

Environmental Assessment

Wastewater Treatment Facility
Improvements
Ogilvie, Minnesota
September 2023

Environmental Assessment Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Ogilvie, Minnesota

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Environmental Assessment Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements Ogilvie, Minnesota

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Location

The City of Ogilvie is in the southwestern portion of Kanabec County, approximately 70 miles north of the Twin Cities. Ogivlie's wastewater treatment facility is located directly north of the intersection of State Highway 47 North and MN Highway 23 West, on the west side of the Groundhouse River, as seen in Attachment A. The wastewater treatment facility improvements covered in this document are located within Ogilvie's city limits.

1.2 Existing Infrastructure

The City of Ogilvie has owned and operated a wastewater treatment facility at the intersection of Highways 23 and 47 since 1954. For three decades, the wastewater treatment facility consisted of a control building, trickling filter, final clarifier, chlorine contact tank, anaerobic digester system, and sludge drying beds. In the late 1980s, due to age and increased environmental regulations through the Clean Water Act, the wastewater treatment facility underwent improvements that included additional clarifiers, trickling filter repairs, a chlorine contact tank, and a de-chlorination process facility. As the existing infrastructure ages there have been minor component failures and replacement of some equipment including the primary clarifier equipment, an influent pump, and an influent meter. Furthermore, the anaerobic digester system is no longer functional and is now used as sludge storage prior to drying biosolids on the sand beds. Dried sludge does not meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Part 503 rule for biosolids land application and is transported to a landfill for final disposal.

1.3 Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve the City of Ogilvie's wastewater treatment facility. There have been no significant upgrades to the equipment or the treatment process in nearly three decades and, while still functional, the facility has aged and requires upgrades to continue long-term operation and to meet Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) recently updated mercury and phosphorus limits.

The City must upgrade its facility to replace equipment that is at the end of its useful life. Operators have attempted to optimize effectiveness and efficiency, but many components at the facility have reached the end of their service life. Overall, the structures and equipment at the wastewater treatment facility have deteriorated to the point where architectural or structural repair, such as concrete patching, is required on every structure. The concrete walls on the sludge drying beds, constructed in 1954, are crumbling and complete removal and replacement of the beds is needed. Additionally, the facility is no longer able to meet the demands of the City. Excessive inflow and infiltration have resulted in calendar month flows higher than design capacity. The existing well does not provide sufficient water capacity and pressure for the facility therefore a new one must be drilled.

MPCA is imposing both total phosphorus and mercury limits on the effluent from the Ogilvie wastewater treatment facility. These limits are established to protect the water quality of the

river and public health. Phosphorus can cause increases in algae production in surface waters which can be detrimental to aquatic life. Mercury accumulates in fish which may be consumed by humans, resulting in potential health effects. The MPCA has included a Compliance Schedule in Ogilvie's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) discharge permit that requires the City to provide annual reports on efforts to reduce phosphorus and mercury. The NPDES permit required compliance with the proposed effluent limits by May 2021. In order to meet these effluent limits, the City of Ogilvie must implement improvements to their wastewater treatment facility to reduce levels of both phosphorus and mercury.

1.4 Authority

Section 569 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1999, as amended, authorizes the Secretary of the Army to provide design and construction assistance for water related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in Minnesota. Such projects include wastewater treatment and related facilities, water supply storage, treatment and related facilities, environmental restoration, and surface water resource protection and development. Under this authority, subject to the terms of the relevant cost-sharing agreement, the City of Ogilvie is eligible for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) reimbursement of 75 percent of the costs of the City's eligible design and construction of the environmental infrastructure.

The cost sharing agreement between the Department of the Army and the City requires that the City afford USACE the opportunity to review and comment on all design work and contract solicitations. USACE will require the best management practices and other avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures identified in this Environmental Assessment and appendices are incorporated into design work and contract solicitations, and for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and other laws.

2 Alternatives

2.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No-Action Alternative, USACE would not provide reimbursement under Section 569 for wastewater treatment facility improvements. Under this alternative, the City system would not be upgraded in the near term. Although the City is required by the MPCA to undertake improvements, funding would not be available on the same timeline. Under this alternative, the City of Ogilvie would continue to rely on a wastewater treatment facility that is deteriorating and does not meet the MPCA standards for total phosphorus and mercury.

2.2 Proposed Alternative

The City of Ogilvie is proposing to improve its wastewater treatment facility by converting its current trickling filter facility to an activated sludge system. Activated sludge is a more robust and flexible process that generally provides a better effluent water quality than using trickling filters.

The Proposed Alternative involves replacing the existing trickling filter with an activated sludge process consisting of two aeration basins, each 60,000 gallons in volume. Wastewater is conveyed by gravity from the aeration basins to two new final clarifiers for settling suspended solids. The existing final clarifiers are unsuitable for activated sludge and would be demolished. Treated effluent, absent most of the suspended solids, would overflow the clarifier weirs for gravity conveyance to a UV disinfection facility.

Additional components specific to the activated sludge option include:

- The existing primary clarifier will be demolished because it cannot be accommodated in the hydraulic profile for the activated sludge option. It does not require replacement because activated sludge does not need primary clarifiers.
- Two blowers, one for peak demand and one for standby, and piping to convey the pressurized air to fine-bubble diffusers on the bottom of the aeration basins will be installed to provide sufficient air to the process.
- Activated sludge requires the return of settled solids from the final clarifiers to the
 aeration basins to sustain biological treatment. This will be accomplished by three new
 return activated sludge (RAS) pumps, one for each final clarifier plus one standby. The
 newly constructed final clarifier will be 21' in diameter with a side water depth of 14
 feet.
- A chemical feed system would be required to add ferric chloride or alum for phosphorus removal.
- The chemical feed system, including pumps and storage tanks, would be housed in a new building.
- The existing control building would be retained and improved to house the influent pumps, return sludge pumps, and waste sludge pumps.
- A new electrical motor control center would be provided and housed in the new chemical and office building.
- The existing sludge storage tank would be retained and new sludge drying beds would be constructed along with dried sludge storage space. These beds will be 45'x40'.
- The existing chlorine gas disinfection system will be replaced with a new ultraviolet (UV) disinfection system. The new system will be an open channel with a cast-in-place concrete slab at frost depth and concrete walls up to grade. The top of the channel will be covered with FRP grating. A dual-bank UV disinfection system will be installed in series within the new channel. A bypass pipe to bypass flow around the UV banks will be provided. A level control weir will be installed downstream of the UV banks, and a Parshall Flume will be installed for effluent flow metering.
- The existing chlorine contact basin will be demolished.
- Lining will be added and the existing outfall pipe to the Groundhouse River will be repaired. The pipe would be lined using a cured in place pipe (CIPP) liner. This repair method uses a resin impregnated felt liner that is installed into the carrier pipe (the existing VCP). Once installed, the resin is cured using steam or hot water.
- A new well would be installed to provide water for the chemical feed systems and for cleaning equipment at the facility.

In Minnesota, well-designed and well-operated municipal treatment plants have demonstrated they can meet Ogilvie's proposed effluent limits for phosphorus and mercury with just activated sludge process and final clarifiers. Effluent filtration is not included in this new system as it is considered unnecessary.

Construction would occur within existing City of Ogilvie property and would not require private land acquisition.

2.3 Other Alternatives Considered

2.3.1 Conveyance to Mora

This alternative would involve construction of a force main between the Ogilvie wastewater

treatment facility and the City of Mora wastewater treatment facility. The control building at the Ogilvie wastewater treatment facility would be converted into a pump station. Approximately 7 miles of ten-inch diameter force main would be installed to transport wastewater from Ogilvie to Mora. The City of Mora recently competed an expansion to their wastewater treatment facility and has existing hydraulic capacity for Ogilvie's flow. However, Mora's biosolids treatment system would need to be expanded by adding four additional reed beds. The existing wastewater treatment facility at Ogilvie would be demolished once the conveyance system to the City of Mora is completed. An economic analysis revealed that this option would be cost prohibitive.

2.3.2 Conveyance to Milaca

This alternative would involve construction of a force main between the Ogilvie wastewater treatment facility and the City of Milaca wastewater treatment facility. Similarly to the conveyance to Mora option, if wastewater was conveyed to the City of Milaca then the wastewater treatment facility at Ogilvie would be demolished and the control building converted to a pump station. Approximately 13.5 miles of ten-inch diameter force main would be required to transport the wastewater to the Milaca pond system. A portion of the force main would be installed in a more urban setting, which would increase restoration costs and increase construction complexity due to existing utilities. An economic analysis revealed that this option would be cost prohibitive.

2.3.3 Upgrade Existing Wastewater Treatment Facility

A series of upgrades to the existing infrastructure would be needed to ensure compliance with the MPCA mercury and phosphorus effluent permit limits that went in to effect May 2021. In addition, significant updates would be needed for the existing facility to operate long term. To reduce the mercury, a filtration system to maximize suspended solid removal using cloth media disc filters would need to be developed. In order to meet the phosphorus limit, up to 12 gallons of alum per day would be required to be added in order to reduce the influent phosphorus. A new chemical system including storage tanks, feed pumps, and chemical feed tubing to multiple feed points would be required to be built as well as a new building to house these components. An economic analysis revealed that this option would be cost prohibitive as well as has a poorer effluent water quality than the proposed alternative.

3 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

Current land use in the project area consists of the existing wastewater treatment plant. Most of the habitat in the project area has been disturbed by the initial construction and continued use of the facility. Approximately 0.25 acres of wooded area outside of existing facility footprint to the north and west will be impacted as a result of construction activities.

3.1 Natural Resources

3.1.1 Air Quality

The EPA is required by the Clean Air Act to establish air quality standards that primarily protect human health. These National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) regulate six criteria pollutants across the United States. When an area meets the standard for each of the six pollutants, it is called an "attainment area" for that contaminant. Areas that do not meet the standards are called "nonattainment areas". Kanabec County, Minnesota is classified as an attainment area for each of the six criteria pollutants and is therefore not considered an area of impaired ambient air quality (USEPA 2022).

