



**U.S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration**

**Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant
Program**

**Village of Deshler Ohio Tier 2 Site Specific Environmental Assessment
NGDISM-FY22-EA-2023-03**

PHMSA Approval:

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Overview:

The purpose of this Tier 2 Site Specific Environmental Assessment (Tier 2) is to (1) document the proposed action (the Project) and the need for the action (2) identify existing conditions; (3) assess the social, economic, and environmental effects using appropriate tools and agency coordination to comply with local, state, and federal environmental laws, regulations, and ordinances; to (4) document applicable mitigation commitments that would avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential effects; and (5) seek comments from the public. This Tier 2 analysis informs PHMSA's assessment as to whether the Project is consistent with the impacts described in the Tier 1 Nationwide Environmental Assessment for the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program.¹

As part of this Tier 2, PHMSA is soliciting public comments through a public comment period. This Tier 2 is available on PHMSA's website where comments can be submitted to the contact noted below. PHMSA will accept public comments for 30 days on this Tier 2. PHMSA will consider comments received and incorporate them in the decision-making process. Consultation with appropriate agencies on related processes, regulations, and permits is ongoing. Please submit all comments to: PHMSABILGrantNEPAComments@dot.gov and reference NGDISM-FY22-EA-2023-03 in your response.

At the conclusion of the EA process, PHMSA will either issue a "Finding of No Significant Impact," further supplement this EA with additional analysis, mitigation measures or prepare an Environmental Impact Statement.

I. Project Description/Proposed Action

Project Title	Village of Deshler
Project Location	Henry County, Ohio
Project Description/Proposed Action:	
<p>The Proposed Action would replace 24,000 linear feet of aging and failing bare steel natural gas line and replace two antiquated 1959 metering stations with one metering station within the Village of Deshler (Deshler) Ohio.</p> <p>The project has been divided into six segments. The specific streets included in each segment includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Segment 1: Maple Street. 2 in. MDPE from West Maple Street and West Elm Street to the middle block east of North Keyser Street.• Segment 2 Main Street. 2 in. MDPE from West Main Street and West Maple to South Vine Street.• Segment 3 North Street. 2 in MDPE along North Street.• Segment 4 Northeast Section. 2 and 4 in. MDPE from North East Street to East Elm Street.• Segment 5 Holmes Street. 2 in. MDPE from Holmes Street to Township Road B.• Segment 6 County Road C. 6 in. MDPE along County Road C. <p>All work would take place within the existing Village Corporation Limits right-of-way (ROW). The replacement polyethylene (PE) gas lines would be installed adjacent to the existing bare steel gas lines. The gas lines would mostly be installed by directional drilling. An excavator or backhoe would be used for trenching where directional drilling is not applicable or when installing the taps, curb valves, or fusing main lines together. The Tier 1 EA described that the majority of site-specific projects would utilize the insertion method of pipe replacement. As described in this</p>	

¹ <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/11/09/2022-24378/pipeline-safety-notice-of-availability-of-the-tier-1-nationwide-environmental-assessment-for-the>

document, Deshler would utilize an open trench method for portions of the project, which generally involves greater soil disturbance and use of heavy equipment and related impacts than the insertion method. The replacement gas lines would be connected to existing lines, as needed. The replacement gas lines would be thermally fused and would have new fused tapping tees, excess flow valves, and new thermally fused curb valves. Replacement curb boxes with iron lids would be installed over the curb valves. Two metering stations would be removed and replaced with a single metering station to provide better service and capacity to service Deshler. The new metering station would be installed on an approximately .25-acre parcel of agricultural land recently acquired by Deshler. A new section of pipeline along County Road C in Segment 6 would be installed in order to connect the new metering station to the existing system. Segment 6 is not being funded as part of this grant. However, Segment 6 is being analyzed in this EA as a connected action associated with the new metering station.

Portions of the 2-inch and 4-inch gas lines would be bored under railroad tracks. The 4-inch PE main gas line would be cased inside of an 8-inch protective casing through railroad ROW, and the 2-inch main gas line would be cased inside of a 4-inch protective casing through the railroad ROW. The project also includes the acquisition of a vacuum pump trailer which would be used to capture and recover methane during construction.

The existing pipeline would be abandoned in place. Abandonment of the existing pipeline (versus excavation and removal) would minimize ground disturbance and facilitate the replacement process in a more efficient manner. PHMSA has specific requirements for gas and hazardous liquid pipeline abandonment, found in 49 CFR 192.727 and 195.402(c)(10). These requirements include disconnecting pipelines from all sources and supplies of gas, purging all combustibles and sealing the facilities left in place. By complying with PHMSA requirements for purging and sealing abandoned pipelines Deshler would ensure that the abandoned pipelines pose no risk to safety in their abandoned state.

No Action:

The No Action alternative, as required under NEPA, serves as a baseline, and is used to compare impacts resulting from the Proposed Action. Under the No Action alternative, PHMSA would not fund this pipeline replacement project. Additionally, PHMSA would not be able to reduce the inventory of methane leaks and reduce safety risks by replacing pipe prone to leakage. Under this alternative, Deshler would continue to use leak prone pipeline material, and conduct repairs or replacements in the future using non-federal sources of funding, and potentially on an emergency basis, when a pipeline fails. Impacts and benefits associated with replacing the leak prone pipeline within Deshler with updated material would not be seen in the near term. The safety risks and methane leaks would persist. The replacement pipeline activities would either not be taken or they would be undertaken at a later, uncertain date. Even if pipe replacement were to happen at some point in the future, environmental mitigation measures during such a replacement would be unknown. Furthermore, existing economic losses, and increased risk associated with prolonged gas leaks would continue. No equipment would be purchased to assist Deshler in methane reduction.

Need for the Project:

The project is needed to ensure the safe delivery of energy to the community, eliminate 16 known current leaks along with potential future leaks identified in the Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP) plan. The overall needs addressed by this project would include (1) improving upon the safe delivery of energy by reducing the likelihood of incidents, as well as methane leaks; (2) avoiding economic losses caused by pipeline failures; and (3) protecting our environment and reducing climate impacts by remediating aged and failing pipelines and pipe prone to leakage.

Description of the Environmental Setting of the Project Area:

The proposed project takes place within Village Corporate Limits and existing ROW. The new metering station is located on an approximately .25-acre parcel of agricultural land recently acquired by Deshler. The area surrounding the project consists of a rural environment with a mix of residential housing, commercial businesses, railroad infrastructure, and agricultural fields. Several small Deshler owned parks are also located within the project area. All land would be returned to its original condition and land use would not change as a result of the proposed project. Portions of the project include low-income and minority areas. See Appendix A, Project Map, for a map of the project area.

II.

Resource Review

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases (GHG)	
Question	Information and Justification
Is the project located in an area designated by the EPA as non-attainment or maintenance status for one or more of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)?	No, based on review of the EPA Greenbook. ²
Will the construction activities produce emissions that exceed de minimis thresholds (tons per year) described in the initial Tier 2 EA worksheet?	N/A
Will mitigation measures be used to capture blowdown ³ ?	Yes, a vacuum truck would be acquired to capture methane.
Does the system have the capability to reduce pressure on the segments to be replaced? If yes, what is the lowest psi your system can reach prior to venting?	Yes, between 7.5 to 12.5 pounds per square inch (PSI) depending on location within the operating system.
Will project proponent commit to reducing pressure on the line to this psi prior to venting? Please calculate venting emissions based on this commitment and also provide comparison figure of venting emissions volume without pressure reduction/drawdown using calculation methods identified in the initial Tier 2 EA worksheet.	Yes, based on the size of the existing pipe which ranges from 2 to 6 inches (in) and operating pressure from 7.5 to 12.5, 3 thousand cubic ft (MCF) of methane would be vented if the pressure was not lowered. Lowering the pressure prior to venting would result in 2 MCF of methane would be vented during construction.
Estimate the current leak rate per mile based on the type of pipeline material. Based on mileage of replacement and new pipeline material, estimate the total reduction of methane.	The existing leak rate is estimated at 9,550 kg/year. Replacement would result in a leak rate of 130 kg/year or a reduction of 9,421 kg/year. ⁴
Conclusion:	
The project area is in Henry County which is designated by the EPA as in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The existing mains within the project area consist of leak prone legacy bare steel pipe.	

² <https://www.epa.gov/green-book/green-book-national-area-and-county-level-multi-pollutant-information>

³ Blowdown refers to the venting of natural gas in current facilities, in order to begin rehabilitation, repair, or replacement activities.

⁴ Leak rates are based on Pre-1990 Installation emission factors found in *Table 1 Average methane emission factors for natural gas pipelines (adopted from EPA GHG Inventory, Annex 3.6, Table 3.62)* in the November 9, 2022, PHMSA: Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program Programmatic Environmental Assessment, Tier 1 Nationwide Environmental Analysis.

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, existing and planned pipeline activities, including construction and maintenance activities, would continue unchanged. The project proponent would continue to use legacy bare steel and other leak prone pipe material. The total methane emissions for the pipelines within the project area were extrapolated over 20 years to represent the continuation of methane release under the No Action alternative. Under the No Action alternative, PHMSA estimates that 9,550 kg of methane would be released each year from the existing pipelines within the project area. This amounts to 191,000 kg of methane over a 20-year time frame. See Appendix B, for the methane leak rate calculations.

Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action alternative would result in minor air quality impacts associated with construction activities. Pipeline blowdowns are typically necessary to ensure that construction and maintenance work can be conducted safely on depressurized natural gas facilities and pipelines. Venting methane is required when service is switched from the existing line to the newly constructed line, but the volume of vented gas can depend on the ability to reduce pressure on the pipe segment or other mitigation actions. Deshler would utilize methane capture technology to prevent the release of methane. Should methane capture technology not be utilized, 3 MCF of methane (or 87 kg) would be vented into the atmosphere during construction based on the highest available pressure. See Appendix B, for the methane blowdown calculations.

As described in the Tier 1 EA, methane leaks from natural gas distribution pipelines increase with age and are considerably higher for bare steel pipelines, as compared with plastic. Replacing leak prone pipe with newer, more durable materials would reduce leaks and methane emissions. Based on the current leak rate of the existing pipe within the project area, this project would reduce overall emissions by 9,421 kg of methane per year. This amounts to a reduction of 188,415 kg of methane over a 20-year time frame. See Appendix B, Methane Calculations. Therefore, it is PHMSA's assessment that the proposed project would provide a net benefit to air quality from the overall reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and that no indirect or cumulative impacts would result from the Proposed Action.

Mitigation Measures:

Deshler shall implement the following mitigation measures:

- Utilize measures to capture methane during construction.
- Efficient use of on-road and non-road vehicles, by minimizing speeds and vehicles.
- Minimize excavation to the greatest extent practical.
- Use cleaner, newer, non-road equipment as practicable.
- Minimize all vehicle idling and at minimum, conform with local idling regulations.
- Ensure all vehicles and equipment are in proper operating condition.
- Ensure on-road and non-road engines meet EPA exhaust emission standards (40 CFR Parts 85, 86, and 89).
- Cover open-bodied trucks while transporting materials.
- Conduct watering, or use of other approved dust suppressants, at construction sites and on unpaved roadways, as necessary.
- Minimize the area of soil disturbance to those necessary for construction.
- Minimize construction site traffic by the use of offsite parking and shuttle buses, as necessary.

Water Resources	
Question	Information and Justification
Are there water resources within the project area, such as wetlands, streams, rivers, or floodplains? If so, would the project temporarily or permanently impact wetlands or waterways?	Yes, water resources including Brush Creek, wetlands, and several constructed ponds are located adjacent to the project area according to United States Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) National Wetland Inventory (NWI).
Under the Clean Water Act, is a Section 401 State certification potentially required? If yes, describe anticipated permit and how project proponent will ensure permit compliance.	No
Under the Clean Water Act, is a USACE Section 404 Permit required for the discharge of dredge and fill material? If yes, describe anticipated permit and how project proponent will ensure permit compliance.	No
Under the Clean Water Act, is an EPA or State Section 402 permit required for the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the United States? Is a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) required?	Construction activities could exceed soil disturbance thresholds and a 402 permit may be required prior to construction.
Will work activities take place within a FEMA designated floodplain? If so, describe any permanent or temporary impacts and the required coordination efforts with state or local floodplain regulatory agencies.	No, based on review of FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette map.
Will the proposed project activities potentially occur within a coastal zone ⁵ or affect any coastal use or natural resource of the coastal zone, requiring a Consistency Determination and Certification?	No, the project is not located within a coastal area.
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>PHMSA reviewed NWI maps, as well as the FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette map. Brush creek and several constructed wetlands are located adjacent to the project area. FEMA's FIRMette map indicated a FEMA Zone A is located adjacent but outside of the project area near Brush creek. Areas located within Zone A, are identified as Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) and correspond to the one percent annual chance of flooding (100-year floodplain). Additionally, PHMSA reviewed the NRCS soils survey which identified soils within the project area as hydric which supports the conclusion wetlands are located near the waterways. See Appendix C, Water Resources, for water resource related documentation.</p> <p>No Action:</p> <p>Under the No Action alternative, the existing pipeline would remain in the current location and normal maintenance activities would continue without any impact anticipated to water resources. Minor impacts to waterways and wetlands</p>	

⁵ The term "coastal zone" means the coastal waters (including the lands therein and thereunder) and the adjacent shorelands (including the waters therein and thereunder), strongly influenced by each other and in proximity to the shorelines of the several coastal states, and includes islands, transitional and intertidal areas, salt marshes, wetlands, and beaches.)

could occur due to maintenance and repair.

Proposed Action:

The new pipeline would be installed within previously disturbed soils. A portion of the project is near Brush creek. However, no waterway crossings or work within a SFHA would be required as part of the proposed project and all work would take place outside of this waterway within the existing residential area. The new pipeline installation and abandonment of the existing pipeline is not anticipated to cause any reasonably foreseeable indirect effects or cumulative effects to water resources as none have been identified in the area. Therefore, it is PHMSA's assessment that there would be no adverse impacts to water resources.

Mitigation Measures:

Deshler shall avoid staging in wetlands or floodplains. All preconstruction contours shall be restored, natural areas shall be reseeded, BMPs shall be used during construction to control sediment and erosion and prevent pollutants from entering waterways.

Groundwater and Hazardous Materials/Waste	
Question	Information and Justification
Does the project have potential to encounter and impact groundwater? If yes, describe potential impacts from construction activities.	Yes, groundwater runoff is possible during construction activities.
Will the project require boring or directional drilling that may require pits containing mud and inadvertent return fluids? If yes, describe measures that will be taken during construction activities to prevent impacts to groundwater resources.	Yes.
Will the project potentially involve a site(s) contaminated by hazardous waste? Is there any indication that the pipeline was ever used to convey coal gas? If yes, PHMSA will work with the project proponent for required studies.	No work would occur within EPA superfund sites or areas containing known waste. An incident response plan would be developed to control and minimize impacts to sensitive resources. No indication that the pipeline has ever conveyed coal gas.
Does the project have the potential to encounter or disturb lead pipes or asbestos?	No potential to encounter or disturb lead pipes or asbestos.
Conclusion: Based on review of EPA's EnviroAtlas ⁶ and Ohio NEPA assist, no brownfield properties, hazardous waste sites, or superfund sites were identified. A high groundwater table exists within portions of the project area. No Action: Under the No Action alternative, pipes would remain in their current location and ongoing and routine maintenance activities would occur. Pipes would be replaced under failed circumstances. While there are no adverse impacts to groundwater anticipated by the No Action alternative, increased methane emissions are likely to occur if the leak	

prone pipes remain (EPA, PRO Fact Sheet No. 402⁷) and the risk of failure is higher among these types of pipes. Therefore, under the no action alternative, PHMSA anticipates an increased risk for the release of methane, both as leaks and during a pipeline failure, which could then result in ground disturbances from construction activities, potentially impacting groundwater.

