

NGPC Conservation and Environmental Review Tool

Biological Resources / Threatened and Endangered Species

[CERT Website - https://cert.outdoornebraska.gov/](https://cert.outdoornebraska.gov/)

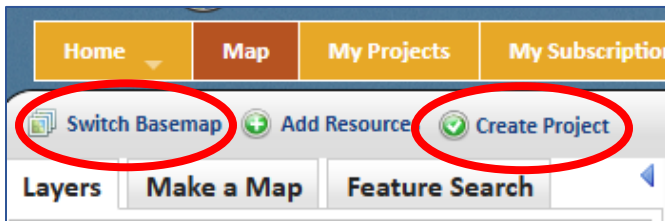
Account and Project Creation

- Open the **Conservation and Environmental Review Tool (CERT)** by clicking the hyperlink or copy/paste the URL in your web browser. Select the **Create New Account** option and follow the instructions to set up your account. If you already have an existing account, select **Log in**.

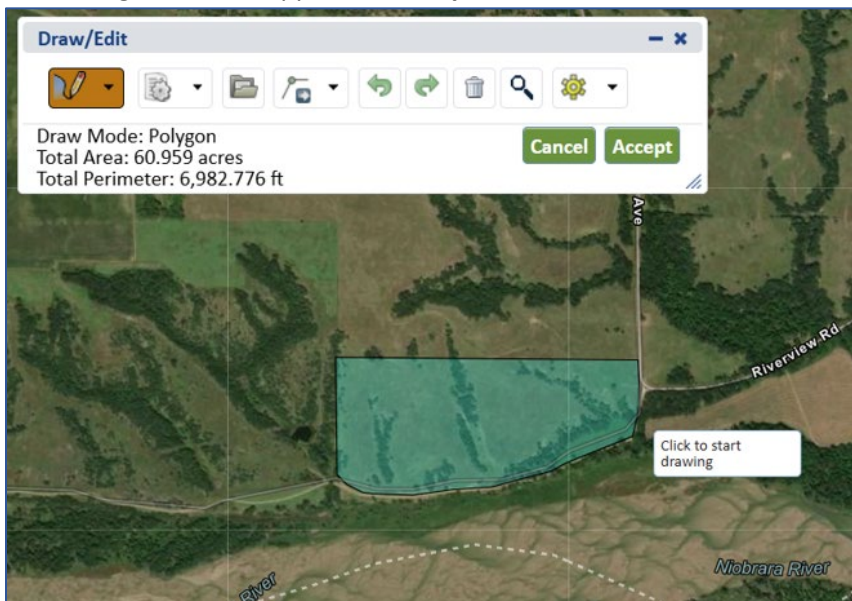
- Once your account is set up, log in to CERT and select the **Map** tab at the top.



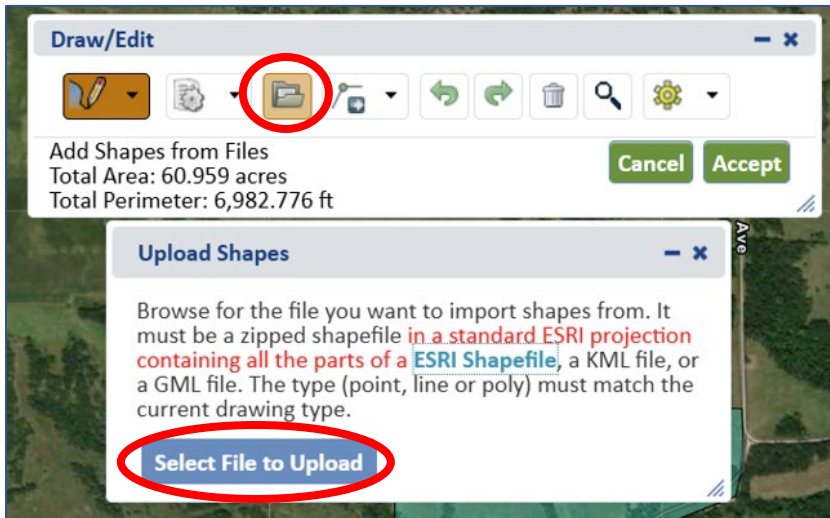
- Once in the map, select **Create Project**. To switch the imagery, select **Switch Basemap**.



