Appendix E

Historic Properties Supplement

NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Supplemental Section 106 PQS Memo

To:	**Justin Luther, Project Delivery Team Lead, FHWA** **Taylor Peters, Environmental Protection Specialist, FHWA**
From:	**Stacy Stupka, Section 106 Specialist, NDOT**
cc:	**Courtney Ziska, Ben Trenne, NDOT**
Date:	**March 21, 2024**
Re:	**Cultural Resources Evaluation of the Proposed Wisner Wetland Mitigation Site** **CN 32319_275-6(1052)_Norfolk - Wisner** *Please note that FHWA is the lead Federal agency regarding this undertaking

Regarding the undertaking referenced above, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred upon FHWA's project effects determination of adverse effect on 06/22/2023. The adverse effect would be to the archeological site known as the Sharpe Homestead Site (25ST16).

The Wisner Wetland Mitigation site is proposed to be constructed in support of this undertaking and this location is outside the area of potential effects (APE) already considered. Therefore, this supplemental evaluation expands the APE and completes an evaluation of the proposed wetland site (Enclosure 1).

In addition, this Supplemental Evaluation also considers a small area east of 570th Avenue that extends south of the original APE that were the result of widening medians (Enclosure 2).

Expanded APEs
The APE is expanded to include the entire parcel to be purchased for the proposed Wisner Wetland Mitigation Site (Enclosure 1) referred to as the Expanded Wetland APE as well as a small area east of 570th Avenue referred to as the Expanded Median APE (Enclosure 2).

Archeological Evaluation
Highway Archeologist Nolan Johnson completed an archeological evaluation of the Expanded Wetland APE was completed on 02/08/2024. Johnson surveyed the southern half of the APE using a pedestrian survey with transects spaced at 20 meters. The area is planted in alfalfa, affording 25 % ground surface visibility, which meets Nebraska's professional standards required by SHPO. Johnson noted that the remainder of the Expanded Wetland APE consists of old channel scars and other low lying areas with very low potential for archeological materials to be present. Historic maps confirm that the unsurveyed area has been impacted by the changing river channels in the recent past. No National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) archeological sites were identified within the Expanded Wetland APE (Enclosure 2).

NDOT Professionally Qualified Staff (PQS) Stacy Stupka evaluated the Expanded Median APE and determined that it is in an area that, based on the topography was not archeologically surveyed because based on professional knowledge, the area has a low potential to contain intact, National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) significant archeological deposits (NDOT Section 106 Project Package 02/20/2020). Based upon this information, Stupka determined that no archeological survey is required in the Expanded Median APE.

Architectural / Structural Evaluation
NDOT PQS Stacy Stupka reviewed the Expanded Wetland APE and determined that there are no architectural or structural resources present. No further review is required.

Regarding the Expanded Median APE, there are no architectural or structural resources present and no historic properties with associated agricultural acreage were identified during identification and evaluation efforts (NDOT Section 106 Project Package 02/20/2020).

NDOT Project Effects Recommendation
No historic properties were identified within the expanded APEs discussed above. NDOT recommends that the proposed changes will have no effect on historic properties.

NDOT recommends that the project effects determination of *adverse effect* reached in 2023 remains appropriate.

In addition, because the project effects determination has not changed, no additional consultation is required (Section 106 PA VIII.D.1).

NDOT is notifying FHWA that we intend to make (continue with) a project effects determination of *no historic properties affected*. Please notify NDOT of any objections per our Section 106 PA (VIII.A.2(a)(1)).

Supplemental Archeological Report

Enclosure 1

NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

State Archeology Office

Project Survey Summary

Control Number: 32319

Project Number: S-275-6(1056) **Project Name:** Norfolk to Wisner

County: Cuming **Nearest Water:** Elkhorn River

Legal Description:

SW 1/4 of Section 11 T23N R4E

APE Description (Add Maps):

The APE includes the entire parcel to be purchased for the potential wetland mitigation site.

