

Appendix E

Special Status Species

Species	Scientific Name	Status ¹	Habitat Association	Primary Habitat	Occurrence Within Project Area	Eliminated from Detailed Analysis	Counties	Source
MAMMALS								
Arctic shrew	<i>Sorex arcticus</i>	ND Level III	Most commonly found in grass-sedge marshes, wet meadows, and other moist openings in and adjacent to boreal forest. Also present, in fewer numbers, in tamarack-spruce bogs and cedar swamps. Small globular nests are usually made aboveground under logs or other material.	Riparian	No	Yes. This species and its required habitat are not found within the Project area.	Mountrail	Hagen et al. 2005; NatureServe 2008
Grey wolf	<i>Canis lupis</i>	FE ; ND Level III	This species inhabits a wide range of habitats where large ungulates are found. It utilizes mixed hardwood-coniferous forests in wilderness and sparsely settled areas, to forest and prairie landscapes dominated by agricultural and pasture lands.	Any	Yes – The occurrence of this species in the Project area would be as a migrant only.	Yes. Migratory occurrence of this species is highly unlikely and the Project would not impact this species due to the fact that it's mobile.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; USFWS 2008b
Long-eared myotis	<i>Myotis evotis</i>	ND Level III	This species typically roosts in rugged terrain in small groups or alone in rock crevices and under tree bark. It is associated with coniferous trees. This species hibernates in caves and abandoned mines.	Rugged terrain and coniferous trees	Yes – The occurrence of this species would be limited to foraging activities.	Yes. Use of the Project area by this species for foraging is unlikely. In addition, foraging would occur at night. Considering that construction activities would primarily occur within the day, and this species is mobile during foraging, the Project would not impact this species and is therefore not carried forward for detailed analysis.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Long-legged myotis	<i>Myotis volans</i>	ND Level III	This species typically roosts in rugged terrain in small groups or alone in rock crevices and under tree bark. They also are associated with coniferous trees.	Rugged terrain and coniferous trees	Yes – The occurrence of this species would be limited to foraging activities.	Yes. Use of the Project area by this species for foraging is unlikely. In addition, foraging would occur at night. Considering that construction activities would primarily occur within the day, and this species is mobile during foraging, the Project would not impact this species and is therefore not carried forward for detailed analysis.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Pygmy shrew	<i>Sorex hoyi</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers moist areas and riparian woodlands associated with mixed and tall grass prairies.	Riparian Woodlands	No	Yes. The Project area is located outside of the range of this species.	Mountrail	Hagen et al. 2005; NatureServe 2008.
Richardson's ground squirrel	<i>Spermophilus richardsonii</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers well grazed pastures of native or tame grass in areas of sandy loam or gravelly soils. They also can be found near agricultural fields which provide cereal grain as a food source.	Mixed-grass prairie	Yes	Yes. Individuals or evidence of this species was not detected in the vicinity of the Project area during 2008 survey efforts.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Sagebrush vole	<i>Lemmyscus curtatus</i>	ND Level III	This species prefers semi-arid areas with loose soil; usually a combination of grass and sagebrush.	Semi-arid lands	No	Yes. The required habitat for this species (sagebrush) is not located in the vicinity of the Project area.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Swift fox	<i>Vulpes velox</i>	ND Level II	This species is found in short-, mid-, and mixed-grass prairies with gently rolling hills. Den sites are typically located on flat areas or along slopes or ridges that provide a good view. Dens are typically on sites dominated by blue grama or buffalo grass.	Grasslands	Yes – historic	Yes. This species is believed to be extirpated from North Dakota.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Western small-footed myotis	<i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>	ND Level III	This species typically roosts in rugged terrain in small groups or alone in rock crevices and under tree bark. They are only found in North Dakota's badlands and also are associated with coniferous trees.	Rugged terrain and coniferous trees	Yes – The occurrence of this species would be limited to foraging activities.	Yes. Use of the Project area by this species for foraging is unlikely. In addition, foraging would occur at night. Considering that construction activities would primarily occur within the day, and this species is mobile during foraging, the Project would not impact this species and is therefore not carried forward for detailed analysis.	Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
BIRDS								
American avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers ponds or lakes with exposed, sparsely vegetated shorelines. Peak breeding season: mid-May to early July.	Ponds or Lakes	Yes	No. However, the Project crosses a limited amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
American bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits a variety of wetlands, particularly large wetlands with tall emergent vegetation. This migratory bird also will nest in tall, dense grassland. Breeding season: mid-June to late-July.	Wetlands and tall, dense grasslands	Yes	No. However, the Project crosses a limited amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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American white pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	ND Level I	This species nests in colonies on islands or peninsulas in large lakes and sometimes on rivers. These islands consist of gravel, sand, or soil substrate and little to no vegetation. Foraging habitat is located shallow waters of lakes, marshes, and rivers.	Large lakes/ reservoirs	Yes	No. This species and its required habitat are found along the Missouri River and waterbodies throughout North Dakota.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Baird's sparrow	<i>Ammodramus bairdii</i>	ND Level I	This species prefers extensive tracts of native prairie but will utilize idle, tame grasslands, and lightly to moderately grazed pastures. Stands of grasses with narrow leaves are readily used. Breeding season: early June to late-July.	Extensive tracts of native mixed grass prairie and lightly grazed pastures	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NatureServe 2008
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	ND Level II	This species typically occurs near large bodies of water that support suitable roosting and foraging habitat. Nest sites typically occur in proximity to open water and generally are found in mature heterogeneous stands of multi-storied trees, but also may nest on cliffs. Winter habitat typically includes areas of open water, adequate food sources, and sufficient diurnal perches and night roosts. Breeding season: January through July. Winter roosting season: November 15 through March 15.	Large rivers and waterbodies	Yes	No. This species and its required habitat are found along the Missouri River and waterbodies throughout North Dakota.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; USFWS 2008b
Black tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	ND Level I	This species prefers wetlands complexes of shallow wetlands with emergent vegetation and open water surrounded by grasslands. Areas of open water are used for foraging and nests are constructed on floating mats of residual vegetation within the emergent vegetation. Breeding season: early June to mid-July.	Shallow wetlands, grassland	Yes	No. However, the Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Black-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits bushy margins or openings of woodlands, and thickets of small trees or shrubs on the prairie. Also uses riparian areas, shelterbelts and wooded areas of towns and farmsteads. Breeding season: mid-June to late-July.	Wooded areas	Yes	No. However, the Project crosses only a small amount of suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	ND Level II	This species uses a variety of grasslands but prefers moderate to tallgrass prairie, hayland, and retired croplands. Breeding season: early June to mid-July.	Grasslands	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	ND Level II	This migratory species inhabits open grasslands with short vegetation and bare ground. Rely exclusively on burrowing mammals to create burrows for nest sites. Breeding season: early May to mid-August.	Prairie dog colonies	Yes	No. This species was detected during 2008 survey efforts in the vicinity of the Project area.	Secondary Range: Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Canvasback	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers deep wetlands, particularly semipermanent wetlands with emergent cover. Breeding season: mid-May to mid-August.	Open water	Yes	No. However, the Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Chestnut-collared longspur	<i>Calcarius ornatus</i>	ND Level I	This species is described as a native prairie specialist. Level to rolling, open, arid, mixed-grass and shortgrass prairie is utilized. Breeding season: early May to mid-July.	Native prairie	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Dickcissel	<i>Spiza americana</i>	ND Level II	This species uses a variety of grassland habitats but prefers areas with alfalfa, sweet clover, and other brushy grasslands. Breeding season: early June to mid-August.	Grasslands	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Franklin's Gull	<i>Larus pipixcan</i>	ND Level I	This species nests in colonies in extensive prairie wetlands with emergent vegetation on floating mats of vegetation, on muskrat houses, or other debris. Foraging occurs over water or within agricultural fields. Breeding season: late-May to mid-July.	Large wetlands, Ag fields	Yes	No. The Project crosses a small amount of suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Ferruginous hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits a variety of open country and shrublands. Usually avoids cultivated fields, heavily grazed pastures, high elevations, and forest interiors. May be associated with prairie dog towns. Breeding season: late-April to mid-July.	Open country and shrublands	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; Gomes (No Date)
Grasshopper sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits grasslands of intermediate height, clumped vegetation, patches of bare ground, moderate litter depth, and sparse woody vegetation. Also uses native and tame grasslands, CRP, haylands, and croplands. Breeding season: early June to late-July.	Open country	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Greater Prairie Chicken	<i>Tympanuchus cupido</i>	ND Level II	This species occurs within native tallgrass prairie associated with agricultural land. Leks are located in areas of short vegetation and bare ground. Nests are found close to the lek site within dense vegetation and some association to water. Breeding season: late-April to early July.	Native Tallgrass prairie/cropland	No	Yes. This species is believed to be extirpated from most of North Dakota. Current distribution is limited to eastern North Dakota.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; Svedarsky et al. 2003
