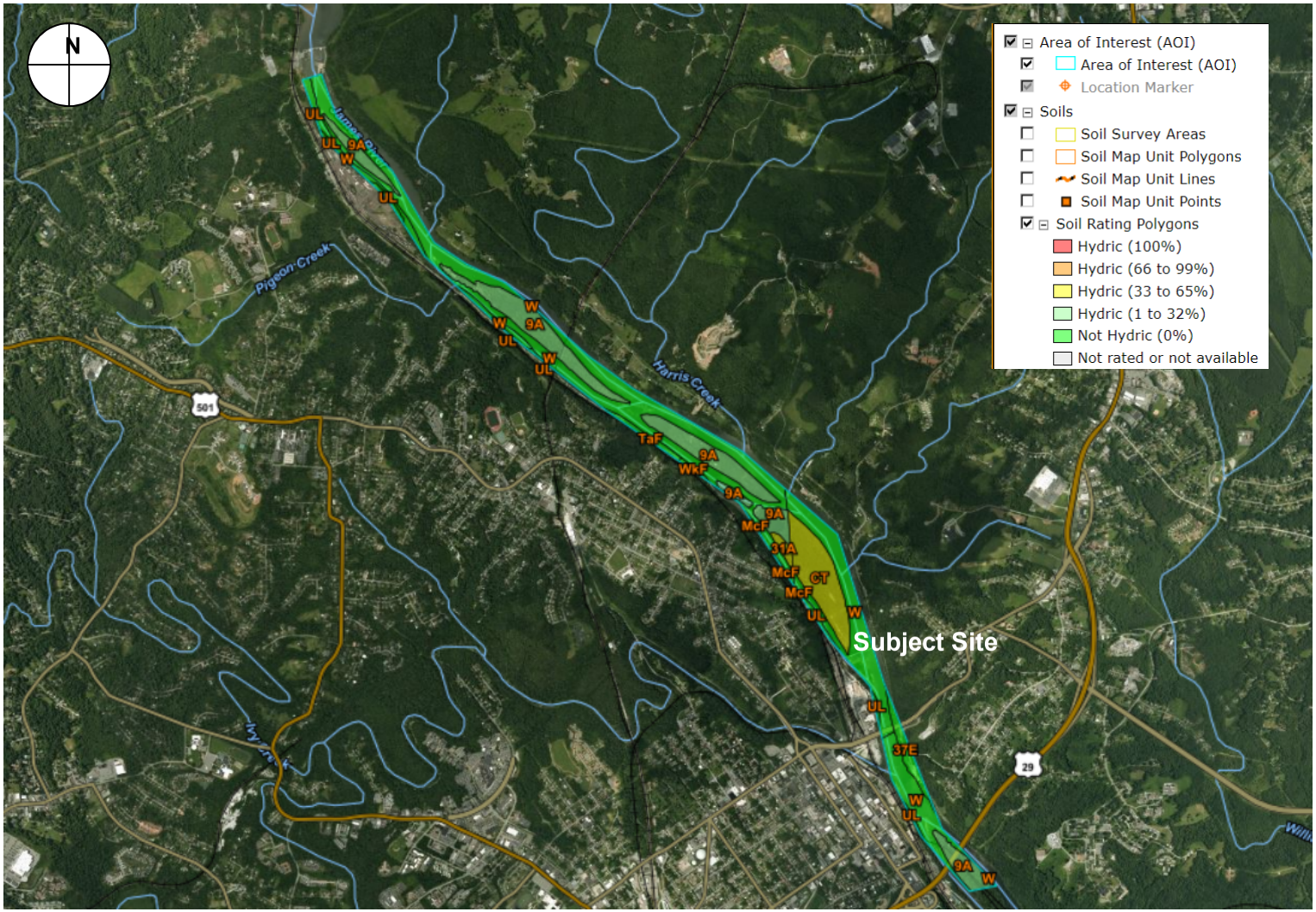
EXHIBIT E

APPENDIX N

WETLAND ASSESSMENT

Scott's Mill Hydropower Project

FERC Project No. 14867



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Scotts Mill Dam
James River
Lynchburg, Virginia

Source: USDA WSS (2021), NTS

Hydric Soils Map

Figure 14

March 26, 2021

Mark Fendig
Scott's Mill Hydro, LLC
9932 Wilson Highway
Mouth of Wilson, VA 24363

RE: Scott's Mill Dam Hydropower Project
Wetland Assessment
H&P Project 20150824
Bedford County / Amherst County / City of Lynchburg, Virginia

Dear Mark:

On 3/12/21, Hurt & Proffitt (H&P) environmental scientists assessed potential wetland areas on the James River islands and riverbanks that could be affected by the Scott's Mill Dam Project. Due to steep riverbanks (15-20' in many areas), no potentially-jurisdictional wetlands were observed in the study area. Potential wetlands were evaluated using 1987 US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Wetland Delineation Manual procedures and 2012 USACE Eastern Mountain and Piedmont (EMP) Supplement protocols.