Maps Used: Aerials, LIDAR, GLO maps, Plat maps, Buried Soils Data, USGS 7.5" Wisner Top map

Project Character (Attach Project Description):

Wetland Mitigation Site

Project Length/Area: 112.8 Acres

Survey Length/Area: 24.8 Acres

Detour? ☒ No ☐ Yes, without Constr. Activities ☐ Yes, w/ Constr. Activities

Date(s) of Archeological Survey: 2-8-24

Name(s) of Survey Personnel: Nolan Johnson

Person-Hours of Fieldwork: 2

Ground Cover (%-Visibility)

Alfalfa 25%

Survey Interval/Provisions:

Twenty meter zig zag transects were used.

Rationale for Non-surveyed Areas:

The southern section of the APE was surveyed. The rest of the APE is old channel scars and other low lying areas with very low archeological potential. LIDAR and historic maps confirmed that the unsurveyed section has been impacted by the changing river channels in the recent past.

Results of Survey:

☒ **No Archeological Resources Discovered**

☐ **Site(s) Discovered** Site Numbers:

☐ **Other** (explain)

Project Effect Determination for Archeology

☒ **No Historic Properties Affected:** ☒ None Present ☐ Present but Not Affected

☐ **No Adverse Effect**

☐ **Adverse Effect**

Are Further Archeological Investigations Warranted? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Is THPO Consultation Recommended by Sponsor Agency? ☒ Yes ☐ No **List Tribes:** TBD

Stipulations/Exceptions to Survey Results: Evaluate Buried Cultural Remains if Encountered.

Comments:

Prepared by: Nolan Johnson **Date:** 2-8-24

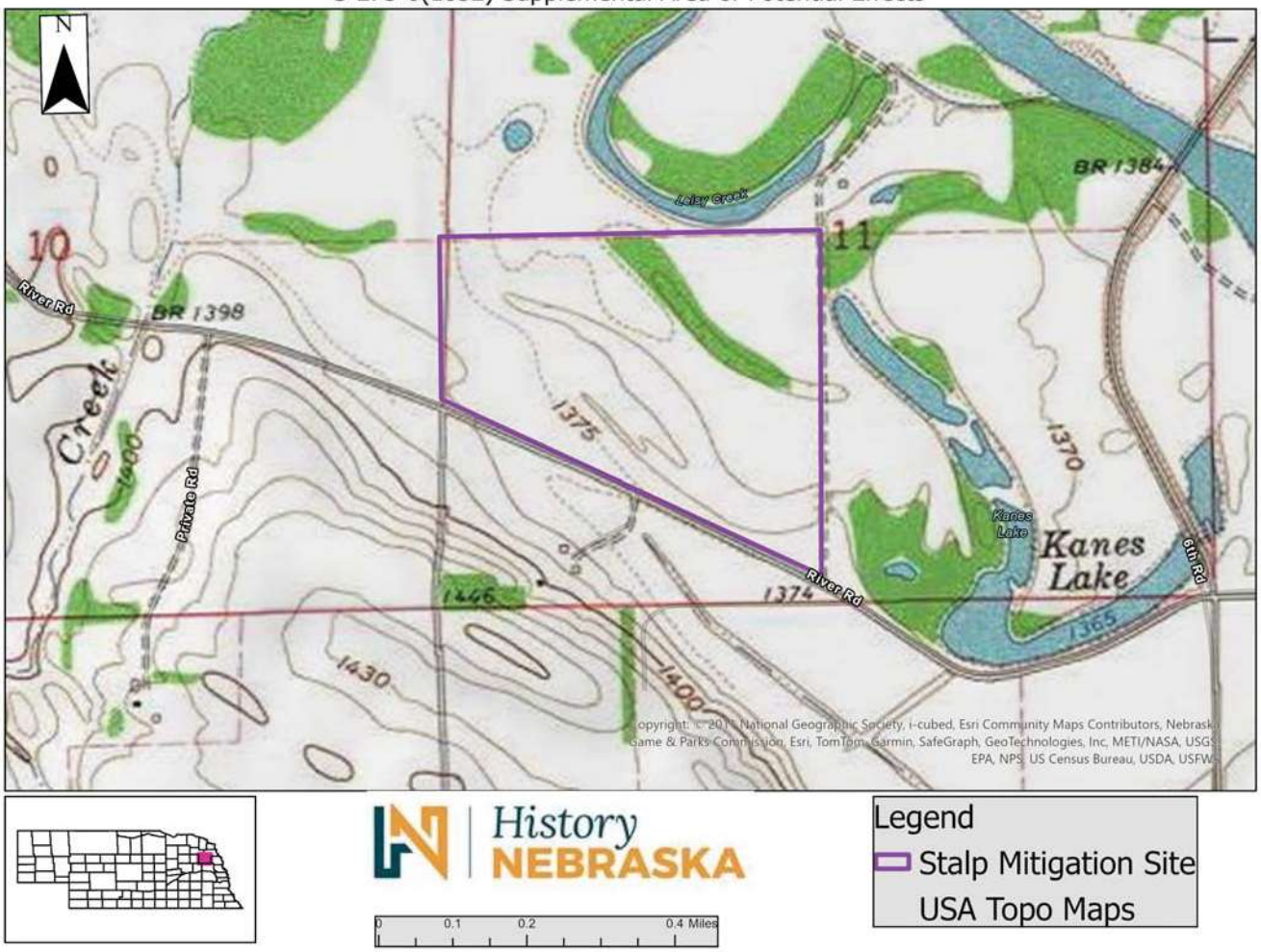
State Archeology Office

Project Survey Summary Map/Image Sheet

Control Number: 32319

Project Number: S-275-6(1062)

S-275-6(1052) Supplemental Area of Potential Effects



History NEBRASKA

