

to source and receive potable water. IRUA's water system includes a network of approximately 4,700 miles of buried pipeline throughout the 18 counties served. The pipes range in size from 2 inches to 20 inches in diameter. IRUA owns and maintains existing facilities approximately 0.8 miles south of Stanley, including an existing 8-inch PVC water main located on the south side of 110th Street that runs parallel to the road. IRUA's water system also includes a large booster station and 27 water towers to maintain pressure throughout the system and store water for distribution. Specifically, two water towers and one clear well are in the network to serve the residents of Stanley, which have the capacity to store 1,800,000 gallons of water.

The purpose of this project is to make improvements to IRUA's drinking water facilities to provide reliable long-term water supply to the City of Stanley, and to safely and reliably operate IRUA's water supply system for the next 20 years. The proposed project will extend the IRUA water service to Stanley, Iowa. A 6-inch water main will be extended into town from IRUA's existing 8-inch water main, which is located approximately 0.8 miles south of Stanley and on the south side of 110th Street. The pipe will be constructed using open cut trenching where possible. Directional drilling will be used to install the pipe below roadways and at water crossings. Service stubs will be extended to each residence within the town. IRUA will connect the service stubs to the private residences. The project will include installing water meters on the service lines, installing a fire hydrant, decommissioning wells, and include all necessary connections and appurtenances.

Positive environmental effects will be maintained or improved water quality for the citizens of Stanley. A catastrophic loss of water supply could result in city-wide health impacts due to a lack of sanitation and the use of other water sources that may not meet Federal drinking water standards.

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. Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation is not required for this non-federal SRF project. Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act may apply and other wildlife conservation laws such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation website (IPAC) consultation determined that the project will not impact protected species or their habitats. 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. According to the Iowa DNR Flood Plain Management Section no state flood plain development permit is required. IRUA contacted the local flood plain managers for Buchanan County and the City of Stanley to obtain any necessary local flood plain development permits. This project is not anticipated to impact the 100-year flood plain provided any necessary local flood plain development permits 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. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers this project will not impact wetlands or jurisdictional Waters of the United States.

Various Native American tribes with an interest in the area and the Certified Local Government were provided information regarding the project. This project will not be receiving federal funds through SRF. As such, this project is not considered a federal undertaking as defined in §300320 under the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq. for the purpose of the SRF environmental review. If this SRF project receives federal funds from other sources, it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all federal requirements are met for that funding. 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 Rebecca.FlynnKettman@dnr.iowa.gov or (515) 204-5672.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Flynn Kettman
Environmental Specialist
6200 Park Ave, Suite 200
Des Moines, IA 50321

Enclosures: Environmental Assessment Document
Project Map

Distribution

List (email): Evan Del Val, Nilles Associates
Isaiah Corbin, Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments
Edward Boling, Council on Environmental Quality
Tom Hazelton, Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards
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
Michael Schmidt, Iowa Environmental Council
Tony Toigo, Iowa Finance Authority

Lee Wagner, Iowa Finance Authority

Yolanda Attaway, 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, USDO, National Park Service, Midwest Region

Kraig McPeck, Fish and Wildlife Service, Rock Island Field Office

Ann D'Alfonso, USEPA Region VII

Iowa City Press-Citizen

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
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Applicant: Iowa Regional Utilities Association (IRUA)

SRF Number: FS-09-26-DWSRF-030

County: Buchanan and Fayette

Iowa DNR Project Number: W2025-0572

State: Iowa

Potential Other Funding Sources: CDBG

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Location: The Iowa Regional Utilities Association (IRUA) is completing a drinking water project to extend water distribution to the City of Stanley, Iowa. The City of Stanley is located in Buchanan and Fayette Counties, approximately 6 miles southeast of Oelwein, Iowa and 13 miles northeast of Independence, Iowa.

Population: The population of the City of Stanley according to the 2020 US Census was 81 people. The population as of 2023 was 73 people. The population of Stanley is expected to hold or continue to shrink, therefore, the design population equivalent for the year 2045 is approximately 73 people.

Current Source of Water: The residents of the City of Stanley currently use private wells for their potable water needs. Civil engineering firm, Nilles Associates, collected data from the Iowa DNR Private Well data center, which approximates 44 private residential or commercial wells are within the city limits with depths between 70 to 305 feet. Of the 44 wells, 4 of the wells are currently listed as 'plugged.' The city is experiencing falling groundwater levels in the existing wells and needs a reliable long-term water supply to serve the residential and commercial users currently utilizing private wells.

Currently, IRUA's existing water system serves approximately 5,570 people with water sourced from the Cedar Valley Aquifer.

Current Water Treatment and Quality: IRUA treats the source water from the Cedar Valley Aquifer at the IRUA's Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Facility located near the City of Waverly, Iowa. This facility is located approximately 40 miles west of Stanley.

