

Wetlands:

Wetlands provide important benefits such as:

- Habitat for a variety of plants and animals
- Handling of stormwater run-off
- Preserving or improving water quality

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) used overview data to develop a preliminary estimate of wetland impacts from the Blue Line Extension project.

The Final EIS and wetland permit applications will include detailed field delineation of wetland boundaries to understand impacts and mitigation measures.

Floodplains:

Floodplains are those lowland and relatively flat areas adjacent to inland waters that are generally subject to flooding. Floodplains are an important part of lake and river systems. They:

- Store the excess water from storms
- Allow that water to dissipate slowly through drainage, infiltration into the ground, or evaporation

The Blue Line Extension project team is calculating potential flood impacts and looking at design options to avoid or minimize impacts.

In addition, the Blue Line Extension project team is working to make sure design complies with an Executive Order signed by the President that requires federal agencies to develop infrastructure that is resilient to changing rainfall patterns and volumes.