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles

Legend

Stalp Mitigation Site

USA Topo Maps

State Archeology Office

Project Survey Summary Map/Image Sheet

Control Number: 32319

Project Number: S-275-6(1052)

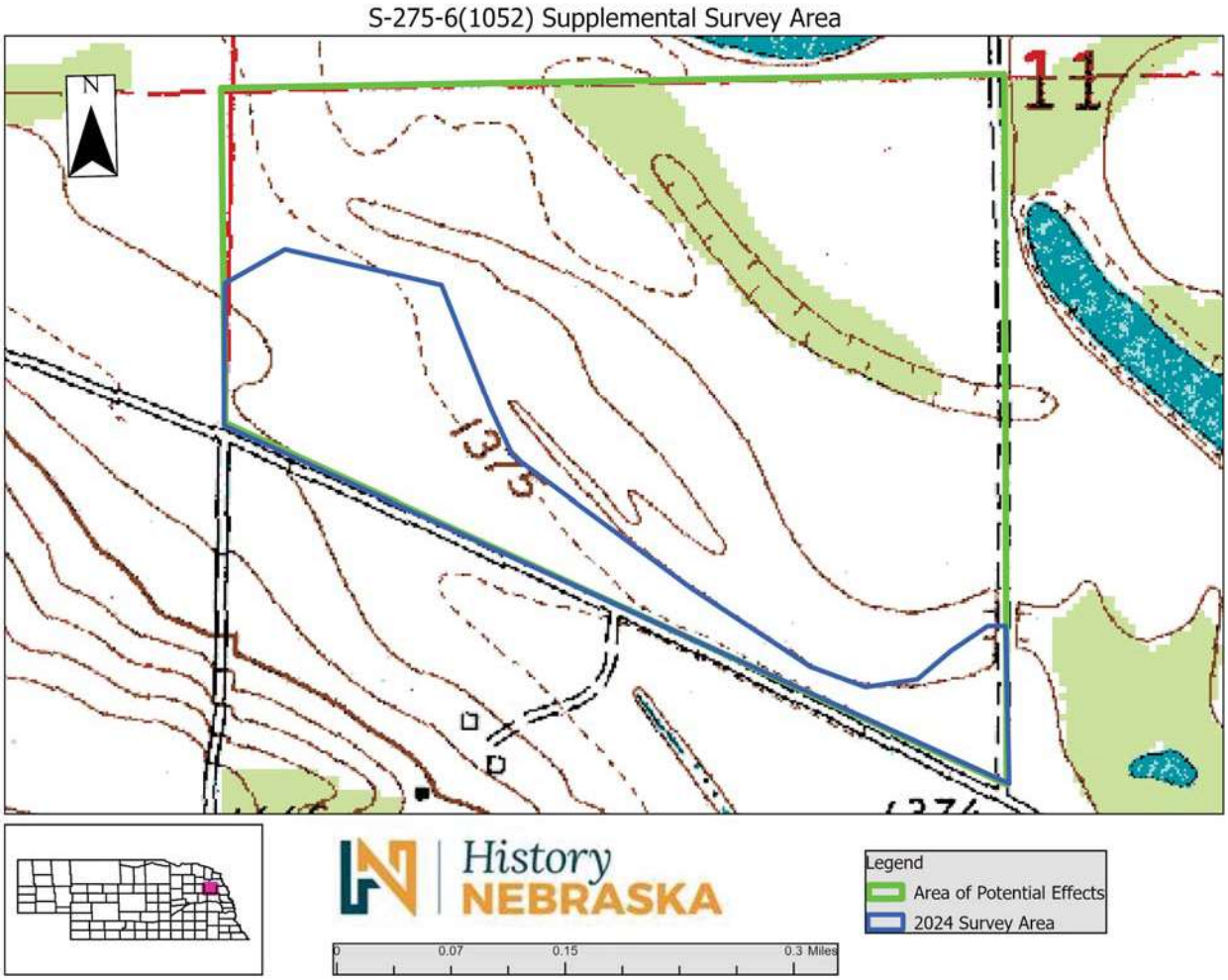
S-275-6(1052) Supplemental Area of Potential Effects

