*Disclaimer: This is the BEAD Program Environmental Impacts and Documentation Screening Instructions and Resources **Version 2**, published on **March 6th, 2026**. The Wisconsin Broadband Office reserves the right to modify or update this document as necessary to effectuate the goals of the BEAD program and remain compliant with State, Federal or NTIA requirements or for any other reason to administer the BEAD program.*

BEAD Program Environmental Impacts and Documentation Screening Instructions and Resources

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq) (NEPA) requires the consideration of environmental effects related to federal decision making, including the awarding of grant funds. Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program Grant Subrecipients cannot complete any project activities (except those considered Limited Permissible Pre-Implementation Activities in the General Terms and Conditions for NTIA BEAD Program Funds) prior to the completion of review required under NEPA. To facilitate the review of awarded and preliminarily awarded BEAD projects, the Public Service Commission (PSC or Commission)—in fulfillment of its role as a joint lead agency for the BEAD Program in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 4336a, et seq—requires subrecipients to complete a screening questionnaire for the NEPA environmental review based in part on information requested by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Subrecipients should provide thorough answers to the items in the environmental questionnaire to reduce the time needed for additional PSC staff review or follow-up questions. The questionnaire is designed to meet federal requirements and does not include all information regarding all applicable state, county, and municipal regulations. Subrecipients shall submit one completed questionnaire per awarded project. PSC staff will review the questionnaire. If more information is needed from recipients, or answers in this questionnaire are unclear, PSC staff will follow up with the grant subrecipient.

Following the completion of the Environmental Impacts Documentation and Screening (EIDS) Questionnaire, as capacity is available PSC staff will facilitate the following required consultations as part of the NEPA review:

- National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. §306101, et seq.); 36 CFR Part 800) (NHPA) Section 106 Consultation with Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and NTIA.
- Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. §1531, et seq.; 50 CFR Part 17) (ESA) Section 7 Consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Endangered Resources Review via the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Natural Heritage Inventory Program (Wis. Stats. 29.604; Wis. Adm. Code Ch. NR 27.05; Wis. Adm. Code Ch NR 29). **Note:** While this review is not required under NEPA, all projects are still subject to state-level laws, rules, and policies.

Subrecipients should be prepared to support the above consultations through additional information gathering when requested by the PSC (Including but not limited to historic property

literature reviews, archaeological surveys, biological surveys, and/or habitat assessments). Following the completion of these consultations and any additional consultations deemed necessary through the review process, PSC staff will submit project information to NTIA for issuance of NEPA decision documents. Issued decision documents may be Categorical Exclusion (Cat Ex) determination, Record of Environmental Consideration (REC), Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), or Record of Decision (ROD), as according to 42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq. and the NTIA General Terms and Conditions for NTIA BEAD Program Funds.

BEAD Broadband Deployment Projects awarded by the Commission and funded by NTIA are for the deployment of last mile of broadband projects. Per the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), the eligible uses of funding in connection with last-mile broadband deployment projects include the following:

1. Construction, improvement, and/or acquisition of facilities and telecommunications equipment required to provide qualifying broadband service, including infrastructure for backhaul, middle- and last-mile networks, and multi-tenant buildings.
2. Long-term leases (for terms greater than one year) of facilities required to provide qualifying broadband service, including indefeasible right-of-use (IRU) agreements.
3. Deployment of internet and Wi-Fi infrastructure within an eligible multi-family residential building.
4. Engineering design, permitting, and work related to environmental, historical and cultural reviews.
5. Personnel costs, including salaries and fringe benefits for staff and consultants providing services directly connected to the implementation of the BEAD Program (such as project managers, program directors, and subject matter experts).
6. Network software upgrades, including, but not limited to, cybersecurity solutions.

Project Definition

Recipients must submit environmental impact documentation that corresponds to a specific project or—if applicable—each NEPA Sub-Project. Within each project, the subrecipient will submit documentation that captures all construction-related project activities, also known as the **Project Area**. The NEPA review considers all construction-related activity for the project, including areas outside of the awarded project locations.

What is a Project Area?

The Project Area is the construction space needed to complete the awarded project. This includes (but is not limited to):

- the total construction footprint
- all groundbreaking associated with construction
- the proposed route and/or facilities
- associated existing facilities and connections to existing facilities
- temporary and permanent access roads proposed outside of road ROWs
- laydown/preparation areas.

