

DPA O63 – Existing Environmental and Engineering Conditions Overview

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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 the Mormon Pioneer Trail intersect the DPA
- There is one National Register of Historic Places resources within the DPA
- 3 Tribes have interest in Howard and Merrick Counties
 - o Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
 - o Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma
 - o Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

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 Whooping Crane – Endangered
- State Listed Species Range
 - o Finescale Dace – Threatened
 - o Interior Least Tern - Endangered
 - o Piping Plover – Threatened
 - o Northern Long-Eared Bat – Endangered
 - o Small White Lady’s Slipper – Threatened
 - o Whooping Crane – Endangered
- **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 X (0.2% Annual Chance Flood)

Prime Farmland

- Yes

Hazardous Materials

- Multiple regulated facilities within the DPA

Environmental Justice

- There are **no** environmental justice populations within the DPA

Water Resources

- Middle Loup River is **not** a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- Turkey Creek is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for aquatic life, caused by pesticides
- North Loup River is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- Loup River is **not** a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- The DPA has two Wellhead Protection Areas
 - o Village of Palmer (NE3112103)
 - o City of St. Paul (NE3109306)

Classified Lands

- There is one NGPC Property
 - o Leonard A. Koziol WMA
- There is one Federal Real Property within the DPA
- There is one Federal Permitting Area 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 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
- Bureau of Land Management

Engineering Conditions

County

- Howard
- Merrick

City/Village

- St. Paul

Highways

- Highway 92: NDOT Permit Required
- Highway 281: NDOT Permit Required

Railroads

- Union Pacific

Pipelines

- Nebraska Transmission

Agencies that will be required

- Howard County
- Merrick County
- City of St. Paul
- NDOT District 4 (Permitting Officer, Kevin Christenson)
 - o kevin.christenson@nebraska.gov
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Nebraska Transmission Pipeline
 - o Black Hills Energy