Proposed Action:

Deshler is replacing pipelines within existing ROW. A majority of the new pipeline would be installed adjacent to the existing gas lines at a depth of approximately 36 inches. The existing gas line would be abandoned, in accordance with PHMSA requirements, and would be purged of natural gas and sealed on each end. The new gas lines would be installed at a depth of 36 inches below grade and would be installed by either directional drilling or cut and cover (trenching). All excavated trench materials would be stored on site and used to back fill, unless otherwise deemed unsuitable. In these cases, unsuitable soils would be hauled offsite and the trench would be backfilled with clean soils. All disturbed areas would be re-seeded or paved (as appropriate) and restored to preexisting conditions. Should groundwater be intercepted by construction activities, dewatering may be required during construction. In these cases, groundwater would be kept to just below the work area so that the proposed work to be completed would not be compromised.

Therefore, it is PHMSA's assessment that there would be no adverse impacts to groundwater associated with the project. Additionally, there are no hazardous waste or brownfield, or superfund sites within the immediate project area that could be potentially impacted by the Proposed Action alternative. PHMSA has not identified any indirect or cumulative effects to groundwater or hazardous materials.

Mitigation Measures:

In the event of a release of hazardous materials/waste into the environment during construction, Deshler shall notify the appropriate emergency response agencies, potentially impacted residents, and regulatory agencies of the release or exposure.

Deshler shall implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan which will identify appropriate construction and restoration activities to minimize the potential impacts to groundwater. All impacted areas would be restored to pre-construction conditions.

Soils	
Will all bare soils be stabilized using methods described in the initial Tier 2 EA worksheet? Will additional measures be required?	Yes, erosion and sediment control would be utilized during the project. All impacted areas would be restored to pre-construction contours.
Will the project require unique impacts related to soils?	No
Conclusion:	
PHMSA obtained a soil map for the project area from the USDA, NRCS's web soil survey which indicates that the project area is comprised of approximately 97% Hoytville, 12% Urban Land, 6% Nappanee, and 1% water (See	

⁷ Insert Gas Main Flexible Liners at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-06/documents/insertgasmainflexibleliners.pdf#:~:text=Methane%20emissions%20reductions%20come%20from%20lower%20leakage%20rates,pipe%20and%20external%20corrosion%20in%20unprotected%20steel%20piping.>

Appendix C, Water Resources, for a soils map).⁸

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, the bare steel pipes would remain in their current location and soils would remain in their current state and condition. Normal maintenance activities would occur. Some soil disturbance would occur during maintenance activities. The impacted areas would be backfilled with sand, clean soils, and gravel and paved daily. Under either scenario, no adverse impacts to soils would be anticipated under the No Action alternative.

Proposed Action:

The pipeline would be installed approximately 36 inches deep and in a 12-inch-wide trench where trenching is required. The trench would be backfilled with sand, clean soils, and gravel and paved daily. Therefore, PHMSA's assessment is that there would be no adverse impacts associated with soils resulting from the Proposed Action alternative. Additionally, there are no indirect or cumulative impacts anticipated as Deshler would restore all areas to pre-construction conditions.

Mitigation Measures:

Deshler shall utilize best management practices, as appropriate, to control sediment and erosion during construction which may include silt fencing, check dams, and promptly covering all bare areas. All impacted areas shall be restored to pre-construction conditions.

Biological Resources	
Question	Information and Justification
Based on review of IPaC and NOAA Fisheries database, are there any federally threatened or endangered species and/or critical habitat potentially occurring within the geographic range of the project area? ⁹ If no, no further analysis is required.	Yes, based on review of the USFWS's Information for Planning and Consultation (IpaC). Additionally, Ohio state resources were inventoried to identify potential state listed species.
Will the project impact any areas in or adjacent to habitat for Federally, listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat? If no, provide justification and avoidance measures. If yes, PHMSA will work with the project proponent to conduct necessary consultation with resource agencies.	No.
Conclusion: <p>The project area is built out and is comprised of both commercial and residential areas. The only areas that contain vegetation and pervious surfaces are located in residential backyards or vegetated buffer areas along the streets. PHMSA requested an official species list through the USFWS's IpaC website. See Appendix D, Biological Resources, for the IPaC species list. The northern long-eared bat (NLEB), (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>), Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>) and the proposed endangered tricolored bat, (<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>) could potentially occur within the project boundary based on the project's location. Additionally, an experimental population of whooping crane (<i>Grus americana</i>) and a candidate species, monarch butterfly (<i>Danaus plexippus</i>) were identified as a species that could potentially occur in the</p>	

⁸ <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>

⁹ <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/> and <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species-directory/threatened-endangered>

project area. There is no designated critical habitat within the project area. Additionally, the Ohio Division of Wildlife inventory was reviewed to assist in identifying potential species protected by the State. A list of state listed species can be found in Appendix D, Biological Resources.

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, existing conditions would remain, and normal maintenance activities would occur. The project area is in an urbanized environment and therefore has very limited biological resources present. Additionally, the project area does not contain suitable habitat for listed species, therefore no impacts to biological resources would occur under the No Action alternative.

Proposed Action:

The project area is in an urbanized environment where the areas of disturbance would be mainly within/under existing paved streets. The new metering station is located within agricultural land adjacent to county roads. Because these areas are within ROW that has been previously impacted (pipeline laid in the ground in close proximity to the location where new pipes would be laid and subsequently paved), the immediate project area has very limited biological resources present. Additionally, the project area does not contain suitable habitat for species potentially occurring within the project area. Therefore, in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act¹⁰ PHMSA's assessment is that the project would have no effect to federally threatened or endangered species Under Section 7(a)(4) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Federal agencies must confer with the USFWS if their action would jeopardize the continued existence of a proposed species. As a candidate species, the monarch butterfly receives no statutory protection under the ESA. The tricolored bat is proposed for listing and the project is unlikely to jeopardize this species existence. PHMSA's assessment is that the project would have no adverse impacts to state listed species or other biological resources and that there are no indirect or cumulative impacts anticipated as no impacts to habitat or species would occur.

Mitigation Measures:

There are no biological resources identified in the project area and therefore, no mitigative measures are necessary.

Cultural Resources	
Question	Information and Justification
Does the project include any ground disturbing activities, modifications to buildings or structures, or construction or installation of any new aboveground components?	Yes, the Project would include ground disturbing activities, mainly focused on excavation. The Project would not disturb buildings or structures.
Is the project located within a previously identified local, state, or National Register historic district or adjacent to any locally or nationally recognized historic properties? This information can be gathered from the local government and/or State Historic Preservation Office. ¹¹	No
Does the project or any part of the project take place on tribal lands or land where a tribal cultural interest may	No

¹⁰ 50 CFR § 402.02

¹¹ Many SHPOs have an [online system](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/state-historic-preservation-offices.htm) at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/state-historic-preservation-offices.htm> that can tell you previously identified historic properties in your project area. The [National Register list](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm) at <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/database-research.htm> can also be accessed online.

exist? ¹²	
Are there any nearby properties or resources that either appear to be or are documented to have been constructed more than 45 years ago? ¹³ Does there appear to be a group of properties of similar age, design, or method of construction? Any designed landscapes such as a park or cemetery? Please provide photographs to show the context of the project area and adjacent properties.	Yes, Deshler was established in 1876 in conjunction with a railroad. Most buildings were constructed over 45 years ago. Most homes are of similar size and construction.
Has the entire area and depth of construction for the project been previously disturbed by the original installation or other activities? If so, provide any documentation of prior ground disturbances.	With the exception of the new regulator station, replacement would take place at a depth of 36 inches below ground level and adjacent to the existing lines.
Will project implementation require removal or disturbance of any stone or brick sidewalk, roadway, or landscape materials or other old or unique features? Please provide photos of the project area that include the roadway and sidewalk materials in the project and staging areas.	No
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>PHMSA must consider the impact of projects for which they provide funding on historic and archeological properties in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(1), the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is defined as the geographic area(s) within which the Undertaking may directly or indirectly affect historic resources. Based on the proposed scope of work, PHMSA has delineated the APE for this project to encompass the existing ROW, which includes the limits of disturbance and any staging or access areas. See Appendix E, Cultural Resources, for the APE.</p> <p>No Action:</p> <p>Under the No Action alternative, existing conditions would remain, and normal maintenance activities would occur. These activities could result in ground disturbance that might affect historic resources. However, no federal funding would be applied and therefore Section 106 would not be required.</p> <p>Proposed Action:</p> <p>U.S. DOT staff identified properties based on available information on previously identified historic properties in the APE, including the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) database and data received from the Ohio Division of Historical Resources. U.S. DOT staff also conducted research to determine if there are any previously unidentified properties within the APE that are 45 years of age or older and may be eligible for the NRHP. No NRHP-listed historic properties are within the APE. There are no known archaeological sites in the APE and based on the evaluation, there is low potential for intact significant resources in the APE and no additional survey is needed. See Appendix E, Cultural Resources for additional information about the APE and the properties identified.</p> <p>PHMSA has determined that there are no historic properties as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(l) within the APE. Therefore,</p>	

¹² The SHPO may have information on areas of tribal interest, or a good source is the [HUD TDAT website at https://egis.hud.gov/TDAT/](https://egis.hud.gov/TDAT/).

¹³ Local tax and property records or historic maps may indicate dates of construction.

in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.5, PHMSA finds that the Undertaking will result in No Historic Properties Affected.

A letter was sent on December 27, 2023 to the Ohio State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized tribes with a potential interest in the project area, and all consulting parties outlining the Section 106 process, including a description of the undertaking, delineation and justification of the APE, identification of historic properties and an evaluation and proposed finding of No Historic Properties Affected. PHMSA has requested comments on the Section 106 process, identification of historic properties, and proposed finding within 30 days of receipt of the letter. See Appendix E, Cultural Resources, for additional information.

Mitigation Measures:

Deshler shall notify PHMSA immediately of any changes to the scope of work that may change the impacts to historic properties or the areas that may be impacted, including location of work, depth of construction, or change in construction methods.

If, during project implementation, archeological features or human remains are discovered or effects to historic properties occur that were not anticipated during the Section 106 process, PHMSA must be immediately notified and all construction in the area of the discovery must halt until further direction is provided.

Section 4(f)	
Question	Information and Justification
Are there Section 4(f) properties within or immediately adjacent to the project area? If yes, provide a list of properties or as an attachment.	No Section 4(f) properties are located within or adjacent to the project area based on a review of available aerial photos and assessors' records for Henry County. ¹⁴
Will any construction activities occur within the property boundaries of a Section 4(f) property? If so, please detail these activities and indicate if these are temporary or permanent uses of the Section 4(f) property. Further coordination with PHMSA is required for all projects that might impact a Section 4(f) property.	No
Conclusion:	
<p>Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) Act of 1966 as amended (Section 4(f)) (49 U.S.C. § 303(c)); is a federal law that applies to transportation projects that require funding or other approvals by the USDOT. Section 4(f) prohibits the Secretary of Transportation from approving any program or project which requires the use of any publicly owned land from a public park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge of national, state, or local significance, or any land from an historic site of national, state, or local significance unless:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of the land;• The program or project includes all possible planning to minimize harm to such park, recreational area, wildlife and waterfowl refuge, or historic site, resulting from such use. <p>PHMSA conducted a review of properties that are located within the Project Area to identify properties that qualify as</p>	

¹⁴

https://henrycounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8e3356a4e1954356a80ef35dbd1c0358&query=HenryParcels_2106%2CPARCEL%2C400095450260

Section 4(f). No Section 4(f) properties are located within or immediately adjacent to the project area.

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no change to existing pipeline infrastructure pursuant to federal funding or approval authorized by the Program. Therefore, there would be no use of Section 4(f) property under the No Action alternative.

Proposed Action:

Under the Proposed Action alternative, construction activities would not occur within or adjacent to 4(f) properties. Therefore, there would be no use of Section 4(f) resources.

Mitigation Measures:

There are no 4(f) resources identified in the project area and therefore, no mitigation measures are necessary.

Land Use and Transportation	
Question	Information and Justification
Will the full extent of the project boundaries remain within the existing right-of-way or easements? If no, please describe any right-of-way acquisitions or additional easements needed.	In order to accommodate the new metering station, Deshler purchased an approximately .25 acre parcel of land. All other work would take place within existing ROW or easements.
Will the project result in detours, transportation restrictions, or other impacts to normal traffic flow or to existing transportation facilities during construction? Will there be any permanent change to existing transportation facilities? If so, what are the changes, and how would changes affect the public?	No, the project would not require detours or result in permanent changes to transportation facilities.
Will the project interrupt or impede emergency response services from fire, police, ambulance or any other emergency or safety response providers? If so, describe any coordination that will occur with emergency response providers?	No, the project would not interrupt or impede emergency response services.
Conclusion:	
The project is located in Deshler Ohio, an area comprised of both commercial and residential areas surrounded by agricultural land.	
No Action:	
Under the No Action alternative, leak prone pipes would remain in their current location. No changes to land use would occur. Normal maintenance activities would occur, and pipes would be replaced under failed circumstances.	

Proposed Action:

The pipeline would be installed within the existing infrastructure ROW with all work occurring under paved roadways or along street edges within previously disturbed soils associated with roadways. Any trenching or excavation pits would be backfilled with sand, clean soils, and gravel and paved or seeded daily. Therefore, PHMSA's assessment is that there would be no permanent change to land use. The project is replacing/upgrading the existing pipe and would not include new pipeline to serve any additional areas. Additionally, there are no indirect impacts anticipated as land use remains the same.

During construction, there may be short-term impacts to adjacent residences, businesses and normal traffic patterns. Potential impacts include an increase in noise, dust, and transportation accessibility, as a result of construction and construction staging. Local and state regulations guide the transport of machinery, equipment, and automobiles around the construction areas. Temporary traffic impacts may occur on the local road network and adjacent pedestrian routes that would require closure of one lane of traffic. The project would not result in detours. Regular flow of traffic would be maintained. Deshler would notify emergency services of the scheduled work. Therefore, because the work consists of the replacement of existing pipeline, would not convert any new areas into a different use and impacts would only occur during construction, PHMSA's assessment is that impacts related to land use are considered minor and temporary.

PHMSA considered the cumulative effects of this action with ongoing and planned transportation related construction projects that could cumulatively impact land use and transportation. Deshler currently has several paving, storm sewer, housing development, and water main related projects on going within or near the project area. All municipalities and businesses must abide by the same requirements and coordinate with state and local agencies on any disruptions to normal traffic patterns. Through this coordination, the overall cumulative effects of multiple projects occurring would be minimized by planning and scheduling efforts with responsible agency oversight. Land use changes are not anticipated as the projects are occurring in an urbanized area that is built out and therefore would not change the existing residential or commercial use.

Mitigation Measures:

Deshler shall implement the following mitigation measures:

- Develop and implement a Traffic Control Plan.
- Coordinate with emergency services and other agencies.
- Provide notification to residents and businesses of parking impacts.

Noise and Vibration

Question	Information and Justification
Will the project construction occur for longer than a month at a single project location?	No
Will the project location be in proximity (less than 50-ft.) to noise sensitive receivers (residences, schools, houses of worship, etc.)? If so, what measures will be taken to reduce noise and vibration impacts to sensitive receptors?	Yes, the project is located near residences, schools, houses of worship. Work would not be scheduled during early mornings or late evening hours. No work is to be scheduled or completed on Sundays or any other times that a house of worship may be conducting services or be in time of prayer. Notifications with contact numbers would be given to all residences, businesses, schools, and house of worships within the construction zone indicating the times and dates of any construction activities.

