

APPENDIX C
PUBLIC SCOPING AND ENGAGEMENT



PUBLIC SCOPING SUMMARY REPORT

Proposed Development of the New National Wildlife Health Center - Madison, Wisconsin

Prepared for:
United States Geological Survey

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National Wildlife Health Center Environmental Impact Statement Public Scoping Summary Report

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
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Executive Summary

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing to develop an updated facility for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) that can meet the agency's current and future needs, streamline delivery of research, improve worker and public safety with modern biohazard and pathogen containment and biological-waste disposal, and control operating costs. To ensure a comprehensive understanding of the potential environmental impacts, the USGS is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and recently initiated a public scoping process for the proposed action. The Notice of Intent was published in the Federal Register on September 5, 2023, and the public scoping comment period was open from September 5 through October 20, 2023.

The public was made aware of the EIS process and how to provide feedback during the scoping period through notices, flyers, newspaper ads, an email newsletter, social media messages, newsletter articles, and other electronic notices, with a dedicated project website serving as a comprehensive resource for project information. Adjacent properties and organizations reaching environmental justice communities also received phone calls regarding the public meetings. The public was encouraged to submit comments through the project website (<https://nwhceis.com>) or via email to Jordan Sizemore, USGS NEPA Project Manager. Hard copy comments submitted via mail were also accepted.

The USGS hosted both an in-person and virtual scoping meetings on September 21 and 28, 2023, respectively. The in-person meeting had 6 members of the public in attendance, and the virtual meeting was attended by 20 members of the public. These sessions included a presentation on the proposed action and a question-and-answer session and allowed for the community to submit comments. Attachment 1 includes copies of public materials shared during the scoping period.

The USGS considered all comments from members of the public, organizations, and regulatory agencies, including comments received directly through US mail or email. A total of 13 pieces of correspondence were received via the project website and email during the public scoping period, and a total of 33 individual comments were coded. Commenters addressed the preferred alternative; alternatives considered but dismissed from full analysis; the range of alternatives; various issues and impact topics, including environmental justice; suggestions for consultation; the planning process; the purpose and need for the proposed action; and other topics. Commenters made suggestions regarding measures the USGS should employ during construction or in the design of the new NWHC to reduce environmental impacts or improve conditions for laboratory animals. One commenter suggested the USGS construct a new addition to the existing NWHC facility and redesign the existing space instead of constructing a new facility. One commenter stated the range of alternatives should include alternatives that would relocate the NWHC to alternate sites, and that the EIS should identify and include dismissal criteria for all

alternatives that are not carried forward for detailed analysis. Commenters addressed various issues and impact topics, including noise and vibration during construction, climate change, wetlands and waters of the United States, songbirds, traffic and transportation, and environmental justice, requesting that the USGS address these in the EIS.

Commenters additionally provided suggestions related to the planning process. Regarding consultation, one commenter requested that the USGS involve animal behavior and welfare specialists in the design process for the proposed facility. One commenter requested that the USGS include an appendix to the draft EIS with all scoping comments received and responses to comments from government agencies. One commenter questioned why the USGS did not hold a public meeting in Washington, D.C. One commenter questioned the need for the proposed action, while another requested that the USGS identify and substantiate the purpose and need for the proposed action. Miscellaneous comments received addressed animal welfare at the NWHC. These suggestions relate to the operation of the NWHC and are outside the scope of the current EIS process. This Public Scoping Summary Report summarizes all comments and concerns expressed during the scoping period.

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	i
1. COMMENT ANALYSIS	1
1.1 DEFINITION OF TERMS	1
1.2 COMMENT ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY	1
1.3 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED	2
2. COMMENT SUMMARY	4
2.1 COMMENT SUMMARY STRUCTURE	4
2.2 ALTERNATIVES.....	4
2.2.1 AL1000 – Preliminary Alternatives: No Action (Continued Operation of Current NWHC)	4
2.2.2 AL2000 – Preliminary Alternatives: Preferred Alternative (Development of a New NWHC)	4
2.2.3 AL3000 – Alternatives Considered But Dismissed	6
2.2.4 AL4000 – New Alternatives or Alternative Elements.....	7
2.2.5 AL5000 – Range of Alternatives	7
2.3 ISSUES/IMPACT TOPICS	7
2.3.1 IT1000 – Issues/Impact Topics to be Considered	7
2.3.2 IT2000 – Issues/Impact Topics: Environmental Justice/Equity.....	10
2.3.3 IT3000 – Issues/Impact Topics: Biosafety.....	11
2.3.4 IT4000 – Issues/Impact Topics: Construction Impacts	11
2.3.5 IT5000 – Issues/Impact Topics: Socioeconomic Impacts.....	11
2.3.6 IT6000 – New Issues/Impact Topics.....	12
2.4 OTHER SUBSTANTIVE	12
2.4.1 cc1000 – Consultation and Coordination: General Comments	12
2.4.2 IA1000 – Impact Analysis: Impact Analyses.....	12
2.4.3 NP1000 – NEPA: Planning Process and Policy	12
2.4.4 NP2000 – NEPA: Purpose and Need	13
2.4.5 NP3000 – Other NEPA Issues	14
2.5 NON-SUBSTANTIVE.....	14
2.5.1 MS1000 – Miscellaneous Topics: General Comments.....	14

ATTACHMENT 1: PUBLIC SCOPING MATERIALS
ATTACHMENT 2: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

List of Tables

Table 1. Correspondence Distribution by Correspondence Type	2
Table 2. Correspondence Distribution by Organization Type.....	2
Table 3. Correspondence Distribution by State	2
Table 4. Substantive and Non-Substantive Correspondence	3
Table 5. Number of Comments Per Code	3

1. Comment Analysis

1.1 Definition of Terms

Correspondence: Correspondence is considered the entire document received from a commenter. This includes mailed letters, written comments, e-mails, and comments entered directly into the comment form on the project website.

Comment: A comment is a portion of the text within correspondence that addresses a single subject. It could include information such as an expression of support or opposition for an alternative, additional data regarding existing conditions, or suggestions for resource topics to be considered. Substantive comments are defined as those that:

- Question, with reasonable basis, the accuracy of the information in the NEPA document;
- Question, with reasonable basis, the adequacy of, methodology for, or assumptions used for the environmental analysis;
- Present new information relevant to the analysis;
- Present reasonable alternatives other than those analyzed in the NEPA document; or
- Cause changes or revisions in one or more of the alternatives.

Code: A category or grouping centered on a common subject. The codes were developed during the scoping process and were used to track major subjects. Each comment is assigned one code.

Concerns: Concerns are statements that summarize the comments under each code. Each code was further characterized by concern statements to provide better focus on the content of substantive comments. Codes may require multiple concern statements.

Quotes: Representative quotes have been taken directly from the text of the correspondence received from the public and further clarify the concern statements. Quotes have not been edited for grammar.

1.2 Comment Analysis Methodology

Correspondence was received by email or submitted through the project website. The project team entered correspondence received through email into the comment management system, each was read, and specific comments within each unique correspondence were identified. When identifying comments, efforts were made to capture the full breadth of comments submitted.

To categorize comments, each was given a code to identify its general content and to group similar comments. A total of 19 codes were used to categorize the public comments received about the proposed action. An example of a code is *AL2000 – Preliminary Alternatives: Preferred Alternative (Development of a New NWHC)*. Once each correspondence was organized into comments, all comments were categorized and summarized with similar comments and concern statements were created. Representative quotes are provided for each concern statement.

1.3 Correspondence Received

The following tables are based on data from the comment management system and provide information about the numbers and types of correspondence received, organized by code, affiliation, and location. The tables present data on the number of correspondences received by correspondence type, organization type, and state. One table provides information on which organizations commented during the comment period. Full correspondence submitted by federal and state agencies and non-governmental organizations are provided in Attachment 2.

Also included below are tables detailing the number of comments identified by code. A total of 33 individual comments were derived from the 13 correspondences received.

TABLE 1. CORRESPONDENCE DISTRIBUTION BY CORRESPONDENCE TYPE

Correspondence Type	Correspondences
Web Form	7
Letter	0
Email	6
Other	0

TABLE 2. CORRESPONDENCE DISTRIBUTION BY ORGANIZATION TYPE

Organization Type	Correspondences
Unaffiliated Individual	8
Non-governmental organization	1
State Government	3
Federal Government	1

TABLE 3. CORRESPONDENCE DISTRIBUTION BY STATE

State	Correspondences
NJ	3
WI	2
UT	2
AZ	1
IL	1
KS	1
PA	1
Washington, D.C.	1
WV	1

TABLE 4. SUBSTANTIVE AND NON-SUBSTANTIVE CORRESPONDENCE

Substantive/Non-substantive	Correspondences
Substantive	6
Non-substantive – General Support	6
Non-substantive – General Oppose	1
Total	13

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF COMMENTS PER CODE

Code	Number of Comments
Alternatives	
AL1000 – Preliminary Alternatives: No Action (Continued Operation of Current NWHC)	0
AL2000 – Preliminary Alternatives: Preferred Alternative (Development of a New NWHC)	12
AL3000 – Alternatives Considered but Dismissed	1
AL4000 – New Alternatives or Alternative Elements	0
AL5000 – Range of Alternatives	1
Issues/Impact Topics	
IT1000 – Issues/Impact Topics to be Considered	9
IT2000 – Issues/Impact Topics: Environmental Justice/Equity	3
IT3000 – Issues/Impact Topics: Biosafety	0
IT4000 – Issues/Impact Topics: Construction Impacts	0
IT5000 – Issues/Impact Topics: Socioeconomic Impacts	0
IT6000 – New Issues/Impact Topics	0
Other Substantive	
CC1000 – Consultation and Coordination: General Comments	1
IA1000 – Impact Analysis: Impact Analyses	0
NP1000 – NEPA: Planning Process and Policy	2
NP2000 – NEPA: Purpose and Need	2
NP3000 – Other NEPA Issues	0
Non-Substantive	
MS1000 – Miscellaneous Topics: General Comments	2
Total	33

2. Comment Summary

2.1 Comment Summary Structure

Within the Comment Summary that follows, major concepts and unique perspectives are represented from the comments received during the comment period. This summary includes substantive comments received; the number of non-substantive comments received are summarized in Table 4 above.

2.2 Alternatives

2.2.1 AL1000 – PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES: NO ACTION (CONTINUED OPERATION OF CURRENT NWHC)

AL1000 – Preliminary Alternatives: No Action (Continued Operation of Current NWHC)	Substantive comments pertaining to the no action alternative, continued operation of the current NWHC.	Total Comments: 0
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No comments related to this code were received during the public scoping period.

2.2.2 AL2000 – PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES: PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE (DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW NWHC)

AL2000 Preliminary Alternatives: Preferred Alternative (Development of a New NWHC)	Substantive comments pertaining to the preferred alternative, development of a new NWHC, including comments providing specific suggestions or new information or asking questions.	Total Comments: 12
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Construction Activities

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter suggested measures the USGS should employ during construction to mitigate or reduce potential impacts to air quality, worker health and safety, and children who may be present in areas near construction activities.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Consider requiring the following best practices through the construction contracting or oversight process:

- Establish and enforce a clear anti-idling policy for the construction site.
- Use onsite renewable electricity generation and/or grid-based electricity rather than diesel-powered generators or other equipment.
- Use electric starting aids such as block heaters with older vehicles to warm the engine.
- Regularly maintain diesel engines to keep exhaust emissions low. Follow the manufacturer’s recommended maintenance schedule and procedures. Smoke color can signal the need for maintenance (e.g., blue/black smoke indicates that an engine requires servicing or tuning).

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Occupational Health

- Reduce exposure through work practices and training, such as maintaining filtration devices and training diesel-equipment operators to perform routine inspections.
- Position the exhaust pipe so that diesel fumes are directed away from the operator and nearby workers, reducing the fume concentration to which personnel are exposed.
- Use enclosed, climate-controlled cabs pressurized and equipped with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters to reduce the operators' exposure to diesel fumes. Pressurization ensures that air moves from inside to outside. HEPA filters ensure that any incoming air is filtered first.

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

- Establish material hauling routes away from places where children live, learn, and play to the extent feasible. Consider homes, schools, daycares, and playgrounds. In addition to air quality benefits, careful routing may protect children from vehicle-pedestrian accidents. Identify potential material hauling routes in the DEIS.

Design

CONCERN STATEMENT: Commenters made suggestions related to the design of the proposed facility, including that the USGS achieve or surpass standards such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification at the platinum level or Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International standards. Commenters suggested that the design should include measures to improve animal care and comfort, energy efficiency, and sustainability.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Energy efficient design and material selection could reduce operations costs and promote a high-quality work environment, while also better protecting the environment. Recycling construction debris also preserves valuable landfill space and makes use of materials that have high embodied energy.

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Recommendations for the DEIS: USGS should consider committing to the following:

- Achieving Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) certification at the platinum level (or design for net-zero energy usage) for all new buildings associated with the project. Best practices for energy efficiency and sustainable building design can include the use of energy-efficient building materials, such as south-facing skylights and windows, motion sensed lighting, solar, wind, and/or geothermal power, and Energy Star certified windows and doors. In addition to reducing the overall environmental footprint, green building certification programs promote health by encouraging practices that protect indoor air quality. At a minimum, USEPA encourages USGS to commit to analyze the strengths and feasibility of these strategies;

Organization/Individual: Animal Welfare Institute

Because the NWHC uses animal experimentation to further its mission, AWI wishes to ensure the renovation will focus on the best interests of the animals involved. The USGS-proposed action notes challenges such as “crowded laboratories” and “aging infrastructure,” both of which raise animal welfare concerns.¹ AWI is supportive of any measures that would improve animal care and comfort and rectify existing deficiencies,² including updates to NWHC’s facilities, as long as the updates focus on animal-centered improvements rather than expanding in-house animal experiments. As noted below, such efforts are critical not only to the welfare of the animals, but also to the integrity of the resulting research.

Organization/Individual: Animal Welfare Institute

We appreciate USGS’s statement that “AAALAC standards are part of the design requirements to ensure the new facility meets these standards”³ and hope that animal welfare continues to be a focus of the renovation planning moving forward. However, USGS should recognize that AAALAC accreditation standards should be seen as a minimum starting point, not as a sufficient goal. We urge USGS to consider meeting higher standards than those promulgated by AAALAC. As a government institution with a goal focused on protecting animals in the wild, NWHC should serve as a “poster child” for animal welfare protections in their laboratories by striving to go above and beyond basic welfare requirements.

Organization/Individual: Individual

The climate and extinction crises are getting much worse. The planning, design, and construction of the new facility should include positive actions in response to these overlapping crises. Fossil fuel use should be discouraged and clean alternative energy used instead. Solar panels with battery backups are always good. Vehicle charging stations should be installed, along with modern water and energy conservation features. Native vegetation should be used in all landscaping, including pollinator friendly plants. Composting of solid food waste should enrich the soil. Please continue this excellent work. Many thanks!

2.2.3 AL3000 – ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT DISMISSED

AL3000 Alternatives Considered but Dismissed	Comments pertaining to preliminary alternatives that have been considered but dismissed, including consolidation, relocation, and siting and design alternatives outside of the preferred alternative.	Total Comments: 1
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Construct New Addition

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter suggested the USGS construct a new addition to the existing NWHC facility and redesign the existing space instead of constructing a new facility.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: Individual

i am not in favor of taxpayers payin for a new building. i think an addition and better use of space can achieve enough.

2.2.4 AL4000 – NEW ALTERNATIVES OR ALTERNATIVE ELEMENTS

AL4000 New Alternatives or Alternative Elements	Comments suggesting new alternatives or alternative elements that have not been considered.	Total Comments: 0
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No comments related to this code were received during the public scoping period.

2.2.5 AL5000 – RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES

AL5000 Range of Alternatives	Comments pertaining to the preliminary range of alternatives.	Total Comments: 1
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Range of Alternatives

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter stated that the range of alternatives should include alternatives that would relocate the NWHC to alternate sites. The commenter stated that the EIS should identify and include dismissal criteria for all alternatives that are not carried forward for detailed analysis.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

The No Action alternative and all action alternatives that would satisfy the substantiated purpose and are determined to be reasonable should be carried forward and fully studied in the DEIS. This should include the opportunities at the three alternative sites noted above. The DEIS should identify any alternatives identified and considered but dismissed from further consideration and should provide elimination criteria and clear explanations for their elimination.

2.3 Issues/Impact Topics

2.3.1 IT1000 – ISSUES/IMPACT TOPICS TO BE CONSIDERED

IT1000 Issues/Impact Topics to be Considered	Comments related to issues or impact topics planned to be considered in the DEIS.	Total Comments: 9
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Noise

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter noted that noise and vibration could adversely affect animals housed at the NWHC and requested that the USGS take steps to reduce stress to animals during construction.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: Animal Welfare Institute

We have one final recommendation: The statement that “the existing NWHC must remain operational during construction of the new facility,”¹⁴ raises concerns about the potential impact of the construction on any living animals present at the center. While we understand that, due to the health-centered nature of NWHC’s research, work cannot stop entirely, we would urge NWHC to avoid conducting live animal experiments during construction and take steps to avoid undue stress on the animals during that time. “The use of heavy construction equipment often results in loud noise and vibration. If close enough in proximity, the animals can detect this noise and vibration, which often promotes decreased breeding efficiency, abortion, cannibalism, and aggression. These effects, in turn, can lead to problems with establishing breeding schemes, the loss of data, and project delays.”¹⁵ If such activities cannot cease, they should be constrained to the minimum number of animals necessary, and appropriate steps should be taken to minimize any animal discomfort from nearby construction, especially noise and smells, taking into account the particular sensitivity of many animal species to these sorts of stimuli. Such measures might include “installing equipment to monitor vibration and noise” or using sound dampening measures or anti-vibration pads.¹⁶

Sustainability and Climate

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter recommended that the DEIS disclose potential direct and indirect GHG emissions that may result from implementation of the alternatives and estimates of the social cost of projected emissions. This commenter stated that the discussion of climate change impacts in the DEIS should follow interim guidance published by the Council on Environmental Quality in 2023 and include the potential impacts of climate change on the selected alternative.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Any Action Alternative for a new or modified facility would directly release greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions during construction from trucks hauling materials, workers’ vehicles, and operation of construction equipment. It is important for the DEIS to fully quantify and adequately disclose the impacts of the GHG emissions from the No Action alternative and all action alternatives and discuss the implications of those emissions in light of science-based policies established to avoid the worsening impacts of climate change.

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

In addition, estimates of the social cost of greenhouse gases (SC-GHG) are informative for assessing the impacts of GHG emissions. SC-GHG estimates allow analysts to monetize the societal value of changes in GHG emissions from actions that have small, or marginal, impacts on cumulative global emissions. Estimates of the social cost of carbon (SC-CO2) and other greenhouse gases (e.g., social cost of methane (SC-CH4)) have been used for over a decade in Federal government analyses. Quantification of anticipated GHG releases and associated SC-GHG comparisons among all alternatives (including the No Action Alternative scenarios) within the DEIS would inform project decision-making and provide clear support for implementing all practicable measures to minimize GHG emissions and releases.

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

On January 9, 2023, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) published interim guidance to assist Federal agencies in assessing and disclosing climate change impacts during environmental reviews¹⁰. CEQ developed this guidance in response to Executive Order 13990 – Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis. This interim guidance was effective immediately. CEQ indicated that agencies should use this interim guidance to inform the NEPA review for all new proposed actions and may use it for evaluations in process, as agencies deem appropriate, such as informing the consideration of alternatives or helping address comments raised through the public comment process. EPA recommends the DEIS apply the interim guidance as appropriate, to ensure robust consideration of potential climate impacts, mitigation, and adaptation issues.

Recommendations for the DEIS: USGS should apply the interim guidance as appropriate, to ensure robust consideration of potential climate impacts, mitigation, and adaptation issues.

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

- Describe changing climate conditions (i.e., temperatures and frequency and severity of storm events) and assess how such changes could impact the proposed project and the environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives.

Water Resources

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter recommended that the USGS complete a formal wetland and Waters of the U.S. delineation to identify wetlands, streams, and other regulated Waters of the U.S. that may be affected by the proposed action.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

WETLANDS/STREAMS/AQUATIC RESOURCES

- Fill into wetlands, or fill into, relocation of, or encapsulation of streams on the property may trigger Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 permitting and CWA Section 401 water quality certification.

Recommendations for the DEIS: A formal wetland and Waters of the U.S. delineation should be completed to know definitively where wetlands, streams, and other regulated Waters of the U.S. are located. This delineation should be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for review and a jurisdictional determination. EPA strongly recommends that this delineation be completed before and included in (as an appendix to) the DEIS, along with a copy of the jurisdictional determination from the regulatory agencies.

Biological Resources

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter requested that the USGS use bird-safe glass or embellish windows on the proposed facility to mitigate or avoid impacts to songbirds.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: Individual

Our concern for your new building is the many glass windows and the threat that that poses to songbirds. We ask that you consider using bird-safe glass or consider embellishing the windows with the many different choices now available to stop or lessen the impacts to songbird deaths through window strikes. Madison Audubon / Badgerland Bird Alliance is a valuable resource for information on this important topic.

Traffic and Transportation

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter requested that the USGS describe in the DEIS any potential changes to traffic or transportation management that may occur as a result of the alternatives.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Recommendations for the DEIS: Describe any changes to local traffic patterns or traffic management systems that will occur as a result of each alternative (including the No Acton alternative). We recommend USGS take into consideration any special events that may happen in the area, and the impact on site access during both construction and during normal operations.

2.3.2 IT2000 – ISSUES/IMPACT TOPICS: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE/EQUITY

IT2000 Issues/Impact Topics: Environmental Justice/Equity	Comments or questions related to potential environmental justice impacts.	Total Comments: 3
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Environmental Justice

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter provided recommendations related to the analysis of potential impacts to environmental justice communities. This commenter suggested that the EIS include analysis of potential impacts to children and other sensitive receptors to comply with Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

NEPA Documentation

- Per Executive Order 13045 on Children’s Health⁵, EPA recommends the lead agency and project proponent pay particular attention to worksite proximity to places where children live, learn, and play, such as homes, schools, and playgrounds. Construction emission reduction measures should be strictly implemented near these locations in order to be protective of children’s health.

- Specify how impacts to sensitive receptors, such as children, elderly, and the infirm will be minimized. For example, locate construction equipment and staging zones away from sensitive receptors and fresh air intakes to buildings and air conditioners.

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

USGS should analyze if construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed project will impact communities with environmental justice (EJ) concerns.

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Recommendations for the DEIS:

- Identify the presence of low-income and/or minority communities within the project area and within the broader area that could experience environmental impacts from the proposed project. Disclose demographic information and summarize input from community members.
- Describe past activities and future plans to engage minority populations, low-income populations, and Tribes during the environmental review and planning phase, and, if the project commences, during construction and operations.
- Evaluate the impacts of this proposal on low-income and/or minority communities and sensitive receptors (e.g., children, people with asthma, etc.).

2.3.3 IT3000 – ISSUES/IMPACT TOPICS: BIOSAFETY

IT3000 Issues/Impact Topics: Biosafety	Comments or questions related to biosafety.	Total Comments: 0
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No comments related to this code were received during the public scoping period.

2.3.4 IT4000 – ISSUES/IMPACT TOPICS: CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

IT4000 Issues/Impact Topics: Construction Impacts	Comments related to potential impacts resulting from construction, including noise, traffic, dust, and other impacts.	Total Comments: 0
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No comments related to this code were received during the public scoping period.

2.3.5 IT5000 – ISSUES/IMPACT TOPICS: SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS

IT5000 Issues/Impact Topics: Socioeconomic Impacts	Comments related to the socioeconomic impacts of the proposed action or alternatives, either beneficial or adverse. This includes comments related to employment, population changes, housing, and tax revenues.	Total Comments: 0
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No comments related to this code were received during the public scoping period.

2.3.6 IT6000 – NEW ISSUES/IMPACT TOPICS

IT6000 New Issues/Impact Topics	Suggestions to assess issues or impact topics not already planned to be considered in the DEIS.	Total Comments: 0
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No comments related to this code were received during the public scoping period.

2.4 Other Substantive

2.4.1 CC1000 – CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION: GENERAL COMMENTS

CC1000 Consultation and Coordination: General Comments	Suggestions of agencies, organizations, or individuals to contact for consultation and/or coordination related to the EIS.	Total Comments: 1
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Consultation

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter requested that the USGS involve animal behavior and welfare specialists in the design process for the proposed facility.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: Animal Welfare Institute

AWI strongly encourages USGS to involve animal behavior and welfare specialists early-on in the facility design process, either as consultants or on a scientific advisory committee, to create a truly animal-centric facility that will protect both the welfare of the animals and the integrity of the research in which they are used.⁴

2.4.2 IA1000 – IMPACT ANALYSIS: IMPACT ANALYSES

IA1000 Impact Analysis: Impact Analyses	Comments making suggestions regarding the analysis of impacts. This includes comments referring to the use of the best available science.	Total Comments: 0
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No comments related to this code were received during the public scoping period.

2.4.3 NP1000 – NEPA: PLANNING PROCESS AND POLICY

NP1000 NEPA: Planning Process and Policy	This includes: 1) Comments on this EIS planning process (such as comments on the project schedule and public meetings), and 2) Comments relating to the policies, regulations, other plans, and laws which should be considered in the development of this EIS.	Total Comments: 2
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Scoping Comments

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter requested that the USGS include an appendix to the DEIS with all scoping comments received and responses to comments from government agencies.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

OTHER COMMENTS

- The Federal Register Notice stated that the DEIS will include a summary of information received during the scoping process but did not state how USGS plans to respond to comments.

Recommendations for the DEIS: In the DEIS, create an appendix to include all comments received during the DEIS comment period – including any applicable transcripts of comments from the public, and all comment letters received. For all government agency letters received, include USGS responses to specific comments from each letter. EPA also recommends that the appendix include all correspondence sent to and received from the resource agencies regarding the project.

Scoping Meetings

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter questioned why the USGS did not hold a public meeting in Washington, D.C.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: Individual

WHY WOULD YOU HAVE A MEETING ON THIS IN WISCONSIN? WHY NOT WASHINGTON DC WHERE IT IS COVERED BY THE PRESS?

2.4.4 NP2000 – NEPA: PURPOSE AND NEED

NP2000 NEPA: Purpose and Need	Comments pertaining to the preliminary purpose and need of the EIS or suggesting additions/changes to the preliminary purpose and need. Comments suggesting specific objectives relating to the EIS. Comments pertaining to the scope of the EIS.	Total Comments: 2
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Purpose and Need

CONCERN STATEMENT: One commenter questioned the need for the proposed action. Another commenter stated the DEIS should identify and substantiate the purpose and need for the proposed action.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: Individual

i fail to see the necessity for an entirely new building in wisconsin. i think we can update the bilding that is there but see absolutely no need for a new building. if you need new equmet, of course you would get that.

Organization/Individual: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

Recommendations for the DEIS: The forthcoming DEIS must first identify, and then substantiate, the purpose and need for the proposed project. The project purpose and the project need statements for the proposed action(s) should be clear and concise.

2.4.5 NP3000 – OTHER NEPA ISSUES

NP3000 Other NEPA Issues	Comments pertaining to the NEPA process in general and/or NEPA requirements	Total Comments: 0
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No comments related to this code were received during the public scoping period.

2.5 Non-substantive

2.5.1 MS1000 – MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS: GENERAL COMMENTS

MS1000 Miscellaneous Topics: General Comments	Comments not relating specifically to this EIS. This includes any items that are outside of the scope of this EIS (e.g., comments regarding aspects of the mission or operations of the NWHC that are not related to the proposed action).	Total Comments: 2
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Comments Outside the Scope

CONCERN STATEMENT: Commenters provided suggestions related to animal welfare. These suggestions relate to the operation of the NWHC and are outside the scope of the current EIS process.

Representative Quotes:

Organization/Individual: Animal Welfare Institute

In addition, while we appreciate NWHC’s call for a mock site visit from AAALAC,⁵ AAALAC accreditation is not a panacea and should not be taken as evidence that the facility meets those standards: AAALAC- accredited facilities have a documented history of not upholding proper animal welfare standards; Envigo and Inotiv are recent examples.⁶ We hope that USGS remains committed to going beyond AAALAC accreditation⁷ to ensure that NWHC’s research meets “contemporary standards and practices.”⁸ To this effect, we call on NWHC to also voluntarily request an APHIS inspection of the new facility and, more importantly, to join the APHIS inspection regime long term. While AAALAC conducts announced site visits once every three years without the force of law, APHIS can use regular unannounced inspections that may discover problems AAALAC has missed.⁹ Due to

the exception in the Animal Welfare Act, the NWHC is not subject to *required* APHIS oversight, which we believe to be a significant loophole in the animal protection regulatory scheme. However, by *requesting* APHIS inspections, and committing to remedy any issues discovered, NWHC can show a commitment to go further than the minimum standards set by AAALAC and show a good faith desire to be open and transparent in efforts to improve animal welfare as part of this construction project. Doing so is also critical to NWHC's ability to protect the integrity of the research being conducted with those animals.

Organization/Individual: Animal Welfare Institute

It is particularly important that NWHC emphasize stringent scientific standards and welfare requirements given the zoonotic nature of some of the diseases studied at NWHC, such as SARS-CoV-2.¹⁰ Along with deficiencies in care of the animals, the 2017 PEER Complaint notes "inadequate training of individuals working with research animals."¹¹ Inadequate training may result in mistakes, and in the context of zoonotic diseases, mistakes can be life-threatening for animals, handlers, and the general population.¹²

ATTACHMENT 1: PUBLIC SCOPING MATERIALS

Attachment 1 Public Scoping Materials

1) Public Scoping Outreach Materials

- a) Notice of Intent
- b) Legal Notice
- c) Flyer
- d) Newspaper Ad
- e) Newspaper Articles
- f) Stakeholder List
- g) Adjacent Properties and Environmental Justice Outreach: Call Log
- h) E-mails to Stakeholders
- i) Newsletter
- j) Social Media Posts

2) Public Scoping Meetings

- a) In-Person Public Scoping Meeting
- b) Virtual Public Scoping Meeting (Held via Zoom)

3) Figures (Exhibits/Handouts)

- a) PowerPoint Presentation
- b) Project Summary
- c) Public Scoping Meeting Pictures
- d) Webpage Screenshots

1) Public Scoping Outreach Materials

a) Notice of Intent

<p>Application/Pre-Award <i>Respondents:</i> Profit and non-profit organizations. <i>Estimated Number of Respondents:</i> 60. <i>Estimated Number of Responses:</i> 60. <i>Frequency of Response:</i> 1. <i>Average Hours per Response:</i> 118.14.</p>	<p>Application/Pre-Award Total <i>Estimated Burden:</i> 7088.40. Post-Award <i>Estimated Number of Respondents/Awardees:</i> 30. <i>Work Plans:</i> 10 per year/awardee. <i>Average Hours per Response:</i> 18.</p>	<p><i>Reports:</i> 4 per year/awardee. <i>Average Hours per Response:</i> 6. <i>Recordkeeping:</i> 12 per year/awardee. <i>Average Hours per Response:</i> 16. <i>Post-Award Total Estimated Burden:</i> 11070. <i>Total Estimated Burdens:</i> 18,158.40.</p>
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Information collection	Number of respondents	Frequency of response	Responses per annum	Burden hour per response	Annual burden hours	Hourly cost per response *	Annual cost
Application/Pre-Award ..	60	1	60	115.14	6,908.4	\$68.85	\$475,643.34
Post-Award							
Work Plans	30	10	300	33	9,900	68.85	681,615.00
Reports	30	12	360	1.5	540	68.85	37,179.00
Recordkeeping	60	8	480	1.5625	750	68.85	51,637.50
Total					18,158.40		1,246,074.84

* Per OMB, Standard Form should be listed, but the burden does not need to be included as part of the collection.

** Estimated cost for respondents is calculated from the December 2022 Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics report on Employer Costs for Employee Compensation determined that the hourly rate of management, professional and related wages and salaries averaged \$47.37 per hour plus \$21.48 per hour for fringe benefits for a total \$68.85 per hour.

B. Solicitation of Public Comment

This notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected parties concerning the collection of information described in Section A on the following:

(1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information;

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond; including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

(5) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

HUD encourages interested parties to submit comment in response to these questions.

C. Authority

Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35.

Colette Pollard,

Department Reports Management Officer, Office of Policy Development and Research, Chief Data Officer.

[FR Doc. 2023-19037 Filed 9-1-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-67-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

[GX23AE38EMBOE00]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Action for the Development of an Updated Facility for the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison, Wisconsin

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS).