The environmental review outlined in these instructions must consider all construction activities necessary to complete the awarded projects. Defining the Project Area assists Commission staff with evaluating the impacts of different construction activities and the total environmental impact possible from the project.

Project Description

BEAD subrecipients shall submit a complete Project Description as part of their NEPA Review. The Project Description should provide as much detail as possible, while also remaining succinct (no more than three pages long). Project Descriptions should include the following:

- What is being constructed
- A description of where the project is proposed (i.e., address, Township, Range, Section, Latitude/Longitude), and a physical description of the site/route and surrounding area (developed land vs. open space, adjacent natural resources, such as rivers, wetlands, or forests; and any protected lands).
- A detailed description of how the project will be implemented, which includes necessary ground disturbance, connected actions, pre-construction preparations, and follow-up activities following the completion of construction.
- Project metrics (dimensions, areas, distances, depths, thicknesses, etc.) as applicable
- Any mitigation actions the Subrecipient knows will need to occur to accomplish the project
- Any known permits the Subrecipient will need to acquire prior to beginning project implementation
- If applicable, a decommissioning or maintenance plan regarding the construction project.

Permit approvals do not need to be in hand to be NEPA compliant for BEAD. However, subrecipients must follow all federal, state, county, and municipal rules and requirements. Per the NTIA General Terms and Conditions for NTIA BEAD Program Funds, applying for environmental permits can be a permissible pre-implementation activity. BEAD Program recipients may need to obtain permits from the following federal and state programs prior to proceeding with their BEAD funded project:

- Appropriate federal agencies (if project takes place on Federal Land)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permits
- WDNR Wetlands and Waterways Permits
- WDNR Stormwater Permits
- WDNR Land Rights Conveyance Permits (if project takes place on WDNR Managed Lands)
- WDNR Endangered Resources Program*
- Wisconsin Department of Transportation Rights-of-Way Permits
- County/Municipal Permits

^This is not a complete list of potentially required permits
*As capacity allows, the Commission will coordinate Endangered Resource reviews for every BEAD Project with the WDNR.

Pre-Construction NEPA and Permitting Timeline

All subrecipients were provided with a Pre-Construction NEPA and Permitting Timeline document during onboarding. This timeline aligns with requirement B1.6 in the BEAD Grant Agreement, and must be submitted to the PSC via the Grant Management System before NEPA Review can begin. It identifies specific deadlines and describes how the subrecipient plans to meet timing requirements. The Pre-Construction NEPA and Permitting Timeline will be included and submitted with a required project deployment plan following Grant Agreement execution between the Subrecipient and the PSC. One Timeline shall be completed for each project. If a subrecipient has NEPA sub-projects, then one Timeline shall be completed for **each** NEPA sub-project.

Limited Permissible Pre-Implementation Activities

According to the NTIA General Terms and Conditions for NTIA BEAD Program Funds, grant subrecipients shall not begin implementation activities prior to the completion of all environmental requirements. Recipients shall also comply with all conditions placed on the grant-funded activities resulting from the environmental review, such as mitigation requirements, best management practices, or other measures necessary to reduce environmental impacts.

The grant subrecipient may undertake limited permissible activities under NEPA using award funds prior to the completion of the environmental review process, including the following:

- Pre-construction planning, including collecting information necessary to complete environmental reviews.
- Applications for environmental permits.
- Studies including, but not limited to, Environmental Assessments (EA), wetland delineations, biological assessments, archaeological surveys, and other environmental reviews and analyses.
- Administrative costs.
- Pre-award application costs.
- Activities supporting consultations required under the NHPA, the Endangered Species Act, and the Clean Water Act.
- Limited, preliminary procurement, including the purchase or lease of equipment, or entering into binding contracts to do so; the purchase of applicable or conditional insurance; and/or funds used to secure land or building leases (including right-of-way easements).

Collecting Additional Information for Required Consultations

As the joint lead agency financially administering BEAD, the PSC must provide appropriate documentation to NTIA for projects to be deemed NEPA compliant. Additionally, as part of this obligation, PSC staff will facilitate the NHPA Section 106 Consultation, the ESA Section 7 Consultation, and the WDNR Endangered Resources Review as part of their role as the joint lead agency. However, as listed in the Limited Permissible Pre-Implementation Activities, subrecipients should also be prepared to support these consultations through additional information gathering when requested by the PSC (Including but not limited to historic property literature reviews, archaeological surveys, biological surveys, habitat assessments, Environmental Assessment to the extent requested by the PSC, etc.).

