Why You Should Read This: The document below reviews the environmental impact likely from a State Revolving Fund project. As part of the environmental review, you are entitled to provide comments. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, raise them now. We encourage public input in this decision making process.

IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

March 13, 2025

To: All Interested Citizens, Government Agencies, and Public Groups

An environmental review has been performed based on the procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for the proposed agency action below:

Applicant: City of Montour
County: Tama
State: Iowa

SRF Number: CS1921105 01
Iowa DNR Project Number: W2021-0288A

Other Federal Funding: CDBG

The City of Montour, Iowa is planning an upgrade to their wastewater infrastructure. The city has applied for financial assistance through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program to build the project. The State Revolving Loan Program is a program authorized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in partnership with the Iowa Finance Authority.

The City of Montour is located in Tama County, Iowa approximately 45 miles east of Ames, Iowa and 50 miles west of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The population of Montour according to the 2020 US Census was 245. The design population equivalent for the year 2045 is 255.

The treatment facility was updated and moved to its present location in 1975, outside and to the northeast of Montour city limits. The treatment facility is an aerated, continuous discharge two cell lagoon system. Initially, the facility was installed as a 3-lagoon controlled discharge system and upgraded in 1992 to an aerated continuous discharge system.

Under standard operation, wastewater is pumped from the lift station to the influent structure where it is conveyed through pipes to enter on the south edge of the southern aerated cell #1. It flows from aerated cell #1 to aerated cell #2 through an intercell control structure located at the east end of the berm between the two cells. From there, wastewater flows into the quiescent cell (cell #3) through a baffle curtain and is discharged through draw off pipes, the effluent structure, and an 18” VCP outfall to Indian Creek.

The system also has the ability to incorporate one of the original controlled discharge cells in the western portion of the facility for use as a stormwater equalization cell. To utilize the cell, operators can change the valving configuration to discharge a portion of the flow from the lift station to the equalization cell. Operators would then use portable pumps to empty the stormwater equalization basin and bring the wastewater back into the existing treatment system's cell #1.

Iowa DNR requires cities to maintain operation of their water and waste water facilities during times of power outages. The city owns and operates the water, wastewater, and electrical systems and has the resources to minimize and control power outages more so than a separate electrical company. In addition, the lift station is equipped with a gas-powered generator to maintain pumping capacities during power outages and valving at the treatment facility allows the city to store up to 3.98-9.25 MG of wastewater in the event of a power outage. There is an auto dialer alarm that notifies the city of a power outage.

The existing aerated, continuous discharge lagoon system occasionally does not meet current Ammonia NPDES permit limits. However, due to changes to the State's water quality standards, the existing facility would not be able to meet proposed bacteria limits without dedicated disinfection facilities. Iowa DNR issued Montour a new NPDES permit in December 2020 that included a Compliance Schedule for Ammonia Nitrogen, DO, TRC and E. coli. The NPDES permit requires Montour to achieve compliance by April 1, 2025.

The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the wastewater treatment facilities to enhance their reliability, increase capacity and to replace obsolete system to safely and reliably operate the City of Montour's wastewater system for the next 20 years.

The proposed project includes retrofitting the existing lagoons with a Lemna System; adding a UV disinfection system on site following the outfall of the lagoons; all necessary connection and appurtenances. The treatment facility outfall will be relocated from a small dry creek bed to the Iowa River. This will include open trench construction of approximately 1000 LF of sanitary sewer pipe. The project will also include installation of a new pump at the existing lift station located southwest of the treatment plant.

The treated wastewater from the existing facility is discharged to Indian Creek, tributary to the Iowa River. The proposed project will result in a new outfall location which will discharge into the Iowa River. The Use Attainability Analysis classifies the stream as A1 and BWW1. A1 streams are classified as waters, in which recreational or other uses may result in prolonged and direct contact with the water, involving considerable risk of ingesting water in quantities sufficient to pose a health hazard. Such activities would include, but not be limited to, swimming, diving, water skiing, and water contact recreational canoeing. Class BWW1 streams are classified as typically large interior and border rivers and the Iowa segments of medium size tributary streams capable of supporting and maintaining a wide variety of aquatic life. Such activities would include, but not be limited to, such as game fishing.

The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population. The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies. The project will not impact wetlands provided the terms of Nationwide Permit #7 are abided by. The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats provided that any tree cutting is conducted between October 1 and March 31 to avoid impacting endangered bats. If any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes. The project will not affect the 100-year flood plain provided all necessary

floodplain development permits, state and local, are obtained and the terms of which are abided by. The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.