SUMMARY: The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) announces its intent to prepare an EIS for the development of an updated facility for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) (Proposed Action) located in Madison, Wisconsin. The EIS will be prepared consistent with the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended in 2023; Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, as amended May 20, 2022; and USGS regulations implementing NEPA. This NOI announces the start of the EIS scoping process and seeks public comment on the Proposed Action. Information about the existing facility and Proposed Action can be found on the project website at: <https://nwhceis.com/>.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the environmental review and analysis for the Proposed Action must be received within 45 days from date of this NOI publication in the **Federal Register** to be considered for inclusion

within the draft EIS. The USGS will have in-person and virtual public scoping meetings in Madison, Wisconsin, throughout the development of the Proposed Action. For this formal 45-day scoping comment period, one (1) In-person Public Meeting and one (1) Virtual Meeting are scheduled. The In-Person Meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2023, at 5:30–7:30 p.m. CST and will be held at Vel Phillips Memorial High School, 201 S Gammon Road, Madison, WI 53717. Virtual meeting dates and times can be found on the project website at <https://nwhceis.com/>. How to participate in these public scoping meetings and provide scoping comments is provided under the **ADDRESSES, FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** and Scoping Process of this NOI. This information is also available on the project website at <https://nwhceis.com/> and will be published in local newspapers in advance of the meetings. The in-person and virtual meetings are open to the public and free to attend.

ADDRESSES: Written comments can be submitted in any of the following ways: Delivered by mail or delivery service, enclosed in an envelope labeled "NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER EIS" and addressed to Jordan D. Sizemore, USGS, National Wildlife Health Center, 606 Schroeder Road Madison, WI 53711; or by email to: Jordan D. Sizemore, by email at jsizemore@usgs.gov or by using the comment form provided on the project website at <https://nwhceis.com/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jordan D. Sizemore, Environmental Protection Specialist, Environmental Management Branch, USGS, NWHC 606

Schroeder Road, Madison, WI 53711, telephone (360) 929-0783, or email jsizemore@usgs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The NWHC was established in 1975 in Madison, Wisconsin, as the first biomedical laboratory dedicated to assessing the impact of disease on wildlife and identifying the role of various pathogens in contributing to wildlife losses. It remains the only national center devoted to wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention in the United States. The emergence of wildlife diseases has become a high-priority concern in the United States and the world. In addition to their harmful effects on natural wildlife populations and ecosystems, there is the potential for the spread of zoonotic diseases to humans and for causing economic losses associated with livestock morbidity and mortality. The NWHC is responsible for providing research and for investigating and responding to known and emerging wildlife diseases and wildlife mortality outbreaks throughout the United States. The NWHC has been providing vital disease- and pathogen-detection services, active disease surveillance, and applied research to help understand, detect, respond to, and manage wildlife diseases on the landscape for more than 40 years. Some of these diseases include Chronic Wasting Disease, West Nile Virus, Newcastle disease, salmonellosis, and avian influenza.

The NWHC is located on a 24-acre tract of federal property which, along with a vacant building, was originally acquired by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in 1978 to consolidate USFWS expertise into a single program and provide a permanent facility for the NWHC. The Main Building on the property was originally constructed in the 1960's and renovated in 1982. A second building, the Tight Isolation Building (TIB), was constructed in 1985 and modified in 1989. Other small structures are also on the property including a maintenance garage and a modular building added in the 2000's and used as employee offices. Portions of the property not occupied by buildings, access and service driveways, and parking areas were restored to native prairie in 1988. An interpretive nature trail was developed through the prairie and adjacent wooded area on the property and is actively visited by the public.

In 1996, the NWHC was transferred from the USFWS to the USGS where it is one of many entities providing

independent science supporting sound management of the nation's natural resources. The USGS, created by Congress in 1879, is an agency of the federal government where scientists study the nation's landscape, its natural resources, and the natural hazards that threaten it. The USGS is also a research organization whose work spans biology, geography, geology, and hydrology.

The Main Building contains a necropsy laboratory and associated disease diagnostic laboratories; general support laboratories for biological media and reagent preparation, glassware preparation and other special-use areas; a physical plant including an incinerator for inactivation of biohazardous waste; and administrative support areas with conference rooms, staff offices, data processing and records areas. A photovoltaic system used to generate electricity, along with other conservation measures, are employed to reduce energy consumption and control operational costs.

The TIB is located approximately 150 feet northeast of the Main Building, and while the buildings are physically separated, there is not a complete separation of functions, with researchers working in both buildings. The TIB contains specialized research laboratories and support areas, staff offices for investigators, and Bio Safety Level 3 (BSL-3) bio-containment animal research areas. The animal isolation wing is self-contained and includes equipment and special-use areas to clean cages and glassware, to incinerate bio-hazardous waste, and to conduct necropsies. Entry into the area requires use of specialized clothing and footwear, changes of clothing and footwear for each room entered, and depending on the pathogens present within the facility, a mandatory shower upon exit from the room or facility level.

The NWHC provides information, technical assistance, and research on national and international wildlife health issues. It also monitors and assesses the impact of disease on wildlife populations; defines ecological relationships leading to the occurrence of disease; transfers technology for disease prevention and control; and provides guidance, training, and assistance for reducing wildlife losses. As a Level 3 Security Facility under the U.S. Department of Justice Standards for Federal Facilities, the NWHC is required to operate under criteria established by the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for BSL-3 containment.

The NWHC functions as an integrated program involving disease diagnosis,

field response to disease outbreaks, research, animal welfare, and training of others in disease identification and control. Collaboration is conducted with, and technical assistance is provided to a wide variety of agencies and organizations within the federal, state, and private sectors. This has resulted in an extensive network of interaction with the NWHC being the focal point for information, technical assistance, and research on wildlife health issues.

Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to update the aging NWHC facility, incorporating technological advances in biosafety engineering and equipment as well as adding additional space for enhanced animal care and research. The NWHC needs a modern facility with sufficient space and modern technologies to support their mission-essential research. Starting in 2008, the USGS conducted multiple studies of the current facility to identify where efficiencies could benefit Center operations. These studies are available on the project website at <https://nwhceis.com/>. While safe operation requirements continue to be maintained, the study findings identified overcrowded laboratories and administrative areas; inefficient infrastructure (e.g., heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems) that do not meet current standards for energy efficiency; and extensive wear and tear due to the age of the buildings and associated equipment.

Consistent with follow-on studies conducted in 2011 and 2016 (provided on the project website at <https://nwhceis.com/>), proactive efforts had been made to repair systems and facilities. However, as is typical with repairs of older equipment and infrastructure, these efforts provide only short-term relief so were focused only on those necessary for maintaining safe operations. Additionally, major repairs have involved replacing systems like-for-like, as other limitations of the aging buildings prevent full updating of major infrastructure.

Previous studies indicated that continuing to update the facility to meet the mission and function of the NWHC is limited and costly. This has resulted in the need for a more cost-effective solution to maintain administrative, operational, health, and safety standards and requirements as well as provide the spaces needed to conduct research into wildlife disease detection, additional space for enhanced animal-care conditions, and other programs that

support the mission of the NWHC. In addition, there is the need to incorporate modern laboratory equipment, mechanical systems, the latest technologies and the latest operating and management approaches, all of which will further enhance the NWHC's capability to reduce exposure to pathogens and the risks faced by staff and public. In order to meet future sustainability goals and become a more energy-efficient facility, the USGS will apply advanced approaches, materials, and equipment that are sustainable and resilient against the hazards associated with climate change and optimize the cost of operation by applying innovative designs, quality construction, highly efficient air handling, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, and facility maintenance programs to achieve and maintain peak performance standards.

Proposed Action and Preliminary Alternatives

The USGS proposes developing a NWHC that can meet the agency's current and future needs, streamline delivery of research, improve worker- and public safety with modern biohazard and pathogen containment and biological-waste disposal, and control operating costs. The EIS will use information from previous studies, identify alternatives that avoid and (or) minimize impacts to the environment, and evaluate alternatives that are technically and economically feasible. Alternatives currently identified for the Proposed Action include, but will not be limited to, a decision not to proceed with the Proposed Action (*i.e.*, the No Action Alternative) and build new facilities for the NWHC. The alternative to build new facilities for the NWHC (*i.e.*, New NWHC Alternative) is currently preferred by the USGS.

The New NWHC Alternative proposes constructing new facilities on the grounds of the NWHC in Madison, Wisconsin, and demolishing the existing facilities over an approximately three-year period. A new NWHC would contain administrative offices; BSL2 and BSL3 laboratories; vivarium with Animal Biosafety Level-2 (ABSL-2, ABSL-3) and Biosafety Level 3 Agriculture (BSL3-AG) capabilities; and necessary support spaces, including improved internal service driveways and parking to accommodate visitors, students, government vehicles, and staff; modern systems for biological waste disposal; a utility yard containing emergency generators; energy-efficient lighting along internal walkways and parking areas; and modern containment (*i.e.*, facilities and equipment to safely

manage biohazardous materials in a laboratory) within NWHC laboratories to protect staff from exposures to biological agents and hazardous chemicals, the escape of harmful pathogens, contamination of assay systems, reagents, and other materials, and cross-contamination between investigations.

Summary of Potential Impacts

The Draft EIS will identify, describe, and analyze the potential effects of the Proposed Action on the environment that are reasonably foreseeable and have a relationship to the Proposed Action. This includes effects that occur at the same time and place as the Proposed Action and effects caused by the Proposed Action that occur at a later in time or in a different place. Resources potentially impacted (whether beneficial or adverse) include, but are not limited to, land use; traffic; utility services, community services; topography, geology, and soils; air quality; noise; cultural resources; water resources, biological resources, and threatened and endangered species; demographics, employment, and local economics; environmental justice; and visual resources (*i.e.*, natural landforms, vegetation). The EIS will also analyze measures that would avoid, minimize, or mitigate identified adverse impacts of proposed alternatives.

Anticipated Permits and Authorizations

The Proposed Action has the potential to significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The USGS shall comply with NEPA by preparing an EIS to ensure that the potential environmental consequences of such an action are adequately taken into account prior to making a decision. This includes ensuring that the potential environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Action are minimized, documented, that required permits are obtained, and all applicable environmental statutes are followed including but not limited to: Clean Air Act of 1974 and state required air permits; Clean Water Act and Amendment and 401 authorizations and 404 permits; stormwater and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits; Hazardous Waste permits; consultations under section 7 of Endangered Species Act of 1973; the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA); Farmland Protection Policy Act, among other laws, regulations and Executive Orders. USGS will also conduct government-to-government Tribal consultations consistent with Executive order 13175, Presidential priorities, and

Departmental policies, including 516 Departmental Manual (DM) 5.

The USGS will use the NEPA process to support compliance with consistent applicable procedural requirements under Section 106 of NHPA (54 U.S.C. 306108) as provided in 36 CFR 800.3(b)(3), including public involvement requirements of Section 106. Historical and culture resources information gathered during the public participation and Section 106 consultation processes will be used to identify the potential impacts to cultural resources within the Proposed Action's area of potential effect.

Schedule for the Decision-Making Process

Agency coordination and public participation, including scheduled public meetings and workshops throughout the decision-making process, will be a key part of identifying potential impacts for this project. Upon completion of a Draft EIS, the USGS will publish a Notice of Availability (NOA) initiating a formal public comment period lasting no less than 45 days, during which time one more public meeting will be held. The notice will include information about the date, time, and location of the public meeting, the means to examine the Draft EIS, and opportunities and methods for the public to provide comments on the Proposed Action and Draft EIS. The USGS currently expects to issue the NOA in Winter 2023. After the public comment period ends, the USGS will review and address the comments as part of preparing the Final EIS. The USGS currently expects to make the Final EIS available to the public in Summer 2024. A Record of Decision (ROD) will be completed no sooner than 30 days after the Final EIS is released, in accordance with 40 CFR 1506.11.

Scoping Process

This NOI commences the public scoping process to identify issues and potential alternatives for consideration in the Draft EIS. The USGS will hold two in-person and one virtual public scoping meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. The In-Person Meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2023, at 5:30–7:30 p.m. CST and will be held at Vel Phillips Memorial High School, 201 S Gammon Road, Madison, WI 53717. Virtual meeting dates and times can be found on the project website listed below. Information regarding the scoping process and how to participate in the public scoping meetings and provide scoping comments is also available on the project website at <https://nwhceis.com/>. Opportunities for

members of the public to be involved in the NEPA process are also described on the project website. Throughout the scoping process, Federal agencies, Tribal, State, and local governments, and the general public have the opportunity to help the USGS identify significant resources and issues, impact-producing factors, reasonable alternatives, and potential mitigation measures to be analyzed in the EIS, as well as to provide additional related information.

Public Comments

Federal agencies, Tribal, State, and local governments, and other interested parties are requested to comment on the scope of the EIS, significant issues that should be addressed, and alternatives that should be considered. For information on how to submit comments, see the **ADDRESSES** section above. The USGS does not consider anonymous comments. Please include your name, address, and email as part of your comment. The USGS makes all comments, including the names, addresses, and other personally identifiable information (PII) included in the comment, available for public review online. Individuals can request that the USGS withhold their PII from the public record; however, the USGS cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

Additionally, under section 304 of the NHPA, the USGS is required, after consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, to withhold the location, character, or ownership of historic resources if it determines that disclosure may, among other things, cause a significant invasion of privacy, risk harm to the historic resources, or impede the use of a traditional religious site by practitioners. Tribal entities and other parties providing information on historic resources should designate information that they wish to be held as confidential and provide the reasons why the USGS should do so. All submissions from organizations or agencies and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or agencies will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Request for Identification and Public Comment on Potential Alternatives, Information, and Analyses Relevant to the Proposed Action

The USGS requests data, comments, concerns, information, analysis, alternatives, or suggestions relevant to the Proposed Action from the public; affected Federal, Tribal, State, and local

governments, agencies, and offices; the scientific community; industry; or any other interested party. Specifically, the USGS requests information on the following topics:

Potential effects that the Proposed Action could have on physical resources and conditions including biological resources, air quality, hydrology, wetlands, and other waters of the United States.

1. Potential effects that the Proposed Action could have on socioeconomic and cultural resources, including demographics, employment, economics, environmental justice, land use, utility services, traffic, and aesthetic and visual resources.

2. Other possible reasonable alternatives to the Proposed Action that the USGS should consider, including additional alternatives.

3. As part of its compliance with NHPA section 106 and its implementing regulations (36 CFR part 800), the USGS seeks comment and input from the public regarding the identification of historic properties within the Proposed Action's area of potential effects defined in a cultural resources study available on the project website at <https://nwhceis.com/>, the potential effects on those historic properties from the Proposed Action, and any information that supports identification of historic properties under the NHPA. The USGS also solicits proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties. The USGS's effects analysis for historic properties will be available for public- and consulting-party comment in the Draft EIS.

4. Information on other current or planned activities in, or in the vicinity of, the Proposed Action, their possible impacts on the Proposed Action, and the Proposed Action's possible impacts on those activities.

5. Other information relevant to the Proposed Action and its potential impacts on the environment.

To promote informed decision-making, comments should be as specific as possible and should provide as much detail as necessary to meaningfully and fully inform the USGS of the commenter's position. Comments should explain why the issues raised are important to the consideration of potential environmental impacts and possible alternatives to the Proposed Action as well as to economic, employment, and other impacts affecting the quality of the human environment.

The Draft EIS will include a summary of information submitted during the scoping process for consideration by the

USGS with the alternatives and environmental analyses of the proposed action.

Charise White,

Acting Center Director, National Wildlife Health Center, U.S. Geological Survey.

[FR Doc. 2023-19055 Filed 9-1-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4388-11-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[BLM_OR_FRN_MO4500172774]

Public Meeting for the Steens Mountain Advisory Council, Oregon

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) will meet as follows.

DATES: The SMAC will hold a meeting Thursday, October 19, from 10:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Pacific Time (PT), and Friday, October 20, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. PT.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the BLM Burns District Office at 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon. Virtual attendance through the Zoom for Government platform will also be available. The final meeting agenda and Zoom link will be published on the SMAC web page at least 10 days in advance at <https://on.doi.gov/2PnZRcl>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tara Thissell, Public Affairs Specialist, BLM Burns District Office, 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738; telephone: (541) 573-4519; email: tthissell@blm.gov. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SMAC was established on August 14, 2001, pursuant to the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-399), to provide recommendations to the BLM regarding new and unique approaches to management of the public lands within the bounds of the Steens

b) Legal Notice

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Bug Tussell 1, LLC (Bug Tussell) proposes to cut and clear a wooded parcel located overall) along County Rd. D, in Westbrook, Taylor County, WI (Job #58839).

INVITE TO PROPOSE-LEGAL NOTICE
Dane County Dept. of Waste & Renewables, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison, WI 53713, will receive Bid Proposals until:

ADVERTISING FOR BIDS
2023 SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT
34-3886
FITZBURGH, WISCONSIN
TIME AND PLACE FOR BIDDING

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS
Bidding information can be downloaded at www.questcdn.com using QuestCDN Project #8675080. Contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in membership registration.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)
Case No. 23-CV-00469 Branch 1

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Notice of Adjudged Foreclosure Sale
Case No. 23-CV-00049 Branch 1

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Amended Summons and Complaint
Case No. 23CV001512

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Amended Notice to Hear Application and Deadline for Filing Claims (Informal Administration)
Case No. 23PR52

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ROBERT DOUGLAS CROUSE
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. An application for informal administration was filed.

LEGAL NOTICE

You do not need to appear unless you object. The application may be granted if there is no objection.
4. The deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate is December 1, 2023.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)
Case No. 23-PR-580

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
NOTICE OF ADJUDGED FORECLOSURE SALE
Case No. 23-CV-00049 Branch 1

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)
Case No. 23-CV-1057

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Amended Notice to Hear Application and Deadline for Filing Claims (Informal Administration)
Case No. 23PR52

LEGAL NOTICE

Small Claims complaint in that county. Plaintiff/Attorney:
August 18, 2023
Markoff Law LLC
29 N. Wacker Dr. #1010
Chicago, IL 60606

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23PR588

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Notice of Adjudged Foreclosure Sale
Case No. 23-CV-00049 Branch 1

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)
Case No. 23-CV-1057

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

LEGAL NOTICE

attend an in-person public scoping meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2023, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Vel Phillips Memorial High School, 201 S Gammon Rd, Madison, WI 53717.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)
Case No. 23PR582

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Notice of Adjudged Foreclosure Sale
Case No. 23-CV-00049 Branch 1

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Notice to Creditors (Informal Administration)
Case No. 23-CV-1057

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Publication Summons and Notice of Filing to the Person(s) Named Above
Case No. 23CV001488

LEGAL NOTICE

said cul-de-sac 307.11 feet along the arc of a curve to the right with a radius of 321 feet and a chord of N88°47'00"W, 66.00 feet to the West right-of-way line of Blaney Road; thence along said West line, N01°13'00"E, 1330.10 feet; thence continuing along said West line, thence N01°58'00"E, 200.22 feet to the Point of Beginning.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Amended Summons and Complaint
Case No. 2023CV003648

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Amended Summons and Complaint
Case No. 2023CV003648

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
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Case No. 2023CV003648

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Amended Summons and Complaint
Case No. 2023CV003648

LEGAL NOTICE

copy of the Complaint by mailing or delivering said written demand to the court and to the Plaintiff's attorneys at their respective addresses listed above.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Amended Summons and Complaint
Case No. 23-CV-1684

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Amended Summons and Complaint
Case No. 23-CV-1684

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
Amended Summons and Complaint
Case No. 23-CV-1684

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
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Amended Summons and Complaint
Case No. 23-CV-1684

STATE OF WISCONSIN, CIRCUIT COURT, DANE COUNTY
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Case No. 23-CV-1684



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ORDER NUMBER 175179

STATE OF INDIANA } ss.

Lake County

I, Robin Nelson being duly sworn, doth
depose and say that he/she is an authorized representative of Lee
Enterprises, publishers of

PWSJ Wisconsin State Journal

a newspaper, at Madison, County of Dane, State of Wisconsin,
and that an advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, taken
from said paper, was published therein on the dates listed below.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6 day of

September, 2023

(Signed) [Signature]
(Title) Principal Clerk

Christina Palma
Notary Public, Indiana

My Commission expires



Section: Legals

Category: 0100 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLISHED ON: 09/06/2023

TOTAL AD COST: 498.60

FILED ON: 9/6/2023

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ORDER NUMBER 174717

STATE OF INDIANA

) ss.

Lake County

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depose and say that he/she is an authorized representative of Lee
Enterprises, publishers of

PWSJ Wisconsin State Journal

a newspaper, at Madison, County of Dane, State of Wisconsin,
and that an advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, taken
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September, 2023

(Signed) [Signature]
(Title) Principal Clerk

Christina Palma
Notary Public, Indiana

My Commission expires



Section: Legals

Category: 0100 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLISHED ON: 09/05/2023

TOTAL AD COST 146.85

FILED ON 9/5/2023

*** Proof of Publication ***

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Action for the Development of an updated facility for the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison, WI

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the development of an updated facility for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) (Proposed Action) located in Madison, Wisconsin. The EIS will be prepared consistent with the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.

The USGS is planning to build an updated facility for the NWHC on the existing property at 6006 Schroeder Road in Madison, Wisconsin. Designated as a "mission essential" facility, the existing NWHC, established in 1975, remains the only national center devoted to advancing wildlife health science for the benefit of animals, humans, and the environment. A growing challenge to performing the NWHC's mission, however, is the age and space limitations associated with the current center.

The effort to develop a new NWHC facility is considered to be an action with the potential to significantly affect the surrounding environment. Therefore, USGS will prepare an EIS to ensure that the environmental consequences of the proposed action are thoroughly documented and that compliance is achieved with NEPA and other environmental statutes. Preparation of the EIS is also being conducted to demonstrate that USGS has considered the potential environmental impacts during the decision-making process and to provide opportunities for regulatory agencies, stakeholders, and the public to voice their interest and provide input and comments concerning the proposed action.

The publication of this notice initiates a 45-day scoping period. During this time USGS is seeking input on the proposed action from agencies, organizations, and the public on potentially affected resources and the environmental issues to be considered and will undertake consultations required by applicable laws and regulations. The process includes holding a public scoping meeting prior to undertaking preparation of the draft EIS.

The USGS invites the community to attend an in-person public scoping meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 21, 2023, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Vel Phillips Memorial High School, 201 S Gammon Rd, Madison, WI 53717. The public scoping meeting will provide additional information about the Proposed Action and an opportunity for members of the community to submit comments on USGS's proposal. The information shared at the meeting will also be available on the project website for public review, consideration, and comment at: <https://www.nwhceis.com/>.

Please submit your written comments through the project website at: <https://www.nwhceis.com/contact/>. Written comments may also be submitted to Jordan D. Sizemore, NEPA Project Manager, United States Geological Survey, NWHC 6006 Schroeder Road Madison, WI 53711, telephone (360) 929-0783, or email jsizemore@usgs.gov. Although comments can be submitted to USGS any time during the EIS process, scoping comments are requested by Friday, October 20, 2023, to ensure full consideration in the Draft EIS. Please note that before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment(s), the entire comment, including personal identifying information, may be made publicly available.

The USGS is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodations to participate in this public meeting. If you require a special accommodation, please contact Paulina Lopez at (210) 810-4832 or paulina.lopez@wsp.com at least 7 days prior to the meeting. We will do our best to fulfill requests received in a timely manner. Thank you for your interest.

WSJ: September 5, 2023 174717
WNAXLP

c) Flyer



Save the
DATE

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Join us to learn more about plans for National Wildlife Health Center's updated facility.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)* for the development of an updated facility for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC).

The existing NWHC, established in 1975, remains the only national center devoted to advancing wildlife health science for the benefit of animals, humans, and the environment. However, age and space limitations are a growing challenge to NWHC's mission.



Public Scoping Meeting

Learn about and comment on the proposed action

In-Person:

Thursday,
September 21
5:30 – 7:30 pm
Vel Phillips Memorial
High School
201 S Gammon Rd
Madison, WI 53717

Virtual:

Thursday,
September 28
12:30 – 1:00 pm
Register for the Zoom
meeting at:
www.nwhceis.com

Online:

All information will also be available for public review, consideration, and comment.

Scan QR Code below or visit:
www.nwhceis.com

We want to hear from you



Please submit comments:

-  www.nwhceis.com
-  [Jordan D. Sizemore](mailto:Jordan.D.Sizemore@usgs.gov)
Environmental Management Branch, USGS
jsizemore@usgs.gov
-  NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd, Madison, WI 53711

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*The EIS will be prepared consistent with the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.



Save the
DATE

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We want to hear from you



Please submit comments:

-  www.nwhceis.com
-  **Jordan D. Sizemore**
Environmental Management Branch, USGS
jsizemore@usgs.gov
-  NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd, Madison, WI 53711

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In-Person:

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Vel Phillips Memorial
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201 S Gammon Rd
Madison, WI 53717

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All information will also be available online for public review, consideration, and comment.

Scan QR Code below or visit:
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We want to hear from you



Please submit comments:



www.nwhceis.com



Jordan D. Sizemore
Environmental Management Branch, USGS
jsizemore@usgs.gov



NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd, Madison, WI



Although comments can be submitted to USGS any time during the EIS process, scoping comments are requested by October 15, 2023, to ensure full consideration in the Draft EIS.



Accommodations: The USGS is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodations to participate in this public meeting. If you require a special accommodation, please contact Paulina Lopez at (210) 810-4932 or paulina.lopez@wsp.com at least 7 days prior to the meeting. We will do our best to fulfill requests made in a timely manner.

**The EIS will be prepared consistent with the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.*

Save the DATE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

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We want to hear from you

Please submit comments:

www.nwhceis.com

@ Jordan D. Sizemore
Environmental Management Branch, USGS
jsizemore@usgs.gov

NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd, Madison, WI

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Taking justice into their own hands

New group aims to help people transition from incarceration

BY FRANCESCA PICA

After spending years in the criminal justice system, Johnnie Walton wants to give others support and resources he wasn't given when he was young.

Walton, who grew up in poverty in Chicago, spent much of his youth in juvenile detention centers for selling cocaine. But, he said, the support of people who believed in him helped him find a better life after incarceration. Walton now runs Me to We, a Madison-based organization that offers coaching services for people who have been incarcerated.

"The goal is to work with the youth and adults that are negatively impacted by the justice system," Walton told the Cap Times. "Because, for me, it was growing up wishing someone saved me, helped me."

Walton hopes to provide counseling, education and job training for people in the area's jails and prisons through his partnership with the Madison Justice Team, a newly formed organization dedicated to reforming the criminal justice system and providing resources to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people.

"What the Madison Justice Team is doing is figuring out a way that we can be able to directly work with the prisons, first-time offenders, nonviolent offenders," Walton said. In the program, people "would have the opportunity to get a degree, either finish high school, go to college, start a business or just find a vocation."

The idea for the Madison Justice Team started with Diane Ballweg, who is owner of steel manufacturer Endres Manufacturing Co., as well as a music and aviation teacher and philanthropist. Last year, Ballweg enrolled in Harvard University's Advanced Leadership Initiative, a program for experienced community leaders to foment strategies to make an impact on a key issue facing their communities. She decided to focus on reforming the criminal justice system and providing resources for formerly incarcerated people in the Madison area after hearing stories from those who lived in poor conditions



COURTESY OF SHALICIA JOHNSON, ARROWSTAR PHOTOGRAPHY
Johnnie Walton, of Madison, founded Me to We LLC, a nonprofit that coaches people who were formerly incarcerated.

while incarcerated and who struggled to find resources after they left prison.

Since then, the all-volunteer organization has grown to include more than 80 people with representatives from more than 30 local organizations, from the Black Men Coalition of Dane County, to the Christ Presbyterian Church, to the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Odyssey Project, which provides low-income and formerly incarcerated adults access to accredited English courses.

The Madison Justice Team is composed of six committees, each with a specific focus: education in prison and beyond, amenities in the new county jail building, job training and employment upon release from prison, recruitment and social engagement, housing security for formerly incarcerated people and reforming laws related to jail, bail and prison protocols. Members of the committees represent the various organizations who specialize in their specific issues, and they meet with the rest of the team to discuss their initiatives. →

Wednesday, 09/06/2023

O: Main

01

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WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

Save the DATE **PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING**

Join us to learn more about the plans for the National Wildlife Health Center's updated facility.

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- [Jordan D. Sizemore](mailto:Jordan.D.Sizemore@usgs.gov)
Environmental Management Branch, USGS
- NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd, Madison, WI

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e) Newspaper Articles

ALERT TOP STORY

MADISON | NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER

National Wildlife Health Center in Madison is building a new home and wants public input

Gayle Worland | Wisconsin State Journal

Sep 28, 2023



Photos on a wall at the USGS National Wildlife Health Center in Madison display some of the animals that have been studied at the facility. At left is David Blehert, branch chief of laboratory services.

AMBER ARNOLD, STATE JOURNAL

Gayle Worland | Wisconsin State Journal

Set behind a wooded entrance, down a driveway bordered by a restored prairie, 6006 Schroeder Road houses the only national center in the country dedicated to wildlife disease detection, control and prevention — the U.S. Geological Survey’s National Wildlife Health Center.

Its labs investigate scourges such as avian flu, West Nile virus and chronic wasting disease, among many others. But the two main buildings on site, dating from the 1970s and ’80s — plus a garage and a double-wide trailer dubbed a “modular office building” for overflow — are due for replacement.

Architectural plans are already in the works for a \$160 million, three-story Prairie style-inspired building to house the center’s work, with construction expected to start late next year or in early 2025. The public is invited to learn more and to offer comments during a virtual meeting at noon Thursday.

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- 2 **3 things that stood out from No. 1 Wisconsin volleyball's 5-set loss to No. 2 Nebraska**
- 3 **Madison School District considers significant busing changes as First Student struggles continue**
- 4 **Restaurant review: Fratelli's Trattoria has great pizza and a whole lot more**



Buildings that house laboratories at the USGS National Wildlife Health Center will be replaced in the coming years under a plan to be discussed in a public virtual meeting at noon Thursday.

AMBER ARNOLD, STATE JOURNAL

If you go

What: Virtual meeting to learn about the work of the USGS National Wildlife Health Center, ask questions and give feedback for an environmental impact assessment

When: Noon to 1 p.m. Thursday

Online link: Register at www.nwhceis.com/public-involvement.

Comment period: Additional comments are requested by Oct. 20. See www.nwhceis.com/public-involvement for details.

“One of the big things we’re going to accomplish with the new building is — we’re really energy dense right now, very energy- and maintenance-intensive, given the work we do and the age of the facility,” acting center director LeAnn White said.

With the new facility, “We’ll have additional solar panels all over the building,” plus a geothermal field below some of the restored prairie to create a more energy-efficient heating and cooling system.

The plan would move the new building somewhat closer to Schroeder Road, making it more visible to passersby and the adjoining prairie space more accessible to the public, said David Blehert, branch chief of laboratory services.





"Sharks are a really great sign for a healthy, sustainable ecosystem, and they are what keeps our ecosystem in check," says PhD candidate at University of California. Which is why Davis is fighting to protect sharks in the San Francisco Bay. Buzz60's Chloe Hurst has the story!

ZMG - Buzz60

About 100 people work on the 24-acre site, about 80 of them federal employees and the rest contractors, White said. The planned new building, being designed by Madison firm Flad Architects, will house two floors of offices and labs, and on the third level the necessary mechanical services for a research facility.

The center was established within the Department of the Interior in 1975 through a memorandum of understanding with UW-Madison "which is why it wound up in Madison," White said. In fact, the National Wildlife Health Center was first housed in the university's livestock pavilion, and its relationship with the university continues to this day.

Unlike the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention, focused on public health, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, focused on agriculture, "our focus is primarily the impact of disease on wildlife and wildlife conservation," White said. The center has tackled sicknesses in wildlife from lead poisoning to cholera, avian botulism, monkeypox, plague, snake fungal disease and SARS-CoV2.

"The wildlife disease field is really interesting because you're still dealing with a lot of the old diseases while you're dealing with new, emerging diseases," White said. Realistically, however, there's never a "silver bullet" to eradicate a wildlife disease, she said, but rather tools to develop to help manage it, such as vaccines, habitat modifications or regulations on imported species.

The center is doing research, for example, on the best methods for vaccinating bats against white-nose syndrome, a fungus that has devastated bat populations.

A vivarium at the National Wildlife Health Center, with no public access, houses live animals; labs are strictly controlled. The center constantly replaces equipment to keep labs secure and up to date, Blehert said.

Thursday's online public meeting will be a "scoping" meeting, with background on the center and its work and a chance for the public to give input for an environmental impact assessment on the new facility.

White expects some valuable feedback.

The scoping process, she said, is based on the possibility "that the people in the community where you're doing the work have information that you, as a person working at the facility, might not know or consider," she said. "So it really invites the public to be a part of the process."



Plans for a new USGS National Wildlife Health Center include a three-story building, as shown in this conceptual illustration, to be built on the site of the current facility on Schroeder Road.

FLAD ARCHITECTS



LeAnn White, acting director at the USGS National Wildlife Health Center, works in one of the labs at the facility, which is slated for replacement.
AMBER ARNOLD, STATE JOURNAL



Clean bat dishes are stored in the cage washroom at the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison. The center has been at the forefront of developing a vaccine for white-nose syndrome, a life-threatening disease in bats.
AMBER ARNOLD, STATE JOURNAL



The existing 20th-century buildings at the USGS National Wildlife Health Center on Schroeder Road will be replaced with a new three-story, state-of-the-art facility in coming years.

