

APPENDIX D

AGENCY AND CITY CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) 6/2006 Early Coordination Letter from SDDOT to Agencies
- 2) 6/30/2006 SD State Historical Society response e-mail
- 3) 7/10/2006 Natural Resources Conservation Service response letter
- 4) 7/17/2006 SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks response letter
- 5) 8/2/2006 US Fish and Wildlife response letter
- 6) 9/28/2006 SD Department of Public Safety/Emergency Management response letter
- 7) 10/10/2006 US Army Corps of Engineers response letter
- 8) 11/7/2006 SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources response letter
- 9) 1/23/2007 Letter from FHWA to tribal agencies
- 10) 3/17/2008 Letter from SDDOT to SD State Historical Society
- 11) 7/30/2008 Letter from Watertown Parks and Recreation Board regarding Hanten Park
- 12) 4/7/2009 SD State Historical Society response letter
- 13) 5/14/09 Resource Agency Coordination Meeting Notes
- 14) 6/2/09 SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks concurrence for *de minimis* impact to Pelican Lake Game Production Area
- 15) 9/8/09 Resource Agency Coordination Meeting Notes
- 16) 9/18/09 SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks concurrence for *de minimis* noise impact to Pelican Lake Game Production Area
- 17) 9/21/09 USDA concurrence with Option 3
- 18) 9/29/09 USFWS concurrence with Option 3
- 19) 9/29/09 SDGFP concurrence with Option 3
- 20) 9/29/09 USFWS 'No Effect Finding' for threatened and endangered species
- 21) 10/1/09 SDDENR concurrence with Option 3

**“Early Notification” letter to State and Federal agencies
To be sent on SDDOT letterhead.**

June __, 2006

<<<ADDRESS
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Subject: Watertown South Connector Project [SDDOT Project IM 0297(01) PCN 000Y]

Dear __:

The Watertown Area Transportation Plan was completed in late 2005. This plan was a collaborative effort between the City of Watertown and the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT). In the plan, the existing and future demands on the transportation system were evaluated and recommendations were made that reflect locally identified issues, goals, objectives and benchmarks. The transportation plan’s study area included all of the City of Watertown and some of unincorporated Codington County.

One of the most critical transportation improvements identified in the Plan was a high volume roadway on Watertown’s south side. This roadway was referred to as the “south connector route” in the plan, with phased implementation of the roadway over the next 5 to 15 years.

The Study Area map (attached) shows the three segments of the overall project. The proposed schedule for the project is also attached. As indicated on the schedule, it is anticipated that separate Environmental Assessments will be prepared for each of the 3 segments. Preservation of the right-of-way corridor for the roadway is the reason for completing the preliminary design and environmental assessment phases for all segments at this time. SDDOT plans to conduct up to 3 public meetings during the summer and fall to gather comments from the public on the project.

During the course of the study, potential impacts to a wide spectrum of environmental resources will be evaluated including (but not limited to): wetlands, unique habitats, threatened and endangered species, floodplains, residences and businesses, socio-economic resources, noise, parks and recreational facilities, land use, farmland, regulated materials, cultural resources, and air quality.

As part of our early coordination efforts, we are alerting you to the initiation of this study and requesting any comments you may have about the project due to your agency's area of expertise and/or jurisdiction by law.

This project is being developed for federal funding participation. Current regulations covering the development of federally funded highway projects require early coordination with units of government who may have interest in the project (23 CFR 771.111). This letter is intended to provide early notification to advise review agencies of the proposed project and to solicit comments regarding the project. Early notification precedes publication of the environmental document for each project, but does not preclude subsequent review and comment on the documents after publication. Other formal opportunities to comment on the project will follow at a later date when additional public information meetings and public hearings are held.

Please send comments by July 21, 2006 to me at the address below. If you have any questions regarding the enclosed information please feel free to call me at (605)394-1631. If desired or necessary, we can certainly set up a meeting with you or representatives of your agency to discuss the project. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Terry Keller
Office of Project Development
SD Department of Transportation
700 E. Broadway Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Attachments:

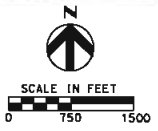
- Study Area Map
- Project Schedule



Date of Aerial Photography: 2005

Legend

- Segment 1 Study Area
- Segment 2A Study Area
- Segment 2B Study Area



Filename: Study Area.dgn

Drawn by: B. Miller
 Date: 5-18-06
 Checked by: J. Unruh
 Date: 5-18-06
 Revision Date: 6-12-06



Study Area
 Watertown South Connector
 Project IM 0297(01) PCN 000Y

-----Original Message-----

From: Hoskinson, Paige

Sent: Monday, June 26, 2006 3:50 PM

To: Keller, Terry

Subject: Watertown South Connector Project

Terry,

A brief check of our records indicates there are at least four known archaeology sites located within or near the three study areas. In addition, given the proximity of the study areas to the Big Sioux River and Willow Creek, an on the ground archaeological survey is recommended.

Let me know if have any additional questions.

Paige Hoskinson
Review and Compliance Coordinator
South Dakota State Historical Society
900 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501
ph (605) 773-6004
fax (605) 773-6041



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Federal Building, 200 Fourth St. SW
Huron, South Dakota 57350

**Helping People
Help the Land**

Phone: (605) 352-1200
Fax: (605) 352-1270

July 10, 2006

Mr. Terry Keller
Department of Transportation
Office of Project Development
700 E. Broadway Ave.
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

RE: Prime and Important Farmlands, Watertown South Connector Project [SDDOT Project IM 0297(01)PCN 000Y]

Dear Mr. Keller:

We have reviewed the site map of the Watertown South Connector Project study areas.

The project has the potential of impacting prime and important farmlands. Enclosed are soil maps, along with prime and important farmland maps for the study areas. These maps can be generated on the Web Soil Survey Website at: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>.

When the preferred alternatives are selected, please fill out a farmland Conversion Impact Rating form for corridors, and send to this office for processing, at the time of the release of the draft EA. This form can be accessed at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/fppa/>.

If you have any questions, please contact Dan Shurtliff at (605) 352-1254.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerome M. Schaar".

JEROME M. SCHAAR
State Soil Scientist

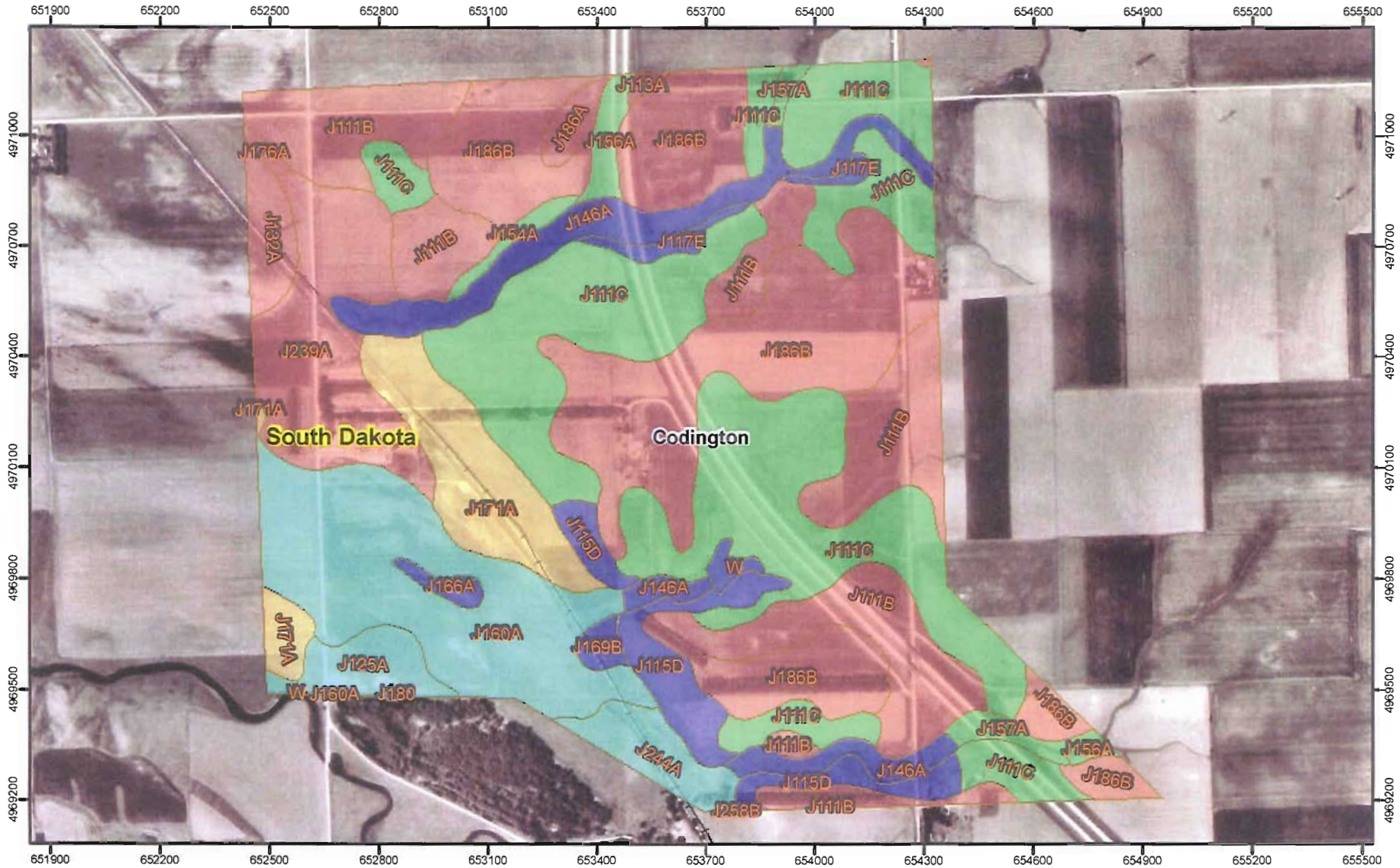
Enclosure

cc: Arlene Brandt-Jenson, DC, NRCS, Watertown FO

FARMLAND CLASSIFICATION RATING FOR CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

DOT map

Farmland Classification for Segment 2B: Watertown South Connector Study Area



FARMLAND CLASSIFICATION RATING FOR CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Farmland Classification for Segment 2B: Watertown South Connector Study Area

MAP LEGEND

Farmland Classification

{No Aggregation Necessary, &It;}

-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Not prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Not rated or not available
-  Soil Map Units
-  Cities
-  Detailed Counties
-  Detailed States
-  Rails
-  Oceans

MAP INFORMATION

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
Web Soil Survey URL: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>

Coordinate System: UTM Zone 14

Soil Survey Area: Codington County, South Dakota

Spatial Version of Data: 3

Soil Map Compilation Scale: 1:12000

Map comprised of aerial images photographed on these dates:
8/31/1991

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Tables - Farmland Classification

Summary by Map Unit - Codington County, South Dakota

Soil Survey Area Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Rating	Total Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
J111B	Barnes-Buse-Svea loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	133.0	14.7
J111C	Barnes-Buse-Svea loams, 2 to 9 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	219.2	24.3
J113A	Brookings silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	1.0	0.1
J115D	Buse-Barnes loams, 9 to 20 percent slopes	Not prime farmland	33.9	3.8
J117E	Buse-Langhei complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes	Not prime farmland	6.5	0.7
J125A	Divide loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained	13.9	1.5
J132A	Fordtown loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland	11.4	1.3
J146A	Lamoure-Rauville silty clay loams, channeled, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland	47.2	5.2
J154A	McKranz silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	4.1	0.5
J156A	McKranz-Badger silty clay loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	8.5	0.9
J157A	McKranz-Hidewood, frequently flooded, silty clay loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	7.2	0.8
J160A	Moritz, occasionally flooded-Lamoure, frequently flooded, complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained	93.3	10.3
J166A	Rauville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland	3.4	0.4
J169B	Renshaw-Sioux complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland	3.5	0.4
J171A	Renwash loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	Prime farmland if irrigated	46.3	5.1
J176A	Spottswood loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland	1.8	0.2
J180	Udorthents (gravel pits)	Not prime farmland	0.4	0.0

Summary by Map Unit - Codington County, South Dakota

Soil Survey Area Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Rating	Total Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
J186A	Vienna-Brookings complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	5.5	0.6
J186B	Vienna-Brookings complex, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	184.5	20.4
J239A	La Prairie loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	All areas are prime farmland	58.9	6.5
J244A	Lamoure silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained	16.1	1.8
J258B	Darnen loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	0.0	0.0
W	Water	Not prime farmland	2.8	0.3

Description - Farmland Classification

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. Farmland classification identifies the location and extent of the most suitable land for producing food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the Federal Register, Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

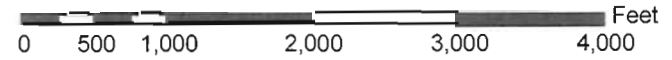
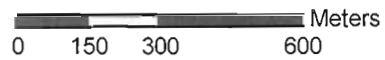
Parameter Summary - Farmland Classification

Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Tie-break Rule: Lower

SOIL SURVEY OF CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Soil Map for Segment 2B: Watertown South Connector Study Area



SOIL SURVEY OF CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Soil Map for Segment 2B: Watertown South Connector Study Area

MAP LEGEND

	Soil Map Units
	Cities
	Rails
	Water
	Hydrography
	Oceans
	Escarpment, bedrock
	Escarpment, non-bedrock
	Gulley
	Levee
	Slope
	Blowout
	Borrow Pit
	Clay Spot
	Depression, closed
	Eroded Spot
	Gravel Pit
	Gravelly Spot
	Gulley
	Lava Flow
	Landfill
	Marsh or Swamp
	Miscellaneous Water
	Rock Outcrop
	Saline Spot
	Sandy Spot
	Slide or Slip
	Sinkhole
	Sodic Spot
	Spoil Area
	Stony Spot
	Very Stony Spot
	Perennial Water
	Wet Spot

