



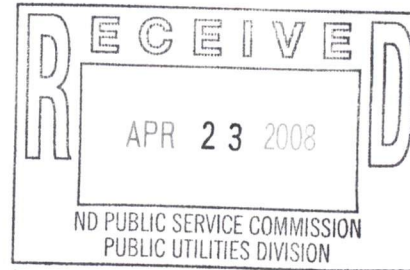
John Hoeven, Governor
Douglass A. Prchal, Director

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April 15, 2008

Public Service Commission
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC Pump Station Upgrades
Case No. PU-07-791



Dear Sir or Madam:

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (the Department) has reviewed the above referenced proposal from Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC to upgrade pump stations located in Williams, Mountrail, Ward, McHenry, Benson, Ramsey, and Grand Forks Counties.

Our agency scope of authority and expertise covers recreation and biological resources (in particular rare plants and ecological communities). The project as defined does not affect state park lands that we manage. We do have some concerns regarding Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) sites. Please see the attached list of LWCF sites possibly within or adjacent to the project areas. Any parks that have received assistance from the federal Land and Water Conservation Funds are under protection of section 6(f) of the LWCF Act. Any property taken from within the 6f boundaries of these areas must be replaced with property of equal market value. Should any public or private utilities need to be added or relocated on the LWCF recreational lands, the Department must be consulted prior to any action taken. Please contact Michelle Vetter (701-328-5364 or mvetter@nd.gov) if additional LWCF information is needed.

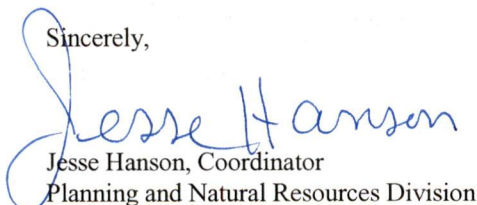
The North Dakota Natural Heritage biological conservation database has been reviewed to determine if any plant or animal species of concern or other significant ecological communities are known to occur within an approximate one-mile radius of the project area. Based on this review, several occurrences have been identified within or adjacent to the Pleasant Lake project area including: *Cypripedium parviflorum* (small yellow lady's-slipper orchid), *Equisetum sylvaticum* (wood horsetail), *Charadrius melodus* (piping plover), *Populus tremuloides* - *Populus balsamifera/Calamagrostis canadensis* swamp (poplar wetland), and *Betula pumila/Carex prairea seepage shrubland* (bog birch rich fen). Please see attached spreadsheet and map for more specific information on these occurrences. We defer further comments regarding animal species to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Because this information is not based on a comprehensive inventory, there may be species of concern or otherwise significant ecological communities in the areas that are not represented in the database. The lack of data for any project area cannot be construed to mean that no significant features are present. The absence of data may indicate that the project area has not been surveyed, rather than confirm that the area lacks natural heritage resources.

The Department recommends that the project be accomplished with minimal impacts and that all efforts be made to ensure that critical habitats not be disturbed in the project area to help secure rare species conservation in North Dakota. Regarding any reclamation efforts, we recommend that any impacted areas be revegetated with species native to the project area.

We appreciate your commitment to rare plant, animal and ecological community conservation, management and inter-agency cooperation to date. For additional information please contact Kathy Duttonhefner (701-328-5370 or kgduttonhefner@nd.gov) of our staff. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project.

Sincerely,


Jesse Hanson, Coordinator
Planning and Natural Resources Division

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18 PU-07-791 Filed: 4/23/2008 Pages: 4
Letter Comments regarding Project