- Once the project has been created, you must define the project boundary. To do this, you can use the drawing tool to create a polygon, line, or point directly OR you can upload a **KMZ** file from Google Earth or zipped **ESRI Shapefile**.



- In order to upload a **KMZ** file or zipped **ESRI shapefile**, click on the **Upload Shapes** option then **Select File to Upload**. Your file explorer will pop up, and you will have to find the location where you saved the KMZ file or zipped ESRI Shapefile.



- Click **Accept**, and your project boundary will be validated. Once it has been validated, you can now fill in more information about your project.
- Enter the project title and associated project numbers. In this case, it could be the NBEAD grant application number or an internal tracking number from the consultant or ISP.

Project Title *
Enter a brief title for this project.

User Project Number(s) *
Include any number(s) associated with the project (e.g., Construction Storm Water Permit Number).

- Select the state nexus. In this case, use the dropdown menu and select **Other**.

State Nexus *
Enter the Nebraska state agency that is funding, permitting, or carrying out your project. (e.g., If you are applying for a Construction Storm Water/Industrial Stormwater Water permit, select "NDEE - Department of Environment & Energy")

- Select a value -

- This project will be funded as part of the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program, which is funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Select **Both state and federal permit or funding**.

Funding Source or Permit Requirements *

State permit or funding ONLY

Both state and federal permit or funding

Federal permit or funding ONLY; select Conservation Planning Report for your Project Type below.

None of the above

- Select **Conservation Planning Report** as the project type. This does not replace official consultation with NGPC.

Project Type *

Select only one Project Type per project

- Agriculture
- Communications
- Contractor Use Sites
- Conservation Planning Report (not an environmental review)
- Development (ex: construction, housing, and land development)
- Energy Production/Storage/Transfer

- Enter the project description to the best of your knowledge. Include the block of text below before filling in the rest of your description. Make sure to include all activities taking place, staging areas, major phases of construction, etc.

Project Description *

Describe the project including project activities and disturbance, construction methods, infrastructure needs, or processes that will generate waste. Limited to 300 words.

Internet Service Provider NAME is completing an environmental review with NGPC on behalf of the Nebraska Broadband Office (NBO) for the NBEAD funding. If applicable, Internet Service Provider NAME has hired Consultant Company NAME to complete this environmental review process.

- Enter the project duration to the best of your knowledge.

Project Duration *

What is the timing and duration of construction activities (e.g., estimated start and end date). Limited to 300 words.

- Enter the existing land use to the best of your knowledge. You can reference Google Earth for historical imagery if you don't have extensive site information.

Existing Land Use *

Describe the existing land use of the project site (i.e., native prairie, pasture, row crop agriculture, urban/suburban residential, etc.). Limited to 300 words.

- Enter any nearby waterbodies that will be affected by the project. You can reference the USGS National Hydrology Dataset map at <https://apps.nationalmap.gov/viewer/>.

Waterbodies *

List any waterbodies (e.g., rivers, intermittent streams, lakes, wetlands) that may be affected by the proposed project, and discuss how they may be impacted (e.g. dewatering, depletions, discharge, riverbed disturbance). Limited to 300 words.

- This project will not have likely undergone previous environmental review. Select **No**.

To your knowledge, has the project undergone a previous environmental review? *

No

Yes

- This project will be submitted on behalf of Nebraska Broadband Office (NBO).

On Behalf Of
(optional) Enter a brief name or acronym if submitting for another organization.

Nebraska Broadband Office (NBO)

- Fill in the contact information. This information should be automatically filled in if you have an account created.

Contact Name *

Organization *

Email *

Phone number *

Address *

- The project should be left as **Draft**.

Project Edit Status *

For initial project creation, leave your project in Draft. This allows the project shape and project activities to be edited, if needed. Draft reports do not satisfy the requirements for informal consultation with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Once the report has been generated, review the Overall Results section for next steps.