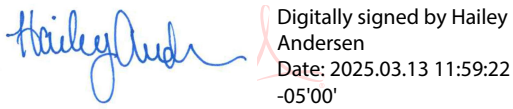
No historic properties will be adversely affected by the proposed project. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c"). The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply. No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected provided that an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) is obtained and the terms of which are abided by.

Minimum separation distances will be maintained. Noise during construction will be maintained at tolerable levels through controls on construction activities. Any construction debris will be removed from the site for proper disposal. Adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized with proper construction practices, inspection, prompt clean up and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored.

It has been determined that the proposed action will result in no significant impacts to the surrounding environment. This determination is based on a careful review of the engineering report, the environmental assessment and other supporting data which are on file at the Department of Natural Resources' office in Des Moines, Iowa. These are available for public review upon request. A copy of the environmental assessment is attached. This Department will not take any administrative action on the project for at least thirty (30) calendar days from the above date. Persons disagreeing with the above environmental decision may submit comments to the department during this period. Your comments can be sent to SRF-PC@dnr.iowa.gov or directly to me at Hailey.Andersen@dnr.iowa.gov or (515) 321-7385

Sincerely,



Hailey Andersen
Environmental Specialist
6200 Park Ave, Suite 200
Des Moines, IA 50321

Enclosures: Environmental Assessment
Project Map

Distribution List (email):

Clapsaddle-Garber Associates, Inc.
Jullie Winter, Region 6 Resource Partners
Edward Boling, Council on Environmental Quality
Jake Hansen, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Ken Sharp, Iowa Department of Health & Human Services
Mindy Wells, Iowa Department of Health & Human Services
Chad Sands, Iowa Economic Development Authority
Alicia Vasto, Iowa Environmental Council
Michael Schmidt, Iowa Environmental Council
Tracy Scebold, Iowa Finance Authority
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Lee Wagner, Iowa Finance Authority
Rick Andriano, Iowa Finance Authority
Mickey Shields, Iowa League of Cities
Jane Clark, Sierra Club
Josh Mandelbaum, Environmental Law and Policy Center
Kate Sand, USDA Rural Development
Tokey Boswell, USDOI, National Park Service, Midwest Region
Kraig McPeek, Fish and Wildlife Service, Rock Island Field Office
Ann D'Alfonso, USEPA Region VII
Kelly Beard-Tittone, USEPA Region VII
Tama Toledo News Chronicle

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IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Applicant: City of Montour
County: Tama
State: Iowa

SRF Number: CS1921105 01
Iowa DNR Project Number: W2021-0288A

Other Federal Funding: CDBG

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Location: The City of Montour is located in Tama County, Iowa approximately 45 miles east of Ames, Iowa and 50 miles west of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Population: The population of Montour according to the 2020 US Census was 245. The design population equivalent for the year 2045 is 255.

Current Waste Treatment: The treatment facility was updated and moved to its present location in 1975, outside and to the northeast of Montour city limits. The treatment facility is an aerated, continuous discharge two cell lagoon system. Initially, the facility was installed as a 3-lagoon controlled discharge system and upgraded in 1992 to an aerated continuous discharge system.

Under standard operation, wastewater is pumped from the lift station to the influent structure where it is conveyed through pipes to enter on the south edge of the southern aerated cell #1. It flows from aerated cell #1 to aerated cell #2 through an intercell control structure located at the east end of the berm between the two cells. From there, wastewater flows into the quiescent cell (cell #3) through a baffle curtain and is discharged through draw off pipes, the effluent structure, and an 18” VCP outfall to Indian Creek.

The system also has the ability to incorporate one of the original controlled discharge cells in the western portion of the facility for use as a stormwater equalization cell. To utilize the cell, operators can change the valving configuration to discharge a portion of the flow from the lift station to the equalization cell. Operators would then use portable pumps to empty the stormwater equalization basin and bring the wastewater back into the existing treatment system’s cell #1.

