

Information for File #2014-04277-CLJ

Applicant	Lynn Leibfried, BNSF Railway
Corps Contact	Tom Hingsberger
Address	180 E. 5 th Street, STE 700, St. Paul, MN 55101-1678
E-Mail	thomas.j.hingsberger@usace.army.mil
Phone	(651) 290-5367
Primary County	Polk
Section	Sections 4, 5, 9, and 29, 32
Township	T.153N (Sections 4, 5, 9) and T.154N (Sections 29, 32)
Range	R.47W
Information Complete On	January 2, 2015
Posting Expires On	February 20, 2015
Authorization Type	LOP-05-MN

This application is being reviewed in accordance with the practices for documenting Corps jurisdiction under Sections 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act identified in Regulatory Guidance Letter 07-01. We have made a preliminary determination that the aquatic resources that would be impacted by the proposed project are regulated by the Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Our jurisdictional review and final jurisdictional determination could result in modifications to the scope of the project's regulated waterbody/wetland impacts and compensatory mitigation requirements identified above. An approved jurisdictional determination will be made prior to reaching a permit decision, and will be posted on the St. Paul District web page at <http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/>.

PROJECT PURPOSE & NEED: The proposed action near Angus, MN is needed to enhance capacity of the Noyes Subdivision of the BNSF and improve on-time performance along the railway. Currently there are only two meet-pass sidings along this 95-mile stretch of the Noyes Subdivision to accommodate multiple train moves in opposite directions. The new siding would allow BNSF trains to meet and pass one another more effectively, enhance capacity, and improve efficiency of freight movement between Crookston, MN and the US-Canadian Border. The project is needed to maintain and increase the performance of the railway to meet the increasing demand of railway traffic.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project proposed would include construction of a new siding near mile post 23 on the Noyes Subdivision. Work would include a lateral expansion of the existing track embankment for a length of approximately 2 miles just north of Angus to just north of 170th Street NW, using fill material consisting of native soil along with the addition of riprap in several wetland areas.

NAME, AREA AND TYPES OF WATERS (INCLUDING WETLANDS) SUBJECT TO LOSS:

Construction of the new siding would impact a total of approximately 1.27 acres of wetlands consisting of 0.55 acre of Seasonally flooded basin (Type 1) wetlands and 0.72 acre of Shallow marsh (Type 3) wetlands.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: The no-action alternative would not provide additional meet-pass sidings on the Noyes Sub to accommodate increased traffic. As such, the no-action alternative is not proposed because it does not meet the project purpose and need. The applicant also assessed relocation of the sidings north or south of the line. While alternative locations could meet the project purpose and need, it is not likely that those would result in any further reduction of wetland impacts.

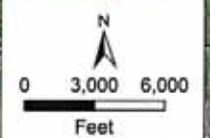
COMPENSATORY MITIGATION: The applicant has proposed to provide compensation in accordance with current St. Paul District Policy for Wetland Compensatory Mitigation in Minnesota by purchasing wetland credits from an approved private wetland bank located in Bank Service Area 3.

Drawings: See Attached (2014-04277-CLJ, 1 of 7 through 7 of 7.)



BNSF Noyes Sub
BNSF
RAILWAY
Hazard Engineering Inc.

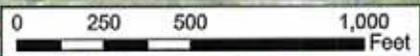
Noyes MP 21.66-23.76
August 26, 2014
Project Location





Wetlands

-  Ditches Constructed in Uplands
-  Ditches Constructed in Wetlands



**Ditches in Wetlands/Uplands Map
Noyes Sidings - Angus**

Drawn by	Checked by	Project No.	Date	Sheet
MS/MSM	MSM	2014-04277	10/10/14	1 of 8







