

Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project

What are your thoughts and perspectives on these valued components?

Feedback you provide can assist in evaluating Valued Components and developing monitoring/protection plans.

Feedback received by engaging First Nations, Metis and the public as well as Traditional Knowledge studies, will help us to develop a better environmental impact statement.

Biophysical Valued Components

The Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project (MMTP) is a transmission line that would send electricity to the United States and allow Manitoba Hydro to receive electricity during emergencies.

Manitoba Hydro will assess what potential effects the project might cause to the environment and how to avoid or lessen those effects. One way to do this is to determine Valued Components (VCs). VCs are elements of the environment that are valued by people and help focus the environmental impact statement. There are biophysical, socio-economic and cultural VCs. The Biophysical VCs identified for the MMTP include:

- Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
- Vegetation and Wetlands
- Fish and Fish Habitat



Columbine

Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat

Examples of wildlife being assessed are **black bear, elk** and **sharp-tailed grouse**. Both traditional knowledge and technical evaluations are underway to better understand potential project effects, including:

- Population dynamics;
- Habitat changes.

What are possible mitigation measures?

- Avoidance of known den and calving areas during construction;
- Timing of construction.



Elk, are known to occupy the Project area. By reviewing information about herd changes, predator access, hunting access, mortality and birth disturbances we can better understand potential effects of the project. Traditional knowledge provides valuable information about changes in population trends over time, cultural significance, and ecosystem connectivity.

Vegetation and Wetlands

Vegetation and wetlands are an essential part of the ecosystem and are used by First Nations, Metis and the public. Both traditional knowledge and technical evaluations are underway to better understand potential project effects on vegetation and wetlands, including:

- Abundance and locations of rare plants, such as orchids and tall grass prairie;
- Increase access to plant harvest areas;

What are possible mitigation measures?

- Species of concern will be identified and monitored, and the use of herbicides will be restricted in these areas.
- Vegetation buffers waterbodies.
- Existing access roads and trails will be used where possible.

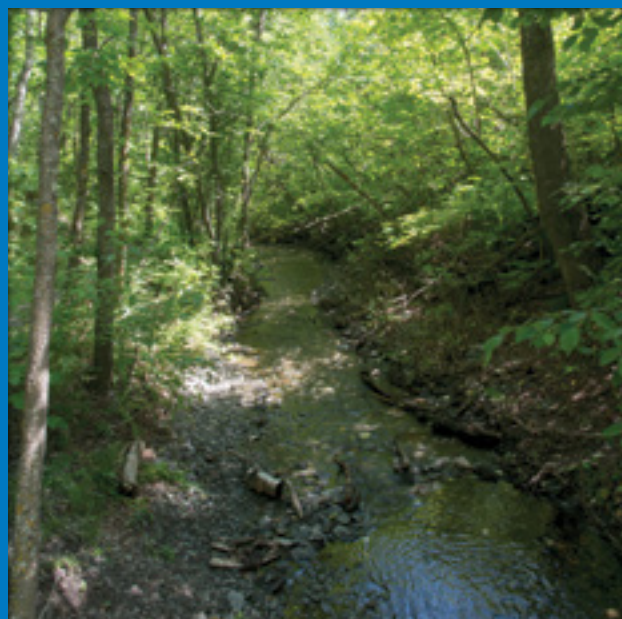


Saskatoon or Ozigwaakominaatig in Ojibway.

Field studies are being undertaken on crown and private lands with permission.



Ruffed Grouse



Manitoba Hydro is interested in hearing from you regarding our environmental assessment.

- Call us at **1-877-343-1631**;
- Email us at **mmtp@hydro.mb.ca**;
- Or talk to one of our representatives at a meeting.