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The existing aerated, continuous discharge lagoon system occasionally does not meet current Ammonia NPDES permit limits. However, due to changes to the State's water quality standards, the existing facility would not be able to meet proposed bacteria limits without dedicated disinfection facilities. Iowa DNR issued Montour a new NPDES permit in December 2020 that included a Compliance Schedule for Ammonia Nitrogen, DO, TRC and E. coli. The NPDES permit requires Montour to achieve compliance by April 1, 2025.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the wastewater treatment facilities to enhance their reliability, increase capacity and to replace obsolete system to safely and reliably operate the City of Montour's wastewater system for the next 20 years.

Proposed Improvements: The proposed project includes retrofitting the existing lagoons with a Lemna System; adding a UV disinfection system on site following the outfall of the lagoons; all necessary connection and appurtenances. The treatment facility outfall will be relocated from a small dry creek bed to the Iowa River. This will include open trench construction of approximately 1000 LF of sanitary sewer pipe. The project will also include installation of a new pump at the existing lift station located southwest of the treatment plant.

Receiving Stream: The treated wastewater from the existing facility is discharged to Indian Creek, tributary to the Iowa River. The proposed project will result in a new outfall location which will discharge into the Iowa River. The Use Attainability Analysis classifies the stream as A1 and BWW1. A1 streams are classified as waters, in which recreational or other uses may result in prolonged and direct contact with the water, involving considerable risk of ingesting water in quantities sufficient to pose a health hazard. Such activities would include, but not be limited to, swimming, diving, water skiing, and water contact recreational canoeing. Class BWW1 streams are classified as typically large interior and border rivers and the Iowa segments of medium size tributary streams capable of supporting and maintaining a wide variety of aquatic life. Such activities would include, but not be limited to, such as game fishing.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternatives Considered: Several alternatives were reviewed in varying levels of detail as potential options to meet the goals of the project including: recycle/reuse; land application; regional treatment; controlled discharge lagoon; tertiary treatment for ammonia reduction - covered aerated lagoon with polishing reactor (LEMNA), aerated lagoon with submerged attached growth reactor (SAGR), aerated lagoon with NitrOX reactor (TriplePoint), or revolving algal biofilm system (Gross Wen); and tertiary treatment for disinfection - UV Disinfection.

Reasons for Selection of Proposed Alternative: The No-Action alternative is not viable due to the NPDES permit compliance schedule. The existing aerated lagoons will be outfitted with the Lemna System and will be rerouted to Iowa River. The improvements will include the installation of the tertiary treatment, UV system, and the relocation of the outfall. Several factors were taken into consideration for the selection of the proposed alternative including capital cost, operation and maintenance costs, sustainability, and environmental factors.

The project site was selected for the availability of land as well as minimization of the impacts to the environment. A utility easement is necessary for the outfall location and route across the land a between the existing treatment facility and the Iowa River.

MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSESS IMPACT

Public Involvement: A public hearing was held on May 7, 2024 at 6:00PM at the City's regular council meeting. The public notice of this hearing was made available by publication in the Tama-Toledo News Chronicle and posted in three public locations on April 6, 2024. The purpose of this hearing was to present the environmental and financial impacts of the proposed improvement project. No written or oral comments were received.

Coordination and Documentation with Other Agencies and Special Interest Groups: The following Federal, state and local agencies were asked to comment on the proposed project to better assess the potential impact to the environment:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
State Historical Society of Iowa (State Historical Preservation Office)
Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division
Iowa DNR Flood Plain Management Section
Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe
Flandreau Santee Sioux
Ho-Chunk Nation
Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
Lower Sioux Indian Community Council
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
Omaha Tribal Council
Osage Tribal Council
Otoe-Missouria Tribe
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Prairie Island Indian Community
Sac & Fox Nation of Mississippi in Iowa
Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri

Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma
Santee Sioux Nation
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
Spirit Lake Tribal Council
Three Affiliated Tribes Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations
Upper Sioux Tribe
Winnebago Tribal Council
Yankton Sioux Tribal Business and Claims Committee
Tama County Historic Preservation Commission

No adverse comments were received from any agencies or general public. Conditions placed on the applicant by the above agencies in order to assure no significant impact are included in the Summary of Reasons for Concluding No Significant Impact section.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Construction: Traffic patterns within the community may be disrupted and above normal noise levels in the vicinity of the construction equipment can be anticipated during construction and should be a temporary problem. Adverse environmental impacts on noise quality will be handled by limited hours of contractor work time during the day. Other adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized by proper construction practices, inspection, prompt cleanup, and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored. Solid wastes resulting from the construction project will be regularly cleared away with substantial efforts made to minimize inconvenience to area residents.