MAP INFORMATION

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Web Soil Survey URL: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>

Coordinate System: UTM Zone 14

Soil Survey Area: Codington County, South Dakota

Spatial Version of Data: 3

Soil Map Compilation Scale: 1:12000

Map comprised of aerial images photographed on these dates:
 8/31/1991

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend Summary

Codington County, South Dakota

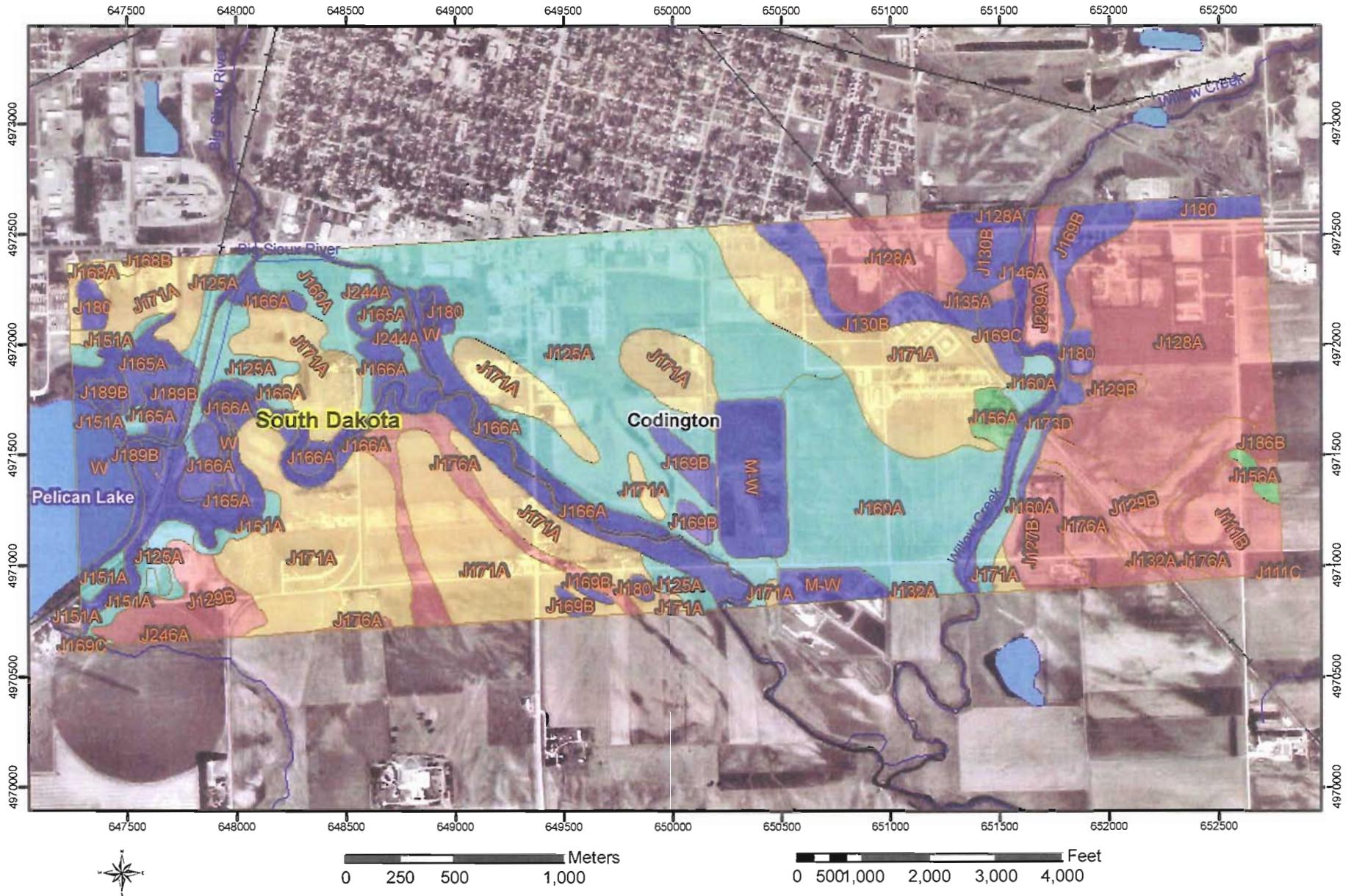
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
J111B	Barnes-Buse-Svea loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	133.0	14.7
J111C	Barnes-Buse-Svea loams, 2 to 9 percent slopes	219.2	24.3
J113A	Brookings silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	1.0	0.1
J115D	Buse-Barnes loams, 9 to 20 percent slopes	33.9	3.8
J117E	Buse-Langhei complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes	6.5	0.7
J125A	Divide loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	13.9	1.5
J132A	Fordtown loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	11.4	1.3
J146A	Lamoure-Rauville silty clay loams, channeled, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	47.2	5.2
J154A	McKranz silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	4.1	0.5
J156A	McKranz-Badger silty clay loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	8.5	0.9
J157A	McKranz-Hidewood, frequently flooded, silty clay loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	7.2	0.8
J160A	Moritz, occasionally flooded-Lamoure, frequently flooded, complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	93.3	10.3
J166A	Rauville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	3.4	0.4
J169B	Renshaw-Sioux complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	3.5	0.4
J171A	Renwash loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	46.3	5.1
J176A	Spottswood loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	1.8	0.2
J180	Udorthents (gravel pits)	0.4	0.0
J186A	Vienna-Brookings complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	5.5	0.6
J186B	Vienna-Brookings complex, 1 to 6 percent slopes	184.5	20.4

Codington County, South Dakota

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
J239A	La Prairie loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	58.9	6.5
J244A	Lamoure silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	16.1	1.8
J258B	Darnen loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	0.0	0.0
W	Water	2.8	0.3

FARMLAND CLASSIFICATION RATING FOR CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Farmland Classification for Segments 1 and 2A: Watertown South Connector Study Area



FARMLAND CLASSIFICATION RATING FOR CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Farmland Classification for Segments 1 and 2A: Watertown South Connector Study Area

MAP LEGEND

Farmland Classification

{No Aggregation Necessary, <}>

-  All areas are prime farmland
-  Farmland of statewide importance
-  Not prime farmland
-  Prime farmland if drained
-  Prime farmland if irrigated
-  Not rated or not available
-  Soil Map Units
-  Cities
-  Detailed Counties
-  Detailed States
-  Interstate Highways
-  Rails
-  Water
-  Hydrography
-  Oceans

MAP INFORMATION

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Coordinate System: UTM Zone 14

Soil Survey Area: Codington County, South Dakota

Spatial Version of Data: 3

Soil Map Compilation Scale: 1:12000

Map comprised of aerial images photographed on these dates:
8/19/1991; 8/31/1991

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Tables - Farmland Classification

Summary by Map Unit - Codington County, South Dakota

Soil Survey Area Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Rating	Total Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
J111B	Barnes-Buse-Svea loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	41.5	1.8
J111C	Barnes-Buse-Svea loams, 2 to 9 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	0.2	0.0
J125A	Divide loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained	383.1	16.3
J127B	Egeland-Embden complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	35.2	1.5
J128A	Estelline silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	276.4	11.7
J129B	Estelline-Kampeska silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	90.1	3.8
J130B	Estelline-Sioux complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	Not prime farmland	58.6	2.5
J132A	Fordtown loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	All areas are prime farmland	27.7	1.2
J135A	Goldsmith silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	7.0	0.3
J143A	Kranzburg-Brookings silty clay loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	1.8	0.1
J146A	Lamoure-Rauville silty clay loams, channeled, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland	28.7	1.2
J151A	Marysland loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained	31.0	1.3
J156A	McKranz-Badger silty clay loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance	16.1	0.7
J160A	Moritz, occasionally flooded-Lamoure, frequently flooded, complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if drained	217.5	9.2
J165A	Rauville mucky silty clay loam, ponded, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland	107.0	4.5
J166A	Rauville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland	112.6	4.8
J168A	Renshaw-Fordville loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	Prime farmland if irrigated	8.6	0.4

Description - Farmland Classification

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. Farmland classification identifies the location and extent of the most suitable land for producing food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the Federal Register, Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

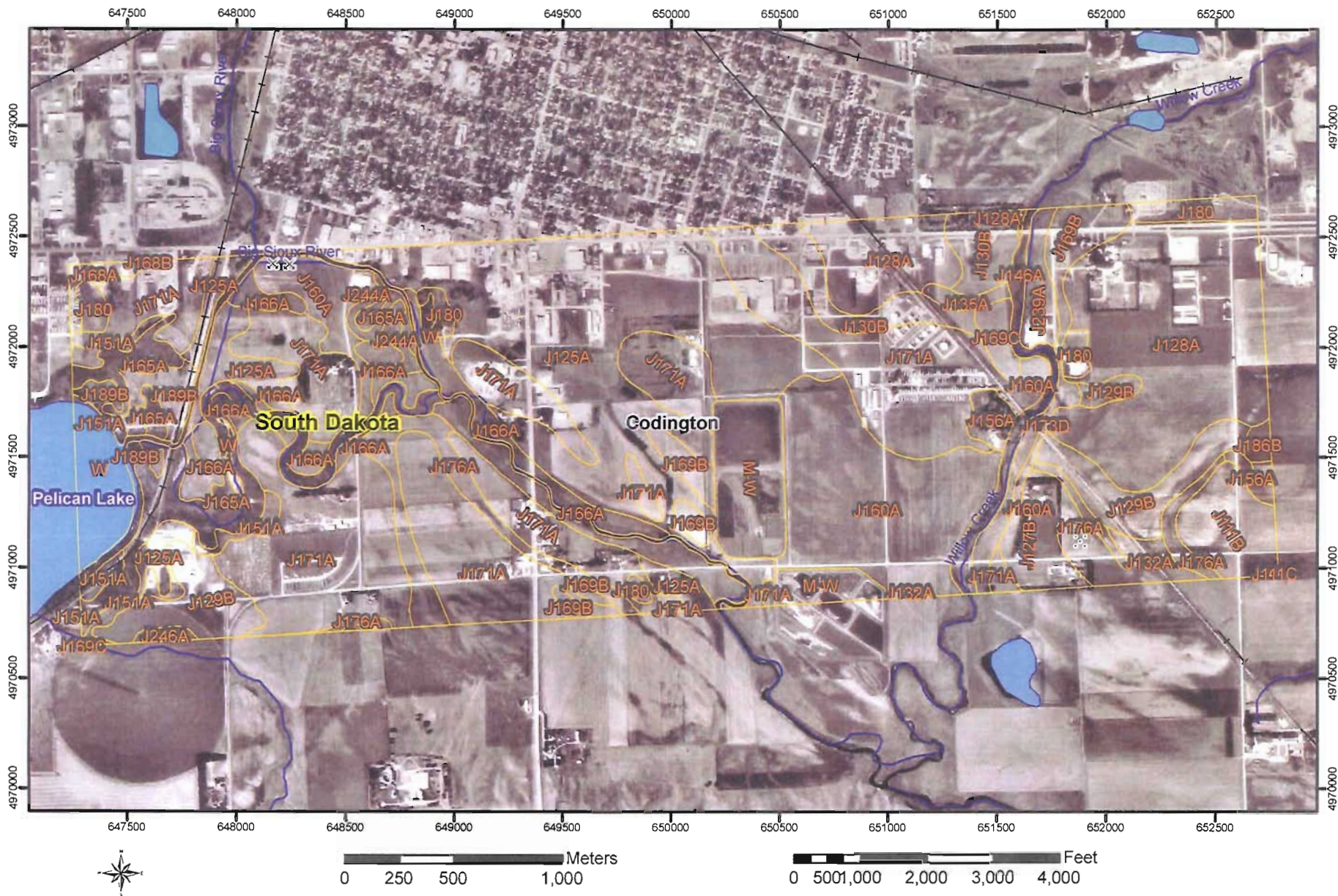
Parameter Summary - Farmland Classification

Aggregation Method: No Aggregation Necessary

Tie-break Rule: Lower

SOIL SURVEY OF CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA






































Soil map for area of Segments 1 and 2A: Watertown South Connector Study Area



SOIL SURVEY OF CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Soil map for area of Segments 1 and 2A: Watertown South Connector Study Area

MAP LEGEND

-  Soil Map Units
-  Cities
-  Detailed Counties
-  Detailed States
-  Interstate Highways
-  Rails
-  Water
-  Hydrography
-  Oceans
-  Escarpment, bedrock
-  Escarpment, non-bedrock
-  Gully
-  Levee
-  Slope
-  Blowout
-  Borrow Pit
-  Clay Spot
-  Depression, closed
-  Eroded Spot
-  Gravel Pit
-  Gravelly Spot
-  Gully
-  Lava Flow
-  Landfill
-  Marsh or Swamp
-  Miscellaneous Water
-  Rock Outcrop
-  Saline Spot
-  Sandy Spot
-  Slide or Slip
-  Sinkhole
-  Sodic Spot
-  Spoil Area
-  Stony Spot
-  Very Stony Spot
-  Perennial water
-  Wet Spot

MAP INFORMATION

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Web Soil Survey URL: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov>

Coordinate System: UTM Zone 14

Soil Survey Area: Codington County, South Dakota
 Spatial Version of Data: 3
 Soil Map Compilation Scale: 1:12000

Map comprised of aerial images photographed on these dates:
 8/19/1991; 8/31/1991

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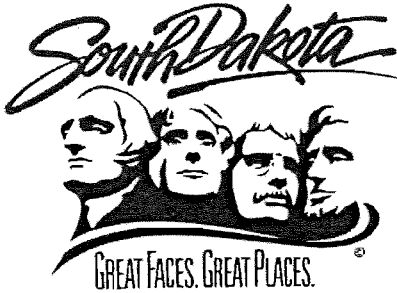
Map Unit Legend Summary