State agencies maintain lists of certified consultants for various environmental reviews and consultations. Projects with or without consultant involvement will follow the same procedures. The PSC takes no stance on the utilization of consultants to meet BEAD requirements and does not endorse any individual consultant.

- [Wisconsin Historical Society | Historic Preservation and Archaeological Consultants](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources | Wetland Boundary Delineation](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources | Wisconsin Bird Surveyors](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources | List of Consultants Qualified to Conduct Karner Blue Butterfly and Lupine Surveys](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources | Wisconsin Rare Plant Surveyors](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources | Contacts for Fish Removals – Wisconsin](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources | Contacts for Amphibian and Reptile Removals](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources | Wisconsin Native Mussel Survey Consultants](#)

Historic Properties and the National Register of Historic Places Eligibility

Historic properties include historic buildings and districts, archeological sites, and human burial locations. Archeological and human burial sites are confidential resources. Every BEAD project requires historic property review as described in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. BEAD Projects are subject to the [Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Program Comment for Communications Projects on Federal Lands and Property (ACHP Program Comment)](#). Historic property reviews use the Area of Potential Effect (APE). The direct APE comprises the physical project area where any ground disturbing may occur (e.g., digging, heavy equipment movement, etc.). For historic buildings and districts, the APE consists of the distance that the project may be visible from outside of the project area, also known as the indirect APE.

The PSC and Wisconsin State Historic Office (SHPO) plan to use the following indirect APE buffers for the various technology types listed. The buffers below meet or exceed the requirements listed in the ACHP Program Comment. Projects may utilize multiple indirect APEs dependent on the technology implemented:

Technology Type Used	Wisconsin BEAD Indirect APE for NHPA Section 106
Above Ground Cable, No New Poles	50 feet
Above Ground Cable, New Poles, Existing ROW	ROW + 100 feet
Above Ground Cable, New Poles, New Easement	0.5 miles
Underground Fiber	ROW + 100 feet
Non-Exempted Fixed Wireless/Satellite Deployment Equipment*	Individual Eligible Building
Existing Tower, <200 feet tall	0.5 miles
Existing Tower, 200-400 feet tall	0.75 miles
Existing Tower, >400 feet tall	1.5 miles
New Tower, <400 feet tall**	1 mile
New Tower, >400 feet tall	1.5 miles

*Fixed Wireless and/or Satellite Equipment installations on private residences are exempt from Section 106 because NTIA cannot control the outcome of a private owner's discretionary access to LEO satellite/Fixed Wireless service. Section 106 would still apply to public buildings and Community Anchor Institutions. See BEAD Guidance on NEPA and NHPA for LEO Satellite Service. Federal Agencies may elect to use applicable exclusions in the Nationwide Programmatic Agreement for Collocation of Wireless Antennas to exempt Fixed Wireless and/or Satellite Equipment installations.
**Ground Stations for LEO Satellite projects would be considered "New Towers, <400 feet tall"

According to the Wisconsin Historical Society, National/State Register of Historic Places eligible properties must retain the essential physical appearance of the historical period in which they were important, and meet one of four criteria for eligibility:

1. **Be a good local example of an architectural style:** To be individually eligible in architecture, a property must retain the majority of its original architectural features and be a good example of the style and period.
2. **Be associated with a person important in our past:** The property must be the resource most closely related to a person's period and area of importance.
3. **Represent an important historic trend or event:** Represent an era, movement or trend in local, state or national history.
4. **Have the potential to yield information:** These types of properties are primarily archaeological sites.

Geographic Information System (GIS) Data

Awarded BEAD projects are currently depicted as broadband serviceable location (BSL) points, showing the individual addresses that will receive new or improved broadband service as a result of the BEAD project. Alongside submission of documentation for environmental reviews, it is

necessary for subrecipients to provide a detailed view of project construction in the form of geospatial data that depicts: (a) the locations being served, (b) the planned placement of network infrastructure built with BEAD funds, and (c) the extent of ground disturbance of construction activities.

Subrecipients must submit geospatial data consistent with the following specifications. If a subrecipient has questions or is unable to provide data in these formats, please reach out to PSCBEADGrants@wisconsin.gov. Incomplete or insufficiently detailed geospatial files will be returned to subrecipients, which may delay environmental reviews, grant agreement milestones, and associated access to BEAD funds. In instances where a subrecipient is unsure of a project's design characteristics or ground disturbance, they should clearly indicate that uncertainty and err on the side of depicting the maximum possible disturbance caused by the construction.