AMBER ARNOLD, STATE JOURNAL

Plants that can attract butterflies

Lab building at NWHC

AMBER ARNOLD, STATE JOURNAL

Sep 27, 2023



Buildings that house laboratories at the USGS National Wildlife Health Center will be replaced in the coming years under a plan to be discussed in a public virtual meeting at noon Thursday.

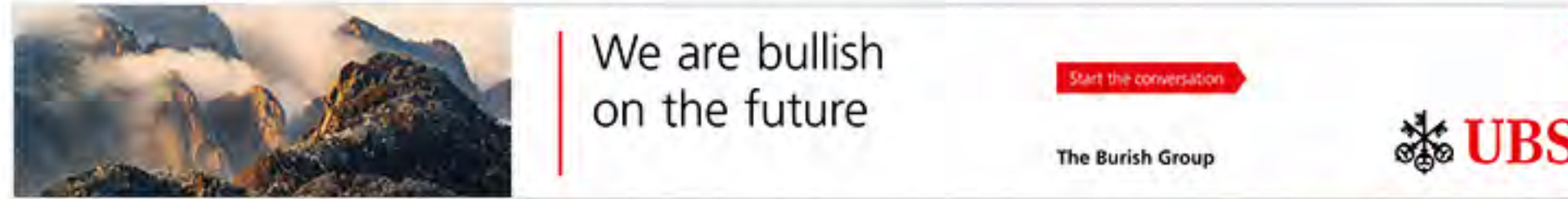
AMBER ARNOLD, STATE JOURNAL

Around The Web



National Wildlife Health Center in Madison is building a new home and wants public input

Located on Schroeder Road, it's the only national center in the country dedicated to wildlife disease detection, control and prevention. But the building is outdated.



Madison's National Wildlife Health Center unveils plans for new home

September 28, 2023 by Site Staff

The U.S. Geological Survey's National Wildlife Health Center, currently housed in two buildings dating to the 1970s-1980s, will be moving to a new home, the *Wisconsin State Journal* reports. Its labs, currently located at 6006 Schroeder Road, house the only national center in the country dedicated to wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention, investigating scourges such as avian flu, West Nile virus, chronic wasting disease, and others.

Architectural plans are underway for a \$160 million, three-story prairie style-inspired building to house the center. It will have two floors of offices and labs and a third level of necessary mechanical services for a research facility. Construction is expected to begin late next year or in early 2025. A recent virtual meeting solicited public commentary on the building plans, which also include solar panels and an energy-efficient heating and cooling system.

The new building would sit closer to Schroeder Road, increasing visibility to passersby and making the adjoining prairie space more publicly accessible.



Roughly 100 people work on the 24-acre site. About 80 are federal employees, and the rest are contractors.

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Event listing: OCT 26 Business & Economics. Retail Revolution: Navigating Customer-Centric Marketing Strategies. Madison. 1:00PM.

Event listing: OCT 26 Professional Training. Retirement Planning Today Workshop: Educational Classes at the UW Extension. UW-Extension. 6:30PM.

Event listing: OCT 30 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as Leadership Values. Classes, Courses & Workshops. Fluno Center for Executive Education. 8:15AM.

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f) Stakeholder List

MASTER DISTRIBUTION LIST - NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
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PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS

United States Geological Survey

	U.S. Geological Survey	Headquarters Office				
Jeff Caravelli	U.S. Geological Survey	Contracting Officer, Office of Acquisition and Grants				
Michelle W. Fishburne	U.S. Geological Survey	Chief, Environmental Management Branch				
Martin T. Smith	U.S. Geological Survey	Chief, Facilities Project, Management Branch				
Jordan D. Sizemore, REM	U.S. Geological Survey	Environmental Management Branch, Environmental Protection Specialist				
Abigail Ward	U.S. Geological Survey	National Wildlife Health Center, Public Affairs				
David Ozman	U.S. Geological Survey	Central States Communications Chief				
Allie Weill	U.S. Geological Survey	Assistant to Central States Communications Chief				
LeAnn White	U.S. Geological Survey	Deputy Director, National Wildlife Health Center				
Thomas G. Hankins	U.S. Geological Survey	National Wildlife Health Center, Administrative Office				
Mark Gaikowski	U.S. Geological Survey	Director, National Wildlife Health Center, Administrative Office				
Michael Bonds	U.S. Geological Survey	Collateral Duty Environmental Protection Coordinator, National Wildlife Health Center				
Shannon A. Zunino	U.S. Geological Survey	Project Manager, Facilities Project Management Branch				
Rachel J. Pawlitz	U.S. Geological Survey					
Sharon E. Pudwill	U.S. Geological Survey	Senior Attorney, Office of the Solicitor, Northeast Region				
Kelly Brooks Bakayza	U.S. Geological Survey	Senior Attorney Advisor, Office of the Solicitor				
Rebecca A. Schroeder	U.S. Geological Survey					
Katherine Richgels	U.S. Geological Survey					
Shannon Gutierrez	U.S. Geological Survey					
Darren Berger	U.S. Geological Survey	Branch Chief, National Wildlife Health Center Science Support				
Josh Valder	U.S. Geological Survey	Midcontinent Region Tribal Liaison				
Bryan J. Richards	U.S. Geological Survey	Emerging Disease Coordinator, DOI Liaison to DHS/CWMD/NBIC, National Wildlife Health Center				
Jonathan C. Nelson	U.S. Geological Survey	NWHC, Deputy Regional Director, Midcontinent Region				
Richard Isensee, PE	U.S. Geological Survey	Facility Energy Program Manager				
Paul J. Kallus	U.S. Geological Survey	Energy/sustainability expert				
Carrie Smith	U.S. Geological Survey	NWHC Biosafety Officer				

United States Geological Survey - Headquarters

Anne Kinsinger	United States Geological Survey					
Paul Wagner	United States Geological Survey	Deputy Associate Director for Ecosystems Mission Area				
Cindy Tam	United States Geological Survey					
Camille Hopkins	United States Geological Survey					
Jennifer Lacey	United States Geological Survey					
Kaleb Blodgett	United States Geological Survey					

WSP USA, INC.

Robert Nardi, PP	WSP	Vice President, Project Manager				
Jescia Forbes	WSP	Deputy Project Manager				

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Bill Richards, PMP	WSP	Environmental Site Characterization Lead				
Leslie Gartner, FAIA, RIBA, RAIC	WSP	Senior Vice President				
Sarah Hoffman	WSP	Senior Environmental Planner				
Lori Fox	WSP	Vice President				
Hope Luhman	WSP	Senior Vice President				
Tara Stewart	WSP	Senior Environmental Scientist				
Rebecca Warner	WSP	Graphic Designer				
Camilla McDonald	WSP	Historian				
Kate Umlauf	WSP	Architectural Historian				
Dana Otto	WSP	Senior Vice President				
Tom Payne, PE	WSP	Associate Vice President				
Brittani B. Kaim	WSP	Vice President, Communications and Public Involvement				
Shane Peck	WSP	Deputy Managing Director – Communications and Public Involvement				
Melissa Uland	WSP	Assistant Vice President, Communications & Public Involvement				
Paulina Lopez	WSP	Public Involvement Specialist, Communications & Public Involvement				
Craig Hanlon, PWS, CE	WSP	Principal Environmental Scientist				
FLAD ARCHITECTS/DESIGN TEAM						
Roger Rhodes	Flad Architects	Project Manager				
Rebekah Fails	Flad Architects	Administrative Assistant				
Molly Cooper	Flad Architects	Architect				
Marc Walker	Flad Architects	Design Principal				
Kim Reddin	Flad Architects	Associate Principal				
Rick Flock	AEI Engineers	Mechanical Designer				
Ryan Kallies	AEI Engineers	Project Manager				
Bradley Bertram	Flad Architects	Landscape Architect				
Chad Zuberbuhler	Flad Architects	Principal Planner				
ELECTED OFFICIALS						
U.S. SENATORS						
Tammy Baldwin	U.S. Senate	U.S. Senator				
Ron Johnson	U.S. Senate	U.S. Senator				
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES						
Mark Pocan	U.S. House of Representatives	Representative (District 2)				
STATE OF WISCONSIN, EXECUTIVE OFFICES						
Tony Evers	Office of the Governor	Governor				
Fred Ludwig	Office of the Governor	Chief of Staff				
WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE - STATE SENATE						
Kelda Roys	Wisconsin State Senate	State Senator (District 26)				
Melissa Agard	Wisconsin State Senate	State Senator (District 16)				
WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE - ASSEMBLY						
Lisa Subeck	Assembly - District 78	State Representative				
Mike Bare	Assembly - District 80	State Representative				
DANE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS						
Elizabeth Doyle	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 1				
Heidi Wegleitner	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 2				
Analiese Eicher	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 3				
Matt Veldran	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 4				
Jeff Hynes	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 5				
Yogesh Chawla	Board of Supervisors - Sergeant at Arms	Supervisor - District 6				
Cecely Castillo	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 7				
Jeffrey Glazer	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 8				
Alex Joers	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 9				
Aaron Collins	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 10				
Richelle Andrae	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 11				
Larry Palm	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 12				

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Olivia Xistris-Songpanya	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 13				
Anthony Gray	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 14				
April Kigeza	Board of Supervisors - Second Vice Chair	Supervisor - District 15				
Rick Rose	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 16				
Jacob Wright	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 17				
Michele Ritt	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 18				
Brenda Yang	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 19				
Jeff Weigand	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 20				
Andrew Schauer	Board of Supervisors - First Vice Chair	Supervisor - District 21				
Maureen Mccarville	Board of Supervisors - Sergeant at Arms	Supervisor - District 22				
Chuck Erickson	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 23				
Sarah Smith	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 24				
Tim Kiefer	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 25				
Holly Hatcher	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 26				
Kierstin Huelsemann	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 27				
Michele Doolan	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 28				
Dave Ripp	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 29				
Patrick Downing	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 30				
Jerry Bollig	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 31				
Mike Bare	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 32				
Dana Pellebon	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 33				
Miles Patrick	Board of Supervisors - Chair	Supervisor - District 34				
Michael Engelberger	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 35				
Mellisa Ratcliff	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 36				
Kate McGinnity	Board of Supervisors	Supervisor - District 37				
CITY OF MADISON MAYOR AND STAFF						
Satya Rhodes-Conway	City of Madison	Mayor				
Mary Bottari	City of Madison	Chief of Staff				
Nicole Stevens	City of Madison	Executive Assistant to the Mayor				
Christie Baumel	City of Madison	Deputy Mayor				
Katie Crawley	City of Madison	Deputy Mayor				
Dr. Linda Vakunta	City of Madison	Deputy Mayor				
Reuben Sanon	City of Madison	Deputy Mayor				
CITY OF MADISON COUNCIL						
John W. Duncan	Alder, City of Madison, District 1	Council member				
Juliana Bennett	Alder, City of Madison, District 2	Council member				
Derek Field	Alder, City of Madison, District 3	Council member				
Michael Verveer	Alder, City of Madison, District 4	Council member				
Regina Vidaver	Alder, City of Madison, District 5	Council member				
Marsha Rummel	Alder, City of Madison, District 6	Council member				
Nasra Wehelie	Alder, City of Madison, District 7	Council member				
MGR Govindarajan	Alder, City of Madison, District 8	Council member				
Nikki Conklin	Alder, City of Madison, District 9	Council member				
Yannette Figueroa Cole	Alder, City of Madison, District 10	Council member				
Bill Tishler	Alder, City of Madison, District 11	Council member				
Amani Latimer Burris	Alder, City of Madison, District 12	Council member				
Tag Evers	Alder, City of Madison, District 13	Council member				
Isadore Knox, Jr.	Alder, City of Madison, District 14	Council member				
Nina Martinez-Rutherford	Alder, City of Madison, District 15	Council member				
Jael Currie	Alder, City of Madison, District 16	Council President				

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Sabrina Madison	Alder, City of Madison, District 17	Council member				
Charles Myadze	Alder, City of Madison, District 18	Council member				
Kristen Slack	Alder, City of Madison, District 19	Council member				
Barbara Harrington-McKinney	Alder, City of Madison, District 20	Council member				

UTILITY PROVIDERS

WATER SUPPLY

Krishna Kumar	Water Utility Administrative Office	General Manager				
Marcus Pearson	Water Utility Administrative Office	Public Information Officer				
Water Engineering Staff-General	Water Utility Administrative Office					
Adam Wiederhoeft	Water Utility Administrative Office	Interim Chief Engineer				

SANITARY SEWER

Mark Moder, P.E.	City of Madison Engineering Division-Sanitary Sewer	Principal Engineer, Section Manager				
Jay Schlimgen	City of Madison Engineering Division-Sanitary Sewer	Engineering Operations Supervisor				
D. Michael Mucha, P.E.	Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District	Chief Engineer and Director				

ELECTRIC POWER AND NATURAL GAS

Pete Annen	Madison Gas and Electric	Senior Crew Leader	823 Railroad Street, Madison, WI 53703			
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TELECOMMUNICATIONS (TELEPHONE, INTERNET, CABLE TV)

FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL AGENCIES

FEDERAL AGENCIES

Martha Williams	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Dept of the Interior)	Director				
Charlie Wooley	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Dept of the Interior)	Regional Director, Midwest Region				
Samantha Gibbs	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Dept of the Interior)					
Shauna Marquardt	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Dept of the Interior)	Field Supervisor, Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office				
Jenny Powers	U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service					
Steve Tryon	U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance	Director				
Robert Krska	U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance	Regional Environmental Officer				
Dr. BJ Howerton	U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs	Federal Preservation Officer, Archaeologist, EJ Coordinator, NEPA Coordinator				
Tammie Poitra	U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs	Regional Director, Midwest Regional Office				
Col. Jesse T. Curry	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island Civil Works District	District Commander				
	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Office of Water Policy Review, Planning and Policy Division				
Michael S. Regan	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, HQ	Administrator				
Julie Roemele	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, HQ	Office of Federal Activities, EIS Filing Section				
Debra Shore	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Reg. 5	Office of the Regional Administrator				
Ken Westlake	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Reg. 5	NEPA/Environmental Impact Statements				
Liz Pelloso	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Reg. 5	NEPA/Environmental Impact Statements				
Scott Rosenbloom	Federal Aviation Administration	Obstruction Evaluation Group-Air Traffic Organization, AJV-15				
Dale Kimmel	Federal Aviation Administration	Obstruction Evaluation Group-Wisconsin				
Justin Hetland	Federal Aviation Administration	Obstruction Evaluation Group-Wisconsin				
Kent Wheeler	Federal Aviation Administration	Obstruction Evaluation Group-Central Region Team Manager				
Jeff Vander Wilt	U.S. Department of Agriculture	Natural Resources Conservation Service, Wisconsin Office, Acting State Conservationist				
Julie Lenocho	U.S. Department of Agriculture					
Tom Deliberto	U.S. Department of Agriculture					
Judy Derricks	U.S. Department of Agriculture	Natural Resources Conservation Service, State Resource Conservationist				
Jason Suckow	USDA, National Wildlife Research Center	Director				
Douglas C. Eckery	USDA, National Wildlife Research Center	Assistant Director				

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Jimmy Taylor	USDA, National Wildlife Research Center	Assistant Director, Wildlife Services, NWRC Corvallis, Oregon, Field Station				
Janet Bucknall	USDA, Wildlife Services	Deputy Administrator				
Willie D. Harris	USDA, Wildlife Services	Eastern Regional Director				
Keith P. Wehner	USDA, Wildlife Services	Western Regional Director				
Chrissy Spilde	USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service	Dane County Conservation District				
Amy Callis	Dane County Land Conservation Department	County Conservationist				
Twyla Kite	USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service	District Conservationist				
Jeremy Zeigler	USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service	Area Resource Soil Scientist				
Reid Nelson	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	Executive Director, Acting				
Christopher Koepfel	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	Assistant Director, Office of Federal Agency Programs, Federal Property Management Section				
Alexis Clark	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	Office of Federal Agency Programs, Federal Property Management Section				
Pat Breyse, PhD, CIH	Center for Disease Control and Prevention	Director, National Center for Environmental Health				
Glenn Fulkerson	USDOT, Federal Highway Administration	Administrator, Wisconsin Division				
STATE OF WISCONSIN AGENCIES						
Preston D. Cole	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Secretary				
Mark Aquino	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Manager, Southern Wisconsin				
Keith Warnke	WDNR, Fish, Wildlife and Parks Division	Division Administrator				
Tami Ryan	WDNR, Fish, Wildlife and Parks Division	Deputy Division Administrator				
Gail Good	WDNR, Environmental Management Division	Division Administrator				
Anna C. Rossler	WDNR, Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation	Endangered Resources Review Program				
LT. Governor Mandela Barnes	Governor's Task Force on Climate Change	Chair				
Craig Thompson	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	Secretary				
Rebecca Burkel	Wisconsin Department of Transportation	Administrator, Division of Transportation System Development				
Maria Redmond	Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy	Director				
Daina Penkiunas	Wisconsin Historical Society	State Historic Preservation Officer				
James Skibo	Wisconsin Historical Society	Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer				
Felipe Avila	Wisconsin Historical Society	State Historic Preservation Office (Reviewer)				
Kay Romanin	Wisconsin Historical Society	SHPO (Compliance)				
Ian Gort	Wisconsin Historical Society	SHPO Historic Preservation Specialist				
Tim Weber	Wisconsin Economic Development	Sr. Economic Develop. Director				
Jason Scott	Wisconsin Economic Development	Sr. Economic Develop. Director, Regions 1-7				
DANE COUNTY AGENCIES						
Joe Parisi	Dane County Office of the County Executive	County Executive				
Josh Wescott	Dane County Office of the County Executive	Chief of Staff				
Ariana Vruwink	Dane County Office of the County Executive	Director of Communications				
Kathy Kuntz	Dane County Office of the County Executive	Director of the Office of Energy & Climate Change				
Carlos A. Pabellón	Dane County Corporation Counsel	Interim Corporation Counsel				
Adam Gallagher	Dane County Treasurer	Treasurer				
Carlo Esqueda	Dane County Circuit Courts	Clerk of the Courts				
Kalvin D. Barrett	Dane County Sheriff's Office	Dane County Sheriff				
Scott McDonell	Dane County County Clerk's Office	County Clerk				
Greg Brockmeyer	Dane County Department of Administration	Director				
Gerald J. Mandli, PE	Dane County Highway and Transportation	Commissioner				

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Pamela J. Dunphy PE	Dane County Highway and Transportation	Deputy Commissioner				
Laura Hicklin	Dane County Land & Water Resources Dept.	Director				
Amy Piaget	Dane County Land & Water Resources Dept.	County Conservationist				
Jeremy Balousek	Dane County Water Resource Engineering	WRE Division Director				
John Welch, PE	Dane County Department of Waste & Renewables	Director				
Roxanne Wienkes	Dane County Department of Waste & Renewables	Deputy Director				
Kevin Belida	Dane County Department of Waste & Renewables	Hazardous Waste Coordinator				
Paul Logan	Dane County Department of Public Safety Communications (911)	Coordinator				
Astra Iheukumere	Dane County Department of Human Services	Interim Director				
Jennifer Fischer	Dane County Aging & Disability Resource Center	ADRC Manager				
Eric Anderson	Dane County Emergency Management					
Joleen Stinson	Dane County Parks Department	Parks Director				
Janel Heinrich, MPH, MA	Public Health Madison & Dane County	Director				
Todd Draper	Dane County Department of Public Works	Deputy Public Works Director				
Sridevi Mohan	Dane County Area Agency on Aging	AAA Manager				
CITY OF MADISON MUNICIPAL AGENCIES						
Maribeth Witzel-Behl	City of Madison	City Clerk				
Michael R. Haas	City of Madison	City Attorney				
Michelle Drea	City of Madison Assessor's Office	Assessor				
Craig Franklin	City of Madison Treasurer's Office	Treasurer and Revenue Manager				
Kathleen Cryan	City of Madison Engineering Division	Interim Engineering Division Manager				
Greg Fries, PE	City of Madison Engineering Division	Assistant City Engineer				
Mark Moder, PE	City of Madison Engineering Division	Sanitary Sewer Section Manager				
Chris Carbon	City of Madison Fire Department	Fire Chief				
Art Price	City of Madison Fire Department	Assistant Chief, Operations				
Edwin Ruckriegel	City of Madison Emergency Management	Fire Department				
	City of Madison Fire Stations 2 and 7					
S. Tariq Saqqaf	City of Madison Racial Equity and Neighborhood Resource Team	Coordinator				
Kristy Kumar	City of Madison Racial Equity and Social Justice Division	Manager				
Donna Collingwood	City of Madison Assistant Equity Coordinator					
Norman D. Davis	City of Madison Department of Civil Rights	Director				
Shon F. Barnes	City of Madison Police Department	Police Chief				
Kelly Beckett	City of Madison Police Department	West District Captain				
Michael Richardson	City of Madison Police Department	West District - Lieutenant of Patrol				
Jessica Price, PhD.	City of Madison Sustainability and Resilience	Sustainability and Resilience Manager				
Heather Stouder	City of Madison Planning Division	Director				
Katherine J. Bannon	City of Madison Planning Division	Zoning Administrator				
Kevin Firchow	City of Madison Planning Division	Principal Planner				
Timothy M. Parks	City of Madison Planning Division	Principal Planner				
General mail box	City of Madison Planning Division					
Bill Fruhling	Neighborhood Planning, Preservation, & Design	Principal Planner				
Brian Grady	Comprehensive Planning & Regional Cooperation	Principal Planner				
Eric Knepp	City of Madison Parks Division	Parks Superintendent				
Lisa Laschinger	City of Madison Parks Division	Assistant Parks Superintendent				
Tom Lynch	City of Madison Department of Transportation	Director				
Yang Tao	City of Madison Traffic Engineering	City Traffic Engineer				
Justin Stuehrenberg	City of Madison, Metro Transit	General Manager				
Charles Romines	City of Madison Public Works	Superintendent				
Charlie Romines	City of Madison Streets	Streets Superintendent				
	City of Madison Community Development Division	Director				
Linda Horvath	City of Madison	Neighborhood Associations				
Angela Puerta	City of Madison	Neighborhood Associations				
Matthew Mikolajewski	City of Madison Economic Development Division	Director				
Larry Kilmer	City of Madison Housing Authority	Director				
Stacy Stapleton	City of Madison Housing Authority	Marketing Outreach Coordinator				
STATE WILDLIFE AGENCIES						
David Yoskowitz	Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission	State Director				
Chuck Skyes	Outdoor Alabama (Alabama Dept of Conservation & Nat	Director, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries				
Ty Gray	Wildlife Services State Offices	State Director				
Art Nelson	Alaska Boards of Game and Fisheries	Executive Director, Board of Fisheries				
Kirsty Tibbles	Alaska Boards of Game and Fisheries	Executive Director, Board of Game				

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Doug Lang	Alaska Department of Fish and Game	Commissioner				
Austin Booth	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission	Director				
Melissa Miller-Henson	California Fish and Game Commission	Executive Director				
Steve Gonzalez	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Information Officer II				
Jeff Davis	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission	Director				
Katherine Dykes	Bureau of Natural Resources	Commissioner				
Ricard Jackson	Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE)	Acting Director				
Nikki Lavoie	State Of Delaware - Division of Fish & Wildlife	Chief Communications Officer				
Roger Young	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	Executive Director				
Lacey Creech	Georgia Department of Natural Resources	Marketing & Communications Manager				
Dan Dennison	Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife	Sr. Communications Mgr.				
Don Ebert	Idaho Fish and Game	Commission Chairman				
Natalie Phelps Finnie	Illinois Department of Natural Resources	Director				
Marty Benson	Indiana Department of Natural Resources	Public Information Officer				
Karla Lyon	Iowa Department of Natural Resources	Director				
Brad Loveless	Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks	Secretary of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism				
Rich Storm	Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources	Commissioner				
Andrew Blanchard	Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission	Chair				
Ed Prat	Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries	Press Secretary				
Kristin Peet	Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council	Chair				
Judy Camuso	Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife	Commissioner				
Jeannie Curtz	Department of Natural Resources	Secretary				
Mark Tisa	Division of Fisheries and Wildlife	Director				
Shannon Lott	Department of Natural Resources	Acting Director				
Sarah Strommen	Department of Natural Resources	Commissioner				
Lynn Posey	Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks	Director				
Sara Parker Pauley	Department of Conservation	Director				
Dustin Temple	Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks	Director				
Tim McCoy	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	Director				
Alan Jenne	Nevada Department of Wildlife	Director				
Scott Mason	New Hampshire Fish and Game	Executive Director				
Dave Golden	New Jersey Fish & Wildlife	Assistant Commissioner				
Jesse Deubel	New Mexico Wildlife Federation	Executive Director				
Basil Seggos	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation	Commissioner				
Cameron Ingram	North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission	Executive Director				
Kim Kary	North Dakota Game and Fish Department	Division Chief				
Mary Mertz	Ohio Department of Natural Resources	Director				
J.D Strong	Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation	Director				
Beth Quillian	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife	Public Information Officer				
Jill Zarnowitz	Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission	Vice Chair				
Matthew Schnupp	Bureau of Wildlife Management, Game Commission	Director				
Suzanne Amerault	Department of Environmental Management	Director				
Robert Boyles	South Carolina Department of Natural Resources	Director				
Kevin Robling	South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks	Department Secretary				
Thomas Woods	Tennessee Fish & Wildlife Commission	Chair				
David Yoskowitz	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Executive Director				
Faith Heaton Jolley	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	Statewide PIO				
Christopher Herrick	Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, Agency of Natural Resources	Commissioner				
Ryan Brown	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources	Executive Director				
Kelly Susewind	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Director				
Brett McMillion	Wildlife Resources Section (of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources)	Director				
Adam Payne	Wisconsin Fish, Wildlife & Parks Division	Secretary				
Brian Nesvik	Wisconsin Natural Resources Board					
	Wyoming Game and Fish Department	Director				
STAKEHOLDERS						
REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES						
Sheri Carter	South Metropolitan Planning Council	Treasurer and Chair				
Steven Steinhoff, AICP	Capitol Area Regional Planning Commission	Agency Director/Director of Community & Regional Development Planning				
Mike Rupiper, PE	Capitol Area Regional Planning Commission	Deputy Agency Director/Director of Environmental Resources Planning				
STATE, COUNTY, LOCAL LIBRARIES AND RESPOSITORIES						
	Wisconsin State Reference and Loan Library					
Martha Van Pelt	South Central Library System	Director				
Tracy Herold	Dane County Library Service	Director				
Greg Mickells	Madison Public Library - Central Library	Director				
Alicia Ashman Library	Madison Public Library					
Goodman South Madison Library	Madison Public Library					

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Hawthorne Library	Madison Public Library					
Lakeview Library	Madison Public Library					
Meadowridge Library	Madison Public Library					
Monroe Street Library	Madison Public Library					
Pinney Library	Madison Public Library					
Sequoia Library	Madison Public Library					
LOCAL BUSINESSES AND BUSINESS GROUPS						
Zach Brandon	Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce	President				
Helen Stewart	Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce	Managing Director, Operations				
Camille Carter	Madison Black Chamber	President				
Jessica Cavazos	Latino Chamber of Commerce of Dane County	President and CEO				
Jason R. Rae	Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce, Inc.	President and CEO				
Jean Marie Thiel	American Indian Chamber of Commerce of WI	President (Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa)				
Saul Newton	Wisconsin Veterans Chamber of Commerce	President and CEO				
Kurt Bauer	Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC)	President and CEO				
Morry Smulevitz	Exact Ecienes Corp.	Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs				
James Herriott	Exact Ecienes Corp.	Senior Vice President, General Counsel				
Howard F. Loomis Jr., D.C., FIACA	Food Enzyme Institute, LLC	President, Food Enzyme Institute Director				
Jerry Schmidt	West Madison Little League	President				
Ben Stuart	West Madison Little League	Executive Director				
	Utica Community Association					
Barbara Davis	North Star Neighborhood Association	President				
Linda Brewer	Highlands of Seminole Neighborhood Association	President				
Miguel Dominguez	Highlands of Seminole Neighborhood Association	Vice President				
Thomas Waltz	Ice Age Falls Neighborhood Association	President				
Kim Smithers	Ice Age Falls Neighborhood Association	Secretary				
Mary Beth Dunning	Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association	Secretary				
Matt Seib	Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association	President				
Kevin Pomeroy	Crawford-Marlborough-Nakoma Neighborhood Association					
Mary Odell	Crawford-Marlborough-Nakoma Neighborhood Association					
Jane Sarafiny	Greentree Neighborhood Association					
Martha Swenson	Greentree Neighborhood Association	The Stump newsletter				
Joy Cardin	Midvale Heights Community Association	Contact Person				
Tom Jarvis	Midvale Heights Community Association	Contact Person				
Michael Clifton	Park Ridge Neighborhood Association	Contact Person				
Bob Winding	High Point Estates Neighborhood Association	Contact Person				
Cindy Zanesco	High Point Estates Neighborhood Association	Contact Person				
Roger Avery	Orchard Ridge Neighborhood Association	Contact Person				
Mike Thomsen	Orchard Ridge Neighborhood Association	Contact Person				
Isadore Knox	South Metropolitan Planning Council	Executive Committee Member				
ENVIRONMENTAL AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS						
Bob Sorge	Madison Community Foundation	President and CEO				
Elizabeth Ward	Sierra Club - Wisconsin Chapter	Chapter Director				
Elizabeth Koehler	The Nature Conservancy, Wisconsin Chapter	State Director				
David Clutter	Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin	Executive Director				
Sharri Henning	Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin	Operations Manager				
Mark Redsten	Clean Wisconsin, Inc.	President and CEO				
David Tipson	Clean Wisconsin, Inc.	Vice President				
Matt Reetz	Madison Audubon Society	Executive Director				
Brenna Marsicek	Madison Audubon Society	Director of Communications & Outreach				
James Tye	Clean Lakes Alliance	Executive Director				
Paul Dearlove	Clean Lakes Alliance	Deputy Director				
Maria Powell	Madison Environmental Justice (MEJO)	Executive Director				
Pat Quaintance	Wisconsin Wildlife Federation	President				
Jason Dinsmore	Wisconsin Wildlife Federation	NWF Regional Representative				
Kevyne Quamme	Wisconsin Wildlife Federation	District 7 Representative				
Kerry Schumann	Wisconsin Conservation Voters	Executive Director				
Jennifer Giegerich	Wisconsin Conservation Voters	Government Affairs Director				
Claire Oleksiak	Sustain Dane	Executive Director				
Lorenza Zebell	Sustain Dane	Program Manager				
Tracy Hames	Wisconsin Wetlands Association	Executive Director				
Allison Werner	River Alliance of Wisconsin	Executive Director				
Bill Davis	River Alliance of Wisconsin	Senior Legal Analyst				
Tony Wilkin Gibart	Midwest Environmental Advocates	Executive Director				

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Matt Krueger	Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Assoc.	Executive Director				
Deb Nemeth	1000 Friends of Wisconsin	Executive Director				
Robin Wagner	1000 Friends of Wisconsin	Director of Operations				
John Decker	Dane County Historical Society	President				
Tim Whitehouse	Public Employees For Environmental Responsibility, Inc.	Executive Director				
Kyla Bennett	Public Employees For Environmental Responsibility, Inc.	Director of Science Policy				
Elizabeth Duan	Public Employees For Environmental Responsibility, Inc.	Communications & Office Associate				
Sarah Bullard	Community Meal Program	Director				
Melissa Sorensen	Salvation Army Dane County	Director of Social Services				
Casey Yanta	Salvation Army Dane County	Director of Housing Services				
Renee Moe	United Way of Dane County	President and CEO				
Karen Soraya Burch	United Way of Dane County	President and CEO				
Charlene Mouille	United Way of Wisconsin	President and CEO				
Rev. Dr. Alex Gee	Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development	President				
Harry Hawkins	Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development	Executive Vice President				
Amber Duddy	Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin	Executive Director				
Ruben L. Anthony, Jr., Ph.D	Urban League of Greater Madison	President and CEO				
Gregory Jones	NAACP Dane County, Branch #36AB	President				
Christine Neumann-Ortiz	Voces de la Frontera	Executive Director				
Mahnker Dahnweih, Bianca Gomez, Chai Moua	Freedom Inc.	Co-Executive Director				
NATIVE AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS						
Edith Leoso+D395B378:D394E40B378:D4	Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
Mike Wiggins, Jr.	Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians	CEO and Tribal Chairman				
Eldred Corbine	Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians	Tribal Vice Chairman				
Louis Taylor	Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians	Chairman				
Sarah Thompson	Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
Joseph Wildcat, Sr.	Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians	President				
Benjamin Rhodd, MSA, RPA	Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Forest County Potawatomi Community	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
Ron Corn Sr.	Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin	Chairman				
David Grignon	Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
Jon Greendeer	The Ho-Chunk Nation	President				
Marlon White Eagle	The Ho-Chunk Nation	President				
William (Bill) Quackenbush	The Ho-Chunk Nation	THPO/Head, Cultural Resources Division				
	Oneida Nation	Tribal Secretary				
Tehassi Hill	Oneida Nation	Chairman				
Melinda J. Danforth	Oneida Nation	Director – Intergovernmental Affairs				
Stacie Cutbank	Oneida Nation of Wisconsin	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
Shannon Holsey	Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians	President				
Allen Quinney	Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians	Executive Director				
Jeff Bendremer	Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
Michael LaRonge	Sokaogon Chippewa Community	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
Wanda McFaggen	St Croix Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
James Crawford	Forest County Potawatomi Community, WI	Chairman				
Ned Daniels, Jr.	Forest County Potawatomi Community, WI	Chairman				
Michael Blackwolf	Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation of Montana	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
Jeffery (Jeff) Stiffarm	Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation of Montana	President				
Darwin Kaskaske	Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma	Chairman				
Douglas Lankford	Miami Tribe of Oklahoma	Chief				
Diane Hunter	Miami Tribe of Oklahoma	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
Geoffrey Standing Bear	Osage Nation	Principal Chief				
Andrea A. Hunter	Osage Nation	Director and THPO				
Coly Brown	Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Chairman				
Sunshine Thomas-Bear	Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer				
RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS						
Eric Kruger	UW-Madison, Forest & Wildlife Ecology					