Will the project require high-noise and vibration inducing construction methods? If so, please specify.	No, high-noise and vibration inducing construction methods are not required.
Will the project comply with state and local ordinances? If so, identify applicable ordinances and limitations on noise/vibration times or sound levels.	No applicable local or state noise ordinances exist.
Will construction activities require large bulldozers, hoe ram, or other vibratory equipment within 20 feet of a structure?	No
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>The ambient noise within the project area consists of a combination of environmental noise from road traffic, construction, industry, the built environment, population density and other sources.</p> <p>No Action:</p> <p>Under the No Action, the project would not move forward and the pipelines along the designated streets in the project area would not be replaced at this time, and likely would not be replaced all at once. It is likely that these pipelines would be repaired or replaced due to a leak under emergency conditions only in the immediately affected areas. If replacement or repairs occur under emergency conditions, noise from construction equipment would add to that of the current ambient noise and would be of a shorter duration.</p> <p>Proposed Action:</p> <p>The pipeline replacement project would result in temporary construction noise impacts; however, no vibration impact should occur. Excavators, dump trucks, skid steers, rollers, pavers, and other similar construction equipment would be used to excavate a trench, lay pipe, compact soils and re-pave or regrade the affected areas. The use of construction equipment would result in temporary noise impacts. Construction for the project is anticipated to last 36 months. There are numerous sensitive noise receptors (residences, schools, houses of worship, etc.) located adjacent to the streets where work would occur. These receptors are likely to experience temporary noise impacts while outdoors in the vicinity of the work. Deshler has committed to limit both sound levels through implementation of the mitigation measures notes below. Therefore, the level of noise during construction is considered minor and would not result in vibration impacts.</p> <p>PHMSA considered the cumulative effects of this action with ongoing and planned transportation related construction projects that could cumulatively have an impact on the noise and vibration impacts within Deshler. There are several paving, storm sewer, housing development, and water main related projects on going within or near the project area which all contribute to increased noise. These other construction and maintenance projects may occur at the same time as the Proposed Action alternative and cause minor cumulative effects to noise during construction.</p>	
<p>Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>Deshler shall implement the following mitigation measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit activities to occur only during normal weekday business hours, when noise restrictions are not in place. • Work will not be scheduled during early mornings or late evening hours. No work is to be scheduled or completed on Sundays or any other times that a house of worship may be conducting services or be in time of prayer. • Provide notifications with contact numbers to all residences, businesses, schools, and house of worships within 	

the construction zone indicating the times and dates of any construction activities.

Environmental Justice	
Question	Information and Justification
Using the EPA EJScreen or census data ¹⁵ , is the project located in an area of minority and/or low-income individuals as defined by USDOT Order 5610.2(c)? If so, provide demographic data for minority and/or low-income individuals within ½ mile from the project area as a percentage of the total population.	Yes, based on review of socioeconomic data using the EPAs EJScreen, the population residing within the general project area contains 39% low income and 15% minority populations.
Will the project displace existing residents or workers from their homes and communities? If so, what is the expected duration?	No
Will the project require service disruptions to homes and communities? If so, what is the expected communication and outreach plan to the residents and the duration of the outages?	Yes, minor service disruptions may be required. Advanced notification of service disruptions would be arranged individually to accommodate the customer's schedule and to eliminate any prolonged gas outages. A segment construction schedule would be made available to customers/residents via the newspaper, utility bills and a personal contact. Outages should be limited to disconnect and reconnect time and would not exceed 1 to 2 hours.
Are there populations with Limited English Proficiency located in the project area? If so, what measures will be taken to provide communications in other languages?	No
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>PHMSA reviewed socioeconomic data using the EPAs EJScreen and found the population residing within the project area of Deshler Ohio contains 39% low income and 15% minority populations. The percentage of these populations is above the Henry County average. See Appendix F, Environmental Justice, for socioeconomic data.</p> <p>No Action:</p> <p>Under the No Action alternative, existing and planned pipeline activities, including construction and maintenance activities, would continue unchanged. The project proponent would continue to use leak prone pipe material that could lead to safety incidents and service disruptions. Additionally, if a pipeline segment is not repaired or replaced prior to failure, it is likely to be associated with even more emissions under the No Action alternative. Thus, emissions benefits to the community associated with repairing or replacing existing pipelines with updated material would not be achieved and the incident risks and leaks would remain. There may be some degree of air pollution associated with construction activity for maintenance and repairs of existing pipelines under the No Action alternative, either through planned repair or replacement efforts or unplanned, emergency repairs or replacements.</p>	

¹⁵ <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045222>

Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action alternative would result in an overall reduction in GHG emissions. Construction activities would result in minor temporary air quality impacts. Noise impacts associated with construction are anticipated to be minor. Traffic impacts would be temporary and only minor disruptions or delays would occur to one lane of traffic. However, removal of leak prone pipe would reduce leaks and the potential for incidents, resulting in an increase in pipeline safety across the system while also improving operation and reliability. Therefore, consistent with Executive Order 12898 and DOT Order 5610.2(c), PHMSA's assessment is that the project would not result in disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations, or other underserved and disadvantaged communities. The project would have an overall beneficial effect on environmental justice populations and would not result in indirect or cumulative impacts.

Mitigation Measures:

Deshler shall implement the following mitigation measures:

- Deshler shall coordinate with local community leaders and groups.
- Deshler shall provide advanced notification of service disruptions and construction schedule to all affected parties including resident and businesses adjacent to the project area.
- Deshler shall ensure service disruptions are limited to less than 2 hours in order to connect to new service lines.

Safety	
Question	Information and Justification
Has a risk profile been developed to describe the condition of the current infrastructure and potential safety concerns?	Yes, Deshler has a contract with KNG Energy to handle the operations, maintenance, and safety of the gas system. Under KNG Energy's DIMP program the current infrastructure and safety concerns are addressed.
Has a public awareness program been developed and implemented that follows the guidance provided by the American Petroleum Institute (API) Recommended Practice (RP) 1162?	Yes, KNG Energy has a public awareness program that is approved and monitored by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Office of Pipeline Safety and implemented within Deshler.
Does the project area include pipes prone to leakage?	Yes, the proposed project includes the replacement of bare steel lines installed in 1959. The steel lines were not installed to the standards of today and along with the age of the line there is corrosion and leaks on the system.
Will construction safety methods and procedures to protect human health and prevent/minimize hazardous materials releases during construction, including personal protection, workplace monitoring and site-specific health and safety plans, be utilized? If yes, document measures and reference appropriate safety plans.	Yes, a contractor that follows all the pipeline safety standards and OSHA requirements would be doing the installation. KNG Energy employees would be present and inspect safety operations during the construction process.
Has an assessment of the project been performed to analyze the risk and benefits of implementation?	Yes, under KNG Energy's DIMP program assessment, leaks have been identified.

Conclusion:

The proposed project would replace bare steel pipeline. Pipelines that are known to leak based on the material include cast iron, bare steel, wrought iron, and historic plastics with known issues (PIPES Act of 2020). PHMSA establishes safety regulations for all pipelines (49 CFR Parts 190-199). In 2011, following major natural gas pipeline incidents, DOT and PHMSA issued a Call to Action to accelerate the repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of the highest-risk pipeline infrastructure. Among other factors, pipeline age and material are significant risk indicators. Pipelines constructed of cast and wrought iron, as well as bare steel, are among the pipelines that pose the highest risk. PHMSA continues to encourage legacy pipeline repair or replacement to increase the safety of these segments of the gas distribution systems. Pipeline incidents can result in death, injury, property damage, and environmental damage.

No Action:

Under the No Action alternative, the bare steel pipes would remain in their current location state and condition. Normal maintenance activities would occur, and pipes would be replaced under failed circumstances. Safety risks resulting from existing leak prone pipes remaining in place would persist until the existing bare steel pipes are replaced.

Proposed Action:

The proposed project is necessary to replace unprotected bare steel. This replacement is in alignment with the Distribution Integrity Management Program. The project would replace leak prone pipe in Deshler, increasing the overall safety of the community.

The project would reduce the risk profile of existing pipeline systems prone to methane leakage and would also benefit disadvantaged rural and urban communities with the safe provision of natural gas. The project responds to the need to address the potentially unsafe condition of the natural gas distribution system of pipelines. The repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of pipelines would be constructed in accordance with industry best practices and would comply with all local, state, and federal regulations, including those for safety.

The abandonment of the existing pipeline would be conducted in accordance with PHMSA requirements found in 49 CFR 192.727 and 195.402(c)(10). These requirements include disconnecting pipelines from all sources and supplies of gas, purging all combustibles and sealing the facilities left in place. These requirements for purging and sealing abandoned pipelines would ensure that the abandoned pipelines are properly purged and cleaned and pose no risk to safety in their abandoned state. Therefore, PHMSA's assessment is that the replacement project would improve the overall safety of Deshler's infrastructure.

Mitigation Measures:

Deshler shall ensure their DIMP procedures are updated as necessary, the work is constructed in accordance with industry best practices and the project will comply with all local, state, and federal regulations, including those for safety.

III. Public Involvement

On November 9, 2022, PHMSA published a Federal Register notice (87 FR 67748) with a 30-day comment period soliciting comments on the "Tier 1 Nationwide Environmental Assessment for the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program." During the 30-day comment period, PHMSA received one comment letter from the APGA on various aspects of the program and air quality related analysis in the EA on December 9, 2022. This

APGA letter is available for public review at the Docket No: PHMSA-2022-0123.¹⁶ PHMSA reviewed the comment letter and determined the comments were not substantial and did not warrant further analysis. One comment provided by the APGA indicated that the majority of construction methods used for pipe replacements would be replacement by open trenching and that some may want to abandon the existing pipe rather than removing it for replacement. Any departures from methods described in the Tier 1 EA will require additional documentation from the project proponent, as reflected in this Tier 2.

As part of this Tier 2, PHMSA is soliciting public comments through a public comment period. This Tier 2 is available on PHMSA's website where comments can be submitted to the contact noted below. PHMSA will accept public comments for 30 days on this Tier 2. PHMSA will consider comments received and incorporate them in the decision-making process. Consultation with appropriate agencies on related processes, regulations, and permits is ongoing. Please submit all comments to: PHMSABILGrantNEPAComments@dot.gov and reference NGDISM-FY22-EA-2023-03 in your response.

¹⁶ <https://www.regulations.gov/document/PHMSA-2022-0123-0002/comment>

Appendix A: Project Map

VILLAGE OF DESHLER, OH
SEGMENT MAP

DESHLER, OH



SEGMENT #1



SEGMENT #2



SEGMENT #3



SEGMENT #4



SEGMENT #5



SEGMENT #6



Appendix B: Methane Calculations

Table 1 No Action Leak Rate

Pipeline Material Type	Average Rate (kg/mile/year)	Miles	Current Methane Leak Rate (kg/year)
Bare Steel	1491.80	4.54	6,780.9

Table 2 Proposed Action Leak Rate

Pipeline Material Type	Average Rate (kg/mile/year)	Miles	New Methane Leak Rate (kg/year)
Plastic	109.85	4.54	499
Total Annual Methane Reduction			6,281.6

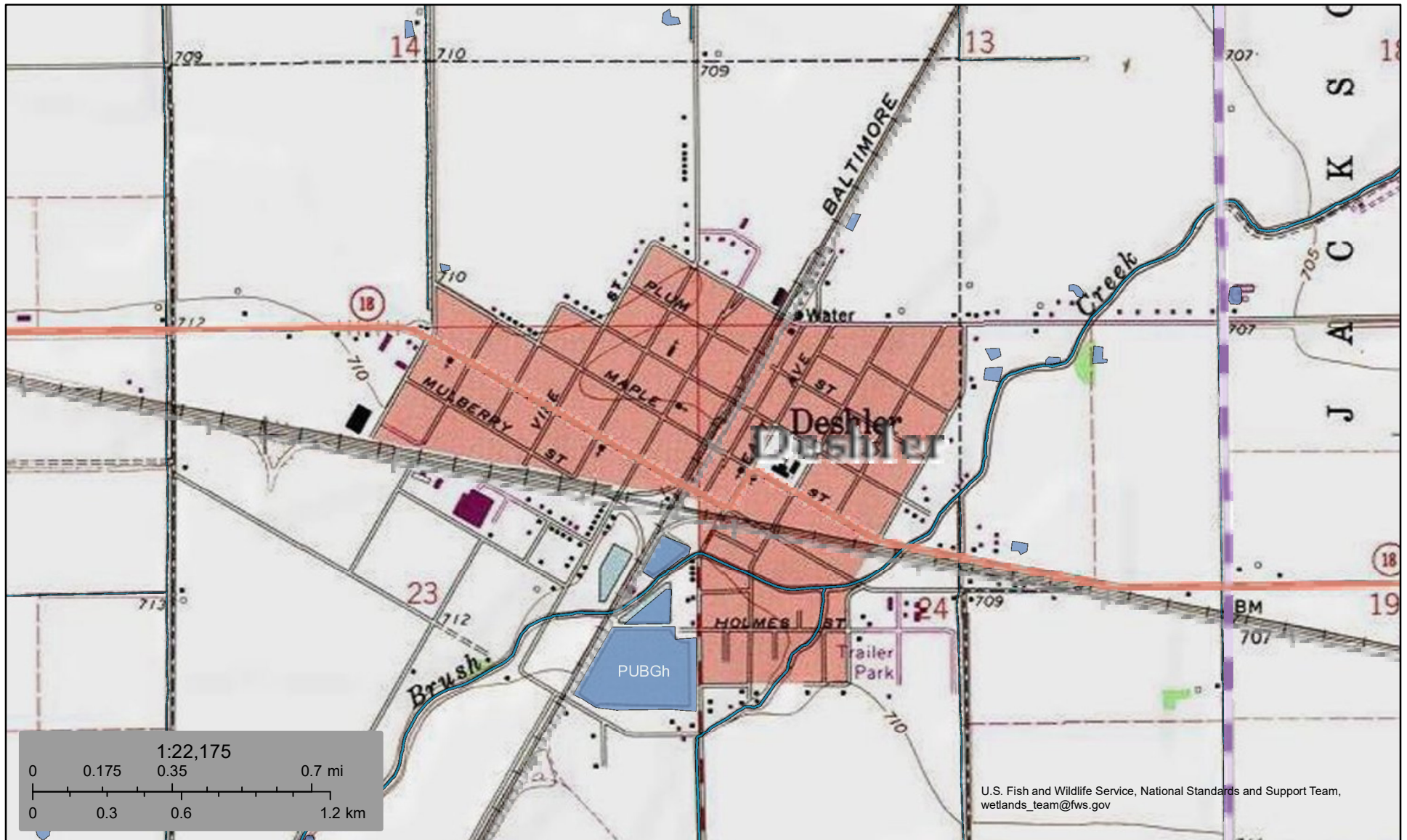
Appendix C: Water Resources



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

Wetlands



September 12, 2023

Wetlands

- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine Wetland

- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
- Freshwater Pond

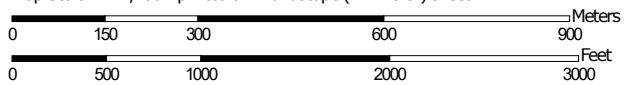
- Lake
- Other
- Riverine

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

Soil Map—Henry County, Ohio



Map Scale: 1:12,200 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.



Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge tics: UTM Zone 17N WGS84




**Natural Resources
Conservation Service**

Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey


9/11/2023
Page 1 of 3


MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons

 Soil Map Unit Lines

 Soil Map Unit Points

Special Point Features



Blowout



Borrow Pit



Clay Spot



Closed Depression



Gravel Pit



Gravelly Spot



Landfill



Lava Flow



Marsh or swamp



Mine or Quarry



Miscellaneous Water



Perennial Water



Rock Outcrop



Saline Spot



Sandy Spot



Severely Eroded Spot



Sinkhole



Slide or Slip



Sodic Spot



Spoil Area



Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot



Other



Special Line Features

Water Features



Streams and Canals

Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways



US Routes



Major Roads



Local Roads

Background



Aerial Photography

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:15,800.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Henry County, Ohio

Survey Area Data: Version 18, Sep 9, 2022

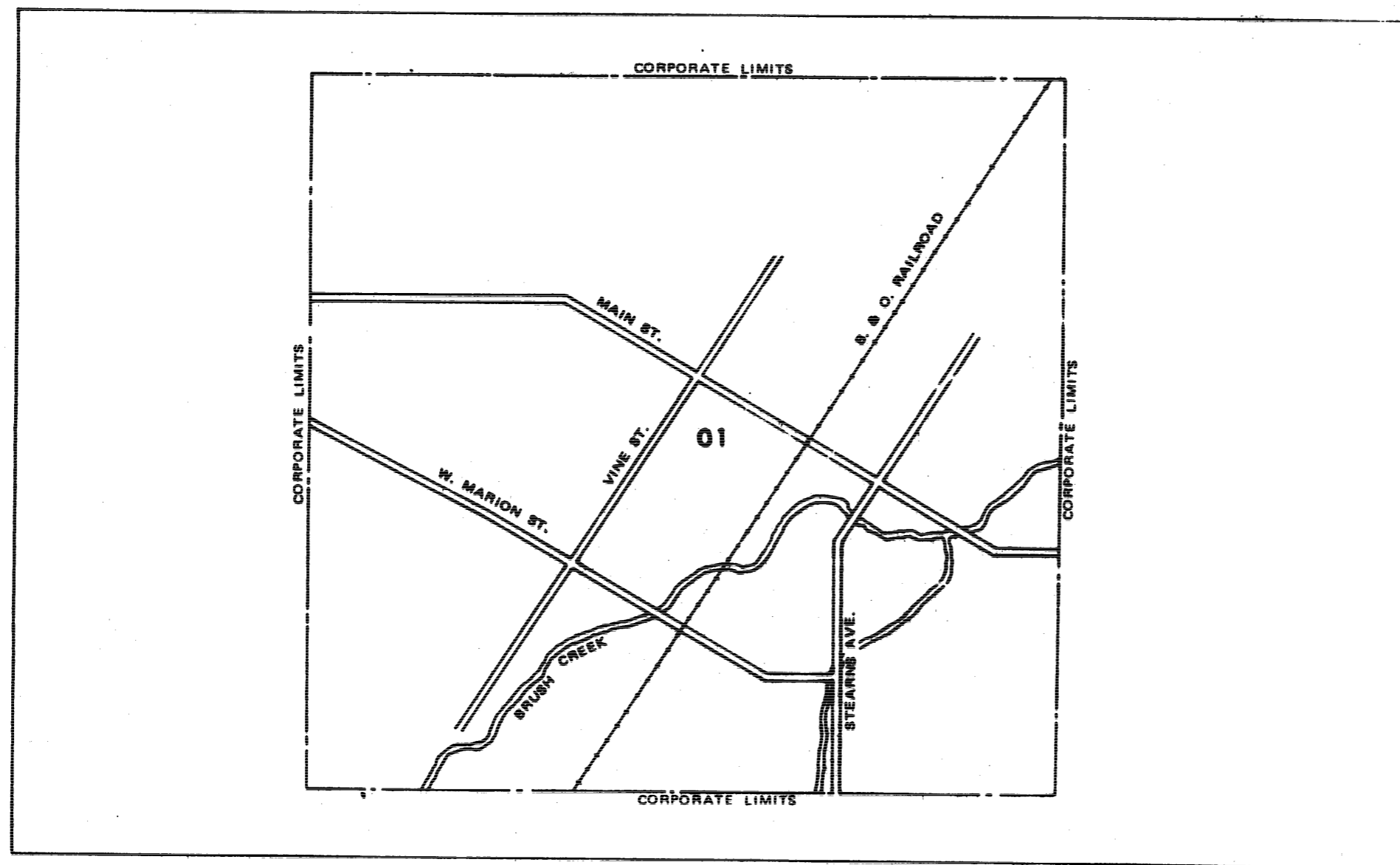
Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Jul 4, 2020—Jul 5, 2020

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

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
HcA	Hoytville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	647.6	97.0%
NtA	Nappanee silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	6.3	0.9%
Ur	Urban land	12.5	1.9%
W	Water	1.4	0.2%
Totals for Area of Interest		667.8	100.0%



LEGEND

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD
AREA WITH
DATE OF IDENTIFICATION



ZONE A
DATE

Note: These maps may not include all Special Flood Hazard Areas in the community. After a more detailed study, the Special Flood Hazard Areas shown on these maps may be modified, and other areas added.

CONSULT NFIA SERVICING COMPANY OR LOCAL INSURANCE AGENT OR BROKER TO DETERMINE IF PROPERTIES IN THIS COMMUNITY ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FLOOD INSURANCE.

INITIAL IDENTIFICATION DATE:

JULY 23, 1976

**THIS FHBM
CONVERTED BY
LETTER TO FIRM
EFFECTIVE
10/1/2015**

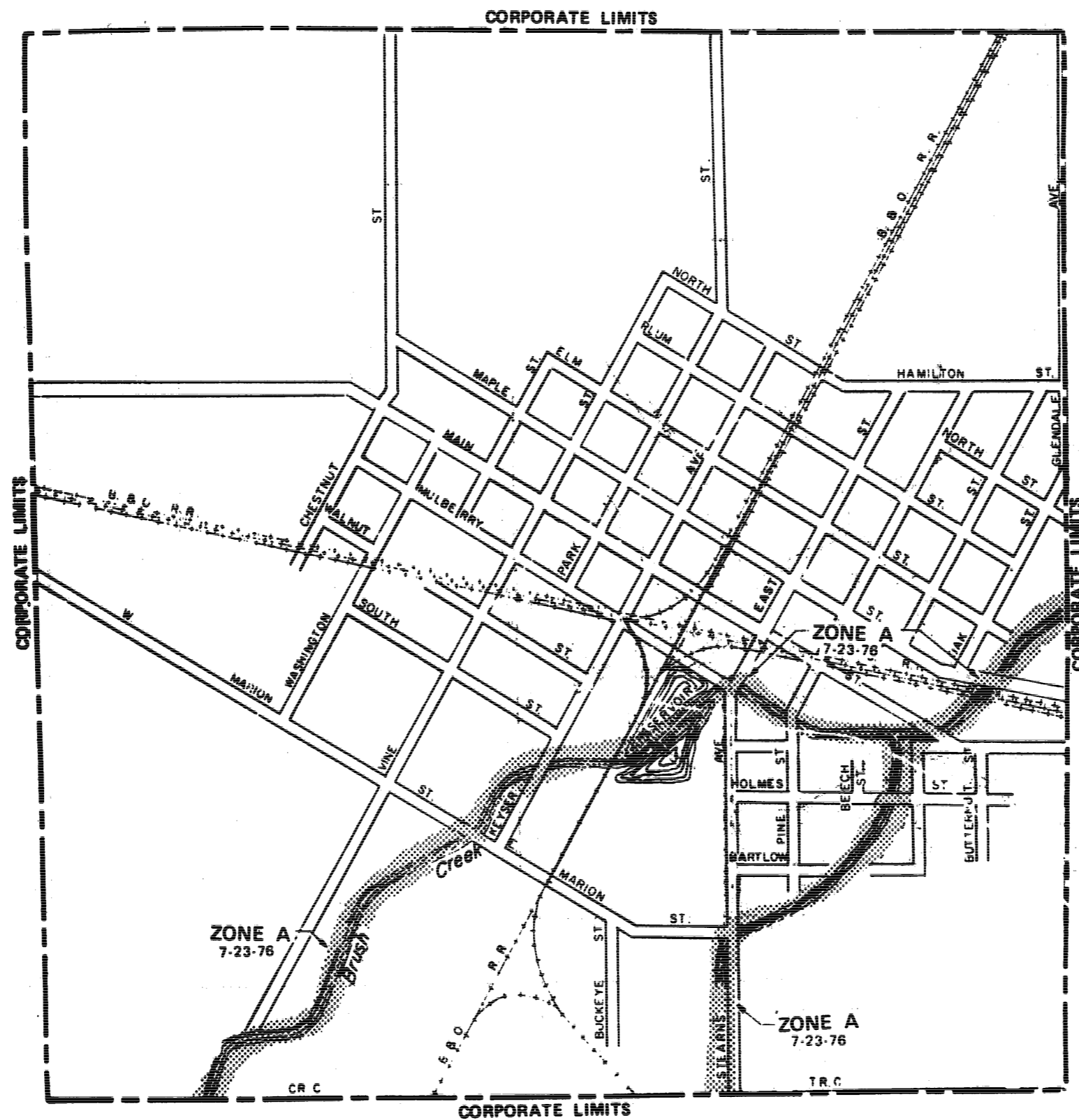
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Federal Insurance Administration

FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP H - 01

MAP INDEX

VILLAGE OF DESHLER, OH
(HENRY CO.)

COMMUNITY NO. 390262



**THIS FHBM
CONVERTED BY
LETTER TO FIRM
EFFECTIVE
10/1/2015**



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
Federal Insurance Administration
VILLAGE OF DESHLER, OH
(HENRY CO.)

APPROXIMATE SCALE
500 0 1000 2000 3000 FEET

FIA FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP
No. H 01

Effective Date:
JULY 23, 1976

Appendix D: Biological Resources



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ohio Ecological Services Field Office

4625 Morse Road, Suite 104

Columbus, OH 43230-8355

Phone: (614) 416-8993 Fax: (614) 416-8994



In Reply Refer To:

Project Code: 2023-0099361

Project Name: Deshler PHMSA Natural Gas Grant

June 29, 2023

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations.php>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/executive-orders/e0-13186.php>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Ohio Ecological Services Field Office

4625 Morse Road, Suite 104

Columbus, OH 43230-8355

(614) 416-8993

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2023-0099361
Project Name: Deshler PHMSA Natural Gas Grant
Project Type: Distribution Line - Maintenance/Modification - Below Ground
Project Description: The project will be to replace existing steel natural gas lines with plastic lines. This project will remain inside the Village of Deshler's corporation limits and will be completed in three stages with the last stage being completed in 2026. The project will be completed only during the months between May-September of each year. The project will be done by directionally drilling new gas lines within close proximity to the existing lines. All work will be done at depths of not more than 36 inches below ground level. The total amount of gas lines to be replaced is approximately 24000 linear feet.

Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@41.2073734,-83.90391916982566,14z>



Counties: Henry County, Ohio

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 5 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

-
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Endangered
Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515	Proposed Endangered

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i> Population: U.S.A. (AL, AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NC, NM, OH, SC, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, western half of WY) No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758	Experimental Population, Non- Essential

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Candidate

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION

Agency: Deshler village
Name: Kirk Behrman
Address: 935 W. Main St.
City: Deshler
State: OH
Zip: 43516
Email: kbehrman@deshler.org
Phone: 4199664270

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Department of Transportation



OHIO'S LISTED SPECIES

**WILDLIFE THAT ARE CONSIDERED TO BE
ENDANGERED, THREATENED, SPECIES OF CONCERN,
SPECIAL INTEREST, EXTIRPATED, OR EXTINCT IN OHIO**



Blanding's turtle
Emydoidea blandingii

photo by TIM DANIEL



WILDLIFE THAT ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ENDANGERED, THREATENED, SPECIES OF CONCERN, SPECIAL INTEREST, EXTIRPATED, OR EXTINCT IN OHIO

The Division of Wildlife's mission is to conserve and improve the fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, and promote their use and appreciation by the public so that these resources continue to enhance the quality of life for all Ohioans. The Division has legal authority over Ohio's fish and wildlife, which includes about 56 species of mammals, 200 species of breeding birds, 84 species and subspecies of amphibians and reptiles, 170 species of fish, 70 species of mollusks, and 20 species of crustaceans. In addition, there are thousands of species of insects and other invertebrates which fall under the Division's jurisdiction. Furthermore, Ohio law grants authority to the chief of the Division to adopt rules restricting the taking or possession of native wildlife threatened with statewide extirpation and to develop and periodically update a list of endangered species (Ohio Revised Code 1531.25).

The status of native wildlife species is very important to the Division. While the listing process identifies individual wildlife species needing protection, it also serves as a powerful tool in the

Division's planning process. It provides direction for the allocation of personnel time and funds in Division programs and projects.

The first list of Ohio's endangered wildlife was adopted in 1974 and included 71 species. An extensive examination of the list is conducted every five years. The Division seeks input from our staff along with other noted professional and amateur wildlife experts across Ohio. In 2001, as part of our comprehensive management plan, the Division initiated a reevaluation of the endangered species list. During this process, the need for an additional state-list category was recognized and has been designated as "Special Interest." The name of the previous special interest category has been changed to "Species of Concern," but retains its original definition.

Therefore, in addition to endangered the Division uses five other categories: threatened, species of concern, special interest, extirpated, and extinct, to further define the status of selected wildlife. These categories and the species contained within them are dynamic and will be revised as our knowledge of the status of Ohio's wildlife evolves.

Definitions of these categories, a summary of the numbers of species and subspecies in each category, and the list of species and subspecies in each category follow:

- **ENDANGERED** - A native species or subspecies threatened with extirpation from the state. The danger may result from one or more causes, such as habitat loss, pollution, predation, interspecific competition, or disease.
- **THREATENED** - A species or subspecies whose survival in Ohio is not in immediate jeopardy, but to which a threat exists. Continued or increased stress will result in its becoming endangered.
- **SPECIES OF CONCERN** - A species or subspecies which might become threatened in Ohio under continued or increased stress. Also, a species or subspecies for which there is some concern but for which information is insufficient to permit an adequate status evaluation. This category may contain species designated as a furbearer or game species but whose statewide population is dependent on the quality and/or quantity of habitat and is not adversely impacted by regulated harvest.
- **SPECIAL INTEREST** - A species that occurs periodically and is capable of breeding in Ohio. It is at the edge of a larger, contiguous range with viable population(s) within the core of its range. These species have no federal endangered or threatened status, are at low breeding densities in the state, and have not been recently released to enhance Ohio's wildlife diversity. With the exception of efforts to conserve occupied areas, minimal management efforts will be directed for these species because it is unlikely to result in significant increases in their populations within the state.
- **EXTIRPATED** - A species or subspecies that occurred in Ohio at the time of European settlement and that has since disappeared from the state.
- **EXTINCT** - A species or subspecies that occurred in Ohio at the time of European settlement and that has since disappeared from its entire range.

**Number of Species in Major Taxa Classified as
Endangered, Threatened, Species of Concern, Special Interest,
Extirpated, or Extinct in Ohio**

Taxon	Endangered	Threatened	Species of Concern	Special Interest	Extirpated	Extinct
Amphibians	5	1	2	0	0	0
Bees	1	0	0	0	0	0
Beetles	3	2	7	0	0	1
Birds	10	6	21	43	5	2
Butterflies	8	1	11	1	2	0
Crayfishes	1	2	2	0	0	0
Crickets	0	0	1	0	0	0
Damselflies	6	2	3	0	1	0
Dragonflies	20	8	7	0	1	0
Fishes	26	9	8	0	6	2
Isopods	2	1	0	0	0	0
Mammals	6	1	17	2	10	0
Mollusks	23	5	11	0	11	6
Moths	14	4	22	11	0	0
Pseudoscorpions	1	0	0	0	0	0
Reptiles	5	4	11	0	0	0
Total	131	46	123	57	36	11

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OHIO's ENDANGERED SPECIES

NOTE: *E & *T denote federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
listed endangered and threatened species respectively.