Codington County, South Dakota

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
J111B	Barnes-Buse-Svea loams, 1 to 6 percent slopes	41.5	1.8
J111C	Barnes-Buse-Svea loams, 2 to 9 percent slopes	0.2	0.0
J125A	Divide loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	383.1	16.3
J127B	Egeland-Embden complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	35.2	1.5
J128A	Estelline silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	276.4	11.7
J129B	Estelline-Kampeska silt loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	90.1	3.8
J130B	Estelline-Sioux complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	58.6	2.5
J132A	Fordtown loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	27.7	1.2
J135A	Goldsmith silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	7.0	0.3
J143A	Kranzburg-Brookings silty clay loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	1.8	0.1
J146A	Lamoure-Rauville silty clay loams, channeled, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	28.7	1.2
J151A	Marysland loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	31.0	1.3
J156A	McKranz-Badger silty clay loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	16.1	0.7
J160A	Moritz, occasionally flooded-Lamoure, frequently flooded, complex, 0 to 2 percent slopes	217.5	9.2
J165A	Rauville mucky silty clay loam, ponded, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	107.0	4.5
J166A	Rauville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, frequently flooded	112.6	4.8
J168A	Renshaw-Fordville loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes	8.6	0.4
J168B	Renshaw-Fordville loams, 2 to 6 percent slopes	0.0	0.0
J169B	Renshaw-Sioux complex, 2 to 6 percent slopes	45.8	1.9
J169C	Renshaw-Sioux complex, 6 to 9 percent slopes	11.4	0.5

Codington County, South Dakota

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
J171A	Renwash loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	541.2	23.0
J173D	Sioux-Renshaw complex, 9 to 15 percent slopes	8.3	0.4
J173E	Sioux-Renshaw complex, 15 to 40 percent slopes	0.6	0.0
J176A	Spottswood loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	65.4	2.8
J180	Udorthents (gravel pits)	35.1	1.5
J186B	Vienna-Brookings complex, 1 to 6 percent slopes	4.7	0.2
J189B	Wamduska gravelly loamy coarse sand, occasionally ponded, 2 to 6 percent slopes	31.0	1.3
J239A	La Prairie loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	18.9	0.8
J244A	Lamoure silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	9.0	0.4
J246A	Fordville loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	4.0	0.2
M-W	Miscellaneous water	74.1	3.1
W	Water	61.4	2.6



DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

Foss Building
523 East Capitol
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182

July 17, 2006

Mr. Terry Keller
SD Department of Transportation
Office of Project Development
700 East Broadway Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Watertown South Connector Project- IM0297(01) PCN 000Y

Dear Mr. Keller:

The South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, Division of Wildlife, has reviewed the preliminary construction information for the above referenced project.

Based upon the information submitted with your preliminary coordination letter, we have prepared the following comments regarding potential impacts to fish and wildlife habitat resources.

Segment 1 Study Area

The proposed project route appears to be along an existing road (20th Avenue South). If the structures across the Big Sioux River and Willow Creek will be replaced, we recommend the following methods be implemented to minimize impacts to the waters and surrounding areas.

1. The Big Sioux River and Willow Creek are classified as substantial fisheries resources. Instream work should not be undertaken during fish spawning periods. Most spawning occurs during April, May, and June.
2. Stream bottoms and wetlands impacted by construction activities should be restored to pre-project elevation.
3. Removal of vegetation and soil should be accomplished in a manner to reduce soil erosion and to disturb as little vegetation as possible.

4. Grading operations and reseeded of indigenous species should begin immediately following construction.
5. A site specific sediment and erosion control plan should be made part of the project plan and implemented effectively.
6. A post construction erosion control plan should also be implemented in order to provide interim control prior to re-establishment of permanent vegetative cover on the disturbed site.

Segment 2A & 2B Study Areas

As the project route becomes more defined, this office can provide more detailed comments. In the preliminary stages however, it appears that wetlands and drainages exist in both study areas. If a project may impact wetlands or other important fish and wildlife habitats, the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, Division of Wildlife, first recommends avoidance of these areas, if possible; followed by minimization of adverse impacts to these areas; then replacement of any lost acres. All project alternatives should be considered and the least damaging practical alternative selected. If impacts to wetlands are determined to be unavoidable, a mitigation plan addressing the number and types of impacted acres and methods of replacement should be submitted to the resource agencies for review.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project. If you have any questions, please contact me at (605) 773-6208.

Sincerely,



Leslie Petersen
Aquatic Resource Coordinator

TAILS
Project #: 6443-2006-P-0413 SDDOT Watertown South Connector
Project



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
420 South Garfield Avenue, Suite 400
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5408

August 2, 2006

Mr. Terry Keller
South Dakota Department of Transportation
Office of Project Development
700 East Broadway Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586

Re: Watertown South Connector Project
[SDDOT Project IM 0297(01), PCN
000Y], Codington County, South Dakota

Dear Mr. Keller:

This letter is in response to your request dated June 21, 2006, for environmental comments during the scoping phase of the above referenced Watertown South Connector Project. Current project plans involve upgrades of existing roads as well as establishment of new roadways between South Dakota Highway 20 and Interstate 90 (I-90) on the south end of the City of Watertown, Codington County, South Dakota.

During a July 5, 2006, South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) resource agency meeting attended by this office, the same project map included in your June 21, 2006, letter was presented. According to that map and National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps, wetlands exist on the west end of the project area (within Segment 2A Study Area). We reiterate our comments from the July 5, 2006, meeting and recommend utilization of existing roadways as much as possible to avoid and to minimize impacts to these sites.

Segment 1 Study Area encompasses roadways over the Big Sioux River and Willow Creek. Per the July 5, 2006, meeting, it is our understanding that impacts to the Big Sioux River will generally be avoided by establishment of a large bridge to cross this waterway. We also recommend avoidance of the Big Sioux floodplain as well as spanning of Willow Creek and its floodplain in order to minimize or preclude impacts to these systems. Both stream crossings may be appended to the existing formal programmatic biological opinion: Stream-Crossing Projects Administered/Funded by the South Dakota Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration dated April 28, 2004, and amended August 23, 2004.

In accordance with section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq., we have determined that the following federally listed species may occur in the project area (this list is considered valid for 90 days):

<u>Species</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Expected Occurrence</u>
Bald eagle (<u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u>)	Threatened	Migration, Winter Resident, Possible Nesting.
Whooping crane (<u>Grus americana</u>)	Endangered	Migration.
Topeka shiner (<u>Notropis topeka</u>)	Endangered	Known Resident of Willow Creek.

Due to the urban nature of the project setting, the bald eagle and whooping crane are not likely to occur in the project area. However, the Topeka shiner is a known resident of Willow Creek.

Additionally, the Dakota skipper (Hesperia dactotae) may occur on the project area. The Dakota skipper is a candidate species and accordingly is not, at the present time, provided Federal protection under the Endangered Species Act. Their candidate status defines these butterflies as a species in decline that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) believes needs to be listed as threatened or endangered, but listing is currently precluded by other priorities.

The Big Sioux River has been classified by the Service as a Type III, Substantial Fisheries Resource, and Willow Creek has been classified as a Type IV, Limited Fisheries Resource. Riverine and riparian areas are among the highest resource priorities in this region of the Service. We recommend minimization of impacts to these resources and mitigation of all unavoidable habitat losses. The following methods should be implemented to minimize environmental impacts:

1. Instream work should not be undertaken during fish spawning periods. Most spawning occurs in April, May, June, and July.
2. Stream bottoms and wetlands impacted by construction activities should be restored to pre-project elevations.
3. Removal of vegetation and soil should be accomplished in a manner to reduce soil erosion and to disturb as little vegetation as possible.
4. Grading operations and reseeding of native species should begin immediately following construction.
5. If trees or brush will be impacted by the project, a ratio of at least 2:1 acres planted versus acres impacted should be incorporated into mitigation plans for the project.

Segment 2B Study Area encompasses land surrounding I-90. According to project maps and NWI maps, linear and basin wetlands exist within this area. The Service recommends avoidance of these sites as much as possible. The 2B Study Area appears to be dominated by cropland, except those lands adjacent to wetlands. We recommend utilization of previously disturbed ground and avoidance of wetland, grassland, riparian, and forested sites to the maximum extent possible.

If changes are made in the project plans or operating criteria, or if additional information becomes available, the Service should be informed so that the above determinations can be reconsidered.

The Service appreciates the opportunity to provide comments. If you have any questions on these comments, please contact Natalic Gates of this office at (605) 224-8693, Extension 34.

Sincerely,



Pete Gober
Field Supervisor
South Dakota Field Office

NAG:se



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

118 West Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501
(605) 773-3231
FAX: (605) 773-3580

September 28, 2006

Terry Keller
Office of Project Development
SD Department of Transportation
700 E Broadway Ave
Pierre SD 57501

Subject: Watertown South Connector Project (SDDOT Project IM0297(01) PCN 000Y)

Dear Terry:

In reviewing the material provided on the Watertown South Connector projects, I have the following comments. The project involves crossing two water sources that have floodplains. One of the water sources is the Big Sioux River. FEMA held several public meetings on a preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map. The map should be going into effect in the next few months. It is my understanding that the City of Watertown is already using the map. This map involved a new study on the Big Sioux River. The other water source is Willow Creek, the city of Watertown has a local floodplain on Willow Creek. It is requested that DOT work with the floodplain administrator for Watertown to make sure that Watertown South Connector is not adversely affecting the floodplain. The floodplain administrator for the City of Watertown is Ken Bucholz. He can be reached at PO Box 910, Watertown, SD 57201 or 605-882-6200 ext. 24.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

Michelle C. Saxman
NFIP State Coordinator



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
SOUTH DAKOTA REGULATORY OFFICE
28563 POWERHOUSE ROAD, ROOM 118
PIERRE SD 57501-6174

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

October 10, 2006

South Dakota Regulatory Office
28563 Powerhouse Road, Room 120
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

SD Department of Transportation
Office of Project Development
Attn: Terry Keller
700 East Broadway Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Mr. Keller:

Reference is made to the preliminary information received September 28, 2006 concerning Department of the Army authorization requirements for construction of the Watertown South Connector Project. The project is located in Codington County, South Dakota.

The Corps' jurisdiction stems from Section 404 of the Clean Water Act passed by Congress in 1972. Section 404 calls for Federal regulation of the discharge of dredged or fill material in all waterways, lakes and/or wetlands. Activities that do not involve a discharge of dredged or fill material in a lake, river, stream or wetland (Section 404) do not require Department of the Army authorization.

Based on the preliminary information provided, it appears that some of the proposed construction activities may involve the discharge of dredged or fill material in jurisdictional waterways. Therefore, a Department of the Army permit may be required. For our final determination and for processing of permits, we would ask that you submit final plans when they become available.

Enclosed are the necessary application forms (ENG Form 4345) and information pamphlet. When completing the application forms, we would request from the applicant (a) a detailed description of the work activity (i.e., explain precisely what you are going to do and how you are going to accomplish it; include fill and/or excavation quantities and dimensions to be performed below the ordinary high water elevation, along with the source/type of fill and the type of equipment to be used during construction); (b) the purpose and/or benefits of the proposed project; and (c) any alternative project designs considered.

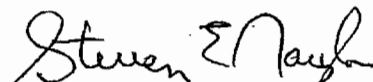
Along with the completed application forms, we would request from the applicant (1) drawings (plan and cross-sectional views; the drawings should be submitted on 8-1/2x11 inch paper), (2) location map(s) showing all jurisdictional work sites (i.e., where the utility line will be placed in a waterway, lake, and/or wetland). (3) if available, colored pictures showing at least two views of the proposed project site(s) and (4) any ecological or environmental information available that you feel may be pertinent to your project (i.e., area wildlife activity, area vegetation, area land use, quality of fishery, etc.).

Adherence to the above information requests will speed up the application evaluation and permit processing time. The requested information is used to help the Corps determine the type of permit to process if a permit is required and is used in the public review.

Regarding your request for comment relative to environmental impacts, this office assesses project impacts, including environmental impacts, after receipt of the detailed, site specific information required via our permit application process.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please feel free to contact this office at the above Regulatory Office address or telephone Carolyn Kutz at (605) 224-8531.

Sincerely,



Steven E. Naylor
Regulatory Program Manager,
South Dakota

Enclosures

APPLICATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PERMIT
(33 CFR 325)

OMB APPROVAL NO. 0710-0003
Expires December 31, 2004

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 hours per response, although the majority of applications should require 5 hours or less. This includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Service Directorate of Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0710-0003), Washington, DC 20503. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. Please DO NOT RETURN your form to either of those addresses. Completed applications must be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authorities: Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10, 33 USC 403; Clean Water Act, Section 404, 33 USC 1344; Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, Section 103, 33 USC 1413. Principal Purpose: Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the application for a permit. Routine Uses: This information may be shared with the Department of Justice and other federal, state, and local government agencies. Submission of requested information is voluntary, however, if information is not provided, the permit application cannot be processed nor can a permit be issued.

One set of original drawings or good reproducible copies which show the location and character of the proposed activity must be attached to this application (see sample drawings and instructions) and be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity. An application that is not completed in full will be returned.

