

DPA R72 – 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 multiple National Register of Historic Places resources within the DPA
- 5 Tribes have interest in Lancaster and Seward Counties
 - o Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
 - o Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma
 - 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 Salt Creek Tiger Beetle – Endangered
 - o Tricolored Bat – Proposed Endangered
- State Listed Species Range
 - o Northern Long-Eared Bat – Endangered
 - o Salt Creek Tiger Beetle – Endangered
 - o Saltwort – Endangered
 - o Western Prairie Fringed Orchid – Threatened
- Critical Habitat
 - o Salt Creek Tiger Beetle

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 AE (Regulatory Floodway)
 - o Zone X (0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard)

Prime Farmland

- Yes

Hazardous Materials

- There are multiple regulated facilities within the DPA

Environmental Justice

- There are environmental justice populations within the DPA
 - o Low Income Populations
 - o Limited English-Speaking Populations

Water Resources

- Cardwell Branch is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- Conestoga Lake is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for aquatic life, caused by algal growth, nutrients
 - o Impaired for aesthetics, caused by sediment
- Middle Creek is **not** a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for aquatic life, caused by pesticides
- Pawnee Lake is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for aquatic life, caused by mercury, nutrients
 - o Impaired for aesthetics, caused by sediment
- Oak Creek is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for aquatic life, caused by mercury, solids chlorides sulfates, cause unknown
 - o Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- Bowling Lake is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for aquatic life, caused by algal growth, mercury, nutrients, ph acidity caustic conditions
- The DPA has four Wellhead Protection Areas
 - o Village of Malcom (NE3110923)
 - o Village of Pleasant Dale (NE3115906)
 - o Lancaster County SID #6 – Village of Emerald (NE3102757)
 - o Village of Denton (NE3110913)

Classified Lands

- There are five NGPC properties within the DPA
 - o Pawnee Lake WMA
 - o Pawnee Lake SRA
 - o Conestoga Lake WMA
 - o Conestoga Lake SRA
 - o Yankee Hill WMA
- There is one National Levee Database area within the DPA
 - o Oak Creek Levee 1
- There are two Dams within the DPA
 - o Conestoga Dam (USACE)
 - o Pawnee Dam (USACE)
- There are three Federal Permitting Areas 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 Section408NWO@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

- Lancaster

City/Village

- Lincoln

Highways

- Highway 34: NDOT Permit Required

Railroads

- BNSF
- Union Pacific

Levees and Dams

- Oak Creek Levee 1

Other

- Interstate 80

Agencies that will be required

- Lancaster County
- City of Lincoln
- NDOT District 1 (Permitting Officer, Cierra Catlin)
 - cierra.catlin@nebraska.gov
- BNSF Railroad
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Oak Creek Levee 1
 - Lower Platte South NRD (Mike Sousek, General Manager, msousek@lpsnrd.org)