The 3.5-mile long study area included island margins and riverbanks, to elevations approximately 6.5' higher than the water surface (on the day of the assessment). This elevation was selected by using data from the USGS Holcomb Rock Gage (Station 02025500, located approximately 10 miles upstream) to determine one standard deviation around the mean annual water depth, identifying the water surface elevation on the day of the fieldwork, and then adding two feet to the highest water surface elevation of this standard deviation (based on the proposed Scott's Mill Dam height increase of two feet). To determine approximate water slope, FEMA Zone AE Base Flood Elevation (BFE) slopes were calculated. This approach indicated an approximate BFE water surface slope of less than 0.001% from the Scott's Mill Dam to the upstream end of Treasure Island, with a steeper water surface slope of approximately 0.008% from the upstream end of Treasure Island to the upstream end of Woodruff Island. Assuming a similar river base flow water surface elevation slope, the effects of a two-foot dam height increase would likely become negligible from the midpoint of Woodruff Island upstream. This approach suggests that the Scott's Mill Dam impoundment extends upstream approximately two miles (at which point river velocity was observed to increase significantly, and gravel/cobble bars became evident).

FEMA Approximate BFE's *(upstream to downstream):*
Unnamed island: 539' MSL
Woodruff Island: 536'-534' MSL
Treasure Island: 533.4'-533' MSL
Unnamed island: 533' MSL
Daniel's Island: 533' MSL
Unnamed island (downstream of dam): 530'-532' MSL

Approximately 5% of the observed riverbanks had lower-gradient slopes and depositional areas, though these do not appear to have sufficient indicators to be considered jurisdictional wetlands. Upstream and downstream lat/long extents of these areas are included in Attachment A. Alluvial sediment deposits in these areas are mostly fine-grained silts and organic matter. These areas were most-frequently observed in sheltered portions of northeastern island riverbanks. Geomorphic indicators suggest that these low-gradient areas are part of the active river channel (below the regulatory Ordinary High Water Mark [OHWM] elevation).

Stream channels/tributaries entering the James River within the study area (including Harris Creek, Buck Branch, and Pigeon Creek) were also evaluated. Streambanks along these channels were generally found to be steep, frequently-eroded, and often 6-10' in height. No wetlands were observed adjacent to these channels. These tributaries are incised into the larger James River floodplain.

Based on visual indicators, some low-lying areas within the interiors of the noted islands may contain jurisdictional wetland areas. However, these areas are outside the study area, are approximately 5-10' higher in elevation that the anticipated water surface elevation, and would not likely be inundated by the proposed dam height increase.

Please contact us with any questions you may have. We can be reached at 540.520.1533 or bleatherland@handp.com.

Sincerely,
Hurt & Proffitt, Inc.

Ben Leatherland, PWS, PWD
Sr. Environmental Scientist

cc: Wayne Dyok, file

Attachments

Attachment A

Lat/Long Coordinates of Low-Gradient Island Shoreline Areas

Location/Feature	Lat	Long
LOW AREA 1A	37.436046	-79.148171
LOW AREA 1B	37.436581	-79.148949
LOW AREA 2A	37.442580	-79.163356
LOW AREA 2B	37.442831	-79.163608
LOW AREA 3A	37.438720	-79.157767
LOW AREA 3B	37.438549	-79.157496
LOW AREA 4A	37.432579	-79.145700
LOW AREA 4B	37.432304	-79.145358
LOW AREA 5A	37.431996	-79.144934
LOW AREA 5B	37.431114	-79.144050

Attachment B

Photographs

Photograph 1 – Typical island riverbank, with low-gradient depositional area

Photograph 2 – Typical island riverbank

Photograph 3 – Typical low-gradient island riverbank

Photograph 4 – Typical low-gradient area along island riverbank

Photograph 5 – Harris Creek (tributary), note steep streambanks and stone ruins

Photograph 6 – Typical island riverbank, with low-gradient depositional area

Photograph 7 – Typical riverbank (here with relic stonework from previous canal)

Photograph 8 – Typical riverbank, roadway, and culverts