(ITEMS 1 THRU 4 TO BE FILLED BY THE CORPS)

1. APPLICATION NO.	2. FIELD OFFICE CODE	3. DATE RECEIVED	4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETED
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(ITEMS BELOW TO BE FILLED BY APPLICANT)

5. APPLICANT'S NAME	8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE (an agent is not required)
6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS	9. AGENT'S ADDRESS
7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NUMBERS WITH AREA CODE a. Residence b. Business	10. AGENT'S PHONE NUMBERS WITH AREA CODE a. Residence b. Business

11. STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize _____ to act in my behalf as my agent in the processing of this application and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this permit application.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

DATE

NAME, LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY

12. PROJECT NAME OR TITLE (see Instructions)

13. NAME OF WATERBODY, IF KNOWN (if applicable)

14. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (if applicable)

15. LOCATION OF PROJECT

COUNTY

STATE

16. OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN (see instructions) LEGAL DESCRIPTION - SECTION, TOWNSHIP, RANGE

17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE

18. Nature of Activity (Description of project, include all features)

19. Project Purpose (Describe the reason or purpose of the project, see instructions)

USE BLOCKS 20-22 IF DREDGED AND/OR FILL MATERIAL IS TO BE DISCHARGED

20. Reason(s) for Discharge

21. Type(s) of Material Being Discharged and the Amount of Each Type in Cubic Yards

22. Surface Area in Acres of Wetlands or Other Waters Filled (see instructions)

23. Is Any Portion of the Work Already Complete? Yes _____ No _____ IF YES, DESCRIBE THE COMPLETED WORK

24. Addresses of Adjoining Property Owners, Lessees, etc., Whose Property Adjoins the Waterbody (if more than can be entered here, please attach a supplemental list).

25. List of Other Certifications or Approvals/Denials Received from other Federal, State, or Local Agencies for Work Described in This Application

AGENCY	TYPE APPROVAL*	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	DATE APPLIED	DATE APPROVED	DATE DENIED

*Would include but is not restricted to zoning, building and flood plain permits

26. Application is hereby made for a permit or permits to authorize the work described in this application. I certify that the information in this application is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE

SIGNATURE OF AGENT

DATE

The application must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) or it may be signed by a duly authorized agent if the statement in block 11 has been filled out and signed.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States, knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

Instructions for Preparing a
Department of the Army Permit Application

Blocks 1 through 4. To be completed by Corps of Engineers.

Block 5. Applicant's Name. Enter the name of the responsible party or parties. If the responsible party is an agency, company, corporation, or other organization, indicate the responsible officer and title. If more than one party is associated with the application, please attach a sheet with the necessary information marked Block 5.

Block 6. Address of Applicant. Please provide the full address of the party or parties responsible for the application. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 6.

Block 7. Applicant Telephone Number(s). Please provide the number where you can usually be reached during normal business hours.

Blocks 8 through 11. To be completed, if you choose to have an agent.

Block 8. Authorized Agent's Name and Title. Indicate name of individual or agency, designated by you, to represent you in this process. An agent can be an attorney, builder, contractor, engineer, or any other person or organization. Note: An agent is not required.

Blocks 9 and 10. Agent's Address and Telephone Number. Please provide the complete mailing address of the agent, along with the telephone number where he / she can be reached during normal business hours.

Block 11. Statement of Authorization. To be completed by applicant; if an agent is to be employed:

Block 12. Proposed Project Name or Title. Please provide name identifying the proposed project, e.g., Landmark Plaza, Burned Hills Subdivision, or Edsall Commercial Center.

Block 13. Name of Waterbody. Please provide the name of any stream, lake, marsh, or other waterway to be directly impacted by the activity. If it is a minor (no name) stream, identify the waterbody the minor stream enters.

Block 14. Proposed Project Street Address. If the proposed project is located at a site having a street address (not a box number), please enter it here.

Block 15. Location of Proposed Project. Enter the county and state where the proposed project is located. If more space is required, please attach a sheet with the necessary information marked Block 15.

Block 16. Other Location Descriptions. If available, provide the Section, Township, and Range of the site and / or the latitude and longitude. You may also provide description of the proposed project location, such as lot numbers, tract numbers, or you may choose to locate the proposed project site from a known point (such as the right descending bank of Smith Creek, one mile downstream from the Highway 14 bridge). If a large river or stream, include the river mile of the proposed project site if known.

Block 17. Directions to the Site. Provide directions to the site from a known location or landmark. Include highway and street numbers as well as names. Also provide distances from known locations and any other information that would assist in locating the site.

Block 18. Nature of Activity. Describe the overall activity or project. Give appropriate dimensions of structures such as wingwalls, dikes (identify the materials to be used in construction, as well as the methods by which the work is to be done), or excavations (length, width, and height). Indicate whether discharge of dredged or fill material is involved. Also, identify any structure to be constructed on a fill, piles, or float-supported platforms.

The written descriptions and illustrations are an important part of the application. Please describe, in detail, what you wish to do. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 18.

Block 19. Proposed Project Purpose. Describe the purpose and need for the proposed project. What will it be used for and why? Also include a brief description of any related activities to be developed as the result of the proposed project. Give the approximate dates you plan to both begin and complete all work.

Block 20. Reasons for Discharge. If the activity involves the discharge of dredged and/or fill material into a wetland or other waterbody, including the temporary placement of material, explain the specific purpose of the placement of the material (such as erosion control).

Block 21. Types of Material Being Discharged and the Amount of Each Type in Cubic Yards. Describe the material to be discharged and amount of each material to be discharged within Corps jurisdiction. Please be sure this description will agree with your illustrations. Discharge material includes: rock, sand, clay, concrete, etc.

Block 22. Surface Areas of Wetlands or Other Waters Filled. Describe the area to be filled at each location. Specifically identify the surface areas, or part thereof, to be filled. Also include the means by which the discharge is to be done (backhoe, dragline, etc.). If dredged material is to be discharged on an upland site, identify the site and the steps to be taken (if necessary) to prevent runoff from the dredged material back into a waterbody. If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 22.

Block 23. Is Any Portion of the Work Already Complete? Provide any background on any part of the proposed project already completed. Describe the area already developed, structures completed, any dredged or fill material already discharged, the type of material, volume in cubic yards, acres filled, if a wetland or other waterbody (in acres or square feet). If the work was done under an existing Corps permit, identify the authorization, if possible.

Block 24. Names and Addresses of Adjoining Property Owners, Lessees, etc., Whose Property Adjoins the Project Site. List complete names and full mailing addresses of the adjacent property owners (public and private) lessees, etc., whose property adjoins the waterbody or aquatic site where the work is being proposed so that they may be notified of the proposed activity (usually by public notice). If more space is needed, attach an extra sheet of paper marked Block 24.

Information regarding adjacent landowners is usually available through the office of the tax assessor in the county or counties where the project is to be developed.

Block 25. Information about Approvals or Denials by Other Agencies. You may need the approval of other federal, state, or local agencies for your project. Identify any applications you have submitted and the status, if any (approved or denied) of each application. You need not have obtained all other permits before applying for a Corps permit.

Block 26. Signature of Applicant or Agent. The application must be signed by the owner or other authorized party (agent). This signature shall be an affirmation that the party applying for the permit possesses the requisite property rights to undertake the activity applied for (including compliance with special conditions, mitigation, etc.).

DRAWINGS AND ILLUSTRATIONS

General Information.

Three types of illustrations are needed to properly depict the work to be undertaken. These illustrations or drawings are identified as a Vicinity Map, a Plan View or a Typical Cross-Section Map. Identify each illustration with a figure or attachment number.

Please submit one original, or good quality copy, of all drawings on 8½ x 11 inch plain white paper (tracing paper or film may be substituted). Use the fewest number of sheets necessary for your drawings or illustrations.

Each illustration should identify the project, the applicant, and the type of illustration (vicinity map, plan view, or cross-section). **While illustrations need not be professional (many small, private project illustrations are prepared by hand), they should be clear, accurate, and contain all necessary information.**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Service, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Project (0710-0003), Washington, DC 20503. Please DO NOT RETURN your form to either of those addresses. This form is to be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity.

SAMPLE

Authority: 33 USC 401, Section 10; 1413, Section 101. These laws require permits authorizing activities in, or affecting, navigable waters of the United States, the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, and the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of dumping it into ocean waters. Information provided on this form will be used in evaluating the application for a permit. Disclosure: Disclosure of requested information is required by law. If information is not provided, however, the permit application cannot be processed nor can a permit be issued.

One set of original drawings or good reproducible copies which show the location and character of the proposed activity must be attached to this application (see sample drawings and instructions) and be submitted to the District Engineer having jurisdiction over the location of the proposed activity. An application that is not completed in full will be returned.

(ITEMS 1 THRU 4 TO BE FILLED BY THE CORPS)

1. APPLICATION NO. assigned by Corps	2. FIELD OFFICE CODE assigned by Corps	3. DATE RECEIVED assigned by Corps	4. DATE APPLICATION COMPLETED assigned by Corps
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(ITEMS BELOW TO BE FILLED BY APPLICANT)

5. APPLICANT'S NAME Fred R. Harris	8. AUTHORIZED AGENT'S NAME AND TITLE (an agent is not required) None
6. APPLICANT'S ADDRESS 852 West Branch Road Elm Junction, SD 57900	9. AGENT'S ADDRESS
7. APPLICANT'S PHONE NOS. W/AREA CODE a. Residence 605-777-3000 b. Business	10. AGENT'S PHONE NOS. W/AREA CODE a. Residence b. Business

11. STATEMENT OF AUTHORIZATION
I hereby authorize, _____ to act in my behalf as my agent in the processing of this application and to furnish, upon request, supplemental information in support of this permit application.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

DATE

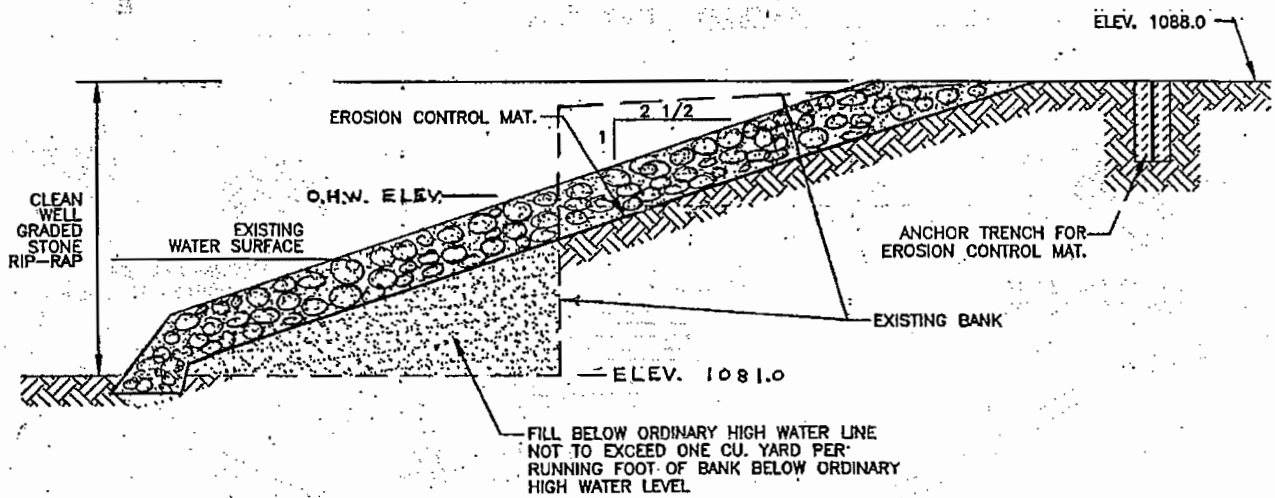
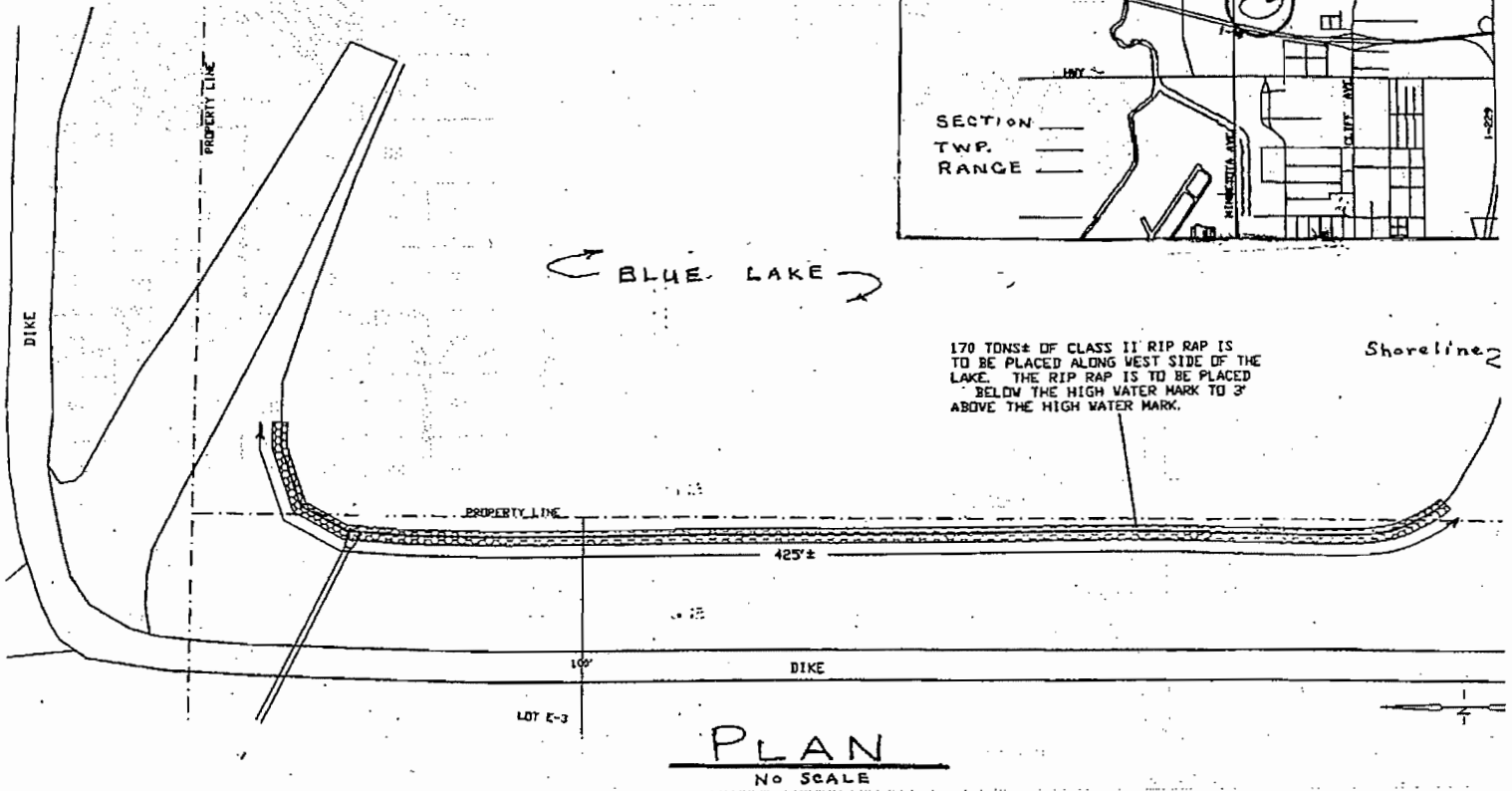
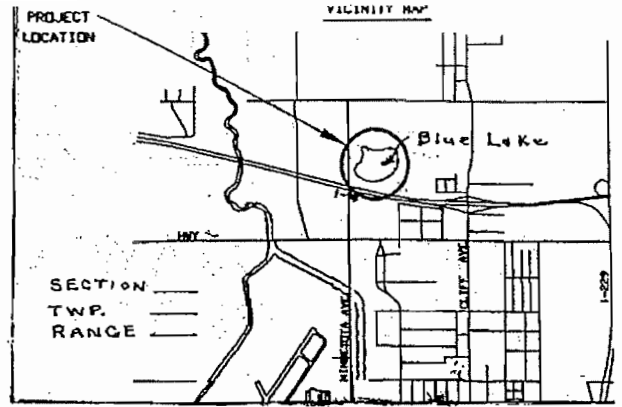
NAME, LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT OR ACTIVITY