No Action Alternative – The No Action Alternative would have no direct effect on air quality. Spot repairs in the event of deterioration and maintenance would have short term impacts to air quality during repair and maintenance activities.

Proposed Alternative – Direct impacts to air quality would only occur during construction and the impact would be minimal. To minimize air emissions, contractors would be required to meet or exceed all federal, state, and local air resource requirements during construction activities. After construction, maintenance activities would be routine, noninvasive, and have minimal impacts.

3.1.2 Water Quality

The City of Ogilvie is located on the Groundhouse River which is listed as impaired on the 2022 list of Impaired Waters in Minnesota due to high levels of fecal coliform (MPCA 2023).

No Action Alternative – The No Action Alternative would have a negative effect on water quality as the discharge into the Groundhouse River would not meet updated MPCA standards for phosphorus and mercury.

Proposed Alternative – The potential for fuel spills or oil leaks are always possible on a construction site. These risks will be mitigated by preparation of a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP), which prohibits the changing of equipment oil on site. The City's contract will require best management practices (BMPs) and require the contractor to obtain the SWPPP. Long-term, the project would have a beneficial effect on water quality as the levels of phosphorus and mercury being discharged would be reduced.

Under the Proposed Alternative, the wastewater treatment facility would continue to discharge into the Groundhouse River. It is not anticipated that the proposed project would have an adverse effect on water quality. Ultimately the Proposed Alternative would improve water quality in the Groundhouse River by reducing the total phosphorus, mercury, and suspended solids discharged to the river from the wastewater treatment facility. The new chemical and office building will result in a small increase in impervious area, leading to a minor increase in storm water runoff.

3.1.3 Wetlands

According to the National Wetland Inventory Mapper (USFWS 2020), there are a number of emergent and forested wetlands within the City of Ogilvie. A wetland delineation on the parcel was completed in 2022 and a wetland boundary and classification decision was issued by the county on January 3, 2023.

No Action Alternative – The No Action Alternative would have no effect on wetlands.

Proposed Alternative – Section 404 of the CWA regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States and is administered by USACE. The proposed alternative will involve crossing a roadside ditch wetland to construct a sanitary sewer line, resulting in temporary impacts to 765 square feet of wetland. This wetland is incidental, created as to function as a roadside ditch to convey water. The work appears to be authorized by a Nationwide Permit (NWP) and/or a Regional General Permit (RGP), specifically, the Utility RGP.

Additionally, the Clean Water Act (CWA; 33 USC §1251 et seq.) establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters. Section 401 water quality certification is required for actions that may result in a discharge of a pollutant into waters of the United States to ensure that the discharge complies with applicable water quality standards. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is the agency responsible for issuing Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality

certification. Section 401 water quality certification has been issued for the Utility Regional General Permit,

Potential sediment transport via runoff during construction will be controlled by best management practices. The workspace within the wetland will be protected with a double roll of biorolls. Following construction, the wetland will be restored to original grade to allow for continued conveyance of water. The disturbed areas will be seeded and blanketed to reestablish vegetation and avoid erosion.

3.1.4 Floodplain

No Action Alternative – The No Action Alternative would have no effect on floodplains.

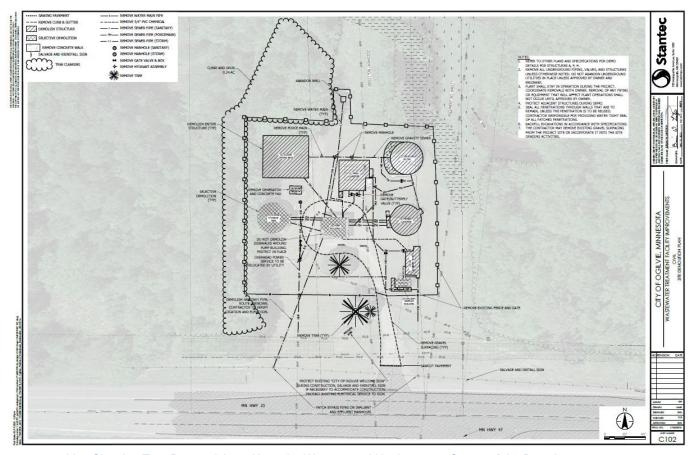
Proposed Alternative – The work will take place near the floodplain of the Groundhouse River. The wastewater treatment facility is located beyond the border of FEMA maps. However, a hydraulic analysis of the MN-23 bridge, which spans the Groundhouse River less than 500 feet to the east of the wastewater treatment facility, was performed by the Minnesota DNR. The analysis determined that the 100-year and 500-year flood elevations are approximately 1026 feet and 1028 feet, respectively. There are existing disinfection structures already located within the 500-year floodplain. The proposed disinfection equipment improvements would take place entirely within those existing structures footprint. No new permanent structures would be constructed within either the100-year or the 500-year floodplains.

3.1.5 Vegetation

The vegetation in the project area consists primarily of turf with several trees located near the entrance of the property. Wooded areas and small sections of low vegetation are located within the western and northern portion of the project area, outside of the current footprint of the wastewater treatment facility.

No-Action Alternative – The No-Action Alternative would have no effect on vegetation.

Proposed Alternative – Vegetation disturbance inside of the current wastewater treatment facility footprint would be minimal and occur in areas of previous disturbance which are now turf. In order to access the location of the proposed well, approximately 0.25 acres of trees would need to be removed. Any permanent or temporary disturbance to vegetative cover has the potential to displace wildlife and cause erosion and sediment pollution of surface waters. BMPs to prevent erosion and sediment pollution of surface waters during construction. No rare or unique vegetation communities would be impacted. Following construction, all disturbed turf outside of the newly constructed facilities would be restored to preconstruction conditions. The areas in which trees have been removed will not be replanted with trees but instead will be seeded with grasses. The image below shows the planned tree removal area.



Map Showing Tree Removal Area Along the Western and Northwestern Corner of the Parcel

3.1.6 Soils

Soils within the project area have been previously disturbed during construction of the existing wastewater treatment facility. Soils consist of Billyboy-Ossmer complex (USDA-NRCS 2019).

No Action Alternative - The No-Action Alternative would have no effect on soils.

Proposed Alternative – New areas of soil disturbance would mainly occur in the northwestern corner of the site where the new activated sludge aeration basins would be constructed and the area directly north of the existing footprint where the new well will be installed. Additionally, minimal impacts to soils will occur as a part of the upgrade to the discharge pipe located at the southern portion of the parcel. The City will require that the contractor use best management practices to prevent erosion and sediment pollution of surface waters during construction. All disturbed soils in areas that were not previously turf, predominately outside of the fence line, will be restored following the completion of construction activities using a combination of seed, fertilizer, and Hydromulch. Areas that were previously turf, mainly those surrounding the buildings, will be restored to their original state using turf reinforcement mats.

3.1.7 Wildlife

Common wildlife present within City limits include songbirds, rodents, and occasionally whitetail deer, fox, coyote and other vertebrates acclimated to semi-urban areas.

No Action Alternative – The No Action Alternative would have no effect on wildlife.

Proposed Alternative – Wildlife will avoid areas where construction is occurring but return

once construction is complete. Impacts to wildlife would be minor and mostly temporary as the construction occurs almost entirely in the existing project area footprint. After construction, maintenance activities would be routine, noninvasive and have minimal impacts.

3.1.8 Federally Threatened and Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Species

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website was consulted on June 8, 2023, to determine if any threatened or endangered species occur within the action area. The northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*; endangered), monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*; candidate), gray wolf (*Canis lupus*; threatened), the tricolored bat (Perimyotis subflavus; proposed endangered), and the whooping crane (*Grus americana*; experimental population, non-essential) were listed for the action area.

No Action Alternative – The No Action Alternative would have no effect on the northern longeared bat, monarch butterfly, gray wolf, tricolored bat, or whooping crane.

Proposed Alternative -

Northern Long-eared Bat

The northern long-eared bat is a medium-sized bat about 3 to 3.7 inches in length but with a wingspan of 9 to 10 inches. As its name suggests, this bat is distinguished by its long ears, particularly as compared to other bats in its genus. Northern long-eared bat hibernates in caves and mines in the winter and in the summer roosts singly or in colonies under the bark or in cracks and crevices of trees. Approximately 0.25 acres of trees will be removed as a result of the proposed action. Using US Fish and Wildlife Service's Minnesota-Wisconsin Federal Endangered Species Determination Key, a "May Affect-Not Likely to Affect" determination was obtained. To minimize any impact to northern long-eared bat, tree removal activities will occur between November 1 and March 31. Following a 15-day review period, no additional comments were received from US Fish and Wildlife Service therefore concurrence with this determination has been obtained.

Monarch Butterfly

Monarch butterflies are large and conspicuous, with bright orange wings surrounded by a black border and covered with black veins. The bright coloring of a monarch serves as a warning to predators that eating them can be toxic. During the breeding season, monarchs lay their eggs on their obligate milkweed host plant, and larvae emerge after two to five days. Larvae develop over a period of 9 to 18 days, feeding on milkweed and sequestering toxic chemicals as a defense against predators. The larva then pupates into a chrysalis before emerging 6 to 14 days later as an adult butterfly. There are multiple generations of monarchs produced during the breeding season, with most adult butterflies living approximately two to five weeks. The project area consists of disturbed which are mowed on a routine basis. The project area would have no effect on the monarch butterfly as the project area does not contain suitable habitat.

Gray Wolf

Gray wolves are habitat generalists and live throughout the northern hemisphere. Ungulates (both wild and domestic) are the typical prey of wolves, but wolves also readily scavenge. Beaver is among the smallest important prey however wolves can utilize smaller mammals, birds, and fish. Territory size is a function of prey density and can range from 25-1,500 square miles. Both male and female wolves disperse at equal rates and equal distances, sometimes >600 miles. Using US Fish and Wildlife Service's Minnesota-Wisconsin Federal Endangered Species Determination Key, a "May Affect-Not Likely to Affect" determination was obtained. Following a 30-day review period, no additional comments were received from US Fish and Wildlife Service therefore concurrence with this determination has been obtained.