Final should only be selected once you have reviewed the environmental review report, signed and dated under the applicable sections, and are ready to upload the report as complete to finalize informal consultation with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

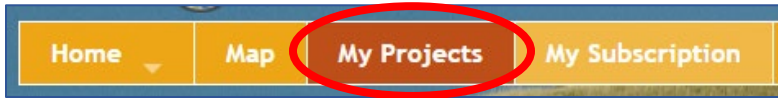
Conservation planning reports do not require signatures and are for planning purposes only.

Draft

Final

- Once all necessary information has been inputted, click **Submit**. Once submitted, the information will be processed and a report will be generated. Once the report has been generated, you will receive an email notification saying your report is ready to be viewed.

- Once you have received an email confirmation from NGPC, navigate back to the CERT website. Select **My Projects** to view your report.



- Find your report, and click on your project name under **Title**.

Title	System Project ID	User Project Number(s)	Project Description	Edit Status	Project Status
NBO CERT Guide	NE-CERT-014120	To be filled in	Internet Service Provider NAME is completing an environmental review with NGPC on behalf of the...	Draft	Saved

- From this page, you can edit any information you inputted or redraw the project boundary if needed. If you make any edits, click **Save** at the bottom of the page and a new report will be generated.

NBO CERT Guide

View **Edit Details** Edit/View Shape Generate Report

Project Review Results

Revision date	Report Status	Report File	Boundary Shapefile	KMZ File
2/26/2025 11:22:56 AM	Generated	Project Report (PDF)	Shapefile (ZIP)	Generate KMZ

File Attachments

No files have been attached to this project.

- To open up your report, select **Project Report (PDF)** under **Report File**.

NBO CERT Guide

View Edit Details Edit/View Shape Generate Report


Project Review Results

Revision date	Report Status	Report File	Boundary Shapefile	KMZ File
2/26/2025 11:22:56 AM	Generated	Project Report (PDF)	Shapefile (ZIP)	Generate KMZ


File Attachments

No files have been attached to this project.

- Your report will look something like this.



NEBRASKA
- GAME PARKS -






NEBRASKA
Natural Heritage Program

Conservation Planning Report

Project Information

Report Generation Date:	3/24/2025 02:55:46 PM
Project Title:	NBO CERT Updated Guide
User Project Number(s):	To be filled in
System Project ID:	NE-CERT-014310
Project Type:	Conservation Planning Report (not an environmental review)
Project Activities:	None Selected

- To save the report and view it in your PDF viewer of choice, navigate to the top right of your screen and click Save/Download.

- Google Chrome: 
- Microsoft Edge: 
- Mozilla Firefox: 

Report and Data Interpretation

- Information regarding **Biologically Unique Landscapes (BULs)** is located on the first page of the report.

Project Activities:	None Selected
Project Size:	0.47 acres
County(s):	Lancaster
Watershed(s):	Lower Platte
Watershed(s) HUC 8:	Salt
Watershed(s) HUC 12:	Little Salt Creek
Biologically Unique Landscape(s):	Saline Wetlands
Township/Range and/or Section(s):	T12R06ES27; T12R06ES34
Latitude/Longitude:	40.973207 / -96.726686

- Information regarding Threatened and Endangered Species potentially impacted by the project can be found in **Table 4** at the end of the report. Relevant species only include those denoted with “T” or “E” under the **USFWS** or **State** columns.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Data Type	USFWS	State	SGCN	SRank	GRank	Taxonomic Group
Myotis septentrionalis	Northern Long-eared Myotis	Range	E	E	Tier 1	S1S2	G2G3	
Perimyotis subflavus	Tricolored Bat	Range			Tier 1	S3	G3G4	
Perognathus flavescens permiger	Plains Pocket Mouse	Range			Tier 1	SNR	G5TNR	
Platanthera praeclara	Western Prairie Fringed Orchid	Range	T	T	Tier 1	S2	G3	
Problema byssus kumskaka	Byssus Skipper	Range			Tier 1	S1	G4TNR	
Salicornia rubra	Saltwort	Model		E	Tier 1	S1	G5	

Contact Information

Contact the Environmental Review Team at:

ngpc.envreview@nebraska.gov

(402) 471-5423

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

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 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.