12. PROJECT NAME OR TITLE (see instructions) Harris Bank Stabilization	
13. NAME OF WATERBODY, IF KNOWN (if applicable) Blue Lake	14. PROJECT STREET ADDRESS (if applicable) 852 West Branch Road
15. LOCATION OF PROJECT Washabaugh COUNTY SD STATE	

16. OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS, IF KNOWN, (see instructions) LEGAL DESCRIPTION
Southeast Quarter, Section 12, Township 42 North, Range 37 West

17. DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE
5 miles west and 2 miles south of Elm Junction, SD

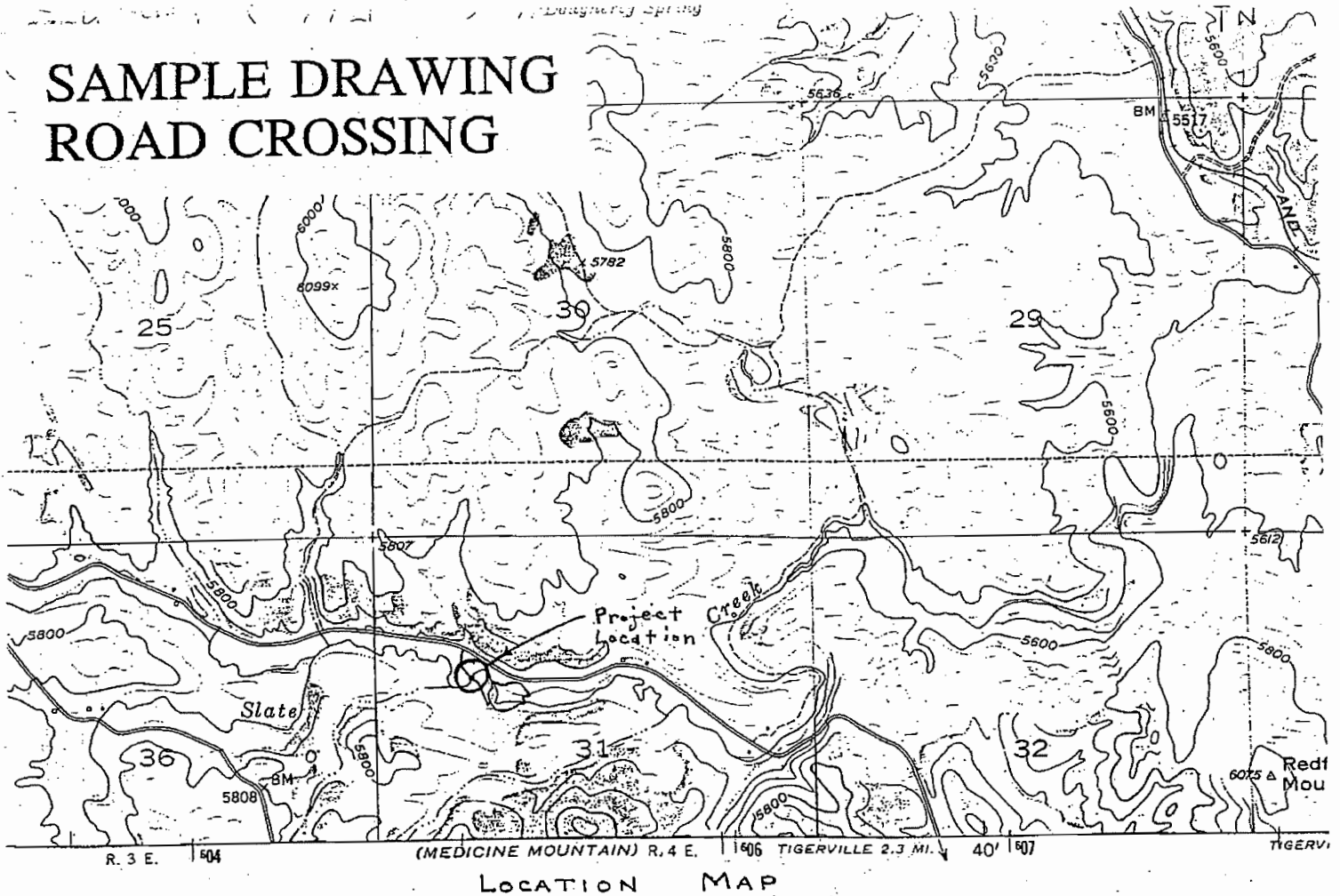
SAMPLE DRAWING BANK STABILIZATION



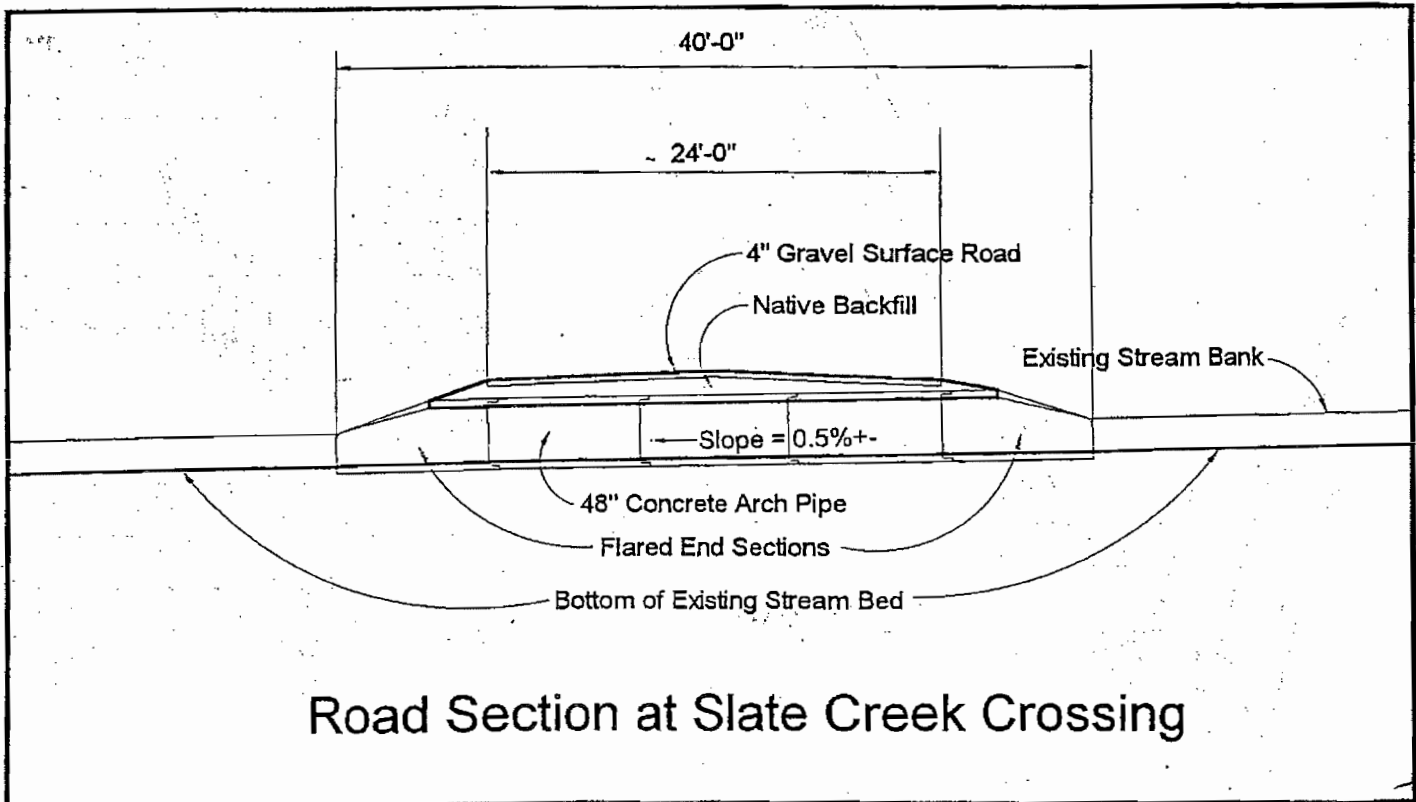
SECTION A-A TYPICAL
NOT TO SCALE

<p>PURPOSE: SHORELINE STABILIZATION</p> <p>DATUM: NGVD 1929</p> <p>ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3. 	<p>PLAN VIEW</p> <p>0 40 80</p> <p>1" = 40'</p> <p>FRED HARRIS</p> <p>SD</p>	<p>PROPOSED SHORELINE STABILIZATION</p> <p>IN: Blue Lake</p> <p>AT: Elm Junction</p> <p>COUNTY OF: GRANT STATE: SD</p> <p>APPLICATION BY:</p> <p>FRED HARRIS</p> <p>SHEET 1 OF 1 DATE: AUGUST 1995</p>
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SAMPLE DRAWING ROAD CROSSING



LOCATION MAP



Road Section at Slate Creek Crossing

PURPOSE:
ROAD CROSSING

IN Slate Creek
AT Silver City
COUNTY OF Pennington
APPLICATION BY Smith
SHEET 1 OF 2 DATE APRIL, '44



November 7, 2006

Terry Keller
Department of Transportation
700 East Broadway Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

RE: SD DOT Project
IM 0297(01) PCN 000Y
Codington County

Dear Mr. Keller:

The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Division of Environmental Regulation, has reviewed the above referenced project.

This office has no objections to the project, which should not result in any violations of applicable statutes or regulations provided the Department of Transportation and/or its contractor(s) comply with the following requirements.

SURFACE WATER QUALITY

1. All fill material shall be free of substances in quantities, concentrations, or combinations which are toxic to aquatic life.
2. Removal of vegetation shall be confined to those areas absolutely necessary to construction.
3. At a minimum and irregardless of project size, appropriate erosion and sediment control measures must be installed to control the discharge of pollutants from the construction site. Any construction activity that disturbs an area of one or more acres of land must have authorization under the General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activities. Contact the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for additional information or guidance at 1-800-SDSTORM (737-8676) or www.state.sd.us/denr/des/surfacewater/stormwater.htm.

**DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

PMB 2020
JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182
www.state.sd.us/denr

4. All material identified in the application as removed waste material, material stockpiles, dredged or excavated material shall be placed for either temporary or permanent disposal in an upland site that is not a wetland, and measures taken to ensure that the material cannot enter the watercourse through erosion or any other means.
5. Methods shall be implemented to minimize the spillage of petroleum, oils and lubricants used in vehicles during construction activities. If a discharge does occur, suitable containment procedures such as banking or diking shall be used to prevent entry of these materials into the waterway.
6. All newly created and disturbed area above the ordinary high water mark which are not riprapped shall be seeded or otherwise revegetated to protect against erosion.
7. This segment of the Big Sioux River is classified by the South Dakota Surface Water Quality Standards and Uses Assigned to Streams for the following beneficial uses:
 - (1) Domestic water supply waters;
 - (5) Warmwater semi-permanent fish life propagation waters;
 - (8) Limited contact recreation waters;
 - (9) Fish and wildlife propagation, recreation, and stock watering waters; and
 - (10) Irrigation waters.

Because of these beneficial uses, special construction measures may have to be taken to ensure that the total suspended solids standard of 90 mg/L is not violated.

8. Willow Creek is classified by the South Dakota Surface Water Quality Standards and Uses Assigned to Streams for the following beneficial uses:
 - (6) Warmwater marginal fish life propagation waters;
 - (8) Limited contact recreation waters;
 - (9) Fish and wildlife propagation, recreation, and stock watering waters; and
 - (10) Irrigation waters.

Because of these beneficial uses, special construction measures may have to be taken to ensure that the total suspended solids standard of 150 mg/L is not violated.

9. The tributaries are classified by the South Dakota Surface Water Quality Standards and Uses Assigned to Streams for the following beneficial uses:
 - (9) Fish and wildlife propagation, recreation, and stock watering waters; and
 - (10) Irrigation waters.

Because of these beneficial uses, special construction measures may have to be taken to ensure that these tributaries are not impacted.