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Mark Markel	UW-Madison, School of Veterinary Medicine					
Keith Poulsen	UW-Madison, Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory					
Curtis Brandt	UW Medical Foundation	Professor, Vice Chair of Research				
Dr. Yoshihiro Kawaoka	University of Wisconsin, School of Veterinary Medicine	Department of Pathobiological Sciences				
Vanessa Sperandio	University of Wisconsin	Professor of Medical Microbiology & Immunology and Department Chair				
Allison Bauer	University of Wisconsin	Communications Manager, Medical Microbiology & Immunology Department				
Bruce Klein	University of Wisconsin	Professor of Pediatrics, Medicine, and Medical Microbiology & Immunology				
Brenda Gonzalez	University of Wisconsin, Community Relations	Director of Community Relations				
Charles Czuprynski	University of Wisconsin, School of Veterinary Medicine	Director, Food Research Institute Professor and Chair, Pathobiological Sciences				
Darlene Konkle	DATCP - State Veterinarian					

Houses of Worship

African American Congregation

Rev. Everett Mitchell	Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church	Senior Pastor				
Bob Ray	East Madison Baptist Church	Pastor				
Rev. Dr. Marcus Allen Sr.	Mt Zion Baptist Church	Pastor				
Anthony Wade	Second Baptist Church	Pastor				
	St Paul A.M.E. Church	Pastor				
Bob Stine	Midvale Baptist Church	Pastor				
Rev. Tim Schaefer	First Baptist Church of Madison	Pastor				
Mike Weiss	Madison Baptist Church	Senior Pastor				
William Mattox	Meadowood Baptist Church	Senior Pastor				
Matt Metzger	Blackhawk Church - Downtown	Senior Pastor				
Peter Ko	Livingstone Korean Baptist Church of Madison WI	Pastor				
Dean Howell	Grace Baptist Church	Senior Pastor				
Reverend Dr. Alexander Gee, Jr.	Fountain of Life Covenant Church	Senior Pastor				
Lex Liberatore	Lake Edge United Church of Christ	Pastor				
Karla Garcia	S S Morris Community AME Church	Reverend				
Rozanna Porter	New Beginnings Alliance Church	Assistant				
Meskerem Thomas	Rehoboth Madison Evangelical Church	Pastor				
Abbie Sawczak	New Culture Church	Lead Pastor				
Tom Flaherty	City Church	Lead Pastor				

Hispanic Congregation

	Iglesia Nueva Vida	Pastor				
Alfonso Y Manuela Avila	La Hermosa Pentecostes	Pastor				
Karen Menéndez Collier	Centro Hispano of Dane	Executive Director				
	Iglesia Jesus Principe de Paz Pentecostal	Pastor				
Nuestro Pastor Paulino	Iglesia Cristiana La Obra De Dios	Pastor				
Jacobo Castillo	Iglesia Fuente de Vida	Pastor				
	The Light of the World Church	Pastor				
	Iglesia Apostólica Templo "EMMANUEL"	Pastor				
	Iglesia De Dios Pentecostal	Pastor				
Monsignor Kevin Holmes	Cathedral Parish - Holy Redeemer Church	Pastor				
Tom Heikkinen	Cathedral Parish - Holy Redeemer Church	Director of Communications				
Adam Tomlinson	Westwood Christian Church	Minister				

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Eugene S. Johnson	Madison Pentecostal Assembly	Bishop				
	Comunidad Cristiana Luz De Esperanza	Pastor				
Very Reverend Achimandrite Christodoulos Margello	Assumption Greek Orthodox Church	Presiding Priest				
	Living Springs International Church	Pastor				
Rob Warren	Doxa Church	Lead Pastor				
Other Houses of Worship						
Marcio Sierra Jr.	Lighthouse Church	Senior Pastor				
D.R. Walls, Sr	New Testament Christian Church	Pastor				
PHILIP MOLDENHAUER	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Pastor				
Mickey Best	Point of Grace Community Church	Pastor				
Bishop Godfrey Stubbs	End Time Ministry Baptist Church	Bishop				
Lilieth Richards	Nahar Chaya Prophetic International Ministries	Apostle				
George O'Neal	His Ambassadors Fellowship UPC Church	Pastor				
Valerie Showalter	Madison Mennonite Church	Pastor				
Chris Enstad	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - Madison	Lead Pastor				
Justin & Alesha Cowen	Global Presence Center	Community Gatherings				
Lauri Mack	House Of Refuge Int'l Ministries	Pastor				
Daryl Broadbridge	Lake Trails Presbyterian Church	Clerk of Session				
Rev. Iho Tree	Madison Chinese Christian Church	Church Planter				
Rev. Matt Grimsley	Resurrection Presbyterian Church	Pastor				
SCOTT ANDERSON	Westminster Presbyterian Church	Pastor				
NWHC - WILDLIFE HEALTH LEADS						
Chris Cook	Alabama					
Kimberlee Beckmen	Alaska					
Anne Justice-Allen	Arizona					
Jennifer Ballard	Arkansas					
Deana Clifford	California					
Mary Wood	Colorado					
Howard Kilpatrick	Connecticut					
Dan Rausch	D.C.					
Joe Rogerson	Delaware					
Mark Cunningham	Florida					
Tina Johannsen	Georgia					
Lainie Berry	Hawaii					
Stacey Dauwalter	Idaho					
Chris Jacques	Illinois					
Mitch Marcus	Indiana					
Rachel Ruden	Iowa					
Shane Hesting	Kansas					
Chrissy Casey	Kentucky					
Jim Lacour	Louisiana					
James Connolly	Maine					
Cindy Driscoll	Maryland					
Susan McCarthy	Massachusetts					
Megan Moriarty	Michigan					
Michelle Carstensen	Minnesota					
Anthony Ballard	Mississippi					
Sherri Russell	Missouri					
Jennifer Ramsey	Montana					
Todd Nordeen	Nebraska					
Nate LaHue	Nevada					
Dan Bergeron	New Hampshire					
Nicole Lewis	New Jersey					
Kerry Mower	New Mexico					
Kevin Hynes	New York					
Kyle Briggs	North Carolina					

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Charlie Bahnson	North Dakota					
Mike Tonkovich	Ohio					
Jerry Shaw	Oklahoma					
Colin Gillin	Oregon					
Andrew DiSalvo	Pennsylvania					
David Kalb	Rhode Island					
Jay Cantrell	South Carolina					
Steve Griffin	South Dakota					
Sonia Mongold	Tennessee					
Hunter Reed	Texas					
Sara Wycoff	Texas					
Virginia Stout	Utah					
Walt Cottrell	Vermont					
John Tracey	Virginia					
Kristin Mansfield	Washington					
Ethan Barton	West Virginia					
Jasmine Batten	Wisconsin					
Hank Edwards	Wyoming					
Paul Johansen	AFWA FWH					
Sonja Christensen	AFWA FWH					
Krysten Schuler	Cornell					
Julie Ellis	Upenn					
Mark Ruder	SCWDS					

STATE AND LOCAL MEDIA

PRINT

Nicholas Garton	The Cap Times	Metro Reporter				
Ali Garfield	The Cap Times	Local Government Reporter				
	The Cap Times	City Desk				
Scott Gillespie	Star Tribune	Editor and Vice President				
Thom Kupper	Star Tribune	Assistant Managing Editor/News				
Sophie Carson	Milwaukee Journal Sentinel	Reporter, General Assignment				
Mark Johnson	Milwaukee Journal Sentinel	Reporter, Health and Science				
Duke Behke	Post Crescent	Local Government Reporter				
Larry Gallup	Post Crescent	Editor				
Jason Adrians	Wisconsin State Journal	Executive Editor				
Jessie Garcia	Telemundo Wisconsin/CBS 58	News Director				
	Fox47	News Director				
Tom Kurtz	Spectrum 1 News	Managing Director				
Dani Maxwell	WKOW 27	News Director				
Jessica Laszewski	WMTV - NBC15	News Director				
Lyle Banks	News 3 Now/Channel3000.com	General Manager				
Rafael Viscarra	La Comunidad News	Founder				
Judith Davidoff	Isthmus Media	Editor/President				
Ernest Jones	The Madison Times Weekly Newspaper	Editorial Director				
Janani Sundar	The Badger Herald	Editor-in-Chief				
Andy Hall	Wisconsin Watch	Executive Director				
Dulce Maria Danel	PBS Wisconsin	Impact				
Jeffrey Potter	Wisconsin Public Radio	Marketing Director				

PUBLIC-AT-LARGE/OTHERS

Ruben L. Anthony	Urban League of Greater Madison	President and CEO				
Tomika Vukovic	Wisconsin Voices	Co-Executive Director of Organizational Empowerment				
Amy Bexson	Apartment Association of South Central Wisconsin	President				
Melissa Bjerke Markgraf	Realtors' Association of South Central Wisconsin	President				
Gary Goyke	Wisconsin Apartment Association	Legislative Liaison				
Joseph Gallina	The Gallina Companies	CEO				
	Shroader Square Apartments					
Chelsea Prochnow	Milele Chikasa Anana Elementary School	Principal				
Joe Duperre	West Towne Mall	General Manager				
	Preserve West Apartments					
Andrea Chaffee	Madison Ice Arena	Marketing Director				
Rebecca Carlin	Theresa Terrace Neighborhood Center	Executive Director				
	Orchard Ridge Nursery School					
	Country Meadows Apartments					
	United States Postal Service					
Pastor Tia Sierra	Lighthouse Christian School	Principal				

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address
Ginny Buhr	Madison Waldorf School	Administrator				
Suzanne Hanson	MARC Services	Executive Director				
Umar Warsi	Madinah Academy of Madison	Principal				
Mohammed Asadullah	Madinah Community Center - Masjid	President				
Ben Stuart	West Madison Little League	Executive Director				
Christie Howell-Yrios	Animal Crackers Child Care Center	Executive Director				
Kyle O'Brien	Wisconsin Hospital Association	Senior Vice President, Government Relations				
Dr. Robert Craig	Wisconsin Citizen Action	Executive Director				
John Schnabl	Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc	Executive Director				
Current through: October 2023						

MASTER CONTACT LIST - NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER

Name	Affiliation	Title	Mailing Address	Office	Mobile	Email Address	Notes
Eden Hemming	Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office	Archaeologist, MA					
Shelagh DeLiberto							
Peter Szotkowski	Arizona Game and Fish Department	Project Evaluation Program					
Jean Public							
Richard Spotts							
Ashley Bystol	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Natural Resources Board Liaison					
Clinton Allen	USGS						
Kierstin Huelsemann	Dane County Board of Supervisors	County Supervisor, District 27					
Tag Evers	City of Madison Common Council	Alder, District 13					
Derek Field	City of Madison Common Council						
Lisa Subeck	Wisconsin State Legislature	State Representative, District 78					
Thomas DeLiberto	USDA						
Andrew Mendyk	Alliant Energy	Lead Forecast Analyst					
Shelagh DeLiberto	USDA	Environmental Coordinator					
Liz Peloso	EPA	NEPA Implementation Project Manager					
Tim Parks	City of Madison	Planner					
Melissa Agard	Wisconsin State Senate	State Senator, District 16					
Hannah Faber	USGS	Research Biologist					
Megan Winzeler	USGS	Biological Science Laboratory Technician					
Boyd Lycan							
Peter Szotkowski	Vogel Bros Building Company	Director of Business Development					
Travis Phillips	Vogel Bros Building Company	Project Manager					
Chad Eschler	Findorff	Vice President of Business Development					
Mark Lydon	Madison Gas and Electric Company	Senior Commercial Account Representative					
Ben Stuart	West Madison Little League	Executive Director					
Jim Bachhuber	Brown and Caldwell	Midwest Stormwater Practice Leader					
Torrie Lindner	West Madison Little League	Head Groundskeeper					
JoEllen Marlor	USGS	Administrative Office Assistant					
John Sheski							
Timothy Eisele							
Kerman Eckes	Wisconsin Public Media	Technical Lead and Editor					
Lauri Tyrell	Flair Architects	Planner/Associate Principal					
Amy Besson	Apartment Association of South Central Wisconsin	Communications, Membership & Event Coordinator					
Lauren Gritzmacher	USGS	Laboratory Researcher					
Jennie Demjanick	U.S. Department of the Interior	Attorney					

g) Adjacent Properties and Environmental Justice Outreach: Call Log

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES OUTREACH - NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER						
Name	Affiliation	Title	Office	Mobile	Email Address	Call Y/N (Voicemail, Wrong Number) Notes
DANE COUNTY AGENCIES						
Joe Parisi	Dane County Office of the County Executive	County Executive				Voicemail
Josh Wescott	Dane County Office of the County Executive	Chief of Staff				Voicemail
Ariana Vruwink	Dane County Office of the County Executive	Director of Communications				voicemail
CITY OF MADISON MUNICIPAL AGENCIES						
Linda Horvath	City of Madison	Neighborhood Associations				Voicemail
Angela Puerta	City of Madison	Neighborhood Associations				Voicemail
LOCAL BUSINESSES AND BUSINESS GROUPS						
Zach Brandon	Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce	President				Voicemail
Helen Stewart	Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce	Managing Director Operations				Voicemail
Camille Carter	Madison Black Chamber	President				Yes Spoke to CEO
Jessica Cavazos	Latino Chamber of Commerce of Dane County	President and CEO				Yes Spoke to Staff and they'll print flyers and distribute digital flyer
Jason R. Rae	Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce Inc.	President and CEO				Voicemail
Jean Marie Thiel	American Indian Chamber of Commerce of WI	President (Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa)				Voicemail
Saul Newton	Wisconsin Veterans Chamber of Commerce	President and CEO				Voicemail
Linda Brewer	Highlands of Seminole Neighborhood Association	President				Voicemail
Miguel Dominguez	Highlands of Seminole Neighborhood Association	Vice President				Voicemail
ENVIRONMENTAL AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS						
Renee Moe	United Way of Dane County	President and CEO				Yes Spoke with staff they will share flyers
Karen Soraya Burch	United Way of Dane County	President and CEO				Yes Spoke with staff and shared information
Charlene Mouille	United Way of Wisconsin	President and CEO				Yes Spoke with staff and will review information
Rev. Dr. Alex Gee	Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development	President				Voicemail
Harry Hawkins	Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development	Executive Vice President				Voicemail
Amber Duddy	Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin	Executive Director				Voicemail
Ruben L. Anthony Jr. Ph.D	Urban League of Greater Madison	President and CEO				Yes Staff confirmed they received information via email and will share with members
Gregory Jones	NAACP Dane County Branch #36AB	President				Voicemail
Christine Neumann-Ortiz	Voces de la Frontera	Executive Director				Yes Will share information with members
Mahliker Dahnweih Bianca Gomez Chai Mousa	Freedom Inc.	Co-Executive Director				Voicemail
Houses of Worship						
African American Congregation						
Rev. Everett Mitchell	Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church	Senior Pastor				Voicemail
Bob Ray	East Madison Baptist Church	Pastor				Voicemail
Rev. Dr. Marcus Allen Sr.	Mt Zion Baptist Church	Pastor				Yes Spoke with staff and they confirmed they received information via email
Anthony Wade	Second Baptist Church	Pastor				Voicemail
	St Paul A.M.E. Church	Pastor				Voicemail
Bob Stine	Midvale Baptist Church	Pastor				Voicemail
Rev. Tim Schaefer	First Baptist Church of Madison	Pastor				Voicemail
Mike Weiss	Madison Baptist Church	Senior Pastor				Voicemail
William Mattox	Meadowood Baptist Church	Senior Pastor				Voicemail
Matt Metzger	Blackhawk Church - Downtown	Senior Pastor				Voicemail not setup Voicemail not set up
Peter Ko	Livingstone Korean Baptist Church of Madison WI	Pastor				Yes
Dean Howell	Grace Baptist Church	Senior Pastor				Yes Spoke with staff and they will share information with the Pastor
Reverend Dr. Alexander Gee Jr.	Fountain of Life Covenant Church	Senior Pastor				Yes Spoke with staff and they confirmed they received information via email
Lex Liberatore	Lake Edge United Church of Christ	Pastor				Voicemail
Karla Garcia	S S Morris Community AME Church	Reverend				Voicemail
Rozanna Porter	New Beginnings Alliance Church	Assistant				Voicemail
Meskerem Thomas	Rehoboth Madison Evangelical Church	Pastor				Yes Spoke with staff and they will share information with the Pastor
Abbie Sawczak	New Culture Church	Lead Pastor				Voicemail
Tom Flaherty	City Church	Lead Pastor				Voicemail
Hispanic Congregation						
	Iglesia Nueva Vida	Pastor				Voicemail
Alfonso Y Manuela Avila	La Hermosa Pentecostes	Pastor				Voicemail
Karen Menéndez Collier	Centro Hispano of Dane	Executive Director				Voicemail
	Iglesia Jesus Principe de Paz Pentecostal	Pastor				Yes Spoke with staff and they will share information with the Pastor
Nuestro Pastor Paulino	Iglesia Cristiana La Obra De Dios	Pastor				Voicemail
Jacobo Castillo	Iglesia Fuente de Vida	Pastor				Voicemail

Name	Affiliation	Title	Office	Mobile	Email Address	Call Y/N (Voicemail, Wrong Number)	Notes
	The Light of the World Church	Pastor				Voicemail	
	Iglesia Apostolica Templo "EMMANUEL"	Pastor				Yes	Spoke with staff and they will share information with the Pastor
	Iglesia De Dios Pentecostal	Pastor				Voicemail	
Monsignor Kevin Holmes	Cathedral Parish - Holy Redeemer Church	Pastor				Voicemail	
Tom Heikkinen	Cathedral Parish - Holy Redeemer Church	Director of Communications				Voicemail	
Adam Tomlinson	Westwood Christian Church	Minister				Voicemail	
Eugene S. Johnson	Madison Pentecostal Assembly	Bishop				Yes	Spoke with staff and they confirmed they received information via email
	Comunidad Cristiana Luz De Esperanza	Pastor				Voicemail	
Very Reverend Achimandrite Christodoulos Margello	Assumption Greek Orthodox Church	Presiding Priest				Voicemail	
	Living Springs International Church	Pastor				Voicemail	
Rob Warren	Doxa Church	Lead Pastor				Voicemail	
Other Houses of Worship							
Marcio Sierra Jr.	Lighthouse Church	Senior Pastor				Voicemail	
D.R. Walls Sr	New Testament Christian Church	Pastor				Voicemail	
PHILIP MOLDENHAUER	Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	Pastor				Voicemail	
Mickey Best	Point of Grace Community Church	Pastor				Yes	Spoke with staff and they will share information with the Pastor
Bishop Godfrey Stubbs	End Time Ministry Baptist Church	Bishop				Voicemail	
Lilith Richards	Nahar Chaya Prophetic International Ministries	Apostle				Voicemail	
George O'Neal	His Ambassadors Fellowship UPC Church	Pastor				No option for VM	
Valerie Showalter	Madison Mennonite Church	Pastor				Wrong Number	Wrong Number
Chris Enstad	Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - Madison	Lead Pastor				Voicemail	
Justin & Alesha Cowen	Global Presence Center	Community Gatherings				Voicemail	
Lauri Mack	House Of Refuge Int'l Ministries	Pastor				Wrong Number	Wrong Number
Daryl Broadbridge	Lake Trails Presbyterian Church	Clerk of Session				Wrong Number	Wrong Number
Rev. Iho Tree	Madison Chinese Christian Church	Church Planter				Voicemail	
Rev. Matt Grimsley	Resurrection Presbyterian Church	Pastor				Voicemail	
SCOTT ANDERSON	Westminster Presbyterian Church	Pastor				Wrong Number	Wrong Number
PUBLIC-AT-LARGE/OTHERS							
Ruben L. Anthony	Urban League of Greater Madison	President and CEO				Voicemail	
Tomika Vukovic	Wisconsin Voices	Co-Executive Director of Organizational Empowerment				Yes	Spoke with staff and shared information
Amy Besson	Apartment Association of South Central Wisconsin	President				Voicemail	
Melissa Bjerke Markgraf	Realtors' Association of South Central Wisconsin	President				Voicemail	
Gary Goyke	Wisconsin Apartment Association	Legislative Liaison				Voicemail	
Joseph Gallina	The Gal ina Companies	CEO				Yes	Spoke with staff and shared information
	Shroader Square Apartments					Yes	Spoke with staff and shared information
Chelsea Prochnow	Millele Ch kasa Anana Elementary School	Principal				Voicemail	
Joe Duperre	West Towne Mall	General Manager				Voicemail	
	Preserve West Apartments					Yes	Spoke with staff and shared information
Andrea Chaffee	Madison Ice Arena	Marketing Director				Voicemail	
Rebecca Carlin	Theresa Terrace Neighborhood Center	Executive Director				Voicemail	
	Orchard Ridge Nursery School					Yes	Spoke with staff and they will share information with the Director
	Country Meadows Apartments					Voicemail	
	United States Postal Service					Voicemail	
Pastor Tia Sierra	Lighthouse Christian School	Principal				Voicemail	
Ginny Buhr	Madison Waldorf School	Administrator				Yes	Spoke with staff and they will share information with the Director
Suzanne Hanson	MARC Services	Executive Director				Voicemail	
Umar Warsi	Madinah Academy of Madison	Principal				Voicemail	
Mohammed Asadullah	Madinah Community Center - Masjid	President				Voicemail	
Ben Stuart	West Madison Little League	Executive Director				Voicemail	
Christie Howell-Yrios	Animal Crackers Child Care Center	Executive Director				Voicemail	
Kyle O'Brien	Wisconsin Hospital Association	Senior Vice President Government Relations				Voicemail	
Dr. Robert Craig	Wisconsin Citizen Action	Executive Director				Voicemail	
John Schnabl	Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources Inc	Executive Director				Voicemail	

h) E-mails to Stakeholders

National Wildlife Health Center - Proposed New Facility

Lopez, Paulina [redacted]

Thu 8/31/2023 4:34 PM

Cc:Sizemore, Jordan D [redacted]; Forbes, Jessica [redacted]
Bcc:Kaim, Brittani B. [redacted]; Nardi, Robert [redacted]; Lopez, Paulina [redacted];

Good afternoon,

I am reaching out on behalf of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) about the development of a new National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) in Madison, Wisconsin.

As a valued stakeholder, the USGS wants to inform you about the project, its intent to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, and upcoming opportunities for your input.

The USGS plans to construct an updated NWHC facility on the site of the existing NWHC at 6006 Schroeder Road in Madison. This new facility will allow the center to continue to play a pivotal role in evaluating the impact of diseases on wildlife and exploring the intricate connections between wildlife health, human well-being, and the environment.

The existing NWHC, established in 1975, remains the only national center devoted to advancing wildlife health science for the benefit of animals, humans, and the environment. A growing challenge to performing the NWHC's mission, however, is the age and space limitations associated with the current center. To keep advancing wildlife health science effectively, they are embarking on the development of a new modern and efficient facility.

In line with their commitment to environmental stewardship and compliance with NEPA, the USGS will soon be publishing a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the Federal Register. This notice will mark the initiation of the public scoping phase of the NEPA process. During this important period, we eagerly anticipate engaging with officials, agencies, stakeholders, and the public to discuss the proposed project and its potential environmental implications.

You can learn more about this project by visiting our website at <https://www.nwhceis.com/> and reviewing our [project summary document](#). The website will also be updated with information about how to participate in the public scoping meeting and ways to provide comments on the proposed action and plans for the EIS.

Your insights are valuable for us, and we are eager to gather your feedback as the project progresses.

Thank you,



Paulina López, MPA
Communications and Public Involvement Specialist
U.S. Advisory Services



WSP USA
[redacted]
[redacted]

[wsp.com](https://www.wsp.com)

Update: National Wildlife Health Center - Proposed New Facility

Kaim, Brittani B. [REDACTED]

Thu 8/24/2023 4:03 PM

To [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Cc:Forbes, Jessica <[REDACTED]>; Sizemore, Jordan D [REDACTED]

📎 1 attachments (209 KB)

NWHC Notification Letter (The Honorable Sondy Pope, State Representative) August 2023.pdf

Dear State Representative Pope,

Please find attached an update regarding the proposed development of a new National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) at the site of the existing NWHC in Madison, Wisconsin.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project further, please don't hesitate to reach out to Jordan Sizemore, cc'ed here and full contact details enclosed.

Sincerely,

Brittani Kaim

On behalf of the U.S. Geological Survey



Brittani Kaim

Vice President

Director, Communications & Public Involvement Practice | US

Texas & Midwestern States

(She/her/hers)



WSP USA



wsp.com

Update: National Wildlife Health Center - Proposed New Facility

Lopez, Paulina <[REDACTED]>

Fri 9/8/2023 10:28 AM

To [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Sizemore, Jordan D [REDACTED]; Forbes, Jessica [REDACTED]

📎 1 attachments (827 KB)

Tibbles, Kirsty - Alaska Boards of Game and Fisheries - NWHC Notification Letter.pdf;

Dear Executive Director, Board of Game Tibbles:

Please find attached an update regarding the proposed development of a new National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) at the site of the existing NWHC in Madison, Wisconsin.

We are eager to receive comments on the proposed action of developing a new NWHC and invite you to provide comments during the scoping period, which extends from September 5 to October 20, 2023, to: Jordan D. Sizemore, NEPA Manager, United States Geological Survey, NWHC 6006 Schroeder Road Madison, WI, or by e-mail to: jsizemore@usgs.gov.

We have also established a project website which can be used to submit comments and view announcements, meeting notices, and other relevant information: <https://nwhceis.com/>.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Paulina Lopez

On behalf of C. LeAnn White, PhD, MPH, Acting Center Director, USGS National Wildlife Health Center, U.S. Geological Survey



Paulina López, MPA

Communications and Public Involvement Specialist
U.S. Advisory Services



in [twitter.com/wsp]

WSP USA



wsp.com

i) Newsletter

Your Input Matters: Proposed New NWHC Facility in Madison, WI

National Wildlife Health Center EIS Update <noreply@consultationmanager.com>

Wed 10/18/2023 8:46 AM

To: Lopez, Paulina [REDACTED]

Your Input Matters



The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing to develop a new National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) facility on the grounds of the present NWHC in Madison, Wisconsin.

Why is a new facility needed?

The NWHC, established in 1975, is a biomedical laboratory dedicated to assessing the impact of disease on wildlife and plays a crucial role in wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention in the United States.

However, an increasing challenge to NWHC operation is the age and space limitation of the present center, including crowded laboratories and administrative areas, inefficient use of space, aging infrastructure, and increasing costs associated with operation and maintenance. Developing a new NWHC is necessary to meet contemporary standards and practices.



Due to the potential impact on the environment, USGS is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The NEPA process allows for public input during public scoping and after the publication of the Draft EIS.

As a valued member of our community, we want to keep you informed about updates regarding the proposed new facility.



Recent Community Engagement and Public Scoping Meetings:

Thank you to the community member who attended the recent in person public scoping meeting on September 21, 2023, at Vel Philip Memorial High School, and the virtual scoping meeting on September 28, 2023.

These meetings provided an opportunity to share details about the proposed new facility, answer the community's questions and gather input.



Not able to attend? View the virtual public meeting recording and review meeting material online.



[View Recording](#)

[Meeting Materials](#)



Submit Your Comments:

During the 45-day scoping period, we encourage agencies, organizations, and the public to provide valuable input on potentially affected resource and environmental considerations.

We kindly request scoping comments by **Friday, October 20, 2023**, to ensure full consideration in the Draft EIS. Submit directly through the website using the Comment Form, email, or write to us



Online

Use the form on our website to submit comments

[Comment Form](#)



Email

Jordan D. Sizemore
NEPA Project Manager,
USGS

[Email Comments](#)



Mail

Jordan D. Sizemore
NEPA Project Manager
NWHC
6006 Schroeder Rd
Madison, WI 53711

Check out the EIS website for all of your project needs.

Take a look at frequently asked questions, learn more about facility improvements, and stay connected with updates on project news.

[Learn More](#)

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*You are receiving this email because you are an important part of the
National Wildlife Health Center community.*

[NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd,
Madison, WI 53711](#)

[NWHC](#) | [USGS](#) | [Photos](#)

If you'd like to unsubscribe and stop receiving these emails [click here](#).

j) Social Media Posts



USGS Wildlife Health

@USGSWILDLIFE



Planning is underway for a new National Wildlife Health Center facility. Learn more about the process and opportunities for public comment:

usgs.gov/centers/nwhc/u...