Horned Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	ND Level I	This species breeds in shallow freshwater ponds and marshes with emergent vegetation and substantial amounts of open water. Breeding season: June to early August.	Ponds/wetlands	No	Yes. This species and its required habitat are not found within the Project area.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Interior least tern	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	FE; ND Level II	This species utilizes sparsely vegetated shorelines and sandbars within lakes and rivers. Nests are constructed as a hollow scrape on the ground with foraging occurring close to the nesting colony. Breeding season: early June to mid-July.	Sandbars/ shorelines	No	Yes. This species and its required habitat are not found within the Project area.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; USFWS 2008b; NDNHI 2008
Lark bunting	<i>Calamospiza melanocorys</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits mixed-grass prairies and sagebrush communities. Weedy cropland, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), hayland, and pastures also are used. Breeding season: early June to early August.	Open country and shrubland	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
LeConte's sparrow	<i>Ammodramus leconteii</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers fens, wet meadows, and marshes of sedge grasses. Breeding season: late-May to mid-August.	Wetlands	Yes	No. The Project crosses a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers open country with thickets of small trees, shrubs, and shelterbelts. Breeding season: early May to mid-July.	Open country with tree clumps	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Marbled godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>	ND Level I	This species requires large expanses of short, sparse to moderately vegetated uplands for nesting and a variety of wetlands for foraging. Requires a high percentage of grass cover and wetlands. Breeding season: early May to late-June.	Prairie adjacent to wetlands	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow	<i>Ammodramus nelsoni</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits fens, shallow-marsh and wet meadow zones of wetlands. Breeding season: mid-June to early August.	Fens, wet meadows	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Northern harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	ND Level II	This species inhabits open grasslands and wetlands with tall, dense vegetation. This migratory bird will utilize native or tame vegetation in wet or dry grasslands, fresh to alkali wetlands, lightly grazed pastures, croplands, shrubby fields and fallow fields. Breeding season: early May to mid-July.	Grasslands, Agriculture, and wetlands	Yes	No. This species was detected during 2008 survey efforts.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; Gomes (No Date)
Northern pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers wetland complexes of open water and associated upland native prairie. Breeding season: early April to early July.	Open water	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	ND Level III	This species uses open expanses of native prairie, badland complexes, rocky cliffs overlooking rivers, lakes, or other water in North Dakota. Nests on high ledges, cliffs, steep sides of buttes, and tall buildings. Only one breeding pair has been identified in Fargo, North Dakota. Breeding season: early May to late-July.	Cliffs	Yes – as a migrant only.	Yes. The only known nesting pair was located in Fargo, North Dakota, and was last observed in 1954.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; Gomes (No Date)
Piping plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	FT; ND Level II	This species uses sandy or gravelly beaches and sandbars or alkaline wetlands. Breeding season: late-May to mid-July.	Sandy/gravelly beaches	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; USFWS 2008b; NatureServe 2008
Redhead	<i>Aythya americana</i>	ND Level II	This species uses a variety of wetland types but prefers semi-permanent and deep seasonal wetlands. Breeding season: early June to late-August.	Open water	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Red-headed woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers natural stands of mature deciduous trees along river bottoms, shelterbelts, and wooded areas of towns. Breeding season: early June to early August.	Deciduous tree stands	No	Yes. Shelterbelts and towns would be avoided. Habitat would not be affected.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Sedge wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers wet meadows of tall grasses and sedges. Breeding season: mid-June to early August.	Wet meadows	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Sharp-tailed grouse	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus</i>	ND Level II	This species uses mixed grass prairie with patches of shrubs and small trees. CRP grasslands are important to this species. Nests in lightly grazed native prairie, haylands, CRP, and may be located close to the margin of a thicket of shrubs or small trees. Breeding season mid-May to early August.	Mixed grass prairie with patches of shrubs	Yes	No. No lek sites are known to occur near the Preferred Project location, but individuals were observed during 2008 survey efforts.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Short-eared owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	ND Level II	This species inhabits large expanses of open grassland and wetland areas. Uses native prairie, hayland, retired cropland, small grain stubble, shrubsteppe, and wet meadow zones of wetlands. CRP land is important for this species. Breeding season: late-April to mid-July.	Open country	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Sprague's pipit	<i>Anthus spragueii</i>	ND Level I	This species requires large native grasslands of intermediate height and sparse to intermediate vegetation density. Breeding season: early May to mid-August.	Large native grasslands	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits open grasslands with scattered trees or shrubs. Also uses shortgrass, mixed-grass, tallgrass prairie, riparian areas, isolated trees, shelterbeds, pasture, hayland, cropland, and wetland borders. Breeding season: mid-May to late-July.	Open country with scattered trees and shrubs	Yes	No. This species was observed during 2008 survey efforts.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; Gomes (No Date)
Upland sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits native and tame grassland, wet meadows, hayland, pastures, CRP, cropland, highway and railroad ROWs. Often uses wooden fence posts for viewing. Breeding season: late-May to early July.	Open country Grasslands	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Whooping crane	<i>Grus americana</i>	FE; ND Level III	Use of the Project would be limited to migration only. During migration, this species uses primarily wetlands and cropland ponds for roosting and feeding. Spring and fall migration through the Project regions generally occurs from April to mid-May and from mid-September to October.	Wetlands bordered by agricultural fields	Yes – Within primary migratory route through North Dakota	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; USFWS 2008b; NDNHI 2008;
Willet	<i>Cataprophorus semipalmatus</i>	ND Level I	Marshes, tidal mudflats, beaches, lake margins, mangroves, tidal channels, river mouths, coastal lagoons, sandy or rocky shores, and, less frequently, open grassland. Breeding season: late-May to mid-July.	Wetlands with sparse shorelines adjacent to native shortgrass prairie	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Wilson's phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	ND Level I	This species uses wetlands with open water, emergent vegetation, and open shoreline for foraging and wet meadows, upland grasslands, and wetlands for nesting. Breeding season: late-May to early June.	Wetlands adjacent to upland grasslands	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Yellow rail	<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>	ND Level I	This species uses fens or wet meadows with emergent vegetation, shallow water, and moist soil. Breeding season: early June to mid-July.	Fens, wet meadows	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NatureServe 2008
REPTILES / AMPHIBIANS								
Canadian toad	<i>Bufo hemiophrys</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits margins of lakes, ponds, and a variety of wetlands that maintain a permanent water source. This species burrows in the soil with inactive.	Lakes, ponds and wetlands	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Common snapping turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers warm water in permanent lakes or rivers with a muddy bottom and plenty of aquatic vegetation. This species buries itself in the mud at the margins of lakes, ponds, and rivers.	Lakes or rivers	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of marginally suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Plains spadefoot	<i>Spea bombifrons</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits dry, open grasslands with sandy or loose soils. Temporary wetlands without vegetation, such as those found in agricultural fields, are easily flooded and may provide tolerable breeding habitat. This species burrows underground or occupies rodent burrows when inactive.	Open grasslands	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Short-horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma douglassi</i>	ND Level II	This species prefers semi-arid, shortgrass prairie in rough terrain. This species burrows in the soil or occupies rodent burrows.	Arid landscapes	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of suitable habitat.	Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Smooth green snake	<i>Liochlorophis vernalis</i>	ND Level I	This species prefers grazed or ungrazed grassland, particularly the uplands of hills where grass is shorter. Moist meadows, native prairies, and occasionally woodland clearings also are used. This species also utilizes burrows. It has been documented hibernating in ant mounds.	Grassland, upland hills	Yes	No	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
Western hognose snake	<i>Heterodon nasicus</i>	ND Level I	This species prefers dry, sandy or gravelly areas in grassland, open sand prairies, or sand dunes. Burrows into loose soil or small mammal burrows for cover.	Open sand prairies	Yes	No. The Project crosses only a small amount of suitable habitat.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005
FISH								
Blue sucker	<i>Cycleptus elongatus</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits streams with swift currents and large turbid rivers. Found mostly in riffles or narrow chutes. Requires gravel bottoms free of sediment.	Large, turbid rivers with gravel bottoms free of sediment	No	Yes. No large rivers will be crossed by the proposed Project.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NatureServe 2008
Finescale dace	<i>Phoxinus neogaeus</i>	ND Level III	This species inhabits boggy water of lakes and slow moving small streams. Bottom substrate is normally silted, sand, or gravel with vegetation present.	Boggy lakes and streams	No	Yes. One historic occurrence (1974) in Williams County is recorded by NDNHI 2008; however, the species is found only in the Tongue River in northeastern North Dakota.	Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NDNHI 2008
Flathead catfish	<i>Pylodictis olivaris</i>	ND Level III	This species occurs in pools and slow moving stretches of large rivers. Areas with debris and a hard bottom are preferred. Also found near impoundments where spawning habitat is available.	Large rivers with pools	No	Yes. No large rivers will be crossed by the proposed Project.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005