File Format:

- A file geodatabase (.gdb) with feature classes; or a map (.mpkx), layer (.lpkx), or project (.ppkx) package is preferred.
- Shapefiles are not preferred but acceptable.
- KML/KMZ files will not be accepted.
- File geodatabase and shapefile submissions should be zipped, it is not necessary to zip map/layer packages.
- All GIS data must be projected in "NAD 1983 HARN Wisconsin TM (Meters)" also known as (WKID: 3071).
- Do not include aerial imagery in your geospatial files.
- PSC GIS staff use ESRI's ArcGIS Pro desktop software, although other software is available to prepare and manage geospatial files.

File Name: File names should begin with your entity name and include the assigned BEAD project name.

File Scope: Subrecipients must submit separate geospatial files for each given BEAD Project. Do not combine multiple BEAD projects into a single geospatial file.

File Submission: Files must be uploaded to the PSC grant system. Geospatial files uploaded to the grant system will not be uploaded to the Commission's electronic record filing (ERF) system. If a subrecipient wishes to submit files confidentially, they should contact PSC staff to request assistance.

File Contents: Where applicable to the network design and broadband technology being used, files should depict the following components of the project. The following list is not intended to be exhaustive nor are the listed items required for each project, but subrecipients should use this list as a reference in preparing a sufficiently detailed geospatial file.

All Projects:

- As polygons: Total construction footprint, depicting the entire project boundary, within which all construction activities will occur. This includes all ground disturbance that will occur due to the project.
- As points, lines, or polygons: Interconnection points with existing facilities, i.e., the point at which BEAD construction terminates and connects to existing infrastructure not funded by BEAD. This may include existing middle-mile routes at which the construction originates or existing towers on which upgraded radios will be placed.
- As polygons: Preparation or staging areas where storage of vehicles, equipment, or supplies will cause a temporary disturbance to the existing landscape.
- As polygons: Any temporary or permanent access roads that will be constructed outside of existing road right of way.

Wireline Projects:

- As lines or polygons: The planned placement of wireline facilities along the project route. For lines in road right of way, indicate the side of the road on which the facility will be placed. Wireline facilities should include details about the placement of the facility, if it is aerial or buried, and if buried what technique is used (trenching, boring, etc.). If using different ground disturbance techniques throughout the line, be sure the feature(s) clearly differentiate by installation method. If applicable, indicate if placement is on an existing pole or in existing conduit.
- As polygons: For underground placement, indicate areas of ground disturbance, which may include trenches, boreholes, handholes, etc. For trenches, include the trench width.
- As lines: The drops from the mainline construction to each individual location. As applicable, be sure to indicate the installation technique (hung, trenched, etc.).

Terrestrial Wireless Projects:

- As polygons or points: The footprint of the planned or existing wireless tower or other structure on which radios will be placed. Indicate if the tower or structure is new or existing.
- As polygons or points: Any customer premises equipment installed by the subrecipient that will disturb the ground because it is not placed on an existing structure.
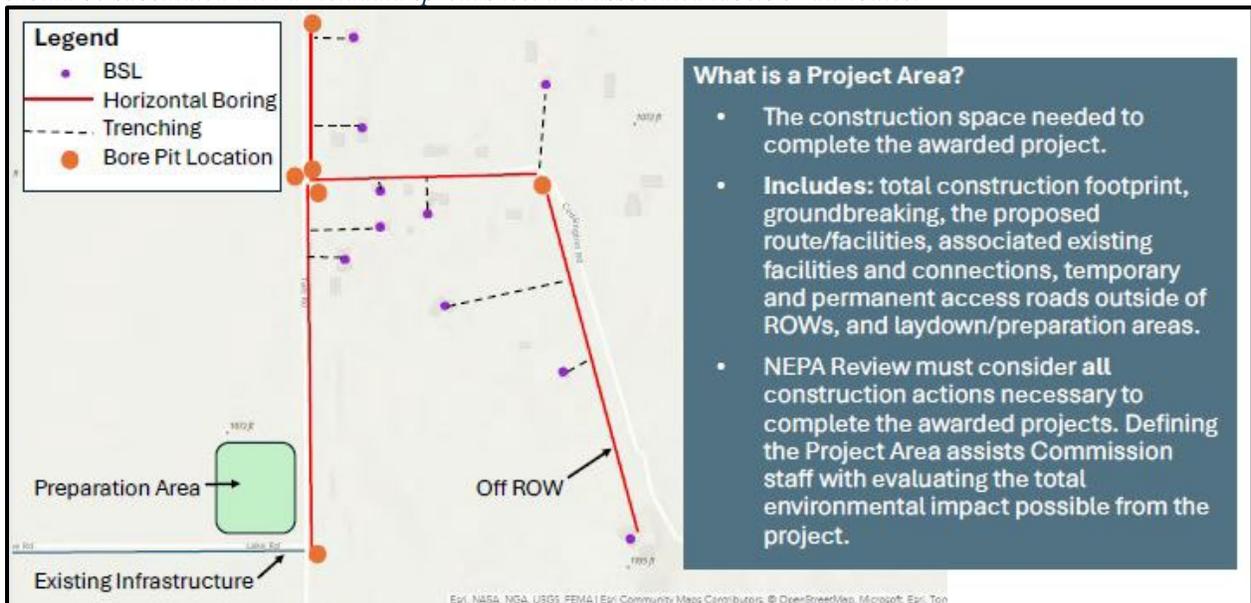
Non-Terrestrial Wireless Projects:

- As polygons: The footprint of any ground stations that will be constructed or improved to support connectivity to BEAD-funded locations. Indicate if the ground station is new or existing.

Metadata: As a spreadsheet (.csv or .xlsx), include metadata that lists each feature and provides a one or two sentence plain-language description of the data depicted in the feature. The description could include information such as the installation technique (e.g. hung, trenched), if a feature depicts an existing structure or new construction, if the route is within a road right of way or uses existing conduit or poles, the type of ground disturbance (e.g. staging area, borehole,

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tower footprint), or the width or extent of the feature's disturbance. If there are no relevant resources for an identified category, state that in the metadata spreadsheet and do not submit an empty GIS layer.

Submissions may also opt to include detailed information attached to each feature using attributes, labels, or symbology as appropriate. For example, a line showing a drop to a home might include a label of "fiber drop - trenching." Note that not all file types retain all symbology, attribute, or label data and care should be taken to retain all data created.

Example: Below is a simple example of a wireline project, depicting the staging area, wireline placement, installation technique, and interconnection points. Note that because data is submitted as a geospatial file, a legend should be substituted with a metadata spreadsheet and associated labels or attributes.

Static Project Maps and Other Project Documents

Maps are static and shall be submitted in a PDF format to the PSC Grant System. Maps should use the best and most recent data available. Maps must cover the project area in a manner that is appropriate for the scale of the project; they shall clearly portray the project in a format and scale that is unambiguous and easy to understand, where reviewers can clearly identify the location of the proposed project. Labels and symbology used on the maps must be clearly visible. It is acceptable to submit multiple pages of maps. Below is a summary of the two requested maps and relative required elements in the EIDS Questionnaire:

1. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory Map with overlain Project Area and a satellite/aerial imagery basemap. Satellite/aerial imagery must be within the last three years.
2. [If applicable] Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Map with overlain Project Area and a satellite/aerial imagery basemap. Satellite/aerial imagery must be within the last three years.

Including maps, grant subrecipients shall submit the following documents as part of the EIDS Questionnaire:

- Project Description Document
- [If Applicable] Official Correspondence Document between subrecipient and all state, federal, county, or local governments (relating to permitting)
- GIS Data of the Project Area
- Excel Spreadsheet of GIS metadata
- Endangered Resources Preliminary Assessment
- [If applicable] FEMA Floodplain Map with Project Area overlain
- USFWS NWI Wetlands Map with Project Area overlain

PSC staff reserves the right to request additional information and/or documents from BEAD subrecipients to complete the NEPA review, including but not limited to maps, ground-level or aerial photos, surveys, and/or reports.