10:00 AM · Sep 18, 2023 · 475 Views

2) Public Scoping Meetings

a) In-Person Public Scoping Meeting

NWHC Public Scoping Meeting Sign-in – Staff

Thursday, September 21, 2023: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Vel Phillips Memorial High School, 201 S Gammon Rd, Madison, WI 53717

Name	Title	Organization	Phone Number	Email
Michael Bonds	Microbiologist	USGS NWHC		
Jessica Forbes	OPM	WSP		
Brittanni KATM	PI Specialist	WSP		
Jordan Sizemore	NEPA Project manager	USGS		
David Blehart	Branch Chief, Laboratory Sciences	USGS		
LeAnn White	Acting CD	"		
Julia Lenkton	Acting Deputy CD	USGS		
Dave Ozman	Regional Communications chief	USGS		

NWHC Public Scoping Meeting Sign-in – Staff

Thursday, September 21, 2023: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Vel Phillips Memorial High School, 201 S Gammon Rd, Madison, WI 53717

Name	Title	Organization	Phone Number	Email
Mark Grikensthi	Deputy Regional Director MCR			
Ton HANKINS	Admin OFFICER			
Katie Richegels	Chief, FEB NWHC			
Martin Smith	USGS Chief of Facilities			

NWHC Public Scoping Meeting Sign-in – Elected Officials

Thursday, September 21, 2023: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Vel Phillips Memorial High School, 201 S Gammon Rd, Madison, WI 53717

Name	Title	Organization	Phone Number	Email	Zip Code
Yannette Figueroa Cole	District 10 alder	City of Madison			

NWHC Public Scoping Meeting Sign-in – Members of the Public

Thursday, September 21, 2023: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Vel Phillips Memorial High School, 201 S Gammon Rd, Madison, WI 53717

Name	Organization (if representing one)	Title (if applicable)	Phone Number	Zip Code	Email	Added to Distribution List? (Y/N)	
Jonathan Stamm							
Matt + son Reetz							
CLYDE & PATRICIA FILAS-MORITZEN							



Public Comment Form

Use this form to submit written comments concerning the proposal for the new National Wildlife Health Center located on the existing property in Madison, WI. The U.S. Geological Survey is interested in your questions and comments about the project as it begins preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Please Note: any personal identifying information and the entire comment may become publicly available.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____



Please submit comments:

-  www.nwhceis.com
-  [Jordan D. Sizemore](mailto:jsize@usgs.gov)
Environmental Management Branch, USGS
-  **NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd,
Madison, WI 53711**

c) Public Scoping Meeting Pictures











b) Virtual Public Scoping Meeting (Held via Zoom)

Registration Report - National Wildlife Health Center - Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

Webinar ID: 885 8163 2654 Scheduled Time: 9/28/2023 1:00:00 PM

Registered: 28

Attendee Details

First Name	Last Name	Email
Kierstin	Huelsemann	[REDACTED]
Tag	Evers	[REDACTED]
Derek	Field	[REDACTED]
Lisa	Subeck	[REDACTED]
Thomas	DeLiberto	[REDACTED]
Mendyk	Andrew	[REDACTED]
Shelagh	DeLiberto	[REDACTED]
Liz	Pelloso	[REDACTED]
Tim	Parks	[REDACTED]
Melissa	Agard	[REDACTED]
Hannah	Faber	[REDACTED]
Megan	Winzeler	[REDACTED]
Boyd	Lycan	[REDACTED]
Peter	Szotkowski	[REDACTED]
Travis	Phillips	[REDACTED]
Chad	Eschler	[REDACTED]
Mark	Lydon	[REDACTED]
Ben	Stuart	[REDACTED]
Jim	Bachhuber	[REDACTED]
Torrie	Lindner	[REDACTED]
JoEllen	Marlor	[REDACTED]
John	Sheski	[REDACTED]
Timothy	Eisele	[REDACTED]
Kerman	Eckes	[REDACTED]
Lauri	Tyrrell	[REDACTED]
Amy	B	[REDACTED]
Lauren	Gritzmacher	[REDACTED]
Jennie	Demjanick	[REDACTED]

Question Report	National Wildlife Health Center - Virtual Public Scoping Meeting	
	Webinar ID	
	885 8163 2654	
Question Details		
#	Question	Asker Name
1	I assume the forthcoming EIS will mention alternatives to a new building/facilities? If you are planning to state that modifications to existing buildings/facilities was an alternative that was iden	Liz Pelloso
2	Is USGS planning to investigate the potential for LEED certification of new buildings and other green facilities such as permeable pavement for new parking areas?	Liz Pelloso
3	What is the proposed timeframe for publication of the DEIS?	Liz Pelloso
4	Do you have a defined project purpose and project need? I was expecting to see them explicitly specified in this meeting.	Liz Pelloso
5	Do you plan to add a driveway from the project site to the west connecting with Forward Drive? I noticed there is a strip of land owned by USGS that looks like it is reserved for that purpose.	Ben Stuart
6	(Also, I am the EPA Region 5 NEPA reviewer for this project, as a FYI)	Liz Pelloso
7	What is the funding source for this project?	Shelagh DeLiberto
8	Will the EIS define the development schedule, city plan approval, and construction timeline of the proposed facility?	Peter Sztokowski
9	Will there be a major increase in personnel at the site - will that affect traffic on Schroeder Road	Peter Sztokowski
10	thank you, exciting project and much needed. We appreciate your openness and public engagement!	Peter Sztokowski
11	Thank you.	Mark Lydon

3) Figures (Exhibits/Handouts)

a) PowerPoint Presentation



Proposed development of the new
**National Wildlife
Health Center**

Environmental Impact Statement
Public Scoping Meeting | 9.21.2023



Welcome

- Introductions
- Scoping meeting purpose
- About the National Wildlife Health Center
- Proposed action
- National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement
- Public review and comment process
- Questions

Flad Architects, 2023

Introductions



- **LeAnn White**, *Acting NWHC Director*
- **Michael D. Bonds**, *Safety & Environmental Program Coordinator*
- **Jordan D. Sizemore**, *NEPA Project Manager*
- **Martin T. Smith**, *Chief, Project Management Branch*
- **David Ozman**, *Public Affairs Regional Director*



- **Jessica Forbes**, *Deputy Project Manager*
- **Brittani Kaim**, *Public Involvement Lead*





Scoping Meeting Purpose

- Provide information regarding the proposal to develop a new NWHC in Madison.
- Solicit comments and input concerning the proposal prior to the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- Ensure compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other laws, regulations, and Executive Orders.

United States Geological Survey

- Established by Congress on March 3, 1879, to classify nation's public lands and examine the geological structure and natural resources of the national domain.
- Sole scientific agency for the Department of the Interior and the nation's largest water, earth, and biological science and civilian mapping organization.
- Focuses on significant societal issues and contributes to the well-being of the nation and world through five science mission areas: Core Science Systems, Natural Hazards, Ecosystems, Energy and Minerals, and Water Resources.





National Wildlife Health Center

Purpose and History

- Established in 1975 as the first biomedical laboratory dedicated to assessing impact of disease on wildlife; transferred to USGS in 1996.
- Only national center devoted to advancing wildlife health science for the benefit of animals, humans, and environment; designated as a “mission essential” facility.
- Emergence of wildlife diseases has become a high-priority concern in the U.S. and the world.
<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/nwhc/history-nwhc>





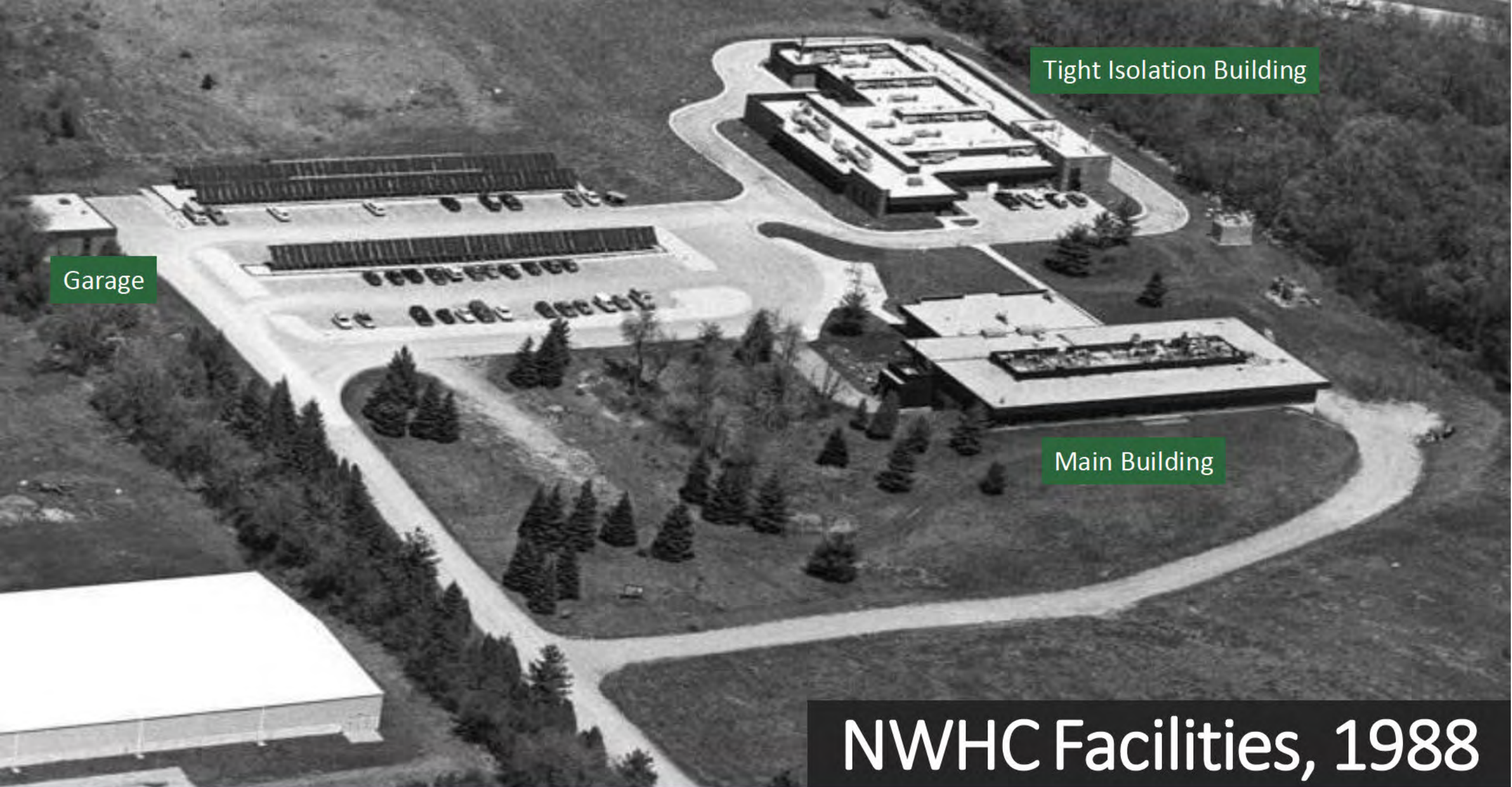
UW-Madison Stock Pavilion, 1975





Ansul Chemical Company, 1969-1974





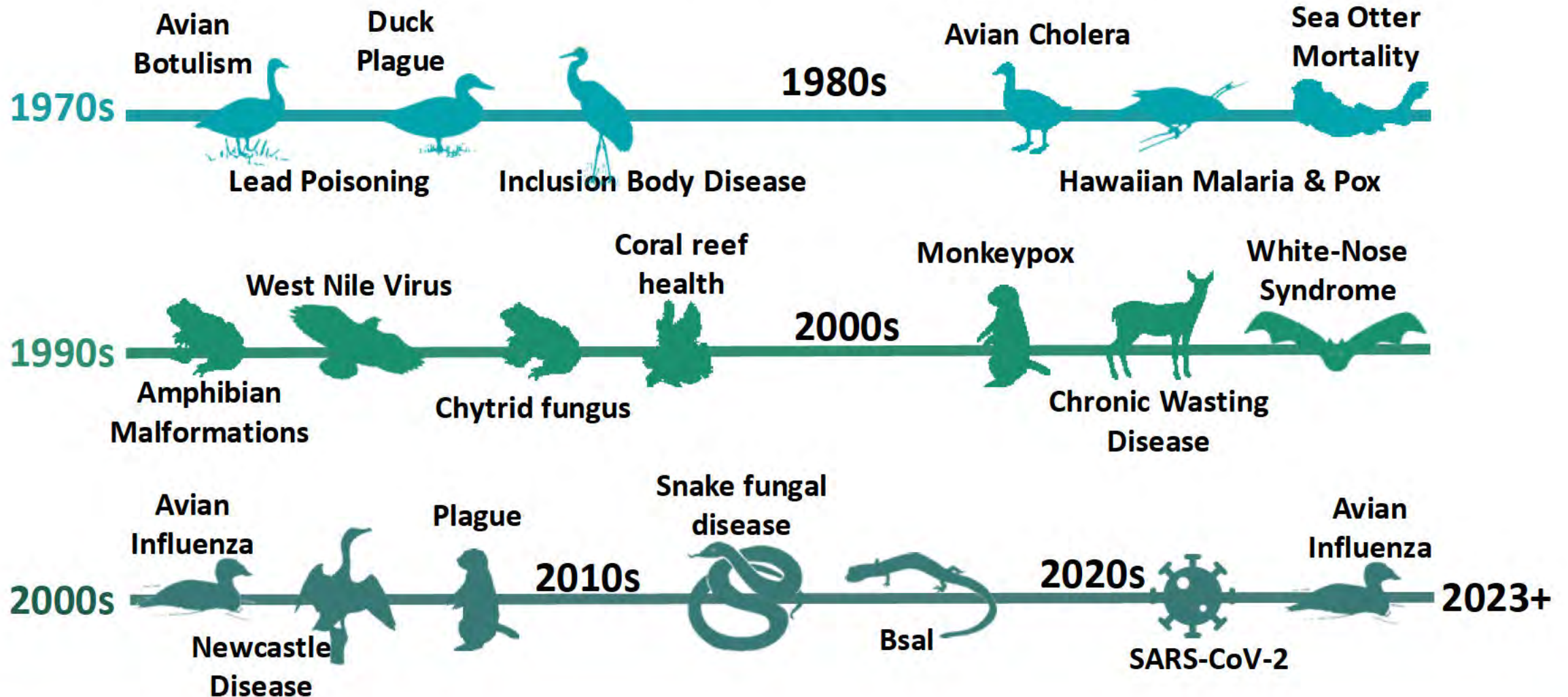
Garage

Tight Isolation Building

Main Building

NWHC Facilities, 1988

Emerging Diseases Investigated by NWHC





NWHC Capabilities

Diagnostics

- Cause of death determination
- Pathogen discovery and characterization
- Diagnostic test methodology and development

Epidemiology & Partnerships

- Outbreak investigation
- Designed surveillance
- Data and information management
- Risk assessment and decision support

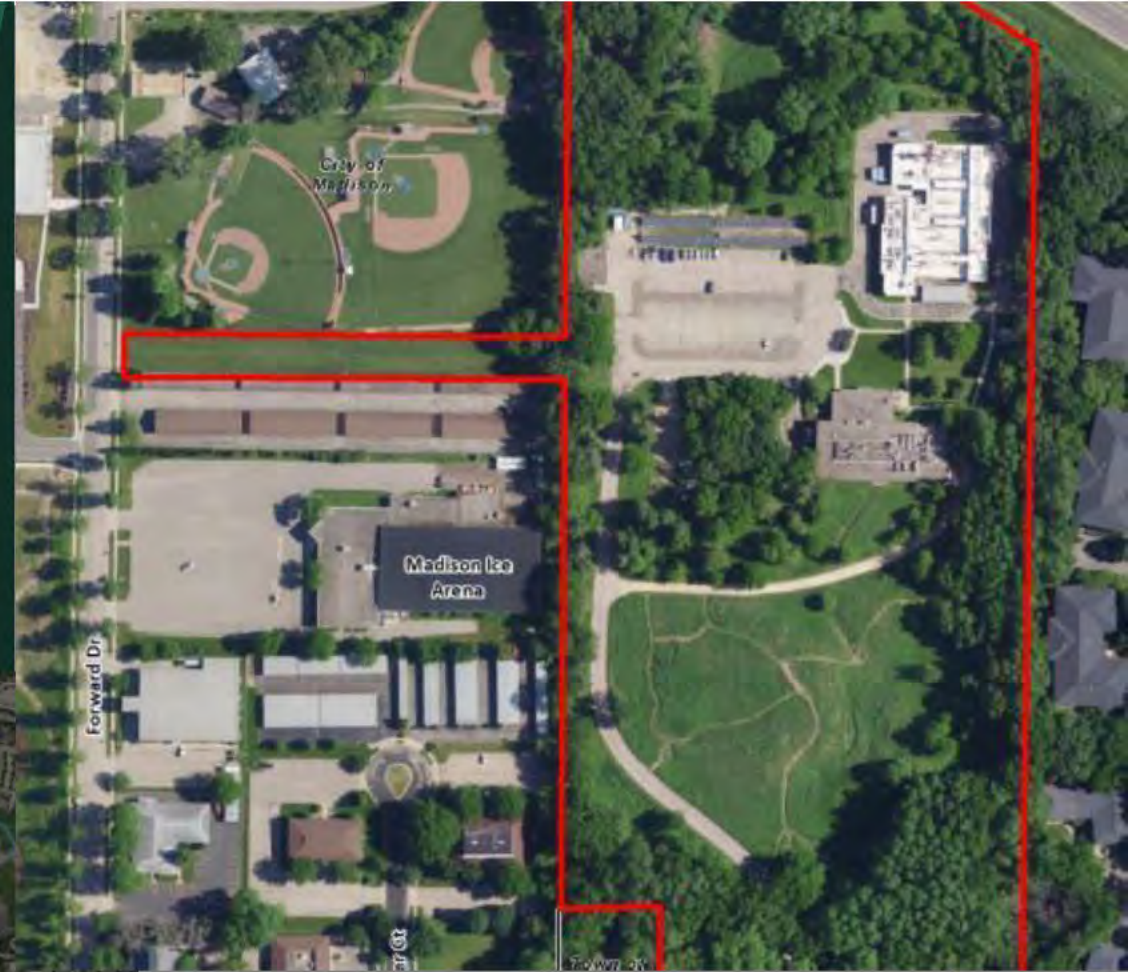
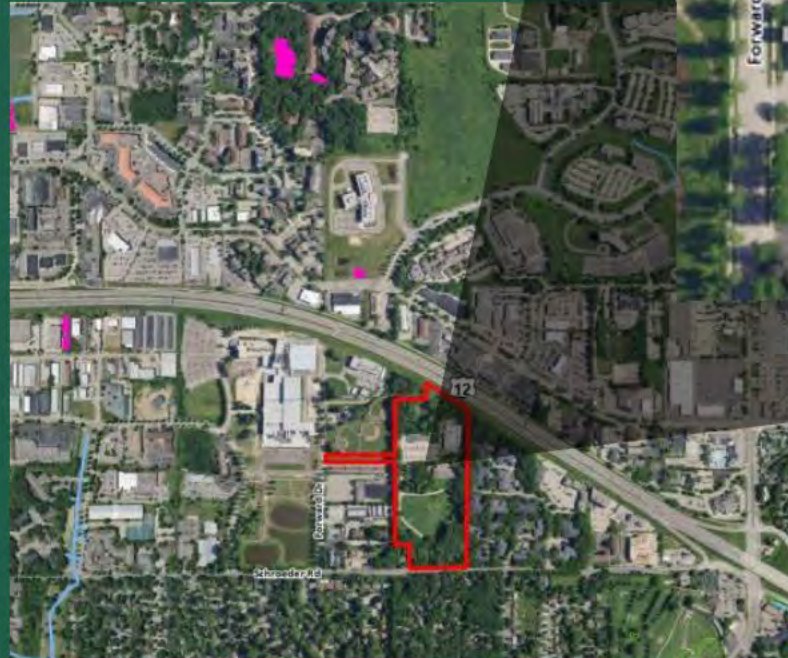
Research

- Develop vaccines, models and other management tools
- Disease ecology and prediction
- Human dimensions

NWHC Facility Today


Only national center devoted to advancing wildlife health science; designated a “mission essential” facility.

Location:
6066 Schroeder Rd
Madison, WI 53711



Challenges Facing National Wildlife Health Center

- **Crowded laboratories and administrative areas**
- **Inefficient use of space**
- **Aging buildings**
- **Aging equipment**
- **Aging infrastructure**
- **Increasing costs of operation and maintenance**



Proactive efforts to repair systems and facilities to maintain operational status provided only short-term relief.

Renovations are impractical and cost prohibitive.

NWHC age and space limitations are affecting ability to perform its mission.



Proposed Action

- Since 2008, USGS has conducted multiple studies, each revealing NWHC to be outdated, inefficient and the need of significant repairs and renovations.
- USGS evaluated alternatives; conclusion was to develop new NWHC on existing grounds.
- New NWHC would provide efficient, safe, and secure facility to meet current and future needs.

Concept Renderings – New NWHC



Goals and Objectives

- Meet NWHC's administrative, operational, health, and safety standards and requirements.
- Provide custom-built spaces needed to research wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention and other programs that support NWHC mission.
- Incorporate latest technologies and best practices to ensure health, safety, and well-being of staff, visitors, and public.
- Utilize modern lab equipment, mechanical systems, and best practices to reduce potential for exposure to pathogens and risks to staff.



Goals and Objectives

- Make effective use of staff with design that minimizes internal movements.
- Apply innovative design, quality construction, highly efficient mechanical and electrical systems, to achieve and maintain peak performance.
- Elevate quality of work environment.
- Use advanced building design and construction materials that are sustainable and resilient.

Project Description



Three-story structure including:

- Administrative offices
- Biosafety Level 2 (BSL2) and BSL3 laboratories
- Vivarium (animal habitats)
- Support spaces



Modern laboratory containment systems



Expand use of solar energy and possible use of geothermal energy

Project Description



New parking areas, walkways, energy-efficient lighting, directional and other signage, etc.



No changes to utilities and roadway infrastructure.



Maintain NWHC operation during construction.



Maintain/restore prairie area for continued public access and use.



Flad Architects, 2023

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

Established U.S. national policy promoting the enhancement of the environment.

Encouraged public to play role in protecting environment.

Require federal agencies to consider how actions affect the environment and account for impacts in decision-making process.

Provide opportunities for public input prior to Draft EIS preparation.
“Citizens often have valuable information about places and resources”
(A Citizens Guide to NEPA).



NEPA Process

- Notice of Intent to Prepare Draft EIS
- Public Scoping Meeting
- Agency/public engagement
- Publish Draft EIS
- Public Review of Draft EIS with Public Meeting
- Publish Final EIS
- Public Review of Final EIS
- Record of Decision



NEPA Process

Scoping

- Identify purpose and need for action and scope of proposal
- Identify environmental issues
- Seek public input prior to starting analysis

Alternatives Development

- Formulate alternatives that meet proposal's Purpose and Need, including a "No Action" alternative.

Impact Analysis

- Establish conditions in/around project site, analyze environmental impacts of alternatives, and propose measures to mitigate potential impacts

NEPA Document

- Document analysis (Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements)
- Make analysis available for review

Record of Decision

- Document agency's decision
- Maintain record of process and substance of decision





What's included in the Environmental Impact Statement

- Purpose and regulations, under which EIS is conducted
- Background, history, and mission of NWHC.
- Purpose and Need for new NWHC.
- Alternatives considered, including “No Action”
- Affected environment
- Potential impacts and mitigation measures
- Secondary, indirect, cumulative impacts
- References, preparers



Draft EIS Subject Areas

Topography, Geology and Soils

Water Resources

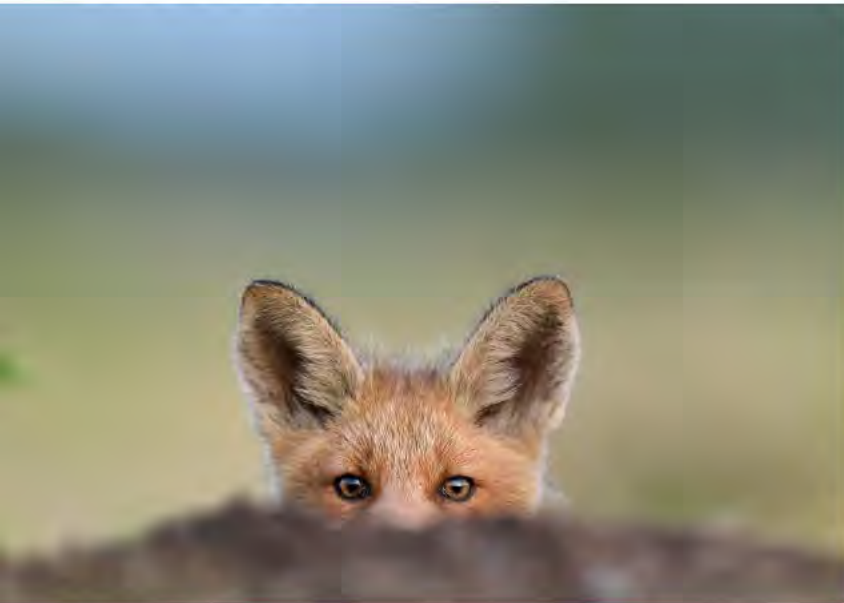
Biological Resources

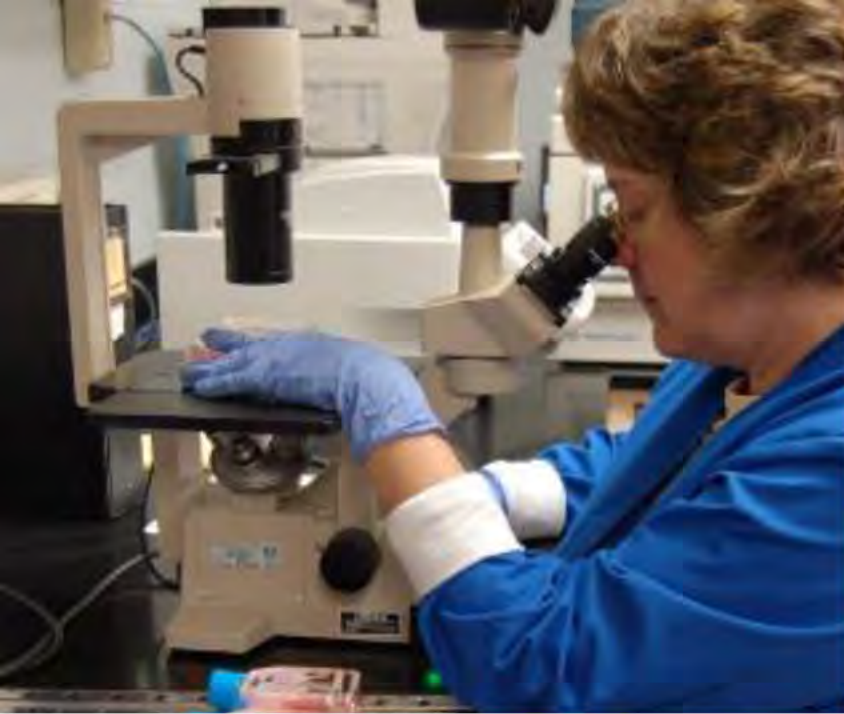
Historic and Cultural Resources

Hazardous and Biohazardous Materials

Visual and Aesthetic Resources

Socioeconomics





Draft EIS Subject Areas (cont.)

Environmental Justice

Land Use

Community Services

Utilities

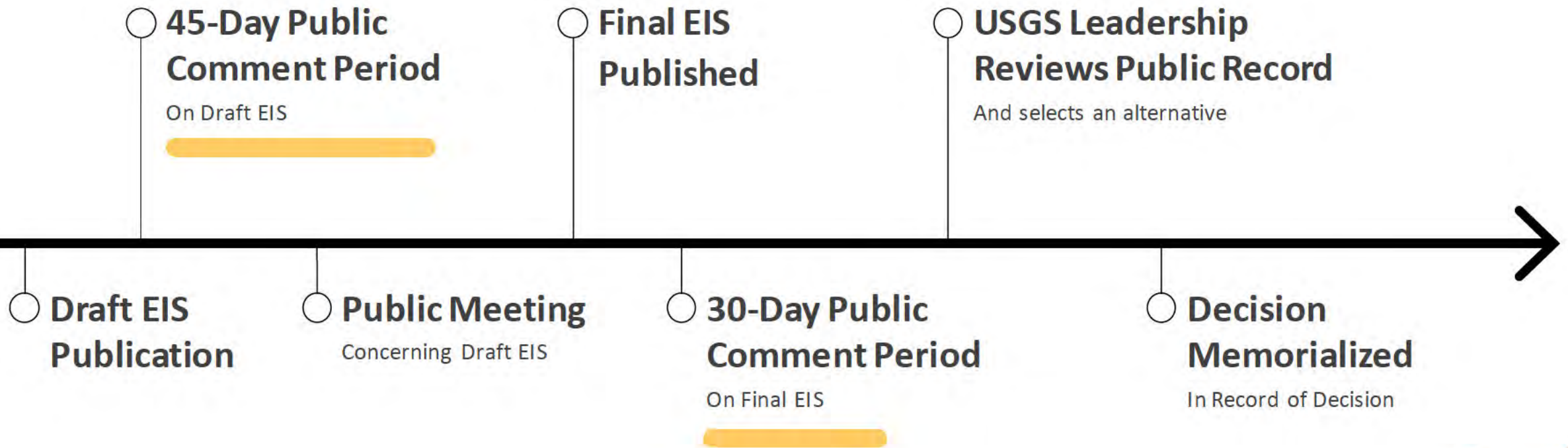
Transportation

Air Quality

Noise



Public Review Process



Project Schedule

Anticipated Date	Milestone
September 5, 2023	Notice of Intent published; public scoping begins (start 45-day comment period)
September 21, 2023	Public Scoping Meeting 5:30-7:30 p.m.
September 28, 2023	Virtual Public Scoping Meeting 12:00-1:00 p.m.
October 20, 2023	Public scoping period ends
Winter 2024	Publish Draft EIS (start 45-day comment period)
Winter 2024	Hold Draft EIS Public Meetings
Spring 2024	Publish Final EIS (start 30-day waiting period)
Summer 2024	Record of Decision announced

NWHC EIS Project Website:

- Facilitate communications about NWHC project
- Provide a central location for project-related information
- Provide access to meeting notices, announcements, recordings, etc.
- Provide means to submit comments, questions, join email list, receive EISs, etc.

www.nwhceis.com



National Wildlife Health Center

Environmental Impact Statement

- Home
- Proposed Action
- EIS Process
- Environmental Impact Statement
- Public Involvement
- FAQs
- Photo Gallery
- Contact Us

Public Scoping

Watch this space for information on the upcoming public scoping period, including ways you can participate. Your input is a vital part of the National Environmental Policy Act process!

[Learn More](#)

Welcome

Welcome to the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS's) website for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)! The USGS is preparing an EIS for the proposed development of a new NWHC in Madison, Wisconsin. This website provides information on the EIS process, the proposed action, and opportunities to get involved and provide comments.

[Learn More](#)



To Submit Comments



www.nwhceis.com



Jordan D. Sizemore
NEPA Project Manager, USGS
jsizemore@usgs.gov



Jordan D. Sizemore
NEPA Project Manager, USGS
NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd
Madison, WI 53711

Join email list:

Include name, affiliation (if any), and email on form and submit.

Scoping process ends October 20, 2023



We want to hear from you



Public Comment Form

Use this form to submit written comments concerning the proposal for the new National Wildlife Health Center located on the existing property in Madison, WI. The U.S. Geological Survey is interested in your questions and comments about the project as it begins preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Please Note: any personal identifying information and the entire comment may become publicly available.

Name: _____
 Organization: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Email: _____



Please submit comments:
 🌐 www.nwhceis.com
 @ Jordan D. Sizemore
 Environmental Management Branch, USGS
jsizemore@usgs.gov
 ✉ NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd,
 Madison, WI 53711

Although comments can be submitted to USGS any time during the EIS process, scoping comments are requested by October 20, 2023, to ensure full consideration in the Draft EIS.

Thank You!
Questions?



Jordan Sizemore, NEPA Manager
jsizemore@usgs.gov

www.nwhceis.com



b) Project Summary



PROJECT SUMMARY

Proposed Development of the New National Wildlife Health Center - Madison, Wisconsin

Prepared for:
United States Geological Survey

September 2023





PROJECT SUMMARY

Proposed Development of the New National Wildlife Health Center – Madison, Wisconsin

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing to develop a new National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) in Madison, Wisconsin. In the months ahead, USGS will be undertaking preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to ensure compliance with the National

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, among other federal regulations. During this time, USGS will also be engaging federal, state, Tribal, and local officials, regulatory agencies, stakeholders, and the public to assist in determining the scope of issues to be addressed in planning for a new NWHC.



National Wildlife Health Center, Madison, Wisconsin

Background

The National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) was established in 1975 in Madison as the first biomedical laboratory dedicated to assessing the impact of disease on wildlife and identifying the role of various pathogens in contributing to wildlife losses. It remains today as the only national center devoted to wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention in the United States.

The emergence of wildlife diseases has become a high-priority concern in the United States and the world. In addition to their harmful effects on natural wildlife populations and ecosystems, there is the potential for the spread of zoonotic diseases to humans, and for causing economic losses associated with livestock morbidity and mortality. The NWHC is responsible for providing research and for investigating and responding to known and

emerging wildlife diseases and wildlife mortality outbreaks throughout the United States.

The NWHC is located on a 24-acre tract of federal property which, along with a vacant building, were acquired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in 1978 to consolidate USFWS expertise into a single program and provide a permanent facility for the NWHC. The Main Building was constructed in the 1960's and underwent an extensive renovation in 1982 with a second building, the Tight Isolation Building (TIB), constructed in 1985 and modified in 1989. Portions of the property not occupied by buildings, access and service driveways, and parking areas were restored to native prairie in 1988. An interpretive nature trail has also been developed through the prairie and adjacent wooded area and is actively visited by the public.



NWHC, circa 1988



NWHC scientists at work

In 1996, the NWHC, along with other U.S. Department of the Interior research functions, was transferred to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) where it is one of many entities that provides the independent science that forms the basis of sound management of the nation's natural resources. Created by Congress in 1879, USGS is an agency of the federal government where scientists study the nation's landscape, its natural resources, and the natural hazards that threaten it. USGS is also a research organization whose work spans biology, geography, geology, and hydrology.

The NWHC provides information, technical assistance, and research on national and international wildlife health issues. It also monitors and assesses the impact of disease on wildlife populations; defines ecological relationships leading to the occurrence of disease; transfers technology for disease prevention and control; and provides guidance, training, and assistance for reducing wildlife losses. As a Level 2 Security Facility under the U.S. Department of Justice Standards for Federal Facilities, the NWHC is required to operate under criteria established by the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for Biological Safety Level 3 (BSL-3) containment.

The NWHC functions as an integrated program involving disease diagnosis, field response to disease outbreaks, research, animal welfare, and training of others in disease identification and control. Collaboration with and technical assistance is also provided to a wide variety of agencies and organizations within the federal, state, and private sectors. This has resulted in an extensive network of interaction and today the NWHC is the focal point for information, technical assistance, and research on wildlife health issues.

Designated as a "mission essential" facility, NWHC functions to advance wildlife health science for the benefit of animals, humans, and the environment. However, a growing challenge to performing its mission is the age and space limitations associated with the present NWHC. Therefore, starting in 2008, USGS began conducting studies of the NWHC from which conditions hampering efficient operations were identified. Among the findings were crowded laboratories and administrative areas, deteriorating casework, cracking walls, doors, window seals and window frames requiring frequent maintenance, lack of consolidated freezer space, and use of animal housing rooms for general storage, among many others.