HAZARDOUS WASTES

1. Should any hazardous waste be generated during the implementation of this project, the generator must abide by all applicable hazardous waste regulations found in ARSD 74:28 and 40 CFR Part 262.
2. If any contamination is encountered during construction activities, the contractor, owner, or party responsible for the release must report the contamination to the department at (605) 773-3296. Any contaminated soil encountered must be temporarily stockpiled and sampled to determine disposal requirements.
3. It is not expected that any hazardous wastes sites will be encountered during road construction in any rural area. However, if road construction is planned for areas within a city or town, the DOT or contractor should contact this Department prior to construction.

AIR QUALITY

1. It appears that Department of Transportation projects may have only a minor impact on the air quality in South Dakota. This impact would be through point source and fugitive emissions.
2. Equipment with point source emissions in many cases are required to have an air quality permit to operate. Permit applications can be obtained from the Air Quality or Minerals and Mining Programs.
3. Fugitive emissions, although not covered under State air quality regulations, are a common source of public concern and may be subject to local or county ordinances. Fugitive emissions add to the deterioration of the ambient air quality and should be controlled to protect the health of communities within the construction areas.
4. For further air quality information, please contact Brad Schultz, Air Quality Program, telephone number (605) 773-3151.

This office requests the opportunity to review and comment on any significant changes that may be proposed before the project is completed. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed project. If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Sincerely,



John Miller
Environmental Program Scientist
Surface Water Quality Program
Phone: (605) 773-3351

COPY



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

South Dakota Division
116 East Dakota Avenue, Suite A
Pierre, SD 57501-3110
Phone: 605-224-8033
Fax: 605-224-1766

January 23, 2007

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-SD
(File 424)

SBE ATTACHED MAILING LIST

Re: Watertown South Connector Projects
Codington County
Section 106 Consultation

Dear _____:

The South Dakota Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the South Dakota Division of the Federal Highway Administration, is considering construction of a major roadway on the south side of Watertown, SD (See Site Plan). The proposed projects will extend from Highway 20 to Interstate 29. For purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are initiating consultation with your organization to assist us in identifying properties that may be of traditional, religious, and/or cultural importance to your Tribe.

Segment 1 of the proposed projects will widen and surface an existing road and is proposed for construction in 2008. Segment 2A will construct a road on new alignment in the study area between Highway 20 to Broadway Street South or 20th Avenue South and is proposed for construction in 2009. Construction of Segment 2B from 29th Street SE to Interstate 29 is not anticipated for fifteen or twenty years. The proposed projects are expected to provide an alternate route for heavy truck traffic between Interstate 29 and Highway 20 resulting in less traffic congestion on Highway 212. An environmental assessment (EA) is being prepared for Segment 1 and is expected to be available for public comment later this year. We anticipate an additional EA will be prepared later this year to analyze the environmental impacts of Segment 2A and possibly Segment 2B.

If you have any questions or comments or would like to discuss the proposed projects, I can be reached at the above address or at (605) 224-7326, Extension 3037.

Sincerely yours,

Ginger R. Massie, P.E.
Environmental Engineer

Enclosure

CC: ✓ Terry Keller, SDDOT (w/o enclosure)
Dianne Desrosiers, THPO, Agency Village, SD
Tim Mentz, THPO, Fort Yates, ND

GRM:\S\Shared\GRM\Tribal Watertown South Connector.doc:File424:srs:070123



Mailing List for Watertown South Connector
Updated Dec. 6, 2006

Mr. Lester Thompson, Jr., Chairman
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 50
Fort Thompson, SD 57339

Mr. Michael G. Jandreau, Chairperson
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe
187 Oyate Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548

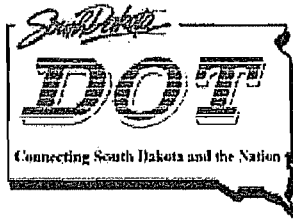
Mr. Mike Selvage, Chairman
Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 509
Agency Village, SD 57262

CC Dianne Desrosiers, THPO
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
P.O. Box 717
Agency Village, SD 57262

Mr. Ron His-Horse-is-Thunder, Chairman
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box D
Fort Yates, ND 58538

CC Tim Mentz, THPO
Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box D
Fort Yates, ND 58538

Marcus Wells Jr., Chairman
Three Affiliated Tribes
404 Frontage Road
New Town, ND 58763



Department of Transportation
Office of Project Development
700 E Broadway Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586
PHONE: 605/773-3268 FAX: 605/773-6608

March 17, 2008

RECEIVED MAR 19 2008

Ms. Amy Rubingh
Review and Compliance
South Dakota State Historical Society
900 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501-2217

Subject: Watertown South Connector PCN 00RW - SD 20 to US 81
Codington County, South Dakota

Dear Ms. Rubingh:

An early coordination letter concerning the Watertown South Connector Route dated June 21, 2006 was sent to your office. To support the proposed project, a cultural resource survey was conducted by Augustana Laboratory; the original report and addendum summarizing the finding and proposed effect determinations were submitted to you under separate cover. We are currently working on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for Segment 2A and are soliciting your feedback on the surveys and their conclusions. Below is a summary from the preliminary draft of the EA that addressed the findings in the survey.

A records search indicated that at least three known archeological or historical resource sites were located within or near the Study Area of the South Connector Route from SD 20 to US 81 (Hoskinson, 2006). Subsequently, an intensive level archeological survey (also referred to as a Level III survey) of cultural resources was conducted for the Study Area for the Watertown South Connector Project (Augustana Archeology Laboratory, September 2006). No new sites were found within this Study Area, and three of the four known sites were within the boundaries of the Study Area. Attached Figure 3-6 shows the sites.

A prehistoric artifact scatter, Site 39CD58, is located on the eastern boundary of the Study Area. The site is located in a field between Broadway Street South and the Glacial Lakes Ethanol facility. The site was revisited, however, and is not eligible for the NRHP.

The Watertown Dump, Site 39CD59, is located in the northwest corner of the Study Area. Cultural material was observed on the ground surface covering an area outside the recorded site boundary. Site 39CD59 has been heavily disturbed by construction activities related to culvert installation and railroad construction. The site is not eligible for nomination into the NRHP.

The Burlington Northern Railroad, Site 39CD2000, crosses the Study Area in the northwest corner, located parallel with Fish Road. The site is considered eligible for the

NRHP due to its potential to yield, or having yielded, information important in history (Criterion D). The site could also be eligible under Criterion A for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (i.e., railroad development).

All Build Alternative Options for Segment 2A would cross Site 39CD2000, the Burlington Northern Railroad which is located about ¼ mile east and ¼ mile south of the intersection of US 212 and SD 20. The Build Alternative Options would not result in an adverse effect because the construction of a new at-grade crossing would not alter characteristics that make the property significant or diminish the property's integrity. Consequently, the proposed finding for compliance with Section 106 requirements is "no adverse effect" to historic property 39CD2000.

Options 1, 2, and 3 of Segment 2A would also cross the western edge of Site 39CD58, an artifact scatter, which is located about 400 feet south of the intersection of the Glacial Lakes Ethanol facility rail spur and Broadway Street South. The site is not eligible for listing on the NRHP.

Build Alternative Options 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of would impact the previous City of Watertown Dump, 39CD59. However, as noted in Section 3.10.1, this site has been heavily disturbed and is not eligible for listing on the NRHP. Based on the lack of significance of the site, no significant adverse impact would occur if a portion of the site were impacted.

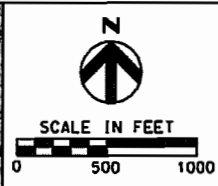
FHWA intends to make a Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding based upon their concurrence in the Section 106 determination of "No Adverse Effect". Please review the submitted information and provide effect determinations for Project 2A portion of the South Connector Route. Feel free to call with any questions at my number listed below.

Sincerely,
South Dakota Department of Transportation



Terrence G. Keller
Environmental Supervisor
(605) 773-3721

cc: ✓ Ginger Massie, FHWA
✓ James Unruh, HDR Engineering



- Legend**
- Potential Historic Site Location
 - No Landowner Permission
 - Pelican Lake Game Production Area
 - BNSF Railroad

- South Connector Roadway**
- Option 1
 - Option 2
 - Option 3
 - Option 4
 - Option 5
 - Option 6
 - Bridges

Date of Aerial Photography: 2005

Drawn by: B. Miller
 Date: 03/06/07
 Checked by: J. Unruh
 Date: 03/06/07
 Revision Dates:
 January 2008



Cultural Resources
 Watertown South Connector - SD 20 to US 81
 Project EM 4020(01) PCN 00RW

Figure
3-5



CITY OF WATERTOWN

23 Second St. NE • P.O. Box 910 • Watertown, South Dakota 57201-0910

Website: www.watertownsd.us

WATERTOWN
South Dakota's Rising Star

July 30, 2008

Mayor

605-882-6204
Fax 605-882-5214

Building & Planning
Department
605-882-6201
Fax 605-882-5264

City Attorney
605-882-6200
Fax 605-882-5214

Engineering Dept.
605-882-6202
Fax 605-882-5264

Finance Office
605-882-6203
FAX 605-882-6218

Fire Department
605-886-4733
FAX 605-886-0795

Information Technology
605-882-6200
FAX 605-882-5264

Library
605-882-6220
FAX 605-882-6221

Mt. Hope Cemetery
605-882-6208

Park, Rec &
Forestry Dept.
605-882-6260
FAX 605-882-5204

Police Dept.
605-882-6210
FAX 605-882-6216

Public Works Dept.
605-882-6204
Fax 605-882-5264

Regional Airport
605-882-6209
Fax 605-882-5285

Solid Waste Dept.
605-882-6219
Fax 605-882-6375

Street Dept.
605-882-6207

Watertown
Community
Recreation Center
605-882-6250
FAX 605-882-6254

Waste Water
Treatment Facility
605-882-6243
FAX 605-882-6242

Terrance Keller
SD Dept. of Transportation
700 E. Broadway Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Watertown South Connector Route SD 20 to US 81

Dear Terrance:

The Watertown Park & Rec Board, at its regular meeting on July 29, 2008, discussed the impact of the proposed South Connector Route on Hanten Park and concluded it would have no adverse affect on the park.

Attached are the minutes from that meeting with the motion highlighted.

Dennis Murphy, President
Watertown Park & Recreation Board

WATERTOWN PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

Minutes of Board Meeting – July 29, 2008

City Auditorium – Conference Room – 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dennis Murphy, Howard Sogn, Greg Solum, Dave Edison, Jean Doyen

Members Absent: George Heller

Staff Present: Brad Hoese, Bill Anderson, Dan Miller, Terry Kelly, Terry Jorgenson and Roger Adams

Call to Order: Chairman Dennis Murphy called the meeting to order.

Delegations: None.

Approval of Minutes – Motion by Sogn to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 24, 2008 Board Meeting, seconded by Edison. Motion carried.

Approval of Bills and Payroll – Motion by Solum to approve the July 2008 bills and payroll, seconded by Edison. Motion carried.

Superintendent & Status Reports were given.

Parks, Forestry & Cemetery - See written report.

Zoo – Motion by Sogn to accept Robert Ortmeier, Kelsie Veeder and Elizabeth Larson as Zoo volunteers, seconded by Doyen. Motion carried. Bill Gallagher has accepted the Zookeeper I position.

City Park – See written report.

Golf Course – See written report.

Recreation – Jeff Denzer, Asst. Recreation Superintendent, resigned effective August 10. Motion by Edison to allow staff to re-adjust schedule and fee at Pool in August if they determine it would improve attendance, seconded by Murphy. Motion carried.

Consideration of Change Order #1 – Mausoleum – Add \$2,668.00 to A. J. Spanjers contract for bond cost (\$418.00) and 25 additional square feet of plaster patch at unit price of \$90/s.f. (\$2,250.00). Motion by Doyen to approve change order #1 for Mausoleum project with A. J. Spanjers for additional \$2,668.00, seconded by Edison. Motion carried.

Consideration of Change Order #1 – City Park Campground Road and Prairie Hills Trail – Motion by Doyen to approve change order #1 for deduct of \$620.06 on City Park and deduct \$3.56 on Trail based on actual quantities, seconded by Murphy. Motion carried.

Hanten Park Discussion – As part of the south by-pass road project, D.O.T. has requested the City determine the affect of the project on Hanten Park. As proposed, a turnaround would be put in on Fish Road, just on the south edge of the MU electric substation. Motion by Sogn for Board President Murphy to draft letter indicating, in the Board's opinion, no adverse affect to Hanten Park would occur with the development of the south by-pass, seconded by Edison. Motion carried

CIP Update 2009 – Mayor's recommended CIP included the following affect on Department's request:

- Field lighting at Koch would be based on 50% match private funds
- Zoo classroom project 2012 deleted, as it will be done in 2009 with Terry Redlin Freshwater Institute project
- Deleted Derby Downs restroom/shower building from 2009

- Clarified funding for two tennis court projects in 2010 would come 50% from non-City sources.
- Picnic pavilion moved back from 2010 to 2011
- Cemetery backhoe moved back from 2009 to 2010

2009 Proposed O & M Revenue – Board reviewed staff proposed O & M request for 2009 and revenue projections. Motion by Edison to approve request as proposed, seconded by Murphy. Motion carried.

Golf Committee Minutes from 7/22/08 were reviewed.

Tennis Court Use Agreement – Director reviewed history of lease agreement, grants and use agreement with School District for use of tennis courts. Motion by Murphy requesting School District consider funding 50% of cost in 2010 of converting the six asphalt courts at Highland and the two west courts at Belmont to concrete, seconded by Doyen. Motion carried.

Campground Parking – Brad explained problem of campers using cars and trailers to hold campsites until they can bring out their campers. In discussion with City Attorney Fox, staff feels with proper signing, the Police Department could issue parking tickets to those doing this practice. The ticket would be \$25.00 and double if not paid within 72 hours and would respond only upon request of the Park Manager. Motion by Murphy to proceed with proper signing to allow for issuance of parking tickets to vehicles and trailers in violation, seconded by Doyen. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Executive Session – Motion by Sogn to enter into executive session for purpose of contract negotiation, seconded by Edison. Motion carried. Time: 8:44 p.m.

Reconvened to regular session at 9:06 p.m.