Tricolored Bat

Tricolored bat is a small insectivorous bat that is distinguished by its unique tricolored fur and often appears yellowish to nearly orange. The once common species is wide ranging across the eastern and central United States and portions of southern Canada, Mexico and Central America. During the winter, tricolored bats are often found in caves and abandoned mines, although in the southern United States, where caves are sparse, tricolored bats are often found roosting in road-associated culverts where they exhibit shorter torpor bouts and forage during warm nights. During the spring, summer, and fall, tricolored bats are found in forested habitats where they roost in trees, primarily among leaves of live or recently dead deciduous hardwood trees, but may also be found in Spanish moss, pine trees, and occasionally human structures. Approximately 0.25 acres of trees will be removed as a result of the proposed action. Using US Fish and Wildlife Service's Minnesota-Wisconsin Federal Endangered Species Determination Key, a "Not Likely to Affect" determination was obtained. Following a 15-day review period, no additional comments were received from US Fish and Wildlife Service therefore concurrence with this determination has been obtained.

Whooping Crane

The whooping crane occurs only in North America and is North America's tallest bird, with males reaching 5 feet tall. This species relies heavily on large open marshes with adjacent grasslands. Only three wild populations of whooping cranes are in existence, with only the Aransas-Wood Buffalo National Park population having natural reproduction. The population of whooping cranes that could potentially be found near the proposed action site is a small migratory population of individuals introduced beginning in 2001 that migrate between Wisconsin and Florida. No suitable habitat for whooping crane exists within the project area therefore there will be no effect to whooping crane.

3.2 Socio-economic Resources

3.2.1 Noise

Noise levels in and around the vicinity of the project area are commensurate with that of other small towns in northern Minnesota.

No Action Alternative - The No Action Alternative would have no effect on noise in the area.

Proposed Alternative – The use of heavy equipment for construction would generate a temporary increase in noise levels which could disturb wildlife and citizens. The use of heavy equipment on the site would occur during the planned construction period of spring 2024 through the end of summer 2025, resulting in a temporary and minor adverse effect.

Construction noise would have a minor short-term effect on residents in the area as the construction timeframe is a year and a half, work would only occur during daylight hours, and noise levels would return to normal following construction. In an effort to decrease noise levels, the use of exhaust mufflers would be required on construction equipment.

Noise associated with construction of the project would lead to temporary displacement of some wildlife species. Nesting of birds may also be discouraged within the project area. However, birds and other wildlife species are expected to return to the area following construction. No long-term impacts would be expected to occur once construction is complete.

3.2.2 Transportation

The City of Ogilvie wastewater treatment facility is just north of the intersection of State Highway 47 North

and MN Highway 23 West.

No Action Alternative – The No Action Alternative would have no effect on transportation.

Proposed Alternative – The Proposed Alternative would have a temporary and minor effect on transportation within the City of Ogilvie during the construction timeframe due to a slight increase in traffic. This impact would only be affected during construction and the impact would be minimal. Construction activities would be expected to use appropriate BMPs to minimize safety risks.

Environmental Justice

E.O. 12898 requires federal agencies to "identify and address the disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their actions on minority and low-income populations, to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law."

EO 12898 defines a minority as an individual belonging to one of the following population groups: American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander; Black, not of Hispanic origin; or Hispanic. A minority population, for the purposes of this environmental justice analysis, is identified when the minority population of the potentially affected area is greater than 50 percent or the minority population is meaningfully greater than the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis. The E.O. does not provide criteria to determine if an affected area consists of a low-income population. For purposes of this EA, the CEQ criterion for defining minority population has been adapted to identify whether or not the population in an affected area constitutes a low-income population. An affected geographic area is considered to consist of a low-income population (i.e., below the poverty level, for purposes of this analysis) where the percentage of low-income persons: 1) is greater than 50 percent, or 2) is meaningfully greater than the low-income population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis.

An analysis of demographic data was conducted to derive information on the approximate locations of low-income and minority populations in the community of concern. This analysis was performed using the EPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (EJSCREEN). The City of Ogilvie falls within EPA Region 5 Blockgroup 270654802002. This blockgroup is comprised of 38% low-income and 15% minorities. The low-income population is higher than the state average of 23% and lower than the state average of 20% for minorities. (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2022). The environmental justice report can be found in Attachment D. Additionally, the Council on Environmental Quality Climate and Economic Justice Screening tool indicates that the census tract that Ogilvie falls within, tract 27163070205, is not considered disadvantaged as it does not meet any burden thresholds or at least one associated socioeconomic threshold.

No Action Alternative – Under the No Action Alternative, no construction would occur in the project area; therefore, there would be no impacts to minority or low-income populations. There would be no changes to the social and economic character of the project area.

Proposed Alternative – Under the Proposed Alternative, impacts to low-income populations would be temporary and minor and there would be no displacement of such populations. As discussed in this EA, construction of the Proposed Alternative would result in short-term changes in noise, air quality, and transportation which would not be significant. Implementation of BMPs for air quality and transportation would further reduce impacts. The intention of the Proposed Alternative is to assist a small community with wastewater treatment facility improvements that would otherwise be unaffordable to them. The action would result in long term beneficial effects for the population. Therefore, the Proposed Alternative would not result in disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and/or low-income populations and would be in compliance with E.O. 12898. The Proposed Alternative would have a beneficial effect on low-income and minority populations within the community.

3.3 Cultural Resources

USACE identified the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to be the boundary limits of the Ogilvie wastewater treatment facility. Review of the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) resource databases identified no historic properties within the project area. The project area has been highly disturbed with the construction, operation, and maintenance of the existing wastewater treatment facility, and the corps determined there is little potential for the area to contain NRHP eligible archaeological resources.

This project was previously coordinated with the Minnesota SHPO in 2017 on behalf of the City of Ogilvie (Attachment E). During this coordination the Minnesota SHPO concurred with the recommendation that 'no properties listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP would be effected by the project'. The Corps concurs that none of the structures within the existing wastewater treatment facility warrant survey and evaluation to determine its eligibility for listing in the NRHP.

No Action Alternative – The No Action Alternative would have no effect to historic properties since none are present in the project area.

Proposed Alternative – The proposed alternative would have No Effect to Historic Properties since none are in the project area. The USACE coordinated the determination that the proposed project would have No Effect on Historic Properties on May 16th, 2023, and the SHPO concurred on the 5th of July 2023. After the completion of coordination with the Minnesota SHPO, the City of Ogilvie proposed additions to the proposed project. These changes include replacing the existing chloring gas disinfection system with an ultraviolet disinfection system, lining and repair of the existing outfall pipe, and additional tree clearing. The Corps determined that these changes did not warrant additional SHPO coordination as these changes would have no effect to historic properties since none in the in the project area.

3.4 Cumulative Effects

The proposed alternative is designed to update the wastewater treatment facility in order to provide needed public facilities that meets MPCA discharge standards. This project would provide the citizens of Ogilvie with a reliable wastewater system for many years to come. There would be no cumulative adverse effects to natural resources due to the fact that the proposed work would be completed within previously disturbed areas that provides low quality habitat. Additionally, the benefits of the reduction of phosphorus and mercury in the discharge outweigh any minor temporary impacts that construction activity has. Finally, without federal assistance it is likely this project would still be completed at some point in the future; therefore, any effects described here would likely occur later under the no-action alternative.

Table 1. Environmental Assessment Matrix

| Tab | | Envi | | | | | | ivial | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|----------------|-------|-------------|-------------|
| | No Action Alte | | | | | | | | | | ed Alternative | | | |
| | BENEFICIAL | | | ADVERSE | | | BENEFICIAL | | | | ADVERSE | | | |
| PARAMETER | SIGNIFICANT | SUBSTANTIAL | MINOR | NO EFFECT | MINOR | SUBSTANTIAL | SIGNIFICANT | SIGNIFICANT | SUBSTANTIAL | MINOR | NO EFFECT | MINOR | SUBSTANTIAL | SIGNIFICANT |
| A. Social Effects | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Aesthetic Values | | | | Х | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 3. Recreational Opportunities | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 4. Transportation | | | | Χ | | | | | | | | ST | | |
| Public Health and Safety | | | | | Χ | | | | | Х | | | | |
| 6. Community Cohesion (Sense of Unity) | | | | Х | | | | | | | Х | | | |
| 7. Community Growth and | | | | Χ | | | | | | | | | | |
| Development Development | | | | · · · | | | | | | | V | | | |
| 8. Business and Home Relocations | | | | X | | | | | | | X | | | |
| 9. Existing/Potential Land Use | | | | X | | | | | | | X | | | |
| 10. Controversy | | | | Х | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| B. Economic Effects | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Property Values | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 2. Tax Revenue | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 3. Public Facilities and Services | | | | | Χ | | | | | Χ | | | | |
| Regional Growth | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 5. Employment | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| Business Activity | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 7. Farmland/Food Supply | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 8. Commercial Navigation | | | | Х | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| Flooding Effects | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 10. Energy Needs and Resources | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| C. Natural Resource Effects | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Air Quality | | | | Χ | | | | | | | | ST | | |
| Terrestrial Habitat | | | | Χ | | | | | | | | ST | | |
| 3. Wetlands | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| Aquatic Habitat | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 5. Habitat Diversity and Interspersion | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| Biological Productivity | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 7. Surface Water Quality | | | | | Χ | | | | | Χ | Χ | | | |
| 8. Water Supply | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 9. Groundwater | | | | Χ | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| 10. Soils | | | | Χ | | | | | | | | ST | | |
| 11. Threatened or Endangered Species | | | | Х | | | | | | | Х | | | |
| D. Cultural Resource Effects | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Historic Architectural Values | | | | Х | | | | | | | Χ | | | |
| Precontact & Historic Archeological Values | | | | Х | | | | | | | Х | | | |
| X = Long-term effects: ST = Short-term | ro o r. | ina of | footo | | | | | | | | | | | |

X = Long-term effects; ST = Short-term recurring effects.

4 Environmental Compliance

4.1 Applicable Environmental Laws and Executive Orders

The Proposed Alternative would comply with federal environmental laws, Executive Orders and policies, and applicable state and local laws including but not limited to te Clean Air Act, as amended; the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958, as amended; the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, as amended; Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, as amended; the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended; the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended; Executive Order 11990 – Protection of Wetlands; Executive Order 12898 – Environmental Justice; and Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management.