Current Distribution System: The City of Stanley doesn't currently have a distribution system since residents utilize individual private wells to source and receive potable water. IRUA's water system includes a network of approximately 4,700 miles of buried pipeline throughout the 18 counties served. The pipes range in size from 2 inches to 20 inches in diameter. IRUA owns and maintains existing facilities approximately 0.8 miles south of

Stanley, including an existing 8-inch PVC water main located on the south side of 110th Street that runs parallel to the road. IRUA's water system also includes a large booster station and 27 water towers to maintain pressure throughout the system and store water for distribution. Specifically, two water towers and one clear well are in the network to serve the residents of Stanley, which have the capacity to store 1,800,000 gallons of water.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to make improvements to IRUA's drinking water facilities to provide reliable long-term water supply to the City of Stanley, and to safely and reliably operate IRUA's water supply system for the next 20 years.

Proposed Improvements: The proposed project will extend the IRUA water service to Stanley, Iowa. A 6-inch water main will be extended into town from IRUA's existing 8-inch water main, which is located approximately 0.8 miles south of Stanley and on the south side of 110th Street. The pipe will be constructed using open cut trenching where possible. Directional drilling will be used to install the pipe below roadways and at water crossings. Service stubs will be extended to each residence within the town. IRUA will connect the service stubs to the private residences. The project will include installing water meters on the service lines, installing a fire hydrant, decommissioning wells, and include all necessary connections and appurtenances.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternatives Considered: Due to the falling water table, the City of Stanley needs a reliable water source. Given the proximity of the existing IRUA water main (0.8 miles to the south of Stanley) and the reliable flows provided through that pipeline, connection to the IRUA system is the single most feasible option to ensure a safe, reliable source of water for city's residents and businesses. Therefore, no other alternatives were considered.

Reasons for Selection of Proposed Alternative: A no-action alternative is not viable due to the falling groundwater levels in the existing private wells. The project site was selected for the proximity to the existing IRUA water main located 0.8 miles south of the city and for minimization of the impacts to the environment. Easements will be acquired in town as part of IRUA service agreements with residents. Easements will also be obtained for the construction of the water main along the east side of Nelson Avenue.

MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSESS IMPACT

Public Involvement: A public hearing was held on March 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the City's regular council meeting. The public notice of this hearing was posted in public locations on January 7, 2026 and placed on the Community of Stanley Facebook page on January 29, 2026. 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 provided an opportunity to comment on the proposed project to better assess the potential impact to the environment:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division
- Iowa DNR Flood Plain Management Section
- 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 Tribe of Nebraska
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 Tribe
Buchanan County Historic Preservation Commission

No adverse comments have been 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”).

Historical/Archaeological: Various Native American tribes with an interest in the area and the Certified Local Government were provided information regarding the project. This project will not be receiving federal funds through SRF. As such, this project is not considered a federal undertaking as defined in §300320 under the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq. for the purpose of the SRF environmental review. If this SRF project receives federal funds from other sources, it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all federal requirements are met for that funding.

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 area, 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: Environmental: The project area was screened for the presence of wetlands, floodplains, and sovereign lands. 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. According to the Iowa DNR Flood Plain Management Section, no state flood plain development permit is required, however, local flood plain permits may be required. IRUA contacted the local flood plain managers for Buchanan County and the City of Stanley to obtain any necessary local flood plain development permits. This project is not anticipated to impact the 100-year flood plain provided any necessary local flood plain development permits are obtained and the terms of which are abided by. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers this project will not impact wetlands or jurisdictional Waters of the United States. The project will not impact any wild and scenic rivers as none exist within the State of Iowa.

Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation is not required for this non-federal SRF project. Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act may apply and other wildlife conservation laws such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation website (IPAC) consultation determined that the project will not impact protected species or their habitats. 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. No adverse impacts are expected to result from this project, such as those to surface water quantity, or groundwater quality or quantity.

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 maintained or improved water quality for the citizens of Stanley. A catastrophic loss of water supply could result in city-wide health impacts due to a lack of sanitation and the use of other water sources that may not meet Federal drinking water standards.