Motion by Doyen to allow a \$1,221.34 credit on the \$5,500.00 owed by Trudi Robel on land annexed in 2005 that the Board accepted the 5% cash in lieu of park land for an easement of 4,837 sq. ft. for the North Lake Drive trail project, seconded by Edison. Motion carried.

Adjournment – Motion by Murphy to adjourn, seconded by Sogn. Motion carried.

Roger Adams, Director



April 7, 2009

Terrance Keller
Department of Transportation
700 E Broadway Avenue
Pierre SD 57501-2586

SECTION 106 PROJECT CONSULTATION – EVALUATION/EFFECT

Project: 070508001F – EM 4020(01) PCN 00RW- New Street from SD20 to US81 (Segment 2 of the South Connector @ Watertown)

Location: Codington County
(FHWA/DOT)

Dear Mr. Keller:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced project pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NPHA) of 1966 (as amended). The South Dakota Office of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has made the following determination regarding the effect of your proposed undertaking on the non-renewable cultural resources of South Dakota.

The SHPO has made the following consensus determination based upon the information provided in your correspondence and reports, *A Level III Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Watertown South Connector Project, Codington County, South Dakota*, and *An Addendum to a Level III Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Watertown South Connector Project, Codington County, South Dakota*; prepared by Archaeology Laboratory, Augustana College; and *Environmental Assessment Report* prepared for the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and the South Dakota Department of Transportation, received on May 7, 2006, and additional correspondence received on March 17, 2008.

As previously stated, the SHPO concurs that the following sites should be considered not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): 39CD58, 39CD59, 39CD71, and Kaye Wickard House. Also we concur that the project will have no adverse effect to site 39CD2000, the Burlington Northern Railroad.

RECEIVED
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

APR 08 2009

Office of Tourism
Governor's Office of Economic
Development
Tribal Government Relations

711 E Wells Ave / Pierre, SD 57501-3369
Phone: 605-773-3301 / Fax: 605-773-3256
travelsd.com / sdgreatprofits.com /
sdtribalrelations.com

South Dakota Arts Council

800 Governors Dr. / Pierre, SD 57501-2294
Phone: 605-773-3131 or 1-800-423-6665 in SD
Fax: 605-773-6962
sdac@state.sd.us / sdarts.org

South Dakota State
Historical Society

900 Governors Dr. / Pierre, SD 57501-2217
Phone: 605-773-3458 / Fax: 605-773-6041
sdhistory.org

South Dakota Housing
Development Authority

PO Box 1237 / Pierre, SD 57501-1237
Phone: 605-773-3181 / Fax: 605-773-5154
sdhda.org



Therefore, we concur with your determination of No Adverse Effect for segment 2A of this project. Activities occurring in areas not identified in your request will require the submission of additional documentation pursuant to 36 CFR part 800.4.

SHPO concurrence does not include ground disturbing activities initiated prior to consultation pursuant to 36 CFR part 800.

If historic properties are discovered or unanticipated effects on historic properties are found after the agency official has completed the Section 106 process, the agency official shall avoid, minimize or mitigate the adverse effects to such properties and notify the SHPO/ THPO, and Indian tribes that might attach religious and cultural significance to the affected property within 48 hours of the discovery, pursuant to 36 CFR part 800.13.

Concurrence of the SHPO does not relieve the federal agency official from consulting with other appropriate parties, as described in 36CFR Part 800.2(c).

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Amy Rubingh at (605) 773-8370. Your concern for the non-renewable cultural heritage of our state is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jay D. Vogt
State Historic Preservation Officer



Amy Rubingh
Review and Compliance Archaeologist

Cc: Jane Watts- Archaeological Research Center

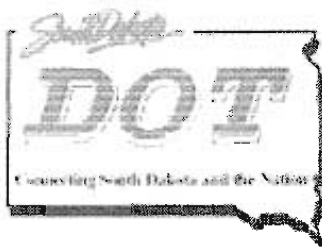
**RESOURCE AGENCY COORDINATION MEETING
MAY 14, 2009
DOT CONFERENCE ROOM 153**

ATTENDEES: Ginger Massie, FHWA, Leslie Peterson, GFP, John Miller, DENR, Amy Rubingh, SHPO, Carolyn Kutz, USACE, Natalie Gates, USFWS, Alice Whitebird, DOT, Tom Lehmkuhl, DOT, Ryan Huber, DOT, Joan Bortnem Clarke, DOT, Rich Phillips, DOT, Terry Keller, DOT

Agenda/discussion:

1. Watertown South Connector 2A (00RW) and SD20/US212 intersection – Discussion on moving Fish Road west of the railroad tracks and grassing over the current alignment. This road is privately owned by Agralliance but the BNSF uses it to operate their switches for the spur line. DOT will buy the privately-owned land necessary to move Fish Road and transfer any excess land to GFP for wetlands et. al. and document with GFP. Discussion on wetland mitigation plan for 2A that includes using City-owned land between the inside radii of two oxbows of the old diversion channel with wildlife refuge mounds and perhaps adding additional area for banking at a preservation ratio. No issues with this idea, but will check with Jim Oehlerking regarding buffer (also check with Jim on buffer for 00RV). On May 15, Jim agreed to the mitigation plans for both projects, but needs a state cert. form for both and advised that any maintenance benches can't be considered as part of a wetland, but can be in the buffer, preferably at the outer fringe. The intersection at US212 is being reconfigured to better accommodate traffic, but should not negatively impact property owners. The power poles along the proposed 00RW alignment will be moved instead of shifting the alignment south and causing additional impact to the diversion channel. The EA schedule for 00RW includes final draft EA by HDR by end of May, review and release to public by mid June, public meeting early July and FONSI signature by early August. *No adverse comments by agencies on this EA direction to date.*





Department of Transportation

Office of Project Development

700 E Broadway Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586

PHONE: 605/773-3268 FAX: 605/773-6608

February 25, 2008

Mr. Scott Lindgren
SD Game, Fish, and Parks
400 West Kemp
Watertown, SD 57201

Re: Project No. EM 4020(01) PCN 00RW
Watertown South Connector Route—SD 20 to US 81
Section 4(f) *De Minimis* Finding for Pelican GPA

Dear Mr. Lindgren:

During early coordination for the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Watertown South Connector Route, Mr. Will Morlock was contacted for information for the Pelican Lake Game Production Area (GPA). From this coordination, it was determined that the Pelican Lake GPA is located adjacent to the proposed Watertown South Connector and has been identified as a Section 4(f) property. Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966 provides special protection for certain properties such as public parks, recreation areas, wildlife or waterfowl refuges and historic sites. Pelican Lake GPA is subject to Section 4(f) provisions, which requires coordination with the officials with jurisdiction over the potentially affected resource.

Section 6009(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Pub. L. 109-59, amended existing Section 4(f) legislation at Section 138 of Title 23 and Section 303 of Title 49, United States Code, to simplify the processing and approval of projects that have only *de minimis* (trifling or minimal) impacts on lands protected by Section 4(f).

The proposed alignment of the South Connector Route—SD 20 to US 81 could result in an encroachment on Pelican Lake GPA property depending on the chosen Preferred Alternative. Currently, six Build Alternatives are being analyzed for the South Connector Route—SD 20 to US 81. The encroachment of the Pelican Lake GPA varies for each Build Alternative Option (see attached Figure 3-4 from the draft EA):

- Build Alternative Options 1 and 2 would not impact the GPA property.
- Build Alternative Options 3, 4, 5, and 6 would impact 0.25 acres of GPA property.

Access to Pelican Lake and the Pelican Lake GPA from Fish Road would be occasionally impacted for brief periods of time during construction for all of the Build Alternative Options. Access to Pelican Lake and the GPA from the west (via 14th Street Southwest) would not be impacted by the Project.



As part of the design development process by the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT), the ROW acquisition area required at Pelican Lake GPA has been minimized to the extent practicable without compromising the Project's ability to meet the purpose and need as

well as safety standards. SDDOT seeks signed concurrence from you (either via the signature block below or a comment letter by the South Dakota Game Fish and Parks) on the Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding.

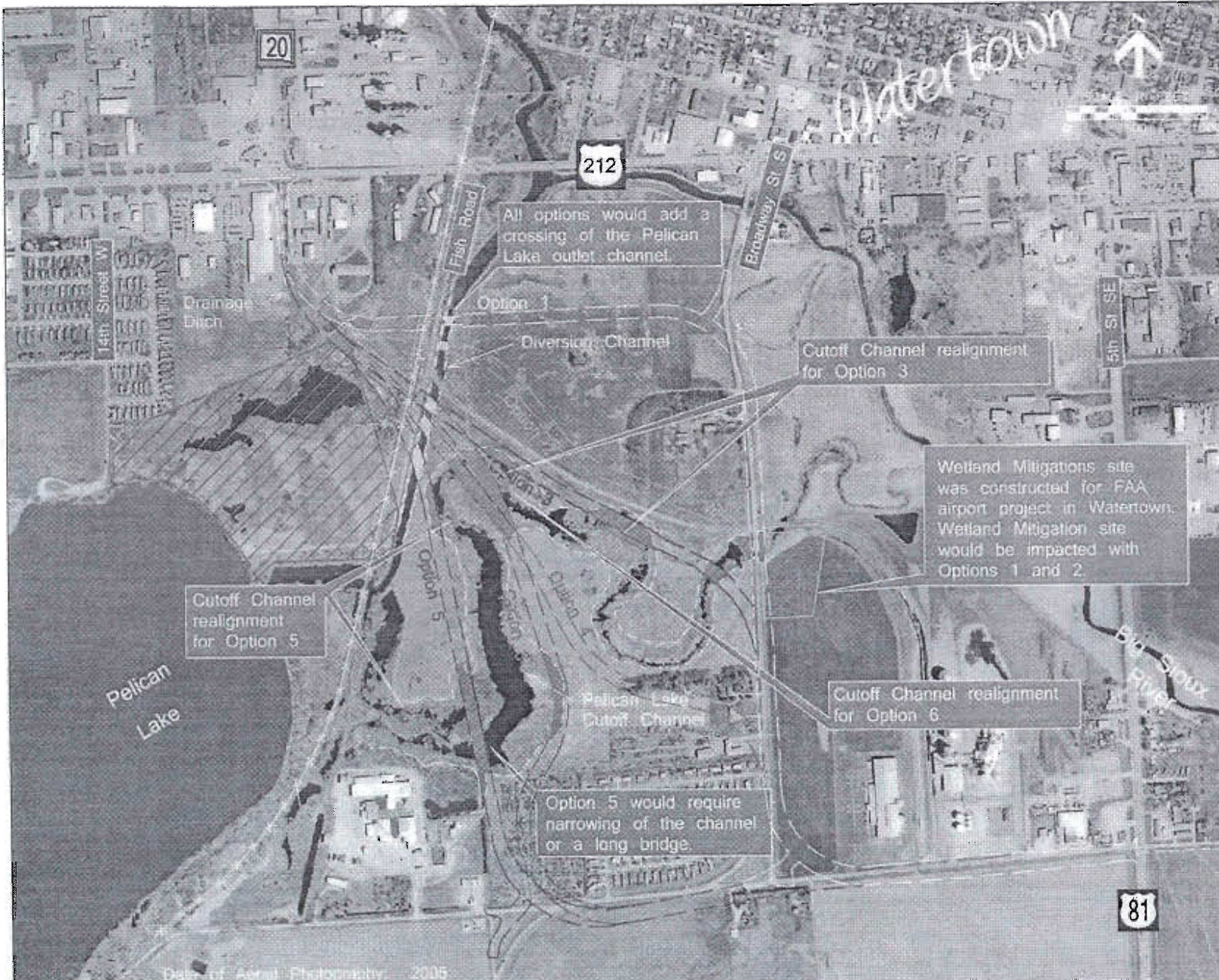
If there are any questions, please contact me at (605) 773-3721.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

	South Dakota Game Fish and Parks concurs with the Section 4(f) <i>de minimis</i> finding by FHWA
Terry Keller	
Environmental Supervisor	
	Date: 6-2-09

cc Ginger Massie, FHWA
James Unruh, HDR Engineering



Wetland Impact Summary

Option	Wetland Impacts (Ac)
1	0.9
2	1.0
3	2.6
4	2.3
5	3.1
6	3.4

Stream Channel Realignment

Option	Realignment (ft)
1	0
2	0
3	1100
4	0
5	600
6	300

Pelican Lake Game Production Area Impact Summary

Option	Impacts (Ac)
1	0
2	0
3	0.25
4	0.25
5	0.25
6	0.25

- Legend
- Channel Realignment
 - Existing Wetland
 - Wetland Impacted
 - Pelican Lake Game Production Area
 - Pelican Lake Outlet Channel Crossing
 - Wetland Mitigation Site Constructed in 2006
 - BNSF Railroad

- South Connector Roadway
- Option 1
 - Option 2
 - Option 3
 - Option 4
 - Option 5
 - Option 6
 - Bridges

Date of Aerial Photography: 2005

Drawn by: B. Miller
Date: 03/06/07
Checked by: J. Urwin
Date: 03/06/07
Revision Date:
May 2008



Natural Environment
Watertown South Connector - SD 20 to US 81
Project EM 4020(01) PCN 00RW

Figure
3-4

Subject: Segment 2A Agency Coordination	
Client: South Dakota Department of Transportation	
Project: Watertown South Connector	Project No: EM 4020(01) PCN 00RW
Meeting Date: 09/08/09; 2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.	Meeting Location: Transportation Commission Meeting Room
Notes by: HDR	Notes to: SDDOT, HDR

Attendees:

<u>HDR</u> James Unruh	<u>SDDOT</u> Tom Lehmkuhl Terry Keller Alice Whitebird Ruth Howell Ryan Huber Joan Clark	<u>SDDENR</u> John Miller	<u>CORPS OF ENG</u> Carolyn Kutz Jackie Hein	<u>FISH&WILDLIFE</u> Natalie Gates	<u>FHWA</u> Ron McMahon
---------------------------	--	------------------------------	--	---	----------------------------

Items of discussion, based on FHWA comments regarding the EA, were as follows:

Preferred Option

Terry Keller and James Unruh briefly reviewed the 6 options developed for Segment 2A and the basis for preferred Option 3. (The May 2009 version of the Draft EA had been submitted to agencies in June for review. The draft EA discussed the basis for the preferred option.)

