

Questions or Comments? Contact Our Project Team.



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Public Meeting Format

Open House

6:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Project Team members are available to answer questions and help members of the public review information on the boards and maps.

Presentation

7:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Project Team members will deliver a formal presentation on the range of alternatives, the screening process, and the preliminary screening results.

Question and Answer

7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Each registered speaker will be given up to 3 minutes to state comments and ask questions. Project Team members will answer questions.

What are the next steps?

The Corps will re-evaluate the screening process and determine the Alternatives Carried Forward based on public and agency comments.

The EIS will analyze the environmental damage that cannot be avoided for each alternative. The Corps will use the EIS to make an informed decision about which option is the least environmentally-damaging practicable alternative that is in the public's interest.

The Corps will hold a public meeting after the Draft EIS is released, scheduled for spring 2010. You are welcome to send comments at any time by mail, email, or by phone to the Project Team contacts listed above.

Preparing an EIS is a multi-step process that includes public input throughout.

US Army Corps of Engineers

N-12 NIOBRARA EAST & WEST PROJECT



Thank You for Attending Tonight's Public Meeting

Meeting Purpose

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) will present the range of alternatives, discuss the screening process, gather your input on the screening process and seek input that will aid in alternative screening.

Range of Alternatives

Developed Following Scoping

- No-Action
- Existing Alignment with Detour
- Existing Alignment with One-Way Traffic
- Parallel
- Base of Bluffs
- Bluffs
- South of Bluffs

Activities Since Last Public Meeting

Following agency and public scoping, the Corps developed a range of alternatives, including roadway alternatives in the floodplain and in the bluffs.

The Corps determined that the concepts of regulation changes to the Mainstem System and sediment removal are unreasonable. See Concepts Eliminated from Further Review inside this handout. The Existing Alignment, the Parallel, the Base of Bluffs, the Bluffs, and the west segment of the South of Bluffs alternatives will be included in the alternatives screening process.

The Corps developed screening criteria to ensure that Project alternatives will facilitate the Project Purpose and Need and is practicable when considering cost, logistics, and technology. An alternative could reasonably be eliminated from detailed consideration in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) if it fails to satisfy any of the screening criteria. See Alternative Screening Process inside this handout.

Visit the Project Website:

www.transportation.nebraska.gov/projects/niobrara-N12



Concepts Eliminated from Further Review

Regulation Changes to the Missouri River Mainstem System

The public asked the Corps to consider regulation changes to the Missouri River Mainstem System, specifically large releases to remove sediment or the decommissioning of Gavins Point Dam. The Corps determined that this concept is unreasonable because:

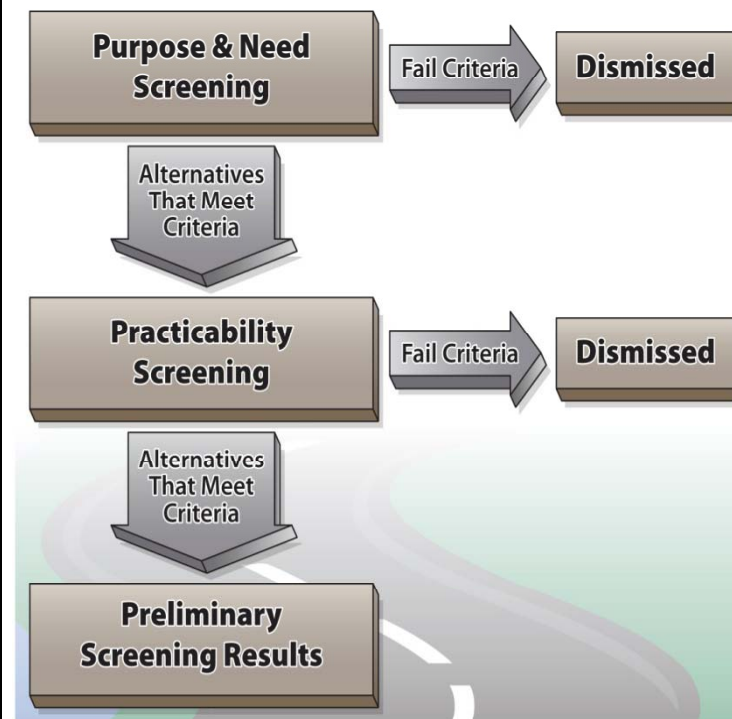
- Flows are dependent upon an adequate quantity of water
- Flows would need to be coordinated with downstream flows and forecasted rainfall
- High releases can cause conflict in goals and authorized purposes of the Mainstem System
- Changes to the Corps' Master Manual requires evaluation of impacts to all purposes of Mainstem System which is time consuming and may not ultimately support a change
- NDOR still required to resolve existing roadway deficiencies

Sediment Removal from Lewis and Clark Lake

The public asked the Corps to consider removing sediment from Lewis and Clark Lake. The Corps determined that this concept is unreasonable because:

- Funding would be required every year for the life of the roadway
- Dredging costs are excessive compared to the other Project alternatives
- NDOR still required to resolve existing roadway deficiencies

Alternative Screening Process



Purpose and Need Screening

The Corps will evaluate the full range of alternatives for their ability to provide a reliable and safe roadway that meets the existing traffic needs and Nebraska roadway design standards. The Corps evaluated each alternative against operational and roadway safety considerations.

Practicability Screening

In order to ensure that alternatives are practicable, the Corps evaluated each alternative against cost and logistical considerations.

ALTERNATIVES TO BE SCREENED MAP

