

## DPA R61 – Existing Environmental and Engineering Conditions Overview

*Neither the State of Nebraska, the Nebraska Broadband Office, any employee or officer of either entity, nor any consultants working on their behalf, makes any representation or warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to comply with all requirements of the Nebraska Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (NBEAD) Program, including, but not limited to, compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Any applicant or party relying on this guidance should conduct their own research and hire their own professional consultants, advisers, and attorneys.*

### Environmental Conditions

NEPA impacts on your project will depend on your plan. For this specific DPA, the following should be considered. This list is not meant to be exhaustive, but suggestive.

Please note that links were current as of the date of public posting of this document but may have changed.

#### Section 106 Resources

- The California Trail and Mormon Pioneer Trail intersects the DPA
- There are multiple National Register of Historic Places resources within the DPA
- 5 Tribes have interest in Butler, Colfax, Dodge, and Saunders Counties
  - o Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
  - o Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma
  - o Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
  - o Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians, Oklahoma
  - o Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

#### Biological Resources

- Federally Listed Species Range
  - o Monarch Butterfly – Proposed Threatened
  - o Piping Plover – Threatened
  - o Regal Fritillary – Proposed Threatened
- State Listed Species Range
  - o Interior Least Tern – Endangered
  - o Lake Sturgeon – Threatened
  - o Northern Long-Eared Bat – Endangered
  - o Pallid Sturgeon – Endangered
  - o Piping Plover – Threatened
  - o Sturgeon Chub – Endangered
  - o Western Massasauga – Threatened
  - o Western Prairie Fringed Orchid – Threatened
- **No** critical habitat identified

#### Wetlands

- Yes

#### Floodplain

- There are multiple flood hazard zones in the DPA
  - o Zone A (1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard)
  - o Zone AE (1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard)
  - o Zone AE (Regulatory Floodway)

- Zone X (0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard)

#### Prime Farmland

- Yes

#### Hazardous Materials

- There are multiple regulated facilities within the DPA

#### Environmental Justice

- There are environmental justice populations within the DPA
  - People of Color Populations
  - Limited English-Speaking Populations

#### Water Resources

- Maple Creek is a 303d water body
  - Impaired for aquatic life, cause unknown
  - Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- Shell Creek is a 303d water body
  - Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- Schuyler East Park Pond is **not** a 303d water body
  - Not assessed
- Schuyler City Lake is **not** a 303d water body
  - Impaired for aesthetics, caused by algal growth
- Platte River is a 303d water body
  - Impaired for drinking water use, caused by metals other than mercury
  - Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- Homestead Lake is a 303d water body
  - Impaired for aquatic life, caused by algal growth, mercury, and nutrients
- Red Cedar Lake is a 303d water body
  - Impaired for aquatic life, caused by mercury
- Oak Creek is a 303d water body
  - Impaired for aquatic life, caused by pesticides
- The DPA has three Wellhead Protection Areas
  - City of Schuyler (NE3103701)
  - Village of Abie (NE3102305)
  - Village of Valparaiso (NE3115511)

#### Classified Lands

- There are two NGPC properties within the DPA
  - Whitetail WMA
  - Larkspur WMA
- There are two National Levee Database areas within the DPA
  - Schuyler – Shell Creek RB
  - Schuyler – Lost Creek & Platte River LB

### **Agencies that will be required**

- Nebraska SHPO (Deputy SHPO, Michael Sothan)
  - o [hn.hp@nebraska.gov](mailto:hn.hp@nebraska.gov)
  - o Approximate 30-day review period
    - May require cultural/historical surveys
- US Fish and Wildlife (Region 6)
  - o [Nebraskaes@fws.gov](mailto:Nebraskaes@fws.gov)
  - o Approximate 30-day review period
    - May require completion of BA package
- US Army Corps of Engineers (Omaha District)
  - o [ne404reg@usace.army.mil](mailto:ne404reg@usace.army.mil)
  - o [Section408nwo@usace.army.mil](mailto:Section408nwo@usace.army.mil)
  - o Approximate 30-day response time
- US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (Assistant State Soil Scientist, Elizabeth Gray)
  - o [elizabeth.gray@usda.gov](mailto:elizabeth.gray@usda.gov)
- Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
- Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy
  - o [NDEE.Assistance@nebraska.gov](mailto:NDEE.Assistance@nebraska.gov)
- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (Environmental Specialist, John Miller)
  - o [john.j.miller@nebraska.gov](mailto:john.j.miller@nebraska.gov)

### **Engineering Conditions**

#### County

- Butler
- Saunders

#### Railroads

- Union Pacific

#### Levees and Dams

- Schuyler – Lost Creek & Platte

### **Agencies that will be required**

- Butler County
- Saunders County
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Schuyler – Lost Creek & Platte Levee
  - Platte Valley Industrial Park Drainage District