In follow-on studies conducted in 2011 and 2016, many of the same conditions remained. The condition of key systems, infrastructure, and equipment continued aging with numerous items requiring repair or replacement. Even with proactive efforts to repair systems and facilities, the efforts and expenditures have provided only short-term relief, focused only on those necessary to its operation. Repairs have proven costly while resulting in only modest and short-term improvements to the buildings, systems, and infrastructure which support NWHC operation. The extensive renovations needed for NWHC to meet the requirements of its mission has resulted in a cost prohibitive situation.

Overall, the NWHC is outdated, inefficient, and in need of significant renovations, replacements and repairs. It has been the findings of the various studies that the mission and function of the facility, along with the interests of the USGS, which oversees the NWHC, would be best served by replacing the NWHC with a new facility. The consequence is the need to design and construct a modern new facility to:

- › Meet USGS and NWHC’s administrative, operational, health, and safety standards and requirements.
- › Provide the spaces needed to conduct research into wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention and other programs that support the mission of the NWHC.
- › Incorporate the latest technologies and best practices to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of staff, visitors, and the public.
- › Further reduce risk for exposure to pathogens and the risks faced by staff by utilizing more modern laboratory equipment, mechanical systems and operating and management approaches.
- › Make effective use of operating staff with a design that minimizes internal movements.
- › Elevate the quality of the work environment for staff and visitors.
- › Apply advanced building design approaches and construction materials that are sustainable and resilient against the hazards associated with climate change and other outside forces while reducing energy consumption and the facility’s carbon footprint.
- › Optimize the cost of operation by applying innovative design, quality construction, highly efficient air handling, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, and facility maintenance programs to achieve and maintain peak performance standards.

Developing a new NWHC will also demonstrate that the combination of a modern facility and contemporary best management practices can deliver better results, improve worker and public safety, and control operating costs.

National Wildlife Health Center

Since its establishment, the NWHC has been located at 6006 Schroeder Road, approximately five miles southwest of downtown Madison. The Main Building, comprising approximately 33,000 square feet of floor space, contains necropsy and associated disease diagnostic laboratories; general support laboratories for biological media and reagent preparation, glassware preparation and other special use areas; and administrative support areas with a conference room, staff offices, data processing and records areas. Solar voltaic panels to generate electricity, along with other conservation measures, are employed to reduce energy consumption and control operational costs.

The TIB is located approximately 150 feet northeast of the Main Building and while the buildings are physically separated, there is not a complete separation of functions, with some researchers working in both buildings. The TIB contains specialized research laboratories and support areas, staff offices for investigators and BSL-3 bio-containment animal research areas. The animal isolation wing is self-contained with cage and glassware cleaning, necropsy, and incineration facilities. Entry into the area requires use of specialized clothing and footwear, changes of clothing and footwear for each room entered, and a mandatory shower which is activated upon entering the exit chamber from the animal area



NWHC location, 6006 Schroeder Rd

Other small structures are also on the property including a maintenance garage, an array of solar voltaic panels located behind the parking area, and a modular trailer added in the 2000’s and used as employee offices.

Proposed National Wildlife Health Center

The proposed NWHC is envisioned as a low-rise structure consisting of three stories and a basement containing administrative offices; BSL2 and BSL3 laboratories; vivarium ABSL-2, ABSL-3 and BSL3-AG; and support spaces. The new NWHC is intended to present a visually unified physical structure that is compatible with its surroundings. The structure would be fire-resistant and meet applicable building code requirements. In addition to the new facility itself, the proposal includes the following:

- › New internal service driveways and parking to accommodate visitors, students, government vehicles, and staff.
- › All utilities would remain functional to serve the current facility until completion of the new NWHC.
- › Containment within NWHC laboratories to prevent staff exposure to biological and chemical agents, the escape of harmful pathogens, contamination of assay systems, reagents, and other materials, and cross-contamination between investigations.
- › Incinerators may be replaced with more energy efficient systems for biological waste disposal.
- › Expanding use of photovoltaic systems to provide for a portion of the energy needed to operate the proposed NWHC.
- › Installation of a geothermal field to supplement the mechanical and PV systems in meeting a portion of the new facility's energy requirements.
- › A utility yard where emergency generators, for redundancy and to maintain the chillers, would be placed.
- › Continued use of the maintenance garage.
- › Maintaining/restoring the prairie area and keeping it available for public access and use.
- › New energy-efficient lighting along internal walkways and parking areas along with new directional and other signage.

A range of alternatives for developing a new NWHC, including the No Action alternative (i.e., maintaining the status quo) and developing a new NWHC at its current location, will be described and analyzed within the EIS.



Conceptual Renderings of Proposed NWHC

A Culture of Safety

The NWHC has a strong safety culture with biosafety and biosecurity achieved through engineering controls, administrative controls, and personal protective equipment. Adherence to these controls is evaluated and maintained through both internal and external inspection with the culture that emphasizes safety evidence of the success of the program.

Engineering controls prevent the release of contaminants into the workplace and the environment. Among the engineering controls at the NWHC are maintaining all BSL3 and ABSL3 spaces under negative air pressure, with unidirectional airflow, and approximately 12 air changes per hour; entrances to laboratories through two self-closing and interlocked doors; performing all work involving infectious agents or toxins within an appropriate, annually certified biosafety cabinet; decontaminating all laboratory wastes via incinerators and autoclaves; having all BSL3 and ABSL3 exhaust air HEPA-filtered before discharge, and heat treating and pasteurizing wastewater in decontamination systems prior to discharge.

Administrative controls are safety policies, rules, supervision, schedules, and training with the goal of reducing the risk, duration, frequency, and severity of exposure to biological hazards. NWHC's primary administrative control involves having all research with biological agents and toxins reviewed and approved by the Institutional Biosafety Committee. Researchers submit a biosafety protocol to the Committee with information about the personnel involved and their level of training and experience, the research space(s), and potential hazards associated with the work, and planned risk mitigation measures. In addition, the NWHC has an



NWHC Laboratory (typical)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee that reviews and approves all studies involving the use of live animals. Administrative controls also include medical surveillance of laboratory workers, up-to-date Safety Manual, annual staff biosafety and biosecurity training, and a building security plan.

Proper personal protective equipment (PPE) is the final layer of control with staff using PPE for laboratory and animal work as proscribed under biosafety protocols. Personnel also attend the respiratory protection program which requires annual training, annual fit test for respirators, and medical clearance.

Laboratories and animal spaces are also inspected annually to make sure that the facility is operating properly. NWHC leadership also evaluate whether the researchers are following the approved biosafety practices and procedures. In addition to formal inspections, NWHC leadership also checks periodically as part of the post approval monitoring process.

The National Environmental Policy Act

NEPA requires consideration of environmental issues in federal agency planning and decision-making. It does so by having federal agencies such as USGS prepare an environmental assessment (EA) or EIS for any federal action, except those that are determined to be "categorically excluded" from further analysis. An EIS is prepared for those federal actions that may significantly affect the quality of the human and natural environments, such as development of a new NWHC, or where the

impacts are unknown or controversial. The EIS is also intended to disclose significant environmental impacts and inform decision makers, stakeholders, and the public of reasonable alternatives that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment.

USGS will soon begin preparation of a Draft EIS (DEIS) to ensure that the potential environmental impacts are thoroughly documented, that the environmental consequences are adequately

taken into account, and that compliance is achieved with NEPA and other statutes including but not limited to the Clean Air Act of 1974 and amendments; the Clean Water Act and Amendments, the Endangered Species Act of 1973; the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966; and the Farmland Protection Policy Act, among other laws, regulations and Executive Orders. Preparation

of NEPA documentation, and its consideration by federal, state, and local officials, regulatory agencies, stakeholders, and the public, will be conducted to demonstrate that USGS understands and has fully considered the potential environmental impacts associated with new NWHC development during the decision-making process.

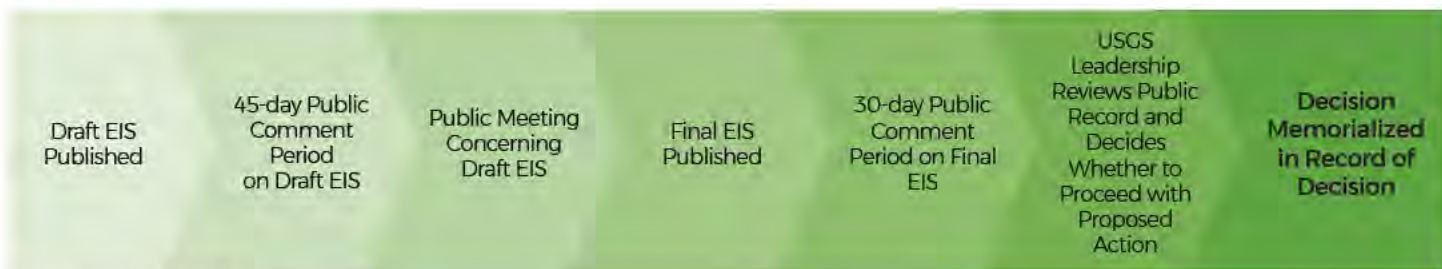
Public Outreach and Engagement

Public outreach and engagement is a key component of the environmental planning and review process, ensuring that public concerns and issues are identified and addressed in the DEIS. The process includes undertaking scoping, including holding public scoping meetings, as one of the first steps in developing the DEIS. Undertaking scoping early in the process provides all interested individuals and entities with an opportunity to understand the proposed NWHC project in light of its possible environmental consequences and to provide comments and express their views on the scope and significant issues to be addressed in the DEIS.

To aid in the process, USGS has established a NWHC EIS website to host communications, public announcements, and other relevant information and to facilitate public access to project-related information (<https://nwhceis.com/>). In addition, USGS recently published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS for the development of a new NWHC in the Federal Register thereby initiating a scoping period. Coinciding with publication of the NOI, USGS also published a similar notice in

local newspapers inviting government agencies, officials, organizations, and the public to participate in the public scoping and DEIS process. During the scoping process, federal, state, Tribal, and local governments, and the public have an opportunity to help USGS identify significant resources and issues, impact-producing factors, reasonable alternatives, and potential mitigation measures to be analyzed in the DEIS, as well as to provide additional information.

Once completed, USGS will issue the DEIS for a public comment period lasting no less than 45-days, at which time parties with an interest in the project will have an opportunity to review the evaluations, inquire about any areas of concern, and offer additional information that should be considered by USGS during the decision-making process. A Notice of Availability of the DEIS will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers at the time of its release and providing information about the means to examine the document and provide comments on the proposed action and DEIS. During the public comment period USGS will host additional public meetings.



Overview of NEPA Process


Following the end of the DEIS public comment period, USGS will prepare and publish a Final EIS (FEIS) which will incorporate additional data which may become known and respond to comments received on the DEIS. The FEIS will be subject to an additional public review period lasting no less than 30 days. No action will be taken to implement any of the proposed alternatives until completion of the FEIS review period and issuance of a Record of Decision by USGS.



We want to hear from you



Questions or comments concerning the proposed action can be submitted in any of the following ways:

 **By using the Comment Form**
available on the NWHC EIS website at <https://nwhceis.com/>

 **By email**
Jordan D. Sizemore, REM
NEPA Project Manager, United States Geological Survey
jsizemore@usgs.gov

 **By mail or delivery service**
enclosed in an envelope labeled
"NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER EIS"
Jordan D. Sizemore, REM
NEPA Project Manager Environmental Management Branch
United States Geological Survey
NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd
Madison, WI 53711

Throughout the planning process, interested parties can request to be added to the contacts database to directly receive via email future announcements and notifications, including upcoming public meetings and the availability of the DEIS and FEIS documents, by submitting your contact information (name, affiliation if any, and email address) through the website or to Jordan D. Sizemore at USGS (jsizemore@usgs.gov).

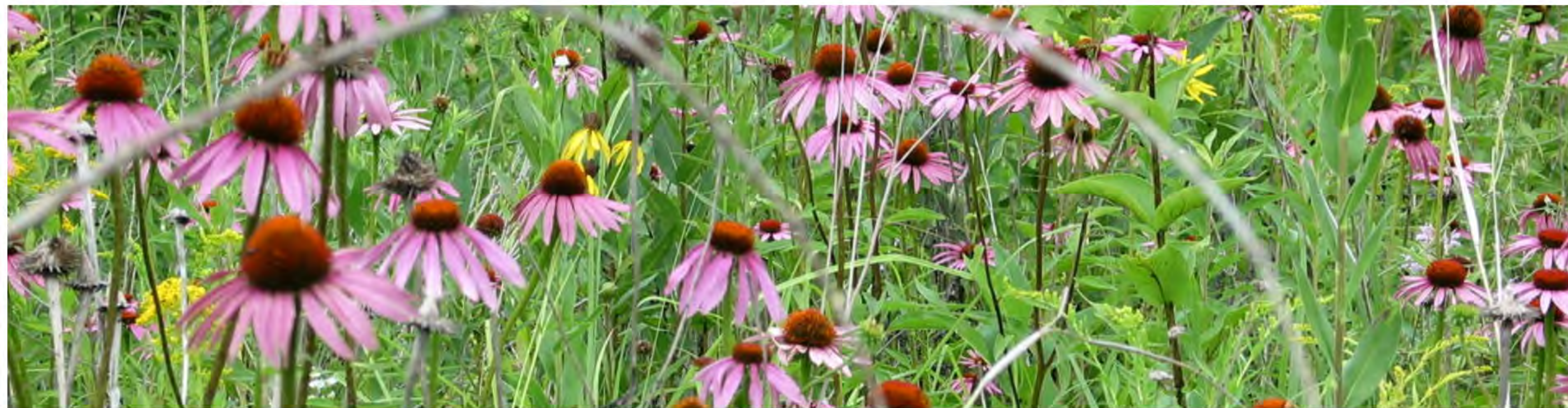
Thank you for your interest and participation.



d) Webpage Screenshots

USGS National Wildlife Health Center Modernization

By [National Wildlife Health Center](#)



- HOME
- SCIENCE
- DATA
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- MULTIMEDIA
- PUBLICATIONS
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The USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) has been developing a modernization plan to replace our current facilities that were originally constructed in the 1970s and 80s.

Public Involvement



USGS is seeking public comment on the proposed new facility. Learn more about public scoping meetings and how to leave a comment.

[Learn more](#)

Environmental Impact Statement Process



The Environmental Impact Statement process was initiated in 2022 to assess the impact of a new NWHC facility.

[Learn more](#)

Since 2008, NWHC has conducted multiple planning studies to identify and evaluate options for modernizing the facilities. The preferred option that emerged from this process is to build an entirely new facility on the grounds of the present NWHC in Madison, Wisconsin.

The current NWHC Milton Friend Building was originally built in 1969 as a private chemical research center and fire protection product manufacturing facility. The building and surrounding land was purchased by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the original governmental home of NWHC) in 1978, with renovations and additional construction completed in 1983. The NWHC Tight Isolation Building was completed in 1985 and houses biocontainment facilities required for live animal work.



Sources/Usage: Public Domain.
Entrance to the Milton Friend Building at the current National Wildlife Health Center.

Since the 1980s, the NWHC mission and capacity have expanded; age and space limitations of the present facilities pose a growing challenge to achieve our mission. Consequently, there is a need to design and construct a new facility to support our mission and cutting-edge science into the future.

In the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (PL 116-260), \$55,500,000 was appropriated by Congress for the first phase of the renovation of the NWHC. This appropriation "supports the work of the National Wildlife Health Center and its important role in zoonotic research for detecting novel pathogens and emerging infectious diseases, developing rapid diagnostic tests, conducting disease surveillance, and designing vaccines used to control these diseases."

In 2022 a contract was awarded to [Flad Architects](#) to design the new building. The full design process, which began in November 2022, is scheduled to take approximately two years to complete and will ultimately result in final construction plans. The new NWHC will be a single, integrated, multistory, state-of-the-art building that will include offices, laboratories (BSL-2 and BSL-3), and vivarium (ABSL-2, ABSL-3, and ABSL-3 Ag). The new building will be constructed on the NWHC's current site in Madison, Wisconsin.



Sources/Usage: Some content may have restrictions. Visit Media to see details.
Preliminary conceptual illustration of the future USGS National Wildlife Health Center, courtesy of Flad Architects.

Concurrent with the design phase, USGS is conducting an [environmental impact assessment](#) on the potential impacts of this project. Additional information and opportunities for public comment will be shared in the near future.



Sources/Usage: Some content may have restrictions. Visit Media to see details.
Preliminary conceptual illustration of the future USGS National Wildlife Health Center, courtesy of Flad Architects.

Contacts

Ask NWHC

Ask NWHC
National Wildlife Health Center
Email: asknwhc@usgs.gov
Phone: 6082702400

Timeline

- 2008 NWHC initiated design scoping and cost analysis studies.
- 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 appropriated \$55,500,000 towards the first phase of renovation of the NWHC.
- 2022 Contract awarded to Flad Architects to design the new building.
- 2022 Environmental Impact Assessment initiated.
 - Publication of the [Notice of Intent \(NOI\) to Prepare a Draft EIS \(DEIS\) in the Federal Register](#) on September 5, 2023.
 - Public Scoping Meetings: September 21, 2023 (In-person) and September 28, 2023 (Virtual). More information on meeting times and location at <https://www.nwhceis.com/public-involvement/>

Additional Information

- [Environmental Impact Assessment website](#)

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- [Accessibility](#)
- [FOIA](#)
- [Site Policies](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
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- [DOI and USGS link policies apply](#)
- [No FEAR Act](#)
- [USA.gov](#)



National Wildlife Health Center

Environmental Impact Statement

- Home
- Proposed Action
- EIS Process
- Environmental Impact Statement
- Public Involvement
- FAQs
- Photo Gallery
- Contact Us

Public Scoping

The scoping period for the Environmental Impact Statement started September 5, 2023 and will end on October 20, 2023. Find out more about the project, scoping meetings, and other ways you can participate. Your input is a vital part of the National Environmental Policy Act process!

[Learn More](#)

Welcome

Welcome to the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS's) website for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)! The USGS is preparing an EIS for the proposed modernization of the NWHC in Madison, Wisconsin. This website provides information on the EIS process, the proposed action, and opportunities to get involved and provide comments.

[Learn More](#)

Site Map

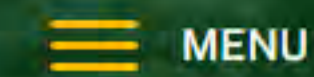
Click the image to enlarge the map.



A Gunnison prairie dog eats a peanut-butter-flavored bait containing a vaccine against the sylvatic plague.

National Wildlife Health Center

Environmental Impact Statement



Public Involvement

[Public Scoping](#)

[Public Comments](#)

[Public Review of the Draft EIS](#)

[Public Involvement Materials](#)

The public scoping period for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was initiated with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare a Draft EIS (DEIS) in the Federal Register on September 5, 2023.

The publication of the notice initiates a 45-day scoping period. During this time USGS is seeking input on the proposed action from agencies, organizations, and the public on potentially affected resources and the environmental issues to be considered.

USGS invites the community to attend an in-person public scoping meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 21, 2023 or the virtual public scoping meeting on Thursday, September 28, 2023. The public scoping meetings will provide additional information about the Proposed Action and an opportunity for members of the community to submit comments on USGS's proposal. The meetings will present the same information.

In-Person Public Scoping Meeting

Thursday, September 21, 2023
 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 Vel Phillips Memorial High School
 201 S Gammon Rd
 Madison, WI 53717

Virtual Public Scoping Meeting

Thursday, September 28, 2023
 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
[Recording](#)

Although comments can be submitted to USGS any time during the EIS process, scoping comments are requested by October 20, 2023, to ensure full consideration in the Draft EIS.

Scoping materials will be made available on the Public Involvement Materials tab as the scoping process continues.

Public Scoping

The scoping period for the Environmental Impact Statement started September 5, 2023 and will end on October 20, 2023. Find out more about the project, scoping meetings, and other ways you can participate. Your input is a vital part of the National Environmental Policy Act process!

[Learn More](#)

ATTACHMENT 2: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED



Animal Welfare Institute

900 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, SE, WASHINGTON, DC 20003 · 202-337-2332 · AWIONLINE.ORG

October 20, 2023

Re: National Wildlife Health Center Environmental Impact Statement Public Comments
Submitted electronically by email to Jordan D. Sizemore, REM, NEPA Project Manager, United States Geological Survey, Email: jsizemore@usgs.gov

Dear United States Geological Survey Staff:

The Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the National Wildlife Health Center's (NWHC) Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed new NWHC facility. Because the NWHC uses animal experimentation to further its mission, AWI wishes to ensure the renovation will focus on the best interests of the animals involved. The USGS-proposed action notes challenges such as "crowded laboratories" and "aging infrastructure," both of which raise animal welfare concerns.¹ AWI is supportive of any measures that would improve animal care and comfort and rectify existing deficiencies,² including updates to NWHC's facilities, *as long as* the updates focus on animal-centered improvements rather than expanding in-house animal experiments. As noted below, such efforts are critical not only to the welfare of the animals, but also to the integrity of the resulting research.

We appreciate USGS's statement that "AAALAC standards are part of the design requirements to ensure the new facility meets these standards"³ and hope that animal welfare continues to be a focus of the renovation planning moving forward. However, USGS should recognize that AAALAC accreditation standards should be seen as a minimum starting point, not as a sufficient goal. **We urge USGS to consider meeting higher standards than those promulgated by AAALAC.** As a government institution with a goal focused on protecting animals in the wild, NWHC should serve as a "poster child" for animal welfare protections in their laboratories by striving to go above and beyond basic welfare requirements. **AWI strongly encourages USGS to involve animal behavior and welfare specialists early-on in the facility design process, either as consultants or on a scientific advisory committee, to create a truly animal-centric facility that will protect both the welfare of the animals and the integrity of the research in which they are used.**⁴

¹ See USGS Proposed Action: <https://nwhceis.com/proposed-action/>

² See PEER: <https://peer.org/usgs-inches-toward-accreditation-of-wildlife-disease-lab/>

³ Email from USGS Director David Applegate to PEER: <https://peer.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/09-14-2022-Email-Applegate-PEER.pdf>

⁴ Sørensen, D., Cloutier, S., Gaskill, B. (Eds.). 2021. Animal-centric Care and Management - Enhancing Refinement in Biomedical Research. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL.

In addition, while we appreciate NWHC's call for a mock site visit from AAALAC,⁵ AAALAC accreditation is not a panacea and should not be taken as evidence that the facility meets those standards: AAALAC-accredited facilities have a documented history of not upholding proper animal welfare standards; Envigo and Inotiv are recent examples.⁶ We hope that USGS remains committed to going *beyond* AAALAC accreditation⁷ to ensure that NWHC's research meets "contemporary standards and practices."⁸ **To this effect, we call on NWHC to also voluntarily request an APHIS inspection of the new facility and, more importantly, to join the APHIS inspection regime long term.** While AAALAC conducts *announced* site visits once every three years without the force of law, APHIS can use regular *unannounced* inspections that may discover problems AAALAC has missed.⁹ Due to the exception in the Animal Welfare Act, the NWHC is not subject to *required* APHIS oversight, which we believe to be a significant loophole in the animal protection regulatory scheme. However, by *requesting* APHIS inspections, and committing to remedy any issues discovered, NWHC can show a commitment to go further than the minimum standards set by AAALAC and show a good faith desire to be open and transparent in efforts to improve animal welfare as part of this construction project. Doing so is also critical to NWHC's ability to protect the integrity of the research being conducted with those animals.

It is particularly important that NWHC emphasize stringent scientific standards and welfare requirements given the zoonotic nature of some of the diseases studied at NWHC, such as SARS-CoV-2.¹⁰ Along with deficiencies in care of the animals, the 2017 PEER Complaint notes "inadequate training of individuals working with research animals."¹¹ Inadequate training may result in mistakes, and in the context of zoonotic diseases, mistakes can be life-threatening for animals, handlers, and the general population.¹²

An upgraded physical facility, by itself, will not address all of the issues at NWHC that were raised in the 2017 PEER complaint, including inadequate training of staff and non-compliance with "accepted

⁵ See USGS Memo to Leon Carl: https://peer.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/9_14_22_USGS_memo_NWHC_AAALAC.pdf

⁶ See Animal Welfare Institute (2019) Incredible: USDA Secretly Curtails Oversight of AAALAC-Accredited Laboratories. Retrieved from <https://awionline.org/awi-quarterly/fall-2019/incredible-usda-secretly-curtailed-oversight-aalac-accredited-laboratories> and Animal Welfare Institute (2012) Animal Abuse Abundant in Spite of AAALAC Accreditation. Retrieved from <https://awionline.org/awi-quarterly/2012-spring/animal-abuse-abundant-spite-aalac-accreditation>

⁷ See USGS Memo to Leon Carl: https://peer.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/9_14_22_USGS_memo_NWHC_AAALAC.pdf

⁸ USGS Proposed Action: <https://nwhceis.com/proposed-action/>

⁹ See Animal Welfare Institute (2022) Envigo/Inotiv. Retrieved from: <https://awionline.org/content/envigoinotiv>

¹⁰ Hall, J. S. (2020) Experimental challenge of a North American bat species, big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), with SARS-CoV-2. *Transboundary and Emerging Diseases*. 68(6), 3443-3452. <https://doi.org/10.1111/tbed.13949>

¹¹ See Complaint Summary: Loss of Scientific Integrity: https://peer.org/wp-content/uploads/attachments/1_12_17_Complaint_animal%20welfare.pdf

¹² For example, see Keju, W. (2019) Brucellosis confirmed in 65 people from Lanzhou veterinary institute. *China Daily*. Retrieved from <https://web.archive.org/web/20200324150030/https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201912/06/WS5deb4fe7a310cf3e3557c92a.html> and ABC News (2016) Researcher infected with Zika Virus during laboratory accident in Pittsburgh. Retrieved from <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/researcher-infected-zika-virus-laboratory-accident-pittsburgh/story?id=39736836>

scientific standards.”¹³ New facility space should be viewed as merely one step in a multi-step process, including voluntary inspections.

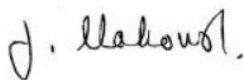
We have one final recommendation: The statement that “the existing NWHC must remain operational during construction of the new facility,”¹⁴ raises concerns about the potential impact of the construction on any living animals present at the center. While we understand that, due to the health-centered nature of NWHC’s research, work cannot stop entirely, **we would urge NWHC to avoid conducting live animal experiments during construction and take steps to avoid undue stress on the animals during that time.** “The use of heavy construction equipment often results in loud noise and vibration. If close enough in proximity, the animals can detect this noise and vibration, which often promotes decreased breeding efficiency, abortion, cannibalism, and aggression. These effects, in turn, can lead to problems with establishing breeding schemes, the loss of data, and project delays.”¹⁵ If such activities cannot cease, they should be constrained to the minimum number of animals necessary, and appropriate steps should be taken to minimize any animal discomfort from nearby construction, especially noise and smells, taking into account the particular sensitivity of many animal species to these sorts of stimuli. Such measures might include “installing equipment to monitor vibration and noise” or using sound dampening measures or anti-vibration pads.¹⁶

As noted above, attention to the welfare of the animals during this process is critical not only to the well-being of the animals, but also to the validity and integrity of the research that results from their use.

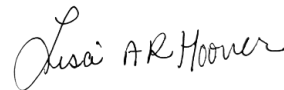
We would be happy to assist in an advisory capacity if that would be helpful in your efforts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Joanna Makowska, PhD
Director & Senior Scientist, Applied Animal Behavior
Animals in Laboratories Program



Lisa Hoover, JD, MA, MLS
Senior Policy Analyst
Animals in Laboratories Program

¹³ See Complaint Summary: Loss of Scientific Integrity: https://peer.org/wp-content/uploads/attachments/1_12_17_Complaint_animal%20welfare.pdf

¹⁴ USGS Proposed Action: <https://nwhceis.com/proposed-action/>

¹⁵ See Rogers, K. & Glowacz, S. (2020) Construction effects on laboratory animals: Communication is key. *Lab Animal*. 49, 271. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41684-020-0640-z>

¹⁶ Ibid



October 20, 2023

Mr. Jordan D. Sizemore
NEPA Manager
USGS National Wildlife Health Center
6006 Schroeder Rd
Madison, WI 53711

Re: Scoping for the National Wildlife Health Center EIS (Agency Docket Number: GX23AE38EMBOE00, FR Doc. 2023-19055)

Dear Mr. Sizemore:

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed action to develop a new facility for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) on the grounds of the current facility in Madison, Wisconsin. Since it was established in 1975, the NWHC has been a resource for state wildlife management agencies for the investigation and response to wildlife mortality and morbidity events. Specifically, scientists at the NWHC have been instrumental in identifying the infectious agent for White Nose Syndrome, developing an oral vaccine for the management of sylvatic plague, and providing vital diagnostic support during the recent highly pathogenic avian influenza outbreak.

Under Title 17 of the Arizona Revised Statutes, the Department, by and through the Arizona Game and Fish Commission, has jurisdictional authority and public trust responsibilities to conserve and protect the state fish and wildlife resources. In addition, the Department manages threatened and endangered species through authorities of Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act and the Department's Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit. It is the mission of the Department to conserve and protect Arizona's diverse fish and wildlife resources and manage for safe, compatible outdoor recreation opportunities for current and future generations. For your consideration, the Department provides the following comments based on the agency's statutory authorities, public trust responsibilities, and special expertise related to wildlife resources and recreation.

The NWHC is the only Level 3 Biosafety facility dedicated to detecting, investigating, and researching wildlife diseases and as such it represents a unique and valuable resource for the protection of human and animal health (wildlife and domestic) in the United States. Construction of a new modern facility is vital in order to sustain the important work being done by researchers, epidemiologists, and pathologists at NWHC. Due to the aging infrastructure, there have been several times when the center had to modify the sample submission process and were unable to provide assistance to the Department as well as others. This meant that the Department

azgfd.gov | 602.942.3000

5000 W. CAREFREE HIGHWAY, PHOENIX AZ 85086

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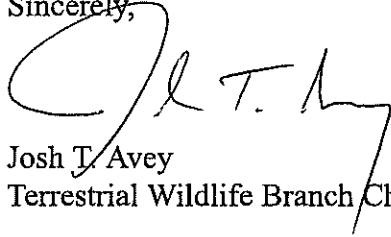
October 20, 2023

Page 2

had to find other means to investigate mortality events. Therefore, the Department is supportive of building a new modern facility that will incorporate the many technological advancements that have occurred in the field of wildlife disease investigations. Incorporation of these advancements and their procedural developments will result in a more efficient, safe, and productive resource.

The Department looks forward to a continuing productive partnership with the USGS NWHC. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Anne Justice-Allen at ajusticeallen@azgfd.gov or 623-236-7351.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. T. Avey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Josh T. Avey
Terrestrial Wildlife Branch Chief

AZGFD # M23-09133605



REGION 5

CHICAGO, IL 60604

October 16, 2023

Jordan D. Sizemore
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wildlife Health Center
606 Schroeder Road
Madison, WI 53711

Re: EPA Scoping Comments - Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Updated Facility for the National Wildlife Health Center; Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Sizemore,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the U.S. Geologic Survey's (USGS) Federal Register Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the development of an updated facility for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) located in Madison, Wisconsin. EPA has also reviewed Public Involvement materials¹ on the project website. The NOI and Public Involvement materials are hereafter referred to as the Scoping Materials. This letter provides EPA's comments on the Scoping Materials pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) NEPA Implementing Regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

The NWHC is located at 6006 Schroder Road in Madison, Wisconsin. Ansul Chemical Company (Ansul) operated on the subject property from 1969 to 1974; Ansul's main building (the Ansul laboratory) was constructed in 1969. The Ansul laboratory building served as a chemical research center and fire protection product manufacturing facility until 1974 when a joint venture company purchased the property, after which it sat vacant for three years. In 1978, the Ansul Laboratory building and 23 adjacent acres were purchased by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to consolidate agency expertise into a single program and provide a permanent facility for the NWHC². After the building's purchase in 1978, the USFWS developed plans to renovate the Ansul laboratory building to become what is now the main building of the NWHC. Funds were requested from Congress in 1978 for the construction of a separate tight isolation facility and for the development of an entrance road, park, and landscaping at the site. The Ansul laboratory building was renovated in 1982 after USFWS acquired the property. A second building, the Tight Isolation Building (TIB), was constructed in 1985 and modified in 1989. Portions of the property not occupied by buildings, access and service driveways, and parking areas were restored to native prairie in

¹ <https://nwhceis.com/public-involvement/>

² The NWHC was founded in 1975 to consolidate USFWS expertise into a single program designed to provide the technical assistance necessary to identify, control, and prevent wildlife losses from diseases as well as conduct research to understand the impact of diseases on wildlife populations and devise methods to manage these disease threats more effectively.

1988. In 1993, the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) transferred the NWHC from the USFWS to the National Biological Survey (NBS), later changed to National Biological Service³. In 1996, the DOI transferred the NBS to the USGS, and the USGS has operated the NWHC since that time.