State Archeology Office

Project Survey Summary Map/Image Sheet

Control Number: 32319

Project Number: S-275-6(1052)



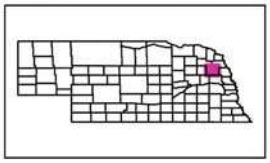
State Archeology Office

Project Survey Summary Map/Image Sheet

Control Number: 32319

Project Number: S-275-6(1052)

S-275-6(1052) Supplemental Survey Area



History NEBRASKA

0 0.07 0.15 0.3 Miles

Legend
Area of Potential Effects
2024 Survey Area

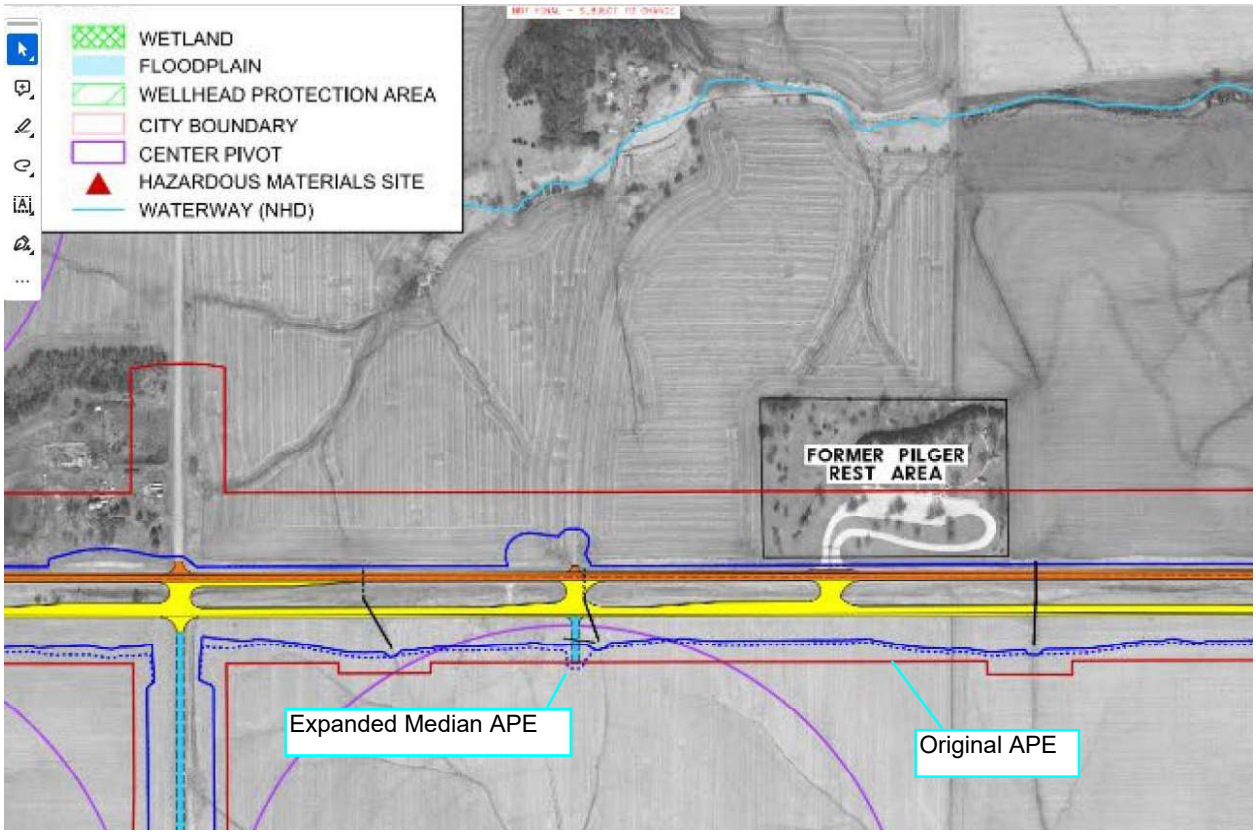
Expanded Median APE Map

Enclosure 2

NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Project No. 275-6(1052)
Norfolk – Wisner
32319
Expanded Median Area of Potential Effects (APE)



From: Peters, Taylor (FHWA)
To: Stupka, Stacy; luther, justin
Cc: pjinfne@dot.gov; Ziska, Courtney; Trenne, Ben
Subject: RE: 32319_Project No. 275-6(1052)_Norfolk - Wisner - Supplemental Cultural Resources evaluation
Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 11:27:12 AM

Hello Stacy, FHWA agrees with the documented justification and has no objections to the "no historic properties affected" finding for the expanded APE and agrees that the "adverse effect" determination for the project remains valid, requiring no additional consultation per Stipulations VIII(D)(3)(c)&(4)(a). Thank you.

From: Stupka, Stacy <stacy.stupka@nebraska.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2024 4:10 PM
To: Luther, Justin (FHWA) <Justin.Luther@dot.gov>; Peters, Taylor (FHWA) <taylor.peters@dot.gov>
Cc: pjinfne (FHWA) <pjinfne@dot.gov>; Ziska, Courtney <Courtney.Ziska@nebraska.gov>; Trenne, Ben <Ben.Trenne@nebraska.gov>
Subject: RE: 32319_Project No. 275-6(1052)_Norfolk - Wisner - Supplemental Cultural Resources evaluation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Department of Transportation (DOT). Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Justin and Taylor,
Please disregard the Section 106 Supplemental Evaluation recently submitted in favor of the attached supplemental evaluation. In the former version, I forgot to include a second, very small, expanded APE associated with the median expansion.

No historic properties are identified in either expanded APE and NDOT continues to recommend to FHWA that the project effects determination remains *adverse effect.* Per Stipulation VIII.D.1 of our statewide programmatic agreement, no further consultation is required.

Please respond to this email with an indication regarding this project effects recommendation and whether or not NDOT has provided sufficient documentation.

Thank you,
Stacy

From: Stupka, Stacy
Sent: Thursday, March 21, 2024 1:55 PM
To: luther, justin <justin.luther@dot.gov>; Peters, Taylor (FHWA) <taylor.peters@dot.gov>
Cc: pjinfne@dot.gov; Ziska, Courtney <Courtney.Ziska@nebraska.gov>; Trenne, Ben <Ben.Trenne@nebraska.gov>
Subject: 32319_Project No. 275-6(1052)_Norfolk - Wisner - Supplemental Cultural Resources evaluation

Hello Justin and Taylor,
I hope all is going well.

The project referenced above is not assigned to NDOT under 326 NEPA Assignment. Regarding this undertaking, SHPO concurred upon FHWA's project effects determination of *adverse effect* on 06/22/2023. The adverse effect is to the Sharpe Homestead archeological site.

The Wisner Wetland Mitigation site is proposed to be constructed in support of this undertaking and this location is outside the area of potential effects (APE) already considered. Therefore, the attached Section 106 Supplemental Evaluation expands the APE and completes a cultural resources evaluation of the proposed wetland site.

No historic properties were identified in the expanded APE, and NDOT recommends to FHWA that the project effects determination remains *adverse effect.* Per Stipulation VIII.D.1 of our statewide programmatic agreement, no further consultation is required.

Please respond to this email with an indication regarding this project effects recommendation and whether or not NDOT has provided sufficient documentation.

Thank you,
Stacy

Stacy Stupka
Cultural Resources Manager/Section 106 Specialist

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she/her