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Flathead chub	<i>Platygobio gracilis</i>	ND Level II	This species occurs in small creeks and the largest rivers that have turbid fluctuating water levels and unstable sand bottoms. This species relies on flood flows to spawn successfully.	Turbid rivers with sandy substrate	No	Yes. No large rivers will be crossed by the proposed Project.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NDNHI 2008; NatureServe 2008
Northern redbelly dace	<i>Phoxinus eos</i>	ND Level II	This species inhabits slower moving stretches of rivers with clear water over silt bottoms. Vegetation is usually found in close proximity. Found to a lesser extent in pools and impoundments.	Rivers and ponds	No	Yes. One historic occurrence (1975) in Williams County is recorded by NDNHI 2008; however, in the Missouri River drainage, population are only known to occur in Brush, Apple, Beaver, and Antelope creeks, and the Cannonball, Knife, Heart, and Little Missouri rivers.	Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NDNHI 2008
Paddlefish	<i>Polyodon spathula</i>	ND Level II	This species inhabits slack water areas of rivers and areas of low flow. Areas such as behind sandbars, wing dams, or other structures are preferred.	Large Rivers	No	Yes. No large rivers will be crossed by the proposed Project.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NDNHI 2008; NatureServe 2008
Pallid sturgeon	<i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>	FE; ND Level II	This species is only found in the Missouri River and parts of the Yellowstone River. Usually in fast current areas with a firm sand or gravel bottom.	Large Rivers	No	Yes. No large rivers will be crossed by the proposed Project.	Mountrail Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NatureServe 2008
Sicklefin chub	<i>Macrhybopsis meeki</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits large turbid rivers, usually with a sand or gravel bottom.	Large Rivers	No	Yes. No large rivers will be crossed by the proposed Project.	Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NatureServe 2008

