

# HARRIS COUNTY

Public Infrastructure Department  
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## HCPID Wetland Delineations involving Upland Man-made Drainage Ditches and/or Roadside Ditches

### 1. Upland manmade drainage ditches and Roadside ditches-

USACE has confirmed to HCPID that upland manmade drainage ditches are not Waters of the U.S. Wetlands in drainage ditches are not jurisdictional unless the ditch is considered a Water of the U.S. Furthermore, Roadside drainage ditches cut wholly from uplands are not considered jurisdictional **aquatic resources**.

Upland man-made drainage ditches are not considered jurisdictional, unless one of the following conditions is present:

- The ditch has replaced, or was otherwise considered, a historic tributary of a Water of the U.S.
- The ditch has an ordinary high water mark from an adjacent tributary.
- The ditch was created within a wetland.
- The ditch is tidally influenced.

### 2. Items to document through historical TOPO and Aerial maps:

Verify and include Historical TOPO and Aerial maps to document the following:

- The man-made ditches were cut entirely from uplands and do not extend the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of any waters of the U.S. they connect to,
- The ditches were not historic tributaries of a waters of the U.S., and
- The ditches were not created through historic wetlands present on site.

### 3. Wetland Delineations and Exhibits:

- All aquatic features (including wetlands and waters) should be identified and delineated. Roadside drainage ditches cut wholly from uplands are not considered **aquatic resources**.
- All manmade drainage ditches should be identified on the exhibits and labeled as “non-jurisdictional”, unless a characteristic listed in #2 above is present. For example, the ditches should be shown and labeled as roadside ditches, non jurisdictional drainage ditches, or agricultural features (stock ponds, etc.).
- All wetland acreages should be included for verification by USACE. If a wetland area is located within a non-jurisdictional ditch, delineate it, label it and discuss it appropriately.

### 4. Wetland Summary Tables:

An example table is below:

SUMMARY OF WATERS OF THE US, INCLUDING WETLANDS, ALONG SPRING-STUEBNER ROAD

Waters/Wetland Area	Description of Waterbody	Total Acres	Total Jurisdictional Acres	Total Jurisdictional Square Feet	Comments
Segment A					
Wetland A	HCFCD No. M101-03-00	0.002	0.002	87.12	Located adjacent to the roadside ditch.
Wetland B	HCFCD No. M101-00-00	0.006	0.006	261.36	Located adjacent to the roadside ditch.
Total Segment A		0.008	0.008	348.48	
Segment B					
Wetland C	HCFCD No. J121-00-00	0.020	0.020	871.20	Located in the roadside ditch (both sides of the roadway).
Waters C	HCFCD No. J121-00-00	0.005	0.005	217.80	Located in a culvert beneath the roadway.
Wetland D	HCFCD No. J121-01-00	0.761	0.761	33,149.16	Located adjacent to the roadside ditch.
Waters D	HCFCD No. J121-01-00	0.012	0.012	522.72	Located in a culvert.
Wetland E	HCFCD No. J121-01-00	0.169	0.169	7,361.64	Not associated with a roadside ditch.
Wetland F	Isolated Wetland	0.446	0.000	0.000	Located in the roadside ditch (both sides of the roadway) and other areas of the proposed ROW.