Care will be taken to maintain dirt to avoid erosion and runoff. The proposed project will disturb one or more acres of soil; therefore, the applicant is required to obtain an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) and abide by its terms. Provided that this permit is obtained and the terms of which are abided by, no significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

Temporary air quality degradation may occur due to dust and fumes from construction equipment. The applicant shall take reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 Iowa Administrative Code IAC 23.3(2)“c”).

This project may require the disposal of sewage sludge. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the disposal of any sewage sludge complies with applicable requirements found in 40 CFR Part 503 and 567 Iowa Administrative Code IAC 67.

Historical/Archaeological: The State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO), the Certified Local Government and various Native American tribes with an interest in the area were provided information regarding the project. The DNR has determined, and the SHPO has concurred (R&C#240586814), that this undertaking will result in “no historic properties affected” based on the scope of the project, the prior use of the project area, and the findings of the Phase I Archeological Survey conducted on the project property. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new

archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

Environmental: According to the Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division, the proposed project will not interfere with any State-owned parks, recreational areas or open spaces. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concurs that the project will not impact wetlands provided the terms of Nationwide Permit #7 are abided by. The project will not impact any wild and scenic rivers as none exist within the State of Iowa. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Section 7 Technical Assistance website consultation determined, and Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division agree, that the project will not impact protected species or their habitats provided that any tree cutting is conducted between October 1 and March 31 to avoid impacting endangered bats. However, if any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. According to the Iowa DNR Flood Plain Management Section, this project will not impact the 100-year floodplain provided all necessary floodplain development permits, state and local, are obtained and the terms of which are abided by. No adverse impacts are expected to result from this project, such as those to surface water quantity, or groundwater quality or quantity. Therefore, no significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

Land Use and Trends: The project will not displace population nor will it alter the character of existing residential areas. No significant farmlands will be impacted. This project should not impact population trends as the presence or absence of existing water/sewer infrastructure is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the population growth or distribution given the myriad of factors that influence development in this region. Similarly, this project is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the pattern and type of land use.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources: Fuels, materials, and various forms of energy will be utilized during construction.

Nondiscrimination: All programs, projects, and activities undertaken by DNR in the SRF programs are subject to federal anti-discrimination laws, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Amendments of 1972. These laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS TO BE REALIZED FROM THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Positive environmental effects will be improved treatment of the wastewater from the City of Montour, compliance with effluent discharge permit limits, reduced discharge of the pollutants and nutrients to the receiving stream, and improved water quality in the receiving stream.

SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR CONCLUDING NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population.
- The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies.
- The project will not impact wetlands provided the terms of Nationwide Permit #7 are abided by.
- The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats provided that any tree cutting is conducted between October 1 and March 31 to avoid impacting endangered bats. If any

State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required.

- The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes.
- The project will not affect the 100-year flood plain provided all necessary floodplain development permits, state and local, are obtained and the terms of which are abided by.
- The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.
- No historic properties will be adversely affected by the proposed project. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)"c").
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply.
- No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected provided that an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) is obtained and the terms of which are abided by.

THEREFORE:

The above project conforms to the criteria in 567 Iowa Administrative Code 44.10(3) for drinking water relating to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. This Environmental Assessment Document (EAD) outlines the justification that the environmental review for the proposed project should be classified as a Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) and does not rise to the significance of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with 40 CFR § 1501.5.

Digitally signed by Hailey Andersen
Date: 2025.03.13 11:59:47 -05'00'