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Sturgeon chub	<i>Macrhybopsis gelida</i>	ND Level I	This species inhabits large slow-moving turbid rivers, usually with a sand or gravel bottom.	Large Rivers	No	Yes. No large rivers will be crossed by the proposed Project.	Williams	Hagen et al. 2005; NDNHI 2008; NatureServe 2008
INVERTEBRATES								
Dakota skipper	<i>Hesperia dacotae</i>	FC	<p>The Dakota skipper is an obligate resident of native prairie habitats and resides in two types of grassland habitats. The first is flat, moist, native bluestem grass prairie where three species of wildflowers are present and in flower during the adult (flight) stage.</p> <p>The second habitat is upland, dry prairie that is often on ridges and hillsides. Bluestem grasses and needlegrasses dominate these drier habitats.</p> <p>The current distribution of this species includes the border between tall grass and mixed grass prairie in western Minnesota, Northeastern South Dakota, north-central North Dakota, and southern Manitoba, Canada (USFWS 2002).</p>	Large tracts of native prairie	No.	Yes. Only known to be east of the Project area.	Mountrail	USFWS 2008b; NatureServe 2008; (USFWS 2002, 2003)
PLANTS								
Dakota buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum visheri</i>	ND SOC	<p>This plant grows predominantly on barren, highly erodible, rock outcrops in badlands habitats. It also may be found on smaller erosional features in mixed grass prairie.</p> <p>Flowering Period: July-August.</p> <p>Elevation range: 1,900-3,100 feet.</p>	Barren land	No	Yes. Habitat for this species was not detected in the vicinity of the Project area.	Mountrail	NDNHI 2008; Ladyman 2006; Locklear 2008