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.
- According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers this project will not impact wetlands or jurisdictional Waters of the United States.
- Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation is not required for this non-federal SRF project. Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act may apply and other wildlife conservation laws such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation website (IPAC) consultation determined that the project will not impact protected species or their habitats. 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.
- According to the Iowa DNR Flood Plain Management Section no state flood plain development permit is required. IRUA contacted the local flood plain managers for Buchanan County and the City of Stanley to obtain any necessary local flood plain development permits. This project is not anticipated to impact the 100-year flood plain provided any necessary local flood plain development permits 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.
- Various Native American tribes with an interest in the area and the Certified Local Government were provided information regarding the project. This project will not be receiving federal funds through SRF. As such, this project is not considered a federal undertaking as defined in §300320 under the National Historic Preservation Act, 54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq. for the purpose of the SRF environmental review. If this SRF project receives federal funds from other sources, it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all federal requirements are met for that funding.
- 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:

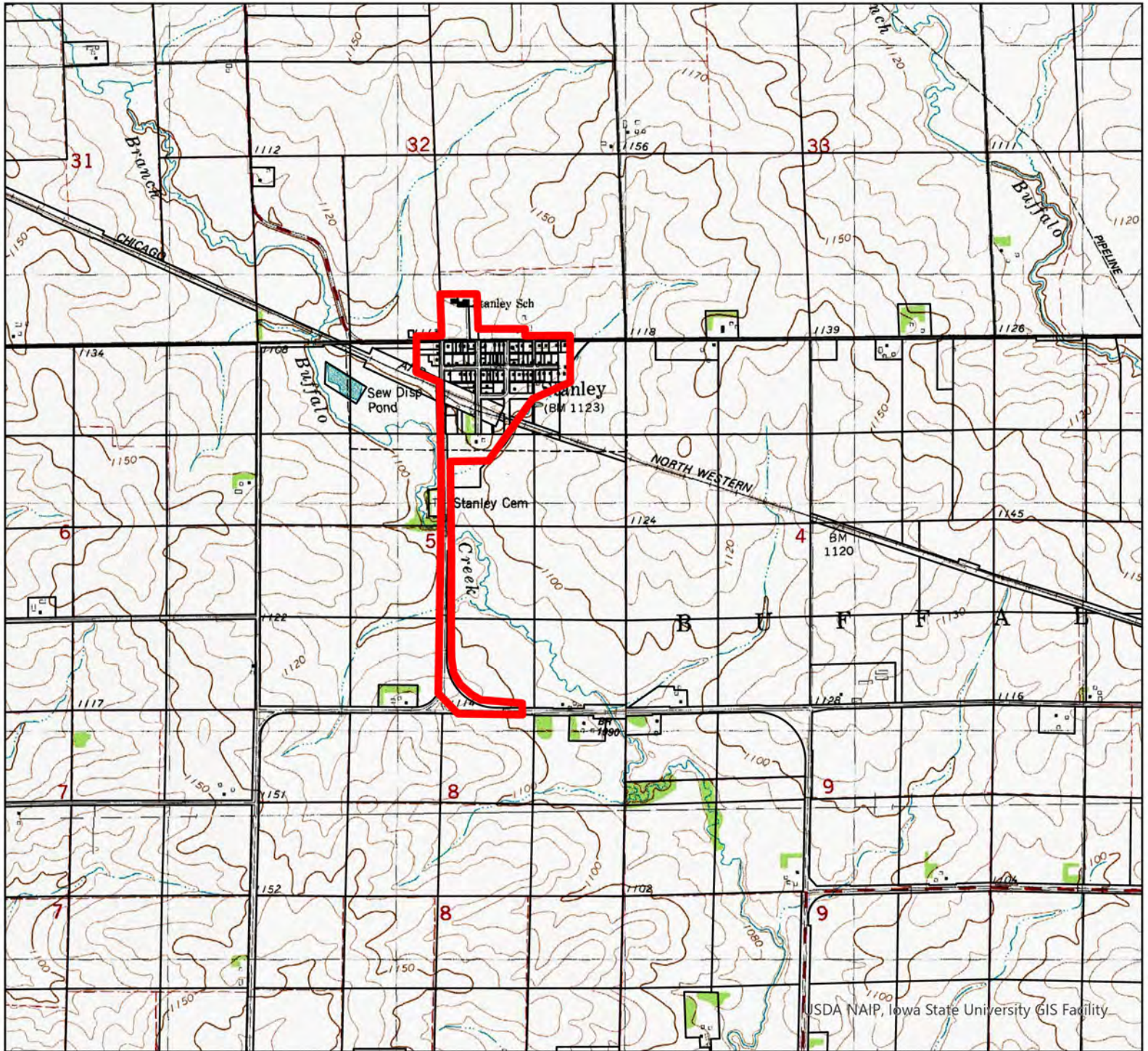
The above project conforms to the criteria in 567 Iowa Administrative Code 44.10(3) relating to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. This Environmental Assessment Document (EAD) outlines the justification that the environmental review for the proposed project should be classified 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.

