

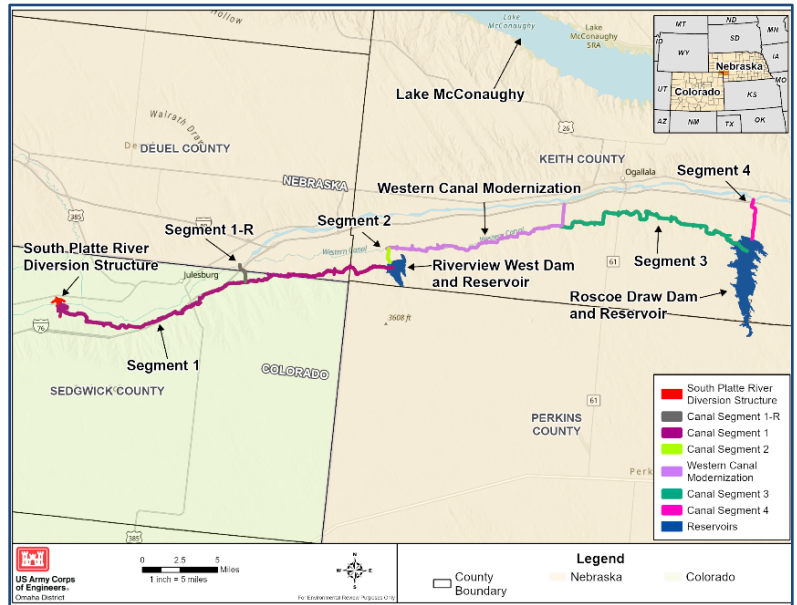


FACT SHEET

Perkins County Canal Project

What is the Clean Water Act?

The Clean Water Act (CWA) regulates quality standards for surface waters and discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States. Section 404 of the CWA requires approval prior to the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for considering permit applications for these discharges using the Section 404b(1) guidelines. The USACE Omaha District Regulatory Division is reviewing a Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE) permit application for its proposed Perkins County Canal project.



What is the NEPA Process?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to evaluate major federal actions and inform decision makers and the public of the potential beneficial and adverse environmental consequences of proposed actions and alternatives. To comply with NEPA and the CWA, USACE will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and evaluate impacts of the proposed activity to inform the decision on DWEE’s permit application. The law also requires federal agencies address other regulatory requirements including the National Historic Preservation Act and Endangered Species Act, among others, during the NEPA effort. USACE will involve agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise, and Tribal Nations in the analysis effort and offer the public opportunities to provide comments and information.

What is the DWEE’s proposed project?

DWEE’s proposed project would divert water from the South Platte River near Ovid, Colorado and return it to the South Platte River near Roscoe, Nebraska. The water would be conveyed through approximately 60.8 miles of newly constructed or modified existing canals. The proposed project includes river-gated and canal-gated structures to divert and control flows into the canal, lined and unlined canal structures, and two dams and storage reservoirs, one with a capacity of approximately 17,000 acre-feet, and the other with approximately 77,000 acre-feet.

DWEE’s Purpose

DWEE’s stated purpose for the proposed project is to secure South Platte River inflows at the Colorado Nebraska state line during the non irrigation season at a minimum rate of 500 cubic feet per second, along with capacity to divert excess flows, which may be retimed to support Nebraska’s irrigation needs in the South Platte River on a basis consistent with the terms of Article VI of the South Platte River Compact.

Project Alternatives

USACE will develop a basic and overall project purpose during the analysis effort. These will be used to identify reasonable and practicable alternatives to the proposed project that may be analyzed in the EIS and considered in the permit decision.

NEPA Process Timeline



Public Scoping and Comment Period

USACE initiated a 45-day public comment period on February 20, 2026, to gather input from interested agencies, Tribal Nations, and the public regarding the proposed project and the scope of the environmental reviews. Comments may be submitted through April 6, 2026, in the following ways:

- Electronically via the Regulatory Request System at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs> using the search term NWO-2023-00518
- Email: PCC.EIS@usace.army.mil,
- Postal mail: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District Regulatory Division, Attn: PCC, 1616 Capitol Avenue, Omaha, NE 68102
- Verbally or handwritten at in-person meetings and verbally at virtual meetings.

Public Scoping Meetings and More Information

Denver: Monday, March 9th 5:30 7:30pm (Mountain) @ Airport Marriott Gateway

Julesburg: Tuesday, March 10th 5:30 7:30pm (Mountain) @ Sedgewick County Community Center

Kearney: Wednesday, March 11th 5:30 7:30pm (Central) @ Harmon Park Activity Center

Virtual: Wednesday, March 18th 1 3pm (Mountain)/2 3pm (Central) via Microsoft Teams Webinar

Visit the Project Website for More Information:
[https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryProgram/Colorado/EIS Perkins County Canal/](https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryProgram/Colorado/EISPerkinsCountyCanal/)

What is Scoping?

The public comment scoping process is a chance for the public to comment on the proposed project, suggest alternatives, identify potential significant issues or probable impacts on the public interest, or share relevant information or analyses for USACE to consider. The public is also encouraged to share any current or planned activities in, or in the vicinity of the proposed action. Scoping comments should be as specific as possible and contain as much detail as necessary to inform USACE's NEPA analysis.