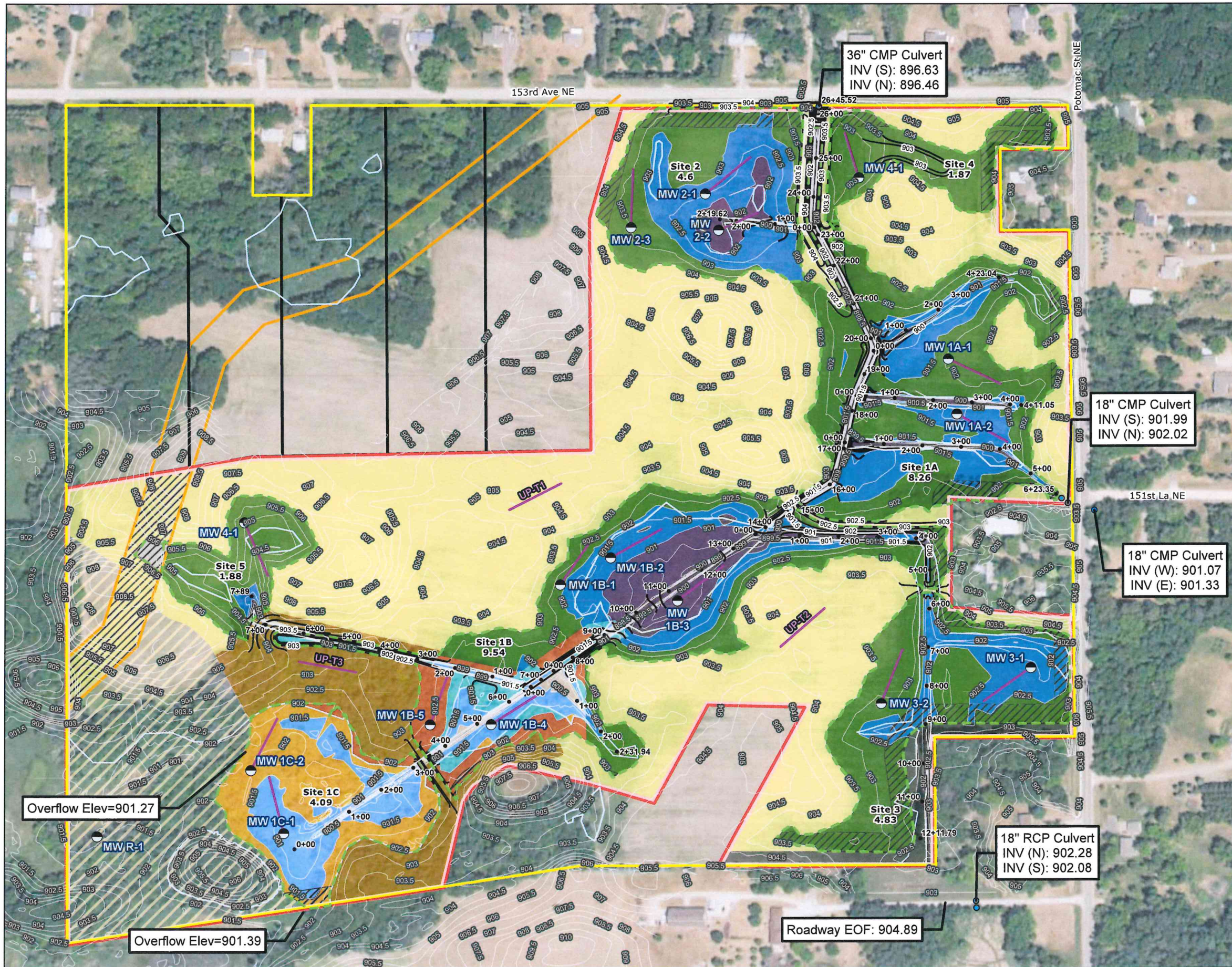


Figure No.

4

Title

## Credit Allocation and Proposed Communities

Client/Project  
Jake Jensen  
Potomac Marsh Wetland Bank

193806943

Project Location  
T32N, R22W, S21  
C. of Columbus, Anoka Co., MN

Prepared by BS on 2025-03-11



0 130 260 Feet  
(At original document size of 11x17)  
1:3,120

### Legend

- Wetland Bank Sponsor Parcel
- Easement Boundary
- Restored Wetland Boundary
- Delineated Wetland Boundary
- Proposed Communities**
- **A** Deep Marsh (CFC): 2.9 Ac.
- **B** Deep Marsh (Reestablishment - Subp. 3): 0.002 Ac.
- **C** Deep Marsh (Rehabilitation - Subp. 4B): 0.2 Ac.
- **D** Hardwood Swamp (Reestablishment - Subp. 3): 1.2 Ac.
- **E** Hardwood Swamp (Reestablishment - Subp. 3) Reduced Credit: 0.04 Ac.
- **F** Hardwood Swamp (Rehabilitation - Subp. 4B): 2.2 Ac.
- **G** Hardwood Swamp (Rehabilitation - Subp. 4B) Reduced Credit: 0.1 Ac.
- **H** Shallow Marsh (CFC): 7.4 Ac.
- **I** Shallow Marsh (CFC) Reduced Credit: 0.4 Ac.
- **J** Shallow Marsh (Reestablishment - Subp. 3): 0.8 Ac.
- **K** Shallow Marsh (Rehabilitation - Subp. 4B): 2.4 Ac.
- **L** Shallow Marsh (Rehabilitation - Subp. 4B) Reduced Credit: 0.03 Ac.
- **M** Upland Buffer - Prairie (No Credit): 1.4 Ac.
- **N** Upland Buffer - Prairie (Subp. 2): 30.5 Ac.
- **O** Upland Buffer - Woodland (Subp. 2): 4.0 Ac.
- **P** RCWD Credit Area - Wetland/Upland Mosaic: 8.3 Ac.
- **Q** Wet Meadow (CFC): 14.5 Ac.
- **R** Wet Meadow (CFC) Reduced Credit: 2.9 Ac.
- **S** Wet Meadow (CFC) - No Credit: 0.1 Ac.
- **T** Proposed Driveway - No Credit: 1.3 Ac.
- Existing Contour
- Proposed Contour
- Underground Gasline
- Future Parcel Boundary
- Transects
- Monitoring Well Location
- Ditch Stations
- Culvert

### Notes

1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 HARN Adj MN Anoka Feet
2. Data Sources: Stantec, NADS, USGS, MnGeo
3. Background: 2021 NAIP



