

DPA O61 – 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

- There are **no** National Historic Trails that intersect the DPA
- There are **no** National Register of Historic Places resources within the DPA
- 3 Tribes have interest in Howard County
 - 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)

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
- Munson Creek is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for aquatic life, cause unknown
- North Loup River is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- North Loup Lake (SRA) is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for aquatic life, caused by mercury
- The DPA has one Wellhead Protection Areas
 - o City of St. Paul (NE3109306)

Classified Lands

- There are three NGPC Properties in the DPA
 - o Leonard A. Koziol WMA
 - o North Loup SRA
 - o Marsh Wren WMA

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

City/Village

- Cushing

Highways

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

Railroads

- Union Pacific

Agencies that will be required

- Howard County
- Village of Cushing
- NDOT District 4 (Permit Officer, Kevin Christenson)
 - o kevin.christenson@nebraska.gov
- Union Pacific Railroad