According to the Scoping Materials, the NWHC needs a modern facility with sufficient space and modern technologies to support mission-essential research. The need for the project is to update the aging NWHC facility, incorporate technological advances in biosafety engineering and equipment, and add additional space for enhanced animal care and research. Studies undertaken in 2011 and 2016 identified overcrowded laboratories and administrative areas, inefficient infrastructure (e.g., heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems) that does not meet current standards for energy efficiency, and extensive wear and tear due to the age of the buildings and associated equipment. Project alternatives identified in the NOI include the No Action Alternative and one action alternative (build new facilities for the NWHC.) USGS currently prefers the alternative to build new facilities for the NWHC. The New Build NWHC Alternative proposes constructing new facilities on the 24-acre property of the existing NWHC and demolishing the current facilities in a phased manner over an approximately three-year period.

EPA's detailed comments on the Scoping Materials are enclosed with this letter. We recommend that the forthcoming DEIS address these comments and our recommendations, which generally relate to project alternatives, energy efficiency and green building practices, environmental justice and children's health, and climate change.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide scoping comments on this project. When the Draft EIS is released, please notify our office electronically at R5NEPA@epa.gov. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact the lead NEPA Reviewer, Liz Pelloso, at 312-886-7425 or via email at pelloso.liz@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Krystle Z. McClain, P.E.
NEPA Program Supervisor
Tribal and Multimedia Programs Office

Enclosures (2):

EPA Detailed Scoping Comments
Construction Emission Control Checklist

Cc (with enclosures):

USACE St. Paul District Regulatory Branch (USACE_Requests_WI@usace.army.mil)
Nick Utrup, USFWS (nick_utrup@fws.gov)

³ NBS formed in 1993 through the consolidation of certain biological research functions of the USFWS, including the NWHC, the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Minerals Management Service, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, USGS, and Bureau of Reclamation.

EPA Scoping Comments: Updated facility for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC)
Madison, Wisconsin

October 16, 2023

PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

- The “Business Case Analysis of the National Wildlife Health Center – Madison Campus and Alternative Sites” document, in which an update to the 2016 NWHC consolidation and modernization plan was made, specified other potential project alternatives. This document noted that cost estimates and building case analysis identified significant expenditures associated with the construction of all new NWHC facilities. As such, it was recommended that USGS expand and explore other opportunities to accomplish the construction of new facilities for the NWHC.

An option noted in the “Business Case Analysis of the National Wildlife Health Center – Madison Campus and Alternative Sites” document included seeking partnerships with institutions of higher education to share resources for research and housing of NWHC labs and offices. Three alternative sites were explored as a part of analyzing solutions for the NWHC facility needs including: 1) Relocation to the University of Wisconsin campus at the Veterinary School's new animal hospital; 2) Relocation to the University of Wisconsin Research Park; and 3) Relocation to Colorado State University - Foothills Campus, located in Fort Collins Colorado. However, the Federal Register (FR) notice stated that the forthcoming Draft EIS (DEIS) will study the No Action Alternative and the USGS’s preferred action, a new build alternative on the existing property.

The “USGS Madison Area Consolidation and Facility Modernization Plan” document, in contrast, identified other potential options, including: 1) Finding a third-party developer to identify alternate property, purchase, and build new facilities for NWHC and all Madison area DOI agencies. USGS would engage in a lease to own arrangement with the third-party developer; 2) Partner with the National Park Service and locate new NWHC facilities on 400+ acres of NPS-owned property located south of Madison; and 3) Seek partnerships with institutions of higher education to share in resources for research and housing of NWHC (as noted above in the Business Case Analysis document).

Recommendations for the DEIS: The forthcoming DEIS must first identify, and then substantiate, the purpose and need for the proposed project. The project purpose and the project need statements for the proposed action(s) should be clear and concise. The No Action alternative and all action alternatives that would satisfy the substantiated purpose and need and are determined to be reasonable should be carried forward and fully studied in the DEIS. This should include the opportunities at the three alternative sites noted above. The DEIS should identify any alternatives identified and considered but dismissed from further consideration and should provide elimination criteria and clear explanations for their elimination.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BEST PRACTICES

- Energy efficient design and material selection could reduce operations costs and promote a high-quality work environment, while also better protecting the environment. Recycling construction debris also preserves valuable landfill space and makes use of materials that have high embodied energy.

Recommendations for the DEIS: USGS should consider committing to the following:

- Achieving Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) certification at the platinum

level (or design for net-zero energy usage) for all new buildings associated with the project. Best practices for energy efficiency and sustainable building design can include the use of energy-efficient building materials, such as south-facing skylights and windows, motion sensed lighting, solar, wind, and/or geothermal power, and Energy Star certified windows and doors. In addition to reducing the overall environmental footprint, green building certification programs promote health by encouraging practices that protect indoor air quality. At a minimum, EPA encourages USGS to commit to analyze the strengths and feasibility of these strategies;

- Constructing proposed roads, parking lots, sidewalks, or other surfaces slated for driving or walking with using permeable pavement or porous pavers to reduce runoff;
- Identifying and implementing of opportunities for additional green stormwater management practices. Opportunities include, but are not limited to, green roofs, bioswales, and rain gardens;
- Ensuring areas around all new buildings associated with the project which are not planned for operations be considered for conversion to native habitats, increasing the area which can be beneficially used for wildlife, stormwater infiltration or detention, and aesthetics, among other functions;
- Discussing to what extent USGS will require energy efficiency measures, greenhouse gas reductions, and other sustainability measures, per Executive Order 13693;
- Incorporating electric vehicle charging stations in new parking areas and designating priority parking spots for carpools and low emission vehicles;
- Committing to recycle a high percentage of construction and demolition debris;
- Replacing raw materials with recycled materials for infrastructure components. Options include, but are not limited to:
 - Using recycled materials to replace carbon-intensive Portland Cement in concrete as “supplementary cementitious material;”
 - Using tire-derived aggregate in lightweight embankment fill and retaining wall backfill; and
 - Using recycled materials in pavement applications, such as crushed recycled concrete, recycled asphalt pavement, and rubberized asphalt concrete. Also, in some circumstances, demolished onsite asphalt can be re-used (e.g., cold in-place recycling or full depth reclamation).

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND CHILDREN’S HEALTH

- USGS should analyze if construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed project will impact communities with environmental justice (EJ) concerns. Our recommendations below suggest opportunities to further analyze, disclose, and reduce such impacts.

Recommendations for the DEIS:

- Identify the presence of low-income and/or minority communities within the project area and within the broader area that could experience environmental impacts from the proposed project. Disclose demographic information and summarize input from community members.
- Describe past activities and future plans to engage minority populations, low-income populations, and Tribes during the environmental review and planning phase, and, if the project commences, during construction and operations.
- Evaluate the impacts of this proposal on low-income and/or minority communities and sensitive receptors (e.g., children, people with asthma, etc.).

- Include an analysis and conclusion regarding whether the Proposed Action or any action alternatives may have disproportionately high and adverse impacts on low income or minority communities, as specified in CEQ's Environmental Justice Guidance.⁴
- Compare project impacts on low-income and minority populations with an appropriate reference community to determine whether there may be disproportionate impacts. Consider risk of exposure to hazardous/toxic materials associated with the proposed construction and operation and air quality and noise impacts due to construction.
- Consider any disproportionate non-project-related pollution exposures that communities of concern may already be experiencing, as well as any disproportionate non-pollution stressors that may make the communities susceptible to pollution, such as health conditions, other social determinants of health, and disproportionate vulnerability related to climate change.
- Identify measures to (1) ensure meaningful community engagement; (2) minimize adverse community impacts; and (3) avoid disproportionate impacts to communities with EJ concerns.
- Use census-tract-level information to initially help locate communities with EJ concerns. For initial screening, use EPA's EJSCREEN⁵ mapping tool.
- In conducting the EJ analysis, utilize resources such as the Promising Practices Report⁶ and the Community Guide to EJ and NEPA Methods⁷ to appropriately engage in meaningful, targeted, community outreach, analyze impacts, and advance environmental justice principles through NEPA implementation.
- Consider cumulative environmental impacts to minority populations, low-income populations, Tribes, and indigenous peoples in the project area within the environmental justice analysis and disclose conclusions on those impacts.
- Provide an analysis and findings as to whether the Proposed Project and all alternatives, including the No Action Alternative, would likely have disproportionate adverse impacts on minority populations, low-income populations, or Tribes. Identify what those impacts may be and include measures in the DEIS that USGS will take to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts.
- Establish material hauling routes away from places where children live, learn, and play, to the extent feasible. Consider homes, schools, daycares, and playgrounds. In addition to air quality benefits, careful routing may protect children from vehicle-pedestrian accidents. Identify potential material hauling routes in the DEIS.

WETLANDS/STREAMS/AQUATIC RESOURCES

- Fill into wetlands, or fill into, relocation of, or encapsulation of streams on the property may trigger Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 permitting and CWA Section 401 water quality certification.

Recommendations for the DEIS: A formal wetland and Waters of the U.S. delineation should be completed to know definitively where wetlands, streams, and other regulated Waters of the U.S. are located. This delineation should be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for review and a jurisdictional determination. EPA

⁴ CEQ's Environmental Justice Guidance Under the National Environmental Policy Act. See Section III, Part C-4. https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-02/documents/ej_guidance_nepa_ceq1297.pdf?VersionId=78iNGtdwSTz5E2x.H0aHq.E96_Tphbgd

⁵ <http://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>

⁶ https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-08/documents/nepa_promising_practices_document_2016.pdf

⁷ <https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2019/05/f63/NEPA%20Community%20Guide%202019.pdf>

strongly recommends that this delineation be completed before and included in (as an appendix to) the DEIS, along with a copy of the jurisdictional determination from the regulatory agencies.

CLIMATE CHANGE

- Executive Order 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad states, “The United States and the world face a profound climate crisis. We have a narrow moment to pursue action...to avoid the most catastrophic impacts of that crisis and to seize the opportunity that tackling climate change presents.” The U.S. Global Change Research Program’s National Climate Assessment provides data and scenarios that may be helpful in assessing trends in temperature, precipitation, and frequency and severity of storm events.⁸

Any Action Alternative for a new or modified facility would directly release greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions during construction from trucks hauling materials, workers’ vehicles, and operation of construction equipment. It is important for the DEIS to fully quantify and adequately disclose the impacts of the GHG emissions from the No Action alternative and all action alternatives and discuss the implications of those emissions in light of science-based policies established to avoid the worsening impacts of climate change.

In addition, estimates of the social cost of greenhouse gases (SC-GHG⁹) are informative for assessing the impacts of GHG emissions. SC-GHG estimates allow analysts to monetize the societal value of changes in GHG emissions from actions that have small, or marginal, impacts on cumulative global emissions. Estimates of the social cost of carbon (SC-CO₂) and other greenhouse gases (e.g., social cost of methane (SC-CH₄)) have been used for over a decade in Federal government analyses. Quantification of anticipated GHG releases and associated SC-GHG comparisons among all alternatives (including the No Action Alternative scenarios) within the DEIS would inform project decision-making and provide clear support for implementing all practicable measures to minimize GHG emissions and releases.

On January 9, 2023, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) published interim guidance to assist Federal agencies in assessing and disclosing climate change impacts during environmental reviews¹⁰. CEQ developed this guidance in response to Executive Order 13990 - Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis. This interim guidance was effective immediately. CEQ indicated that agencies should use this interim guidance to inform the NEPA review for all new proposed actions and may use it for evaluations in process, as agencies deem appropriate, such as informing the consideration of alternatives or helping address comments raised through the public comment process. EPA recommends the DEIS apply the interim guidance as appropriate, to ensure robust consideration of potential climate impacts, mitigation, and adaptation issues.

Recommendations for the DEIS: USGS should apply the interim guidance as appropriate, to ensure robust consideration of potential climate impacts, mitigation, and adaptation issues. Additional

⁸ Information on changing climate conditions is available through the National Climate Assessment at:

<http://nca2018.globalchange.gov>

⁹ EPA uses the general term, “social cost of greenhouse gases” (SC-GHG), where possible because analysis of GHGs other than CO₂ are also relevant when assessing the climate damages resulting from GHG emissions. The social cost of carbon (SC-CO₂), social cost of methane (SC-CH₄), and social cost of nitrous oxide (SC-N₂O) can collectively be referenced as the SC-GHG.

¹⁰ <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/01/09/2023-00158/national-environmental-policy-act-guidance-on-consideration-of-greenhouse-gas-emissions-and-climate>

recommendations are as follows:

Emissions & SC-GHG Disclosure and Analysis

- Include a detailed discussion of the project's reasonably foreseeable direct and indirect GHG emissions in the context of actions necessary to achieve Wisconsin's policies and GHG emission reduction goals¹¹ as well as national policy and GHG emission reduction goals over the anticipated project lifetime, including the U.S. 2030 Paris targets and the 2050 goal for net-zero energy emissions.
- Quantify estimates of all direct and indirect GHG emissions¹² from the proposed project over its anticipated lifetime for all alternatives, including the No Action Alternative, broken out by GHG type. Include and analyze potential upstream and downstream GHG emissions.
- Use SC-GHG estimates to disclose and consider the climate damages from net changes in direct and indirect emissions of CO₂ and other GHGs resulting from the proposed project. To do so, EPA recommends a breakdown of estimated net GHG emission changes by individual gas, rather than relying on CO₂-equivalent (CO₂e) estimates, and then monetize the climate impacts associated with each GHG using the corresponding social cost estimate (i.e., monetize CH₄ emissions changes expected to occur with the social cost of methane (SC-CH₄) estimate for emissions).¹³ When applying SC-GHG estimates, just as with tools to quantify emissions, USGS should disclose the assumptions (e.g., discount rates) and uncertainties associated with such analysis and the need for updates over time to reflect evolving science and economics of climate impacts.
- Use comparisons of GHG emissions and SC-GHG across alternatives to inform project decision-making.

Resilience and Adaptation

- Describe changing climate conditions (i.e., temperatures and frequency and severity of storm events) and assess how such changes could impact the proposed project and the environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives.
- Incorporate robust climate resilience and adaptation considerations into (1) project design and engineering; (2) construction oversight; (3) commitments for protective measures related to stormwater and erosion; and (4) routine monitoring during operations. The DEIS should

¹¹ Wisconsin's Clean Energy Plan puts Wisconsin on a path for all electricity consumed within the state to be 100 percent carbon-free by 2050; <https://osce.wi.gov/pages/cleanenergyplan.aspx>

¹² As discussed in Section IV(A) of CEQ's 2023 interim guidance, "agencies generally should quantify all reasonably foreseeable emissions associated with a proposed action and reasonable alternatives (as well as the no-action alternative). Quantification should include the reasonably foreseeable direct and indirect GHG emissions of their proposed actions. Agencies also should disclose the information and any assumptions used in the analysis and explain any uncertainty. In assessing a proposed action's, and reasonable alternatives', reasonably foreseeable direct and indirect GHG emissions, the agency should use the best available information."

¹³ Transforming gases into CO₂e using Global Warming Potential (GWP) metrics, and then multiplying the CO₂e tons by the SC-CO₂, is not as accurate as a direct calculation of the social costs of non-CO₂ GHGs. This is because GHGs differ not just in their potential to absorb infrared radiation over a given time frame, but also in the temporal pathway of their impact on radiative forcing and in their impacts on physical endpoints other than temperature change, both of which are relevant for estimating their social cost but not reflected in the GWP. See the Interagency Working Group on Social Cost of Greenhouse Gases' February 2021 *Technical Support Document: Social Cost of Carbon, Methane, and Nitrous Oxide Interim Estimates under Executive Order 13990* for more discussion and the range of annual SC-CO₂, SC-CH₄, and SC-N₂O estimates currently used in Federal benefit-costs analyses.

describe how USGS has addressed such considerations and provide a rationale for any reasonable alternatives to enhance resilience that were not adopted or discussed in detail.

Reduction and Mitigation

- Identify practices to reduce and mitigate GHG emissions; include commitments to do so in the DEIS. We recommend USGS consider practices in the enclosed Construction Emission Control Checklist.

TRANSPORTATION

- The build alternative proposes construction of a new site entrance from Forward Road and increasing the current 98 parking spaces with 150 spaces.¹⁴

Recommendations for the DEIS: Describe any changes to local traffic patterns or traffic management systems that will occur as a result of each alternative (including the No Acton alternative). We recommend USGS take into consideration any special events that may happen in the area, and the impact on site access during both construction and during normal operations.

OTHER COMMENTS

- The Federal Register Notice stated that the DEIS will include a summary of information received during the scoping process but did not state how USGS plans to respond to comments.

Recommendations for the DEIS: In the DEIS, create an appendix to include all comments received during the DEIS comment period – including any applicable transcripts of comments from the public, and all comment letters received. For all government agency letters received, include USGS responses to specific comments from each letter. EPA also recommends that the appendix include all correspondence sent to and received from the resource agencies regarding the project.

¹⁴ This contrasts with the “USGS Madison Area Consolidation and Facility Modernization Plan” document which states on page 47 that the site development plan is to provide parking for 275 cars.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency **Construction Emission Control Checklist**

Diesel emissions and fugitive dust from project construction may pose environmental and human health risks and should be minimized. In 2002, EPA classified diesel emissions as a likely human carcinogen, and in 2012 the International Agency for Research on Cancer concluded that diesel exhaust is carcinogenic to humans. Acute exposures can lead to other health problems, such as eye and nose irritation, headaches, nausea, asthma, and other respiratory system issues. Longer term exposure may worsen heart and lung disease.¹ We recommend USGS consider the following protective measures and commit to applicable measures in the Draft EIS.

Mobile and Stationary Source Diesel Controls

Purchase or solicit bids that require the use of vehicles that are equipped with zero-emission technologies or the most advanced emission control systems available. Commit to the best available emissions control technologies for project equipment to meet the following standards.

- On-Highway Vehicles: On-highway vehicles should meet, or exceed, the EPA exhaust emissions standards for model year 2010 and newer heavy-duty, on-highway compression-ignition engines (e.g., long-haul trucks, refuse haulers, shuttle buses, etc.).²
- Non-road Vehicles and Equipment: Non-road vehicles and equipment should meet, or exceed, the EPA Tier 4 exhaust emissions standards for heavy-duty, non-road compression-ignition engines (e.g., construction equipment, non-road trucks, etc.).³
- Marine Vessels: Marine vessels hauling materials for infrastructure projects should meet, or exceed, the latest EPA exhaust emissions standards for marine compression-ignition engines (e.g., Tier 4 for Category 1 & 2 vessels, and Tier 3 for Category 3 vessels).⁴
- Low Emission Equipment Exemptions: The equipment specifications outlined above should be met unless: 1) a piece of specialized equipment is not available for purchase or lease within the United States; or 2) the relevant project contractor has been awarded funds to retrofit existing equipment, or purchase/lease new equipment, but the funds are not yet available.

Consider requiring the following best practices through the construction contracting or oversight process:

- Establish and enforce a clear anti-idling policy for the construction site.
- Use onsite renewable electricity generation and/or grid-based electricity rather than diesel-powered generators or other equipment.
- Use electric starting aids such as block heaters with older vehicles to warm the engine.
- Regularly maintain diesel engines to keep exhaust emissions low. Follow the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule and procedures. Smoke color can signal the need for maintenance (e.g., blue/black smoke indicates that an engine requires servicing or tuning).
- Where possible, retrofit older-tier or Tier 0 nonroad engines with an exhaust filtration device before it enters the construction site to capture diesel particulate matter.
- Replace the engines of older vehicles and/or equipment with diesel- or alternatively-fueled engines certified to meet newer, more stringent emissions standards (e.g., plug-in hybrid-electric

¹ Carcinogenicity of diesel-engine and gasoline-engine exhausts and some nitroarenes. *The Lancet*. June 15, 2012

² <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/standards/heavy-duty/hdci-exhaust.htm>

³ <https://www.epa.gov/emission-standards-reference-guide/epa-emission-standards-nonroad-engines-and-vehicles>

⁴ <https://www.epa.gov/emission-standards-reference-guide/all-epa-emission-standards>

vehicles, battery-electric vehicles, fuel cell electric vehicles, advanced technology locomotives, etc.), or with zero emissions electric systems. Retire older vehicles, given the significant contribution of vehicle emissions to the poor air quality conditions. Implement programs to encourage the voluntary removal from use and the marketplace of pre-2010 model year on-highway vehicles (e.g., scrappage rebates) and replace them with newer vehicles that meet or exceed the latest EPA exhaust emissions standards, or with zero emissions electric vehicles and/or equipment.

Fugitive Dust Source Controls

- Stabilize open storage piles and disturbed areas by covering and/or applying water or chemical/organic dust palliative, where appropriate. This applies to both inactive and active sites, during workdays, weekends, holidays, and windy conditions.
- Install wind fencing and phase grading operations where appropriate and operate water trucks for stabilization of surfaces under windy conditions.
- When hauling material and operating non-earthmoving equipment, prevent spillage and limit speeds to 15 miles per hour (mph). Limit speed of earth-moving equipment to 10 mph.

Occupational Health

- Reduce exposure through work practices and training, such as maintaining filtration devices and training diesel-equipment operators to perform routine inspections.
- Position the exhaust pipe so that diesel fumes are directed away from the operator and nearby workers, reducing the fume concentration to which personnel are exposed.
- Use enclosed, climate-controlled cabs pressurized and equipped with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters to reduce the operators' exposure to diesel fumes. Pressurization ensures that air moves from inside to outside. HEPA filters ensure that any incoming air is filtered first.
- Use respirators, which are only an interim measure to control exposure to diesel emissions. In most cases, an N95 respirator is adequate. Workers must be trained and fit-tested before they wear respirators. Depending on the type of work being conducted, and if oil is present, concentrations of particulates present will determine the efficiency and type of mask and respirator. Personnel familiar with the selection, care, and use of respirators must perform the fit testing. Respirators must bear a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health approval number.

NEPA Documentation

- Per Executive Order 13045 on Children's Health⁵, EPA recommends the lead agency and project proponent pay particular attention to worksite proximity to places where children live, learn, and play, such as homes, schools, and playgrounds. Construction emission reduction measures should be strictly implemented near these locations in order to be protective of children's health.
- Specify how impacts to sensitive receptors, such as children, elderly, and the infirm will be minimized. For example, locate construction equipment and staging zones away from sensitive receptors and fresh air intakes to buildings and air conditioners.

⁵ Children may be more highly exposed to contaminants because they generally eat more food, drink more water, and have higher inhalation rates relative to their size. Also, children's normal activities, such as putting their hands in their mouths or playing on the ground, can result in higher exposures to contaminants as compared with adults. Children may be more vulnerable to the toxic effects of contaminants because their bodies and systems are not fully developed, and their growing organs are more easily harmed. EPA views childhood as a sequence of life stages, from conception through fetal development, infancy, and adolescence.



PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Jordan D. Sizemore, REM, NEPA Project Manager
Environmental Management Branch, United States Geological Survey
National Wildlife Health Center
6006 Schroeder Road
Madison, WI 53711

The Pennsylvania Game Commission fully supports the modernization of the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC). The NWHC plays a critical role in the research of and surveillance for existing and emerging wildlife pathogens of high consequence, enabling early detection of biological threats to animals, humans, and the environment. To fulfill that mission, the NWHC requires appropriate facilities, personnel, and funding. Since 2008, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) has identified that the NWHC is in dire need of updates to their infrastructure to increase their operational efficiency and would best be served with the construction of a new building. For decades, the Game Commission has collaborated with and depended on the NWHC. We look forward to continuing to work with them as they undertake these essential improvements.

Sincerely,

Andrew Di Salvo, DVM, MPVM
Wildlife Veterinarian, Wildlife Health Division Chief
Pennsylvania Game Commission, Bureau of Wildlife Management
2001 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110
andisalvo@pa.gov – 1-833-PGC-WILD (742-9453)

Governor Jim Justice

Director Brett W. McMillion

Jordan D. Sizemore
NEPA Manager
U.S. Geological Survey, NWHC
6006 Schroeder Road
Madison, WI 53711

Dear Mr. Sizemore,

I am writing to express the general support of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources for the proposed work to construct an updated facility for the U.S. Geological Survey- National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) in Madison, WI. Modernization and improved capacity and capability at NWHC should result in an improved ability of NWHC to conduct essential wildlife disease research, engage in productive partnerships with other North American wildlife health laboratories and research institutions, and provide critical information as related to wildlife health issues to state wildlife conservation agency partners across the United States.

Significant wildlife health challenges continue to beleaguer our valued public trust wildlife resources, and the deleterious effects of climate change, existing pathogen changes and mutations, and new pathogen spillovers at the human-wildlife and agriculture-wildlife interfaces are likely to contribute to these growing challenges in the coming decades. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) continues its march across North America, both via natural animal dispersal events and, significantly, as aided by human actions in transporting live cervids. The H5N1 2.3.4.4b Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreak that began in late 2021 continues to cause morbidity and mortality events among wild birds and has not yet subsided as past outbreaks typically have done. Spillover of the recently emerged Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) into wildlife populations illustrates a recent potential One Health challenge. These are but a few examples of the health issues currently affecting North American wildlife and do not account for emerging and foreign animal diseases, the introduction of which is always of concern in today's global trade network.

A modernized NWHC could, with the assistance of partner wildlife health research institutions and agencies, better perform in its mission to be an important asset in identifying emerging disease threats, understanding current disease issues, and determining potential control and mitigation strategies for the benefit of our treasured wildlife resources across the country. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments.

Sincerely,



Ethan P. Barton
Wildlife Disease Specialist
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

National Wildlife Health Center - RECORD #8 DETAIL

Status : Ready for Coding/Delimiting
Record Date : 9/6/2023
First name : Richard
Last name : Spotts
Attachments : 08_Spotts_original.pdf (1 kb)

Submission :

I strongly support and applaud the proposal to modernize the National Wildlife Center in Madison Wisconsin. This proposal is reasonable, necessary, and in the public interest. I hope that this work will be successful. Thank you.

National Wildlife Health Center - RECORD #9 DETAIL

Status : Ready for Coding/Delimiting
Record Date : 9/8/2023
First name : Jean
Last name : Public
Attachments : 09_public_original.pdf (3 kb)

Submission :

public comment on federal register

the usda already has reserach facilities and ag laboratories all over the entire usa. nj has an a lab in trento nj. nebraska has animal reseach labs that the ny times did an expose on to show how ruthlessly the animals were treated there. usda research labs are already ther. does usgs know that there are already usda labs doing reserach on animals. iowa has labs like that, utah has labs like that. i believe every states has a lab like that. i fail to see the necessity for an entirely new building in wisconsin. i think we can update the bilding that is there but see absolutely no need for a new building. if you need new equmet, of course you would get that. taxpayers are already suffering to pay for somuch with the out of control spending of the biden administraion. he has spent alrelady on pandemic wheree namials were studied endlessly for war purposes. i am afraid that is what we will do with these wildlife center - use them to use animals bodies for warefare to develop viruses that can kill our enemies. i dont want any more of that. we have done enough in that area. the biden adminisitation has allowed the cdc to cause a pandemic with theout of control reserach on animnals that dr fauci paid for in wuhan china. we spend us taxpayers in wuhan china and we are alreay pahying for animal labs in ukraine and all throughout europe. why do we need more more more. i see absolutely no need. is usgs aware of all the labs taxpayers are already paying for. youi ought to start catching up. russia even knows we hav eanimals labs in ukraine.

i am also against this idea because the only thing we humans seem to do to animals is to hurt them and harm them for our ends. we will cut their bodies up into little pieces, cut into thei brains, take their hearts with not any sense of compassion for the sancity of their life at all. no way am i in favor or more labs. we have more than enoguh labs. i WOULD NEVER FAVOR ANY NEW BUILDINGS IN WISCONSIN UNTIL WE HAVE A FULL ANALYSIS OF HOW MANY RESERACH LABS THE TAXPAYERS ARE ALREADY PAAYING FOR ALL AROUND THE WORLD AND ALL ACROSS THE UNITED STATES. HUNDREDS OF THEM. IF NOT THOUSANDS OF THEM. I DONT BELIEVE THERE IS A NEED HERE AT ALL

WHY WOULD YOU NEED ROOM FOR STUDENTS IN A LAB? WHY WOULD YOU NEED VISITORS IN A LAB DONIG RESERCH WORK THAT SHOULD BE KEEPIN OUT SUCH VISITORS. WHO IS AFTER SO MUCH PARKING? THE STAFF IN ANY LAB SHOULD BE SMALL AND CONTAINED.

WE DO NOT WANT MORE FACILITIES FOR BLOWWARFARE. WE HAVE ENOUGH FACILITIES TO EXAMINE WILDLIFE FO THEIR WELFARE ALREADY. YOU ARE PUSHING THIS WORK FOR SOME OTHER PURPOSE. WHY WOULD YOU HAVE A MEETING ON THIS IN WISCONSIN? WHY NOT WASHINGTON DC WHERE IT IS COVERED BY THE PRESS?SOMEHOW I DONT THINK THI SIS TO HELP WILDLIFE. NOTHING HELPS WILDLIFE.NOTHING HELPS ANIMALS. LOOK AT HOW ANIMALS ARE KEPT IN FACTORY FARMS TO SEE THE WAY PEOPLE PRACTICE ABUSE AND NASTINESS TO THEM CONSTANTLY SO THEY NEVER HAVE A MINUTE OF PEACE. LOOK AT HOW THESE NAIMALS ARE TREATED IN

LABORATORIES WHERE THEY ARE USED IN EXPERIMENTS OVER AND OVER INENDLESS PAIN UNTIL THEY ARE KILLED AND MURDERED BY UNFEELING HUMANS IN LABS. THESE PEOPLE IN LABS ARE NOT NICE. AND ARE THEY WORKING FOR AMERICA. AFTER SEEING THE DEC AT WORK I KNOW THAT THESE AGENCIES ARE NOT WORKING FOR THE GOOD OF AMERICA. MONEY IS WHAT THEY ARE ALL ABOUT. MONEYMAD PEOPLE. THE ANIMALS SUFFER AND SUFFER AND SUFFER.

NO WE DON'T NEED MORE LABS. WE HAVE ENOUGH WITH THE THOUSANDS TAXPAYERS ARE PAYING FOR ALREADY. This comment is for the public record please receipt. jean public
jeanpublic1@gmail.com

National Wildlife Health Center - RECORD #11 DETAIL

Status : Ready for Coding/Delimiting
Record Date : 9/28/2023
First name : Peter
Last name : Szotkowski
Attachments : 11_szotkowski_original.pdf (1 kb)

Submission :

Thanks for making the information available!

National Wildlife Health Center - RECORD #14 DETAIL

Status : Ready for Coding/Delimiting
Record Date : 10/5/2023
First name : Mark and Susan
Last name : Foote-Martin
Attachments : 14_Foote-Martin_original.pdf (2 kb)

Submission :

Mr. Sizemore,

Congratulations! We are very pleased to see that you are planning your new facility, and are grateful for the opportunity to have input in this tremendous resource. Through the decades, we have fought to have the National Wildlife Health Center remain in Madison and also remain fully operational. We feel a certain pride of ownership and look forward to this project moving forward to completion.

We are both retired DNR Conservation Biologists with WDNR and have worked closely with your staff. Susan served as a volunteer on a committee that worked with sylvatic plague bait development with prairie dogs and also with white-nose syndrome. Mark has worked in the trapping, data collection, plague vaccination, microchipping and release of black-footed ferrets in South Dakota, a task that he thoroughly enjoyed.

Our concern for your new building is the many glass windows and the threat that that poses to songbirds. We ask that you consider using bird-safe glass or consider embellishing the windows with the many different choices now available to stop or lessen the impacts to songbird deaths through window strikes. Madison Audubon / Badgerland Bird Alliance is a valuable resource for information on this important topic.

Many thanks for the opportunity to have a voice in this wonderful and much needed new facility. We wish you and your staff all the best and we will see you at the open house!

Susan Foote-Martin

Mark Martin

Resident Managers, Goose Pond Sanctuary

National Wildlife Health Center - RECORD #15 DETAIL

Status : Ready for Coding/Delimiting

Record Date : 10/10/2023

First name : JEAN

Last name : PUBLIE

Attachments : 15_publie_original.pdf (1 kb)

Submission :

I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF THIS NEW BUILDING. I DO NOT BELIEVE WE ARE GETTING CORRECT ANALYSES OF THE HEALTH OF WILDLIFE AT THE PRESENT TIME SO SEE NO NEED FOR ENHANCED WORK. CUT TH BUDGET IS MORE LIKELY

National Wildlife Health Center - RECORD #19 DETAIL**Status :** Ready for Coding/Delimiting**Record Date :** 10/18/2023**First name :** jean**Last name :** publie**Attachments :** 19_publie_original.pdf (1 kb)**Submission :**

i am not in favor of taxpayers payin for a new building. i think an addition and better use of space can achieve enough. frankly, this agency cant be trusted to be accurate in regard to wildlife disease n the first place imo. i dont think their work is of high quality at all. the cwd in deer has been festering for over 25 years now with no steps taken to control it. it was one state, colorado, now its 35 states. they did nothing at this agency location. nothing.