AMPHIBIANS **ENDANGERED**

Blue-spotted salamander	<i>Ambystoma laterale</i>
Cave salamander	<i>Eurycea lucifuga</i>
Eastern hellbender	<i>Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis</i>
Eastern spadefoot	<i>Scaphiopus holbrookii</i>
Green salamander	<i>Aneides aeneus</i>

BEES **ENDANGERED**

Rusty patched bumble bee *E	<i>Bombus affinis</i>
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BEETLES **ENDANGERED**

American burying beetle *E	<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>
Ohio cave beetle	<i>Pseudanophthalmus ohioensis</i>
Water penny beetle	<i>Dicranopselaphus variegatus</i>

BIRDS **ENDANGERED**

American bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>
Black tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>
Common tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
King rail	<i>Rallus elegans</i>
Lark sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>
Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>
Northern harrier	<i>Circus hudsonius</i>
Piping plover *E	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>
Snowy egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>
Upland sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>

BUTTERFLIES **ENDANGERED**

Aphrodite fritillary	<i>Speyeria aphrodite aphrodite</i>
Dreamy duskywing	<i>Erynnis icelus</i>
Frosted elfin	<i>Callophrys irus</i>
Grizzled skipper	<i>Pyrgus centaureae wyandot</i>
Karner blue *E	<i>Lycaeides melissa samuelis</i>
Persius dusky wing	<i>Erynnis persius</i>
Purplish copper	<i>Lycaena helloides</i>
Swamp metalmark	<i>Calephelis muticum</i>

CRAYFISHES **ENDANGERED**

Blue crawfish	<i>Cambarus monongalensis</i>
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DAMSELFLIES **ENDANGERED**

Boreal bluet	<i>Enallagma boreale</i>
Hagen's bluet	<i>Enallagma hageni</i>
Marsh bluet	<i>Enallagma ebrium</i>
Northern bluet	<i>Enallagma annexum</i>
River jewelwing	<i>Calopteryx aequabilis</i>
Taiga Bluet	<i>Coenagrion resolutum</i>

DRAGONFLIES **ENDANGERED**

Allegheny River Cruiser	<i>Macromia alleghaniensis</i>
American emerald	<i>Cordulia shurtleffi</i>
Brush-tipped emerald	<i>Somatochlora walshii</i>
Canada darner	<i>Aeshna canadensis</i>
Chalk-fronted corporal	<i>Ladona julia</i>
Elfin skimmer	<i>Nannothemis bella</i>
Four-spotted Skimmer	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>
Frosted whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia frigida</i>
Golden-winged Skimmer	<i>Libellula auripennis</i>
Hine's emerald Skimmer *E	<i>Somatochlora hineana</i>
Little Blue Dragonlet	<i>Erythrodiplax minuscule</i>
Mottled darner	<i>Aeshna clepsydra</i>
Racket-tailed emerald	<i>Dorocordulia libera</i>
Riffle snaketail	<i>Ophiogomphus carolus</i>
Skillet Clubtail	<i>Gomphurus ventricosus</i>
Slender Baskettail	<i>Epithea costalis</i>
Smoky Shadowdragon	<i>Neurocordulia molesta</i>
Stygian Shadowdragon	<i>Neurocordulia yamaskansiensis</i>
Uhler's sundragon	<i>Helocordulia uhleri</i>
Yellow-sided skimmer	<i>Libellula flava</i>

FISHES **ENDANGERED**

Alligator gar	<i>Atractosteus spatula</i>
Bigeye shiner	<i>Notropis boops</i>
Blacknose shiner	<i>Notropis heterolepis</i>
Brook trout	<i>Salvelinus fontinalis</i>
Cisco (or Lake herring)	<i>Coregonus artedii</i>
Gilt darter	<i>Percina evides</i>
Goldeye	<i>Hiodon alosoides</i>
Iowa darter	<i>Etheostoma exile</i>
Lake sturgeon	<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>

FISHES (CONT.) ENDANGERED

Longhead darter	<i>Percina macrocephala</i>
Longnose sucker	<i>Catostomus catostomus</i>
Mountain brook lamprey	<i>Ichthyomyzon greeleyi</i>
Northern brook lamprey	<i>Ichthyomyzon fossor</i>
Northern madtom	<i>Noturus stigmatosus</i>
Ohio lamprey	<i>Ichthyomyzon bdellium</i>
Pirate perch	<i>Aphredoderus sayanus</i>
Popeye shiner	<i>Notropis ariommus</i>
Pugnose minnow	<i>Opsopoeodus emiliae</i>
Scioto madtom *E	<i>Noturus trautmani</i>
Shoal chub	<i>Macrhybopsis hyostoma</i>
Shortnose gar	<i>Lepisosteus platostomus</i>
Shovelnose sturgeon	<i>Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus</i>
Spotted darter	<i>Etheostoma maculatum</i>
Spotted gar	<i>Lepisosteus oculatus</i>
Tonguetied minnow	<i>Exoglossum laurae</i>
Western banded killifish	<i>Fundulus diaphanus menona</i>

ISOPODS ENDANGERED

Fern cave isopod	<i>Caecidotea filicispelunca</i>
Kindt's cave isopod	<i>Caecidotea insula</i>

MAMMALS ENDANGERED

Allegheny woodrat	<i>Neotoma magister</i>
Black bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>
Indiana bat *E	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>
Little brown bat	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>
Northern long-eared bat *T	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>
Tricolored bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>

MOLLUSKS ENDANGERED

Butterfly	<i>Ellipsaria lineolata</i>
Clubshell *E	<i>Pleurobema clava</i>
Ebonyshell	<i>Reginia ebenus</i>
Elephant-ear	<i>Elliptio crassidens crassidens</i>
Fanshell *E	<i>Cyprogenia stegaria</i>
Little spectaclecase	<i>Villosa lienosa</i>
Long-solid	<i>Fusconaia subrotunda</i>
Monkeyface	<i>Theliderma metanevra</i>
Northern riffleshell *E	<i>Epioblasma rangiana</i>
Ohio pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema cordatum</i>
Pink mucket *E	<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i>
Pocketbook	<i>Lampsilis ovata</i>

MOLLUSKS (CONT.) ENDANGERED

Purple catspaw *E	<i>Epioblasma obliquata</i>
Purple lilliput	<i>Toxolasma lividum</i>
Pyramid pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema rubrum</i>
Rabbitsfoot *T	<i>Theliderma cylindrica</i>
Rayed bean *E	<i>Villosa fabalis</i>
Sheepnose *E	<i>Plethobasus cyphus</i>
Snuffbox *E	<i>Epioblasma triquetra</i>
Wartyback	<i>Cyclonaias nodulata</i>
Washboard	<i>Megalonaia nervosa</i>
White catspaw *E	<i>Epioblasma perobliqua</i>
Yellow sandshell	<i>Lampsilis teres</i>

MOTHS ENDANGERED

Graceful underwing	<i>Catocala gracilis</i>
Hebard's noctuid moth	<i>Erythroecia hebardii</i>
Pointed sallow	<i>Epiglaea apiata</i>
Unexpected cynia	<i>Cynia inopinatus</i>
—	<i>Spartiniphaga inops</i>
—	<i>Hypocoena enervata</i>
—	<i>Papaipema silphii</i>
—	<i>Papaipema beeriana</i>
—	<i>Lithophane semiusta</i>
—	<i>Trichoclea artesta</i>
—	<i>Tricholita notata</i>
—	<i>Melanchra assimilis</i>
—	<i>Ufeus plicatus</i>
—	<i>Ufeus satyricus</i>

PSEUDOSCORPIONS ENDANGERED

Buckskin cave pseudoscorpion	<i>Apochthonius hobbsi</i>
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REPTILES ENDANGERED

Copper-belly water snake *T	<i>Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta</i>
Eastern Massasauga*T	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>
Plains garter snake	<i>Thamnophis radix</i>
Smooth greensnake	<i>Opheodrys vernalis</i>
Timber rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>

OHIO's THREATENED SPECIES

NOTE: *E & *T denote federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
listed endangered and threatened species respectively.

AMPHIBIANS THREATENED

Midland Mud salamander	<i>Pseudotriton montanus diastictus</i>
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BEETLES THREATENED

Cobblestone tiger beetle	<i>Cicindela marginipennis</i>
—	<i>Cicindela hirticollis</i>

BIRDS THREATENED

Barn owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>
Black-crowned night-heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Least bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>
Rufa red knot *T	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>
Sandhill crane	<i>Antigone canadensis</i>
Trumpeter swan	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>

BUTTERFLIES THREATENED

Silver-bordered fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>
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CRAYFISHES THREATENED

Cavespring crayfish	<i>Cambarus tenebrosus</i>
Crawzilla crawdad	<i>Lacunicambarus chimera</i>

DAMSELFLIES THREATENED

Paiute Dancer	<i>Argia alberta</i>
Seepage dancer	<i>Argia bipunctulata</i>

DRAGONFLIES THREATENED

Beaverpond Baskettail	<i>Epitheca canis</i>
Double-ringed Pennant	<i>Celithemis verna</i>
Green-faced clubtail	<i>Gomphus viridifrons</i>
Harlequin darner	<i>Gomphaeschna furcillata</i>
Jade Clubtail	<i>Argomphus submedianus</i>
Ocellated Darner	<i>Boyeria grafiana</i>
Plains clubtail	<i>Gomphurus externus</i>
Southern Pygmy Clubtail	<i>Lanthus vernalis</i>

FISHES THREATENED

American eel	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>
Bigmouth shiner	<i>Notropis dorsalis</i>
Blue sucker	<i>Cycleptus elongatus</i>
Channel darter	<i>Percina copelandi</i>
Greater redhorse	<i>Moxostoma valenciennesi</i>
Lake chubsucker	<i>Erimyzon sucetta</i>
Mountain madtom	<i>Noturus eleutherus</i>
Paddlefish *M	<i>Polyodon spathula</i>
River darter	<i>Percina shumardi</i>

ISOPODS THREATENED

Frost cave isopod	<i>Caecidotea rotunda</i>
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MAMMALS THREATENED

Eastern harvest mouse	<i>Reithrodontomys humulis</i>
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MOLLUSKS THREATENED

Eastern pondmussel	<i>Ligumia nasuta</i>
Pondhorn	<i>Unimera tetralasmus</i>
Round hickorynut	<i>Obovaria subrotunda</i>
Salamander mussel	<i>Simpsonaias ambigua</i>
Slippershell mussel	<i>Alasmodonta viridis</i>

MOTHS THREATENED

The pink-streak	<i>Faronta rubripennis</i>
Wayward nymph	<i>Catocala antinympha</i>
—	<i>Fagitana littera</i>
—	<i>Spartiniphaga panatela</i>

REPTILES THREATENED

Blandings turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>
Kirtland's snake	<i>Clonophis kirtlandii</i>
Lake Erie watersnake	<i>Nerodia sipedon insularum</i>
Spotted turtle	<i>Clemmys guttata</i>

OHIO's SPECIES of CONCERN

NOTE: *E & *T denote federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
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AMPHIBIANS SPECIES OF CONCERN

Blanchard's cricket frog	<i>Acris blanchardi</i>
Four-toed salamander	<i>Hemidactylium scutatum</i>

BEETLES SPECIES OF CONCERN

Six-banded longhorn beetle	<i>Dryobius sexnotatus</i>
Whirligig beetle	<i>Gyrinus sinuatus</i>
—	<i>Cicindela ancocisconensis</i>
—	<i>Cicindela cuprascens</i>
—	<i>Cicindela cursitans</i>
—	<i>Cicindela macra</i>
—	<i>Cicindela splendida</i>

BIRDS SPECIES OF CONCERN

American coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>
Black-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>
Cerulean warbler	<i>Setophaga cerulea</i>
Chuck-will's-widow	<i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i>
Common gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>
Common nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>
Eastern whip-poor-will	<i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>
Grasshopper sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>
Great egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Henslow's sparrow	<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>
Marsh wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>
Northern bobwhite	<i>Colinus virginianus</i>
Prothonotary warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>
Red-headed woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>
Ruffed grouse	<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>
Sedge wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>
Sharp-shinned hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>
Sora rail	<i>Porzana carolina</i>
Vesper sparrow	<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>
Virginia rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>

BUTTERFLIES SPECIES OF CONCERN

Baltimore checkerspot	<i>Euphydryas phaeton phaeton</i>
Dusted skipper	<i>Atrytonopsis hianna</i>
Early hairstreak	<i>Erora laeta</i>
Harris' checkerspot	<i>Chlosyne harrisii</i>
Indian skipper	<i>Hesperia sassacus</i>
Leonard's skipper	<i>Hesperia leonardus</i>
Mottled duskywing	<i>Erynnis martialis</i>
Mustard white	<i>Pieris napi</i>
'Northern' southern hairstreak	<i>Satyrion favonius ontario</i>
Two-spotted skipper	<i>Euphyes bimacula</i>
West Virginia white	<i>Pieris virginianensis</i>

CRAYFISHES SPECIES OF CONCERN

Allegheny crayfish	<i>Faxonius obscurus</i>
Northern clearwater crayfish	<i>Faxonius propinquus</i>

CRICKETS SPECIES OF CONCERN

Laricis tree cricket	<i>Oecanthus laricis</i>
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DAMSELFLIES SPECIES OF CONCERN

Lilypad forktail	<i>Ischnura kellicotti</i>
Lyre-tipped Spreadwing	<i>Lestes unguiculatus</i>
Sphagnum Sprite	<i>Nehalennia gracilis</i>

DRAGONFLIES SPECIES OF CONCERN

Belted Whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia proxima</i>
Black-tipped Darner	<i>Aeshna tuberculifera</i>
Blue corporal	<i>Ladona deplanata</i>
Dusky Clubtail	<i>Phanogomphus spicatus</i>
Eastern Ringtail	<i>Erpetogomphus designatus</i>
Splendid Clubtail	<i>Gomphurus lineatifrons</i>
Tiger spiketail	<i>Cordulegaster erronea</i>

FISHES SPECIES OF CONCERN

Burbot	<i>Lota lota</i>
Lake trout	<i>Salvelinus namaycush</i>
Lake whitefish	<i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i>
Least darter	<i>Etheostoma microperca</i>
Longnose dace	<i>Rhinichthys cataractae</i>
Muskellunge	<i>Esox masquinongy</i>
Tippecanoe darter	<i>Etheostoma tippecanoe</i>
Western creek chubsucker	<i>Erimyzon clariformis</i>

MAMMALS SPECIES OF CONCERN

Badger	<i>Taxidea taxus</i>
Big brown bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>
Deer mouse	<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>
Eastern small-footed bat	<i>Myotis leibii</i>
Ermine	<i>Mustela erminea</i>
Gray Fox	<i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i>
Hoary bat	<i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>
Prairie vole	<i>Microtus ochrogaster</i>
Pygmy shrew	<i>Sorex hoyi</i>
Rafinesque's big-eared bat	<i>Corynorhinus rafinesquii</i>
Red bat	<i>Lasiurus borealis</i>
Silver-haired bat	<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>
Smoky shrew	<i>Sorex fumerus</i>
Southern bog lemming	<i>Synaptomys cooperi</i>
Star-nosed mole	<i>Condylura cristata</i>
Woodland jumping mouse	<i>Napaeozapus insignis</i>
Woodland vole	<i>Microtus pinetorum</i>

MOLLUSKS SPECIES OF CONCERN

Black sandshell	<i>Ligumia recta</i>
Creek heelsplitter	<i>Lasmigona compressa</i>
Deertoe	<i>Truncilla truncata</i>
Elktoe	<i>Alasmidonta marginata</i>
Fawnsfoot	<i>Truncilla donaciformis</i>
Kidneyshell	<i>Ptychobranchus fasciolaris</i>
Purple wartyback	<i>Cyclonaias tuberculata</i>
rainbow	<i>Villosa iris</i>
Round pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema sintoxia</i>
Threehorn wartyback	<i>Obliquaria reflexa</i>
Wavy-rayed lampmussel	<i>Lampsilis fasciola</i>

MOTHS SPECIES OF CONCERN

Bracken borer moth	<i>Papaipema pterisii</i>
Buck moth	<i>Hemileuca maia</i>
Columbine borer	<i>Papaipema leucostigma</i>
Goat sallow	<i>Homoglaea hircina</i>
Milnei's looper moth	<i>Euchlaena milnei</i>
One-eyed sphinx	<i>Smerinthus cerisyi</i>
Osmunda borer moth	<i>Papaipema pterisii</i>
Precious underwing	<i>Catocala pretiosa</i>
Purple arches	<i>Polia purpurissata</i>
Scurfy quaker	<i>Homorthodes furfurata</i>
—	<i>Macrochilo bivittata</i>
—	<i>Phalaenostola hanhami</i>
—	<i>Paectes abrostolella</i>
—	<i>Capis curvata</i>
—	<i>Tarachidia binocula</i>
—	<i>Melanapamea mixta</i>
—	<i>Agroperina lutosa</i>
—	<i>Chytonix sensilis</i>
—	<i>Amolita roseola</i>
—	<i>Brachylomia algens</i>
—	<i>Feltia manifesta</i>
—	<i>Agonopterix pteleae</i>

REPTILES SPECIES OF CONCERN

Eastern Black kingsnake	<i>Lampropeltis nigra</i>
Eastern foxsnake	<i>Pantherophis vulpinus</i>
Eastern gartersnake (melanistic)	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis</i>
Eastern hognose snake	<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>
Little brown skink	<i>Scincella lateralis</i>
Northern rough greensnake	<i>Opheodrys aestivus</i>
Ouachita map turtle	<i>Graptemys ouachitensis</i>
Queensnake	<i>Regina septemvittata</i>
Short-headed gartersnake	<i>Thamnophis brachystoma</i>
Smooth earthsnake	<i>Virginia valeriae</i>
Woodland box turtle	<i>Terrapene carolina carolina</i>

OHIO's SPECIAL INTEREST

NOTE: *E & *T denote federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
listed endangered and threatened species respectively.