Clean Water Act (CWA): The Clean Water Act (CWA; 33 USC §1251 *et seq.*) establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters.

Section 404 of the CWA regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States and is administered by USACE. The activities associated with the proposed alternative would not require an individual Section 404(b)(1) analysis. The construction associated with the modification to the wastewater treatment plant is covered under the Utility General Regional Permit.

Section 401 water quality certification is required for actions that may result in a discharge of a pollutant into waters of the United States to ensure that the discharge complies with applicable water quality standards. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is the agency responsible for issuing Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification. Section 401 water quality certification has been issued for the Utility General Regional Permit, a copy of which can be found in Attachment B.

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA): The NHPA (16 USC 470a et seq) established national policy for historic preservation, authorized the Secretary of the Interior to expand and maintain a National Register of Historic Places, and created the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Section 106 of the NHPA specifies that federal agencies, before approval of any expenditure or before issuance of any license, must consider the effect of the action on any property included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and must afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on this action. The Selected Plan would have no effect on historic properties. The MN SHPO concurred with this determination on 5 July 2023.

5 Coordination

5.1 Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA; 16 USC 661–667e) requires federal agencies to coordinate with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and applicable state agencies when a stream or body of water is proposed to be modified. The proposed project was coordinated with Minnesota Department of Natural

Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Jun 13, 2023. Updated plans were provided in September 2023 and the project was re-coordinated on September 18, 2023. A copy of the Endangered Species Act coordination can be found in Attachment C

5.2 Cultural Resources Coordination

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, established national policy for historic preservation, authorized the Secretary of the Interior to expand and maintain a National Register of Historic Places, and created the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). Section 106 of the NHPA specifies that federal agencies, before approval of any expenditure or before issuance of any license, must consider the effect of the action on any property included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The proposed project was coordinated with the Minnesota State Historic Preservation office (SHPO) on 16 May 2023. Concurrence to the No Effect to Historic Properties determination was received on 5 July 2023. A copy of the SHPO coordination can be found in Attachment E.

6 Distribution and Review of the Draft Environmental Assessment

The draft environmental assessment was made available for a 30-day public review and comment period. The comment period began on September 26, 2023 and ended on October 26, 2023. No comments were received.

7 References

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). 2022. 2022 impaired waters listed. https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/minnesotas-impaired-waters-list. Accessed June 1, 2023.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDANRCS). 2019. https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx. Accessed June 1, 2023.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2022. EJSCREEN. https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen. Accessed June 1, 2023.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2023 Green Book National Area and County-Level Multi-Pollutant Information. https://www.epa.gov/green-book/green-book-national-area-and-county-level-multi-pollutant-information. Accessed June 1, 2023.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2020. National Wetland Inventory Wetland Mapper. Retrieved June 3, 2023 from https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/Mapper.html.

Attachment A – Project Location Maps

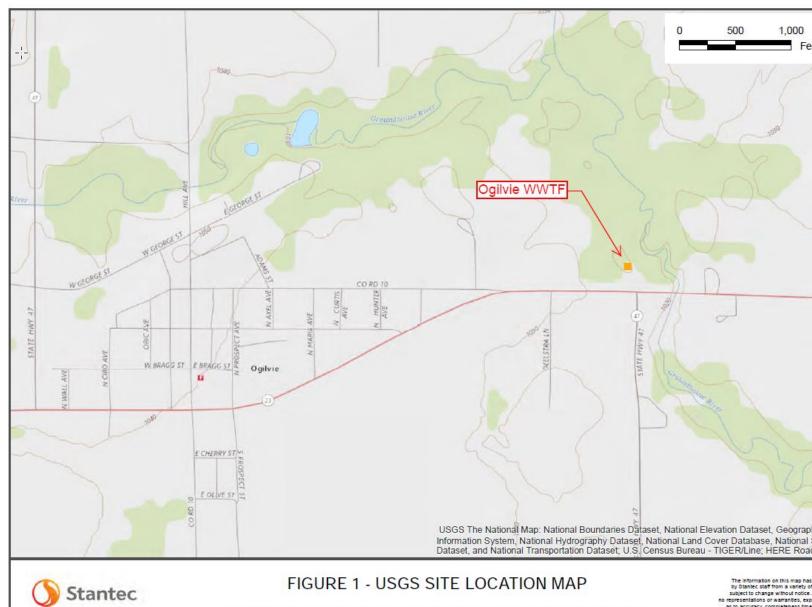




FIGURE 1 - USGS SITE LOCATION MAP

OGILVIE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

NOVEMBER 2017

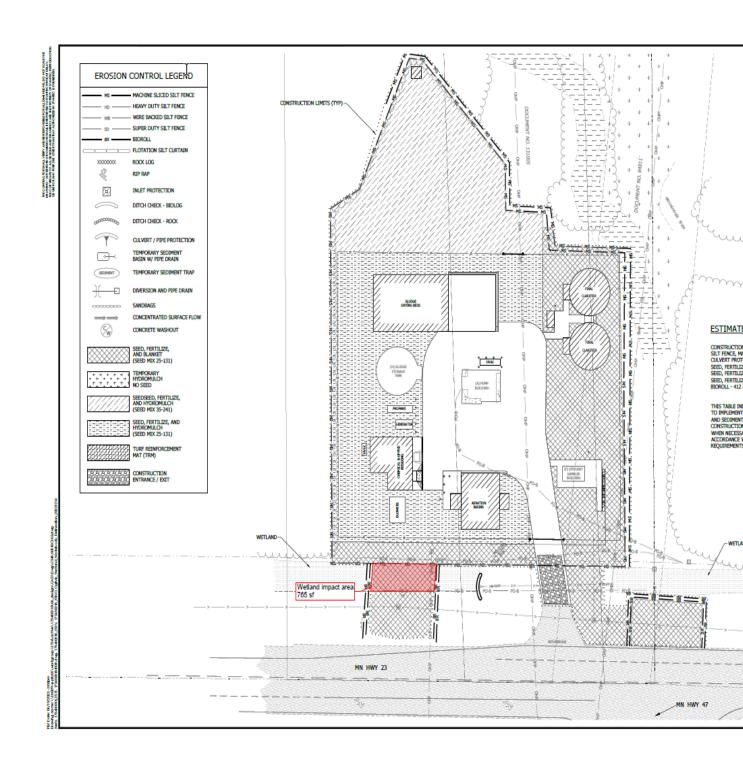
Design With Community in Mind

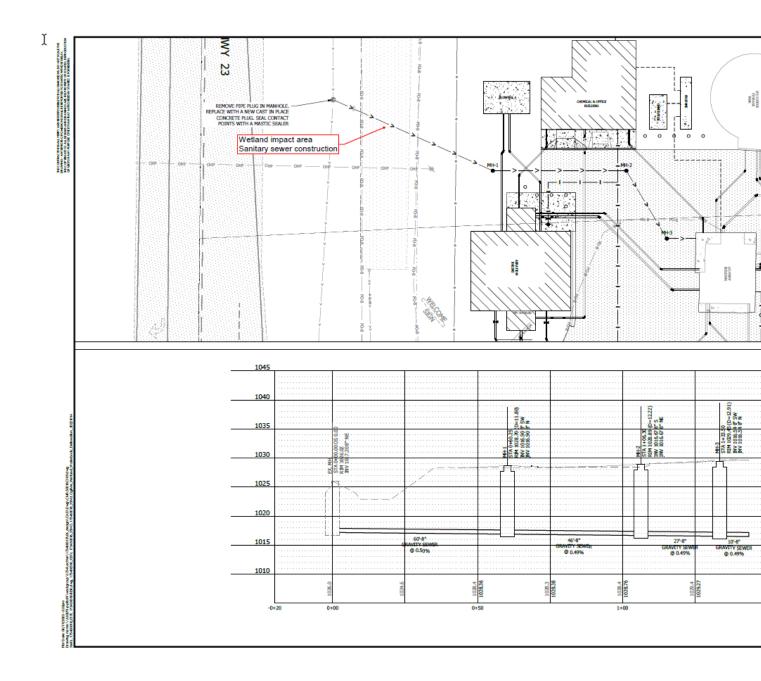
19



Source: https://beacon.schneidercorp.com/Application.aspx?AppID=453&LayerID=6582

Attachment B – Project Plans and Erosion Control Maps





Attachment C – ESA Coordination



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office 3815 American Blvd East Bloomington, MN 55425-1659 Phone: (952) 858-0793 Fax: (952) 646-2873

In Reply Refer To: September 18, 2023

Project code: 2023-0091507

Project Name: Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.

Federal Nexus: yes

Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Army Corps of Engineers

Subject: Federal agency coordination under the Endangered Species Act, Section 7 for

'Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.'

Dear Amanda Goldstein:

This letter records your determination using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on September 18, 2023, for 'Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.' (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code 2023-0091507 and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number. Please carefully review this letter. Your Endangered Species Act (Act) requirements may not be complete.

Ensuring Accurate Determinations When Using IPaC

The Service developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and based on a standing analysis. All information submitted by the Project proponent into the IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project. Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the Northern Long-eared Bat Rangewide Determination Key (DKey), invalidates this letter.

Determination for the Northern Long-Eared Bat

Based upon your IPaC submission and a standing analysis completed by the Service, your project

has reached the determination of "May Affect, Not Likely to Adversely Affect" the northern long-eared bat. Unless the Service advises you within 15 days of the date of this letter that your IPaC-assisted determination was incorrect, this letter verifies that consultation on the Action is <u>complete</u> and no further action is necessary unless either of the following occurs:

- new information reveals effects of the action that may affect the northern long-eared bat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered; or,
- the identified action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the northern long-eared bat that was not considered when completing the determination key.

15-Day Review Period

As indicated above, the Service will notify you within 15 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" (NLAA) determination for the northern long-eared bat. If we do not notify you within that timeframe, you may proceed with the Action under the terms of the NLAA concurrence provided here. This verification period allows the identified Ecological Services Field Office to apply local knowledge to evaluation of the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having impacts that we did not anticipate when developing the key. In such cases, the identified Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the Northern Long-eared Bat DKey.

Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

The IPaC-assisted determination for the northern long-eared bat does not apply to the following ESA-protected species and/or critical habitat that also may occur in your Action area:

- Gray Wolf Canis lupus Threatened
- Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus Candidate
- Tricolored Bat Perimyotis subflavus Proposed Endangered
- Whooping Crane Grus americana Experimental Population, Non-Essential

You may coordinate with our Office to determine whether the Action may affect the species and/ or critical habitat listed above. Note that reinitiation of consultation would be necessary if a new species is listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the identified action before it is complete.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need further assistance, please contact the Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office and reference Project Code 2023-0091507 associated with this Project.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.':

The City of Ogilvie, MN is proposing to upgrade its existing wastewater treatment facility in order to address deterioration of equipment and structures and to bring its facility in to compliance with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's phosphorus and mercury discharge limits. To do this, the following construction actions are planned:

- Rehabbing the existing control building to include replacing influent screen basket with new basket, replacing influent pumps, adding return sludge pumps and reuse waste sludge pumps, replacing the HVAC systems, rehabbing the bathroom, removing the motor control center, rehabbing the roofing
- Remove primary clarifier
- · Remove trickling filter
- Construct new activated sludge aeration basins
- Remove final clarifiers
- Construct new final clarifiers
- New scum pump
- New return activated sludge pumps and waste activated sludge pumps
- Construct new chemical building to house chemical feed pumps, chemical storage tanks, new motor control center
- Remove sludge drying beds and construct new sludge drying beds
- Construct new site piping and site work to support activated sludge system
- Construct temporary and permanent erosion protection

The main building construction activities will take place within the existing facility's footprint however approximately .25 acres of trees will need to be removed immediately to the west and north of the fence line in order to provide access to a new well. Also, a single large evergreen tree will need to be removed to make space for the proposed chemical storage and filter building. In addition, some turf will need to be removed north of the sludge drying beds to make space for construction.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@45.83246045,-93.41060950619453,14z



DETERMINATION KEY RESULT

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" for the Endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. Does the proposed project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, intentional take of the northern long-eared bat or any other listed species?

Note: Intentional take is defined as take that is the intended result of a project. Intentional take could refer to research, direct species management, surveys, and/or studies that include intentional handling/encountering, harassment, collection, or capturing of any individual of a federally listed threatened, endangered or proposed species?

No

2. Do you have post-white nose syndrome occurrence data that indicates that northern long- eared bats (NLEB) are likely to be present in the action area?

Bat occurrence data may include identification of NLEBs in hibernacula, capture of NLEBs, tracking of NLEBs to roost trees, or confirmed acoustic detections. With this question, we are looking for data that, for some reason, may have not yet been made available to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

No

3. Does any component of the action involve construction or operation of wind turbines?

Note: For federal actions, answer 'yes' if the construction or operation of wind power facilities is either (1) part

of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for a federal agency action (federal permit, funding, etc.).

No

4. Is the proposed action authorized, permitted, licensed, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency in whole or in part?

Yes

5. Is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

6. Are you an employee of the federal action agency or have you been officially designated in writing by the agency as its designated non-federal representative for the purposes of Endangered Species Act Section 7 informal consultation per 50 CFR § 402.08?

Note: This key may be used for federal actions and for non-federal actions to facilitate section 7 consultation and to help determine whether an incidental take permit may be needed, respectively. This question is for information purposes only.

Yes

7. Is the lead federal action agency the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC)? Is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

No

- 8. Is the lead federal action agency the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)? No
- 9. Have you determined that your proposed action will have no effect on the northern long- eared bat? Remember to consider the <u>effects of any activities</u> that would not occur but for the proposed action.

If you think that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, answer "No" below and continue through the key. If you have determined that the northern long-eared bat does not occur in your project's action area and/or that your project will have no effects whatsoever on the species despite the potential for it to occur in the action area, you may make a "no effect" determination for the northern long-eared bat.

Note: Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representatives) must consult with USFWS on federal agency actions that may affect listed species [50 CFR 402.14(a)]. Consultation is not required for actions that will not affect listed species or critical habitat. Therefore, this determination key will not provide a consistency or verification letter for actions that will not affect listed species. If you believe that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, please answer "No" and continue through the key. Remember that this key addresses only effects to the northern long-eared bat. Consultation with USFWS would be required if your action may affect another listed species or critical habitat. The definition of <u>Effects of the Action</u> can be found here: https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions

10. Does the action area contain any caves (or associated sinkholes, fissures, or other karst features), mines, rocky outcroppings, or tunnels that could provide habitat for hibernating northern long-eared bats?

11. Does the action area contain or occur within 0.5 miles of (1) talus or (2) anthropogenic or naturally formed rock crevices in rocky outcrops, rock faces or cliffs?
No

12. Is suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat present within 1000 feet of project activities?

(If unsure, answer "Yes.")

Note: If there are trees within the action area that are of a sufficient size to be potential roosts for bats (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥3 inches (12.7 centimeter) dbh), answer "Yes". If unsure, additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat can be found at: https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions

res

13. Will the action cause effects to a bridge?

No

14. Will the action result in effects to a culvert or tunnel?

No

15. Does the action include the intentional exclusion of northern long-eared bats from a building or structure?

Note: Exclusion is conducted to deny bats' entry or reentry into a building. To be effective and to avoid harming bats, it should be done according to established standards. If your action includes bat exclusion and you are unsure whether northern long-eared bats are present, answer "Yes." Answer "No" if there are no signs of bat use in the building/structure. If unsure, contact your local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Ecological Services Field Office to help assess whether northern long-eared bats may be present. Contact a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator (NWCO) for help in how to exclude bats from a structure safely without causing harm to the bats (to find a NWCO certified in bat standards, search the Internet using the search term "National Wildlife Control Operators Association bats"). Also see the White-Nose Syndrome Response Team's guide for bat control in structures

No

- 16. Does the action involve removal, modification, or maintenance of a human-made structure (barn, house, or other building) known or suspected to contain roosting bats?
 No
- 17. Will the action cause construction of one or more new roads open to the public?

For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.).

18. Will the action include or cause any construction or other activity that is reasonably certain to increase average daily traffic on one or more existing roads?

Note: For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.).

Yes

19. Will the increased vehicle traffic occur on any road that lies between any two areas of contiguous forest that are each greater than or equal to 10 acres in extent and are separated by less than 1,000 feet? Northern long-eared bats may cross a road by flying between forest patches that are up to 1,000 feet apart.

Note: "Contiguous forest" of 10 acres or more may includes areas where multiple forest patches are separated by less than 1,000 feet of non-forested area if the forested patches, added together, comprise at least 10 acres.

No

20. Will the proposed action involve the creation of a new water-borne contaminant source (e.g., leachate pond pits containing chemicals that are not NSF/ANSI 60 compliant)?

No

21. Will the proposed action involve the creation of a new point source discharge from a facility other than a water treatment plant or storm water system?

No

22. Will the action include drilling or blasting?

No

23. Will the action involve military training (e.g., smoke operations, obscurant operations, exploding munitions, artillery fire, range use, helicopter or fixed wing aircraft use)?

No

24. Will the proposed action involve the use of herbicides or pesticides other than herbicides (e.g., fungicides, insecticides, or rodenticides)?

No

25. Will the action include or cause activities that are reasonably certain to cause chronic nighttime noise in suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat? Chronic noise is noise that is continuous or occurs repeatedly again and again for a long time.

Note: Additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat can be found at: https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions

26. Does the action include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, the use of artificial lighting within 1000 feet of suitable northern long-eared bat roosting habitat?

Note: Additional information defining suitable roosting habitat for the northern long-eared bat can be found at: https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions

No

27. Will the action include tree cutting or other means of knocking down or bringing down trees, tree topping, or tree trimming?

Yes

28. Has a presence/probable absence summer bat survey targeting the northern long-eared bat following the Service's <u>Range-wide Indiana Bat and Northern Long-Eared Bat Survey Guidelines</u> been conducted within the project area? If unsure, answer "No."

No

29. Does the action include emergency cutting or trimming of hazard trees in order to remove an imminent threat to human safety or property? See hazard tree note at the bottom of the key for text that will be added to response letters

Note: A "hazard tree" is a tree that is an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety, or improved property and has a diameter breast height of six inches or greater.

No

30. Are any of the trees proposed for cutting or other means of knocking down, bringing down, topping, or trimming suitable for northern long-eared bat roosting (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥3 inches dbh that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or cavities)?

No

31. Will the action result in the use of prescribed fire?

No

32. Will the action cause noises that are louder than ambient baseline noises within the action area?

Yes

33. Will the action cause noises during the active season in suitable summer habitat that are louder than anthropogenic noises to which the affected habitat is currently exposed? Answer 'no' if the noises will occur only during the inactive period.

Note: Inactive Season dates for areas within a spring staging/fall swarming area can be found here: https:// www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas.

Note: Additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat can be found at: https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions

Yes

PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which trees will be removed - round up to the nearest tenth of an acre. For this question, include the entire area where tree removal will take place, even if some live or dead trees will be left standing.

25

Will all potential northern long-eared bat (NLEB) roost trees (trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height, dbh) be cut, knocked, or brought down from any portion of the action area greater than or equal to 0.1 acre? If all NLEB roost trees will be removed from multiple areas, select 'Yes' if the cumulative extent of those areas meets or exceeds 0.1 acre.

Yes

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which all potential NLEB roost trees will be removed. If all NLEB roost trees will be removed from multiple areas, entire the total extent of those areas. Round up to the nearest tenth of an acre.

.25

For the area from which all potential northern long-eared bat (NLEB) roost trees will be removed, on how many acres (round to the nearest tenth of an acre) will trees be allowed to regrow? Enter '0' if the entire area from which all potential NLEB roost trees are removed will be developed or otherwise converted to non-forest for the foreseeable future.

0

Will any snags (standing dead trees) ≥3 inches dbh be left standing in the area(s) in which all northern long-eared bat roost trees will be cut, knocked down, or otherwise brought down?

