

DPA 071 – Existing Environmental and Engineering Conditions Overview

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 the 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.

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 are two National Register of Historic Places resources within the DPA
- 4 Tribes have interest in Buffalo, Hall, Howard, and Merrick Counties
 - o Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
 - o Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 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 Whooping Crane - Endangered
- State Listed Species Range
 - o Interior Least Tern - Endangered
 - o Piping Plover – Threatened
 - o Northern Long-Eared Bat – Endangered
 - o Small White Lady's Slipper – Threatened
 - o Western Prairie Fringed Orchid – 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 AE (Regulatory Floodway)
 - o Zone X (0.2% Annual Chance Flood)
 - o Zone X (Area with reduced risk due to levee)

Prime Farmland

- Yes

Hazardous Materials

- Multiple regulated facilities within the DPA

Environmental Justice

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

Water Resources

- Middle Loup River is **not** a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- South Loup River is **not** a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for recreation use, caused by pathogens
- Wood River is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for aquatic life, caused by ammonia, pesticides and cause unknown
- Platte River is a 303d water body
 - o Impaired for drinking water use, caused by metals other than mercury
- Grand Island Rest Area Lake (I-80 mile 315.0 S) is **not** a 303d water body
 - o Not assessed
- The DPA has three Wellhead Protection Areas
 - o Village of Cairo (NE3107906)
 - o Prairie West Mobile Home Park (NE3107908)
 - o City of Grand Island (NE3107902)

Classified Lands

- There is one NGPC property within the DPA
 - o Cornhusker WMA
- There are two National Levee Database areas within the DPA
 - o Grand Island – Wood River LB
 - o Grand Island – Wood River RB
- There is one Federal Real Property within the DPA
- There are two 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 Section404NWO@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

- Hall
- Howard

City/Village

- Grand Island

Highways

- Highway 2: NDOT Permit Required
- Highway 30: NDOT Permit Required
- Highway 281: NDOT Permit Required

Railroads

- BNSF

Levee and Dams

- Grand Island – Wood River
- Wood River FPP

Pipelines

- Nebraska Transmission
- TIGT

Other

- Interstate 80

Agencies that will be required

- Hall County
- Howard County
- City of Grand Island
- NDOT District 4 (Permitting Officer, Kevin Christenson)
 - o kevin.christenson@nebraska.gov
- BNSF Railroad
- Central Platte Natural Resource District (General Manager, Lyndon Vogt)
 - o vogt@cpnrd.org
- Nebraska Transmission Pipeline
 - o Black Hills Energy
- TIGT Pipeline
 - o Tallgrass Interstate Gas Transmission LLC