Rebecca Flynn Kettman

Environmental Review Specialist

State Revolving Fund


Iowa Department of Natural Resources



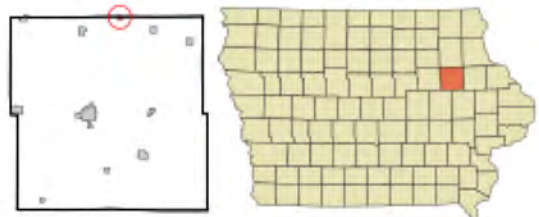
USGS Topographic Map

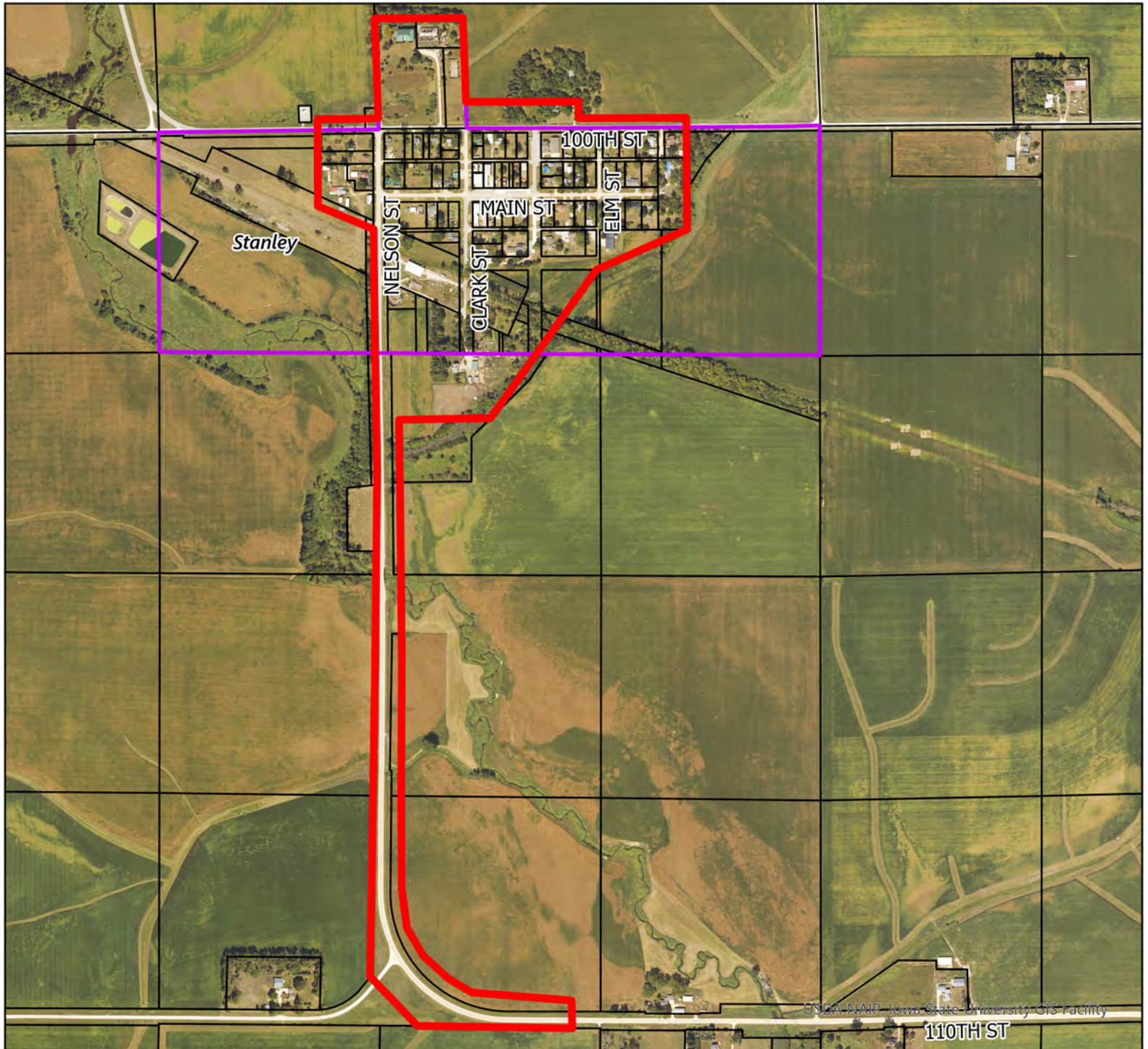
IRUA - Stanley Water System Improvements
Stanley, IA (Buchanan County)

Legend

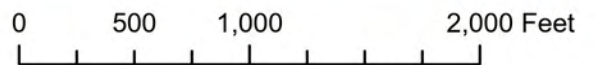
 Proposed Project Area

0 1,500 3,000 6,000 Feet








IRUA - Stanley Water System Improvements Stanley, IA (Buchanan County)



Legend

-  Proposed Project Area
-  Parcels
-  Municipal Boundary (2020 Census Bureau)