No

Will all project activities by completed by April 1, 2024?

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers

Name: Amanda Goldstein Address: 332 Minnesota St

Address Line 2: Suite 1500 City: Saint Paul

State: MN Zip: 55101

Email amanda.c.goldstein@usace.army.mil

Phone: 6512905006



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office 3815 American Blvd East Bloomington, MN 55425-1659 Phone: (952) 858-0793 Fax: (952) 646-2873

In Reply Refer To: September 18, 2023

Project code: 2023-0091507

Project Name: Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.

Subject: Verification letter for 'Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.' for

specified threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location consistent with the Minnesota-Wisconsin Endangered Species Determination

Key (Minnesota-Wisconsin DKey).

Dear Amanda Goldstein:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received on **September 18, 2023** your effect determination(s) for the 'Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.' (Action) using the Minnesota-Wisconsin DKey within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system. You have submitted this key to satisfy requirements under Section 7(a)(2). The Service developed this system in accordance of with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C 1531 et seq.).

Based on your answers and the assistance of the Service's Minnesota-Wisconsin DKey, you made the following effect determination(s) for the proposed Action:

Species

Gray Wolf (*Canis lupus*)
Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)
Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*)

Whooping Crane (Grus americana)

Listing Status Determination

Threatened NLAA
Candidate No effect
Proposed No effect

Proposed Endanger

ed No effect

Experimental Population, Non-

Essential

Determination Information

The Service will notify you within 30 calendar days if we determine that this proposed Action does not meet the criteria for a "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" (NLAA) determination for Federally listed species in Minnesota and Wisconsin. If we do not notify you within that

to apply local knowledge to evaluation of the Action, as we may identify a small subset of actions having impacts that were unanticipated. In such instances, the Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office may request additional information to verify the effects determination reached through the Minnesota-Wisconsin DKey.

Additional Information

Sufficient project details: Please provide sufficient project details on your project homepage in IPaC (Define Project, Project Description) to support your conclusions. Failure to disclose important aspects of your project that would influence the outcome of your effects determinations may negate your determinations and invalidate this letter. If you have site-specific information that leads you to believe a different determination is more appropriate for your project than what the Dkey concludes, you can and should proceed based on the best available information.

Future project changes: The Service recommends that you contact the Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office or re-evaluate the project in IPaC if: 1) the scope or location of the proposed Action is changed; 2) new information reveals that the action may affect listed species or designated critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered; 3) the Action is modified in a manner that causes effects to listed species or designated critical habitat; or 4) a new species is listed or critical habitat designated. If any of the above conditions occurs, additional consultation with the Service should take place before project changes are final or resources committed.

Species-specific information

Bald and Golden Eagles: Bald eagles, golden eagles, and their nests are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (54 Stat. 250, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 668a-d) (Eagle Act). The Eagle Act prohibits, except when authorized by an Eagle Act permit, the "taking" of bald and golden eagles and defines "take" as "pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb." The Eagle Act's implementing regulations define disturb as "... to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, (1) injury to an eagle, (2) a decrease in its productivity, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, or sheltering behavior, or (3) nest abandonment, by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior."

If you observe a bald eagle nest in the vicinity of your proposed project, you should follow the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines (May 2007). For more information on eagles and conducting activities in the vicinity of an eagle nest, please visit our regional eagle website or contact Margaret at Margaret_Rheude@fws.gov. If the Action may affect bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Eagle Act may be required.

The following species and/or critical habitats may also occur in your project area and **are not** covered by this conclusion:

Northern Long-eared Bat Myotis septentrionalis Endangered

Coordination with the Service is not complete if additional coordination

is advised above for any species.

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement.':

The City of Ogilvie, MN is proposing to upgrade its existing wastewater treatment facility in order to address deterioration of equipment and structures and to bring its facility in to compliance with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's phosphorus and mercury discharge limits. To do this, the following construction actions are planned:

- Rehabbing the existing control building to include replacing influent screen basket with new basket, replacing influent pumps, adding return sludge pumps and reuse waste sludge pumps, replacing the HVAC systems, rehabbing the bathroom, removing the motor control center, rehabbing the roofing
- Remove primary clarifier
- Remove trickling filter
- Construct new activated sludge aeration basins
- Remove final clarifiers
- Construct new final clarifiers
- New scum pump
- New return activated sludge pumps and waste activated sludge pumps
- Construct new chemical building to house chemical feed pumps, chemical storage tanks, new motor control center
- Remove sludge drying beds and construct new sludge drying beds
- Construct new site piping and site work to support activated sludge system
- Construct temporary and permanent erosion protection

The main building construction activities will take place within the existing facility's footprint however approximately .25 acres of trees will need to be removed immediately to the west and north of the fence line in order to provide access to a new well. Also, a single large evergreen tree will need to be removed to make space for the proposed chemical storage and filter building. In addition, some turf will need to be removed north of the sludge drying beds to make space for construction.

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@45.83246045,-93.41060950619453,14z



QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW

1. This determination key is intended to assist the user in evaluating the effects of their actions on Federally listed species in Minnesota and Wisconsin. It does not cover other prohibited activities under the Endangered Species Act (e.g., for wildlife: import/export, Interstate or foreign commerce, possession of illegally taken wildlife, etc.; for plants: import/export, reduce to possession, malicious destruction on Federal lands, commercial sale, etc.) or other statutes. Additionally, this key DOES NOT cover wind development, purposeful take (e.g., for research or surveys), communication towers that have guy wires or are over 450 feet in height, aerial or other large-scale application of any chemical (such as insecticide or herbicide), and approval of long-term permits or plans (e.g., FERC licenses, HCP's).

Click **YES** to acknowledge that you must consider other prohibitions of the ESA or other statutes outside of this determination key.

Yes

Is the action being funded, authorized, or carried out by a Federal agency?Yes

3. Are you the Federal agency or designated non-federal representative?

4. Does the action involve the installation or operation of wind turbines? *No*

5. Does the action involve purposeful take of a listed animal?

No

6. Does the action involve a new communications tower?

No

7. Does the activity involve aerial or other large-scale application of ANY chemical, including pesticides (insecticide, herbicide, fungicide, rodenticide, etc)?

No

8. Does the action occur near a bald eagle nest?

Note: Contact the Minnesota or Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for an up-to-date list of known bald eagle nests.

No

9. Will your action permanently affect local hydrology?

No

10. Will your action temporarily affect local hydrology?

No

11. Will your project have any direct impacts to a stream or river (e.g., Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), hydrostatic testing, stream/road crossings, new stormwater outfall discharge, dams, other in-stream work, etc.)?

No

12. Does your project have the potential to impact the riparian zone or indirectly impact a stream/river (e.g., cut and fill; horizontal directional drilling; construction; vegetation removal; pesticide or fertilizer application; discharge; runoff of sediment or pollutants; increase in erosion, etc.)?

Note: Consider all potential effects of the action, including those that may happen later in time and outside and downstream of the immediate area involved in the action.

Endangered Species Act regulation defines "effects of the action" to include all consequences to listed species or critical habitat that are caused by the proposed action, including the consequences of other activities that are caused by the proposed action. A consequence is caused by the proposed action if it would not occur but for the proposed action and it is reasonably certain to occur. Effects of the action may occur later in time and may include consequences occurring outside the immediate area involved in the action. (50 CFR 402.02).

No

13. Will your action disturb the ground or existing vegetation?

Note: This includes any off-road vehicle access, soil compaction (enough to collapse a rodent burrow), digging, seismic survey, directional drilling, heavy equipment, grading, trenching, placement of fill, pesticide application (herbicide, fungicide), vegetation management (including removal or maintenance using equipment or prescribed fire), cultivation, development, etc.

Yes

14. Will your action include spraying insecticides?

No

15. Does your action area occur entirely within an already developed area?

Note: Already developed areas are already paved, covered by existing structures, manicured lawns, industrial sites, or cultivated cropland, AND do not contain trees that could be roosting habitat. Be aware that listed species may occur in areas with natural, or semi-natural, vegetation immediately adjacent to existing utilities (e.g. roadways, railways) or within utility rights-of-way such as overhead transmission line corridors, and can utilize suitable trees, bridges, or culverts for roosting even in urban dominated landscapes (so these are not considered "already developed areas" for the purposes of this question). If unsure, select NO..

No

16. Have you determined that the action will have no effect on individuals within the whooping crane nonessential experimental population (NEP)?

Yes

17. Does the action area intersect with a known gray wolf denning or rendezvous area?

No

18. Is there any potential for the action to harm wolves directly (e.g., mammal trapping, poison bait), or indirectly (e.g., increasing vehicle use that may result in vehicle strikes, exposure to potential human persecution)?

No

19. [Hidden Semantic] Does the action area intersect the Threatened gray wolf AOI?

Automatically answered

Yes

20. [Hidden Semantic] Does the action area intersect the monarch butterfly species list area? **Automatically answered**

Yes

21. Under the ESA, monarchs remain warranted but precluded by listing actions of higher priority. The monarch is a candidate for listing at this time. The Endangered Species Act does not establish protections or consultation requirements for candidate species. Some Federal and State agencies may have policy requirements to consider candidate species in planning. We encourage implementing measures that will remove or reduce threats to these species and possibly make listing unnecessary.

If your project will have no effect on monarch butterflies (for example, if your project won't affect their habitat or individuals), then you can make a "no effect" determination for this project.

Are you making a "no effect" determination for monarch? Yes

22. [Hidden semantic] Does the action intersect the Tricolored bat species list area?

Automatically answered

Yes

23. The tricolored bat was proposed for listing as endangered on September 13, 2022. During winter, tricolored bats hibernate in caves, abandoned mines, and abandoned tunnels ranging from small to large in size. During spring, summer and fall months, they roost primarily among leaf clusters of live or recently dead deciduous/hardwood trees.

What effect determination do you want to make for the tricolored bat (Only make a "may affect" determination if you think the project is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species)?