Channelization of the Pelican Lake Cutoff Channel

The need for and the extent of channelization was discussed. Large graphics of EA figures 3-4 and 3-4a were reviewed.

Roadway runoff impacts on water quality

A memo dated 9/4/09 was distributed and discussed. The memo documented the proposal to confine roadway runoff to roadside ditches and provide treatment of the runoff in sedimentation basins prior to discharge into wetlands and/or the Pelican Lake Cutoff Channel.

Fish Road relocation

The background of the potential Fish Road relocation was discussed. Based on the most recent hydraulic analysis, box culverts can be installed at the crossing of the South Connector and the Pelican Lake Diversion Channel. This will alleviate the need to relocate Fish Road.

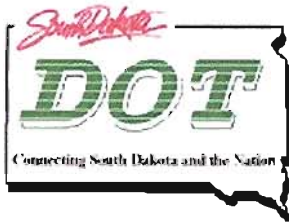
Noise impacts to Pelican Lake Game Production Area (GPA)

A second memo dated 9/4/09 was distributed and discussed. The memo documented the noise impacts to the GPA as well as noise mitigation options.

Follow-up tasks:

Terry Keller to submit letters to agencies as follows:

- *Game, Fish & Parks: Request concurrence with 'de minimis' noise impacts at GPA*
- *Fish & Wildlife: Request 'No Effect Finding' for threatened and endangered species*
- *Other agencies: Request letters of concurrence with preferred Option 3.*



Department of Transportation
Office of Project Development
700 E Broadway Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586
PHONE: 605/773-3268 FAX: 605/773-6608

September 8, 2009

Mr. Scott Lindgren
SD Game, Fish, and Parks
400 West Kemp
Watertown, SD 57201

Re: Project No. EM 4020(01) PCN 00RW
Watertown South Connector Route—SD 20 to US 81
Section 4(f) *De Minimis* Finding for Pelican GPA Noise Impacts

Dear Mr. Lindgren:

During early coordination for the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Watertown South Connector Route, Mr. Will Morlock was contacted for information for the Pelican Lake Game Production Area (GPA). From this coordination, it was determined that the Pelican Lake GPA is located adjacent to the proposed Watertown South Connector and has been identified as a Section 4(f) property. Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Act of 1966 provides special protection for certain properties such as public parks, recreation areas, wildlife or waterfowl refuges and historic sites. Pelican Lake GPA is subject to Section 4(f) provisions, which requires coordination with the officials with jurisdiction over the potentially affected resource.

Section 6009(a) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), Pub. L. 109-59, amended existing Section 4(f) legislation at Section 138 of Title 23 and Section 303 of Title 49, United States Code, to simplify the processing and approval of projects that have only *de minimis* (trifling or minimal) impacts on lands protected by Section 4(f).

The proposed alignment of the South Connector Route—SD 20 to US 81, specifically preferred Option 3 will encroach on a corner of the Pelican Lake GPA property. Noise impacts to the GPA property have been analyzed and are documented in the attached memo prepared by HDR dated 9/4/09. It is the position of SDDOT that:

- any increase in noise levels on the GPA property is not "significant"
- noise mitigation is not feasible, cost reasonable, or necessary

Therefore SDDOT conclude that a *de minimis* impact determination can be made for the noise impacts of the South Connector project on the Pelican Lake GPA property.

SDDOT seeks signed concurrence from you via the signature block below on the Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (605)773-3721.

Thank you.
Sincerely,



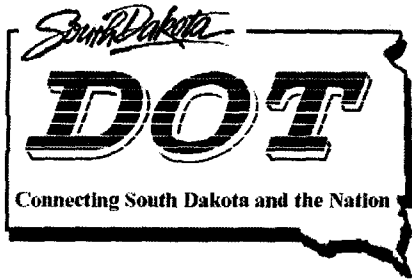
Terrence G. Keller
Environmental Supervisor

South Dakota Game Fish and Parks concurs with the *de minimis* noise impact finding by SDDOT and FHWA



Date: 9/18/09

cc Ginger Massie, FHWA
James Unruh, HDR Engineering



Department of Transportation
Division of Planning/Engineering
Environmental Office
700 E Broadway Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586
605/773-3268 Fax: 605/773-6608

September 16, 2009

Deanna Peterson, SD State Soil Scientist
 USDA-NRCS
 Federal Building
 200 Fourth Street SW
 Huron, SD 57350-2475

Re: Project No. EM 4020(01), PCN 00RW, Codington County
 Segment 2 of the Watertown South Connector Route – SD20 to US81
 Preferred Option 3

Dear Ms. Peterson:

Ongoing coordination with review agencies has been a goal of the Environmental Assessment (EA) preparation phase of the Watertown South Connector project. We thank you for your written and verbal comments throughout the process that began in June 2006. We also thank you for the attendance of representatives of your agency at the many agency coordination meetings at which the Watertown South Connector project was discussed.

At this time, to address a comment submitted by FHWA, we are requesting specific concurrence with Preferred Option 3 for the South Connector Route – SD20 to US81. A copy of the current version of the draft EA (May 2009) was submitted to your office in June 2009. The EA (specifically pages 2-3 to 2-6) documented the rationale for Preferred Option 3.

At the September 8, 2009 agency coordination meeting, additional documentation was distributed that dealt with concerns raised about Preferred Option 3. These documents are attached to this letter and will be incorporated into the EA:

- Memo regarding sedimentation basins dated 9/4/09 and revised 9/9/09
- Memo regarding noise impacts dated 9/4/09

If, after your review of project, you concur Preferred Option 3, please sign the signature block below, place your own agency stamp on this letter, or provide a separate letter to my attention. We would appreciate a response by September 25, 2009. We anticipate holding the public hearing for the project in late October.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (605)773-3721. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Terry Keller
 Environmental Supervisor

USDA-NRCS concurs with Preferred Option 3.

FOR DEANNA
 PETERSON
 Date: 9/21/2009

Cc: Ginger Massie, FHWA
 James Unruh, HDR Engineering



Department of Transportation
Division of Planning/Engineering
Environmental Office
700 E Broadway Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586
605/773-3268 Fax: 605/773-6608

September 16, 2009

Pete Gober, Field Supervisor
US Fish and Wildlife Service
420 South Garfield Avenue, Suite 400
Pierre, SD 57501-5408

Re: Project No. EM 4020(01), PCN 00RW, Codington County
Segment 2 of the Watertown South Connector Route – SD20 to US81
Preferred Option 3

Dear Mr. Gober:

Ongoing coordination with review agencies has been a goal of the Environmental Assessment (EA) preparation phase of the Watertown South Connector project. We thank you for your written and verbal comments throughout the process that began in June 2006. We also thank you for the attendance of representatives of your agency at the many agency coordination meetings at which the Watertown South Connector project was discussed.

At this time, to address a comment submitted by FHWA, we are requesting specific concurrence with Preferred Option 3 for the South Connector Route – SD20 to US81. A copy of the current version of the draft EA (May 2009) was submitted to your office in June 2009. The EA (specifically pages 2-3 to 2-6) documented the rationale for Preferred Option 3.


At the September 8, 2009 agency coordination meeting, additional documentation was distributed that dealt with concerns raised about Preferred Option 3. These documents are attached to this letter and will be incorporated into the EA:

- Memo regarding sedimentation basins dated 9/4/09 and revised 9/9/09
- Memo regarding noise impacts dated 9/4/09


If, after your review of project, you concur Preferred Option 3, please sign the signature block below, place your own agency stamp on this letter, or provide a separate letter to my attention. We would appreciate a response by September 25, 2009. We anticipate holding the public hearing for the project in late October.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (605)773-3721. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Terry Keller
Environmental Supervisor

USFWS concurs with Preferred Option 3.


Date: 9/29/09

Cc: Ginger Massie, FHWA
James Unruh, HDR Engineering



Department of Transportation
Division of Planning/Engineering
Environmental Office
700 E Broadway Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586
605/773-3268 Fax: 605/773-6608

September 16, 2009

Leslie Peterson
SD Department of Game, Fish, and Parks
Joe Foss Building, 523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-3182

Re: Project No. EM 4020(01), PCN 00RW, Codington County
Segment 2 of the Watertown South Connector Route – SD20 to US81
Preferred Option 3

Dear Ms. Peterson:

Ongoing coordination with review agencies has been a goal of the Environmental Assessment (EA) preparation phase of the Watertown South Connector project. We thank you for your written and verbal comments throughout the process that began in June 2006. We also thank you for the attendance of representatives of your agency at the many agency coordination meetings at which the Watertown South Connector project was discussed.

At this time, to address a comment submitted by FHWA, we are requesting specific concurrence with Preferred Option 3 for the South Connector Route – SD20 to US81. A copy of the current version of the draft EA (May 2009) was submitted to your office in June 2009. The EA (specifically pages 2-3 to 2-6) documented the rationale for Preferred Option 3.


At the September 8, 2009 agency coordination meeting, additional documentation was distributed that dealt with concerns raised about Preferred Option 3. These documents are attached to this letter and will be incorporated into the EA:

- Memo regarding sedimentation basins dated 9/4/09 and revised 9/9/09
- Memo regarding noise impacts dated 9/4/09

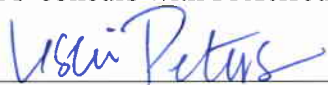
If, after your review of project, you concur Preferred Option 3, please sign the signature block below, place your own agency stamp on this letter, or provide a separate letter to my attention. We would appreciate a response by September 25, 2009. We anticipate holding the public hearing for the project in late October.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (605)773-3721. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Terry Keller
Environmental Supervisor

SDGFP concurs with Preferred Option 3.



Date: 9-29-09

Cc: Ginger Massie, FHWA
James Unruh, HDR Engineering

RECEIVED



Department of Transportation
Division of Planning/Engineering
Environmental Office
700 E Broadway Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586
605/773-3268 Fax: 605/773-6608

September 16, 2009

Pete Gober, Field Supervisor
US Fish and Wildlife Service
420 South Garfield Avenue, Suite 400
Pierre, SD 57501-5408

Re: Project No. EM 4020(01), PCN 00RW, Codington County
Segment 2 of the Watertown South Connector Route – SD20 to US81
Threatened and Endangered Species Review

Dear Mr. Gober:

During early coordination for the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Watertown South Connector Route, your office reviewed the potential impacts of the project on threatened and endangered species. Your office submitted a letter dated August 2, 2006 (Please see attachment).

At this time, we are requesting another review of the project, specifically for the project from SD20 to US81. The draft Environmental Assessment for this project was submitted to your office in June 2009. In your review, please pay particular attention to preferred Option 3. With this option, sections of the Pelican Lake Cutoff Channel will be realigned. We have attempted to minimize and mitigate impacts of the realignment. Two memoranda are attached to assist in your review:

- Memo regarding sedimentation basins dated 9/4/09 and revised 9/9/09
- Memo regarding noise impacts dated 9/4/09

If, after your review of project, you concur with a No Effect Finding for threatened and endangered species, please sign the signature block below or provide a separate letter to my attention.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (605)773-3721. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Terry Keller in blue ink.

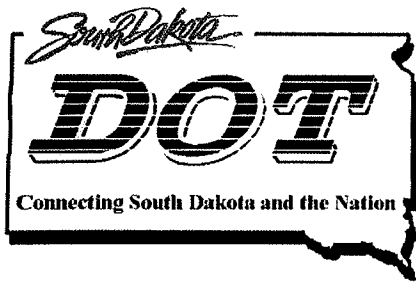
Terry Keller
Environmental Supervisor

US Fish and Wildlife service concurs with a 'No Effect Finding' for threatened and endangered species.

Handwritten signature of Scott Larson in blue ink.

Date: 9/29/09

Cc: Ginger Massie, FHWA
James Unruh, HDR Engineering



Department of Transportation
Division of Planning/Engineering
Environmental Office
700 E Broadway Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-2586
605/773-3268 Fax: 605/773-6608

September 16, 2009

John Miller, Environmental Program Scientist
Surface Water Quality Program
SD Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Joe Foss Building, 523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-3181

Re: Project No. EM 4020(01), PCN 00RW, Codington County
Segment 2 of the Watertown South Connector Route – SD20 to US81
Preferred Option 3

Dear Mr. Miller:

Ongoing coordination with review agencies has been a goal of the Environmental Assessment (EA) preparation phase of the Watertown South Connector project. We thank you for your written and verbal comments throughout the process that began in June 2006. We also thank you for the attendance of representatives of your agency at the many agency coordination meetings at which the Watertown South Connector project was discussed.

At this time, to address a comment submitted by FHWA, we are requesting specific concurrence with Preferred Option 3 for the South Connector Route – SD20 to US81. A copy of the current version of the draft EA (May 2009) was submitted to your office in June 2009. The EA (specifically pages 2-3 to 2-6) documented the rationale for Preferred Option 3.

At the September 8, 2009 agency coordination meeting, additional documentation was distributed that dealt with concerns raised about Preferred Option 3. These documents are attached to this letter and will be incorporated into the EA:

- Memo regarding sedimentation basins dated 9/4/09 and revised 9/9/09
- Memo regarding noise impacts dated 9/4/09

If, after your review of project, you concur Preferred Option 3, please sign the signature block below, place your own agency stamp on this letter, or provide a separate letter to my attention. We would appreciate a response by September 25, 2009. We anticipate holding the public hearing for the project in late October.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (605)773-3721. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Terry Keller
Environmental Supervisor

SDDENR concurs with Preferred Option 3.

Date: 10-1-2009

Cc: Ginger Massie, FHWA
James Unruh, HDR Engineering