BIRDS SPECIAL INTEREST

American black duck	<i>Anas rubripes</i>
Bell's vireo	<i>Vireo bellii</i>
Blackburnian warbler	<i>Setophaga fusca</i>
Black-necked stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>
Black-throated blue warbler	<i>Setophaga caerulescens</i>
Blue-headed vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>
Brown creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>
Canada warbler	<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>
Cattle egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Common merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>
Common raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Dark-eyed junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>
Fish crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>
Golden-crowned kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>
Golden-winged warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>
Green-winged teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Hermit thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>
Least flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>
Long-eared owl	<i>Asio otus</i>
Magnolia warbler	<i>Setophaga magnolia</i>
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>
Mississippi kite	<i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>
Mourning warbler	<i>Geothlypis philadelphia</i>
Nashville warbler	<i>Oreothlypis ruficapilla</i>
Northern pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>
Northern saw-whet owl	<i>Aegolius acadicus</i>
Northern shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>
Northern waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>
Pine siskin	<i>Spinus pinus</i>
Purple finch	<i>Haemorhous purpureus</i>
Red-breasted nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>

BIRDS (CONT.) SPECIAL INTEREST

Redhead	<i>Aythya americana</i>
Ruddy duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>
Short-eared owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>
Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>
Western meadowlark	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>
Wilson's phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>
Wilson's snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>
Winter wren	<i>Troglodytes hiemalis</i>
Yellow-bellied sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>
Yellow-crowned night-heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>
Yellow-headed blackbird	<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i>

BUTTERFLIES SPECIAL INTEREST

Olympia marble	<i>Euchloe olympia</i>
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MAMMALS SPECIAL INTEREST

Evening bat	<i>Myotis lucifugus</i>
Fisher	<i>Pekania pennanti</i>

MOTHS SPECIAL INTEREST

Slender clearwing	<i>Hemaris gracilis</i>
Subflava sedge borer moth	<i>Archanara subflava</i>
Variegated orange moth	<i>Epelis truncataria</i>
–	<i>Sphinx luscitiosa</i>
–	<i>Tathorhynchus exsiccatus</i>
–	<i>Catocala marmorata</i>
–	<i>Catocala maestosa</i>
–	<i>Caradrina meralis</i>
–	<i>Calophasia lunula</i>
–	<i>Leucania insueta</i>
–	<i>Protorthodes incincta</i>

OHIO's EXTIRPATED SPECIES

NOTE: *E & *T denote federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
listed endangered and threatened species respectively.

BIRDS EXTIRPATED

Bachman's sparrow	<i>Peucaea aestivalis</i>
Bewick's wren	<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>
Greater prairie-chicken	<i>Tympanuchus cupido</i>
Ivory-billed woodpecker	<i>Campephilus principalis</i>
Swallow-tailed kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>

BUTTERFLIES EXTIRPATED

Mitchell's satyr *E	<i>Neonympha mitchellii</i>
Regal fritillary	<i>Speyeria idalia</i>

DAMSELFLIES EXTIRPATED

Appalachian Jewelwing	<i>Calopteryx angustipennis</i>
-----------------------	---------------------------------

DRAGONFLIES EXTIRPATED

Plains Emerald	<i>Somatochlora ensigera</i>
----------------	------------------------------

FISHES EXTIRPATED

Blackchin shiner	<i>Notropis heterodon</i>
Diamond darter	<i>Crystallaria cincotta</i>
Great Lakes mottled sculpin	<i>Cottus bairdii kumlieni</i>
Mississippi silvery minnow	<i>Hybognathus nuchalis</i>
Pugnose shiner	<i>Notropis anogenus</i>
Spoonhead sculpin	<i>Cottus ricei</i>

MAMMALS EXTIRPATED

Bison	<i>Bison bison</i>
Lynx	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>
Marten	<i>Martes americanus</i>
Mountain lion	<i>Puma concolor</i>
Porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>
Rice rat	<i>Oryzomys palustris</i>
Snowshoe hare	<i>Lepus americanus</i>
Southern red-backed vole	<i>Myodes gapperi</i>
Gray wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>
Wapiti (Elk)	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>

MOLLUSKS EXTIRPATED

Cracking pearly mussel *E	<i>Hemistena lata</i>
Fat pocketbook *E	<i>Potamilus capax</i>
Hickorynut	<i>Obovaria olivaria</i>
Mucket	<i>Actinonaias l. ligamentina</i>
Orangefoot pimpleback *E	<i>Plethobasus cooperianus</i>
Ring pink	<i>Obovaria retusa</i>
Rough pigtoe *E	<i>Pleurobema plenum</i>
Scale shell	<i>Leptodea leptodon</i>
Spectaclecase	<i>Margaritifera monodonta</i>
White wartyback	<i>Plethobasus cicatricosus</i>
Winged mapleleaf *E	<i>Quadrula fragosa</i>

OHIO'S EXTINCT SPECIES

NOTE: *E & *T denote federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
listed endangered and threatened species respectively.

BEETLES EXTINCT

Kramer's cave beetle *Pseudanophthalmus krameri*

BIRDS EXTINCT

Carolina parakeet *Conuropsis carolinensis*

Passenger pigeon *Ectopistes migratorius*

FISHES EXTINCT

Blue pike *Sander vitreus glaucus*

Harelip sucker *Lagochila lacera*

MOLLUSKS EXTINCT

Cincinnati riffleshell *Epioblasma phillipsi*

Forkshell *Epioblasma lewisi*

Leafshell *Epioblasma flexuosa*

Round combshell *Epioblasma personata*

Scioto pigtoe *Pleurobema bournianum*

Tubercled blossom *Epioblasma torulosa torulosa*



For more information about Ohio's native wildlife, please contact the ODNR Division of Wildlife:

1-800-WILDLIFE
(1-800-750-0750 Ohio Relay TTY only)

WILDOHIO.GOV

If you want to support Ohio's listed species, consider mailing a donation to:

Wildlife Diversity Fund
2045 Morse Road, Bldg. G.
Columbus, OH 43229-6693

FUNDING INFORMATION

Funding for this publication was provided in part by donations to the state income tax checkoff program, sales of the cardinal license plate, and the Ohio Wildlife Legacy Stamp.

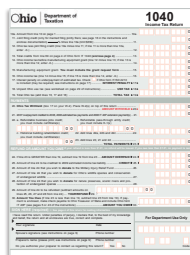
To purchase a Legacy Stamp:

Call the ODNR Division of Wildlife:
1-800-WILDLIFE or visit
WILDOHIO.GOV



To make a donation:

Go to the second page of the 1040 income tax form for the tax checkoff program



To purchase a license plate:

Visit your local registrar's office or call the BMV at
1-888-PLATES3



Appendix E: Cultural Resources



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 27, 2023

Mary Beth Hirsch
Director
Ohio State Historic Preservation Office
800 E. 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211

Section 106 Consultation: PHMSA Pipeline Replacement Project in Deshler, Ohio
Grant Recipient: Village of Deshler
Project Location: Village of Deshler, Henry County, Ohio

Dear Mary Beth Hirsch:

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) provides funds authorized under the Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program. PHMSA proposes to provide funds to the Village of Deshler (Village) to replace bare steel natural gas lines, replace service lines, and replace two metering stations with a new metering station (Undertaking). PHMSA is initiating consultation for the above referenced Undertaking in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the associated implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800 (Section 106).

Project Description/Background

The Village's current natural gas system has approximately 67,333 feet of natural gas mains and supplies 646 active customers. The Village plans to replace all bare steel natural gas lines in the gas system to prevent economic losses and greenhouse gas emissions and promote safety. The proposed pipeline and service line replacements will be completed over a period of 36 months and will take place in various areas around the Village within the existing right-of-way (ROW). Project location maps are enclosed in **Attachment A**. Photographs showing the overall character of the project areas are included in **Attachment B**.

Project activities include the following:

- Replace 24,000 feet (4.5 miles) of bare steel pipe natural gas lines that were installed in the late 1950s with polyethylene (PE) pipe of equivalent diameters:
 - Segment 1: Replace 4,610 feet of 2-inch bare steel natural gas pipelines with 2-inch PE main gas lines in the northwest section of the Village.
 - Segment 2: Replace 1,600 feet of 2-inch bare steel natural gas pipelines with 2-inch PE main gas lines in the northwest section of the Village.
 - Segment 3: Replace 225 feet of 2-inch bare steel natural gas pipelines with 2-inch PE main gas lines in the northern section of the Village.
 - Segment 4: Replace 8,240 feet of 2-inch bare steel natural gas pipelines with 2-inch PE main gas lines and replace 3,400 4-inch bare steel natural gas pipelines with 4-inch PE main gas lines in the northeast section of the Village.

- Segment 5: Replace 1,825 feet of 2-inch bare steel natural gas pipelines with 2-inch PE main gas lines in the southeast section of the Village.
- Segment 6: Install 4,100 feet of 6-inch bare steel natural gas pipelines with 2-inch PE main gas lines in the south section of the Village.¹
- Replace two undersized 1959 metering stations (located near W. North Street and E. Elm Street; see Photo 11 in **Attachment B**) with a single metering station on the west side of Segment 6 at the northeast corner of the Township Road 3 and County Road C intersection (see Photo 12 in **Attachment B**). The old metering stations, which are located inside a small steel enclosure, will be dismantled and demolished once the new metering station is constructed and fully online.
- Replace customer gas service lines that consist of any bare steel and test steel service lines that have already been replaced to make sure they are good quality and have proper tracing wire installed for future locating.
- Replace any outdated meter bars, regulators, and meters and relocate or vent meters that do not meet current PHMSA codes to reduce potential safety hazards.

Pipeline replacement will involve ground disturbance up to a depth of 3 feet and a width of up to 24 inches. The replacement PE gas lines will be installed 6 to 8 inches away from the existing bare steel gas lines and will contain two yellow 12-AWG solid tracing wires. The lines will be installed by directional drilling to reduce environmental impacts and property destruction. An excavator or backhoe will be used for installation where directional drilling is not applicable or when installing the taps, curb valves, or fusing main lines together. The replacement PE gas lines will be connected to existing PE lines that were installed in a previous replacement project, as needed. The replacement PE lines will be thermally fused and will have new fused tapping tees, Excess Flow Valves (EFVs), and new thermally fused curb valves. Replacement curb boxes with iron lids will be installed over the curb valves for easy locating and turning off in case of emergency.

Some of the 2-inch and 4-inch PE gas lines will be bored under the CSX Railroad tracks. The 4-inch PE main gas line will be cased inside of an 8-inch protective casing through CSX ROW, and the 2-inch PE main gas line will be cased inside of a 4-inch protective casing through CSX ROW.

Service line replacements will be completed using directional drill or a trencher. A mini excavator will be used to open both ends of the new service lines to connect the service lines to the new gas main and to the meter bar at the building. The depth of the new service line installations will be 18 to 30 inches with a trench width of 4 inches. The expected dimensions of the hole at each end of the new service lines will be no larger than 36 inches by 36 inches with a depth of 18 to 30 inches.

Ground disturbance for the metering station demolitions will be no more than 48 inches deep. The maximum trench width of the new metering station pipe installation will be 18 inches wide, and the maximum depth will be no deeper than 48 inches. The length and width of ground disturbance for the new metering station are estimated to be a maximum of 10-feet by 20-feet.

The staging area will be at 101 S. East Avenue, at the site of a demolished lumber company, which is located near the construction segments. The site contains several paved areas that will be used for staging. A photograph of the staging area is included in **Attachment B**.

Area of Potential Effects (APE)

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)(1), the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is defined as the geographic area(s) within which the Undertaking may directly or indirectly affect historic resources. Based on the proposed

¹ This section of new pipeline along County Road C in Segment 6 is not funded by PHMSA; however, it is needed to connect the new metering station to the existing system and is therefore being considered as part of the Undertaking in this consultation.

scope of work, PHMSA has delineated the APE for this Undertaking to encompass the existing ROW where pipeline replacements and metering station demolitions will take place, adjacent parcels where service lines and meter equipment may be replaced, the Village-owned parcel where the new metering station will be constructed, and the staging area at 101 S. East Avenue in Deshler. ROWs total 66 feet wide along the roads and 20 feet wide along the alleys. The APE includes the limits of disturbance and any potential limited visual effects from the metering station work. The pipeline and service line replacements do not have the potential to cause visual or audible effects after the completion of construction; additionally, the metering stations are small in scale, and any potential visual effects from the metering station work will be limited. The APE extends to the depth of proposed ground disturbance of up to 4 feet. The APE map is shown on the map in **Attachment A**.

Identification and Evaluation

To identify historic properties in the APE, U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) staff who meet the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Professional Qualification Standards reviewed available information on previously identified historic properties in the APE, including the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) database and the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) database. During the identification process, the Ohio Online Mapping System was unavailable, so U.S. DOT staff requested data from SHPO staff. U.S. DOT staff also conducted research to determine if there are any previously unidentified properties that are 45 years of age or older within the APE that may be eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Historic Architecture

There are no NRHP-listed above-ground resources within the APE. There are also no above-ground resources that have been previously determined eligible within the APE. Due to the scale and nature of the Undertaking, which is limited to the replacement of pipelines and service lines within the existing ROW and utility easements, the demolition of two existing metering stations within the existing ROW, and the construction of a new metering station, the identification effort for above-ground resources focused on identifying properties that are susceptible to the effects of pipeline or service line replacement and could experience diminished integrity as a result of the Undertaking. The metering stations are small in scale, and any potential visual effects from their demolition and construction will be limited. Furthermore, no lasting audible effects are anticipated. A review of the APE found no above-ground potentially significant resources that have the potential to be affected by the Undertaking.

