

Updated Table 5.4.1: Summary of Vegetation Resources			
COVER TYPE	PROJECT ¹		DESCRIPTION ¹
	MILES	PERCENT	
Open Water	0.5	0.2%	Areas of open water, generally with less than 25 percent cover of vegetation or soil.
Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	0.1	<0.1%	Areas of bedrock, desert pavement, scarps, talus, slides, volcanic material, glacial debris, sand dunes, strip mines, gravel pits and other accumulations of earthen material. Generally, vegetation accounts for less than 15 percent of total cover.
Developed	10.7	3.2%	Developed lands include such land as residential, commercial, industrial, rights-of-way corridors (ROW corridors). Vegetation in previously disturbed areas is frequently little to none and is often composed of introduced weedy species. The previously disturbed areas crossed by the Project have been identified through land-use classification as ROW corridors, with a very small portion (<0.2 mile) identified as rural residence. ROW corridors include roads, utility corridors and railroads. These areas have often been replanted with a mixture of grass and forbs.
Cultivated Crops	216.5	64.8%	Areas used to produce annual crops, which in the Project area are crops such as wheat, corn, and soybeans. Crop vegetation accounts for greater than 20 percent of total vegetation. This class also includes all land being actively tilled.
Pasture/Hay	14.2	4.3%	Areas of grasses, legumes, or grass-legume mixtures planted for livestock grazing or the production of seed or hay crops, typically on a perennial cycle. Pasture/hay vegetation accounts for greater than 20 percent of total vegetation. Dominant vegetation observed in hayfields within the Project area consisted Canadian thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>), Kentucky bluegrass (<i>Poa pratensis</i>), smooth brome (<i>Bromus inermis</i>), western snowberry (<i>Symphoricarpos accidentalis</i>), quackgrass (<i>Elymus repens</i>), alfalfa (<i>Medicago sativa</i>), prickly Russian-thistle (<i>Salsola tragus</i>), green bristlegrass (<i>Setaria viridis</i>), cereal rye (<i>Secale cereale</i>), annual bluegrass (<i>Poa annua</i>), big bluestem (<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>), and Indiangrass (<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>).

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Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	6.2	1.9%	Areas where perennial herbaceous vegetation accounts for greater than 80 percent of vegetative cover and the soil or substrate is periodically saturated with or covered with water. See descriptions of palustrine emergent wetland vegetation in Section 5.3.1² . Further description is provided in the Project wetlands report provided in Appendix 7³ .
Woody Wetlands	1.0	0.3%	Areas where forest or shrubland vegetation accounts for greater than 2 percent of vegetative cover and the soil or substrate is periodically saturated with or covered with water. See descriptions of palustrine shrub-scrub and palustrine forested wetland vegetation in Section 5.3.1² . Additional information is provided in the Project wetlands report provided in updated Appendix 7³ .
Deciduous Forest	1.4	0.4%	Areas dominated by trees generally greater than 16 feet tall, and greater than 20 percent of total vegetation cover. More than 75 percent of the tree species shed foliage simultaneously in response to seasonal change. Forests within the Project area are characterized as hardwood forests. Dominant tree and shrub species in the Project area include beggarslice (<i>Hackelia virginiana</i>), eastern woodland sedge (<i>Carex blanda</i>), burr oak (<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>), green ash (<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>), American plum (<i>Prunus americana</i>), American basswood (<i>Tilia americana</i>), common snowberry (<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>), American elm (<i>Ulmus americana</i>), purple meadow-rue (<i>Thalictrum dasycarpum</i>), reed canarygrass (<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>), boxelder (<i>Acer negundo</i>), European buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>), buffelgrass (<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>), common milkweed (<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>), Siberian elm (<i>Ulmus pumila</i>) smooth brome (<i>Bromus inermis</i>), stinging nettle (<i>Urtica dioica</i>), stiff goldenrod (<i>Solidago rigida</i>), Kentucky bluegrass, and western snowberry.
Evergreen Forest	<0.1	<0.1%	Areas dominated by trees generally greater than 16 feet tall, and greater than 20 percent of total vegetation cover. More than 75 percent of the tree species maintain their leaves all year. Canopy is never without green foliage.

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Scrub / Shrub	0.5	0.1%	Areas dominated by shrubs; less than 16 feet tall with shrub canopy typically greater than 20 percent of total vegetation. This class includes true shrubs, young trees in an early successional stage or trees stunted from environmental conditions.
Grassland / Herbaceous	82.7	24.8%	Areas dominated by graminoid or herbaceous vegetation, generally greater than 80 percent of total vegetation. These areas are not subject to intensive management such as tilling but can be utilized for grazing.

Notes:

Data Source: USGS 2021 NLCD Land Use

¹Please note that the values in the table are based on desktop review and may vary from field verification.

²Refers to Section 5.3.1 of the Applicants October 17, 2022 Application.

³An updated Appendix 7 “Biological Reports” is being filed as part of this Supplemental Filing for the Reconsideration Process.