

DPA Q52 – 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 intersect the DPA
- There is one National Register of Historic Places resource within the DPA
- 6 Tribes have interest in Boone, Platte and Colfax 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
 - o Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

Biological Resources

- Federally Listed Species Range
 - o Monarch Butterfly – Proposed Threatened
 - o Northern Long-eared Bat – Endangered
 - o Piping Plover – Threatened
 - o Regal Fritillary – Proposed Threatened
 - o Rufa Red Knot – Threatened
 - o Whooping Crane – Endangered
- State Listed Species Range
 - o American Burying Beetle – Threatened
 - o Interior Least Tern – Endangered
 - o Northern Long-eared bat – Endangered
 - o Piping Plover – Threatened
 - o Small White Lady's Slipper – Threatened
 - o Western Prairie Fringed Orchid – Threatened
 - o Whooping Crane – Endangered
- **No** critical habitat is within DPA

Wetlands

- Yes

Floodplain

- There are Special Flood Hazard Areas in the DPA
 - o Zone A (100-year) floodplains
 - o Zone X (500-year) floodplains
 - o Zone X (Area with Reduced Risk Due to Levee)
 - o Zone AE (Regulatory Floodway)
 - o Zone AE (100-year) floodplains

Prime Farmland

- Yes

Hazardous Materials

- The DPA has multiple regulated facilities.

Environmental Justice

- There are environmental justice populations within the DPA
 - o Limited English Speaking Population

Water Resources

- Lake North is 303d listed, impaired for Aquatic Life (pH, and Chlorophyll a)
- Shell Creek is 303d listed, impaired for Aquatic Life (Unknown), and Primary Contact Recreation (E. coli)
- Loup River is **not** 303d listed, impaired for Primary Contact Recreation (E. coli)
- Loup River Canal is 303d listed, impaired for Primary Contact Recreation (E. coli)
- Beaver Creek is 303d listed, impaired for Aquatic Life (Unknown), and Primary Contact Recreation (E. coli)
- The DPA has multiple Wellhead Protection Areas.
 - o Village of Monroe (NE3114102)
 - o Circle H Mobile Home Park (NE3114111)
 - o College View Park (NE3114106)
 - o City of Columbus (NE3114110)
 - o City of Humphrey (NE3114103)
 - o Village of Platte Center (NE3114101)
 - o Village of Duncan (NE3114113)

Classified Lands

- There are two NGPC properties within the DPA
 - o Wilkinson WMA
 - o Lee Rupp WMA
- There is one National Levee Database within the DPA
 - o Columbus – Lost Creek RB
- There is one Federal Real Property within the DPA

Agencies that will be required

- Nebraska SHPO (Deputy SHPO, Michael Sothan)
 - o 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
 - o Approximate 30-day review period
 - May require completion of BA package
- US Army Corps of Engineers (Omaha District)
 - o ne404reg@usace.army.mil
 - o Section408NOW@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
- Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
- Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy
 - o NDEE.Assistance@nebraska.gov
- Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (Environmental Specialist, John Miller)
 - o john.j.miller@nebraska.gov

Engineering Conditions

County

- Boone
- Platte

City/Village

- Columbus
- Platte Center

Highways

- Highway 2: NDOT Permit Required
- Highway 81: NDOT Permit Required
- Highway 91: NDOT Permit Required

Railroads

- Union Pacific

Pipelines

- Geneva – Norfolk – 8”

Agencies that will be required

- Boone County
- Platte County
- City of Columbus
- Village of Platte Center
- NDOT District 3 (Permitting Officer, Dean Schwartz)
 - o dean.schwartz@nebraska.gov
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Geneva – Norfolk – 8”
 - o NuStar Pipeline Operating Partnership L.P.