1. "No effect"

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers

Name: Amanda Goldstein Address: 332 Minnesota St Address Line 2: Suite 1500 City: Saint Paul

State: MN Zip: 55101

Email amanda.c.goldstein@usace.army.mil

Phone: 6512905006

Attachment D – Environmental Justice Report



Ediffication Report

information for user-defined areas,
and combines that data into environmental justice and
supplemental indexes.

Kanabec County, MN



Low income: 38 percent

82 years



disabilities: 14 percent

Average life Per capita expectancy income

Blockgroup: 270654802002 Population: 975 Area in square miles: 16.02

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



Less than high school education 23 percent

> Male: 43 percent

\$24,401

than high Limited I education: house percent 0 per

Limited English households: O percent

e: Fema

Owner occapied: 78 percent

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

| LANGUAGE | PERCENT |
|--------------------|---------|
| | 99% |
| /w.epa.gov/ejscree | 40/ |
| Total Non-English | 1% |

BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE

| From Ages 1 to 4 | 7% |
|---------------------|-----|
| From Ages 1 to 18 | 24% |
| From Ages 18 and up | 76% |
| From Ages 65 and up | 18% |

LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN

| Speak Spanish | 0% |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Speak Other Indo-European Languages | 0% |
| Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages | 0% |
| Speak Other Languages | 0% |

Notes: Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of any race. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2017–2021. Life expectancy data comes from the Center's for Disease Control.

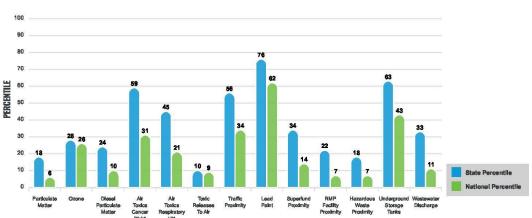
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic information. There are thirteen EI indexes and supplemental indexes in EIScreen reflecting the 13 environmental indicators. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the EI and supplemental indexes, please visit the <u>EIScreen website</u>.

EJ INDEXES

The EJ indexes help users screen for potential EJ concerns. To do this, the EJ index combines data on low income and people of color populations with a single environmental indicator.

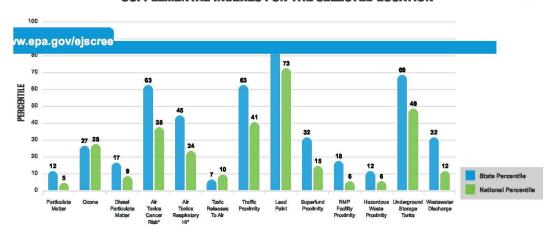
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

The supplemental indexes offer a different perspective on community-level vulnerability. They combine data on percent low-income, percent linguistically isolated, percent less than high school education, percent unemployed, and low life expectancy with a single environmental indicator.

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state or nation.

Report for Blockgroup: 270654802002

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

| SELECTED VARIABLES | VALUE | STATE AVERAGE | PERCENTILE IN STATE | USA AVERAGE | PERCENTILE IN USA |
|---|---------|------------------|------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| POLLUTION AND SOURCES | | | | | |
| Particulate Matter (µg/m³) | 5.04 | 6.78 | 7 | 8.08 | 3 |
| Ozone (ppb) | 57 | 58.2 | 13 | 61.6 | 18 |
| Diesel Particulate Matter (µg/m³) | 0.0655 | 0.21 | 9 | 0.261 | 6 |
| Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million) | 20 | 22 | 12 | 25 | 5 |
| Air Toxics Respiratory HI* | 0.2 | 0.26 | 7 | 0.31 | 4 |
| Toxic Releases to Air | 3 | 1,500 | 4 | 4,600 | 6 |
| Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road) | 23 | 140 | 34 | 210 | 26 |
| Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing) | 0.37 | 0.33 | 61 | 0.3 | 63 |
| Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance) | 0.015 | 0.19 | 15 | 0.13 | 10 |
| RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance) | 0.03 | 0.48 | 8 | 0.43 | 4 |
| Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance) | 0.031 | 1.3 | 7 | 1.9 | 4 |
| Underground Storage Tanks (count/km²) | 0.2 | 1.8 | 41 | 3.9 | 32 |
| Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance) | 6.9E-07 | 0.19 | 15 | 22 | 7 |
| SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS | | | | | |
| Demographic Index | 27% | 22% | 73 | 35% | 45 |
| Supplemental Demographic Index | 16% | 11% | 86 | 14% | 66 |
| People of Color | 15% | 20% | 55 | 39% | 31 |
| Low Income | 38% | 23% | 82 | 31% | 67 |
| Unemployment Rate | 5% | 4% | 67 | 6% | 55 |
| Limited English Speaking Households | 0% | 2% | 0 | 5% | 0 |
| Less Than High School Education | 23% | 7% | 95 | 12% | 85 |
| Under Age 5 | 7% | 6% | 64 | 6% | 65 |
| Over Age 64 | 18% | 17% | 59 | 17% | 60 |
| Low Life Expectancy | 16% | 17% | 30 | 20% | 15 |

*Diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPAs in Toxics. Data Undex, which is the Agency's orgoing, comprehensive equilation of a state of the country, not definitive risk to specific individuals or locations, cancer risk and hazard index from the Air Toxics. Data Undex are provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations, cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Undex are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figure. Here are due to crounding, More Information on the Air Toxics Data Undex are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figure.

Suparfund 0 Schools 3 Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities 0 Hospitals 0 Water Dischargers 2 Air Pollution 0 Brownfields 0 Toxic Release Inventory 0 Selected location contains American Indian Reservation Lands* No Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEIST)" disadvantaged community No

Report for Blockgroup: 270654802002

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

| HEALTH INDICATORS | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|------------|---------------|--|
| INDICATOR | HEALTH VALUE | STATE AVERAGE | STATE PERCENTILE | US AVERAGE | US PERCENTILE | |
| Low Life Expectancy | 16% | 17% | 30 | 20% | 15 | |
| Heart Disease | 6.8 | 5.6 | 76 | 6.1 | 65 | |
| Asthma | 9.5 | 9 | 80 | 10 | 40 | |
| Cancer | 7.1 | 6.4 | 65 | 6.1 | 72 | |
| Persons with Disabilities | 14.8% | 11.4% | 79 | 13.4% | 64 | |

| CLIMATE INDICATORS | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------|------------|---------------|--|
| INDICATOR | HEALTH VALUE | STATE AVERAGE | STATE PERCENTILE | US AVERAGE | US PERCENTILE | |
| Flood Risk | 12% | 8% | 79 | 12% | 72 | |
| Wildfire Risk | 0% | 4% | 86 | 14% | 78 | |

| CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|--|
| INDICATOR HEALTH VALUE STATE AVERAGE STATE PERCENTILE US AVERAGE US PERCENTIL | | | | | | | |
| Broadband Internet | 22% | 11% | 87 | 14% | 78 | | |
| Lack of Health Insurance | 7% | 5% | 80 | 9% | 51 | | |
| Housing Burden | No | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Transportation Access | Yes | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |
| Food Desert | No | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | | |

Footnotes

Report for Blockgroup: 270654802002

/w.epa.gov/ejscree

Attachment E – Section 106 Consultation Letters



July 5, 2023 VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Jonathan Sobiech, Deputy Chief Regional Planning and Environmental Division North US Army Corps of Engineers 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500 St. Paul, MN 55101-1678

RE: Section 569 Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvement Project

Ogilvie, Kanabec County SHPO Number: 2018-0394

Dear Mr. Sobiech,

Thank you for initiating consultation regarding the above-referenced project. Information received in our office on May 16, 2023 has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Officer by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. § 306108) and its implementing federal regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

We have completed a review of your May 16, 2023 letter which included the following documentation in support of your agency's *No Effect* finding for the proposed federal undertaking:

- Figure 1: USGS Site Location Map; and
- Copy of November 8, 2017 letter from Stantec to MN State Historic Preservation Office regarding USDA Rural Utilities funding for wastewater treatment facility improvement project.

Undertaking and Area of Potential Effect

We understand by your May 16th letter that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District (USACE) is proposing to fund the City of Ogilvie's proposed wastewater treatment facility improvement project. As indicated in your letter, our office completed a Section 106 review of this project pursuant to the responsibilities of the project's other federal funder, the USDA-Rural Utilities Service (USDA-RUS). Your agency letter states that there have been no changes to the project as previously documented in the USDA-RUS review.

Your agency essentially agrees with the conclusion reached by the USDA-RUS. We note that the USDA-RUS did not define an Area of Potential Effect (APE). Based upon our understanding the scope and nature of the federal undertaking, the "parcel boundary" as described and documented in the USDA-RUS November 8, 2017 submission, is generally appropriate to take into account the potential direct and indirect effects of the proposed undertaking.

Identification of Historic Properties

Archaeology

Considering the scope and location of the currently proposed federal undertaking, and the previous disturbance associated with the extant wastewater treatment facility, we agree with the agency conclusion that archaeological field survey is not warranted.

Historic/Architectural

Consistent with our earlier review and USDA-RUS determination, we agree that the existing wastewater treatment facility does not warrant survey and evaluation to determine eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

MINNESOTA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

50 Sherburne Avenue Administration Building 203 Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155 651-201-3287 mn.gov/admin/shpo mnshpo@state.mn.us

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND SERVICE PROVIDER

Finding of Effect

Based upon information provided to our office at this time, we concur with your agency's finding that **no historic properties will be affected** by the proposed undertaking.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding our review. I can be reached at (651) 201-3290 or by e-mail at sarah.beimers@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,

Sarang Bannors

Sarah J. Beimers Environmental Review Program Manager

Cc via email:

Katie Leslie, USACE District Archaeologist



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. PAUL DISTRICT 332 MINNESOTA STREET, SUITE E1500 ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1678

16 May 2023

Regional Planning and Environment Division North

SUBJECT: WRDA Section 569 Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project, Kanabec County, Minnesota (SHPO Number 208-0394)

Ms. Sarah Beimers State Historic Preservation Office Administration Building #203 50 Sherburne Avenue Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Ms. Beimers.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District (Corps) is reviewing a proposal from the City of Ogilvie, Kanabec County, Minnesota to complete upgrades to its wastewater treatment plant to ensure compliance with impending phosphorous and mercury limits, replace equipment that has reached the end of its useful life, and repair/replace deteriorated structures. There are no changes to the project as previously coordinated with your office in November of 2017 (SHPO Number 208-0394) (Enclosure 1).