Archaeology

There are no known archaeological sites or surveys within one mile of the APE. The pipeline replacements, service line replacements, meter equipment replacements, and metering station demolitions will take place within the existing ROW and utility easements, which have already been previously disturbed up to the proposed ground disturbance depth of 3 to 4 feet due to prior pipeline and service line installation, metering station construction, and/or the installation of other utilities, including water, sewer, cable, and natural gas utilities. As noted above, the replacement pipelines will be installed adjacent to the existing lines. Ground disturbance for the metering station demolitions will be limited to areas previously disturbed by their construction.

The new metering station will be installed on a Village-owned parcel at the corner of an intersection and adjacent to existing agricultural land. The soil type in this area is Hoytville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes, which is a deep or very deep, very poorly drained till. The soil types within the rest of the APE include: Hoytville silty clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes; Nappanee silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes; and urban land. Textures of Hoytville silty clay loam and Nappanee silty clay loam soils range from fine (clay) to coarse (sand), often having higher levels of clay and poor drainage. The urban land soils have been altered or obscured by urban works and structures. The APE is comprised of nearly all poorly drained soils,

which does not indicate suitable conditions for human habitation in both the pre-contact and historic periods. Proximity to major waterways generally indicates a suitable environment for both precontact and historic human activity; however, topographic maps reveal that much of the APE is not surrounded by major waterways.

Historic topographic maps from 1956 and 1960 and historic aerial photographs from 1956 were examined for archaeological resource potential within the APE. The presence of structures on historic maps and aerial photography may indicate the likelihood of historic period archaeological deposits associated with the occupation of these structures. The APE is comprised of the Village of Deshler and its immediate surroundings. The historic topographic maps and aerial photographs show numerous structures and development, such as schools, churches, businesses, municipal buildings, and railroad tracks located adjacent to the APE, which indicate a possibility of historic archaeological deposits associated with these locales. A review of Google Streetview shows that many of these structures are still standing. While archaeological deposits may exist within the APE, the pipeline and service line replacements and the gas meter demolitions are all occurring within the ROW, which contains previously installed utilities including water, sewer, cable, and natural gas utilities.

Staging will occur on paved surfaces to avoid compressing soils. Due to the lack of known archaeological sites and water sources in the vicinity of the APE, the poorly drained soils within the APE, and the existing ground disturbance throughout most of the APE, there is low probability for intact significant archaeological resources to be present, and no archaeological survey is recommended at this time. However, if during project implementation, a previously undiscovered archeological or cultural resource that is or could reasonably be a historic property is encountered or a previously known historic property will be affected in an unanticipated manner, all project activities in the vicinity of the discovery will cease and the project sponsor will immediately notify PHMSA. This may include discovery of cultural features (e.g., foundations, water wells, trash pits, etc.) and/or artifacts (e.g., pottery, stone tools and flakes, animal bones, etc.) or damage to a historic property that was not anticipated. PHMSA will notify the SHPO and participating federally recognized tribes and conduct consultation as appropriate in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.13. Construction in the area of the discovery must not resume until PHMSA provides further direction.

Determination of Effect

Based on the aforementioned identification and evaluation, PHMSA has determined that there are no historic properties as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(l) within the APE. Therefore, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.5, PHMSA finds that the Undertaking will result in No Historic Properties Affected.

Consulting Party Outreach

PHMSA identified parties that may be interested in the project and its effects on historic properties. PHMSA invites the individuals/organizations copied on this letter to participate as Section 106 consulting parties. Invited parties should indicate their willingness to participate as a consulting party and provide comments on the enclosed form (**Attachment C**) within 30 calendar days from the date on this letter. Note that a non-response is considered to be a declination to participate; however, interested parties can request to join consultation at any time in the process. If any invited party expresses concern about the project's potential effects to historic properties, PHMSA will consult with the party to resolve those concerns prior to project implementation.

PHMSA will also invite the following federally recognized tribes to participate in consultation by separate letter:

- Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
- Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan
- Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan
- Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

- Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Shawnee Tribe
- Wyandotte Nation

Request for Section 106 Concurrence

Based on the information presented above, PHMSA finds that the Undertaking will result in No Historic Properties Affected. PHMSA is submitting this Undertaking to your office for your review and comment. PHMSA requests your concurrence with this determination of effect within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter. Should you need additional information please contact Amy Hootman, Section 106 specialist, at PHMSASection106@dot.gov or 857-998-9981.

Sincerely,



Matt Fuller
Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

MF/ah

cc: Travis Mast, Environmental Protection Specialist, USDOT Volpe Center
Renee Taylor, PHMSA Grant Specialist
Don L. Parsons, Village of Deshler
Henry County Historical Society
Bartlow Township Historical Society

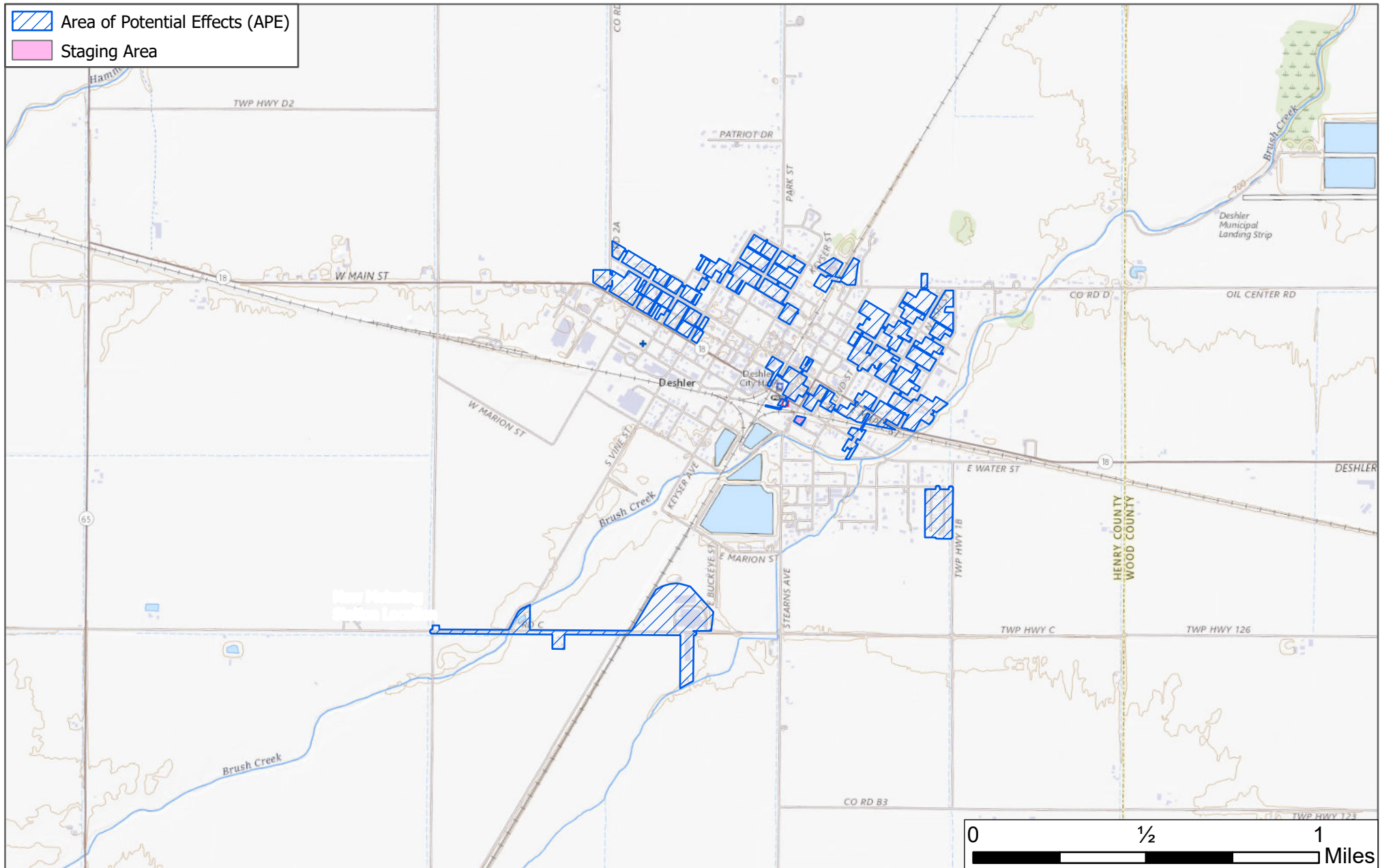
Enclosures:

Attachment A: Project Location and APE Maps
Attachment B: Photographs
Attachment C: Consulting Party Response Form

ATTACHMENT A

Project Location and APE Maps

Area of Potential Effects Map



Name: Deshler Ohio Gas Line Replacement

Scale: 24,000

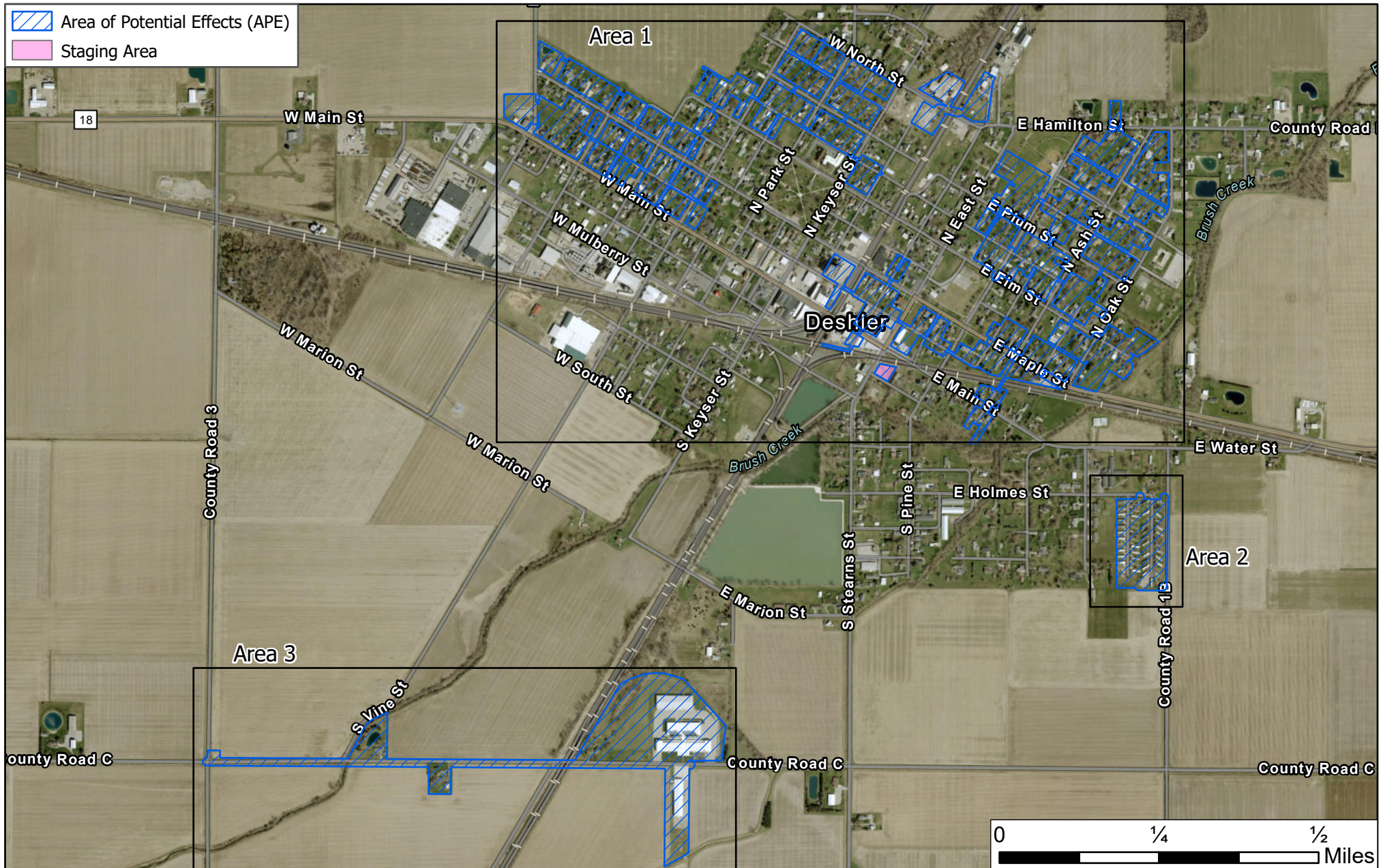
Total Acreage: 124

USGS Basemap: Deshler

Deshler, OH, Henry County

Service Layer Credits: USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, 3DEP Elevation Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; USGS Global Ecosystems; U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line data; USFS Road Data; Natural Earth Data; U.S. Department of State Humanitarian Information Unit; and NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, U.S. Coastal Relief Model. Data refreshed April, 2023.

Area of Potential Effects Map



Name: Deshler Ohio Gas Line Replacement
Scale: 13,000
Total Acreage: 124
Deshler, OH, Henry County



Service Layer Credits: Esri Community Maps Contributors, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, Woolpert, Maxar

Area of Potential Effects Map



Name: Deshler Ohio Gas Line Replacement

Scale: 6,500

Total Acreage: 124

Deshler, OH, Henry County

Area 1

N



Service Layer Credits: Woolpert, Maxar, Microsoft, Esri Community Maps Contributors, © OpenStreetMap, Microsoft, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, Woolpert, Maxar

Area of Potential Effects Map



Area of Potential Effects Map



ATTACHMENT B

Photographs

Attachment B: Photographs



Photo 1. Staging area at 201 S. East Avenue, view looking northwest.



Photo 2. Segment 1, alley between Park Street and N. Keyser Avenue, view looking east.

Attachment B: Photographs



Photo 3. Segment 1, alley between N. Park Street and N. Keyser Avenue, view looking northeast.



Photo 4. Segment 1, alley between N. Vine Street and N. Park Street, view looking southeast.

Attachment B: Photographs



Photo 5. Segment 2. N. Vine Street between W. Maple Street and W. Main Street, view looking northwest.



Photo 6. Segment 3, North Street near the CSX Railroad, view looking southeast.

Attachment B: Photographs



Photo 7. Segment 4, alley between Northeast Avenue and the CSX Railroad, view looking southeast.



Photo 8. Segment 4, E. North Street between N. Ash Street and N. Oak Street, view looking southwest.

Attachment B: Photographs



Photo 9. Segment 5, south of E. Holmes Street, view looking north.



Photo 10. Segment 6, County Road C, view looking west.

Attachment B: Photographs



Photo 11. Existing metering station near W. North Street.



Photo 12. Parcel where the new metering station will be constructed.

ATTACHMENT C

Consulting Party Response Form

Section 106 Consulting Party Response Form

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program

Project Name/Location:

Date:

Organization:

Name:

Affiliation:

Address:

Phone Number:

E-mail:

Please check one of the following:

- ☐ **Yes**, I, or my organization, would like to participate in consultation on the project's potential effects to historic properties. I, or my organization, has a legal or economic relation to the project or affected properties or have a concern with the project's effects on historic properties.
- ☐ **No**, I, or my organization, do(es) not wish to participate as a consulting party for the project.

Do you know of any other potential consulting parties that should be contacted? If so, please list the name, email, or other contact information below.