NTIA Tools and Resources for BEAD Grant Subrecipients

Subrecipients may find NTIA NEPA resources helpful in preparing for the BEAD Environmental Review. These resources are intended to solely assist BEAD subrecipients in better understanding BEAD Program requirements set forth in the NOFO. NTIA tools should be used for informational purposes only and is intended solely to assist users with preliminary identification of broadband deployments that may require permits or planning to avoid potentially significant impacts to environmental resources subject to NEPA and/or other statutory requirements. These tools and resources are not exhaustive or complete, and do not intend to substitute, supersede, modify, or otherwise alter any applicable statutory or regulatory requirements, or the specific application requirements set forth in any NTIA BEAD NOFO and Terms and Conditions. Below is not an exhaustive list of resources available on the NTIA BEAD Program Page:

- **NTIA Permitting and Environmental Information Application:** This Application was created to help with permitting planning and environmental review preparation efforts by providing access to multiple maps from publicly available sources, including federal review, permitting, and resource agencies. The layers included are all feature-services from various Federal and State agencies. A video tutorial can be found here.
- **ArcGIS Pro Permitting and Environmental Information Tool (APPEIT):** This Project Package includes all the layers that are in the NTIA Permitting and Environmental Information Application which will allow users to input a project area and determine what layers from the application overlap with it. To use APPEIT, users will input a project area boundary or project route line in a shapefile or feature class format. The tool will return as a CSV and PDF report that lists any federal layers from the ArcGIS Pro Permitting and Environmental Information Web Map that intersect the project.
  - The User Guide for APPEIT
  - ArcGIS Pro Permitting and Environmental Information Web Map
  - Video Tutorial
- **Guidance on NTIA National Environmental Policy Act Compliance:** Guidance on NEPA process requirements, roles and responsibilities, and Appendices containing the full list of categorical exclusions and extraordinary circumstances applicable to NTIA programs. Up to date as of June 2025.
- **Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Mitigation Measures:** This guide provides examples of BMPs and mitigation measures to help Grant Subrecipients avoid or minimize potential environmental impacts during the construction, deployment, and operation of NTIA funded broadband projects.

Submitting Environmental Files to the PSC

Subrecipients should use the PSC Grants System to submit files associated with the questionnaire to the Wisconsin Broadband Office. The questionnaire and associated files should be uploaded to the specific project in the PSC Grants System. For review organization, file names should begin with the subrecipient name and include a clear description of their contents.

Unless indicated (ESRI ArcGIS data, Microsoft Excel tables, modeling, etc.), subrecipients must submit all environmental documents in the format requested by the Commission.

Subrecipients should also submit any official correspondence between the recipient and local, state, or federal government agencies related to permitting.

Confidential and non-confidential environmental documents are acceptable to add using the instructions provided within the grant system for filing. Certain attachments can be uploaded using the 'Upload Confidential Document' button to request confidential handling in limited circumstances.

Important Note: Filing confidential documents requires the presence of a Notary Public with the upload or a notarized attachment. See the application instructions for specific directions or confidentiality requirements or limitations for specific programs.

Upon receipt of this request, the disposition of any requests for confidentiality will be determined by the PSC's legal staff. For redacted documents, the information redacted within the document must specifically be marked within the document for each confidential filing requested. An entire document may not be filed confidentially. Also, a confidential filing requires both the original document and a redacted version to be filed and made available to the public on ERF. Only PSC staff can view the original document in the grant system and on ERF. No external parties – not even the grant subrecipient – can view the original confidential document in the grant system or ERF.

Resources and Contact for Questions

Resources to assist in completing the Environmental Impacts and Documentation Screening Questionnaire can be found below.

Grant subrecipients can direct questions about the environmental documentation to:

Wisconsin Broadband Office BEAD General Inbox: PSCBEADGrants@wisconsin.gov

PSC NEPA Specialist: Samuel.Hermanstorfer1@wisconsin.gov

Resources and Links

Weblinks in this document are active as of February 20, 2026. The PSC is not responsible for maintaining links that are not managed by Commission staff.

General Links

NTIA Permitting and Environmental Information Application: https://nbam.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/portfolio/index.html?appid=c7906b72e14045bf9fa6fe9addd469a0

ArcGIS Pro Permitting and Environmental Information Tool (APPEIT): ArcGIS Pro Permitting and Environmental Information Tool (APPEIT) Project Package | Home

NTIA BEAD Program Webpage: Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program | BroadbandUSA

NEPA for BEAD Frequently Asked Questions from NTIA: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) NEPA for BEAD Addendum | BroadbandUSA

BEAD Guidance on NEPA and NHPA for LEO Satellite Service: https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/technical-assistance/NTIA_BEAD_LEO_Guidance_Oct_2025

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin BEAD Webpage: https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/ServiceType/Broadband/GrantBEAD.aspx