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Heart-leaved buttercup	<i>Ranunculus cardiophyllus</i>	ND SOC	Heart-leaved buttercup occurs in dry to moist meadows and seeps of the Rocky Mountains and western great plains. Its distribution in the Great Plains is concentrated in the Black Hills area of South Dakota. Flowering Period: June-July. Elevation Range: 1,970-11,150 feet.	Dry to moist meadows and seeps	No	Yes. Habitat for this species was not detected in the vicinity of the Project area. The Project area falls at the lower end of the elevation tolerance for this species where it has rarely been documented.	Williams	NDNHI 2008; Efloras 2008; GPFA 1986; MNHP/MFWP 2008; Van Bruggen 1976
Jointed-spike sedge	<i>Carex athrostachya</i>	ND SOC	Jointed-spike sedge is found on the margins of moist to wet meadows in the western U.S. Flowering Period: late spring-summer. Elevation Range: 1,900-8,800 feet.	Moist to wet meadows	No	Yes. Habitat for this species was not detected in the vicinity of the Project area. The Project area falls at the lower end of the elevation tolerance for this species where it has rarely been documented.	Mountrail Williams	NDNHI 2008; GPFA 1986; Klinkenberg 2008

¹ **Species Status**

FE = Federally Endangered.

FT = Federally Threatened.

FD = Federally Delisted.

FC = Federal Candidate.

ND Level I, II, III = North Dakota Level I, II, III Species of Conservation Priority.

ND SOC = North Dakota Species of Concern.