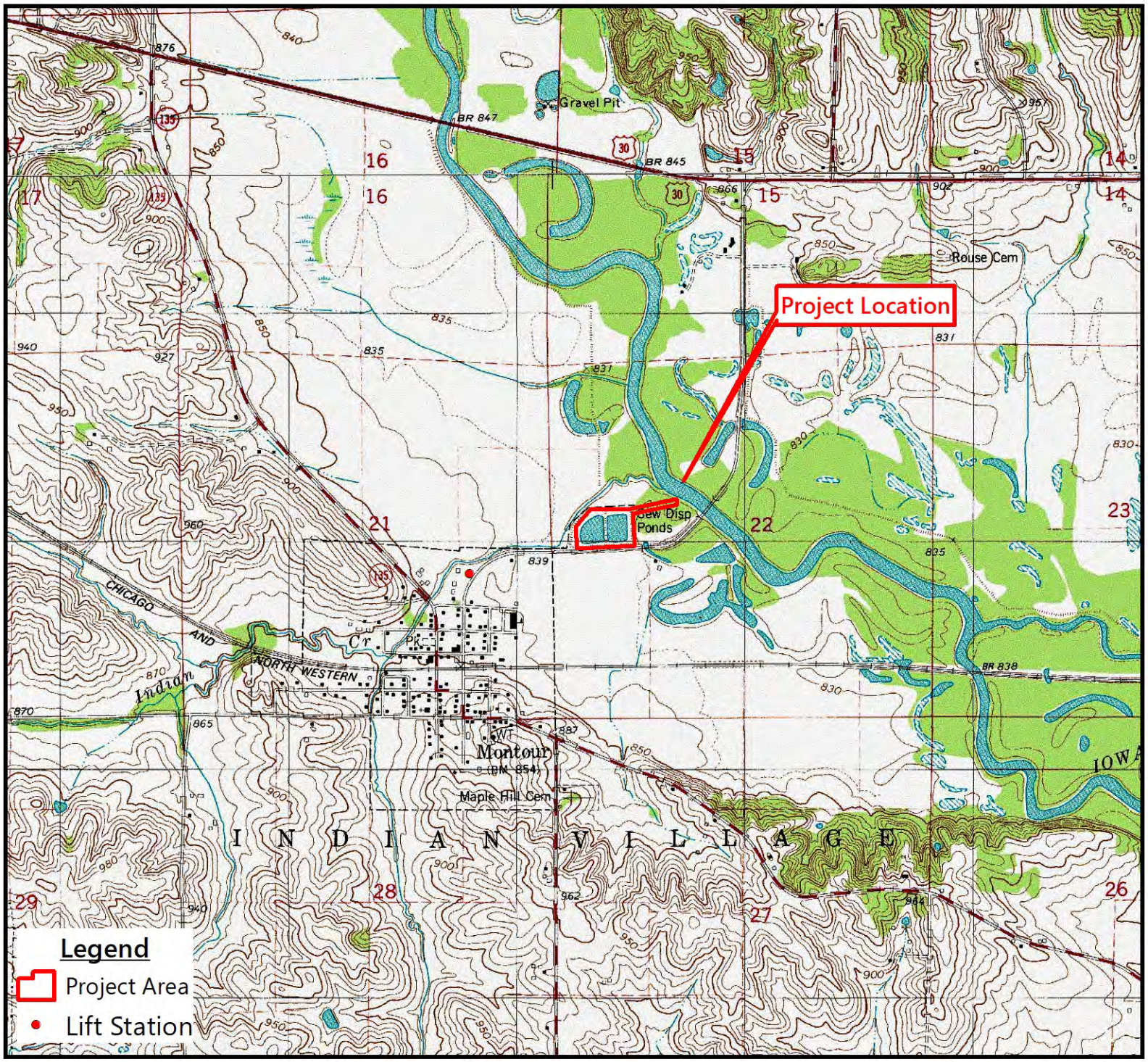
Hailey Andersen
Environmental Review Specialist
State Revolving Fund
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

SRF IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY
AND THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

USGS Topographic Map

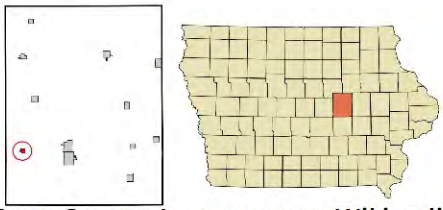
N



Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades
Montour, IA

Scale: 1 inch = 2,000 feet

0	850	1,700	2,550	3,400	4,250 Feet



Tama County. Image source: Wikipedia, 2023.

USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle: Montour
Section: 21, 22; Township: 83 N; Range: 16 W
Date: 1980

SRF IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY AND THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

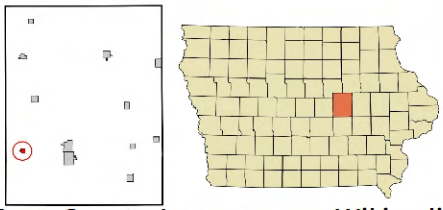
Aerial Photograph

N

Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades
Montour, IA

Scale: 1 inch = 400 feet

0 170 340 510 680 850 Feet



Tama County. Image source: Wikipedia, 2023.

USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle: Montour
Section: 21, 22; Township: 83 N; Range: 16 W
Date: 8.14.2021