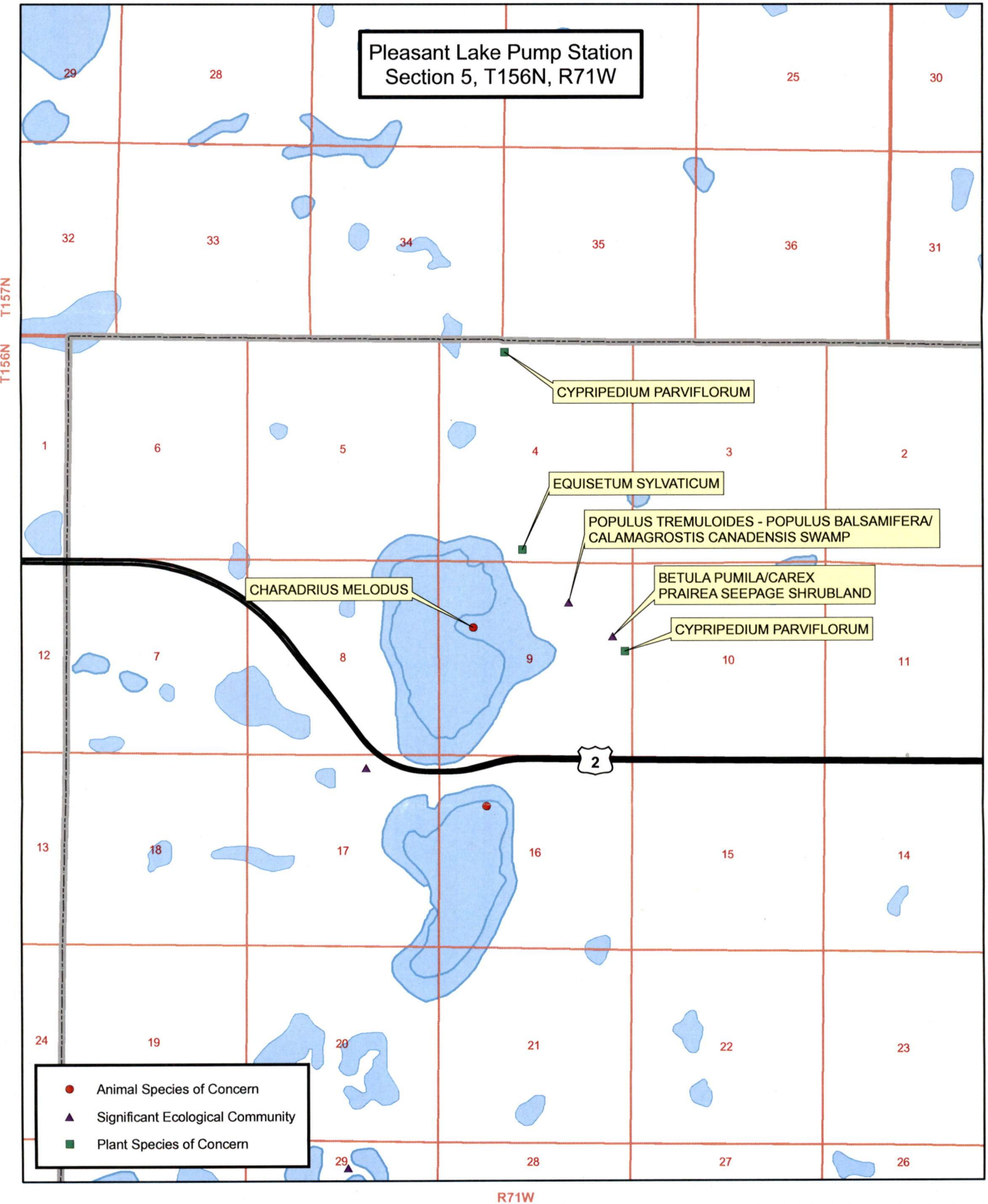
North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department
Jesse Hanson

Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC
North Dakota Phase 6 Expansion Project

Land and Water Conservation Fund projects in area:

<u>Alexander</u>	<u>Trenton</u>	<u>Stanley</u>	<u>Minot</u>	<u>Larimore</u>
38-00193	38-00448	38-00222	38-00009	38-00327
38-00437	38-00769	38-00482	38-00124	38-00888
		38-00588	38-00178	38-01037
		38-00672	38-00207	
		38-01146	38-00271	
		38-01202	38-00311	
			38-00314	
			38-00332	
			38-00393	
			38-00399	
			38-00422	
			38-00451	
			38-00508	
			38-00628	
			38-00629	
			38-00660	
			38-00877	
			38-00895	
			38-00951	
			38-01137	

North Dakota Natural Heritage Inventory Species of Concern and Significant Ecological Communities



North Dakota Natural Heritage Inventory
Species of Concern and Significant Ecological Communities

State Scientific Name	State Common Name	Township & Range	Section	TRS Notes	State Rank	Global Rank	Federal Status	Last Observation
CYPRIPEDIUM PARVIFLORUM	SMALL YELLOW LADY'S-SLIPPER ORCHID	156N071W	4	NW4NE4NW4	S2S3	G5		
EQUISETUM SYLVATICUM	WOOD HORSETAIL	156N071W	4	SW4	S2	G5		1990-11-08
CHARADRIUS MELODUS	PIPING PLOVER	156N071W	9	ALSO SEC. 4,5,8	S1S2	G3	(LE,LT)	1972
POPULUS TREMULOIDES - POPULUS BALSAMIFERA/ CALAMAGROSTIS CANADENSIS SWAMP	POPLAR WETLAND	156N071W	9	SE4NE4	S3			1984-06-13
BETULA PUMILA/CAREX PRAIREA SEEPAGE SHRUBLAND	BOG BIRCH RICH FEN	156N071W	9		S2			1984-06-13
CYPRIPEDIUM PARVIFLORUM	SMALL YELLOW LADY'S-SLIPPER ORCHID	156N071W	9	SE4NE4	S2S3	G5		1984-06-13

North Dakota Natural Heritage Inventory Biological and Conservation Data Disclaimer

The quantity and quality of data collected by the North Dakota Natural Heritage Inventory are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals and organizations. In most cases, this information is not the result of comprehensive or site-specific field surveys; many natural areas in North Dakota have never been thoroughly surveyed, and new species are still being discovered. For these reasons, the Natural Heritage Inventory cannot provide a definite statement on the presence, absence, or condition of biological elements in any part of North Dakota. Natural Heritage data summarize the existing information known at the time of the request. Our data are continually upgraded and information is continually being added to the database. This data should never be regarded as final statements on the elements or areas that are being considered, nor should they be substituted for on-site surveys.