

UGPTI Rail Transportation Report

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Ongoing and Upcoming Rail Research and Outreach

- Tracks to the Future – Michigan Tech
 - Transportation and Engineering Youth Program for High School Students
 - June 24-25 – Virtual Classroom
 - June 27-28 – In person at NDSU and other Institutions
 - “Students learn that railroads are a high-tech and environmentally sensitive transportation mode. Railroads remain the most energy-efficient mode of transportation. Participants engage with faculty at Universities from across the country to uncover what forms modern railroad track, explore equipment from around the globe, and analyze communication and control systems.”
 - <https://www.mtu.edu/mtti/rail/education/tracks-future/>

Ongoing and Upcoming Rail Research and Outreach

- Regional Railroad Benefit Study Update
 - Estimate shipment cost that would result without the regional rail system
 - Crop Data Layer
 - NASS Production Data
 - Grain Movement Database
 - Industry Sources
 - Estimate additional highway impacts due to increased traffic
 - Regional economic impacts – REMI model
 - Exploring opportunities to include additional benefits including energy and safety

Ongoing and Upcoming Rail Research and Outreach

- Legislative Needs Study

- County, Township and Tribal roads and bridges

- Bridges (6.8%)
- Paved roads (30.9%)
- Gravel roads (62.3%)

- Gravel Survey

- Quality aggregate is more difficult to find
- Longer length of haul to source gravel
- Aggregate cost vs. trucking cost
- Aggregate - \$8.74/cu.yd. (+7%)
- Trucking cost - \$8.46/cu.yd. (+16%)

Figure 21. Aggregate Cost per Cubic Yard (\$2022)