National Wildlife Health Center - RECORD #20 DETAIL

Status : Ready for Coding/Delimiting
Record Date : 10/18/2023
First name : Shane
Last name : Hesting
Attachments : 20_Hesting_original.pdf (1 kb)

Submission :

Build a new one if the money can be found. Seems we give a lot of money to other countries and can't take care of our own nation.

If the building will replace an old one, there is little impact on the environment. I guess it is just required paperwork.

Maybe they can upgrade testing and cases submission qualifications and accept more things with a new lab.

National Wildlife Health Center - RECORD #21 DETAIL

Status : Ready for Coding/Delimiting
Record Date : 10/18/2023
First name : Richard
Last name : Spotts
Attachments : 21_spotts_original.pdf (1 kb)

Submission :

I vigorously support and applaud this proposed modernization of the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison Wisconsin. This proposal is reasonable in light of the current antiquated facility and the rapidly escalating challenges facing wildlife health and conservation issues. The climate and extinction crises are getting much worse. The planning, design, and construction of the new facility should include positive actions in response to these overlapping crises. Fossil fuel use should be discouraged and clean alternative energy used instead. Solar panels with battery backups are always good. Vehicle charging stations should be installed, along with modern water and energy conservation features. Native vegetation should be used in all landscaping, including pollinator friendly plants. Composting of solid food waste should enrich the soil. Please continue this excellent work. Many thanks!

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT MATERIALS

Public Involvement Appendix

1. Factsheet
2. Outreach Efforts
 - a. Newsletters
 - i. October 2023
 - ii. March 2024
 - b. Outreach to EJ Community Leaders
 - i. Outreach to Environmental Justice Community Leaders - Outreach Tracker
 - ii. Meeting Summary - CORE
 - iii. Meeting Summary - City of Madison Equity Office
3. Events
 - a. Event Summary for Supper Club event
 - b. Event Summary for Capital Science and Engineering Fair event
 - c. Event Summary for Greentree Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting
4. Website Updates
 - a. Updated Project Summary
 - b. Updated Public Involvement Materials
 - c. Safety Page
 - d. Renderings
 - e. Updated text - Proposed Action

1. Factsheet



The National Wildlife Health Center's work benefits and protects our nation's wildlife, ecosystems, and communities.

The National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) was established in 1975 in Madison, Wisconsin as the first biomedical laboratory dedicated to assessing the impact of disease on wildlife. It remains the only national center devoted to wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention in the United States.



NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd, Madison, WI 53711

Proposed Action and Preferred Alternative: The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing to develop an updated facility for NWHC to meet the agency's current and future needs. The USGS's preferred alternative is to replace the existing, outdated facility with a new facility on the NWHC property. A new NWHC will:



Streamline
delivery of research



Enhance efficiency
for worker and public safety
with modern equipment

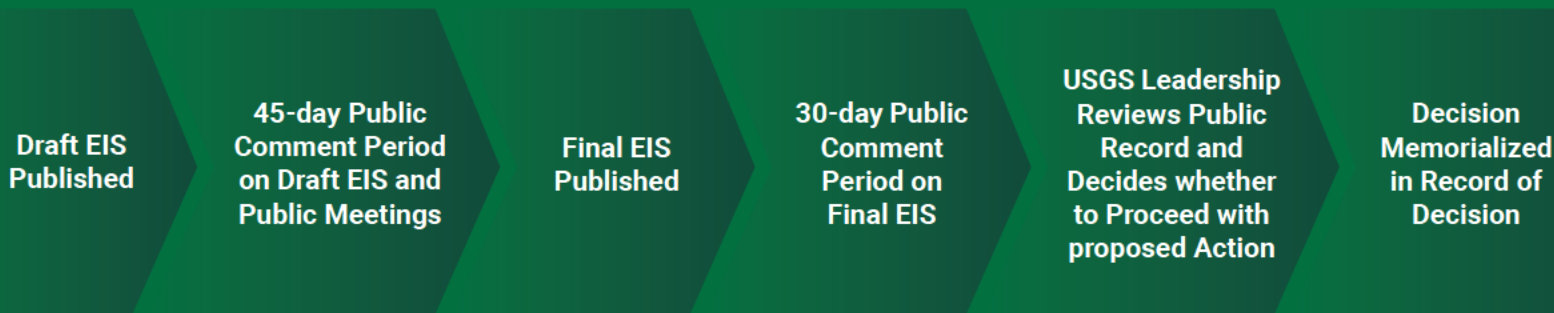


Manage costs
through more efficient
operations

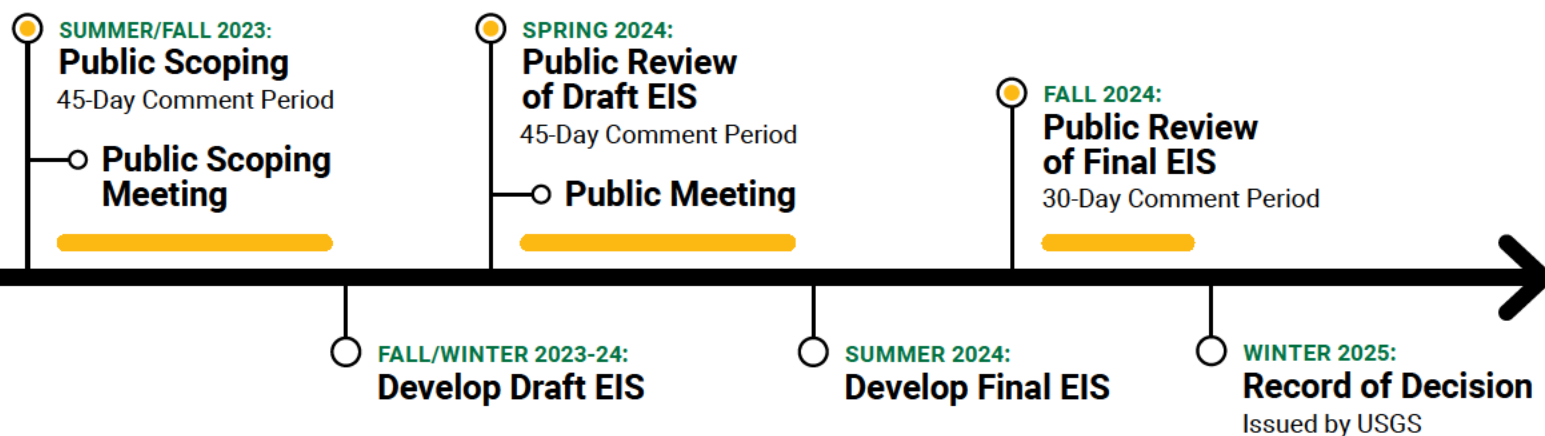
Environmental Impact Process

To thoroughly understand the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action, the USGS is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

This comprehensive document will be made available for public review twice during the NEPA process. No action will be taken until the public review periods are completed and USGS issues a Record of Decision.



Project Timeline



How to Engage



Stay Connected

Learn more, sign up to receive project information
www.nwhceis.com/contact



Review & Comment on the Draft EIS

View online: www.nwhceis.com

Notices of availability will be placed in the Federal Register and local newspapers. Feedback is encouraged during the 45-day comment period.



Review the Final EIS

View online: after Public Comment Period

Public feedback will be considered for the Final EIS. The Final EIS will be available for public review for 30 days before a decision is made.



Learn more about the environmental process!

Scan QR code or visit the project website: www.nwhceis.com



2. Outreach Efforts
 - a. Newsletters
 - i. March 2024
 - ii. October 2023
 - b. Outreach to EJ Community Leaders
 - i. Outreach to Environmental Justice Community Leaders - Outreach Tracker
 - ii. Meeting Summary - CORE
 - iii. Meeting Summary - City of Madison Equity Office

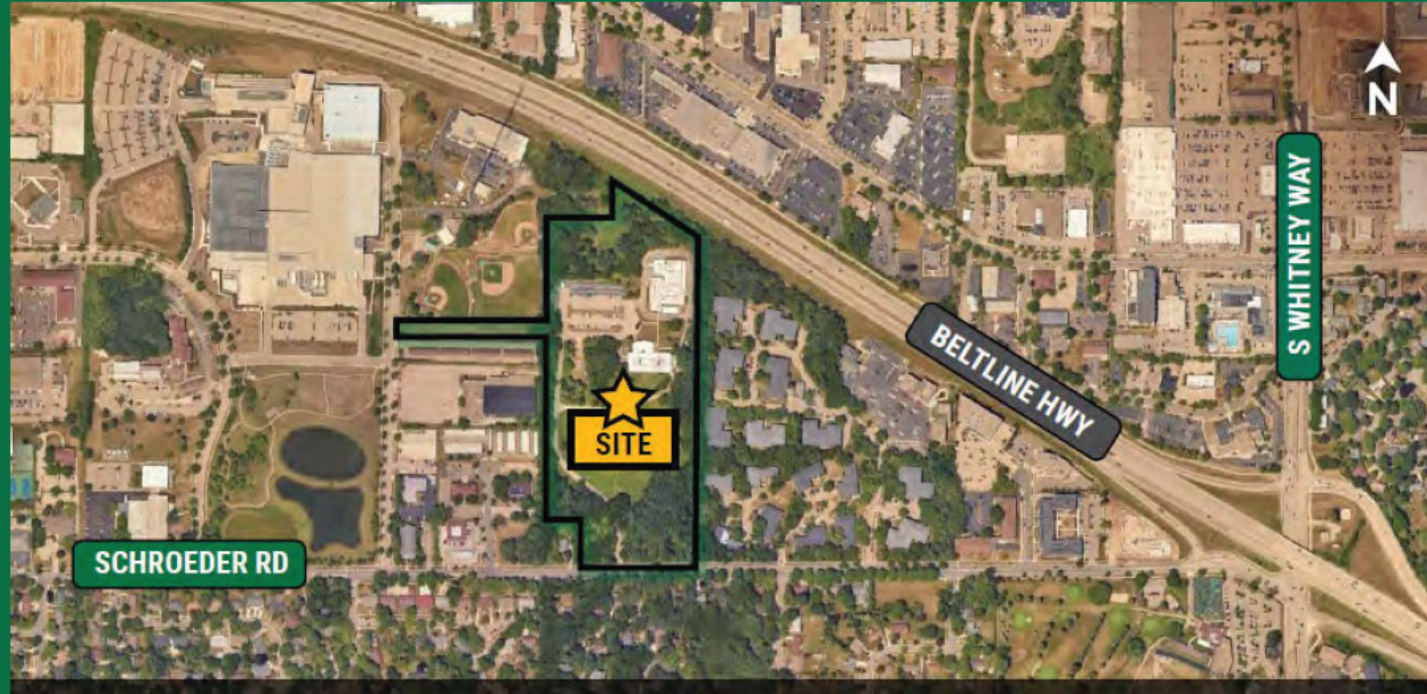
Future of the National Wildlife Health Center



The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing to develop an updated facility for the National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) to meet the agency's current and future needs.

Established in 1975, the NWHC is the only national center devoted to wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention in the U.S.

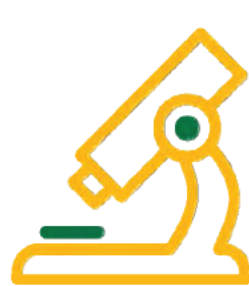
Operating as a "mission essential" facility, the NWHC faces challenges due to aging facilities, equipment and infrastructure, space limitations, and increasing costs associated with operation and maintenance. The renovations of existing infrastructure that would be necessary to meet contemporary standards and practices while continuing operations are cost prohibitive.



NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd, Madison, WI 53711

Following multiple studies beginning in 2008, the USGS's preferred alternative is to replace the outdated facility with a new facility on federal property at the current location. Doing so would ensure that the NWHC can effectively carry out its vital mission for the benefit of animals, humans, and the environment.

The new NWHC will:



Streamline
delivery of research



Enhance efficiency
for workers and public safety
with modern equipment



Manage costs
through more efficient
operations

Public Review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Coming Soon

To thoroughly understand the potential impacts of developing and operating the proposed new facility, the USGS is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The Draft EIS will discuss:

- Range of alternatives considered, including the *No Action* alternative
- Potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts, whether beneficial or adverse, of the proposed action
- Measures that would mitigate, or reduce, potential impacts

Public Review of the Draft EIS (Coming Soon)

Notices of availability will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers, in advance the release of the Draft EIS in Spring 2024. Feedback is encouraged during the 45-day comment period.

Public Review of the Final EIS

Public feedback will be considered during development of the Final EIS, which will be available for public review for 30 days before a decision is made.



In the Community

Our team participated in the *Soul Food Community Supper*, hosted by Meadowood Health Partnership, on February 21, 2024. We shared information with community members about the proposed project and the upcoming release of the Draft EIS.



The project team will continue to attend community events throughout the NEPA process. **Is there an event you'd like us to attend? Let us know through our [comment form](#).**

Upcoming Events:

Capital Science and Engineering Fair

Saturday, March 16, 2024
8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

University of Wisconsin – Madison, Engineering Centers Building
[1550 Engineering Drive, Madison, WI 53706](#)

Public Meetings

Spring 2024

More Information Coming Soon

Meetings will be held during the Draft EIS 45-day review period.

A Culture of Safety

The NWHC has a strong safety culture, with biosafety and biosecurity achieved through engineering controls, administrative controls, and personal protective equipment. The center operates under criteria established by the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a Biosafety Level 3 (BSL3) and Animal Biosafety Level 3 (ABSL3) facility, with engineering controls that prevent the release of contaminants into the workplace and the environment.

"Our laboratories and animal spaces undergo annual inspections to ensure operational integrity and adherence to safety protocols. NWHC leadership actively monitors researchers' compliance with approved biosafety practices, fostering accountability and continuous improvement. A new NWHC will allow us to continue to meet current best practices for biosafety and security, as well as improve efficiency, mitigate environmental impacts, and enhance safety for staff and the public."

– LeAnn White
Acting Director, National Wildlife Health Center

The center's commitment to safety is evident through its operating procedures, personal protective equipment usage, and regular inspections.

[Learn More](#)

Stay Connected

Public engagement is vital to understand community concerns and questions.



Website

stay informed, view project status
and updates

[Visit Us Online](#)



Factsheet

Looking for some fast facts?
Check out the factsheet

[View Factsheet](#)

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You are receiving this email because you are an important part of the National Wildlife Health Center community.

[NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd, Madison, WI 53711](#)

Your Input Matters



The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing to develop a new National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) facility on the grounds of the present NWHC in Madison, Wisconsin.

Why is a new facility needed?

The NWHC, established in 1975, is a biomedical laboratory dedicated to assessing the impact of disease on wildlife and plays a crucial role in wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention in the United States.

However, an increasing challenge to NWHC operation is the age and space limitations of the present center, including crowded laboratories and administrative areas, inefficient use of space, aging infrastructure, and increasing costs associated with operation and maintenance. Developing a new NWHC is necessary to meet contemporary standards and practices.



Due to the potential impact on the environment, USGS is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The NEPA process allows for public input during public scoping and after the publication of the Draft EIS.

As a valued member of our community, we want to keep you informed about updates regarding the proposed new facility.



Recent Community Engagement and Public Scoping Meetings:

Thank you to the community members who attended the recent in-person public scoping meeting on September 21, 2023, at Vel Philips Memorial High School, and the virtual scoping meeting on September 28, 2023.

These meetings provided an opportunity to share details about the proposed new facility, answer the community's questions and gather input.



Not able to attend? View the virtual public meeting recording and review meeting materials online.



[View Recording](#)

[Meeting Materials](#)



Submit Your Comments:

During the 45-day scoping period, we encourage agencies, organizations, and the public to provide valuable input on potentially affected resources and environmental considerations.

We kindly request scoping comments by **Friday, October 20, 2023**, to ensure full consideration in the Draft EIS. Submit directly through the website using the Comment Form, email, or write to us.



Online

Use the form on our website to submit comments

[Comment Form](#)



Email

Jordan D. Sizemore
NEPA Project Manager,
USGS

[Email Comments](#)



Mail

Jordan D. Sizemore
NEPA Project Manager
NWHC
6006 Schroeder Rd
Madison, WI 53711

Check out the EIS website for all of your project needs.

Take a look at frequently asked questions, learn more about facility improvements, and stay connected with updates on project news.

[Learn More](#)

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You are receiving this email because you are an important part of the
National Wildlife Health Center community.

[NWHC 6006 Schroeder Rd.](#)
[Madison, WI 53711](#)

FW: National Wildlife Health Center- Information Interview re: Community Outreach

Helman, Michal <[REDACTED]>

Tue 2/13/2024 2:10 PM

To: Lopez, Paulina [REDACTED]

Cc: Kaim, Brittani [REDACTED]

From: Helman, Michal

Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 12:08 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Kaim, Brittani B. [REDACTED] Sizemore, Jordan D [REDACTED]

Subject: National Wildlife Health Center- Information Interview re: Community Outreach

Hello-

My name is Michal Helman, I am reaching out on behalf of the U.S. Geological Survey regarding the proposal for a National Wildlife Health Center facility at the existing site in Madison, WI. As part of the community outreach efforts for the proposed project, the project team is committed to engaging in meaningful and equitable outreach with the surrounding community. As part of this commitment, our team has conducted an environmental justice stakeholder mapping exercise, during which you were identified as a respected leader in the community. With that recognition in mind, we would appreciate the opportunity to connect with you on a brief call to gain insight into your recommendations for best practices and occasions to engage with the community in an equitable and considerate manner.

Please let us know if you are willing to connect with us for a brief information interview, and a couple of times/dates that are convenient for you to hop on a call.

Thank you for your time and consideration!



Michal Helman
Communications & Public Involvement Midwest Lead
U.S. Advisory Services



Outreach to Environmental Justice Leaders in Madison, Wisconsin – Outreach Tracker

Contact	Outreach #1 Date & Communication Platform	Outreach #2 Date & Communication Platform	Outreach #3 Date & Communication Platform	Outreach #4 Date & Communication Platform	Outreach #5 Date & Communication Platform	Notes
Meadowood Neighborhood Association	1/5/2024 Phone	1/9/2024 Phone	1/25/2024 Phone			Left voicemail for Association Director.
Meadowood Health Partnership	1/5/2024 Phone	1/9/2024 Phone	1/12/2024 Teams Call			Sheray Wallace as main contact
Lussier Community Education Center	1/5/2024 Phone	1/9/2024 Phone	1/18/2024 Phone	1/25/2024 Phone		Left a voicemail at front desk.
Meadowood Neighborhood Center	1/5/2024 Phone	1/9/2024 Phone	1/18/2024 Phone	1/25/2024 Phone		Left a voicemail at front desk.
Mariam Maldonado	11/3/2023 E-mail	11/15/2023 Phone	11/30/2023 E-mail	12/1/2023 Phone	1/11/2024 Phone	Contact has been through Luna's Grocery. Spoke to the Store Manager by phone and left a message for Mariam.
Joe Maldonado	11/3/2023 E-mail	11/15/2023 Phone	11/30/2023 E-mail	12/1/2023 Phone	1/11/2024 Phone	Left a voicemail.
Beverly Hutcherson	11/3/2023 E-mail	11/28/2023 E-mail	12/1/2023 Phone	1/11/2024 Phone		Left a voicemail.
Julie Anderson	11/28/2023 E-mail	11/30/2023 Phone	12/12 Teams Meeting	1/11/2024 Phone		Working through personal contacts to track down phone number. Interviewed via Teams 12/12.
Bayview Community Center	12/1/2023 Phone	12/5/2023 Phone	1/11/2024 Phone	1/11/2024 E-mail	1/18/2024 Phone	Left a voicemail on 12/1, called back 12/5 and 1/11. On 1/11 spoke to a representative who referred to e-mail Nate Schorr.
Goodman Community Center	12/1/2023 Phone	12/5/2023 Phone	12/15/2023 Phone	1/11/2024 Phone	1/18/2024 Phone	Was transferred to Amy, Director of Communications. Left a voicemail.

NWHC Community Leader Informational Interview

Date: December 12, 2023

Attendees:

Interviewee: Julie Andersen

NWHC Project Team: Jordan Sizemore (USGS), Brittani Kaim (WSP), Michal Helman (WSP)

Interview Notes:

- Jordan Sizemore shared background and status on the project
- Julie asked about the prairie and if that would remain public; once confirmed she suggested that NWHC share more information about the prairie as a public recreational space as part of the project outreach - particularly amongst educational and youth organizations.
- In asking how to overcome barriers to reach equity priority communities, Julie urged engaging more with the local community centers as they may be able to provide specific recommendations. Some basic services NWHC may consider providing from an accessibility and equity standpoint would be childcare services at any public meetings that are held for the project. Lucier and Meadowood do have existing regular meetings to plug into. Julie recommended going to these meetings with questions and prompts for specific input.
- Folks in some of these marginalized communities may have other more pressing priorities and may not have the capacity or a sense of urgency to provide input on this topic/project.
- Recommendations for Targeted Follow-up Outreach:
 - [Meadowood Neighborhood Association](#) (Raymond Road)- racially mixed and mixed-income, history of gun violence, active neighborhood groups. Meadow Ridge also has a health group with active health promoters.
 - [Meadowood Health Partnership](#)-a Black-led community health organization.
 - [Meadowood Neighborhood Center](#) run by Madison School and Community Recreation – would be a good group to reach out to about engaging lower-income and racially diverse communities.
 - [Lussier Community Education Center](#)- Julie recommended a staff person - A.B. Orlik, she is the Development Director, so outreach isn't her area of focus, but was recommended for being a respected member of the community and Julie offered to put us in touch.
 - [Meadowridge Public Library](#) on Raymond Rd. off of beltline off of Whitney Way- neighborhood touchstone. *Note, the library is on our current stakeholder list.*
 - [Greentree Neighborhood Association](#)
 - High School Environmental Groups

Meeting with The City of Madison Racial Equity and Social Justice Office

Date: February 16, 2024

Attendees:

Interviewee: Tariq Saqqaf, City of Madison Racial Equity and Neighborhood Resource Team Coordinator

NWHC Project Team: Jordan Sizemore (USGS), Jessica Forbes (WSP), Michal Helman (WSP), Paulina Lopez (WSP)

Call Summary

- Tariq works for the City of Madison in the Department of Civil Rights, focusing on equity and inclusion at the systems level internally and connecting directly with community stakeholders (residents and community-based organizations). He works to understand the priorities of community members in different neighborhoods and areas of the city. He is passionate about public participation.
- As part of the EIS process, the project team has been focused on understanding equity priorities and equity communities and has worked to identify community leaders in Madison who have an interest in equity.
- Tariq asked what the project team has heard from community members and Tribes on the proposed action. WSP replied that the project has not been controversial in the community. People have been interested in the Center's work and how to collaborate with the Center or learn more. The team has heard that people would like to engage more but have limited capacity, and since this isn't a controversial project, they have indicated they are not able to engage more.
- The USGS indicated that the Center may be able to offer additional education in the community on their mission and work through outreach or educational events in the future.
- Tariq commented that the relevance of the project is a factor. He questioned what the practical relevance of the project is to people's lives, in terms of asking people to be generous with their time and thoughts.
- There are community centers close to the Center, including the Albert Park Community Center, Theresa Terrace Community Center, Meadowridge Community Center.
- Tariq recommended that the project team have some internal conversations before engaging with the community regarding "who" the Center wants to be, how the Center wants to be, and how it wants to engage with the community. He recommended that the Center consider what it wants to deliver to the community before soliciting feedback to create more of a connection or a draw for people to engage.
- Tariq visited the property before the call and had the feeling that he was trespassing. One of his first impressions of the property also was seeing the sign for "Necropsy Loading Dock."
- Tariq commented that the Center does not have programming oriented to students or others in the community.

- Tariq recommended talking to the Aldo Leopold Nature Center and UW Research Center to get perspective on how these research-oriented centers relate to the community and what types of programming they offer.
- The NWHC is the only center of its type in the United States. Tariq commented that if the center wants to “bring its cool out” that could be interesting. There could be a programming arm.
- Other questions Tariq brought up: Who does the Center want to be? Who is it interested in being? Who does it feel called to be?
- Tariq can provide contact information for community members and organizations in advance of the public meetings in the spring.

3. Events

- a. Event Summary for Supper Club event
- b. Event Summary for Capital Science and Engineering Fair event
- c. Event Summary for Greentree Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting

Community Event Report

Soul Food Community Supper

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Time: 5-7 p.m. CT

Location:

Good Shephard Church
5701 Raymond Road
Madison, WI 53711

Event Staff:

- Mike Bonds, National Wildlife Health Center
- Dr. Elizabeth Falendysz, National Wildlife Health Center
- Laura Van Wert, WSP
- Jeffrey Steiner, WSP



Number of Interactions/Conversations: 17	Number of Attendees (excluding vendors/event staff): +50	Number of Vendors: 10 organizations
Connected with the following elected officials: 0	New Eblast Contacts: 8	New organization/agency contacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madison Police Department • Good Shepherd Church • Madison Parks
Handout Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact Sheets 	Conversations of note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will NWHC take volunteers to weed out the invasive species from the prairie? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Answer: Yes, this could be a good way to involve the community in the study and the construction. • How much of the prairie will remain after building construction? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Answer: Construction of new facilities will not take acreage away from the prairie. In fact, the preferred alternative is tentatively set to take up less square footage, so there will be more land for the prairie. 	

Community Event Report

Capital Science and Engineering Fair

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024

Time: 8-10 a.m. CT

Location:

Engineering Centers Building
1550 Engineering Dr.
Madison, WI 53706

Event Staff:

- Mike Bonds, National Wildlife Health Center
- Karina Casey, WSP



Number of Interactions/Conversations: 10	Number of Attendees (excluding vendors/event staff): 37	Number of Vendors: 1 organization
Connected with the following elected officials: 0	New Eblast Contacts: 2	New organization/agency contacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Wisconsin, Madison
Handout Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact Sheets • Coloring books 	Conversations of note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A journalist from the Isthmus, a local Madison newspaper, took NWHC contact information (Mike Bonds) for follow-up about the project. 	

Community Event Report

Greentree Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m. CT

Location:

Meadowridge Community Center
5740 Raymond Rd.
Madison, WI 53711

Event Staff:

- Mike Bonds, National Wildlife Health Center
- Annalie Peterson, WSP




Number of Interactions/Conversations: 15	Number of Attendees (excluding vendors/event staff): 65	Number of Vendors: 1 organization
Connected with the following elected officials: 0	New Eblast Contacts: 8	New organization/agency contacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greentree Neighborhood Association
Handout Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact Sheets • Coloring books 	Conversations of note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared information with community members that live just south of the project location. • Community members asked whether the prairie would still be accessible and about impacts to traffic volume on Schroeder Road. 	

4. Website Updates
 - a. Updated Public Involvement Materials
 - b. Safety Page
 - c. Updated text - Proposed Action

National Wildlife Health Center

Environmental Impact Statement

 MENU

Public Involvement

[Public Scoping](#)

[Public Comments](#)



[Public Review of the Draft EIS](#)

[Public Involvement Materials](#)

Public Scoping Materials

- [Project Fact Sheet](#) 
- [Public Scoping Summary Report](#) 
- [Final Notice of Intent](#) 
- [Public Meeting Visual Ad](#) 
- [Project Summary](#) 
- [National Register of Historic Places Evaluation of the National Wildlife Health Center](#) 
- [Business Case Analysis of the National Wildlife Health Center - Madison Campus and Alternative Sites](#) 
- [Madison Area Consolidation Plan and Facility Modernization Plan, Madison, WI](#) 
- [Virtual Scoping Public Meeting 9/28/2023 - recording](#) 
- [Tribal Meeting 7/7/2023 - presentation slides](#) 

Project Newsletters

- [National Wildlife Health Center EIS Update - March 2024](#) 
- [National Wildlife Health Center EIS Update - October 2023](#) 

Public Scoping

The scoping period for the Environmental Impact Statement started September 5, 2023 and ended on October 20, 2023. Find out more about the project, future public meetings, and other ways you can participate on the Public Involvement page. Your input is a vital part of the National Environmental Policy Act process!

[Learn More](#)

National Wildlife Health Center

Environmental Impact Statement

 MENU

A Culture of Safety

The NWHC has a strong safety culture with biosafety and biosecurity achieved through engineering controls, administrative controls, and personal protective equipment. Adherence to these controls is evaluated and maintained through both internal and external inspections. The NWHC's leadership actively monitors researchers' compliance with approved biosafety practices, fostering accountability and continuous improvement.

Engineering Controls

Engineering controls prevent the release of contaminants into the workplace and the environment. Some of the engineering controls at the NWHC include:

- Maintaining all laboratories and animal holding rooms under negative air pressure, with unidirectional airflow, HEPA-filtered exhaust and approximately 12 air changes per hour
- Entrances to laboratory access areas is through two self-closing doors
- Performing all work involving infectious agents or toxins within an appropriate, annually certified biosafety cabinet
- Proper decontamination of all laboratory wastes via incinerators or autoclaves

Administrative Controls

Administrative controls are safety policies, rules, supervision, schedules, and training with the goal of reducing the risk, duration, frequency, and severity of exposure to biological hazards. NWHC's primary administrative control involves having all research with biological agents and toxins reviewed and approved by the Institutional Biosafety Committee. Administrative controls also include medical surveillance of laboratory workers, continual reviews of the center's Safety Manual, annual staff biosafety and biosecurity training, and a building security plan.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Proper personal protective equipment (PPE) is the final layer of control with staff using PPE for laboratory and animal work as proscribed under biosafety protocols. Personnel participate in a respiratory protection program which requires annual training, annual fit test for respirators, and medical clearance.

Laboratories and animal spaces are inspected annually to make sure that the facility is operating properly. During these inspections, NWHC leadership evaluates whether researchers are following the approved biosafety practices and procedures. In addition to formal inspections, NWHC leadership also perform periodical checks as part of the post approval monitoring process.

National Wildlife Health Center

Environmental Impact Statement



Proposed Action

Background

The National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) was established in 1975 as the first biomedical laboratory dedicated to assessing the impact of disease on wildlife and identifying the role of various pathogens in contributing to wildlife losses. Located five miles southwest of downtown Madison, Wisconsin, the NWHC is the only national center devoted to wildlife disease detection, control, and prevention in the United States.

The emergence of wildlife diseases has become a high-priority concern in the United States and the world. In addition to their harmful effects on natural wildlife populations and ecosystems, there is the potential for the spread of zoonotic diseases to humans, and for causing economic losses associated with livestock morbidity and mortality. The scientists working at the NWHC are responsible for conducting research and for investigating and responding to known and emerging wildlife diseases and wildlife mortality outbreaks throughout the United States.

Designated as a "mission essential" facility, the NWHC functions to advance wildlife health science for the benefit of animals, humans, and the environment. However, a growing challenge to performing its mission is the age and space limitations associated with the present NWHC, including crowded laboratories and administrative areas, inefficient use of space, aging infrastructure, and increasing costs associated with operation and maintenance of facilities and equipment. The extensive renovations necessary to meet contemporary standards and practices while continuing operations are cost prohibitive.

Starting in 2008, the United States Geological Survey (USGS), which oversees the NWHC, conducted multiple planning studies to identify and evaluate options for modernizing the NWHC. The preferred option that emerged from this process is to develop an entirely new facility on the grounds of the present NWHC in Madison so that the NWHC can continue to accomplish its important mission.

Proposed Action

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is proposing to develop a National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) that can meet the agency's current and future needs, streamline delivery of research, improve worker- and public safety with modern biohazard and pathogen containment and biological-waste disposal, and control operating costs. Alternatives currently identified for the Proposed Action include, but will not be limited to, a decision not to proceed with the Proposed Action (i.e., the No Action Alternative) and build new facilities for the NWHC. The alternative to build new facilities for the NWHC. (i.e., New NWHC Alternative) is currently preferred by the USGS.

The New NWHC Alternative proposes constructing new facilities on the grounds of the NWHC in Madison, Wisconsin. The new facility would provide purpose-built laboratory, administrative, and support spaces and biohazard containment using modern equipment and building systems to protect the health and safety of staff, visitors, the public, and the environment.

As a mission-essential facility, the existing NWHC must remain operational during construction of the new facility. Construction of the new NWHC facility is tentatively scheduled for late 2024/early 2025, and once the new facility is completed, the existing Main Building and Tight Isolation Building would be demolished. At this time, USGS is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental effects of the proposed action.

Purpose & Need

Purpose

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to update the aging NWHC facility, incorporating technological advances in biosafety engineering and equipment as well as adding additional space for enhanced animal care and research.

Need

The NWHC needs a modern facility, with sufficient space and modern technologies to support their mission essential research. Previous studies indicated that continuing to update the current facility to meet the mission and function of the NWHC is limited and costly. This has resulted in the need for a more cost-effective solution to maintain administrative, operational, health, and safety standards and requirements as well as provide the spaces needed to conduct research into wildlife disease detection, additional space for enhanced animal-care conditions, and other programs that support the mission of the NWHC. In addition, there is the need to incorporate modern laboratory equipment, mechanical systems, the latest technologies and the latest operating and management approaches, all of which will further enhance the NWHC's capability to reduce exposure to pathogens and the risks faced by staff and public.