Comments:

Please return by:

Please return to: Katheryn Giraldo
USDOT Volpe Center
220 Binney Street, Cambridge, MA
E-mail: PHMSASection106@dot.gov

Appendix F: Environmental Justice



EJScreen Community Report

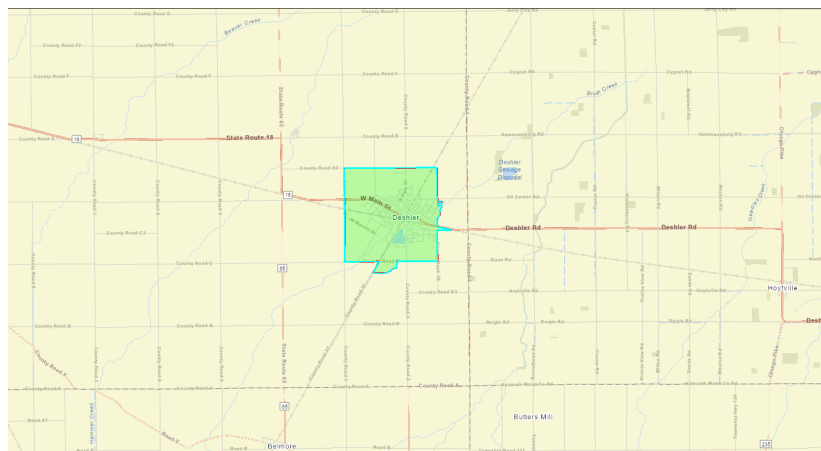
This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

Deshler, OH

City: Deshler

Population: 1,532

Area in square miles: 2.32



September 12, 2023

Project 1

1:72,224

0 0.5 1 2 mi

0 0.5 1 2 km

Esri, HERE, Garmin, TeleAtlas, GeoTechnologies, Inc., METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, VPS, USDA

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



Low income:
39 percent



People of color:
15 percent



Less than high
school education:
14 percent



Limited English
households:
1 percent



Unemployment:
4 percent



Persons with
disabilities:
13 percent



Male:
48 percent



Female:
52 percent

79 years

Average life
expectancy

\$31,208

Per capita
income



Number of
households:
666

Owner
occupied:
69 percent

BREAKDOWN BY RACE



White: 91%



Black: 0%



Asian: 0%



Hispanic: 13%



American Indian: 0%



Hawaiian/Pacific
Islander: 0%



Other race: 2%



Two or more
races: 7%

BREAKDOWN BY AGE



From Ages 1 to 4

5%



From Ages 1 to 18

24%



From Ages 18 and up

76%



From Ages 65 and up

14%

LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



Speak Spanish

0%



Speak Other Indo-European Languages

61%



Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages

0%



Speak Other Languages

39%

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

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	96%
Spanish	3%
German or other West Germanic	1%
Total Non-English	4%

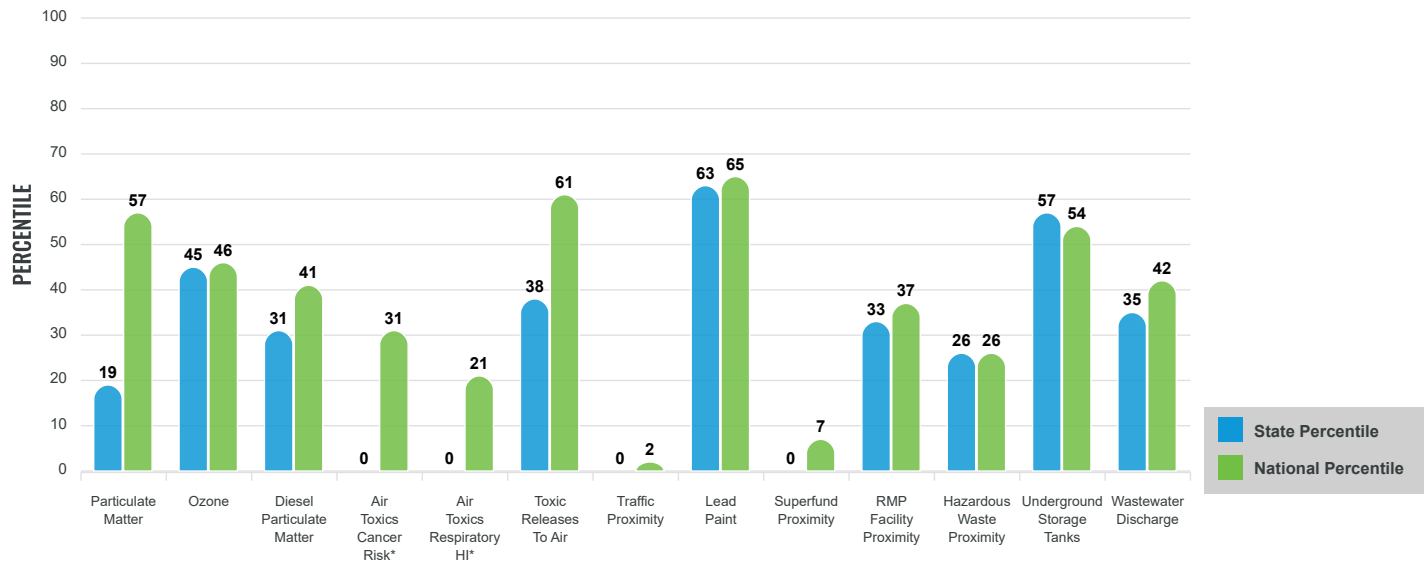
Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic information. There are thirteen EJ indexes and supplemental indexes in EJScreen reflecting the 13 environmental indicators. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the EJ and supplemental indexes, please visit the [EJScreen website](#).

EJ INDEXES

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

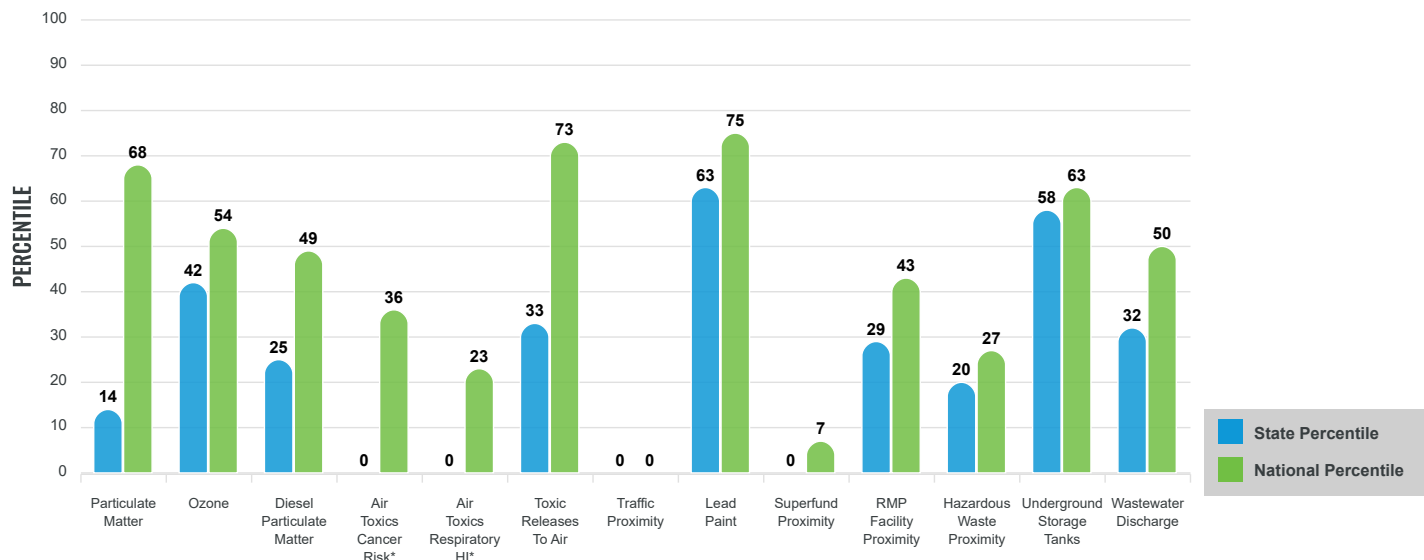
EJ INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES FOR THE SELECTED LOCATION



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

Report for City: Deshler

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	8.39	9.18	10	8.08	55
Ozone (ppb)	59.8	61.4	28	61.6	38
Diesel Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.153	0.261	15	0.261	32
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	22	0	25	5
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.2	0.25	0	0.31	4
Toxic Releases to Air	1,200	10,000	21	4,600	62
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	0.27	110	0	210	1
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.49	0.44	57	0.3	73
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.011	0.094	0	0.13	5
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.098	0.49	18	0.43	28
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.086	1.3	12	1.9	17
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	1.1	2.9	45	3.9	49
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.00021	0.47	22	22	36
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	27%	28%	61	35%	46
Supplemental Demographic Index	15%	14%	63	14%	63
People of Color	15%	24%	54	39%	30
Low Income	39%	33%	65	31%	68
Unemployment Rate	4%	6%	54	6%	52
Limited English Speaking Households	1%	1%	78	5%	59
Less Than High School Education	14%	10%	76	12%	69
Under Age 5	5%	6%	49	6%	50
Over Age 64	14%	18%	39	17%	44
Low Life Expectancy	19%	21%	28	20%	42

*Diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. Cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Update are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update>.

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	0
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	0
Water Dischargers	2
Air Pollution	3
Brownfields	0
Toxic Release Inventory	1

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	0
Hospitals	0
Places of Worship	5

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	No
Impaired Waters	Yes

Selected location contains American Indian Reservation Lands*	No
Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEJST)" disadvantaged community	Yes
Selected location contains an EPA IRA disadvantaged community	Yes

Report for City: Deshler

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS

INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	19%	21%	28	20%	42
Heart Disease	7.9	7.2	66	6.1	83
Asthma	9.9	10.7	32	10	52
Cancer	7.2	6.6	65	6.1	74
Persons with Disabilities	12.4%	14.8%	38	13.4%	49

CLIMATE INDICATORS

INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Flood Risk	20%	7%	92	12%	85
Wildfire Risk	0%	0%	0	14%	0

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS

INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	11%	15%	45	14%	50
Lack of Health Insurance	8%	7%	74	9%	58
Housing Burden	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Footnotes

Report for City: Deshler



EJScreen Community Report

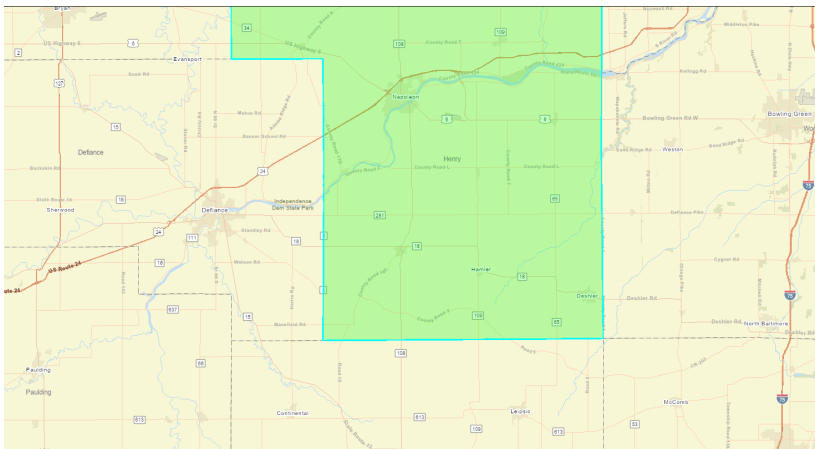
This report provides environmental and socioeconomic information for user-defined areas, and combines that data into environmental justice and supplemental indexes.

XX

County: Henry

Population: 27,618

Area in square miles: 419.75



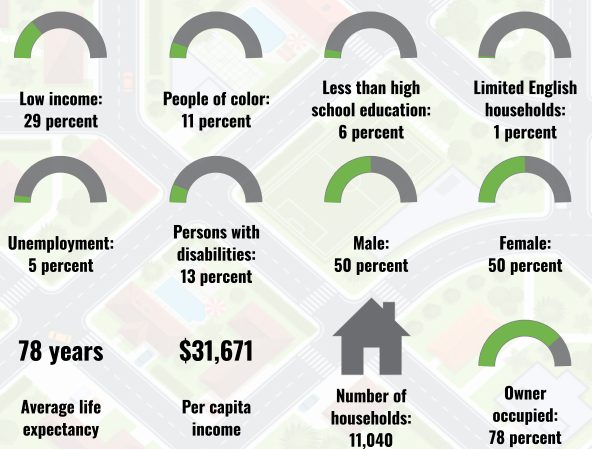
September 12, 2023

Project 1

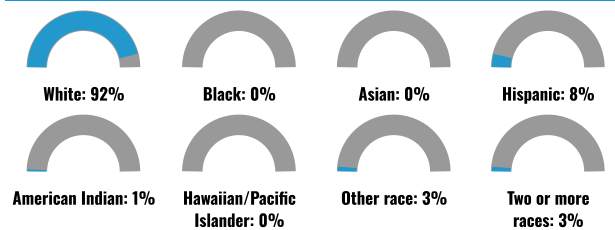
1:288,805
0 2.75 5.5 11 mi
0 4.25 8.5 17 km

Esri, HERE, Garmin, SwireCity, Mapbox, USGS, EPA, NPS, NOAA

COMMUNITY INFORMATION



BREAKDOWN BY RACE



BREAKDOWN BY AGE



LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING BREAKDOWN



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

LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME

LANGUAGE	PERCENT
English	96%
Spanish	3%
Total Non-English	4%

Environmental Justice & Supplemental Indexes

The environmental justice and supplemental indexes are a combination of environmental and socioeconomic information. There are thirteen EJ indexes and supplemental indexes in EJScreen reflecting the 13 environmental indicators. The indexes for a selected area are compared to those for all other locations in the state or nation. For more information and calculation details on the EJ and supplemental indexes, please visit the [EJScreen website](#).

EJ INDEXES

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

SUPPLEMENTAL INDEXES

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

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

Report for County: Henry

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

SELECTED VARIABLES	VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN STATE	USA AVERAGE	PERCENTILE IN USA
POLLUTION AND SOURCES					
Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Ozone (ppb)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Diesel Particulate Matter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Toxic Releases to Air	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX
SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS					
Demographic Index	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX
Supplemental Demographic Index	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX
People of Color	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX
Low Income	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX
Unemployment Rate	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX
Limited English Speaking Households	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX
Less Than High School Education	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX
Under Age 5	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX
Over Age 64	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX
Low Life Expectancy	XX%	XX%	XX	XX%	XX

*Diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. Cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Update are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update>.

Sites reporting to EPA within defined area:

Superfund	XX
Hazardous Waste, Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	XX
Water Dischargers	XX
Air Pollution	XX
Brownfields	XX
Toxic Release Inventory	XX

Other community features within defined area:

Schools	XX
Hospitals	XX
Places of Worship	XX

Other environmental data:

Air Non-attainment	XX
Impaired Waters	XX

Selected location contains American Indian Reservation Lands*	XX
Selected location contains a "Justice40 (CEJST)" disadvantaged community	XX
Selected location contains an EPA IRA disadvantaged community	XX

Report for County: Henry

EJScreen Environmental and Socioeconomic Indicators Data

HEALTH INDICATORS					
INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Low Life Expectancy	18%	21%	17	20%	31
Heart Disease	7.2	7.2	47	6.1	72
Asthma	9.8	10.7	25	10	46
Cancer	7.1	6.6	62	6.1	72
Persons with Disabilities	12.7%	14.8%	40	13.4%	51

CLIMATE INDICATORS					
INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Flood Risk	15%	7%	88	12%	79
Wildfire Risk	0%	0%	0	14%	0

CRITICAL SERVICE GAPS					
INDICATOR	HEALTH VALUE	STATE AVERAGE	STATE PERCENTILE	US AVERAGE	US PERCENTILE
Broadband Internet	12%	15%	51	14%	55
Lack of Health Insurance	5%	7%	48	9%	40
Housing Burden	XX	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Transportation Access	XX	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Desert	XX	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Footnotes

Report for County: Henry