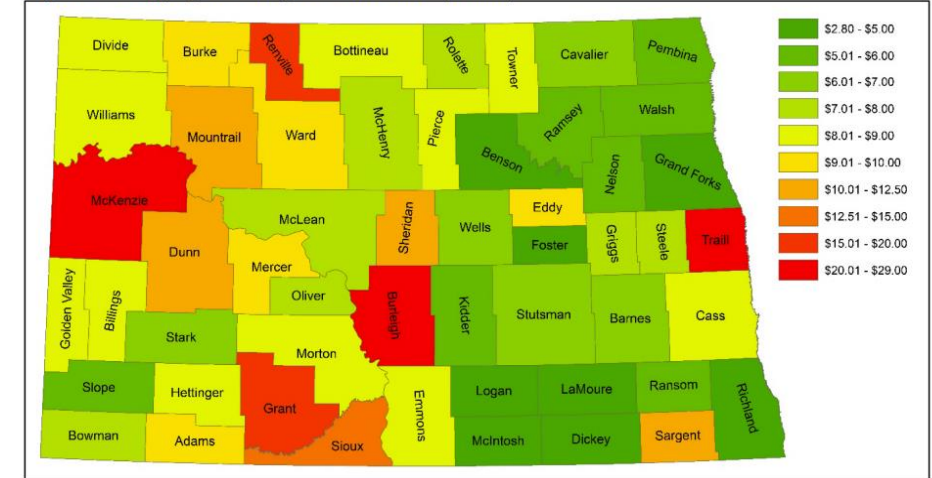
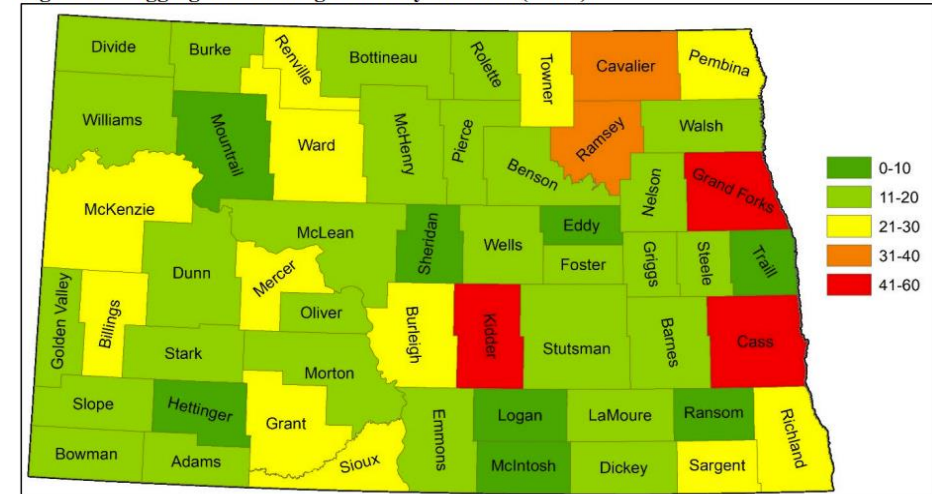
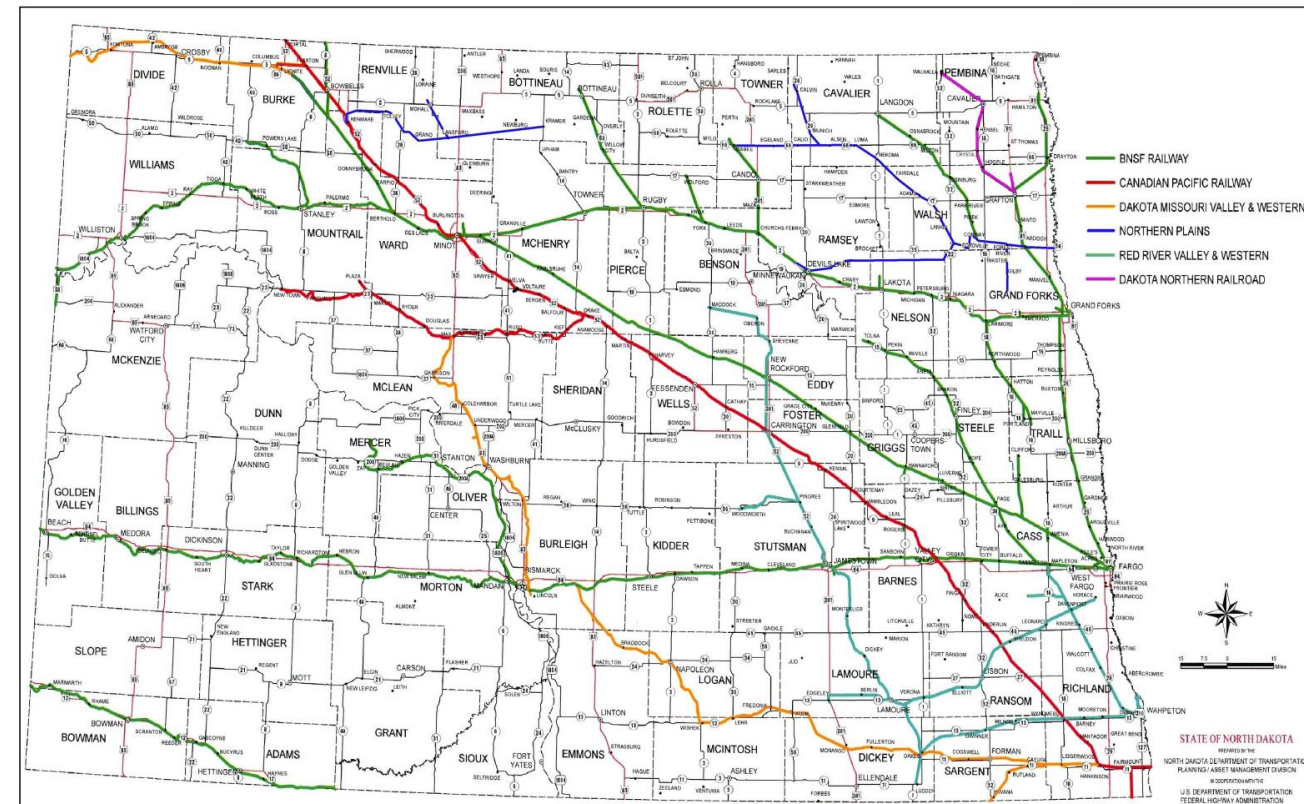


Figure 22. Aggregate Trucking One-Way Distance (Miles)



Ongoing and Upcoming Rail Research and Outreach

- Gravel Study Supplement – Sourcing Options
 - Request from Representative Beltz an Senator Weber
 - Rail delivery of gravel to hub locations
 - Cost effectiveness
 - Pit price
 - Rail cost
 - Truck cost
 - Quality considerations
 - Improved road performance
 - Quality vs. cost
 - Feasibility and Location Selection
 - Gravel sources (in/out state)
 - Facility Location



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Thank you!