Wisconsin Public Land Survey System (PLSS): https://www.sco.wisc.edu/plss-data/

WDNR Office of Energy Projects: https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Sectors/Energy.html

Easements and Right-of-Way Permits

Memorandum from Bureau of Indian Affairs relating to the efficient and effective processing of right of right-of-way applications to build broadband infrastructure: https://www.bia.gov/sites/default/files/dup/assets/public/raca/national_policy_memoranda/pdf/npm-trus-48_streamlining-rows-broadband_final_signed_508.pdf

WisDOT State Road Right-of-Way Permits: https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/real-estate/permits/default.aspx

WisDOT State Trunk Highway Maps by County: https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/travel/road/hwy-maps/sth-map.aspx

Endangered Resources

USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) Webpage: https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/

Version 2. Published: March 6th, 2026

USFWS Section 7 Endangered Species Act "No Effect" list and Consultation Memo:
https://broadbandusa.ntia.gov/funding-programs/policies-waivers/NTIA_FWS_Non-Federal_Designation_Memo

WDNR Endangered Resources Preliminary Assessment:
https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/erreview/PublicPortal

Floodplains and Flood Resilience

FEMA Floodplain Map: FEMA Flood Map Service Center | Welcome!

It may be helpful to get in touch with the local (municipal/county) Floodplain Manager for additional information.

Historic Properties

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) Program Comment:
https://www.achp.gov/sites/default/files/program_comments/2024-04/Communications%20Project%20PC%20amendment%20-%2020240313%20letterhead_SIGNED.pdf

Wisconsin Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO):
https://wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS3557

Wisconsin Historical Society | Preservation of Wisconsin Archeological Sites:
https://wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS4050

Wisconsin Historical Society | Historic Preservation and Archeological Consultants:
https://wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS2835

Ceded Territories in Wisconsin: https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing/ceded

National/State Register of Historic Places Eligibility Criteria:
https://wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS2843

Waterways and Wetlands

USFWS National Wetland Inventory (NWI):
https://fwsprimary.wim.usgs.gov/wetlands/apps/wetlands-mapper/

WDNR Surface Water Data Viewer (SWDV):
https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/swdv

WDNR Surface Water Date Viewer (SWDV) User Guide:
https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/swims/Documents/DownloadDocument?id=358818031

Wisconsin Waters of the United States:
https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Portals/57/docs/regulatory/RegulatoryDocs/navigable%20waters%20wi.pdf

WDNR Water Quality Standards and Classifications:
https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/Standards.html

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers—Eggers and Reed Classifications:
https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p266001coll1/id/2801/

WDNR Wetland Functional Values: https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wetlands/function.html

WDNR Storm Water Runoff Permits: https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Stormwater

WDNR Storm Water Technical Standards and Best Management Practices:
https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Stormwater/standards

Relevant Federal Laws and State Statutes

Below shows an overview of environmental laws and may fail to capture all federal, state, county, and municipal policies. This is not an exhaustive list of potential permits, responsibilities, and resources. Presence or absence of laws and statutes on this list does not represent a Commission opinion or interpretation of law.

Federal Laws

National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq

Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq.

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, 16 U.S.C. § 661 et seq.

National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. § 300101 et seq.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 16 U.S.C. § 703 et seq.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. § 668 et seq.

Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.

Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.

Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f et seq.

Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 16 U.S.C. § 1271 et seq.

Marine Mammal Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. § 31 et seq.

River and Harbors Act, 33 U.S.C. § 401 and 403

Fiscal Responsibility Act, Public Law 118-5

State Laws and Rules

Historic Preservation, Wis. Stat. § 44.30 et seq.

Stormwater and Erosion Control, NR 216 et seq.

Pollution Discharge Elimination, Wis. Stat. § 283 et seq.

Runoff Management, NR 151 et seq.

Wisconsin Endangered Species Law, Wis. Stat. § 29.604

Burial Sites Preservation, Wis. Stat. § 157.70

Navigable Waters, Harbors, and Navigation, Wis. Stat. § 30.01 et seq.

Water Quality and Quantity; General Regulations, Wis. Stat. § 281.31 et seq.

Permits for Discharges into Wetlands; Mitigations, Wis. Stat. § 281.36

Water Quality Standards for Wetlands, NR 103 et seq.

Water Quality Certification, NR 299 et seq.

Particulate Matter Emissions Standards, NR 415.04

Control of Hazardous Pollutants, NR 445 et seq.