Since the project was coordinated in 2017 by Stantec Consulting Services Inc. on behalf of the City of Ogilvie, the city has requested assistance from the Corps under Section 569 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, which authorizes the Secretary of the Army to provide assistance in the form of design and construction for water related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects. As a result, this project is subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NRHP) of 1966, as amended.

Upon review, the Corps agrees with the information previously coordinated with your office. No historic properties are within or adjacent to the proposed project area. The Corps has determined that this project would have No Effect to Historic Properties. We look forward to your review and comment. If you have any additional questions, please contact Katie Leslie, archaeologist, at 651.290.5493, or at Katie.E.Leslie@usace.army.mil.

SOBIECH.JONATHAN. Digitally signed by SOBIECH.JONATHAN.JOSEPH.125832

JOSEPH.1258320596 Date: 2023.05.16 16:03:27 -05'00'0596

Jonathan J. Sobiech
Deputy Chief, Regional Planning and
Environment Division North

Enclosures



Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

2335 Highway 36 West, St. Paul MN 55113-3819

November 8, 2017

Ms. Leslie Coburn State Historic Preservation Office Minnesota Historical Society 345 West Kellogg Boulevard St. Paul, MN 55102-1906

Reference: Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements for Ogilvie, MN

Dear Ms. Coburn,

The City of Ogilvie is in the process of performing an environmental review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act for the USDA, Rural Utilities Service in order that it may assess the environmental impacts of wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) improvements in Kanabec County, MN. The project is being proposed to ensure compliance with upcoming National

Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit limits being imposed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Enclosed are maps that depict the site location, WWTF layout, land potentially affected by construction, and the parcel of land owned by the City. We are requesting your input on the proposed improvements identified herein:

- 1. Architectural and structural renovations to all structures at the WWTF.
- 2. Upgrade and improve wastewater treatment equipment within buildings and structures.
- 3. Construct a new Chemical Storage & Filter Building and a below grade Filter Lift Station.
- 4. Various underground piping improvements throughout the site.

The City of Ogilvie requests the assistance of your office in identifying historic properties that are listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and that may be affected by the project. Please provide any recommendations you may have to mitigate or avoid potential impacts, to listed properties.



November 8, 2017 Page 2 of 2

Reference: Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements for Ogilvie, MN

Thank you for your assistance on this matter. We would appreciate a response within 30 days. If you need any further information or wish to discuss the project, please feel free to contact me at the telephone or email address shown below.

Regards,

STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC.

Tom Dye Professional Engineer Phone: 651-967-4651 Thomas.Dye@stantec.com

Attachments:

Figure 1 – USGS Site Location Map, Figure 2 – WWTF Campus Layout, Figure 3 – Parcel and Construction Boundary, Parcel Information, MN 1794 Guide, Photos

c.c. Justin Fasching, EIT

Design with community in mind

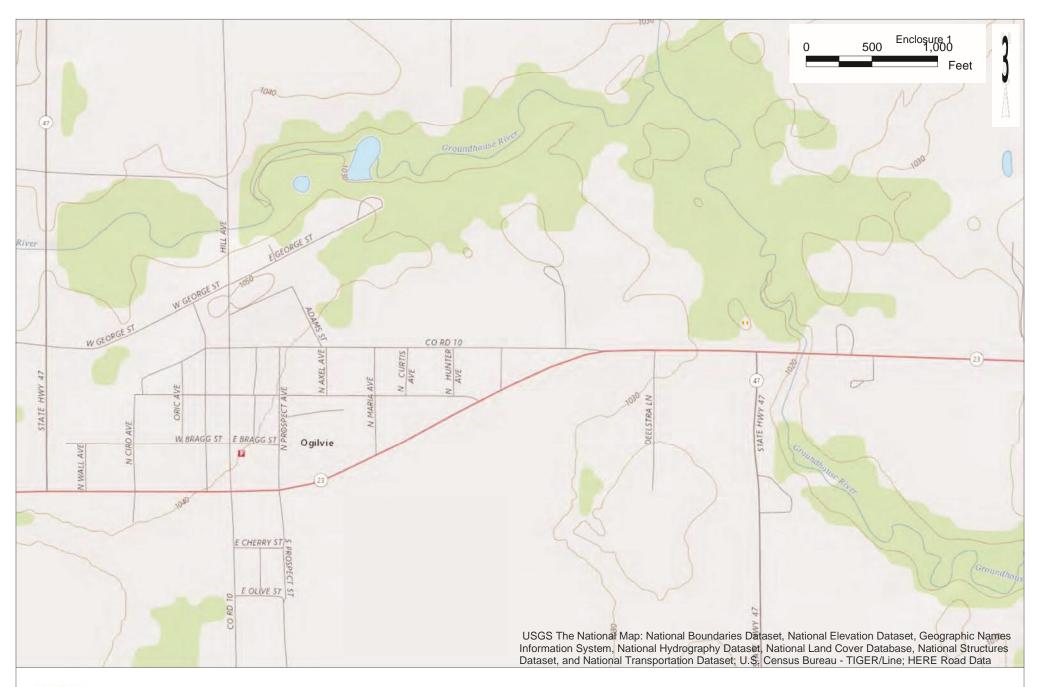




FIGURE 1 - USGS SITE LOCATION MAP

The information on this map has been compiled by Stantec staff from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. Stantec makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information.





FIGURE 2 - WWTF CAMPUS LAYOUT

OGILVIE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

The information on this map has been compiled by Stantec staff from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. Stantec makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information.



)RUP5'01*XLGH5HY Enclosure 1



Request to Initiate Consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

The Information on this form is needed to determine whether potential historic or archeological resources are present. Additional historic information or investigation may be requested to determine the significance of the resources of the effects or the project on those resources. The form and attachments must be submitted by mail. Submission via e-mail will not be accepted.

| SECTION I. APPLI | CANT INFORMATION | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|--|
| Applicant Name: | City of Ogilvie | | | |
| Street Address: | | | | |
| City: | | State: | Zip Code: | |
| Phone Number: | count y and state | | | |
| | | | | |
| SECTION II. USDA | RURAL DEVELOPMENT REP | PRESENTATIVE TO R | RECEIVE RESPONSE | |
| USDA Contact: | | | | |
| Street Address: | | | | |
| City: | Cambridge | State: MN | Zip Code: | |
| Phone Number: | (763) 689-3354 x4 | | | |
| | | | | |
| SECTION III. PROJ | IECT INFORMATION | | | |
| Project Title: | | | | |
| Project Location/ | Address: | | | |
| Municipality: | | | | |
| County: | | | | |
| SHPO #, If known | : | | | |
| | | | | |

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|--|---|---|--|---|--|--------------------------|
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| been previously disturbed, desc (area within the red that nearl lay foundation REQUIRED DOC | y disturbed? cribe the action e site boundarie y the entire si ons for buildin | which caus s and the c te has be | No, sed the disdepth of deen distu | sturbance isturbance irbed to | and the ext e): a depth of | ent of 5 feet |
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Please Print and Mail Completed Form and Required Information to:

State Historic Preservation Office

Minnesota Historical Society 345 Kellogg Blvd. West St. Paul, MN 55102 Date

















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December 13, 2017

Mr. Tom Dye Stantec Consulting Services 2335 Highway 36 West St. Paul, MN 55113-3819

RE:

City of Ogilvie Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements (rehab existing structures; construct new

building; install underground piping and lift station)

T39 R25 S26 SE

Ogilvie, Kanabec County SHPO Number: 208-0394

Dear Mr. Dye:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Officer by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and implementing federal regulations at 36 CFR 800.

Based on available information, we conclude that **no properties** listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this project.

Please contact our Compliance Section at (651) 259-3455 if you have any questions regarding our review of this project.

Sincerely,

Sarah J. Beimers, Manager

Sarang. Bamura

Government Programs and Compliance

cc: Brett Repulske, USDA Rural Development

| Attachment F – F | inding of N | lo Significaı | nt Impact |
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST. PAUL DISTRICT 180 FIFTH STREET EAST, SUITE 700 ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1678

Regional Planning and Environment Division North

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District (USACE), has assessed the environmental impacts of the following project:

CITY OF OGILVIE'S WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY IMPROVEMENT OGILVIE, MINNESOTA

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve the City of Ogilvie's wastewater treatment facility. There have been no significant upgrades to the equipment or the treatment process in nearly three decades and, while still functional, the facility has aged and requires upgrades to continue long-term operation and to meet Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) recently updated mercury and phosphorus limits. The EA and its attachments are incorporated in this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) by reference.

This FONSI is based on the following factors: the proposed project would have temporary minor adverse impacts to noise, air, wildlife, vegetation, and soils. Affected resources would be expected to recover from any adverse effects shortly after conclusion of the project. The project would not affect any federally listed species and would have no adverse effects to historic properties. Overall, the project would have a long-term beneficial effect to the residents of the City of Ogilvie from increased dependability and improved water discharged from the sanitary sewer system.

Best management practices (BMPs) and other avoidance and minimization measures will be implemented as detailed in Section 3 of the EA and attachments. No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the project. As part of its notification to the City that environmental compliance is complete, USACE will require the measures included in the EA and attachments to be followed by the City and its contractors.

Public review of the draft EA and FONSI was completed and no comments were received. All applicable environmental laws have been considered and coordination with appropriate agencies and officials has been completed. Pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, USACE determined that the project will have no effect on federally listed species or their designated critical habitat. Pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, USACE determined that historic properties would not be adversely affected by the project. The SHPO concurred that there will be no architectural and non-tribal historic properties affected on July 5, 2023. Section 3 of the EA and attachments include required measures for compliance with the NHPA. Pursuant to the Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended, the temporary discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States fall under the Utility Regional General Permit. The associated Water Quality Certification has been issued.

For the reasons above, the proposed action does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

Date

Jonathan Sobiech Deputy Chief, Regional Planning and Environment Division North