

DPA L21 – 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 is one National Register of Historic Places resource within the DPA
- 12 Tribes have interest in Keya Paha and Brown Counties
 - o Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
 - o Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River Reservation, South Dakota
 - o Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma
 - o Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation, South Dakota
 - o Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation, South Dakota
 - o Oglala Sioux Tribe
 - o Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
 - o Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
 - o Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
 - o Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota
 - o Santee Sioux Nation, Nebraska
 - o Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South Dakota

Biological Resources

- Federally Listed Species Range
 - o Monarch Butterfly – Proposed Threatened
 - o Northern Long-Eared Bat – Endangered
 - o Piping Plover – Threatened
 - o Plains Spotted Skunk – Removed
 - o Regal Fritillary – Proposed Threatened
 - o Whooping Crane – Endangered
- State Listed Species Range
 - o American Burying Beetle – Threatened
 - o Blowout Penstemon – Endangered
 - o Finescale Dace – Threatened
 - o Interior Least Tern – Endangered
 - o Northern Long-Eared Bat – Endangered
 - o Northern Redbelly Dace – Threatened

- Piping Plover – Threatened
- Small White Lady’s Slipper – Threatened
- Western Prairie Fringed Orchid – Threatened
- Whooping Crane – Endangered
- **No** critical habitat identified

Wetlands

- Yes

Floodplain

- Keya Paha County is **not** FEMA floodplain mapped
- Brown County is **not** FEMA floodplain mapped

Prime Farmland

- Yes

Hazardous Materials

- There are multiple regulated facilities within the DPA

Environmental Justice

- There are **no** environmental justice populations within the DPA
- The DPA within Brown County is considered “Disadvantaged” under Justice40
- The DPA within Keya Paha County is **not** considered “Disadvantaged” under Justice40

Water Resources

- There are multiple water resources within the DPA
 - Sand Draw is 303d listed – Primary Contact Recreation (E. coli)
 - Long Pine Creek is 303d listed – Primary Contact Recreation (E. coli)
 - Bone Creek is 303d listed – Aquatic Life (Temp.), Primary Contact Recreation (E. coli)
 - Plum Creek is 303d listed – Aquatic Life (Temp.)
 - Niobrara River is **not** 303d listed – Primary Contact Recreation (E. coli)
- The DPA has two Wellhead Protection Areas
 - City of Ainsworth (NE3101702)
 - City of Long Pine (NE3101701)

Classified Lands

- There is one Wild and Scenic River within the DPA
 - NPS, FWS – Niobrara River
- There is one Federal Real Property within the DPA

Agencies that will be required

- Nebraska SHPO (Deputy SHPO, Michael Sothan)
 - hn.hp@nebraska.gov
 - Approximate 30-day review period
 - May require cultural/historical surveys
- US Fish and Wildlife (Region 6)
 - Nebraskaes@fws.gov
 - Approximate 30-day review period
 - May require completion of BA package
- US Army Corps of Engineers (Omaha District)
 - ne404reg@usace.army.mil
 - 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
- US Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management

Engineering Conditions

County

- Brown

City

- Ainsworth
- Long Pine

Highways

- Highway 20: NDOT Permit Required
- Highway 183: NDOT Permit Required

Pipelines

- Nebraska Transmission

Agencies that will be required

- Brown County
- City of Ainsworth
- City of Long Pine
- NDOT District 8 (Permit Officer, John Raymond)
 - o john.raymond@nebraska.gov
- Black Hills Energy